



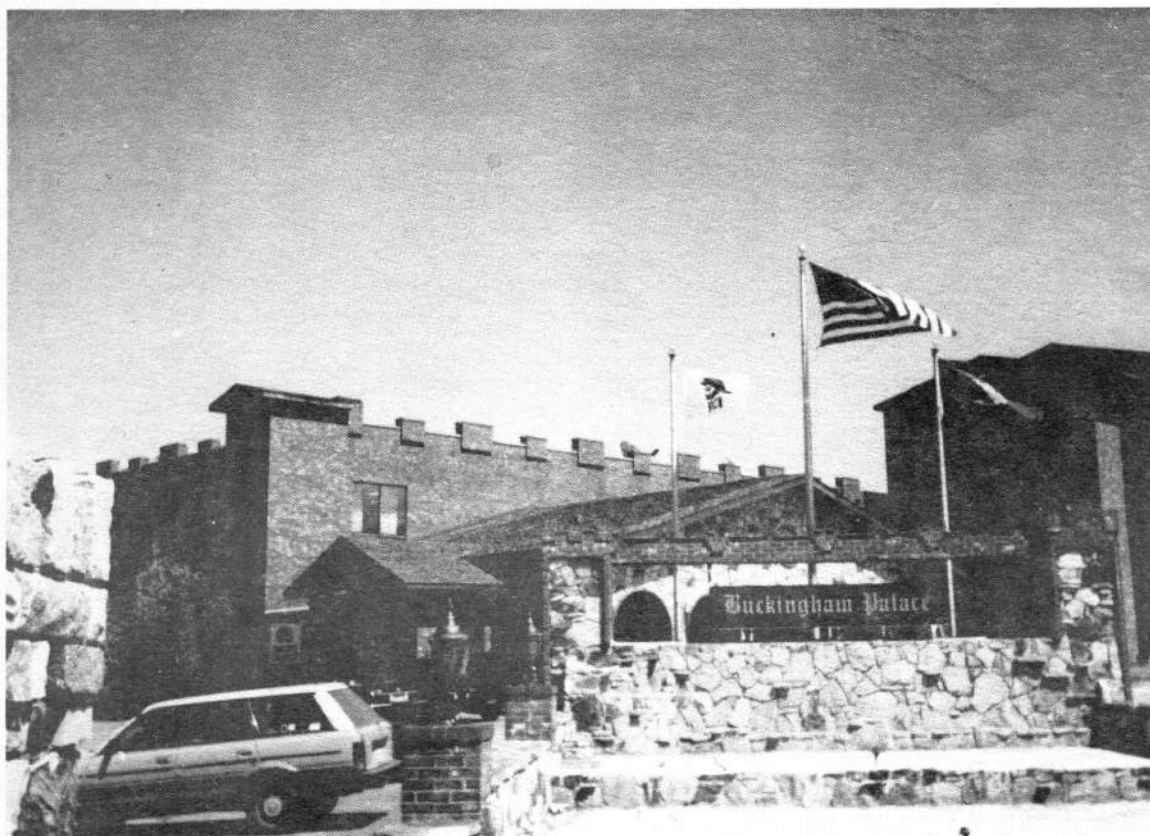
THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 55 Issue No. 3

Summer Issue 2000



Friar Tuck Inn Resort & Convention Center

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

THE THUNDERBOLT

Official Publication - 83rd Infantry Division Association Inc.

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

Editor - Robert Derickson

STAFF REPORTERS

Ambrose Tynan..... 121 Sanborn Ave., W. Roxbury, MA 02136
Nick Francullo..... 10 Bessom St., Lynn MA 01903
Joseph A. Macaluso..... 5353 Pasteur Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70122
Alan Fisher..... 1 Bolero SP. LKS. C.C. Village, Fort Pierce, FL. 34951
Robert Grobelny..... 1581 Lander Rd., Mayfield Heights, OH
44124-3336

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

ORGANIZATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Pat DiGiammerino
36 E. Border Rd.
Malden, MA 02148-1104
Telephone # 781-322-2754

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

John W. Tisdell
329 Candlewood Park
Nashua, NH. 03062-4454
Telephone # 603-595-1352

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Ambrose L. Tynan
121 Sanburn Ave.
West Roxbury, MA. 02132-3834

3RD VICE PRESIDENT

Stanley Bielen
71 Glenwood Terrace
Fords, NJ 08863-1329
732-225-0169

SECRETARY-TREASURER

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

JUDGE ADVOCATE

John Raikos
4039 Fir Court
Indianapolis, IN 46250-2245
317-849-5139

HISTORIAN

Louis Gormori
309 E. Locust St.
Butler, PA. 16001-4826
412-283-4340

CHAPLAIN

Frank M. Hornack
R.R. 2 Box 370 F
Latrobe, PA. 15650-9427
724-834-8315

SERGEANTS-AT ARMS

Fred Sylvia
25 Pine St.
Acushnet, MA.
02743-1933
508-998-1057

Vitie C. Atkocius
2602 Lorring Dr.
Forestville, MD. 20747-3310
301-736-4273

Edward McCouch
316 Mount Carmel Ave.
GlenSide, PA. 19038-3408
215-884-5843

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

August Farias
P.O. Box 7-356
New Bedford, MA.
02742-7356
508-994-5863

Ralph B. Gunderson
629 SW 6th St. Negy-30
Pompano Beach, FL.
33060-7743
954-946-4848

Louis Sandini
240 Main St.
Marlborough, MA.
01752-3843
508-485-7222

WM. M. Minick
110 Angel St.
Saluda, SC.
29138-1002
803-445-8509

John B. Prinzi
4433 Oakley Greene
Sarasota, FL.
34235-2330
941-371-0844

A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

*James C. Hanrahan..... 1947	*Samuel Klippa..... 1965	Ralph Gunderson..... 1982
Jack M. Straus..... 1948	*William M. Doty..... 1966	*Arthur Doggett..... 1983
*Shelly Hughes..... 1949	Albert A. Belvedere..... 1967	*Bernie Cove..... 1984
*Julius Ansel..... 1950	Vito C. Palazzolo..... 1968	Carroll Brown..... 1985
*Walter H. Edwards Jr..... 1951	Pat DiGiammerino..... 1969	John Hobbs..... 1986
Leo Schneider..... 1952	Casey Szubski..... 1970	George Pletcher..... 1987
Finley Heyl..... 1953	*Charles Altomari..... 1971	*Charles Schmidt..... 1988
*Lawrence J. Redmond..... 1954-55	*Harold H. Dopp..... 1972	Edward Reuss..... 1989
*Lt. Gen. Robert H. York..... 1956	Louis J. Volpi..... 1973	Charles J. Lussier..... 1990
*Harry W. Lockwood..... 1957	Bernard O. Riddle..... 1974	Edgar H. Haynes..... 1991
*Raymond J. Voracek..... 1958	Robert G. Taylor..... 1975	Ned Smith..... 1992
Charles Abdinoor..... 1959	Mike Skovran..... 1976	Louis Sandini..... 1993
*Joseph F. Minotti..... 1960	Manlius Goodridge..... 1977	William A. Minick..... 1994
*Frank J. McGrogan..... 1961	Joseph A. Macaluso..... 1978	Casey Szubski..... 1995
John W. Robinette..... 1962	*William J. Chavanne..... 1979	Floyd Richmond..... 1996
*Manuel C. Martin..... 1963	*Samuel Klippa..... 1980	Keith Davidson..... 1997
*Julius Boyles..... 1964	Michael Caprio..... 1981	R.C. Hamilton..... 1998
		Pat DiGiammerino..... 1999

* Denotes Deceased

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.

Special Instructions

For those arriving by plane, please notify Friar Tuck by phone (1-800-832-7600), 24 hrs. before arrival; so the hotel can co-ordinate flight schedules courtesy of the hotel.

83rd Inf. Div. Asso. Reunion

**September 6 - 10, 2000
Wednesday thru Sunday**

THE FRIAR TUCK INN

Please call 1-800-832-7600 for information or reservations if needed.

Call President Pat DiGiammerino at 781-322-2754 for further information.

This information below is about what is available to do on the 83rd program at the Friar Tuck Inn.

* Indoor & Outdoor Pools * Indoor & Outdoor Jacuzzi * Game Room * OTB Theatre * Indoor & Outdoor Boccie & Shuffleboard Courts * New Fitness Room * Outdoor Tennis Courts * Keno * Golf nearby with discounted greens fees * Scheduled Activities * Sporting Clays * Bingo * Paddle Boats *

All rates include: Three fabulous meals a day * Hotel facilities * Nightly Entertainment * Activities * Woodstock shopping trip * Cocktail party * Welcome party * Group Hospitality Room * Tax & Gratuities *

The rates are as follows, based on double occupancy and include tax and gratuities.
Sept. 6 - 10, 2000 (Wednesday - Sunday)

Four nights stay - \$374.00 per person - double occupancy
Three nights stay - \$286.50 per person - double occupancy
Two nights stay - \$198.00 per person - double occupancy
Four nite stay \$465.00 per person - Single occupancy

Wednesday Activities Sept. 6/2000

3:00 p.m.	Welcome party in the Scarlet Nite Club Salads, Sandwiches, Tea, Coffee & Open Bar
6:00 p.m.	Dinner
7:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room Open
8:30 - 9:30	Dancing
9:30 p.m.	Showtime

Thursday Activities Sept. 7/2000

7:00 a.m.	Early Morning Coffee in Main Lobby
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:00 a.m.	Board Meeting
9:00 - 12:00	Registration & Table Reservations Hotel Facilities Open
11:00 a.m.	Hospitality Room Open
12:00	Lunch
1:00 - 4:00	Registration & Table Reservations
1:30 - 4:00	Woodstock Shopping Trip
6:00 p.m.	Dinner
8:30 - 9:30	Dancing
9:30 p.m.	Showtime

Friday Activities Sept. 8/2000

All those people that will not be taking the trip to Cooperstown, NY for the Baseball Hall of Fame and The Farmers Museum today Sept. 8/2000; you are on your own to participate in the daily activities here at the Hotel facilities.

11:00 a.m.	Hospitality Room Opens Cocktail party to be announced later
6:00 p.m.	Dinner
7:30 p.m.	Membership Meeting
9:30 p.m.	Showtime

Saturday Activities Sept. 9/2000

7:00 a.m.	Early Morning Coffee in Main Lobby
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast
9:30 a.m.	Membership Business Meeting
11:00 a.m.	Hospitality Room Opens
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
2:00 p.m.	Memorial Services
4:00 p.m.	Church Service
6:00 p.m.	Banquet Meal
8:30 p.m.	Dancing
9:30 p.m.	Showtime

Sunday Activities Sept. 10/2000

7:00 a.m.	Early Morning Coffee
8:00 a.m.	Breakfast - Hotel Facilities Open
12:00	Lunch

DEPARTURE AFTER LUNCH -- HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME



Presidents Corner

Dear Buddies,

My year as National President is coming to an end and I hope I have served you well.

Our ranks are thinning rapidly, so we should make every effort to keep in touch with our friends & a reunion is a good place to do it.

Don't forget the day trip to the Baseball Hall of Fame, an all day affair lunch included.

There should be something for everyone as there are so many activities - day & evening, or just relaxing by the pool.

So come along & meet again with your friends, many whom are bringing their families.

Hope to see you in Sept. in New York.

Pat Digiammerino



Executive Board Chairman

My buddies of the 83rd Division, and family and friends.

I hope you all had a happy Easter and plenty to eat.

We need the ad's and dues for the 54th Reunion so please send them in as soon as possible.

I went to the Dixie Chapter Reunion which was being held in Williamburgh, Va., March 3-

9-00 and had a wonderful time. The food and entertainment was very good thanks to the ladies and the committee.

The ladies of the Dixie Chapter were lovely dancers an also their hospitality was excellent.

Elaine Watkins an Flu Jackson welcome me at the reunion and I was very happy to be there.

P.S. Please pay your dues.

83rd Infantry Division veterans & family. I hope you all had a good Memorial Holiday with your family and friends and also enjoying your cookouts. I march in my 53rd parade in memory of our veterans.

83rd members, we are getting older and this is your association, you all will decide the future of our 83rd Infantry Division Association.

Please send in your dues and ad's for the 54th Reunion.

Board Chairman
August Farias



**If you are not
up to date with
your dues payment -
Please send them in
NOW!**

Deceased List

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

<u>NAME</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>REPORTED BY</u>
Arnold, Richard	"K" 330th	Wife, Mary
Bellino, Frank	"I" Co. 329	Earl Hoover
Carter, Alton L.	Med. 330	Homer Rickenbaugh
Clark, James W.	"K" 331st	Wife
Clark, Willis M. (Bill)	"D" 331st	R.C. Hamilton
Cobley, Ray		Wife
Cox, George H.	"B" 308th	Wife
Czech, Chester F.	HQ 322nd F.A.	Bob Grobelny
Danylo, Joseph	"C" 908th F.A.	Sal Scicolone & C.E. Caven
Davis, William	"B" 308 Eng.	Nick Francullo
Dingman, William M.	331st	D. Curry
Ferrucci, Sr., Samuel	Medic 331st	Stanley Duff
Gigliotti, Joseph E.	I Co. 329th	Pat DiGiammerino
Hallock, Rcy	783rd ORD.	Warren Rangnow
Hendrix, Boyd T.	83rd INF.	Whit East
Jeffrey, Wetzel E.	"HQ CO" 329th	J. Mercer (daughter)
Joyce, Miichael J.	"C" 330th	Sylvia Hubacher
Kingsland, Robert	Medic	Pat DiGiammerino
Koerner, Arthur	I Co. 329th	Wife
Kraus, George M.	3rd BN HQ 329th	Wife & Leslie Riddle
Kreutzer, Elmer F.	"B" 323 F.A.	Sue Kreutzer (daughter)
Kulpa, Stanley	1st BTN. 331st	Pat DiGiammerino
Marshall, Walter F.	Service 329th	Manny Epstein
Murray, William J. Jr.	DIV. HQ.	Wife
Schreiner, Howard	"D" 330th	Wife
Smith Karl N., General		Joe Macaluso
Tucker	REG. HQ. 329	Wife
Sterling, James	1st BN HQ 330th	Roy Ridgway
Wallo, Joseph L.	"B" 308th	Bill Davis & Nick Francallo
Weeks, Norman L.	Serv. 908th	Bonnie Fite (daughter)
Wilson, Carlos	REG HQ 330th	R.C. Hamilton
Winterburn, Albert H. "Bud"	83rd & 126th	John Howell
Woitkiewicz, Joseph	908 FA	Pat DiGiammerino
Voisin, Alfred J.	D Co. 331st.	Pat DiGiammerino
Yon, G. Arthur	83rd Div. Band	Nick Aloisi



from The Office



Last reminder for you to get your Pre-Registration form in for the Reunion at the Friar Tucks Inn Resort in the Catskill Mountains, New York (Sept. 6-7-8-9/00) If you should need more registration forms we have them at the office.

Your 2000 dues should have been paid before July 1/2000. Now its' time to pay your 2001. Bring membership card along for identification. Our fiscal year for the association has been changed to the calendar year (Jan. 1 to Dec. 30). Those members that have not paid your \$15.00 dues for year 2000 can send a check for \$30.00 which will include your \$15.00 dues for 2001 also. Make check or money order payable to the 83rd Inf. Div. Assoc., Inc. and mail to the office address.

The last mailing I received (thirty) changes of addresses from the Post Office. The Post Office will not forward them now those members did not receive the #2 issue of Thunderbolt magazine and will not until they request it be sent to them. It will cost the association \$1.21 plus a 50 cent charge to receive that change of address and the standard postage rate that was 30 cents each. Now we will have a cost of \$2.01 postage for one Thunderbolt Magazine because of not sending a change of address to the office. Now what I'm saying if it is worth an additional cost of \$1.71 to a member to receive that magazine I will be happy to send it to them from this office.

I mentioned in the magazine a new Roster was in making. It will soon be finalized and a copy to every member after this magazine is finished.

I would like to thank all who sent sympathy cards and notes with your dues. It sure is rewarding to know we have good friends like you 83rds. It makes me feel like we are one big family.

Bob Derickson
Nat'l Sec/Tres.

**AMENDMENT TO ARTICLES X AND XI OF THE CODE OF BY-LAWS
OF 83RD INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.**

WHEREAS, The National Charter of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, Inc. in Article III expressly provided that:

"...The object of this Association shall be to exist permanently as a National Organization and to bring together those who have served with the 83rd Infantry Division, United States Army during World War II; and

WHEREAS, under the EIGHTH ARTICLE OF ITS CHARTER, the founders provided that the "...Executive Board shall have the power to adopt By-laws for the regulations and government of the affairs and business of the Corporation and to amend, alter, change or repeal such By-Laws from time to time..."; and

WHEREAS, at a lawfully constituted meeting of the Executive Board held on the 7th day of May 2000 at the Holiday Inn, Hampton, Virginia with all Board Members present and voting, it was determined to be in the best interest of this Association to expand the present Membership so as to provide that lineal descendents by birth or adoption to include sons and daughters, and grandchildren of Members, and collateral descendents by blood or marriage to include nephews, nieces, and great nephews and great nieces of Members, and the surviving widows of Members, shall all be eligible to become Members of the 83rd Infantry Division Association, Inc.;

WHEREAS, the Executive Board determined on May 7, 2000, to create an Honorary Membership Class for all persons nominated to the Executive Board for Honorary Membership in recognition of exceptional contributions made to, or on behalf of this Association, who with concurrence of the Executive Board may be appointed Honorary Members of this Association from time to time;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT, Articles X and XI of the Code of By-Laws be, and the same are hereby, amended by addition of additional Section Numbered 4 and Section Numbered 5 to Article X, and by the deletion of present Article XI and the substitution in its place of a new Article XI, all of said Sections reading as follows:

SECTION 4 [ARTICLE X]: ESTABLISHMENT OF A DESCENDENT'S CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP. All lineal descendents by birth or adoption, to include sons and daughters, and grandchildren of Members, and all collateral descendents by blood or marriage to include nephews, nieces, and great nephews and nieces of Members, and the surviving widows of Members, shall be eligible for Membership in this Association, upon the tender of the payment of DUES required for Members under ARTICLE IV, SECTION 2 of the Code of By-Laws.

SECTION 5 [ARTICLE X]: ISSUANCE OF MEMBERSHIP CARDS AND CERTIFICATES. The payment of annual dues by each such lineal and collateral descendant shall entitle such person to **MEMBERSHIP** in this Association with all of the rights and privileges thereunto appertaining, as are, and may from time to time hereafter be determined by the Executive Board, and shall entitle each such lineal and collateral descendent Member to a Membership Card and a Certificate of Membership signed by the Secretary of the Association in recognition thereof.

ARTICLE XI: ESTABLISHMENT OF AN HONORARY CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP. Upon nomination made to the Executive Board by a Member of this Association of a person for his or her exceptional contribution to the Association, the Executive Board may from time to time, upon majority vote with a quorum being present, confer the degree of Honorary Membership to each such person who shall be entitled to receive a Certificate and a Membership Card signed by the Secretary of the Association, in recognition thereof.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, THAT such proposed Amendments to the Code of By-Laws be caused to be printed by the Secretary of the Association in the **THUNDERBOLT**, and that **NOTICE** be given to the Membership that such Proposed Amendments will be presented for ratification and approval by the Membership at the Annual Meeting to be held September 7-9, 2000 at **FRIAR TUCK INN, 4858 Rte. 32 North, Catskill, New York 12414** to become immediately effective at such time.

BY ORDER OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

**AUGUST FARIAS, CHAIRMAN
RALPH B. GUNDERSON
LOUIS SANDINI
WILLIAM M. MINNICK
JOHN B. PRINZI
PAT DIGIAMMERINO
JOHN W. TISDELL
ROBERT E. DERICKSON
JOHN D. RAIKOS**

CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP

By virtue of the Powers vested in the Executive Board and as the honored descendant of a Member who served with the 83rd Infantry Division during World War II, pursuant to ARTICLE X of the Code of By-Laws,

is hereby certified to be a Member of the

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.

with all rights and privileges of membership thereunto appertaining.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the 83rd Infantry Division Association, Inc. has authorized the execution of this Certificate by its National Secretary in certification this _____ day of _____ .

Robert E. Derickson
National Secretary-Treasurer

CERTIFICATE OF MEMBERSHIP

By virtue of the Powers vested in the Executive Board and in grateful recognition and appreciation for the support given to this Association and to its Active Members, in the Armament Museum display created by HENRY VENETTA AT 5959 W. LIBERTY STREET, HUBBARD, OHIO 44425,

pursuant to ARTICLE XI of the Code of By-Laws is hereby named an

HONORARY MEMBER

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.

with all rights and privileges of thereunto appertaining.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, the 83rd Infantry Division Association, Inc. has authorized the execution of this Certificate by its National Secretary in certification this _____ day of _____ 2000.

Robert E. Derickson
National Secretary-Treasurer

Historian's Corner

On May 9, 1999 at the Radisson Hotel, The Executive Board authorized B. John Prinzi and myself to incorporate 83rd operation at, and across the Elbe River into an appropriate history publication and to publicize to the media these 83rd Inf. Division operations. In addition, at the reunion in Lexington, KY in August, 1999, I had been informed that I had been nominated as Mr. Prinzi's assistant.

At the reunion, Mr. Prinzi was elected to serve on the Executive Board and resigned his position as Historian and as his assistant, I became the Historian. Mr. Prinzi had an article in the Winter issue of 1999 to this effect. Mr. Prinzi did indeed serve the 83rd well and his accomplishments will long be remembered. His great efforts in having a Monument placed and dedicated at Arlington Cemetery was indeed a masterpiece and I commend Mr. Prinzi for his tireless efforts and dedication, congratulations.

I will do my best to keep up with the fine tradition Mr. Wm. Kent O'Connell and Mr. B. John Prinzi has done in the past. I will begin by submitting articles for the Thunderbolt with events of interest.

We were delighted to learn of Bob Derickson's great recovery from the surgery and is to be commended for his tireless efforts in getting the Thunderbolt published. We were also saddened by the news of Pearl's passing away but you still came through. Our deepest sympathy to all deceased members and relatives. Congratulations Bob.

I also wish to thank the Officers and Executive Board Members of the 83rd Inf. Division Association for passing the resolution to award Henry Venetta the Honorary and Certificate of membership. He has certainly earned them.

Best wishes and regards to all and with the past tradition: Remember, we were indeed the Best of the Best.

Sincerely,
Louis Gomori, Historian

Veterans' Political Action Committee Mission Statement

Veterans Activism & Political Involvement
"There is not Representation without Participation"

The **Veterans Political Action Committee** is aimed at inspiring, educating and enlightening the law-makers, government officials, within the State and Federal Agencies and the American public at large on the issues, rights, and problems affecting veterans, and in particular war veterans, as well as on the benefit of the veterans' participation in the political, social, economic and cultural realms for the welfare of the community at large.

The veterans political involvement will enrich the American political spectrum adding to it the realistic and unselfish determination and commitment of those who placed their lives on the line through duty, and who thereby fought to defend the very essence of our Constitution.

The voice of war veterans in Congress will also give a new emphasis to the need to evaluate more carefully the international conflicts in order to avoid unwanted wars to become another Vietnam.

The veteran's presence in the political arena will determine, structure and implement better services for all veterans. It will close the gap between Lawmakers and Veterans Agencies, in order that Veterans Agencies may become more efficient vehicle of services, and not the authoritarian and bureaucratic institutions that they are today.

VPAC will advocate for a fair treatment of war veterans with bad conduct discharges to expedite the discharge upgrading of veterans with bad conduct discharges to expedite the discharge upgrading of veterans who did not commit dishonorable moral acts but were affected by their own adjustment problems common to all war veterans.

Among many other issues within a potentially vast and ever evolving agenda, the **VPAC** will lobby for private legal representation for veterans before the VA, better access to PTSD Programs, total free medical care for service connected veterans, education assistance, children's educational support, access to preferential loans for business and housing, and other opportunities and benefits to enable veterans to thrive in American society.

P.O. Box 130409 Boston, MA 02113
Telephone: 617-723-2052 FAX: 617-723-2052



Chapters

Dixie Chapter News.....

I have a feeling that this meeting will be the first for a few and the last one for some. Some planned to come but had to cancel due to sickness. Death took some from us even after they had made plans to be with us. It reminds us that we are the "Now Generation". If we want to do something we'd better do it now or we'll be too late.

Bearing these facts in mind I leave home March 7 for a long anticipated visit with fellow artilleryman John Cox and his wife Virginia. After 50+ years I find myself in his home being treated and greeted royalty. My wife, Kathryn and I am enjoying so much their hospitality we almost forgot we have reservations for the night in Williamsburg. But we finally get control after lunch, a short tour of Civil War Battlefields and an invitation to return and really do it up right at a later date. Thank you so much John and Va.

We arrive at the West Park Hotel to find the Loukas' are on the way flying in from Houston, Texas. They arrived happy and pooped to find that we are the only two couples on hand. Not to worry, we had lots to do so we'd be ready for the days ahead.

Wednesday is the day to shop so that we can be on hand for the remainder of the week.

When night falls and the bugle blows for chow, we count friends from eleven states present. Many choose the buffet supper at Golden Coral and dine together. Some are too excited to eat so they man the Hospitality Room which our host John Cox has well supplied. The only item missing is us. Now were here and things really move along. Mausie our outgoing chairman of Ex. Board is with us. Manzi from Long Island shows up with Edith and friends the Husch's. Each added to the festivities of the evening. Vitie Atkocious checked in and I couldn't get in a word in. Lamb from Mississippi with wife and three other beautiful ladies made it and we had a great time with all the love and good will in the air.

Thursday This is the big day. Sixteen more rooms are filled with fellow soldiers "All Old Timers" by nightfall. Its a joy to be here and meet and greet both the old and new.

Bob Kerr F Co. 331 is here for the first time. Thanks to Jess Pirkle, he meets with three members of his old squad of 50+ years ago. What a reunion they have! They are able to help a young man, Kevin Harris who had come from Wash. D.C. seeking information on his uncle, killed in action with their Company. I was able to steer him to them with the help of a phone call from Bob Parsons who had to cancel out!!

Col. White's son John and wife Bobbie show up after a long absence! What a pleasure to see them again. John presents the Chapter with his fathers WWII Helmet and a

beautiful painting by Tina, his mother. Our president accepts with pleasure and we have future plans for these items. Each day it gets better.

Our ladies outdid themselves, goodies and cakes, pies, etc., just keep coming. Hot food & ham, roast beef, fired chicken. John has hot dogs and Chili. I never saw to much food! Everybody is eating and living it up but taking time to remember that we've really here to honor those who can't be here. Many who remain in Europe where they fell that others may have freedom! Lets not forget them and those survivors and come together often.

Friday The remaining ones expected to show up ready to celebrate and we help them out. The last man is in "Mosby Toms" with his wife. I met him June 6 at Arlington at our Memorial Ceremony. He showed up and rounded out the group. Sorry to add that move of his Co were present Hdqtrs, 3Rd BN 329. He asked for some by name but none made it. Next time it'll be different.

What a small world it is! I found out he has a brother married to a cousin of mine. Next time maybe they'll come and we can have some "Dixie Time" together.

Saturday Business is conducted in orderly fashion. We plan to celebrate in Winston, N.C. in June, Catskill, N.Y. in Sept., Gatlinburg in Dec., Wmsburg in March, Lebr., Tenn. in June - It'll be "Tennessee Maneuvers" all over again. I'm looking forward to this meet already. George Naylor, French friend of the Dixie Chapter speaks and thanks us for what we have done in the war for her people.

We're overrun with notables, past presidents and executives abound but alas! We have only one Charter member present. "Doc MarshallKeith" just can't retire just keep going just like the old days in Europe.

Entertainment and Banquet go off well and is enjoyed by all.

When the music stopped all present were dancing the farewell dance which I think speaks well for the whole get together! I won't mention the names. Just do it again next year. I'm planning now to be there with you and pray that you all will be present also.

Yours,
E. S. Massie



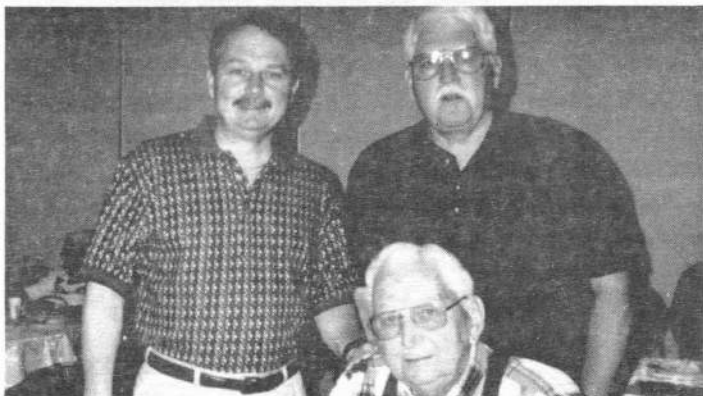
Old Infantry Men -- Joe Macaluso, August Farias, Wm. Minnick.



Geo. Naylor, Bob Kerr - First Timer, Joe Macalusco, Larry Dalton



Beadles, Massie, Benbow "A", 322. Together again after 50+ years.



Jim Beadles - Artillery 322 A., Larry, son (first time), Mike, son.



John Cox & crew - Col. White's son John & wife on end.



Naylor, Kerr, Dalton - Co. F 331. Kerrs first meet ever.



Michigan Chapter News.....

The Michigan Chapter had a luncheon on April 13 at Richter's in Dearborn, Mich. 10 people were present including our spouses.

We will maintain 3 lunches a year, April, July and October. We will also include the National Reunions.

Our clever photographer Evelyn McAuliff, has been there with her camera recording the events.

Those present at our April meet were: Charlie & Evelyn McAuliff, Nick & Sylvia Barbu, Nick Boyd & guest, Wes Sutton & guest, Vito & Virginia Palazzolo.

Do to some of our Mich. members being still in Florida we will see more at our next get together on July 13th.

P.S. If anyone is interested in obtaining short sleeve shirts, jackets, caps, unit buttons, early before the Reunion, please write me at home and stock up before you go to the next Reunion at Friar Tucks in upstate N.Y. Get your orders in early for correct sizes.

See you at the "Friar Tucks."

Notice by Vito Palazzolo (your uniform maker)

After many, many years of making uniforms for the fellows of the 83rd Div. I will have to stop making the dress shirts, that I had designed and made for all to look their

best at our reunions and Memorial Service each year. The time has come for the ready made, with the Logo's put on by the quick and easy way to do things now a days. So I want to thank all of you who have ordered uniforms from me these past years and hope you enjoyed wearing them. I hope to see what I have left at home so if you might need some of what I have left, please write me and I'll try to fill your order. Thank You.

Vito Palazzolo
Co. "G" 329th



What we look like today! Charlie McAuliff, Nick Barbu, Nick Boyd, Vito Palazzolo and Wes Sutton.



83rd Mini Reunion in Dearborn, Mi. Oct. 1999 members with wives and guests.

New Jersey Chapter News.....

When you receive this Thunderbolt it won't be long before our National Reunion. We should have a good representation at the reunion from the chapter. Some of the members are bringing their families along. I know that Cookie Seneca will have Jim and Darlene and also daughter Mary Ann. Joe DePeri is coming with Joe, Joanne, Casey and Nina, Fran and I are bringing our two daughters along with their husbands and two grandchildren. It should be a fun time for the families meeting and being together at our reunion.

Andy Socha who hasn't been to a reunion for a couple of years is going and planning to stay with Charlie Sihlanick at the reunion. Charlie will be hosting some of his Artillery Buddies at his home prior to the reunion. Joe and Hazel Barton are going and another we know will be there are Joe and Dot Skurka. Smiling Geroge and Dot Foster are regulars and we look forward to seeing them also. Sam and Edith Manzi we expect to see there as they are also regulars.

I'm sure Fred Policastro will join Dan Polose at the reunion, both served together in Co. C-331 Inf. I bet Bernie and Ida Rosenberg will attend. I haven't heard from Frank and Mary Sabine yet, but I'm sure they want to join their Co. D-331st friends. Russ and Marguerita Whitehead should be there joining the jolly group from Co. F, 329th. Another I know will attend is Tony Hroncich along with Lena. Tony puts aside the sledgehammer to woop-it-up at the reunion each year. Note: check out Tony's muscles when you see him. Maybe Harold and Doris Everham will make an appearance as they live but a few hours drive from the Catskills.

Manny Epstein will be there. Manny called me from Florida to tell me that our buddy Larry Leonardi had passed away. Larry was a dear friend to many of us and we always looked forward to being with him. Larry was with Co. A - 331st.

Tom Morris who served in Regimental Headquarters 331st might want to join his former First Sergeant George Waple who is planning on being there. George has been very busy promoting his book "A Country Boy Gone Woldiering" and has called me to let me know how much he is enjoying the experience. He made an appearance on the Star-Ledger Television Station, Channel 42. and a number of book signings. He sent me a copy of a letter he received from Mrs. George Smith Patton daughter-in law of General Patton who wrote "You are also one terrific, delightful story-teller!" General Gordan R. Sullivan sent George a letter praising the book and ordered a dozen copies from Amazon.com to send to worthy people.

George Waple called me a while back to let me know that he was going with a group of WWII Veterans to meet with New Jersey governor Cristy Whitman in Washington, DC to present New Jersey's contribution for the World War 2 Memorial. He wanted me to go with him but at the time I felt it would be a long day and I wasn't fit enough to go. Goerge I appreciate your asking me and feel I would have enjoyed the event. The check was presented to Senator Dole who is chairman of the project. George presented both the Senator and Governor with a copy of his book.

While I am writing about George's book, I feel some of you might be interested in reading my son Ken's first book. "The Lyrics of Civility" It's about Biblical Images and Popular Music Lyrics in American Culture written by Dr. Kenneth G. Bielen and published by Garland Press, New York and London/1999. It can be obtained from Barnesnoble.com.

I met with Richard Dickson (Co. B-329th) when he picked up an anvil I had. He wanted it for his grandson,

I'm hoping that Rags and Ginny Rangnow will be at the reunion. Rags have you noticed the exchange rate for the French Franc, it's worth just 13 cents. It's time for a visit to Christine, Nathalie and all the other mademoiselle you know.

Linda Sihlanick is having a surprise 50th Birthday Party and some of the chapter is invited. It will be held at the VFW Post where we have our meetings on May 20th.

Received a call from Victor Terzano (Co. I 329). He saw the notice of our reunion in the VFW Magazine. This is his first knowledge of our existence. His address is 1611 Lacberk Road, Toms River, NaJ 08755, Tele: 732-505-4044.

In closing, may you all keep well and keep praying for Mike and Liz Skovran, Emil Wehling, Ted Guzek and all our buddies who are ill.

Stan Bielen
1st Bn. Hdqs. Co. 331

New England Chapter News.....

We in New England are just about over with the bad weather.



Pvt. Francullo

My grandson Paul Francullo has just completed his Army Basic. Pvt. Francullo Army Reserve has graduated from military training in Columbus, Ga. A 1999 graduate of Revere High School is now stationed at Fort Sam Houston, Texas for medical specialist training and he says he likes it so far. Good Luck Paul.

Talked to Bill and Betty Davis of Newburyport, Ma. and they are not too well and are under a doctors care. Get well Betty and Bill.

Also talked to Dutchy Smith and he is going to have his eyes operated on. Good Luck Dutchy.

Received a letter from Chuck and Bernice Abdinoor of Dracut Ma. and they are back from Florida. Chuck did not do any fishing, weather was not to good but hopes to go back in May and get some quality fishing time in.

Have not heard from John and Stacey Maryce. Hope all is well with them. Also hope to have a big turnout for the reunion from A.C. 330 this year as Lexington was a big success.

We have two new members in Earl Dunn and Bob Gangnath with our regulars it should be a big success.

Seen John Ferreira and he is still going strong, of

course Esther sees to that. Dutchy and Helen hope to make the reunion, unless Atlantic City beckons to them.

Our own Mousie is chairman of the Executive Board. Go get them Mousie, you did a great job.

We had a dormant year but hope to have a active summer, so lets go gang. Thanks Chuck.

Hope Ben and Martha Cunningham of Madison, Tenn. are doing O.K. and hope we can hear from anyone who know Lt. Colonel William R. Notbohms address.

Received a letter from Bill & Betty Davis that Bill buddy George Cox, Co. B 308 Eng. passed away this week.

This is the 3rd buddy of his company that passed away in the past year.

Betty is finished with her radiation treatment and cancer clinic and will be glad when she gets her energy back.

We all will pray for you Betty.

Got some info from the Brennans. This winter the Brennans spent some time in Florida relaxing and visiting friends they said the weather was great and they had a good time.

The latest news in their family is that their son-in-law who is in the Air Force has turned down a promotion to full Colonel and will be retiring next spring. His plan is to become a commercial pilot.

Bill and Jeannetti McKee spent Jan., Feb., and March in Venise. Cuddy and Marie George also spent a couple of weeks in Ocala, Florida with Marie's brother and then went on to spend a week with their son in Atlantic City. We are happy that Cuddy's pacemaker is doing such a good job.

Ray and Billie Orsene spent the month of March in Port Lucie. They really enjoyed the great weather.

We understand the Burkhardts also spent time in Florida, but I don't have the details. Ironically all these people were in Florida without meeting each other.

Al and Ann Tartoglia spent a week in Orlando with their daughter and grand children. They said they enjoyed it and last but not least John and Priscilla Welsh were also in Florida where John played golf and Priscilla walked the beach, one of her favorite things to do.

Just got a call from Dot Brennan that Helen Petrucci was in the hospital and is home now, but must be on oxygen all the time.

That is all the news I have for now and if any member of the New England Chapter would like to send me any info that they would like to put in the news please send it to me and I will put it in.

Your Buddy,
Nick Francullo
HQ. Co. 3rd BN 330th

New England Chapter News
We of the New England Chapter would like to express our great sympathy to Bob Derickson and family in the loss of a great person in Pearl. She will be missed by all who new her and worked with her at all the reunions.



Head Table -- Memory of Pearl



New England Chapter



New England Chapter



New England Chapter

Cleveland Chapter

The Cleveland Chapter was saddened to hear of the passing of Pearl Derickson. We want to express our "Condolences" to the Derickson Family.

We also had a death in the Cleveland Chapter. Chester Czech died May 31st, 2000. Chester was very active in the Polish community, especially in the Alliance of Poles Organization. Also in the 83rd. Chet was a forward observer in the 322. F.A. HQ.

Earl Lindsey our Chaplin also our president gave a nice memorial service. The Cleveland Chapter was well represented. Al and Eleanor Klugiewicz and Eleanor's sister Dela came from Erie, PA. They just got back from a vacation in Texas and Mexico. They were rushed just a little bit.

Bob Uher had a medication problem but is doing a lot better. Warren Owen is still on dialysis. Mess Sgt. George Calore is taking good care of Martha his wife. She has Alzheimer's disease. - Bless you George.

Snow birds Larry

& Chris Coladaugelo are back from Florida. Welcome back Larry & Chris. Ed Cox spent sometime with son in Las Vegas.

Ann Christopher celebrated her 88th birthday in May. - We sang Happy Birthday and long life and guess what her husband, Dominic did. Well he gave her a big "KISS" He is so laid back. Surprised all of us I almost fell off of the chair.

Paul and Mary Dallos, Kid and Janet Williams, Sam and Charlotte Corriano are going to the reunion. Some others will be there as walkin's.

This is all for now!

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



Pittsburgh Chapter

Recently two members died: Joseph Danyle on Sun., Feb. 27, 2000. Joe was our auditor and one of our trustees. He was a self-employed roofer, who also owned a sandwich shop and owned an apartment building. Larry Leonardi died on Fri., April 21 in Flager Beach, Florida on Tues., April 25. A memorial service was held at the Shepner-McDermott Funeral Home in Crafton, Pa. Eight chapter members were in attendance; Sal Scicolone said the eulogy and chaplain Frank Hornack had a fine memorial service. Larry was a commercial artist.

On our sick list are Mike Rudy who fell and has his left arm in a half cast. In regards to falls, our reporter suffered a bruised rotary cuff on his right shoulder and a bruised elbow. This happened in Feb. Also I suffered vision problems and had a lens implant on my right eye.

On our list of members who are unable to attend meetings for a variety of reasons are: Jim McCulla, Greer Thompson, John Gallo, Mike Kadylak, Charles Hawkins and George Komles. I enclose the front and inside front cover of the 278th Reg. Combat Team Assn. of Korea as John Marek is a member of that organization.

In the Monday, May 29, 2000 issue of the Trib North section of the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review an interview by Maureen O. Byke with Rocco Catalfamo, one of the founders of the Pittsburgh Chapter and National Association was held. Portions of the interview are printed herewith.

**By Maureen O. Byko
Tribune-Review**

Some things are not to be forgotten -- the whistle of artillery fire, for instance, or the scent of death.

Memories of World War II remain embedded in the senses of Rocco Catalfamo 55 years after his discharge from the Army.

The images of war can be painful. But Catalfamo, 74, of Ross, believes veterans must share their memories, especially with young people for whom World War II is little more than a paragraph in a history book.



Rocco Catalfamo

Maybe that way, he said, the next generation will be better equipped to ensure the past is not repeated.

"We don't need any more wars," Catalfamo said. "I

can't stop them, but our kids can."

Catalfamo was little more than a kid himself when he enlisted -- at 17 1/2, he was not old enough to join the Army but lied about his age.

"Me and a few million other guys," he said.

The young soldiers were eager to take up arms and end the war. They had no idea, though, how this war would differ from the version on movie screens or in propaganda film.

"We got the shock of our life," Catalfamo said.

"It was nowhere near what I imagined war was."

As a soldier in the 83rd Infantry, Catalfamo was sent to Normandy days after the Allied landing. He fought throughout Europe, including the Battle of the Bulge, learning to cope with fear, hunger and the threat of death. He became accustomed to the smell of decay, as human and animal bodies lay rotting at battle scenes. And, like every other soldier, he prayed.

"There were no atheists in the foxholes," Catalfamo said.

After Hitler's defeat, Catalfamo was among the American soldiers who liberated prisoners at Buchenwald, one of Germany's largest concentration camps.

He remembers vividly the jubilant shouts of the prisoners, of all nationalities, as they realized the Americans had come to their rescue. And he still closes his eyes and clenches his hands together with the memory of thousands of diseased, dirty prisoners coming out to hug their liberators.

Catalfamo said the sights, sounds and smells of Buchenwald were disturbing to the soldiers, many of whom were still teenagers. In recent years, some people have claimed the Holocaust never happened, that Jews and dissidents were not systematically rounded up and eliminated in Nazi Germany.

Those attempts to revise history are another reason for veterans to share their stories.

"It happened, it was there," Catalfamo said.

At the June meeting it was authorized to purchase a 6 x 9 in. brick to be placed in the Monessen American Legion Soldiers plot. The cost is \$125. The inscription to read: Pittsburgh Chapter, 83rd Div.

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



Kentucky Chapter News.....

The Kentucky Chapter at the Comfort Inn at the Piqua Mall, Piqua Ohio. We had 24 to attend. The men played cards and the women went shopping off and on. It was all under cover so the weather was not a factor. Fred & Doris McGowan, Al & Dorothy Henry and Lois Brinkman were our hosts. They did a find job. Ames & Helen Miller will be hosting the Oct. meeting at Little Nashville in Brown Indiana. This meeting will be during week days instead over a weekend. By going at this time of the week they can get very good discount.

The Christmas meeting will be announced later. Ames & Helen informed us that the Atterbury Museum is open Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday.

I got a call from Homer Rickenbaugh that Alton Carter, Medic 331 passed away. He was a Kentucky Chapter member and want to give our deepest Sympathy to the Carter family. Also we were told that Linda LeRoy & Clara Johnson daughter passed away a few weeks ago. We the Kentucky Chapter members wish to express Deepest Sympathy to you Clara, and your family.

Earl Hoover had a rupture surgery and is doing fine.

Bob Derickson
3rd BN. CO. 329
Kentucky Chapter Reporter

Boston Chapter News.....

The Boston Meeting was held at Maria Gonsalves home in Dartmouth, MA. It was a nice day for us to be together.

It was nice to see Hy Goodman looking so well. Afraid he will reenlist in the infantry soon.

Thanks to his lovely wife for getting him back to good health.

Al and Jackie Remy are back at the meetings. Albert keeps us up to date on Veterans Affairs and where most veterans can get help.

Our meeting was great taking up about everything on the coming reunion. Fred Sylvia has been doing a lot of work with the graves overseas.

After the meeting Maria served a nice spread. Also we had a lesson about growing plants. We learned a lot.

Maria thanks for everything.

On the Pre-Memorial day week, a Memorial Day ceremony was held at the Richer School in Marlborough, Massachusetts located in the western part of the City.

Relatives of the students who were or had been in the Military Service were invited to come and speak. One of our own members, Louis R. Sandini, along with his brother John, who served in the Navy was invited by Danielle Sandini, John's grand daughter, and Louis' Grand Niece, to come and speak. This seems appropriate, since the Richer School is located near the end of Sandini Street. A street named after Alfred Sandini; Louis' brother who was killed in World War 11. He was in the air corps and was shot down over Hanoi, while fighting in the China, India, Burma theater of that great war.

Louis simply said that he was no great hero -- because he only did what every red blooded young citizen of the times did ---- THEIR DUTY, he told everyone of his father's sad feelings and what he said as he hugged Luigi goodbye at the door of the bus -- "I weesh I cood taka Yououra place." --- (At this point Louis' voice broke and he had a little trouble going on.) Louis then went on telling about his own school days when members of the GAR, Civil War Veterans used to come and speak to them at school. He told them that while riding the bus to Fort Devens, full of excitement, expectation and worry he prayed, "Dear God, let me live through all this so I can in the future, like the men of the GAR, go to the schools and preach against war. And so hear I am." And without further ado Louis took his seat.

The first weekend in June the Boston Meeting was held at the home of Phylis Scott in Florence, MA.

They had a real bad storm there the night before with power lines being knocked down and trees uprooted. Most streets were closed. However, Phylis had no damage.

The Meeting was held outside. One man made the comment that I was not a true 83rder which to me was a laugh. I have attended almost all the reunions, plus have been writing the Boston News for over 30 years (I never asked for stamp money). I have attended meetings in 6 states. I always give my all to my Chapter along with my wife. So I ask what is a true 83rder?

Sure was nice to see Phylis again. After the meeting we had a long chow line.

Phylis everything was wonderful as usual.

This year we have had many members on the sick list.

Tony Piantedosi had some by pass surgery. His wife Helen has been taking good care of him and has him back to good health at this time.

Fran Arrigo has been in poor health lately. Larry has been taking her to the doctors which we hope will have her back feeling better.

Vera Caprio had a knee replacement and is doing fine at this time.

Mike Caprio also was sick and is home recuperating.

I understand that Mike and Vera daughter is down from New Hampshire to help out.

Tynan also was sick this winter for a couple of months but is doing well now.

My Grandson Logan put me in with a group of Veterans at the Decas School in Wareham, MA.

The Veterans were from all over. A Navy Nurse did the speaking and told about the wounded.

I must say she did an excellent job along with the teachers at the school. The kids were 7, 8 and 9 year olds. They really asked good questions. They served us cake and juice. The children were well trained by their teachers. Wareham should be very proud of them and their teachers.

My Granddaughter Kelly Ann Tynan graduated from Stonehill College in Easton MA in May. Kelly did 6 months of study in Dublin, Ireland.

Brian, her brother, graduated a week later from Boston Latin Academy. He has been accepted to Northeastern University in Boston this fall.

The Tynan's had a lot of celebrating this year. That's all for now.

Amby Tynan



Getting In shape for our next tournament -- Boston Chapter.



Group In N.H. before attending Anniversary party for Chet & Laurette Morley. Boston Chapter



Resting tired "Tootsies" after a day of sight-seeing. Ginny DiGlammerino and Pat Worrick



Marylyn Caruso from Friar Tuck - our coordinator -- Boston Chapter



Executive Board Meeting - Hampton, VA. Boston Chapter



Our driver and guide -- Mike Derickson, Thank You Boston Chapter.

COMPANIES

Co. "A" 330th News.....

Buddies once again it is getting closer for our 54th Annual Reunion. Last year in Kentucky, we had a record high of 13 members, including wives & friends. Let us equal that number or pass it. We will get a table for all of us together once again. I visited an old buddy from "B" Co. Lindsay (Handsome Harry) Harrison from Wackertown, N.C. He has not changed to much and misses our reunions. One day he hopes to make one. His wife Clara is in a nursing home, so he is all alone. Also heard from Dolores & Paul Reed. I am trying to talk them into attending, and so far it looks good. Also heard from our true soldier Walter Pillion & his wife Pearl. They are working on it. Walt cannot get around like he use to. We had a hard time following him when he was in his prime. Rita & Frank Burgess would love to attend they are both active members of New England. Get a call from Lee Milligan from Wichita, Kansas. He would love to attend but has to take care of his wife, who has Alzheimer, we expect shorty Glasser & his wife. He makes all the reunions. Waiting to hear from Earle Dunn & Bob Gangnata, our new members who was in "A" Co. Bob was wounded around Bihain, Belgium during the Bulge. Lexington, Ky. was their first reunion, it was a pleasure to see them & their wives. Hope to see more of them in the future.

Charles Abdinoor
(B & A) Co. 330th
68 Loon Hill Rd.
Dracut, MA 01826-4031

329th "B" Bag News.....

I was sorry to read about the passing away of John Benoit in the last T Bolt. John was one of my ammo bearers in my machine gun squad. We called him Ski, because the tips of his shoes were always pointed up just like skies. While in combat he never wanted me to fire the machine gun cause he never wanted to go back for more ammo and when we were off the line, he crabbed about the food and weather. He was a character and a good soldier. Our deepest sympathy to his family. I haven't heard from anyone except "Red" Geyer and "Yo" Trofimuk who are both having severe health problems but are still hanging in there tough. I talked with John Spickler who was the mortar Sgt. and had a good talk. He has a good record of our daily whereabouts and what happened on certain dates. It was good to hear from him. Incidentally I have some old records from "B" Co. like the company roster of Aug. 1945, including everyone who was with the company and all of the personal who were killed in action. I have also the daily log book, list of all our headquarters from Carentan to Zerbst. If anyone wants these pieces of history let me know or a place where I can send them.

Due to my health problems it don't look like we will make the reunion this year. There will be no short "B" story in this issue. I've listed some of the old timers who went all the way, do you remember some of them.

Lt. Teuke, Jewell, Sgts. Szumanski, Lutten, Pearly Price, Dye, Malcom Knowles, PFC. Gomez, Pedro Alleman, Ray Snapp, Gus Logus, Ken Dean, Ted Unipan, Bill Combs, Boyd Plummer. I wonder what happened to them in later life.

"B" Co. Friends Forever
Bob Uher
12700 Lake Ave.
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
(216) 221-2012

**ON JUNE 3 - 6, 2000
THE NATIONAL D-DAY MUSEUM
HONORS A
GENERATION OF
HEROES.**

The National D-Day Museum is the only museum in the nation dedicated to the amphibious invasions of World War II, and it celebrates the American spirit, the teamwork, optimism, courage, and sacrifice of the men and women who made the world safe for democracy.

At the opening ceremonies will be thousands of veterans - the largest gathering of veterans of all the D-Days of World War II in our country's history - along with a celebrity list headed by Museum founder and noted historian Stephen E. Ambrose, Steven Spielberg, Tom Hanks and Tom Brokaw. Also present and participating will be the men and women of the home front, who helped build the 20,000 Higgins boats in New Orleans that made amphibious landings possible.

New Orleans will provide a colorful and historic backdrop to a schedule of events that offers something for everyone.

This is a once-in-a lifetime chance to be a part of history. Make your plans now to ensure that you are included. Space is limited and priority will be given to World War II veterans, spouses of deceased World War II veterans and home front workers.

"G" Company 331st Infantry.....

I thought for this issue of the Thunderbolt I would write about the new Museum which opened in New Orleans on June 6, 2000. New Orleans had done it's self proud this past week. For some time there has been talk of dedicating a Museum to the men that fought the great War from 1941-1945.

On May 18th the City Council of the City, honored all World War II veterans from the area. It was a very good program and each veteran attending was given a medal and a certificate from the Mayor.

During the week from June 3 to June 6 there was four days of celebration for the veterans of World War II. On June 3 in the park area there were mock battles between American forces and German forces. Various bands played in concert including a French Navy Band and Color Guard, and a British Army Band and Color Guard.

On June 4 there were visit to the ships that came for the celebration including ships from the French and British Navy. Various bands and color guards performed on the river front.

On Saturday night there was a USO Swing Dance at the hotel.

On Monday, June 5th there was a Conversations with Veterans at a New Orleans Hotel featured were Dr. Stephen Ambrose, General Goodpaster, Sen. Mc Govern, Steven Steilberg, and Tom Hanks. I was able to attend the morning session, its features men from the Ranger Battalion that took Pon de Hoc. Then there was a reception at the hotel that ended up after 8:00 p.m.

On Tuesday June 6th there was a military parade with various colors guards and with the GI's from the various divisions that made the landings at Omaha and Utah Beaches, and included the Marine Divisions that made landings in the Pacific.

After the parade there was a grand opening celebration at the New Orleans area. Tom Brokow was the Master of Ceremonies. It included the Sec. of Defense, Dr. Ambrose, Steilberg and Hanks. Also present and given due honors were eight Medal of Honor winners from WWII.

Tom Hanks read Ernie Pyle's Column when he visited the invasion beaches in early June of 1944.

The Museum was opened to the public after the ceremony at the arena. It is the downtown area of New Orleans. I could not attend on the 6th of June because it was after 4:00 when the program was completed at the arena.

This is a tribute to the men of World War II and will be open around the year. It was the dream of Dr. Ambrose and Dr. Mueller of the University of New Orleans. There were dignitaries from 12 foreign countries, with a one hour USO show before the program began, which included songs from World War II.

Joe Macaluso

Co. "F" 329 News.....

OVER BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: South 2000 was cancelled however George/Elva Fuller, Bill/Arline Nickell, & Fred J./Betty Senatori who were fortunate enough to be in Florida at the scheduled time got together, enjoyed the day and were entertained by "The Co. "F" Troubadours" pictured below.



HERE & THERE: At the request for more pictures less copy! Please be my guest and Reminisce. Can't recall the time, place or people? You probably weren't there! Come join us sometime. Next chance North 2000 October 8-9-10-11, 2000. Additional Information call 419-289-2148 or write 1314 Center Ln. Dr., Ashland, OH 44805-3403



Jean & Ed Zerucha at home.



Military order of the Purple Heart Award



53rd Annual Reunion



North '99



North '99

CONDOLENCES: To Robert Derickson on the death of his beloved Pearl in March and his Father in May.

J'EVER NOTICE: You shouldn't take good food, good health or good friends for granted.

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

783rd Ordnance Co. News.....

Only in America...do drugstores make the sick walk all the way to the back of the store to get their prescriptions, while the healthy people buy cigarettes at the front! And only in America do you have the pleasure of reading such highly informative magazines as the Thunderbolt.

We all know it's getting later than we think and this is just another way of telling any of you who are on the fence about the SEPTEMBER reunion, you still have time to arrange it. All things being equal, which is another way of saying, if no human part breaks down, all our regular ten guys are attending the reunion accompanied by "the bosses." There's also a chance that Victor Mutinani will attend for the first time. As you know he is recovering from the removal of a lobe of the lung. I saw him again last week when he came for a checkup. He really wants to see everyone and if Rita can get her good Italian cooking in him I'm sure "Mute" will make it. Believe me Mute hasn't changed one bit. However, I did learn from his charming daughters, that Mute has quite a voice. Of course we knew that, but he sings and does a great impression of Frank Sinatra. Get your requests ready!

Only in America...do people like Carl Fredericks order double cheese burgers, large fries and a diet coke! Only in America...can you find the 10th ANNUAL WWII WEEKEND in Reading, Pa. Once again young Jim Swope, a history high school teacher, and one of the directors of this huge affair, proudly put up the 83rd Division command tent and stocked it with our history.

The tent was also stocked with us guys, the still talking history. This year seven 83rd vets signed in, three for the first time. They were Ed J. Salevsky, S/Sgt. 330 I Co., John "Nosey" Nordbloom Hdq. 329th and Jim Erisman 83rd Sig. This memorable week-end has the emotional feelings of an 83rd reunion. You have to experience it to feel it. Also working the crowd was George Suchomelly "A" 329th, Clarence "Hap" Reeser 83rd Band, Norm Schuster "D" 331st, his ever helpful grandson Troy and myself. Our voices became horse from talking to the hundreds of people who stopped in to meet us guys and learn of the 83rd's journey. Troy sat many of the youngsters in Jim Swope's original Jeep, placed the heavy helmet on their heads and took their picture with Mom and Dad. Truly an interesting and happy day.

Mike Munford, another high school teacher, drove three hours to give his nine year old son, Mark, the hands on history of 1944 and was so happy to get the chance to meet and talk to us.

Mike is an 83rd reenactor and was one of the soldiers in the 83rd display at the Pines in the early 90's.

Late Saturday afternoon I was amazed when three different families walked up to me and said, "Remember you talked to us this morning and we just wanted to stop back and express our thanks for teaching us history and to thank all of you for what you did for this nation and our freedom." So guys and gals, there's a message here. Very few schools are teaching to any depth on the true history of the war. Your job is not done and you can still talk. So at every opportunity you get please try to teach the youth that all freedom comes at a gross price.

During our recent move Ginny naturally got on her high horse and said things like, "You have to get rid of some of that junk." In so doing I ran across some old letters one of which was from Roy Hallock's daughter. Hallock and I used to "tent" together and I had some old pictures of him. I re-found his daughter only to find that Roy had died in 1997. For some reason Hallock never wanted to be found so his daughter was afraid to give me his phone number. I sent her the pictures and she was grateful.

No startling news from the four corners of America. However Jim Jones is selling his Pa. farm so he'll be moving. George Harris still don't like his new quarters because everyone is so old and there's nothing to do. George drives down to the Post for a little weekly nip but that's not too exciting either. George will be a young 91 on Sept. 12. Wouldn't it be great to have a birthday party with George at the reunion.

Received a nice letter of many questions from Bob Burns. He was just recuperating from a hernia operation. Other than that Bob and Mary are enjoying good health and a busy life. Bob is holding down two jobs, one in a hospital and the other in a black suit at the undertakers. Can't you just see Bob doing that job! Bob asks the question many of you have asked? How many 783rd members still survive? It's getting difficult to get a positive count as the fellows on the "fringe" area keep disappearing. Fellows like Basham, Belt, Long, and DeMarentis have disappeared along with about twenty-two other fellows we never located. We have 38 on our "active" roster and 79 on the deceased list. It's interesting to note, I have a Company roster dated Jan. 7, 1943. There are 173 men with a note stating that 53 were removed before England. All I can say is, if your reading this your on the right list and keep eating your prunes.

Only in America...do we buy hot dogs in packages of ten and buns in packages of eight. Hersch Weaver says he solves that problem by having Midge bring her two buns to the table.

It's always nice to report good medical news. Martha Appleby came down to Philly for her check-up and she came out of the Doc's office smiling. All her tests after the removal of her cancerous Kidney are negative so she does not need further treatment. That was great news.

Do you recall, in the last issue, I mentioned the fact that Gene DelPrete would be coming to the reunion with his new girl friend Nancy. This is a little unbelievable but Gene called me shortly thereafter and related this horrible experience. Gene was arranging a great big Christmas affair for his new, loving friend. On Dec. 24th he was talking to her on the phone when she suddenly dropped the phone. She died instantly from a brain aneurysm. Needless to say, when Gene called me in February he was still in shocked disbelief. I know all your heartstrings will be touched by Gene's tragedy.

For years I've been talking to Reese Phillips in south Philly suggesting we should meet downtown for lunch. Well two weeks ago we finally made it happen. We were to meet in the lobby of the Marriott and would you believe we walked right past one another. On the second try we met and Reese says, "Geez Rags,, you haven't changed a bit. Except your all gray!" How do you tell a friend that you've been gray for the past thirty years? Reese you also looked good...and gray!

For some of you this will come as a surprise. I liked Wiggins story of their new retirement home and how they go to the malls holding on to a long knotted rope, we liked it so much we immediately went and signed ourselves into a Retirement Manor. We don't have any knotted ropes in here. We're on our own which means I run the cleaner and do half the cooking. Ginny takes me out for the rest of the meals. This was a sudden, unexpected move. Our landlord is trying to sell. I didn't want an ultimatum hanging over our heads so I informed this manager to reactivate our name. THREE WEEKS later we were settled in here. I don't recommend such quick moves, that's when I really got gray!

Our new address is:

Gloria Dei Manor Apt. 113
753 Welsh Rd. Huntingdon Valley, Pa. 19006
215-947-1203

We are enjoying life, hope your all doing the same and if possible let's get together and enjoy one more reunion.

Hut two,

Rags Rangnow

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

Once again that deadline date has arrived and I have just gotten ready for it.

First I would like to extend to **Bob Derlickson** our deepest sympathy for all the trials he has been through this year. Let us hope they are over with.

Bob assured me that a new 83rd Roster was forth coming, which I know will please many of our Members.

The sick list is steadily growing for the 453rd. The many aches and ailments don't seem to skip anyone. I just received a list of ailing members and their spouses from our Secretary. I guess I can add myself to the list, as I have had severe ear problems causing much dizziness. (Many will say that I've always been 'Dizzy'.)

My wife, Irene has still not gotten any relief for her allergies despite all the shots and medications she has been taking, now to top it off, she has a spot on her pancreas that has not been determined just what it is. **Larry Carman**, our new V.P. has now developed Muscular Degen-eration, and can't drive any more. **Woodrow Plummer** continues to have serious problems, along with his spouse, **Doris**, who is also battling her physical ailments. **Jim Hull** and his wife **Doris**, had to move into an assisted living Center. At last report Doris was in the Hospital again for more blood work. Jim has just gotten over having a stroke, and now has to rely on members of the family to cart him around. I understand that **Frank Moore** had an operation last January, but he didn't mention it to me while we were in Texas. **John McVey** fell and had to have his shoulder operated on. **Ruth and Jim Nichols** have been having their problems, at last report they are coming along OK. **The Daltons** are no exception, **Jim** still has heart and lung problems and **Molly** just can't seem to get fully recovered from her last hip operation. **Jim Galavan** has been confined, to treat his Hereditary Depression problems, and when he is released he will be staying with his niece in Chardon, Ohio.

The list goes on, **Mike and Lorraine Morick**, have not been spared, he is still on oxygen and pretty well confined to the wheel chair, she is still having back problems along with bronchial problems too. **Carl Schutz's** spouse **Mary**, fell and broke her hip. She had to have surgery, this was just before our trip to Fort Bliss, so they were unable to attend. Carl is still chasing after the Jack rabbits and Gophers on his ranch in Texas. **John Loch** has been having fainting spells. At last word, **Elizabeth Kerschner** had an operation last March, no further details available. **Katie Bell, widow of Dave**, had been in the hospital with a heart attack, an has recovered nicely, but now is recovering from a gall bladder operation.

What a list!!!! Is it any wonder that it is getting tougher to attend our Annual Reunion?

I am also Roster Coordinator for the 453rd and am still looking for those of our outfit that are unaccounted for.

Last August I found our **1st Lt. Elmer Horton**, who we had not been able to locate for over fifty years. He attended our reunion in Toledo, Ohio with his son last September. At that time he told me of a Ledger that he

had kept from the time of our landings on Utah beach on June 12th, 1944, until we broke up in Munich. This covered the daily details of the second Platoon "B" Battery. A copy of this was given to the Air Defense Artillery Museum at Fort Bliss Texas. Our Battalion Secretary will also get a copy of it for our files. **Elmer Horton** could not attend our Fort Bliss event, and so I presented it to the Curator on his behalf. Upon returning from Fort Bliss, I immediately related to Elmer all of the events we were privy to, and the happy acceptance of his Ledger by the museum curator. I received a nice response from him, thanking me for all the details, saying it was the next best thing to being there. **Five days later I received notification from his son, that he had passed away.** His son was so happy that he had been able to get together with some of his old buddies from those trying times. This was the first time that **Elmer** had ever talked to his son of those times. The event gave Elmer and his son the opportunity to break down that barrier.

An Engraved Glass Colored Oozelfinch was also given to the museum on behalf of the 453rd AAA (AW) BN. This will be displayed in a special 'OOZELVINCH' display case.

It's long over due, to those of you who have not passed on their experience, no matter how trivial you think it is, DO IT NOW. Your loved ones need this input.

Our Trip to Fort Bliss was a great event. We were entertained by all the Top Brass from the Air Defense Artillery Command. It was sad that many of our members that had been stationed there, when the 453rds AAA (AW) BN. was first started in August of 1942. Could not attend. How things have changed. We had five men shacks, about the size of a single car garage. Now they have accommodations that are as nice as any first class hotel. Small apartment type facilities, for two persons. Individual small bedrooms, with a shared bathroom and kitchenette unit. Each person furnishes their own room as they want, with TV, Computer Etc. This was in the latest Barracks, with pool room automatic laundry facilities, game room etc. I know there are many facilities that are not that elaborate, but they'll be forthcoming as the Services try to promote enlistments. Our trip was coordinated by **Tracy Hain** of the Fort Bliss Public Relation Dept. **Colonel 'Buster' Hayden**, Retired, from the Anti Aircraft Defense, was our popular and most gracious benefactor and Guide. Another person who helped us enjoy our trip was a Retired **Brigadier General, Jack Rogers** who had been with the 463rd AAA (AW) BN. They were also stationed at Leek England at Blackshaw Moor Camp, when the 453rd was there.

It grieves me to have to report that besides **Elmer Horton, Lewis Carter, Clement A. Beyer, and Wilbur Cornelius** have all, passed on, waiting for us to meet up with them again in the future. They surely will be missed by all that knew them.

Our Reunion this year conflicts with the 83rd National Reunion. The 453rd AAA (AW) BN. reunion will be in Akron Ohio on the 8th, 9th and 10th of September. (Sorry Rags and Pat.) We will hold the Reunion at the Four Points Hotel, Akron West. 3150 W. Market St. Akron, OH. 44333. Phone 1-800-825-3535. Special Rates of \$69.00 plus tax. The hotel is near the Summit Mall. The hotel is about equal driving distance from the Cleveland Hopkins, or the Akron/Canton Airports. More details will follow in the mail.

Fred C. Pearson, President and Roster Coordinator for
453rd AAA (AW) BN. Email
k8uet@lightstream.net



MAILBAG

I represented the WWII vets along with the Governor of N.J. where the Governor presented a check to the former Senator of Kansas, Robert Dole, a check in the amount of \$580,000 for the WWII Memorial fund.

Hope you can find space in Thunderbolt for this news-breaker.

*Sincerely,
George Henry Waple III
Soldier Retired*

George Henry Waple III was selected by the Retired Officers Association to meet with Governor Christine Todd Whitman in Washington, D.C. on February 29, 2000 at ten A.M. in the Cannon Building where the Governor presented a check to former Senator Dole, Chairman of the WWII Memorial fund in the amount of \$580,000 from public funds.

In addition to the above ceremony, Waple presented a copy of his book, "Country Boy Gone Soldiering" to the Governor and Senator Dole.

George Waple was the former First Sergeant of Headquarters Company of the 331st Infantry and wrote a book of his memoirs. A copy may be ordered through George at 17325428322, the cost is \$16.00 postage included or from the publisher at 18887954274.



To whom it may concern:

I am writing to request that you include the site which my brother and I have established to honor our father, Samuel J. Bifano, 324 FA Bn on the website listing in the Thunderbolt magazine. The website is:

<http://gateway.ca.k12.pa.us/memorial>

Sincerely,
John Bifano
1612 SE 6th Avenue
Cape Coral, FL 33990
(941) 772-1222



Lou Sandini & Ernie Streater, 83rd Div. 322nd FABN WWII. Louie & I have always been great friends. He has given a lot of time & effort, like you to keep the 83rd Div. Active & Proud. God Bless!! - Ernie

Sorry I can't make the Reunion at Friar Tuck Inn in N.Y. but my health will make it impossible to travel etc. (my 83 yrs. & cancer)

I correspond often with my good friend Louie's Sandini who I served with in the 322nd FABN, 83rd Div.

I often think of all my friends who served our country as a member of the 83rd Div.

Ernest J. Streater
1786 Parkman Rd NW

Sir,

I am sending this in response to the email message received, concerning publication of 83rd Infantry Division web site addresses in your Association newsletter.

<http://www.shelbynet.net/~military> is the address for the sites that I maintain, as part of my duties as an Advisory Board member of the Camp Atterbury Volunteer Memorial Association (CAVMA). I am jimwest@shelbynet.net.

This large site is for Camp Atterbury, Indiana, and the various unites that trained there, including the 28th, 30th, 31st, 38th, 71st SOS, 83rd, 92nd, 106th and several other WW2 bases and camps.

Please understand and convey to your readers, that I do not intend my site to be a militarily accurate historic site. Rather it is a place for the individual soldier and his family to record and preserve his life history and his

military activities.

Individuals and/or their families may send their life stories and I will publish them on the appropriate unit page, along with photos, if desired.

To date, I am aware of perhaps 40 individuals that have re-located former friends through these histories. Many of the local schools link to the pages as a way to discover the "human" side of the wars.

Thank you for inclusion in your newsletter.

James D. West
B-138 Armor, C-151 Mech Inf.
930thTCG, 434th TCW, 71stSOS
840thCSG.

I've enclosed a picture for your use. The men in the picture from left to right: Sgt. "Abbie" Kline, Cpl. "Walt" Rohmbaugh (I'm not sure about the spelling of the last name), Sgt.(I couldn't make out his nick name) Kern, Sgt. "Bud" Charles M. Decker (This is my Father).

This is my Father's information:
Charles M. Decker, Service# 35 094 246
Entry in service: Feb. 27, 1943
Discharge: Nov. 25, 1945
Wounded: July 26, 1944 France
Campaigns: Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Central Europe.

He was six feet tall and weighed about 180 pounds.

If you need anything else please call my wife, Theresa at 513-942-1754 and she will pass the message to me.

Sincerely,
Jonathan R. Decker



Thank you for the info on the 83rd and contacts. Enclosed in an application for membership (attached).

I don't remember if I informed you of my father's death. My father Charles O. Dimmick, Co. I, 330th passed away on Jan. 30, 2000.

I would like to try to contact any of the men in Company I, whether they remember him or not. I found his pocket notebook that he carried and copied the names and assignments. At best maybe a couple of old buddies could make contact again. I would be willing to put together a brief History of the Company and 330th. Maybe somebody has.

Sending copy to Wooldridge Press for an ad in the Thunderbolt.

Thank you very much for your help. May God Bless

Respectfully,
Dave Dimmick

1st Platoon

Lt. Jackson WIA Jan. 3, 1945
S/Sgt. F.J. Mareno 32999151
T/Sgt. C.O. Dimmick 36463422 (WIA Jan. 6, 1945)
PFC Claude Myers 35498209

1st Sqd.

S/Sgt. L. Teeters, Sqd. Ldr. 35714020
PFC A. Symanski 1st Sgt. 36860392 (Hosp.)
PFC M. Suttles 2nd Sgt. 35780021 (?)
PFC H. Benally B.A.R. 3816540
PFC L. Strunk Asst. 33465003 (WIA Jan 6, 1945)
PFC A. Jacobson Baz. 33764461
PFC A. Duffer Asst. 35699524
PFC B. Simmons Rifle 35742926
Sgt. C. Wisemann Asst. Ldr. 37297652

2nd Squad

S/Sgt. E Caldwell Dd. Ldr. 35449471
PFC H. Jarmson 1st Sgt. 31261571
PFC W. Hutchins 2nd Sgt. 37681799
PFC J. Staley B.A.R. 35560779
W. Goodwin Asst. 34631235
PFC A. Traylor Rifle 24833757
PVT J Palidino Rifle 32990721 (trans.)
PFC Anthony Rogone Rifle 33419353 (3rd Sqd.)
SGT. L Tedesco Asst. Sqd. 32995446
PVT. Edwin V. Schrader Rifle 32478440

3rd Squad

S/Sgt. Ira Benn Sq Ldr. 31449934 (WIA Jan. 3, 1945)
Pvt. E Ruble Scout 32956087 (MIA Jan. 4, 1945)
PFC F Marciano B.A.R. 32858146 (MIA Jan. 5, 1945)
PFC F. Pollock Asst. 34827002 (WIA Jan. 3, 1945)
Pvt. Joe Petroski Rifle 36838682
PFC. Antony Ragone Rifle 33419353
Pvt. Robert J. Smith Rifle 31416002
Sgt. E. Salevsky Asst. 1 Dr. 38826941

Some time ago I called you from Belgium. I told you that I was an amateur historian of the Battle of the Bulge (sector of Bastogne) and a metal detector enthusiast. I'm also member from several Veterans Associations (17th AB, 87th, 101th AB, VBOB, Static Line and Belgian CRI-BA).

In the woods (Jack's woods) located in the village of Bizory (area of Bastogne) I found 4 dog-tags. The last one on October 13, 1999.

1) Lloyd M. Flory - ASN: 33514791. (16/06/25 - 03/12/70). According to the informations received from the States, this soldier was from the 331st Inf. Regt. I found the family of this man in 1999. Dog-tag discovered in September 1997.

2) Irvin M. Diehm - ASN: 35344026. According to the informations received from the States, this soldier was from the 331st Inf. Regt. (L-Comp.) The family of this man was not found. It seems that he was from Indiana. Dog-tag discovered in January 1999.

3) Robert E. Lee - ASN:6398462. According to the informations received from the States, this soldier was from the 393st . Regt. According to the 99 Inf. Div. Veterans Association, he was not! And the 99 Inf. Div. never came in action in the area of Bastogne. Maybe was he only discharged with this unit. The family of this soldier was not found because there are too much (Lee's). I know that he was from Baltimore-MD and that he is deceased. Dog-tag discovered in July 1997. It seems that this case will reach an impasse!

4) Norman P. Neily - ASN: 31177280 I just began the investigation.

That's the reason why I'm writing you. Could you please help me in my researches? Did the 83rd come in action around Bastogne, when and where? Did you know Mr. Flory and Mr. Diehm? Can you tell me more about their service, their family? Maybe have you any picture of them. Were Mr. Lee and Mr. Neily also member from your unit (could you please look through your files or directories)? Did you have any books or something else about the history of your unit? Dear Mr. Derickson, I will appreciate if you could provide me any information. Sorry for my bad knowledge in your language. Thank You very much.

Sincerely Yours,
Maierna Lorenzo,
A. Kreides Nr40
6700 Arlon-Toernich Belgium

I would like to make contact with anyone that was in Company "C" 329th 4th platoon Mortar Section between the Hurtgen Forest and crossing the Elbe River on April 5th - 6th at 1:30 p.m. , 1944. I remember our Platoon Leader got a battlefield commission.

Gilbert Winston Dodson
321 Jesselin Drive
Lexington, KY 40503

The Perfect Poem That I Lost

by Sue Chuzy (Florida Chapter)

You think it's easy to write a poem?

Sometimes yes, sometimes not.

It can come to you when you are in bed,

But when you get up you forgot!

You try to remember your thoughts and the rhyme,

But they are elusive and you need time

To try to recapture what you wanted to say

Before it escapes you and just fades away.

Oh where is that wonderful poem I thought of

While lying in my bed so still?

How can I recapture its' perfection?

I can only determine I will.

But alas it has all faded away,

And I cannot recall it at all.

So much for creativity while asleep,

But for a while I did have a ball!

Alas the world will never know

This perfect poem that came to me,

It is locked in my subconscious

Just waiting to be set free.

My Beloved Husband

by Sue Chuzy (Florida Chapter)

My beloved was dying,

I knew it was so.

It was so hard

For him to let go.

He was a brave soldier,

Fought valiantly and long,

And never complained

When fate dealt him no song.

I was so privileged to have been his wife,

And so devastated how he had to end his life.

Farewell, my darling, I know you must go,

My tears are flowing, wishing it weren't so.

My heart aches so badly, almost too much to bear,

But I know how you suffered, and I want more

agony spared.

From when I was sixteen, and until now

You were my first and only love.

I love you, I love you and will till I die

When perhaps we'll be together again,

somewhere high in the sky.

Readers write -- one with bite; opportunity knocks

METRO COLUMNIST - Bob Hill

Today; class, some of your thoughts coupled with a chance to become a good Samaritan -- or even semi-famous and partially rich.

Heck, Mike, I'd do it for \$36,500. "Dear Bob. I have just read of your column in this morning's C-J and am embarrassed for your family, your employer and mostly for you. How could anyone espouse so much jealousy for an individual? What does it matter how much Cal Ripken earns to play baseball? For that matter, what does it matter how much you earn for continually writing columns with little subjective knowledge.

"Bob, look in the mirror. If you were as good at your job as Ripken is at his, would you not expect to be paid top dollar for your talents? If your industry were such that only 700 individuals were capable of performing at the highest level, would you expect to be paid \$37,000 per column?" -- *Michael C. Hoisch, Clarksville, Ind.*

Hey, I never said the message wasn't valid. A few weeks ago I wrote a column about the ubiquitous "Trust Jesus" messages written on utility poles and sidewalks in our area. It brought this wonderful letter from a woman who has walked Louisville streets for years on her lunch hour:

"Dear Mr. Hill...One year almost to the day after I began working downtown, I found out I had cancer. I have been a professed Christian for many years, reading my Bible on a daily basis, but when something like that happened to squeaky-clean me, all of a sudden my life was placed in control of strangers.

"...I will honestly tell you in all of my lunchtime walking the year before, I do not ever remember seeing one 'Trust Jesus' sign. But as I continued to work, taking my daily walks, I cannot tell you in words the peace that engulfed me when I saw that very first 'Trust Jesus' sign.

"...Seven years later I am cancer-free and still grateful when I take my lunchtime walks and am ever so reminded to Trust Jesus. It may be graffiti to some, but to me it's a masterpiece by the master painter." -- *Annavieve Kissinger, Louisville.*

A bridge over troubled waters of a different sort. "Dear Mr. Hill. Thanks for writing your recent article 'Old habits die hard -- and can kill on the Kennedy

Bridge.' ...On a past Saturday night, approximately 11:40 p.m., when returning from a trip to Southern, Indiana, we found not only the traffic completely stopped and backing up on I-65 before the bridge...but the Second Street bridge was flanked by lights from three police cruisers.

"On cutting through New Albany we encountered a train sitting across the road. After backing up a block on a one-way street, and with a lot of luck and a bit of knowledge of New Albany, I finally made it to the Sherman Minton Bridge and by 12:30 p.m. arrived at my home in eastern Jefferson County."-- *Roz Ormerod, Louisville*

A little more casting of bread upon the waters. This one is a little complicated, so pay attention. I received a letter from Don and Linda Pardieu of Fern Creek, Ky. They included a newspaper column from Greenville, Tenn., about a woman named Lena Craddock, whose brother, Robert L. "Buddy" Bennett, was killed in Belgium in World War II. Craddock and Bennett were raised in orphanages, separated early in life. The column explained that Craddock has spent 50 years looking for anyone who knew her brother or how he died. All she knows is that Bennett was a private first class with the 329th Infantry, 83rd Division, and was buried in Margraten, Holland. If you can help, write the Pardieus at 8000 Woodfern Way, Fern Creek, Ky. 40291.

Semi-fame, near fortune.

Louisville Magazine has announced its second annual short-story contest. It's open to Kentucky residents and to residents of Clark, Floyd, Harrison and Scott counties in Indiana. Entries must be between 2,500 and 6,000 words. The fee is \$7. Deadline is Dec. 1. The winner receives \$1,000, with \$500 and \$250 for second and third place. The best student entry wins \$250. Co-sponsors are Hawley-Cooke Booksellers and Friends of the Louisville Free Public Library. For information call (502) 625-0100.

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

THE GREENVILLE SUN

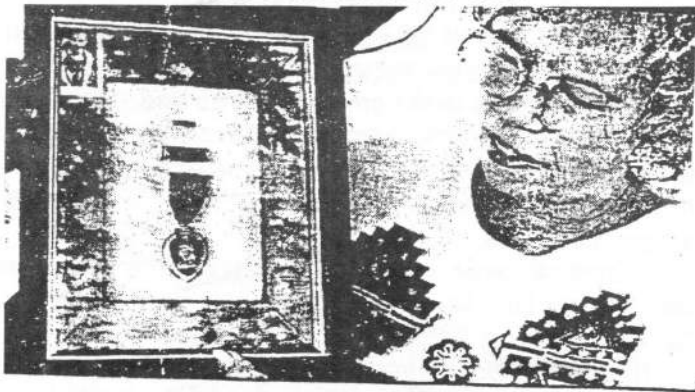


Photo by Bob Hurley

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Between the time in 1941 when she came to what is now Holston Home for Children and the time Buddy left for war, she thinks he might have been in some trouble with the law in Erwin. The family was living in Unicoi County at the time of the mother's death.

"Until Steve found out for me, I didn't know if he (Buddy) had been buried in some ditch or if he had been buried at all," she said.

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

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

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

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

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

There was no effort to get the body brought home for burial, so young Buddy became one of the 92,086 Americans buried or recorded as missing in action in overseas cemeteries.

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

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

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

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

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

"What I'd really like to do is find someone who was in

Buddy's outfit," she said. "Maybe they could help me. There is someone out there somewhere who knew my brother, and they might know how and where he died."

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

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

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

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

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



July, 1945 -- Zewisal Germany - George J. Lupsa



Normandy -- 1944 -- George J. Lupsa



Normandy -- 1944 -- George J. Lupsa

Memorial pays homage to nation's soldiers

By Erin Martin
The News & Advance

Bedford -- It's hard to make them understand.

Five veterans of the D-Day invasion in Normandy stood against a backdrop of clouded Blue Ridge Mountains and the glossy Overlord Arch Monday to talk about what it was like that day on June 6, 1944. The masses of artillery and supplies. The sky darkened by planes and smoke. The comrades they never saw again.

Some of the almost 300 D-Day veterans in attendance at the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford nodded slowly, eyes misting in recollection of their own time and place, their own story of the liberation of France.

The rest of them can only imagine.

"We were never really prepared for what we met on the beach that day," said Walter Ehlers, who landed at Omaha Beach. A Congressional Medal of Honor hung around his neck. "There were so many ships in the harbor you could walk from ship to ship without ever touching the water.

Ehlers and the others who saw combat on D-Day know they can never explain full what happened that day and how those scenes stay vivid 56 years later. But they hope through the D-Day Memorial and its education center that will open June 6, 2001, others will learn some of what they already know.

The \$12 million memorial is still under construction, but the 44-foot six-inch granite arch and plaza opened to the public Monday, Memorial Day. The arch is 44 feet, 6 inches high to represent June 6, 1944.

"My brother didn't make it. He was killed in action on D-Day on the beach," Ehlers said. "This memorial is fitting and proper."

Sitting in misty rain much like the inclement weather in Normandy, Lt. Gov. John Hager, members of the General Assembly, Congress and local politicians paid tribute to veterans who died in service. While estimates of the crowd size varied, the Bedford Police Department said about 3,000 people attended.

Supervisor Lucille Boggess and her family unveiled the "Death on Shore" bronze sculpture while two trumpeters from the U.S. Navy Band played taps. Boggess's brothers Bedford and Raymond were killed in the attack.

"This sculpture is worthy of applause, but it is not worthy of applause today," said William McIntosh, the foundation's vice president for education. "Treat it as you would any solemn occasion."

Normandy mayors who came in a delegation of almost 50 French visitors dedicated wreaths that lined the sculpture, which depicts one young soldier who died while crossing the beach. Flags of the Allied countries involved in D-Day began the ceremony at half-mast, but service men pulled them to full position above the um-

rella-sheltered audience.

Veterans Frank Mays, Leonard Lomell and Jimmy Green saw the battle from a different perspective. Mays was a gunner in a B-17 flying over the beach, while Lomell climbed the 100-foot cliffs at Pointe-du-Hoc to seize German guns. Green manned an assault flotilla.

"We went to the gun positions, and there were no guns," Lomell said. "We were trying to kill Germans, and they're trying to kill us, but there was no time for that. We had to find the guns."

Because he thought D-Day was such a pivotal turning point in the war and in history, "Peanuts" cartoonist Charles "Sparky" Schulz donated \$1 million to begin the Bill Mauldin World War II Comic Art Gallery in the memorial's education center. Schulz died February 12, and his wife, Jeannie, assumed his role as national campaign chairman. She attended the ceremony.

"Sparky said it is so easy from generation to generation to forget what the other generations did,"

Jeannie Schulz said. "He said we already have too many memorials, not to mention too many holidays, but D-Day must not be like one of those."

D-Day veteran Jack Hoffler of Hertford, N.C., is glad for the priority the memorial has taken in recent years, he said. Hoffler was 15 years old on D-Day and was the youngest combat sailor in the attack. He dropped the ramps of a landing boat that day, watching soldiers get shot next to him. He came to Bedford to remember, though it's impossible to forget.

"I would have to roll them over so I could get the ramp up to get more supplies. I was the young one, so the older guys took care of me," he said. "It's just hard for anyone to understand...but I appreciate the memorial. It's better late than never; it's just too bad many of the veterans have passed on." Del. Lacey Putney of Bedford said he looked forward to next summer's opening of the memorial.

"Those of us not there with you can never know the horror you faced," he said. "The price of freedom is eternal vigilance. No war is really ever over."



'Death on Shore' was unveiled during Monday's ceremony.

The United States Navy Ceremonial Band performs during the Memorial Day Program at the National D-Day Memorial in Bedford. The Overlord Arch and the memorial's plaza was open to public for the first time Monday.



Staff photo by Mark L. Thompson

5-25-00 Workers prepare for holiday

By Erin Martin
The News & Advance

BEDFORD -- Construction workers and grounds crews labored Wednesday at the site of the National D-Day Memorial, preparing it for a Memorial Day ceremony expected to attract about 6,000 visitors.

Under the shadow of the 13 flags now flying to represent the Allied countries involved in the June 6, 1944, beach attack, workers trimmed grass and put finishing touches on the plaza that will be presented at Monday's ceremony.

"We put the flags up today, and they add so much color to the site," said Richard Burrow, foundation president.

Among those scheduled to speak at the 10 a.m. service are five D-Day veterans explaining their different experiences of the assault. Various national and state representatives will be present, including Lt. Gov. John H. Hager. Supervisor Lucille Boggess and her family will unveil the newest sculpture, *Death on Shore*, to commemorate her two brothers killed in the invasion.

A similar sculpture, *Across the Beach*, was dedicated last year and depicts two soldiers crossing the beaches of Normandy. The newer sculpture shows one soldier dead on the shore.

"That's what Memorial Day is all about, those lives lost," Burrow said.

To honor the fallen soldiers, the city of Bedford is expecting 48 French visitors from towns along Normandy. Among the group are the mayors of four French cities involved in the assault itself. They, with Mayor Mike Shelton and Board of Supervisors Chairman Kirby Richardson, will lay wreaths on the sculpture.

The U.S. Navy Band will play taps, and Jeannie Schulz will cut the ribbon opening the plaza and Overlord Arch to the public. Schulz is the wife of Peanuts creator Charles Schulz, who died February 12 and was the foundation's national campaign chairman. Schulz has since succeeded her husband in that role.

Construction on the \$12 million project will continue in the next year to complete the education center, which includes the Arnold M. Spielberg Theater and the Bill Mauldin World War II Comic Art Gallery. The memorial will open June 6, 2001, the 57th anniversary of D-Day, and fund raising in Roanoke and nationally is a priority to match state money received.

"I hope people are proud of what they see, but this ceremony is only one stop along the way," Burrow said.

TRAFFIC CONCERNS: Burrow encourages site visitors to arrive at least an hour early to allow time for parking and a shuttle to the ceremony. Parking will be in the lower field of Bedford Elementary School. The Virginia Department of Transportation will use message boards to instruct motorists of which lane to use on U.S. 460 to ease traffic flow.

Eastbound motorists going to the ceremony should use the U.S. 460 Business exit at the west end of the U.S. 460 Bedford bypass. Westbound U.S. 460 traffic will be channeled to the right lane and will need to use the Virginia 122 interchange to the event. Drivers headed toward Smith Mountain Lake should consider other routes to avoid traffic congestion.

Dear Editor

Will you please reprint the enclosed two pages of orders, LO#843-ADT, Headquarters, Ohio Military District, Fort Hayes, Columbus 18, Ohio, dated 16, June, 1950 in a future issue of "Thunderbolt?"

These enclosed orders sent me and fellow reservists of the 331st Infantry Regiment, 83rd Infantry Division for Summer Camp (two weeks) at Fort Knox, Kentucky the latter part of June 1950. We all got a pass and toured Mammoth Cave on July 9, 1950.

One Lieutenant broke his leg and was in the hospital at Fort Knox and several of us, who knew him, visited the Lt. in the hospital there.

I was on the mortar line getting ready to fire the 61-MM mortar when it was announced that war had broke out in Korea and we needed to save ammunition for the Korean War.

I later volunteered for active duty and was sent to the far East Command after serving with the 5th Infantry Division at Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Pennsylvania.

I went to Alok, Island, Alaska in June 1952 via the USNS Sadao Munernori (ship) and from there to Yokohama, Japan and from there by ship to Pusan and landed at Inchon, Korea from an LST on July 02, 1952.

I went to Korea and had never fired a mortar.

When I was sent to Japan, I volunteered for duty in Korea. I was assigned to Public Information Office, 3rd "Rock of the Marne" Infantry Division as an Official U.S. Army Correspondent for "Stars & Stripes Korea Edition" and as regimentals correspondent for the 65th Puerto Rican Infantry Regiment and its supporting units of armor, artillery, and engineers.

Before I volunteered for active duty in 1952, I had completed three years in the School of Journalism, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio 43210, where I was a reporter and also wrote a column, "Science at Work" for the Ohio State Daily Lantern Newspaper.

Very truly yours Gerald A. Willey
(B.S. in Journalism)

1020 1/2 North Street, Caldwell, OH 43724-1048

The following roster of 39 reservists is made a part of LO #843-ADT, Headquarters, Ohio Military District, Fort Hayes, Columbus 18, Ohio, dated 16 June 1950.

Hq & Hq Co. 1st Bn. 331st Inf Regt
Assigned Personnel

GRADE	NAME, ASN & BRANCH	MOS	DATE OF BANK
CAPT	FRANK W. DENTLEY, 01308779 SS-USAR 64oyant Ave., Columbus, Ohio Longevity: 7 Yrs., 10 Mos, 11 Das, Dependents 2	2182	21 DEC. 49
CAPT	ROBERT F. MC GONAGLE, 01287038, Inf-USAR 318 W. 7th Ave., Columbus, Ohio Longevity: 9 Yrs, 1 Mo, 24 Das, Dependents 0	1542	7 Aug 49
CAPT	JEROME F. RYAN, 01822732, Inf-USAR 1408 Indiana Ave., Columbus, Ohio Longevity: 8 Yrs, 10 Mos, 14 Das, Dependents 0	4000	14 Jun 49
1ST LT	WILLIAM D. HILL, 0425604, Inf-USAR	9301	21 Feb 47
2nd LT	Iyell f. thompson, 0961928, Inf-USAR 3071 Grasmere Ave: Columbus 11, Ohio Longevity: 4 Yrs, 11 Mos, 21 Das, Dependents 4	1542	29 Jun 50
SGT ICL	JAMES F. BARRETT, ER 35798485, Inf-USAR Longevity: 6 Yrs, 8 Mos, 27 Das, Dependents 1	502	
SGT	HERBERT A. HIGGINS, ER35614831, Inf-USAR 68 Arcadia Ave., Apt C., Columbus 2, Ohio Longevity: 7 Yrs, 5 Mos, 8 Das, Dependents 0	082	
SGT	OSMON J. RAMSEY, ER15121921, Inf-USAR 1888 Robert St., Columbus 11, Ohio Longevity: 6 Yrs, 6 Mos, 17 Das, Dependents 1	729	
SGT	FREDERICK V. SMITH, ER15118121, SigC-USAR 840 E. Whittier, Columbus, Ohio Longevity: 5 Yrs, 7 Mos, 13 Das, Dependents 2	542	
CPL	WILBERT C. ILST, ER45005921, Inf-USAR 828 Hamlet St., Columbus, Ohio Longevity: 4 Yrs, 8 Mos, 2 Das, Dependents 1	080	
CPL	STANLEY J. LESINSKI, ER31417633, Inf-USAR 315 1/2 Chittenden Ave., Columbus 1, Ohio Longevity: 5 Yrs, 10 Mos, 20 Das, Dependents 1	0814	

PFC	RAYMOND S. BASHAM, ER45010840, Inf-USAR 2768 Atwood Terrace, Columbus, Ohio Longevity: 1 Yrs, 4 Mos, 25 Das, Dependents 2	085	
PFC	GERALD A. WILLEY; ER15286242, Inf-USAR 123 East 7th Ave., Columbus 2, Ohio Longevity, Not Computed, Dependents 0	745	
PVT	ARTHUR J. MALLOY; ER35633548, Inf-USAR 185 E. 1st Ave., Columbus, Ohio Longevity: 2 Yrs, 9 Mos, 7 Das, Dependents 0	648	
MAJ	JOHN W. HICKMAN, 0230327, Inf-USAR 415 Solby Blvd, No, Worthington, Ohio Longevity: 23 Yrs, 11 Mos, 4 Das, Dependents 3	1542	25 Aug 49
MAJ	ALBERT B. LITTLE, 0298392, Inf-USAR 1107 Piedmont Road, Columbus, Ohio Longevity: 18 Yrs, 0 Mos, 25 Das, Dependents 3	1542	25 Oct 48
CAPT	JAMES J. DOYLE, 0927855, Inf-USAR Longevity: 7 Yrs, 11 Mos, 3 Das, Dependents 0	1542	1 Jul 50
CAPT	KENNETH RAY, 01299943, Inf-USAR 165 East Walnut St., Westerville, Ohio Longevity: 6 Yrs, 4 Mos, 0 Das, Dependents 4	0200	1 Apr 49
CAPT	HOWARD H. KREAGER, -1302145, Inf-USAR Gratiot, Ohio Longevity: 8 Yrs, 4 Mos, 5 Das, Dependents 0	2110	16 May 50 (Comdg Off)

Roster of 39 reservists, a part of LO #843-ADT, Headquarters, Ohio Military District, Fort Hayes, Columbus 18, Ohio, dated 16 June 1950.

GRADE	NAME ASN & BRANCH	MOS	DATE OF BANK
2D LT	WILLIAM T. ARNOLD, 0979601, Inf-USAR Enchanted Cottage #63, Granville, Ohio Longevity: 5 Yrs, 11 Mos, 24 Das, Dependents 2	0001	29 June 50
M/SGT	DONALD C. COLE, JR., ER6949408, Inf-USAR 76 Mound Ct, Newark, Ohio Longevity: 10 Yrs, 8 Mos, 13 Das, Dependents 2	502	
SGT/ICL	WILLIAM T. DE LAWDER, ER34029957, Crd-Dapt-USAR 220 Union St., Newark, Ohio Longevity: 9 Yrs, 2 Mos, 12 Das, Dependents 2	745	
SGT	CHARLES I. RIEBESELL, ER33887598, Inf-USAR 148 E. Main, Newark, Ohio Longevity: 6 Yrs, 1 Mo, 0 Das, Dependents 3	745	
SGT	JACK L. RIES, ER45026107, SigC-USAR Longevity: 4 Yrs, 8 Mos, 13 Das, Dependents 1	7861	
SGT	WILLIAM H. TAIT, ER35625174, MED-USAR 169 Stard Road, Newark, Ohio Longevity: 3 Yrs, 11 Mos, 26 Das, Dependents 0	309	
PFC	JOHN C. SAPORITO ER35622630, MED-USAR 223 S. 6th St., Newark, Ohio Longevity: 7 Yrs, 3 Mos, 19 Das, Dependents 0	580	
PVT	ROBERT W. SIEGEL, ER33880803, Inf-USAR RD #4, Newark, Ohio Longevity: 1 Yr, 0 Mos, 10 Das, Dependents 7		
1ST LT	ROBERT W. MENTZER, 01320067, Inf-USAR Box 701, Granville, Ohio Longevity: 7 Yrs, 7 Mos, 12 Das, Dependents 1	1542	19 Jul 49
2ND LT.	NOBERT T. MASOVICH, 02203647, Inf-USAR 211 - 15th St. N.W., Barborton, Ohio Longevity: Not Computed, Dependents 0	1542	1 Jul 50
1ST LT.	MARK D. HOLLINGSWORTH, 01319620, Inf-USAR Rt. 1 Newark Rd., Zanesville, Ohio Longevity: 8 Yrs, 3 Mos, 27 Das, Dependents 3	4110	6 Aug 49
1ST LT.	ROBERT K. MATTINGLY, 01329370, Inf-USAR 631 Lenox Ave., Zanesville, Ohio Longevity: 7 Yrs., 5 Mos, 18 Das, Dependents 2	4110	1 Jul 50
2D LT	JAMES R. HARDESTY, 0971827, Inf-USAR Box 91, Trinway, Ohio Longevity: 4 Yrs, 5 Mos, 0 Das, Dependents 3	0001	29 Jun 50
SGT ICL	CHARLES T. GIBSON, ER35409198, TC-USAR 100 Summit St., Roseville, Ohio Longevity: 4 Yrs, 5 Mos, 12 Das, Dependents 3	502	
SGT ICL	LEROY G. INIAN, ER35401377, FA USAR Stolkey, Roseville, Ohio Longevity: 8 Yrs, 1 Mo, 23 Das, Dependents 2	747	
SGT	WILLIAM H. MATTEY, ER35595978, MED-USAR 352 Jordan Ave., Zanesville, Ohio Longevity: 7 Yrs, 5 Mos, 8 Das, Dependents 1	345	
CPL	SAMUEL R. BAKER, ER39480210, Inf-USAR 369 S. Meade St., Zanesville, Ohio Longevity: 5 Yrs, 8 Mos, 24 Das, Dependents 2	931	
CAPT	JOSEPH W. MORRISON, 01328730, Inf-USAR General Delivery, Harriotsville, Ohio Longevity: 11 Yrs, 2 Mos, 13 Das, Dependents 1	1542	29 Mar 50
M/SGT	ALBERT H. MOFFAT, ER35291523, Inf-USAR 24007 Russell Rd., Bay Village, Ohio Longevity: 5 Yrs, 0 Mos, 0 Das, Dependents 1	502	
CPL	GEORGE, HUDEK JR., ER15218616, Inf-USAR Routb, Wadsworth, Ohio Longevity: 4 Yrs, 0 Mos, 13 Das, Dependents 1	014	

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
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in the Catskill Mountains, N.Y.
Dates are
Sept. 6-7-8-9, 2000**

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