



# THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 56 Issue No. 3

Summer Issue 2001

THE HOLIDAY INN HAMPTON  
HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER  
LOOKS FORWARD TO HOSTING THE  
55<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL REUNION  
FOR THE  
83<sup>RD</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION



*Hampton Virginia, September 26 – 29, 2001*

## THE THUNDERBOLT

Official Publication – 83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Association, Inc.

The THUNDERBOLT is written for all members of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division World War II and is published at East Side Drive, P. O. Box 406, Alton Bay, NH 03810-0406

Editor – Cliff Wooldridge

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

*James C. Hanrahan.....1947	*William M. Doty.....1966	*Bernie Cove.....1984
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Leo Schneider.....1952	*Charles Altomari.....1971	Edward Reuss.....1989
Finley Heyl.....1953	*Harold H. Dopp.....1972	Charles J. Lussier.....1990
*Lawrence J. Redmond.....1954-55	Louis J. Volpi.....1973	Edgar H. Haynes.....1991
*Lt. Gen. Robert H. York.....1956	Bernard O. Riddle.....1974	Ned Smith.....1992
*Harry W. Lockwood.....1957	Robert G. Taylor.....1975	Louis Sandini.....1993
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Charles Abdinoor.....1959	Manlius Goodridge.....1977	Casey Szubski.....1995
*Joseph F. Minotti.....1960	Joseph A. Macaluso.....1978	Floyd Richmond.....1996
*Frank J. McGrogan.....1961	*William J. Chavanne.....1979	Keith Davidson.....1997
*John W. Robinette.....1962	*Samuel Klippa.....1980	R.C. Hamilton.....1998
*Manuel C. Martin.....1963	Michael Caprio.....1981	Pat DiGiammerino.....1999
*Julius Boyles.....1964	Ralph Gunderson.....1982	Salvatore Scicolone.....2000
*Samueal Klippa.....1965	*Arthur Doggett.....1983	* Denotes Deceased

**NOTICE**

**NOTICE**

**NOTICE**

*Please Read Carefully*

*Please notify the office when you have a change of address.*

*When you move, post offices will not forward the magazine. It will be discarded at that point.*

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Steven Abdinoor, son of Charles Abdinoor, A-330, donated a poster of the Bridge Crossing at the Elbe River. This poster was to be in Tony Vaccaro's possession, but at the Saturday banquet at the Friar Tuck, it disappeared. It was to be part of the photos scheduled to be put in the 83<sup>rd</sup> museum. Would the person who has it please see that it is returned to Tony Vaccaro at the Reunion in Hampton, VA

**A Message from the  
Hampton Virginia Reunion  
Chairman**

Dear Comrades:

The Executive Board has contracted the Armed Forces Reunion Inc. to run our 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion. This company is very highly recommended by many Army, Navy, Marine and Air Force units. It is anticipated that our reunion should be a great one. The \$46.00 registration fee will include: beer, soda, potato chips, pretzels and popcorn in the hospitality room on Wednesday and Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and on Friday from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. It also includes the Saturday banquet dinner, and a DJ for the banquet. You will also receive tickets for all functions, nametags, a program listing all activities and a attendance roster.

The Spring 2001 issue of the "Thunderbolt" included a Activity Registration Form, cut off date is August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2001. PLEASE get this off as soon as you can so that they too can plan and have everything ready when you arrive.

Also in your "Thunderbolt" is the Holiday Inn reservation form. PLEASE get this off as soon as you can so that they can reserve the rooms they will need for you when you arrive. On Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup> the Holiday Inn will have a complimentary one hour hors d'oeuvre reception with open bar from 6 to 7 p.m.

I spoke with Cliff Wooldridge and the "ads" for our Reunion Book are coming in strong. . . . However, we want the best Reunion Book ever, so PLEASE send in your "ad" TODAY!!! The rates are low and it is for a good cause . . . YOUR ASSOCIATION!!!

Thank you and I will look forward to greeting you all at the Holiday Inn in Hampton.

Sincerely,

Al Silverio  
Vice President

## President's Corner

We had a very successful board meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC with Louis Sandini presiding. Louis Sandini is our new board chairman due to Ralph Gunderson's resignation because of health problems. William Minick is now our Secretary-Treasurer since Bob Derickson passed away. Best of luck to you both. At the board meeting descendant membership and associate members were discussed and might be the way we have to go in the future. Our historian, Louis Gomori, was absent from the board meeting because of illness.

Our reunion in Hampton, VA is fast approaching so send in your reservations as soon as you can. Reservations have been coming in pretty steady according to the hotel. For those flying in, the hotel will provide complimentary shuttle service if you fly into Newport News – Williamsburg Airport, but if you fly into Norfolk Airport, Groome Transportation will charge for the airport shuttle service. This information is also in the last Thunderbolt Magazine.

Try to pre-register so that you won't have to wait in long lines to register. Please send in your dues and your Ads for the Ad Book. The Ad Book is important for a successful reunion.



Some of the Board Members  
Al & Mary, Louis & Pat, John & Mary, Sal & Theresa

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Hampton, VA.

Good Luck and Stay Healthy  
Sal Scicolone  
National President

## From the Sec/Treas. Office

Dear Buddies,

I am doing my best to try to complete the transition of the Sec-Treas. Office to my custody since our dear friend and servant Bob Derickson, passed away in March. Bob and Pearly served us well and were very dedicated to 83<sup>rd</sup> members. We will miss them as we proceed through the coming years.

I plan to do my best to fill Bob's shoes in the coming months. However, I will need your support and understanding during this time. There is much work to be done and I hope to accomplish this task to your satisfaction.

Bob's son, Ed Derickson and family, along with Imogene Cornett, Bob's secretary, have been most cooperative in helping to make this as smooth as possible. We owe them a debt of gratitude for their diligence and hard work to accomplish all that Bob would wish to be done. We extend our thanks to them and hope that they will be able to visit with us in the future.

I ask that you try to keep your dues current. Check you card to make sure that you are up-to-date at this time. I will return your new card by mail as soon as you mail in your dues.

Another problem that we have is that this office does not receive your change of address. Please send us your change of address so that you can

receive your "Thunderbolt". Each time a "Thunderbolt" has the wrong address you will not receive it and it will cost the association 60 cents extra for the Post Office to let us know that your address has changed. Some of these come marked "Temporarily Away". Only you can correct this problem, Please help if you are to be away from your residents at the Thunderbolt delivery time.

Cliff Wooldridge has assumed responsibility for handling all aspects of the Thunderbolt in the future. Be sure to mail all future articles to be printed in the Thunderbolt to his address, which will be published in the Thunderbolt on the inside front cover of the magazine. Your cooperation will be much appreciated.

Be sure to make your reservation at the Holiday Inn in Hampton as soon as you can. The cut-off date is August 15, 2001. With your help we can succeed.

Sincerely you buddy,

Wm. Meadors Minick  
Acting Secretary/Treasurer

## Historian

William M. Minick, National Secretary/Treasurer  
83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Association, Inc.  
110 Angel Street  
Saluda, SC 29138-1002

Dear Mr. Minick:

Firstly, I would like to congratulate you on being nominated as the National Secretary/Treasurer of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Association, Inc. I would like to submit the following in the Historian's Corner.

On April 3, 2001, my grandson and I boarded a plane for Germany with the intention of getting

additional information and to video tape the surviving German Veterans that opposed us at the Elbe Bridgehead. We arrived on April 4 and Horst Reinhold and his wife, Briggitte met us outside of the terminal in Hamburg. We were taken to a hotel where we stayed until morning and headed for the hotel in Badetz.

After arriving there and getting situated, we went to the Elbe River, crossed into Barby and visited the areas that we were at in 1945. We took a lot of photographs and discussed the past events. We then went to a restaurant to eat and later went back to the hotel. We later learned that Tony Vaccaro and his filming crew will be arriving shortly as he had called Horst to let him know. We then went to a restaurant I believed to be in Ronney where others joined us, including Tony Vaccaro and his filming crew, Peter Wittig and Heinz Ulrich, they were in this area when they were the ages of 7 and 9 and are now devoted Historians. They questioned me about the areas we traveled and I pointed to a map they had on the route we had taken. From Pommelte, we went onto the road toward Barby. There was a field on the right and we spread out and started to advance. We didn't get far when I told them about the deadly air - burst about 800 to 1000 yards to our front. I have learned that this was directed at us from 4, 120 mm Anti-Aircraft Railway Guns that were on the railroad tracks at Gutergluck. Rolf Stedingk, the man who blew up the bridge was also the radio man for calling in artillery support and this was the first time - ever, that it was used in this manner and he told me this - himself.

I also told them that there were foxholes and trenches that had the excess dirt removed so that they could not be noticed, and they weren't for a while. They also questioned me about the factory on the west bank of the Elbe, they indicated that it was burning. At the time we went through there, I didn't look to see what was what and I stated that I didn't see any smoke. Tony said that he did. After a long session and photographs, we went back to the hotel and I noticed that my throat was sore and my ears hurt.

The next day, April 7, 2001, Tony got the 3 - 83<sup>rd</sup> men to interview with the Elbe River behind us.

The 3 were, Victor Terzano of "I" Company from Toms River, NJ, Herbert Gibson of Div HQ, Avalon, PA and myself. We then went to Gutergluck for services and placing the wreaths in memory of those that had fallen, American and German. From there we went to Walternienburg for the placing of wreaths. We then went to a hall where we were served coffee, cake and cookies. Horst asked me if I was going to videotape the veterans and I got a late start. Tony was already interviewing Karl H. Kuhlmann from Muelheim an der Ruhr. Tony's crew was taping this for his Documentary that will be telecast on German Television on March 8, 2001, the 56<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of V - E Day.

As Tony and his filming crew had very expensive equipment that filming companies use, I decided to give Tony the list of veterans and hoped that he would interview everybody. I was so miserable, I was unable to hold the camera steady. At the end of this interview, Tony informed me that somebody had made off with his Truman Bridge photograph that he was showing the group with other photos. We were told about it at the scene of the interview at the Elbe River. We searched and couldn't locate it. Very disturbing.

I saw Rolf at a table and he had a photo album with photographs of the 120 mm Anti-Aircraft Railway Guns, nasty looking. I again questioned him about using these as anti-personal and he verified this story. He is to send me his story of his experiences. As things were slowing down, we decided to leave and we went to that restaurant again. We were there for quite a while before we left for the hotel.

The next day we had breakfast and left for Hamburg, I didn't think we would make it. Horst asked me if I wanted to go to the emergency room and I declined. Around 12:00, I called him and asked him if he would please take me to the ER. After blood work and examination, I was told that I had an infected throat and ears but she couldn't give me antibiotics for some reason but wanted me to see an ear, nose and throat specialist to see if I can make the trip back home.

We were to take a train at 4:00 a.m. but I then frowned on a 3-hour trip from Hamburg to Frankfurt. I called Horst up in the morning and told him I decided to take potluck and take the first plane out of Hamburg. At the ticket counter, we were told that there is a flight in 1 an ½ hours, we lucked out. As the 2 flights for the states leave in the morning, we had to wait till the next day for our flight home.

After arriving home, Mary, my wife, took me to the ER and after tests, I was told that I had an Asthmatic Attack, infection of both ears and throat and a touch of pneumonia. I was admitted and a powerful antibiotic was administered through the IV. I was placed on bed rest and not permitted out for any reason. Discharged Easter Sunday and restricted to the house for 2 weeks. Limited activities, if I went downstairs, I'm to stay there for 4 hours. If I wanted to go back upstairs, I was to remain there for 4 hours. I cannot believe that this happened to me.

I have received the Combat Reports for the 83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, Rhine - Ruhr - Elbe Operations and in Volume II, April 27<sup>th</sup> and there is a map and it shows the exact route I had pointed out to others. I am enclosing a Xerox of this for publication (see page 6). Also shows the trenches and "I" Company on both sides of the Pommelte - Barby Rd.

Best wishes and regard to all and remember - We were indeed the best of the best.

Sincerely,

Louis Gomori,  
Historian

Dear Cliff:

Robert McNabb has been pursuing the 6<sup>th</sup> Battle Campaign Star through his Congressman, Honorable Curt Weldon. Additional information is required in order for this to become a reality. The Disting Unit Citation that was a Proposed Unit Citation may also be included. Anybody that

85 000m.N.

REC'D  
4/27/01

THIS WAS IN THE 83RD'S  
COMBAT REPORT I JUST  
RECEIVED. THIS SHOWS "1"  
CO. ON BOTH SIDES OF THE  
POMMELTE-BARBY RD. ALSO NOTE  
THE TRENCHES ON BOTH SIDES



Pommette

1 329

LD

K 329

2<sup>nd</sup> OBJECTIVE

CO "A" MOVES UP  
UNDER COVER OF  
DARKNESS

329

329

1<sup>st</sup> OBJECTIVE

BARBY

TOWN SURRENDERS

RCH PATROL AMBUSHED

BLUE  
GREEN  
RED

2 BN 329 INF  
3 BN 329 INF  
KNOWN ENEMY POSITIONS  
2 BN TANKS

Krugmes Horn



has any of the following and they care to send a copy to me to be forwarded to Mr. McNabbs Congressman that is a member of the Armed Services Committee and my Congressman, Phil English, that is active in the Veterans Affairs Committee.

ELEMENTS REQUIRED TO SUPPLEMENT AWARD RECOMMENATIONS PERTAINING TO:

Presidential Unit Citation  
Valorous Unit Citation  
Meritorious Unit Commendation

Title 10 United States Code, Section 1130

1. R- Original or Reconstructed Narrative of the action(s) performed by the recommended unit.
2. R- Original or Reconstructed Citation. (proposed Unit Citation obtained from the National Archives will be used).
3. R- A list of all units, assigned and attached, actually present and participating in the action. (List of attached and assigned units are listed in the Proposed Unit Citation).
4. R – Referral by Member of Congress (Mr. McNabb's Congressman and mine).
5. R – Operational Orders and reports. (On April 14, 2001, I received 5 books that will be researched for these. "83rd Infantry Division Combat Reports, Rhine – Ruhr – Elbe Operation", Volume I and II and a volume each, XIX Corps and Ninth Army).
6. R – Maps showing terrain and disposition and actions of the opposing force.
7. R – Casualties sustained on both sides. (researching this).
8. O – Chain of Command endorsements.
9. O – Other related documentation pertaining to the unit and the act(s) to be recognized e. g. extracts of unit records, sketches, maps, diagrams, photographs, etc. (Check your files, anything sent to me will be returned after I Xerox it, with your permission).

NOTE 1: R = (Required) Award recommendations packet MUST include these items. PACKET WILL BE RETURNED IF THESE ITEMS ARE MISSING.

O = (OPTIONAL) Items helpful for presentation of case to the Decorations Board.

NOTE 2: Congressional Member should mail complete packet and FOUR copies to: U.S. Army, Military Awards Branch, TAPC-PDO-PA, 200 Stoval Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22332-0471.

There you have it. Any help would be appreciated to get these awards as soon as possible, it is not impossible. I will return all of the material sent to me with permission to Xerox it ONLY to send for the award. I will not make an extra copy for my records unless I get permission.

Sincerely,

Louis Gomori,  
Historian

**From the Editor**

I took over the Ad book when Larry Redmond passed away. Now I have been asked to take over the Thunderbolt since Bob Derickson passed away. I will be making a few changes in it, good or bad, and we will see what the members think about it.

I will try to improve the quality of some of the pictures that are sent in. Some are quite dark. When we reproduce them, we loose about 10% of the picture.

When we send out the Thunderbolt, we have to have the "change service requested" above the address. If you have moved and we don't get the new address, the post office sends the cover back to this office and it costs the Association \$.60 a piece. So please be sure and notify us of your winter and summer address. We will try to accommodate you. Everybody wants the Thunderbolt.

Also, regarding the upcoming reunion, you have to send in two registration forms. One for the hotel and one for the Armed Forces. If you don't send in the one for the Armed

Forces, you won't be at the Saturday Banquet. **Please read the instructions carefully for making reservations.**

## 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>
Akam, Merle	Co. "D" 331 <sup>st</sup>	Al Shauder
Allison, Edgar H.	Co. "A" 330 <sup>th</sup>	Charles Abdinoor
Bauman, Henry J.	Co. K 330 <sup>th</sup>	Pat DiGiammerino
Connors, George	HQ 323 FA	Pat DiGiammerino
DeSantis, Col. Joseph	Co. "B" 330 <sup>th</sup>	Charles Abdinoor
Desh, Eugene	Co. "B" 323 Arty	Evelyn, wife
Francis, Max	Co. "I" 329 <sup>th</sup>	Wife
Funk, Stephen P.	Co. "E" 329 <sup>th</sup>	Betty W. Funk (wife)
Hebard, Samuel	Ser. Bat 323 DD	Pat DiGiammerino
Houston, John J.	Co. "L" 330 <sup>th</sup>	David Houston (son)
Kerr, Willie R.	Co. "F" 331 <sup>st</sup>	Jesse Pirkel
Olsen, Albert	Co. "C"- 330 <sup>th</sup>	Pat DiGiammerino
Pflieger, Robert	Co. "D" 331 <sup>st</sup>	Don't know
Phillips, Sam	331 <sup>st</sup>	Joe Macaluso
Powell, Roy L	Co. "A" 329 <sup>th</sup>	Dwan Elliott
Sears, John H.	Co. "C" 329 INF	Pat DiGiammerino
Sterling, John W.	83 <sup>rd</sup> Signal	From family
Story, Gerald	HQ Co. 329	Pat DiGiammerino
Thobe, Virgil H.	Hq 329 <sup>th</sup>	By brother
Wheeler, Calvin	3 <sup>rd</sup> BN 329 <sup>th</sup>	Don't know
Whitefield, S/sgt.	Co. "D" 331 <sup>st</sup>	Don't know
Wyant, Ellis D.	Co. "K" 331 <sup>st</sup>	Waltine Wyant (wife)



**PEARL BOB**

**GOD MADE NICE PEOPLE, AS YOU CAN SEE.  
BOB AND PEARL WERE GOOD FOR YOU AND ME.  
TO ALL THE WORLD THEY GAVE THEIR LOVE,  
THEY NOW DO WORK IN HEAVEN ABOVE.**

**SPECIAL, THEY WERE, TO THE EIGHTY-THIRD,  
DOING OUR WORK IS WHAT THEY PREFERRED.  
NO JOB REFUSED, NO JOB TOO HARD,  
IN WORKING FOR US THEY ALWAYS STARRED**

**WE MISS YOU BOB, WE MISS YOU PEARL,  
A GALLANT MAN, A BEAUTIFUL GIRL  
GOD BLESS YOU, GOD KEEP YOU, GOD LOVE YOU.  
THE EIGHTY-THIRD DIVISION LOVE YOU TOO.**

**83rd INFANTRY DIVISION**

# CHAPTERS

## Dixie Chapter News

By Ellsworth Massie

Dixie Meet, Williamsburg, VA  
March 14, 2001

The call went out. The troops heard the call, made plans to come. Some for the first time and some perhaps for the last time. All in all it was a most gratifying experience to be a part of the gathering, paying tribute to those no longer with us and those unable to attend.

Tuesday: I leave home to visit our president and host, John and Virginia Cox. We have a most happy visit. John gives a whirlwind tour of the Confederate Battle grounds around Richmond, Old Time Historical Town, River Front and cemetery of the civil war for which I am most grateful. Then supper at his V.F.W. is an unforgettable experience. John keeps you busy, don't plan to rest if you visit him.

Wednesday: Up early, load up and drive the scenic route to Williamsburg. John and Virginia set-up the Hospitality Room, we greet old timers. The Loukas' from Texas who have been here a couple days. Lots of Early Birds show up. We go to the Golden Coral and over ate, all 20 of us. What a day!!!

Thursday: We are not sitting around. Busy is the word of the day. Twenty-nine more faithful join us in our celebration. George Lazaras, a comrade of mine who I thought dead for 56 years, having been wounded in Hurtgen's Forest in December 1944 shows up, in good shape, for his first ever meeting! What an experience that was!! He will be back. I am looking forward to it already.

Friday: They just keep coming. Although more than twenty cancelled because of sickness and

poor weather. We miss each of you. Whatever the reason for cancellation, now is the time to plan for next time. We will meet May 20-24 in 2002 in Williamsburg. Captain Mac and wife from New Orleans are present and I am enjoying their company along with all the others, both new and old. We have six of our precious widows present who add much to our enjoyment. All brought goodies.

Saturday: Celebration goes on without ceasing. Everyone has a worthwhile contribution to make. Thirty-eight show up for our business meeting. All is handled orderly. New offices are elected headed by "Marshall Keith" president for the coming year. Special prayers were offered for families of deceased and those sick and unable to come.



Div. Arty (left to right)  
Benbow, Cox, Hobbs, Lazarus, Massie

Division Artillery Red Legs really showed up. Five of them. All missions were handled well as our Infantry called on us. They were well represented. 329th five men, 330th six men, 331st five men. Friends, Honorary Members and Family round out our group. Word is received of National Secretary, Bob Derickson's passing. Prayer is offered for his family.

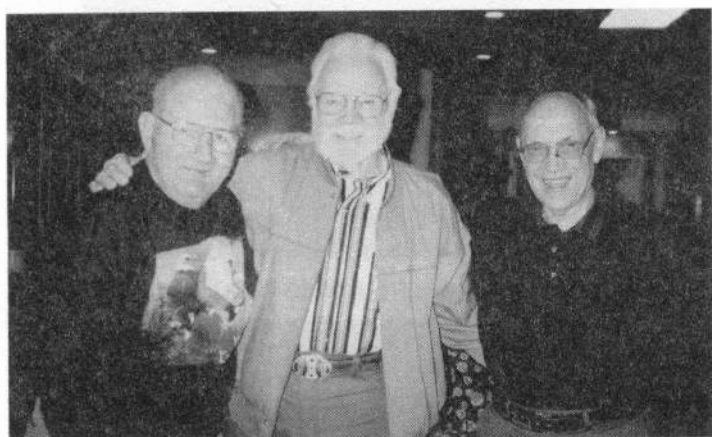
Banquet and entertainment goes off as planned. Music is good. Many of our people still dance. Others like to socialize and enjoy the comradeship of all.

A giant size Thank You to John, Virginia and each who made our meeting an unforgettable success.

Do not forget Lebanon, June 7-9, 2001. Gettysburg, December 6, 7, & 8, 2001 and Williamsburg March 20-24, 2002. I know each has his reservation in for National Reunion, in Hampton, September 26-29, 2001.



Old Vets (left to right)  
Pirkle, Wright, Massie, Grant, Loukas, Lamb,  
Kneeling: Naylor, Keith



A Btry 322 FA  
Benbow, Massie, Lazarus  
First time together since December 1944  
Hurtgen Forest, Germany

June 20, 2001

“Dixie June Meet”. The Sentimental Journey to Lebanon Tennessee, our Headquarters for the famed Tennessee Maneuvers of 1943, is over and 60+ survivors have been declared the winners and got to spend a most delightful time with our comrades in arms after 58 years.

By Wednesday we had a seasonal platoon of veterans, fourteen in number, who made a frontal

assault on the Local Cracker Barrell and cleared them out. Six states are represented and each tried to out do the other one. Before the week is up we'd have seven more states counted in our numbers. Sickness and other reasons caused 6 of our faithful to cancel and one new man to cancel out on his first attempt to standup and be counted.

Before the week is up we'll have 329, 330, 331, 322, 908 present with B 329 having 3 men present to take the lead in attendance.

Outgoing president, John Cox, undergoing treatment for cancer, is absent. New president Marshall Keith takes over and goes ahead with business.

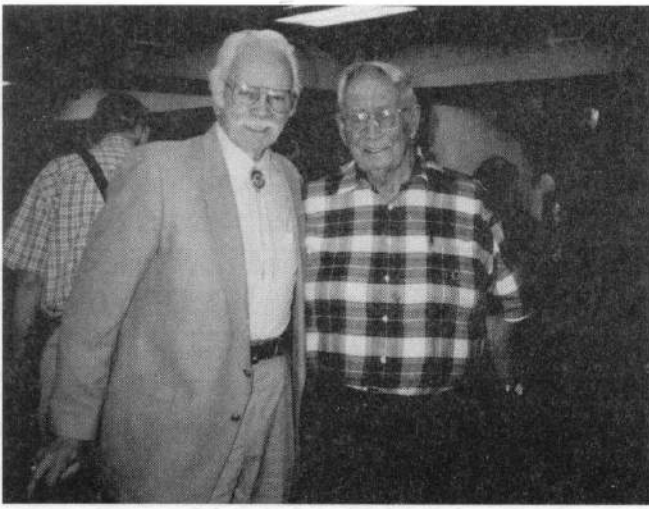
Our ladies brought enough goodies for everyone and most of us over ate but enjoyed each others company all over again. Seven sympathy and get-well cards are signed and sent to our known sick. Many ladies shopped, found bargains, and came back happy, others are still looking.

It is great to be here sharing memories with such a great group of men from all walks of life with a common bond for many years ago.

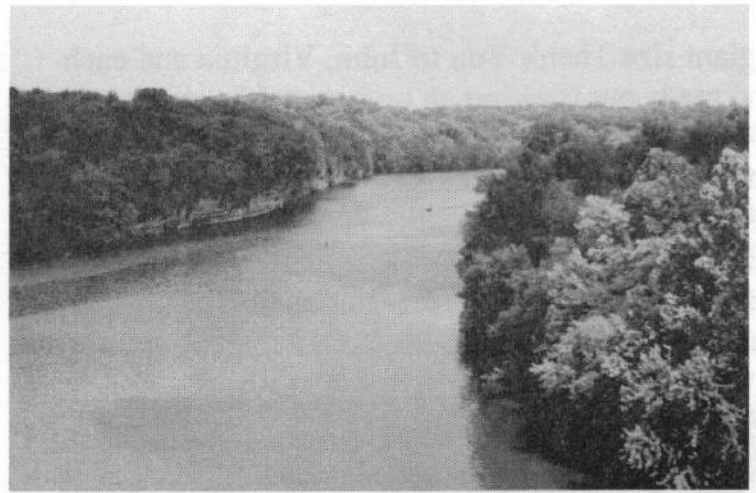
The tour takes us to sights along the Cumberland River and 2<sup>nd</sup> Army Headquarters visited a monument honoring those who trained there. Our own Ben Davis worked very hard to have this memorial placed. His wife Pat does a superb job putting this meeting on with the help of many others. We are welcomed by officials from the county and city and POW State Commander gives us much to think about with their remarks.

Entertainment is first rate. The whole Johnson clan takes part with music and dancing. Looking back on this event now, I am ready to do it again, sometime, if we can manage to get invited. I believe this is the sentiment of the entire group.

Now I am looking for each one to show up in Hampton for the National. Don't let me down. See you there.



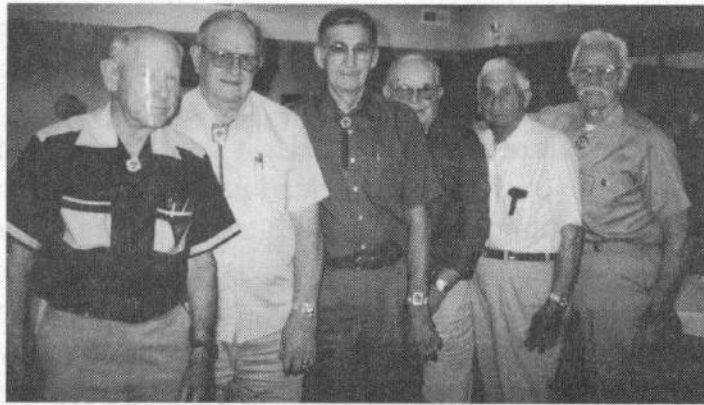
Two Artillery Men (In Support)



Beautiful Cumberland River (near Hartsfield Bridge)



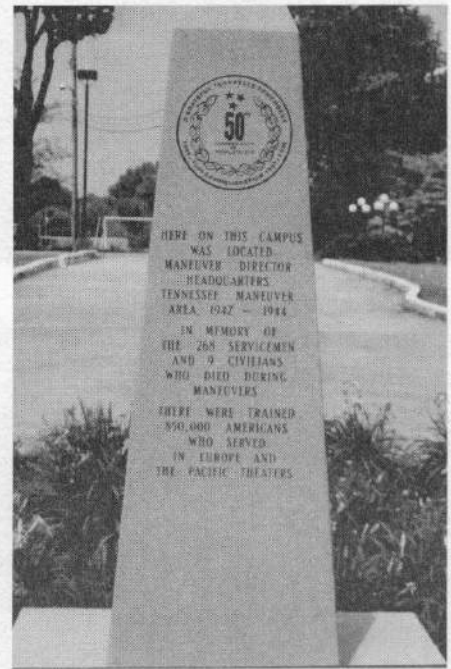
Some of Our Great Ladies (in action)



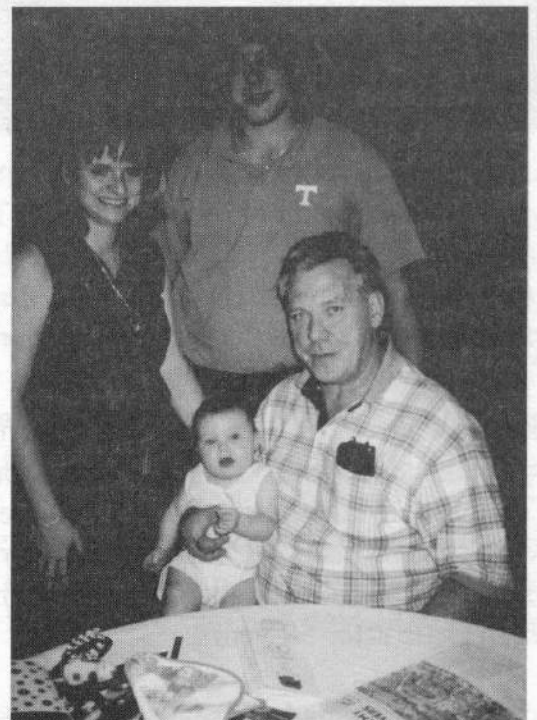
Six Good Men (Men are hard to round up)



Group at Columbus University (Memorial)



Memorial in Honor of All Who Died or Trained.



Part of Jackson Family (our future)

## Cleveland Chapter News

By Bob Grobelny

Hi – could not wait for spring to come. Now that it's here all I'm doing is cutting the grass.

The Cleveland Chapter would like to express their condolences to all of the Derickson family. It was a great shock to us. A week or so before Bob passed away I had talked to him over the phone about Bob Uher. He told me that someone called him and told him about Bob. It is just too bad that no one from the staff called me or the Cleveland Chapter president. We could have had a couple of car loads come to the funeral. After all Hamilton, Ohio isn't that far from Cleveland.



Bob Uher

We also had a couple of deaths. My old buddy Bob Uher. Bob was one of the original charter members. Bob and I go back before Jr. High School days. We used to play sandlot baseball in the old neighborhood, got drafted together and ended up in the same battalion together. I was in "A" Co. - 329<sup>th</sup>. He was in "B" - 329<sup>th</sup>. Our paths crossed several times during the war. When we landed on Omaha Beach and marched up that hill from the English channel, we went up by companies. It so happened that "B" Co. was in front of us ("A" Co.). Bob was the last one in his company and it so happened that I was first in my company. While marching up that hill, an amphibious engineer soldier was passing thru and stepped off the white tapes that were there and a bouncing Betty popped up and exploded. No body in "A" Co. got hurt, but "B" Co. got it bad.

Bob Uher was one of the first. He got hit thru the helmet and the back of head was creased. The steel ball ended up in his pack (this was before we were committed into battle). That was his first purple heart. Throughout the war he was wounded two more times.

We had a nice turn out for the Memorial Service. 99% of the Cleveland Chapter was there. Our President and Chaplain Earl Lindsey did a great job.

George Calore's wife Martha (George is our other mess sgt.) passed away. She was in a nursing home for a while. Our deepest sympathy to the Calore family.

Ann Mizerock isn't too well. She has her good days and bad days, Mike tells me. Sometimes Mike Mizerock (Mess Sgt.) can't make it to meetings – so Ronnie and Earl Linsey and Emily Czech get the meal together. We sure want to thank them for a wonderful job. Also a big thank you to Ann and Dominick Christopher for the pizza's all these years.

This is all for now – stay healthy.

## NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

By Nick Francullo  
Hq. Co. 3<sup>rd</sup>, Bn 330<sup>th</sup>

We of the New England Chapter were very shocked to hear the loss of one of our great and dedicated members of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Division Association, Robert "Bob" Derickson, and we also send out our sympathy to the Derickson family. He will be missed by all of us.

The Francullos spent the week of Easter Sunday in Keller, Allen and Irving, Texas visiting daughter Helen and Burt Walsh, granddaughter Jennefer and Larry Telley and their three great grandchildren and Katie and Greg Lasseter. The weather was great and we had a wonderful time.

Oh, before I forget I would like to thank Vitie Atkocius of Co. H. 331<sup>st</sup> for sending me a letter telling me about the passing of Bob Derickson. If it was not for him, we of the New England Chapter would know nothing about it. Thanks Vitie.

The Brennans are down in Virginia at their daughter Bernidet and son-in-law Mike and children. Duthey Smith is doing okay after having eye operation. John and Ester Ferreira from Chelmsford, Massachusetts are doing okay and look forward to the next reunion in Hampton, Virginia.

I just got a call from the Ferreira's that Ray Rudd of Co. H.E.F.G. 330<sup>th</sup> had passed away. We of the New England Chapter send out our sympathy to the Rudd family. Got some information from Chuck Abdinor. Hope all is well with John and Stacy Marycz. Haven't heard from them for a while. They were always regulars at our reunions. Dropped in to see John and Esther Ferreriera. He is always busy working around the house. He has added to his flock of peacocks. Raising peacocks is his hobby. Haven't heard from the gang in Ct. Hope all is well with them. Also hope all is well with the Walsh's. John must be itching to get on the golf course now that the weather is breaking. Mousie has to be getting in shape for attending the Red Sox games. He is a die-hard fan for any sport and travels through out the country attending events.



Nick & Mary Francullo with grand daughter and grandson and great grand children in Texas, April 14

Nancy and Amby Tynan of the Boston Chapter keep in touch with his men from his Company. The Abdinor's are finally back from Florida. Chuck went looking for June and Joe Zenz who are just down the road from him but could not find them. Hope all is well with them. They are members of the Philadelphia Chapter.



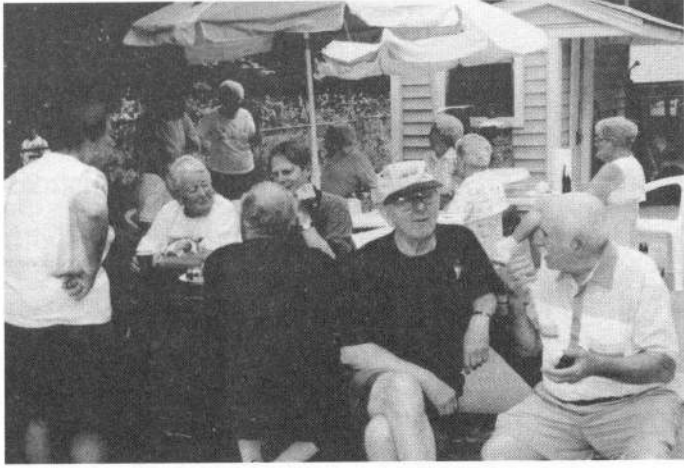
Chuck Abdinor, B-330, A-330  
Fishing in Florida

Chuck spends a lot of time surf fishing as the picture shows. We are all set for Hampton, Virginia and expect a good turnout from the New England Chapter. In the near future would like to get the New England Chapter together at the Beacon Resort in New Hampshire for a mini get-together. People who have been there attest that it is a wonderful resort in the heart of the White Mountains.



Good old Girls at cookout.





"What are you saying Mousie"



Ferriera's Cooking Crew

## MICHIGAN CHAPTER NEWS

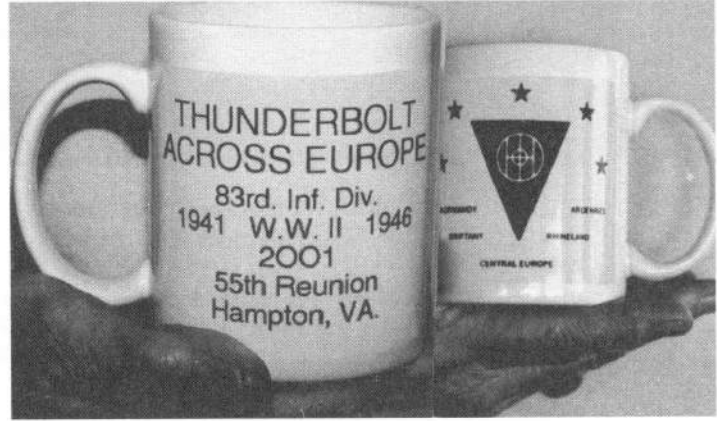
By Vito Palazzolo,  
Harper Woods, Michigan

We of the Michigan Chapter had our last luncheon on the 12<sup>th</sup> of April and a real good turn out it was. We had at least 15 people attend. All were saddened to hear of Bob Derickson's passing and hope that the association will find a replacement as soon as possible so that we will receive the Thunderbolt by the time it is due. Bob had done a great job for the association and the one that takes over will have his hands full.

One of our members, Wes Suttin, has designed a new 83<sup>rd</sup> mug (coffee cup) with the 83<sup>rd</sup> logo on it and would like to know if anyone will be interested in purchasing some for your home and remembrances. Please contact him either at his e-mail address or as his home:

[Kismet@dmci.net](mailto:Kismet@dmci.net) or his home address

Wes Suttin  
Evergreen Estates #107  
613 Hemlock Ct., lot #28  
Jonesville, Michigan 49250  
Phone #1-517-849-3096



New Mug

These are large cups and hold a lot of coffee. Please contact Wes for prices. Wes Suttin has undertaken the task of finding a site for our next meeting to be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August 2001. The time and place has not been finalized as yet, but you will be notified at a later date, or contact me at [vitos@itconnect.net](mailto:vitos@itconnect.net). Lets make plans to attend the 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion in Hampton, Virginia.



Vito Palazzolo & Evelyn McAuliff  
Talking about next reunion

I still have some shirts and caps for anyone that would like to have some. Please contact me at home or at my e-mail address [vitos@itconnect.net](mailto:vitos@itconnect.net).



Lee Hetrick, Charlie McAuliff, Joe Romano, Wes Sutton, Nick Boyd, Nick Barber, Vito Palazzolo, Don Allen

## NEW JERSY CHAPTER NEWS

By Stan Bielen

I am a little late getting this article in because I just received the spring issue of the Thunderbolt three days ago and this reminded me it was due May 10.

I want to express our deepest sympathy to Robert Derickson's family and let them know how much we appreciated all the effort Robert gave to our association. He will be missed by all of us.

The big event for some of the chapter was the 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party for Charles Silhanick. His daughter Linda Rose gave him a surprise party on April 21<sup>st</sup> and it was a gala affair. Attending were Andy Socha, Tom and Candy Dowd, Fran and I and the big surprise having Ted and Irene Guzek there. We all enjoyed being able to help Charlie celebrate his Big Day. When Linda Rose arranges a party it always is a great one! Not being able to attend was Manny Epstein who was in Florida at the time and Joe DePeri who had back problems. We talked to Joe after and he had some treatment that has helped a lot.

On May 6<sup>th</sup>, I drove to Fort Monmouth to join George Waple for the monument dedication for the Battle of the Bulge. This monument was provided and arranged by Chapter LVI Central Jersey Chapter of the Battle of the Bulge. Two Generals and Dignitaries from Luxembourg and Belgium were speakers. Also speaking was Stanley Wojtusek national vice-president for VBOB. George and Maurice Wolfson a friend of

mine are members of that chapter. It was a most impressive dedication and there were many from the units who participated in the battle along with family and others. I have included a picture taken there along with three taken at our Christmas party.



Our Memorial Day picnic at Tom and Candy's home will be held this year again and we are looking forward to being together and enjoying all the goodies.

Russell Whitehead called to inform me he was at the donating of Warren Boucher's painting by his wife Sue of a battle scene in the Huertgen Forest to the Army's Military Institute in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. If you are in the area try to get to see it as Warren was an accomplished artist.

Dear Rags Rangnow – I appreciate you calling me Handsome Stan, so I went and had a poll to find out who was the most handsome from all the French girls we know. Guess what! Rags you are number one on the list of hundreds and I wasn't even listed. Does Ginny know the appeal you have for the French women?

I talked to Frank Reichmann lately and he is doing quite well. We were to get together with Fran, Ned Jones and Fred Klein but we put it off to a future day as Ned's wife is seriously ill.

We hope to have a good chapter representation at the reunion in Hampton, VA. Andy Socha is taking Charlie Silhanick. Most of us will be driving, as it is only a six-hour trip except for Cookie Seneca who is driving from Illinois. He usually leaves the driving to Jim and Mary Ann. We are looking forward to seeing a good turn-out. Many of us have many happy memories of the Dixie Chapter mini reunions held in Williamsburg which is close by.



Remember to keep Mike and Liz Skovran,  
Emil Wehling and Ted Guzek in your prayers.  
That's it for now.

## **Boston Chapter Report**

By Amby Tynan

A meeting was held on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2001 at the home of Pat and Ginny DiGiammerino, in Malden, MA. Twenty people were in attendance from five states. A letter was read from the late Maury Candido's daughter. It was nice to hear from her and know that she is still interested in her father's World War II buddies. It was a very good meeting and food was plentiful afterwards.

Next meeting will be held in North Dartmouth, MA on June 16<sup>th</sup>. We will be making plans for the coming reunion in Virginia. Also we will be making tentative plans for our next Christmas party in December. Anyone can come to our Christmas Party.

On April 4, 2001 George Connors passes away at the Northside Hospital and Heart Institute in St. Petersburg, Fl. George was very popular in the Boston Chapter. A large group turned out at his wake. We will certainly miss him. Our sympathy goes out to Hilda and his family. Also Nancy's sister Eleanor and my brother Joe passed away. My brother was in the 77<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in World War II. So you can see we also have been having our troubles.

No more news was sent to me, so hope to see you all at the Reunion in Hampton, VA.

Update:

It was a beautiful day in North Dartmouth on June 16, 2001; when the Boston Chapter had a meeting at the beautiful home of Maria Gonzales. We have had occasion before for complimenting Fred Sylvia on the work he has done for the Boston Chapter but we must now compliment him highly for having such a pretty and obliging girl friend

who went all out to make us all happy at the meeting.

When we appeared the tables were beautifully set with a great many different "Hors d'oeuvres" – fruit, cheeses, crackers and all the good things you can think of. Later a sumptuous meal of many varieties. Drinks of all kinds were there for the pouring.

There weren't enough male members there to make up the quota for an official meeting but they were all members of the Board of Directors, so what we had, in effect was a meeting of the Board.

Charlie Lucier reported that we failed to make a reservation with the Ramada Inn for our Christmas party and we may have to go some where else for our party. Charlie said that we may still have a chance at the Ramada if some other group drops out.

The question of our next meeting place came up and Louis Sandini asked Charlie Lucier if we couldn't have it at the Venus De Milo. Charlie said, "No, we couldn't have it there because our meetings are held on Saturday and the restaurant is to busy to run meetings there." So Louis said "Why not have the meeting in the middle of the week?" After a long discussion by the board, it was decided to try to have a midweek meeting at the Venus De Milo. Charlie Lucier to do the investigation.

After some commiseration about the deaths and absences because of sickness of a lot of our members, we discussed ways and means of increasing the attendance to our meetings. Pat DiGiammerino came up with the brilliant Idea of inviting all our members to a free dinner at our next meeting at the Venus De Milo to be paid for by the Boston Chapter. Pat said, "We'll get a large crowd and we can talk to them about the importance of attending meetings and they can see for themselves how much fun we have." And so it was decided unanimously.

## Philadelphia Chapter News

By Lou Volpi

Congratulations to Al Silverio on being elected to National V.P. and also to Harry Kriby for his election to the Board.

The chapter is still hanging in there. We still have 46 paid up members and meet at Lou Volpi's restaurant four times a year. The usual members who can make the meetings show up and keep us together.

Our Memorial Day Parade was as usual, in Narberth, PA. And we had two convertibles chauffer the 83<sup>rd</sup> vets in the parade behind our color guard. The parade ended at our beautiful memorial site in Narberth and we paid tribute to our buddies. This is our 41<sup>st</sup> parade in Narberth and the town really pays respect to our vets.

As you know, age has caught up with most of us, and I don't have to go into detail about operations and such. I just had my seventh operation, but I am still going strong, as my surgeon said, "Lou, all we do is repair your parts and keep you going, until you get to the junk yard'." I am going to try to make the Reunion time in September, in the meantime if you are near Philly or Atlantic City, please call me and we will break bread together. God bless everyone. Stay healthy and keep on going.

We are buddies forever.



## COMPANIES

### Co. "F" – 329<sup>th</sup>

By C. R. Bob Whitcomb

Dear Buddys,

It has been a long time since North 2000, in fact so long I hardly know where to begin what was supposed to have been an "After Action Report". Oh, well! First a hearty thank you to all who attended. Each and every one of you were greatly appreciated. Thanks also for all the goodies you brought as well as other contribution. Nineteen of us were together again enjoying one another's company. It was great! Others had planned to be with us however, unforeseen things do come up. To those not here, hope you can make the next one, and to you who have never been to a North Get Together, may I suggest you try it, you might like it. North 2000 outside activities were purposely limited this year. Our time together as follows:

3:00 p.m. check in at Ameri Host, the evening with the C.P., traditional luncheon at the University's Accent Room, a short business session, more free time for good conversation and reminiscing or ?, the Memorial Service, actually the highlight of our time together, conducted by Doc Keith and George Fuller; our traditional breakfast together, the departure till another time.

#### North 2000 Memorial Service

Except for an appropriate muted laugh or a quick comment, silence permeated the room as Doc Keith and George Fuller conducted the service. Reaching back to his school days, Doc came up with Alfred Tennyson's "The Charge of the Light Brigade". He read the following portion:

Half a league, half a league,  
Half a league onward,  
All in the valley of Death  
Rode the six hundred.  
"Forward, the Light Brigade!  
Charge for the guns," he said:

Into the valley of Death  
Rode the six hundred.  
"Forward, the Light Brigade!"  
was there a man dismay'd?"

Not tho' the soldier knew  
Someone had blunder'd:  
Theirs not to make reply,  
Theirs not to reason why,  
Theirs but to do or die:  
Into the valley of Death  
Rode the six hundred.

Then, in his own inimitable way beautifully analogized it with our trek from St. Lo to the Elbe River pointing out the various similarities, followed by a recording of Taps, the beautiful old hymns "In the Garden" and "The old Rugged Cross" played by George Fuller on the harmonica concluded the service.

At has been my pleasure to hear from/talk with a number of you, several times with some. I love it. While I probably repeat myself, I really feel something's need repeating for one reason or another, if you get what I mean. So here comes The Good-Bad- The Ugly and Old Speaking of repeating here I go regarding any daughters, sons, other 83<sup>rd</sup> ers, close friends or relatives are always welcome to our get-together. Three of Bill/Dotties sons where expected, two, Andy and Ken made it, fantastic. They each had been here before but not at the same time. Andersons, Emma is feeling much better after being diagnosed with an ulcer and having Prilosec prescribed, also some shots of some kind for her back problems. Cotters new address and phone:

Wright J. Cotter  
203 E. Legion  
Galatia, IL 62935  
1-618-268-4260

In addition to moving, they also traded the farm for a larger one. They plan to continue to lease it to the present tenant. As Lucille says, it is not easy to move from an ole homestead where you have lived for 50 years, however, it is time. John/Mille Dallacqua of Michigan who some of you know as old friends of Margaret and Bill Ferguson are well, and a great help to Margaret in many ways. She appreciates their friendship so

very much. While it helps, she is still very lonely. Margaret expressed her enjoyment of the cards with the various messages you all sent while at North 2000. She enjoyed a trip to Branson with her beauty shop friends. As she continues to find Co. "F" things she passes them on to me, will fill you in on the details later. Lowell, sorry you could not make it. Come whenever. Light jacket weather prevailed in October. Pulled pork MD style = pork shoulder roast, boiled with onions pulled with a fork into fine pieces served with cole slaw, spiced to taste. Ed Hammond the expert chef. He will be glad to answer further questions. Vi Begalla spent October traveling including making it here, bringing Rose with her. Rose's son had had heart surgery just a week before our get together. I was not aware of this until Vi wrote in December. Rose was hospitalized with a kidney stone while Vi was out traveling. She was feeling better when Vi wrote. No change with Langenkanps, as far as I know. A heart attack, a fall with broken hip in October plus Alzheimer's is quite enough for Marie and family to bear. Ado is at Versailles Health Care Center, 200 Marker Road, Versailles, Ohio 45380. Marge keeps us in touch with the Lewis', which is appreciated. They seem to be doing all right, were at 54<sup>th</sup> at Friar Tuck, sat with the Whiteheads at the dinners. Their family slowly growing with great grandchildren. Another girl due in July. Dale still at his gardening, in season of course. Lois Meyerhoeffler wanted all to know she appreciated your cards, calls and thoughts at Bill's passing. She was going to be with her sister in Florida during January. A nice long letter from Scott/Cheryl Harrington, which was out at North 2000 if you found time to read it, announced they were proud parents of a wirehair terrier named Shellie. Not to be out done I let them know the patter of little feet was now back in the Whitecomb household. Not bad for two 79 year olds. Ha! Actually, that's four little feet attached to a seven-pound female red poodle. George, no check enclosed, nice thought. Ha! Thanks for the corrections. I was just going on the information given me. Talked to Luke, he affirmed your information. Trust you are feeling okay now after visit to the hospital. George Trebonyaki war wounds in his leg still causing him real problems. Various treatments no real help. He had to forgo

North 2000 which left Eddie Zeruck without transportation down. So what did Ed do, he drove down by himself. I really was concerned when I learned he was going to do that. He made it down and back with no trouble. Considering his eye sight, he's got more guts than I have. Hope different arrangements can be made in the future. Mort Goldman keeps in touch for which we are glad. Mort was one of the first officers of "F" Co. at Atterbury. In the next TB you will see where he and Dot celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary January 27<sup>th</sup>. That is a long time. The Whitcombs are close. The Olsens look mightily relaxed at Kingdom Tonga. No wonder they forsake us for the South Pacific. Doubt that Van did any good in Europe in September. Braggart, Ha! Russell Whitehead you were supposed to send me some names to go with the pictures you gave me. I was supposed to write something for you regarding a happening at the 54<sup>th</sup>. I need more information relative to it. So will wait to hear from you. Heard you talked with Nickell. Talked with the Keiths several times lately mostly on their nickel. Deloris had a very serious operation December 21<sup>st</sup>. The one where they take part of the stomach wrap it around the bottom of the esophagus making the opening smaller to help prevent what is commonly know as severe heartburn, also GERD. The procedure was done laporoscopically. As of January 25<sup>th</sup> she was doing alright. Maybe some of you saw this done on TV. I happen to have. It is quite an operation as I am sure Deloris can tell us. Doc's hearing has gotten worse. I guess just since they were here in October. It is my understanding he will be retiring shortly. He has been awarded 100% disability by the VA which will help in some areas. Nichells seem to be doing all right. Bill's heart problem pretty well under control with medication as is Arlene's sugar. Her other problem about the same. The Nickells, Fullers and Senatoris are expected to get together while all are in Florida. Talked with Lutkemuers February 6<sup>th</sup> they seem to be doing real good now, sounded great! Were expecting 6" or so of snow the evening. Luke had some plumbing problems in October. A new procedure was used. Doc said nothing to it. Not so, said Luke. Thanksgiving found things back to normal. Verleen can still tell when a front is moving in, her knees you know. Her younger sister in

Wichita, Kansas is extremely ill with colon cancer, undergoing chemo and radiation. The Hammonds are all right basking in the fact the Ravens won the Super Bowl. Not being a died in the wool Modell hater, I am glad they won. It is only Big Business. At Christmas time Katie indicated Hellcat pretty good. They hope to make North 2001 as do Newells providing their health allows. The 2000 Thunderbolt Roster for the most part has current address of 35 Co. "F" members, which you should have if you are a member. I have a mailing list of 71. Should you need a certain address I will try and help you if you let me know. As of now six known are planning on the 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion in Hampton, Virginia in September. I would appreciate hearing from you if you are planning to go.

Please note my request regarding North 2001 in your next Thunderbolt and respond. My address and phone are below:

1314 Center Lane Drive  
Ashland, OH 44805-3403  
1-419-289-2148

C.R. Whitcomb

Update, May 4, 2001:

OVER BUT NOT FORGOTTEN: Snow comes to the Huertgen Forest. Not the actual experience many had but the presentation of the late Warren Boucher's painting titled "Snow Comes To The Huertgen Forest", to the Carlisle War College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania by his family on April 5, 2001. Warren was an FO with the 908<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery, from Charlestown, Rhode Island, a member of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Association. Some members of our Association were planning to be in attendance, including Russell Whitehead of Co. "F" 329<sup>th</sup> who has been of great assistance to the family in helping to locate a proper and permanent place of viewing for the painting.

Here & There: Wright J. Cotter just recently celebrated another birthday. Trust things are going well as they adjust to living in town. Quite a change after 50 years in the country. Wright has a big sauna in their bedroom, the use of which has really helped his back and shoulder problems, as

he has been having quite a time. I suppose he lets Lucille use it also. Ha! T. Ballard and Billie doing about the same. T. filing again with VA for compensation. Jeanette Dau still partying, traveled extensively in 2000, staying put in '01 due to the unrest around the world. Howard Donbar of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Sig. Co. who was with us at North 2000 keeps in touch, expects to be with us this year. Mansfield's only 10 miles. We will get together for lunch Howard. Marie Crabtree was quite sick after John's death, however was on the mend the last of Feb. Doc Keith, John Dallacque responding to the Co. letter mentioned The Light Brigade was always a favorite with him, having seen the movies 3-4 times. Several conversations with Margaret Ferguson, the best to report is she's planning on North 2001 in October. Lois Meyerhoeffer enjoyed hearing about everyone via the newsletter. She was with her sister in Florida this winter for five weeks, it helped but naturally, she's very lonely, planning a few trips this summer. The Olsen's report the past year has been good to them. They keep in touch as they enjoy their travels. Sal & Van, so very glad you can and trust 2001 is as good or better. George Thompson indicates he, as many of us, is having some of the problems of our age group, however displays an excellent attitude regarding them, as he mentions the passing of many friends in contrast. Paraphrasing a sentence of his it was Patton's Guts and Our Blood. Trust I did this right George, keep in touch. Andersons are doing alright last we talked. Emma is really getting relief from her ulcer. Zerucha says he gets tired rather easily. I wonder why. He'll only be 85 May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2001. Putnak said he talked to Kittrell in Portsmouth VA and Kitt is going to try to make Hampton. Ha! We haven't been able to get Joe or Kitt out of their respective towns. Alvin Sperling an old Atterbuerian I just found out was in the hospital last year for seven weeks with a staff infection in his blood. It took a lot out of him and he is just now getting back to par. Dutch and he were with us in Punta Gorda in '95. A hospital is no stranger to Al as he was very severely wounded on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July '44, taken prisoner, taken to a German medical station in a wheel-barrow, later transferred to an American Evac, returned to the States, spent several years in Walter Reed, while there underwent numerous operations and spent

many months in a body cast. Of special interest to me and trust it may be to you was an American Ex-Prisoner of War note card, received with Al's letter regarding his recent hospital stay, it has on the cover in color enclosed in a rectangular border the U.S. Flag, in the center of the flag a circle formed of barbed wire, inside which is an American Bald eagle in flight, still attached to it's left leg just above it's claw is a broken portion of an ankle chain. Under the circle of barb wire outside the border is the wording "Sacrifice Never Forgotten". Thanks All, I appreciate the card. The drawing was be Tom Nielsen.

COMING EVENTS: 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion Hampton, Virginia. September 26, 27, 28, and 29, 2001. Co. "F" still expecting six or more plus. North 2001 Ashland, Ohio – October 7,8,9, &10, 2001. The usual format, arrive Sunday, depart after breakfast Wednesday. Don't Fuhgetaboutit. Plan now and advise me.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: and sincere appreciation to Edward E. Derickson, son of our National Secretary/Treasurer the past 21 years, in doing his father proud seeing the Spring 2001 issue of the "Thunderbolt" was published and sent to our members. He, Edward, acknowledged Mrs. Imogene Cornett, Mr Jay Hartleb, Dennis Butterfield, President Salvatore Scicolone and the Executive Board and we the members of Company "F" 329<sup>th</sup> wish to do the same.

CONODOLENCES: to the family of Robert Derickson upon the death of your loved one. Bob's contribution to the 83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division Association over the years, as all members know, has been outstanding, always above and beyond the Call of Duty. Please accept love and sympathy from the members and others associated with Company "F" 329<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment.

## Co. "A" – 330

By Charles Abdinoor  
Hi Buddies;

Hope all is well with you and the family. It seems every time I write this column, I report some bad news, well Edgar Allison passed away. He was a



squad leader in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon. Our deepest sorrow goes out to his family. His daughter Diana Philips informed me. I met Al at the VA in Lexington, KY, and spent a few hours with him. We will miss him. He was looking forward to meeting his old buddies. Got two names out of the internet, Chester Cuzynski and George Brackett, both were in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon. I sent them literature and pictures. I am sure they will join our association. Walter and Pearl Pillion will soon be relocating, near their son. Walt will be helping out on the farm. They both restore old tractors, as a hobby. Looking forward to seeing all the gang in Hampton, VA, namely Shorty Glasser, Adolph Senica, Earl Dunn, Bob Gangnath and many others. I keep in contact with Paul Reed, who was our platoon leader. He usually spends the summer in Ocean City, MD where he and Dolores have a summer home. Paul is a retired attorney and spends his time on his boat and on the golf course. I already have my reservations in, and hope the rest of our gang has theirs. Jim Sansone is looking for information about his dad, Peter Sansone, who was in the Company. Peter passed on and his son would like some information, pictures, etc., of his father. Paul Reed remembers the name from the platoon, perhaps "Cookie" Senica who was our company clerk remembers him and could pass any information to his son. I expect him at the Reunion. Well, buddies, sincerely hope to see you all soon. Also, Lee Milligan, if you have any names and addresses of former members let me know. I will get in touch with them and see if we can build up our company roster. Incidentally, I am on the internet and my address is: SGTCHUCK83@WEBTV.NET. Feel free to contact me.

## **783<sup>rd</sup> Ordnance Co.**

by Rags Rangnow

This is June the 10 so this is going to be a rushed affair to get this to our new editor, Cliff Wooldridge. Like everyone else I was shocked to read of Bob Derickson dying. I had spent a half hour with Bob in his hotel room at the September reunion. It was obvious that Bob was not his normal self and for the first time I realized that

Bob was really not well. We have all lost a great friend and outstanding leader. Bob is going to be sorely missed for each of those distinguished qualities and I'm sure each of us could write a complete Thunderbolt on Bob. Neither the Thunderbolt or the reunions will ever be the same but as Bob would want, though sorely missed, we will carry on.



Dixie Dickson B-329  
Telling the History of the 83<sup>rd</sup> with Bob Keck, L-329,  
listening



83<sup>rd</sup> Students of Jim Swope



The first item on my 783<sup>rd</sup> list is more sad news in the fact that Martha Appleby passed away in February. She was quite a gallant gal. When her cancer came back she took it very calmly. "I will try chemo as long as there is a chance of remission." Last fall Martha knew she reached that point of no return and she simply took control of her life by settling all her family affairs. When we last met in the fall, with her wonderful daughter, Sheri, Martha said, "I've had a good life, I wouldn't change anything, and I'm not going to prolong anymore suffering on my family." We miss Martha and Bill and who can forget those great reunion square dances?

Better news came from another good friend, George Harris (93 Sept. 12). The good "Tech" Sgt. Is still driving and drinking his beer! That's scary but George says, "I don't have anything else to do. All these old people do is sit around, and rock, and wait for the next meal. Why, I bet, the average age in here is about 83. It's terrible. I'm thinking about looking for an apartment." Of course I told George he better think that one over.

Then I talked to Victor "Mute" Mutinani across the river in Cherry Hill. I thought just maybe I could get him up to the WWII memorial in Reading, PA. Mute has come a long way with his cancer but with one lung and a four cylinder heart. He says he has a hard time keeping a full tank of gas. Mute then related what I'll bet most of you will remember.

How many of you remember January 1, 1945? I'll never forget it as for the first, and last time, I was asked if I would like to serve K.P. I really didn't mind because we were having a holiday meal and I believe it was turkey. The mess truck was parked out in a field and I was leaning on the tailgate when I suddenly came to attention as I heard that all too familiar sound of an approaching buzz bomb. It was directly over our head going in the direction of Liege. It must have spotted the gleam in my eyes for sure enough it sputtered and stopped. Now it was coming directly down my wide open mouth. I sprinted for the end of a street some fifty yards away. Turning the corner I dove along the curb taking a head first dive into second base. Just as I ground to a stop I was pounded

with two heavy sacks and a resounding explosion which shook the ground. My nose and cheek were smashed into the rough street and for an instant I was puzzled as to what hit me. Quickly I rolled over to find two little frightened boys. They saw everything that was happening from the stairs of their house and I was going to be their American protector. Sadly the bomb landed right outside a farm house on the other side of the mess truck. It killed one of the women. On returning to the mess truck Sgt. Gates said, "What the hell happened to you?" My nose was bleeding and already I was getting a nice black eye. As for Mute, he tells me he was in the farmhouse, on the floor, splattered with glass. The unanswered question, which I forgot to ask, "Victor, what were you doing in the farmhouse?"

Received a nice letter from Bill Manning. He is still doing great. I expect to see a 20-20 TV slot on Dr. Bill one of these days entitled, "83<sup>rd</sup> Army Vet still drilling away in Muncie Ind. And making the town holy."

Bob Burns is just looking at retirement homes. "The prices are \$1500 to \$2500. Meals are somewhat like the Army. If you don't like what they are offering you can go hungry." Bob is still volunteering at the hospital but is a little concerned about now professional it is to be getting all the hugs he gets. Don't worry bout that Bob, that's just a little jealousy. In my hospital we brag by holding up fingers to indicate the number of hugs for the day. I find the operating room nurses are the youngest and best huggers.

Carl and Alice give us a rundown every month on every place they eat. I wouldn't be surprised if they came up with their own TV show "Eating Around with the Fredericks". Carl quips, "America has more food to eat than any nation on earth – and more diets to keep us from eating it."

Jim Jones says he is running out of gas but it's hard to believe because when I called him he had just finished planting some 12 trees and 25 bushes. He went out and bought himself a mechanical post hole digger, a tractor and new truck to take care of his new 2 ½ acre estate. Now he wants us to stop down in September and drive with him to the

reunion. You don't plant trees in September do you? Jim's thinking is, if your over the hill you might as well enjoy the scenery.

Time is running short here but I have to get a report in on the WWII Memorial Weekend in Reading, PA. Once again our young, associate 83<sup>rd</sup> member, Jim Swope and his board of directors have done all of us proud by putting on the best WWII memorial in America. Tens of thousands of people attended this three day memorial.

This year I was only able to attend on Saturday but what a day it was. So many 83<sup>rd</sup> men were stopping by the 83<sup>rd</sup> "Norm Shuster" tent that I'm not sure I've got all the names but here goes in random order:

Hap Reeser	- Band
George Suchomelly	- A 329
Richard Dickson	- B 329
Russ Whitehead	- F 329
Emmanuel Lime	- K 331
Alan Tatham	- Hdqs. Div. Art.
Frank & Norma Hornack	- 83 <sup>rd</sup> MP
Albert Burkevage	- L 329
Robert Keck	- L 329
John Sterling	- Div. Sig. Co.
Bill Hutton	- F 329
Jim Swope	- Brilliant Teacher of 83 <sup>rd</sup> History
Rags Rangnow	- Black Board Eraser
Troy Shuster (Norm's brothers and sister)	faithful son with - D 331

Now this is just a Saturday report, there's not time to check out the other days, but whomever was there had another great day. Dickson got hoarse answering the many questions that were put to him by the crowds that stopped by to see Mickey the 1945, 83<sup>rd</sup> Jeep. Five new 83<sup>rd</sup> names were signed on the Jeep's famous seat. And I was also privileged to shake the hand of Bill Hutton, "F" 329. He was one of the lucky fellows who fought from Normandy to the Elbe. Seeing three B 17's and five P 51's in the air at the same time brought back many memories but it couldn't compare with the shared memories of all the 83<sup>rd</sup> men. We salute you Jim Swope for the job you and your students are doing to help keep America's history alive thereby allowing all of us to appreciate the

freedom that the military over the years has given us.

See you all at the reunion and Stan Bielen don't forget your umbrella.

## 453<sup>rd</sup> A.A.A. (AW) Bn.

*The 453<sup>rd</sup> AAA (AW) Bn. Members would like to extend to the Family of Robert and Pearl Derickson their heartfelt sympathy in the loss of their Mother and Father.*

This will be a very short report this time as I have just returned from a trip to England and have not had a chance to check up on the well being of the 453rd.AAA. Membership.

I did receive a call from Jim Hill, B. Battery, to inform me that his wife Doris has now been admitted to the Country Nursing center in Urbana, Ill. He also has a new address.

I guess all you 83<sup>rd</sup> ers that spent time in the Chester area of England, during WWII can now all go back and visit, without any worries. I spent many days in this area and found no one that looked like Rags Rangnow, Frank Solentay, or Pat Digiammerino, so presume all is safe. No one looking for G. I. daddies.

In spite of the dreaded "Hoof and Mouth Disease", there was nothing that prevented me from going were I wanted to. Who wants to walk the moors at my age anyhow. At several points of interest in country areas you had to walk through a disinfectant pad. In some places you had to drive your car over disinfectant pads also.

I was in London May 1<sup>st</sup>, when they had the demonstrations, still no problem. I did get videos of the boarded up windows and surplus of "English Bobbies". The cops did a good job of holding down the damages. They were prepared for the demonstrators, and confined them to Oxford Circus area (what a stupid name).

For my 453<sup>rd</sup> AAA followers, I did return to Maiden Newton in Dorset, the last place that the 453<sup>rd</sup> AAA was stationed, in England, before we set sail for Normandy from Weymouth Harbor.

Again I looked for "Ten Shilling Annie", you boys remember her, well she's not around. How much did ten shillings amount to in real money, back then?

I remember when one of our jeep drivers named his jeep "Ten Shilling Annie" and had to remove same, because some dissention from the local dignitaries.

Of course the old dairy is all gone and a housing development is now on the site.

I had only one problem with driving on the "opposite" side of the road in 3500 miles. On a narrow road in North Wales, with cars approaching me, and a line up of cars behind me, I "clicked" rear view mirrors with a parked car. I told my niece who was riding shotgun that it was O.K. as it probably just folded away, and her reply was, "not this time, his mirror is laying on the ground". Needless to say with the heavy traffic, I didn't stop, but I bet the guy will be careful were he parks next time.

The speed limit on all highways is still 70 miles per hour. On the Motorways and Dual Carriage ways, the usual speeds are about 70 to 80 miles per hour, with an occasional stint at 100 miles per hour. I didn't realize how fast I was going until my niece said, "Uncle Fred, I don't think we need to go at 100 miles per hour". She made two holes in the floorboards trying to put on her own brakes. This is the first time traveling in England that I had a car with good old air conditioning, and we needed it. Some days we had 87-degree weather. Petrol is going for 81 pence per liter, which is about \$1.21 US. Multiply that times about four, and you have the cost per gallon. The Peugeot did great, we averaged about 35 miles per gallon.

**453<sup>rd</sup> ers REMEMBER OUR REUNION IN LEWISBURG, WV. September 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2001.**

**Following this you can carry on to the 83<sup>rd</sup> 's Reunion in Hampton, VA two weeks later.**

Submitted by Fred C. Pearson Pres.  
453<sup>rd</sup> Anti Aircraft Artillery (AW) Bn.

Email [k8uet@kightstream.net](mailto:k8uet@kightstream.net)

## Co. "G" – 331<sup>st</sup>

By Capt. Mac

Since the last Thunderbolt things have changed in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Association. Bob Derickson, our Sec.-Treasurer for over 20 years died in early March. That was one reason why the Thunderbolt was so late in reaching you. Meadow Minick has taken over temporarily until we have a reunion on September 26, 27, 28 and 29<sup>th</sup> at Hampton, Virginia.

Due to ill health, one Board Member, Ralph Gunderson has resigned from the Board and Cliff Wooldridge has taken his place until September.

It looks as if old age has finally caught up with the members of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Division. Fifty years ago, they were the finest bunch of soldiers that has ever served in the United States Army. We made history in those days, but were never given full credit for our accomplishments.

At present, the 83<sup>rd</sup> is now getting some publicity in Europe, thanks to Tony Vaccaro. He has his pictures in many countries throughout Europe. He is now in Germany on a tour promoting his book that he has published. Tony, after the war, remained in Europe until 1949 working for the Stars and Stripes. A large number of the pictures in the book are from the 83<sup>rd</sup> Division and many from after the war.

In my last article, I wrote about the documentary that was shown in Berlin on May 3. Since then I have received calls from a number of members of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Association. Heard from Leonard Risley who was a member of 331<sup>st</sup> HQ. Thru him I was able to get in touch with Joe Story who was the

supply office for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bn. Had a call from Harold Higgins a former member of "G" Company for North Hampton, NH. I had not heard from him since the war, he is now a member of the Boston Chapter.

Phillip Graff called from California. Phil is writing a paper on the actions of "G" Company across the Elbe River. I sent him copies of the maps that were used on the East Bank of the river and gave him a little history of the fighting in that area. Hope that I was of some help to him.

About a month ago Col. James Patterson was in New Orleans on a visit. I picked him up at the Hotel and we drove to the lakefront and had a couple of beers at a bar, we rehashed the war. Patterson was Capt. Patterson the S-1 of the battalion. He along with many officers of the Battalion remained in the Regular Army, and many saw some service in the Korea Conflict.

Capt. Waters the "G" Co. Commander, before going to Battalion, was a West Point graduate, served in the Army and died when he was on tour in Panama in the early 60's.

Our numbers are getting smaller, at one time when I sent out the first news letter, I had over 70 names, as of this date, I think the mailing list is down to 35. Of the many officers that served in "G" Co. (about 24), I believe there are only four of us still able to get around. Myself, Kenny Baird, Ot Spaulding who served with us a short time and Lt. Fish who also served with "G" Co. and "F" Co.

Kermit Ralston also called, he is still in Terra Haute and enjoying retirement. Our Mess Sgt. Mizerock is still cooking for the Cleveland Chapter. I called sometime ago and told him he had to do something for me. Get me off K.P. At home I am on K. P. every day. Mike's reply, "join the crowd". He was no help. I'm looking forward to attending the reunion this year in Hampton, VA on September 26, 27, 28 and 29<sup>th</sup>. It should be interesting and it is also in a historical area of our country. I know that it is hard for some of you to travel, but if possible, try to attend.

## A BROTHER OF LOVE

*At times my thoughts will drift  
Back forty years or so.  
On a group of young soldiers  
That once I happen to know.*

*Now today with aged wrinkled faces  
With receding hair lines turning gray.  
We have age but have not changed  
We are those proud soldiers yet today.*

*We realize we have grown older  
But yet there is much we must do.  
We will not stop we have a challenge  
We will only quit when life if through.*

*Our goal is to keep the memory  
Of our dead war heroes alive.  
Bringing a continuance memorial service  
From the hearts of those who survive.*

*We have made a solemn commitment  
For all our brothers who have passed.  
That we will give unto them a memorial  
Binding our self until the last.*

*We have had many sad memories  
But we have hopes for our soul.  
Let's thank God our great creator  
For allowing us to grow old.*

Haran R. Martin  
148 Queensbury Road  
Winston Salem, NC 27104-3538  
Co. C - 331<sup>st</sup>





Dear Buddies,

I am enclosing a copy of my granddaughters essay required as part of her college entrance application.

Sharon had gone to Normandy for her high school trip and from this she put on paper her thoughts.

Sharon just turned 17 and always was interested in my experiences in World War II.

I fell this would be a fitting piece for the 83 Division magazine.

I have enclosed a envelope to hear or learn of your consideration. My phone number is above and I will accept calls.

By the way, Sharon Flynn was accepted into Vassar College in New York State.

I have a second request, I had asked before for a message to be put in the magazine regarding my best buddy. His name was Ted Starbinski, Co. C - 329, DOW. I am hoping somebody can give me information on his death. Thank you for your consideration.

Peace

Former S/Sgt. CJ Caruccio, Co. A 329  
3800 Treyburn Dr. Apt 213C  
Williamsburg, VA 23135-6416  
757-220-3223



Sharon Flynn

Dear Pop Pop,

It feels as if it should be morning, but all of the clocks say 10p.m.. Jet lag has left me in a haze of confusion; I arrived home from France yesterday, or at least I think it was yesterday, and I still can't believe that I was there.

What an amazing experience. Even though I have moved around frequently because of Dad's many job transfers with the Navy, I have never lived nor traveled beyond the East Coast. France was an exciting place to visit and I especially enjoyed the opportunity to explore another country with many of my friends and teachers from school. Paris, aptly named "The City of Lights", was beautiful to see at night especially from the top of the Eiffel Tower. For someone as enamored with the great film classics as I am, it was exciting to behold the place where so many famous people helped to create the timeless images I admire so much in movies such as "Charade" and "An American In Paris".

The historic Louvre and magnificent chateaux gave testament to some of the most stunning achievements of the human race in both art and architectural design. But, by far, the most meaningful part of my journey to France was the visit to the Normandy Beaches. Thoughts of you participating in the D-Day Invasion some 56 years ago on the very same place where I walked overwhelmed me. The war stories that you have shared with me, as far back as I can remember, were in my mind and captured my heart as I stepped onto the sandy beaches. Overcome with emotion, I frequently left the group to be alone and contemplate the enormous sacrifices made by you, your comrades and their families in order to preserve the freedom that I enjoy today. Entering the Normandy American Cemetery, all visitors are handed an American Flag to place at the gravesite of their choice. Looking out upon the gently rolling hills, row upon row of white headstones, many of my friends looked for markers identifying soldiers from Maryland to place their flag. I looked for someone from the 83<sup>rd</sup> Division, your Division, and there were so

many. I noticed the date of death was frequently on or near the day you were wounded, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1944, not three months after your 21<sup>st</sup> birthday. It must have been a day of heavy casualties. Uncertain where to place my flag, I continued to walk along this sacred ground until I came to a headstone that read "HERE RESTS IN HONORED GLORY A COMRADE IN ARMS KNOWN BUT TO GOD". With a silent prayer, I left my flag, in humble gratitude, at the final resting place of the American Hero I did not know.

I am so proud of you and the sacrifices that you and so many of your generation have made in order to make the world a place of freedom and opportunity for future generations. You have overcome tremendous obstacles in your life with courage and determination and have inspired me to always strive to do my best. I want to live up to the standards you have set. My heart, full of appreciation, will not let me forget that when I use my abilities to reach for my goals of academic and creative excellence, I am not only making achievements in my name, but in the memory of those who have gone before me.

Not only was the trip itself wonderful, but the people I went with and met along the way were also great. I met a diverse group of students from various high schools in Maryland and also connected with some old friends from my freshman year at Severna Park High School. Two of my closest friends from Broadneck High School were also on the trip. The memories we shared of traveling together in a foreign country will be with me for the rest of my life. The experience has taught me a lot about myself, about history and about what truly matters. To me, what I value most is my family, my friendships and my awareness of the past and how all of these important parts of my life have helped to shape the person I am today and the goals that I have set for my future. If my dream of going to France and walking on the beaches of Normandy can come true, then I believe that anything is possible. I believe that it is within

my reach to become a respected writer and filmmaker. I believe that it is possible for me to attend a wonderful school like Vassar College. It is even conceivable that I could become President of the United States. We will just have to wait and see.

Thank you for everything and I will talk to you soon.

Love always,  
Sharon

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## **HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR RECALLS HIS LIBERATION**

**By Joe Napsha  
Tribune Review  
Greensburg, PA 15601  
May 3, 2000**



**A photograph depicting the liberation of a Nazi concentration camp hangs on a door during a memorial service Tuesday at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Latrobe  
(picture by Justin Merriman, for the Tribune Review)**

Fifty-five years after Robert Mendler was liberated from his Nazi oppressors, he celebrated the anniversary Tuesday by lighting a candle in memory of the 6 million Jews and 5 million others who did not survive the Holocaust.

Mendler, 74, of Latrobe, was one of the participants in last night's Yom Hashoah service at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Latrobe. One highlight of the annual interfaith community memorial service for Holocaust victims is the lighting of seven candles in memory

of those killed by Nazi Germany, those who resisted and the soldiers who fought against the Nazis.

Mendler recognized those "who risked their lives so man's inhumanity to man is never forgotten".

A Jew who grew up in a village near Krakow, Poland, Mendler was taken from his home by the Nazis and held for six years in 10 different concentration camps during World War II.

It was not until May 2, 1945, that he was liberated by U.S. soldiers from Gen. George Patton's 83<sup>rd</sup> Division.

Speaking to approximately 200 people at the service, Mendler said he and three other prisoners had been hiding in a barn near Pocking in northern Bavaria, Germany, when the U. S. soldiers arrived.

The group had escaped from a nearby camp four days earlier while the Germans were busy destroying it before the U. S. Army arrived. The prisoners begged the farmer not to turn them over to the Nazis, and the farmer kept his word.

A survivor of the notorious Auschwitz concentration camp, Mendler weighed all of 75 pounds when he tasted freedom for the first time in six years. He had survived an ordeal that 72 other members of his extended family had not.

Another Holocaust survivor, Jack Sittsamer of Pittsburgh's Squirrel Hill neighborhood, also lit a candle during the service. Sittsamer will mark on Friday the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of U.S. soldiers liberating him from the Matthausen concentration camp in Austria.

Mark Kessler, president of the Congregation Beth Israel in Latrobe, noted how a celebration of what is primarily a Jewish service was held in a Lutheran church. Kessler said the community of Latrobe is being used as a prototype for interfaith services.

Both Holocaust survivors would be eligible for some of the war reparations from Germany, but

Mendler said he has been unsuccessful in his efforts.

Pennsylvania Treasurer Barbara Hafer told the audience the Swiss banks made it hard to reach an agreement on the claims of Holocaust victims seeking money from dormant accounts before and during World War II.

The banks in September 1999 agreed to release \$1.25 billion to the Holocaust victims, but each survivor will get only about \$500, Hafer said.

Hafer was on a special five-member National Executive Committee of state and local finance officers who joined forces in 1997 to monitor the progress of Swiss banks in returning money from those old accounts. But Hafer said the Swiss considered the money in those dormant accounts to be the property of the banks and not the people.

The Swiss bankers deny having any money owned by the Holocaust victims, but Hafer claimed the money stolen from the Jews and deposited into Swiss bank accounts funded the German war machine in the final two years of the war.

Hafer said the Swiss banks made it difficult to reclaim those funds by requiring the families of the account holders to produce a death certificate for the Holocaust victim.

"No one got a death certificate coming out of a concentration camp," Hafer remarked.

Submitted By:

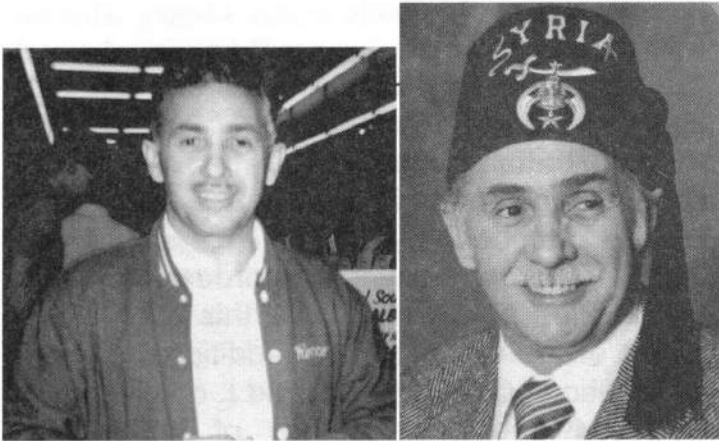
Gerald A. Willey, HQ CO., 1<sup>st</sup> BN  
331<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment (USAR)

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March 21, 2001

Rocco J. Catalfano was born May 1926. The son of immigrants. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1943. He was trained as a scout and ranger. He served with the 83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division in Europe at the end of the war. Rocky investigated for CID. Capturing and delivering war criminals to trial.





After returning home he married and became involved in a number of people professions. He served as business agent for I.B.E.W., Secretary Treasure of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Division Veterans Group. Was a Emergency Care Volunteer and as Supervisor for Child Welfare of Alleyhney County. He coached Grade School football and worked security for 30 years.

Rocco and "Phil", his wife, have one daughter, Catherine "Chris" Catalfano who has a PhD in History largely because of her father's World War stories. Rocco and "Phil" are proud grandparents. They have twin grand daughters Josephine and Catherine Tedwell, "Chris"' daughters. .

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SGT. HAROLD W. MOORE  
83<sup>rd</sup> 331<sup>st</sup> M Company



This is information I received from very kind people on the internet, regarding my father (deceased). I am trying to piece what he went

through, where he was at, during WWII. He, like many others did not talk about it. I am also enclosing a picture of my father. He was in M. Company. Do any of you recognize him? Is there any information you could give me??? Thank you for your time and kindness.

Kathy R. Moore Hathaway (Harold's youngest daughter)  
817 Forest Avenue  
Ft. Dodge, IA 50501  
515-573-3378

E-Mails I received regarding my father:

Your father was drafted in the Army on March 19, 1943. His first stop was Camp Dodge, Iowa for processing before he went to Fort Polk. After Basic training and Advanced infantry training, he was assigned to various Army training outfits until he shipped out to England on May 13, 1944 and arrived on May 25<sup>th</sup>. He was promoted to SGT and was assigned to a squad of seven men in the 4<sup>th</sup> platoon (heavy weapons), M company, of the 331<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, the "Thunderbolts". He landed with his unit at Normandy on June 21-27, 1944. He fought in the hedgerow country until the Breakout of 24 July 1944. He then proceeded to Brittany where he fought for the battle of St. Malo and Dinard. After a bloody campaign, his unit was sent to the Loire Valley for rest and refit. In September his division was transferred to Luxembourg where they remained for two months making combat patrols. On December 6<sup>th</sup>, his unit transferred to the Hurtgen forest area of operations. His unit participated in the battle of Gey, Germany and remained in that area until the German Ardennes offensive began on December 16<sup>th</sup>. On December 26, 1944 the division was moved to Ossange, Belgium at the extreme point of the "Bulge" from there along with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Division they pushed the Germans back. On January 15<sup>th</sup> after heavy fighting in the snow and ice, in what was the coldest winter in 50 years, your father succumbed to frostbite and was Lost In Action (LIA) on January 16, 1945. He was then transferred to Engalnd at the Army Evac hospital. From there he was sent to the U.S. on the hospital ship S.S. Charles A. Stafford on February 23,

1945. He arrived in Charleston, SC on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 1945 and was sent to the Brooke Convalescent Hospital in Texas. He recuperated from his injuries and was discharged on July 19, 1945 from Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

His awards include:

1. The Combat Infantry Badge
2. Army Good Conduct Medal
3. European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with Three bronze service stars for Normandy, Northern France and Germany.
4. World War II Victory Medal

1. The information that your older sister is giving you is read right off the discharge papers. Here are some of the sections to ask your sister about. Section 24 and 25 list the date and place of induction. (This is where the men were processed, Medical exams, shots, uniforms, etc.) Section 30 lists his MOS or military specialty (if he was a machine gunner 30 cal then it should read MOS 604, just like my Grand Uncles). Section 32 lists battles or campaigns. Section 33 lists awards.
2. If your father went to Basic at Fort Polk then he probably was a replacement that came to the 83<sup>rd</sup> Division later on. The division left for Europe on the SS George Washington on April 6<sup>th</sup> and arrived in England five days later. They remained in England until June 21-27 training for the invasion in the Midlands and Wales. So if your father arrived in mid-May he probably went to the 83<sup>rd</sup> at the time. Gene

Well if he was a heavy machine gunner 30 caliber then he was in Fourth platoon of M Company. Fourth platoon was the heavy weapons platoon. I am home now and I have all my research papers in front of me. I have the After action reports. These reports list the day-to-day events from the 331<sup>st</sup> regiment. I have your father SGT Harold W. Moore listed as LIA (Lost in Action) on 16 January 1945. On the 15<sup>th</sup> of January his battalion (3<sup>rd</sup>) was involved in heavy fighting near Courtil,

Belgium during the Battle of the Bulge. This is what the reports says:

"3<sup>rd</sup> battalion was on patrol to Courtil ran into enemy on road 690804 and returned at 0030. At 0100, battalion was ordered to move one company (company L) into Courtil. Company L was stopped by enemy resistance at 690804 and company K was ordered to flank the position however at 0700 this attack was called off due to receipt of additional enemy information. Companies K and L continued to work on enemy resistance of tanks and infantry at road junction at 688803. Company I established a roadblock at 684800 at 0930. However, this position was recaptured by hostile counterattack. Company I was ordered to relieve Company K and reestablish the roadblock at 1530, Company K had been relieved but roadblock had not yet been reestablished. At dark, enemy resistance at 690804 had not yet been eliminated, 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion remained in assembly area and made plans to attack Courtil from Northwest at 1700. However, attack was not ordered put into effect. Four Prisoners. Casualties: KIA - 6, WIA - 21, MIA - 8.

That is what your father went through on the 15<sup>th</sup>. The next day on the 16<sup>th</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> battalion (which was my Grand-Uncles) went into action and 3<sup>rd</sup> battalion remained at road 683800 trying to reestablish the road block. They were partially successful and were able to lay mines. Your father must have reported to the aid station during the lull in the fighting and he was medic'd out of the area that day. Even though the report doesn't specifically mention M company they were there a long with the rest of the battalion on those two days.

My information on the discharge papers say that Dad left Europe on Feb. 23, 1945 for the USA, arriving on 7 March 45. Went to Brooke Convalescent Hospital in Tex. Discharged from Fort Sam Houston on 19 July 45.

In another separation paper it said: Heavy Machine Gun Non commissioned office: led a squad of 7 men, who manned a heavy 30 caliber

machine gun, in action through France, Belgium, Luxembourg and German.

DOES ANYONE REMEMBER MY DAD? Did he have a nickname??

Thanks, Kathy

++++

February 14<sup>th</sup>

Dear friend,

Do you know, here in Normandy, some young people make one of their aims, to honour the dead of the American soldiers in the liberation of their dear country.

The association who I serve as secretary try to organize, must often as possible actions of remembrance, for people who lived during the war and a way of discovering their local history, for the youngest generations. So one or two time per year, we realize exhibitions or conferences in different cities or villages in Normandy, and especially where some of our members practice historical research.

This year in August 2001, Stephane LEPAYSANT, ACPH member in the sector of SAINTENY, organize with the city council and mayor of SAINTENY, an exhibition about hedgerows battle in this area during 1944's summer.

Because you already cam in SAINTENY or was in contact with people here, we thought, you have to know what is in project, and we will be so glad if we could manage to help you to be able to join us here in Normandy this summer with some of your fellow soldiers for a friendly ceremony.

You can have a look, below, on our last arrangement in July 2000, it was a day of ceremonies with veterans of the 79<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division and their families in LA HAYE DU

PUITS sector, during a trip throughout France and Europe. We can work closely with a tour operator specialized in this sort of events and by this way I hope we will manage to be able to help you for coming. Feel free to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Looking forward to hear from you soon, I wish to you all our best from the whole association, who would be so glad to welcome you soon, you great people for ever in the minds of our grandpas and grandmas generation. Many thanks.

Regis Giard, ACPH Secretary  
9, rue du hameau Po  
50 430 Saint Germain Sur Ay  
France

rgiard@stic-hafroy.fr

++++

Dear Mr. Wooldridge,

I am enclosing a picture of Kent receiving the "Jubilee of Liberty Medal" award for our County Executive Tom Gulotta. This was even before he broke his hip and to the surprise of all 26 veterans that received this distinguished medal, Kent was the only one who could still fit into in WWII uniform, combat boots and all.



Kent O'Connell

I called and informed Stan Bielen about Kent's illness when the Spring 2001 issue arrived. I thought he would have reported it.

I am sure you will have a wonderful reunion and only wish Kent and I could attend. We will both be there in spirit!

Sincerely,

Nancy O'Connell

++++

My Uncle (Frank Koss) was in the 5<sup>th</sup> Armored Division, Company "A". His childhood friend, Miles Zdenek, was in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, 330<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company "L". Miles later was killed in action somewhere in Belgium. Over the years, my Uncle has wondered whether anyone remembers Miles or knew him while in Europe. Accordingly, he has asked me to post an inquiry on Dave Curry's web site and Dave suggested that you might be able to publish my Uncle's inquiry in your quarterly newsletter. If that is possible, my Uncle and I would be most grateful. The posting is as follows:

I am seeking information concerning Miles Zdenek, KIA 7Jan45, Belgium. Miles was in the 83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, 330<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Company L. As boys, Miles and I were Chicago neighbors; we lived and played on the same West Side Street. My wartime tour of duty was with the 5<sup>th</sup> Armored Division. During the month of December 1944, our division spent 22 bewildering days in the inhospitable Hurtgen Forest. It was always a welcome sight to see your 83<sup>rd</sup> Division soldiers there; it somewhat alleviated the feeling of loneliness. At that point in history, I was not aware that my boyhood friend was a member of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Division. More than half a century has flown by since those hectic days, and through those years I often wondered how close I came to meeting Miles Zdenek in the Hurtgen Forest.

Thank you much! – T/5 Fran Koss, 5<sup>th</sup> Armored Division Company "A", 22<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Battalion and Headquarters Company CC "A". Please respond to : [jkay11215@mac.co](mailto:jkay11215@mac.co).

Dear Cliff,

Great to have you, you will do a good job. We are still involved with Camp Atterbury. Wished we had started the museum earlier, would have had more memorabilia. The 83<sup>rd</sup> display looks better than any display. Ames and me have always tried to make anything for the 83<sup>rd</sup> special. We are working on the Commemorative Service for 8/18, begins at 9 a.m. You should come sometime. Ames and Helen, we tried to get this in the Thunderbolt each year.

Ames Miller  
2666 Central Avenue  
Columbus, IN 47281

++++

ARE WE OLD?

The fifth graders at a local elementary school invited WWII veterans from several VFW Posts to attend a WWII USO show and a replica of a USO Club. A USO Club meant to me – doughnuts, girls and dancing. If I was to dance with fifth grade girls I would like a tall one. The mailing was late and only eight veterans attended, six of them from my Post. All wore suntans uniforms except for myself in dress greens.

The theater was decorated with posters, photos, maudlin cartoons and drawing of Kilroy. There was an American flag with a color guard and we gave the Pledge of Allegiance. The hundred plus students had a slide presentation with many student narrators covering from Pearl Harbor to the Japanese surrender. They sang, Kilroy was Here, Rosie the Riveter and Hello, USO. About twenty did an arm-waving dance to Jitterbug music.

The USO Club had doughnuts and other food, home made banners and old WWII items – helmets, web equipment, a field telephone whose leather case was black with age, pictures of Betty Grable and others. There were twenty pairs of students with clipboards to interview us. I was interviewed about fifteen times, partly because of

the different uniform. Each pair had questions written in advance as well as off the cuff questions.

Some of the questions – Is Major your first name? Why aren't you a Sergeant? Why do you have that colored stuff over your pocket? What is the red ribbon for? The Good Conduct Medal for staying out of trouble for a year. Why doesn't the Sgt. Over there have one? What hobbies did you have in the military? Were you wounded or injured? I was hurt playing soccer. They had soccer back then? What was your favorite radio program before the war? Bergan and McCarty. Was Charlie an early Sesame Street Muppet? What music did you listen to during the war? What is Glenn Miller? I listened to Axis Sally. You mean the Germans played music for the enemy? Why did General MacArthur walk in all that water? Didn't he have boots? Ask the Sgt. Over there, he was with him. What did you do after the War? Used the G. I. Bill. What is that? Where did you sleep? Anywhere would do. How did a pup tent get it's name? Where did you hide when bullets were shot at you? Far away. If you did not have a foxhole with you, what did you do? Got under a truck. That Sgt. Says an officer should not be in a USO. Don't tell anybody. Where were you when you heard the war ended? I was swimming in the Danube, I think. That Sgt. said the war ended with music. That is because he was in Manila at a Kay Kyser concert. How come none of you flew a plane or drove a tank? We were not asked.

A first for all of us – we were asked for our autographs with rank on clipboards and books. If they should have value someday we will put sheets with our signatures with our wills to enrich our offspring.

A teacher thanked us for coming and said the students were thrilled to be able to talk with people from back when. She reminded us that if we returned in the Fall, they had wheelchair ramps.

Hal O'Neill  
83<sup>rd</sup> Signal

Dear Mr. Minick:

I would also like to include this in the "Thunderbolt": I have just received a book from Tony Vaccaro, his advance copy of "Entering Germany", that is now available from Barnes and Noble. It lists for \$29.99, hard cover with dust jacket, 192 pages, 190 illustrations. It is a great book and a masterpiece. It has a lot of interesting photographs and they are explained in detail. I have also received a phone call March 8, 2001 regarding his Documentary about the 83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, from Normandy to the Elbe Bridgehead that is being Televised in Germany today. He informed me that an English format is being prepared to be shown on the Discovery Channel in the near future. I can hardly wait.

Also: the address I had gotten for the Elbe Operation over the Internet was furnished by J. P. Harris and he deserves the credit. I'm sorry that I didn't mention this before.

Sincerely,

Louis Gomori  
Historian

++++

Cliff,

I am enclosing a copy of Campaign Key Codes, these are the actual Campaigns for WWII. If you can find a place in the Thunderbolt to print this it may enlighten some of the members.

Our Historian thinks he can get another battle star for the fighting over the Elbe River, but as you see the Campaigns are assigned by dates, not specific battles. The one I have underlined are the ones the 83<sup>rd</sup> is entitled to. For years we have specified Brittany on our caps, but as you see it should be Northern France. In Brittany I believe there were only 2 or 3 divisions that participated in that battle. Northern France covered everything north of the Loire River.

Joe Macaluso

**Appendix I Campaign key Codes**  
**CAMPAIGN KEY CODES - PACIFIC**

1. Air Offensive Japan	17 Apr 42 – 2 Sep 45
2. Aleutian Islands	3 Jun 42 – 24 Aug 43
3. Bismarck Archipelago	15 Dec 43 – 27 Nov 44
4. Burma 1942	7 Dec 41 – 26 May 42
5. Central Burma	29 Jan 45 – 15 Jul 45
6. Central Pacific	7 Dec 41 – 6 Dec 43
7. China Defensive	4 Jul 42 – 4 May 45
8. China Offensive	5 May 45 – 2 Sep 45
9. East Indies	1 Jan 42 – 22 Jul 42
10. Eastern Mandates	31 Jan 44 – 14 Jun 44
11. Guadalcanal	7 Aug 42 – 21 Feb 43
12. India-Burma	2 April 42 – 28 Jan 43
13. Leyte	17 Oct 44 – 1 Jul 45
14. Luzon	15 Dec 44 – 4 Jul 45
15. New Guinea	24 Jan 43 – 31 Dec 44
16. Northern Solomons	22 Feb 43 – 21 Nov 44
17. Papua	23 Jul 42 – 23 Jan 43
18. Philippine Islands	7 Dec 41 – 10 May 42
19. Ryukyus	26 Mar 45 – 2 Jul 45
20. Southern Philippines	27 Feb 45 – 4 Jul 45
21. Western Pacific	15 Jun 44 – 2 Sep 45

**CAMPAIGN KEY CODES – EUROPE-AFRICA**

22. Air Offensive Europe	4 Jul 42 – 5 Jun 44
23. Algeria-French Morocco	8 Nov 42 – 11 Nov 42
24. Anzio	22 Jan 44 – 24 May 44
25. Ardennes-Alsace	16 Dec 44 – 24 Jan 45
26. Central Europe	22 Mar 45 – 11 May 45
27. Egypt-Libya	11 Jun 42 – 12 Feb 43
28* Ground Combat, EAME Theater	11 May 42 – 8 May 45
29. Naples-Foggia	9 Sep 43 – 21 Jan 44
30. Normandy	6 Jun 44 – 24 Jul 44
31. North Apennines	10 Sep 44 – 4 Apr 45
32. Northern France	25 Jul 44 – 14 Sep 44
33. Po Valley	5 Apr 45 – 8 May 45
34. Rhineland	15 Sept 44 – 21 Mar 45
35. Rome-Arno	22 Jan 44 – 9 Sep 44
36. Sicily	9 Jul 43 – 17 Aug 43
37. Southern France	15 Aug 44 – 14 Sep 44
38. Tunisia	17 Nov 42 – 13 May 43

\*Officially the campaign extended from 7 Dec 41 to 2 Sep 45, but the above time frames are used for entries so labeled in this book, unless otherwise indicated.

-\*\*\*-

In May, Pat & Ginny DiGiammerino took a tour of Valley Forge, Philadelphia and she says, "Why would anyone go to Europe. We have so much to see here." One evening they had dinner with "George Washington"

and the following day had lunch with Ben Franklin.



Lou & Lucy Volpi  
& Ginny DiGiammerino  
at park in Narbeth, PA



Lou Volpi & Pat DiGiammerino  
Standing in front of one of the pillars

From There they visited Lou and Lucy Volpi for a few days. Both Lou and Lucy are having health problems.

In Narbeth, PA, there is an area in a park that, thanks to Lou Volpi, there is a memorial to War Veterans. There are pillars with names and units listed, flags and even benches, because it is such a lovely, quiet spot, you want to sit awhile.

Pat and Ginny DiGiammerino

## Mark DiGiammerino



Mark DiGiammerino with proud parents,  
June & Gary

Mark is the son of June and Gary DiGiammerino and the grandson of Pat and Ginny DiGiammerino. He is a member of the National Honor Society, and scored the top score of "5" on the AP History Exam as a junior. His talents in art earned recognition from the faculty with an Artist of the Month award and his work is on display at the Superintendent's office. He has made the Honor Roll many times and the recipient of many Red, Blue, Silver and Gold cards in the Renaissance program.

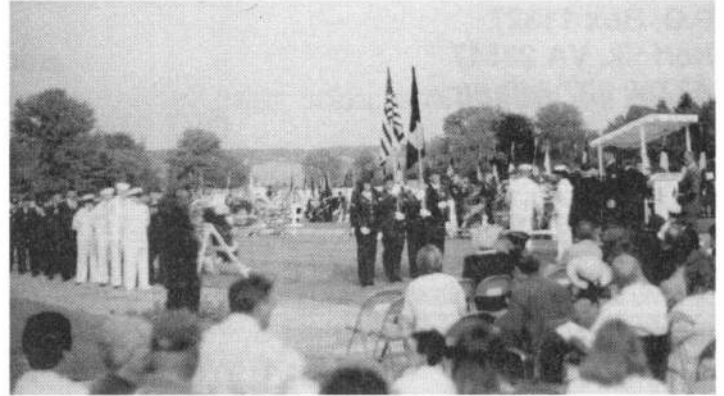
Mark is an active volunteer in the National Honor Society tutoring program. He enjoys baseball and track. Work experience at Willy's Treats includes roles as a product consultant and sanitation engineer over the last four years. College acceptances include: Merrimack College, University of Mass-Lowell, and Bentley College. Mark will be attending Stonehill College in the fall but he is undecided as to a major field of study.

++++++

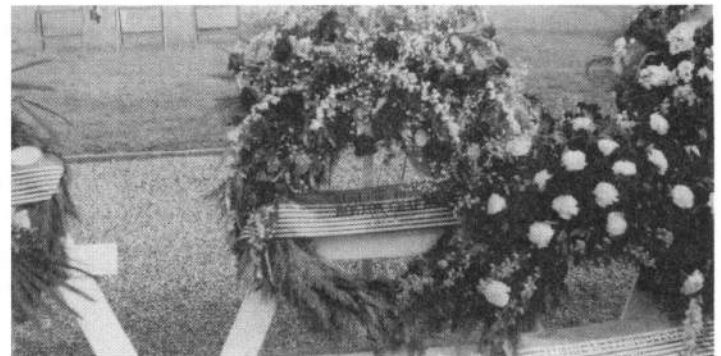
Every Memorial Day, Henry Scheitler, from Luxemburg, has a ceremony at the Henri-Chapelle Cemetery, in Belgium, to honor the memory of 83<sup>rd</sup> members buried there.

Henry is an Honorary Member of the Boston Chapter and has never forgotten what the 83<sup>rd</sup> did for his country.

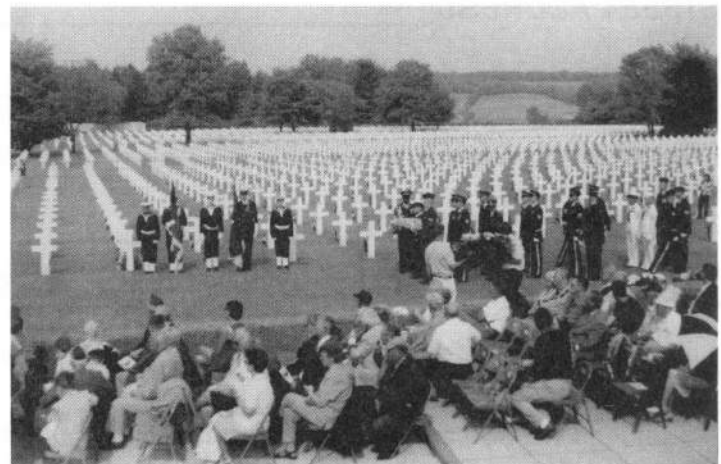
He keeps in touch with Pat DiGiammerino and is planning a visit here in the fall.



Memorial Day Service at Henri-Chapelle Cemetery,  
Belgium  
Boston Chapter



The Boston Chapter Wreath  
Memorial Day 2001



The Cemetery at Henri-Chapelle, Belgium

### ACTIVITY REGISTRATION FORM

Listed below are all registration, tour, and meal costs for the reunion. Please enter how many people will be participating in each event and total the amount. Send that amount payable to ARMED FORCES REUNIONS in the form of check or money order (no credit cards or phone reservations accepted). Your cancelled check will serve as your confirmation. All registration forms and payments must be received by mail on or before **August 28, 2001**. After that date, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. We suggest you make a copy of this form before mailing.

**Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 11327**  
**Norfolk, VA 23517**  
**ATTN: 83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry**

OFFICE USE ONLY	
Check # _____	Date Received _____
Inputted _____	Nametag Completed _____

**CUT OFF DATE IS AUGUST 28, 2001**

	Price Per	No. of People	Total
<b>TOURS</b>			
Thursday: War Memorial Museum	\$16		\$
Friday: MacArthur Memorial / Spirit of Norfolk	\$43		\$
<b>REGISTRATION FEE</b>			
Registration Fee, which includes Hospitality Room & administrative expenses, Saturday Banquet, & DJ. Please select your entrée below:			
Prime Rib	\$46		\$
Stuffed Breast of Chicken	\$46		\$
Total Amount Payable to <b>Armed Forces Reunions, Inc.</b> (Please do not staple or tape your payment.)			\$

PLEASE PRINT

NAME (for nametags) \_\_\_\_\_

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GUEST NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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EMERGENCY CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ PH. NUMBER (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU STAYING AT THE HOTEL? YES  NO  ARE YOU FLYING?  DRIVING?  RV?

Full refunds will be sent for the above-mentioned activities if cancellation is received **by August 28, 2001**, less a \$3 processing fee. After that date, refund amount will depend on vendor policies and/or the resale of tickets. **CANCELLATIONS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN MONDAY-FRIDAY 9am-5pm eastern time (excluding holidays).** CALL (757) 625-6401 to cancel reunion activities and obtain your cancellation code.



**83<sup>rd</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION REUNION  
SEPTEMBER 26 – 30, 2001**

**HOLIDAY INN HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER, HAMPTON**

**Wednesday, September 26**

12:00 pm - 7:00 pm      **Reunion Registration open**  
1:00 pm - 9:00 pm      Hospitality Room open (complimentary beer, soda, and snacks will be available from 3:00 pm – 9:00 pm)

**Thursday, September 27**

9:00 am - 9:00 pm      Hospitality Room Open (complimentary beer, soda, and snacks will be available from 3:00 pm – 9:00 pm)  
10:00 am - 12:00 pm    Executive Committee Meeting  
1:00 pm - 7:00 pm      **Reunion Registration open**  
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm      War Memorial Museum (description below)

**Friday, September 28**

8:00 am - 9:00 am      **Reunion Registration open**  
9:00 am - 10:00 pm    Hospitality Room open (complimentary beer, soda, and snacks will be available from 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm)  
9:00 am - 2:45 pm      MACARTHUR MEMORIAL/SPIRIT OF NORFOLK LUNCH CRUISE  
2:00 pm - 7:00 pm      **Reunion Registration open** (additional hours will be posted if necessary).  
3:30 pm - 5:30 pm      General Session Meeting  
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm      Welcome Reception

**Saturday, September 29**

8:30 am - 10:30 am    Executive Committee Meeting  
10:30 am - 12:30 pm    General Session Meeting  
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm      Memorial Service  
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm      Catholic Mass  
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm      Social Hour with cash bar  
7:00 pm - 12:00 am    Banquet dinner with music provided by a DJ for your listening and dancing pleasure

**Sunday, September 30**

Farewells and departures



# HAMPTON HOTEL & CONFERENCE CENTER



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### Directions:

Located at I-64, Exit 263B (Mercury Boulevard). From Route 17 North, exit Route 258 North. From Route 13 South, take I-64 to Exit 263B. From I-95, take I-64 to Exit 263B.

## GROUP RESERVATION FORM

<b>Rates:</b>	<u>\$75.00</u>	Single	<b>Group Name:</b>	<b>83<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division – 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Reunion</b>
	<u>\$75.00</u>	Double	<b>Group Code:</b>	<b>ETI</b>
	_____	Triple	<b>Dates:</b>	<b>September 26 – 30, 2001</b>
	_____	Quads	<b>Cut-Off Date:</b>	<b>September 6, 2001</b>
	_____	Suite		
	_____	<b>Upgrade to our Executive Level for an additional \$10.00 per room per night (Y/N)</b>		

➤ Rates are subject to local tax, currently 10%. Rates honored three days before / after, if available.

GUEST NAME (S) \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NUMBER (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE GUARANTEED WITH A CREDIT CARD NUMBER OR DEPOSIT IN THE AMOUNT OF ONE NIGHT'S ROOM AND TAX (CURRENTLY 10%) BY **SEPTEMBER 6, 2001**. CONFIRMATION OF YOUR RESERVATION WILL BE MAILED TO YOU. RESERVATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THIS CUT-OFF DATE ARE SUBJECT TO SPACE AVAILABILITY, AND WILL BE AT THE FULL RATE.

CREDIT CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
CHECK-IN TIME IS 4:00 P.M. AND CHECK-OUT TIME IS 11:00 A.M.

SPECIAL REQUESTS: \_\_\_\_\_  
(EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE YOUR REQUESTS, HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT GUARANTEED)

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO:  
OR E-MAIL TO ADDRESS ABOVE

Holiday Inn Hampton Hotel & Conference Center  
1815 West Mercury Boulevard  
Hampton, VA 23666  
ATTN: Reservations Department

**A MESSAGE TO ALL 83<sup>RD</sup> MEMBERS . . . . .**

Anyone wishing to purchase coats and caps may write to:  
Vito C. Palazzolo, 2000 Lancaster, Harper Woods, Michigan 48225  
for information. He will send you an application form.

**83<sup>rd</sup> Reunion will be held at  
Holiday Inn Hampton Hotel  
Hampton, Virginia  
Dates are:  
September 26, 27, 28, 29, 2001**

**\$15.00 Dues are due  
NOW  
For the year 2001**

**THUNDERBOLT DEADLINES**

Deadline for **ALL** articles to be published in  
Thunderbolt must be at this office by  
November 10, February 10 and May 10  
Cliff Wooldridge  
East Side Drive  
P.O. Box 406  
Alton Bay, NH 03810-0406

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Company \_\_\_\_\_ Regiment \_\_\_\_\_ 83<sup>rd</sup> Division

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

**Please Enclose A Check or Money Order**  
**DUES \$15.00 PAYABLE TO:**

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**110 Angel Street**  
**Saluda, SC 29138-1002**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Desendant Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Name

Name of 83<sup>rd</sup> Division Member \_\_\_\_\_

**BULLETIN**

When you move and change your address, **PLEASE**, send your change of address. It does no good to mail you a Thunderbolt at your old address. **The Post Office WILL NOT** forward 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.**