



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.
WORLD WAR II

Vol. 58 Issue No. 2

Spring Issue 2003

The Drawbridge, Village
Looks Forward to Host
57th Annual Reunion
for the
83rd Infantry Division

ATTENTION
YOUR dues for 2003 are due NOW!
This is the LAST THUNDERBOLT for
the ones that did not pay 2002!



Ft. Mitchell, KY, September 3 – 7, 2003

THE THUNDERBOLT

Official Publication – 83rd Infantry Division Association, Inc.

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

Editor – Cliff Wooldridge

STAFF REPORTERS

BOSTON Ambrose Tynan, 121 Sanborn Ave., W. Roxbury, MA 02136, Tel. # 617-327-3588
CLEVELAND..... Bob Miller, 111 Hampshire Cv., Painsville, OH 44077-138, Tel. #
DIXIE..... Ellsworth Massie, 2514 Lincrest Road, Joppa, MD 21085, Tel. # 410-877-0682
FLORIDA..... W. Allen Fisher, 1 Bolero SP. LKS. C.C. Village, Fort Pierce, FL 34951, Tel. # 772-461-3640
MICHIGAN..... Vito Palazzolo, 20000 Lancaster Street, Harper Woods, MI 48225, Tel. # 313-881-2364
NEW ORLEANS..... Joseph Macaluso, 5353 Pasteur Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70122, Tel. # 504-282-1097
NEW ENGLAND.... Nick Francullo, 10 Bessom Street, Lynn, MA 01902, Tel. # 781-592-9154
NEW JERSEY..... Stan Bielen, 71 Glenwood Terr., Ford, NJ 08863, Tel. # 732-225-0169
PHILADELPHIA.... Louis Volpi, 410 Merion Road, Merion, PA 19072, Tel. #610-664-5791
PITTSBURGH Francis Beerthaler, 147 York Road, Cranberry Township, PA 16066, Tel. # 724-452-2297

ORGANIZATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Robert G. Taylor
1641 Grey Road
Midland, MI 48640-9302
517-835-6148

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Carroll Brown
115 Brown Drive.
Sweetwater, TN 37874-1166
423-3376822

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Manny Epstein
1900 Quentin Rd., Apt E14
Brooklyn, NY 1129-2374
718-375-9440

3rd VICE PRESIDENT

Tony Vaccaro
536 47th Ave.
Long Island City, NY 11101-5462
718-706-7239

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Robert Gangnath
12 Hamlet Lane.
Monroe, CT 06468-2008
203-268-6683

JUDGE ADVOCATE

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

HISTORIAN

Louis Gomori
309 E. Locust St.
Butler, PA 16001-4826
724-283-4340

CHAPLIN

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

SERGEANTS-AT ARMS

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

Bruce E. Winchell
12518 Scott Rd..
Freeland, MI 48623-9532
517-695-9502

Robert Sessions
165 Old Stage Rd.
Norway, ME 04268-5355
207-743-2197

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Wm. M. Minick, 110 Angel St., Saluda, SC, 29138-1002, Tel. # 864-445-8509
B. John Prinzi, 4433 Oakley Greene, Sarasota, FL, 34235-2330, Tel. # 941-371-0844
Harry Kirby, Jr., 20 Pennsbury Way. E., Chadds Ford, PA, 19317-9302, Tel. # 610-388-7561
Cliff Wooldridge, East Side Drive, P. O. Box 406, Alton Bay, NH 03810-0406, Tel. # 603-875-3649
Robert Keck, 209 S Manor St., Mountville, PA 17554-1617, Tel. #717-285-5491

A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

*James C. Hanrahan.....1947	Albert B. Belvedere1967	John Hobbs.....1986
Jack M. Straus.....1948	Vito C. Palazzolo.....1968	George Fletcher.....1987
*Shelly Hughes.....1949	Pat DiGiammerino.....1969	*Charles Schmidt.....1988
*Julius Ansel.....1950	Casey Szubski.....1970	Edward Reuss.....1989
*Walter H. Edwards Jr.1951	*Charles Altomari.....1971	Charles J. Lussier.....1990
Leo Schneider.....1952	*Harold H. Dopp.....1972	Edgar H. Haynes.....1991
Finley Heyl.....1953	Louis J. Volpi.....1973	Ned Smith.....1992
*Lawrence J. Redmond.....1954-55	Bernard O. Riddle.....1974	*Louis Sandini.....1993
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*Joseph F. Minotti.....1960	*William J. Chavanne.....1979	R.C. Hamilton.....1998
*Frank J. McGrogan.....1961	*Samuel Klippa.....1980	Pat DiGiammerino.....1999
*John W. Robinette1962	Michael Caprio.....1981	Salvatore Scicolone.....2000
*Manuel C. Martin.....1963	Ralph Gunderson.....1982	Pat DiGiammerino2001
*Julius Boyles.....1964	*Arthur Doggett.....1983	* Denotes Deceased
*Samueal Klippa1965	*Bernie Cove.....1984	
*William M. Doty.....1966	Carroll Brown.....1985	

President's Corner

Bob Taylor
B/329

We've been working towards the upcoming Reunion and have a tentative program schedule, which you can read about in the Reunion Chairman's Report. This hasn't been an easy task since we must consider that, at this point, most of our future is rather tentative. But it seems that we've been in this position before, in the ETO, and we made the best of it by relying on our Buddies for support.

Fortunately, we can do the same again, when we meet at the Drawbridge Inn for a few days of remembrances and comradeship. We, as a group, made a significant contribution toward achieving the good times that we've enjoyed for the past 60 years, and that most of the world continues to enjoy. So we earned, and deserve to allow ourselves a time for reminiscing with our Buddies about those tentative times.

So, let's do it! Make plans to meet with us at the Drawbridge Inn at Covington (Ft. Mitchell), KY. Realistically speaking, we are losing our ability to sponsor these Reunions in the future. Let's make the most of it while we can.

From the Editor

DID YOU RETURN YOUR POSTCARD?

DID YOU REMEMBER TO PUT YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE POSTCARD?

The last Thunderbolt that went out just after Christmas included a postcard to be completed and returned to me so I could start to compile a new mailing list. The mailing list we have been using is out of date and needs to be updated. So, I sent out

postcards with the last Thunderbolt (see copy of postcard).

Up to the first of March I have only received back 412 cards out of 1480. Out of those received, I got back 15 with no name or address. If you think you forgot to put a name on the cards send me a note or call me at 603-875-3649. This is the list I am going to use for the next Thunderbolt mailing. So, If you haven't returned your card, complete the form below and mail it to me immediately at:
Cliff Wooldridge, P. O. Box 406, Alton Bay, NH 03810-0406

THUNDERBOLT Yes? or No?

Are You interested in Keeping the Association going?

If so, I need Your input to update the mailing List

Did You pay your dues for 2002 Yes No

Did You pay your dues for 2003 Yes No

If You have two Addresses Winter & Summer
Please let me know.

Name

Address

If I don't hear from You, I won't send the
THUNDERBOLT

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>
Antt, Russell	M Co., 330 th	Bob Taylor
Azevedo, Ed	I Co., 331 st	Vern Bobo
Blakely, Frank W.	A Co., 308 th	Wife, Nellie
Brill, T. L.	E Co., 330 th	Ellsworth Massie
Burchan, Raynor	Hq. Co. 3 rd , Bn 330 A.T.P.H.	
Dierksen, Edward	L Co., 330 th	John Wilson
Dodge, Roy	Hq. 308 th Eng.	
Drapkin, Jerome	83 rd Signal	Pat DiGiammerino
Dyer, William F.	Hq. 329 th Inf.	Laddie Lawrence
Friebel, Robert	K Co., 329 th	Pat DiGiammerino
Hipsher, Henry H.	A.T., 331 st	Tommie Hipsher
Joyce, Michael	C Co., 330 th	Pat DiGiammerino
Langenkamp, Ado	F Co., 329 th	Wife, Marie
Niemczura, Joseph	K Co., 330 th	Bill McKee
Peterson, Ansel	308 th Eng.	Pat DiGiammerino
Senkewicz, John J.	A Bat, 908FA	Pat DiGiammerino
Shonak, James D.	331 st	William McKee
Wehling, Emil	Req HQ, 330 th	Charles Abdinoor
Welling, Coen	H Co., 329 th	Dan Rickert
White, Carl	G Co., 331 st	Pat DiGiammerino

WHEN THE 83RD DIVISION FALLS IN LINE
 TO BEAT THE KAISER BACK ACROSS THE RHINE
 WE WILL FIGHT, FIGHT, FIGHT FOR LIBERTY,
 WE'LL HURL OUR TROOPS AGAINST THE LINE OF GERMANY
 WITH ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND ITALY BY OUR SIDE.
 THE 83RD DIVISION, NATION'S PRIDE
 OH, WE'LL LAY THE KAISER NEATH THE SOD,
 YES BY GOD.

Submitted by Bob Schnell

CHAPTERS

BOSTON CHAPTER NEWS

By Amby Tynan

On November 9th, 2002 we had a meeting at Pat DiGiammerino's house in Malden, MA. President John Tisdale opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance then a moment of silence for our departed Comrades. President Tisdale thanked Pat and Ginny for the use of their home.

Tony Piantedosi read the Secretary's Report also the cards and note written to the Boston Chapter since the last meeting. Treasurer's Report was read by Ron Platt who is doing a great job with our books. A Tip of the Irishman's Hat to you, Ronald.

Pat DiGiammerino got us four new members, good work Pat.

We were proud to hear that Lt. Rose Young received an award from the 103rd General Hospital in WWII. We extend our congratulations to her for this award given in Belgium during the war.

After eating up a storm we all headed home.

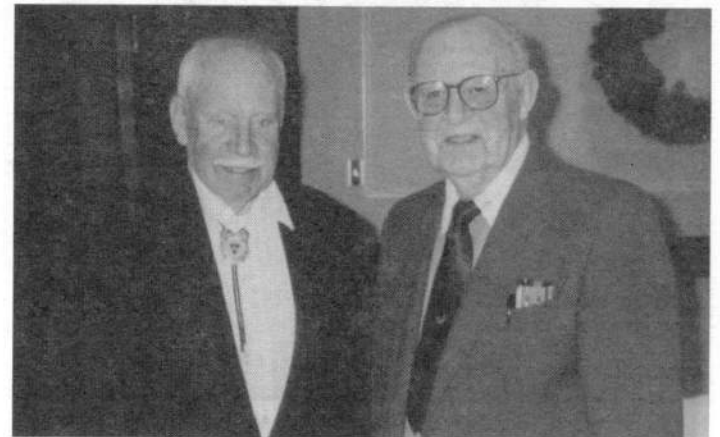
The Christmas Party was a great success on December 14th, 2002. It was held at the Ramada Inn in Seakonk, MA. The food was great with 4 meals to choose from. Santa came down from the North Pole (no stops) and a good time was had by all dancing and singing ending up with the yearly drawing for the Veterans.

Joe Moore, Zanesville, OH	\$100.00
Thomas Turchetta, New Britain, CT	\$50.00
Grace Brick, Minesville, PA	\$50.00
John Gentile, Lake Ronnonkoma, NY	\$25.00

Diane Nardone, Puttnam Valley, NH	\$25.00
Richard Johns, New York, NY	\$25.00
Robert Gangnath, Monroe, CT	\$25.00



Benjamin & Marian Cooke (RI)
Boston Chapter Christmas Party



Cliff Wooldridge & Charlie Lussier
Boston Chapter Christmas Party

It was good to see Hy Goodman at the Christmas party. I think Hy's knee is getting better. Charlie Lussier is really making money playing cards. Beatrice Abdinor must be taking care of Chuck with his wonderful smile. Chuck I also saw your sport coat is open style now in South Carolina. Maybe it was the meal! Ha-Ha!

Les Taylor is doing well in his routines. Don Willis is an old guy who has not made contact with me. Walt Harding is doing well in Florida. Also, I had a nice talk with Dusty

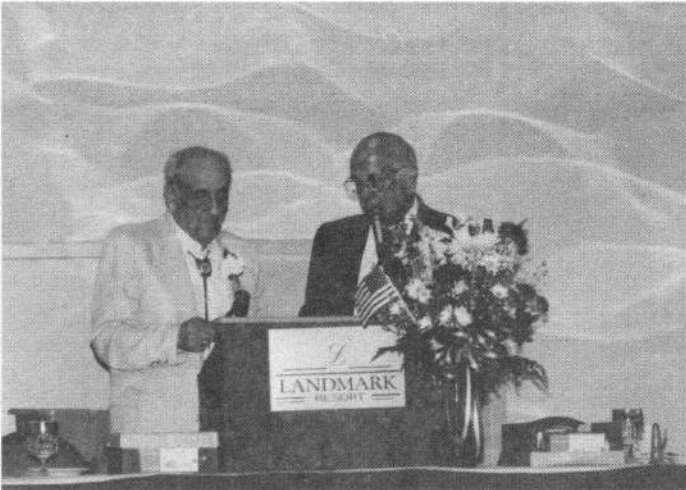
Starbuck. Dallas Williams is getting a lot of work as Chaplain.

Ed McCouch was elected Sergeant-at-Arms for the 83rd National along with Bob Sessions. Warning to you Boston Chapter members keep your eye on Bruce Winchell.

Erwin Erhardt and Scheumann are wearing out the old snow shovels this year. Just trying to keep in shape to sign up for three more years of army like.

Willie Snodgrass is also training. Willie has been having bad times but he is making a good comeback. Good luck Willie.

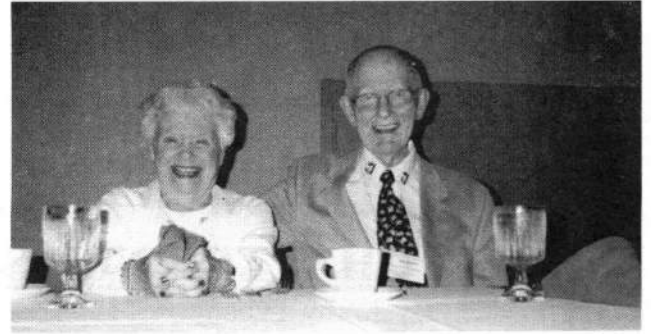
Alice Ann Costello wrote me a nice letter on return from vacation in California with her son.



Pat DiGiammerino & Minick
Passing the gravel



Ona Prinzi and Ginny DiGiammerino



Mr. & Mrs. Bob Gangnath
Myrtle Beach

That's all my news for now.

CLEVELAND CHAPTER NEWS

By Bob Miller

Our Christmas party was a successful event. Members and their wives had a nice social event. The food was very good and plenty of it. We had a little accordion music by one of our own members with a sing along.

No change in our sick list since our November meeting. Earl Lindsey tried to make the party but ended up being too sick.

A 50/50 raffle was held with 10 winners and five poinsettias were won by our members. The Bedford Ohio VFW treats us very good and the Post has just been remodeled and it is excellent. We enjoy holding our meetings there.

The month of February is our election time for our chapter. We have had a very successful year during 2002. We will be discussing the 83rd Reunion at this meeting. This one is close to Cleveland and we can drive to it. We hope to see some of our friends at Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky in September

DIXIE CHAPTER NEWS

By Ellsworth Massie

CHRISTMAS DIXIE STYLE: Dixie makes the news! I report it as I see it. I wouldn't miss it for the world. Here goes.



5 Good Infantry men and 1 Good Artillery man



Widow Pat Johnson
Warren King and wife (Ex-POW)



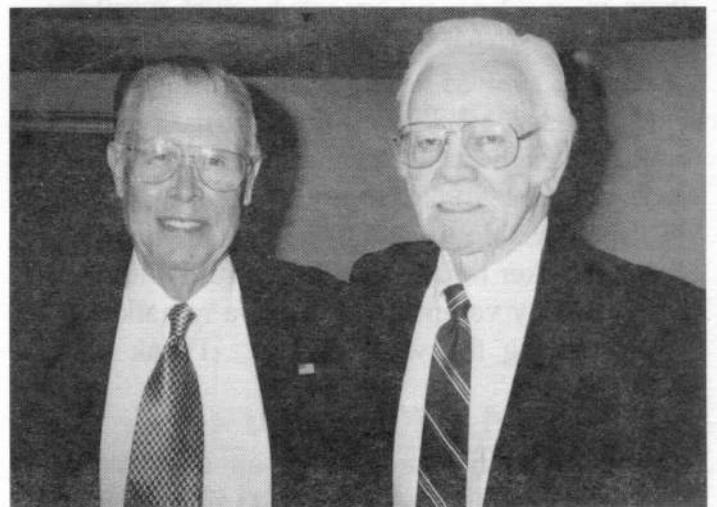
Widow Jeanette McCroy and family



Captain Hill, wife and 4 men of 329th "B" Co.



Hershel McIntosh, wife and daughter Deanna



Only 2 "Red legs" Arty. to show up.



3 Good looking ladies (all married)
Jessie Dalton, Dane Morris, Carole Naylor
P.S. Their husbands were with them

November 30, I leave home with Kathryn for the Livingston ranch to celebrate with Mary and Felix. This is an old family tradition. "The Festival of Lights" SC style with 40,000 lights and decorations. What a sight to behold! Hospitality is abundant. We all over eat and celebrate up to the limit of 80year olds.

Tuesday comes too soon but I must be on my way to Dixie celebration in Gatlinburg. I believe the 28th year host by Carroll Brown and Floe Jackson over the years and attended by thousands of 83rd vets and friends. This promises to be a record breaker but we haven't figured on the weather. We shop a little and watch the weather reports. They are not good.

Wednesday the news is all bad. On Monday, the hotel had one room vacant by Wednesday there were 22 rooms canceled. Bad weather really almost shut us down. Our leadership was either snowed in, sick, or something else. Our Secretary William Minick arrived and being the highest elected officer, took charge and got things underway. Hostess, Flo Jackson, (unable to attend) delegated Ray and June Whitaker to take over. They did with the help of many volunteers and did a remarkable job of saving the whole affair. Thank you each one.

Thursday the die hards come on in thru the snow and ice and are surprised to find us with no snow just rain except snow above 2500 ft. elevation, which closed the roads across the

mountain. It was truly a joy to see each one arrive for one more time together. Some shopped, took in a show, gripped and swapped those good WWII happenings. I had the pleasure of going to "Black Bear Dinner Theatre" with fourteen members of my family, cousins and Massie in-laws. Special for me but I missed what went on at the hotel.

Friday: You must have had fun for you are still here and more have come in. The parade goes off on schedule. We meet new people for the first time and expect to see each one again. I do love it so.

Saturday, off to the Civic Center for the Craft show and do some light shopping along with many of our own. The place is packed and there's something for each one. Our ladies bring so much food and goodies I can't believe it but I try as many recipes as possible and manage to gain a pound a day! Thanks again to each one.

Banquet: Eighty plus show up for the banquet with 20 opting to do something else. Good food, good fellowship, Santa Claus, gift exchanges, entertainment, music, dancing, business conducted, prayers for sick and loved ones of those passed away in past year.

Our plans are to do it all over again next year. Plan to make your reservation early so you won't be left out. We lost some this year who were staying in other hotels. We don't want to lose any one and try to keep track of each one.

We had dignitaries galore, widows, past presidents of National, Ex Board members, old timers, new timers and just plain folk like myself. Each of you are special. That makes us a very exclusive group coming from 13 states this year. From Arkansas, Florida, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Alabama and every state in between. Did you ever stop to think what brings us together after all these years? Think on it!!

Infantry well represented, large family groups present. Same Co. with 5 present others pushing hard to beat them! Field Artillery (Red Legs) did themselves proud, 908 (one good man), 322 (me). Manny Goodridge and I really had our work cut out for us. Each Infantry Regiment wanting support at the same time! What a task! It is such a great experience just remembering the good events and remembering those who gave their all and their loved ones still with us. Until next time. Take care.

FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWS

By W. Allen Fisher

No Report

KENTUCKY CHAPTER NEWS

By Chester Wilson

The Kentucky Chapter Christmas Party was held December 13th and 14th at the Comfort Inn, Piqua, Ohio. Hosting the Christmas Party was Al and Dorothy Henry, Hayes and Betty Wilt.

Those at the meeting were Earl and Bonnie Hoover, daughter Diane, Floyd and Alberta Richmond, Chester and Helen Wilson, Larry and Jessie Dalton, Manny Goodridge, Fred and Doris McGowan, Al and Dorothy Henry, Hayes Wilt and Paul Lear.

The Chapter's meeting was held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday by President Floyd Richmond. We had a gift exchange after the meeting. Member's wives spent the weekend shopping at the mall.

Manny Goodridge will host the next Kentucky Chapter Spring Meeting.

MICHIGAN CHAPTER NEWS

By Vito Palazzolo,
Harper Woods, Michigan

Hope all is well with you and yours.

We here in the Michigan Chapter have not met since last October for a luncheon, and it was the last meeting for 2002.

Not much doing here other than to report that Lee Hetrick is still on our sick list. He has had a couple of strokes and doesn't get around too well other than a cane to guide him. We received news that Ed Zerucka's wife Jean passed away on January 31, 2003, now they are both gone.

The following picture was taken last October at a local restaurant.



Al Vartarian, Charlie McAlluiff, Joe Romano, Stanley Kiel, Vito Palazzolo

I talked to Nick Barbeau and he is now doing very well after his second knee operation.

Sorry for the short newsletter but it is all I have right now. More news next time.

Anyone needing uniforms, please write me for an application.

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

By Nick Francullo
Hq. Co. 3rd, Bn 330th

We hope you all had a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. This was a mad winter for all, weather and health wise. Mary and I spent Christmas and New Years in bed with the flu but we are getting better now.

Received a card from Virginia Burcham of Proctorville, Ohio that on April 26, 2002 her husband, Raynor, had died. He went to the grocery store and fell when he stepped off the curb and hit his head on the street and 3 days later he died. He was 88 years old and she is 90 years old. Our sympathy goes to the Burcham family. Big Red was great soldier in Hq. Co 3rd 330th At.

Also Joe and Anne Buli celebrated 50 years married on January 26, 2003. God bless you and stay in good health. Bob Blout had another cancer operation but so far so good. Wayne and Janet Turner are doing okay now after having pneumonia and heart condition. Get well buddy. Russell and Vera Wagner are doing okay now. Vera had a back operation on November 2 and a hip operation a year ago and getting better.

Karl and Ingrid Burkhead are doing okay and are 56 years married. They are not doing long distance traveling as it is getting to strenuous. Also Ben and Martha Cunningham. Capt. Ben was Bn Commander in 3rd Bn 330th. He is okay but Martha has eye problems and old age. Ben got a letter from Reed Stanley asking information about his great uncle who was K Company 330th commander and was killed July 16, 1944. He does not remember him. The name of his uncle was Capt. Harold Sheffey, killed near LaBarre, France. If anyone knows him, please write to Reed Stanley, P. O. Box 115, Lebanon, VA 24266. If anyone who was in K Co., please write to Reed Stanely

Called John and Ester Ferriera. John is still having trouble with his teeth and Ester has trouble with her legs.. Chuck and Bernice Abdinoor are off to Florida for 3 months. Chuck does not like the snow. Simon and Kay

Etzel, Kay had a colostomy in July and had a cancerous tumor and is getting better.

Also, Buddy Balfe, of Winstead, CT, is doing okay. Received a note from Jim and Dot Brennan. They sold their house and moved into a condo and they love it. No more cutting grass or raking leaves and Jim hasn't chased a squirrel since they moved in. He says the best part is that when it snows, they are all shoveled out before they are out of bed. They are only one mile away from their daughter, Christine, and they like that too. They plan to attend the Reunion and are looking forward to seeing everyone there. Mary and I will also be looking to attend the Reunion also.

If any New England Chapter members have any reports, good or bad, please send it to me and I can put it in our newsletter. That's it for now.

Hi Buddy's, I am in cold Florida for a few months. Hopefully the weather will change for the good. Received a call from Nick telling me there has been no activities going on and to get my column in. Mary and Nick are ready for another wedding, I believe in Colorado. Their granddaughter is getting married. This should bring up to date all the grandchildren. Good luck to the future couple. It doesn't seem so long ago that Helena, Nick and Mary's eldest daughter, was just getting married herself. Now she has children getting married. I believe Nick Jr. and Mary Theresa's children are also married. It seems a shame that the New England Chapter is not as active as it once was. I am sure I for one would like to see more activity. I understand that we are getting older and harder to get around now and there has been death and sickness. But we should not give up, not after what we went through during the war. This was an experience that we will not forget. Losing our comrades, and the comradeship we have had over 50 years, this is a reason that we should continue to keep their memory alive.

I dropped over to see John and Esthar Ferrereia. They have had their health problems, but here he was washing his truck in the cold weather. Him and Esthar were regulars at our reunions. Hopefully they will continue to be active. Called up Helen and Dutchy Smith and they seem to be in good health especially since they are regulars at Atlantic City. We tried to link up, for dinner, but the timing wasn't right. I talked to him from Florida and promised to get together when we get back home. I understand that Mike Champy is not feeling too good but he is itching to attend our reunions still. Marie has to tie him down. Have not heard from the Simons, Taglias, Petrucis and others but did see the Faria's and McKee's at Myrtle Beach. I keep in touch with Stan Bielan and try to touch bases with Larry Arrigo, Amby Tynan and Pat DiGiammerino. Hopefully some day we can combine our Christmas party with the Boston Chapter. I am also a life member of that Chapter. Also keep in touch with Manny Epstein. I did say thanks to him for the wonderful silk tie he sent me. Will, I know there is plenty more to write about but I have to leave space for others. Don't forget our next reunion at Ft. Mitchell, KY and our condolences to our past members that we lost this past year.

Your Buddy,
Chuck Abdinoor
"B" & "A" Co, 330th

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER NEWS

By Stan Bielen
stanfranbielen@aol.com

First I want to let chapter members know the reason why we didn't have a Christmas Party this year. Cryans the restaurant we had them at went out of business. I had a very good relationship with Joe Cryan, which I doubt we could get from another place. He asked for no deposit and no guarantee or charged us for no shows. This is very important at our age as there were quite a few that were no shows at

our last party. So in the future if someone else in the chapter would like to take over this activity I would welcome it.

I had quite a few people call. Got a surprise call from Mike Skovran a while back. He had been in a nursing home but left to be back home. It was great to hear from him and to hear he is planning to attend our next reunion in Kentucky. Another who called was Dan Pelose (Co. C 331). Dan lives in New York State and gets lots of snow. He told me he had three feet of it in front of his home. From his conversation, he is doing well.

Irene Guzek called to let us know how both she and Ted are doing. Always nice to hear how both are doing. Carolyn Voelkner was another who calls and it is always a very interesting conversation about Chapter and Association matters. Her husband Bob was in Company "L", 331st and was active in the Battle of the Bulge Chapter. Bob passed away a few years back.

Received a call from my buddy Fred Klein when he returned from a 14-day cruise from Hong Kong to Viet Nam. I don't think there is a place on this earth that Fred hasn't been. I have to tell how we used to get a truckload of beer delivered to our company every week after the war. Fred and I broke into the paymaster's cage when we were in the Ruhr area at a coal mine. There were drawers of brand new German Marks and most of it we tossed out to the slave laborers. Fred said he would take a small bundle and put it in his bedroll. Those marks paid for that beer. It also paid for the equivalent of ten-cent haircuts and two-dollar custom-made leather shoes when we were in Simbach/Inn, Bavaria.

I missed seeing Tony Hroncich (Co. G, 329) at his annual appearance at a chapter meeting in October. Tony, try to make it semi-annual at least we can see you twice in a year. I saw in the last Thunderbolt that Russ Whitehead went to his company's reunion, was wondering why he didn't come to Myrtle Beach.

Received a letter from Frank Reichman (1st Bn Hdqs. Co., 331) telling me of his return to our company in Normandy after a hospital stay in England. It was Wilson Day, who recently passed away, that drove him from the kitchen area to the company area. Missing the area they went past the front and attacked the Krauts, or so the Krauts thought, and ran into a hail of fire. Luckily neither was hit and were able to escape.

Frank and Mary Sabine also Joe and Dot Skurka, Atlantic City regulars along with Fran and I are helping to increase Casino profits so you all can come down and win some of the big JACKPOTS! Received a Christmas card from Ginny DiGiammerino telling Fran and I how lucky she was when she met us at Caesars Casino. Come on down, maybe we will meet and we'll bring you luck.

Notice my email address above. I often get them from Rags Rangnow, Geri Gunderson and Chuck Abdinoor ant others about 83rd information. It really is a great way to get in touch with one another and to share news of buddies and their families. Join us if you are on the internet and lets all keep in touch.

I recently received a card from Christian and Helene Leahy who are related to the former mayor of Sainteny, Auguste Ferey. I along with my daughter Judy had stayed at the mayor's house for the 50th. They asked if I had plans to come to France for the 60th Anniversary of the invasion of Normandy in 2004. I was wondering if any of you are planning on going?

I have to write something about Joe DePeri. He calls me after he receives his Thunderbolt and wants to know why I write so little about him. So, here goes, Joe you're Handsome, RICH, Perfect Gentleman, RICH, Fun to be with, RICH, Great Dancer, RICH, that should get all the gals at the next reunion swooning to get your attention.

That's it folks! Keep well! God bless all of you good people.

PHILDELPHIA CHAPTER NEWS

By

No Report

PITTSBURG CHAPTER NEWS

By Francis Beerhalter

No Report



**SUPPORT
OUR
TROOPS**

COMPANIES

Co. "F" – 329th

By C. R. Bob Whitcomb

IN REMEMBRANCE

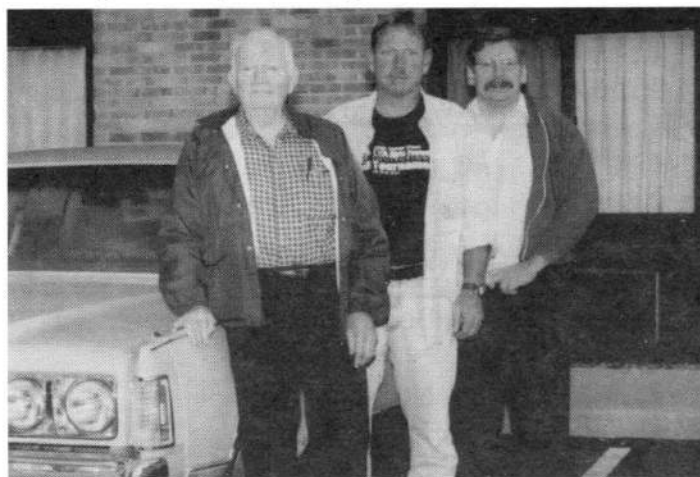
George E. Fuller: February 25, 1925 – January 12, 2003. "A Man Who Enjoyed Helping Others". George was active in the Hartford City, Indiana First Church of the Nazarene, where he had served as a Sunday school teacher and trustee for many years. He also held weekly Bible Study at Americare Health Care Center in the city, one of the many places in the area his playing of favorite old songs and hymns, on the harmonica, was heard and enjoyed by many.

It is my understanding George's time in the service October 28, 1942 to January 8, 1946 was spent in Camp Atterbury, Indiana, Camp Croft, South Carolina and The European Theatre. Landing in France, George came to "F" Company 329th Regiment sometime, somewhere in Normandy, remaining with it through the 83rd Division 5 Campaigns. Known awards of George's, The Bronze Star Medal, EAME Service Medal (ribbons), W/5 Bronze Stars and the Combat Infantry Badge.

George and Elva were great supporters of the 83rd Association and Company "F" 329th, attending various reunions. Joining "F" Company at it's "North 1994" in Ashland, Ohio they attended all the Company's North and South get-togethers. Helping to create the proper mood at our annual Memorial Service, George always played appropriate selections on his complement of harmonicas. Remembered is his playing at other times as we gathered in the C.P., which encouraged the group to break out in song.

Just anyway George could be of help, he was ready and willing, supported by Elva his wife of 57 years. Missed he surely will be, by many. Elva said it best in a note to me, "Doesn't seem possible that he is gone". Amen.

Thanks were received from Elva Fuller for the Memorial gift sent by Company "F" 329th in loving memory of George.



Bill Hutton and sons Ken and Andy



LR Ed Hammond, Doc Keith, Bill Hutton

IN REMEMBRANCE

Jean Walsh Zerucha, wife of the late Ed Zerucha, died January 29, 2003. As a couple they were faithful supporters of the 83rd Association and Company "F" 329th Infantry. Early on Jean attended 83rd National Conventions, later becoming quite ill. After Ed's death, son Tom continued to provide tender loving care for his mother until her passing. Tom, please accept love and sympathy from the Company "F" family.

IN REMEMBRANCE
COLUMBIA LOST
February 1, 2003

Coming Events: 83rd Infantry Division 57th
Annual Reunion, The Drawbridge, Village
Premier Hotel, Ft. Mitchell, KY, September 3-
7, 2003.

Co. "K" – 331st

By Norm Malo

No Report

Co. "A" – 329th

By Bob Grobelny

No Report

783rd Ordnance Co.

by Rags Rangnow

It's interesting as I sit down to tap out this article that I realize it won't be read for at least three more months. This morning shock set in as we were informed that seven brave astronauts had given up their lives. Today the world is greatly concerned for the peace of the world. It is not hard to predict that, as you read these words, many more and new shocking things will have occurred. This is no place to be presenting personal politics. Everyone wants peace but we all want it at our price. The question is how much are we, and every one else, willing to pay? Everything about the world and its science are changing rapidly. The only thing that has not changed is, peace and freedom still come at a very high price. So it's interesting, that as you read this, you may now know that many people are once again beginning to pay that price.

On the brighter side, this is the Christmas report card. Your report card I imagine is a mirror image of mine. There's so few of us

left that we're all just hearing from the same "old" buddies. I'll go over them briefly just in case. The first one I picked up is Millie Doggett. She is doing great and we keep in touch by E-mail. The same is true for Sam and Vi Hoffman and his army buddy Al and Ruth Bensimon. Of course Al is one happy fellow. I called him right before the Eagles Tampa Bay game. He wasn't so happy. Can you imagine, he wanted ME to give him ten points and Tampa Bay. I shocked happy Al as I told him I was picking Tampa Bay 20-13. He said he would send a dozen ripe Florida oranges if Tampa Bay won. As you know, they not only won but went on to walk away with the Super Bowl. Sadly, I've yet to see an orange seed.

Herm and Norma Hackstock are again wintering in Florida "worrying about my 90 year old mother". This is a difficult situation, but I'm puzzled. I just passed 81 and Herman you are 86. You are talking about Norma's mom, you cradle robber!

Alyce and Carl were fine at Christmas but Carl had a run with pneumonia and a hospital stay. He's recovering now and he's taught us a lesson. When in doubt call 911 and then call the family! - - Good "old" Doc just passed 87 and reports he now has live-in help for Agnes. - - Joe Brown corrected me (just like old times). Joe was 85 in November and shooting his age. - - Charlie Rohrer is the surprise. At 90, he is our senior member. Well, believe it or not, he just bought a new, big winter home in Florida on St. James City Pine Island on the corner of two canals. Should be good fishing.

Bob and May Burns are well and I've sent Bob some flying E-mails. That sure is a good quick way to stay in touch. - - Had a funny one from Ray and Mimi Wiggins. For some reason Ray decided to buy a new car and would you believe he bought a PT. The first one of these I saw I presumed it was shipped from England in 1929. Anyway, it has a 7 year, 100,000 mile warranty and a free LIFEtime road service. After Ray signed all the papers, the salesman asked Ray if he

would like an extended warranty! Ray replied, "you've got to be kidding. At 88 I won't be driving in 7 years and if I am it won't have 7000 miles on it".

Ivan Gilman was insulting as ever but at 80 he's still the babe. You have to hand it to him though. He is going to French classes every week. Maybe we can send him as a diplomat and straighten out France. - - Heard from Joe and Patty Stubber. He just said he's had a little trouble and has slowed up. That sounds rather familiar.

Reese Phillips is doing okay. He stays in so he doesn't get caught in the crossfire of the South Philly mobs. - - Bill Manning is stunned to learn our known 783 numbers are down to 27 but he has the "bottle" and two glasses on the ready. Last and naturally not least is "1st Sgt." Jim. His long legs are rebelling against striding but otherwise he's as sharp as ever and an avid reader. - - This time I don't have any books to recommend but here's a medical alert. Because of high cholesterol, the Doc had me on every statin drug in the book. They all worked but each one caused fatigue, muscle weakness and pain. Now these are good drugs for the right patient. I'm not trying to play doctor just a little warning. If you are taking a statin drug and have any of these side effects, see you doc. For seven weeks I've been on a new one, Zetia, and I've had no side effects.

Now a February reminder for June. Once again, there will be a bigger and better World War II Memorial celebration on June 6, 7 and 8th at the Reading, PA airport. Trust me it is worth a mini vacation to spend a day here. I've said it before. The whole atmosphere from the numerous displays and events will take you right back to 1943 in an instant. There are uniformed troops from many nations. All the 1944 airplanes of the Army, Navy and Marines will be flying and you can listen to the free talks of the famous men that flew them. Jim Swope, and associate member of our association, has done a terrific job displaying the history of the 83rd. Please

contact me at 215-947-1203 if you are interested in discounted tickets or brochures.

Also let's think about reunion time. Let me know your plans so I can spread the info around. Millie Doggett is awaiting with open arms. I'm not going to say anything nasty this time about my good infantry dogfaces Dixie Dickson and Stan Bielen. They are getting older and their skin is much thinner. So I'll leave you with this bit of wisdom. Did you know that a duck's quack does not echo? In closing, here is an easy one for northwestern friends. How many of the United States is above the Canadian border? Ivan and Dixie, and Joe and Jim, are all raising their hands. I'm sure you are all way off. Get out your maps and counts. Would you believe twenty-seven? See you.

453rd A.A.A. (AW) Bn.

By Fred C. Pearson

Email k8uet@lightsteam.net

It seems that many of our group have trouble moving their hands and fingers around about this time of year. Not very many reports.

Some of the 'snowbirds' have flown the coop for warmer climates for a short period of time, I can't say I blame them. It hasn't been very pleasant in the "snow belt" of North East Ohio.

On a sad note I have to report that Frank (Oozelfinch) Lawrence passed away on December 26, 2002. His wife Dorothy called to inform me.

Also one of my 'spies' Molly Dalton called on Wednesday to inform me that Doris Plummer, widow of Woodrow had passed away on February 4, 2003

If I am redundant in this information, please excuse me because of 'advance age'.

I also have belated bad news that Palmer Ratliffe went to his maker on September 30, 2001.

I talked to Eugene Scales the other day and he seemed to be in fair shape, and tells me he fully intends to get to our next reunion but will have his daughter come, also due to his driving. "Way to go", Gene.

Several of our widows have also expressed their desire to attend our next get together, and that is great news.

I've had several letters and Emails from our members indicating of their desire to meet with us, but "Father Time" has caught up with them and blessed them with so many ailments that it is impossible to get out much, even around their own territory.

Most others I have contact with are making the best of old age, either getting around with canes or walkers and sniffing oxygen, but still in there and fighting to keep up with the rest of us "Old Coots".

I hope by the time you read this that the threat of War will be over. It is a scary situation. I guess that I have more of a personal interest in this crazy situation than some do.

I have a grandson in the Army, who was sent to Saudi Arabia last August. He has done very well in the Army. He has had Commendations from his Commanding Officers as well as receiving (Awards) Coins from a Brig. General and a Major General.

I guess he is "too smart" as he has been temporarily transferred to another area to train some personnel who have recently been sent to S.W.A., without the necessary experience to operate the equipment they have been assigned. The worst part of the situation, he has to try and train them from the manuals, as they have not received the equipment that is needed to get them trained for a combat condition, as of 2/3/03.

Much responsibility for a 19 year old. He indeed must have been trained well before leaving for the S.W.A. and since being there.

He had been invited to apply to West Point, but turned it down as the (fool) wants to get married next June, and West Point will not accept married personnel.

Our Annual Reunion will be held at the Lisbon Inn, in Lisbon, Ohio. Special rates have been arranged for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday with breakup on Sunday the 14th. The dates are September 11, 12, & 13.

The reunion this year is being sponsored by John Dickens and his daughter, Linda Bernet. She is trying to get old photos from as many persons as she can of the 453rd in action, and at play, from our war time years. Send them to Linda Bernet, 31234 St. Rt. 30, Hanoverton, OH 44423 or call for other information 330-223-2057. Her Email is slbernet@raex.com.

Note: It is my impression that many things will be planned for Friday and Saturday, so those that might like to visit the Armament Museum in Hubbard, Ohio, plan on an extra day, probably Thursday the 12th of September. The museum is about an hours drive from Lisbon.

More information to follow in the next issue of the Thunderbolt and the 453rd Newsletter.

I believe the Lisbon Inn was formerly a Days Inn, located on Ohio Interstate 11, just on the outskirts of Lisbon. A fairly new facility. Again, remember the dates:

September 11th, 12th, & 13th, 2003
453rd AAA (AW) BN Reunion

A bright note to add: Three days after writing up this column, we had another call from my grandson. The new troops have finally received their equipment and finished the training they needed and my grandson has now returned to his base in Saudi Arabia. We

are still not happy with the situation, but feel a little more comfortable.

Co. "D" – 331st

By Geri Gunderson (acting)

It is the end of another cold January no matter what your address may be. South Florida is no exception. Hope each of you had a wonderful Holiday Season and that 2003 will be exceptionally happy and most of all HEALTHY.

Dan McDermott celebrated his 80th birthday in October with family and friends. Bill and Jeannette McKee, Ruth Mueller and Geri Gunderson spent a week in Las Vegas in November. During the holidays, Jeanne Cove, Bill and Jeannette McKee and Geri Gunderson had lunch together in Pompano Beach. Jeanne sends each of you a big hello!

2002 appears to have been a very good year for Company D as there has been no sad news reported.

During the holidays the following cards were received: Adkins, Barbu, Barker, Cancassi, Clements, Dallos, Hamilton, Komlos, Lynch, Cathy Madonna Mann, Dot Nagel, Sabine and Marcella Nolte. Marcella was in a car accident but is improving. Frank and Dana Sharp are doing okay. They spent Thanksgiving with family at "Big Bear Lodge" in Sandusky, Ohio.

Al Shrawder has been scouting for CO. D's after-the-reunion get-together. Clifty Falls State Park near Madison, Ind. has been reserved. We surely hope Jimmy and Harriett Lynch can join us. I received a nice phone call from Elaine Odenwalker, George and Polly's daughter. I am trying to persuade them to come to this year's reunion.

The Gravelyn's have had lots of company but will be in Sebring on February 21-22 for the

Florida Chapter meeting. Al Shrawder and Charolette, the McKees, Gunderson and hopefully the Haughts will be in attendance also.

Please keep Lorraine Schuster and her family in your thoughts and prayers. Lorraine is not doing well but is such a fighter and has the love and devotion of her son and family.

All of Company D wishes John Raikos a speedy recovery. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and Mary.

It is not too early to be thinking about the September 3, 4, 5, and 6th. Reunion and of course you will hear a lot more from Al Shrawder regarding Clifty Falls in his upcoming Co. D newsletter. Keep in touch and stay healthy.

Co. "G" – 331st

By Capt. Mac

I am late in sending in my article, only because I haven't been up to it. My health has not been very good. I want to thank all the members of the Association that have taken time to write, send cards and the telephone calls, they have been very helpful. I thought I was bad off with one kidney, when a letter from a member told me he had 2/3 of a kidney. I have been very fortunate over the years, I have been blessed with a wonderful wife and some wonderful children.

During the war, after over a year in training troops, I was assigned to "G" Co. 331st Infantry. I was assigned to the Weapons Platoon. Believe me I knew very little about machine guns and mortars. I had a platoon sergeant, Clyde Flannary that taught me the weapons and how to place them and how to use them. Clyde was one of the finest soldiers in the Army. I learned a lot about leadership and command from the Company Commander, Bill Waters. Bill was a West

Pointer and a very good officer. After shipping overseas, we trained in England and Wales. Then the trip to Normandy and the hedgerows. At this time I was a 2nd Lt. for some 30 months, that was a long time in one rank. As we gained experiences in the Art of warfare, I was able to take over command of G Company when Capt. Waters was promoted to Battalion Staff.

"G" Company had an excellent staff of officers and enlisted men, I was blessed with a 1st Sergeant, Mort Gaynor who had gone through OCS. As platoon sergeants, I had Singleton, McAbee, Pangle and Titus, very well qualified individuals and each did a excellent job. In commanding a rifle company, good officers and good sergeants were needed in carrying out the orders. "G" Company was an outstanding unit, well experienced men in the lower ranks were needed. At times, we may have made mistakes but over all we did a good job.

One of the highlights was the defensive stand we made on the east bank of the Elbe River, when we were able to stop a strong German counterattack that lasted over twelve hours. Lt. Baird and his platoon took the brunt of the attack and was able to stop the Germans at the foxholes.

The men of the 331st infantry were blessed with the finest and best Regimental Commander in the "Army Colonel Robert York". Later in years as I was attending the Command and General Staff College, we were given a tactical situation. The next day I was called upon to give my solution. I was the lowest ranking officer in the class, as I gave my solution, some of the higher ranking officers did not agree with me. I answered to them, the man taught me that was now a Lt. Gen. in the Army and I think he knew what he was taking about. A silence come over the class. I'm sorry I took up so much of your time, but these things had to be expressed.

Thanks Cliff for making me write this article, when I did not feell like doing anything.

Co. "A" – 330th

By Charles Abdinoor

Hi Buddy's. Still can't get over the turnout we had at Myrtle Beach. That was the most that we had at one time. This coming reunion I expect to reserve two tables. I already have my reservations in, and have contacted Paul Reed, who was my Platoon leader, Walt Pillion, our other Platoon leader, Shorty Glasser, Lee Milligan, sorry to report he just lost his wife after 69 years of marriage. Incidentally, if you want to call him, his number is 316-683-0180. I am sure he would appreciate your calls. Incidentally I am writing this from Florida where I plan to stay for a few months. Also Cookie Seneca, who came with his son. Ed McCouch came with his son also. Ed and I go back a few years. He is one of the few that knew Morse code, like we speak English, and instead of him being in communications, they had him in headquarters. That's the army for you. It was a pleasure to see our old buddy's, Steward Barrick, Ed Brown, Neil Prussman, Bob Gangnath. Also received from the daughter of Bill Ashman if anybody knew her father, who has since passed on. I don't remember him but if someone does they can get in touch with me and I can give her the information and her address. Hope to see Earl Dunn, he does not live too far from Kentucky. I received a bunch of pictures via e-mail from the daughter of one of our buddy's, who has since passed on. She is looking for information, of anybody that knew her father. His first named was Rogilio, the last name escapes me. Being in Florida, all my papers are back home. He was in the 4th Platoon. I recognized Maybough, who was the Platoon Sgt. Also I recognized Walt Pillion, who I mailed the pictures to so he could see if he remembers any of the men. He wrote that he knew some but I have to wait till I get home to let her know. I called up John Bullard and hope to see him on my way home. We will get together at Garland, NC. Also will stop to see

Paul Reed, who I see every year on our way back. We keep in touch quite frequently, also with Walt Pillion. If anybody has any news or address of any old buddy from "A" Co., let me know and I will write to him to keep him in touch. Called George Brackett, from Waterville, NY. He can't travel to long a distance, but we keep in touch and plan to see him this summer. He was in the 3rd Platoon. I called "Spike" Spsychala. He is from Buffalo, NY but was sorry to hear he was in the hospital. He has a slight heart problem. I have to call him in a couple of weeks. Hopefully he is feeling better. Incidentally if anyone wants to get in touch with me my e-mail is SGTCHUCK83@WEBTV.NET. Let us stick together and keep going as long as we can. Hope to see you all in Kentucky. God Bless.

Co. "L" – 331st

By Charles Rudler

No Report

Historian

Louis Gormori

No Report



I am writing to tell of a vacation I just got back from being in Belgium with my family. I did basically the same tour in 1991 with my

father-in-law, Fiore "Frank" DeCarolis (now deceased), who was with E Co./331st Reg. We specifically found several villages that he recalled fighting through in the first two weeks in January 1945 when he first entered the Bulge as a replacement troop. These villages, as documented in the unit history book "The Thunderbolt Across Europe" were (in order) Ottre, Bihain, Petit Langlir, Langlir and Courtil. According to the book and other sources heavy fighting took place through these villages and surrounding forests for several weeks.

On this trip, we again visited these villages and specifically explored a large section of forest about 1.5 kilometers outside of Courtil that my father-in-law pointed out to me in 1991. He recalled various combat encounters with the Germans over the course of several days, which included ambushing a German patrol at night while on a listening post along a firebreak, being re-attacked when additional enemy returned in force, and being shelled by a German tank the following morning at point blank range. The only thing that saved him and the other members of the patrol was the existing foxholes they found and hid in during the attack. The culmination to these encounters was when a huge column of German troops and vehicles stopped for a break while they were still hiding in the foxholes. The GI's went undiscovered but called in an artillery barrage on the column just after it turned off the road about ¼ mile away.

The foxholes are still there although much shallower from years of erosion and pine needle mulch filling them up. With the aid of a metal detector, we actually found unmistakable jagged pieces of shrapnel ranging from the size of a finger to the size of your palm. Some of the larger pieces even had identifiable threads on them where the shell fuse screwed in. The highlight of our finds was an M1 Garand clip containing 7 out of its 8 rounds. The clip was rusted and the rounds corroded but still all intact. It was under 6 inches of dirt on the perimeter of one

of the foxholes. As the saying goes – “if it could only talk”. I consider it a direct link to E Co./331st because it was exactly where he said he was with the unit. The interesting thing was when we explored the adjacent section of woods separated by a firebreak, it was completely devoid of shrapnel and had few foxholes, thus validating his recollection of events as to exactly where the action took place. I believe his memory was so sharp as to these locations and events because it was his first introduction to combat and the experiences were indelibly burned into his memory. He had less recollection of events as the war went on for the next five months and things blurred together.

We also visited 5, yes 5, museums dedicated to the Battle of the Bulge fighting in Belgium and two American cemeteries. You come away with a sense that the Belgium people are truly grateful to the Americans for their sacrifices and the liberation of their country. The experience also gave our two children an appreciation for what their grandfather experienced when he was only 19 years old, only two years older than they are now.

Tom DePiano
Associate Member

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JOHN RAIKOS, our JUDGE ADVOCATE

For those members who may not have heard the sad news about John, I’m sorry to have to report that John suffered a massive stroke last month. The stroke affected his left hemisphere as well as the language center of his brain.

He’s just begun to undergo therapeutic treatment. He now appears to understand what is being said to him. He nods, raises his eyebrows, smiles and makes good use of his left hand. He’ll have to relearn speech patterns. Because he’s always been a fighter, John’s family is encouraged that his recovery will progress....slowly.

Expressions of best wishes from his 83rd buddies might just encourage John to fight even harder to get back. His home address is listed on the back of the front cover of this THUNDERBOLT issue.

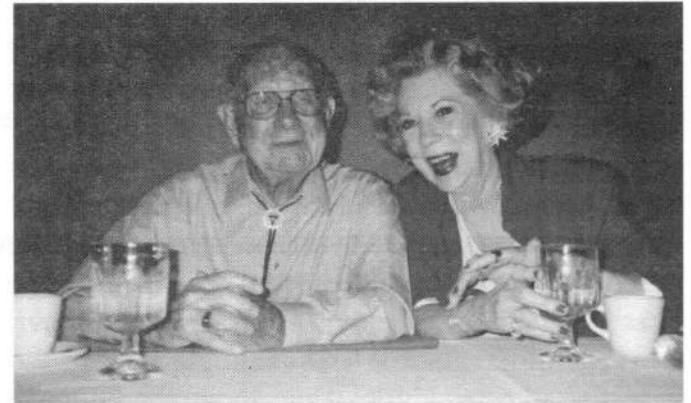
B. John Prinzi
Vice-Chairman of Executive Board

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Photos from Myrtle Beach Reunion
From Sal Scicolone



2002 Myrtle Beach



2002 Myrtle Beach



Frank and Norma Hornack



Joanne Yumon, Theresa Scicolone, June Zenz, Sal Scicolone, May Raikos

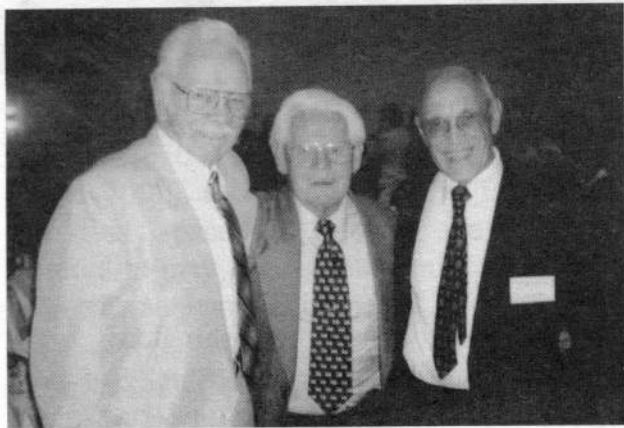
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George Lazarus, Btry. A 322nd attended the National with his son and had a great time celebrating after finding and joining the association last year after 50+ years. He sent me several sets of the following pictures to be used in any way. I look forward to seeing you in Kentucky next year.

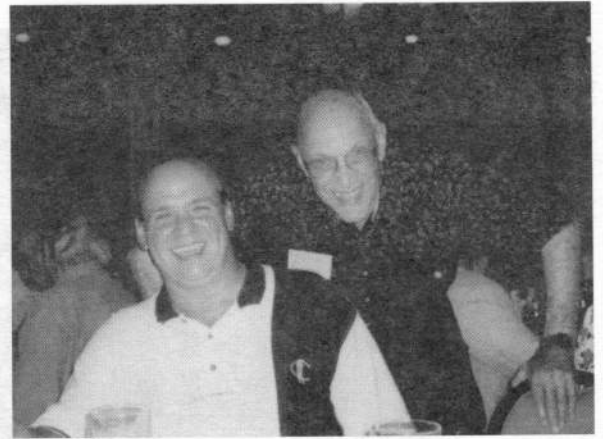
E. Massie



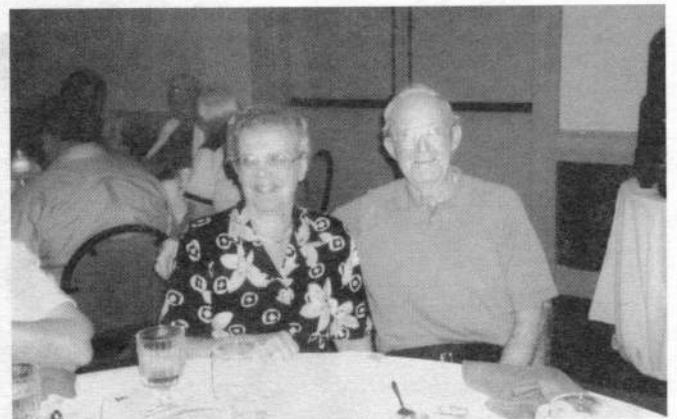
Watkins, Loukas, White



Massie, Sihlanick, Lazares



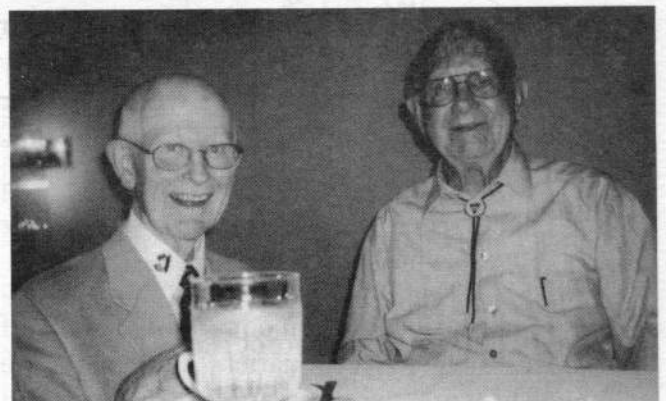
Lazares, father and son



Virginia and John Cox



Watkins and C. Brown



Gangnath & Minick



Massie & wife



Ladies of Dixie – Watkins, Cox, Massie, White

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From the desk of
 “Top Kick”
 George Henry Waple, III
 Published Author,
 “Country Boy Gone Soldiering”

While in the hospital recovering from colon cancer surgery, my wife received a phone call from Mr. James Varley from Medford, OR. As he was scanning the network looking for everything pertaining to the 83rd Infantry Division, he finally found that I was a member of the 83rd and not only that, but I had been his grandfather’s First Sergeant and that I had written a book.

When I came home from the hospital, I called this young man and when comparing photos of the Regimental Headquarters Company we found his grandpa. He was thrilled and wanted to know all about his grandfather; what

were his duties, was he a good soldier, etc. We talked for a half hour or so, as he told me about the date his grandfather joined the 83rd (Camp Breckenridge), how he got wounded in the Battle of the Bulge, returned to my Company to fight till the end of the war with my Company and returned to the States in late November 1945.

With this he asked for a signed copy of my book and any pictures I may have relating to my Company and the 331st Infantry. Now, one month later, I received an email from this young man. Small world.

To all my 83rd buddies and Comrades I am doing fairly well, but do not look forward to the eight months of Chemo I started taking 19 Nov. 02. Hope Violet and I are well enough to attend next year’s reunion.

Enclosed is a photo of me placing a Christmas wreath on the Battle of the Bulge Monument located near Avenues of Hero’s at Fort Monmouth, NJ. The snow gave a great effect as we can all remember like it was fifty-eight years ago. I now have a website. If you do not have a book you may order from me.



G. H. Waple III placing wreath created by his wife, Violet, at Monument of Battle of the Bulge and Fort Monmouth, NH on 23 Dec 2002

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From the State of Washington
 Western Chapter
 Co. “H” 331st

I stay in touch with guys I served with but unfortunately the big bulk of members of the 83rd Division are Eastern or Midwestern based. I don't believe there has been an Association Convention any further west than Omaha, Nebraska, but of course I understand that. Several years ago I attended the convention in Cleveland. I hadn't seen some of those guys for more than 50 years. Namely Vitie Atkoscious, Manny Lamb, Dave Dickinson, John Aller and others. Now three of them have gone to their happy reward. I forgot to mention Bernie Hirte who I recently talked to.

Some years ago I thought my front yard ought to have a memorial or monument of some kind to honor all members of the 83rd Thunderbolt Division. I finally got the job done and a picture is enclosed to show the results. I fly the flag day and night and at half-mast when appropriate. You cannot read the inscription from the picture so I have enclosed the context.



In my area there are four 83ders, namely Don Huggins (330th), Melvin Risely (329th), Bud Smart (330th), and myself (331st). I hope you can find space to publish the enclosed material. It may have some significance to the guys who are hanging in there.

I was a T/Sgt. Squad Leader in heavy weapons towit the old reliable 30 caliber water cooled MG (or was it antifreeze). I'll be 82 years old

on 2/14/03 (1921), so far prostrate cancer, 2 back operations, heart problems and diabetes has only slowed me down. Hang in there guys!!!

T/Sgt. Harold B. Hanna
Co. "H" 331st

The Plaque reads:

This Flag Memorial was designed and Built by H. B. "Jerry" Hanna on Memorial Day 1981. It is dedicated To his fellow soldiers of the 83rd Infantry Combat Division who fought In World War II in the European Theater Of Operations.

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Just received an email from my buddy Stan Bielen that Emil Wehling passed on. Emil was in charge of the Regimental Motor Pool. He was a fixture at our reunions, he always came with his wife Hazel who had passed on and always brought their son Russell. He was a member of the New Jersey Chapter, and quite active in their functions. He was a close friend of mine even though we only met once a year, but it was almost fifty years that we knew each other. We will certainly miss him, as will all our past buddy's. I would like to let the Association know another true member and soldier passed on. May you rest in peace by buddy.

Charles Abdinoor
"B" & "A" Co. 330th

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From The Community Advocate
Friday, October 11, 2002
By Cindy Hale
Marlborough Editor

Marlborough – Louis R. Sandini lived his entire life in Marlborough. He enjoyed simple things – a grilled ham and cheese sandwich from Charlie Milo's Luncheonette and dancing with friends at the Lyonhurst

Ballroom. After serving in the 83rd Infantry Division in World War II, Louis returned to Marlborough, married and eventually divorced.

Patsy Worrick-Sandini grew up in Ohio and later moved to Worcester. She, too, enjoyed dancing. Patsy married and became the mother of seven boys. Just four years later, her husband of 13 years died.

Louis met Patsy in 1980 at a dance.



Patsy and Louis Sandini

“We enjoyed all kinds of dancing,” Patsy said, “but ballroom dancing was our favorite.”

Patsy was 48 years old, and, in her words, “Louie was a very youthful 65.”

They began dating and within a year were inseparable even though he lived in Marlborough and she lived in Worcester. For 22 years, the couple saw each other every day, with the exception of two nights a week.

“Monday and Wednesday nights were his,” Patsy said, explaining that Monday night he played bridge and Wednesday night he went to the Italian-American Club. “But, we always talked. It was as if we were never apart.”

Louis was very active in the 83rd Infantry Division’s Boston and National Chapters, having served as president of the Boston Chapter and chair of the Board of Directors of the National Chapter. According to Patsy, he enjoyed good health and walked three miles a day. Suddenly, his walks became shorter –

first down to two miles, and then one. Last February, Patsy noticed some changes in his routine. Louis’s pace had become slower and hills weren’t as easy for him as they once were. He began shuffling his feet as he walked and taking short naps more often.

In March, Louis went to his doctor for his annual physical. Patsy urged him to ask the doctor if he may be getting Parkinson’s disease. A blood test confirmed her suspicion, and the doctor began treatment. Just as the condition was beginning to ease, Louis received a call from his doctor ordering him to come to the hospital.

“The doctor said he was bleeding internally and had lost half of his blood in his body,” Patsy said.

They gave him three transfusions. Further tests revealed that Louis had stomach cancer. On May 2, surgeons removed his stomach. He recovered well enough for Patsy to bring him home, but their time together was short-lived. Learning that the cancer had spread to his liver, the doctor gave him less than three months.

“I brought Louie home and wondered how I was going to tell him he was going to die,” Patsy said.

The cancer progressed so rapidly that those three months turned out to be three weeks. Louis contacted Marlborough Veterans Agent Gary L. Brown, who also served as a notary public and justice of the peace.

“He asked me to come over and witness his will and make sure all of the arrangements were in order for him to be buried at Bourne National Cemetery,” Brown said.

During the course of their conversation, Brown asked Patsy where she was going to be buried. She said she had not made arrangements for herself. Brown said if they were married, Patsy and Louis could be buried next to each other at Bourne. As a divorcee,

Louis feared that the church would no longer recognize him as a Catholic. Brown consulted with Fr. Larry Martineau of St. Mary's Catholic Church. The priest explained that even though the couple could not be married in the Catholic Church, they could be married in a civil service. "Lou would still be a Catholic and could be buried as a Catholic," Brown said.

The priest went to Louis at his house, took his confession, gave him Holy Communion and absolution and placed a crucifix around his neck.

"People I talked to said Lou was completely different after that," Brown said.

During the next few days, Brown made arrangements for the marriage that was to take place Friday, Aug. 9. Two days before the wedding, Louis took a turn for the worse and was taken to the Hospice Residence in Worcester. The ceremony was moved to Thursday, and Patsy and Louis were married.

On Aug. 10, Louis passed away with Patsy at his side. As promised, Brown had his ashes buried September 20 at Bourne National Cemetery with full military honors. Patsy, Louis's brother John and about 50 members of the 83rd Infantry Division attended the service. "Louie and I had a special connection," she said. "I always thanked him for loving me. Not too many men would have put up with a woman with seven kids. How lucky we were to have found each other."

Patsy still can't look at his picture without tears, but she finds comfort in the words of a poem he wrote for her. "Tis not sad to grow old if man and woman are brave and bold ... So come with me and stay, Sweetheart. I pray to God we'll never part."

+++++

Boston Chapter at Services for Lou Sandini



John Tisdell, President Boston Chapter, Fred Sylvia, Pat DiGiammerino

GENERAL ROY T. DODGE

This is part of the story of General Roy T. Dodge the commanding officer of the 308th Engineer battalion. He was Major Dodge when I first knew of him, sometime in 1942 at Camp Atterbury.

These are some of my memories of Major Dodge and other accomplishments I learned of later, mostly from his son-in-law, Curt Herrick.

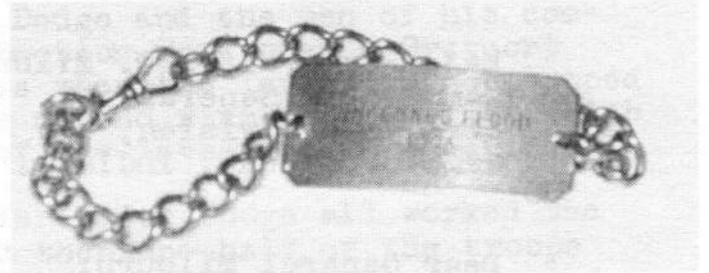


I was one of the soldiers under Major Dodge's command who went to Vincennes, Indiana to work to protect Vincennes and the Bvevoort Levee from the Wabash River flood.

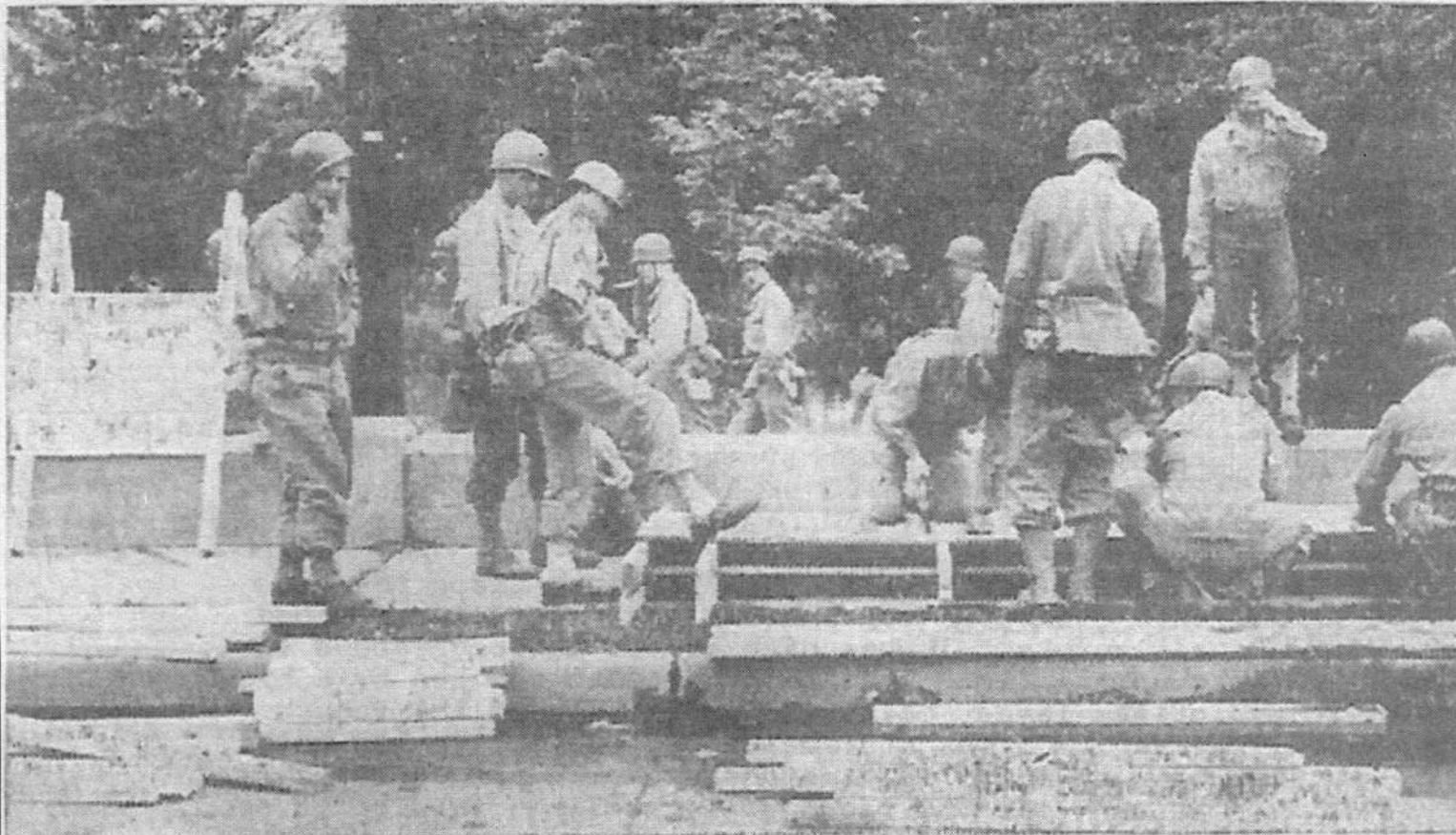
In the letter from the Vincennes Chamber of Commerce, they sent a check to Major Roy T. Dodge to give to the men who worked on the levee. He could not give it to us because of government regulations, so he purchased "bracelets" for all the men in A and C company. The sterling silver bracelets were engraved on the front with "VINCENNES FLOOD 1943" and our name on the back. I still have mine and would like to know how many more can find theirs.

I met Roy Dodge and his wife at our reunion at the Pines in New York. That was when he was a Brigadier General and I asked him "How do I address you?" He said "I am Roy Dodge, that's it." He was a very fine gentleman.

Cliff Wooldridge



Atterbury Engineers Help Save Vincennes



—U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo.

VINCENNES, Ind., May 24 (Spl.)—Personnel from Company C, 308th Engineers, Camp Atterbury is shown here constructing the panels at right that were placed on top of the concrete wall that Vincennes had always considered adequately high. The panels were then braced and filled with dirt. They formed the extension to the levee wall, that helped save the city Thursday night.

City of Vincennes
Indiana

NOBLE P. BARR
MAYOR

May 31, 1943

Major General F. W. Milburn,
Commanding General,
83rd Inf. Division,
Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

Dear General Milburn:

Major R. T. Dodge, 308th Engineer Battalion, whom the U. S. Engineers placed in charge of all the field operations of all Army troops in the flood protection work at Vincennes, Indiana, on May 20, 1943, performed unusual service and did outstanding work for which we are deeply grateful to him and the officers and men of his command at Vincennes.

Major Dodge, Commanding Company A and Company C of 308th Engineer Battalion arrived at Vincennes at 3:00 A.M. May 20th, and the men, after two hours rest, commenced the work of constructing more than one mile of 24" to 30" high mud boxes on the top of the existing concrete flood wall, which work was completed before midnight. With the assistance of the other troops assigned to Major Dodge, they filled the mudboxes and constructed more than one mile of 2' to 9' sandbag and soil levee, all of which work was completed by midnight.

The crest of the Wabash River flood reached this point two hours later when the water reached six to eight inches high on the mudboxes above the concrete flood wall, and was then checked by a break of the levee on the Illinois side of the Wabash River. If the aforementioned protection had not been effected in time the Wabash River would have flowed over the flood wall, possibly turning it over, through the City of Vincennes and into the Brevoort Levee District.

Major General F. W. Milburn
May 31, 1943
Page 2.

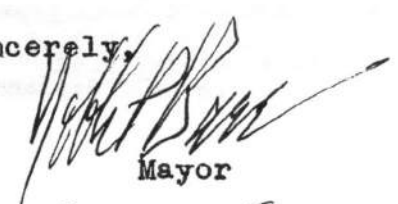
Thereafter, Major Dodge and the men of his command did necessary protection work on the Brevoort Levee south of Vincennes when the levee was overtopped two nights later on the second rise of the river which followed the breaking of the levee as aforementioned.

The 350 troops under Major Dodge all worked the first sixteen hours and then one-half of the troops received six hours rest, and the balance worked, and then alternated six hour shifts until the emergency was passed. Food was served to them at their posts by the Battalion Mess Outfits.

Major Dodge and his staff thoroughly and carefully planned and prepared the work and thereafter, executed it with precision and promptness and in such a manner as to receive the respect and admiration of the other troops and civilians. The Engineer in charge of operations for the Army Civilian Engineers and the Chief of Police, who was in charge of operations for the city, and others stated that in their fifteen years of construction experience, they had never seen any work to equal it.

This letter is not only to thank you for the service rendered by Major Dodge and his troops, but to express our admiration for the ability of Major Dodge to organize, perform and complete critically required work under great pressure with calmness and assurance.

Sincerely,



Mayor

LEVEE COMMITTEE OF THE
BREVOORT LEVEE COMMITTEE

By



Its Attorney

Vincennes Chamber of Commerce

City Hall

Vincennes, Indiana

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M. W. WELSH

June 10, 1943

Major R. T. Dodge
Co. A and Co. C Engineer Battalion
Camp Atterbury, Indiana

Dear Major Dodge:

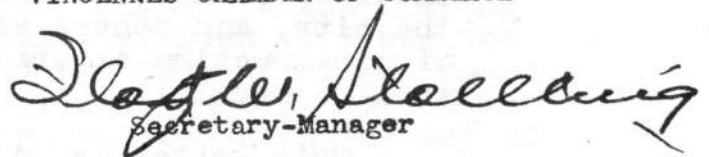
It is hard for us to express in words the appreciation of the citizens of Vincennes for the work done by your group of men in our recent flood disaster.

You will find attached a check which is a token of our appreciation and which we hope you will distribute as you see fit among men who worked so hard for us.

Thanking you kindly for your splendid cooperation we are

Sincerely,

VINCENNES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE


Secretary-Manager

FWS:GLC

P.S. Attached is newspaper ad from our local paper which is self explanatory.

STATE OF INDIANA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
INDIANAPOLIS

May 31, 1943



HENRY F. SCHRICKER
GOVERNOR

Major General Frank W. Milburn
Camp Atterbury, Indiana

My dear General Milburn:

I wish to express my personal appreciation and the thanks of the people of Indiana for the splendid co-operation and help received at your hands at the time of the recent flood disaster in our state.

The troops you dispatched from your command performed heroically at Vincennes and other points in the flooded area and I am certain that the people affected will always be grateful for this timely assistance.

I shall always remember your prompt action with sincerest gratitude and deep appreciation, I am

Very respectfully yours,


HENRY F. SCHRICKER
Governor

HFS:t

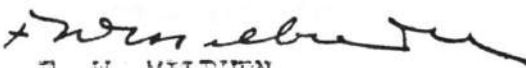
HEADQUARTERS 83D INFANTRY DIVISION
Camp Atterbury, Indiana

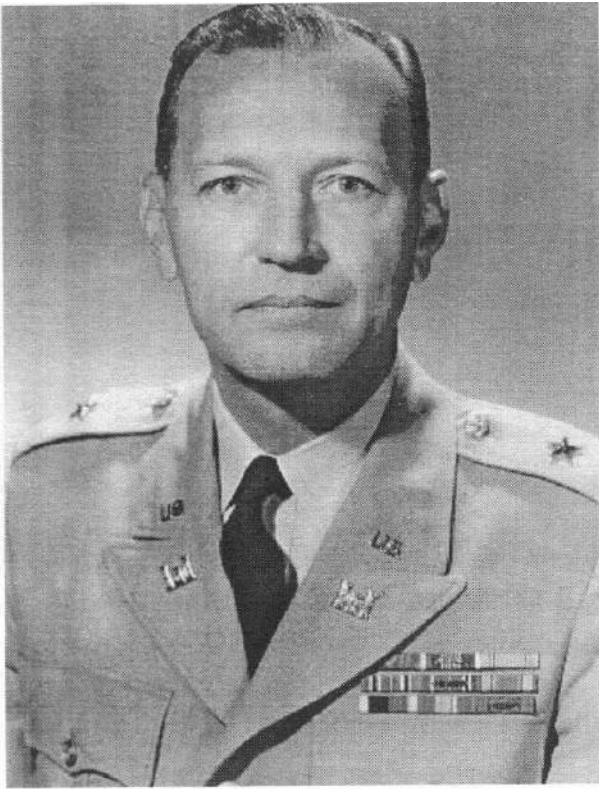
June 4, 1943.

SUBJECT: Commendation

TO : Major R. T. Dodge, CO, 308th Engineer Battalion

1. You are to be commended for the leadership and ability you displayed during the recent flood disaster at the City of Vincennes, Indiana.
2. The performance of the officers and men of Companies A and C, 308th Engineer Battalion, was most commendable. Their remarkable job of constructing walls to contain the flood waters of the Wabash River undoubtedly saved the City of Vincennes from inundation.
3. This excellent work reflects the effective training of your command and your efficiency as a battalion commander.


F. W. MILBURN,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.



Brigadier General Roy Tinsley Dodge
U.S. Army Retired

Roy Tinsley Dodge, retired U. S. Army Brigadier General and Former Chief of Design and Construction of the Washington D.C. Metro, died at Inova Mt. Vernon Hospital on November 8, 2002, of complications from lung cancer, at age 85. He was a resident of The Fairfax Retirement Community at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia.

A native of Gadsen, Alabama, he was born on 30 July 1917, grew up in a devoted family, enjoyed an adventurous youth in a rural setting and graduated from Gadsen High School. An outstanding student, he waited tables to help with Auburn University expenses while progressing to ROTC cadet engineer regiment commander. In 1938 he received a BS in Mechanical Engineering with honors and a regular Army commission.

Lt. Dodge's first assignment on the Texas and Mexican Border was with the 8th Engineer "Squadron" of 1st Cavalry Division. During that period of rapid technological change his engineer truck platoon provided water and fodder for horse cavalry on the march. As a distinguished marksman he led the Engineer team to success in the annual Camp Perry

National Rifle and Pistol Matches in 1939. Roy regaled friends with tales of that service. He met the love of his life, Gwynne Irvin Barrett, on a blind date in El Paso in 1940. They were married there on 2 July 1941.

In World War II he served with the 83rd Infantry Division. The Thunderbolt, often referred to by correspondents as the "Rag-Tag Circus". He landed in Normandy on 19 June 1944 commanding the 308th Combat Engineer Battalion and fought through 5 campaigns as part of General Patton's 3rd Army. As division engineer at the age of 27 he established the successful assault bridgehead across the Elbe River that opened the path to Berlin and linked up with the Russians.

Postwar assignments included faculty and staff at the Army Engineer School, Assistant J-3 for the Joint US Mission in Turkey, Assistant District Engineer for the Southern United States, Corps Group Engineer with the 8th US Army in Korea, and Director of Army Schools in the Continental Army Command. During his last assignment as the North Central Division Engineer he was responsible for military construction and civil works in 13 states embracing the Great Lakes and Upper Mississippi River. Additionally he was chairman of 4 US and Canadian Great Lakes international water boards. He was in charge of the project to turn off the American side of Niagara Falls to make repairs and remove rockslide debris.

Upon his Army retirement in 1967 he became Chief Engineer for Design and Construction of the Metro in Washington D.C. He supervised the offices of Engineering, Architecture, Program Control, Contract Administration, Equipment Design, Construction and Real Estate Acquisition, and was contracting officer for all design and construction activities. In applying proven Army Engineer management approaches with General Jack Graham, Roy Dodge's efforts were key in establishing and maintaining momentum within the Metro team. During his eleven years with the Metro, he applied his

firm integrity, construction engineering experience, management style, comfortable presentations and his ability to work with the Metro Board to move from the first line on a set of plans to placing the Metro in operation. The Engineering News Record selected the Metro for 1976 as one of the notable accomplishments by the construction industry in last 125 years. The 103 mile system opened in January of 2001 implemented his well-conceived master plan and achieved the status of a world-renowned Metro system.

In his second retirement he continued to serve the community and enjoy life with his friends. In several resident capacities he materially assisted the planning, construction, operations and expansion of The Fairfax at Ft. Belvoir, a prototype for commercially operated retirement communities. As a trustee he actively supported Saint James' Episcopal Church in Mount Vernon, VA. He played golf several times a week, exchanging stories and shooting his age. He enjoyed bird and deer hunting, fishing and crabbing with friends. During retirement he became a skilled wood carver.

General Dodge is survived by his beloved wife Gwynne Barret Dodge of Fort Belvoir; three children: Caroline Dodge Herrick of Annandale, Virginia, Roy Richard Dodge of Fort Worth, Texas, and Elizabeth Dodge Menikos, also from Fort Worth; eight grandchildren; and eleven great grandchildren.

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TC Roy T. Dodge receiving Bronze Star from MG Macon, the 83rd Division Commander



LTC Dodge pointing out bullet hole in jeep Normandy, July 1944



Major General Erich Von Elster in September 1944 after being ferried across the Loire River by the 308th Engineer Combat Battalion prior to his official surrender. LTC Roy Dodge is on far right.

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Notes from a Roy Dodge letter after VE Day as copied by Mrs. Dodge in her WWII scrapbook. Please recall that with censorship Roy was unable to write specific details in his letters until after the end of the war.

"...About casualties---by the grace of God, good luck and a good outfit --- we didn't make mistakes and they never had to wait on the engineers --- which is more than I can say for any maneuver I was ever on. The

casualties in my Bn. were lighter than any other engineer outfit in a like operation. Only one office killed though several were wounded (I got so low on officers in Normandy that they had to transfer 5 Infantry officers to me!), 30 (soldiers) were killed and 120 were wounded for the entire campaign. The worst single action was on New Year's Eve --- We were laying a minefield in the bulge and due to the great demand were unable to get VS mines so we had to use some (we) were not too familiar with --- 5 of them exploded for a reason we will never know and 9 men were killed outright and 7 wounded. My "lineup most of the time has been Robbins, Ex.O, Hannaman, S3, Fletcher, S1, Boiko, S2, Vinyard, S4, Peace, H/S, "A" Co., Gillis, "B" Co., Swider "C" Co., Snaders ADE, Earle was reconnaissance office for the first half and Pisarcik the second.

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Dear Cliff,

In response to our 26 December telephone call I am sending a number of items concerning Roy Dodge and the 308th Engineer Combat Battalion.

Roy as the son of a Gadsden Alabama steel worker was bright and hard working with firm integrity. He made great contributions to his country, community, church and family. He was a wise person with a fine sense of humor who was fun to be with.

Having the honor and the pleasure of the pleasure of going to France in the 1990s with Roy and playing golf with him from time to time, I wish to propose some areas for consideration in your article. As retired veteran I suspect there are at least 100 stories that go with each of the events below. I must leave the real detail to you and the other engineers who were there.

1. He was very proud of the 308th Engineer Combat Battalion and men.

2. He recalled his reporting to the 83rd Division chief of staff upon arrival and being advised that he was very young.
3. He was proud of the battalion's successful performance in the Vincennes flood disaster prevention mission.
4. He was beholden to the hospitality of the British at Shavington Hall in Shopshire County.
5. The battalion began crossing the English Channel on 18 June and landed on the 23rd and 24th of June at OMAHA beach.
6. On 28 June the battalion took over the positions of the 326th Airborne Engineer Battalion of the 101st Airborne Division in Normandy.
7. The 308th Engineer Combat Battalion fought as infantry on 6 July 1944 filling in for a mauled infantry battalion.
8. The battalion displayed grit in establishing the treadway bridges under fire on the nights of 20, 26 and 27 July to support the advance.
9. The placing of the class 40, 140-foot Double Double Bailey, bridge across the two destroyed spans of the Dinan Viaduct Bridge at night on 5 August was challenging accomplishment.
10. The battalion prepared to perform an assault demolition role in forcing the surrender of the St. Malo Citadel Fortress on 17 August.
11. Over 20,000 German prisoners were moved over the battalions Loire River crossing from 12 September into the POW cages constructed by the battalion. Souvenir weapons became available.
12. When on line and in reserve the battalion conducted training to perfect tactics for future operations and working with the infantry.
13. The battalion accepted the challenge of getting rid of the German submarine force food and wine stores discovered in a cave near Orleans.

14. The battalion continued to provide mine clearing, bridging, road maintenance, mapping, establishing obstacles and mine fields and other basic combat engineer tasks to support the advance.

15. The battalion participated holding the north flank of the Battle of the Bulge and moved south toward Bastone.

16. The battalion supported the rapid 83rd Infantry Division attack with three assault river crossings over the Weser, Salle and Elbe rivers in 6 days to establish the successful Elbe bridgehead that opened the way to Berlin.

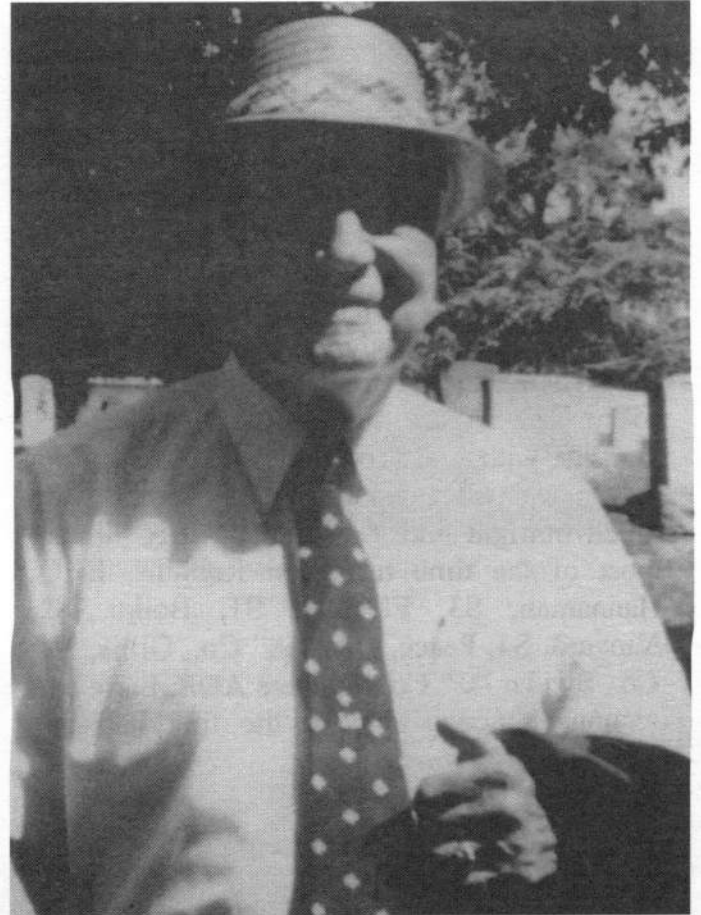
17. The battalion supported the link up with the Russian 6th Guards Division at the Barby crossing on the Elbe.

These notes have been put together quickly. If I can assist further please call Curt Herrick at (703) 978-4004. My e-mail address is herrickcurt@att.net

You were a terrific battalion in the war. Good soldiers and hard work made your success.

Best wishes and a Happy New Year.

Curt Herrick
9111Meadow Rue Lane
Annandale, VA 2203



This is the last picture I have of General Dodge. I would like to thank Curt Herrick , his son-in-law for all his help. You should see all the information he sent me. It is about as many pages as a telephone book.

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COPY

HEADQUARTERS 83D INFANTRY DIVISION
Office of the Commanding General
APO 83, U. S. Army

30 April 1945

SUBJECT: Commendation.

TO : Commanding Officer, 308th Engineer Battalion, APO 83,
U. S. Army.

1. The crossings of the Rhine, the Weser, the Leine and the Elbe Rivers within the short space of sixteen days mark a high point in the history of the 83d Infantry Division on the Continent. The major contribution by the 308th Engineer Battalion toward this achievement provides me with the opportunity of expressing my appreciation for your performance.

2. The impetus of the drive from the Rhine to the Elbe River was sustained in large measure by the skill and rapidity with which your troops supported crossings of the Weser River on 7 April and the Elbe River on 13 April. But perhaps more worthy of praise than the assault crossings of these rivers, is the manner in which your troops maintained the Elbe River bridges. In spite of repeated bombing and strafing attacks, enemy artillery fire, drifting mines and swimming saboteurs, men and officers of the battalion made certain that the bridges remained intact.

3. With respect to our holding the bridgehead, I am aware that this was made possible in large measure by the fact that between the time of the initial crossings and the completion of the bridge, your troops ferried very large numbers of men and material to the far side of the river. Thus when the enemy made an early counterattack, we were prepared.

4. Please extend to every officer and man of the 308th Engineer Battalion my sincere appreciation and thanks for their courageous and untiring efforts.

/s/ Robt C. Macon
(t) ROBT C. MACON
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding

A TRUE COPY:

/s/ R. A. Keim
(t) R. A. KEIM,
Major, AGD
Asst Adj General.

EXTRA COPY ENCLOSED

2003
REUNION COMMITTEE REPORT

Our 57th Reunion will be at the Drawbridge Inn of Ft. Mitchell, KY, a suburb of Covington, KY. This hotel is well situated and experienced in hosting military group reunions, having hosted more than 100 military unit reunions since 1995, including several Infantry Division Associations. The Drawbridge is easily accessible by Interstate Hwy. and is only 15 minutes from Greater Cincinnati/N. Kentucky Int'l Airport. The Hotel provides complimentary transportation to and from the Airport.

Within the Hotel are three Restaurants, including one which will be open 24 hours a day. There's also a Beauty Shop on site. And, for those who are a little more adventuresome, there is a Bus that leaves, and returns, periodically from a Bus Stop in front of the Hotel Lobby, doing downtown Cincinnati and other shopping malls.

As for the Reunion Program itself, it is still tentative, with some "fine tuning" to be done. But basically, it will be as follows:

Wednesday, Sept. 3

Hospitality Room & Registration open most of the day
Evening trip to Turfway Thoroughbred race track – (optional)

Thursday, Sept. 4

Hospitality Room & Registration open most of the day
Afternoon Bus trip to Gaming Casino – (optional)

Friday, Sept. 5

Hospitality Room & Registration open most of the day
Membership Mtg. – 10 a.m. to 12 noon
Afternoon & Evening on your own
Evening Dinner Cruise on Ohio Riverboat – (optional)

Saturday, Sept. 6

Membership Mtg. – 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Memorial Service – 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Catholic Church Service – 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Banquet Dinner with DJ – 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

As of this writing Reunion Registration fees and Optional Trip fees have not been confirmed. Hopefully this will happen prior to the publication of this Thunderbolt. If not, you will receive the information, along with Registration Forms either in a future Thunderbolt or by mail.

Bob Taylor B-329
President

83RD INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION INC.
 REUNION AD BOOK STATEMENT
 DECEMBER 31, 2002

Ad Income		\$9,043.00
Donation		<u>100.00</u>
Total Ad Income		\$9,143.00
Expenses		
Printing	\$4,265.00	
Postage	724.00	
Hospitality Room	651.20	
Raffle Tickets	12.58	
VIP Room	106.00	
Bank Charges	26.75	
Telephone	<u>21.62</u>	
Total Expenses	\$5,807.15	<u>\$5,807.15</u>
Net Balance		\$3,335.85

83RD INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION INC.
 INCOME STATEMENT
 DECEMBER 31, 2002

Brought Forward from December 31, 2001		\$16,888.92
Income Received:		
Dues	6,221.00	
Insurance Received	143.97	
2002 M.B. Reunion	<u>9,055.93</u>	
Total Income		<u>15,420.90</u>
Total Balance and Income		32,309.82
Disbursements:		
Office Supplies	450.76	
Office Equipment	591.00	
Secretary Fee	3,000.00	
Printing - Thunderbolt	10,740.29	
Postage - Thunderbolt	250.40	
Postage - Other	680.95	
Consulting - Computer	850.00	
Ad Book	30.00	
Error Reduction	15.00	
Bank Charges	25.00	
Executive Board Expenses	<u>2,700.00</u>	
Total Disbursements	19,333.00	<u>19,333.00</u>
Net Balance December 31, 2002		\$12,976.82

Notice: Only 415 Dues received in 2002

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT 83RD DIVISION VETERANS

The following are requests for information submitted by relatives looking for information about an 83rd Division veteran, some still living, some deceased. If you can help, these folks would appreciate hearing from you.

- J. Koppelman seeks information about his father, **Sgt. Robert R. Koppelman, 330th Regiment, Co. I**, who was in Europe from Nov. 1944 to Nov. 1945. If you knew his father, please write J. Koppelman, P.O. Box 176, Merrill, Wisconsin 54452 or send him an email at SHKSC@aol.com.
- Jim Sansone seeks information about his father, **PFC Peter Sansone, 330th Regiment, Co. A**, who was in Europe from June 1944 to Jan. 1945. If you knew his father, please write Jim Sansone, 639 North Michigan, Villa Park, IL 60181 or send him an email at j12685@attbi.com.
- Sal Fusco seeks information about his brother, **Pvt. Michael Fusco, 330th Regiment, Co. L**, who was in Europe from June 1944 until his death on July 27, 1944 about 3 miles west of Labarre, France. If you knew his brother, please write Salvatore Fusco, 3156 Beachview Drive, Toms River, New Jersey 08753 or send him an email at Tarmar3156@aol.com.
- Ernie Coolbeth seeks information about his brother, **Pvt. or PFC Dale A. Coolbeth, 83rd Division, but Regiment uncertain**, who was from Connecticut but entered the service in California and who was killed in Normandy. If you knew his brother, please write Ernie Coolbeth, P.O. Box 418, Lyndonville, Vermont 05851 or send him an email at coolbeth@vtlink.net.
- Wayne Shearon seeks information about his brother, **2nd Lt. Hutton Shearon, 329th Regiment, Co. F**, who was killed on December 12, 1944 in the Hurtgen Forest. If you knew his brother, please write Wayne Shearon, P.O.Box 8, Chapmansboro, Tennessee 37035-0008 or send him an email at bws14@netzero.net.
- Dick Sidlauscus seeks information about his father, **S/Sgt. Frank Sidlauscus, 331st Regiment, Co. L, 2nd Platoon**, who entered service from New York and who was wounded in France in July or August 1944 and again in Belgium in January 1945. If you knew his father, please write Dick Sidlauscus, 101 Highland Avenue, Wallingford, CT 06492 or send him an email at RSidlauscus@msn.com.

- Sean Bednarz seeks information about his grandfather, **Lt. Thomas F. Porter, 331st IR, Anti-Tank Co.**, from Louisiana, who served in Europe from March 1944 until January 1945. If you knew his grandfather, please write Sean Bednarz, 16 Quesenberry Street, Apt. 16, Boston, MA 02215 or send him an email at sbednarz@mit.edu.
- Reed Stanley seeks information about his great-uncle, **Capt. Harold C. Sheffey, 330th IR, Company K**, from Virginia, a 1937 VMI graduate, who was killed in action on July 16, 1944 NW of St. Lo in Normandy. If you knew his great-uncle, please write Reed at P. O. Box 115, Lebanon, VA 24266 or send him an email at rstan0214@yahoo.com.
- William McLaughlin seeks information about his uncle, **Sgt. Joseph McLaughlin, 331st IR, 2nd BN**, from Pennsylvania, sent to Camp Atterbury, wounded at St. Lo on July 11, 1944. If you knew his uncle, please write William McLaughlin, 4132 Elbridge Street, Philadelphia, PA 19135 or send him an email at BillMcL2@aol.com.
- Travis Merrell seeks information about his grandfather, **Sgt. Morris Sumpter Welch, 330th IR, Co. L**, who served from July 1944 to Nov. 1946, and who was wounded on

Feb. 25, 1945, in Germany. If you knew his grandfather, please write Travis Merrell, 293 Austin Springs Road, Apt. 64, Johnson City, TN 37601 or send him an email at tim081998@yahoo.com.

- Jo Bonario seeks information about her father, **Pvt. Melvin "Roy" Squyres, 330th IR, Company E**, from Texas, who was killed in action near St. Malo, France on August 8, 1944. If you knew her father, please write Jo Bonario, 4007 Grimes, Houston, TX 77087 or send her an email at jorobon@aol.com.
- Rob Husson seeks information about his father, **Pvt. Irvin L. Husson, 329th IR, Company B**, from Massachusetts, who served from June 1944 until October 1945. He now lives in New Hampshire. If you knew his father, please write Rob Husson, 15 Country Lane, Fremont, NH 03044 or send him an email at randdh@attbi.com.
- John Haroian seeks information about his uncle, **Pvt. John M. Haroian, Company C, 1st platoon, 23rd Armored Infantry Bn., 83rd Division**, who went through Camp Roberts, California, and who was killed in action in Belgium on January 24, 1945. Also seeking information on **S/Sgt. Robert C. Burns and the "Eleven Papas"** who served with his uncle. If you

can help, write John at 7615 Hidden Lane NW, Gig Harbor, WA 98335 or send him an email at InkblotPhD@aol.com.

- Diane Shawver seeks information about her grandfather, **Cpl. Paul O. Romich, 331st IR, company unknown**, from Pennsylvania, killed in action on July 4, 1944 in Normandy. If you knew her grandfather, please write Diane Shawver at RD#4, Box 4331A, Duncannon, PA 17020 or email her at ShawvWatts@aol.com.
- Robert Ascolillo seeks information about his cousin, **PFC Felix J. Ascolillo, from New York, 330th IR, company unknown**, KIA July 18, 1944 in Normandy. If you knew his cousin, please write Robert Ascolillo, 40 Chester Avenue, Winthrop, NA 02156-2608 or email him at rascolillo@hotmail.com.
- Maj. Kevin McKinley is seeking information on behalf of the nephew of **SFC Sigmund Stanley Bornowski, 331st IR, Co. L**. If you knew Bornowski, please send Maj. McKinley an email at MckinleyK@usarc-emh2.army.mil or call him at 401-253-3902 or write him at 74 Marehaven Drive, Seekonk, MA 02771.
- Greg Kuhn seeks information about his grandfather, **S/Sgt. Glen Lee Kuch, 329th IR, company unknown**, who served from June 12, 1944 until April 13, 1945 & discharged August 1945. If anyone knew Greg's grandfather, please write Greg at 900 Washington Ave. S, Bemidji, MN 56601 or email him at the4kuhns@msn.com.
- Daniel Watkins seeks information about his uncle, **PFC Wayne Watkins, 330th IR, company unknown**, from Indiana, who was killed in action on August 29, 1944 near St. Malo. If you knew his uncle, please write Daniel at P.O. Box 589, New Carlisle, Indiana 46552, or email him at danwealthy@yahoo.com.
- David Spence is looking for information about his uncle, **Jesse James Moore, 83rd Division but regiment and company unknown, from W.Va., at Camp Atterbury, wounded in July 1944 at St. Lo, and awarded the Bronze Star**. If you knew his uncle, please write David at 705 South 7th Ave., Paden City, WV 26159.
- **Clark Brown, 83rd Division Signal Corps**, is looking for some of the guys he served with. Some of his buddies are: Tony Slives (Gary, Indiana?), Henry Grewo, ___ Halstead, Col. Ryan, Maj. Hadesty, Lt. Diccico, CWO Bergeron, and others who were in the Signal Corps. You can write Clark at 1315 Kerr Ave., Lancaster,

Ohio 43130 or email him at cbrown@buckeyeinternet.com.

- Paul Jones is looking for information about his grandfather, **1st Lt. John Paul Jones, 329th IR, a communications specialist with 2nd Bn. Headquarters Co.,** who was KIA on December 17, 1944 in Germany. If you knew his grandfather, please write Paul at 1367 Milan Eastman Road, Eastman, GA 31023 or email him at jpi363@yahoo.com.
- Rico and Tanja Bronneburg-Wirtz seeks information on **William I. Long, 331st IR, Company E,** who was killed on December 20, 1944 near Gey, Germany. He is buried in the American Cemetery in Margraten, Netherlands, and this family adopted his grave. They are in contact with his daughter, Carol, who was born after her father's death. If you knew William Long, please write Rico and Tanja at Terheidenstraat 13, 6471 AV KERKRADE, The Netherlands or email them at ricobronneberg@hotmail.com.

The following requests for information are submitted by writers or historians seeking information about an 83rd Division veteran or a particular battle in which the 83rd fought. If you can help, they would appreciate hearing from you.

- Terry Wiebenga is researching **Pvt. Charles Polton, 329th IR, Co. G, 2nd BN,** for a paper he is writing for an Iowa historical publication. Polton was from Iowa and was killed while on patrol near Barby on April 11 or 12th, 1945. If you knew Pvt. Polton, please write Terry at 928 Higby Drive, Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613 or call him at 319-277-3402 or email him at terrywiebenga@hotmail.com.
- Padda Spaans, who husband, Lt. Ralph Spaans, 28th Division, was killed in action in the Hurtgen Forest in November 1944, is writing a book about the men who fought in the Hurtgen Forest. She is searching for veterans or their families who are willing to share their stories. If you are interested, please contact her at Padda Spaans, 2/13 Leonard Avenue, Flora Hill, Victoria, Australia 3550 or by email at irish_unicorn6@hotmail.com.

Many other requests for information appear on a message board maintained by Dave Curry, whose father, Thomas Curry, 331st IR, Company L, was killed in action on Dec. 10, 1944. If you have access to the internet, you should check out the site at www.ncweb.com/~davecurry/brothers/msg.html.

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IS YOUR NAME MISSING FROM THIS LIST ???

if so, it means that as of February 15, 2003

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Listed here are those whose dues for 2002 were received before February 15,2003:

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Last	First
Trebonyak	George
Trofimuk	Alex
Turchetta	Thomas
Turner	Gerald
Tynan	Ambrose
s.army Command	Dept
Vaccaro	Michael
Van Hoy	Willaim
Vandemergel	Donald
Varrone	Dominick
Vartanian	Albert
Vaughan	William
Vaughn	Gary
Viglione	Anthony
Voelkner	Carolyn
Volkmer	Joseph
Waddle	William
Wagner	Arthur

Wainscott	William
Wall	Raymond
Wallace	Harold
Washburn	Harold
Way Sr	William
Weaver	Rupert
Wehling	Russell
Whearty	Donald
Whitcomb	Charles
White	Robert
Whitener	Cecil
Wiencek	Stanley
Wiggins	Raymond
Wilhelmy	Elizabeth
Wilkinson	Jack
Wilkinson	Jenny
Willey C/O Martha	Gerald
Williams	Kid
Williams	Willaim

Last	First
Willis	Paul
Willis	Richard
Wilson	Chester
Wilson	John
Wishart	Vincent
Wolfe	Robert
Wolke	Norbert
Wooldridge	Clifton
Wright	Frank
Young	James
Yust	Robert
Zarecky	Joseph
Zerucha	Jean
Ziemak	Matthew
Zimmerman	Clarence
Zippo	Louis
Zirilli	Santo

Last	First
Arrigo	Larry
Badgett	Samuel
Brennan	James
Cole	William
Culclasure	Emory
Dickinson	Harold
Episcopo	Pasquale
Fessia	Alfred
Fish	James
Frankel	Herbert
Fulks	William
Hite	Russell
Kellogg	Lyndall
Melton	Clifton
Melvin	James
Soroko	Ethel
Sullivan	Marie
Wall	Raymond
Welling	Coen

Feb 15, 2003

83rd Div. Members Dues Status

<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>
Gabrys	Harry	Harrington	Joseph	Jackson	Florine	Lamb	Emanuel	Marra	Felix
Gale		Harris	Godfrey	Jacobs	William	Lamb	J.	Martina	Raymond
Galzerano	Raphael	Harris	Ronald	Jacobson	Arthur	Lancaster	Elmer	Masroye	Vera
Ganemath	Robert	Harrison	Frederick	Janulewicz	Louis	Landrum	George	Mathena	Wilder
Gardner	Stanley	Hauser	Henry	Jewell	William	Landsman	Daniel	Mattes	William
Genile	John	Hawkins	Charles	Johanson	Harold	Lamgenkamp	Ado	Mayfield	Clail
George	Americo	Havdon	Wanda	Johnson	Mike	Lannon	Elwood	Mayfield	George
Geyer	Wallace	Haves	Jesse	Johnson	Roy	Latta	John	Mayse	Troy
Giulino	Charles	Havnes	Edgar	Jones	Arthur	Lawrence	Laddie	McBeth	Kenneth
Gibson	Herbert	Heine	Christian	Jones	James	Lazarus	David	McCorkle	Llewellyn
Gilman	Ivan	Helleckson	Bunette	Jordan Jr	Charles	Lazarus	George	McCown	William
Glasser	Francis	Helms	John	Joyce	Raymond	Ledbetter	Jack	McCulla	James
Goldman	Mortimer	Henley	Clifford	Kablesh	John	Lene Jr	Horace	McDaniel	Alex
Gomori	Louis	Hennigan	John	Kahler	Ruel	Lenny	Eugene	McKeon	Willis
Goodman	Harold	Henry	Alfred	Karnoski	Francis	Leonard	John	McKimmie	Daniel
Goodridge	Manlius	Henry	Frank	Keck	Robert	Leticie	Theodore	McLaughlin	William
Gorczynski	Theodore	Henry	Joseph	Kelly Sr	John	Levendoski	Alvin	McNabb	Robert
Gordon	George	Herbstritt	William	Kight	Perry	Levin	Jacob	McNabb	Thomas
Gotlieb	Michael	Herhuth	Alma	Kincade	James	Lewis	Glen	McNabb Jr	James
Gotwalt	Robert	Heterick	Charles	King	Raymond	Liberacki	Barry	McNabb Sr	James
Governor	John	Hines	Robert	King	Zeno	Liggins	Martin	McNicholas	Joseph
Graf	Philip	Hinz	Donald	Kinnan	Louis	Lindsey	Earl	Melman	James
Grinstead	Porter	Hogan	James	Kirby JR	Harry	Luchkiw	Dan	Melton	Clifton
Grobeluy	Robert	Hogrefe	Paul	Kirby Rhodes	Marianne	Lungreen	Rudolph	Melvin	James
Gunderson	Geri	Holloman	Deborah	Kirk	Donald	Lutkemeier	Lloyd	Messina	C. Fred
Gust	Daniel	Holloman	HattieHart	Klein	Frederick	Lynch	James	Meyer	Vernon
Hackstock - S	Herman	Holloway	Dr. Richard	Klugiewicz	Alovisius	MacFarlane	Paul	Meyers	William
Hackstock - W	Herman	Hoosier	Dale	Koehan	Chester	Macaluso	Joseph	Mikels	Harold
Hamilton	Ralph	Hoover	Earl	Koeller	Chester	Mader	Richard	Miller	Arnes
Hammond Jr	William	Hopf	William	Koepke	Duane	Madison	Charles	Miller	Harrison
Hammond Sr	William	Hornack	Frank	Kolbe	Paul	Maggi	Henry	Miller	William
Haney	Furman	Horvath	Frank	Kosovanovich	Mike	Magill	Samuel	Miligan	Virgil
Hanf	John	Houseknecht	Robert	Kreger	Edith	Mako	Anthony	Mills	Curtis
Hanna	Harold	Howell	John	Kribs	David	Malleo Sr	Frank	Mimick	William
Hanus	Frank	Hunter	Clarence	Kuen	William	Marek	John	Modlin	Ernie
Harding	Walter	Hutchens	Warren	Kuser	Timothy	Markuns	Francis	Moore	Joseph
Harker	Sharron	Hutchens HHC	Aaron	Kwasniewski	Peter	Marquard Jr	Edward	Morgan	Alford

Feb 15, 2003

83rd Div. Members Dues Status

<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>	<u>First</u>
Abdinoor W	Charles	Bensimon	Albert	Chambers	John	Davis	James	Elkins	Dorothy
Abdinoor S	Charles	Bendt	Norbert	Chambers	Lloyd	Davis	Raymond	Emanouil	James
Adams	Walter	Bertovich	Nicholas	Champney	Michael	Del Prete	Eugene	Episcopo	Pasquale
Adkins Jr	Harry	Bidner	William	Chunpak	Andrew	DeLuca	Joseph	Erhardt Jr.	Erwin
Adryan	Chester	Bielen	Stanley	Chuzi	Sue	DeMarino	William	Ericksen	Milo
Aigner	Riley	Bifano	John	Ciampa	Franklin	Dennis	Roger	Eubank	Harold
Alexander Jr.	Richard	Blanchard	Stanley	Claxton	Lowell	DePalma	Joseph	Everham	Harold
Alicandi	Ezio	Boho	Vernon	Clemens	Roy	DePiano	Thomas	Fall	James
Allan	Donald	Boheler	George	Cline	Thelmer	Derickson	Robert	Fall	Wayne
Aller	John	Boltz	Freeman	Collard	Kenneth	Desgain	Jules	Fall	August
Anderson	Charles	Bonario	I	Connell	Robert	Desh	Evelyn	Feeney	Mrs Grace
Anderson	Emmett	Bones	Salvadore	Conover	Stanley	DeSimone	John	Ferretia	John
Anthony	Richard	Bostick	Wallace	Conrad	Paul	Dickinson	Harold	Fickle	Lowell
Arnold	Rev. Walter	Bouws	Gordon	Cook	James	Dickson	Richard	Fisher	Allen
Arriego	Larry	Boyer	Robert	Cooke	Benjamin	Dierksen	Edward	Fisher	Harold
Ashmore	Walter	Brammer	James	Cordaro	John	Dietrich	Paul	Fitch	Mike
Atchison	Mildred	Brandt	Diana	Corder	Selma	DiGiammerino	Pat	Fitzgerald	Dr Edward
Babat	Milton	Brennan	James	Corsetti	Bernard	Dillon	Paul	Flahaven	William
Badgett	Samuel	Brewer	Cecil	Cotter	Wright	Dilworth	Kirby	Fletcher	Robert
Baker	Clarence	Brown	Edwin	Coye	Richard	Dodrill	Ivan	Fleischer	John
Baker	Gale	Brown	Forest	Cramer	Donald	Doengesfeld	Gordon	Ford	Alex
Balfé	Clarence	Brown	Frank	Crookham	William	Donbar	Howard	Foster	George
Balick	Jacob	Brunsa	Elizabeth	Crouch	Buford	Doran	Edward	Foster	Myrtle
Banasik	Matthew	Budd	Jeremiah	Crow	Robert	Drugash	Lois	Fowler	Frederick
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Bartha	Stephen	Cancasci	Frank	Czaplicki	Matthew	Dumont	Roger	Franke	David
Bass	Sam	Cantrell	Weldon	Daiello	Sam	Duncan	Robert	Franko	Benjamin
Batty Sr	Harry	Caparanis	John	Dalton	Larry	Dunham Jr.	Rev Richard	Frederick	Carl
Beam	Charles	Capelli	John	Dalzell	George	Dunn	Earl	Freeman	Harold
Beaumont	Andre	Cargini	Mario	Dandola 111	Pat	Durand	Ray	Freeman	Richard
Becker	Richard	Carini	Archie	Dandola 121	Pat	Earls	Bert	Freeman Jr	Vinson
Beerhalter	Francis	Carpenter	Darlene	Daniels	Dean	Earls	Norman	Friedman	Karl
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Vendors, Schedules, and Prices are subject to change.

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ARRIVAL DATE _____ TIME _____ am/pm DEP. DATE _____

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Queen Bed _____ Two Double Beds _____ Bed types are not guaranteed.

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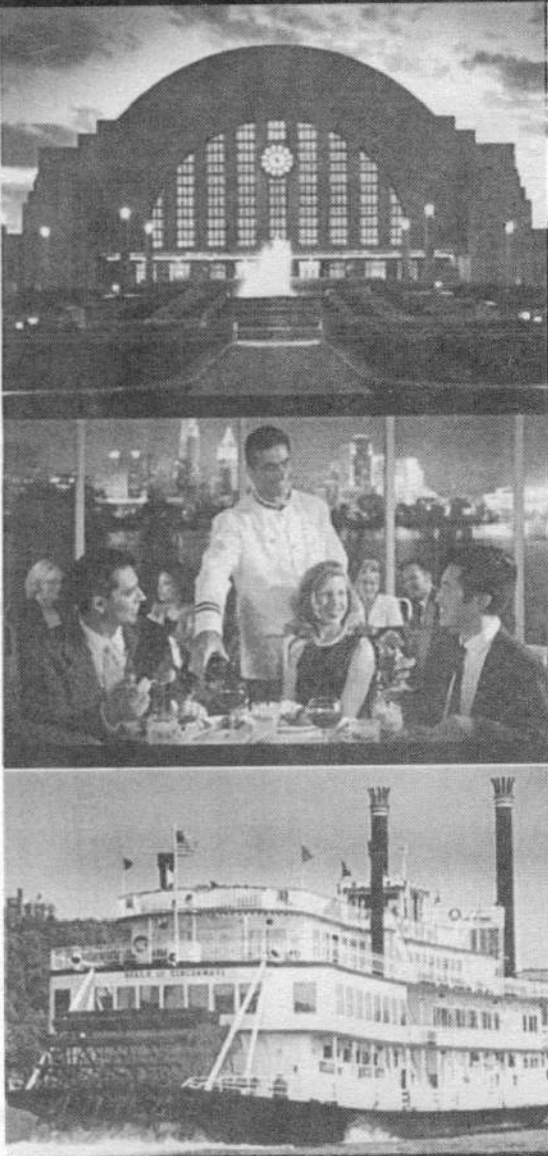
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Name of 83rd Division Member _____

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