



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

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West Point



Patriotism and Pride

THE THUNDERBOLT
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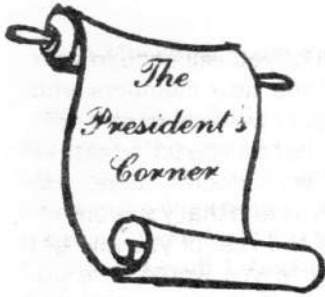
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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

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Raymond J. Voracek..... 1958	Casey Szubski..... 1970	Ralph Gunderson..... 1982
Charles Abdinoor..... 1959	Charles Altomari..... 1971	Arthur Doggett..... 1983



My Dear Buddies:

Let me first thank Pat DiGiammerino and the rest of the Boston Chapter for nominating and making me National President of such a fine organization for the year 84-85.

I will work hard and do my very best to be worthy of this title. It makes it easy when you love what you are doing and have such wonderful people to work with.

I now know what southern hospitality is, after returning from the reunion in Kentucky. Arthur Doggett, R.C. Hamilton, and the rest of the Kentucky Chapter are to be commended for a splendid reunion. I also do not want to leave out the wives of the Kentucky Chapter who worked so diligently to make this a very successful reunion. The accommodations, food and service were very good and judging by the size of the attendance, I would say it was a record crowd.

The Memorial Service was well organized and as usual not too many dry eyes in the crowd. You can tell when someone does their homework and that's a tribute to R.C. Hamilton and Artie Doggett. Thanks guys for a job well done.

I was amazed to see how many first time reunion members were present. I hate to use that old cliché but I must "We're not getting older, we are getting better."

The Boston Chapter has started the

ball rolling for 1985. We are planning, we believe, another fine reunion at the Pines Hotel, with the highlight feature of "West Point For One Day." Those of you who were at the 1982 reunion at the Pines Hotel know we will not let you down. The 83rd Inf. Div. Assc. deserves the best and the best is what you will get. During the course of the year I will keep you informed of the galaxy of surprises that is in store for you.

You will be sorry if you miss this reunion.

As I told you in Kentucky due to the many requests we had in the past reunion at the Pines Hotel for "Staying Longer" we are going to have three options. Seven days - five days - and four days. You will receive all this information with the Brochures shortly. Preference for room accommodations will be based on time of reservation sent in.

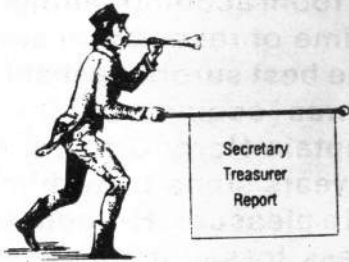
One of the best surprises that I had in Kentucky was seeing my Co. Commander Captain Harry Gravlyn. It is almost forty years since I saw him and it was indeed a pleasure. He looks terrific, and needless to say it was wonderful hashing out some of the stories. My squad leader, Bill McKee, I think said it best when he started to laugh hysterically saying, "I can't believe it Bernie, you were the worst soldier I had in the squad, and you come home and become National President of such a fine organization."

You are right Bill, "This can only happen in America".

God Bless you all
Your National President
Bernie Cove
Co. D 331st



Our new President, Bernie Cove, and his lovely wife Jean.



ALL 83rder's AND FRIENDS:

Another reunion has come and gone. The Kentucky Chapter worked on this one for two years. We have heard nothing but kind words. We know there must have been some complaints but they must have been so small they haven't reached our ears yet. It takes a lot of planning and hard work to put on a successful reunion. The entire Kentucky Chapter did both and it paid off. One person cannot take credit. I want to thank the men and the women of the Kentucky Chapter. Nothing was too difficult for them to tackle. We also wish to thank all of you other people who helped in any way. If we start naming names we are sure to omit someone and have hurt feelings. So to all of you who worked and to all of you who came we sincerely say, "THANK YOU."

I must get one personal thank you in here though. That is to my wife, Pearl, for the wonderful surprise she gave me on Saturday night. To Norm and Lorraine Schuster for helping her accomplish that dream. I am very proud of that Purple Heart medal.

We closed out our year with 1450 members. Fifty

short of our goal. But if all of you will send in your \$10.00 dues and with all the new members who attended the reunion this year we may reach it next year. We are growing men. Let's all be proud of that. To all those first timer's we sincerely hope you enjoyed your first time with us and that you won't let it be the last. Come on all the rest of you and get your dues in for 1985 early. We would sure appreciate that.

Remember this year Bernie Cove is our President and our reunion will be at the Pines again with the Memorial Services at West Point. A beautiful spot and if you have never been to West Point you have a treat in store for you. You cannot believe how quiet and peaceful that spot is. If you have been there we know you will want to go back again. Pearl and I are both looking forward to it. We know that active Jean Cove and her ladies will be planning a program you ladies will enjoy.

Here is our report from the reunion this year. We had five hundred and forty (540) members register for the reunion. We had four hundred and ninety seven (497) guest who registered. We had eighty-five (85) members who were attending an 83rd reunion for the first time. Quite a reunion. A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO ALL.

Just get those 1985 dues in and be ready for next year at THE PINES. Bernie says if you all show up like you did this year he will find a place for you. SO COME ON ALL YOU 83rder's.

At this time I would like to thank Joe Macaluso for his help to me and his dedication to the 83rd Association. Enjoy yourself Joe. I would like to welcome Ralph Gunderson as our new member of the Board. I am sure Ralph will also be a very dedicated Board member.

*Bob Derickson
Sec. + Tres
3rd Bn 83. co.*

P.S.

We have extra add books and up to date membership Rosters. Drop me a 13¢ Postal Card and I will mail you one immediately.

The National Office would like to wish you all a Happy Holiday Season since this is the last Issue before Christmas.

***** A Message From Your Past President *****

We believe we had a very successful Reunion of the 83rd Inf. Division in Owensboro, Kentucky. First off I would like to thank those who made it a success it will be impossible to name all of them. If it had not been for R.C. Hamilton, Bob Derickson, Charlie Schmidt I don't know how we could have done it especially after my heart attack in May of 84. They took over and carried on as if I was still active. To the ladies of the Kentucky Chapter they spent many hours in making items that helped with the expense of the reunion. We had help from other chapters in getting things in order for the reunion when we came 4 days early to start the reunion.

It was one of the great pleasures of my life to have served as Pres. of the Assoc. and believe me I would do it all again. For the past year each day things had to be done but I looked forward to doing them.

We hope you who attended had a nice time. I know some had a few problems with different things but we did try and solve them. Being a layman it is not easy to do a professional job in taking care of the large crowd we had. I hope you carried home some good memories of the reunion. We did enjoy having you come to old Kentucky.

Our new president Bernie Cove I feel sure will have a outstanding program at The Pines in New York, we have been there before and it is a beautiful location and he has a fine program planned for us. A visit to West Point will be outstanding. He is in that business and knows how to run a reunion or a convention.

Again thank you for coming to Kentucky. You are the ones who made the reunion a success.

Arthur Doggett
Past President

***** Reunion Chairmans Corner *****

We want to thank the Kentucky Chapter for hosting a very good reunion. Thank you again.

The 39th reunion is going to be at The Pines, So. Fallsburg, N.Y. This reunion will be remembered for a long time for those who attend. And for those of you who have good appetites, this is the place. The food is very good, and plenty of it, and the menu is large.

I would like to mention that reservations are coming in. Please make your reservations early.

If you pay your national dues before reunion time this makes it easy and faster for the people working at the

registration desk.

Thank you,
Pat DiGiammerino
36 East Border Rd.
Malden, MA 02148
Reunion Chairman

John A. Allen
10008 Coggins Drive
Sun City, Ariz. 85351

Bob,

Just a word or two to tell you what a wonderful trip I had in Europe, maybe you can put it in the next book or flyer.

Being a "Ham" radio operator I met Fred Karen LX1KA (call letters) at the Luxemborg Airport which by the way I've talked to him by radio and also a few others over there. He is also a tour guide for the CETA. I rented a car in Luxemborg put on 4,500 km, but for a week Fred was my personal driver he had taken me to places I would've never been able to find even on the tour the 50 fellows went on. Old foxholes, gun emplacements, Seigfried Line and many other places too numerous to mention. I followed the footsteps that we followed 40 years ago. It might have been over grown but I could sure tell them. His home was in Eternach and as a young boy he remembers the 83rd quite well even to this Aug. He and other fellows its their hobby today they are putting together a museum with things left by us and the Germans, they still find alot even skeletons today.

I traveled alone to France such places as St. Malo, Steiney (reception), St. Berie, Nantes, Montargies, Utah Beach, Omaha Beach (for Reagan's speech) which was very disappointing as we had to take a back seat as his politicians and Frenchman had more right to the beach then we did all the veterans including me thought that was a terrible thing to do, put us in the background. Stayed at a farm house in Normandy (Bernesq) where Co. H 331st had a terrible battle on July 4, 1944. The people even remembered the battle as they hid in their cellars. One of the teenage farm girls was killed. The hedgerows hasn't changed. Met Sam Klippa and two friends in Luxemborg, they traveled alone also was to meet them at Utah Beach but I got side tracked and couldn't make it. I left

Southern France went to Metz and back to Luxemborg to catch my plane back to good old Arizona where the "Sun always Shines". By the way it rained all but 4 days while I was over there. I took over 200 pictures which got good even with the bad weather. I also met a fellow that was with F Co. 331 that was transferred to the 4th Div. in 1943. Met him in Oswiler, Lux. at a reception. Spent a couple of days in Holland, Belgium & Germany. I wanted to go to Wittenburg, Germany, were I was wounded but being in East Germany my time didn't permit. Any questions or pictures you may want feel free to ask.

I remain
John C. Allen
Co. "F & H"
331 st

P.S. I think I covered more & saw more than the tour would've done & saved money too.

*** NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER ***

What a great Reunion. Asthey say down South, "you all come" and we did, one thousand plus strong. Our special thanks go to Arthur Doggett, R.C. Hamilton, Bob and Pearl Derickson and the whole Kentucky Chapter for a wonderful time. Some of us who checked into the "Big E" early in the week had the opportunity to visit some of the local well known restaurants such as the Moonlight and Diamond Lakes. The food was more than plentiful and delicious. That was on Monday and Tuesday and on Wednesday we were lucky to be assigned to the early boat ride. We had a very relaxing ride up and down the Ohio River. A storm came up later and I know it wasn't so enjoyable for those of you who went on the evening cruise but these are circumstances over which no one has any control. Later Wednesday evening, Mary's nephew, Marty, and his father came over and sang and played their guitars accompanied by their friend, the Harmonica King of Owensboro. They had great talent and helped to pass the evening before the Reunion officially started on Thursday. Bill and Blanche Farmer's grandchildren did a little gospel singing for us too.

The trip to Breckenridge was most enlightening. Those of us who took the trip were overwhelmed with the great Reception and enthusiasm that

greeted us upon arrival. We all found some landmark that was familiar to us from World War II days and it was rewarding to see the work that is being done there with some of our more unfortunate youth at the Job Corp. Center. We enjoyed it.

It was good to see our old buddies and their wives again and to meet some that we hadn't seen since the war's end. My big surprise was meeting Lt. Hubert F. King, 3rd BN. 330th for the first time since then and we enjoyed being together, just looking at pictures and talking about the past. I also met Kyle Sluder 3rd BN. 330th of Statesville, N.C. and "Big Red" Raymond Burchom, 3rd BN. 330th of Proctorsville, Ohio. Jim Brennan, Jim Emanouil and Bruce Winchell met Bill Farmer from Owensboro for the first time in all these years. They also met a couple of others whose names I cannot recall.

All in all it was a great Reunion - the special daytime features for the women, the other activities and the evening food and entertainment were all enjoyable.

It was gratifying to see how much publicity the 83rd received in the daily media in Owensboro and I understand our own Joe and Helen Petrucci and Al and Ann Tartaglia made the headlines in the Henderson News. Jim Emanouil also had his picture on the front page while trying out one of the carts at Breckenridge. We always knew you were a "bed man" Jim.

The New England Chapter was well represented. Attending were the McKees, the Smiths, the Sylvers, the Davises, the Farias, the McCartins, the Faedis, the Petittis, Frank Powers, the Paneros, John Walsh, the Adachowskis, the Halligans, the Albanos, the Ferrieros, the Brennans, the Emanouils and last, but not least, the Francullos. If I missed anyone, I am sorry, and also for those of you who did not make it - you missed a great time.

On Monday Jim and Dot Brennan and Mary and I left the "Big E" and took off to visit hisotric Bardstown, the site of My Old Kentucky Home, where we saw Show Boat and The Stephen Foster Story. When we were leaving the motel, a couple who had spotted my 83rd insignia stopped and asked if we were 83rdrs. He was in the 83rd, but had never heard about the Reunions. His name is William L. Montgomery, 1142 Normandy Dr., Portsmouth, Ohio. (I sent his name to Bob). On our way home we stopped in Chambersburg, Pa overnight. I looked in the telephone book and found another Buddy, Russ Wagoner - we called and spent the evening and part of the next day with Russ and his wife, Vera. Russ and Vera - it was great to see you.

One last word, we missed our Old Buddy, John Donahue. Take care of yourself John.

New England's new slate of officers is as follows:
 President James Emanouil
 Vice President William Davis
 Secretary James Brennan
 Treasurer Nick Francullo
 Ass't. Treas. Louis Rossi
 Chaplain Joseph Petrucci
 Sarg.-Arms William McCartin

Our best wishes to you all for the best of holidays.

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



New England Chapter
 Country Western Night



Having a ball at Breckinridge



A Group from New England



Breckinridge Flowergarden



Red Sails in the Sun Set.



Enjoying the cruise on the Ohio

*** 783RD ORDINANCE ***

We all thought the Ky. reunion was going to be the Biggest and the best of all and it was, especially from our 783rd viewpoint. The final tabulation was 31 fellows and Hazel Reynolds plus 31 wives or relatives for a grand total of 62, by far the largest number ever representing the 783rd.

All that is the good news for just as I started to write this article I received a call from Milly telling me that Art had suffered another heart attack. I stopped writing and now two days later I'm glad to report that Art was out of the I.C.U. in two days and is resting comfortably. Lets hope and pray the doctors get to the root of Arts problem this time as we can only imagine how frustrating and painful this has been to the whole Doggett family.

Now back to the reunion on which Art went all out despite his weakened condition. It was such a pleasure and joy to see the excitement on everyone's face as each fellow of the 783rd showed up in the lobby for the first time in 39 years. As I have said many times, you have to have the experience to believe it. Those that did experience that feeling for the first time were (in randum order) Al and Ruth Bensimon, Que and Inez Boyett with his brother and wife Ruth, Jesse Tilford and his gracious son-in-law (who drove Jesse), Percy and Inez Mohon, Andy and Ruth Grant, Al and Bert Unser, Gert and whats his name Blasko, Charlie and Peggy Garrison, Glenn and Margaret Vining, Pat Stubber, Ray and Louise Downing, George and Mettie Harris, (and his navigator brother), Hazel Reynolds, Kate Belt, Mobarts bride, Ray Wiggins, and Mimi, Elsie Perko,

Sam Candelieri, Frank Szalontay and the first shall be last, James R. Jones.

It was the consensus of opinion that either we all shrunk or James R. got even bigger - Hazel Reynolds was a real helping asset, among total strangers (but not for long), Ray Wiggins were also the youngest physically as they both carded an 81 in the golf tournament, just one troke behind the winner! Paul Bryers and Phil Barbara took top honors for talking about their golf prowess but they "lost" their score ard! Doc and Agnes Pfeifer were the best thespians in town. Doc wrote a twenty minute sketch, strictly comical, dipiciting some of the 783ers. They also did a little soft shoe and Doc did a bit of Pavarotti while both were dressed "to kill" or to "the hilt", depending where you all came from. It was just a shame we didn't record it for posterity. George Marris was still best straight faced, tale teler, Glenn Vining wore the best Cowboy hat in town, Chris Manning was the best son of a golfer, Sam Candelieri won the title for getting lost the most in the hotel while Frank Szalontay won the same on the golf course, Al (rare steak) Bensimon and Charlie (fore) Garrison tied for the talkers award on telling of all their good war experiences.

Al Unfried and Bill Manning tied for the Pepsodent award, Que Boyett and Percy Mohon should get the most courageous award for making it to the reunion in spite of physical handicaps, Andy Grant and Jesse Tilford looked like Ky. State champion twins as they smiled their way through the reunion. Milly Doggett wins a heart felt thanks for the hours she spent making all the delightful square dancing center pieces for ALL the tables.

"Old timers" to the reunion not already mentioned were Aubrey Wilcox, Joe Stubber, Gene and Jane Bond, Carl and Alyce Frederick, Isadore and Lu Labbe, Herschel and Midge Weaver, Bob Hammond on his way to Calif. to visit Lloyd Grayson, Reese and Carmella Phillips, Ed Perko and Steve Blasko.

Everyone agreed the food and hotel accomodations were excellent and the swimming pools were warm. So for all of you who didn't or couldn't make it, you now have a general idea of what a vacation you missed. Ivan Gilman sent a "regret" telegram at the last minute then made up for it by flying from Calif. to Philly just to take Ginny and I out to dinner and hear about the reunion. I'm beginning to think, I don't care if he never makes a reunion.

Other good news comes from Bill Appleby's long telephone conversation of last week. He is almost fine. After 8½ hours in the capable hands of a brain surgeon and six week in bed Bill naturally has some neck muscle pain and weak legs. The operation

however was a total and permanent success. Bill wishes to thank you all for your many good wishes and Phil and Doc's great visits. Bill vows he will be at the N.Y. Pines next year leading the square dances.

Last and least, Doc and Agnes Pfeifer went of China in Sept. I hope he didn't do the same thing to the Chines Wall that he did to the Siegreid Line!

Hut two,
Rags Rangnow

*** 323rd. F.A. BN. REPORT ***

It was wonderful meeting the men of the 323rd in Kentucky.

First I must say our pal John **Cardinal** Piscitelli was absent due to his health. John you were missed by all. Hope you are doing better and will be with us in New York next reunion.

I met Victor Bravman recently and he looks marvelous. I am happy to say he had a full recovery from cancer after a two year battle. Good Luck to you Victor.

Pat DiGiammerino was there from Service Battery at the reunion.

Jake Erwin who served in almost all the batteries.

Leroy Rock, Calvin Baldwin, Joe Hopkins, Will Medling, Don Pettry had a meeting for Baker Battery. Captain Costello, who I just received an extra long letter from, be proud to be with you if he could. He hopes to be with us at the Pines next year.

Charlie Battery was a happy group. Maury Candido and Tony Piantedosi kept David Hurt and Dom Christopher on their toes while Jake Erwin gave them a few laughs.

Harry Herman represented Able Battery. Harry met Paul Diethrich for the first time since the **Big One**.

Hq. Battery had Captain Ralph Morgan, who came out of the Army a retired Colonel. Also, his Sgt. Frank Wirth, better known as "Nelson Eddy" and Erwin Erhardt our Bugler, better known as Harry James.

Al Covi, who was also a member of Captain Morgan F.O. Party. Bill Shaner and Donald St. John our boy's from Altoona, Pa. I stayed a couple of days with Lois and Bill Shaner on my way to Kentucky so I have seen more of them. They really showed me around Altoona.

George Connors, Willie Snodgrass and Dave Nellies had a blast talking over the good old days.

Along with myself, I think these fine men enjoyed themselves. George Polites and I are going to try to put old pictures that we get together in a book form. George said, he will do it for me. Maybe we will have it before the next reunion. We can only do this with pictures we get off of you fellows. We will do it only one time for you.

Jack Knight and Dallas Williams are doing good out in

Portland, Oregon. Dallas was talking to me on the telephone.

Buck Taylor has been attending the sports events out on the West Coast.

Have been in contact with Ellis Kinder, now in California. He is also doing well.

One of the men from 331st told me he met Don Willis in South Carolina. He has retired now so I should be getting my yearly letter from him.

Eddie McCouch did not make the reunion. His wife Joyce has been very ill but is doing better at this time. Joyce is a wonderful person and we wish her a speedy recovery.

AMBY TYNAN
323rd F.A Bn.



Amby Tynan, Walter Harding, Bob Costello



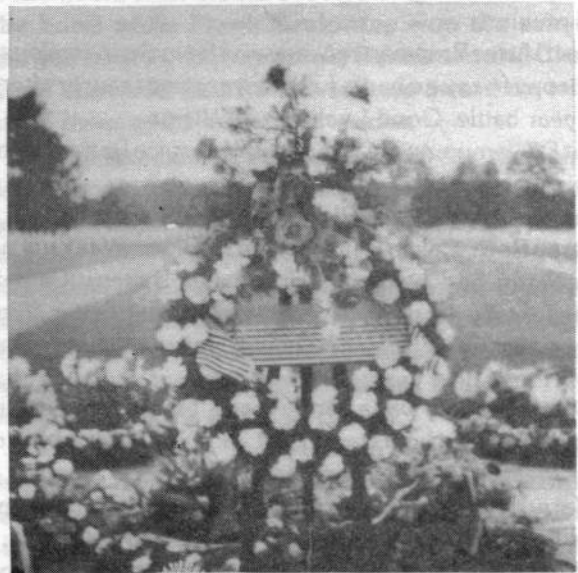
Hq. Btry. 323 F.A. BN



Piantedosi, Candido, Hurt, Erwin



Jim Prentice with his award



This picture was sent to the 83rd Infantry Division Association Office by Galaxy Tours. It concerned the recent trip to Europe in May and June of this year. We know that it will bring back some pleasant memories of the return trip for the 40th Anniversary Ceremonies.



Hqts 323rd girls

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR HISTORY OF THE 83rd DIVISION.



"These were our enemies 40 years ago"

Dear Buddies:

This is going to be a photo essay.

All these pictures were taken from different spots in Germany.

I didn't know then, I would be your Historian today.

I'm glad I kept all these things to share with you!

"We Were The Best"

Wm Kent O'Connell

83rd M.P.

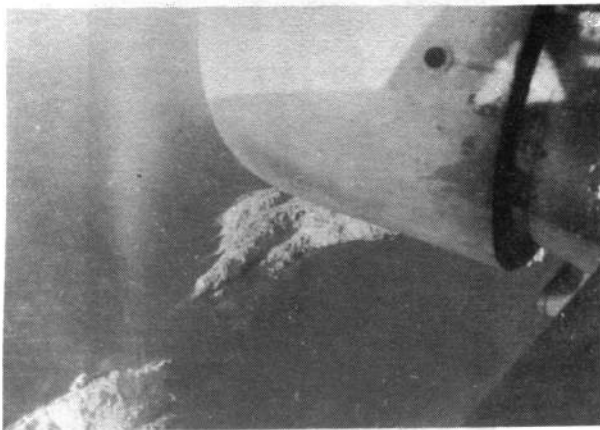
P.S. Kentucky did a great job!



Cap't Prein, famous German Submarine Commander.



They were here once upon a time.





SS Trooper



German Navy



Adolf Hitler - The Fuhrer on his 47. Birthday.



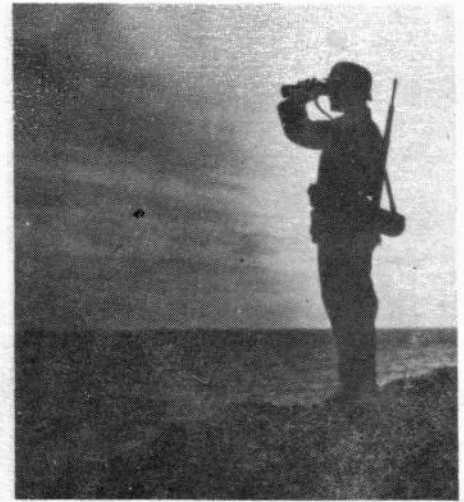
German Army Soldier



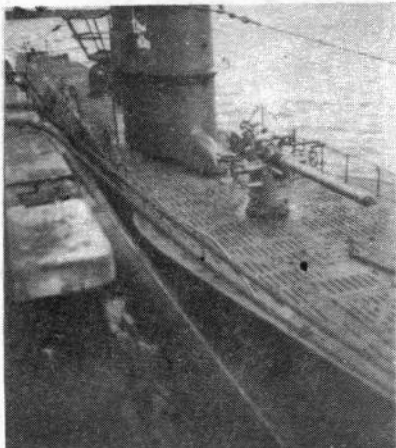
German Air Corps



German High Ranking Naval Officer



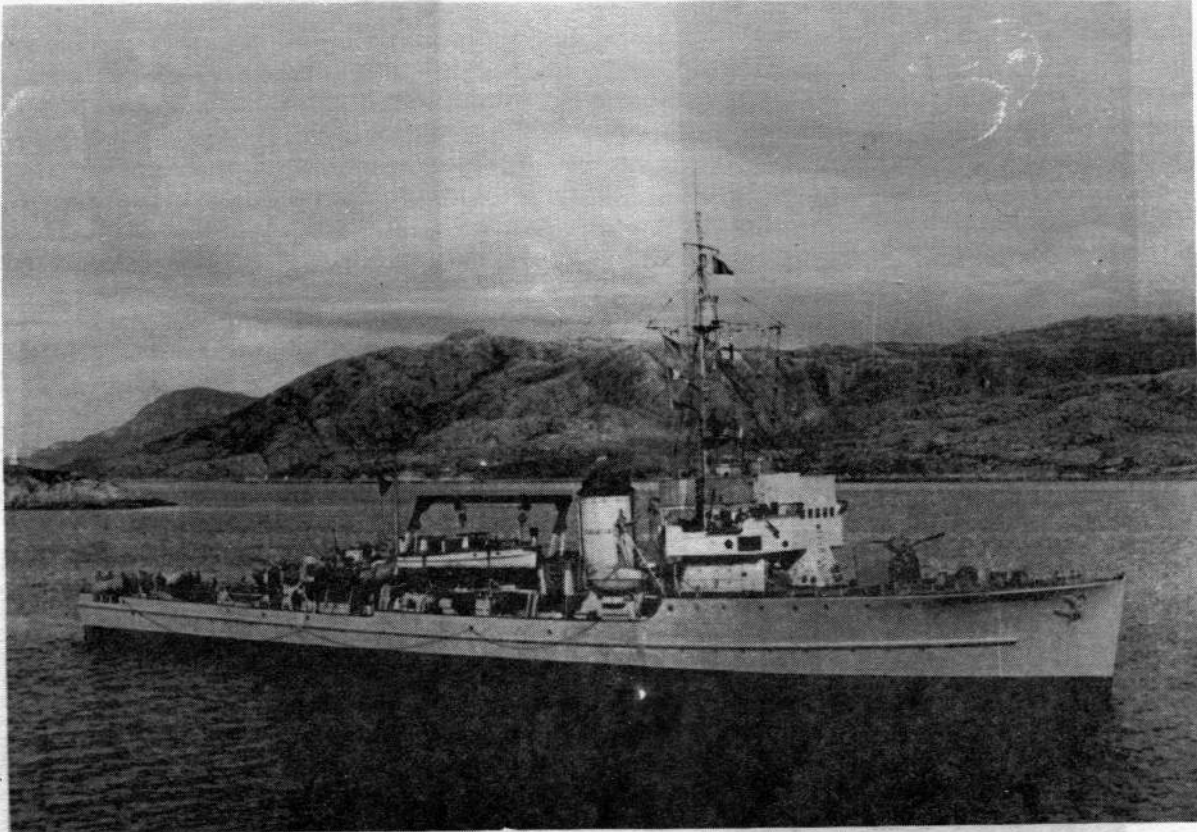
Rodenbusch at the Targetrange as Guard by the Pyramids.



German Submarine



On watch - German Submarine



German Naval "E" Boat

... „Denn wir fahren gegen England!“

Heute wollen wir ein Liedlein singen:
 trinken wollen wir den hüblen Wein,
 und die Blätter sollen dazu hängen,
 denn es muß, es muß geschieden sein.

Unser Slagge, und die wehet auf den Masten,
 Sie verkündet unsres Reiches Macht;
 denn wir wollen es nicht länger leiden,
 daß der Engländermann darüber lacht.

Kommt die Stunde, daß ich bin gefallen,
 daß ich schlafe in der Meeresflut;
 wenn nicht um mich, um Orkney und denke:
 Für das Vaterland, da floß sein Blut.

Sieh mir deine Hand, deine weiße Hand,
 leb wohl, mein Schatz,
 leb wohl, mein Orkney, leb wohl,
 lebe wohl, denn wir fahren, denn wir fahren,
 denn wir fahren gegen England, England!

W. LANGE



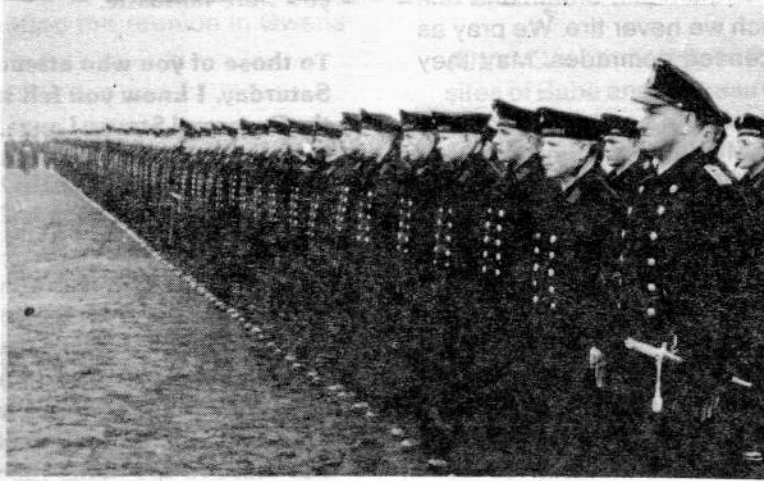
Through the Bombardiers nose April, 17, 1945



Rodenbusch at Targetpractice after some Master shots with M.G.
5 Shots - 5 Hits (BRAGGING)



Rotterdam
Nose of German Bomber



German Navy

Kentucky Chapter Auxiliary:

Hello to all you good people. Robert gave me permission to write a little note in this edition. Not to get any thoughts about doing it every time. So I hope to make this a good one. I do want to thank all the Kentucky Chapter ladies for all the help. Without them the Kentucky Chapter could not have put on the grand reunion that they did. They worked without stopping whenever I called on them and that was a plenty. They always had a smile for everyone. Nothing we asked of them was too much. That craft room was something else. Course they started on that two years ago.

We had some illnesses since we came home. Charlie Schmidt was operated on. Came through it fine and is doing okay. Avalon Goodridge fell and broke her elbow. Was in the hospital for a week. Is

home now with her arm in the cast. Helen Miller went into the hospital for tests. She is home now. Will go back into the hospital on October 7 and will be operated on October 8. Good luck to all you people. Arthur Doggett had another heart attack. Home now and is doing okay. That is all the sick roll for now from the Kentucky Chapter. Do want to add that Manny is going for a hip replacement soon.

We loved having you all come to Kentucky and wish you could come back again real soon. Again my dear friends thank you for the past two years of hard work. I appreciate all you did and I know the men of the chapter are well pleased with our efforts.

Pearl Derickson
Assistant to the National Secretary

Chaplain's
Steeple



Well Buddies, here we are into a new fiscal year 1984-1985. In May it will be forty (40) years since V. E. Day. Victory in Europe.

We're all preparing for our 39th annual reunion at the Pines in New York States "CATSKILLS MOUNTAINS". Again we pray to the Good Lord to slow down our casualty list.

That way all of us old soldiers can dream and talk over old events, of which we never tire. We pray as always for all our deceased comrades. May they always rest in peace.

AMEN
John T. Piscitelli
"C" 323rd

We have just finished talking to Bea Chavenne on the phone and our prayers are needed for both Bill and Bea. Bill is very ill and Bea is never very far from his side. A card to Bill and Bea I know would be very much appreciated. Our prayers and thoughts are with you Bea.

Bob and Pearl

These are the death notices that have come to the National Headquarters. The sympathy of the entire 83rd goes out to the families of the following.

Frank Balcerzak	"H" 329th
Edgar L. Bolejack	MEDICS 331st
Ralph Himmelberger,	"K" 329th
Walter J. Hughes	"G" 330th
John Paul Ricard	"C" 323rd
Ralph Malec	3rd BN. HQ. 329th
George Sofranko	"B" 329th

May God keep them in his loving care.

Just in to the office. A note from
Mrs. Larry McQuade
Lawrence H. McQuade 1st BN. HQ. 331st
passed away Sep. 2, 1984.

Speaking for myself and John Piscitelli (we missed you John), I would like to thank everyone who participated in our Reunion Memorial Service.

I would like to mention many names of people who gave their time- the band, the Honor Guard, the harpist, the Executive Inn personnel,- but I do not want to hurt feelings, so let me say to ALL who participated a heartfelt "Thanks".

The real thanks goes to the troops, who did not complain about the heat or the march, and kept in step all the way.

Seventy-eight buddies departed our ranks since the last Reunion, and as they all watched us they once again agreed that there assembled below, in Owensboro, Ky., were the soldiers of the greatest Division ever formed by the United States Army. Gentlemen, you were fantastic.

To those of you who attended Church Services on Saturday, I know you felt it was extra special with the Reverend Steven Lanza, the son of Joe and Julie Lanza, being the celebrant. The theme of his sermon was put into a letter to his Dad and Mom, and it was beautiful.

That reminds me of the actions of Joe and Julie Lanza. Everytime we looked around, Joe was kissing Julie's hand. Joe said it was a second honeymoon Julie said he was buying his way out of the doghouse. Sorry, Julie, but knowing what a staunch 83rd man Joe is, we'll accept his story. (Al Uridel has more to say in his report.)

I wanted to read the prayer below at the conclusion of our Banquet, but time ran out, so please take time and enjoy the true wisdom it expresses.

"Summer Thanksgiving Prayer"

Thank God for his multi-colored, many splended creation- for scarlet roses, purple cabbages, yellow daisies, red tomatoes.

Thank God for the excitement in variety- for sunrise and sunset, for rains, some gentle, some pouring, for mushrooms and for mountains, for clothes right for fun and for clothes to dress up in, for soft, pillowy clouds, for dramatic, towering clouds, and for rainbows.

Thank God for beautifully different people- for short ones and tall ones, for thin and not so thin, for young and not so young, for listeners and talkers,

for dark skin and light.

Thank God for gifts and givers, and for His gift-love. "For all that has been, thanks! For all that will be, yes."

'Til the next issue stay happy and healthy, and if you meet someone today who does not have a smile on their face, give them yours.

Casey Kowalec

Newton R. Rodgers 3710 Offutt Road
DIV. ARTY HDQS

Word from John Piscitelli that Newton passed away suddenly. He had attended the reunion in Owensboro.

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR HISTORY OF THE 83rd DIVISION.



Walter Huddlestone "E" 329th.
Rt. 1, 313 Mulberry Street
Carlisle, Kentucky 40311

Taken by Fran and Wally Roberts on June 11, 1984.

WARREN CHAPTER NEWS

Once again we returned from a great reunion with fond memories of a well organized program. Excellent Hotel accomodations, and the wonderful experience of meeting with old friends and thoroughly enjoying ourselves. Warren Chapter members and our wives wish to thank reunion chairman, R. C. Hamilton and his hard working Kentucky Chapter members and their wives for all their work and time spent in making this reunion a memorable occasion. As George Cooley used to say - "A tip of our hat to you all".

Prior to the August reunion, we held two meetings.

JUNE - As usual Charlie Tomazin and his committee went all out to make our picnic, golf day a huge success. Good food, plenty of refreshments and the finalization of plans to set up our C. P. at the reunion.

JULY - Our annual trip to Paradise Lake at the camp sites of Babe and Theresa Gautschi, Ray and Marge Voracek and Lee and Birdie Titus, was most enjoyable. Again good food, refreshments, card games, and a golf tournament highlighted the day.

Ten members and four guests participated in the golf tournament -- Prizes were won as follows.

Closest to pin	John Caparanis
Closest to pin	Joe Venuti
Closest to hole	Babe Gautschi
Least Putts	John Shamrock
Blind Bogey	George Bellay
Most Putts	Whitey Priebe
Highest score	Skip Johnson

John Caparanis was a medalist with a 40.

SICK CALL - Joe Venuti is now home and recuperating from a serious operation in August. Get well soon Joe.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO:
John and Helen Caparanis and their family over the loss of their daughter, Nancy, age 23 and a senior at Kent State University. She was a passenger in a fatal auto accident, July 12, 1984.

Well that's all from Warren for now - Good health and good luck to all of you.

Lee Titus
Chapter Reporter

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION - Members and families
From THE KENTUCKY CHAPTER

We want to acknowledge and thank the executive board for their assistance they have given to us over the past 3 years.

To the president and his staff for the excellent preparation over the last 3 years and the outstanding job through out the reunion.

The members of the Kentucky Chapter their wives and friends the endless hours you worked, when there was work to be done you were there with only one thought, the thought being lets make the 38th reunion successful. Thanks to all of you.

To all members, families and friends who attended the reunion it was a great pleasure being your host, without you this could not have been done.

Visitors are welcome to attend our quarterly meeting. The next meeting will be October 27, 1984, Natural Bridge State Park, Slade, Ky. Phone (606) 663-2214.

President-KENTUCKY CHAPTER

Ames Miller

To all who purchased jelly, do not toss your plastic liner, cut out the center and keep the plastic ring for your sealer.

REMEMBER ALL WHO HAVE NOT PAID YOUR 1985 DUES. IT IS TIME TO GET YOUR \$10.00 INTO THE NATIONAL OFFICE.

*** PITTSBURGH CHAPTER ***

Hi Everybody,

First, I would like to express thanks in behalf of the entire Pittsburgh Chapter for the wonderful reunion in Owensboro. The Kentucky Chapter spared nothing in their effort to make everyone happy and welcome.

Thirty-nine of us enjoyed the charter bus ride to and from Owensboro. It's really not a long trip when you're having fun. Welcomed aboard were J. W. Nicholson of Wellesville, Ohio and Sam Stepanovich from E. Liverpool, Ohio. And again we enjoyed the company of our friends Glenn and Nell Wible who live in California now. We like to think of them as part of the Pittsburgh gang. Hey

you guys, it's not too early to sign up now for the next bus ride to "The Pines".

Something new has been added this year. We are proud of our snappy colorguard, who include Lou Kanen, Sal Scicolone, Ezio Alicandri and Fran Beerhalter. It's time we give Philadelphia some color support. They have been doing such a great job for so many years. Maybe other chapters will like to assember their own colorguard and join Pittsburgh and Philadelphia at future reunions.

We missed Ed and Lee Ruess at the reunion this time. Their youngest son, Brian, was married the same weekend. Want to wish much happiness to the newlyweds. Today, many reception halls must be reserved more than a year ahead and when a wedding is scheduled, that's it.

Not much news this time except that Sue and I are vacationing for a week here in New England and enjoying this beautiful area around Cape Ann. I'm writing this from a motel where we are staying in Peabody, Mass. and had better hurry to get this in the mail before it is too late for the deadline.

Wishing you all good health.

Larry Leonardi

A -331



Pgh. Bus: Agnes and Jules Desgain, Theresa and Sal Scicolone, Chuck and Lu Caven, Ruth and Chuck Hopta.

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR HISTORY OF THE 83rd DIVISION.

*** PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER NEWS ***

Dear Buddies:

Here we are heading for our 39th 83rd reunion. As you all no doubt know I could not make Owensboro, due to medical treatments. At our second business meeting on Saturday, August 1983 at our Florida reunion our Philadelphia Chapter put in a bid for the 1986 reunion. Dixie Chapter also put in a bid for the 1986 reunion. We men of the Philadelphia Chapter agreed to step aside in favor of our Dixie buddies and promised them to be their back-up chapter. We also promised them to help in anyway or need. We also went on record to put in our bid for the 1987 reunion with myself as National President and Al Belvedere as our National Chairman. Al and I worked with the Hershey hotels, one in Pocono and one in Hershey Amusement Park. They had package deals similar to the Pines and Owensboro.

Once again when it was time to vote we were beaten again. So we are again going on record to all of you that we are putting in a bid for 1988. We were very disappointed that we did not get the bid for 1987, but we are still 83rd men and will work hard for any reunion. Let's all stick together and work together for the bettermen of the greatest Division in the U. S. Army, "The 83rd Thunderbolts".

Let's try not to get mad about things that don't go our way and to be sure and attend as many reunions as we can and that the Good Lord will let us.

Thank you and God bless each and every one of you.

Your buddies

John T. Piscitelli

Philadelphia Reporter

JOYS ARE OUR WINGS—
SORROWS
OUR SPURS.

CO "D" 331st INF.

BY GENE NOLTE

Al and Carol Shrawder with able assistance of their children hosted a mini-reunion for nine members of Co. "D" 331st INF. and their wives at their home in Evansville, In. on Sunday, August 12th.

We had a cookout with very good food and conversation together with a large cake showing the great 83rd insignia.

Included in the group were: Pop and Mildred Akam, Ralph & Geri Gunderson, R. C. & Louise Hamilton, Jim & Harriet Lynch, Bill & Jeanette McKee, Gene & Janet Nolte, George & Polly Odenweller, Albert & Rose Otto. Also included were Bill's brother Ken McKee and wife Jean, and the Otto's daughter Cathy, and the Hamilton's daughter, Robin.

Thank you Al and Carol, we had a great time.



Kneeling L to R Bill McKee, Jim Lynch, Al Shrawder
Standing L to R Ralph Gunderson, George Odenweller, Pop Akam, RC Hamilton, Gene Nolte, Albert Otto

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR HISTORY OF THE 83rd DIVISION.

*****G COMPANY 331st Infantry *****

What a turn out for the reunion in Owensboro, there were some 16 members of the Company in attendance, and I believe I have all the names, if not Beau Titus and I will have to get our list together.

Those in attendance, Beau Titus, Bob Piette, John Teringo, Babe Gautschi, Joe Phillipone, Gene Costanzo, Al Suess, Ed Walsh, Vance Tuttle, Edgar Perry, Kenny Baird, Selma Corder, Joe Henley, Troy Mayse, Clyde Flanary, Joe Macaluso.

Three newcomers made their first, and it was the first time I had seen these members since 1945. It was a good feeling to meet them once again. Troy Mayse has a few grey hairs, but is still the same ole little Joe that we knew in the forties. Perry had attended our company reunion in Pittsburgh, but had to leave before I arrived. Joe Henley had called me before I left New Orleans and told me that he would attend. Joe looks like he could step back into uniform tomorrow and do the same good job that he did during the War.

I believe the thing that impressed me the most about this group, was the fine group of young ladies that they had chosen to be their wives. I believe that is the thing that has kept us looking so young.

It was unfortunate that some members could not attend. I had seen Bob Becker in Nashville on the way to Owensboro, his wife had been operated on and was unable to attend. Casel Bush had recently undergone Surgery and was unable to come over from Evansville. Maybe in 1986 when we meet in Knoxville, we can get these fellows to attend. Beau Titus seems to be taking his heart condition in stride, although I felt he was drinking a few beers too many, maybe he will slack off then he returns home to Ohio.

I am sorry that I was not able to spend more time with these men, but I knew when I was elected to the Executive Board that the meetings would take up all of my time. Now that I have completed my term on the Board, we will again have the G Company meetings at the reunions, so we can all meet and have a few beers. Our Company CP will be set up next year at the Pines Hotel in New York.

Joe Macaluso

***** FROM THE LOUISIANA CHAPTER *****

The men from the Louisiana Chapter that attended the reunion in Owensboro wanted to express their thanks to the members of the Kentucky Chapter for an excellent reunion. There were four

members of the Louisiana Chapter in attendance, Rev. J. Williamson, Lawrence Armand, who got in his share of the Golf Tournament, Izzy Labbe, from Duson, and Joe Macaluso.

Labbe, had a memorable time, because at the last count there were some 35 members of the Ordnance Company that attended the reunion. I know this was a happy occasion for him, he was able to meet some of his buddies that he had not seen in 40 years.

Lawrence Armand had the pleasure of seeing his Co.O. and one of the platoon leader from Cannon Co. 331st.

Rev. Williamson was seen on a number of occasions, he was able to contact some of his buddies.

Next year's reunion will again be at the Pines Hotel in the Catskill Mountains in New York. It will be a reunion to remember, because on the program is a trip to the Military Academy at West Point.

Joe Macaluso

In June of this year, the wife and I were fortunate to have made a trip to Europe. We visited our daughter and her family in Germany, and had hopes of attending the Celebration of the Friendly Invasion on Utah Beach on 6 June 1984. We were dishearted in not being able to get on the Beach for the Celebration, because the French Government had imposed such tight security for that day.

One highlight of the trip was a meeting with a Mr. M. Psegens from Susteren, Holland. This man wanted to present a gift to some member of the 83rd Infantry Division for the Association. I met with Mr. Psegens at the Hotel Dorian, in Spa, Belgium. He presented to me a needlepoint (picture below) in appreciation of the 83rd's liberation of that section of Holland. I felt honored, and it did make me feel good to know that the people in that section of Europe still appreciate what the American had done for them during World War II.

Joe Macaluso

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR HISTORY OF THE 83rd DIVISION.



Presentation of Gift from M. Pesgens, Hotel Doriant, Spa, Belgium.



Beer toast, M. Pesgens, Hotel Doriant, Spa, Belgium.

***** "B" BATTERY 908th F.A. Bn. *****

The following men and their wives attended the reunion in Owensboro. Mr. & Mrs. Jules Desgain, Verona, Pa.; Mr. & Mrs. Ed Williams Waymart, Pa.; Mr. & Mrs. Richard Bevins, Tampa, Fla.; Mr. Michael Rudy & daughter, Loyalhanna, Pa.; Mr. & Mrs. Alex McDaniel, Largo, Fla.; Mr. & Mrs. Michael Jarmoska, Reading, Pa.; Mr. & Mrs. Michael Bacha, Youngstown, Ohio; Mr. & Mrs. Nick Bertovich, Avella, Pa. Bedford Hunter, Madison, Tenn. and myself.

Two new fellows showed up. One was Jimmy Shaw and his lovely wife from Tollesboro, Ky. I had written him before the reunion. He was on vacation in the Smoky Mts. and left there to come to the reunion. He arrived Friday

night. It was the first visit since '45 and a good time was had reliving the past. Another first timer that we hadn't seen since '45 was John Hobbs. He not only attended his first reunion, but walked away with the reunion in his home town, Charlestown, W.Va. for 1987.

To be truthful, John, as a member of the Philadelphia firing squad, I was one of the few to vote for Philly. I have to be honest and say that even if we offered a free reunion in Hawaii, I doubt if we could have won, after the fine presentation by the charming lady from Charlestown, W.Va.

Best of luck, John, it was good to see you again and hope "B" Battery can make it a larger group next year at the "Pines" in N.Y.

"Jim" Prentice
"B" Battery 908th

Hat's off to the Kentucky Chapter for hosting the largest group ever to assemble at an 83rd reunion. These reunions just seem to get better every year.

Nick Francullo was right when he said the Executive Inn was a great place to hold a reunion. The Kentucky Chapter took it over and showed us one great time. Art Doggett, kept things under control and ran a tight but smooth business meeting. R.C. Hamilton, handled the buses to Breckinridge well and also pleased the ladies on the trip by getting each a plant to take home. He also did a great job with TV and newspaper coverage (I have to watch out, he's qualified to take my job) but I'm not worried, R.C., anytime you wanted it, I'd be your number one backer, as you really did a fantastic job. Manny Goodridge handled the boat trips very well and "Bob" and Pearl handled a hundred problems, including a couple of mine, and still kept a happy smile. The men and women of the Kentucky Chapter must have put in many hours, making the decorations for every table each night, which the women were very happy to take home with them. All in all, it was a great visit to our second home during W.W. II.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Kentucky Chapter and the Assn. for the presentation of a plaque recognizing my eight years as 3rd V.P. and Publicity Director. I enjoy doing the work and its been a pleasure to be of service to the Assn., but have to admit, it's nice to know it's appreciated. Thank you again.

"Jim" Prentice
3rd Vice-President

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR HISTORY OF THE 83rd DIVISION.

Dear Mr. Derickson:

We are trying to contact every unit that was a part of the XX Corps during World War II. Your division was a part of the third army and at one time or another you were a part of the XX Corps.

There was XX Corps book published in about 1951. There are not too many of those books around. We are having this book republished and it will be ready for sale around July 1, 1984. So we are asking for your help in getting this information to your people. This book will sell for \$40.00 plus \$3.00 for postage and handling. Sorry no C. O. D.s. This is an 8 x 11 hard cover book with over 400 pages, with over 900 pictures and 25 situation maps, a XX Corp insignia and a tank embossed on the cover.

There is going to be only a limited number of these books available and we want to give everyone an equal opportunity to purchase one of these books if they desire. The book can be ordered from W. E. B. S., Inc., Box 87, Halstead, Kansas 67056.

We want to take the opportunity to thank you for your help and we want you to know we appreciate it.

Sincerely yours,

Wayne E. Smith

Wayne E. Smith
Member XX Corps, 3rd Army
W. E. B. S., Inc.

Dear Bob:

I am enclosing some articles for the Thunderbolt. I believe for all concerned we should print the copy of the Publishing Agreement that was signed at the reunion. We should push this, maybe to fill in the blank spaces in the Thunderbolt we should put-DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR HISTORY OF THE 83rd DIVISION.

Listed above is a copy of the Publishing Agreement that was signed with Milton M. Ferguson for the publication of a 83rd Infantry Division Association History.

As explained at the meeting in Owensboro, Mr. Ferguson must have an order of at least 500 books before they will go into publication.

We have twelve months from October 1, 1984 in order to get our money in for the History Book. A raise of hands at the meeting gave us an indication that you men were interested in this book. Let us not Delay, we should begin to send our money in (\$35.00 per copy for the book, plus @3.00 per book shipping charge). The money should be sent to Ferguson Communications, P. O. Box 146, Hillsdale, Michigan, 49242.

I believe it would be wise to send your check or money order so that you will have a receipt for your purchase. If 500 copies are not ordered by October 1, 1985, your money will be refunded.

DON'T PUT IT OFF, LET'S GET YOUR ORDER IN TODAY.

PUBLISHING AGREEMENT

This agreement is entered into between Walsworth Publishing Company/Milton M. Ferguson and the 83rd Infantry Division Association on this _____ day of _____ 19 _____

It is agreed that Walsworth Publishing Company/Milton M. Ferguson, hereafter referred to as the Company, will produce a pictorial, historical book hereafter referred to as the history book for the 83rd Infantry Division

Association, hereafter referred to as the association, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. This book will be 8½" x 11" trim size, printed in black ink unless more copies are sold than required for the pages needed in which case color will be included where possible as desired by the association. The history book will be library bound with a durable hardback with decorations appropriate to a fine book and Smyth sewn for permanence. Composition, design, correction, and printing will be by the Company with the assistance of the association in selection.
2. The number of pages in the history book will be dependent on the number of copies of the book sold as a result of direct mail and other promotions. The number of history book sales required for varying page sizes of the book are as follows:

COPIES SOLD	PAGES INCLUDED	ADDITIONAL COPIES SAME PRINTING
500 - 750	192 pages	\$ 5.66
751 - 1000	256 pages	6.94
1001 - 1250	312 pages	8.22
1251 - 1500	360 pages	9.18
1501 - 1750	408 pages	10.14
1751 - 2000	454 pages	11.10
2001 - 2250	488 pages	11.74
2251 - 2500	520 pages	12.38
2501 - 2751	552 pages	13.02
2751 - 3000	576 pages	13.34

If there are fewer than 500 books sold in 12 months from the first mailing, the book would be considered unmerchtable. In such an event, the Company would return by check all advance payments by purchasers of the book and this agreement would be dissolved and there would be no obligation of the parties to each other with regard to this agreement.

In the event that over three thousand (3000) copies of the book are sold prior to publication, the number of pages would remain fairly stable and the Company will initiate certain enhancements to the history book with the approval of the association including, but not limited to additional full color pages, full color endsheets, duotone printed pages and additional deluxe cover enhancements.

3. The selling price of the history book will be \$35.00 per copy sold prior to publication. Packaging and shipping will be \$3.00 per copy additional. Payment will be accepted by cash, check, money order.

The Company may offer various options to individual purchasers at additional cost. This may include personalized copies, leather or other deluxe editions.
4. Copyright registration and payment of fees for the history book will be initiated and completed by the Company for the association.
5. The Association agrees that all material, including photographs and written material, supplied to the Company is the property of the Association and not previously copyrighted to anyone other than the association or that permission has been received for the publication of such material.
6. The Association shall name an editorial board or an editor who will work with the Company on editorial decisions and to determine that the history book meets the approval of the association.
7. The Association will provide the Company with a mailing list. If such mailing is done by the Association they will be reimbursed for such costs.

The Association will allow the Company to produce promotional materials about the history book and will cooperate in all reasonable ways to help develop the best and most complete book possible.

8. It is anticipated that the history book will be completed and delivered in 1985. If not, there could be as much

as 6% change in the number of pages available as shown on the schedule above.

9. Upon completion of the history book, the Company will provide 100 copies to the association for its use or resale. As an alternative to the 100 copies, the Association may elect to receive a royalty of \$1.50 per copy sold. Such royalty is to be accumulated until 500 copies are sold and then to be paid to the Association. Additional royalties to be paid each six months until the project is completed.

83rd Infantry Division Asso.

Walsworth/Ferguson

Dear Bob,

One year ago I paid my dues late and promised you a short piece of writing. This fall, 1984, I am paying my dues late and will consider this letter the short piece of writing, procrastination is my best trait! The good news is that my dues get paid!

In the summer of 1983 my wife Kathie and I joined a tour that highlighted the Medieval Period of history and pilgrimages to Santiago de Compostela, Spain. After the tour terminated in Madrid we rented a car and explored the rest of Europe for an extra four weeks. Where do you end a European tour? Luxemborg naturally!

I had written to Sam Klippa requesting information regarding my intended sightseeing in Luxemborg and he told me to call on Tilly Kimmes in a town named Steinsel. To quote him, "...she will give you all the help you need to make your stay very enjoyable. She is a real friend of the American G. I." I can tell you Sam sure did not lie to me--You will never meet nicer people than Roger and Tilly Kimmes. We stayed in Remich in a hotel overlooking the Mosel River--so peaceful now, just a beautiful location. We drove to the Kimmes home and they gave us a grand tour of much of the Battle of the Bulge area in northern Luxemborg. What a wonderful day!

Elsewhere is a photo taken of Tilly and myself at the site of the "Monument of the G. I." at Clervaux. How I wish I could have been at the Ceremony of dedication of the Monument, September 11, 1983. My wife and I also stopped at Grevenmacher, before we left for Frankfurt and home, to see the memorial plaque dedicated to the memory of the members of the 331st Infantry Combat Team. A memorable trip to Luxemborg!

My best to all,

Don Hinz



Mme Tilly Kimmes, Secretary to the CEBA and Don Hinz, 83rd Signal. Taken at the site of the Monument to the G. I. Clervaux, Luxemborg, July 30, 1983.

*In this troubled world
it's refreshing to find
Someone who still has
the time to be kind,
Someone who still has
the faith to believe
That the more you give
the more you receive,
Someone who's ready
by thought, word or deed
To reach out a hand
in the hour of need.*

Helen Steiner Rice

*** FROM THE OLD OFFICE ***

Dear Buddies:

Even though I missed out having my column in the last Thunderbolt, time sure has caught up on me and I'm writing this one very late. Too many things have happened since the last time that I wanted to write about, but now have forgotten. There is a pile of stuff I could write about but it would take more than half of this issue to get it all in, so I'll just have to cut some corners.

As you already know, I went to Europe for five weeks starting in May and my return was in the latter part of June. On this trip, I sailed on the Queen Elizabeth II from Philadelphia to Southampton, England and from there to London where I had spent just one night. Next morning I got on a train to Dover, took the Ferry to Oostende, Belgium and got on another train to Brussels, Belgium where I changed and went to Luxembourg. Met my friend Joe Danylo and Jules Desgain there. We rented a car and did the rest of the trip at our leisure, visiting the places we wanted to see, when we wanted to see them. Nobody was there to tell us to hurry or that we had a few minutes here and a few minutes there.

On our list of places to see were: Bastogne, St. Vith, Malmedy, Aachen, Liege, The Riviera, Italy, Spain, St. Lo, St. Malo, Avranches and many more that I will not mention for now. We had intended to be on the Normandy Beaches for the big celebrations on "D" Day, but changed our minds because the Big Wigs had the place mostly to themselves. It was a day for them and not for the G.I.'s who made history there. As most of you have read, the roads were blocked off some twelve or fifteen miles back from the beaches.

Our days at the beaches (about the tenth of June) were very enjoyable and much less crowded. We met all sorts of people there from all the countries. It was amazing how many Americans were there. The seven days we spent there were so much more enjoyable than the other eleven trips that I made since the War, that I would recommend this way of travel to all of you that plan to visit Europe in the future. Rent a car and do as you please, when you please. In the end, you will be less tired and happier that you did it your way.

Our Hotels were the best in Europe and cost less than the ones we had before. Our meals were super and cost less than the made up meals we had before. When you travel on your own, everything works in your favor. The total cost of the land portion was less than travel in a group.

The one thing that spoiled my trip was the people

who are all blaming the U.S. for their problems, no matter what the problem might be. One Country in particular really had me riled, but being I was the foreigner, I had to keep my lip buttoned. They really hate our President over there. I think the biggest problem is the fact that they aren't getting all the money they got before and feel that they should be still getting it. What the heck, the War has been over for forty years.

In general, I enjoyed the trip very much. It was my last time to go to Europe and now I will devote all my travel to this country and possibly the nearby countries that I can get to by car. Next year, Lord willing, I'll be going up to Alaska, the state that I wanted to see many years ago.

Since coming home, I went to the Kentucky Reunion, another great one that broke a record for members in attendance, people in attendance and new members in attendance. I'll let them give the exact figures. It was a very enjoyable affair and the Kentucky gang needs to be congratulated for a job "Well Done". I also went to the West Virginia Chapter Meeting to see what they had in mind for the 1987 Reunion. We visited the different Hotels in the area and talked to the Convention Bureau representative and Hotel Sales People. Charleston is quite a nice city and I think we are all in for a surprise when we go there.

Since getting home from the Reunion, aside from catching up on some rest, I had a lot of mail to answer and I sent out seventeen Company Rosters to men that wanted to write to their Buddies. When they saw how many new members came to Owensboro, they thought it would be a good idea to build up their company and get them to the Reunion. "D" Company of the 331st was beat in attendance this year because somebody did a lot of writing, and this proves that letter writing is the best form of advertising. If all of you would try this, you would see more of your Buddies at the future Reunions and there would be more new faces to count. Time is running out on us, and if you don't do it now, it may be too late. Get that pencil in hand and if you don't have the address, I can supply those. Just send me a request and I'll be glad to do that for you.

These are some of the things I picked up since my last article:

Thelma Coast of California (whose husband Richard of Hq. 330th died in 1976) has lost track of the Division and would like to get caught up. She wants to get on the mailing list for the Thunderbolt.

Peter J. Routsis of the 323rd F.A passed away in Lowell, Ma. on January 5th of 1984. This information was given by James Emanouil. No other details were given.

Ralph Baron of "A" 308th Engineers has rejoined the Pittsburgh Chapter as a member. He has had many problems in the past years but we are happy that he now has the time to be with us again.

Harry Palizua of the 308th Engineers who resided in Imperial, PA passed away in 1979. This info. was passed on to me at our last meeting here.

For those of you that bought Raffle Tickets from the Pittsburgh Chapter while you attended the Reunion, the lucky number was 643 and was won locally by a lady that was on her way to Luxembourg to visit the grave of her husband who died in the War. It couldn't have happened at a better time.

Ezo (Smokey) Alicandri of "D" 329th Infantry will be retiring on the 28th of September. Boy! I think we have more retired people than we have working people anymore. Anyway, we wish Smokey a long and happy retirement.

My daughter and wife were at a local Flea Market one day when they noticed a young fellow buying an 83rd Patch. My daughter got to talking to him and learned that the boys father, Andy Wertzberger was in the 83rd and was killed in action. The son forgot the Unit his dad served in and maybe some of you will remember the name.

This note I forgot to include in my European comments:

Irvin Spandau of "G" 329th, who I met at the 83rd Luncheon in Gravenmacher, Luxembourg, told me quite a story about himself and I thought it was worth printing. he said that while they were being attacked one time, the ran out of ammunition but had plenty of Mortar shells. After running out of Mortar shells, he took a position in a tree and was dropping hand grenades in Tank turrets as they went by. He was blasted out of the tree by the Jerries and played dead when they went by. General Macon visited him in the Hospital because of his deeds and commended him for his bravery. He got a letter from the President of the U.S. and received a Bronze Star for bravery. Among his medals are the Croix de Guerre, the French Croix de Guerre and the Purple Heart. This is not Official. It was told to me this way.

Goodness! I sure rattled off enough. I'd like to leave all of you with one thought before closing. My trip to Europe has brought this on. "Let's get back to talking about the good things in this country and forget about degrading it as so many are doing. Lets get the world back to appreciating all that we have done for them. It hurts to hear them talk about us the way that they do. Patriotism is something that we all need to emphasize and I'm sure the results would be in our favor." Do your share to make this the great est country on earth again, and keep it that way.

God Bless all of you.

Samuel Klippa
"D" Co. 331st Inf.

***** FLORIDA CHAPTER *****

The Florida Chapter and myself would like to thank Arthur Doggett, R.C. Hamilton and the entire Kentucky Chapter for the fantastic Reunion we had in Owensboro, Kentucky. It seems that the reunions are getting better and stronger each year. We arrived in Owensboro on Tuesday afternoon, and in the evening about one hundred and fifty of us went to a country club for a Buffet Dinner that was second to none. On Wednesday evening we had a beautiful boat ride. On Thursday we made the trip to Camp Breckinridge. Although I took my training at Camp Wheeler, Georgia, it was great seeing Breckinridge. It brought back fond memories of my training. On Saturday afternoon we had our parade and memorial services. In the evening we had our annual banquet. There were over one thousand men and women at this dinner. After twenty years, Sam Galati of Brooklyn, New York made this reunion. It sure was great seeing him. He promised me that he will be at the Pines next year with his wife Ann.

Try and make your plans early for our next Reunion at the Pines Hotel in New York. If you attended the last Reunion at the Pines you will remember the wonderful time we had there. From the Plans that are being made, you are in for a great time again, including a trip to West Point.

The Florida Chapter was well represented at this reunion. We did miss Bill and Alma Herhuth, and John and Anna Mae Stewart. We also signed up five new members. Congratulations to Ralph Gunderson on becoming the newest member of the Executive Board. You can rest assured that Ralph is strictly an 83rd man. He will work hard on the Executive Board.

Our next meeting will be in West Palm Beach the first week-end of November. If any 83rd men are in this area and would like to attend this meeting please let me know and I will send you all the particulars.

Dave Benick
"A" 331st

**DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR HISTORY OF
THE 83rd DIVISION.**

Hello Buddies:

What a beautiful Reunion, the guys and dolls from the Kentucky Chapter did one hell of a job, our hats go off to them. The music left something to be desired as far as I'm concerned, and am voicing my own opinion. I did hear others moaning about it too, but let them voice their own feelings.

The Memorial Service was beautiful, Fr. Steve Lanza did one hell of a job, and so did Bishop Casey K. They even got me to go to the Mass, and that takes some doing.

I celebrated my 70th birthday on the 9th of Aug. and the Cleveland Chapter even made me a birthday cake, (eat your hearts out you guys). I just couldn't express myself just then without breaking up, so I'll thank all the folks that wished me a happy birthday that night. That goes for the girls from the Warren Chapter, Birdie Titus & Theresa Gauchi & several others that I can't remember off hand.

I met 2 guys from Cn. Co. that made their first Reunion, Walt Olsen & Ermantano, it sure gives one a good feeling to see these guys after all these years, hope they make it for N.Y. & the Pines. Oh yes, I forgot my good buddy Riley Laughlin who wasn't at a Reunion since Cleveland had it.

Have to thank the Joe Lanza's for offering the use of their siute for the Cleveland C.P., that was real nice of them.

The guys that ran the Hospitality Room bar, did one hell of a job pouring, and pouring, you didn't wait long to be served, our hats go off to them too.

My Chauffeur, Rollie Warner drove about three quarters of the entire trip, he loves to drive. (Ha) I think he doesn't trust me anymore, good.

A message to Geo. Connors of Prov. R.I.. Couldn't contact Bill George for you George, but am still trying, the guy moves around too much and is hard to intercept.

I thought my good buddy was sincere in his promise to attend the Reunion (Harry Hochman) but he didn't show up. Mort Goldman had an excuse, problems at home and work come first as they should. There should have been more Cannoneers from 329, but as is the custom, they choose to stay away. "Why?"

We missed the name of Geo. Sofranko in the death notice read off by C. Kowalec during the Memorial Service. I know there was ample time for his name to be listed as I wrote about his passing away in the previous issue. We know mistakes are inevitable and things were going at a rapid pace due to the Reunion so we understand. This isn't meant to be critical of anyone, it's just that we loved the man so much that we waited for his name to be mentioned.

Thursday night turned out to be a dandy one for me, I couldn't find my room for the life of me. Finally out of desperation and about an hour of wandering through a maze of halls, I asked a security cop. He laughed and said that I wasn't alone, there were others in the same predicament (Blame it on the ice cubes).

That's if for now, stay nice, and if you must fight, fight nice and pay your dues and plan on the Pines for "85."

Al Uridel
Cn. Co. 329

*** THE WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER ***

West Virginia was well represented at the Reunion. We thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. We had a wonderful time. We wish to thank the Kentucky Chapter for making it such a welcome and successful Reunion. Several of our members plan to go to The Pines, New York next year.

The West Virginia Chapter, with the help of their Representative, Jean F. Monda, of the Visitors and Convention Bureau of Charleston, W.Va. was selected to host a Reunion in West Virginia in 1987. We appreciate the trust and confidence that has been placed upon us and we will do our very best to make a success of it. We are proud to be a part of the 83rd.

The West Virginia Chapter met at the Best Western, McCoy Motor Lodge, in Ripley, W.Va. on Sunday, September 9th. Our Guests for this meeting were: Robert and Pearl Derickson, Sam Klippa, Joe Danylo, and Jean Monda. A long discussion was held concerning the Hotels, accomodations, and conveniences.

An election was held with the following officers being elected: John Hobbs-President, James Dunkin-Vice President, Don Pettry-Secretary Treasurer, John Shepherd-Reporter, and Eugene Persinger-Chaplain. Door prizes were won by: Larry Hoskins and Pearl Derickson.

A tour was made by our Guests and several W.Va. members to Charleston, W.Va. on Sunday morning to the Hotels concerning locations and etc. We wish to thank our Guests for visiting with us. You are always welcome. We appreciate your help.

Thank You!
Don W. Pettry
"B" 323 F.A.

***** NEW JERSEY CHAPTER *****

Hello Buddies:

If you were at the reunion in Owensboro you will agree with me it was another great one. Art Doggett, R.C. Hamilton, Charlie Schmidt and Ames Miller had a wonderful group of Thunderbolts, the men and women of the Kentucky Chapter, who all labored to give us a reunion we'll all remember. They gave us Southern Hospitality at it's finest. Thanks to all. You were great.

We had a good group from the Jersey Chapter attend. Charley Sihlanick was able to attend. He flew into Columbus where the Szubskis awaited him and drove him to the reunion. Emil Wehling left Hazel at home and found himself a roommate in the person of none other than the pride of Brooklyn, Sammy Salati. We lost Sam for about 20 years, but you all know, good Thunderbolts all return to the fold. Good to have you back Sam, Next time bring the pepperoni like old times.

Ted and Irene Guzik make it every year to be with their Co. A, 331 buddies. I believe 9 or 10 from his squad was at the reunion. Also attending were Joe and Dorothy Skurka from East Brunswick, Al Bensimon and wife from Beach Haven. Al invited me to stop in to see them on my next visit to Long Beach Island. Manny Epstein was there as usual. Manny has missed only one reunion.

In the last issue of the Thunderbolt, I wrote that Arnold and Bev Cipperly were planning on attending. At the reunion I received a Mailgram from them informing me that Arnold had suffered a slight stroke and was unable to make the reunion. I have since called Arnold and he is getting around by himself driving the car etc. We all wish him a speedy recovery and look forward to getting together with them.

Bill and Gloria McCartin made it along with Ed and Betty Kirgan. They all looked great and we all enjoyed being with them again. Ed and I were able to get out for a couple of rounds of golf. Always have a good time playing with him. Ed came close to winning the trophy at the golf tournament. Somehow I feel my playing with Ed helps him play better. Could be I set the example of how not to. Ed and Betty were successful in getting Charlie and Lucille Waldrop to attend their first reunion. They along with Don and Twyla Theibolt and Tom and Gail Hensley get together every October at Myrtle Beach for some vacationing.

My company 1st Bn. Hqs. 331 had it's best attendance at this reunion for many a year. Roger Barga, Leo Boyd, Jim Davis, Wilson Day, Fred Fowler, Willie Freshwater, Jim Muldrow, Mike Skovran, and along with wives made the reunion that much more enjoyable. This is the first time I have seen Freshwater and Davis since the war. I really enjoyed reminiscing with you all and hope at future reunions we can get more of our buddies to attend.

We here in Jersey want to wish you all a Happy Holiday Season and Health and Happiness in the New Year. God Bless You All.

Stan Bielen



Some of Boston Chapter at Owensboro



Vera Caprio, Ray Bjork, Arlene & Charles Miller, Larry Arrigo, Tony Catino.

*** MICHIGAN CHAPTER NEWS ***



Some of the Boston Chapter at Owensboro



Fran Arrigo, selling a ticket to Jim Prentice



Our New National President Bernie Cove

Once again the 83rd showed its strength in invading Owensboro. The largest attendance in 39 years.

Congratulations to Arthur Doggett and R.C. Hamilton for making this year one of the best reunions ever. With the support of all the Kentucky Chapter members too numerous to mention. All should be equally congratulated for a job well done.

Those from Michigan attending were: Jack and Hankie Daugherty, Lee and Dorothy Hetrick, Nick and Sylvia Barbuy, Vito and Virginia Palazzolo, Ed Zeruch, and Nick Boyd, Bruce and Jean Winchell, Bob and Rita Taylor.

I hope the future will bring a new spark to the Michigan Chapter and begin to build it's membership again and become active once more.

By the time you read this article we will have had a wedding at our house. On September 15, 1984 Anna Maria Palazzolo "Miss 83rd of 1965" was wed to William Elhert and a gala event it was. Among the out of town guests were, Lou and Lucy Volpi and Al and Ann Belvedere. More on this in the next issue of the Thunderbolt.

"G" 329th also had a real good attendance at the reunion in Owensboro. Those in attendance were John Cupina, Bob Brinkman, Florentine Casile, Francis Murphy, Stanley Rubright, Howard Fretag, Morris Gimble, Ames Miller, John Fay, Vito Palazzolo, James Ransdale and all the lovely wives and Chester Morgan and wife.

Received a letter from Amby Tynan from Boston and he informs me that Maurice Christoforo has been ailing for some time now. Please send cards to cheer him up. We missed seeing him for a long time. is address is: Maurice Christoforo, 241 Maverick, East Boston, Massachusetts 02128.

We also have missed Filmore Kohler this year. Hope you are coming along fine now.

That's about it for now. Hope to have more in the next issue.

Until then,
Stay Happy

Vito Palazzolo
"C" 329th
Michigan Chapter

**DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR HISTORY OF
THE 83rd DIVISION.**

Hi Bob,
 Please Print this Poem in your next issue of the Thunderbolt. We had a great time at Owensboro, Ky. Everything was work for you guys, but I appreciate everyone involved. It sure was a pleasant visit. The turn out was huge. I signed eleven new Dixie Chapter Members, plus prospects of a few more. Bob again thanks to the National and Owensboro, Ky. Group for a nice program.

Haran Martin
 Sec. & Tres.
 Dixie Chapter

"FACTS FROM DAD"

When I was a small boy
 My father said to me.
 Son you have much to be proud of
 And some things are free.
 So don't ever abuse them
 Or bring upon them shame.
 For one is your country
 And another is your name.
 He told me to always respect them
 And said two wrongs don't make a right.
 That I should always protect them
 If a must then I should fight.
 So I fought for my country
 To glory, honor and fame.
 Our native land is still free
 And I stand proud of my name.
 He told me to live by the Bible
 And never boast or brag.
 To always uphold and honor
 And salute the American Flag.
 He said to always listen
 Never repeat what you've heard.
 Always tell the honest truth
 For your bond is your word.
 He said I am your father
 It's my duty to bring you up right.
 As long as you follow the golden rule
 You can eat and sleep in my bed at night.
 For your raising you owe me nothing
 You've brought happiness to our home.
 But you'll pay for your raising
 When you raise a family of your own.
 He said some day when you become a father
 Through your mind these thoughts come.
 All the things I have taught you
 You will be teaching to your son.



Still able to smile on Sunday after the reunion. Gale & Irene Baker



Ticket holders. Manny & R. C.



Pittsburgh's new color guard

Dear Bob,

Enclosed please find my check for \$10.00 for dues for 1984-85. My outfit was "H" Company, 331st Inf. (2nd Platoon).

I have been a member of the Assn. ever since its originated right after the war. I visited quite a bit of men from my outfit through the years, but at this time I'd like to write to you perhaps to insert into the "Thunderbolt" paper, the following items:

Our Platoon Section Leader, in the 2nd Plt. "H" Co. was a fellow well known in the company, Isaac Leedy. I remember him quite well as a great Sgt. and an excellent soldier. There were several incidents during our combat days that he displayed acts of heroism and we were all proud to have a buddie of this kind in our outfit.

I corresponded with him for several years after the war, but then he moved to another city and left no forwarding address. A few weeks ago I went on vacation, together with my wife and travelled through Pennsylvania. His last known address was Mechanisburg, Pa. Since I could not locate him there, I checked with the phone company and located him in Chambersburg, Pa. I made a telephone call and his wife answered. She informed me that "Jim" Leedy had past away in 1980 from a severe heart attack. I was so terrible dissapointed in hearing this news and told her how sorry I was and she spoke to me at quite length about the wonderful years Jim and her spent together. I promised that I would contact the 83rd Assn. and ask that this news item be published in the "Thunderbolt".

You would be doing our men of "H" Co. a good deed by inserting this news item in your paper. Isaac Leedy was well known and loved by all that knew him.

For those who wish to have his last know address, where of course his wife and family still live, as follows:

Mrs. Dorothy Leedy
2917 Philadelphia Ave.
Chambersburg, Penna.

Tel. 717-263-3149

Further travelling on my vacation I looked up another former buddie of mine and a fellow well known in the 2nd Plt. "H" Co. 331st Inf., Billy Biggers.

He was also originally with the 83rd when they were activated at Camp Atterbury, Ind. He lives at present at:

Billy Biggers
Rt. 2, Box 586
Kings Mountain, North Carolina 28086
Tel: 704-739-5840

He was not a member of our association, but I gave him your name and address to write you and to get him joined up.

Thank you, Bob, for seeing to it that the above items are handed over to the right parties for publication in the "Thunderbolt".

Emanuel Lamb
333 East Broadway
Long Beach, N.Y. 11561

***** DIXIE CHAPTER *****

Dear Buddies:

First of all, our deepest sympathy to Dick Riddle and his family at the loss of his mother. May God be with you in your time of sorrow. If any of you would like to write a note to Dick and Leslie, their address is:

Route #3
Saluda, S.C. 29138

At the June 16 Dixie Chapter meeting at the Newberry Inn, Newberry, S.C. new officers were elected:

President	O.L. Cook
First Vice President	John Cox
Second Vice President	Chester Gray
Sec. Treasurer	Haran Martin
Chaplain	O.L. Dickerson
Reporter	Emory Culclasure

Good luck to all of you on your new job. I know each of us will do their best.

By the way, 9 Dixie Chapter members participated on the flight to Europe. Our President O.L. Cook had a broken foot and had to undertake this journey with a walking cane. Nothing stops O.L. Cook.

The National Convention in Owensboro, Kentucky was a memorable one. We want to thank the Kentucky Chapter for doing such a marvelous job in hosting 1014 people at the banquet. The food was delicious and the service great. Here are some pictures to prove it. Kentucky we had a wonderful time. THANK YOU!

Sorry my friends, but I will not be able to attend

our next meeting October 12, 1984 in Burlington, N.C. Christy and I are taking her aunt and uncle, who will be visiting from Germany, to New York City. Christy will have to miss her shopping spree at the Burlington outlets, but we hope to see each and every one of you at our favorite Christmas PARTY in **GATLINBURG, TN. from November 30 to December 1, 1984.**

To all our dear friends near and far, God's richest blessings.

Emory Culclasure
Reporter



Billy Walker, Chester Grey and Frank Jackson "Girl watching"



Haran Martin and Lacy Satterfield "Calling the Shots"



Philadelphia and Pittsburgh marching together.



Pgh. Bus: Nep and Doris Campbell, Glenn and Nell Wible, Andy Churpak.

THANK YOU...

The Kentucky Chapter...The Executive Inn...The Owensboro Davis Tourist Commission...The Earl C. Clement Job Corp Center, Camp Breckenridge, Ky...and all of you for making the 38th. Annual Reunion a great success.

**R.C. Hamilton
Reunion Chairman**

*** COMPANY "H" 330th INFANTRY ***

Well once again another Reunion has passed us by. From all reports from those who attended, it was one of the Greatest Reunion ever held. We are always happy to hear that a Reunion has been a Success and was enjoyed by all who attended.

I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to all of you who sent in contributions for the ad book. Although I wasn't able to attend the Reunion, I was able to do my part for the Association by helping to make the ad book the success that it was. You can't begin to imagine what a great help this book is to a Reunion. Were it not for the success of the book, the Reunion Committee would have quite a problem putting on a Reunion without having an exhorbitant Registration Fee. Again thanks to those of you who contributed, and those who didn't, I am sure that you had intended to send in but let it slip your minds. Oh well, next year I will be after you again, so get ready to hear from me shortly after the first of the year, and when you do hear, please acknowledge at once so you don't forget. I know that I do ask you for your contribution early, but it involves a lot of work and can't be let go until the last minute.

While I am at it, I am going to make another appeal, and that is for Dues, if you didn't attend the Reunion or haven't sent your dues in as yet, please make a check in the amount of \$10.00 payable to THE 83RD INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION and mail it to the National Office. Remember, this is your Association and without your Dues it can't go on.

*** LETTER TO THE EDITOR ***

Hello Buddies:

Here we are with the start of another great year in the History of the 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION. Another Reunion has just gone by, and from what I have heard, one of the greatest Reunions in the History of the Association. We owe a word of praise and thanks to the KENTUCKY CHAPTER for a good job, well done. Putting on a Reunion that is enjoyed by all who attend, is a much harder job than you may think. Unfortunately I was unable to attend this year. Not being able to go to the Reunion was a hard blow to take, but after listening to some of the people who did attend, it is even a harder blow to take.

I often sit here and think and wonder how many of you ever stop and think of all the hard work that is involved in running an Association such as ours. We have dedicated men who assume the responsi-

bilities of serving as Officers of the Association, with nothing to gain except the honor of having been an Officer of the Association. We have a Secretary-Treasurer who is paid a bare minimum, which amounts to nothing more than slave labor, because in doing his job properly it takes more of his time than would be required of him to do a normal days work for which he would obtain a livable wage. The Secretary-Treasurer of this Association does not hold this Office for the monetary profit that he gets, but he does it with a feeling of pride and dedication, I say this because I know only too well from experience how much is involved. The Secretary-Treasurer is more than just a man who receives your dues and sends you a membership card, he is more or less the General Manager, the responsibility of the operation of the Association depends mainly on him, so let us all take a minute out to thank God that we are blessed with such a man.

I know that there are many of you who are tired of receiving your copy of the "THUNDERBOLT" and reading my letters, but if you were as dedicated to this Association as I am, you would be doing the same thing. Remember fellows, this is more than just a Veterans Association, it is your own Association, made up of men who served with the 83rd Infantry Division in World War II, there are other Associations, but their Members served in other Wars and Conflicts, there is also the VFW, American Legion, CWV and several others, but their Members served with any and all Combat Units. Lets all become paid up members today, help do your part in making this the largest World War II Association. Again thanks to the KENTUCKY CHAPTER for a great Reunion.

Sincerely

Larry Redmond

Thank you for the Dues returns that I received. Keep them coming.

Hello Buddies:

Here I am with what may seem like a farewell letter to you. Thanks to John Walker who is going to try and carry on and seeing that the Company "D" page is still in the Reunion Ad Book.

I would like to at this time express my sincere thanks and appreciation to those of you who helped make this page possible this past couple of years since Frank McGrogan died. I had promised Frank that I would do my best to take his place until I could find someone to take over. Arthur DelPadre was going to take over last year, when he was called away from us, so I contacted John Walker and

he said that he would try and carry on. I had already started the page, so I carried on for this year, but from here on he will be in touch with you. I hope that you will give him the same support.

Well Fellows, again I want to thank you all, it is a wonderful feeling to know that although you are more or less a stranger to the men, that you can gain the support that I had gained. Next year our Reunion will be in New York, so John Walker will be trying to get your help in keeping the Co. "D" page the great page that it has been in the past. I am from Co. "H" and I can proudly say that our two Companies have the largest pages in the book. Keep up the good work.

Unfortunately due to a serious Heart Operation I was unable to attend this years Reunion, but from what I heard, it was one of the Greatest Reunions ever held. A lot of thanks and praise should go to the KENTUCKY CHAPTER for a good job well done. I know that John Walker can do a good job and will do a good job, but if he has any problems he can call on me and I will get back in there and see that Co. "D" doesn't let Frank McGrogan down.

Before I close this letter, I want to remind you all, that this is your Association and without your help it can't remain the success that it is. If you haven't paid your dues as yet, they're \$10.00 per year payable to 83rd Infantry Division Assn. I am helping to carry on a Paid Up Membership Campaign, so send your check to the National Headquarters.

Sincerely
Larry Redmond

Thank you for the DUES returns that I received.
Keep them coming.



Norm Schuster presenting Bob with his Purple Heart Medal.

THANK YOU

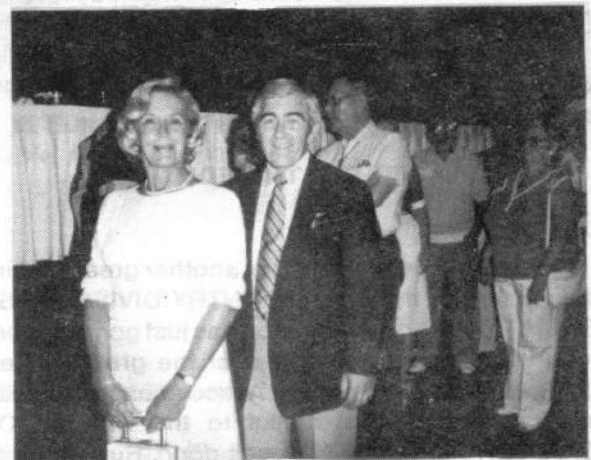
Thank you all for visiting our craft shop at the 38th reunion. We hope you enjoy everything you bought. It was a pleasure to help you and if the Kentucky Chapter hosts a reunion again we hope you will all come back. There was a package left in the room, a birthday card, some matches from the VFW Post in Evansville and one other item. If you will send me your name and address and tell me what the other item is, I will mail it to you.

If we offended anyone for any reason, please forgive us. If we made a few friends good for us. We tried hard and that was the best we could do. Thank you again.

Irene Baker.

P.S. Thanks to all who had anything to do with the surprise anniversary celebration on Tuesday evening and I do mean it was a pleasant surprise.

Irene Baker
6221 Delisle Fourman Road
Arcanum, Ohio 45304



The mayor of Owensboro and his wife.
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Fisher

*** BOSTON CHAPTER ***

Thanks a million to the Kentucky Chapter for a marvelous reunion from all the Greater Boston Chapter.

Thanks to Casey Kowalic for an excellent Memorial Service. John Piscitelli can be proud of you.

Reverend Father Stephen Lanza said Mass at the Hotel. We appreciate his coming again this year for us.

Al Belvedere and his Honor Guard, thanks for a job well done. Since the reunion the Boston Chapter has signed up 14 new members. Pat DiGiammerino and Hy Goodman have been doing some nice work chasing new members. Keep up the good work men as Boston is still the greatest.

Lucien Eli passed away. Pat DiGiammerino and some of the 83rders. were Pall Bearers for Lucien. Condolences to his family.

Ray Bjork's mother-in-law passed away. Ray's wife Flora died several months back. Sympathy goes out to Ray and his family.

Charles Durant is in the Veterans Hospital in Jamaica Plain. I understand he is doing better now.

Mike Caprio has retired from the U.S. Postal Service. Mike enjoy your retirement.

Romeo Maynard has been recovering from a heart attack. Romeo and Livi have had their troubles in the past year. They were just getting over a very serious accident when Romeo had the attack. We hope to get them both back in good health.

We in the Boston Chapter have been honored with our member James Prentice receiving an award at the Kentucky Reunion. Jim it shows that you re appreciated for the years of hard work which you do give the 83rd. Infantry Div. Assoc. "A Tip of the Irish mans hat to you."

The Boston Chapter has a meeting coming up where we will be getting to work on the coming reunion in So. Fallsburg, N.Y. Plans are to put on the best reunion of our time. Bernie Cove tells me we are going to do just that.

Congratulations to Bernie Cove for being elected to be President for the coming year.

Bob Hunnewell and Fred Sylvia did a fine job with 329 I Company in Kentucky. They are so quiet now at the yearly reunions. Larry Arrigo tells me it may be from AGE. He could be right.

Our National Historian Kent O'Connell was at the reunion. He told us a lot about our division in Europe that we never knew, which tells us Kent does his job. Al Belvedere tells me that's because is is **Irish**. See Kent even Al noticed.

Vito Palazzolo sent me a very nice picture of myself. He also mentioned that his daughter is getting married September 15th. Most of us know Vito's daughter from all the reunions in the past. Best Wishes to her for the years to come.

Violete Waples is recovering from a gall bladder operation and is doing well at home.

I guess that's all for now so I can make this evenings mail.

AMBY TYNAN
Boston Chapter

FRANKLY SPEAKING
by JOHN WALKER, JR.

Here it is Sept. 10th the deadline for the September article to the Thunderbolt. So I will have to call the Editor and explain to him that this is my first one, and that I will get better as time goes on.

For many years Frank McGrogan wrote the "Frankly Speaking" Column and those in Co. D 330th looked forward to reading it each quarter. I see no reason why we can't continue the column in his name. So I will make that effort at least for awhile.

I will try to be just as sincere as Frank was in getting the news of Co. D. out to everyone. One of his duties was to see that Co. D. had an Ad in our Reunion Program Book, we will continue to do this with the help of all concerned. I attended the Reunion at Owensboro, Ky. Everyone seemed to have a good time, those attending from D. Co. were Felix Marra, John Ball, George Tangelos, Clarence Zimmerman, P.E. Smith John Daum, Paul Schick (our mailman) Ted Gurgal, Frank Jackson, Harold Felton, Lacy Satterfield and a member of Co. D that I have never seen, he was the last one to sign in and I've lost his name.

I will be contacting everyone that I have a good address for, you can help me build a roster by writing to me with your address. I wish to thank Larry Redmond for carrying on for Frank and for his help over the years.

"FABULOUS WEEKEND STAY"

The Boston Chapter is sponsoring a week stay for two at The Pines Hotel, So. Fallsburg, N.Y. Winner to be drawn banquet night, Wednesday, September 11, 1985.

Winner need not be present. Tickets are \$1.00 each or a book of six for \$5.00.

Sincerely,
Mike Caprio
35 Shepard Ave.
Providence, R.I. 02904
Phone: 401-861-3675



39TH Annual Reunion of
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83rd Infantry Division

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Deana J. McIntosh

Kentucky born and raised Deana has been painting since high school and later studied art at Eastern Kentucky and Morehead State Universities.

World War II has been a fascination to Deana since childhood when she sat on her dad's knee and listened to war time stories. The sacrifices these men made to protect their families for generations to come from the perils of nazism left something unsaid.

After meeting the members of the 83rd Thunderbolt division through her father, Deana says, "I wanted to tell each and every one of these special men how much I appreciate their sacrifices. I want to dedicate this painting in memorial to all those who fought and died for this flag."

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Deadline for ALL articles to be published in Thunderbolt must be this office by Sept. 10, Dec. 10, March 10, and June 10.

**Robert Derickson
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BULLETIN

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

Bob

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