



THUNDERBOLT

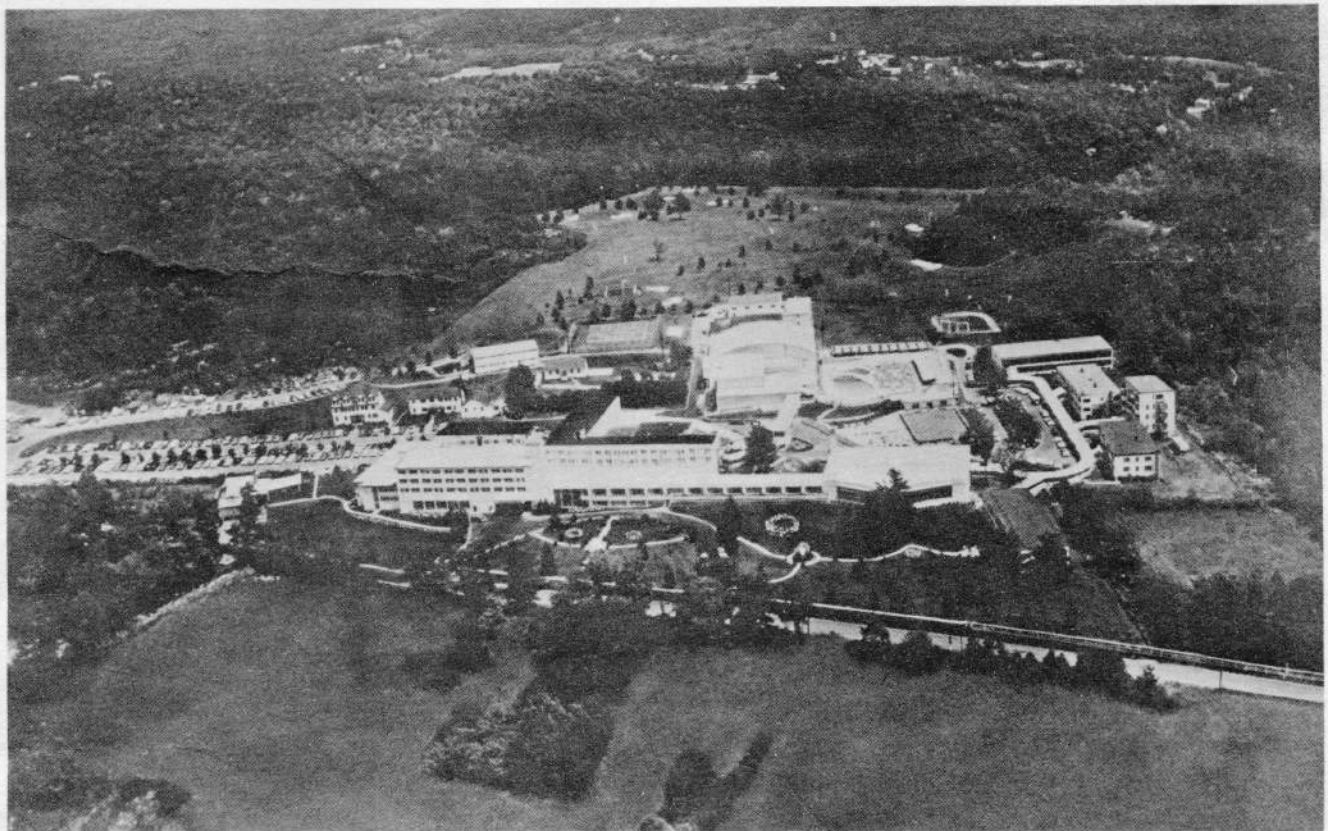
83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 40 No. 4

Summer Issue 1985

“ALL SYSTEMS GO”



For our 39th Annual Reunion at
THE PINES HOTEL
September 8-12, 1985

THE THUNDERBOLT
Official Publication
83rd Infantry Division Association Inc.

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

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A SALUTE TO PAST PRESIDENTS WHO HAVE SERVED US WELL

*James C. Hanrahan 1947	*Joseph F. Minotti 1960	*Harold H. Dopp 1972
Jack M. Straus 1948	*Frank J. McGrogan 1961	Louis J. Volpi 1973
*Shelly Hughes 1949	John W. Robinette 1962	Bernard O. Riddle 1974
*Julius Ansel 1950	*Manuel C. Martin 1963	Robert G. Taylor 1975
Walter H. Edwards Jr. 1951	Julius Boyles 1964	Mike Skovran 1976
Leo Schneider 1952	Samuel Klippa 1965	Manlius Goodridge 1977
Finley Heyl 1953	*William M. Doty 1966	Joseph A. Macaluso 1978
Lawrence J. Redmond 1954-55	Albert A. Belvedere 1967	*William J. Chavanne 1979
Lt. Gen. Robert H. York 1956	Vito C. Palazzolo 1968	Samuel Klippa 1980
*Harry W. Lockwood 1957	Pat DiGiammerino 1969	Michael Caprio 1981
Raymond J. Voracek 1958	Casey Szubski 1970	Ralph Gunderson 1982
Charles Abdinor 1959	Charles Altomari 1971	Arthur Doggett 1983

*Denotes deceased

**RETIRED LT. COL.
REMINISCES ABOUT
HIS MANY ADVENTURES
IN THE MILITARY**

**By FRANCINE SAVAGE
Reporter**

The 10 times he's been shot during battle rivals that in the Guinness Book of World Records. A veteran of world War II and the Korean Conflict, retired Lt. Col. William (Mike) White is proud of his 10 Purple Hearts, 3 Silver Stars, and 3 Bronze Stars - to name a few of the awards he's received during a military career that included 11 years in the Marine Corps and 16 in the Army.

"I was shot six times in four days at Normandy," 74-year-old White said. "I didn't join the Army to lay around hospitals so I was always "bugging out" to join my men."

Absent without leave, or 'bugging out' at the Lt. Col. called it, means he would go back to the fighting, even when it meant removing stitches from his arms or stomach.

"One time when I had just pulled the pin out of a grenade and raised my hand to throw it, a 'sledgehammer' hit me in the stomach. It curled me up like an anchovy on toast," White recalled with a grin.

The 'sledgehammer' was a machine blast to his stomach, the only time the feisty soldier remembered feeling pain when shot.

An expert shooter, Lt. Col. White participated in Citizen's Military Training Camp (similar to today's ROTC) during high school in California. This gave him a definite advantage when he enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1930. After two years sea duty on the Pacific coast, he was stationed with the 6th Marines in San Diego.

"I earned an extra \$5 a month expert shooter's pay plus the \$30 a month PFC's pay," the former Leatherneck related. "We needed it when we got married because those were the Depression years and Roosevelt was deducting 15 percent from the pay of all servicemen."

White can still recite the serial number of his Marine Corps issue 1903 Springfield rifle that helped him in several shooting contests.

A training accident left a slow-healing lump on his wrist, so he left active duty, and joined the reserves.

After two years of pumping gas at Standard Stations in California, one year as a guard at a women's prison, and then a short time back at Standard Stations, he joined the Army because at 31, he was "too old to be commissioned in the Marine Corps," according to White. I wanted to be there with my men."

The last bullet wound the sturdy, 6-foot-1 inch tall Army veteran received was during the Korean Conflict. That round pierced his right lung and is blamed for the emphysema that later developed and keeps White confined to an oxygen tank for several hours a day.

After retiring from military service in May 1957, White trained Cuban youths at a military school in Havana. When relations between Castro and the U.S. began to heat up, 48-year-old White moved to Miami where he was employed as an instructor at Miami Military Academy.

He enlisted in the Army as a PFC, in Sept. 1941 and made 1st Sergeant in Dec. "They were going to send me to school to be commissioned but I knew my division, the 330th, was hot and I wanted to go with them overseas where the fighting was," the father of two sons recalled.

White made 1st Lt. a year and a half after being commissioned and was promoted to Capt. in Feb. 1943. He chose combat with the troops over becoming a training officer.

When asked if this "Man's man" (as his wife, Tina, refers to him) was ever scared having been shot so many times, he replied in true George S. Patton spirit, "It was my job, I verus cadets, White came to the Jacksonville, N.C. area to let his damaged right shoulder heal. What was to be a 30-day recuperation period lasted two and a half years, so White settled in Richlands to be near the Naval Regional Hospital.

But a man whose ancestors have been "either soldiers or preachers since the Revolutionary War," according to his wife of 30 years, doesn't sit still for long. The Lt. Col. fills his time with his own picture framing business, and writing newsletters for the Disabled American Veterans.

"Mike has always put his country before anything else," Tina White said. "It's in his blood."



THE PRESIDENTS CORNER:

My Dear Friends:

The time has come for my last official message as President to the distinguished membership of the 83rd Infantry Division Association.

Serving as your President this past year, has been a year filled with excitement, anticipation and great pride. It has truly been a great honor representing you, the elite membership, on the various issues that have confronted our Association. It has been an experience that has enriched my life and one I will long remember.

The last several months has been "action packed" for our Association. In April, the Boston Chapter visited West Point to finalize our full day trip. In May, the Executive Board met here at *THE PINES* to discuss some of the vital issues affecting our annual reunion, and, during the executive board meeting, we met with Holocaust survivors during the weekend of Pres. Reagans visit to Bitberg. Below is a synopsis of what has been taking place.

In April, an exciting meeting took place at West Point. Pat Marino and several other Boston Chapter officials including myself, journeyed to West Point to conclude the final arrangements for our full day at West Point. One of the highlights of our day, was meeting with West Point Supt. Lt. Genl. Wallace Scott. Genl. Scott has agreed to address our membership during the Memorial Service in front of Eisenhower statue on the plain at the Point. This promises to be an exciting part of our full day at West Point.

In addition, the Boston Chapter and I, were able to arrange a full smorgasbord luncheon at the West Point Officers Club on the day of our trip. The West Point Officers Club overlooks the entire West Point complex and the Hudson River. This location serves as a beautiful and picturous setting for our Luncheon. Capt. Tucker, manager of the Officers Club, has given me his full cooperation to ensure that our Luncheon will be a complete success.

Please note, while in the Generals distinguished office, Mike Caprio of the Boston Chapter, presented Genl. Scott with a needlepoint rug hanging wall display to be placed in a central area in the Cadet Library. It was truly a great moment and honor for all the members of the 83rd as we took several photos with the general.

The Executive Board meeting at *THE PINES* proved to be quite a productive meeting. The Board went over all of the details for our activity program. The West Point excursion, our festive Banquet Nite and a whole host of other matters that the membership brought to our attention.

When our meeting was completed, it became clear, that the entire Executive Board, the Boston Chapter and myself, were in complete agreement on the direction our Reunion will be taking. All systems are go...

While at *THE PINES* in May, the Executive Board purely by coincidence met with another reunion group at *THE PINES* honoring their personal plight through history as Holocaust survivors. It seemed that many of these survivors were liberated by various companies within the 83rd. The emotion shared by all the guests at that time, was one to be long remembered.

On Sunday of that weekend, our Association's Chaplain, John Piscitelli of Philadelphia, joined with other 83rd members in a memorial service honoring not only the fallen heroes of the war but all who lost their lives in the atrocities of that war. Chaplain Piscitelli offered a closing prayer to what was a truly moving and emotional memorial service.

In conclusion, our Nation has recently celebrated several military anniversaries highlighting the various heroic acts of our American fighting forces. The 40th Anniversary of VE Day, again showed our Nations determination to be a Free People, honoring the spirit and patriotism of our great Country.

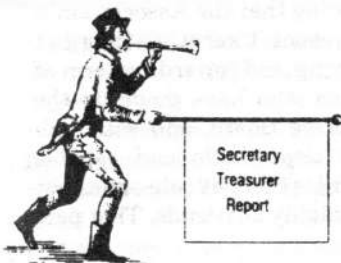
Our 1985 Reunion at *THE PINES* will now serve as a culmination of the years activities commemorating not only our heroic deeds but the spirit that we continue to share today.

At this time, I look forward to welcoming each and every member of the 83rd here at *THE PINES* in September.

Sincerely & Respectfully,
Bernard Cove
National President



Pat and Ginny DiGiammerino,
Bernie and Jeannie Cove



SECRETARY TREASURER REPORT

Dear Buddies:

This is it. Another year has come and gone. Reunion time is getting close. We will soon be meeting at *The Pines* in South Fallsburg, New York. Your Executive Board met at *The Pines* in May and was most cordially treated. We all enjoyed ourselves as you who have attended the reunion before at *The Pines* well know. You are treated royally from breakfast time until you retire for the night. Food is of the amount that no one could ever partake of all they serve you. There is enough to do even if you cannot do all of the exercises they have for you. I think a shopping tour is one of the arrangement scheduled for you ladies and for the men if they wish to go. The trip to West Point will be well worth any of our time. You cannot in any way go to West Point and not enjoy the peaceful atmosphere. So if you have not made arrangements to go to the reunion, do so right away. Bernie has promised us that all who send in reservations will be taken care of and I trust Bernie to do so. The Boston Chapter has worked hard so let us all support them.

Pearl and I have been busy. Along with all the 83rd work that we have been doing, one weekend we entertained all of Pearl's family. The next weekend we entertained all of my family. So that was two weekends we had around 50 people for each one. Last weekend on the 8th of June, Pearl's birthday we entertained the Kentucky Chapter. They stayed at the College View Motel where most of them are known to our son Ed and his wife Kathy, who own the motel. Ed and Kathy with their two children Robin and Andy, our other son Michael and his wife Judy and their son Chris, Our daughter Cathy and Her husband Bruce with their daughter Leslie, (the little red-head) that we keep five days a week all came for the picnic. We went to Peffer Park on Miami University Picnic grounds and had a delightful supper catered in. There were over sixty of us. The ladies had a gag-gift party for Pearl. When we finally returned to the motel a bingo party was held around the pool. So it was really a delightful day. Beautiful weather. We all retired about midnight. We met around the pool again at nine o'clock the next morning and went for breakfast before all departed for home. The last of the group leaving around noon. A great group of people. Ames and Helen Miller could not be with us because of a trip to Nebraska where Ames's brothers and sisters met for a reunion. The first time in over 20 years they had all been together. R.C. and Louise Hamilton could not be there because their

daughter Robin has taken a job in Oklahoma City and they had to help her to find a place and get ready to move. Avalon Goodridge could not be there because of illness. Maxine Hargis had to cancel. Larry and Maxine Hamilton had to cancel and Marvin and Wanda Hayden had to cancel. We missed you people. Will see you at the Pines. On Memorial week-end our daughter Fran who lives in Chicago was going to be in Columbus, Indiana, so we went over to see her and met Ames and Helen Miller. After leaving Fran and her husband Mike and Katie and Ben, Ames suggested that we visit Camp Atterbury. What memories that brought back. I wish that all of you men who trained at Atterbury could visit that camp. We toured all parts of it. We found my section which was 329th. Took pictures and it was truly a great afternoon. Thank you Ames and Helen. It was dark when we left there and Pearl kept saying that we are going to get lost and be in that dark place until morning.

Well men there are some of you who have still not paid for 1985. I don't know what to do to get you to get those dues to me. I do everything but beg and I will even do that if it will help. We miss you and wonder why. Only you can tell us. If you send in now please send in \$20.00 for this year and next year. Every day we hear from some men who hadn't heard about the 83rd and are so anxious to join and yet we have you men who won't send in your dues and stay active.

Again I say come to the reunion if you possibly can. I know you will enjoy yourselves. Ask any Board Member and they will tell you. Ask Pearl and Mary Raikos how many pictures they bought when they were up for the Board meeting. Ask Sue Leonardi how she enjoyed the Massage and Facial. We are all going back. Won't you join us?

REMEMBER THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE BEFORE THE REUNION.

Bob Derickson National Secretary Treasurer
3rd BN. HQ. 329th



A MESSAGE FROM THE PINES HOTEL

Dear Folks:

Three years ago, I had the pleasure of handling your dining room and banquet facilities.

During your entire 1982 Reunion, I was overwhelmed by the constant gestures of thanks and appreciation that were thrown upon me by your membership.

Once again, I am looking forward to serving your 1985 Reunion Convention to the best of my ability and to offer my services military speaking "above and beyond the call of duty."

I will be available in the Dining Room Sunday and Monday afternoons so that you will be able to make your seating arrangements.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in September at the Reunion.

Sincerely,
DON BROWAR

MTR'D Of The Dining Room

EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIRMAN

The Executive Board held its annual meeting in May at the site of our upcoming Reunion in the Catskills, the beautiful Pines Hdotel and, as always, we were treated royally by President Bernie Cove, his wife Jean, and all of the hotel staff. On behalf of the Executive Board I want to thank all of the members of the Boston Chapter for making this visit a memorable one.

Although the Executive Board functions for the entire year, keeping in touch by mail and by telephone, the annual May meeting is the really important time for us. This is where the reunion program receives its final review, necessary changes are made, Association policies are discussed and if necessary, acted upon, and the general business of keeping our Association a strong and active organization is taken care of. An Association such as ours does not function without a responsible and dedicated group overseeing the entire operation, including money management and reunions. This is what the Executive Board is charged with and does, to the best of its ability. Its members serve without compensation and with only a partial reimbursement for the expenses which they incur so there is little incentive, except for their own loyalty and dedication to the Association, for them to serve you in this capacity. The 83rd Infantry Division Association is fortunate to have had the caliber of people available who have been willing to devote the necessary time to this job and I feel fortunate to have been selected to serve with these people for the past 5 years.

My term on the Executive Board will be ended shortly and I will join Joe Macaluso, Manny Goodridge, and all of the other ex-Board members who now come to reunions and enjoy their buddies' companionship instead of attending meetings in small

rooms. But I will do so knowing that the Association is in good hands with its present Executive Board. I have had a generally satisfying and rewarding term of office working with the men who have made up the constantly changing Executive Board, and with Bob Derickson, our constantly dependable and capable Secretary-Treasurer. I will miss them as colleagues but will continue to value them highly as friends. That part will not change.

The reunion at The Pines promises to be an outstanding one and we of the Executive Board hope to see all of you there. Although reluctant to discuss the details of their entertainment package the Boston Chapter assures us that they have an outstanding program planned with "top name" entertainers in the show room of the hotel and an exceptional day planned for West Point tour. Reunion Chairman Pat DiGiammerino states that there will be lots of surprises in store for those who attend the reunion, as well as for those who don't make it. So you'd better be there or, you will miss another one of the fine reunions this Association has each year. Although the reservations are indicating a possible sellout we have been assured that every effort will be made to accommodate everyone who wants to come, with the overflow being lodged in a nearby motel. Don't miss this one!

One last item that I must mention, and that is to express my appreciation to my wife, Rita, for her never failing support and help through my times as a Chapter Officer, Thunderbolt Illustrator, Publicity Chairman, President, Executive Board Member, and Executive Board Chairman. I could not have done it without her.

Bob Taylor, Co. B-329
Executive Board Chairman



REUNION CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

In our last Boston Chapter get together we had a great showing with most of our members present. We really made good progress for the upcoming reunion. We have several surprises in store for you and we are very excited about them. We want to make this a memorable occasion and we need all of you to participate.

Gentlemen we will have two registration lines set up to make the registration a very speedy one. There will be *no* registration fee at the reunion time..

The Boston Chapter is going to have a Weekend Stay at the Pines raffle. This will be drawn at reunion time.

This reunion will be remembered for a long time for those who attend. 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. All you get are three meals a day.

The entertainment in the Persian Room will be different each night: Also Bill Appleby will be doing his square dance program.

I would like to mention that reservations are coming in. Please make your reservation early. This is going to be another sellout!

Looking forward to seeing you all and feeling sure you will enjoy an outstanding reunion.

Thank You!
Pat DiGiammerino
36 East Border Road
Malden, Mass. 02148
Reunion Chairman

★ P.S. DON'T FORGET THE AD BOOK PROGRAM! ★

NEED HELP WITH TRAVEL DIRECTIONS TO THE PINES HOTEL?

Over the last several months, many 83rd members have contacted *THE PINES* for travel directions. Below please find a detailed listing of the various ways you can reach *THE PINES* from special point of interests.

If for any reason you have any questions or need further information, on travel directions, please do not hesitate to contact me at *THE PINES*, toll free at 1-800-431-3124. I look forward to assisting and welcoming you to *THE PINES*.

Cordially,
BRUCE SEIGEL
SALES MANAGER
AT THE PINES

William Childs Westmoreland
General, United States Army, Retired

Box 1059

Charleston, South Carolina 29402

June 4, 1985

Dear Bernard:

Your letter of May 20 has been received.

Barring unforeseen circumstances, I will arrive at The Pines in the late afternoon or early evening of Tuesday, 10 September and depart on the morning or afternoon of 12 September. I assume some one can pick me up at LaGuardia Airport. I will be flying from Boston.

I look forward to the occasion.

Sincerely,
W.C. WESTMORELAND

TRAVEL DIRECTIONS TRANSPORTATION

Door to Door Limousine Service:

County Wide Line: (212) 759-9157

(212) 424-3600

Bus Service

Buses leave from Port Authority Terminal located at 41st St, on 8th Avenue in Manhattan. Shoreline System-purchase tickets at windows Nos. 5-6-7. For information phone PE6-4700. Or call Bus Lines for terminal nearest your home.

By Car

From New York (Airports-Laguardia & Kennedy)

1. New York West Side Highway to George Washington Bridge to New Jersey. Take Route 4 for eight miles, turn right into Route 17 (NY) and at Mahwah, enter New York State Thruway. Leave Thruway at Exit 16 and proceed on Quickway Route 17 to Exit 107 to South Fallsburg. In So. Fallsburg, turn left at traffic light (movie on corner). Continue for one mile)

2. Cross Tappan Zee Bridge, enter New York State Thruway and leave at Exit 16 and proceed on Quickway Route 17 to Exit 107 to South Fallsburg. In So. Fallsburg turn left at traffic light (movie on corner). Continue for one mile

From Newark Airport

Take N.J. Turnpike North to Rte. 80 into Route 17 towards Mahwah. At Mahwah, enter New York State Thruway..Leave Thruway at Exit 16 and proceed on Quickway Route 17 to Exit 107 to South Fallsburg. In So. Fallsburg, turn left to traffic light (movie on corner). Continue for one mile.

From Philadelphia and South

New Jersey Turnpike to Exit 10. Garden State Parkway to New York State Thruway. Leave Thruway at Exit 16 and proceed on Quickway Route 17 to Exit 107 to South Fallsburg. In So. Fallsburg turn left at traffic light (movie on corner). Continue for one mile.

From Boston and East

Take Massachusetts Turnpike to Route 86 (Sturbridge Exit) into Route 85. Take Exit W (Middletown, NY) and proceed on Quickway Route 17 to Exit 107 to South Fallsburg. In So. Fallsburg turn left at traffic light (movie on corner). Continue for one mile.

From the North

Take New York State Thruway South. Leave Thruway at Exit No. 19 and proceed to Route 209 to Ellenville. Take Route 52 to Woodbourne and then bear left to Route 42 to So. Fallsburg. In Fallsburg, turn right at traffic light (movie on corner). Continue for one mile.

From the West

New York State Thruway. Exit at Syracuse No. 36. Pick Route 81 South in Syracuse (toll free super highway) to Route 17 East at Binghamton. Take Route 17 to Exit 105B-42 North. Merge left (North on 42) to South Fallsburg, at movie theater turn left, 1 mile to *THE PINES*.

KSouth Fallsburg, NY 12779

Tel: 914-434-6000

For Reservations: Direct Wire to Hotel at the cost of a local call-Dial (212) 563-3760 or (212) 563-3761

**WELCOME 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.
THUNDERBOLT**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1985

1:00-5:00 P.M.	REGISTRATION IN LOWER LOBBY	
2:30 P.M.	CHECK IN AND ENJOY OUR HOTEL FACILITIES	MAIN LOBBY
3:30 P.M.	SHUFFLEBOARD TOURNAMENT	OUTDOOR POOL
4:30 P.M.	COMPLIMENTARY BINGO...PRIZES!!	ASCOT HALL
5:00-7:00 P.M.	HOSPITALITY ROOM	
7:00 P.M.	DINNER IS SERVED IN THE MAIN DINING ROOM	
8:30 P.M.	INFLATION, INVESTMENT, AND THE MIDDLE IN- COME	
	FAMILY--PROFESSOR JOEL LERNER	MAIN LOBBY
9:00-10:30 P.M.	SHOWTIME IN THE PERSIAN ROOM	
	AFTER THE SHOW, DANCE IN THE WEDGEWOOD ROOM	
	THE COFFEE SHOP IS OPEN	
12-1:00 A.M.	LATE SWIM	INDOOR POOL

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1985

7:30 A.M.	GOOD MORNING! GOLFERS BREAKFAST	MAIN DINING ROOM
8:00 A.M.	BREAKFAST IS SERVED IN MAIN DINING ROOM	
	THE GOLF COURSE IS OPEN	TOM DUPLESSIS
9:00-5:00	REGISTRATION IN THE LOWER LOBBY	COLLECTION OF NATIONAL DUES
10:00 A.M.	ALL HOTEL FACILITIES ARE OPEN	
	TENNIS CENTER IS OPEN	
	ART VOGUE ART AUCTION	MAIN LOBBY
	VOLLEYBALL GAME	SIDE LAWN
	SLIMNASTICS AND YOGA WITH ROSALYN	HEALTH CLUBS
	APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE FOR MASSAGE, FACIAL	
	ICE AND ROLLER SKATING	JON & PATRICK, PRO
10:30 A.M.	NATURE WALK WITH MORRIS SPELLMAN	LEAVE FROM LOWER LOBBY
	PING PONG TOURNAMENT	OUTDOOR POOL
11:00 A.M.	HORSEBACK RIDING	SIGN UP AT SERVICE DESK CARD PATIO
11:30 A.M.	COMPLIMENTARY DANCE CLASS WITH JACKIE	
12:30 P.M.	LUNCHEON IS SERVED IN THE MAIN DINING ROOM	
2:00 P.M.	ALL HOTEL FACILITIES RE-OPEN	
	NUMEROLOGY WITH EVE CARTER	MAIN LOBBY
	HORSEBACK RIDING	SIGN UP AT SERVICE DESK ASCOT HALL
2:00-4:00 P.M.	HOSPITALITY ROOM	
2:30 P.M.	SOFTBALL GAME	
	SHUFFLEBOARD TOURNAMENT	OUTDOOR POOL
3:00 P.M.	CURRENT EVENTS WITH EVE CARTER	MAIN LOBBY
3:30 P.M.	COMPLIMENTARY BINGO...PRIZES	MAIN LOBBY
4:00 P.M.	BUSINESS MEETING FOR 83rd ASSOCIATION	PERSIAN ROOM
5:30 P.M.	HAPPY HOUR REDUCED PRICES	LOBBY BAR
6:00-7:00 P.M.	INFORMAL COCKTAIL PARTY	PERSIAN ROOM NIGHT CLUB
7:00 P.M.	DINNER IS SERVED IN THE MAIN DINING ROOM	
8:30 P.M.	MORRIS KATZ, INSTANT ART SHOW	MAIN LOBBY
9:00-10:30 P.M.	MUSIC AND DANCING IN THE PERSIAN ROOM	
10:30 P.M.	SHOWTIME IN THE PERSIAN ROOM	
	AFTER THE SHOW, DANCE IN THE WEDGEWOOD ROOM	
12-1:00 A.M.	THE COFFEE SHOP IS OPEN FOR A LATE SNACK	
	LATE SWIM	INDOOR POOL

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1985

7:30 A.M.	GOOD MORNING! GOLFERS BREAKFAST	MAIN DINING ROOM
8:00 A.M.	BREAKFAST IS SERVED IN MAIN DINING ROOM THE GOLF COURSE IS OPEN	
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.	REGISTRATION IN THE LOWER LOBBY	COLLECTION OF NATIONAL DUES PERSIAN ROOM
9:00 A.M.	MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING FOR ALL MEMBERS	
10:00 A.M.	BOARD BUSES FOR SHOPPING TOUR TO APPOLLO MALL OUTLET CENTER ALL HOTEL FACILITIES ARE OPEN TENNIS CENTER IS OPEN SLIMNASTICS AND YOGA WITH JACKIE CALL FOR APPOINTMENT FOR MASSAGE COLOR, FASHION, DECORATING TIPS WITH EVE CARTER	SIDE LAWN STEAM ROOM & SAUNA
10:30 A.M.	COSMETIC DEMONSTRATION WITH SERAFINA PING PONG TOURNAMENT	MAIN LOBBY SOUTH LOBBY OUTDOOR POOL SIGN UP AT SERVICE DESK OUTDOOR POOL CARD PATIO
11:00 A.M.	HORSEBACK RIDING	
11:45 A.M.	"SIMON SEZ" WITH HANK LEIDS	
12:00 NOON	COMPLIMENTARY DANCE CLASS WITH JACKIE	
1:00 P.M.	LUNCHEON IS SERVED IN MAIN DINING ROOM	
2:00 P.M.	ICE & ROLLER SKATING HORSEBACK RIDING	LESSONS & RENTALS SIGN UP AT SERVICE DESK ASCOT HALL MAIN LOBBY
2:00-5:00 P.M.	HOSPITALITY ROOM	
2:15 P.M.	"MR. PINES BEAUTIFUL LEGS CONTEST"	
2:30 P.M.	GOLF TOURNEY..CALLAWAY SYSTEM.. TURN YOUR SCORE INTO THE GOLF PRO SOFTBALL GAME	TOM DUPLESSIS
3:30 P.M.	BASKETBALL FOUL SHOOTING CONTEST	
3:00-5:00 P.M.	SQUARE DANCE	OUTDOOR CARD PATIO
3:15	NAME THAT VOICE WITH EVE CARTER	MAIN LOBBY
4:00 P.M.	COMPLIMENTARY BINGO..PRIZES!	MAIN LOBBY
5:00 P.M.	HAPPY HOUR...REDUCED PRICES	LOBBY BAR PERSIAN ROOM
5:30-6:30 P.M.	INFORMAL COCKTAIL PARTY OPEN BAR	
6:30-7:30 P.M.	DINNER IS SERVED IN THE MAIN DINING ROOM	
7:45 P.M.	OLD FASHIONED SING ALONG WITH SHIRLEY	MAIN LOBBY
8:00-9:00 P.M.	MUSIC AND DANCING IN THE PERSIAN ROOM	
9:00 P.M.	THEME NIGHT-SALUTE TO 83rd DICK PILLAR MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA	PERSIAN ROOM WEDGEWOOD ROOM
11:30 P.M.	AFTER THE SHOW, DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY THE COFFEE SHOP IS OPEN	

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1985

6:30 A.M.	REVILLE	
7:00-8:00 A.M.	EARLY BREAKFAST FOR ENTIRE GROUP	
8:00 A.M.	BOARD BUSES FOR WEST POINT DEPARTURE	
9:15 A.M.	ARRIVE AT WEST POINT	TROPHY POINT THAYER ROAD IKE MONUMENT CADET CHAPEL
9:15-9:30 A.M.	ENROUTE	
9:30-10:30 A.M.	MEMORIAL SERVICE	
10:30-11:15 A.M.	MEMORIAL MASS	
11:15-11:30	ENROUTE	
11:30-12:45	LUNCH	
12:45-3:30 P.M.	TOUR	
5:00 P.M.	ARRIVE BACK AT PINES	
6:30 P.M.	GROUP PICTURE	UPPER LOBBY
7:30 - ?	GALA BANQUET DINNER	MAIN DINING ROOM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1985

7:30 A.M.	GOOD MORNING! GOLFERS BREAKFAST	MAIN DINING ROOM
8:00 A.M.	BREAKFAST IS SERVED IN MAIN DINING ROOM GOLF COURSE IS OPEN	
10:00 A.M.	ALL HOTEL FACILITIES ARE OPEN YOUR DREAMS WITH EVE CARTER CALL FOR APPOINTMENT FOR MASSAGE * FACIAL TENNIS CENTER IS OPEN	MAIN LOBBY MAIN LOBBY HEALTH CLUBS
10:30 A.M.	INDOOR AND OUTDOOR TENNIS EVERYDAY PING PONG TOURNEY NATURE WALK WITH MORRIS SPELLMAN	LESSONS * RENTALS LEAVE FROM LOWER LOBBY
11:00 A.M.	HORSEBACK RIDING COMPLIMENTARY DANCE CLASS WITH SAUL	SIGN UP AT SERVICE DESK CARD PATIO MAIN LOBBY
12:00 NOON	TRIVIA WITH HANK LEIDS	
1:00 P.M.	LUNCHEON IS SERVED IN MAIN DINING ROOM	
2:00 P.M.	ALL HOTEL FACILITIES RE-OPEN HORSEBACK RIDING ICE * ROLLER SKATING	SIGN UP AT SERVICE DESK LESSONS * RENTALS MAIN LOBBY
2:15 P.M.	SHOW BIS FORUM WITH EVE CARTER	
2:30 P.M.	SOFTBALL GAME SHUFFLEBOARD	OUTDOOR POOL ASCOT HALL MAIN LOBBY LOBBY BAR
3:00 P.M.	POSITIVE MEDITATION EXPERIENCE HANK LEIDS	
4:00 P.M.	COMPLIMENTARY BINGO..PRIZES	
5:30 P.M.	HAPPY HOUR...REDUCED PRICES	
7:00 P.M.	DINNER IS SERVED IN THE MAIN DINING ROOM	
8:15 P.M.	SING A LONG WITH SHIRLEY	MAIN LOBBY
10:30 P.M.	MUSIC AND DANCING IN THE PERSIAN ROOM SHOWTIME IN THE PERSIAN ROOM AFTER THE SHOW, DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY IN THE WEDGEWOOD ROOM THE COFFEE SHOP IS OPEN LATE FOR A LATE SNACK	

FOR ALL THOSE WHO ARE LEAVING US TODAY WE HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED YOUR REUNION AND PLEASE HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME. FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE STAYING LONGER PICK UP A DAILY PROGRAM AT THE SERVICE DESK.

UPDATED ACTIVITY PROGRAMS FOR THE 83RD.

WHEN BERNIE COVE TOLD ME THAT THE 83RD WAS RETURNING TO THE PINES HOTEL FOR THEIR 39TH ANNUAL REUNION, "HE" MADE MY DAY.

THE PINES HAS BEEN WALKING ON AIR SINCE YOUR LAST REUNION, PREPARING FOR WHAT WE HOPE WILL BE A TERRIFIC VACATION FOR YOU!!

MY STAFF AND I HAVE BEEN PREPARING MANY ACTIVITIES FOR YOU DURING YOUR VISIT WITH US IN SEPTEMBER. JUST TO "WT" YOUR APPETITE, HERE ARE A FEW OF THE EXCITING ACTIVITIES WE ARE PLANNING.

EVERY DAY THERE WILL BE SLIMNASTICS, A COMPLIMENTARY DANCE CLASS, A MINIMUM OF TWO LECTURES, ATHLETIC TOURNAMENTS OF ALL TYPES, THE PINES FAMOUS GREENHOUSE, SIMON SEZ, A SHOPPING TOUR, AN ART AUCTION, OUR NATURALIST MORRIS SPELLMAN AND MANY SURPRISES!!!

Westmoreland, William Childs (1914) - Soldier. Born in Spartanburg County, South Carolina, on March 26, 1914, Westmoreland graduated from West Point

From 1953 to 1958 he served in administrative posts in Washington, D.C., before returning to command duty with the 101st Airborne, or "Screaming Eagle," Division. In July 1960 President Dwight D. Eisenhower appointed Westmoreland superintendent of West Point; he served until 1963, when he became commanding general of the 18th Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. In 1964 President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed him senior U.S. military commander in Vietnam. It was under his command, at his urging, that U.S. ground forces in the war there were increased to more than 500,000 by 1968. During his years in Vietnam he emphasized the use of massive "search and destroy" missions to draw the enemy into traditional forms of ground combat, and he sent back to the United States a continuous series of optimistic reports about the course of the war. But after the disastrous Tet offensive by North Vietnam in February 1968, the progress of the war seemed stalled. Westmoreland was replaced in command in 1968 by Gen. Creighton W. Abams, and he returned to the United States to become the army's chief of staff. He retired in 1972.



CHAPLAIN'S STEEPLE

Dear Buddies:

John T. Piscitelli
John T. Piscitelli
"C" 323rd

Here it is June once again. Forty one (41) years since that "D" Day in 1945 in Normandy France. The years, truthfully are passing by. On a solemn note. Fifty two (52) of our comrades have gone from us in the past year. May the Good Lord have mercy on them all. A few of our deceased comrades do not have any unit or company. They are as follows:

Peter J. Routsis
Harry Palizua
Emanuel Walsh
Francis E. Coyne
Lewis Korpas
Walter Zobist
Raymond DesMarais
Charles B. Sullivan

Anyone knowing these men and the company and units please contact us so we can give them proper recognition at our Memorial Services at West Point, N.Y., at our annual reunion in September.

The Boston Chapter with Bernie Cove as President and Pat DiGiammerino as Chairman have a great program arranged for our 83rd Infantry Division Association reunion at the Pines in South Fallsburg, New York. The complete day at West Point should not be missed. To all of us it will be a Life Time Memory.

The following list of lmen have gone to be with our Savior. May God be with them and their families. We pray for all of them.

Ralph Malec 3rd BN. HQ. 329th
June 8, 1984

Milton Muntz "HQ" 330th word from his mother
Eugene Bond 783rd ORD. word from Arthur Doggett
Lt. Col. William G. White 3rd BN. HQ. 330th word from wife, Tina

Clem Stepmlowski "A" 308th Engineers word from wife, Marie

Howard Bullerwell "HQ" BATTERY 322nd F.A. word from wife, Margaret

Tom Burch "K" 330th March 28, 1985 word from John Krebs

Men, we must ask you to be sure when you send in a death notice to be sure of this. We want to make a correction from the last Thunderbolt. Someone sent us the death notice of William H. Chapman of the 83rd Q.M. of Fort Meyers Beach, Fla. We are glad to have

gotten a notice from Bill that he is very much alive. We are going to have to state that we will not put a notice in anymore unless we have the name of the person who sent the notice in. Be sure of this fellows. We are losing men fast enough without having a report on one who is not dead. Glad to correct this Bill and glad that you are very much alive. Look forward to seeing you at the reunion.

John



By Frank Albano, August Farias, June 6, 1984.
Canadian Prime Minister, Queen of England, Pres. France, Pres. U.S.A., King Belgium.



Charles D. Altomari of 1313 Reeves Ave., Monessen, died Sunday, May 5, 1985, in Mercy Hospital, Pittsburgh. He was 63.

Mr. Altomari was born in Monessen on Jan. 26, 1922, a son of the late Samuel and Virginia Altomari.

He was a member of St. Cajetan Roman Catholic Church of Monessen, the Monessen N.I.P.A. where he served as an officer for many years, the Monessen Elks, the Knights of Columbus, the Italian Society of Mutual Aid, and Barbers' Local 23 of Pittsburgh where he served as secretary for many years.

Mr. Altomari was also a veteran of World War II having served with the U.S. Army in the 83rd Infantry Division and the Company B 308 Engineer Battalion.

Dear Buddies:

I and the 83rd have lost another good friend.

One, despite the pain of his wounds and illness came to join us, year after year, at our reunions.

On April 3rd, 1985, The Col. William G. White, U.S. Army Retired, 3rd Bn. Hqs. 330th Inf. (a.k.a., The Mad Major, Wild Bill and Mike) has left us. Knowing Bill, he asked HIM for one more Reunion with his buddies of the 83rd Infantry Division.

Bill was a Gentleman and an Officer. A real dyed in the wool hero who served in two wars, and also was a Marine.

His wife of many years, Tina, is at their home, Route 1, Box 2, Richlands, North Carolina, 28574.

I'll miss you Bill, Up the Irish!
"We were the Best"
Respectfully,
Wm. Kent O'Connell, 83rd M.P.

I'm sorry to find it necessary to enclose this sad note but a letter received several weeks ago from Mrs. Mary J. Williams stated:

"It is my regret to have to inform you that Paul E. Topper, my stepfather, passed away March 25, 1984 of cancer and a massive heart attack. His wife (my mother), passed away on September 17, 1983-also of cancer. Both are buried in Santa Ana, California."

For those of you who might not have remembered T/Sgt. Topper, he was in charge of "M" Company's Motor Pool.

A note from the Office:

We are saddened to hear of the death of Milton Munitz. We had a call early one morning from his niece saying that Milton had passed away. Since I had taken over the office Mrs. Munitz had written us regularly to let us know how Milton was. He was 100 percent disabled but he surely enjoyed the Thunderbolt and hearing about his Buddies. We are sorry to hear of Milton's passing away but we know that he is in God's hands. We send our sympathy to his parents Mr. and Mrs. Munitz who cared for their son as long as they could. Let us hear from you Mrs. Munitz. The thoughts and prayers of the 83rd are with you both.

Bob and Pearl

Ralph C. Allen of 619 Washington Ave., Charleroi, died Friday, May 24, 1985, at 11:30 p.m. in the Veterans' Administration Hospital, Oakland, Pittsburgh, after a lengthy illness. He was 71.

Mr. Allen was born April 5, 1914, in Blanket, Tex., a son of the late John Harvey and Daisy Myrtle Mallow Allen.

He was a retired self-employed locksmith.

A former custodian at St. Jerome's Roman Catholic Church in Charleroi, Mr. Allen was also a retired custodian for the Charleroi Area School District.

He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, having served as a first sergeant.

Mr. Allen was a member of St. Jerome's Roman Catholic Church, American Legion Post No. 22, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 167, all of Charleroi.

In Addition, he was a member of Charleroi BPO Elks Lodge No. 494, the Charleroi Historical Society, the Charleroi AARP, and the Pittsburgh Chapter of the 83rd D.O. of the U.S.



GINNY & JEANNIE'S CORNER

While the Executive Board was meeting here at *THE PINES in May, we sat down with Eve Carter, Social Hostess at THE PINES*, to discuss a very personal program which will entertain, fascinate and inform the ladies of the 83rd.

Eve Carter, formerly a Broadway Actress and married for over 30 years to the late Phil Carter, Comedian and actor, is planning a full program on topics such as: "Learn about yourself through your handwriting", Numerology, Your superstitions and various other talks that will excite you.

A highlight of her program is a talk about many of the stars that you have seen and heard on TV, the stage and radio. During the sessions, you are invited to ask questions and you will be astounded and amused with the answers.

In a person to people program, the encounter with Eve will leave you with one thought in mind...that when the time comes to depart, you will say "I can't wait to come back".

We look forward to meet with all the Ladies of the 83rd in September.

Respectfully,
Ginny Moreno & Jeannie Cove



HISTORIAN'S CORNER

Dear Buddies:

Here is the second of three reports on our 1945 meeting with the Russians. The enclosed trip to their V.E. Celebration was cancelled due to their killing of Major Nicholson. I would have stayed in Lenengrad with my friend Zinovi. The letter from my Congressman was in reply to my opposition to the Bitburg visit. I also called my Senator and the Pentagon.

The pictures are those sent to me from Zionovi over the years. He was with the Elite 6th Guards Division, Col. Alexis Comdi, we met at Zerbst and is a Hero of the Soviet Union. We still correspond.

The letter from Col. John Grant is self explanatory. Too little, too late. The piece on General Wm. C. Westmoreland, our reunion guest will interest you. The Russian and German newspaper clippings are about the 83rd, 69th Division, (U.S.A.) and myself.

And last, but not least, it pains me to tell you of the death of Lt. Col. Wm. "Wild Bill" U.S. Army Retired. A good friend of mine and the 83rd. The next report will be on the 83rd with the U.S. pictures.

We were the Best,

Wm. Kent O'Connell, 83rd M.P.

Situation At The Beginning Of May

The events which make up the history of the 83rd Division from the first day until the cessation of hostilities at 0001 on the 9th of May necessarily form an anti-climax to the happenings of the last week of April. At 1330 on the 30th of April, the 3rd Platoon of C Troop, 125th Cavalry Squadron, 113th Cavalry Group, contacted units of the XXVII Russian Corps at Applensdorf (E3174). From that time on, contact was continuous and regular liaison between the Division and the Russians was established and maintained.

Enemy Situation

The total collapse of the German Wehrmacht on all fronts was apparent well before the beginning of May. The 83rd Division was in contact with small, disorganized enemy groups until the 6th of May, when our forces were withdrawn from the Elbe River bridgehead. Thousands of enemy, representing all types of military personnel streamed towards our lines with the intention of surrendering. A captured document indicated that the enemy was intent on continuing the fight against the Russians while voluntarily surrendering his unarmed troops to us. In the first week of the month, 7,193 prisoners were

captured. They represented various and numerous haphazardly collected combat teams, Volkssturm Companies, Police Battalions, Home Guard Battalions, Luftwaffe units, Replacement and Training units of all kinds, and small groups from last formed divisions of the Germany Army, (Potsdam, Scharnhorst, Ullrich von Hutten and Friedrich Ludwig John Division). The only active opposition of the enemy was in the form of small pockets of resistance which interfered with our patrol activity.

Of particular interest during these few days was the surrender of elements of the 21st Panzer and 25th Panzer Grenadier Divisions which having been pushed back from Cottbus and Kuestrin were wheeling up towards our front in an attempt to form a new line of resistance against Soviet forces. The enemy openly spoke of continued resistance against the Russians and no resistance against the Western Allies. He made some attempts during this period to negotiate the surrender of his civilians and wounded to us thereby making it easier for him to fight the Russian forces. These gestures were rejected. By 6 May Russian troops of the LXII Corps proceeded to take over our bridgehead on the eastern bank of the Elbe River at ZERBST and continued to route the remaining elements of the German divisions facing them northwards towards the pocket which eventually formed east of Magdeburg.

Summary of Activities

The first official meeting with the Russians occurred on 1 May between the Commanding General of the 83rd Division and the Commander of the Russian Sixth Guards Division. Several additional meetings were arranged during the early part of the month. Beginning on the 5th of May elements of the Soviet forces relieved elements of the 83rd Division in the bridgehead area. By 0730 hours on 6 May all elements of the Division had crossed west of the Elbe River. At 1800 that date, the Division was relieved of its responsibility in the sector immediately west of the Elbe River by the 30th Infantry Division. On the following day movement to the Province of Braunschweig was completed and military government initiated. Throughout the remainder of the month 83rd Division continued to occupy and organize Braunschweig, conducting functions of military government, training and rehabilitation and an educational program.

Operations

During the first few days of May the Division continued to clear the main route between the bridgehead and the Russian front.

Arrangements had been made by Colonel William S. Biddle, commanding the 113th Cavalry Group, for a meeting with the Russians at Appolensdorf. At 1000 hours on the first of May, the Division Commander and members of the General Staff, traveled through the bridgehead to Appolensdorf (E3174) where he met and conferred with colonel Alexis Ivanov, Commander of the Elite Sixth Guards Division. After a brief

ceremony arranged by the Russian Commander and his staff, present situation and future plans of the two units were discussed. At that time the Sixth Guards Division had no plans for the occupation of the 83rd Division bridgehead east of the Elbe River.

During this meeting, plans were discussed for a meeting of the commanders of the XIX US Corps and of the XXVII Russian Corps. As a result of this arrangement, Major General Robert McLain, commanding the XIX US Corps, was on the afternoon of the 2nd of May escorted to Wittenburg (E3774). There he met and conferred with Major General Tserenmanow, Commander of the XXVII Russian Corps (Journal Item No. 60, 2 May 1945). Plans for the evacuation of the bridgehead by the 83d Division and its occupation by the Russians were discussed.

Meantime elements of the 113th Cavalry Group uncovered an enemy Prisoner of War Camp at Lukenwald (720015) (See Journal Entry Nos. 68 and 105). Imprisoned in the camp were approximately 18,000 Allied troops including many Americans and British. Plans were made and action taken for their immediate release and repatriation via the Elbe River bridgehead.

The Soviet advance toward the Elbe River continued during the next few days until on the 5th of May only the original bridgehead was held by our troops. During the morning of that day Major General Pervenkov, Assistant Commander of the Thirty-Third Russian Army arrived at the Division Command Post. He was accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Astabrinko, Lieutenant Colonel Riback, and Major Klimenko, of his staff. The Russian party was greeted by the Division Commander and his staff. At this conference it was agreed that all troops of the 83rd Division would be withdrawn from the east side of the Elbe River prior to 0800 on the 6th of May. The Russians indicated that the Elbe would be the westernmost advance of their forces until a permanent settlement had been agreed upon by the Governments concerned.

On the 5th of May the Commanding General received a new mission from XIX Corps. As reported by liaison officer and later confirmed in a Letter of Instruction (No. 152), the 83rd Division was ordered to withdraw from the Elbe River bridgehead, relieve elements of the 2nd Armored Division to the west and govern in newly assigned areas to the west. In addition, the 113th Cavalry Group was to pass to the control of the 30th Infantry Division upon relief of 83rd Division by 30th Division.

By 1630 on the 5th of May all units of the Division had been withdrawn from the east side of the river with the exception of two infantry companies from each regiment, plus one additional company from the 329th Infantry which was to occupy Zerbst. These seven infantry companies were to act as an occupying and screening force until the Russians completed the occupation of the entire bridgehead. The remaining troops of the Division assembled in the administrative areas assigned to them and prepared for further movement to the west.

During this period the Division was stripped of all attachments except those customarily designated as permanent. The 92nd Chemical Battalion was relieved from attachment on the 4th of May and on the following day, the 967th, 25th, 65th armored, and 696th Armored field Artillery Battalions reverted to control of XIX Corps.

According to the plan of the XIX Corps (See Journal Entry 176 and 207) the 30th Infantry Division would relieve the 83rd Infantry Division in the area just to the west of the Elbe River prior to 1800 on the 6th of May. Accordingly, the movement of the Division to its new area was planned for the same day with only a skeleton force to be left behind until the relief was completed.

By 0730 on the morning of 6 May, all units of the 83rd Infantry Division were moved to the west side of the Elbe River. All contact with the enemy was broken, and the Division moved west into the Province of Braunschweig.

Upon arrival in the new area the Division relieved elements of the 2nd Armored Division and began the organization of the sector for military government. The units of the Division were disposed as follows: The 329th Infantry occupied the area in the vicinity of Blankenburg, with the attached 643rd Tank Destroyer Battalion in Braunlage; the 330th Infantry occupied Hornburg, with the First, Second, and Third Battalions in Giede, Vienenburg, and Weddingen respectively; the 331st Infantry located at Dardesheim with the First Battalion in Osterwieck, the Second Battalion in Anderbeck, and the Third in Halberstadt; Division Artillery took over Schoningen, with the 322nd Field Artillery Battalion in Lucklaum, the 323rd in Urhde, the 324th in Helmstedt, the 908th in Hottenslebe, the 453d Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion in Conigsutter, the attached 308th Engineer Battalion and 736th Tank Battalion in Braunschweig and Wolfenbittel respectively; the 83rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop has its Command Post in Wernigerode. The Division Command Post was the last Division unit to leave the old area and at 1100 on 7 May it closed in Calbe and opened in Wernigerode.

On the seventh of May the Division completed organization of the new area and initiated active administration of military government within the sector. Important installations were placed under guard, civilian control measures placed in force and plans made for the care and evacuation of displaced persons in the Division zone.

The highlight of the day was the receipt of a teletype message from Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Forces, signed by General Eisenhower, informing the Division of the unconditional surrender of all German ground and air forces with the cessation of hostilities set for 0001 on the ninth day of May.



Mr. William Kent O'Connell
83rd Infantry Division Association, Inc.
183 Acre Lane,
Hicksville, New York 11801

Dear Mr. O'Connell:

May 8, 1985, marks the 40th anniversary of the Allied victory in Europe. On that date, to commemorate this historic occasion, the Department of Defense will conduct a joint service full honor review at 4:30 p.m., on Summerall Field, Fort Myer, Virginia. The Secretary of Defense, Caspar W. Weinberger, will host the event.

Your World War II organization is one of some 200 we have identified as either participating in Europe or North Africa. The purpose, then, of this letter is to invite you and the members of your association to attend this program. Realizing that many of your members reside some distance from Washington, we would be particularly pleased if you would notify those in this area and ask that they contact others.

If those planning to attend would arrive as a group, we will do our best to seat you together. We do hope your association will be represented on this occasion.

Sincerely,
John C. Grant
*Colonel, U.S. Army,
Executive Officer
Coordinating Activity for
Historical Observances*



Marshal Ivan Koniev Commander of the First Ukrainian Front.



This was a group of officers that met with the Americans at the Elbe River. The young officer with the X above him is a good friend of Wm Kent O'Connell our Historian. His name is Zinovi Zuchmanovsky. There were taken in 1945.

Additional Photos on pages 14, 35 and 36.

Mr. William Kent O'Connell
183 Acre Lane
Hicksville, New York 11801

Dear Mr. O'Connell:

Thank you for contacting me to express your concern about the President's itinerary during his upcoming visit to West Germany.

As you know, the President had originally decided to lay a wreath at a German military cemetery at Bitburg, but not visit one of the concentration camps where millions died during the Holocaust. He has now altered his plans to include a visit to either Dachau or Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, but still plans to go to the Bitburg cemetery.

While I am pleased with the President's decision to now visit a concentration camp, I am still very much disturbed by his stated intention of going forward with the trip to Bitburg. Nazi soldiers and Waffen SS troops, some of whom are buried at Bitburg, committed countless atrocities during World War II against Jews, non-Jews and Allied prisoners of war. I think it would be a mistake to honor the memory of these Germans, many of them war criminals, with a visit by the President of the United States.

I have communicated my views on this issue to the President and told him of the widespread opposition in the 4th Congressional District to his visit to Bitburg. You may be sure that I will continue to represent your views on this question.

Thank you again for letting me know of your views on this important matter.

Sincerely,
NORMAN F. LENT
Member of Congress

**'SEE THE WORLD'
'In the Spirit of 1945'**

The Spirit of 1945, reflecting the universal desire for peaceful coexistence and the rebirth of nations in our theme for 1985. This seems timely since 1985 represents the 40th Anniversary of the end of World War II.

The Soviet Union is anxious to arrange a reunion of U.S. and Soviet WWII veterans who made contact on the Elbe River in 1945 culminating in the encirclement of Nazi Germany. Special V-E Day plans for celebrations are underway in Moscow to insure the fulfillment of a renewed desire to reaffirm that spirit which made success in 1945 possible.

This is your opportunity to be an 'Ambassador of Good Will' from America, allowing you to experience Russia for yourself. Form your own conclusions about this mysterious country. And enjoy social gatherings and reunions with Soviet veterans and their families in Moscow, Stalingrad (now Volgograd) and Leningrad. It is an experience without equal in terms of extraordinary events and activities.

V-E Day

40th Anniversary celebrations are featured!

INCLUSIVE PRICES:

Land Arrangements - \$890
Air Fare from NYC - 766
(Per Person-2 in Total. \$1656
room basis)

INCLUSIVE PRICES PROVIDE provide nearly all essentials: Deluxe/ first class hotels, all meals in the USSR, sightseeing, transfers, baggage handling, etc.

GALAXY TOURS

Brief Itinerary

Details have not been transmitted at this time as to precise events, but a full and exciting schedule is planned. Moscow has announced that 1985 will be the 'biggest celebrations' ever held in their country. Demand is so great for hotel facilities that only 40 persons can be accommodated on this unique program.

Mon., May 6 - Leave NEW YORK via trans-Atlantic jet, scheduled flight.

Tues., May 7 - MOSCOW. Arrive Moscow late afternoon. Special greeting.

Wed., May 8 - MOSCOW. Sightseeing and events with Soviet veterans.

Thu., May 9 - MOSCOW. V-E Day in the Soviet Union. Gigantic celebrations are planned. You will participate.

Fri., May 10 - MOSCOW/VOLGOGRAD (Stalingrad). Fly into Volgograd, formerly Stalingrad. Reception with Soviet War Veterans and social activities.

Sat., May 11 - VOLGOGRAD. Tour battle of Stalingrad...see enormous but magnificent monuments....Soviet veterans serve as guides. Enjoy special events including (probably) a cruise on the Volga River.

Sun., May 12 - VOLGOGRAD/LENINGRAD. Fly into Leningrad. Special receptions and events with Soviet war veterans.

Mon., May 13 - LENINGRAD. Sightseeing including famed Hermitage Museum and other attractions. Time for shopping also.

Tue., May 14 - LENINGRAD. More sightseeing and special events.

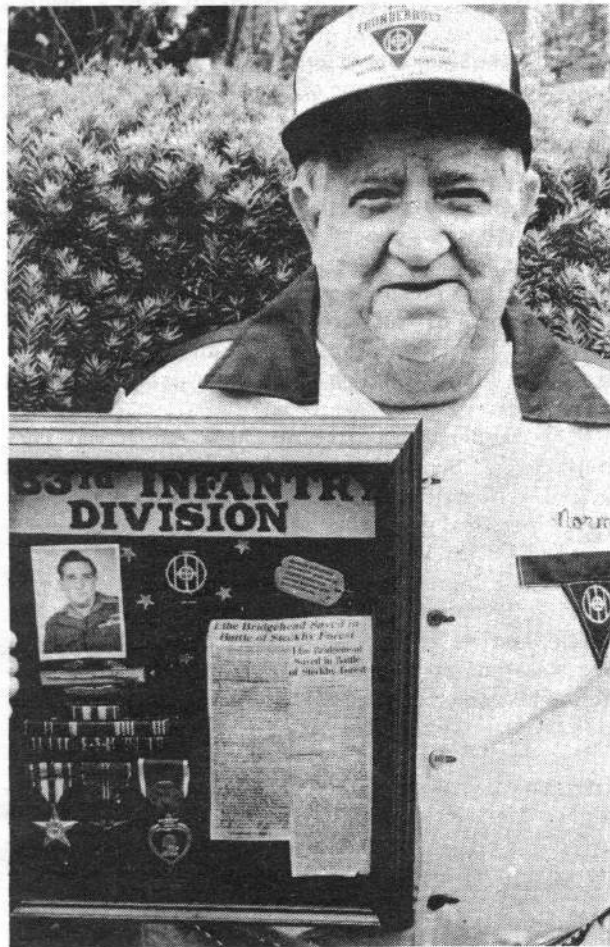
Wed., May 15 - LENINGRAD/U.S.A. Fly to U.S.A., arriving late afternoon.



Presentation of Citation in Czechoslovakia, Second from left is Zinovi from General Alexes Ivanov and Captain Anihonsky of the Sixth Division.



Meeting 1945 at Wittenburg Germany. Third from left is General Robert C. Macon 83rd, General Cherokmaka LXII Corps, General Raymond S. McLain Comdr. XIX Corp U.S. Army.



War may be hell, but at least for Norman "Shorty" Schuster of Sellersville, it was a collective hell, the kind not to be endured alone.

Schuster may have his purple heart, his silver and bronze stars and his souvenirs. He'd rather not talk about them, though.

But get to talking about his old outfit - the 83rd Division, 331st Infantry Regiment - and he'll go on for hours. After 40 years, his recollections of war are not so much about individual exploits as they are of group involvement.

And his group was heavily involved, to be sure.

From the time the 83rd landed on Omaha Beach in Normandy on June 16, 1944, (10 days after D-Day) until meeting up with the Russians near the Elbe River just a few days before VE-Day, Schuster's unit was in contact with the enemy for 270 days. They captured 82,146 German troops during that time, destroyed 480 enemy tanks, 61 airplanes, 29 supply trains and 966 artillery pieces. They also earned battle stars on five different occasions.

They fought in the Normandy hedegrows against the crack defenders of Fortress Europa. "We had just come out of the bullpen, and they had been in the game along time," Schuster recalls. When Patton led the breakthrough through France, the 83rd was right there, skirting around Paris before racing into

Luxembourg. When the 101st Airborne Division was surrounded at Bastogne at 1944's end, the 83rd had its part at the Battle of the Bulge, cutting off German supply routes. When the Panzer push through the Ardennes had finally been pushed back, it was the 83rd that swept through 213 miles of Germany in just 13 days before pulling up to await the Russian advance. And it was the 83rd that fought one of the last battles of the European Theater, at Steckby Forest.

They may have started as a green unit, but by war's end, the 83rd was well-blooded, and well-bloodied. More than 15,000 of its troops had wound up a casualties of one sort or another - more than two-thirds the unit's overall strength back at Normandy.

So if Schuster foregoes the individual praise, you'll have to pardon him. There were thousands more - in his division and in many others throughout Europe and Asia - that were just as deserving.

"I don't want to make it glory or glory," he stresses. "I did just what anybody else would have done. I'm no hero, I just fought, and I did it to the best of my ability. I'm just one of the fortunate ones. The guys who didn't come back - they were the real heroes."

Schuster's involvement with Post 280 of the American Legion, where he is Post Commander, is only a small part of his on-going struggle to keep the blood of his friends and comrades from having been spilled in vain. This is one average guy who wants to make sure Americans don't forget those who died on their behalf just a few years in the past.

"I made a vow that I would do my little bit in memory of the fellows that didn't come out alive," Schuster says. "And still, I've kept my vow."

Schuster is the vice president of the Philadelphia Chapter of 83rd Division veterans, and that group holds meetings every month. Once a year, division - mates get together somewhere to reacquaint and remember, with each reunion's high-light being a special memorial service for division troops lost during the war. This year, the reunion - their 39th - will be held in the Catskill Mountains, and the memorial observance will take place at West Point with the cadets there.

"When we go to reunions, we have over a thousand people at each one," Schuster says. "We hash over the war. That's when all the wives leave the room."

"The memories are still fresh, but they get a little more drawn out," he continues. "But when you start talking about it, it comes right back."

Schuster was drafted on his 21st birthday in October, 1942, later training in Camp Atterbury, Indiana, in Tennessee, in Kentucky and at Camp Shanks, New York.

From there, it was off to England, to Staffordshire and Wales. As Schuster recalls, his unit would have been on the Normandy beaches on June 6, had it not been for unforeseen event just a few days before. "We would have made D-Day, but we had a flood in Wales, and we lost our equipment. They just couldn't replace it by then."

By June 16th, the Allied first waves had pulled ashore and established front lines a few kilometers inland, although Omaha beach had not yet been completely cleared of its battle scars. "It was a rough feeling," Schuster, then a staff sergeant, recalls of his first moments in France. "You knew there was a war going on." That was the eeriest feeling there was. We knew we were right there.

Although German defenses by that time had been pushed off the beaches, they hadn't been far removed. Within a few days, the 83rd relieved the 101st Airborne at Carentan, and the front was within easy reach. "It wasn't far. We marched it in a matter of one night, I think," Schuster recalls. "They were still fighting for Cherbourg, and they were getting the bleep kick out of them."

The 83rd's first contact with German troops came under the worst of conditions - with the Nazi's settled in behind hedgerows, and the Americans trying to push them out.

"They had dug and planted mounds of dirt, then planted trees on top. The Germans were on one side and we were on the other. They called them Bloody Gulches. And the hedgerows were, I believe, some of the fiercest fighting of the war."

Not until July 25th, when 2500 Allied bombers shelled German defenses on the St. Lo-Periers Highway, was the 83rd able to slice through and into central France. "That was when it all broke off, and when Patton headed for us," he remembers, recalling the thrill of awakening to the sound of clouds of bombers overhead. "That was beautiful. They woke me up. I was sleeping in a German pillbox, and my squad woke me up. I heard the ground shake, and I saw the sky filled with them. It was beautiful."

Not so beautiful, though, was the sight when Schuster and company moved into what was left of St. Lo.

"The town was levelled. We had to dig (German) infantrymen out of cellars. They were shell-shocked. They were nothing. We had to go in and dig them out - they were incoherent because of the bombing of shelling."

From there, there was street fighting at St. Malo, and a detour around the outskirts of Paris. German general Eister surrendered with 20,000 of his men to elements of the 83rd ("20,00 is a lot of Germans. And they made it really formal. The general wouldn't surrender to anybody less than a general," Schuster remembers), and a push into Luxembourg followed.

"It sounds good to say we went here, and we went there, but we fought all the way through," Schuster says, recalling the days of relief were few and very far between. "You may have been pulled off the line for a day for two, but that was about it. There was only one way to look at it, and that's dead. So the only reason you kept going was to stay alive."

By December, the 83rd has pushed in Germany, taking the town of Gey after concentrated Nazi defense in the Hurtgen Forest. "That was about the roughest we'd seen since Normandy," Schuster says.

"The Hurtgen Forest was rough. It was a helluva battle."

Christmas time saw Schuster's group just outside of Cologne in Germany, one of the furthest groups inside the Reich itself. But any hopes the troops may have had about having the war come to a quick end were shattered about then, as German panzers took advantage of snow and inclement weather to break through the Ardennes, surrounding the 101st at Bastogne, massacring American prisoners at Malmedy, and poisoning for the possible recapture of Belgian ports of Antwerp. The Nazi's had infiltrated American lines using captured uniforms and vehicles, speaking fluent English and even using the right passwords.

"Our challenge was to stop them, and it was very conflicting," Schuster says. "Everybody that moved to had be questioned. And the only way to get 'em was to ask personal questions-who was Betty Grable, who was Babe Ruth. Like that."

Schuster remembers spending New Year's Eve digging in and waiting. "We had gotten word of a battle, and we knew about a German counter attack. We were put up in a sector, and we knew they were gonna hit some place, so we had to stop and attack if it came."

Eventually, the 83rd attacked into the Bulge of the German offensive, fighting constantly for 10 days and nights for just five miles and of penetration before getting a chance to pull back after the brunt of the fighting had passed.

When elements of the SS slaughtered American prisoners at Malmedy, news of the massacre left other units stunned and venegful. "After they found out that they had done that to our boys, we didn't take any prisoners, either. We were so worked up," Schuster said. "At that time, there was hatred. Hey, it was either kill or be killed."

And although German defenses were crumbling, there was still killing to be done. Even just days before Hitler's successor Admiral Karl Doenitz finally ended the thousand year Reich in early May (after just 12 years), the 83rd ran into last-ditch resistance at Tochheim in the Steckby Forest. It was there that Schuster gained both his Purple Heart, and his Silver Star, because others were far less fortunate. "There were a lot of buddies that were killed there," he notes. "If they would have seen that one through, they would have made it."

After that, what was left of the Wehrmacht stumbled across American lines with hands raised, eager to surrender to American forces instead of the Russians. "I didn't celebrate the end of the war, because we had known the war was over days bedore. There was nobody firing, and they surrendered to us, because the Russians were killing them. So every German was surrendering to our troops. We used to just send them to the back lines, because we couldn't take care of them."

May brought to an end a war which saw the 83rd earn its stripes at Normandy, at Brittany, in the

Ardennes, in the Rhineland, and in Central Europe. Later, Schuster would wind up in Germany once more, joining the National Guard in 1951 when hostilities in Korea and tension in Germany threatened once more.

Ever since, Schuster has done his part to remember the 3,000 plus in his division who never came back except in long wooden boxes. And while the public's memory of World War II may wane, Schuster's certainly will not. At Memorial Day, at Veteran's Day, and whenever the opportunity arises, he'll keep the remembrances alive.

"I've kept my vow," he says.

News-Herald
May 29, 1985
By Ron Kohl



Survivors of the 83rd Infantry Division which had 15,910 casualties during World War II in the campaigns of Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes-Alsace, Rhineland and Central Europe have organized a Greater Boston Chapter of the outfit known to this area as the 83rd Infantry Division Association. They are seeking members from the Greater Lynn area.

Traditionally known as the famous "Thunderbolt Division," the 83rd Infantry Division uniform was identified by an insignia on the shoulder sleeve of a black inverted isosceles triangle. In the center of the triangle was a gold circular onogram containing the letters O.H.I.O.

The original 83rd Infantry Division was created at Camp Sherman in Ohio on August 1917 for service in World War I, and was demobilized there in October 1919. However, at the time of World War II it was ordered into active federal service at Camp Atterbury in Indiana, and was sent overseas in April 1944, ready for combat under the command of Maj. Gen. Robert C. Macon and returning to the United States in March 1946.

Pat Digiammerino of Malden, vice president of the association, announced that Charles Miller of Saugus has been designated to serve on the Ways and Means Committee. Either of the two officers may be contacted for information relating to enrollment in the thunderbolt 83rd Infantry division Association of World War II. The group is also making plans to assemble at the Pines Hotel in South Fallsburg, N. Y. in September to celebrate its 39th reunion of all chapters.

Bernie Cove of New York, president of the national organization, recalls that during the World War II experiences of the division, 40,000 German troops surrendered despite the fact that the 83rd unit lost 3,161 soldiers who were killed in action; 11,807 wounded in action of which 459 died of wounds.

It has been pointed out that the 83rd Infantry Division literally walked its way across Europe, using every available means to carry supplies, from captured German automobiles and trucks to motorcycles and bicycles, allowing the soldiers to make advancements at a rapid pace while under heavy fire of the enemy.



Presentation of Wall Rug for West Point Cadet Library by the Boston Chapter

Pictured (L-R)

Bernie Paritz, 101st Airburn, Mike Capria, Bernie Cove, Lt. General Willard Scott, Pat Marino, Larry Arrigo

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HELLO BUDDIES:

Here we are almost into the middle of June, from here on the time will fly by and before we know it, Reunion time will be upon us. The Reunion Committee has worked very hard to give us a tremendous Reunion.

Once again I was called upon by the Reunion Committee to help with the Ad Book, although some men are resentful at receiving letters from me asking for ads, I was asked by the Reunion Committee to help them and that is what I have tried to do. I wish to thank those of you who so graciously responded to my letters. Granted there was resentment from some men over their receiving follow up letters, but if you don't send reminder notices, they forget until it is too late. It is the same with dues, there are men who are delinquent in their dues, not because they don't want to pay them, because they forget unless a reminder is published in the "THUNDERBOLT" or a reminder card is sent. In some of the letters that I send out, I mentioned Dues, and received some nice letters back thanking me for reminding them and also their Dues money along with their ad money.

As we sit here and watch the days roll by, we can't help but stop and think of the trials and tribulations of this Association since the day of its founding. Thanks to the hard work of several of our dedicated Members, we have survived what was almost a downfall of the Associations, to become one of the greatest Division Associations in the Country. Unlike many of the other Associations, ours is composed of World War II men only Stand proud and ready to do your part to keep this the greatest Infantry Division in the Country.

Sincerely
Larry Redmond

Dear Bob:

The Spring Issue of the "THUNDERBOLT", April 1984 - page 25, carried an article, "DID YOU GET YOUR MEDALS". After reading it and thinking about it for a few months, I decided to write the address listed. The results are the enclosed photograph. Perhaps others are interested. Thank you for printing the article from Parade Magazine. The same article mentioned "Miniature Medals", sold by Jimmy Muscatello, Washington, D.C. I suggest that you check with Glenwood Agency, 32 Wilmont Avenue, Ardsley, New York, 10502. The local newspaper carried an article about V.E. DAY and some of the survivors that returned. I happened to be one of the men interviewed. I received two phone calls. The first was from C. Sheldon Roberts, "k" 330th and the other from John C. Catherwood, "C" 331st. It seems they had no idea any one in this area was from the 83rd. They were very surprised. I told them of others in the area. We plan to get together for a luncheon very soon.

Best Regards,
John S. Governor
"I" & "M" 331st
41 Appleway Drive
Madison Heights, Virginia 24572

Dear Bob:

I have intended to write you for sometime but have been very slow in getting around to it. Ethel and I attended our first reunion of the 83rd Infantry Association in August of 1983. We both had an enjoyable time while we were at the Palm Beach (Hyatt) with you fellows and gals.

We weren't able to attend the 38th reunion of the 83rd Infantry Association because:

On the 29th of July about 9:30 p.m., our home burned but not quite completely. Badly enough that we had to buy a double wide trailer to live in this winter. My wife Ethel got her back badly burned with second degree burns. My son knocked a window glass out upstairs and jumped off the porch roof to safety. He was uninjured except for a cut on one hand. My wife and I both had to visit the hospital emergency room for smoke inhalation. Ethel was also treated for second degree burns on her upper back. We have all recovered from that. Ethel has had a time with Diabetes but has about gotten that under control. She is slowly improving.

Having a bad fire at your home is a traumatic thing. Ours was so bad that a couple of carpenters told us that it would be too expensive for us to repair the damage. So the double wide trailer has become our home. We had it set on the same lot as the old house. We thank God that Ethel has recovered from injuries also and that Stanton's hand has healed. Also the treatment for smoke inhalation solved that problem. I can realize now what other people in a fire go through.

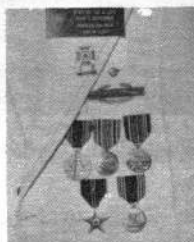
I am enclosing \$10.00 for my 1984-1985 dues. Will try to be more prompt this coming year. I did have a spare time filing and sharpening business. I am just now getting my equipment fixed up so I can make some extra money. Does Chicago or the state of Illinois have a chapter of the 83rd Infantry Division Association?

I have been reading more closely in the Thunderbolt about different chapters and individuals. I enjoy the historical articles a lot.

I don't see how Ethel and I will be able to attend the 39th reunion at The Pines this year. Best regards to all.

Charles M. Day
"B" 330th
P.O. Box 15
Odin, Illinois 62870

How about some words of encouragement to this family. Trouble seems to come when we least need it. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Charles and maybe next year can be with us at Knoxville.



FROM THE OLD OFFICE

Dear Buddies:

I'm sorry that I didn't get my column in the late T'BOLT, but it was impossible. Had a bad health problem for several months and just couldn't get my mind on writing. Hope to do better in the future if possible. Haven't been keeping notes recently and for that reason will miss out on some of the things I wanted to write.

As you read this, most of you will be planning to attend the Reunion at The Pines in the Catskills of New York. I'll not be there this year and will surely miss all of you especially my "D" 331st Buddies who will surely have a record attendance this year. Most of all, I will miss out on the great Memorial Services at West Point. For years I wanted to see that place and never got there. Maybe I will get another chance someday.

In the Pittsburgh Chapter and in the Association, there has been a lot of bad news occurring. Deaths and sickness have been on the rise. The Pittsburgh Chapter has depleted it's ranks by three this year and it leads one to think about how much longer we will be together.

Our big loss was Charles Altomari of "B" 308th Engineers. He was the Finance Officer of the Pittsburgh Chapter from day one and very active in our affairs. He was National President and Vice President during my term as President. Even at times when he was ill, he made a point of attending our meetings. Almost all of the Chapter members paid their last respects to Charlie, and most of us went to his funeral. He will be missed by all of us and those that knew him in the Association.

Ralph Allen of "B" 908th F. A. passed away also. He was 1st Sergeant of the "B" Battery. He was ailing for many months and was unable to attend many of our meetings. I'm sure he will be missed by all of his Buddies. May Charlie and Ralph both rest in peace. We have two members in the Hospital for heart problems at this writing. Steve Blasko of the 783rd Ordinance was hospitalized for a few days and I understand that he is recovering quite well. He has been our Secretary for many years and we miss him when he is not at our meetings. Emil Becker, who I think is the oldest man in the 83rd is also being treated for a heart ailment. He was a member of "L" 331st Infantry and served in World War I. Hope to see him back at our meetings real soon.

When I look around the room at our meetings, I can't help but notice that our men are ageing now and many of them have health problems. What the heck though, you have to expect those things at our age. That's why I always say: "Enjoy yourself while you can because time is surely running out on us."

Because I'll not be in the Catskills with you, I am looking forward to Knoxville next year. If all goes well, I plan to visit Nashville again before getting to the Reunion.

Nashville was always a great place to visit and I hope Knoxville is just as good. I'm sure the boys there are working very hard to assure us of a good time.

I had the pleasure of visiting with my good Buddy Ralph Gunderson and his lovely wife Geri at the Pittsburgh Airport when he had a short layover between planes on his way to the Board Meeting in the Catskills. Also met with Bob and Pearl Derickson at their Motel nearby when they were on the way home from the meeting. We had breakfast and a short chat together. It was a real pleasure talking with them.

I'm glad all the bad weather is out of the way and I can enjoy the outdoors a bit more. Was shut-in most of the winter because of illness and the Spring hasn't been the best either. The tornado that hit Pennsylvania missed us, but we sure had the heavy winds and rains.

Can't think of anymore and sure miss the notes I used to keep. Wishing all of you the very best of good luck, health and happiness. I'll just say "So Long" for now until the next time. God bless all of you. Enjoy the reunion to the fullest.

Samuel Klippa
"D" 331st Inf.



308TH ENGINEERS

HELLO BUDDIES:

I just had to write and tell you how proud I am of you men for the fine job you did in your contributions for the 308th ENGINEERS Ad in the Reunion Ad Book.

I had asked you to help make this a Memorial to the late Bill Chevanne, a former Co. C., 308th Engineer, who was so dedicated to this Association. Bill served as a National President and a Member of the Executive Board of this Association.

He also dedicated himself every year to make the 308th Engineer page the greatest in the book. I am sure that this year it will be, thanks to your help.

It has been a pleasure to serve you men this year, and next year, you will have a man from your Unit handling it, I sincerely hope that you will give him the same support that you gave me.

As you will notice on the page in the book, there have been some more great Engineers that passed away this year. Thanks to your help we were able to print the names of the ones that I was made aware of.



Dear Friends from the Hq. & Hq. Btry., 83rd Div. Arty.

Sitting here today, May 8, 1985, watching the TV News and special programs commemorating the 40th anniversary of VE-Day, one cannot but recall and reflect on ones whereabouts that memorable day in 1945.

We, too, remember where we were on that day in 1945 - it was not Culver City, California - but Schoenigen, Germany. The evening before Quentin Pease and I had returned from Paris (he had attended Recreation Officer School - I Unit Librarian School) only to find the outfit had been moved from Calbe to Schoenigen.

Strangely enough I cannot recall wild celebrating and revelry in the streets. I am certain, however, we were all happy and relieved that the immediate fighting was over and that most of us had made it through safely.

Now, forty years later the experience is still quite fresh in my memory. I am even more thankful that so many of us survived the war years. But also, now, after time to reflect and to some extent forget the distaste I felt for army life, I am particularly proud to have played an active part in a nasty job that to be done.

Even more, after all these years, the friendships and personal ties made in Div. Arty from 1942-45 have become more meaningful and important to me.

Perhaps this is part of the aging process - but not entirely - There are many sixty-eight years olds who have little to cherish in the way of good friends and fond memories - especially from the WW II years.

Perhaps my greatest regret is that we have been unable to keep in closer and better contact since 1945. For years Bill Shuman did a yeoman job with his regular and newsy letters and address updates. Since he passed away news of 83rd Div Arty has slipped badly. I am going to try and correct that-if you will help. The enclosed list of names and addresses is pretty accurate as far as it goes. I have seen, heard from or heard of those listed - recently. Do send me any additional news or information you might have. I am sending this note to several older addresses in hopes they are still good or the post offices knows where to forward mail.

Please note that my present address is once again Canton, N.C. after years in Muncie, Indiana. Margaret and I are now ensconced in our new home in the mountains of Haywood County. We have plenty of space and hope and expect that if any of you are in our area that you will come by. Father Hoffmann has already been here and we have promises from Charles Smith, the Maders and MacPherson to visit in the not too distant future. You all come!

Sincerely,
Dick A.

Richard T. Alexander

Alexander, R.T.
Rte. 2, Box 238
Canton, N. C.

Bauman, Leo F.
2185 Gardner Rd.,
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

Burleson, Charles E.
Dept. of Phy. Science
San Francisco University
1600 Holloway Ave.,
San Francisco, CA. 94132

Friedman, Karl
3802 Collier Rd.,
Randallstown, MD. 21133

Hoffmann, Msgr. Ralph G.
St. Mary of the Lake Church,
6060 Miller Ave.,
Gary, IN. 46403

Irvine, George W.
14411 N.E. 10th Place,
Bellevue, WA. 98007

MacPherson, Rupert G.
2707 W. Macon Street,
Decatur, Ill. 62522

Mader, Richard O.
9313 Lake of the Woods Dr.,
Rte. 2, Galena, Ohio 43021

Mellman, James R.
1 Bratenahl Place,
Cleveland, Ohio 44108

Nurches, William
562 Evergreen Dr.
Tallmadge, Ohio 44278

Rasicci, Umberto
465 Canton Rd.
Akron, Ohio 44312

Seidler, Howard
7616 N. Fairfield Rd.
Milwaukee, WI. 53217

Smith, Charles P. (802 TD)
Rte. 1, Box 601,
Jonesville, VA. 24263

Smith, Robert B.
350 St. Andrews Dr.,
NAPA, CA. 94558

Wonderly, Arthur
Rte. 1,
Sherwood, OH. 43556

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER

Hi Buddies:

The good weather is about to set in on us again and we will be able to travel once more. We are all looking forward to seeing all of our buddies and their wives at our September reunion.

I received two sad letters from *Larry Redmond*. One of the passing of *Walter Semmler* of the Philadelphia Chapter. Walt would call me up and give me a hard time about our Boston Bruin's and also on the loss of a great officer and member of 3rd BN. HQ. 330th, Lt. Col. "Wild" *Bill White*. He was one hell of an officer and Mary and I will miss him like everyone else in the Association. Also received word of the passing of *Clem Stemplewski*, of "A" 908th Engineers, from Racine, Wis. on Mary 19. This word from his sister, Eve Ward, who lives in Lynn and works at the School Department with my wife. When Clem was able to make the reunion he would bring a great variety of cheese from home. He will be missed by the boys of the "A" 908th Engineers.

On the happy side of Life we have some good news. First the word is out that *Helen and Dutchy Smith* will become grandparents for the 4th time. Their son Attorney James E. Smith and Attorney Jo-Ann Smith in October. Good luck Helen and Dutchy. I also hear you are world wide travelers, off to Florida, to Disney World and then off to Santa Domingo. Have a good time you all.

Also received some real Happy news about the *Brennans*. *Dot and Jim* have become proud grandparents for the first time. A baby girl Ashley Nicole David, 8lbs. 10 oz., on May 1st to Lt. Michael and Berndette David, stationed at McGuire A.F.B., New Jersey. Good Luck Dot and Jim. Mike can't be flying too much. HA! HA! HA!

I also called *John Donahue*, our great New England Chapter member and check on him. He has not been feeling good since December and will not able to be at the Smith house. Get well, John, we miss you.

Our May meeting was held at the Smith's home of Lynn, Mass., and we had another fine turnout by our members. We had the *Rossis*, the *Francullo's* from Lynn, the *McCartin's*, *Helligan's* from Lowell, the *Emanouil's* from Chelsford, the *Petrucci's*, *Tartaglia's* from Rhode Island, the *Champey's*, *Petitti's* from Connecticut and the *Burkhard's* from New York.

Received news from the *Burkhard's* that they became grandparents again for the third and fourth time, with the arrival of Erica Lynn Burkhard on May 30th, and Kristopher John Leera (to daughter Kristine) on March 30. Kristine and John live 150 yards away through the woods in the house that Karl built for them. All are doing well. Good luck Karl and Ingrid.

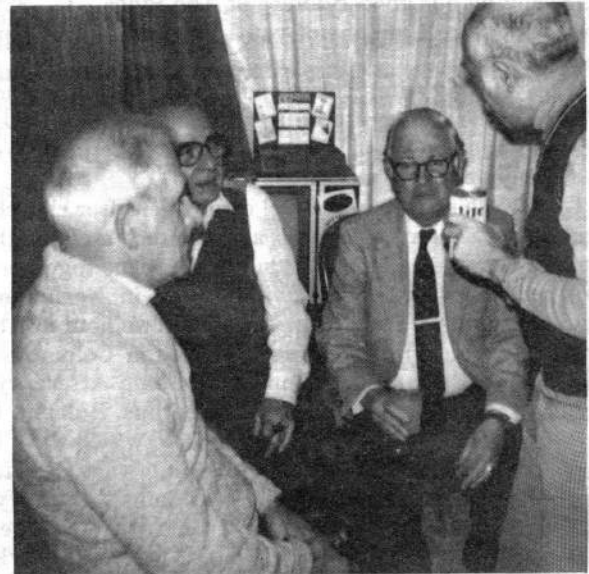
Charles and Anna Halligan from Lowell, Mass. are moving to Spring Hill, Florida in September and would like to meet members from the Florida Chapter. Address is 4418 Newton Road. Now this is going to be something strange.

When Mike and Nina Pettiti came to the Smith's house after being lost for so long, he told us that while in Florida he bought land and is going to build a house

in Florida. Charley asked him where in Florida Mike said, Spring Hill. Well, Charley fell off the chair and said that is where I am moving to. So they will not be alone.

We missed *Jim and Dot Brennan* at the Smith's house. Jim had to stand by at this job and Dot's mother is not feeling well. Hope to see you at our next meeting. Well, this is all the news that I have for now. See you at the reunion.

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



A story about the good times



Betty and Nina loved it.

KENTUCKY CHAPTER REPORT

Hello everyone:

Another year has rolled around. The reunion is fast approaching. The Boston Chapter is working very hard to give us a great reunion. A lot of work is involved hosting a reunion. The Kentucky Chapter supports you all the way.

Again I wish to express my thanks to the men and women of each and every Chapter for the Great Support they gave the Kentucky Chapter in 1984. Let's show our hosting Chapter this can be done again at The Pines in September. We are all looking forward to seeing all our good Buddies at The Pines. "G" 329 members since I am one of you I hope that all of you can make it.

This year my wife, Helen, and I along with *Bob and Pearl Derickson* were able to attend both the Dixie Chapter and the West Virginia Chapter meetings. We really enjoyed these meetings.

On May 26th Bob and Pearl came over after church and spent Sunday afternoon and Sunday night with us. We crammed a lot in the hours we spent together. We had lunch at the Nashville House in Nashville, Indiana and from there we spent about two hours with their daughter Fran who was visiting in Columbus, Ind. The four of us then went out to Camp Atterbury which is about 12 miles north of Columbus. Bob and I tried to figure out where we were located which wasn't easy. A lot of the buildings are gone, and what are left are in bad shape. The 45,000 acres of Camp Atterbury still are used for military, National Guards train there. A lot of buildings are being built. There is a work release center and Job Corp center located on the grounds, some private businesses are in operation on the grounds also. Camp Atterbury is quite different than it was in World War II. Hopefully the pictures Pearl took there will be good, if so you will see them in the Thunderbolt in the near future.

June 8th I will be attending my 40th high school class reunion. This will be the first for me. This will be Mullen, Nebraska. June 9th all of my brothers and sisters will be together. We haven't all been together at once for 30 years. Helen and I are looking forward to this. We will have to miss the Kentucky Chapter meeting at Bob and Pearl's.

The Kentucky Chapter held their quarterly meeting at French Lick, Indiana for their Spring get together. That is a lovely place and we all enjoyed ourselves. Ask Pearl about her bowling score.

Our Christmas party which is usually held the first Saturday of December has been changed to the second Saturday of December. This will be held at the Rodeway Inn in Columbus, Indiana. We invite any and all of you to visit with us.

Our October meeting will be held at Slade, Kentucky at Natural Bridge State Park. This is a beautiful time there and we again invite all of you who wish to come and be with us. Be sure and let Cecil Walters of

Stanton, Kentucky know that you are coming so that he can send you information about reservations. Nora Lee has an interesting tour planned for us. Maps and all.

A lot of people have shown interest regarding information about Camp Atterbury. There is a book that has been published call THE ATTERBURY FILE. If you wish to order a copy send your request to:

THE ATTERBURY FILE

Custer Baker Middle School

101 West Highway 44

Franklin, Indiana 46131

Softback \$5.75 plus tax .29 - \$6.00 per book

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LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING ALL OF YOU
AT THE PINES.

Regards

Ames Miller,

"G" 329th

President Kentucky Chapter



KENTUCKY CHAPTER CHATTERS BY VI DAY

The Cowboy and I just got back from grocery shopping. You are probably wondering who is the cowboy. It's none other than *Wilson Day* and he drives like a cowboy. I usually end up with scrambled eggs, smashed fruit, etc.

It's another rainy, icky day in Cincinnati. The *Kentucky Chapter* had their annual picnic Saturday, June 8th at Oxford, Ohio. We were lucky and raindrops did not fall on our heads. There were several people who did get wet, Gail and Tom Hensley spent quite a lot of time in the pool. We had a nice attendance, approximately sixty (60) in attendance. We had a lot of chatter, we played bingo, drank and ate. It was Pearl Derickson's (39th) birthday. She got lots of attention, presents and two big birthday cakes. Mildred Doggett had a birthday June 4th so she also got extra attention.

I'll back up to weekend of April 12. The *Kentucky Chapter* had their Spring Meeting and outing at French Lick, Indiana. We had a nice attendance there also, approximately thirty (30) people. We had a great time. A group of us took a train ride and Wilson was so happy. He could tell his jokes and none of us could get away from him. He did have help with telling jokes. Irene Baker and Ann McCarthy were also telling them. There were lots of things to do at French Lick and food was excellent. Ames Miller brought his famous fudge and we all "pigged out", over that.

We are now looking forward to the *national Reunion* at *The Pines*. In fact, most of us have been looking forward to this for three years. We are hoping God keeps all, of us in his care so we can be at the reunion, see old friends, eat, drink and be merry.

Enough paper chatter. Take care and God Bless.

Vi Day

783RD ORD.

This is always the best article to write for it means reunion time is just around the corner. At this time I have nothing but good reports and while some of the Western fellows (anything west of Pittsburgh is west to a Philadelphian) have other commitments and travel difficulties in getting to the Pines. Everyones' health is holding fine and that is the best news of all.

Ray and Mimi Wiggins were going to honor Al and Ruth Bensimon with a little visit after The Pines but the love bug bit! Ray and Mimi are now preparing for a big family wedding in September.

Al and Bert Unfried are doing well in Al's retirement. Al and Doggett too are really smart, they retired and kept the wives working! Al is not idle though, he does all types of woodcraft and his talents like those in France are in great demand. Al and Bert are like Bob and Mary Burns, they have extensive travel plans which don't fit in with The Pines but we'll be seeing them all next year in Knoxville.

I talked to Mel Schlotlman and taped him for Art and Carl and they said he sounds like Mel of 40 years ago. I suppose one never loses a Pennsylvania Dutch accent. Mel is doing fine in his new retirement although he admits he just "supervises his son's building his house. Mel also gave an indication of his wisdom on K.P. which I threatened him with if he didn't snap to and join the 83rd and he said "Oh I don't care, put me on the gravy bowl like I had on the boat going over-nobody took the gravy!"

Also talked to Frank Szalontay and he got a blood clot from having his leg fall asleep. He tried to tell me he lost his modesty in the hospital and all the while I thought we all lost it during the 1:00 a.m. short arm inspections. Whatever, Frank is O.K. now and hoping to get to the reunion.

Let's have a hand for the fine job Carl Frederick did on taking care of the Booster Ads. On the other hand Carl's latest tape tells me of the wonderful vacation he and Alyce had in sunny California. Grayson called both of us and when I told Lloyd of Carl's trip they tried to meet at Lloyd's sisters' house only to find out that she was on vacation. This was a real disappointment but Carl expects to return next year so keep hoping Lloyd. If anyone visits California be sure to look up Lloyd. Doc Pfeifer says his wife is an excellent cook.

I forgot to report that Herman Hackstock has remarried and to quote Herman, "Norma and I are doing very well and both very glad to be together and not alone anymore. We are staying warm and healthy and not using as much wood as last year." Herman hopes to see us all this year so maybe we'll find out why the lesser amount of firewood.

Now here is something that all of you duffers will sit up and take notice of. This is an epistle I've been saving from Wiggins "Beginning in January I have logged 188 rounds; this exceeds last years 183. In the last ten years, I have played 1300 rounds. The scenery has been great at the 100 plus courses I have played in

many states. I've worn out four sets of clubs, 25 pairs of shoes, 20 bags, 150 dozen golf balls, not to mention the unknown beers, drinks, tales, jokes and lies that go with such missuse of real estate, money and manpower."

Let's ask the oldest golfer around if he can top that. Can you Phil? And don't you think that should be worth three strokes? Phil called the other day to compliment me on my progress in finally learning to count in reference to "HUT THREE". I told Phil the latest news from Art. That Art had two visitors, Paul Bryars and Bob Hammond. They talked and laughed their way on Art's tape to me and it was quite evident that last months news flash "Bryars on the Wagon for good" was bad press release. Phil related that Paul didn't know any foreign language however he was the only man of the who knew how to order a drink in any country.

Well I guess that's as bad as ending as any so until next time.



*Hut Phil
Rags Rangnow*

323RD REPORT

First of all I would like to thank Col. Ralph Morgan for his writing of Ting-a-Ling-a Ling. He had mentioned this at the reunion in Kentucky and I am sure the 323rd men enjoyed reading it. The **Old Man** has not changed any in 40 some years.

Also, Allen H. Marshall for remembering Gerald Costello of East Liverpool, Ohio. I called Gerald's wife, Alice Ann, (who had read it a couple of days before me) and we had quite a chat. She told me Gerry's sister Dorothy had a knee operation in California. I called her at the hospital and she is doing well.

Allen, I am sure you stirred up 323rd memories. I hope to meet with Bill Shaner this summer, hopefully in Boston, Ma. However, you "**Old Guys**" have trouble taking long trips now, so maybe this "**Young Fellow**" will have to go to Altoona, Pa.

George Connors, Romeo Maynard and myself played Bocci on June 2nd. Of Course we won.

Erwin Erhardt tells he is coming to the reunion in September. Dallas Williams and Jack Knight are afraid to leave Portland, Oregon so they can not make it.

We have not heard from Dave Nellies. I guess when you are retired you don't have time to write. Huh!

Walt Harding wrote and said Al Covi was vacationing in Florida. He also said that Capt. Bob Costello is doing fine. Maybe Bob will make it to New York to the reunion. Walt did not think he could make it this year.

We were very sorry to hear of the passing of Donald St. John's grandson Joe after a long illness. Our deepest sympathy to Don and his family.

Thanks to Ralph Morgan, Walt Harding, Erwin Erhardt, George Connors and John Pollack for their donations for the Memorial Page.

Until I see most of you at the Pines Hotel.

AMBY TYNAN
323rd FA

BOSTON REPORT

Many of the Boston Chapter attended a meeting at the Pines Hotel in So. Fallsburg on St. Patrick's Day weekend. It was a great success with Irish Coffee and the whole bit. Bernie Cove is going to really spend it on the reunion in September 1985. Our day at West Point sounds excellent. Maybe some 83rdrs will re-enlist after being at West Point getting that old feeling.

The Ad donations for the book are coming in very good. Thanks to Larry Redmond for the help he has given the Boston Chapter over the last year as he has done for the 83rd over the years.

Our Boston Chapter meetings have been too heavily attended to list everyone. I hope it keeps up. Five states were represented along with Jim Prentice from the 83rd World of Publicity. As Vice President Jim Prentice has done a fine job.

The Executive Board met at the Pines Hotel to check everything out for the coming reunion. They now have the odds and ends straightened out. I am told at this writing the Pines Hotel is a sell out for the 83rd Infantry Division Association in September 1985. A good time will be had by all.

I forgot to mention that a needle point wall covering was donated to the West Point Library at a recent meeting. This was 42"x60" of our 83rd Division insignia made by Mike Caprio of the Boston Chapter. You will see it there at the reunion.



Working out the final details for the Reunion



We were very glad to hear Charlie Sihanick's wife is doing much better. It will certainly be nice to see them both at the Pines Hotel in September.

Tony Piantedosi just returned from two weeks in Hawaii and I must say he looks wonderful after the long trip. It was nice to hear about the different places he visited. Tony will be at the reunion also. Some people have the green stuff. Huh!

The Father of John McDonald who was killed in action as a replacement in K co. 330th Infantry died recently, at the age of 94. I know that some of K Co. remember John.

News got to the Boston Chapter that the Phillie Chapter turned out real strong for the Memorial Day Parade in full dress 83rd uniforms and look sharp. These 83rdrs have been doing this every year and we are proud of them.

Our Boston Chapter meeting was at Larry and Fran Arrigo's house in Norwood, Ma. There was lots of food and tea with about 30 people attending. The Irish and Italians had a few good games of Bocci. The Irish won 4 out of 5 games so the Italian from Phillie Chapter better get ready for the Boston Irish Bocci Team. Thanks to Fran Arrigo everything was the best.

It is time to get this in the mail. See you all at the Pines Hotel in September.

AMBY TYNAN

Boston Chapter Reporter



(above) Arlene and Charlie Miller at the Pines.

(Left) Boston Chapter Members attend the Memorial Service for Holocaust Survivors.

FLORIDA CHAPTER

The Florida Chapter had their week-end meeting and social at Fort Meyers Beach on April 27. There were 56 members and wives present, which was a wonderful turnout. The week-end started on Friday evening when the motel gave a sumptuous cocktail party including a band. There were 20 of us present for the party. On Saturday, we all lounged on the beach, as the motel was right on the Gulf of Mexico. After our afternoon meeting, we all went to Charley Brown's restaurant for a delightful dinner. All arrangements were made by *Nell and Bill Chapman* who did a magnificent job. As usual *Wilbur Campbell* came down from Pittsburgh to attend our week-end. Good to see you so often, and stay well.

We also had two new members attend our meetings and joined our chapter. *Mark Rubin* of Sanibel Island, "M" 329th and *Jay Goodman* of Fort Meyers, 2nd BN.HQ. 331st.

Some of our regulars who were unable to make this meeting because of other commitments were *Bill Sullivan, John Stewart, Bill Drugash, and Parker Black*. This will be the last issue before our reunion at The Pines. If you haven't made your reservations yet, I suggest you do so as soon as possible. I understand you are all in for some surprises.

At this writing most of the boys are coming along quite well. *Leo Schneider* formerly of Fairfield, Connecticut and now a resident of Delray Beach, Florida, was operated on, and coming along fine. I heard that *John Stewart's* wife, *Anna Mae*, had a heart attack and is on the road to recovery. We can expect to see them both at The Pines.

Congratulations to the *Gunderson's* on the forth coming marriage of their daughter, and to *Fran and Stan Bielen* who became grandparents of a beautiful baby girl.

Have an enjoyable summer, and we will see all of you at The Pines.

Dave Benick
"A" 331st



COMPANY "H" 330th

HELLO BUDDIES:

Here we are coming to the end of another great year in the History of the 83rd Infantry Division Association. We of Company H, 330th can feel mighty proud that once again we are able to have our names appear in the Reunion Ad Book.

I must say that I am a little disappointed that we don't have more men interested this year, but I suppose that many of you are now retired and living on a fixed income and have to watch our pennies.

To those of you who responded, I want to say, Thanks, several of you sent extra money which means that we can pay tribute to some of our deceased Buddies.

I have always been proud to say that I was a member of Company "H" 330th Infantry Regiment. We had a unit that served its Country well in combat and are doing their part to keep our Association going.

Remember, the Association depends on you for its support, they need your \$10.00 dues to keep going. If you are not a paid up member, don't let another year pass you by.

May God Bless You All.

Sincerely
LARRY REDMOND

LOUISIANA CHAPTER:

Had a note from *Laurence Armand* requesting information about the Bus that the Warren Chapter will take to the Pines. It seems that *Laurence* will go into Warren, Ohio, then ride the Bus with those great people to the Pines. You fellows up north had better be prepared, *Laurence* has been on the Golf Course everyday trying to improve his game. He claims he is ready for the best of you.

Talked with *Leonard Prelutsky* about a week ago, I thought that he would be at the Pines, but he informs me that he is unable to attend this year.

I haven't heard from *Labbe* over in Duhon, I am relying on his group from the Ordance Company to get him to attend the reunion. We still have nine paid up members from the state of Louisiana.

I saw that three or four names are missing from the paid members. Let's see if you fellows can get your dues in and join the 1500 other paid up members of the Association.

Those of us that will attend this year's reunion are looking forward to a great reunion, and will be delighted to attend the Memorial Services which will be held at the Military Academy at West Point in September. If you haven't put in for your Reservations, do so soon.

Joe Macaluso



DIXIE CHAPTER

Hello Buddies:

The first quarter meeting of the Dixie Chapter was held March 22nd and 23rd in Williamsburg at the Westpark (Best Western) Motel. This meeting was hosted by *John and Virginia Cox* from Mechanicsville, Virginia. Thank You John and Virginia and the staff of the Westpark for a wonderful meeting. Despite the rainy weather, we had a big turn-out with about 75 present for the banquet on Saturday night. New members joined us plus others who had not yet attended one of our meetings. Our National Secretary-Treasurer *Bob Derickson* and his wife Pearl attended and we were delighted to have them with us. Also attending were the President of the Kentucky Chapter, *Ames Miller* and his wife *Helen*. Another highlight of this meeting was having *Larry and Mary Redmond* join us again. It has been sometime since they were able to be with us, but they both looked great. Hope to see you in South Fallsburg, *Larry and Mary*. *Odey Coffey* won our 50-50 drawing, and that really put a smile on his face.

We were saddened to hear of the death of *Lt. Col. Bill White*. As you know he had been in declining health for some years now. Our sympathy goes out to *Tina* and the other members of the family. Word has been received that *Kermit L. Hargis* died in April. He was a former member of the Dixie Chapter before the formation of the Kentucky Chapter. Sympathy goes to *Maxine*, his wife. *Maxine* worked really hard on the reunion in Owensboro and we did appreciate it.

Mary Muldrow, wife of *James M. (Buck) Muldrow* has suffered a light stroke but is getting along pretty well. Get Well Soon *Mary*. We miss you at our meetings.

Jim and Irene Burrows' son *Jimmy*, was married to *Sonja Goodwin* at St. Michaels Catholic Chapel at Fort Jackson, South Carolina on May 25th. *Irene's* mother, *Betty Mang*, and her sister and her husband *Jutta* and

A LETTER FROM THE COL. WILLIAM WHITE FAMILY TO THE 83rd INFANTRY DIXIE CHAPTER

THE DIXIE CHAPTER:

Let me express my thanks and the gratitude of all the White Family for your Sympathy. Please do not consider the delay of acknowledgement as a lack of appreciation. Special Thanks to *Haran Martin*, *Lacy Satterfield* and *June Watkins*. Their presence meant more than words can express.

Sincerely
Tina F. White

Gotthard Graetsch, came from Germany for the wedding. Several members of the Dixie Chapter attended this wedding. *Jimmy and Sonja*, we wish you many years of wedded bliss.

Chris and I have returned from a 5 week visit to relatives and friends in Germany. We had a great time visiting *Weiden/Oberpfalz*, *Staffelstein*, *Nuernberg*, *Munich*, *Berchtesgaden*, *Ramsau*, *Koenigssee*, *Oberau*, right below the *Eaglenest*, and *Salzburg*, *Austria*. We also stayed in *Franfurt*, *Worms*, and *Heidelberg*. My wife is from *Aschaffenburg*, and we spend 10 days with her mother.

Our second quarter meeting was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Knoxville, Tennessee on May 31st and June 1st. Not many of our group showed up for this meeting for various reasons, but the ones attending enjoyed this meeting. New elected officers are:

President	<i>John Cox</i>
1st Vice President	<i>Chester Gray</i>
2nd Vice President	<i>Jessie Pirkle</i>
Secretary-Treasurer	<i>Haran Martin</i>
Reporter	<i>Leroy McManaway</i>

Our chaplain position is open at the present time. Our next meeting will be in *Newberry*, *South Carolina* in *October*. Further details will be mailed out to our members. We were happy to have *Mr. and Mrs. Redden* as guest at this meeting. They belong to the *Kentucky Chapter* and their home is in *Greenwood*, *Indiana*.

It was reported at this meeting that *Ed Thomas* is ill. We wish for you a speedy recovery, *Ed*.

This will be my last report to "Thunderbolt" and I have enjoyed serving you. Lots of luck to the newly elected officers.

As always your reporter.

Emory Culclasure

We will miss you *Emory*.
You have done a good job.
Bob



*Perhaps you sent a lovely card or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a Floral Piece, if so we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the Kindest words, as any friend
could say.
Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us
that day.
Whatever you did to console our heart, we thank you
so much whatever the part.*

*The Family of Lt. Col.
William Sail White*



PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER NEW

Dear Buddies:

On Saturday, March 16, 1985 a St. Paddy's Party was held at our chapter home in Narbeth, Pennsylvania. Ham and Cabbage for the St. Paddy's and Spaghetti and Chicken Caccitore for the St. Joseph Gang. Need I say a great time was had by all. Our wonderful meal was catered by Lou and Lucy Volpi. A job well done by them. God bless them both. Cake and sweets were furnished by our wonderful wife's auxillary. Norm Schuster and Lorraine donated the St. Paddy's punch. Green and very good. Our own Larry Redmond was there looking very chipper. His Mary could not make it due to her illness. Lo and behold Ken Seiger attended our affair, whom we had not seen for quite a while. Also Harry Kirby and Phillis. Hope to see more of them in the near future.

Our good friend Bea Chavanne attended our affair. Good to see her again.

On behalf of myself and all chapter members our credo's to our President Bill Pugh and Vice-President Norm Schuster for a job well done for 1985. For our scheduled picnics, and all nights' out, that they set up for a great year for our chapter. We thank Lou Volpi, our Secretary, and Al Bevedere, our Treasurer, and all officers and men and women who pitch in to help us always to make our Chapter a success. "Bless Them All." Our 50-50 was won by our good buddy, Robert S. Sassaman of the 83rd Signal. \$150.00 was his share of our St. Patty's drawing.

Our April 21st Sunday Shower affair, was a buffet luncheon and meeting. Again our auxiliary supplied our sweet table. We are all getting a little spare tire, due to all the goodies. We also accomplish quite a bit of business matters at our meetings, to the satisfaction of all members, with malice toward none. At our April affair nearly everyone took in photographs and stories of day gone by.

A great time was had by all. Men and women of the Thunderbolt we grow older and more mellow with the years, but the memories and comradeship that we have it second to none. Amen to that.

Memorial Day, May 27th, 1985, Narbeth, Pennsylvania.

Once again the 83rd Division Association of Philadelphia area was proud of themselves for a job well done. Yes proud fir the applause and cheers that were given to us as we marched through the main line area of Narbeth. Our color guard and rifle squad again did the honors firing for the Italian American Club Veterans, and the American Legion Post. Then when our day was over, we set up candles and potted flowers for our own chapter and 83rd deceased comrades. The potted plants were donated by Lou Volpi in honor of our 329th, 330th, 331st, DIVARTY, Special Units and women and children. All three ceremonies were done well. In our opinion our own 83rd honor's were the best.

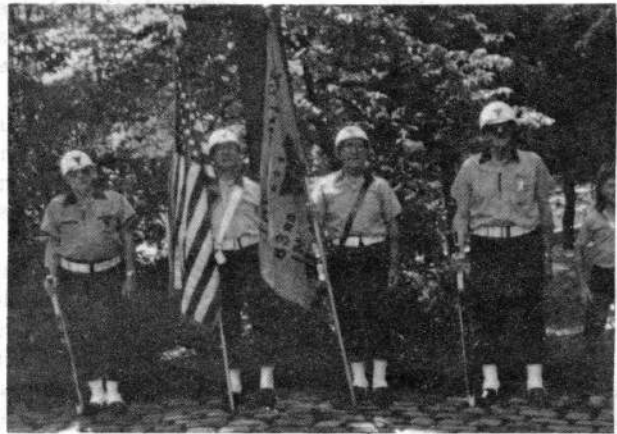
It could have been because we're a little prejudiced toward our own Thunderbolts. The Good Lord will forgive us. Credo's to Al Bevedere and our color guard and rifle squad and to Dave Rosenberg, Ken Seiger, all flower bearer's and our own Virginia Pugh for a job well done at our services.

Many thanks to our caterers' Lou and Luci Volpi for the prime rib dinners and the time they both put in for our chapter.

Many thanks to our lovely wives for our desserts and sweet table. Bless them all.

John T. Piscitelli
"C" 323rd F.A.

P.S. See you all at The Pines. Sign up a Buddie and Double our roster membership.



Bill Pugh, Joe Gioia, Anthony Giannini, and George Pletcher, Color Guard for the Philadelphia Chapter. Memorial Day Parade, Narbertha, PA.



Lou Volpi leading the Philadelphia Chapter. Memorial Day Parade, Narberth, PA.

CLEVELAND CHAPTER

Hi Buddies:

We are all fine as of today. No reports of any ailments for a change. *Millie Warner* had her gall bladder and stones removed and is recovering slow but sure. We are all "Gung-Ho" about the reunion. Most of us have our room reservations confirmed and are raring to go. I don't relish the thought of driving so my chauffeur will have to do double duty and as always *Rollie* enjoys driving, I don't anymore.

Our last meeting was held at *Ed and Dolores Jocek*. As usual everything was fine. Even the weather cooperated for a change. The April meeting was held at *Czechs Acres*. That also was a happy event. Plenty of food and drinks as was at *Joceks*. It is gratifying to see members accept 30 or 40 people invade their homes and then have to clean up after everyone leaves. That comes under the category of family, that's the way we feel.

I have been on *Leo Labuda's* neck for about 10 years now, trying to get him to join *Burkhardt* and *Redmond* at a Reunion, but to no avail. I am giving up on him. As for *Bill George*, I can't locate him and have also given up on him. At least I tried.

We celebrated Memorial Day on the 27th by participating in the wreath laying ceremonies, parade, rifle squad duties, etc. *Szubski*, *Triziak*, *Elther* and *Lindsey* made up the rifle squad, and they did a real good job, considered that the rifles are old and fire when they are ready. We also took good care of our refreshment allowance, which at today's prices, \$50.00 doesn't go far. There were 12 stalwarts that took part in the event and the consumption of the refreshment and food.

Casey and Elanor Szubski proudly announced the coming of a blessed event. *Casey* has a grin on him from ear to ear. They have to wait awhile though, as daughter *Barbara* still has a long way to go.

The Warner's are in the process of selling their home, (they have two) so *Rollie* is planning on a new car for the trip to *The Pines* in style. Maybe I'll even assist him in the driving chore, a new car always feels good. It got to be a lot of work for *Rollie* to maintain two properties and he's not getting any younger.

In my last article, I said that I may just maybe, retire from the Reporter's job, but the guys wouldn't listen so I'm stuck again.

Our June meeting will be in *Canton, Ohio* at the home of *Jim and Ruth Lindsey*, which will also be a good turn-out. They make it their business to travel to *Cleveland* to attend our meetings, so I think it's only fair and proper we do them the honor and give them a break once in a while.

The Kowalec's are alone again, *Mary Francis* and family have purchased a home, *Casey* said he can't get used to the emptiness and not having the grandchild around.

Our own *Marge Miller* was hospitalized a while back. I haven't heard anything since. (I guess I'll call them now). Well that's the way to find out, *Marge* is

recovering, how-ever very slowly. *Marge* has a heart condition. Five years ago she had open heart surgery and that is self explanatory. Get well quick, *Marge*, we're all on your side, praying that you whip your problem, and we do love you.

I just got a call from *Walter Baranecky*, he informed me of his wife passing away this past month. No wonder we couldn't make connections. He also told me of *George Bellay's* wife being hospitalized. He never got back to me and that's about the time we discussed sharing a room at *The Pines*, so I just went on my own and reserved a room for myself. Maybe we can still get something going while at *The Pines*, who knows.

Time for me to end this report before more bad news comes in, so stay nice and if you must, fight nice and "GOD BLESS ALL OF YOU."

Respectfully submitted,
Al Uridel
"CN" 329th



Tribute To A Local Boy

Ralph Malec, 65, of 5104 *Barkwill Ave.*, *Cleveland*, passed away June 8, 1984, of an apparent heart attack. He was one of the great button accordion players and had recorded on *Ray Records*.

He was born, raised and always resided in the *Zizkov* area of *Cleveland*. He began his musical career at an early age of 9 on a two-row *Koch* button accordion, which his parents purchased for his twin brother *Otto*. A natural musician, *Ralph* learned to play the songs he heard his mother, *Bertha*, hum and sing.

Along with other men from the area, *Ralph* served in *World War II* as a member of the *Army*, 329th *Infantry* with the 83rd *Division* that occupied *Pilsen, Czechoslovakia*. He received the *Silver Star*, *Bronze Star* and also liberated a few breweries in *Czechoslovakia*.

He was a member of *Anton Blazek Post No. 2079 V.F.W.*, 83rd *Division Cleveland Chapter*, *Officer of Prazskych Pepiku Club*, member of *St. Joseph Society No. 156 C.C.U.*, *Happy Chums Outing Club*, *Bicycle Club*, *Lions Club*, *Life member of Karlin Club*.



New Orleans, LA.
June 4, 1985

MEN OF G COMPANY 331st INFANTRY:

I received a card from *Leroy Titus* just last week notifying me of the death of one of the men of G Company, **EDWARD MURPHY**. It seems that Murphy died in May 1984, and the men of the company and of the Association were not notified of his death. This is a great loss to the original compliment of G Company men, because Murphy was an inspiration to all, and a wonderful sense of humor which carried throughout the unit. He was seriously wounded in Normandy which left him paralyzed from the waist down. Murphy was a good athlete, and his handicap left him with a dreadful attitude on life, and only in his later years was he able to overcome that. He will be missed by all who had the privilege of serving with him during the early days of Normandy.

I understand that most of you men received two letters for request for ad for the Program book for this year's reunion. I am sorry that this has happened. *Beau Titus* and I try to time the letter that I send out each year so that we can get the ad into the Chapter that is sponsoring the reunion. This year *Larry Redmond*, got ants in his pants, and felt that Beau and I were not doing a good job of soliciting the ad. He took it upon himself to write to each of you, about five of you did send your money to him, that is good.

I want to notify each of you that I got the information and the money and your name will be included with the other G Company members in the program book. Larry means well, but his effort is a duplication and both Beau and I have told him to keep hands off of G. Company.

I received a wonderful gift from *Ltj. Robert H. York* about a month ago. There was an officer at the Army War College, who was given an assignment of writing a History about a Retired General Officer of the Army. His selection was *Robert H. York* our Regimental Commander during World War II. I was asked to make a contribution to that History. General York sent me a copy of that History. What a wonderful tribute to one of the greatest officers that has ever served in the United States Army. All members of the 331st Infantry should be proud that they were able to serve under this great officer. The Boston Chapter has extended an invitation to General York to attend our Reunion, and there is a good possibility that the General will be in attendance.

I haven't heard from *Mort Gaynor* lately, I know he was having trouble getting someone to take care of his dad, he is 94 years old.

I did get a call from *Oscar Rutstein*, also a letter. He was trying to decide whether he would attend the reunion. He called to see if I would be there. I understand that he has called others to see if they would attend, and I do believe that we will see Rutstein at the Pines, after 40 years he will be a good site for my sore eyes. He was my jeep driver for a major portion of the war.

I had a chance to call *Kate Pangle* to find out how *Loyal* was doing, he seems to be hanging in there and we all sincerely hope that *Loyal's* health will improve enough that one of these days we will see him at another reunion.

We seem to have a good number of men coming to the Reunion, about 15 as of now, with alot of men still not heard from. Had a note from *Joseph Kuzma* the other day requesting additional information on the Pines, he lives within 150 miles of the Pines, so we may see Joe at the reunion.

It's about time that *Phillip Wiggenhauer* gives us a chance to see him once again, come on down Phil, the Golf Tournament is great and your should enjoy it, *Beau Titus* is ready for you.

Haven't heard from *Mike Mizeroch*, we will have to give *Casey Szubski* the job of talking to Mike - give it a try Casey.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Pines.

Capt. Mac



A NOTE FROM Vito and Virginia Palazzolo

Dear Bob:

I received a phone call from Janet Murphy saying that she would like a note put in the *Thunderbolt* about Francis.

Francis Murphy, "G" 329th has been operated on for a tumor of the brain, and is hospitalized in the V.A. Hospital in Perryville, Maryland. Francis needs some inspiration to recover, so please send cards and your prayers.

Francis Murphy is a member of the Florida Chapter and also the Philadelphia Chapter. Francis has the Honor of being part of the 1st reunion in Cleveland, Ohio in 1947. He still has his 1st membership card. He has attended at least 36 out of the 38 reunions that have been held. So let's send him the encouragement that he need at this time.

Janet is seeing him everyday and she also needs the strength to see him through this. We pray for him, and hope for the best.

Vito and Virginia Palazzolo
"G" 329th Infantry

On Saturday morning June 22, Vit called here at the office and reported that Francis had passed away the day before. This was also reported by Ames Miller on Friday night. The sympathy of the 83rd goes out to Janet in her sorrow. Janet's address is Mrs. Janet Murphy, R. D. RT. 2, Box 1411, Darlington, Maryland 21034. She and Francis had registered to attend the reunion in September at The Pines.

WARREN CHAPTER NEWS

The big story from the Warren area was the devastating tornado that cut a swath 600 yards wide for about 35 miles in the areas west, south and east of Warren, To orient those of you who attended our 1977 reunion the tornado destroyed everything in it's path, just a few hundred yards east of our headquarters, at the Holiday Inn. The only Warren chapter member who suffered losses, was John Caparanis. The tornado leveled his old lumber yard buildings and mill equipment in Newton Falls, Ohio. His mill equipment was not moved yet, to his new buildings on Rt. 5 closer to Warren, so his losses there were heavy.

MEETINGS

MARCH - Our meeting was cancelled, due to the death of former member, Ray Manotti's wife, Mary--our deepest sympathy to the entire Minotti family.

APRIL - Both chapter and auxiliary members met at the home of our Prexy, Ray and Margaret Voracek. As always the food and refreshments were great.

At this meeting, we finalized our plans to attend the 1985 reunion at the Pines. We gave the "go ahead" signal to our sec'y-treas. Mike Skovran to charter a bus to transport us to the reunion in Sept...special note to Bernie Cove and his troops. Stock up your freezers and hospitality room. The Warren group are coming "En-Masse" and will be tired, hungry and thirsty when we get there.

MAY - We began the summer season with our golf outing in the morning and meeting - picnic in the afternoon. Our summer picnic committee of George Bellay and John Teringo did their usual outstanding job at the barbecue pit, and the delicious food supplied by our lovely wives made for a wonderful day.

JUNE - Again we held our meeting at Smelko's, by a morning of golf. John Caparanis was medalist with a 39. We just can't understand how a lefthanded golfer can shoot such low scores -- but he's probably the best golfer in our association. This was a stag affair because most of the women had other commitments. Chefs George Bellay and John Teringo barbecued hamburgers and hot dogs to go along with the delicious crock of baked beans supplied by Theresa Gautschi and potatoe salad brought in by Bellay.

Our Deepest Sympathy To: Pat and John Shamrock. Pat lost her older brother from West Virginia in April.

Sick Call--Louise Bellay spent a week in the hospital, but is back home now and feeling better.

Millie Kelly and Joe Venuti have been ill for a few months and have been out-patients at the hospital. Get well soon you guys.

Since this will be the last issue of the Thunderbolt, before the reunion, the members of Warren Chapter hope to see all of our old friends, throughout the country, at *The Pines*. It will be especially nice to see George and Mary Cooley, who plan to fly in from Florida. We sure Miss seeing Loyal and Kate Pangle at the reunions, but rest assured our thoughts are with you both there in Michigan.

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

Lee Titus
Chapter Reporter

PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

Our June meeting was held on Sunday, June 2, 1985 at the Brentwood V.F.W. with 25 members present. The saddest thing to report is the death of Charles Altomari on May 5, 1985. Charlie was a former president of the Association and one of the stalwarts of the Pittsburgh Chapter, serving as the fund-raising chairman. The Pittsburgh Chapter was well represented at the funeral home and at the funeral itself. See obituary article enclosed).

Also on the deceased list are Ralph C. Allen and Robert W. Mounts. Ralph died at the V.A. Hospital in Pittsburgh on May 24 after a rather lengthy illness. The last time he appeared at one of our functions was the Christmas party in 1983; and at that time he appeared on crutches. Robert died on March 17, at the age of 80.

Our hospital list is reduced to two. Steve Blasko, Chapter Secretary, for a heart condition is at *Allegheny General Hospital* in Pittsburgh; and Emil Becker at Sewickley Hospital, also for a heart condition. Emil is 87 years old and was a member of "L" 331st.

On the lighter side is that of Paul and Rita Dietrich becoming grandparents for the first time on June 1. Jim and Liz Dietrich are the proud parents.

At the July meeting on Jfuly 7th, a representative of the Veterans Administration in Pittsburgh will be on hand to answer questions pertaining to veterans and their rights. Wives of our members will be in attendance at this meeting.

Jules Desgain has inherited the duties of fund raising chairman and we all wish him well and a lot of luck in his new position.

That shall be all for this issue, and I wish I could be with you all at The Pines, but will be unable to attend.

"Fran" Beerhalter
"H" 329th

THE WEST VIRGINIA CHAPTER REPORT

The West Virginia Chapter met on Saturday, June 8th, at the Best Western Motel in Parkersburg, W.Va. We had a very good attendance at this meeting. Warren Knicley of Parsons, W.Va. and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kerns of Bridgeport, W.Va. long time members whom we have not seen for some time, was there. Glad to see you, and hope to see you more often. Also, Paul Daughterty, of Moundsville, W.Va. We were counting on you to be there, and would like to have seen more members from the Wheeling and Moundsville area. Also Faye Davis of Washington, W. Va. was present. Glad to see you also.

We had a general discussion concerning the Reunion in 1987 and how to renew interest in our members to attend the meetings, with about everyone giving their views and ideas concerning this project.

The West Virginia Chapter will be represented at the Pines Reunion in September with Officers and several members making plans for the trip.

See You there!

Don W. Pettry
"B" 323 F.A.

To men of the 83rd Infantry Division Association:

You honored me in 1948 as your second president of this wonderful veterans' association. When I see the asterisks that surround my name in the Thunderbolt, I am reminded that time is running out.

Since I am unable to attend your 40th Anniversary Reunion, I would like to impart a message to you:

If you feel smug, you should. You fought. You won. You came home. You formed a veterans' association and for forty years you have been keeping it alive.

If you feel proud, you should. As Americans, you were born, raised, lived in and fought for the greatest democratic nation on the planet earth - the United States of America.

If you feel extremely gratified, you should. You defeated the most heinous criminals that spewed forth the vilest evil that ever threatened the very existence of all mankind.

Today, while you recall those memories, tragic events are pushed back in your thoughts and joyous, humorous moments for the most part prevail.

This is the wonder of the human psyche.

While you review War II with triumphant feelings and remember your dead comrades with respect and sadness, you ponder the present and you realize that World War II has never ended.

The second World War was fought on four major fronts: Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, Southeast Asia, and the Far East.

While hostilities ceased in Europe and in the Far East with the unconditional defeat of Germany and Japan, we have been witnessing wars in Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Israel, Egypt, Syria, Iran, Iraq, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Ireland, Libya, Sudan, Africa, Argentina, Chile, and finally, world-wide terrorism.

If this isn't world war, then what is?

Intertwined throughout so much of the world's hostilities are the ever-present poisonous tentacles of the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is antagonistic toward the rest of the world beyond the "Iron Curtain." It maintains a constant war-time footing. It trains and finances terrorists all over the world.

The Soviet Union is the major threat to the security of free people - always seeking to expand its influence whatever the human cost. While engaged in a continuous program to intimidate the world, it bolsters an aggressive society with massive military and police power, a repressive system within its own country which punishes, in a constant reign of terror, men and women seeking independent religious and political thought.

We must show the firmness and the unity to resist the totalitarian challenge from the Soviets.

We can no longer "buckle" to their constant threats.

If you remain alert to such threats, you will become as you did forty years ago, the guardians of democracy and freedom on our planet. Somerset Maugham wrote: "If a nation values anything more than freedom, it will lose its freedom."

JACK M. STRAUS



NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

Hello Buddies,

When you receive this issue of the **Thunderbolt** you all should be excited about our reunion at the Pines. When I attended the meeting of the executive board back in May at the Pines; Bernie Cove, Pat DiGiammerino and Larry Arrigo were beaming with enthusiasm about this reunion. They have conveyed this enthusiasm to the staff of the Pines and they are all eagerly awaiting your arrival. For all those that are attending for the first time at the Pines, I urge you try all the different foods offered in the dining room. My typical breakfast would be, Lox with Cream Cheese on a Toasted Bagel. For lunch try the Borsh which is served with Boiled Potatoes, or Matzoh Ball Soup which I found to be delicious. If you don't like what you order they will gladly replace your order with anything you like and all you want. As an example, I had four desserts for dinner one evening. Enjoy the dining room for all it has to offer with all your buddies.

Being the only golfer on the executive board, I felt it was my obligation to check out the course while I was

there. For all you Hackers, I can report it was in great shape. There will be a golf tournament which whether you win or lose will be fun being out with your buddies. So bring your clubs and if you can't they have clubs for rent.

The rest of the program has many interesting things for all to enjoy. Bernie Cove has promised some great entertainment in the evenings. Also the trip to West Point is going to be something you won't want to miss. All this should make for a great reunion. Now for some news from the chapter. All are well and looking forward to the reunion. The talk at the last meeting was centered on the reunion. Until I announced that Fran and I are Grandparents!! Kelly Michelle was born to our son Ken and his wife Mary, March 19. Now I understand why all you who have grandchildren are thrilled by it all. I am enclosing a picture of Kelly at two months for all to see. For you lip readers, I'm sure you can tell how proud she is of her grandpop. Note to Bob Derickson: You can consider this a release in case you decide to use Kelly as our cover girl.

That's it for now. Wishing you are well.

Stan Bielen

MICHIGAN CHAPTER

By Peter C. Gavrilovich Sent In By Ernie Schmidt
Free Press Staff Writer 1st BN HQ. 331st

For 40 years Nick DeGrazia kept the symbol of hate that became his remembrance of liberty.

Sometimes when friends came over he'd haul out the blood-red banner with the black swastika centered in a white circle and recall those days in August 1944 when he and eight other GIs were German prisoners.

But just before this week's 40th anniversary of Allied victory over Nazi Germany, DeGrazia, 64, hauled out the Nazi flag one last time and sent it with his son to St. Malo, France. That's where he got it; that's where it belongs.

WEDNESDAY, DeGrazia's son, Nick III, University of Detroit vice-president for finance, presented the flag to city officials at St. Malo, where it will be kept in a museum in the Brittany peninsula town. The flag had flown over a Nazi bunker with 10-foot-tall concrete walls two feet thick.

DeGrazia hauled down the flag after the 601 German soldiers holding the bunker surrendered to the U.S. Army's 83d Infantry Division.

The flag carry's names of the GIs who spent several days in a cell cut out of rock deep beneath the bunker.

DeGrazia, who lives north of Port Huron, had landed at Normandy four days after D-Day, June 6, 1944. By early August, DeGrazia and his unit were preparing to assault the bunker. The Germans were trapped; behind them was the English Channel, in front 83rd Division.

DeGrazia and the eight others in his squad got in a courtyard in front of the bunker "before the Germans knew they were being attacked. They opened fire," DeGrazia recalled.

"ONE GUY" from Texas lost a leg. Another got machine gun bullets in the back."

DeGrazia dashed to one of the wounded men, pulled him to safety and gave him first aid.

The Germans soon surrounded the squad and lined the GIs against a wall. "And we all thought it was payday," DeGrazia said. "You could hear the guys saying their prayers."

But the Germans didn't shoot. The GIs were taken down a series of ladders to a cell DeGrazia figures was about 60 feet underground.

They were fed potatoes and carrots and allowed a bucket of water a day. One of their captors had been a cook for William Randolph Hearst and befriended the Americans.

DeGrazia told the Germans to give up, that they were hopelessly surrounded, that the Americans would treat them well.

One day, the former cook showed the GIs how to escape. They fled and rejoined their unit. As the division prepared to assault the bunker again, the Germans raised a flag of surrender.

DeGrazia hauled down the Nazi flag as the Germans were led away from the bunker, and each of the POWs signed it.

U.S. ARMY

U.S. Army Chooses York's Military Biography for its History Institute

Cited for his exemplary leadership during World War II, the U.S. Army War College has chosen to write Lieutenant General Robert H. York's biography for inclusion in the library of the U.S. Army Military History Institute.

According to the Oral History Branch of the USAMHI, this military historical program "utilizes U.S. Army War College students to conduct interviews of retired senior Army generals on a selective basis for their leadership qualities as actually demonstrated in battle, concentrating on the subject officer's entire career."

Lt. Col. Herbert J. Lloyd, USAWC Infantry Class of 1984 who had served under General York in the post War II 82nd Airborne Division, volunteered to research York's biographical data as well as interview York personally. This has resulted in the compilation of an anthology of letters entitled: "The Legacy of Lt. General Robert H. York as told by the Soldiers He Led" which will repose in many military libraries and historical institutes throughout the USA.

On July 7, 1944 (then) Col. Robert H. York took command of the 331st Infantry Regiment of the 83rd Division.

Col. York was already a veteran of 11 major battle engagements and had fought in three D-Day landings at Oran, Sicily and Omaha Beach, heading an infantry battalion of the First Division. At 32, he became one of the youngest Regimental Commanders in the Army.

General York was graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York in the Class of '38 and commissioned in the Infantry the same year. From the Gold Bar of a Second Lieutenant to the three stars of a Lieutenant General, York has held every combat command along the way.

General York was decorated 18 times with the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, The Bronze Star with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Purple Heart with Five Oak Leaf Clusters, two French decorations the Legion d'Honneur and the Croix de Guerre with Palms; and along the Combat Infantry Badge, York wears the wings of a Military Pilot as well as the insignia of the Airborne Corps.

Since World War II, General York's military assignments included Commandant of the Cadet Corps at West Point, Military Attache in Singapore, Military Advisor in Vietnam and Commander of Fort Benning. As Commanding General of the 82nd Airborne Division he led the landings at Santo Domingo, at the direction of President Johnson, to help stabilize and restore law and order to the Dominican Republic; and to protect the lives of American citizens. In 1968, he took command of the 18th Airborne Corps. Lieutenant General York retired in 1969.

Pennsylvania Chapter

"This is the land where freedom and liberty are a way of life, and they are both fighting for," guest speaker Rev. Walton Horn told a crowd of several hundred at Memorial Day rites at Menlo Park in Perkasio, hosted by Hartzell-Crouthamel Post 280 of Perkasio.

Horn, a retired Lutheran minister, was born and raised in Perkasio. A Navy veteran of World War II, he has never missed a Memorial Day program in the borough.

Horn defined freedom and liberty and said they are our heritage and a right for every American. "But they also have a reverse side - responsibility."

Freedom is like a campfire that needs constant attention and liberty is our torch, he said, adding "sometimes that requires sweat and blood."

Horn paid tribute to those men and women who fought to keep the fires burning for freedom and liberty. "Let us remember and continue to honor our fallen comrades, the heroes who passed unto us the freedom and liberty we all enjoy. And let us pass these wonderful gifts onto our children."

"We must remember the battle is never finally won. It's an on-going struggle and will be as long as we demand freedom. Let us resolve to keep this nation the way it was kept for us - the land of the free and the home of the brave," he said.

Horn was joined by a number of other participants in the annual Memorial Day rites which are rotated between Perkasio and Sellersville.

Others taking part included the Rev. John H. Ehrhart, Caroline Funk, president of the Hartzell-Crouthamel auxiliary, Pat Donohue, commander of the Nase-Kraft Post 255, American Legion of Sellersville, Elaine Schoen, Nase-Kraft auxiliary president, and State Rep. Paul I. Clymer, R-145th District.

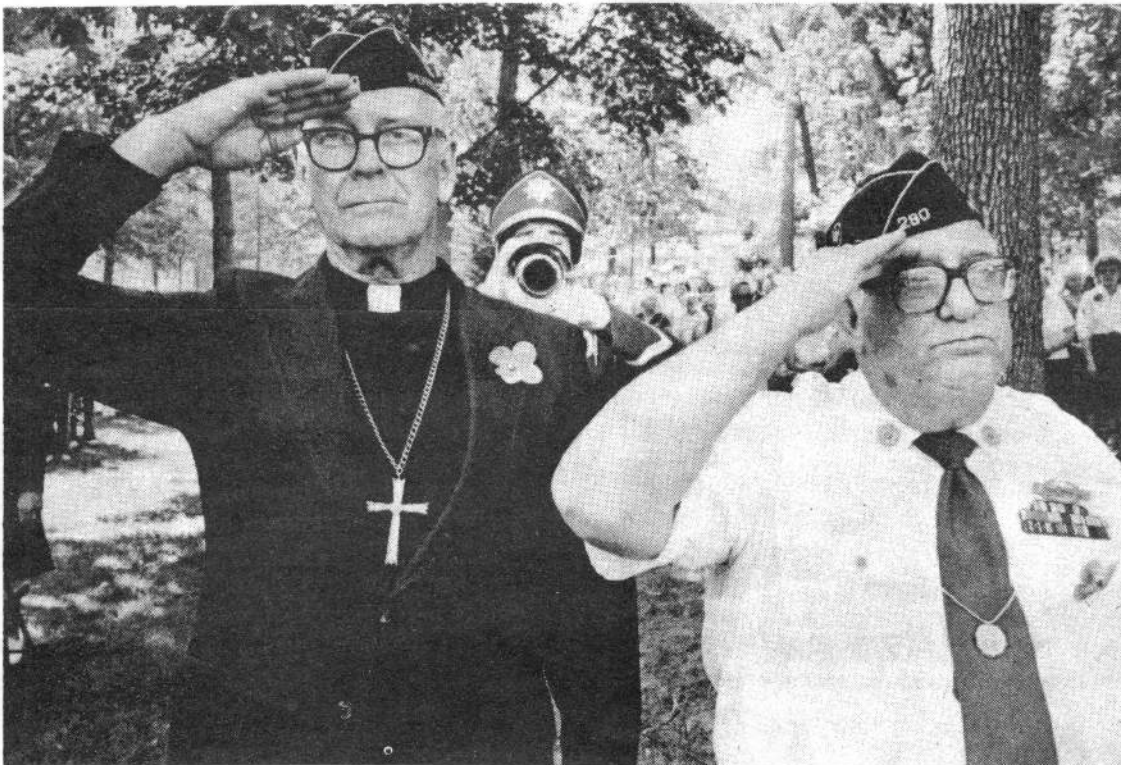
The Pennridge High School, Band, under the direction of Willaim Brosius, entertained. It was joined in the preceding mile-long parade by fire company apparatus from units throughout the Pennridge area, Scouts and military units including the motor equipment of the Pennsylvania National Guard from the Sellersville, Armory.

Former Pennridge band director Chet Acaley was presented a plaque for his efforts in community service events.

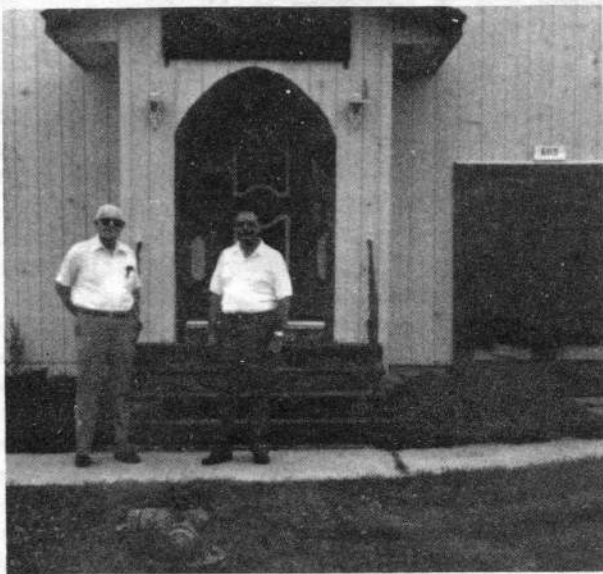
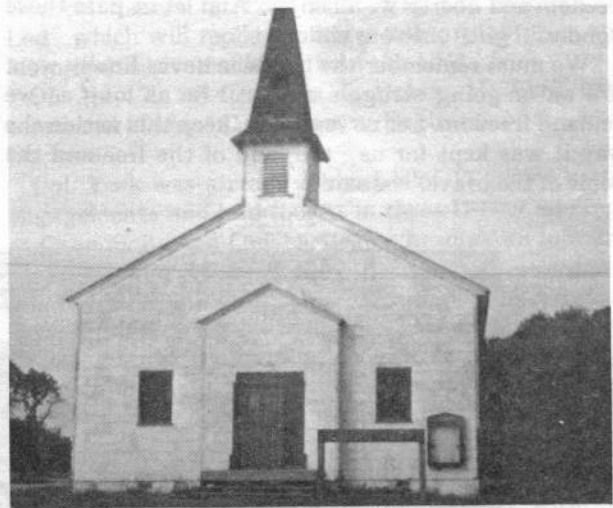
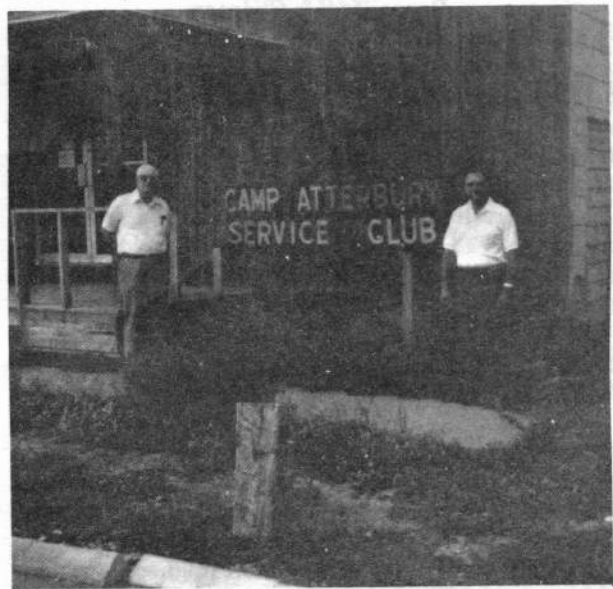
The Memorial Day program was concluded by the placing of wreaths, memorial prayer and gun salute to the dead before a three-plane fly-over by the Upper Bucks Civil Air Patrol Squadron. William Palmer performed the call to colors and taps on the trumpet.

News-Herald, Perkaise, Pa.

Wednesday, May 28, 1985



CAMP ATTERBURY 1985



"FABULOUS WEEKEND STAY"

The Boston Chapter is sponsoring a weekend 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 each or a book of six.

Sincerely
MIKE CAPRIO
Providence, R.I. 02904
Phone: 401-861-3675



Zinovi
Zuemsnovsky



September 9-10-11, 1985

**39TH Annual Reunion of
83rd Infantry Division**

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SEND YOUR ADS EARLY, as they play a very important role in our program.



Kelly Michelle Bielen, proud Granddaughter, of New Jersey chapter's Stan and Fran Bielen
Congratulations Stan, Fran, Ken and Mary!



Zinovi at Wittenburg, E. Germany by a Russian Memorial a type of tank he commanded. He was presented a medal here in 1984.

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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



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

THE THUNDERBOLT HISTORY IS YOUR HISTORY!

Pride is the essence of the 83rd Infantry Division members during World War II and today!

Those who served so faithfully and so well during the movement from the French beaches to Berlin should be remembered for their great service to the Allied cause, often above and beyond the call of duty. It is with this in mind that we are planning a fine new book that will be treasured by members, families and friends for years to come. To tell the whole story, we intend to include:

- a reprinting of "Thunderbolt Across Europe"
- a memorial list of all who died during the War
- a section of personal stories about all members of the 83rd who wish to be included
- a history of the 83rd Infantry Division Association

The Thunderbolt History will be a large, comprehensive book with many pictures and much information that has never been printed before! It will have a fine leatherette cover embossed with the insignia of the 83rd.

Most important is for you to include *your* story to make it complete. Each member of the 83rd is entitled to include his own story of up to 250 words along with a picture, either then or now, FREE of charge (sample stories are included herewith). Please help record the great history of the 83rd with your story. It will mean much to your buddies, your family and friends. **NO ONE ELSE CAN TELL YOUR STORY LIKE YOU — YOU LIVED IT!** If you want us to edit or check punctuation and spelling, we will.

We must not delay! We need your information by August 1, 1985 in order to get the book by spring.

The books are being offered by advance sale only at \$35.00. This is a book you will be proud to be a part of and to have in your home. It will be a matter of great pride for your children and other family members.

LET'S SHOW OUR 83RD "PRIDE" — IT WILL BE RECORDED FOR ALL TIME TO COME IF YOU DO YOUR PART NOW!

Sincerely,

Robert G. Taylor
83rd Infantry Division Association
Executive Board

NEW BOOK ABOUT THE 83rd COMING SOON!

WHO: Every veteran of the 83rd Infantry Division has a part in this book.

WHAT: We want a story about you, your experiences, your family up to 250 words and one picture for this book (added words or pictures at nominal cost).

HOW: Read this folder for the details.

WHEN: Now — we want it in **YOUR** hands in 12 months.

WHERE: Send to
Thunderbolt History
Publishers
P.O. Box 146
Hillsdale, MI 49242

HOW TO BE INCLUDED

Begin by telling about your service during WWII, with the 83rd and other units, if appropriate. Include dates, units attached, duties, ranks, wounds, citations, awards, or decorations and other special information about your experiences. Follow this with family and personal information. Include marriage, family, jobs, special experiences and special activities. Bring the story up to date. You are entitled to 250 words and one picture at NO COST! However, you may add words at 15 cents each and add pictures at \$12.50 each, if you desire. A good idea is to think what your grandchildren would like to know about your service and your years after service and make that your story.

If you want us to edit your story, check the punctuation, spelling and sentence structure, we will do so. If you can type the material, please do so. Typing should be double spaced with one inch or more in the margins. If the material is not typed, please print all names and places for accuracy. Place your name above the story along with your unit and present address.

Please do not delay getting your story ready and sent to us. The time is limited and we must have time to work on preparing the material for the printers.

Take an hour or so *right now* and get it prepared and mailed!

GET IN THIS BOOK... YOU WILL BE GLAD YOU DID!!

Just look at all of these features which make this a really great book . . . and make it *YOUR* book!!!

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- hundreds of personal and wartime pictures will be included
- it will include a complete reprint of "Thunderbolt Across Europe."
- there will be a memorial list of all those in the 83rd who died during the war
- it will include a history of the 83rd Infantry Division Association
- IT WILL INCLUDE YOUR STORY AND PICTURES IF YOU WILL SEND THEM IN
- your name can be gold stamped on the cover if you wish

Sample Personal Stories

Ralph Stockhausen
83rd Div, 308 Eng Bat Co B.,
330 Tudor Drive, Cape Coral, FL



Ralph and Mae

I was with the 83rd from day one till separation in Nov. 1945—from Atterbury to Passau, Germany.

After the war I was married and am now the father of three children, daughters Patricia and Linda and a son Ralph, Jr. There are four grandchildren.

We have an appliance parts store in Monaca, Pennsylvania with three branches located in Pittsburgh, Butler and Beaver Falls, PA under the name of AM Parts Company.

I retired in 1976 due to ill health. My second wife, Mae, and I moved to Cape Coral, FL where we now reside. I have taken up boating and astronomy and do a little fishing.

Odey Coffey and Frank Ball have visited me here in Cape Coral and it was a pleasure seeing them. If any of you fellows are down this way stop in at 330 Tudor Drive, Apt. 111, Cape Coral, FL 33904. The phone is 813-549-1657.

(This is 140 words.)

S/Sgt Nick Francullo
Hq. Co, 3rd Bn 330th At. PH
10 Bessom Street, Lynn, Mass

Came to the 83rd Division when it started on Oct. 12, 1942 at Camp Atterbury, Indiana and went all the way to the Elb River. The 83rd is one hell of an outfit. Nick received the Combat Infantryman Badge, two Bronze Stars, two Purple Hearts, Presidential Unit Emblem, ETO with 5 campaign stars and German Occupation Medal.

This is an experience that will stay with me the rest of my life. I was S/Sgt. in the Antitank PH of the 3rd Bn. 330th Hq. Co. and I had some other buddies from the Boston area who were in the Communications PH. and also in Hq. Co. 3rd Bn. 330th. We would check on each other at all times. On this day in December of 1944 in Grosshau, Germany, I took my Anti Tank squad out to cover a

crossroad and the Communication PH set there CP in a cellar of an old building. The shells started coming in again so I headed back to my gun crew. After the shelling stopped I went back to see if the Radio section was O.K. and they were.

As I left I said to Sgt. Ed Develin, "I'll see you tomorrow". As I was on my way back to my gun crew the shells started coming in again bad. As I watched one shell hit the building I had just left and it caved in on 13 good buddies of Lt. King, radio section, and my buddies were buried alive with only one man getting out alive.

This is the kind of story you keep to yourself and share only with your buddies and that is why I want it in the book.

(This is 260 words.)

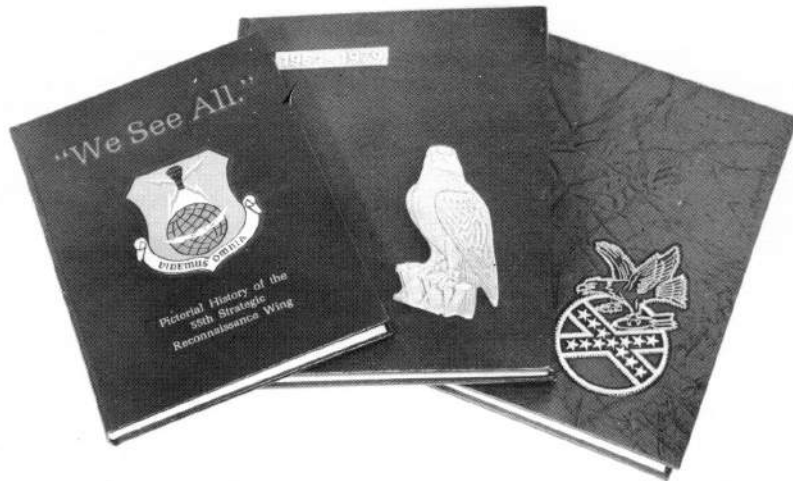
Robert E. Derickson
3rd BN. HQ. 329th
3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, OH



Bob and Pearl

Was raised on a farm with parents, brother and two sisters. Went to Fort Thomas, Kentucky for induction, then Camp Atterbury, In-

SOME SIMILAR BOOKS BY WALSWORTH



diana for basic. Attached to the 83rd and never left. After basic went for maneuvers in Tennessee, then to Camp Breckenridge. Was in the 3rd BN HQ. Intelligence 329th. At Breckenridge I was transferred to work with Supply Sgt., as Assistant. Promoted to Corporal T/5.

Left Breckenridge first of April for New York. Left Camp Shanks April 6, 1944 for overseas. Arrived in England April 18, 1944. Left Wales for the crossing of the English Channel. Sights and sounds the likes of which none of us could have ever imagined we would see or hear. Prayed that my sons would never have to go through this. Wounded in Belgium, 1945. When the war was over we had been in five battles, Normandy, Brittany, Rhineland, Ardennes and Central Europe, and Battle of the Bulge. Had Purple Heart, Expert Infantry and Combat Infantry Badge. Left September 11, 1945. Ready to come home.

Worked in a paper mill, then went back to

the farm for six years. Was a retail salesman for fifteen years, then Miami University of Ohio as Food Service Manager. Recently retired to devote a great deal of my time to the 83rd Infantry Division Association which I am National Secretary Treasurer.

My wife Pearl and I have raised six children, two boys, Edward and Michael, and four daughters, Barbara, Frances, Marie and Cathy. Have nine grandchildren.

(This is 243 words.)

LOTS OF PICTURES



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