



THUNDERBOLT

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

WORLD WAR II

Vol. 41 No. 3

Spring Issue 1986

THE 40TH ANNUAL REUNION



HYATT REGENCY KNOXVILLE



**The Dixie Chapter is Preparing
The 40th Annual Reunion At
The Hyatt Regency Hotel
Knoxville, Tennessee
August 21-22-23, 1986**



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Friends, the calendar tells me it is time for another message from me. My hopes are that your plans are developing in a positive way for attendance at our 40th reunion in Knoxville, Tennessee at the Hyatt Regency on August 21st, 22nd and 23rd. Our 40th annual meeting is a significant milestone for our association. Few organizations can boast the friendship and the camaraderie that developed during our days of hardship that has continued over the years. We have grown to know and appreciate each other more because of the experiences we

shared, and fully realize that, only we who were there, will ever know the reasons that have bound us together over this period of time.

Enough nostalgia; we, of the Dixie Chapter, have been busily engaged in our separate committees, developing our plans for the Knoxville reunion. Our plans are beginning to take shape and as we continue to develop them, I believe you can count on Dixie to provide an enjoyable occasion for a price you can afford. We are anxiously looking forward to presenting our plans to the Executive Board at the May meeting in Knoxville. I believe our progress will meet with their approval and we of Dixie, certainly hope we will have a reunion you, the membership will like.

Reservations for the Wednesday evening "Night in Appalachia" are coming in real good. We hope hotel reservations are coming in at this fast pace as well. Don't forget, we need your support with the ad book, but most of all we want you in Knoxville in August.

Carroll B. Brown, President



REUNION CHAIRMAN REPORT

Plans for your reunion in Knoxville are progressing on schedule and promises a jolly good time for us all.

Reservations for "A Night in Appalachia" are coming in at a fast rate, so if you don't have your reservation in as yet, please send it in to Carroll B. Brown, Route 4, Nubbin Hill Farm, Sweetwater, Tennessee 37847, as early as possible. Plans are being made to accommodate only those that have made reservations and you may not be able to participate in this gala affair if your name is not on the list.

Hotel rooms are going fast so let me urge you to reserve your accommodations early. Reservation forms appear elsewhere in this issue of the "Thunderbolt". Pre-registration is being done by Bob Derickson as reservations are made. This will reduce the time you will have to stand in line when you arrive at the hotel.

Let me encourage you to send in your '86 dues to Bob Derickson if you are not a paid-up member. We need each of you to help keep this great organization "Alive and Well."

Please help us with our Program Ad Book. An ad form appears in this Thunderbolt for your convenience. The Ad Book has played a big role in keeping our registration fees down in the past. Hopefully we can count on you to continue your support for this part of our program.

Once again I beg you to attend to the matters discussed above as early as you can so that all our jobs will be easier and insure a better reunion for all. Keep the 83rd "Alive and Well", be in Knoxville in August and enjoy a good time with your friends and buddies.

**W. Meadows Minick
Reunion Chairman**



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

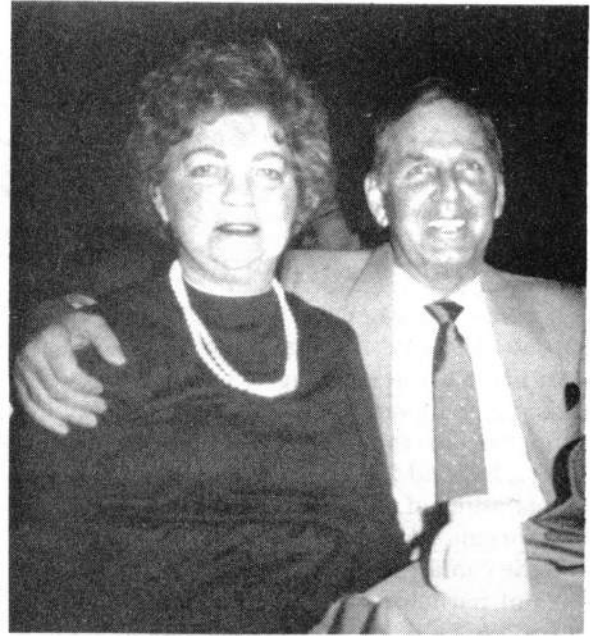
I have been informed by Bob Derickson that the membership is coming in at a more rapid pace than ever before. It is with your loyalty and support that we are able to accomplish this. We are also fortunate to have people like Bob Derickson, Jim Prentice and Larry Redmond who give so much time and effort toward making our great association an even greater one so that we can go on for many more years enjoying the close friendships we made during our service with the 83rd Division and it's Association.

As I mentioned in the last Thunderbolt magazine our goal is for 2000 members. Although Bob Derickson, Jim Prentice and Larry Redmond have done an outstanding job, it is physically impossible for them to contact all the media seeking new members. As you are well aware, some companies who had hundreds serve during the war have but a few members

belonging to our association. I don't know the reason but if it's because they don't know of our existence I hope to correct it with your help. In some cases there would be a renewed interest now that they are retired, looking for activities to fill idle time, these people might need a reminder to bring them back.

As we have men located through-out the country, this is to our advantage, we can contact a good many newspapers and radio stations to pass-on the message that a couple of men would find it impossible. In this issue you will find an insert which I'm asking you to address to your local newspaper or radio station asking the editor or manager to print or broadcast. In the case where there are many members in an area, such as cities who have chapters, as a suggestion you could designate at a chapter meeting who would send to different media in your locale. This plan would eliminate duplicate mailings. This plan can reach many by way of small town media as well as the big cities. I'm asking that you all take a few minutes to address an envelope to your local media enclosing the insert. Let's see what happens.

Our plans are for the Executive Board to meet with the Dixie Chapter at Knoxville in May. Will keep you informed on what the reunion has to offer in the next issue. Fran and I are looking forward to meeting with the Dixie Chapter March 16 in Williamsburg. Expect to



Stan and Fran Bielen, Executive Board Chairman and his wife.

fill up on Hushpuppies and Grits. Look what you all have to look forward to in Knoxville. Can't wait Huh???

Best Wishes to all.

Stan Bielen
Executive Board Chairman



FROM THE OFFICE SECRETARY- TREASURER REPORT

Where does this time go? Here we are ready to put another issue out and get ready for another reunion. When the first warm day comes Pearl and I both start thinking of ways to improve the registration so there won't be any complaints about the lines. We hate to see you stand there as much as you hate to do it. But just remember that the time you spend there you can always talk to another buddy who is also standing there with you. It is never

too long and we always try. We will have to say that there aren't too many complaints. For the most part you take it in your stride. Can never be as long as some of those lines we stood in when we first went in the army. Pearl says to tell you that at least in these lines you have pretty women to wait on you and that is more than we had in the beginning of the 83rd. We have had a nasty winter. Not much snow but a great deal of rain and dreary weather. Pearl suffered a great deal from arthritis this winter. Bob Taylor wanted us to go to Florida and use his home down there but I don't believe Pearl could have stood the ride down there and it would be hard for us to get away for a month at one time. So we stuck it out.

We went to the Dixie Chapter Meeting in Williamsburg. Took Irene and Gale Baker with us. Vi and Wilson Day drove their car and followed us. Enjoyable time. We got to see a great deal of Williamsburg. Stan and Fran Bielen came in on Thursday as did Dan and Ann McCarthv. We drove to Norfolk one day

and saw all the ships. That was Great. Visited Jamestown and Yorktown. Had plenty of *Seafood*. Attended the Dixie Chapter meeting on Sunday afternoon and their plans for the reunion are coming along great. Working real hard to see that all have a great time. We stopped in Charleston, West Virginia on the way over and spent the night at the Marriott where our reunion will be held in 1987.

Quite a few of you men need to look at your membership cards and send in your dues for 1986. **WE NEED YOU!!!** Look at the card and see what it says. if it says "Expires 1985" you are behind. Get that \$10.00 in to the office right away. We wish we could say 2000 members at the reunion this August, BUT WE CAN'T unless you delinquent ones get your money in right away. It takes everyone of us to keep it going. We can't do it without you. **PLEASE SEND YOUR MONEY IN TODAY.**

Remember to help the Dixie Chapter have a good reunion. Support them with your reservations for the hotel and remember the Ad Book.

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



Above: A replica of a wooden ship the settlers of Jamestown would have used to come to the new world.



Center: Stan Bielen giving a mock sermon in the Jamestown settlement.

Below: The Village at Jamestown.





CHAPLAIN'S STEEPLE

Dear Buddies:

Since our last Thunderbolt Issue we have lost five (5) more of our comrades passing away.

Elias Hatem 908th F.A.

from Larry Redmond

Francis X. Kemery REGT. HDQS

from Larry Redmond

Andrew Gallihue "C" 331st

from Larry Redmond

William J. Hart "K" 330th

from Larry Redmond

William O. Sears "A" 308th

from George Settle

We now have a total of 39 of our buddies that have gone on to their reward since our reunion at the Pines in September, 1985.

We pray as always for the good Lord to always keep them at his side.

AMEN

A few of our deceased aren't on our rosters. If you recognize a name in our obituary column without a unit or Co. name, please drop us a line, either to the chaplain or Bob Derickson. THANK YOU.

Well buddies we hope to hear only good news if possible for our next issue.

Your chaplain's
John Piscitelli
Casey Kowalec

The following names were sent to the Office.

Eugene Lafferty "A" 329th

from Eugene Persinger

Carl Jecmen (No Outfit) Sept. 22, 1985

from John Sheppard

Junior D. Eicher "D" 330th Oct. 7, 1985

from his wife Peggy

Paul Chambers "A.T." 331st Mar. 30, 1984

from his wife

Frank Cilinski "D" 330th

from his wife

Alphonse Buckunas Massachusetts "G" 331st

from Joe Macaluso

Harvey M. Vollmer Pennsylvania "G" 331st

from Joe Macaluso

Sgt. Angelo Del Giudice "A" 908th

from his wife Lena

(letter in this issue)

Charles P. Ralph 783rd ORD. Nov. 12, 1985

from his nephew Wilder C. Mathena

Clarence Nord "H" 331 Inf. 1972

from Emanuel Lamb

(letter in this issue)

Col. Edwin Blake Crabill Reg.Com. 329th, Dec. 7, 1985

from his wife and Ed Thomas

(Official write up else where - this issue)

To the families of all of these men the entire 83rd send their condolences and prayers. We only wish that we could visit with each family personally and convey our prayers. BUT, as the families read this THUNDERBOLT THEY will know that our thoughts and prayers are with them.

325 River Avenue
Providence R.I. 02908
March 3, 1986

Thunderbolt
83rd Infantry Division Asso. Inc.
3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, Ohio
45013

Dear Mr. Derickson:

Your letter of condolence to Mrs. Edward J. Murphy was recently received.

It saddens me to inform you that Edward's wife, my sister-in-law, passed away last October.

I wish to thank you for your thoughtful consideration towards her by inquiring if she would like to continue receiving the Thunderbolt. Now that I have informed you of the circumstances, I need not to say more.

Enclosed you will please find the obituary that was printed in our local newspapers. Both Edward and Phyllis were two great people and their deaths have caused a tremendous void to many of us.

Sincerely,

Edith J. Sweet
(Mrs. Joseph R. Sweet)

Phyllis M. Murphy

CUMBERLAND — A funeral service for Phyllis M. Murphy, 63, of Metcalf Drive, who died Saturday, will be held tomorrow at 1 p.m. at Bellows Funeral Chapel, 160 River Rd., Lincoln. Burial will be in Highland Memorial Park, Johnston.

Mrs. Murphy was the widow of Edward J. Murphy.

Born in Providence, a daughter of the late Joseph A. and Florence A. (Lewis) Sweet, she lived in Smithfield and Providence before moving to Cumberland 16 years ago.

January 11, 1986

Dear Mr. Redmond,

Thank you for your letter of January 6th.

I'm enclosing the obituary again and realize the holiday mail is a confusing time.

The colonel died quietly here at home, as he wished, holding my hand. About 5 minutes before his death, he turned on his back and straightened out like a good soldier at attention.

He died only 15 minutes into Pearl Harbor Day Anniversary. Thank you for your words of condolence on behalf of the 83rd.

Sincerely,
Mrs. E. B. Crabill

**COL. EDWIN BLAKE
CRABILL**

Colonel Edwin Blake Crabill, U.S. Army, Retired, 91 of Palm Beach Shores, Florida quietly passed away at his home on Pearl Harbor Day, Dec. 7, 1985. Colonel "Buckshot" Crabill had a lengthy military career history, having served in WW I, WWII and Korea. He had distinguished himself as Troop Commander, 83rd Infantry Division, 329th Regiment and earned many decorations, including the Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Legion of Merit w/OLC, Bronze Star w/OLC, commendation Ribbon, WWI Victory Medal, American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, WW II Victory Medal, EAME Campaign Medal, Army of Occupation Medal w/Germany Clasp, Combat Infantry Badge, Korean Service Medal, U.N. Svc. Medal, British Distinguished Svc. Medal, British Distinguished Svc. Order, Belgium Order of Leopold (Officer), Croix de Guerre 1940, French Legion of Honor (Officer) and Croix de Guerre w/Palm.

Colonel Crabill is survived by his wife Margerie Hough Crabill, his daughter and son-in-law Ann and Charles Willey and grandchildren Claire, Blake and Andrew, all of St. Paul, Minn., and Bruce of Tochigi, Japan.

Cremation Services were handled by Howard Funeral Home of North Palm Beach.

Memorial Services with Military Honors will be held at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia.

reference: 07/Af/JRM

17th May 1945

Dear Pfc Chambers,

Thank you for your letter of April 29th which has been passed on to me as the Officer responsible for the production of Combat Duty. You mention the Unit Spotlight on the American 83rd Infantry Division broadcast in the Allied Expeditionary Forces Programme on 29th April. I am glad to send you with this a copy of the script, which incidentally was written and spoken by BBC War Correspondent Robert Barr, and I am also glad to hear from you that at least some of the people, for whom this Program is intended, heard it. Believe me, we were proud to have the opportunity of giving a well-earned Tribute to the 83rd Div.

As you may remember the Unit Spotlight about the 83rd Division contained a talk by a British Officer, who was released by you, and I am also sending you a copy of his talk, although I am afraid I cannot tell you his name.

The scripts, by the way, are of course for your own personal use, but I understand that the BBC has no objection to their being reproduced in any publications intended solely for the Armed Forces.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,
(J.R. Morley, Captain, R.A.)

Pfc Paul Chambers,
Anti Tank Co.
331st Infantry
A.P.O. 83
c/o P.M.
U.S. Army
PJB. Encs.

This man is deceased now. Paul passed away March 30, 1984. This material was sent in by his wife Grace S. Chambers, 2 Oxford Court, Willow Run, Wilmington, DE 19805

A Brother of Love

*At Times My Thoughts Will drift
Back Forty Years Or So.
On A Group Of Young Soldiers
That Once I Happen To Know.*

*Now Today With Aged Wrinkled Faces
With Receding Hair Lines Turning Gray,
We Have Aged But Have Not Changed
We Are Those Proud Soldiers Here Today.*

*We Realize We Have Grown Older
But Yet There Is Much We Must Do.
We Will Not Stop We Have A Challenge
We Will Only Quit When Life Is Through.*

*Our Goal Is To Keep The Memory
Of Our Dead War Heroes Alive.
Bringing A Continuance Memorial Service
From The Hearts Of Those Who Survive.*

*We Have Made A Solemn Commitment
For All OUR Brothers Who Have Passed.
That We Will Give Unto Them A Memorial
Binding Ourselves Until The Last.*

*We Have Had Many Sad Memories
But We Have Hopes For Our Soul.
Let's Thank God Our Great Creator
For Allowing Us To Grow Old.*

HARAN MARTIN
"C" Co. 331



HISTORIAN'S CORNER:

We, the 83rd, relieved the 101st Airborne Division at Carentan, Normandie on June 28, 1944, hence this terrible loss of young "G.I.'s" in Newfoundland is closer to us 83rd veterans.

The Hedgegrows and swamps of Carentan and the terrible losses we took there will never be forgotten!

I have written this narrative report on your Military Police Platoon as, unlike, other 83rd outfits, we have no written report published of our time in combat. Many of us were trained as infantrymen.

We Were The Best
William Kent O'Connell
83rd M.P.

NARRATIVE REPORT

Military Police Platoon
83rd Infantry Division, U.S. Army during
World War II

Cadre units from Fort Riley, Kansas, activated the M.P. Platoon August 15, 1941 at Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

The T.O. then was two (2) officers and two (2) E.M. In May 1945, we were four (4) officers and one hundred thirty (13) E.M.

After Tennessee maneuvers, the Division arrived at Camp Breckenridge, Kentucky on September 12th, 1943, the traffic guided by the Platoon.

It left March 31, 1944, for Camp Shanks, New York, boarded A.T.S. George Washington on April 4. On April 19th arrived at Liberpool, England. Then went on to Keele Hall, Camp Amesbury, and Guarsney.

Left Southhampton and disembarked June 25, 1944 at Omaha Beach, Normandie, France. On the 28th of June at 0900 the Platoon relieved the 101st Airborne Division M.P.'s at Carentan.

At the breakout in July we directed the divisional traffic south. (I won't forget that).

On August 8th, twenty (2) M.P.'s followed on the heels of the 331st Regiment as street by street fighting cleared the area of Param'e near St. Malo. We guarded captured enemy installations and did traffic duty.

From France to Germany the Platoon controlled traffic, stragglers, rounded up snipers, marked the dead, assisted Civil Affairs, C.I.C. guarded bridges and the Divisional C.P., also interrogated and passed on German Prisoners to higher Headquarters.

Fifty (50) towns and cities were controlled from France to Germany (one of those towns had not been taken as yet).

15,381 Prisoners of War processed.

8 Casualties

10 Bronze Stars

1 Silver Star (Posthumous)

1 Meritorious Service Unit Plaque

(Superior Performance) December 1st 1944, to January 31st 1945

(One of twenty given by order of General Macon.)

During all this time George Ogilvie, Major, C.M.P. commanded.

"We Were ALSO The Best."

Historian William Kent O'Connell 83rd M.P.

DIXIE CHAPTER:

"We, The Dixie Chapter, invite you 83rd Vets to Join Us." We welcome 83rd families and friends to visit us when in our area. We meet and have dinner on the last Friday of each month, for a good meal and lots of friendly conversation. We have Known to us at this time seventy one (71) in our area, Winston-Salem — Greensboro-Burlington — High Point and Rural Surroundings. We will have dinner from time to time, place to place in these locations. If anyone is passing through our area we encourage you to contact us and spend some time with us. This is not a regular 83rd meeting. This is just a social, friendly gathering where family and friends socialize and have a nice time over a good dinner. Some cannot travel much distance so we are as close as one hour away in any direction. Many of us can communicate by phone with no toll charges. I have met the finest people in this 83rd group. It is like one big happy family. If anyone would like to join us at any of these socials please write or call one of these names listed below:

Haran R. Martin "C" 331st
148 Queensbury Road
Winston Salem, North Carolina 27104
PHONE: 919-765-1399

Dennis O. Dunn "L" 329th
3740 Yadkinville Road
Winston Salem, North Carolina 27106
PHONE: 919-924-2253

Lacy Satterfield "D" 330th
Route 1
Prospect Hill, North Carolina 27314
PHONE: 919-562-5254

O. June Watkins "L" 330th
3545 Old Salisbury Road
Winston Salem, North Carolina 27107
PHONE: 919-788-4968

Johnnie H. Ball "D" 330th
5131 Rural Hall Road
Winston Salem, North Carolina 27105
PHONE: 919-767-6859

Bob:

We think this will be good public relations and will help build interest and support for our local and National events in the 83rd. We hope to build new memberships plus our present members who do not attend the national events. It may boost their interest. We must hold the interest of everyone to continue growing.

*Thank you,
Haran R. Martin*

FLORIDA CHAPTER:

Hope you all had a very happy and healthy holiday season, and now getting ready to enjoy the coming of Spring. I know that the boys from up North and out West had a rough Winter, but it is all over now, and the good weather is setting in. Here in Florida except for a few chilly days, the Weather was perfect.

Our Chapter had a fantastic week-end meeting and Social at the Quality Inn in Winter Haven. It was held at the end of January, and the Herhuth's and the Senger's did a fine job in making all arrangements for us. Friday evening, twenty-six of us went in a convoy to a fabulous restaurant for a scrumptious dinner, followed by a wonderful show and dance. Saturday afternoon we had our business meeting where refreshments were served all day long, followed by our dinner at the Quality Inn. We had fifty-seven (57) members, wives and guests. Present at our weekend meeting were: Ralph and Gerri Gunderson, Larry and Sue Leonardi (who are members of our National Executive Board), Jules and Agnes Desgain from Pittsburgh (members of our Chapter), and Mr. and Mrs. William McCartin of Massachusetts. Ned Smith also brought along five guests with him. Thanks again to the Herhuths and the Sengers who did such a good job.

We missed Sam Klippa and Wilbur Campbell of Pittsburgh who regularly attend our meeting. We hope that they will be well enough to attend our next meeting about the end of April. We spoke to Ruth Feig and Dave is still in the hospital, and Sam Schwartz was released from the hospital, and hope by the time you read this that they are both doing well.

We are happy to report that five new men joined our Chapter. John Miklos, Arthur Haught, Chuck Henry, Fred Barnes and Harry C. Gravelyn who was a Lt. in "D" 331st.

Incidentally Miklos, Haught and Gravelyn are from "D" 331st.

It's amazing how Ralph finds all the "D" 331st men.

We would like to welcome them all into our chapter. Anyone who would like to attend our meetings in the future, just contact me and I will send you all the information. I hope all my buddies of "A" 331st have sent in their reservation for our reunion in Knoxville, Tennessee. It looks like another great program.

Dave Benick
"A" 331st

**83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
40TH ANNUAL REUNION
HYATT — REGENCY, KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
TENTATIVE PROGRAM**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1986

4:30 P.M. "A Night in Appalachia" Advance registration required
Tour Museum and Area, Meal and entertainment.
Transportation provided

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 1986

9-11:30 a.m.	Registration	Lower Lobby
9:30-4:00 p.m.	Gatlinburg Tour	Lobby
	or	
	Shopping at West Town	
2:00-4:00 p.m.	Registration	Lower Lobby
2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.	Hospitality Room	Wm. Blount Room
6:00-7:00 p.m.	Cash Bar	
7:00-8:00 p.m.	Luau (Dinner)	Poolside
9:00-midnight	Dancing	Lower Lobby

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 1986

	Golf Tournament	
7:30-9:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Lower Lobby
9:00-11:30 a.m.	Registration	Lower Lobby
10:00-12:00	Business Meeting	Lower Lobby
10:30-11:30 a.m.	Ladies Fashion Show	
12:00-1:30 p.m.	Lunch	On Your Own
1:30-4:30 p.m.	Visit Oak Ridge	Lobby
	or	
	Shopping	
2:00 -4:00 p.m.	Registration	Lower Lobby
2:00 -4:30 p.m.	Hospitality Room	Wm. Blount Room
6:00-7:00 p.m.	Cash Bar	
7:00-8:00 p.m.	Dinner	Lower Lobby
8:00-9:00 p.m.	Hill Billy Night	Lower Lobby
	Dress informal or your best "hill billy outfit"	
9:00-12:00 p.m.	Dancing	Lower Lobby

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1986

	Golf Tournament	
7:00 a.m.	Memorial Service	Lobby
7:30-9:00 a.m.	Breakfast	Dining Room
9:00-11:30	Registration	Lobby
10:00-12:00 Noon	Business Meeting	Lower Lobby
10:00-12:00 Noon	Ladies Trip to Zoo	Lobby
	or	
	Free Time	
2:00-4:30 p.m.	Hospitality Room	Wm. Blount Room
2:00-2:30 p.m. Option:	Memorial Service	Lower Lobby
4:30 p.m.	Catholic Mass	Lower Lobby
6:00-7:00 p.m.	Cash Bar	
7:00-9:00 p.m.	Banquet	Lower Lobby
9:00-?		Lower Lobby

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 1986

7:30-9:00 a.m.	Breakfast Farewell
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LOUISIANA CHAPTER:

We are at that time, when we should all be making our Reservations for the reunion in Knoxville, in August 1986. The Hotel Reservation cards were in the last issue of the Thunderbolt. The Dixie Chapter has promised us a great time in the Smokies.

Lawrence Armand called a couple of weeks ago, he had checked in to Oschner Clinic in New Orleans for a check up. Both he and his wife make that trip every year or two. He seemed to be feeling fine and already making plans for Knoxville. I hope this year that we can get a few more of the men from the Louisiana and Mississippi area to attend the reunion.

To our friend, Claude J. Morgan of Tickfaw, your name sake the other Claude Morgan has



WARREN CHAPTER:

Indications of an early spring are already apparent here in the Warren area. George Bellay, Liz Skovran and John Shamrock are ready to plow up their gardens for seeding -- Our lovely wives are busy making plans for painting, fix-up and housecleaning jobs for us, while we are cleaning and polishing up our golf clubs and fishing gear. Caparanis has his sons painting up new "Spring Sale" signs for his lumber company. The Voracek's are filling their reservation book with future Clam Bake and Wedding dates. Our campers are anxious to open up their trailers at Paradise Lake, the Kelly's are ready for St. Patricks Day and Charlie Tomazin is due back from a three month vacation in Texas at daughter, Karen's house. Joe and Angie Phillipone are in Florida for a month of sunshine. John and Helen Caparanis also are there enjoying the weather and Voracek, Gautschi, and Titus just returned from a four day golf outing at Hilton Head, South Carolina.

Two more indoor meetings are scheduled for March and April; then the start of our picnic-golf outings begin. Now for a recap of the past couple of months.

MEETINGS

Our January meeting was hosted by Ted and Dolly Halubka and in February we gathered at the home of Millie and Dick Kelly. At both places, we enjoyed great food, plenty of liquid refreshments and our usual card games.

Discussions at both meetings centered around the 1986 reunion in Knoxville. A few of our members have already sent in their reservations, but most of us are waiting for the next issue of the "Thunderbolt" which we hope

attended a number of the reunion, and each time he has asked about you. Maybe you should surprise him this year, I am sure you two fellows have a lot of notes to check over.

I haven't heard from our friend, Labbe, in Duson for some time. The group from the Ordnance Co. have always made a good showing at the reunion. The Kentucky Chapter is trying to get Doggett back in one piece so that he can lead your group to Knoxville.

Our group from the northern part of the state should be able to make it over to Tennessee, straight down I-20 should get you in a short period of time. Your buddies would like to see you once again.

Joe Macaluso

will contain the registration fee. Just about everyone is now retired and living on fixed incomes, so the total cost of the trip is a very important item to consider.

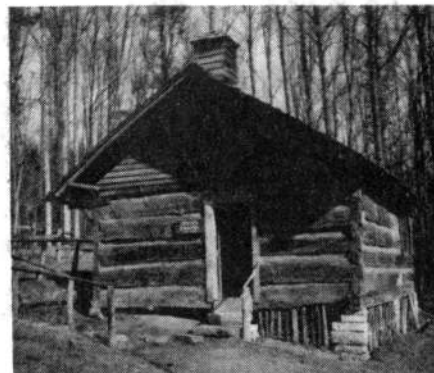
CONGRATULATIONS TO: John and Helen Caparanis. Son Robert and wife Deborah presented the proud Grandparents with their seventh Grandchild, this time, a beautiful little girl, born March 7th.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO: Mike and Liz Skovran. Their sister-in-law, Irene Skovran, passed away on March 8th.

GET WELL WISHES TO: Bob Piette, a longtime friend of Warren Chapter members and second only to Manny Epstein in attendance at our yearly reunions. Bob had serious surgery in mid-February and is now home recuperating. See you in August, Bob.

Well folks, that's all for now from Warren, and from all of us, to all of you, good health and good luck.

Lee Titus
Chapter Reporter



Irwin's Chapel in the Appalachia Pioneer Settlement in Tennessee. One of the many wonderful sights to see during our 40th Thunderbolt Reunion. Get those reservations in today.



**1985 REUNION AT THE PINES
MEN FROM CO. K --- 331st Infantry**

Above: Top Row—Anthony Marrone, Earl F. McDonald, Thomas F. Rajah, Everett E. Rogers, Captain Marion Cooper, Frank J. Horvath.

Bottom Row—Sam Galati, Charles Sunderland, Normans Malo, Manny Epstein, Albert Belvedere, Men from 'K' Company, 331st Infantry at the 1985 Reunion at the Pines.

Below: Lou and Lucy Volpi with Al and Anna Belvedere at the Reunion at the Pines.

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER:

The news from Jersey is I'm happy to write that everyone is well and hope all you Thunderbolts are the same.

First-- Best wishes and many more to Hazel and Emil Wehling who will be celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary on June 15. We also received a invitation for the 50th wedding anniversary party for our good friends from Colorado, Fred and Louise Haysen. Those of you on Bus No. 4 I'm sure will join in wishing them all the best. We haven't seen Fred and Louise at a reunion for a number of years, try to make one soon, we miss you.

I missed the February meeting and who should show up Ted Guzik (Co. A., 331). After all the years of prodding I missed seeing him at a meeting. Keep coming Ted and to make it easier you might want to come with Bernie Rosenberg who also is from Jersey City. Bernie also wasn't at the meeting, He and Ida were in Florida. Also in Florida were Bill and Gloria McCartin, Manny Epstein, Sam and Ann Galati. The Jersey Chapter now has three members from K Co., 331 with the addition of Tony Marrone who joined us this year.

Those of you who were in 1st Bn. Hdqs., 331 would be interested to know I received a letter from Joe Botti (he was Col. Neilson's driver) who has retired and now has the ~~time to join~~ us at a reunion. I called Frank Reichmann about this and he was quite excited having not seen Joe since the war. Joe has promised to be in Knoxville and is looking forward to seeing many from the company there. Wouldn't it be nice to see Colonel Neilson join us again. I have to give Bob Piette credit for getting Joe Botti interested.

I received a letter from Leroy Wilkinson (2nd Bn. Medics, 329) explaining why he was unable to attend the Pines Reunion. He also went on telling of when reading in the Thunderbolt about Dr. Overdyke's inquiry about locating Father Howard Schwartz, as he admired both these men, he wrote to the Catholic Diocese of Buffalo inquiring of Father Schwartz. He received a letter informing him of Father Schwartz's death in March, 1977. I'm sure Leroy would want me to pass this on to those who served in the 329 Inf. as he was your Regimental Chaplain.

The plans for our Chapter Luncheon had been schedule for sometime in May. You will all be notified so plan on attending. Keep coming to the meetings, we need you.

Best Wishes To All.



Stan Bielen

CO. "H" 330th:

HELLO BUDDIES:

Here it is time again for another issue of our great "THUNDERBOLT," and time for me to get my letter in so that it will be published.

Well Buddies, now that Christmas and New Years is a thing of the past and Spring is just around the corner, it is time to start thinking about the 40th Annual Reunion of the 83rd Infantry Division Association.

Speaking of the Annual Reunion, brings to mind that I am about to start trying to contact you men to get that \$5.00 Booster Ad from you, so dig down in your pockets now and have that \$5.00 ready when I send my letter to you. I will even take any extra money you can spare so that we can add some names of our Buddies who unfortunately didn't return home with us. So give it some thought, if you can spare that extra \$5.00, give me the name of the Buddy you want remembered, if more than one of you names the same man, I will take it upon myself to add the name of another man. When I write you, please respond as soon as possible as it is important to get that Ad Book money in, as it helps in the Reunion planning.

Last Sunday I had the pleasure of meeting Capt. Masters in Philadelphia, he came to see our great String Band Show, it is out of this world. It is a show worth seeing.

Well Buddies, there isn't much to say at this time, start making your plans for Knoxville, Tennessee in August. Also check your Membership card and see if your dues are paid up, if not get them in to-day. Let us try to keep Co. "H" among the tops in Membership.

Your buddy
Larry Redmond

G COMPANY 331st INF.:

Its seems that I just finished reading the last issue of the Thunderbolt, and now it is time for the article for the March issue. This should be a reminder to each of you, that you should be getting your reservations in for the reunion in Knoxville in August. The Reservation Card was in the last issue of the Thunderbolt.

Beau called me a couple of weeks ago to inform me that Bob Piette was to be operated on for a tumor at the base of his lung. Only a few months ago we were told of Mort Gaynor's operation and now we have a second one. Gaynor has now officially retired from his position and seems to be enjoying himself. When I last talked to him he was in good spirits and feeling fine. Keep up the good work, Mort.

I was also notified by Al Buckunas's wife that Al had passed away in August of last year. Froggie, was one of Mike Mizerock's famous cooks who provided such great chow for us in Europe. My hat was always off for the great mess personnel that we had in G Company. They did a tremendous job and we had a lot to be thankful for.

It is about time I get my letter out to the men of G. Company, in fact you will probably receive the letter before you read this article in the Thunderbolt. This may serve as reminder to send me a reply to the letter. We will try to have an excellent turnout this year. We have a number of men in the Tennessee area, also in the Carolinas. It is only a one day drive for most of us, so we won't have the excuse that it is too far away. Start making your plans Becker and bring Joe Henley along with you. Outside of Bob Piette and Mort Gaynor we all seem to be enjoying good health. No, I did not forget Loyol Pangle. He seems to be improving and hopefully we can get him back to a reunion in the next couple of years.

I know that I left you hanging as to Bob Piette's condition, I wanted to call him and find out how he was feeling. I was able to get through to him, he wanted me to thank all of the men of "G" Company for the flowers and the cards that he had received. He had taken a walk down the hall in the hospital to get some exercise. All of the tests have been good and he is in good spirits and is recuperating fine.

Incidentally, he has cut down considerably on his smoking, maybe this will make him give up the cigarettes, and join Mort Gaynor as a non-smoker. Keep up the good work, Bob. By the time you read this, Bob should be home in Athol, Mass.

Capt. Mac

A TRIBUTE TO THE THUNDERBOLT INFANTRY DIVISION

I was a young man, just out of High School, had been drafted into the Service, I didn't know what all the world was about, except to know that I was going away from my home, Mom and Dad, and all my Friends.

I had never been very far from home, not used to being on my own, but I found myself on a Troop Train headed for Camp Atterbury, Indiana. I never knew what was in store for me, but it didn't take me long to find out. They gave us Shots for just about everything, Fall out early in the morning, marching every day, taking our turn on K.P. and it seemed that my turn came real often.

We would fall out in the morning, and Capture The Water Tower before noon, and then go on a March in the afternoon. We was alerted to board A. Convoy, to travel to West Virginia to guard President Roosevelt's Train that was coming through. Our Outfit was stationed in Parkersburg, W. Va.

We then packed up our belonging's and headed for Tennessee Manuevers. It was here that we started our problems, capturing Prisoners, and knocking out Tanks with our Flour Bags, and washing our Clothes in any Streams that we could find.

After The Manuevers, we went to Camp Breckinridge, Kentucky. We stayed outside in Tents in the Winter time more then we did in the Barracks. But, we got used to it, because we were soldiers, hardened by the rough training of the 83rd Infantry Division.

We then boarded the Train for Camp Shank, New York. We knew now that it was the Real McCoy, we was embarking for Overseas. We boarded a Ship, and it had to be a Limy Ship, for we had to have Tea at least three times a day. We was on the Ship for about two weeks, and then landed in England, took a few weeks training in Wales, on Hedge-Rows, which we later learned came in handy. We then traveled across England to the Coast. We knew that we were getting close to The Real Thing.

We boarded ships for The Beaches of Normandy, about two weeks after the initial Invasion, when we went in on the Beaches, there was plenty of noises, from the planes that come over every night, just like clock work. We would move into one Place, and soon as we moved they would bomb the place where we were. It was in **the Town of Carentan**, that I

was hit by a German 88, and taken out of action, sent back to England to the Hospital, and then to a Hospital in the States, which I was in for about a year.

I was discharged from Camp Atterbury, Ind. The same place that I had took my training, about four years before.

Eugene E. Persinger
Co. A/D, 329th Infantry



Top: The Start of The W. Va. Chapter, Eugene Persinger, Don Pettry, Samuel Klippa & John Governor.
Below: Karen & Kevin Null, Grand-Daughter & Great-Grandson with proud Great-Grandma, Helen Persinger.

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER:

Well here it is news time again. This New England weather has been something. So far we haven't had a real snow or ice storm and it is February 20, 1986. I hope I am not speaking too soon, but we should be breaking out of the cold season soon and we'll be off and running again.

We have received some exciting news from the Brennans in Rhode Island. Their daughter Chris and hubby, Dean will be expecting their first child, Jim and Dot's second grandchild in just a little over a year. I thought Jim and Dot brought their kids up right, but I'm not so sure now. Chris's due date is right in the middle of

reunion, August 22, 1986. On the other hand, Mary and I didn't do such a terrific job either. Our daughter Terry and husband, Bob, are expecting their third child, our eighth grandchild, on August 23, 1986. We can't figure out how these kids would dare to do this to us. I guess we have to call it an act of God. Anyway, both the Brennans and ourselves have sent in our reservations and just hope that these grandchildren will have a little respect for their grandparents who fought the war for them. I think Karl and Ingrid Burkhard did a better job in rearing their young ones than we did. Their daughter Kristine is expecting her second child in April well before reunion time. Good Luck to all of them. Also, Dutchy and Helen Smith have become grandparents again. Their son Atty. James and wife, JoAnn Smith had a little boy, Andrew. This is their first child. Congratulations to all!

I was told that Jim Brennan got up one morning and started swinging a sledgehammer in the kitchen and wiped it out. Dot said she hadn't even got out to the kitchen to put the coffee pot on and the whole top of her counter was gone. Dot had put in her order for a facelifting in her kitchen. I guess she is right up to date now. I understand Jim did a really nice job and Dot is really happy with the way it turned out.

Helen and Dutchy just got back from Aruba after spending a week having fun. Jim and Georgia Emanouil are in Florida visiting their brother-in-law Charlie Halligan and Georgia's sister, Ann. Mike and Nina Petitti live in Florida now too and they will probably pay them a visit. They all live in Spring Hill, Florida.

I have received some not so happy news too. I received a letter from Doris Smith of Reidsville, N.C. that her husband, R.M. Smith had been in poor health for the last two years with respiratory problems and high blood pressure. He passed away at age 60. Our condolences go out to the Smith family. Also, rec'd the sad news that Frank Albano, Co. C.329th of Springfield, Massachusetts passed away on Jan. 17, 1986. Our sympathy is extended to the Albano family. Frank was always a strong 83rd man and we will miss him.

Rec'd a telephone call from our good buddy, Bill Davis, of Co. B. 308Eng. of Newburyport. He has had a slight heart attack, but is coming along fine now. Betty, take care of Bill. We need you both. Also, had a letter from big John Donahue. John was taken to the hospital on Christmas morning with a heart attack and high blood pressure. He is home now, but has

to take it easy. Go slow John, old boy. We are all pulling for you.

Spike and Gloria McCartin were in California visiting their daughters and grandchildren. We haven't seen much of them. They have been on the go since Spike retired.

This is all the news I have for now. We should be having a gathering of chapter members soon so we can catch up on all the news of the winter and make plans for the upcoming and much looked forward to Reunion in Knoxville.

Your Buddy always,
NICK FRANCUCCO
HQ. Co. 3rd Bn 330th



This Has to be a good story.



"God Bless America"



Helen Smith & Dot Brennan.

A POEM *by Haran Martin*

Yesterday was His Birthday, HE WAS ONLY JUST NINE.

He has a dreadful incurable disease and could leave us most any time.

So yesterday they gave him a party, back where he once went to School.

He watched all his friends play games and he went wading in the pool.

Then this morning at the breakfast table, He said "Mommy, why am I always sick.

When this question arises we always change the subject quick.

For we don't want him to know nor, do we want to lie.

There is no way for a mother to tell her child it's going to die.

Then again at the dinner table just out of the clear blue sky.

He looked at me and said, "Mommy, Is it true I'm going to die.

Well, this caught me by surprise, I hardly knew what to say.

Then I said yes darling, we all have to die some day.

But sweetheart none of us know the time or the hour

God has the answers and God has the power
Then he said "I'll talk to GOD tonight before I go to bed.

If he gives me an answer, Then I'll tell you what he said.

So that night at bed time as he knelt to say his prayers.

I over heard him asking God what it was like living up stairs.

He said "GOD, I have a question, am I really going to die?

Have I done something terribly wrong, is that the reason why?

Or will I be an angel, Like I always been told? Is that what you do with a good little boy's soul?

One of my friends told me at school yesterday,

THAT I was sick and dying, that's why I cannot run and play.

My mommy never told me that I was going to die.

Maybe she was afraid it would upset me and I'd cry.

So GOD if I have to come up in heaven to live with you,

Would you do me a favor and Let mommy and daddy come up there too.

Mommy she can cook and sew and Daddy can fix the broken things and do the other chores.

Thank you God for Listening to me, I know you'll do what is right.

Now I must go on to sleep I love you GOD.
Good Night.

OH! YES!

Dear GOD, I almost forgot. I have a little puppy, that I love a lot.

If we come and live with you, can I bring my Puppy too?

For he won't have no place to stay. I promise to keep him out of the way.

He don't eat so very much, Just table scraps and thing as such.

GOD, THINK ABOUT WHAT I said, Now I must go on to bed.

Tomorrow I'll be back in touch, Thank You GOD, So very much.



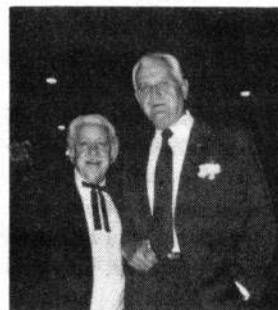
Dear Bob Derickson,

I am writing this to inform you of the passing of another buddy and good friend of the 83rd. Frank Albano of Cannon Co. 83rd Division died on Jan. 17th and laid to rest on Jan. 21st in his hometown of Springfield, Ma. He was 64 years and was a printer for 38 years at the Diamond Match Co. and was a business agent for Matchworkers Local 18734, AFL-CIO in Springfield.

He attended most of the reunions and European trips. The last European trip was the 40th Friendly Invasion of WW No. 2 in May-June 1984 which I went with him along with other 83rd buddies. We were honored by Pres. Reagan and Queen Elizabeth's visit at the ceremonies which we never forgot.

Frank always had a keen sense of humor and a kind word for everyone. I know he will be missed by all that knew him and especially by his friend Ann Bouchard. Our prayers go out to his family, a daughter, son and 3 sisters and 2 brothers all of Springfield. Please put this picture of Frank and Gen. Westmoreland next to this article Thunderbolt and return it to me-address on back of photo. Thank you,

Sincerely,
August Farias
(Mousie)
P.O. Box F-356
New Bedford, MA. 0274



Frank Albano and
Gen. Westmoreland at
the Pines 1985.

BROADCAST IN COMBAT DIARY
SUNDAY 29th APRIL 1945
t0801 and 1530 DBST

15

TALK BY A BRITISH OFFICER

Of course when I first saw them, I didn't know they were the 83rd Div; to me they were just a bunch of American soldiers riding on tanks. And believe me I was pretty glad to see them. We'd been digging ditches on the Elbe against the Russians with German S.S. standing over us with rubber-truncheons and guns, beating hell out of us to encourage us to work harder. Of course we knew the Americans were on their way, but it wasn't until one evening a couple of weeks ago that we found out how close they were. The air-raid siren gave the general alarm for the mobilization of the Vlksturm - that meant the Americans were within thirty kilometers. I think that was the greatest moment of my life, and you can imagine how we laughed at the panic-stricken German attempts to turn the defences from East to West to face the unexpected American drive.

Our S.S. Guards tried to hurry us away before the Americans could free us. I wasn't having any, and that night I made a getaway. The Guards saw me and opened up with rifles, but I made it all right. I walked west towards the flashes of the guns and the flames on the horizon. My biggest worry was to get civilian clothes and get rid of my striped convict-suit. I had a bit of luck and managed that. And, funnily enough, not long after that I had a chance to turn the tables on the S.S. I took two of them prisoner. It was luck again. By a trick I disarmed them and told them I was a British Officer although I was dressed like a tramp.

It was now daylight and I saw two tanks coming up the road. The first time I tried to get near them they thought I was a German and opened up on me with machine-gun fire. But the second time I made it. I marched my two prisoners into a village and asked a Yankie truck driver where I could hand in the two S.S. and talk to an American officer.

I can't describe the welcome I got from the men of the 83rd Division - for I soon found out that it was the boys from Ohio that I'd met. They did everything for me - food, cigarettes and even a bottle of Scotch - something I hadn't seen for two years. It was the best drink I'd ever had.

They drove me back to their Div. H.Q. The C.O. was right on the job winning the war, but he still found time to see me, and gave me a real American welcome. Then he passed me on

to Lieut. R.M. Sullivan. I think he'd have given me the moon if I'd wanted it - but what I did want - and get - was a bath, and clean clothes.

Of course I've heard a lot about American hospitality. Now I know what it's like. If any of you chaps of the 83rd Div. are listening I'd like to thank you for all you did for me - but I just can't find words. All I can say is **THANK YOU - I'LL NEVER FORGET THE 83rd DIV.**

PJB.15.5.45



MILITARY RECORDS

Write Dept. of Defense, Military Personnel Records Ctr., 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63100.

Include the full name and service or social security number of the person whose records are being requested; service branch; date of birth (and death if it applies); dates of active service; location and date of discharge.



ATTEMPT TO LOCATE:

Henry Slivenski of Ridley Brook Apts # C-3 of Folsom, Pennsylvania 19033 is trying to locate this man. If any of you have any information please contact Henry. The photo is of Charles Kizer "E" 330th.

Thanks,
Bob



783rd ORD.:

March 5th

Well, here we go again. Its almost spring, you'll be reading this when it will almost be summer, and I'll be doing most of my reporting from messages received at Christmas time.

All the Christmas messages were good news to the point that everyone was either holding their own or doing okay. I'm sorry to report the news hasn't been all that great. Art told me he heard from Wilcox and that he had leukemia. I called Aubrey on March 1 and found him in very good spirits awaiting more tests. At this point they are not sure what his problems are as he has always had a very high white cell count. He said, "The Lord willing he will be in Knoxville."

Carl Frederick informed me that Elsie Perko came down with cancer in January so I called Ed last Saturday. Ed was in Church so I had a nice conversation with Elsie. She is presently on Chemo, and was naturally feeling weak with no appetite. Elsie said they would try to make the reunion and if she couldn't come Ed would. Today I received a letter from Ed telling me of the hard times they have been having but he would be coming to Tenn., if possible. We'll all be hoping and praying for the best for all of you.

You know I like to get as many names in this article as possible but I don't think I can give a full report on the thirty-four I heard from at Christmas. We'll respect AGE and rank and start with Doggett first. He's as insulting as ever so he's fine and so is exercising Millie, back in her blue bathing suit. Doc and Agnes will be visiting the new grandchild in Calif. and have promised Lloyd Grayson a visit and he's thrilled already. Lloyd has been having his ups and downs physically, but he's always up when we talk on the phone. Lucky Hammond is off and running again and we're all anxious to hear if he was able to contact Kimball at Kailua Hawaii, during his April visit. Bryars is betting that if its windy, and with those skirts, Bob will forget all about looking up Kimball.

Oh yes, nothing like finding one of our lost buddies and then fouling up his name. Take note Arthur, Don Vandemergel spells his name the way I just did! Sorry about that Don. Don is going to make a trip to Philly in a few weeks to talk to old Zakerchemney so I'm looking forward to meeting Don at the same time.

Al Unser still has it made fellows. He still has Bert working and he is making clocks keeping time on when Bert's pay checks are due.

Joe Stubber reported in and said he missed the Reunion because of weddings and a sun-

room that Pat requested he build. I sure hope he spelled sun right!

Ray and Louise Downing appear to be hitting on seven cylinders, going down hill and are looking forward to Knoxville. They are going to try and drag Jones with them.

A real fast count from Christmas shows that twenty of you stated "See you in Knoxville" so it sure looks like another large turnout. Ivan Gilman tells us he visited Omaha Beach this past fall and was quite moved as he silently stood with respect, in front of the graves of Jr. Levis and Mark Kemper. Ivan is also concerned about being removed from our "rolls" so he fully intends making it this year.

Ray says Mimi Wiggins is fine but his back swing has slowed up, but his booze consumption is holding level with the inflation rate. And believe it or not he heard from Getty inquiring about the reunion. Maybe the old Capt. will surprise us.

Another surprise was Bob Burns telling me how he was working a funeral and who should walk in but Lt. Krebs. Bob was so shocked he didn't get his address but it's South.

Herm Hackstock says Norma's back is much better to the extent of a winter trip including Fl. Ariz. and Col. boy I wish my back would act up like that: Bill and Martha Appleby are so great they bought a trailer to enjoy life.

Herschel Weaver lost a sister and very close neighbor right at the reunion last year. Candy says he's doing okay, as are Labbe and Boyette and all expect to be making it come Aug. Ernest Jim Christian and (the walker) and Earl Graham are doing well but are still not positive. Earl made the worlds fair and didn't like it but we're sure a better show than the worlds fair, Earl. Try us, you'll like us. And George Harris and his terrific brother will keep you in tow.

Jim Foster is very faithful with phone calls and neatly written, long letters as are Carl and Alyce Frederick with his long winded, funny tapes, telling me how hard Alyce is working at the shop on Saturdays while he's watching the new neighbor hanging the wash. Marcel Amrhein says "hello" to everyone and he's sorry but he can't stand the hot south in August.

Just this minute called Phil Barbara to talk to Ann but Phil answered. HAPpy to report that while Phil had some serious trouble with his plumbing and sewage he secured the right Doctors to produce the right hem stretching. He was in the hospital for six weeks and his message to Paul Bryer is be ready. Phil will be arriving at the first tee in Tenn. with a new, legal, secret weapon. Paul will eat his heart out. See you in Knoxville **Russ Ranonow**

PITTSBURGH CHAPTER:

We had another gala Christmas party. It was held at the Oakmont Elks in Oakmont, Pa. After a delicious meal the evening was topped off with the ladies receiving a gift followed by dancing to a fine band. Our thanks go to Ed Reuss for handling all the arrangements.

Pictures were taken by "Larry" Leonardi but since he is resting in the Sunshine state of Florida they will be published in a future edition of this publication. We missed the Beaver Valley contingent at the affair — Emily Becker, Charles Hopta and John Marek. John is chauffeur for this group, but due to his fall was unable to take care of his chore.

The new year started out on a sad note with the death of Lois, wife of Wilbur Campbell after a brief illness. She was in attendance at the Xmas Party. The members of the chapter turned out to pay final respects at the Striffler Funeral Home in White Oak, Pa.

Our sick list included, besides John Marek, Joe DeLuca with a bad back which caused him to miss a few meetings plus the Christmas affair. Emil Becker was hospitalized for eleven

days and is now traveling with the aid of a cane. He's 87 years young. Joe Danylo had an eye operation. Must have been serious, he is recuperating for a month in Bermuda.

Our V.P. Ed Walsh became a great grandfather for the sixth time in January. One of the chapter's secret operatives spotted Al "Don't Tell Me What to Do" Seuss discussing strategy with retired General William Westmoreland at the Greater Pittsburgh International Airport immediately following the reunion at the Pines in September. "Bill" Mattes has become chairman of our fundraising committee. Our Pres. John Gallo recently visited with the Philadelphia Chapter.

The chapter is considering chartering a bus for the reunion in Knoxville. Although a number have committed to this there are still openings, so anyone in the tri-state area (Pa., Ohio, W. Va.) who may wish to join in, may call me at (412) 931-7978 for details. We plan on leaving Wednesday, Aug. 20 early a.m. and return Sunday the 23rd.

Fran Beerhalter
Pittsburgh Chapter



BOSTON CHAPTER:

Things have been quiet in this area for the last month. We voted not to have a meeting in February being that it maybe poor weather. However, we had a very mild winter in Boston.

In January we had our meeting at the New World Restaurant in Lynn, MA. We had an excellent gathering with 35 people attending. A lovely meal was served, plus entertainment and dancing. Bob Hunnewell and his partner won first prize for dancing. Charlie and Arleen Miller came in second but Charlie was the best actor. Our new president, Charlie Miller, did all the work getting this restaurant for the dinner meeting. Thanks to the Millers for a job well done.

Larry and Fran Arrigo just returned today after a two weeks cruise to the Carribean. You can see Larry has all the money in our Chapter. Huh!

George Polites has been doing well. Keep up the good work George.

Bill Shaner is on a trip to Georgia for two weeks.

I spoke to Don St John and he is taking life easy talking about his grandchildren and watching Sports on T.V.

Pete Weltevrede wrote me a few times since my last report. He still has a great deal of humor.

Captain, Ralph Morgan keeps Captain, Bob Costello and Pete Weltevrede on the move. He has the know how. Doesn't he Bob!

Tony Piantedosi keeps in touch with Charlie Battery and he said everyone is O'kay.

Erwin Erhart retired January 1, 1986 on his birthday. George Connors is going to teach him how to relax.

Victor Bravman went under a serious operation today. We hope that everything will be alright for him.

Well Boys I guess that is all the news I can give you as I have not had any mail from A or B Batterys. Take care.

Amby Tynan
323rd FA

The 83rd Army Infantry's Thunderbolt Division held its annual mid-Winter meeting at the New World Restaurant in Lynn. Among the items on the group's agenda was the election of officers for 1986. They are: Romeo Maynard, recording secretary; Bob Hunnewell, judge advocate; Charles Miller, president; Amby Tynan, public relations director; Larry Arrigo, first vice-president; Mark Scott, sergeant-at-arms; Mike Capprio, treasurer; and Pat DiGrammarino, membership registration director.



Boston Chapter meeting in Lynn, Mass.



Below Top: Jeanie Cove, Ginny DiGiammerino enjoying homemade pizza.

Below Bottom: Don & Rhoda Browar, Jeanie Cove, when visiting Pat & Ginny, enjoying their pizza.



In communicating with my former buddies in the 83rd Division, I had the occasion to write with Clarence Nord of "H" Company, 331 Infantry, who incidentally was the Captain's jeep driver during the war, in Europe.

Since his letters kept coming back to me undelivered, I checked on a similar name in a nearby town and contacted his son, who was kind enough to promptly answer my letter.

He wrote me that his father Clarence Nord died in 1972 from a battle with leukemia.

If anyone in "H" Company who might read this and knew him, they could communicate with his son:

JERRY NORD
 % NORD INSURANCE AGENCY
 202 West Lincoln Street
 Saybrook, Ill. 61770

It would be appreciated if you could have this published in the "Thunderbolt." Thanks.

Emanuel Lamb
 "H" Co. 331 Inf.
 333 East Broadway
 Long Beach, N.Y. 11561

THIS IS IT!

A skip and a jump to that great 908th BTRY. (And Larry Redmond you may jump in with any opening you consider appropriate)

Yesa, Bob, Amby and Manny, Clarice and I do miss those song sessions with Jim Burton at the mike. Plus, Manny and other 83rders and their wives! And dog-gonit, regardless of another Granddaughter wedding in August, we will be in Knoxville, shoes and all.

Grace Brick, John Clevinger, Boyers, Stu Hitt, and Palasky, Have been our constant pen-pals. And with Ed Marquardts miracle recovery we know the man upstairs has his hand out, for all "The Thunderbolts." And as for AL URIDEL AND HIS GLASS EYE DEER HUNTING, THE BEST OF LUCK AND HEALTH to all. You too AMBY, AND SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME! (Ugh Ugh)

Pearl and Bob "Thunderbolt" is a moocho reading item. Around these parts of the U.S.A. Keep it up, not down, and remember to cross your "T"!

Sweet dreams you 83der's
Always, Howard and Clarice Carlbom



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

HELLO BUDDIES:

Once again the time has come to get our letters in for the next publication of the "THUNDERBOLT". I am sure that each and everyone of you sit anxiously waiting for the mailman to bring it to you, and hope that you can beat your wife to the door to get it and read it. It is amazing to see how many Wives are so deeply interested in the 83rd Infantry Division Association. Some of them are far greater interested than some of the men.

Well, as you all are aware, we have entered into the third month of 1986, which means that it is only five months until it is Reunion time again. The Dixie Chapter is hard at work trying to give you another great Reunion, but a lot of help is needed from you men. Once again I am working with the ad book committee and will be haunting you with letters asking for your help in making our ad book a great success. Those of you who ever took part in putting on a Reunion know the importance of this book, and that is why we ask for your help. The more ads we can get the more money we have to help put on a Reunion at the least Registration cost.

To those of you whom I don't reach by personal contact through my letter campaign, the ad book prices are \$5.00 for a Booster,

Dear Pearl and Bob:

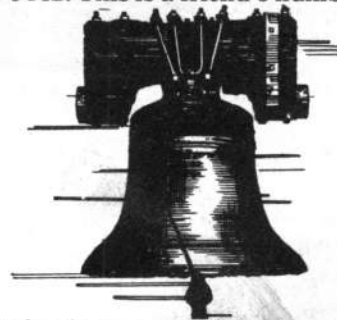
Hope you had a nice Holiday with your children and grandchildren. I was in Pennsylvania with my sisters and their families and had a wonderful time. While I was down home I was looking through some old "Thunderbolt" magazines and in a 1978 Thunderbolt it mentioned that the mail of Reverend Howard J. Schwartz was returned to the editor and marked "deceased". Sam Klippa was the Editor at that time as it was in April that the mail was returned. He was a member of the 2nd Bn Hq. 329th. In the last issue of the Thunderbolt a Doctor was inquiring about him and I thought he might like to know.

Also I met a Mr. and Mrs. Baker from South Carolina and they were inquiring about Harold Burns of Buffalo. I called the telephone number that Mike had, but the person that answered did not know him. When I called information they said they had a Harold Burns under an unlisted number and could not give it to any one. So I was wondering if you still send the Thunderbolt to him? If you do maybe you could say in the Thunderbolt that his friends are asking about him and Mr. Burns would write to them.

Grace Brick

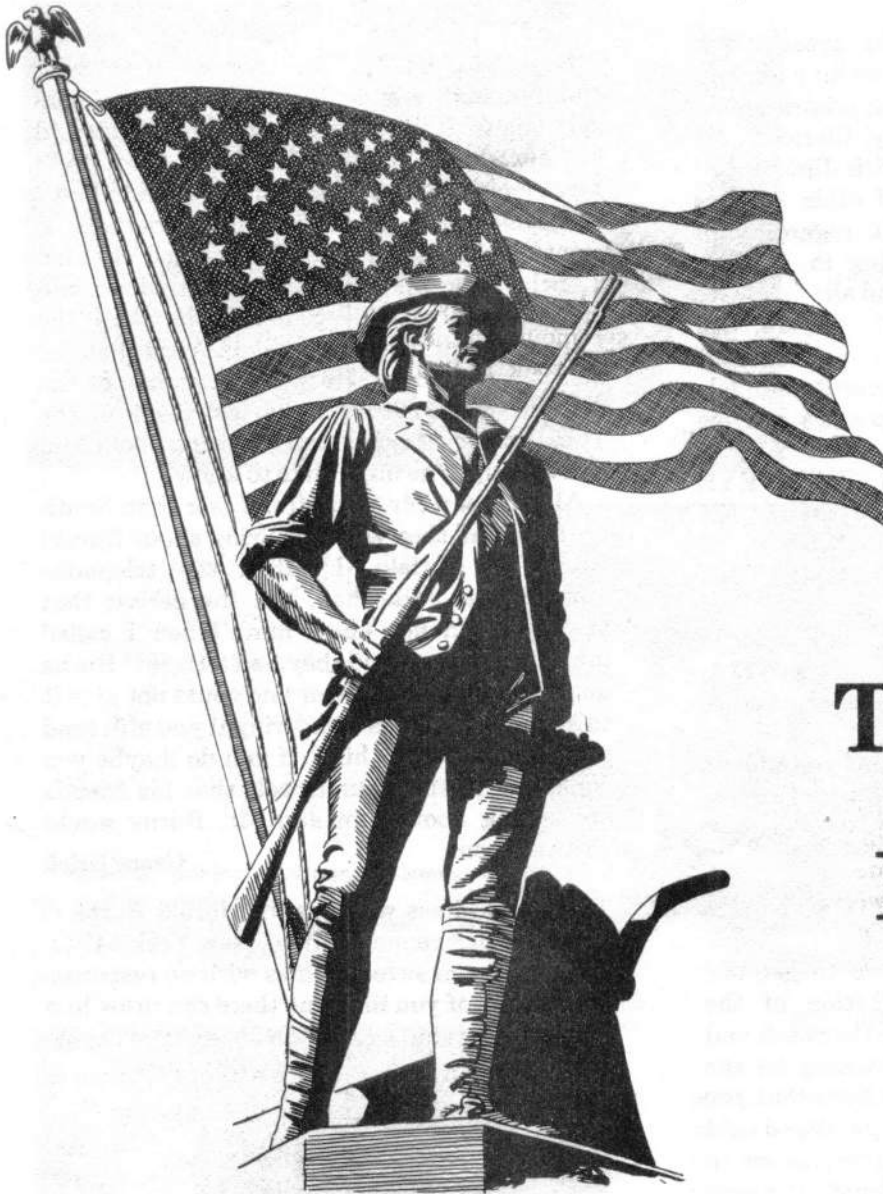
The last address we have for Harold Burns is 219 Hewitt Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14215. I have written several times with no response. Maybe one of you men out there can draw him into membership again. Somebody try. Thanks Grace for your letter. Grace's phone number is: (716) 823-6442. This is a friend's number.

Bob



which includes just your name or your name and your Wife's name, \$18.00 for a quarter page, \$35.00 for a half page and \$60.00 for a full page. To those of you who are in business, this is cheap advertising as it reaches almost every State. It also lets your Buddies know that you are a successful business man, and the ad is chargeable to business expenses. Send your ad to Larry Redmond, 132 Rockwood Drive, Havertown, Pa. 19083 Send it to-day, as we need them as soon as possible.

Larry Redmond



A TOAST TO THE FLAG

*Here's to the red of it—
There's not a thread of it,
No, nor a shred of it
In all the spread of it
From foot to head.
But heroes bled for it
Faced steel and lead for it,
Precious blood shed for it,
Bathing it red!*

*Here's to the white of it—
Thrilled by the sight of it,
Who knows the right of it
But feels the might of it
Through day and night!
Womanhood's care for it
Made manhood dare for it,
Purity's prayer for it
Keeps it so white!*

*Here's to the blue of it—
Beauteous view of it,
Heavenly hue of it,
Star-spangled dew of it
Constant and true;
Diadems gleam for it,
States stand supreme for it,
Liberty's beam for it.
Brightens the blue!*

*Here's to the whole of it—
Stars, stripes and pole of it
Body and soul of it,
O, and the roll of it,
Son shining through:
Hearts in accord for it,
Swear by the sword for it,
Thanking the Lord for it,
RED, WHITE, AND BLUE!*

BROADCAST IN COMBAT DIARY
SUNDAY 29th APRIL 1945
t0801 and 1530 DBST

UNIT SPOTLIGHT
83rd INFANTRY DIVISION

by
Robert Barr, BBC War Correspondent

Some days ago Major General Robert C. Macon - young and tireless Commanding General of the 83rd Infantry Division - sat in the war room at his forward command post thumbing over a basket-load of letters. They were letters, postcards and notes sent to him by his own doughboys ... and by his gunners and engineers and wiremen and medics ... suggesting a name for the Division. The men were proud of being in the 83rd ... proud of the black and yellow triangle which they wore as a shoulder patch - but on top of that they wanted a name - something that would hit off the personality of the Division - something that would give a clue to their qualities - something they could write down or paint on a signboard - or see in a newspaper headline - something that would be definitely their own. Other Divisions had names which expressed their characters ... "Hell on Wheels" ... "The Golden Arrow" ... "The Spearhead" ... "Timberwolves." They felt that they had earned a name ... and General Macon's task was to see that it was an apt one. So, he thumbed over the suggestions - and thought over the Division's achievements. Now I don't know what went through his mind ...but I think I do ... because the 83rd is an old friend - with a personality most definitely its own. You know the kind - always on the move - and always on the ball - the kind of friend that you keep meeting in odd places ... and when you meet you feel immediately at home. Well, maybe that's a personal point. But I first met up with the 83rd away back in June, coming off Omaha Beach, and they were marked down to relieve the 101st Airborne Division near Cartan, which you may remember was the toughest spot on the American Front.

They were fresh, and like all Divisions coming across the beaches they were eager to get going, but instead they were told to dig-in and hold a defensive line while they got what's usually called their baptism of fire. Then, with that flair for the dramatic which has developed very greatly since then, they made their first attack on the FOURTH OF JULY - making it the noisiest and biggest Fourth of July they had ever celebrated. Their first objective was some high ground near Periors, and when they had finished fighting for it, it was just a heap

of rubble - and when they finally came to halt they were across the Periors—St. Lo Road and astride the important St. Lo—Coutances Highway.

Then, developing this flair for the dramatic - this flair for quick action - they swung down to St. Malo and they came face to face with a much publicised German Commander who boasted that he would never surrender. So they went in and they reduced the citadel of St. Malo and they took his surrender with due ceremony. In the general operation in Brittany they took 13,000 prisoners which meant that after just two months of fighting they had bagged a prisoner for each man in the Division.

When I next met up with the 83rd they were setting up another small statistical record by holding the longest divisional front of the war - 175 miles of it on the flank of a blitzkreiging-army. Now holding a flank 175 miles long might well have become a quiet routine job ... but the 83rd can't keep out of the news for long. They sent a single platoon across the Loire river. It struck 50 miles into the Mequis-controlled territory and it came back with 20,000 German prisoners including a Major General and his complete staff. Not bad for one Platoon!

The 83rd then went north to clear Luxembourg and then to fight in the Hurtgen forest, and I didn't run across them until December ... when Von Rundstedt broke through in the Ardennes. In one night and one day the 83rd raced south through Germany, Holland and Belgium, and they swung into place at Rochefort. It was tough fighting in the Ardennes - snow and ice and that incredible cold - and when the Germans had been kicked back into Germany again, the Commanding General of the 7th corps gave the officers and men of the 83rd the highest commendation for - and I quote - their major contribution in driving the Germans out of the Ardennes.

They're a fast-moving ... hard-fighting outfit ... they've always been since they kicked off in battle last Fourth of July ... so I was not surprised when next time I met up with them again spearheading the 9th Army drive to the Rhine ... and it was no surprise when they reached it first. Now they weren't the first to cross the Rhine ... but when they did cross it on March 29 they started rolling - rolling so fast that reports went around that they had been specially motorized for the job. I think it's high praise of an infantry division that they kept pace with the 12th Armoured Division ... old "Hell-on-Wheels" ... who were going all out on the loft flank. They crossed the Rhine ... they crossed the Wesor ... and hit the Elbe in one

rush - 225 miles in 18 days - and when they reached the Elbe they went straight across and made a bridge-head. The 83rd held the only bridgehead across the Elbe, and they've built the only bridges across the Elbe. And the first bridge they built across that last German river they dedicated to their now President - Harry S. Truman - and on the bridge there is a sign which says: "THE TRUMAN BRIDGE - GATEWAY TO BERLIN ... BY COURTESY OF THE 83rd DIVISION". But the sign says more than that because the Doughs of the 83rd have got their name - suggested by a dough - approved by General Macon ... something which, as I said, they can paint on a signboard. So the signboard says: "... GATEWAY TO BERLIN ... BY COURTESY OF THE 83rd - and the Doughs say it's just what they wanted - the Doughs and the Engineers and the Gunners and the Wiremen and the Medics and all the lads who make up this fine THUNDERBOLT DIVISION.

HELLO BUDDIES:

I know that there are many of you that get tired of receiving a "THUNDERBOLT" and in reading it, see the name of Larry Redmond printed in it, and sometimes once, twice or even three times. I know that there are many of you who get tired of the mailman stopping at your house and leaving a letter written by Larry Redmond, but it takes such letters and writeups to help keep this Association the great organization that it is.

It is letters and writeups such as these that helps keep you members stirred up, and let you know what you can do to take an active part in the Association and help make it grow. Each year we appeal to you to be an active paid up Member, your dues helps with the publication of one of the greatest Organizational Booklets of any Organization. Our publication, "THE THUNDERBOLT" far surpasses any other Veterans Organization Publication. There are many more men throughout the Country that should be Members of our Association, but we can't seem to draw their interest.

Each year we hold a Reunion. To those of you who never have attended a Reunion, make a special effort to attend at least one and see what it is to meet that Buddy that you last saw in Europe. Each year we have men meeting old Buddies that they hadn't seen or heard from since the War. It is a feeling you will never forget. Also try taking a Booster Ad in our Reunion Program Book, maybe he will see your

name or you will see his and be able to renew an old friendship. If you don't know where he lives, try contacting me. Every name that appears in the book, I have an address of or I can get it for you. Send that \$5.00 to-day to Larry Redmond, 132 Rockwood Drive, Havertown, Pa. 19083. Help us make this a year to remember. Also send your National Dues to National Headquarters, the address is on the last page.
Larry Redmond



THE NATIONAL ORDER OF BATTLEFIELD COMMISSIONS

The Editor,
Dear Sir:

During America's Wars and Police actions of this century, Battlefield Commissions were awarded to those enlisted members of the United States Army and Marine Corps who demonstrated superior leadership on the field of battle, or performed acts of valor while engaged in combat against our nation's enemies.

The national order of Battlefield Commissions (N.O.B.C.) is an organization for those American servicemen who were awarded battlefield commissions during World War I, II, Korea and Vietnam. Our next annual convention will be in Jacksonville, Florida during the period 11-13 September, 1986.

To accommodate potential members I will provide applications to individuals that may qualify.

Sincerely,

Adjutant, Nobc

Hubert A. Reda (Capt. USA Ret)

1013 Ironwood Drive

Los Vegas, Nevada 89108

NOTE: Now available for members in your Infantry Division, fact sheets with the following information: History, Battle Credits, Combat Highlights, component Units, Heroes, and a lot more information that will bring back reminiscence, *ORDER* from the address above, make checks payable to *N.O.B.C.* for \$1.50 to cover copies and postage.

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER:

Dear Buddies and Auxillary:

Here we are well into our new fiscal 1985-1986 year as we all prepare for our 40th annual reunion in Knoxville, Tennessee. As we were preparing for our Philadelphia January meeting, our good buddie George Settle, "A" 308th ENGINEERS walked in with his old sarge Pittsburgh President, Joe Gallo. Joe spent a week in our area as guest of George. He also spent time with his daughter in New Jersey. During the week Volpi, Belevedere and myself escorted Joe and George two blocks away from my home to see a buddie Bob Lanzioti, whom they haven't seen for 40 years. Well Joe and George signed him up. We have been trying since 1945.

That same meeting night everyone surprised Lou Volpi on his 65th birthday. A great time was had by all. Our 50-50 was won by Walt Korsniak, 83rd RECON. Walt has been recuperating from a prostrate operation. Another good buddie, Charles Bonafiglia "C" 908th is also recuperating from a prostrate operation. A swift recovery to both of them. Our St. Valentine's celebration was with the string bands at our convention hall. Dinner at Charlie's next to the Marriott Inn, and then to our chapter home to finish out a great day. Mr. and Mrs. Ray Orsene came down from New England to join in the festivities. As of now we are preparing for our St. Paddy's Party. Anyone in our area on the third Saturday of each month give us a call. Glad to have you with us. See you all in Knoxville.

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



WHO WAS THE FIRST????

In response to the suggestion by Stan Bielen in the Winter Issue of the Thunderbolt, about stories of interest to the membership, I thought I would tell the story of "C" BTRY 322nd F.A. BN.

We loaded our four guns and 2½ ton trucks, one ¾ ton "4X4" wire truck and the command car on an LCT. The rest of the battery was loaded on another LCT. All vehicles were water proofed with snorkels for air and exhaust. Upon arrival at Omaha Beach we were told that due to the crowded beach we would have to anchor off shore for two or three days. They proceeded to tie four or five LCT's together. During the night our craft broke loose due to the rough sea. We drifted to the pontoon pier and proceeded to bang into it. After a couple of hours the ship started to take on water and we were told to abandon ship. We managed to have our men jump one at a time onto the pier. We took only our blankets, side arms and "K" rations as instructed by Captain Brubaker. On the beach we were told to gather our men and set up our own guard. I took my 12 men and set up around some boxes that were stacked near by. It was pitch black and we could not see what was in the boxes. By daylight we found that we had set up in an ammunition dump of 105 M/M artillery shells. Needless to say we moved out in a hurry. The LCT sank in about 6 feet of water. Captain Brubaker made the Captain of the ship go out to the LCT and drop the landing ramp. Our drivers managed to drive the trucks off and only one flooded out. We turned the truck that

made it to the beach around and winched the stalled truck in. We got all our equipment off. We proceeded to our assigned area in the hedgerows. It was our understanding that we were the only unit of the 83rd Infantry Division Association on Normandy and that for a couple of days our Captain Jack Brubaker was Senior Officer of the 83rd Division troops in Normandy.

To the best on my recollection this was approximately June 11th or 12th. My story of what happened is true. It will interest me to know if anyone can dispute that, "We Were The First".

Casey Szubski
"C" BTRY 322nd F.A.



Bob and Pearl!
Headquarters of the 83rd

Hey, you sure know how to put out! That Thunderbolt seems to get better with age. (No I have had an "ancient ACE JUST YET). Have it on top of our table at all times. People brag and Brag AND WE LET THEM GO RIGHT AHEAD AND DO IT. You kids seem to do it all and if you can read my scribbling hope to see it in the next issue. Sorry Pearl, our typewriter broke down, her nails, of course. But we do like you much and God WILLING, WILL SE YOU IN Tennessee.

Hello to all, Manny and Avalon. Also your nice family.

Always and Always,
H Howard and Clarice and all

CLEVELAND CHAPTER:

"Hello Buddies"

Here's hoping that all you Thunderbolts out there are in good health and that goes for your families also. We are at the age where all hell breaks loose in our bodies and we become victims of various illnesses.

Our Marge Miller is doing okay now, having had several heart problems, she hopes to attend our March meeting, which is our Annual meeting.

Everyone else is okay as far as I know, no news is good news. However, some people are either reluctant or negligent when it comes to informing me of the news, so I can't write them up.

We are planning to be in Tennessee in August. How many is a question mark. My own good buddy and personal chauffeur is not planning on making it this year. They are planning a trip to Florida. We are going to a party at the Szubski's residence, it looks like it may be corned beef and cabbage. At least it should be, being so close (March 16) to St.

Patrick's Day. The last time Szubski's hosted a meeting in March it was the menu for the day. I hope so as I love corned beef. The Szubski's finally became Grandpa and Grandma. Daughter Barbara delivered a boy. Needless to say the grandparents are beaming with happy pride. I am doing this article in sunny California????? It rained for nine (9) days straight. I never saw so much mud and water. I did some ocean fishing after the storms ceased, caught some hard earned fish. Fishing in 650 feet of water and reeling in 3 lbs of lead and fish builds up the muscles.

My good buddy Rollie Warner is now retired and working harder at home than he did driving semi's. He keeps busy remodeling and other things. Laura Kowalec is also retired now and enjoying some much deserved rest, and baby sitting their grand daughter.

There being nothing else to write about, I'll sign off hoping to see you in Tennessee so fight nice if you have to fight, besides it's lots of fun making up.

Respectfully,
Al Uridel
"C" 329th



KENTUCKY CHAPTER CHATTER:

We just got back from Williamsburg, Virginia. Irene and Gale Baker, Pearl and Bob Derickson, Margaret and James Reddin, Anne and Dan McCarthy, Wilson and I visited the Dixie Chapter at their Spring meeting. Virginia and John Cox were our host and hostess and they did a splendid job. It was a very nice meeting. The Dixie Chapter members are very hospitable people and we really enjoyed ourselves.

I celebrated my 66th birthday at Williamsburg. I don't mind telling my age because if I wasn't 66 years old, I would be pushing up daisies. I have enjoyed every year of my life and I am looking forward to many more. Tony and Willene Viglione helped me celebrate my special day. We drank champagne and ate at the Kings Arms Tavern. The food was excellent. We later joined Stan and Fran Bielen for more champagne.

Wilson Day won the 50-50 pot to the tune of \$85.00. He also won steak knives as a door prize. How about that? He was one happy man.

Wilson and I missed the Kentucky Chapter Christmas party as I was in bed with a bug and it wasn't Wilson. Pearl and Bob Derickson were kind enough to write about the party in the previous Thunderbolt.

Our next Kentucky Chapter meeting is the

weekend of April 4th and 5th at Owensboro, Kentucky at the Executive Inn. We hope we have guests from other chapters.

That's it folks, take care and God Bless...

Vi Day



Vi & Wilson Day as Bob & Pearl, Irene & Gale presented Vi with her present and sang "Happy Birthday."

A HOMECOMING TURNS INTO TRAGEDY

The banners had been hung in the Fort Campbell, Ky., gym. The base band was prepared to play. But last week's welcome for members of the 101st Airborne Division returning from a five-month peacekeeping stint in the Middle East turned into a wake. A chartered jetliner carrying the 248 soldiers and a crew of eight crashed in the Newfoundland woods Thursday, killing everyone aboard. It was the worst crash in Canadian history and brought the aviation death toll in 1985 to 1,948, the worst year on record.

The DC-8 had begun its flight in Cairo, refueled in Cologne, West Germany, then had flown to Gander for another refueling stop.

The plane took off in a freezing drizzle, faltered as it lifted off and tore a three-quarter-mile swath through a spruce and birch forest less than a mile from airport. Witnesses said the explosion lit up the predawn sky "like a sunset."

American and Canadian investigators said they had found no signs of sabotage. They confirmed that the aircraft had not been deiced - a buildup of ice on the wings could have increased the jetliner's weight or distorted the airflow over its wings - but noted that other plane had not been deiced and had taken off without difficulty. They said the jetliner had not been overloaded and that an examination of its four engines had so far yielded "no information of any significance." It was uncertain whether the "black boxes" that record flight data would be of much help; they were extensively damaged. "I have not specifically and categorically ruled out anything at this time," said Peter Boag of the Canadian Aviation Safety Board.

Officials of the international peacekeeping force said they had decided not to use Arrow Air, the DC-8's operator, to fly another contingent of American soldiers home from Sinai. The Miami-based line had been fined \$34,000 in 1984 for maintenance and record-keeping problems, but Federal regulators said it had "cleared up all the significant safety items" and had been doing a good job since. A Pentagon spokesman said Arrow was checked in February and found satisfactory. Charters are often used, he said, when they are less expensive than military aircraft.

21 Dec. 85

Mr. O'Connell,

As Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Fort Campbell, and for every soldier and their families that serve and live here, we thank you for your kind expression of sympathy and prayer.

We are devastated by the tragic loss of our soldiers. The only solace we can take is that if a soldier has to die, it should be in the service of his country, doing a tough and important mission, and it should be with his fellow soldiers. This is how it was.

Please be assured that the Screaming Eagles of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) appreciate your thoughtful condolence. Thank you for taking the time to share your feelings.

God Bless You,

Pat Patrick

Burton D. Patrick

Major General, U.S. Army

PSALM 23

THE LORD is my shepherd; - I shall not want.

2. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;

he leadeth me beside the still waters,

3. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

4. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

5. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; thou anointed my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

6. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR VETERANS AND DEPENDENTS

What V.A. Does For The Home-Buying Veteran

V.A. guarantees part of a loan that helps a home-buying veteran obtain a mortgage featuring:

- ✓ An interest rate which is usually lower than conventional mortgage rates.
- ✓ No down payment (unless required by the lender, the purchase price exceeds the reasonable value of the property as determined by the V.A., or the loan has a graduated payment feature.)

✓ A long amortization or repayment period.

V.A. appraises the security for the mortgage to determine its reasonable value in the appropriate market prevailing at the time the appraisal is made.

V.A. makes available an inspection service in most cases on proposed new homes (or as an alternative accepts the findings of the F.H.A.) to verify that the house:

- ✓ Conforms to the plans and specifications on which the V.A.'s appraisal is based.

What V.A. Does Not Do

V.A. does not have the legal authority to:

✓ Act as an architect. It does not supervise construction of a home a veteran wishes to buy.

- ✓ Guarantee that the home is free of defects.
- ✓ Act as an attorney. The V.A. cannot give legal advice if a veteran encounters trouble in buying or constructing a home.

V.A. cannot compel a builder to remedy defects in the construction or otherwise compel a builder to fulfill a contract.

V.A. cannot guarantee that a veteran will be completely satisfied with a home and can resell it at the price originally paid.

V.A. cannot guarantee that a purchase is a good investment.

Purpose of G.I. Loans

- a. To buy a home.

b. To buy a residential unit in certain new or proposed, existing or converted condominium projects.

c. To build a home.

d. To repair, alter, or improve a home.

e. To refinance an existing home loan.

f. To buy a manufactured home with or without a lot.

g. To buy and improve a manufactured home lot on which to place a unit owned and occupied by the veteran.

h. To improve a home through installation of a solar heating and/or cooling system or other weatherization improvements.

i. To purchase and improve simultaneously a home with energy conserving measures.

World War II Eligibility

Eligibility requirements for veterans of World War II: (a) active duty on or after September 16, 1940, and prior to July 26, 1947; (b) a discharge or separation under other than dishonorable conditions; and (c) at least 90 days total service, unless discharged earlier for service-connected disability.

Spouses Entitlement

Unmarried surviving spouses of veterans, including service personnel, who served during a period which occurred between September 16, 1940 and the present and who died as a result of service-connected disabilities, and spouses of service personnel on active duty who are officially listed as missing in action or prisoners of war and have been in such status for more than 90 days are eligible for G.I. loans to acquire a home. Spouses of POW/MIA are limited to one loan, and receipt by the spouse of official notice that the service person is no longer listed as missing or captured ends entitlement.

Expiration of Entitlement

Loan entitlement is no longer subject to an expiration date.

The Veteran's Entitlement

The word "entitlement" means the guaranty benefits available to an eligible veteran. The maximum entitlement available to an eligible veteran is \$27,500. Veterans may use up to a maximum of \$20,000 of their available entitlement for the purchase of a manufactured home and/or lot. A veteran who previously obtained a V.A. loan may use the remaining entitlement for any eligible purpose; except that veterans who use entitlement to purchase a manufactured home must first dispose of the manufactured home prior to the purchase of a

second manufactured home with a V.A. guaranteed loan. Veterans refinancing an existing V.A. loan with a new V.A. loan at a lower interest rate need not have any entitlement available for use.

Loan Maximums

There are no established loan maximums. However, no loan may exceed the reasonable value of the property as determined by the V.A.

Additional Entitlement

Veterans who used their entitlement before October 1, 1980, may have additional entitlement available for G.I. home loan purposes. Veterans' maximum home loan entitlement was raised from \$4,000 to \$7,000 in 1950, to \$12,500 in 1968, to \$17,500 in 1974, to \$25,000 in 1978, and to \$27,500 in 1980. The amount of such additional entitlement is the difference between \$27,500 and the amount of entitlement used on prior loans.

Restoration and Substitution of Entitlement

Certain veterans may meet the requirements for having used G.I. entitlement restored. A veteran may qualify for restoration if V.A. has been relieved of liability on the G.I. loan which normally is accomplished by the loan being paid in full and if the property has been disposed of; or if a veteran-buyer agrees to substitute his or her entitlement for that of the original veteran borrower and meets all other requirements for substitution of entitlement.

Financing

Eligible veterans must make their own arrangement for loans through the usual lending channels, such as banks, savings and loan associations, building and loan associations, mortgage loan companies, and the like. Real estate brokers will ordinarily assist the veteran in finding a lender.

The lender making G.I. loans for the purchase of homes (not manufactured homes or lots), farm homes, condominium units, or refinancing of existing mortgage loans or liens secured of record on a veteran's dwelling is guaranteed against loss up to 60 percent of the loan with a maximum guarantee of \$27,500.

On manufactured home and/or lot loans, the amount of guaranty is 50% of the loan, not to exceed \$20,000.

Interest Rate

The maximum interest rate on a G.I. loan may vary due to changes in market conditions. Once a loan is made, however, the interest

remains the same for the life of the loan. In obtaining loans for refinancing of existing mortgage loans or other liens of record, veterans may pay discounts of reasonable amounts. Discounts may also be paid under certain other conditions, and the local V.A. office or a lender should be consulted for information.

Down Payments and Maturity

The loan terms are subject to negotiation between the veteran and the lender. The repayment period or maturity of G.I. home loans may be as long as 30 years and 32 days. The V.A. does not require that a down payment be made, except in connection with a loan with graduated payment features or to prevent the amount of a loan from exceeding the V.A.'s determination of the property's reasonable value. If the sales price exceeds the reasonable value, the veteran must certify that the difference is being paid in cash without any supplementary borrowing.

The statutory maximum maturity for manufactured home and/or lot loans varies with each transaction, and the nearest V.A. office can provide specific information. A cash down payment will be required in connection with such loans in an amount equal to the difference, if any, between the maximum loan allowable for the transaction and the cost to the veteran.

Closing Costs

Payment in cash is required on all home loan closing costs, including title search and recording, hazard insurance premiums, prepaid taxes and the one percent origination which may be required by lenders in lieu of certain other costs. In the case of refinancing loans, all such costs may be included in the loan, for the property. For all loans closed on or after October 1, 1982, a one-time "funding fee" of 1/2 percent of the loan amount must be paid to V.A., except for loans made to certain disabled veterans.

Safeguards

The V.A. protects veteran borrowers in the following ways;

a. Homes completed less than a year before acquisition with G.I. financing must meet or exceed V.A. minimum requirements for planning, construction and general acceptability.

b. The V.A. may suspend from participation in the loan program those who take unfair advantage of veteran borrowers or decline to sell a new home to, or make a loan to, a

creditworthy, eligible veteran because of race, color, religion, sex or national origin. Also, all credit transactions involving V.A. financing must meet the requirements of Equal Credit Opportunity ACT and the Federal Reserve Board's Regulation B.

c. On a new home the builder is required to give the veteran purchaser a 1-year warranty that the home has been constructed in substantial conformity with V.A. approved plans and specifications. A similar warranty is required to be given to the veteran in respect to new manufactured homes.

d. In cases of new construction completed under V.A. or F.H.A. inspection the V.A. may pay or otherwise compensate the veteran borrower for correction of structural defects seriously affecting liability if assistance is requested within four years of the time a home loan is guaranteed or made.

e. The borrower obtaining a G.I. loan may only be charged the fees and other charges prescribed by V.A. as allowable.

f. The borrower has the right to repay at any time, without premium or penalty, the entire indebtedness or any part thereof not less than the amount of one installment or \$100 whichever is less.

g. It is the policy of the V.A. to encourage holders to extend all reasonable forbearance and indulgence in the event a borrower becomes temporarily unable to meet the terms of the loan.

Certification

Veterans must certify that they intend to live in the home they are buying or building with a G.I. loan. Also, when a veteran wishes to refinance or improve a home with a G.I. loan, the veteran must certify that he or she is actually in occupancy at the time of application. Veterans purchasing homes with G.I. loans are also required to certify they will not discriminate in the resale of their homes.

Release of Liability

Upon request to the V.A., when a veteran sells residential property financed with a G.I. loan, the veteran may be released from liability to the Government, provided the loan is current and the purchaser has been obligated by contract to purchase the property and assume all of the veteran's liabilities and the V.A. is satisfied that the purchaser is a good risk.

This release of liability does not mean that a veteran could have the G.I. home loan entitlement restored. In most cases the V.A. restores entitlement only where it no longer is liable to the lender on the guaranty and the

veteran is otherwise eligible for restoration. The release of a veteran from liability to the Government does not change the fact that V.A. continues to remain liable on the guaranty. However, if a veteran-buyer agrees to substitute his or her entitlement for that of the original veteran-borrower and if all other requirements for substitution of entitlement are met, the veteran-seller may qualify for restoration. Contact the local V.A. office for details.

Additional Information

Newly discharged veterans whose only qualifying service is based on service beginning on or after January 31, 1955, have Certificates of Eligibility mailed to their homes by the V.A. after discharge.

Other veterans may secure their Certificates of Eligibility by sending V.A. form 26-1880, "Request for Determination of Eligibility and Available Loan Guaranty Entitlement," along with required supporting documents to the V.A. Regional Office nearest them.

SPECIALLY ADAPTED HOMES

Purpose

Certain disabled veterans of military service may be entitled under certain conditions to a grant from V.A. for a home especially adapted to their needs.

Nature of Benefit for \$32,500 Grant

The V.A. may approved a grant of not more than 50% of the cost of building, buying or remodeling such homes or paying indebtedness on such homes already acquired, up to a maximum grant of \$32,500.

Ask about sections titled "Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance" and "G.I. Life Insurance" at The V.A. Office.

Eligibility

Veterans must be entitled to compensation for permanent and total service-connected disability, incurred after April 20, 1898, due to:

(1) the loss, or loss of use of both lower extremities, such as to preclude locomotion without the aid of braces, crutches, canes, or a wheelchair, or

(2) disability which includes (a) a blindness in both eyes, having only light perception, plus (b) loss or loss of use of one lower extremity, or

(3) a loss or loss of use of one lower extremity together with (a) residuals of organic disease or injury, or (b) the loss or loss of use of one upper extremity, which so affect the functions of balance or propulsion as to preclude locomotion without resort to braces, canes, crutches or a wheelchair.

Nature of Benefit for \$5,000 Grant

The V.A. may approve a grant not to exceed the actual cost, up to a maximum of \$5,000, of acquiring adaptations to a veterans residence as are determined to be reasonably necessary.

Eligibility

Veterans must be entitled to compensation for permanent and total service-connected disability, incurred after April 20, 1898 to:

- (1) Blindness in both eyes with 5/200 visual acuity or less, or
- (2) Anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands.

Supplemental Financing

Eligible veterans with available loan guaranty entitlement may also obtain a guaranteed loan or a direct loan from the V.A. to supplement the grant to acquire a specially adapted home.

Where to Apply

Any V.A. Office.

G.I. Life Insurance

For Veterans of World War I, World War II, Korean Conflict Period, Vietnam Era and Peacetime Service.

STATUS OF INSURANCE PROGRAMS

Program	Beginning Date	Ending Date New Issues
Service Disabled (SDVI)	Apr. 25, 1951	Still Open
Servicemen's (SGLI)	Sept. 29, 1965	Still Open
Veterans Mortgage (VMLI)	Aug. 11, 1971	
Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI)	Aug. 1, 1974	

Until July 1, 1972, the maximum amount of Government life insurance, exclusive of SGLI and VMLI, that one could carry was \$10,000. Effective that date, policyholders with World War II National Service Life insurance (V) could elect to use their dividends to purchase paid-up additions of coverage - which, for the first time, permits these insureds to have more than \$10,000 coverage. Policyholders with Veterans Special Life Insurance (RW-W) and veterans reopened insurance (J,Jr, JS) may now purchase these paid up additions, SGLI,

VGLI, and VMLI have no bearing upon other Government life insurance coverage. Effective January 1, 1983, all USGLI(K) policies in a premium paying status were declared to be paid up.

Eligibility for Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance

Veterans separated from service on or after April 25, 1951, with service-connected disability but otherwise in good health may apply to V.A. for the special nonparticipating National Service Life Insurance, within 1 year from the date V.A. notifies the veteran that the disability has been rated as service-connected.

Reinstatement of Lapsed Insurance

Effective June 25, 1970, lapsed term policies may be reinstated within 5 years from the date of lapse. However, NSLI on the Limited Convertible Term Plan (Policy prefix W) may not be reinstated if the term period ended after the policyholders 50th birthday.

Lapsed permanent plan policies may be reinstated at any time except that J and Jr policies must be reinstated within 5 years from the date of lapse, and an endowment plan must be reinstated within the endowment period.

Automatic Renewal

A 5-year term policy which is not lapsed at the end of the term period is automatically renewed for an additional 5-year period except that NSLI on the Limited Convertible Term Plan (Policy prefix W) cannot be renewed after the insured's 50th birthday. The premium rate for each renewal is based on the attained age of the insured.

Convertability

Any term policy which is in force may be converted to a permanent plan if requirements are met. However, NSLI policyholders are not eligible to convert to an endowment plan while totally disabled.

Exchange of RS Policies

Veterans with "RS" 5-year term policies in force are eligible to exchange their policies for the Limited Convertible Five-year Level Premium Term Plan before insurance age 50 or convert the "RS" term insurance to one of the permanent plans of insurance.

Modified Life

Effective May 1, 1965, a Modified Life at age 65 plan of insurance became available to NSLI policyholders. Premiums for this plan remain the same throughout the premium paying period, while the face value reduces by 50 percent at age 65. If **desired**, the reduced

amount may be replaced with a special ordinary life, for additional premium.

On July 1, 1972, a new Modified Life at age 70 became available, which is similar in all respects to the Modified Life at age 65 except that the face value reduction does not occur until age 70. The premium rate is only slightly higher than for the Modified Life at age 65.

Dividends

Dividends are payable to holders of "K", "V", "RS", "W", "J", "JR", and "JS" insurance. No application is necessary as they are paid automatically on the anniversary date of the participating policy.

Guaranteed Permanent Plan Policy Values

When a permanent plan policy has had premiums paid or waived for at least one year, and it is not lapsed, the guaranteed values include cash surrender, loan and reduced paid-up provisions. If a permanent plan policy lapses after being in force for at least three months, it will automatically be extended as a term insurance - the period of this protection is determined by the net cash value of the policy. The amount of extended coverage is the face value less any indebtedness.

Policy Loans

Policy holders may borrow up to 94 percent of the cash surrender value of their permanent plan insurance and continue the insurance in force by payment of premiums.

Interest is compounded annually. The current rate of loan interest may be obtained at any V.A. office. Any existing loans granted at a previous interest rate will continue to bear the interest at that rate.

Total or Permanent Disability

NSLI policyholders who become totally disabled and are likely to remain so for 6 or more months should consult the V.A. about their entitlement to premium waiver, USGLI policyholders who become totally and permanently disabled should consult the V.A. about their right to receive the proceeds of their policies in monthly payments.

Total Disability Income Provision (TDIP).

Full information about adding the TDIP rider to a policy is available from the V.A. Regional Office and Insurance Center which maintains the veterans insurance records, or the nearest V.A. Office. The provision currently provides that NSLI policyholder will be paid \$10 per month, per \$1,000 insurance, after being totally disabled for six consecutive months (a few older riders pay \$5 per month).

In either instance disability must have been commensed before the insured reached his 60th birthday, depending on the type of the rider. USGLI policies also carry a TDIP provision. However, the amount of the monthly payment differs from that paid to NSLI policyholders. TDIP payments do not reduce the face value of the policy. Further, TDIP is not available for any policy with the prefix RH, JR, or JS.

SERVICEMEN'S GROUP

LIFE INSURANCE

For Members of the Uniformed Services

All members of the uniformed services, including cadets and midshipmen of the four service academies, are automatically insured under Servicemen's Group Life insurance (SGLI) for \$35,000, unless they elect to be coverage for a lesser amount in writing, or not to be covered at all. Full-time coverage is also provided, under certain conditions, for: (1) persons who volunteer for assignment to the Ready Reserve of a uniformed service, and (2) persons assigned to or who, upon application would be eligible for assignment to the Retired Reserve of a uniformed service and have completed at least 20 years of satisfactory service creditable for retirement purposes.

Part time coverage is provided, under certain conditions, to eligible members the Reserves who do not qualify for full-time coverage.

Premiums are deducted automatically from the members' pay, or otherwise collected from members on active duty or in the ready reserve by his or her uniformed service. Members of the Retired Reserve are required to submit premiums direct it to the Office of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (OSGLI).

Members performing full-time duty under calls or orders not limited to 30 day or less and members of the Ready Reserve who qualify for full-time coverage are covered for 120 days following separation from service, with no additional premium during 120-day period. Those members who are totally disabled at separation retain SGLI coverage up to one year or until the disability ceases to be total in degree, whichever occurs first, with no additional premium cost during this period.

Member of the Reserve who qualify for full-time coverage and who, upon application are eligible for assignment to or are assigned to the Retired Reserve, may continue their SGLI coverage after separation or release from their reserve obligation, provided the initial premium with identifying information is submitted to the Office of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance, 213 Washington Street, Newark, NJ, 07102 within 120 days following such release.

If the initial premium is not submitted within the 120 days, coverage may be granted, provided an application, V.A. Form 29-8713, evidence of insurability and the initial premium are submitted to OSGLI within 1 year after the members SGLI coverage is terminated.

VETERANS GROUP LIFE INSURANCE

SGLI may be converted to a 5-year nonrenewable coverage known as VGLI (Veterans Group Life insurance). This program is administered by OSGLI (Office of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance) 213 Washington Street, Newark, NJ 07102, and is supervised by the Veterans Administration. Coverage may be in amounts of \$35,000, \$30,000, \$25,000, \$20,000 \$15,000, \$10,000 or \$5,000, but not more than the amount of SGLI that the member had in force at the time of separation.

VGLI is available to:

(1) Individuals being released from active service duty on or after August 1, 1974;

(2) reservists who, while performing active duty or inactive duty for training under a call or order specifying a period of less than 31 days, suffer an injury or disability which renders them uninsurable at standard premium rates.

Members on active duty entitled to full-time SGLI coverage can convert to VGLI by submitting the premium before the end of 120 days following the date of separation from service - with the insurance made effective the 121st day. If the veteran, unless totally disabled, does not submit the premium within 120 days, the veteran may be granted VGLI provided initial premium and evidence of insurability are submitted within 1 year after the veteran's SGLI coverage is terminated. Insurance will be effective on the date the premium is received in OSGLI.

Members with full-time SGLI coverage who are totally disabled at the time of separation and whose service makes them eligible for VGLI may purchase this insurance while remaining totally disabled up to 1 year following separation. The effective date of VGLI will be at the end of the 1 year period following separation or the date the disability ends, whichever is earlier, but in no event prior to 120 days after separation.

Members insured under part-time SGLI coverage who incur a disability or aggravate a pre-existing disability during a Reservist active or inactive period can, within the 120 day period following the period during which the disability was incurred or aggravated,

apply for VGLI - with the insurance made effective on the 121st day. Totally disabled members must submit proof of disability with an application and the first premium, within the time limits given above. As persons separate from active duty, reenlist, and effect other changes in duty status, some persons will be eligible for both SGLI and VGLI. Any former member insured under VGLI who may again become eligible for SGLI is automatically insured under the SGLI program. Both plans can be participated in if it is advantageous to the individual as long as the combined amount of SGLI and VGLI does not exceed \$35,000 at any one time.

VGLI is not available to Retired Reservists or to members of the Ready Reserve who qualify for full-time coverage.

An insured under VGLI has the right to convert to an individual commercial policy at standard premium rates, regardless of health, with any of the participating companies licensed to do business in the veteran's state. The individual policy will be effective the date after the insured's VGLI terminates at the end of the five-year term period. The OSGLI will advise the insured of the impending date of termination and additional information regarding the conversion of VGLI to an individual policy.

Veterans wanting further information may contact their nearest V.A. office, or write to the Office of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance.

VETERANS MORTGAGE LIFE INSURANCE

For Totally Disabled Veterans with Special Adapted Housing Grants

Effective August 11, 1971, PL 92-95 established a program of group type mortgage life insurance for those who have been granted or will be granted a specially adapted housing grant. Public Law 94-433 increased the maximum amount of this insurance to \$40,000 effective October 1, 1976. Protection is automatic unless eligible veterans decline in writing or fail to respond to a final request for information on which their premium can be based. Premiums are automatically deducted from V.A. benefit payments or paid direct, if the veteran does not draw compensation, and will continue until the mortgage (up to the maximum amount of insurance) has been liquidated, or the home is sold, or until the veteran reaches 70, or dies. If a mortgage is disposed of through liquidation or sale of the property, any unused portion of the life insurance coverage may be used on the mortgage of a second or subsequent home.

**DEPENDENCY
AND
IDEMNITY COMPENSATION (DIC)**
(May be selected in lieu of death compensation)
For Survivors of Deceased Veterans

Coverage

(a) Death due to Service-Connected Disability - DIC payments are authorized for surviving spouses, unmarried children under 18 (as well as certain helpless children and those between 18 and 23 if attending a V.A.-approved school), and certain parents of service personnel or veterans who die on or after January 1, 1957, from: (1) a disease or injury incurred or aggravated in line of duty for training; or (2) an injury incurred or aggravated in line of duty while on inactive duty training; or (3) a disability otherwise compensable under laws administered by V.A. Death cannot be the result of willful misconduct.

(b) Death Due to Nonservice-Connected Cause - DIC payments are also authorized for surviving spouses, unmarried children under 18 (as well as certain helpless children and those between 18 and 23 if attending a V.A. - approved school) of certain veterans who were totally service-connected disabled at time of death and whose deaths were not the result of their service-connected disability if (1) the veteran was continuously rated totally disabled for a period of ten (10) or more years or (2) if so rated for less than ten (10) years, was so rated for a period of not less than five (5) years from the time of discharge from military service. Payments under this provision are subject to offset by the amount received from judicial proceedings brought on account of the veteran's death.

If death occurred after service, the veteran's discharge must have been under conditions other than dishonorable.

Definition of Surviving Spouse

(a) Date of Marriage - To qualify, a surviving spouse must have married the veteran within 15 years after the termination of the period of service in which the injury or disease causing death was incurred or aggravated - or must have been married for one year or more, or for any period of time if a child was born of or before the marriage.

(b) Residence With Veteran - The surviving spouse must have lived continuously with the veteran from the time of marriage until the veteran's death, except where there was a separation due to misconduct of, or procured by, the veteran without fault on the spouse's part.

(c) Surviving Spouse Remarriage

Remarriage makes a surviving spouse ineligible based on the death of that veteran unless the purported remarriage was void, has been annulled, or terminates in death or divorce. A surviving spouse may also be ineligible if, after the death of the veteran, she or he has lived with another man or woman and held herself or himself out openly to the public to be the spouse. Should such relationship terminate, she or he may re-apply for benefits.

(d) Purported Marriage - If she or he meets the other qualifications, a person who married a veteran without knowing that a legal impediment to the marriage existed may be eligible for compensation under certain conditions.

There are additional payments for children.

The monthly rates of DIC for parents depend upon the income of the parents and whether there is only 1 parent, 2 parents not living together or 2 parents together or remarried with spouse. The income limit for 2 parents together or remarried and with spouse. The income limit for 2 parents together or remarried and with spouse is \$8,435, that for 1 parent or 2 parents not together is \$6,273.

Aid and Attendance

Surviving spouses, and parents receiving DIC may be granted a special allowance for aid and attendance if they are: patients in a nursing home or require the regular aid and attendance of another person. The allowance is \$134 monthly payable in addition to the DIC rate for a surviving spouse and \$135 monthly additional for a parent receiving DIC.

Housebound

Surviving spouses qualified for DIC who are not so disabled as to require the regular aid and attendance of another person but who due to disability are permanently housebound may be granted a special allowance of \$66 monthly in addition to the DIC rate otherwise payable.

Where to Apply. Any V.A. Office.

Eligibility and Nature of Benefit

Benefits are payable to certain survivors of deceased veterans who died of service-connected causes incurred or aggravated prior to August 13, 1981. The benefits are similar to the benefits for students and surviving spouses with children between ages 16 and 18 which were eliminated from the Social Security Act. The benefits are payable in addition to any other benefits to which the family may also be entitled. The amount of benefits is based on information obtained from the Social Security Administration.

Where to Apply. Any V.A. Office.

TO ORDER SHIRTS AND CAPS

PRINT NAME _____ (or address label)

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\$5.50 Each

(Postage and Handling Included)

Contact the Association Office

Requests FOR A REPRINT OF THUNDERBOLT ACROSS EUROPE. CHECK CENTER FOLD IN THIS ISSUE AND PLACE YOUR ORDER NOW. YOU MAY SEND IN A PERSONAL STORY OF YOURSELF AND FAMILY TO BE PRINTED IN THIS BOOK. BE A PART OF IT.

DELINQUENT DUES NOTICE

This will serve as the official notification to those of you who have not paid your dues for the year 85/86, which are due on or before August 1st, 1986.

Please refer to your 83rd membership card. If it shows August 1985, and you have not paid your dues in the last month, you are delinquent. So, please respond immediately and provide the financial support that is needed for the continuity of your association.

On the other hand, if you are in such financial circumstances that you require assistance, please notify your Secretary so that a confidential notation can be placed on your record, and we will continue your membership.

Our thanks go out to all of you who responded promptly to our dues requests, and to the many of you who so generously contributed additional amounts to help a buddy. It is our sincere hope that those who have not paid their dues to date, will be taking care of this in the very near future.

Bob Derickson, Exec. Sec'y-Treasurer.

Reunion will be held at the HYATT REGENCY HOTEL in KNOXVILLE, TN. The dates are August 21, 22 23, 1986. Start making your plans to attend the 40th Reunion.

85-86 DUES ARE DUE NOW!!

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

**Robert Derickson
3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, OH 45013**

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, Inc.

3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, OH 45013



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Company Regiment 83rd Division

Phone No. Renewal New

Please Enclose A Check or Money Order.

DUES \$10.00 PAYABLE TO:

★ ★

ROBERT DERICKSON
3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

OFFICE PHONE:
513-863-2199

DATE SIGNATURE

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

**83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
40th ANNUAL REUNION AUGUST 21, 22, 23, 1986**

**HYATT REGENCY OF KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE
WELCOMES the 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION**

These rates are available to the 83rd people August 19 to August 25, 1986.
Only one reservation card is requested when sharing accommodations.
Reservations will be held until 6 P.M. unless accompanied by a deposit for one night to guarantee your room.
Room rates are subject to current sales tax.
(Deadline date for Reservations to the Hyatt Regency is July 19, 1986)
All deposits payable to Hyatt Regency Hotel and are refundable until 6 P.M. on the arrival date.

**CLIP AND MAIL
YOUR RESERVATION TODAY**

Anyone interested in a suite will have to make a request for it separately by letter to the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

SUITES:
Petite \$84/\$94
Bi-Level \$225/\$300
Side by side \$165
This is on a per day basis

HYATT REGENCY  KNOXVILLE

Reservation Request 500 Hill Avenue
Knoxville, TN 37901

Please Print
Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____ Number of Nights _____
1 Person \$50 2 Persons \$50 3 Persons \$54 4 Persons \$54
Children under 19 occupying room with parents, no additional charge.

Name _____ Phone () _____
Address _____ City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Credit Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____
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Unit _____ Handicapped? _____
83rd Infantry Division
August 19-25, 1986

Sharing With _____

**YOUR TENTATIVE PACKAGE DEAL FOR THE 1986 REUNION
IF APPROVED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD THE FIRST WEEK-END OF MAY**

THIS IS ON A THREE DAY BASIS FOR 1 PERSON	ON A THREE DAY BASIS FOR 2 PEOPLE
\$150 for Room Rent & Current Sales Tax.	\$150 for Room Rent & Current Sales Tax.
<u>\$90 for 6 meals and other reunion expenses.</u>	<u>\$180 for 12 meals and other reunion expenses.</u>
\$240 TOTAL PACKAGE	\$330 TOTAL PACKAGE

TOTAL PACKAGE STARTS THURSDAY DINNER THROUGH SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Early Arrival Days and Lunches are on Your Own.

EARLY BIRD RESERVATION FORM • WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 1986

"An Evening in OLD APPALACHIA"

A trip through a pioneer settlement

Tennessee Barbecue Supper

Old Time Mountain and Bluegrass Music on Stage

Cost \$25.00 Per Person
Complete and mail to:

Carroll B. Brown
Route 4, Nubbin Hill Farm
Sweetwater, TN 37874

By AUGUST 1, 1986

Enclosed is Payment of \$ _____ For _____ Persons

Name _____

Address Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____

Signature _____

83rd INFANTRY DIVISION

The 83rd Infantry Division Association Incorporated was formed by three men (all residents of the District of Columbia and Citizens of the United States). They are Alan F. S. Mackenzie, Gurney S. Jaynes, and Daniel G. Hagman. This organization's birth date was in 1946 and is having it's 40th Reunion in Knoxville, Tennessee August 21-22-23, 1986.

The 83rd Infantry Division Association holds a reunion every year at different locations through the United States. By doing this it allows more men to have the opportunity to attend regularly. Now we are finding that our attendance is growing larger and larger since we have more fellows retiring and less family responsibilities. It is a wonderful sight and feeling to see these men meet up with old buddies they haven't seen since they were discharged. You can also make a lot of new friends that helped make the Division have the outstanding record it owns. From the time it landed on the Omaha Beach and Utah Beaches through Normandy, Ardennes, Brittany, Rhineland and Central Europe where we ended up 40 to 50 miles short of Berlin to wait for the Russians to join us at the Elbe River.

Now we would like you members out there to take this center fold page from your book to the editor of your local newspaper or broadcasting facilities in your vicinity. That way we can pass the information about our reunion on to those 83rd men who do not know about this organization. They may wish to join our organization or go to a reunion to meet a buddy they haven't seen for a long time.

We would like to thank you in advance for doing this and for helping us make the 83rd Association even greater.

Please send any request for information to:

Robert Derickson
National Secretary & Treasurer
National Headquarters
83rd Infantry Division Association
3749 Stahlheber Road
Hamilton, Ohio 45013

or

Stanley Bielen
Executive Board Chairman
83rd Infantry Division Association
71 Glenwood Terrace
Fords, New Jersey 08863

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

Name _____ Unit _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

(Please Type or Print Your AD Clearly In This Space, or On Reverse Side of Form)

PLEASE CIRCLE the size of AD you prefer.

FULL PAGE @ \$60.00 HALF PAGE @ \$35.00 QUARTER PAGE @ \$18.00

BOOSTER ADS are \$5.00.
Make check payable to:
83rd Infantry Division Association

Send Ads and Checks to:
William M. Minick
Dixie Chapter, 83rd Division
R.R. #2
Kenards, SC 29355



Golf Tournament

Man's Name _____ Paul Bryars
2840 Ross-Hanover Rd. Lot 4
Hamilton, Ohio 45013
Woman's Name _____

All Those Interested In The Golf Tournament During Our 40th Reunion Please Return This Form To Paul Bryars.