



# THE TARO LEAF



24th Infantry (Victory) Division Veterans' Association

VOLUME I

AUGUST 1947

NUMBER 1

## N. E. QUICK TO FORM ASSOCIATION CHAPTER

The New England chapter of the 24th Infantry (Victory) Division, Veterans' Association, launched its career with a reunion dinner at the Narragansett Hotel, Providence, R. I., on March 15th. About seventy veterans from Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Massachusetts attended. The affair was stag. There was a fine spirit displayed by all present.

Maj. Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer, a former commanding general of the Division and President of the Association, was the principal speaker. He reviewed the exploits of the Division during its campaigns in the Pacific and urged support for a move to enlarge the membership of the Association. He was introduced by M/Sgt Neil Young, Hqs. 19th Inf., now at 220 Washington St., Whitman, Mass. Edmund F. Henry, formerly of Division Hqs., Secretary-Treasurer of the Association, was chairman of the committee on arrangements.

Combat films of the invasion of Leyte were shown. Messages of greeting were dispatched to Generals Irving, Woodruff and Lester.

A committee to carry out plans for the New England Chapter was named as follows: James G. Fairbrother, Hqs. 2nd Bn 34th, 143 Sayles Ave., Pascoag, R. I.; Raymond G. Ford, Div. Arty, 181 Cabot St., Newton, Mass.; Richard H. Friedman 19th Inf., 193 Hobart St., Newton, Mass.; Ben. A. Govan, Hqs 34th, 102 High St., Everett, Mass.; William J. Hynes, 19th Inf., 32 Arnold St., Methuen, Mass.; John F. McQuillan, 34th and Asst. G-4, 24 Stevens St., Methuen, Mass.; F. X. Randles, 34th Inf., 137 Milbrook Drive, East Hartford, Conn.; James Russell, Cn Co., 19th, 40 Cottage St., Pawtucket, R. I.

Others who attended were: August Baccari, 19th Inf., 286 Saw Mill River Rd., Briarcliff, N. Y.; James A. McGaffigan, 19th Inf., 548 LaGrange St., West Roxbury, Mass.; Jos. Ciccio, Div. Hqs., 1550 Center St., Roslindale, Mass.; John F. Leddy, 24th Med. Bn., 12 Pine St., Pawtucket, R. I.; Guerson D. Silverberg, Div. Hqs. 257 Main St., Norwich, Conn.; John F. McKenney, 19th, 15 Third St., Old Orchard, Me.; Sherwood C. Haskins, 21st Inf., 200 Harris St., Revere, Mass.; Wm. H. Muldoon, Co. E, 19th, 59 Mt. Vernon St., Brighton, Mass.; Jos. H. Belhumeur, 21st Inf., 261 Burnside St., Woonsocket, R. I.; Jack Griefen, Div. Hqs. 470 Salisbury St., Worcester, Mass.; Victor Pugliesi, Co. C, 21st, 83 Mass. Ave., Quincy, Mass.; Nello DiTullio, L Co., 19th, 104 Lancaster St., Quincy, Mass.; Hugh Eramo, AT Co., 34th, So. Artery, Quincy, Mass.; James DiDonato, Co. B, 21st, 64 Richardson St., Wakefield, Mass.; Peter Digiacomo, Co. C, 21st, 110 Lancaster St., Quincy, Mass.; Jos. Iosua, Hqs Co., 19th, 9 Wiley Place, Wakefield, Mass.; Walter Bennett, 24th QM Co., Brookfield, Mass.; Henry Olson, 19th Inf., 50 Prescott St., Readville, Mass.; Wm. D. Burleson, 268 Walnut St., Williamatic, Conn.; Gus Doras, 21st Inf., 134 Lockwood St., Providence, R. I.; Wm. F. McGuirl, 21st, 138 Royal St., Providence, R. I.; Edgar St. John, K Co. 21st 46 Terrace Ave., Warren, R. I.; James Maguire, 19th Inf., 198 Newfield Ave., Bridgeport, Conn.; Charles J. Flanagan, AT Co., 34th, 80 Chapin St., Holyoke, Mass.; Nino DiGregorio, AT Co., 34th, Wappingers Falls, N.

### THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

The 24th Infantry Division has a proud record of accomplishment on many fields of battle.

During the years in which it served, many close friendships were formed only to be temporarily dissipated as we were scattered far and wide on demobilization.

Formed to preserve these ties of comradeship, your Division Association affords the best possible means of maintaining these battlefield friendships.

This little publication will bring you news of many.

We ask you to support the publication and your Association. Tell us what you are doing; give us news of your friends; and join the Association. Help us to preserve those friendships and to perpetuate the achievements of the 24th.

Cordially,

**KENNETH F. CRAMER,**  
Major General  
President.

Y.; Wilbert A. LeCours, Cn Co., 34th, 465 Newton St., So. Hadley, Mass.; Frederick L. Cole, 34th Med. Det., 109 Middle St., Riverside, R. I.; Robert W. Griswold, Div. Hqs., RFD No. 3, Attleboro, Mass.; Arthur Mitchell, Co. E, 21st, 17 Haverhill St., Brockton, Mass.; Robert Johnston, 21st, 598 Turnpike St., Stoughton, Mass.; W. T. Desmond, Sv Co., 34th, 30 Putnam St., Somerville, Mass.; Lawrence M. Neylon, Hqs. 2nd Bn, 34th, 10 Laurel St., Somerville, Mass.; Michael Demyan, 34th Inf., 530 Jane St., Bridgeport, Conn.; Christopher Arndt, 24th Recn Troop, No. Scituate, R. I.; Leo Rohidoux, Hqs. Co., 34th, 32 Quequechan St., Fall River, Mass.; Harold L. Cohen, Hqs. Co., 34th, 173 Sumter St., Providence, R. I.; Frank Zenga, 34 Inf., Forge Rd., East Greenwich, R. I.; Walter Redfield, 19th Inf., 42 Black Rock Ave., Bridgeport, Conn.; Carl Schank, 19th Inf., 443 Union Ave., Bound Brook, N. J.; Albert Roehrig, Div. Arty, 265 Greendale Ave., Needham Heights, Mass.; Howard Richardson, 724th Ord. Co., 244 Park St., Attleboro, Mass.

### JAP SABER DEAL

In January 1945, while the Division was in Matsuyama, the CG set aside 5000 Jap sabers for veterans whose service was prior to the occupation. They were not age-old samurai swords, but they were fine souvenirs. The news was given considerable publicity in the USA, and many requests were received. However, before the sabers could be boxed and mailed in any large number, a directive from higher headquarters clamped down on the mailing of souvenirs. The Division Ordnance Officer was able to beat the dead-line in some cases, to keep faith with those who had sent the money for postage, but the number was actually small.

If you were one of those disappointed, please understand that everyone had the best of intentions, but performance was rendered impossible by these circumstances, after the offer was made.

## FIRST ISSUE OF THE TARO LEAF; NEXT UP TO YOU

This is the first issue of "THE TARO LEAF" It will be issued quarterly. The name was really sweated out. We received many suggestions such as The Poi Leaf, The Taro Leaflet, The Alang-alang Clarion, Hoi-Poi, V-Mail, Veescripts, Oahu Wahoo, Tarogram, Tarograph, etc.

We also were in receipt of several ribald suggestions. The name chosen seems appropriate, but we have no pride in authorship. If you have a better one, let's have it.

We also invite suggestions as to form and substance and welcome contributions of material. If you want to locate a friend, use our columns at no charge, so long as we have the space. We feel that "Call Me Mister" will be a popular feature. Please help us to keep it up by sending in names and addresses—yours and your friends. Marriages, births, news of your present business and occupation—these are the things we want, because we think that you will like to read them. Our editorials and pronouncements will be kept at a minimum. News of what is going on in the old outfit and news of your old buddies will be emphasized—and always, names and addresses.

THE TARO LEAF will be mailed to all members of the Association. If you have received a copy and are not yet a member, it was sent in the hope that you will fill out the application blank elsewhere in the paper. The membership is not yet on a sufficiently broad base to justify the expense and the tremendous amount of work required to print the paper. If you think it is worthwhile, the editors and officers, who are all volunteers in the task of trying to maintain, through the Association, the comradeship engendered during the war years, earnestly solicit your support.

So, "Comment Invited". Let's hear from you—and send in your membership application if you want to hear from us.

## NATIONAL CONCLAVE IN 1947 IS URGED

Many of the members have expressed a desire for a Convention this year. This may be a large order but it certainly has desirable features.

The present officers are serving on a temporary basis. Only a Convention can elect permanent ones.

Moreover, the Constitution provides for an executive board to function as the prime governing body between conventions, and only a convention can implement this. Besides, only a convention can authorize expenditures over and above those necessary for publicizing and promoting the Association.

It may be that Organization Day, October 1st, would be an appropriate time. As to the place, there would certainly be any number of suggestions. But this is merely thinking aloud. If there is marked sentiment for it, we would like to hear from you at once, since arrangements would have to be underway very soon.

## THE TARO LEAF

Issued quarterly by the 24th Infantry (Victory)  
Division Veterans' Association  
JAMES G. FAIRBROTHER, Editor

### TO THE BEST

Few good things come out of war.

But there is one golden gift which military service leaves with us all—a number of deep friendships.

These are not the ordinary polite acquaintanceships of everyday business and social contact. They are comradeships sealed by the sharing of danger, hardship and sacrifice.

They should not be allowed to die.

Most of us who made up the war-time 24th Infantry Division have been separated for two years or more. In trying to fit back into civilian life we have been busy trying to catch up. We have put into the background everything not absolutely essential to attainment of our post-war aims.

Perhaps some of us haven't wanted to be reminded of the dripping New Guinea jungles or the blood-smeared abaca on Mindanao.

But now that time has softened things, and we have had a little while to settle ourselves, let's reserve a few minutes every once in a while to re-establish these friendships we have allowed to wane—to write that card or letter, or make that telephone call we have been putting off.

After all, it was the finest bunch of fighting men in the world.

### OUR OFFICERS

Here are your Association officers elected at Matsuyama, Japan, on 29 Nov. 1945 by representatives of organic units of the Division.

#### President

Maj. Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer  
Asst. Div. Commander and, later D. C.  
Brainard Field, Hartford, Conn.

#### Vice-Presidents

Col. Dwight E. Beach  
Exec. Div. Arty.  
FA School, Ft. Leavenworth, Kan.  
Raymond E. Haynes  
S/Sgt. Co. B. 21st  
Greensburg, Kan.  
Sgt. Walter B. Himes  
13th FA

5 Prospect St. Apt. 939, New York City

#### Secretary-Treasurer

CWO Edmund F. Henry  
JA Section, Div. Hqs.  
402-410 First National Bank Building  
Attleboro, Mass.

The Association shares the law offices of the Secretary-Treasurer. Hence, the location of Headquarters in Attleboro, Mass., a circumstance that has puzzled many of you. Please have in mind that these officers are only temporary—to serve until a Convention can meet and elect a regular slate.

### INFORMATION PLEASE

KEATING, WM. JR., Vets Hospital, Ward 9, Tucson, Ariz. would like to hear from men who served with him at Schofield Barracks in Co's G. and H, 21st Inf.

MATHIS, WM. F., Pvt. Co. A, 21st, KIA, 7 Nov. 44 on Leyte. His mother, Dora, RFD No. 1, Grantsburg, Ill. would like to hear from some of his buddies.

LAWSON, R. H., Lt. Col., former G-2 and C/S, now at TGCS, Ft. Riley, Kan. hears that personnel of G-2 section are circulating a round-robin letter. Asks if he can qualify for membership.

MATLEY, ROBERT E., Pvt., Co. C, 34th, KIA 6 May 45 near Rancal, Mindanao. His father, Amos Matley, Box 2, Camp Wood Rte., Prescott, Ariz. would like more details from friends of his son. Also asks for address of Father Moran, 34th Chaplain.

## THE DIVISION BOOKSHELF

CHILDREN OF YESTERDAY (429pp.)—  
Jan Valtin—Readers Press (\$3.), New York City

The author, writing under the pseudonym Jan Valtin, is one Richard J. Krebs, former PFC in the 24th Division PRO Section. His generous offer to donate the major portion of royalties from the book was a prime factor in prompting Maj. Gen. Woodruff to call together representatives from all units of the Division at Talomo Beach, Mindanao, P. I., to form the Association.

To date more than \$1300 has already been received and placed on deposit to the credit of the Association. Krebs specifically earmarked the monies accrued "for use toward relief of minor children of 24th Division soldiers killed in action."

The first edition has been pretty well sold out although some copies are still available at The Infantry Journal, 1115 Seventeenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Krebs is presently living in Betterton, Md. He was recently admitted to U. S. citizenship.

The review of his book which follows was written by Lloyd Price, former Division PRO, with whom Krebs worked. He is now back at his old job with the Dallas, Texas, News.

"Through the dust of Mindoro and the bloody sweat-drenched months of the final Philippines campaign on Mindanao, Private First Class Richard J. Krebs labored over a book about the men of the 24th Division.

"Children of Yesterday" is that book—a story of battle written in battle. It is as hard for me to write about it objectively as it is to think of Krebs as Jan Valtin. I was too close to them both for too long. But I think that few men who served in the jungles will disagree that into these pages Valtin has packed all the deadly monotony and high excitement; the despair and heroism, the savagery and the sacrifice of a ground soldier's life in combat.

Mindanao was a harsh campaign. We moved almost constantly through the beating rain and

*Continued on Page 4, Col. 3*



# CHILDREN OF YESTERDAY

BY JAN VALTIN

The colorful, fast-reading account of your outfit, the Division which won its name in the bitterest, most wearing fighting of World War II.

At thirty-eight, Jan Valtin was assigned to the 24th Infantry Division, and covered the story of that top-notch fighting outfit from a vantage point inaccessible to civilian reporters. Valtin was granted access to the official field reports, and to the material which he and his fellow-soldiers of the 24th Division Public Relations Office gathered by themselves. Out of this material he has woven a remarkable story of the men of an infantry division in combat.

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## CALL ME MISTER

Fuller, PFC Gerald A., Cn. Co., 34th, manages a super-market at Lowell, Mass., and lives at 200 Grand St.

Davidson, Lt. Col. Wm. V., Asst. G-2, in wholesale produce business in Swedesboro, N. J. Sent in a check to start THE TARO LEAF going. Married Lorna Leah of Brisbane, Australia, 12 Oct. '46.

Muldoon, PFC W. H., Co. E, 19th, works for B. & A. RR. Lives at 25 Foster St., Brighton, Mass. Recently married Mary Connell of Pennsylvania, sister of a buddy, PFC John Connell, who was KIA outside Palo on 22 Oct. '44.

Duff, Capt. Robert J., Asst. G-4, associated with R. R. Duff & Sons, contractors, and lives at 1645 N. Franklin St., Danville, Ill.

Winerip, T/5 Carl E., Hqs. Co., 3rd Bn., 19th, married Jeanne Steelman of Linwood, N. J. on 9 June '46, and works in Vets. Admr. in Boston. Home: 566 Shirley St., Winthrop, Mass. Lost a leg at Panacan and heads a club of amputees in Boston.

Young, M/Sgt. Neil, Hqs. S-3, 19th, is in shoe business and resides at 220 Washington St., Whitman, Mass. Encountering the housing shortage and says his next move is into a squad tent.

McMurray, S/Sgt. John P., Div. Hqs. (JA), has again taken up his duties as Asst. DA of Inyo County, Independence, Calif. Recently married.

Stanley, Cpl. Geo. H., Co. I 21st, at 487 10th St., Brooklyn, N. Y. Many of you in Item will receive this issue because of him. He sent in 65 names and addresses of his buddies.

Arndt, Christopher H., 24th Recn. Tr., in business for himself as a carpenter in No. Scituate, R. I. First man in Troop to be wounded in action, 23 Oct. at Leyte.

Carpenter, Col. Alva C., Div. JA, although now a civilian is still Chief of Legal Section, SCAP, at GHQ, APO 500, Tokyo. Commutes between Manila and Japan. As Gen. MacArthur's legal advisor, he arranged trials of Yamashita, Horuma, and many other Jap war criminals.

Richardson, Capt. Howard W., 724th Ord. Co., helps operate foundry, a family business, and lives at 244 Park St., Attleboro, Mass. On 16 March '46 married Jean Church of LaCrosse, Wis., former dietitian in 248th General Hospital. They met in Brisbane.

Fields, Dale W., Co. C, 19th, 923 Ohio St., Lawrence, Kan., asks when we can have a national reunion.

Hyde, Maj. Robert J., Med. Detachment, 19th, now practicing as MD at 76 Sargeant St., Lawrence, Mass. Charter member of the Association.

McCabe, John C., Hqs. Co. 2nd Bn., 34th, of 22 Roselyn Terrace, San Francisco 18, would like to hear from fellow-veterans in his vicinity.

Wright, John K., Co. G, 19th, a charter member by application through his Dad, Curtis Wright, Postmaster at Michigan, N. Dakota. Father says his son was wounded at Davao and hospitalized at Birmingham Vets. Hospital, Van Nuys, Calif., paraplegic ward, but may be home at this writing.

Short, Capt. James K., AG Section, now at 1401 Halloway Ave., San Francisco.

Stolzenberg, S/Sgt. Otto M., Div. Hqs. (JA), returned to job in offices of Armour Co., and lives at 823 Church Lane, Phila. 38, Penn. An ardent booster of the Association, he has volunteered for an immense amount of the clerical work.

Rubenstein, Frank Jay, Co. A, 19th, has been attending University of Illinois. Address: 512 E. Daniel St., Champaign, Ill.

Carpaneto, T/Sgt. Stephen, Hqs. 19th, 1719-63 St., Brooklyn, N. Y. Has sent in several names and addresses—typed, too. The Secretary's thanks!

## MOTHER'S THANKS

Mrs. R. Monaco, 232 W. 16th St., Port Arthur, Texas, writes to Association headquarters:

"I wish to thank you very kindly for myself and family for the interest you have taken in trying to find out something about my son, Pvt. James A. Monaco, Co. A, 19th, killed in action during the Leyte invasion, October 20, 1944. Also accept my sincere thanks for taking time to write to the various boys who were kind enough to reply, thanking them for their thoughtfulness."

Her original request for detailed information about her son's death was sent to non-coms of Co. A, 19th. As her thanks prove, the response was whole-hearted. The mother was assured by an eye-witness that her son did not suffer. He was shot through the head on Red Beach almost immediately on landing, being one of the first men killed in the Philippine Liberation Campaign.

Among those who wrote to this gold-star mother were: Dalton Day, Istrouma, La.; Walter R. Burton, Box 44, Cambridge, Md.; Lewis A. Hunt, 421 E. 7th St., Topeka, Kan.; Harlen D. Sundquist, Sacred Heart, Minn.; Julius Jozs, 4727 Springvells, Detroit; Angelo Martini, 124 N. Jefferson, Kittanning, Penn.; and Rudolph O. Ronning, Bagley, Minn.

Cook, Capt. David, 63rd FA, has returned to the practice of law in Wewoka, Okla.

Falker, Lt. Col. John M., CO 24th Med. Bn. and DSO, is practicing medicine at 222 So. Hickory St., Mt. Carmel, Penn. Sent in names of many medics.

Butler, Walter R., Co. A, 21st, would like buddies to write to him, at Vershire, Vt.

Clark, Cpl. Lester L., Co. F, 19th, of Rte. 1, Box 241B, Pullerton, Calif., says the same.

Eustachy, Roger L., 2126 St. Jalath Ave., Oakland 2, Calif., likewise.

Cunningham, Lt. Col. Walter, AG, can be reached at Drury College, Springfield, Mo., or 625 So. Clinton St., Iowa City, Iowa. Says he saw Jos. Badaracco, Asst. AG, in St. Louis recently, and that Joe had recently taken a degree in law and become engaged—but otherwise had been behaving himself.

Espy, Jamie G., Sv. Btry., 63rd FA, 328 Cherry St., Eufaula, Ala., sent in an inquiry re the Association about which he had read in the Army Times.

Franco, John E., Co. D, 24th Med. Bn. is on the staff at the Boston City Hospital. Home Address: 5 Gloucester St., Boston.

Goeas, Maj. Richard B., G-4, sent in membership application from 915 Green St., Honolulu 25, and these addresses: Robert Wai, 1144 9th Ave., Honolulu, and Robert Sur, 104 Makawea St., Wahiwa, Oahu.

Falbo, M/Sgt. Joseph, Sv. Co., 34th, is at 1605 W. Meinecke Ave., Milwaukee 6, Wis.

## DECALCOMANIA

Lt. Col. R. H. Lawson, of Ft. Riley, says that William D. Lynch, 107 1/2 No. Santa Fe, Salina, Kan., makes decals of division insignia to affix to glasses, etc. Lynch has an assortment but not including the 24th. Neither Lt. Col. Lawson nor the Association is going into the merchandising business, but it may be that if enough thirsty souls are interested at 15c. apiece, Lynch might put ours in stock.

Koenig, Capt. A. Bertram, 24th QM Co., can be reached at 4547 Old York Rd., Philadelphia 40, Penn.

White, Arthur P., Co. M, 34th, is at home in Clayton, Ala.

Weller, Major Lewis J., DSO, is practicing medicine in Osceola, Wis. Would like to hear from Ferguson, Braden, and Hained, all MC.

Sander, T/5 Paul A., Box 32, Old Glory, Texas. He was in Co. G, 19th.

Thorell, Alfred L., Co. G, 19th, of A. R. Thorell Supply Co., Stuttgart, Arkansas, says of "Children of Yesterday": "It is a story in black and white which I never thought any one would have the courage to tell."

Winkler, Capt. Herbert L., Div. JA, is practicing law in Wilkes-Barre, Penn., at 21 So. Franklin St.

Kaye, Maj. Wm. A., Asst. G-4, is living at 465 17th Ave., San Francisco 21. Back in former job as Chemical Engineer for the Paraffine Companies, Inc. Sails around the Bay in a small boat called the Taro.

Kresky, Lt. Raymond R., 24 Recn. Tr., at 14417 So. Michigan Ave., Chicago 27.

Jungjohan, W. J., Co. K, 19th, a member of the Association who lives at 804 Beach St., Valparaiso, Ind., wants the address of a buddy, Chris Pishue.

Jensen, M/Sgt. Edward, has returned to his former employer, Borden Co., and is now at District Supervisor, living in Oxford, N. Y.

Compere, Lt. Col. Thomas H., G-1, can be addressed at 163 Clifton St., Highland Park, Ill.

Luzinas, Dan, Hqs. Btry., 52d FA, of 621 Oak Park, Ill., wants to subscribe to the Association paper. Copy of this first issue is being sent.

Labay, John L., member of Co. G, 19th, for 39 months, wants to hear from some of the boys. He's at El Campo, Texas.

McGinty, Capt. James, QM Co., intends to practice law in Los Angeles. His address: 5315 Coney Rd. Los Angeles 32.

Martin, Jess Willard, Co. C, 34th, says there are not many vets of the 24th in Old Hickory, Tenn., where he lives at 107 1/2 Keaton Ave., and he would like to hear from some of the boys.

Grube, Capt. Harry T., Hqs., 34th, reports his address as 3245 Forest Manor, Indianapolis, Ind., and says that M/Sgt. Shackelford, of G-1, is a reporter for the Indianapolis News and can be reached there.

Howard, Lt. Col. Leon E., FO, is living at 3546 Mountain View Ave., Pasadena 10, Calif. He's back in the banking business.

Russell, Lt. James, Cn. Co, 19th, is back with his old boss, a public utility in Pawtucket, R. I., and lives at 40 Cottage St. He is still single, but fighting a losing battle.

Hewitt, Maj. Walter, Div. Special Service, at 56 So. Main St., Oakland, N. Y. We suspect he has something to do with the school system.

Loerbs, Carl H., Co. M, 34th, is a charter member. Address: 229 East 84th St., New York 28.

Jankowski, John J., Hqs., 19th, of 16 Wardwell Ct., Southbridge, Mass., earns the thanks of the Secretary for the names and addresses that he has sent to Association Headquarters.

Mason, Maj. Julien J., Div. JA and Civil Affairs Officer, is practicing law in association with Sen. T. H. Blanton in Bowling Green, Va. Mason was JA when Association was formed at Talomo Beach and gave valuable legal advice in the matter of implementing plans for its organization.

Mast, Wellington B., Sv. Co., 21st, of 156 West Oley St., Reading, Penn., passes on information that Capt. Paul A. Becker, Hqs. 21st, is living at 7 Princeton Ave., Lancaster, Penn. That's the way to build up the mailing list.

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## FOR THESE THE WAR GOES ON

Lawson, Lt. Col. Richard H., G-2 and C/S, now at TGGs, Ft. Riley, Kan. Two years as chief of Division of Intelligence. Under orders for 5 months course at Armed Forces Staff College. Instructors in his department are Lt. Cols. George Dickerson, G-3, and Gaynor Hathaway, G-2.

Chapman, Lt. Col. George, Ex. O and CO 19th, now at C & G S School but shortly to be at office of Chief of Staff, Washington, D. C.

Dahlen, Lt. Col. Chester A., Ex. O and CO 34th, at C & G S School.

Read, Maj. Beverly, Asst. G-2. Recently integrated into US Army from his position as professor at William and Mary College, Williamsburg, Va.

Salisbury, Maj. Howard G., Div. PM., integrated into US Army and stationed at MP School, USFET, APO 751, c/o Postmaster New York.

Wheeler, Lt. Col. Lester L., G-3, G-2, and CO 34th, instructor in tactics at West Point.

Szabados, T/Sgt. Joseph S., 19th, at 5014 US D. B. Guard Co., Milwaukee, Wis. A charter member of the Association.

Zierath, Lt. Col. Fred R., G-3, at West Point, but under orders to attend Armed Forces Staff College.

Spragins, Lt. Col. Robert S., at West Point.

Newman, Col. A. S., C/S and CO 34th, at National War College, Washington, D. C.

Verbeck, Col. W. J., CO 21st, also at National War College. Author of "Regiment in Action," history of the 21st Infantry in World War II.

Manlove, Lt. Col. Almon W., address at 1410 South George Mason Drive, Arlington, Va.

Perkins, Lt. Col., 13th FA, member of faculty at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., was host to Maj. Gen. Cramer when latter was there recently on a short tour of duty. Also present at get-together were Lt. Cols. Wickboldt and Chapman, 19th; Dahlen and Postlethwaite, 34th; Bissell and Ramee, 21st; and Col. D. E. Beach, Div. Arty. Last named is a Vice-President of the Association.

## THE HEAVIEST BRASS

IRVING, Brig. Gen. Frederick A., with Inter-American Defense Board, 1735 New York Ave., Washington, D. C. Acknowledging greetings from Providence, R. I., meeting of New England Chapter writes: "I wish that I could have been there." Hope he can be at the next one.

WOODRUFF, Maj. Gen. R. B., CG of I Corps, Hqs. in Osaka, APO 301 expresses his pleasure that the Association is under way.

CRAMER, Maj. Gen. Kenneth F., has extended cordial invitation to Veterans of the 24th to drop in at Brainard Field, Hartford, Conn., where he serves as CG of the 43rd Div., C.N.G. He's also Adjutant General of the State of Connecticut.

LESTER, Maj. Gen. J. A., CG of the 24th, writes to the Secretary from Kyushu: "Kindly convey my best wishes to General Cramer, President, and other Association members, and the best of luck to you in your forthcoming ventures. I am greatly interested in the progress of the Association and hope some day to personally attend one of your meetings."

## WHY WE ARE

By Jan Valtin

In the rush and haste of making a living you may have stopped at times, to reflect that something is missing, something that was yours and ours at the time we swallowed atabrine, conquered islands and dreamed of home. What is the thing that's missing in the peace-time existence of so many of us? We don't mean the glory—no. We mean the comradeship that was ours in the 24th . . . the feeling that gave a special meaning to the Taro Leaf on the red field, the feeling that makes our eyes light up when we see someone wearing the 24th insignia passing us on the street!

The history we made as members of the 24th will live as long as America. Our deeds will be remembered in history books long after our names have been forgotten. Others will see to that! But to keep alive our comradeship, the names of those who sweated and shared the danger alongside of us . . . that's our business. It is for this reason that we have created the 24th Infantry (Victory) Division Veterans' Association.

Your service with the 24th at any time, at any place along its hard, proud, victorious road from Pearl Harbor to Japan is your passport to membership in our Association—your Association. It is yours because it is made up of the men who, like you, carried the Division's weapons in Australia, on New Guinea, in the blazing Philippines, in Japan, through combat and occupation at a price of more than six thousand casualties to our team. Does that mean anything to you? We are sure it does! It's your Association. You belong in it. It is non-partisan, and all members (regardless of their former or present military rank) share the same rights. It was formed on 8 Oct. 1945 at Talomo Beach, Mindanao. It was launched at Matsuyama, Japan, and the officers elected there are to serve the Association until a Convention in the United States can meet to elect permanent officers and an Executive Board.

Membership dues are \$2 a year. On receipt of this amount, with your full name, former organization and complete home address, the Association will send you a membership card and keep you abreast of all developments. An Association newspaper, to be issued quarterly, is scheduled to go to all members. We ask that you accept our cordial invitation to join. We shall put you in touch with other members of your Association in your area and elsewhere upon request. We also urge you to send us the names and addresses of fellow veterans of the 24th who may be interested in keeping alive the friendships formed when we were one of the finest war teams on earth.

Most of the famous fighting outfits have formed Associations similar to ours. There is every reason that ours should rival or exceed the best of them in membership and spirit. The 24th and its battle record rank high among the crack divisions of our or any other time. Already it has been popularized to some extent by a book entitled "Children of Yesterday," which is a combat story of the 24th, written by a member of our Association who is also the author of the book "Out of the Night" which sold more than a million copies.

Help us to keep bright the friendship we forged in the fires of yesterday. It is with pride in our war achievements as soldiers of the 24th that we ask you to join. You were one of us on the long overseas road. Be one of us again . . . TODAY.

## MAILING LIST

The Association has a mailing list of many thousands. However, it has two prime faults. First, it is by company or battalion, thus requiring the list to be broken down along geographical lines before regional chapters, which are the bone and sinew of an Association like ours, can be formed. Volunteers of the New England Chapter which is now being organized are helping out in this tedious but vital job, but more volunteers are needed.

Second, the addresses are not very recent. This difficulty can be partly overcome if you will send names and addresses of your friends. Many of you have done so and have earned the Secretary's thanks. If everyone will pitch in we can revamp our mailing list and really bring it up to date.

JAN VALTIN

Continued from Page 2

scorching tropical sun. The Jap was entrenched, well-armed, determined to win or die. The infiltration of fanatic suicide squads reached a new high.

"Children of Yesterday" is not a pretty book. It is not escape literature. It is brutal description of the fighting of one American unit from the beaches of Leyte to the unexplored wildernesses surrounding Davao.

"The story is told in the experiences of men, the footsore, stinking, cursing, dirt-encrusted men of the infantry, who fought as do all soldiers, not so much for God and country but because fate had willed that they should do a nasty job. It waves no flag. It points no morals. It is filled with the great deeds of average men. There are touches of the grim humor of war. The reader sees from a worm's eye view the progress of a military advance—the clawing forward of the lead squad of the lead company of the lead battalion.

"Without seeming to do so, Valtin creates an understanding of the foot soldier in battle, an understanding of the split-second decisions which men made and died; of the emptiness of dawns which promised only another day of crawling attack, of the welcoming of wounds which ended combat, and even of the mounting desire for death itself as a release from ordeal.

"Men who served in the 24th Division will find among the hundred of names mentioned scores which they know. Perhaps their own deeds are chronicled here.

"But neither they nor other men who fought through the fields and jungles of the islands will sleep quite so well on their soft peacetime mattresses after reading this book, for they will find aflame again memories numbed by time."

## GEN. CRAMER HEADS

### NATIONAL GUARD

Maj. Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer, former Asst. Division Commander and later a Division Commander of the 24th, is now in complete charge of all National Guard activities in the United States. President Truman named him chief of the National Guard Bureau and the Senate was quick to confirm the choice on 11 July. In his new post he will direct the training of civilian soldiers in the states and territories. At the present time he is CG of the 43rd Division, Connecticut National Guard with headquarters in Hartford.

All veterans of the 24th will rejoice in this new honor that has been accorded to Gen. Cramer. As President of the Association his interest in promoting its growth has never flagged.

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## IN JAPAN WITH THE VICTORY DIVISION

By Capt W. H. Koons, Div. PRO

In June 1945, Kyushu, Japan, became the home of the 24th Infantry Division. Today, though few of the original combat veterans remain, the entire island comes under the surveillance of the Division's three regiments and division artillery.

Two Corps and three other divisions of the 8th Army, with headquarters in Yokohama, complete the Japanese occupation picture.

Kyushu, with a pre-war population of about ten million people is both industrialized and agricultural. The home of the Imperial Steel Works, Japan's largest producer of pig iron and steel, is located there. Nagasaki is probably the most widely known city on Kyushu because it was the target of the second atomic bomb. A sightseeing trip there is of intense interest.

Many other important cities are located on the island and include Fukuoka, location of the Imperial University with its famed medical school, and Beppu, one of Japan's most prominent resort centers, famed for mineral baths. Beppu is the present site of the 19th Infantry Regiment, renowned "Rock of Chickamauga" regiment of the Civil War. Near the edge of this picturesque city, Camp Chickamauga nestles in the foothills of the beautiful mountain range which surrounds the entire area. Large steam-heated barracks house the men, a fine theater provides entertainment, and other facilities such as libraries, PX and Red Cross Club combine to make life pleasant and homelike.

Directly opposite from Beppu, on the western coast of the island, the 34th Infantry Regiment, youngest of the Division, is located at Sasebo, site of a former Japanese naval base. Here the same comfortable conditions exist and the men have ample opportunity to explore the nearby area to learn and absorb the many interesting phases of Japanese life.

In the approximate center of Kyushu, at Kumamoto is located the 21st Infantry Regiment which was organized in 1861 and fought during the Civil War and in the Spanish-American War. At Camp Wood, the regiment is housed in a specially constructed camp.

Division artillery, with its four battalions, the 11th, 18th, 52nd and 63rd, has its headquarters at Camp Hakata on the northern section of the island near Fukuoka. The Japanese had a large seaplane base there and some of their buildings are being used by the Division's units although construction for the most part is new.

When the move to Kyushu was made, the city of Kokura in the far northern section became headquarters for the division. A large Japanese department store was taken over for a PX and the Red Cross Club. The Division radio station, WLKH, is located in the building. All units are housed in permanent concrete buildings with every modern convenience. (Ed. note—As always).

In Kokura, in addition to Division Headquarters, are the Division Special Troop units and the Third Engineer Battalion, the unit with the proud record of 35 continuous years overseas.

Maj. Gen. J. A. Lester, present CG who commanded the Division Artillery during a portion of the war years, has planned far in advance for the comfort and convenience of his troops. Excellent train service and beautiful rest hotels are provided for periods of rest, sightseeing and relaxation. These, combined with the exemplary attitude of the Japanese people make life most pleasant on Kyushu.

Besides Maj. Gen. Lester, the CG, many will recall Lt. Col. Daniels, Craig and Ross, who are G-1, AG and Ord. O. respectively.

Lt. Alfred Redd, Asst. AG, left the Division a few months ago to go to Ft. Knox, Ky., where he is in S-1 at UMT Center. Real old timers

## FROM GEN. LESTER

Maj. Gen. Lester, present CG of the 24th Division sent the following greetings to the New England Chapter:

"In behalf of the men and officers on active duty with the 24th Infantry Division, I extend the warmest greeting to the New England Chapter of veterans of the 24th. You have set a fine example to other sections of our country in your organization. It is our hope that your example will be followed throughout the country.

"We are conscious of the precious heritage passed on to us by those who blazed the long and difficult trail: Oahu—Australia—New Guinea—the Philippines—Japan.

"We feel a deep pride in knowing that when the roll call of decisive battles of the SW Pacific was called; Hollandia, Biak, Leyte, Mindoro, Mindanao, Subic Bay, Zig Zag Pass, the battle of Manila, the redemption of Bataan, and Corregidor—units of the 24th were there, answered present, and shed their blood.

"The 24th Infantry Division—The first to fight back at the enemy on the day of infamy at Pearl Harbor . . . The last to let loose of him in Mindanao on V-J Day . . . Long may she live and may her sons always hold high the torch of duty passed on to them by our honored dead."

will recall him as Mr. Redd. Commissioned in Nov. 1945 in Matsuyama, Shikoku. A charter member of the Association whose ability and devotion to duty earned him a host of friends.

CO of Div. Arty. is Col. Charles C. Blanchard, FA, exec. is Lt. Col. Paul R. Walters.

24th Division Baseball League officially began on 10 May with 34th Inf. vs. Div. Arty. Other teams in the League are 19th, 21st, Special Troops. Games are played on Saturday and Sunday at 1400. The Stadium at Yahata is 3 miles from Kokura and seats 5000.

Lt. Gen. Eichelberger, CG, of the 8th Army highly commended the Div. facilities and the caliber of men which he saw on his March visit. He was accompanied by Maj. Gen. R. B. Woodruff who has commanded I Corps since November 1945.

Organization-Day ceremonies of the 3rd Engineers was held at Kokura on 25 March during which Maj. H. C. Carstensen, CO, dedicated a new theatre to the men of the Battalion who gave their lives in World War II. This was its 45th anniversary. Maj. Gen. Lester lauded the 35 years overseas service of the Pacific Engineers saying: "They know how to fight and how to work." He emphasized that the Division has "better housing than any other troops in the Pacific," thanks to the Engineers. T/Sgt. Jerome S. Boots of Nevada, Iowa, is still with the Battalion.

The official Division publication "V-Day" reports: "A GI walking into the newly remodeled theatre at Camp Hakata (Div. Arty.) soon forgets he is in Japan. The new cushioned leather seats, beautiful red and yellow curtains and carpeted floor, as well as the modernistic design of the theatre itself, do the trick of bringing one State-side." Veterans of the New Guinea Palm-Log Circuit will raise an eyebrow at this, as well as at the news that the new 35mm projectors, double projectors, have been received. Many of us wonder what will happen to that charmer of 1912 vintage who flickered by at the change-in-reels. Still no one begrudges these happy circumstances and the boys now have to pay 20 cents anyway!

Dragon News of 17 March reports opening of NCO club "Zebra Inn", with a Jap band and beer added to the occasion.

CO the 19th is Col W. B. Yancy.

The 24th Educational Center at Kokura is designed to implement the Army educational program within the Div. was formerly opened on 21 April. Lt. Col. Milton Skelly is Div. I & E officer.

The "Club 24" will soon be opened to serve approximately 120 Div. Hqs. first-3-graders.

Col. Ralph C. Bing is CO of the 34th; and Col. W. R. McKay commands the Gimlets.

Miss Isobel Lynch is 19th Inf. Reg. librarian. This is one of the things we fought for.

There are 4 rest hotels for EM and one for officers in Kyushu. Men can apply for the hotels on 3 day passes without waiting for a furlough.

Continued on Page 6, Col. 3

### 24th Infantry (Victory) Division Veterans' Association

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## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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## CALL ME MISTER

Continued from Page 3

Harp, Heman A., Co. M, 34th, and Co. C, 24th Med. Bn., is back home in Lamoni, Iowa.  
 Riccardi, John W., Co. B, 19th, is with Riccardi & Sons, General Merchandise, Montgomery, West Va.

Summers, George, 24th QM Co., has been a student at the University of Texas, and living at 3114 Wheeler St., Austin. Gives us the addresses of several Texans.

Schubert, Henry E., 2nd Bn., 19th, at 9 Maple St., Terryville, Conn.

Clarke, Lt. Col. J. J., CMLO, residing at 1121 22nd Ave., No. Seattle, Wash.

Miller, Allen R., 737 E. Livingstone Ave., Columbus 5, Ohio, would like to hear from some of his friends in Co. A, 21st.

Manning, S/Sgt. Wm. Y., of Co. C, 19th, of Rte. 1, Box 119, Farmersville, Texas, tells us how much he liked "Children of Yesterday."

Miller, Edward J., 13172 Helen St., Wyandotte, Mich., deserves thanks for sending in names of buddies in his old outfit—Co. D, 19th.

Lopez, Sgt. A. J., Div. Hqs., has this address: P. O. Box 1003 A&M Annex, College Station, Texas.

Nolde, William, Co. E, 19th, sent in an application for membership from Rte. 2, Lyman, Nebraska.

Minkoff, Julius, Co. B, 19th, is a charter member from 1517 Marshall Place, Newport News, Va.

Mims, James W., 114 PI Team, of Midland, Texas, Box 592, was one of the earliest members.

Sullivan, Sgt. Leo G., Div. Hqs., lives at 1909 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton, Mass. He is attending Boston University Law School.

Sandgren, PFC. Carl E., Co. B, 21st, is a student of architectural drafting and lives at 2113 Ogden Ave., Superior Wis.

Beasmont, Capt. Alan, a former PRO, at 4135 Cherokee Drive, Madison, Wis.

DiDonato, T/5 Angelo, 724th Ord. Co., at 335 Plain St., Providence, R. I., says he has a nice wife and two beautiful children, and works in radio store. Would be grateful for news of the boys, since he has lost most of his addressees.

McLaughlin, Lt. Vincent, 24th Med. Bn. at 1426 21st St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Segal, Lt. Harold, platoon leader in 19th, is practicing law at 112 State St., Albany, N. Y.

Schank, Carl E., Hqs. 19th, with Ruberoid Co., So. Bound Brook, N. J.

Gitschier, Milford R., Co. G, 19th, wants names of men in his Co. in '43-'44. Address: 307 Ninth St., Wellsville, Ohio.

Tatman, Ray W., served in 19th from New Guinea to Japan. Likes Piqua, Ohio, where he lives at 410 Linden Ave.

## DAVAO CITY, THEN

Here are some excerpts from a mimeographed copy of the "Nineteenth Infantry In The Philippine Islands (1944-1945)"

"The first of May found American troops only four miles from the third most populated sector of the Philippines, Davao City. Four 6" coastal guns, the first of 21 pieces of large shore based naval artillery to be captured by the Regiment, were seized on the slopes of Hill 550, south of the Davao River. Finally in a night advance against a surprised enemy, the 1st Battalion drove to the very banks of the Davao River and the preparations were completed for the assault on 'Little Tokyo' the following day. Meanwhile the 2nd Battalion closed rapidly behind the 1st to hold the already captured Davao Air-drome against enemy artillery, mortar, automatic weapons, and small arms fire. Enemy opposition was heavy on the left flank of the narrow corridor through which the Regiment had driven. Sporadic attacks were repulsed throughout the day as the Japanese appeared baffled by the American tactics. Three enemy battalions within a thousand yards of American columns had failed to halt the troops racing for Davao. By actively screening the ridges east of the Mintal Road—National Highway junction, the town of Taloma, and Hill 550, the 19th Infantry regrouped its elements in preparation for the storming of the city.

"The elaborate plan for the capture included the wide envelopment to the west by the 1st Battalion across a little used ford. At the same time, the 3rd Battalion was to cross in the face of enemy fire in engineer assault boats to storm the city frontally under a heavy artillery preparation. With the river at flood tide, however, the flanking force to the north, struggling in the deep swift current, received withering fire from enemy automatic weapons emplaced on the high banks of the far shore. To the east, the forces further down the river, meeting unexpected difficulties in launching their assault boats, quickly capitalized on the discovery of the remnants of the battered Davao bridge. Though heavily mined with enemy demolition charges, Lt. Souza, 3rd Engineer Battalion, went forward under the protecting fire of the 19th Infantry to clear the broken timbers. Rapidly the lead elements clambered through the debris to establish a small bridgehead under the increasing hostile fire of 6" and 8" shore based naval guns, 20 and 40mm anti-aircraft guns, and automatic weapons. The surprised enemy attacked, attempting to smash the small force holding the north approach to the bridge. Still under the

Beeson, S/Sgt. Bill, 1st Bn. 19th, is attending University of Missouri. Address: 310 So. Garth, Columbia, Mo.

intense fire reinforcements worked their way to the far shore. Elements of the 1st Battalion, abandoning the western envelopments, moved quickly east along the bank of the river and crossed the collapsing bridge and further reinforce the 3rd Battalion on the north shore. Then launching an offensive in the face of the resisting forces, elements of the 1st Battalion drove frontally up the rising hill mass east of the city to expand and secure the shallow bridgehead. As dusk came the 19th Infantry had taken the first commanding ground overlooking Davao City and had seized the gateway across the Davao River and an additional enemy airfield at Matina. The Regiment, with elements of its 1st and 3rd Battalions across the water barrier, was prepared for the capture of the capitol city of Mindanao the following day.

"With two battalions abreast the Regiment attacked: the 1st over the high ground to the north and the 3rd through the city itself. Under heavy artillery and mortar support, the aggressive drive overran the enemy positions, capturing two more huge coastal guns, quantities of elaborate radar and fire control equipment, and stores of enemy supplies. With only mopping up operations remaining, the 19th Infantry had seized and occupied the hub of all the Japanese defenses of Mindanao Gulf. The defenders had been driven from their famous stronghold in only one day's bitter fighting as aggressiveness had keyed the swift advance against the heavily emplaced forces. The 24th Infantry Division's primary objective, the Davao City sector, the third largest metropolis in the Philippine Islands, had been taken in a record breaking 15 day, 144 mile assault across the broad Mindanao Islands."

## DAVAO CITY, NOW

A May 14, 1947, issue of The Mindanao Times just received by Secretary Henry contains some items of interest especially to former Chicks.

It reports that the Davao River is eating away its banks along the poblacion side, so that local dopesters predict that in 10 years it will be on San Pedro St. The ice plant has already been partly undermined and a new dike is being constructed.

A columnist comments that girls from Western Visayas seemed to outshine the local ladies at a recent Davao fete both in beauty and grace. He goes on: "That doesn't shake our trust in Davao girls a bite, a bit, I mean. They may not be smart according to GI standards, but they tried, didn't they?" No comment invited.

Cited as evidence of Toril's pace-setting progress is the newly built Cine Mayon, a modern showhouse, and a new ice plant, 5 ton capacity.

Owner of these enterprises as well as many others in Davao City, is Pedro M. Lat, remembered by the 19th Infantry personnel as the owner of the house used as regimental CP. One of his theaters is called The Clifford.

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## IN JAPAN WITH THE VICTORY DIVISION

Continued from Page 5

On 30 Apr. the Lanik Theatre at Beppu was dedicated to PFC Jerry Lanik of Finleyville, Penn., one of the outstanding heroes of the 19th. He was awarded the Silver Star posthumously for gallantry at Palo on 22 Oct. 1944.

21st Inf. Camp is called Camp Wood after a Marine hero. A Marine Div. occupied Kyushu prior to June 1946 and the Gimlets retained the name.

Co. E of the 19th acted as Honor Guard at Gen. MacArthur's Hqs. at Tokyo for the month of April.

The new and beautiful Div. theatre is named The Clifford after Col. Thomas E. Clifford, famed hero of the Div. He was killed at Tanigan, Mindanao, on 26 June 1945 while CO of the 19th. He had also served in 1st Bn. 21 Inf. in Hollandia and 1st Bn. Inf. in Leyte.

*James W. Mims*  
 Box 592  
 Midland  
 Texas