



The Taro Leaf



24th Infantry (Victory) Division Veterans' Association

VOLUME I

FEBRUARY 1948

NUMBER 3



Major General Frederick A. Irving

The 24th Division was organized in October 1941 in Hawaii—and four years later it had reached its objective as part of the Army of Occupation in Japan. For more than half of this time the Victory Division was commanded by Major General Frederick A. Irving, whose firm hand and brilliant military mind planned and controlled its moves and campaigns from Hawaii to Australia to New Guinea to the Philippines.

The recent promotion of General Irving to the permanent rank of Major General, U. S. Army, is just another step in a brilliant military career that has extended through two World Wars—with combat commands and decoration for gallantry in action in both of them.

Tall and spare, with the erect and alert bearing of a professional soldier, General Irving still has the black hair and keen youthful appearance of a man much younger than the record shows him to be. His present assignment as Chief of the Career Management Group in the Personnel and Administration Division, attests official recognition of the far seeing intelligence which all who know him recognize as one of his outstanding characteristics.

General Irving was born on 3 September 1894 in Taunton, Massachusetts, the youngest of four children. He entered West Point in 1913, was graduated 20 April 1917 and commissioned a second lieutenant of infantry.

His first assignment was with the 35th Infantry at Nogales, Arizona. In less than a month he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant on 15 May 1917, and less than three months later to Captain on 5 August 1917. In September 1917 he was transferred to Camp Forest, Georgia, for duty with the 11th Infantry and the 15th Machine Gun Battalion. He sailed for France with the 15th Machine Battalion on 24 April 1918, where he took part in engagements in the Anould Sector 14 June to 13 July 1918; in the St. Die Sector

Col. Verbeck Heads Convention Com.

Maj. Gen. Cramer, Association President, following a January conference in Boston with Secretary Henry, announced that Col. William J. Verbeck, former CO of 21st and C/S, will be chairman of the committee to plan the 1948 reunion. Verbeck will be assisted by Henry and the following members of an executive committee composed of: William V. Davidson, Ass't. G-2, Swedesboro, N. J.; Raymond J. Ford, Capt., Div. Arty., 191 Cabot Street, Newton, Massachusetts; Richard J. Krebs (Jan Valtin, author of "Children of Yesterday"), of Betterton, Md.

Ross W. Pursifull, Capt. 34th, 9705 McQuade Avenue, Detroit 6, Michigan; Kenwood Ross, Division Ord. Officer, 1387 Main Street, Springfield, Massachusetts; Neil W. Young, M/Sgt. 19th, 326 Spring Street, Whitman, Massachusetts.

In addition, Col. Verbeck will have the help of these members of the general committee:

Joseph L. Badaracco, Div. Hq. 7155 Delmar Blvd., University City 5, Mo.; Lt. Col. Dwight E. Beach, Div. Arty, USMA, West Point, New York; Robert M. Berk, Co. C 34th, 1162 Rhinelander Ave., Bronx, New York; Earl J. Cooper, 1st Bn. 34th, 1544 Jermain Drive, Toledo 5, Ohio; David Cook, 63 FA, Key Bldg., Wewoka, Okla.; Thomas H. Compere, G-1, 163 Clifton Street, Highland Park, Illinois; Robert R. Ender, Co. H 21st, 425 Tenafly Road, Englewood, New Jersey; John B. Farrell, 2nd Bn. 21st, P. O. Box 12, Riderwood, Md.

Marshall Greenfield, Cn. Co. 21st, 1331 Estes Ave., Chicago 26, Illinois; Leon E. Howard, Fin. O., 3546 Mt. View Ave., Pasadena 10, California; John W. Mongold, AT Co. 34th, 2530 H. St., Bakersfield, California; Gene Manley, 24th MP Platoon, Wahiawa, Oahu, Hawaii; Julien J. Mason, Div. JA, Bowling Green, Va.; Walter Page, Div. Hq., Box 1740, Paterson, New Jersey; Lloyd Price, Div. PRO, Dallas News, Dallas, Texas; Joel Richards, Jr., 24 QM Co., 179—S Street, Salt Lake City, Utah; James Russell, Cn. Co. 19th, 15 Reservoir Avenue, Pawtucket, R. I.

Harry L. Snavely, 2nd Bn. 34th, Roseville Road, Lancaster, Pa.; George H. Stanley, Co. I, 21st, 487—10th Street, Brooklyn, New York; William C. Willmot, 3rd Bn. 21st, 2118 Dill Avenue, Linden, New Jersey; William L. Watkins, Div. Arty, 475 No. St. Anderson, S. C.; Russell C. Zehner, Hq. Co. 19th, 514 Market Street, Orwigsburg, Pa.

The members of the committee were chosen on the basis of their interest in the Association and an effort was made to secure some dispersion, geographically and by unit. It was realized that periodic meetings are essential. It is impossible to arrange such an affair by correspondence. Obviously there is no prospect of getting

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

THE TARO LEAF

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(Victory)

Division Veterans' Association
402-410 First National Bank Bldg.,
Attleboro, Mass.

JAMES G. FAIRBROTHER,
Hq. 2nd Bn., 34th Inf.

Editor

Subscription: \$2.00—free to members of
Association

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Attleboro, Mass.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE CONTINUED

together many on the General Committee. For this reason, Gen. Cramer proposed the Executive Committee, hoping that the members could have around-the-table discussions, do the top-planning, and make recommendations to the General Committee.

Look for news in the next issue as to the Convention City, dates, and program. It's coming up: OPERATION REUNION.

A. P. O. 24

The Secretary recently received the following chastening letter:

"Dear Ed:

Received my membership card but there is an error. It states that I am a vet of the 34th Inf. Now then, don't misunderstand. To have served with that outfit is an honor that I would be proud to claim were it not for the fact that I possess an honor which outshines all other. I, sir, am a veteran of service with the 19th Inf. The Rock of Chickamauga. Why at the Battle of Chickamauga Creek the Old Nineteenth was the anchor for the whole Union force. We chased the Indians after the Civil War. Of course we didn't see much active service during World War I but in the recent fracas why the Rock was there all the way. And so on ad infinitum (or nauseum). 34th Inf. indeed! Please reply by indorsement with the least practicable delay."

Neil W. Young (Hqs. 19th)

326 Spring St. Rockland, Mass.

Another letter from former T/Sgt. Owen J. M. Crumb, Co. D. 34th, now of 314 Wheeler Place, Endicott, New York:

"I read with pride the excerpts from Capt. Morrissey's Journal. I feel that his manuscript mirrors the thoughts and actions of every man in Dragon Red throughout the campaigns he writes of. These passages, as you suggested, brought back several memories to me, but I noticed that "Doc" Morrissey didn't bother to record much about the heroic actions of himself and his medics. I'll never forget Charlie Company's call of "Oh, Johnnie!" when an aid man was needed. John Soukop (Wilson, Kansas) seemed to be everywhere at once all the way across Mindanao. Nor will I forget the morning Pfc. Rato (A Company's medic) and I read his Bible together before the Japs opened up. No one could stop him when he learned there was a wounded G. I. up ahead pinned down by the Jap guns—he came crawling back almost without legs. He said it was his job."

THE DIVISION BOOKSHELF

"A Regiment In Action"—by Col. William J. Verbeck, Inf., (67 Pages.)

"Lowell in reviewing Carlyle's essay on Frederick the Great remarks that it is almost as tedious to read about battles as it is to fight them and almost as difficult to write about one as it is to direct it. This rather obvious danger Colonel Verbeck has skillfully avoided. This short history of the 21st Infantry Regiment, emphasizing its battle record in World War II, presents a readable, succinct and accurate account of the many and varied engagements of that unit.

"While possessing a specific appeal to the veterans of the organization the writing is sufficiently broad in scope to interest any reader, professional or otherwise, who seeks to learn the particular difficulties confronting a military unit in contact with the enemy. The responses of men in combat show a remarkable similarity regardless of the locale in which the engagement is fought. It follows, therefore, that the general reader will gain an interpretation of all battle, everywhere, from the reading of the study.

"Particularly valuable in terms of such universal application are the sections dealing with the Breakneck Ridge Offensive (pp. 17-35) and the Davao Campaign (pp. 48-59). The actions of the 21st Infantry south and west of Pinamopao in the period 5 November to 16 November 1944 are presented in considerable detail and with proper emphasis on the exploits of individuals, an element so characteristic of the highly localized nature of the fighting in that area. Very wisely the citations, illustrations and terrain studies have been so placed in the arrangement of the book that the account can be read without breaking the thread of the narrative.

"The operations on Mindanao (that much neglected campaign) have received interesting treatment. The enormous difficulties attending the fighting in the Southern Philippines and the spirit-breaking combination of heat, fatigue, and an exceedingly well-armed and numerically superior enemy have frequently been lost sight of in the general account of the Pacific War. Colonel Verbeck's history has made a significant contribution to the material available for the study of this little known combat area.

"A number of pertinent photographs, newspaper excerpts (both American and Japanese), and some excellent drawings by Larry E. Hickman have been included. If the reader thinks more maps should have been made available he might well remember that frequently the units engaged had no maps at all.

"Some former members of the command may regret that the account of early operations fails to mention the Battles of Sydney and Brisbane, engagements in which the men of the 21st Infantry demonstrated their characteristic aggressiveness and elan."

By Lt. Col. Walter Cunningham,
former Division AG.—now at Drury
College, Springfield, Mo.

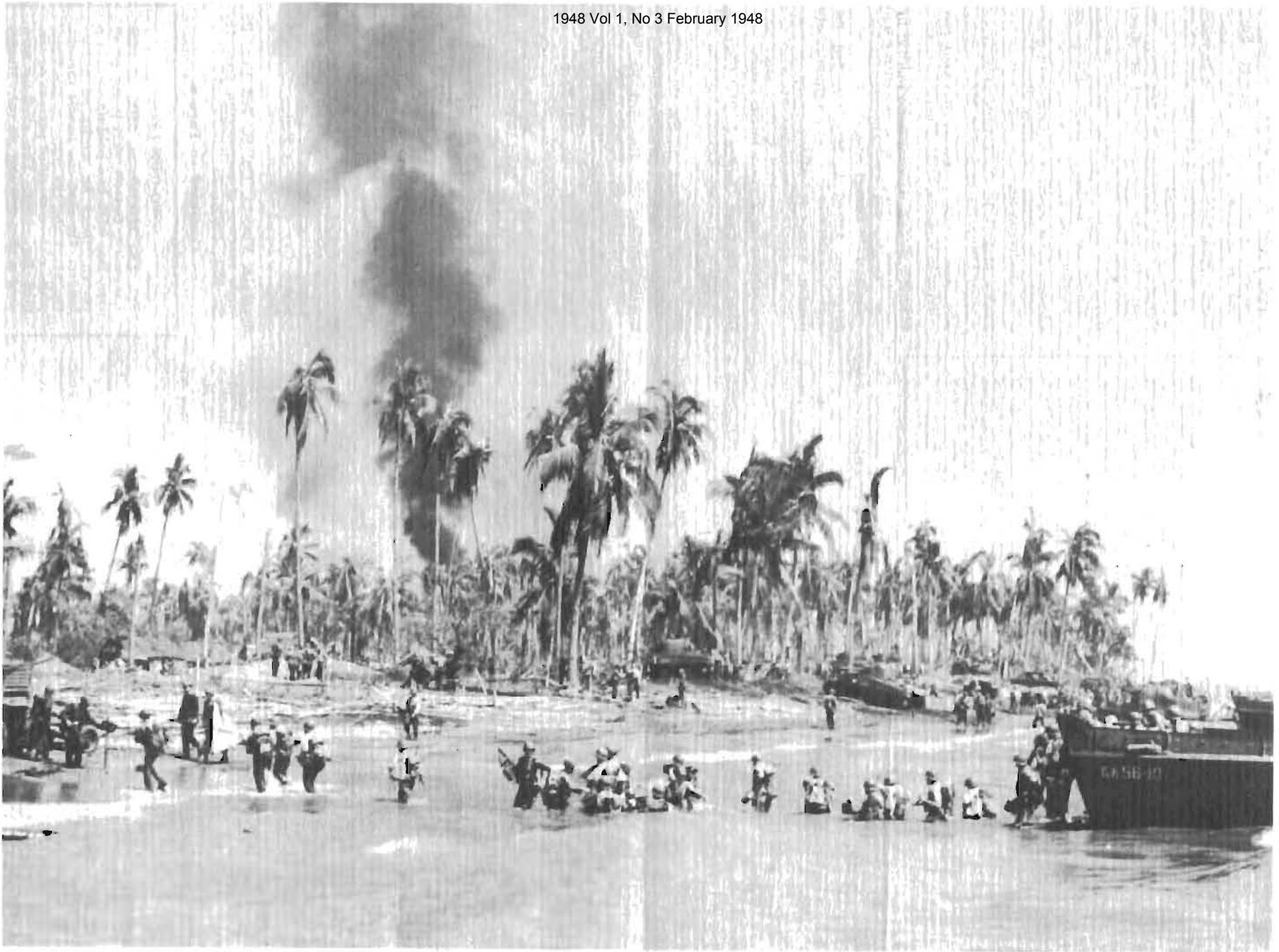
This stirring account of the 21st Inf. Regt. in World War II was privately mul-titled by Col. Verbeck over a year ago, and distributed at cost. It is now out of print. The Infantry Journal, however, is considering publication of a new and enlarged edition with a fuller text, more photos, lists of killed and wounded, citations, etc. It would be a real professional job. We will give you more news of this as soon as the Infantry Journal announces its plans.

Col. Verbeck would be glad to have a reliable publisher. His previous experiences have not been happy. He promised over two hundred ex-Gimlets to print his extensive card-index of names and addresses at cost, and turned over the index and the money to a certain printer who failed to deliver. Only recourse to the FBI forced the printer to disgorge the index, still unprinted—but the money was dissipated. Col. Verbeck is trying to work out a method to keep faith with these men who paid for the list.

Col. Verbeck assumed command of the 21st on 7 Nov. '44 during the Breakneck Ridge offensive on Leyte. Three-times wounded he led this proud regiment until July 4th, 1945 when he relinquished command on Mindanao to become C/S of the Division. On 17 July '45 he left the Philippines to report to West Point for duty as C.O. of Troops. At present he is with Div. of Plans & Operations, Gen. Staff, U. S. Army, Room 3D835, Pentagon, Washington 25, D.C. He has been appointed chairman of the Convention Committee. He also heads the Washington, D.C. chapter of the Association, which has had several luncheon meetings. Although it is pretty heavy with brass, it is his earnest wish to place it on a broader base and have evening meetings outside the Pentagon. All Division veterans in the District and vicinity are urged to communicate with him. His telephone is National Defense, Ext. 72144. Home: 6625 Lee Highway, East Falls Church, Virginia, (Falls Church 7810), where he says all veterans of the 24th Div. will find a drink awaiting them.

Wanted: Historical Records

We want to assemble at Association headquarters all available data relating to the Division and its units. We have a copy of the Historical Report of the Leyte Operation, but we need report of the Tanamerah-Hollandia operation. Will any one donate one? Secretary Henry will guard it carefully and pass it on with other Association records to his successor. Regimental histories will be especially welcome. Information from Division Headquarters is that the report of the Mindanao operation may be issued as soon as the news-print situation in Japan eases. Ultimately we hope to have an official history of the Division. We are handicapped in that many original records were lost by the sinking of a ship off Leyte, and the job would require research in the duplicate records of the War Department. Gen. Lester recently caused to be printed in Japan a "Brief History" of the Division bound in heavy cardboard. The cover is handsomely colored. The 100 page book is complete with photos, an account of the combat achievements of the Division, and thumb-nail sketches of all the organic units. The color-plates of regimental and artillery insignia are notable. This "Brief History" is used to orient recruits to the Victory Division.



RED BEACH — LEYTE
20 October 1944

This Signal Corps photo shows a dramatic incident in the history of the 24th Infantry Division—the assault on Leyte in which men of the Division played such a bloody and vital role. The men depicted are definitely identified as of the 19th Infantry Regiment, and are further tentatively identified as Sv. Co. passing supplies ashore. Why not send us your snapshots for possible publication?

CALL ME MISTER

Farrell, Capt. John B., 2nd Bn. 21st, with Circuit Court for Baltimore County, Address: Box 12, Riderwood, Md. "Wonderful idea—THE TARO LEAF—Please do not stop."

Buck, Donald K., 34th Med. Det., 1st Bn., 1522 Linden St., Reading, Pa. "Count me in on anything the 24th does."

Luther, S/Sgt. Robert D., 223 Tyler St., Athens, Pa. Wants to hear from other 2nd Bn. medics of 34th.

Weil, S/Sgt. Edward, Co. D., 19th, in Law School at Univ. of Missouri. Home: 915 Richmond Ave., Columbia, Mo. Received Aug. issue from a buddy. Pass those papers on.

O'Donnell, T/Sgt. James (Spike), Co. G., 21st, wants to hear from old gang. c/o National Circulating Co., RKO Bldg., Rockefeller Center, N. Y.

Fischetti, PFC Gennaro A., Hq. 34th, at St. John's Law School. Home: 693 Sackett St., Brooklyn, 17, N. Y. Sent in 150 names—a record.

Greek, Elvin E., Co. K, 21st, at home in Mission, So. Dak.

Davis, Eugene H., Sv. Co., 19th, regimental postal clerk, joins Assn. from Pell City, Ala.

Merrill, Leroy R., Co. A., 3rd Eng. Bn., is sailing the Lakes again. Ashore, lives at 529 E. Erie Street, Painesville, Ohio.

Rabin, Sanford, Div. Hqs. (FO), accountant, living at 3658 W. Polk, Chicago. Married 18 Jan. '48.

Benavente, Joseph, Co. G, 21st, at 126 W. 82nd St., New York City.

Protsman, Cpl. Clayton L., 3rd Eng. Bn., is patient at Percy Jones Gen. Hosp., Battle Creek, Mich. (Ward 5, Sec. 4). Asks buddies in H & S Co. to write to him.

Vickers, Wm. E., 3rd Bn. 34th, formerly Schwertfeger (name legally changed) writes from 4642 Malden St., Chicago, 40.

Meckstroth, Edwin H., from Reading, Pa. (532 McKnight St.) is one of many men of Sv. Co., 19th, to join.

Carlson, Carl S., served in 19th (Co. D) from N. G. to Japan. Joins Assn. from Concord, N. H., 12 Watson Ct.

Underhill, Wm., Co. M. 34th, of 357 Smalley Ave., Hayward, Calif. Found addresses of 2 old buddies in Aug. issue.

Watkins, Maj. Wm. L., Div. Arty, is practicing law in Anderson, So. Car.

St. John, Sgt. Edgar, Co. K. 21st, survived bitterest kind of fighting, as rifleman, in N. G. and P. I. only to escape death by narrow margin when his house burned a few months ago in Warren, R. I. Now living with wife and year-old daughter at 102 Cutler St. Employed by a public utility.

TAPS

The body of PFC John P. Connell, Co. E, 19th, killed in action, Leyte, on 22 Oct. '44 will be returned to the U. S. A. in the near future. Final resting place will be either Arlington National Cemetery or Woodlawn Cemetery, Elmira, N. Y.

Richard J. Krebs (Jan Vaitin) writes:

"One hot bloody day north of Mintal, riflemen of the 21st Infantry found a 4-year old Chinese girl hugging the body of a killed woman. A company of the 21st adopted her, called her Geraldine Irene (GI). '180 fathers' contributed to her welfare. Later I found a home for her with the family of Mr. Tan, a Chinese merchant in Davao. She was christened in Davao church, named PACITA (Peace) on VJ-Day. Two weeks ago I received a post card from Davao: a paper star and a scrawled message: 'May Star of Happiness guide you soldiers.' It was signed, 'PACITA' 'P.S. Now I can speak again.' (When found, this child was mute from shell shock.)"

Russo, Wm. J., Sv. Co. 21st, sends us several addresses from 346 Lafayette Ave., Brooklyn, 5.

Egdorf, Walter L., Med. Det. 21st, is cosmometologist, at 917 White Ave., Beloit, Wisc. "TARO LEAF sure brought back a lot of swell memories of the old outfit."

Gicker, Robert J., Div. Hqs. (FO) sends a fine letter from 1120 Taylor St., San Francisco, 8.

Daigle, Joseph I., 24th Sig. Co., at Port Allen, La. "Enjoyed the paper very much. Hope it can live on."

Johnson, Lt. Geo. F., Co. D., 19th, is teaching in Kansas (Ill.) schools. It's a girl, Anyce, born 15 July '47.

Berk, Capt. Robert M., Co. C. 34th, 1162 Rhineland Ave., Bronx, N. Y. "May future issues be as successful as the first ones."

Tunison, Sgt. Leroy C., AT Co., 19th, says "I think Assn. is swell. Hope we can increase membership." Address: 319 W. 54th St., N.Y.C.

Franke, William A., 24th Sig. Co., 113 Oakwood Rd., Charleston 4, West Va. "Like to hear from my old pals."

Romo, Galileo B., Co. A, 19th, lives at 742 7th St., Douglas, Ariz.

Petersen, Arnold L., Hqs. Co. 19th, runs a farm at Rte 2, Griswold, Iowa.

Evans, Elton J., 24 Cav. Rcn. Tr., of Salina, Kans. (609 So. 5th St.) writes "Convention idea is swell."

Martin, Wm. F., 24th Med. Bn., is MD on staff of St. John's Hosp., Brooklyn, Home: 41 Dosoris Way, Glen Cove, N. Y.

Dyer, Walter G., Co. C. 21st, of Box 305, Worland, Wyo. "Hoping our Assn. may continue to grow."

Carter, Thomas E., Div. Hqs. Supply Sgt. lives at Apt. No. 19, Chisum Apts., Roswell, New Mex.

Hull, Capt. Geo. C., Regt'l Dental Surgeon, 34th, of 2905-4th Ave. No., Great Falls, Montana: "Glad to hear of and read 'Children of Yesterday'".

Grevie, Lt. Peter W., Sv. Co., 21st, of Arbutle, Calif. "Consider membership a privilege."

Zenga, Frank P., Co. I. 34th, member of New England chapter. Home: Forge Rd., E. Greenwich, R. I.

Leatherman, Leland F., 21st, can be reached at 843 Park, Hot Springs, Ark. "Keep the paper going."

Folsom, Capt. Clarence B., 3rd Engr. Bn. is with New Mexico School of Mines, Socorro, New Mex.

Kates, Lt.-Col. Charles O., 21st, is doing free-lance writing. 30-29 154th St., Flushing, N. Y.

Chavez, John J., Sv. Co. 19th, with a car-dealer in Santa Fe, New Mex. Home: 132 Jefferson St.

Easley, Maj. H. P., Co. I. 19th, at 20 Woodmoor Drive, Silver Spring, Md.

Adkinson, Orville L., Co. D. 21st Med. Det., living in Walters, Okla. Married—one son.

Eckhoff, T/Sgt. Theodore, Hqs. 19th, has returned to old job as Supt. with a Life & Casualty Ins. Co., Augusta, Ga. Address: 1746 Drexel Ave.

Jorgensen, Alfred A., Hqs. Co. 3rd Bn., 34th, is clerk in P. O. at Fairmont, Nebr.

Braden, Albert H., 34th surgeon, is practicing internal medicine at 3518 San Jacinto St., Houston 4, Tex., after post-graduate for 2 years in St. Louis.

Dougherty, Capt. George J., 21st Chaplain, is stationed at St. Francis Church, Norristown, Pa.

Wise, Capt. Richard A., Sv. Co. 19th, at Central Ave., East Bangor, Penna.

Rogers, Robert E., Hq. 3rd Bn. 34th, 336 Frederick St., Bluefield, W. Va.

Gilgenbach, Clarence, Hq. Co. 21st, of Wahpeton, No. Dak., asks why he did not receive first issue. Ed: Because rosters were spot-checked.

Moore, Lt. Gale S., Co. K, 19th, sent us holiday greetings from 10 NW. 20th Ave., Portland, Ore.

Luthy, Capt. Richard F., 63rd FA, is living in K. C., Mo., at 805 E. 39th.

Bergman, George A., Co., E 21st, of 210½ N. Center, Plymouth, Ind.: "It sure is great. Sensational."

Simmons, Clifford, Hq. Co. 19th, of Clementon, N. J.: "Keep up the good work."

Maguire, Sgt. L. Edward Cn. Co. 21st, living in Alexandria, Va., at 521 Bashford Lane. Asks address of a buddy, Albert Makes Cry, formerly Ponca City, Okla. Anyone help?

Severola, Vincent, Co. B., 3rd Eng. Bn., sends renewal of membership from 1324 So. 13th, Phila., Pa.

Continued on Page 6

TWO-GUN LEO

Sgt. Leo Monteleone, 34th, of 4659 Lakewood, Detroit, shot it out on 18 Dec. last with two hold-up men in a tavern where he works as a bartender. He shot one bandit through the heart and the other in the head, while sixteen terrified patrons scrambled for cover. The stick-up men used a shot-gun and .45 cal. Monteleone used two .38's.

MAJOR GENERAL FREDERICK A. IRVING (Continued)

13 July to 23 August 1918; and in the St. Mihiel Offensive in September 1918. He was wounded at St. Mihiel on 12 September 1918, and was awarded the Purple Heart and the Silver Star for bravery in battle.

Returning to the United States in July 1919, General Irving was promoted during the peace years to permanent rank as a captain on 16 July 1919; to major on 1 September 1932; and to Lieutenant Colonel on 1 July 1940.

During these peace years his assignments reflect the ability which has carried him to such high rank in the army. His first station after returning from France was Camp Gordon, Georgia, still with the 15th Machine Gun Battalion. In August 1920 he was assigned as an Instructor at the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia, which was followed with a detail to the United States Military Academy at West Point as an instructor there.

In September 1926 he entered the Advanced Course at the Infantry School, and from there went to Hawaii where his assignments included duty as Asst G-1 of the Hawaiian Department. After returning for a tour of duty at Fort McPherson, Georgia, he was again assigned as an Instructor at the Infantry School in 1932. In August 1937 he entered the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, and following graduation there was once more assigned as an Instructor at West Point in July 1938.

On 4 January 1941, General Irving, while still a Lieutenant Colonel, was appointed Commandant of Cadets, United States Military Academy—and was on this duty when World War II began. His promotions since that time reflect the brilliance of his wartime career: to Colonel (temporary) 11 December 1941; to Brigadier General (temporary) 14 March 1942; to Major General (temporary) 9 August 1942; to Brigadier General 1 July 1946; and, on the recent promotion list of general officers, to the rank of permanent Major General, U. S. Army, at the age of 53 years.

General Irving was assigned early in March 1942 as the Assistant Division Commander with 24th Division in Hawaii, and in August of the same year became Division Commander. He moved the 24th Division to Australia in August 1943, and then to Goodenough Island in early 1944. From there he planned for and commanded the Tanamerah Force (the 24th Division, Reinforced) in the brilliantly successful assault on Hollandia, New Guinea, by the Task Force under Lieutenant General Eichelberger. In this decisive operation the 24th Division captured the main Hollandia Airdrome five days after the landing, primarily as the result of an audacious and successful calculated risk taken by General Irving in landing a flying column at a point where circumstances prevented fire support of the landing.

After Hollandia, General Irving commanded the 24th Division in the great assault on Leyte, where four assault divisions landed abreast in a two corps amphibious operation that assured the success of the Philippines Campaign.

General Irving later commanded the Eighth Army Area command, and on 1 August 1945 took command of the 38th Division on Luzon, P. I. After the war he commanded Camp Pickett, Virginia, and Fort Dix, New Jersey. In August 1946 he became Coordinator, Inter-American Defense Board. His most recent assignment is that of Chief of the Career Management Group in the Personnel and Administration Division.

All of us who served under Major General Frederick A. Irving in the 24th (Victory) Division remember him not only as a brilliant and courageous soldier, but also as a kind, courteous, and considerate gentleman. Scattered as we now are throughout the army as well as all over the United States in civilian life, we will watch the continuation of his outstanding military career with interest, pride—and the soldierly affection of military men for a leader we like, admire, and respect.
By Col. A. S. Newman, former C/S & C.O., 34th Inf.
now at Army Information School, Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

TARO LEAF DISTRIBUTION

Of course, all Association members receive each issue. The balance of the 2500 copies printed are mailed to former members whose names are spot-checked from old rosters and to addresses that you send in. A large number are still returned by the P.O. authorities. To overcome this and to save a lot of wasted effort on the part of the Secretary's wife, family, in-laws, etc., we are going to send about 25 copies to certain well-disposed members with the request that they undertake to affix a 1½c stamp and mail to former buddies. We think this will give us an assured distribution.

Davao Guerrillas To Get Hemp Land

The pre-war Japanese-owned abaca groves, comprising major portions of Davao Province, were handed to Philippine Government by U. S. Alien Property Custodian for one dollar. After the war former guerrillas moved in with their families and guns, defying eviction. Filipino President Roxas had laid down a set of rules under which guerrillas will receive preference in allocation of 20-acre tracts.

ATTENTION: CO. K. 19th

Mrs. Raymond L. Day, RD 1, York Haven, Pa., would like to hear from friends of her son, PFC Robert E. Day, Co. K, 19th. While acting as a scout, he was seriously wounded on 23 Oct. '44 in an attack upon a Jap pill-box near San Joaquin, Leyte. He subsequently died and was buried near Palo. His mother has been trying to learn some of the circumstances of his death. He was her only son. Let's help out by writing to this Gold Star mother, or to Assn. headquarters.

Francisco Functions

Robert Goldthwaite, Lynn, Mass., submits a portion of a letter from Francisco, No. 1 boy of FO and a well-known to Div. Hq. personnel:

"Its been very pleasure to have your most delightful letter last month. I can't hardy believe my eyes to read your message at first. I thought Im just dreaming, but it's from you alright. Cause I thought You're already forgotten me, for more than two years, I haven't receive any letter from you nor my other friends of the Finance Office.

"Sure, dear Bob, your letters reached me alright and in good time too. For I'm still living here in Tunga (Leyte) with my father. These past two years, I have also continued my studies in Tacloban and have finished the second year in High School. I enjoyed much in school life. Now, I was back again in Tunga cause my father needs a helper in our store. I was told to get marry but I refused it. For I don't like to get marry with such an early age. I'll be 18 years old this coming October."

24th Infantry (Victory) Division Veterans' Association

402-410 First National Bank Building, Attleboro, Massachusetts

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME.....

COMPANY AND REGIMENT, OR BATTERY.....

HOME ADDRESS.....

ADDRESSES OF FELLOW-VETERANS.....

.....

.....

REMARKS.....

DUES ENCLOSED.....

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES, \$2.00

CALL ME MISTER (Continued)

Santoro, Louis P., Sv. Co. 34th, joined Assn. almost 2 years ago. Lives at 4112 Bruner Ave., Bronx 66, N. Y.

Gratz, Heintz, Co. G. 21st, 2639 W. 123rd St., Blue Island, Ill. "Any news about a local Assn. around Chicago."

Karner, Herman P., Btry C, 63rd FA, Central Ave., East Bangor, Pa.

Kelleher, Edmund J., Hq., 1st Bn., 19th, gets his mail at 228 Orange St., Bridgeport, Conn.

Cuffney, Capt. Francis T., Hq. 34th, joins up from Box 394A, RD 2, Sinking Spring, Pa.

Heller, Roger K., 5567 Thomas Ave., Oakland 18, Calif. Another member from Sv. Co. 19th.

Bennett, Chas. D., 24th Recn., Tr., 817½ State St., Petoskey, Mich.

Hermann, Eugene J., RR 4 Big Lake, Bemidji, Minn., an ex-Gimlet, of Hq. Co. 3rd Bn.

Hill, James P., Med. Det 21st, back home in Olney, Texas, 405 W. Grove St.

Walczak, Mitzie M., former Chick, Co. L., lives at 20 Palmer St., Three Rivers, Mass.

Hammar, Frank W., Co. G. 21st, sends us a list of addresses from 11281 Pearl St., Los Angeles.

Bernhard, Otto Hq. Btry 11th FA, 3710 Thomas Ave. N., Minneapolis, Minn. "Glad to join."

Mongold, Lt. John W., AT Co. 34th, is building appraiser for City of Bakersfield, Calif. Address: 2530 H. St. Wants to organize Pacific Coast Chapter.

Drazazowski, Norbert, Co. A 21st, sent 30 addresses. Home: 1638 So. Magnolia St., So. Bend, Ind.

Fanning, S/Sgt. James E., 3rd Bn. Medics. 34th, still in butter business. 84 Raeburn Ave., Rochester, N. Y. Wants Lee Collins' address.

Shanks, William C., Cn. Co. 19th, has interloper in chow-line—year old son—at 903 W. McClung, Frankfort, Ind.

Thornburg, John W., Hq. Co. 1st Bn. 34th, of 1031 Wyley Ave., Akron, Ohio. Asks about copy of Capt. Geo. Morrissey's Journal. Ed: He has responded to many requests by preparing another edition due in March. Send one dollar to him at 609 1st Nat'l Bldg., Davenport, Iowa. It's strictly a non-profit venture and the labor of love. Many thanks, Doc.

Read, Capt. Harold J., Co's A & D, 34th, is Ass't. Mgr., Whitman Hotel, Pocatello, Idaho.

Walker, L. Jay 24th Sig. Co. is in photography business at 1007 Tatnall St., Wilmington, Del.

Lokken, Stanley B., 1st Bn. Med. 34th, is machine operator in Beloit, Wisc., 311 Locust St. Married—2 sons.

Bakewell, Lt. Thomas W., 724 Ord. Co. is with New Departure Co. in Bristol, Conn. Home: 25 Broadway. Says he sees Paul Seleman around town. And that Mark Tilton is married (one son) and lives at 23D So. Fairway, Pullman, Wash.

Hawaii Calls:

Four more members from Oahu (thanks to Gene Manley): Clenam Winans, Box 175 Schofield Barracks; T. J. Bloomer, Wahiawa; Daniel Parrish, Waialua; and Raymond Thomas, Cooper Tract, Aiea, Oahu,—all ex-Gimlets, Sv. Co.

Wigley, Daniel, Cn. Co. 19th, sends "Best of luck" from 2516 Kirk St., Fresno, Calif.

Huska, DeWayne B., of Hq. Co. 19th, lives in Sleepy Eye, Minn. at 410 So. 6th St.

Hanson, Wm. A., Co. H. 21st, sends fine letter from 27 W. Main, Clifton Springs, N. Y.

Whitney, Lt. Chas. R., Co. L. 21st, two years dues from 237 Lakeshore Rd., Grosse Point Farms, Mich.

McNeely, Mrs. John C., widow of Capt. McNeely, (KIA, 20 Oct. '44) living at 1645 Goldhill Ave., Charlotte, N. C., and teaching school.

Henrikson, Harold L., 52nd FA, 501 E. Florence St., Windsor, Mo. sent such a fine letter that we wish we had him on editorial staff.

Gen. Lester Eighth Army Chief of Staff.

In January Maj. Gen. James A. Lester became Chief of Staff of Eighth Army under Lt. Gen. Robert L. Eichelberger, succeeding Maj. Gen. Clovis E. Byers. Gen. Lester was wartime Div. Arty. CG and became 24th Division CG in Nov. 1945. Brig. Gen. Albert C. Smith, Asst. Div. Commander, took over command of the Division. He headed 14th Armored Division in combat in ETO.

THEY'RE IN THE ARMY NOW

Nuwer, Lt. Col. Roman J., former D.v. Chaplain, is Senior Chaplain, U. S. Forces in Austria, A.P.O. 777, c/o Pm. N.Y.C. In June '46 invested with rank of Monsignor in recognition of his work in church rehabilitation in Vienna. Due for rotation in May.

Fuller, Capt. John E., Asst. G-2, is with 9th Inf. Div., Ft. Dix, as Asst. G-3.

Howard, Maj. Elmer C., 3rd Bn., 19th (C.O.), is C.O. of 3rd Bn., 315th Inf., Schuylkill Arsenal, 2620 Grays Ferry Ave., Phila. 16, Pa. Wants to be counted in on all future plans.

Cizon, Lt. Col. Max, former Div. AG, is back in Army after tour of civilian duty in Chicago. With AGO, Rm. 1A909, Pentagon.

"Your department, "They're In the Army Now" gives us at a glance what's doing with those we remember from days of gore. It helps to answer the question—"I wonder what old so-and-so is doing"."

Excerpt from letter from name-withheld-on request.

Blaney, Capt. Kermit C., Co's B,C, & L, 21st, assigned to ROTC duty at West Va. Univ. Address: 647 Spruce St., Morgantown.

Aronson, 1st. Lt. Richard W., formerly Co. D. 19th, is now in TC, in 1st Stu. O's Co., T. School, Ft. Eustis, Va.

Pons, Lt. Frank J., Btry C. 13th FA, now with Legal Section, GHQ, SCAP, APO 500 (Tokyo).

Cort, Col. Hugh, former C/S and Div. Arty. CG, lives at 5408 Edgewood Rd, Little Rock, Ark. Present assignment is executive, Arkansas Military District.

Slavik, Col. Paul, an ex-chaplain of Division, is Chief of Chaplain's Office, Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland.

Noll, S/Sgt. Harold C., formerly with 24th Sig. Co., enlisted in RA in July '46 and is now with 18th Sig. Service Co., (Trieste), A.P.O. 209, c/o PM, New York.

Gen. Woodruff to be Deputy Commander of 1st Army.

It was recently announced that Maj. Gen. R. B. Woodruff, 24th Division CG from Nov. '44 to Nov. '45, will become Deputy Commander of First Army under Gen. Courtney H. Hodges. Gen. Woodruff will soon leave Kyoto, Japan, Headquarters of I Corps, for his new post at Governors Island, N. Y.

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