

The Taro Leaf

24th Infantry (Victory) Division Association

VOLUME IV

DECEMBER, 1950

NUMBER 2

DIVISION CONGRATULATED ON ITS NINTH ANNIVERSARY

President James (Spike) O'Donnell Forwarded The Following Letter To C. G. 24th Infantry Division Somewhere in Korea

18 September 1950

Commanding General
24th Infantry Division
APO 24, % Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Sir:

History abounds with examples of the effectiveness of units imbued with a solid esprit de corps built upon a foundation of community achievement, symbolized by various devices, and of course intensified by other factors. There is inevitably a close relationship between this work of exploitation and the work of organizing and maintaining an Association such as ours.

The friendly spirit of cooperation which has always existed between the division and the association has been most gratifying. Upon assumption of the presidency of the Association, I have come to the realization that the word "VETERANS" has no place in the masthead of the Association. This is especially true if the members of the Association are to continue glorying in the accomplishments of the Division in its present mission in Korea. While some attention has been paid to this matter before, it has become of increasing importance to take action now. With that in view the next issue of the Taro Leaf, the Association publication, will air this subject for consideration by the entire membership. Appropriate steps have already been taken, under my direction, to furnish copies of the "Taro Leaf", as issued, to members of the 24th Division hospitalized in the Zone of Interior. Should Department of the Army policies permit, personal visitations will be arranged as names of the 24th Division casualties become known.

Inasmuch as many former members of the Division are still in the service and wear the Taro Leaf, symbolizing a strong union with the Division in being, and are members of the Association, though not necessarily

(Continued on page 3, Col. 1)



Major General JOHN H. CHURCH
Commanding General 24th Inf. Div.

MAJOR GENERAL JOHN HUTSON
CHURCH, U.S.A.

Department of Defense
Office of Public Information
Press Branch

John H. Church was born near Glen Iron, Pennsylvania, June 28, 1892. He was graduated from Bucknell Academy in 1909 and attended New York University for three years. He was appointed a second lieutenant in the Infantry Reserve on May 3, 1917, was ordered to active duty June 1, 1917. On July 1, 1920, he was commissioned a first lieutenant of Infantry in the Regular Army, and promoted to captain the same date.

He sailed to France in December, 1917, to join the American Expeditionary Forces, and the following three months attended the II Corps Army School where he completed the course in automatic weapons. He joined the 28th Infantry in France in March, 1918, and with this regiment participated in the

(Continued on page 9, Col. 1)

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING
GENERAL

13 October 1950

Mr. James O'Donnell
131 North Culver Street
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Mr. O'Donnell:

The officers and men of the 24th Infantry Division cordially appreciate the good wishes and congratulations you expressed on behalf of the Division's Veterans Association. Fittingly enough, we received your letter on the day we reentered TAEJON—scene of the Division's gallant but bitter delaying action in the early days of the conflict.

Throughout the entire campaign, the victorious tradition bequeathed to us by our veterans of the Division has been a source of inspiration to us. We are indeed proud that we have added TAEJON, the NAK-TONG RIVER, and KYONGJU to the long role of victories achieved in World War II by wearers of the Taro Leaf.

It was you who gave us our nickname "The Victory Division." We shall continue to do all within our power to live up to it.

Sincerely yours,
John H. Church
Maj. Gen., USA
Commanding

18 September 1950

Commanding General
24th Infantry Division
APO No 24, % Postmaster
San Francisco, California

Dear Sir:

Upon the occasion of the approaching anniversary of the activation of the Twenty Fourth Infantry Division on 1 October, it is a pleasure to extend to you, and to your officers and enlisted men the sincere congratulations of the Association for the splendid achievements in the past year.

This anniversary, coming in the midst of your miraculous accomplishments in Korea on behalf of the United Nations and for the security of the United States and the free world, presents an opportunity to point out that history will not have to be exploited to enhance morale and the effectiveness in battle of the Twenty Fourth Infantry Division.

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Seasons Greetings



PERSONAL(itie)S

at Home and Abroad

ADDRESSES: How come so many of the boys forgot their addresses when registering at the Convention? (See page 2 of the October Taro Leaf). Is it possible that they left their wives in another city? **COULD BE?**

* * * *

OHIO: Just a tip to the gang High-IN-the-Middle: Why not make your presence known at the NEXT convention? Adding up the gang from Ohio, you people made quite a showing, and it is too bad you didn't do a little shouting. Maybe you PREFER to GO PLACES for OUR Conventions, eh?

* * * *

APOLOGIES: Ye editor indicated in the last issue of the Taro Leaf that Curtiss was the one who wanted the NEXT Convention in Denver. Our mistake, we note that Denver was DEFINITELY represented by: Ed Hogan and Tom Madden. You should have made your where-froms known to Maxie Cizon! Thanks E. Bowden for tipping us off that you had good reason for nominating Denver. Max Cizon, please note!

* * * *

FAR-AWAY-PLACES: Our face is a wee bit red, after seeing what we said in the last issue. We mentioned a lot of people and many places, but we sure overlooked the following: Dave J. Poland, Portland, Oregon; Jack E. Brown, Jamesport, Missouri; Charles and James Connor—from Baltimore, Maryland, and Fairmont, West Virginia respectively; Leland Leatherman, Hot Springs, Arkansas; Charley Radamer from Harrisburg, Virginia; and Dick Wise from East Bangor, Pennsylvania. There were a few more from Chicago and Detroit and New York. How about some new members from out your way?

* * * *

CONVENTION CHAIRMAN: The Association is Funny thataway—Jack Seck was volunteered for chairman of the Detroit Convention. All he has to do now is see to it that all is well in Detroit in 1951, get all the members hot and bothered about attending, and then his REAL headache will begin. What a DIRTY trick to pull on a nice guy—from Detroit, TOO!!!

* * * *

SANFORD RABIN: You had some darned good ideas at the Convention, which ye President incorporated in an editorial in the last issue. How come you did not com-

(Continued in Col. 2)

WHERE WERE THE QM MEN?

Correct us if we are wrong, but DOUGLAS MENTES was the only man present to hold the banner for the QM at the 1950 Conclave.

Doug came all the way from 1013 Jameson Street, St. Paul, Minn. Come on, all you Quartermaster guys, and get up to T/O strength in Detroit.

By the way, does anyone know the present whereabouts of Martin E. Griner (former Capt. Div. QM, Co.) last known address was c/o Warden, Florida State Penitentiary, Raiford, Fla.—No, he wasn't serving time! His Father was warden.

HOLLY DONATES TO CONVENTION ISSUE OF TARO LEAF! !

We meant to tell you in the last issue that your friend Robert Holly dropped by the registration desk toward the end of the Reunion and dropped off TEN BUCKS to help defray the expenses of the Convention Issue.

Bob said that he had not realized until then that dues were coming in like a snail and further stated that he wanted more Taro Leaves in order that he might keep up with the goings on of the Association.

Thanks a lot Bob. I believe we needed about \$9.92 at the time you placed your contribution.

MAJOR MINOR ARRIVES 17 NOVEMBER 1950

The stork has just informed this column that a son, (7 lb. 9 oz.) was born to MAJOR MAJOR now on duty with the G-2 Division in The Pentagon. Rumor also has it that the new addition to the Major household will, in addition to a Christening, be enrolled in the CIC Detachment for later assignment to such familiar places as Hollandia or even Goodenough". Major Thos H. Major's address is, c/o G-2, Pentagon, Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL(itie)S—Cont.

ment on some of the items contained in that editorial? It dealt with the subject YOU are best known for in the Division—MONEY. Better read it THIS time, and let the Secretary have it—in the chin, I suppose!

* * * *

MR. TREASURER: Every year we have a financial statement in the first issue following the Convention. How come none appeared in the last issue of the Taro Leaf, Davidson? The absence of that statement is causing the editor some more face-reddening, cause in one item he mentions that your statement appears elsewhere in the issue, I THEENK! Anyway, how is Lorna?

(Continued in Col. 3)

DON'T BE DISMEMBERED

Members of a certain club noticed the absence of a fellow member. So they inquired about him from the old darkey doorman, who replied: "That man am been dismembered for the dis-payment of his dues."

PERSONAL(itie)S—Cont.

Messers. VICE PRESIDENTS: How come all that silence? What are you doing about local chapters? The large posts, schools and headquarters in your areas are RIPE for chapters. Max, how about a chapter of the Association in Fort Sill? They tell me that you will get a lot of boys from Korea as FA instructors. Those lads are ELIGIBLE in a BIG way. Tiny, get together with Ed Postlethwait and start a Chicago area chapter! The boys in the Washington area have quite a Chapter! The Secretary has just received the following list from the Chairman—Engineer GORDON PAGE: Duff: Use the list if you care. It's up to you.

* * * *

Sam Snyder, how about contacting General Woodruff to see what HE can do about helping you get the gang organized in New York? While you are at it, get hold of some of the boys in the Academy; here are THREE good customers to begin with—Lt. Cols. ALL—Arthur W. Oberbeck (OB used to be our Engineer Chief); Cornelius De W. W. Lang (an ARTILLERYMAN and flier TOO); and David W. Hiester (a darned good loader of ships. How is your family, Dave?) Also contact WOJG T. M. Grey, Quarters 701-D, Fort Hamilton; a good prospect and one of Cizon's boys. There must be MORE in THAT area.

* * * *

MEMBERSHIP AND MONEY: We got the surprise of our life when the Secretary announced that out of the 1008 members, only 294 had paid their dues for the present year!!! How come you guys; don't you want to get copies of the Taro Leaf? Better sit right down and send that \$2.00 to Secretary Joe Peyton, 131 N. Culver Street, Baltimore 29, Maryland. While you are at it, send him the names of a couple of new prospects for membership. Joe will send these people copies of the Taro Leaf and an informal application blank.

* * * *

HOSPITAL CASUALTIES: Through the courtesy of the Surgeon General, we have obtained the names of all hospitals in the USA. Each of these hospitals has a Chaplain. We have sent at least five copies of the last issue of the Taro Leaf to the Chaplain and asked him to distribute those copies to the 24th boys hospitalized at his station. Some of the boys have also followed up these Taro Leafs with a personal visit to the hospital. Now that we are no

(Continued on page 8, Col. 1)

THE TARO LEAF

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ROBERT J. DUFF, Editor Subscription, \$2.00 annually, free to members of the Association.

OFFICERS

- PRESIDENT**—James M. O'Donnell, 21st Infantry, 4531 Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Ill.
- SECRETARY**—Joseph I. Peyton, 19th Infantry, 131 N. Culver Street, Baltimore 29, Md.
- TREASURER**—William V. Davidson, Division Headquarters, 540 Park Avenue, Swedesboro, N. J.
- CHAPLAIN**—Capt. Chris J. Berlo, 19th Infantry, Staff, Fitzsimons Army Hosp., Denver 8, Colorado.
- HISTORIAN**—Lt. Col. Richard H. Lawson, Division Headquarters, The Pentagon, Washington 25, D. C.

NOTICE!

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Your New Secy. JOSEPH I. PEYTON 131 N. CULVER ST. BALTIMORE 29, MARYLAND

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 Pfc. Charles L. Schanhultz, Winchester, Va.

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 1st Lt. Robert T. Lindsey, Tucson, Ariz.
 Cpl. James J. Frattaroli, Philadelphia (posthumous).
 Sgt. Lemuel T. Gray, Miami, Fla. (posthumous).
 Capt. Michael Barszcz, Chicago.
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 Cpl. Leon A. Green, Ohio, N. Y.
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 Capt. Robert H. Moore, (posthumous), Indianapolis.
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 Lt. Col. Robert H. Dawson, Greenville, Miss.
 2nd Lt. McDonald Martin, Jr., College Park, Ga.
 Pfc. Charley L. King, Gowen, Okla. (posthumous).
 2nd Lt. Douglas W. Blalock, Heflin, Ala. (missing in action).
 Cpl. Terry Mullen, Springfield, Ore.
 M/Sgt. Victor Hungerford Jr., Toledo, Ohio.
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 M/Sgt. Lester A. Lefflen, Mount Airy, N. C.
 Capt. Adolph C. Fossom, Santa Barbara, Calif.
 Maj. Edward O. Logan, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

O'DONNELL'S LETTER TO 24th—Cont.

"veterans", it is my belief that all personnel formerly assigned to the Division and now assigned thereto are eligible for membership in the Association. This is especially true of patients in hospitals within the Zone of Interior as well as in Japan, and personnel being reassigned to the 21 or to other units in the combat area.

Pending constitutional determination of membership for the entire Division, therefore, it will be appreciated if you will arrange to call this matter to the attention of all personnel reassigned. Your comment regarding the removal of the "veteran" designation will also be appreciated.

Please, also, have the accompanying letter published for the information of your command in connection with any ceremonies pertaining to the Twenty Fourth Infantry Division Organization Day.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
 James O'Donnell,
 President-elect

4531 W. Jackson Blvd.
 Chicago, 44, Illinois

Letter accompanying this letter will be found in Col. 3, Page 1.

**GENERAL DEAN AWARD
 MEDAL OF HONOR**



Maj. Gen. William F. Dean

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J.; Sgt. David O. Foster, Atlanta, Ga.; 2nd Lt. Edward D. Nattras, Kingston, Pa.; 2nd Lt. William J. Gibbons, Taylor, Pa.; Sgt. David J. White, Philadelphia; 1st Lt. Floyd S. Gibson, Stamford, Conn.; Cpl. Harold W. Glonick, Groyling, Mich.; Sgt. Melvin Bratcher, Eubrun, Ky.; Lt. Col. Harold Ayers, New Orleans; Capt. George B. Hofeman, Columbus, Ga.; SFC Bruno R. Henki, Aberdeen, Md.; 1st Lt. Albert F. Alfonso, Honolulu; M/Sgt. Millard L. Barnes, Boswell, Okla.



On behalf of
Grandfather and Grandmother
Col. and Mrs. Cizon
I take this opportunity to wish
the old and the new members
of the Division

Seasons Greetings

P. S. Thanks for that nice announcement of my birth in the last issue of the Taro Leaf.

S.B.R.

Merry Christmas Happy 1951

WILLIAM SAVELL
Blountstown, Florida

Formerly Sv. Co., 19th Inf.

Seasons Greetings

from

KENWOOD ROSS

1387 Main Street
Springfield, Mass.
(formerly Div. Hq.)



Margaret

Joe

To all our old friends of the
Division Association, and the
new members of the 24th In-
fantry Division now fighting
in Korea

BEST WISHES FOR A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR

Patricia

Thomas

MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Cain & Family
(Paul, Florence, Mike, Christie)

Ivesdale, Illinois
Former C. O. Co. 1 3rd Bn 34th.

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A
MERRY CHRISTMAS
and a
HAPPY NEW YEAR



To All Members of
24th INFANTRY DIVISION
and
24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSN.

•
34th Inf. Regt. Assn. Inc.
28 E. 39th Street
New York, N. Y.

SEASON'S GREETINGS
and BEST WISHES . . .

Col. H. E. "Hall" Liebe
Hq. FARTC Ft. Sill, Okla.
Former CO, 13th FA Bn.

*"Greetings & Best Wishes
To All My 24th Division Buddies"*
DR. STANLEY C. KAISER
37 Washington St.
Quincy 69, Massachusetts
(Formerly Div. Arty. Dental Surgeon)

Best Wishes for a
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year
to All My Buddies of the
24th Infantry Division!
FRANK N. RAMIREZ
415 N. Westlake Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.
(Formerly Div. Arty. & Div. Hq.)

Dorothy and Edmund F. Henry
send

GREETINGS
OF THE SEASON



To All Members Of The
24th INFANTRY DIVISION
and 24th Inf. Division Assn.

29 Grove Street
North Attleboro, Mass.

*To All Members of the
24th Infantry Division Assn.
and the 24th Infantry Division*

I extend my Best Wishes
for

Christmas and
the New Year!

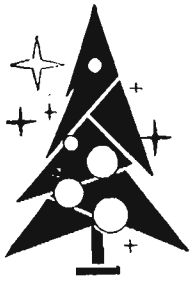
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Formerly Division Hq.

Seasons Greetings

DETROIT CONVENTION
COMMITTEE

John F. Seck, Chairman
Basil Donovan
Walter Frederick
Ross Pursifull





My Best Wishes to Members of the
ASSOCIATION and the DIVISION
for a Merry Christmas and
A Most Prosperous, Happy New Year!



James M. (Spike) O'Donnell
President, 24th Division Assn.
formerly 21st Inf.

To All Members of the
ASSOCIATION, and
The DIVISION

*Season's Greetings
with wishes for
Success in 1951*

THE DUFFS

Bob — Louise — Bob Jr.
619 N. Walnut (Box 447) Danville, Ill.
(Formerly Div. Hq.)

CHRISTMAS MORN

*As I gaze into Thy crib, O King,
I can almost hear the Angels sing
And see the Wise Men standing there
Along with shepherds who at You stare.*

*I hear Your voice all filled with love,
Resounding from Your Throne above
Beckoning to us with Your small hand
To accept the joys that You have planned.*

*My heart and soul passed out to You
As faith and hope within me grew;
And shone as would a beacon light
Upon Your eyes so big and bright.*

*Now kneeling at Your Manger, cold,
A thousand visions are unrolled
Showing us how You lived while here,
Yet of earth's danger held no fear.*

*For You, as King and Lord and God,
Knew well man's heart was filled with fraud,
And yet You loved man's soul so well
You came down here with him to dwell.*

*O tender Child and King of might,
Within Your household You unite
With all that's clean and pure and good,
That most of us misunderstood.*

*With Christmas Greetings from
Chaplain Chris J. Berlo*



**Lt.-Gen. ROBERT L.
EICHELBERGER**

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ASSOCIATION REORGANIZATION!

What Is This All About?

As we sit down to write this article, the movement to reorganize the 24th Association is well under way. It seems that it all started at the Chicago Convention where some of our boys became "experts" on matters military—veterans versus green troops for example. The roaring became loud when the boys began asking themselves, why the word "VETERANS" in the Association name? We have listened to the talk, with what might be called "mixed feelings", especially now that our boys are really showing them in that "Police action in Korea on behalf of the United Nations". Why shouldn't all the present members of the Twenty Fourth Infantry (Victory) Division be eligible for membership in the Association? What makes a "veteran" of the 24th? Why are the World War II boys any better 'veterans' than the boys in the hospitals throughout the USA who received their wounds fighting with the 24th in Seoul or Korean hills? Those are good questions, and I hope someone comes up with a good answer in a hurry!

What's the hurry, you ask? Well, if YOU visited a patient in one of the General Hospitals in the United States, what answer would YOU have if he asked you about his qualifications for membership in the Association? SURE, that is what I would tell him! Why are they no more eligible for membership than are the boys still in uniform, who have never left the service, even after reassignment from the 24th? Well, we are all agreed that those boys are eligible for membership, but ONLY because they are not at present assigned to the 24th. All right, now take one of these boys who left the service after World War II, and then when the Korean business came up, he re-enlisted and wanted and WAS assigned to the 24th! Is he a "veteran", eligible for membership in the Association. "Sure", you say, "why not?" Well, why not? Hearing no objection, let us take one more step, why keep the word "veteran" in our name, and why not open the Association to membership by any one in the present 24th Infantry Division in Korea, Japan or where have you?

Having got THAT out of our system, we will continue with other subjects that should be considered as part of the reorganization of the Association. Before we do, however, we ought to remind you of some obvious truths about yourself and the Association. We'll start by saying something that all of you know by this time. The 24th was but one Division of ninety that took the field during World War II. WE think it was the best of the whole lot, but we admit we may be prejudiced slightly, especially in the face of the miraculous withdrawals made by the so-called "green" boys in Korea. Stopping to think a bit more, we boys did not especially want to be assigned to the 24th. For that matter, most of US did not want to be in the Army. The boys with the 24th now, and many of us, were seemingly picked up and set down among a lot of strangers who used rather foul language and were pushed around a lot by guys who ALWAYS out-ranked us. In the next three or four years we watched these strangers go to the latrine every day, we listened to them bitch and we listened to them brag. We ate the same food and we made up our beds the same

way. If we did not have beds, we used hammocks, so what? When we got to fighting, it got tougher, and we even watched some of these fellows get the hell shot out of them. Then came the Japanese surrender and most of us came home and were demobilized and allowed to go home where our friends were. In the meantime, however, "the strangers" in the Division had ceased to be strangers. They were **damned close friends**. Sometimes they were closer friends than those we were going home to.

If you miss those friends because you are no longer sleeping next to him, or fighting in that hole a few feet away from him, how can you pump a little blood back into the veins of that old friendship? Join the Association, attend the reunions, and get the Taro Leaf to read!

Read this thing—The Taro Leaf—from cover to cover. Read every word of it! If you think it's funny, that's your funeral. The main thing we hope to peddle in this monstrosity is news. We'll attempt to send you way sage words on such subjects as histories, how to handle your wives, and the proper way to address a former officer now that BOTH of you are just plain Mister. Best of all, we'll try to keep you up-to-date on the sex life of Joe Blow who used to be in Baker Company. We think we can give you pretty accurate information on this. All we do is count the kids. Yes, we expect to be regular devils, but just how good a devil we become depends on you. This is YOUR paper. We only take out the four letter words your wife hasn't beat out of you yet. (The postal laws and regulations, you know). The quality of this paper depends on how much news you send us. So get busy! We think there is enough material in this article for you to start quite an argument, by mail, with the Secretary.

Frankly, fellows, we aren't interested in how you personally licked the hell out of the Japs on Mindanao or Leyte. In our outfit every man was a hero and we're willing to admit it, with no quibbling! If you have a good story to tell, **we want it**. Hell, there's a lot of things we want to know, but we'll never find out unless you tell us! Just one word of advice. There are a lot of fellows whose addresses we don't have. They might

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TO
JOSEPH I. PEYTON
131 N. CULVER ST.
BALTIMORE 29, MARYLAND
and NOT to
TARO LEAF, as Taro Leaf
Hq. is now separate from Assn. Hq.

want to know about this Association and the Taro Leaf you are reading. Instead of throwing this away after you read it, send it to someone else, or ask them to write the Secretary and he'll get them a fresh copy.

This brings us to the crux of the whole reorganization problem—MONEY. Once we knew a minister who use to open his service with a hymn, then while his own parishioners were still enraptured by the music, he'd start exhorting them to dig down into their jeans for a little of the folding stuff. After that he'd give a little talk about God. Then he'd return to the subject of money and finish off the service with a hymn. We have no organ so we will dispense with the opening hymn because in a way, we of the 24th are undertaking the building of a "church" dedicated to the lasting friendships that were founded while we were assigned to the Division—a "monument" to the hundreds of our fellows who are still fighting the war in Korea or in hospitals throughout the U.S.A.

We know that every man who ever served in the 24th would like to build this lasting monument to the Division. Unfortunately, in a life filled with the stuff we've had to put up with we've learned the truth of the old adage that the road to Hell is paved

(Continued on page 8, col. 1)

24th Infantry (Victory) Division Association

131 N. Culver

Baltimore, Md.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME.....

COMPANY AND REGIMENT OR BATTERY.....

HOME ADDRESS.....

ADDRESSES OF FELLOW-VETERANS.....

.....

.....

REMARKS.....

DUES ENCLOSED.....

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES, \$2.00
 (Includes Subscription to TARO LEAF)

Association Reorganization—Cont.

with good intentions. Like our minister, we feel it necessary to talk about money once in a while. When we do, we pour it on, brother. I have just learned that someone is telling you about this STUFF editorially.

Money to the Association is something more than just long green stuff Uncle Sam prints down there in Washington. Money to the Association, is the help we get, the enthusiasm, the news we publish in this paper. This is your last chance to get into the Association for two bucks. Next year it will be three. IF THIS OUTFIT IS TO SUCCEED, YOU HAVE TO PUT IT OVER. The officers of the Assn. can't do it ALL by themselves.

PERSONAL(itie)S—Cont.

longer just VETERANS, the Korean boys are eligible for membership TOO. Don't PUSH those boys, but leave a membership application handy for his own use IF and WHEN he is ready. Be sure and tell the boys how proud we are of their accomplishments in Korea.

GENERALS: With both General Irving and General Lester in San Francisco, we are looking forward to an active participation of the boys of the 24th in THAT area. How about carrying the ball Kaye? or Short? The Generals will be happy to see you TOO!

COMBAT FILM: Each Army Area Headquarters film library now has a copy of the 24th WWII Combat Film for loan to local chapters. If you are in need of a "filler" contact the library nearest your home—Army Film Library, that is.

FREE: One of our boys not only is active in Division affairs; he also believes in doing his part for the Association. Thanks Bucky Ford; you TOO ED for the arrangements—and also THANKS to Jack Davies for the FREE stationery! Our Secretary is pleased no end!

ITEMS: Ye editor, Bob Duff, Box 447, Danville, Illinois is still looking for personal items to include in his Taro Leaf issues. How about it gang? It will make it easier for THIS Department TOO! Have a heart fella! There is a limit to what you can swipe out of the ARMY TIMES.

HAVE YOU BEEN RECALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY? Let the Secretary have your new address. That goes for you fellows who remain on civilian duty also. If you decide to move—drop a note to the Secretary, giving him the change. There is MONEY involved. Each returned copy is a double charge on the POST OFFICE permit, so we actually save money by having your correct address. We don't have too much money to squander either. While you are at it, you may as well give us the names and ADDRESSES of some of the boys on duty with you at your new station!

PROMOTIONS: The Army is busy promoting some 22,000 officers. Why not let the Secretary know of YOUR promotion. Making "Sergeant First Class" is Nothing to be sneezed at, and we will be proud to announce it in the next issue of the Taro Leaf.

The last issue should have announced the fact that Dick Lawson, Dave Perkins, and Roman (Father) Nuwer received Temporary Promotion to Colonel. CONGRATULATIONS. There have been hundreds of promotions since THAT event. Who are you?

LEFTENANT REDD: Lots of luck to you in the new overseas' assignment. We had great hopes about YOU being our fountain of information on that SELECTION BOARD assignment. You left too quickly and now we have to depend on the boys telling us themselves about their promotions. A BIT LATE, but Congratulations on your Regular Army Warrant. You TOO Lingle! How about keeping us informed on Second Army activities? We need more space fillers (Ye Ed).

DOC: Better tip the Secretary that you are from GARY not Chicago. Incidentally THIS Department had you in the right town Doctor Daubenheyer! How is that CUTE wife of yours?

BYERS: The General looks older than he IS in that FLASH picture taken at the Convention. We don't know what HE thinks, but we apologize anyhow!

OUR PRESIDENT: Spike has been busy "earning a living" and writing some NICE letters to General Church the present Commanding General of the FIGHTIN 24TH. Did you bump into any of the boys who still haven't paid their dues, Mr. President?

MEDALS, DISCHARGES: Have you received all the medals coming to you? Have you lost your honorable discharge? Do you want a replacement? All you have to do is write to the Commanding Officer, Records Administration Center, 4300 Goodfellow Boulevard, St. Louis 20, Missouri. You may get a form to fill out, but that is ALL you will have to do. By the way, sign your request with your FULL name AND Serial (now Service) Number; and don't forget your return address.

LOST: What happened to you? H. P. Easley (last heard from at Maxwell Field); General Hugh Cort (General Woodruff had a job for you when he addressed the gang at the New York convention last year); Jimmy Short (formerly a Vice President of the Association, in the "infant" days); Jimmy Wilson (the Florida Legion keeping you busy?); Doc Leddy (missed you at the Convention AGAIN); George Sur (ever get to the USA? How about stirring up Goas and a few of the other boys in and around Honolulu about setting up an Island Chapter with NEWS for this sheet occasionally?); Doc Bert Coers (last heard from at the Command and General Staff School); Ches Spain (How are they going Doc? Played any black-jack lately?); K. W. Hawthorne (there must be at least ONE other member in Maine?); Joy Vallery (How about a Second Army Chapter? Better check with Wilson; we lost him TOO!); Hey Melody—how come YOU and Mrs McNeely did not make the Chicago convention?; Fred Flora (we need a few members in the Upper Peninsula); Goldstein (The Convention in 1951 would have been held in St. Louis, IF you had been in Chicago); Bill Willmot (Missed you and the Mres at the Convention this year!); Howitt (How is the Special Service in Buffalo?); Bert Koenig (How is Philly? And how come the silence from YOU?); Lloyd Price (Sure wish you would tell us if

you are still in Dallas); Julien Mason (How come? We needed your wife for front-table decoration. Too many men at that table again, didja see?); Johnny Clarke (the boys can't find you in the phone-book—'smatter?); John Riccardi (we missed YOU and W. Virginny. How about an item for the Taro Leaf?); Doc Weller (We sure hoped to see YOU in Chicago!). If YOU know let the sec know. We will acknowledge in THIS column NEXT TIME.

WALTER PAGE JR.: Still with the Heart Association, or did General Cramer get you back as his aide?

TOM UPTON: Written anything lately on the Anopheles mosquito? Tom Compere and Walter Cunningham missed YOU!

DO YOU KNOW THEIR HOME TOWNS: William D. Burlson, Edward Gibbs, Ray Hardi and Virgil Maxon? These men all attended the Chicago Convention, but left no home addresses. All of them but Burlson are new members. The secretary is anxious to send them a Taro Leaf.

BOBBY ALBRIGHT is a busy beaver. Bobby sent a letter to Mr. Floyd Murphy of Logansport, Indiana. Result: a new paidup member. Keep up the good work.

DWIGHT K. FOSTER: Glad you enjoy the Taro Leaf. Col. Foster occasionally finds names of the Gimlets, Rocks and particularly the Dragoneers whom he commanded. Col. Foster was with the 34th Inf. on occupation duty from March 1946 to October 1948. Now on Civilian Component duty with the National Guard in Michigan. Line him up SECK. Could supply the band or honor guard for next year's convention.

MAJOR ROBER MALONE: Writes he is sorry he has been unable to attend any of the conventions. However is going to strive to see everyone next year. Dues enclosed.

BRONZE STAR AWARD—Cont.

Capt. (Chap.) Edward Dorsey, Tokyo; PFC Edgar D. Sinnett, Chelso, Mass.; PFC Wilford E. Stowe, Dry Fork, Va.; PFC Andrea R. Duron, El Paso, Tex.; PFC Manuel Vigil, Raton, N. M.; Cpl. William J. Morris, Pine Bluff, Ark.; Cpl. Thomas M. Garrison, Charleston, S. C.; Sgt. Harold G. Hockney, Toler, Ky.; Sgt. Walter E. Knocker, Mountain Lake, Minn.; Sgt. Daniel A. Cretaron, Rome, N. Y.; SFC Nalan K. Wood, Mt. Olivet, Ky.; SFC Gilbert J. Ramera, Derby, Colo.; M/Sgt. Glen H. Royer, Carthage, Mo.; M/Sgt. Gene A. Bourbon, Abilene, Tex.; M/Sgt. Bernard M. Misdorf, Reading, Pa.; WO (jg) Miles S. Johnson, La Crescenta, Calif.; 2nd Lt. Robert B. Fahs, Philadelphia; 1st Lt. Murnay C. Elkind, New York; Capt. Charles E. Hall, Mobile, Ala.; Capt. Raymond C. Wilson, Glen Park, Ind.; Capt. James H. Smith, Fort McClellan, Ala.; Capt. Earl N. Hill, Jr., Salisbury, Md.; Chaplain (Capt.) James W. Helt, Elizabethtown, Pa.; Capt. Jack E. Smith, Mobile, Ala.; Capt. William Q. Boyd, Blytheville, Ill.; Maj. William F. Staob, Hays, Kan.; Maj. George D. Band, Fresno, Calif.; Lt. Col. Ben E. Allen, Tulsa, Okla.; Lt. Col. Charles F. Mudgett, Omaha.

D. Peters, 1st Lt. Arthur J. Patterson, 2nd Lt. Travon H. Farmer, 2nd Lt. Alan Kinghorn, 2nd Lt. Dewey L. Coles, Capt. Edgar E. Still, 2nd Lt. Joseph A. Coamer, Sgt. Donald L. Stiles, Cpl. Hershell S. Stroud, Sgt. Edward W. Zelms, Capt. John A. Yates, M/Sgt. Richard I. Smith, Capt. James D. Manning, Capt. Raymond H. Hatfield, SFC Joe F. Barker, Capt. Elbert E. Wells, Maj. George W. Allyn, Capt. Donald E. Sandstrom, Maj. Wade F. Heritage, Maj. Kenneth Peterson, 1st Lt. Phillip M. Cobb, PFC Omer A. Dube, Cpl. Robert D. Jones and Cpl. Bobby Ford.

GENERAL CHURCH—Cont.

following engagements: Cantigny, Montdidier-Nayon, Aisne-Marne and the Meuse Argonne Offensive and Defensive. He was wounded in action at Cantigny, France, on May 28, 1918, and again at Borzy Le Sec near Soissons, France, on July 21, 1918. He served in the Army of Occupation in Germany until April, 1919, when he joined the Third Army Composite Regiment, serving with the American Forces in Germany and France until the following September when he returned to the United States with his regiment and proceeded to Camp Meade, Maryland.

In November, 1919, he again was assigned to the 28th Infantry and served for nine months at Camp Zachary Taylor, Kentucky, where he became aide to Brigadier General F. C. Marshall, Second Infantry Brigade, in January, 1920. The following March he became supply officer and adjutant of the 2nd Infantry Brigade and later served as executive to Brigadier General Clarence Edwards, 2nd Infantry Brigade. In October, 1920, he was ordered to Camp Benning, Georgia, where he was graduated from the Infantry School in June, 1921. He then served with the 28th Infantry at Camp Dix, New Jersey, until February, 1922, when he became regimental instructor of the First Infantry, Maryland National Guard at Frederick, Md.

From August, 1926, until June, 1929, he served at Fort Niagara, New York, with the 28th Infantry as company commander, battalion commander, regimental adjutant, regimental supply officer and post exchange officer. He again became an instructor with the Maryland National Guard, serving at Cambridge and Frederick, Maryland, until May, 1933, when he was assigned to Civilian Conservation Corps duty in the Ninth Corps Area with duty in Wyoming.

In October 1, 1933, he sailed to the Philippine Islands, where he was stationed at Fort William McKinley for duty with the 57th Infantry (Philippine Scouts). He later became regimental adjutant and acting executive officer of the 57th Infantry, until he sailed for the United States in May, 1936.

He returned to the United States in May, 1936, for assignment to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, where he was graduated from the Command and General Staff School in June, 1937. The following month he went to Phoenix, Arizona, as an instructor with the Arizona National Guard, with additional duty as instructor, 8th Corps Area Command, and General Staff School at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. In October, 1940, he was assigned to the 45th Infantry Division at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, as assistant chief of staff for operations. He later moved to Camp Barkley, Texas, with the 45th Infantry Division, and in January, 1942, was made division chief of staff.

In June, 1943, he went to North Africa with the division and later moved with it to Sicily and Italy. In Italy during September, 1943, he became regimental commander of the 157th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Division and in August, 1944, was appointed assistant commander of the 45th Infantry Division. He was transferred to the 84th Infantry Division in September, 1944, and became assistant commander upon its arrival in the European theater. He served with the 84th Infantry Division until it was inactivated in January, 1946.

During his service in Europe he participated in the landing on Sicily, Salerno, Anzio, and Southern France. While in command of the 157th Infantry at Anzio Beachhead his regiment successfully withstood several of the most serious enemy attacks, aimed at eliminating the beachhead, and in the breakthrough operating as a task force under VI Corps Command, penetrated behind the German lines, disrupting their organizations to such extent as to facilitate the breakthrough. This regiment along with the 142nd Infantry, 36th Infantry Division, became part of the task force commanded by General Church in Southern France during August, 1944, which operated to slow down the withdrawal of the German forces in the Rhine Valley. While serving with the 84th Infantry Division in the advance between the Ruhr and Rhine rivers during the latter part of February, 1945, General Church commanded "Task Force Church", which spearheaded the drive of the Ninth Army for several days, penetrating as much as 12 kilometers at a time. He was wounded for the third time during this operation.

After his return to the United States he served as commanding general of the Infantry Replacement Training Center at Fort McClellan, Alabama, from June to November, 1946. From November, 1946, to July, 1947, he commanded the Replacement Training Center at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and from July until November, 1947, commanded the 5th Infantry Division at that post.

He went to Fort Monroe, Virginia, February 10, 1948, as deputy assistant chief of staff for training in the office of the chief, Army Field Forces. The following January he became deputy chief of the Army Field Forces at Fort Monroe, Virginia, and in June, 1949, was appointed assistant chairman of the Army Equipment Policy Panel there. He was named assistant deputy chief of the Army Field Forces two months later.

In October, 1949, he was assigned to the Far East Command, and a month later became chief of the Ryukyus Military Government Section.

When Major General William F. Dean, Commander of the 24th Infantry Division in Korea was announced as missing in action on July 22, 1950, General Church was ordered to Korea to assume command of the 24th Division.

DECORATIONS

General Church has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal and the Purple Heart with two clusters. His foreign decorations include the French Legion of Honor, and Croix de Guerre with Palm, the Russian Order of the Fatherland 1st Degree and the Netherlands order of Orange-Nassau, Knight Commander with Swords.

PROMOTIONS

He was promoted to major (permanent) on August 1, 1935; to lieutenant colonel (permanent) on August 18, 1940; to colonel (temporary) on December 24, 1941; to brigadier general (temporary) on August 1, 1944; to brigadier general (permanent) on January 24, 1948, with date of rank from February 15, 1947; to major general (temporary) on July 18, 1950, with date of rank from March 12, 1949.

Commanding General Letter—Cont.

To have accomplished so much under such difficult conditions is cause enough for pride by every member of your command. Suffice to say that we, veterans, are proud of the achievement of the wearers of the "Taro Leaf" and in behalf of the membership of the Association I take this opportunity to extend to you and all members of the Twenty Fourth Infantry Division our very best wishes for continued success in the tremendous job that lies ahead.

Most sincerely,

James O'Donnell

President- elect

"Vic Backer of the 34th Association of New York informed this correspondent that November 27th had been set aside as the 24th Infantry Division blood donor day, sponsored by the Regimental Association. There will be quite a blood letting, they tell us, cause EVERYBODY is volunteering, except the lame, blind and halt AND those WITHOUT blood."

DETROIT'S HOTEL TULLER WILL BE THE LOCATION OF OUR NEXT CP

When next we meet in reunion it will be in Detroit, Mich., at the Hotel Tuller. This Hotel was decided upon recently by our 1950-51 Convention Committee, headed by John Seck.

Plenty of Parlours, Committee rooms and other accommodations, necessary for the success of the Convention, will be at our disposal.

Complete details will be announced in the next issue of the TARO LEAF, BUT, come one, come all to the next Reunion. DON'T BE AWOL!!

ED HENRY THROWS STAG FOR NEW ENGLAND MEMBERS:

Ed Henry was host at an informal party at his Estate in North Attleboro on Saturday, November 25th. In addition to our president, Spike O'Donnell, Mr. C. T. Scanlon, Shawmut Nightly Newsteller over WBZ-TV, was also present. Mr. Scanlon is a great booster for the Victory Division.

"The First 40 Days" showing the 24th Division in action in Korea was shown.

The bulletin received at the Taro Leaf office stated that "Ed Henry was hosting at the party", but our G-2 informs us that before the evening was over, almost all present were "hoisting".

**Wear Your
Lapel Button**

**If you have ncn, write
to your Secy. for Info.**

TO ALL AT HOME AND ABROAD, Seasons Greetings



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

COL. R. H. LAWSON,
Army War College,
Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas,
formerly Div. Hq.

RAYMOND A. DENDE,
114 Kent Lane,
Wilkes Barre, Penna.,
formerly 724th Ord.

M/SGT. CARL H. OEDER,
817 Ord. Sup. Dep. Co.,
Red River Arsenal,
Texarkana, Texas,
formerly 724th Ord.

J. A. SNYDER,
Box 90,
Imola, California,
formerly 19th Inf.

JOHN F. SECK,
19921 Moenart,
Detroit 12, Michigan,
formerly 19th Inf.

CHARLES J. CONNELL,
357 Cloverdale Ave.,
Akron 3, Ohio,
formerly 19th Inf.

EDWARD WEIL JR.,
512 Burnham Place,
Columbia, Missouri,
formerly 19th Inf.

LT. COL. ALMON W. MANLOVE,
C. & G. S. College,
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas,
formerly Div. Ord.

LT. COL. ROY W. MARCY,
State Armory,
Spokane, Washington,
formerly 21st Inf.

ROBERT W. REDMOND JR.,
P. O. Box 113,
Matawan, New Jersey,
formerly 19th Inf.



THE TARO LEAF

24th Inf. (Victory) Division Assn.
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