

TAROLLEAF

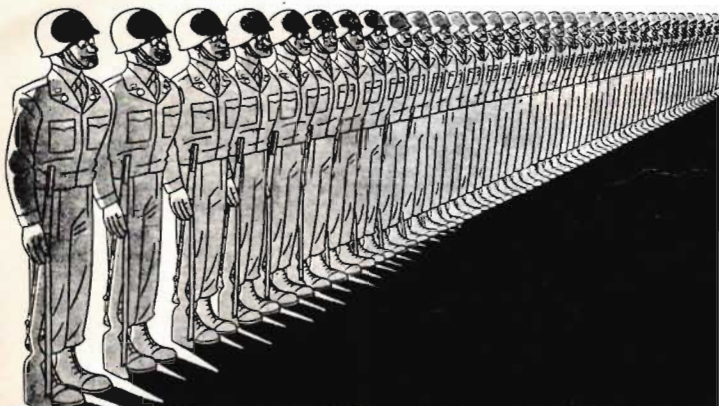
24TH INFANTRY ASSOCIATION

VOL-VIII JANUARY, 1954 NO. 2



IN MEMORIAM

JOHN H. CHURCH (Division Headquarters) lived a full life and leaves a noble heritage. His great gifts of heart and mind and soul were ever directed toward his purposes—to serve his country. He was a hard fighter but always a fair adversary. We knew him best when he was too physically ill to carry on the great responsibilities of the early Korean days; when he stepped into the shoes of his good friend, WILLIAM F. DEAN (Division Headquarters). We kept in close touch with him as he left the Division, returned to Fort Benning, and then retired via Hot Springs Army Hospital. His days of much-deserved rest and peace and quiet in Maryland were few. Not many realized that he was lying desperately ill at Walter Reed Hospital when, in November, death came, as it comes to all men. When John Church stepped from among his contemporaries on a new assignment, he left a space which he alone could fill. He will be missed and mourned.



Revolt Against Monotony

What it all means is that there's going to be no masthead in this issue. We'll be back with it in the next issue.

Easy does it!

CLARENCE STANLEY (I-34) is now at 1745 W. Wardlow Rd., Long Beach, Calif. Clarence has been doing the Assoc. some favors in his area. Thanks, Clarence. Clarence wants to contact ERNEST COMPTON and LEWIS SANTORE, both of the 34th. Can anyone help him? Can anyone give him the address of LUWAN PERSONE (I-34) whose last known address was Grass Valley, Calif.? We hope someone can help you, Clarence.....

What daya say, Buddy — Let's give it a try!

IT CAN BE DONE, YOU KNOW

EACH member SIGN UP a member

YOSHIO TAMAKI, a returned POW, is now home at 2111 Nine St., Honolulu 45, T.H. He spent a month or so at Tripler Hospital and reports that he has "yet to do the many things I took so long in thinking about doing." We're glad to have you with us, Yoshio.

GREAT ACTIVITY AT CAMP GORDON

There's a lot of leg-work being done these days down at Camp Gordon, thanks to the enthusiasm of the three members pictured below. Reading from left to right, they are Captain David Russell, Post G-1, Captain Bill Byrd, whose business keeps him close to the Augusta area these days (for which we are selflessly grateful), and Brig. Gen. Charles Blanchard, Gordon's C.G. and one-time Artillery Commander of the Division.



We're extremely grateful for the loyalty which this trio, and the many 24th's there at Gordon with them, are showing.

To name but a few, we include EARL REYNOLDS (Med Bn from 7/48 to 8/50), ANDY HART (Med Bn from 5/50 to 4/51), HERB BONNETTE (Sig Co from 1/51 to 2/52), JOHN COLETTI (34th) and FRANK STILO (Sig Co from 11/48 to 4/51).

The steering committee is well on the way to forming the Camp Gordon chapter.

We wish them every success and hope we can drop in on one of their meetings soon.

Thanks again, men.



THE TATTOOED SAILOR

Cheers to BOB CARMODY who has been doing some missionary work for us out Pittsburgh way. Bob is with Haller's Mt. Lebanon Garage Company, at 600 Washington Rd., Mt. Lebanon, Pittsburgh 28, Pa. They're Ford distributors there.....

bring 'em back

ALIVE

JOE PEYTON (19th) sends us a copy of the 25th Div. Assoc. publication, "Tropic Lightning Flashes" in which they boast of a membership of "over 11,000." Well, what do you know?..... Feel like writing, griping or suggesting? Drop a line to our "In" basket. We'll print your letter and let the chips fall where they may!

THE BREAKS OF THE GAME

CAPT. LINTON J. BUTTREY (19th) has been most cavalier. He recently had the good courtesy to send us in \$6.00 for 2 years of dues plus a membership for 1st Lt. KENNETH E. BYRON (19th) whose address is c/o The Hamlets Montross, Va. Linton is at 5900 California Ave., Nashville, Tenn. Are you out of the Army, Linton?..... In a recent issue, we carried a story about SGT. GERALD WIRTZ, of West Plains, Mo. He mother, Mrs. Wm. J. Wirtz writes us that Gerry had the sad mission of escorting the body of his brother, Wm. J. Wirtz, home from Korea. Young Bill was killed by a mortar on 9-11-52. We regret the news, Mrs. Wirtz. Everyone of our members shares your grief.....

WHY THE RICH GET RICHER

DAVE SMITH (24 QM from 9-50 to 7-51) is now with the ROTC at Cornell U. as an instructor.... LLOYD L. NEFF, JR. (A-24 Med. from 5-45 to 8-46) reports that he recently talked with HOWARD HARTUNG who was in Lloyd's outfit. Howard, like Lloyd, is a pharmacist. Howard had never heard of the Assoc. That's not strange, Howard. We've tried to get in touch with you. How about joining up Howard? He's at Rt. 2, Macon, Mo.....

BY THE DAWN'S UGLY LIGHT

MEL GRIFFITH writes us on some imposing stationery titled "North Atlantic Treaty Organization." We asked where he was in our April issue and Mel obliges by telling us. Mel writes "I am with SHAPE in Paris. The assignment is good. The duty is good. The weather is good. The scenery is beautiful and the Miles. are..... Say have you ever been in Paris?" Mel's address is Signal Division, SHAPE, 8478 AAU, APO 55, c/o PM, N.Y..... VARIAN M. HOOVER (C-34) is still a grocer in Hustontown, Pa. He just visited two of his buddies, DORNS O. HOUSER, of 701 Kirkwood Circle, Camden, S.C. and HUGH HIGHTOWER, of Newport, Tenn. (both of Charlie Co of the 34th) during a recent trip south of the Smith & Wesson line. Dorns is working for the city as a mail carrier and is active in the VFW in Camden. Hugh works in a rayon factory near Newport. Varian reports that wife, Jessie, (You'll remember Jessie at Columbus in '52) and daughter Janet, made the trip with him. Thank you for the very complete report, Varian; sorry we can't use it all..... A recent press release advises that workers in a Soviet plant are kept happy by being periodically sprayed with the scent of rose, pine and lilac. Obviously, in view of the shortage of bath tubs in Russia, this must be a self-defense plant.... Give us a break, will you please, and let us know when you change your address.

Tip from Bellboy

SGT. MORTON BROWN, now with Co.L of the 21st on Kojima, was in the States recently and bumped into SPIKE O'DONNELL on the street in Washington, D.C. Spike spotted the Taro Leaf and they were off. Mort is trying to get back to the 19th, his old outfit but the army red tape seems to have fouled him up. It's too bad a man can't stay with an outfit he loves when he asked for the privilege. They'd never treat a guy that way in the British Army.....

NOW...

Thank go to LARRY GALVIN, of Lowell, Mass. for helping us to locate AL LAURENT, a recently returned POW. Al is at 45 Barbara St., Lowell, Mass..... Likewise to BOB ANDRE (63F and 724 Ord.) in Chicago. We needed a little missionary work in the Chicago area and Bob was our man 100%. Bob is married and has two children (a boy of 16 and a girl of 11). He's a civilian working on artillery contracts in the Chicago Ordnance District. It looks as though Bob can't get cannons out of his system. Thanx again, Bob.....

Word just in from the Pentagon tells us that Maj. Gen. ALBERT C. SMITH is now Chief of Military History there. We're mighty proud.



SGT. HOWARD G. ADAMS
CORSIANA, TEXAS

As we go to press and insofar as we have been able to determine, it looks as though only one of the POW's who the Reds say do not want to come home is a Taro Leaf. He's Sgt. Howard G. Adams of Corsicana, Tex. We're sorry but we don't know his unit designation.

Mrs. Yvonne Lokken of Beloit, Wis. sends us the sad news that her husband, STANLEY LOKKEN, recently passed away. Stan died leaving his wife and three boys. Mrs. Lokken writes "and he was such a good husband and father". We of the 24th have seen much of death but we never fail to feel its real significance each time it walks close by. Our hearts are heavy, Yvonne Lokken.....

J.B. JONES (19th and Div Hq) has just completed some supersecret work and is now on his way to FECOM. Good luck to you, J.B. He's leaving the wife and daughter at Clemson, S.C. He reports having met DICK SHRUM (24th Med Bn & Div Hq), JACK MATTHEWS (34th & Div Hq) and JOHNNIE GAHR (Sig Co) at Leavenworth recently. He also asks us for General JAMES B. LESTER's latest address and we're unable to oblige as we don't have it ourselves. Does anyone know the General's present whereabouts?

TERRIFIC!

VIC BACKER (34th) had a busy weekend not so many weeks ago. As has become a custom with him, he took a carload of "Dead End Kids" from NYC's lower east side and drove them up to see an Army football game. While there, Maj. Gen. FRED IRVING (Div Hq-as if you didn't know) insisted on Vic's stopping by the house after the game was over. There Vic met Maj. Gen. BILL DEAN (Div Hq) who was at the Academy for the weekend visiting his son, Bill, a cadet there. The resulting meeting produced this picture where Taro Leaf's are very much in evidence. Vic says that had he known beforehand that he was going to get the chance to pose with the generals, he would most certainly have pinned a Taro Leaf patch on his lapel. We're not of the school that believes that this Taro Leaf business can be overdone, however, we do believe that this picture of three gentlemen of the Division is plenty good as is, and we're tickled and proud to be able to use it in this issue.

■ Wealthy people miss one of the greatest thrills in life—paying the last instalment.

■ Ex-government employees in Washington are forming bring-back-the-mess clubs.

■ Double-feature movies have one advantage. You can't walk into the theater in the middle of both of them.



■ Auto bumpers are being redesigned, but shouldn't they be removed from cars altogether and put on pedestrians?

Believe your Ears!

Just as we were getting ready to go to press, CAPT. LOUIS S. STICKNEY, JR. (19th) down at Camp Gordon sent us the good word that the following new members had joined up and we're so happy about it that we feel like a clam at high tide:

J. A. Dunning	831 Katherine Street Augusta, Georgia	21st Infantry
Jack Furman	2565 North View Avenue Augusta, Georgia	21st Infantry
Major William H. Hopson	2622 Raymond Avenue Augusta, Georgia	Division Hqs
Capt William B. Bodine	1736 Kingswood Drive Augusta, Georgia	Signal Co
Capt Harry J. Luman	2535 Miles Street Augusta, Georgia	19th Infantry
1/Lt Ella V. Moore	2575 Rhodes Drive Richmond Gardens Augusta, Georgia	21st Infantry
1/Lt James L. Rogers	G-1 Section, ASU 3441 Camp Gordon, Georgia	Division Hqs
M/Sgt Wendel W. Pflasterer	1210 15th Street Augusta, Georgia	21st Infantry
SFC Alzen F. Floyd	Hqs Detachment, ASU 3441 Camp Gordon, Georgia	34th Infantry
SFC Michael Molino	Medical Det., ASU 3441 Camp Gordon, Georgia	34th Infantry
Sgt George S. Dodd	Independent Trailer Camp Augusta, Georgia	19th Infantry

We say "Welcome" to all the gang at Camp Gordon.

False Alarm?

On the day of the announcement by the Pentagon that Maj. Gen. WM. F. DEAN (Div Hq) was to be the next Deputy Commander at Sixth Army in 'Frisco, Hy Gardner, the professional gossip of the N.Y. Herald Tribune was reporting to his "Early Bird Coast to Coast" readers something as follows: "West Pointers have a hunch that Gen. William Dean will be the next superintendent of West Point to succeed Gen. Fred Irving, nearing the end of his three-year assignment."

*Do You
Know About*

LT. GEN. ANTHONY C. McAULIFFE (Div Hq), formerly Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Training in the Pentagon, and the fact that he has gone back to Europe to command the Seventh U.S. Army. Best of good wishes to you, General McAuliffe.....



ST. FRANCIS in 'FRISCO

SOMETIME LATE IN

FEBRUARY

FULL DETAILS TO FOLLOW

It means much more

Billed as the "great love story of our time", James A. Michener's new novel "Sayonara" began in the October McCall's. Don't miss it. It's the story of the love of an American and a Japanese gal..... For good reading, try General Kreuger's "From Down Under to Nippon, the Story of Sixth Army in World War II" published by U.S. Army Commo Forces, Washington, D. C. It's a peach.... Generals Woodruff and Irving sent "terrific" letters of congratulations to our prexy, VIC BACKER. We appreciate those kind words, Generals, Sirs!! We aren't sure that it's "Sirs" when you address two at one time. Never tried it before. We always had our hands full with one at a time.

to diminish his own heroism and to insist that he is just another "dog-face" who had a bit of bad luck. Such innate honesty endears the Dean family to us, and Vic Becker and we took the liberty of so stating to the Deans.

These wonderful people are among the first to know that there are many other heroes in the ranks who fought and suffered in total obscurity. Their humility, in the face of the heartfelt plaudits of the people of NYC and of the nation, warms the cockles of our heart.



On the Monday following this busy weekend at the Academy, Vic was back in NYC to help the city give its traditional welcome to General and Mrs. Dean. As Vic reports the greeting which 500,000 New Yorkers gave the Deans, it was TERRIFIC.

Shortly thereafter, we ourselves called on Mildred and Bill Dean at Walter Reed Hospital. They both talked enthusiastically about the "ticker tape", their definition of the joyous celebration. We liked the expression so much that we're adding it to our own vocabulary.

It was two very grateful and very happy people that we were privileged to sit with for two and one half hours during that most pleasant evening at Walter Reed. Their minds were filled with memories of the thrilling ride around the streets of lower Manhattan. As the N.Y. Herald Tribune said editorially the next morning, ".....in honoring General Dean yesterday, New York City indirectly paid tribute to the thousands of ordinary American soldiers who were prisoners with him in the Communist camps...." We left the Deans that evening convinced that they too believed that the honors accorded them had been not so much for themselves as for the thousands of men who had shared the pain and torture with Bill Dean.

Bill Dean's earnest effort, from the moment he entered Freedom Village, has been

*who
and where*

Work has bunched up on us so that it's impossible to write thank you notes to each of the good members who responded to our call when we asked for help in locating the returned POW's. Among those who came through with the goods were GEORGE COFFROAD, of Dayton, Ohio.... Word comes from ROSS W. PURSIFULL (34th). Ross is with Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, Inc., architects in Detroit. It was good to hear from you, Ross.... BILL VERBECK (21st) has changed commands. He's now at UNC, PW Camp 6, APO 94, c/o PM, 'Frisco. Bill reports that he has the 1st Bn. of the 19th with him there and that Fritz Weber is now CO of the 19th.... BOB WESTERN of Pomona, Calif., a recently returned POW, writes us that he is at the U.S. Naval Hospital in San Diego. They're looking him over for possible T.B. Good Luck, Bob.

*Speech!
Speech!*

JACK BELLAH (63F) of Palo Alto, has been helping us to locate POWs in his area. Thank you, Jack. And likewise to PENN CLINE in Tulsa, Okla. and HENRY H. DELANO in Abilene, Tex. Henry incidentally is a Sergeant stationed at Ft. Sill.... CHARLIE STERNACKER (Div Hq) who kept us in touch with things at Division for a long time while he was in the T&E Sect. there has returned home. He's a psychology major at Westminster College, Fulton, Mo. Good wishes, Charlie.... ADOLPH MILLER (E-19 from 12-40 to 11-44) is a metal worker in Chicago, is married and has no children. Whatsamatta, Adolph?.... HAROLD C. DUDECK (F-34 from 6-45 to 4-46) has just checked in with this year's dues. Thank, Hal

PROVED CHAMPIONS...

LLOYD E. HARDWICK (E-34) of Ft. Smith, Ark. a recently returned POW, has just stepped off and married Wanda Dyer of Muldrow, Okla. worlds of good wishes to you, Lloyd and Wanda.... We appreciate the letter from Nadine Bjorkman, wife of BERNIE BJORKMAN (SV-19) which helped us to locate Lloyd Hardwick. Thank you, Nadine....

Hide and Seek

There's an interesting bit of information to be found in an exchange of letters between a couple of 19th Infantrymen.

We find it of interest and suggest to the Pentagon officers (we dare not refer to them as "Brass Hats" since General Ridgway of hand grenade fame assumed office as C/S) that herein may lie one explanation as to "What's wrong with The Army?"

When JOE PEYTON learned that there were men of the regiment in Korea who couldn't sing "The Rock of Chickamauga", he immediately sat down and wrote a letter to Col. PAUL S. SHOEMAKER, the present commander and expressed his surprise.

Paul Shoemaker's reply was a prompt one and right to the point. We have not had his permission to reprint it here but we trust he will not object to our quoting that part of it in which he said:

"I realize it must have come as a great shock to you to learn that there are officers and men in the outfit who do not know and at every opportunity sing the battle cry of 'The Chicks'. The depths to which we have fallen was not apparent until receiving your abject communication.

"About a year ago I joined the outfit and thought it peculiar that no regimental march or song was known or sung. Gen. Dasher assumed command of the Division in November and seemed to recall a 19th Infantry song he had heard in Hawaii. A search of regimental and division files produced nothing and after correspondence to the Adjutant General, Honolulu Chamber of Commerce, and other sources, a copy was obtained early this year. The division band has made recordings and it is now played at every opportunity. The turnover in personnel has been so rapid that few have time to learn the tune much less the lyrics. We are working on it, however, and I view the future with encouragement, feeling that in a short time we will all be singing our alma mater.

"When we returned from Korea they were commonly known as 'The Chicks'. Maybe a battle should have been waged to regain the title but there seemed a general apathy toward a name not suggestive of militant attributes. So somewhere along the line we became the 'Rocks' or 'Rockers'. Sacrilege no doubt, but nevertheless it happened. Actually, I think the new sobriquet is as inspiring and does as much for esprit as the former designation and, in the light of our fine tradition, at least equally appropriate."

Joe, fearful he might have offended Paul, got off a somewhat softened reply that read in part:

"I was proud of its record while a member, and I am more than proud of the record that your fine young men have made during the past few years. In fact, as I read the POW lists each day, I see where more 19th Infantry members are being released, and that proves more than anything else that they were in the battle and did their duty.

"As for the title 'Chicks', I did not realize what you had gone through searching for that title. However, I should have. If I had only stopped to think of what kind of a situation you were in when you took over command last year. That was a serious error on my part. It did leave a funny feeling inside, (and I think you understand my feeling) that the 19th Infantry did not know they were the 'Chicks' or that they had a battle cry as you put it so nicely in your letter. To clear up a point -- whether the 19th Infantry Regiment is known as the 'Rocks' or 'Rockers' or the 'Chicks', I shall always be proud of its record and achievements."

We think there's something significant to be noted here. We think it is a clue to that popular question of the hour, "What's wrong with the Army?"

Unit integrity, unit morale, esprit de corps -- call it what you will -- is lost when there is no effort to preserve the traditions of the past. We were not surprised that that fountainhead of military knowledge, the Pentagon, failed to produce the necessary copy. We consider it a crying shame, and in no small measure an indication as to why the Army is troubled today with problems of morale.

We are also hurt that the Division -- and/or the Regiment didn't see fit to contact the Assoc. when the Pentagon failed. Paul Shoemaker, we would have had 4000 copies of that song in your hands faster than you can say Pyongyang!



More than one of our members will enjoy this reproduction but we have it on good authority that it will especially delight our most favorite member and we accordingly publish it for her. We are thankful that at long last the time has come when these four wonderful people could stand side by side, arm in arm, and pose for us. We are likewise grateful to the New York Daily News for letting us copy this picture. (N.Y. Daily News Photo.)

PARTIES PARTIES!

We
have
news
for
you!

Plans are underway for a 24th Division Reunion at the St. Francis in San Francisco.

It is to be held sometime late in February, 1954.

Unfortunately, the mail between California and the east coast is routed by way of Macsaki so that, as this issue goes to press, we can't give you any more news on the party than we have given you above.

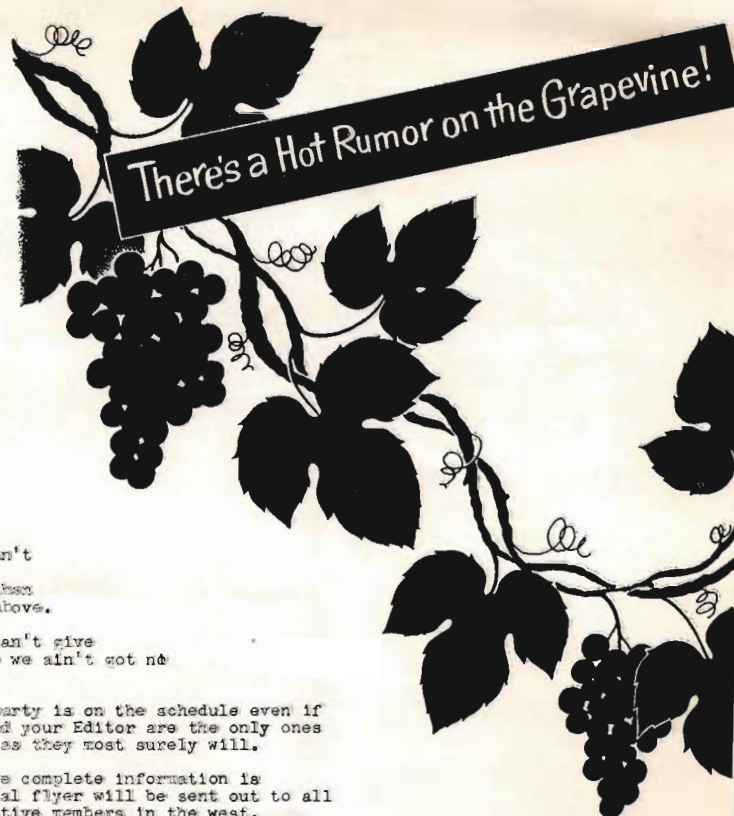
That is to say, we can't give you any news 'cause we ain't got no news.

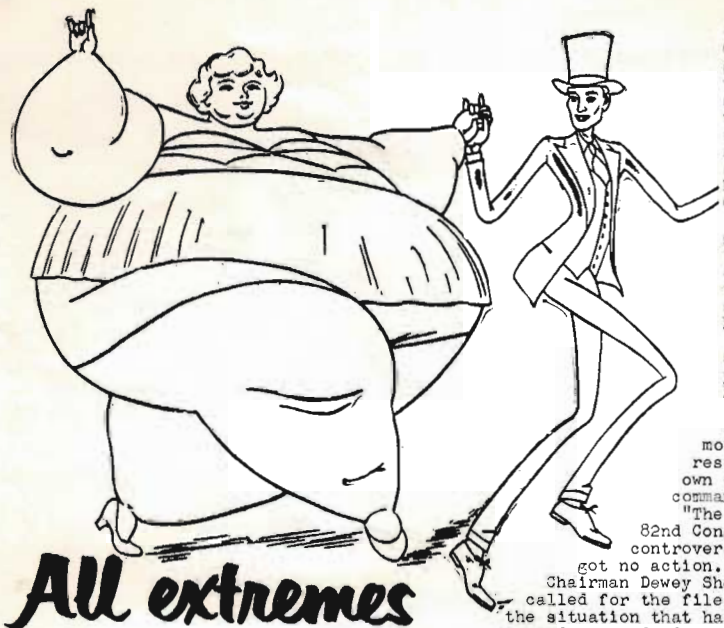
We do know that a party is on the schedule even if Prexy VIC BACKER and your Editor are the only ones who show up for it, as they most surely will.

Just as soon as more complete information is forthcoming, a special flyer will be sent out to all members and prospective members in the west.

For too many years now, the west coast people have been sadly neglected in this matter of a conclave. '54 is to be THE YEAR for all Zero Leafers on the Pacific side of these 48 states.

So for now, it's more than a promise -- we'll be there. As to when and where and what and how and why, watch for our flyer which will be dispatched just as soon as the final plans are decided upon.





(Ed. Note: This is a time of "Stories". We've been exposed to "The Joe Louis Story", "The Godfrey-LaRosa Story", "The Rodgers and Hammerstein Story", et al.

We had even intended, during a fleeting moment to include one of our own in these pages—"The Ken Cramer Story". Lack of space, together with a lack of enthusiasm for trading on the money-making schemes of Hollywood and Broadway, prevents us.

Instead, we reprint herewith somewhat abbreviated versions of some newspaper articles published by various news services concerning the first President of our Association and our one-time Division Commander.

We have drawn no conclusions from these articles. We have our conclusions, you can bet; but our mother didn't have any silly children—we're not printing them here. Those of you who know us know what we think; those of you who don't know us don't care what we think.

We're merely doing what we believe to be our duty: to bring together for your perusal just as many of the Cramer reports as we can get our hands on.

Those of you who served with General Cramer—and to serve with him was to know him—have your own opinions which will not be affected by the considerable adverse publicity to which he has been subjected in the last three years.

We know General Cramer personally. We have no desire to add salt to his wounds by reprinting here what has already been said in the past. It appears, however, that many of our members have missed some or all of the reports which we reproduce here. We thus repeat as we do in an effort to satisfy the demands of those many members who have written in to us for this Taro Leaf report.

We would add only that we prefer to think of Ken Cramer as we KNEW him to be when "the chips were down" in our own Division, rather than as some glib-tongued columnists now paint him to be for the consumption of Mr. and Mrs. America and all the ships at sea. Let's go to press!)



At the time of the first intimation of trouble in Maj. Gen. KENNETH F. CRAMER'S Command in Europe, Ruth Montgomery, writing her column "D. C. Wash" in the New York Daily News, wrote as follows:

"A tempest is brewing on Capitol Hill over the courts-martial ordered for 16 officers, including several colonels, by a U. S. Army commander in western Germany who is perennially in hot water.

"President Eisenhower told his press conference today in so many words: Tyranny finally results in a spontaneous revolt. The uprisings behind the Iron Curtain reinforce the western contention that people who have known freedom rate it as the highest of human values.

"Ike was talking about life in Soviet-

controlled Eastern Germany. Congressmen generally applauded his views, but some are asking privately whether the shoe could also fit our own soldiers serving in southern Germany under Maj. Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer.

"Cramer, a political general who commanded the 43rd Division until six months ago, seems to have a knack for sending the morale of his men down, not up.

"It plummeted so low at Camp Pickett two years ago that Rep. Al Morano (R-Conn) conducted an investigation and reported that morale could never be restored as long as his own constituent, Cramer, commanded the Division.

"The Democrat-controlled 82nd Congress bottled up the controversial report and Morano got no action. Now, however, Republican Chairman Dewey Short (Mo.) has quietly called for the files and for more facts on the situation that has arisen since Cramer assumed command of our forces in southern Germany.

"This is the same Cramer, you may remember, who banned all wives from Camp Pickett—except his own. Food at the camp was in such short supply that the soldiers, after a hard day of training, frequently found only six or eight lima beans and a half inch of tasteless stew in their mess kits.

"Mrs. Cramer, however, was dining at the staff officers' mess.

"On assuming control of the division in 1950, the National Guard general canceled all leaves except 36-hour passes every other weekend. Even the staff officers were permitted to see their families for only a few hours once every two weeks.

"These dependents, forbidden to live at the camp, subsisted in high-rent hovels in tiny villages as far away as 40 miles from the camp.



Maj. Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer

"The National Guardsmen called up for active duty against their will had no place to go for recreation. Restricted by 36-hour passes, they could only stand aimlessly on the street corners of nearby Virginia hamlets. Hundreds of them reported to their New England Congressmen that but for food packages from home, they could not have kept up their strength.

"To reporters who questioned the general about the low spirits of his men, Cramer reportedly snapped: 'We are not concerned with morale here. The only time I worry about esprit de corps is when a soldier gets in the front line.'

"Well—l-l, the Army finally sent to Germany the man whom his soldiers had nicknamed The Beast. In six months, according to some of the officers under his new command, morale in that area has now hit bottom.

"Last week a lieutenant-colonel with 22 years service was court-martialed and dismissed from the Army for adultery. The only witness appearing against him was the German fraulein in the case who first refused to testify, but finally changed her mind after an unhappy night in jail.

"Sixteen other officers, including two colonels, are awaiting courts-martial for allegedly being too cozy with German girls. Cramer's subordinates complain that after his arrival six months ago, he changed the rules to interfere with their private lives.

"Morano's sizzling report on the general's previous command will shortly come up for an

airing before the Armed Services Committee.

"In it, Al charges that Cramer 'consistently acted to reduce the morale of the men, taking undue privileges for himself and his wife, while continually lessening the privileges of the men under his command.'

"He found that the general's actions 'have so embittered his troops that no corrective action is able to overcome the personal animosity they bear toward him.'

"Al suggested the 'immediate replacement of Gen. Cramer as the first step' toward restoring the morale of the 43d Division.

"Instead, Cramer held onto his rank, and when the 43d Division moved to Europe last winter, Cramer headed the command. He then took control of all our troops in south Germany.

"The general, a prosperous coal dealer from Hartford, Conn., who has seen part-time service in the National Guard since 1917, served in both world wars. Between times, he also dabbled in politics and won election four times to the Connecticut State Legislature.

"Reports from Germany indicate that Lt. Gen. Charles L. Bolte, commander in chief of our forces in Europe, is highly displeased with the political general's martinet airs and has asked his removal.

"The Pentagon, at the prompting of Congressmen, has cabled our German theatre for further details."

That was Miss Montgomery's story---

Now here's a verbatim copy of a release which came out of the Office of the Chief of Information in the Pentagon---

SUBJECT: News Stories on Morale in Southern Area Command, Germany.

1. The New York Daily News states:

a. From Nurnberg, June 30: "Sixteen officers today faced courts martial as the U. S. Army Commander in southern Germany pushed a campaign to keep German frauleins out of American Officers' billets and beds. One lieutenant colonel with 22 years service was court-martialed last week and dismissed from the Army for adultery. Two other colonels are awaiting trial on morals charges. The Southern Area Commander, Maj. Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer, has been on the job just six months. In that time, officers complain, he has introduced a lot of rules aimed at interfering with their private lives. Some officers say that morale in the command has reached a point as low as the morals...."

b. From Washington, July 1: "....Reports from Germany indicate that Lt. Gen. Charles L. Bolte, Commander in Chief of our forces in Europe, is highly displeased with the political general's (Gen. Cramer) martinet airs and has asked his removal...."

2. Here are the facts:

a. With the exception of the one lieutenant colonel, no officer or warrant officer in the Southern Area Command has been tried by court martial or received Article 15 punishment for any offense involving personal relationships with German women since General Cramer assumed command in Nov. 1952. There are no charges pending or investigations underway or planned involving any officers or warrant officers for activities of such a nature. The lieutenant colonel was tried by General Court Martial in June, convicted, and sentenced to dismissal and forfeiture of all pay and allowances. The sentence was approved by the Acting Commanding Officer, Southern Area Command, and the record of trial has been forwarded to the Judge Advocate General.... Statistics and all other information indicate that the disciplinary condition of this command is exceptionally good.... There is no information and no outward indications to support the charge that morale in General Cramer's command has reached a very low point.

b. There is no basis whatsoever for the allegation that the Commander-in-Chief, USAREUR, is displeased with Gen. Cramer and has asked his removal. Press charges against Gen. Cramer's conduct in Europe are completely inappropriate and form no basis to question his fitness to remain in command in his present assignment."





Robert C. Ruark, the columnist, had this to say about KEN CRAMER (Div Hq) in his "Rambling with Ruark":

"Munich -- in past years we have heard so much about morale of our armed forces, or the lack of it, that I have made a special effort to pursue an isolated case of officer versus troop, and adopted the recent flurry of mysterious publicity about Maj. Gen. Kenneth Frank Cramer as the guinea pig.

"Kenneth Frank Cramer is a stubby, plump little balding man who wears eyeglasses as well as the Silver Star with three clusters. He is a highly moral man, is Gen. Cramer, a man who neither smokes nor drinks and who, unlike Dr. Kinsey, thinks sex, unsanctified, is more wicked than natural.

"He is a passionate advocate of discipline. He believes in absolute economy of operation, and he is a devout disciple of cutting his government's costs to the absolute minimum. He demands and gets peak performance of work from his troops, and he is the boss man of the headquarters, Southern Area Command, as well as the Munich district of United States Army Forces in Europe.

"On the face of the matter, the worst thing that you can say about Gen. Cramer is that he believes in abstinence, hard work in full measure, and in saving his government some money.

"Yet, Gen. Cramer is largely unloved. He has been recently the subject of a congressional investigation, on charges of morale destruction. He has been the subject, before, of highly derogatory writings in the public prints, and his adequacy to command has been questioned. He recently convened a court-martial of a long-service lieutenant colonel on grounds of immorality, and was reported to have a juggle of other officers, including two colonels, facing similar charges. He is thoroughly disliked by a great many men of his command. But the general has explanations for everything, most of them logical if true, and there can be no measure of truth except the word of an officer presumed to be a general and gentleman.

"He will attempt here to straighten out the Cramer story, in the first personal interview Cramer had granted to the press since Art Noyes of the New York Daily News broke the story of the unusual court-martial of Lt. Col. William Lane of Brooklyn, N.Y. The boss first said no. We made a phone call to Heidelberg. The boss suddenly said yes. The files were thrown open and Cramer was the soul of co-operation.

"I did not see Col. Lane, who was then or the high seas after being dismissed with loss of all pay and allowances of adulterous relations with a German woman named Else Ackermann, for being publicly drunk, for throwing a glass of Coca-Cola at another German girl, and for 'fondling the breasts of his maid servant against her will.'

"I did not see Miss Ackermann, who had miraculously disappeared, no one knew where, when the trouble hit the fan. What I saw was the court-martial information and the judge advocate's office and most pertinent papers and Gen. Cramer.

"There was a flat denial by Gen. Cramer and his staff that any other officers whatsoever were being held pending courts-martial, despite a charge by Noyes that 16 officers were 'facing' trial. As one man pointed out, 'if the word 'facing' is used, we're all 'facing' courts-martial.'

"It was also pointed out that, as the convening authority of the area, it was Cramer's duty to hold courts-martial for all the service troops under his area command. Col. Lane for instance, was recommended for trial by Brig. Gen. Mason Young of the Nurnberg district.

"He was not under Cramer's direct command, but was merely forwarded on for due process of trial."

"The case that touched off Gen. Cramer's handling of troops had to do with the court-martialing of Lt. Col. William Lane, and his dismissal from the service.

"It might be well to look at the Lane case before getting deeper into the broader picture of what goes on in Munich. Lane, a badly wounded officer from the second World War, and with 12 years of consecutive service as an officer, was attached to a quartermaster regiment in the Grafenwehr district. Like most officers, he came out ahead of his wife, who awaited transportation. Like most men, he found amusement. He evidently found a lot of amusement. He was eventually up on 13 specifications, eight of which were dropped when some of the witnesses recanted before trial. They were:

1. Striking Miss Ackermann.
2. Throwing the contents of a glass at Engeborg Heller.
3. Fondling the breasts of his maid against her will.
- 4, 5 and 6. Having females in the back-lor officers' quarters.
7. Drunk and disorderly in a gasthaus, or tavern.
8. Drunk and disorderly in another gasthaus.
9. Drunk and disorderly in quarters.
10. Drunk and disorderly in the officers' club.
11. Drunk and disorderly in quarters.
12. Drunk and disorderly in officers' club.
13. Having sexual relations with Else Ackermann, "a woman not his wife."

"He was tried on only four of the specifications -- assault on Fraulein Ackermann, sexual relations with Fraulein Ackermann, heaving the contents of the glass at Fraulein Heller, and stroking the maid. The three women testified. Col. Lane did not testify. His counsel spoke for him. His sentence, which was dismissal, with loss of all pay and allowances

"There are several informal and peculiar aspects of the Lane case. One is that the moral charges seem to have come about as a result of a scrutiny of his drinking habits, which led to an investigation of his personal life. He had been committed to a hospital by his commanding officer, Gen. Young, and at some time was investigated on drinking charges by Maj. J. B. Maylard. The investigation preliminary to the court-martial was conducted by Lt. Col. Robert Wilson, of the military police. Col. Wilson, after investigation, recommended no court-martial. Gen. Young overruled, and the case was forwarded to Cramer's headquarters.

"During the preliminary investigations, witnesses described by the judge advocate as 'rather seedy types' were questioned, statements were made and signed. Later the 'rather seedy types' recanted, in part, claiming that the statements had been signed under duress. None, I am told, ever denied their statements for truth, but merely wished to withdraw them.

"When the actual trial began, last June, Miss Ackermann refused to answer the prosecution's question as to whether she and Col. Lane had been intimate. The burden of the plump blonde's plaint was that if she confessed intimacy even as a witness, she would be open to possible criminal prosecution by the German courts, and to a civil suit for alienation of affection by Mrs. Lane.

"There was a sturdy attempt to change her mind. She wouldn't change it. Under our occupation power she was taken off to jail, where she spent the night. The next day she was brought back to testify and admitted that she and Lane had intermittently been intimate.

"As pertinent to the charges of martinetism on Cramer's part, I asked for and received a breakdown of courts-martial of officers since he assumed command a little better than six months ago. The record showed, under the Cramer command:

"One first lieutenant resigned instead of facing a court, for the sin of sexual relationship with the wife of an enlisted man.

"One first lieutenant tried and convicted for stealing and for tampering with witnesses.

"One first lieutenant resigned in lieu of court-martial for 'wilful disobedience and failure to report for duty.'

"Apart from Lane, outside the actual command, and sent on by other officers:

"One first lieutenant, resigned, for assault, nonsexual.

"One first lieutenant, convicted, for sodomy with minors.

"One captain, resigned, for being derelict in his duties and drunk on duty.

"Among the more unusual aspects of the trial in which Lane was dismissed, and which focused heat on Cramer as a martinet and destroyer of officer morale abroad, was a peculiar bit of business with the conduct of the trial of Else Ackermann, a key witness.

"This was a letter from the office of the chief attorney of HICOG, the High Commission for German Occupation. It was dated 22 May, 1953. It said, in part: 'Pursuant to my authority as acting chief attorney for the United States court of the Allied High Commission for Germany, and as specifically delegated by letter. . . to grant immunity from prosecution, I do hereby....

"(1) On condition that you make full disclosure of complete and pertinent facts and evidence within your knowledge relating to the above mentioned subject (note: 'offenses committed by Lt. Col. William F. Lane, Graf-

enwehr detachment, Nurnberg district, between May, 1952 and October, 1952').

"(2) On condition that you testify truthfully and fully as to the matters within your knowledge on any criminal charge or charges, or actions, that may arise against Lt. Col. Lane from any disclosures made by you, ".....grant you immunity from prosecution in the United States court of the Allied High Commission for Germany in connection with any charge or charges that may arise against you with respect to any offense or offenses which could constitute the basis of charges against you as revealed by your disclosure."

This was nothing more nor less than the polite blackmail which is practiced in all courts, everywhere, to key witnesses.... a promise of leniency for spilling the facts for the prosecution.

"The other thing, which came up in the court when the fair Else first refused to testify, was that she could similarly be tried by HICOG, and would be tried on criminal charges by HICOG, if she didn't spill. She spilled. As a witness she was safe from prosecution -- if she talked. If she didn't talk they could try her as well. She elected not to be tried, after a night in the clink.

"On all counts the trial was entirely legal, according to the JAG office in Munich. There was no intimidation of witnesses. There was no irregularity."

"In my opinion," Gen. Cramer told me, "we convicted a guilty man."

"Cramer is a man with a high sense of moral duty. While ordering a court on one simple assault charge, he refused to authorize a court on another, when an MP shot and killed an American soldier in a bar when the soldier came at him with a chair in a drunken argument.

"I considered the MP was acting in the line of duty," Gen. Cramer told me. "I did not want a court on his record."

"Gen. Cramer also told me that he would try any officer who was seen to be violating the obligations of his commission by appearing publicly drunk, disorderly or flagrantly misbehaving sexually.

"I consider it my duty to myself, my country and the other man," he said.

"One of the main beefs of Cramer's occupation troops is the extra amount of work they must do and a diminution of German help to do the work. The facts are these:

"Just recently Cramer's forces have been stringently reduced, and, to fulfill the old amount of necessary labor with a lessened complement, he says that he rather lumpy reforms have been necessary. There also has been a drastically heavy reduction of German flunky personnel, maids, janitors and the like, which has found no favor with the occupation troops, since more or less mental chores have been returned to Army hands.

"In several interviews I attempted to press beyond these minor beefs, and was unable to dig up any complaints of a more serious nature. True, the sale of chlorophyll chewing gum and mints has gone up in the service stores, because Cramer has a fetish about drinking and the officers who steal a nip during working hours make sure that their breaths are undefiled by booze. But it does not seem to cut down the after-hours martini consumption at the officers' clubs, the bars, the private homes, and the hotels.

"Nor has his extreme moral unctious deeply curtailed the off-hours sport of fraulein chasing among the officers and men. I inspected a couple of venereal disease reports. The figures are Army business, but the average was healthily high, if not frightening. Syphilis was shown to be almost nonexistent, but the gonorrhea figures were quite respectable.

"One must remember that Cramer's favorite pastime is studying for his doctorate in history at the University of Munich, the subject being the emigration of Palatinate colonies to America. Apart from that he hunts and fishes. He also insists that four hours a week must be devoted to drill and marksmanship and other soldierly pursuits unloved by peacetime supply troops. His attitude is that of a Sunday school teacher in charge of a large class. He does not encourage the practice of what he believes to be wrong, and what he believes to be wrong is generally regarded by men overseas as part of the soldier's pay.

"This is not the first time Cramer has had a public brush with a lack of morale in his troops. In June of 1951 he made headlines from Camp Pickett, Va., where his 43d Division was in training. The charge at the time especially in Time Magazine, was that the

men's morale was being ruined; that they were denied ordinary privileges; that no wives could be quartered on the post, while the general's own wife lived and messed there; that food and equipment was in extremely short supply, and that the divisions fighting spirit was going to hell in a calsson. It soon got to be known in the Pentagon as the "Cry-Baby" division.

"Whether the cries from the babies were justified depends on whether you believe Cramer's first full explanation of what happened in Camp Pickett. He seems to have been believed by his superiors, despite the howle of his men.

"Some of the men under Cramer's command, when queried, told inspectors and reporters that but for food packages from home they would have starved. Their leaves were never longer than 36 hours. Their wives and families were denied the post. They wore helmets and sidarms at all times. And they griped about Cramer. The state of his division made national headlines.

"He has never explained the situation before for public consumption he says. His division was rushed into activation, some 8500 men strong, with the admonition to get ready in a hurry for a top-secret mission. He was saddled with a heavy dollop of raw recruits, some 10,000 to be trained as fast as possible. Cramer, a buck general, was not the commanding officer of Pickett. He claims he never issued the order denying the post to wives and families of his 43d.

"There were not facilities for them," he said. "They were to be trained in a jiffy. We were on practically stand-by orders for overseas combat duty. The commander of the post offered me quarters for me and my wife. I took them. The camp was in no shape to accommodate the rest of the men. I defy anyone to say that I issued orders to keep our dependents off the post. It was not my post. I was merely a guest there.

"As for training them hard and tough. When I was first lieutenant in the first World War, on the Argonne, I fell heir to a relief detachment of raw, green recruits. None of them knew how to competently clean, aim, or fire a rifle. The slaughter was fantastic. Then and there I made up my mind that no man of mine would ever go into combat without as rough an indoctrination in the realities of war as I could give him, especially if it has to be done in a hurry. What I said at Pickett still goes now; I am not concerned with morale unless it's at the front. I was pleased later to have some letters from some of the men I trained at Pickett, written to me from Korea, thanking me for the rugged indoctrination I gave them before my division sent a good portion of its force to the front."

"I asked him about the food shortage at Pickett. He explained that the story came about when some investigators and reporters visited his division on field maneuvers, where the chow was very sketchy.

"Some of the men made the chow muster twice before other men made it once. The man who complained about the eight beans in his mess kit was late for muster and some of the men had been at the ration twice."

"Cramer speaks seriously, as if he thoroughly believes himself. But some say his transfer as boss of the 43d in Germany last year stemmed directly from the flop at Pickett, and that morale under his command in Germany never bettered. I have no way of knowing how to measure acts when discipline becomes tyranny unless the act is cut more clearly.

"You could certainly not call Gen. Cramer a soldier's soldier, in the old sense, although his combat record is excellent.

"Cramer, a wealthy Hartford, Conn., coal-dealer, and part-time soldier in the National Guard, has served four terms in the Connecticut Legislature. One of the prime movers in the late assault on his qualifications, Al Morano, is a congressman from Connecticut. Cramer denies that he is a "political general," as charged.

"I was promoted to general in the field," he says, "and my promotion was approved by General Walter Kruger. If I was a 'political general' I would not be here now, after all this fuss."

"Cramer's combat record is excellent. He has won four Silver Stars, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart, as well as a lot of crackerjack-box awards. He worked with the National Guard from 1931 to 1940, when he went on active service. He has been chief of the National Guard Bureau in Washington. He moved the 43d to Germany in the fall of '51, and was in command of that unit until reassigned as boss of the Southern Area Command. It is said that the

morale in the 43d was not good since the Pickett episode.

"Morale is a very difficult thing to measure. It is seldom very high in behind-lines supply troops, or peacetime service troops, who share no common, unit-molding danger, and who have time on their hands to grumble, grouse, shoot angles and think up grievances. Noncombat commands are generally overheavy with rules and regulations, spit-and-polish, and tiny little frustrations that get lost when men go unshaven and dirty into battle. Such tiny invasions of privilege, such as the curtailment of PX privileges, the removal of soft-drink machines, the shortage of bus service, become a big item in their lives. So does the recent curfew in Munich - which was neither ordered nor relinquished by Cramer, but which was anathema to the troops under his hand -- or the fact that the general's first act on arrival in Munich was to take the hard liquor off the menu at a celebratory banquet for a victorious football team.

"My sympathy, as an ex-serviceman, is with neither Cramer nor his troops. Fighting men do not have Coca-Cola machines, bus services, PX privileges and whiskified menus to distract them from their dirty business.

"At the same time it is not my idea that armies should be run on a Sunday school appreciation of conduct, since all the military personnel I ever knew chased dames, got drunk, griped at officers, got bent out of line, and generally conducted themselves like soldiers and sailors instead of Little Lord Fauntleroy's. Sex they know about; booze they've tasted. They do not make much money, and every man has his immediate master. Whatever niceties of living that can be given them, to alleviate the discipline and dog-dull routine of their noncombat, are part of their due. Nor do I think that any man's sex life is the concern of his boss, unless he misconducts himself so flagrantly as to disgrace himself and his job in a highly public fashion. Infidelity would be no concern of Gen. Cramer's in my opinion.

"In the strictest sense of the word, Cramer is a martinet and a prude. In the strictest sense of the word, as well, he is a conscientious officer with an overdeveloped sense of economy, discipline, and spit-and-polish. There was no smell of the true morale-rottening corruption which afflicted the MTOUSA forces under Lt. Gen. John C. H. Lee, where the high brass ran a house-party at the expense of the enlisted personnel and the few junior officers who had some work to do. There were outright lies, deceptions, abuses of privileges, cruelties and widespread injustices in that command, which I was able to document at the time.

"In Cramer's all I was able to find were petty restrictions and undue attention to the letter of military deportment, which in my personal opinion is silly -- plus some peculiar businesses with the witnesses in the trial of Col. Lane. Many another commander would either have winked, reprimanded, or not tried him at all, but merely transferred him, since Lane is not the first or last officer -- including some generals -- who ever had an outside girl friend or got loaded.

"If that is to be the general approach to the conduct of officers on peacetime military duty in foreign lands, they may well all shiver in their boots, because a goodly percentage is a cinch to wind up in the brig.



And that's the Ruark story---

We're sorry we can't give you more of the reports; they'll simply have to wait until the next issue. There's much to be said for the defense and we give it to you in the next issue.

Ricochets

Sgt. JOE R. DOMINICK (21st) has just been discharged from the service for a cardiac ailment. He wants to locate old Division friends. Tell us their names, Joe, that's what we're in business for. Joe is at 435 Linwood St., Brooklyn 8, New York.... SPIKE O'DONNELL (G-21) is covering the south this winter. Spike is no dope, He hits Maine in August and Alabama in January. Spike is rooting for us wherever he goes. Thank you, James.... STAN ZIMMERMAN (63F) a returned POW, is now a Captain and is operating out of P.O. Box 1844, Amarillo, Tex. There's a real hero for you boys of the 63rd. Drop Stan a line when you get a chance.

BEHIND THE SCENES

M/Sgt J.C. BRIDGES (6 TK BN), a returned POW, writes us from his home, Rt. 7, Jackson, Tenn. J. C. says he's staying in.... CHARLIE PAULEY (B-24 Med) did us a good turn in Detroit recently. Thanks Charlie. He's with General Motors there. He says he and wife Virginia read the TL from cover to cover. Charlie wants the address of Capt. ROBERT J. FERGUSON, C.C. of Baker Co., 24th Med. Bn. in '44 and '45. We don't know, Charlie, but someone of our readers will help us out. Drop us a line, dear reader, if you can answer this one on Ferguson.

BLAST OFF!

LES CLARK (19th from '42 to '44) is in the grocery business in Fullerton, Calif.... KEN CATHERMAN (C-34 from 6-45 to 12-45) is a floor sander in Millinburg, Pa., is married and has one child.... BOB GERRY (K-21 from 2-44 to 1-46) is in Dorchester, Mass. He recently ran into DANA CHAMBERLIN of North Weymouth, Mass. How about joining the gang, Dana?... Recent Ft. Benning renewals: Maj. Gen. G. STANLEY MELOY, JR., Capt. BILL CALDWELL, Lt. DAN FRENCH and Capt. MEL SCHILLER. Thank you, sirs!... BILL PRICE (5th RCT from 7-50 to 5-51) is with the A.G. of the 1st Cav. Div.... DICK MILLER (E-34) is in Dhahran, Saudi, Arabia, for an 18 month hitch working for Middle East Fluor. If anyone wants to contact Dick, address his wife at 06-A Alzona Park, Phoenix, Ariz., and she'll forward it along to wherever he is at the moment. Mrs. Miller recently helped us out in locating some returned POW's. Thank you, Mrs. M....

BIG-AS-LIFE

Our thanx go out to DICK FEIFLY (724th Ord) for many favors in the Allentown, Pa. area in connection with returned POW's there.... ART BOWDITCH (A-5) a former POW now at Bldg. 21-3, USNH, San Diego, wants to locate BOB DULANE of his company. Bob comes from New Hampshire. Art served with Bob for 10 months before he was taken prisoner. We have no line on Bob Dulane here. Does anyone out there know of his whereabouts?... Here's a good book -- "Mother Sir" by Tats Blain. It's published by Appleton Century Crafts. It's the story of a Navy wife in Saseko, between the wars. She lived at Dragon Heights. It is slanted Navy but outside of that it's hilarious.... And if you've got time for one more, try Willard Price's "Journey by Junk", published by John Day. It's the story of Price's leisurely sail through the Inland Sea and describes his stops along the way at Tokushima (11th Field boys, please note), Shiratori, Takamatsu, Uno, Marugame, Hakoura, Niihama, Imabari, Matsuyama, Beppu and Moji. For anyone who served Division in Japan, it's a must.... In the station in Washington the other day, we chanced to meet WALTER RATHBONE (DIV. HQ.), our onetime Div. IG. It sure seemed good to renew the old acquaintance we so enjoyed with Walter in the Philippines.

Lighter Side

We understand that an Arabian woman can get a divorce if her husband doesn't supply her with enough coffee. We've heard of lots of grounds for divorce -- but never coffee grounds.... VIRGIL EASTERDAY out in Chillicothe, Ohio, has been doing some very nice favors for us in connection with locating POWs. Thank, Virgil!.... If you didn't get our November issue, write the Editor and he'll send you a copy. We have a few copies left.... JOE BADARACCO (Div Hq), our '53 Convention Chairman, is still on the ball helping us in his area with odds and ends in connection with these POWs. We're grateful to you, Joe....

AL HOWARD (19th) signed up for his third hitch. He was one of the first POW's to be repatriated. Al said "I had 6 days of civilian life and that was enough." Now he's with the Tennessee Military District in his hometown of Nashville.... We have a few old issues of the Taro Leaf. We'll send them out free of charge (honest!) so long as the supply lasts. Write the Editor....



"Don't shout at me as if I were one of your armies!"

(Ed. Note: Here's a bit more of that Assoc. Directory which we started in our last issue. We'll get all of it out in due time or bust.)

BIG NEWS!

PAUL E. BELISLE (L-19) of Bristol, Conn. has been tracking down POW's for us in the Connecticut area. We are very grateful to you, Paul.... Ex-Sergeant Christine Jorgensen has competition. In Iran a 16 year old girl - who always wanted to be a soldier is undergoing medical treatment. Then he's going to join the Iranian Army. We've heard of people who lied about their age to get in but we've never heard of anyone going that far.

The "casual" look

Society of the Fifth Division reports a membership of 792. We're right proud of ourselves when we see that.... They tell the story in the 26th Div. Assoc. -- there was a southern youngster in the Division during WWII who went home on leave wearing the "YD" patch on his left shoulder. Questioned by his unconstructed father as to the meaning of the initials, the lad thought fast and replied "Yeah Dixie."



LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR

Kudos to LES CLARK out in Fullerton, Cal. who helped us to locate CECIL S. POTTS, recently returned POW. Cecil is trying to get a line on MITCHELL J. HART (24th QM) who died in a POW camp. The two were captured at the same time. Cecil is trying to contact Mitchell's folks. He believes Mitchell was from Chicago. If you can help, will you please drop Cecil a line? He's at 136 W. Ash Ave., Fullerton, Calif.... Royal Mounties up in Canada recently arrested 71 men and 77 women for parading in the nude. Stripped to its bare essentials, the parade was in protest against sending their children to public schools. That's showing 'em!

What's New

.... Three years ago Sgt. BOB MOATS (19th) waved goodbye to a pert Japanese girl and headed for Korea from Beppu. Bob, who hails from Morgantown, W.Va. (and is now an Assoc. member) was a POW for more than 2 years. He could have gone home quickly. Instead he went back to Japan to look for Noriko Hamatsu, the gal who waved. As we go to press, Bob is about to marry her and bring her home to West Virginia. We're with you all the way, Bob.... If your address has changed and we don't know it, please don't keep it a secret any longer.

KANSAS
BAINES, HAROLD W. (24th Sig Co) 137 E 10th St., Junction City
BALLOUN, ROBERT L. (3d Engrs) 1703 N Maple St., Russell
BARSZCZ, MICHAEL (19th) Hq. 10th Division, Fort Riley
BECKWITH, HAROLD W. (F-5), c/o Paul A. Beckwith, Meriden
BENEKE, VIRGIL (34th Inf) Lincolnville
BERDAMI, LOUIS N. (34) 628-4 McClellan Ave., Ft. Leavenworth
BERNER, ROBERT L., Disabled Amer. Veterans, 3801 S. Oliver, Wichita 15

BEST, CHARLES, (19), Prescott
BIRCH, JOHN C., 7125 Dearborn, Overland Park
BRIGHT, BILLY (24 Rec'n), P.O. Box 336, Plainville
BROWNE, BRUCE M. (3d Engrs) 2022 Elizabeth St., Kansas City
CHEEK, LEON B. (Jr.), Staff & Faculty, Command & Gen. Staff College, Fort Leavenworth
CLUBINE, JOHN L. (Co K 19) R.F.D. #4, Independence
CODER, NELSON L. (24th Cav Recon) 701 Tyler St., Topeka
DEAN, ROBERT R. (Div Band) 1014 E. 31st St., Topeka
DILLON, ROBERT J. (21st & 6th MTB) 1332 Lewellen, Wichita
DYE, RAYMOND M. (24 Recon) 407 N. Athenasian St., Wichita
EARLY, CHARLES C. (19th Inf) 127 W. 17th St., Junction City
ERICKSON, ROBERT A. (724 Ord) 723 Center St., Goodland
EVANS, ELTON J. (24th Recon) 609 S. 5th St., Salina
FIELD, HORACE E., Hoisington
FREEMAN, LELON L. (C-34) 6526 Farrow, Bethel
FROST, ROY L. (B-34) 1922 North Main St., Hutchinson
GARWOOD, ARTHUR C., U. S. Army Hospital, Fort Riley
GASTON, ELMER E., 2020 Hope St., Topeka
GIBSON, MURL E. (Co G 19th) Box 332, Hoisington
GORDON, LEO E. R# 2, Empiria
GOSSELIN, ELMER (34th Inf) Bogue
HEWITT, ROY E. (G-5) c/o Mrs. Retta E. Hewitt, Council Grove
HOAR, JIMMY V., Lewis
HODES, HENRY I. (CG, Div Hq) Commandant, Command & General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth

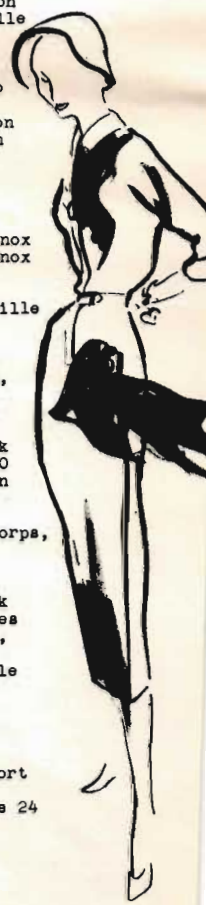
HOSTETTER, PHILIP H. (19th) 123 S. 5th St., Manhattan
HUNT, LEWIS A. (A-19) Rt. #2, Iola
LAWSON, JAMES E. (52d FA & Div Arty) 1265 Boswell St., Topeka
MADDER, EUGENE E. (1st Bn 34th) Hill City
MANLORE, ALMON W. (Div Hq.) 211 Meade St., Ft. Leavenworth
MARGY, ROY W., Qtrs. 4, Heitzelman Court, Fort Leavenworth
MAURIN, DAN (Med Det, 19th Inf) 2657 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City
MEIER, BEN C. (Cannon Co. 19th) 502 Main St., Scott City
NELSON, VERNON R. (21st) 617 Kearny St., Manhattan
NOLAN, ROBERT D. (2nd Bn 21) 205 S. Bethany St., Kansas City 2
PENKA, JULIUS F., 123 North Alexander, Hoisington
PETERS, WALTER J. (19th) Meyer Lumber & Hardware Co., Summerfield
POSTEN, GLEN C. (Jr.) 24th Medics) 2526 Alden St., Kansas City
POSTMA, JAMES E. (21) Jayhawk Bldg., Lawrence
QUINN, KENNETH J. (24th Sig Co.) 545 Ave "C" - West, Kingman
SCHWARTZKOFF, EVERETT E. (19th Inf) Box 145, La Crosse
SHULTZ, ROBERT L. (6th Med Tank Bn) 525 N. 4th St., Atchison
TAYLOR, LIVINGSTON N. (Jr.) Div. Arty) 20 Sumner Place, Fort Leavenworth
WADDILL, WILLIAM C. (24th Med Bn) 11 Heintzleman Road, Fort Leavenworth
WEBER, BARTHOLMEW J. (21st) Selden
WEIL, EDWARD (D-19), Suite 517 Beacon Bldg., Wichita 2
YOUNGMAN, BILLY E. (19th Inf), 4206 E. Steele, Wichita 10

KENTUCKY
BALL, JOHN H. (Hq & Hq Co, 19th) 2128th ASU, Fort Knox
BEACH, DWIGHT E. (Div Arty) Hq. Div. Arty, 11th A/B Div., Camp Campbell
BOWLING, VERNON (5), Grayson
BREWER, DEWEY A. (I-5) c/o Mr. Floyd Brewer, Corinth
BRINDLEY, CLOYD M. (724th Ord Co) 415 West Dixie Ave., Crenault
Trailer Park, Elizabeth Town
BRUCE, KENNETH S. (Can Co., 21st) 409 Culpepper Dr., Lexington
BURTON, CLYDE E., 614 Bakewell St., Covington

CARBERRY, RICHARD J. (Hq & Hq 19) Co A, 38 Recn Bn, Ft. Knox
CHAMBERLAIN, HARRIS (724th Ord) 1552 Clara Ave., Louisville
CLAXON, ROSCOE C. (Div Ord) Stamping Ground
CRAIN, CHARLES L., 717 Rosemont Ave., Park Hills, Covington
DAVIS, JAMES C. (D-19) c/o Mrs. Gardie Davis, Morehead
DENNY, JACK S. (Btry A, 11th FA) 324 Oldham Ave., Lexington
DICK, GARNETT S. (Jr.) (11th FA) 340 E. Main St., Louisville
DUTY, CERMILLUS H. (K-21) c/o John D. Duty, Wartland
FRANK, HENRY S. (21) 2036 Eastern Parkway, Louisville
HAYWOOD, G. (21st Inf) 464 E. Center, Madisonville
KUHN, JARRETT (Jr.) (Hv Mtr Co 21st) P.O. Box 70, Owensboro
RIDDLE, CARVER (B Btry, 52d FA), Bow
SCHAEFER, ROBERT T. (C-5) c/o Mrs. Robert Schaefer, Labanon
SCHAPPERT, JOSEPH K. (21st Inf.) 113 West 5 St., Covington
SELTSAM, ALBERT (34th Inf) Route 1 - Danville
SLOAN, LEROY (I-21) c/o Effie Sloan, London
SMITH, HERMAN, Mousie
STRANGE, NOEL G. (Co. M, 34th Inf), Columbia
WALLACE, CARMEL, Box 259, Praise
WEST, JOHN F. (24th MP) Med Holding Det., Army Hosp, Ft. Knox
WEST, LISLE C., Co. B, 45 Armd Med Bn, 3rd Armd Div, Ft. Knox
WISE, RICHARD A. (19th) A Btry - 516th ABN FA Bn, 101st Airborne Div., Camp Breckinridge
WORDEN, HARRY O. (Med Det, 34th) 2114 Emerson Ave., Louisville

LOUISIANA
ASHWORTH, OWEN W. (34th & 19), 130 Rainbow Dr, Forest Glen, Pineville
BOLIN, PRENTICE (Jr) (Div Arty) 2336 Ash Ave., Baton Rouge
BROWN, MILTON M. (Co H, 21st Inf) Co H, 145th Inf. Regt., 37th Inf. Div., Camp Polk
CHAMPAGNA, PAUL J. (Co. E, 21st) 508 Canal St., Metairie 20
DAIGLE, JOSEPH I. (24th Sig) 419 Louisiana Ave., Port Allen
ELLIGOTT, JOHN P. (Co K, 19th) Co B, 145th Inf. Regt., 37th Inf. Div., Camp Polk
HERNDON, RUSSELL (21st & 6th Tk Bn) Headquarters Co., XV Corps, Camp Polk
GAUTHIER, JOSEPH A. (A-5) c/o August Gauthier, Opelousas
JARRETTE, J. W. (I-19) c/o James H. Jarrette, Baskin
KIRKPATRICK, WM. D. (Div Chaplain) Post Chaplain, Camp Polk
MAJESTIC, FRANK J. (6th Tank Bn), 3312 Harding, Lake Charles
MONRIEF, ORLAND E. (Hq Co 3d Bn, 19th) 1551 Elizabeth St., Shreveport
RABALAIS, HILLMAN (K-19), c/o Ludger J. Rabalais, Placheville
RHODES, HAROLD J., Camp Polk Officers Mess, Camp Polk
SALE, JOE (Co C, 6th Med Tk Bn) Company C, 137th Tank Bn, 37th Inf. Div., Camp Polk
SCOTT, DWAIN L. (52d FA) Headquarters XV Corps, Camp Polk
SMITH, LOUIS D. (Hq Co, Div Hq), Box 327, Monroe
SOUR, ARTHUR W. (Jr.) (13th FA), 3626 Beckham Dr., Shreveport
VANDERBECK, GARRETT (19th), 112th Med Bn, Camp Polk
WRIGHT, JACK V. (3d Engrs), 5525 Marshall Poch, New Orleans 24

MAINE
ALBERT, LEONIDE L. (19th) 443 E. Main St., Madawaska
ANDERSON, PHILIP R. (Jr.), Cornish
BERNSTEIN, WILLIAM J. (24 Mil Pol) 4009 ABGP, Dow AFB
BONNEY, BERNAL (Hq Co 3d Bn, 19th) Box 34, Canton
BROOKS, ARNOLD W. c/o Wm. A. Brooks, Wilton
COCHRAN, LAFAYETTE A. (24th QM Co., Box 1, Wilton
CURRIER, FRANCIS C. (D-19), RFD 1, East Corinth
CYR, JOSEPH E. (Co 1, 19th) RD #1, Kennebunk
GRAY, MILTON C. (Co G, 19th) 367 Cottage Road, South Portland
LA POINTE, LAWRENCE, Lewiston
THERIAULT, WALTER (Med Co 21st Inf.) 157 Stanford St., So. Portland
WILEY, HERVEY L. (Co. G. 34th) Norway Furniture Co., Norway





We're right proud to present this picture of a recent gathering of "the clan" at Camp Gordon. Division "alumni" recently gathered in Theatre #1 there to make plans for the formation of an Association chapter there. We regret that we can't identify everyone in the photo but we are able to spot Brig. Gen. Charlie Blanchard (Div. Arty) and Bill Byrd (21st), numbers 4 and 5 from the left in the rear row. Capt. Dave Russell (19th and 34th) presided and Gen. Blanchard presented the plans. Bill Byrd reported on the St. Louis Convention. Did you tell them everything, Bill? Our best wishes go forward to this enterprising gang of Taro Leafers, and our deepest thanks are extended to General Blanchard for his better than excellent cooperative spirit.

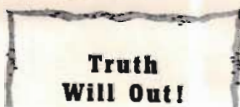
GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

JOE DAVID (G-21 from 8-50 to 12-50) was a POW for nearly 3 years. He writes: "You have to be where I've been for nearly 3 years before you can appreciate these United States, and the swell people back here." Joe wants a roster of 21st men from G Co. of the 21st during 1950. We're sorry, Joe, but we simply don't have such lists. We're letting it be known, however, that you'd like to hear from them..... The problem of answering each letter we receive is getting more and more serious. Forgive us, please, if we answer you by way of these pages. We've only got two arms.....

THE PRESENT AND THE PAST

We missed reporting in our last issue the arrival of a little girl in the SPIKE and SANDY O'DONNELL (21st) household on July 3rd. The news arrived just too late to make the issue. Congratulations and best wishes, Spike and Sandy..... We're partial to the story about the man who was obviously looking for sympathy so his friend obliged him with one of those "What's the matter?" questions. "It's terrible," came the reply. "In the morning when I wake up, my wife asks for money. When I come home to lunch, she asks for money. When I get back from work in the evening, she asks for money, and even the last thing at night, she asks for money." His friend, full of pity, was aroused with curiosity and asked him "For goodness' sake, what is your wife doing with all that money?" "I don't know," he replied. "I don't give her any."..... Have you paid your 1953-54 dues yet? The new year began last August, you know..... Our good friend, IVO OTEY (Div.Hq. from 3-46 to 1-47) is now living at 2616 NW 25th St., Oklahoma City. Ivo wrote us weeks ago. Like so many other letters we receive, we simply haven't the time to write the lengthy replies each is deserving of. We trust you good friends will understand and will accept these printed lines in lieu of something more personal. Someday we'll have a little free time to ourselves. Meantime, please know that we're busy.... If you move, let us know about it. It saves money - your money!

The French are shipping 20 lovely concubines to a former Sultan of Morocco, now exiled in Corsica. Seems he complained of being cold. Well, if that's exile, Sultie, move over. We're all for it....



ED PETTY is the new Secretary of the Ft. Benning chapter of the 24th Infantry Division Association. President is Lt. Col. CURTIS COOPER (19th). Vice President is M/Sgt. JAMES B. CECIL (21st). Treasurer is Capt. ROY WILSON (21st). At a meeting in July, they procured two new members: Sgt. ROBERT W. COMPTON (19th) and Sgt. RAY G. CLARK (19th). Ed says their goal is to sign up every Taro Leaver at Benning. We like that spirit, Ed. What can we do to help you?.... LOUIS D. SMITH (Hq.Co., Div.Hq.) is practicing law in Monroe La. Lou writes that he's plugging the Assoc. everywhere he goes for which we are grateful. We just haven't had the time to write you a more personal letter, Lou; we trust you understand. Good wishes to you anyway.... Changing address? Let BILL SAVELL in on the scoop will you, please?.... "Summer", according to CHARLIE SIEBERT (19th), "is the season when children slam the doors they left open all winter."..... SPIKE O'DONNELL swears he overheard this while passing The White House on his recent Washington trip: "For two people, they certainly burn enough lights".....

Not a shadow of a doubt

The latest word from BILL VERBECK (21st) in Korea brings the news that he spent a recent evening teaching the Chicks their own song. Bill reports that he was disappointed that the 19th boys didn't know their own song (Ed.Note: Bill, when JOE PEYTON heard about it, he cried). At any rate, with the help of his everpresent harmonica, Bill (a Gilet to the end) is teaching the Chicks "The Rock of Chickamauga." Bill reports also that the 34th is worse off than the 19th for having lost tradition, they having been disbanded and then reformed. Bill adds, "Furthermore, they don't have a Gilet to set them straight."

Bill winds up his most recent report in his familiar inimitable style saying, "Last week I had 30 Chicks at my club. This week those 30 came back and brought 60-70 others. They asked me for a repeat performance. Just as I went to bed, I imagined I heard Jock saying, 'Thanks, Bill'." (Ed.Note: And we feel it in our bones, Bill, that Jock was there, quietly in the background, smiling proudly at you and his boys.)

P LAIN TALK

SUMNER WILSON (Div.Hq) who helped to engineer the Division's "Pictorial History" writes us that the foul-up in Tokyo has finally been cleared away. You should have your copy by now if you ordered it. If you didn't order it, why not send \$5 to PIO, c/o Division, today and you'll get it.... Can each of you scare up one new member before Christmas? What a Christmas present that would be for the Assoc!..... When a girl begins calling you by your first name, it's really your last name she's after.....

FOR WOMEN ONLY.

FRANK FERGUSON, of RFD #3, Ames, Iowa, is presently with the U. S. Point Four program in Teheran, Iran. Frank is making educational motion picture films there. It sounds like interesting work, Frank..... The Medics say you can knock two years off your life for every inch your waistline exceeds your chest measurement. If this is true, you guys who have been cussing out your old mess sergeant can just relax - and wait.....

Success— it hurts!

Someone at St. Louis asked us about the aims of this Assoc. Here are a few:
To forward and promote the general welfare of all persons who served with the Division, and to foster and cultivate the social relations of members.
To publish and circulate to the membership a periodical publication.
To promote an annual national meeting for the former members of the Division.
Do you want any more?



We got a chuckle out of Ruth Montgomery's recent column "D.C.Wash" appearing in the New York Daily News wherein she referred to our good friend, KENNETH F. CRAMER as "The Beast"..... ED HENRY (Div.Hq.) reports that the dime isn't really worthless. "It still makes a fairly good screwdriver," he says.... When you move, please be sure to notify BILL SAVELL of your new address.

Get In The Swim

HAROLD MILLER (24th Med Bn from 4-51 to 2-52) recently gave us a scolding for some past articles. We took the criticisms to heart (as we do all complaints) and tried to profit thereby. How are we doing now Harold? GEORGE MORRISSEY (34th) is another one who objected to certain copy in the past. We're not attempting to play sides here. When and if it does seem that way, just sing out. We are listening. It at least assures us of one thing: That you're on our beam -- and that's heartening. George has been with the Assoc. since the day it was born and he has some good ideas as to what goes and what doesn't. Stay with us, George.... That is YOUR paper. If your name doesn't appear in it often enough, it's YOUR fault. How about putting aside that modesty and write us about yourself?

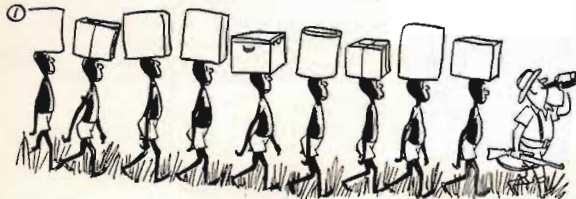
Pleasant Voices

.... HISAO Y. URCIA (Div Hq from 12-44 to 11-47) is a storekeeper at Aiea, "on the --- rock"..... JOE PAYNE (E-21 from 8-44 to 12-45) is a salesman for Goodyear Tire & Rubber in Okemah, Okla. Joe is still a single boy..... GEORGE STANLEY (21st) of Belle-rose, N.Y. wants to buy a copy of "Children of Yesterday." Send us \$3.00 and we'll get it for you, George..... Our thanks to AL MILLER (A-21) for scouting in the Columbus, Ohio area for us. Al, you never fail us!... Maj. SUMNER WILSON (Div. Hq.) is now at 1200 26th St., Kearny, N.J.

(Ed. Note: Our phone rang one evening recently and it was Prexy VIC BACKER (34th) calling from NYC. Vic wanted us to publish the names of those who attended the St. Louis affair. We explained that we were already committed to publishing more of our Assoc. Directory. Like a General, he barked "OK, give 'em both". Then's where our military education came in mighty handy. We said "Yes sir", clicked our heels and saluted the telephone. For you, Dear Readers, here's who made the St. Louis clambake.)



Charles T. Stancil, (Sv 19th), 6704 W. Markham, Little Rock, Ark.
Urban L. Throm II, (24th Med Bn), 304 Glen St, Hot Springs, Ark.
Ralph Shamsheolian (Hq Co, 3d Bn, 19th), 262 "L" Street, Fresno, Calif
Carroll Atkinson, (Hq Btry, 63d FA), 3605 East 16th, Denver, Colo
William A. Savell (Sv 19th), Blountstown, Fla
William M. Byrd (Hq 21st), 2609 Helen Street, Augusta, Ga.
Carroll White (L Co, 34th), RR #3 Noblesville, Ind.
Edward Wiegmann (Cn Co 19th), 2210 Oliver St, Fort Wayne, Ind
C. G. Hanlin (L Co, 34th), Elwood, Ind
Roger W. Richardson (B Co, 21st), 1030 Lincoln Way, West South Bend, Ind
Harry Shock, Jr (3d Engrs), Anderson, Ind.
Theodore Bobinski (Cn Co, 19th), Box 287, Michigan City, Ind



William M. Holloway (24th Sig), Gerald, Ind
Ralph Trotter (Co C, 21st), Blairsburg, Iowa
Angelo Strada (Co C, 21st), 5008 S. Laverne Ave, Chicago 38, Ill
John Trinca (Co C, 21st), 543 N. Noble St, Chicago, Ill
F. W. Menne Meyer (Co G, 21st), P.O. Box 335 Bethalto, Ill
F. J. Williamson (24th Recon), Calhoun, Ill
James W. Williamson (Co L, 21st), Olney, Ill
Tom Compere (Div Hq), 1897 Clifton Ave, Highland Park, Ill
Robert O. Lozier (Co A, 21st), Manteno, Ill
John W. Thormburg (34th)
1031 Wyle Ave, Akron, Ohio

Louis G. Kepler (Co G, 21st), DeForest, N.Y.
Alton Teeter (Co C, 3d Engrs), Ithaca, N.Y.
Leon Swen (At Co, 34th), Caribage, N.Y.
Verdun Myers (Co G, 34th), Tecumseh, Okla.
Charles Standley (Co B, 21st), Bismarck, Mo.
D. Paul Carpenter (Co A, 21st), Seymour, Mo.
Paul Pimson (34th), 1141 Roseland
Dayton Ohio
Jerome VonMohr, 251 Henry St,
Dayton, Ohio

Otto Kassak (Co A, 34th), 543 Tipton, Wood River, Ill
John J. Kurek (Co D, 24th Med), 1629 W. 37th Place, Chicago, Ill
Thomas D. McInernog (3d Engrs), 4 Melody Lane, Belleville, Ill
Richard C. Goirny (Co E, 21st), 3619 W 64th St, Chicago, Ill
Joseph DiSanto (Sv Co, 19th), 842 S. Winchester Ave, Chicago, Ill
Loy Williams (34th), 1002 W. Carroll, Macomb, Ill
John Bruening, Jr (Btry B, 52d FA), 1802 Spring St, Quincy, Ill
Preston Burger (Co H, 34th), Ohio, Ill
Robert Draper (Hq 1st Bn, 19th), Tampico, Ill
Eddie Oravitz (Co F, 34th), 921 Bernington Ave, Youngstown, Ohio
Paul Wiscup (Co L, 34th), 329 E. Emerson St, Fairborn, Ohio
Wenzel Griffin (Co C, 34th), Fletcher, Ohio
Mike Mochak (Co D, 19th), 1143 Walnut St, Springdale, Penna
Irval E. Fulmer (Co H, 21st), West Brownsville, Penna
Norman W. Kemp (Hq Co 3d Bn, 21st), Box 241, Dublin, Va
Roland Sinnen (63d FA), Belgium, Wisc.
Francis J. Stockel (At Co, 34th), Hazel Green, Wisc
Robert H. Luhrs (Co M, 19th), 7609 3rd Ave, Kenosha, Wisc
Donald Ness (Co I, 21st), 209 Onida St, Portage, Wisc
Ed Yville (Div Hq), Higginsville, Mo
Ocke R. Turnbough (724 Ord), Wellsville, Mo
Arthur Maybaum (Co G, 21st), 1018 W. 65th St, Chicago 21, Ill
Frank Dudzik (Co A, 19th), 10016 S. Indiana Ave, Chicago 28, Ill
A. Verne Mabry (Co B, 19th), RR 2, Box 183-C, Collinsville, Ill
J. R. Miskell (Hq Co, 34th), 707 S. Washington St, Jerseyville, Ill
Paul J. Sullivan (Hq 1st Bn, 19th), 3029 Waverly Ave, East St. Louis, Ill
Edgar W. Rapin (Co D, 34th), Hickory St, Box 305, Bensenville, Ill
Charles W. Hogue (Sv Co, 19th), 21 Halleck, Edwardsville, Ill
Deward C. Alexander (Co D, 19th), Grant City, Ill
Forrest Moulton (24th Sig Co), 121 E. Lortun, Roodhouse, Ill
Spike O'Donnell (Co G, 21st), 4531 Jackson Blvd, Chicago, Ill
Marc L. Chouinard (Div Hq), 843 W. Oak, Kankakee, Ill
Albert Seltsam (Co D, 34th), Danville, Ky
William C. Coslow (Co A, 34th), 1108 S 2nd St, Louisville, Ky
Joe Schappert (21st Inf), 113 West 5th St, Covington, Ky
Roscoe C. Claxon (Div Ord), Stamping Ground, Ky
Elton J. Evans (24th Recon), Salina, Kansas
J. L. Postma (Co K, 21st), 723 Louisiana St (Box 225), Lawrence, Kansas
Stanley Lawrukiewicz (Med Det, 19th), 825 Sandusky, Kansas City, Kansas
Dan Maurin, (Med Det), 19th, 635 N 28th St, Kansas City, Kansas
Ben C. Meier (Cn Co, 19th), Scott City, Kansas
George L. Jester (Co A, 21st), 2016 South St Francis, Wichita, Kansas
A. T. Sutton (Co F, 19th), Ft Riley, Kansas
L. L. Freeman (Co C, 34th), 6526 Farrow, Bethel, Kansas
W. J. Peters (Hq 19th), Summerfield, Kansas
John C. Birch (Co D, 21st), 7125 Dearborn, Overland Park, Kansas
Joe Peyton (Sv Co, 19th), 131 N Culver St, Baltimore 29, Md
Robert A. Silverness (24th Med), 8526 Vinland St, Proctor, Minn
Kerwood Ross (Div Hq), 1387 Main St, Springfield, Mass
Francis C. Howland (3d Bn, 34th), 150 St. Louis Drive, Prairie Du Chees, Wisc

Abe Goldstein (Co H, 34th), 7224 Tulane, University City, Mo
Bernard F. Curley (AT Co, 21st), 7312 Herman Ave, St. Louis, Mo
R. H. Tindall (Div Hq), 4392 Maryland, St. Louis, Mo
Vernon Schenkel (Hq Co, 1st Bn, 34th), 9461 Harold Drive, Overland, Mo
Carl Willm (Co L, 34th), 64 West Main, Pegasus, Mo
LeRoy F. Wallrapp (3rd Engrs), 3650 Conn, St. Louis, Mo
Gerd Heye (Div Hq & 24th Sig), St. Francis Hotel, 604 Chestnut Street, St. Louis, Mo
Louis Tacchi (Co E, 34th), 6832 Bradley, St. Louis, Mo
Charles Black (Hq 1st, 34th), 3200 Miami, St. Louis, Mo
Harold L. Hecht (Co C, 21st), 6109 Bermuda, St. Louis, Mo
Joseph J. Conoyer (Co C, 3d Engrs), O'Fallon, Mo
Robert C. May (Hq 1st Bn, 34th), 4549a, Virginia Ave, St. Louis, Mo
Stanley M. Glantz (Btry C, 11th FA), 5941 Washington Ave, St. Louis 12, Mo
U. G. Sandage (24th Bn), 505 Bond Road, St. Louis, Mo
Jack E. Brown (Co E, F & Sv, 34th), Jamesport, Mo
Chet Andrezak (Cn Co, 21st), 3937 N. Newcastle, Chicago, Ill
Joseph A. Lenk (Co M, 34th), 1229 Missouri Ave, St. Louis, Mo
Ray Hardi (Co G, 21st), 7331 Marietta, St. Louis, Mo
Lawrence Ruck (Co H, 19th), 9540 Holtwood Rd, Overland, Mo
Joseph L. Badaracco (Div Hq), 6640 Sutherland, St. Louis, Mo
Dr. Walter Rehm (Med Bn, 34th), 306 Market St, St. Genevieve, Mo
Gerald Lieber (Div Hq Co), 5912 Southwest Ave, St. Louis 9, Mo
Virgil R. Linard (Hq Co, 34th), 606 N. Mechanic, Butler, Mo
Don C. Williams (Sv Co, 34th), 12130 Kentucky, Detroit, Mich
Julius Jozz (Co A, 19th), 4724 Springwells, Detroit, Mich
Mike Marino (Co C, 19th), 109 South Ave, Cranford, N.J.
Vic Backer (Co A, 34th), 480 Lexington Ave, New York, N.Y.
Walter Cunningham (Hq 24th), 415 W. 118th St, New York 27, N.Y.
Leo Creamer (21st, Co G), 2114 Fairhawn Drive, Jennings, Mo
Thomas Minnella (Sv Co, 34th), 2326 Sulphur, St. Louis, Mo
Verne N. Shaldon (Hq 1st Bn, 21st), 524 Florence, Webster Grover 19, Mo
Robert Matonis (Sv Co, 21st), 5898 Enright Ave, St. Louis, Mo
Robert E. Fitzer (At Co, 34th), 1007 W. Carolina St, Louisiana, Mo
Bentley Caldwell (24th MP), 520 N. Sixth, Hannibal, Mo
Robert White (24th Sig), 901 Woodrow St, Pegasus, Mo
Frank C. Walters (Co G, 21st), 4970 W. Florissant, St. Louis, Mo
Frank J. Kuba (3d Engrs), 1190 Hilltop Drive, Olivette 14, Mo
Norman Kossmann (Co B & Sv Co, 21st), Mexico, Mo
Edmund Henry, 49 Grove St, North Attleborough, Mass.
Charles Unser (Div Hq), 1213 Esquire Drive, St. Louis, Mo
Earl Mahoney (Hq Co, 19th), 2530 Bellevue Blvd, Maplewood, St. Louis, Mo
James A. Shrowsbury (Btry A, 13 FA), 5726 Finkman, St. Louis 9, Mo.
Eugene E. Friedhoff (Surg Off), 2645 Carson Road, St. Louis 21, Mo
Charles C. Early (1st Bn, 19th), 127 W. 17th St, Junction City, Kansas
W. E. Boulware (Chem Warfare), 3724 Chippewa, St. Louis Mo
William Greako (Hq Co, 19th), 14817 Darwin Ave, Cleveland, Ohio
Allyn R. Miller (Co A, 21st), 737 East Livingston Ave, Columbus, Ohio
Leo R. Davignon (Med Det, 21st), 6775 Smith Road, Berea, Ohio



Okay, Victor? The pygmies (Hollandia-type Mla2) gave us a bit of a bad time here. Had it not been so, the page might have looked a little better. Solly.

Pace-setter

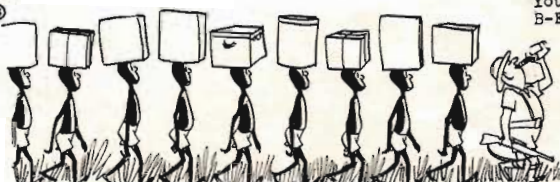
WALTER CUNNINGHAM (Div.Hq.) brought with him to St. Louis new words for the old tune, "Far About Cayuga's Waters" which were on the lips of all Chicks who served in the 19th during 1946-50. The words go:

"High above old Beppu City
There's an awful smell
Ask the boys of Chickamauga
For they know it well.
Holy Moses, hold you noses
When you're passing through
You will ne'er forget old Beppu
B-E-F-P-U."

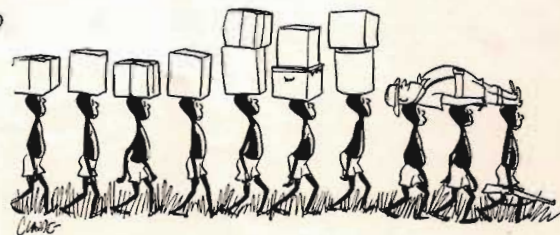
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JIM RUSSELL of Pawtucket, R.I. is commanding the local chapter of the Order of the Purple Heart. Fine going, Jim....If you're in arrears on dues, fellows, please take a minute out and send in your \$3. We're low on gas. Thanks....BOB WILSON (24th Med.Bn.) is with the 2nd Field Hosp. at APO lo8, 4PM, NYC. Another Medic, JOHN F. LEDDY (24th Med.Bn.) is with the 109th Field Hosp. at APO 541, 4PM, NYC...BERNIE SCHNELLER (34th from 1/44 to 1/46) is living in Huron, SD with his wife and 2 daughters

The 77th Div. Assoc. reports that it has 1760 members. We're out to beat all Associations. We're leading the 77th by about 800 members. Bring on the rest.



ROSCOE CLAXON (724 Ord) writes: "I now own 'Pearl Harbor' along with the local bank. It is 300 acres of that beautiful Kentucky Blue Grass (and first mortgage) land and adjoins our present land, has white house on hill, winding drive, white fenced-in stock barn, 2 tobacco barns, 1 stock barn, 3 ponds (1 big enough to dunk the whole Assoc. in)". Sounds like we ought to have a Convention, not in Lexington as Roscoe periodically begs, but right on the Claxon farm.... If you change your address, notify Sec'y BILL SAV-ELL, will you please?.... Nobody knows the age of discretion because nobody has ever reached it....



THOSE DAYS

BOB SOLOMON (34th) editor of "The 34th Infantry Informer" had this nostalgic item in his last issue. We liked it so well, we have appropriated it:

DO YOU REMEMBER??????
OAHU T.H.

Your reporter has recently viewed the movie "From Here to Eternity," and the location of its plot brought back memories. The action took place between Schofield Barracks and Honolulu. Do you remember some of the things about those places? The majority of the action took place in either the 19th or 1st Quadrangle. One of the 19th's or 1st's can tell which one it was. We spent our first Xmas in Hawaii in one of the quadrangles as its original occupants were at beach positions. The most vivid recollection of our stay there was the Xmas dinner... so-called creamed chicken. It was like... Godfrey says about Lipton Chicken soup... the chicken passed through on the way to the other side of the road." After our stay here, we moved to the upper post and took over the area of the 298th Inf. That was our home for the remaining stay on the island excluding the east range area, tent city to train recruits and the many bivouacs we made. We should remember Kole Kole pass where M. lift had to hike in the movie. Speaking about hikes, do you remember our hike around the island and over the Koolas range. Slippery wasn't it? In the movie, the first scene of Honolulu showed River Street. Need we go further? How about those beach positions? The first ones we took over were at Ukua, right near the air strip. That was a pretty handy spot... then we had to become woodsmen and chop down a lot of trees for fields of fire. At Schofield, we had movies and shows at the Bowl. What I couldn't understand was the professional basketball league whose champion was the Dozers of the 24th. After the season of pro ball, they went right into the A.A.U. season. How could anyone be both pro and amateur? That's mail, I guess.



JOHN S. BALDWIN (3rd Eng.) of RFD 1, Front Royal, Va., sends us this reminder of the "ILL BOARD" which the "plumbers and paper-hangers" erected at their camp site on Minoro. There have been a lot of places named since this picture was taken. John also suggests we contact the engineers listed below, for possible membership; if any of you are close by, give them a call, will you please? (By that time, we've already hit them once and it's time for a follow-up) incidentally, John, CLAYTON PROTSMAN, of Ada, Ohio, is already a member. Here's an's list:

TER H. WIER, 1616 California St., San Francisco, Calif.
SELLE HERRITZ, Box 83, Reidsburg, Wis.
BLIE GRADY, 219 Woods Ave., New Lexington, Ohio
HIESTAND, 6253 36th Ave., NE, Seattle, Wash.
BERT L. BOREL, Pemberton, N.J.
ROACH, 508 E 5th, Albany, Ore.
KARWOSKI, 1214 Franklin Ave., Chicago Heights, Ill.
H. THACKER, 500 Ranlin St., Atlanta, Ga.
VIN E. MOON, Box 14, San Martin, Calif.
GEORGE GREENE, 1808 Williamson Rd., Roanoke, Virginia
O R. FOX, 103 E. Shore Blvd., Willoughby, Ohio
LIAM TAYLOR, 1211 Branch St., St. Louis, Mo.
OLD BALFOUR, 709 W. Truman Rd., Independence, Mo.
IE KAULULULIN, 717 Ialea St., Honolulu, T.H.
RGE H. BATES, 131 Hanoli St., Lanilal, T.H.
ES E. WEEDON, Rt. 2, Box 221, Fredericksburg, Va.
WIN E. STEWART, Six Mile, So. Carolina
NETH C. LITSTER, 319 Lapa Place, Lanilal, Oahu, T.H.

WHAT THEY ARE SAYING

JOE PEYTON (19th) our never-tiring Convention Chairman, has run into a misunderstanding. A widow of one of our deceased comrades has written to him relative to the Honorary Life Memberships referred to in our November issue. Gen. and Mrs. Dean do hold, it is true, the only two such memberships. However, we have a large number of Associate Memberships. These have been extended with our compliments to the widows and parents of deceased 24th's wherever possible. There are approximately 100 of such memberships at the present time. The reason that the number isn't larger is that our records do not reflect a larger number and we have no way of contacting the others. If you know a widow or a parent or an issue of a deceased Taro Lesafer, won't you drop the Editor a line that we may invite them into the family.



THE VIC-TOR-Y DI-VISION TWEN-TY FOURTH IN-FAN-TRY THEY

BRAYER HEARTS CANNOT BE FOUND - EVEN IF YOU TRY -



FOUGHT A VAL-ANT BAT-TLE TO KEEP OUR COUN-TRY FREE ON -

THOSE WHO FOUGHT ON LOSING GROUND WERE NOT A-FRAID TO DIE - SO



HAIL OUR BAT-TERED HE-ROES WE CAN PRIDE WITH PRIDE THEY

LET US NOT FOR-GET THEM RE-MEM-BER-ING TO PRAY - FOR



EARNED THE NAME THAT BROUGHT THEM FAME THEIR COUR-AGE SORE-LY TRIED.

WARS TO CEASE AND LAST-ING PEACE UN-TIL OUR JUDGE-MENT DAY.

Any mail today?

JOHNNIE THORNBURG (34th) out in Akron, O. is rounding up 24th people in his area for the formation of an Akron, Ohio chapter. More power to you, Johnnie, we need more members like you. ...Columnist Ed Sullivan recently wrote this story about Gen. BILL DEAN (Div Hq) during the "ticker tape" in his honor in NYC: "Dean, husky despite the Commie mistreatment, spots one of his former officers in the crowd, calls him up to the stand, throws his arm around the youngster affectionately, and then slaps him on the back, almost flooring him. Twice again, as Dean pays tribute to the young officer, he slaps him on the back and each time the kid shakes as though Marciano had belted him. "No wonder the Commies couldn't faze the general" whispered a woman with me." That's a story we like. Thank you, Ed Sullivan, for reporting it. We're not all going out to buy Mercury's or Lincoln's because of it, but we like you for telling your readers about it nonetheless.

calls for the finest

DOM MONTO (34th) has gone into business in Clifton, N.J. operating "The Cozy Brook Inn" at 1025 Main Ave. there. Dom invites you, one and all, to drop in on him there and he promises not to spike the drinks. Good luck to you, Dom.

Mrs. A. Nocella, 804 E. 7th St., Monroe, Mich. is the mother of TOM BLATARIC (21st) who was reported MIA on 2/9/51. Later, he was said to be a POW. Mrs. Nocella is anxious to hear from anyone who can give her any news. We'll do our best to bring you some news, Mrs. Nocella.

Baffled?

We have a real supporter in Vivian Meyer of 1827 Kienlen Ave., Wellston, Mo. Vivian was at our St. Louis gathering and "considered it quite a treat". The treat was ours, Vivian. She reports that she listened to the 19th song as it was sung for 612 times and felt badly that the Division didn't have a song of its own. So distressed was this wonderful lady that she went home and wrote one. We are proud to reproduce it here. We wish that we had 100 Vivian Meyers who were interested in our welfare. Meet us in Washington, Viv, and we'll serenade you with your own music.

A HOLE IN THE CLOUDS

You good people are entitled to a Report from our Treasurer. After all Convention expenses had been paid in Columbus, Ohio in '52, the Assoc. had a balance of \$435.83 in the sock. During the succeeding year (Aug. '52 to Aug. '53), we collected a total of \$2760.46 making a total of \$3196.29 in receipts. As to expenses during that same period, we spent as follows:

Secretary's expenses	\$ 199.39
Chaplain's expenses	37.24
Membership Drive expenses	458.83
Taro Leaf expenses	1720.10
President's expenses	165.00
Purchase of decals	78.18
Misc. expenses	149.28

The total of the expenditures during the year was \$2808 leaving us with a balance of \$388.27 as we marched into St. Louis last August.

There is also a balance of \$1543.35 in a savings account which is separate and apart from the above reported operating account.

After all of the St. Louis expenses were cleared away, we had a balance of \$957.34 in the checking account. And that's where we stand today.

Renewal notices on dues for '53-'54 are now in the hands of 1339 delinquent members and when that money comes in "YOU WILL, WON'T YOU?" we'll have some hay.

Thanks, Bill Savell, for that very nice report.

TARO LEAF
William Savell
24th Division Association
P.O.Box 268
Blountstown, Florida



Elvin E. Greek
2520 Coles St.
Richmond 24. Va.

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ORDERS and DIRECTIVES

RUSS JONES, of RD2, Averill Park, N.Y., wants the address of Warrent Officer BILL LITTLE who was stationed at Ft. McNair until he went to Korea about a year ago. We'd like to get a line on Bill ourselves. Can anyone help? Bill was in Hq. Btry., Div.Arty.... Mrs. Murl Gibson writes us for her husband MURL GIBSON (C-19 from 4-43 to 11-45), which, incidentally, is O.K. by us. She writes that Murl is a truck driver for heavy oilfield equipment. They're living in Hoisington, Kansas, and have a son, Kent (age 5) and a daughter Gayla (age 3). The gossip out of Hoisington is that C. W. WIGGINS (1st Sgt., Co C, 19th) who lives on Rt. 4, Eureka, Kans., dropped in to see the Gibsons recently. The old "TopKick" is married and has 2 daughters. We're working on him to join the Assoc. We need a couple of Firsts in this outfit. We appreciate the report, Mrs. G.... Pfc ESTLE L. COOPER, of Winifrede, W. Va., a returned POW, says he was sentenced to a term of hard labor by the Chinks for "trading with the Koreans to get the weed." According to a U.P. release from Freedom Village, Korea, Cooper said, "Most of the guys in our company smoked it." It's not good news but we can believe those poor fellows felt they had to do it, or else.... CHAPLAIN CHRIS J. BERLO, our longtime, faithful Assoc. Chaplain, has left these shores and is not at Post Chapel, APO 958, c/o PM, 'Frisco. In case the Russians aren't looking, that's Ft. Shafter, Oahu. Fr. Berlo asks not to be quoted on it but says he overheard a rumor that the 24th is going back to Oahu. We've been hearing that regularly since 1943, Father.



GERARD BROWN (HM-34) writes us from St. Albans Hospital, that he was the only one of nine captured from HM-34 who survived the internment. Gerard's address is 345 Empire Blvd., Brooklyn, N.Y. He says:
"The whole camp that I was in was composed mainly of Taro Leafers. At one time I was with a group of 738 GI's, of which, about 735 were from the 24th Div. About 460 of those men died from wounds and starvation. Those of us who got our consider ourselves pretty lucky. On Halloween of '50 we started a march of 100 miles and lost a man a mile. We nicknamed the maniac in charge, 'The Tiger'.
"The men I would like to contact are: FRANCIS MACMANUS, of Bronx, N.Y., 24th Sig. Co., 24th Div.; MAURICE SLANEY, of Brooklyn, N.Y., Sv Co., 34th R, 24th Div. Please let me know if you have any information pertaining to them.

Viva

Word has it hat OLIVER E. (for Eversharp) TRECHTER (Div.Hq.) who succeeded TOM DRAKE as Chief of Staff, is well situated with Com Z in France. Does anyone have Trech's address? Is Virginia with him? Anyone with any scuttlebutt on these two wonderful folks, please step forward.... ED ESPLIN (F-19th) gets the fried pork chop as 1st prize for the month. Ed recently wrote us a 10 page letter. The message is complete with the poop on the Division being on its second tour in Korea. The 19th less the 1st Bn. is apparently at the POW Camp just outside of Pusan. Ed was with the 21st Task Force Smith in July '50. He tells us something we didn't know: that the nicknames for JLC (Japan Logistical Command) were "Japanese Lovers Corps" and/or "Japan Lumber Company." As soon as we can confirm the many names and addresses of former Gimlets and Chicks which Ed has given to us, we'll print the dope. Meanwhile, thanks Ed, for your interesting and informative letter.... General ROSCOE B. WOODRUFF is one general who evidences loyalty to the old outfit at every turn. He writes that the "Taro Leaf is about the only real tangible thing we can give the membership." Right you are, General, that's why we're getting grey hairs trying to make it worthwhile.... Most wives lead double lives -- their husbands and their own.

Sh-h-h! I want to hear all they're saying about

If you haven't already done so, why not send \$5 to Division PIO, APO 24, c/o PM, 'Frisco, and get your copy of the History of the Division in Korea. We have our copy and it's a Beauty! It's the finest Division History we have ever seen. That we mean! If you move, don't keep it a secret. Maybe you won't tell the landlord, but for God's sake, please tell us.

Finest

WANTED! NEWS ITEMS! Put them on a post card or in a letter and send them to the Editor. If it's of interest to you, it'll interest your buddies.... Thank BILL BYRD (21st) for helping us locate some of those POW's to whom we are giving memberships.... We're proud to report that Brig. Gen. AUREY S. NEWMAN (34th & Div.Hq.) has been named deputy post commander at Benning. "Red" was formerly asst. commander of the 82 A/B Div. at Bragg. Of all the men who ever wore the Taro Leaf, he is one of the most respected and most loved. As for sheer guts, they didn't make them any braver. We salute you, Red....

Follow the leaders...

An article in "The Combat Forces Journal" in a recent frank criticism expressed more cogently and more pointedly than anything coming out of the Pentagon the reasons for the low or indifferent state of Army morale, discipline and incentive. It was a "beautiful" article.

It said: "The one thing that is making service unattractive is never mentioned. It's the lack of a sense of accomplishment. A soldier can get from doing his duty. They used to be a great sense of pride in the service, pride in doing a job well, pride in being a part of an efficient and effective machine."

"Much if not all of the pride develops from a feeling of being identified with something. We served with particular unit we had 'a home'.... You felt alive and you knew you were going places with a going concern."

"Today, the entire picture is changed. Here today and gone tomorrow.... Punch a button, out fall the cords, send them all hell and gone.... Everyone in the Army now is a number in an I.B.M. machine."

That we like !!

IT'S OFFICIAL



Hats off to LeROY DOWNS who found SGT. KEMP for us. Bob is a recently returned living in LeRoy's home city of Davenport, Iowa.

WHY NOT PASS THIS ALONG !!

Send this issue of the Taro Leaf to someone you know who served in the Division. Clip this coupon and mail it to Ken Ross and he'll send you a replacement copy free as long as the supply lasts. Let's get the Taro Leaf around.

HIM - I sent my copy to:

(name)

(address)

ME - My name and address is: