

TARO LEAF

24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Vol. XII

November, 1958

No. 1

1958 OFFICERS RE-ELECTED; MULDOON & LEONG TRAVEL FURTHEST, PHILADELPHIA WILL HOST IN AUG. '59

After great deliberation, and with the thought in mind that the best interests of the Association could be carried out with TOM C. again in the President's chair, he was re-elected along with ED HENRY and BOB DUFF for another year. The decision of the nominating committee was this: In the past we have had several vice-presidents, BUT never one who could work along with the President and get into the swing of things in order that he would be prepared to assume the duties of President in the future. This year, instead of 8 or 10 vice-presidents, only one was elected, and he will be in contact with all officers of the Association throughout the year and by the 1959 reunion, will have the experience and knowledge of the year in office, and be able to carry on and lead the 24th Association on to greater and more prosperous days.

C. C. HANLIN, operator of the Elwood Plumbing and Heating Co., Inc. of Elwood, Indiana was elected your Vice President. Those present at the annual meeting elected all officers by a unanimous vote. They are:

President: THOMAS H. CONGERE
V-Pres.: C. C. HANLIN
Secy-Treas: EDWARD F. HENRY
Editor: ROBERT J. DUFF
Chairman,
1959 Conv.: WM. V. DAVIDSON

More "Early Birds" were present this year due to the fact that the reunion opened on Thursday. This writer tied with BILL MULDOON for first position, but since the writer was at hand and close by, BILL was actually first and as far as we can see, traveled farther than anyone in these United States to attend--from Boston. AL KEE LEONG arrived on Saturday from Hawaii. Leong had made arrangements to be in the States on business in August in order that he might attend the Convention.

Friday saw many former Taro Leafers arriving and all enjoyed good fellowship, movies, visited the Trophy room and our own private bar. A beautiful and tasty buffet with Hawaiian music was the highlight of the early evening, and tall stories far into the night.

Saturday, --more registrations, Unit Meeting, 24th Division Movies, and in the P.M., the Annual Meeting. General Irving arrived in the morning, and was the guest of honor, and speaker. One was reminded of the old days in Hawaii and New Guinea, with Fred Irving dropping around and visiting with the various men of the 24th. We were also reminded that the record for which the 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION men are so proud, was made starting with General Irving. The 24th had no record to start with -- from the time we left Hawaii, and on in to the Philippines, he helped make this record possible.

The General various serious and amusing incidents of days in the far East, and adding that he was very happy to be a part of "Operation Chicago".

Also, "Our Division always was ready for whatever task was assigned. It has a fine record of "First's". FIRST in W. II, FIRST in the Korean Conflict, The FIRST Pentomic Division under the new T/O, and FIRST in Lebanon as a Pentomic Infantry Division.

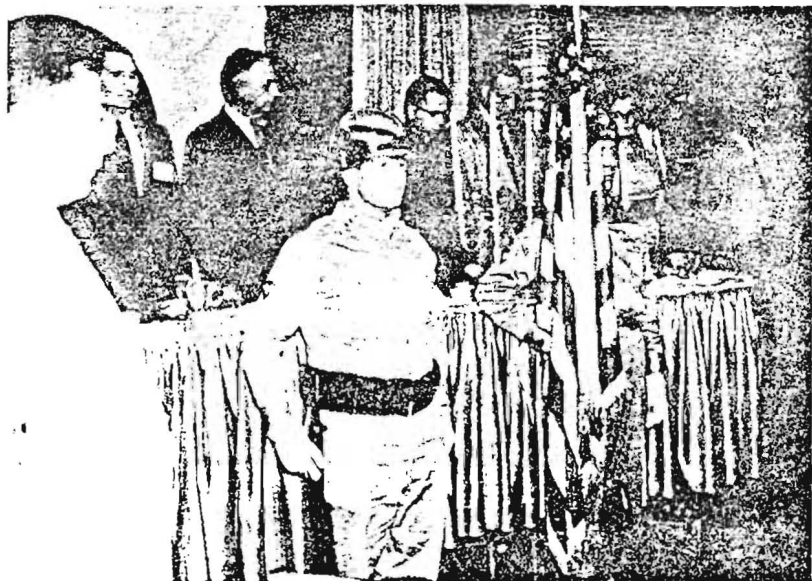
After much debate and voting, Philadelphia was selected as the site for the 1959 Convention. We have a good man there in the person of BILL DAVIDSON of nearby Swedesboro, N. J. who has had much experience in handling conventions, so we know that the 1959 show will be one of the best ---they get better each year, and to those of you who have never attended, DON'T let the 1959 REUNION pass you by...Get out there, and you won't want to miss another!

ROVING REPORTER at RECENT REUNION RECALLS:

Words most frequently spoken were, "Where's Tom?" ---and the usual answer, "He was here just a minute ago." TOM was a very busy boy this year, and only radar could have kept up with him.

The THROM'S enjoying the festivities; Mrs. Irene Swem, a Gold Star Mother attended along with her son and his wife, LEON & ALICE SWEM; The Swems are from Hammond N.Y. GEORGE STANLEY forwarded Greetings and his 1959 dues.

EMIL LARSON was present. He only recently heard of the Association and made it a point to be present. Despite the fact that Emil is blind, he enjoyed the reunion and took an active part in all the affairs. It is men like Emil that make this Organization what it is and make it worthwhile. See you in Philly.



HAWAII - AUSTRALIA - NEW GUINEA - PHILIPPINES - JAPAN - KOREA - LEBANON

Our Constitution must change with our changing times, and for this and other reasons, it was voted at the 1958 Convention to make these necessary revisions. Many of you are not familiar with the present provisions, so the original Constitution is reproduced below for your information. The revisions and additions together with an explanation of same will be printed in a future issue.



CONSTITUTION
of
24TH INFANTRY (VICTORY) DIVISION VETERANS' ASSOCIATION

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the 24th Infantry (Victory) Division, to nurture the spirit of comradeship among the living, and to perpetuate the memory of those who gave their lives to secure the cause of freedom, do hereby ordain and establish this Constitution.

ARTICLE I

This organization shall be known as the "24th INFANTRY (VICTORY) DIVISION VETERANS' ASSOCIATION", and shall hereinafter in this instrument be referred to as the "Association."

ARTICLE II

The purpose of the Association shall be as follows:

1. To preserve the memories and friendships common to the veterans of the Division.
2. To establish suitable memorials to those members of the Division who gave their lives during World War II.
3. To give immediate assistance of a temporary nature to needy veterans of the Division, their wives and immediate families.
4. To publish such histories as will record the accomplishments of the Division during World War II.
5. To maintain an information service concerning all members of the Association.

ARTICLE III.

Section 1. Any officer, warrant officer, or enlisted man who is serving with, or has honorably served, the Division between the dates of 7 December 1941 and a date to be announced by the Executive Board, shall be eligible to membership in this Association. Until such time as a member shall become affiliated with a Chapter, he shall be considered a member-at-large; thereafter a chapter member. Members who join the Association prior to the first Annual Convention shall be deemed charter-members and shall enjoy the distinction of having assisted in the sponsorship of the Association, but shall have no greater privileges than those who join subsequently. Other than the Honorary Presidents hereinafter provided for, there shall be no other honorary officers, and no honorary memberships conferred upon anyone.

Section 2. Any member of the American Red Cross assigned to the Division during the dates set out in the preceding section may become a member of the Association with full privileges, except that such members will be designated as associate members.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1. All commanding generals of the 24th Infantry Division are designated as Honorary Presidents.

Section 2. Officers of the Association shall be elected for the term of one year, by a majority of the votes cast at the Annual Convention and shall serve without compensation, except that the Annual Convention may provide compensation for the Secretary-Treasurer. The Association shall have the following Officers:

- a. A President.
- b. Ten Vice-Presidents - one from each Corps Area and one from the Hawaiian Department.
- c. A Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 3. The President shall appoint such temporary committees as he deems necessary, and shall be an ex-officio member of each. He shall preside at the Annual Convention, shall represent the Association before the public, and shall generally perform the duties usually incumbent on such an officer.

Section 4. In the event of the death or resignation of the President, the Vice-Presidents shall select one from among their number to perform the duties of the President. Each Vice-President shall be in charge of the organization of Chapters within his area.

Section 5. It shall be the duty of the Secretary-Treasurer to prepare and maintain records of the membership of the Association, as well as the last known addresses of the veterans of the Division. He shall carry on the correspondence of the Association, compile historical data as to the Division and its veterans, and maintain liaison with other veterans' associations. He shall keep the minutes of the Annual Convention, the Executive Board, and any other committee of which he is a member, and shall be the custodian of the Constitution and all other documents. In addition thereto, he shall collect, hold, and disburse all funds of the Association, and keep records of the same in the form to be prescribed by the Executive Board. His accounts shall be subject to an annual audit by the Auditing Committee, and he shall obtain a bond in the penal sum to be determined by the Executive Board. He shall make no expenditures or incur any obligations except as hereinafter authorized. Special funds which may be created for memorials, publications, and welfare shall be maintained separately from the general funds of the Association to be expended only for the purposes created but otherwise controlled in the same manner as prescribed for general funds. In general, the Secretary-Treasurer shall assume all the duties incumbent on the secretarial and fiscal offices.

ARTICLE V

Section 1. The governing body of this Association shall be the Annual Convention. Any member in good standing shall have the right to be a delegate until twenty-five (25) Chapters shall have been organized. Upon being organized, each Chapter may send two delegates to the Annual Convention. The first Annual Convention shall meet at the date and place determined by the temporary presidents as provided in Article VIII. Thereafter, and until such time as World War II may be formally declared ended, the Annual Convention shall meet at such place as the Executive Board determines and on Organization Day (1 October). Subsequent to the formal declaration of the end of the war, it shall be held in conjunction with the annual convention of any such national veterans' organization as the Executive Board may decide.

Section 2. The Annual Convention shall determine the qualifications of the delegates thereto, receive reports from the officers of the Association and the various committees, elect officers for the ensuing year, adopt policies and take such actions as are germane to the purposes of which the Association was formed. The Annual Convention may amend this Constitution by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the delegates present, but a vote of the majority of the delegates present shall be sufficient for the election of officers, the enactment and amendment of By-Laws, and for any other matters that may be properly brought before it.

Section 3. Fifteen (15) members-at-large may apply to the Executive Board to organize a Chapter along geographical lines, which Chapter may adopt a constitution and by-laws, not at variance with those of the Association. Several Chapters may form a Department, also along geographical lines, with such privileges as the Annual Convention may decide.

ARTICLE VI.

Section 1. There shall be an Executive Board consisting of the duly elected officers of the Association, and the past president of the Association. It shall be the governing body of the Association between meetings of the Annual Convention, and shall assume such authority as is accorded to it by this Constitution and as may be expressly delegated to it by the Annual Convention. The Executive Board shall meet at the call of the President of the Association, who shall also be the chairman, but it may authorize the transaction of business and the voting by mail, within its discretion. The Executive Board shall supervise the work of the Standing Committees, pass on applications of the establishment of Chapters, supervise the expenditure of the funds of the Association insofar as the right to do so may be delegated to it in the Annual Convention, and serve as the advisory body to the President.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall appoint the following Standing Committees of five (5) members each, two (2) members to serve three (3) years each, two (2) members to serve two (2) years each, and one (1) member to serve one (1) year, reappointments being for a term of three (3) years. Members of these Committees shall not be members of the Executive Committee.

a. Committee on Publications: This committee will prepare and publish for the Association such histories or other publications, including a bulletin, as may be authorized by the Annual Convention or the Executive Committee.

b. Committee on Memorials: This committee will prepare and execute plans for such memorials as may be duly authorized by the Annual Convention or the Executive Committee.

c. Committee on Relief: This committee shall receive and take action on all requests for the relief of needy veterans of this Division, their wives, and immediate families. Such relief shall be temporary in character and shall only be made while an application for relief from some governmental agency is pending or in event such application has been denied. This committee shall render all assistance in its power to secure for veterans of the Division such relief as may be authorized by the Federal Government, or by any other agency.

d. There shall be an Auditing Committee with the duty to make an annual audit of the accounts of the Secretary-Treasurer and such other audits as may be desirable. The Annual audit shall be completed prior to the Annual Convention and report made thereon.

ARTICLE VII

Section 1. The Annual dues in the Association shall be two (\$2.00) dollars, payable on application for membership and thereafter on a date to be announced by the Executive Board. Chapters may determine the dues for their Chapter-Members subject to the approval of the Executive Board, but they shall remit to the Association one dollar (\$1.00) annually for each chapter member.

Section 2. The President shall submit a budget to the Annual Convention which shall have the sole authority to authorize disbursement of the funds of the Association.

ARTICLE VIII

Section 1. It being apparent that many of the provisions of this Constitution cannot, by their terms, become effective until implemented by the Annual Convention, the following Sections of this Article will take precedence over any contrary sections or Articles, until the Annual Convention shall have met.

Section 2. A majority vote, of those present, of the representatives of the units of the Division (19th, 21st, and 34th Infantry; 11th, 13th, 52nd and 63rd Field Artillery Battalions; 24th Medical Battalion; and Special Troops), duly appointed to form this Association, shall be sufficient to ratify or amend this Constitution, and thereafter it shall be considered valid for all purposes.

Section 3. The representatives as described in Section 2, or their similarly appointed successors, shall have the right by majority vote to elect temporary officers who shall serve without compensation but only until officers shall be elected by the Annual Convention as hitherto provided in this Constitution. The temporary officers shall consist of a President, 3 Vice-Presidents, and Secretary-Treasurer. The President shall call periodic meetings of the representatives as the occasion arises, and preside at the same, but may in his discretion delegate his authority to preside; he shall appoint all committees as he deems necessary and be, ex-officio, a member thereof; he shall issue a call to an Annual Convention at the earliest possible date; and he shall discharge all the customary duties of his office. In the event of the inability or disinclination of the President to serve, the Vice-Presidents shall select one from among their number to perform the duties of the President. The Secretary-Treasurer shall immediately accept applications for membership in the Association on the basis of the eligibility set forth in Article III; he shall have custody of all funds, records, and documents of the Association; he shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the representatives and of all committees of which he shall be an ex-officio member; he shall

generally undertake the usual duties of the secretarial and fiscal offices. All temporary officers shall take immediate steps to publicize the Association through appropriate agencies and shall continually foster interest and disseminate information relating to it.

Section 4. No officer under this Article shall have the right to disburse funds of the Association, or incur any obligations, except as previously authorized by a vote of two-thirds (2/3rds) of the representatives at a meeting expressly called for that purpose, and then only for such expenditures as may be necessary to increase the membership of the Association and arrange for the meeting of the Annual Convention. The Secretary-Treasurer may, however, without any prior authorization disburse funds for postage and necessary incidentals to publicize the Association.

Ratified, in substance, on 29 November 1945 at Matsuyama, Shikoku, Japan, by representatives of organic units of 24th Infantry Division, met for that purpose.

/s) James N. Purcell
JAMES N. PURCELL
Lt. Col., Signal Corps
Acting Chairman

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - 1948 CONVENTION			
DISBURSEMENTS			
Harrison Hotel	\$1,780.85		
Cost of fountain pens, shot glasses, decals and ties sold and donated at convention	248.88		
Typesetting and printing program and registration badge	105.00		
Queen contest	39.98		
Entertainment	290.00		
Bar expense paid in cash and not included in hotel bill	53.72		
24th Division sign	8.00		
Transportation of leis	10.00		
Typewriter rental	1.00		
Miscellaneous forms, tickets and office supplies	25.00	\$4,565.43	
24th Infantry Division Association - remitted to Edmund F. Henry for:			
Dues collected at convention:			
Annual - \$340.00	440.00		
Life - 100.00	50.00		
Ad - Harrison Hotel - August 7-10 Leaf	15.00	205.00	
"Children of Yesterday" sales			
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			\$3,070.43
RECEIPTS			
Registrations	\$ 375.00		
Dues: Annual - \$340.00	440.00		
Life - 100.00	50.00		
Buffet	189.00		
Banquet	754.50		
Bar	826.60		
Ad - Harrison Hotel - August 7-10 Leaf	50.00		
Cash donations - books	120.00		
Sales - Ties	48.00		
Fountain pen sales	30.25		
Shot glass sales	6.75		
Decal sales	23.00		
"Children of Yesterday" sales	15.00		
Cash receipts for personal services at hotel	5.10		
TOTAL RECEIPTS			3,085.20
DEFICIT ASSUMED BY CHITCAK CHAPTER			\$ 185.23

34th Inf 'Dragons' Celebrate 42nd Birthday

Tuesday of this week marks the 42d year for the 34th Infantry. "TOUJOURS EN AVANT! ALWAYS FORWARD," living by this motto the 34th Infantry has gained for itself a reputation of dependability and courage through its short lifetime.

The 34th came into being as a result of the sweeping National Defense Act of 1916. It was first organized on July 15, 1916, at El Paso, Texas. The initial assignment included duty along the Mexican border and training of National Guard units.

The 34th sailed for France with the Seventh Division in 1918, and fought in the Fuvencelle sector with great valor. For this and subsequent actions against the Germans the 34th was cited by the French with the battle honors of Lorraine.

On December 7, 1941, the 34th was preparing to move to the Philippines, but the Pearl Harbor attack changed this and the Regiment sailed for Hawaii instead.

The first true test of the 34th came at Leyte. Spearheading the

24th Division's rapid thrust across the island, the Regiment remained in constant combat with the enemy for 75 consecutive days.

Attached to the 35th Division near Subic Bay, the 34th fought bitter action to retake Bataan. The 34th went on to dig the Japanese out of holes in Corregidor and rejoined the 24th Division to help Mindanao.

In the early days of Korean fighting the 34th bore the brunt of the overwhelming Communist Assaults. Severely reduced in strength the 34th was transferred back to Japan on paper, to be stationed at Zama and Fuji in Honshu.

Returning to Korea, the 34th was ordered to process POWs and later set up Headquarters in Pusan. In 1954 the 34th rejoined the 24th Division where it spent over a year guarding the demilitarized Zone against the communist aggressor. It fought so valiantly during the War here.

The First Battle Group, 34th Infantry came with the redesignation of the 24th Infantry Division on the first of July this year.

24th Infantry (Victory) Division Association

402-410 First National Bank Building, Attleboro, Massachusetts

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

OCCUPATION _____ FORMER UNIT _____

CHILDREN & AGES _____

SERVED IN 24TH FROM: _____ TO: _____

REMARKS _____

DUES ENCLOSED _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES \$5.00
IF YOU WANT FUTURE ISSUES, CLIP THIS COUPON