



TARO LEAF

24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
VOLUME XVI NUMBER 3

MAY 1963



It Pays To Have A Reservation... Got Yours?

"24TH" REUNION

BROWN HOTEL

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

AUGUST 9, 10, 11, 1963

'T' A R O L E A F

Of, by and for those who served
and/or now serve the 24th Infantry Division,
published frequently by the 24th Infantry
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HERE'S A LITTLE INSIDE DOPE!



SAMUEL UMPHREY (DIV CHEM OFF '45-'48)
writes us from his office as Post Engineer,
I Corps, Seoul, Korea. Responsive to a
request for information on old friends,
Sam writes:

"You asked about Bill Craig, George Moody,
and Mark Kreidberg. Bill left Seoul in mid
'60 after doing a very creditable job as
CO of the 13th QM Battalion. We noticed in

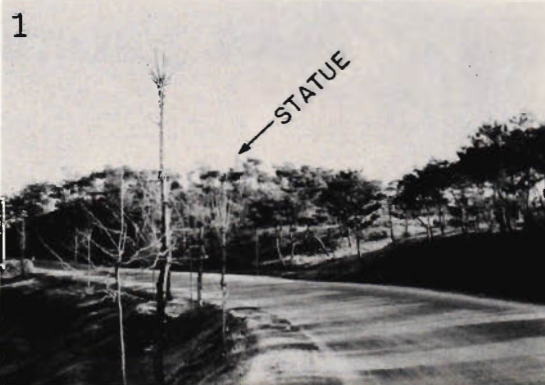
a recent issue of Army Navy Journal that he
has retired, but his whereabouts are
unknown. We saw a great deal of George and
Anne Moody in Tokyo in '56-'57 when he was
G2 for UNC, but lost track of him when we
came to Korea in January 58. Understand
from Bill Dye (G3), now Deputy G3, I Corps
(Group), that Mark Kreidberg is at the
Pentagon.

"In Oct. '62, my wife and I visited
Kyushu for a week. We travelled by air
from Tokyo, landing at Itazuki near
Fukuoka and fanning out over the island by
auto, visiting Kurume, Saga, Hita, Beppu,
Kokura, Yahata, Tohata, Kashii, Hakata and a
few more places of interest to us all. There
are many changes, except at Beppu where we
only observed two or three major innovations,
including a new monstrosity of a building
to replace the Hinago (where the Emperor
stayed in '49) Hotel in the downtown area,
a beautiful modern hotel as an extension
(left side of the entrance) to the Suganai,
and a new Beppu Castle near the hot springs
area in the hills. It is of a similar type
to that at Kumamoto. The old Suganai lobby
is a glamorous display and sales room for a
variety of exotic orientals products, and
the view at night, from the roof of the new
hotel wing overlooking Monkey Mountain and
Beppu Bay, is almost as wonderful as a night
view of Victoria Peak and the lights of
Hong Kong from the Kowloon side. But, just
as many of the peaceful and beautiful areas
of Europe and America are disappearing by
encroachment of industry, so are many of the
romantic spots that you knew in Kyushu are
being plowed under to make way for industrial
plants, so necessary for Japan's survival.
The friendliness is still there, but you
get the feeling of haste, similar to that
encountered in a New York subway or, an
automat during the lunch hour. You, after
so many years absence, would have difficulty
recognizing many of the areas.

"Recently, we were fortunate to have
Eleanor Gaynor, wife of George (IG) as a
weekend guest. She is a lovely girl, and just
what George needs. She is finishing her
duty tour as a Major, ANC, at the 121st Army
Hospital at ASCOM City, near Incheon. George
is living the retired life of a country
gentleman in South Carolina.

"Last Sunday, 24 Mar., was the first day in
a long time that we were able to enjoy other
than sub zero weather, so we made the most of
it. We left our hotel in Northwest Seoul,
passed through the city across the Han River
(frozen over), through Yong Dong Po, Suwon
and into Osan (K-55 Air Force Base), a
distance of about 60 miles.

"After passing through Suwon, we approached
the hill straddling the road between Suwon
and Osan where Col. Smith, CO of Task Force
Smith, fortified and fought on 5 Jul 50.
Picture 1 gives a view of the hill and Col.



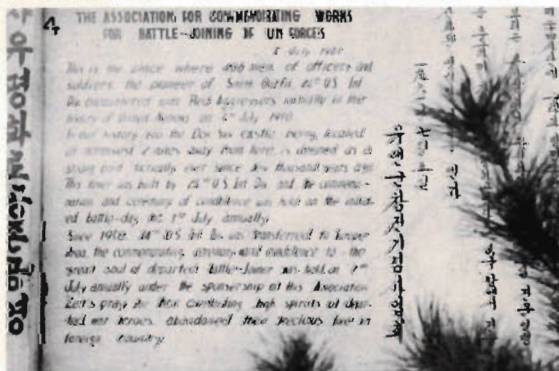
Smith's position as seen by the "38 squat (North Koreans) shapes emerging from the mist" and "the T-34's which continued to roll forward", the situation so vividly described in Leckie's "Conflict". The statue outlined atop the hill, is in the center of the fox holes and gun emplacements constructed by Smith, shown in pictures 2 and 3.



"We parked and walked to the entrance, with the sign, picture 4, which reads in Korean and English that, "This is the place where 406 men of officers and soldiers the pioneer of Smith Outfit, 24th US Inf Div encountered with Red Aggressors initially in the History of United Nations on 5th July 1950. In our history too, the Dok San Castle being



located at northeast at 2 miles away from here, is deemed as a strong point tactically ever since few thousand years ago. The tower was built by 24th US Inf Div and the Commemoration and ceremony of condolence was held on the initiated battle day the 5th July annually. Since 1958, 24th Inf Div was transferred to Europe, the commemorating ceremony and condolence to the great soul of departed battle-casualty was held on 5th July annually under the sponsorship of the Association. Let's pray for their ever-



lasting high spirits of departed war heroes, abandoned their precious live in foreign country." A few yards further, we approached a smaller entrance with another bilingual sign which reads "Commemoration of the Initiated Battle of the UN Forces of Memorial



Service on the 5th Day of July annually. "picture No. 5. Reaching the top of the hill we found the memorial in all its splendor, shown in pictures 6 through 9. Finally, picture 10, which, with few, if any, changes, is the view looking from the statue toward Suwon, that Col. Smith and his soldiers saw on that 5th of July morning in 1950.



"On that fateful morning, yours truly was at a conference in Yokohama at Military Government Section of SCAP (Supreme Commander Allied Powers), where plans were being formulated to fill the gap in Japan



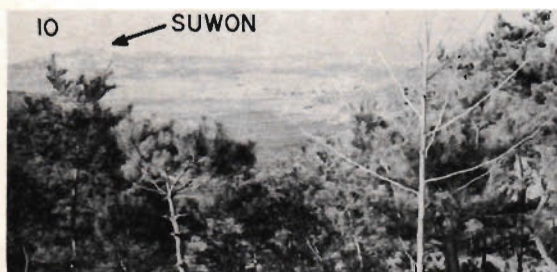
defenses made by the departure of troops from Japan to Korea. I had just participated in a 24th Div HQ CPX at Kokura (where we had our tents set up at the old PX warehouse area (Ed Holder's hangout), which ended on 15 June. This was my last contact with



General Dean and many others that I knew so well. I didn't recognize any of the 24th division members when we visited several of the units in Germany in 1959.



"We expect to attend the annual memorial services for our fallen comrades at the "Smith Hill" on July 5th this year, and we will then pay our tribute with a silent prayer".



We're using this just as you wrote it, Sam, and we're working in all of your photos too. They'll be small, but we're using them. Thanks Sam: we knew you wouldn't fail us.



ED HENRY (DIV HQ '42-'45) sends us the perfectly delightful story of man in prison awaiting trial who addressed himself to the local judge as follows:

Judge _____
Street _____,
Mass.

Dear Judge _____:

The court clerk told me that I should have a lawyer represent me. But I don't need one. Jesus Christ is my advocate.

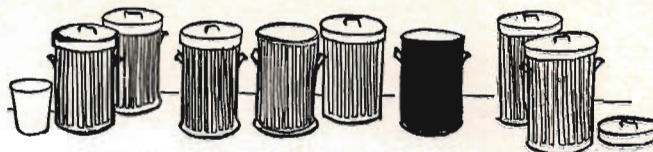
Very truly yours,
Roger S _____

The Judge replied with this:

Dear Mr. S _____:

I still feel that you should have some one locally.

Judge _____



We note with the interest of those who were "there", the recent falling of a Philippine Air Lines plane, with 27 aboard, of a plane flying from Cotobata to Davao on Mindanao. It was a 120 mile distance, the AP release stated, to which we added a silent "You're telling us". The plane fell in the Malalag area, 60 miles S.W. of Davao. The release added: "the flight route takes planes near 9690-foot-high Mt. Apo highest in the P.I. and over some stretches that have never been explored". We were under the impression that Taro Leafers had scoured this very area pretty well, weren't you?

LET'S HAVE

(A)

RHUBARB

ROSS W. PURSIFULL (34th '42-'45) writes of the annual meeting of the Detroit Chapter as follows:

"We had a delightful evening here at my home on Friday Evening, January 11, 1963. The weather was against us as we had a freezing drizzle all day which made driving dangerous. So we only had nine members in attendance for our meeting, who were:

Anthony N. Michno	(19th Inf)
Julius Josz	(19th Inf)
Edward J. Bak	(19th Inf)
Fred Wehle	(3rd Eng)
Edward Miller	(19th Inf)
Don Williams	(34th Inf)
John Horvath	(3rd Eng)
Earl Lewis	(34th Inf)
Ross Pursifull	(34th Inf)

"Fred Wehle secured a beautiful color sound movie on Hawaii, Don Williams brought a projector from his office and all of us enjoyed the show.

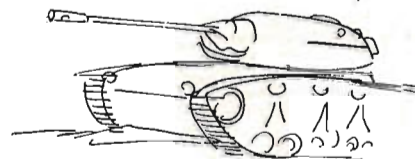
"We were able to "collect" membership dues from the following members and a check for \$15.00 is enclosed:

Anthony N. Michno (19th Inf. '45-'46)
20141 River Oaks Drive
Dearborn 6, Michigan

Edward J. Bak (19th Inf. '39-'42)
9043 Mercedes
Detroit 39, Michigan

Edward Miller (19th Inf. '44-'46)
13312 Helen
Southgate, Michigan"

Thanks, Ross, for keeping us posted, and we do hope that you and Marge enjoyed St. Thomas during February.



"WHY DIDN'T YOU THINK OF THAT BEFORE WE CLOSED THE HATCH?"



"I miss my old Sergeant—in fact I missed him a few times!"

From Maj. Gen. AUBREY S. NEWMAN (19th, 34th & DIV HQ) has come this wonderful letter:

"This letter is so far overdue that I hardly know where to start - so I guess I'll just go back to the time when I should have written, and begin there.

"I was most interested in your first issue. The format and design was a very professional job - and the contents of real interest to us all. (Ed. Note: we are blushing).

"For some reason, I delayed writing right away, thinking another issue was soon to follow - and perhaps it did. Did my name tag get lost in the shuffle? Later issues have not reached me - though let me hasten to add, I left Longboat Key on Jan. 15 for two months. If there was an issue after the first - and before Jan. 15 - this is a request for a copy; I know it will be a fine one.

"Let me add, Ken, if you did not put out an issue in that period - this is not a gripe! I know well how important personal matters can conflict; they did for me. How you and Bob Duff each put it out so long is a mystery to me. When I took it over, I had no idea of the labor involved. In fact, had I known, I would not have taken it at that time for it was a great mistake for me to undertake it alone. I still think it should be put out by a Chapter, wherefore the Editor could get some help. The writing, typing, laying out, printing and mailing - not to mention the necessary correspondence - are quite a lot for one man - in addition to earning a living.

"Anyway, the experience gave me a better understanding of how much the average TARO LEAFER owes to you and Duff. (Ed. Past and Ed. Present Note: Thanks Red).

"Have had quite a hectic time. Went to Benning to begin research on another book I have in mind - then before I could send anything to the publisher, I came down with the Flu. No sooner was I over that when I had a sudden emergency in my belly resulting from that war-time wound - so a 150 mile midnight ride in a civilian

ambulance (borrowed from a funeral home!) to the Bragg hospital. Fortunately, the good doctors there fixed me up without the necessity of surgery - making my box score of 5 "bowel stoppages" in 15 years: One operation and four near-misses. O.K. now.

"Spending a week here at historic and restful Jaukyll Island in Ga. en route back to Florida.

"Am not sure that I can make it to Louisville. Probably not. My life in retirement is not without its conflicts between what I would like to do and what I should do.

"Haven't any TARO LEAF news. Maybe I will turn up a couple after my return. If Ed Postlethwaite is still at Hq., Strike Command at McDill, I will contact him. If I do, I will report any news of him.

"Again, Ken, sorry to be so long in writing.

"Hope this finds all well with you.

"Sincerely,

Red Newman"

And to this fine soldier and good friend - of yours and ours - went this reply, reprinted herewith in full because of its content:

"My Dear Red:

"Firstly - that the Good Lord has seen fit to assign you for continued duty here - after your last "near miss" - heartfelt thanks of one and all of us.

"He has been knocking at Bill Verbeck's door, as well - and has seemed to have made a similar decision there - for which all of us are humbly grateful.

"This past year has not been without making profound impressions upon we Taro Leafers that we are each getting older, that we are each.



"Perhaps you two don't need the hibachi."

in our respective ways, showing the wear and tear, and that we answer the call when He makes it.

"What has been so especially rewarding to us, sitting in this Editor's chair, is to note the grit and courage that is still within the hearts of those with whom you and we served. We have about concluded that our respective Army experiences - whether it be a few years (as with the most of us) or of a career (as with the likes of you and Bill) - have given

us something in the nature of a booster shot to steel us for the adversities of life which we each seem to come to grips with as we move onward toward the "end of the line".

"The magnificence of a post card scribble from Bill, written while on the flat of his back at Walter Reed, saying only, "I've been through far worse and came out of it: I'm going to again", can and does buoy up the rest of us, as we grumble over our respective aches and pains - even to the point where we each want to shout "What in H--- are we complaining about?: it's wonderful just to be alive" - and so we do. In effect, you and Bill and the other "Greats" of old Division are still leading us. You may not sense it; but in a very definite way, you are: and we are still happy and proud to be following under your aegis.

"We caught that spirit in a telephone conversation with Pat and Lucy Ciangi and Spike O'Donnell the other evening when they thoughtfully spent \$3.80 (plus tax) just to say "Hello" to us. Pat has had enough ailments in the past year to bury any 6 of us. As he expressed it, "I've had one of each" - and still he was able to see the bright side and to indicate that his azimuth on the future is all set. But then again upon reflection, that's part of why Hill 522, Breakneck Ridge, Davao, Taejon, and all the rest, are proud names in American history books today. Our gang had guts, Red - and it has 'em today. We'll each go in the long run: but we'll make the most of it while we're here.



"Sayonara. Remember—no butterfly."

"And now on to the Editorship - concerning which you wrote with the usual Newman understanding. It sounded just like you.

"We could have had an issue every month from the standpoint of material. The boys have been good to us from that angle. We aren't lacking for copy.

"But our wonderful Exchequer holds a tight rein on the check book - and thank fortune that he does - and he easily proves that we simply cannot afford the luxury of an issue every month: 4 for the year is the limit, says Ed Henry - and we know him well enough to know that he means it.

"We "sneaked" 2000 copies of the Sept. issue out of our printer - 500 for our regular mailing and 1500 which we used for our own privately-sponsored sales promotion

campaign against these whom we know to be non-members of our "club". The response? We signed up - only 4 or 5, maybe 6, out of 1500 direct appeals. We cringe when we think of the time and effort represented here - so if anyone thinks we were sitting on our duffs during those weeks, when he wasn't reading our issues, he is off base.



"What's wrong? It smells good today."

"On publishing, our idea was that if we could afford only 4 issues this year, we might space them so as to allow 1 in the fall (the Sept. issue) and 3 in the spring (Mar., Apr. and May). We have the secret hope that between a few of the old faithfuls - and we have 'em - we might "find" a few \$ with which to publish and mail one or two issues in June and/or July - and before Louisville. We shall see.

"Do we explain, with any degree of sense, why your postman hasn't rung twice?

"Slice it any way you way to, it's a ? of \$.

"Here we are with some 300,000 (as an absolute minimum) who have worn the Taro Leaf at some time in the last 23 years - and yet less than 500 see fit to support our cause. And why?

"We've been close to this problem for the past 16 years - since we left the actives at Kyushu - and during a good portion of that period, we've spent more hours than we care to reflect upon, trying to give this Association the "goose" it needed (and you can read that either way - take your pick). We aren't complaining. We've enjoyed every minute of the effort - believe it or not - because, among other things, it has kept us in close touch with some of the finest men who ever walked this earth.



"My name's Toshiko. What's yours?"

"Rewardwise, however - not personally, but from an Association point of view - it has been a bitter pill to swallow.

"And why this lethargy - or lack of interest? We have some ideas.

"We've concluded:

"First - that our former comrades are just normal, everyday citizens trying to feed their faces, clothe their backs, and keep roofs over their heads in a world of 180 million citizens who are, as the saying goes, "over-organized, overclubbed, and oversexed". So many clubs are there to belong to that a man has to keep his eye on his watch and his calendar to insure that he leaves himself enough time to sleep. Ours is just another club - and each man has to weigh it, when we approach him. Worse, approaching him by letter as we must, it's easier for him to say "No" than it is when the PTA rep or the YMCA agent rings his doorbell and looks him squarely in the eye for his "Yes".

"Second - we're rated in the eyes of some as no more than "do-gooders", out for our particular cause. If it isn't the Heart Fund man with his palm extended, then it's the Cancer man, or the Easter Seal lady, or someone else. Our non-joiner isn't making any distinction between the other "do-gooders" and ourselves. We're all, in final analysis, hitting him for \$ - and he's plumb sick of it.

"In 1962, we kept all such solicitations received by us personally in a box, allowing them to pile up - so that we might see what these "do-gooders" were really up to. We collected 281 bids - 281 in 12 months - 281 crowds who were willing to share our earnings with us - and if that isn't being charitable in the literal sense, then we need a re-definition of the term. They ranged all the way from Bay State Society for the Crippled, Christian Appeal Mission, American Foundation for the Blind, Inc., World Clothing Fund, Inc., etc., etc. to World Wildlife Fund, Jimmy Fund, Care, Muscular Dystrophy Associations of America, Inc., National Epilepsy League, Boys Club and infinitum, and ad nauseam.

"Our mailings to our own Taro Leafers doubtlessly get thrown into the waste basket along with the most of the likes of those above which one doesn't, simply because he can't, yield to. Every man has to make his own judgement as to what he'll give and to what. Thank fortune, this is still so, be-



"One more order from you, Captain, and I'll spread your age all over the base!"

cause by the time a man gets through with the Federal Government telling him what he WILL shell out (and in Taxachusetts and a few other states, we have almost as bad a problem with the boys at the State level), that man rather likes to be able to have a little say as to how he disburses what is left. And this relates to a situation which has worsened with the years - and will continue to worsen, despite the conversation emanating from Washington.



"I have no boy friend—today."

"Third - there is this possibility, which we hold to. Not only are we ranked with the rest of the "do-gooders" when it comes to being too freely ready to dip our hands into another man's pocket, but also we are credited with having the ability to allow some of what we can take in to "stick to the bottom of the table". It has been actually suggested to us in a few replies we have received. Likely, any man so suspecting will refuse to believe that men like Spike O'Donnell, Bob Duff, C.G. Hanlin, Ed Henry, Vic Backer - to name but a few of twenty or so really "Old Faithfuls" have each year poured their own personal funds into this Association. We know of some of their activities in this area; we don't know them all because each has his own way of doing these things, and each has shunned any publicity concerning same. All of what has been done in this area is simply not known to any one person, not even Grandad Henry who handles the money, so wide and varied have been their respective charitable purposes toward the Association. Each has done what he has done because he has wanted to, and always with but one purpose in mind - to help to keep this Association alive. Because of their likes, this Association will survive. We've heard Spike express it thusly: "This Association will endure if we have only 10 paying members because I know the 10 who won't allow it to sink". With that kind of a spirit, how can we lose? We can't, and we won't.

"Fourth - and this one hurts personally - there are still out there, in this vale of tears, Taro Leafers who even now don't know of us. A few years ago, we personally sent 85,000 - yes 85,000 post-cards with the "join us, please" pitch. The response was something in the area of 200 new members. And of course, as you know, as mailing lists get older, they become less accurate. Witness your own Christmas card list. It is our personal belief, based on the "Returned: no forwarding address" notices which we receive, that Taro Leafers either don't pay their rent and have to keep on the move or are working in

cahoots with the Post Office Dept. to keep their distance from us. We have one H--- of a file of "untouchables". But of what use is a file drawer full of bum addresses.

"Fifth - possibly the resistance comes from the fact that their soldiering days are getting farther and farther removed from the present with each passing hour. Other interests have intervened: offering less reason to want to recall to mind our days of togetherness on the Rock, or at Rockhampton, or at Caragara, or at Pusan, or wherever. The longing for this kind of fellowship seems to grow in inverse ratio to the arthritis in our rheumatic knees and the gout which sets in. Life is an ever-advancing cycle, like a bicycle wheel in motion - we're continually dropping off old friends and picking up new ones. So it is with Taro Leafers and their buddies.

"The one strong adhesive force to hold us together is this Taro Leaf - and here we are without the money to send it out but four times a year.

"The four Taro Leafs this year will cost around \$1200.00 to publish - not to mention mailing costs, which like all else, have hit the ascendancy trail.

"Copywise, we could put out an issue every month. Believe it or not, we've enough copy to put one out every two weeks. That's not the problem.

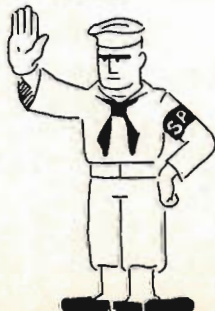
"Timewise we've got the writing down to something of a science - we report modestly. We write a few items every day and call upon one of our secretaries to type it as we go along. Then when an issue is ready, we use a smattering of typed copy - trying to please a majority with that which we actually use and trying to diversity by throwing out items for the consumption of those who lived on the Rock, waded through Hollandia mud, took Palo, hit Corregidor, crossed Mindanao, occupied Japan, got sucked into the war we weren't allowed to win in Korea, served in the ETO, and/or "made the Lebanon Trip". Add a few general interest items, mix well with what we hope is some good humor suitable for sons and daughters, if perchance they pick us up and give us a once over, add a few pictures and bingo, we have another issue.

"Calvin Coolidge used to say: "You can't please everyone; don't try". Actually we are trying, though we know it's a tough attempt.

"In truth, the boys aren't too rough with us gripewise. What complaints we do receive seem to be well intentioned and bona fide, and we do try to steer the ship accordingly. Really, the biggest complaint comes from the fact that their mailman doesn't bring us to their doorstep more frequently and that, we consider, to be somewhat flattering.

"Have I said enough? It's always therapeutic to talk with you - you're such a d--- good listener, and you have, as always, our deep respect,"

STOP



What's new

JOE PEYTON (19th INF - '44 - '45) is still working on his labor-of-love, "The Rock", the little periodic poosheet which he distributes to any and all Chicks whom he can find. He says that JAMES A. McGAFFIGAN (E & G, 19th INF, ?) of 26 Emerson Place, Needham, Mass. recently threw a nice contribution his way to help keep "The Rock" off the rocks - we got into that one without realizing it.... EARL V. BRIDWELL (H, 19th INF ?) of 134 S. 2nd, Beech Groove, Ind. came up with a 1936 Chick. They really go back, don't they? Nice going, Joe. You're an old faithful - and give Margaret a hug for us, please.



The Chicago Chapter had an installation of officers on Feb. 17th at Steve's Restaurant, in Wheeling, Ill. CHET ANDREZAK is the new Prexy, TOM STRZODA the 1st Veep, SPIKE O'DONNELL the 2nd Veep, PAT CIANGI, the Secy.-Treas. and Editor, and ADOLPH MILLER, the Sgt.-at Arms.



EARL V. BRIDWELL (H-19 INF, '38-'42) writes us that he retired in '55 after 24 yrs. of service. He's at 134 S. 2nd St., Beech Grove, Ind. He plans to be with us in Louisville, Ky.



We see where the Government Printing Office is selling a book of recipes developed for use in the service. The ad reads: "This set of taste-tempting recipes should prove particularly useful to institutions serving large groups of persons. Several hundred recipes, covering many varieties of dishes are included. The recipes in this service are arranged under general categories such as beverages, breads, cakes and cookies, cereals, cheese and egg dishes, desserts, fish, frostings and fillings, meat, pastry and pies, poultry, salads and salad dressings, sandwiches, sauces, soups, and vegetables." Are you tempted? Just send \$7.00 to the G.P.O. and the mess (pun intended) is yours.



"... And to my old Army buddy ..."

LOOK

In the Honolulu school system, there has been an effort to silence pidgin, the lingua franca of the polyglot population. We, who were there, were masters of Hawaiian pidgin, just as we mastered the pidgins of the Rockhamptonese, Papuans, Hollandians, Filipinos, Nips, Koreans, Krauts and Lebanese - always in stride. But into the campaign back on the "Rock", in all grass-skirted, ukulele-strumming innocence stumbled the promoters of Aloha Wah which will be holding forth about the time you read this. They're holding an annual ethnostalgic festival. For a slogan, in perfect pidgin, they chose "Aloha, Dere" (translated roughly as "Hello There"). The Honolulu Star-Bulletin, a crusader against pidgin, calls it "A travesty on the word 'Aloha'". But to the shoe shine boys at Schofield, it was a tempest in the poi pot. "Mo' bettah", said one, "da kine pilikea 'bout 'aloha, dere' be pau". "Better if all the trouble about 'aloha, dere' was over", he means, in case you've been away too long.



Brigadier General William C. Garrison
Division Artillery Commander

HERBERT D. CLIFTON (3rd ENG. H&S '41-'45) of 935 Shank, Dover, Del., writes: "It is always good to hear from old Army buddies, and I've become separated from an awful lot of good ones since I left the 3rd ENG. I'm married to a wonderful gal named Reba, and we have four wonderful kids, Larry 16, Shirley 12, Nancy 10, and Kenny 8. I've had two other jobs since discharge, but have settled down to working for Uncle Sam as a postal clerk, now in my ninth year. President Richard Ligman sounds like a fellow I knew in H&S Co. If he gets to read this, tell him I was Battalion mail clerk. There are a few guys that I see now and then. Saw 1st Sgt. John Baldwin, Front Royal, Va. RR#1, a few years ago. Rodney Tardir, White River Jct., Vermont, two years ago. See Carl Wagonfrueher, 92 Baltimore Ave., Dundalk, Maryland, fairly often. Eddie Deseta, who lives in Wilmington, Del. and owns a sheet metal business. These guys are all from the 3rd ENG. Yes I did visit Ted Karwowski in Chicago Heights, Illinois, a few years back. He was sure a colorful fellow with a heart of gold". Thanks for the report, Herb. Herb wrote also that once a woman never revealed her taste in lingerie except on the clothesline. Now she does it every time she sits down.

ADVICE FROM A LEFT-HANDED-MITTEN COLLECTOR

JOSEPH F. NEE (DIV HQ, '44-'46), now living it up in Westport, Conn. with his lovely wife, Marion, tells us that he lives so far out of town that the mailman mails him his mail. Marion adds that daughter, Leslie, is really getting a lot out of her Home Economics course; yesterday they taught her how to scrape toast.

way to start the day

Maj. Gen. CHESTER A. DAHLEN (21st INF ?) has just transferred from MA/G Republic of China to 7th Inf. Div. AP07: Frisco, which he will command. We're prouder than ever, Chet. Watch your diet over there, Chet. We particularly recall the codfish broth those folks used to put out. It tasted the way the inside of a Nip train smells. It made you want to wash your mouth out with after-shave lotion. In fact, that's just what we did, as we recall. Codfish broth was no kidding matter.

resolved:

Planning for the Aug. '63 Clambake - at LOUISVILLE - is already underway. Here are, in left to right style, JAMES M. O'DONNELL (G-21st '42-'45) C.G. HANLIN (L-34th ?) and ROBERT J. DUFF (DIV HQ '42-'44) in the bar - where else? in C.G.'s Elwood, Ind. home, where the plotting for the next round usually commences, where you find "human nature in the medium-rare, if not in the raw", as C.G. explains it.



THIS IS IT!



ROBERT DANIELS (DIV HQ '44-'47) passing through on his way to his next station, Holland, tells us about the milk bottle that washed up onto the shore at Mindoro one day. It was found to contain a piece of water-soaked paper. Its writing was too faint to be deciphered. Clearly it was a case for the rear echelon boys back in Washington. So back it went for various tests, with all of the various acids. Finally, the right one was found and there they were, six words standing out with startling clarity: "2 quarts of milk; no cream".

"HANDFUL OF THUMBS?"



The "South Pacific Bulletin" published by The South Pacific Commission, representing the 6 governments responsible for administering the island territories in the South Pacific (Australia, Netherlands, New Zealand, United Kingdom and USA), is sent to us regularly. This month's cover picture showed a male nurse, called a "mantri" in Hollandia,

BORN COMFORTABLE!

URB THROM (Div. SORG '44-'47) has sent us a membership blank for LINTON BUTTREY of 5900 Calif. Ave., Nashville, Tenn. Welcome aboard, Linton. Urb, by the ways, tells us about the 3 pregnant squaws who slept on animal skins - one on an elk skin, one on a buffalo skin, and the third on the skin of a hippopotamus. The 1st squaw had a son, the second had a son, and the third had twin boys. All of which proves that the squaw of the hippopotamus is equal to the sons of the squaws on the other two hides.



talking to a group of natives. The white gal in the group is Miss Leonie Martin, one of the health education officers of the Commission. She had just finished a series of health courses in Hollandia and, of that grand old land, writes: "...In Netherlands New Guinea, climate, terrain, and density of population all vary widely, as do customs, beliefs, and way of life. Life on the coast is very different from that in the high central ranges, where problems of distance are reckoned, not in miles, but in terms of hills and valleys. Here neighbouring tribes may be mutually hostile, and live in complete isolation one from another, with differing dialects or languages, and customs. In the larger valleys, where communication is easier, there may be one common language for an area containing a number of clans or tribes. As regards the people themselves, there are some differences in physique and general appearance between areas - which may be partly due to nutritional factors - but in general there is a great similarity. (There are, however, exceptions in certain of the coastal areas, where there may have been an admixture of blood resulting from inter-island migration or contact with voyagers)." For once in his life, your Editor is keeping his mouth shut.

She did send another photo showing her "Blue angels" (native nurses, female) entering some homes in Hollandia. Note the clothes. Why didn't they wear clothes when we were there? Don't say it: we thought of it too.

Then there was the Indian chief who installed electric lights in the tribal latrine, thus becoming the first Indian ever to wire a head for a reservation..... "Kennedy says he'll be satisfied with a ten billion dollar tax cut over the next three years", says VIC BACKER (34 INF '41-'45). "Maybe that will take care of him, but how about the rest of us?".....The safety sign read: "School - Go Slow - Don't kill a child." Beneath it was written in a childish scrawl: "Wait for a teacher".

It's like we've been Telling you...

The 24th Division Lions were Southeastern Conference (VII Corps) champions in '59, runners up in '60, USAREUR champions in '61, and are leading the pack with 5 won and 1 lost as we go to press, USAREUR league includes, in addition to ourselves the 2nd place 4th Armd Div., the third place SHAPE, the 4th place 3rd Inf. Div., the 5th place Supply Command, the 6th place VII Corps, the 7th place 8th Inf. Div., the 8th place Berlin, the 9th place V Corps, the 10th place 3rd Armd. Div., the 11th place Com Z, and the last place USAREUR.





Did you know AH KEE LEONG (1st Plt., C Co., 3rd ENG - 42-'44)? If you did know him, perhaps you are the man who can provide the information he needs now, because his war time personnel records have been lost. As all who attend our annual conventions know, it is Ah Kee Leong who supplies the beautiful Hawaiian leis for the ladies at our Saturday evening banquets - shipped by air from Honolulu. Now is our chance to help him, if we can. He was injured in Hawaii, and again in the Southwest Pacific - but, since his service record and other papers were lost, he needs proof of these injuries in order to obtain necessary medical care from the Veteran's Administration. Sometime in 1942 he was working in Alimanu Crater on a cesspool pit, and while working there injured his back...which laid him up. He was again badly injured in a truck accident on 3 December 1943, and his arm has given him much trouble since then.

If anyone has information on one or both of these times when Ah Kee Leong was injured, his statement of what he knows of the injuries is needed. If you have personal knowledge and can report it, this will help establish Ah Kee's rightful claim for the needed medical care. Your statement must be notarized, and mailed to:

Mrs. Rose Sturdywin, Disabled American Veterans, Honolulu, Hawaii. Also send a copy to: Ah Kee Leong, 210 Lewers Road, Honolulu 15, Hawaii.

This is important to Ah Kee Leong, one of our most faithful members. So if you have information, lose no time. Write out your statement, have it notarized, and mail copies to the two addresses above.



EAST

ARTHUR J. HORNBECK (?) 1503 Seymour, Utica, N.Y. has the bright idea of sending an application blank with his Christmas card mailings. Thanks Art: splendid idea.... Maj. Gen. EDWIN A. WALKER (DIV HQ) now living in Dallas, Tex. has been making headlines around the country. He spent some time in Oxford, Miss. in September....LEW JENKINS (28th BG - right now), former world lightweight champ is a 1/Sgt. and is 28th BG Athletic and Recreation NCOIC, with the Division in Germany....THOMAS STRZODA (21st INF '51-'55), living at 2619 Cortland, Chicago, Ill., tells us about a friend of his who runs a store. It seems that an exasperating woman had spent over two hours looking over his stock, complaining constantly, and criticizing incessantly. "Why is it", she snapped at last, "that I never get what I ask for in this store?" "Perhaps, Madam", replied the tired clerk, "it's because we're too polite".



How's about following JIM FROOME's (21st INF. '43-'45) lead and sending us some of your old snapshots? Here's Jim, below, with ART HAAS (H-21st INF) who was killed at Break Neck Ridge on Leyte.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

Do you remember your first camp after recruitment - that drab, austere place you first called home in the Army? It was a chilling sight at five in the morning - every rookie seems to arrive at his first camp at five in the morning - when the sky is black and a damp mist drags along the ground - and every few minutes, like some derelict ship, a black amorphous mass would loom out of the fog and drift past you, hard alee, with a muffled, grating sound. It would fade into the night. Hours later, with a shudder, you'd realize that it was Dog Company, somnambulating to breakfast - chain gangs of comatose, foot-weary men, in quest of distant repast. There are dozens of mess halls at every post, and the whimsical mind of G-1 (no offense meant, Tom Compere) would place each at a maximum distance from the Company it serves.

And then on the second morning, you woke at 5 a.m. To wake, for the first time in your life, at 5 a.m. is an eerie thing. It's absurd, you think. Surely no human mind could find employment for 5000 soldiers during the myriad hours till day break. Yet, all about you, soldiers slough their bedding, grab their socks - and mops and dustpans - polish belt buckles to new heights of luminescence, and stare disconsolately into the murky butt cans whose vile juices must be ridged by dawn.

Five a.m. is the hour the Army awakes, you find out.

BULLETIN BOARD

Marion B. Allen from Towanda, Pa., writes us: "This is to inform you for your records that GEORGE E. ALLEN died on Feb. 5, 1960 as a result of a cerebral hemorrhage at the age of 43, leaving his widow Marion B. Allen, two sons James B. (21 yrs.) with the Navy, presently stationed at Charleston, S.C. as TM² aboard the USS Everglades, Robert E. (13 yrs.) and Judith M., presently a student nurse at Wilson Memorial Hospital in Johnson City, N.Y. Thank you for the Magazine and letter. I'm sure George would have welcomed the comradeship to be found in sharing these communications." Our sympathies go forward to Marion Allen.

WONDERFUL THINGS ARE HAPPENING

Brig. Gen. HUGH CORT (Div Art '44-'45) in his busy retirement days, has taken to writing poetry. We quote from a short biographical sketch which appears in a book of poems which he has written titled "After the Cannons Stop": "After participating in the Normandy Landings in France, he was transferred to the Pacific Ocean Area and sailed from Oahu with Army Garrison Force 248 presumably to capture Yap Island. This force was detoured to Eniwetok before assaulting Yap. General Cort accompanied its commander to Hollandia where plans were made at General MacArthur's headquarters to add the force to General Kruger's Sixth Army for an assault on Leyte. General Cort shortly thereafter became Chief of Staff of the 24th Infantry Division and its Artillery Commander. At the end of hostilities he took the Okayama Task Force into Japan and supervised surrender terms in the three prefectures which were later to be turned over to British occupation forces. In the spring of 1946 he returned to the United States for a short visit as representative of the U.S. Eighth Army at the first Army Ground Force Conference held to evaluate the combat lessons of World War II. Returning to Japan he served another year and a half as Chief of Staff of the I Army Corps. He retired from active military service on August 31, 1954 and since that time has been Executive Director of the Arkansas Foundation of Associated Colleges. General Cort was born in Maryland and is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University. His personal military decorations include the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf clusters, the Bronze Star with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the Air medal, the Commendation Ribbon, eight battle clasps and two assault landing arrowheads.

We take the liberty of using one of Hugh's poems which we thought might please. It's called "Air Passage" and goes:

AIR PASSAGE

(Gander, Goose, Presque Isle, Johnson, Hollandia, San Jose, Tacloban, Ittami! Strange names, strange places, and almost always cloud-covered! The engines warm up. The crew and passengers are briefed and - whether it be four engines, two, or one - adventure waits.)

What lies behind that screen of cloud?
Are cities there or castles proud?
I only know the suns yet shining
For I still see the silver lining.
Up, up we go on wings of steel:
We pierce the mist, our senses reel.
A forest of the purest white
Extends beyond the power of sight.
Deep canyons cross the fleecy floor
Down which soundless cataracts pour.
High battlements raise their snowy towers,
Sun-colored with the gold of flowers.
A world of mystery, of pure delight,
Discovered by our power of flight.

READERS' VIEWS

We do appreciate pictures of days when, and believe our readers do too. Try this one on your piano. En route Leyte, aboard the Westralia. And who are they? 2nd Bn., 21st INF. officers. Back row, l. to r.: Lt. IVEY, Lt. TOM LANNIN, Lt. STAN LEMM, Lt. JAMES FROOME, Capt. HUGH CORSSON, Lt. RED MAYER, Capt. JAMES THOMPSON and Capt. ERNER "DOC" JONES. Front row, l. to r.: Lt. Col. SEYMOUR MADISON, Lt. DON PARENS, Capt. ROBERT KILGORE, Capt. JACK KELLY, Lt. ROBERT ENDER, and Maj. FRANCIS DICE. Where are these boys today, Jim Froome? - It's your picture!



If everyone knew this

Hanson Baldwin, the war writer, tells us that "In some 3457 years of recorded history, there have been more than 3230 years of war, only 227 years of peace". And that's the story of man's pugnacity - in a nutshell. War is thus a recurrent norm. The horrifying thing is that in its scope, its violence, and above all, in its totality, each becomes slightly worse. We recall W. Churchill's magnificent question: Are there no other alternatives than sending our armies to chew barbed wire in Flanders?"

be seeing you soon

LOUIS D. SMITH (HQ.CO., DIV. '45-'46) a lawyer of 2116 Pargoud Blvd., Monroe, La. and lovely Charlene, his Mrs. Louis D. Smith, are the parents of Shirley (7), William (6), Clara (3) and David (1). Lou keeps in touch with us, for which we are thankful and proud. Lou, do you recall those wonderful conversations with the Jaos who spoke English in a "orease to come with me", "I hope you are not many angry," "it is good to knowing you" fashion? They understood you fairly well, Lou, and us too, and that bothered us a little at the time because we have been accused of speaking a lopsided brand of English. The fact that the Nips understood us so easily appeared to confirm the charge. And do you remember how those who couldn't speak English, could smile yes, or no, or maybe, without moving their heads. It's simole to smile yessily, but try smiling no and maybe without the use of the head.

A little fuzzy, but what d'ya expect after 19 years. The place: Good enough. The time '43. The characters: left to right 1st/Sgt. ADAMCHACK, LT. MAJOR G. HAYWOOD and Co. Clerk McGrath, all of Hq., 2nd Bn., 21st.



ALLYN R. MILLER (A-21st F) continues to send in a few bucks now and then even though he is a life member. You must be making the stuff, Al - nice shade of green, too. Thanks. Al has made two Chicago conventions, and one each at St. Louis, Columbus, Detroit, New York, Washington, and Philadelphia. There's a record for you Those of us who were at Chicago had an opportunity to meet not only WILLIAM A. SAVELL (Su. 19th INF '43-'45) of 657 Box, Vernon, Fla., but also his brand new bride, the exquisite Irene Savell. They were honeymooning and stopped by to meet Bill's friends. We haven't lost a son here, fellas; we've gained a daughter. Irene, you're the tops! - and take good care of our Billy, won't you? Bill by the way, had time for a story for us at Chicago. It seems the Internal Revenue people received a letter from a chap who wrote: "I cheated on my last return and can't sleep nights so I'm sending \$25.00. If I still can't sleep, I'll send the balance". Thanks, Bill: we're using it.

THERE & THEN

Change of address on JOHN B. FREELAND. Now its 5592 Lafayette, Newark, Calif. If you think that Attleboro, Mass., houses only one Division fanatic, you haven't met BILL SANDERSON of 57 Peck St. Bill and Ed live within a half a mile of each other. Ed may be able to quote dates and places from '44 to '46 but Bill's service started earlier at Schofield. He was in Fox Co., 19th INF from '40 to '44. He and Alice have not missed a convention in years. Bill is in the jewelry business and faithfully donates gifts for the working girls at our Reunion Registration Desk. This year it was a mesh evening bag in gold. The Sandersons visited the C.G. Hanlins this year before the Convention. Sayeth Bill: "The most wonderful visit of my life". At last, C.G. met his match: Bill could get up earlier and stay out later to fish than C.G.! Elsewhere we tried to stir up memories of those Jap rooms. We mentioned the low tables. We heard that the Nips had no chairs because the tables were so low. But ELMER SHAW (A-21st INF '50-'51) figures that it was the other way 'round: they had no tall-built tables because they had no chairs. Anyone have any ideas?

TOM ZALEWSKI, 2301 N.W. 79th Terrace, Miami 47, Florida-writes:

"JACK FINAN gave me a call when he stopped over here on his way back to North Carolina from his vacation. Former Captain LARRY KAHN of 19th Cannon Company, was hospitalized with a heart attack in June. He recovered nicely, convalescing at his home, 2246 S.W. 24th Terrace, Miami. Larry was CO of Cannon Co. from 1942 until 1944. I attended a Refresher Course at Fort Benning in June, and found it very interesting. The Army has not changed from World War II and Korea..it still remains the same old Army. RUSSELL LEWIS, former member of Cannon Company, lives in Hialeah, Florida, and operates a Radiator Repair Service there."



We remember the day very well. It was June of '47 at the 24th MP Platoon Hqs. Gen. Robert Eichelberger was on a "feather merchant's" trip. His escort was RUSSELL GL. ARNOLD (24 MPPH. '46-'48) from Uncle Bob's home town, Urbana, Ohio. Uncle Bob, of course, has gone, but Russ still writes us from good ole Urbana. Russ was a rugged confident - looking fellow with a ketchup-and cream complexion and a little round button of a nose whom we knew and admired in Japan, who has visited us here in Soffd., and whom we enjoyed seeing again in Chicago last August.



SOUTHWEST

Maj. Gen. ROSCOE B. WOODRUFF (DIV HQ '44-'45) writes from 208 Elizabeth Rd., San Antonio, Tex. about how he summured in Colorado, how Brig. Gen. HUGH CORT (DIV ARTY HQ '44-'45) has been gathering friends for the none-state supported colleges in Arkansas and is about to retire a second time, and how son-in-law ROBERT DANIELS (DIV HQ '44-'47) is now CO of the Army Section of our MAAG layout at The Hague. Thanks, General.

Big check

Rt. Rev. Msgr. CHARLES J. BRADY, at 410 Forman Ave., Syracuse, N.Y., has sent in memberships for 3 new ones including SHORTY SCHERER, our old Sig.Co. and DIV HQ mess Sgt. (now operating Scherer's Restaurant, West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse), MIKE BALASCHAK, 218 Green, Syracuse, and HERBERT MORAN, 17 E. Main, Marcellus, N.Y. We missed you in Chicago, Msgr.

TAPS

With sorrow we learn that JOSEPH A. SNYDER left us in late July - at Napa, California, where he had made his home. The sad news came in a brief letter from his widow, Mrs. Margaret Snyder.

She concluded her letter with: "He was a faithful member, and always seemed to enjoy each issue of the Taro Leaf so much."

Our hearts reach out to her and to his bereaved relatives in this sad hour. We are proud to have shared our war time service with him, and to learn that he had cherished those memories as do we who carry on.

Mrs. Snyder forwarded a newspaper item which read:

"Joseph (Tony) Snyder, 51 of 2360 Louisa St., a resident of Napa for 26 years and an employee of Napa State Hospital for 22 years, died Saturday as a result of a heart attack.

"Mr. Snyder's career at the hospital was interrupted by World War II, in which he served in the 24th Infantry Division.

"After his discharge, he returned to his work here and became a supervisor psychiatric technician at the hospital.

"He was a member of the California State Employees Association, and of the 24th Infantry Division Association.

"Surviving are his widow, Margaret; a sister, Alice McElhaney of Buckley, Wash., and his mother, True Bridegroom of Seattle, Wash.

"Burial was in Golden Gate National Cemetery."

Our personal relationship with Joe extended over a 17 year period. No one could have loved the Division more.

This Association will miss him.



Here are in left to right manner, JAMES N. FROOME, JR., J. H. THOMPSON and MAJOR G. HAYWOOD, all of Hq., 2nd Bn., 21st INF. during the Goodenough to Hollandia days. Pajamas, Jim? What army was this?

PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT...

Know what happens when you're bitten by a mosquito and stung by a bee? You sting alone with itch....We would note that we have just enacted a bill to complete compensation for damages caused in the Philippines during WW II. \$73 million. No matter how you slice it, USA seems to pick up the tab in the final analysis. This should replace a lot of coconut trees.....



"WATCH YOUR CALORIES, SOLDIER!"

WILLIAM PEACOCK (?) writing on the stationery of Houston Export Crating Co., Inc., 7400 Wingate, Houston, Tex., tells us that he'd been corresponding with Sec'y. ED HENRY. They were comparing notes as to when they served. Ed wrote Bill: "I left Okayama in March of '45", to which Bill promptly replied: "If memory serves, in March of '45, I was in Mindoro preparing for Mindanao. Either you were a spy, assigned to the Okayama area, or you were in the Japanese 24th Div." We are without a copy of the Ed Henry answer. But Ed's sense of humor is as good as Bill's, so doubtlessly, it was a classic. Bill tells us that "a little incompatibility is the spice of life; especially if he has income and she is patable".

..in the finest tradition of service

With nostalgic pride, we note that Col. BEVERLY M. READ has been welcomed as 2nd BG Commander of the 19th INF at Augsburg. We served with Bev when he was Asst. G-2 in the Philippines. In between Division hitches, Bev went airborne (11th A/B Div in Japan), served with the 7th Div. in Korea, instructed at Leavenworth's C&GSC, and really got close to home plate with 3 Pentagon years. Awards? - he has 'em aplenty: Distinguished Service Cross, Bronze Star w/2 O.L.C.'s, Air Medal, Army Commendation, Korean Service, Republic of Korea Medal, CIB, Presidential Unit Citation, Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, Columbian Meritorious Service Medal, and Parachutist Badge. Kids? - he has 'em, too: 4, the oldest, John, presently attending pater's alma mater: Celeste, James and Lisa are with their mother and father in his new command. Welcome back, Bev; we're mighty proud of your record. More'n that, we're mighty proud of you.....

big blast off



JIM FROOME (21st INF '43-'45) has faithfully plied us with photos like this one of himself (right) and SEYMOUR SMIGROD at Rockhampton, Australia. Where's Seymour, Jim: why isn't he a member?

SIDESHOW

JAMES H. THOMPSON (21st INF '42-'44) of 2109 Paramount Ave., Austin, Tex. is now starting a 3rd career, having retired as a Lt. Col. after 20 years AD. He has enrolled in the Graduate School, Univ. of Tex., in Austin, working for his Master's in history. This will qualify him to teach at the Jr. College level in Tex. Gladys is housewifing and 9 yr. old Terry is schooling.



Here is the group of L Co. 34th men and families who met Thanksgiving Day at the home of CARROL WHITE in Noblesville, Ind. This is an annual event.

P R O F I L E S

LAMAR S. CLARK (19th INF and DIV HQ, '44-'45) Regimental and later Division Chaplain, has sent us this one of ROBERT A. BURGHER, left, and HARRY F. DAVIS, right, both 19th INF. lieutenants, near Cavite, Luzon, P.I. in Feb. of '45. Bob is in Indianapolis, and Harry is in Morgan City, La. Lamar, uses P.O. Box 614, Richmond, Tex. in case you write. The picture looks a little dark: we're hoping for the best on reproduction.



KEEPING IN TOUCH

Liason with the 24th Division of today has gone to pot during the past few years. We're trying to make it come alive once again, for we operate under a conviction that news of what is going on in the present, active organization should be as much a part of this newsheet as are the reminders of other days when.....PETER CRESCENZO (724th Ord, '43-'45) writes us from Southbridge, Mass.: "Three meals a day, a roof over my head, two cars, one boat, a power mower, and a contented wife....why shouldn't I be in debt?" Happy that you haven't forgotten us, Pete.....Oh well, it's not the ups and downs of life that bother a man; it's the jerks.

'The Best Club in Town' Is Open Again

DON WILLIAMS (34th INF '44-'45) of our Michigan Chapter, reports upon the latest meeting of that ambitious group. Their fall meeting was a family-type picnic. See what we mean?



It was held at Camp Dearborn, near Milford, last Sept. 23rd, a Sunday. Chapter Prexy FRED WEHLE (3rd ENG. '41-'44) sent out the invitations and ROSS PURSIFULL (34th INF '41-'46), a Dearborn boy these days, sent out the gate passes and the maps. Here are some of those who turned out.



Well, let's report it with Don's own words: "The weather cooperated on the chosen day and approximately 25-30 men, women and children followed a trail of signs set up by JULIUS JOSZ and arrived at the picnic spot with no trouble. All brought food and drink and with much enthusiasm engaged in talk, baseball and football (tossing) as well as hiking until the time came for lighting the fires and setting the tables. All had very good appetites - so food and drink disappeared as planned. The gathering broke up as the sun began to sink and individual groups left with parting words "we must do this again." Thus the Michigan Chapter has chalked up its sixth meeting in its short nine months of existence. Many ideas were discussed and interest remains high regarding proposed convention plans for 1964. All realize, however, that a successful membership drive will be necessary prior to the Chapter's being capable of hosting a National Convention. Also, again was discussed the hard work and expense involved, for example,

in the past convention in Chicago. All still feel that our new Chapter will be equal to the job and so in this sense the meeting served an additional purpose - that of renewing faith in what the Michigan Chapter can accomplish.

Nice report, Don - and just for that, we throw in the picture of HOWARD WRIGHT (?) and his lovely family.



LIFE AND LEISURE

Hark, the Heralds

There are 223 U.S. military bases outside of continental U.S.A. (63 Army, 80 Navy and 80 Air).....Every now and again we have a convention and we miss some familiar faces. This year at Chicago, it was BACKER's side-kicks: HERB TISCHLER, (C-34th), 35-22 Northern Dr., Fairborn, N.J., and SAM REIFLER (C-34th) 6309-23rd Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. Vic says: "It won't happen again". You were sorely missed, boys.

Put your best feet forward

We're on a "Remember Japan" kick! Do you remember those socks they used to wear? - the ones that looked like mittens, with separate little garages for the big toes, the other toes living barracks style.

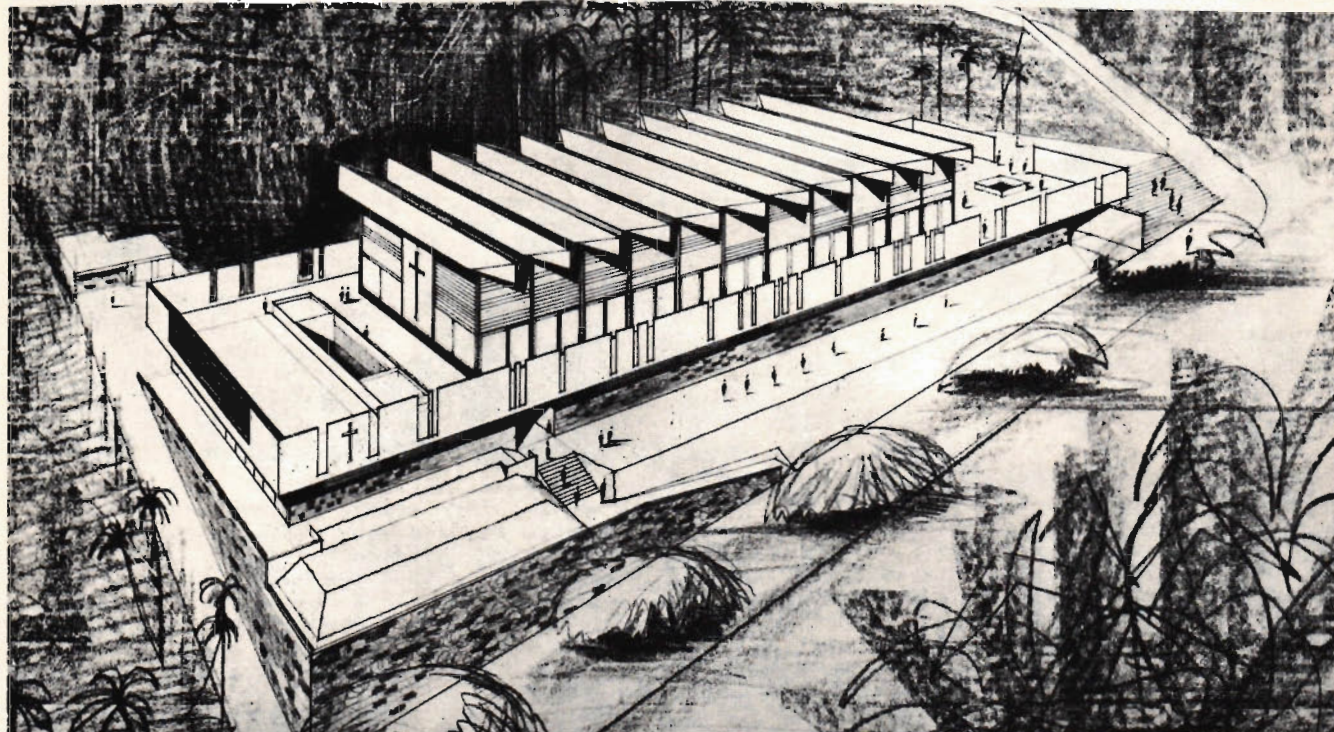
PERSPECTIVE

IRWIN SCHULMAN (2nd Bn Hq, 21st INF '44 - '45), now at 405 Frankel Blvd., Merrick, N.Y., is now one of us, and we welcome him. He's a controller, by day, and by night, he and Florence beam with pride in their two: Justin, age 19, and Nikki, age 15. Possibly you can make it a quartet and meet with us in Louisville next August, Irwin. How about it?.....THOMAS H. COMPERE (Div. Hq '42-'45) of 1897 Clifton Ave., Highland Park, Ill., complains "My wife must think she's Teddy Roosevelt - she runs from store to store yelling 'charge'."

A Time

For Reason

ARTHUR J. HORNBECK (?) of 1503 Seymour, Utica, N.Y. writes in that he has visited ROLAND FOX (19th INF) and lovely wife, Roberta, at their farm. He says Roland and Roberta only live 11 miles from me "and I had to go to the Chicago Convention to meet them". Come to the convention, suggests Art, and meet your neighbors. Art has a dilly that he likes to use: he says that "the man who thinks that marriage is a 50-50 proposition doesn't understand one of two things - women or fractions".



The Rev. Kenneth A. Lashford, P.O. Box 6, Port Moresby, Papua, New Guinea, has written to us concerning the proposed War Memorial Cathedral for erection in Port Moresby in memory of all individuals who and units which served in New Guinea.

We assured him that we would give publicity to this worthy cause and he sent us this reproduction of the architect's plan for the memorial.

There's a need for money to defray expenses (by now a familiar cry). We're for urging each who "was there" and who can see his way clear to sit the next round out and mail a small contribution to the War Memorial Cathedral Appeal Committee, care of the good Reverend, address above.



Retirement ceremony for Maj. Gen. WM. J. VERBECK is set for Friday, June 28th at Ft. Devens, Mass. More news on that as it develops.

Bill recently wrote concerning the confusing ROAD (Reorganized Army Division) explaining it thus:

"The battle group in the pentagonal division was not much more than a large battalion. Thus, this division consisted of five large battalion combat teams capable of rapid dispersion and independent action adapted to the nuclear battlefield. However, the division as a whole lacked staying power. It had 5 battalion-type units as opposed to the World War II division of 9. As you remember, the WW II division had considerable staying power, but its 9 battalions were not easily dispersed and they lacked ability of independent action. The ROAD division goes back to the battalion of which there are eleven. Three of these are artillery. The other eight differ depending upon the type of division. If it is an airborne division, the majority of these eight are parachute battalions. If it is an armored division, the majority of these are armor battalions. An infantry division will have a preponderance of rifle battalions. These are organized into three task forces or brigades. There is a brigade commander and staff and communications, but the battalions are assigned to each brigade for the task or mission. Thus, for a certain type of action the first brigade might be in reserve and have only one battalion, while the second brigade making the main attack would have six, and the third brigade on the defensive would have four. For administrative organization in peacetime, the brigades usually have 3 - 4 - 4 battalions respectively. Thus, the third brigade of the 24th Division has one battalion of artillery, one of armor, and the 1st and 2nd battalions of the 21st Infantry. In the other brigades are two battalions of the 19th Infantry and two of the 34th. Thus, the 24th Division is back to its three familiar regiments again.

"I have here at Fort Devens the second Brigade of the 5th Division. It consists of the 1st and 2nd battalions of the 2nd Infantry, the 1st Battalion, 77th Armor, and the 1st Battalion, 29th Artillery. The other two brigades and the division headquarters of the 5th Division are at Fort Carson, Colorado. This division has staying power and everything needed for the nuclear battlefield if required. Brigades are commanded in peacetime by Colonels and battalions by Lieutenant Colonels. In the old battle group, there was no place in the command channel for a Lieutenant Colonel. The battle group was commanded by a Colonel and the next lower unit was the company under a Captain."

The hunting party was hopelessly lost and the hunters turned angrily to their guide. "I thought you said you were the best guide in Maine", one of them snapped. "I am", protested the guide, "but I think we're in Canada now".

"Harry, that time you said it distinctly, 'G'nite Michiko'!"



WHAT'S NEW ?

WILLIAM A. SAVELL, (19th INF), Box 625, Vernon, Florida - says: "I was interested to read in the May TARO LEAF the special news item in regards to TED KALEM, Associate Editor for TIME Magazine. Since this item stated that Ted (Kemoo) served with the Division, particularly on Mindoro, I felt that I should point out that Kemoo and I joined the 3rd Bn, 19th Inf on the same day in April 1943 in some forest in Hawaii (and to this day I don't know how to spell Eucuplisti). Ted and I probably held the distinction of being the only two persons in military history nuts enough to pass up our turn at rotation in order to make the cruise to Japan. I would like to point out that Ted finally made an excellent soldier in spite of his Harvard background".

Guests where?

WILLIAM F. WEIDLE (F, 21st INF '41-'42) has just joined our ranks. Bill, wife Pat, and kiddos Bill, Bob and John, are living at 4591 Penhurst, Philadelphia, Pa. Bill, today a trainman, was with us on Activation Day in '41, leaving us in Nov. '42 to join the 25th Division. We never heard of the bunch, Bill. Did they see any action?.....Gen. G. STANLEY MELOY (19th INF '49-'50) writes: "...Come the end of August, 1963, my duty assignment will take me to the retired roles of our Army. It's hard to believe that I have reached that milestone, but the records so indicate. I will be looking for a civilian job around the first of January, 1964. If you hear of a good one, let me know. However, I don't want it to be so time-consuming that I can't sneak off for a little hunting, fishing and golf now and then. We've got "Scouts out", Stan. Will we see you in Louisville in August? It would be a wonderful weekend just a few days before retirement. We'll have our own ceremony for you....."

An interesting letter from ROSS PURSIFULL (34th INF) included: "I'm currently in my second year of the 5 year program of the USAR Command and General Staff Associate Course. It is an excellent school and there is no place for those who don't study. The upgrading of the Reserve Officer's military education is a step in the proper direction and frankly a vital one. There have been so many changes in organization, weapons' systems and the nuclear warfare concept that it is a must for those who desire to stay current".



You have to read between the lions!

THE P^O_NT IS.....

YOU'LL BE WELCOME

IN LOUISVILLE

IN AUGUST!



NEVER LOOK BACK!

From time to time throughout the year, various questions - yes, even arguments - arise between members relative to Division and/or Association activities. For instance, a bone of contention at Chicago evolved around the earth-shaking issue as to "when" we convened in Philadelphia. In Al Smith style, let's look at the record: Baltimore, Aug. '48; New York, Aug. '49; Chicago, Aug. '50; Detroit, Aug. '51; Columbus, Aug. '52; St. Louis, Aug. '53; San Francisco, Mar. '54; Washington, D.C., Aug. '54; New York, Aug. '56; Chicago, Aug. '57; Chicago, Aug. '58; Philadelphia, Aug. '59; Atlantic City, Aug. '60; Louisville, Aug. '61; Chicago, Aug. '62. Nope, no mistake; '55 was a "no convention" year. A few of us did assemble in the fall of '55 in New York for a slightly oversized Executive Committee meeting, but it was not a Convention in the true sense. O.K. boys; pay off those bets.

don't worry

...if you have already sent in your renewal, please disregard this notice. It is not always possible to remove the names of those who have sent their renewals before additional notices are addressed. You can be sure your order is receiving our prompt attention.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Flattery will get you nowhere, DON WILLIAMS, who writes: "Welcome back as Editor of the Taro Leaf...it will seem like the old days to see your style again in print....As you know, our Michigan Chapter has made a bid for the 1964 Convention and if the Association sees fit to come to Detroit, we feel that we have some good people here that will work to put it over." Thanks Dan, and if we don't answer directly, will this kind of mention serve? There just aren't enough hours in the day to scribble replies to all who are sending material to us.

Grande Première

DON WILLIAMS of the Michigan chapter sends us the photo below of FRED WEHLE, Michigan Chapter's Prexy instructing son, Kent, in the how and why of wearing a Hawaiian lei at the recent Chicago reunion. Fred should know: he was with us at Schofield before the Day of Infamy. Fred was completely relaxed with AH KEE LEONG who flew in from Honolulu to be with us. Ah Kee was in the platoon Fred commanded then and throughout the long hike to Hollandia. VERN SHENKEL of Overland, Mo. appears in the left hand side of the photo. Vern's lovely wife is hidden by Vern, for which we offer regrets.



Here and There

Try this one out. It can be done!!!
Solution in next issue!

- 1) There are five houses.
- 2) The Englishman lives in the red house.
- 3) The Spaniard owns the dog.
- 4) Coffee is drunk in the green house.
- 5) The Ukrainian drinks tea.
- 6) The green house is immediately to the right of the ivory house.
- 7) The Old Gold smoker owns snails.
- 8) Kools are smoked in the yellow house.
- 9) Milk is drunk in the middle house.
- 10) The Norwegian lives in the first house.
- 11) The man who smokes Chesterfields lives in the house next to the man with the fox.
- 12) Kools are smoked in the house next to the house where the horse is kept.
- 13) The Lucky Strike smoker drinks orange juice.
- 14) The Japanese smokes Parliaments.
- 15) The Norwegian lives next to the blue house.

Each of the five houses is painted a different color, and their inhabitants are of different national extractions, own different pets, drink different beverages, and smoke different brands of cigarettes.

"Left" and "right" is your left and right.

PROBLEM:

WHO DRINKS WATER?

WHO OWNS THE ZEBRA?



"Boys' Festival not what you think!"

In Defense of Flirting



We're devilish enough to want to try this one for size. LAMAR S. CLARK (19th INF and DIV HQ, '44-'45) sends us this one of a group of gals who came over to the 19th from Davao City for a party just after the sacking of Hiroshima signalled the end of the rough stuff. Sorry that this memento of Davao's answer to the Key Club problem isn't a little larger and clearer. The gowns were exquisite; the hair oil strong; but otherwise it was a lovely evening.

EDITOR'S SHOP TALK



Colonel Gordon T. Kimbrell

Assistant 24th Infantry Division Commander

Col. ALMON W. MANLOVE (724th ORD '42-'44) writes, "In March, I was transferred out here to Savanna Ordnance Depot, and it is located on the Mississippi River about 150 miles west of Chicago. We have the best set of quarters we have ever had. The depot is ten miles from the nearest town, with only 18 families living on the post. All in all, it is the nicest assignment I have ever had". Thanks for the message, Whitey. It was good seeing you in Chicago, and do hope we can meet again in Louisville next August.... HENRY MARINELLO (19th INF) experienced a strange one recently. While Hank was driving through his alley, he bumped into a garbage truck - only to find that the driver, Nick, was a former member of the 19th. Hank gave him his extra Taro Leaf and Nick sent in his \$5.00 dues.



We found good reading in "A Fever For Living" by Robert A. Roripaugh. (William Morrow & Co.). It's a story of GI's in Japan between wars. The author's ear for dialogue is exact: whether his characters are soldiers talking barracks - room vulgarities or Japanese harlots chattering flippancies in pidgin English, the ring of truth sounds constantly.

As with us all, its hero, Travis, admires the beauty of Japan, and feels the undercurrent of vitality about the people and the land.

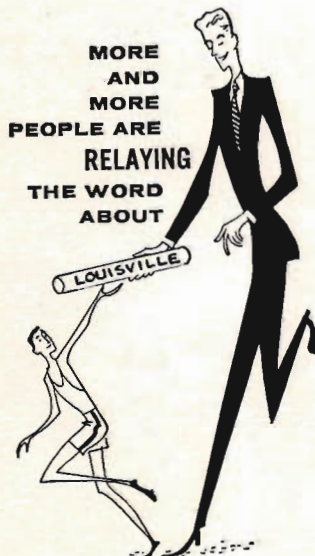
But then we hit this one.

Counterbalancing Travis' affection for Japan is his detestation of military life. The book ties these two strong feelings together. One of his soldiers says, "You don't notice it at first - only after you have been here several months. Then something in your mind twists a little. Perhaps it will be on one of the Saturday inspections, or during a training march, or taking dismounted drill in the mornings. But when it happens you unexpectedly realize you have been living in a sort of stockade. All your thinking has to readjust then or you will lose your balance. That is why you find men going native with the Japanese girls".

Try this one for size if you are a reader and if you were in Japan.

How Strong? How Long?

We haven't been running any member's ads this year, in the belief that they just took space which might better be devoted to news. Members so advertising were throwing a few \$ into Ed Henry's kitty to keep this paper coming your way. We believe that those loyal members will contribute regardless of whether or not they are allotted the advertising space. We may be wrong; we'll see.



LOUISVILLE

IN

AUGUST ?

YOU SAY YOU'VE
TOO MUCH TO DO?

COMPARED WITH
THIS GUY — WE'RE
ONLY LOAFING,
ONE-ARMED PAPER
HANGERS —

AND HE'S GOING
TO BE THERE —

WHY

NOT

YOU ??



7
3 8 9
1 5 7
4 3 8 2
7 2 5
7 4 0 9
5 0 8
4 3 7
4 6
2



"Should we try 240 yen worth of that?"



Colonel Patrick D. Mulcahy
Division Chief of Staff

You're being counted

LOUIS ARMENTARO (F, 21 INF '45-'46) wants to join us. We have a letter from him over the heading "The Rhythm Ramblers - Recording Artists of Hilite Records: Louis Armentaro, 624 North Yellowstone, Livingston, Montana." Here's what Lou says:

"I am a former member of the 21st during '45-'46 and would like to join the Association.

"Got a letter today from Gen. Bill Verbeck and he sent me your address.

"I've been wanting to join for some time, but never did seem to get around to it.

"Please send application and let me know what the dues are.

"If you have some of the past issues of your paper, please send me some back issues.

"If some of the old buddies of Company F (weapon platoon) of the 21st regt. during Feb. 1945 - July 1945 remember me, I'd sure like to hear from them. Would appreciate your putting this in your paper next issue."

great pizzas..

Australians are accepting with mixed feelings the West New Guinea settlement, under which a UN police force takes over the territory from the Dutch and hands it to the Indonesians. The Government and undoubtedly most Australians are relieved that the 13-year-old argument between Indonesia and Holland over West New Guinea - an argument that many times threatened to develop into open warfare - has been resolved. But to many Australians who look beyond tomorrow, the deal smacks too much of Munich, and they fear the ultimate consequences of the West's capitulation to President Sukarno's aggression. Sukarno says he has no further territorial claims; that West New Guinea is Indonesian because it was once part of the Dutch East Indies and was withheld by the Dutch when they relinquished the remainder of their South-east Asian empire after the last war. Hitler made similar soothing declarations, as do all aggressors.

Lieut. Gen. CHARLES H. BONESTEEL, III (Div Hq. 4/57-5/57), now CG, VII Corps, saluted the Division the other day with these words: "...Since its formation at Schofield Barracks, the Division has established an enviable and deserved reputation for gallant performance in combat and devoted service in peacetime. You who wear the "Taro Leaf" may well do so with pride, remembering the magnificent record of your predecessors at Tanahmerah Bay, Leyte, Corregidor, Osan, Taejon and the Naktong River. Such exploits as these coupled with the Division's reputation is underlined by the fact that the Division has always been stationed outside the Continental United States....We who know the "Victory Division" and its record of performance have every confidence in its realistic readiness as an important part of the NATO Defense Forces. We know that it will continue to meet the high standards that it has set in the past."

News of the

MIDWEST

DON C. WILLIAMS, Sec'y-Treas. of our Michigan Chapter, is one fellow who never forgets to acknowledge his thanks. After the Chicago reunion, he wrote PAT and LU CIANGI: "...In behalf of the Michigan Chapter I would like to again thank you both for a wonderful, wonderful convention. You folks did all and more to make everything just right and we of Michigan do truly appreciate it from the bottom of our hearts. We were struck by such things as the decorations, (the Taro Leaf cluster with the convention dates for example) the program, entertainment, and the many, many to-often-overlooked details that you took care of so well. I am sure that it took a tremendous amount of work and involved many heart-aches...but the result was an accomplishment that you can well be proud of for the rest of your life. The Chicago Chapter should be an inspiration to the rest of us - and is. It is my hope that by now you people have had some opportunity to rest up a bit and are perhaps getting back to normal. It was most unfortunate that Pat was unable to attend the Awards Banquet, but let me assure him that his loyal wife did him credit. Please express our thanks to the other fine members of your Chapter whom we saw working so hard. You are all a fine group. So, until next time...aloha!

It was Mindoro where we first heard it: "Spam is ham that flunked its physical". Regretfully, we can't remember who said it, or we'd credit him therewith. He was a Taro Leafer. Spam became one of the most celebrated four-letter words in WW II, and gave birth to a flavorsome literature of tales, odes, jokes and limericks. The story was about of an 11th Field man who was lost on Leyte for several weeks, wandered around, subsisting on berries. When he finally found camp, they offered him Spam. He was last seen just north of Alangalang, fleeing back into the jungles, crying, "I'm going to eat the berries". Cordially hated was Spam, yet only the other day, we noted that its maker, George A. Hormel & Co. (Austin, Minn. in case you plan to detonate) expects its sales to climb to 48 million cans this year. Recently Spam passed its proudest milestone: Hormel produced its one billionth can.



"Understand you're 50 miles from base with no fuel and requesting instructions. Now repeat after me: 'Our Father who art . . .'"

Reorganization from present pentomic divisional structure to the ROAD concept is expected to be completed by late 1964. First unit to undergo the change is the 2d Infantry Division now at Fort Benning. Four separate ROAD brigades also are to be formed in addition to reorganization of the combat divisions.

The 1st Armored Division at Hood, Tex. and 5th Inf. Div. at Carson, Col. were organized under ROAD as the Army's newest divisions. In the Caribbean, a ROAD brigade of three battalions has also been organized.

The change will provide four types of divisions - Infantry, Armor, Airborne and Mechanized, with the number and type of battalions assigned to each depending on the mission and operational environment of the division. The 1st Armored Division has six mechanized battalions and four tank battalions. The 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized) has eight infantry and three tank battalions. All will have increased capabilities over the pentomic organization, providing for greater flexibility, battle-field mobility and firepower.

THIS IS A "TOOTHBRUSH" for your dog!

Ed Reed of the Sixth Arm'd Div. Assoc. has worked long and hard over the years with us because of our common interests in Div. Associations. Ed writes:

"As you know, The American Legion has been trying for years to win Congressional legislation that would reopen National Service Life Insurance purchase for one year; a privilege that was unexpectedly terminated way back in 1951. Last year, the Senate passed a bill that would do this, but the House did not treat it very favorably.

"A resolution was adopted at our 1962 Reunion calling on all our members to urge their individual Senators and Representatives in this present 88th Session to support such legislation; and to call upon all other infantry and armored division associations to do likewise.

"On January 16th, Rep. Seymour Halpern of New York introduced a bill, HR 2136, referred to the Committee on Veterans Affairs, which would reopen NSLI for one year, with all administrative costs to be included in the premiums to be paid by the veterans purchasing new insurance. A companion bill is soon to be introduced in the Senate.

"We would like to solicit the assistance of all the members of the 24th Infantry Division Association in this matter, and request that you give it mention in the next issue of your publication".

There it is, men. Write!!



"What's matter you? Of course rice again!"

TARO LEAF

KENWOOD ROSS
120 MAPLE STREET
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

Mildred Purcell, widow of beloved JAMES PURCELL (24th Sig. '42-'45), wrote a week or so after Jim's funeral: "Dear Members of the 24th Infantry Division Association: The floral piece from the Association was outstandingly beautiful. It was designed in the form of the insignia, which Jim wore on his uniform with such pride and admiration....I want to thank all those who wrote such kind expressions of sympathy. It was most comforting to have Mr. and Mrs. Victor Backer represent you in offers of assistance and consolation..... Most sincerely, Mildred E. Purcell".



"NO, WISE GUY, WE DO NOT ISSUE
MICKEY MOUSE WATCHES, TOO!"

CHARLES R. CONNOR (?) 409 Cathedral St., Baltimore, Md. has just sent in \$10. That gets you by to '64, Charlie. Charlie offers us this story - and we love it. It seems that a well-meaning old lady invited a captain at a near-by training camp to bring a group of his men over for an afternoon cocktail party. Captain Jones and a party of twenty men showed up very promptly, but were a bit dismayed to find that, instead of being served cocktails, they were handed one glass each of very pale lemonade and platter after platter of homemade cookies. The cookies tasted fine, but after about ten to the man, their attraction started to pall. Finally, there was just one cookie left on the big china platter. "My, my", cried the little old lady, "there is just one cookie left. What are we going to do with it?" The captain's brusque voice broke an embarrassing silence. "I want to warn everyone present, that the first man who answers that question will be court-martialed!!"

...and Unofficial

JAMES N. WRIGHT (?) who hangs his hat at 1421 E. Elm, Coshocton, Ohio, has just sent in his dues....JIM PURCELL's death hit all of us hard but perhaps none more pignantly than FRED GILLIAM, William Street, Springdale, Pennsylvania, who came to the Convention to honor Jim as President of the Association. Fred served under him in 24th Sig. from '41 to '45. "No finer officer ever lived!", says Fred. Our sentiments exactly, Fred....Well, anyway when you read this, the elections will have long since gone by, for another year. The biggest trouble with all the promises that are made before election time is that they go in one year and out the other.

Coast-to-Coast

A surprise guest at our Chicago meeting in August, and a most welcome one, was DALLAS DICK (19th INF '35-'45) 1701 Bridge St., Harrisburg, Pa., and his charming lady. Dallas and Fred Zierath spent plenty of time in reminiscing, particularly concerning Hill 522 at Palo, Leyte where Fred had 1st Bn., 19th, and Dallas was CO of Charlie. 522 was the key to the entire Japanese defense system at Red Beach. Dallas was twice-wounded there. Dallas stayed in the Army for a considerable time after WW II, but now he's retired and is Chief, Bureau of Administrative Services, State Capitol, Harrisburg. Dallas set us up to a tall one - with ice - at the Convention bar and, while we sipped, told us this one. It seems that the salesman was called in by his boss to be fired for spending a night in the hotel bar with a blonde instead of manning the booth at the convention hall. "Don't think I don't know about that hotel episode in Detroit" roared the boss. "You're way off", retorted the salesman. "There ain't no Hotel Episode in Detroit".