



# TARO LEAF



24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

VOLUME XXVI

NUMBER 4

1972-1973

What is our cover all about? Simply this. On May 25th last, on Sills Field, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, a Recognition Ceremony was held in honor of the Division. The colors were brought home to rest at Schofield. And our Association was represented, at the urging of Prexy. Maj.Gen. AUBREY S. NEWMAN, by none other than that jack-of-all-trades, the ever popular AH KEE LEONG formerly of the 3rd Eng.Bn. and ED PONIATOSKIE of the 19th Inf.Regt.

The printed program read like this:

Ceremonial Review, Sills Field, 0930 hrs.

March to Carter Hall

Posting the Colors of the 24th Infantry Division at Carter Hall

Commander's "No-Host" Luncheon,  
Schofield Barracks Officers' Open Mess,  
1145 hrs.

HOST.....Col.G. Procter, Jr.  
Commanding Officer,  
USASCH

REVIEWING OFFICER..Maj.Gen.Donnelly P.  
Bolton, Acting Chief  
of Staff, USARPAC

REPRESENTATIVE,  
24th INF.DIV.ASSOC..Mr. Ah Kee Leong

PARTICIPATING UNITS.  
3d Battalion,  
13th Artillery  
Commanded by  
LTC George Anderson

1st Battalion,  
21st Infantry  
Commanded by  
LTC Thonius Robinson,  
Jr.

MUSIC...The 25th Infantry Division Band,  
directed by CW3 Walter Kinney.

On our cover, we give you, first, the Division colors being passed to Ah Kee and then returned to the bearer for transport to Carter Hall, their permanent resting place, next, Ah Kee and an aide of the 25th Division after the ceremony, and third, himself detraining from the jeep after having inspected the troops. Ah Kee, we're proud of you, not to mention grateful to you.

And Ed Poniatoskie, for being there too and for sending us these pictures which you so thoughtfully took, our 1000 thanks.

Enjoy more than a trip to West Point;  
enjoy an event.

Ed sent along the invitation which we reproduce here:



*The Commander*

*United States Army Support Command, Hawaii  
requests the honor of your presence  
at the*

*24th Infantry Division Recognition Ceremony  
on Friday, the Twenty Fifth of May,  
at nine-thirty o'clock*

*Sills Field, Schofield Barracks  
followed immediately by no-host luncheon  
at the Schofield Barracks Officers' Open Mess.*

We have this one of Ah Kee in the lead jeep on his inspecting run. It's a beauty in color. Too bad you'll see it only in black and white.



Then there's the call for the presentation of the colors.



They are brought forward. Proud moment, yes?



Pass in review! You've been this route before.



They wanted our boys on the dotted line.



Two former Taro Leafers made it. Unfortunately we didn't catch their names.



One page of the program carried the Division's campaigns as follows:

### 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION CAMPAIGN PARTICIPATION

#### WORLD WAR II

Central Pacific  
New Guinea (with arrowhead)  
Leyte (with arrowhead)  
Luzon

Southern Philippines  
(with arrowhead)

#### KOREAN WAR

UN defensive  
UN offensive  
CCF intervention  
First UN counter-offensive  
CCF spring offensive  
UN summer-fall offensive  
Second Korean winter  
Korea, summer 1953

#### DECORATIONS

Presidential Unit Citation (Army),  
Streamer embroidered  
DEFENSE OF KOREA

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation,  
Streamer embroidered  
17 OCTOBER 1944 to 4 JULY 1945

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit  
Citation, Streamer embroidered  
PYONGTAEK

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit  
Citation, Streamer embroidered  
KOREA

Well done, Ah Kee and Ed - with your good help, our colors now are draped in safe repose in Carter Hall - not far from where the precious story all began. We can all sleep well tonight.

TARO LEAF can't say enough about Jesse and Jeanne Mattingly, friends of ED COLE down in Louisville, who are responsible for the printing of our new membership card, a red-white-and blue beauty. We are at a loss in adequately describing the value of the friendship of this pair. A Navy man - Pacific '45 and '46 - Jesse has been in the printing business for 36 years. Says he's going to print some "decent" stationery for us next. You sure know how to hurt a guy, Jess. That indecent stuff we've been using is only in the effort to save a buck.

TARO LEAF regrets to advise that ALBERT PRETZER, of Cleveland Ohio, was killed in an auto crash in '68.

By the way, AH KEE LEONG, in his letter to us reported it in his own inimitable style which went:

"I was greatly Honored to be able to represent our President Red Newman. Only wish that either you or Red could have been here to receive the Honor. The Ceremony was just beautiful and the weather was great - sun shining and also it was just fitting to have it a few days before Memorial Day.

"I was in the whole program, representing President Red Newman and all the Members of the 24th Infantry Division Assoc. I could not take any pictures because I was on the review stand with Maj.Gen. Donnelly P. Bolton and Col. G. Procter, Jr. The first order was the Inspection of the Troops, then the Parade. Troops pass in Review and march to Carter Hall where Colors were posted. But before all this went on we had the 24th Div. Colors passed by 24th Div. CSM to me (Leong) to MG Bolton to CSM USASCH to Color Bearer.

"It was a wonderful Memory of my days, 33 years ago when I was a member of this great Division." We were all right proud of you, Ah Kee.

TARO LEAF apologizes to CLEM HARRIS, (5th RCT '51 & 24 Sig), for locating him in Tenn. It's 21 N. Sunset, Kerrville, Tex. We're sorry, Larry - and apologies to you, Jean - and Belinda and Carol. Gonna West Point it, gang?

SEE YOU AT WEST POINT!!!

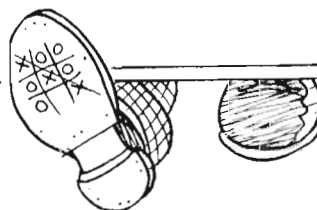
TARO LEAF promotes for its '74 gathering of a clan a 3-day cruise up and down the river on the SS Delta Queen - out of Memphis - out of St. Louis - out of Cincinnati - or wherever she happens to be on the weekend we select. We propose a charter of the whole boat, just for ourselves. Are you with us, gang?

TARO LEAF spotted that item about the record price of \$70,000 which a Nip sword brought at a recent auction held by the Sotheby galleries in NYC. Get out yours, men.



TARO LEAF.....

PREDICTS THAT IT'LL BE A  
GRAND AND GLORIOUS REUNION,  
A FUN PACKED WEEKEND,  
WITH A FAST TEMPO OF  
MERRIMENT AND TOGETHERNESS,  
FOR ALL IT WILL BE THE  
PLEASURE OF RENEWING OLD  
AND LASTING FRIENDSHIPS  
WHICH WILL HAVE SEEN THE  
YEARS OF SEPARATION  
INSTANTLY BRIDGED BY  
REMINISCENCES OF OUR  
YEARS TOGETHER.



# Twenty Fourth Infantry Division Association

## President:

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Hotel Thayer, West Point, N.Y.  
July 13-14-15, 1973

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Victor Backer  
73 Westminster Road  
Lake Success, L.I., N.Y. 11100  
Tel. 1-516-482-5055

*"What ever became of the  
Car's horses, Joe?"*



TARO LEAF salutes James J. Pelosi who recently graduated from West Point more than 18 months of the silent bit by his fellow cadets. Your Editor considers it the humbug story of the year.

Beginning in November, 1971, Cadet Pelosi had roomed alone and eaten by himself at a 10-man table in the cadet mess hall. Almost none of the 3,800 other cadets talked to him except on official business, in class, or to deliver a message.

A 44-member honor committee, senior cadets elected by their companies, had found Pelosi guilty of completing an answer on a quiz after the examiner had given the order to stop writing. Although he denied the charge and produced witnesses on his behalf and although the conviction was reversed, the silence was imposed by his fellow cadets.

In the first few months after the silence began, Pelosi, a 21-year-old native of West Hempstead, N.Y., lost 26 pounds, found his mail destroyed and his possessions vandalized. There's honor, duty, country for you - in spades.

A member of the cadet honor committee himself, Pelosi was accused of violating the honor code at the beginning of his junior year. In his attempt to maintain his innocence, he found himself caught in an aspect of the honor system that is unique to West Point among the nation's service academies, little known to the public at large, yet almost as old as the honor code itself.

The "silence," a total form of social ostracism, is defined in an official Army memorandum as "a traditional and unwritten proviso of the honor system designed to deal with a cadet found guilty of an honor violation, but who does not elect to resign and cannot be discharged because of lack of sufficient legal proof."

The silence is rarely imposed because most cadets faced with the prospect chose to resign. Perhaps the best known victim of the system was Benjamin O. Davis Jr., who was silenced during all his four years at West Point, 1932 to 1936, because he is black. He went on to become a lieutenant general in the Air Force. Had the decision been ours, we'd have nipped "silencing" in the bud, right then and there. But go on; there's more to this unbelievable story.

Under the cadet honor code - "a cadet will not lie, cheat or steal or tolerate those who do" - the charge against Cadet Pelosi was construed as cheating by the honor committee.

Pelosi refused to take the usual course of resigning from the academy and appealed his case to a board of officers. "When you're right, you have to prove yourself," he said the other day in an interview at Bear Mountain Inn.

It was a decision that changed the young man's life. "I'd do it over again," he said. "I'd hate to have seen some guy silenced who might have given in to it and quit."

An officer board was convened, but halfway through its hearing Pelosi's military lawyer, Capt. David Hayes, moved to have the case dismissed. He learned that the honor committee, before it made its decision, had seen a note from a high-ranking officer urging the members to "expedite" the case because it was a clear-cut honor violation. Did you get this? How do you like it? Just like in the westerns: give the SOB a fair trial.

Lt. Gen. William A. Knowlton, the West Point superintendent, ordered the case dismissed for "command influence" and ordered Pelosi returned to the Corps of Cadets in good standing.

In response, the honor committee decided to impose the silence, a step that was supported by a referendum of the corps.



REUNION PROGRAM  
THURSDAY, July 12

For the Early Birds -

2:00 P.M. on - Registration

5:30 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

Cruise down the Hudson and back. Package meal served on board. BYOL. \$6.00 rate includes the cruise and the picnic supper. Advance Reservations are a must. Signal Chairman Vic Backer at 73 Westminster Road, Lake Success, Long Island, N.Y. 11100 - Tel. 1-516-482-5055.

FRIDAY, July 13

8:00 A.M. Registration - all day

Bar never closes, especially as it's BYOL. BYOL and cheat the house.

12:00 A.M. Luncheon - You're on your own.

1:00 P.M. Special Services Swimming Pool is open. An easy walk from the Thayer. Unit CP's may well be set up.

6:00 P.M. West Point Cocktails. BYOL.

7:30 P.M. Hospitality Night - Music and buffet. Drinking natch! \$7.00 a head. Suggestion: Hit the sack in good time. Tomorrow is a busy one! Taps.

SATURDAY, July 14

Reveille.

Breakfast - You're on your own.

8:00 A.M. Registration - all day.

Bar open 23 hours per day. BYOL.

8:00 A.M. Executive Committee Meeting.

10:00 A.M. Annual Business Meeting.

12:30 P.M. Brunch. Do your own thing. BYOL.

1:30 P.M. An afternoon at poolside, under the umbrellas, if you want. Or free escorted tours of West Point.

6:00 P.M. Cocktail Hour. Be our guest.

7:00 P.M. Memorial Service; Grand Banquet; Awards. \$8.00 a head.

9:00 P.M. Dancing Under the Stars. BYOL. Taps.

SUNDAY, July 15

8:00 A.M. Last brunch. \$1.00 a head.

10:00 A.M. Farewells, Alohas.

See you next year!

Drive carefully!

- Schedule subject to change -



*Shall I call the automobile club?"*



TARO LEAF believes JIM WILSON, (Cn.19th), when he writes about his fishing experiences. He's President of Wilson National Life Insurance Co. in Lake City, Fla. Here's how Jim wrote us:



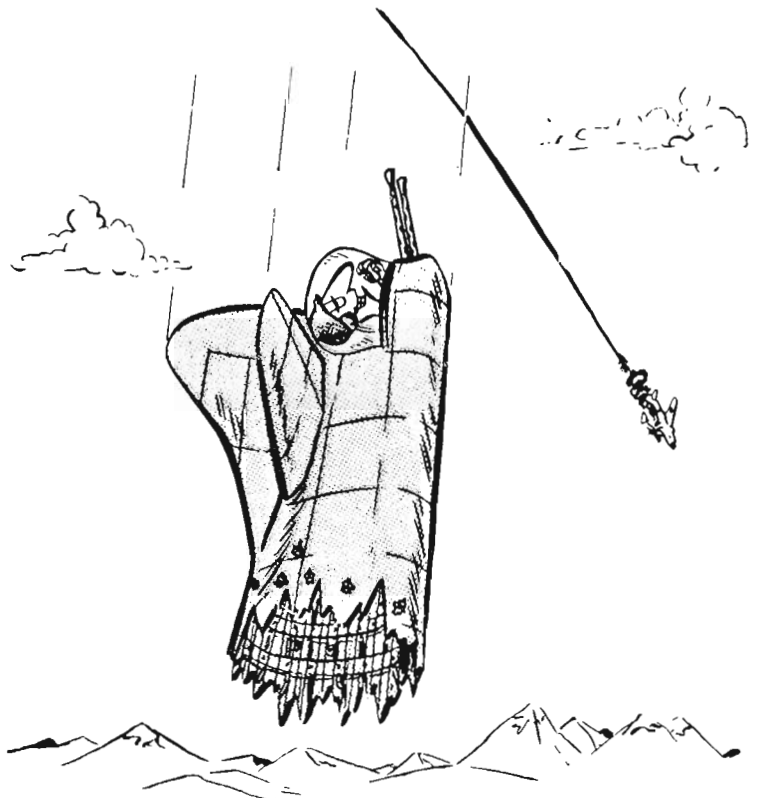
"Enjoy each issue of the Taro Leaf so much that I feel guilty about not keeping better contact and attending more of the annual meetings. Enclosed is my check for \$25.00 for this year's dues and any that I might be past due on. At present I am hoping very much to be at West Point. Business commitments have been real heavy, and I find myself working harder now than I ever have in the past. I did take an afternoon off while in Miami recently and caught a 7'8" sailfish, picture of which I enclose including me with torn pants and a delighted grin. Our boat caught three sails in two hours, an amazing record to me since I must have been out for sails 20 times before during the past 25 years and had never even been on a boat that caught a sail. I hope you can use this picture in a future issue of the Taro Leaf so some of our old 24th friends will know I am still around. I have a cottage at Cedar Key on the Gulf of Mexico about 20 miles south of the mouth of the Suwannee River. After being mounted the sailfish will be hung on the wall there, and I invite my envious friends to come by and view him. In closing I must add how beautiful I thought the issue was that honored your mother. Most of us have reached the age now where we have lost our mothers, and you made words so appropriate for all of us." Thanks Jim; and we'll see you at the Thayer. Be sure to bring Olema.

TARO LEAF happily presents the warm-hearted Anne (Mrs. Bob) DUFF and the droll MIKE RAFTER in a exuberant mood.



TARO LEAF appreciates the kind words of EARL and Adelaide COOPER, (D 21st '41-'45), out in Toledo. Say they: "We enjoy the Taro Leaf. Keep up your precious efforts."

From sunup to sunset and far into the night, you'll meet people and talk about the days when. You'll lie and he'll listen. Then he'll lie and you'll listen. Fun though.



"I got him, skipper. You can pull out now."

By his own account and the accounts of cadets who know him, Pelosi endured the silence for about 19 months with an almost stoic calm, turning back catcalls with ironic humor, ignoring occasional rocks and ice cubes thrown his way, confiding his thoughts only to the journal he recorded in a green looseleaf book in the few free minutes before 6:15 breakfast each morning.

The question that haunts him now is how the silence will affect the rest of his military career, according to West Point tradition, a silenced cadet will continue to be silenced forever by any other West Point graduate, and officers and friends have warned him that it would be unrealistic not to expect some lasting repercussions.

After Ranger school at Fort Benning, Ga., this summer, Pelosi will embark on a three-year assignment as an infantry officer with the Berlin brigade in West Germany.

"I want to be the best possible second lieutenant," he said. "But I'm fighting myself. There's a block in my head that says a year later it might all be for nothing. People won't forget. I don't know if I'll ever get a chance to be a good officer."

If he does not make the Army his career, Pelosi said, "I'd love to go to law school; this thing has given me a tremendous respect for the value of the law."

In fact, a growing number of lawyers expect that the silence will soon be vulnerable to an attack in the courts.

For years, critics of the system have maintained that the silence violates Section 12.09 of the regulations for the United States Military Academy which prohibits "all combinations or joint action among cadets...for the purpose of expressing disapprobation of censure of any person."

Army legal officers have rejected that view on the ground that the silence is a traditional part of the honor system, falling under the "separate jurisdiction" of the cadet honor committee rather than under Army regulations.

How do you like that for a story?

**Paid your  
dues yet?**

TARO LEAF points west to Albuquerque, N.Mex. where sits our retiree, Col. LUCIEN A. BOLDUC, (19th '40-'41). Lucien and good wife Toni spent April in Hawaii and saw their son and family at Schofield. Spent 5 days at Kilauea Mil. Camp on the Big One. Can't make W.P. Will surely be with us next year where ever we go.

Join the big "Come-On-Over" to West Point this mid-July.



TARO LEAF dutifully brings you up to date on the medical problems of our beloved ex-Prexy, JAMES "Spike" O'DONNELL (G 21st '42-'45). In his own words, "Have no fear, Spike is here". We spent a few Chicago hours with him a couple of days before we went to press. He is "well"; "I tire easily", "I've had 39 cobalt treatments on my nose"; "I've got X more to go starting in June", "I hope to be with you at West Point". There it is in the words of the king himself who, by the way, took us to task for not expressing sufficiently well his own gratification for the hundreds of letters, cards and calls that were his when his problems first became known last September and October. He is grateful - exceedingly so; he simply lacks the drive to sit down and write "Thank you"s to each of us. We assured him of your complete understanding. Catch him again with a note at 800 Washington Blvd., Oak Park, Ill. 60302. There's considerable mileage in simple cards and letters these days. See you at the Thayer, Spike. That's our prayer.

TARO LEAF presents a pair of its past prexies, BILL SANDERSON, left and



GERRY STEVENSON, right, with a brand new pair of pants. STEVE SCALIONE of Div.Arty. Hq. ('42-'45), asked us for Gerry's address. It's 168 Center, Wheeling, Ill., 60090, Steve.





TARO LEAF thrills in memorable moments. Standing as stiff as a plebe, recall when DOUGLAS MACARTHUR, (3rd Eng.), inspected the 2200-man corps of cadets in a brigade review at West Point. The 82-year-old General of the Army transfixed the audience with the eloquence of his words, spoken sans notes: "...The shadows are lengthening for me. Today marks my final roll call....."

TARO LEAF submits that its 72-73 series should not close without inclusion of a



picture of the Association's gracious and lovely first lady, Dorothy Newman, shown here on one of the patios of the exquisite Longboat Key home which she shares with Prexy Red.

TARO LEAF recalls the legendary double-play of Tinker to Evers to Chance, the deadliest double-play combination in all of baseball. The year? 1908. The team? The Chicago Cubs. And now it's 1973. And the combination taking aim on us is NEWMAN to BACKER to GILNER. Prexy Red has shortstopped the convention plans, 2nd baseman Vic has caught the signals, touched base and thrown to Sam for the 2nd out. It's just around the corner. See you at the big event. Vic's 5-word description of Sam who has been helping on the convention planning: "One Hell of a guy".

TARO LEAF considers it politically prudent to offer this one of

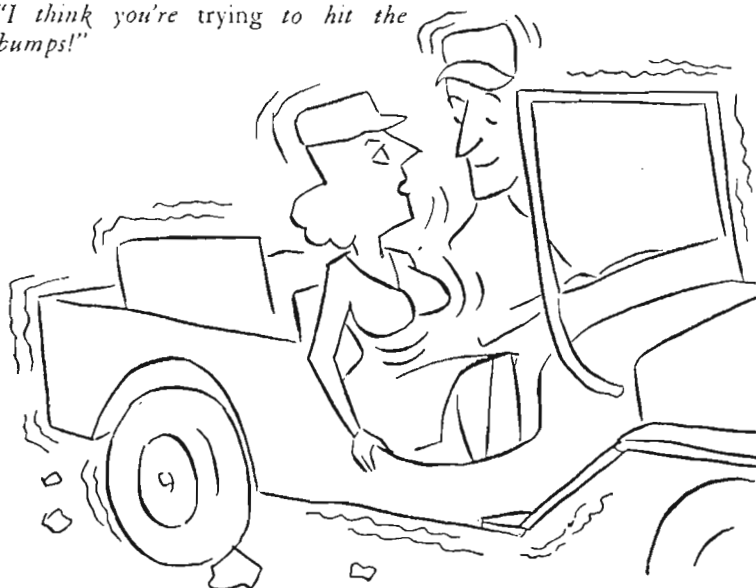


Prexy. AUBREY S. NEWMAN, left, and Prexy-to-be BERT LOWERY, right.

TARO LEAF regurgitates over this one out of the Guinness Book of World Records: The highest gross income ever achieved in a single year by a private citizen? Alphonse Capone, the Chicago gangster who, in '27, took in \$105,000,000 from illegal booze, vice, gambling and protection rackets.

TARO LEAF has had it up to here with Kaye Hasson of Oakland, Cal. She has challenged AR on the recruitment of gals. She's suing. The mother of a 2 year old kid, born out of wedlock, she claims she was barred from the WAC's solely because of the kid, contending that the Army has one set of rules for married gals and one set for single gals. Ho hum. TS, Kaye!

"I think you're trying to hit the bumps!"



TARO LEAF has heard from JIM "Pickles" HERRING, (24 QM '40-'45), who writes:

"Pleased to be able to join the gang at West Point. Have put in my reservation and I sure hope to see some of the old timers from Schofield days. Ele is an RN in charge of Obstetrics at our local hospital; Cliff has made me a grandfather twice over; Pam and Bruce are still going to college; I am a manager in a Montgomery Wards store. In the last Taro Leaf, you mentioned a Bert Koenig. Is it possible that he could be the former Capt. A. Bertram Koenig of the 24th QM?" Pickles, you are on the correct azimuth. Life Member Bert Koenig of 7931 Greene Lane, Wyncote, Pa. 19095, is the one and only "bean counter".

TARO LEAF surprises at nothing, even Elliott Roosevelt who wrote that book exposing his Pop's affair with Missy Lettand and the cessation of living together as husband and wife, after 1916, on the part of FDR and Eleanor. Will that man Elliott stop at nothing? How positively low can one get?

TARO LEAF has heard from - after 6 long years - VILL SAVELL, (19th). Bill says: "Enclosed is a check (\$50) which should just about bring my dues up to date. Apologies for being so negligent and sincere thanks for keeping me on the mailing list. I have been quite busy the past few years as you can well imagine. Jeannie will enter Oklahoma Baptist Univ. in the fall and with two still in elementary school and three in Senior High, I look forward to a few more busy years. Developed a few problems with the old ticker and was unable to make it. Am feeling much better now. Doctor told me not to curtail my activities." Wonderful to hear from you again, Bill.

The Hotel Thayer - where status spends the summer.

TARO LEAF was going to press when Life Member BOB DUFF sent us this memo from the "Midwest Booster Club" with the request that we include it in this issue and we happily oblige:

"We, the Committee for the recent Rally for West Point, want to thank each and everyone who attended, and helped make our March Rally the success that it was. We all especially want to thank all who contributed food and drink, plus help of every nature.

"Credit must be given too to those not in the midwest, who traveled many miles to attend and make this a memorable occasion - like the Klumps, Ed Henry, Bill Sanderson and Ken Ross and V.P. Bert Lowry.

"We are sorry some could not attend, and also that some invitations were returned marked "address unknown". We missed folks like Tony Faro, Tiny Maybaum, D. Handel, and others. BUT do want to say, PLEASE DO NOT MISS THE WEST POINT REUNION ...it promises to be our BEST. Write to the Hotel THAYER, West Point, N.Y. NOW for your Reservations...we have wonderful rates.

"Hoping to see you all in July, the Committee,

Belle & Gerald Stevenson  
Bob & "Jo" Andre  
Tom & Elise Compere  
John & Bess O'Sullivan  
Keith & Violet Perkins  
Mike & Loretta Rafter  
Bob & Mary Shay  
Ray Kresky  
Don Williams  
"Spike" O'Donnell  
Bob & Ann Duff

"P.S. - Belle and I want to thank all members of the above Committee for their loyal support, and for all the help they gave us before and during the Rally. We'll have another before very many moons pass. Thank you all.

Gerald Stevenson."

TARO LEAF would gladly give honorable mention to the medic who claims that alcohol damages your memory - but we can't remember his name.

TARO LEAF begs you to come to West Point to recall better the joys, sorrows, glamour and pain of certain years past, when a measure of elegance, a taste of grandeur wasn't criminal. And because it takes nearly 30 years to acquire a taste for beer salted with tears, the reunion will provide the stimulus and a bit of the impetus for the production of the lacrimal fluids. See you at the bar.

TARO LEAF recommends that the next time Girl Scout Week rolls around, take out a cookie.

TARO LEAF wonders how so many of the past prexies of our Association can find the free time to drink and pose for pictures. The question might well be



asked of JAMES "Spike" O'DONNELL, left, and ED HENRY, right, who obviously have the answer. Advises Spike: "If you suffer from Kleptomania, you can always take something for it." Another out of Spike's '73 grabbag of one-liners is: "She was a waitress at The Last Supper".

TARO LEAF advises that: ART GREY, (M Co.19th 9/50-2/51) is owner of a Wallingford, Vermont Inn. Father of 4, Katrina 15, Tanya 13, Sonya 11 and Viktor 6, he's 100% disability. He reports the death of LINTON J. BOTTREY who died last year in Nashville, Tenn.

TARO LEAF sympathizes with sober ex-Prexy SAM GILNER. As this shot was taken, his wonderful mate Sue was awaiting the results of tests which would signal a ruptured appendix. Not many minutes later she'd be under the knife and on the start of a long, slow recovery. It was a close call, Sam. We're pulling for you, Suzy. Write Sue at 290 Middletown Rd., Nanuet, N.Y.10954.



Play at one of the east Coast's most famous hotels. The Thayer. Informal! Casual! Incredible!



TARO LEAF recognizes HOWARD SALISBURY, (Div.Hq. 10/41-12/44), who thoughtfully sends us this one taken at Lake Sentani in the '44 summer and showing in l.to r. fashion,



seated Mr. MAROTT ARC, Lt.Col.DICK LAWSON, Lt.Col. LES WHEELER, Col. BILL JENNA, Lt.Col. LIVY TAYLOR, Lt.Col. PERKINS, B.Gen.JAMES A. LESTER, M.Gen.FRED IRVING and Col. AUBREY NEWMAN. Standing, l. to r., it's Maj.SALISBURY, Maj. HARVEY, Maj.PAGE, Lt.Col. BLOEMANDAH, Sgt. GOGALTASE, Lt.Col. MANLOVE, Lt.Col. JIM PEARSALL, Lt.Col. TERRIBLE TOM O'CONNOR, Lt.Col. JIM PURCELL, Lt.Col. CLARK and Maj. TOM COMPERE. We regret only that this wonderful shot is so terribly small.

TARO LEAF hails retired Col. BILL BIGGERSTAFF, (19th & Div.Hq.), who now



hangs his hat at 7515-13th Ave., N., St Petersburg, Fla. You don't look a day older than you looked 30 years ago, Bill.

TARO LEAF thrills to hear from PAUL H. NELSON, (G 21st 6/42-5/45), of RR 4, Box 12, Forsyth, Mo. Writes Swede: "I enjoy the Taro Leaf to the utmost. I have been on total disability due to blindness from WW2. So am moving down to Forsyth, Mo. It's right in the middle of the lake district so guess I'll just fish and drink Blue Ribbon. My wife Lee is an expert fisherman. We spend a lot of time at it, and also our son Larry will be starting college at SMS in Springfield this fall. When I was in the service I was from Minn. But after 3 years in the tropics I froze out up there and moved farther south. Here is hoping this finds you in the best of health...As ever - Swede". Thanks so much for the good message, Swede. Never give up!!

TARO LEAF is concerned about the medical problems of Mildred, wife of CYRUS M. HOOVER, (21st), of Curwensville, Pa.

TARO LEAF reports that Lt.Gen. EDWARD L. ROWNY, one-time Div. CG is representing the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks in Geneva.

There's a romantic spot 45 miles up-river from N.Y. City. See you there.

TARO LEAF enjoys reporting that WILLIAM O. WOOLDRIDGE, once the highest ranking army sergeant now faces years of a monkish life - poverty and service to charity - as the penalty for the wheeling and dealing of the "Khaki Cosa Nostra".

A federal court judge sentenced Wooldridge and three others to sign over to the government almost all of their worldly goods and assets - including one man's house - and work free for charitable organizations.

"I want the defendants penniless," said U.S. District Court Judge Warren Ferguson. "I want to make sure you don't have anything."

Wooldridge, 50, former sergeant major of the army, pleaded guilty last October to accepting bribes as part of a widespread net of kickbacks, graft and corruption involving the \$4 billion a year operations of service clubs overseas, particularly in Vietnam.

Senate investigators dubbed the operation the "Khaki Cosa Nostra."

Wooldridge, of Junction City, Kan., was given a four-year suspended prison term and placed on probation for five years on condition he work without pay for a charitable organization for three years and sign over to the government all the present assets and any that may be discovered in secret bank accounts in the future "as long as you live."

The judge left the men their Army pensions, and anything they can earn after completing the mandatory charitable work terms.



TARO LEAF salutes ED MACADLO, (24th Sig.), of Buffalo, N.Y. who, in paying his dues, throws in a little extra for the kitty and says:

"I have slowed down a bit as I was told to take it easy by the Doc - a little high blood pressure. Am still working for the Railroad and keeping up with my stamp collection". There you are gang; any extra stamps for Ed's collection? We've sent him what few we have.

Hot tip - BYOL at the Hotel Thayer. You'll be glad you did.

Take the wife and run away to the land of West Point.

Former M.Sgt. William Higdon of McDonough, Ga., was ordered to give the government his home and all other assets, perform unsalaried charitable work for three years and was given a suspended prison term of five years and five years probation.

Sentenced to similar terms were former Sergeants Theodore Bass of Pensacola, Fla. 38, and Seymour Lazar, 43, of Stuttgart, West Germany. Bass will have to do charitable work for only one year.

The judge conceded that the sentences were "unusual," but said the crimes were unusual. A defense attorney, Bruce I. Hochman, said he thought the sentence was illegal, but all the defendants agreed to accept the terms for probation.

Higdon had conceded that he had deposited more than \$300,000 in a secret Swiss bank account.

"I have to arrive at a method whereby the government can get back as much as possible," the judge said.

He delayed sentencing until after the men testified before a Senate subcommittee investigating the service club corruption. The judge noted that Higdon had taken the 5th Amendment in previous appearances before the subcommittee, and said he would take into account Higdon's cooperativeness in subsequent testimony in determining the sentence.



"OHIO? WHAT PART?"



TARO LEAF thrills at the return to the fold of DICK and Marie REINKE. Now Bradenton, Fla. retirees, Dick says, "I'm happy to be back among this crazy bunch." We're personally pleased because of our own memories of this fun-loving character. Dick was one of the first to greet us in Division when we joined it in '44 and we never forgot him for it.



TARO LEAF blows its whistle again - we have another cop in the club. This time, it's in the person of MILTON J. JURY, a Michigan State Police Lieutenant. Living with Joy and their 2 boys in Lansing, Milt was a Chick and then a Div. MP from 11/46 to 12/47. Milt is a member at the urging of good BILL WILMOT. Thanx Bill; thanks Milt.

Make West Point in July vacation fun for the entire family.

TARO LEAF envies the likes of BOB DUFF, left, and ED HENRY, right, as they pose with the very precious Rita Gallant, Ed's beloved sister "somewhere in south-eastern USA".



Asks Bob who knows that we need the advance information, "Please make your reservations early at the Hotel Thayer. It could be a sell out". Thanks, Bob.

TARO LEAF worries not about the Association's future when its President-to-be BERT LOWERY exhibits the good



judgement to surround himself with these lovelies of lovelies, Alice (Mrs. BILL) SANDERSON and Belle (Mrs. GERRY) STEVENSON. Chuckles Bert as only he can chuckle: "It's all as simple as a San Clemente mortgage."

Bring the whole family to the Thayer.

TARO LEAF praises LACY EARNETT, (34th & 19th from 9/50 - 3/51), Administrator of Union City Hosp., Union City, Ind., for his hefty contribution for the "kitty". All he wanted in return was a couple of decals and he got them. Lacy has been going nights to Ball State U., got his masters in Feb. and is on his way to a doctorate. He'll try to W.P.it. We want you there, Lacy. We need more scholars.

BYOL (Bring Your Own Liquor to the Thayer).



Making beautiful memories is an old West Point tradition. This year help yourself to some tradition.

TARO LEAF asks: "Who cares about how those jewels were stolen from Zsa Zsa. We'd rather read about how she got them."

TARO LEAF hails new members, RALPH and Maria NOTHSTEIN of Hq.Div.Arty from 11/46 - 2/49 and again from 9/49 - 8/51. A retired M/Sgt. in Lincroft, N.J., these folks have Dan 16, Dave 15, Susan 14 and Doug 3. Bring them all to W.P. Writes Ralph: "Tell the gang that here is a guy who is waiting for either a visit or a telephone call from anyone passing through N.J. - at very least, tell them to honk their horns as they go by." We respond to all requests.



TARO LEAF obliges BILL SKIRBLE, (L 19th), of Canonsburg, Pa., when he asked us to print this one of the 3rd platoon taken in old Nippon. That's Bill - 2nd row, 5th from the left - with the iron hat. The hard hat on his left is CLYDE RUGH and next to him is RUDOLPH ERB. Only 3 out of 25, Bill? Shame.

HOTEL THAYER  
West Point, N.Y.  
July 12, 13, 14 & 15  
24TH INF. DIV. ASSN.  
CONVENTION  
'73

TARO LEAF begs you to use the space below to get your message into the bulletin board at West Point in the unhappy event that you can't make it to the reunion in the flesh. Mail your message to the Editor; he'll post it for you so that all present may read your words.

TARO LEAF has read "War & Politics", by Bernard Brodie, The MacMilan Co., NYC, 526 pages, \$8.95.

War is human violence in its most intense form while politics is human emotion in its most intense form. Asking who won a particular war is somewhat akin to asking who won the San Francisco Earthquake. When the "why" of war is addressed, each element of the political process proffering an explanation does so from its own subjective frame of reference.

In "War & Politics" (not to be confused with "War and Peace" because war is not to peace the same as war is to politics) Bernard Brodie sets forth an explanation of the "why" of war.

The author's credentials for this gargantuan task are impeccable. In the vernacular, he has all of his tickets punched. Formerly a professor of international relations at Yale, he later became a member of the Rand Corporation and is now professor of political science at UCLA. Brodie also has the distinction of being one of the founders of the National War College and served as a member of its original faculty. He was one of the first formulators of the theory of limited war and his familiarity with the subject is evident throughout the book.

Brodie presents his multi-faceted thesis in terms of the great military academician Karl Von Clausewitz. Essentially, soldiers usually are close students of tactics, but only rarely are they students of strategy and practically never of war. Hence, the often-hurled charge that war is too important to be left to the generals. On the other hand, civilians, in the eyes of the generals, don't know enough about the nuts and bolts of the military to conduct a proper war.

Drawing heavily on the economic, social, and political factors underlying each war Brodie explains World Wars I and II, Korea and Vietnam, in terms of Clausewitz. War I was stymied by open conflict between popular military leaders and popular political leaders. War II was a just war according to St. Augustine's definition of just wars. Korea was one of the first limited wars and Vietnam would have been defused in the early 1960s had John Kennedy not been assassinated. However, Kennedy was murdered and his successor became determined not to be the first American President to lose a war. His successor was no less committed and spent four more years searching for peace with honor.

It is his explanation of the Vietnam experience (how we became involved and why we failed) that Brodie's book reaches its climax. Involvement was a

melange of unrelated traditional philosophies drawn together to form "resulting" philosophy which dictated entry in Vietnam.

That these philosophies were drawn together rather than fitting naturally did not seem important. That is why President Johnson was continually frustrated by the peacenik charge that our activity in Vietnam was immoral.

"War and Politics" is to be read by every soldier. Brodie has no ax to grind, no cause celebre to promote. He is objective, articulate, authoritative, and above all, experienced in both of the spheres addressed in this book. He is very sensitive to history and its impact upon the political process. He clearly believes that the military force should be subordinated to the civil government. And who can argue, perhaps given today's political need, our military force should be placed in an isolated container marked "break in case of war". I would only hope that if the forces are placed in such isolation, the container will have enough room for training so when it is broken, the military will know what to do and how to do it.

TARO LEAF feels bound not to skip inclusion of this recent roundup of Taro Leafers. Count them.



Bottom row: DICK REINKE, TOM COMPERE, Prexy AUBREY NEWMAN and ED GRACE. Top row: BOB DUFF, CONSTANTINE "Gus" COVOTSOS, ED HENRY and GERRY STEVENSON. Each at some time in his respective military experience served Div.Hq.

Wonderful things happen at the Hotel Thayer.





Dear Fellow Taro Leafers:

This is my last letter of background information about West Point before we meet there in July. It concerns the cornerstone of the command and leadership training there: The Honor System - A cadet does not lie, steal or cheat, nor tolerate those who do.

A news story about the dismissal of a West Point cadet for an Honor Violation often treats it as unfair, unreasonable, and unjust. When the violation is a false statement, with no relation to academic studies, this is usually not mentioned. Nearly all publicity about the Honor System tries to equate our military code of honor with collegiate academic honor system when, actually, they are quite different in purpose, scope, nature and implementation.

All great nations have a heritage of honor, high sense of duty, patriotism and military esprit among military men who lead their sons in battle. Thus the Honor System at the U.S. Military Academy is not strange or even new, but is a key fundamental for training in leadership. This is why it permeates all of cadet life - not just academic studies - and guides them in their Army careers. Further, our proud military code applies with equal force to all officers everywhere.

This leadership training has proved remarkably successful for over 150 years. Does anyone imagine great battle captains - like Lee and Grant, Pershing and MacArthur, Patton and Ridgway - succeeded because they learned tactics and strategy at West Point? It is later in Army service that such military techniques and principles are studied by all officers in schools, drills and field exercises.

In all wars there are countless cases where duty and honor are vital to success.

For example when a lieutenant or sergeant heads a reconnaissance patrol his mission is usually to find out if any enemy troops are in a certain area; and, if so, where are they, how armed, and other details. Thus if he finds no enemy but through overcaution his patrol has not fully covered the area, then he has failed in his mission. This raises the insidious temptation to report that no enemy are present. But that would be a false report, because he does not know this for sure. If it proved to be erroneous information the enemy might attack his unit by surprise, causing needless loss of life, or even defeat.

There are endless variations in how false reports can have serious consequences, at every level, and in all phases of military operations. In fact one of the major problems in the Japanese Army during World War II was that "face" considerations often lead to false reports.

Since the purpose of our military academies is to prepare selected young men to be leaders, their honor codes are so logical it is hard to understand how there can be any controversy about them.

As we walk about the grounds at West Point all of us - graduates and non-graduates alike - can take pride in the fact that we served in our great 24th Infantry Division under the same military code taught there:

DUTY - HONOR - COUNTRY.

Will see you at the Thayer Hotel on July 13-14-15.

In friendship..... *Red*

Aubrey S. "Red" Newman