

1973 - 1974

LEAF
TARRO
F



Twenty Fourth Infantry Division Association

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August 7-8-9-10-11, 1974
Clearwater Point, Hilton Inn
715 S. Gulfview Blvd., Clearwater Beach, Florida
CONVENTION CHAIRMAN: C.G. Hanlin
582 Baywood Dr., North, Dunedin, Fla. 33528
Tel. 813-733-5080

TARO LEAF is proud of Tom PEYTON, son of JOE and Margaret, (Sv. 19 '42-'45), of Lutherville, Md. Tom is to have his ordination to the priesthood on Apr. 27th at the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Towson, Md. Taro Leaf hopes to be there.

TARO LEAF apologizes to BOB and Norma WRIGHT for calling them Weight - in error. Within the 3rd Eng. from 9-41 to 6-45, Bob and Norma are at Colesville Rd., Binghamton, N.Y. Bob's with the State Transportation Dept. - retires in 2 years - then full time into auto sales. Daughter Kimberly marries in June. Son Nicholas next. Good report, folks.

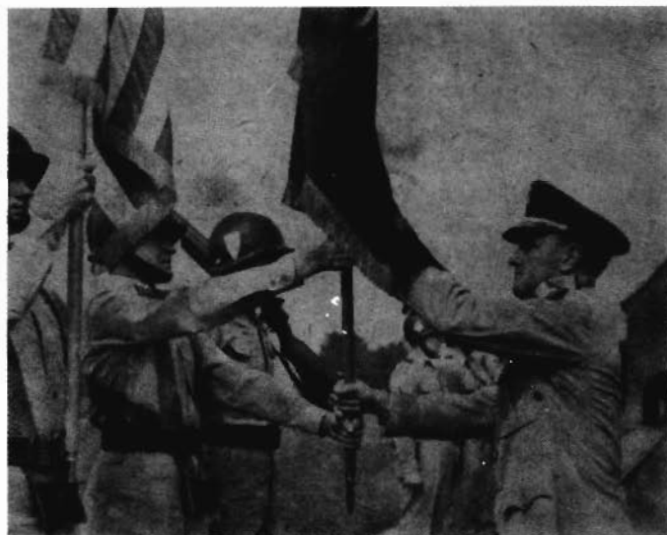
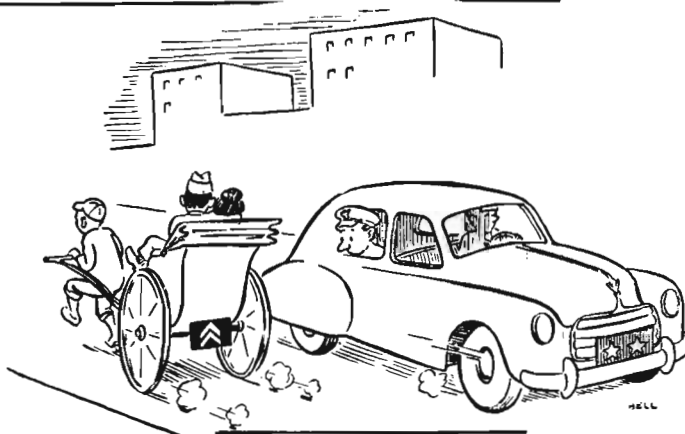
TARO LEAF nervous over learning that Brig. Gen. HUGH CORT was in the hospital for 3 months. Says he's here "by the grace of God" - for which our humble thanks. Says he is now "in fair shape; can drive a car, and walk slowly." Card him at 7224 Kingwood Rd., Little Rock, Ark.

TARO LEAF laughs with Life Member and Past Prexy JOE PEYTON, a strong rooter for the Baltimore Orioles. Joe has a trade with the Yankees which he wants us to assess: Jim Palmer for Fritz Peterson and a wife to be named later.

TARO LEAF knows that anyone privileged to sample GERRY STEVENSON's chili has asked for the recipe. Gerry hasn't been giving it out, but Belle (bless her) says to try:

4 lbs. ground beef
1 tbs. salt
3 level tbs. chili powder
3 medium size onions
1 #2½ can of tomato puree
3 cups water
3 #2 cans red chili beans

In a heavy pot put in meat, chopped onions and salt. Stir and cook til done. Add chili powder and stir, cooking about 5 minutes. Add tomato puree and water. Simmer 2 hours. Drain beans and add to Chili, bring to a boil and turn off.
About 15 - 20 servings.



TARO LEAF looks toward Temple, Tex., where JOHN EAKES, (2nd Bn., 7th Arty. '61 - '64), now running Eakes Gulf Station, reminds us that on July 1, 1958, at Flak Kaserne, the 24th came back to active duty while the 11th Airborne passed to inactive status. He sends us this picture of Maj. Gen. RALPH C. COOPER who retired the 11th colors and presided at the rebirth of the 24th. Running a gas station, eh Johnny? Hold that pump open; we'll be right down.



Discharged!

New York, N.Y., April: Don't forget Leighton R. Longhi of 311 E. 71st, New York, N.Y. if you have any extra Jap swords you may want to sell. Leighton will pay top prices; he's interested in 1 or 50. In large lots, he'll travel to you to inspect. He would like a best possible description in case you write him. He's also interested in old Samurai items such as fittings, hand guards, etc. Call him at 212-628-2419.

We asked Leighton for a brief history and he came up with this:

" Graduated from Yale University with a B.A. in Asian History and specifically, Japanese History and culture. While at Yale, played varsity basketball and track. Main interest have always been sports, hunting, fishing and Asian culture.

" Have studied Asian culture and art for the last 15 years and have studied with some of the top people who have published works on Asian art. When I first graduated from Yale I went to work as a market analyst for a major U.S. firm and then left to take on a position for running a very small subsidiary company of another firm. As of the last 3 years, I have become a fully independent art dealer in the Asian and European areas. In addition, I have vigorously and enthusiastically kept up my sword collecting. Also, I represent some 25 other Japanese sword collectors in the United States and abroad trying to obtain swords. Though we are a small lot, we actively keep up our hobbies through avid correspondences, publishings (on sword data), and meetings.

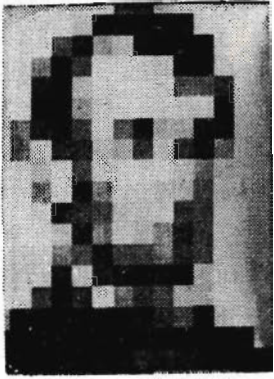
As for the sword itself: there were approximately 10,000 known sword smiths in Japanese history. A handful were masters in their field and these are widely known and appreciated. Perhaps the foremost thing to the collector is the metal work of the fair to good Japanese sword, for they are of much better workmanship than the European sword. In addition, as collectors, we are interested in any of the related fixtures of the Samurai sword fittings, old armor, etc. - and other works, Japanese. →

Heard from, Lt.Col. JOHN F. LEDDY, now of 2033 MacArthur, San Pedro, Calif., after too long an absence. Let's write it just as Jack wrote it: "It certainly has been a long, long time since we have corresponded or communicated in any way. This past summer we visited with some of my ol' NCOs and also with Capt. DAVE BLAHA, a great dentist (Clearing Co.) who lives in Marshalltown, Iowa. Really had a ball! Since I returned to Pedro, I've had a few letters indicating interest in getting together, as they say, just once more. The only way that would draw the greatest number of guys and gals and reduce the travel chores would be to schedule attendance at the Division Reunion...renew memberships, friendships and unravel 1001 lies about what we did in the BIG WAR. I retired in '63 and returned to Pedro from final assignment at Schenectady General Depot....from buck private to retirement as a Lt.Col. I am very glad that I returned to active duty in '48. Now, I work in a Property Disposal Activity for the Navy, and hope to retire again this summer. My daughter, Kathy, just received her B.A. from Stanford and ole Mike is back at Loyola after having been a Ranger with the 101st. He makes the ol' man look like a piker. Wife, Sophie, is still teaching in the Los Angeles School System". Great report, Jack; thanx!!



As for selling the sword: The Japanese sword to us has always been important. Of course, for the majority of the people in the division it has become an occupier of space and a danger to children, etc., because of its keen sharpness. In addition, and very importantly, these swords are rusting and deteriorating, causing their worth to become less, and in some bad cases, towards worthlessness. This is another reason - why - we can easily retard this situation. However, never try to clean such a blade, because without proper advice the blade could be badly harmed.

" Many people, veterans, have come to me with swords and they were surprised to learn that in many cases their swords were more valuable than they thought. They had been to antique dealers etc., who had offered them one half of what they could get. They then suggested I go to the Division associations so that other veterans would have an opportunity to sell unwanted blades. Of course, the old beautifully mounted blades are the most valuable to us. Last month, a collection of 8 blades, 5 of which were beauties (also in beautiful polish) were purchased for \$800.00 more than had been offered from antique dealers, military collectors, etc., in his state.



LOOK AGAIN:

What famous man
is portrayed in
this group of
cubes?



"Glad to have you aboard, Capt. Crampcrotch . . . you're my idea of an intelligent looking, well built, clean cut and handsome officer!!"

TARO LEAF delights in reprinting this one from Maj. JOHNNY WETTERAU (Sv.Co. 19th '34-'43), 83 years young. He writes us from Box 54, Grants Pass, Ore., with words:

"This dam typewriter dont spell right, being 82 Yrs young, thought I would drop you a few lines, Yes I am one of the old timers of the 19th Inf. from 1933 to 1943 when I was given the Captains bars on a plate, after leaving the service I retired in 1947, and established the Juvenile Dept. in this Josephine County, and retired from that in '63. Now I have a few cows and chickens to chase around, I have reveille at 7.30 and feed them. I wonder how old Schofield looks. I was living at Carter Gate when they hit my house and bullets thru the house. I was also Manager of the Old No. 2 Theater. And I was manager of the No. 1 Theater. This is just a few lines to say Hello and your Taro Leaf is just great." Thanks Johnny. Terrific report.

An optimist is a man who talks about what a fool he used to be.

A taxpayer is a guy who is anxious to know where his money is going, and even more anxious to find out where it's coming from.

LOOK AGAIN ANSWER: Abraham Lincoln. (Squint at the picture). In this example of computerized processing of a visual image, the computer divided the entire picture into 20 x 20 squares and computed an average brightness value for each square. From: "The Neurosciences" edited by Francis O. Schmitt and Frederick G. Worden. The M.I.T. Press, 1974.



TARO LEAF points in the direction of Edmonds, Wash. and prints this one for retired Lt. GEORGE HUDSON, (2nd Bn. Hqs. 19th 3/48-5/51). It's a 10/5/50 shot showing 3 of the 724th Ord. working on a "Patton" knocked out by the Gooks. In the group, it's Sfc. WARREN REDNOUR, London, Ky., Sgt. ERNEST COOPER, Eastman, Ga., and Cpl. CARL HEILLE, Fargo, N.D.

TARO LEAF shys away from bum rap from The Hotel Thayer. They asked us to pay a bill of one H. Stanley Jones of Inglewood, Calif. He wasn't a Taro Leafer. We replied that it isn't our policy to pay the individual obligations of members, much less of non-members.

TARO LEAF salutes Mary GLASER who does the honors for husband DICK (724th). They and 7 kids are at 415 W. Main, McComb, Ohio. Dick, in concrete drain tiles, is too busy to write. 8 grandchildren reports Mary as she sends us a ten spot "to keep the Taro Leaf circulating." Thanks, Mary.

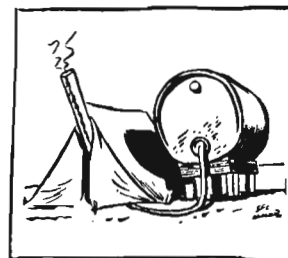
TARO LEAF happy to signal that our '74 Convention Chairman reports that room rates at The Clearwater Beach Hilton are \$28 single, \$32 double. If that's too rich for the blood, there are a dozen hotels of all sizes and shapes within a 5 minute walk of our place. There's a price to fit every pocket book.

TARO LEAF waxes nostalgic with LARRY LAINE, of Div. Band, whose band played for the Nixon Inaugural Ball 14 months ago. Writes Larry, "I hate to think that it was almost 31 years ago that we cruised into the Sydney harbor - a cold but sunny morning. Do you remember it?" We don't, Larry, but there will be dozens of our members who will.

Howard Cosell's autobiography has been selected as the "book of the month".

TARO LEAF respects BOB SUMIDA of 1549 Bernice, Honolulu, Hawaii, who wants to hear from any members of 24 Recon Co., 24 QM Co., and 24 Avn. Co. He's trying to gather info on the insignia of the 3 outfits. Can anyone shed any light on this for Bob?

TARO LEAF notes that 5 more Jap WW II stragglers just came out of the hills of Mindanao. Boy, they were really lost!



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- Call Hilton reservation service.
- Contact your local travel agency.
- Complete and mail attached card.



TARO LEAF has been discovered by GARLAND "Bootsie" ROBERTS, (21st) of Richmond, Va., who has been looking for us "for years", he says. Look no more, Bootsie; here we are. How about you and the little lady making Clearwater in August.

TARO LEAF acknowledges the joining of ALEXANDER DUNLOP, (34th 3/44-12/45), of Natick, Mass. Al and Margaret got their toes wet when LOUIS DUHAMEL gave us their names a year ago. Now they're full members. They have 4 - 24, 21, 18 and 16.

If you believe all things come to those who wait, you have obviously just started waiting.

Ray Rayner thinks the guy who invented the lifesaver really made a mint.

TARO LEAF gumshoes for JIM GODWIN, (L 34th, F & G 21st '50-'51), of 2105 Tecumseh, Carrollton, Tex. Jimmy was looking for M/Sgt. J.E.LEYBA, also of L 34th and F & G 21st during the '50-'51 dog days. We suggested he try JOSE E. LEYBA at 7322 Bassano, Goleta, Cal., Tel. 805-968-7326. How's that for service? By sheer coincidence, Jose had just written us, "I am very much interested in contacting old biddies that served with me from June 27, '50 to June '51. I served with the 34th Inf., 3rd Bn, Co. L, 2nd Platoon, 2nd Squad which later in July '50 changed to the 21st Inf. Regt., 2nd Bn., Co. G. I also served with Co. F of the 21st Inf. Regt. I want to thank you for any assistance you can give this request, so until I have the honor in meeting you, Sir, I wish to wish each and every member of the 24th Infantry Division, that I had the HONOR in serving and fighting with the very best in health and success." Thanks for these precious words, Jose Leyba.



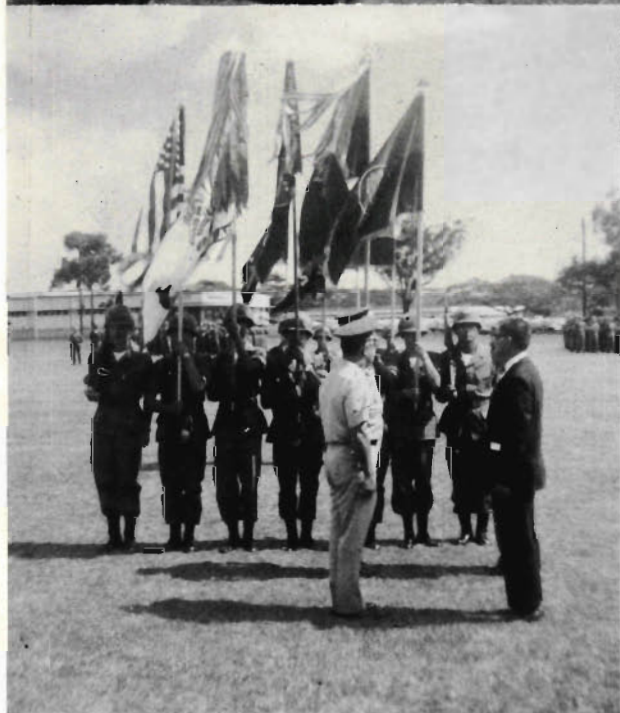
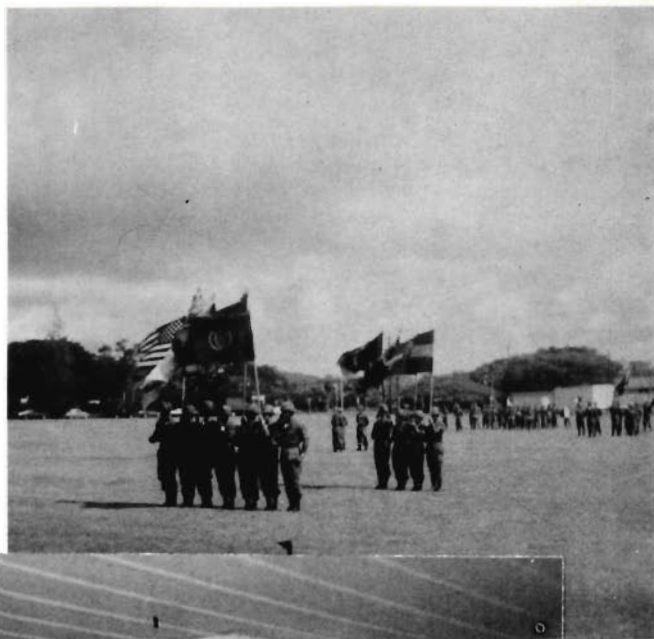
TARO LEAF went looking for something to brighten up this page and found it in Princess Caroline whose Mommy is Grace and whose Poppy is Ranier. Only 17.

TARO LEAF says that when in Clearwater this August, you may want to go the 3 or 4 miles over to Municipal Pier in St. Pete to see MGM's Bounty exhibit. Relive the thoughts of the men who struggled to escape tyranny and cruelty for the serenity of Tahiti.

TARO LEAF regrets to advise that RALPH C. KROSKA, (H 21st '42-'44), of Faribault, Minn., has passed on.

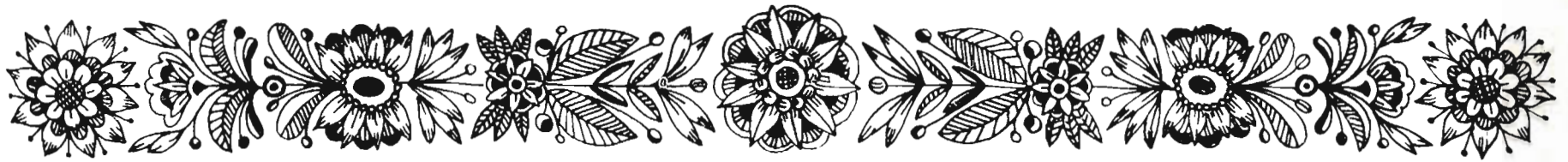
TARO LEAF sorrows at the news that longtime association member (since 1950) CLAYTON L. PROTSMAN, (3rd Eng. '43-'45), of Elida, Ohio has passed on. Eleanor, his widow, advised us of Clayt's death on Feb. 7th at age 52.

TARO LEAF is a little late with this one, but so were BOB and Mavis PERE who sent these pictures of the ceremony last May when the colors were returned to Schofield. Bob's at Barbers Pt. Naval Air Station out there. Thanks for the pix, Bob - and Mavis.



reunion time

IT WILL BE HERE
BEFORE YOU KNOW IT



Taro Leaf has heard from ever faithful Membership Chairman BILL BYRD who sends us the names of his state chairmen as follows:

Arthur E. Walsh
Worcester Star Route
Montpelier, VT. 05602

J.E. Leyba
7322 Bassano Drive
Goleta, CA.93017

Jack Wallace, Apt. 2712
3201 Rue Parc Fontaine
New Orleans, LA 70114

Albert Seltsam
Route 4
Danville, KY 40422

Earl Bridwell
5181 Brad Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46236

Fondo J. Finley
RR 2, 8255 Barneby Rd.
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Ray C. Zyjewski
148 Mildred Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13026

Lloyd R. McCandlish
P.O. Box 126
Brennen, Ohio

James L. Keener
115 NW Loop 410, Apt. 14-C
San Antonio, TX. 78216

Thomas A. Paton
3312 Charles Ave.
Trenton, MI 48183

Edward Cole
5203 So. Watterson Trail
Fern Creek, KY 40291

E. "Moose" Hoffman
Rt. 2, Box 2391B Florida Trail
Browns Mills, NJ 08015

Ed.F. Robinson
4562 Washington St.
Boston, MA 02131

Robert Harin
2700 SW 142nd Ave.
Naranja, FL 33030

Bill Winchell
315 Holland St.
Syracuse, NY 13204

J.J. McKeon
Hq. 86 ARCOM
1819 W. Pershing Road
Chicago, IL 60609

Robert S. Szymczyk
1948 Drexal Lake Drive
Columbia, SC 29206

Richard L. Johnson
Box 935
Jackson, WY 83001

Robert H. Fountain
2579 Echols Place
Macon, GA 31206

Theo. Geelhoed
60 North 8th St.
Hawthorne, NJ

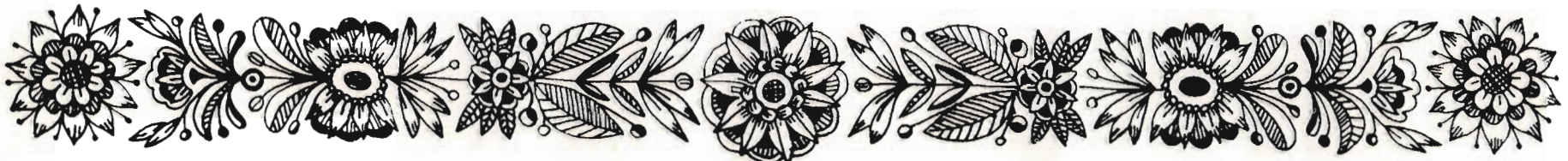
Thomas Farrier
319 Lombard St.
Reading, PA 19604

Howard Lumsden
167 Hickory
Wood River, IL 62095

Kenneth W. Fentner
1251 Smith Road
E.Amherst, NY 14051

Bob Silverness
8526 Vinland St.
Proctor, MN 55810

We're right proud of this group who are trying to help us grow.



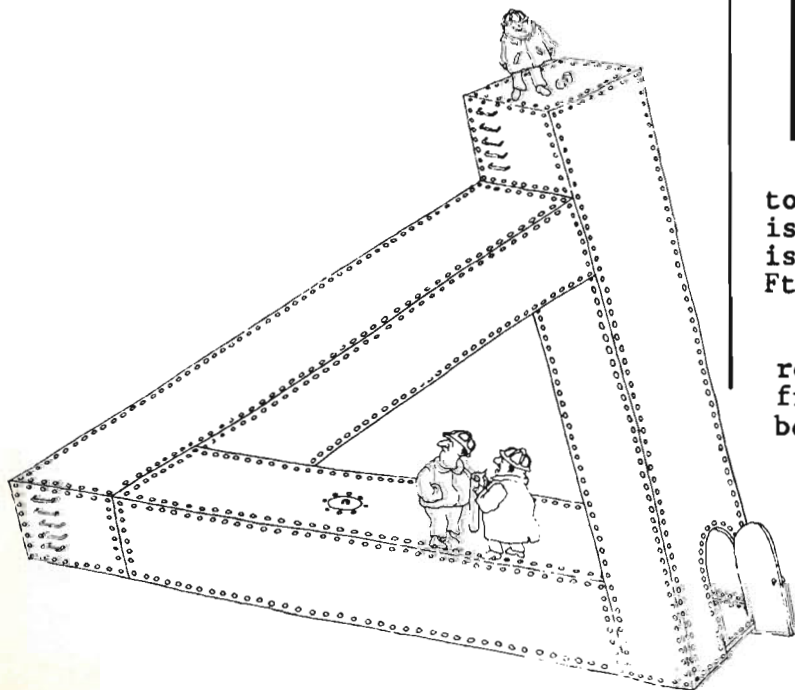
TARO LEAF looks Bothell, Wash. way and another Ordnance man appears. He's CARL WIPPERMAN, (724 Ord. 12/49 - 10/51). You asked about dues, Carl. They go to \$5 per year and are due for everyone (except Life Members) each August first. The dues include a subscription to this poop sheet, Carl.

TARO LEAF is grateful to the likes of AL WEIMER, (63 F & 52 F '50-'51), of Burlington, Mass., for writing us: "Really enjoyed the last issue of the Taro Leaf, and was quite surprised to see my name in print. Was even more surprised when I read about a very old friend of mine in the very next paragraph (Dwain Scott). I hope to have a few spare hours to try and recruit some new members for the association. My old Boss is still the Senior Army Advisor to the Mass. National Guard, so he should be able to give me a few lines in one of their publications to recruit ex 24th personnel. I'll keep you posted!! Thanks, Al, for your promise of help.

TARO LEAF humbly acknowledges the good work of BOB FOUNTAIN, a '49-'51 Gimlet down in Macon, Ga., who sent us the names of his 4 buddies, GEORGE BADA VINAC of Pengilly, Minn., WILBUR GROSS of Binghamton, N.Y., PAUL CONRAD of New Salisbury, Ind. and CHARLEY BROWN of Old Hickory, Tenn. Bob Fountain retired from the Army since '64, is recovering from major stomach surgery. We're pulling for you, Bob.

Fuel shortage?? Yesterday I was mugged for my lighter fluid.

"Let's have another look at the blueprint."



stan Musial & Biggie's RESERVATION REQUEST

24th Infantry Division Assn.

Name _____
(Please Print)

No. in Party _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Arrival Date _____ Hour _____ A.M.
P.M.

Departure Date _____ Hour _____ A.M.
P.M.

Please reserve accommodations at the requested daily rate as circled. (No charge for children regardless of age when sharing accommodations with their parents.)

August 7-11, 1974

SINGLES	\$28.00
DOUBLES	\$32.00
TWINS	\$32.00

(All rates subject to 4% Florida State Tax)

DEPOSIT MUST BE RECEIVED not later than 3 weeks prior to your arrival date. In order to guarantee accommodations, please mail check for first night's room rate. Checks should be made out to the Clearwater Beach Hilton. Cancellations must be received 24 hours in advance of date of arrival. If a room is not available at the rate requested, reservations will be made at next available rate.

TARO LEAF has "Rogers" on its mind up to here. JOHNNY ROGERS, (L 21st '43-'45) is in with dues from Little Rock, Ark. as is BOB ROGERS, (34th '43-'45), over in Ft. Wayne, Ind.

TARO LEAF welcomes to membership retired Capt. JOSHUA WEINER. With us from Hawaii to Mindoro, Josh is glad to be back in the 24th fold.

TARO LEAF has checked in LEONARD BOLTON, (of Japan and Korea daze). He's in Newport News, Va., is a retired "Light" Colonel.

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Attention:
RESERVATION
MANAGER



TARO LEAF has fun with DICK and Patricia PEARSON, (52 F and A 21st '55-'56), who signal in from Elizabethtown, N.Y. They send "\$5 for dues and \$5 for carrying me on the list for so long". It was a pleasure folks. Thanks. Dick's favorite story is the one about the two nuns who went to Shea Stadium to see the Jets play. Their wide head coverings blocked the view of a grouchy man behind them. "Next time," he said, "I'll go to Scotland or Sweden where there are only a few nuns." One nun turned and asked gently: "Why don't you go to hell, where you won't find any nuns at all?"

TARO LEAF is pleased to report that retired Lt.Col. JOHN AYLOR (24th Recn. '42-'43), of 6323 Malaya, San Antonio, is recovering from penumonia. John and Wilma Lee have 2 children - Bill, a minister married to a German gal and living in Heidelberg while he awaits a PHD - Barbara married to an insurance executive and living in Houston. Johnny, you and Wilma have got to make Clearwater.

TARO LEAF acknowledges the \$ contribution of JIM OWENS, (34th '46-'47), who finds the time from his farming to send us a little extra to help keep the ship afloat. Water has been his big problem this year. Thanks Jim.

TARO LEAF welcomes to the fold JESSIE LEE SIZEMORE, (A 52 F 4/49 to 5/53), of Jackson, Miss. It's insurance underwriting for Jess; he and Nell have Jessie Lynn, 18, and Jamarah Louise, 15. How's that for an alliterate family?

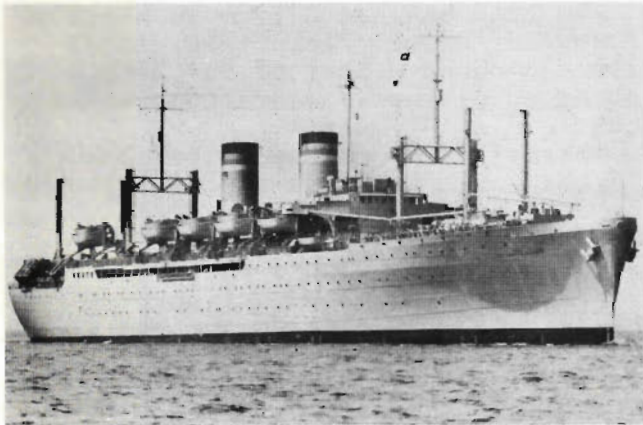
TARO LEAF proudly reports that since WW II, VA has paid \$27 billion to educate and train 14 million servicemen. \$14.5 billion went for 7.8 million WW II men. \$4.5 billion to 2.4 million vets of Korea. \$8.1 billion to 4.1 million post-Korean men. Next time you hear someone knocking Uncle Sugar, throw those figures at him.

TARO LEAF remembered by Life Member and Past Prexy ROSCOE CLAXON (724th Ord) with a 20 and the report that his dear Mom, age 91, has broken her arm. Take care of that li'l gal, Roscoe, she's a peach.



"How many won in a hundred yen?"

TARO LEAF sent its reporter to note that T-AP 122, last carried on Navy rolls as the US Navy Ship (USNS) General Alexander M. Patch sails no more. Known to hundreds of our members and thousands of other soldiers and their dependents she was simply known as the PATCH, a troopship which carried them to far-away ports - Tokyo and Yokohama; Southampton, Bremerhaven; Eniwetok Atoll, the Marshall Islands and Guam.



But the PATCH doesn't sail anymore. Declared excess to the Navy's (Military Sealift Command) needs and stricken from the rolls of active ships, she's made her last voyage, at least in the foreseeable future. These days she sits quietly at her James River mooring. With her are 206 other dead ships. They constitute the U.S. Maritime Administration, (MARAD) James River Reserve Fleet, maintained by MARAD as a national shipping reserve for the emergency sealift needs of the Department of Defense and for other priority purposes.

To folks at Fort Eustis and surrounding communities it's known as the "Dead Fleet".

Beside her today are eight other general class vessels (troopships named after general officers) assigned to the James River Fleet, GENERALS SIMON B. BUCKNER, MAURICE ROSE: WILLIAM O. DARBY: WILLIAM A. MANN: NELSON A. WILKER: WALTER H. GORDON: H.W. BUTNER and G.M. RANDALL.

Fireflies are the only creatures that are admired for getting lit every evening.

Talk about bargains, what about the post office. Where else can you mail a letter for ten cents and have half a million people work eleven days to deliver it.

NOTICE

Effective immediately it is going to be necessary to collect a new 6% tax to pay the cost of collecting taxes. This tax tax will be deductible from your taxes.

TARO LEAF awards first prize (a frisbee) to GLENN D. WARNER, (Sv. 19th '44-'45) for being our newest member. Reach him at Box 11, Shaftsbury, Mich. He works for the State Highway Dept.

TARO LEAF wants to help KEN TARRANT. He was acting 1st Sgt. of Able Battery of the 63rd during September of '44 - at Hollandia. He blacked out once at that time and would appreciate a word from anyone who saw it. VA problems.

TARO LEAF found a new member in JOE WELDEN, a HS principal in Pattonsburg, Mo. Joe was a Gimlet joining us at Hollandia (7/44) and leaving us at Okayama (1/46).

TARO LEAF fascinated with Anita Loos who says she's furious at women's lib: "They keep proclaiming that women are brighter than men. That's true, but it should be kept quiet or it ruins the whole racket".

TARO LEAF happily responds to letter from Mrs. MICHAEL TINO, of 110 Cottage, Jersey City, N.J. She reports that Mike



had a stroke in Jan. '71 and would love to hear from any of his old Schofield buddies. She does believe that letters of this kind will cheer him up. She sends this picture of Mike taken on the Rock. The folks have their 29th Wedding Anniversary come April 29th.

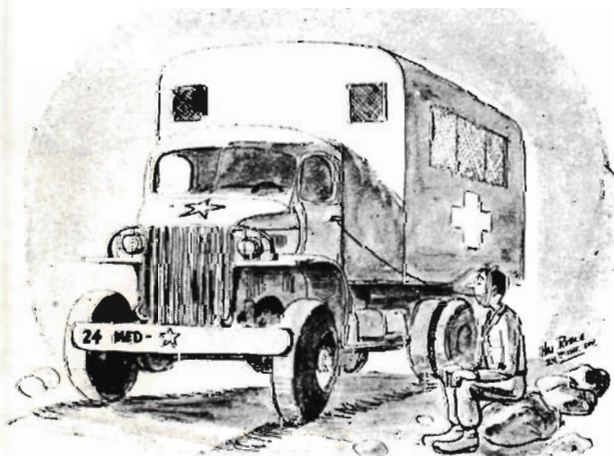


TARO LEAF has another West Point picture it just had to include in this issue. This one is of MIKE and Loretta RAFTER. Loretta is recovering nicely from a bout with the medics.

Overheard at the Hotel Thayer was the expression: "Mike is a cool cookie; he gets his dander up about as often as he gets dandruff".



TARO LEAF has enlisted BILL and Ferol MORNHINGWEG of Perry, Okla. They have Larry, Debra, Denise and Diana; all are married save Diane who is at Ohio State. Bill got his 6-9-45 on Mindanao; has 100% disability. Bill didn't know what the dues were so he sent \$25.00. Watta man. They are \$5 per annum, Bill.



TARO LEAF asks you to try this on your blender. It's Gerry's "GERRY STEVENSON's Cabana":

In a blender put
3 oz. light run
6 oz. pineapple juice
1/2 oz. grenadine
2 whole bananas
1/3 blender of ice.

TARO LEAF has heard from Ed Biggs of 213 Wayside Drive, Plainfield, Ind., 46168 and not a member of the 24th insofar as we know. We reproduce his letter:

"Thirty years ago this October 20, 1974 the first American soldiers stormed ashore on Leyte, Island. Many of these same Veterans will once again go to Leyte to celebrate the 30th Leyte Landing Celebration. The people of Leyte regard Oct. 20th as Americans do the 4th of July. There will be Parades, Dinners, a festival atmosphere prevails - AND we are an important part of their 1974 celebration. We will depart Manila Oct. 17 in the PM. and stay on Leyte until the Eve of Oct. 24th.

"AND THERE'S MORE; We have leisure time in Manila with tours and tours. Including one to Corrigedor by hydrofoil; others to Baguio and Bataan.

"This tour has been given preference by Philippine Airlines. We will not have the added cost of a tour agent. Our ground plan (hotels, tours and food will be on the pay as you go basis.

"FARES:

From San Francisco to Manila
and return \$744.70

Manila to Tacloban, Leyte
to Manila 39.40

"Many people in the Jaro, Leyte were asking about the men of the 24th. Mayor Adriano Villamor knew lots of your comrades in the 24th. Might pass the word around to see if any want to make this tour.

"This will all be a dream come true. The Filipino thinks that the American soldier is still the greatest in the World. He is still looked up to as their LIBERATOR. Had it not been for him they would still be at the mercy of their captors of the dark days.

"A deposit is necessary before August 1, 1974. Make your remittance PAYABLE to PHILIPPINE AIRLINES. Mail to Edmund Biggs, 213 Wayside Drive, Plainfield, Ind. 46168. I will in turn forward to PAL. This is needed to make up roster of members going on tour. Balance of payment will be paid September 14, 1974 to Philippine Airlines."

We're not pushing this one - merely reporting the facts.



TARO LEAF goes to press as one Lt. Hiroo Onoda comes out of the hills of Lubang Island. BILL VERBECK and his boys obviously missed Hiroo, but they sure scared the H--- right out of him; he hid for 29 years. It's a strange world, isn't it? Not too long ago, any one of us would have been a hero had we plucked Hiro off. Today poor Calley, a bum in the view of some, languishes in the bowels of his Bastille because he did his job - only too well - and was left holding the sack for the entire U.S. Army. We aren't condoning the senseless indiscriminate killing of innocents; we are inquiring as to who in the name of Heaven is to be the first judge in the matter of determining whether a gook is a friend or foe. Whether what should have been obvious to Calley was obvious, we'll never really know; we have only the belief of his Court to guide us. What we do know is that we don't want ever to be put in Calley's position - with that all-important decision to be made - and with ours the sole risk of voting "Yes" instead of "No", as did Calley. War is a terrible business and in the 30 years since we worked at it Army has really done little to clear the air as to who gets shot and who lives when the chips are down. Rules of war be damned; we have wars because there are no rules which the warring parties can agree to abide by. If we've got to go to war and the record of the last 56 years shows that we've had to go 4 times, we had better start winning one. "In war, there is no substitute for victory".

TARO LEAF has found HARRY VELTRI, (A 19th '39-'44), of Box 83, Inwood, L.I., New York, retired from the Army. He's now a toll officer. He asked for the address of GEORGE CHAPMAN's widow, Helen. Harry, we don't chance to have Helen Chapman's present address. We'll ask the membership. Anybody know? Helen disappeared into the mist like Brigadoon. Harry says George left an impression on me that I can never forget. He was a great one, Harry. Indeed he was - George is remembered by many.

TARO LEAF hears from WHEELER H. REYNOLDS (E 19th 7/40 - 4/42), who writes from 10259 Van Ruten, Bellflower, Calif. In sending a ten spot "for stamps or whatever", he writes: "I'll always remember the "Rock Regiment" and the time I was allowed to serve with this proud outfit. If things go right, I hope to see you come August in Clearwater. I would be very grateful if you could put me in touch with members who were with Co. E 19th Inf. from '40 to '45". There you have it, you men of Easy.

TARO LEAF reports that ROY BELL, Div.Hq. '45-'47, is having sugar problems down there in Elizabethtown, Ky. He has sent us a copy of a very personal note written to him in '39 by General John J. Pershing. Roy at the time was a charter member of the Pershing Rifle Co. on the Campus of Western Ky. Univ. Oh, by the way, here's a reproduction of the Pershing signature. Interesting, yes?



"I don't see any need for all this alarm, I always drink bonded bourbon."



"Then after you make the gravy nice and smooth,
you add a can of lumps."

This statement by EMIL M. LARSON, (H Co 19th '42-'45), of 706 S. Watts, Sioux Falls, S.D., carries its own impressive message. Emil was hit by a land mine near Davao on 6-1-45, losing the sight of both eyes. Here's his statement:

During the battle for Leyte, our Outfit at one point was given the assignment to penetrate the Japanese lines and to set up a road block to prevent supplies of food and ammunition from reaching their front lines. We, the 2nd Battalion, 19th. Inf. 24th. Div., achieved our objective. But in so doing, we were for a time without communication or contact with any American troops. For some time no one knew what had become of us. We became known as, "The Lost Battalion of Leyte".

When word reached us that we were to be relieved by the 32nd, Div., a tired, dirty, sweaty, bearded, wornout Outfit set out to reach the American lines. Many of our buddies were left behind at the road block. They were laid to rest where they had been killed. The wounded we carried with us on improvised litters made from parachutes used in air drops to bring us food and ammunition. Not far from the American lines, the battalion became divided. A Jap machine gun nest let half of the battalion get through to the American lines. Then they opened up their guns on the remainder. We had to retreat back up the hill carrying newly wounded men with us. The dead were left where they had fallen. During the night, one of the wounded men died.

The next morning, a lieutenant who was in charge of the battalion demolition squad took charge of the burial. He ordered a couple of men to dig the grave.

It was hard digging. The ground was wet, muddy and sticky. Finally a shallow was dug. Two other soldiers came carrying the body and gently lowered it into the grave. I noted that not even as much as a poncho was wrapped around the body. The soldier was buried, as he had died, in his faded green fatigue clothes, shoes on. While the dirt was being shoveled back into the grave upon the body, someone else had found two dead tree limbs and fashioned a cross tying the two sticks together with sound power wire. Attached to the cross was one of the soldier's dog tags which had been removed from the body.

When the grave had been filled and the cross set down at the head of the grave, the lieutenant in charge took off his helmet and knelt down on one knee beside the grave. He made the sign of the cross and offered a silent prayer. All the men standing around the grave had their helmets off and their heads bowed.

It was an impressive funeral. It was so, because of its simplicity, its ruggedness, its reality of death and in its hope of another day: symbolized by the cross, the kneeling praying lieutenant and the men standing reverently with bowed heads. There on a wind swept hill we left him... our buddy...one who would not return.

Far away on the other side of the world another soldier lies buried. One who did not return. He was my younger brother, Sergeant Louis M. Larson. He served with the 34th Inf. Div. In WW II during the invasion of North Africa my brother helped to unload the ship he was on. They were under constant bombardment from French and German shore batteries. My brother was hit and fatly wounded and died. He was buried at sea. He now lies beneath the white caps of the ocean.

How shall we best honor America's was dead? The answer to that question is for us to reflect, to reaffirm, and to rededicate ourselves to the best principles on which our nation was founded and for which so many of the nation's young men have paid the supreme sacrifice. The answer to that question in the words of Abraham Lincoln is: "With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the task that we are in: to bind up the nations wounds, to care for him who shall have borne the battle - for his widow and orphans, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations". The answer to that question, which includes all that has been said, is found in the motto of the Veteran of Foreign Wars, "Let us honor the dead by helping the living".

Skiing in the wilds of northern Mich. was Life Member and Past Prexy DON WILLIAMS when he signalled us from Petoskey, Mich.

Helpful Hint: Glue spots can be removed from clothing or furniture by rubbing them with vinegar.

Beauty Tip: Use egg white on face, let stand for 2 minutes, then rinse - tired lines disappear.

First order for BOB DEW's "Successful Failure" came from BILL LLEWELLYN, (34th '44-'46) of 4154 Central, Western Springs, Ill.

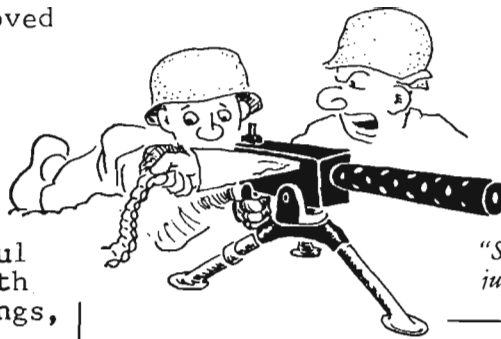
It's a Life Membership for VERN SCHENKEL, (34th '42-'45), of 550 Bardot, Florissant, Mo., lovely Dottie gifted Vern for their 25th wedding anniversary, March 1st. The Assoc. cabled the pair

BARGAIN: an item you can't use at a price you can't resist.

Faithful member CHET ANDREZAK suggests we spring this on our readers: it's to determine how observant you are. Read the following sentence once and count aloud the number of letter F's it contains. Remember now, read it only once: FINISHED FILES ARE THE RESULT OF YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC STUDY COMBINED WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF YEARS. Okay, did you count the F's? Now, a person of average intelligence will find three F's. If you spotted four, you're above average. If you found five, you can move to the head of the class; and if you got all six - there are six F's in the sentence - you're up there with the geniuses.



"But Sarge, I gotta!"



TARO LEAF happily reports word from Rev. WILLIAM J. WALTER, S.J., out there on Yap in the Caroline Islands. He has written:

"It was a great pleasure to find your Christmas note when I returned from Ulithi last January. Spending December and January there was a good test of my stamina, especially in the few days before Christmas. I believe I was the happiest priest in the world. The trouble and confusion in the U.S. has not reached my islands. There has been no falling off in church attendance. With a total population of about 900 on Ulithi Atoll, there were more than 1500 Communions on Christmas Day. At Midnight Mass the church was jammed from entrance to altar rail and the choir had to be accommodated inside the sanctuary. Most of those who received at midnight received again in the morning. My home-made loud speaker arrived in time and the people seemed very pleased at my performance.

"A few weeks ago I went to Guam for a Cancer checkup at the Naval Hospital. Dr. Smith, the ENT man, looked me over and gave me a clean bill of health. He says the first two years after an operation are critical. If there has been no recurrence by that time, there seldom is trouble afterwards. At any rate, I've passed another milestone on the road back to good health.

"Now that an uneasy peace has come to Vietnam let us keep that unfortunate country in our prayers. I'm very much in favor of a firm attitude in dealing with the Communists. Last year while I was staying at the Univ. of San Francisco letters from our men in Vietnam were posted on the faculty bulletin board - they were all in favor of U.S. intervention to prevent a blood bath. Almost every Communist takeover in the past resulted in the slaughter of all who were known to have opposed them. The 600,000 Catholics who fled from North Vietnam in the '50's would be the first to suffer. Read Dr. Dooley's book, 'Deliver Us From Evil' and you'll join me in praying that it doesn't happen again."

If you're in the mood, why not write the good Father - Bucky, you may recall that we nicknamed him. And if you have a couple of extra bucks jingling in your pocket, you might send it on. He can use the change for his people there.



Shy - Don - Don - Leonard
Lum Cashin McHale Hingle

TARO LEAF makes space for DON and Shirley McHALE, (Hq. Co. 19th '39-'41). They're at 1209 Chickasaw, Jupiter, Fla., and write: "Shirley and I went to the Islands on a belated 25th Anniversary trip. Prior to our trip, I took the Morning Report Roster that Jack Finan has been sending along with his Morning Reports once a month to all the old members of the 19th. From that Roster, I selected the names of men now living in the Islands and sent letters to them. In the letter I said that my wife and I were going to the Islands for a 2 week visit and that I was an ex-Chick from 39-41. I also stated that I'm sure I would not know or recognize them, as they would probably not remember me. I said also that I would take them to dinner in Honolulu where we could all relax and get acquainted. I was very pleased and pleasantly surprised to hear from RICHARD "Shy" LUM, ED and Evelyn PONIATOSKIE (19th Inf. Commo '37-'42), DON CASHIN (19th Inf. Regt. '27-'36), LEONARD HINGLE (19th Inf. Regt. '22-'32). "Shy" and Ed were immediate and expressed pleasure in the upcoming trip. They layed out a tentative plan for meeting us and also expressed their desire to be of service to us on a special trip around the Island as well as any other things we might like to do. Believe me they were more than generous to us with their time and real down to earth hospitality. We also received letters from two wonderful people who did not know me, but they wrote in reply to the letters I had written. First, DON CASHIN of Wahiawa, asked how I had gotten his address, but stated that he was an ex-Chick from '27-'36, and he would look forward with pleasure to seeing us. "Shy" Lum also knows Don Cashin and Leonard Hingle from "Shys" early days in the 19th restuarant. Also Don Cashin and Leonard Hingle soldiered together in the 19th from '27-'32. Don Cashin picked up my wife and I at our hotel on Saturday a.m., then drove us through Pearl City, up to Wahiawa, and then for a complete tour of the present day Schofield Barracks.

Don has a special pass, so we were able to go over Koli-Koli Pass, through the Marine Guarded munition dump to Ewa. From there we were taken to Makaha and then back to Waianal where we met Leonard and Lei Hingle. While talking with Don, I found out that he enlisted in '27 and joined the 19th Inf. the same year. He was a super "Jock Strap" and among his many accomplishments he was the Quarter-back for the "Chicks" football team and was on the "All Schofield" selection. Don bought out in 1936 and went to work in Wahiawa until Dec. 7, 1941 when Pearl Harbor happened, he re-enlisted, went to O.C.S. in the States, finished up his 20 years, split service and returned to retire in Wahiawa, where he lives happily with his wife now. The second most welcomed and surprising letter came from Leonard Hingle. As I was to find out, Leonard joined the Army in '19 in California. When a cadre for the 19th was formed up at the Presidio in '22 for assignment to Schofield, he joined the cadre as a cook and is therefore one of the oldest of "Chicks". Leonard was also a Super "Jock-Strap". He was named "All Schofield" Center for the Chicks football team. Leonard stayed in until 1932 when he bought out. Both Leonard and Don were with the "Chicks" when they were on the upper post before the present Quadrangles were constructed. When Leonard bought out in 1932, he went to



" LUNGS NORMAL "



Shy - Lei - Shirley - Leonard - Don
Lum Hingle McHale Hingle Cashin

work at the Pearl Harbor Naval Yard, where he was working on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941. Leonard retired in the late 50's or early 60's with combined Military and Civil Service time. He and his wonderful Hawaiian wife Lei, now live in Waianae, where Leonard is the caretaker and groundkeeper of the Mormon Church located there. He is also an Elder of the Church. When Don Cashin drove us up to their home, we were greeted with many flower leis they had made for us. "Shy" Lum had driven in from town and so we had a wonderful get-to-gether. We all went to a wonderful Chinese Restaurant in Waianae for good food, good conversation and good memories of different times - a perfect day with never to be forgotten memories. "Shy" Lum drove us back to our hotel in Honolulu, where we closed out our trip to Oahu with a couple of night caps and more talk. Shirley and I spent the next week on Maui and Hawaii and were kept busy doing many many things. Our trip ended too soon, but believe me, it ended with a wealth of love for the many who had befriended us and it is something we will treasure all our lives. Shirley and I are trying to get our plans together so that we can be in Clearwater in August". Wonderful report, Don and Shirl. Thanks a 1,000,000!



Beautiful Cypress Gardens

America's Tropical
Wonderland

Water Ski Shows Daily
10 - Noon - 2 - 4 p.m.
Electric Boat Rides
Dine on Palm Terrace
Near U.S. 17 on Route 540
WINTER HAVEN, FLORIDA

Past Prexy DICK LIGMAN sends us a couple of photos - the first, of the 3rd Eng. baseball team at Holandia -



and the second, of a sign we all remember well.



Lola LUEDTKE writes us for DON, (34th '48-'50), of RR#1, Box 4, Arcadia, Nebr., that their kids are growing up. Alan is 6' and 16, plays football and basketball. Brian is 5'7" and 14, and is the imaginative musical one who may turn out to be a gourmet cook. Curt, 11½, is the inventive mechanically-minded one. Denice, 10½, is the Girl Scout, flute and piano player, slim and willowy. Sounds like a real tribe, Lola.

Hockey has degenerated into one big, disgusting brawl. We happen to believe that a man's civil responsibilities don't cease just because he dons a hockey player's uniform. If we agree it's wrong to assault someone in anger, then how can we help but agree that these players are wrong most of the hockey season? When we get to the point where athletes are immune to laws which bind the rest of us (and we're dangerously close to it), then we suggest our values are slightly out of order. And as to the fans who eat it up, how can they parade against mayhem in Vietnam and yet gobble it up in Madison Square Garden? If we're for peace, let's go it the whole way. Like the peacenik said, "I want peace and I'll kill anyone who stands in my way in my effort to win it".

MEET THE NEW JOYCE



TARO LEAF presents once again, JAMES "Spike" O'DONNELL, our own answer to Dr. Joyce Brothers, and the wildest, wittiest, freshest, most surprising psychologist you've ever seen. He and our Association Mascot, Janet Driggs have joined up in answering a few of the most recent letters of inquiry which have come their way.

Here's a sampling:

Dear Jan and Spike:

My Daddy was in the 3rd Engineers and he told me to go ahead and write you.

I read your advice to that lady who invariably finds herself seated next to a bore on a plane or bus. She told you she has a friendly face and people just naturally start talking when she'd love to just look out the window and daydream. She said she's denied that luxury because some creep always starts talking to her. Why not tell her to bring along a foreign language newspaper. It's the perfect escape. I carry one with me wherever I go. Tell her to practice saying "No speaka English". I've tried it and it works. The bore always moves away and finds another victim.

Susy Q.

Dear Susy Q:

That gimmick might work for some but it's not completely foolproof. Jan once carried a Spanish magazine on a plane, hoping to bone up for a visit to Puerto Rico. Some buster spotted it and she was trapped. He talked her ear off - in Spanish yet - all the way to San Juan.

Jan and Spike.

Dear Spike and Jan:

I remember you, Spike, the day you got caught lifting Eichelberger's beer from his plane at Hollandia.

Spike, I guess I have to address this one just to you. So Jan, why don't you go and pour yourself another drink for a few minutes. That's the girl!

Spike, can a man really tell if a woman has had silicone implants to enlarge her breasts? I don't mean by looking; I mean by touching.

I've talked to 2 gals who have had it done. One says a guy would have to be awful dumb not to know because hers feel like grapefruit.

The other girl says nobody could tell nothing.

Are there any telltale marks, Spike? You know all about this stuff.

Jerry O.

13th Field, A Btry.

Dear Jerry O:

While Jan is out there fixing that drink, let me tell you something.

The gal with the grapefruit must have had her implants some time ago. The materials they're using today feel like the McCoy.

Whether a man can tell or not depends on the amount of breast tissue she had before surgery and the way she healed. The only telltale marks are the tiny scars under the breasts and these become almost invisible in time. If a layman tried to prove that a girl had had it done, he'd have his hands full.

See you at Clearwater, Jerry!

Spike



PLEASE ENCLOSE
YOUR OLD LABEL

PLEASE NOTIFY US
4 WEEKS IN ADVANCE

Name (please print)

Address (new, if for change of address) Apt. No.

City State Zip



"HE ISN'T EITHER HUNGRY"

TARO LEAF squeezes the Charmin for BILL and Margaret VOSS, (11th F. '42-'45), who just reupped. Out of Margate, N.J., these precious folks have been with us since '51.

TARO LEAF responds willingly to the request of Convention Chairman C.G. HANLIN. He asks us to ask you to mail your reservation card in to the hotel early. It's in this issue.

TARO LEAF had the chance to talk one day with Lawrence Welk. When asked what he thought of all the violence on TV, he replied: "I like them. I like the trumpets and saxophones, too."

TARO LEAF points southward to "Pineapple" JACK FINAN, that faithful Chick, who tells us: "An American is a man who sips Brazilian coffee from an English cup while sitting on Danish furniture after coming hom in his German car from a Chinese dinner...and writes his Congressman with a Japanese ballpoint pen demanding that he do something about the foreigners who are taking over the country."

Washing linen in public and hanging it out to dry - is for the birds.

TARO LEAF has information on national cemeteries.

The National Cemeteries Act of 1973 caused the transfer of 82 national cemeteries formerly under the Secretary of the Army to the Administrator of Veterans Affairs. The two left under the Army are Arlington National Cemetery and the cemetery at the Soldiers' and Airmen's Home in Washington, D.C. Also excluded from administration by the VA are the cemeteries at the three Service Academies at West Point, Annapolis, and Colorado Springs, Colorado, and at the Naval Home, Philadelphia, Pa. Jurisdiction over the 82 cemeteries transferred to the VA was combined with those located adjacent to VA hospitals so that anyone meeting the following eligibility requirements may in the future be buried in a national cemetery selected by his survivor if a gravesite is available at that location:

Eligibility requirements:

(a) Any person who served on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard) who was discharged or released therefrom under conditions other than dishonorable.

(b) Any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who died while on active duty.

(c) Any member of the Reserve component of the Armed Forces, the Army National Guard or the Air National Guard, whose death occurs under honorable conditions while hospitalized or undergoing treatment, at the expense of the United States, for injury or disease contracted or incurred under honorable conditions while performing active duty for training, inactive duty training, or undergoing that hospitalization or treatment at the expense of the United States.

(d) Any member of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps of the Army, Navy or Air Force whose death occurs under honorable conditions while (1) attending an authorized practice cruise, (2) performing authorized travel to or from that camp or cruise, or (3) hospitalized or undergoing treatment, at the expense of the United States, for injury or disease contracted or incurred under honorable conditions while (i) attending that camp or on that cruise, (ii) performing that travel or (iii) undergoing that hospitalization or treatment at the expense of the United States.

(e) Any citizen of the United States who, during any war in which the United States is or has been engaged, served in the Armed Forces of any Government allied with the United States during that war whose last such services terminated honorably, who was a citizen of the United States at the time of entry on such service and at the time of death.

(f) The wife or husband of any person listed in paragraphs (a) through (e) of this section or any interred veteran's unremarried widow, unremarried widower, minor child, (under 21 years of age or under 23 years of age if pursuing a course of instruction at an approved educational institution), or unmarried adult child who was physically or mentally disabled and incapable of self-support, in the same grave with the veteran or in an adjoining gravesite if prior reservation for that grave was in effect.

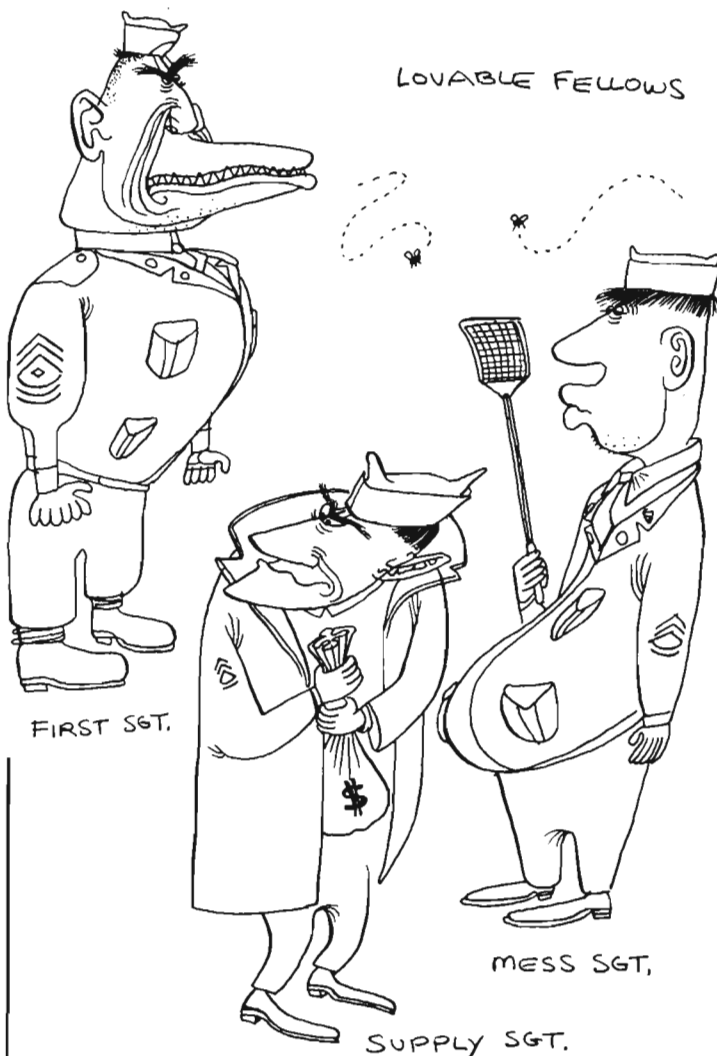
Incidentally, several national cemeteries are already filled so that no new burials may be made in them. The survivor of an eligible deceased person should contact the director of the national cemetery nearest him or her to determine availability of a gravesite after the death occurs, since sites cannot be reserved ahead.

Costs of Burial: There is no charge for a grave in a national cemetery, for opening and closing the grave, or for a Government headstone with inscriptions for all decedents buried in the grave. Such other disposition-of-remains expenses as the cost of preparation of the remains, a casket or urn, an outer shipping box and/or burial vault, services of a funeral director engaged by survivors, and transportation of remains to the cemetery are not a part of the national cemetery program.

Public Law 93-43 which created The National Cemetery System stipulates that effective Aug. 1, 1973, if a veteran eligible for a burial allowance under Sect. 902 of title 38, United States Code, is not buried in a national cemetery or other cemetery under the jurisdiction of the United States, the Administrator, in his discretion, having due regard for the circumstances in each case, may pay, in addition to the \$250 allowance, a sum not to exceed \$150, as a plot or interment allowance to such person as he prescribes. Following are the conditions specified in the eligibility requirements for a burial allowance under Title 38:

- a. The veteran dies of a service-connected disability.
- b. He/she is a veteran of any war.
- c. He/she is discharged from active military, naval, or air service for a disability incurred or aggravated in the line of duty.
- d. He/she is in receipt of or entitled to disability compensation (not retirement pay).

VA Form 21-530, Application for Burial Allowance, is being amended to include provision for claiming the liberalized burial benefits. The forms may be obtained from local Veterans Administration Regional Offices.



TARO LEAF has the request of TOM BREAZEAL, (19th '42-'44), of Knoxville, Tenn. is IN. Tom, in insurance, who wants the addresses of the 19th officers. It's a big order, Tom. We'll try to work something out.

TARO LEAF acknowledges word from Wyncote, Pa. Lifer #11, BERT KOENIG, (24 QM), sends in a \$20 contribution with a promise to make it in '74.

TARO LEAF missed at our last brouhala HARRY and Frances WITTMAN, (G 21st '51-'52), of Box 118, Keyser, W.Va. Recently, they drove to Nazareth, Pa. for a day with his old squad leader, PAUL DORNEY. You guessed it; Paul is now a member.

TARO LEAF asks that, if you should ever run into Spiro Agnew, please keep it to yourself. But if you should see Barrie Chase, tell her we have our room ready.

TARO LEAF gets good news and bad news. JIM WRIGHT, (21st '43-'45), still at 1197S. 2nd, Coshocton, Ohio, writes that he just can't travel much alone - has been disabled since '64. We're pulling for you, Jim.