

Taro Leaf

24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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THANKS, ROSEY!

THANKS, LAURA!!

THANKS, GANG!!

YOU-ALL WERE ALL-WONDERFUL!!!

TARO LEAF

The publication "of, by and for those who served" the glorious 24th Infantry Division, and published frequently by the 24th Infantry Division Association, whose officers are:

President:

Howard R. Lumsden Tel. 618-259-5771
167 Hickory Street, Wood River, Illinois 62095

1st Vice President:

John E. Klump Tel. 812-623-3279
R.R. #1, Gullford, Indiana 47022

2nd Vice President:

Michael J. Rafter Tel. 312-282-1965
3131 N. Keating Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60641

Sec'y.-Treas.-Editor:

Kenwood Ross Tel. 413-733-3194
120 Maple Street, Springfield, Mass. 01103

Chaplain:

Fr. Christopher J. Berlo Tel. 717-347-5691
1239 St. Ann Street, Scranton, Pa. 18504

Convention Chairman:

Brig. Gen. Lester L. Wheeler, USA Ret., Tel. 703-360-7597
2108 Stirrup Lane, Alexandria, Virginia 22308

Membership Chairman:

Fondo J. Finley, Jr. Tel. 614-746-8288
RFD #2, 8255 Barneby Road, Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Association membership is open to anyone and everyone who ever wore the Taro Leaf. Dues are \$8.00 per annum inclusive of a subscription to the publication, Taro Leaf.

The Association is a strictly non-profit, non-military, non-rank organization of men and women who once served together and desire only to keep alive the warm friendships formed in that service.



There's another issue coming on Savannah - right behind this one - or rather, as soon as we can catch our breath. There simply was too much to squeeze into one issue. And also, we lost our strike in a way 'cuz these pictures kept arriving and even now four weeks later are continuing to arrive - and they're of such quality that we'd be remiss if we didn't use them all. In sum, there's more coming.

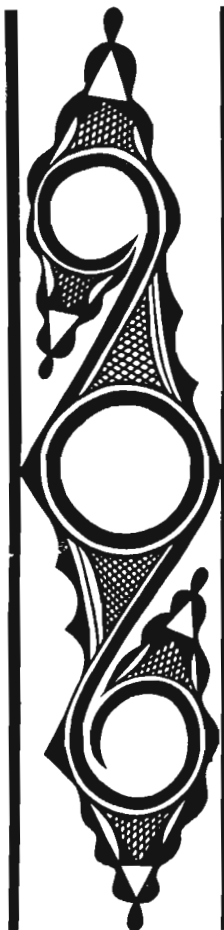
We once asked in these pages if anyone knew anyone who had ever received a dime in one of those infamous Readers Digest sweepstakes. Writes ADOLPH DAMISH (19th '49-'51), out of Norwood, Mass.: "Yep. Me. \$5. Couple of weeks ago." Adolph's son, Mark, enlisted in the Army last January; is at Ft. Gordon.

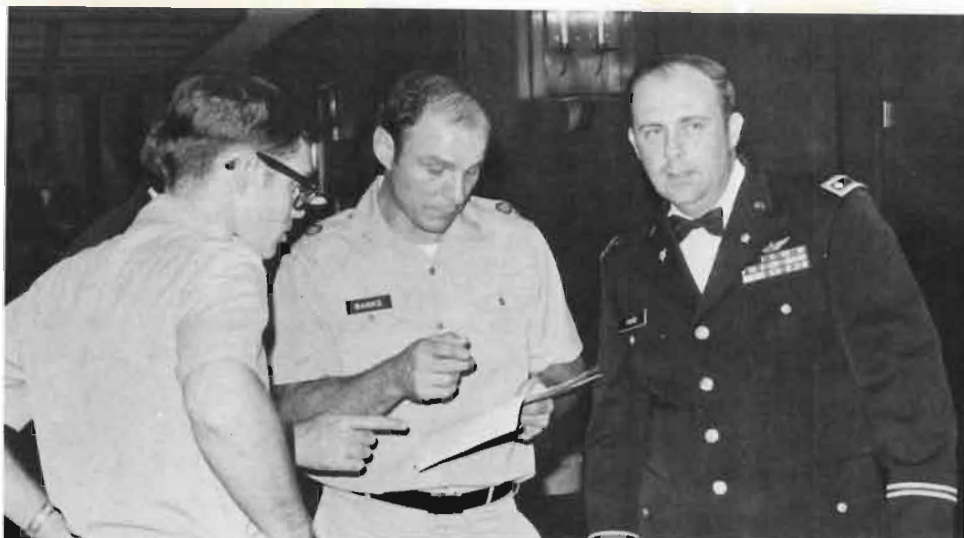
Here about the Polish lad who flew to Honolulu. He got the usual lei treatment as he alighted and the gal gave him her smack and then the "Aloha Honolulu Hawaii". Came the reply of the bewildered Polish lad: "Garbinski Sandusky Ohio".

In this year of bicentennial celebration, we have done our part by showing ourselves an unbelievably good get-together. Savannah was our very best and it's a pleasure to record the depth of our gratitude to the Division Commander, his lovely lady, and the hundreds, yeah thousands, of others who made that memorable week-end the warm and happy one that it was. Our greatest debt, of course, is to Brig. Gen. DONALD E. ROSENBLUM whose every thought had been given to our convention needs. We were shown a hospitality and a consideration we shall not soon forget. GEORGE and Betty HUNNICUTT, (Hq. 21st '49-'51), whose home is Savannah, and BOYCE and Jean HUSON, (Hq. '39-'42), out of Normal, Ill., each share in that belief.

Another bank president in our ranks: BOYCE HUSON, (C 19 '39-'41; Hq. Co. '42-'42), who is #1 at First Nat'l. Bk. of Normal (Ill.). Boyce and Jean just sent in 5 for dues, 10 as a contribution, and 15 for the history. Watta pair! They were in ecstasy over Savannah.

Anyone know of whereabouts of RAY ARNOLD, (A 21 '41-'44), or ROY ARNOLD, (19th '41-'44)? IVAN HALL, (A & Sv. 21 '41-'44, of 105 Lincoln, Brewster, Ohio, wants to locate either one. They were brothers.





This U.S. Army photo is terrific as it enables us to present in a single view 3 of those who worked hardest to make our weekend the warm and memorable party that it was. In l. to r. manner, it's Lt. Paul Petty, Maj. Gary G. Banks and Lt. Col. Brian G. Foote. Brian was the real on-the-job fellow on this one not for hours or days but for months. Brian started his planning 10 months before the show. You were terrific Brian - and Gary and Paul too. Deep thanks.



FRANKIE WALAS, (13th F. '40-'43) from Bradenton, Fla., was simply overwhelmed by the organization represented in the plan and execution for our '76 Convention which he, as everyone else agreed was "the greatest". Sophia missed out on this U.S. Army photo.



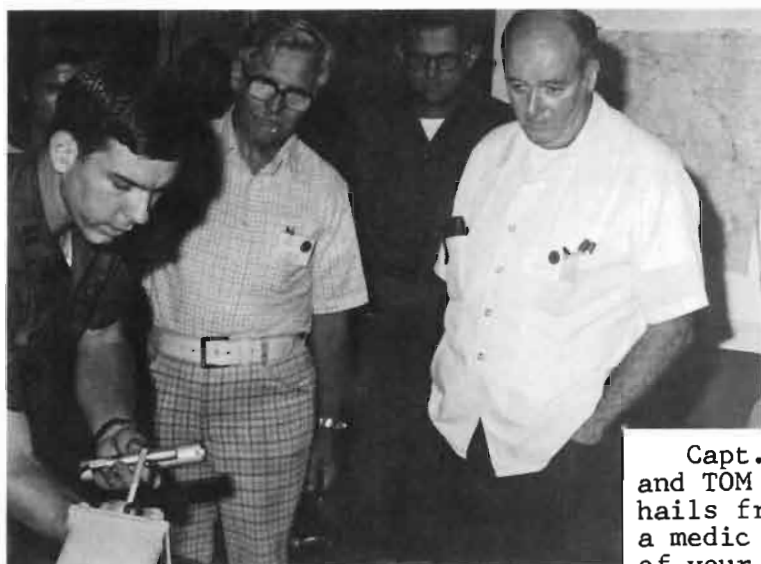
This may seem like a duplicate of another U.S. Army photo. But it shows such a thrilling part of that glorious Savannah weekend that we include it anyway. It meant so much to everyone of us to be invited to stand with the Division Commander and to take with him the "Pass in Review". As with every ROSENBLUM gesture during those three happy days, it was considerate, thoughtful and warmly appreciated. "Best damned convention chairman we ever had" was the consensus. "Not the tallest-but the best".



It's Col. LAWRENCE E. ZIMMERMAN, Div C/S being buzzed by beloved JACK "Pineapple Jack" FINAN, (19th '39-'42), who has done as much as anyone to keep old friendships, especially Chick friendships, alive. Jack's terrific wife Mary is having serious health problems. Postcard her at 758 E. Whitaker Mill, Raleigh, N.C.



In which we spot FRANKIE KAWA standing between the Sanderson's, Bill and Alice, at the colorful Friday nite luau at the Hunter AFB. Hunter's within the city limits of Savannah; Stewart is 40 miles downstream. Oh yes, we don't intend to overlook Laura Rosenblu, the most gracious First Lady of the Division, and of Stewart, and of Hunter. A darling of a gal. A U.S. Army photo.



Capt. DON KIRBY showing something to TOM UPTON and TOM BRODERICK. A U.S. Army photo. Upton hails from Forest Hills, N.Y. and Broderick is a medic in Yonkers, N.Y. Wished we had a picture of your Mary, Doc. She was a peach.



On Friday a.m., we were all bussed to one of the ranges - the highest point on the post by the way - to witness a live firing training exercise. It was truly a spectacular show - every bit as exciting and thrilling as was the Tall Ships show in NYC last Independence Day. Yeah, a U.S. Army photo. In case you think our pictures are mixed up, they are. We are setting these pages up as fast as the pix arrive and they are arriving in the order in which they appear. We're not complaining, you understand - but it is a little confusing.





On Friday noon, following the exciting fire power show, the ladies visited a few of the grand old sights and sites of Savannah while the boys went off to chow with the troops. These U.S. Army photographers were everywhere and Barry Sikora, who took this one, has the blisters to prove it.



One of the Reunion highlights came when following his inspecting of the line, accompanied by Prexy BILL BYRD, BG DONALD E. ROSENBLUM invited all Association members to stand with him as the Division passed in review. We say to LOU DUHAMEL, (Cn. 21st '44-'45), up there in Lowell, Mass. that you'd have loved it. Lou couldn't be with us - was recovering from heart surgery. Was on table for 10 hours only a week before Savannah. Is up and about, but very weak. Cheers, Lou. Almost forget; it's a U.S. Army photo.



Our U.S. Army photographer caught this one of the Memorial Table in front of the head table before the Saturday p.m. banquet at the DeSoto Hilton.





This is a U.S. Army photograph. While Cpt. DON KIRBY was explaining the mysteries of an M17-A1 protective mask to TOM UPTON and TOM BRODERICK, maybe one of these old medics could have explained what was going on in another part of the country when Dr. Richard Raskin got a new mask and became Dr. Renee Richards. Notice the wide part in Broderick's hair.



If you see a gal in this one of the Division Band passing in review then you've got 20-20. Great music. Come to think of it, you guys who served in Hawaii or Australia or Goodenough or New Guinea or Philippines - how many times did you ever see the Division pass in review? More than one at Savannah said "Never!!!" It's a U.S. Army photo. Better not say "Never" about that!



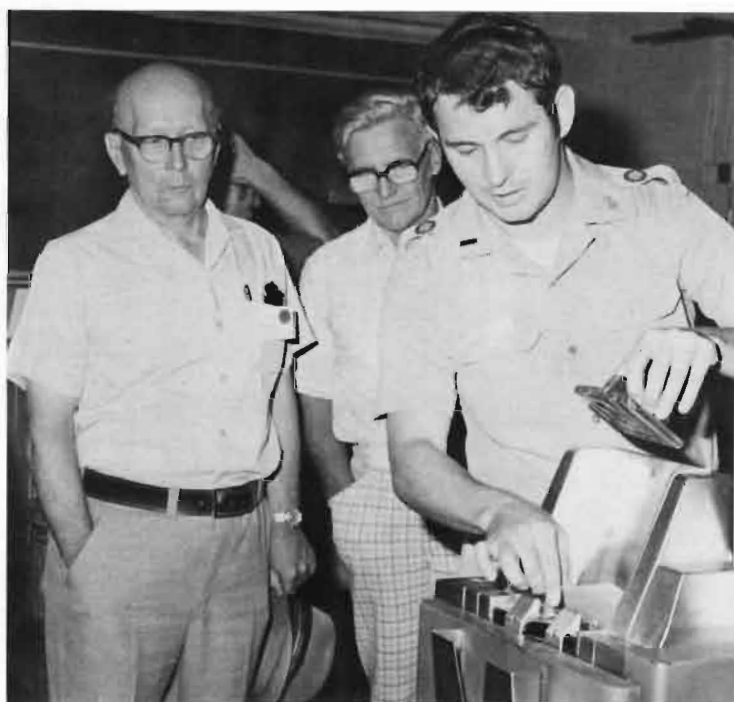
Some of the 24 Medics put on a live (?) demonstration for.....who else?.....TOM UPTON.....and a few of his pals. A U.S. Army photo.



The Division CG is addressing the troops and his guests at the Sat. parade. That civilian didn't sneak in there. He was invited to be there as Assoc. Prexy. It's BILL BYRD who was, in his own words "Right proud". It's a U.S. Army photo, Bill. 'Twas a beautiful morning - sunshiney, and hot, as any of the 20 or more troops who keeled over out there will attest. Terrific parade field, by the way - must be 2 miles long and a half mile wide. 279,270 acres make up Stewart. Tremendous plant. Less than modest accommodations but it's a-building fast.



Can't believe it? Maybe. JOHN W. GORMAN (who didn't join our ranks) and PAUL J. CAIN (I 34th '42-'45), of Champaign, Ill. are visiting one of the 34th displays. We're not sure of which one. All we're sure of is that this U.S. Army photo has caught them spell-bound. Great act, Johnnie and Paul. Paul's Florence was with the gals when the boys were doing the Friday noon rounds at Stewart.



Lt. NICK KORMANIK, in this U.S. Army photo, shows BOB ANDRE and TOM UPTON, how to operate some of the sophisticated machinery in the Div. Data Center. Tom keeps popping up in these pictures, doesn't he? Bob told Nick that before he left Chicago for Savannah, he tried to put on his old Army uniform. Added Bob: "The only thing that fits is the tie".



This one features TOM UPTON, this time from the rear, and we rather like it. Also in the same U.S. Army photo, you'll spot the slightly balding BOB ANDRE and the slightly balding TOM BRODERICK. We're not sure of the chap in the striped jersey on the left. Nor do we recognize the briefing officer. Sorry!



Nice U.S. Army photo shot of B.Gen. ROBERT B. SPRAGINS, (19th '40-'45) who came over from Huntsville, Ala. to the delight of just about everyone. You're looking great, Bob - as trim and handsome as ever!



If nothing else, this helps to suggest that Taro Leafers sometimes do incline to widen in the middle as the twilight shadows deepen. No, not you, TOM UPTON. Say, just how many of these U.S. Army photos did you manage to get into anyway? We've counted 8 already and the pictures aren't all in yet. You're a ham, Tom. These are 724th Ord. Vans. We remember the day when we commanded that outfit; had something like 2 repair trucks in those '44-'45 days.



Sez new Assoc. Vice President JOHN KLUMP, (left): "You can always tell a WW II veteran. He's the one who can never call it 'Creamed chipped beef on toast'". With Johnny is old friend PAUL F. WISECUP (right) and new friends, found in the 2nd Bn., 34th Inf. display area. Terrific hosts, these fellows. It's a U.S. Army photo. Hazel and Dottie were off on the ladies tour of Savannah when these fellows were doing the rounds at Stewart.



Busy everywhere while we were in Savannah was Command Sergeant Major NATHANIEL R. McELROY. The Division and Ft. Stewart/Hunter AAF command sergeant major had just been selected to remain on active duty after he passes the 30 year mark, an honor that goes to only five command sergeants major a year. Each year, Department of Army convenes a Command Sergeants Major Retention Board to consider the top-notch command sergeants major in a particular career period to be retained on active duty for up to 35 years. Mac was 1 of 5 out of 129 considered. This is a singular honor for Mac and for Ft. Stewart. We say "Congratulations, Mac".



The whole reunion was a case of "one-upmanship" on the part of the Div. C.G. Example - here's TOM UPTON, who stands aghast at the thought that his car (?) has been made ready for him. The CG anticipated our every need and desire, as this U.S. Army photo proves. Tom's still a great wit. Back at the hotel one evening, we got him going on Henry Kissinger. Said Tom, at one point: "I don't know why everyone has to criticize our foreign policy. We're still getting along with Bermuda".



At the Saturday a.m. parade - none other than B.Gen. LESTER WHEELER and his ever-lovely Dorothy, and they both know that this is a U.S. Army photo. Les, slightly out of uniform in this one, will chair our '77 get-together in Norfolk next August. Can anyone better his Division record? It's 19th, 21st and 34th from 6/41-4/46, and that included stints as Div. G-3 and G-2. Then in '53-'54 he was with the 5th RCT. You got around, Les.



There's a lot of nostalgia in this one. It's Col. DICK LAWSON, (Div. G-2 and one time C/S) back with lovely Ruth for his first reunion and enjoying it thoroughly. And he's talking to Maj. Gen. AUBREY S. NEWMAN, (34th CO and also a one time C/S). VIC BACKER, (A 34th) who lays claim to the dubious honor of having been "busted 17 times" in breaking the path for his two friends in this U.S. Army photo.



Elise Compere and Dottie Wheeler on the S. tour which terminated in a luncheon at the lovely Pirate's Den. A U.S. Army photo.



Capt. DON KIRBY is briefing TOM UPTON and friends on some of his nuclear biological chemical warfare equipment in this U.S. Army photo. They almost clicked this one without you, Tom.

It's the delightful Friday night luau at Hunter. Col. LAWRENCE ZIMMERMAN, Div. C/S is looking just a little skeptical. Don't know why. U.S. Army photo's them in all poses and moods.





A recon helicopter, creeping forward almost at ground level to see what he can see. We hope this US Army photo will reproduce well. The copy we're working from fails to give you the real excitement and drama of this little maneuver.

In the Patriot issue following our party, the Division Commander, in his column "From The Top" said:

"Well, we've done it again! Another group of visitors have left feeling that the 24th Infantry Division is the finest in the Army. While it's true that this group,

the 24th Infantry Division Association, arrived already believing this, you've re-enforced that belief.

"The amount of work, effort and detail that we put into the association's convention paid off. All of the events came off as smooth as silk.

"You can't imagine the number of association members who came up and stated to me that this was the best convention they've ever had. They had nothing but praise for the enthusiasm and helpfulness shown by the people of the division and installation who had a part in making the convention such a successful undertaking.

"One thing that particularly impressed the association members was their visits to their old units. All of the membership commented upon the courtesy extended them by the junior enlisted men of the units that they visited. They stated that all of these young soldiers are a credit to the division.

"I want to say that I feel that it was a totally professional performance by all of you. The convention was the best operation of its type that I have ever seen. It proved to be an occasion that will be remembered, not only by the ex-members of the division, but the present ones as well."



Another TOM UPTON classic, courtesy of U.S. Army photos. Tom's lovely Anita came with him. You'd never know it by these pictures.

Funny thing but of the literally hundreds of photos sent to us and covering every phase of our Savannah activities, we had none covering our annual business meeting. Perhaps it is just as well. For those of us who were there, it seemed like something organized by the Marx Brothers. At one point, your Editor, in a fit of laughter, pushed away from the table so as to rub his aching belly and fell backwards off of the rostrum. Of course there were those few who charged that it was staged.



Either TOM UPTON sends in an extra TEN spot (yes, dues have gone to \$10.00) for the coverage he's getting in this issue or we never feature him again. We "think" the others, in left to right fashion, are PAUL WISECUP (the glasses may fool us), TOM BRODERICK, and BENNY MASHAY listening to Lt.Col. CHARLES PERRY, 724th Ord. CO. If we've goofed, sorry fellas. It's a U.S. Army photo.



On the contrary, he's very fair — hates everyone equally.



Looking fit at Savannah was Col. HARRY RUBIN, now retired at Hinesville, Ga., just outside the main gate at Stewart where he operates Coastal Homes, Inc. Is making the plunge into real estate - and it looks to us as though Stewart needs such. Harry - and lovely Dee - were the ones who started this marriage between Division and Association some 2 or 3 years ago. And we're mighty happy you did, folks.



This unidentified chap was reading up on the Convention in Stewart's paper, "The Patriot". It's a US Army photo, but not of RICHARD LUM who came the greatest distance to be with us - from Honolulu.

One of the Convention highlights came to bloom when Past President EDMUND F. HENRY was called to the Saturday evening banquet dais to make an announcement on the WILLIAM J. VERBECK award. In a meaningful ceremony, initiated in 1966 at Myrtle Beach when we ourselves were the proud awardee, it was next presented in 1969 at St. Louis to EDMUND F. HENRY, in 1970 aboard SS New Bahama Star to JAMES "Spike" O'DONNELL, in 1971 at Louisville to THOMAS H. COMPERE, in 1972 at Chicago to JOSEPH I. PEYTON, in 1973 at West Point to VICTOR BACKER, in 1974 at Clearwater to Maj. Gen. AUBREY S. NEWMAN, and in 1975 at Peoria to ROBERT J. DUFF. Now here is what Ed said in 1976 at Savannah:

I have the honor tonight to make - in behalf of this Association - an award which is the highest tribute that can be paid to one of its members - The VERBECK AWARD.

By custom, the present holder of the bowl, which symbolizes the award, makes the presentation to this year's recipient. The present holder is Robert J. Duff. Bob came early to this convention but had to return to Chicago several days ago because of illness. I was asked to make the presentation tonight in his stead.

This award was established in 1966 in the form of a sterling silver bowl which the recipient retains only until the next winner is announced. It is then passed on - bearing the engraved names of previous winners - and a miniature of the bowl is retained.

It was originally proposed that the Verbeck Award would not be made as often as annually. This policy, however, was changed by the Executive Committee, because of the number of deserving members who might be foreclosed from the honor merely by the passage of time. Although the Verbeck Award is for service to the association and not necessarily in recognition of military accomplishment, it often happens that the two coincide. Such is the case with this presentation.

Major General WILLIAM J. VERBECK, in whose memory this award was established, died on November 4, 1965, and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. He was graduated from the United States Military Academy, Class of 1927, and served in the Army all his life. He is best remembered by us as the Commanding Officer of the 21st Infantry Regiment. He was loved and admired by everyone who knew him - and

THE WILLIAM J. VERBECK AWARD

especially worshipped by those of our Gimlets who are able to say "I served with Colonel BILL VERBECK". He was truly an ideal soldier - gallant in action, with a gift for leadership, but with a common touch that endeared him to all of us. He died mourned as few men are mourned, because like Bayard, that model of knightly virtue, he could be truly called "Without Fear; and Without Fault".

The man who will receive the award is the choice of the Executive Committee - all the members (except the recipient) were polled by mail and gave their unanimous and enthusiastic consent.

During the history of this association, he has been a bulwark of quiet strength to all of those who have tried to advance the aims of this association - that is to preserve the friendships formed during our service in the Victory Division. His opinions have been repeatedly sought by the officers of the association, and have been wisely rendered. He was one of our earliest life members. He has been a constant attendant at our annual meetings where all the members have been conscious of the dignity of his presence and the charm of his manner. He has recently served as our president. He is loved and respected by all of us as a brave soldier, a skillful - no, a brilliant - commander, and a man of the highest honor. It is a happy circumstance that this occasion will be witnessed by his lovely lady and his son.

By reason of his devotion to this association, no one comes closer to meeting the high standards of the Verbeck Award than the man I now have the honor to name - The Former Commanding General of The 24th Infantry Division -

Maj. Gen. FREDERICK A. IRVING.



ZENO C. REITHMEYER, (A 34th '44-'45), of Madison, Wis. thinks it's incredible how army life has changed as Sgt. CHRISTENSON gives him a few examples. Sorry, Chris, we missed your first name. Don't like sloppy reporting, but this couldn't be helped. 'Tis a US Army photo.

"Patriot", Stewart's newspaper, hailed our arrival with a front page banner "Welcome 24th Infantry Division Convention". On an inside page, B.G. DONALD E. ROSENBLUM wrote, in his column "From The Top":

"For starters, I want to welcome the 24th Infantry Division Association to Ft. Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield. The ex-members of the division are holding their annual convention in Savannah this year and for the first time they'll get a chance to see the re-activated division.

"We, the present members of the division, recognize that we owe a great debt to the members of the association. They are the ones who founded the great traditions of the division that we must work hard to live up to and maintain.

"One of the activities that is planned for the former Taro Leaf-ers is visits with their former units. This should be one of the highlights of their stay, both for them and for the present unit members. I'm sure that the units visited will have a special welcome for these former soldiers. They are the ones who made the units' histories.

"So to the members of the 24th Infantry Division Association and their wives who are here for the convention, I bid you 'Aloha'."

The hats worn for the Friday ayem fire power show were many and varied. A U.S. Army photo, natch. Here is VIC BACKER smiling broadly at the photographer.

By the way, here are the Division units as of convention time:

1st BRIGADE

2nd Bn., 19th Infantry
2nd Bn., 21st Infantry
2nd Bn., 34th Infantry

DIVISION ARTILLERY

1st Bn., 13th Field Artillery
1st Bn., 35th Field Artillery
5th Bn., 52nd Air Defense Artillery

SUPPORT COMMAND

24th Medican Bn.
24th S & T Bn.
724th Maintenance Bn.

24th AVIATION BATTALION

3rd ENGINEER BATTALION

2nd SQUADRON, 9th CAVALRY

24th SIGNAL BATTALION





Some of our gang watching the parades beneath a chute thoughtfully suspended from above per command of BG DONALD E. ROSENBLUM. We can spot JERRY VON MOHR (AT 19th '42-'45), in the chair guarded by his 3 wonderful children, Paul, Beth-Anne, and Jay. And just beyond them in the front row is BENNY MASHAY, (D 19th '40-'43). They all know that this is a US Army photo. Oh yes, Dorothy Newman is there. Can you spot this precious lady?



The colors came forward and are massed. What a thrill to read those streamers as they floated in the air before us on the "Pass in review". It's a US Army photo.



After they (BG DONALD E. ROSENBLUM and BILL BYRD) came back from inspecting the line, as they're doing in this US Army photo, we asked Bill if he had any particular thoughts. He answered: "Yes. What with strikes, war threats, atom bombs, drugs, rock and roll - and everything else, I get the feeling that, if we could, we ought to go back to 1620 and start all over again."

There was one Convention story that sure made the rounds. Gen. ROSENBLUM told it at least 3 times. Seems that one of the soldiers who was playing host to one of us at the Friday noon program (where each of us was escorted through one of the unit areas messes) turned to his guest as he was about to take leave of Stewart for the return bus trip to Savannah and, taking off his regimental crest from his uniform, presented it to his guest asking him to wear it. A warm meaningful gesture of course. Gen. Rosenblum, in telling the story, expressed regret that he did not know the names of the parties involved. Trouble is we've received letters from 4 of our members, each claiming to be one of the parties involved. You think you've got troubles. As Hardy said to Laurel, "That's a fine mess you've got me into". We're not even going to try to pin that one down; we're going to leave it just as it is.



LEW and Helen KEPLER, (G 21st '42-'45), of Defereit, N.Y., made the luau. Lew, you looked great - keep up the good work. You're a wonder, Helen - doing a grand job there.

We have brothers in our Association: HAROLD R. BROWN, (A 13F - '49-'52), of 1236 Long, Ashland, Ky., and EDWARD J. BROWNE, (D-19th '41-'44), of 4422 Raymar, Orlando, Fla. Ed adds an "e" on his "Brown", did you notice? Writes Hal: "Spotted the name of JIM BOLT of Lawrens, S.C. in Taro Leaf. He was A 13 when I was. I can't put a face with that name, but I'll contact him". Did you do it yet, Hal?

One Convention standout was HUGH BROWN who was seen everywhere wearing those bright red suspenders.



RALPH and Jean HALEY, our faithful 24th signalman of '43-'45 vintage, had to wear the earplugs which Division had so thoughtfully brought along. Said Jean, "They thought of everything, didn't they?"



While BOBBIE stayed with the boys, MARGIE DEWS toured Savannah with the ladies. Says Margie: "Notice that grille in the gate; it's positively elegant". Right, Margie; by the way, it's a US Army photo.



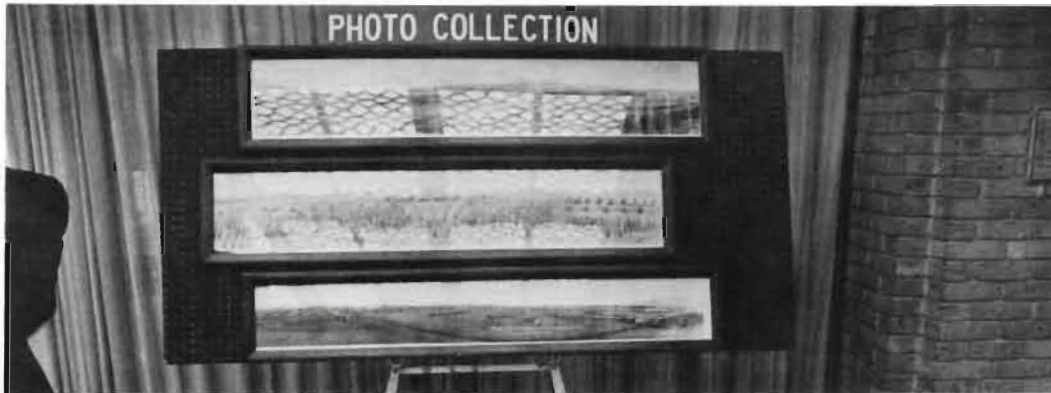
BILL JOHNSON, (13th F from '30 to '45) now retired and living in Fayetteville, N.C. was another of the many who were glad they made Savannah. A US Army photo. Said Bill, "Qualitywise and otherwise, the Army mess of today overwhelms me".



STAN and Dottie GROSS, (63FA '42-'45), from Galesburg, Ill., thought the Parade the best event, "even though it was "as hot as Hollandia". This is a US Army photo and it doesn't convey the idea of the heat.



BERNIE and Nora LUSZCZ, (Hq. '44-'46). of Chicago, got goose pimples when the colors were brought forward and massed.
A US Army photo.



TOM and Joannie FARRIER, (24 Sig. '49-'51), from Reading, Pa., were impressed with the exhibits thoughtfully placed around the DeSoto Hilton. No doubt about it, this is a US Army photo. Tom told us the one about the fellow who asked the farmer, "Can you get fur from a skunk?" "Yep", came the reply, "just as fer as I can get". Thanks, Tom, we needed that.



HAROLD and Lorraine FRITZ, (B 34 '40-'45), from Kearny, N.J., laughed about the number of photographers and reporters who were buzzing around wherever they went throughout the glorious 3 days. Great coverage by the press. You'd have thought Jimmy Carter was in town. Imagine calling a President "Jimmy".



It's DARREL MILLER, (E 19 '50-'51), at the luau bar. Marie wasn't in this US Army photo; made him go to the bar alone. "No problem", says Darrel, "I've done it before - thousands of times".



Glad LUMSDEN and JOHNNY TRINCA (C 21 '44-'46), ham it up at the Friday night luau and dance. Johnny told about the funny thing that happened down at the Greyhound Bus Co. office the other day. A woman called up to say she had found a brassiere on one of the seats. The operator said "Really? What bus?" And the woman answered: "38B"



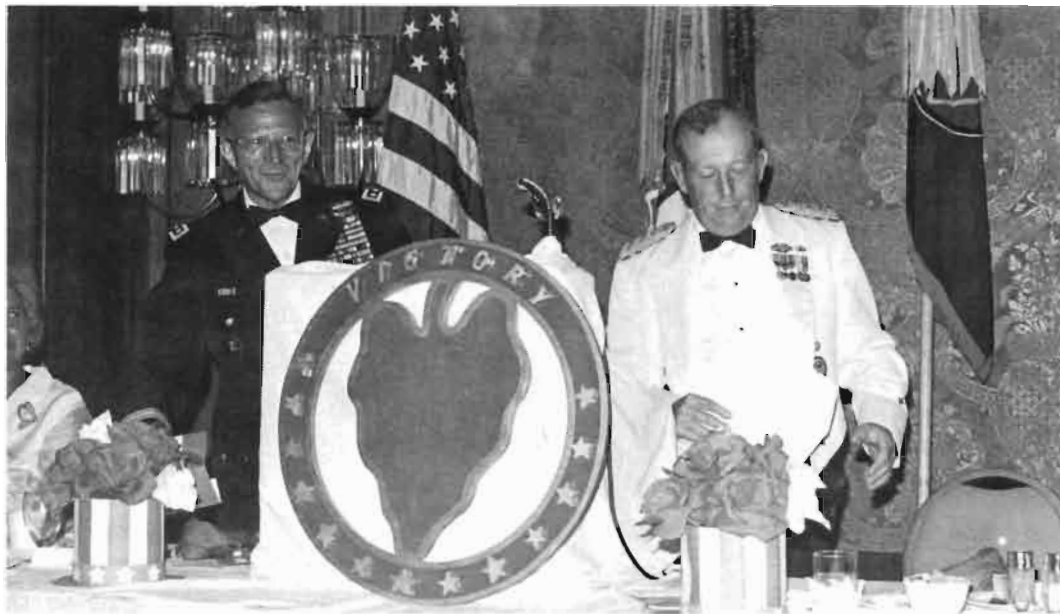
It's our lovely hostess, LAURA ROSENBLUM and Maj.Gen. AUBREY S. NEWMAN in conversation with an unidentified young lady. Red, you didn't do too badly in getting your picture taken. You're almost as much of a ham as TOM UPTON. By the way, as U.S. Army photos go - and this is one - did anyone else detect a slight look-alike between Dorothy Newman and Laura Rosenblum?



WALTER CUNNINGHAM (Div. AG from '42-'45), was the guest of the 2nd Bn, 19th. Here he is with TOM KRALJ (left) of Cleveland, Ohio and JIM RICHARDS (right) of Wilmington, Calif. US Army photograph, of course. Tom and Jim told Walter what he was looking at, and Walter told them about the strength of our Association as of Savannah time:

144 Life Members
545 Members paid up through 8/1/77
615 Members not so paid up
201 Members at Ft. Stewart

and that makes a total of 1505.



Noted Col. FLOYD and Helen MARTIN, (21st '48-'51), now retired to Tucker, Ga., Gen. Forsythe, the guest speaker, was full of praises for our ladies - and well he might be - they were super, all weekend - very patient while we lied to each other about how we won the war.



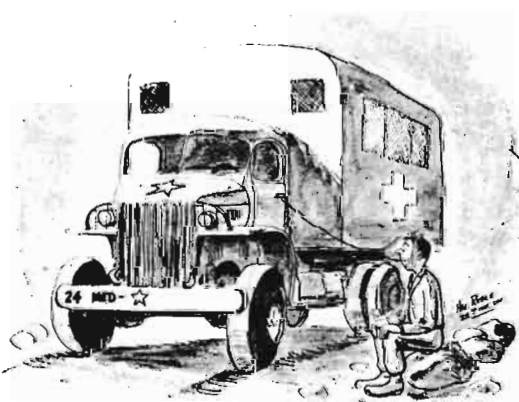
"What a coincidence — so am I."



C. RUCKER and Jane FORD, (E & F 21 '43-'45), thought the idea of the boys making the chow line one more time was "terrific". Rucker wasn't feeling too well over that happy weekend; hope you're on the mend there fella. Peachy couple!



The business meeting was presided over by President BILL BYRD, left, and was closed by newly elected President HOWARD LUMSDEN, (right). That's Brig.Gen. DONALD E. ROSENBLUM explaining why he won't insist that his troops join the Association for which he received a thundering ovation. FRANKIE KUBA, (3rd Eng. '43-'46), who was gifted with a Life Membership by lovely Louise, his vivacious first lady, called it the wildest business meeting he had ever attended. A US Army photo.



That's "Pineapple Jack" FINAN pointing out how they did it when he was a Chick. We're not certain as to who his listeners are. Damm lousy job of reporting, isn't it? Guess those US Army photographers were only interested in clicking 'em off, not in writing them up.



"It's the uniform, sir; It's causing him to lose his individuality. I'd suggest we allow him to wear fourteen buttons instead of the usual thirteen."



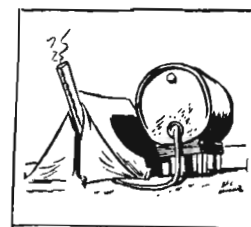
It's DON LUEDTKE (34th '48-'50), of Arcadia, Neb. who graces this U.S. Army photo along with TROY EVANS and JERRY CHURCH, his hosts for the moment. Good wife Lola was off with the gals in Savannah.



We missed this display and can't identify what GARTH ADCOCK, (left), and ART McCAULEY, (right), are doing. They're listening, that's what they're doing. Yeah - but listening to what. U.S. Army failed us on this photo. Enjoyed meeting Esther, Art.



It's one of our new Veeps, MIKE RAFTER, (A 34 '42-'45), of Chicago, congratulating the Division Commander about something while Lt.Col. PHILIP Y. BROWNING, 34th CO looks on. Maybe Mike is telling him that the 34th mess he just come out of was "unbelievably super". That's the way Mike described it to us. U.S. Army photo, incidentally. Mike was Able Company supply Sergeant for years. Says VIC BACKER, (who knows!): "Mike wouldn't give you a new pair of socks unless the old ones were rotting on your feet". Mike responds: "Damm lie - twice I issued Vic a new pair". Mike's lovely Loretta will neither confirm nor deny the story.



It's the CG and JAMES "Spike" O'DONNELL, (G 21st '42-'45) in this U.S. Army photo taken at the 2nd Bn. 21st mess being served by WILLIE STATUM of Buena Vista, Ga. The CG was overheard to ask Spike if PAUL "Junior" HARRIS drank. Responded Spike: "Does Junior drink? Why he spends \$12.00 a week on salted peanuts alone!" Spike had lovely daughter, Michelle, as his Savannah guest; she dazzled everyone.

It's Sgt. DALE PRUITT in the 34th display area who has the attention of ED HYDE, (L 34 '45) of Port Clinton, Ohio. That's a tummy, Ed, and a U.S. Army photo has captured it for posterity. Ed's lovely Amie, cousin of the most wonderful gal in our life, was with the ladies in S. town.



This is what you get when a couple of Chiefs of Staff get together. DICK LAWSON (center) is telling Red NEWMAN (right) about the kid who got a terrific tongue-lashing from his mother for using a four-letter word. "But, Mother," he interrupts, "Tennessee Williams uses that word all the time." And the good woman answers, "Well, don't play with him then!" That's VIC BACKER with his back to us in this U.S. Army photo. Spot TOM COMPERE and Fr. CHRIS BERLO in this one.



Here's a U.S. Army photograph (we have to say that every time, you know) showing You-Know-Who unveiling a plaque during recent Hunter AAF ceremonies naming Lester Hall, Div.Arty.Hqs., in memory of Maj.Gen. JAMES A. LESTER whom we all know, was Div. CG at Matsuyama, Okayama and Kokura from December of '45 to January of '48. For your info, we helped to pay for the plaque - happily.



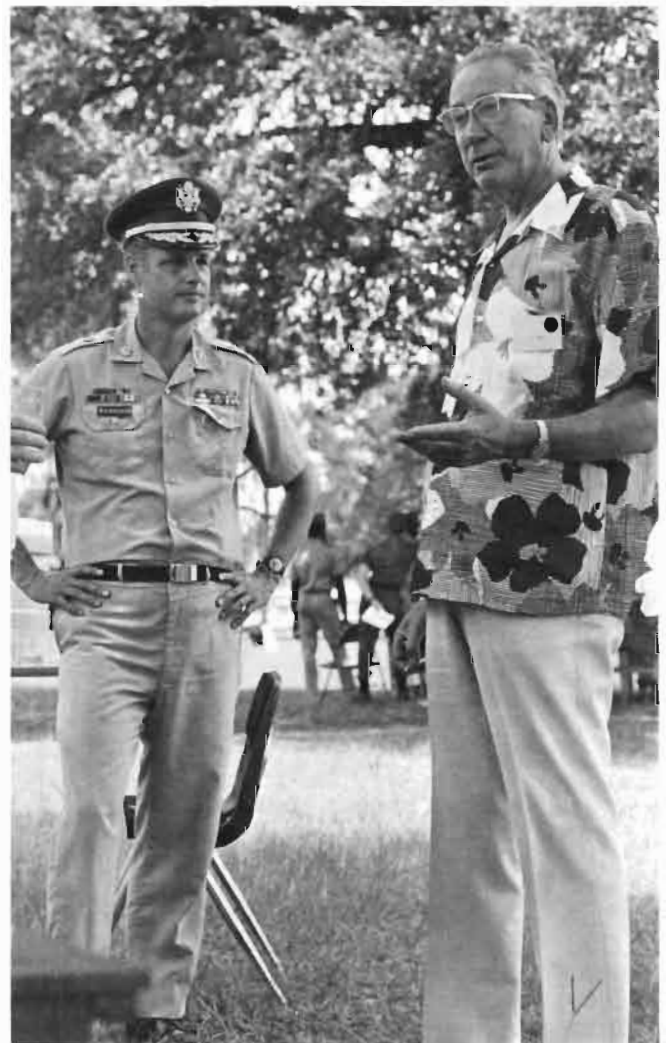
One of the two Cobras that literally sneaked in to a position directly in front of and actually below us and then opened up with an earth-shaking wallop. A real thrill enjoyed by all of our "boys" and their "girls". The U.S. Army photographer, Barry Sikora, was directly in front of us when he caught this one, just to give you an idea of how close we were to the action.



Proud moment for David ROSENBLUM, the CG's bright young man, as this U.S. Army photo proves. Dave thrills at a handshake with Maj.Gen. AUBREY S. NEWMAN.



Friends of almost 40 years standing - and sitting too - WALTER "Shorty" SCHERER (left) and GERALD R. STEVENSON (right), both Div. Hq. and two of the finest mess sergeants to come out of Schofield. Marjorie and Belle were not around when this U.S. Army photo was taken.



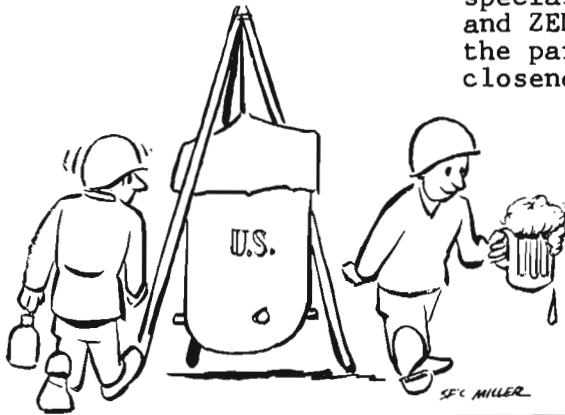
New and old Artillery people - it's Lt.Col. Wilkerson listening politely while BILL WATKINS, Div. Arty. S-4 at Hollandia and in the Philippines tells how it used to be. Francis is positively charming, Bill; please plan now on bringing her to Norfolk next August. Bill, an Anderson, S.C. attorney, is just as tall as this U.S. Army photo suggests he is.



- 0 -



The privilege of breaking bread with our hosts was the special Friday noontime treat, and both DAN SPENCER, (left), and ZENO REITHMEYER, were grateful for this prudent move on the part of the CG to help to achieve a great feeling of closeness. It worked as this US Army photo confirms.



Letters We Love To Read Dept.: Here is \$15.00. 5 for dues and 10 to help with the book. Was hoping to be at Savannah, but the dr. tells me to take it slow for now as I do want to get back to Hawaii for Dec. 7th. Say Hi to JACK FINAN and FRED and Sally BUCK. Dewey E. Parsons (19th), of Riverside, Calif.

The Treasurer's Report, given at Savannah, and covering the year 7-1-75 to 6-30-76 can be summarized as follows:

In our checking account - we deposited:

\$4940.50 from life memberships and dues
142.40 from the sale of crests and decals
1202.13 from contributions
2135.37 from payments toward the forthcoming History
351.00 from the sale of appliques
\$8771.40 for a total

We expended:

\$7421.96 for expenses including the printing of the Taro Leaf, funeral flowers and administrative expenses of officers including the membership chairman

We go into the new year with a checking account balance of \$3022.92.

In our savings accounts - we have in a \$10,000 certificate account, \$11,127.24, and in a savings account \$3422.78, to make a total on hand of \$14,550.02. Earned interest on this account during the year reported upon amounted to \$992.11.

These comments on the Operating Account were made by the Treasurer:

"In no year have we ever received as much money in - \$8771.40 - nor paid as much out - \$7421.96."

"Contributions (aside from \$663.11 which was a gift from Heaven representing a profit from Stevenson's and Lowry's Peoria convention) amounted to \$539.02, that little extra push which so many threw in to help to keep us going."

"History contributions represent \$2135.37. And since the close of books on 6/30/76, \$635.00 more has come in to make it a total of \$2770.37 received so far."

"The applique project was a flop - \$395.63 paid out for supplies; only \$351.00 taken in on sales. Wanna buy any? Some left."

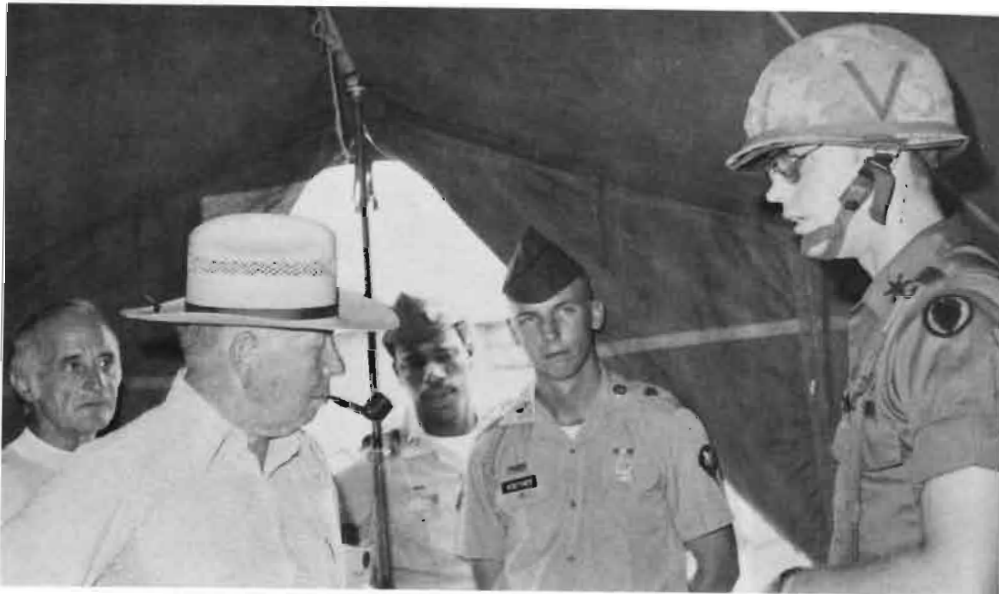
"Cost of printing and mailing Taro Leaf, Vol. 29 #1 - \$1612.17 for 1500 copies, or \$1.07 per copy."

"Cost of printing and mailing Taro Leaf, Vol. 29 #2 - \$1385.11 for 1500 copies or \$0.92 per copy."

"Cost of printing and mailing Taro Leaf, Vol. 29 #3 - \$1734.60 for 1500 copies, or \$1.15 per copy."



It looks like Past Prexy PAUL WISECUP from the rear, but it isn't. It's HORACE KLEMENT, (34th '41-'45), from Livingston, N.J. in this U.S. Army photo. Right regiment; wrong fellow", said PAUL WALTERS. Note the V on Paul's helmet. Makes you wanna run in and swallow a couple of atabrine, doesn't it? - just for old time's sake.



Doc WALTER REHM (far left), from St. Genevieve, Mo. and BOB LAVENDER, (with pipe), from Hurst, Tex., listen while Lt. GORDON SUMNER explains something. Apologies to the two uniformed chaps in the background; we didn't catch the names. God, how we hate to do that. Good US Army photo otherwise. Walter's Nell was with the gals when this was taken. Bob served with E and Sv. of the 34th in '45 and with Hq. & Svc. of the 19th in '50-'51.

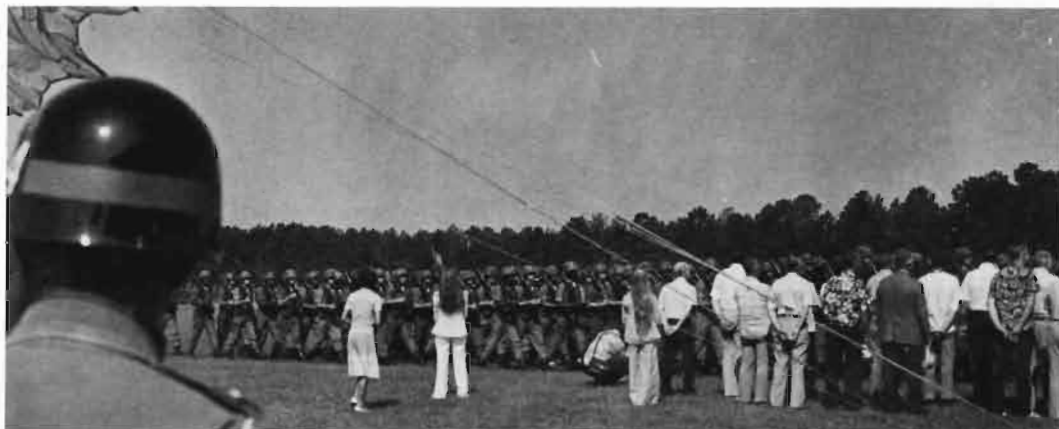




Speaking is His Honor John Rousakis, the Mayor of Savannah, to the left it's Lt.Gen. George I. Forsythe, the speaker of the evening and beaming with pride - as well he should - on the right is our Convention Chairman who made the modest boast that he had 12,000 men on his committee. It's a US Army photo; it had better be.

And then two weeks after we left our good Ft. Stewart friends, on Aug. 30th to be exact, the 2nd Brigade came into being with Lt.Col. EDWARD T. RICHARDS, the Div. G-3

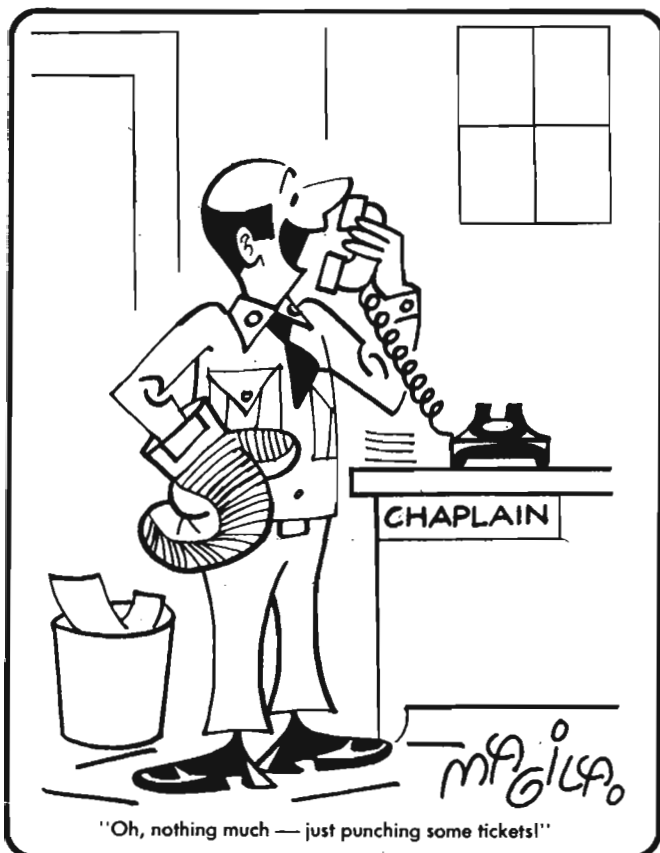
assuming command. Hq. & Hq. Co. was provisionally activated first with one battalion to come into being on 6-21-77 and the other two battalions on 7-21-77. Assigned forthwith are old friend Maj. MICHAEL A. KALLA as S-1, Maj. RICHARD ROSE as S-2, Maj. FRANK TRAPNELL as S-3 and Capt. TOM MacIVER as S-4. CSM ROBERT IVEY is Command Sgt. Major. The battalions will be 3rd Bn, 19th - 4th Bn, 21st - and 3rd Bn, 34th.



This U.S. Army photo is a rear view of part of our gang as the Division honors us with its "Pass in review". Seeing this from this angle somehow puts us in mind of the fella who'd been going to see a psychiatrist for 6 months. Suddenly the headshrinker points at him and says: "You've got to give up smoking! You've got to give up smoking!" The guy is startled: "Give up smoking? That'll help me, Doc?" - "No", answers the Doc, "but you'll stop burning holes in my couch."



Life Members all - l. to r. TOM GRADY, (H 21st '42-'45), BILL MULDOON, (E 19 '43-'45), MIKE MOCHAK, (D 19th '42-'45), and DICK LIGMAN, (3rd Eng. '43-'46). A US Army photo.



ALTON and Julia HALSO, (19th '40-'45), told us at Savannah that, while they loved the convention, they also love those cartoons we use. This is not a US Army photo, by the way.

We're pleased to report that Doris COCHRAN, Lafe's terrific lady, who suffered a stroke back in June, is on the mend, improving every day. Why not postcard this gallant l'il gal at 66 Appleton St., Brockton, Mass. 02401. Remember the line: "When I'm down a well, ring my bell." A little get well wish would help worlds right now. Thanks.

Life Member #158 is Col. WILBUR J. THIEL, (L & M 21st '50-'51), of 4026 Kenesaw Ct., Columbus, Ga. He and Delores made Savannah. He's manager of the clothing store at Benning.

While we were busy in Savannah electing officers for next year, including:
 HOWARD R. LUMSDEN as President
 JOHN E. KLUMP as 1st Vice President
 MICHAEL J. RAFTER as 2nd Vice President
 KENWOOD ROSS as Sec'y.-Treas.-Editor
 FR. CHRISTOPHER J. BERLO as Chaplain
 Brig.Gen. LESTER L. WHEELER as Convention Chairman
 and FONDO J. FINLEY, JR. as Membership Chairman,
 LARRY and Margie DALEY, (M 21 11/41-5/45), of Yonkers, N.Y., were postcarding us from a wonderful return trip back to Rome. Loved it, they said. Thanks for the remembrance, kids.

BOB HARDIN, (5th RCT '48-'52), who has given such yeoman service in our last two membership drives, was the one who told us at the luau that JACK and Sofie LEDDY (24 Med. '43-'45), out there in San Pedro, Calif., had sent Western Union greetings and good wishes to us all. Jack is having his problems with the medics; but he's giving 'em a royal battle. Cheers boy.

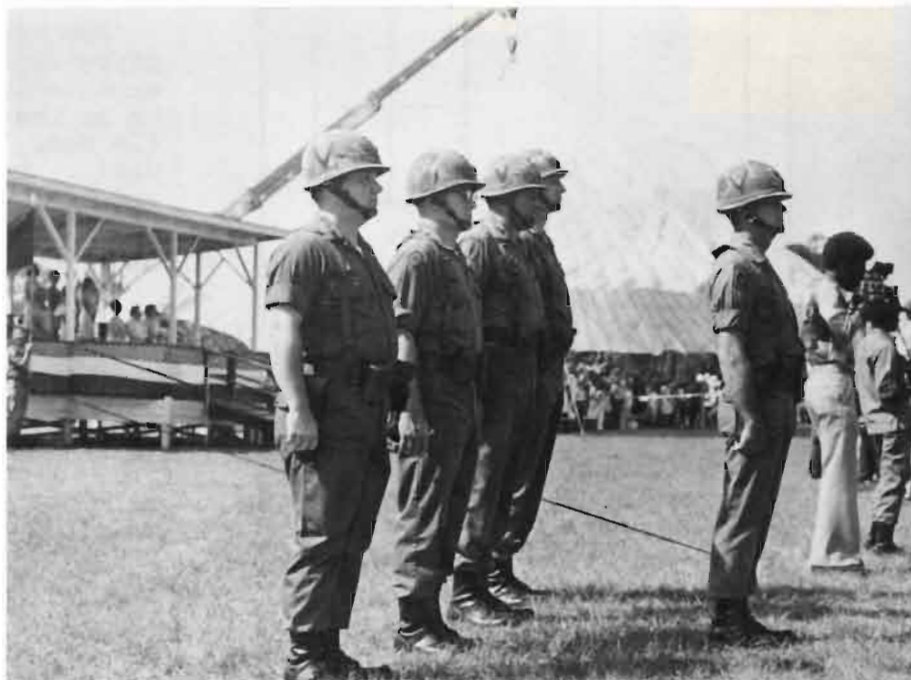
JIM and Katie BELL, (21st '52-'52), came over to Savannah from E. St. Louis, Ill., and we're genuinely happy that they did. Do hope you'll try us again at Norfolk, folks.

'Twas good to see Association Chaplain FR. CHRIS BERLO, (19th '44-'46), at Savannah. You looked better than you've looked in the last 3 or 4 years, Father, and we're tickled about that.



It's SFC James Murphy of the Hunter PIO Office, announcing during the live fire show. Damn clever - and heartwarming - the way he worked in the names of so many various of our members and various hot spots we remember only all too well as he discoursed on the subject matter in front of us at the moment. "It was thoughtfully and tastefully done," agreed CHARLEY and Helen McMICHAEL, (Hq. 19th '44-'46) who came down from Butler, Pa., along with Charley, Jr.

Col. LAWRENCE ZIMMERMAN, Div. C/S and his staff - that is Maj. MIKE KALA on the left - watch as the Division passes in review. Great show, Larry - Tremendous! And before we credit the US Army for this photo, let us assure you that Mike was just one of those so directly responsible for making this whole convention the success that it was. We are exceedingly grateful, Mike.



Barracks thieves have become something of a Stewart problem. The Division Commander, in addressing the problem for what it is, found the heart to inject a little humor into his remarks to the troops when he said: "As I've said before, I think one of the lowest individuals there is, is one who would steal from those who live in the barracks with him. I see that PFC WILLIAM PLAYFORD stated that if the barracks thief was smaller than him, he'd do something about it, and if he was bigger, he'd see what he looks like and report it."



Banquet head table folks: grinning BG DONALD E. ROSENBLUM, unsmiling (but lovely just the same) Margaret BYRD, Bill's wife, smiling Savannah Mayor Rousakis, and somewhat perplexed Gladys LUMSDEN, Howard's wife. Life Member, TOM GRADY, (H 21st '42-'45), said to us as this was being snapped as a U.S. Army Photo: "Either Margaret and Glad or both will want your hide if you use that one."



ELVIN GREEK, (K 21st '41 - '45), from Richmond, Va., calls this US Army photo "Charge". The boys were breaking out for their prepared positions. When they opened fire, a veritable hell of noise split the quiet country morning air. Vulcan MG fire blended with the volleys out of a dozen foxholes on the edge of that bluff.



The issue of the local paper after the fire power show reported on the comments of a few of us in this way:

Said Major General (ret.) AUBREY "Red" NEWMAN, commander of the 24th Division's 34th Infantry Regiment during WW II, "I've never seen anything that impressed me more than the way this exercise was organized. Our association will remember it as long as we live.

"I am tremendously impressed with the weapons," he said, "but equally impressed with the soldiers who operated them and with their training."

When asked, "Did you really tell your troops during the Leyte, Philippines, campaign in WW II to 'Get the Hell off the beach...follow me'?", the general said of his famous quote, "Yes, I did... and that's not ALL I said," he grinned.

KEN ROSS, retired colonel, who was Division Ordnance Officer, in the 1944-47 period, was equally impressed with the "bountiful self-pride of the officers and men" of the present Division. "The men and officers have each made us feel most welcome," he said with obvious gratitude.

Technical Sergeant (ret.) WALTER SCHERER of Warren, Pa., was there when Pearl Harbor was bombed. "I was playing rummy and a bullet came through the deck of cards," he said. "I still have the deck with the hole in them."

VIC BAKER of New York was a sergeant with the 34th Regiment when the Division was formed. Commenting on the Division today, "It's tremendous," he said, "I'm impressed with the weapons and helicopters."

It's Past Prexy BILL MULDOON talking for one of the many Savannah radio shows which carried our story. Dozens of us had a few words which were ventilated over the local air waves. No indications received that the natives were made restless thereby.



"All we ask from you is a good 10 hours a day. After that you can goof off."

JAMES W. BOLT, studying for a degree in human resources, and Mrs. Bolt, veterans affairs officer of Laurens Co., S.C., were inspecting a foxhole. "You can have all the sophisticated weapons," he said, "but it is the determination of the men in the foxhole that makes the difference." He was formerly with the 13th, 52d, and 63rd Field Artillery.

"We are proud of the tax dollars spent for defense now," they agreed. "We feel real good to know we have men like these," the couple said.

Master Sergeant FRANK W. WALAS of Bradenton, Fla., was with C Battery, 13th Field Artillery, in Hawaii when the Division was formed and "baptised in fire" 68 days later. MSG Walas has attended events at Ft. Stewart twice since the Division was reformed. "It's wonderful," he remarked, "these troops.....these young fellas are great men."

"I wish we'd had these weapons in WW II and Korea," said former Master Sergeant BERRY BURKE of the 19th Infantry Regt., now residing in Erlanger, Ky. "I'm glad to see the unit back in service," he said.

A demolitions expert, former T-5 Corporal LEON SWEM of an anti-tank unit, 34th Infantry, remarked that the Army's might was "very well displayed...shows us how things have improved."



This U.S. Army photo shows more Business Meeting participants.



Irene GORSKI surprised FRANK (21st '42-'45). She gifted him with a Life Membership; it was announced at the banquet. What that has to do with this U.S. Army photo of the band leading the "Pass in Review", we simply don't know. Maybe we should be relieved.



When Maggie PEYTON sees how this U.S. Army photo came out, she'll likely flip. Sorry Margaret; we love ya. FONDO and Rose FINLEY, (Div. Arty. '48-'51) thought the ladies tour was "fantastic". Fondo's our new membership chairman, by the way.

JESSE HILL, (Hq. '48-'49; 21st '50-'51), came over to S. from Augusta. Now retired, he wanted to hear our banquet guest speaker, Lt.Gen. GEORGE I. FORSYTHE, who now lives in Beaufort, S.C.

Ridiculous, the idea of promoting Lt.Gen. GEORGE WASHINGTON to General of the Armies. Those were the sentiments of JERRY and Mildred HINMAN, (K 19th '34-'42), at Savannah. They liked the remark of one Congressman (Nedzi of Mich) when he said "Promoting George is like the Pope offering to make Christ a cardinal." We would think Congress had enough on its hands without messing this one up with a 200 year-late promotion.

HARRY SHOCK, (3rd Eng. '43-'45), came up from Bradenton, Fla. for the Savannah party. He noted that the vote on the '77 Convention Site was 81 for Norfolk, 22 for Las Vegas, 0 for Denver and 0 for Chicago.

MATTHEW B. AITKEN enjoyed Savannah, coming over from Augusta for the event. He's A 19th-Korea '51-'52 and C-24th Sig. Bn. in Germany and Riley in '67-'68. In the later tour, he was Div. Photo Sgt. Looking to him for pictures for our forthcoming History.



"You're charged with assault, battery, larceny, attempted rape, fraud, insubordination, desertion, etc. . . . if we're going to beat this case, make sure you wear your Good Conduct Ribbon at the trial!"

W.A. MORNHINGWEG, (C 21st '43-'45), thought that the Saturday noon buffet at the Stewart Officers Club to which we all adjourned following the Parade was the best part of the reunion. So did KEN MUSSELMAN, (21st '40-'44) and PAUL and Lucille MYERS (13 F '43-'45). 'Twas a little crowded in those halls - there were about 300 of us in there, but there were tables of food in all corners and on all sides. It was a lot of fun just drifting from place to place, sampling a little of everything. And it was all delicious.

COLON and Fina MANSFIELD, (K 19 '37-'40), got a charge out of the display to which LOU DUHAMEL contributed. Lou had found some grenade fragments at Breakneck Ridge when he was over there a year ago. He gathered them together and sent them on to Stewart. Damned thoughtful, Lou.

At Savannah, BOB and Inez BRABHAM, (Div.Hq. '42-'45), of Sumter, S.C., were seen visiting many friends. Bob recovering from surgery - ulcer, bleeding type. He's on goat's milk. Improving fast. Admits that now and then he feels an awful urge to eat a tin can or a newspaper.

Exciting to talk with ROGER HELLER, (G & Sv. 19th '43-'45), who came over to Savannah from Oakland, Cal. We exchanged some thoughts about our forthcoming "Division History 1941-1977". Roge is going to be useful in the coming months as we get it ready for press. If you haven't sent in your \$10.00 for your copy, how about doing it today? Thanks. The more subscribers, the better the book.

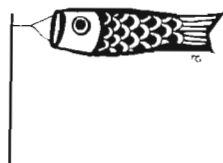
BILL HARTMAN, (Cn. 34th '41-'45), down in Savannah from Washington, Ill., gave us the news that Mindanao was quaking as we were marching through Georgia. Over 4000 dead; 90,000 homeless. Not only was it an earthquake with 13 aftershocks; it was a tidal wave too. Colossal 24 foot waves followed the main tremor. Epicenter in the Celebes Sea. Wall of water passed northward through the wide mouth of Illana Bay and struck all those coastal villages including Cotobato, Parang, and Malabang. Cotobato, city of 100,000, especially hard hit.



HENRY and Mary GOSZTYLA, (34th '44-'45), agreed with everyone that the Savannah atmosphere was picturesque, and warm, as this U.S. Army photo suggests. Streets were a little dangerous at night - muggings, you know. So what else is new?



Participants at the Saturday afternoon annual Business Meeting. Someone who overheard to observe that it resembled something organized by the Marx Brothers. JOHNNY LAWATSCH, (19th '43-'44), down from Sterling Heights, Mich. agreed. A US Army photo.



We'll use it even if it is a bum US Army photo. We'll try it because DALLAS and Peggie DICK, (19th '35-'45) would want us to. They were there, in usual splendor, watching this helicopter help make this an exciting show. Aerial scouts flew "nap of the earth" and those armed Cobra gunships set the tall grass to-wiggling and the blue "mezu" to-rippling as they moved in and around trees to show us how they'd escape detection. Hell, even we couldn't see'em and they were right there in front of us. There are 2 in this photo. Can you spot the second one?

Two who made Savannah were HAROLD and Verble ALEXANDER, (B & Sv. 19th '40-'44). They came all the way over from Harrisburg, Ill. Can't spot you folks in any of those pictures. Sorry. Dozens of photographers were on hand - and still they missed some of our wonderful folks. Hush - mustn't complain - the mechanics of snapping everyone were just too much.

ED and Lottie BAK, (G 19th '39-'42) flew in from Detroit to make Savannah.

With us at Savannah were WARREN and Ann AVERY, (G 21st '50-'52). They flew down from North Haven, Conn.

JACK ANDERSON, (A 19th '40-'44), left Mabel at home and came to Savannah by himself. We won't say he had a "better" time; we're not that foolish; but he had a good time.

To our unmatched regret, we put this issue to bed without so much as a shot of CSM Marvin Hardin who manned the registration desk all ayem, pea-em, and otherwise for 4 hard days. To him, we owe so very much. So tired was he at the end that on his last long trip back to Stewart early Sunday morning, he cracked up his car. You were grand, Sergeant, in every way - except in that crackup - and we owe you special kudos. Great fellow - has 10 kids - yes 10!!



SAM and Louise MAY, (13E '42-'45), out of China Grove, N.C., thought the luau was the sensation of the weekend. Hosted by the folks of Col. EDWARD L. PHILLIPS' DISCOM command, it included first a social hour (for drinking), then a plentiful buffet on the patio, then dancing, followed by home-brewed entertainment around the pool lighted with floating "flower boats". The officers' wives gave forth with a hula to the memorable "It's the little brown gal, in the little grass skirt, in a little grass shack in Hawaii". Great gals! Then came the boys. 6 of 'em, who tried- and failed - with

the music of "Oh we're going, to a Hukilau, Huki, Huki, Huki, Hukilau". They encored with "Tiny Bubbles" and we had to admire them for their guts. Don Ho would have been furious. Then a solo by the delightful, and tiny, Kristin Stirm, then a duet with Kristin and her equally delightful mother, Cynthia, ending with a treasury of songs by the charming Kalia Manihi and Suk Kormanik. Then the Hawaiian sing-along in which we all joined - in the still of that beautiful evening. You could almost see Diamond Head off to your left. Hunter folks, you gave us a grand "Night in Taro Leaf Land". Aloha oe.

Life Member and Past President PAUL and Lessie HARRIS, (C 21st '44-'46), never missed an event during that wonderful weekend. Spoke Spike O'DONNELL at one point, "Gosh, General ROSENBLUM seems to like Harris; I think he wants to adopt him."

JOHNNY and Martha O'CONNOR (D & Hq. 1st-34th '44-'45), of 5 Noel, N.Arlington, N.J., say thanks to the gang for all their good wishes during Johnny's recent leg surgery. On the mend - successful - for which we're all happy. See you "next year", they say.

SPIRIT BORTOLINI, (24th Cav. '42-'45), up from Largo, Fla., was talking about beautiful Savannah Beach, remarking about how styles have changed. "Before I went in the Army, women wore bathing suits down to their ankles. Then they wore them down to their knees. Five years ago it was down to their hips. Now, down at Savannah, they don't even wear them down to the water."

Regrettable AP release out of Dallas, just before we assembled at Savannah, involving Maj.Gen. EDWIN A. WALKER.

Always a joy to have MAJOR and Imogene HAYWOOD, (21st '42-'45) convention with us. For you doubters, Major is his first name - really - and to make things more confusing, he once was a Major too. You think you had troubles.

Much in evidence at Savannah were BOB and Jo ANDRE, (724 Ord. '44-'45) as were CHET and Gloria ANDREZAK, (Cn. 21st '43-'46).

VIRGIL LEE and Dolores ANDERSON, (21st '48-'50), hopped down to Savannah, from their Granite Falls, N.C. hideaway - and are glad they did.

ED VOSE asked us to print this in our next issue and happily we do:

"21st Inf. Co. D members from 1939 to 1942 are planning a reunion. Please contact ED VOSO, 1815 Sweet-Water Rd., Space 134, Spring Valley, Calif. 92077."



It's Ivy GRAY, JOE's sweetheart of a wife. Joe was G 21st from '40-'44. Ivy hails from Australia. A grand gal there, Joe. This US Army photo doesn't do her justice.



"We can't order him to stop wearing his Australian hat and mustache, Sir . . . he's an Australian . . . !!!"



Delightful US Army photo of marvelous Dorothy NEWMAN being greeted at the start of the luau. Sorry we can't identify that extraordinary lady in the background who met every man with a little osculation.



What DICK GOINY, (E 21st '45), liked best about the Stewart planning was what this US Army photo dramatizes. That's Red NEWMAN in the foreground. The boys were bussed by the wives of Hunter and the gals were bussed by the boys of Hunter as we arrived (by bus) for the Friday luau.

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



LEN MITCHELL, (F 34th '44-'45), who hangs his hat in Columbus, Ohio, is nowhere near as serious a guy, as this US Army photo suggests. He told WARREN MACK (left) and GEORGE SITER who were hosting him that he had happened to spot a drill sgt. riding around with a special license plate - HUP 234. That's enough, Lennie, that's enough. Len brought Shirley Roth with him to Savannah. The gals didn't make this inspection part of the program by the way.



J.H. and Harriet GIRARDEAU, (21st '42-'45), from Tifton, Ga., are unable to identify the chap in this US Army photo shown inspecting one of the helicopters. Our first guess was "CHET ANDREZAK". Nope. Slight goof. Sorry.



"Mistakes, mistakes, always mistakes . . . why can't you be like Sgt. Morpheus . . . he never makes mistakes . . . !!"



JOHNNY GOODRUM, (I 34th '44-'45), who lives in Savannah by the way, told Lorine what a H--- of a job it was to hold those arms extended horizontally when the .45 is fired. "Kicks like a mule" said Johnny, and he's right. This US Army photo catches an unidentified chap demonstrating it to all of us at that wonderful Friday ayem show.



It has just been explained to BILL WATKINS in this US Army photo that we no longer refer to those places as "mess halls" - it's "dining facilities", if you don't mind. JIM McREYNOLDS (H 19th '41-'46 & '50-'51) told Clemie about it as soon as we all got back to the hotel Friday afternoon. All agreed it was an improvement in name and in fact. No more KP's either - civilians doing it today.



Luau guys and dolls. A lovely August evening in Georgia, not too warm - just right - and the colors were brilliant, breathtaking. This US Army photo doesn't do the scene justice.



Fat and happy. "They should be", said HORACE KLEMENT, (34th '41-'45), from Livingston, N.J., "they'd just eaten". A US Army photo.



JOHNNY KING, (21st '50-'51), now retired and living in East Point, Ga., picked up the gossip about how different Divisional units caught different details in arranging for our convention. Different strokes for different folks. Talk about planning - this was phantasmagoria at its best.



TOM COMPERE wasn't Banquet Toastmaster this year but he did manage to get up to that rostrum for a quick one, as this US Army photo proves.



JOE and Ethel BLASCHE play around with this little monster during the static display that followed the firepower demonstration. FRANKIE KAWA was just out of sight on the right. Sorry, Frank, blame it on the US Army photo.

Great having WALT and Jeannette PETERS back with us again. They're (Sv. 19th '42-'45), out of Shawnee, Kans. A US Army photo.



TONY and Lorraine FARO, (G 21st '42-'45) came all the way from Chicago to see demonstrations like the one in this US Army photo. It's a 50 cal MG of course. Of course, the aggressor was annihilated. The 24th scored again.

Lt.Col. HERVEY LEBOEUF, (3rd Eng. 8/58-8/61), of Medford, Mass., has completed his Master's and is retiring from City of Peabody as Public Works Commissioner. Will summer at Wellfleet (Cape Cod) and winter at Naples (Fla). Happy retirement, Lee. By the way, Lee - did you hear about the fellow who grinds lenses and who moved to an island off Alaska? They call him the optical Aleutian.



"It's been three weeks since I installed that box and I haven't received one suggestion!"



Meet CLARENCE A. "Bud" COLLETTE and lovely wife, Jean. They're Hq.Co. 3rd Bn, 5 RCT, Korea '51-'52 and now live at 3825 Franklin, LaCrescenta, Calif., wanted Taro Leafs so we sent them what few we had. Bud is now Jr. Vice Commander of Dist. 13 of DAV. Welcome aboard, folk:

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DANCING A MINUET

Kanji: fuku, noun, prosperity



At last summer's reunion of the 14th Armored Division, a eulogy was given for the late Maj.Gen. ALBERT COWPER SMITH, the 14th's wartime commander and our occupation (Japan 1948-49) commander. We show his son, and namesake, Col. Albert C. Smith, Jr., USA-Ret., making the response. Note how much he looks like his wonderful Dad.



Capt. JESSE E. REYNOLDS, briefed Lt.Gen. ROBERT L. NICHOLS, commander of the Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic, on the Ft. Stewart phase of exercise Solid Shield '76, the joint training exercise conducted by the U.S. Atlantic Command. The exercise emphasized command and control in a unified environment. U.S. Army photograph.

From Pineapple Jack FINAN's mailbag: Television shows have gotten so bad that many kids have gone back to doing their homework.

It's refreshing to know that during times of a real-life U.S. evacuation situation on foreign soil - our refugees are in good "hands". In Solid Shield '76, the mammoth Armed Forces joint exercise of 50,000 U.S. military personnel, the evacuation of 127 simulated refugees from Ft. Stewart was handled efficiently. The stranded Americans and nationals were successfully rescued from an imaginary Country Blue during the exercise. The 38th Marine Amphibious Elements carried the evacuees to safety aboard the Navy ship U.S.S. Iwo Jima with a minimum of difficulties. What made this evacuation exercise of special importance is that it marked the first time that refugee players in the U.S. were actually brought aboard ship and fully inprocessed. Taro Leafers were the refugees. Good show! U.S. Army photograph.



Savannah is a fun place for business - and it's a fun place for fun. See ya there?

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GO, AND NEVER DARKEN
MY DOOR AGAIN

Kanji: Aki, noun, autumn

Pineapple Jack FINAN says: The worst thing about getting old is listening to the children's advice.

Col. KENNETH C. LEUER, commander, 1st Brigade, (second from right), briefs Vice Admiral JOHN J. SHANAHAN, JR., commander of Combined Joint Task Force 122 (left), and Major General PHILIP D. SHUTLER, deputy commander, Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic. Col. Leuer is the Task Force Blue commander for the Ft. Stewart phase of exercise Solid Shield '76; the joint training exercise conducted by the U.S. Atlantic Command. U.S. Army photograph.



"Watch these programs closely, men . . . you'll see how the Pros do it!!"

JACK ANDERSON, of 402 E. 18 St., Kannapolis, N.C., makes car tags such as shown in this picture. \$10.00 will get you one. Write Jack directly if interested.



SAMUEL Y. GILNER

It began, when Sue, with customary thoughtfulness, called to advise that sudden hospitalization for Sam meant that Savannah was likely out of the question. Only hours before Convention time, Sue was giving us as much notice as she herself had. We sympathized, feeling the void created by a convention-absence of Samuel Y. Gilner, an absence we would sorely feel.

For the Gilners, it was hospital - a quick evaluation - emergency surgery - and then those awful words, "At best, three more months".

And even those "three months" were not to be - five weeks was all that Sam would be given. Sam was aware that his wings had suddenly been clipped in midflight, but he accepted the Fates with every inch of that admirable stoicism with which he had faced adversity before. In his last skirmish, he would do no less.

Then on Saturday morning, September 4th, came Cliff Hanlin's telephoned message that Sam's tremendous zest for living was finally stilled. "C.G." had been noble in those last few days - responding to the crisis in trying to comfort Sam and soothe Sue's path as the twilight shadows deepened.

Hours later, among the New York surroundings Sam knew so well, Ed Henry, Gerry Stevenson, Vic - and Rita - Backer, and "Spike" O'Donnell were gathered together with Sue and Sammy, Jr. who loved Sam best. Therewith, the friends of his church, his neighborhood, his business and his clubs assembled for a warm and simple service.

Regretfully, the tributes to Sam - and they were many and varied - omitted any reference to his love of country and flag and particularly his love for his Army affiliations of which he was singularly proud.

And now we have only the memories of our good friend.

His outstanding quality was absolute integrity.

And he had, in abundance, those other qualities which were to serve him well throughout his years: constancy, commitment, and modesty.

He was a man of decency, compassion, and grace in his human relationships.

He was a man of innate good will, generous and totally without spite, yet he was absolutely his own man.

He was a gentleman of the old school; his head and his heart were in balance.

Sam's death leaves us bereft. Nonetheless, all of us are richer for his having passed through this vale of tears close to us.

So long, Sam.

Sadly we report the passing of Shirley McHALE, DON's beloved lady, after years of pain and suffering. You can reach the old Chick at 305-746-4829.

Died: Lt.Col. JACK WALLACE, JR., (19th 5/42-4/45) on Apr. 28, 1976, in New Orleans, La.

We have just learned of the decease of M/Sgt. JOSEPH E. SNIPES of M Co. 34th from '40 to '45.

On Friday, June 18th, Col. HAROLD E. LIEBE, Commander of the 13th Field during New Guinea and Japan, went to his reward. Maj.Gen. FRED ZIERATH was the thoughtful bearer of the sad news and made sure that we caught a warm editorial out of the Tacoma (Wash.) News Tribune which went like this:

"Every community has its exceptional members - the ones whose influence is felt by all the rest of us, for better or for worse.

"We were saddened, that one such member of our community, whose influence was so beneficial, was claimed by death last week.

"He was COL. HAROLD E. LIEBE of Lakewood, who retired here in 1959 after 32 years in the Army. But the extent of his activities since then belied his status as retiree.

"He joined the staff of the Pierce County Commissioners' office in 1962 as a coordinator, where he worked until two years ago. He was a director of the Pierce County Neighborhood Youth Corps, chairman of the Lakes District Public Forum, president of Lakewood Unlimited, president of the Lincoln-Lakes District Boy Scouts of America, and president of the Kiwanis Club of Lakewood, among other things.

"These achievements came after military service that included decoration for heroism during World War II.

"Col. Liebe came here first in 1933, commissioned by President Franklin Roosevelt to build a Civilian Conservation Corps camp near Randle. It may have been that experience that brought him here again, when his Army career had ended.

"Whatever the reason, we are grateful that he came, and that he spent his final decades with us.

"It is sad when one as well liked and as greatly respected as Col. Liebe passes on. It is doubly so when that person is, like him, one to whom we looked for leadership.

"His community will miss him."

