

TARO LEAF



24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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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:

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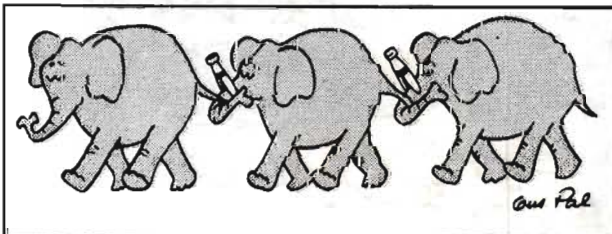
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Association membership is open to anyone and everyone who ever wore the Taro Leaf. Dues are \$8.00 per annum inclusive of a subscription to the publication, Taro Leaf.

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.

From ED COLE, (A & F 19th '41-'45) comes this: Be good, but not too good - a little naughty, but not too naughty. Say a prayer if you feel that way, say damn if it gives you consolation..... Be kind to the world always, if possible - yet if you must be unkind, smash right and left, get it over and forget it..... Smile, always smile, have a smile ready even though sometimes it hurts. Grab all the happiness you can - wherever and whenever you can - don't let even a wee bit slip past you. Live, above all things live, don't simply exist..... If you are blessed enough to know what real love is - love with all your heart, soul and body..... Live your life so that at any hour you will be able to shake hands with yourself and try to accomplish at least one thing worth while each day. Then when your nights come you will be able to pull up the covers and say to yourself - "I have done my best".



What do you say to a breakfast of baked figs and rhubarb, codfish cakes with hot tomato sauce, Melba toast and gooseberry jam?....ED MACADLO, (24th Sig.), of 141 Pierce, Buffalo, N.Y., made a 2 week tour of Poland this summer. He has cousins in Krakow. Tip: lay off those Polish jokes with Ed. By the way, he's a stamp collector so we sent him a bunch.

The soaring VD rate in the 2nd Div. in Korea has been called, by the division commander, "a catastrophe" - 13% of the troops had it in one recent month. Do you recall when, following our arrival in Japan, problems began to develop? The order came down from on-high: a letter in the file of every unit commander who suffers a case to be found in his unit. That kind of a charge contained about as much suspense as the first 50 yards of the Boston Marathon. Lasted about 4 days as we recall.

Gregory Peck who plays the "Old Soldier" in the film "MacArthur", now "in the can" as they say, hurt his back taking dancing lessons in New York City in 1941 and was therefore declared 4F wherefore he did not serve.

CHARLEY ROBINSON, retired and living in Columbus, Ga., says he recruited Col. JOHN HOWARD ('50-'52) - he DID!! - a year or so ago and says we haven't mentioned John in our pages. Oops! Sorry Charley! Sorry John! Our error. John hangs his hat at 5959 St. Leonards, Columbus, Ga. He was G-3 from 12/51-11/53, now retired as a Colonel.

Make our 31st annual wallow in Norfolk in August.

Dottie and PAUL WISECUP, retired at 1265 Kasa Mada Lane, Ft. Myers, Fla., send us this one of son Curtis and his lovely bride, the former Rebecca Ann Fiely of Northwood, Ohio, taken at the altar on their last Oct. 30th wedding day. Curt is going into realty in Dayton; Becky is a nurse at Dayton's Miami Valley Hospital. Ma and Pa Wisecup are wintering at Ft. Myers until Apr. 30th, then back to Ohio until they sell their home there. That street name? Kasa Mada? Means "Loved Home" explains Dottie.



VARIAN and Jessie HOOVER, (C 34th '43-'45), have retired from groceries in Hustontown, Pa.; are doing a little travelling. Good wishes to you both.

New member - ED THOMPSON, (A 21st 9/40 - 12/44), of 1640 Quincy, Piscataway, N.J. Ed says he'd make a convention if it was closer to home. How about Norfolk, Ed?

JOHN and Mary SHAY's Ronnie Ann has made it through basic training and is now attending communication specialist school at Ft. Gordon.

Meet CHARLEY McCARTHY, (A 21st 11/51-3/53), of E. Alton, Ill. A plumber, he and Betty have 4 - Deborah, Cathy, Theresa and Stephen. They both are real active in VFW affairs - past commander, president of auxiliary, you name it, the works. Happy you folks have joined us. It only took 6 years to persuade Charley to become one of us.

Now with us: GEORGE and Alice RYALS, (3rd Bn. 21st '42-'45), of Thomaston, Ga. George paid in \$100 without a whimper - is a "baby" Life Member.

The fellow talking about a brand new politician's credibility: "Well, it's an unknown right now. It's like Richard Nixon, if he were the captain of the Titanic, telling the people that the ship was stopping briefly to take on ice."

One of our favorite breakfasts, after a saucer of cold orange and grapefruit slices is a plate of corned beef hash with a bland cheese melted over it, English muffins topped with honey, and a cup of freshly brewed coffee. Ah.....

ELVIN E. GREEK, (K 21st '42-'45), of 2917 Emblem, Richmond, Va., is looking for JOHN H. MOON and G.T. LOVERDI, both of King Company when he was with it. Anyone help here? See you in Norfolk in August, Elvin.

THAD and Bertie LILLY, (Sv. 21st 12/40 - 4/44), of Box 152, Grifton, N.C., are here shown going up to Ghost Town in the N.C. mountain area. Bertie seems to be holding on; Thad is the perfect picture of coolness.



To print 1940 copies of the last issue cost \$1605.36. To mail each copy cost 39¢.

MESSAGE FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN:

My humble thanks for the appointment to this job. It has been a long time ambition to serve in a capacity to help our association. Now it is time to ask all of you for help. Without members no organization can exist. For a history as great as ours, where men have fought, cried, worked, played, laughed and prayed together, we have much to be thankful and proud of. The tradition of our own "Victory Division" is being carried on by some of the finest young men in the world at Stewart. Now it is our duty to seek former Taro Leafers and instill in them that we are as "much alive" as we were when the call came to defend our country. A few names and addresses of area membership chairman that you may contact for any information at all are listed below. More names will follow. Any person who feels he can help on membership, we ask for your help now. All applications and money should be forwarded to myself, area chairmen or Ken Ross. My telephone is open to you at any time: 614-231-9622 or 614-746-8288. Following is a list of membership area chairmen:

Arkansas, Oklahoma, Ft. Stewart
William M. Byrd
205 Georgetown Circle
Ft. Smith, Ark. 72901

Michigan, Wisconsin
Bob Church
3616 Shoals
Drayton Plains, Mich. 48020

Pennsylvania & Eastern U.S.
Tom Farrier
319 Lombard St.,
Reading, Pa. 19604

Midwest U.S.
John E. Klump
RR #1
Guilford, Ind. 47022

North Central U.S.
John J. Lawatsch
33043 Sherwood Forest Dr.
Sterling Heights, Mich. 48077

North Central U.S.
Benny J. Mashay
32548 Knollwood Drive
Warren, Mich. 48092

Midwest U.S.
Leonard R. Mitchell
1078 Geneva Ave.
Columbus, Ohio 43223

Pacific Northwest U.S.
Homer I. Price
P.O. Box 317
Oak Harbor, Washington 98277

Central U.S.
Michael J. Rafter
3131 N. Keating Ave.
Chicago, Ill. 60641

South Central U.S.
Warren W. Turner
3906 Capers Ave.
Columbia, South Carolina 29205

Midwest U.S.
Richard C. Watson
RR 2, Box 19
Daleville, Indiana 47334

Thanks to all good members who have volunteered to work in the membership. It takes all to make a good association. GOD BLESS.

Fondo
FONDO J. FINLEY, JR.
National Membership Chairman
RR 2, 8255 Barneby Road, Lancaster, Ohio 43130

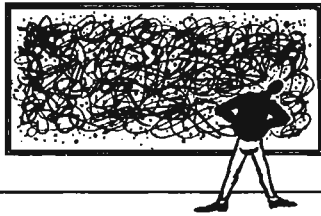


For a measure of how the U.S. government has grown, note this: The average annual budget for the Federal Government's first three years was \$1.4 million, or about \$8 million in today's inflated dollars. This amount would keep the present Government running for about 11 minutes.

We're planning our best convention ever at Norfolk's Omni.

From the files of BILL ROBINSON comes this July '41 photo of CHARLEY CONNER. Bill gave us the one about the reducing salon that started a weight-losing contest - the winner gets the Nobelly Prize.

Starting with "From Here to Eternity", then to recent "WW II", James Jones' next novel, "Whistle", will be the final of his WW II trilogy.



Paint a wild picture does DALLAS DICK, 1701 Bridge, New Cumberland, Pa... as he sends in a hefty contribution. Let's report it with Dallas' own words:

"You probably don't know it, but I probably am the member of the 24th having the most time in the 19th. My service as a "Chick" was:

- Co. A - '35 - Private
- Bank - '35-'36 - 2nd Trumpet
- Co. B - '36 - Bugler, Asst.Co.Clerk
- Co. A - '37-'38 - Co.Clerk, Corporal and Sergeant
- Service Co. - '39-'40 - Regimental Hq. and Co. Clerk
- '40-'41 - Steward - Officers Golf Club
- '41 - G-4 Clerk
- '42 - until August - OCS Ft.Benning
- May '43 to Aug. '45 - Lt. & Captain Hq. and CO, Co.C 19th Inf.
- 8 years 2 mos. as a Chick - Pvt. to Capt.

Retired in Aug. '55 as Major. Presently, I am Chief Administrative Officer, State Council of Civil Defense, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and also serve as State Disaster Coordinator". We'll just sit back and watch the sparks fly on that claim of more time in service. Chicks, let's hear it for Dallas - a big cheer or a big bird, if you've got him beat.



Sing out your order for fresh figs and cream, chicken livers with anchovies, orange waffles, and blueberry jelly.... It's the wonderful KLUMPS, Hilda and JOHN, our new Veep, at Savannah.



"We'd better make some kind of a regulation, Col. Countdown; they're starting to bring back wives!!"

This breakfast starts off with cranberry juice followed by sweet potato ham puffs, broiled pineapple, toasted whole wheat bread and cider apple butter...ELDRIDGE SCHWARTZENBURG - There's a mouthful for you - wants to hear from George Company men of the 34th. He's Prexy of Vermilion Wholesale Drug in Opelousas, La. Try 318-942-4976.

Make it a breakfast of strawberries and rhubarb sauce, eggs in bacon rings, baked hominy grits, and apricot coffee cake....L Co. Gimlets, especially those who served in Korea during '50 and '51 are asked to contact GEORGE VLASIC at 162 Orchard, Butler, Pa.

Let's go for a breakfast of baked apple, oatmeal and cream, codfish balls, cracked wheat toast, and strawberry preserves....New address for HERB CLIFTON, (3rd Eng. '41-'45). Try 95 Hickory Dale, Dover, Del. Their youngest graduates in '77 from U of Del - the last of their 4 mighty fine kids. Herb retires from the P.O. in 3 years.

Judge CLAUDE H. HALL, (21st and G3 in WW II and Bn. CO and Regt. Ex.O.in Korea), is retiring again. Retired from Army, he became a Judge of Wallowa County Court in Enterprise, Oregon. He's a busy fellow - writes for the Portland Oregonian and has had articles in Sports Afield.



Meet newly-joined BILL ROBINSON, (3rd Eng.) of 274 West Main, Hopkinton, Mass. He sends us one of Sp.4 DAVID NESTOR, himself, and BRIAN NEILSON, all 3rd Eng. men, taken at the US Army Natick Labs. He's sending us a copy of the roster of C of the 3rd Eng. in '42. Bill sends us the one about the very shy Italian girl who's never been pinched before. Only behind.

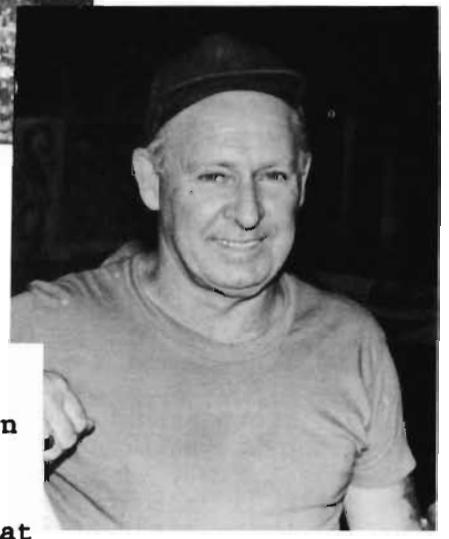
Would you agree to cantaloupe covered with watermelon balls, toasted cheerios with hot cream, liverwurst paté, gingered almonds, corn muffins, with Edam cheese... And proudly we show you the new waiting shed at Palo which was donated by the Giants Club of Palo (of which SANDERSON, HENRY, STEVENSON and ROSS are members). The shed was named in honor of The 24th Division. You can see the Division insignia on the top of the end wall just below the roof.



Fellow says "Were your eyes ever checked?" Answers the 13th Fielder, "Nope, they've always been just plain blue."

Margaret COLE writes for retired M/Sgt. BOB. They're at Browns Mills, N.J. She tells that the whole family is in the gas station business.

Make it a honeydew melon ring with raspberry sherbert, Polish pancakes and pork sausages, grits, cinnamon toast, and peach jam..... Anyone around Division on that Day of Infamy recall a train en route from Schofield to Honolulu when the buzzards struck? That's typical of the questions we receive. GILBERT E. DUSSAULT, an Able of the 19th man, at the time, now lives at 40 Joffre Ave., South Hadley, Mass. (Tel. 413-533-6857). He claims to have been riding that train at 7:55 that morning. Concerning it he knows no more. Blanked out. Anyone got any ideas?



How about a breakfast of red raspberries in cantaloupe basket, scrambled eggs with mushrooms, date coffee cake and cream cheese?..... We recently sent our prized Nip flag to Brig.Gen. DONALD E. ROSENBLUM for the planned Division Museum.

Grande Island, at the entrance to Subic Bay to those of you who remember that action is now a vacation resort for the U.S. Navy. It included Fort Wint and during the early part of the century, was loaded with coast defenses.

Ft. Stewart is an unusual, but proud, situation; it has three Medal of Honor winners stationed there at the same time. It is possibly the only military installation in the world which can lay claim to this rarity.

The three honorees are S/Sgt. FRANKLIN D. MILLER, B Troop of the 2nd Squadron, 9th Cavalry, 24th Infantry Division, at Hunter; M/Sgt. CHARLES B. MORRIS of the 1st Brigade, 24th Infantry Division's 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry at Stewart; and Sgt. First Class GARY L. LITRELL of Co. C, 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry at Stewart.

All three won the nation's highest decoration while serving in Vietnam.

S/Sgt. Miller, born in Elizabeth City, N.C., entered military service in Albuquerque, N.Mex., and received his Medal of Honor for action in Kontum Province on the night of Jan. 5, 1970, while a member of the 5th Special Forces Group, 1st Special Forces, on a long-range reconnaissance patrol operating deep within enemy controlled territory.

M/Sgt. Morris, born in Carroll County, Va., entered the Army at Roanoke, and was awarded the Medal of Honor for action on Dec. 14, 1967, when he was with Company A, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 503rd Infantry, 173rd Airborne Brigade.

SFC Littrell, born in Henderson, Ky., entered the service in Los Angeles, and received his Medal of Honor for distinguishing himself during the period of April 4-8, 1970, while serving as a Light Weapons Infantry advisor with the 23rd Battalion, 2nd Ranger Group, Republic of Vietnam Army, near Dak Swang in Kontum Province.

The Medal of Honor was established by an act of Congress during the Civil War and was, for many years, the only authorized American military medal.

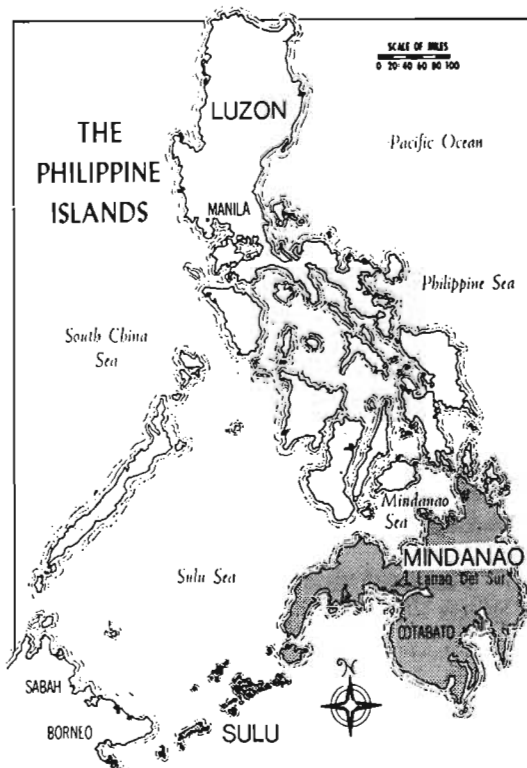
Has anyone ever won the Medal twice. Yes. There have been five Army double-winners and nine Navy double-winners. Five immortal Marines won both the Army and Navy Medals of Honor.

Did a woman who dressed like a man ever win the Medal? Yes. She was Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, a contract surgeon during the Civil War.

Was the Medal ever won for throwing a well-timed bucket of water, or crowning a cursing sailer with a holystone? For rescuing a woman from a burning hotel? The answer is yes for all of these, but never again for the same reasons.

Was the Medal ever awarded for shooting an assassin? Yes, three times.

So proudly we welcome just-joined RUSSELL and Katie KINTZLEY of Bay St., Louis, Miss. Russ was with us on Mindanao - was a war correspondent for the New Orleans States, one of the Times-Picayune papers.



President Ferdinand E. Marcos has agreed to form an autonomous Moslem region in the southern P.I. He wants to end the secessionist rebellion where more than 10,000 have been killed in 4 years, half a million have been made homeless. His pitch - hold a plebiscite in the 13 southwest provinces (6.2 people) to allow them to decide if they want to be part of a Moslem region.

A 60-foot, \$450,000 luxury yacht has been sailing out of Chicago with charter passengers and a crew that included several mermaids who for a consideration-\$100 - would perform services for passengers not found aboard your standard luxury yacht. A couple of months ago, it sailed with some clients who looked just like wealthy executives. One of them approached a luscious nymph and said: "Do you know who I am?" She cooed: "No, but you're cute." He sure was. "I'm the captain of the Vice Control Division," said Cmdr. Michael O'Donnell. Then he and his undercover "executives" pinched her and a companion, plus the yacht captain and deckhand. And this pinch hurt - operating a yacht of ill repute. The Commander was - and is - the brother of our own JAMES "Spike" O'DONNELL.

Shout to the rafters for the Dr. Pepper people. They won't allow leisure suits, beards, or hair longer in back than the top of the collar. They say "Men should look like men, and women should look like women."

Retired JOHNNY SAMUELS, (19th '42-'43) tells us that some years ago, a well-heeled Wall Streeter noted that leading newspapers, on the first Sunday of the football season, carried a staggering array of scores, a majority of the games involving colleges he never had heard about. He decided to phone the sports desks a few statistics of his own. The following Sunday, papers all over the country carried an account of the victory of Plainfield Teachers of New Jersey over Scott, with a clever Chinese back named Chung responsible for the margin of victory. Plainfield Teachers, Scott and the dauntless Chung were but figments of the Wall Streeter's imagination, which grew more vivid as the season progressed. By mid-November mythical Plainfield Teachers remained one of the few unbeaten teams in the land and not only Chung (now known as the "Celestial Comet") but the broker himself (included in the line-up as left tackle) were being singled out as all-American possibilities. A meanie on "Time Magazine" exposed the hoax just after Plainfield Teachers had rolled to a stunning 77-0 triumph. "One more week," mourned the crestfallen Wall Streeter, "and I'd have had a bid from the Rose Bowl!" It's a wonderful story, Johnny. Appreciate it. And remember - when you hear the bell, you go to Geometry.

Maj.Gen. GERHARDT W. HYATT once a 1st Bn. Gimlet (Korea '50-'51), retired in '75 having risen to Chief of Chaplains, and is now President of Concordia College, St.Paul, Minn.

JIM McREYNOLDS, (H 19th '43-'46; Hq. 2nd Bn. '50-'51), down there in Lawton, Okla. has bad news. Clemmie was in Ft.Sill Hosp., they had to by-pass arteries in both legs; no circulation. Keep us posted, Jim; we're with you in spirit.

HARRY WITTMAN, (G 21st '51-'52), of 1385 Terri, Keyser, W.Va., writes: "Visited DAVID DUBOSE of 631 Ashly, Belvedere, S.C. recently. Dave was 17 years old when he entered George Co. in '51. We had not seen each other for 23 years but had kept in contact by phone calls. His first tour of duty was in Korea with George Co. 21st Inf. '51-'52. His 2nd tour was in Korea with 34th Inf. '54-'55. Later he was transferred to Germany with 21st Inf. for 3½ years. In '65-'66, he was an advisor to the South Vietnamese army. He returned to the states and was selected to return on a 2nd tour to Nam as a Sgt. 1st C in the 19th Div. He was wounded in this tour of duty and was returned to the USA in '70. He retired in '71." Thanks for the fine write-up, Harry.



"Your weight is normal. It's your height that's off. You should be seven feet, nine inches tall."



It's the Kokura fire department of Div.Hq.Co. - circa 1946. Thanks be to BILL FARVER of Caseville, Mich., who sent us the picture. Bill says the engine was a '37 Dodge and he took it from the Japs at Nagoya where he was first stationed and brought it with him when he was assigned to Div. at Okayama before the move to Kyushu. Bill says it's PERRY JONES of S.C. in the driver's seat; doesn't identify himself. What was that expression we used to use over there? - "...as screwed up as a Nipponese fire drill..." Georgina, will you please ask Bill if he can identify everyone for us?