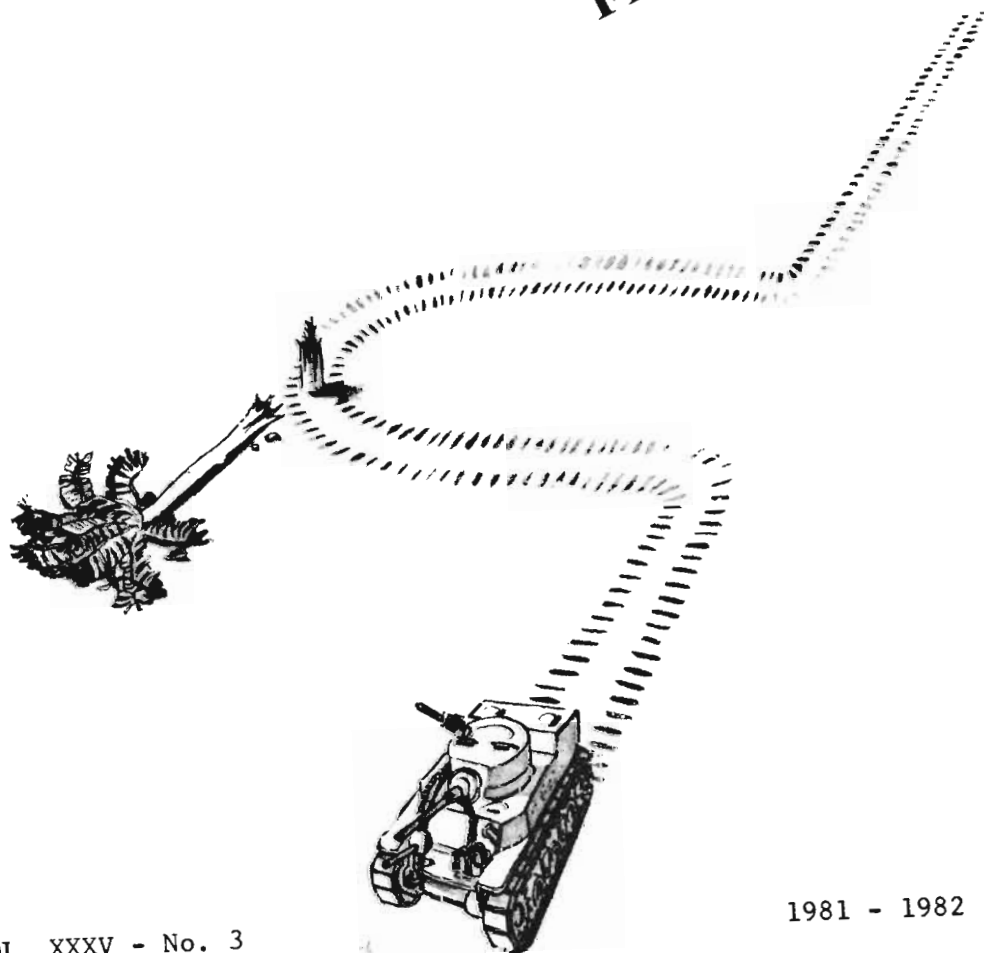


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TARO LEAF
24th Infantry Division Association
Kenwood Ross, Editor
120 Maple Street
Springfield, MA
01103 - 2278



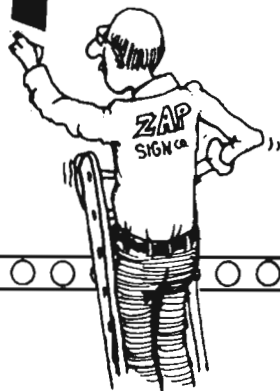
FIRST CLASS MAIL



Stock, Rodney F. Jr.
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Reno, NV 89502



TARO LEAF



As we made this issue ready came the AP release out of Seoul reporting that the remains of an American soldier had been found by a policeman "60 miles south of Seoul." The remains, identified by dogtags, were those of Master Sergeant JOHN R. McINNIS, (3rd Bn., 21st), of Covington County, Miss. John had been one of our MIA. JIM PALUMBO, of Port Richey, Fla. was the one who relayed the news to us, adding the cryptic comment, "It certainly was a long war for poor John." Jim has said it oh so very well!!!

"Soldier, Rest! Thy
Warfare O'er,
Dream of Battlefields
No more;
Sleep the sleep that
knows not breaking,
Morn of Toil, Nor
Night of waking...
For at Dawning to
assail ye,
Here no bugle
Sounds Reveille."

Sir Walter Scott

TARO LEAF

Vol. XXXV — No. 1

1981-1982

The publication "of, by and for those who served or now serve" the glorious United States 24th Infantry Division, and published frequently by the 24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION whose officers are:

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Association membership is open to anyone and everyone who wears or ever wore the Taro Leaf or served in any of its attached units. Dues are \$10.00 per annum, inclusive of a subscription to our publication, Taro Leaf.

Target date for publication of "History of a Division, 1981-1982" is the spring of 1982. Only Association members will be allowed to purchase copies. The price? Are you ready for this one? \$20 per copy. Closing date for orders — December 31, 1981.



EUGENE LEW, (13th FA, HQ. BTRY.), of 78 Victoria, Cheektowaga, N.Y., was leaving for the Pearl Harbor activities when he wrote us about putting an ad in "Gram," the PHSA magazine so that we might solicit potential members. A full page ad goes for \$250 for a single issue. Forget it, Lew. We'll try one of those column inch things and see what happens. Thanks for the idea, Lew.

The Division Commander has thoughtfully forwarded to us a few "EXCLUSIVE" pictures taken of the recent Rapid Deployment Force Exercise Bright Star 82. Happily we use these in this issue together with his cover letter. We are grateful to you, General Galvin.



They're making them bigger and better these days. Could have used one of these babies around Osan. Right? US Army Photo by Capt. STEVE RITTER.

It's always a genuine pleasure to
receive mail from the Division Commander
and it's equally pleasant to share it
with you.



VICTORY DIVISION
1 December 1981

Dear Ken:

I was glad to see that my letter to the association made it into the last Taro Leaf. It was another fine issue and we all enjoyed it immensely.

I just returned from Egypt and Rapid Deployment Force Exercise Bright Star. The Victory soldiers performed magnificently throughout and showed the world that the 24th can deploy its equipment to the Middle East and operate it in the desert upon arriving there. The equipment worked perfectly (99% ready rate!) and "Camp Victory" was a model for all the other units. The Division's forces were primarily from the 2d Battalion (Mechanized), 21st Infantry, along with the 1st Brigade Headquarters and a slice of combat support and service support units. The desert is really mech and armor country and attacks of 40 kilometers became an average morning's effort. We enjoyed excellent Egyptian-American relations and had several days of joint operations. We were able to get all our soldiers to the pyramids and morale was sky high throughout. For many of the troopers it was the trip of a lifetime. Got a lot of photos and will send you a couple of "exclusives" for Taro Leaf.

Our final big operation before the holidays will be a joint exercise with a battalion from the 82d Airborne Division here at Fort Stewart. Following Christmas, we'll go into a period of individual and small unit training that should last through the spring.

Captain Steve Ritter, my PAO, also just returned from Egypt and will soon be completing the historical summary you and I discussed, covering recent division activities and actions during the Korean War. I am monitoring its progress and will get it to you as soon as it's finished.

Hope this letter finds you well. We're looking forward to the next Taro Leaf. Best wishes for the upcoming holiday season.

Sincerely,

19 Incl
as

JOHN R. GALVIN
Major General, USA
Commanding

News, Notes And Comments

NATHAN MCCALL, (I, L 34th, G 21st '50-'51), of RD 6, Frew Mill Rd., Newcastle, PA, spotted this one. Thinks the chap on the right is wearing a you-know-what. So do we, Nate.



"Now THAT'S close air support!"

Another cheery note from Jay and JOHN WELCH, (63F '41-'44), of 627 Montecito, Napa, CA. Johnny sends in a hefty contribution toward postage. Jay says he'll do that in lieu of the annual "All You Can Drink" bash on New Year's Eve. John says he'll be sure to take in Baltimore "if there is room in the car; Jay has already begun to pack for the trip east." The happy point is that Jay and John will be with us. That'll help to insure a wonderful convention.



"Dear Mom—I ain't sayin' it rains hard over here, but when ya hafta jump in th' river t' dry off..."

While we were setting this issue up, December 7th came and passed us by.

Thousands of veterans, including a handful of our men, were joined by the tourists of today as they all stood in the quiet of an ocean breeze at Pearl Harbor to pay tribute to comrades lost.

"Somehow a number does not communicate the story," Adm. James Watkins said in a speech honoring the 2,280 who perished in the dawn attack by the Japanese that plunged the United States into World War II.

"Names and numbers fail miserably to communicate the humanity of this place," said the commander in chief of the U.S. Pacific fleet. "The first lesson of Pearl Harbor is that the cost of war is incalculable."

Watkins spoke just after a moment of silence at 7:55 a.m. local time Monday (12:55 p.m. EST), coinciding with the start of the attack exactly 40 years earlier on Sunday Dec. 7, 1941. More than 1,100 servicemen were wounded and 19 naval vessels and 188 U.S. aircraft were destroyed.

One by one, flowers were plucked from wreaths and dropped into the waters of the harbor, floating above the wreckage of the battleship USS Arizona.

The center of the commemoration was the USS Arizona Memorial, a gleaming white building that straddles the ship, which was left where it sank, in 38 feet of water. The hull is the final resting place for 1,177 seamen killed when a Japanese bomb hit the forward ammunition magazine and devastated the vessel in fire and smoke.

"This memorial, the stories of the men who died, tell us that we must do all we can to avoid the kind of tragedy which unfolded in this harbor," Watkins said, and the nation must attend to its "military strength, industrial base, educational systems, patriotism and national will."

Four Phantom jets screamed overhead and a Navy destroyer sailed by with all hands on deck at attention in dress whites. A Marine Corps squad gave a 21-gun salute from the anchor key where the Arizona was moored that day.

The memorials were the highlight of the annual convention of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association, which was attended by about 3,000 veterans stationed on the island of Oahu the day of the attack.



Fancy photography by Capt. STEVE RITTER "on assignment" with Bright Star. Figure it out? Sgt. GREGORY BRAMMER of 124th MI Bn. is shaving. A tripod makes a good mount for the purpose. Good thinking, Brammer. Noone can match a G.I. when it comes to invention.

There simply isn't the time or means to acknowledge separately and privately the money contributions of so many, responsively to our throwing of the crying towel in the last issue. We were truly overwhelmed by the generosity of the membership. We are grateful, deeply grateful, for this show of support. Our postman is happy too.



"I'm supposed to turn you people into soldiers? The Army doesn't want a drill sergeant — it wants a magician!"

DON CUBBISON, of 1311 Weber, Clearwater, FL, whose son DCC IIII went to Egypt with the Division in November, was the one who notified us of the death of Maj.Gen. NUMA WATSON.

PAUL OUELLETTE, (G 19th '48-'52), of 53 Greenfield, Windsor Locks, CT, wants to know whatever became of Capt. Barr, his company commander. We get a question such as that at least once a week. All we can do is put out the call -- "Oh Barr, where are you?" We'll see if he answers, Paul.

In a recent issue of Army, a page was devoted to "General Officer Changes." Four of the group were "ours": Lt.Gen. DONALD E. ROSENBLUM, Div.Hq. '77-'78, Lt.Gen. HOWARD F. STONE, 34th '57-'58, Lt.Gen. JAMES B. VAUGHT, Div.Hq. '78-'79, and Maj.Gen. ELMER D. PENDLETON, JR., 21st '64-'65.

GENERAL OFFICER CHANGES



Gen. D. R. Keith from DCSRDA to CG, DARCOM.



Lt. Gen. J. N. Brandenburg from REDCOM to CG, I Corps.



Lt. Gen. E. P. Forrester from CG, CFA (ROK/U.S.), to CG, WEST-COM.



Lt. Gen. J. V. Mackmull from CG, 101st Abn. Div. (Air Ass't), to CG, XVIII Abn. Corps & FB.



Maj. Gen. E. D. Pendleton Jr. from J4 to J3, REDCOM.



Lt. Gen. B. T. Mittermeyer from CG, WRAMC, to TSG, USA.



Lt. Gen. D. E. Rosenblum from DCG, XVIII Abn. Corps & FB, to CG, First U.S. Army.



Lt. Gen. H. F. Stone from CG, 9th Inf. Div., to DCG, TRADOC.



Lt. Gen. J. B. Vaught from ODC SOPS to CG, CFA (ROK/U.S.).



We have the kind permission of L. James Binder, Editor of "Army," to reproduce this particular column titled "The Forward Edge," and written by you-know-who. This particular one appeared in the June 1981 issue and we were anxious to have you enjoy it -- for obvious reasons. It refers, of course, to the Pittsburgh gathering, and not the St. Louis party. Red was recovering from his pesky hip problem at the time we were making whoopie under "the Arch." At any rate, we are grateful to Editor Binder for his allowing us to use this one.

The Forward Edge

Reunions: It is a great privilege to know Junior Harris and Spike O'Donnell, to have served with them and others during World War II in the 24th Infantry Division—and to have shared the special friendships, for many years, at our annual reunions. Last August, along with some 200 other "Taro Leafers," we registered in the Marriott Inn at Pittsburgh for our 1980 reunion.

Times to Recall

That explains how a baker's dozen (ranging in rank from former teenage Pvt. Junior Harris to our former two-star division commander) happened to congregate in a room Saturday afternoon, under the active management of Vic Backer—a former first sergeant, naturally. As a time-proved organizational procedure Vic directed distribution of liquid conversational lubricants, then initiated one of the reasons for being at reunions, *reminiscences*.

"Spike," Vic said, "what is the story about you and Junior drawing fire in that banana grove in Mindanao?"

"Yeah, I know the time you mean," and Spike tilted his glass to improve his memory. "That was after we got this new lieutenant, fresh from the states—but I forget his name."

"Hell, his name don't matter," Junior said. "We can call him Sledge."

"Yeah," Spike agreed. "Anyway, Sledge crawls over to me and says 'You and Harris move toward that banana grove and draw fire.'"

"Well, I wasn't a sergeant any more—because of that misunderstanding when I redistributed some Coca Colas from our Army commander's plane. But I was still senior

to Junior here so I said, 'Junior, go out there and draw fire.'"

"Yeah, that's what Spike said," and Junior took a good gulp from his can, then took over the after-action report. "So I said, 'We been drawing too damn much fire already, Spike. Besides, my mother wrote that she wanted to see me again, and if I go out and draw fire in that banana grove she won't ever see me again.'"

There was a contemplative pause as we sipped our liquids, knowing Sledge would reevaluate his strategic plan in the light of that logic. Then Junior looked at his beer, shook it and said, "Hell, Vic, this can is empty."

Of course, some reminiscences included more action—like during an enemy night attack when Spike saw this big Jap loom up in the moonlight, and shot him; only thing was the Jap was only wounded when he fell on top of Junior in the next foxhole. For more details, come to our reunion in St. Louis the last weekend in July, 1981, so Spike and Junior can brief you personally.

Unfortunately, most veterans have never attended their unit reunions, thus have missed this experience in patriotism and friendship. In "A Brotherhood That Binds the Brave" (ARMY, March, 1969) I discussed attending my first reunion, more than ten years after the war. For uncounted thousands of veterans who have not attended unit reunions here are some observations, gleaned from subsequent Taro Leaf reunions.

Most of those who attend our reunions are not career soldiers, but veterans who served in war then returned to civilian life. Many come back year after year, taking their annual vacation at that time, and truly share this "friendship like no other."



Maj. Gen. Newman (center), then the newly appointed editor of the 24th Infantry Division publication Taro Leaf, is seen here at the group's 1955 reunion with fellow guest speakers (left to right): Lou Tingley, Louisville Chamber of Commerce; Roscoe Claxon, convention committee chairman; Gov. Bert Combs and Tom Compere, master of ceremonies.

Our 24th Infantry Division Association has, over the years, been sparked by these civilian-soldier veterans. Junior Harris and Spike O'Donnell are both past presidents. Others include two sergeants from my wartime regiment, and a soldier from one company I commanded before the war, all later successful in business.

Officers are not discriminated against, however, as our past presidents also include officers of assorted ranks from our war years. While respect for rank remains, there is no "pulling rank"—except former Sgt. Spike O'Donnell lines up and counts off everybody—although Spike sometimes encounters *lèse majesté* from Junior and Vic.

One facet of such reunions is that you never know who will remind you of some shared combat experience. A tantalizing mystery for me was the memory of regaining consciousness as I was dragged down a ditch on a shelter half, *en route* to the battalion aid station, and saw briefly (before losing consciousness again) the head of a man on the edge of the ditch, who was bleeding from an ear. For 33 years I wondered who he was and if he lived or died, until he attended the Norfolk reunion in 1977.

That was the first reunion for Charles Craw. We met again in Pittsburgh, sharing the unique friendship of two soldiers who, in a split second, had their lives radically altered by fragments of steel from the same enemy shell.

Variations in contacts are unlimited—like a conversation at Pittsburgh with Lester Wheeler. Les was assistant G3 on the division staff at Hollandia in 1944 when I was chief of staff. Now, in 1980, we shared an early breakfast in the Marriott and he lifted the veil from a little happening in the New Guinea jungle.

"Chief," Les said, "I remember bringing you an action paper before breakfast in Hollandia, at your tent in our jungle command post. You sat on your folding canvas cot and I on the folding chair, facing where your field jacket hung on a nail in the tall stake just outside the tent, when a 2½- to three-foot snake crawled out of your field jacket pocket and flopped down on the ground. Remember, chief?"

"Sure," I said, "and I still wonder why you didn't kill it before it got away."

After a pause and quiet smile Les countered, "Well, what I wonder is who put it there—because it seems unlikely the snake could have climbed that stake and found the pocket and got in there without help."

From 1944 to 1980 that idea had never occurred to me. But now—well, some ten years ago Ed Henry told me my code name around division headquarters at the time was "that redheaded SOB" (except Ed did not use the abbreviation). Also, that *was* a tall stake and—well, like Les said . . .

So much for personal contacts and reminiscences. The high point and climax of our annual reunions is the banquet (sit-down dinner) on Saturday evening, especially the memorial service for members of the 24th Infantry Division (and attached units) who died in battle or from wounds.

When all are seated, our president announces, "Bring in the colors!" to initiate the memorial service. A uniformed Color Guard then marches in with our national and division colors, and halts opposite a kind of improvised altar, which stands next to and opposite the center of the head table and our president. On this altar there is a large

closed book, and on each side of the book a row of three, tall unlighted candles.

Last year our newly elected chaplain, Joseph I. Peyton, conducted the memorial service (written by our late, much-loved Father Christopher Berlo), which includes these extracts:

. . . The friendship engendered among those who fight together on the field of battle, risking their lives not only for the cause for which they fight but also for one another, is different from every other kind of friendship; different from the ties of flesh and blood, different from the ties of business association, different from the ties of social acquaintance. Once cemented, the military and combat friendship lasts forever. Our gathering here today is proof that it lasts beyond the grave.

. . . We now light the tapers as symbols of their living memory . . . upon this shrine we place the Honor Roll in which their names are inscribed. As each taper is lighted for the various combat units, members present from that unit or group rise and stand in reverence to the memory of their fallen comrades.

. . . And grant, O God, inspiration to those in whose hands lie today the destinies of nations, that they may never make a decision . . . which might be inimical to those God-given rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for which we have fought and for which so many of our comrades laid down their lives.

Finally, these comments:

■ As each of us stands during the memorial service, we are enveloped in memories of familiar names inscribed in that closed book, and of sprawled silent figures whose names we never knew. And this year (with the draft in mind) an added thought arrived unbidden: any man who refuses to answer the call to duty, to stand ready to fight for his country when summoned, has no right to breathe the free air over America that these men and others fought and died for.

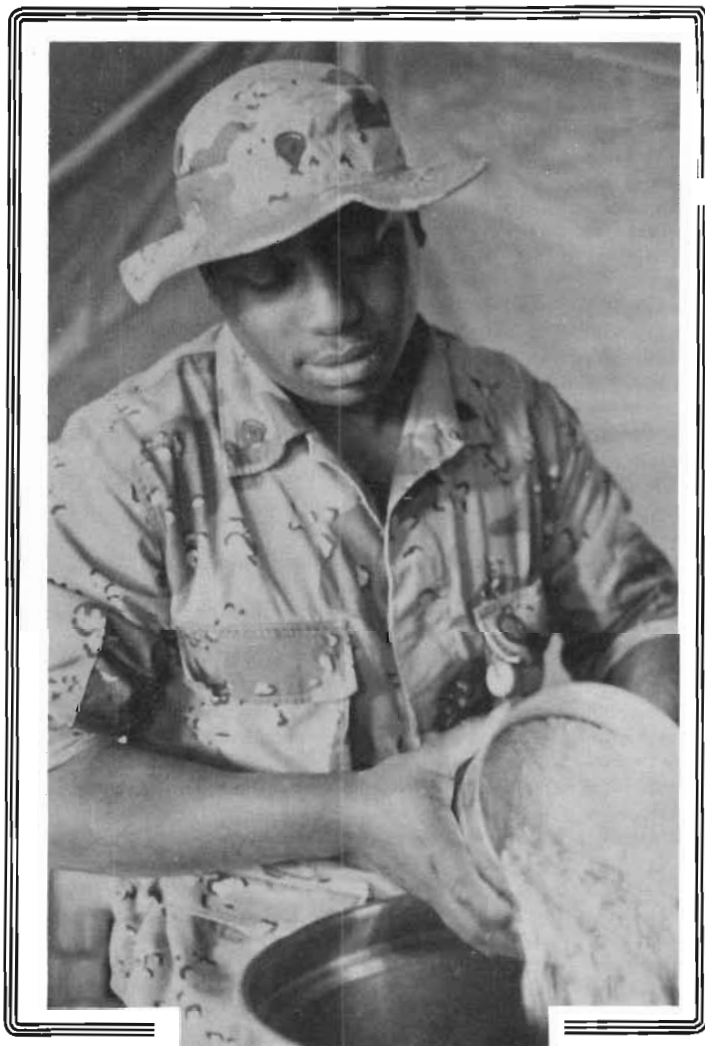
■ Do not be misled by the reminisced-by-play involving Junior, Spike and Sledge—there is a different and closer soldier-to-soldier relationship in combat from that on the peacetime drill field. And it varies with situations and individuals. You must have shared it to understand, and reunions provide the opportunity to again live together your experiences, and maybe gild the lily a little in retrospect.

Among ways to find out where and when your old unit will hold its reunion next summer, look for notices published in military-related journals and bulletins.

■ All reunions do not follow the same program, but all are based on the same fundamental foundation: patriotism, friendships and that special martial pride which George L. Skypeck had in mind when he penned these (extracted) words: "I was that which others did not want to be . . . I went where others feared to go . . . and am proud of what I was . . . a soldier."



We're making one more call for telephone numbers so we can include them in our forthcoming directory. RALPH PFISTER (Med. 24th Div.Arty. '41-'42; 24 Med.'42), of 2925 Softwind Trail, Ft. Worth, Tex., was aware and sent his in, as well as his units and time. Thanx Ralph. See you in Baltimore. And be sure to bring the 3 year old twin grandsons who live in Washington where their Pop is a mounted U.S. Park policeman.



Sp5 PAUL HOLLEY mixes the dough for his famous "homemade" biscuits. His baking was so good on the exercise that he received an impact ARCOM for his efforts. When we get down to Stewart, we're going to look up Holley and ask for a couple of those biscuits. US Army Photo by Sp5 CLARK BROOKSTONE.

JOHN BONTJE of 409 Brown, Larchwood, Iowa, says he's "still looking for anyone from A of the 19th during '50." We're trying for you, John-boy.

VINCE SUILMAN, 312 Market, Wabasha, MN, wants to hear from men of Hq. 3rd Bn. 19th '42-'45.



The Army is trying to solve the mystery of the incredible shrinking uniform.

Lt.Gen.Richard H. Thompson, the Army's deputy chief of staff, assigned the case to a study group. Its mission: determine why new camouflage fatigues shrink after washing.

It could get to be a costly situation.

The Army already has bought 500,000 new uniforms that at \$37.50 each cost about \$19 million. Long-range plans call for buying hundreds of thousands more sets, which are supposed to be worn both in garrison and on the field.

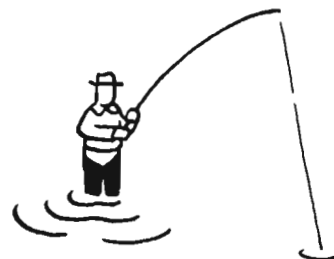
Soldiers began complaining of "excessive shrinking" soon after they began receiving the uniforms in October, Army supply officials said.

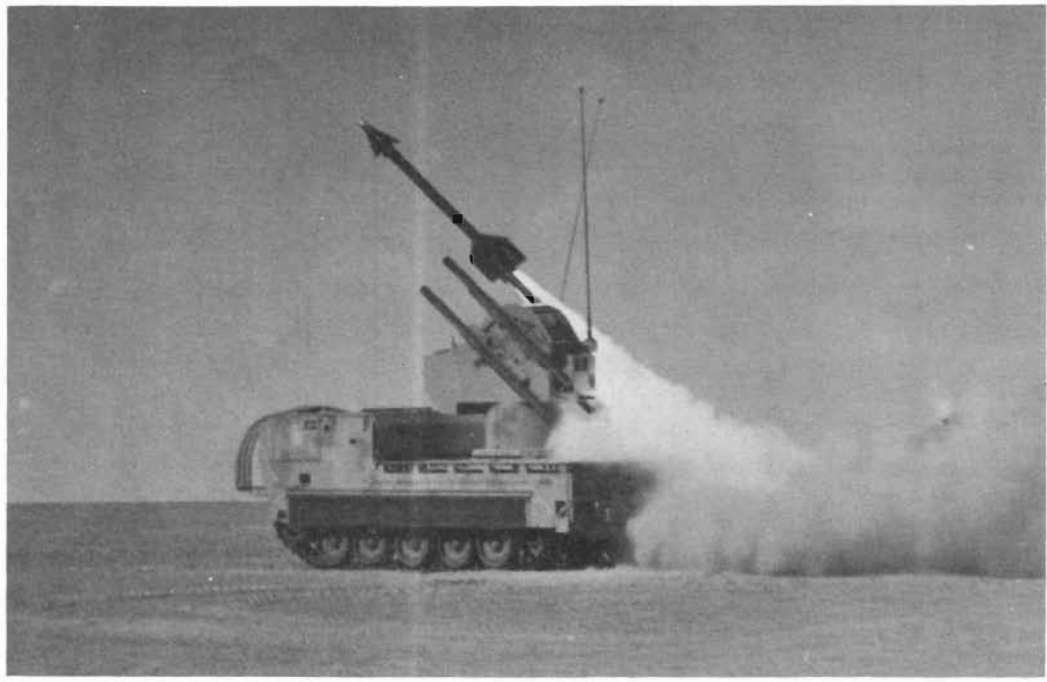
Troops were then given special laundering instructions and told they could draw replacements for shirts and pants "which had been rendered unusable."

These were temporary measures. The Army said it will take "corrective action" after the cause is identified.

Gen. Edward C. Meyer, Army chief of staff, approved the new camouflage uniform more than two years ago as part of his campaign to promote greater dash and spirit in the ranks.

Intended to replace the present drab green utility fatigues, the new uniform is 50% cotton and 50% nylon and is set off by a ranger-style camouflage hat instead of today's baseball-style cap. We wonder if it's the one shown in the Egypt pictures in this issue.





This Chapparral missile is on its way. Launched by the 5-52nd Air Defense Artillery unit. US Army Photo by Capt. STEVE RITTER.



A state examiner stopped at a small-town bank and found the place deserted. Finally he looked in the back room, and there sat the entire staff of four playing poker. To teach them a lesson, the bank examiner tripped the burglar alarm. The card-playing bankers didn't move a muscle. But the bartender across the street came over with four beers.

ENOS TORSCH, (L 34th '41-'45), of 5363 Highway M 65, Lachine, Mich., didn't like our "shrunken Taro Leaf." Neither did we, Enos. Enos, by the way is one of our newest Life Members. He's #464. Another complaint from Enos -- that History. It's coming, Enos, it's coming.

Just joined: BOB BEAVER, a retired Lt.Col. He and Jacqueline are at 390 Mountain Home, Woodside, CA. Was 52nd F. Bn. C.O. at Hollandia. Just heard about us, thanks to PAUL and Aleta FRASER.

News in from FRED STOLL, (CO 21st '46-'48) in 1906 Hercules, Colorado Springs. Fred made two trips to the hospital this year -- gall bladder in April -- prostate in October. See, no secrets with us. That's once in the spring, once in the fall, Fred. That's spreading them out nicely. All AOK now. The Stoll's celebrated their 60th -- yes 60th -- wedding anniversary last November 26. From all of us, 10,000 cheers to the Stoll's.

HEMAN HARP, (M 34th '44-'45; C 24 Med '45), of Lamoni, Iowa, writes with a scrawl we can hardly decipher. We think he wants the nicknames of the regiments. Try Gimlets for the 21st, Chicks for the 19th, and Dragons for the 34th. We're floundering on a name for the 5th RCT. Sorry, Heman.

JOHN KLUMP has the green light from Mayo Clinic. Hip surgery a great success. Walking without a cane. Mayo had him in on a 5000 mile checkup and said, "We'll see you in 5 years for a progress report." That's great news, Johnny. Eureka! New address for John and Hilda. Try Rt. 1, Box 256, Guilford, IN 47022. Tel. 812-623-3279.

Life Member KEN and Brownie PATE, (E 19th '42-'45) of 1205 Sunset, Burlington, IA, recently visited BERT and Ginny LOWERY. This gave Bert a chance to show off his boat.

A recent study indicates that many teen-agers are opposed to sex education in the schools. They say it's a plot by parents and educators to make the subject dull and uninteresting.

It's a small world. Through our pages BILL EARLEY, (26th AAA '49-'51) of 25 Kelly, Hamden, CT, found BACIL STEED, (24th Recn. '49-'51) down in Glenelg, South Australia. Or Bacil found Bill. We're not sure which way it went. The happy point is that they're now in communication. Yea, Bill!!!! Yea, Bacil!!!



Baltimore in August? It's a promise from DAVID STANLEY, (H & H Co. 19th '51-'52), of 495 Main, Ft. Lee, NJ.



Sgt. VICTOR BUTLER, (A 2nd - 70th Armor) is at attention, about to receive an ARCOM for his outstanding work during Bright Star 82. The word is that the 24th left its mark in the deserts of Egypt. US Army Photo by Sp 5 CLARK BROOKSTONE.

Hoping to be in Baltimore in August is SANDY VALERIO, (E 19th '42-'45), of 51 Virginia, Waterloo, N.Y.

Membership Chairman LEE LIST has joined up EDWARD and Mary KLEHAMER, (L 34th '41-'45), of 204 Carpenter, Glassboro, N.J. and ROY SCHROEDER, (L 34th '43-'46), of Box 585, Bacliff, TX.

Spotlight's on Veronoica Lake. Remember when she was officially requested by Uncle Sam to change her famous peek-a-booo hairstyle? Seems gals everywhere were copying the long-style 'do, but the problem was many of them were working around machinery in defense plants, and their tresses kept getting caught in the machinery.





Ever shave with your hat on? One of our boys did. Notice the camouflaging on the fatigues. US Army Photo by Capt. STEVE RITTER. Remember the story about the chap who wrote home from Kokura. Asked his wife to send him \$50 "for razor blades and stuff." Answered wife: "Here's \$1.50 for the razor blades; the stuff's here at home."



You know how, in baseball, the third base coach relays the instructions to the batters and base runners through a system of sign language. A variety of physical gestures, including, of course, spitting, are used, each representing a different instruction (bunt, hit away, etc.).

And to prevent the opposition from stealing the signs, a "key" is usually employed. This gesture -- the tugging of the belt, for instance -- precedes the actual sign by some prearranged number of gestures. The batter simply ignores the bogus signs, waits for the key, the bona fide signal that follows.

So here we go with "bunt," "take the pitch," "hit away," etc., etc. Take your pick.

JACK FINAN, (19th, '35-'42), of 758 E. Whitaker Mill, Raleigh, N.C., sends us memberships for AMOS JOHNSON, (AT 19th '40-'44), of Box 291A, Spring Hope, NC, JESSE FOSTER, Powhatan, Riverdale, MD, and ANTHONY GIGLIOTTI, Box 203, Apollo, PA. Thanks, Jack, old friend.



Steal on the next throw signals the coach.

Retired Major EVERT HOFFMAN, (D & Hq. 1st Bn. 19th '48-'51), of Brown Mills, N.J. is planning, together with Boots, to Make Baltimore. Evert tells us about the gal who took the pill with polluted water. Now she's three months stagnant.



Bunt; it's the only way out.

Not so with RAY ROLEY, (M 21st '51-'52), of 5995 Deerfield, Milford, N.H., who gives this one along with a bid to hear from any M 21st men out there. He says it's from Rodney Dangerfield: "At my age, all the numbers in my little black book are doctors."

If at first you don't succeed -- so much for skydiving.



Hit away!

And if you have any stamps which you no longer are collecting, please remember that CALVIN E. GARRETT, of 806 Linden, Hanover, PA, collects them. Cal is totally disabled.



Bunt toward 3rd base.

Life Member FRANK and Laura MOYER, (19th '41-'44), of Green Meadows, Ephrata, PA, made Hawaii last summer. Laura enjoyed it immensely, even though in a wheelchair. Great spirit, Laura.



Hit away, Bill.

So BILL FARVER, (3rd Eng. '46), of Caseville, Mich., spotted this sign on an optometrist's door: "Contact us for lenses."



Hit away.

Spotted this item in the November issue of the DAV magazine:

21st Inf. Regt., 24th Div., WWII - June 18-20, 1982. Badland Motel, Medora, N.D. Contact Wilbur Vander Vorst, Hague, N.D. 58542



Dues gratefully received from BOB and Mavis PERE, (1 34th '41-'44). They are at Helelua St., Waianae, Hawaii.

Stolen from the Times Magazine: Today there are more than 48 bands in the U.S. Army.



Bunt, it's our only chance.

An Emory University professor has conducted a study of recent military recruits in an effort to produce criteria for determining which recruits are most likely to succeed in the military life and which are likely to fall.

Business professor Edgar W. Leonard said these findings are being reflected in recent military recruiting messages in the media. By assessing attitudes, interests and opinions of good prospects, recruiters can better target their advertising to attract recruits more likely to succeed.

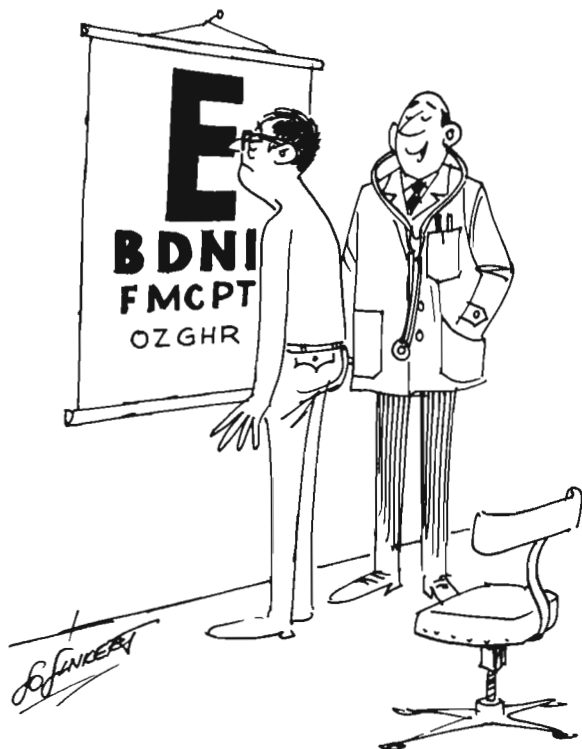
Dr. Leonard discovered that successful recruits generally seek adventure, camaraderie, ego enhancement, a chance to travel, and take pride in their abilities, leadership capacity, and potential for success. He said that political extremism and deep religious fundamentalism are traits more common among unsuccessful recruits than successful ones.



Bunt, it's your only chance!

PSST: Alan Bean, the fourth man to walk on the moon, is now painting lunar landscapes.
Pass it on.

Maj.Gen. FRED R. ZIERATH, of 7402 Coral Lane, SW, Tacoma, WA 98498, (21st, 19th, Div.Hq. '41-'45), has brought into our club, DON ARCHER, (Hq. & Hq. Co. 34th '42-'45), of 802 Violet Meadow, Tacoma, Wash. Thank you, Fred, and welcome aboard, Don; where have you been for 40 years. 40 years? Ye Gods.



"You'll do—for hand-to-hand combat."



Hit away. That's our sign on this one today.

Keeping track of who has and who hasn't his Life Membership plate has proven to be the most difficult -- if not most impossible -- part of our job. Too many fingers in the pie. The plate is issued upon payment in full of the \$100. Twice we've circulated letters to all Life Members for replies as to whether they have or have not received their plate. Poor response! Twice we've asked through Taro Leaf for a signal if one's plate has still not been received. In today's mail comes one response from one paid up in '77, another from one paid up in '78, advising us of non-receipt. It's a strange business, with us looking like the class dunce. Okay, once over lightly -- for the umpteenth time. If you have not yet received your plate, will you kindly signal?

From BILL BRASWELL, (B 19th '44-'45), of 5200 Eulace, Jacksonville, FL, comes the signal: "Men may die but the regiment lives on -- but I knew we cannot allow the Taro Leaf to die." Nice words, Bill. We weren't advocating death, Billy -- only that the postman has a strangle hold on us and we need a little extra help. The response was beautiful, Billy, from your good self and a hundred or so others.



Hit away on this one. Mrs. Planas did!!!

Exiled Charito Planas, former head of the Filipino Chamber of Commerce, says that her country is on the verge of a national revolution.

She says the revolutionary New People's Army is rapidly gaining the support of the Filipino people.

"There's an arms struggle going on," said Ms. Planas. "It's only a matter of time before there will be a national revolution."

The main reasons for unrest in the Philippines are widespread poverty and the oppressive policies of President Ferdinand Marcos, Ms. Planas said.

"Today, the government is putting too much emphasis on export quotas imposed by the World Bank (to help pay off debts)," Ms. Planas said. "The result is that while more people are working on the land, the Filipinos have the lowest caloric intake in Asia. Even though the GNP (gross national product) is steadily increasing, 78 percent of our children are malnourished."

She puts the blame solely on the shoulders of the United States.

"The U.S. government says Russia and Cuba are really behind the arms escalation and oppression in the Philippines," Ms. Planas said. "But it's really the U.S. government that's behind it. The U.S. does not realize the struggle is for justice and human rights." Wouldn't you know it!

Ms. Planas said it is time for the United States to respect the self-determination of the Filipino people. We thought we already had.

A businesswoman and attorney, Ms. Planas was imprisoned in the Philippines for 14 months because of her political beliefs.

She is in the midst of a three-year speaking tour in the United States, drumming up support for recognition of the plight of the Filipino people.



Take a walk, if you can.

No, not NINO DE GREGORIO, (AT 34th '44-'46), of 38 High, Wappingers Falls, N.Y., who knows of our love for signs. Sends us this one in the window of the fabric store: "It's always sew fine to see you." Thanks, Nino.



Hit away, Reggie.

JOE LANGONE, (B 21st '48-'51), of Box 82893, San Diego, CA, is another Task Force Smith man now with us. Joe's with the Postal Service; so we'll have to watch what we say about their lousy service.



This remote controlled plane was a target for American and Egyptian air defense personnel who took part in the live fire exercise. Don't know what they used for a "Maggie's drawers." Word is that our men scored well with their Vulcan weapons systems. US Army Photo by Sp5 JIM DAVIS. Thank you, Jim.

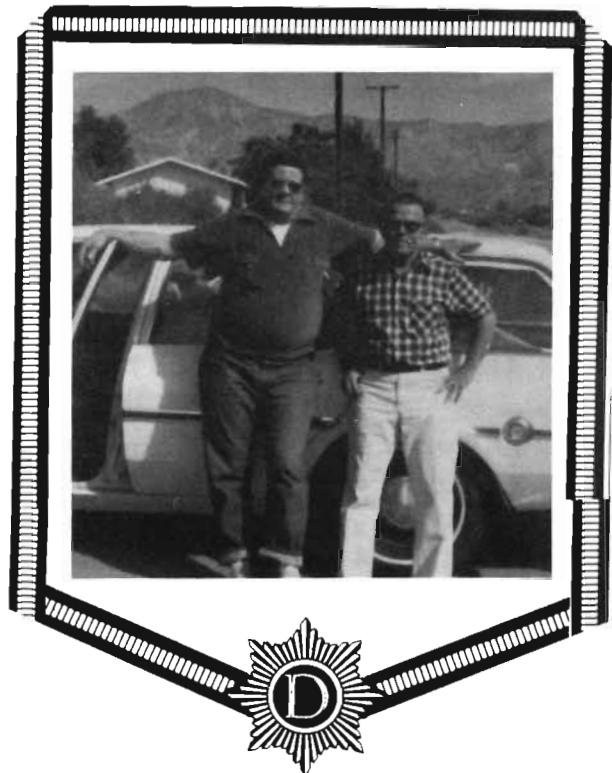




It's a Division convoy, without doubt. And it could be along the road to Wahiawa, or Sentani, or Jaro, or Davao, or Taejon, or Munich, or Riley, or Hinesville. Only this time it's the road out of Alexandria to Cairo. Never before has Division seen such sand. US Army Photo by Sp5 JIM DAVIS.



"McGUIRE CAN GET HIMSELF A GIRL NO MATTER WHERE HE IS."
—Sgt. Charles Pearson



On the left it's BILL O'KEEFE (D 21st '44-'50), of 15208 Fern, Tacoma, WA, and on the right it's JIM ERWIN, (Med 1st Bn. 21st '50-'51), of Box 608, Morongo Valley, CA. Bill, on his way to El Paso, stopped by to see Jim.



Here we are checking out a Soviet gas mask. In the training between American and Egyptian soldiers, each had a good chance to check out the other's equipment. US Army Photo by Sp 5 CLARK BROOKSTONE.



Bunt; this turkey will never beat you.

Caught a recent National Geographic item -- the 5 most beautiful harbors of the world -- San Francisco, Hong Kong, Sydney, Rio de Janiero, and Capetown. Our gang had passed through at least two of them -- San Francisco and Sydney. And certainly some of our number had saw Hong Kong for a third. We've had the happy chance to gaze upon some great natural wonders -- mountains, lakes, etc. But for the magic nature and man have achieved working together, nothing can beat the discovery of the great harbors of the world. And while on the subject, we'd add a selection of our own -- our favorite harbor, where nature had d----- little help from man, was the harbor of Milne Bay. Our ships anchoring directly adjacent the shoreline made a sight never to be forgotten.



"You are a member of the armed forces, are you not?"

We're well into the 2nd generation. For instance, DON and Mary CUBBISON, JR. (B 52nd F '41-'42), are retired at 1311 Weber, Clearwater, FL. They remember the months of boredom in the pineapple fields above Wailua. Back at Schofield, slit trenches were dug in their front yard and their two kids learned to put on gas masks and dive into the trenches. Now one of those kids is Command Sgt. Maj. of the 1st Brigade. Read this:

Friday, Mar. 27, 1981 PATRIOT Page 13

Readiness is more than a word

The Rapid Deployment Force RDF is still a relatively new program. It has brought about some changes to the way a war might be fought in the near future. The basic question still remains, will it work?

CSM Donald Cubbison is a career soldier. He comes from a long line of outstanding soldiers in his family. His father is a retired Col. and both of his grandfathers were career men. One grandfather achieved the rank of Maj. Gen. while the other retired as a Colonel.

Because of this military background the 45 year old Cubbison was raised to be a soldier. In his 28 years of service to his country, Cubbison has worked his way up from the bottom. He started his military career in 1954 in New Cumberland, Pa. as a Private assigned to the Army Security Agency. He worked in this field for 11 years until 1965 when as an SFC he was sent to Vietnam.

For the Chattanooga, Tenn., native this meant assignment to the 25th Inf. Div. It was here that he acted as a special assistant to the commanding general in the Pacification Program. This unit worked under the supervision of the Military Assistance Command in Cu Chi, Vietnam. Specifically the program's function was to pacify the countryside, while lending medical and educational assistance to its people.

In 1969 Cubbison achieved the rank of 1st Sgt. while assigned to a unit in Munich, Germany. His next assignment brought him to Fort Campbell, Ky. While at Campbell in 1974 he was again promoted this time to Command Sergeant Major where he took over that position for the 2-17th Cav. He remained there until re-assignment to Weisbaden, Germany in 1977. There he was the senior enlisted man for the 4th Bde., 4th Inf. Div.

Cubbison stayed there until July 1979 when he took over as Command Sergeant Major of the 3rd Inf. Div. headquartered in Wurzburg, Germany. It is this assignment which gave Cubbison the full view of the top level direction involved with the division whose soldiers are tasked with defending the West German border, it is from this experience on the "frontline" that we will be drawing upon in the comparison of training and its relation to RDF training and mission.

When comparing the training missions between the 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) and those of a division in Europe, a number of differences pop up. Transportation problems for units in Europe are small compared to those confronting units in the states. This is especially true when trying to move a division with 15,000 troops and equipment half way around the world should the need arise.

As part of the RDF, the 24th Inf. Div. maintains a task force consisting of one battalion with support units required to be ready to deploy within 24 hours of notification. This would be the case whether they were leaving out of Hunter, the port of Savannah or even Charleston Air Force Base. This task force as part of the assault team would have with it at least one company of each of the combat arms elements, plus additional support units.

Cubbison has been 1st bde's CSM since September of last year. Since then his brigade has been the "Ready Brigade" for two of the divisions Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercises (EDRE). As such he has seen the system work. He has also helped out in identifying and evaluating the problems, to help with possible solutions to them.

Cubbison, when questioned on the RDF mission, described it this way. "The concept of the RDF is a good one. The biggest limiting factor will be the availability of aircraft and vessels to get us to our area of responsibility. Each time we have had an EDRE we have gotten better at it. I'd like to go through the entire process to see how it works. Of course the main problem with this kind of an exercise is the high cost," added Cubbison.



CSM Donald Cubbison.

So while the Rapid Deployment Force is still undergoing many changes, it continues to move forward. The key to its success will depend on the contributions of the 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) and others like it. For CSM Donald Cubbison it will be a job not easily completed. "We're making progress, but we've still got a long way to go."



We delight in sharing with you some of our mail. For example, here's one from Korea. Incidentally, General Vaught assumed his command last September 25th in ceremonies at Camp RED CLOUD.



19 November 1981

Dear Ken:

The latest copy of Taro Leaf reached me recently. I enjoyed reading about the recent reunion. I had planned to attend this year but found PCS orders in hand in early August which required me to return to Korea for my third tour. I'm sure everyone had a wonderful time at the convention.

I am now in command of the Combined Field Army (ROK/US) stationed in the Western Sector of Korea. The inclosed news items describe our organization. Please know that the 24th Infantry Division is still held in very high esteem by older Koreans who remember its prompt arrival here in 1950.

Mrs. Vaught joins me in extending best wishes to you and members of the Taro Leaf staff for a happy holiday season and successful 1982.

Sincerely,

JAMES B. VAUGHT
Lieutenant General, USA

Mr. Kenwood Ross
Editor, TARO LEAF
24th Infantry Division Association
120 Maple Street
Springfield, MA 01103

Spotted in VFW Magazine: OWEN R. GEDDES, (724 Ord. '44) of Red Eagle, Pawhuska, OK, anxious to contact JOHN GOSSICK, WILLIAM LUGANBILL, NICKLOS TURBUICH and VAL ASTERIA. We'll see if this little plug helps any, Owen. Surely someone of our gang must know at least one of these busters.

New member: AL REDONNET, (B 3rd Eng.), of 53 Nashua, E. Pepperell, MA.

PAUL OUELLETTE, (19th '50) of 53 Greenfield, Windsor Locks, CT has joined through his son, Jim. Jim was a 25th Div. man; he's now with the Air Force. He told us his "father would be pleased to hear from us." So he did. Now Paul's a member.

JOHNNY BONTJE, (A 19th '50), of 409 Brown, Larchwood, Iowa, says he is anxious to hear from any of his old buddies.



One of our boys in a Soviet built tank. He found out that it wasn't built for comfort. As if one of our tanks was. You'll ask: "How come there were Soviet tanks in Bright Star 82?" Good question. US Army Photo by Sp. 5 CLARK BROOKSTONE.

COMPLAINT FORM

PLEASE WRITE YOUR COMPLAINT IN BOX BELOW. WRITE LEGIBLY



"Sir, by any chance did you forget to put the uniform of the day on the training schedule?"

It gives us the katzenjammers that this issue can't reach you before the holidays are upon you. That way we could extend to you warm Season's Greetings. Our apologies, please, for being a little late.



Looks like a lot of sand -- and no Sphinx. Nor a single camel.
US Army Photo by Capt. STEVE RITTER.



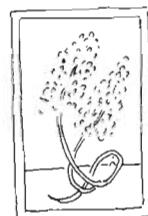
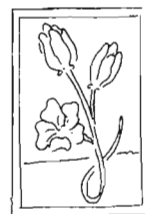
Teamwork between American and Egyptian soldiers was a keynote of Bright Star 82. US Army Photo by Capt. STEVE RITTER.

JOHN MORRISON, (D 21st '41-'44), of 54 Chelsea, Mt.Sina, N.Y., sent off for Red's "Follow Me" immediately upon reading our pitch for same in last issue. Then, Johnny let's us have it with, "What happened to our Division book?" It's coming, John, it's coming. Out in the spring. We're doing our best.

JOINED: Maj.Gen. GERHARDT W. HYATT, (21st 8/50-7/51) out of Concordia College, St.Paul, Minn., of which institution, General Hyatt is President.

RALPH and Jean HALEY, (24th Sig. '42-'44), of 6406 Eagle Crest, Charlotte, N.C., commenting on the picture of "Bud" POE in the last issue, wrote: "Only one thing puzzles us. Why isn't Bud gray-headed, or bald, like the rest of us?" Beats us, folks.

JOINED: DON and Margaret NARRAGON, (5th RCT '49-'51), of 4102 N.E. Riverside, Pendleton, Ore. Don's in insurance.



Think you might be in this one? Not a chance. This is Alexandria, Egypt in 1981, fella. We can't make out the bumper marking. Looks like B 19 on the right side. US Army Photo by Capt. STEVE RITTER. You got around, Steve.

Spotted in VFW Magazine's ELLIS H. REED, (F 19th '51), of 401 S. Evergreen, Woodbury, N.J. anxious to locate RAYMOND W. ROUP. Anyone out there got an idea?

Introducing Life Member #466. BOB DEFRAIN, (G 19 '50-'51), of 1638 Granville, Los Angeles, steps right up with \$110 - \$100 for a Life Membership and \$10 for the kitty. Watta guy. Thanks, Bob.

JERRY VON MOHR ran into HOWARD TATE, (21st '42-'44), of 236 S.W. 3rd, Richmond, Ind., in the Dayton, Ohio VA hospital. Now Howard's a member. Thanx Jerry.

FRANK WILCZAK, of 224 Shanley, Cheek Towaga, N.Y., who was with Division in Germany in '58-'59, is rounding up some of his buddies for us.

C.W. FRANKLIN, (B 19 & 724 Ord. '51), of Cedar Tree Farm, Milford, CT, likes the one about the Irishman who locked his keys in his car "and it took him two hours to get his family out." Does this signal a trend away from the Polish jokes?



Egypt, 1981. Doesn't look too exciting, does it? US Army Photo by Capt. STEVE RITTER. Steve, let's ask you a question, please! In all of these photos, we haven't seen a single dame. What ain't you got? You ain't got dames!



Here our men are unraveling some camouflage. It was a case of tug and pull for the desert winds made this kind of work that much more difficult. US Army Photo by Sp 5 CLARK BROOKSTONE.



BILL SHOWN, (21st '41-'43; Recn. '43-'44), of 1911 Francis, Waukesha, WI, got after us. Seems we said in a recent issue that the "vehicles were offloaded." Says that when he played soldier, "we used to disembark." Well, Bill, our Webster says that to offload is to unload and we think that's what we did. Those trucks didn't get off by themselves. They were loaded off or unloaded. Webster also says that to disembark is to go ashore out of a ship or to remove cargo to shore from on board a ship. Now you've got us confused.

Chaplain JOE PEYTON suggests adding Zips whenever we use an address in our copy. First, let's remind you of this. We went to the "street, city and state" bit for obvious reasons. You might spot a name and decide then and there to drop him a line -- ergo the supplied data. Now comes the answer to Joe. We can add Zips if you wish -- no big problem. We've just felt that the use of the address alone made some of these news items sort of klutzy. Now to add a lot of digits along with it will lead to a paper which will be filled with numbers. We'll do it regardless of our complaint if the hue and cry is loud enough.

GORDON RAITZ, (Hq. 19th '42-'45), of R2, Box 39, Hector, MN, remembered to give us his telephone # for our forthcoming directory. Gordon's retired from farming. Is wintering with his wife and 3 sons in AZ. Says he'd like to hear from any of his buddies. Adds Virginia in a P.S. "Smile. It takes 72 muscles to frown, only 14 to smile." Thanks, Virginia, and you're talking to one of the biggest frowners of all.

CARL WIPPERMAN, (724 Ord. 12/49-10/51), of Everett, WA, reports that he's the head honcho of the Am. Legion convention for Washington next July 21-24. The Red Lion in Bellevue will host. Invites any of us in the area to drop in for a couple. Thanx, Carl.

Good friend Maj. Gen. FRED R. ZIERATH, of 7402 Coral, Tacoma, WA, spotted this on a fishing boat last summer. Knowing of our love for the foolish, sometimes the ridiculous, he sent it in. It went:

"Old salors never die,
They just get a little dinghy."
Love it, Fred. Many thanks.

EARL J. COOPER, (D, 1st Bn. Hq., Sv. 21st '41-'45), of 1544 Jermain, Toledo, OH, reports surgery on his you-know-what. Earl doesn't say anything on his recovery so we assume he's A-O-K. Probably spending a lot of time standing up, eh, Earl? Best wishes to you.



This M60 is kicking up a bit of dust with the Egyptian sand. This baby made it all the way to Egypt from Stewart. US Army Photo by Capt. STEVE RITTER. Great shot, Steve!!

Our Question and Answer Lady has one for you today:

Q My husband has had his \$10,000 G.I. life insurance policy for 40 years. Would it be smart to cash this policy?

A No. Veterans of World War I and II and the Korean War were allowed to convert their \$10,000 serviceman's life insurance coverage into equal amounts of term or whole life policies at low premiums subsidized by the federal government. It's the best bargain in life insurance you'll find. Hang on to it.

"For Christmas," a woman remarked to her friend, "I got a visit from a jolly, bearded fellow with a great big bag over his shoulder. My son came home from college with his laundry."

Surgery on both feet for ALTON HALSO, of Rt. 4, Box 399, Kinston, N.C. Coming along, thankfully.

LOU and Vicki TACCHI, (E 34 '43-'45), of 6832 Bradley, St. Louis, MO, have a son in Austin, TX, so they're planning to drop in on JIM FREDERICK in Arlington when they go down.

Fortune-teller: "You will be poor and unhappy until you are 30."

Client: "And then?"

Fortune-teller: "Then you'll get used to it."

EARL MASON, (F 21st '45), of Rt. 3, Box 1005, Gonzales, LA, has joined our Life Member ranks. Earl is looking for a chap he served with on Mindanao by the name of Ross. That's the second time someone has been looking for Ross.

THINK AHEAD



Think Ahead? Great idea! But we have to look back too. As usual, we're late with our pictures. Here's one just received showing "You-know-who" at the mike. It was Assumption of Command Day, September 25th, at Ft. George G. Meade. The First Army Commander was making what the program called "Remarks". The gentleman at his left was Lieut. Gen. M. Collier Ross, Deputy Commander of US Army Forces Command, headquartered at Ft. McPherson, Georgia.



**DON'T MAKE A
MOVE WITHOUT US!**

Moving? Tell us, won't you please?



JULIAN PROTOR VAN WINKLE, former president of Stitzel-Weller Distillery, Inc. now Old Fitzgerald Distillery, died in Louisville, KY on Nov. 20th at age 67.

Van Winkle, a graduate of Woodberry Forest School in Virginia and Princeton University, joined the staff of Stitzel-Weller in 1937. He served in various management positions before becoming president in 1964. He retired in 1972 and established J.P. Van Winkle & Son, a firm that markets whiskey in commemorative decanters. He had served as its president also.

During World War II, Van Winkle served as a captain and commanded a tank company attached to the 24th Infantry Division. He was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action in the Philippines.

Deceased: JOSEPH BRADY, of 3742 W. Dickens, Chicago, IL.

CARL E. JOHNSON, (1st Bn. Med. 21st '42-'45) of 610 Main, Batavia, IL, died Apr. 27, 1981. We are advised by his widow, Marybelle. She advises that he died 2 days after his 72nd birthday.

Died: On Aug. 17 at Camp Hill, Pa., Mildred D. RUGGABER, the wife of Brig.Gen. (Ret.) JOHN C. RUGGABER, (Div. G-4 '46-'48). Besides her husband, she is survived by a son, Robert F. and two grandchildren. Burial was in Arlington National Cemetery. Our hearts go out to "Peanuts" and Bob; they have lost a wonderful lady.

Deceased: ARTHUR D. SMITH (K 34th '45), of Rt. 1, Dallas Center, IA.

Maj.Gen. NUMA A. WATSON, a U.S. Military Academy graduate who served in the infantry 35 years until his retirement, died November 18, 1981 at the age of 82.

Gen. Watson was born on Sept. 6, 1899, in Salem, N.J., grew up in Texas, then attended Cornell University one year before entering the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. He was graduated a second lieutenant in 1922.

A colonel in World War II, he commanded the 13th Infantry Regiment of the Eighth Division in Germany's Hurtgen Forest area.

Gen. Watson remained in Italy when his division returned to the United States, then spent two years back at headquarters of the U.S. Military Academy before going to the Far East Command.

He landed with the Seventh Division at Inchon, Korea, in September 1950.

Gen. Watson was assistant commander of the 24th Division in Korea before being assigned as chief of staff for the Fourth Army. His final assignment was as commanding general for the Southern Area Command in Germany.

His decorations include the Silver Star with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Ribbon, Purple Heart and Combat Infantryman Badge.

Gen. Watson is survived by his wife Mildred; a daughter Sally Applin of Gloucester, Va., five grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO ADJUST YOUR SET



Late arrival out of the ROY BROWN household. Roy's G21st '43-'44 and hangs his hat at Box 193, Von Ormy, TX. It was all G of the Gimlet's at St. Louis and reading from left to right, meet JAMES "Spike" O'DONNELL, ROY, LOUIS KEPLER, LEO "Doc" CRAMER, and VICTOR HABEEB. The boys are crowding the right half of the picture; the boat was listing.

COLON MANSFIELD, (K 19 '38-'40), of 7506 Walker, Panama City, FL, thoughtfully kept us supplied with news accounts of Division in the RDF maneuver in Egypt.

If we don't answer your letter personally, kindly forgive. We've been simply swamped with mail. Some of it we're answering via these pages.

JOE SALE, (C 6th Tk. 8/50-12/51), of 115 Platt, Fayetteville, W.Va., is trying to reach anyone with the 6th Tk. in Korea. Joe was a M/Sgt. then. We'll see what we can do, Joe. Right now we're not organized to answer you quickly. We're on the way to getting out a Directory of Members with units, times, addresses, and tel. #s. Be patient, please.

An appeals court has upheld the Topps Chewing Gum Co.'s exclusive right to publish baseball bubble gum cards. Hmmm.. anybody want to trade an old Earl Torgeson?

Three men were discussing savoir faire. One said, "If I go home and find my wife kissing another man and say, 'Excuse me,' that is savoir faire."

The second said, "Not quite. If I come home and find my wife kissing another man and say, 'Excuse me -- please continue,' that's savoir faire."

The third said, "If I come home and find my wife kissing another man and I say, 'Excuse me -- please continue,' and he can continue, that's savoir faire."



Why are these two laughing? Have they looked around lately?

Then there's the one about the young woman who was walking through the woods when she heard a frog say: "Kiss me and release me from this wicked spell." So she bent down and kissed him.

Immediately, the frog turned into a wrinkled old man. The girl gasped: "But you're supposed to turn into a handsome prince!"

"Boy," sneered the oldster, "are you a sucker for a fairy tale."

