

TARO LEAF
24th Infantry Division Association
Kenwood Ross, Editor
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Dorothea Dix



John J. Audubon



FIRST CLASS MAIL

1985 Dues
Are Due

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THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH



A word about that infamous History.

It simply is not finished.

There are only 24 hours in each day. I am still faced with the problem of making a living. And I do what I can to contribute to the survival of this Association -- an effort which already consumes unbelievable hours.

We'll finish it within this fiscal year -- by December, by March, by April -- we know not -- much depends on our God-given energies.

Take our word for it -- please -- we are doing the very best that we can.

If that isn't enough, you might indicate your displeasure -- and we shall quietly withdraw from the project -- entirely, completely, and fully.

A reminder is in order.

Historically, the book concept, in its early genesis, was to be a method for increasing the Association membership.

With that thinking in mind, we envisioned a 3000 membership with 2000 supporting the History financially.

2000 copies of the book at \$42.00 per page was to give us a 330 page book -- \$14,000.00 for the printing and \$16,000.00 for the binding.

Or if we went to a paperback we could save on the binding portion of the expense and obtain probably 100 more pages to make it a 430 page book.

Of necessity, the planning for the book has been along the lines of editing the Taro Leaf. It's written so we can add or subtract pages here or there as budget considerations dictate without any serious interruption in continuity.

But what are we leading up to?

The story of two failures.

The first failure has been to increase our membership from around 600 when we started to around 3000 when we went to press.

We are only up to 1600 plus in membership.

The second failure has been to sell the book. Of our 1600 members, only about 750 have indicated a support thereof with cash on the barrelhead.



taro leaf

For some reason known only to the Great Programmer in the Sky, at the moment when Wimbledon, and our strawberry harvest, and the anniversary of Task Force Smith's commitment to battle are in conjunction, we stop everything and watch the telly, make jam, and meditate on what those brave men from Kumamoto and Fukuoka endured in those first fateful days around Osan.

As it was at Wimbledon this year, we were bothered by clouds and rain at the height of the season. This cut the berries' sugar content; they're always sweeter and do their best after a good shot of sun between showers.

And as to Task Force Smith, this was a special year -- its 35th after the fact.

We were invited to join a few of those brave men at Columbus, Ohio -- and having accepted, we flew there in the late afternoon to participate in the July 5th ceremonies.

Memories of Columbus came to mind as we flew westward. It was 33 years ago this summer when we were last there -- our Association had assembled then for its 5th reunion -- "WOODY" WOODRUFF flew in with a planeload of Taro Leafers from Camp Polk -- STAN MELOY was there to describe the horrors of that first summer and autumn in the Pusan Perimeter -- and Mildred DEAN was our honored guest flying in from California full of doubts on the status of BILL.

The men of Task Force Smith were our heroes then; and 35 years later to the very day they are our heroes now.

In this issue, we give you their story.

TARO LEAF

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1984-1985

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 Taro Leaf.

The Burger King thing at Stewart has caused a bit of a rumble out there in Hinesville -- at least among a few Hinesvillains -- did we spell it correctly? Maybe we're right. Maybe they are villains. Seems they don't like the Burger King franchise operating on post. Will take away from business in town, they say.

Georgia Senator Mack Mattingly recently introduced an amendment to the Department of Defense Authorization Bill that puts a moratorium on the building of any new franchises on military posts. The amendment is a basically a fact-gathering time for a report to be prepared and presented to Congress. The report is due Jan. 1, 1986 and will study the economic impact of post franchises on local economies, analysis of how the funds are used, and legalities of the franchise. It does not affect those already under construction.

"The amendment provides that the military not enter an agreement or commence construction on a franchise until 90 days after the report is turned into Congress," said a spokesman from Mattingly's office. "The situation at Ft. Stewart helped bring the development to his (Mattingly's) attention, but the interest goes beyond Ft. Stewart."

MG SCHWARZKOPF was masterful in the manner in which he calmed the troubled waters in the neighborhood.

Life isn't easy anymore, is it?

By order of the Pentagon, military bases around the country must now conform to the drinking age laws of the states where they are located. And in Georgia, its minimum drinking age is 19, goes to 20 on Sept. 30 and a year later goes to 21. In South Carolina, a skip and a holler away, the legal age is 20 and goes to 21 next year.

Nearly 400,000 of the 2.1 million men and women -- 'scuse us, make that "persons" -- on active duty are under 21. It's gonna be fun watching this one get tossed hither and yon.

"OH HECK!"



Oh Heck! it is for the consumption of those of us who used to proclaim that "Our Division has never been home," try this on your piano. It's one of the series, in this issue, on our "Honduras Chapter." It's Sgt. Mark Paulk, Huey mechanic assigned to D Company, 24th Combat Aviation Bn., as he prepares a UH-1H helicopter for shipment during the Joint Task Force Bravo exercise in Honduras, C.A. on 20 May 85. US Army photo.



"ALL RIGHT, SIZE IT UP. TALL MEN TO THE FRONT."
—Pfc. D. Lewis, March Field, Calif.

Briefly

Here's a gal for you -- Porchia Watkins is the beloved daughter of EARL E. MORRIS. Porchia is trying to build a directory of names and addresses of Service Co. 19th men who served with her Dad. She said, "Dad is always talking about his time in the Army so I thought this would be a nice thing to do for him." Maybe she means this will be a way to keep him quiet about his military career. Anyway, Earl is NOT an Association member so that's the first thing we're going to get straight with Porchia -- interesting name, isn't it? At any rate, we're out to help Porchia. Earl was in the outfit from Jan. '45 - Aug. '46. First man who comes to mind is our terrific JOE PEYTON. Joe, hop aboard here and help us, will you.

AGAINST
ALL ODDS

ERRATUM

Oh yes, we're capable of a goof -- but in truth we were only repeating what was sent to us.

In a recent issue we gave a biographical sketch of the military career of the new CG, Maj.Gen. ANDREW L. COOLEY.

Here are the corrections --

His date of rank as a BG should be 25 Jan. 79.

His date of rank as a MG should be 1 Oct. 80.

Our apologies, General.

Whatta way to get started with the "New Man."

1985 Dues
Are Due



We tried to place one more issue in your hands before you left for Louisville. It simply was not to be. There just are not enough hours in the day to cover all the bases and to play right field as well. Here it is. If you'll read between the lines, you'll note that we've been busy "on the road."



Another ----- Kodachrome!

Introducing, in this corner (left), wearing purple tights and weighing 185 pounds, RALPH B. CUNNINGHAM, (Hq.Co. 1st Bn., 34th 5/43-11/45), of 19871 Lucinda, South Bend IN. and in the other corner (right) GEORGE SUDDUTH (same company '41-'45), of 1709 Centerville, Belleville, IL. They're gonna try to Louisville it.



The picture (above) is of the cooks of Div.Hqs. mess taken at Taloma Beach Mindanao in June '45. Notice the 3 birthday cakes. We identify WALTER "Shorty" SCHERER, 3rd from left, front row, and DICK DEWEERD, 2nd from left, rear row. We're stumped as to the rest. Sorry.

GOING OUT

You were represented as Maj.Gen. H. NORMAN SCHWARZKOPF made his farewell statement to the Division at Stewart on Friday, June 14th. President RAY KRESKY, Vice President DICK WATSON (and his lovely bridge Phyllis), Chaplain JOE PEYTON, and Past Prexies ED HENRY, WALLY CUNNINGHAM and KEN ROSS were in total agreement about it being one of the finest military speeches ever made -- and between us we've heard quite a few. We'll even go so far as to compare it favorably with the MacArthur speech to the Congress.

Let's give you some high points of the speech -- "oration" may be the better name for it. (Sorry, we couldn't copy it as fast as Norm beautifully delivered it.)

Schwarzkopf first expressed pride at welcoming the incoming commander Maj.Gen. Andrew L. Cooley and his family.

"This is a great division. It deserves a great commander and it has one. If I could have picked my successor, I would have picked Andy Cooley."

Next, Schwarzkopf thanked the citizens of Georgia for making the state "a great place to soldier" and asked for their continued support.

Schwarzkopf thanked the civilian work force of Fort Stewart, starting with his lovely secretary Jane Tuten. He went from there to thank "all the secretaries who support their bosses so well. And to the

members of DEH and DIO, the comptroller shop and rec services, and the PXs and the commissaries. I could go on and on. You truly serve your country proudly, too, because you serve the soldiers and families of your Army."

Pausing between thoughts, Schwarzkopf drew a deep breath before addressing his former staff.

"I know it hasn't been easy being a staff in a commander's division, but you've always delivered. And you've delivered great products every time. I wish for each of you that someday very soon you will be a commander in a commander's division. You've earned that right."

"To my commanders, to my officers, you've taken the dreams of an old warhorse and you've breathed youth and fire and spirit and courage into them," Schwarzkopf said with emotion.

"You've demonstrated the drive, the aggressiveness, the initiative, the flexibility that will guarantee that if you have to go to war, you will lead your soldiers to victory," he continued. "But more importantly, you will lead them to victory with a minimum loss of their lives."

"To my noncommissioned officers, you're not the backbone of the Army; you're the guts; you're the muscle; you're the blood, because you're the ones that make it happen. Officers come and officers go,



The salute battery for rendering honors to the outgoing Schwarzkopf? Why the 1st Bn., 13th FA, that's who. Kimberly Carter, you and your camera were everywhere on that brilliant -- and cool -- day. Thanks. A U.S.Army photo.



Here's the "Big Fella" making that emotion-packed speech which we said was so terrific. Kimberly Carter, you took this one too -- so we say "Thank you" once again.

but you noncommissioned officers remain steadfast in the ranks, leading and taking care of soldiers," the outgoing general said.

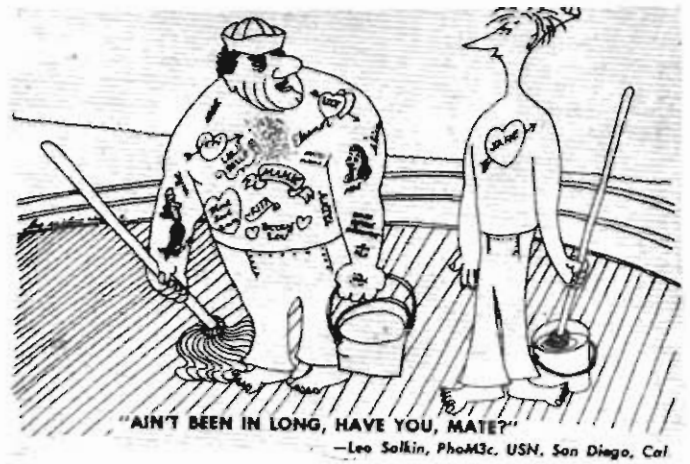
"You are truly the epitome of professional soldiers. I respect you, I admire you and I love you."

Schwarzkopf then addressed his family, "the family of every officer, every non-commissioned officer and every soldier."

"You've been there when we came home, and when we were down, you made us up," he said. "And sometimes when we were too proud because we had been ordering thousands or hundreds or thirties or tens of men around all day long, you taught us a little bit of humility by not brushing your teeth when we told you to. Thank you for loving the soldiers."

In closing, Schwarzkopf directed his comments to the Victory Division soldiers, "the very best we've ever had in our Army."

"My country has given me the honor of allowing me to command you for 717 days.



Where they ever dug up this half track escapes us but Maj.Gen. COOLEY, on the left, and Maj.Gen. SCHWARZKOPF, on the right, trooped the line with it. Thanks, Kimberly Carter, for the U.S. Army photo.

Not one time in that 717 days have you ever made me ashamed to be your commander," he continued. "My heart bursts with pride when I look at you. I know that you will make your nation proud."

"I've loved you as only a soldier can love soldiers, and now I'm going to say goodbye. Serve your new commander proudly. And thank you, thank you for the great privilege of being your division commander."

"God bless you and First to Fight!"

And with that, there wasn't a pair of dry eyes on Cottrell Field.

Up & Coming

And, of course, in addition to the Schwarzkopf speech, there was the new incoming commander.

"I pledge to you that if war comes, we will be the first to fight, and the result will be victory," said Maj.Gen. ANDREW L. COOLEY during the ceremony at which he took command of the Division.

"I look forward to continuing the programs, the policies of General Schwarzkopf that have led to this division being the fine division that it is. I have a saying that if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

"Well, I'm not looking for things to be broken, and I'm not looking for things to fix; but I'm going to continue the programs that have given you the reputation that you have justly earned all over the United States."

Cooley went on to say that he believes,



Maj.Gen. COOLEY delivering his first words to the troops of his new command. A U.S. Army photo made possible through the efforts of Kimberly Carter.

like outgoing division commander Schwarzkopf, that the division's primary mission is the ability to go to war. He said that he has the same views on training and readiness as Schwarzkopf.

Cooley also stressed the importance of continuing a good relationship with the civilian community and said he looks forward to getting to know the communities surrounding the post.

He told about having visited Maj.Gen. FREDERICK IRVING in Arlington before leaving the Pentagon for Georgia. Asking for counsel, Fred reduced it to 3 items and in the most simplistic of terms (sounding like Fred all the way). "First, be easily seen and observed by the troops. Second, take risks. And third, minimize your casualties."

That small part of a great opening statement to the command hit a particularly warm spot in the hearts of we retirees sitting there in the reviewing stand.

But let's tell you more.

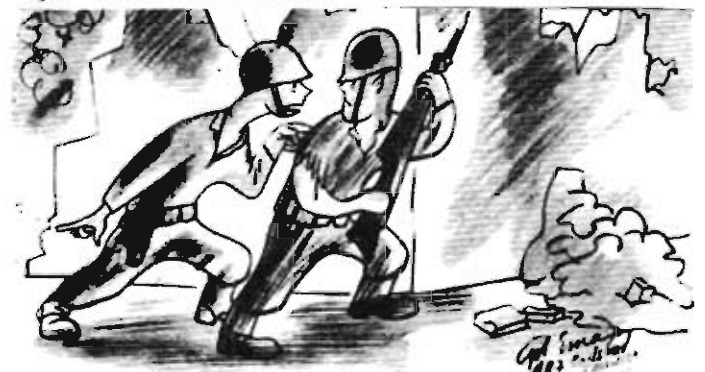
General Robert W. Sennewald, commanding general of U.S. Forces Command and presiding officer for the ceremony, thanked Schwarzkopf and his family for a job well done and welcomed Cooley and his family.

"He has done the tough job well," Sennewald said of Schwarzkopf. "He has emphasized readiness to ensure that soldiers of the 24th are well trained and better prepared so that they can fight and win."

Sennewald then turned his attention to Cooley. "The commander is first a soldier. He must be confident in his profession. He must be a compassionate human being. He must truly want to be around soldiers. He must exercise all these roles in executing his responsibility to the men and women of the command. General Cooley is such a commander," Sennewald said.

"General Cooley understands, as I do, that the Division is in the forefront of an impressive array of Army units working together," Sennewald said. He then challenged Cooley to "keep the Division strong and ready, and to oversee its continued development and improvement."

Following Sennewald's remarks, Schwarzkopf said his farewell to the division.



-Cpl. E. Maxwell

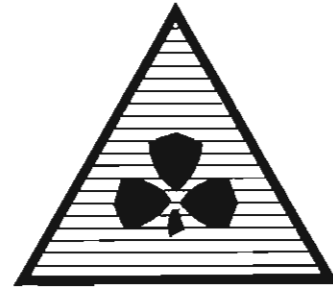
-BE-A-PART-OF-IT-



It's Gen. Sennewald, FORSCOM commander, in the center, facing Gen. COOLEY on the left, and Gen. SCHWARZKOPF on the right. A U.S. Army photo by Dan Mock.



Maj.Gen. and Mrs. ANDREW L. COOLEY receive congratulations at the Officers Club following the June 14th Change of Command. Wonderfully attractive people. We're proud to welcome them to "our" family.



Maj.Gen. SCHWARZKOPF accepts the last cannon cartridge used in the honors paid him during the June 14th farewell. A Dan Mock photo. Nice going, Dan.





Knew you'd want to see this massing of the Division Colors. Don Teft took this U.S. Army photo. Looks great, Don.



The you-know-what played among its numbers, the Division March and at the very end Auld Lang Syne to a much-loved Gen. Schwarzkopf. Kimberly took this one too. Aggressive gal, that Kimberly. And because we have to, be it known that this is a U.S. Army photo.

Sp.4 Mark Wilson of C Battery, 5th Bn., 52nd Air Defense Artillery of the Division recently received at Stewart the Bavarian Medal of Bravery from Consul General Wolfgang Drautz of the West German government. Mark helped save a German motorist from his burning car.

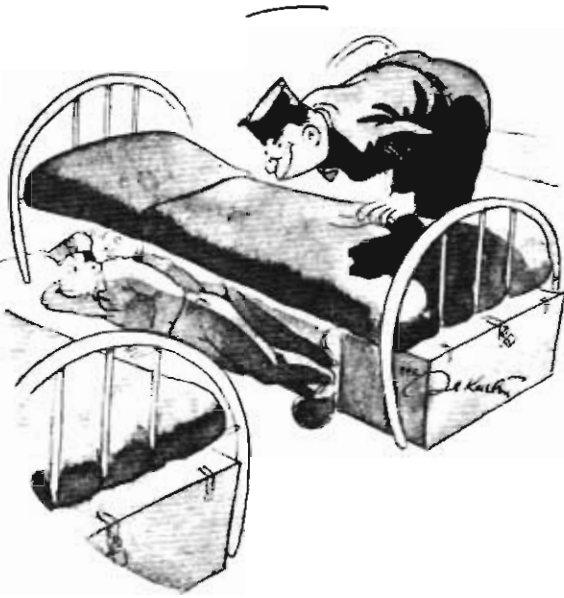
When the incident happened, Wilson was assigned in West Germany. He and five other soldiers were on a training exercise when they saw the accident. They ran over and pulled the injured German from his burning car seconds before it exploded.

The consul praised Wilson's heroism, saying his actions "reflect the humanity of the American people," and helped to further cement friendly relations between the two nations. -- Dean Wohlgenuth

Telephoned URBAN THROM in Denver. Urb, you'll recall, was finally helicoptered off the roof of the Pines Hotel after an all-night vigil. Vigil? Is that the proper word? Yes, we believe so. Urb reports that "All's well -- except..." Seems he has yet to file his income tax return -- and the "boys" are haunting him about it. Too, 3 of his race horses have been stolen. Had them on a horse farm down in FL. And the farm went bankrupt. Stolen, Urb? Well at least you won't have to feed 'em. You said once, "Boy can those suckers eat!"

The innkeeper loves the drunkard, but not for a son-in-law.

A little inaccuracy sometimes saves tons of explanation.



"DID EITHER OF YOU GENTLEMEN CARE TO VOLUNTEER FOR A LITTLE SPECIAL DETAIL?"

-Plt. Al Kaelin, Tobyhanna, Pa.

Life is what happens
While you're making other plans.



We just had to include this one even though it's a newsprint copy of the original -- so it'll be in dark grey -- almost like mud -- when you see it. But it had to go in. Obviously, it's Maj.Gen. COOLEY, the Division flag having just been handed over to him, reflecting that he's now "the Boss." We offer our own warm welcome to "the Boss."

Capt. Jay Robert ROSENBLUM, the son of Lt.Gen. DONALD and Laura, married Miss Elizabeth Ann Snyder last June 15th at Annapolis MD.



General Robert W. Sennewald (left), Commanding General, U.S. Armed Forces Command, bids farewell to General Schwarzkopf. Gen. Sennewald did the honors also at the Rosenblum retirement at Meade a year earlier. A Kimberly Carter photo. A U.S. Army photo too.



And here they are, the lovely ladies Brenda SCHWARZKOPF, on the left, and Joan COOLEY, on the right, proud witnesses as the Change-Of-Command ensued. A U.S. Army photo, with credit to Dan Mock. A little suggestion, Dan, if you don't mind. Next time, avoid that center post.

Cerebrations

A Bernard Adelsberger item out of the Savannah News-Press reads:

On the morning of April 18, 1983, Maj.Gen. Andrew L. Cooley, then Joint Chiefs of Staff representative to the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations, was not in his office in the American embassy in Beirut. He was in the office of Lebanese President Amin Gemayel some 10 miles away.

Good thing. Cooley heard an explosion, then got word that a car bomb had been detonated outside the embassy, destroying most of it -- including his office -- and killing 63 people.

In a recent interview, Cooley declined to discuss that period of his 30-year military career or the current crisis in Beirut.

He readily talked about his first week at Fort Stewart, however, saying his impressions so far were "very positive." Cooley said that coming in cold without preconceptions can give someone a clearer idea of a division's "spirit."

"A division is a very personal thing, a division has got a soul," Cooley said.

During his orientation before taking over the command, Cooley said, he spent time with service schools associated with the 24th Infantry and toured the National Training Center in southern California,



and heard praise for the division. Cooley said what he has seen of the troops so far has reinforced what he had heard before coming here.

The general also noted the changes in the physical plant since he was here for six weeks 28 years ago with a tank battalion for gunnery training. Since the post was reactivated in 1975, nearly \$400 million in construction has been completed, changing it from an outdated, circa World War II camp into a modern military facility.

"For the first time in my military career, I've been in buildings that were designed for exactly what they're doing," Cooley said. "The motor pool is a motor pool; it's not a quonset hut converted into a motor pool."

Having spent two years on the demilitarized zone between North and South Korea as a brigade commander, then chief of staff, with the 2nd Infantry Division, Cooley feels commanding troops in the United States is an equal responsibility, but in a different light.

The "challenge is every bit as great" at Fort Stewart, he said, since the division's potential mission involves more than one narrow area. His tour here also takes in different aspects of commanding that he said would not be a concern overseas.

"Taking care of the families, the physical environment, housing, grass-cutting, recreational facilities -- all of that," he said.



And this one is not a U.S. Army photo. It's a JOE PEYTON special. The change of command ceremonies have ended. Gen. and Mrs. Cooley have withdrawn to the Officers Club to stand in a receiving line. Gen. and Mrs. Schwartzkopf (on the right) are standing in their own receiving line for making their last "Goodbyes" to the hundreds who lined up for the honors. That's President RAY KRESKY holding the gift and Past President WALLY CUNNINGHAM with his back to us all. The gift? The newly released volume, "The Airman and the Carpenter," a review of the Lindbergh case of the '30's, in which Norm's father, Norman L. Schwartzkopf played such a memorable part in his then capacity as head of the New Jersey State Police. Norm smilingly says of the times, "I was but a little baby."



That's the receiving line headed by Gen. and Mrs. Cooley. With their backs to us are the WATSON's, Vice President DICK and lovely better half Phyl and your Editor close behind.

Surgery for Charlotte, good wife of JOHN E. BROWN (D 21 '39-'44), of 6002 Sudbury, Jacksonville FL. Johnny reports that she is recuperating -- as is he from his heart surgery of a year ago. Lots of sickness in that house. Keep your chins up, folks. Better days ahead.



The Cooley's are about to cut the Division cake. 'Twas a beauty.



At the Change of Command Ceremony, we met the gracious Tom Coffey, the editor of the Savannah Morning News. He has been a true friend of the Army, of Stewart, and of its people over a long time period. We thanked him for letting us steal some of his material in the past, and threatened that we'd like to do more of it in the future. He smiled and nodded approvingly. We didn't know that we'd be involved in more larceny so soon -- but following the festivities at Stewart, he wrote this for his paper -- and we want you to share in the warmth of his wonderful words. Here goes:

"Camp, march and battle" describes the main milieu of soldiers. I've used the phrase before, its source long forgotten. It pops to mind at such impressive ceremonies as last Friday's change-of-command at Fort Stewart -- they're in camp, they march, their spirit and discipline in ranks underscores their battle-readiness.

Norm Schwarzkopf was bowing out as the 24th Division's commander, Andy Cooley taking his place. Two-star generals, both. And disciplined, both. You sense discipline from their demeanor. "Good soldiers, both," you say to yourself. Indeed, if you've known Norm Schwarzkopf since his arrival a couple of years ago, observed him, been aware of his leadership role in

It's not a sin to be rich; it's a miracle.

In the bleachers behind the reviewing stand, John Elton, the three-star general who will be Schwarzkopf's boss when the latter reports to the Pentagon, is saying praiseworthy things about "Norm." Ditto, Congressman Lindsay Thomas, two seats away from Elton, the lawmaker's relationship with the 24th now close since taking office two and a half years ago.

At the congressman's left is Robert Sennewald, the four-star general who runs U.S. Army Forces command. He addresses the troops assembled on the parade ground, lauding Schwarzkopf's "command" talent and instincts, assuring that Cooley's arrival brings another "example to follow."

It is a glorious day in most respects - Flag Day, the anniversary of Old Glory; Army Day, the GIs' anniversary.

It is a reassuring day to all who have come, reassuring because the scenario on that parade ground -- words and action -- bares evidence of "The Army."

You say to yourself: "This is an example of today's Army, and the Army can't be much different anywhere else." It simply stands to reason that there would not be a division in Georgia exuding the pride, esprit de corps, and sloppy divisions elsewhere. Someone of Senne-
wald's reputation would not tolerate such.

Combat-readiness assessments of the Army overall have confirmed that. You've gone to the ceremony already reassured; the ceremony provides an underscoring as one good-soldier commander succeeds another.

Yet, it's an emotional day. You can't sit there and watch depart someone this area has accepted as one of its own without experiencing at least a tinge of emotion. Even though Schwarzkopf, whom they call "The Bear," does. He addresses the troops without notes, from the heart, delivering a tribute that skips no one -- from soldiers' families to his own staff, from station complement to the civilian communities; and, of course, the non-coms and soldiers.

To hear a general whose presence suggests the total warrior choke back tears as he says, "I've loved you as only a soldier can love a soldier" is a touching experience. It says to civilians: "The Army cares, each for his own," and that extends to the Army's caring for those it protects and defends, meaning all Americans in uniform and mufti.

The band's "Auld Lang Syne" tribute to the departing general, dramatized by John Fraser's salute, from the CWO-director for their and our musicians, adds another gentle and tender touch.

This has followed the review in which troops who were massed across the field have passed by in eyes-right salute. No

Incidentally, Life Member RAYMOND W. TATMAN, whose death we report in this issue had a brother-in-law ELMER KOTH, of Tripp, SD, who was also in the Division. Was it the 21st or 34th, Elmer?

We well recall correspondence a few years ago with Ray -- a/k/a Bill, a/k/a Irish. Seems he had a Jap knee mortar and wanted to send it down to the museum at Stewart. In one letter he wrote whimsically: "I got it the hard way -- at Limon on Leyte -- Got hit by it. Several of my buddies went out and got it and threw it on my stretcher as a souvenir."



better precision marching will anyone see elsewhere -- thousands of camouflaged-suited infantrymen and support soldiers moving as one.

And as they leave the parade ground, the big weapons of war -- half-tracks, tanks, rocket-launchers, helicopters, howitzers, the works -- remain in view across the field, mute but positive evidence of firepower capability. Chariots of fire.

Here in this camp viewers have witnessed marching at its exemplary best and have sensed a reassurance that those who marched are ready for battle. Be thankful they are ready; pray they will never have to precede and ride those chariots into that third milieu called battle.

Wonderful words, Tom Coffey, and we thank you for every single one!!

NEWSBEAT

A year has passed since we last listed our benefactors -- those precious few who do a little more than pay their dues by sending in an extra 5 or 10 or whatever as the spirit moves. Here's what came in for the "kitty" between 6/30/84 and 6/30/85, our fiscal year. To each, our heartfelt thanks. It helps to keep us going. Here they are in the order of their submissions:

Lopera, David M.	20.00	Ross, Kenwood	704.51	Faulkner, Melvin J.	2.00
Foster, Jesse L.	25.00	Marasco, Nicholas	10.00	Gosztyla, Henry J.	100.00
White, Bessie O.	10.00	Sanger, John A.	10.00	Heller, Francis H.	50.00
Cenga, Joseph A.	10.00	Brown, Roy C.	10.00	Froome, Jr., J.N.	25.00
Longfellow, Robert	5.00	Reynolds, Wheeler H.	10.00	Beazley, Charles F.	11.00
Chase, Donald A.	5.00	Reinke, Richard E.	10.00	Ashton, Henry L.	25.00
Brown, John E.	10.00	Minnella, Thomas	10.00	Frederick, James L.	25.00
Voso, Edward J.	25.00	Todd, Vann G.	7.05	Pesko, Frank J.	10.00
Heller, Francis H.	10.00	Ronning, Rudolph	5.00	Cole, Alice M.	2.00
Rosenbeck, Richard	5.00	Buckovich, Joseph	5.00	O'Keefe, William M.	35.00
Smith, J. Fred	5.00	Beesley, Jr., Frank J.	10.00	Grosshuesch, Vernon	25.00
Nicoletta, Salvatore A.	5.00	Nelson, Richard L.	8.00	Chalupa, Robert	7.00
Guerrera, Michele	5.00	Raszowski, Raymond J.	5.00	Fitzgerald, Ed	5.00
Strasen, Harry	5.00	Kirk, Jack W.	10.00	McReynolds, James L.	20.00
Zierath, Fred R.	15.00	Janzer, J.L.	10.00	Sparks, Kenneth F.	7.05
Wyand, Walter S.	5.00	Ambrose, John A.	2.00	Ford, George L.	32.05
Olson, Milford A.	5.00	Hinkle, Donald R.	5.00	Foster, Jesse L.	10.00
Hicks, Ernest	2.25	O'Keefe, Mrs. William M.	25.00	Kemp, Arthur L.	25.00
Owens, Harry J.	10.00	Kilmartin, John	5.00	Burke, Ezra P.	7.05
Noto, Charles	15.00	Smigel, Ed	10.00	Hardin, Robert B.	4.00
Smith, Frank A.	5.00	Packard, D.C.	15.00	Obremski, Stanley	17.05
Rogers, John E.	1.00	Abbas, George A.	2.00	Ahnert, Lewis	5.00
Marinero, Samuel	5.00	List, Lee	100.00	McHale, Don	90.00
Daigle, Joseph I.	10.00	Stratton, Robert J.	10.00	Schaaf, Valentine	10.00
Skrzydlewski, Bernard	10.00	Cooley, Raymond D.	20.00	Stevenson, Belle	2.05
Marcinko, Joseph	10.05	Brown, John E.	10.00	Kaefer, Charles	10.00
Perry, Louis	5.00	King, Lloyd E.	5.00	Coffman, Allen	25.00
Romz, William J.	2.00	Jury, Milton J.	15.00	Tominaga, George T.	5.00
Nelton, Robert T.	5.00	Moser, Robert W.	20.00	Chase, Donald A.	5.00
Muske, Martin E.	5.00			Mecca, Daniel	10.00
Eadie, John	10.00	Geelhoed, Theodore	50.00	Fies, Raymond W.	10.00
Sullivan, John L.M.	10.00	Hartley, Paul W.	25.00	Bergman, Vera	10.00
Ross, Kenwood	95.00	Snyder, Evans L.	3.00	Hoffman, Aldon M.	5.00
Newman, Aubrey S.	5.00	Winerip, Carl C.	5.00	Abbas, Mrs. George A.	25.00
Rochon, Louis	5.00	Haverty, John G.	10.00	Fassbender, Albert	5.00
Ellison, Len H.	10.00	Robinson, Johnny	5.00	Brabham, Robert F.	25.00
Leahy, John P.	5.00	Hoyt, Fredrick	5.00	Clinton, Patrick H.	10.00
Davidson, Mrs. William	25.00	Barry, Robert	5.00	McGee, Jerry H.	100.00
Coyle, Eugene	10.00	Erhardt, Robert	3.00	Foster, Jesse L.	25.00
Delameter, Charles M.	5.00	Newkirk, Charles W.	7.25	Bazanec, Victor	5.00
Ford, C.Rucker	15.00	Monaco, Paul	10.00	Newman, Aubrey S.	25.00
Ender, Robert R.	67.05	Kaefer, Charles E.	10.00	Garber, Nelson H.	5.00
Smith, V.F.	2.05	Reynolds, Meredith E.	5.00	Beier, John	100.00
French, Cecil	5.00	Moomey, Malcolm D.	10.00	Blaney, Kermit B.	25.00
Behrel, H. Gordon	15.00	McGee, Jerry H.	50.00	Herring, James L.	10.00
Blacker, Kemuel	5.00	Postma, James L.	10.00	Newkirk, Charles W.	25.00
Dick, Dallas	80.00	Waskiewicz, Mike	10.00	Brown, John A.	25.00
Hood, C.W.	15.00	Murga, Jesse A.	10.00	Dawson, Joseph F.	25.00
Mankowski, Frank P.	5.00	Ross, Kenwood	61.00	Hinkle, Don	10.00
Bryson, Creighton	5.00	Hanson, Marvin	5.00	Cubbison, Donald C.	5.00
Macnider, John R.	10.00	Fraser, Paul A.	25.00	Von Mohr, J.A.	15.00
Mullay, Walter	15.00	Jones, Harold W.	5.00	Lum, Richard Y.	5.00
Olsen, Fredrik	10.00	Umphrey, S.B.	5.00	Ferraro, Ralph	5.00
Tino, Michael J.	5.00	Junkans, Oscar	5.00	Carpino, Louis	5.00
Subsak, Joseph L.	5.00	McKenney, John F.	5.00	Johnson, Robert A.	10.00
Austin, Paul	5.00	Sousa, Alfred A.	25.00	Ison, Donald	5.00
Barton, W.B.	5.00	Jones, James B.	5.00	Winerip, Carl C.	10.00
McNabb, Kenneth	3.00	Marinello, Antoinette	20.00	Mantini, Angelo	25.00
Slataper, William M.	15.00	Jungjohan, William J.	20.00	Brady, John	20.00
Upton, Thomas F.	50.00	Fournier, Marcel	5.00	Albert, Michael	10.00
Venezia, John A.	4.75	Steele, T.K.	5.00	Connolly, Richard	5.00
Wheeler, Lester L.	100.00	Lew, Eugene B.	5.00	Zierath, Fred R.	20.00
Dickerson, William V.	5.00	Kuhner, Wallace F.	5.00	Narragon, Donald L.	40.00
Cullison, George B.	30.00	McConnell, Paul E.	5.00	Campf, Zanly	10.00
Schaaf, Valentine	100.00	Roberts, Dwight A.	10.00	Tirri, Anthony	5.00
Kingsbury, Herbert	2.00	Brierley, James E.	5.00	Rhem, Thomas	10.00
Kilmartin, John	10.00	Philips, Kenneth S.	10.00	Card, Charles	25.00
Mack, James D.	10.00	Myers, Bobby L.	20.00		
Von Mohr, J.A.	20.00	Butrica, Melvin A.	15.00		
Keyes, William	7.00				

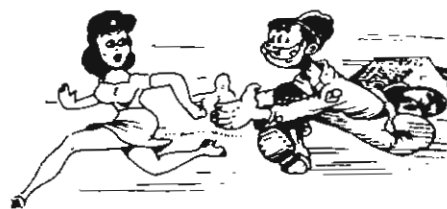
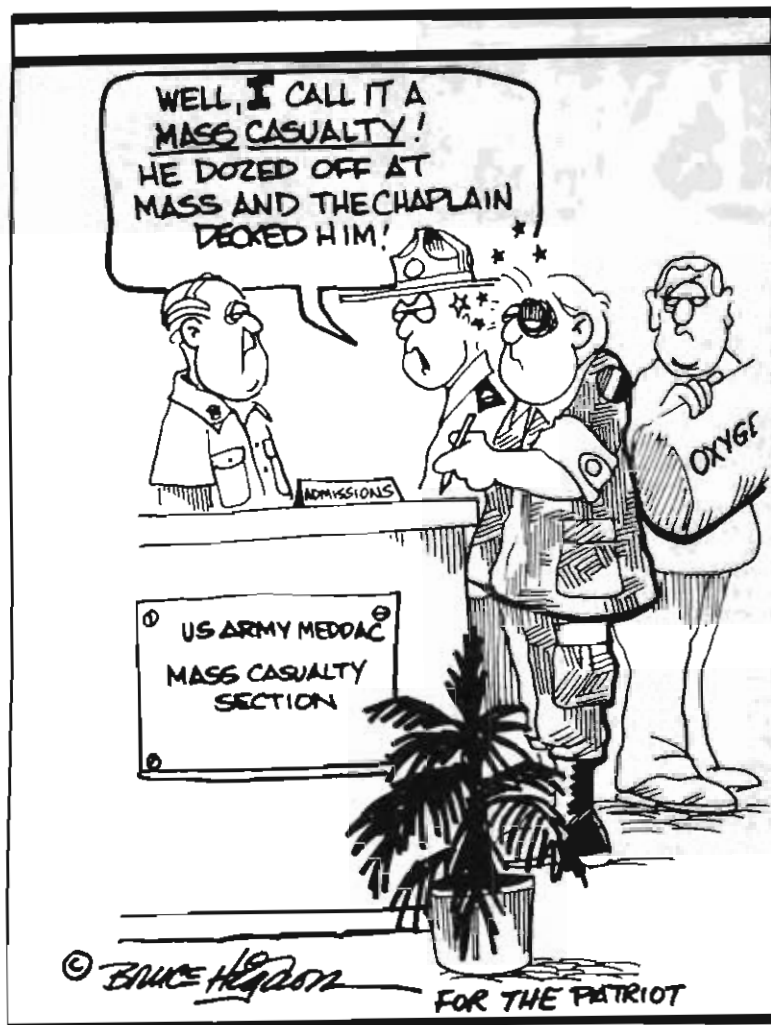
Nelson, Paul	10.00
Owens, Harry	10.00
Wetterau, John A.	10.00
Agne, Grant F.	25.00
Voso, Edward J.	15.00
Steele, Joel A.	5.00
Lofton, Clayborn	10.00
Brown, Roy C.	10.00
Patterson, Calvin W.	5.00
Gazzo, Peter F.	5.00
Gottschall, Donald	20.00
Austin, Paul	10.00
Sanger, John A.	10.00
Milita, Martin J.	5.00
Scalione, Stephen	10.00
Kaefer, Charles E.	10.00
Daugherty, Eugene	5.00
Skipper, Mrs. J.W.	25.00
Ross, Kenwood	1000.00
Nicoletta, Salvator A.	5.00
Farmer, Edward S.	20.00
Cullison, George B.	60.00
Marcangelo, Alfredo F.	5.00
Dahlen, Chester A.	5.00
Johnson, Donald H.	5.00
Hester, Weldon B.	5.00
Morrison, John	5.00
Davenport, Leon	25.00
Jones, Harold W.	5.00
Cunningham, Ralph	10.00
Lovell, B.A.	15.00
Lockhart, Georald L.	50.00
Reinke, Richard E.	10.00
Albert, Michael	20.00
Cutting, Charles J.	2.00
Stygles, John	5.00
Newman, Aubrey S.	25.00
Hobbs, Jack E.	6.00
Lomax, David	6.00
Perry, Louis	5.00
Wahle, Ben	5.00
Ison, Don	10.00
Lewis, F.Pat	6.00
Anderson, Wm. E.	10.00
Hicks, Ernest	5.00
Ice, Fremont	5.00
Grifford, W.	

Ice, Fremont	5.00
Franco, Mrs. Edward M.	10.00
Newman, Aubrey S.	47.70
Goiny, Richard	20.00
Peyton, Joseph	100.00
Rogers, Leo K.	50.00
Peyton, Joseph	100.00
Kresky, Raymond R.	100.00
O'Donnell, James "Spike"	25.00
Newman, Aubrey S.	100.00
Harris, Paul A.	25.00
Klump, John E.	50.00
Ross, Kenwood	150.00

(as of 6/28/85)

New fall TV series, "J.G.Culver," will star Robert Wagner and that publicity hound, Samantha Smith, sometimes called our unofficial ambassador to Russia. But that isn't why we write. We write to tell you that Lew Ayres is also in the show. Remember him, the CO, who worked as an orderly in the hospital in the church at Palo?

Life Member#627 CARL R. CARPENTER (C-5th RCT, '49-'51), of 2918 Hillcrest, Alton IL is anxious to locate CARL WILETTE (or WILLETTE), an old Baker Company man of the 5th RCT. Says Carl married a Oahu native. They served together on Oahu and, in '52-'54, another hitch in France.



BILL BROOME (A 21st '38-'40), of 15100 Dacosta, Detroit, MI, is just back from Jakarta. He sent us this tear-jerker:

"A new clerk was stocking the shelves in the store. He was trying to be pleasant in his conversation with a lady. The store manager, keeping an eye and ear on a new employee, happened to hear the end of the conversation. The clerk said, 'No ma'am, we did not get any. In fact, we have not had any for quite a time.' The lady said, 'Goodbye' and left the store. "The manager was furious. He said, 'Don't ever tell a customer we do not have anything and have been out for a time, tell the customer we shall get it for them.' The manager then asked what the lady had wanted. The clerk replied, 'Rain.'"

Added Bill: "You can tell this one anywhere. It's a Methodist story."

WHODUNNIT

These few made LAX. Really it was more of a get-together to talk about what we ought to do, and will do, with respect to meeting again, "somewhere in the west."

Look who made it:

Robert P. Lavender	19th '50-'51 34th WWII F 21st '42-'45 Hq.Co. 3rd Bn. 34th '41-'45
Dan Moore	
Bert Ames	
Gerald L. Lockhart	21st
Bob Ender	H21st
Joe Peyton	19th
Fred Zierath	19th
Norton Goldstein	Hq.Co. 21st
Jack W. Kirk	E 34th
Dale Rives	I 21st
Bill Menninger	21st and 34th
Alton Furbish	Hq.Co. 3 Bn. 5 RGT 50-52
Ray Kresky	24th Recon Troop
Bill McKenna	A Hq.Co. 1st Bn., 34th
Bob DeFrain	G 19th '50-'51
Ed Henry	Div.Hq. '44-'46
Leo Rogers	Div.Hq. '41-'42
John Klecker	K 34th
Ray Sanchez	D 21st '50-'51
Hanford Rents	2nd Bn. Hq. 34th '43-'45
Andy Kotik	Task Force Smith 1st Bn. 21st '50 Med. 21st
Jim Erwin	C 19th '42-'45
Johnny Robinson	Can.Co. 19th '44-'46
Sam Campf	B 21st '42-'45
Dwight Roberts	Hq. 24th Med.Bn.
Ernie Stanovic	24th Med.Bn.
Ken Stanovic	Hq. 24th '42-'45
Walter Cunningham	Div.Hq.
Bob Silvers	Div.Hq.
Malcolm Hoover	G 19th
Robert Jacobi	21st Inf.
John Leahy	21st
Ed Farmer	D 21st
Bill Kennedy	H 21st
Valentine Schaaf	11th FA Bn.
Elmer E.Juni	A 19th
Manuel Alvarado	Div.Hq.
Ken Ross	E 19th '40-'42
Wheeler Reynolds	Hq. 19th '40-'45
Marshall H. Katz	



A DWIGHT ROBERTS photo (B 21st '42-'45) Box 14486, Las Vegas NV 89114, taken at our LAX meeting. It's Past Prexy ED HENRY (Div.Hq. '43-'45), JIM ERWIN (Med. A & M 21st '50-'51) and Prexy RAY KRESKY (24th Recon. '43-'46).

ED VOSO, (D 21st 3/39-5/42), of Terrence Mobile Homes, 1815 Sweetwater Rd., #134, Spring Valley CA 92077, reports that his beloved wife, Bobbie, has suffered a stroke.

JOE LANGONE couldn't make LAX -- was going to make Columbus OH and the TF SMITH affair.

DON FORRETT, (34th '53-'55), of 5-A Summer, Easthampton, MA (a stone-throw away) called me. Had our name from JIM CRAWFORD, (724th '53-'55). Thanks, Jim. Don is trying to locate a buddy, DON BESHEARS -- same 34th, same vintage. Says Don hailed from California. Clues anyone?

BERNABE GARCIA regretted not making LAX -- but added "Please keep me in mind for anything else you're planning."

Nice quote from just-joined CARL W. KINDT, (sv. 21st '41-'44), of 3840 Quail Ridge, Lafayette, CA: "I am grateful for having experienced, with the 24th, a very extraordinary adventure."





We were graciously postcarded by TOM ARETZ, (E 19th '40-'45) of PO Box 26041, Jacksonville FL 32218. Of course, it's the Mississippi Queen.

ERNIE STANOVIC (24 Med. '43-'45), showed up at LAX with his son, Ken. Ken was vitally interested in all of the chit chat that passed between old friends. Said he had his eyes opened -- pleasantly. WALLY CUNNINGHAM assured him that our people are men of few words -- "but they use them often."



Another DWIGHT ROBERTS photo. Our thanks go your way, Dwight. It's BOB ENDER, the Editor, and JOHN LEAHY.

HARRY STRASEN's regret re LAX: "Sure sorry. Leaving for Oregon." Harry's in Tucson AZ.

Power-of-Positive-Thinking Dept.: In Washington, they're selling season tickets for a baseball franchise that doesn't exist.

Wrote C.J. STUBBS to our LAX committee. Thanks for the invite and all the effort you're expending. Sorry, can't make it. Hope it's a success.



A LAX photo -- ED FARMER, our Chaplain JOE PEYTON, and BOB DEFRAIN. A Joe Peyton photo, not taken by Joe.

HENRY BAKER couldn't LAX it. Wrote, "Sorry, I'll have to read Taro Leaf."

NICK and Kathryn SLOAN, visiting in Phoenix, planned to "sneak" over to LAX for our party. But egads, lovely Kate was bitten by a bug -- hospitalized for 3 days -- and that was that. All okay now and these grand people are both safely home at 904 Sprague, Hoopston IL.

RUDY FRUEHOLZ politely turned down his LAX invitation. So did LEROY SALSER.

A memory brought to mind at LAX -- the night Dame Judith Anderson came to Hollandia with her Shakespearean readings. Was boo'ed off the stage.

Sainted GERALD LOCKHART came to LAX along with his lovely bride, Christine. Gerry insisted on leaving a hefty \$50.00 contribution before he left -- they had to leave early. "To defray expenses" said Gerry. You're terrific, Gerry -- a typical Gimlet.



The ENDERS at LAX -- Roberta and BOB -- with JOHN LEAHY squeezing in on the right. A Joe Peyton photo.

Note from BG S. McC.GOODWIN in missing LAX, "Truly sorry. Another commitment."

Telex'd JIM MCGINTY to we at LAX:
 "Real sorry. Have to be in Omaha June
 13-15."



"THERE'S THAT PIGEON 24, BUCKING FOR OCS AGAIN."
 -Sgt. Frank Brandt & Cpl. Graf

RODNEY F. "Rod" STOCK over in Reno NV
 couldn't make LAX.



At LAX -- our Prexy KRESKY, our
 Editor ROSS, our Maj.Gen. FRED ZIERATH.
 A Joe Peyton photo.

HOWARD "Jaimie" BRUNO couldn't make
 LAX. Signalled that "my roommate of 48
 years minus those with the 24th just out
 of hospital -- pancreatitis -- will make
 next one."

CALVIN PATTERSON couldn't make LAX --
 "I'm making the Task Force Smith reunion."

We regret not being able to mention
 the 76 others, each of whom contacted
 RAY KRESKY about not being able to be a
 part of our LAX gathering.

The House has voted Friday to create
 a special medal for the nation's former
 prisoners of war. There are 142,000
 surviving former P.O.W.'s dating back to
 World War I, according to Representative
 Robert J. Lagomarsino, the California
 Republican who was chief sponsor of the
 plan. The proposal, which was attached to
 a military spending authorization bill,
 must still be approved by a Senate-House
 conference committee.

From NOLAN LISK (B 21st '44-'46):
 "Let's have a reunion on the west coast
 next year."

ROGER HELLER was attending a graduation
 in Oakland so missed LAX. At least Roger
 had the good decency to send regrets.

Sad word on old Chemical Officer,
 SAM UMPHREY -- suffering from Alzheimer's
 Disease. What a tragedy.

When JOHNNY LEAHY first walked into
 our LAX meeting room, the very first
 question he directed to BOB ENDER, who
 greeted him, was "Did JERRY LOCKHART
 show up?" To Ender's utter amazement,
 he had just walked the Lockhart's to the
 hotel lobby; they had to leave early.
 With that question, "Did Jerry Lockhart
 show up?" Bob grabbed Leahy by the hand
 and ran to the front of the hotel where
 they caught the Lockharts in time.
 Terrific excitement. These old pals
 hadn't seen one another in years. And
 that, dear reader, is what it's all about.

WILLIE FELL in Mesa AZ sent the word
 to the Los Angeles gang: "Sorry, not this
 time. Next time - promise."

CLIFFORD SMITH in May had a "total knee
 system" put in his left knee, ergo no
 LAX meeting.

C.A. "Bud" COLLETTE and Jean not at
 LAX. Just going into their new home in
 AZ.

"Food for thought," R.F. "Red" STOCK,
 labelled his thoughts in turning us down
 at LAX. Had a previous engagement -- but
 did add some thoughts. Said, "How about
 Denver, Seattle, Salt Lake City, Reno,
 not Las Vegas, Phoenix? Or else, rotate --
 one in the east, then in the west, etc.?
 Besides, most of your crowd is WW II --
 very few Korean vets." Lots of food for
 thought, Red, thanx.

C.W. "Bill" HOOD signalled Prexy
 RAY KRESKY at Los Angeles: "Thanks for
 your effort for all of we Taro Leafers.
 Sorry to let you down."

Do these tennis players ever take a
 day off? And, too, just where does all
 this prize money really come from? Think
 about it.

Spotted this one of our own ALEX GRAMMAS presently third base coach of the Tigers under Sparky Anderson with his arm around George Brett.



United Press International photo

During American League All-Star practice session in Minneapolis Monday, Detroit coach Alex Grammas playfully 'chokes' a player who seldom chokes in his performances afield — Kansas City's George Brett.

Told ED WILSON (21st '47-'50), of 1827 S. 5th, St. Charles IL, we were going to quote bits of his letter to us, 'cuz we liked what he had to say. Here goes:

"I owe a lot to the Division for making me what I am today. I grew up on the streets of Chicago and I was heading nowhere. I had to quit high school in my 2nd year. I caught up with the Division in 1947 in Japan and things started changing. I was discharged in 1953. I had my high school diploma and three stripes on my sleeve and one hell of a lot more understanding. Today I'm the manager of an electrical supply co."

Do you see why we liked Ed's letter?

Ever hear of the National Order of Battlefield Commissions? ELRA W. HUNTLEY (H & S and D 3rd Eng. '49-'52), of Box 507, Conklin NY got his insignia in Korea.

Organization Day for the 2d. Bn. 34th held recently at Stewart. And who was the honored guest? Who else? Maj.Gen. AUBREY "Red" NEWMAN. Says Lt.Gen. DONALD E. ROSENBLUM: "He spoke. He was superb. Enjoyed seeing him and Dorothy. He has lost a little weight but looks great." And while we're quoting Don, let us tell you that he and Laura have a granddaughter -- Alice and Tom presented them with Meredith Anne on July 3rd. Congratulations to all of you down there.

Jubilant soldiers of the 24th Combat Avn. Bn. and 724th Ord. Co. returned to Stewart-Hunter the other day after 120 days of routine training around the hills, jungles and beaches of Honduras.

Why are most women's clothes buttoned over the left side and mens' clothes buttoned over to the right side?

Has anyone figured out what "state of the art" means? What's a state of the art potato chip? What's a state of the art VCR?



"SHE'S STILL HINTING ABOUT THAT FUR COAT."

—Sgt. Bill Newcombe

Nice contribution from W.B. "Bud" BARTON, (724th Ord. '44-'45), of 2549 Altadena Forest, Birmingham AL. You just missed our annual list of benefactors, Bud. Sorry, but thanks anyway.

MILFORD A. OLSON (C 21st '42-'45), of 501 11th N.W., Minot, N.D., is looking for Chaplain KARL UFER. Karl is not a member but if memory serves he once was. Anyone got any clue?

BILL ANDERSON (C 21st '50-'51) now at 4407 SE Roethe, Milwaukie OR, yes Oregon. He is with the Benj. Franklin S & L Assn., in Portland. Is Asst. V.P.

Medal Honors Heroism of Korean War POW

A light green canopy covered the grave marker and dark clouds filled the sky over Arlington National Cemetery as family, friends and former prisoners of war gathered July 1 to witness a belated tribute to the late Lt. Col. WILLIAM T. MCDANIEL -- the posthumous award of the Distinguished Service Cross.

And the Association was wonderfully represented thereat by Maj.Gen. FREDERICK A. IRVING and Brig.Gen. LESTER L. WHEELER.

Maj.Gen. H. NORMAN SCHWARZKOPF was able to slip away from his new Pentagon chair to pay his respects and Division was thoughtfully represented by a contingent of officers and enlisted personnel as its tribute for this very special occasion.

McDaniel was cited for his extraordinary heroism while a POW during the Korean War. The Distinguished Service Cross, which ranks immediately below the Medal of Honor, appears to be the highest valor decoration earned by an Army POW during that conflict for actions while a captive. It may be the only one, officials said earlier.

During the ceremony, Chaplain (Lt.Col) Charles H. Wolcott, the Pentagon chaplain, said that the ceremony "will remind us once again that our freedom has been secured at great cost." He called McDaniel, who was murdered by North Korean guards during an Oct.20,1950, POW massacre, "an American hero, an Army officer who truly loved his country more than life itself..."

Army Secretary John O. Marsh Jr., presented the Distinguished Service Cross to Helen J. Mahone, McDaniel's widow, Marsh said that McDaniel's actions are "symbolic of the hopes, the ideals, the inspiration we want to instill in today's soldier..."

The citation, which was read by Sp4 Carl L. Frye, said that McDaniel, a major when captured on July 20, 1950, was the senior officer in a column of about 370 American POWs being marched from Seoul, South Korea, to Pyongyang, North Korea.

"The prisoners were suffering from wounds, hunger, disease, malnutrition and the constant brutality of enemy guards," the citation said. "At great personal danger...McDaniel constantly interceded with the captors for food, medication and better treatment of his men.

"By personal example, and with disregard for retribution which followed his efforts, he organized his fellow prisoners toward assisting the wounded and weak, not allowing them to be left behind," the citation continued. McDaniel "inspired the men

and restored the will to live and resist among the soldiers in the column.

"Additionally, he sanctioned and materially aided the prisoners who planned to escape the enemy-held column. Resisting his own instincts for safety and survival, he declined to participate in several successful escape attempts of others because of his unfailing loyalty to, and compassion for, his fellow prisoners..."

The citation praised McDaniel's "refusal to break under mistreatment by his captors" and his "inspirational leadership at a time when the North Koreans were intent upon breaking the morale and spirit of their captives..." Those actions "finally led to his execution at the hands of the North Koreans" at the Suncheon railway tunnel on Oct. 20, 1950.

That death march of more than 300 miles -- and the stark brutality of the North Koreans -- was documented in official reports, congressional hearings and news articles in the early 1950s. Of the 370 POWs who began that march, 290 did not survive, Marsh said during the ceremony.

But one of those who did -- undoubtedly because he made a successful escape during that march -- was among the handful of survivors present at the ceremony. Retired Capt. James B. Smith, a lieutenant at the time he was captured in 1950, also played a key role in McDaniel's ultimate recognition by the Army.

Smith said that McDaniel was responsible for saving the lives of many POWs during the march. Furthermore, Smith said, McDaniel encouraged the other captives to resist communist brainwashing attempts, telling them not to compromise themselves in any way -- such as by signing propaganda statements.

"And we did not," Smith said as he stood near McDaniel's grave.

And thank you, General Irving and General Wheeler for helping each of us to honor the memory of Bill McDaniel. Thank you, too, General Schwarzkopf, and thanks to everyone at Ft. Stewart for recognizing this special day.



Army Times

An Independent Newspaper Serving Army People

D. 47

JULY 1, 1985

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Alcoholism



In this week's

Magazine

SBP Changes

The Senate appears likely to accept SBP changes voted by the House.

— Page 7

Good Care

An investigation has found high-quality care at trouble-plagued Madigan Army Medical Center.

— Page 4



The heroism of an officer slain by North Koreans in 1950 while a POW has been recognized with the Distinguished Service Cross.

— Page 18

Korean War POW Hero Honored Posthumously

By DON HIRST
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — The heroism of an Army officer who gave his all for his fellow prisoners of war in 1950 and was murdered by North Korean guards in a POW massacre finally is being recognized.

A posthumous award of the Distinguished Service Cross, the Army's second highest award for valor, to Lt. Col. William T. McDaniel has been approved.

The award will be presented July 1 to the family at the Arlington National Cemetery gravesite of Lt. Col. McDaniel, said his eldest son, Air Force Lt. Col. William T. McDaniel Jr. It will cap a paper chase by the Military Personnel Center that began in 1977 when the case was brought to light by a former POW who had recommended McDaniel for the Medal of Honor in 1951.

MilPerCen officials said the Distinguished Service Cross appears to be the highest personal decoration for valor to be earned by an Army POW during the Korean War for actions while a captive. It may be the only one. Several Vietnam War POWs received the Medal of Honor for their heroism in captivity, but none were members of the Army.

McDaniel, then an Army major, was the S-3 (operations) officer of the 34th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, when captured July 20, 1950, at Taejon, Korea. Earlier that day, under heavy enemy fire, he had led a counterattack to recapture 155mm howitzers that were overrun by the advancing North Koreans. Orders awarding the Silver Star to McDaniel for that action were published in September 1950 after his capture.

As richly deserved as that Silver Star was, it may have played a pivotal role in delaying recognition for McDaniel's gallant actions after capture. The pathway to that long-delayed recognition was further hindered by the fact that McDaniel's service records were among those destroyed by a 1973 fire in St. Louis, Mo.

A World War II veteran who saw combat in Burma, McDaniel was the senior officer in a column of POWs — many of them sick or wounded, or both — who endured a 1950 death march of more than 300 miles from South Korea to Pyongyang, the North Korean capital. The stark brutality of their North Korean captors — including summary executions of American POWs — was documented in official reports, congressional



Times Photo by Tracy Woodward

Lt. Col. McDaniel displays clippings telling of his father's heroism.

bearings, and newspaper and magazine articles in the early 1950s.

"...On 26 September 1950, Korea added its counterpart to the infamous Bataan Death March involving approximately 376 American prisoners of war," said one official Army report, more than 30 years old, on war crimes. "Only 296 survivors completed this two-week terror hike."

"In August 1950, these prisoners were being held in Seoul, awaiting movement northward," that report continued. "Nearly half of the group was wounded, many seriously, but despite this, they received practically no medical care. Instead, they were beaten often and, on at least one occa-

sion, were subjected to the humiliation of being forced to parade down the main street of the city. Their personal belongings were all stolen, and in addition, their combat boots were confiscated, many being left barefoot, and a few receiving ill-fitting Korean shoes in return."

"During the ordeal of the march to Pyongyang, many of the sick and wounded were unable to maintain the pace," the report continued. "At this time the Communists demonstrated a policy that runs like a connecting thread through all the reported atrocity cases. That policy was the summary execution of any prisoner

whose physical condition would burden their operations. These bodies were always left unburied along the roadside.

"Beatings from the guards were commonplace throughout the ordeal. No medical care was provided and the only food was one or two rice balls per day. For water, the unfortunate survivors had to shift for themselves, drinking from roadside ditches and adjoining rice paddies. As a result, most of them suffered from attacks of diarrhea and dysentery.

"Some of the wounded managed to ride on an ox cart, but with no medical care, their wounds became infected and maggot-laden. The senior officer among the prisoners, a major, continually pleaded with the captors for medicine, water and more food. For his efforts, this officer received only additional abuse and beatings. At one time, when an opportunity to escape afforded itself, he refused to accompany those leaving, stating that he felt his duty required him to remain and do what he could to alleviate the suffering of those men..."

That "senior officer" was McDaniel. The accounts of those few survivors of the death march — and the subsequent massacre that occurred Oct. 20, 1950 — paint a picture of a man constantly inspiring others and, despite great personal danger, constantly trying to get humane treatment for the POWs from the North Koreans.

A 1953 letter from one survivor, provided by McDaniel's son, said: "... There is no man in this world from my day of birth that I have more respect for. Major McDaniel thought little of his own welfare but pleaded, begged and prayed day after day for more food for the starving men. He begged for medications for the ailing and sick, and if he was awarded a small morsel, such as an apple or a piece of bread, he would give it to the men..."

A 1954 letter from then-Maj. Gen. William F. Dean, the 24th Division commander at the time of the incident, said accounts of returned POWs mentioned McDaniel's persistent efforts to get better food, living conditions and medical attention for the prisoners of his group. "William T. McDaniel was a great soldier, a valiant officer and a combat leader whose conduct under fire will always serve as an inspiring example to me," Dean wrote.

Other accounts, gathered by MilPerCen officials researching the case, depict McDaniel leading the column of POWs and deliberately maintaining as slow a pace as possible so that stragglers would have a chance to keep up rather than being shot. Furthermore, those accounts show, McDaniel arranged burials whenever possible for prisoners who died.

A few POWs — perhaps five in all — managed to escape from the column during the death march under a plan proposed by then-1st Lt. James B. Smith. McDaniel, when informed of the escape plan

1st Lt. William T. McDaniel (in a 1949 photo), was murdered by his North Korean captors in a massacre of American POWs in October, 1950. For his heroism while a captive, he has been honored posthumously with the award of the Distinguished Service Cross.

Photo Courtesy
1st Lt. William T. McDaniel Jr.



by Smith, thought the plan was a good one but felt it was his duty as senior officer to remain with the other POWs. Smith, now a retired Army captain, subsequently made it back to friendly lines and later recommended McDaniel for the Medal of Honor in 1951.

According to a 1951 article in *Argosy* magazine, McDaniel also declined to take part in another escape attempt. With the aid of a friendly North Korean, a few men would hide underneath a school room in an area where the POWs were awaiting further movement to the Manchurian border, said the magazine account by Alexander Makaraounis, now deceased,

who was one of the three who did so. Makaraounis, then a lieutenant, and William D. Locke, now a retired Air Force major, and Takeshi Kumagi, now a retired Army master sergeant, remained in that tiny hiding place for several days until advancing American troops arrived in the area.

Kumagi's Japanese language ability helped the POWs communicate with the North Koreans, including the Korean who said he would aid a few escapees. Japan had, until the end of World War II, occupied Korea for many years.

"Kumagi had talked first to Major McDaniel, but the major said that as the ranking officer he felt it his duty to remain with the men," the 1951 *Argosy* account by Makaraounis said. "So the sergeant called in Locke, and Locke suggested that I be the third..."

Shortly after that, other surviving POWs were packed into open railroad cars and moved northward as advancing United Nations Command troops approached the North Korean capital, according to the official war crimes report. After perhaps nine days of this treatment, the train halted inside a railroad tunnel.

"During the early afternoon of 20 October 1950, the starving men were promised their first meal in several days, having eaten only hard crackers distributed intermittently during the journey," the report said. "Their North Korean tormentors took the American major [McDaniel], together with a group of selected prisoners, pur-

portedly as a detail to go to a nearby village to prepare the food. They were never seen nor heard from again..."

The report said those POWs still on the train then were taken away, supposedly to be fed. "As soon as they [the POWs] had relaxed on the ground, their guards opened point-blank fire in cold blood with Russian-made burp guns and rifles," the war crimes report said. "Those living through the initial massacre and still showing signs of life were dispatched by shooting or bludgeoning. Some of the victims survived by feigning death..."

Tragically, that massacre occurred as a rescue mission was in progress and American paratroopers were only a few miles away. According to an official Army history of the Korean War, elements of the 187th Airborne Regiment had parachuted near Suncheon on the afternoon of October 20. One reason for that airborne operation, which had been delayed for several hours by heavy rain, was to intercept the train and rescue the POWs.

The war crimes report said the bodies "of 68 murdered Americans" were found by friendly forces who overran the area the following day. The bodies of seven others who had apparently died of malnutrition also were discovered inside the railway tunnel.

But a few survived, including Pvt. James Yeager, who told Associated Press correspondent Don Whitehead about the massacre and of McDaniel's heroism. "I hope to God the major still is alive," Yeager was quoted as saying in that October 1950 story. "He may be. But wherever he is, he was a real guy." Whitehead's news report of McDaniel's heroism also was mentioned by CBS Radio shortly thereafter.

McDaniel was presumed missing for some time after the 1950 massacre and was promoted to lieutenant colonel while in that status. It was later determined that he also was killed that day and his remains subsequently were recovered and buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

Smith, who in 1951 had recommended McDaniel for the Medal

of Honor, later inquired about what award McDaniel had received. Smith was told that a Silver Star had been presented, but said later he did not know it was for the action before McDaniel's capture, not for his heroism while in captivity.

Around 1977, Smith discovered that fact and contacted the Army. A lengthy investigation, hampered by the destruction of McDaniel's service records in the 1973 fire, then began. MilPerCen officials searched the National Archives and other sources, tracked down witnesses and ultimately were able to document McDaniel's actions. They also verified that Smith had submitted an award recommendation in 1951, but found it hadn't been acted upon.

Normally such recommendations must be made within two years of the act and the medal awarded within three years. But a provision of Title 10, U.S. Code, permits the recommendation to be considered if it was made within two years of the action but not acted upon because of loss of records or other inadvertent circumstances. That paved the way for McDaniel's case to be considered by the Army.

Although McDaniel originally was recommended for the Medal of Honor, Army Secretary John O. Marsh Jr. approved the Distinguished Service Cross instead. McDaniel's oldest son said that while he really would like to see his late father receive the Medal of Honor, "I'm very pleased with" the official recognition of his father's heroism.

BETWEEN THE LINES

'Twas said to us at the recent Task Force Smith gathering at Columbus that we weren't giving the "Korean vets" a fair shake with Taro Leaf copy. We listened -- and came home to make an analysis. We took the last 4 issues -- #1, 2, 3 and 4 -- of Vol. 38 and roughly measured the column inches devoted to several broad subjects and itemized as follows:

	<u>#1-24 pgs.</u>	<u>#2-64 pgs.</u>	<u>#3-20 pgs.</u>	<u>#4-36 pgs.</u>	<u>Total</u>
WW II items and personnel	113	138	89	103	433"
Korean War items and personnel	9	62	24	31	126"
Ft. Stewart	80	115	66	115	376"
Obits	20	20	20	60	110"
Misc.	229	70	110	192	601"
PI fire		724	21	89	834"
Louisville and LAX		6	22	80	108"

Know something? Those Korean vets are 100% right. And we're gonna do something about it.

In following the day-to-day news on the growth of the Communist insurgency in the P.I., do you obtain the feeling that it may soon be too late?

Read this one from a Love of the 34th man, CHARLES NOTO, of 45278 Deep Canyon, Palm Desert CA: "I have never felt as proud of any of the cards I carry and now that I can, please enroll me in a Lifetime Membership."

The lawyer was explaining her duties to a typist he had just hired. "I place great importance on punctuation," he said.

"Oh, don't worry, sir," assured the young woman. "I'm always on time."

From Gimlet BILL SHOWEN out in Milwaukee comes this wonderful bit:

"Read a story in the Milwaukee Sentinel about a little nipper who dialed information and asked the operator for 'Twee-twee-thix-thix-thix-thix.' The operator chuckled and said, 'Kid, you're a riot. I'll bet you love to play games. What's your favorite game?' The youngster said, 'I wove to pway Dictaphone.' 'Dictaphone? How do you play Dictaphone?' The kid said, 'Dictaphone up your nose and give me twee-twee-thix-thix-thix-thix.'"

TRIVIA BITS:

In World War II, the Army mounted antiaircraft guns atop the Department of the Interior's main building. Several rounds were accidentally fired, causing the destruction of the state seals of Maryland, Connecticut and Texas on the face of the Lincoln Memorial.

Lincoln's eldest son, Robert Todd Lincoln, was present at the assassinations of three Presidents. He was with his father at Ford's Theater in 1865. He also happened to be on hand when both Presidents Garfield and McKinley were shot. After that, he swore never to attend another event with a President, remarking, "There is a certain fatality about Presidential functions when I am present."

The horse that Gen. Winfield Scott sits astride in Scott Circle just north of the White House had a sex-change operation. The metal mare became a stallion after those who commissioned the work decided the latter was better for the general's image.

By the time your children are fit to live with, they're living with someone else.

CONSIDER THIS

We want to give you excerpts from the powerful speech of Ambassador Byong Hion Lew at Task Force Smith's 35th anniversary gathering. So we do for two reasons. First, the statement is certainly worth setting down in print somewhere for the sake of posterity. Second, Ambassador Lew was actually so soft spoken that we who were there had extreme difficulty in catching his very words. Ergo this second chance. He was and is deserving of such:

Here are some of his pregnant comments:

"I am most pleased and honored that you have invited me to join you here this evening as we pay homage to our fallen comrades of Task Force Smith. This is not the first such occasion for me to honor those of Task Force Smith. In Korea, I had several occasions to commemorate the valiant bravery of Task Force Smith at the monument erected on the old battlefield at Osan.

"However, it is a particularly moving experience for me to be here on this the 35th Anniversary of the Battle at Osan, to share some of the heart-breaking memories that eventually became heroic stories of that historic battle and the soldiers who fought so courageously.

"I come to you tonight as a fellow comrade-in-arms. On that fateful day 35 years ago, I was a young Korean army officer fighting in Pyongtaek, about ten miles from your battlefield at Osan.

"My mission was one of desperation. I was under orders to reorganize all military, police and civilian combatant elements on a new defensive line.

"I saw you, the men of Task Force Smith, as you passed through Pyongtaek on your way to Osan. I remember to this day how worried I was because it was so very clear to me as a soldier that your strength was not great enough.

"I wanted to add to your numbers by personally accompanying you to the battle, but my mission prevented me from doing so. 406 men would face an enemy of 20,000. The odds against you were very great indeed. And so with grave concern I watched you march to battle.

"Two days later with tears falling down my cheeks, I observed your withdrawal from Osan. Only 250 of you came out alive. What a great sacrifice had been made.

"But Task Force Smith had slowed down two North Korean divisions, led by tanks, in their drive to Pusan.

"On July 5, 1950, there was no firm defense of Korea, no real and effective defense lines. In slowing down the North Korean forces, you gave your fellow soldiers and the South Korean people the time they needed to build their defenses, to

get more American soldiers on the ground and to reinforce the spirit to continue the fight.

"This was a great sacrifice and one which the Korean people will never forget.

"After the Osan battle, I met with General Dean. He asked me what at the time could have only been interpreted as a very worrisome question. 'Did you see my 21st?'

"I had seen the 21st struggling toward the south without communication with its parent unit. General Dean was captured just two days after that meeting with me. Those were certainly among the saddest and darkest days of the Korean War.

"I would like to describe the ways in which we Koreans have tried to repay the debt we owe the members of Task Force Smith and the other brave men and women of the American Armed Forces who came to our aid and preserved our independence.

"At the time of the North Korean attack on the Republic of Korea, we were weak and divided. When the country was partitioned into the communist north and the democratic south in 1948, we in the south suffered most from the division.

"Most of the natural resources of Korea, and almost all of its industrial and power-generating capacity, were in the north. The south was almost completely agricultural.

"The Soviet Union, which came into the northern part of the peninsula to disarm the Japanese occupation forces, wasted little time in making the north a surrogate of the Soviet Union in order to expedite the expansionist plans of Stalin.

"This only added to our problems in the south. We had very little experience in government because of the colonial rule of Japan. And we were being constantly bombarded with communist propaganda from the north with armed guerrillas continuously infiltrating into our rural mountainous areas.

"North Korea was also engaged in a huge military buildup. The Korean People's Army of the North -- the KPA -- actually had been organized clandestinely more than two full years before the founding of North Korea itself. By mid-1950, the KPA had between 150,000 to 200,000 men.

"This buildup was strengthened with large amounts of heavy arms, tanks, and first-line fighter aircraft from the Soviet Union.

"North Korea was making no secret of its intention to invade South Korea; although at that time they said their aim was to liberate the south. There were armed clashes along the 38th Parallel almost daily.

"South Korea, by contrast, had an army of less than 100,000 men with very light weapons, which could hardly be used for offensive purposes. We had no tanks, no medium or heavy artillery, no large mortars, and not a single combat aircraft. Logistical support was equally poor.

"By June of 1949, the American troops which had liberated Korea from the Japanese rule had been withdrawn, leaving behind only a 500-man military assistance advisory group.

"The attack by the North Korean communist changed that, as we all know, and no one better than any member of Task Force Smith.

"When the North Koreans attacked, the Truman administration saw quite correctly that the attack might represent the opening wedge in a drive to communize all of Asia.

"The American government, American soldiers, and American people came to our aid.

"After three years of war, we were worse off than we were before the attack. We had suffered over one million casualties -- military and civilian. Our infrastructure lay in ruins. The total damage to South Korea was immeasurable.

"Inflation was rampant. And the entire situation was made more difficult by the fact that millions of refugees from the North had fled the communist regime and come to South Korea.

"There was a shortage of food and almost all the necessities of life.

"And once again it was the Americans who led the way with a post-war relief and rehabilitation program. You assisted us in our economic development effort and supported us with a military aid program designed to remove one of the major causes of the war in Korea, namely our own military weakness.

"But only one year after the armistice was signed, our gross national product started to show a sign of upward growth.

"In 1962, we formulated our own First Five Year Social and Economic Development Plan. This, with the other plans which followed, was a determined effort to transform Korea from a country of subsistence agriculture to a modern industrial state.

"By 1964, we felt strong enough to begin repaying our debt to the United States. We were prepared to fight shoulder to shoulder with you in Vietnam.

"We dispatched a group of medical and engineer units to Vietnam. In 1965, we sent our Capital or Tiger Division with support forces and a Marine brigade.

"They were followed in 1966 by the Korean 9th or White Horse Division and support forces. Also in 1966, we sent sea lift and air transportation units.

"All in all, we fought for seven years

with you in Vietnam. The total number of Korean troops in Vietnam reached 50,000 a year. At the height of our partnership with you, we had 22 maneuver battalions in the field from 1966 to 1972. We rotated a total of 300,000 men through Vietnam.

"The Korean contribution to your effort in Vietnam was the largest of the free world forces. This is a matter of great pride to me personally. For I was the Commanding General of the Korean Tiger Division in Vietnam in 1966 and 1967. I personally experienced my country's efforts to repay its debt to the United States.

"The Korea of today is one in which I believe the gallant men of Task Force Smith would be proud to have fought for and died to save.

"From the devastation of the Korean War, we have become one of the major industrial powers in Asia. We are now the world's most efficient steel producer. We are the second largest shipbuilding nation in the world.

"Last year, we entered the world market for automobiles. Our gross national product has risen from 2.2 billion in 1962 to 81 billion last year. The per capita share of national income in 1962 was just 87 dollars. Last year it was almost two thousand.

"I am proud to note that today, the volume of trade between the United States and Korea in one year is \$17 billion; that is \$4 billion more than Korea received from the United States over the years in total aid.

"The relationship between the United States and Korea has grown and expanded until we are now equal partners in the world. You are our largest trading partner. We are your seventh largest.

"The partnership between the United States and Korea began in war. Over the years it has grown to a partnership in security matters, trade and economics. And I would like you all to know that we Koreans wish to see our relations with the United States remain at precisely that state -- a partnership.

"There is a great future lying before our two countries if we remain partners and cooperate economically. One of them lies in the Pacific where development is going ahead at a pace which has astonished the world.

"Of all the reasons why we should cooperate, one of the most important is the forty thousand U.S. soldiers serving in Korea today.

"Side-by-side with 600,000 men and women of the Korean armed forces, they provide a deterrent which has kept peace on the Korean peninsula for over thirty years.

"This is an awesome responsibility. It is nothing more or less than maintaining the peace of the world. The threat we are facing from the communist North and

other adversaries is still very much alive.

"The peace of the world as far as Asia is concerned is in Korean and American hands. We cannot fail in this duty. Our alliance must remain strong and productive and free of contention. We owe this to the men of Task Force Smith if we are able to say that they did not die in vain.

"I would like to read for you a paragraph from the letter which Colonel Wyrick wrote to me when he asked me to be present here this evening. Here is what he wrote:

"As with all task forces, Task Force Smith ceased to exist when its mission was completed. However, it is my fervent belief that American and Korean people everywhere should join together on the fifth of July each year. They should pay homage to the fallen members of Task Force Smith and commemorate the blood bond that was created between us."

"In 1988, Seoul will host the summer Olympic Games. The olympic torch will burn not more than 40 miles from your old battlefield.

"It is our sincere hope that the Olympic Flame will light every corner of the peninsula with our long-cherished hope for world peace, freedom and prosperity.

"This is the legacy you have left us.

"Thank you..."

About 1000 troops from the Division are taking part in a joint military exercise in the Middle East that spokesmen say is not related to the hostage crisis in Lebanon.

Troops from Division headquarters, the 1st Brigade and support units will take part in the Central Command exercise with other Army, Navy and Air Force units.

As part of the exercise, some 225 military vehicles were moved from Stewart to the port of Savannah.

The Indian brave was waiting to send a message by smoke signals. Behind, in the distance, a huge forest fire was sending up billows of smoke.

The Indian chief came up and asked impatiently, "Haven't you sent my message yet?"

The young brave pointed to the distant fire and said, "Sorry, the line is busy."



In which we introduce TOM MINNELLA, (Sv. & K 34th '43-'45) who has retired from his job at St. Louis' Lambert International Airport.

One of the great mysteries of family life is where parents learn about all the things they later tell their children not to do.

OTTO F. KRONE (C 19th, Hq. Co. 9/48-10/51), 416 Central Ave., Apt. 1, Jefferson LA 70121, has a contact for belt buckles with the Division patch mounted thereon. Price went to around \$40. If interested, write Rudy Reyes, 123 Lena Terr., North Syracuse NY 13212, Tel. 315-458-5465. Rudy sent us pictures of his work but they're too dark. Also sells bolo ties. You can go direct if interested.

A bright young man asked his great-grandfather if he could remember the first girl he kissed. "Son," replied the oldster, "I can't even remember the last one."

BILL WHITMAN, (5th RCT '53) saw an item on us in the AUSA magazine. So, natch, he's now a member. Welcome aboard, Bill, over there in San Francisco at 128 Funston Av.

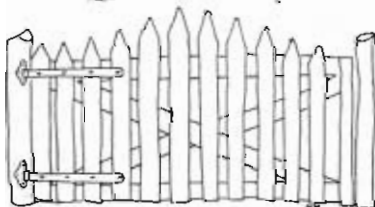
No Louisville for LOUIS and Joan ROCHON, (5th RCT '51-'53), of 21 Buxton, Peabody MA -- son, Michael, getting married on that Saturday.

Sad news: The mother of Margaret MINNELLA, TOM's good wife, passed away in March. Tom and Helen (K & Sv. 34th '43-'45), are at 3271 Ivanhoe, St. Louis MO. The lady had lived with the Minnellas for the last 3 years.





Our enthusiasm for a convention "at sea" aboard the Mississippi Queen has cooled. She'll be at St. Louis on 8/14/86 leaving that day for a 5-day cruise to Cincinnati. \$1225 for a stateroom. We can't believe the price. Granted it includes all meals -- but \$1225. Worse, you might leave your car in St. Louis, get dropped off in Cincy, and have to deadhead back to St. Louis. Forget it! But to continue. They offer a 4-day cruise leaving Cincy on 8/19/86 and getting back to Cincy 4 days later. The quote? \$980 for a stateroom. Seems a little rich for our bloodstream. Sorry we mentioned it.



New Life Member WALLACE GRIFFORD, (19th '49 - '51), of Rt. 6, Prescott, AZ, can't make Louisville -- daughter undergoing back surgery.



Another "Looking For" item: JOHNNY ROBISON of 34 Stockton, Taylors SC, would like to hear from anyone of G 19th for the '50-'51 period. Johnny's thinking of taking that Korean trip in September. Anyone else going?

Last call for "Follow Me," that wonderful book of recollections by our favorite author, Maj. Gen. AUBREY "Red" NEWMAN. We've got 7 copies left. \$7.95 per copy -- and we pay the postage. How's that for a bargain? Write ye Editor.

Mail is boomeranging back to us from BACIL H. STEED in Australia. He was such a good member too. He was 24th Rec'n. '49-'51. Ideas, anyone?

Never go to bed mad;
Stay up and fight.

LOOKING BACK

In observance of the 35th Anniversary of Task Force Smith's action around Osan and the 34th's action around "Yongt'ack, Ansong, Ch'onau, Chomui, and points south, we give you these pages from Roy E. Appleman's "South to the Nakdong, North to the Yalu."



—Cpl. Joe Cunningham, England

Phil Napoli (309 W. 54th St., Apt. 5D, NY, NY 10019) is an historian working on the history of the Korean War. He is interested in hearing from any veterans willing to be interviewed about their experiences.

Legislation to create a Prisoner of War Medal that would recognize former POWs has been introduced by Sen. William V. Roth Jr. (R-Del.).

Today's trivia: George Blanda missed only 16 of 959 extra-point kicks in his pro career.

SOUTH TO THE NAKTONG,
NORTH TO THE YALU

(June–November 1950)

by
Roy E. Appleman

American Ground Forces Enter the Battle

If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself, but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle.

Sun Tzu, *The Art of War*

Across the Korea Strait events of importance were taking place in Japan that would soon have an impact on the Korean scene. In Tokyo, General MacArthur on 30 June instructed General Walker, commander of Eighth Army, to order the 24th Infantry Division to Korea at once. Its proximity to Korea was the principal reason General MacArthur selected it for immediate commitment.¹ General Walker gave Maj. Gen. William F. Dean, Commanding General, 24th Division, preliminary verbal instructions concerning the division. These instructions were formalized in an Eighth Army Operation Order at 0915 1 July which provided that (1) a delaying force of two rifle companies, under a battalion commander, reinforced by two platoons of 4.2-inch mortars and one platoon of 75-mm. recoilless rifles was to go by air to Pusan and report on General Church for orders; (2) the division headquarters and one battalion of infantry were to go to Pusan by air at once; (3) the remainder of the division would follow by water; and (4) a base was to be established for early offensive operations. The mission of the advance elements was phrased as follows: "Advance at once upon landing with delaying force, in accordance with the situation, to the north by all possible means, contact enemy now advancing south from Seoul towards Suwon and delay his advance."² The order also stated that General Dean would assume command of all U.S. Army forces in Korea (USAFIK) upon his arrival there.

In the next few days Eighth Army transferred a total of 2,108 men to the 24th Division from other units to bring it up to full authorized strength, most of them from the other three infantry divisions. The division, thus readied for the movement to Korea, numbered 15,965 men and had 4,773 vehicles.³

Task Force Smith Goes to Korea

On the evening of 30 June, Lt. Col. Charles B. Smith, Commanding Officer, 21st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, went to bed at 9 o'clock in his quarters at Camp Wood near Kumamoto, Kyushu, tired and sleepy after having been up all the previous night because of an alert. An hour and a half later his wife awakened him, saying, "Colonel Stephens is on the phone and wants you." At the telephone Smith heard Col. Richard W. Stephens, Commanding Officer, 21st Infantry, say to him, "The lid has blown off—get on your clothes and report to the CP." Thus began Task Force Smith as seen by its leader.⁴ Colonel Smith had been at Schofield Barracks, Oahu, on 7 December 1941 when the Japanese hit Pearl Harbor, causing him hurriedly to take D Company, 35th Infantry, to form a defense position on Barbers Point. Now, this call in the night vividly reminded him of that earlier event.

At the regimental command post, Colonel Stephens told Smith to take his battalion, less A and D Companies, to Itazuke Air Base; it was to fly to Korea at once. General Dean would meet him at the airfield with further instructions.

Colonel Stephens quickly arranged to lend Smith officers from the 3d Battalion to fill gaps in the rifle platoons of B and C Companies. By 0900 1 July Colonel Smith and his men were on trucks and started on the seventy-five mile drive from Camp Wood to Itazuke. They rode in a downpour of rain, the same monsoon deluge that descended on General Church and his ADCOM party that night on the road from Suwon to Taejon. Smith's motor convoy reached Itazuke at 0805.

General Dean was waiting for Smith at the airfield. "When you get to Pusan," he said to him, "head for Taejon. We want to stop the North Koreans as far from Pusan as we can. Block the main road as far north as possible. Contact General Church. If you

can't locate him, go to Taejon and beyond if you can. Sorry I can't give you more information. That's all I've got. Good luck to you, and God bless you and your men."⁵

Thus, the fortunes of war decreed that Colonel Smith, a young infantry officer of the West Point Class of 1930 who had served with the 25th Division in the Pacific in World War II, would command the first American ground troops to meet the enemy in the Korean War. Smith was about thirty-four years of age, of medium stature, and possessed a strong, compact body. His face was friendly and open.

Assembled at Itazuke, Colonel Smith's force consisted of the following units and weapons of the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment: 2 understrength rifle companies, B and C; one-half of Headquarters Company; one-half of a communications platoon; a composite 75-mm. recoilless rifle platoon of 4 guns, only 2 of which were airlifted; and 4 4.2-inch mortars, only 2 airlifted. The organization of B and C Companies included 6 2.36-inch bazooka teams and 4 60-mm. mortars. Each man had 120 rounds of .30-caliber rifle ammunition and 2 days of C rations. In all, there were about 440 men, of whom only 406 were destined to be in the group airlifted in Korea that day.⁶

Smith's force had a liberal sprinkling of combat veterans from World War II. About one-third of the officers had had combat experience either in Europe or in the Pacific. About one-half of the non-commissioned officers were World War II veterans, but not all had been in combat. Throughout the force, perhaps one man in six had had combat experience. Most of the men were young, twenty years old or less.

Only six C-54 planes were available for the transport job. The first plane was airborne at 0825. The first and second planes upon arrival over the small runway near Pusan found it closed in with fog and, unable to land, they returned to Japan. Colonel Smith was on the second plane but he could not land in Korea until the tenth flight—between 1400 and 1500. Colonel Emmerich, who the previous afternoon had received instructions to have the airstrip ready, a few other KMAC officers, and a great number of South Korean civilians met the first elements when they landed about 1100.⁷

A miscellaneous assortment of about a hundred Korean trucks and vehicles assembled by Colonel Emmerich transported the men of Task Force Smith the seventeen miles from the airstrip to the railroad station in Pusan. Cheering crowds lined the streets and waved happily to the American soldiers as they passed. The city was in gay spirits—flags, banners, streamers, and posters were everywhere. Korean bands at the railroad station gave a noisy send-off as the loaded train pulled out at 2300.

The train with Task Force Smith aboard arrived at Taejon the next morning, 0800 2 July. There Lt. Col. LeRoy Lutes, a member of ADCOM, met Colonel Smith and took him to General Church's headquarters where the general was in conference with several American and ROK officers. Church greeted Smith and, pointing to a place on the map, explained, "We have a little action up there. All we need is some men up there who won't run when they see tanks. We're going to move you up to support the ROKs and give them moral support."⁸

Colonel Smith then suggested that he would like to go forward and look over the ground. While his men went to their bivouac area, Smith and his principal officers got into jeeps and set out over the eighty miles of bad, bumpy roads to Osan. All along the way they saw thousands of ROK soldiers and refugees cluttering the roads and moving north.

Three miles north of Osan, at a point

where the road runs through a low saddle, drops down, and bends slightly northwest toward Suwon, Smith found an "excellent" infantry position which commanded both the highway and the railroad. An irregular ridge of hills crossed the road at right angles, the highest point rising about 300 feet above the low ground which stretched northward toward Suwon. From this high point both the highway and railroad were in view almost the entire distance to Suwon, eight miles to the north.

After looking over the ground, Smith issued verbal orders for organizing a position there. A flight of enemy fighters, red stars plainly visible on their wings, passed overhead, but their pilots apparently did not see the few men below. Its purpose accomplished, the group returned to the Taejon airstrip well after dark.

That night, 2 July, Smith received an order to take his men north by train to Pyongtaek and Ansong. The former is 13 miles south, and the latter 20 miles southeast, of Osan. Smith loaded his men into trains and they rolled north into the night. One company dug in at Pyongtaek; the other at Ansong 17 miles away. Smith established his command post with the group at Pyongtaek on the main highway.

The next day at Pyongtaek Colonel Smith and his men witnessed a demonstration of aerial destructiveness. A northbound ammunition train of nine boxcars on its way to ROK units pulled into Pyongtaek. While the train waited for further instructions, four Mustangs flown by Royal Australian Air Force pilots made six strafing runs over it firing rockets and machine guns. The train was blown up, the station demolished, and parts of the town shot up. All night ammunition kept exploding. Many residents of Pyongtaek died or were injured in this mistaken air strike.⁹

That same afternoon friendly air also attacked Suwon and strafed a South Korean truck column near the town. ROK rifle fire damaged one plane and forced the pilot to land at Suwon Airfield. There, KMAC and ROK officers "captured" a highly embarrassed American pilot. One KMAC officer with the ROK Army headquarters at Suwon said he was under attack by friendly planes five different times on 3 July. This same officer in a letter to a friend a few days later wrote of these misplaced air attacks. "The fly boys really had a field day. They hit friendly ammo dumps, gas dumps, the Suwon air strip, trains, motor columns, and KA [Korean Army] Hq." In the afternoon, four friendly jet planes made strikes on Suwon and along the Suwon-Osan highway setting fire to gasoline at the midland station in Suwon and destroying buildings and injuring civilians. On the road they strafed and burned thirty South Korean trucks and killed 200 ROK soldiers. Because of these incidents throughout the day, General Church sent a strong protest to FEAF asking that air action be held to Han River bridges or northward.¹⁰

The next day, 4 July, Smith's divided command reunited at Pyongtaek, and was joined there by a part of the 52d Field Artillery Battalion. This artillery contingent comprised one-half each of Headquarters and Service Batteries and all of A Battery with 6 105-mm. howitzers, 73 vehicles, and 168 men under the command of Lt. Col. Miller O. Perry. It had crossed from Japan on an LST 3 July, disembarking at Pusan late that night. Two trains the next day carried the unit to Taejon. There General Church ordered Perry to join Smith at Pyongtaek, and about 2100 that night Perry's artillery group entrained and departed northward. Because of the destroyed railroad station at Pyongtaek, the train stopped at Songhwan-ri, where the artillerymen unloaded and drove on

¹ Schnabel, FEC, GHQ Support and Participation in Korean War, ch. III, p. 1, citing Maj. Gen. C. G. C. to CG 8th Army, 30 June 50.

² USARV WD, Oper Ord 2, 010913K 1 Jul 50. ³ Ibid., annex list accompanying Opns Ord 2, 10101, Prologue, 25 June–5 Jul 50, Incl 1, Rpt of C-54 activities, 1–12 Jul 50, pp. 1–9.

⁴ Interview, author with Smith, 9 Oct 51.

⁵ Lt. Smith to author, 4 May 51.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Interview, author with Smith, 9 Oct 51, and Emmerich, 5 Dec 51. The 24th Division War Diary, 1 July 1950, erroneously states that 14 C-54 planes were available for the airlift. Smith denies this.

⁸ Interview, author with Smith, 9 Oct 51.

⁹ Lt. Scott to friend, ca. 6–7 Jul 50; Smith to author with Hester, 11 Jun 54. (Colonel Hester was in the Suwon area on 3 July.) Maj. Gen. 24th Div C-54 Jul–25 Aug 50, 3 Jul 50.

¹⁰ Ibid.; 24th Div WD, C-54 Jnl, 15 June–5 Jul 50. Maj. Gen. 24th Div, Gen. Church to FEAF, 5 Jul 50; M. Bentley, ed., With the Australians in Korea (Canberra: Australian War Memorial, 1956), p. 174.

the six miles to P'yongtaek before daylight.¹¹

Meanwhile, the 34th Infantry Regiment loaded at Sasebo during the night of 1 July, and arrived at Pusan the next night. After Task Force Smith had left Japan the rest of the 1st Infantry Regiment, except A and D Companies which sailed from Moji, loaded at Sasebo 3 July and departed for Pusan, arriving there early the next morning.¹²

General Dean also was on his way to Korea. Failing on 2 July to land at Taeyon because his pilot could not find the airstrip in the dark, General Dean the next morning at Ashiya Air Base joined Capt. Ben L. Tufts on his way to Korea by General Almond's order to act as liaison between Army and the press. Tufts' pilot knew the Taeyon airstrip and landed his plane there about 10:30, 3 July. General Dean and Captain Tufts went directly to the two-story yellow brick building serving as General Church's ADCOM Headquarters.¹³

That afternoon a message from General MacArthur notified General Dean that United States Army Forces in Korea was activated under his command as of 0001 4 July. General Dean assumed command of USAFIK during the day and appointed General Church as Deputy Commander. Twenty-two other officers were named General and Special Staff officers of USAFIK.¹⁴ ADCOM provided most of the officers for the USAFIK staff, but some KMAC officers also served on it. Most of the KMAC officers who had left Korea by air on 17 June returned aboard the ammunition ship *Sergeant Keithley* on 2 July.¹⁵ By this time the ROK Army had assembled and partly reorganized about 68,000 men.

Task Force Smith at Osan

Colonels Smith and Perry, and some others, went forward in the late afternoon of 4 July to make a final reconnaissance of the Osan position. At this time Perry selected the positions for his artillery. On the road ROK engineer groups were preparing demolitions on all bridges.

Back at Taeyon General Dean, a big six-footer with a bristling crew cut cropping his sand-colored hair, and beanie General Church, slightly stooped, always calm seemingly to the point of indifference, discussed the probability of imminent American combat with the enemy. The third general officer to come to the forward area in Korea, Brig. Gen. George B. Barth, acting commanding general of the 24th Division artillery, now arrived in Taeyon in the early afternoon. General Dean decided to send Barth forward to represent him, and with instructions for Task Force Smith. So, at 1500 4 July, General Barth started north by jeep for P'yongtaek.¹⁶ When he found Smith, General Barth relayed his orders to "take up those good positions near Osan you told General Church about."¹⁷

A little after midnight the infantry and artillery of Task Force Smith moved out of P'yongtaek. Colonel Smith had to commandeer Korean trucks and miscellaneous vehicles to mount his men. The native Korean drivers deserted when they found that the vehicles were

going north. American soldiers took over in the drivers' seats. General Barth and Colonel Smith followed the task force northward. On the way, General Barth tried to halt the ROK demolition preparations by telling the engineer groups that he planned to use the bridges. At one bridge, after talk failed to influence the ROK engineers, Barth threw the boxes of dynamite into the river. It was only twelve miles to Osan, but it took two and a half hours to get there because ROK soldiers and civilians fleeing south filled the road and driving was under blackout conditions.¹⁸

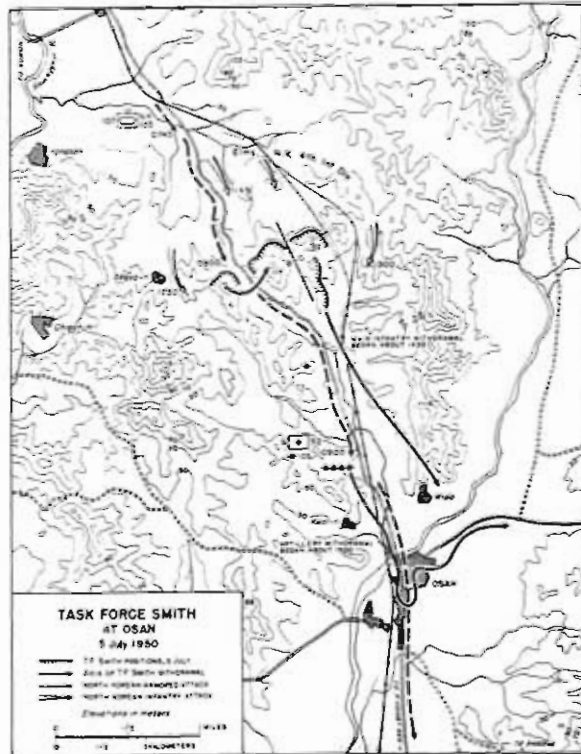
About 0900 on 5 July, the delaying force reached the position which Smith had previously selected. The infantry units started setting up weapons and digging in at the pre-designated places. Colonel Perry moved his guns into the positions behind the infantry that he had selected the previous afternoon. All units were in place, but not completely dug in, before daylight.¹⁹ (Map 2)

In seeking the most favorable place to pass through the ridge, the railroad bent eastward away from the highway until it was almost a mile distant. There the railroad split into two single-track lines and passed over low ground between hills of the ridge line. On his left flank Colonel Smith placed one platoon of B Company on the high knob immediately west of the highway; east of the road were B Company's other two rifle platoons. Beyond them eastward to the railroad tracks were two platoons of C Company. This company's third platoon occupied a finger ridge running south, forming a refused right flank along the west side of the railroad track. Just east of the highway B Company emplaced one 75-mm. recoilless rifle; C Company emplaced the other 75-mm. recoilless rifle just west of the railroad. Colonel Smith placed the 4.2-inch mortars on the reverse, or south, slope of the ridge about 400 yards behind the center of B Company's position. The infantry line formed a 1-mile front, not counting the refused right flank along the railroad track.²⁰ The highway, likely to be the critical axis of enemy advance, passed through the shallow saddle at the infantry position and then zigzagged gently downgrade northward around several knoblike spurs to low ground a little more than a mile away. There it crossed to the east side of the railroad track and continued on over semilevel ground to Suwon.

Two thousand yards behind the infantry, Colonel Perry pulled four 105-mm. howitzers 150 yards to the left (west) off the highway over a small trail that only jeeps could travel. Two jeeps in tandem pulled the guns into place. Near a cluster of houses with rice paddies in front and low hills back of them, the men arranged the guns in battery position. Perry emplaced the fifth howitzer as an antitank gun on the west side of the road about halfway between the main battery position and the infantry. From there it could place direct fire on the highway where it passed through the saddle and the infantry positions.²¹

Volunteers from the artillery Headquarters and Service Batteries made up four .50-caliber machine gun and four 2.36-inch bazooka teams and joined the infantry in their position.

The infantry parked most of their miscellaneous trucks and jeeps along the road just south of the saddle. The artillerymen left their trucks concealed in yards and sheds and behind Korean houses along the road just north of Osan. There were about 1,200 rounds of artillery ammunition at the battery position and in two trucks parked inside a walled enclosure nearby. One or two truckloads more were in the vehicles parked among the houses just north of Osan. Nearly all this ammunition was



high explosive (HE); only 6 rounds were high explosive antitank (HEAT), and all of it was taken to the forward gun.²² When the 53d Field Artillery was loading out at Sasebo, Japan, the battalion ammunition officer drew all the HEAT ammunition available there—only 18 rounds.²³ He issued 6 rounds to A Battery, now on the point of engaging in the first battle between American artillery and the Russian-built T34 tanks.

At the Osan position as rainy 5 July dawned were 540 Americans: 189 enlisted men and 17 officers among the infantry and 125 enlisted men and 9 officers among the artillerymen.²⁴ When first light came, the infantry test-fired their weapons and the artillerymen registered their guns. Then they ate their C ration breakfasts.

In spite of the rain Smith could see almost to Suwon. He first saw movement on the road in the distance near Suwon a little after 0700. In about half an hour a tank column, now easily discernible, approached the waiting Americans. In this first group there were eight tanks. About 0800 the men back in the artillery position received a call from the forward observer with the infantry for a fire mission.²⁵

At 0816 the first American artillery fire of the Korean War hurtled through the air toward the North Korean tanks. The number two howitzer fired the first

two rounds, and the other pieces then joined in the firing. The artillery took the tanks under fire at a range of approximately 4,000 yards, about 2,000 yards in front of the American infantry.²⁶ The forward observer quickly adjusted the fire and shells began landing among the tanks. But the watching infantrymen saw the tanks keep on coming, undeterred by the exploding artillery shells.

To conserve ammunition Colonel Smith issued orders that the 75-mm. recoilless rifle covering the highway should withhold fire until the tanks closed to 700 yards. The tanks stayed in column, displayed little caution, and did not leave the road. The commander of the enemy tank column may have thought he had encountered only another minor ROK delaying position.

General Barth had gone back to the artillery just before the enemy came into view and did not know when he arrived there that an enemy force was approaching. After receiving reports from the forward observer that the artillery fire was ineffective against the tanks, he started back to alert the 1st Battalion of the 34th Infantry, whose arrival he expected at P'yongtaek during the night, against a probable breakthrough of the enemy tanks.²⁷

When the enemy tank column approached within 700 yards of the infantry position, the two recoilless rifles took it under fire. They scored direct hits, but apparently did not damage the tanks which, firing their 85-mm. cannon and 7.62-mm. machine guns, rumbled on up the incline toward the saddle. When they were almost abreast of the infantry position, the lead tanks came under a 3.6-inch rocket launcher fire. Operating a bazooka from the ditch along the east side of the road, 1st Lt. Ollie D. Connor, fired twenty-two rockets at approximately fifteen yards' range against the rear of the tanks where their armor was weakest. Whether they were effective is doubtful. The two lead tanks, however, were stopped just through the pass when they came under direct fire of the single 105-mm. howitzer using HEAT ammunition. Very likely these artillery shells stopped the two tanks, although the barrage of close-range bazooka rockets may have damaged their tracks.²⁸

The two damaged tanks pulled off to the side of the road, clearing the way for those following. One of the two

¹¹ Lt. Col. Perry to author, 25 May 52; interview, author with 1st Lt. Edwin A. Everett, 2nd Ed. 30, 1 Aug 52, and Perry, 15 Dec 52.

¹² Schnabel, FEC GHQ Support and Participation in Korean War, ch. III, pp. 4-5; Maj Gen Richard W. Stephens, MS review comments, Dec 52.

¹³ Interview, author with Capt. Tufts, 6 Aug 52; Capt. Tufts, notes for author, 8 Aug 52 (1950) (pages 10, 11); Dean and W. L. Wenden, General Dean's Story (New York: Viking Press, 1954), pp. 18-19.

¹⁴ 24th Div WDG, G-3 Jnl, 5 Jul 50, 3 Jul 50; USAFIK GO 1, 4 Jul 50, and SO 1, 4 Jul 50.

¹⁵ Church MS; Sawyer, KMAC MS; Schnabel, FEC GHQ Support and Participation in Korean War, ch. IV, pp. 5-9.

¹⁶ Brig Gen G. B. Barth, 24th Div Unit Hist, "Tropic Lightning and Taro Lead in Korea" (prepared in 1951). MS in OCMH, hereafter cited as Barth MS; Gen Barth, MS review comments, 24 Feb 53.

¹⁷ Interview, author with Smith, 7 Oct 52; Dean and Wenden, General Dean's Story, p. 20; Barth MS; Smith had already started his men forward when he arrived at P'yongtaek. MS review comments, 14 Feb 53.

¹⁸ Lt. Perry to author, 5 Dec 52; interview, author with Perry, 15 Dec 52, and Everett, 1 Aug 52.

¹⁹ Interview, author with 1st Lt. Perry R. Hume, 3 Aug 52. (Hume was Ammunition and Traffic Officer, 3rd Field Artillery Battalion, when the battalion left for Korea.)

²⁰ Interview, author with Perry, 15 Dec 52, and Everett, 1 Aug 52; Lt. Perry to author, 5 Dec 52. The 42nd Howitzer had been left at P'yongtaek because of trouble with the prime mover.

²¹ Interview, author with Smith, 7 Oct 52; Barth MS.

²² Barth, MS review comments, 24 Feb 53.

²³ Interview, author with Smith, 7 Oct 52; Perry, 15 Dec 52, and Everett, 1 Aug 52.

²⁴ Interview, author with Smith, 7 Oct 52.

²⁵ Interview, author with Smith, 7 Oct 52; Lt. Perry to author, 5 Dec 52. The official army records contain many inaccuracies with respect to Task Force Smith. To note only a few: one FEC G-3 report gives the date of the Osan action as 4 July, the 24th Division War Diary gives it as 4 July. Both are wrong. Several sources state that enemy tank fire destroyed all the American 105-mm. howitzers at Osan; only one was destroyed.

²⁶ Lt. Smith to author, 4 May 52; interview, author with Smith, 7 Oct 52, and Everett, 1 Aug 52. Everett says he looked at his watch when the first mission came in from the forward observer and noted the time as 0745. Barth thinks the time was closer to 0800. Smith told the author he first saw the enemy column about 0700 and that it was about half an hour in moving up in front of his position. In an interview with the 24th Division G-3 on 7 July 1950, two days after the action, Colonel Smith gave the time as 0745, when the tank column approached his position. See 24th Div G-3 Jnl, 6-10 Jul 50, entry 64, 0745. A telephone call from USAFIK Headquarters in Taeyon to GHQ in Tokyo at 0705, 5 July, gave the time of initial contact as 0745. Memo, Gen Wright, FEC G-3, for COS ROK, 05100 Jul 50.

²⁷ Interview, author with Perry, 15 Dec 52, and Everett, 1 Aug 52; Barth, MS review comments, 24 Feb 53. Knowing the action was of historic importance, Barth looked at his watch when the artillery opened fire. He says it was 0800.

²⁸ Barth MS; interview, author with Capt. Ben M. Huckabay, 2 Aug 52. (Huckabay was a corporal at Osan with the 3rd Field Artillery.)

caught fire and burned. Two men emerged from its turret with their hands up. A third jumped out with a burp gun in his hands and fired directly into a machine gun position, killing the assistant gunner. This unidentified machine gunner probably was the first American ground soldier killed in action in Korea.²⁹ American fire killed the

At 0815 the first American artillery fire of the Korean War hurried through the air toward the North Korean tanks. The number two howitzer fired the first two rounds, and the other pieces then joined in the firing. The artillery took the tanks under fire at a range of approximately 3,000 yards, about 2,000 yards in front of the American infantry.³⁰ The forward observer quickly adjusted the fire and shells began landing among the tanks. But the watching infantrymen saw the tanks keep on coming, undeterred by the exploding artillery shells.

To conserve ammunition Colonel Smith issued orders that the 75-mm. recoilless rifle covering the highway should withhold fire until the tanks closed to 700 yards. The tanks stayed in column, displayed little caution, and did not leave the road. The commander of the enemy tank column may have thought he had encountered only another minor ROK delaying position.

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When the enemy tank column approached within 700 yards of the infantry position, the two recoilless rifles took it under fire. They scored direct hits, but apparently did not damage the tanks which, firing their 85-mm. cannon and 7.62-mm. machine guns, rumbled on up the incline toward the saddle. When they were almost abreast of the infantry position, the lead tanks came under a 36-inch rocket launcher fire. Operating a bazooka from the ditch along the east side of the road, 2d Lt. Ollie D. Connor, fired twenty-two rockets at approximately fifteen yards' range against the rear of the tanks where their armor was weakest. Whether they were effective is doubtful. The two lead tanks, however, were stopped just through the pass when they came under direct fire of the single 105-mm. howitzer using HEAT ammunition. Very likely these artillery shells stopped the two tanks, although the barrage of close-range bazooka rockets may have damaged their tracks.³²

The two damaged tanks pulled off to the side of the road, clearing the way for those following. One of the two caught fire and burned. Two men emerged from its turret with their hands up. A third jumped out with a burp gun in his hands and fired directly into a machine gun position, killing the assistant gunner. This unidentified machine gunner probably was the first American ground soldier killed in action in Korea.³³ American fire killed the three North Koreans. The six rounds of HEAT ammunition at the forward gun were soon expended, leaving only the JIE shells which ricocheted off the tanks. The third tank through the pass

knocked out the forward gun and wounded one of its crew members.

The tanks did not stop to engage the infantry; they merely fired on them as they came through. Following the first group of 8 tanks came others at short intervals, usually in groups of 4. These, too, went unhesitatingly through the infantry position and on down the road toward the artillery position. In all, there were 33 tanks in the column. The last passed through the infantry position by 0900, about an hour after the lead tanks had reached the saddle. In this hour, tank fire had killed or wounded approximately twenty men in Smith's position.³⁴

Earlier in the morning it was supposed to have been no more than an academic question as to what would happen if tanks came through the infantry to the artillery position. Someone in the artillery had raised this point to be answered by the infantry. "Don't worry, they will never get back to you." One of the artillerymen later expressed the prevailing opinion by saying, "Everyone thought the enemy would turn around and go back when they found out who was fighting."³⁵ Word now came to the artillerymen from the forward observer that tanks were through the infantry and to be ready for them.

The first tanks cut up the telephone wire strung along the road from the artillery to the infantry and destroyed this communication. The radios were wet and functioning badly; now only the jeep radio worked. Communication with the infantry after 0900 was spotty at best, and, about 1100, it ceased altogether.

The tanks came on toward the artillery pieces, which kept them under fire but could not stop them. About 500 yards from the battery, the tanks stopped behind a little hill seeking protection from direct fire. Then, one at a time, they came down the road with a rush, haunches closed, making a run to get past the battery position. Some fired their 85-mm. cannon, others only their machine guns. Their aim was haphazard in most cases for the enemy tankers had not located the gun positions. Some of the tank guns even pointed toward the opposite side of the road. Only one tank stopped momentarily at the little trail where the howitzers had pulled off the main road as though it meant to try to overrun the battery which its crew evidently had located. Fortunately, however, it did not leave the road but instead, after a moment, continued on toward Osan. The 105-mm. howitzers fired at ranges of 150-300 yards as the tanks went by, but the shells only jarred the tanks and bounced off. Altogether, the tanks did not average more than one round each in return fire.³⁶

Three bazooka teams from the artillery had posted themselves near the road before the tanks appeared. When word came that the tanks were through the infantry, two more bazooka teams, one led by Colonel Perry and the other by Sgt. Edwin A. Eversole, started to move into position. The first tank caught both Perry and Eversole in the rice paddy between the howitzers and the highway. When Eversole's first bazooka round bounced off the turret of the tank, he said that tank suddenly looked to him "as big as a battleship." This tank fired its 85-mm. cannon, cutting down a telephone pole which fell harmlessly over Eversole who had flung himself down into a paddy drainage ditch. A 105-mm. shell hit the tracks of the third tank and stopped it. The other tanks in this group went on through. The four American howitzers remained undamaged.³⁷

After these tanks had passed out of sight, Colonel Perry took an interpreter and worked his way up close to the immobilized enemy tank. Through the interpreter, he called on the crew to come out and surrender. There was no response. Perry then ordered the howitzers

to destroy the tank. After three rounds had hit the tank, two men jumped out of it and took cover in a culvert. Perry sent a squad forward and it killed the two North Koreans.³⁸

During this little action, small arms fire hit Colonel Perry in the right leg. Refusing to be evacuated, he hobbled around or sat against the base of a tree giving orders and instructions in preparation for the appearance of more tanks.³⁹

In about ten minutes the second wave of tanks followed the last of the first group. This time there were more—"a string of them," as one man expressed it. They came in ones, twos, and threes, close together with no apparent interval or organization.

When the second wave of tanks came into view, some of the howitzer crew members started to "take off." As one present said, the men were "shy about helping."⁴⁰ The officers had to drag the ammunition up and load the pieces themselves. The senior noncommissioned officers fired the pieces. The momentary panic soon passed and, with the good example and strong leadership of Colonel Perry and 1st Lt. Dwain L. Scott before them, the men returned to their positions. Many of the second group of tanks did not fire on the artillery at all. Again, the 105-mm. howitzers could not stop the oncoming tanks. They did, however hit another in its tracks, disabling it in front of the artillery position.⁴¹ Some of the tanks had one or two infantrymen on their decks. Artillery fire blew off or killed most of them; some lay limply dead as the tanks went by; others slowly jolted off onto the road.⁴² Enemy tank fire caused a building to burn near the battery position and a nearby dump of about 300 rounds of artillery shells began to explode. The last of the tanks passed the artillery position by 1015.⁴³ These tanks were from Sg. Edwin A. Eversole, started to move into position. The first tank caught both Perry and Eversole in the rice paddy between the howitzers and the highway. When Eversole's first bazooka round bounced off the turret of the tank, he said that tank suddenly looked to him "as big as a battleship." This tank fired its 85-mm. cannon, cutting down a telephone pole which fell harmlessly over Eversole who had flung himself down into a paddy drainage ditch. A 105-mm. shell hit the tracks of the third tank and stopped it. The other tanks in this group went on through. The four American howitzers remained undamaged.⁴⁴

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Colonel Perry estimates that his four howitzers fired an average of 4 to 6 rounds at each of the tanks, and that they averaged perhaps 1 round each in return. After the last tank was out of sight, rumbling on toward Osan, the score stood as follows: the forward 105-mm. howitzer, and 2.36-inch bazookas fired from the infantry position, had knocked out and left burning 1 tank and damaged another so that it could not move; the artillery had stopped 2 more in front of the battery position, while 3 others though damaged had managed to limp out of range toward Osan. This made 4 tanks destroyed or immobilized and 3 others slightly damaged but serviceable out of a total of 33.

For their part, the tanks had destroyed the forward 105-mm. howitzer and wounded one of its crew members, had killed or wounded an estimated twenty infantrymen, and had destroyed all the parked vehicles behind the infantry position. At the main battery position the tanks had slightly damaged one of the four guns by a near miss.⁵² Only Colonel Perry and another man were wounded at the battery position.

Task Force Smith was not able to use any antitank mines—one of the most effective methods of defense against tanks—as there were none in Korea at the time. Colonel Perry was of the opinion that a few well-placed antitank mines would have stopped the entire armored column in the road.⁵³

After the last of the tank column had passed through the infantry position and the artillery and tank fire back toward Osan had subsided, the American positions became quiet again. There was no movement of any kind discernible on the road ahead toward Suwon. But Smith knew that he must expect enemy infantry soon. In the steady rain that continued throughout the morning, the men deepened their foxholes and otherwise improved their positions.

Perhaps an hour after the enemy tank column had moved through, Colonel Smith, from his observation post, saw movement on the road far away near Suwon. This slowly became discernible as a long column of trucks and foot soldiers. Smith estimated the column to

²⁹ Anderson, author with Smith, 7 Dec 51, and Perry, 13 Dec 51. Smith said the author that the bazooka ammunition had deteriorated because of age.

³⁰ Interview, author with 1st Lt. Lawrence C. Perry, 1 Aug 51. Powers was Headquarters Company Communications Officer, 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry, at Osan, 5 July. He said he saw this action.

³¹ Interview, author with Perry, 13 Dec 51, and Eversole, 1 Aug 51. Barth, MS review comments, 29 Feb 52. Knowing the action was of historic importance, Barth looked at his watch when the coolers opened fire. He saw it was 1015.

³² Barth MS. Interview, author with Capt. Ben M. Hookaday, 1 Aug 51. Hookaday was a corporal at Osan with the 501st Infantry.

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³⁵ Interview, author with Smith, 7 Dec 51, Perry, 13 Dec 51, and Hookaday, 1 Aug 51, and Sgt. Jack L. Ruffner, 1 Aug 51.

³⁶ Interview, author with Eversole, 1 Aug 51.

³⁷ Interview, author with Perry, 13 Dec 51, and Hookaday, 1 Aug 51. Lt. Perry to author, 5 Dec 51.

³⁸ Interview, author with Perry, 13 Dec 51, Eversole, 1 Aug 51, and Hookaday, 1 Aug 51.

³⁹ Interview, author with Perry, 13 Dec 51, and Eversole, 1 Aug 51.

⁴⁰ Interview, author with Eversole, 1 Aug 51, and Hookaday, 1 Aug 51. Special Order 28, 20 September 1950, awarded Colonel Perry the Distinguished Service Cross.

⁴¹ Interview, author with Eversole, 1 Aug 51.

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be about six miles long.²² It took an hour for the head of the column to reach a point 1,000 yards in front of the American infantry. There were three tanks in front, followed by a long line of trucks, and, behind these, several miles of marching infantry. There could be no doubt about it, this was a major force of the North Korean Army pushing south—the 16th and 18th Regiments of the N.K. 4th Division, as learned later.²³

Whether the enemy column knew that American ground troops had arrived in Korea and were present in the battle area is unknown. Later, Sr. Col. Lee Hak Ku, in early July operations officer of the N.K. 11 Corps, said he had no idea that the United States would intervene in the war, that nothing had been said about possible U.S. intervention, and that he believed it came as a surprise to North Korean authorities.²⁴

With battle against a greatly superior number of enemy troops only a matter of minutes away, the apprehensions of the American infantry watching the approaching procession can well be imagined. General MacArthur later referred to his commitment of a handful of American ground troops as "that arrogant display of strength" which he hoped would fool the enemy into thinking that a much larger force was at hand.²⁵

When the convoy of enemy trucks was about 1,000 yards away, Colonel Smith, to use his own words, "threw the book at them." Mortar shells landed among the trucks and .50-caliber machine gun bullets swept the column. Trucks burst into flames. Men were blown into the air; others sprang from their vehicles and jumped into ditches alongside the road. The three tanks moved to within 200-300 yards of the American positions and began raking the ridge line with cannon and machine gun fire. Behind the burning vehicles an estimated 1,000 enemy infantry detrucked and started to deploy. Behind them other truckloads of infantry stopped and waited. It was now about 1145.²⁶

The enemy infantry began moving up the finger ridge along the east side of the road. There, some of them set up a base of fire while others fanned out to either side in a double enveloping movement. The American fire broke up all efforts of the enemy infantry to advance frontally. Strange though it was, the North Koreans made no strong effort to attack the flanks; they seemed bent on getting around rather than closing on them. Within an hour, about 1230, the enemy appeared in force on the high hill to the west of the highway overlooking and dominating the knob on that side held by a platoon of B Company. Smith, observing this, withdrew the platoon to the east side of the road. Maj. Floyd Martin, executive officer of the 1st Battalion, meanwhile supervised the carrying of available ammunition stocks to a central and protected area back of the battalion command post. The 4.2-inch mortars were moved up closer, and otherwise the men achieved a tighter defense perimeter on the highest ground east of the road.²⁷ In the exchange of fire that went on an increasing amount of enemy mortar and artillery fire fell on the American position. Enemy machine guns on hills overlooking the right flank now also began firing on Smith's men.

Earlier, Colonel Perry had twice sent wire parties to repair the communications wire between the artillery and the infantry; but both had returned saying they had been fired upon. At 1300 Perry sent a third group led by his Assistant S-3. This time he ordered the men to put in a new line across the paddies east of the road and to avoid the area where

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About 1450, Colonel Smith decided that if any of his command was to get out, the time to move was at hand. Large numbers of the enemy were now on both flanks and moving toward his rear; a huge enemy reserve waited in front of him along the road stretching back toward Seowon; and his small arms ammunition was nearly gone. A large enemy tank force was already in his rear. He had no communications, not even with Colonel Perry's artillery a mile behind him, and he could hope for no reinforcements. Perry's artillery had fired on the enemy infantry as long as the fire direction communication functioned properly, but this too had failed soon after the infantry fight began. The weather prevented friendly air from arriving at the scene. Had it been present

it could have worked havoc with the enemy-clogged road.³³

Smith planned to withdraw his men by leapfrogging units off the ridge, each jump of the withdrawal covered by protecting fire of the next unit ahead. The selected route of withdrawal was toward Osan down the finger ridge on the right flank, just west of the railroad track. First off the hill was C Company, followed by the medics, then battalion headquarters, and, finally, B Company, except for 2d Platoon which never received the withdrawal order. A platoon messenger returned from the company command post and reported to 2d Lt. Carl F. Bernard that there was no one at the command post and that the platoon was the only group left in position. After confirming this report Bernard tried to withdraw his men. At the time of the withdrawal the men carried only small arms and each averaged two or three clips of ammunition. They abandoned all crew-served weapons—recoilless rifles, mortars, and machine guns. They had no alternative but to leave behind all the dead and about twenty-five to thirty wounded litter cases. A medical sergeant, whose name unfortunately has not been determined, voluntarily remained with the latter. The slightly wounded moved out with the main unit, but when enemy fire dispersed some of the groups many of the wounded dropped behind and were seen no more.³⁴

Task Force Smith suffered its heaviest casualties in the withdrawal. Some of the enemy machine gun fire was at close quarters. The captain and pitcher of the regimental baseball team, 1st Lt. Raymond "Bodie" Adams, used his pitching arm to win the greatest victory of his career when he threw a grenade forty yards into an enemy machine gun position, destroying the gun and killing the crew. This particular gun had caused heavy casualties.

About the time B Company, the initial covering unit, was ready to withdraw, Colonel Smith left the hill, slanted off to the railroad track and followed it south to a point opposite the artillery position. From there he struck off west through the rice paddies to find Colonel Perry and tell him the infantry was leaving. While crossing the rice paddies Smith met Perry's wire party and together they hurried to Perry's artillery battery. Smith had assumed that the enemy tanks had destroyed all the artillery pieces and had made casualties of most of the men. His surprise was complete when he found that all the guns at this battery position were operable and that only Colonel Perry and another man were wounded. Enemy infantry had not yet appeared at the artillery position.³⁵

Upon receiving Smith's order to withdraw, the artillerymen immediately made ready to go. They removed the sights and breech locks from the guns and carried them and the aiming circles to their vehicles.³⁶ Smith, Perry, and the artillerymen walked back to the outskirts of Osan where they found the artillery trucks as they had left them, only a few being slightly damaged by tank and machine gun fire.

Perry and Smith planned to take a road at the south edge of Osan to Ansong, assuming that the enemy tanks had gone down the main road toward Pyongtaek. Rounding a bend in the road near the southern edge of the town, but short of the Ansong road, Smith and Perry in the lead vehicle came suddenly upon three enemy tanks halted just ahead of them. Some or all of the tank crew members were standing about smoking cigarettes. The little column of vehicles turned around quickly, and, without a shot being fired, drove back to the north edge of Osan. There they turned into a small dirt road that led eastward, hoping that it would get them to Ansong.

²² Interview with Smith, 7 Oct 51, and Huchabay, 3 Aug 51.

²³ Interview with Smith, 7 Oct 51. Smith estimated his losses at 155 men. A verbal report by the 14th Division G-2, recorded in a penciled journal entry in the division G-2 Journal, entry 31, 15 Dec 50, gave the total missing from the 1st Battalion, 1st Infantry, as 148 enlisted men and 3 officers. This total included 65 enlisted men and 3 officers from B Company, and 33 enlisted men and 1 officer from C Company.

²⁴ Interview with Smith, 7 Oct 51, and Huchabay, 3 Aug 51.

²⁵ Letter to author, 15 May 51; Interview with Perry, 13 Dec 51, and Eversole, 1 Aug 51.

²² Interview with Smith, 7 Oct 51.

²³ ATIS Res Supp Interrog Rpts, Issue 34 (N.K. 4th Div, p. 45). The division's chief regiment, the 4th, remained behind at Seowon.

²⁴ ATIS Interrog Rpts, Issue 6 (N.K. Forces), pp. 126-27, Interrog of Sr Col Lee Hak Ku.

²⁵ General MacArthur Hearing Rpts, p. 1, p. 53.

²⁶ ATIS Res Supp Interrog Rpts, Issue 34 (N.K. 4th Div, p. 45); 4th Div G-2 Jnl, Rpt of Interrog of Col Smith, 17 Dec 50, entry 6; Interview with Smith, 7 Oct 51.

²⁷ See Jnl Regt WD, 3 Jul 50; Interview with Smith, 7 Oct 51, and Powers, 3 Aug 51.

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³¹ Interview with Smith, 7 Oct 51; Eversole, 1 Aug 51, and Powers, 3 Aug 51; Capt Carl Bernard, MI report comments, 23 Feb 51.

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The column soon came upon groups of infantry from Smith's battalion struggling over the hills and through the rice paddies. Some of the men had taken off their shoes in the rice paddies, others were without head covering of any kind, while some had their shirts off. The trucks stopped and waited while several of these groups came up and climbed on them. About 100 infantrymen joined the artillery group in this way. Then the vehicles continued on unmolested, arriving at Ansong after dark.³⁷

There was no pursuit. The North Korean infantry occupied the vacated positions and hunted themselves in gathering trophies, apparently content to have driven off the enemy force.

The next morning, 6 July, Colonel Smith and his party went on to Ch'onan. Upon arrival there a count revealed that he had 185 men. Subsequently, Capt. Richard Dasher, C Company commander, came in with 65 men, increasing the total to 250. There were about 150 men killed, wounded, or missing from Colonel Smith's infantry force when he took a second count later in the day. The greatest loss was in B Company.³⁸ Survivors struggled in to American lines at Pyongtaek, Ch'onan, Taegon, and other points in southern Korea during the next several days. Lieutenant Bernard and twelve men of the reserve together hurried to Perry's artillery battery. Smith had assumed that the enemy tanks had destroyed all the artillery pieces and had made casualties of most of the men. His surprise was complete when he found that all the guns at this battery position were operable and that only Colonel Perry and another man were wounded. Enemy infantry had not yet appeared at the artillery position.³⁹

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platoon of B Company reached Ch'onan two days after the Osan fight. Five times he and his men had encountered North Korean roadblocks. They arrived at Ch'onan only half an hour ahead of the enemy. A few men walked all the way from Osan to the Yellow Sea and the Sea of Japan. One man eventually arrived at Pusan on a Korean sampan from the west coast.²⁶

None of the 5 officers and 10 enlisted men of the artillery forward observer, liaison, machine gun, and barooka group with the infantry ever came back. On 7 July 5 officers and 26 enlisted men from the artillery were still missing.²⁷

The N.K. 4th Division and attached units apparently lost approximately 42 killed and 85 wounded at Osan on 5 July.²⁸ A diary taken from a dead North Korean soldier some days later carried this entry about Osan: "5 Jul 50 . . . we met vehicles and American PWs. We also saw some American dead. We found 4 of our destroyed tanks. Near Osan there was a great battle."²⁹

²⁴ Interview, author with Smith, 7 Oct 51, and Hunkeler, 2 Aug 51.

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²⁶ Bernard, MS review comments, 24 Feb 58, Lt. Bernard as told to Sgt. Al Mullikin, "The First Brutal Weeks in Korea," The Washington Post, June 14, 1950; Interview, author with Smith, 7 Oct 51.

²⁷ Lt. Perry to author, 23 May 52; Interview, author with Hunkeler, 2 Aug 51; 34th Div G-3 Jnl, Aug 52, 27-28; 34th Div G-3 PW Interrog file, 6-22 Jul 50. (Park in Seoul; New York Times, July 6, 1950. One group of 36 Americans led by Lt. Joseph C. Cox was captured on 6 July southeast of Osan.)

²⁸ ATIS Interrog Rpt, Issue 4 (Enemy Doc), p. 5. Casualty Rpt for 16th, 17th, 18th Regts, Army Regt and attached units, 25 Jun-10 Jul 50. A few of the enemy casualties given for Osan may have occurred at P'yong'aek the next day, but their losses at the latter place could not have been numerous.

²⁹ 34th Div G-3 PW Interrog File, 6-22 Jul 50. On 11 July an enemy radio broadcast from Seoul first used PW's for propaganda purposes. Capt. Ambrose H. Nugent, of the 3rd Field Artillery Battalion, read a statement of about a thousand words in English. The Seoul radio said Nugent was one of seventy-two Americans captured at Osan from the 1st Infantry and the 3rd Field Artillery Battalion. See New York Times, July 6, 1950, and The New York Herald-Tribune, July 12, 1950.

Delaying Action: P'yong'aek to Choch'iwon

No speech of admonition can be so fine that it will at once make those who hear it good men if they are not good already; it would surely not make archers good if they had not had previous practice in shooting; neither could it make lancers good, nor horsemen; it cannot even make men able to endure bodily labour, unless they have been trained to it before.

Attributed to Cyrus the Great, in XENOPHON, *Cyropaedia*

Elements of the 34th Infantry began arriving at Pusan by ship late in the afternoon of 2 July. The next afternoon two LST's arrived with equipment. All that night loading went on at the railroad station. Just after daylight of 4 July the 1st Battalion started north by rail; by evening the last of the regiment was following. Col. Jay B. Lovless commanded the regiment, which had a strength of 1,981 men.³⁰

When Colonel Lovless saw General Dean at Taejon early on 5 July the General told him that Lt. Col. Harold B. Ayres (an experienced battalion combat officer of the Italian campaign in World War II), whom Lovless had never seen and who had just flown to Korea from Japan, had been placed in command of his 1st Battalion at P'yong'aek. Colonel Ayres had arrived at P'yong'aek that morning about 0500 with the 1st Battalion. Dean told Lovless that he would like the 3d Battalion to go to Ansong, if possible, and that the 34th Regimental command post should be at Songhwan-ni. As requested by General Dean, the 3d Battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. David H. Smith, went to Ansong, twelve miles east of P'yong'aek to cover the highway there. Colonel Lovless set up his regimental headquarters that day, 5 July, at Songhwan-ni, six miles south of P'yong'aek, on the main highway and rail line. (Map 3)

General Dean placed great importance on holding the P'yong'aek-Ansong line. On the west, an estuary of the Yellow Sea came up almost to P'yong'aek and offered the best barrier south of Seoul to an enemy that might try to pass around the west (or left) flank of a force defending the main highway and rail line. Once south of P'yong'aek, the Korean peninsula broadens out westward forty-five miles and a road net spreads south and west there permitting the outflanking of the Seoul-Taeju highway positions. East of Ansong, mountains come down close to that town, affording some protection there to a right (east) flank anchored on it. P'yong'aek and Ansong were key points on the two principal highways running south between the Yellow Sea and the west central mountains. If enemy troops succeeded in penetrating south of P'yong'aek, delaying and blocking action against them would become infinitely more difficult in the western part of Korea.³¹ General Dean was expecting too much, however, to anticipate that one battalion in the poor state of training that characterized the 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry, and without artillery, tank, or antitank weapon support, could hold the P'yong'aek position more than momentarily against the vastly superior enemy force that was known to be advancing on it.

The Retreat From P'yong'aek

When General Barth reached P'yong'aek from the Osan position the morning of 5 July he found there, as he had expected, Colonel Ayres and the 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry. He told Ayres of the situation at Osan and said that probably enemy tanks would break through there and come on down the road. He asked Ayres to send some barooka teams on ahead to intercept the expected tanks.

Lt. Charles E. Payne with some infantrymen started north. Approaching the

village of Sojong they discovered tank tracks in the muddy road where an enemy tank had turned around. Payne stopped the trucks and dismounted his men. A South Korean soldier on horseback, wearing foliage camouflage on his helmet, rode up to them and yelled, "Tanks, tanks, go back!" Payne eventually located the enemy tank on the railroad track about a mile ahead at the edge of Sojong-ni, five miles south of Osan. In an exchange of fire about 1800 between his barooka teams and the tank at long range, enemy machine gun fire killed Pvt. Kenneth Shadrick. The barooka teams withdrew, bringing Shadrick's body with them. The group returned to P'yong'aek and reported the futile effort to Barth and Ayres.³²

That evening after dark General Dean and his aide, 1st Lt. Arthur M. Clarke, drove to P'yong'aek. There was still no word from Smith and his men, but the presence of enemy tanks south of Osan raised all sorts of conjectures in Dean's mind. After midnight, he started back to Taejon full of forebodings about Task Force Smith.³³

Four survivors of the Osan fight arrived at Ayres' command post at P'yong'aek shortly after General Dean had left it and told an exaggerated story of the destruction of Task Force Smith. A few minutes later, Colonel Perry arrived from Ansong and made his report of Once south of P'yong'aek, the Korean peninsula broadens out westward forty-five miles and a road net spreads south and west there permitting the outflanking of the Seoul-Taeju highway posi-

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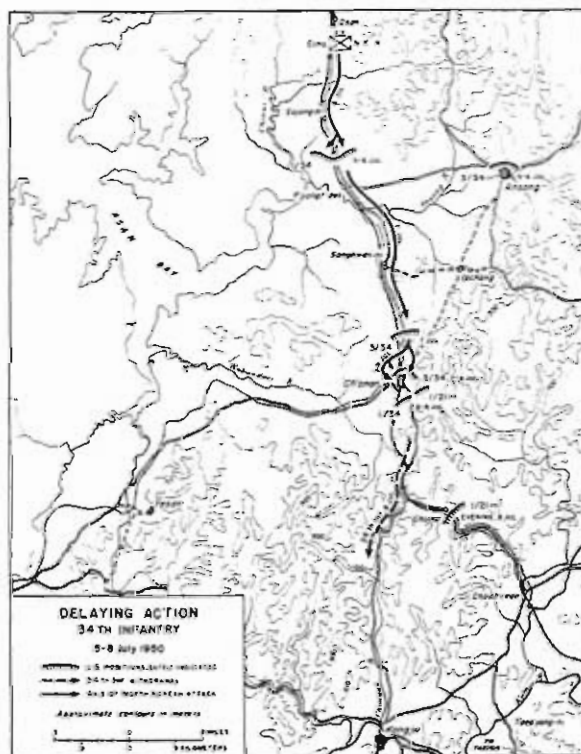
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³⁰ 34th Inf WD, 5 Jul 50; Barth MS, pp. 2-3; Higgins, *War in Korea*, pp. 58-59; New York Times, July 6, 1950, p. 3; Time Magazine, July 17, 1950, p. 15. Miss Higgins erroneously publicized Shadrick as being the first American infantryman killed in the Korean War.

³¹ Dean and Worden, *General Dean's Story*, pp. 21-23; Barth MS, p. 3.

³² 34th Div WD, 5 Jul 50; 34th Inf WD, Summ., 28 Jun-11 Jul 50; Dean and Worden, *General Dean's Story*, pp. 19-21.



³³ 34th Div WD, G-3 Jnl, Aug 10, 0900-10 Jul 50; 34th Inf WD, Summ., 28 Jun-11 Jul 50; Col. Jay B. Lovless, MS review comments, 7 Aug 58.

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"Tanks, tanks, go back!" Payne eventually located the enemy tank on the railroad track about a mile ahead at the edge of Sojong-ni, five miles south of Osan. In an exchange of fire about 1600 between his bazooka teams and the tank at long range, enemy machine gun fire killed Pvt. Kenneth Shadrick. The bazooka teams withdrew, bringing Shadrick's body with them. The group returned to P'yongtaek and reported the futile effort to Barth and Ayres.¹

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Four survivors of the Osan fight arrived at Ayres' command post at P'yongtaek shortly after General Dean had left it and told an exaggerated story of the destruction of Task Force Smith. A few minutes later, Colonel Perry arrived from Ansong and made his report of what had happened to Task Force Smith. Barth and Ayres then decided to keep the 1st Battalion in its blocking position but to destroy the highway bridge just north of the town now that enemy tanks must be expected momentarily. Members of the 1st Battalion blew the bridge at 0900, 6 July. General Barth instructed Colonel Ayres to hold as long as he could but to withdraw if his battalion was in danger of being outflanked and cut off. He was "not to end up like Brad Smith."³

General Barth left the 1st Battalion command post at P'yongtaek about 0130, 6 July, and started south. He arrived at Colonel Lovless' regimental command post at Songhwan-ni about an hour later. Already Colonel Smith with the remnant (about eighty-six men) of his task force had passed through there from Ansong on the way to Ch'onan, leaving four badly wounded men with Lovless. Colonel Lovless had not received any instructions from General Dean about General Barth, yet now he learned from the latter that he was giving orders to the regiment, and also independently to its battalions. General Barth told Lovless about the position of his 1st Battalion at P'yongtaek. According to Colonel Lovless, Barth then told him to consolidate the regiment in the vicinity of Ch'onan. Barth directed that the 3d Battalion, Jess L. Company (the regimental reserve), which was near P'yongtaek, should move from Ansong to Ch'onan. Colonel Lovless thereupon directed L. Company to act as a rear guard and delay on successive positions when the 1st Battalion should withdraw from P'yongtaek. As events later proved, the company did not carry out that order but closed directly on Ch'onan when the withdrawal began. Barth left the 1st Battalion command post for Ch'onan before daylight.⁴

The men of the 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry, in their positions at the river line two miles north of P'yongtaek had an uncomfortable time of it as dawn broke on 6 July in fog and rain. With water in their foxholes, the men huddled in small groups beside them as they broke open C ration cans for an early breakfast. Colonel Ayres came down the road and stopped where a group of them manned a roadblock, and then he climbed the hill west of the highway to the A Company command post.⁵

On the hill, Platoon Sgt. Floyd F. Collins was eating his C ration breakfast when the sound of running motors caused him suddenly to look up. He saw

in the fog the outline of tanks on the far side of the blown bridge. From the company command post, Colonel Ayres and Capt. Leroy Osburn, A Company commander, saw the tanks about the same time. Beyond the first tanks, a faint outline of soldiers marching in a column of twos on the left side of the road and a line of more tanks and trucks on the right side, came into view. Some of those watching speculated that it might be part of the 11st Infantry Task Force Smith coming back from Osan. But others immediately said that Task Force Smith had no tanks. It required only a minute or two for everyone to realize that the force moving up to the blown bridge was North Korean. It was, in fact, elements of the North Korean 4th Division.⁶

The lead tank stopped at the edge of the blown bridge and its crew members got out to examine the damage. Other tanks pulled up behind it, bumper to bumper, until Sergeant Collins counted thirteen of their blurred shapes. The North Korean infantry came up and, without halting, moved around the tanks to the stream, passing the blown bridge on both sides. Colonel Ayres by this time had ordered the 4.2-inch mortars to fire on the bridge area. Their shells destroyed at least one enemy truck. The enemy tanks opened fire with their tank guns on A Company's position. American return fire was scattered and ineffective.⁷

After watching the first few minutes of action and seeing the enemy infantry begin fanning out on either flank, Colonel Ayres told Captain Osburn to withdraw A Company, leaving one platoon behind briefly as a screening force. Ayres then started back to his command post, and upon reaching it telephoned withdrawal orders to B Company on the other (east) side of the highway.⁸

The 4.2-inch mortar fire which had started off well soon lapsed when an early round of enemy tank fire stunned the mortar observer and no one else took over direction of fire. Within half an hour after the enemy column had loomed up out of the fog and rain at the blown bridge, North Korean infantrymen had crossed the stream and worked sufficiently close to the American positions for the men in A Company to see them load their rifles.⁹

When he returned to his command post, Colonel Ayres talked with Maj. John J. Dunn, S-3 of the 34th Infantry, who had arrived there during his absence. About 0900 that morning, Dunn had awakened at the regimental command post to find everyone in a state of great excitement. News had just arrived that the enemy had overrun Task Force Smith. The regiment had no communication with its 1st Battalion at P'yongtaek. The distances between Ansong, P'yongtaek, and Songhwan-ni were so great the command radios could not net. Land lines were laid from Songhwan-ni to P'yongtaek but it was impossible to keep them intact. Retreating South Korean soldiers and civilian refugees repeatedly cut out sections of the telephone wire to improvise harness to carry packs and possessions. The only communication was liaison officers or messengers. Accordingly, orders and reports often were late and outdated by events when received. Dunn asked Colonel Lovless for, and got, permission to go forward and determine the situation. Before he started, Dunn asked for any instructions to be delivered to Colonel Ayres. Lovless spread a map on a table and repeated General Barth's instructions to hold as long as possible without endangering the battalion and then to withdraw to a position near Ch'onan, which he pointed out on the map. Dunn set out in a jeep, traveling northward through the dark night along a road jammed with retreating ROK soldiers and refugees. In his conversation with Ayres at the 1st Battalion command post, Major Dunn delivered the instructions passed on to him. The decision as to when to withdraw the 1st Battalion was Ayres' sole decision as to where it would go under its next defensive position apparently was General Barth's as relayed by Lovless.¹⁰

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to arrive in the early evening was A Company. Most of the units were disorganized. Discarded equipment and clothing littered the P'yongtaek-Ch'onan road.

Night Battle at Ch'onan

When General Barth arrived at Ch'onan that morning he found there two troop trains carrying A and B Companies and a part of Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry. They were the parts of the battalion not airlifted to Korea on 1 July with Task Force Smith. Barth put them in a defensive position two miles south of Ch'onan.¹⁶

When General Barth returned to Ch'onan in the early afternoon the advance elements of the 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry, were already there. He ordered the 1st Battalion to join elements of the 11st Infantry in the defensive position he had just established two miles south of the town. Lovless had already telephoned from Ch'onan to Dean at Taejon giving him the P'yongtaek news.¹⁷ Familiar aspects of war were present all day in Ch'onan. Trains going south through the town were loaded with ROK soldiers or civilians. Everyone was trying to escape southward.¹⁸

Dean that evening started for Ch'onan. There he presided over an uncomfortable meeting in Colonel Lovless' command post. Dean was angry. He asked who had authorized the withdrawal from P'yongtaek. Colonel Ayres finally broke the silence, saying he would accept the responsibility. Dean considered ordering the regiment back north at once, but the danger of a night ambush caused him to decide against it. Instead, he ordered a company to go north the next morning after daylight. General Barth remained at Ch'onan overnight and then started for Taejon. He remained in command of the 34th Division artillery until 14 July when he assumed command of his regular unit, the 25th Division artillery.¹⁹

As ordered, the 3d Battalion, 34th Infantry, had arrived at Ch'onan from Ansong the afternoon of 6 July and during that night, Colonel Lovless gave its L. Company the mission of advancing north of Ch'onan to meet the North Koreans the morning of the 7th. With the regimental Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon in the lead, the little force started out at 0810. Only some South Korean police were in the silent town. The civilian population had fled. At this point Lovless received a message from General Dean. It read, "Time filed 1025, date 7 July 50. To CG 34th Inf. Move one Bn fwd with minimum transportation. Gain contact and be prepared to fight delaying action back to recent position. PD air reports no enemy armor south of river. CG 24 D." Pursuant to these instructions, the 3d Battalion moved up behind L. Company.²⁰

Col. Robert K. Martin had now arrived at Ch'onan from Taejon. He was wearing low-cut shoes, overseas cap, and had neither helmet, weapons, nor equipment. General Dean and Colonel Martin had been good friends since they served together in the 44th Division in Europe in World War II. Dean had the highest opinion of Martin as a regimental commander and knew him to be a determined, brave soldier. As soon as he was ordered to Korea, General Dean requested the Far East Command to assign Martin to him. Arriving by air from Japan, Colonel Martin had been at Taejon approximately one day when on the morning of 7 July Dean sent him northward to the combat area.²¹

As the 3d Battalion moved north out of Ch'onan it passed multitudes of South Koreans going south on foot and on horseback. Lovless and others could see numerous armed troops moving south on the hills to the west. Lovless asked

¹ 34th Inf WD, 13 Jul 50; Barth MS, pp. 10-11; Higgins, *War in Korea*, pp. 10-11; New York Times, July 1, 1950, p. 3; Time Magazine, July 17, 1950, p. 11. Min Higgins erroneously published Shadrick as being the first American infantryman killed in the Korean War.

² Dean and Warden, *General Dean's Story*, pp. 21-22; Barth MS, p. 5.

³ *Inter.* author with Col. Harold B. Ayres, 13 Jul 51; Barth, MS review comments, 14 Feb 57; Barth MS, pp. 1-3 (a part of this MS was published in *Combat Forces Journal*, March 1959, as "The First Day in Korea"); Lovless, MS review comments, 7 Aug 58.

⁴ *Inter.* author with Ayres, 13 Jul 51; Capt. Russell A. Gagner, *Combat Actions in Korea: Infantry, Artillery, Armor* (Washington: Combat Forces Press, 1951), "Withdrawal Action," pp. 3-8. Gagner's book, notable for its detail of incidents and action, is based largely on interviews with soldiers engaged in the actions described. ATIS Res Supp. Interest Rpt., issue 93, (N.K. 24 Dec), p. 45.

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⁶ *Inter.* author with Ayres, 13 Jul 51; *Inter.* author with Ayres, 13 Jul 51 and 16 Sep 53; Lovless, MS review comments, 7 Aug 58; Gagner, *Combat Actions in Korea*, pp. 10-11; New York World Tribune, July 16, 1950; ATIS Res Supp. Interest Rpt., issue 93, (N.K. 24 Dec), p. 45.

⁷ Barth MS, pp. 3-4; Lovless, MS review comments, 7 Aug 58.

⁸ Barth MS, p. 4; *Inter.* author with Ayres, 13 Jul 51; Col. Dunn to author, 27 Jan 51; Dean and Warden, *General Dean's Story*, p. 15.

⁹ Lovless, MS review comments, 7 Aug 58; quoting order, original in his possession.

roads converged on Taejon. Both had to be defended.¹⁸

In the afternoon, a count at the collecting point showed that 175 men had escaped from Ch'onan—all that were left of the 3d Battalion. The 34th Regimental Headquarters also had lost many officers trapped in the town. Survivors were in very poor condition physically and mentally. The North Korean radio at P'yongyang claimed sixty prisoners at Ch'onan. The 3d Battalion lost nearly all its mortars and machine guns and many individual weapons. When the 34th Infantry began its retreat south toward the Kum in the late afternoon, enemy troops also moving south were visible on the ridge lines paralleling its course.¹⁹

The enemy units that fought the battle of Ch'onan were the 16th and 18th Regiments of the N.K. 4th Division, supported by tank elements of the 10th Armored Division. The third regiment, called up from Suwon, did not arrive until after the town had fallen. Elements of the 3d Division arrived at Ch'onan near the end of the battle and deployed east of the town.²⁰

The 21st Infantry Moves Up

The 21st Infantry Regiment of the 24th Division had now crossed from Japan to Korea. Colonel Stephens, commanding officer of the regiment, arrived at Taejon with a trainload of his troops before noon on 7 July. Stephens, a bluff, rugged soldier, reported to General Dean for instructions. Within the hour Dean sent him northward to take up a delaying position at Choch'iwon, support the 34th Infantry, and keep open the main supply road to that regiment.²¹

At Choch'iwon all was confusion. There were no train schedules or train manifests. Supplies for the 24th Division and for the ROK 1st Corps troops eastward at Ch'ongju arrived all mixed together. The South Korean locomotive engineers were hard to manage. At the least alarm they were apt to bolt south with trains still unloaded, carrying away the supplies and ammunition they had just brought up to the front. American officers had to place guards around each locomotive.²²

Colonel Stephens placed his 3d Battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. Carl C. Jensen, in position along the highway six miles north of Choch'iwon. A little more than a mile farther north, after they withdrew from their Ch'onan positions, he placed A and D Companies of the 1st Battalion in an advanced blocking position on a ridge just east of the town of Chonui. Chonui is approximately twelve miles south of Ch'onan and three miles below the point where the Kongju road forks off from the main highway.²³ (Map 4)

Late in the day on 8 July, General Dean issued an operational order confirming and supplementing previous verbal and radio instructions. It indicated that the 24th Division would withdraw to a main battle position along the south bank of the Kum River, ten miles south of Choch'iwon, fighting delaying actions at successive defensive positions along the way. The order stated, "Hold Kum River line at all costs. Maximum repeat maximum delay will be effected." The 34th Infantry was to delay the enemy along the Kongju road to the river; the 21st Infantry was to block in front of Choch'iwon. Dean ordered one battery of 155-mm. howitzers of the 10th Field Artillery Battalion to Choch'iwon for direct support

of the 21st Infantry. Also in support of the regiment were A Company, 78th Heavy Tank Battalion (M24 light tanks), less one platoon of four tanks, replacing the 24th Reconnaissance Company tanks, and B Company of the 3d Engineer Combat Battalion. The 3d itself was to prepare roadblocks north of Kongju along the withdrawal route of the 34th Infantry and to prepare all bridges over the Kum River for demolition.²⁴

Messages from General Dean to Colonel Stephens emphasized that the 21st Infantry must hold at Choch'iwon, that the regiment must cover the left flank of the ROK forces eastward in the vicinity of Ch'ongju until the latter could fall back, and that he could expect no help for four days. General Dean's intent was clear. The 34th and 21st Infantry Regiments were to delay the enemy's approach to the Kum River as much as possible, and then from positions on the south side of the river make a final stand. The fate of Taejon would be decided at the Kum River line.

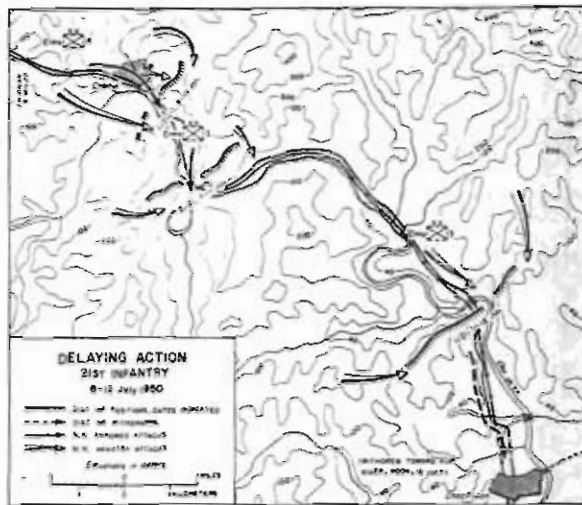
The Fight at Chonui

On the morning of 9 July, the 3d Battalion, 21st Infantry, completed moving into the positions north of Choch'iwon, and Colonel Jensen began registering his 81-mm. and 4.2-inch mortars. Engineers blew bridges in front of Chonui.²⁵ By noon the 21st Regimental Headquarters received a report that enemy tanks were moving south from Ch'onan.

In midafternoon, Capt. Charles R. Alkire, in command at the forward blocking position at Chonui, saw eleven tanks and an estimated 200-300 enemy infantry move into view to his front. He called for an air strike which came in a few minutes later. Artillery also took the tanks under observed fire. Five of the eleven tanks reportedly were burning at 1650. Enemy infantry in Chonui came under 4.2-inch mortar and artillery fire. Observers could see them running from house to house. The men on the low ridge east of Chonui saw columns of black smoke rise beyond the hills to the northwest and assumed that the planes and artillery fire had hit targets there. Aerial observers later reported that twelve vehicles, including tanks, were burning just north of Chonui. At dusk another air report stated that of about 200 vehicles on the road from P'yongtaek to Chonui approximately 100 were destroyed or burning. The third and fourth tactical air control parties to operate in the Korean War (Air Force personnel) directed the strikes at Chonui.²⁶

While this heavy bombardment of the enemy column was still in progress, Colonel Stephens arrived at the forward position about dusk and announced he was going to stay overnight.²⁷ In their front, burning Chonui relieved the blackness of the night. Enemy patrols probed their position. Unless all signs failed there would be action on the morrow.

About 500 men of A and D Companies and fillers for B and C Companies who had arrived at Pusan too late to join Task Force Smith for the Osan action comprised the composite battalion of the 21st Infantry at the Chonui position. They occupied a three-quarter mile front on a low ridge 300 yards east of Chonui and on a higher hill 800 yards south of the town. Rice paddy land lay between this high ground and Chonui. The railroad and



highway passed between the ridge and the hill. Still another hill westward dominated the left flank but there were too few troops to occupy it.²⁸

From the low ridge east of Chonui one normally could see the road for a mile beyond the town, but not on the morning of 10 July. The day dawned with a ground fog billowing up from the rice paddies. With it came the North Koreans. At 0535 the American soldiers could hear enemy voices on their left. Fifteen minutes later those on the ridge at the center of the position heard an enemy whistle at the left; then firing began in that direction. Soon, some of the men near Colonel Stephens began shooting blindly into the fog. He promptly stopped them. At 0700, enemy mortar fire began falling on the ridge.

Lt. Ray Bixler with a platoon of A Company held the hill on the left. The rate of small arms fire increased and those in the center could hear shouting from Bixler's platoon. It was apparent that the main enemy attack centered there, coming from the higher hill beyond it. A concentration of friendly registered mortar fire covered the little valley between the two hills and in the early part of the morning prevented the enemy from closing effectively with Bixler's platoon. But an enemy force passed to the rear around the right flank of the battalion and now attacked the heavy mortar positions. At the same time, enemy tanks came through Chonui on the highway and passed through the infantry position. The men on the ridge could hear the tanks but could not see them because of fog.²⁹

At 0800 the fog lifted. Chonui was still burning. Four tanks came into view from the north and entered the village. Stephens radioed for an air strike. Then the men heard tank fire to their rear. The enemy tanks that had passed through the lines earlier were joining their flanking infantry force in an attack on the American heavy mortar position. Stephens had already lost wire communication with the mortarmen; now he lost radio communication with them. The mortars fell silent, and it seemed certain that the enemy had overrun and destroyed them. Although artillery still gave support, loss of the valuable close-in support of the 4.2-inch mortar proved costly.³⁰

North Korean infantry came from Chonui at 0900 and began climbing the ridge in a frontal attack against the center of the position. The artillery forward observers adjusted artillery fire on them and turned them back. Men watching anxiously on the ridge saw many enemy fall to the ground as they ran. The 74's in Chonui now moved out of the town and began spraying the American-held ridge with machine gun fire.

Shortly after 1000, intense small arms fire erupted again at Lieutenant Bixler's

position on the left. The absence of the former heavy mortar fire protecting screen enabled the enemy to close with him. The fog had lifted and men in the center could see these enemy soldiers on the left. Bixler radioed to Stephens at 1105 that he needed more men, that he had many casualties, and asked permission to withdraw. Stephens replied that he was to stay—"Relief is on the way." Five minutes later it came in the form of an air strike. Two American jet planes streaked in, rocketed the tanks without any visible hits, and then strafed the enemy infantry on the left. The strafing helped Bixler; as long as the planes were present the enemy kept under cover. Soon, their ammunition expended, the planes departed. Then the enemy infantry resumed the attack.

While the air strike was in progress, survivors from the overrun recoilless rifle and mortar positions in the rear climbed the ridge and joined the infantry in the center of the position. At 1120, according to Bixler's watch, friendly artillery fire began falling on the ridge. Apparently the artillerymen thought that enemy troops had overrun the forward infantry position and they were firing on them. Enemy fire and tanks had destroyed wire communication from the battle position to the rear, and the artillery forward observer's radio had ceased working. There was no communication. Stephens ran to his radio jeep, 100 yards to the rear of the foxholes, and from there was able to send a message to the regiment to stop the artillery fire; but it kept falling nevertheless.³¹

As the men on the ridge crouched in their foxholes under the shower of dirt and rocks thrown into the air by the exploding artillery shells, Stephens at 1155 received another report from Bixler that enemy soldiers surrounded him and that most of his men were casualties. That was his last report. The enemy overrun Bixler's position and most of the men there died in their foxholes.

Even before the friendly artillery fire began falling, some of the men on the north (right) end of the ridge had run off. About the time of Bixler's last radio message, someone yelled, "Everybody on the right flank is taking off!" Stephens, looking in that direction, saw groups running to the rear. He yelled out, "Get these high priced soldiers back into position! That's what they are paid for." A young Nisei from Hawaii, Cpl. Richard Okada, tried to halt the panic on the right but was able to get only a few men together. With them he formed a small perimeter.

At 1205 Colonel Stephens decided that those still on the ridge would have to fall back if they were to escape with their lives. On a signal from him, the small group leaped from their foxholes and ran across open ground to an orchard and rice paddies beyond. There they learned, as thousands of other American

¹⁸ Dean and Warden, *General Dean's Story*, pp. 15-18; Communism, Washington to author, 1 Apr 53.

¹⁹ Communism, Washington to author, 1 Apr 53; Lt. Warden to author, 25 Jun 53; 24th Inf WD, 8 Jul 50; Interim, author with ATIS, 5 Apr 55; New York Herald Tribune, July 2, 1950, Super dispatch; New York Times, July 9, 1950.

²⁰ ATIS Re Supp Interim Rpt, Issue 4 (N.K. 4th Div), p. 43; Interim, Issue 56 (N.K. 3d Div), p. 37.

²¹ 24th Inf WD, 6-7 Jul 50; Interim, 29 Jun-2 Jul 50; 24th Div WD, G-2 Jul 50; 25 Jul 50, 2 Jul 50.

²² 24th Inf WD, 7 Jul 50; Interim with sketch map showing positions of A and D Companies at Chonui, Bixler Gen. Richard W. Stephens to author, 24 Mar 54.

²³ 24th Div Opn Order 3, 08145 Jul 50; 24th Div WD, 8 Jul 50, 24th Div WD, 8 Jul 50.

²⁴ 24th Div WD, G-5 Jul 50, entry 250, 09055 Jul 50.

²⁵ 21st Inf WD, 9 Jul 50; 24th Div WD, G-4 Jul 50, entries 375, 09055 and 377, 09050 Jul 50; Interim, G-3 Jul 50, entries 207, 09055 and 207, 09055 Jul 50; Lt. Stephens to author, 17 Apr 52; ATIS Re Supp Interim Rpt, Issue 4 (Enemy Forces), p. 39. Captured North Koreans said later that aerial and artillery action destroyed twenty of their tanks north of Chonui. New York Herald Tribune, July 19, 1950. Bixler dispatch, USAF Hist Study 31, p. 35.

²⁶ New York Herald Tribune, July 19, 1950, article by J. Bixler, "From a Foxhole in Korea." This account is a delayed dispatch written to Bixler on 10 July. He occupied a foxhole with Stephens, Alkire, and on Lt. Earl Bixler, commanding officer of A Company, on the ridge east of Chonui. Bixler kept a log of events as they occurred, describing what he saw and heard from his foxhole and consulting his watch for each sounding.

²⁷ Lt. Stephens to author, 24 Mar 54.

²⁸ Lt. Stephens to author, 24 Mar 54, 17 Apr 54.

²⁹ Bixler, "From a Foxhole in Korea," op. cit.; 24th Div WD, G-3 Jul 50, entry 255, 09050 Jul 50; 24th Div WD, G-3 Jul 50, entry 255, 09050 Jul 50.

³⁰ Bixler, "From a Foxhole in Korea," op. cit.; 24th Div WD, G-3 Jul 50, entry 255, 09050 Jul 50; Lt. Stephens to author, 27 Apr 54.

soldiers were to learn, that crossing flooded rice paddies in a hurry on the narrow, slippery dikes was like walking a tightrope. While they were crossing the paddies, two American jet planes strafed them, thinking them enemy soldiers. There were no casualties from the strafing but some of the men slipped knee-deep into mud and acquired a "lifelong aversion to rice." Stephens and his small group escaped to American lines.¹²

In this action at Chonui, A Company had 27 wounded and 30 missing for a total of 57 casualties out of 181 men; D Company's loss was much less, 3 killed and 8 wounded. The Heavy Mortar Company suffered 14 casualties. Of the total troops engaged the loss was about 20 percent.¹³

Upon reaching friendly positions, Stephens ordered Colonel Jensen to counterattack with the 3d Battalion and regain the Chonui positions. Jensen pressed the counterattack and regained the ridge in front of the town, but was unable to retake Bixler's hill south of the railroad. His men rescued about ten men of A and D Companies who had not tried to withdraw under the shell fire.

Jensen's counterattack in the afternoon uncovered the first known North Korean mass atrocity perpetrated on captured American soldiers. The bodies of six Americans, jeep drivers and mortar-men of the Heavy Mortar Company, were found with hands tied in back and shot through the back of the head. Infiltrating enemy soldiers had captured them in the morning when they were on their way to the mortar position with a resupply of ammunition. An American officer farther back witnessed the capture. One of the jeep drivers managed to escape when the others surrendered.¹⁴

American tanks on the morning of 10 July near Chonui engaged in their first fight of the Korean War. They performed poorly. In the afternoon, tanks participated in the 3d Battalion counterattack and did better. One of them got in a first shot on an enemy tank and disabled it. Two American light tanks were lost during the day.¹⁵

Elements of the N.K. 4th Division had pressed on south after the capture of Chonui and they had fought the battle of Chonui. Leading elements of the N.K. 3d Division, following the 4th by one day, apparently came up to Chonui late on the 10th. They found the town such a mass of rubble that the reserve regiment bypassed it.¹⁶

On the afternoon of 10 July American air power had one of its great moments in the Korean War. Late in the afternoon, a flight of jet F-80 planes dropped down through the overcast at P'yong-taek, twenty-five air miles north of Chonui, and found a large convoy of tanks and vehicles stopped bumper to bumper on the north side of a destroyed bridge. Upon receiving a report of this discovery, the Fifth Air Force rushed every available plane to the scene—B-26's, F-80's, and F-82's—in a massive air strike. Observers of the strike reported that it destroyed 58 tanks, 7 half-track vehicles, 117 trucks, and a large number of enemy soldiers. This report undoubtedly exaggerated unintentionally the amount of enemy equipment actually destroyed. But this strike, and that of the previous afternoon near Chonui, probably resulted in the greatest

destruction of enemy armor of any single action in the war.¹⁷

Perhaps a word should be said about the close air support that aided the ground troops in their hard-pressed first weeks in Korea. This support was carried out by United States Air Force, Navy, Marine, and Australian fighter planes and some U.S. fighter-bombers. Beginning early in the war, it built up as quickly as resources would permit. On 3 July the Far East Air Forces established a Joint Operations Center at Itazuke Air Base, on Kyushu in Japan, for control of the fighter planes operating over the Korean battlefield. This center moved to Taejon in Korea on 5 July, and on 14 July to Taegu, where it established itself near Eighth Army headquarters. By 19 July, heavy communications equipment arrived and a complete tactical air control center was established in Korea, except for radar and direction-finding facilities. Advance Headquarters, Fifth Air Force, opened at Taegu on 20 July.

The forward element in the control system of the close air support was the tactical air control party, consisting of a forward air controller (usually an officer and an experienced pilot), a radio operator, and a radio repair man who also served as jeep driver. Six of these parties operated with the 24th Division in Korea in the early days of the war. As soon as others could be formed, one joined each ROK corps and division, and an Air Liaison Officer joined each ROK corps to act as adviser on air capabilities for close support.

The Fifth Air Force began using T-6 trainer aircraft to locate targets on and behind enemy lines. The controllers in these planes, using the call sign "Mosquito," remained over enemy positions and directed fighter planes to the targets. Because of the call sign the T-6's soon became known in Army and Air Force parlance as Mosquitoes. The Mosquito normally carried an Air Force pilot and a ground force observer. The plane was equipped with a Very High Frequency radio for contact with tactical air control parties and fighter aircraft in the air. It also had an SCR-300 radio for contact with front-line ground troops. The ground force observer and the pilot in the Mosquito, the control party, and the forward infantry elements co-ordinated their information to bring fighter aircraft to targets where they delivered their strikes, and also to direct ground fire on enemy targets in front of the infantry.¹⁸

In the early part of the war the F-51 (Mustang), a propeller-driven fighter, predominated in the Air Force's close support effort. This plane had shown to good advantage in World War II in low-level close support missions. It had greater range than the jet F-80 and could use the rough, short fields in Korea. Most important of all, it was available. For close support of Marine troops when they were committed later, a tried and tested plane, the Marine F4U Corsair, was used. The F-51 was capable of carrying 6 5-inch rockets and a 110-gallon napalm tank, and it mounted 6 .50-caliber machine guns. The F-80 could carry 2 110-gallon napalm tanks, and mounted 6 .50-caliber machine guns with about the same ammunition load as the F-51. It could also carry 2 5-inch rockets if the target distance was short. Both the F-51 and the F-80 could carry 2,000 pounds of bombs if the mission required it. The F4U could carry 6 5-inch rockets, 2 110-gallon napalm tanks, and it mounted 4 20-mm. cannon with 800 rounds of ammunition. If desired it could carry a 5,200-pound bomb load. The F-51 had a 400-mile operating radius, which could be increased to 760 miles by using external tanks. The F-80's normal radius was 125 miles, but it could be increased to 350 miles with external tanks. The F4U had a shorter

operating range. With external tanks it reached about 335 miles.¹⁹

Choch'iwon

Just before midnight of 10 July Colonel Jensen began to withdraw the 3d Battalion from the recaptured ridge east of Chonui, bringing along most of the equipment lost earlier in the day. When the battalion arrived at its former position it received a surprise: enemy soldiers occupied some of its foxholes. Only after an hour's battle did K Company clear the North Koreans from its old position.²⁰

In a message to Colonel Stephens at 2045 General Dean suggested withdrawing the 3d Battalion from this position. But he left the decision to Stephens, saying, "If you consider it necessary, withdraw to your next delaying position prior to dawn. I am reminding you of the importance of the town of Choch'iwon. If it is lost, it means that the SKA [South Korean Army] will have lost its MSR [Main Supply Route]." An hour later, in talking to a regimental staff officer, Dean authorized falling back four miles to the next delaying position two miles north of Choch'iwon, but ordered, "Hold in your new position and fight like hell. I expect you to hold it all day tomorrow."²¹

Meanwhile, Task Force Smith, re-equipping at Taejon, had received 205 replacements and on 10 July it received orders to rejoin the 21st Regiment at Choch'iwon. Smith arrived there with B and C Companies before dawn of 11 July. A and D Companies had re-equipped at Choch'iwon and they joined with B and C Companies to reunite the 1st Battalion. Colonel Smith now had his battalion together in Korea for the first time. At 0730, 11 July, the 1st Battalion was in position along the highway two miles north of Choch'iwon.²² Four miles north of it Colonel Jensen's 3d Battalion was already engaged with the North Koreans in the next battle.

At 0830 that morning, men in the 3d Battalion position heard tanks to their front on the other side of a mine field, but could not see them because of fog. Within a few minutes four enemy tanks crossed the mine field and loomed up in the battalion area. Simultaneously, enemy mortar fire fell on the battalion command post, blowing up the communications center, the ammunition supply point, and causing heavy casualties among headquarters troops. Approximately 1,000 enemy infantry enveloped both flanks of the position. Some for-

The 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry, meanwhile, had covered the retreat on the Kongju road and fought a series of minor delaying actions against the leading elements of the N.K. 4th Division which had taken up the pursuit there. Four light M4 tanks of the 78th Tank Battalion joined the battalion, and D Company of the 3d Engineer Combat Battalion prepared demolitions along the road. In the afternoon of 11 July, enemy action destroyed three of the four tanks, two of them by artillery fire and the third by infantry close attack when the tank tried to rescue personnel from a litter jeep ambushed by enemy infiltrators. Remnants of the 3d Battalion had led the retreat. Reorganized as a composite company and re-equipped at Taejon, it returned to Kongju on the 11th. The next day the 69d Field Artillery Battalion and the 34th Infantry crossed the Kum. The last of the infantry and Colonel Ayres, the 1st Battalion commander, crossed at dusk. General Dean's instructions were to "leave a small outpost across the river. Blow the main bridge only when enemy starts to cross." To implement this order Colonel Wallington had L Company hold the bridge and outpost the north bank for 600 yards.²³

¹² Hager, "From a Posthole in Korea," op. cit., 24th Div WD, G-4, entry 125 gives Stephens' message to Dean immediately after his return to American lines.

¹³ Dr. J. O'Sullivan, *The Korean War*, Casualties of (United States Eighth Army in Korea, Battle of Choch'iwon, 10-12 July 1950).

¹⁴ 24th Div WD, G-4, entry 126, 10 July 50, and entry 127, 10 July 50. Lt. Stephens to author, 17 Apr 51; TAC, Employment of Armor in Korea—the First Year (P. Knox, 1951), p. 29; Signal Corps Photo 50-5616, taken 10 July 1950, shows a tank named "Rabbits Roar," captioned as the first American tank to see action in Korea.

¹⁵ ATIS Res Supp Interrog Rpts, Issue 96 (N.K., 4th Div), p. 46; *Ibid.*, Issue 96 (N.K., 3d Div), p. 51; ORO-R-1 (FC), The Employment of Armor in Korea, vol. I, p. 158.

¹⁶ USARF Hist Study 70, p. 40.

¹⁷ "Air War in Korea," Air University Quarterly Review, IV, No. 3 (Spring 1951), 56; Hq. 3 Corps, Analysis of the Air-Ground Operations System, 21 Jun-8 Sep 50, Staff Study, 14 Dec 50; Maj Louis H. Allen, Debriefing Rpt 75, Army School, Ft. Sill, Okla., 5 Mar 51.

¹⁸ X Corps Study, p. 14; Operations Research Office, Close Air Support Operations in Korea, ORO-R-3 (March), pp. 18-19.

¹⁹ 24th Div WD, 11 Jul 50.

²⁰ 24th Div WD, 5-7 Jul, entries 175 to 10043; 172 at 10043, and 173 at 10130 Jul 50.

²¹ 24th Div WD, 6 and 11 Jul 50.

²² Comments, Wallington to author, 1 Apr 51; 24th Div WD, p. 18 Jul 50, and G-4, entry 158, 09300, 10 Jul 50, and 556; 181818 Jul 50; G-4, entry 255, 10300, 20 Jul 50; 10300 Jul 50; 34th Inf WD, 12 Jul 50, and Summary, 18 Jun-24 Jul 50; Interrog, Mitchell with Sgt Justin B. Fleming, 1 Co 34th Inf, 1 Aug 50; Interrog, Mitchell with Sgt Ed James B. Bryant, 8 Co 34th Inf, 30 Jul 50; ATIS Res Supp Interrog Rpts, Issue 96 (N.K., 4th Div), p. 46. The 34th Infantry War Diary for this period, made up at a later date, is poor and unreliable. It rarely agrees with the 24th Division War Diary on the time for the same event.

forum

ED HENRY's \$735 check arrived just as we were ready for the press. Call it a "donation," said Ed. It's this sort of support that keeps us going. Our "Thank you" is pretty weak, Ed, but we're saying it as loudly as we can.

THE EDITORS' CHOICE

Just-joined KEN CATES (C 19th & A 5th '49-'51), of 1203 Carla, Arlington TX, says, "Will you please put a note in your next issue that I'd like to hear from anyone who remembers me." No sooner said than done, Ken.

Ready. Compute. Fire.

We love inquiries. Love to be able to use 'em. Like this one from CHARLES R. SMITH (B 21st 7/50-7/51), of Box 2344, Turlock CA. He wants to hear from any of his Baker Company pals. Got it, out there?

Another warning about the price of drinks at the Louisville Hyatt - BYOB. We won't be running our own bar and setting our own prices. Now you can see why it pays to plan ahead. So plan on your serious drinking in your or someone else's room, with a social drink or two, or a Shirley Temple, at the hotel's bar. Just a suggestion.

Quoting BILL LIVINGSTON (Hq. 1st Bn. 34th, '44-'46), of 213 Dedham, Needham, MA: "I consider myself retired. I did retire 8 years ago as VP of Cambridgeport Savings Bank. Then went into selling real estate for past 8 years. But now, I've really slowed down."



Meet JESSE FOSTER on the left and his old Chick buddy, CHARLIE O. LANG. They met at LAX as Jess and Daisy were passing through. "Crammed 45 years into 2 hours" said Jess. That's Charlie's mess kit lid that Jess is holding. Quite a few names had been scratched into it -- including Jess' all of 45 years ago. You're looking good, Charley. And Jess, you already know how we feel about you.



"THE COUNT IS NOW 2 AND 3 ON LOMBARDI
AND THE CROWD IS GOING WILD."

Pfc H N Carlson Truxa Field Wis.

JIM WRIGHT (21st '43-'45), of Riverside Trailer Ct., #7, 1197 S. 2nd St., Coshoc-ton OH 43812, can't make Louisville but wants to be remembered by each who remembers him.

Inquiry: Whatever happened to SAMUEL C. DILL, 1st Sgt. B 21st '43-'45. Who wants to know? GERALD LOCKHART of the same outfit, that's who. Gerry's at 5804 Cypress Point, Bakersfield CA 93309. And Gerry adds: "Also Sgt. Lock who was 1st Sgt. after Dill was rotated."

Bits & Pieces

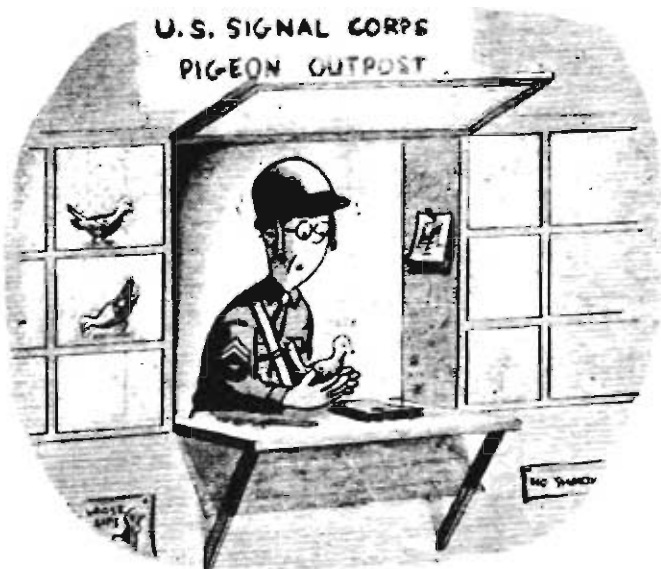
DICK DEWEERD (Div. Hq. '42-'46) of RR 3, Pella IA 50219, writes: "Here I am, the Div. Hqs. mail clerk sitting by my "office"



at Taloma, Mindanao in June of '45 -- 40 years ago. I made the Laroe mail dispensing case which could be folded into a carrying desk and could be transported from one location to the next -- often wondered if it ever arrived when the unit moved to Japan.

Front & Center

U.S. SIGNAL CORPS
PIGEON OUTPOST



"NOW REMEMBER--IF YOU RUN ACROSS THE ENEMY, NO STRAFING. JUST FLY STRAIGHT TO YOUR DESTINATION."

—Pvt. Phil Interlandi, Camp Robinson, Ark.

CHARLEY KAEFER (H 21st '41-'45), of 177 Clinton, Cowlesville NY, is one in a million -- or one in 1721 anyway -- he is a Life Member, yet forwards annual dues regularly and faithfully. He votes for the Mississippi River cruise. (Thanx Charley). And he tells of going off to Atlantic City for a reunion with ALEX KOPACZ and BILL JARGOWSKY. Wonderful, he says, first meeting after 41 years. It's what it's all about, Charley. Thank you.

eyes only

Lesson in true grit -- these quotes from a letter sent in by BILL NICHOLS (G 21st 3/52-9/52, of 537 Alabama, Birmingham, AL: "\$20.00 is enclosed for the first installment toward a lifetime membership. My "stump" has healed up but I can't get fitted for my artificial leg until August. I feel good all the time. I regret that I won't be able to make it to LAX or Louisville. Doris and I were looking forward to seeing some of the historic sights in Kentucky. We hope to see you at next year's reunion -- wherever it will be held. My amputation wasn't the end of the world and I have a lot of living to do after I get my 'leg.'"

FOR THE RECORD

Another Postmaster heard from. This time the PM of Hymera IN. No other than HUBERT SAMM (AT 19th '44-'46). He writes: "Just received my copy of TARO LEAF. Was glad to receive it as I am at home recovering from a light heart attack. Was fortunate, no damage to heart muscle, however am on restricted activities for the next year. Am enclosing a check for \$20.00 as 1st installment of Life Membership. Will send this amount next few months until total is paid. Would like to get out to Louisville but travel for long distances just now is one of the restrictions. Hope you do have a nice convention."

Cards to Hubie would help. You can see he's on a slow burner for awhile. Thanx. It's Box 52, Hymera IN 47855.

did you know..

Just so you'll understand the system. If we don't directly answer your letter, we'll try to answer you via notes in the Taro Leaf. Okay? Saves time and money. We average 10 letters a day -- and it's tough trying to answer every one.

Glad you've joined our ranks, DONALD K. LEGAY, (C 19th 7/50-4/53). Don is at 170 Shirley, Lancaster MA. We remember well when he came home after 2½ years of captivity at Camp 5, Pyoktong. He was captured 11/4/50.

The Colt .45 going out? We don't wanna believe it.

From Lois (Mrs. THEODORE) ANDERSON, Box 247, Creekside, PA, comes this: "Recently my husband and I were at a Home Show in Indiana PA. Ted was wearing his 24th Division cap from Savannah. A young man walked past us, then stopped and said he had been in the 24th. He had not heard of the organization, so we got his name and address -- JOS. BABICK, 126 Northview Estates, Indiana PA 15701." Thank you Lois; he's now a member.

"Shoot!"



Shoot! is what the photographer does. Official Army photography sometimes puzzles us. Here we have a group of our present-day Taro Leafers doing you-know-what duty in Honduras and they come up with photos such as this. Think of the really good ones they could take of our men, to be sure, but at very least with Honduran scenery as a backdrop. Here's Pvt. David Hernandez, helicopter mechanic with D Co., 24th Combat Aviation Bn., cleaning a mast of a UH-1H helicopter for shipment. It's a US Army photo. For all you know, it could be taken in Ft. Stewart.

In submitting to us the name of a prospective member, don't even bother - please - unless you're also giving us an address that is current. This is 1985. His address when he was a T/5 on Goodenough ain't goodenough. And the whole episode in futility is costing us bucks.

Up Front

with Willie & Joe

by Bill Mauldin. Reprinted in The Stars and Stripes Courtesy of Bill Mauldin



"You'll get over it, Joe. Once I was gonna write a book exposin' the army after th' war myself."

???

Mail returned from postmasters of JOHN E. MATTISON, 1933 Elmira, Aurora CO 80010, as not at.

Also mail returned from Co.B DLIFLC, Presidio of Monterey CA 91940, the former address of good friend Lt.Col. VERN AUSTIN.

Anyone know where these people can be located.

Word from LEO MCDONNELL (24 QM '53-'55), of 1715 Prospect, Scranton PA: "I've been in and out of the hospital with kidney, spleen removal and lung surgery. I really don't know whether I'm coming or going. My Josephine has more than her hands full these past two years." Never surrender, Leo, never surrender.

JOHN C. WELBORN (Sv. 21st '40-'43), out of 210 West 8th, Lexington NC 27292, wants mail from old buddies.

Wouldn't ya know!! Store in Beverly Hills is selling the "original formula Coca-Cola" -- \$30 a case, \$1.25 a bottle. Quick thinking owner of a liquor shop there bought up 1000 cases at \$9 per when he learned the taste was about to change. Speaking of Coke, can you recall ever seeing a bottle when you were in New Guinea or the P.I.?

ANTHONY J. TIRRI (I 34th '41-'44), of 2 Weatherstone, Smithtown NY writes: "I'm on dialysis and will be for the rest of my life -- but I feel great and am quite active."

1985 Dues
Are Due

"RATS!"



Rats! These are dull pictures considering that they were taken in Honduras. This is another "Honduras" picture. Told you we were favored with a series of them by Stewart. Warned you that they were dry or dull or call them what-you-will. This one shows Pfc. Michael Wallace, generator mechanic with F Co., 724th Maintenance Bn., installing a fuel infection pump into a 60 KW generator that failed in Honduras. US Army photo. Nothing personal Mike. We aren't blaming you; we're blaming the photographer. It's almost as if we were ashamed to admit we were even in Honduras.

National spelling bee just completed as we go to press. The winner, a 13 year old, did it by spelling "milieu." Others stumbled on "farrago," "judaize," "syllepsis," "obvolute," "hibachi," "borsalino," "culturati," "proselytize," "kvetch," "nuncio," and "bushido." Who wouldn't?

AROUND THE CORNER

Around the corner I have a friend,
In this great city that has no end;
Yet days go by, and weeks rush on,
And before I know it a year is gone,
And I never see my old friend's face,
For life is a swift and terrible race,
He knows I like him just as well
As in the days when I rang his bell
And he rang mine. We were younger then,
And now we are busy, tired men;
Tired of playing a foolish game,
Tired with trying to make a name.
"Tomorrow," I say, "I will call on Jim,
Just to show that I'm thinking of him."
But tomorrow comes -- and tomorrow goes,
And the distance between us grows and

grows,
Around the corner -- yet miles away...
"Here's a telegram, sir..."
"Jim died today."

And that's what we get, and deserve
in the end:
Around the corner, a vanished friend.

Charles Hanson Towne

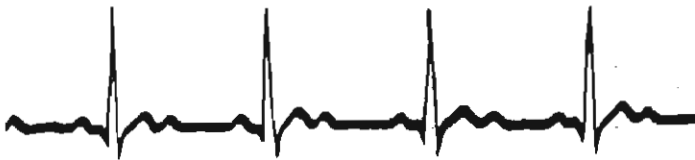
So, see, call or write "Jim."
Tomorrow could be too late. Much as we
hesitate writing this, there is the stark
reality facing us!!!



"HE WANTS TO KNOW IF THE BROOKLYN
DODGERS ARE STILL IN THE LEAGUE."

—Pvt. George Blinn, AEF

Medical report on HAROLD JONES (D 21st '42-'45), of 4602 N. 42nd, Omaha NB. Has had a hernia operation, removal of a cyst in his scrotum, and four skin cancers. Ye Gods, poor Hal is getting more than his share. But his chin is up. Well, he's a Gimlet, ain't he?



The Army doesn't change much over the years.

Witness this one out of the 6/24/85 Savannah Morning News:

A 22-year-old soldier at Hunger Army Air Field has been charged with indecent exposure after he was spotted water skiing nude on the Savannah River near River Street during the weekend.

Martin Koellner, an Army Ranger, was also charged with swimming in the river, which is illegal within the city limits.

He was taken to the Chatham County Jail Saturday night and was still being held there Sunday.

Sheriff Walter Mitchell said Koellner might be released to the Army after an arraignment hearing Monday, during which bond will be set.

Both charges are misdemeanors.

Savannah police officer Leonard Harris reported that at about 6:30 p.m. Saturday, he saw Koellner skiing and riding an inner tube in the river near the Lincoln Street ramp.

Koellner will not only face punishment for violating local -- he'll suffer U.S. Army discipline too.

"What might happen to him is really hard to say," an Army spokesman at Fort Stewart said. "There's about 18 different variables.

"The range of options are from verbal counseling to discharge. The guy might just be told, 'Hey, how dare you embarrass this unit like that?'"

BETWEEN THE LINES

Remember, please, when you send us pictures for Taro Leaf. Kodachromes -Nein! Black and whites - Yes!

Just arrived -- a VCR film on the gang's 84 return to the PI, the gift of BOB ENDER with the words, "To the 24th with very best wishes, Bob Ender." Watta guy. As we write this, we're viewing it. It's with sound, of course, and in beautiful colors. We're adding this one to a growing collection of VCR films which will go with us to every 24th gathering from here on out. Bob, how can we ever thank you properly.

Lead us not into temptation.
We can find it ourselves.



"I STILL CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHERE HE GOT THE BARREL."

—Ron Bennett Y3c Astoria, Oreg.

Retired after 48 years with the Mass. Dept. of Public Welfare: ERNIE VIENNEAU, (M, I & K 21st '42-'45), of 26 Potter Rd., Waltham MA. He and Dorothy are making Hawaii in July.

BUDDING VERSE

A little iambic pentameter from one of our readers, DICK DEWEERD (Div. Hq.Co. '42-'46) of RR 3, Pella IA 50219:

LIFE'S STORY

Life is a story in volumes three -
the Past
the Present
the Yet-to-be

The first is finished and laid away,
The second we're reading day-by-day,
The third and last being Volume Three;
Is locked from sight.
God keeps the key.

The Bulletin Board

GENE CHILDERS (E 34th) of 1102 Gainesway, Lexington KY, would welcome mail from ROBERT WEBSTER (Tenn.), HOWARD TAYLOR (Beaver Dam, KY), and ERNEST E. ALLEN (South Shore KY.)

ART KEMP tells us a story about Gen. Ulysses S. Grant's Vicksburg campaign. A diary of a soldier carried this notation for Jan. 20, 1863: "Still raining. Day gloomy. Bought a gallon of whiskey. Day still gloomy."

From BILL SHOWN comes this and we are exceedingly grateful to him therefor and to the KMIETIK's too. Read on, please:

"I am enclosing an article which was published in this May 27th issue of the 'Milwaukee Sentinel,' by Caroline Flander Kmieciak. She resides at 1662 Coachlight Dr., Brookfield WI near here. She is the wife of Association member ART KMIETIK. I called them on the phone this morning and asked if it was alright to forward the article to you. I believe it deserves some special recognition. I found it very touching to the point of bringing tears to my eyes!" Here is the moving story just as it was printed:

US soldiers fill cemetery in Philippines

By Caroline Flander Kmieciak
Special to The Sentinel

"Here are recorded the names of Americans who gave their lives in the service of their country and who sleep in unknown graves."

When dawn streaks the Memorial Day sky, the first American cemetery to be warmed by its rays is the Manila American Cemetery in the Philippine Islands, where the above words are recorded.

The inscription continues: "Included in these roles are the names of Filipino scouts who shared with their American comrades in the defense of the Philippines 1941-45."

These 152 acres constitute the largest American military cemetery in the world. Interred are 17,182 Americans and 3,660 unknown bodies. Twenty sets of American brothers rest here side by side.

On the 40th anniversary of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's historic return on Oct. 20, 1944, members of the 24th Division, who landed with MacArthur, returned to the Philippines. A day later, the American veterans held commemorative services with their Philippine brothers-in-arms at the military cemetery.

Silently, the men assembled at the base of the broad sweep of the steps before the tomb of the Philippine Unknown Soldier. Immediately in back of the tomb stands a semicircle of colonnades; before it, an eternal flame. An honor guard of Filipino soldiers flanked the tomb. They stood at rigid attention. The blinding tropical sun glanced off their white helmets, their full field dress relieved only by bright yellow kerchiefs.

It was a simple ceremony, quickly over. The ranking American officers stood front and center facing the tomb of the unknown. With Ameri-

can and Philippine flags at half-staff, the Army band played both national anthems.

Then the veterans stepped smartly forward, carrying an immense spray of blossoms — a lush kaleidoscope of vivid scarlets, brilliant oranges, bright yellows and deep purples against a background of waxy green tropical foliage.

Gently, the spray was laid in place. As the men stepped back from the sarcophagus, the first bittersweet notes of taps soared high and true. Buglers, placed at three spots in the cemetery, created a heart-wrenching stereo effect — their bugles echoing a final farewell for those who slept the eternal sleep. Rifles cracked the symbolic volley. Tears ran unchecked down the men's cheeks.

With the completion of the formal military ceremony, the Americans made their way to the graves of their fallen comrades and the American Memorial. Some wandered over grassy expanses amidst the white Italian marble crosses, seeking a particular grave. Others walked through the two great semicircles that fan out from a tower that is the focal point of the American Cemetery.

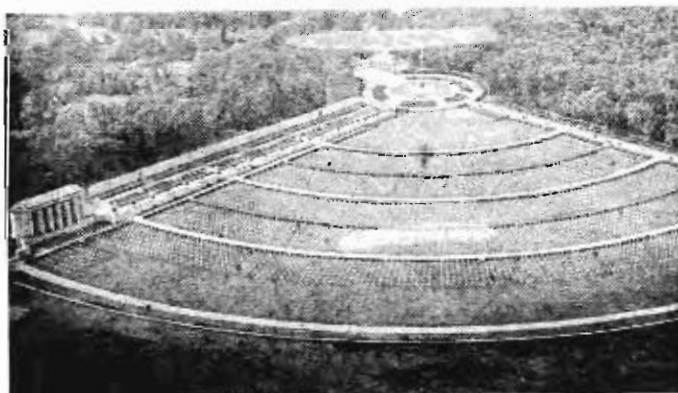
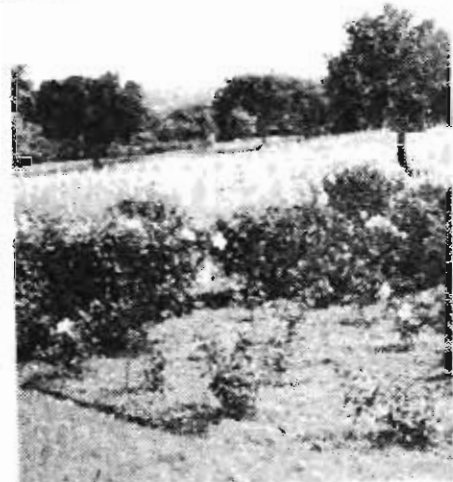
The semicircles contain 24 pairs of walls. On the four faces of the walls are recorded the names and details of 36,279 missing Americans, as well as the Filipino scouts who served with them.

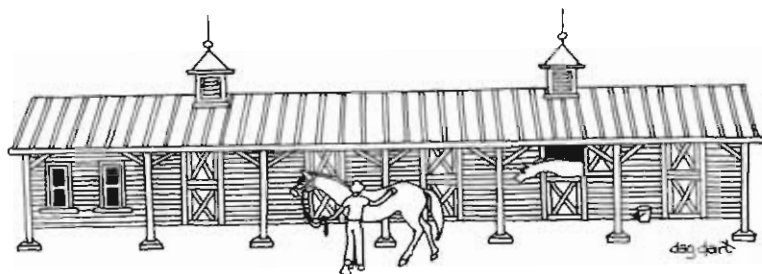
At some time during the visit, the men slipped through the bronze gridded doors of the small chapel housed in the base of the American Memorial Tower. Behind the altar, a figure like a madonna scatters flowers. An inscription reads: "To their memory their country brings its gratitude as flowers forever living."

In that quiet sanctuary, it is forever Memorial Day.



Cemeteries worldwide hold US soldiers killed in World War II. A US military cemetery (above) at Ste. Mere Eglise in Normandy, France, was photographed in 1947. The only US military cemetery of WWII dead in the British Isles (below) is near Cambridge. More than 17,000 US troops are buried (right) in Manila in the Philippine Islands.





We've always liked the one about the race horse named "Bob."

Seems Bob had never won a race.

One day after an especially close one, Bob got back to the stable and the trainer said, "Bob, what's wrong; what happened today?"

"Well," replied Bob, "seems I can get out of the starting gate good but I'll find myself running behind a nice mare. You know, she'll look so good from behind that I haven't the heart to pass her."

The trainer thought for a moment, then said: "You know we've got to do something about that; we've got to have you fixed."

So off to the vet went Bob for the necessary surgery. A few weeks go by and Bob is again back in racing form.

On his very first race, Bob gets a good jump out of the starting gate, then trips over himself, falling flat on all fours about 10 feet in front of the gate.

When he gets back to the stable, the trainer asks: "Well, what was it this time?"

"Well," said Bob, "I was all set for a good race, my best ever, I hoped. I heard the bell, saw the gate open, and made my initial thrust when I heard the crowd roar, 'They're off!' You know I got so embarrassed that I quickly crossed my legs and down I went on all fours, right there in front of the gate."

Today's trivia: Name the only player to lead both the American and National leagues in stolen bases?

DICK DEWEERD, (Div.Hq. '42-'46), of RR 3, Pella, IA, asked us to plug an upcoming gathering of men of Hq.Co. Division. It's to be on Fri., 9/13 and Sat. 9/14 at Rodeway Inn, Des Moines, Iowa. If you have any questions, contact "The Ole Mail Clerk," Dick. Tel. 515-628-1240. There you are, Dick; we did it. Hope the party's a success.

Reference a comment in a recent issue about cuffing prisoners. Comes KEN MCNABB to the rescue with: "Most cuffs are run through a 'D' ring on either a leather belt or chain belt, thereby holding the hands at waist level." Replies the Editor: "Oh." Thanks, Ken, for the neat explanation.



We wanted to include in this issue something on the 40th Anniversary of the atomization of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Our piece was but half-written when there arrives this from BILL MCKENNA, (34th '43-'45), of 970 Neilson, Albany CA:

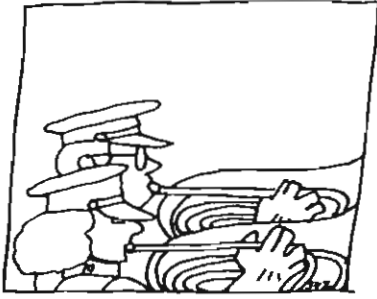
"Been thinking of August 40 years ago. The news media will be filled with stories of the War's end and particular emphasis given the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. I suspect there will be those who will second guess the decision to drop the Bomb; those who decry the employment of such a force; and those who will describe the events of those days from a different view, in another voice. So, I think it is important for those who of us made the long, and terrible trek to the mainland of Japan -- and buried our dead along the way -- not to allow history to be rewritten by those who will find still another way, another reason to question whatever this great nation must do in order to prevail, to survive. Countless soldiers' lives were saved, and even more Japanese lives were spared because there was a quick, perhaps even, merciful end to the conflict. Like everyone, we are anguished by the fact that there was a 'Hiroshima,' and pray that never again, bombs fall. But, neither should we forget those places, now, mostly unknown -- remembered by just a few of us: Biak, Palo, Zig Zag, Malinta Hill and Toloma. Places where the young and the brave, and the innocent died. For them, for history ...we need to remember."

Bill, for saying it, our deep thanks. We decided to use your item and to throw ours away.

Trivia answer: Ron LeFlore, who led the AL with 68 steals for Detroit in 1978, and the NL with 97 for Montreal in 1980.

Brig. Gen.-nominee HORACE G. TAYLOR, commander, 2d Brigade, Division, has been named assistant division commander, 3d Infantry Division, Kitzingen, Germany.

Everyone must believe in something; We believe we'll have another beer.



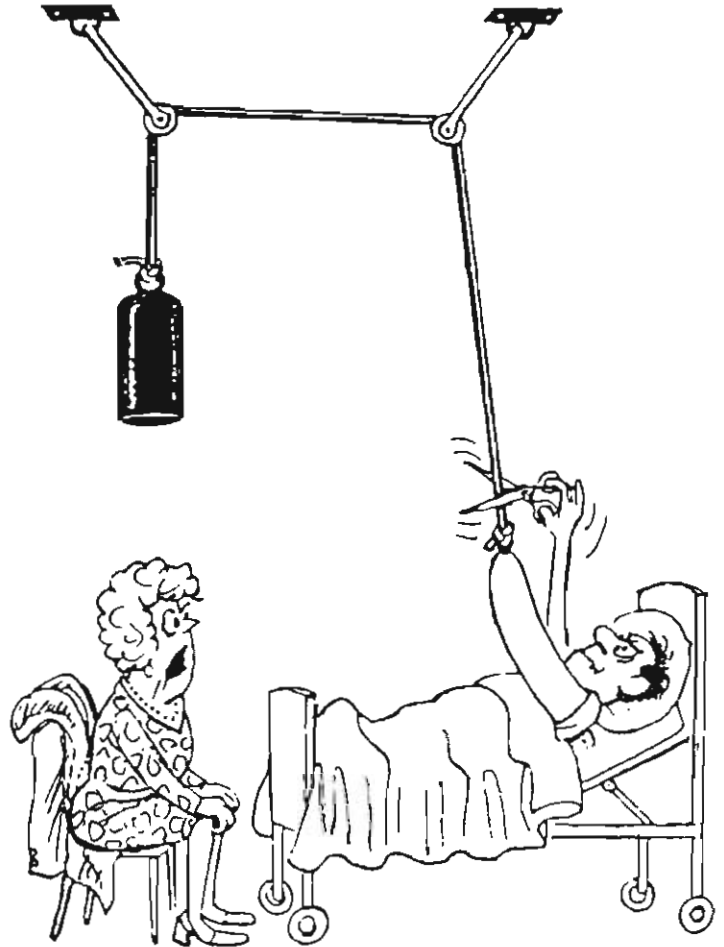
Reading about the troubles of Vice Admiral Joseph Metcalf 3rd, for transporting rifles home as souvenirs from the '83 Grenada thing, puts us in mind of our own Chief of Staff THOMAS D. DRAKE circa Nov. '45. You surely remember him -- and his order in the P.I. to cut a shirttail from a CKC shirt and fashion a necktie out of it so we could all "invade Japan" properly dressed. At any rate, soon as we got to Japan, Tom collared us to make shipping boxes for mailing home, for him, sabers and rifles to his special list of "friends" including Eisenhower, Bradley, McAuliffe and a host of other big names of that day. We caught the detail personally and as best we recall we boxed and shipped over 100 of the souvenirs for "Terrible" Tom. We were at Matsuyama at the time.

DON and Irene WILLIAMS, (Sv. 34th '43-'44), of 21925 Flanders, Farmington Hills, MI, have each retired from the Burroughs Corp. A total of 66 years between them. May your retirement days be happy ones, folks.

Writes LLOYD "Red" THOMPSON upon receipt of his Life Membership plate: "My time in the 21st was the greatest of my 30 year career." Red's at 9413 Shiprock, Sun City AZ.

IT IS NOT EASY

To apologize,
To begin over,
To be unselfish,
To take advice,
To face a sneer,
To be charitable,
To keep on trying,
To be considerate,
To avoid mistakes,
To endure success,
To profit by mistakes,
To forgive and forget,
To think and then act,
To keep out of the rut,
To make the best of little,
To subdue an unruly temper,
To maintain a high standard,
To shoulder a deserved blame,
To recognize the silver lining --
But it always pays.



"If it hadn't been for your sheer stupidity you wouldn't have . . ."

Warm letter from LEN MITCHELL, (F 34th '44-'45), of 1078 Geneva, Columbus OH: "Was in Logen West Virginia and visited the Legion Post there. One of the members there saw my Taro patch and was real excited. Said it was the first one he had seen since Korea -- didn't know about the Association.

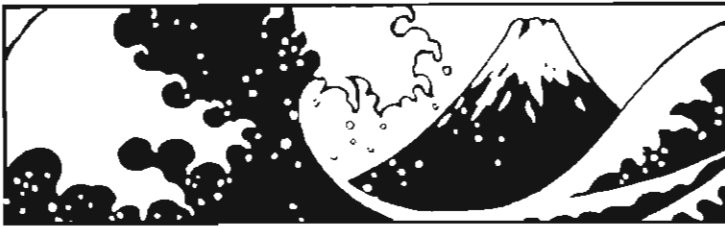
"Still miss Shirley Ruth. Will be a year Oct. 10th.

"She sure was glad to know everyone prayed for her. She said she would not surrender. But she had to go with her God because He wanted her there to make room for a Taro Leafer when he gets there, meaning me. I know she will have everything ready whenever I join her as she was the best. When God made her he threw away the mold and I will miss her as long as I live."

Now you see why we just had to let you read all of Len's letter. Chin up, Len, we're pulling for you.

Maj.Gen. HENRY DOCTOR JR., CG 2d Infantry Division, Korea, has been named Deputy, The Inspector General for Investigations, Assistance Training and Information Management, the Pentagon.

Happiness is a positive cash flow.



The Association of the United States Army has selected Ambassador Paul H. Nitze as the 1985 recipient of AUSA's highest award, the George Catlett Marshall Medal for public service.

The selection of Ambassador Nitze was made by the Association's Council of Trustees. The presentation of the medal for "selfless and outstanding service to the United States of America," will be made on October 16, 1985, at the George Catlett Marshall Memorial Dinner.

Nitze is currently serving as special advisor for arms reduction negotiations to the President and Secretary of State. He had been the head of the U.S. delegation to the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Negotiations with the Soviet Union which convened in 1981 in Geneva, Switzerland.

But we really report this little bit of news for a reason.

We noted the list of recipients of the Medal. Here it is:

Previous recipients of the Marshall Medal are:

- 1960 — Honorable Robert A. Lovett
- 1961 — Honorable John Jay McCloy
- 1962 — General of the Army Dwight David Eisenhower
- 1963 — Honorable Gordon Gray
- 1964 — General of the Army Omar N. Bradley
- 1965 — General Jacob L. Devers
- 1966 — Honorable Harry S. Truman
- 1967 — Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge
- 1968 — General Maxwell D. Taylor
- 1969 — Honorable Cyrus R. Vance
- 1970 — General Lyman L. Lemnitzer
- 1971 — Honorable Dean Rusk
- 1972 — Mr. Bob Hope
- 1973 — Honorable Henry A. Kissinger
- 1974 — Honorable Ellsworth Bunker
- 1975 — Honorable Stanley R. Resor
- 1976 — Honorable Frank Pace, Jr.
- 1977 — Honorable James R. Schlesinger
- 1978 — Honorable Oveta Culp Hobby
- 1979 — Honorable William Averell Harriman
- 1980 — Lieutenant General James M. Gavin
- 1981 — No Award
- 1982 — Honorable Melvin R. Laird
- 1983 — Ambassador Phillip Habib
- 1984 — Ambassador Donald Rumsfeld

What strikes us as cruel is that the name of General of the Army Douglas MacArthur is missing.

To err is human --

To really foul things up takes a computer.

Sex is a misdemeanor.

The more you miss, the meaner you get.

Brig.Gen. Bernard M. Herring Jr., assistant division commander and commander of Hunter Army Airfield since July 18, 1983, retired July 18th.

Herring, 50, a native of Fitzgerald GA is a 1957 graduate of the University of Georgia and a former deputy commanding general and chief of staff of I Corps and Fort Lewis, WA.



CHARLIE MCBRYDE, (Hq. 19th '39-'42), of 633 Spring, Sanford NC is standing beside you-know-what at Schofield. He's more than a little disturbed that the plaque isn't back in position. Says it's been laying there on the ground "for at least 3 or 4 years."

Brig. Gen. GEORGE M. BAXTER, assistant division commander for training for the Division, has left for a new assignment in Pakistan where he will serve as Chief, U.S. Defense Representative, Pakistan.

Burns us up to read about 3/13th Field Artillery being stationed at Schofield.

We get the uneasy feeling that things are just not right in Army-Navy-Air Force medical circles. Watch your local paper. There is sniping going on every few days. Then, too, there's the Reagan case. When they removed a growth in May '84, why did they not conduct a thorough search for other tumors instead of allowing a tumor to grow to a diameter of 2 inches. And this is just one story. If you've been following your paper, there have been a plurality of "incidents" and in more than a few cases litigation resulting therefrom. Stay tuned. Watch Congress get into it.

New Asst. Div. Commander has been named. He is BG MICHAEL F. SPIGELMIRE.

Spigelmire, 46, comes to Fort Stewart from Fort McPherson near Atlanta, where he was assistant deputy chief of staff for operations for the U.S. Army Forces Command. The general, a 25-year veteran of Army service, served with the 24th in 1962-63 while it was stationed in West Germany.

Chester A. Andrezak

March 27, 1917 June 10, 1985

Life scraped bottom on our grumpy part of June 10th -- when our mind's well had gone dry. Ray Kresky was on the line with the terrible news -- Chet Andrezak had returned to his God.

There never was a finer man -- a stauncher friend -- a more deeply religious man -- a more loving parent -- a truer husband -- than Chester A. Andrezak.

Those of us who knew him are left poorer by his death, but richer by his life.

A quiet and modest man, he wore his power lightly; he was a colleague, a contemporary, a giant of a friend.

His life was full of energy, humanity, confidence, spontaneity, generosity, compassion, humor and intelligence -- a rare and refreshing combination.

He was a business man of great principle -- and, as a private individual, a person of kindness, dignity and honor.

Without hyperbolizing at all, he was a genuinely respected man of the highest integrity.

We have known and liked a lot of guys in this Division of ours -- but, in retrospect, not many of them had more, or perhaps even as many, fine traits and talents as did this man.

Chet had three great loves in his life. He loved the military, he loved his garden, and he loved his sweetheart, Gloria. He stayed wedded to each of them to the end.

It was a tribute to the respect and affection in which he was held by us that he was once our unanimous choice to head our Association. He was one of the best of our Presidents.

In every way, he was the most devoted kind of patriot, who never boasted or preached about the love he felt for his country, but rather proved it, by his deeds.

His death deprives us of one of our most loyal brothers.

We are proud to have known him, to have been a part of his gifted world.

We mourn his loss.

Samuel B. Humphrey

We measure the stature of good men with a yardstick measured in grace,
Our heart knew this man who was measured in love.
And was taller than most in his place.
And how did he show his height to the world
When measured alongside other men?
With inches of caring, feet of sharing, and yards of love to the end.
He pulled, he pushed, he smiled and he bent,
Not a negative thought would he spend
Remembering, always, to be a strong leader,
Yet never forgetting to be a good friend.
He knew our weaknesses and our strengths,
And, still, saw in us more than we were,
And, tho' one step ahead, he'd haul us along,
'Til our vision would catch up to his.
And when he'd walk on ahead, was I poorer along?
No, not on our longest day,
For we've walked with this tallest of men in our life,
And grown in the light of his way.

And now the best of all rewards is now his to enjoy -- a peace above all earthly dignities. Sam's memory will endure in the hearts of his family, his colleagues, and his grand host of friends and admirers. His memory will endure in their hearts as long as they live.

So long, Sam; you were a wonderful and solid pal.



TAPS

DICK GOINY (E 21st, 4/45-12/45), has more than once had the sad duty of reporting a death. This time he wrote:

"Words to let you know of the sudden passing of Past President CHESTER A. ANDREZAK. It was a great surprise to me when FRANK GORSKI phoned me and told me that Chet had passed away on the operating table on Monday afternoon, June 10th. I had seen Chet at a wake for another Past Commander of our American Legion Post on Friday, June 7th, and he looked very good. He did tell me that he was going to have an operation in the Lutheran General Hospital on Monday, the 10th, expected the operation to last about two hours, and would be recovering for a couple of weeks. Doctors had discovered a tumor on a kidney. It would be just like that and he was matter-of-fact about the whole thing.

"Monday, Frank Gorski called to tell me that the kidney had to be removed as well as the tumor, that the operation had gone as routinely as expected but that Chet's big body could not accept the trauma. He suffered a massive heart attack on the table. They tried to bring him back but it was not to be.

"The wake was held on Wednesday, June 12th with the following 24th Division members and friends in attendance: Frank and Irene Gorski, Ray Kresky and his sister, Dorothy, Mike Rafter, Tony and Lorraine Faro, Lou Ciangi, Matt Slowik, James O'Donnell, Belle and Donna Stevensen, Bob and Mary Shay, Tom Compere, and myself.

"Members who attended the funeral were: Tony and Lorraine Faro, Raymond Kresky, Frank and Irene Gorski, Lou Ciangi and myself. A beautiful floral piece in the design of the Taro Leaf arrived in time for the wake. Five members of Clearing Post #600, American Legion, were also on hand to perform the rituals."

From the pen of ROY L. FROST (B 34th '42-'44), comes this one about LOUIS A. BROWN (B & Sv. 34th '40-'44):

"Louis A. Brown, 205 West Delaware, Vinita OK 74301 and a Life Member has had trouble.

"Louis' wife, Eileen, passed away in Oklahoma on June 2, 1985. She is survived by her husband, Louis, one son, Gary, of Houston, TX and 2 grandchildren. Eileen had not been in good health for almost five years. She and Louis had been married 38 years. She was a great booster for the 24th wherever she went and she had attended 10 conventions of the Association with Louis.

"Louis will be joining all of you in Louisville."

Deceased: Life Member LINDY RADCLIFF (A 63rd F & C 52nd F), of 11890 Simmons, Jacksonville FL.

WARREN AVERY called to tell us of the passing of his good friend, HARRIS B. POWERS on May 18, 1985. Harris was 1st Sgt. of G of the 21st in '50 and '51. He was wounded in April '51, hospitalized and returned to duty in July as Operations Sgt., 2nd Bn. Harris will be sorely missed, especially by his many friends; they were legion.

DICK GOINY spoke at CHET ANDREZAK's wake as a part of the American Legion's impressive Memorial Service, with 24 Legionnaire's in attendance. Dick said:

"Comrade CHESTER A. ANDREZAK was born in Chicago IL on Mar. 27, 1917. He entered the service of his country at Ft. Sheridan on Nov. 10, 1943. Chet served with honor and distinction in the Cannon Company of the 21st Infantry Regiment of the 24th Division until his honorable discharge from Camp Grant, IL on Jan. 6, 1946.

"Comrade Andrezak joined Clearing Post and the American Legion on Dec. 7, 1967 and was an active and participating member in good standing for 18 years. Chet was elected Jr. Vice Commander in 1974 and served as Sr. Vice Commander in 1975. In 1976, he was elected Commander of Clearing Post, a position he held with distinction. A fluent speaker, he served as Clearing Post's Master of Ceremonies over the past 10 years. Chet lived, talked and acted American Legion during all of his time as a member.

"Comrade Andrezak passed away suddenly in the Lutheran General Hospital on Monday, June 10 and is being waked here in the Matz Funeral Home, 3440 North Central Avenue, by his Comrades of Clearing Post 600. Funeral Services will be here at the Chapel on Thursday June 13th at 11:00 a.m. Interment will be in the Irving Park Cemetery, 7777 West Irving Park Road immediately after the services.

"Comrade Andrezak is survived by his beloved wife, Gloria nee Gibson and loving children, Carol (Russell) Mernzer, Jack (Carol) Lira, Thomas Andrezak, and grandchildren Russell Meinzer Jr., Jack Lira, Jr., Denise Lira, Debra Lira, Amanda Moyer and Meagan Moyer.

"Comrade Past Commander CHESTER A. ANDREZAK, we commend you to Post Everlasting.

"So the record Ends.

"RICHARD C. GOINY, Adjutant."

Died: July 3rd T.E. KALEM, a/k/a THEODOROS KALEMKIERIDES, (19th '43-'45), of cancer, at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

Ted was the drama critic for Time magazine since '61 and was once president of The New York Drama Critics Circle.

Ted, born in Malden, MA, attended Boston Latin School and was cum laude Harvard '42.

Returning to Boston after the war, he launched his career in journalism by starting a weekly stock market letter. He began reviewing books for the Christian Science Monitor in 1948, and joined Time two years later as a book reviewer.

Twice elected president of the New York Drama Critics Circle, Ted chose on two occasions to abstain from balloting for Best Play of the Year.

He is survived by his wife, the former Helen Newlin; three children, Marina, of California, Theodore and John, of New York; and his father, George Kalem, of Melrose MA.

Ted, nicknamed "Kemoo," would never join our Association claiming not to be "a joiner." We carried on a considerable correspondence with him in our effort to persuade, even wined and dined him at the Four Seasons on one occasion, but he was steadfast to his own self-rule: "no clubs."

Another cold-blooded notice from the Post Office folks. Mail returned on CECIL CARR, (D 34th '41-'45). We had Cecil at 643 Headley, Lexington KY. The envelope was stamped simply "Deceased." The postmaster general must have ice water running through his veins.

Died: MAURICE E. "Maury" KING, (24th Sig. 6/43-10/45), of Walnut Creek CA. Maury died in November 1984, we are advised by Frances, his widow.

Mail returned marked "Deceased" in the case of BILL SCHMIDT of 2223 7th St. SW, Canton OH. What a cold way to go.

Warm words for all of us from Gloria ANDREZAK after it was all over:

"Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers (the Taro Leaf); it was just beautiful and I took it to the cemetery. Chet loved the 24th and the highlight of his life was as president in Savannah. I was so happy for him. I hope to be in Louisville and thank you all in person.

"Love always,
Gloria."

Word received from Mrs. Sara C. FRANCO of 3000 Morehead, El Paso TX, advises us that her husband, EDWARD M. FRANCO, (19th) passed away on Jan. 12, 1978. She sent a nice contribution "in memory of Eddie" for which we are grateful.

The Boston Globe reported TED KALEM's death thusly:

THE BOSTON GLOBE TUESDAY, JULY 9, 1985 11

Theodore E. Kalem, drama critic of Time magazine for 24 years

A funeral service for Theodore E. Kalem, Time magazine's drama critic since 1961, will be conducted at 11 a.m. tomorrow in the Greek Evangelical Church in Newton Centre.

Mr. Kalem, 65, a Malden, Mass., native and a former book reviewer for the Christian Science Monitor, died last week in a New York City hospital. He had been ill with throat cancer.

Known as T.E. Kalem, the signature he used on his reviews, he was born Theodoros Efsthios Kalemkierides and grew up in Malden before graduating from Harvard with the Class of 1942. During World War II he served 3½ years in the Army and was discharged with a Bronze Star after active duty in The Philippines.

Mr. Kalem began his journalism career in Boston, reviewing books for the Christian Science Monitor. In 1951 he joined the staff of Time, where he continued to review books for 10 years.

Theater, however, possessed him, and George Jean Nathan, the magazine's drama critic at that time, was his boyhood model.

A colleague, Clive Barnes, of the New York Post, observed some years ago: "What makes Ted one of the finest critics America has ever produced is his very emotive relationship with the theater." He could be deadly, colleagues said, and often witty in presence of mediocrity.

"Anyone who writes a play is joining the company of some real giants," he often told friends. "I'm not here to say to a playwright: 'How nice, John, you've written the play.' Let his mother say that."

But Mr. Kalem was unstinting and lyrical with his praise when he felt it was deserved. Other critics have said that his Time cover stories on Shakespeare and Tennessee Williams stand as brilliant celebrations of what theater can be at its best.

He was twice elected president of the New York Drama Critics Circle, and, even in the theater's lean years, he kept faith with it, explaining: "I would have quit long ago if I didn't feel the pinprick of excitement every time the curtain went up."

As for movies, Mr. Kalem never conceded that films would be a



THEODORE E. KALEM

substitute for live theater: "A 2500-year-old baby doesn't die," he liked to say. "Here is an art people haven't been able to do without."

He leaves his father, George E. Kalem of Melrose; his wife, Helen (Newlin) Kalem of New York City; a daughter, Marina Kalem of California; two sons, Theodore Jr. and John, both of New York City; a sister, Anne Kalem Phillips of Melrose, and a brother, George Kalem Jr. of Canton.

Comes this message from ZANLY CAMPF
(Cn. 19th '43-'45), of 806 San Jacinto, CA:

"With a little bit of a heavy heart I have to tell you of some sad news. I have just received news of the passing on of one of our division life members, RAYMOND W. TATMAN. Please let the members of the association know.

"Strange - this life and death thing that we all have to put up with. While JOE PEYTON was here in June, we spoke of 'Irish' which he had as a tag rather than 'Ray' or 'Bill' or just 'Tatman' -- he was a good man.

"I can remember when I first joined our outfit -- Cn. Co. 19th, B Co. 24th. He took me under his wing so to speak. Scared young kid that I was, we became closer than brothers. You and the thousands of others know that feeling.

"He never let me take the point on patrol or the last man in line. He protected me like a mother hen. Many other things at other times too numerous to mention, but he was a devoted soldier and a good human being. He is going to be sorely missed!

"'Irish' was Easy & Cannon Companies of the 19th in the '44-'46 days.

"Here is a photo of 'Irish.' Different time, different place with our monkey mascot, 'Chico.'

"Maybe you could run his picture in the Taro Leaf."

Died, at Washington, D.C., April 10, 1985.

EDWARD MARION POSTLETHWAIT

Born MO. Oct. 12, 1911

US Military Academy '33-'37

CO 3rd Bn. 34th '42-'45

Distinguished Service Cross

Silver Star

Legion of Merit

Bronze Star Medal

Commendation Ribbon with Cluster

Purple Heart

Hq. AGF '45-'46

Command General Staff College '46-'47

Staff & Faculty, CGSC '47

Office Deputy Chief of Staff, Int. '53-'56

Deputy Chief Staff Log.Hq. 7A '58-'61

Strike Command '61-'63

Hq. Special Warfare Agency '63-'67

Retired '67

CW4 VINCENT J. PIRAINO (21st 5/49-4/51)
died March 14, 1975. He had been living
in Franklin, WI.

From Evelyn D. SKIPPER, beloved wife
of the late J.W. JESSE SKIPPER, comes a
wonderful contribution in his memory.
As reported earlier, Jesse died Sept. 24,
1984 at Tallahassee, FL. He is survived
by Evelyn, and three children, Brandon,
of Safety Harbor FL, and Barbara and Jean,
and James of Tallahassee (1128 Ocala Rd.).
Jesse was H 21st '38-'44). He was Life
Member #260. We'll miss him.



RAYMOND W. TATMAN, 61, of 216 East Water St., Watertown WI, died June 20, 1985, at the Watertown Memorial Hospital.

He was born July 3, 1923, in Piqua, OH, son of Mary and Forest Tatman. On Aug. 23, 1978 he married the former Norma Koth at Harbor Gate, Virginia Beach, Va.

Survivors include his wife, five daughters, Mrs. Larry (Stephany) Maitlend, of Dinwiddie, VA., Cathleen Tatman, Mrs. Gary (Paula) Honeycutt, Mrs. Bartlett (Mary Ann) Yoder, and Mrs. John (Frances) Germanos, all of Virginia Beach, VA., three sons, William, (Ann), and Timothy, both of Virginia Beach and Lane, of Atlanta, GA, 11 grandchildren, four sisters, Mrs. Rosemary Walling, Dayton, OH, Mrs. Theresa Burns, Mrs. Dorothy Black, and Mrs. Beatrice Black, all of Piqua, OH, nieces, nephews and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his parents and four brothers.

We have lost another good man.
DON ROGER VAN HOOK; Life Member 405, passed away in the Asheville (NC) VA Hospital on May 28th. He was a member of Baker Battery of the 52nd FA Bn. from March 1941 to March 1945. He is survived by a sister, Hilda Callahan of Franklin NC and two brothers, Nelson and Max Van Hook, both of Candler NC. Morris Gilliam of Spartan Heights Park, Hendersonville NC was the bearer of this sad news.

Gloria ANDREZAK, Chet's widow, can be reached at 3225 N. Natchez Ave., Chicago, IL 60634. Tel. 312-685-7965.

Died in 1974. Attorney EDWARD WEIL of Wichita KS. Ed was D 19th in '42-'45.

CHARLES A. "Gus" SCHOENE, (724th Ord. '43-'45), of Alton IL passed to his reward on July 19th. He died at Barnes Hospital



in Alton following a short illness. Gus had written us only 12 days before, telling us that he and Helen would not be at Louisville.

He was an elementary principal in the Alton School District for over 30 years.

Earning his B.A. from Central Methodist College in Fayette MO, in 1937, and M.A. from Washington Univ. in 1951, he served as elementary principal at

Fosterburg, Roosevelt, Garfield, Eunice Smith, Humboldt and Lovejoy schools in the Alton District.

Born in Milan, MO, a son of the late Walter and Gladys (Payne) Schoene, he married the former Helen Doak on Dec. 25, 1940 in Gallatin MO and she survives.

Surviving in addition to his wife are two sons, Stephen of Ivoryton, CT and Alan of University City MO; one grandson; and one brother, Dr. D. Lorin Schoene of Milford CT.

HOWARD LUMSDEN was able to represent the Association with the usual honors.

We long considered Gus one of ours as in fact he was while we served together in the '44-'45 days. He will be missed by those who knew him and loved him.

MAX J. BEILKE, (Hq. 2nd Bn 19th '53-'54) of 6656 Buckstone, Columbia MD, thoughtfully sent us a clip sheet from the Congressional Record for Jan. 30, 1985. Rep. Joseph M. McDade, Dem-PA, had made this statement on the floor of the House of Representatives on that day:

"Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of the House, the death of an honored veteran of the Korean conflict who spent over 3 years as a prisoner of the Chinese, the longest period of captivity suffered by any soldier from my State during the conflict.

"I speak of Thaddeus Novobilski of Simpson PA who died last November 16 in the Veterans' Administration hospital at Wilkes-Barre, PA. Injuries suffered during his captivity were a factor in his death.

"Mr. Novobilski was a member of the Army's famed 24th Infantry Division in occupied Japan when, on June 27, 1950, he was ordered to Korea.

"He was wounded and captured by enemy forces at Chochiwan, Korea, on July 11, 1950, and spent the following 1140 days in captivity.

"Mr. Novobilski was a member of the Disabled American Veterans, the American Legion and American Ex-Prisoners of War. He was employed as a welder by the Doyle & Roth Co., of Simpson, PA and was a member of St. Michael's Church of Simpson.

"My condolences go out to his brothers, Stanley, Donald, and Edward Bognatz, and to his sisters, Mrs. Joseph Szymaszek and Mrs. Rosemary Sefchik."



Died July 15, 1985: Col. SAMUEL B. UMPHREY (Div. Chem.O. '46-'47) at Tiburon, CA. He is survived by his lovely wife, Elspeth.