

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

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

John R. Shay  
1129 Shermer Rd.,  
Glenview IL 60025



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# A JOURNEY INTO OTHER LIVES

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Major changes in the leadership of the Army will take place this summer when the current Chief of Staff, Gen. John A. Wickham Jr., retires after four years in that job. His replacement has not been named, but the odds-on favorite in the quadrennial Pentagon guessing game is Gen. Carl E. Vuono, who currently runs the Army's Training and Doctrine Command at Monroe. It may be front page news before you read this.

The No. 2 man, the vice chief of staff, Gen. Maxwell R. Thurman is expected to replace General Vuono. One guess within the Army on General Thurman's replacement is the present director of the Army staff, Lt. Gen. Arthur E. Brown Jr.

Lt. Gen. Robert M. Elton, the chief of personnel, is also mentioned as General Thurman's replacement, but he is said to be studying Spanish in anticipation of taking over from our own Gen. JOHN GALVIN (Div. Hq.) as theater commander for Central and South America. General Galvin has been named to replace Gen. BERNARD ROGERS (19th) when he retires as supreme commander of NATO forces in Europe.

Another contender for the Latin America post in Panama is said to be Lt. Gen. Frederick F. Woerner, commander of the Sixth Army with headquarters in San Francisco. Unlike General Elton, he is already fluent in Spanish and has had experience in Central America.

In 1983, General Rogers took responsibility in testimony before Congress for the failure of security around the Marine base in Beirut, Lebanon, when it was attacked by a truck bomb with the loss of 241 American lives.

"I am responsible," he told the Senate Armed Services Committee. "Anything that happens or fails to happen in that theater is my responsibility."

A commission appointed by Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger was later critical of General Rogers and his subordinates for not having ordered better security for the Marines.

In Europe, General Rogers succeeded in deploying Pershing 2 medium-range ballistic missiles and ground-launched cruise missiles that were requested by allied governments, but drew protests from some groups.

General Rogers has accused the Europeans of not spending more money for conventional, nonnuclear weapons and particularly of

skimping on ammunition and supplies that would enable their forces to sustain prolonged combat against Soviet forces.

The general has said that in the absence of a build-up of conventional weapons, the NATO commander, in the event of hostilities, might have to ask the President of the United States in a matter of days for permission to use nuclear weapons.

General Rogers has opposed any suggestions that the United States reduce its forces in Europe to induce the allies to do more for their own defense.

"If we are going to convince the Western Europeans to do more," he told Congress in 1985, "you cannot do it by threatening to withdraw our troops."

General Rogers graduated from West Point in 1943 but did not see action in World War II. He fought in both the Korean and Vietnam wars and was decorated in each. He was Chief of Staff of the Army from 1976 until 1979 when he was appointed to his post in Europe.

Like General Rogers, General Galvin is a graduate of West Point, class of 1954. Among his first assignments was three years as an exchange officer with rangers in Colombia. He later won combat decorations in Vietnam.

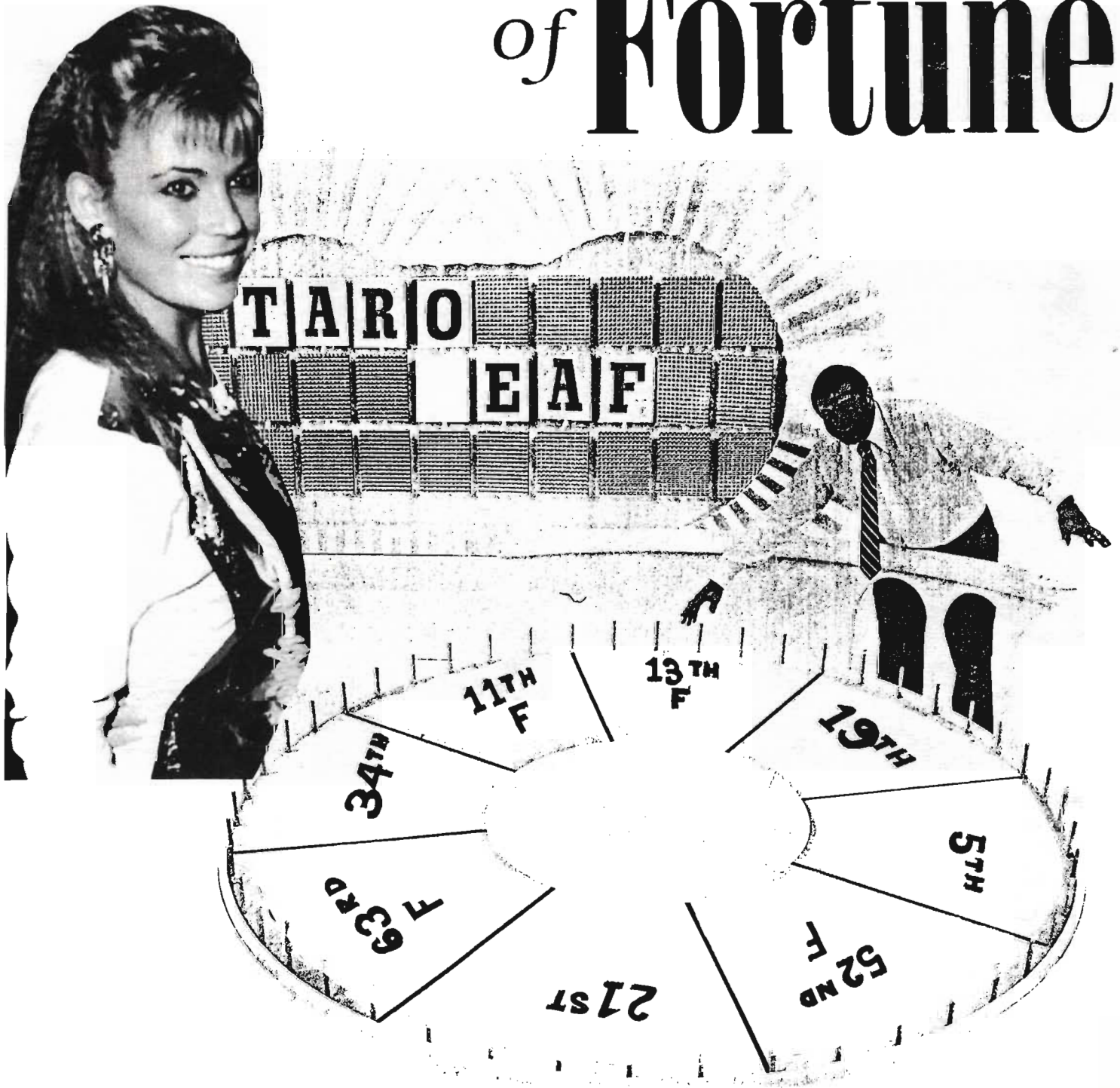
General Galvin, who is 58, was in Washington on Monday and today to testify before Congress and to give a news conference; in both cases, he urged that the United States render sustained support to the Nicaraguan rebels. He had nothing to say about reports of his appointment to the European post.

We take particular delight -- and pride -- in reporting that General Galvin speaks Spanish and German. He is a scholar -- and a gentleman. Prediction? He'll one day be C/S. We're right proud, Jack.

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# Wheel *of* Fortune



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General "Jack" made the New York Times the other day. It's an unreasonably black newsprint but we're determined to run it. In case it turns out to be a disaster -- we never know 'til it's too late -- that's silver-haired Jack in sitting position "at the left of your screen."

At the risk of injecting editorial comment into our copy, may we do so here, at least to the extent of raising a question. Is the D/A thinking in consonance with the thinking of the White House on that little burr under the saddle -- Nicaragua?



### **Military View: A Long Struggle for Nicaraguan Rebels**

Gen. John R. Galvin, left, commander of U.S. forces in Latin America, conferring with Adm. Lee Baggett Jr., commander of the Atlantic Command, before start of Senate Armed Services Committee hearing yesterday. General Galvin said that the U.S. would have to finance the Nicaraguan rebels for

three to seven more years before they could evolve into a successful insurgency movement. He stressed the need to "stop thinking about some kind of miraculous thing" that will hurry along the rebels' progress. He also criticized the lack of clear-cut policy goals for Central America.

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## MAKE THE BIG 40TH YOUR 1987 VACATION

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G.I. Humor, WW II vintage: What's the difference between a G.I. and Lana Turner? G.I. busy sweating out points while Lana Turner busy pointing out sweaters.



It's JOE BIONDI and ZANLY CAMPF in Japan, Christmas '45.



URB THROM in a thoughtful mood. Probably thinking of his race horses. Sez Urb, "Boy can those suckers eat!!" A Hostetter photo.

Membership Chairman BOB ENDER has a prescription for happiness: "Take one hot tub with one blonde, soft music and a tall drink. If unable to get a blonde, get a brunette. If unable to get either, take a cold shower."

# between us

Remember the little Dutch kid who saved his country by holding his finger in a hole in the dike until the break could be repaired? He was the first person to have a tough day at the orifice.



"I SURE COULD'VE USED THAT 3-DAY PASS BACK IN THE STATES, SARGE"

--Pfc Mike Duncan

Third Engineers, where are you? Esp. Dog Company men. CHARLEY CLARK wants to hear from you. He's at RR 1, Box 34, Searsboro, Iowa.

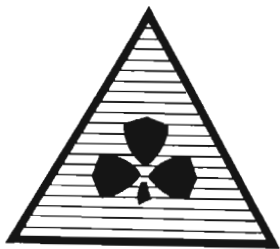
Burt Reynolds has a yacht, a Rolls Royce, a jet plane, four horses and a few million dollars. But happiness, he says, is seeing your girl in a two-piece outfit -- slippers.

Talk about sleeping.

Read this one from PRESTON J. BAILLY (Hq.Co. 2nd Bn. and Regt.Hq. 19th '43-'45) of 8024 Winchester, Wilsonville OR who just joined our little club. Says Pres: "Happy to learn this year that there is an organization and you do hold reunions. Have wondered about it for years and hope to attend a reunion soon."



What are ya gonna do, eh? 41 years have slipped us by and Pres has just found us -- or we've just found him. Come on in, Pres; ya gotta lot of "catching-up" to do.



# THIS MAY KNOCK YOU OFF YOUR CHAIR.

## The Bulletin Board

At LAX '86, our favorite dentist was seized with the idea of having a little get-together for a group of Artillery men and their wives. And so to suit the occasion, he organized a little luncheon in the Boulevard Cafe of the Crowne Plaza. The group consisted of PAUL and Aleta FRASER, 52nd F.A., Col. BOB and Jackie BEAVER, 52nd, VERNON GROSSHUESCH, 52nd, PHIL WISEMAN, 52nd, ALEX and Gay THOMAS, 52nd, JOHN and Jay WELCH, 63rd, and genial host, "Doc" STAN KAISER, Division Artillery Dental Surgeon. It was unanimously agreed that this gathering of the Artillerymen and their wives was one of the highpoints of the reunion. A most nostalgic enjoyable time was had by all.

"Doc" Kaiser has pledged his word that this Artillerymen's gathering will be held at all the reunions to come as long as...

To open the festivities "Doc" offered a toast and delivered himself of a few thoughts on the meaning and uniqueness of the relationship among artillerymen.

With masterful oratory, the little fella came up with this:

"We gather here in a loving circle of friends to underline our mutual love and respect. The cement that bonds us is made up of courage, devotion to duty and the sharing of a common danger. In my lifetime, I have developed a set of values and I am sure that they are shared by all of us here today. They are namely: family, love of country and friendship. This gathering exemplifies the true meaning of friendship. It is a bond that we hope will remain strong and everlasting. To each and everyone of you, my sincere gratitude for the privilege and honor of your friendship. A long and happy life to you one and all."

Then followed a champagne toast -- champagne, Doc? -- and the report is that the ceremony was received with enthusiasm and the champagne was "drunk with gusto."

In a long ago issue, page 21 of Vol. 39 No. 1 of the 1985-86 series to be precise, we printed an item which included something written by Col. CARL BERNARD which ruffled a few feathers, so many in fact that the decision was made -- by us, and us alone, that the subject might best be dropped. To prolong any debate seemed to us to mean pouring salt in a wound.

Now in fairness to Carl, when the reverberations reached Alexandria, VA -- as they most surely did -- he (Carl) wrote a second article and favored us with a copy. Again, we exercised a bit of editorial judgment and felt again that there were better things to write about.

Alas, the matter will not die -- has not died -- ergo the decision now to reproduce Carl's second statement -- just as he typed it.

If apology is due, for holding back Carl's letter for 8 months, then kindly consider that you have it. The desideratum was to calm muddled waters; obviously we failed -- and the failure was ours, not Carl's.

On the next following page, we give you -- Carl.



JOHN A. THOMPSON (19th in '51) would like to hear from any '51 Chick. He's at Box 933, Northampton MA. Gosh that's only 15 miles from our door. Let's have lunch, Johnny. We were never in the 19th, John -- but we certainly know a bunch of 'em and have the greatest respect for them.

The Hyatt Regency Woodfield -- with another atrium lobby. This one only 4 stories high. The Hyatt folks are nuts about atria (think that's the plural). Or haven't you noticed. See you there, we hope.

July 11th, 1986

I have expressed myself badly, and I want to fix it as best I can. The Division's soldiers surely did not fail in Korea; their weapons sure as hell did, and we know the results. The anti-tank weapons that failed in our first fights in Korea were the same weapons that had failed in WWII and they had not been replaced when we faced tanks at Osan and points south.

Paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division were buried on Sicily in 1943 with portions of the 2.36 bazooka ground up in their bodies. The same thing happened to us, with the same inadequate weapon, seven years later. The Army had not replaced the bazooka with a tank killer, and today, 36 years after Korea, it has no intention to ("no requirement", hence no program). The parachutists could and did capture German Panzerfausts to use. The Koreans didn't have any for us to use.

Today's soldiers are in no better shape. The Army is acquiring a weapon, called AT-4, for the rifle companies that is incrementally better than we had, but not relative to today's improved tanks. The Soviet tanks our soldiers will face tomorrow are much better. The horror stories about \$600 toilet seats and \$600 hammers are true. They illustrate incompetence in our acquisition bureaucracy. Stories about \$16 million helicopters and \$3 million dollar tanks are also true. They explain where the priorities are; they also explain why the infantry has been forgotten. Our weapons aren't glamorous and no one can get as rich making them, although General Dynamics did waste .5 billion dollars trying and failing with their "paint scratcher" known as Viper.

The enclosed papers illustrate the situation of today's infantryman who may have to fight tanks.

o The Defense News clipping cites a highly classified Department of Defense internal study which says we are technologically and quantitatively behind the Soviets, and that the situation is getting worse each day. It is included for its contrast with the bland non-answers given anyone who queries the Army about the situation.

o The letter from Congressman Ridge, the only combat infantryman in the Congress from the Vietnamese War expresses legitimate concern. The non-answer from Mr. Ambrose is typical of the "cover them up with soap" attitude of the bureaucrats. The letter from Senator Warner to the Army and their soft answer is another contrast to the desperate situation described in Defense News.

o The indifference of my own Congressman is shown in the next series.

o Congressman Charlie Bennett, a sergeant and combat infantryman in WWII from the Pacific has asked the General Accounting Office to make a report on the anti-tank situation to support his pending legislation to force acquisition of a tank killer rather than the "paint scratcher" the Army has decided to buy. I will give my files to the GAO investigator next week.

o Senator Warren Rudman, a combat infantryman from Korea, had the enclosed legislation put into law in 1983. He got himself so involved with the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction bill, later however, that he was finessed by the Army, and the infantry got nothing despite his effort.

o General Mike Lynch and I sent the enclosed letter to Army magazine in protest one of their misleading articles. Note their excuse is that they only print what is sent to them by the manufacturer and are not obliged to work with the truth. Soldiers will get killed by this weapon, in part because they are told by the Association of the U.S. Army's magazine that it will kill tanks.





It's an AL JOHNSON photo taken circa Sept. '43. Says it's of the cadremen of the 34th who left Division to go back to the states with the 27th Div. to activate the 49th Div. (Ft. Sill), the 91st Div. (Cp. Crowder) and the 10th Mount. Div. (Camp Hale). Got that straight. Ready, left to right, top row, it's Harold Shepherd, Anthony Carini, Barton, Guido Marino, Leonard Minch, Ellison, Barron, Pitts, Newton Bogges, and Mark Boehm; bottom row, left to right: Huey Johnson, Walt Hendrickson, Carl Wiley, Fred Fischer, Ralph Thorpe, Napoleon Sikois and Nick Cacco.

o My letter from Ed Burba, Commandant of the Infantry School, does not discourage me from making the truth known. Les Aspen, Chairman of the House Armed Service's Committee, understands what I know as his letter indicates.

I am not ashamed to come through to you all as a fanatic on this subject. The Rand Corporation did a study of the 1st Infantry's casualties during our first days in Korea. Most of our missing and a lot of our dead are from our second days' fight. We were pinned down by the tanks and their infantry overwhelmed our flanks. By the way, there is another telling of this disaster in chapters 10 and 11 of Bevin Alexander's new book, "Korea, the first war we lost". This will happen again unless the Army focuses on the real needs of those who actually do the fighting, its own infantry. Fancy and expensive technology will mean nothing when the infantry gets mashed as we did.

I knew everyone of the men who were slaughtered from "L" Company on 10 and 11 July, 1950 and the only way I know to keep faith with them is to try to get today's infantry the tank killing weapons we did not have. I did not know the platoon from "B" Company (Task Force Smith) I lost at Osan on July 5th, and have always felt guilty about this.

My criticisms of what happened to us in 1950 are not of the men. They are of the Army's weapons of that date. You can't hold a position when tanks run over the top of you. The disgrace is that our Army has learned nothing from its tragic experience in Korea and has put its priorities into glamorous wonder weapons while its front line infantry soldiers still have nothing that will stop a tank.

I was a soldier all my adult life, and, even though I'm retired now, it's still my Army, and I am one of the persons responsible for our situation. I was not quiet about such disgraces while I was an active soldier, and I do not intend to be more silent now.

Our failures, and they were that, were due to junk in the guise of weapons given to us by the Army, and we paid with lives.



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This Hyatt Regency Woodfield that we keep talking about. Where is it? Well let's put it this way: it's located on Golf Road (Ill. Rte. 58) at the intersection of Interstate 90 and Illinois Rte. 53, just 15 minutes from O'Hare and 35 minutes from downtown. Regularly scheduled service to and from O'Hare. Direct line from hotel lobby to Hertz-Rent-a-Car. Convenience vans service the area; limousine service by reservation. Free parking. Any questions?

BOB HOLLOWAY (G 21st '42-'45 and L 21st '48-'50), of Box 393, Keyes, CA has rejoined -- and we are thankful for that. Thankful, too, are we for Bob's little P.S.: "Hope to see you in C."

"The thing that bothers me about doctors," said NICK SLOAN, "is they give you an appointment 10 weeks ahead, then they examine you, then they ask you, 'Why did you wait so long to see me.'"

Our August meeting place features Baguettes, its name for a superb eatery under canopied umbrellas reminiscent of a French sidewalk cafe. O, monsieur et mademoiselle, oui, oui!!

# Express yourself!

Here's the reservation card for the early birds who want to be sure of a room for next August. Let you in on a secret; Membership Chairman BOB ENDER has already reserved a suite.

Please  
Place  
Stamp  
Here



Reservations Department  
HYATT REGENCY WOODFIELD  
1800 East Golf Road  
Schaumburg, Illinois 60195

Dean Martin reporting in: "I haven't quit drinking -- no, never -- everybody hates a quitter."

## Getting around

CLIFFORD "C.G. HANLIN gets around; he has moved again. Sold the old house and now living at 1364 Fairfax, Clearwater, FL. Tel. 813-536-5678.

Armored Forces are trying to raise \$400,000 for a Armored Force Monument. Washington apparently has put its foot down on more monuments in the city. This one will likely be in Arlington Cemetery across the river.

Frantic arguments go on (in companies) and charts and graphs are presented to show that things are better, much worse, or just the same. It all depends upon the chartmakers, where the design appears, and whether you have the blame thing right side up.

Heywood Broun

Our usually quiet and bashful C.C. BOB SHAY was simply ecstatic as he telephoned in to us his impression of our August caravansary: "The moment you cross the canopied entrance you feel welcomed. The eye immediately catches the smallest sign of attention to detail. For drama that is intrinsically Hyatt...Hyatt Regency Woodfield breaks the stereotype of the suburban hote."

Aw come off it, Bob; you didn't make that up. Anyway, we love listening to what you have to say. See ya!!

Quotabale Quote: "A girl must marry for love. And keep on marrying until she finds it." -- The Much-Married ZSA ZSA GABOR.

Teacher: "That's why we love America -- everyone is free."  
"Not me," said a little boy. "I'm five."

## Hiding places

Hiding places it is for Police Lt. ED MCCARTHY (G 19th '53-'54), of 81 Macadoo, Jersey City NJ. Ed has just retired from the "Joisy" City police force as a Lieutenant. Started in May of '60 and up, up, up in the ranks. Made Lieutenant in '70. Thus endeth 26 years of service to the citizens of Jersey City. Congratulations, Ed -- and may your retirement years be happy ones.

EDDIE "Steady Eddie" ROBINSON over at 605 Truman Highway in that Boston suburb of Hyde Park, has asked us to mention that the 19th Inf. gang will meet for a "private breakfast" on the Saturday a.m. of our August gathering. There it is, Eddie, and we were just about ready to slam the door shut on this issue when your little request arrived. Happy to oblige. Think a non-Chick could crash your "private" party?

## RETURN THOSE CARDS




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# between us

We tossed and turned with this one before deciding that "In she goes." Our initial reluctance stemmed from the fear that to use it would appear to be blowing our own kazoo -- our rule #1 as editor. But upon sober reflection, we made up our minds and "In she goes." Pat's Dad, the late TOM FARRIER, (24th Sig. '49-'51), was a special friend, as was -- and is -- his lovely widow, Joan. We commend to you these beautiful words of a precious daughter:

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

February 18th, 1987

Dear Mr. Ross,

I have the privilege of "eavesdropping" on TARO LEAF as my Mother still receives the copy that Dad used to get.

It brings back memories of friends he boasted of every year in August; Ken Ross, "Shy" Lum, Jack Finan, Tom Compere, and the many others whose names, unfortunately, I have forgotten.

He'd have been fifty-six years old a week ago today. And though it's nearly seven years, it still seems like yesterday he was here.

As it is with human beings, we had our differences. At one point, they helped to drive us three thousand miles apart. I'm grateful for the four years I had after I came back home to get to know him and be his friend. It's only now I see the hell he paid to keep my country free.

He seldom spoke of War time tales. Whether he couldn't or wouldn't, I'll never know. The only one I remember ever hearing was of walking along a road with a buddy. Sudden noise and confusion. He walked away alone.

I read some stories in TARO LEAF that make me wonder now of all the horrors he must have known. I'm an outsider, looking in, learning a past that created a person I hardly even knew.

In the last years I found he had a set of priorities I hadn't known existed; The Victory Division, The Battle Hymn, The Star Spangled Banner. I believe he loved his country even more than himself.

I don't know how he met you, Ken, but I thank the Lord he did. I know he was happy with his association with the 24th.

To all who have served to defend this Great Land I say, "Thank You and be as proud of yourselves as you deserve to be."

Belated though it is, I feel a need to make my tribute to the most wonderful person I've ever known and I couldn't think of a more appropriate place than his beloved TARO LEAF, shining bright!

Sincerely,

*Patricia M. Impink*

Patricia M. Impink  
(daughter of  
Thomas I. Farrier)  
(2/11/31 to 6/18/80) //

# The Sick Book

LEN ELLISON (H 21st '39-'46), of Corpus Christi, TX, reports "medical problems." What's up, Len; you were altogether too brief.

Sad news out of 2879 Holiday Pines, Traverse City MI. ROSS PURSIFULL writes: "I thought my good health would last forever...it didn't. I had a milk heart attack last fall. I'm still undergoing the various diagnostic procedures.

"However, I am continuing to work until all of the results are in and the doctor's share with me their conclusions.

"If everything looks promising I will see you in Chicago this year."

Sorry to learn of your health problems, Ross, and wish for you success in solving them. Delighted you'll try to join us in August; you've been away too long.

More tests at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN for NOEL MJONESS, (M 21st 5/51-7/51) of Box 80, So.Star Rte., Northome MN 56661. Have asked Noel to keep us informed, assuring him of our concern.

Ruth "Brownie" PATE, lovely wife of KEN, (E 19th '42-'45), writes us from 1205 Sunset, Burlington IA, that "Kenny has had a stroke." No paralysis, no slurred speech or stumbling -- but a memory loss. Trying to avoid stress, moving at a slower pace, with a careful diet, "he'd appreciate hearing from anyone," adds Ruthie, and ends with, "With care and God's help, we hope to see you all at the next gathering." Write or call these folks, won't you. Tel. 319-752-3008.

Parkinson's for ELMER REDONNET, (19th and B 3rd Eng. '45-'46), of 53 Nashua, East Pepperell, MA. Card him and Leona if you get a chance, will you please?



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

- Pvt. George Blinn, AEF



## Jigsaw Puzzle King's countdown to a million

**PUZZLE KING** Charles Lang wants his home in a million pieces — of jigsaw puzzle.

The retired bartender started putting together puzzles and mounting them in his home seven years ago. What started out as a hobby quickly became an obsession and now he has papered the walls and ceilings with 802,745 pieces.

Lang's determination to reach his goal even led him to put a six-sided addition on his home in Carson City, California, to make even more wall space to mount his puzzle pieces.

It takes Lang about a day to put together a 1,000-piece puzzle. The bigger the puzzle, the more excited he gets.

Most of his puzzles are from thrift stores, even though he runs the risk of buying one with a piece missing. When that happens, he simply cuts the piece from the box top.

"No puzzle is too complicated," he says. "I seem to have a pile of patience."

Okay, so we read the National Examiner, or was it the Enquirer, CHARLIE LANG? In whichever scandal sheet it was, our boy, Charlie, made it. And here's the item. It'll suffer a little in our reproduction as it's in color, Charley wearing a robin egg blue shirt. Got any jigsaw puzzle you are about to throw out? Charley's at 316 E.23<sup>rd</sup> Place, Carson CA 90745. He'll stick it on his wall.

RAY G. BARNES (D 21st '35-'37), of 506 W. Cleveland, Marshfield WI 54449, is a photographer by profession. Is trying to locate CLYDE W. ANDERSON and HALLAND W. HANKEL. They were all together in Dog Co. Called themselves "The Three Musketeers" -- were expert machine gunners.

We're put in mind of Blanche DuBois who spoke these famous lines in "A Streetcar Named Desire": "I have always depended upon the kindness of strangers." Well, not exactly, but almost a stranger is (was) SAM SNYDER, (I 34th '41-'45). Sam left us in '68, only to write in a few days ago with these lovely words: "Can I rejoin? Hope you'll not have me court martialled for my desertion. My lovely Jeanne(wife) is principal of P.S. 93 in the Bronx. Please convey my best wishes to all. I'm at 3555 Oxford, Riverdale NY." Welcome home, Sam -- and Jeanne.

It's time to order the seeds you will plant in April and wonder what happened to in August.

JOHN W. MULLENAX (F 5th RCT '50-'51) of Box 608, Franklin WV, 26807, is anxious to locate Capt. JOHN R. HENDERSON, F Company Commander, last known to be at Indiantown Gap, in PA.

New member - CONRAD D. VIERA, 8260 S.W. 98th, Miami FL, thanks to NEIL JEFFREY, 7220 SW 53rd, S. Miami FL.

Two teenagers were leaving a theater. One of them turned to the other and said: "The way I get it, an adult film is about grown-ups acting childish."

Quote from a recent letter: "Sure enjoy reading Taro Leaf. Maybe some day I'll see an old buddy in it or his picture." Which brings us to a point. Are you making the effort to contact that buddy? We can't do it all.

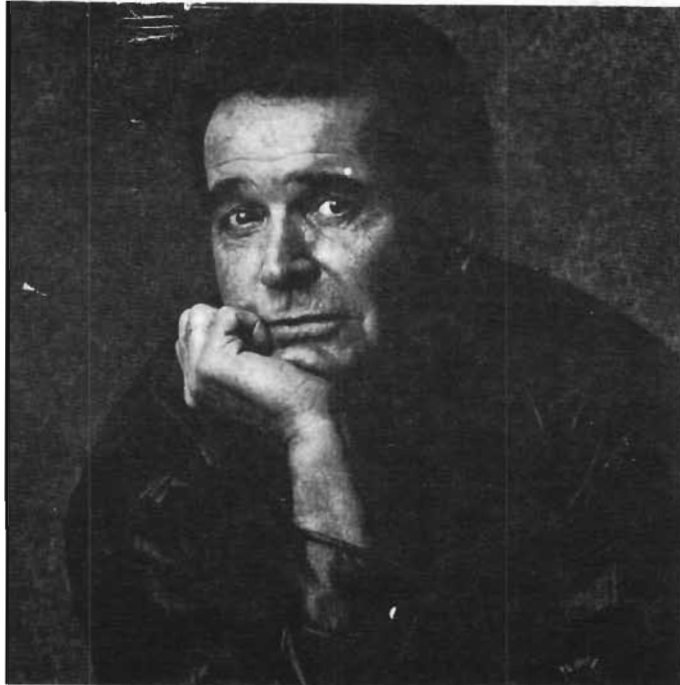


"Sentimental journey" for HOWARD Lou MEADOR (Sv.19th & 24th Recn. '40-'44) of 202 19th St., Corbin KY 40701, and his lovely Ruth. It was back to Schofield, "a wonderful dream come true." Advises Ruth, "If you have a dream, reach for a star and make it come true. We're glad we did." That's Ruthie on the right, but they don't tell us who the lady is on the left. Little slipup there, Lou.

Forecasting is very difficult -- especially if it's about the future.

ELVIN MERK (C 11th Field '52), of 3904 S.Holbrook, Sioux Falls SC 57106 is looking for other 11th Fielders. Okay, men, where are you?

Our friend is now hawking for the  
Beef Industry Council:



“ I never liked the way  
the vegetables always  
fell off between the sirloin  
on my beef kabobs. But I  
fixed that. I don't put any  
vegetables on. Had to be  
some reason man  
invented the salad. ”

Beef. Real Food For Real People.

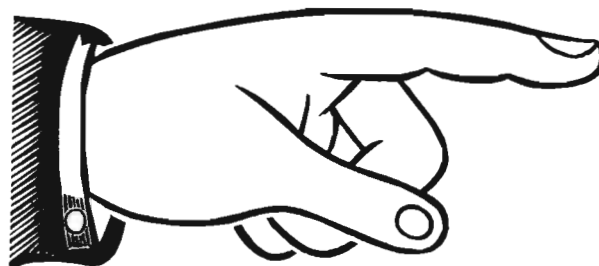
## Late Edition

When you move and change your address,  
PLEASE, send us your change of address.  
It does no good to mail you a Taro Leaf  
to your old address. The Post Office  
WILL NOT forward your mail after the  
expiration date. It will just go to waste.  
With the cost of printing and postage, this  
is very costly to the Association. Send  
your address change to the Association  
Office and not to someone else. Thank  
you all for your cooperation, and as the  
fellow says, cross a fly with an elephant  
and you'll get a zipper that never forgets.  
We have more old jokes than at a senior  
citizens' wife swapping party.

# SOCK IT TO ME!

President WARREN AVERY asked us this  
very morning if we would publish the  
CARL BERNARD letter. The President's  
wish is our command. We have complied.

Then, too, Warren received and for-  
warded to us a letter from DAN CAVANAUGH  
(34th '48-'50; 19th '50-'51), of Box 406,  
Weston WV. To that somewhat ominous  
letter, Dan added a P.S. which, trans-  
lated, seemed to us to mean that he  
wanted us to print his letter in this  
issue just as he wrote it. That we do,  
Dan, and here it is:



## A PAGE...

## IS A PAGE...

Letter from SFC DONALD M. LARSON, Rt.5,  
Box 37, Sparta WI reads like this: "Came  
across your name in regards to a reunion  
of the 24th Div. and 5th RCT for August  
in an issue of the VFW Magazine. I have  
been looking for information on the 5th  
RCT for years. Could you get me some  
information on the same. I'm still on  
activy duty stationed at Ft.McCoy WI."

Anyone recognize Don's name? He  
doesn't tell us what unit he was in or  
where. He's now a member, you can bet.

Don Warren.

19 Feb. 1987

I've been a member of the 24th Division Assoc. for well over 34 years. It's a shame that Col. Bernard didn't have the decency to retract what he had said in his article about the 34th Inf. in the October 1985 issue of the Taro Leaf (page 21). He admitted in his letter to you dated 11 July 1986, that he had expressed himself badly. Also admitted what he had said in his article was in bad taste. What article did that pertain to? He didn't mention anything about the 34th Inf. I'm sure most of the people wouldn't know what he was writing about. I may be wrong, but I'm almost sure the Colonel wants the rumors about the 34th Inf. to continue. I was hoping that Col. Bernard would be man enough to retract his statement about the 34th Inf. by writing a small article in the Taro Leaf admitting that he was wrong. But I guess he has chosen not to. I have mentioned in some of my previous letters that I have been fighting the rumors for over 36 years. And I have proven beyond a doubt that the rumors were not true. As it stands right now I'm sure most of the 1800 members with the exception of the members that are 34th men that fought during the first six weeks of the Korean War, still believe the rumors. After all it was a full Colonel that wrote the article. After all he had the guts to write the article. Now he should be man enough to admit that he was wrong.

Because of Col. Bernard and the rumors he has refused to retract, I am returning my membership card to you. But that doesn't mean I will stop fighting the rumors about the 34th Inf. If it takes another 36 years, I will for damn sure continue to do so. I would appreciate it if you would put this letter in the next issue of the Taro Leaf. But I guess that will be up to Ken Ross.

I'm sure when Lucy Burnett has his book about the 34th published then the true facts about ~~what~~ the 34th Inf. will be known. And then the non-believers may become believers.

Are the nonbelievers trying to cover their own shortcomings? I'm sure they are.

Always A 34th Man "Korea"  
And Damn Proud Of It.

Sincerely,

Don. Lucianaugh

M/Sgt U.S. Army Retired

P.S.

If this letter is not put in the next issue of the Taro Leaf, copies will be mailed to each of the 34th Inf "Korea" that is still among the living, which is numerous.  
Don

# NewsFlashes

11th Field men? Gotta fellow -- one of your own -- who wants to hear from you. He's EVERT L. HARMON of 23398 Sandalwood, Canoga Park CA. Was in Hq. Btry. from 7/50 to 9/51. Try a call; he's at 818-347-7223.

Men of Able and Charley of the 24 Med. FRED JOHNS wants to hear from you. Fred was there between '42 and '45. Try him and Betty at 4516 Amherst, Las Vegas NV 89107.

## Verse

Lucille BOYCE, JOHN's lovely wife, gives proof of the joy of sesquipedality in writing, for the Rahway NJ newspaper this warm bit about their "Special Christmas House" where family and friends can find love and warmth. It's beautiful, Lou!! Here it goes:

On a frosty Christmas Eve with  
packages held high,  
I was homeward bound under a wintry sky;  
Shopping in the crowded stores  
caused my busy feet to ache;  
I couldn't wait until I reached  
my own little garden gate.

I could see the pretty houses  
lit about the square  
an aura of magic in the twilight air,  
Carolers music could be heard  
wafting through the icy night,  
warming the hearts of passersby  
with musical delight.

Then I saw a special house which I gazed  
upon in awe,  
It held a special glow of welcome  
with lights upon the door.  
Windowed was a Christmas tree,  
lights blinking in reflection  
upon the snowy lawn, rainbowed in  
perfection.

Little children gathered round  
this lovely Christmas tree,  
holding hands and singing,  
faces full of glee.  
I stepped a little closer and from  
here I can see  
father in an easy chair bouncing baby  
on his knee.



BILL and Lois MULLINS (C 13th Field - WW II), of 3412 Logan View Dr., Baltimore MD 21222, are right proud of Rebecca Lynne Jones, precious daughter of their Sue and her man, Jim Jones, last Oct. 15th. Meet Becky if you will at the ripe old age of 12 hours. Our pictures are getting smaller and smaller -- or hadn't you noticed? At any rate, our congratulations go forward to all of the Mullins and Jones families.

W. CLARENCE SISLEY (19th '42-'45), of Tucson AZ, writes: "I look for news of members who might remember New Guinea where we became so skinny that it took two or more together to cast a shadow on a bright day." This is followed by a note from C.A. "Bud" COLLETTE (5th RCT '51-'52) of 507 E. Timber, Payson AZ, wherein he states: "During the L.A. Convention, I heard a rumble or two about the 5th RCT not getting too much space in the Taro Leaf." Add to this a telephoned complaint only last evening from a member, not in the best state of sobriety, who said -- are you ready? -- "Ross, you -----, you never have anything on Task Force Smith" -- and then he hung up.

Then, over the fireplace's warming glow,  
stockings of all sizes hung in a row.  
Who lives here I wonder in this  
very special place?  
I asked myself this question,  
a smile upon my face.

I wanted to be part of this  
Merry Christmas scene,  
so I ventured a little closer  
to realize my dream.  
Quickly up the steps, and opening the door,  
I had the feeling I'd been here before.

I stepped into the parlor, so cozy and  
bright  
and now I was a part of the Christmas  
scene tonight!

I came into this special house,  
to find a humble little nest.  
Of all the homes I've ever seen,  
I like this one the best.

On this magical night  
when angels' wings seem to soar,  
I found the best gift of all  
when opening my own front door.



## BOOKS

We have 12 copies of "Retaking the Philippines Oct. 44 - Mar. 45" by William B. Brever. It sells in your local bookstore for \$18.95. We will mail you a copy, we paying the postage for \$16.50. Remember, we have only 12 copies at this bargain rate. Just why the author used March 1945 for his cutoff date bothers us not a little. We only went into Mindanao on April 17th and if memory serves -- and it does -- there was lead flying even after the surrender in mid-August. Right? But it does cover Leyte, Mindoro, Bataan and Corregidor. Of Mindanao, he devotes one lousy sentence: "Hardly had the final shot been fired on Corregidor than MacArthur launched invasions of seven islands: Negros, Cebu, Panay, Zamboanga, Palawan, Tawitawi and Guimaras." Somebody had better tell this buster that Zamboanga is not an island. As to Tawitawi and Guimaras, we're studying our maps.

Tawitawi? Our geography says: "An island group in the S.W. Sulu Archipelago forms a province comprised of Tawitawa I., Sanga Sanga I., Simonul I. and a number of clusters of small islands totaling about 100.360 sq. mi. Occupied by U.S. troops Apr. 5, 1945." Bet it was the 41st. We're checking.

Guimaras? The book says "Island off S. Coast of Panay. Separated from it by Iloilo Strait. 223 sq.mi. Chieftown, Jordan. Part of Iloiloprov." The gang on Panay must have had that job.

Having the geography out, thought we'd check out Verde I. and found "Island in the center of Verde Island Passage S. of Batangas, Luzon; 7 sq. mi., 5 mi. long. Seized by U.S. forces Feb. 26, 1945." How'd you like that?

Next "Lubang." Entry read: "Group of islands, Phil., off NW coast of Mindoro I. 46 m. SW of entrance to Manila Bay and separated from Luzon by Verde Island Passage; 95 sq.m.; chief town Lubang. Comprises Lubang I. and the small islands of Ambil, Golo, and Cabra. Inhabitants are Tagalogs. Occupied by U.S. forces Mar. 1945. 2. Largest island of group; 74 sq.m.; 17 m. long. 3. Municipality on N coast of the island; pop. 15,293."

Next "Marinduque." Webster's Geographical Dictionary says: "Island and province, cen.Phil., separated from S coast of Quezon prov. by Mompog Pass; 370 sq.m.; pop. 173,715. Covered with hills; hemp (abaca) and coconuts; exports iron ore; chief town in addition to Boac is Santa Cruz. Occupied by Americans Jan. 1945."

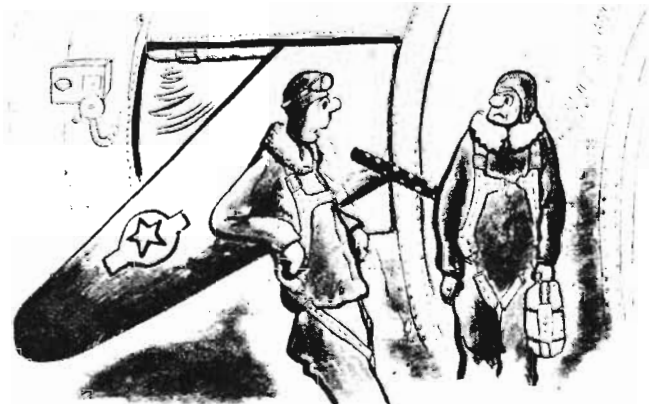
There now, feel better?

## STEP INTO MY PARLOR

Step into HENRY G. UPFOLD's parlor. It's a tall one to accommodate to his 6'3" frame. His mail goes to Box 5087, Kingsville TX. In '53-'54, he was H & H Co. 3rd Bn., 19th. Recovering from prostate surgery, Hank says he's "now able to sleep the whole night through without getting up for you know what." He invites anyone coming to Texas to drop in and sample Dorothy's "super" cooking. You certainly look well fed, Hank. Oh yes, his telephone- 512-592-0750.

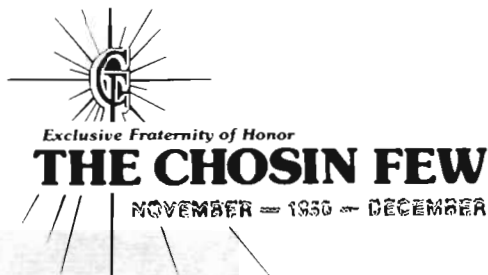


Good friend Dr. PHIL HOSTETTER over there in Manhattan KS -- on 821 Poyntz St. -- has found another Taro Leafer, KEN FAIRBANKS who operates a commercial janitorial and maintenance service over on 810 North Third. Ken has now joined our club, thanks to Phil.



"FLYING A PRETTY TIGHT FORMATION TODAY. AREN'T WE?"  
—Sgt. Sy Fischer

As ineluctably as a swallow drawn to Capistrano, we reproduce a letter which speaks very well for itself.



January 15, 1987

Dear Mr. Ross:

Since many of your members are involved in the campaign to erect the International Korean War Memorial, we would appreciate an opportunity to clear away any possible confusion between our program and the recently approved federal project.

Our objective is to ensure that our fallen brothers and all allies who fought for the freedom of the Republic of Korea--and won--are no longer and never again forgotten by erecting an inspiring memorial in our lifetimes.

Famed sculptor Dr. Felix de Weldon, who designed the classic Iwo Jima monument outside of Washington, DC, among 1200 other works around the world, has created what he calls his "masterwork" to remind present and future generations that freedom is never free, that its price is vigilance, valor and sacrifice.

His international memorial, which will be as massive and dynamic as the Iwo Jima monument, features 15 surrounded allied fighting men of all services and races, including Asians for the first time on any U.S. battle monument. Low walls encircling it will list the names of the 297,389 allies from 16 nations who died in the war. The major inscription will read: "We Eternal Band of Brothers."

We plan to dedicate it in December 1988 on a magnificent headland in Los Angeles overlooking the Pacific Ocean. We selected the location after a nationwide search because it symbolizes the last U. S. territory seen by the 54,246 Americans who never came home, including 8177 missing in action, plus the 389 still officially listed as prisoners of war. Its proximity to the Korean Friendship Bell already on the site--South Korea's bicentennial gift to the U. S.--also symbolizes the bonds of friendship and shared sacrifice between the two countries.

We began the project January 1985 when research revealed the nation's only two major war memorials--Iwo Jima monument and Vietnam memorial--were both initiated and funded by "grass roots" movements like ours. It also disclosed there are still no national memorials to World Wars I or II in Washington, DC, or elsewhere in the country. Even the planned memorial to President Franklin D. Roosevelt still does not exist, either, although Congress approved it August 11, 1955, over 30 years ago, and more than \$6 million has already been spent for it.

We wish to stress that we are not competing or conflicting with the federal project and, in fact, endorse it. We started long before it was even introduced as legislation. Its start is reportedly five years away and our goal remains to establish a fitting memorial in our lifetimes. With more than 100 Vietnam memorials now across the country, the fact that two Korean War memorials are planned merely means the veterans of the so-called forgotten war are finally going from "famine to feast" in terms of recognition.





With our national campaign team in place, the highest nonprofit 501C3 status granted by the IRS and all possible financial safeguards such as the prestigious firm of Price-Waterhouse for accounting and audits, we are now raising \$5 million for the memorial--without professional fundraisers involved. Any surplus funds will be used for college scholarships and student exchange programs between the U. S. and South Korea.

Sincerely,

*Charles McCarren*

Charles McCarren  
Chairman  
International Korean War Memorial  
PO Box 952  
Valley Forge, PA 19482

Phones

Home: (215) 763-9070

Office: (215) 636-4212

P.S. Would you please consider publishing a portion or all of this letter in your publication to clarify the memorial question for your members.

# Details, details, details.

And when it comes to details, LACY C. BARNETT, (A 24 Med., 34th, 19th 1/49-3/51). Writes us -- often -- from Box 167, Winchester IN.

It's easier if we let you read one of his challenging letters just as he wrote it. We are pleased to be able to use it in full:

"I am doing a research project covering the combat actions of the 34th in Korea in 1950. My project has the full support of the Office of the Secretary of the Army, the U.S. Army Military History Institute, the U.S. Army Combat Studies Institute, and several other Army agencies. The official Army files are practically void of any information reference the 34th in 1950.

"I have procured documents from the National Archives and from the Personnel Records Center in St. Louis. I have been able to compile a roster of each company of the 34th which reflects the disposition of each individual who served with the regiment in July and August 1950 (KIA, MIA, WIA, non-battle casualties, and the unit that each man was transferred to on 1 September 1950).

"An accurate and complete story of the 34th has yet to be published. We arrived in Korea on 2 July 1950 with 1980 men. Some 50 days later, there were only 184 of us remaining in Korea. The 34th was reduced to a paper status on 31 August 1950. Some of us went to the 19th and the remainder went to the 21st on 1 September 1950.

"The full story of the regiment is a unique and unusual one and the publication of it will be beneficial in many respects. In order for me to relate an adequate story, I need the input of everyone possible. Meaningful data and personal narratives have been received from about 45 former members of the regiment for the 2 month period in 1950. I have been able to contact over 100 former 1950 members of the 34th during the past two years.

"For the period of 2-16 July 1950, the 34th had the following major personnel changes: four different regimental commanders (one was killed in action on 8 July); two different regimental executive officers; two different commanders of the 1st Battalion; two different commanders of the 3rd Battalion; the regimental S-3 was missing in action on 7 July (Major Dunn); and the S-3 of the 3rd Battalion was missing in action on 7 July (Major Seegers).

"Since 1984, I have spent a considerable amount of time and money in attempting to compile the full story of the 34th. There is no interest on my part, nor is there a remote possibility, to ever recover my research costs or to make a profit on it. It is simply a 'labor of love and respect' for some very outstanding soldiers. The relating of their story in an accurate and complete manner will restore an honor that so far has been somewhat tarnished by various publications.

"There is no intent to smear or downgrade any individual or unit. My sole objective is to relate the full story and let the chips fall where they may.

"Any and all pertinent information is solicited from 1950 members of the 34th. I will welcome information from individuals who were not assigned to the 34th but have personal knowledge concerning the actions of the regiment in July and August 1950. Information or questions should be sent to me at PO Box 167, Winchester IN 47394. Tel. 317-584-1280."

# ...DATELINE..

Wait'll you read this one. It's from old reliable -- the absolutely amazing - JERRY VON MOHR (AT 19th '45), of 3846 Villanova, Dayton Kettering OH:

"While doing my tri-weekly three mile 'walk' (roll) through the Dayton Mall this morning at 6:00 a.m., I ran into a fellow walker. He asked how I lost my legs. I told him, 'In the Philippines.' His answer was, 'Oh, the 24th Division.' I, of course, said 'Yes.' It turns out that he was with the Division in Korea - the 19th. He was a chaplain. He is Rev. JAMES B. SCHOFIELD, 6427 Tantomount Lane, Dayton OH 45449. He is a retired Presbyterian Minister. He had never heard of the Association. I am enclosing a check for \$25.00. If you want to use part of it for his first year's dues, feel free to do so. Sincerely, Jerry.'

Needless to say, we have welcomed Rev. Schofield into our little club. Eventually we'll get around to asking him about his genealogy. He may be tied to the fellow for whom they named our Wahoo base of operations.

JOHN "Bob" SHAY, our Convention Chairman wires us:

"Looking forward to seeing all of our friends and members at the 40th Reunion at the Hyatt Regency Woodfield in August. There's golfing at six courses in the area. The third largest indoor shopping center is across the street. I'm sure you'll all enjoy our large hospitality room. See you there."

Call Bob at 312-724-5133.



This one's from LES WILLIAMSON (Hq.Co. 19th '45) of 620 N.4th, DeSoto, MO. It's the Sv.Co.Motor Pool gang on 12/1/45. Standing, l. to r. - ALLEN NEAL, our contributor Les,???, "PAPPY" CAIN,???, ART JOHNSON, and ??? Three ???'s in that row. Kneeling: TRENT, MILLSAPS, BUSCH, ???, DANKO, and BILL ANDLER. Sorry if the print is muddy.

## Theater

Jane Fonda, the Mother Teresa of the Silver Screen, confesses that she wept after viewing "Platoon." It's easy to see why la belle peacenik was so moved -- the film made our men in Nam to be rampaging beasts -- murdering civilians, burning villages. We think the movie is an affront to the 2.5 million Americans who served there and to the families of those who died there.

## TAKE A LOOK

So suggests DAVE MANN of 119 Gaymont, Richmond VA. See if you have an address for HARRY "Snapper" SNAVELEY, TOMMY CATHCART, RUCKER INNES, and/or EDWARD S. SYMANSKI -- all 34th'ers of WW II vintage. We here have zilch on these chaps.



Why it's JOHN "Bob" SHAY, our erstwhile Convention Chairman. You can reach him at 1129 Shermer Rd., Glenview IL 60025. Tel. 312-724-5133.



# NOW HEAR THIS



An acquaintance, Lt. Commander Mike Adams, likes sailor talk and decries the fact that there's so little of it these days. He writes in part: "'Enlisted Dining Facilities' once again should be 'Mess Halls' or 'Mess Decks,' and 'Unaccompanied Officer Personnel Housing' should resume its better known title, BOQ (Bachelor Officer Quarters)."

"There is no doubt about the location of an item which is 'aft' of something else. An item that is described as being 'behind' something, however, is of uncertain location depending on whether the speaker is facing forward, after, or athwartships. Thus, I thought a return to the good and proper practice of seamanlike communication would encourage correct communication, show respect for the traditions of the sea, and make the Navy a more seamanlike organization.

"Here's some of what I've seen and heard.

"I heard a Navy captain refer to the space on board a vessel in which meals are prepared as a 'kitchen.' I guess galleys can only be those big, multi-tiered ships of the ancients propelled by slave-powered oars. This same officer, while on board another vessel, stated that one of his acquaintances had 'gone downstairs.' I took this to mean the same as if the person had gone below.

"On another Navy ship, I asked the officer of the deck (a lieutenant wearing surface warfare officer insignia) what his vessel's beam was. He gave me an inquisitive look and said, 'Beam? Do you mean how wide is it?' He knew neither the beam nor the width.

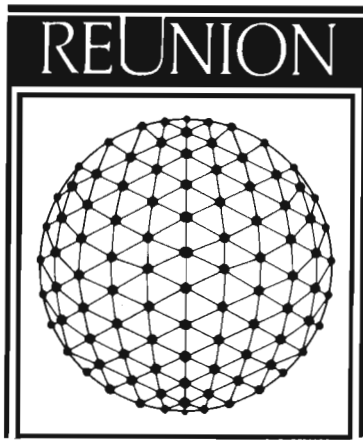
"I later looked at a list of ship's characteristics on board this vessel and found the length, draft, tonnage, and so forth and, to my chagrin, also found a dimension listed for the 'maximum width.' No wonder the deck officer didn't know what the beam was; apparently whoever wrote the characteristic table didn't know either.

"While on board the same ship, nature called, and I asked an ensign where I might find a head. The same inquisitive look I had gotten earlier from the lieutenant I now got from the ensign who said, 'Head? Oh, you mean the bathroom.' Later that same day I heard a boatswain's mate (Yes, a boatswain's mate; a member of a group that I thought was the last bastion of salty talk) tell a seaman to 'put the loop of that rope over the post.' I guess eyes are found only in people, lines are drawn only with pencils, and bits are found only in horses' mouths.

"So what? Why use all these somewhat obscure terms? What do we try to prove when using sailor talk? The answer is that seaman's terms serve the purpose of accurately describing things and actions on and about vessels with no ambiguity.

"I race sailboats as a pastime. When I tell someone (a reasonably knowledgeable sailor) that 'the spinnaker guy fairlead is located directly aft of the genoa sheet turning block,' the other person knows exactly where to look for what he wants. Joe Landlubber has no idea what I said, but who cares? We, the sailors, communicate quickly and clearly, and that is what language is all about.

"In the meantime I believe I'll go splice the mainbrace."



In our last issue, we published this photo of the Stewart Color Guard at the Irving ceremonies in December. The men were dressed in vintage 1945 as one of the many incidental tributes to Fred. Then along came BOB JOHNSON with a letter. Here, read it, just as Bob wrote it: "I'm somewhat of a nitpicker. Started out in the 'brown shoe Army' and never wore leggings but had lots of friends who did. Everyone of them had a story to tell about the soldier who put on his leggings with the laces in and then proceeded to trip himself when the lacings got hung up.

"Looks like the center soldier of the Color Guard on page 12 did the same. Seems like every other issue of Taro Leaf has someone grumbling about the content. Don't take it personally. There are some who have nothing positive to contribute or just won't who complain."

Look carefully, folks. Looks like Bob, as always, is right. Nice going, Bob.

# STAR TRACKS

Star Tracks -- Pet Peeves -- Call it what you will.

We asked for your pet peeves.

JESSE FOSTER sent in 5:

"My Pet Peeve is seeing all those civilians wearing combat fatigues and no war on.

"My Pet Peeve is all the millions that John Wayne and Frank Sinatra made, starring in all those war movies and I had to duck real bullets on \$115.00 a month, including combat pay.

"My Pet Peeve is that I never got a chance to kiss all the nurses when I left Tripler General Hospital.

"My Pet Peeve is that I only got a 1.5% raise in Social Security and my Congressman gets a 50% raise.

"My Pet Peeve is seeing my favorite lottery number come out and I didn't play it that day."

Now in our club: DANIEL KEENAN, SR. (Korea '55), of 436 Dwight St., Springfield, MA. That's the IRS office. Don't suppose, do you?

Mary SHAY, Convention Chairman BOB's lovely bride, was all effusive in describing our August convention site. In one terrific breath she said:

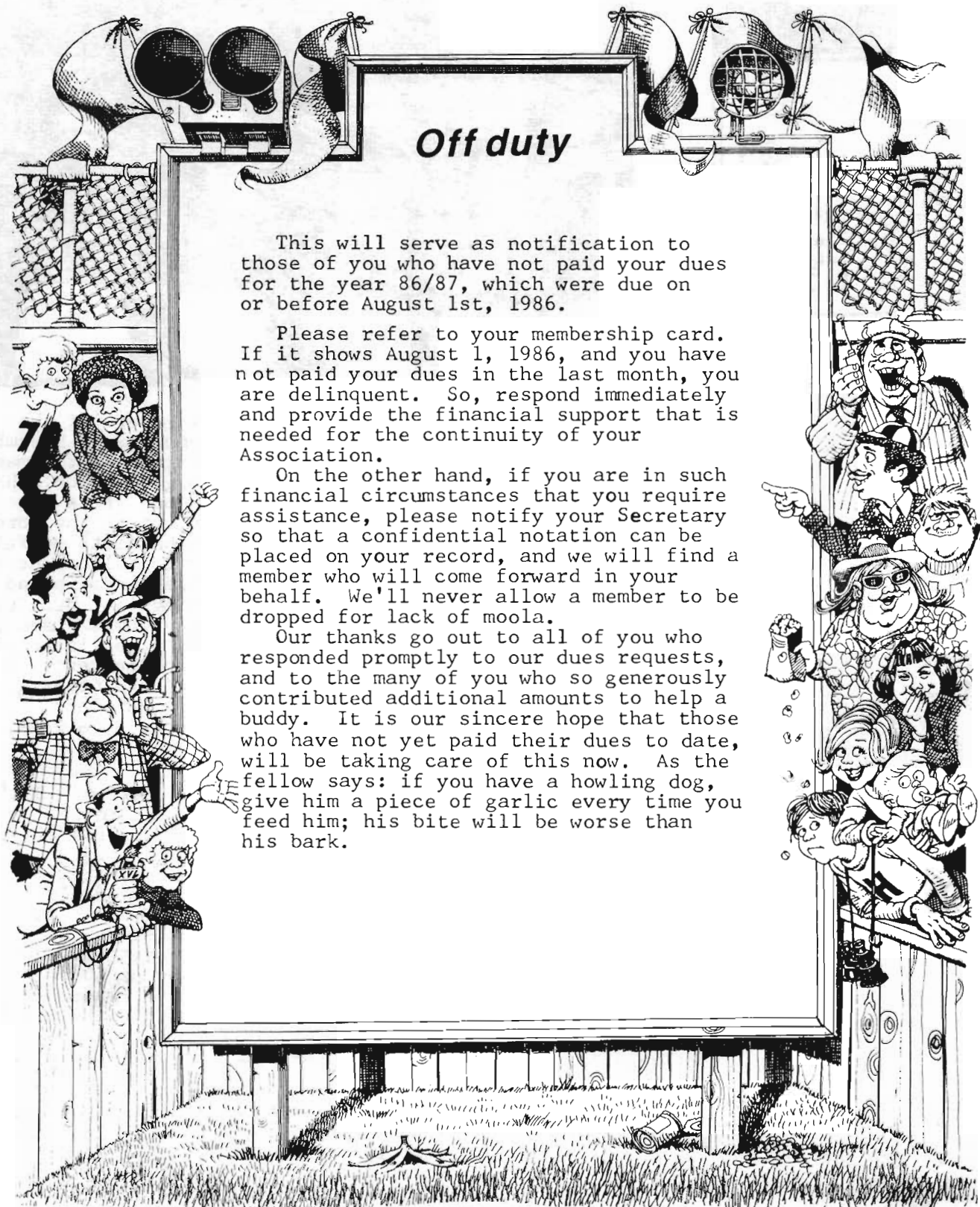
"Across the street from the hotel is Woodfield Mall, one of the world's largest enclosed shopping malls with several major department stores and hundreds of specialty stores including four movie theatres. Thoroughbred racing at Arlington Park is just minutes away. Golf, tennis and racquetball are available at nearby clubs." Slow down, Mary, slow down. Remember we write slowly.

St.Peter: "You can't get into Heaven anymore just by being good. You have to do something great. What have you done that may qualify you?"

Man at the Pearly Gates: "Well, I saw a group of Hell's Angels bikers harass an old lady, so I kicked over the leader's bike and spit in his face."

St.Peter: "That's great. When did you do that?"

Man: "Oh, about three minutes ago."



## Off duty

This will serve as notification to those of you who have not paid your dues for the year 86/87, which were due on or before August 1st, 1986.

Please refer to your membership card. If it shows August 1, 1986, and you have not paid your dues in the last month, you are delinquent. So, respond immediately and provide the financial support that is needed for the continuity of your Association.

On the other hand, if you are in such financial circumstances that you require assistance, please notify your Secretary so that a confidential notation can be placed on your record, and we will find a member who will come forward in your behalf. We'll never allow a member to be dropped for lack of moola.

Our thanks go out to all of you who responded promptly to our dues requests, and to the many of you who so generously contributed additional amounts to help a buddy. It is our sincere hope that those who have not yet paid their dues to date, will be taking care of this now. As the fellow says: if you have a howling dog, give him a piece of garlic every time you feed him; his bite will be worse than his bark.

# Roll Call



A couple of issues ago, we had a picture of MURL D. RING (and Lucille) and JACK CARTER (and Alyce). Now read Murl's interesting story: "Was a pleasant surprise to see our picture in a recent Taro Leaf. We had been visiting Jack and Alyce, came home and two days later I suffered a heart attack. Doing fine now; am back at work full time with the Postal Service. Thought I would give you a little background on Jack and me. We were both Pharmacist Mates in the Navy during WW II. Then in 1948, we enlisted in the Army. There is only one difference in our Army serial numbers. Mine ends in "30", Jack's # ends in "31". We went to Korea as replacements in August '50. We pulled some shenanigans to stay together. Would take a page to explain them. We finally wound up in the 3rd Bn, 19th in the Pusan Perimeter. After making the run to the Yalu and back, we were platoon medics in "K" 19th. I had the 1st Platoon, Jack the 2nd Platoon. On Feb. 4, '51 we were surrounded by the Chinese on Hill 704 just north of Yong Dong Po. I was hit by small arms fire in the foot and hip. Jack carried me on his back for at least four miles to where the tanks were set up. If it had not been for him, I probably would not be sitting here writing this.

"We have stayed in touch all these years. Hopefully, will be able to make a reunion now that Jack has retired. I retired from the army and will soon be retired from the Postal Service. Am a Mail Processing Supervisor at Pine Bluff, AR. If any of the 24th people should come through here, would love to have them stop and visit with me and my lovely gal, Lucille."

Reach Murl at Rt. 3, Box 576, Pine Bluff AR. Tel. is 534-7724.

Famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright said it: "A doctor can bury his mistakes. But an architect can only advise his client to plant vines!"

# Gets Results!



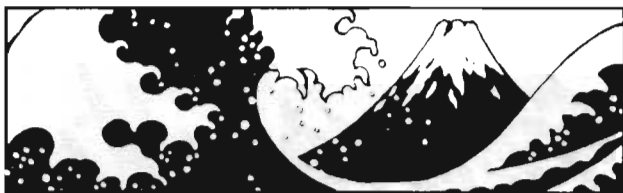
DURWOOD MOORE got results -- but let's let BILL MCKENNA tell the story in his words: "No doubt...the nicest gift I received this past Christmas was a telephone call from Stoneville TN. It was from a guy I hadn't talked to or corresponded with since Feb. '46 in Japan. He had not heard of the Association or been in touch with any members of the old outfit (1st Bn. 34th Inf.). He remembered that I had lived in Berkeley, CA and placed a call there to the Chamber of Commerce, who in turn found my number here in Albany. Can you believe it -- after 41 years? Forrest Moore of Stoneville TN is the fellow.

"We had a wonderful talk and remembered many events, people and places together. I told him I had some small snapshots of some of the guys and that I would enlarge them if I could and send one along to him. Enclosed is one of those photos. I hope it will print for the Taro Leaf. From left to right are: Cliff Lampson; Cy Blanton; Forrest Moore; me, and Sgt. Rosenberg.

"I'm sending Forrest a copy of the last Taro Leaf to get him acquainted. Also enclosed is a check covering his dues for the year. I hope you'll get to meet him at the reunion in Chicago.

"Nothing's more satisfying than to hear from old and dear friends."

This is the best part about belonging to our Association.



GOLDY NORTON mentioned a Los Angeles Times news item in connection with "L'affaire Medaille 'Etoile Bronze." Here it is libératoire -- a Frog's way of saying "in full." How do you like our French -- so far?

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 1951 \* Los Angeles Times

## VICTORY DIVISION'S WAR GLORY GROWS

24th Blasts Boasts of Seoul City Sue That North Korean Red Forces Would Destroy It

BY WILLIAM BURSON  
United Press Staff Correspondent

WITH THE U.S. 24th DIVISION, Korea, June 23 (U.P.)—Seoul City Sue boasted on more than one occasion that the North Korean Communists would destroy the U.S. 24th Division. But the war is one year old today, and the Victory Division is still around.

During almost 12 months of combat it has evolved from an ill-equipped, understrength, occupation-softened garrison outfit into a seasoned, veteran fighting force, considered the most potent of the United Nations divisions in Korea.

### Division's Score

The Communists have good reason to wish for the annihilation of the taro leaf troopers. Since the first two and a half companies of the division were committed at Osan, South Korea, it has killed 38,253 Red soldiers, wounded 61,120 and captured 29,006.

The total of 127,379 casualties inflicted against the North Koreans and Chinese Communists does not include the months of July and November, the records for which have been lost.

A conservative estimate of the over-all toll made by Lt. Col. Thomas J. Marsden, Rye Beach (N.H.) division officer, put the casualty ratio at 15 to 1.

### Colorful Story

The most colorful pages in the history of the Korean war have been written by the 24th. The tiny original force which stood eight and a half hours against three Communist divisions at Osan marked the first instance of United Nations meeting force with force in combating unwaranted aggression.

The bloody struggle at Taejon added many legends to American military history. The most colorful and often quoted is the saga of Maj. Gen. William Dean, who stayed behind with his rear guard and was last seen attack-

ing an enemy tank with only a hand grenade.

### Another of Heroes

Sgt. George Dolton Libby, Linden, N.J., an engineer, fought with the infantry. He loaded men on a tractor and shielded the only man who could drive it as the lumbering vehicle crashed through an enemy roadblock. Although wounded several times, Libby refused any aid and continued to shield the driver and return enemy fire until he fell dead from loss of blood.

Both he and Gen. Dean were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Under a new commanding general, Maj. Gen. John H. Church, the 24th held on the Nakdong River and annihilated the 4th North Korean Division in bitter fighting.

### Outstanding Units

The division's 34th Regiment was all but annihilated and was replaced by the 5th Regimental Combat team from Hawaii. The 21st Regiment earned its nickname Fire Brigade because of its quick shifts of position to plug dangerous gaps in the shaky defense perimeter.

The 24th broke out of the perimeter Sept. 18 and didn't stop until it was within 14 miles of Sinuiju on the Yalu River in November. It was forced to pull back when the Chinese entered the war and fought the rear guard for the January evacuation of Seoul.

The Taro Leaf Division, under the command of Maj. Gen. G. M. Bryan, was prominent in the renewed northward drive ordered by Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway last winter.

### Foes Slaughtered

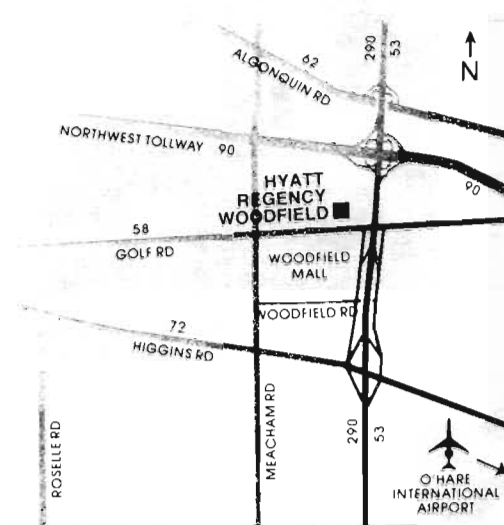
Its doughboys fought cross country through knee-deep snow and subzero temperatures to slaughter fanatical Chinese Reds fighting to the death for each hill.

It was within sight of Kumhwa when the Reds launched their

HYATT REGENCY WOODFIELD

SCHAUMBURG (O'HARE), ILLINOIS

1800 EAST GOLF ROAD  
SCHAUMBURG, ILLINOIS 60195  
312 585 1234 TELEX 270247



Here's that map that got lost in the shuffle as our last issue went through the press.



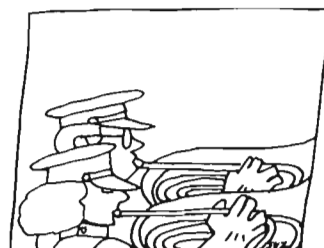
BOB JOHNSON's up and coming. Here's an excerpt out of his recent letter: "Possible future reunions. Texas or Georgia in August. Give us a break. Maybe change the month. A little fresh air instead of air conditioning would be a welcome change."

Short and to the point; the way we like it. Bob doesn't mince words. Why not try another month? Another season? After 40 years of mid-August meetings, can't we try something else?

abortive spring counteroffensive and fell back to hold a new line north of the Han River.

The division has earned two Presidential Unit Citations for its part in the Korean conflict and each of the original men who landed with it last summer has been awarded the Bronze Star.

Gen. Bryan, in a special war anniversary statement, saluted the division as "the greatest infantry outfit ever to walk on its own two feet."



# Letters We Love to Receive

In the Hyatt Regency Woodfield, there's a room called Confetti's. MIKE RAFTER calls it a haven for the fun and fashionable people. He describes it as the crowning achievement of merry makers. Sounds great, doesn't it? Adds Mike, "The drinks are great, the music is hot." Sounds like you're getting your second wind, Mike. See you and Loretta in August and we'll check this one out ourselves.

In the interest of space, we're gonna refer to it as the BSM.

BOB NOLAN (2nd Bn.Hq. 21st '42-'45), of 205 S. Bethany, K.C. KS has a thought on it. Bob, by the way, is Life Member #8. He's getting ready for a trip to Lourdes and Fatima. Of the BSM, he writes:

"Several years ago I obtained from you the address on where to send for my medals. I received the BSM which I could only assume was awarded to me because I received the Combat Infantryman's Badge. Because of my being in the 2nd Bn. Message Center, I wouldn't have been in a position to earn it otherwise."

Let us call your attention to Bob's war -- WW II. Up until now, we've been thinking that the BSM problem pertained to that '50-'53 mess in Korea. Bob, you aren't making this any easier for us.

Writes HOWARD W. CAMP (L 19th '51-'52) of 430 South Stadium, Xenia OH: "Had a wonderful week -- got together with two guys who were with me in my platoon in Korea. Hadn't seen them since we arrived in the states in June of 1952, 35 years ago. I cannot express the joy we had of seeing and talking to each other again. We had much to talk about. They weren't aware of the association. What's so odd about all this is I found out they both only live approximately twenty miles from me. Imagine that and ours paths never crossed. Anyway they were:

LEONARD E. WRIGHT

2615 Embury Park Rd., Dayton OH 45414  
and

DANIEL STONER JR.

1685 Little York Rd., Dayton OH 45414.

My heart was overwhelmed with joy.

My wife and I are planning on coming to Chicago for the reunion."

It tickles us to be able to report happy news like this. Thank you, Howie.



The Bronze Star Medal controversy continues on.

Here's what BOB JOHNSON says: "The 6th Division's paper is correct, page 33, concerning the Bronze Star Medal. The B.S.M. wasn't authorized until 1944 and it was felt that prior to that time that many wearers of the C.I.B. and C.M.B. would have been eligible for it so a blanket award for Meritorious Achievement was made.

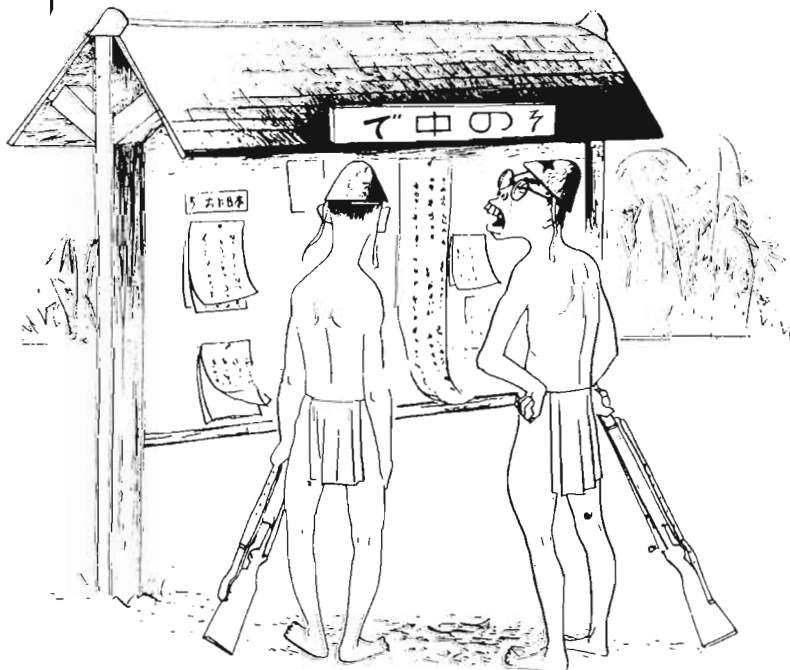
"I went to Korea in Oct. '50 with an ordnance outfit and didn't join the 19th until early March '51. But in Japan, prior to going to Korea I read or heard that the 24th had been awarded the B.S.M.

"Somewhere, there's a General Order that awarded the B.S.M. to the 24th. It could be D.A. or FECOM but I'll bet a dollar to a doughnut that an order exists.

"In 1960 I was detailed as Duty NCO, 4th Inf., 3rd Div., in Germany. Having nothing to read I started in on D.A.General Orders. Lo and behold I came across a General Order authorizing the award of the Korean Presidential Unit Citation to the 24th Division for the period in 1953 when we returned to Korea. As I recall it was D.A.G.O. #24 dated 1955. So I didn't find out until 7 years after the fact and 5 years after the Order that I could wear the K.P.U.C.

"I'll bet that someday, someone will come up with the correct facts."

Let's hope so, Bob. Appreciate your contribution -- somewhat futile -- but interesting.



"How d'ya like that? This makes the fourth suicide detail I've been on this week!"



Another statue for Washington. The U.S. Navy Memorial will include in its design, "Homecoming," a three-figure statue of a sailor being welcomed home from an extended deployment by his wife and young son.

Developed by the memorial's sculptor, Stanley Bleifeld, the statue will join an earlier work, "The Lone Sailor," a seven-foot bronze statue that will be the focal point on the sprawling granite plateau of the memorial's amphitheater.

The Navy Memorial, currently under construction and authorized by Congress in 1980, is a national tribute to all men and women with naval service, past, present and future. The cost of the project is \$10 million. Dedication is scheduled for Navy Day, Oct. 13, 1987.

Ever watchful BOB JOHNSON spotted the fact that in our last issue, on page 31, we said that we were providing a map on how to get to Schaumburg IL. He went looking for it; couldn't find it. Truth is that it was in the mockup, on the upper right corner of page 37 when we sent it to the print shop. Somewhere en route, it became unstuck. Where? When? How? Why? We simply dunno.

You're not going to believe this. Seems that our August hotel has a spa. Say the Hyatt people: "Cool off and relax, in mid-August, in a world that can be your private spa. Our bubbles from the redwood tubs aim to soothe and our indoor/outdoor pool will refresh and invigorate your gang." Thanks, Hyatt; we'll need that.

Quotable Quite:

"Middle age is when you're faced with two temptations. And you choose the one that will get you home at 9 o'clock."

Ronald Reagan

# tgif.

GOLDY NORTON over there in Beverly Hills writes us on "L'affaire Bronze Star" -- and we love it. Here's Goldy's letter:

"I'm sure you'd just as soon forget about 'l'affaire Bronze Star' but this may help clarify things a little.

"Sometime around November or December of '50 somebody, and I haven't the slightest idea who, did indicate that all of the original members of the 24th in Korea would receive the medal. Since a lot of us already had been awarded the medal or higher decorations, it was generally understood that those who hadn't, would.

"I don't recall what the exact format was, but, when someone was put in for a decoration, there was a form which was done on an individual basis. Since I had made the mistake of taking typing in high school, I ended up writing the Bronze Star recommendations for every person in our company who had not previously received the decoration. I don't remember how many I typed but it was probably close to a hundred.

"While I'm sure all of the other units of the Division could have done the same thing (I was in Hqs.Co., 21st) a lot of them probably didn't, which is why, probably, a lot of guys who should have gotten the medal didn't.

"But basically, it was only the original members of the 24th, and there had to be an individual citation recommendation for each person. It is mentioned in the attached newspaper article which ran in the Los Angeles Times on the first anniversary of the war.

"Incidentally, I never did get my Bronze Star medal, even though it is indicated on my service record.

"Hope this doesn't add to the confusion."

Thank you, Goldy.

We feel like Costello talking with Abbott about "Who's on first?"

Wants to hear from friends: EDWIN A. VAIL (Hq.Co. 3rd Bn. 21st 2/50-7/51) of 321 Adam, Flora, IL. Wife's name is Phyllis. Kids are Dennis 34, Jeff 32, Christine 30, and Pat 29. Didn't mean to offend, "kids". Gosh, IL?; you'll surely make Chicago in August, Ed!! You and Phyllis will be most welcome -- as will be any or all of the "kids."



"Just a reminder: You can take your snow tires off now."

Now only is it off with the snow tires; it's new book time. And our favorite author, Maj.Gen. AUBREY S. NEWMAN is out with "What Are Generals Made Of?"

Well known as a writer from his "Forward Edge" column in Army Magazine, and from his previous book, "Follow Me" "Red" here conveys the knowledge and wisdom of a lifetime, based on his notes of a lifetime in the Army, in peace and at war, and on his devotion to the service and the men who make it a human entity.

Written in an informal style as if the author were talking to the reader, Newman's prose is clear, intimate, and to the point.

In WHAT ARE GENERALS MADE OF?, this general has given the best of himself and as he tells us what this general is made of, he gives credit to a host of others.

How to get a copy?

Easy!!

It's become an impossibility for Red to handle individual orders and we at headquarters can't handle them either. So...

Winston Churchill was visiting friends the afternoon of one of his radio broadcasts. He left rather late and, stepping up to a cabstand, instructed the driver to take him to the BBC studios.

"You'll have to take another cab, sir. I can't go that far," the driver told him.

The former Prime Minister was rather surprised and asked the driver why he was limited in the distance his cab could be driven.

"Mr. Churchill is broadcasting," replied the cabby, "and I want to get home and tune in."

This pleased Churchill and he pulled out a pound note. The driver took one look at the money and said, "Hop in, sir. The hell with Mr. Churchill."

For those who may be interested in obtaining a copy, Red provided this information.

The easiest way to obtain a copy is to order it through your local book store.

Or it may be ordered direct from the publisher as follows:

The Presidio Press

31 Pamaron Way

Novato CA 94947

Title: WHAT ARE GENERALS MADE OF?

Author: Maj.Gen. Aubrey S. Newman

Price: \$18.95 hard cover only \$ 18.95

Tax: Cal. residents add 6% tax

Shipping and handling:

Single copy \$1.75

Multiple copies \$2.75

Total

\$

Check payable to: The Presidio Press

Mastercharge ☐ Visa ☐ American Express ☐

Number  Expires

Signature

Address

Zip

TAKE  
YOUR  
CHOICE.

GEORGE LENZEY took his choice -- and joined, thanks to the urging of "Bud" COLLETTE. GEORGE and Betty, parents of 4, live at 3631½ E. in Superior WI. George was 3rd Bn. 19th for one year. Is retired from the postal service. We welcome you into our little club, George and Betty. Sure hope you'll make Chicago in August.

A woman was delivering a station wagon load of kids home one day when a fire truck zoomed past. Sitting on the front seat was a Dalmatian. The children fell to discussing the dog's duties.

"They use him to keep the crowds back," said one five-year-old.

"No," said another, "he's just for good luck."

A third child brought the argument to an end. "They use the dog," he said firmly, "to find the hydrant!"

# SPOT CHECK

Call it a spot check if you want to. Remember the way they'd spot check us in the you-know-what? Anyway DAVE MANN asked us to publish this -- which we do -- just as he printed it:

## WANTED

*Information from men in the 2nd Battalion, 34th, January-June 1945*

*I am attempting to write a book about our experiences in the Philippines during this period. Memory fuzzy! Need your help.*

*Please write or call collect:*

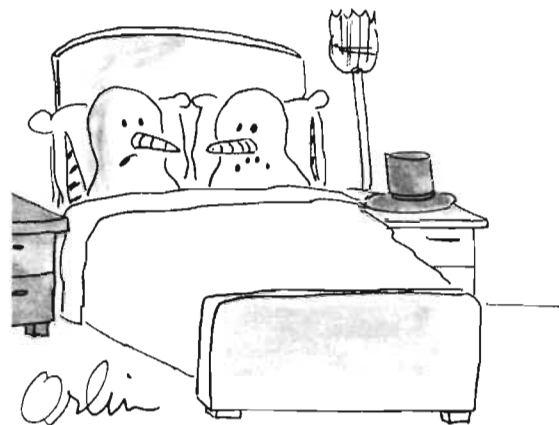
B. DAVID MANN  
119 GAYMONT RD.  
RICHMOND, VA. 23229  
804-288-8238



Beautiful words from HANFORD RANTS in thanking us for a favor: "As age takes us one by one, the Taro Leaf continues to hold us together with precious memories." Isn't that great? Hanford's a junior/senior high school principal in Paramount CA. He responded to our request for a picture from each of us for our files.

And there he is up there at the top of this item.

Life is made up of two phases. In the first you try and make a name for yourself and in the second you try and keep it.



"Your feet are like ice."

From a Gary H. Gwin of 211 Mt. View Dr., Madison Hts, VA 24572, President WARREN AVERY received this card:



GARY H. GWIN  
German WWII Militaria Collector

### • WANTED TO BUY •

- Hats
- Helmets
- Flags, Banners
- Medals, Badges
- Uniforms
- Swords, Daggers



Telephone  
(804) 929-8395

Route 3, Box 451  
Madison Heights, Va. 24572



and a letter reading:

"First of all let me introduce myself. My name is Gary Gwin and I am a collector of German WW II items. I am not a dealer. I collect items of all kinds.

"I read of your reunion in a recent 'Military' magazine and I would like to know if it would be possible for you to pass my card among your fellow veterans to determine if they would be interested in selling some of their souvenirs. I will pay top prices for these items. They will remain in my personal collection. Any help you can give me will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

"Regards, Gary H. Gwin."

Well, Gary, I'm not so sure of the German memorabilia our gang may have -- but when it comes to things oriental, our boys may be able to help you out.

RUSS ARNOLD (24th MP '45-'47), of 3999 Rt. 55, Urbana OH 43078, telephoned us the other day. Was Gen. Eichelberger's home town. In fact, Russ and the General were good friends. Anyway, the home town is trying to build a little "museum" of memorabilia on this remarkable man. Anyone got anything to contribute. Please contact Russ.

It's time to order the seeds you will plant in April and wonder what happened to in August.

# Update

Beautiful nostalgia in from Col. ALDON M. HOFFMAN (19th '41-'42), of 2121 Ptarmigan, Walnut Creek CA.

"I do enjoy membership because it instigates wonderful moments of nostalgia and because the 24th was a salient experience in my military career.

"I was CO of "I" Company, 19th when the 24th was formed and remained there through the attack on 12/7/41. Early in '42, I was asked to assume command of the Anti-Tank Company, a newly formed unit. Some months later, I was introduced to Col. ROSEBAUM, CO of the 4th Tank Group, by Maj.Gen. FREDERICK IRVING and asked to join that Group. I did and later commanded the 762nd Tank Bn, was Deputy Gp. Commander and so on until the war was over.

"In brief then I entered the Diplomatic Service, later returned to the Regular Army with the Big Red One and had several tours with Intelligence on Attache duty and with various Headquarters, completing my service as Chief of Intelligence of the Sixth U.S. Army. I retired in 1965 and taught at San Francisco State University, University of San Francisco and University of Hawaii. Later, I joined a civilian contractor and was Resident Manager at Kwajalein where the U.S. Army operated a research facility. My working career ended as Executive Assistant to the President of San Francisco State University, Dr.S.I. Hayakawa, later Senator.

"I had a delightful military career which I enjoyed to the utmost. Always, I recall many in the 24th Division though who made great impressions and were involved in my development as an officer. FRED IRVING, AUBREY NEWMAN, WALTER WICKBOLDT, BOB SPRAGINS, CHARLES RICH, MAX SULLIVAN and many others I could name with a bit of thought were exceptional individuals, unforgettable too.

"Another thought -- did you ever know Chaplain ZIMMERMAN? Great fellow who had an untimely death. Another super officer was Captain HARRY MAYS of Fair Play SC. He has been a doctor there all these years and one worthy of emulation."

Isn't that great? Thank you, Aldon.

One ship drives east, and another west  
With the self-same winds that blow;  
'Tis the set of the sails  
And not the gales,  
That decides the way we go.

Like the winds of the sea are the ways  
of fate,  
As they voyage along through life;  
'Tis the will of the soul  
that decides its goal,  
And not the calm or the strife.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox



# Spotlight



Spotlight is on GEORGE "Bob" SCOTT, (Hq.Co. 34th '42-'45) of 3001 North 43rd St., Waco TX 76710. Bob is Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Texas, AFAM.

Napoleon once said: "The true genius in war is the one who can do the average thing when those around him grow hysterical with emotion or fright."

# ~~CATCH THE ACTION.~~

Good friend, Lt.Col. RODOLPH MULLINS (Med. 19th '49-'51), of 310 Birch, Waynesville MO is planning on returning to Beppu for a visit. Take a soak in those springs for us, won't you, Rody? Interestingly, he maintains a correspondence with a friend, Hitoshi Okihara, who has some rather nice things to say about Chicks. We want to use his letter here -- in the hope that it will encourage some of you who may remember him to drop him a line. Become a pen pal and brighten the day for this 82 year old man. Read his letter yourself, please:

"I was with the Supply Section of the Medical Battalion at Camp Chikamagua, from the time it was started on 5/17/46 until it was deactivated on 8/23/56.

"Looking back on those days, I am grateful to you for your kindness and hospitality extended to us Japanese workers. It was really a pleasure for me to work there for ten years. At the Camp, there were about 1000 military personnel and as many Japanese workers were in employ then. I have never heard of a single case of Japanese employees being abused or mistreated by U.S. servicemen there. I believe that this is a very unique thing under the circumstances of occupation and should be worth being recorded long in American and Japanese histories.

"Since I quit the camp I had to keep working hard for 29 years taking only 15 days off in December each year. At 82, I am blessed to be healthy and have 3 children and 4 grandchildren. I feel that any efforts have been finally rewarded, but

my efforts have been finally rewarded, but I am already old and this made me decide to write you a letter of appreciation.

"I have received letters from nine of my American friends stationed at Camp Chickamauga for which I am very grateful.

"I am anxious to know the address of the following:

Col. Calvin W. Birmingham

Lt. Raynord Stafford

Ray Hawks.

"If Mr. Ray Hawks should know, I am sure he will write to me.

"I really do not know how to express my appreciation to you for all you have done for me.

"I wish I could visit you and personally thank you. I pray for your health and happiness.

"Enclosed are some Japanese memorial postage stamps in token of my deep appreciation.

"Sincerely yours, HITOSHI OKIHARA"

Can't you just picture this little old man -- with a face all wrinkled like an English walnut?

If you're a Chick, why not drop him a line -- just a few words -- you'll give Hitoshi a real thrill. Try it -- it'll make yourself feel good all over too.

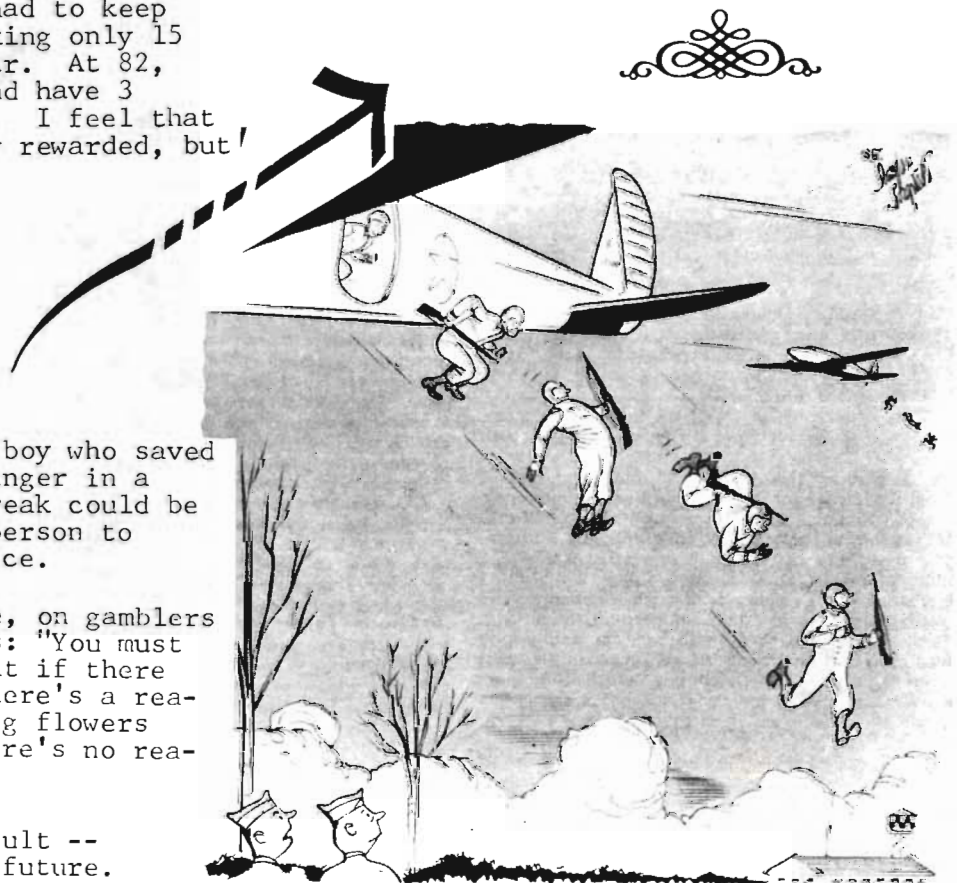
Write him at:



Remember the little Dutch boy who saved his country by holding his finger in a hole in the dike until the break could be repaired? He was the first person to have a tough day at the orifice.

TV sportscaster Al McGuire, on gamblers who befriend college athletes: "You must try to teach your players that if there are creeps hanging around, there's a reason. It's like when you bring flowers home to your wife and say there's no reason. There's a reason."

Forecasting is very difficult -- especially if it's about the future.



"They say they don't need any parachutes--they're Marines!"

---

## The Last Roll Call

---



A word from his buddy and dear friend, DAVID LOPERA, A 21st '40-'44). "Received word from his wife of the passing of CHARLES (Chuck) STEPHANY (A 21st '40-'44) in Wahiawa. A 21st members and others of our Division who knew Chuck before and after Pearl, knew him as a very proud Gimlet and soldier who was proud to have served his country.

"His last 3 years saw failing health from a heart stroke, and liver and kidney failure. Chuck passed away in the Wahiawa Hospital on Sept. 7, 1986, interment at the Mililani Memorial Park. He is survived by his wonderful wife, Adelaide, 2 sons and 2 daughters."

Thank you, Dave, for this sad report. By the way, Chuck's picture appears elsewhere in this issue.

Gone to his reward: EDDIE KOLOTA (H 19th '51-'53), of General Delivery, Logan, W.Va. Date uncertain. Eddie sent us a copy of his discharge years ago and he appeared there as Eddie. He became a member when LEN MITCHELL, visiting Logan one day, stopped in at the American Legion post. Eddie spotted Len's patch and that was enough to entice poor Eddie into our club.

CONNIE HERRICK has written us of the passing on of her beloved ROBERT at age 57. Bob was Tk. Co. 19th 1/53-2/54. Connie's at 3100 26 Ave. North, Lot 25, St.Petersburg FL.

Word in from BOB HARPER over there in Saginaw, MI, is that we have lost another Taro Leafer. ARTHUR J. WOBIO. Bob and Arthur joined together in '49 and took basic together. Bob went to Japan and the 34th and Art went to Carson. Bob was sitting beside a road one day when a jeep rolled up and there he was -- with H of the 19th. Thoughtfully Bob got a spray to the funeral in time to say "Farewell" to his wonderful friend, Art. Thank you for this, Bob.

Deceased: Rita BRUNO, wife of HOWARD "Jaimee" BRUNO (Hq.Co. 1st Bn.34th '45-'46). Jaimee's at 2842 N.Desert, Tucson AZ 85712 - Tel. 602-795-0496.

Passed on -- Feb. 11, 1987. Life Member EDWARD J. "Jake" MILLER (D 19th '44-'46) of 13312 Helen Av., Southgate MI. Jake and his beloved Helen died within twenty minutes of each other.

# Leon E. Howard

"To fill the unforgiving minute with sixty seconds worth of distance run."

LEON HOWARD introduced us to these lines from Rudyard Kipling's poem "If". The lines were among his favorites; they described his life in a nutshell.

He gave them to us as we were sitting on a log, Lee and we -- was it at Jaro on Leyte? Or was it on Mindoro? Possibly it was along Taloma Beach on Mindanao. In any event, it was during one of many sessions which we would manage to find time for in between busy hours in the tent of the Division Finance Officer -- which in fact he was -- and duties in the tent of the Division Ordnance Officer -- which in fact we were. But we were more than a couple of members of the Division Staff; we were fast friends.

Proof positive of the respect we had for each other, of the depth of that friendship, came once in the form of a gift he one day proffered us. It was a precious oil painting of something he had managed to "run off" -- his very words -- a Filipino lady doing her laundry in one of those familiar aluminum pans with the low, crimped circular side wall all in rich deep sepia tones. Gratefully overwhelmed, we guarded it cautiously through the remainder of the war days and, wonder of wonders, it reposes proudly in our home today, forty-two years later, almost to the very day.

We have lost Lee Howard. He died on January after a brief and senseless illness at age 76.

In a world that many fear is losing its individualism, Leon Howard stood out as a reassuring beacon. Here was a real individual to the nth power.

How well we recall those talk sessions, with Leon debating whether, come war's end, he'd settle for a banker's life, whence he had come, or take the gamble and end up as a poor struggling artist in some third floor garret. Weeks and months passed while he fought with himself as to which road he would take.

The record is clear -- he elected to stay with matters financial and returned to Pasadena, California, and his beloved Helen and Gail and Douglas, making his mark as an individual first and then as a successful banker.

It shall ever remain a haunting question of what he might have contributed to the world of art. As was, art was his avocation -- and what remarkable and enviable gifts were his as he toyed with his hobby.

Leon Howard had a natural charm, a delightful grace, a terrific sense of humor. He was a gentleman -- and, best of all, a unique ability for forming true friendships.

Of his love of fun, no one enjoyed an anecdote more than he. Hardly a day would pass -- the days of our togetherness, that is -- when without at least one uplifting moment with Lee with the latest piece of amusing gossip or ribald joke.

And as for debate, you could have an opinion on something and he would happily argue about it with you until you either capitulated or ran screaming for cover.

Lee Howard loved many things -- nice things -- beautiful things -- and many people -- nice people -- beautiful people. As far as we can recall, he hated only cant, hypocrisy and pomposity. If there was someone in Division he couldn't suffer, he kept that

# In Loving Memory

dislike to himself. But if he liked you, what a blessed gift that was, because nobody would fight for your reputation and your soul harder than he.

He would have been terribly embarrassed to have these things said about him in life, because he was a surprisingly modest man. In death, let them comfort those of us who mourn.

As we were committing these words to paper, we came onto the letter written by Lee as he became one of our elite, a Life Member. It was typical Howard. Impishness now has urged us to work a part of it onto this page. Wrote he:

"Sometimes the pictures in Taro Leaf bring back a flood of thoughts -- snaps of you, of Walter Cunningham, of Harry Jones and many others who emerge out of the past set me thinking at times -- very good thoughts mainly. I think of Robin Daniels, of the time I sat General Woodruff on his keister in the sand at Taloma during a volleyball game and my great embarrassment, of the Jap suicide raid on Jock Clifford's command post at Davao, and of the morning in June when we buried Jock as Bill Verbeck called for the hand salute. Well, now we are all growing older together and, as I peer at the current photographs of old friends I see in the Taro Leaf from time-to-time, it is sometimes hard to realize that these are the young men of those yesterdays when we all shared that special comradeship. Only those who did not come home with us, Jock and the others, only those can remain always young and fair."

Pure Leon Howard -- genuine -- sincere -- bona fide.

Permit us, please, one more recollection of a very special friendship formed forty and more years ago -- on the other side of the world.

We would engage in a bit of foolishness from time-to-time when we'd first ask the question with an attempt at strained innocence, "Do you like pancakes?" Invariably the answer would come back in the affirmative to which we, in turn, would respond with a senseless invitation, "When you get a minute, stop over at our tent -- we've got a footlocker full of them." Strangely, it could invariably provoke at least a titter.

It may have been a bit of the very stuff that finally killed vaudeville but we are content with the confidence that we were completely successful in having at least one long-suffering fan, Lee Howard. Over the intervening years, Lee never failed in any letter or telecon to remind us in some way of the pancake story. Its fun was relived over and over; in his very last letter, he found room to laugh anew. He could never forget a friend, and in this case even that friend's humor.

Lee's passing puts us in mind of lovely lines by Paul Forte, lines that go --

"Pale evening longed for birth,  
The firmament was pure;  
Life and the light of day  
Were softly tinted blue...  
The distant trees were blue,  
And, in the heavens remote  
Wandered a little moon,  
White as a dreaming soul."

... Goodbye, little moon!!!

## Memorials Approved; Next Step Is Funding

President Reagan has signed three bills in October that provide federal land in the District of Columbia for memorials to black Revolutionary War patriots, Korean War veterans, and women who served in the U.S. armed forces.

Organizers who lobbied Congress earlier for permission to erect monuments in the nation's capital said their next steps will be to win approval of their designs and raise funds for the projects.

The American subsidiary of Hyundai Motor Co. of Korea contributed \$1 million toward a memorial to honor Americans who fought in the Korean War. Organizers said they expect it will take five years to erect their monument, which will receive \$1 million in public funds for planning and site preparation.

In a letter to President Reagan, S.H. Park, president of Hyundai Motors America, said he wanted to convey a "small token of our gratitude for the supreme sacrifices your countrymen made in the defense of our freedom and liberty."

The monument, which is expected to cost an additional \$5 million to build, will pay tribute to the 5.7 million U.S. men and women who served in Korea during the 1950-53 conflict. More than 54,000 were killed.

LOU SELMI tells about the buddy who was constantly complaining about the Army chow. One day, he said to Lou, just outside the mess hall: "Let's not go in. They don't have anything good."

"How do you know?" asked Lou, "You haven't even seen the food."

"When there are more than 6 knives in the peanut butter jar, you just know the dinner is lousy."

We do try to update our good members with news of who's moving where. Now take JOE and Betty MACKLER (Med.Det. Spec. Troops '42-'45) were in Springfield MO. Forget it. Try Rt. 2, Box 536, Sunrise Beach MO. A beach? In MO? You're kidding!!

Just-joined JOHN J. HUDAK (52nd F '50-'51) of Rt. 5, Box 50, White Birch Dallas PA, anxious to locate any "buddies." That's a familiar cry. Did ask for address of ye old 52nd Commander, BG MILLER G. PERRY -- and we gave it to him pronto.

# AN ALMOST SURE THING

And you thought WW II was over.

Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe recently visited the Soviet Union to resume negotiations on a peace treaty to formally end World War II hostilities.

Japanese officials said the main obstacles blocking a treaty are four strategically placed islands seized by the Soviet Union in 1945.

TODAY'S SPECIAL  
POTAGE RICHELIEU



"THE MESS SERGEANT'S AN OLD RITZ-CARLTON MAN."

—Pfc. Hugh Kennedy, San Bernardino, Calif

No matter where you stand on the prayer-in-school issue, one truth cannot be denied: Children will pray as long as they get math tests.

# PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT...

## WHAT'S NEW / WHAT'S COMING

If you have changed your  
address  
please notify the Editor

A request has been made to the government of North Korea for permission to search for and recover the remains of Americans killed in the Korean War.

A request was made in October by Robert Dumas and Ty Harrington. Dumas, one of four brothers who served with the Army in Korea, has conducted a 30-year crusade to prove that his youngest brother has been in communist captivity ever since he was captured in 1950.

(The Dumas story was part of a recent Taro Leaf issue - exploring the mystery of what happened to 389 American prisoners who were never accounted for after the war.)

Officials of the North Korean mission in New York have told Dumas that his request would be considered by the government in Pyongyang. Harrington recently told a reporter that he thought North Korea might extend an invitation to a group of private U.S. citizens before the end of the year.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, whose invasion of South Korea in the summer of 1950 triggered the three-year war, has never had diplomatic relations with the United States and is not a member of the United Nations. But it does maintain a small mission of U.N. observers, which is not permitted to travel in the United States beyond New York City.

North Korea and China have never accounted for 8177 Americans who served in the Korean War. Moreover, 2233 missing members of the United Nations Command -- including 389 Americans -- were known to have been in North Korean POW camps before the 1953 armistice.

For 33 years, communist delegates to the Military Armistice Commission at Panmunjon have routinely denied knowledge of any of these missing people. Only in the last year or so has North Korea indicated willingness to discuss the possibility of repatriating remains of U.N. casualties still in North Korea.

Gag-of-the-Month: Joan Rivers clawing Vanna White: "You know how stupid she is? They have to light up the letters on the board so she knows how to spell the words."



This one's from DAVE LOPERA, (A 21, '40-'44), out in Anaheim CA - 1830 Catalpa in case you write. Meet, in the usual l. to r. manner of reading pictures, DAVE, NICK DOUZANIS, CHUCK STEPHANY, WILLIE WORRELL, and JIM LAXTON, Gimlets all.

"The only game that can't be fixed is peek-a-boo."

Hard working BOB ENDER, our Chairman of Membership, is trying to locate these Gimlets and would appreciate any leads:

Chaplin Ufer	Claude Hall
Chaplin Leland	Ace Malone
Al Mele	Dale Hardisty
John Goldpaugh	Glen Wicker
Seymour Smigrod	John Heneberry
Jeb Stewart	George Miller
_____ ? _____ McGill	

### Definition of "Diplomacy" -

The ability to tell a man to go to Hell so that he looks forward to the trip.

Great letter from RAY JOHNSON (E 34th 7/40-4/43) Box 56, Jonancy, KY 41538. We quote a part of it: "...I've recently had the privilege to borrow some old copies of Taro Leaf's dating back to the 50's. One copy should be reprinted for us who joined late. The issue I'm referring to is VIV Number 3, Apr. '51. The Medal of Honor boys, their citations and on the back page the obituary of Richard Krebs. In this bunch of Taro Leafs is 'An Autobiography of a Division' on the back cover is a good aerial shot of Schofield. Anyone who served on Oahu would love to see that photo."

Will see if we can oblige, Ray.

# THAT'S !INCREDIBLE

Our valued friend, CHARLEY CARD down there in Houston TX, sent this one with the cryptic handwritten note: "You'll recall Jaro. I sure do. Much excitement in that area late in October '44." The article was smudged but we're gonna use it anyway:

★ The Houston Post/Sun., April 20, 1986/

## WWII veteran plans Philippines libraries

By REY GUEVARA-VAZQUEZ  
Post Reporter

The videotape showed Henry Callihan waving and smiling as he weaved through a parade of schoolchildren and diplomats who crowded the main street of the Philippine village to welcome the World War II veteran and his 96th Infantry Division buddies.

"They were all over us. They wanted to see and touch the great warriors, the ones who had liberated them," said Callihan, a Houston grand jury bailiff, as he narrated the show of his 40th-year reunion of his army unit in 1984.



**CALLIHAN:**  
Welcomed

Callihan said the hero's welcome impressed him, but the rural poverty and the illiteracy depressed him — so much so that he promised to return "like MacArthur" to help the village school children.

Next week, true to his word, Callihan, 63, plans to return to the village of Jaro for the grand opening of a \$20,000 library — one of three he wants to build with money raised in Houston.

"We're dusting off all the books we can get a hold of and take them to schoolchildren in the village," Callihan said recently during a luncheon in his honor at the Four

Seasons Hotel. "How can anyone not ever read about Pinnocchio Lassie and Black Beauty?"

Philippines Vice Consul Victoria Lecaros said "we couldn't be more glad about this," as he shook Callihan's hand and wished there were more people like Callihan.

"We have a saying," Lecaros said. "Give a man a fish and you will feed him for a day. Give him a fishing pole and he can feed himself." That is what Mr. Callihan is doing and my government appreciates that."

Callihan said the library was built with money and books donated by Houstonians. The facility is to open Monday, and the opening wouldn't be grand without Callihan — Texas Sesquicentennial Ambassador to the Philippines.

"I never dreamed it would lead to this," Callihan said of the idea he got during the 1984 visit in which a schoolgirl "touched something in me" when she reluctantly agreed to show a book to an American visitor.

"She was afraid she wasn't going to get it back," Callihan said.

Houstonian Robbie de Vries, who organized the luncheon fete, said of Callihan: "He is a man of action. He is so deserving of this and the least we can do is pat him on the back."

When told that the mayor had named April 9 Henry Callihan's Day, a blushing Callihan said he couldn't take any more compliments.

"It just feels good to be needed, to do something, anything in the right direction," Callihan said.

Heard this rumor? That the USSR is surveying now for a canal across Nicaragua from San Juan del Sur, across the lake and on to the San Juan River to the Atlantic. Why should they? There's always the Panama Canal.

There are those who are saying we shouldn't help the "contras" because they can't win. The American ambassador to England, Kennedy was the name, was saying the same thing about England 46 years ago.



## IT'S ALL DOWNHILL FROM HERE

It's downhill for us. Fella by name of Winford A. Schilling, of 722 Spruce St., Vinton VA is trying to locate Sgt. SYDNEY C. DUNN, first sergeant of K 21st in Jan. to Mar. of '51. He's not in our records. Any clues out there?

One more Bronze Star Medal story -- or one more monument story -- and we'll be climbing the wall.

"In," thanks to PAUL "Svede" NELSON, are WAYNE WEHRLI and his most attractive, Irene, (G 21st), of 2705 Tudorway, Albany OR. We welcome these terrific folks.



We have prepared, on the next page, a press release which you might tear out and forward to your local newspaper(s). This is an official format. We have to lay out the wording for them so that all they do is insert the announcement when they have space. It is important to get this out well in advance so the newspapers have time to work it into their layouts. You might see fit to go the extra mile and personalize the release (Editors love this) by adding your own name and address as a former soldier now a member of the Committee planning this get-together. Better still, go an extra second mile and offer up a decent picture of yourself to go with the release. Many many thanks.

DATE

For Immediate Release

ORGANIZATION

24th Infantry Division Assn.  
United States Army

CONTACT

Robert R. Ender  
1864 El Paso Lane  
Fullerton CA 92633  
Tel. 714-526-6860

Chicago, Illinois: The 24th Infantry Division and 5th Infantry Regiment of the United States Army will hold its 40th annual reunion honoring veterans of World War II and the Korean War on August 13 through 15, 1987. The reunion will be held at the Hyatt Regency Woodfield Hotel, Schaumburg IL 60195. For further information, you are asked to contact: 24th Infantry Division Reunion, 1864 El Paso Lane, Fullerton CA 92633 - Tel. 714-526-6860. Or, 120 Maple Street, Springfield MA 01103 - Tel. 413-733-3194.