



VOL. 52 NO. 2

IN MEMORY OF KENWOOD ROSS

MAY 1998

VICTORY DIVISION NEWS!



...REMEMBERING
KENWOOD ROSS

Address To: O.M.

—PETRICK—

24th Infantry Division Association



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TARO LEAF, the official publication of the 24th Infantry Division Association, is published quarterly by and for its members. Opinions expressed or implied are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or the 24th Infantry Division.

FROM THE EDITOR!

All dues, donations, changes of address including **ZIP + 4** (9 digit zip code) and deceased notices are to be sent to Yvonne Mullins, Secretary/Treasurer/Editor.

Articles Submissions

To improve speed and accuracy and readability in editing, manuscripts and articles should be originals or clear copies, with either typed or printed out double-spaced in near letter quality printer mode. Articles are to be received by the Editor not later than the deadline established by the President, Secretary/Editor and as published in the Taro Leaf. Any article received after the established deadline and not in the format described above will be put in at the discretion of the Editor. To be considered for publication, articles should not exceed 300 words and should be of general interest and in good taste. Political endorsements and thank you notes will not be used. Biographies or personal stories of interest to the general membership, not exceeding three pages, will be accepted for publication but must conform to policy as outlined above.

**The May 1998 Taro Leaf, Volume 52 No. 2
is dedicated in Memory of Kenwood Ross
1916 - 1998**

**(50 years of service to the 24th Inf Div Association)
(42 years of service as Secretary/Treasurer/Editor)**

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The following **DEADLINE** is established for submission of material to the Editor Yvonne Mullins, of the TARO LEAF for publication.

Deadline to the Editor

Publication Date

1 April

May 1998

1 July 1998

August 1998

10 October 1998

November 1998

Telephone #

573-365-1007

Fax #

573-365-7872

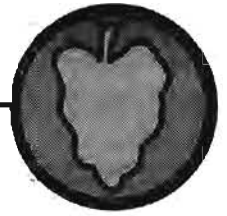
E-Mail

rudyvoni@lakeozark.net

1998 Reunion

23-27 September 1998
Excelsior Hotel
Three Statehouse Plaza
Little Rock AR 72201
Tel 501-399-8050
Fax 501-375-7320

24th Infantry Division Association



March 31, 1998

Letter from the Editor: In Memory of Kenwood Ross

Why was I so shocked when death struck again? We know that death is ever present, yet we live life to the fullest, thinking death will wait for another day.

It was January 17th, a Saturday and I had just talked to our Publisher, Rachel Boatright, in Versailles, Mo. She had called me about the Taro Leaf magazine. It was Saturday and we joked about her working on a Saturday and I remember thinking how I appreciated the work Rachel and her employees do for our magazine.

Then another call came in and it was Dutch, telling me about Ken dying that morning at his home. My heart ached and I wanted one more time to see Ken or at least just talk to him again. When I hung up from speaking with Dutch, I called Rachel and the notice of Ken's death was added to the February issue of the Taro Leaf.

Ken was my new "Friend". Oh, yes I had known who he was for the past 17 years but only in the last two years communicated with him. It was Ken who thought about making me an honorary member and then changing the by-laws that I might be nominated at the reunion last September. His kindness and generosity in helping me will never be forgotten. I had wanted to have his approval in the work that I would be doing for the Association, but that was not to be. I had wanted to listen to him and learn from someone who had spent so many, many years working for his beloved 24th Association, but the time had been oh, so short and now that is not to be.

Last September in Colorado Springs I sat with Rudy and Ken in the business meeting and now they are gone but they will never, never be forgotten. The first two issues of the Taro Leaf this year, first in memory of Rudy and now in memory of Ken.

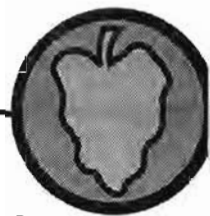
Last October Ken was there for me when Rudy died. He would telephone, fax, write but always let me know that he cared. When I was finally able to do association work again, he was there, encouraging me and along with Beverly, his secretary, they would keep the faxes coming and I knew that I was not alone. Christmas came and there was the phone call from Ken and flowers from the florist sent by Ken to decorate my table. Then the largest tin of Pepperidge cookies, he remembered me in such a special way. I took a picture of the beautiful floral arrangement but did not have it developed in time for Ken to see.

Ken called me on January 14th and we spoke of the Taro Leaf. I was taking it that very day to the Publisher. His letter arrived which he had written about Rudy and I was greatly touched with the love he showed to both Rudy and myself.

January 19th was a holiday and no mail delivery and then on January 20th, a letter arrived from Ken. It was a check, a contribution from Ken to the 24th Infantry Division Association. He had mailed it on Friday January 16th. Right up to his last days on earth, Kenwood Ross was thinking about the 24th Infantry Division Association.

Ken, I had planned to know you, so much longer, but it was not to be. I am so thankful we were friends. Ken, sometimes the time for friendship here on earth is short, but there is a bonding that will last for eternity and that my friend, Ken is the kind of friendship that we had.

24th Infantry Division Association



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1998 Reunion

23-27 September 1998
Excelsior Hotel Hotel
Three Statehouse Plaza
Little Rock, AR 72201
Tel. (501) 399-8050
Fax (501) 375-7320

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I cannot remember a previous president of this great association having to report of a tragic loss each time he comes to you via the Taro Leaf.

First, it was Rudy Mullins, a man who gave to us so very, very much.

An association on the move with a quarterly newsletter (The TL) that enlightened us, informed us, and kept us abreast of things going on. Too, the new cover that gave it attractiveness and made us happy to receive it in our mailbox. And then, Rudy, upon his death gave us something more, his widow, "Vonnie" who continues with us, continuing Rudy's work for our association. If you have heard the country-western song, "There's Holes in the Floor of Heaven", you can bet then that Rudy is seeing all this beautiful work that Yvonne is doing. "Vonnie" is an asset to this association, performs her duties in a meticulous manner, goes out of her way for us to ensure that which Rudy started, she will continue.

Now, it is Kenwood Ross whom we have lost. Ken, as someone said, the "George Washington" of the 24th Infantry Division Association. Ken and I have become very close over the past two years, not always in agreement of association matters, but able to come to an agreement on those matters. On a weekly basis since September 1997, Ken and I have exchanged FAXES to each other on a multitude of things and just 2 days before his death I had a FAX from Ken on changing the Constitution and By-Laws. Ken was not exactly certain what it was we had to change based on the vote in Colorado Springs and wanted me to update him so he could get it accomplished.

This Taro Leaf will contain many letters from members on the accomplishments of Kenwood Ross. One of those I have had the privilege of previewing, and that one is from Chaplain Joe Hofrichter. Joe writes of Ken, "A New Star Lights the Heavens," a moving recollection of one man for another, camaraderie at its best. Joe has not known Ken for as many years as others but in the period he has known him he has written a proper assessment of Kenwood Ross and his gift to us, we members of the 24th IDA. I ask that you read Joe's letter on Kenwood Ross with the same fervor that Joe put into the writing. Joe spent a restless night just trying to recall that which he needed to recall from the past to properly put into words that which he wanted to say about a man whom he felt high esteem for, and wanted to pass on to those that would be reading his eulogy of that man would be better understood by the reader. Finally, it clicked and Joe's letter is an admirable one, placing into context that which his thoughts had told him he wanted to say about a "Friend". Great piece of penmanship Joe!

And speaking of Joe, he following reunion 1997, has suffered many medical problems that some of you may not know about. Joe, for months was treated for melanoma cancer, and now he tells me he is cured. Following that he was hospitalized for pneumonia and asthmatic problems. With the prayers of all those who knew of Joe's problems, he tells me now he is doing fine and hopes to be with us in Little Rock. For those of you who did not know of Joe's problems you may wish to send a card or note, certainly Joe Hofrichter is one of a kind to this association and we need him. And Joe, I hope it doesn't offend you that I allow the membership to know of your maladies, those that you have overcome, and to ensure they do not reoccur, I ask each of you in your daily prayer, to remember Joe Hofrichter and the suffering he has gone through since last September.



If you have not done so already, I encourage you now to send in your nominations for the Verbeck Bowl Award to Jim Hill, Committee Chairman and your nomination for Vice President to Robert "Bob" Lawhon. Let's get things moving gentlemen, we would like to finalize all this by May so engraving on the Verbeck Award can take place and we will be able to advertise the nominee for the next Vice President before reunion in September.

As I said earlier, Kenwood was going to rewrite the Constitution and By-Laws to conform to the vote and adoption at reunion 1997, he did not complete this. I have rewritten them and have had Vonnie to edit them. That is now complete and I am forwarding them to a By-Laws Committee for their approval and they will be available at reunion 1998.


Ladies and Gentlemen it is a privilege for me to serve as your president 1997-1998, and I wish for you the best this year, and look forward to seeing you in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Vince Gagliardo proposed to me following Rudy's death, a "River Walk" in his memory while in Little Rock. I thought it a great idea, and now that Ken has passed on, I think we ought to consider a walk for the two of them, Rudy and Ken. I know that Vince is willing to put this on but if any of you know of a company that would donate "T" Shirts with Rudy's and Ken's pictures on them for us to wear for the "River Walk," please let me know. There is a River Walk on the Arkansas River just outside the Hotel and I think this is a great idea. Perhaps we could do this on either Friday or Saturday afternoon. Vince has recommended this, I have agreed to it, now we need someone to see if there is a company out there that would help us with the "T" Shirts. Awaiting your reply.

As you may know, putting on a reunion is placed on a designated person, in this case, Corky Peters and Diane. They now, as they did in Minneapolis will ensure we have a memorable reunion, but assistance and help of others is always encouraged and accepted. So, if there is something you can provide or do to make the reunion better, by all means contact Corky and offer your assistance.

I am enclosing a letter received in my Mail Box via E-Mail to Vonnie and hope she can find room for it in this TL. It was written by an escort for a soldier killed in training at one of our training centers but is written in appreciation to those "Americans" who showed the utmost of respect toward him and the other escort returning the soldiers' remains to his hometown for burial. If it appears in this TL, I guarantee a tear in your eye, patriotism is not dead yet!

2 1/2b Fully Yours,



TOM COCHRAN



Come On Down!

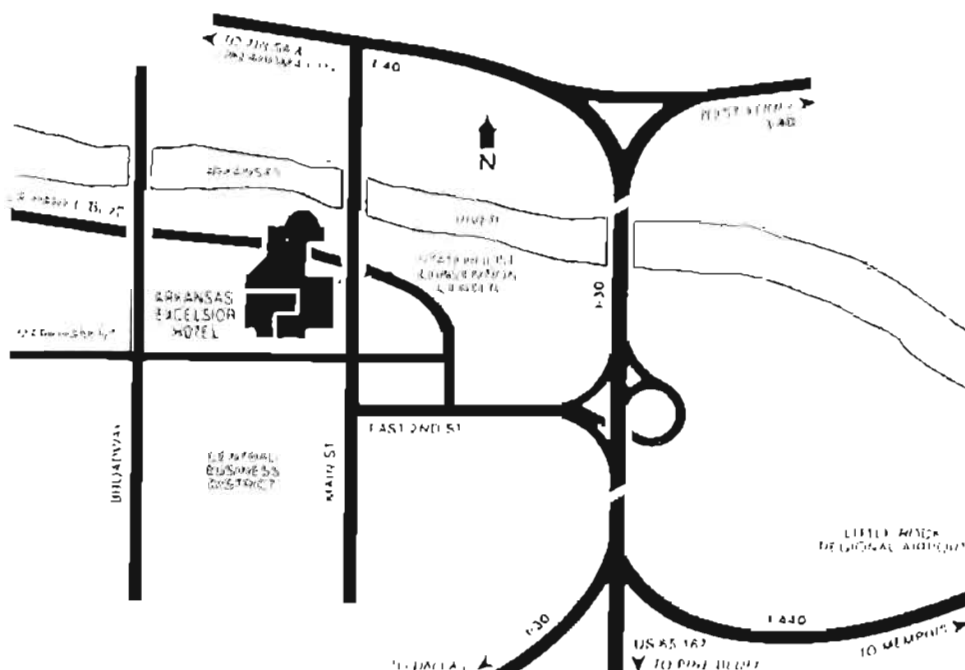
Little Rock is the center of continental United States and is uniquely accessible by air, rail, or interstate.

In 1998 the 24th Division Association Reunion will be held at the Arkansas Excelsior Hotel in Little Rock. This is a 5 Star Hotel. The Excelsior Hotel is conveniently located next to the Old State House on the banks of the Arkansas River, only 10 minutes from the airport. It is situated atop the magnificent Statehouse Convention Center and has free parking for guests and complimentary airport limousine service. The rooms are spacious and clean. They offer four restaurants and two lounges for your dining and enjoyment. This is a great place to renew old acquaintances and meet and make new friends.

If you are driving to Little Rock and you need more information on sites to visit you may contact the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism.

The hotel will go to any length to make your stay pleasant.

The staff said come on down...we'll help you enjoy it!





LITTLE ROCK CAMPING INFORMATION

Arkansas River - Maumelle

Phone: (501) 329-2986

88 sites: Water, boat ramp, hookups, dump station, showers, restrooms, five pavilions, and playground. Three miles off State Highway 10 on Old Penal Farm Road.

Burns Park

Phone: (501) 753-0086

Off I-40 North Little Rock. 37 sites: Boat ramp, hookups, dump station, showers, restrooms and playground. Park gates locked at midnight.

Benton RV Park

Phone: (501) 778-1244

19 miles west on I-30 at Benton. 105 sites: Propane, game room, groceries, swimming, playground

KOA Kampgrounds

Phone: (501) 758-4598

I-40 west at exit 148, North Little Rock. 100 sites, Propane, recreation room, groceries, showers, swimming.

IMPORTANT !

PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS

It has been brought to my attention that some members are not mailing their registrations to the proper place.

ATTENTION: 19th, 21st, 34th, 339th, 3rd Engineers & all Artillery Units

Your annual breakfast will be held Saturday, September 26, 1998, 7:30 A.M. at the Arkansas Excelsior Hotel. The rooms where each breakfast will be served will be announced in the June issue of the Taro Leaf. The cost for each breakfast is \$12.00 with no registration fee for this event. Since the 24th Infantry Division Association Annual Meeting follows at 10:00 A.M., it is requested that attendees at the Memorial Breakfast be punctual so that we may conduct our business, eat our breakfast and adjourn to the Association Meeting at 10:00 A.M.

Breakfast Menu:

Roasted Breakfast Potatoes, Chilled Orange Juice, Softly Scrambled Eggs, Grilled Ham, Assorted Danish & Muffins, Butter, Jams and Preserves, Freshly Brewed Coffee.

Please mail your registration with your check to the correct chairperson of your Unit

19th Infantry - Mail Registration To:

Gene Spicer
8937 W. 750 N.
Commiskey, IN 47227
(812) 873-6548

****Make checks payable to:***
19th Infantry Breakfast

339th Engineers - Mail Registration To:

Joseph Hofrichter
134 Tocopilla Street
Port Charlotte, FL 33983-4261
(818) 768-1704

****Make checks payable to:***
339th Engineers Breakfast

21st Infantry - Mail Registration To:

Harry Wittman
1385 Terri Street
Keyser, WV 26726
(304) 788-0465

****Make checks payable to:***
21st Infantry Breakfast

All Division Artillery Units - Mail Registration To:

Robert Smith
7720 Deer Lane
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
(715) 325-5057

****Make checks payable to:***
24th Division Artillery Breakfast

34th Infantry - Mail Registration To:

Hurdie Wise
724 W. Saline Circle
Benton, AR 72015-2531
(501) 778-8673

****Make checks payable to:***
34th Infantry Breakfast

(In Memory of General Aubrey
Newman.)

3rd Engineers - Mail Registration To:

Billy Johnson
2416 Kimberly Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28306-2345
(910) 424-3840

****Make checks payable to:***
3rd Engineers

Introducing Our Key-Note Speaker

Nick D. Bacon was appointed as Director of the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs by Governor Tucker on April 5, 1993. Mr. Nick Bacon is a resident of Rosebud, Arkansas. He was born in Caraway Arkansas. His military career includes 21 years of Active Military Service with the U.S. Army. Nick served two tours in Vietnam and retired in the Rank of First Sergeant.

Following his retirement in 1984 he served 18 months with the VA Regional Office in Phoenix, Arizona, two years as Med-Vet Coordinator (A medical program he helped create and staff). Three years as City Manager of a small city in Arizona and for the past four years with the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs, serving the veterans of the State of Arkansas.

His military decorations include the Congressional Medal of Honor, The Distinguished Service Cross, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Combat Infantry Badge, Purple Heart, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Army Commendation Medal, three awards and many other service awards.

Staff Sergeant *Bacon* distinguished himself while serving as a squad leader with the 1st Platoon, Company B, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry, 11th Infantry Brigade, Americal Division, during an operation 26 August 1968, west of Tam Ky, Republic of Vietnam. When Company B came under fire from an enemy bunker line to the front, Staff Sergeant *Bacon* quickly organized his men and led them forward in an assault. He advanced on a hostile bunker and destroyed it with grenades. As he did so, several fellow soldiers including the 1st Platoon leader, were struck by machine-gun fire and fell wounded in an exposed position forward of the rest of the platoon. Staff Sergeant *Bacon* immediately assumed command of the platoon and assaulted the hostile gun position, finally killing the enemy guncrew in a single-handed effort. When the 3rd Platoon moved to Staff Sergeant *Bacon*'s location, its leader was also wounded. Without hesitation Staff Sergeant *Bacon* took charge of the additional platoon and continued the fight. In the ensuing action he personally killed four more enemy soldiers and silenced an antitank weapon. Under his leadership and example, the members of both platoons accepted his authority without question. Continuing to ignore the intense hostile fire, he climbed up on the exposed deck of a tank and directed fire into the enemy position while several wounded men were evacuated. As a result of Staff Sergeant *Bacon*'s extraordinary efforts, his company was able to move forward, eliminate the enemy positions, and rescue the men trapped to the front. Staff Sergeant *Bacon*'s bravery at the risk of his life was in the highest traditions of the military service and reflects great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army. For this reason he was presented the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Nick is a life member of the American Legion, The Military Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars (with appointments as National Aid De-Camp), and other military service organizations.

He has always committed himself to serving those who have served, their widows and orphans. He and another Vietnam veteran created and established a medical program that provides short term acute care services for veterans, their spouses and widows/widowers on Medicare in the State of Arizona.

His motto is, "To serve those who have served."

His message is clear, we shall remember that we are all Americans and enjoy freedom unlimited in the greatest country in the world thanks to our veterans, and our veterans will not be forgotten.



Ladies Breakfast

Saturday, September 26, 1998
9:00AM

Be sure to sign up for the Ladies Breakfast, it is something you won't want to miss. The program is planned at the same time the 24th Infantry Division Association Business Meeting is taking place.

Our guest is Joanie Tiefel, she's a motivational humorist and her presentation is a light-hearted look at the world around us and the impact that other people have on our lives. Her topic, "Lighten Up Your Life With Laughter," will tickle your funny bone. She begins a diet every Monday and wants to be a size 3 by Friday!

The menu consists of :

Creamy Scrambled Eggs with Three Cheeses; Roasted Breakfast Potatoes

Chilled Orange Juice; Grilled Ham

Assorted Mini Danish Muffins; Butter, Jams and Preserves

Milk, Tea or Freshly Brewed Coffee (regular and decaf)

We have an action packed morning planned for you. A scrumptious breakfast, good friends, and an all around very enjoyable morning for only \$12.00.

***Send your reservations early! This is one "Ladies Breakfast" you won't want to miss!**

***Make checks payable to: 24th Infantry Division Association**

***Mail checks to: Little Rock Convention Bureau**

P.O. Box 207

Little Rock, AR 72203



Ladies Breakfast



NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

Cost: \$12.00 each #Attending _____ Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____



REUNION BAUNQUET SEATING

If you have a group of friends who wish to be seated together,
GET TOGETHER AND PAY TOGETHER
send your Registration Forms in one packet (envelope). Tables are arranged for ten (10) persons per table. Reserve one table, two tables or as many as needed to accommodate your group. Designate one person (or couple) and send in your registration forms along with the appropriate amount of money, by check or money order, to whoever is designated. That person (or couple) will put it all together in one envelope and forward it on to the convention bureau who will then complete the paperwork and notify each person or couple of receipt. A packet in your name will be waiting for you at the pre-registration desk at the Arkansas Excelsior Hotel. Tables will be assigned in order of receipt. So start your planning early and get your reservation and registrations in as early as possible.

Once tables are assigned they will not be rearranged.

***Remember door prices are 10% higher so be an early bird and register early!**

THE CUT-OFF DATE IS - SEPTEMBER 11, 1998

**THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS AFTER THAT
DATE!**

**WELCOME TO THE ARKANSAS EXCELSIOR HOTEL
HOTEL RESERVATION FORM**

24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

September 23 to September 27, 1998



PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS:

Room Type Request Rate

Standard Single.....\$65.00

Standard Double.....\$65.00

SPECIAL REQUESTS: Smoking___ Non-Smoking___ Connecting Room___
Disabled Room___ Hearing Impaired Room___

*All special requests will be noted but cannot be guaranteed, due to the overall hotel availability.

CUT OFF DATE FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS IS SEPTEMBER 1, 1998

The discounted room rate will be extended 3 days prior and 3 days after your reunion.
(After this date, rooms will be on space and rate availability only)

Date of Arrival_____

Time of Arrival_____

Number of Nights_____

Date of Departure_____

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____ ZIP_____ TEL.NO. ()_____

Sharing Room With _____

If guaranteed to a major credit card please give the following information:

___ AMEX ___ VISA ___ MC ___ CARTE BLANCHE ___ DISCOVER ___ DINERS CLUB

Credit Card Number_____

EXP. DATE_____ SIGNATURE_____

For additional Hotel information call 1-(800) 527-1745

MAIL TO: 1998 Reunion

Arkansas Excelsior Hotel
Three Statehouse Plaza
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201





Countryside Tour

Wednesday, September 23, 1998

Noon-4:30pm

Seat of government, financial center, focus of arts and entertainment, Little Rock is a cosmopolitan capitol city at the heart of Arkansas.

Two of the city's historic neighborhoods with beautifully preserved older homes are included in this tour: The Historic Quapaw Area developed around the site of the old Little Rock Arsenal. The birthplace of General Douglas MacArthur, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Only one building remains today and it is the home of the Arkansas Museum of Science and History.

Adjacent to the Museum is The Arkansas Arts Center. Nearby is one of Little Rock's most beautiful antebellum houses, the restored Pike-Fletcher-Terry mansion, is now home of the Arts Center's Decorative Arts Museum.

In The Governor's Mansion Area are many fine examples of restored Victorian homes. One notable example is the Villa Marre.

Little Rock is home to three capitol: the Arkansas Territorial Restoration which serve as the seat of the first governmental body in the Arkansas Territory prior to statehood in 1836; The Old State House, Arkansas' first State Capitol; and the present State Capitol building, a replica of our nation's capitol in Washington, D.C.

Just outside the city is some of the South's finest farm land. Depending on the season of the year, you will view cotton, rice, soy beans and catfish farming.

Marlsgate Plantation is an example of the opulence which existed during the plantation life of the 1800's in the south. This 28 room southern mansion has been meticulously restored and features fine English and American antiques throughout.

Tour includes: Drive by city tour including the Historic Quapaw Area, the Governor's Mansion, the Arkansas State Capitol and Central High School. Narrated tour of Arkansas Territorial Restoration, four restored houses dating back to the early 19th Century, and the Hinderliter Grog Shop (the oldest structure remaining in the city), preserved from the days when Little Rock was a boisterous town in Arkansas Territory. View of the rich farming area, guided tour of Marlsgate Plantation, where you will be served an English Style High Tea, This 28-room Southern mansion reflects the plantation life of the 1800's.

Hot Springs Tour

Wednesday, September 23, 1998

Friday, September 25, 1998

10:30am-4:30pm

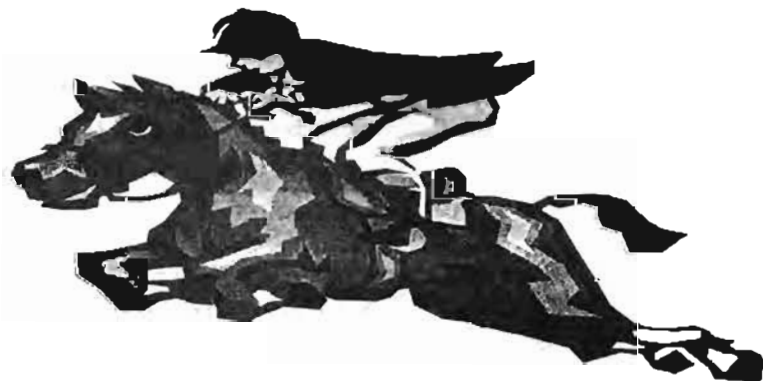


Hot Springs is located an hour and a half southwest of Little Rock. The hot springs here have drawn visitors since the days of the Indians, when, legend has it, the valley in which they flowed was a sanctuary where rivalries were forgotten so all could enjoy the spring's restorative power. That tradition continued into the early part of this century, when the spa that grew up around the springs was popular not only with the social elite of America but with such gangsters as Al Capone and Owney Madden; all found the warm water relaxing, the surrounding scenery beautiful.

Today, Hot Springs is a sizable city inside a national park. Only one spring still flows free; the others are channeled into a common, government-regulated source that supplies hot water to bathhouses and hotels.

Although thermal baths were the initial drawing card for Hot Springs, another traditional form of entertainment has also been bringing visitors there for over 75 years: thoroughbred racing. Three lakes make Hot Springs tops for water sports in summer

Tour includes: Narrated city tour of Hot Springs, featuring Fordyce Bath House, Mountain Valley Water Building, vintage homes along the historic Quapaw Avenue. Cruise on Lake Hamilton aboard "The Ducks" (amphibious vehicle) and lunch at Buffy's Buffet.



Historic Little Rock Tour

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Saturday, September 26, 1998

1:00 pm-4:30pm



Seat of government, financial center, focus of arts and entertainment, Little Rock is a cosmopolitan capital city at the heart of Arkansas.

Little Rock is home to three capitols: the Arkansas Territorial Restoration which served as the seat of the first governmental body in the Arkansas Territory prior to statehood in 1836; The Old State House, Arkansas' first State Capitol; and the present State Capitol building, a replica of our nation's capitol in Washington, D.C.

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Adjacent to the Museum is The Arkansas Arts Center. Nearby is one of Little Rock's most beautiful antebellum houses, the restored Pike-Fletcher-Terry mansion. The restoration is now home to the Arts Center's Decorative Arts Museum.

In the Governor's Mansion Area are many fine examples of restored Victorian homes. One notable example is the Villa Marre. Nearby is Little Rock Central High School which became the focus of world attention during the Integration Crisis of 1957 and 1958. This marvelous structure is one of the premier high schools of the nation.

Tour includes: Narrated tour of Little Rock's Quapaw Area, including the Old State House, Arkansas' first state capitol. Narrated tour of the Villa Marre, a Victorian house-museum combining design features of both the Italianate and Second Empire styles of architecture, featured in the opening scenes of *"Designing Women"*. Narrated tour of the Arkansas Territorial Restoration, four restored houses dating back to the early 19th century, and the Hinderliter Grog Shop (the oldest structure remaining in the city), preserved from the days when Little Rock was a boisterous town in Arkansas Territory. Guided tour of The Arkansas State Capitol, which is a down-scale replica of our Nation's Capitol in Washington, D.C. The legislature of 1911 met in the new building as has each session since that time. Exhibits in the public areas are changed frequently. We will have tea at the Governor's Mansion.



Little Rock Air Force Base

Friday, September 25, 1998

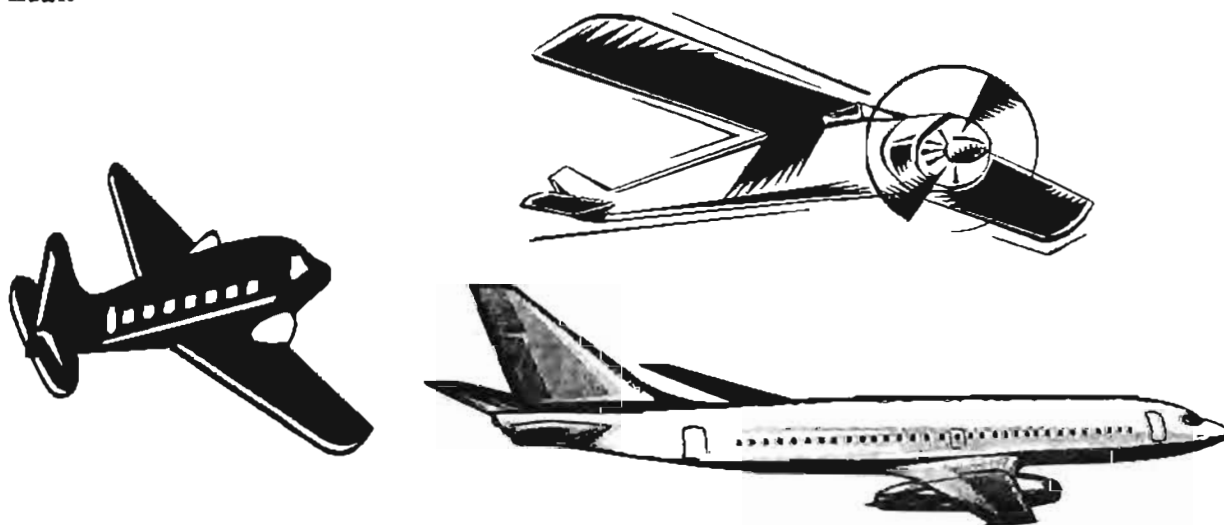
9am-3pm

The Little Rock Air Force Base, "The Rock," is the largest C-130 base in the world. The 314th Airlift Wing operates 44 C-130s to train, provide, and support forces for theater combat delivery to uphold U.S. interests worldwide. As the only Department of Defense C-130 formal training school, they train approximately 2,300 students from the Air Force, sister military services, the Coast Guard and many allied nations. Students are trained in all five C-130 crew positions: pilot, copilot, navigator, flight engineer and loadmaster.

The 463rd Airlift Group, our operational tenant unit, is a key component in developing, operating and sustaining airlift forces in support of U.S. interests worldwide. This group of highly-trained military professionals make sure these missions are carried out by maintaining a vital state of readiness.

Tour includes: The Little Rock Air Force Base will send tour escorts at 8:30am to the Arkansas Excelsior Hotel for a action packed full day of demonstrations. You will view tactical capabilities demonstrations of the C-130 aircraft. You will also view static displays of the C-130's. From there we will go the Officers Club for a noon luncheon. After lunch we will have a mission briefing. From there we will go to the Army & Air Force Exchange Service where you will be allowed to shop for approximately 1 hour.

***We have been informed that the the "Blue Angels" may be performing an air show at the Little Rock Air Force Base Saturday and Sunday. While we are touring on Friday they will be practicing their show. If so we will be allowed to watch and observe their intricate flying patterns. We will have a confirmation in the next Taro Leaf.**



24th Infantry Division Tour Registration Form

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Event

Time

Cost

Persons

Amount

Wednesday, September 23, 1998

#1 Hot Springs Tour 10:30am-4:30pm \$45 X _____ \$ _____

#2 Countryside Tour Noon-4:30pm \$42 X _____ \$ _____

Thursday, September 24, 1998

#3 Little Rock Historical Tour 1:00pm-4:30pm \$32 X _____ \$ _____

#4 Hot Springs Tour 10:30am-4:30pm \$45 X _____ \$ _____

Friday, September 25, 1998

#5 Little Rock Air Force Base 9:00am-3:00pm \$20 X _____ \$ _____

Saturday, September 26, 1998

#6 Little Rock Historical Tour 1:00pm-4:30pm \$32 X _____ \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make Checks Payable To: 24th Infantry Division Association

Mail Checks To: Little Rock Convention Bureau
P.O. Box 207
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

Registration Deadline: September 11, 1998

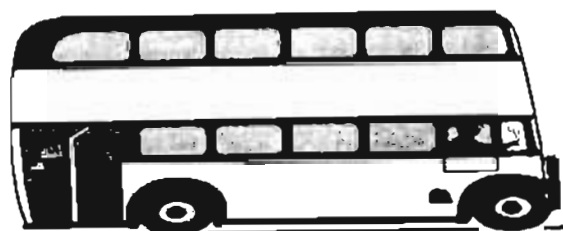


Photo taken at Willow Grove Naval Air Station, Willow Grove, PA during the ceremony commemorating the attack of Pearl Harbor, December 7, 1941 and sponsored by the PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS Assn, Liberty Bell Philadelphia, Chapter No. 1 Pennsylvania December 7, 1997.

Note: Taro Leaf Adorn to their caps.
 Left - George Frazier (13th Field Artillery)
 Right - Alexander Horanzy (19th Infantry)
 both stationed at Schofield Barracks during the attack.
 Center of the Photo is Captain Thomas F. Nagelin, Jr Commanding Officer of Willow Grove Naval Air Station.



Sent in by: Alexander Horanzy,
 3119 Fiarfield St
 Philadelphia, PA 19136-1107



DUTCH NELSEN

In a special ceremony the Artillerymen of Fort Carson inducted Dutch Nelsen into the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara. The festivities were held in ballroom of the Red Lion Inn in Colorado Springs (where we had our 1993 reunion). While deeply moved by the honor, Dutch was heard to say, "I wonder why it took 25 years after my retirement from the Artillery for this to happen?"

Gen Barry McCaffrey and Vince Vella
 taken at the reunion in Colorado Springs 1997.





Col. Kenwood Ross, USA Ret.

When the call came that Kenwood Ross had died I stood in total disbelief. My employer, friend and confidant was gone and I selfishly thought, "Life will never be the same".

Mr. Ross had been my employer since 1957. I told him that at some point I had spent more time at my job than I had with my family.

There were many sides to Ken Ross.

I believe it is a rare occasion indeed to find a man who had his many qualities. He was truly a wonderful person and there are not enough adjectives to describe his character. He was kind, caring, thoughtful and considerate, always encouraging anyone who shared their problems with him to look forward to better days. He was sincere and genuine in his advice.

Because he was always honest in his day-to-day business relations in advising his clients they trusted his opinion and returned again and again. He also had an original and entertaining style of correspondence.

To quote a special client:

"Ken was like a favorite pair of old gloves - providing a feeling of comfort, warmth and security in all of our legal experiences throughout my entire twenty-seven year...I relied on Ken's knowledge, experience, strength and understanding to bring me through some really difficult experiences over the years. He never let me down - he was always there to provide direction and support.

He was probably the hardest working "boss" that I ever met. He would roll up his sleeves to help us get a job done. No task was below him; it was a team effort. Every job had to be complete and accurate to the best of his ability. He was a diligent, determined, enthusiastic and dedicated in every effort.

He had a natural charm, a delightful grace and best of all, always an honorable gentleman and high class individual. He was a fair person with an aura of warmth and character. He was also, although a professional man, a modest man, who could associate with and be the friend of people of all levels of society.

Mr. Ross was a thoughtful, complex gentleman with a sharp mind and he would happily debate an opinion. He was well read. He read four to six newspapers a day as well as books on all subjects. His hobbies over the years were model railroad, photography, stamp collecting and amateur radio.

He loved beautiful places and things and art, especially a quaint little scene in Paris, "Place Du Tertre", where artists would gather in a courtyard to paint in an area looking toward the church called "Sacre' Coeur". He had, without exaggeration over the years, hundreds of postcards, magazine pictures, photos and watercolor and oil paintings of that area. Norman Rockwell, with his down to earth characters, was also a favorite.

Music meant so much to him. He had tapes and tapes of classical, instrumental, country, easy listening, and would sing along to all of them. He loved Burl Ives, "Little Brown Duck".

Flowers and gardening were also one of his loves. When he owned his home, his rose garden was to be envied. Later on his apartment patio was alive with potted plants. He always shared and gifted his friends with flowers on special occasions.

He had a penchant for colors - the brighter the better - and stood behind that love by wearing them. He had yellow slacks, pink sweaters; actually he had cardigans and slacks of almost every hue - one morning he came in and was even a little embarrassed to admit that he had 57 sweaters in different colors and he had socks to match each one. He had a wonderful collection of Hawaiian shirts and oftentimes would change them at the convention several times a day so others could enjoy them too.

He enjoyed good food with his friends - had his favorite eatery where he spent many hours. He had a love of good fun and teasing, loved to laugh and his terrific and colorful sense of humor was contagious.

He enjoyed all kinds of cartoons, Bill Mauldin's "Willie and Joe", Mort Walker's "Beetle Bailey" and the Ms. Buxley controversy, "Dagwood", especially his collisions with the mailman, "Szep's View" in



the "Boston Globe", Al Herschfield's line drawings of stage personalities in the "N.Y. Times", and his hidden "Nina's" in each drawing. He collected them for many years. Some mornings he would place in my work box the Herschfield drawing and also the "Rigby" political cartoons from the "N.Y. Post" who had the hidden dog and character's face in each cartoon so that I could find them - a kind of fun way to start our day. He shared many of the above with his 24th friends.

He always placed the turkey cartoon in the Thanksgiving issue of Taro Leaf, the one with the turkey that said, "I don't know about you, but I always give thanks the day after Thanksgiving." He just loved it. He was always ready with a smile and joke or story and had a great time sharing them. Had a multiplicity of one-liners and would inject them anytime to bring a smile. And would also add, on occasion, "They can't all be gems." He did have some pretty bad ones too.

And I can remember him replying to the greeting, "How are you today?" with a quick "Tip top!" I never heard him really complain about his health. He was at work every day. I can't remember him being out of the office more than three or four times in the whole time that I worked for him. Work seemed to be the most important thing to him. And even on the days when he wasn't quite up to par he would be here. And no bad weather day would keep him out of the office either.

I am going to briefly inject this into my memories of Mr. Ross. Whenever he was asked if he had been married, his reply was "I tried it." It was not happy and was of short duration. But I must add that there was a secret love in his life that started long before that marriage and long before he went to the Pacific that he carried deep within his heart until his death. It was a very special kind of love for a lady that he adored.

He started working in his father's Intellectual Property Law firm in 1937 after graduation from University of Massachusetts, the law practice of patents, trademarks and copyrights.

He began active duty in the service from Nov. '40 until his resignation Oct. '47 so that he could return to help his father in his law practice. He was Army Reserve Corps from '37 - '40 and '47 - '63, during which time he was Commandant, 1049th School in Springfield MA from '54 until '63 until his retirement therefrom.

In all he was an Army veteran of 26 years with reserve and active duty. He spent 3 years of his active duty in the Pacific theatre. He attained the rank of Colonel. His decorations and citations were Bronze Star Medal w/Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Ribbon, American Defense Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal/4 Bronze Battle Stars, World War II Victory Medal, Army of Occupation Medal w/Japan Clasp, and Philippine Liberation Ribbon.

And he requested and was buried in the uniform of his country.

He was a dedicated military man who was devoted to and loved his country, the army and his beloved 24th Infantry Division and its Association.

His life revolved around the association and he often referred to it as his wife and family. He worked constantly to try to better the association and reunite old buddies. His efforts in editing and publishing the Taro Leaf from '51 to '57 and '62 to Oct. of '94 also included his duties as Secretary/Treasurer. These duties were of great importance to him and he contributed hours of time and money in his loyalty to it. He collected news items, cartoons, articles as well as borders, etc. to make the Taro Leaf interesting so that it could be the best that it could be. He was Association President '51-'52 and was awarded the first William Jordan Verbeck Award for his efforts for the association in 1966 and held it for years 1967 and 1968.

But best of all Mr. Ross loved to write. Always said he missed his calling as a journalist and took out his frustrations with Taro Leaf. He had a gift for writing and a flourish with words that could paint a lovely picture, describe a tragedy or bring tears as he said his last good-byes to special friends in the association via Taro Leaf.

I truly believe that the association will miss him always.

He was a modest, generous and sincere person. But he was also grateful for those who saluted his efforts. One of his favorite lines even though he really didn't want much recognition was that he was like an Italian tenor who loved applause.

He enjoyed interesting people and he was a loyal and faithful friend who had a unique ability for forming true and lasting friendships. He was loved and admired in return. He was a very giving, humanistic and thoughtful person.

He was especially kind to my family and myself and was always helpful and generous to us. I can't begin to tell you all of the wonderful things he has done for us. A most important thing that he did was to sell his home to me when he moved to an apartment after his mom passed away. He said to me, "I will sell my house to you for whatever you can get for yours." My house was in an old part of town that was fast deteriorating. His was in a much nicer area of Springfield. And by doing what he did I was able to raise my three daughters in a much nicer and safer part of town. And his house was worth at least 6 times more than what I paid him at the time.

When he learned that one of my daughters, Maria, was going to take out a loan to buy a motor vehicle, he insisted that she borrow from him, interest free, and pay it back monthly at a price that she could handle.

He enjoyed doing things for people and expected anonymity in return.

He was an honorable man and the loss of his presence will be felt by all. The world will be a poorer place without him.

In remembering Ken Ross' life, these lines from Edwin Markham's poem, "Lincoln, Man of the People," come to my mind:

"He went down,
As when a lordly cedar,
Green with boughs,
Goes down with a great shout upon the hill,
And leaves a lonesome place against the sky."



For me, it will indeed be a lonely place without Mr. Ross.

Beverly
Beverly Corris

Taro Leaf photo of Maria Corris (left) at 14, and Jeanne Corris Kennedy (right) at 16, in 1986 at Los Angeles 24th Convention.

Jeanne is now a middle school teacher of World Language (Spanish) in Springfield MA. Maria is a dispatcher and billing associate for a trucking company.

This photo was taken by Dr. Phil Hostetter.



The "Christmas in August" business went smoothly -- and with reasonable speed, due in large part to the lovely daughters of our gal Friday, Beverly Corris. Maria and Jeanne added beauty to the scene by their very presence throughout the weekend, but especially on Friday night when they brought the presents to the lucky ones right at their tables.

Mr. Ross admired General McCaffrey.
I would like to share with the
Association his very kind letter to me.



Person

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY
Washington, D.C. 20503

February 11, 1998



Beverly -
Dear Ms. Corris:

Was deeply saddened to hear the news of Kenwood's passing. He was a valued and treasured friend.

Kenwood's untimely passing from will not go unnoticed. His lifelong commitment to our armed forces and especially to the members of the 24th Infantry Division Association will continue to be felt for years to come. He was a model to us all - inspiring with his vision, teaching through his actions, and motivating through his energy and strength of purpose. He will be greatly missed.

Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,

Barry R. McCaffrey
General, US Army (Retired)
Director

Ms. Beverly Corris
120 Maple Street
Springfield, MA 01103

The Warriors of Yesteryear

We were also saddened to hear of Kenwood Ross. Ken was a hard and dedicated worker, whose efforts to make our organization one of the best of the veteran groups, was unequalled.

I am enclosing a prose that I wrote several years ago of the American G.I.'s who served in World War II. After seeing many of our comrades listed under IAPS, I feel this to be an appropriate time to let the remaining guys from "The Big One" to know that they are and always will be, greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Joe

Joe Langone
'B' 21st '48/'51
Task Force Smith

Where have all the World War II warriors gone? Many have crossed the Rubicon, all have aged, some now in Veteran's Homes, others in Nursing Homes, some living normal lives, but all are just plain forgotten. What heroes they were. Young and handsome in their uniforms. Boys all, but soon, too soon, they would transform into men. Could not wait to 'get over there'. What proud men they were. Tough, but sensitive. Men who eventually fought on Continents to bring freedom to millions. A different breed that would never be seen again. To have known them was itself a privilege. Warriors all. They fought in the skies, on the land, and on the seas. They witnessed tragedies never before seen by humans. Terrible, terrible deeds, committed by men against other men. Deeds so horrible that civilized man didn't think them possible. They experienced Hell itself and returned. Death was so common place that they stored away the memory of it. Sometimes it stayed stored away, and sometimes, mostly in the middle of the night, it comes out of them like the demons involved in all wars. Haunting them, never leaving, a penalty to the youth they sent to a man's war. Now they are no longer young. No longer gallant or brave. No longer tall and straight. They are now just old men, who, one by one are crossing over the Rubicon. Oh we still remember them. Veterans Day is one day a year that we set aside. But let us remember them always. Each time we see a gray haired old man, he most likely was a warrior of yesteryear. He my friend, is the reason we are a free nation. He my friend, is the man who saved mankind.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY
Washington, D.C. 20503

As of January 23, 1998

VIETNAM 1968: LESSONS LEARNED

Barry R. McCaffrey
(Captain, Infantry 1968)

Vietnam in 1968 was a sea of blood. It was the end of innocence. It was the turning point in America's longest war that produced a strategic political defeat with a U.S. casualty toll of 58,000 dead and 303,000 wounded. Three and-a-half million of us served in Southeast Asia with a peak strength of 549,000 troops. We killed more than a million of the communist enemy. In the end, it didn't matter. We got into Vietnam the same way we got out – for all the wrong reasons. But 1968 was the fulcrum on which American national resolve was fractured.

Tet '68 marked the U.S. political-military high tide in Vietnam as surely as the battle of Gettysburg was the high-water mark of the Confederacy. The other side of Tet '68 marked an absolute reversal of U.S. strategic fortunes. Historically, the Tet '68 battle was in many respects a unique military curiosity. U.S. and Allied forces achieved one of the most rapid and lopsided tactical victories in modern warfare. On 30 January 1968, the communist forces opened a massive and brilliantly executed theater-wide surprise attack. Seventy thousand enemy troops launched violent night-time assaults on more than a hundred population centers. In the subsequent savage combat in cities, the communists lost more than half their forces. Fifty thousand enemy troops were killed in close combat. Most of the casualties were among the local force Viet Cong cadre. By 4 February, the communist attack had failed disastrously, although intense fighting continued at Hue and other cities until March. Some two thousand U.S. and four thousand South Vietnamese troops were killed. The stunning military defeat of the communists was compounded by the complete political failure of the expected general uprising among the South Vietnamese people. From 1968 on, the war was principally a North-Vietnamese effort characterized increasingly by conventional military tactics.

The courage and daring of American and Allied forces during 1968 was matched by a watershed strategic failure of political will on the U.S. domestic front. The tension between the American press corps and the U.S. military spin-meisters in Saigon flared into open hostility. In the harsh glare of the media spotlight, the American public began to see the lack of purpose in a U.S. military strategy based on mindless defensive employment of enormous firepower. Global condemnation of the ferocious communist terror tactics against helpless captured Vietnamese civilians in Hue and elsewhere could not move an America grown weary of war and contemptuous of the ineffectual and corrupt South Vietnamese regime.

It may well be historically too early to see the 1968 lessons of Vietnam. Harry Summers' brilliant work *On Strategy* has exposed some of the baffling failures of our military strategic thinking. We as a nation have finally started to get beyond simplistic, incorrect explanations. Neither the American media nor U.S. student protests caused us to lose this seven-year struggle. Also, the communists were in the end quite good at war and suppression, but in victory they brutalized the unified nation and then wrecked the economy of Vietnam for a generation. Hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese people fled in desperation on foot through jungles and to death on the sea – something that had never happened in thirty years of French and then American wartime presence. A lot of what Americans thought in 1968 turned out to be dead wrong.

The military turning point of 1968 resulted in a short-term U.S. armed forces buildup that then rapidly evolved into a "Vietnamization" process in which fighting was progressively handed over to the South Vietnamese Armed Forces. In addition, 1968 fundamentally altered the domestic political landscape. A sadly flawed Lyndon Johnson was knocked from presidential office. Tragically, the bad judgment and arrogance of Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara left us on a mind-numbing path of confused strategic purpose that would prolong our bloody losses for another four years until the preponderance of U.S. military power was finally withdrawn.

In retrospect, 1968 in Vietnam was a terrible year. The young men and women of the American armed forces fought effectively and bravely. Sixty percent of those killed were twenty-one years old or younger. We trusted our leaders, our laws, and our parents who had told us that we were expected to serve. We took care of each other. Many of us lost our futures.

Eight million Vietnam-era veterans are now helping run America. Most of us are doing extremely well, although eighty thousand of our combat wounded buddies were severely disabled. Other veterans are traumatized or gutted by drugs and alcohol. The only conclusion that many of us share who served in Vietnam combat during 1968 is that our daughters and sons who are now in uniform deserve better leadership, support, and compassion than we got. Never again.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION (1/7/98 THROUGH 3/30/98)

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Zip</u>	<u>Unit 1</u>	<u>Recruited by</u>
Robert W	Abrams	Marion	OH	43302	24th Med	
Rudy V	Balma	Redding	CA	96099-1196	24th Div	Ron McCleary
Junior Russell	Barkema	Belmond	IA	50421	19th	JD Henley
Donald L	Bates	Newtown	OH	45244	Div	
James D	Batton	hite Sulphur Spring	WV	24986	34th	Harold Peters
Jack L	Baughman	Denver	CO	80222-6518	24th	Walter J. Sas
Ernest Eugene	Bayne	Clinton	MD	20735	13th	Wally Kuhner
Charles David	Biggs	Westernport	MD	21562	24th Sig	Harold Peters
William J	Bloom	Bucyrus	OH	44820	19th	James C Davis
George L	Bouchard	Manchester	NH	03104	34th	
Jack A	Bovard	Lewes	DE	19958	19th	
John A	Bugajsky	Chicago	IL	60646	21st	VFW Ad
Glen	Carpenter	Buchanan	MI	49107	21st	
Paul E	Chapman	Morristown	IN	46161	Div HQ	
Bennie W	Cooper	Seaside	CA	93955-6014	21st	
Eldon C	Davis	Mesa	AZ	85205-8216	13th	Phil Marinelli
Martin	De Voursney	Ocala	FL	34473	21st	
Francis L	Dickey	Huntsville	AL	35805-4680	34th	
Roger V	Eisenbacher	Davenport	IA	52806-6709	34th	VFW Ad
Richard D	Feller	Claytonville	IL	60926	3rd Eng	W. Marszalek
Rue B	Fields	Rogersville	MO	65742-9206	21st	T Cochran & H Peters
Clyde B	Firebaugh	Roanoke	VA	24012-6311	34th	
Robert L	Fischer	Mankato	MN	56001	21st	
Charles W	Fiske	Lakeview	AR	72642	19th	Local Paper
Raymond	Forsythe	Edinburg	TX	78539	19th	Newspaper
Vernon D	Fortner	Woodland	MS	39776-9737	Recon	T F Kilfoyle
Richard	Gaskin	Lebanon	PA	17046		
Elias	Gomez	Dallas	TX	75233	21st	Joe Langone
Frank S	Gordon	Bucoda	WA	98530	13th	Leslie Blouin
Joel W	Greene	Greer	SC	29650	2/34th	
Stanley E	Grundon	Crossville	TN	38555	78th TK	Newspaper
Harold W	Guinn	Brevard	NC	28712	21st	Tom Cochran
Larry D	Hall	Collierville	TN	38017-5626	A 1/34th	T Cochran & A Doyel
Middleton C	Harley	North Charles	SC	29406	19th	Wally Kuhner
Arnold W	Hayward	Coldwater	MI	49036	19th	Internet
Joe P	Henderson	Colfax	WA	99111-8584	34th	
Lawrence D	Hensley	Taylor Mill	KY	41015	HQ	William Kerns
Ward M	Higgins	Milaca	MN	56353-1751	724th	Jerome Rasmussen
James D	Jeffrey	Avon Park	FL	33825	34th	
Ivins E	Jones	Veyo	UT	84782	24th QM	
James Q	Joyal	Florence	MA	01062-3456	34th	J A Mieleszko
Gene	King	Paducah	KY	42001	34th	VFW Ad
Bruno	Kramarz	Fulton	NY	13069	21st	
Clinton D	Littleton	Beaufort	NC	28516	24 Sig	Willard Willis
Lee E	McGill	Colton	OR	97017-6034	11th	
Francis	McManus	Warwick	NY	10990	24th Sig	Newspaper Ad
Buford J	McNamara	Memphis	TN	38128	19th	Don LeGay
Elmer G	Merchant	Jefferson	MA	91522-0098	21st	
John Oliver	Moore	Quinlan	TX	75474-8421	3rd Eng	Tom Cochran
Clyde R	Morgan	Meridian	ID	83642	52nd	

NEW MEMBERS OF THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION (1/7/98 THROUGH 3/30/98)

First Name	Last Name	City	State	Zip	Unit 1	Recruited by
Donald	Ness	Lacey	WA	98503	21st	
Kenneth C	Oestreich	Fon Du Lac	WI	54935	3rd Eng	Charles Millard
K. Robert	Oppermann	Houston	TX	77096	24th	VFW Ad
Daniel M	Ortiz	Los Angeles	CA	90022	3/15th	Manuel Hernandez
James W	Owens	Fackler	AL	35746-5133	34th	
Cornelio E	Pastran	San Antonio	TX	78237-3530	34th	
Clyde	Peacock	West Linn	OR	97068	19th	JD Henley
Lavern	Penn	Heber Springs	AR	72543	11th	Calvin James
Cecil J	Saunders	Morganton	NC	28655	19th	
Al	Schubach	Bridgewater	NJ	08807	19th	D L Barrett
Thomas	Sherry	Gouverneur	NY	13642-3517	21st	Local Paper
Arthur	Simpson	Machesney Park	IL	61115-1146	21st	
Arthur L	Siple	Fort Ashby	WV	26719	34th	Harold Peters
Marvin Leo	Snow	Martinsburg	WV	25401	19th	Harold Peters
Gilbert E	Stead	Clementon	NJ	08021	Div HQ	A (Tom) Jackson
Gen Joseph F	Stringham	Woodville	AL	35776	21st	Bill Traylor
Lendy G	Tate	Grove	OK	74345	5th RCT	T Cochran & A Doyel
Victor	Trude	Marietta	GA	30067	24th AV	Jim Hill
Ernest	Valenzuela	Sedona	AZ	86351-7569	21st	
Neal T	Vance	La Mesa	CA	91941	19th	Wally Kuhner
Raymond H	Vega	Bodfish	CA	93205	19th	Harry Rowles
George A	Waugh	West Trenton	NJ	08628-1613	5th RCT	Dick Lewis
Ludwig W	Weber	Sauk City	WI	53583	21st	Lloyd Oler
Lawrence	Willett	Mountain Home	AR	72653	21st	

Total Count 74



03-30-98

Dear Comrades,

I am writing this letter to all members of the 24th Infantry Division Association to inform you that our 1999 Reunion is being held at the Adams Mark Hotel in Tulsa. The Association needs your help. We are looking for a Chair Person or Persons for the Reunion.

The task is tedious and can be time consuming, but also very rewarding. As Chair Person, you will have the assistance and backing of the Executive Committee and the Convention Bureau staff of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Anyone interested in the position of Chair Person for the 1999 Reunion, please contact me by phone or letter for more information.

Looking forward to hearing from someone who will step forward and take the challenge.

Yours truly,

Don Barrett
 Reunion Coordinator
 2854 Pinckard Ave
 Redondo Beach CA 90278-1535
 310-370-2095

**Please look at your address label.
 The Expiration Date indicates
 when your dues are to be paid.
 The dues are \$15.00 annually.
 If past due, please pay by
 return mail. Thank You!**

15 September 1997

Robert L. Lawhon

Dear Bob,

During our business session held in Nashville in 1995, I made a request that Co A, 78th Heavy Tank Bn. be included in our published programs, as it was a major unit during the first few days of the Korean War. Unfortunately, my suggestion was unceremoniously rejected at that time.

Recently, I received my copy of the 24th Infantry Association's 50th anniversary edition. This was superbly put together and very enlightening as to how, when and where our organization was formed and those individuals who were responsible for its conception.

Much to my dismay, unfortunately, once again there was no mention of Co A, 78th Heavy Tank Bn. On the cover, however, there were unit crests of the 26th AA, 24th Recon and the 3rd Engineer Bn. These units were stationed at Camp Crouch, Yamaguchi, and Honshu, Japan with Co A, 78th Heavy Tank Bn., prior to the beginning of the Korean War.

It should be noted that historically the 24th Recon and Co A, 78th Tank Bn. departed Yamaguchi, Japan on 2 July, boarded an LST on 3 July and landed in Pusan on 4 July 1950. On 8 July, the 78th Tank Bn. arrived in Tajon by rail. One platoon was sent to Konju, with the remainder of the Company being moved through Chochiwon to Chonan to support the 21st Infantry Regiment.

During this period of time, Co A was assigned/attached to the 34th and 21st Infantry Regiments. As such, the Tankers fought the battles of Chonan, Kum River, Tajon and in August, the battle of Nakdong. To replace South Koreans, General John Church created Task Force Hyzner from three companies as follows: 3rd EN (Combat) Bn, Co A, 78th Tank Bn (less tanks) and ultimately, the 24th Recon Co. On 7 August 1950, General Church detached Co A, 78th Tank Bn. from Hyzner's control and dispatched it to support Beauchamp's 34th Infantry Regiment. At that time, the Tankers were serving as infantry soldiers, since the two remaining tanks had already been assigned to Moore's 19th Infantry Regiment. Concurrently, Co A, 78th Heavy Tank Bn was redesignated the 78th Tank Bn and ultimately inactivated on 16 October 1950. On 17 October 1950, the company was assigned to another unit, my guess is it was designated as a Heavy Tank Co., 21st Infantry Regiment. I would need to see the orders before stating the date it was organized. It is listed on the Regimental official roster dated 5 January 1951. On 16 February 1951, the officers and men of what was Company A, 78th Heavy Tank Bn., were reassigned to other units within the 24th Infantry Division. I have a great sense of pride and feel privileged to be one of the 18 soldiers who were reassigned to L Co 21st Inf Regt, where I completed my service obligation and was honorably separated.

For your consideration, I have enclosed information pertaining to the 78th Tank Bn.'s history. Based on what I have outlined above, the brave men of Co A, 78th Heavy Tank Bn., many who sacrificed their lives for their country, should be honored and recognized by paying tribute to the unit in which they served. In memory of our fallen comrades-in-arms and on behalf of those of us who survived, I thank you for your consideration in this matter.



JACK E. LEE

Cpl, Co A, 78th Heavy Tank Battalion
4/49 - 2/51

L Co, 21st INF REGT
2/51 - 7/51

Dear Jack,

19 January 1998

Yvonne Mullins just received your letter from Bob Lawhon dated 15 September 1997. With the passing of her husband, Rudy, and the assumption of the many duties involved with her work for the Association, she has been swamped and was not able to reply to your letter in the manner she would have liked.

At least you were kind enough to send in a brief history of the unit and even a picture of the unit's crest. By the way, Lauren Hallgren called me a while back about the 78th's crest, but I had no idea of where I might get a copy of it. I have seen a number of the crests for the various units, as a matter of fact I think that I gave Rudy books which contained many of those that appeared on the 50th anniversary cover of the Taro Leaf, but the 78th's was not included. I had thought I might write to the Armor School at Fort Knox and seek their assistance, but other matters have come up and I never did get around to it.

Yvonne has assured me that a copy of your letter will appear in the April issue of the Taro Leaf. I imagine it will bring back memories for some. I know I recall two items from the days at Beppu: Lt DeCapps, was with the 2nd Bn of the 19th for a short while and it was always of interest—What is a cav officer doing in an infantry unit? I seem to recall someone contacting the Taro Leaf about him a while back (a year or two, at least); the other thing I am not too sure about, but when the big shuffle started in early July 1950 in preparation for going to Korea, Mike Barszcz came down from Kokura and took over G Co of the 19th and Phil Cobb who had been the CO went off and, I thought, he went to the A Co, 78th Armor.

When we were getting into position along the Kum River in July 1950, I do remember hearing about the action in the 21st and 34th area and some mention of the 78th Tank and how you were sent in with light tanks and were sitting ducks for the T-34s. Of course, in those days we were all sitting ducks, so maybe your outfit didn't get all the praise it should have received, but troops who do not perform acts which Hollywood would envy seldom receive any accolades. People who publish such newsletters as the Taro Leaf have a problem. They have to put out the news, but they have to use the input they receive from their readers—no input, no output. If you and your buddies from the 78th would see fit to regale the readers of the TL with tales of 'derring-do' from your time in the unit, believe me they will be printed as long as they are acceptable in mixed company. After all we have many readers of the gentler sex.

As for your experience at the Business Meeting in Nashville in 1995, welcome to the club. I have been attending those business meetings for over 40 years now (since Columbus Ohio in 1952) and I have yet to see anything brought up from the floor which received anything more than a token recognition. Belated as it is, your letter has done more to gain recognition for you and your unit than anything you could do at one of those meetings. Now that you have your foot in the door, I suggest you get your buddies to start talking it up, or is it writing it up.

For your information, the 24th Div Assn's Honor Roll has four names from the 78th; Lt Leonard Gewin, the CO in July 1950; Cpl George Fields, Cpl Harry Plummer and Pfc Harold Tache, all killed 16-18 July 1950. As for active members of the Assn, we have Robert Cissell and Doctor James Miller, in addition to Lauren Hallgren and yourself. I don't know if you are in touch with these fellows or not, but if you need their addresses, I shall be happy to send them along. After all, that is the reason for the existence of the Assn, to get people in touch with their old comrades. Maybe we haven't done a good job of it, but we're doing the best we can with what we have.

Cordially, Joe McKeon



KENWOOD ROSS
1916-1998

Major General William J. Verbeck died November 4, 1965
It was in his honor that the William Jordan Verbeck Award was initiated.

**KENWOOD ROSS was voted to
receive the bowl in 1966.**

**He held the bowl for the years
1966 through 1968.**



Kenwood Ross
1916-1998



Ken was born in Springfield, Massachusetts and except for duty during World War II spent most of his life there. His father, Walter C. Ross, was an Attorney.

He attended the University of Massachusetts where he took ROTC, which was the source of his commission in 1937. He went into the reserves until called to active duty in 1941 in the Ordnance Corps. He had seven years of active duty with service at Camp Carson, Colorado and the 24th Infantry Division in the Pacific Theater. He commanded the 724th Ordnance Battalion, and upon attaining the rank of Colonel was the Division Ordnance Officer. After the war he again joined the Reserves until his retirement therefrom in 1963.

When he returned home from the war he attended the Northeastern University of Law, and upon graduation joined his father's law firm, Ross & Ross. Sometime after Dad's death, Chester E. Flavin joined the firm; hence the name, "Ross, Ross and Flavin." The firm practiced the law of Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights. (Intellectual Property Law)

As far as our Association is concerned Ken must be considered a "Charter - Charter" Member since he was present at the very first meeting on Luzon where the idea of a Division Association was discussed and plans laid. He was President of the Association in 1951-1952, but more importantly he was Secretary/Treasurer/Editor for 42 years. It can be said candidly and without exaggeration that without Kenwood Ross it is entirely possible that our Association might not have survived these many years. It can also be said without exaggeration that the practice of law and the 24th Infantry Division Association were Kenwood's life.

In 1994 when ill health forced Ken to resign from his position of Secretary/Treasurer/Editor I took over the duties of Secretary/Treasurer and Bob Lawhon became Editor. I decided to put the 3,000+ individual member's files on computer; this in addition to the daily posting of those records. This was the first time I had any idea of the magnitude of the job Kenwood had been doing for 42 years. It was also the first time I came to realize what a truly fine person Kenwood was. There was absolutely nothing Ken would not do to help me. Our FAX machines and telephone lines nearly overheated. I also learned what a sharp and analytical mind he had. And when I became President last year it was Kenwood Ross that more than once kept me from going off on a wrong tangent.

The Association has lost it's Giant. And each one of us, whether you knew Ken personally or not, has lost a dear and devoted friend. As the old saying goes, "They just don't make 'em like that anymore."

Dutch Nelsen



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY
Washington, D.C. 20503

February 11, 1998

Dear Victory Division Veterans:

Was deeply saddened to hear about the recent loss of our friend and fellow comrade, Kenwood Ross. His untimely passing will not go unnoticed.

As a charter member of the 24th Infantry Division Association with more than 45 years of service and commitment, Kenwood had an enormous impact on the lives of countless members of our armed forces. He was a model of stewardship who inspired us all with his vision, teaching, actions, and strength of purpose.

Though we mourn the death of this renowned "Victory Division" icon, we are fortunate to have shared and benefited from his leadership and selfless service to America. Kenwood will be greatly missed by us all.

Sincerely,

Barry R. McCaffrey
General, US Army (Retired)
Director

"Victory"



April 4, 1962

Col. Kenwood Ross, right, retiring as commandant of the 1049th Army Reserve School Unit, was presented the 13th U.S. Army Corps Certificate of Achievement. Maj. Gen. William J. Verbeck, left, Commanding General 13th U.S. Army Corps, Fort Devens, MA made the presentation.

Col. Ross served as Commandant, 1049th ARSU Springfield USAR School, Springfield MA from July 1955 to March 1962.

General Verbeck made the trip from Fort Devens to Springfield. Even though they were friends, Ken was deeply honored by the gesture.



A LETTER IN MEMORY OF KENWOOD ROSS

Many people will write many letters extolling the devotion that Kenwood Ross had for the Association that he fathered, nurtured, bank-rolled, and guided through these many years. Now he is gone and we must carry on without him and his guidance.

When we look back we realize that he did not do these things alone. Ken told how he and Ed Henry discussed setting up such an organization. After it was started General Newman was responsible for the establishment of the Life Membership program. Fr. Chris Berlo and Joe Peyton were instrumental in the establishment of the Memorial Service which is a high light of our Annual Reunion, as well as initiating the Honor Roll. I remember all these from the time some 45 years ago when I first met them. They were all young, full of vitality and driven to insure that the Association would succeed.

Through it all, there was Ken as a guiding hand in control of the progress. His handling the chore of editing the Taro Leaf was very professional. The older members will recall the 4,6, and 8 page editions that used to show up in our mail boxes. In those days it was a report on the doings of the membership. As the membership grew and the letters started to come in, the Taro Leaf also grew until it became a monstrous package. I dare say that just the putting out of the paper would have been a full time job, but Ken also had to work for a living and handle all the other details of running the Association.

And many will remember Ken at the business meetings at the reunions when he would threaten to quit because of the static he was receiving from some ingrates who did nothing for the Association. Luckily cooler heads would prevail and talk him out of quitting. Actually it would have broken his heart to do so because he loved the organization that much.

Over the past few years, Ken's health has not been the best and he was forced to relinquish the reins. Still he kept his finger on the pulse and offered advice on how to solve some of the problems the group experienced.

It may not be in order, but I must say that in all these years, he was ably assisted by Beverly, his right hand man.

A couple of weeks ago I received a book advertising some old films and in looking through it I saw a title on a Three Musketeers movie. I remember seeing it as a child and have always remembered the ending when Athos, Porthos and Aramis, who are already in the heavens, reach down their hands to bring D'Atargnan up to join them. Now Ken has gone to join his old friends who all contributed so much to this Association.

Thank you old friend

As we travel down through lifes many paths we have the opportunity to meet two or three people who leave a lasting impression on us and who have a positive affect on our lives and who we can say we truly admire.

In my life, Ken Ross was just that sort of man and one of the two or three people who I can truly say I most admired and who had a positive affect on my life.

I first met Ken some 15 or 16 years ago at one of our conventions. We sat and talked as many of us do who have experienced the miseries, brutality and boredom of war and combat. We traded war stories so to speak and on parting I said, "Ken, if there is any way I can be of help please let me know". On my part it was sort of what we sometimes call a left handed invitation. However, Ken took up my offer and shortly thereafter contacted me and asked if I would help him with some members who were behind in their dues and try to bring them back to the fold. I immediately responded and brought back some 50 - 60 members as well as collecting \$3,000.00 in delinquent dues.

In future years he asked me to help with this project because as he used to chuckle and say to me, "Wally, you are something else. How do you do it"?

When we disagreed it was because we differed on how correspondence should be written. He as an experienced attorney-at-law and me writing as tutored by the U.S. Navy. Once he became so exasperated at one of my campaign letters he wrote on my draft copy, "Wally, you are just too damn verbose".

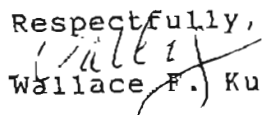
I immediately ran to my dictionary and after checking usage and definition and fearing his possible wrath, I immediately rewrote the letter with the following footnote, "Ken, my verbosity is only exceeded by my girth. He immediately shot back my rough draft with an OK and a job well done. This was Ken Ross.

It is difficult for any man to say I love you to another man but I am sure we all did. I know I did.

Ken and I shared many confidences and confidential letters which he always insisted I destroy after reading. One such letter was from a member who asked that we also use the Protestant version of the Lord's Prayer at our memorial service. Ken attached a cover with it with these words written on it, "Wally, you handle this. I'm an atheist". Ken Ross never fooled me. He was no atheist. He loved all he touched and all he came in contact with.

His life was full and his love for our 24th Infantry Division Association and his labors for it and us could never be surpassed. He encouraged me when I thought I was slighted by the Association. He was not only a close confidant but more than that, a close friend to both Eleanor and me and we all will miss his wise counsel as well as his devotion and friendship through these many years. A man for all ages.

Truly as the Good Book says, "Greater love hath no man than this that he lay down his life for a friend". So long, Ken. We all loved you. Glorious be your rising from your earthly bed.

Respectfully,

Wallace F. Kuhner



I was deeply moved by this wonderful letter from Mike Petrick. I'm sure that his enclosed Willie and Joe — elsewhere in this issue — will affect each of you in the same manner.

Beverly Corris



2/7/98
3
DEAR BEVERLY ♥

AND IT WAS WITH GREAT GRATITUDE AND SOMEWHAT DISBELIEF, WHEN I READ OF THE PASSING OF KEN.

JUST THE FIRST FIVE WORDS - GAVE OUT SOMETHING - THAT IN CONTINUING, YOU WISHED NOT TO READ.

I DID NOT KNOW KEN PERSONALLY, BUT DID KNOW HIM IN THE EXCHANGES OF IDEAS, REQUESTS - FOR THE 24TH JUNE 100, TARD LEAF MAGAZINE IN THE JOURNAL OF SKETCHES, ETC.

THRU THAT AND JUST RECENTLY - I'VE RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE OF THANK'S AND HAVE BEEN MADE AN HONORARY MEMBER OF THAT ASSOCIATION.

THAT BECAUSE OF KENWOOD ROSS AND HIS "DOINGS" !!

HE WAS REALLY "MR EVERYTHING" TO THAT PROUD ORGANIZATION - HIS HAND IN IT - CONTINUALLY GUIDING AND

(2)
THE COMBAT VETERANS - DESPITE DIFFERENT UNIT AFFILIATIONS AND COMBAT THEATRES HAVE AND DO CONTINUE, DISPITE THE AFTERNESS OF THAT OBLIGATION - IN THE COMARABLE AND DOINGS - UNDERSTOOD ONLY BY THEM! AND - SO WE DID!

AS FOR PRAYERS - ALWAYS IN REMEMBERING, THERE NEVER WILL BE FORGETTING.

TO THAT HIS NAME WILL BE REMEMBERED IN THE LITANY OF NAMES, GETTING LARGER EACH DAY, THAT I SAY - SINCERELY!

LOVE
Mike & Peggy ♥

ADORNINGLY H-346 + UDDO

(PS) ALL MY "DOINGS" WITH KEN HAVE BEEN "ALIGNED" - YOUR LATEST WILL NOW "GO IN" ALONG SIDE



Beverly Corris and Kenwood Ross

This photo was taken by Phil Hostetter at Savannah '92 and was published in Vol. XLVI #1 '92-'93.

Thomas F. Upton
Four Dartmouth Street
Forest Hills NY 11375



A LETTER IN MEMORY OF KENWOOD ROSS


Everyone referred to Ken as **Mr. 24th** because Ken **WAS** the 24th Infantry Division Association: Ken one of the original founders of the association, and from the 1950's, into the 1990's he **RAN** the outfit as (a) Keeper of the Purse, as Secy/Treas and its **VOICE (!)** as Editor of *The Taro Leaf*.

With all that power you'd expect Ken would be a **POWERHOUSE** {!!} He wasn't. Up to his ears in paper work he always acted like the last guy in the rear rank. We old-timers had to twist his arm for years to get him take to his place up on the platform, with the other **BRASS**, at formal meetings. The guy used to read his "treasurer's report" from his seat in the audience--and, remember, he had fought for that seat like the rest of us peons, in the old days when hotel-space was at premium rates, and the platforms were much shorter in those tiny meeting rooms,

We had another decades-long battle to wrest paper-work out of his arms. Remember how he clung to that history? "I'll do it, I'll do it, I'll do it," and eventually he did, but not before Dutch Nelsen put the Association on a computer, and Rudy Mullins relieved Ken of *THE TARO LEAF* editorship, and other volunteers came forward to carry the paper burden.

But Ken put the "paper burden" in proper perspective, it wasn't his only burden in his development of the 24th Infantry Division Association. Oh, the Paper-work kept the Association together and helped it flourish, but it was the Love and Devotion to the Camaraderie that Ken Ross injected along with his paper-work that will be long remembered by Ken's Peons and us other "Guys in the Rear Rank."

Sincerely


THOMAS F. UPTON



LETTERS IN MEMORY OF KENWOOD ROSS

February 19, 1998

Mrs. Yvonne Mullins
24th Infantry Division Association
31150 See View Drive
Rocky Mount, MO
65072-9014

Dear Mrs. Mullins:

Just received my copy of the *Taro Leaf* yesterday and was pleased that the issue was dedicated to Rudy. The obituaries, memorials, articles and his transcribed story were very poignant. It was also heartening to know that he received the Verbeck Bowl Award, he had certainly earned and deserved the recognition. He was a true hero to all of us in the Association.

I was further saddened to read that Kenwood Ross also passed away. I know he had been ill for some time but I was not prepared for the shock of hearing of his leaving us.


Kenwood Ross, probably more than anyone else, was responsible for the existence of the 24th Infantry Division Association. He practically held it together by himself for many years and refused to give up in his efforts to make it grow in spite of the lethargy that exists out there.

Mr. Ross and I had numerous phone conversations and corresponded a few times over the years and last year I finally met the noble gentleman at the West Coast Reunion in Albuquerque, New Mexico. It was the highlight of the event for me as I have looked up to Ken since I first heard about the Association and began receiving the *Taro Leaf*.

It was he who inspired me to compile information from the publication, research other historical materials and finally write a "Brief History of the 24th Infantry Division". My efforts were primarily for my own edification but when it was done, other than sharing it with some friends and relatives of mine, I felt it should be shared with others. I sent a copy to Kenwood asking for his opinion and suggestions, I knew he had been working on a more complete history of the Division for some time. Ken passed it on to others in the Association and when a committee was formed to seriously begin to work on having an "official" history published, I was asked to participate.

Mr. B. David Mann of Richmond, Virginia was handed the gauntlet and I was thrilled to be able to assist him in whatever way I could. In spite of many delays from the publisher, Mr. Mann persevered and a history was completed. It is gratifying to me to know that the book was finished and Kenwood was able to receive his copy before it was too late. I hope that my humble contribution met with his approval and satisfaction.

P.S.
The *Taro Leaf*!
looks great!
Neil

With sincere regrets,

Neil Estes, Sergeant
Battery A, 11th Field Artillery Battalion
24th Infantry Division
June '52 - Sept. '54



Mr. Ross, never Ken, Kenwood, or Attorney Ross. Always Mr. Ross. Never changing, never aging. Always a constant in our lives.

I have tried to remember my first time meeting him. Was it when I was a newborn? Was it as an infant? Was it at 2 years of age when my father passed? I don't know, I can't remember. What I do know is that Mr. Ross had always been there and he had always been there for my family.

He was an extraordinary man in every sense of the word. I have never met a more generous person. He was always a support system that we could rely on and he was like this with everyone. Whether through his jokes, advice, or even a smile, life seemed a little bit brighter being around Mr. Ross.

Although I didn't know him as a business man, I knew him on a more personal level. Thinking of him I think of quality. He was a man who represented the finer things like an original painting or a hand crafted oriental. He was created just as every thread is weaved into a carpet; so complex, so overwhelming, yet so beautiful. He was admired, but I don't know if he realized it since he was busy praising others. He was always talking about this smart person or that funny friend or what a successful man this guy is. He was opinionated and strong in judgment, but I truly believe an optimist as well.

When I think of Mr. Ross I imagine a difficult puzzle of bright colors. To figure out his being would almost be impossible. He was well educated and worldly and I thought I should always be at my best when with him. Then he would surprise me, crack a joke, and I would find myself relaxing and being myself with him. He was an individual you wanted to impress and usually by being yourself he was.

He is a person who deserves to be put on a pedestal. Although not outwardly religious, he was the picture of kindness, sensitivity, caring, generosity and goodness.

Through my childhood he helped to make my life better. He always bestowed kindness unto my mother, sisters, and myself. Knowing my mother was a single parent, he ensured we had the latest electronic games at Christmas. We were the first house on our street to have a VCR compliments of Mr. Ross.

Mr. Ross was a hard working patent attorney, but his true love was not for the law. It was for his 24th Infantry Division Association. So often he would talk about the members with such genuine sincerity. Being as that part of his life was so important to him, he wanted to share it with others. Something else that brought him pleasure was traveling. Mr. Ross took my sisters and I on our first trip which required air travel. He wanted us to share in experiencing one of the 24th conventions. Not only did he make sure we partook in all the 24th activities, but he also insisted on being our personal tour guide in California in 1986 even driving us via the coast road just into Mexico. He wanted us to see with our own eyes what he had told us California had to offer. And although it was a brief stop he made sure that we saw the San Diego Zoo.

In high school I held a job in the same building of Ross, Ross & Flavin. Every workday I would stop in to say hello to my mother and to get a dose of Mr. Ross. I always left his office with a smile from a joke he told or how he seemed to become a juvenile. Here was a man who I held with the highest regard with such stature, who would say, "See you later alligator" as I walked out the door and I would reply, "In a while, crocodile". This happened every time I saw him for the three years I worked in his office building.

When I went to college and even applying for a job he was there to give me a letter of recommendation. His support was never ending and he provided it in so many ways. Through his proof reading of my papers or sending me letters of praise and encouragement, I knew I could rely on him.

I grew to learn that he didn't think of me as his secretary's daughter. That I wasn't a charity case or someone he felt responsible for. He cared for me and even loved me and the feelings were/are mutual.

He was present at the office when my boyfriend stopped in to ask permission from my mother for my hand in marriage. Proud of his effort, but laughing at his attire (a yellow sweatshirt and orange sweatpants). To this year he still commented on the colors of my husband's outfit.

I am happy that Mr. Ross shared in my childhood. That he played an active role in creating the person I am today. He was a special person who graced my life and someone from whom I learned a lot.

Although he will be greatly missed, he will never be forgotten. I hope that a little bit of Mr. Ross' character will live on through me.

JEANNE CORRIS KENNEDY



IN MEMORY
OF
KENWOOD ROSS

A NEW STAR LIGHTS THE HEAVENS

KENWOOD ROSS

JANUARY 17, 1998

The evening of January 17th we received the sad and devastating news. Kenwood Ross, the Father and Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus of the 24th Infantry Division Association was gone from our ranks -- a victim of a fatal heart attack!

For some inexplicable reason, the works of Shakespeare and "The Little Prince" by Antoine de St. Exupery rumbled in my mind during a sleepless night.

At dawn I began searching for the exact quotes which were floating in the subconscious of my mind. Stars! Interestingly, the images and lines I was trying to recall were all about Stars.

I searched through Julius Caesar, Othello, then King Lear. Finally, as the skies lightened, the quote I had been seeking leapt out at me from Romeo and Juliet:

"And when he shall die, take him, and cut him out into a thousand stars; for he shall make the face of heaven so fine that all the world will be in love with night."

That quote has been used in numerous eulogies but it seemed especially appropriate in this instance, for indeed, Kenwood Ross was a unique and brilliant star among men.

Ken possessed the mind of a genius, the eyes of a laser, a heart of gold and the tenacity of a lion. This mix resulted in a complexed personality, best summed up by Past President Vince Gagliardo.

Prior to presenting an award to Ken, Vince said, "I've known Ken for many years and worked closely with him the past year. I know him and yet I somehow feel I really don't know him at all."

Indeed, Ken was a private man. He was a humble, quiet, perhaps overly modest man, inclined to be extremely cautious in personal relationships, acutely conscious of his responsibilities and prone to deprecate his personal charm.

Above all, Ken was a man of superlative, high standards, complete integrity and boundless energy for whatever he took in hand. No one whose privilege it was to know or work with Ken is likely to forget the candor of his speech, his fifty years of selfless dedication to the Association or the warmth of his friendship. Whatever he believed, he believed with all his heart. He fought hard for every cause in which he enlisted and with few exceptions, the causes for which he fought were right and good.

But regardless of how we try to characterize the man we knew as Kenwood Ross, one thing is certain. His deeds, his service, his love for the 24th Infantry Division Association was legendary to every member of the Association, as well as to many of our highest military leaders of yesterday and today.

For all who feel a personal loss at Ken's passing, we recall what St. Exupery's "Little Prince" said of the stars:

"In one of the stars I shall be living. And when your sorrow is comforted (time soothes all sorrows) you will be content that you have known me. You will always be my friend."

Kenwood Ross was indeed an amazing man, a leader extraordinaire, a friend and today -- a star in the heavens.

Lord, how we will miss this incredible man! It is difficult to comprehend that we shall never again be blessed by seeing Ken's beaming face or to feel his awesome presence at our Reunions. Yet, beneath our sorrow, we take comfort in knowing that death has liberated our dear friend from a mortal body that had long borne the heat of day.

We will miss you dearly, Ken. Thank you for having served us so faithfully and for the legacy you leave us -- the 24th Infantry Division Association.

May God grant you eternal rest.

Joseph P. Hofrichter
Chaplain





CHARLES W. CARD
2107 WOODLAND SPRINGS
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77077

Letters to the Editor
Union-News
1860 Main Street
Springfield, MA 01101

Dear Letters Editor:

Springfield has a rich heritage in so many, many areas...all the result of an unusually high ratio of unusually gifted, creative and determined-to-succeed very high quality individual human beings.

One of these, Kenwood Ross, Patent Attorney, leading citizen and founder/director/publisher of and for the 24th Infantry Division Association, passed away January 17, 1998. Your Union-News, Monday, January 19, 1998, obituary was an excellent tribute to Kenwood, his achievements and legacies. Thank you for this recognition.

Many thousands of those of us who served with the 24th Infantry Division in 3 major global conflicts benefitted from Kenwood's lifetime contributions as the organizer, director and chief communicator of this veteran's association. We would appreciate your printing a special recognition of Kenwood Ross...somewhat along the lines of the attached. Thank you for your attention to this request.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles W. Card

REMEMBERING KEN ROSS SPRINGFIELD MASS

Springfield Mass - so prophetically proclaimed by its founders as a field of springs - springs which fed the creativity, ingenuity, and energy to the dreamers, doers, inventors and geniuses, who in turn created airplanes, automobiles, armament, books and games, and much more, more of which became globally used tools, resources and enrichers of everyday life - and assisting those evolutions from ideas to inventions was - Kenwood Ross, Patent Attorney - a protector of individual ingenuity.

Springfield Mass - a postmark which thousands of veterans of the 24th Infantry Division of World War II, the Korean Conflict and through Desert Storm - came to love - anticipated seeing Springfield Mass on the face of letters and news magazines from the organizer, nurturer and sustainer of the 24th Infantry Division Association. Kenwood Ross literally singlehandedly created and directed this great veteran's group. Kenwood Ross, a great leader, who recorded and promoted the memories of many individual military achievements.

A Springfield Mass - was conducted on January 21, 1998, in the Celebration of Life of Kenwood Ross who was stricken with an apparent fatal heart attack on the previous Saturday. As usual Ken was up, dressed and ready for early action as the Commander-In-Chief summoned him, and a great legacy was left to those of us so fortunate to have known, worked with, fought with, won-the-war with, and celebrated the sharing/living/loving during the post war years with...Kenwood Ross, a great and grand human being, who gave and lived a full definition of the terms of kindness, caring and loving for all mankind. **Springfield Mass - womb of great inventors and great inventions - postmark for the best memorials to the veterans of the 24th Infantry Division - and home for a truly gracious and great human being: KENWOOD ROSS.**

Reverently remembering,

Charlie Card
Co. B/34th RGT/24th Infantry Division

LETTERS IN MEMORY OF KENWOOD ROSS

COL. URBAN L. THROM II
9941 E. CORNELL AVENUE
DENVER, COLO. 80231



"Kenwood Ross has left us. We all feel a real sense of personal loss. Ken was the very heart and soul of our fine Division Association, from it's inception on Mindanao in 1945. No one has done so much for our comradery. He did it by example, by giving of himself without measure, by dedication and patriotism.

Who will write an appropriate eulogy for this man who was such a talent, when it came to those of our members who passed on before him? I sense my own inadequacy.

I have been privileged to be a special friend of Ken's since we went together on R&R to our homes and back to Kohura, Kyushu in 1946. We engaged, we married, agreed and disagreed. We never stopped relishing the recal of a funny personal incident between us. Seeing Ken at each years reunion was always a treat. I have always held him in the highest regard. It became natural for my wife too to share this feeling.

I believe the good Lord has a special affection and reward for old soldiers of Ken Ross' caliber. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Urban L. Throm M.D.



Ken Ross, will be best remembered by me as the "People-Catalyst", who kept our Association alive and strong for more than 50 years. His devotion to our Division and its members - young and old - past and present, deserves our highest praise.

It was an honor to have known him. He will be missed.

Jim Vaught USA Retired
Commander 24 ID - 1977-79



LETTERS IN MEMORY OF KENWOOD ROSS

January 22, 1998

Dear Bev,

Gee we just do not know where to begin or what to say at this time. Both of us were shocked when Vonnie called to tell us that Ken had passed away.

Both Eleanor and I had a very special love for him and we often, on the road back from our reunions, would reminisce about the great time we had then.

We so enjoyed the moments we could get away from the day to day events and business, find a secluded spot, sip a cocktail and just chat.

There were times Ken and I would not see eye to eye on various things but we had a friendship that overcame any differences we had. We would both agree that the Association was more important than our differences.

I thought much about how I would write this letter or what I would say but then I remembered what the "good book" says, "greater love hath no man than he lay down his life for his friend", he was more than a friend to Eleanor and I.

Eleanor and I won't mourn for him. He is among the Saints and those who laid down their lives. We will miss him so much. Eleanor and I will keep you in our prayers and if we can help, make sure you let us know.

All our love,

Eleanor & Wally

January 18, 1998

Dear Yvonne,

We had a call from Jim Hill last night telling us about the death of Ken Ross. We had heard from him at Christmastime and his notes were short but cheery. He did so much for our group. I'm sure you'll hear many stories about his dedication to the 24th. Vince and I really got to know him real well when we were planning the reunion in Buffalo in 1990. He made a number of visits here along with Bob Ender and Tom Upton.

One cold winter day Vince picked Ken and Tom up from the airport. The weather was horrible, so instead of driving them downtown to the Hyatt Hotel, he brought them to our house and they were our guests. When they were having dinner with us, Ken remarked about the lovely china I had in



LETTERS IN MEMORY OF KENWOOD ROSS (CONTINUED)

our china cabinet. I pointed out this Noritake dinner set that Vince had sent me while he was in Japan. Ninety-six pieces had arrived in perfect condition, in two huge crates. When Ken saw the pattern of the china, he was positive it was the same pattern he had. So lo and behold, a few weeks later, we received this demi-tasse set of dishes exactly like the dinner set we had. The pattern was identical. Needless to say, this china has a special place in our hearts.

Love,

Fran & Vince

Fran & Vince Vella
107 Homer Ave
Buffalo, NY 14216-2367

Letter from Eugene H. Wells
5727 Southland Blvd
Louisville KY 40214-1235

Dear Mrs. Mullins:

I am enclosing my check in the amount of \$150 for Life Membership dues. I should have done this when I first joined the Association instead of paying annual dues.

I didn't have the pleasure of meeting your husband and was certainly sorry to hear of his death. I did know Kenwood Ross from our days in Headquarters in the Phillipines and Japan. I also was sorry to read of his death.

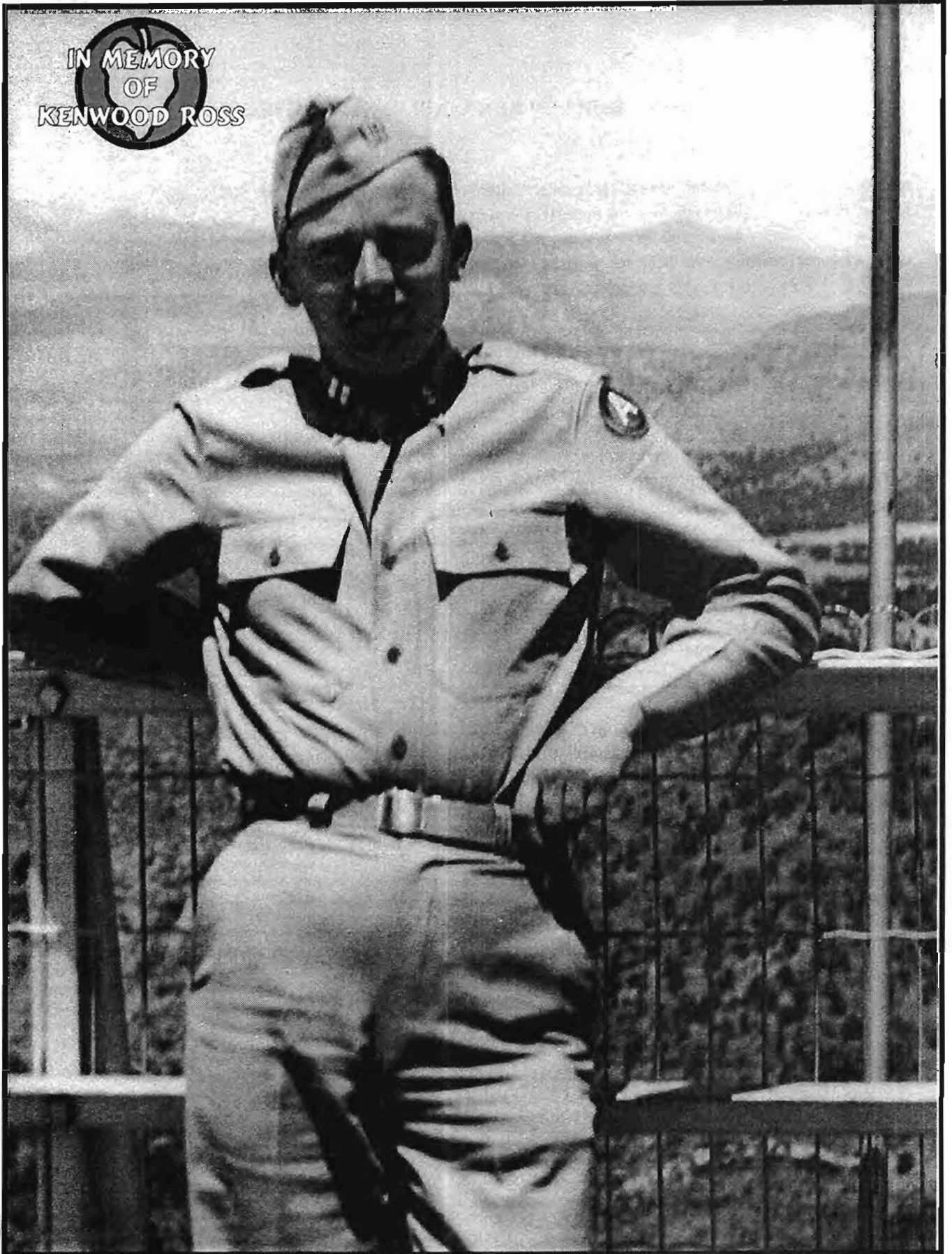
I joined the 24th on Goodenough Island in 1944 and stayed in the Division on Leyte, Mindoro, Mindanao, and the occupation of Japan. While in Japan I had the good fortune to go to Tokyo. When we first went to Matsuyama in South Japan, General MacArthur had decided to use invasion money. Our Finance Office had 8 Million dollars of Invasion money when General MacArthur changed his mind and decided to use the regular Japanese Yen. Therefore, the invasion money had to be returned to USAFE headquarters in Tokyo. Captain Jones our Finance Officer, chose me (I was a T/3 at that time) and 2 PFC's to go with him to return the money. It was quite a journey, but that is another story.

I think the 24th Infantry Division was the greatest fighting Division in the Army.

Sincerely,

Eugene M. Wells
ss

IN MEMORY
OF
KENWOOD ROSS



KENWOOD ROSS
CAMP CARSON - 1942



LETTERS IN MEMORY OF KENWOOD ROSS (CONTINUED)

March 1, 1998

Frank F. Dalida
PO Box 193
Bartlett TX 76511

Honestly speaking sure hate to hear a superb fellow member leave this association and best unit of the military rank. Incidentally, I believed that he entered the service the year I did. Also he was in the 24th where the unit was activated in Hawaii (Schofield Barracks). That was my birthplace prior to entering the service November 1945. President Cochran was in the same unit like I was - 34th Infantry Regt. '49-'50.

Sincerely,

Frankie F. Dalida
L Co. 34th Inf '49-'50

March 2, 1998

Beverly Corris

Dear Ms Corris:

It was with the saddest emotion ever, that I learned of Ken's death. Although we were very much in tune with one another, because of our 24th Infantry Division bonding, I can't begin to tell you how much his friendship meant to me. We just seemed destined to be more than just acquaintances. This insignificant means of telling you how much I appreciated his concerns can't begin to be an adequate expression of the regard I held for this man! He was a great caring and compassionate person, and.....we shall feel the loss of his presence among us.

Sometime.....somewhere.....he will know.

With Sympathy and Love,

Earl C. Downey Sr
21st Infantry 24th Division
Regimental Adjutant 1949-1951



LETTERS IN MEMORY OF KENWOOD ROSS (CONTINUED)

John P. (Jack) Jorgensen
21041 W. Snowberry LN
Plainfield, IL 60544

February 18, 1998

Dear Mrs. Mullins:

I was deeply saddened to read of the passing of your husband, Rudy, but also of Kenwood Ross.

Although, I never had the opportunity of knowing Rudy, I grew to respect him from the excellent job he was doing through the TARO LEAF.

I served the 24th Infantry division Headquarters from September 1944 to January 1946, in the Adjutant General Section. Though this was the same time that Kenwood served, I never knew him. My first contact with him was at the time I rejoined the Division Association in the early 80's. At that time, his letters made me feel welcome back into the association.

When the reunion was held at Schaumburg, Illinois, my wife and I attended. It was my first reunion since the one in Chicago in 1950, just before I was recalled back into the Army during the Korean War.

When we arrived at the reunion and were seated for the banquet, we didn't see anyone we knew. We learned that the couple seated with us was an ex-Major General with his wife. He pointed out a number of his friends and they all seemed to be of field rank and above. I, being an ex-Master Sergeant, felt I was way over my head. After the meal, Kenwood saw me and introduced himself and directed me to my old boss, Colonel Cunningham and we had an interesting talk although I doubt if he remembered me at all.

I doubt if Kenwood remembered me from the thousands he must have corresponded with, but he never failed to reply to my letters, and his responses were always personal and sympathetic and respectful. I recall writing him regarding the "Seiko" watches for the 50th anniversary, which I believed to be extremely ironic, and his reply was one of deep concern and compassion for my feelings.

I'll never forget the eloquent and reverent remarks he wrote upon the passing of a comrade. It almost made me want to go before Ken, so maybe I could get a little write-up like he was so capable of doing.

I'll never forget Kenwood Ross and I feel a lot better just putting into words my deep respect and appreciation for the man known as "Mr. 24th".

Jack
s



LETTERS IN MEMORY OF KENWOOD ROSS (CONTINUED)

February 14, 1998

Harry Rubin
PO Box 774
Hinesville GA 31310-0774

Dear Yvonne,

I am enclosing a check to raise my Life Membership, Card Number 242, to \$150. I became a member of the association in 1973 or '74 at the convention in Clearwater Beach, Florida. I was on active duty at that time as Deputy Commander of Fort Stewart at the time the division was being reactivated. Ken Ross invited me to come to the convention and tell the members what was being planned for the reactivation. Sergeant Major Niorhos and I made the trip to Clearwater Beach and I gave a small talk to the assembled members about how proud we were at Fort Stewart to have such an illustrious fighting unit quartered at our fort. I was especially happy because I had spent three years in the 24th Infantry Division in Augsburg, Germany from 1962 to 1965. I was so impressed with the spirit and camaraderie of the men and women at the convention I decided to join them on the spot.

It is where I first met such wonderful people like Generals Irving, Newman, and Lester, and Ed Henry, Vic Backer, Roscoe from Stomping Ground Kentucky, Spike the pride of Chicago, Junior, and too many more to mention. First among this group was Ken Ross who later was to be my friend not only at the conventions but also through correspondence through the years. The news of his death has hit hard because Dee and I always thought of him as the rock that the association was anchored on and I guess we just thought he'd be around forever. I really think that in many respects he will be around forever - forever in our thoughts and prayers. He will be missed by all of us. Slowly but surely the Grim Reaper makes his appointed rounds and we lose valued members, but the 24th Infantry Division Association will continue to prosper. I am proud to be one of you.

Sincerely,

Harry Rubin
s

To: Each and Every 24th Friend:

Thank you so much for the lovely floral tribute that was sent to the funeral of Ken Ross.

The flowers were beautiful and Ken Ross would have been deeply honored.

Sincerely,

*Beverly Corris
C. Flavin*



ROSENBLUM & ASSOCIATES
32 BULL STREET
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401

DONALD E. ROSENBLUM
LIEUTENANT GENERAL, USA (RET.)
PRESIDENT

TELEPHONE: (912) 233-8717
FAX: (912) 233-8718

FAX TO: Ms Mullins

SUBJECT: Ken Ross

I first met Ken Ross in my capacity as the Commanding General of the 1st Brigade (Separate) as we were in the throes of getting ready to reactivate the 24th Division. In June of 1975 at Fort Stewart Ken Ross, Spike O'Donnell and Bill Sanderson represented the Association at our Army Birthday celebration. It was then that I first understood of the devotion to the Division shown by these men. At Peoria in August I attended my first convention. I again was struck by the love that Ken and the others had for the 24th. In September of 1975 the 24th Infantry Division was formally reactivated and in August the convention was held in Savannah and Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Air Field. Ken Ross was the driving force behind the success of that and many more conventions. How he found the time to do all the work he did for the Association is unknown to me. He was the glue that kept the Association together. He did all the work—coordinating, directing, writing and publishing the Taro Leaf, billing members, attending meetings at his expense, attending all types of functions relating to the Association, and all done with a ready smile and a cheery hand shake. He was one in a million. When I had the great honor of being the president of the Association Ken was so helpful it was almost embarrassing, but I leaned on him for assistance and guidance. He flat loved the Division and the Association and the people who were part of both.

On the personal side, Ken came to my children's weddings, was just wonderful about staying in touch, and can only be categorized as a great person. Particularly those of us who were with the Association for many years (and most were ahead of me by 30) we know what Ken did for the Association. He was superb.

I truly hope that the Association will honor his memory in perpetuity with a yearly award in his memory. He above any other is in fact Mr. 24th Infantry Division Association.

Donald E. Rosenblum
Lt. General, USA, Ret
Commanding General 24th Infantry Division 1975-1977

28 JUNE 1963

24th Division Reunion...Members of the 24th Division Association travelled from all over the country last week to do honor to their ex-chief of staff in 1944 Island Campaign, Maj. Gen. William J. Verbeck who retired from the Army on June 30, as Commanding General XIII US Army Corps and Fort Devens. Left to right seated are: Frank Fulton, General Verbeck, Edmond F. Henry, Bill Muldoon; standing, left to right: Lafayette Cochran, Wilfred O'Coin, Victor J. Backer, Father C.J. Berlo, Pat Ciangi, William T. Keyes, Kenwood Ross, Ernest Vienneau, C.G. Hanlin, Spike O'Donnell, Bill Sanderson, Walter Bennett. A Revere Bowl, inscribed "To the Bravest of the Brave on His Retirement", and a silver plaque were given in appreciation from the 24th Division Association, presented to the General by Mr. Ed Henry, representative of the group. (Photo by: Pfc John Carpenter)





LETTERS IN MEMORY OF KENWOOD ROSS (CONTINUED)

5915 Majestic Way
Palmetto, FL 34221-9554

March 9, 1998

It is with much emotion and sadness I write about a great personal friend not only to Alice and me but also a great loss to the 24th Infantry Division Association.

I have been a member of the Association since 1954. Ken devoted more time and personal money to the Association than any other member that I know. In his home he had a working room which was devoted to the 24th.

Ken always had time to listen. He was an honest, gentle and compassionate person. If he knew of any member's illness, distress or death, he would write, telephone, send flowers or make a visit whichever was appropriate. At the same time, all Past Presidents were contacted with the information. Ken befriended many a person.

Whenever there was a "Mini" Reunion he was always there. The 24th Infantry Division Association was his life.

We shall miss him greatly. God has called him as his work on earth has been complete.

Farewell,

Bill Sanderson, Past President
s

Received a note from Ralph Balestrieri, 41 Rose Ct., Eatontown NJ 07724-1515, 13th FABN with a copy of "The Imjin Line", British Korean Veterans' Association. The magazine lists the death of Kenwood Ross in their "Last Post" as follows:

Last Post

Moved On

Harry 'ACE' Batty

Our condolences to the United States on the death of Kenwood Ross, long time editor of the TARO LEAF, journal of the US 24th Infantry Division Association, which has given us much interest and information over the years.



26th AAA (AW) SP BN
A Battery - Japan-Korea Reunion
September 10-13, 1998
San Antonio, TX

Contact: Bill Earley
25 Kelly Road
Hamden, CT 06518
Phone: 203-248-6834

Korean War Veterans Assoc
of New York State
7th Annual Convention
Waterloo Holiday Inn
in the heart of the Finger Lakes
of New York State.
May 14, 15 & 16 1998

Contact: Angelo G. Montaglione
1321 W River Rd
Waterloo NY 13165-9735

Note from: Dan Rickert
"I received list from Billy Johnson
and 300 3rd Engineers were notified
of their Unit Breakfast to be
held at the reunion in Little Rock,
AR".

Good work Dan and Billy.

Sent in by Harry Rubin, PO Box
774, Hinesville, GA 31310-0774

More than 240 members of The
Retired Officers Club of Sarasota
FL attended the organization's
Annual Military Gala in Decem-
ber. During the evening's festivi-
ties, Col. Ron Buchert, USAF-
Ret., president of the Florida
Council of Chapters, installed the
new chapter officers and recog-
nized two members. Lt. Gen.
Rolland Heiser, USA Ret., was
awarded the Chapter's Aubrey S.
Newman Winter Warrior Award
for his contributions to the citi-
zens of the city and county of
Sarasota. An award also was es-
tablished in the name of CWO3
Martin Hertz, USA-Ret., for his
dedicated service to members of
the community following his re-
irement.

Had a phone call from Hurdis
Wise. Hurdis is the chairman of
the 34th Infantry Breakfast.
Hurdis wants all of you 34th
members to know that the
breakfast is being held in mem-
ory of General Aubrey S. New-
man.

It was good talking to you Hur-
dis, and look forward to seeing
you at the reunion in Little
Rock.

Man smoked 15 packs of cigarettes a day.
Camel people called him up, said they wanted to use him for
a TV commercial.
He said okay.
They said they'd be there at 9 a.m. on Wednesday a.m.
He said "Nope".
They asked, "Why not?"
He replied, "Cuz, I don't stop coughing 'til noon."

24th Infantry Division Association



NEW LIFE MEMBERS OF THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION (1/7/98 THROUGH 3/30/98)

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Unit 1</u>	<u>Exp.Date</u>
Robert W	Abrams	929 Sheridan Rd	Marion	OH	24th Med	Life xx
Junior Russell	Barkema	1052 Washington Ave	Belmond	IA	19th	Life xx
Roger V	Eisenbacher	4508 W 39th St.,	Davenport	IA	34th	Life xx
Vernon D	Fortner	656 County Rd #416	Woodland	MS	Recon	Life xx
Carl E	Hatmaker	RR 4 Box 516	Eufaula	OK	34th	Life xx
Robert W	Helander	1414 N Otter Cr St	Streator	IL	3rd Eng	Life xx
Lloyd F	Hemenway III	13147 Elgin Dr	Elk River	MN	24th Inf	Life xx
H Douglas	Jay Jr	2225 Greenstone Rd	Wilmington	DE	Div Hq	Life xx
Bruno	Kramarz	1243 Fay St	Fulton	NY	21st	Life xx
Earnie C	Thatcher	8808 S County Line Rd	Oklahoma City	OK	21st	Life xx
James M	Thompson	12311 Kelly Sands Way	Ft Myers	FL	21st	Life xx
Eugene H	Wells	5727 Southland Blvd	Louisville	KY	Div Hq	Life xx



UPGRADED FROM LIFE \$100(LIFE X) TO LIFE \$150 (LIFE XX) (1/7/98 THROUGH 3/30/98)

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Unit 1</u>	<u>Co.</u>	<u>Upgrade Life xx</u>
Robert H	Bacon	28 Bacon Rd	Bradford	NH	19th	(I)	3/12/98
Dallas	Dick	1701 Bridge St	New Cumberl	PA	19th	(A,B,C)	2/21/98
Theodore	Geelhoed	245 N 9th St	Prospect Par	NJ	19th	(I)	2/23/98
Carl R	Groth	35440 Northgate Dr	Livonia	MI	13th	(D.Hq)	3/3/98
Edward	Grygier	10 Riley Pl	Staten Island	NY	19th	(Hvy Mt	3/9/98
James F	Hill	260 Shelli Ln	Roswell	GA	19th	(HQ)	2/16/98
Walter M	Hutchison	648 Hutchinson Rd	Chipley	FL	21st	(H)	3/15/98
David W	Martin	150 Gibbs St	Newton	MA	21st		2/23/98
John C	Mason Sr	PO Box 297	Ocean City	MD	11th		2/24/98
James W	Mims	811 Lawson Ave	Midland	TX	Div Hq		2/26/98
Col Harry	Rubin	PO Box 774	Hinesville	GA	Div Hq		2/24/98
Albert A	Spangenbe	2 Windsor Ct	Toms River	NJ	19th	(Med)	3/3/98



CONTRIBUTIONS FROM 1/7/98 THROUGH 3/30/98



<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Unit 1</u>	<u>Co.</u>	<u>Donation</u>	<u>In Memory</u>
Malcolm D	Aitken	21st	(1st BN)	\$5.00	
Manuel	Alvarado	19th		\$20.00	
Otis J	Autin	19th		\$25.00	
Ralph	Balestrieri	13th	(C)	\$100.00	Ken Ross
James L	Barclay	5th RCT		\$10.00	
William F	Boyden Sr	3rd Eng	(H/S)	\$15.00	
Trinnie Albert	Brice	52nd FABN		\$10.00	
Paul J	Cain	34th	(I)	\$20.00	Rudy & Ken
Edward J	Carrigan	52nd		\$15.00	
Vincent J	Caulfield	21st	(F)	\$5.00	
Robert L	Childers	24th QM		\$15.00	
R. Gerald	Choate	21st	(H)	\$10.00	
Donald G	Clark	19th	(B)	\$10.00	Rudy Mullins
Frankie F	Dalida	3rd Eng	(HQ)	\$10.00	
Donald G	Darrah	24th Inf Div		\$5.00	
Eugene L	Daugherty	6th Tank	(H&S)	\$15.00	
Alan D	De Moss	Div Arty		\$100.00	Ken Ross
Domenic T	DeMilio	21st	(K)	\$10.00	
Dallas	Dick	19th	(A,B,C)	\$50.00	Ken Ross
Eric	Diller	34th	(H)	\$10.00	
James	Doherty	19th	(E)	\$5.00	
Earl C	Downey	21st	(HQ)	\$10.00	
Donald L	Duerk MD	Div Hq		\$5.00	
Edsel	Duhon	21st	(HQ)	\$5.00	
James M	Dunlap	19th	(M)	\$10.00	
Wilbert R	Estabrook	19th	(B)	\$15.00	
Neil	Estes	11th	(A)	\$50.00	Ken Ross
Thomas E	Flynn	21st	(Hvy Mtr)	\$40.00	
James W	Flynn Jr	3rd Eng	(H&S)	\$10.00	
Herbert	Fordyce	19th	(E)	\$5.00	
Charles W	Foster	19th		\$15.00	
Jesse B	Frank	21st	(E)	\$5.00	
Calvin N	Gibson	19th	(F)	\$5.00	
Buford F	Goff	19th	(F)	\$20.00	
Jimmie L	Gresham	19th	(HQ)	\$10.00	
Edward	Grygier	19th	(Hvy Mtr)	\$15.00	
Evert L	Harmon	11th		\$15.00	
Roland E	Hassenboehler	19th	(I)	\$10.00	
Francis H	Heller	Div Arty		\$50.00	
JD	Henley	19th	(B)	\$15.00	Perry Vanter-R Thompson
William C	Hosler	19th	(F)	\$50.00	Rudy and Ken
James N	Jack	19th	(C)	\$10.00	
Charles W	Johnson	34th	(A)	\$10.00	
William G	Johnston	Div Hq		\$5.00	
Joseph C	Kepic	24th Sig		\$10.00	
Edward E	Kerkhoff	19th	(I&R)	\$20.00	
Herbert R	Kingsbury	34th	(C)	\$5.00	



CONTRIBUTIONS FROM 1/7/98 THROUGH 3/30/98

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Unit 1</u>	<u>Co.</u>	<u>Donation</u>	<u>In Memory</u>
Jerome	Krejci	21st	(D)	\$20.00	
Charles E	La Croix	24th MP		\$5.00	
Earl J	Lee	19th	(E)	\$5.00	
Sang Yun	Lee	19th	(C)	\$50.00	
James W	Lemon	21st	(K)	\$55.00	
Warren H	Mac Neill	24th Sig		\$10.00	
George J	Machek	Div Hq		\$15.00	
SMSGT Max M	Marsh USAF Ret	52nd		\$10.00	
David W	Martin	21st		\$15.00	
John C	Mason Sr	11th		\$90.00	
Thomas J	McCaffrey	19th	(SVC)	\$10.00	
Jack G	McCourt	24th Inf Div		\$5.00	
Jack A	Measley	21st	(I)	\$5.00	
Dean A	Metz	6th Tank	(B)	\$10.00	
Don F	Molinari	19th		\$10.00	
Yvonne	Mullins	Honorary		\$100.00	Rudy Mullins
Yvonne	Mullins	Honorary		\$100.00	Ken Ross
Phil	Nast	34th	(I)	\$25.00	
Richard L	Nelson	21st		\$5.00	
Reino	Nenonen	34th	(M)	\$5.00	
Goldy	Norton	21st	(HQ)	\$10.00	
Joseph P	O'Connell	19th	(H)	\$15.00	
Edward J	O'Hara	21st	(HQ)	\$10.00	
William H	Oslin	19th	(K)	\$10.00	
Alex	Poland	34th	(L)	\$20.00	Rudy & Ken
Eugene A	Poynter	34th	(K)	\$10.00	
Ernest	Quesada	19th	(A)	\$10.00	
Douglas E	Reed	34th	(H&H)	\$5.00	
LTG Donald E	Rosenbium	Div Hq		\$50.00	Ken Ross
Kenwood	Ross	Div Hq		\$100.00	
Michael J	Sacchitella	21st	(HQ)	\$20.00	
Kenneth L	Sartin	26th AAA		\$5.00	
Maurice R	Slaney	24th Sig	(Sv.Co.)	\$15.00	
Elmo	Smeraldo	24th Med	(HQ)	\$5.00	
Donald R	Smith	Div Hq		\$10.00	
Wayne F	Smith	24th Sig		\$10.00	
David H	Steinberg	21st	(B)	\$25.00	Ken Ross
Ernest P	Terrell	11th		\$50.00	
Ben H	Wahle Jr	34th	(E&G)	\$10.00	Ken Ross
Maurice R (Dick)	Wainwright			\$5.00	
Eric	Weber	724th Ord		\$5.00	
Francis H	Welch	21st	(L)	\$40.00	
Mrs Rodney A	White	34th	(K)	\$10.00	Rodney A White
Joseph A	Wicinski	11th		\$25.00	Rudy Mullins
Gilbert A	Willman	Band		\$5.00	
Harry L	Wittman Jr	21st	(G)	\$60.00	
Raymond M	Youngblood	21st	(B)	\$150.00	Honor of 21st Inf.Gimlets



Notes From the Secretary/Treasurer

Vincent Caulfield, 219 Clubhouse Dr., Patchogue NY 11772-8203, Co. "F" 21st Inf Regt writes: "I always felt proud to be a member of the 24th Inf Div. I only served a short time with the Division after being recalled for the Korean War. I was assigned to "F" Co. 21st Regt. as its C.O. and a short time later took the company back to Japan. I am at the age 83 now that I don't make any long time plans, such as the Reunion in September. I retired as a LCOL USAR and also retired as a Detective with the New York City Police Department.

Thank you for writing,
Vincent!

Editor of Taro Leaf: It will be appreciated if you will publish the following: Does anyone know the words to an old Army ballad, "I've Done My Hitch In Hell"? Please write to Ed Voso, 1815 134 Sweetwater Rd., Spring Valley, CA 91777. Ed Voss, Life Member.

Can anyone help Ed out with the words? Now don't make them up, give him the real thing.

Jeffrey W. Babcock of 2350 South 23rd St #1066, Manitowoc, WI 54220-6300 writes: "I am searching for two friends who served with me at Ft Stewart, GA from 1979-1982, their names are William Curtis McDonald and Francis Edward Bowman III. The three of us were assigned to HHC 3/19 Inf., as medics. I ETSed on 10 Aug. '82, at that time the two guys were still stationed at FSGA.

In 1984, I sent a letter to Bill, addressed to the old unit and he got it. He wrote back saying he had been to Germany, and was now back and assigned to the Medevac Unit (542nd). I believe Bill's parents were living in SC but I also remember him mentioning having lived in Texas. The last I heard from "Fran" was back in 1982. I do know that he was from upstate New York, and had attended (State University College at Potsdam, NY). He said his father, whom he was named after, was deceased as was his brothers, (Francis E. Bowman I and Francis E. Bowman II). Can anyone help Jeffrey find his buddies? Jeffrey, let me know if any of the e-mail addresses helped you locate them.

John (Jack) Shackelford of 5057 E. 71st St., Indianapolis, IN 46220-3891, (34th Inf '44) writes: "My, I imagine you are a very busy lady. I am sorry to learn about your husband. I know he contributed mightily to the Association through the years. I wish I had learned about the association years ago. I would have made a few of the conventions, at least those in nearby states. I hope one is held closer within the next few years. I joined the 24th on Goodneough Island with the 34th Regt in '44 and was transferred to Div HQ after Hollandia. I was assigned to the G-1 Section. My "boss" was Col. Thomas Compere, one of the finest gentlemen I ever knew. The ranking sergeant at the time was Nick Bucelli NY and he was

rotated home after Leyte and before our landings at Mindoro, Mindanao and occupation of Japan (Matsayama on Shikokou). I finally was rotated home right before Christmas in 1945. (Married my college sweetheart a month later). I held every non-com rank except Tech/St.Col. Compere jumped me to Master/Sgt. before he rotated home. I knew who Ken Ross was, but I doubt he knew or remembers me. I doubt if there are a few if any of that HQ group still around, but if there are I would surely like to hear from them—such as Joe Taranowski, Mat Dusza, Don Steele and anyone else who might remember me.

I will post your membership info on my American Legion Bulletin Board and also get it in Indianapolis Star where I was a reporter for several years. Hope it attracts new members. Also I may send some material for the Taro Leaf. I am now 76 soon to become 77, but have been very lucky healthwise, as has my wonderful bride of 52 years." Jack S.

Thanks Jack for writing and certainly send any articles you may have and want published in the Taro Leaf. Hope you hear from your friends.

Elmer Merchant, PO Box 98, Jefferson, MA 01522 writes: 2/5/98 - "Received the Aug '97 TL today. Will become a member immediately. Also appreciate a note to see if anyone knows of Joseph Despot." Thank you, Elmer S. Merchant



Notes From the Secretary/ Treasurer

Charles W. Johnson of 7114 Salmar Ct., Cincinnati, OH 45231-5321 (34th Regt - Korea, Japan) writes: "I look forward to every issue of the Taro Leaf. Page after page of memories take me back to my days in uniform. I'm still searching for anyone who served in A Co 34th Regt., in the early days of the "Police Action". Our C.O. was Capt Leroy "Dutch" Osburn. I saw him two years ago and had a great visit. Your magazine is terrific and so is the 24th Infantry Division. The 34th Regt still lives in the hearts of those who served."

Dean A. Metz, 121 Briarpatch Dr., Carlisle, PA 17013-9074 (6th Tank C Co '52-'53 Camp Fuji Japan) writes: "First, I want to extend my sympathy to you upon reading about your husband, Rudy and also of Mr. Ross. The Association lost two fine dedicated men, someday we may all be together again. At the reunion in Colorado Springs, we were seated at the last table with another couple and the lady next to me had a camera and had the Col. with Gen McCaffrey take a photo of her and I with Gen McCaffrey. I gave her my address to send me a copy of the photo but never heard from her and hope she will read about this in the Taro Leaf." Dean, I hope the lady reads this and you will receive a picture of Gen McCaffrey and you soon!

Robert L. Phillips, 205 Payne Ave., Pocomoke City, MD 21851 (24th Med Bn 1950) writes: "Does anyone know the whereabouts of Peter G. Keymas, 1st Lt. MSC, served in Korea, 24th Med Bn 1950"? Can anyone help Bob?

Upon receiving the raffle tickets, **Ruth M. Lester** of 112 Gordon, Wills Point, TX 75169, writes: "Thanks, 24th will always be special to me". Ruth, we appreciate you participating in the raffle and thank you for writing.

Harry A. Velick, PO Box 391, Royal Oak, MI 48068 writes: "In response to Lee R. Phillips request for verification of his exposure to radiation in Japan, I would like to provide the following information: I was assigned to the 34th Inf Regt in the Replacement Depot on Leyte, PI in February '45. From there we landed at Linguyan Gulf, Luzon and spent two weeks on the Bataan Peninsula. We next invaded and helped retake Corregidor. After a rest in Mindoro, we were in the invasion of Mindanao and spent the next four months in the jungles around Davao. Before the surrender was announced in August, we were scheduled to be the first wave into Japan proper. With peace restored, many of us were sent to take up occupation in Matsuyama, Shikoku, Japan. The following March, I was "rotated" home and discharged. During my time in Japan, I do not believe I was anywhere near the radiation caused by the "A" Bombs, but no attempt was made to shield us from any, if it did exist. To my knowledge, no tests were ever performed to determine if I had been so exposed. In general, my health has been very good through the years. This may not be of any help to Lee, but at least it will support his description of the activities of the 34th. Now, I would like to ask a favor of you. I have been trying to find a friend who was injured in Mindanao,

and of whom I've lost track. Sometime in June or July, 1945 George Stokes, 34th Inf. Regt, Co I, had his arm blown off by a grenade while patrolling the hills with me. He was shipped back to the States and the last I heard from him was in an Army Hospital in Utah. His original home was Oakland, CA. If you can provide any leads on how I might contact him, it would be greatly appreciate." Any of you guys be able to help Harry? Drop him a line.

Glenn Behrends, 211 East 11th St., Monticello, IA 52310 writes: "I always had a little visit with Rudy each year at the reunions I attended, only made four. In those times our conversation was mostly about the Coast Watchers. He seemed to know quite a lot about them and I am very interested in their story. I contacted a member of them by name of Ed Dennis. He corresponded with me several times and I was so surprised one day about a year ago to receive a large packet of papers in the mail. In this package was stories, maps, and pictures and a letter. He tells me he was turning over his writings, etc from the coast watcher years to a younger man who intended to make up a book. Now what I was sent cost him nearly \$9.00 postage so it was a rather large amount of things. Ed Dennis is nearly 90 and felt he was not able to see a book get finished if it was all his effort. Soon I hope to go thru all these papers and contact this man who is attempting to make these tales into a book. I hope to get a copy if and when he gets it completed. I served in 24th Signal Co., February '42 two months on Leyte when I was sent back on rotation about December



Notes From the Secretary/ Treasurer

Larry Dean Dunn



*New Matamoras, OH
Born January 9, 1931*

*U.S. Army
Private First Class
Serial Number 15268512*

*Killed in Action
July 16, 1950*

20, 1944. So sorry to hear about Rudy's death and also to hear of Kenwood Ross. The 24th Division Association lost two very good men. They both had a lot to do in making the Association what it is today!"

Received a letter from **Donald H. Dunn, Sr.**, Rt 3 Box 344, New Matamoras OH 45767, (2nd Inf Div in Korea 1950-'51) he writes: "My brother, Larry Dean Dunn was in Camp Chickamauga in Beppu, Japan with Co. A 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division and was in Korea before the war in 1949, pulling occupation. He went back to Korea in June 1950 and was killed the night of July 15th and reported missing the 16th along the Kum River in South Korea. Larry took his Infantry training at Fort Knox, Kentucky. I was with the 528th Infantry training school at the same time he was there. I entered the Army December 13, 1946 and went to Germany and landed at Inchon, Korea, December 17, 1950 and left Korea November, 1951 for home. I was always in the Infantry until I got to Korea. I was put in the ammunition train hauling ammo for the 38th Field Artillery supporting the 38th Infantry Regiment 2nd Division. It would be nice to know some GI who knew Larry D. Dunn or was a buddy with him and could tell how he was killed 15th or 16th night of July along the Kum River. Larry and I came home for Christmas in 1948. He had just 2 months to go in the Army and he could have come home again." Members, if anyone knew Larry Dunn, please drop a line to Don at address above.

Earl Perceful, 3820 S 29th St W., Muskogee OK 74401 writes: "I am sending the raffle tickets with a check and also the Muskogee Daily Phoenix clipping about the search for any one who ever served in the 24th Infantry Division and about the reunion. I hope to see you in September '98".

Thanks for writing Earl and I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has sent clippings from their newspapers. We are getting new members everyday and your help in putting our add in the papers has certainly been profitable.

Al Spangenberg, 2 Windsor Ct., Toms River, NJ 08753-5803, (NMed Co 19th) writes: "Kindly extend my enlistment for Life in Honor of Rodolph Mullins and Kenwood Ross. Enclosed is check for \$150.00."

Al, I want to thank you for your kind letter, your words will always be remembered.

Letter from **Margie & Ed Wilson**, 1223 Mondale Ave., Rockford, IL 61108, as follows: "Walt Morrison's wife Ester is in Bangor General Hospital, stroke and two heart attacks and is in intensive care."

Thanks for writing Margie and Ed and remember Gang. Ester's home address is: PO Box 80, Medway ME 04460-0329, drop her a card and let her know you are thinking about her.

Joe & Jackie Henderson, 3931 Prune Orchard Rd., Colfax, WA 99111-8584 writes: "Thank you for the up to date info on the 24th, please enroll me for a year. I would like to find out all I can about the 3rd BN C Company of the 34th. I was a company aid man during the last several months of the Phillipine Island Campaign before going to Japan. I would love to hear from anyone from 3rd BN who remembers me. Also 3rd Bn Med Det."



Notes From the Secretary/ Treasurer

Reno J. Gaspard, PO Box 169, Orangefield TX 77639-0169, writes: "I received the Taro Leaf with the news of the passing of two of the finest men in the association. It was Colonel Ross who in 1993 tried to cheer me up after the loss of my wife. He did several articles in the Taro Leaf about me and my grandson, Brian. Brian, by the way is now a Black Belt 1st Degree in Karate. He is also an Honor Student and a member of the School Band. I really feel bad about not writing Colonel Ross about Brian's accomplishments."

Phillip Taormino, 24 Denesha Pl., Fulton, NY 13069-2708, writes: "Here is a clip that our local paper published for me in Fulton NY. I am a new and recent member. I know there are some of the guys from Fulton that were in the 24th, if I see them I will encourage them to join the Association."

Thanks for your letter Phillip and good luck at recruiting. That's the spirit.

A big thank you to **Bacil Steed** from Australia for writing and the picture of Japan, it is on this page. Also the cartoon is from **Bacil**.

Jerry E. conners, 127 Miry Brook Rd., Hamilton Square, NJ 08690-1524 sent an e-mail. His friend **Wayne O. Meyer PFC**, Ser#15412012, born 27 July 1931 Mansfield OH and served in Co B 3rd Eng. Combat Bn. according to the info he has is that on July 1950, Wayne was driving a 2 1/2 Ton truck loaded with demotion, in convoy returning to the CP at Chochwon when the convoy was strafed by friendly aircraft. Wayne was hit and died instantly. Other info he has is that Co B only lost two men on 10 July '50. 1 killed 1 missing. Can anyone help me find the truth? is what Jerry wants to know. Write him at the above address or e-mail Msgtrf82f@aol.com

William A. Cox, 608 Ionia St., Grayling, MI 49738, writes: Cpl. **Howard Gayle Adams** and I worked together as radio operators in the Como. PL of HQ Co. 3rd BN 19th. He came to us as a washout from O.C.S., we called him HG. One morning I woke up and he was gone. This occurred in early '51 not '54, because I was rotated in July of '51. I never really knew what happened to him until I saw his picture in the Victory Division News. I would like to know where he has been all of these years. Does he have a family? What kind of work he does, or if he is even still alive. Enclosed is a photo I took of HG sometime before he crossed over. Any information would be appreciated."



Camp Crouch, Japan 1949



Howard Gayle Adams

Swamp By Gary Clark





IN MEMORY OF KENWOOD ROSS

KENWOOD ROSS

This photo was taken at Minneapolis In September 1996 by Phil Hostetter.

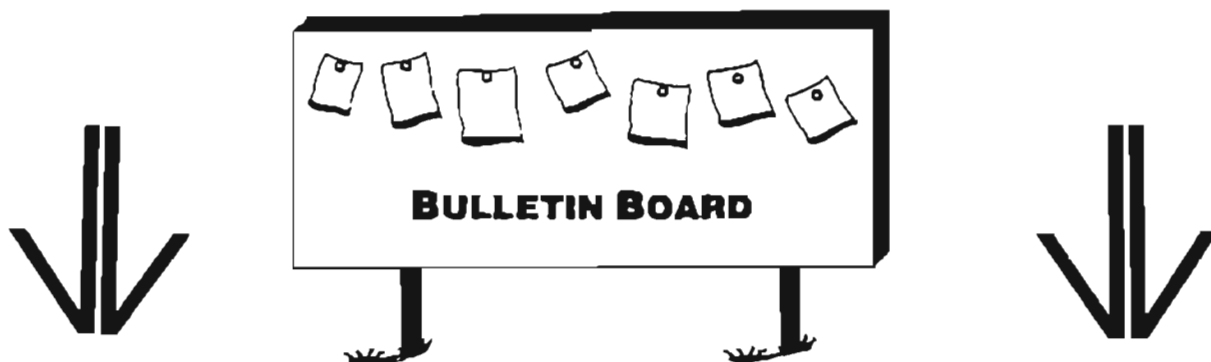
Ken had a wonderful time that year and he had a great time in Colorado Springs in September 1997. He was looking forward to Little Rock.



Mr. Ross used this cartoon on at least two covers of T.L. He thought it was wonderful.



"OHIO? WHAT PART?"



REUNION STEINS

There are a limited number of steins left from the reunion. These are crystal and etched with our Taro Leaf Patch.

They are offered for \$10, includes postage.

Send money to: 24th Inf Div Assoc
PO Box 6066
Colorado Springs CO
80934-6066

Korea P.O.W.

A Thousand Days of Torment

by William H. Funchess

107 Brookwood Dr

Clemson, SC 29631, Phone: 864-654-4617

Send payment of \$15.00 plus \$3.00 shipping to
Bill at the above address.

BULLETS AND BAYONETS

By Paul Austin

Send check for \$18.00 to Paul

at: 3945 Misty Meadows Dr
Fort Worth TX 76133
Phone: 817-263-4030
Fax: 817-294-2432
e-mail paustin@flash.net

Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery

PRIVATE by Lester Atwell

\$25 plus \$5 shipping and Handling

add'l books \$1.50 S&H

Send to: A&A Publishing

c/o M. Atwell

314 Wayne Ave.,

Lansdowne, PA 19050

Note: Lester Atwell went into the Army
in June 1943 and served until November '45.
Private, originally published in 1958. Now,
a small edition of Private has been reprinted.

MEMOIRS OF A COMBAT

INFANTRYMAN by an Enemy Alien,

is available for \$10.00 + \$2.00 shipping.

To: Eric Diller
504 Via La Selva
Redondo Beach, CA 90277
Phone: 310-375-2024

Allow 1-2 weeks for delivery

24th Division Artillery

(Camp Hakata Associates)

11th Annual Reunion - May 13-15 1998

Holiday Inn on the Beach - Galveston, Texas

Contact: LTC Arthur L. Travis

2827 Private Rd 3776

Wills Point, TX 75169-4637

LAS VEGAS MINI-REUNION

There will be a mini-Reunion in
Las Vegas, Nevada June 8-11, 1998.

Rooms \$35 Plus Tax. Call Room

Reservations at the Orleans Hotel.

702-365-7111 or write to 4500 W.

Tropicana Ave., Las Vegas NV 89103.

Must identify yourself as a member of
the 5th RCT group to get this rate.

Sent in by Bill Kane, Phone: 407-275-7450

Notice: Members of Heavy Mtr Co 19th Inf Regt
will be meeting at the reunion in Little Rock. All members
from Beppu Japan to August 1951 are invited to attend.

Contact: Edward Grygier, 10 Riley Pl., Staten Island
NY 10302-2031 or

Frank Hicks, PO Box 210853,
Dallas, TX 75211-0853

"Another Soldier's Coming Home"

*His back is bent and weary
His voice is tired and low
His sword is worn from battle
and his steps have gotten slow,
But he used to walk on water
or it seemed that way to me,
I know he moved some mountains
and never left his knees.*



Chorus:

*Strike up the band, assemble the choir
another soldier's coming home
another warrior hears the call
he's waited for so long.
He'll battle no more, but he's
won his wars, make sure Heaven's table
has room for at least one more.
Sing a welcome song,
another soldier's coming home.*

*He faced the winds of sorrow,
but his heart knew no retreat.
He walked in narrow places
knowing Christ knew no defeat.
But now his steps turn homeward,
so much closer to the prize,
he's sounding kind of homesick and
there's a longing in his eyes.*

Chorus:

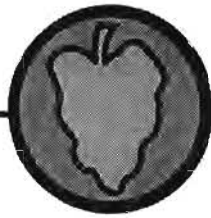
*Strike up the band, assemble the choir
another soldier's coming home
another warrior hears the call
he's waited for so long.
He'll battle no more, but he's
won his wars, make sure Heaven's table
has room for at least one more.
Sing a welcome song,
another soldier's coming home.*

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Maplesong Music, Janet Paschal Ministries

24th Infantry Division Association



Deceased: 1/98
Clark Baccay
19th 9/56-11/57
376 Saybrook Way
Vallejo CA 94591-77846

Deceased: 2/98
John W Bethards
24th Sig '42-'45
2511 Silica Heights Rd
Benton AR 72015-5513

Deceased: 7/97
Chester G Brockelbank
21st 6/41-3/45
721 Main St
Fremont NH 03044-3584

Deceased: 2/98
Lester G Brown
34th 12/46-4/48
6420 E Leisure Ln
Flagstaff AZ 86004-5512

Deceased: 6/96
Virgil Easterday
21st 9/42-10/45
79 S Hickory St
Chillicothe OH 45601-8836

Deceased: 3/98
Andrew Gross
19th 5/51-5/53
RR 1 Box 19
Napoleon ND 58561-9801

Deceased: 12/97
Ivan W Haugen
34th 10/42-9/45
205 E Main St
Decorah IA 52101-1825

Deceased: 11/97
Robert J Kimball
19th 5/49-8/52
2 3rd Ave
Whitehall NY 12887-1616

Deceased: 1/98
Owen Lewis Jr
3rd Eng '50-'51
210 Ross St
Westermport MD 21562-1609

Deceased: 2/96
Robert Manson
24th Sig 1/48-11/49
1344 Grove Ave
Berwyn IL 60402-1222

Deceased: No DOD
Roland W Mapes
21st 2/43-1/46
12349 Clay
Huntsburg OH 44046-8761

Deceased: 9/97
Albert L Maxey
19th '42-'45
Warren NJ

Deceased: 2/98
Elmer D McKeehan
19th 7/50-1/51
2665 Orchid Ave
Charleston Hgts SC 29405-6

Deceased: 12/97
Clarence W Merkley
52nd 9/44-2/46
7190 S US 231
Huntingburg IN 47542-9319

Deceased: 9/96
Titus E Miller
52nd '49-'51
685 Jefferson Ln
Red Lion PA 17356-8543

Deceased: 1/98
David L Nelson
21ST 9/51-9/52
6605 Sherrod Dr
Fayetteville NC 28314-0167

Deceased: 3/97
Stanley Obremski
6th Tank 8/50-5/51
27 Valley View Dr
Pringle PA 18704-2014

Deceased: 3/97
James Perry
19th
Rte 6 Box 68DD
Portland IN 47371-9111

Deceased: 1/98
BGEN Jack T Pink USA RE
19th 8/50-10/51
1030 Mayflower Ave
Melbourne FL 32940-6729

Deceased: 1/98
Kenwood Ross
Div HQ '44-'47
120 Maple St
Springfield MA 01103-2203

Deceased: 7/97
Kenneth Smith
21st 12/55-11/57
PO Box 151544
Austin TX 78715-1544

Deceased: No DOD
Clinton P Stephens Sr
Div HQ 11/44-11/45
1706 Killington Rd
Baltimore MD 21204-1807

Deceased: 8/97
Alvin E Stewart
21st 1942
301 Stevens St
Picayune MS 39466-4445

Deceased: 10/97
Kenneth W Tarrant
63rd 5/42-8/45
214 Common St
Quincy MA 02169-4709

Deceased: 1/98
Joseph E White
19th 40's
3620 Piedmont Ave
San Antonio TX 78223-1217

Deceased: 12/97
Rodney A White
34th 11/51-3/53
PO Box 125
Center Ossipee NH 03814-01

Deceased: 1/97
Bennie M Wiles
24th Med 6/53-10/53
13815 E 24th Pl
Tulsa OK 74134-2221

Deceased: 4/98
James M. O'Donnell
21st
1025 Pleasant Pl., No. 12J
Oak Park IL 60302

Kenwood Ross, active in community, lawyer

AGAWAM — Kenwood Ross, 82, of Cardinal Drive, formerly of Mulberry Street in Springfield, died Saturday at home. He was a law partner with Chester E. Flavin for Ross, Ross & Flavin in Springfield.

He began practicing law with his father, Walter C. Ross for the former Ross & Ross Law firm, where he practiced from 1937 until 1973.

Born in Springfield, he graduated from the former Classical High School. He lived in Springfield most of his life and moved here in 1966.

He graduated from the University of Massachusetts and Northeastern University of Law.

He was an Army veteran with reserve and active duty. He attained the rank of colonel. He served on active duty as a commandant of the 1049th Army Reserve in the Pacific for for three years.

He was a Springfield Housing Authority commissioner from 1967-1968. He was the former president, secretary, treasurer

Obituaries

and editor for the 24th Infantry Division Association.

He was a member and former chairman of the Springfield Citizens Action Commission. He was a member of the American, Massachusetts and Hampden County Bar Associations.

He belonged to the Colony Club of Springfield, the Military Order of World Wars, the Naval Institute and the Retired Officer Association.

He was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity at Northeastern. He was also a former trustee of the Springfield Library and Museums Association and a former member of the Society of William Rice.

He leaves two friends, Chester E. Flavin of Agawam and Beverly M. Corris.

The funeral is Wednesday morning at Sampson Chapel of the Acres Funeral Home with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery, both in Springfield. Calling hours are Tuesday afternoon and evening.

Memorial contributions may be made to any charity.



Kenwood Ross



KENWOOD ROSS
AS CAPTAIN, ORDNANCE
CAMP CARSON, 1942

ROSS

Of Agawam, January 17, 1998, ATTORNEY KENWOOD ROSS,



82, of Cardinal Dr., formerly of Springfield. Loving brother of the late Walter C. Ross, Jr.

Dear friend and law partner of Attorney Chester E. Flavin. Longtime friend of Beverly M. Corris and many others. Funeral home service Wednesday 10 a.m. from the SAMPSON CHAPEL OF THE ACRES FUNERAL HOME, 21 TINKHAM RD., CORNER OF WILBRAHAM RD., with interment in Hillcrest Park Cemetery, both in Springfield. VISITING HOURS TUESDAY 2-4 AND 7-9 P.M. Memorial contributions may be made in his name to the charity of the donor's choice.



SAMPSON
Family Chapels

AFTER GLOW

I'd like the memory of me to be a happy one.

I'd like to leave an after glow of smiles when life is done.

I'd like to leave an echo whispering softly down the ways of happy times and laughing times and bright and sunny days

I'd like the tears of those who grieve to dry before the sun

of happy memories that I leave when life is done.



TAPS (continued)

ARIZONA DAILY SUN,
Flagstaff, Arizona, Sunday
February 8, 1998

LESTER BROWN

Lester G. Brown, 70, died
Feb. 6 at Flagstaff Medical Center.

Mr. Brown was the
beloved husband of Joan and lov-
ing father of children Dan Brown
and Sandy Roessler of Flagstaff;
Judy Weiss of Utah; David Brown
of Mesa; Dale Brown of Illinois
and Nancy Bruch of Wisconsin.

Mr. Brown was the lov-
ing grandfather of 16 grandchil-
dren and one great-grandchild.

He is survived by a step-
brother, Robert Snedigar of Tuc-
son.

Mr. Brown was a mem-
ber of the NRA and was a World
War II Veteran. He was born in
Green Bay, Wisc., and attended
schools in Milwaukee, Wisc. After
discharge from the Army he began
his sales career for Greyhound Bus
Co. and Greyhound Van Lines for
20 years.

He formed his own ware-
house sales company, Key Distri-
bution, in Chiago and retired to
Flagstaff in 1993. He will be
missed deeply by his family and
friends.

Visitation will be Tues-
day, Feb. 10 at Greer's Mountain
View Mortuary from 10 a.m. until
1 p.m. Graveside services will be
at 2 p.m. at Citizens Cemetery in
Flagstaff.

Greer's Mountain View
Mortuary is handling the arrange-
ments.

ELMER D. MCKEEHAN

Elmer D. "Mac" McK-
eehan, 79, of North Charleston, a
retired detective with the crimi-
nal investigation division of the
Charleston Naval Shipyard, died
Wednesday at his residence. The
funeral will be at 11 a.m. Friday
in Carolina Memorial Funeral
Home. Burial will be in Carolina
Memorial Gardens.

Mr. McKeehan was
born in Whitfield County, GA, a
son of Arthur McKeehan and
Nora Harden McKeehan. He was
an Army veteran of the Korean
Conflict where he received the
Bronze star and Combat Infantry
Badge. He was a Mason and a
member of the Scottish Rite,
Omar Temple and Dorchester-
Waylyn Baptist Church.

Surviving are his wife,
Mary Ruth Hannah McKeehan; a
son, Larry W. McKeehan of
Columbia; a daughter, Patricia
M. Partain of Elberton, GA, a
sister, Frances Swinson of Brea,
CA., and two brothers, Melvin
McKeehan of Soddy, TN and
Roy McKeehan of Ringgold,
GA, three grandchildren; and a
great-grandchild.

**Harry and Frances Wittman
attended Memorial services for
Owen Lewis Jr. held by Ko-
rean War Veterans, Mt. Sav-
age, MD group, which Mr.
Lewis was treasurer for the
group. They placed a large
Taro Leaf decal on the ribbon
of the basket of flowers that
they sent to represent the 24th
Infantry Division Association.**

OWEN LEWIS JR.

Westernport - Owen
Lewis Jr., 65, of 210 Ross St.,
Westernport, died Sunday, Jan-
uary 25, 1998, at Winchester Med-
ical Center, Winchester, VA.

Born October 7, 1932, in
Frostburg, he was the son of Eva
Lewis, Frostburg, and the late
Owen Lewis, Sr.

Mr. Lewis was an active
member of the Westernport
Church of the Brethren. He was a
Korean War veteran. He served
with the 101st Green Beret, King-
wood, W.VA., and was a retired
Master Sergeant of the West Vir-
ginia Air National Guard, Martins-
burg, W.VA. He was a member of
Victory Post 155 American Le-
gion, Westernport, and Queens
Point 6775 VFW, McCoolle. He
was retired from Westvaco Corp.
with 42 years of service, having
worked in the Power Center.

Owen also loved to spend
time camping with his grandchil-
dren.

In addition to his mother,
he is survived by his wife of 46
years, Phyllis (Ritchie) Lewis;
four sons, Steve Lewis and wife
Ellen, of Cumberland, David
Lewis and wife Carrie, of West-
ernport, Tim Lewis and wife
Nancy, of Bowie, and Keith Lewis
and Donna Hartman, of Westem-
port; three sisters, Janie Stafford,
Lonaconing, Donna Summers-
Preston, Frederick, and Ruth Ann
Neilson, Frostburg; two brothers,
Marvin Lewis, Buffalo, N.Y., and
Dale Lewis, Lonaconing; nine
grandchildren, Shelby Whetstone,
Ashley Lewis, Amy Lewis, Wade
Lewis, Shaun Lewis, Mallory
Lewis, Amanda Lewis, Jaime



TAPS (Continued)

Lewis, Trevor Lewis, Tyler Lewis and Taryn Lewis; three step-grandchildren, Brooke Boyce, Nikki Boyce and Patric Boyce; and three great-children, Erika Whetstone, Brandon Whetstone and Matthew Whetstone.

Friends will be received at the Boal Funeral Home, West-ernport, on Tuesday from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 pm.

Queens Point VFW will hold a memorial service at the funeral home Tuesday at 7 pm.

Services will be conducted at the Westernport Church of the Brethren on Wednesday, January 28th at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Ervin Huston and the Rev. William Shimer officiating.

Interment will be in the Maryland State Veterans Cemetery at Rocky Gap, where full military honors will be accorded by the combined veterans organizations.

Pallbearers will be Randy Stafford, Johnny DiUbaldo, and grandsons Wade Lewis, Trevor Lewis, Shaun Lewis and Tyler Lewis. Honorary pallbearers will be Tom Morris, Jim Hartman, Gene Hayhew, and members of the Korean War Veterans Association.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Westernport Church of the Brethren, or the Tri-Towns Rescue Squad.

William A. Oliver of 2474 N. 17th St., Springfield, OR 97477 writes about the death of his friend, **Joe White**: First Sergeant Joe White passed away January 22, 1998. He was stationed at Schofield Barracks as the First Sergeant of Com-

pany H, 19th Infantry, 24th Division, then Territory of Hawaii.

Joe, his wife Jennie, and their small children were able to escape as a Japanese Zero was firing at them as they fled their NCO Quarters on December 7, 1941. He was my 1st Sgt. from October 1939 until February 1943. I will always remember him as a wonderful person and as a big brother to me. Anyone wishing to send his family any correspondence, please write to: Jennie White, 3620 Piedmont, San Antonio, TX 78223. He was at one time a member of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association.

Bill Hosler, 409 Sharon Avenue, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-6631 writes of the death of Jack A. Campagno:

Jack A. Campagno, 68, of 23 Newville Road, Shippensburg, died Sunday, Feb. 1, 1998, in Carlisle Hospital.

Born August 8, 1929 in Hagerstown, MD., he was a son of the late Joseph and Catherine Kretzer White.

Mr. Campagno was retired from Letterkenny Army Depot, Chambersburg and was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War who was decorated with the Bronze Star.

He was a member of Our Lady of the Visitation Catholic Church, Oscar M. Hykes American Legion Post 223, Durff-Kuhn VFW Post 6168, all of Shippensburg, and Disabled American Veterans.

Surviving are his wife, Phyllis J. Frohm Campagno; a son, Joseph A. of Chambersburg;

a brother, Kenneth White of Maudgansville, MD; a sister, Rose White of Hagerstown, MD.; and three grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday in Fogelsanger-Bricker Funeral Home, Shippensburg, with the Rev. Larry Sherdel officiating. Burial will be in Spring Hill Cemetery, Shippensburg.

Friends may call Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. at the funeral home, where a Christian wake service will be conducted at 7 p.m.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Leukemia Society of America, Central Pennsylvania Chapter, 800 Corporate Circle, Harrisburg, PA 17101.

Raul Baccay, 260 Saybrook Way, Vallejo, CA 94591 writes of the death of his father, Clark Baccay.

Your kind expression of sympathy is appreciated on behalf of the Baccay family. "Enclosed is a copy of the "memoirs" my father wrote.

MEMOIRS

On March 20, 1936, I enlisted for the first time with the Philippine Scouts at Fort McKinley as Company F, 45th Infantry (PS). My term of enlistment was three years and reenlisted every completion of my enlistment. The year 1940 was notably memorable due to the expansion of the Philippine Scouts and eventually sudden promotions were made to fill up the table of organizations as prescribed for the division. At that time, I was a company clerk and was promoted



TAPS (continued)

to the grade of Sergeant. In the meantime, my transfer was effected mutually between my Company Commander and the Aide of General Parker of the newly organized II Phil. Corps for me to serve as the General's personal clerk and at the same time the G-2 Clerk of the Corps. Then, World War II loomed in the bright skies of the Pacific on December 7, 1941. Pearl Harbor was bombed simultaneously with the rest of the world. All troops in the garrison were ordered to the fields. Bataan was then made the last stand of the forces in Luzon. From here too came the inevitable surrender of our forces under General Wainwright followed by the infamous "Death March" towards Capas, Tarlac where we were all interned. I was a member of this "march" and was concentrated on April 23, 1942 and later released conditionally on August 3, 1942 due to sickness for lack of food and medicine. After release from the concentration camp, I recuperated and then worked with the National Bureau of Investigation in Manila doing some underground espionage in guise as morgue attendant. Not long after, the promise of General MacArthur of the noted "I Shall Return" version finally came to the light as the liberating American troops begun pouring in to regain the lost ground from the Japanese forces all over the Philippine soil. At Fort McKinley, the 11th Airborne Division better known as the "Angels" started its campaign. For us who once donned the uniform of Uncle Sam the past years, immediately reported to join them in their mopping up operations to-

wards the provinces of Rizal-Cavite-Batangas-Laguna-Quezon. I was attached to the Intelligence and Reconnaissance Section of the 187th Paraglider Regiment. Then came the hour of report to the military control at the 5th Replacement Depot in Alabang, Rizal where our records were screened and processed and then assigned to the different Military Police Battalions, Army Graves Registration Service Units, and to the Recruiting Detachments. I was assigned to Team No. 9 Recruiting Detachment for Mindanao area. In the meantime, the 12th Infantry Division was being organized composed of the newly recruited men and the former Philippine Scouts. From the remnants of the old Philippine Scouts, a number was selected to undergo examinations at the Officer Candidate School of the 86th Infantry Division (Blackhawk) at Marikina, Rizal together with some Philippine Army Officers. Those who passed were commissioned in the Army of the United States and assigned to the 12th Infantry Division. On July 31, 1946, I passed the Screening Board and was commissioned. Assigned to the 45th Infantry Regiment at Camp O'Donnell, Tarlac and started with the training of the division. Later our units as we completed the training cycles were sent to different areas for guard and security missions. This same year 1946, another phase of significance came about—Naturalization. This was a blessing for us all who have devoted a great portion of our ser-

vice and a great honor to become a citizen of the United States. I was naturalized on November 12, 1946. At this stage, the sad word from higher command was received to disband the division. The great number of the enlisted men were discharged while others were able to enlist in the Philippine Army and continued their services. To some of us old Philippine Scouts, we were all given examinations for enlistment in the Regular Army while others who flunked the examinations took advantage of the educational benefits under the so called GI Bill. Likewise, officers of the division were reverted to the enlisted ranks, took the examinations and enlisted in the regular army. All of us were then assigned to the 8135th Service Unit at Clark Base to await shipping orders for the continental United States for our initial assignment in the Zone of Interior. On October, 1949, our long awaited orders came through. Our first journey to the new world at last...aboard USNS General Walker. We left our fair isles to have a glimpse of another world totally different from ours. As we go farther to our destination, we then realized this was a new venture, a challenge, and a vast source of experience. When we reached our new station, our records were screened and finally assigned us to the different army areas. My duty assignment initially was with the Reassignment and Separation Center at Camp Stoneman, California. In 1950, the Korean Crisis came to view. Troops were immediately dispatched to that area. For obvious reasons, when my tour was almost completed, I



Sargeant Major Clark Baccay



TAPS (Continued)

received my shipping orders for overseas—most probably Korea. Assigned to the First Cavalry Regiment (Garry Owens) as Bn. Sgt. Major. My unit was in the front-line. After awhile, our division was ordered to move in Hokkaido, Japan to await further reassignment of the personnel to the zone of interior. My assignment was for Fort Myers, Virginia to work at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. Later, I volunteered with another overseas assignment. This time I was given MAAG assignment with the Nationalist Chinese in Formosa. Another phase of duty assignment rather diplomatic in nature mingling military and civilian alike. I was then the Sgt. Major of the group in the Armor School at Taichung, the site of the Armor School in Formosa. In 1954, another move was contemplated for the ZI towards the East Coast of the United States. At Fort Totten, New York, my grade and military occupational specialty has no opening for me and so I was routed to Fort Hamilton, New York and later assigned for duty at Fort Meade, Maryland. The situation all over the army areas regarding MOS and corresponding grades was rather gloomy having so many surplus personnel at that time. I felt another overseas duty was again in order. Back once more to Korea for the second time and duty with another equally famous division in the frontline—the 24th Infantry Division. Assigned as a Bn. Sgt. Major for the Rock Regiment (19th Inf. Regt.). Upon completion of my tour, I find myself bound for the United States again and I realized then that I have reached the peak of my mili-

tary career having now attained almost over 22 years of continuous, faithful, loyal and honorable service to Uncle Sam. My last assignment was with the Tank Bn., Armor School Troops at Fort Knox, Kentucky. In May, 1958, my application papers for retirement were forwarded to Washington. This time I wanted most of all to be with my family who have shared with me the many sacrifices, happiness, success and all the long untiring efforts, unfailing devotion and honest service to the country I will forever serve in peace and in war will undoubtedly grant me my last token and reward—Retirement. Glancing back once and awhile at the reflections of the past services with the United States Army, I cannot but bear expressing my sincere appreciation and full heartfelt gratitude and wish to thank all my beloved officers and comrades in arms with whom I have served in the service—I salute you all. The immortal words of the greatest Army General Douglas MacArthur, "Old soldiers will never die but will just fade away" will reverberate forever.

Clark Baccay
U S Army Retired

Mrs David L Nelson writes of the death of her husband:

"I am sorry to have to tell you my wonderful husband of 42 1/2 years has passed away. It happened on January 30, 1998. He had small cell lung cancer and fought hard for 10 months. He

is at peace now and in a much better place. I am sending you a copy of his obituary and a poem written by a family member. It would be nice if you could put it in the next newsletter."

David L. Nelson

Retired Sgt. Maj. David L. Nelson, 64 Fayetteville, N.C., died Friday at the V.A. Medical Center in Fayetteville.

Mr. Nelson served in the U.S. Army for 30 years. He fought in the Korean and Vietnam wars and earned the Korean Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, two Combat Infantryman badges, the Bronze Star Medal and the Master Parachute Badge.

He was former president of the Special Forces Decade Association and a member of D.A.V. Chapter 46. Mr. Nelson completed Special Forces training before Airborne Jump School; served as a body guard for the U.S. ambassador to Vietnam, Henry Cabot Lodge Jr; was a former member of the Knights of Columbus; and served as physical security manager for the 1st Special Operations Command.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret, of Fayetteville; one daughter, Diana Nelson of Fayetteville; five sons, David L. Nelson of Rockfish, N.C., SFC Blake W. Nelson, Sanford Nelson and Robert B. Nelson, all of Fayetteville, and Bryan M. Nelson of Autryville, N.C., three sisters, Elizabeth Gosnell of Ashland, JoAnn Simmons of Cox Mills, W.Va. and Tudy Whetzel of Ashland; one brother William Nelson of Ashland and 8 grandchildren.

TAPS
(continued)



HE IS WITH THE FATHER

God took your loved one by the hand
And led him to a quiet land
Where there's no pain and he can rest
Upon the Father's loving breast
Where he can watch from up above
With tender eyes, with heartfelt love
With heavy heart he said goodbye
And found that mansion in the sky
He took his place with those above
Who know God's tender, endless love
He knows someday he'll see once more
All those on earth he did adore

He's smiling down from God's great throne
And saying "Please don't feel alone
Please don't be sad for I have found
A place where peace and rest abound
Please don't cry, do not despair
I'm in my Father's loving care
And I will wait until you're home
When we'll unite at God's great throne
Oh, what a reunion that will be
When all your faces I shall see
Til then my love will never cease
I am at home, I am at peace"

MAY GOD COMFORT ALL OF YOU
UNTIL YOU MEET AGAIN

BOBBIE FISHER

In loving memory of David Nelson



TAPS (continued)

From Dr Stanley C. Kaiser, 251 Auburndale Avenue, Newton, MA 02166: I am submitting to you an obituary notice for my best 24th Division buddy. It's a sad task. Please publish this in the next Taro Leaf. In addition to being close in our fighting days, we were very close for many years after we left the service. He lived about 1/2 mile from me in Quincy.

Sgt. Kenneth W. Tarrant : a soldier and a gentleman stood his last retreat on Thursday October 2, 1997 at the age of 78. He served as 1st Sgt. in A battery of the 63rd F.A. In deepest sadness he leaves his wife Alice of more than fifty years of wedded bliss. There are four children: Linda, Kenneth, Jr., David and Laura. In addition to these, he has nine grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Ken was a life long resident of Quincy, Massachusetts. Where he was employed as manager of a liquor business. He will be sadly missed. "As we go, this we know, GOD IS NIGH." submitted by Capt. Stanley C. Kaiser, Division Artillery Dental Surgeon and "Best Buddy" to Ken and his family. May he rest in peace.

A note from Paul Cain: "Just received word that **Ray Ashley** former Plt Sgt. Co "K" 34th Infantry, WWII from Oahu to Mindanao passed away in the Veterans Hospital, Tuscalusco, Alabama. January 1998.



DEDICATION

Rodney A. White, Sr.

Rodney A. White, Sr.

The history of Ossipee cannot be written without mention of Rodney A. White, Sr. born and raised in Center Ossipee, he experienced a changing community and enjoyed learning its history. Rodney's father, Belmont, was the Road Agent and passed on the ethic of hard work and dedication it took to do the job correctly and live a complete life.

Answering the call to service, Rodney entered the United States Army in 1951. He served through 1953; a proud Sergeant with the 24th Infantry Division, 34th Regiment which was stationed in Japan during the Korean Conflict. Rodney

returned home having received lessons in leadership that would serve him the rest of his life.

At the end of his tour of duty, he returned to his beloved Ossipee and worked under his father with the Highway Department. In the mid 1950's Rodney's father became ill and Rodney shouldered many of the Road Agent responsibilities. In 1958, his father died and the Selectmen appointed Rodney to continue as Road Agent. Keeping his father's tradition, Rodney conscientiously worked with the best interests of the Town in mind. Other parts of his life were looking up as well.

TAPS (continued)



On Christmas Eve of 1965 Rodney married his sweetheart of several years, Linda. They moved into a brand new manufactured home on the White homestead. Soon the White household was growing with the addition of a son, Rodney, Jr. Now thoughts turned to building a house on the property and Rodney did something many think about but few do; take a few years off and build a house using wood harvested from the property. Starting in 1971, trees were milled into boards and were left to dry in the back yard. A planing machine was soon in the front yard and materials were readied for construction and the house completed.

The Whites began traveling together by automobile so they could experience the richness and history of other communities across this Nation and indulge themselves in their true love, country music. In time, Rodney, his wife Linda and son Rodney, Jr. would visit each one of the lower 48 states and Rodney would reaffirm friendships with fellow veterans from as far away as South Dakota. Numerous trips were made to Nashville, Dollywood, and later Branson, Missouri. With the conclusion of each trip however, a stop was made in Hershey, Pennsylvania where chocolate was procured for his many friends and colleagues in Ossipee. You knew Rodney was back from vacation when the chocolates appeared. Rodney was quite satisfied with his life in 1975 but things were to change and another phase of Rodney's life was to begin.

It started with a sum-

mons to a Selectmen's meeting and a request to return as Road Agent. Rodney must have felt the old urge for public service for he accepted the job and became more active in community affairs. He conscientiously performed his duties and served with a higher level of consistent quality. Often Rodney would be seen inspecting roads, streams, and culverts at any time both day and night. He developed (or inherited from his father) the ability to stand in the sunshine of his Ossipee Mountain home and know Granite was experiencing a downpour. His talent for quiet leadership was making its mark. In 1980, Rodney was instrumental in the founding of the Ossipee Valley Memorial Veteran's of Foreign Wars Post #8270 where he was a Charter and Life member. He became a member of the Harriman-Hale American Legion Post 18 in Wolfeboro. Wanting to do more for Ossipee, Rodney was strumental in the forming of the Ossipee Old Home Week celebrations which draw thousands to Ossipee each fourth of July. Rodney was a member of the Ossipee Elks Lodge #2774 and a member of the Ossipee Historical Society.

Rodney was very proud to be a part of this community. He was proud to have a thorough knowledge of its history and to have been a part of its growth. We too are proud to have had in our ranks such a thoughtful, honest and considerate man; a man who performed so selflessly for this community. It is with little surprise the VFW Post where Rodney contributed

so much is in the process of re-naming itself the Rodney A White, Sr. VFW Post #8270. We are proud of his commitment as well and dedicate the 1997 Town Report to Rodney A. White, Sr.

The dedication on Rodney A. White, Sr. was sent in by his wife, Linda. Linda writes, "I lost my husband, Rodney A. White, Sr., (a member of the 24th Inf Div Association) last December 17, 1997. He had a massive heart attack—he had never been sick a day in his life and had never been in the hospital and one day he came home from work and said he did not feel well; within 1 1/2 hours he was gone. The Lord took him so fast without any warning. We were married 32 years the 24th of December. He was a wonderful husband and father. It is so hard without him.

Please find enclosed a tribute to him and a dedication in our 1997 Town Report.

Rodney loved the "Taro Leaf" and looked forward to each issue.

We have a son, Roddy, Jr., who is just like his father—wonderful, considerate.

Thank you and my prayers and love are with you.

In Patriotism and Love,
Linda M. White





TAPS (continued)



OSSIPEE / TUFTONBORO NOTES

539-4750

By
Gaye Berry Hodgdon

Lakes Region Courier

December 31, 1997

Gaye bids farewell to a friend

I was shocked and saddened, just as you, to hear of the passing of Rodney White. I was hoping it was a rumor. That was a state of denial, but when I drove by Ossipee Town Hall and saw the flags at half mast, I knew they had lost an honorable man.

Rodney White was head of highway departments for some 40 years and the void was already setting in for co-workers, town fathers and administration.

Remember Will Rogers saying, "I never met a man I didn't like"? Well, that was Rodney, and there was nobody who didn't like him, an honor not too many can boast about.

Rodney was a wonderful husband and father. He was loving and understanding, sympathetic, but always gave good advice, sensitive and very honest, honorable and a gentleman, intelligent and fun to be with, wise, kind and wonderful.

Always fair...even to Democrats

Rodney was aware of today's issues and was always fair...even to us Democrats. He always referred to me as "Mrs. Clinton", so you see, he had a great sense of humor.

Rodney often reminded me of my "heavy foot" and passed the word on to his road crew. I'll never forget the day I was cruising down Lindy Nichols Road and came upon the "boys" working on the restoration of ruts, and all of a sudden Rodney and a few

others headed right down over the banking in "fear for their lives."

Rodney was always laughing and smiling, which made you aware of the gentleness he possessed. Rodney was a lover of country music, and he and his family traveled many miles cross country every year to the south and the west someones, to enjoy the Grand Ole Opry, Branson, Nashville and Dollywood.

Hearing the melodies

There never was a trip when they didn't visit old friends along the way and family members who had moved away from the area. In the midst of a busy day, it takes effort to hear all the melodies around you, but he did. Rodney was a symphony of life.

Loved it and lived it fully right to the end.

Christmas eve would have been Linda and Rodney's 32nd anniversary...all those years were filled with love, honor and respect...love, laughter and joy...a togetherness some people only dream about.

This is what will get Linda through this loss, plus the devotion and love from Roddy and her family and loving friendships. Remember, when someone you love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure.

Our deepest condolences as we, as well as the community, Veterans of Foreign Wars and American Legion mourn the passing of Rodney White.

Jack Thomas Pink, a retired U.S. Army brigadier general, died Thursday, January 1, 1998, at his home in Melbourne, FL. He was 76.

Mr. Pink was a native of Rochester, born June 10, 1921. He was married for 36 years to Elaine Trimby of Brighton, who died in 1980. He graduated from West High School in 1939 and from Bucknell University in 1947. After graduation he returned home to work in his father's business, Pink's Pattern and Foundry. He rejoined the military in 1951 and furthered his education receiving a master's degree in business from Syracuse University and attending Harvard University's advanced business school in 1969.

Mr. Pink retired from the U.S. military after 32 years of service. In World War II, he served as a navigator on B-17's; in Korea he was a platoon leader in the 19th Infantry; and in Vietnam he was secretary to Gens. William Westmoreland and Creighton Abrams.

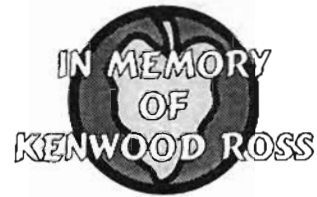
He was stationed in Fort Leavenworth, KS., at the Command and General Staff School from 1962 to 1963; the Army War College in Carlisle, PA from 1965-66; and did several tours in Washington, D.C., at the Pentagon. Other assignments included military attache at the U.S. Embassy in Paris, from 1959 to 1962, and commandant of the Adjutant General School in Indianapolis, IN from 1969 to 1971.

Mr. Pink received two Bronze Stars, a Distinguished Service Medal, a Presidential Unit Citation, the Korean Presidential Citation, the Legion of Merit, and One Oak-leaf cluster, among other awards.

He was a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, Retired Officers Association, Army-Navy Country Club; and Indian River Colony Club.

He is survived by his wife, Klara; three children from his first marriage, Judith Wilson of Fairfax Station, VA, Richard Pink of Suisun City, CA and Ronald Pink of Magnolia, DE; six grandchildren; one great-granddaughter, and a sister, Beverly Reynolds of Fairport.

Services were held at Fort Myers, Arlington, VA, with burial in Arlington National Cemetery.



Last Word

Forty-nine years ago, almost to the very day, I, sitting on a log on the beach at Taloma, Mindanao, Philippine Islands, participated in the parturition of this Association. And I've been working for it ever since.

For nigh onto 50 years, this Association and its Division have been my love.

Now, after some 250 Taro Leaf issues, it is time to do something different, so I'm going to leave.

This has been a marvelous job in a magnificent organization. I have been incredibly lucky, deeply grateful for and truly appreciative of the fact that you chose to read what I have inflicted upon you over the years.

I cannot go on without first a tribute to my gal, Beverly Corris, who has been faithfully beside me through 37 of those years whilst together we performed the myriad duties of secretary, treasurer and editor that the ship would stay afloat. I could not have done it alone.

And I'd be remiss if I did not acknowledge the pleasure which has been all mine in receiving and filing away the plaudits which so many of you - literally beyond counting - have directed my way.

And now as the twilight shadows deepen, I have become acutely aware that I have had few privileges so valuable as the privilege of being of service to people like you.

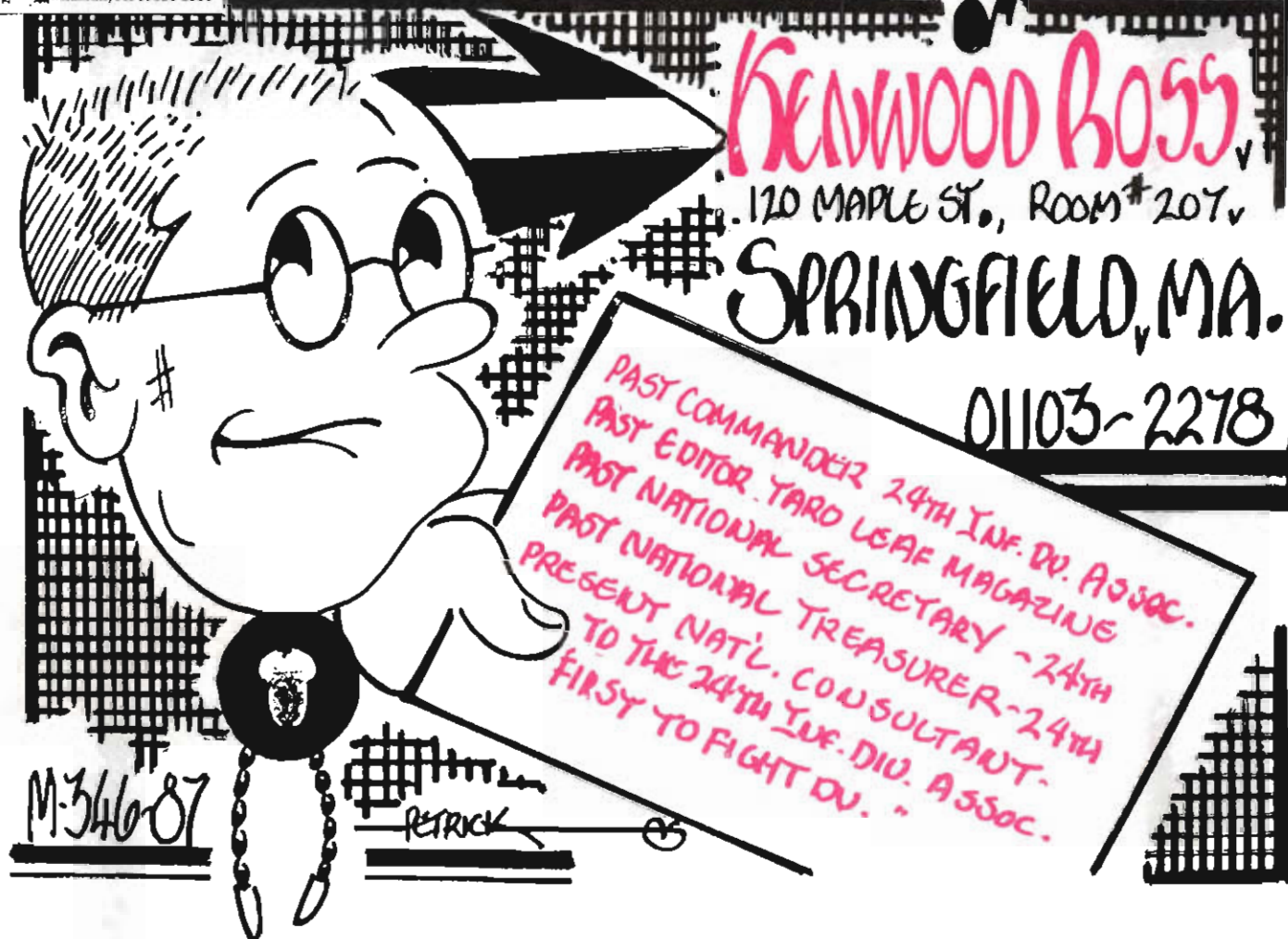
I remain your humble, if somewhat recalcitrant, servant and bid you an affectionate au revoir.

Faithfully,

KENWOOD ROSS

This notice in T.L. #6 - August '94 was as hard for him to write as it was for our membership to receive.

Michael C. Petrick
6456 Craig Ave.
Bensalem, PA 19020-2560



Ken Ross received many 9 x 12 mailings from Mike Petrick. Each envelope was always decorated. He was quite impressed with this one. Each was colorful and always brought a smile to his face.



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