



24th Infantry Division Association
FIRST TO FIGHT



Taro Leaf



VOL. 54 No. 2

Memorial Day

May 2000

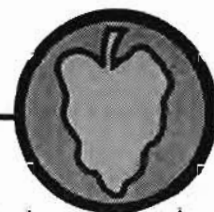


Manila Military Cemetery

*Veteran of World War II Bobbie Myers returning to the Philippines in 1984
with a group of veterans and wives led by Joseph Hofrichter and Charlotte.
15,000 American servicemen are buried here.*

(Reprinted with permission from "Doctor & Soldier In the South Pacific" by Philip H. Hostetter, M.D.)

24th Infantry Division Association



President

Harold (Corky) Peters
(Co. G 21st)
14030 Xanthus Avenue
Rogers, MN 55374-9332
Tel. 612-427-2433
Fax. 612-427-5944

Vice President

Robert Smith
(BTRY A 11th FABN '49-'51)
7721 Deer Ln.
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 55494-9119
Tel. 715-325-5057

Secretary-Treasurer

Will Schumaker
(27th S/88-'92)
1300 East Hartley
Ozark, MO 65721-8437
Tel. 417-581-2127
E-mail: schu24id@email.msn.com

Editor

Yvonne (Vonnice) Mullins
31150 See View Dr.
Rocky Mount, MO 65072-2903
Tel. 573-365-1007
Fax. 573-365-7872
E-mail: rudyvoni@lakeozark.net

Chaplain

Glen Carpenter
(21st 2/62-1/64)
503 Michigan Street
Buchanan, MI 49107
Tel. 616-695-2934

Historian

Joseph J. McKeon
(19th '49-'51)
12733 Muscatine Street
Arleta, CA 91331-4245
Tel. 818-768-1704
E-mail: JMckeon827@aol.com

Membership Chairman

Wallace F. Kuhnner
(24th Recn. Co. '43-'45)
1637 Falmouth Street
Charleston, SC 29407-3926
Tel. 843-766-8890

Quartermaster

Harry L. Withman, Jr.
(G Co. 21st Inf. '51-'52)
1385 Tern Street
Keyser, WV 26726-2119
Tel. 304-788-0465

Reunion Coordinator

Wes Morrison
21st (F) 9/50-1/51
452 Gloria Circle
Marina, CA 93933-4027
Tel. 831-384-0139

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, the 24th Infantry Division, the 24th Infantry Division Association or the Editor of the Taro Leaf.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

IT HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION TO BE AWARE
OF UNAUTHORIZED PERSON OR PERSONS COLLECTING FOR
THE WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL.
PLEASE CHECK WITH THE PRESIDENT HAROLD PETERS IF
YOU ARE IN DOUBT WHEN ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE.

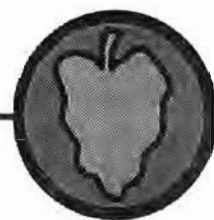
VOLUME 54 NO. 1 FEBRUARY 2000

IN THIS ISSUE

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Letter from the Editor | Page 3 |
| Letter from the President | Page 4 |
| Letter from Gen. Barry McCaffrey to a Reporter | Page 5 |
| Fort Riley Open House | Page 6 |
| Report from VP Robert H. Smith | Page 7 |
| Article (Roy H. Welch) | Page 8 |
| Fort Riley News Release | Page 9, 28, 65 |
| Why We Should Celebrate Veterans by Sean Azadi | Page 10 |
| Taro Leaf Notes by Jim Hill | Page 11-12 |
| 24th IDA Reunion Forms | Pages 13-22 |
| Korean War Commemorative Events for 2000 | Page 24 |
| Article Sent in by Bill Bair | Page 25 |
| National D-Day Museum Events June 3-6, 2000 | Page 26-27 |
| Who Will Remember by Lee T. Grimes | Page 29 |
| Article sent in by Bob Haines | Page 30-31 |
| No Courage For Tomorrow and "The Llewellyn Brothers" (Picture by P.H. Hostetter) | Page 32 |
| 50th Anniversary of the Korean War | Page 33-34 |
| From Members | Page 35-36 |
| Excerpts From Letters To The Editor | Page 37-38, 46-49 |
| Earl Lee | 40, 41, 50-52 |
| Battle Fatigue by Philip H. Hostetter, M.D. | Page 42-43 |
| Corporal Dumas by James F. Hill | Page 44-45 |
| Letter to and Commentary by Col. J.M. Williamson | Page 53-55 |
| Trip to Korea by Wes Morrison -Pictures | Page 57-61 |
| North From Davao by Cpl. Richard Lewis | Page 62-63 |
| Right to Representation by Bill Lambert | Page 64 |
| Piece of the War in the Pacific by LTC Karl Hirlinger | Page 66-68 |
| Poppy Day by David Baillie | Page 68 |
| TAPS | Page 73-76 |

2000 Reunion
27 Sept. - Oct. 1, 2000
The Drawbridge Estates
2477 Royal Dr.
Covington, KY 41017-3599
Tel. 1-606-341-2800
Toll Free - 800-354-9193

24th Infantry Division Association



President

Harold (Corky) Peters
(Co. G 21st)
14030 Xanthus Avenue
Rogers, MN 55374-9332
Tel. 612-427-2433
Fax. 612-427-5944

Ice President

Robert Smith
(BTRY A 11th FABN '49-'51)
7721 Deer Ln.
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 55494-9119
Tel. 715-325-5057

Will Schumaker
Secretary-Treasurer
(2/7th 5/88-5/92)
1300 East Hanley
Ozark, MO 65721-8437
Tel. 417-581-2127
E-mail: schu24id@gmail.com
Will Schumaker
80906

Editor

Yvonne (Vonnie) Mullins
31150 See View Dr.
Rocky Mount, MO 65072-2903
Tel. 573-365-1007
Fax. 573-365-7872
E-mail: rudyvoni@lakeozark.net

Chaplain

Glen Carpenter
(21st 2/62-1/64)
503 Michigan Street
Buchanan, MI 49107
Tel. 616-695-2934

Historian

Joseph J. McKeon
(19th '49-'51)
12733 Muscatine Street
Arleta, CA 91331-4245
Tel. 818-768-1704
E-mail: JMcKeon827@aol.com

Membership Chairman

Wallace F. Kuhnert
(24th Recn. Co. '43-'45)
1637 Falmouth Street
Charleston, SC 29407-3926
Tel. 843-766-8890

Quartermaster

Harry L. Wittman, Jr.
(G Co. 21st Inf. '51-'52)
1385 Tern Street
Keyser, WV 26726-2119
Tel. 304-788-0465

Reunion Coordinator

Wes Morrison
21st (F) 9/50-1-51
452 Gloria Circle
Manna, CA 93933-4027
Tel. 831-384-0139

2000 Reunion
27 Sept. - Oct. 1, 2000
The Drawbridge Estates
2477 Royal Dr.
Covington, KY 41017-3599
Tel. 1-606-341-2800
Toll Free - 800-354-9193

April 14, 2000

Letter From the Editor

I want to let all of you know that our Chaplain for many years, Joe Hofrichter is recovering from surgery. Charlotte said that the melanoma cancer that was found on Joe's brain was successfully removed on March 28, 2000. Joe will be having 10 radiation treatments. Joe and Charlotte we love you and are praying for your improvement every day. All of you will remember the beautiful letters Joe wrote for the Taro Leaf all of the years that he was our Association Chaplain. Now it is our turn Joe, to remember you. Joe and Charlotte's address is: 134 Tocopilla St., Port Charlotte FL 33983-4261; Phone Number: 941-764-9458 and email address is: charjoe@nut-n-but.net

Charlotte reports that Joe is feeling much better and is up every day and looking forward to going home soon.

I received a note from our General Barry McCaffrey and he enclosed a copy of his "Victory" address as given to the soldiers of the 4/64th Armor Regiment following Desert Storm. The speech is contained in its entirety in a recently published book "TUSKERS: An Armor Battalion in the Gulf War", by David S. Pierson, Darlington Publications, Darlington, MD, January 2000 (ISBN 0965879352). Thank you so much for writing General, and I did enjoy reading your "VICTORY" address.

I received a phone call from our President Harold Peters wanting to include information regarding the two scholarships to be given this year. You may contact James F. Hill, 260 Shelli Lane, Roswell, GA 30075-2967 in regards to the criteria for these two \$500.00 scholarships.

Again I would like to mention to all members to look on the label on the back page of your Taro Leaf magazine. The Expiration Date is the date that your \$15.00 dues are due. We do send out past due notices when necessary, however, we certainly appreciate you taking the time to look at your label on the magazine and thereby cutting the cost of having to send a notice. The dues are minimal and everyone receives four magazines (80 pages each) annually. We do receive contributions which greatly aid in keeping the Taro Leaf in print. I do want to thank all of you who contribute and keep our association alive. There is no way we can keep in contact with 3000 members without cost.

Many of our own association members have written books about their experiences in WWII and the Korean War. If anyone would like to buy a book, you may contact me and I will be glad to let you know what books are available.

This is our Memorial Day remembrance issue and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you veterans for the freedom that we enjoy. God love each one of you and bless you for your tenacious courage. We also remember the ones that gave their all, their very lives in war, in the line of duty and God help all of us TO NEVER FORGET.

Vonnie

24th Infantry Division Association



President

Harold (Corky) Peters
(Co. G 21st)
14030 Xanthus Avenue
Rogers, MN 55374-9332
Tel. 612-427-2433
Fax. 612-427-5944

Vice President

Robert Smith
(BTRY A 11th FABN '49-'51)
7721 Deer Ln.
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 55494-9119
Tel. 715-325-5057

Secretary-Treasurer

Will Schumaker
(27th 5/88-5/92)
1300 East Hartley
Ozark, MO 65721-8437
Tel. 417-581-2127
E-mail: schu24id@email.msn.com

Editor

Yvonne (Vonnice) Mullins
31150 See View Dr.
Rocky Mount, MO 65072-2903
Tel. 573-365-1007
Fax. 573-365-7872
E-mail: rudyvoni@lakeozark.net

Chaplain

Glen Carpenter
(21st 2/62-1/64)
503 Michigan Street
Buchanan, MI 49107
Tel. 616-695-2934

Historian

Joseph J. McKeon
(19th '49-'51)
12733 Muscatine Street
Arleta, CA 91331-4245
Tel. 818-768-1704
E-mail: JMckeon827@aol.com

Membership Chairman

Wallace F. Kuhner
(24th Recn. Co. '43-'45)
1637 Palmouth Street
Charleston, SC 29407-3926
Tel. 843-766-8890

Quartermaster

Harry L. Wittman, Jr.
(G Co. 21st Inf. '51-'52)
1385 Terri Street
Keyser, WV 26726-2119
Tel. 304-788-0465

Reunion Coordinator

Wes Morrison
21st (F) 9/50-1/51
452 Gloria Circle
Marina, CA 93933-4027
Tel. 831-384-0139

Letter from the President:

March 28, 2000

I hope that you all have been enjoying good health and things are fine with you. This has been a very busy year for all the Officers of your Association.

I have been in contact with Fort Riley, coordinating what our Association can do to support the men and families of the three Brigades when they rotate to Bosnia. I have named Jim Hill of the Georgia Brigade, Wally Kuhner of the South Carolina Brigade and Billy Johnson of the North Carolina Brigade to be the ones to coordinate with their brigades. Let's all help where we can. Fort Riley has notified the Commanding Officers of the Three Brigades of our offer.

Registration for the upcoming reunion has been surprisingly early, the first member to register is H. Douglas Jay. To date, over 165 have registered with the hotel. So, get your hotel registrations in. Bill Kerns, our on site Chairman is doing a great job for us. Bill has some great surprises in store for us.

I have been informed that the Navy has named a ship after one of our members, SFC Nelson V. Britton, a member of I Company, 19 Infantry, who was killed in Korea. SFC Britton was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions on March 7, 1951. I have asked Jim Hill to represent the Association at the Christening of the Ship on July 1, 2000 in New Orleans, LA.

I also asked Wesley R. Morrison to go to Korea, at no expense to the Association. This is a trip to familiarize our Representative with upcoming activities for the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War. Wesley is keeping us up to date on what will be taking place over the next three years.

Fort Riley has notified me that they are having an Open House on May 6, 2000 and everyone is invited. My hopes are that many of our Association members will attend.

As you all know, it is once again time to nominate for the VERBECK award. It is awarded to the member who best displays the ideals of Bill Verbeck. It was to be awarded to the member best showing real effort in furthering the best interests of the Association and the Division. It was not intended to reward mere popularity and the like. It was intended to reward sleeves-rolled-up hard work in helping to make the Association into a successfully operating organization. I have named the following members to serve on the VERBECK Award Committee: Warren G. Avery, Chairman; LTG Donald Rosenblum (ret); John E. Klump; John Shay and Dr. Philip Hostetter. The Committee must inform the Chairman on or before June 15, 2000 of their choice.

Also, it is important that you let your Nominating Committee know who your Nominee is for the following positions: President; Vice President; Sec'y Treasurer and Editor. The Nominating Committee is as follows: Norman Wolak, Chairman; Ben Wahle; Clyde Neal; Jim Hill and Bob Lawhon.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Covington.

In Camaraderie:

Harold (Corky) Peters
President

2000 Reunion
27 Sept. - Oct. 1, 2000
The Drawbridge Estates
2477 Royal Dr.
Covington, KY 41017-3599
Tel. 1-606-341-2800
Toll Free - 800-354-9193



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY

Washington, D.C. 20503

March 17, 2000

Personnel

Mr. David Remnick
Editor, *The New Yorker*
20 West 43rd Street
New York, New York 10036-7400

Dear Mr. Remnick:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that I plan not to grant a personal interview to Seymour Hersh. His behavior while interviewing sources over the past several months seems to demonstrate a lack of objectivity and fairness. He stated to one of his sources that his "purpose was to bury McCaffrey." Remarkable.

The standards of objectivity of *The New Yorker* are not an issue. My role as a public official affecting U.S. drug policy should be fully open to scrutiny. I am also enormously proud of the 24th Infantry Division and welcome review of my leadership of their extraordinary performance in battle during the Persian Gulf War. However, several sources have called me to say that Mr. Hersh has made a number of false allegations during his interviews. I have asked these sources to document their conversations with him. He specifically claims that during the Gulf War, the 24th Infantry Division committed illegal acts, which were then covered up. These allegations are without foundation. Mr. Hersh should know these claims are false from the statements that were made to him. He also suggests that the 24th Infantry Division falsely reported on battlefield locations. It is simply not credible that a U.S. Army division in combat, employing artillery and air power, and widely equipped with GPS, (global positioning systems) could or would falsely report unit locations.

The interviews Mr. Hersh conducted with former military and civilian associates were characterized by many as defamatory in nature. It is not clear why my record of public service should generate such a level of personal malice. However, it is only fair to give notice that I cannot accept publication of false statements by Mr. Hersh that would dishonor the 24th Infantry Division. Americans are proud and grateful for the disciplined and professional behavior of these nineteen thousand soldiers -- including their commanders. These Gulf War veterans must trust your "fact checking" to prevent false statements from being published that would defame their reputations. Former 24th Infantry Division soldiers are not public officials and they should not tolerate libelous attacks on their good names.

Mr. Hersh may submit questions in writing. He is welcome to any information from ONDCP public affairs regarding Colombia drug policy and our proposed U.S. aid package. I have also suggested to my current and former associates that they agree to speak with Mr. Hersh on the record.

I do have confidence in the fairness of *The New Yorker* and would be willing to respond to your own questions about this situation.

Sincerely,

Barry R. McCaffrey
Director of National Drug Control Policy

21 MARCH 2000

Dear Fellow Veterans -
- Grateful with this reporter.
- He has trouble with the facts!
Barry McCaffrey
"Victory"

FORT RILEY OPEN HOUSE
May 6, 2000 - Marshall Army Air Field

The public-at-large is invited to Marshall Army Air Field May 6 for Fort Riley's Open House. The free event was planned to introduce the public to the job the U.S. Army and Fort Riley do for the nation, community and its citizens.

Featured events

Parade featuring:

- United States Special Operations Command Parachute Team
- Military aircraft and helicopter flyovers
- More than 1,500 soldiers in full battle gear with unit colors
- Military vehicles from the WWII era to today
- Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard

"Own the Night" - Interactive Night Vision Exhibit

- Located in a dark hanger
- Visitors will wear night vision goggles to see the once dark hanger in a cast of green as they observe military action invisible to the naked eye

Tank Battle

- One tank platoon and one Bradley platoon, augmented with Air Defense Artillery, Engineers and Field Artillery will conduct a deliberate attack against a defending enemy.
- Force-on-force tank battle with laser systems will showcase the awesome power of the Army's combined-arms team.

Static vehicle displays featuring:

- Old Thunder, vintage cannon
- WWII Willy's Jeep
- M151 Vietnam-era Jeep
- M1A1 Abrams tank
- Rotary wing aircraft such as Huey and Blackhawk helicopters
- And many others

Kid's activities

- Camouflage face painting
- Mini-obstacle course with certificates of completion

Animal demonstrations

- Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard
- Military Police K9 Team

M-16 Assault Course

- A weapons familiarization station will allow visitors to handle military machineguns, and even test their skills using lasers and blank ammunition

Tours of Fort Riley's Historic District

- Around Main Post
- U.S. Cavalry Museum tours
- Custer House tours

Expo Hall featuring:

- Booths from Fort Riley units and organizations
- Booths from local Chambers of Commerce

Fest Tent

- Variety of food, beverages and souvenirs. Battle of the Bands Competition.

THE KOREAN WAR

U. S. Armed Forces Personnel on Active Duty and Casualty Data*, 1950-1953



DEAR 24TH INFANTRY ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

A report to you from your Association Vice President

The last TARO LEAF carried a letter that I had sent to my Senators, those from Wisconsin. One of the Senators never acknowledged my letter, the other explained that the Senate was naming buildings after past Presidents. He never mentioned the missing soldiers.

I wrote back to him about this and a return letter stated that he was turning this information over to a person in the Madison office.

I gave that person a telephone call and was absolutely dismayed at our conversation. I was advised that a number of other Presidents had known of POWs who were left behind and yet signed peace treaties which left them there.

Shortly after this, CNN and the Milwaukee paper had articles which indicated that American Prisoners of War were still in camps in Siberia and North Korea. I also received a clipping of this from a paper in California.

I have received a number of letters from different individuals in our organization concerning the letters published in the TARO LEAF. I would like to tell you that most were enthused about my work but a small number were critical.

As long as I believe that one Prisoner of War is being held by our one time enemies, against his will. I will never give up trying to gain freedom for him.

Robert H. Smith

Robert H. Smith
Vice President

Kilroy WAS HERE

On a Pacific island during World War II, they were the most welcome words one machine gunner ever read



BRUCE MOSKOWSKI/Tribune photo

Roy Welch, who writes vividly about the assault on his senses during World War II in the Philippines, enjoys writing poetry on his typewriter at home in Tampa.



(Photo from Roy Welch)

Welch was a 22-year-old Army Pvt. 1st Class who had just been discharged.

By ROY H. WELCH
Special to the Tribune

TAMPA — To most people, the expression "Kilroy was here," has no meaning unless they remember life during World War II.

In Army lingo, "Kilroy was here" meant another G.I. had been at a spot before and had cleared the area of dangers, so there was no need to worry.

I was a machine gunner in the 24th Infantry Division, on Leyte Island in the Philippines, in late 1944. One day our platoon was selected to go on a combat patrol deep into enemy territory.

We were veterans who had seen much combat and we figured we were in for a lot of fighting again. We were on super alert as we legged it down a steep hill, headed deep into territory held by an enemy that was a very able fighter.

At the foot of the hill was a crystal clear running mountain stream, and we all paused to fill our canteens. I took a huge gulp from mine, and only then did I glance upstream and spot a dead man lying half immersed in the water.

I Remember It Well

Across the stream was a thickly wooded area, holding who knew what, so we advanced with extreme caution up a thin trail through the jungle. Overhanging vines and dense foliage slowed our progress. Each noise was magnified. Each step took us closer to the enemy. Even the whispering of the wind in the trees sounded menacing.

The sound of a plane overhead heightened the feeling of fear and loneliness as we crept silently up the trail.

Suddenly, our first scout held up his hand to halt us while he investigated something just ahead in a large clearing in the center of the jungle. At the far edge of the clearing was a long, thatched-roof building large enough to be a barracks or assembly hall. It appeared empty.

With nerves as taut as bowstrings we spread out at the edge of the clearing. We advanced through the half-light of a full moon, expecting gunfire to break out any minute. Then came a loud, popping, crashing noise, and we threw ourselves to the ground, ready

to fight — until we saw the source. A huge water buffalo was charging out of the jungle, tearing branches and snorting as he came.

We gathered our senses and crept on toward the building.

When you are in combat, strange things happen to your senses. Tree stumps seem to get up and move. Trees take human form. And as we approached the building, it seemed to pulsate with life and energy, even though we could see no signs of the enemy.

As we got closer, we noticed something above the door. It seemed to be a sign, perhaps in Japanese, but no, it was in English.

It said: "Kilroy was here."

► "I Remember It Well" is a continuing feature of the Prime Time page. Please submit typewritten entries to Lindsay Peterson, The Tampa Tribune, P.O. Box 191, Tampa FL 33601. Include a telephone number. Submissions cannot be returned. You also may submit through e-mail. Send text-only files to Lindsay Peterson at lpeterson@tampatrib.com

FORT RILEY NEWS RELEASE ENGINEERS EARN LEADERSHIP AWARD

By Jon Christoffersen

The 1st Engineer Battalion on Fort Riley recently awarded some of its non-commissioned officers the Maj. Gen. Aubrey Newman Award.

The Newman Award is presented to mid-grade leaders, soldiers and civilians who take a dedicated and innovative approach to the development of their subordinates through their abilities to teach, coach and counsel while providing oversight and motivation.

Upon graduating from the U.S. Military Academy in 1925, Newman was commissioned as an Infantry officer. Newman served as a division G-2 and chief of staff of the 24th Infantry Division at the onset of World War II.

In 1944, he took command of the 34th Infantry Regiment, which was assigned to the 24th Infantry Division from 1943 to 1958. Within his first month as regimental commander, his regiment participated in the battle of Leyte Island in the Philippines. During the battle, he observed a platoon in need of assistance. He personally led his regiment against enemy fire. During the fight, he was critically wounded, but continued to give orders even as he lay wounded. After the battle, he received the Distinguished Service Cross for gallantry.

Newman went on to become the chief of staff of the 11th Airborne Division and became the commanding officer of the 511th Airborne Infantry Regiment. He retired in 1960 as the chief of staff of the Continental Army Command.

To be eligible for the award, a leader must be between the ranks of 2nd lieutenant-captain, warrant officer 1 - chief warrant officer 2, corporal-sergeant first class or general schedule/wage grade 5-11 civilians, who have supervised a minimum of three individuals for at least six months.

Recipients of the award were:

SSgt. Darrell White
SFC Robert Dunker
SSgt. Kenneth Robinson
SSgt. Daniel Read
SSgt. Brian Breaker
SFC Gary Smith

According to Capt. Kirk Gibbs, adjutant for the 1st Engineer Bn., as soon as the battalion heard about the awards, they put in some very worthy NCOs.

"There are not too many awards that recognize great leadership," Gibbs said. "It lets them know that they're appreciated."

A big part of being eligible for the award is the leaders' ability to mentor their soldiers. According to Gibbs, the awardees helped their soldiers to move on to higher accomplishments. He said the leaders mentored many of their soldiers, helping them pass numerous boards including promotion boards and helping them prepare for the Sgt. Audie Murphy competition.

Staff Sgt. Brian Breaker, one of the recipients, said that he was happy he got the award, but he wasn't quite sure what he did to deserve it.

"I was just doing my job," Breaker said. "Any NCO who's doing their job correctly should be up for this." Although the award surprised him, Breaker said he was happy to get it. "I don't do my job to get awards, but it is nice to be recognized for your hard work," added Breaker.

WHY WE SHOULD CELEBRATE VETERANS

by

Sean Azadi (12 years old)

We should celebrate veterans because they were true patriots of America who fought in wars. I think that everyone involved in war should be proud of him or herself, and we should appreciate them in the greatest way because they fought for our country. They must have been scared (I would have been too), but they were all brave. Most people were drafted into the war and others volunteered. All of them were willing to go fight in the war because they were fighting for America, all the people's lives, and their lives, too.

The American patriots' lives were very happy. They were all treated as equals. They were very happy because they lived in a democracy. They liked living in a democracy because they had freedom of speech, freedom to work, freedom to choose their religion, and freedom to elect their leaders. The people gave up many comforts. Most of them had families and others had good jobs. Most people were fighting for themselves and others were fighting for their families. They were all fighting for America. We celebrate veterans because they were will to give everything up for us.

My grandpa is a veteran of W.W.II. He was shot in the war and made it back. He won a Purple Heart. My grandpa has lots of different medals. My grandpa and his group (the 24th Infantry Division in the Philippines) were trapped behind the enemy lines, and my grandpa had to be carried out on a stretcher. They got out and they became known as the Lost Battalion.

Veterans are just like us, they like sports, movies, and games. I'm very glad that my grandpa didn't die because I never would have seen him and I never would be able to celebrate special things with him.

Lots of people died in the war or were injured like my grandpa. We should honor the veterans who died by going to their graves, leaving flowers, saying prayers for them, and remembering them. We can honor the veterans who are still alive ;by going to visit them, being nice to them, and making them laugh. We can thank them for fighting for us.

If we ever went to war, I would fight to protect my family and I would fight to protect America against any enemies that we were fighting. I definitely would have been scared if it really ever happened.

Lots of people died for their country to protect their families and their country. That is why we celebrate and honor **Veterans**.

Sean is the grandson of William H. Muldoon, 204 Cannongate Rd., Nashua, NH 03063-1962. Bill served in E Company 19th Infantry Regiment. Bill writes: "I am enclosing an essay entered by my grandson, Sean Azadi, 12 years old, in the VOD essay contest in Waltham, Mass. All junior and senior students in the city were invited to participate. The John M. Sullivan Post 10334 V.F.W. conducted this contest. My daughter Pat was surprised and thrilled to learn that Sean's entry's took third prize in the contest."

TARO LEAF NOTES
BY
JIM HILL
19TH INFANTRY



I understand from our President, Corky Peters, that the 24th Infantry Division Association will make a contribution to the World War II Memorial in Washington, DC in honor and memory of all the individuals that served in the 24th Infantry Division in World War II as well for the men that gave the supreme sacrifice while wearing the Taro Leaf on their uniform. I can think of no better way to honor our World War II Victory Division soldiers.

DID YOU KNOW?

In World War II there were 106 numbered Army divisions plus the 1st and 2nd Cavalry Divisions and the Americal Division. There were 14 numbered Armored divisions plus twenty four Corps. The Corps were identified by Roman numerals (eg, the Vth Corps) and the divisions were identified by Arabic numbers (the 24th). Today there are only ten Army divisions on active duty. They are the 1st, the 2nd, the 3rd, the 4th, the 10th, the 25th, the 1st Armored, the 1st Cavalry Division, the 82nd Airborne and the 101st Air Assault. As we all know our 24th Division is assigned to Fort Riley, Kansas but has for its components three National Guard Brigades that are not on active duty.

Received a newspaper clipping from RICHARD F. DAUS (19th, Korea) South Holland, Illinois about a World War II veteran (like many of us!) that had his old division patch affixed to his car bumper. A young man approached him one day and thanked him for what he did for his country those many years ago. The vet stated that this was the first time in 55 years that he had ever been thanked by a fellow American for serving his country. Thanks, Rich, for sharing this heart warming story with all of us.

Had a long phone conversation with CHARLES W. SHOE (34th/19th, Korea) Harrisburg, North Carolina reminding me of the 34th/19th Reunion in Nashville 26-29 April. He tells me Fort Benning is providing the Honor Guard for their meeting. I know it was a great reunion, Charlie!

Wanted to say a nice word about the 1999 Tulsa Reunion Book published by Classic Reunions, Greeley, Colorado. I have received my copy and can truthfully say they did a great job capturing on photos the fun time we had there. (Well, maybe NOT the Allen Ranch!)

Heartfelt condolences are sent to dear friend and fellow Taro Leafer AUGUSTUS ORR (19th, Japan/Korea) Evant, Texas on the loss of his wonderful wife, Katie, in January of this year. Gus, your sadness is shared by all of us that knew Katie and we all know how important she was in your life.

Continuing thanks to WILLIAM HOSLER (F/19th, Japan/Korea) Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania for keeping me up to date on the status of the Army Museum being built at Carlisle Barracks, PA. From what Bill reports our great grand children may be around to see it completed! Bill also informs me the he, GENE SPICER (Hq Co, 19th, Korea) and PAUL WALKER (5th RCT, Korea) are planning a June return to the land of the morning calm. Have a great trip, you guys!

Congratulations to the American Legion for contributing \$2 million to the World War II Memorial. Also noted that the Lilly Endowment, Inc. also gave a \$2 million gift. The states of Ohio, North Dakota and Tennessee have also contributed. My old home state of Tennessee gave \$341,000 that represents one dollar for each WW II veteran who resides in Tennessee.

President CORKY PETERS (21st, Korea) informs me that the US Navy will christen a ship this summer in New Orleans named in honor of Sgt. 1st Class NELSON V. BRITTEN, a Korean War Medal of Honor winner. Sergeant Britten was assigned to Company I, 19th Infantry Regiment and received the award for his heroic actions in which he was KIA near Yongdong-ni, Korea on 7 March 1951. Our Association plans to present a plaque in his honor to be placed permanently aboard the ship.

TRIVIA QUESTION?

When Dwight D. Eisenhower graduated from the United States Military Academy (West Point) in June 1915 what was his first duty assignment?

TRIVIA ANSWER

2nd Lt. of Infantry Eisenhower's first duty assignment was to the 19th Infantry Regiment, Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas.

Had a long conversation with JOSEPH A. WICINSKI (11th FA/ 5th RCT, Korea) recently. Joe informed me that he and his wife had the bad misfortune of losing their home to a fire last November and they now live in a retirement complex in Garden Grove, California. Joe told me that when he came back to Japan in 1953 he was assigned as the CO of Battery C, 26th AAA, 24th Division and went back to Korea with the division. Joe is already planning on attending our 2001 reunion in Hampton, Virginia.

I finally have the official title of General BARRY McCAFFERY's (Division CG, Fort Stewart and DESERT STORM) job as the Nation's Drug Czar. It is Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy. A Victory Division salute from all of us, Sir, for what you are doing for drug education and prevention for the young people of our Nation.

LEST WE FORGET-The 34th Infantry Regiment had a strength of 1981 men when it deployed from Japan to Korea in July 1950. At the end of August there were only 184 men left, the rest KIA, MIA or wounded in action.

Join us in Covington, Kentucky for the 53rd Reunion

Covington Kentucky, the southern side of Cincinnati, is a beautiful city nestled on the banks of the Ohio River in the heart of America. It is uniquely accessible by air, rail or interstate.

In the year 2000 the 24th Infantry Division Association Reunion will be held at the Drawbridge Inn & Convention Center. The Drawbridge Inn is conveniently located at I-75 & Buttermilk Pike, just 5 miles from the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport and 5 miles south of downtown Cincinnati and Covington's Riverfront. There are 398 rooms in the main section and 100 rooms are located within a separate motel style building, across the parking lot, called *The Garrison*. All general hotel facilities and services are available to Garrison guests except for room service. *The Garrison* has its own outdoor pool & snack shop. They offer: complementary airport shuttle service, 24 hour room service (in the main building), same day laundry service, gift boutique, shoe shine, and repair, and express check out. The rooms are spacious and clean. There is adequate complementary parking. If you are driving your own motor home or camper you may park in the hotel lot at no cost.

This is a great place to renew old acquaintances and meet and make new friends.

If you are driving to Covington and you need more information on sites to visit you may contact the Northern Kentucky Convention and Visitors Bureau.

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



**WELCOME TO THE DRAWBRIDGE INN & CONVENTION CENTER
HOTEL RESERVATION FORM**

24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

September 27 to September 30, 2000

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS:

| <u>Room Type Request</u> | <u>Rate</u> | <u>Room Type Request</u> | <u>Rate</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Main Building - Standard Single - | \$72.00 | Garison Building - Standard Single - | \$62.00 |
| Main Building - Standard Double- | \$72.00 | Garison Building - Standard Double- | \$62.00 |

*NOTE: Current room tax is 10.24% and is subject to change

• 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.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY AUGUST 26, 2000 TO ENSURE ROOM AVAILABILITY

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_____ | Garrison Building (\$62.00)_____ |
| Number of Nights_____ | Date of Departure_____ | Main Building (\$72.00)_____ |

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 No. _____ Exp. Date_____

Signature_____

For Additional Info. Call: 1-800-354-9793 (outside Kentucky) 1-800-352-9866 (inside Kentucky)

MAIL THIS FORM TO:

**Drawbridge Estate
2477 Royal Drive
Ft. Mitchell, KY 41017-3599**

**24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL REUNION**

September 27 - 30, 2000
Drawbridge Inn & Convention Center, Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky

MAIL TO:

Diane Peters
14030 Xanthus Lane
Rogers, MN 55374

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

24th Infantry Division Association

NAME _____
Please **PRINT** legibly

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone _____ - _____ - _____ E-Mail Address _____
(Area Code)

Name of Wife/Guests Attending _____

Please List Food Allergies and/or special diets required. **Please be specific!** _____

Information for your identification badge

Nickname _____ First Timer: Yes No
(circle one)

Unit served with the 24th Division (**Please only list one**)

Company _____ Unit _____

Remember!

**If you have a group of friends who wish to be seated together
get together and pay together. Only 10 people at each table.**

**If you want to be seated with your friends at the Aloha and/or Memorial Dinner you
must mail your registration forms in together. If your forms are not mailed in together
along with your check we will not guarantee that you will be seated together!**

2000 Tour & Meal Registration Form

| | Per Person | No. Attending | Amount |
|---|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Tuesday, September 26 | | | |
| 1. <u>Grand Victoria Casino</u> (Gaming Riverboat)..... | \$15.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| 6:45pm to 10:00pm | | | |
| Wednesday, September 27 | | | |
| 2. <u>Cities On Tour</u> | \$20.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| 8:30am to 3:00pm | | | |
| 3. <u>Argosy Riverboat Casino</u> | \$15.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| 6:15pm to 10:00pm (2-4 hrs.) | | | |
| Thursday, September 28 | | | |
| 4. <u>Wright Patterson Air Force Museum</u> | \$15.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| 8:30am to 3:30pm | | | |
| 5. <u>Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden</u> | \$20.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| 8:30am to 4:00pm | | | |
| 6. <u>Fort Thomas VA Hosp. & Newport Aquarium</u> | \$20.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| 12:30pm to 5:30pm | | | |
| 7. <u>BB Riverboat Dinner & Cruise</u> | \$43.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| 6:30pm to 10:30pm | | | |
| Friday, September 29 | | | |
| 8. <u>Kentucky Horse Park</u> | \$20.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| 8:30 am to 3:30pm | | | |
| * <u>Aloha Dinner</u> | \$24.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| 5:30 am Social Hour - 6:30 Dinner & Dance | | | |
| Saturday, September 30 | | | |
| * <u>Ladies Breakfast</u> | \$15.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| 9:00am-11:30am | | | |
| * <u>Memorial Dinner</u> | \$30.00 | _____ | \$ _____ |
| 5:30pm-Social Hour - 6:30pm Dinner | | | |
| <u>Registration</u> | <u>\$20.00</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>\$ 20.00</u> |
| *Spouse and guests do not pay registration fee | | | |
| TOTAL AMOUNT DUE | | | \$ _____ |

ATTENTION

19th, 21st, 34th, 3rd Engineers & all Artillery & Miscellaneous Units

Your annual breakfast will be held Saturday, September 30, 2000, 7:30 A.M. at the Drawbridge Inn. The rooms where each breakfast will be served will be posted at the registration tables. The cost for each breakfast is \$15.00. Since the 24th Infantry Division Association Annual Meeting follows at 10:00am, 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

Hash Brown Potatoes, Chilled Fruit Juice, Fluffy Scrambled Eggs, Ham, Freshly Baked Danish Pastries, Biscuits, Butter, Jams and Preserves, Freshly Brewed Coffee, Tea & De-caf.

Please mail your registration & check to the chairperson of your Unit listed below

19th Infantry - Mail Registration To:

Gene Spicer
8937 W. 750 N.
Commiskey, IN 47227
(812) 873-6548
**Make checks payable to:*
Gene Spicer

3rd Engineers - Mail Registration To:

Daniel Rickert
PO Box 418
Pinon Hills, CA 92371-0418
(760) 868-6634
**Make checks payable to:*
Danel Rickert

21st Infantry - Mail Registration To:

Harry Wittman
1385 Terri Street
Keyser, WV 26726
(304) 788-0465
**Make checks payable to:*
Harry Wittman

All Division Artillery Units - Mail Registration To:

Robert Smith
7720 Deer Lane
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
(715) 325-5057
**Make checks payable to:*
Robert Smith

34th Infantry - Mail Registration To:

Marvin Wallace
405 Locust
Ardmore, OK 73401-1772
(580) 223-8452
**Make checks payable to:*
Marvin Wallace

Miscellaneous Units - Mail Registration To:

Robert Lawhon
49 Township Road 88, #1152
Proctorville, OH 45669-9067
(740) 886-6935
**Make checks payable to:*
Robert Lawhon

UNIT MEMORIAL BREAKFAST REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____
Cost of breakfast \$15.00 each

Tuesday, September 26

Grand Victoria Casino Gaming Riverboat

Cost \$15.00

6:45pm - 10:00pm (evening)

Are you hungry for something new?

Over 1,400 loose slot machines, including Video Poker and Video Keno. 78 exciting table games-Blackjack, Craps, Roulette, Caribbean Stud and Let It Ride. Live Poker-Seven Card Stud, Hold'em and Omaha Hold'em, Fine dining, sumptuous buffet and sports bar. Boarding begins at the start of each gaming sessions and continues for 25 minutes.

Wednesday, September 27, 2000

Cities On Tour

Cost: \$20.00

8:30am- 3:00pm

Experience the major highlights of the Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky, past to present, with one of their professional, uniformed tour guides. You will see their most famous landmarks, rich cultural heritage and architectural highlights. Complimentary Cincinnati chili recipe cards.

Argosy Riverboat Casino

Cost: \$15.00

6:15pm-10:00pm (evening)

Argosy Casino offers world-class gaming aboard their riverboat casino and fine food and live entertainment in a 200,000-square foot entertainment pavilion. There's always plenty of room to play and plenty of opportunity to win. Over 2,000 slots and 108 gaming tables spread out over three easy-to-navigate decks, each bigger than a football field! With three thrilling levels to explore, you'll discover the spectacular theming of the Passport Buffet and specialty restaurants, plus lively lounges and live entertainment.

Thursday, September 28, 2000

Wright Patterson Air Force Museum

Cost: \$15.00

8:30am-3:30pm

Located in Dayton, Ohio the US Air Force Museum is the world's largest and oldest military aviation museum with over 300 aircraft and missiles and thousands of artifacts from the Wright Brothers to the present. IMAX theater and gift shop, bookstore and Café.

Thursday, September 28, 2000

Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden

Cost: \$20.00

8:30am-4:00pm

The world famous Zoo and Botanical Garden is home to more than 750 species of rare and endangered animals and more than 3,000 varieties of exotic and domestic plants. This is the second oldest zoo in the United States and best known for white Bengal Tigers, walruses, Komodo dragons, and lowland gorillas and many more. The Cincinnati Zoo has one of the finest bird exhibits in the nation. Come and explore the 68 acres and you will find the new African and Asian Rain Forest exhibit, ancient ruins, mountain forests, arid deserts and rolling plains, each home to exotic animals in their natural habitats.

Fort Thomas VA Hospital & Newport Aquarium

Cost: \$20.00

12:30pm-5:30pm

We will tour the V.A. Hospital & Nursing Home at Ft. Thomas, Kentucky and then we will go the Newport Aquarium. At the Newport Aquarium, we will take you around the world to the ocean's depths, the river's edge and the fringe of the Antarctic frontier. You will be introduced to more than 11,000 of the world's most beautiful, colorful, bizarre and dangerous creatures. This exhibit showcases both freshwater, exotic saltwater, aquatic life, including floor-to-ceiling tanks, a touch pool, a 300,000 gallon shark tank, an Amazon tank, a "human fish bowl", and an Arctic sea life exhibit.

BB Riverboat Dinner & Cruise

Cost: \$43.00

6:30pm-10:30pm (evening)

The oldest and largest riverboat company in Greater Cincinnati. This cruise features a 3 hour trip on the Ohio River and a dinner buffet featuring: Carved roast prime rib served with either one-half Cornish game hen with blend of wild rice or baked boneless marinated chicken breast with parsleyed new potatoes, chef's choice of green vegetable, Caesar salad, fresh tossed salad with choice of dressing, assorted dinner rolls, coffee, tea and cheesecake.

Friday, September 29, 2000

Kentucky Horse Park

Cost \$20.00

8:30am-3:30pm

The only park in the world dedicated to mankind's relationship to the horse is showcased by museums, galleries, theaters, live horse shows, and over 40 breeds of horses.

Ladies Breakfast

Saturday, September 30, 2000
9:00am



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

The menu consists of:

*Scrambled Eggs, Ham, Hash browns, Biscuits, Juice, Danish,
Freshly Brewed Coffee, Tea, & De-caf.*

Our featured guest will be Don Deming. Don's presentation "*The History of the First Ladies Comes to Life,*" will leave you spellbound. He has an infectious good humor that will delight you! Don describes how behind every American President has stood a courageous, and influential First Lady!



What more could you ask for! A scrumptious breakfast, good friends, & an all around very enjoyable morning for only \$15.00.

Send your reservations in early, this is one Ladies Breakfast you won't want to miss!

IMPORTANT!

PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS

***You must mail your checks along with your registration to the following:**

***Hotel Reservations**

Mail to the Drawbridge Estates

***Unit Breakfasts**

Mail to the chairman of your unit breakfast

***Registration, meal, tour &
Ladies Breakfast**

Mail to Diane Peters

REUNION BANQUET 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). Only ten (10) people can be seated at each 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 Diane Peters who will then complete the paperwork and notify each person or couple by receipt. A packet in your name will be waiting for you at the pre-registration desk at the Drawbridge Inn & Convention Center. Tables will be assigned in order of receipt. So start your planning early and get your reservation and registrations in as early as possible.

***Any table seating arrangements received after September 5, 2000 will not be guaranteed seating assignments!**

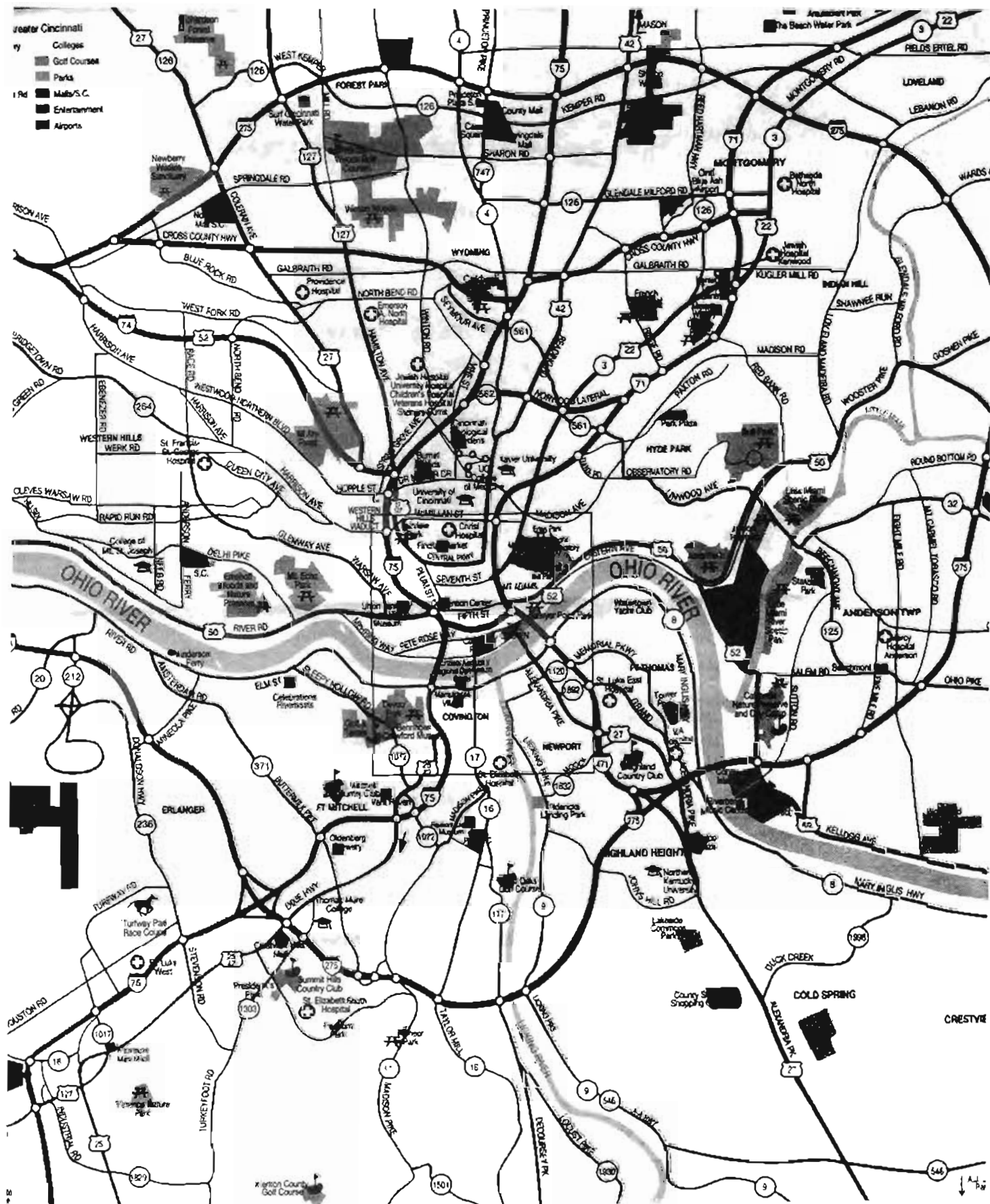
***PLEASE NOTE - Once tables are assigned they will not be rearranged.**

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

THE CUT-OFF DATE IS - SEPTEMBER 6, 2000

THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS OR SEATING CHANGES AFTER THAT DATE!

Map of Greater Cincinnati



THE OLD GRANDFATHER'S TABLE

A frail old man went to live with his son, daughter-in-law and four year old grandson. The old man's hands trembled, his eyesight was blurred, and his step faltered.

The family ate together at the table. But, the elderly grandfather's shaky hands and failing sight made eating difficult. Peas rolled off his spoon onto the floor. When he grasped the glass, milk spilled on the tablecloth.

The son and daughter-in-law became irritated with the mess. "We must do something about Grandfather," said the son. "I've had enough of the spilled milk, noisy eating, and food on the floor." So, the husband and wife set a small table in the corner. There Grandfather ate alone, while the rest of the family enjoyed dinner. Since, Grandfather had broken a dish or two, his food was served in a wooden bowl.

When the family glanced in Grandfather's direction, sometimes he had a tear in his eye, as he sat alone. Still, the only words the couple had for him were sharp admonitions, when he dropped a fork or spilled food. The four year old watched it all in silence.

One evening, before supper, the father noticed his son playing with wood scraps on the floor. He asked the child sweetly, "What are you making?"

Just as sweetly, the boy responded, "Oh, I am making a little bowl for you and Mama to eat food in when I grow up." The four year old smiled and went back to work.

The words so struck the parents that they were speechless. Then tears started to stream down their cheeks. Though, no word was spoken, both knew what must be done.

That evening, the husband took Grandfather's hand and gently led him back to the family table. For the remainder of his days, he ate every meal with the family. And, for some reason, neither husband nor wife seemed to care any longer when a fork was dropped, milk spilled, or the tablecloth soiled.

Children are remarkably perceptive. Their eyes ever observe, their ears ever listen, and their minds ever process the messages they absorb.

If they see us patiently provide a happy home atmosphere for family members, they will imitate that attitude for the rest of their lives. The wise parent realizes that every day the building blocks are being laid for the child's future.

Let's be wise builders.

RISKING

Two seeds lay side by side in the fertile spring soil. The first seed said, "I want to grow! I want to send my roots deep into the soil beneath me, and thrust my sprouts through the earth's crust above me. I want to unfurl my tender buds like banners to announce the arrival of spring. I want to feel the warmth of the sun on my face and the blessing of the morning dew on my petals!"

And so it grew.

The second seed said, "I am afraid. If I send my roots into the ground below, I don't know what I will encounter in the dark. If I push my way through the hard soil above me, I may damage my delicate sprouts! What if I let my buds open and a snail tries to eat them? And if I were to open my blossoms, a child might pull me from the ground. No, it is much better for me to wait until it is safe."

And so it waited.

And an old hen, scratching around in the early spring ground for food, found the waiting seed and promptly ate it.

Moral of the Story: Those of us who refuse to risk and grow, get swallowed up by life.

Following are events planned for the first year of the three year commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Korean War. For more information or to find out how to get involved, visit the homepage at <http://korea50.army.mil> or write to: DOD, 50 Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee, 1213 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Ste 702, Arlington VA 22202-4303 or call 703-604-0831.

KOREAN WAR COMMEMORATIVE EVENTS FOR 2000

| | | |
|--|---|-----------|
| National Memorial Day Concert | Washington, DC | May 29 |
| Memorial Day Breakfast/Wreath Laying | Arlington National Cemetery | May 30 |
| 50th Anniversary Commemoration/Conference | University of Pittsburgh | Jun 23-24 |
| Hostilities Commence (National Ceremony) | Washington, DC | Jun 25 |
| Hostilities Commence (International Ceremony) | Seoul, Korea | Jun 25 |
| Korean Service Women's Commemorative Event | Washington, DC/Arlington National Cemetery | Jun 25 |
| Task Force Smith | Suwon, South Korea | Jul 5 |
| Task Force Smith | Arlington National Cemetery | Jul 7 |
| (Unveil Monument, 50th Anniversary of the 24th's stand against North Korea | Chonan, Korea | Jul 8 |
| Korean War Veterans Memorial Ceremony | Korean War Memorial | Jul 27 |
| 40th ID Korean War Memorial dedication | Vanderberg AFB, CA | Sep 1 |
| Breakout of Pusan Perimeter | Taegu, South Korea | Sep 13 |
| Inchon Landing | Norfolk, VA/Inchon, S.Korea | Sep 15-17 |
| Defense of/Breakout of Pusan Perimeter | Washington, DC/Pusan, S.Korea | Sep 15-17 |
| Changjin (Chosin) Reservoir | Washington, DC/Demilitarized Zone Korea | Nov 27 |
| Nations Parade | New York City | Nov 11 |
| Evacuation of Hungnam | Navy Memorial, Washington, DC Pusan, South Korea | Dec 12 |

"Reprinted with permission of Williamsport Sun-Gazette."

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pentagon investigators have obtained the memoir of a Russian emigre who claims to have learned while in internal exile in the former Soviet Union that dozens of American servicemen from World War II and the Korean War were detained in

Siberian labor camps.

The assertions, while not confirmed, appear to support, and in some important respects strengthen, a case the Pentagon has been building for several years: U.S. servicemen in the 1940s and 1950s were silently swallowed up in the U.S.S.R.'s

brutal Gulag system of forced labor, never to be heard from again.

"There has to be something to this," said Norman Kass, who helped translate the unpublished personal memoir from Russian and interviewed the author on behalf of the Pen-

tagon agency in charge of prisoner of war and missing personnel affairs.

Kass said in an interview that the information fits a pattern of anecdotal reports received during the 1990s that American servicemen were seen in remote labor camps

He is executive secretary of a U.S.-Russian commission that has pursued the matter since former President Boris Yeltsin disclosed in 1992 that Soviet forces had taken a dozen U.S. airmen captive in the 1950s after shooting down their planes. The commission meets periodically, and its staff has done extensive research and interviewed Russian veterans.

The Kremlin has backtracked on Yeltsin's statement and challenged U.S. officials to find proof. Armed with the Russian emigre's memoir, the Pentagon hopes to persuade the Russians to provide access to archives at numerous former Siberian labor camps where U.S. servicemen were said to have been held.

"We're not expecting an easy time," Kass said.

When Kass disclosed the memoir's existence at a meeting of the U.S.-Russian commission last November, the Russians were skeptical but agreed to study it, a U.S. sum-

mery of the proceedings said.

The memoir is exceptional because it provides names of individual servicemen.

For example, it identifies by name 22 men said to have been held in late 1951 at the Kirovskij mining camp near the Kamenka River in the sub-Arctic pine forests of the Krasnoyarsk region. The memoir's author cites secondhand accounts of area residents seeing the prisoners, "wearing bare threads and half-frozen," being led from the Kirovskij camp along a road to an undetermined destination — "a dead-end."

A witness described as the daughter of the manager of a nearby town told the author that on Christmas Day 1951 she saw "frostbitten prisoners being led and driven like cattle by the NKVD," the former Soviet internal security agency. "They did not speak Russian. They only said 'American, American,' and 'eat, eat.' They wanted food," the author quoted the woman as recounting to him.

Kass said that although the events described by the author have not been independently verified, he believes the man is credible. Kass said the man's identity and his present country of residence are being kept

secret for his protection, but there is no question that he spent many years in the Gulag network of forced labor camps. The man, now in his late 70s, was exiled to Siberia and worked as a permafrost engineer in the early 1950s near the Kirovskij mining camp where the 22 Americans were said to have been held.

The 22 names were provided by a woman who the author said worked in the Kirovskij camp during the winter of 1951-52.

The author said she had the men write their names on scraps of newspaper with pieces of a pencil she sneaked into the camp's toilets, then put the paper in a jar and buried it.

In the translation from Russian, only one of the 22 names can be matched with a missing American servicemen. He is listed in Army casualty records as Chan Jay Park Kim, a Hawaiian of Korean descent.

Kim was a private first class in the 24th Infantry Division's 34th Infantry Regiment, captured by North Korean forces on July 8, 1950. On that day, the 34th Infantry collapsed in its defense of the town of Ch'onan south of Seoul, giving the advancing North Korean army entry to most of the rest of southern Korea.

3RD ENGINEER'S REUNION

May 18-21, 2000

Best Western Thunderbird Hotel in
Bloomington, MN

Interested contact: Donald and Dorothy Lloyd
At 509-965-3231, Yakima, WA or on our email
Dotandon@nwinfo.net

Gary Bair
3641 Red Oak Court
New Orleans, LA 70131

March 15, 2000

Dear Division Association Leader:

I am writing in follow-up to the letter sent to you from The National D-Day Museum concerning your association's participation in our Grand Opening in New Orleans June 6th. We are moving forward with exciting plans to include a truck-load (20-25) of World War II veterans from each of the 36 divisions which participated in the amphibious assault D-Days of the European and Pacific Theatres.

As veteran coordinator, I have been in phone contact with association presidents or designated points of contact. You need someone to head up your association's effort and to coordinate your veterans. We rely on you to inform your members of their opportunity to ride in the parade (with your association name on the side of the truck) and then be honored in the Arena Celebration. Many of you have already committed to fill a truck. We need the rest of you to get on board.

I am enclosing 30 Grand Opening brochures, which include the tear off registration form needed for the three events which require tickets. (Let me know if you need more.)

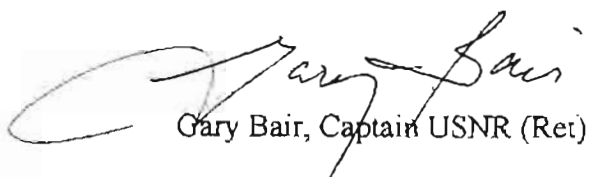
It would be best to coordinate your members as a group, so that they are seated together down front in the arena, and to get them together into the special early museum openings on June 2nd, 4th or 6th. To do so, you need to have all the registration forms returned to your coordinator and then forwarded to me all together as a group. I urge you to have the forms, or sooner back to me by May 1st if possible.

For hotel information, I recommend you call Michael Aucoin at Destination Management Inc. (DMI) at 1-800-366-8882 ext 1745.

I am available to assist you in any way. Please stay in close contact with me at (504) 558-0311 in the mornings and (504) 391-0667 afternoons and evenings. We will need good communications to ensure the best possible success.

We want this to be a wonderful experience for all our World War II veterans. They deserve the very best. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely yours,



Gary Bair, Captain USNR (Ret)

THE NATIONAL D-DAY MUSEUM- GRAND OPENING EVENTS - JUNE 3-6, 2000

The events listed below, which are currently under consideration for the Grand Opening of the National D-Day Museum, will be of special interest to veterans. Plans at this time are tentative. Events, dates, and times may change. Details will follow.

SATURDAY - JUNE 3

WWII Reenactment and Living History Encampment 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

A "living history" encampment of World War II soldiers and vehicles, a weapons demonstration, and two "mock battle" scenarios.

USO Show and Swing Dance 8:00 PM - Midnight

An evening of salute and reminiscence in a major downtown hotel ballroom for 1,200. Targeted primarily to all veterans. Tickets will be available for advance purchase.

SUNDAY - WEDNESDAY - JUNE 4 - 7

International Naval Visit

Allied nation ships open to the public along Woldenberg Park and adjacent wharfs.

SUNDAY - JUNE 4 A DAY OF COMMITMENT

Ecumenical Memorial Service @ 7:30 - 8:30 PM

Non-denominational service in St. Louis Cathedral. Reservations limited to capacity. Priority given to World War II D-Day veterans and national leaders of veterans organizations.

Flags of Honor Ceremony @ 8:30 - 9:30 PM

Military salute to veterans in Woldenberg Park with military bands and the new Orleans Children's Choir. Open to the public.

MONDAY - JUNE 5

Eisenhower Center Lecture/Panel Discussion

"Conversations with Veterans" led by Stephen E. Ambrose, a panel of prominent military leaders, and veterans with participation by veterans in attendance. Open to the public by reservation, without charge.

Veteran Leadership Tour 1:30 - 4:00 PM

Tour of The National D-Day Museum for leaders of Veterans organizations.

TUESDAY - JUNE 6

Museum Dedication 8:30 - 10:00 AM

Military Parade 10:00 - 12:00 AM

Premier national and international military bands and marching units through downtown - from the Superdome, past the Museum, and on to the New Orleans Arena. Veteran Participation encouraged.

Arena Celebration 12:00 - 1:30 PM

Celebration in honor of all veterans of all wars, with priority for seating and recognition given to the World War II D-Day veterans and families. Open to the public. Reservations for tickets at no cost.

Takes place in New Orleans, LA. The Fairmont Hotel will be the Headquarters Hotel. Contact our Association President, Harold Peters for further information.

FORT RILEY

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER RECALLS HIS WINDING ROAD TO SUCCESS

By Brad Mincey

Sometimes, in the Army an enlisted soldier can make career changes overnight. For CWOS Alexander LeMay Jr., Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division, that moment came many years ago when he was a sergeant first class.

"My biggest challenge was that I went to bed one night as a sergeant first class and woke up the next morning as a WO1," he said.

"I didn't feel like I fit in anyplace. There was some mentorship and that helped me to adjust. But, if it weren't for the NCO corps, I would not be where I am today. They gave me the molding, mentorship and structuring that I needed to go from enlisted to warrant officer. You should never lose sight of where you came from," LeMay said.

Four of his five promotions for warrant officer have happened while he was stationed here. Recently, he took the next step in his career when he was promoted to CWO5 January 7, during a ceremony at Morris Hill Chapel. LeMay began his career like many young soldiers rising through the enlisted ranks. His jobs varied greatly in the maintenance field. Once he reached the rank of sergeant first class, he decided his next move was to join the warrant officer corps.

"I was doing very well as an enlisted soldier, but there was something

more that I wanted to do in a more refined area. The warrant corps afforded me the opportunity to focus my skills on one specialty as opposed to the day-to-day activities of the Army," he said.

According to LeMay, he would have laughed if someone told him 20 years ago he would reach the pinnacle as a chief warrant officer in January 2000. Even as little as four years ago, he never figured he would get past CWO4.

The adjustment of going from a sergeant first class to a warrant officer was a difficult challenge, but one LeMay said he looked forward to.

He also attributes much of his fortune to God, which is why he held his promotion in a chapel. He also credits the women in his life, his wife and mother with giving him support to make these changes. His mission on Fort Riley as a chief warrant officer involves receiving new equipment and sending equipment to Reserve and National Guard units. The challenges he faces now are among the toughest yet. Soon, he is moving to a new assignment at Fort Hood, Texas where he will join a digitized division. This is a new concept for LeMay and the Army.

"The biggest challenge for me is to go in there with the confidence to apply myself and pick up the changes that are happening at Fort Hood that I have not dealt with here and make it successful," he said. "My goal is to walk into that

division and wrap my arms around those tasks, and get smart on the subjects I am not familiar with and learn how that role plays on today's battlefield."

After his assignment to Fort Hood, he will then make the decision on where he wants to go next in his military career.

A family man of many years, more than he is willing to say, he has a wife and five children ranging in age from 24 to 28. He is not sure of his plans after the Army, and says he is still not sure what he wants to do when he grows up. "There are many things that go through my mind, but I really haven't focused too much on that due to the fact that I am still on active duty," LeMay said.

He volunteers some of his time to the VFW. His duties there are about as well rounded as his military career. He helps them out with BINGO and other projects as much as possible, as long as it doesn't conflict with his military position.

When he is not in his office or the local VFW, he collects various items from cards to coins.

"No one thing strikes my fancy more than another," he said. But if he had to pick one thing to save from his collection, it would be his coins. "I would pick them because they bring back a lot of fond memories," LeMay said. "They are military coins and regular coins, but they bring back good times, troubling times and things I like to ponder on and reflect on."

WHO WILL REMEMBER

Reprinted by permission

Lee T. Grimes 1996

All Rights Reserved

Who will remember the Great World War, the trenches, the wire and the gas?

Who will remember those long ago places our brave young men were at?

Who will remember places named the Marne, St. Mihiel, Norroy,

Chateau-Thierry, Belleau Wood, and the deadly Meuse-Argonne?

Vittorio-Veneto, Colmar, Aisne and the Somme.

Who will remember these? Will it be only those who were there?

Who will remember World War II and all the battles fought?

Who will remember the ships and planes and the glory that they brought?

Arizona, South Dakota, Nicholas, Ommamey Bay; Lexington, Shannon, Sea Wolf and Lucky Steamer Bay,

Memphis Belle, Skirty Bert, Barbie and Punkie II; Lady Luck, Shoo Shoo Baby and Carolina Moon.

Who will remember these? Will it be only those who were there?

Kilay Ridge, Aka Shima, Tarawa, Camp O'Donnell; Funi-Funi, Bataan, Iwo Jima and Okinawa. Casablanca, Mareth Line, Bizerte, Hill 609; D-Day, Cherbourg, the Bulge and the crossing of the Rhine.

Who will remember these? Will it be only those who were there?

Who will remember the Korean War, those cold frostbitten feet?

Who will remember the battles fought in the valleys and on the peaks?

Pusan, Inchon, Naktong, The Bean Patch; Kimpo Field, Chosin Reservoir and the Toktong Pass.

Yalu River, Punch Bowl, Hamhung, Hill 342; 38th Parallel, Seoul, Line of Demarcation.

Who will remember these? Will it be only those who were there?

Who will remember the Vietnam War, fought for so many years?

Young men died and women cried and at home there were no cheers.

Pleiku, Parrot's Beak, Da Nang, Phu Bai, Ben Het, Fishhook, The Tet and Chu Lai, Khe Sanh, Mekong, DMZ, Cam Ranh Bay; Rockpile, Tunnel Rats, Hamburger Hill and Hue.

Who will remember these? Will it be only those who were there?

Who will remember the Persian Gulf War, fought on distant desert sand?

Who will remember what went on to stop incursion once again?

Suez Canal, Kuwait City, Baghdad, the sand of Iraq; Desert Shield, Desert Storm and Scud missile attacks.

Basra, Euphrates River, Haifa and Tel Aviv; Republican Guard, Dharan and Stelth bomber raids.

Who will remember these? Will it be only those who were there?

Who will remember our undeclared wars, the ones that kept evil at bay?

Who will remember our peace time forces, ready to pay their way?

Who will remember Bay of Pigs, the Cold War, Grenada, Somalia?

Who will remember Haiti, Panama City and now Bosnia?

Who will remember? Will it be only those who were there?



Photo by LEROY STANDISH

Dick Nash (left) and his twin brother Ralph "Doc" Nash hold up memorabilia from World War II. The brothers, as seen on the pictures they hold, were used as "The Poster Boys" by the U.S. Navy to help in its recruitment drive. They were originally assigned to the same ship, but after the tragedy of the Sullivan brothers, in which one family lost all four of their sons at once, a coin was flipped and Doc was sent to the U.S.S. Tiger. "His ship was the first one to fire on the (Japanese), and his ship was the first one to be fired on by the (Japanese)," said Dick, glowingly of his brother Doc.

Local vets support WWII monument

LAKEWOOD

BY LEROY STANDISH

Sentinel and Transcript Newspapers

As far as wars go, it was the biggest and the baddest, but to date it is the only American war not commemorated with a monument in Washington, D.C.

Across the country World War II veterans are mobilizing, spreading the word and waging their last campaign. Victory lies with the raising of a memorial at the east end of the Reflecting Pool between the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument in the nation's capitol.

For the better part of last week, veterans manned their posts at stores across the country, doing their part, asking for donations. The monument, expected to cost about \$100 million, will be paid for entirely by donations from the American public. To date, funding

has passed the halfway point at \$54 million.

Groundbreaking is anticipated to be Veteran's Day 2000.

"If we didn't sacrifice for you," said 82-year old World War II vet Bob Haines, "America would have lost its freedom."

Posted at the front entrance of the Wal-Mart store at 440 Wadsworth Boulevard were six veterans. Besides Haines there were veterans Joe Ellis, Ron Buckmaster, Keene Daiss, Ralph (Doc) Nash, and his twin brother Dick Nash.

Dick and Doc Nash were the Navy's "Poster Boys" during the war, helping with recruitment. They also saw their share of action. Doc is only too happy to tell how his ship, the U.S.S. Tiger, was chasing a two-man sub through the waters off Honolulu just before the Japanese attack.

Joe Ellis, who is also a Mini Pearl impersonator, saw action in

the South Pacific. When the war ended he was sent to Japan as part of the occupation force. "The Missouri (the ship the peace treaty was signed on) was still in the harbor," said Ellis.

His good friend Bob Haines remembers arriving in Hawaii the day after the Japanese attacked. "The U.S.S. Arizona was still smoking in the harbor when we got there," said Haines.

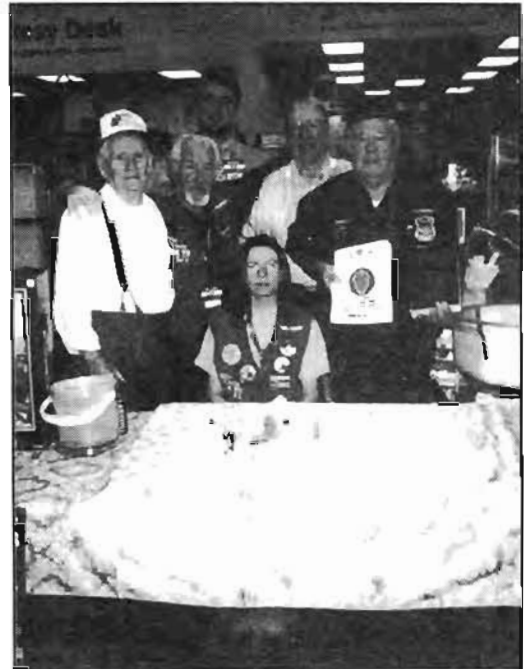
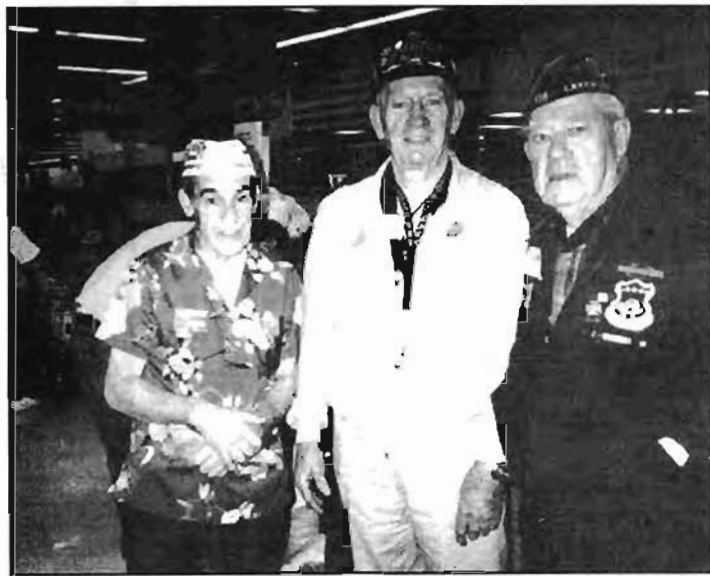
All these men and thousands more, men and women, fought and defeated U.S. enemies half a century ago. These days, with most of them in their eighties, the veterans are trying to spark up a renewed interest in the war.

"We're trying to get people interested in the memorial," said Dick. "It was the biggest war and we don't have one (a memorial)."

Anyone wanting to help or find out more can do so by logging on to the Internet and going to: www.wwiimemorial.com.

Pictures below received from
Robert L. Haines
1355 Kline St.
Lakewood, CO 80215-4539

The newspaper story on the previous page and pictures below were received from Bob Haines. World War II Memorial Fund Raiser held at the Wal Mart Store in Lakewood, CO November 1999.



Left to Right: Joe Ellis, Ron Buckmaster, Mike Hedges (Manager Store # 2125)
Keene Daiss and Bob Haines. (Picture #4)

Local Vets Support WWII Monument, Reprinted by permission of the Lakewood Sentinel.

Note from Bob Haines of 1355 Kline St., Lakewood, CO 80215-4539. "With the help of the Wal-Mart manager and employees, we were able to raise \$4,000.00 that one week-end. The men in the pictures are all World War II veterans."

NO COURAGE FOR TOMORROW POINT MAN

by
William T. Llewellyn

Scouts out, take the point the Lieutenant said,
And again he took his position up
ahead,
As he moved down the jungle trail,
He would pause at intervals like a dog sniffing
quail.
Every nerve in his body was tensed from the
constant demanding,
To determine safety for the platoon with the
Lieutenant commanding.
On Leyte he had received a tremendous shock,
As a Japanese bullet smashed his rifle stock.
Unhurt he had rolled into a ditch,
And under fire rejoined the platoon without a
hitch.
On Luzon after an explosion he turned to give
aid,
Only to see the second scout destroyed by a
grenade.
In the mud and rain he was always in the first
slot,
Even though suffering from 103 degree
fever and jungle rot,
He was the best in the business and all the men
would concede,
That they felt the safest when he was in the lead.
A superhuman man though he sometimes felt
like a flunky,
Because many times the crackle of underbrush
ahead was only
a monkey.
Then one day on Mindanao the Lieutenant said,
Scouts out, take the point up ahead.
And he made the effort, God knows he tried!
But instead this superhuman man sat down and
cried.
And as this soldier sat drowned in sorrow,
Finally, there was no courage for tomorrow.

NO COURAGE FOR TOMORROW

From the Eyes and the Heart

by William T. Llewellyn

Leyte Island - October 21, 1984 - Village of
Pawling, 4:00 a.m.

Dug in along the Palo-Tocloban highway, I
rolled onto my back. Tracer bullets whipped
over my hole and on down the line of holes to
my right. The machine gun chatter didn't seem
to be of the light Nambu type ;but more like one
of our own 30 caliber guns. The Japanese had
attached down the road to our left and hit the
left flank perimeter approximately 50 yards from
my hole. Now it appeared that the Japs had
broken through our outer defenses and swung
one of our guns on us. A cold sweat came over
me. I gripped my M-1 rifle with the unsheathed
bayonet on the end tighter My mouth was dry. I
had landed on Red Beach the day before and had
survived mortar, machine gun and sniper fire.
Some of my friends had not.

I had prayed that evening because I had made it
so far. This was my first night in combat. Keep
your damn head down or get it knocked off, I
remember thinking. In a day of digging holes,
this was the fourth one I had dug, and I was glad
I had dug a good one this time. Every nerve in
my body was tense and alert for any movement
to the front of me across the road. Two hand
grenades plus an extra bandoleer of ammunition
that we had lugged in with us on the landing
were in the hole with me along with my pack,
entrenching tool, machete, trench knife, rifle
and the helmet on my head. These were all my
worldly possessions. No one really knows the
feeling except those who have been in combat. I
hoped I would live until dawn. Fear didn't strike
out.

Breakneck Ridge 1984.
"The Llewellyn Brothers"



(Bill died in the hotel fire in the Philippines in 1984 during the 40th anniversary return trip.)

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR COMMEMORATION

HISTORY

Congress has authorized the Department of Defense to organize the United States' 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration, to ensure our Korean War Veterans and their families know "A Grateful Nation Remembers" their service and sacrifices 50 years ago. The Commemoration will begin June 25, 2000 - the 50th Anniversary of the outbreak of the war and officially close November 11, 2003.

The Secretary of Defense has designated the Secretary of the Army as Executive Agent for this Commemoration. He has tasked his Deputy Under Secretary of the Army for International Affairs, to organize a committee to carry out this mission.

MISSION

To thank and honor Korean War Veterans, their families and those who served on the home front for their service and sacrifice 50 years ago. Specifically, we plan to:

Honor and remember those who made the Supreme Sacrifice for our Nation and the cause of freedom during the Korean War.

Identify, thank and honor the veterans of the Korean War, their families, especially those who lost loved ones.

Recognize and remember the Prisoners of War and Missing in Action (POW/MIA).

Recognize the contributions of women and minorities to their Nation during the Korean War.

Provide the American public with a clearer understanding and appreciation of the lessons, history, and legacy of the Korean War and the military's contributions to the Nation in maintaining world peace and freedom through preparedness and engagement.

Remember United Nations forces engaged in preserving the peace, freedom and prosperity of the Republic of Korea and strengthen the bonds of friendship and relationships throughout the world focusing on the 22 countries that fought as Allies.

ORGANIZATION

The Operations Directorate coordinates and conducts commemorative ceremonies and events on the national and international level and interfaces with federal departments and agencies.

COMMEMORATIVE COMMUNITIES

Military and civilian communities can become a commemorative community when they agree to develop annual programs and host a minimum of three events each year that honor veterans and their families, or support school programs in teaching the history of this era so we can learn and ensure a safer, more peaceful and democratic world. This is, in

essence, a grassroots community outreach and education program.

EDUCATION

The Education Directorate coordinates programs to promote the teaching of the history of the Korean War Era in our schools and develops educational materials and exhibits to support this effort.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Public Affairs Directorate manages the public information, command information, community and media relations aspects of the 50th Anniversary Commemoration.

RESOURCE MATERIALS

The Commemoration Committee has several resource materials available for distribution to all Department of Defense Agencies, Veterans Service Organizations, Schools and Commemorative Communities. These include commemorative flags, posters, bookmarks, historical factsheets, quarterly newsletters, certificates and other memorabilia.

Materials can be requested by sending a letter to:

The 50th Anniversary of the Korean War
Commemoration Committee
1213 Jefferson Davis Hwy
Crystal Gateway 4, Suite 702
Arlington, VA 22202

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN WAR COMMEMORATION

ABOUT THE FLAG



The 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemorative Flag is symbolic of the unified effort of the United States, the Republic of Korea and our allies to stop Communist aggression on the Korean Peninsula 50 years ago.

The light blue and white streamer that runs through the center of the flag is the U.N. Battle Streamer.

The 22 stars represent the 22 allied nations that fought side by side to save South Korea.

The words "freedom is not Free" were added by our Veterans who, more than anyone else, know the great price of liberty.

The flag is in both the English and Korean (Hanqul) languages. In the center is the "Taeguk" symbol from the South Korean flag, familiar to many as the symbol for the philosophy of Yin and Yang. In Korea, known as Eum and Yang, the symbol stands for peace and harmony. South Korea has adopted this as

their official Commemorative Flag.

The Institute of Heraldry assisted the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee with the design of the flag.

It is the goal of the Committee to see this flag flying in Commemorative Communities across the Nation to honor and thank the veterans of the Korean War, their families and most of all, those who lost loved ones.

ABOUT THE LOGO

The focal point of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemorative Crest is the three lobed Taeguk, known as the sam-Taeguk. The three lobes of this sam-Taeguk are as follows:

Red and white stripes representing the United States.

Dark Blue representing South Korea.

The United Nations Light Blue with 22 Gold stars representing the 20 U.N. countries involved in the Korean War, plus one non-U.N. member - Italy - and the Republic of Korea.

Traditionally, the Taeguk depicted on the flag of the Republic of Korea represents two states of being, Heaven and Earth (spiritual and physical). The sam-Taeguk stands for three states of being: Heaven, Earth and

Man. Heaven represents the spiritual, Earth is the physical and Man is the intermediary who embodies both the spiritual and physical.

The wreath and lettering in gold symbolizes honor and excellence.

During the commemorative period, the nation will honor the Korean War Veterans for the sacrifices they made to ensure a free and democratic South Korea.

50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration



"Freedom Is Not Free"

Joe Sweeney
P. O. Box 506
Dellslow WV 26531-0506

March 15, 20000

Mrs. Yvonne Mullins,
Editor, *Taro Leaf*,
31150 See View Drive,
Rocky Mount, MO 65072-2903

Dear Vonnie,

Daniel Rickert sent me the enclosed Associated Press article: "*Memoirs: Soviets Held Americans In Siberia*" by Robert Burns and suggested that I write you to see if it could be published in the next issue of *Taro Leaf*. You may already have read the article, but I'm sending it for information in case that you haven't.

Reading through the AP article (it was not carried by my local newspaper) there are two important issues that may be of interest to the members of the 24th Infantry Division Association. Foremost, this article brings more charges of the Russians holding American Prisoners Of War for slave labor after WW-II and Korea. The other issue is the article gives the name of one American who served with the 24 Infantry Division in Japan and Korea, he was Pvt. Chan Park Kim, Jr., Love Company, 34th Infantry Regiment.

Pvt. Kim, by the AP account, was identified from his use of the name, George Cleon, which he assumed after the North Koreans captured him on July 8, 1950. According to the AP, Pvt. Kim assumed the name George Cleon after he was captured in order to conceal his ethnic Korean background. However, he may have been known by the name "George" to his fellow servicemen anyway. Pfc. Johnnie Johnson recorded the death of Pvt. Kim while he and 758 P.O.W.'s were under the command of a brutal North Korean army major, "The Tiger" during the winter of 1950-51. Johnson's list recorded that Pvt. Kim died on December 14, 1950. The AP article quotes Pentagon sources as saying he died while in captivity in January 1951.

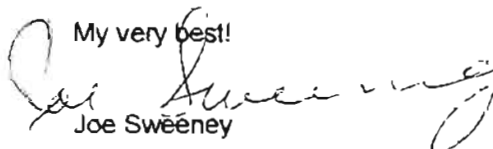
There is a conflict between these two accounts about Pvt. Kim and his death, and his presence in a Russian run Siberian slave labor camp.

Johnson's list has been accredited by his fellow P.O.W.'s and the Pentagon, while the AP article is unconfirmed; still, one must wonder how, or why Pvt. Chan Park Kim, Jr. was named in this report of the Russian slave camp?

Vonnie, you may wish to publish the complete article, or an edited version of the AP report, otherwise the issues as I have presented them. I do believe though, the 24th Infantry Division Association should acknowledge the AP report because it keeps pressure on resolving the issue of vanished Prisoners from WW-II and Korea that were probably held by the Communists.

Thank you Vonnie for considering this request.

My very best!


Joe Sweeney

PEARL HARBOR SURVIVORS ASSOCIATION LIBERTY BELL PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER NO. 1

Photo No. 1 (Left to Right)

Col. U.S.M.G.

Richard Regler 13th F.A.

George Frazier 13th F.A.

Alexander Horanzy 19th Inf

James Barnes 21st Inf

Ralph Carter 19th Inf.

Capt. Thomas F. Nagelin JR.

A plaque was presented by Alexander Horanzy a member of the 24th Inf Div Association to Capt. Thomas Nagelin JR. USN. Commanding Officer, Willow Grove Naval Air Station, during the ceremony at the Chapels podium for his outstanding contribution to the cause.

Schofield Barracks

24th Inf Div.



Photo No. 2

This plaque consisted of a sectionalized view of a MK 407 Fuze developed for the U.S.N. mounted on a base with notation. This Fuze when assembled on its intended use activates the explosive charge after the firing.

The plaque was designed by Arthur Mattia, CEO Pres. of Action Mfg. Co. Phila., PA. Son-in-law of Alexander Horanzy for the ceremony presentation on December 7, 1999.



Photo No. 3

After the ceremony Capt. Thomas F. Nagelin Jr. Commanding Officer Willow Grove Naval Air Station, Pennsylvania

Alexander Horanzy, 24th Div. Member

Note: 24th Division Taro Leaf patch on cap.



EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Received word from E.A. Carpenter of 7133 Sunset Ave., Jenison, MI 49428-8927. "I was assigned to I Company 19th Inf Regt, 3rd Bn of the 24th when I completed Basic in Hawaii in 1941, October 1st. Then we were picked for reassignment to the Anti Tank Co. 19th then to the A Co. 767th Tank BN 19th. I was a platoon Sgt. for 3 1/2 years. I'd like to hear from anyone that was there in my outfit after January 1945. Capt. Harry B. Mays (now Dr. Mays) was my CO and Lt. C.R. Smiley was the platoon leader. Maybe if you could print this in the Taro Leaf, they may respond.

Edson Carpenter also wrote to Dr. Phil Hostetter: "I have finished your book and it was quite interesting, brings back big memories. "

**IF YOU PROTECT
YOURSELF FROM ALL
DANGER, YOU'LL
NEVER REALLY LIVE,
ON THE OTHER HAND,
IF YOU BELIEVE
THERE IS NO DANGER
AT ALL, YOU MAY
NOT LIVE TOO LONG.**

Letter from Lee Phillips of Wilder, ID writes, "I was with the occupation Army in Japan October 1945 to September 1946. I was exposed to radiation. Dr. Oscar Rosen, Editor of the Radiation News letter, which I get monthly, says I am service connected. The Service Officers in Boise says I am not service connected. But I do draw a non service connected pension and I get medicine and treatment at the Veterans Hospital in Boise and I thank them for this."

R.S. (Buck) Sloat wrote to Dr. Phil Hostetter: "Have read about you many times in the T.L. Enjoyed the writings. I am a "young" old timer, drafted in March 1941 to the 34th Inf, part of the 8th Div at that time, and then in 1943 to the 71st. The 34th Inf Regt was the first to leave the U.S., shortly after Pearl. The 34th Inf brings back many good memories and some not so good. However, I'll appreciate having your book and more memories."



HILL 109

By
Charles W. Tarrants
917 David Dr.
Montgomery, AL 36117-4412

The Sergeant came and whispered low
Secure your gear its time to go
The mission heavy on his mind
It would be rough Hill #109

Sixty men were on their way
To take that hill come what may
Some were short others tall
Before days end all would fall

Fifty nine men all are dead
Wooden crosses stand at their heads
One was left to tell the tale
Hill 109 was just pure Hell.

BEETLE BAILEY

By Mort Walker





John R. Porter of Claude, Texas writes: "Louetta Payne had major surgery (colon). Louetta and her husband Joe are staying with their daughter, Susan Ann Payne, 1078 Cross Country Dr., Worthington, OH 43235. Her phone number is: 614-825-6836.

Our prayers are with you Louetta and Joe. Please let Louetta know you are thinking of her. Thank you for writing John.

Johnny Parris of 105 Taylors Spring Ct., Alpharetta, GA 30022 writes: "My Uncle was in A Co., 19th Inf., 24th Div and his name is Frank L. Westmoreland and he was a T/SGT from Atlanta, GA. He was with SGT. Stanley Adams the night he earned the Medal of Honor. My uncle was wounded that night by a concussion grenade but he never received the Purple Heart. He has been trying to locate some record that documents his injuries, with no success. The Medic that treated his wounds that night and sent him to the aid station was Sgt. Swanson and one of the other men with him that night was Sgt. Gross, who was killed in action about 3 days later. Any information from anyone that knew my uncle would be greatly appreciated. My email address is jpparris007@aol.com

A note from Eileen Jay of 2225 Greenstone Rd., Wilmington DE 19810-2303 that Doug is doing well. Doug (Cowboy) has Myasthenia Gravis. He keeps

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

involved and loves his 24th IDA extended family. Send Doug a note and let him know you are thinking of him.

email from Bob Hubbell
Hub22@webtv.net

"If any vet starts to have double vision, neck back of head pain and cloudy vision, get to your eye doc and ask him to see a Neurosurgeon for an MRI and take the 11 minutes for the test. I started to have double vision two years ago, I let it go until most of my sight was gone in my left eye. Don't let it go that long. The doctor found a tumor on the brain which was removed 2/10/2000. It was a three hour operation, three days in the hospital and no cancer. I didn't have insurance and it cost a lot. I started with the V.A. but the waiting time to see the doctor was six months. I would have been blind by then so had to be done on my own. I was in the 24th Div 34th Regt in Korea 1956/57. **A last note have your eye checked every two years.** Bob

Spencer N. Roads, 772 Dover Glen Dr., Antioch, TN 37013 (phone 615-366-1809) writes: "I served with the 24th Inf Div from April '51 to Feb '52, and I accompanied with 24th back to Japan when we were relieved by the 40th Division. My primary assignment was that of Division Legal Clerk (SFC) with the Staff Judge Advocate. We arrived by ship and within 24 hours on our way to Korea. The ship was a small Army ship overloaded with troops. We were suppose to land at

Inchon but the Captain of the ship could not be sure Inchon was in our hands or the enemy. After two hours of circling outside the port, he decided to proceed. We could see the result of action with LSAT and other personnel carriers lying on their side half sunk in the bay. We forced marched from Inchon and boarded a troop train (similar to the 40 and 8 of the first WW).

Unfortunately, the Engineer moved us North rather than South. We could see and hear the flash and the sound of artillery shells landing but did not know whether they were ours or theirs. When we reached the replacement depot we stayed there only a short while. The Division Adj General made on the spot assignment determinations and I was selected to work with the JA. One incident that occurred while we were serving with Danger Rear was unknown to us, the entire Division had moved back before we knew what was going on and it turned out that we were the only contingent of American troops between the Chinese "volunteers" and our own Danger Forward personnel. We got out of that place in a hurry. I lost all my personal items and pictures but I would appreciate you letting 3 of my friends who worked with the JA know that I am here in Tennessee. One was from Brooklyn and the other 2 I don't recall their names or location. Maybe by reading this short bit on Korea, they will recognize themselves.

FORT RILEY

Operation Wheels Helps Families

By Melissa Stevens

Fort Riley is a sprawling post. Trying to get around post without any transportation is difficult if not impossible. Unfortunately, many soldiers here do not own a vehicle or have only one that they share with a spouse.

To help soldiers and their spouses, the Armed Services YMCA created "Operation Wheels."

Operation Wheels is a program that will taxi active duty military personnel and their spouses to critical places on post.

"A taxi will pick up the soldier or spouse at their home if they live on post or in Junction City, take them to their destination and drop them off," said Kelley Dupeire, site director of ASYMCA. "As soon as they are done at their destination, they call back and the taxi will go get them and take them home."

"Taxis will not take them shopping at the Post Exchange or to military work sites, but they will take them to places like WIC (Woman, Infants and Children program) and

Irwin Army Community Hospital."

Funded through ASYMCA, the program has been going on for several years. "There aren't many people who use the program," said Dupeire. "We want to let people know that the program is going on and that they can use it to their advantage."

Operation Wheels is easy to use. All soldiers have to do is give a 24 hour notice by calling 762-4780 and a taxi will arrive at their home at the appropriate time to pick them up. The taxi will then drop them off at their destination. When they are finished, they call the same number and a taxi will pick them up and take them home, said Dupeire.

The places ASYMCA will taxi to includes: WIC, Bldg. 212, ACS, Bldg. 7264, Irwin Army Community Hospital, Bldg. 600, Geary Community Hospital for off-post medical referrals, Self Help, Bldg. 289, Legal Assistance (on post only), Bldg. 200 and the Commissary (only if using WIC vouchers), Bldg. 229.

"So many families have only one vehicle or one spouse does not know how to drive. That makes it difficult for spouses to get around," said Dupeire. "With soldiers leaving for National Training Center, Fort Irwin, Calif., in March, it is important for soldiers and family members to know that this program does exist."

ASYMCA will also provide an infant seat if the caller specifies that one is needed.

Other programs that the ASYMCA offers for military families are parents days out, for quality time without the children, fitness classes and infant car seat loans for children up to 20 pounds.

Check your label on the back cover of the Taro Leaf and send in your dues payment to Will Schumaker, Secretary/Treasurer. Support our great association with your donations and send your gifts of money to the Secretary/Treasurer.



Remembrance

Picture
Earl J. L.



Bobbie, a Korean Orphan. We are keeping him with us. Both his mother and father were killed. Winter of 1950. He stayed close to the kitchen and supply Sgt.



Korean Barber and Frenchie.
Spring 1951.



Company E Rifleman.



Smitty and
Earl Lee.
Smitty was
killed Spring
1951. He was
one real good
friend.



1st Lt. Platoon Leader
E. 19th, Lt. Diaz



Local Laundry Service, 1951.



Bobbie and Earl Lee. Bobbie is an orphan from Taejon 1950. We kept this boy a long time. I rotated June 1951



SFC Stevens Platoon Sgt.,
Company E. He was also in
Beppu. (Would like information
on his whereabouts.)

es of Korea

ed from
Tacama, WA



The one on the right is Sgt. James Alexander. Everyone called him Beppu Jake. He was a Lummi Indian from Bellingham, WA. Jim and Cpl. Red Cloud were the only native Americans in the 19th. Alex passed away a few years ago. I am not sure of the other man's name. They were in Weapons Platoon.



Russian T-34 Tank in good shape now. Korea March 1951.

S/Sgt. E6 Sam Ferrarol. Spring of 1951. Company E 19th, 24th Infantry Division.



Frenchie and Earl Lee. E Co., 19th Infantry Regt., Spring '51. I forgot his last name, he was from Lafayette, LA.



William Price, Company E, 19th Supply and Ammo. Captured Russian truck.

Lt. Herbert on left. Two officers from E. Company Maybe someone can recognize officer on right.



Taken at Mori, Japan. Romero KIA in Korea. Sgt. Romero on left and M/Sgt Cardenas on right.

BATTLE FATIGUE

Reprinted with permission from
Doctor and Soldier in the South Pacific
By Philip H. Hostetter, M.D.

I was put on detached service with the 36th Medical Evacuation Hospital. My services were used by the hospital temporarily, but I was still a part of the 407 Collecting Company. I welcomed the opportunity. It was my first chance to practice medicine in all the time I had been in the Army. Camping out continually like an advanced Boy Scout was not what I was there for.

The hospital was a large affair, almost a little village in tents. There was no Infantry for protection anywhere near. Our only security was a machine gun at each of the four corners of the area. Patients and hospital personnel who had them kept their weapons fairly handy but a fanatical band of the enemy could have killed many of us if they had attacked.

I was assigned a cot in a tent with a board floor. It seemed quite a luxury. We had good food in a mess tent, and movies rather frequently.

My assignment was to care for all the patients in two "circus" tents, each with 26 cots. However, the hospital was just setting up and I had no patients at all. The next day 52 patients moved in. All had a psychiatric condition. It was up to me to determine exactly what their condition was, treat them if feasible, and evacuate them to other hospitals if necessary.

Disorders of the personality and reactions of the emotions are the most subtle and elusive of all medical conditions. Proper evaluation is terribly difficult and time consuming, yet all-important to the one involved. In a day I had to get everyone under some kind of management. The only help I had was one indifferent "Ward Boy." He would walk up and down in the tents and call out, "Who wants the yellow pills? "Who wants the green?" I was desperate.

The nurses arrived on the third day after the patients. One nurse was assigned

to my two tents. She was a little more mature than most of us. Calmly, she brought order out of chaos by putting each patient's medicine for the day in a paper cup. I had never thought of that. The men treated her with chivalry more like that of pioneer times. They were always on their best behavior when she was around. Efficient and professional, she also brought a compassion and tenderness to the army some men had not known for years.

Capt. Prosser, a practical, levelheaded psychiatrist, got me started. I had worked in mental institutions in my undergraduate years but never practiced psychiatry. He showed me what to look for, and how to use the Army system of diagnoses. He explained there are mainly two classes of patients in a war area, those who break under great hardship, and those who have always been inadequate.

Those who had broken down under exceptional stress and exhaustion we called "battle fatigue," not a bad term. It was a state of chronic anxiety with exhaustion. Tired as they were, they could not relax. They were so jumpy you could practically see daylight between them and their cots when a truck backfired. They had little appetite in spite of little food for a long time. When they did eat they were apt to have stomach cramps and perhaps vomit. Their sleep was fitful, often marred by vivid nightmares of battle experiences and friends being mutilated.

Some told of "fugues" when they would become conscious after running for miles, and not knowing how they got where they were.

Battle-fatigue cases were constantly asking when they could return to duty. They would hear reports of their units on the radio, and felt required to return as quickly as possible. They felt obligated to help their buddies, and guilty

BATTLE FATIGUE (Continued)

because they felt they had failed when they were needed most.

To help my patients rest I prescribed huge doses of the sedatives we had, nembutal and phenobarbital. The other doctors thought my doses were excessive but I had seen these amounts used in mental hospitals for the severely disturbed, and knew they were suitable. Before long the other doctors were agreeing with me for my type of patients.

We would assess their fitness for combat by estimating the severity of the stress that had put them in the hospital. If the stress had been great as it often was, they recovered in about two weeks and returned to their outfits. Most people would have reacted the same as they under the same extreme conditions.

The Army had the wise policy of keeping the men as close as possible to the combat zone where they had their trouble. They still had high motivation to return to duty. The farther away they got, the less they cared about recovery regardless of what was wrong with them, and the poorer they did. Early return to duty in the same outfit maintained their self-esteem and confidence.

Very few of the men had much of an idea where they had been fighting. They came from various islands nearby and only a few from the Hollandia area. We had no maps and discussion of troop movements was discouraged so we knew little about the big picture of the war.

Men of the other group had always been social misfits and non-achievers. They found ordinary living a strain. The requirements of a strange environment were just too much. Such people are not fit for the extraordinary stress of army life in a combat zone. The field units were trying to get rid of them. They were a liability to the fighting soldiers. Under fire everyone had to be able to depend on everyone else.

These psychopaths were not the kind anyone wanted to serve with on the front line, but they were capable of other less critical duties and were reassigned if possible. One man was unable to use the latrine if anyone else was there. He had always been that way. He would wait until late at night when no one was around. How he did it is a wonder. Another could not stand intimate contact with people.

"What did you do for a living?" I asked him. "I'm a huckster," he replied. "I sell little gadgets at fairs."

"Doesn't that bring you in contact with people?"

"Not at all. I live by myself in hotels. The people could be just so many cattle as far as I am concerned."

A patient was recovering well from his battle fatigue and seemed almost ready to return to duty, but he still had one alarming symptom--he walked in his sleep. A hospital in tents on the edge of the jungle was no place for sleep walking. Jumpy soldiers with weapons were all around. He could easily be mistaken for an enemy and killed. I gave him some heavy gauze bandage.

"Tie yourself to your bed with this," I advised. He tied his wrist to his cot with the bandage. The first night it worked. He woke up when he came to the end of his tether. The next night he untied himself in his sleep and wandered off.

"Have your buddy tie you in," I told him. His friend used some intricate knots without his knowledge. This time he had to wake up before he got loose.



CORPORAL DUMAS, WHERE ARE YOU?

By
JAMES F. HILL
19TH INFANTRY

Roger Armand Dumas was born on July 21, 1931 in Plainfield, Connecticut, the youngest of seven children. He was six months shy of his 18th birthday when his Mother signed the papers necessary for him to enlist in the United States Army. Official records show that he enlisted in the Regular Army on 24 January 1949 at Windham, Connecticut. This article deals with the time that he was in the military service of our nation.

After basic training at Fort Devins, Massachusetts he was sent to Fort Gordon, Georgia for advanced training as a communications telephone wire man. In May of 1950 he was shipped to Japan where he was assigned to the Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. Prior to the start of the war the 19th was stationed on Occupation Duty at Beppu, Kyushu, Japan. Records show that Dumas did deploy with the 19th Infantry from Japan to Korea in July 1950 and was engaged in the battles at the Kum River and later was a participant in the battles of the Pusan Perimeter.

On 3 November 1950 he wrote home that his company had just crossed a river (the Kuryon-Gang) near the Manchurian border and that the temperature was 30 degrees below zero. The mission of the 19th at that time was to defend the Chungchon River-Taeryong River bridgehead near the

North Korean village of Anju. The following day (4 November) the Chinese forces attacked the Charlie Company positions forcing the company to withdraw to a position further south of the battle line, however the Chinese had set up a road block on the only withdrawal route available. Six officers and 54 enlisted men, including Dumas were lost in the action and were declared MIA. It later became known that Dumas and several others were captured by enemy forces during the action that day. Interrogation of returning POWs by US Intelligence Personnel after Operation Big Switch in August 1953 reveal that after Dumas was captured he and others were marched back and forth to several different locations and ended up in what the POW's called Bean Camp, a prisoner compound 30 miles south of Pyoktong, North Korea. Other accounts from ex-POWs indicate that Dumas was also held at camps called Death Valley and Camps 3 and 5. Several returnees state that Dumas was last seen at Camp 3 on 24 August 1953, prior to the repatriation back to United States control.

The official US Army report of Casualty form (DD Form 1300) dated 23 October 1992 corrects the information provided 11 September 1984 and states that Roger A. Dumas, Company C. 19th Infantry Regiment, Korea was promoted to the temporary rank of Corporal as of 1 May 1953 and that he

is presumed to have died as a Prisoner of War at Camp 5, North Korea on 26 February 1954.

NOW FOR THE REST OF THE STORY:

In a debriefing of ex-POWs in 1996 and 1998 two individuals provided additional information about Dumas. One individual was in the same company as Dumas and was captured at the same time. Another individual was assigned to D Company and was also captured at the same time. He stated that he and Dumas had their hands tied behind their backs with barbed wire and were then tied together as they were marched to a POW camp. He also remembers seeing Dumas on several occasions during the time they were POWs.

When asked the last time they saw Dumas one replied that he saw him about two days prior to the repatriation around 24 August 1953 at Camp 3. He further provided the information that on the morning of the repatriation they were told to assemble by a truck. As they were going towards the truck he saw Dumas walking alone on a trail. He asked him where he was going and Dumas gave him a shoulder shrug as to indicate that he didn't know. At the end of the trail was a parked truck and Dumas was seen getting into that vehicle. It was not the truck that the rest of the assembled group were loaded on to. The other individual went into greater detail about the repatriation.

CORPORAL DUMAS, WHERE ARE YOU?

By
JAMES F. HILL
19TH INFANTRY

He stated that at that time Dumas was in good health when they left Camp 3 and he saw Dumas on one of the vehicles with the other repatriates. About 10 to 15 minutes before the POWs were to be taken to the repatriation point he saw Dumas being led away by two Chinese soldiers. He further stated that Dumas made no attempt not to go with the two Chinese and did not make any expression or comment as he was being led away. It is to be noted that both individuals stated that Dumas was not wounded in the action where he was captured and that in their infrequent contacts with him as POWs he was not a collaborator but was considered a reactionary by the Chinese and spent some time in a Reactionary Camp.

The above times were the last that Dumas has been known to be seen. Although he will be 69 years old this year (2000) there have been many reports from now unclassified DOD, CIA and State Department files that possibly identify him as still being alive and living in North Korea.

These reports do not identify Dumas by name but are indicative of the type of information that is now unclassified. A DOD message dated in February 1989 states that a source reported eleven Korean War POWs working as English teachers in the North Korean Army Language School. Their names are not known

but they appeared to be between the ages of 55 and 60. (Dumas would have been 58 years old at that time.) They all spoke Korean fluently and had completely adapted to the Korean way of life. All had Korean wives and a few had children. They were restricted in their travel and their main duty was to teach the proper pronunciation of English and do a small amount of translation of English language materials.

In 1995 a North Korean that escaped to China and claims to be a former police official and later was given asylum in South Korea told US Intelligence that he, on many occasions, had visited a top secret prison camp that housed elderly white and black men that he was told were POWs from the Korean War. He stated that the camp was north of Pyongyang. He further stated that he never saw more than 30 individuals at a time but he was told there were many more that were inside the dormitories of the camp. During one visit he stopped his vehicle and gave a group of Americans six cans of beer. He said they all thanked him in the Korean language. He observed that all the Americans were "painfully" thin but appeared to have been treated well.

In March 1993 the American Red Cross informed Dumas's brother, Bob Dumas, that both the International Red Cross and the Red Crescent of Russia told them that they

have no information on MIAs or POWs from the Korean War and that North Korea had informed the International Red Cross representative that the MIA/POW issue was a inter-Korean matter and that "outside interference" was not welcomed.

In November 1995 a Romanian national that had been in North Korea was interviewed by US Intelligence. He stated that in October 1979 he, along with other Romanians employed at a North Korean factory in Pyongyang, were on a North Korean Government sponsored sight seeing trip. During the bus trip the driver became disoriented and drove the bus through a collective farm. During the drive through the Romanian observed 7-10 Caucasians working in the fields. They appeared to be in their 50's. (Dumas would have been 48 at that time.) A female passenger on the bus told him they were American POWs.

CORPORAL DUMAS, WHERE ARE YOU?

The author of this article, James F. Hill, was a member of the 19th Infantry from 1949 until 1951. He was involved in the actions on 4 November 1950 in which Corporal Dumas was captured by the Chinese forces. The author thanks 24th Infantry Division Association members, Harold Peters, Joe McKeon, Joe Sweeney and Robert Dumas for their input for this article.



Note from Harry Wadding of 2335 Vermillion St., Lake Station, IN 46405:

"I would like to hear from anyone who was at Kum River 16 July 1950."

National Order of Battlefield Commissions is trying to locate all men, WWII, Korea and Viet Nam, who on the field of battle against an armed enemy received a commission from enlisted or warrant status to commission status. It may be you or someone you know. Contact J. Angier, 67 Ocean Dr., St. Augustine, FL 32084: 904-471-7695.

email received from Charlotte Hoffrichter. "Joe had surgery on Tuesday, March 28 for removal of melanoma on the brain. He will have further tests next week." Our prayers are with you both. God bless you, dear friends.

email from Charles W Foster of 13030 Los Verjeles RD., Marysville, CA 95901-9517. "I have a problem. There are many veterans web sites where veterans post messages looking for other veterans and relatives looking for information on their relatives who became MIA/WIA/or KIA. I've answered quite a few of these and I've only gotten one reply back. The one after many hours on the computer, phone calls and letters I was able to put relatives in touch with someone that was a good buddy of their relative. The

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

long and short, is it possible for you to put a message in the Taro Leaf asking the people who put the message in, to respond to the person responding to them? Thanks

email from Michael A. Driggs, President & CEO International Club Network, 5305 Lee Highway, Arlington, VA 22207. Ph 703-237-5811, Fax 703-237-5813; email mdriggs@privaccess.com writes: "MSG Robert Paul Bibb, was serving the C Co. 3d Eng Bn, 24th Inf Div when he was declared missing in an incident on 7/20/50 near Taejon, Korea. The family has no other details. As a combat veteran of Vietnam myself I have always wondered what happened. Now that my mother, Paul's sister, is the last of her family it would mean a great deal to her if we could find out what happened that day. Or, if we could find someone who might remember Paul." Can anyone help? I forwarded Michael Driggs' request to CSM Billy Johnson as he requested and he is asking if anyone else remembers Paul Bibb.

email received from Robert Hysell hysellrl@wirefire.com "I served with the 34th medical company in Japan and Korea. I am a life member of the 24IDA and I am looking for some of the men I served with in July and August of 1950. I was the medic that was with the others that was with Pvt Shadrack who was killed on July the 6th 1950. The men I

am trying to find are Nick Schnider, Harry Roth, Capt. Thompson, Lloyd Krider, Lt. Charles Day, Rex Richardson and anyone that remembers me in that period. Thanks for your help.

Email received from oldsod2@aol.com "My brother PFC Harvey Oxner was a member of the 24th Div. 19th Inf. Co. A. He was classified as MIA Kum River battle 16 July 1950, later declared KIA March 1952, battle Kum River. Would like to obtain copies of the morning reports around that date and also Company A roster.

Try:
<http://www.koreanwar.org>

email from John Guiel of 201 Fuller St., Ludlow, MA 01056. email address is Jrguiel@aol.com "The Army morning reports for Co. C, 34th Inf Regt reflects the following: Recruit Alfred Guiel, RA 11 167 908 - Assigned to Company C, 34th Infantry Regiment on 19 July 1950 - Missing in action on 19 July. In an interview with reporters, he gave a confused account of the events which were, in fact, chaotic. There was a question as to whether he was wounded on 20 Jul 1950 or on 6 Aug 1950. I have no idea what unit he was in prior to the 19th of July. Some of the vets replied to my query with very good information which leads me to believe that he was lost in the chaos of 19th and 20th of July and possibly wounded on the 6th of August after



rejoining the unit. There is also a possibility that he was reassigned to the 19th Regiment. Could you put his name in the Taro Leaf, and ask if anyone who knew him or who has pertinent information would contact me? (Can anyone help?)

email from Connie (LATINIMPACT@aol.com)
"I am writing to you in reference to my deceased dad, PFC Ramon Cruz, service RA 51060934, place of casualty South Korea Sector 29th Inf Rgt 24th Inf Div attached 29th Inf Regt. Died of wounds 9/10/50. (Please email Connie if anyone knew her father.)

Anyone looking for information on the Korean war may contact:
<http://www.koreanwar.org>

Letter received from Bacil H. Steed, 46 Chewings St., Page ACT 2614 Australia. "I served with two West Point Officers at Camp Feister and then Camp Crouch southern Honshu in 1949. Both were 1st Lts. in those days. Colonel (Ret) William F. Coghill, 531 South Pine Street, #2, Anchorage, AL and Lt. Col (Ret) Harlan Koch of 1865 Dalles St., San Francisco CA 94123. Perhaps someone out there remembers them. Life July 31, 1950 International Edition P. 16-25 covers early days in Korea. Pg. 9-15 war by jet. Life August 21, 1950 p. 14-23 and p. 27-85 covers the war. My photo is on p. 85 'Friend and Foe'. I'm still looking for Jefferson de R.

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Capps, 1st Lt. in 1949." (Can anyone help Bacil?)

Note from Louis Repko of 2703 G St., Lorain, OH 44052. "I want to thank you very much for putting my picture from the Life Magazine cover picture on the February Edition of the Taro Leaf. It was a real good feeling when I picked the Taro Leaf out of the mail. If you know the other G.I.'s, let me know. I remember like it was yesterday when the picture was taken. Again, I say thanks. (Thank you for writing Louis and it was good talking to you on the phone. I was very happy that you let me know and I hope if anyone knows the others on the cover picture that they will let us know.)

Anyone wishing to purchase a roster of our membership. Please contact Will Schumaker, Secretary/Treasurer. Cost of our roster is \$15.00.

Letter from Edward L. Pugh of 4260 Brussels Dr., Jackson, MS 39211. "I was in New Guinea; (Morotai) in 1944-45 with the 31st Div., Co. B. 106 BN Engineers; 24th Div Inf H&S Co, 3rd Eng. Bn April-Nov 1945 - liberation of Mindanao, Philippines. I found a sterling silver bracelet 1944 or 1945, name on the bracelet: J.R. McCann. If this bracelet is claimed, please contact me at the above address.

Letter received from Bill Kerns our On-site Reunion Chairman year 2000, D.Co. 21st Inf. Regt. of 12397 Bowman Rd., Independence, KY 41051, phone 606-356-6528. "Will you please run this in the Taro Leaf, anyone that served with Cp. Jerold Leonard in L Co. 21st Inf Regt. 1949 to July 1950. He was listed as MIA/KIA. Would they write to his sister, she would like to hear from men that knew her brother. Her address is Mrs. Lila Switzler, 905 South Archard, Tacoma, WA 98465.

I also received an email from Mrs. Lila Switzler and if anyone could help her out, please write to her at the above address. Thank you.

Received a phone call from Louis Santoscoy of 1285 Huxford LN., Anaheim Hills, CA 92807. Louis and his twin brother served in the Co. H, 34th Regt and is looking for buddies. (If you remember Louis or his brother, please contact him at the above address.)

Had a note from LeRoy E. Atkins, PO Box 1588, Orleans MA 02653-1588. He is looking for someone with the last name of Brautigam, possibly from St. Louis. (Can anyone help LeRoy?)

Remember your dues. Look on the label on the back of your Taro Leaf to see when you are due to pay. Thank you.



REUNION NOTICE:

Note from: William F. Earley Sr. 25 Kelly Road, Hamden, CT 06518-2021:
"Would you please place the notice of the 26th AAA (AW) SP BN - A Battery annual reunion, Biloxi Beach Resort Inn, Biloxi, Mississippi. Contact Bill Earley at 203-248-6834.

Card from **Warren J. Lemon** of 5 Crocker Ave., Turners Falls, MA 01376-1905. "Any pictures, booklets, copies of the Diamond News or Reminiscences of Camp Wood, Kyushu from Veterans or dependents would be welcome. Map or diagram of Post also welcome. Please send to me at the above address. Thanks, W.J. LeMon, Former SGM, European Stars and Stripes and Pacific Stars and Stripes.

email from Donald Ness. rdn77@msn.com
"I was in Company I 21st Regt. 24th Div. I am interested in the monkey burial at sea by Dr. Philip H. Hostetter. The owner of the monkey who was named Little Joe was in my company. His name is Harold Likens. We used to have a lot of fun with little Joe. He loved beer and would get silly and do back flips. I remember that Likens tried to take him to Japan and I remember that Little Joe was discovered on deck and had to be put to sleep and buried at Sea. I remember the APA ship too. The story was in the

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Taro Leaf February 2000 issue. Vonnice, it was very interesting for me to read this story.

Eric Diller of 504 Via La Selva, Redondo Beach, CA 90277-6505 writes, "My old golf club invited me to speak, so I did. About 150 were in attendance. I was asked what my favorite charity was so they could send \$50.00. I was proud to name our 24th IDA. Did you get it yet? (Thank you for writing, Eric and they did send in the \$50.00 contribution.) **Rich Mouton writes about Eric speaking at the Golf Club:** Last year, Saving Private Ryan and a book by Tom Brokaw, The Greatest Generation, rekindled the terror and frightening realities of combat in WWII. When I read Brokaw's book it struck me that the men relating these experiences were really just regular guys who suddenly found themselves in extraordinary situations. Some of you may know Eric Diller from his days as a member of the Men's Club, but what you don't know about Eric would fill a book. In fact, it does. His self published, Memoirs of a Combat Infantryman by an Enemy Alien, was written a few years ago. That's right, enemy alien. In 1936, as Germans of Jewish heritage such as Eric's mother became subjected to the tyrannical whims of the Nazis, Eric and his family immigrated to New York from their Bavarian home. Six years later, shortly after Pearl Harbor, Eric volunteered for the U.S.

Navy, but was rejected. He was not a citizen. The Army, however, was an equal opportunity employer, and immediately following his graduation from high school in Brooklyn, Eric was drafted. Following 17 weeks of basic training (and the promise of citizenship which didn't happen) and a three week cruise across the Pacific, Eric was almost constantly in combat. For the next year and a half Eric served as a machine gunner in New Guinea, Hollandia, Biak, Leyte, Luzon, Corregidor, Mindoro and Mindanao. During one stretch, he spent 78 consecutive days on the front line. He survived six amphibious landings, was wounded, contracted malaria and was awarded a Bronze Star. Eric was drafted into the Army, became an American soldier, followed orders and put himself in harms way for the American way of life...but he was still not an American citizen and mustered out the following day.

Letter received from Jimmie Woodall, P.O. Box 52, Fairview, IL 61432. "Picked up a 1998 Cappers magazine and saw your ad looking for anyone who served in the 24th Infantry Division and I did from 1946 - 48 in the southern most island of Japan. Would appreciate hearing from you if you know of any others I might get in touch with." (Does anyone remember Jimmie?)



EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Note received from Wally Kuhnner and he sent a note he received from Mrs. James D. Brown of Craigsville, WV, "My husband had a stroke five years ago and he enjoys the news! So thanks for reminding us of the dues!"

Received a note from Dutch Nelsen and he sent note from C.B. Mason of 734 Oak Leaf Tr., Lone Oak, TX 75453 with C.B.'s donation of \$20 for WWII memorial and \$20.00 for the 24th IDA Memorial - Schofield Barracks. Thank you C.B. and thank you Dutch for writing.

Note received from Jim Lemon of Friendship, IN. "I recently had a letter from Reece Morton of CO K 21st WWII. He stated that he had been to the V.A. Hospital and had his back operated on and was getting around slowly. Rudy Weber and I visited with him two years ago. I know he would enjoy hearing from Co K guys. His address is 20001 Hurley RD., Oakboro, N.C. 28129. He had heard from the widow of Herbert Olson also a Co K guy that he had died." Thank you for writing, Jim.

A letter from Walt and Helen Kramer of 1441 - 2900 RD., Hotchkiss, CO 81419, phone 970-872-3038. "Walt and I have been married 50 years." Congratulations to you, that is wonderful.

Email from William C. Orman of 36 Whittier RD., Rochester, NY 14624-2010. "I am President of the Korean War Veterans Association Monroe County Chapter #1 Rochester NY and I am helping a local family find anyone that would have information on the death of their loved one. His name is Herman R. Caruso (RA 12285199) Co. E 19th Inf. Regt. 24th Div. I don't know the platoon or squad. He was

reported missing in action on July 20th 1950 in the area Major General Dean was captured in Taejon. He now is listed as died while MIA. The family is trying to find anyone that knew him or what happened to him. ". I hope someone can be of help and please drop Bill a line.

Note from Tracy Derks. "I wanted to inform the association that my Article "A-Day: Red Beach and MacArthur's Return" will appear in the September issue of World War II magazine. I interviewed several vets of that day and much of what they recalled was used in the article." Thanks for writing Tracy and we will look for article in the WWII magazine.

Email from Robert Edson. Email address is bobnruth@intercom.net "I may be able to attend the 2000 reunion and this will be my first reunion of the 24th IDA. I am an exPOW of the Korean War. I was in "A" Battery 13th Field Artillery and was wondering if the membership lists anyone that was in that unit in Japan and then Korea when the war started June 1950. I had been in Japan for about a year before that. I would like to communicate with them."

Letter from Jack Kepley of Salisbury, NC 27145. "I answered my phone and heard a voice say, "Do you remember Lyle Rinkle?" When I replied, "Cpl. Lyle Rinkle of Anti-Tank Company, 34th Infantry", the answer was "yes". He was my assistant when I served as squad leader in the 2nd Platoon of AT Co., 34th Inf. I had not heard from him since we said goodbye in November 1945 when he left the outfit at Matsuyama, Shikoku, Japan. We served together since joining the company on Goodenough Island in March 1944. He found my name and phone number on the internet. Lyle lives in

Crawfordville, FL. As a result of this phone call he made a trip with his son and son-in-law to visit me in Salisbury, N.C. We spent the week end of March 24-26 talking about our many experiences in New Guinea, the Philippines and Japan. as well as looking at a number of old pictures and other memorabilia. What a great time we had.

Lyle Rinkle left and Jack Kepley right.



REMEMBER TO CHECK THE EXPIRATION DATE ON THE LABEL ON THE LAST PAGE OF THE TARO LEAF. THIS IS THE DATE YOUR DUES ARE DUE. THANK YOU AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR GREAT ASSOCIATION.

Letter written to Earl J. Lee of Tacoma, WA
dated February 27, 1993
from Edwin J. Ryan

Dear Earl,

As soon as the TARO LEAF came today, I scanned it from cover to cover. Then I saw Father Felhoelter's picture and proceeded to read your request and the write-up on Father.

From the time Father Felhoelter joined the 19th Inf Regt until his death, I was his driver and assistant. Father Felhoelter's mother wrote me after his death and asked me to visit her after I would return from Korea.

Much correspondence developed between Father's mother and my mother. I did visit Mother Felhoelter after being discharged at Ft. Lewis, November 1951.

When news was announced in the States that the first Chaplain was killed in Korea, no name was given and Mrs. Felhoelter said, "That poor boy's mother." The government failed to immediately inform her that she herself was that mother for whom she grieved.

A reporter went to the Felhoelter home on St. Catherine Street, Louisville and rang the bell of the first floor resident who happened to be Father Felhoelter's sister Flo. At the time, Flo was expecting twins. The reporter inquired, "Is this the home of the priest who was the chaplain?" (He wanted a picture for the paper.)

At the word "was", Flo fainted. When she came to, she asked the reporter not to burst in on her mother until the government could notify the family officially.

The reporter went back to his editor and alerted him about the facts, and the family received a belated notice.

A brother of Father Felhoelter's was MIA over China-Burma-India during the second war and his body was never returned. In the intervening years Father's dad, Henry had a difficult time reconciling himself to the fate of his other son.

After Father's body was returned for burial in 1954, his dad told me that he could "now believe things." I drove down to the funeral from my home in Rhode Island and Mrs. Felhoelter asked me to write for her a background of Father's service in the 19th Inf Regt, 24th Inf Division.

The writing was not too quick in coming as I had to go over correspondence in my letters to my family and then to recall in my own mind what had transpired. A couple of times Mother Felhoelter wrote me and asked about my progress in writing.

I finally pushed myself to assemble my thoughts on paper and sent the result to her. When Mother Felhoelter received her long-awaited story about her son, the Chaplain, she immediately wrote me expressing her heartfelt appreciation.

Letter written to Earl J. Lee of Tacoma, WA
dated February 27, 1993
from Edwin J. Ryan

The next Sunday as she was waiting with Father's dad in church for the beginning of Mass, Mother Felhoelter passed on to her eternal reward.

Once again, I drove to Louisville for the funeral. Later I was employed in the textbook publishing business and had Louisville as part of my territory.

When working in Louisville, I made it a point to stop to visit Father's dad. On one occasion, I stopped to visit Father Felhoelter's brother-in-law who worked in a liquor store near my hotel. I inquired about Mr. Felhoelter and a noticeable change came over "Red" Downs' face. He told me that Mr. Felhoelter had died and each member of the family thought another member had contacted me.

Father had two sisters who became nuns, and a sister who stayed at home and two married sisters.

Father actually died on his birthday, as the sun was dawning and the sergeant who observed the machine-gunning was Sgt James Haskins, first sergeant of Hqs and Hqs Co, 19th Inf Regt.

Enclosed is a prayer card which Mother Felhoelter sent to my mother.

Thanks for bringing Father Felhoelter's service and sacrifice to the attention of TARO LEAF.

Sincerely yours,

Edwin J. Ryan
Hqs & Hqs Co. March 1950 - June 1951
19th Inf Regt, 24th Inf Div



Rev. Herman Felhoelter, O.F.M.

Father Herman was born in Louisville, Ky., July 17, 1913; he entered the Order of Friars Minor August 15, 1930, was ordained June 8, 1939. He was professor at Roger Bacon High School, Chaplain at Longview Hospital, Assistant at St. Boniface Church, Peoria, Ill., Military Chaplain, Assistant at St. George Church, Cincinnati, and again Military Chaplain. He was killed in Korea July 16, 1950.



Herman G. Felhoelter

Herman G. Felhoelter, Roman Catholic, stayed behind during the American retreat to care for the severely wounded who could not be moved. When last seen alive, he was faithfully performing his duty.

MODERN LITURGY

by Sister Clarita Felhoelter

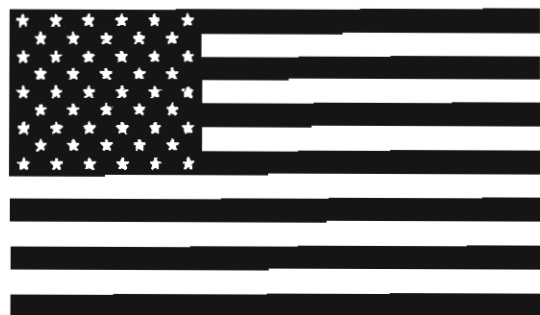
(In memory of her brother Capt. (Rev.) Herman G. Felhoelter
First Chaplain killed in Korea, July 17, 1950 (His Birthday)

The lines were always slightly blurred!
I seldom thought of Christ
Without upsetting pious creeds
Of what He must have been.
Quite naturally His eyes seemed blue;
His hair was black,
His smile was more than speech,
And when He spoke His voice was calm
and gentle.
With dignity, virility, Intense but quiet
zeal.
Could I be blamed if in my prayer
His flowing robe would disappear
And he would walk attired for work or
play. Sometimes at home in cleric black,
Franciscan brown.
And, at the last, unscriptural khaki,
His cross invisible except where
symbolized
In spots of gold on each lapel?
So often had He said, through you,
"This is My Body," "I absolve."
So clearly long ago He stated
That, hearing you, we hear His voice.
It was of faith that you were one--
And you, **dear brother**, made belief
an easy task.
However, now the pictures are no longer
parallel, But line on line.
Since you have laid your life upon
A bloody altar
Pleading for your flock
Which was a part of His.
Since that Korean Calvary,
Your shadowing substitute for morning
Mass, How can I ever think of you
Apart from Christ,
Or pray to Him
Without addressing You?

Sister Clarita Felhoelter, poet, professor, lecturer, was born the fourth of nine children to Mary and Henry Felhoelter in Louisville, Kentucky, on January 6, 1918, and named Louise Delores. After graduating from Ursuline Academy in 1934, Delores entered the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville and took the name of "Clarita." She received a B.A. degree from Ursuline College, Louisville, and then entered the Catholic University of America from which she was awarded a M.A. degree in English in 1952 and the Ph.D. in English in 1956.

Sister began twelve years of teaching children in elementary classes in the fourth grade at St. Vincent De Paul parish school in Louisville. She also taught one year at Sacred Heart Academy, Louisville, before doing graduate work. Upon her return from the Catholic University of America she was appointed to the English Department at Ursuline College, Louisville. When Ursuline merged with Bellarmine College in 1968, Sister Clarita became a professor of English at Bellarmine. There she distinguished herself as a teacher possessed of both breadth and depth of knowledge in her field and seemingly infinite resources of patience, dedication and caring for her students. She retired from Bellarmine in 1987 and was named Professor Emeritus in 1993.

Dr. Felhoelter also taught summer courses at the branch of Catholic University in San Antonio, TX in the 1960s. She was frequently called upon by various professional, civic and religious groups to lecture on Shakespeare, on Emily Dickinson and other authors, to lead book discussions and to give poetry readings. In retirement she continued to write and to tutor part-time.



CLIFTON E. RHODES

Real Estate Investments

704 COUNTRY PLACE DRIVE
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39208
(601) 939-5520

June 17, 1998

COL J. M. Williamson
Catetown Village
6410 23rd Ave. Dr. West
Bradenton, FL 34209

Dear Colonel:

Thanks so much for the nice card. I felt honored for you to have enquired of my illness. I went all winter without so much as a cold; but the first of April, I had a terrible case of bronchitis, and it was several weeks before I regained my energy. It seems that the older I get, it takes a month for me to get over things that as a younger person I got over in a few days. You are right, we are getting older and I feel it more each week. This was the reason that I, too, missed the Galveston reunion.

Art gets a charge out of calling me "Insect Repellant." This goes back to 1947 when I was a mechanic in the 13th FABN motor pool. You may recall, because of the salt spray from the bay, part of the preventive maintenance on the jeeps, 4 x 4's and 6 x 6's was to pull the wheels, brake drums and wheel cylinders. The cylinders were polished inside with fine sandpaper and new rubber kits were installed. The wheels were reassembled and new brake fluid was added. However, during a certain period, supply could not get us brake fluid. My memory is fuzzy now, but, as I recall, the motor officer and sergeant were saying daily, "All right, men, let's get these jeeps off the line!" Hearing this one day, I picked up a gallon can of insect repellant sitting next to a piece of a can of brake fluid. I remember pouring some insect repellant between my fingers, also brake fluid, and the consistency, color and feel of both seemed to be the same. Some of my buddies said, "Let's try it in the jeeps." It worked great. Supply said there was no shortage of insect repellant. Colonel, you see how innovative your troops were? Now, nearly 50 years later at the San Antonio reunion, Art was talking about my being a mechanic and asked, "What was that you mechanics used for brake fluid that caused the hydraulic hoses to start bursting?" Of course, by the time the hoses started bursting, I had gone home and new nothing about the problems. I remembered and told him that it was insect repellant. I have since learned that the insect repellant has a petroleum ingredient that deteriorates rubber.

Last month, Art called (pretending to be with UPS) and said he had a 55 gallon drum of insect repellant that he was supposed to deliver to me. I recognized his voice and told him to bring it on--that I had heard it was a substitute for brake fluid!

Colonel, thanks again for the note and I hope you and Mrs. Williamson enjoy your travels.

Respectfully,



Cliff

Encl

COMMENTARY: 24TH DIVISION OCCUPATION OF JAPAN 1947-1949

by

Col. JOSEPH M. Williamson, USA RET

The 24th Infantry Division/ Artillery relocated to Fukuoka, Kyushu, Japan at Camp Hakata a former Japanese naval base at the end of World War II. The artillery units were engaged in a number of missions not normally performed by tactical units. These included those installation functions normally performed by Post, Camp and Station units.

I was then a Lieutenant Colonel and commanded the 13th Field Artillery Battalion during the period January 1947 to July 1949. My duties in addition to normal tactical unit command duties included that of Provost Court Officer for the adjudication of alleged violations of the occupation rules by the Japanese in the Fukuoka area. I had an office, court room and small civilian staff located in the city of Fukuoka. I would usually hold court once a week. I also coordinated with Japanese authorities in matters pertaining to support from the U.S. military. Photograph number 1 shows me conferring with the governor of Fukuoka Prefecture during "Operation Earthquake", a disaster relief plan. Since there was no military police unit assigned to the area, my battalion was given the mission of providing this service. One of my batteries was stationed in the city of Fukuoka with personnel on a rotating basis. Another duty not included in the normal artillery mission was to plan for the defense of the army air corps Itazuke Air Field. Other officers

from my unit were detailed to other functions not related to artillery. One served as a military government official in the Fukuoka area; another served as the Post Exchange Officer; another as Provost Marshall in Fukuoka.

One outstanding event was the 13th Field Artillery Battalion being selected as the unit to be reviewed by Lt. Gen. Robert Eichelberger, Commanding General Eighth Army on March 5, 1947. His reviewing party included Maj. Gen. Roscoe Woodruff the I Corps Commander; Eighth Army Chief of Staff, Maj. Gen. Clovis Byers; and Maj. Gen. James Lester, Commanding General, 24th Infantry Division. I have enclosed photo #2 showing the event, an interesting side-light of this inspection was that the World War II combat boots with their rough finish were not really intended to be shined. So the army did not provide a product for this purpose. I directed that axle grease used for vehicles be rubbed on them. It was better than nothing.

In 1947 and 1948 my unit did normal garrison duties and conducted unit training which included field firing of weapons. Maneuvers were conducted with the 19th Infantry Regiment under tactical conditions. See photo #3. These were conducted in the Kurume, Hijudai and Saitogaki areas.

An interesting arrangement during the occupation at this time was the attachment of

Japanese labor units to units. The one attached to my battalion performed various duties under the control of a "labor boss" an English speaking Japanese national. I had two English speaking Japanese girls doing clerical duties in my headquarters. The battalion "adopted" a Japanese orphan as its mascot. A uniform was fitted to him. He was a great morale booster. See photo #4.

The battalion often had to improvise to get the job done. The axle grease I mentioned for shining boots is an example. Another example included cutting up the standard issue long planked dining tables with benches and building tables and chairs for seating four individuals. Although I was reminded that I could be court-martialed for the destruction of government property, it was not long before the other units had done the same thing. I could mention others but one innovation did not turn out as expected and now over 50 years later can be considered as humorous. I asked the culprit to relate the episode to me. A copy of the letter I received is enclosed. The Art referred to in the letter is the former battery commander of Mr. Rhodes, Arthur Travis, then a captain. You might want to edit this into the history as an interesting antidote.

By the time that I was reassigned to the United States in July 1949, the division artillery was reduced to a skeleton command.

COMMENTARY: 24TH DIVISION OCCUPATION OF JAPAN 1947-1949

by

Col. JOSEPH M. Williamson, USA RET

Troop strength was greatly reduced and most of the vehicles had been placed in limited storage.

I have enclosed a photo #5 which shows the officers of the 13th Field Artillery when at full Table of Organization strength in 1947.



TRIP TO KOREA

Wesley R. Morrison

Recently I had the privilege of representing the Korean Veterans of the Association on a familiarization trip to Korea. This trip was in preparation for activities celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War. Over the next three years there will be twelve large public ceremonies in honor of specific major events of the Forgotten War. The purpose of the tour was to acquaint representatives of the units that fought in Korea of the changes and modernization of Korea and the events planned to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Police Action (War). Up until I took this tour I was unaware of the planned events. The only program I had been aware of was the Revisit Korea Program. I just wish that this information could have been disseminated in 1999 to veteran organizations so veterans could make better plans to attend the events. The only previous publication I can remember that had any mention of this was an article on page 5 of the Army Echoes, Issue

2, 1999. The officials I had the opportunity to hear and talk to really expressed their desire to have as many War Veterans as possible return to attend the ceremonies and receive the appreciation of the Korean people.

Our party which consisted of 16 persons, (7 were Korean War Veterans, 3 Journalist, 2 from the Travel Agency, 1 representative of the Airlines, 1 representative of the Korean National Tourism Organization in L.A. and 2 Non-Korean Veterans), departed San Francisco International Airport at 0135 hours on 11 February 2000. We arrived at Kimpo International Airport 0608 hours, 12 February. The outside temperature was 26. After clearing Customs and Immigration we had a brief tour of Seoul. I was fairly surprised at the changes that have been made since I was last in Seoul. When I left in 1969 there were no freeways or overhead interchanges, no subways, only streetcars. Now there are freeways everywhere and subways and more being built. Busses instead of

streetcars. Traffic is like Los Angeles. We arrived at our hotel on Walker Hill, The Sheraton. For those of you who remember Walker Hill, there is no longer an Army presence there. The Sheraton occupies that space now.

After we checked in we had a short rest before we left for the start of the activities. We left the hotel for the Headquarters Korean National Tourism Organization. Here we were briefed of the changes in Seoul on a large production layout of the city. After we were taken to the Korean House Restaurant where we were to have a buffet dinner. At this dinner we were also introduced to Lt. Col (Ret) Lee, Jong Bong of the Korean Veterans Association. Following dinner we attended a show of Korean Folk songs and dancing.

The following morning, Sunday 13 February, we checked out of the hotel and proceeded up the Uijongbu Corridor to Kangwan County and the Iron Triangle area. Upon arriving in

TRIP TO KOREA

Wesley R. Morrison

Chorwon Valley we had a country style barbecue. The barbecue was duck. The building was a corrugated building with dirt floor. The smoke was so thick when we went in you couldn't see across the room. Was it cold. Only a small kerosene stove for heat after the charcoal died. After this duck bbq, we visited the Iron Triangle Memorial Hall, the observatory at the DMZ, Wolchongri Train Station where old bombed out train cars are displayed and the entrance to the 2d Invasion Tunnel. Then we visited the ROK battle site on White Horse Mountain and from there toured through Chorwon Valley past the old North Korean Labor Party Building and checked in at the Chuncon Hotel for an overnight stay. That evening Mr. Kim, Jin Sun, Vice Governor of Kangwon Province hosted us at dinner. Mr. Kim expressed his thanks to the UN and us for his province freedom. He stated they had enjoyed almost 50 years of freedom from the communist rule. If you look at the map of Korea you will see that

Chorwon was in North Korea prior to the war.

The next morning 14 February we checked out of the hotel and proceeded to Haeon (AKA Punchbowl Village). A brief tour of Punchbowl and the Dosol San Battle Monuments and then to an advance camp of the "Dol Sol" Battalion 66th Regiment ROK 21st Division "Ski Troop" unit. Here the temperature was .6 and the wind was approximately 35 MPH. The troops gave us a demonstration of the Taekwondo Martial Arts outside on the parade ground. We were freezing and they were in sweats. Later we visited the Ulchi DMZ Observatory which I understand was the highest point on the DMZ. Our journey continued to the 4th Invasion Tunnel. Here we had the opportunity to go down into the tunnel through the intercept tunnel which the ROK's had drilled. Some of us were given the opportunity to proceed by a small rail shuttle to the point just short of where the ROK's blew up the

tunnel. There have been 4 tunnels dug by the North Koreans into South Korea for the purpose of a possible invasion. All 4 have been dug since the war ended. Their method was by blasting and whenever they were ready to blast, they would fire their big guns to try to cover the noise. From here we proceeded back to Seoul and checked into the Sheraton Hotel very late.

After breakfast on Tuesday 15 February, we visited the Korean War Museum. The museum has an excellent historical collection and large displays of Korean War weapons, uniforms and equipment. They have the flags of all units that fought in Korea and I managed to have my picture taken under the Flag of the 24th Infantry Division. After a tour of the Museum we had a briefing by the ROK 50th Anniversary Commemoration Committee followed by a briefing by the US Commemoration Committee and former Commander of the 17th ROK Division and subsequent Chief of Staff of the ROK Army. Both committees

TRIP TO KOREA

Wesley R. Morrison

outlined the events that are to be held by each and expressed the desire to have as many Korean War Veterans as possible come to Korea and participate in them. After the meetings I left to go to Yonson with the US Committee Deputy Director while the rest of the party continued to Incheon to tour the harbor, invasion beaches and visit Freedom Park.

After lunch with the Deputy Director, Mr. M. (Pete) Peterson we went to his office where we talked about how important the ceremonies are to show the War Veterans they are not forgotten. Also he briefed me on ads that have been made to remind the public of the sacrifice the US Soldier made in defense of Korea. I brought back some material which will be on display at our reunion in September. After he took me to visit the Historical Office of 8th US Army. Here I had the opportunity to review some of the old Korean War era maps and locate some of the old camps and outposts. Altogether this visit was very interesting.

After my visit to Yongsan I returned to the hotel to await the return of the bus and go for a river cruise on the Han. Due to their running late they went directly to the cruise so I missed out and had supper in the hotel restaurant. One thing I forgot to mention earlier was the lunch on Yongsan Compound. I never thought a burger king hamburger could taste so good. One of the reporters and I were dying for a hamburger so one evening after a banquet we went into the hotel restaurant for one. It was filled with breadcrumbs and along with a small salad cost \$13.00. A glass of coke was \$9.00. The Burger King with french fries and soda was only \$2.50 and was all meat.

The next morning we departed Seoul for Panmunjom. At Camp Bonifas, we attended a briefing and due to this area still being considered hostile, we had to sign waivers before entering the joint security area. We viewed the negotiation buildings and surrounding area while under the watchful

eyes of the North Koreans. But then we were also under the constant protection of the US and ROK soldiers. Inside the main building I had the opportunity to enter North Korea again. The first time since I left in November 1950. Of course it was only a step or two over the demarcation line. After a bus tour by the old freedom bridge we returned to Seoul to prepare for the farewell banquet. The banquet was hosted by the Korean Veterans Association and consisted of a 9 course Chinese dinner. At this banquet MG Kim Dong Ho, Vice President of the Korean Veterans Association presented the 7 Korean War Veterans with the Ambassador for Peace Medal and Certificate. This banquet more or less concluded our official visit to Korea as we were scheduled to depart the next day.

After checking out of the hotel the next morning the party headed south to visit a folk village. This village is a living recreation of 18th & 19th life in the Chosun

TRIP TO KOREA

Wesley R. Morrison

Dynasty era. After a brief tour of the village we proceeded to Osan and visited the Memorial to "Task Force Smith". From there we returned to Seoul to Itaewon Street for a brief shopping tour. Here a couple of the party got Rolex watches for only \$30.00 (imitation of course). We then boarded the bus and proceeded to Kimpo International Airport for departure.

We arrived at San Francisco International Airport at approximately 2:30 PM on Thursday, February 17th.

The purpose of the tour was to familiarize representatives of the Units who participated in the War of changes happening in Korea and the appreciation of the people for their freedom. They would like to encourage as many veterans as possible to return to receive their gratification. ;I realize that at this late date it is hard to make plans for the events currently scheduled for this year but the Travel Agency who sponsored this tour can arrange tours to suite particular areas and

groups. If there are veterans who are interested in a Revisit Tour to Korea, could you let me know? What I would need is when and where. If a sufficient number are interested special tours can be arranged and of course the more interested the cheaper the cost. So let me know. My address and telephone number are currently posted on page 2 of the TARO LEAF and my email is WesM8@aol.com



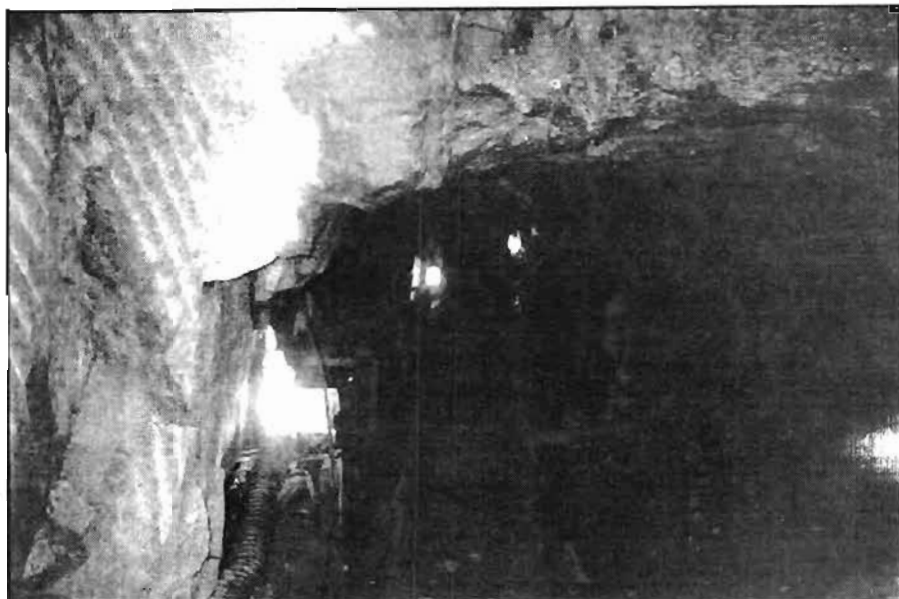
Inside the main building at Pammundon. I'm just over the DMZ line in North Korea.



Inside the Korean War Museum section of the Korea Veterans Building.



*Insied #4
Invasion
Tunnel.*



*Myself in front of the Monument to 8 ROK's killed
by Boddy Traps in the 2nd Invasion Tunnel.*



Entrance to Camp Bonafas DMZ.



*Lunch with
Yanggu County
Commissioner.*



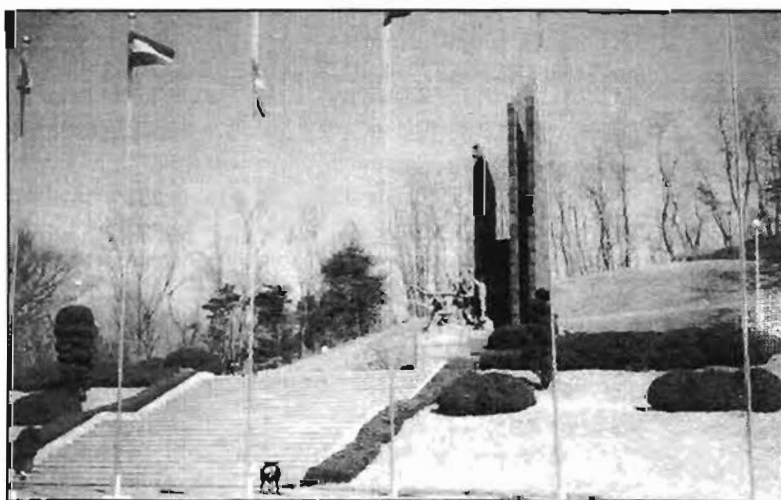
Farewell Banquet with General Kim.



Punchbowl Battle Monument at the Foot of Bloody Ridge.



Myself and my jeep driver at Bloody Ridge.



Monument to Task Force, Smith. Osan. Korea.



*Village in Sowan..
(Bring back memories)*

NORTH OUT FROM DAVAO

Cpl. Richard Lewis, 11th.F.A.B.N. 24th Inf. Div. WWII (May-July 1945)

We had somewhat of a treat, we got to have breakfast with 19th Infantry Regimental Headquarters, saw the Regimental Commander, Colonel "Jock" Clifford (a great athlete at West Point and destined to go higher in rank in the Army, later killed in this operation we were embarking on this day. He was born and raised in West Virginia. We were assigned to "A" Company, which was "spearhead" on to the north. One of the things that I had never seen or got to partake of before, on the way out of the city, of all things, a Red Cross Van, with stairs up to a walkway which we went up and got a canteen cup with coffee and two donuts! We pushed out up the main road, making good time until we got to a long straight stretch of road. We proceeded so far and the enemy opened up from a pillbox, fortunately few maneuvers on the flanks didn't dislodge it. About noon a large armored bulldozer from the 3rd Engineer Battalion showed up. It ran up to the pillbox, put the blade down and no more enemy hold up. The 3rd Engineers "The Beavers" while stationed at Schofield Barracks performed some most famous projects. In the '20's - '30's they built the road from the ocean shore up to the top of KoleKole Pass with many hair pin curves. It stands today as an engineering marvel. After the knockout, we moved out again, but with no further enemy action. We put into a area with many coconut trees spaced in a grove. Mike Flannery and I, along with our officer, as Artillery

Forward Observation Team, (155mm Howitzers) were setup in the center of the Infantry Perimeter. As usual, the "grunts" thought we made too much noise in the dark, they wanted COMPLETE SILENCE. Mike and I found that the ground was clay! We cut a chunk, lay it out on the edge of the foxhole, and repeated the process. Not the best for protection but it was something. Some time that night the enemy hit the perimeter from the road side. The opposite ditch giving them protection. The Artillery Forward Observer from the 13th Field Artillery, direct support for the infantry, 105mm Howitzers, brought his rounds falling just on the other side of the road where the enemy was. Then for the rest of the night, one enemy moaned "e-tie-e, e-tie-e" until dawn when a sergeant walked across the road and put a stop to it. Most memorable to me during the time our artillery was falling on the other side of the road, was that the shrapnel from it was flying through the air. Once in awhile smashing into a coconut tree. Mike turned to me in our side by side makeshift foxholes and said, "They're messing with my insurance, They're messing with my insurance"!

SECOND DAY OUT FROM DAVAO

At the point that we had bivouacked the first day, the road we were on, paralleling Davao Bay north, swung away from the coast. It was decided that a platoon, would

proceed up the actual coast of the bay, and the main body would again continue up the main road. After "K" rations, we did just that.

The unit had received replacements. These could easily be recognized as they still had the chalk markings from loading aboard the transport ship that brought them over. It makes veterans a little itchy, having them come to your unit especially on a live exercise against the enemy. The regular artillery observers for the 19th Infantry, 13th F.A. 105mm How. went with the main body up the road. Our observation team was assigned to go up the short of Davao Bay. We proceeded without any incursion, till about noon when we encountered a road coming from inland. As we crossed it we were fired upon from the main road. Not knowing where exactly it was coming from, a fire fight occurred. It was finally figured out that a or some of the new recruits saw our movement by the shoreline and without asking started firing. Our only casualty was a thin infantryman from Arkansas. Our medic was also one of those with markings from the ship transport and was all fingers with the inflicted arm wound. Mike Flannery and myself found a splint and took the wrappings from the scared medic and fixed the wound up to hide the fact that he would probably never use his right arm again. We hid it to try to stop any shock. He was evacuated up to the main road and an Aid Station. We again went north until we were halted and

**(Second Day out From
Davao (Continued))**

joined the Company to put into perimeter for the night. A slight upgrade knoll had been selected and even several strands of barbed wire was put in place. Sometime after dark, somewhere out there, the enemy was making like a midnight party, laughing, hollering and generally carrying on. That will take away any thoughts of sleepiness. Sometime before dawn, the enemy's rowdiness ceased. Now we were really on the alert. Maybe about an hour later, "Teno-Hyako-Banzai-i", the perimeter in their direction, let loose with everything they had. Eventually the firing ceased and all was quiet again. The next morning a bulldozer came up and dug a trench and everyone helped to dump the dead enemy into it. One hears about these attacks but to survive one is a real memory maker. I have always wanted to write about our enemies consideration on life in general and death in combat. My next dissertation will be along those lines.

**TWO SOLDIERS
MEMORIES**

Two soldiers lay in a foxhole deep
One was on guard, the other asleep.
The soldier asleep had a pleasant dream
Of a softpillowed bed, it surely did seem
His helmet his pillow, his jacket so warm
No battle for him, no cause for alarm.
Across the expanse of the battle scarred ground
The enemy soldiers were prowling around.
Then out of the blue the soldier awoke
He reached for his weapon and found it was broke,
With yelling and screaming the battle began
The fighting was fierce it was now man to man
The battle still raged and by memory was fed
When his wife kicked him out of that softpillowed bed.

By :Roy H. Welch
6018 Laketree Ln.#20E
Tampa, Florida 33617

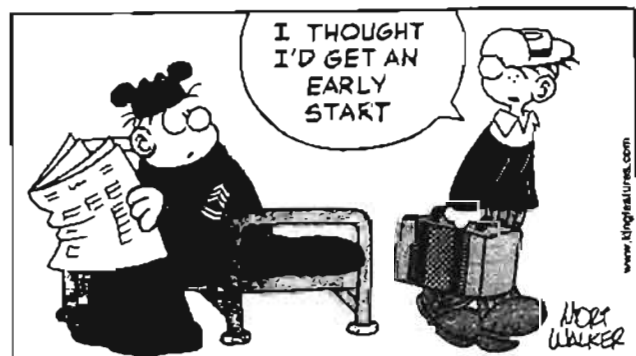
ONE AFTERNOON I was walking on a trail with my newborn daughter, chatting to her about the scenery. When a man and his dog approached, I leaned into the baby carriage and said, "See the doggy?" Suddenly I felt a little silly talking to my baby as if she understood me. But just as the man passed, I noticed he reached down, patted his dog and said, "See the baby?"

— CATHERINE REARDON, Eagan, Minn

BEETLE BAILEY



By Mort Walker



Join Fight For Veterans' Right To Representation

by

Bill Lambert
270 S.W. 3rd St
Boca Raton, FL 33432

I am not asking for your dollars, but for something of far greater value: your vote to change this miscarriage of justice.

Bill Lambert
Boca Raton
Sun/Sentinel
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
14 August 1999

December 2, 1980, Bill Lambert, 3rd Bn. Aid Station, 31st Infantry protesting at the Veterans Administration, Regional Office, 941 North Capitol Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. after receiving a denial of service connection for malaria, which he acquired, was diagnosed, and treated during battlefield conditions, by the then Battalion Surgeon, Caption John J. Brennan, Medical Corps, U.S. Army.

It required over 25 years for Bill to obtain service connection for malaria. Is this an example of the Veterans Administration: 'May We Help You'?

Bill Lambert prefers Abraham Lincoln's quote: 'It is a sin to remain silent, when it is your duty to protest'.

There is an unfair practice of the Veterans Administration, and three major veterans organizations would prefer to maintain it, while denying disabled veterans their constitutional right to due process, which is protected by Section 1 of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Presently there are three or more equity-minded national veterans organizations actively engaged in repealing U.S. Code Title 38, 211 (a), and Section 5904, which denies a veteran the right to hire a lawyer at the start of a claim, a right that is granted to Social Security claimants and every type of alleged criminal.

After waiting for more than 25 years for the V.A. to adjudicate a simple claim and more than 10 years to adjudicate a more complex claim, both in my favor, it is my judgment that never in the recent history of this nation have so many worthless bureaucrats and legalized Benedict Arnolds denied so many deserving disabled U.S. veterans of the constitutional right of due process.

My present purpose is to use part or all of the more than \$43,000 that the V.A. awarded me in retroactive service-connected disability compensation to spearhead a campaign for due process for all U.S. veterans.



PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

"WELDER OVERCOMES STEREOTYPE THROUGH HARD WORK"

By Brad Mincey

In a career field dominated by men, most would not expect to see the petite frame of a female holding an arc welder, fusing two pieces of metal together.

After almost three years of proving herself to her fellow welders and her supervisors, Spec. Amanda Pollard, 1st Maintenance Company, is still hard at work.

"I have always been a tomboy," she said. "I would rather hang out with the guys than hang out with the girls and talk about their nails or their boyfriends. That's just not me."

Although she could have chosen among many military jobs including Military Police officer, cook and others, she chose to learn the craft of metal work.

"I had a couple of choices when I first came in, and that was the most interesting," she said. "I like it and I am good at it!"

Along with her fellow soldiers and supervisors in the company, her husband was also shocked to find out what type of work she did for the Army.

"I did not believe she was a welder at first," said her husband David, a light wheel mechanic with 1st Maintenance Co. "Every welder we have around us is a male. Most of the females are supply or logistics personnel. You just don't see many women welders and mechanics."

According to Pollard, because she is left-handed, certain aspects

of welding are easier for her than others.

"As a left-handed person, I am more coordinated with that hand. Many people have a hard time with right-handed things like arc welding. They are easier for me because I am more steady with my left-hand."

She runs the gamut from welding aluminum to steel, and everything in between. She even earned an award and several certificates of achievements for her work.

"The most exciting thing so far was going to NTC because I learned a lot there," she said. "In the shop, you do everyday things. Somebody comes up to you and says 'Here, weld this.' At NTC, you have 500 people coming up to you saying 'Weld this, this, this and this.' It's a good time to learn new things."

By doing her job well, she has earned the respect of her fellow welders. It took awhile for some of the older soldiers to get used to the idea of having a female welder in the company.

"The sergeant major and my commander could not believe that I was a welder," she said. "But when the commander found out it was true, he gave me a coin."

As with most units, there is always some friendly competition among the soldiers. "On our free time, if we have extra pieces of metal around, we will make butt-joints and T-joints and we'll take it to our NCOs and ask them who did it better. But it is all in fun," she said.

Like many soldiers, there are several reasons she joined the Army.

Not having a set goal in mind, she decided the Army would be a good place to be for awhile. Now, she has several goals, and is working toward achieving them.

With 28 credits to her name, she is working toward an Associates Degree in Art and a Masters Degree in Teaching. Ultimately, she hopes to work with eighth to 12-grade students teaching communications skills.

"Since joining the Army, I have been able to take classes and I have had the time to work with Big Brothers/Big Sisters," she said. "That lets me work with children, and that helps me to communicate better with them which prepares me for being a teacher."

Right now, she is working with an 8 year old girl in the program teaching her about "girl things."

When Pollard leaves the Army, she wants to get a job in the shipyards in Connecticut so that she can save more money for school and finish her teaching degree.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR LABEL ON THE BACK COVER OF YOUR TARO LEAF. THE EXPIRATION DATE ABOVE YOUR NAME IS THE DATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE. NO OTHER REMINDER IS MADE.

"A PIECE OF THE WAR IN THE PACIFIC"

by

LTC Karl A. Hirlinger USA Ret
9133 W. Coolidge St.
Phoenix, AZ 85037

In the spring of 1945 I left Fort Ord for overseas duty on the US Army Transport Ship "Sea Fiddler" for an unknown destination in the South Pacific. We were the first troop transport ship to be sent to the Pacific without an armed escort. After more than three weeks at sea, I eventually arrived at the army replacement center located at Tacloban on the Island of Leyte in the Philippines. I learned from the troop transport officer that we were originally on orders to go to Manila for further transport to Okinawa, but that the Merchant Marine Captain had refused to go on to Manila because he had not been assured that all of the mines had been cleared from the harbor. We had not been expected at Tacloban so it was a few days before any of us knew what was going to happen to us. I then learned that I had been assigned to I Company, 3rd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment of the 24th Division. I left Tacloban on an LCI together with about a hundred other infantry replacements. We were off loaded and waded ashore near Davao on Mindanao and after several hours of riding to the end of barely passable mud roads, we put on our battle packs and road marched up to where the 3rd Battalion had established a perimeter. We found the Battalion and learned that the Regimental Commander, Colonel Clifford and his driver had been killed by a mortar attack apparently while we

were on our way up, or shortly before.

I met my company commander, Lieutenant Paul and was assigned as platoon leader of the first platoon replacing another Lieutenant who had recently been killed. Within a few hours I found myself under fire.

A short time after I arrived our Company was assigned the task of locating the Davao River which was known from aerial observation to be somewhere in our vicinity. By this time the 19th Regiment had fought its way into the more remote regions of Mindanao. Some of the areas we were in had never been explored or mapped so we had only limited information to go on. After a number of unfruitful patrols through dense jungles and fields of razor sharp Kune grass the way to the river was finally discovered. Planning officers at Division level were interested in determining if it would be feasible to send supplies up the Davao River by boat. Information was needed on whether the river would be navigable and more importantly if there were any substantial concentrations of Japanese forces to be dealt with.

It was decided at Regiment level that for reasons of safety, a full company would be needed to make the necessary information gathering trip into completely unknown

territory. I Company was given orders to reconnoiter the river on both sides and report back to Regiment what we found. This was not particularly good news for me since a couple of days previously I had received second and third degree burns on my left leg caused by burning gasoline from a wrecked Japanese truck. The Battalion Surgeon had decided I was still good for duty and not even eligible for a Purple Heart because as he said, "I hadn't shed any blood!". So on a blazing hot July morning off I went with the rest of the Company and we wound through the jungle for several hours before finally arriving at our destination. Fortunately we met no significant resistance all the way to the Davao River bank.

After arriving there it was easy to see that the Davao River, even though we were relatively far upstream, was formidable wide and with an obviously strong current. Patrols were sent up and down the near side of the river and they found evidence that Japanese forces had been there recently. When the patrols returned, the Company Commander called all of the Platoon Leaders to report to him for a conference. After conferring, the Company Commander reported to Regiment by radio that it would not be possible to put the Company across the river without boats of some kind, which we did not have. Regiment let us

"A PIECE OF THE WAR IN THE PACIFIC"

by

LTC Karl A. Hirlinger USA Ret
9133 W. Coolidge St.
Phoenix, AZ 85037

know in no uncertain terms that we were not going to be allowed to return without knowing what existed on the far side of the river. Reluctantly Lt. Paul asked for volunteers to make up a patrol to cross the river. Only good swimmers would be accepted. One of the men in the Company had been an Olympic class swimmer and he volunteered to swim across and pull a length of light duty telephone wire, called W130, to the other side and then to pull a heavier telephone wire, called W110 across and tie it to a palm log on the other side. We had plenty of wire and it was expendable so it was agreed that would be the best way to get men to the other side. The soldier was as good as his word and got the heavier wire in place, however, when he swam back he arrived so exhausted he was unable to even consider joining the patrol across.

Since I was a good swimmer and two of the volunteers were men from my platoon, I volunteered to take the patrol myself. Only five of us were considered good enough swimmers to make it across even with the wire to help. Lt. Paul asked our artillery forward observer to adjust artillery fire on the other side of the river before we attempted to cross to discourage any Japanese troops that might still be there. After finally getting a white phosphorus round where he could see it, he

called for 20 rounds of high explosive to be laid in close on the other side. There was no place to take cover so we all crouched as close to the river bank as we could get and waited for the artillery shells to arrive. All but one of the shells landed safely on the other side and that one short round landed in the river only about 50 or 60 feet in front of us. I felt a sharp thud in the mud bank and looked down to see a hole in the bank about 12 inches long and about 2 inches wide with smoke coming out of it. A piece of the short round had gone between me and the man next to me! As big as it was, if it had come a few inches one way or the other, one of us would have been cut in two!

As soon as the shelling ceased and our ears had stopped ringing, I and the others in the patrol shed our packs and went into the water carrying only a few grenades and our rifles and carbines slung on our backs. About 30 or 40 feet out from shore, the current was too swift to stand, so the first man swung out and went hand over hand along the wire until he reached the other side. The rest of us followed one by one. On the other side we assembled and went into the jungle to see what we would find. We had gone less than a mile before we began to see tracks in the trail where a group had come out of the jungle and followed the trail in the same direction we were going.

Soon we began seeing an occasional cigarette butt still smoking and we realized we were getting too close for comfort. From what we could see, it appeared that a fair sized group of Japanese soldiers were setting up a temporary camp. I concluded we had seen more than enough to warrant a hasty retreat back to the river. As quietly as we could we moved as fast as possible back to the Davao River bank. Fortunately our navigation was good and we came back to almost the exact spot we had left. I yelled across the river and told the Company Commander we were coming back and he agreed. We were becoming concerned because it was evident that heavy rains upstream were beginning to cause the river to rise. The first man jumped in and began to make his way hand over hand back to safety. About halfway across the strain was too much for the telephone wire and it broke. The man on the wire held on and was able to pull himself to safety. After a short discussion, yelling across the water, Lt. Paul sent men into the water as far as they could go holding hands to shorten the distance we would have to swim and the four of us left had to swim for it. I stayed until last to be a rear guard in case we were discovered. After the last man was gone I beat my carbine to pieces and threw it in the river along with all of the ammunition and grenades we had carried

"A PIECE OF THE WAR IN THE PACIFIC"

over. I then stripped down to my shorts and the bandages on my leg and dove into the water. I swam harder and faster than I had ever done before and just as I was about to go under, the last man in the line caught my hand and pulled me to safety. I was never more glad to see anyone in my life. If he had missed me, even if I hadn't drowned, I would have been so far downstream by the time I got to shore it is not likely I would have survived.

After giving a full report by radio to our Battalion Commander, we were allowed to head back to the Battalion area. I was barefoot and wearing nothing but shorts and the battle pack and helmet I had left behind. By the time we marched back to the Battalion perimeter, my feet were swelling and I had been bitten by so many mosquitoes I must have looked like I had the measles. I borrowed some fatigues from one of the men who had extras but there were no boots. It took several days before I finally got the quartermaster to come up with a pair I could really wear.

For sometime I had been telling my wife in my letters that I couldn't let her know where I was but that it was quiet and I was in no danger. About a month after the patrol I received a letter from her indicating she was furious with me. It seems that there was a war correspondent with us on that patrol and he had sent a very complete summary of our trip to the other side of the Davao River and back to my home town paper. My wife enclosed the clipping and needless to say she was very upset.



POPPY DAY

by

David Baillie

P.O. Box 5

Elburn, IL 60119

Email: 34thtkco@elnet.com



Once a year a time to recall them all who gave and gave to preserve peace,
Reflect on them with less than most twisted bodies and down trodden souls,
Pure of mind in their duty done, again if asked they would stand for peace,
Who is there left to remember their deeds and their valor for their toils.

Color of red for the life of blood lost, in fields all across this green earth,
Pain and suffering and eyes seen of sights the mind can't recall at all,
To our memory we should place these deeds done for us all and their worth,
Soft breezes blow the poppy back and fourth, sweet scent passes to recall it all.

There can be no repayment to one or all, it's worth too high a gift to pay,
We who walk, talk and live freely now must dedicate our work to their trust,
Honor and pride not just a by-word spoken a way of life for every day,
Pin the "flower" upon your lapel wear with pride, in memory for their trust.

Winds unfurl old glory, with her red, white and blue, raise a thankful hand,
Stand straight and silent for a moment or two to recall a name you knew,
Forgotten now for duty done, never asked to say no, never heard a band,
Brother, father, son and uncle too, all who met the challenge for me and you.

Give of yourself in return on poppy day for them who gave it all, then,
Grieve not for their torn bodies and soul if a lesson has been learned,
Ensure that their memory will never fade like names of many lesser men,

Fear not the tasks to gain peace, but what would be without it gained.

VETERANS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR U.S. IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE, U.S. BORDER PATROL, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND U.S. CUSTOMS POSITIONS

The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, U.S. Customs, and the U.S. Border Patrol both offer position vacancy announcements on both a local and national level. These positions are often ideal for retired men and women veterans who are looking for a second income. They vary in grade and type, but they all have one thing in common, excellent benefits. The Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) is similar to a 401K and lets the employee save up to 10% of his/her wages tax deferred with a 5% match by the employer. As well, the Federal Employees Retirement System has an annuity that is based on time in federal employment and pay rate. Time from the military counts towards a retirement annuity if one did not obtain retirement from the military. If one already has a retirement from the military then one is of course double dipping, earning a second retirement. This second retirement is in addition to the deferred tax benefits of the TSP (401K), along with the 5% government employer match. Investment options for the TSP are an S&P Index 500 Fund, Lehman Brothers Bond Index Fund, and a T-Bill Fund that delivers about a 2% premium above what Treasury Bills yield, which gives it bond like returns with less volatility. Additional investment options will be an Index 4500 Fund of small and midcap corporations and a Total Foreign Market Index Fund.

Positions openings could be Information Officers, Immigration Inspectors, District Adjudications Officers, Examinations Assistants, Status Verifiers, Criminal Investigators, Deportation Assistants, Clerical and Administrative positions, Computer Programmer/Technologist, Supply Specialist and any number of other positions that may come open. What these positions have in common is that many have good pay and/or advancement potential and excellent benefits. There are various group health plans which have very low rates, approximately \$40 per month on average.

An employee may become vested in the Thrift Savings Plan after three years of contributions in which the 5% match money of the government vests and becomes the employees in case of separation. FERS (a retirement annuity system) can start with as little as five years of service if one reaches retirement age. As pointed out earlier time in the military likely will count toward retirement if one is not receiving a military retirement after 20 years in the military, in which case one would be double dipping.

To obtain a position one should go to the INS employment website and view national and local positions listed there. Most local INS position vacancies are not listed on the national employment website, however, some are. If none of the positions are suitable one should look in the telephone directory and find the nearest local U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service District Office, U.S. Customs Office, or U.S. Border Patrol Office. With a visit to these offices you may be able to procure a position vacancy announcement. However, the Information Officer's that have public contact are often very busy and a visit to the local OPM or State Employment Office may prove helpful in locating USINS/U.S. Border Patrol vacancies locally. This is not to say that a local Information Officer at the local INS District Offices will not photocopy a vacancy announcement for you, they might if you ask them nicely, they are just often busy with immigration matters. You may try requesting to speak with the Personnel Specialist at the local INS District Office. The Personnel Specialist is likely to have more time to tell you of position vacancy announcements and give you a copy, or tell you where to find them. Once again, many INS local vacancy announcements are listed through the local OPM Office.

VETERANS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR U.S. IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE, U.S. BORDER PATROL, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND U.S. CUSTOMS POSITIONS

National and some local U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service positions at website:

<http://www.usajobs.opm.gov.a9dj.htm>

U.S. Border Patrol and other Federal position announcements nationally and some locally:

<http://www.usajob.opm.gov>

U.S. Border Patrol Agent Test Registration: (912) 757-3001 Ext. 0920

At this the USAJOBS Website you can run searches by state, Federal Agency, job series such as 1816 Immigration Inspector, 1816 Customs Inspector, or 1801 District Adjudications Officer, or by position title Supply Specialist, etc..

U.S. Customs also often has position openings at:

<http://www.customs.ustreas.gov/career/career.htm>

The USAJOBS Website is as follows:

<http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>

In the past former astronaut John Glenn has encouraged young people to take an interest in government and in careers with the U.S. Government. Do you know a Veteran who has been honorably discharged from the military after three years or more of active duty. U.S. Customs, U.S. Border Patrol, U.S. Department of Labor, and the U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service, and the U.S. Department of State are some Federal Agencies that often hire Veterans on an ongoing basis.

U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service Employment Website:

<http://www.usajobs.opm.gov.a9dj.htm>

These agency's national position vacancy announcements and some local position vacancy announcements are listed on the above USAJOBS Website when they open. On the USAJOBS Website one can do a search by government agency. If you want to search for Department of Labor or Department of State positions, then just scroll down to the State Department. U.S. Customs, scroll down to the Department of the Treasury. U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service scroll down to the Department of Justice.

If a person already knows the kind of position they want to apply for then they can just type in the position title, like Immigration Inspector or Customs Inspector. Also, a query for a position jobs series can be run like, series 1811 which is Federal Law Enforcement Covered positions like Criminal Investigators. Immigration Inspectors jobs series is 1816. An Immigration District Adjudications Officer or Center Adjudication Officer is series 1801. For instance, series 1801 is classified as paralegal work however, the positions go from GS-5 or GS-7 non-competitively to GS-12 which is about \$52,000 per year base pay to start. This is the pay at GS-12 Step One. Each GS grade takes one

VETERANS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR U.S. IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE, U.S. BORDER PATROL, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND U.S. CUSTOMS POSITIONS

year to complete to get to the next higher grade, generally speaking. Whatever, position one can qualify for is the GS grade that they will start at.

The U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service has District Offices in many major cities through out the United States. It is in these District Offices that District Adjudications Officers work. The work they do is essential reviewing U.S. Citizenship applications and green card applications (legal permanent residence cards). Generally, this is done in an interview with the applicant present.

Center Adjudications Officer's work at one of the U.S. Immigration & Naturalization four regional service centers. These service centers are where petitions and applications are mailed in by U.S. Citizen and foreign national public for adjudication (legal processing). The service centers are located as follows; Laguna Niguel, CA (just south of Los Angeles in Orange County), Lincoln, Nebraska, Irving/Mesquite, TX (suburbs of Dallas), and St. Albans, VT. You may choose these service centers as an optional location on your job application.

At both District Offices and Service Centers there are many other positions that must be filled. Often Immigration Information Officer positions come open. These persons advise the public about procedures for filing petitions and applications with the U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service. There are also Examination Assistants which work on cases with the Adjudications Officers listed above.

Criminal Investigator, Deportation Officer, and Detention Officer positions are located in major cities throughout the United States and in other areas as designated by the Attorney General. These are covered law enforcement positions that receive about 25% more pay for their GS grade. Covered law enforcement positions also come with a benefit of retirement after 20 years of service. However, one must generally enter the position before the age of 37 years old.

Immigration Inspectors work at International Airports, Land Borders and Seaports through the United States and be obtained over the age of 37, since they are non-covered Law Enforcement. There are 3 or 4 Immigration Inspectors for every one Adjudications Officer, therefore Immigration Inspector positions are a bit easier to obtain. The work involves checking passports, visas, green cards and other documents of persons applying to enter the United States.

U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service vacancy announcements may be viewed at the following website:

<http://www.usajobs.opm.gov.a9dj.htm>

The U.S. Border Patrol has first duty stations on the Southwest border. Many Border Patrol Agents work for a period of years on the Southwest border and then become Criminal Investigators, Deportation Officers, or Immigration Inspectors. Many make a career out of the U.S. Border Patrol since it is position with the 20 year law enforcement retirement benefit. I was told a second year Border Patrol Agent can make \$50,000 with overtime in that second year. The link to the U.S. Border Patrol on-line application process is located on the first page of the USAJOBS website.

U.S. Border Patrol Test Registration Website:

<http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>

or U.S. Border Patrol Agent Test Registration: (912) 757-3001 Ext. 0920

VETERANS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR U.S. IMMIGRATION & NATURALIZATION SERVICE, U.S. BORDER PATROL, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, AND U.S. CUSTOMS POSITIONS

U.S. Customs Service:

<http://www.customs.ustreas.gov>

<http://www.customs.ustreas.gov/career/career.htm>

Other Federal Government Agencies of interest may be the U.S. department of Labor and the U.S. Department of State:

<http://www.dol.gov>

<http://www.dol.gov/dol/oasam/public/doljobs/main.htm>

<http://www.state.gov>

<http://www.state.gov/www/dept.html>

Please keep in mind that Military Veterans with at least three years of active duty and an honorable discharge may find specific vacancy announcements open for them. For instance, the U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service often hires Immigration Inspectors, Immigration Agents, Investigation Assistants, Criminal Investigators, Examinations Assistants, Adjudicators, Deportation Assistants, Deportation Officers, Detention Enforcement Officers, Immigration Information Officers, Supply Specialists, Accountants, Clerical positions, Computer Specialists and more. Any Federal Government position you accept may be a "foot in the door" so to speak and lead to that successful Federal Career with good pay and benefits.

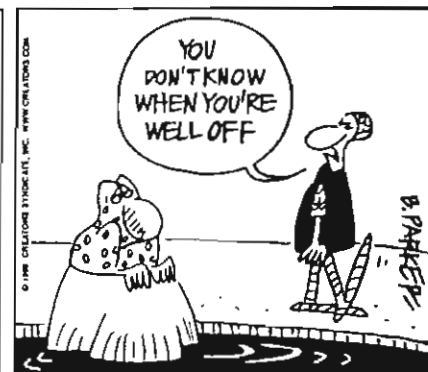
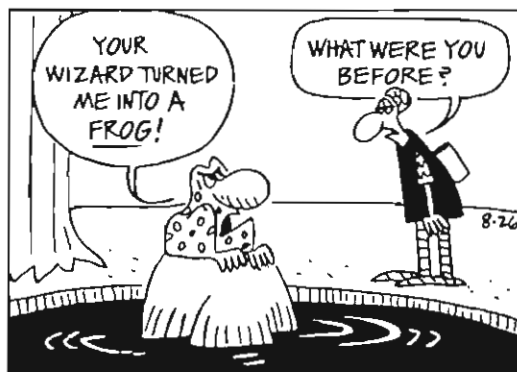
BEETLE BAILEY

By Mort Walker



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Parker and Hart





Our sympathy to Gus Orr of Evant Texas, 19th Infantry Regiment in the death of his beloved wife, Katie.

John Trinca sent a letter from Ruth Hartley in the passing of her husband Paul. He passed away on August 14, 1999 after a six week session in the Intensive Care Unit in the hospital. We were married July 3, 1970 and we never ceased to be grateful for the almost thirty years we had together. We had many happy memories with friends like you. Thank you for those memories." Ruth Hartley.

Letter from Fran and Harry Wittman in the passing of Ed M. Wilson. Obituary follows:

ED M. WILSON, 68

Of Rockford died at 2:25 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, 1999, in OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center. Born Feb. 5, 1931, in Chicago, the son of John and Marie Wilson. Married Margie (Vondra) Childers Wilson on Sept. 1993. Employed for many years at Helder Electric and was district manager for Northern Illinois Electrical Contractors. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict. Member of Korean Veterans Association, Woodstock VFW Post 5040 and Holy Family Catholic Church. Ed had a love for nature, especially enjoying gardening and bird watching. Survivors include wife, Margie; sons, Chuck (Lilly) Freund of Janesville, Wis., and Tim Wilson of Hollywood, FL.; daughter, Laura (Bob) Smith of South Carolina; stepson, Mark (Linda) Childers; 13 grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; sisters, Edie (Hank) Lichte of Chicago and Dorothy (Dave) Dunlop of Elgin; brother, Joe Wilson of Wonder Lake, and numerous nieces, nephews and friends. Predeceased by parents;

sons, Martin and Philip; and sister, Carol.

Received obituary of Clarence Ralph from John Ragland.

Clarence Allen Ralph, 74, of Fisher died Tuesday July 20, 1999 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana. Mr. Ralph was born June 4, 1925 in Fisher, a son of Daniel W. and Mildred G. Hewerdine Ralph. He married Marilyn "Sue" Giertz on Jan. 1, 1968 in Urbana. She survives. Also surviving are two sons, Randall James of Austin, Texas, and Clarence A. Ralph II of Fisher; six daughters, Linda Camden of Dewey, Marie Martin and Peggy Shepherd, both of Fisher, Judy Bryant of Alpena, AR., Janet Krawiecki of St. James, MO and Teresa Dyson of Champaign; a brother, Daniel Ralph of Valparaiso, IN; two sisters, Donna Devall of Fisher and Bonnie Thompson of Paxton; 18 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a brother, a sister and a granddaughter. Mr. Ralph served in the Army during World War II and in Korea. He was a meat inspector for the Illinois Department of Agriculture for 36 years. He was an official with the Illinois High School Athletic Association. Mr. Ralph was a life member of AMVETS and a member of the Church of Christ in Fisher. He played in the Eastern Illinois fast-pitch soft ball league with the Dewey Pfisters team for 27 years. He was an avid hunter and outdoorsman. Clarence served with an 81 MM mortar platoon in Co. D 21st Infantry and was a soldiers soldier. He will be missed.

Received from James W. Mims: "The fellow who was my CO during 24th Div days, John H. Miller, passed away in Poland, OH on Feb-

ruary 7, 2000. I first met John at Camp Ritchie, MD which was the Military Intelligence Training Center, where he trained as a Photo Interpreter. At that time he was a first lieutenant, and had been an anti-aircraft officer. He was assigned as the Officer in Charge of the 114th Photo Interpretation Team, which joined the 24th Div. At Hollandia the week before the invasion of Leyte, October 1944. He was later promoted to captain. Following occupation duty in Japan, John returned to a teaching career, until retirement some years ago. His wife Doris preceded him in death. He is survived by several children and grandchildren. Services were held at the Poland Presbyterian Church on February 19, 2000. John was a good soldier, a true gentleman, and a fine officer. The world is a better place because of his inspiring life. He was 91.

Letter received from John Faro JR 14279 Crow RD, Apple Valley, CA 92307. "I lost a very close buddy, Robert (Bob) J. Reyes on February 12, 2000. We both were in HQ Co. 3rd BN. 21st Inf. Regt. 24th Inf. Div. In Korea 1953-1954. His buddies will remember him as the driver for Col. Richmond. We were friends before and after our military service. He is survived by his wife: Judy Reyes, 27311 Nubles, Mission Viejo, CA 92692. Picture is Bob Reyes, John Faro and Don McVay, Korea 1953.



TAPS



My husband M/Sgt. Frank M. Barnes passed away on Father's Day June 20, 1999 of Lou Gehrig's Disease. He was a member of the 24th Division Association. Regards, Fonda B. Barnes

email from Don Porter: "Gerald Krissell passed away October 29, 1999. He was in the 21st Regt Hvy Mtr Co from '49 through April 1951 when he was wounded. He was also a member of T.F.S. He was married and had seven children. His address was 24 Winding Way, Binghamton NY 13905. He will be missed by this old Kumamoto Gimlet.

From Shorty Estabrook: "With sadness in my heart I report to you the death of Nellie Dyer, who was with us in Korea. She was born in Conway AR and died on January 23 of the year 2000 at the age of 97. Nell was taken by the North Korean invasion troops at Kaesong (then South Korea) on 29 June 1950. She was among the first imprisoned by the Communist of the North. They arrested this fine lady who had

dedicated her life to helping the Korean people. Nell was a Methodist missionary and first arrived in Seoul South Korea in 1927. This great lady died in a nursing home in Joplin, MO.

It was my privilege to visit with Nell some years ago and I will always remember what an inspiration she was to us all in POW camp and she always prayed for those who sick and dying. She was a great humanitarian and a great person who loved the Korean people.

Deceased Melvin R. Welch, PO Box 2593, Elizabeth City, NC 27906-2593.

William H. Stensgaard of Gainesville, FL writes: "I recently learned of the death of my C.O. 24th Inf Div., one of the best ever, BG Albert E. Hunter, than Maj Arty, commanded the 13th FABN from Feb to Aug 1946 and was the Ban S-3 from August to October 1946.

John Trinca sent a letter from Ruth Hartley about the death of her husband. Paul. "He passed away on August

14, 1999 after a six week session in the Intensive Care Unit in the hospital. We were married July 3, 1970 and we never ceased to be grateful for the almost thirty years we had together. We had many happy memories some of which included time spent with friends like you. Thank you for those memories."

We extend sympathy to our member Gus Orr "C" Company, 19th Infantry in the passing of his dear wife, Katie in January 2000.

James W. Mims writes: "The fellow who was my CO during 24th Div days, John H. Miller, passed away in Poland, OH on February 7, 2000. I first met John at Camp Ritchie, MD. which was the Military Intelligence Training Center, where he trained as a Photo Interpreter. John was a good soldier, a true gentleman and a fine officer. The world is a better place because of his inspiring life. He was 91.

Ruth Curtiss wrote that her husband E. Bowden Curtiss died March 30, 2000 in a Madison WI hospital. We are sorry to learn of this and extend sympathy.



Funeral Mass: 11 a.m. Monday at St. Anthony Catholic Church, 423 S. Third St., Hoopeston; Officiating: Rev. Edward Purcell; Burial: Floral Hill Cemetery with military graveside rites; Visitation: 1-5 p.m. Sunday at Hamilton-Orr Funeral Home with Rosary recited at 10 a.m.

Colonel Nicholas E. Sloan

HOOPESTON — Nick Sloan, war hero, farmer and Rotarian, 83, died Wednesday (March 8, 2000) at Mesa Retirement Community in Mesa, Ariz. He resided at 904 Sprague Road in Hoopeston.

He was a member of a distinguished farming family, one whose name dots the history of Vermilion and Iroquois Counties for over 135 years. Nick Sloan was the son of the late John and Ellen Sloan of the Sloan Farm on Route 1. He was born on the farm on Oct. 13, 1916 and graduated from John Greer High School in 1934, serving as class president. He graduated from the University of Illinois and was commissioned a second lieutenant of infantry on Feb. 2, 1942. He also taught agricultural science at Kempton High School in 1940.

Col. Sloan retired Aug. 31, 1970, after 28 years of outstanding Army service. At the time he retired he was Chief of Staff of the Army Security Agency, Arlington, Va. During WW II he served in the 24th Infantry Division and served in the campaigns in Leyte, Mindoro, Luzon and Mindanao in the Philippines.

Col. Sloan attended the U.S. Army Command and General Staff School and graduated in 1940. He also completed Infantry and Airborne School. In 1954 he assumed command of the 188th Battalion of the 11th Airborne Division and moved to Germany. He served as G-3 operations of the 24th Infantry Division.

He was assigned to the faculty of the Command and General Staff College in Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., in 1959. In 1963 he served as military advisor to the Korean Military. Then he attended the Army War College, graduating in 1964. Thereafter, he was assigned on the Department of Army General Staff and Joint Chiefs of Staff. In 1966 he became Chief of Staff on the Army Security Agency and continued in that capacity until he retired.

Col. Sloan held 13 major decorations and awards. They were: Legion of Merit with Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star Medal with three Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Purple Heart and Army Commendation Medal.

Also, American Campaign Medal, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with four Bronze Service Stars, WW II Victory Medal and Army Occupation Medal with Japan Clasp.

Also, National Defense Service Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Philippine Liberation Ribbon, Honorable Service Lapel Button WW II and Parachutists Badge with Master Star.

The Legion of Merit he received in 1944 was in recognition of the role he played in the expulsion of the Japanese from the Aleutian Islands.

After retiring from the Army, Nick Sloan became farm manager for Joan of Arc Canning Company before his retirement. His duties there included management of owned and leased farms, recruitment and management of migrant workforce.

Nick Sloan was an active member of the Hoopeston Rotary Club. He served as president, was honored as a Paul Harris Fellow twice, and was the major organizer of the Rotary Pancake Day. He was also a member of the Rotary Hall of Fame.

Nick Sloan was an avid fan and supporter of the Fighting Illini of the University of Illinois. He is a life member of the University Alumni Association and the Illinois Agriculture Alumni Association. Three of his children graduated from Illinois and one granddaughter currently attends the University. He was the Vermilion County Representative to the Illini Dad's Association.

He is an active member of St. Anthony's Church and served as Trustee. He served as Farm Manager of St. Anthony's Farmland for the Bishop of the Peoria Diocese. He was a Bean Booster and contributed to many Illini Agricultural workshops.

Throughout his life, he was member of many civic organizations and held leadership positions including PTA president, Scout Master, 24th Division Association and Retired Officer's Association.

Col. Sloan is survived by: his wife, Kathryn G. Sloan; four sons, John E. (Cathie) Sloan of Herndon, Va., Joseph D. of Park Hall, Md., James N. of Hoopeston, and Jeffery M. of Washington, D.C.; two daughters, Kaye Sloan (Michael) Breen of Bavel, The Netherlands, and Rosellen Sloan-Buns of Scottsdale, Ariz.; seven grandchildren, Nichole Jeannine Burke of Houston, Texas, Jennifer Sloan (Michael) Walsh of Alexandria, Va., William V. "Trey" Burke of McLean, Va., Brent Sloan of Alexandria, Amber Sloan at the University of Illinois, John Michael Buns and Katlin Buns of Scottsdale; two step-grandchildren, Richard Breen of Milford, Conn., and Kate Breen of Boston, Mass.; his brother, Bernard (Margaret) Sloan of Kankakee; his sister, Mary Ellen Sloan, Sister of St. Frances in St. Louis, Mo.; and several nephews and nieces.

Letter from Eddie Tinney of 5425 Count Fleet Dr., Louisville, KY 40272, phone 502-937-2442. "I am writing to let some of the guys I served with in I Co. 21st Inf 3 Squad in January '51 to January '52 know that Ben Lee passed away in December 1999. This picture of Ben in right front and I am in the middle. I don't remember who the rest of the guys are. If any one can remember them please write me." Obituary below:

Benjamin Franklin Lee, 70 Gresham, OR formerly of Atoka County, died December 18, 1999 at Gresham, Oregon. Born and raised at Stringtown on August 3, 1929, he was a veteran of the U.S. Army, 24th Division, Korea. Lee was a sawyer in the timber industry in the Weippe, Idaho area. He was employed by Fromelt Logging in Pierce, Idaho until his retirement in 1982.

Following his retirement, he moved to Alaska to homestead. While residing in Alaska, he was a member of the Wasilla Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Survivors include three daughters, Rhonda K. Lay and Brenda Beck, both of Gresham, OR.; Tessa Rose Lee, Boise, Idaho; and two sons, Cody R. Lee of Anchorage, Alaska; and Scott Will Lee of Boise, Idaho; three grandchildren; and a sister, Joyce Redden of Atoka.



T A P S (Continued)



Letter received from George J. Meyer informing me of the death of Jewell Coughin. He died in February 1999. His wife Darlene says, "We all miss Buck so much, but we are all coping. Jewell was in Co. D of the 34th Inf. Regt.

George Meyer also wrote of a letter from Katherine T. Fayard of 18311 Trumble RD., Dickerson, MD 20842-9462 of the passing away of her husband Rolando on November 5, 1999. He died of lung cancer. He was in Co. D of the 34th Inf. Regt. He was well liked by all who knew him. Enclosed find a picture of Rolando receiving the Bronze Star Medal.



S/Sergt. Rolando M. Fayard, brother of Irene A. Fayard, of 3220 Wisconsin Av. Was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic action on Mindanao in removing an unexploded Jap shell from a vital position, making it possible for his company to hold the area, and the Presidential Citation for the Battle of Leyte.

Roll of Honor Decorated

Vincent Seibert, restored collector vehicles

Automobile mechanic Vincent Seibert of Alexandria was the third generation of his family to be involved in the transportation business.



Vincent
Seibert

His father was a blacksmith who became an auto repairman. His grandfather built horse-drawn wagons.

But working with cars and trucks was more than just a way to make money for Mr. Seibert, who owned Vince Seibert Auto Service and Sales in Alexandria.

During his time off, he enjoyed restoring collector vehicles.

He was most proud of his restored 1937 Chevrolet tow truck, which appeared in many local parades and won trophies at car and truck shows in several states.

About two years ago, Mr. Seibert learned that the First Gear Co., a toy manufacturer in Iowa, had decided to use his tow truck as the model for an adult collector toy truck.

Two years earlier, another company chose to make a model of a home delivery truck like the ones Mr. Seibert maintained for Louis Trauth Dairy during the 20 years he worked for the Newport company.

Mr. Seibert died Monday at St. Luke Hospital East in Fort Thomas. He was 73 years old.

Mr. Seibert, who lived most of his life in Alexandria, served in World War II as a member of the Army's 19th Infantry Red Arrow Division.

When he retired from Trauth Dairy 15 years ago, he began working full-time in the family business, servicing, repairing and selling vehi-

cles. He'd worked there part-time since 1956.

"He was very friendly, very knowledgeable about what he does and very generous," said nephew Dan Seibert.

Mr. Seibert was a member of the St. Joseph Holy Name Society, St. Mary's Catholic Order of Foresters and Knights of Columbus No. 522 Council.

He also was a member of the American Legion Post No. 219, the Red Arrow 24th Division the Blue Grass Chapter of the American Truck Historical Society and the Claryville Social Club. He was a Kentucky Colonel.

Two brothers, Herman "Bud" Seibert and Andrew Seibert, preceded him in death.

Mr. Seibert is survived by his wife, Ruth Beck Seibert, with whom he had been married nearly 50 years.

Other survivors include sisters Rita Ramler of Highland Heights, Arna Mae Seibert of Fort Thomas and Betty Gammon of Fort Thomas and many nieces and nephews.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday at St. Joseph Church in Cold Spring.

Visitation will be from 5 to 9 p.m. Thursday at Cooper Funeral Home in Grants Lick.

Burial will be in St. Mary Cemetery in Alexandria.

Memorials are suggested to the St. Peter and Paul Church Building Fund, Route 2, Calhoun Cross Roads, California, Ky. 41007; St. Joseph Building Fund, 4011 Alexandria Pike, Cold Spring, Ky. 41076; Food for the Poor, 550 W. 12th Ave., Deertfield Beach, Fla. 33442; or Bishop Brossart High School, Grove and North Jefferson, Alexandria, Ky. 41001.

Letter from Bill Kerns who is our on-site reunion chairman 2000 of 12397 Bowman Rd., Independence, KY. "Last Sunday March 12 a friend of mind called after reading the Campbell County Recorder, a newspaper which comes out once a week in three Counties. He called me to join the association, so I told him I would mail him the membership application. He wanted to come to the reunion, I told him that I would bring it over so he said OK. So after I got off of work I went over to his house where his niece informed me that Vincent had died that morning. The Funeral Home put the death in the newspaper and said he was in the Red Arrow Division. I told his niece I would have it put in the Taro Leaf." Obituary follows:

QUARTERMASTER 24TH IDA - SUPPLY PRICE LIST

| Control # | Item | Description | Price Ea. |
|------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 24th Inf Cloth Patch | (Colored) | \$3.00 |
| 2 | 24 IDA Colored Patch | | \$5.00 |
| 3 | 24 I.D. Black Cap W/Patch | | \$10.00 |
| 4 | 24 I.D. Cap White W/Patch | First to Fight | \$10.00 |
| 5 | 24 I.D. Decal 2" | 6 for \$5.00 | \$1.00 |
| 6 | 24 I.D. Decal 4" | Each | \$3.00 |
| 7 | Bolo Tie W/TL Gold | W/Gold or Black Chain | \$15.00 |
| 8 | Bolo Tie W/TL Silver | Silver W/Black Chain | \$16.00 |
| 9 | Belt Buckle W/TL | Gold or Silver Belt Buckle | \$15.00 |
| 10 | 29th Inf. Cloth Patch (Color) | Cloth Patch | \$5.00 |
| 11 | 24th Sig BN Unit Crest | | \$5.00 |
| 12 | 19th Inf Crest | Current Issue \$10 Pr | \$5.00 |
| 13 | 21st Inf Crest | Current Issue \$10 Pr | \$5.00 |
| 14 | 34th Inf Crest | Current Issue \$10 Pr | \$5.00 |
| 15 | 11th FA Crest | \$10 Pr | \$5.00 |
| 16 | 13th FA Crest | \$10 Pr | \$5.00 |
| 17 | 19th Pocket Patch(Color) | | \$5.00 |
| 18 | 21st Pocket Patch(Color) | | \$5.00 |
| 19 | 34th Pocket Patch(Color) | | \$5.00 |
| 20 | 11th FA Pocket Patch(Color) | | \$5.00 |
| 21 | 13th FA Pocket Patch(Color) | | \$5.00 |
| 22 | 24 I.D. Lapel Pin | | \$5.00 |
| 23 | 21st Inf Lapel Pin | | \$5.00 |
| 24 | 34th Inf Lapel Pin | | \$5.00 |
| 25 | CIB(1stAward)1-1346(Mini) | Mini DRESS MESS | \$5.00 |
| 26 | CIB(2ndAward)1-1347(Mini) | Mini DRESS MESS | \$6.50 |
| 27 | CIB Lapel Pin | | \$5.00 |
| 28 | 19th Cap Dark Blue/Crest | | \$10.00 |
| 29 | 21st Cap White/Embroid/Crest | | \$12.00 |
| 30 | 21st Cap Dark Blue/Embroidered | Crest | \$12.00 |
| 31 | 34th Cap Dark Blue w/Crest | | \$10.00 |
| 32 | 24 IDA Cap DarkBlue w/Patch | On front, Poplin Twill | \$10.00 |
| 33 | 24 IDA White Caps | | \$10.00 |
| 34 | 24 IDA Red Caps | | \$10.00 |
| 35 | 24 IDA Green Caps (Patch) | | \$10.00 |
| 36 | 24th Inf Div White Mesh/Cap | | \$10.00 |
| 37 | 3rd Engr Crest | | \$5.00 |
| 38 | 14th Engr Crest | | \$5.00 |
| 39 | 5th RCT Pocket Patch | | \$5.00 |
| 40 | 5th RCT Cap, Red | W/ Patch | \$10.00 |
| 41 | 19th Lapel Pin | | \$5.00 |
| 42 | 24th Div. License Plate | | \$4.00 |
| 43 | Desert Storm Cap - Black | | \$12.00 |
| 44 | Desert Storm Hat Pin | | \$3.00 |
| 45 | WWII or Korean Veteran's Cap | Black w/CIB | \$12.00 |
| 46 | Bumper Sticker | W/TL and WWII | \$3.00 |
| 47 | Bumper Sticker | W/TL and Korea | \$3.00 |

QUARTERMASTER 24TH IDA - SUPPLY PRICE LIST

| Control # | Item | Description | Price Ea. |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| 48 | Bumper Sticker | W/TL and Desert Storm | \$3.00 |
| 49 | 6th Tank Btn Cloth Patch | Cloth Patch | \$5.00 |
| 50 | Purple Heart Medal HP754 | | \$3.00 |
| 51 | Bronze Star Medal HP-926 | | \$3.00 |
| 52 | Good Conduct Medal HP-927 | | \$3.00 |
| 53 | Korean Service Medal HP-929 | | \$3.00 |
| 54 | Nat'l Serv Def Medal HP-957 | | \$3.00 |
| 55 | Victory Medal HP-958 | | \$3.00 |
| 56 | Silver Star Medal HP-959 | | \$3.00 |
| 57 | ETO Campaign Medal HP-962 | | \$3.00 |
| 58 | DFC (HP-965) | | \$3.00 |
| 59 | Korean 8000 Missing HP-115 | | \$3.00 |
| 60 | CMB 1st Award HP-569 | | \$3.00 |
| 61 | US Flag Clutch Back HP(V-37) | | \$3.00 |
| 62 | 19th INF Ladies Necklace or Bracelet | | \$5.00 |
| 63 | Pacific Campaign Medal HP-963 | | \$3.00 |
| 64 | Am Campaign Medal HP-964 | | \$3.00 |
| 65 | Army Occupation Medal HP-051 | | \$3.00 |
| 66 | Meritorious Serv Medal HP-056 | | \$3.00 |
| 67 | UN Serv Medal HP-059 | | \$3.00 |
| 68 | Philippine Liberation HP-361 | | \$3.00 |
| 69 | Korean Serv Ribbon HP-099 | | \$3.00 |
| 70 | Air Medal HP-925 | | \$3.00 |
| 71 | DSC Hatpin-308 | | \$3.00 |
| 72 | Bring Em Home/Back HP-214 | | \$3.00 |
| 73 | Am Def Medal HP | | \$3.00 |
| 74 | Viet Nam Serv Medal HP | | \$3.00 |
| 75 | 24 Inf Div Hatpin | | \$3.00 |
| 76 | 24th Inf Div Tie (Reg. Length) | Regular length | \$20.00 |
| 77 | 24th Inf Div Tie (Clip-on) | Clip-on | \$20.00 |
| 78 | 63rd Field Artillery | Cloth Patch | \$5.00 |
| 79 | Army Commendation Medal HP | | \$3.00 |
| 80 | Soldiers Medal HP | | \$3.00 |
| 81 | POW Medal HP | | \$3.00 |
| 82 | Armed Forces Reserve Medal HP | | \$3.00 |
| 83 | 1" Decal 24th I.D. | Sell 12 for \$1.00 | \$0.10 |
| 84 | 24TH CHRISTMAS CARDS | 10 ea. Packet | \$5.00 |
| 85 | World War II Tapes | Starts Australia | \$15.00 |

QUARTERMASTER, 24TH IDA

Harry L. Wittman, Jr.

1385 Terri Street

Keyser, WV 26726

We require \$3.00 postage and handling.

Please allow six weeks delivery No Phone Orders Please.

Post a copy of this or any of our ads at your local Vets Clubhouse. Others may be interested in some of these items.

24th Infantry Division Association



BE A MEMBER

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

GET A MEMBER

I desire to be enrolled or reinstated as a member of the Association, and thereby remain affiliated with the greatest combat division the U.S. Army has ever known.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP CODE _____

TEL. _____

OCCUPATION _____

WIFE'S NAME _____ CHILDREN AND AGES _____

SERVED IN THE 24TH:

UNIT: _____ FROM _____ TO _____

UNIT: _____ FROM _____ TO _____

REMARKS: _____

DUES:

☐ Annual - \$15.00

☐ Lifetime - \$150.00

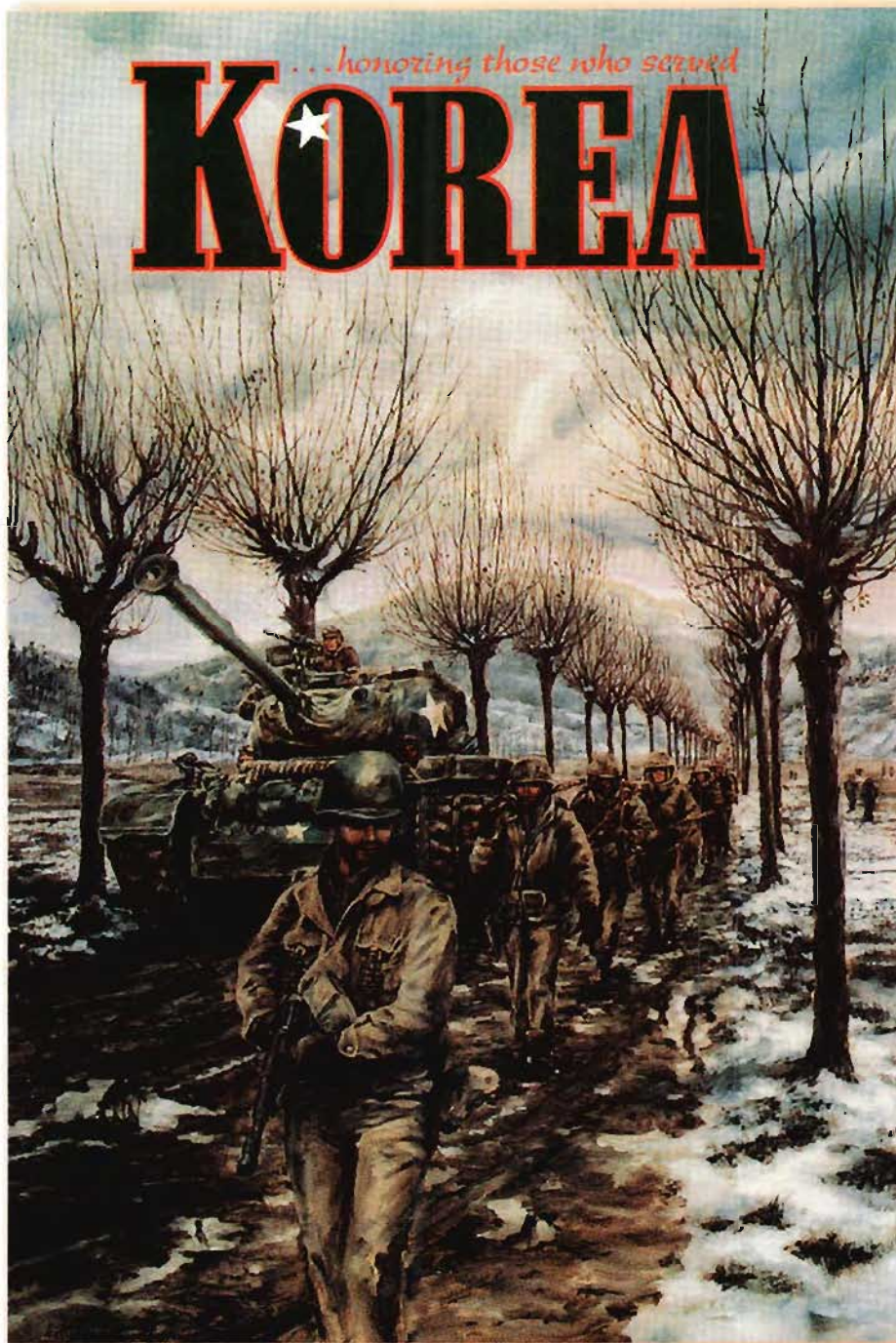
1 Year From Date of
Enlisting in Association

Payable in lump sum of \$150.00
or in 5 yearly payments of \$30.00

Please make all checks payable to "24th Inf. Div. Assoc."
and mail with this completed application to:

WILL SCHUMAKER
SECRETARY/TREASURER
24TH INF DIV ASSOCIATION
1300 EAST HARTLEY
OZARK MO 65721-8437

Recommended by : _____



24th Infantry Division Association
EDITOR **TARO LEAF**
Yvonne Mullins
31150 See View Dr.
Rocky Mount, MD 65072-2903



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
STOVER, MO 65078
PERMIT NO. 3

EXP. DATE: Life xx
Joseph P O'Connell
251 Kipling Dr
Warminster, PA 18974-3919

