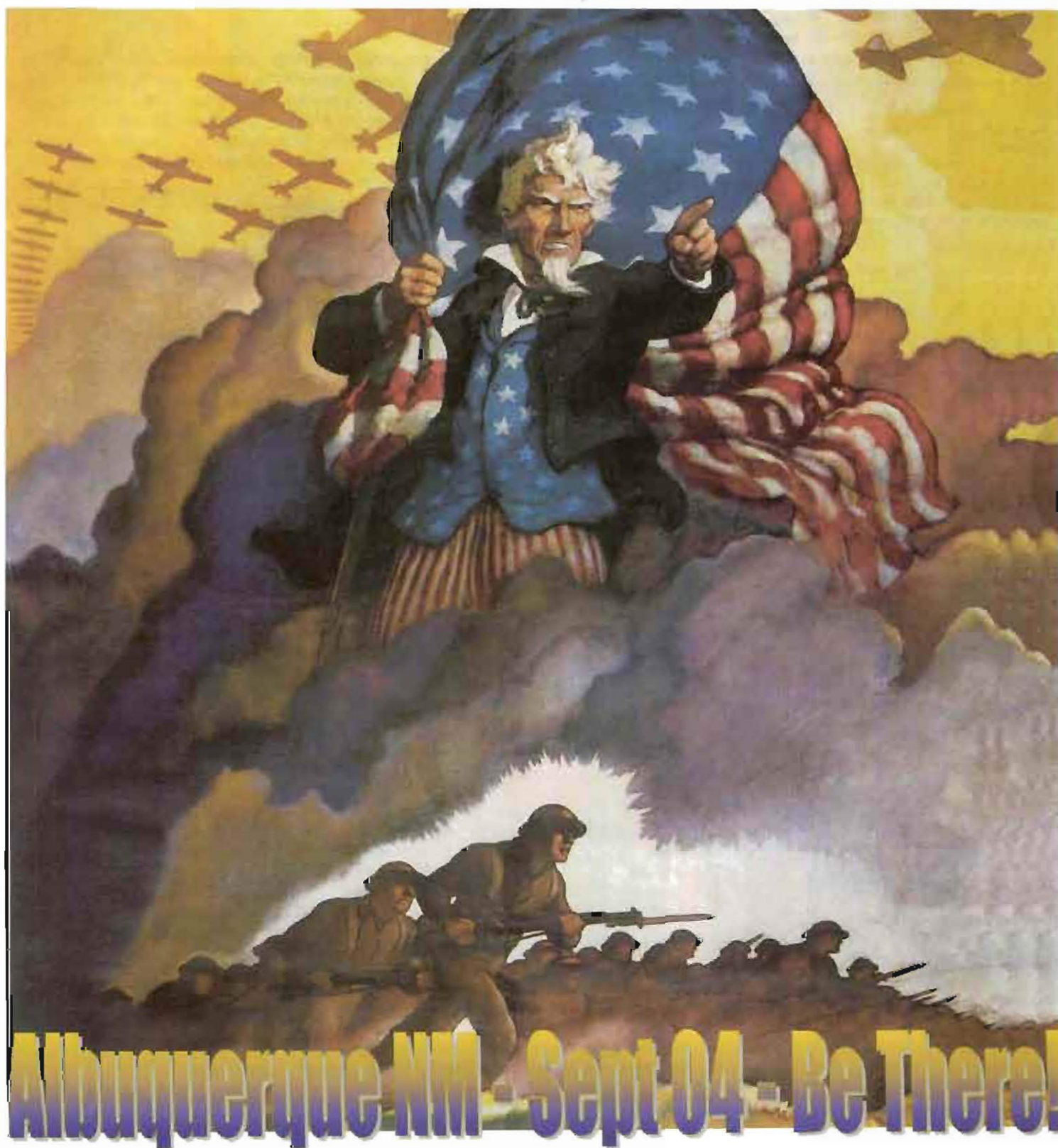


24th Infantry Division Association

Taro Leaf



FIRST TO FIGHT



24th Infantry Division Association



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REUNION 2004

September 22 - September 25
Chairman: Walter Newland-19th

Hyatt Regency
Albuquerque Hotel
300 Tijeras NW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

TARO LEAF, The official publication of the 24th Infantry Division Association, a non-profit organization, 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 or the 24th Infantry Division Association.

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Articles Submissions

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William C. Muldoon	1970-1971	19th Inf. Regt.	603-882-7248	NH
Paul F. Wisecap	1971-1972	34th Inf. Regt.	813-936-6103	FL
John C. Klump	1977-1978	34th Inf. Regt.	812-375-6184	IN
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Vincent Gagliardo	1993-1994	5th RCT	415-467-2316	CA
Vincent Vella	1994-1995	21st Inf. Regt.	716-873-7129	GA
James F. Hill	1995-1996	19th Inf. Regt.	770-998-3749	GA
Ellsworth "Dutch" Nelsen	1996-1997	13th FA-19th	719-475-7499	CO
Thomas Cochran	1997-1998	34th Inf. Regt	931-647-4793	CA
Harold Peters	1998-2000	21st Inf. Regt	612-427-2433	MN
James F. Hill	2000-2001	19th Inf. Regt.	770-998-3749	GA
Billy Johnson	2001-2003	3rd "C" Eng.	910-424-3840	NC

Deadline to Editor ~~~~~Publication Date

15 July	2004	August	2004	Summer
15 October	2004	November	2004	Fall
15 January	2005	February	2005	Winter
15 April	2005	May	2005	Spring

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24th Infantry Division Association



FROM THE PRESIDENT

First let me extend my condolences to the families of our recently departed officers of the Association, William Sanderson, Wallace Kuhner and Harry Wittman, and to others who have lost members of their family these past few months. All will surely be missed.

Since I have been a member of this Association, I have always wondered just what the Verbeck Award was. When I asked someone about it I was told it was named in honor of a former Division & Association member. Others have asked me the same question and I really couldn't answer them except with the same answer I was given. Since I have been President and had appointed a committee to review all the files for historical material, I have been fortunate to find many references to William Jordan Verbeck that explains why we have such a prestigious award. For those of you who do not know about the award or General Verbeck and for those of you who have forgotten just what the award is about, the following is a retype of an article printed in Volume XLVI, #1 – 1992-1993.

“The WILLIAM JORDON VERBECK AWARD” – what it is – and why.

It is an award, represented by a silver bowl, first to honor the memory of one of the Division's most loved and respected soldiers, and second to recognize the dedication of an Association member who most closely resembles BILL VERBECK and his love for our Division and its Association.

The Verbeck we knew in Division was Regimental Commander of the 21st on Leyte, Mindoro and Mindanao and served as Division Chief of Staff before returning to the States following Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

We respected him, admired him, loved him – and such was his magic that men were proud even to have been his adversary. One story bears out the point that he was respected by the foe. We would repeat here what we have said several times standing behind a convention rostrum. We repeat it, if you will permit us, because it says so much about Bill.

It went:

“My mind hearkens back tonight to the many times I heard General Jimmy Lester tell this story I beg to share with you. It was the story of his one and only conversation with General Yamashita, the ‘Butcher of the Philippines’. Between sessions of Yamashita's trial in Manila, of which Lester was a court member, our Jimmy found an opportune moment in which to speak to the Butcher and ask of him a pregnant question: “When did Japan lose the war?” And Yamashita's answer: “The war of Japan was lost in the Campaign of the Philippines, and the Campaign of the Philippines was lost in the Battle of Leyte, and the Battle of Leyte was lost in the skirmish on Breakneck Ridge, and the skirmish on Breakneck Ridge was lost to your Colonel Verbeck’.”

And that is part of the reason why we from time-to-time, award to one of our number the VERBECK AWARD – our highest honor.

~Wes Morrison President

24th Infantry Division Association



Secretary/Treasurer's Report

As of May 2004

Financial Accounts:

Spending:	24th IDA Checking	\$13,954.05
	Bulk Mail Account	228.38
	Petty Cash Account	<u>(865.81)</u>
	Subtotal:	12,316.62
Savings:	Money Market	<u>30,079.91</u>
	Subtotal:	30,079.91
Credit:	Wells Fargo Credit	32.33
	Wells Fargo Debit	<u>48.37</u>
	Subtotal:	(80.70)
Assets:	Time Account (CD)	<u>30,000.00</u>
	Subtotal:	30,000.00
Total:		<u>\$72,315.83</u>

Donations

Recent Donors Include:

Alamar Braaten	5	John Burns	20
Anonymous	5	Joseph Keptic	10
Art Reddish (Guest)	15	Joseph Lagone	20
Bill McKenna	10	Les Myers	10
Charles Bianco	25	Louis Repko	10
Charles Garrett	25	Max Garland	10
Charles Nunnally	10	Michael Cain	20
Charlie Cole	15	Mrs. G. Heaberlin	35
Clarence Mehlhaff	20	Raymond Bach	50
CSM Michele Guerrero	5	Richard Laflame	50
Dale Demaray	10	Richard Quatier	50
Dr. Charles Sugg	20	Robert Campbell	25
Dr. Nat Smith	20	Robert Donovan	20
Ed Farmer	50	Robert Fox	10
Ed Wilson	10	Rod Keller	5
Edward Bouzan	10	Ron Sloat	10
Edward Lovasz	10	Roy Nillson	25
Elmer Rodes	250	T.A. Brice	10
Evan Evans	100	Ted Turner	10
Frank Alvarez	10	Thomas McCaffrey	10
George Seiferth	25	Vian Courtenay	20
Gilbert Long	10	Victor Jacketti	5
Henry Poth	5	Warren Mcneill	10
Herbert Kingsbury	5	Wayne Robinson	25
James Conway	10	William Ladany	25
Joe Bell	50		

New Members

New Members Include

Bakken	Lyle	52nd FA Bn
Bell	George R.	24th AG.
Bluff	John H.	24th ID Artillery
Burgess	Edward C.	5th RCT
Castner	Louis L.	19th Regt
Clark	Donald C.	Div Band
Cobb	William R.	13th FA Bn
Dixon	John (Assoc)	21st Regt
Domenosky	Eugene	34th Regt
Dunn	John A.	2nd BG 2ndInf
Dykes	James	21st Regt
Ely	Naomi	13th FA Bn
Evans	Charles A.	52nd FA Bn
Evans	Maurice C.	724th Maint Bn
Garcia	Roberto	19th Regt
Guyod	Gerard	11th FA Bn
Harrell	Stephen W.	19th Regt
Hauser	Gary	21st Regt
Hawkins	Russell	19th Regt
Higgins	Wayne	21st Regt
Hoffmann	Ulrich V.	34th Regt
Kratzer	Merle R.	19th Regt

New Life Members Include

LTC Richard Barzelogna	19th Regt
Joseph Bell	19th Regt
John Bontje	19th Regt
Charles Borysewicz	19th Regt
Edward Bradford	19th Regt
James Clarke	41st FA Bn
Richard Gannon	3rd Eng
Harold Guinn	21st Regt
Russell Hawkins	19th Regt
Robert Kodama	21st Regt
Dennis Leiby	596thTrans
Horace McMaster	24th Recon
John Schuiling	34th Regt
Donald Shilvock	5th RCT
Vincent Steckel	11th FA Bn
Oliver Trechter	24th Mil Gov
Frances Wittman (Assoc)	21st Regt

Membership: The Membership Roster is being scanned for members who are not renewing their annual dues and for members who have moved without letting us know where they are. As I write, the number is at (2,850).

~Norm Dixon

The below is background information sent in by "Dutch" Nelson (Artillery) on the February 2004 Taro Leaf Cover photo (also from "Dutch") of the Guns of Corregidor. We meant to put it in last issue.

~Billy

The Guns Of Corregidor ***"Battery Way"***

Completed in 1913 the Battery consisted of four 12 Inch Mortars capable of 360° traverse and range of 14,610 yards. Rate of fire was one round per minute. Out of service for several years the battery resumed fire on 28 April 1942 and continued until May 2nd when Japanese heavy Artillery put two of the mortars out of operation. The lone remaining mortar resumed action at noon on May 5th, firing continuously despite mounting casualties. On May 6th, 1942, at 11:00am its breechblock finally froze tight and the lone mortar became the last of Corregidor's guns to cease firing.

TALKING FROG: My husband is 67 years old and loves to fish. He was sitting in his boat the other day when he heard a voice say, "Pick me up." He looked around and could not see any one. He thought he was dreaming when he heard the voice again, "Pick me up." He looked in the water and there floating on the top was a frog. My husband said, "Are you talking to me?" The frog said, "Yes, I'm talking to you. Pick me up and kiss me and I'll turn into the most beautiful woman you have ever seen and will give you the most wonderful sexual pleasures that you have ever dreamed of." My husband looked at the frog for a short time and then reached over and picked it up carefully, placing it in his front breast pocket. Then the frog said, "What are you nuts, didn't you hear what I said? I said kiss me and I will give you sexual pleasures like you have never had." He opened his pocket, looked at the frog and said, "Naah, at my age I'd rather have a talking frog."

Dear Editor:

I am Shorty Estabrook, Founder and current President of the ***Tiger Survivors***. We are a group of men and women who were Prisoners of War in Korea during the Korean War. Most of us were held for nearly 38 months. 59 % of our group perished in the hell holes in North Korea.

I am a Life Member of the 24th Association, and was wounded in Korea in 1950. I was B/19/24.

I would like to ask you to help me promote a proposed bill regarding the Purple Heart Medal. I want all members of our Armed Forces who become Prisoners of War and WHO DIE WHILE a Prisoner of War to be awarded the Purple Heart Medal. I emphasize "WHO DIE WHILE a Prisoner of War."

That medal is now awarded if the next of kin can prove the person died of wounds and or beatings. If they died of malnutrition or froze to death no medal is authorized.

The next of kin has a hard time to prove anything except that their loved one has been promoted to Glory. They have no way to prove that their loved one was severely beaten.

Of all the people who were with me in captivity I know that everyone was brutally beaten. That is normal for a Prisoner of War.

We have to assume that a Prisoner of War was and will be beaten at some point while a Prisoner of War.

The ***Tiger Survivors*** lost 59% while they were POWs. Some received the Purple Heart and some did not leaving the next of kin to wonder.

I have contacted my two senators, Barbara Boxer at 331 Hart Senate Building, Washington DC 20510-0504, and Diane Feinstein at the same address. I wrote to them in October 2003.

I am asking you to contact your representatives to support my request and at the same time send a letter to Senators Boxer and Feinstein stating support for my request.

We do owe this to those who could not come home from that dreadful place.

Recent legislation has made it easier for a former POW to request the Purple Heart Medal but nothing has been done for those who perished a horrible death at the hands of a brutal enemy.

I do not expect a favorable response from the Army Awards Branch or the Defense Department. So we must insist that this be enacted.

Wilbert R. Estabrook
23816 Matador Way
Murrieta California 92562
909-600-7222

Founder of the ***Tiger Survivors***
A National Veterans group.

Everyone of us needs to get behind Shorty's movement. Each of us should send a letter to the Senators Shorty names AND to your own Senators and ask everyone you know to send one! Surely being a POW of those savage barbaric low-lives earns a Purple Heart. Their wounds are deeper and longer lasting than wounds I received for my three Purple Hearts.

~Billy, Editor, Taro Leaf

The Journal of Dr. Morrissey, 34th Infantry, WWII

28 Nov. '44

Day starts off bad with even more rain than usual. At sunset the Japs opened with mountain guns firing point blank and heavy mortars again landing several close to us. They charged "C" Company cutting off its outpost platoon from the company and putting off "C" Company from the rest of the battalion.

We got the larger part of the wounded out. About 9 p.m. Lt. Gordon got his outpost platoon back to "C" Company and a couple of wounded. He was wounded himself, but remained out over night. The wounds resulting from these last two Jap attacks are the dirtiest yet. The men's clothing and the mud are foul beyond description and are blown deeply into the wounds by grenades. Grenades are getting to be the weapon of choice.

Pfc. Stan Lokken, an aid man in "C" Company was severely wounded in the thigh while treating another man.

We are all set tonight to leave this Ridge alto ether.

29 Nov. '44

Quite a day "C" Company was out of contact with BN. and needed ammunition, food, and evacuation of casualties. About 9 a.m. Lt. Tom Rhem of "B" Company brought his platoon over here, formed a skirmish line, and blasted every likely place in sight between "A" and "C" Companies. They reached there without casualty and counted a dozen Japs killed on way back.

"A" Headquarters Company carrying party and two of my litter squads then took off up the trail, only to be ambushed halfway. They hit the ground and stayed there. This was about 1100. Meanwhile Col. Clifford had finally convinced Higher Headquarters that without reinforcements we'd be off this ridge altogether. The 2nd BN. of 128th Infantry was dispatched up the trail from Limon with the promise that we'd have a full company before dark.

The carrying party and my litter bearers lay stranded out there until mid afternoon when it was decided to bring Lt. Rhem back at the expense of weakening our rear and flanks. His platoon broke through again and caught about seventeen Japs just sneaking up on "C" Company. The first Japs looked back and grinned, thinking it was their own men. The other Japs didn't have time to think.

At 1630 the situation had brightened up like a Pacific sunrise and just as rapidly. "C" Company was main in communication, my litter bearers were back, all casualties cut. The 2nd BN. Of the 128th was practically all in our area, and the afternoon carrying party brought up a bunch of Thanksgiving Turkeys roasted two days ago at Regiment and in perfect shape. We had a whole turkey for 27 men and a bun apiece. A tremendous load has been taken off our minds and everyone feels better. If the Japs will only lay off "C" and "A" Companies tonight, everything will turn out O.K.

30 Nov. '44

The day was spent by our officers taken; those of 128th on reconnaissance and planning that BIT. Is attach for tomorrow. They have seen considerable action in their 10 days commitment, but their companies are about twice as large as ours.

1 Dec. '44

The 2nd BN. 128th attacks along Kilay Ridge, but doesn't quite take the day's objective. The entire Regiment of 128 Infantry is now attempting to occupy the ground our depleted BN. once held.

The BN. on Kilay Ridge has an aid station slightly forward of us and we are keeping their casualties and treating them in our shack.

ADDITIONAL NOTES:

The 1000s of bats flying over each night--the 6" deep by 12" in diameter pot holes of milky water we drank from--the young Filipino girl and baby who came up to see us after husband was shot. The old ladies and little children. who carried such heavy loads in the first days and how Simon Legree tactics had to be used to get the men to carry on when the going got tough--Arguments on theology between Dean and Steward--Different things we cooked on porch--Boy with badly lacerated and fractured leg who groaned loudly all night,

The Journal of Dr. Morrissey, 34th Infantry, WWII (Cont.)

but when I'd wake him up and ask what was the matter he'd say "Nothing," and that he didn't know he was making a noise. The arsenal of weapons and ammunition we collected from patients and how much of our equipment was buried when we thought well have to pull out (later dug up and given to guerrillas).

Classic reply of Corps Headquarters to Clifford after he had reported low strength, number of sick, Japs taking ground away from us on front and coming in on us from right and rear: "You are in a tough spot."--period. Another time Clifford to Division (32) Headquarters, "Either you give us artillery or I'm going to pull my men off the Ridge and leave the Japs looking down your throat." We got the artillery. The utter blackness of the rainy nights when wounded would be carried in through the ocean of mud surrounding us.

How little most of the wounded asked for and how quiet most of them were as soon as night fell. The big pile of rain and blood soaked out up clothes and dirty bandages to be burned every morning--all very smelly.

Imagining what it would be like, over and over again, if Japs did push us off in a hurry and we'd have to beat them off and get wounded out at the same time in the dark, and wonder many times if it wouldn't be worth while to get wounded so to get the hell off Kilay Ridge.

"Will you look at my feet--will you look at my feet." ad infinitum.

Library of Congress wants vets' stories

The Library of Congress is collecting stories and experiences of veterans and others who were involved in this nation's wars, from World War I onward.

The aim is to get the stories in the participants' own words - and voices - on audiotape or videotape. But the project is also collecting documentary materials such as letters, diaries, maps, photos and home movies.

The Library of Congress plans to create a catalog of all oral histories and other documentation collected for the project. Some will be featured in exhibitions or in online presentations. All will be available for researchers.

If you participate in the project, there are guidelines for interviews.

A key one: The project is accepting just one recording per veteran.

Another: The interviewer and the interviewee must sign release forms permitting the materials to be viewed by the public, and the forms must be included when the tape and any other material are donated to the library. Without the release forms, the donation will be returned.

Also: a biographical data form must be completed for each person who is interviewed.

There's tons of information about the project and how best to conduct interviews at <http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/>. For the how-to on conducting an interview, click on "participate in the project," then on "project kit."

Completed materials can be donated to the Library of Congress or to one of its partner repositories in the project.

Here's where to send material: Veterans History Project, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20540-4615.

For information, call (202) 707-4916.

Or you might want to send your material to one of the North Carolina partner repositories.

They include: Sandhills Community College, P.O. Box 368, Carthage, NC 28327; and Southern Oral History Program, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, CB #9127, 406 Hamilton Hall, Chapel Hill, NC

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF ...

A three-year-old went with his dad to see a litter of kittens. On returning home, he breathlessly informed his mother there were 2 boy Kittens and 2 girl kittens. "How did you know?" his mother asked, "Daddy picked them up and looked underneath," he replied. "I think it's printed on the bottom."

Another three year old put his shoes on by himself. His mother noticed the left was on the right foot. She said, "Son, your shoes are on the wrong feet." He looked up at her with a raised brow and said, "Don't kid me, Mom, I KNOW they're my feet."

On the first day of school, the Kindergarten teacher said, "If anyone has to go to the bathroom, hold up two fingers." A little voice from the back of the room asked, "How will that help?"

3rd Engineer Combat Battalion



TWENTY-FOURTH INFANTRY DIVISION
Office of the Commanding General

22 March 1951



Commanding Officer
3rd Engineer Battalion
APO 24.

Dear Colonel Hyzer:

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate you, the officers, and men of your battalion on the occasion of the unit's 50th Anniversary.

The unexcelled record of the 3rd Engineer Battalion as the "Pacific Engineers" during the years prior to World War II and its achievements as part of this division during World War II are well known to all of us. However, never before have the exploits of your battalion played so vital a part in an operation as they have in the one in which we are presently engaged.

Without the ability of your organization to overcome the difficulties imposed by rugged terrain, lack of roads and unbridged streams it would have been impossible to have supported logistically the operations to date. Moreover in every case where your battalion has been called upon to fight in ground action it has fought in the best infantry tradition and acquitted itself with distinction.

Again I want to express my appreciation and gratitude for the outstanding performance of duty by the 3rd Battalion while here in Korea, and to express the hope that in the years to come the battalion will continue its writing of a most brilliant chapter in the history of the United States Corps of Engineers.

Sincerely

/s/ B. M. Bryan
/t/ B. M. Bryan
Major General, USA
Commanding



Perkinsin & Truck look like the one for Bally Bridges
Photo Submitted By ~ Clyde Matlock



CB Mason, 3rd ENG

*Note to Don Lloyd,
 Association Vice-
 President:*

*Please accept deepest
 apologies for typo in
 Winter 04 Taro Leaf
 identifying you as
 "Dan Lloyd"*

~Billy



CB Mason, 3rd ENG



Clyde Matlock, HQ & Sv Co., 3rd ENG, "C" Bn.
Photo Submitted By ~ Clyde Matlock



Brockway & Truck look like the one for Bally Bridges
Photo Submitted By ~ Clyde Matlock



*"THAT'S THE TROUBLE WITH
 YOU BRAND-NEW CORPORALS. IF THE 3-ENG
 YOU LET A LITTLE RACK GO
 'TO YOUR HEAD!'"*

WELCOME TO ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

2004 REUNION SITE

Albuquerque is set in the splendor of the Sandia Mountains, which were named by the Spanish Conquistadores for the watermelon splash of color during sunsets. Founded in 1706 as a Spanish Settlement by Fernandez de la Cueva, the 10th Duke of Albuquerque, the city now has a population of over 750,000 and is New Mexico's largest city.

Recognized as one of the most culturally diverse cities in the United States, Albuquerque has much to offer any visitor. A boundless variety of interests and sites to visit include the Isleta and Sandia Indian Pueblos, Historic Old Town, Historic Route 66, the

Rio Grande Zoo and Botanical Gardens, the Albuquerque Aquarium, the Turquoise Museum, the Rattlesnake Museum, the University of New Mexico, Kirtland Air Force Base and the Sandia National Laboratories. The city is also home to the world's largest aerial tramway on the Sandia Peak, as well as the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, the National Hispanic Cultural Center and the New Mexico Museum of Natural History, which includes the Lodestar Astronomy Center.

For nature lovers, both the Sandia and Manzano Wilderness offer over 70,000 acres of high elevations and 170 miles of forested hiking trails. The Petroglyph National Monument on the city's west side, stretches 17 miles with over 20,000 prehistoric Native American petroglyphs.

Mild or firey, there's nothing like New Mexican cuisine! Albuquerque offers a variety of dining options from the quaint and casual atmosphere to the elegant ambiance of one of our finer restaurants. Add some spice into your life and order your chile "Christmas" and you'll get both red and green chile on your plate!

Enjoy Albuquerque – a delightful and artful blend of historic rich cultures, natural beauty, spectacular climate and progressive technology! Although the weather should be comfortable, bring a light jacket or sweater as the nights can become chilly.

SPECIAL NOTICE

America West Airlines has again offered their Special Event Travel Discount to the 24th Infantry Division Association Reunion in Albuquerque this September. For this special discount, all ticketing must be done by America West Airlines, americawest.com or any ARC/BSP/IATA approved agency. When placing a reservation for ticketing, use CAMS Discount Code: 4371.

DISCOUNTS/FARES:

5% off lowest applicable published fare (as permitted by fare rules)

10% off the Y6, Y6Q, YUP6, YUP6Q or first Class fare. (For those last minute arrangements, use Y6.) There is a 5% Bonus Discount for tickets purchased 60 or more days prior to travel.

Have your Travel Agent call America West for specific ticketing instructions.

ANNUAL REUNION
22 - 25 SEPTEMBER, 2004
HYATT REGENCY ALBUQUERQUE, ALBUQUERQUE, NM

Make checks payable to:
24th Infantry Division Association

Mail to: Walter C. Newlin
28 Canyon Road
Sandia Park, NM, 87047

Name (Please Print)_____

Address_____

City_____ Sdtate_____ Zip_____

Home Phone (_____)_____ E-mail Address_____

Names of Wife/Guest Attending_____

Please list any food allergies/or special diets required. Please be specific!

INFORMATION FOR YOUR IDENTIFICATION BADGE

Nickname_____ First Timer Yes_____ No_____

Company/Battery_____ Unit_____ Period_____ Location_____

REMEMBER

If you have a group of friends and 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 Banquets, you must mail your registration forms in together in one envelope. If your forms are not mailed in together along with your check, we cannot guarantee that you will be seated together!

WELCOME TO HYATT REGENCY ALBUQUERQUE

HOTEL RESERVATION FORM 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION September 22 – 26, 2004

Room Type Requested _____	Rate (Single/Double) _____ (Children under 18 stay free)	Number in Party _____
Queen Size Single Bed _____	\$85.00	_____
Queen Size Two Beds _____	\$85.00	_____
King Size Bed _____	\$85.00	_____

*Note: Current room tax is 10.8125% and is subject to change.

SPECIAL REQUESTS:

Smoking _____ Non-Smoking _____ Connecting Room _____ ADA Room _____ Hearing Impaired _____

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

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2004 TO ENSURE ROOM AVAILABILITY. (After this date, reservations will be based on availability at prevailing rates.)

The discounted room rate will be extended 3 days prior and after the reunion.

Date of Arrival _____ Time of Arrival _____ Number of Nights _____
Date of Departure _____ Arriving by: Air _____ Car _____ Train _____ Bus _____

Name (Please Print) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

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

AMEX _____ VISA _____ MC _____ C/Blance _____ DISCOVERY _____ OTHER _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Mail this form to: Hyatt Regency Albuquerque, 330 Tijeras NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102

Telephone Reservation: (505) 842-1234 or (800) 233-1234 Confirmation # _____

BE SURE TO ASK FOR THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION CONVENTION RATE.

24th Infantry Division

Tour New Mexico, Inc. is pleased to offer the following ideas for day tours. Each of these tours includes transportation aboard a modern comfortable motorcoach and a knowledgeable, friendly tour guide who will make each trip a wonderful fun learning experience!

Wednesday, Sept. 22, 2004 Reminisce on Route 66 1PM – 5PM \$15

Price includes: Tour guide & tax.

THIS IS A WALKING TOUR. Historic Route 66 is located 2 blocks south of your hotel. Join our informative tour guide for a stroll into the past. We'll see artwork, hear the history and visit historic landmarks during our walk. This tour includes a stop at an original Route 66 trading post that sells Indian crafts. Total walking distance is about a mile done at a leisurely, enjoyable pace.

Thursday, Sept. 23, 2004 Intro to Albuquerque 10AM – 4PM \$38

(Route 66, downtown, Bio Park, Old Town)

Price includes: Transportation, tour guide, admission, Old Town map & tax.

This afternoon we'll enjoy a narrated tour of some of the city's highlights including Route 66 and the revitalized downtown area. The main attraction on this tour is the Albuquerque Biological Park. The visit will include the aquarium, botanic gardens, and our favorite – the butterfly pavilion. Afterwards we'll visit the past at Albuquerque's Old Town Plaza. Established along the banks of the Rio Grande in 1706 Albuquerque has experienced many phases of history from early settlements and Indian raids, to Spanish government, US Military command posts, the coming of the railroad in 1880, the historic Route 66 era to modern times. (There will be a short amount of time on your own to experience the Plaza with your own interests in mind.)

Thursday, Sept. 23, 2004 Acoma Indian Pueblo 10AM – 4PM \$48

Price includes: Transportation, tour guide, admission, lunch & tax.

About a dozen Acoma families live on the 70-acre mesa without electricity or modern plumbing as their ancestors did. Here we follow our Acoma Indian guide as we walk through the earthen streets, past adobe homes. This village is the only living World Heritage Site. We will be able to enter their old adobe church and there will be opportunities to purchase handcrafted items and home baked goods on the mesa top. **Wear comfortable walking shoes, the mesa top tour is roughly one-hour, slow pace, almost ¾ mile, and is uneven rock and sand and may be difficult walking for some. Bring a hat for shade. Photography is limited; camera permits are \$10 additional at the Pueblo, no video, certain digital cameras allowed.**

Friday, Sept. 24, 2004 This is Albuquerque! 10AM – 4PM \$42

(Veteran's Memorial & National Atomic Museum)

Price includes: Transportation, tour guide, admission, lunch, tax.

Our first stop is at the New Mexico Veteran's Memorial – a timeless memorial, not dedicated to one specific era and also serves for future members of the armed forces. This relatively new project has made tremendous progress in a short time and has wonderful plans. This afternoon we'll visit the National Atomic Museum. This museum, run by the US Department of Energy and features a comprehensive look at the development of nuclear weaponry. They have a mini-theater which shows the documentary "10 Seconds That Shook The World" and, of course, they have a gift shop! The New Mexico Museum of Natural History is located across the street from the Atomic Museum and those interested are welcome to purchase admission if time and energy level permits. Lunch is included today at a buffet that serves New Mexican foods and a wide variety of American favorites.

Friday, Sept. 24, 2004 Experience Santa Fe! 10AM – 4PM \$38

Price includes: Transportation, tour guide, admission, Santa Fe Plaza map & tax.

A trip to New Mexico is not complete without a trip to our historic, photogenic, capital city - Santa Fe. Known for its bright clear skies and high desert climate, the Santa Fe tour is a treasured memory for all visitors. Our knowledgeable guide will entertain as well as inform during the one hour ride. Once at the Santa Fe Plaza there will be an orientation tour of the immediate Plaza area, pointing out historic churches, shops, museums and restaurants. Loretto Chapel Museum is included in the tour (famous for its "miraculous staircase"). Many restaurants will be recommended and there will be approx. 3 hours of free time.

NOTE: The average elevation of Santa Fe is 7,000' above sea level.

Saturday, Sept. 25, 2004 Sandia Indian Casino (with optional Tram Ride) 12:30PM – 4:30PM \$30

Price includes: Transportation, tour guide, lunch buffet & tax.

The beautiful Sandia Indian Pueblo Casino is New Mexico's finest. It features abundant natural light, a non smoking area that really is smoke free, a large patio with bronze artwork, a large lounge (alcoholic beverages available on a cash basis) and Las Vegas-style gaming including penny slots. **OPTIONAL TRAM RIDE \$13** Sandia Mountain dominates the east-side of Albuquerque with its 5,000' vertical rise. The 15-minute tram ride carries 55 passengers through 4 biological life zones and reveals deep canyons and an awe-inspiring view not soon to be forgotten. **Note: Due to the elevation at the upper tram terminal, 10,378', individuals with heart conditions or respiratory problems should consult their doctor. Please add \$13 if you would like to ride the tram after lunch at the casino.**

WALTER & PRISCILLA NEWLIN

28 CANYON ROAD
SANDIA PARK, NM 87047

24th INFANTRY DIVISION REUNION MEALS – 2004

FRIDAY NIGHT PLATED DINNERS

Garden Salad
Mixed Greens with Julienne
Zucchini, Yellow Squash, Carrots and Cherry Tomatoes
Served with Honey Mustard Dressing

Garlic Roasted Pork Loin Served with Sauce Perigourdine and Garlic Mashed Potatoes Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Freshly Baked Rolls and Butter Iced Tea, Freshly Brewed Starbucks Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, and International Hot Teas \$29.00 inclusive of Tax & Gratuity	Blackened Norwegian Salmon Fillet with a Peach, Jicama and Chipotle Salsa and Rice Pilaf Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Freshly Baked Rolls and Butter Iced Tea, Freshly Brewed Starbucks Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, and International Hot Teas \$35.00 Inclusive of Tax & Gratuity
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Turtle Cheesecake With a Fudge Swirl and Caramel Topping

SATURDAY MORNING TRADITIONAL PLATED BREAKFAST

Fresh Orange Juice
Fluffy Scrambled Eggs
Served with Crisp Bacon Strips,
Breakfast Potatoes, and Choice of Red or Green Chile Salsa (both served on the side)
Bakery Basket served with Fresh Fruit Preserves, Honey and Butter
Freshly Brewed Starbucks Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee and International Hot Teas
\$18.00 Inclusive of Tax & Gratuity

SATURDAY NIGHT PLATED DINNERS

Regency Salad
Seasonal Greens Topped with
Mandarin Oranges and Almonds
Served with Cabernet Vinaigrette Dressing

Chicken Roma With Artichoke Hearts, Pine Nuts and Mediterranean Seasonings With Wild Rice Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Freshly Baked Rolls and Butter Iced Tea, Freshly Brewed Starbucks Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, and International Hot Teas \$31.00 Inclusive of Tax & Gratuity	Classic Filet Mignon Seared with Crushed Black Pepper served with a Creamy Peppercorn Sauce with Twice Baked Potato Fresh Seasonal Vegetables Freshly Baked Rolls and Butter Iced Tea, Freshly Brewed Starbucks Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee, and International Hot Teas \$39.00 Inclusive of Tax & Gratuity
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Chocolate Raspberry Rumble
Ripe Raspberries and Creamy Truffle Cheesecake,
With Crunchy Chocolate Crust,
Whipped Cream, And White Chocolate Shavings

CASH BAR PRICING

Call Drinks	\$4.75
Premium Drinks	\$5.25
Imported Beer	\$3.50
Domestic Beer	\$3.25
House Wines	\$4.50
Mineral Waters	\$2.75
Soft Drinks	\$2.00

IMPORTANT!
PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS

***YOU MUST MAIL YOUR CHECKS ALONG WITH YOUR REGISTRATION TO THE FOLLOWING:**

*Hotel Reservation
*Registration, Meal & Tour Form

Mail to Hyatt Regency Albuquerque
Mail to Reunion Chairperson

=====

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 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 and send in your registration forms along with the appropriate amount of money, by check or money order to whoever is designated. That person will put it all together in one envelope and forward it on to the Reunion Chairman who will then complete the paperwork and notify each person by receipt. A packet in your name will be waiting for you at the pre-registration desk at the reunion. 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 7, 2004 will not be guaranteed seating assignments.

ONCE TABLES ARE ASSIGNED THEY WILL NOT BE REARRANGED.

THE CUT-OFF DATE IS SEPTEMBER 7, 2004.

There will be no refunds or seating changes after that date except in cases of emergencies.

NOTICE:

Taro Leafers;

Below is a press release pertaining to our reunion in Albuquerque, NM. Regardless of whether or not you plan to attend, please cut this out and mail to your local newspaper for publication in either their military section or "Letters to the Editor" section. I would be nice if we can blanket the country with this announcement and let all former 24th Infantry Division members know there is an active association in existence.

In 2003 Jim Cooper sent the Tucson Announcement to fifteen newspapers. We gained a few members from his efforts. Now, if each of us would do the same thing, we could cover the 50 States. Jim used Email at no expense to him, however; regular mail would have been about \$5.25. Please let me know who has been contacted.

*Somebody else is **not** going to do it, so **you** do it please!*

For immediate release.

On September 22 - 25 2004, the 24th Infantry Division Association will hold its Annual Reunion honoring the Veterans of the Division. All former and current members of the 24th Infantry Division or members of any unit that has been assigned or attached to the Division at any time are welcome. The reunion will be held at the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque Hotel, 330 Tijeras NW, Albuquerque, NM. For further information contact: Association President & Reunion Coordinator Wes Morrison, Telephone # 831-883-2156, Email: wesm8@aol.com, or Reunion Chairman Walter J. Newlin, Telephone # 505-281-5149, E-mail Address: pnwlin@aaahawk.com or Vice-President Don Lloyd, Telephone (905) 965-3231.

TOUR AND MEAL REGISTRATION

<u>Activity & Date</u>	<u>Per Person</u>		<u># Attending</u>		<u>Amount</u>
<u>Wednesday, Sep 22</u>					
1. Reminisce on Rte 66	\$15.00	X	_____	=	\$ _____
<u>Thursday, Sep 23</u>					
1. Intro to Abq-10 AM – 4 PM	\$38.00	X	_____	=	\$ _____
2. Acoma Pueblo-10 AM – 4 PM	\$48.00	X	_____	=	\$ _____
<u>Friday, Sep 24</u>					
1. This is Abq 10 AM – 4 PM	\$42.00	X	_____	=	\$ _____
2. Exp Santa Fe 10 AM – 4 PM	\$38.00	X	_____	=	\$ _____
Social Hour 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM					
Aloha Banquet 6:30 PM – 11 PM					
Garlic Roasted Pork Loin @	\$29.00	X	_____	=	\$ _____
Blacken salmon Fillet @	\$35.00	X	_____	=	\$ _____
<u>Saturday, Sep 25</u>					
Ladies Breakfast 9 AM – 12 AM	\$18.00	X	_____	=	\$ _____
Unit Memorial Breakfast 8 AM – 10 AM	\$18.00	X	_____	=	\$ _____
1. Sandia Casino 12:30 PM – 4:30 PM	\$30.00	X	_____	=	\$ _____
Social Hour 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM					
Memorial Banquet 6:30 PM – 11 PM					
Chicken Roma @	\$31.00	X	_____	=	\$ _____
Classic Filet Mignon @	\$39.00	X	_____	=	\$ _____
*Registration Fee					\$15.00
TOTAL:					\$ _____

***Spouse and Guest do not pay a registration fee. All Association members, former and current Division Members must pay.**

Remember those who pay together stay together

Make checks payable to: 24th Infantry Division Association

Mail checks to: Walter C. Newlin, 28 Canyon Road, Sandia Park, NM 87047-9334

ATTENTION ALL UNITS

There is a change in the procedure for the Unit Memorial Breakfast. Starting with this reunion and all future reunions, the Memorial Breakfast will be treated as another Association event. Your annual breakfast will be held Saturday, September 25, 2004, 8:00 AM at the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque, Albuquerque, NM. The Unit Mess Hall location for each unit will be posted at the registration table. The cost for each breakfast is \$18.00. Since the Association's Annual Meeting follows at 10:00 AM, it is requested that attendees at the Memorial Breakfasts be punctual so we may conduct our business, eat our breakfast and adjourn to the Association Meeting at 10:00 AM.

Make checks payable to: 24th Infantry Division Association

Mail checks to: Walter C. Newlin, 28 Canyon Road, Sandia Park, NM 87047-9334

UNIT MEMORIAL BREAKFAST REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP: _____

UNIT BREAKFAST TO
ATTEND _____

Unit Mess Hall
3rd Engineer Battalion
19th Infantry/29 Infantry
21st Infantry
34th Infantry
All Artillery Units

Headcount
Dan Rickert
James F. Hill
Norman Wolak
William J. McKenna
Ellsworth "Dutch" Nelsen

Members of units not listed above may, if they desire, sign up for a breakfast with whatever unit they feel comfortable with.

No one, NO ONE, will be allowed into the Mess Hall with out the proper identification showing they had paid for the Breakfast. Headcounts may at their discretion, accept payment at the door but must list each payee for accountability.

Send this form along with your Association Registration Meal & Tour form.

LADIES BREAKFAST

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2003 AT 9 AM

BE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR THE LADIES BREAKFAST – YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS IT. IT WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE SAME TIME THE UNIT BREAKFASTS AND THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING TAKES PLACE.

TRADITIONAL PLATED BREAKFAST

Fresh Orange Juice
Fluffy Scrambled Eggs
Served with Crisp Bacon Strips
Breakfast Potatoes, and Choice of Red or Green Chile Salsa
(both served on the side)
Bakery Basket served with
Fresh Fruit Preserves, Honey and Butter
Freshly Brewed Starbucks Coffee, Decaffeinated Coffee
And International Hot Teas

Make checks payable to: 24th Infantry Division Association

Mail checks to: Walter C. Newlin, 28 Canyon Road, Sandia Park, NM
87047-9334

LADIES BREAKFAST

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY AND ZIP
CODE _____

COST: \$18.00

NUMBER ATTENDING: _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Send this form along with your Association Registration Meal & Tour Form

19th Infantry Regiment



19th Infantry
Regiment

Let's have the Reunion in YOUR city!



November 10, 2003
Bringing to a close The Korean War 50th Anniversary Commemoration
At
WALKER PLAZA
Laredo, Texas

Seated L-R: Pedro Treviño, Jr., Ed R. Sanchez, Richard K. Chamberlain, Jose Luis Muñoz, David C. Leyendecker, John M. McKeown, and Rene G. Dufresne

Standing First Row L-R: George E. MacDonald, Antonio Ruiz, Jr., Sam Brewster, Sr., Mario Herrera, Reynaldo Reyna, Hector Castañeda, Raymundo M. Barrera, Napoleon Hernandez, Arnoldo D. Gutierrez, Pedro Cantu, Jr., George Andrews, Heriberto R. Gonzalez and Jesus M. Gonzalez

Standing Second Row L-R: Sgt. Major Command Luis J. Landin, James V. Proffitt, Raymond S. York, Carlo Sandoval and Hector Garza

In attendance, but missing from picture are Ricardo Garza and Frank Hugo McKinnis

National Society
Daughters of the American Revolution
Lucy Meriwether Chapter
Laredo, Texas

Concerning Jose L. Munoz's assertion that he is still very much alive (*Toro Leaf Vol. 37, No. 4, Fall 2003*). He should be happy to learn that the 24th Infantry Division Association has never considered him to be deceased, nor has the Department of Defense, or the American Battle Monuments Commission.

Pfc. Jose L. Munoz, [redacted], listed on H-19th morning report dated 31 August 1950 is not the same person as Pfc. Jose E. Munoz [redacted] MOS 0740, listed MIA 07 16/1950 on Hq. Co, 19th Infantry Regiment morning report dated July 16, 1950. Jose E. was later verified to have been KIA on July 16th. His name is listed at the Korean War Memorial in Washington D.C. Jose E. was born in 1932, and he entered service from El Paso County Texas.

This situation (Mike should appreciate this) reminds me of trying to identify the pioneers and settlers when they were of the same generation and locality, but had same names such as John Smith, John Johnson, etc. The only way we can I.D. them is by their wives names. So now we know them as John Smith who married Mary Underwood, as opposed to John Smith whose wife was Louise Bee. Census records did not list the name of the wife until 1850, so that is another problem! Fortunately, the military adopted the serial number for identification during WW-II and Korea that allows us to settle identity misunderstandings such as the subject misunderstanding.

Thanks!

Joe Sweeney

April 5, 2004

I am sending you a copy of an article from the Valley Courier Newspaper in Alamosa, CO. (*Next Page*)

As you can tell by his discharge papers, Mr. Gallegos is probably the oldest living member of the 19th Infantry.

My name is Robert Haines. I was in the 19th Infantry during WWII in HQ & HQ Company, 3rd Battalion from 1942 to 1945. I served in Hawaii at Schofield Barracks, Australia, New Guinea and Philippine Islands.

Mr. Delfino Gallegos is at the Care Center, 19021 U.S. Highway 285, LaJara, CO. 81140.

Come on 19th Vets, let him hear from you!! Send him a card.

~Bob Haines

World War I veteran Gallegos, 100, honored

By SYLVIA LOBATO

ALAMOSA - It was the American Legion's birthday party, but many honors went to a man that is older than the organization.

One of a handful of World War I Veterans still living nationwide, Delfino Gallegos, 100, was an honored guest Saturday at Dickey-Springer Post 113.

When the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, he asked family for help and stood to join in. Presented with a folded U.S. Flag, he gently kissed its top. For the closing prayer, he again asked for help and stood for its recital.

Born Dec. 28, 1903, in Costilla, N.M., He worked for J. Lewis Rivera at the age of 11.

Delfino was 16 when a number of World War I veterans formed the American Legion. One year later, he volunteered for military service at the age of 17 and entered the service with Agustine Vigil, the father of Dr. Joe I. Vigil, one of the nation's top cross country coaches.



Delfino Gallegos, 100

- Photo by Sylvia Lobato

World War I veteran Delfino Gallegos, 100, of Capulin, listens while Gloria A. Rivera, far right, tells him that she is a grandchild of J. Lewis Rivera, for whom Delfino worked at age 11. Vietnam combat veteran Gene Lopez looks on, preparing to greet one of the nation's oldest veterans.

Honorable Discharge from The United States Army



TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is to Certify, That William H. Haggard
 16212052nd Infantry Co 19th Infantry
 THE UNITED STATES ARMY, as a TESTIMONIAL OF HONEST AND FAITHFUL
 SERVICE, is lovingly HONORABLY DISCHARGED from the military service of the
 UNITED STATES by reason of Expiration of Term of Service
Said William Haggard was born
in Seattle in the State of Washington
 When enlisted he was 17 Years of age and by occupation a Farmer
 He had Blue eyes, Brown hair, Fair complexion, and
 was 5 feet 2 inches in height
 Given under my hand at Camp Sherman Ohio this
14th day of September, was observed with honored and Twenty such
B. B. Welch
Colonel of Infantry

According to Alamosa County Veterans Service Officer Frank Muniz, when Gallegos enlisted, he didn't know how to speak English because it was the language spoken in his home and, for the five years he attended school in New Mexico, classes were in Spanish. Delfino learned English in the Army.

He was stationed at Camp Sherman, Ohio, where he took his basic training and remained for the rest of his military career. When he mustered out, he said he was making \$30 a month.

When World War I was ending, his duties were to guard prisoners who were brought from Germany and other countries. Armed with a shotgun, he took prisoners out on detail.

He recounted one time two prisoners wanted to throw him in the river and escape, but he told them he had only two months to get out of the service and he wouldn't let them do that. He received an honorable discharge on Sept. 15, 1921.

The discharge papers are handwritten, probably by an Army clerk, and signed by his commanding officer.

After his military career, he married Deliria from Capulin and, for 68 years, they raised eight children, 5 boys 3 girls. One of his daughters was adopted. They lived in Capulin and worked the farms in the area putting up hay, working the potato harvest, herding sheep doing whatever it took to keep food on the table.

He bought three mules and went to work in a farming partnership in San Luis, but it didn't work out, so he came back to Capulin and continued to work the farms.

For entertainment they would go dancing wherever there was a dance, they won many prizes for their dancing.

In 2003, Delfino received a tribute from Gov. Bill Owens and the Colorado Commission on The Aging for having lived for 100 years or longer. The certificate honors him for exemplifying the "triumph of a century of survivorship during the period of the world's greatest change."

Dating to 1923, before typewriters and computers were in common use, Delfino Gallegos' U.S. Army discharge papers are a testament to his service, as well as a sign of the times in which he -and thousands of other World War I veterans-lived. Gallegos is one of but a handful of WWI vets still living. He was honored at the American Legion's 85th birthday celebration Saturday in Alamosa.

foxholes at any average time. Normally these riflemen spend six or seven days on the firing line, although on Heartbreak Ridge last month some Second Division GI's fought unceasingly for an entire month. They get little shut-eye. If they expect a night counterattack, they are on a 100 per cent alert. If they are in a quiet sector, a 50 per cent alert is possible—one man asleep, one man awake.

Under the "buddy system," two men share each foxhole. They stand two-hour or four-hour shifts. The watcher, kept awake by cold and Communists alike, keeps a round in his rifle chamber and a two-part password (typical: "Movie Star") in his memory. The sleeper changes his socks to prevent frostbite, stuffs the wet pair between his sweater and long johns to dry them out with body heat, and slumps into a nylon-lined, feather-stuffed sleeping bag. If he's lucky, his sleeping bag has a full rather than half zipper. Easier to jump out of, the full-zipped bag may save his life.

Rock-Chipping: Over the foxhole is draped a poncho to keep out the freezing rain or snow. The colder the weather or the hotter the shell fire, the deeper the foxhole is dug. On the bald hilltops, this is not a digging but a rock-chipping job, done not by the old entrenching tools but by the newly supplied pickaxes.

Before first light, the GI must be ready to fight again. Since an ebony-like black-out shrouds the foxholes all night, he breakfasts on whatever he can chip loose from a frozen can of sausages or stew. His "C" rations are much better than the second-world-war variety. They include soluble coffee, powdered milk, one pack of cigarettes, and such staples as three types of beans (all pretty popular), corned-beef hash (unpopular), ham and lima beans, and hamburgers and gravy. Many men prefer "C" rations to field kitchens, which might be spotted and shelled. During daylight, if they have time to eat, they use "heat tabs" (canned heat) to warm their rations.

The GI's have little use for water, except for their own canteens, which they keep from freezing by putting them inside their uniforms or sleeping bags. Luckily the Korean cold keeps even the most unwashed GI's from offending, for they stay dirty until they are pulled back.

R & R: Normally the GI's after one week of front-line nightmares, get to "go back." This means, perhaps, only a bare half-mile back or downhill, for a single day or night of "hitting the rack" (as the "sack" is now called). It also means clean clothes, hot food, repairing weapons, swapping Red pistols and burp guns and paper money as souvenirs, writing letters (under official prodding if necessary), and reading a pocket mystery or the Pacific edition of NEWSWEEK or Time or the Korean edition of Stars and Stripes. Then they return again to their foxholes.

Only after some five to seven weeks of this back-and-forth routine is there a real respite. Then the whole regiment or sometimes the entire division is pulled back into reserve for about a week. If it goes far enough to the rear, the GI's may even see some civilians. They insist they aren't attracted by Korean girls, even though the VD rate occasionally shoots up. They do little hell-raising because they find little temptation. Although it's now too cold to swim in dammed-up mountain streams, they play football or fish from Army rowboats or go hunting



Ron Gillogly



The toughest war is reflected in the faces of these GI's in Korea

with Army-issued shotguns. Last week two corporals went looking for pheasants near Kumsong and bagged two Chinese.

At long last the GI's turn comes for "R & R" (Rest and Recreation) on a strict seniority basis. When the word comes, he goes, no matter if his unit is even then launching an attack. He is flown to Tokyo for five days. Finding plenty of care-free carousing and plenty of Japanese girls, he thinks Tokyo a wonderful "leave town." Then he starts in all over again in Korea, with only peace or rotation to look forward to.

What Payoff? Indeed the "Big R" (rotation) tops even "baby-sit" (the girl back home) as the No. 1 topic of conversation. Whereas last spring the average GI felt that he was fighting a real war with a real purpose, now his turn to go home can't come soon enough. He is confused by the truce talks. He is troubled by the empty, meaningless future that may lie ahead. If there is a cease-fire, all will be well. If not, the morale factor may grow serious.

Why? This is what many GI's are thinking: We've been told repeatedly that no military victory can be won in Korea. We've been told that no major reinforcements will be sent. Where does that leave us if there's no peace? Why the hell are we fighting when they're talking peace? We're told that this is a global war to hold back Communism and that we are contributing just by holding here. But we want to know: Where do we go from here? What kind of war is this where the battle is not the payoff?

The Fourth Horseman

Sometimes insidiously, sometimes abruptly, the new Oriental foe struck. It was invisible and mysterious—a rare Asiatic malady known to the Japanese as Manchurian fever and to the West as epidemic hemorrhagic fever. At the onset, it caused diarrhea, headache, and general malaise. Quickly thereafter came fever, chills, joint pains, nausea, vomiting, and exhausting hiccoughs. Soon followed small hemorrhages in the sclera (white outer coating) of the eye, in the kidney, heart, and elsewhere.

Last week the Pentagon disclosed that this new enemy had infected 196 U.N. soldiers and killed 25 since being identified last June. The "miracle" antibiotic drugs were useless. No vaccine was yet developed. Blood transfusions from recovered victims, however, lowered the fever. Nonetheless, the mortality rate now at a high 13.3 per cent.

Never before diagnosed in Korea, Manchurian fever may have been brought in by Chinese Communist troops and draft animals. The cause is believed to be a virus or Rickettsia organism, thought to be transmitted by mites which infest rats, squirrels, field rodents, and horses.

*The following is an excerpt from the book Sacrificial Lambs
by Raymond C. Colton, Sr., 19th Inf Reg.*

Sacrificial Lambs

By Raymond C. Colton, Sr.
19th Infantry Regiment

A rush of thoughts went through my mind as we headed back to action. "I don't want to die. I am only eighteen years old. I've never married, never been treated as an adult. I never completed my education. I never had sex with the girl back home. I don't want to die, but I don't want to let my buddies down. I don't want to be judged yellow. As scared as I am, I don't have a choice. I must face the worst danger and try to be the type of soldier that I always dreamed I would be. I know I have lots of company.

With the way that we were trained and equipped, and with our grand pay of seventy-two dollars a month, it's asking a lot for us to go through hell day and night. Also, you must realize that we had been offered up as "sacrificial lambs" who must die, if need be, to buy a few more days for our Army to get more soldiers to the action.

Our military was in a horrible state thanks to budget cuts. Beyond safety and common sense, little else mattered.

Our three weakest regiments were chopped to pieces in early July at Osan, Pyongtaek Kum River, Taejon and our division commander became a prisoner of war. Those who were not dead, wounded, or prisoners of war, made their tortured way back to Yongdong where we met the First Cavalry Division, also weak and totally unaware of the hell that was about to swoop down upon them.

Purchase book from:
Ivy House Publishing Group
5122 Bur Oak Circle
Raleigh, NC 27612.

Book Excerpt from The Greybeards Magazine

Let's have the Reunion
in YOUR city!



The 38th Parallel



Captured Enemy Soldiers



All Photos Submitted By ~ Ed Bougan, 19th INF

29th Infantry Regiment



Hi: My name is Rodger M. Jones, SGM(R), and recently I received a copy of your Taro Magazine, which I enjoyed very much until I came to 29th Inf Fact Sheet. First of all I served with the 29th Infantry from 1949 and went to Korea with the Unit. We had 3 Battalions on Okinawa, I had been assigned to "G" Co., (2nd Bn) all my time of the Island, when the war started they took us from 2nd Bn and transferred us to 1st & 3rd Battalions to make two full strength Battalions for transfer to Korea. Next all the troops I have listed on my orders were not draftees they all carried an RA prefix. I have orders from 27th Inf awarding CIB to HQ & HQ Co., 3d Bn and "I" Company and all have RA Prefix. The final DA Count I dispute. Example: Missing to returned 4 to duty-I was with a group of 39 missing and we were held POW at Hadong, 5 men died, we had 34 remaining and all of us fortunately made it back to duty. KIA-There were 15 killed alone when Air Force bombed the church where they were held originally. At the National Cemetery of Pacific (Punchbowl) here in Hawaii there are 97 men listed on the Missing in Action Walls, 17 from "I" Company alone. I don't believe we had one draftee in the unit at that particular time. Maybe when the unit returned to Okinawa. Also as I noted above we had 5 men die while POW at Hadong, yet this shows "Captured, died of wounds 2" Well Mr. Johnson take care and we of Korean War getting a little older and more white hair.

Keep the light shining and I send to a Aloha from Hawaii. Rodger M. Jones

PS: All the info we kept while POWs we turned over the Graves Registration

Ed said you wanted to put some articles in the Taro Leaf from the 29th. This happened in the Fall of 50 I was then with the HQ. HQ CO. 3rd Bn. 35th, but then we still had a lot of men from the 29th RCT. I was with the P/A Plt.

Green Beer

When we took Yong Dong Po in Sept 50 we captured a Brewery with green beer. We had our canteen's 5 gal. water cans and our 250 water trailer all full of beer. My Plt. was in a 2 story wooden house as there was quite a few there must have dependents in them before the war.

We found an old phonograph with some old records. Listening to the music and half drunk and home sick and crying in our beer. I had just turned 18 in Aug and was really home sick.

We were there 2 wks in reserve, every body in the Co. was felling good when all of a sudden the beer stopped flowing, we could see the vat was till 1/2 full. So on of the guys got a long pole put a hook on it went to probing, after a little while HE SAID HEY I GOT SOME THING, so he pulled it up, removed the debris on the end of it, we threw it away and went back to drinking, We were a crazy bunch of GI's Our PLT had 3 Ammo trucks for the Bn. as we were leaving and parked about a block away from the house we were in the N K,s started to shell us with motors and the house got a direct hit. My squad was in charge of the Ammo for the Bn, and we never lost a truck when I was with them.

There are only 3 of us left of the P/A that went to Korea from the 29th Rct that were on Okinawa.

Wes rewrite this any way you want as I'm not to good at this

Take Care Buddies, Ron

Ron Hanson, Korea5051@webtv.net ph # 218-694-6440, PO Box 34 Bagley Mn. 56621-0034,

CMDR VFW 9051 Bagley, Min 1st BN. 29th RCT, 3rd Bn. 35th RGT.

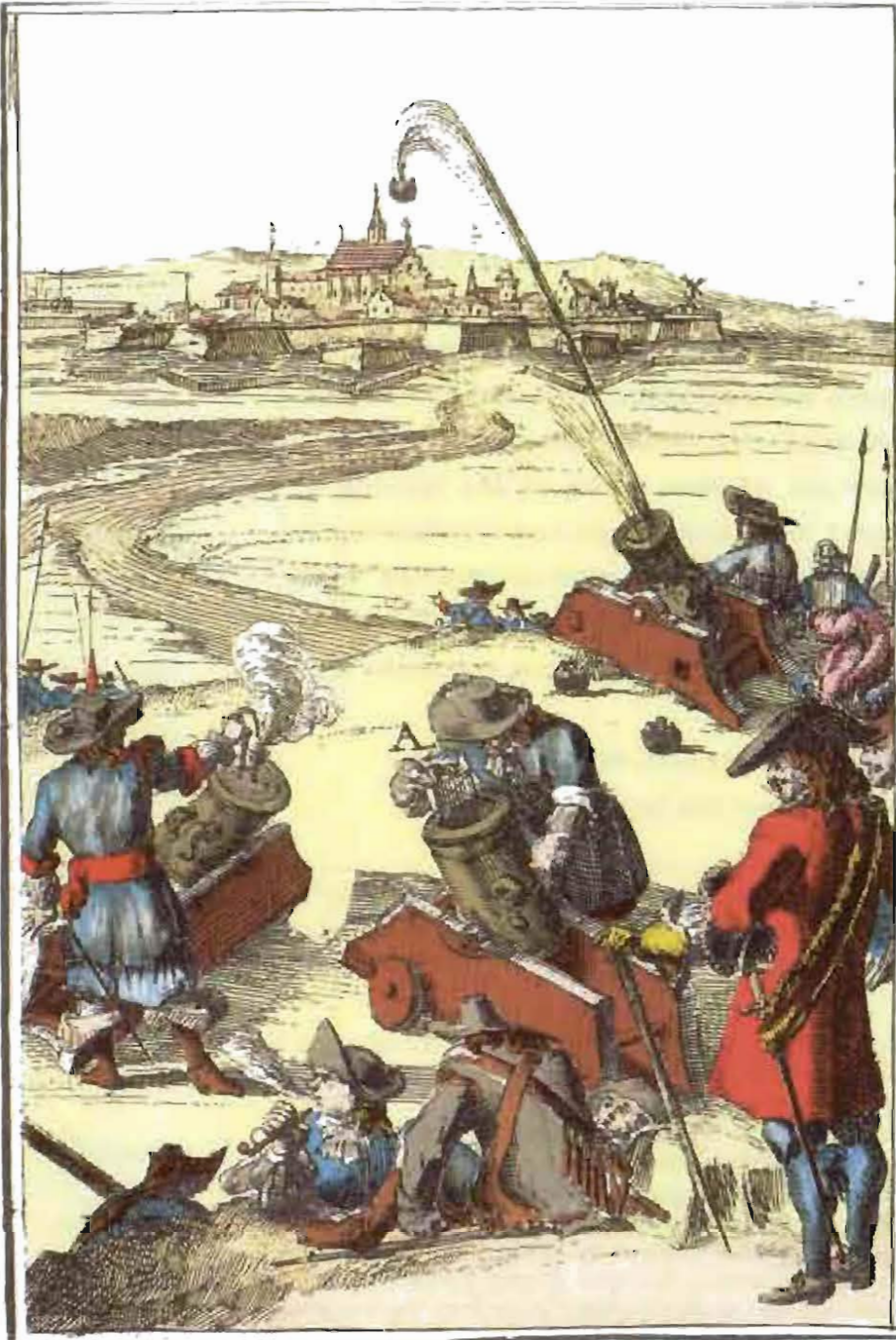
*We few, we happy few, we band of brothers, for he today that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother.
~William Shakespeare - Henry V - Act IV, Scene III*

Let's have the Reunion in YOUR city!

A Page For Artillerymen

(Medics, MP's, Recon, etc. need not read)

"The more things change, the more they remain the same. "



This illustration, and the accompanying text, are taken from a German book on *The Art of War*, circa fourteenth century. The instructions given then still apply today. In general:

"Three basics are essential, first the fireball must go higher than the target, second, the powder charges must be accurately measured, and third, the trajectory must be carefully watched so that proper adjustments can be made. "

"If the fireball goes beyond the target one must use the Quarter Circle and elevate the mortar. See figure A." The "Quarter Circle" is, of course, an early version of the Gunner's Quadrant. And, since this is High Angle fire, the more you elevate the tube the shorter the range.

"Thoughtful use of the Quarter Circle is better than guessing and insures that the target will be hit within two or three shots" Right On! None of this shooting from the hip!

Now comes the part we modern men would not be too happy with -- *"When it is time to shoot the Gunner needs two liters. One is in the right hand and one is in the left hand. With the right hand he lites the fireball and immediately thereafter with the left hand lites the charge in the mortar. He then steps away rapidly. "* Yes, very rapidly!

The Battery Commander is the man standing at the right edge of the picture in the red coat and sword. (The one that sort of looks like me.) Notice how he is glowering down at the four Infantrymen who happen to be taking a break in his Battery Position -- and **smoking!!!**

Dutch Nelsen

TARO LEAF TAPS

The Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

Where there is sadness, joy.

Oh divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

To be consoled as to console,

To be understood as to understand,

To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

It is in dying to self that we are born to eternal life.

5th RCT

Charles M. Campos
Olin Williams

11th Field Artillery

Richard F. Lewis

19th Infantry Regiment

James Geygan
John E. Regula

21st Infantry Regiment

Hugh A. Brown
James A. Land
Harry Whitman

24th HQ

Marvin L. Pfeleiderer

24th Signal Company

Edward E. (Gene) Dishman

26th AAA

Charles Cummings

34th Infantry Regiment

LTC George Wilxoc

78th Heavy Tank

Robert S. Cissell

Unknown

Mearl Dean Roos

5th RCT

Charles M. Campos passes away in February 2004. Charles served with HQ 2nd BN, 5th RCT in Korea from 1951-1952.

Olin Williams passed away 11 March 2004. Olin served with the HQ 2nd BN, 5th RCT in Korea from 1951-1952.

The preceding received from Paul R. Garland. Even though they were not members of the 24th IDA; Olin & Charles were members of the 24th Infantry Division in and Korea.

11th Field Artillery

Richard F. Lewis, B Btry, 11th FA Bn and HQs & B Btrys 555th FA Bn, passed away 21 October 2003. He was 81 and died at the VA Hospital in Martinsburg WV. He had many of the ailments that come with age and although he spoke of going home his heart finally gave out. Richard's next of kin is his daughter is Marion Lewis P.O. Box 1629, Shepherdstown WV 25443.

19th Infantry Regiment

James Geygan passed away on 5 April 2004 in Hebron, OH. James served with Co. H, 19th INF Div. His nephew Mickel Geygan (361) 633-1926 currently serves in the Navy in Rock Port TX.

John E. Regula, of Lafayette, Ohio passed away Feb. 7, 2004 at the age of 80. During WW II John served with 19th Regiment, Co. F, 2nd Bat from December 1944 thru January 1947. He was in the Philippines and Japan. John attended the 24th Reunion in 1992 at Savannah, Ga. and 1998 at Little Rock, Ark. He enjoyed these two reunions and always wanted to attend. Surviving John are his wife Dorothy, one daughter, one son and 4 grandchildren. Dorothy L. Regula 524 N. Oak St, West Lafayette, Ohio 43845 – 1033.

21st Infantry Regiment

Hugh A. Brown passed away 9 March 2004. He was 77. Hugh was a native of Coos Bay, Oregon. Hugh served with "E" Troop of the 124th Horse Cavalry Regiment in Burma during WWII. During the Korean War, Hugh, fought with "L" Company of the 21st INF Reg. In recognition of his service, he was awarded two Silver Stars, three Bronze Stars and three Purple Hearts. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Betty Jo Reid Brown and children.

James A. Land passed away 11 October 2003. James served with "K" Co. 21st INF Reg. in Korea. This information was received from his daughter Belinda Skeen in March 04.

Harry L. Whitman, Jr. passed away 1 March 2004. He served with "G" Co. 21st INF Reg. in Korea. Harry was not only a Life Member; he was our Quartermaster. Harry is survived by his wife, Frances Whitman and children.

24th HQ

Marvin L. Pfeleiderer, of St. Joseph, MO. passed away 9 February 2004. Marvin was a Life Member. Condolences can be sent to Julia Bryson, 4803 Valley Lane, Saint Joseph, M) 64503-1815.

24th Signal Company

With apologies to Mrs. Edward Dishman: **Edward E. (Gene) Dishman** passed away 29 April 2003. Gene served with the 24th Signal Company in the South Pacific 1942 – 1945.

26th AAA

Charles Cummings, "C" Co, 26th AAA Platoon. Charles served in Korea from September 1951 – 1952. He also served in WWII as an Infantryman. Charles was awarded three Silver Stars, three Bronze Stars & three Purple Hearts.

34th Infantry Regiment

LTC George Wilcox died a couple of days ago where he was wintering in Palm Springs, CA. George was a LT, Platoon Leader, Company D, 34th Regiment in Japan and in Korea. On 1 Sep 1950, he was reassigned to Company M, 19th Regiment. His last assignment, prior to retirement in the 1970's, was ROTC duty in the San Francisco Bay Area. He had frequent contact with General Dean during that period. However, George informed me that General Dean would not discuss Korea. George was a Coxswain in the Navy during WW II. George was buried 5 March 2004 with full military honors.

The preceding received from Lacy Barnett. Even though he was not a member of the 24th IDA; George was a member of the 24th Infantry Division in Japan and Korea.

78th Heavy Tank

Robert S. Cissell, of Louisville, KY, passed away 13 November 2003. Robert, 24th IDA Life Member, served with the 78th Hvy Tk. Bn. in Japan and Korea.

The preceding received from Bacil B. Steed.

Unknown

Mearl Dean Roos, 72, passed away 12 March 2004 at his home. Mearl served with the 24th Infantry Division in Korea from 1950 – 1952 as a wire chief installing communication lines. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Doris L. (Arebaugh) Roos & children.

The preceding received from Bill Woodard.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Note from the Editor:

Please send all *Changes of Address & TAPS* notices to Norm Dixon, Secretary/Treasurer (NDixon24th@aol.com)

Please send *Taro Leaf Articles* to Billy Johnson, Editor of the Taro Leaf (BJ24SF45@aol.com). When sending photos, citations or other precious memories, please send only copies.

Lastly, The Taro Leaf does not run political articles or political jokes if they are pointedly biased or mean spiritedly directed at a person.

Recently, I read two WW2 books which I highly recommend to anyone who served in or had an interest in WW2.

The first is out of print but can be found on the Internet or be special ordered from your local library ... as in our case.

THE BRAVEST MAN ... about Richard O'Kane, of the submarine USS Tang. It is a factual account of life and death on submarines in the Pacific ... EXCELLENT.

The second is THE FLYBOYS by James Bradley, currently on most best seller's lists. A well written, well researched story covering warfare throughout history as related to those naval aviators in the Pacific war ... focusing on the group of which the 1st George Bush was attached ... The portraits of warriors, Japanese and Americans, provide some horrifying and enlightening information ... Those of you who were in the Pacific theater should definitely read this one.

Have a good week!!
Charlie Card
(mccard@pdq.net)

I received the packet you sent me. I did little more than read the rest of the day. I pulled some photos from my album and am send(ing) you some copies. I am also sending you a copy from the "stars and stripes" the 24th boys may be proud of this. I also sent my annual fee to Norm Dixon. It would be great to run across the name of an old Army buddy. I talked to Harry Wittman by phone this afternoon. I did not know him but it was like old times, the reason I called him was because he lives in the town one of my buddy's was from. They may locate him and give me a call. I'm anxiously waiting for the next issue. Thank you for the copies.

Yours truly,
Gilbert Hoodgendoorn (34th INF. Reg HQ/2nd BN)

ATTENTION MEMBERS:

On Sunday, May 30, 2004 at 5PM Pacific Time, Fox News will air an episode about the WWII Leyte Landing in the Philippines. Three 24th Infantry Division Association members, who served during WWII, will be interviewed and appear on the program. They are Ben H. Wahale, Jr., Angelo Montaglione and Paul Austin.



Photo Above - From Left :
Ben Whaley (34th), CB Mason (3rd ENG) & Paul Austin (34th)

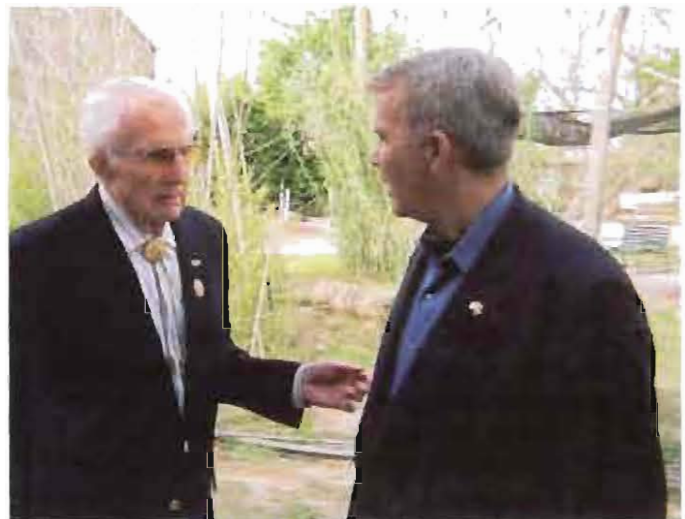


Photo Above - From Left:
Ben Whaley (34th) & Oliver North

The 3rd ENG "C" BN welcomes ALL Units to sit with us for Saturday Breakfast in Albuquerque, NM.

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! (Cont.)

Here are the known members of the 24th Infantry Division Association who will be attending the WWII Memorial Dedication in Washington, D.C this May 27 – 30, 2004.

Ed Farmer, 21st Infantry, wife Carolyn & guests,
Daughter Susan Farmer,
Niece Becky Dunlop & her Husband George Dunlop

Robert Newkirk, 21st Infantry & Guest Paul Kennedy
Theodore Sharp 24th QM, wife Sue &
Son Theodore Sharp Jr

Eric Diller, 34th Infantry & wife Dorothy
Angelo Montaglione, 34th Infantry & wife Betty
Bob Osborn, 34th Infantry & wife Verna
Don Henry, 40th Division & wife Jean
Jim Lemon, 21st Infantry & wife Pat
Marcel "Sal" Frederick, 34th Infantry
Joe Mielezsko, 13th FA Bn
George Frazier, 13th FA Bn
Alex Horanzy, 19th Infantry
Billy Johnson, 3rd Engineers, Editor & wife Minie
Robert "Bob" Quintero, 19th Infantry & wife Pat

All will be wearing 24th Infantry Division Association name tags.

To Whom It May Concern/ Honored Veterans;

I am in the beginning phase of writing/editing a compilation of personal histories from Korean War Veterans. I would greatly appreciate input from as many of your members as possible. Searching book stores for Korean War books, I am appalled at the lack of remembrances available. I am interested in any stories your members wish to share. Information such as Name, rank, unit. What did it feel like (cold, etc.)? What did it look like? What music did you listen to? Were you wounded? What was the supply situation like? Is there any phrase that sticks in your mind? Did you interact with white/black soldiers? Etc..How long were you there? Anything they wish to write would help all of us to remember.

Feel free to pass this request on to any other Korean War Veterans Association.

Please contact me via e-mail (CDOYLE2@nyc.rr.com) or send stories/notes to:
Thomas Doyle
25-14 169th Street
Flushing, N.Y. 11358
With Gratitude,
Sgt. Thomas Doyle
President NYC Deputy Sheriff's Association

I am trying to learn with this computer. It was nice talking to you once again. I have been getting in touch with this X-G.I's from my old Company for the last couple of months. All this is because of you and the Taro-Leaf, that made it possible. They are all from the old H. Co. 19th, Inf. Regt, 24th, Inf. Div. We all went to Korea on the 4th. of July 1950. We were stationed in Camp Chickamagua in Beppu, Kyushu, Japan, since 1949.

The following are:

Dale Demaray 7002 N.E. 109 St. Vancouver, Wash, 98686
ALSO 2141 Catalina Dr, Bullhead City, Arizona.
Cell Phone 360-909-9145.

Alfred Mongar 6148 S. 27 Rd. Cadillac Mich. 49601
Phone 231-775-3967

James Geygan 9 Canary Ct. Hebron, Ohio, 43025
Phone 740-918-0643.

Frank Cameron 9206 Westfield, Dr. Rowlett, TX, 75088
Phone-972-475-3829

Bill English. of Willington N.C. (no add)
Phone 910-791-5168.

P.S. Do not forget my Taro Leaf. God Bless All.

Jose Luis Munoz
lucky@sc2000.net

Thank you for the nice coverage in the TARO LEAF of my schoolmates and I. Even heard from another 24th member from New York State. His background was similar to this and he wanted me to know that it brought back many fond memories. Thanks again, Donald T. Anderson, "Tom" Bella Vista, Arkansas
tvanderson@cox-internet.com

34th REGT ON CORREGIDOR-WWII

Were you part of the 34th regiment that took part in the recapture of Corregidor in February 1945?

Paul Whitman is an historian, living in Australia, who is compiling a history of Corregidor, and its recapture in 1945. He has a website with extensive information on the role of the 503rd Parachute Bn, but very little on the actions of the 3rd Battalion and A Company from the 34th. He would like to hear from all of you who participated in this operation.

Check out his website: corregidor.org

Whitman's e-mail address is: paul@whitman.com.au

You may contact me for more information.

Bill McKenna (34th WWII)
970 Neilson St.
Albany, CA 94706-2141
(510) 525-7902
billjomac@aol.com

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! (Cont.)

Blairsville, Pa.
Feb. 4 2004
Taro Leaf Editor

In reference to the 24th. Div. plaque for the Admiral Nimitz museum, I see the map of the Philippines, could it be possible to include New Guinea. we had a major engagement at Hollandia, north Western New Guinea. I was in Bttry. A 11th. Field artillery, starting at Oahu, Hawaii May 28' all through our campaigns leaving the outfit Aug. 8th, 1945 at Mindanao. I see the name of one of my old battery mates, Leon Mills; as a contributor; some 60 years ago. I did request his address from Norm Dixon after writing about 6 other former buddies, I'm down to only one now, the grim reaper is thinning our ranks. I'm using the hunt and peck method on this typewriter, my handwriting is rather shaky.

Thanks for what you and the other officers are doing; the Taro Leaf is a great magazine and I anxiously read every thing in it. Sincerely yours,

Nicholas Matviya
157 Jonnet Road
Blairsville, PA 15717-8919

In the Winter 2004 Taro Leaf I requested a "Want Ad" for a Korean War Era Army Uniform. I've been getting by with a summer uniform. But, while doing a wintertime funeral, these hilltop gravesites are very windy & cold.

I need a winter uniform Ike jacket or blouse size C42. Pants 42x32. Dark OD color Hat.

I am making this request as I am not having any luck on E-Bay (with) the computer.

Your article was nicely done: But, for some reason my telephone number came out wrong. Would you re-run my request for the uniform and change my phone number.

Charlie Reese
100 E. 205th St.
Euclid, OH 44123
(216) 486-2299

13th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION REUNION

10, 11, 12 SEPTEMBER, 2004

Dear Old Redlegs:

We have a Fire Mission ready to go. The dates above have been approved by the respondents, the hotel has been reserved (20 rooms) and itinerary drafted. Now is the time to book your reservations at:

THE COEUR d'ALENE INN
WEST 414 APPLEWAY
COEUR d'ALENE, IDAHO 83814
1 (800) 251-7829

Keep your powder dry. This is a Charge 7 Fire Mission.

Larry Tassie
235 Glengary Bay Road
Sagle, Idaho 83860
(208) 263-5353

Do you have the address of Chuck Flanagan? I would truly appreciate if you would send it to me.

Chuck wrote the note on page 34 of our last issue of Taro Leaf. Quote, "Thank you all for the great job on the Taro Leaf. It means a Great Deal to all of the members. All the best". Signed: Chuck Flanagan, 24th Div.- 34th Regt. A.T. Co. 1944-1946.

Thank you, Billy. See you in Albuquerque.

Sincerely,

Henry J. Poth
24th Div. - 34th Regt. A.T.Co. 1945-1946

Dear Billy Munc-Linder

*Your thoughtfulness
means so very much*

*All The Best
Chuck FLANAGAN
24th Div 34th Regt
A.T. Co 1944-46*

*Thank you all for the great job
ON THE TARO LEAF IT means a
GREAT Deal To All The members*

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! (Cont.)

I was a rookie Pvt. In Jan. 1946 – after Basic Training at Camp Polk, LA. We were sent to Japan, down to Oita, Kyunshie Where we kids were in-bred so to speak- and a short time later were told we were to "Full Field Pack" for a hike to a new home- up in Beppu – Which was the new Camp of Chickamauga. The hike, I recall, passing monkey mountain – ext. en-route!

To try to summarize from that early era – Just let me mention that I am still in contract with my 1st Co. Comdr. "Lt. Bill Wood, West Point '45 (Ret. Col.) – who's son is presently Co. Maj. Gen of the 2nd Inf. Div. In Korea – My 2nd Co. Comm. 1 Lt Ted Adair, who's son is a 2 Star-Arty Comdr – and my platoon Sgt – M/Sgt Conert who is living in Maine amongst family.

Well, I could go on but won't – I retired in 1988 after 42 years Active EM & Comm 8 years ???

Best Regards

Herb Kenz (19th)
Aus – Ret.



Only in the Orient!

If possible, please publish below Press Release for the benefit of your readers and former members of the 24th Infantry Division.

Thanks.
"Your Name"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

On September 22 – 25 2004, the 24th Infantry Division Association will hold it's Annual Reunion honoring the veterans of World War II, Japan. Korean War, Germany, Desert Storm, Grenada. Lebanon and Iraq.

All former and current members of the 24th Infantry Division Association or members of any unit that has been assigned or attached to the Division at any time are welcome.

The 2004 reunion will be held at the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque Hotel, 300 Tijeras NW, Albuquerque, NM, 87102. For further information contact: Association President & Reunion Coordinator Wes Morrison. Telephone (831) 883-2156, Email: wesm8@aol.com. or Reunion Chairman Walter J. Newlin, Telephone (505) 281-5149, E-mail Address: pnwlin@aaahawk.com or Vice-President Don Lloyd, Telephone (905) 965-3231.

NOTE: Look what Jim Cooper (19th) did for us! Jim sent a similar announcement to 10 newspapers for our '03 Tucson Reunion to fifteen newspapers. We picked up some new members from it.

NOW if each of you would do the same with this updated announcement, we could cover the 50 States. He used Email so no cost is required. To mail would have been about \$5.25.

SOMEBODY ELSE IS NOT GOING TO DO IT!! YOU DO IT!

Please. send copies to me to let me know. ~Billy

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! (Cont.)

Korean War Casualty

"Where're 'ya goin' Valley?" he whispered. It was Perry, in the hole next to mine. "I've got to fill my canteen, be right back." "Hey, while you're up, take mine too."

I grabbed it and stayed low until I got off the ridge, then stumbled down the hillside. It was a dark night, just a thin line of moon showing. Our CP was about a quarter mile away. I filled both canteens, put mine in its case, and headed back. I heard quick thump-bangs of mortars, bad sign, they weren't far away. Explosions and flashes came about 200 yards to my left. Above the increasing noise of the barrage, I heard Sgt. Lee, "We're pulling out, through the right flank. Haul ass!"

I caught up with Perry and handed him the canteen. "What's goin' on?" "We're buggin' out, there's been a big breakthrough on the 34th. We're going back through the village." He turned and ran. "Wait up. I've got to get my shit!" He kept running.

I'd gotten turned around and couldn't find my hole. The shelling was nearer. I was ready to take off empty handed when I spotted it. Thank God! I grabbed the pack and bedroll and took off in the general direction of the others. Trying to run downhill in the dark, while getting my pack on, was asking too much. I took a header and tumbled about 20 feet. Lucky, no damage. I was up and running again on the flat, heading for the faint outline of the village. Unless they kept on the move, I'd expect my outfit to take a position on the hill just to the south. My shortest route would be through the shacks and paddies.

I was making good time when all of a sudden, my right foot plunged into the ground. I went ass-over-teakettle. My leg was all wet, and what stink! I must have stepped into a buried pot of kimchee; the rotten cabbage and garlic. I hobbled along with a knee that felt like parts were missing. By the time I got to the hillside, I could hardly walk and began a slow climb on all fours.

Near the top someone said, "Did you hear that?" "It's a gook. I can smell him." "No! Don't shoot. It's me, Valley."

It was another day before I made it to the aid station. When I took off my boot for the first time and rolled up my pant leg I choked on the smell and look of raw sores. After cleaning and swabbing on salve the medic checked my knee. He declared me fit for duty.

"Don't I get a Purple Heart for the kimchee?" I asked. "No, but try the mess hall; they might give you a side of mashed potatoes."

David J. Valley
19th Rgt., 24th ID

Artillery Johnson:

Congratulations on your by-pass surgery. In German history the colleges had secret dueling societies. Technically they were against the law, but everyone simply played like they did not exist. It was a mark of great distinction for a student to have dueling scar on his face. In my seven years in Germany I have seen men my age, and older, who had such scars, and to this day they were greatly respected for it.

In the Field Artillery the same can be said for open-heart surgery. This is a mark of great distinction, for it shows many years of trying to shift trails on big cannons and humping heavy projectiles. It also shows that you were successful in those efforts, because if you had not been your Battery would have been over-run and you wouldn't be here.

When serving the guns Artillerymen make every effort to work stripped to the waist, so others can see the scars. How you, personally, are going to handle this might be somewhat of a problem. But I'll let you figure that out.

Also, bear in mind that the number of bypasses is of minor consideration (I have nine). What matters are the scars. So show them at every opportunity and reap the rewards and admirations of the other soldiers.

E. Nelsen
LTC Commanding



*The LT making reservations for Albuquerque, NM
See you in September 2004! (9-22 to 9-25)*

RECENT VA NEWS RELEASE

GOVERNMENT GRAVE MARKER REQUESTS MADE EASIER

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has revised its application form to make requesting a VA grave marker easier. The new form, Application For Standard Government Headstone or Marker (VA Form 40-1330), includes updated information about changes that expand eligibility for a government marker. The new form and instruction sheets also permit better communication between VA and veterans' families.

For deaths on or after September 11, 2001, Public Laws 107-103 and 107-330 made government markers available for use on veterans' graves that were already marked with privately furnished headstones or markers. Previous law prevented VA from furnishing markers when a grave was already marked.

In January 2002, VA introduced a toll-free fax service for submitting applications. This service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week as an alternative to regular mail. Instruction, as well as the fax number, 1-800-455-7143, are on the VA website at www.cem.va.gov. The application form on the website can be filled in and printed for submitting by mail or fax. Questions about a headstone or marker application can be directed to VA's Memorial Programs Service applicant assistance unit at 1-800-697-6947.

Time to check your Dues Date!



Bus fair to anti-war protest rally - \$0.50.

Paint and canvas protest signs - \$32.00.

Asking a retired US Army Sergeant to translate your anti-American slogans - PRICELESS.

Bitterness of 'forgotten' Korean War still remains

SYDNEY: Fifty years after the Korean War ended, the bitterness of being involved in the so called "forgotten war" still lingered for veterans.

As international tensions continue to tighten over nuclear threats on the Korean Peninsula, hundreds of Australian war veterans turned out in Sydney yesterday for a commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the cease-fire, signed on my 27, 1953.

The 90-minute reception was hosted by NSW Premier Bob Carr, marking a political recognition that veteran Nev Lewis said was "50 years late".

Fellow veteran Keith Sumner put it just as bluntly. "Why do they (only) have an hour-and-a-half recognition? That's all we get today," he said. "That's a great big deal, isn't it?"

Mr. Carr said the Korean War was the first time members of the United Nations acted collectively to repel aggression, and Australian troops deserved to be honoured for their part.

"For many veterans of the Korean conflict, they see it as Australia's forgotten war as they did not have a welcome home parade," Mr. Carr said. "This reception is part of the Government's efforts to remind NSW families about the Korean War."

"Those who were involved in Australia's military efforts in Korea served their country with pride and their commitment and sacrifice also deserve recognition."

Alex Crass said political leaders at the time saw veterans of the Korean War as a "political embarrassment".

"Politicians wanted to wash it over and get it over and done with," Mr. Crass said.

"They didn't want to have embarrassment on their bands."

Lasting from 1950 to 1953, 339 Australians died on the battlefields of the Korean War, with 216 soldiers wounded and 29 taken as prisoners of war.

Mr. Lewis said Korean veterans never received much recognition since their service fell between the Second World War and the Vietnam War.

The Canberra Times

1 September 2003

Submitted By: ~ Basil Steed, "A" Co. 24th Recon. New South Wales Australia

34th Infantry Regiment



Photo Submitted by Joseph T. Camden 34th - WWII

(below) Boys moving building on Cheju Island.



Photo Submitted by Gilbert Hoogendoorn. 34th - WWII

(Right) "While staying on one of the island this small boy was our mascot. One night he sat on my bunk with me and begged me to take him with me back to the States. He had a list of promises as long as your arm. We both shed some tears over that deal." ~ Gilbert

(below) H. Co. 34th Inf., WWII Goodenough Island



Photo Submitted by Gene Madden, 34th - WWII



Photo Submitted by Gilbert Hoogendoorn. 34th - WWII

World War II Memories



Then & Now



Camp Mower – Taken 1947, Building 18
Submitted by ~ Rod Johnson – "L" 34th



Easter Morning Fire
Submitted by ~ Rod Johnson – "L" 34th



Taken March 2000 – The Camp buildings were to the left of concrete pens.
Submitted by ~ Rod Johnson – "L" 34th



All building have been removed. Dike to right on picture parade field beyond small trees.
Submitted by ~ Rod Johnson – "L" 34th



Troops in the center foreground near the DZ

Dick Kock from Illinois
Company Truck Driver



34th's Living Quarters while staying near Seoul.



Captain Mossoury the Company Commander.



The Troops packing up to leave Pusan to points unknown.

All Photos Submitted By ~ Gilbert Hoogendoorn (34th INF)

Honoring the fallen, quietly

Commentary By ~ Jonathan Evans – U.S. News & World Report, February 2, 2004

THERE ARE NO REPORTERS ON THE TARMAC at Dover Air Force Base. The public is not allowed to witness the military tradition of "receiving the remains." Instead, there are soldiers, roused at dark hours to stand in the confines of what seems like a secret as the dead are brought home.

I am one of the soldiers. Nearly every day we learn of another death in Iraq. In our collective consciousness, we tally the statistics of dead and wounded. The number is over 500 now. But none of our conjurings are as real and tangible as the Stars and Stripes folded perfectly over a coffin cradling one of those statistics on his or her way home.

It does not matter where somebody stands politically on the war, but I believe that all who have an opinion should know the cost of that opinion. When a soldier dies in a foreign land, his or her remains are returned to the United States for their final rest. The remains arrive in Dover, Del., without fanfare. No family member is present. There are no young children to feel sad or confused. Just a small group of soldiers waiting to do their duty and honor the fallen.

"Dover flights" are met by soldiers from the U.S. Army's 3rd Infantry Regiment, the storied Old Guard. They are true soldiers, assigned to an esteemed regiment, but it is a unit defined by polish, not mud. It seems that they quietly long to be tested with their comrades "over there." But it is clear to me as I watch them that they find immense pride in honoring their country this way.

Silence. I am a helicopter pilot in the U.S. Army, and it is my job to have the honor guard at Dover at whatever hour a flight arrives. In military-speak, the plane's grim contents are referred to as "HRs" – "human remains." Once the plane arrives, conversation ends. The soldiers form a squad of two even ranks and march off it to the tarmac. A general follows, flanked by a chaplain and the ranking representative from the service in which the fallen soldier served. The plane's cargo doors slowly revealing a cavernous space. The honor guard, steps onto a mobile platform that is raised to the cargo bay. The soldiers enter in lock-step formation and place themselves on both sides of the casket. The squad lifts, the soldiers buckling slightly under the weight. The remains have, been packed on ice into metal containers that can easily exceed 500 pounds. The squad moves slowly back onto the elevated platform and deposits the casket with a care that evokes an image of fraternal empathy. It is the only emotion they betray, but their gentleness is unmistakable and compelling. The process continues until the last casket is removed from the plane. On bad nights, this can take over an hour. The few of us observing say nothing, the silence absolute, underscored by something sacred. There is no rule or order that dictates it, but the silence is maintained with a discipline that needs no command.

The caskets are lowered together to the earth, where the soldiers lift them into a van, one by one. The doors close, and the squad moves out. Just before the van rounds the corner, someone speaks in a voice just above a whisper. We snap to and extend a sharp salute.

There are those who would politicize this scene, making it the device of an argument over the freedom of the press. But if this scene were ever to be exploited by the lights and cameras of our "infotainment" industry, it would be offensive. Still, the story must be told. A democracy's lifeblood, after all, is an informed citizenry, and this image is nowhere in the public mind. The men and women arriving in flag-draped caskets do not deserve the disrespect of arriving in the dark confines of secrecy. But it is a soldier's story, and it must be told through a soldier's eyes. In the military, we seldom discuss whether we are for or against the war. Instead, we know intimately its cost. For those of us standing on the tarmac at Dover in those still and inky nights, our feelings have nothing to do with politics. They are feelings of sadness, of empathy. And there is nothing abstract about them.

Evans is a chief warrant officer 2 in the U. S. Army stationed at Fort Belvoir in Virginia, as a Pilot in-command of a UH-60 Black Hawk, for the 12th Aviation Battalion. The views expressed here are his own.

Article Submitted By ~ Walter (Slick) Morszalek

24th Infantry Division Association



BE A MEMBER **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION** RECRUIT A MEMBER

I desire to be enrolled (or) reinstated as a Member (or) Associate Member of the
24th Infantry Division Association,
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Greatest Combat Division the United States Army
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(Relation to sponsor if the Application is for Associate Membership) _____

SERVED IN THE 24th or was ATTACHED TO THE 24th

UNIT.....SQUAD _____ PLATOON _____ COMPANY _____ BN. _____ REGT. _____ HQ _____ FROM _____ TO _____

UNIT.....SQUAD _____ PLATOON _____ COMPANY _____ BN. _____ REGT. _____ HQ _____ FROM _____ TO _____

REMARKS _____

Dues:

____ Annual - \$15.00 ____ Lifetime - \$150.00
1 Year From Date of Payable in lump sum of \$150.00
Enlisting in Association or in 5 yearly payments of \$30.00

Please make checks payable to:
"24th Infantry Division Association"
Mail with this completed application to:
Norm Dixon
Secretary/Treasurer
24th Infantry Division Association
16849 W. Villagio Dr
Surprise, AZ 85387-7565

Recommended By: _____

5th Regimental Combat Team Association Florida's 11th Annual Mini Reunion

We would like the members of the 24th to join us:

Wednesday, November 3, 2004 through Sunday, November 7, 2004
Holiday Inn - St. Augustine Beach
860 A1A Beach Blvd., St. Augustine Beach, Florida 32080
Phone # 1-800-626-7263

(Room rates are \$69.00 plus tax and gratuity)

BANQUET

Saturday, November 6, 2004

Fees:	Item	Price
	Registration (Member Only)	\$20.00
	Banquet, Sat. 11/6/04	\$25.00

Please make check or money order payable to: c/o Bill Kane

Mail to: c/o Bill Kane
5023 Andrea Blvd.
Orlando, Florida 32807
(407) 275-7450



HEADQUARTERS 24th INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 24

KVX 201.22

28 January 1952

SUBJECT: Letter of Appreciation

TO: Commanding General
5th Regimental Combat Team
APO 301

1. On the occasion of the detachment of the 5th Regimental Combat Team from the 24th Infantry Division, I take this opportunity to express to you, your men and officers the deep appreciation of the 24th Infantry Division for the superior performance of duty and willing cooperation they have always given.
2. During the 16 months the 5th RCT has been a part of this division, their achievements have contributed materially to its success in all combat operations. During the last offensive, in October 1951, the 5th RCT destroyed more than two Chinese regiments and captured fanatically defended Hill 633 in two days of bitter fighting. This was a key to the success of the operation and demonstrated the bravery, determination and great fighting spirit of the members of your command individually and collectively.
3. The execution of command and staff functions have been of high order. Outstanding, aggressive leadership and superior staff work have reflected high standards of professional competence throughout your organization.
4. The three hundred seventy two awards for valor won by members of your command while with the 24th Division attest to the fortitude and personal bravery of the officers and men of the 5th RCT.
5. The record of achievement and performance of the 5th RCT has been a constant credit and inspiration to the 24th Division and is to the credit of the entire military service. It has been a source of gratification and satisfaction to several division commanders. The men and officers of the 24th join me in expressing our thanks to all members of the 5th RCT and in extending best wishes for your continued success.

A TRUE COPY:

/s/ H. I. Hodes
/c/ H. I. HODES Major
General, USA
Commanding

JAMES H. WARD
Major Inf
Adjutant

Note paragraph two. Letter of appreciation. Co. "D", 3rd Combat Engineers were also a part of the combat operation on Hill 6331
-Don Robert



To Dan
 Thank God for the
 3rd Engineers and
 Friends like Dan R.
 J.E. Wenzel

LT. Joe Wenzel 5th R.C.T.
 Nov 1951



PATROL
 END



A reconnaissance patrol had returned after a numbing six-hour hike through the misty mantle of wind-driven snow that cloaked the Kumsong Valley. The squad leader lighted-up after briefing, work for the day was over and his men retired to their sheltering bunkers. Frost had driven the enemy into his burrows and the valley's floor was a stilled, ice crusted no-



high explosives fired by the 11th and 13th FA Battalions . .



. . . fell into the Communist's holdings.

*This 16 cal. machine gun
was captured on the hill
above the tunnel area
during the Kuntong Valley.
1951 War.*

*Note the target rifle
scope on the gun. This
was installed by the U.S.
M.C. and passed for the
5th A.S.T.*

I&R (INTELLIGENCE & RECONNAISSANCE) MACHINE GUNNERS PLACED FIRE THROUGH SCOPES.



Why America has so much trouble seeing into the future.

The Canberra Times (Australia), p.17, Opinion, Tuesday, Sept 25th 2003

Each day American soldiers die in Iraq, and criticism mounts of the Bush administration for failing to plan for the peace after the war. But the Bush administration did plan the peace. Last year the State Department and 17 federal agencies conducted the Future of Iraq Project. They assembled hundreds of Iraqis and other experts into working groups to determine the measures that would be needed to restore security, essential services and proper governance to the Iraqi people after the war.

The Bush administration did the work, but in doing so listened to the wrong people. They listened, principally, to Ahmad Chalabi, of the Iraqi National Congress. Accordingly, the US expected to be greeted as liberators by a relieved Iraqi populace and to have security largely restored by an uprising of the loyal underground forces of the National Congress. Furthermore, at Chalabi's urging, the US fired the senior civil servants and technocrats with the skills to restore essential services because they were Baath Party members (as they had been required to be to get their jobs).

The Bush administration listened to the man who desperately wanted to be the next leader of Iraq, took his self-serving advice, and dumped Iraq into its current quagmire. Such gaffs are common in the history of US foreign policy. In part they reflect the very human tendency to listen to what we want to believe. In larger measure these mistakes reflect the difficulty Americans have in really seeing and understanding the rest of the world.

There are many reasons for this shortsightedness, including geography, the media, and the power of America's Story. Geography shapes us all. Down through history people have peered out across the ocean and wondered what is out there.

Most Americans don't live near the sea. And, to a degree surprising to an Australian, Americans live in small towns, not big cities, and the natural focus in a small town is on that which is close to hand. Finally, there is little need to holiday outside the US - from great art to symphony orchestras, from pristine snowfields to beautiful beaches, the US accommodates most people's holiday tastes.

Secondly, there is the influence of the media. The media in the big coastal cities and Chicago do cover world events, but mainly from the perspective of their impact on America, and only rarely for their inherent significance. This perspective implies to the audience that only America matters. And between the coasts media coverage often suggests there is no world beyond the coasts. Thirdly, there is the power of the story of America's founding.

A group of very brave men declared independence from Britain in 1776. The Americans had no experience in battle, no standing army, and almost no gunpowder or money. Britain, on the other hand, had just landed more troops in New York than there were people in America's largest city. Thomas Jefferson and the founding fathers stood against them armed with a belief in justice and the power of ideals. Americans are raised on this story. So strong is its grip that a prize-winning author wrote recently, "how should we imagine the 56 patriots who put their names on the Declaration of Independence. To begin with, they were not gods".

No sane Australian has ever felt it necessary to point out that James Cook and Arthur Philip were not gods. The "glories" of our founding story leave plenty of head and heart space left to look abroad. The glories of America's story means that for inspiration Americans look backward-to their founding story and forward to the riches and potential that story promises. Only rarely do they look at other countries. Indeed, America's economic and military might, and its glorious founding story, gives its people no-one and nothing beyond themselves to look up to. So when, for geopolitical reasons, it becomes necessary for Americans to look abroad and assess the impact of their actions there, they are likely to misjudge, for what they are looking at is essentially new and unfamiliar. It may be comforting to ascribe this tendency to this administration only or to Republican administrations generally. Yet, while George W. Bush is an unusually provincial man, this nearsightedness is a bipartisan trait.

In early 1998, Madeleine Albright, Secretary of State in the Clinton Administration, said, "[W]e are America; we are the indispensable nation. We stand tall and we see further than other countries into the future." The US is a great nation. Its people are generous and well intentioned. Unfortunately, however, its geography, media and history all work together to ensure that in foreign relations Americans consistently see less far and less clearly into the future than do others.

Professor Buckley is at the Tim Fischer Centre for Global Trade and Finance, Bond University.

~Submitted by Basil Steed

The above is an article as to how the rest of the world views Bush & in some cases-America.

Basil Steed had his second tour in Korea as a Red Cross Field Director to the 2nd B/G 4th Cavalry in 1957-58 at Munsan-ni before he was sent to Misawa Air Base in Northern Honshu with the USAir Force. He also served for a time with the 78th Hvy Tk Bn prior to the 24th Rcn Co. Also had a turn at Post Hq Camp Crouch, Yamaguchi.

Basil Arrived for duty south of there at an old Jap Air Base at Camp Feister.

The Bill of Non-Rights

"We the sensible people of the United States, in an attempt to help everyone get along, restore some semblance of justice, avoid more riots, keep our nation safe, promote positive behavior, and secure the blessings of debt free liberty to ourselves and our great-great-great-grandchildren, hereby try one more time to ordain and establish some common sense guidelines for the terminally whiny, guilt ridden, delusional, and other liberal bed-wetters.

We hold these truths to be self evident: that a whole lot of people are confused by the Bill of Rights and are so dim they require a Bill of NON-Rights."

ARTICLE I: You do not have the right to a new car, big screen TV, or any other form of wealth. More power to you if you can legally acquire them, but no one is guaranteeing anything.

ARTICLE II: You do not have the right to never be offended. This country is based on freedom and that means freedom for everyone -- not just you! You may leave the room, turn the channel, express a different opinion, etc.; but the world is full of idiots, and probably always will be.

ARTICLE III: You do not have the right to be free from harm. If you stick a screwdriver in your eye, learn to be more careful; do not expect the tool manufacturer to make you and all your relatives independently wealthy.

ARTICLE IV: You do not have the right to free food and housing. Americans are the most charitable people to be found, and will gladly help anyone in need, but we are quickly growing weary of subsidizing generation after generation of professional couch potatoes who achieve nothing more than the creation of another generation of professional couch potatoes.

ARTICLE V: You do not have the right to free health care. That would be nice, but from the looks of public housing, we're just not interested in public health care.

ARTICLE VI: You do not have the right to physically harm other people. If you kidnap, rape, intentionally maim, or kill someone, don't be surprised if the rest of us want to see you fry in the electric chair.

ARTICLE VII: You do not have the right to the possessions of others. If you rob, cheat, or coerce away the goods or services of other citizens, don't be surprised if the rest of us get together and lock you away in a place where you still won't have the right to a big screen color TV or a life of leisure.

ARTICLE VIII: You do not have the right to a job. All of us sure want you to have a job, and will gladly help you along in hard times, but we expect you to take advantage of the opportunities of education and vocational training laid before you to make yourself useful.

ARTICLE IX: You do not have the right to happiness. Being an American means that you have the right to PURSUE happiness, which by the way, is a lot easier if you are unencumbered by an over abundance of idiotic laws created by those of you who were confused by the Bill of Rights.

ARTICLE X: This is an English speaking country. We don't care where you are from, English is our language. Learn it or go back to wherever you came from.

(lastly....)

ARTICLE XI: You do not have the right to change our country's history or heritage. This country was founded on the belief in one true God. And yet, you are given the freedom to believe in any religion, any faith, or no faith at all; with no fear of persecution. The phrase IN GOD WE TRUST is part of our heritage and history, and if you are uncomfortable with it, TOUGH!!!!

If you agree, share this with a friend. No, you don't have to, and nothing tragic will befall you if you don't. I just think it's about time common sense is allowed to flourish.

(The preceding has often been falsely attributed to State Representative Mitchell Kaye from GA. It was actually written in 1993 by Lewis Napper, a self-described amateur philosopher and from Mississippi who ran for a U.S. Senate seat in 2000 as a Libertarian.)

~Submitted By Gene Sykes



INC
*International
Negotiating
Consultant*

2700 Calvert Street, NW
Washington, DC 20008
Office & fax: 202 986 4752
Home: 202 234 1248

March 24, 2004

Billy Johnson
2416 Kimberly Dr
Fayetteville, NC 28306

Dear Billy:

I enjoy reading the Taro Leaf. I note that you often include jokes and odd bits of humor. You may want to share the account below with your readers.

In the fall of 2003, I received a call from the Chief of Engineers inviting me to a dinner at which I would be given an award for outstanding service to the Corps of Engineers. I said there must be some mistake, that I had served in the Corps of Engineers from 1941-1952, but then transferred to the Infantry. He said he knew that but that the board had decided to give me the award. At the dinner, I was seated next to the Chief of Engineers who told me that he ran a tight ship. After the dinner, he escorted me to the podium. He took half a minute to thank the audience for coming. During the next half minute he read my biography. The final half minute he spent reading my citation and handed me a Steuben glass eagle.

As I moved to the microphone, he took me by the arm and escorted me back to my seat.

"I run a tight ship," he said, "No thank you's."

As we were leaving, a woman approached me.

"General Rowny," she said, "I thought you gave such a fine speech."

My wife agreed with her that it was the best speech I had ever given.

I commanded the 24th Infantry Division in Germany from 19 65-66. A copy of my bio is enclosed

Keep up the good work at producing good Taro Leafs

Sincerely,

Edward L. Rowny
Former Ambassador and LTC USA (Ret.)

The Infantryman



The average age of the Infantryman is 19 years.

He is a short haired, tight-muscled kid who, under normal circumstances is considered by society as half man, half boy. Not yet dry behind the ears, not old enough to buy a beer, but old enough to die for his country.

He never really cared much for work and he would rather wax his own car than wash his father's; but he has never collected unemployment either.

He's a recent High School graduate; he was probably an average student, pursued some form of sport activities, drives a ten year old jalopy, and has a steady girlfriend that either broke up with him when he left, or swears to be waiting when he returns from half a world away.

He listens to rock and roll or hip-hop or rap or jazz or swing and 155mm Howitzers.

He is 10 or 15 pounds lighter now than when he was at home because he is working or fighting from before dawn to well after dusk.

He has trouble spelling, thus letter writing is a pain for him, but he can field strip a rifle in 30 seconds and reassemble it in less time in the dark.

He can recite to you the nomenclature of a machine gun or grenade launcher and use either one effectively if he must.

He digs foxholes and latrines and can apply first aid like a professional.

He can march until he is told to stop or stop until he is told to march.

He obeys orders instantly and without hesitation, but he is not without spirit or individual dignity.

He is self-sufficient. He has two sets of fatigues: he washes one and wears the other. He keeps his canteens full and his feet dry.

He sometimes forgets to brush his teeth, but never to clean his rifle.

He can cook his own meals, mend his own clothes, and fix his own hurts. If you're thirsty, he'll share his water with you; if you are hungry, his food.

He'll even split his ammunition with you in the midst of battle when you run low.

He has learned to use his hands like weapons and weapons like they were his hands. He can save your life - or take it, because that is his job.

He will often do twice the work of a civilian, draw half the pay and still find ironic humor in it all. He has seen more suffering and death than he should have in his short lifetime.

He has stood atop mountains of dead bodies, and helped to create them.

He has wept in public and in private, for friends who have fallen in combat and is unashamed.

He feels every note of the National Anthem vibrate through his body while at rigid attention, while tempering the burning desire to 'square-away' those around him who haven't bothered to stand, remove their hat, or even stop talking. In an odd twist, day in and day out, far from home, he defends their right to be disrespectful.

Just as did his Father, Grandfather, and Great-grandfather, he is paying the price for our freedom.

Beardless or not, he is not a boy.

He is the American Fighting Man that has kept this country free for over 200 years.

He has asked nothing in return, except our friendship and understanding.

Remember them, always, for they have earned our respect and admiration with their blood.

LOOKING FOR BUDDIES

Hello! JJ McKeon gave me your email saying that you are the editor of the Taro Leaf. I was hoping you could place an inquiry in the Taro Leaf for anyone that may have known my husband's birth father in Kokora, Japan in 1949. His name was Ray Gibson. He was in the 24th Inf. Div. MP Co and was selected as "Military Policeman of 1949" in Kyushu, Japan by the 24th Div MP Co. He was cited for entering a burning building in Kokura and removing containers of dangerous liquids and alerted and aided evacuation of Japanese living in the area. He also served a couple of years in Korea and I believe he was a part of "Task Force Smith" but I don't know for sure. I have not been able to get his military records because of the St. Louis fire. Ray died just months after he returned to the states (1952) when he was only 28 years old and my husband was 4. If you are able to print my request, and if someone knows of Ray Gibson, they can contact me at:

Joyce Wolf
19871 State Highway 231
Nevada, OH 44849
Jswolf2000@marion.net
Thank you! Joyce Wolf

**Check the back cover
for your Dues Date!**

We are looking for information on Emerson J. Wright 24th Division, 19th Regiment, "K" Company 3rd Battalion. K.I.A. in Korea during Operation Ripper. Can you help?

Thanks
Randall Fritts
Tf61600@aol.com

3RD ENGINEERS COMBAT BATTALION 2004 REUNION

SEPTEMBER 19, 20, 21- 2004 ALBUQUERQUE,
NM

CONTACT DON & DOROTHY LLOYD AT ANY
OF THE FOLLOWING:
(509) 965-3231 or
6804 OCCIDENTAL, YAKIMA, WA 98903 or
dotandon@nwinform.net

REGISTRATION FORMS TO BE SENT TO YOU
AFTER CONTACT.

Trying to locate William Gatch. Gatch was wounded around first of Jan 1951. Retired as Major General in 1977.

~Ralph H. Brownell
Box 502
Waterneetm MI 49969
(906)358-4758



I am looking for any information about the GI pictured left. He was with Service Battery of the 11th Field Artillery in 1953 and part of 1954. I cannot remember his first name but his last name is Phillips. Please respond to:

Wade C. Blackburn
274 E. Heatherwood
Barberton, Ohio 44203
(303) 745-4667

Looking for information about Dick White. Dick was wounded twice, once in Japan and once in Korea near Taejon.

~Del Spokes
(800) 922-9378

Mr. Eric Vahey seeks information concerning the achievements of his grandfather, RICHARD VAHEY, who served with Company C of the 34th Infantry Regiment, 24th Division, from 9/43 through 4/45...and whose last combat day with the unit was on the sixth day after the 10/20/44 Leyte beachhead. On that day, 10/26/44, RICHARD VAHEY was seriously wounded during some type of advance attack and apparently provided a high degree of heroic effort, as he recalls an officer told him just prior to evacuation, that his efforts/exposures during the firefight would be recorded in a recommendation for the Silver Star.

The grandfather's service records were destroyed in the VA records fire, and there is no way to verify these happenings. Any former member of C-34 who recalls any phase/any time of an association or knowledge of RICHARD VAHEY is respectfully requested to contact the grandson at the Below address:

~Mr. Eric Vahey
6328 Ashbury Drive
St. Louis, Missouri, 63123

LOOKING FOR BUDDIES (Cont.)

My name is Whit Fisher, my uncle was Douglas Haag from the 21st, who was listed as MIA/KIA during the war. Through the Korean War Project, I was able to obtain some vital information indicating that he had been killed immediately rather than captured (our family never got any information from the Government, after years of inquiry).

At any rate, our investigations also turned up some old correspondence from two kind gentlemen who "unofficially" contacted my family about my uncle shortly after he vanished. They were Capt. "Wadie" (?) Roundtree and Capt. Stanley Zimmer. I believe capt. Roundtree was captured during the war.

I'm wondering if perhaps either of these two men are reachable today. Any information, help, or suggestions you could provide would be immensely helpful.

Please let me know what I can do to facilitate any communication. I can be reached at this email address (half-whit@earthlink.net) or at 212-675-5364.

Thanks so much in advance for any help you can provide.

Sincerely,

Whit Fisher

My regular mailing address is:
357 West 12th St # 5E
New York, NY 10014



"Ah, here we are - Tom Vickeron. Eternity with the 'Dude, you're getting a Dell' guy."

Do You Rate A Bronze Star Medal?

World War II veterans, who earned the Army's Combat Infantry Badge (CIB) or the Combat Medical Badge (CMB) are eligible to receive the Bronze Star Medal.

Army Regulation 680-8-22 states that the award of either of these badges is considered a citation in orders of documentary evidence of exemplary conduct in ground combat against an armed enemy prior to 1 July 1947. Executive Order 9419, dated February 1, 1944, which was superseded by Executive Order 11046, dated August 24, 1962, established the Bronze Star for certain heroic or meritorious achievement actions after December 6, 1941. So a CIB or CMB earned before July 1, 1947, qualifies the individual for a Bronze Star.

The Bronze Star Medal based on the award of the CIB or CMB before July 1, 1947, may be requested by letter application submitted to, National Personnel Records Center Medal Section NRPMA-M., 9700 Page Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63132-5100.

Hi Billy! Lorraine & I Hope Minie is recovering well from her illness Lorraine sends her love, & she is in our prayers every day. Billy would you happen to know anyone who served with the 3d Engr Medical Detachment? When we were moving out of Taejon I sustained an injury to my left hand, there is no entry in the H/S Co morning report which means my Sgt neglected to notify the 1st Sgt, However I remember the medical officer Capt Morrison telling the Aidman to mark in the BOOK after checking nobody seems to know what book they were talking about, so I am hoping someone will know the name of or what the book was called and if it was kept by the Detachment, if this is correct then I may be able to obtain a copy from the National Archives.

Thanks,
Bill Boyden

Bacil B. Steed. of Canberra Australia, writes, "Almost given up on Norman Aammes (1Lt. USAR. INF. at Camp Crouch.

The Taro Leaf has been, over the years, so good in locating "mates" as they say here!"

6th TANK Battalion



April 6, 2004

Dear Billy:

While at Ft. Knox I volunteered for Korea but an unfortunate hand grenade mishap on the range as a training officer delayed my orders. Finally shipped out of San Francisco on the Marine Phoenix and 19 days later landed at Sasebo, Japan. We picked up field gear and stored personal items and reboarded the ship for Inchon Harbor. A couple of days at Yung Dong Po and ordered to 6th Tank Hq. Assigned as Hq Tank Section Leader, Maint. Officer, CBR Officer, Aviation Officer, Mess Officer, T.I.&E Officer, and VD Control Officer. (Kept me busy for a 2d Lt.)

In the fall of '53 we shipped on LST's from Pusan to Japan and up to Camp Fuji. While at Yokahama Ordnance Depot picking up newly repaired M-46 Tanks I had an opportunity to spend some time in Tokyo and act as a tourist.

Between Active and Reserve duty I put in 30 Years and was always proud to wear the Taro Leaf on my right shoulder. God bless all the Taro Leafers!

Sincerely, ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "George F. Seiferth Jr.".

George F. Seiferth Jr. Colonel -
Inf. Ret'd Life Member

PS. Had some happy times in Fayetteville. Also both of my sons are VMI grads and the oldest just made the Colonel's list- also an Armor guy, so he keeps me informed.





"We took to the water to avoid mines.
The Intel Officer gave me the pictures"
~Bill Burns



Firing up the Country side 1951

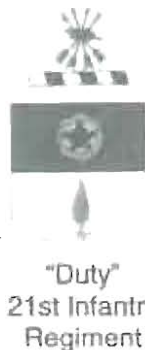
Battery "D" 1st Platoon 1st Section 2nd Squad



All Photos Submitted By ~ William "Bill" Burns



Battery "D" 1st Platoon, 4th Section 1st Squad



Hugh Brown Remembered

"Hugh Brown is not an officer, he is a commissioned sergeant." These words of praise were from First Lieutenant Carl F. Bernard, Company L, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, during the early days of Korean War. It is hoped that statement is used as my epitaph." So begins "REMEMBERED", Hugh Browns account of his Love Company experiences in Korea.

CHOCHIWON

excerpted from "Remembered" by Hugh Brown

Eleven July 1950: In the Miho River Valley, the fog was so thick you could not see the road. We could hear tanks and men marching. The sound of tanks and men marching stopped, and a bugle call was sounded which I shall never forget in ten thousand years. It was beautiful and at the same time, frightening. One of the men, Private Nolen, in my squad said it was the charge of the light brigade. I'm sure it was because when you repeated half a league forward, it fit the bugle call.

Tommy Farr called to me that Private Barrett was dead. Farr and Barrett had dug in a two-man fox hole. Farr asked me to come over and look at Barrett. I helped Farr get Barrett out of the fox hole and inspected him but could not find any marks or whatever. Tommy thought Barrett died of fright. We put Barrett back in the fox hole and Tommy came with me to my hole. I had taken Barrett's M-1 rifle, belt, and bandolier ammo because I did not find any carbine ammo the night before.

Because of the higher elevation, this gun was actually firing into some of the other platoon's fox holes. I put my squad less two men that did not follow my instructions into a wash that was on the ridge. Other men from the Third Platoon were in the wash also. About this time Lieutenant Mitchell showed up asking me if I'd seen the Third Platoon sergeant. I told him the last time I saw the sergeant was early yesterday.

I wanted Lieutenant Mitchell to get our 60 mortars to fire on the machine gun. Lieutenant Mitchell wanted to be sure that I had the correct location of this machine gun. He asked me to go back up the ridge line with him so that he could see the exact location of the machine gun himself. We started on our bellies and had gone maybe 20 yards up the ridge line when he said, Sergeant, this is silly crawling on our bellies. My reply was, no sir, those bullets are only two or three feet above us. His reply was, bullshit, and he started to get to his feet and was struck in the chest and knocked down.

Orville Musick, came over the top of the wash on his belly and helped me get Lieutenant Mitchell back to the wash. Two men went with Lieutenant Mitchell helping him on his way back to the L Company CP.

By this time it was twenty or so minutes after the bugle call and you could hear firing on our left, but we had not received any fire or seen any enemies. The ground to my right and also my rear was about 20 or 30 feet higher in elevation than my fox hole. This higher ground was covered with small trees. Suddenly on my right flank a North Korean came down out of the small trees and he stopped perhaps 10 yards from my fox hole. He looked as surprised as I was, then someone called from my rear and the enemy started at an angle up to my rear. By that time both Tommy Farr and I began firing at his back until he disappeared.

Tommy was watching to our rear and I looked to our front. Abruptly a line of little holes appeared in the dirt on the outside of my fox hole. Then I heard the snap of the bullets passing inches away from my right ear. During World War III had learned to judge the distance that bullets travel passing my body. Tommy and I both had dropped to the bottom of the hole. Tommy asked if I was hit, and I said, no, but we were leaving, so stay close.

Raymond Brown was short, not over 5 foot 4 tall. Brown was not in my squad but looked calm, cool, and collected. I showed Brown the location of the machine gun and I asked him to go to the L Company CP and have our 60 mortars fire on that area the last round to be white smoke or phosphorus. We'd taken the high ground. I had him repeat the message and he did so correctly. I sent him on his way.

In less than three minutes, Ray Brown was back and said I had best come with him and look at something. Just over the ridge line and looking to our left at an elevation about four feet lower than our location stood a man I thought to be an officer looking through field glasses. Sitting on the ground beside him with a light machine gun, a gunner was firing towards Love Company CP area. The man standing had a shiny belt buckle. I told Brown to aim at the belt buckle and on my count of three squeeze off a round. I counted to three, Ray hit the officer, and he went down like a sack of potatoes. The gunner looked around at this officer and I shot him in the chest and he did a back flip.

We went down the line of my squad's fox holes and I told the men each to follow me because an enemy machine gun was on the high ground to our rear. This machine gun on the right flank was firing down the whole front of L Company

Ray and I went back to the wash and I counted 17 of us who I told we were leaving. We would go down across the road, railroad, and river, and that I was sure some of the 24th Infantry Division would be on the ridge across the river.

All went well until we reached the road. Sitting on the road headed south was a T-34 tank. The turret and its 85 cannon was turned and pointing up the little draw off the road that ran past L Company CP.

I explained to the men that we had only once chance of crossing the road alive. That was for all to cross at the same time. I lined them up along the road saying I would count out loud to three and on three go like hell across the road and jump off the bank towards the railroad then off the railroad to the river.

Before I could count to three, three men dropped their weapons before going back up the hill with their hands up above their heads, called to others to drop their weapons and join them to surrender. One called out, if you listen to that sergeant, he'll get you all killed. At that time killing those three cowards would have been a pleasure if doing so would not have alerted the bow gunner in the T-34 tank.

On the loud count of three, seven men crossed the road. Ray Brown had short legs and fell about halfway across. I reached back and caught his hand about the same time the bow gunner in the tank opened up on Ray. Pulling Ray into the briar patch, I found that his right leg was just about shot off. I gave him first aid and told him I would have to leave him. He said, that's all right, sergeant, just give me a grenade, maybe I'll be able to take a couple of them with me.

Down on the railroad tracks, I looked at the river about 15 feet below me. The bank was rip-rap stone work. Starting down, I fell and slid into the water, losing my steel helmet.

Farr and Musick were waiting for me. I told them I watched a man trying to cross the river and that machine gun would hit the water on his right side and the man would turn left. If the machine gun bullets was hitting on his left side, he would turn to his right. When the machine gun bullets would hit in front of him, he'd stop and I think was then hit and fell over in the water. The plan I gave to Farr and Musick was Musick would run downstream across the river at a 45 degree angle from us. I would run at a 45 degree angle up and across. Because Farr was in the best physical shape, his route would be the shortest but the most dangerous, going straight across as hard and fast as he could run. We would go on the count of three. 'Remember, do not turn or stop until you reach concealment.' We could see bushes across the river, it was about 250 yards.

On the count of three we all started. The water in the river was deeper than it looked. About a third of the way across I stepped into a deep hole and went in over my head. I let go of the M-1 rifle and continued the crossing. Our luck

held. Only one machine gunner was firing at us. That gunner could not make up his mind who to shoot at. First at me then Farr and over at Musick, then return to me, then Farr and back to Musick. By the third cycle around of firing I made the bushes on the far side of the river. Farr had made it across ahead of me and he went into the bushes downstream about a hundred yards.

Looking back across the river, we could see a hundred or more American prisoners marching on the road south with a few enemy infantry and one T-34 tank following.

When I returned to the lot which was a straggler collecting point, Tommy Farr had a poncho, two wool blankets and a case of "C" rations, all of which he had borrowed.

Just as it was getting dark, we were ordered to move to the field outside of Chochiwon. We walked about 30 minutes to a field by a road. Twelve July, I awoke from the best night of sleep that I'd had since 5 July in the hall park in Pusan. A captain from regimental headquarters asked us to talk with a newspaper reporter. His name was Keyes Beech and he worked for the Chicago Daily News Foreign Service.

Let's have the Reunion in YOUR city!

Quartermaster 24 IDA

Supply Price List

Control #	Item	Description	Price Ea	Control #	Item	Description	Price Ea
1	24 ID Colored Patch		\$3.00	41	19 th Lapel Pin		\$5.00
2	24 ID Colored Patch		5.00	42	24 ID License Plate (new) w/TL		6.00
3	24 ID Black Cap w/Patch		10.00	43	Desert Storm Cap – Black		12.00
4	24 ID White Cap w/Patch	First to Fight	10.00	44	Desert Storm Hat Pin		3.00
5	24 ID Window Sticker	2" x 3"	2.00	45	WWII Veteran's Cap	Black w/CIB	12.00
6	24 ID Decal	4"	3.00	46	Korean War Veteran's Cap	Black w/CIB	12.00
7	Bolo Tie w/TL Gold		15.00	47	Bumper Sticker-CIB		3.00
	W/Gold or Black Chain			48	Bumper Sticker –		3.00
8	Bolo Tie w/TL Silver		16.00	49	Proudly Served w/TL		3.00
	Silver w/TL Silver			50	6 th Tank BN Cloth Patch	Cloth Patch	5.00
9	Belt Buckle w/TL		15.00	51	Purple Heart Medal	HP-754	3.00
	Gold or Silver Belt Buckle			52	Bronze Star Medal	HP-926	3.00
10	29 th INF Cloth Patch (Color)		5.00	53	Good Conduct Medal	HP-927	3.00
11	24 Sig BN Unit Crest		5.00	54	Korean Service Medal	HP-929	3.00
12	19 th Ing Crest		5.00	55	Natl. Defense Service Medal	HP-957	3.00
	Current Issue \$10 Pr			56	Victory Medal	HP-958	3.00
13	21 st Inf Crest		5.00	57	Silver Star Medal	HP-959	3.00
	Current Issue \$10 Pr			58	ETO Campaign Medal	HP-962	3.00
14	34 th Inf Crest		5.00	59	DFC	HP-965	3.00
	Current Issue \$10 Pr			60	Korean 8000 Missing	HP-115	3.00
15	11 th FA Crest	\$10 pr	5.00	61	CMB 1 st Award	HP-569	3.00
16	13 th FA Crest	\$10 pr	5.00	62	US Flag Clutch Back	HP (V-37)	3.00
17	19 th Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	63	24 th Medical Bn Crest		10.00
18	21 st Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	64	Pacific Campaign Medal	HP-963	3.00
19	34 th Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	65	American Campaign Medal	HP-964	3.00
20	11 th FA Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	66	Army of Occupation Medal	HP-051	3.00
21	13 th FA Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	67	Meritorious Service Medal	HP-056	3.00
22	24 ID Crest		5.00	68	UN Service Medal	HP-059	3.00
23	21 st Inf Lapel Pin		5.00	69	Philippine Liberation	HP-361	3.00
24	34 th Inf Lapel Pin		5.00	70	Korean Service Ribbon	HP-099	3.00
25	CIB (1 st Award) 1-1346 (Mini)		5.00	71	Air Medal	HP-925	3.00
	Mini DRESS MESS			72	DSC Harpin	HP-308	3.00
26	CIB (2 nd Award) 1-1347 (Mini)		6.50	73	Bring 'Em Home/Back	HP-214	3.00
	Mini DRESS MESS			74	American Defense Medal	HP	3.00
27	CIB Lapel Pin		5.00	75	Vietnam Service Medal	HP	3.00
28	19 th Cap Dark Blue/Crest		10.00	76	24 ID Harpin		3.00
29	21 st Cap White/Embroidered/Crest		12.00	77	24 ID Tie-Regular		20.00
30	21 st Cap Dar Blue /Embroidered Crest		12.00	78	24 ID Flag, 3x5 Screen Print	Outdoor Flag	55.00
31	34 th Cap Dark Blue w/Crest		10.00	79	63 rd Field Artillery	Cloth Patch	5.00
32	24 IDA Cap Dark Blue w/Patch		10.00	80	Army Commendation Medal	HP	3.00
33	Cap w/TL, Red or White GERMANY		12.00	81	Soldiers Medal	HP	3.00
34	24 IDA Red or White Caps		10.00	82	POW Medal	HP	3.00
35	24 ID Green Cap (Patch)		10.00		Armed Forces Reserve Medal		3.00
36	24 ID White Mesh Cap		10.00	83	1 st Decal 24 ID		.10
37	3 rd Eng. Crest		5.00		Sell 12 for \$1.00		
38	14 th Eng. Crest		5.00	84	24 th Christmas Cards	10 ca. Packet	8.00
39	5 th RCT Pocket Patch		5.00	85	World War II Tapes (starts Australia)		15.00
40	5 th RCT Cap, Red		10.00	86	24 ID Neck Wallets		4.00

Quartermaster, 24th IDA

Frances Wittman

1385 Terri Street

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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.

To the Members: Our beloved Quartermaster, Harry Wittman, died on March 1, 2004. During his illness, Harry's wife Frances, always by his side at Reunions, continued to perform all of the Quartermaster's duties. Frances has graciously consented to keep this very important job for the present time. Orders may be sent to her address above. We thank you Frances, for all the work that you have done, and for what you are continuing to do for our 24th IDA. All of his Taro Leaf Brothers will miss Harry; Life Member, Quartermaster, Verbeck Bowl Recipient and a Dear Friend. Victory Division ~ First to Fight

EXIT LAUGHING (or Crying)

Andy Capp

by Reg Sn



NEWSPAPER MISPRINTS

A transplant surgeon has called for a ban on "kidneys-for-ale" operations.

The extinction may have occurred when a steroid hit the earth.

Wanted: 50 girls for stripping machine operators in factory.

Stock up and save. Limit: one.

Our experienced mom will care for your child. Fenced yard, meals and smacks included.

NJ judge to rule on nude beach

Child's stool great for garden use

The all-girl orchestra was rather weak in the bras section.

Alzheimer center prepares for affair to remember.



Due to the popularity of the Survivor shows, UNC-TV is planning to do its own, entitled "*Survivor: Carolina Style*." The contestants will start in Charlotte, travel up to Asheville and on to Boone. From there, they will head over to Morganton and over to High Point and Winston-Salem. They will then proceed down to Raleigh and Knightdale. Then back down through Greenville, Jacksonville, Lumberton -- up to Fayetteville, Rockingham and back over to Charlotte.

Each will be driving a pink Volvo with New Jersey license plates and large bumper stickers that read: 'I'm Gay,' 'I'm a Vegetarian,' 'NASCAR Sucks,' 'Go Yankces!', 'Smoking is for Idiots,' 'Hillary in 2004,' 'Deer Hunting is Murder' and 'I'm Here to Confiscate Your Guns!'

The first one that makes it back to Charlotte alive, wins!

Time to check your Dues Date!

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Researchers Steven Potter (Georgia Tech) and Guy Ben-Ary (University of Western Australia, Perth) have created a robotic "arm" that makes a painter's rudimentary brush strokes at Ben-Ary's lab, directed over the Internet by its "brain" (composed of 50,000 rat neurons in a petri dish) in Potter's lab, according to a July report from BBC News. According to Potter, the brain is not yet classically "intelligent" but does "adapt" (i.e., experience less chaos) and thus strokes more smoothly over time.

More Things to Worry About

The 2003 valedictorian of Alcee Fortier Senior High School in New Orleans failed (for the fifth time) the state's mandatory exit exam, and she cannot graduate until she passes (August).

And workers tearing down the reactors at the old Hanford, Wash., nuclear reservation discovered dozens of radioactive nests of mud dauber wasps, but so far no wasp had mutated into a monster (August).

And the district attorney of Watauga County, N.C., frustrated at the light sentences judges hand down for methamphetamine producers, announced that he will begin to charge defendants instead (via a recent anti-terrorism law) with manufacturing a "nuclear or chemical weapon" (August).

Least Competent Criminals

At the Amoco station on Route 59 In Spring Valley, N.Y., on June 22, an unidentified man twice jumped on the counter and shouted, demanding that the clerk hand over money, but twice the clerk pushed him off, and the man finally gave up and left.

And in August in Delray Beach, Fla., a man tried to carjack Larry Klein, 53, who is disabled, but Klein repeatedly jabbed at the man out the window with one of his crutches, and he finally ran away.

Compelling Explanations

From a Jan. 1 police report in the Gainesville (Fla.) Sun: A motorist who was clocked at 15 mph over the speed limit in Waldo, Fla., claimed that since state troopers' policy is to give a 5 mph leeway before ticketing, and since Waldo police often claim to give a 10 mph leeway, he thought the two leeway speeds could be combined to allow him to drive 15 mph over the limit.

And in the Last Month

Three teenagers with paintball guns terrorized kids on a playground until they fired into the wrong group of kids, one of whom returned fire with a real gun, wounding two paintballers (Pittsburgh).

Chuck Shepherd,
News of the Weird (Weird News@earthlink.net)



Ragged Old Flag

I walked through a county courthouse square,
On a park bench an old man was sitting there.
I said, Your old courthouse is kinda run down.
He said, Naw, it'll do for our little town.

I said, Your flagpole has leaned a little bit,
And that's a Ragged Old Flag you got hanging on it.
He said, Have a seat, and I sat down.
Is this the first time you've been to our little town?

I said, I think it is. He said, I don't like to brag,
But we're kinda proud of that Ragged Old Flag.
You see, we got a little hole in that flag there
When Washington took it across the Delaware.

And it got a bad rip in New Orleans
With Packingham and Jackson tuggin' at its seams.

And it almost fell at the Alamo
Beside the Texas flag, but she waved on though.

She got cut with a sword at Chancellorsville
And she got cut again at Shiloh Hill.
There was Robert E. Lee, Beauregard, and Bragg,
And the south wind blew hard on that Ragged Old Flag.

On Flanders Field in World War I
She got a big hole from a Bertha gun.
She turned blood red in World War II
She hung limp and low a time or two.

She was in Korea and Vietnam.
She went where she was sent by her Uncle Sam.
She waved from our ships upon the briny foam,
And now they've about quit waving her back here at home.

In her own good land she's been abused --
She's been burned, dishonored, denied and refused.
And the government for which she stands
Is scandalized throughout the land.

And she's getting threadbare and wearing thin,
But she's in good shape for the shape she's in.
'Cause she's been through the fire before
And I believe she can take a whole lot more.

So we raise her up every morning, Take her down every
night.
We don't let her touch the ground And we fold her up right.
On second thought I DO like to brag,
'Cause I'm mighty proud of that Ragged Old Flag.

Written by Johnny Cash
One nation "UNDER GOD" indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

24th Infantry Division Association

Secretary/Treasurer

Norm Dixon – 21st Inf.

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