

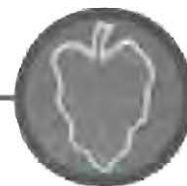
Taro Leaf



FIRST TO FIGHT



24th Infantry Division Association



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REUNION 2005

September 21 - September 24
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Articles Submissions

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

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Deadline to Editor ~~~~~Publication Date

15	April	2005	May	2005	Spring
15	July	2005	August	2005	Summer
15	October	2005	November	2005	Fall
15	January	2006	February	2006	Winter

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Chaplain's Corner

John 3:16

A little boy was selling newspapers on the corner. The people were in and out of the cold. The little boy was so cold that he wasn't trying to sell many papers. He walked up to a policeman and said, "Mister, you wouldn't happen to know where a poor boy could find a warm place to sleep tonight would you? You see, I sleep in a box up around the corner there and down the alley and it's awful cold in there for tonight. Sure would be nice to have a warm place to stay."

The policeman looked down at the little boy and said, "You go down the street to that big white house and you knock on the door. When they come out the door you just say John 3:16, and they will let you in." So he did. He walked up the steps and knocked on the door, and a lady answered. He looked up and said, "John 3:16." The lady said, "Come on in, Son." She took him in and she sat him down in a split bottom rocker in front of a great big fireplace, and she went off. The boy sat there for a while and thought to himself: John 3:16... I don't understand it, but it sure makes a cold boy warm.

Later she came back and asked him "Are you hungry?" He said, "Well, just a little. I haven't eaten in a couple of days, and I guess I could stand a little bit of food." The lady took him in the kitchen and sat him down to a table full of wonderful food. He ate and ate until he couldn't eat any more. Then he thought to himself: John 3:16... Boy, I sure don't understand it but it sure makes a hungry boy full.

She took him upstairs to a bathroom to a huge bathtub filled with warm water, and he sat there and soaked for a while. As he soaked, he thought to himself: John 3:16... I sure don't understand it, but it sure makes a dirty Boy clean. You know, I've not had a bath, a real bath, in my whole life. The only bath I ever had was when I stood in front of that big fire hydrant as they flushed it out. The lady came in and got him. She took him to a room, tucked him into a big old feather bed, pulled the covers up around his neck, kissed him goodnight and turned out the lights. As he lay in the darkness and looked out the window at the snow coming down on that cold night, he thought to himself: John 3:16... I don't understand it but it sure makes a tired boy rested.

The next morning the lady came back up and took him down again to that same big table full of food. After he ate, she took him back to that same big old split bottom rocker in front of the fireplace and picked up a big Bible. She sat down in front of him and looked into his young face. "Do you understand John 3:16?" she asked gently. He replied, "No, Ma'am, I don't. The first time I ever heard it was last night when the policeman told me to use it." She opened the Bible to John 3:16 and began to explain to him about Jesus. Right there, in front of that big old fireplace, he gave his heart and life to Jesus. He sat there and thought: John 3:16... don't understand it, but it sure makes a lost boy feel safe.

John 3:16 - For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

You know, I have to confess I don't understand it either, how God was willing to send His Son to die for me, and how Jesus would agree to do such a thing. I don't understand the agony of the Father and every angel in heaven as they watched Jesus suffer and die. I don't understand the intense love for me that kept Jesus on the cross till the end. I don't understand it, but it sure does make life worth living.

History of WWII Gets the Latino Perspective

By Jose Cardenas (Times Staff Writer)

*"It's good they're interviewing us because we're old.
When we die, the history is going to go with us."*



A dozen WWII veterans, willing to share their distant memories, arrive punctually this spring Saturday morning to be interviewed at the East Los Angeles Veterans Center.

The Purple Hearts and Silver Stars pinned to the chest of the old soldiers, all bearing Spanish surnames, hint at the tales they'll tell. In small rooms, in front of a video camera, each veteran drifts back to the war, sharing stories of battle, of friendship and sometimes of racism.

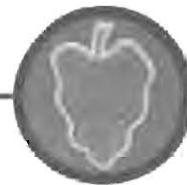
As the veterans speak, their stories are captured as part of an oral history project being conducted by the University of Texas at Austin to paint a full sociological portrait of Latino and Latina military personnel before, during and after World War II.

Some gravitated toward other Spanish-speaking soldiers overseas. For spiritual support their parents back home leaned on their Roman Catholic faith. When the soldiers returned, some saw themselves in a new light: They were no longer "Mexicans" — how many men, and society, perceived themselves before the war. Now they saw themselves as "Mexican Americans."

"When I went into the service, I didn't have the feelings that I acquired when I was in the war."

Jesse Nava Faced a tough decision as squad leader in the 24th Infantry Division while in a foxhole in the Philippines: whether to help a critically injured buddy with his wish to die.

24th Infantry Division Association



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and thereby be affiliated with the
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REMARKS _____

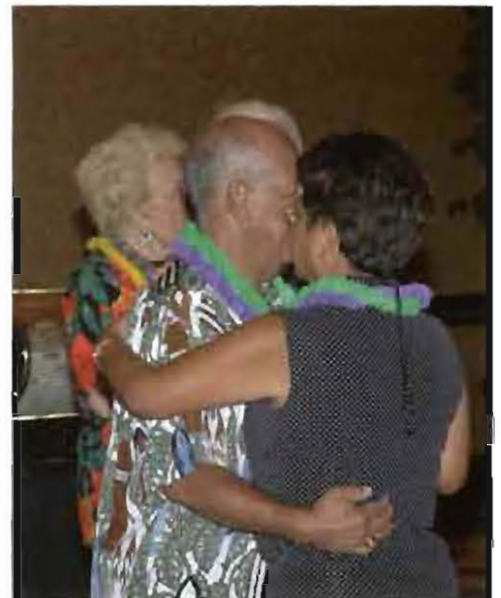
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Enlisting in Association

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

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"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: _____





Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

New Member **Bob Witerrock**, signed up and got two more to enlist with him. (**Akira Tamuar**, 34th Regt. and **Katsumi Yaguar**, 21st Regt. That's the spirit! Bob, Akira, Katsumi, now send me some photos.

~ Billy (Editor)

"Dan Valles was a lifetime member of the 24th Infantry Division Association. He attended all reunions of the association until 2003 when cancer made it impossible to attend.

Dan was the Platoon Sergeant when I was the Platoon Leader in Company K 34th Infantry Regt. on the invasion of Leyte, October 1944. He was with Company K, 34th Infantry until the Japanese surrender.

He was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star with one cluster, The Combat Infantry Medal, Philippine Liberation and Unit Citation"

~ Paul Cain, 34th Regt.

In Case You Missed It The First Time

The American Battle Monuments Commission has introduced an online registry for American World War II veterans. The registry is a part of the National World War II Memorial located in Washington, DC. The Memorial was dedicated in July 2004. Veterans can register via the Memorial's Web site: <http://www.wwiimemorial.com> and by clicking on the WWII Registry link or by calling (800) 639 - 4WW2 (4992). Any American who served in the armed forces or supported the war effort at home is eligible to be listed.

Submitted By ~ Jim Hill, 19th INF

ATTENTION 24TH IDA MEMBERS

Please send all changes of address to our Secretary/Treasurer, Norm Dixon
16849 W. Villagio Drive
Surprise, AZ 85387-7565
Tel. 623-266-1479
Fax. 623-266-1482
Email: NDixon24th@aol.com

West Coast Mini-Reunion

Sunday 4/17/05 – Wednesday 4/20/05

Will be held at the Ramada Express Hotel in Laughlin, NV 89028.

Rooms will be \$16.00 per night. Use Contract #9783 when calling for your reservations at 1-800-243-6846. Our dinner choices are *Chicken or Beef*, the cost is \$30.00 each meal.

Airport Shuttle available: Ask for times when you make your reservation.

Please contact Dan and Beverly Rickert for more information. Their new address is 28099 Calle Valdes, Mission Viejo, CA 92692, (949) 215-7553

Check Your Dues Date on the back of your Taro Leaf

The poem used in this issue of the Taro Leaf TAPS appeared in The Imjin Line. The newsletter from the United Kingdom. They keep up with their Korean buddies as our Taro Leaf does for us. It was submitted by **Ron Larby**

NOTICE:

A member from Washington State sent \$400.00 to **C.B. Mason** as a donation to the plaque placed at the Admiral Nimitz Museum of the Pacific War. C.B. Has misplaced the member's name. Please write, phone or Email me so that we may give you credit for your donation in the next issue of Taro Leaf.

~ Billy, Editor

Corrections

(Page 43, Vol. 58, No. 4) **Harold Aberle**, 26th AAA tells us that he took the photos at the top of the page, but not the others. Please let us know if you sent them, so that we may give you credit in the next Taro Leaf.

(Page 15, Vol. 52, No. 4) photo credit should be **Marion Williams**, "I" Co., 21st INF.

(Page 14, Vol. 58, No. 4) (Page 33, Vol. 56, No. 3) **Scott Defebaugh** has written that Harold Montgomery's nephew is posing for the photo, which was taken by Scott. We listed Scott as being in the photo. Thank you Scott. Sending corrections is a good thing, keeps us on our toes.

The cover photo for Vol. 58, No 4 was also submitted by **Robert Maher**, 3rd "C" ENGR

A big Taro Leaf apology to all members for printing this photo twice. We need to set up a better sorting and filing system. Stacks of papers on my desk does not seem to work at times. ~ Billy



Hear Ye! Hear Ye! (Cont.)

Release No. 03-04-04

Congress authorizes Korean Defense Service Medal

Criteria for the award of and procedures to claim entitlement to the Korean Defense Service Medal, (KDSM) authorized by Congress, were announced in March. The new medal, said Pentagon spokeswoman, is America's way "of recognizing the tremendous accomplishments of service members who served in Korea from July 28, 1954 to a future undetermined date."

To qualify for the medal, service members must have served in support of the defense of the Republic of Korea. The area of eligibility encompasses all land area of the Republic of Korea, and the contiguous water out to 12 nautical miles and all air spaces above the land and water areas.

Service members must have been assigned, attached or mobilized to units operating in the area of eligibility and have been physically deployed in the area of eligibility for 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive days or meet one of the following criteria:

Have been engaged in actual combat during an armed engagement, regardless of the time in the area of eligibility. Was wounded or injured in the line of duty and required medical evacuation from the area of eligibility; and participated as a regularly assigned air crew member flying sorties into, out of, within or over the area of eligibility in support of a military operations. Each day that one or more sorties were flown in accordance with these criteria counts as one day toward the 30 or 60-day requirement.

Personnel who served in operations and exercises conducted in the area of eligibility are considered eligible for the award as long as the basic time criteria is met.

Due to the extensive time period for medal eligibility, the nonconsecutive service period for eligibility remains cumulative throughout the entire period.

The military may award the medal posthumously. Only one award of the medal is authorized for any individual. According to DoD, more than 40,000 service members have been on South Korean land or adjacent waters each year since the July 1953 cease-fire establishing the DMZ.

Retired members and veterans who meet the eligibility (or the next of kin in the case of those now deceased) must request the award from the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St Louis. The address is: listed below:

NPRC

9700 Page Avenue

St. Louis MO 63132-5100

The web address is <http://vetrecs.archives.gov>

Once entitlement has been verified, NPRC will update the KDSM to the DD form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, and authorize issuance of a medal. Requests should include documents clearly proving service and dates in Korea, such as TDY/PCS orders, performance reports, letter of evaluations, flight records, decoration citation, record review RIP, medical documents, or DD form 214 (discharge form).

Final approval of individual application may take quite a while because of the expected large number of individuals applying for the medal. The KDSM should also be available

for purchase at Army and Air Force Exchange Service Clothing Sales facilities in three to six months.

Questions should be addressed to, and only to, the NPRC Customer Service Center at (314) 801-0800.

Information obtained from the May-Aug 04 North Carolina Retired Army Personnel Bulletin

Billy, Just like I told you that because of you and the Taro Leaf magazine, I was able to get in touch with and old friends that was with (me) in Co. "H", 19th Inf. Regt., 24th Inf. Div. We both went to Korea at the very beginning of the war. He resides in Honolulu and we both been writing each other and remembering sad and happy memories.

My friend, you and your staff are doing a great job and it is because of you that old buddies find each other after 54 years.

God Bless, **Jose Muñoz**, 19th Inf

Convention Elects Michigan Legionnaire To Top Office

Thomas P. Cadmus, 58, a 38-year member of the American Legion from Ypsilanti, Michigan, was elected National Commander during the closing session of the Legions 86th annual National Convention in Nashville, September 2, 2004.



A retired Ford Motor Company employee, Cadmus served as an armored reconnaissance specialist in the United States Army during the Vietnam Era.

Cadmus belongs to many civic and fraternal organizations, including the Elks, the 24th Infantry Division Association, AMVETS and the Loyal Order of the Moose.

"Thought you may be interested" ~ Bob
Submitted By ~ **Bob Newkirk**, 21st Inf

I received my Taro Leaf and it was well received. I hope you are feeling well. I have a suggestion for the Quartermaster 24th Supply Price List. Would it help sales if we published photos of some articles such as hats, etc., in color. It may help sales. But please keep the supply list for reference. Please excuse my writing, I have just had eye surgery, but coming along fine.

Thank You,

Delmar Dickson, Sr., 21st Inf
10005 Crane Lane
Middle River, MD, 21220-1429

What a great idea Delmar. I'll take photos of our supplies and include them in the next Taro Leaf.

~ Billy

A Page For Artillerymen

(All others please turn to the next page.)

Ah, those magnificent Mortars!

If you have done any visiting of Revolutionary or Civil War battle areas you could not help but see mortar emplacements. Why??? Mortars of those eras were woefully ineffective against advancing troops or cavalry. The high, arching trajectories and long time-of-flights made time fuse almost useless, and for advancing troops you need guns that will fire directly into the ranks, not balls falling straight down. So what, then, what were those mortars good for?



Use #1= Ships:

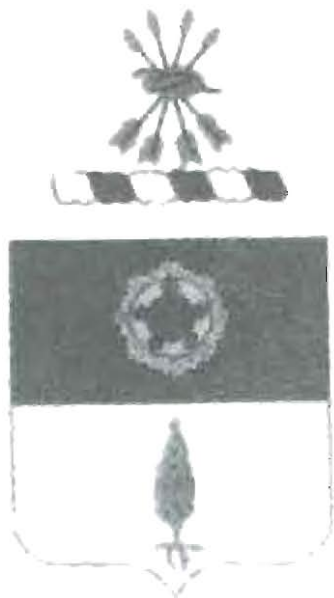
Hit a ship in the side with a cannon ball and most certainly ghastly damage will occur, but drop a cannon ball from above and it will go through the deck, through the ship and out the bottom. Result -- one sunk ship. The Navy recognized this and on some of their ships the front mast was removed and two 10" mortars emplaced therein.

Use #2 = Siege:

Dropping steel cannon balls down inside castle or city walls was jolly good sport. Caused all manner of hell with the occupants therein.

Confederates used mortars very little, but Union forces used them quite effectively. Pictured above is the 13 inch Union "Dictator." It fired a 200 pound ball 2 1/2 miles. But the majority of "mortar work" was with 8 and 10 inchers -- they were easier to handle and could fire faster.

Dutch Nelson



Is your Crest missing?

If it is, it means no one from your unit made a submission for your unit page to the Taro Leaf.

Please, submit your items by 15 April 2005 to be considered for the May 2005 Taro Leaf.

~Editor

19th Infantry Regiment



19th Infantry
Regiment

Korea 1950 - 1951



Two H. Co guys from Michigan, "Playing Soldiers"
Left, Don Worgess, Right, Robert Burl.



Going North, June 1951



3. Spring Cleaning, Left to Right: #1. ???, #2 A. Menchaca,
#3. D. Worgess, #4 C. Jackson

We were unable to identify some of the men in these photos. If you recognize a buddy, or if you see yourself, please let us know. ~ Editor



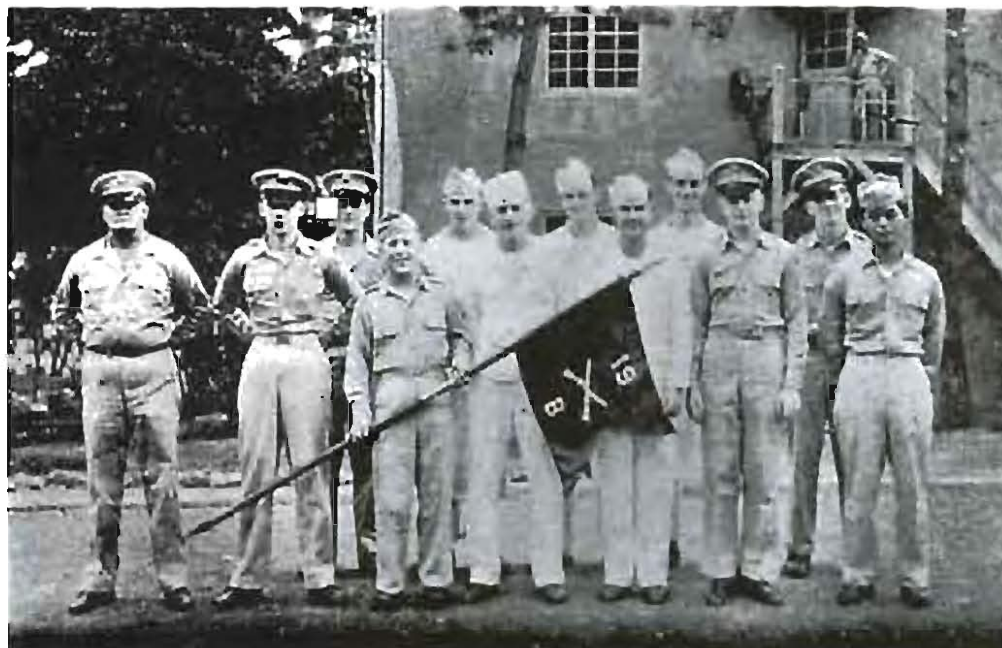
4. Look what we got ! May 1951 HQ Co.
Left to Right: ???, C. Jackson, ???, Doc



This money was taken from a North Korean captive.



Note date on back of bill - 1947



Lt. Albert M. Leavitt
Commanding

B Co.

19th Inf.
24th ID



M/Sgt. Hobson J. Roberts
First Sergeant

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Donald Worley
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Archie Yarbrough
William Zippiere

RECRUITS

William F. Borch
Charles Horgan

A Grandpa's War Story

I had a rendezvous with my front line unit on top of a hill "X" during the summer of 1951. Upon arriving, my squad leader, a redhead Sgt. Riddle told me to start digging a foxhole right away on the rocky slope of the forbidding terrain. I learned later that they have just secured the hill with some casualties a few minutes ago and the absolute order was to hold our position at all costs until the next two days when we were to attack another objective on the next hill beyond.

I muttered to myself, this is quite a contrast to my life style from the day before. The motor pool platoon had all the luxury of hot meals, movies and cozy sleeping bag and safe from the battlefield. I enjoyed such amenities since I joined them at the Pusan Perimeter during January 1951.

Why did I request for a front line unit transfer? My ego was badly bruised by such menial job like being a gasoline attendant. What will I tell my future sons and grandchildren when they ask me what I did during the Korean War?

1st Platoon, Co. "A", 1st Bn. 19th Rgt. 24th Inf. Division, that was my new outfit. Then I had the chance to fire my M-1 rifle and I was ready for a new adventure. My first concern, was how to protect the bundle of love letters that my sweetheart wrote me since my training days at Fort Ord California in June 1950. I wrapped them up in a flimsy cellophane, tucked them in my innermost pocket, but not enough to shield them from the mud and rain whenever I hit the ground for cover

A soldier in battle participation can develop a full surge of emotions in his love letters--his expression reflect the profound depth of passionate feelings due to his "Divine Inspiration"--his faithful sweetheart he left behind. Here's a sample. "I don't mind the bitter cold of Korea because in your embrace, there is warmth and comfort to me. I don't mind the hard, frozen ground because your lips are soft for me to kiss. I don't mind the rain and dark cloudy skies `cause in your smile, there is sunshine which can transform all of the adverse weather conditions into a perfect day for me."

After several days of climbing one hill after another, the soldier became experienced as a seasoned combat infantryman. My Platoon Sergeant Lopez offered me a Corporal's stripes if I could handle a Browning automatic rifle for the next two weeks. I thought it was a bargain and everybody encouraged me because of the needed firepower in our Squad. They did not tell me that I should always be the target of concentrated enemy fire. But, *no sweat*, I survived, cheesecake, no sweat, God heard my prayers and I got my promotion.

Now I have two sons, Philip and Kevin, four grandchildren, David, Michaela, Ben and Gabriel I can relate my war stories and have a Silver Star to dazzle them with. Then they can all say, "Our grandpa is really a Sergeant First Class Soldier".

Submitted by: **Prudencio E. Rumbaoa**, Sergeant First Class
1st Platoon, Company a, 1st Battalion, 19th Rgt.
24th Infantry, Victory Division
January to September 1951 - Korean War

21128 S. Menlo Ave.,
Torrance, Ca. 90502, Phone: 310-320-0108

HEADQUARTERS 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION

GENERAL ORDERS

14 AUGUST 1951

AWARD OF THE SILVER STAR --- BY DIRECTION OF THE PRESIDENT UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT OF CONGRESS, APPROVED AND PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY, THE SILVER STAR FOR GALLANTRY IN ACTION IS AWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING ENLISTED MEN ;

CORPORAL PRUDENCIO E. RUMBAOA, RA 29 044 898, INFANTRY, UNITED STATES ARMY, A MEMBER OF COMPANY A, 19TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION, DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF BY COURAGEOUS ACTION NEAR CHAECH'I-HYON, KOREA ON 3 JUNE 1951. HIS COMPANY WAS ATTACKING WITH THE MISSION OF SECURING A VERY HIGH AND STEEP SIDED HILL FROM AN ESTIMATED REINFORCED ENEMY FORCES STUBBORNLY DEFENDING THE HILL FROM WELL-PREPARED, SANDBAGGED AND CAMOUFLAGED POSITIONS. THE ENEMY HAD A PREPONDERANCE OF AUTOMATIC WEAPONS STRATEGICALLY PLACED ON THE FORWARD SLOPE WHICH MADE IT NECESSARY FOR THE ATTACKING PLATOONS TO WORK IN AND DESTROY THEM FROM VERY CLOSE RANGE. AS A COMPANY ADVANCED UP THE SLOPE, THE LEAD PLATOON WAS PINNED DOWN BY ONE OF THESE AUTOMATIC WEAPON POSITIONS. CORPORAL RUMBAOA, A RIFLEMAN, REFUSED TO TAKE COVER AND CONTINUED TO ADVANCE THROUGH THE INTENSE ENEMY FIRE. FIRING HIS RIFLE AS HE ATTACKED, HE SUCCEEDED IN SEVERELY WOUNDING THE GUNNER, MOMENTARILY SILENCING THE POSITION. RUNNING THE NEXT 20 YARDS WITH COMPLETE DISREGARD FOR HIS PERSONAL SAFETY, HE JUMPED INTO THE ENEMY HOLE. WITH SLASHING BAYONET AND CRUSHING RIFLE BUTT SMASHES, HE OVERPOWERED THE 3 REMAINING ENEMY AND SIGNALLED HIS GROUP TO ADVANCE. FROM THIS FORWARD AND EXPOSED POSITION, HE DELIVERED ACCURATE AND DEVASTATING COVERING FIRE FOR HIS ADVANCING COMPANY. HE DISABLED 4 GRENADIERS WHO ATTEMPTED TO SLOW DOWN THE ADVANCE OF THE ATTACKING FORCES. THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE ACTION, HE ELIMINATED 8 ENEMY SOLDIERS AND ALLOWED HIS PLATOON AND COMPANY TO MOVE AGGRESIVELY AND SECURE THE OBJECTIVE. CORPORAL RUMBAOA'S COURAGEOUS ACTION AND DEEP DEVOTION TO DUTY REFLECT THE HIGHEST CREDIT ON HIMSELF AND THE UNITED STATES INFANTRY. HE ENTERED MILITARY SERVICE FROM HONOLULU, TERRITORY OF HAWAII.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL  BRYAN;


COL CHARLES O'MALLEY
CHIEF OF STAFF


LT. COL A B CHATHAM
ADJUTANT GERNERAL

21st Infantry Regiment



Outpost in Korea December '51
Les Johnson, "K" Co., 21st Inf

Submitted By: Les Johnson, 21st Inf

Members of 4th Platoon, "K" Co.

Just back from Korea at Camp Young Hans, Japan 1952



Left to Right

Standing: Unknown, Lloyd, Holland, Unknown, Slim, VOS, Unknown, Mitchell Lowe

Bottom: Hugh Harris, Les Johnson, Ray Rubo, Unknown



Rich Goiny, 21st Inf
Okayama, Japan



Stanley Krukowski, 21st Inf

Mrs. Irene Giannini, wife of Gerald Giannini, passed away On January 3, 2005. Mrs. Giannini was seventy-eight years old.

Gerald served in the Philippines during WWII and with A Company, 21st Infantry Regiment.

Gerald's phone number is: 908-561-7191. Cards may be sent to: 816 Dominick Court - South Plainfield NJ 07080-2337T

3rd Engineer Combat Battalion



Jim writes **Luis Duran** can be found at:

Luis A. Duran

P.O. Box 117

Vaughn, NM 88353-0117

Submitted By ~ Jim Lemanczyk



1



2



3



Kiohira, Shikoko Japan 11-11-1945
Complete 2nd Platoon CoB 3rd Engineer
From left to right Top Row: Raymond Ebbey,
Melvin Wood, William Lewis, Myself - Luis Duran -
Also known as (Trigger), Bob Bourdette, John
Axelerson, Franco Fiore, Philip Gattella, Harold
Bisick, Stan Myler, Houston Humphrey
Kneeling: Marcus Alexander, Ethel Robertson,
Alfred Soraria, Thomas McLean, James Howell

1. Luis Duran 8-14-1945, South Pacific

2. Luis Duran 1945, South Pacific

3. Luis Duran & Friends, 8-14-1945, South Pacific

Submitted By ~ Jim Lemanczyk

34th Infantry Regiment



Royal Scottish Highlanders



*Sorry, don't know who sent the photos. If they are yours;
please let me know.
~Editor*

LOOKING FOR BUDDIES

I am looking for wartime information about a close friend of mine. JB Whalen, now deceased. who was in the 24th Division throughout WWII. He told me that much of the time he served separate from the Division itself, in another unit I think he had identified as the 417th RCT. I have been unable to locate any information about this unit and I'm wondering if I have it wrong. I know for sure he called it a Regimental Combat Team. I received Email from JMcKeon who suggested I might contact you as Editor of the Taro Leaf, and perhaps some of the WWII members might be able to provide information about any RCT that may have been formed from. or worked with. or been a part of. the 24th ID. I would appreciate any advice you may have about how I might go about obtaining further information.

Thank you. Don Jennings, 8525 N. Boyd Ave, Fresno, CA 93720. Ph: 559-297-4475 (evenings.)

ww2stuffguy@sbcglobal.net

My father's father signed for my dad to enlist in 1947 when my father was 16 years old. He was in the Korean War and suffered his first injuries July 9, 1950. His name was **Joseph Gagnon**, ID# RA11175354, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th IDA. I know that he received four Purple Hearts and one Silver Star, but that's all I know. I didn't really know my dad, but would love to speak to someone who may have served with him. Dad's first cousin was Rene Gagnon, one of the flag raisers on Iwo Jima.

Please help me. I just need to know.

Doreen Gagnon Schibbelhute
gagnonmyhero@metrocast.net

John Sukosd is looking for any one who served with him in the 19th Infantry Regiment, HQ-HQ Company, I & R Platoon, between April 11, 1950 and August 1950. John can be reached by phone, 330-833-8912, or by mail, 12075 Lochwood Street SW, Massillon, OH 44647. Thanks, Larry Gay, 24th IDA Historian

Robert Gregg wants to hear from anyone who was in L. Co. 34th in the first part of the war. He thinks his CO was Cpt. Hayman, and the Motor Pool officers name was Lt. Kessler. 312 21st St. NW, Hickory, NC 28602-2125



Calvin Wentz

I am looking for information on my uncle, **Calvin Wentz**. The photo to the left was taken while he was in the hospital after being wounded.

Uncle Calvin was in B. Co. 19th Inf. I need help locating someone who might have known him. You may contact my mother, Wilma Wenta,

2600 Verna Rd.

Myakka City, FL 34251 or

Email wwentz4549@aol.com
Thank you, Darlene Wentz.

Donald Worgess would like to hear from anyone who served with in HQ C. 19th Inf. in 1950 and 1951. He has never heard from anyone from his company. Can anyone out there "Fix this?" Check the 19th page for some of his photos. You may find yourself in the Taro Leaf. 5213 Tilmann Ln. Weidman, MI 48893-8201, 517-644-2820

Only In...

TEXAS



"The basic test of freedom is perhaps less in what we are free to do than what we are free not to do. It is the freedom to refrain, withdraw and abstain which makes a totalitarian regime impossible"

~ Eric Hoffer

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! (Cont.)

Old Soldiers to Be Called Back Into Action

In June 2004 Army sources announced that as many as 7,500 retired and discharged soldiers who are not members of the National Guard or Reserve will be involuntarily recalled to active duty for possible service in Iraq or Afghanistan.

It will be the first time the Army has relied on the Individual Ready Reserve in substantial numbers since the 1991 Gulf War. The Pentagon had hoped to reduce its troop levels in Iraq to about 105,000 this spring, but because of increasingly effective and deadly resistance the level has risen to about 140,000.

Military officials have said they may need to stay at that level for at least another year or two, a commitment of troops that could not be maintained by the active force alone. The projected number called upon may be whittled down after the physical abilities and other factors and capabilities are considered.

"This was inevitable when it became clear that we would have to maintain significant combat forces in Iraq for a period of years," said Dan Goure, a military analyst at the Lexington Institute think tank

Get ready to pack, guys! ~Billy

Everything is OK, Billy. I've started saving for the Punch Bowl Plaque. We play Carolina next year up there in NC. We will make a friendly bet then. Hope to see you in Philly.

CB Mason, 3rd "C" ENGR

CB, I hate to take your money, the Carolina Panthers will win, but I will. Look forward to seeing you in Philly. ~Billy

The Taro Leaf just arrived and I want to thank you for a really nice piece of work. It is outstanding. And reading it I am struck again with what fine, fine groups of men I was privileged to serve with in my three tours with the 24th. There is no question but what these men helped shape me into whatever man I am today.

Dutch Nelsen, 11th FA
"Victory"

Today ...wish you a day of ordinary miracles- A fresh pot of coffee you didn't have to make yourself. An unexpected phone call from an old friend. Green stoplights on your way to work or shop. I wish you a day of little things to rejoice in. The fastest line at the grocery store. A good sing along song on the radio. Your keys right where you look. I wish you a day of happiness and perfection-little bite-size pieces of perfection that give you the funny feeling that the Lord is smiling on you, holding you so gently because you are someone special and rare. I wish You a day of Peace, Happiness and Joy. They say it takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them, but then an entire life to forget them. Send this phrase to the people you'll never forget. It's a short message to let them know that you'll never forget them. If you don't send it to anyone, it means you're in too much of a hurry and that you've probably forgotten your friends. Take the time! Wishing you the very best. Peace.

Submitted By ~ **Walter Bunso, 5th RCT**

VA Issues New ID Cards

∞ The Department of Veterans Affairs has designed a new identity card for veterans that will safeguard confidential information.

The card, formally known as the Veterans Identity Card, will have the veteran's photo on the front and identify him or her as an enrollee in the VA's health care system.

Encrypted on a magnetic tape strip on the back of the card will be the veteran's Social Security number, date of birth, and a control number. The magnetic strip also records whether the veteran has a service-connected disability.

Veterans should request the new card at their local medical center. Processing will take five to seven days once eligibility is verified. The existing cards will remain valid until veterans receive their new cards.

January/February 2005 - DAV Magazine ©

Have been a member of the Association since shortly after it started. Life Member #130. Attended three reunions, Baltimore, DC. & Norfolk. Still get Christmas cards, etc. from five old 3rd ENGRs and a half dozen widows. Was drafted Nov 6, '41. Shipped out Frisco 1/42 with 38th Total GI's 400th ENGR/Sep. Comp Task Force. Hit Canton Is. I was the demolition man. I hit St. Louis College Hosp. Honolulu 9/42 3rd ENGR approx 11/42 and stayed with them till approx. June 1945. Discharged 8/25/45. Was only empty Liberty ship enroute home when war ended. Went back to work with same const. Co. worked with before. Contracted Roofing for 32 yrs. Worked outside with my hands all my life, all kinds of weather. Have appreciated the Taro Leaf all these years. Can't relate to Korea as well as the news of the problems in Philippines. Those jungles were much different from now in Iraq.

Hope you can make some of this out. Crippled up hands don't work much anymore. Can't complain. The roads I've been down for 83 years. The man upstairs didn't promise a "milk run" forever.

The Best To You All

John Smith Baldwin, 3rd "C" ENGR



Okay, your Father managed to get a mouse. Now how do we use it?

TARO LEAF TAPS

I gathered up the poppy blooms, I stirred fond memory's ember
I went down to the soldiers' graves, I wanted to remember.
But someone had preceded me, though it was early day,
Where should have lain my precious wreath, another token lay.

21st Infantry Regiment
Harvey J LeBoeuf
C.V. Spencer
Richard Syndor

And then I saw him as He passed, between each sacred spot,
His fingers softly touched each stone as though He cared a lot,
And on each grave I'm sure I saw as I drew slowly near,
Beside each poppy that He lay, there fell a silent tear.

3rd Engineers "Combat" Bn.
Clyde M. Matlock

I wondered as I followed round, what could be His intent,
Perhaps a lonely comrade of a well loved regiment.
But as I read I found their homes were scattered far and wide,
As too their bones and only stones to tell why each had died..

24th Division HQ
Leroy V. Schrumpf

Here a Welshman, there a Scot, here a local lad,
Here and there a brother, and all too oft a Dad.
A scroll of honour blazoned for posterity to see,
I gazed around, and then I saw the Stranger look at me.

24th Medical Bn.
Matthew F. Simaga

He must have read the question lying troubled in my eyes,
For suddenly He spread His arms and then to my surprise,
He spoke with voice as soft as poppy petals fall,
He turned His head and simply said, "I knew and loved them all".

34th Infantry Regiment
Daniel Valles

And then the early morning breeze helped me to understand,
It stirred His coat until I saw the nail print in each hand,
I tried in vain as I stood there my own guilt to dismember,
I knew my world had failed Him, and forgotten to remember.

52nd Field Artillery
Isadore O. Peppee

19th Infantry Regiment
Lloyd T. Potterson

Remembrance by Jim Ireland

21st Infantry Regiment

Harvey J. LeBoeuf

A phone call from Sam Irwin tells me that LTC **Harvey J. LeBoeuf** died and has been buried in Arlington. He was a Life Member who served with the 21st. Cards may be sent to: 377 Club Manor Dr, Sun City Center, FL 33573-5868.
~ Dutch

C.V. Spencer, M.Sgt (Ret.)

C.V. was laid to rest with full military honors on November 30th, 2004, at the age of 81. Of all his honors and accomplishments throughout his life, he was most proud of serving with the 24th during three years of intense combat in the Pacific during WWII. He seldom spoke about his war experiences, except for the Bronze Star he received for action during the Battle of Breakneck Ridge. Although he often could not remember what day it was or where he lived during his final years, until his dying day, he remembered the name of every man in his platoon, and most of the men in the company, and many in the rest of the division, especially the officers of Captain and above. He thought very highly of Capt. Reed and Col. Verbeck in particular. Over the years, I tried to get him to join your association and attend reunions, but he was always too busy with his farming and raising a family. Anyway, I thought someone connected to the 24th should know of his passing. He had great affection for the division, and followed it in the news throughout the years. ~ Rev. Steve Spencer

Richard Sydnor

Sadly I report the Promotion to Glory of **Tiger (West By) Sydnor**, K/21/24, on December 29, 2004 at age 73 of lung cancer. He was captured on July 11, 1950. Cards can be sent to his wife, Martha and children at PO Box 583, Oak Hill WV 25901. West By was one of the few who always made everyone else laugh. He was a great morale builder.

A great American and a true friend, now in Glory. ~ Shorty Estabrook - tigersurvivors@comcast.net

24th Medical Bn.

Matthew F. Simaga

Mary Simaga wrote to tell us that her husband Matthew passed away November 20, 2004: Suddenly. Matthew served in WWII 1942-1945 in the Pacific, with D Co. He enjoyed reunions and loved to dance.
Card may be sent to: Mrs. Matthew Simaga, 2062 Appaloosa Ct. Wheaton, IL 60187.

34th Infantry Regiment

Daniel Valles

Daniel (82) passed away on September 2, 2004 at his home in Hesperia, CA. Paul Cain writes:

I was a Platoon leader on the landing on Leyte, Dan was a PFC rifleman in my Platoon. Our BAR man got wounded on the landing. Dan picked up the BAR and *carried on*. He later became Platoon Sergeant, 1st Plt., Co. K. He earned the CIB, Silver Star and Bronze Star. *Dan was an outstanding soldier in combat.* He is survived by his wife Frances, sons Daniel and Tim and eight grandchildren. Cards may be sent to: 8788 3rd Avenue, Hesperia CA 92345-3609



Dan Valles

3rd Engineers "Combat" Bn.

Clyde M. Matlock

Clyde passed away 27 August 2004. His home was in Imperial, MO

Cards may be sent to: 6511 Macks Hill, Imperial MO 63052-2621

52nd Field Artillery

Isadore O. Peppee

Sadly I report the Promotion to Glory of Isadore O. Peppe, age 78, on the morning of 7 January 2005. He was a 2nd Lt when captured on 5 July 1950. He was a member of Headquarters Battery 52nd Field Artillery Battalion of the 24th Infantry Division. He was also a member of Task Force Smith. He was repatriated on August 30, 1953. Peppe attained the rank of and retired as a Colonel from the Army. Cards may be sent to: Mrs. Okee Peppe, 83rd St SW, Lakewood, WA 98499-4062. Love to all, Shorty the Tiger

24th Division HQ

Leroy V. Schrumpf

Leroy's wife Ann sent us a letter with news of Leroy's death, June 12, 2004. He served during WWII with the 24th. He served with Division Headquarters. He and Ann were "Married 53 years, all most memorable." They had two sons, one daughter and six grandchildren. "He was a most honorable man." Cards may be sent to: 86 College Place, Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660

19th Infantry Regiment

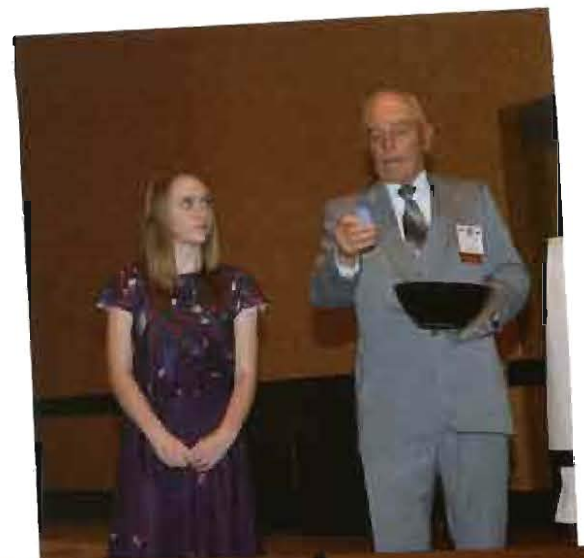
Lloyd T. Potterson

Lloyd He was 86 years old when he passed away on September 11, 2003 at the Shell Lake Hospital. He went into the Army in May 1943 and served with the 24th ID in the South-West Pacific during the invasion of Leyte. He is survived by Neoma, his loving wife of 63 years, a daughter, a son, 4 Grandchildren and 3 Great Grandchildren.

Memorials preferred to: The Lloyd Potterson Scholarship Fund, 222 Balsam Street, Spooner, WI 54801



Lloyd T. Potterson





BOBCATS,

Please take a moment today to read about the actions of a heroic Bobcat on this day in Korea in 1951.

~ Fred Deverse

CARL H. DODD

Rank: First Lieutenant (then Second Lieutenant)
 Organization: U.S. Army, Company E, 5th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division.
 Place and date: Near Subuk, Korea, January 30 – 31, 1951
 Entered service at: Kenvir, KY
 Birth: 1925, Evarts, KY
 G.O. No.: 37, June 4, 1951

Citation: First Lieutenant Carl H. Dodd, Infantry, United States Army, a member of Company E 5th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy on 30 and 31 January 1951, near Subuk, Korea. Lieutenant Dodd, given the responsibility of spearheading an attack to capture Hill 256, a key terrain feature defended by a well-armed, crafty foe who had withstood several previous assaults, led his platoon forward over hazardous terrain under hostile small-arms, mortar, and artillery fire from well-camouflaged enemy emplacements which reached such intensity that his men faltered. With utter disregard for his safety, Lieutenant Dodd moved among his men, reorganized and encouraged them, and then single-handedly charged the first hostile machinegun nest, killing or wounding all its occupants. Inspired by his incredible courage, his platoon responded magnificently and, fixing bayonets and throwing grenades, closed on the enemy and wiped out every hostile position as it moved relentlessly onward to its initial objective. Securing the first series of enemy positions, Lieutenant Dodd again reorganized his platoon and led



The Medal of Honor



them across a narrow ridge and onto Hill 256. Firing his rifle and throwing grenades, he advanced at the head of his platoon despite the intense concentrated hostile fire which was brought to bear on their narrow avenue of approach. When his platoon was still 200 yards from the objective he moved ahead and with his last grenade destroyed an enemy mortar killing the crew. Darkness then halted the advance but at daybreak Lieutenant Dodd, again boldly advancing ahead of his unit, led the platoon through a dense fog against the remaining hostile positions. With bayonet and grenades he continued to set pace without regard for the danger to his life, until he and his troops had eliminated the last of the defenders and had secured the final objective. Lieutenant Dodd's superb leadership and extraordinary heroism inspired his men to overcome this strong enemy defense reflecting the highest credit upon himself and upholding the esteemed traditions of the military service.

It is with a heavy heart that I must inform each of you, my youngest son Andrew passed away December 29, 2004 at 7:42pm, after repeated incidents of arrhythmia of the heart. Andrew was my youngest child and we shall all miss him dearly. It is never easy to lose a child as some of you know, and doing so leaves a void in your heart that can never be filled. Andrew was the third of my sons to die. I can't imagine why I am still here and they not. It sometimes crosses my mind to ask God what kind of plan this is that he has for me. But then I remember that my God has a reason for everything that he does, and that my sons are now at peace because of his intervention. It helps me to keep my sanity. Thank you for your prayers. ~ Walter Bunso and Family, 1926 Ascension Way, Tallahassee FL 32308-4507, Ph: 850-878-9381



My daughter Laura was born when I was overseas.
~ Ramon Cooper, 26th AAA



The Crew of the Half-Track Z-George, 1951



JUST A WEE NOTE TO SAY HI,
& LET YOU KNOW JUST HOW MUCH I
ENJOYED THE TWO PAGE SPREAD ON
THE 26th AAA IN THE LAST ISSUE!
I WAS WITH THE UNIT IN KOREA &
JAPAN... 1951-52-53 & HAVE ATTENDED
2 REUNIONS IN BRANSON MO. WITH SOME
OF MY OLD PLATOON.

I STILL REMEMBER THANKSGIVING
DAY, 1951, AS THE COLDEST DAY OF
MY LIFE. WE STAYED IN POSITION ON
LINE FOR 3 DAYS, WITH NOTHING
BUT SNOW & C RATIONS, & HOPEING WE
COULD KEEP OUR QUAD 50S FROM
FREEZING. BUT THAT WAS THEN, &
THIS IS NOW.

ENCLOSING CHECK FOR DONATION TO THE
TARD LEEF FROM 26 AAA.

SAY HI TO "DUCH", A REAL GOOD GUY!

BEST WISHES

Ramon Cooper -



I just received and finished reading the Fall 2004 TARO LEAF, Vol 58 No.4. What a great issue. I read, with much interest, the obit. For James Thomas on page 26. We were in the 2nd platoon, Clearing Company, 24th Medical Bn. together. I started to look in my old picture files and found the enclosed picture. I restored it as much as possible. I do not remember where it was taken. It was late Spring of 1953. I think I can name most of the guys:

Top Row from left:

Ed Deseamus, Jim Heiles, Ed Ryan, Dave Erwin, Jim Thomas, Walt Snyder, Sam Foster.

Bottom Row from left:

Hobbs, Jim Stapleton, ????, Bob Vanderheyden, Bob Wirth.

Sincerely yours,

James R. Heiles
1130 Robinson Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237-4235



724th Ordnance Battalion



Strength in Service
724th Ordnance
Battalion

Another photo for your collection and some tidbits of information. The photo was taken at Fort Bragg in the fall of 1946. My high school class of 72 students in Two Harbors, Minnesota had the nine of us enlisting that fall. Three of us in early September and 6 more a week later. We all met in training and had the photo taken. Three of us, Coson, Bislow and I stayed together for leave time, the other six joined us for a couple of days home and the three of us went to Stoneman, they joined us there for a couple of days, we three took the same ship to Japan, Repple Depple and all and onto the 24th. Two of us in headquarters and the third, Coson to the 19th. A week or so later the other six showed up at Beppu, also in the 19th. Nine of us from the same town and class, and together.

Top line of the photo, left to right,

Robert Bislow, Burt Lamo, Phil Larson, Arnie Larson

Walter Coson, Neil Edstrom, Robert Nyquist, Donald "Tom" Anderson, David Norman Elander.

All discharged at about the same time and home for Christmas of 47. Nyquist, Arnie Larson and myself, Anderson are the only three still alive. Thought I would get this out to you before there are none. Thanks for your time.

Donald Thomas Anderson, 724th Ord "M" Company, Kokura, Japan back then.

5 Langholm Lane
Bella Vista AR 72715

Phone: 479-876-2993

E-Mail: tvanderson@cox-internet.com

Tom Anderson



Welcome to Philadelphia

Founded in 1682 by William Penn, Philadelphia became the city of democracy. The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were drafted here. They stand as the most recognized symbols of the American Enlightenment, which had its roots 100 years before 1776. Philadelphia hosted American's first historical convention in 1774 when the first Continental Congress met at Carpenter's Hall. Philadelphia has many historical, cultural and social attractions. You have the opportunity to explore the historic sites of Independence Hall, Betsy Ross House, City Hall, Penn's Landing, The Liberty Bell and perhaps see Ben Franklin. Other favorite places to visit include the Philadelphia Art Museum, Franklin Institute, Philadelphia Zoo, and the Mummers Museum or you may want to visit the Avenue of the Arts and Kimmel Center home of the acclaimed Philadelphia Orchestra. Philadelphia is known for many fine-eating establishments close to the hotel. Philadelphia is serviced by 9 airlines, offering non-stop service from 82 cities.

Airlines servicing Philadelphia:

**Air Tran Airways, American Airlines, America West, ATA,
Continental, Delta, Northwest, United and US Airways.**

Of all Philadelphia hotels, the Holiday Inn Philadelphia Hotel Historic District is one of the best located, centered in the Nation's most historic square mile, while Philadelphia Airport is only eight miles away. The Holiday Inn Philadelphia Hotel Historic District offers easy access to shopping, fine dining and the many Philadelphia visitor attractions all within walking distance. Holiday Inn Philadelphia presents it's own restaurant, Benton's Grill serving tempting dishes for breakfast lunch and dinner.

Reunion Chairman is Sam Slater (19th Infantry) and he can be reached at 215-549-6627. We look forward to welcoming you to Philadelphia.

The Place that Loves YOU BACK

Important! - Please read and follow all instructions.

You must mail your check along with you registration to the following:

Hotel Reservation

Holiday Inn Philadelphia Historic District Hotel
400 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106
215-923-8660 or 1-800-843-2355

Registration, Meal & Tour Form

Sam Slater
425 East Moreland Road
Willow Grove, PA 19090-3605
215-549-6627

Reunion Banquet Seating – Deadline September 7, 2005

If you have a group of friends who wish to be seated together. Get together and pay together.

Send you registration forms in one envelope. Only 10 people can be seated at a table. Reserve as many tables as needed to accommodate your group. Designate one person and send in your registration forms along with the appropriate amount of money to that person who will then forward all registration forms and payments to the reunion chairman. Once the reunion chairman has received all paperwork and money, he will notify each person by a confirmation letter. A packet in you 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 registration in as early as possible. Any table seating arrangements received after September 7, 2005 will not be guaranteed seating assignments. Please note – Once tables are assigned they will not be rearranged. There will be no refunds or seating changes after September 7, 2005 except in cases of emergencies.

Notice to Taro Leafers:

Below is a press release pertaining to our reunion in Philadelphia, PA. Regardless of whether or not you plan to attend, please cut out and mail to your local newspaper for publication in either their military section or "Letters to the Editor" section. It 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.

For Immediate Release

September 21, 2005 – September 24, 2005, the 24th Infantry Division Association will hold its Annual Reunion honoring the Veterans of the Division. All former and current members of the 24 Infantry Division or members of any unit that have been assigned or attached to the Division at any time are welcome. The reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn Philadelphia Historic District Hotel, 400 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

For further information contact: Wes Morrison – Association President and Reunion Coordinator at 831-883-2156 or e-mail: wesm8@aol.com, or Sam Slater, Reunion Chairman at 215-549-6627 or e-mail: ssams104@aol.com

**WELCOME TO HOLIDAY INN - HISTORIC DISTRICT
PHILADELPHIA
HOTEL RESERVATION FORM**

**24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION
September 21 - 24, 2005**

Room Type Requested	Rate (Single/Double/Quad Occupancy)	Number in Party (Children under 18 stay free)
Queen Size Single Bed	\$95.00	_____
Standard Size Two Beds	\$95.00	_____
King Size Single Bed	\$95.00	_____

*Note: Current room tax is 14% 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, 2005 TO ENSURE ROOM AVAILABILITY

(After this date, rooms will be on space and rate availability only.)

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

Date of Arrival _____ Date of Departure _____ Number of Nights _____

Name (Please Print) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____ Telephone Number: _____

E-mail address: _____

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

AMEX _____ VISA _____ MC _____ DISCOVERY _____ OTHER _____

Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Signature: _____

Mail this form to:
Holiday Inn
Historic District
400 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Telephone Reservation: 1-800-843-2355 Confirmation Number: _____

Reservations may also be made by logging onto:

<http://www.holiday-inn.com/philadelphia-historicdistrict> using 3 letter booking code INF

24th Infantry Division Reunion Meals

Holiday Inn Philadelphia Hotel Historic District



Aloha Banquet

September 23, 2005

Pork Cutlet in an Apple Brandy Sauce
Or

Herb Crusted Filet of Sea Bass topped w/a Mango Salsa

Served with Salad, Rolls & Butter, Fresh Vegetable, Appropriate Accompaniment, Chef
Select Dessert, Coffee, Tea & Iced Tea.

\$31.00 Inclusive of Tax and Gratuity

Saturday Morning Breakfast

September 24, 2005



Cinnamon Supreme French Toast
Luscious Slices of Cinnamon-Infused Rolls Dipped
In Egg Batter & Grilled to a Golden Brown
Served with Creamy Butter & Warm Syrup,
Scrambled Eggs w/Bacon
Served w/Fresh Orange Juice, Bakery Basket & Coffee or Tea

\$19.00 Inclusive of Tax & Gratuity



Memorial Banquet

September 24, 2005

Nine Spice Roasted Rib-eye of Beef served in a Burgundy Demi Glaze
Or

Chicken Mediterranean – Sautéed Chicken Breast topped w/Roasted Red Peppers served
in a Zinfandel Demi-Glace

Served with Salad, Rolls & Butter, Fresh Vegetable, Appropriate Accompaniment, Chef
Select Dessert, Coffee, Tea & Iced Tea.

\$31.00 Inclusive of Tax and Gratuity

CASH BAR WILL BE AVAILABLE

24th Infantry Division Reunion - TOURS

Thursday September 22, 2005 Atlantic City \$35.00 per person

Atlantic City is well known for it's dazzling array of Casino Hotels, but there's more! Take a walk on the oldest boardwalk in the world – constructed in 1881, which boasts fine restaurants, unending attractions and a variety of boutiques and shops. A special bonus will await you upon arrival. Bus departs from the hotel 9:00am for the casino and will depart Atlantic City at 4:30pm we should arrive back in Philadelphia approximately 6:00pm.

Thursday September 22, 2005 Washington, DC \$55.00 per person

Washington, DC is not only the proud home of the nation's capital; it is a sophisticated city in its own right. We will arrive at The Orleans House where we will feast on your choice of Prime Rib, Baked Chicken or Broiled Haddock and a Salad Bar. We will meet our tour guide at 1:00pm for a four-hour tour of our nation's capital including the Monuments such as World War II, Vietnam, Koran along with FDR and Roosevelt Park. We will departure the hotel at 8:30am arrive for lunch at 11:30am – departure Washington DC 5:00pm and arrive back at the hotel approximately 8:00pm.

Friday September 23, 2005 Battleship New Jersey \$60.00 per person

Among the most notable battleships in the Navy's history is the USS New Jersey. Her keel was laid at the Philadelphia Navy Yard in 1940, and the hull was launched on December 7, 1942. The ship's sponsor was Mrs. Charles Edison, wife of the Governor of New Jersey and daughter-in-law of the famous inventor Thomas Edison. Laying of the Wreath Ceremony will take place upon our arrival at 8:50am. We will tour the Battleship New Jersey until 11:00am at which time we will leave the Battleship New Jersey to set sail on the Spirit of Philadelphia for sightseeing along the Delaware River. Lunch will be provided during the cruise. We will depart for the hotel at 2:10pm and arrive back at the hotel approximately 2:20pm.

Friday September 23, 2005 Fun in Philadelphia \$60.00 per person

The National Constitution Center is an independent, non-partisan, and non-profit organization dedicated to increasing public understanding of, and appreciation for, the Constitution, its history, and its contemporary relevance, through an interactive, interpretive facility within Independence National Historical Park and a program of national outreach, so that We the People may better secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity. We will arrive at the National Constitution Center at 9:15am for a film at 9:40am. We will depart the National Constitution Center at 11:30am for the Spaghetti Warehouse where lunch will be served. We will depart the Spaghetti Warehouse at 1:30pm to Ride the Ducks of Philadelphia. We will depart at 3:30pm for a short ride back to the hotel.

Saturday September 24, 2005 Valley Forge, PA \$31.00 per person

Valley Forge is the story of the six-month encampment of the Continental Army of the newly formed United States of America under the command of General George Washington, a few miles from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Though no battles was fought here from December 19, 1777 to June 19, 1778, a struggle against the elements and low moral was overcome on this sacred ground. We will depart the hotel at 12:30pm and arrive approximately 1:30pm for a ninety-minute visit. Will we leave Valley Forge 3:00pm and arrive back at the hotel approximately 4:00pm.

Saturday September 24, 2005 Historical Philadelphia \$25.00 per person

Philadelphia is the place where much of our history was born and today, history lives on as Colonial, Revolutionary, and Federal History periods are preserved through museums and exhibits. We will depart the hotel at 12:30pm and meet the Good Wife Mrs. Benjamin Franklin at the Independence Mall for a three-hour tour of Philadelphia. We will depart at 3:30pm for the hotel and will arrive approximately 3:45pm.

Enjoy your trip to Philadelphia – The City That Loves You Back.

All prices are based on using 57-passenger motor coaches. If a minimum number of guests are not registered the trip may be cancelled.

24th Infantry Division Association Annual Reunion
September 21, 2005 – September 24, 2005
Holiday Inn Historic District Philadelphia
Philadelphia, PA

Name: (please print) _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail: _____

Name of Wife/Guests Attending:

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

Information for your name badge

Nickname _____ Unit _____ Period _____



Location _____ First Timer? YES _____ NO _____

Survey for Reunion Coordinator. Will you be arriving by:

Air _____ Car _____ Train _____ Bus _____

REMINDER

If you have a group of friends and wish to be seated together, get together and pay together. Only 10 people at a table, if you wish to be seated with your friends at the Banquets, you must mail all registration forms along with appropriate payments in one envelope otherwise we cannot guarantee that you and your friends will be seated together!

 **Make Checks Payable to:** 
24th Infantry Division Association
Mail to:
Sam Slater
425 Moreland Road
Willow Grove, PA 19120-3605

Tour and Meal Registration

<u>Time/Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Per Person</u>	<u>#Attending</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Thursday September 24, 2005				
9:00am-6:00pm	Atlantic City	\$35.00	x	= \$ _____
	<i>or</i>			
8:30am-8:00pm	Washington, DC	\$55.00	x	= \$ _____
Friday September 23, 2005				
8:30am-2:20pm	Battleship New Jersey	\$60.00	x	= \$ _____
	<i>or</i>			
9:00am-3:30pm	Fun in Philadelphia	\$60.00	x	= \$ _____
6:30pm-11:00pm	Aloha Banquet			
	Pork Cutlet	\$31.00	x	= \$ _____
	Fillet of Sea Bass	\$31.00	x	= \$ _____
Saturday September 24, 2005				
9:00am-12:00pm	Ladies Breakfast	\$19.00	x	= \$ _____
8:00am-10:00am	Unit Memorial Breakfast	\$19.00	x	= \$ _____
12:30pm-4:00pm	Valley Forge, PA	\$31.00	x	= \$ _____
	<i>or</i>			
12:30pm 3:45pm	Historical Philadelphia	\$25.00	x	= \$ _____
6:30pm – 11:00pm	Memorial Banquet			
	Rib-Eye of Beef	\$31.00	x	= \$ _____
	Chicken Mediterranean	\$31.00	x	= \$ _____
Registration Fee				\$ 15.00
Total Amount Enclosed				\$ _____

Please Note: Spouse and Guests do not pay a registration fee. All Association members, former and current Division Members must pay.

Make check payable to:
 24th Infantry Division Association
 mail to:
 Sam Slater
 425 East Moreland Road
 Willow Grove, PA 19120-3605

Remember those who pay together stay together

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 24, 2005, 8:00 AM at the Holiday Inn Philadelphia Historic District, Philadelphia, PA. The Unit Mess Hall location for each unit will be posted at the registration table. The cost for each breakfast is \$19.00. 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 Associations

Mail to:

Sam Slater, 425 East Moreland Road, Willow Grove, PA, 19090-3605

UNIT MEMORIAL BREAKFAST REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP: _____

UNIT BREAKFAST TO

ATTEND _____

Unit Mess Hall
3rd Engr / 5th RCT / 555th FA
19th Infantry / 29th Infantry
21st Infantry / 52nd FA / 11th FA
34th Infantry / 63rd FA / 26th AAA

Headcount
Bill Boyden
To Be Announced
Wes Morrison
To Be Announced

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 24, 2005 AT 9 AM

Be sure to sign up for the ladies breakfast – you don't want to miss it. *Donna's Danceworks* will perform for you. *Donna's Danceworks* has performed in Wildwood, NJ, Disneyworld in Orlando, FL and has participated in the Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade.

BREAKFAST WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE SAME TIME THE
UNIT BREAKFASTS AND THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION
ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING TAKES PLACE.

LADIES BREAKFAST

Cinnamon Supreme French Toast

Luscious Slices of Cinnamon-Infused Rolls Dipped

In Egg Batter & Grilled to a Golden Brown

Served with Creamy Butter & Warm Syrup,

Scrambled Eggs w/Bacon

Served w/Fresh Orange Juice, Bakery Basket & Coffee or Tea

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY AND ZIP CODE _____

COST: \$19.00 (Inclusive of Tax & Gratuity)

NUMBER ATTENDING: _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

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

The Search

I am writing this letter to you to share a story of how I finally met a friend who knew my deceased uncle from the Korean War. I began a computer search in June 2000 for somebody who might have known my uncle when he was taken a POW after the Kum River battle on July 16, 1950. My main purpose was to help my mother find some sort of closure over her brother's death 50 years prior.

I searched Korean War sites commemorating the 50th anniversary of the start of the war for soldiers serving in the 19th Infantry, 24th Division at that time; and then corresponded through Email sending an old newspaper article showing my uncle as he looked in the service. Shortly after sending out my first few contacts, I heard from Jack Goodwin in Texas. He told me that indeed my uncle was part of a group known as Tiger Survivors on the Death March in late October 1950. He remembered the day that my uncle along with many other soldiers had been shot along the way for not being able to keep up. However, he did not know my uncle personally and put me in touch with Shorty Estabrook and the Tiger Survivors.

Shorty was moved by my story and sent a list of survivors from the 19th Infantry. I immediately sent letters to each of the names on the list and included the newspaper article with my uncle's picture. Many of my responses said that they did not know my uncle from that time as a POW. Discouraged, but still intent on finding somebody who knew my uncle. I continued searching computer sites for new names and addresses. Then, one day, I received a letter from Bill Borer telling me to contact a man by the name of John Barnabi in Beaver Falls, Pennsylvania.

I again sat down and wrote a letter to Mr. Barnabi along with the newspaper article that had gone along with many other letters. I explained to him that I had received his name and address from Mr. Borer and asked if he might have known my uncle. I will never forget the night that the telephone rang and this wonderful man with a southern drawl told me he was John Barnabi and he had been a close friend with my uncle, Pvt. Warren E. Heim, when he came to the 19th Infantry in Japan before the start of the war. I will never forget my excitement as I began to realize that this man could tell my mother things she had been longing to hear about her brother. After talking with John and thanking him for his caring

enough to contact me, I put him in touch with my mother. Although John was not a POW with my Uncle Warren, he was able to share stories with my mother about her younger brother and his time with the 19th before his capture.

Both my mother and myself have since had the opportunity to meet John Barnabi and his family. He is a wonderful man and I can see why my uncle would have chosen John as a friend. John helped to give my mother the peace of mind that my mother had long sought.

I receive the Taro Leaf and have read many stories from veterans of the Korean War. This story is one that is close to my heart and I wanted to share it with your many readers who also may be searching for information about a loved one killed in action so long ago.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sue Klokis

(Niece of Pvt. Warren E. Heim, 19th Infantry, 24th Division)
832 Scott Street, Kulpmont, PA 17834-1812

Mystery Solved

The cover of subject issue (Vol. 58 No 4.) shows a unit crest for "Chemical Bat.[talion]", which is a clue to your wondering what subject photo indicated. (Page 15, Right Column, 3rd Down) The vehicles in the front carry chemical smokescreen makers; the vehicles being towed along behind are the horn smoke disburers. At the time, standard Army tactics called for a heavy reliance on smokescreens to surprise and confuse the enemy. Of course, in actual combat the only group surprised and confused were our own troops who would get lost in the enveloping smoke and if they emerged from out of it still pointed in the right direction for an assault, the smoke would have alerted the opposing forces that an attack was about to take place and they would be ready for us.

I believe the only instance where smoke was put to use in WWII was when we were assembling on the west bank of the Rhine in preparation for its crossing in force and we attempted to hide the massive firepower which would be brought to bear on the Wermacht. But even then the tactic proved to be more trouble than it was worth, as shifting winds blew the smoke back at us causing major problems during the assault. Its use was soon abandoned.

Best regards.

Al Silverstein, E21, '45-'48

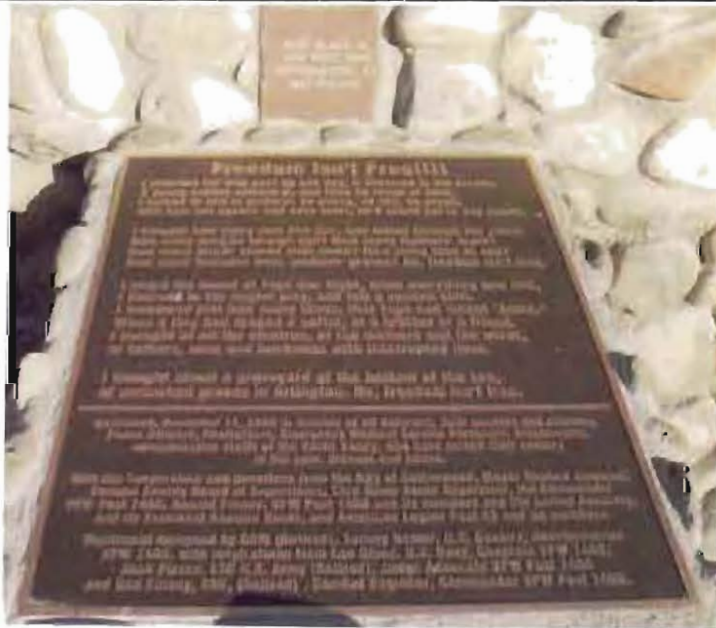


Jose, you make us proud.

Friday, November 12, 2004

Laredo Pays Tribute

Master of Ceremony Jose Luis Muñoz and Korean War Veterans Association member, Nicholas Nuñez and Jorge Gonzalez, salute the American Flag at the wreath laying ceremony at Jarvis Plaza Thursday.



VFW Post 7400 Memorial, Cottonwood, AZ



Laredo Photo Submitted By:
Jose Luis Muñoz, 19th Inf

Cottonwood Photos Submitted By:
Don Finey, 3rd "C" Engr.



Australian War Memorial



What's a Military Family Worth?
If you like Rush Limbaugh or not, this is worth reading!

What's a Military Family Worth?

By Rush Limbaugh

March 11, 2002

I think the vast differences in compensation between the victims of the September 11th casualty, and those who die serving the country in uniform, are profound. No one is really talking about it either because you just don't criticize anything having to do with September 11th. Well, I just can't let the numbers pass by because it says something really disturbing about the entitlement mentality of this country.

If you lost a family member in the September 11th attack, you're going to get an average of \$1,185,000. The range is a minimum guarantee of \$250,000, all the way up to \$4.7 million.

If you are a surviving family member of an American soldier killed in action, the first check you get is a \$6,000 direct death benefit, half of which is taxable. Next, you get \$1,750 for burial costs. If you are the surviving spouse, you get \$833 a month until you remarry. And there's a payment of \$211 per month for each child under 18. When the child hits 18, those payments come to a screeching halt.

Keep in mind that some of the people that are getting an average of \$1.185 million up to \$4.7 million are complaining that it's not enough. We also learned over the weekend that some of the victims from the Oklahoma City bombing have started an organization asking for the same deal that the September 11th families are getting. In addition to that, some of the families of those bombed in the embassies are now asking for compensation as well.

You see where this is going, don't you?

Folks, this is part and parcel of over fifty years of entitlement politics in this country. It's just really sad.

Information obtained from: <http://www.snopes.com/politics/military/deathpay.asp>

When I Look at a Patch of Dandelions...

When I look at a patch of dandelions, I see a bunch of weeds that are going to take over my yard. Kids see flowers for Mom and blowing white fluff you can wish on!

When I hear music I love, I know I can't carry the tune and don't have much rhythm so I sit self-consciously and listen. Children feel the beat and move to it. They sing out the words. If they don't know them, they make up their own!

When I feel wind on my face, I brace myself against it. I feel it messing up my hair and pulling me back when I walk. Kids close their eyes, spread their arms and fly with it, until they fall to the ground laughing!

When I see a mud puddle I step around it. I see muddy shoes and dirty carpets. Kids sit in it. They see dams to build, rivers to cross, and worms to play with!

Enjoy the little things in life, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things!

I wish you big mud puddles and sunny yellow dandelions!

Remember: Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but the moments that take our breath away!



Photos on this page submitted by ~
Robert "Chic" Kodama, 3rd "C" ENG

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/CTB	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 Cluteh 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) I-1346 (Mini)		5.00	71	Air Medal	HP-925	3.00
	Mini DRESS MESS			72	DSC Hatpin	HP-308	3.00
26	CTB (2 nd Award) I-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 Hatpin		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		12.00	78	24 ID Flag, 3x5 Screen Print	Outdoor Flag	55.00
	Crest			79	63 rd Field Artillery	Cloth Patch	5.00
31	34 th Cap Dark Blue w/Crest		10.00	80	Army Commendation Medal	HP	3.00
32	24 IDA Cap Dark Blue w/Patch		10.00	81	Soldiers Medal	HP	3.00
33	Cap w/TL, Red or White GERMANY		12.00	82	POW Medal	HP	3.00
34	24 IDA Red or White Caps		10.00		Armed Forces Reserve	HP	3.00
35	24 ID Green Cap (Patch)		10.00		Medal		
36	24 ID White Mesh Cap		10.00	83	1"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 ea. 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

Keyser, WV 26726

We require \$3.00 postage and Handling.

Please allow six weeks delivery. **No Phone Orders Please.**

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

EXIT LAUGHING (or Crying)

ANALOGIES YOU PROBABLY WON'T FIND IN GREAT LITERATURE

From the Washington Post

He spoke with the wisdom that can only come from experience, like a guy who went blind because he looked at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it and now goes around the country speaking at high schools about the dangers of looking at a solar eclipse without one of those boxes with a pinhole in it. (Joseph Lommm, Washington)

He caught your eye like one of those pointy hook latches that used to dangle from screen doors and would fly up whenever you banged the door open again. (Rich Murphy, Fairfax Station)

The little boat gently drifted across the pond exactly the way a bowling ball wouldn't. (Russell Beland, Springfield)

McBride fell 12 stories, hitting the pavement like a Hefty Bag filled with vegetable soup. (Paul Sabourin, Silver Spring)

From the attic came an unearthly howl. The whole scene had an eerie, surreal quality, like when you're on vacation in another city and "Jeopardy" comes on at 7:00 p.m. instead of 7:30. (Roy Ashley, Washington)

Her hair glistened in the rain like nose hair after a sneeze. (Chuck Smith, Woodbridge)

Her eyes were like two brown circles with big black dots in the center. (Russell Beland, Springfield)

Job was as perplexed as a hacker who means to access "http://www.flw.quid55328.com/aaaakk/ch@ung" but gets "http://www.flw.quidaaakk/ch@ung" by mistake (Ken Krattenmaker, Landover Hills)

Her vocabulary was as bad as, like, whatever.

He was as tall as a six-foot-three-inch tree. (Jack Bross, Chevy Chase)

The hailstones leaped from the pavement, just like maggots when you fry them in hot grease. (Gary F. Hevel, Silver Spring)

Her date was pleasant enough, but she knew that if her life was a movie this guy would be buried in the credits as something like "Second Tall Man." (Russell Beland, Springfield)

Long separated by cruel fate, the star-crossed lovers raced across the grassy field toward each other like two freight trains, one having left Cleveland at 6:36 p.m. traveling at 55 mph, the other from Topeka at 4:19 p.m. at a speed of 35 mph. (Jennifer Hart, Arlington)

The politician was gone but unnoticed, like the period after the Dr. on a Dr Pepper can. (Wayne Goode, Madison, Ala.)

They lived in a typical suburban neighborhood with picket fences that resembled Nancy Kerrigan's teeth (Paul Kocak, Syracuse, N.Y.)

John and Mary had never met. They were like two hummingbirds who had also never met. (Russell Beland, Springfield)

The thunder was ominous-sounding, much like the sound of a thin sheet of metal being shaken backstage during the storm scene in a play. (Barbara Fetherolf, Alexandria)

His thoughts tumbled in his head, making and breaking alliances like underpants in a dryer without Cling Free (Chuck Smith, Woodbridge)

The red brick wall was the color of a brick-red Crayola crayon. (Jennifer Frank and Jimmy Pontzer, Washington and Sterling)

Let's Make the
Reunion in Your City!

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Recent Alarming Headlines

(1) "Man Says Tight Jeans Caused Aggravated Assault Charge" (Sean Duvall, arrested for pulling a gun on police in Belle Vernon, Pa., said he was holding it only because it was impossible to stuff it in his pants; USA Today, December).

(2) "Man Arrested for Dumping Dirt in a Forest" (Federal law prohibits unloading anything on federal land, even soil being returned to the Earth for ecology's sake; Associated Press dispatch from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, November).

(3) "Lawmakers Asked to Take Helm, Donate Sperm" (To relieve a shortage at Australian sperm banks, some younger state legislators were asked to become role models by giving; Associated Press dispatch, January).

Alcohol Blues

Among recent troubling news: After Rafer Wilson crashed into a parked car in Sydney, Australia, his blood alcohol content (according to evidence at his trial in December) was tested at an almost death-defying .462, nine times the legal presumption of impairment. (Three weeks later, in Plovdiv, Bulgaria, doctors said a 67-year-old man had produced a blood-alcohol reading of .914, which supposedly stood up through four re-tests, and have stuck with the story despite worldwide alarm.) And Gary W. Rodgers was arrested in November in Lexington, Ky., and according to the county's offender database, it was his 96th arrest for public drunkenness in 2004.

Least Competent Criminals

Vancouver, Wash., in January, Cuitlahvac Renteria-Martinez, 26, was arrested for jumping into an idling 18-wheeler and taking off. However, the rig had a global positioning system that made it easy to track Renteria-Martinez, and he was quickly arrested. He later admitted to police that he had taken a swig out of what he thought was the driver's coffee cup but learned too late that it was actually the driver's tobacco spit-cup.

Great Art

In December, outgoing San Francisco Board of Supervisors President Matt Gonzalez turned over his City Hall office to graffiti artist Barry McGee, who orange-spray-painted the walls with various designs and the message "Smash the State" as Gonzalez's tribute to street art. (Mayor Gavin Newsom, a political opponent of Gonzalez, has been a vocal critic of street graffiti.) Gonzalez promised that, before he left office, he would restore the walls to their previous color.

In November at the Tate Britain gallery, sculptor Antony Gormley presented "Bed," a pile of 8,000 slices of bread arranged to resemble a large mattress but from which Gormley had first eaten an amount out of it that represented the volume of his body. Apparently Gormley did not devour the bread so much as chew it and then remove it and form different-shaped pieces, which he then dried out, chemically preserved, and displayed. The Tate Britain was so thrilled with the installation that it became the centerpiece in a room devoted to Gormley's lifetime body of work.

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





The Medal of Honor, the nations highest award for military Valor is given to those who have acted with supreme courage and to disregard their own safety in the face of most hazardous conditions. It is an award that only a comparative handful of men in the world are entitled to wear. It is bestowed by act of Congress and reflects Democracy's gratitude to those who, in moments of risk, offered everything they had in it's defense, including life itself. The medal is but a humble token, a gesture of recognition for sacrifices which cannot be repaid to its honored holders, their survivors, in worldly goods.

Twelve soldiers of the 24th Infantry Division between 1944 and 1951, so distinguished themselves with sacrificial and intrepid acts on the battlefield and received this highest decoration. Three recipients are from World War II and the other nine received their award during the Korean War. Only General Dea and Lieutenant Dodd, and Sergeant Adams lived to receive the Medal personally. Sergeant Duke survived combat but died later in a North Korean POW camp. All others were killed in action and along with Sgt. Duke received their decorations posthumously.

Private **Harold H. Moon, Jr.**, Albuquerque, New Mexico

G Company, 34th Infantry Regiment

21 October 1944, near Leyte

In a forward position, armed with a sub machine gun, Private Moon met the brunt of a strong, well supported night attack on his platoon's flanks. Although wounded, he maintained his stand pouring deadly fire into the enemy, daringly exposing himself to hostile fire. Private Moon killed a Japanese Officer who was attempting to knock out his position with grenades. When the enemy advanced a machine gun within 20 yards of the shattered perimeter, Moon stood up exposing himself to locate the gun. He remained exposed correcting mortar fire which knocked out the enemy weapon. Later he killed two Japanese soldiers as they charged as aid men. His position became the focal point of the attack for over four hours and was virtually surrounded. An entire Japanese platoon attacked the position with fixed bayonets. From a sitting position, Private Moon emptied his magazine on the advancing enemy, killing 18 and repulsing the attack. In a final display of bravery, he stood up to throw a grenade at a machine gun when he was hit and instantly killed. In the aftermath, nearly 200 dead Japanese were found within 100 yards of his foxhole. His heroism broke up a powerful threat and contributed to our initial successes in the battle for Leyte.

24th Infantry Division Association

Secretary/Treasurer

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