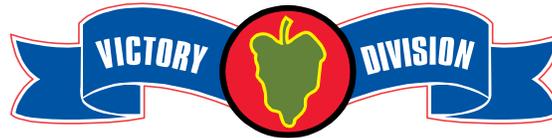


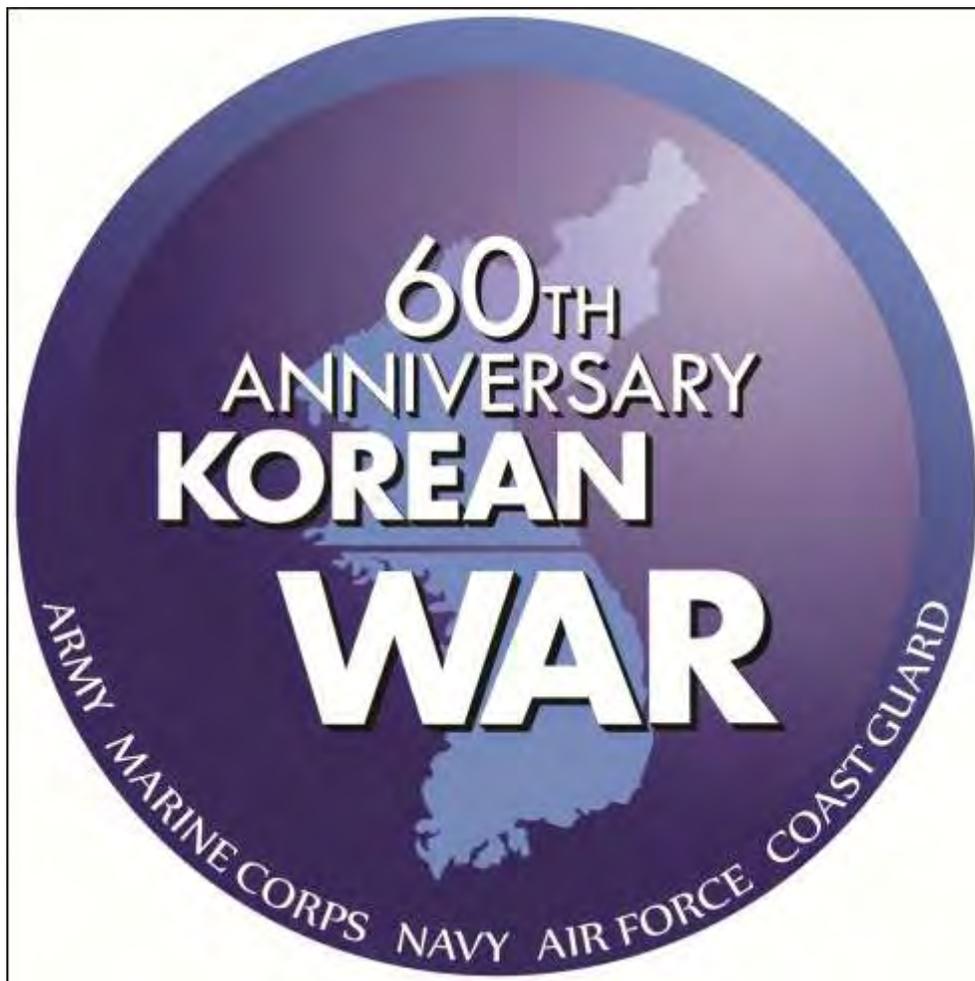
***Taro***



**FIRST TO FIGHT**

***Leaf***

**2010**



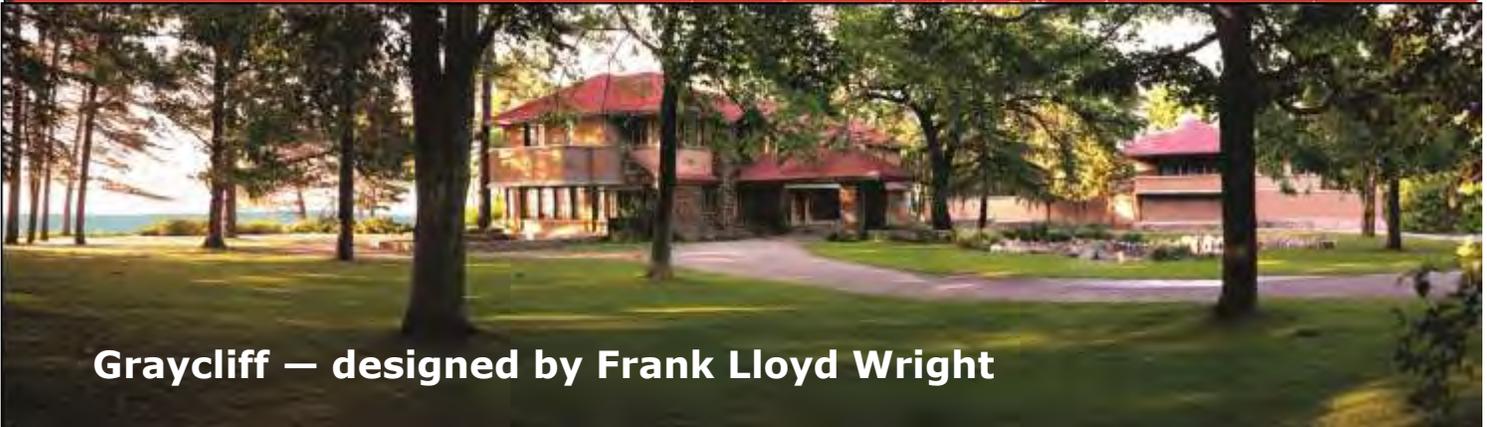
**1950**



**2010 24th IDA Reunion**  
**Buffalo, New York, September 26—29**  
See pages 18-22

## NIAGARA FALLS STATE PARK

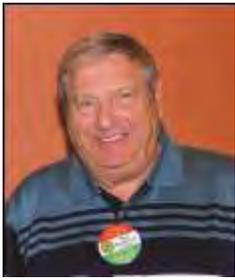
Niagara Falls State Park is America's oldest state park, established in 1885 and designed by great landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted. It is ONLY at Niagara Falls State Park where you can get



**Graycliff — designed by Frank Lloyd Wright**



# ~ ~ ~ President's Letter ~ ~ ~



Once again it's time for another issue of *The Taro Leaf*. We are so fortunate to have such a fine periodical. This

month we are doubly fortunate as our editor has had some health problems.

This past month, after numerous tests, the Doctors implanted a pacemaker in his chest. We hope and pray that this will solve some of his problems and keep him healthy. I might add that he has been banned from walking around his neighborhood as there have been complaints about garage doors going up and down as he passes by. Good luck to you Tom,

and our best wishes that the pacemaker will be a success.

Later this month I plan on attending the West Coast mini-reunion at Laughlin, Nevada. This is always a fun time, no meetings, no elections, just a fine well stocked hospitality room and lots of camaraderie and renewing of old friendships. Byrd and DJ Shrock do a wonderful job with this.

If you are in the area you should plan on attending. You won't be disappointed. Spacious rooms are only \$28.00 and meals are very reasonable. Laughlin is a beautiful town carved out of the desert and lying along the mighty Colorado River. Many of our older members are unable to travel great distances

so we have some different members that attend this meeting.

Then come fall we will have the opportunity to view one of nature's most spectacular sites, Niagara Falls, New York. I have never personally been there, and am looking forward to it.

If you plan on visiting Canada either before or after the Reunion, be sure to bring along your passport. You will not be able to obtain one there so come prepared. We will have free barrels available in the hospitality room but there will be a fairly substantial deposit on them in case you are not able to return it. All proceeds will go to the Association to pay for future

*(President's Letter Continued on page 17)*

## Send Verbeck Award Nominations by July 15

Association VP Sal Schillaci is seeking member nominations for the member you think should be recognized with our Association's prestigious 2010 Verbeck Award.



Schillaci says he would like all members to have the opportunity to name their nominee for the Verbeck Award. So please send Sal your recommendation and a brief write-up on why you believe your nominee deserves to be hon-

ored **no later than July 15, 2010.**

The following are members of this year's Verbeck Award Committee: Gene Spicer,

Dan Rickert, Keith Hagen and Tom Thiel.

Contact Sal at: Salvatore Schillaci, 59 Endicott Drive, Amherst, NY 14226-3323, ph: 716-837-1635.

Past Verbeck Award recipients are shown in the *Taro Leaf*, Vol. 61, Nos 3&4, Summer-Fall 2007, pg

49. Please add recent year's recipients: Dan Rickert, Keith Hagen and Tom Thiel to that list.

The Verbeck Award is presented to that Association member who best displays the ideals of Bill Verbeck—an unabashed love for the Division and its Association; a member who most furthers the interests of the Association and the Division.

It is not intended to reward mere popularity, but more to acknowledge hard work in helping to make the Association more successful.





## From Your Editor's Computer *by Tom J. Thiel*

In the last issue of the *Taro Leaf* we wrote about a concept for a modern up-to-date 24th IDA web site, the many components it might have, and asked for members to assist.

We were fortunate! We heard from one member who offered to scan some of the back issues of the *Taro Leaf* to electronic format thence making them available for not only a web site but also for key word searching so that we could,

for example, find every occurrence of any word or character string. That is a great tool!

This person is JulieLynn Johnson, daughter of Billy and Elminie Johnson! JulieLynn agreed to do those *Taro Leaf* publications done by the Johnson family.

Thank you so very much JulieLynn!

Electronic communications are critical to the survival of our Association.

We need younger people—those

who served in Germany, Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Lebanon, and elsewhere the 24th lived.

They are out there! I know because Google tells me so every day. But they are in their own online communities and discussion groups with their own buddies.

In order to communicate with them and bring them into our Association we need to be in their environment, the places where they talk to each other.

I'm sure I've glazed your eyes by now with this techno-speak.

But you must listen, even if you don't know diddly about it, else who will fold our flags amid the endless rows of white markers!

So, even if you don't know how, help find a way to move the Association forward!

Now to another topic, the one illustrated on the rear page of this *Taro Leaf*, namely, the editor position.

Last August, I told President Mel I would do another volume. Four issues. This is the third of that volume!

Management—please take this seriously!

Find a replacement!

Thanks all! TJT, Ed.



## Chaplain's Corner

by Glen Carpenter

*Irons, MI:* Well here it March 2. Winter will end pretty soon.

We moved up north to Irons on Dec 23. We live in the woods on 5 acres. Irons is in west central Michigan, 20 miles east of Manistee on Lake Michigan. We moved here to be with our son. Everything is going pretty well.

I had a birthday on 31 Jan, when I turned 67 years. I know, I am just a kid.

We are looking forward to the Reunion in Buffalo N.Y. Do you think they will have drinks in the bathtub?

The Reunion means that it is at that time of year again; donation request letters have gone out. Please be as generous as you can in your donations.

I just wanted to tell everybody hi and to thank them for the little notes they send with their donations.

My verse is from Psalms 40, Verse 1. I waited patiently for the Lord to help me, and he turned to me and heard my cry. Have faith. The Lord is always near when you need him. Praise the Lord.

Your Servant in Jesus Christ, Glen Carpenter.



# The Taro Leaf TAPS

## Association Members

**Frank Alvarez**, of Corona, CA, passed away on January 11, 2010, at age 92. Frank served in the Hawaiian 24th Infantry Division, **34th Infantry Regiment**, 3rd Battalion, New Guinea, from 1942–1945. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Mrs. Kay Alvarez, 1721 Greenview Avenue, Corona, CA 92880-1298.



**Alvarez**

**Joseph J Conoyer**, O'Fallon, MO, passed away on on June 7, 2004 in Wentzville, MO. Life Member 127, Mr. Conoyer served with "C" **3rd Engineers** in WWII. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen Conoyer, 1107 Meadow Pointe Dr., O'Fallon, MO, 63366-2356.

**Thomas H. Crouch**, Tucson, AZ, passed away on Jan. 15, 2010. Association life member 2287, Thomas served in the **34th Infantry Regiment**, Company C, 1952-53 in Korea. The family may be contacted at P.O. Box 32877, Tucson, AZ 85751-2877.

**Robert Eugene Gregg**, 79, of Hickory, NC passed away on Feb. 16, 2010, at Catawba Valley Medical Center. He served in Company L, **34th Infantry Regiment** in 1950-51 in Japan and Korea. Robert is survived by his wife, Mrs. Betty Gregg, 312 21st St. SW, Hickory, NC 28602-2125.

**Robert B. Hardin**, passed away July 4, 2009 in Dunlap, TN. Life Member 151, Robert served with the **5th RCT** from 1948–1951. He is survived by his wife Mrs. Alice Harding, 207A Stone Loop Cave, Dunlap, TN 37327-4709

**Hubert S. Hotchkiss**, passed away on Dec. 9, 2004 in Narvon, PA. Life member 1135, Hubert served in the **29th Infantry Regiment** in Korea .



**Hummer**  
The Taro Leaf

**John R. Hummer**, CSM, 70, passed away on Jan. 31, 2010 in Hinesville, GA. Life member 1274, John served 24 years in the US Army, including a tour in Vietnam, and at Fort Stewart, GA as the

**24th Infantry Division's Command Sergeant Major**. He is survived by his wife, Ethel, and two daughters. Interment was Feb. 5, 2010, at the Georgia Veterans Memorial Cemetery. Mrs. Ethel M. Hummer, 303 Quail Run Dr, Hinesville, GA 31313-3412.

**Allan L. LaBrun**, of Baltimore, MD, passed away Sep. 2, 2009. Life member 855, Allan served with the **19th Infantry Regiment**. A memorial service was held at Salem United Methodist Church, in Baltimore, on Sep. 20, 2009. Address of record: 7241 Bridgewood Dr., Baltimore, MD 21224-1901.

**Frank P. Lewis**, Hollister, CA passed away Jan. 8, 2010. Association life member 431, Frank served in the **34th Infantry Regiment** in WWII. The family may be contacted at Daniel A Lewis, 7748 N Patriot Ave, Fresno, CA 93722-22322.

**John R. Mannering** passed away Feb. 6, 2002 in Haddonfield, NJ. Life member 1709, John served with Company A, **21st Infantry Regiment** in Japan from Jan.-July 1947.

**Richard A. Parmarter**, 76, of Florida, NY died Feb. 4, 2009. Life member 980, Richard served in the **6th Medium Tank Battalion** in Korea from July 1951 to Aug. 1953. After retirement he enjoyed playing TAPS in Orange County, NY area cemeteries. He is survived by his wife Mrs. Gloria Parmarter, 10 New St., Florida NY 10921-1207.

**Ernest "Ernie" Powell**, age 78 of Brandenburg, KY passed away on Jan. 25, 2010. Life member 1583, SFC Powell served from Jan. 1951 to Jan. 1954 with both the **19th** and **21st Infantry Regiments**; including time in Korea. He is survived by his wife Mrs. **Powell** Flossie Powell, 1168 High St., Brandenburg, KY 40108-1501.



**George F. Ryals, Jr.** of Thomaston, GA passed away on Dec. 23, 2009. Life Member 163, George was a

*(Continued on page 6)*



# The Taro Leaf TAPS

(Continued from page 5)

Tech Sergeant in the **21st Infantry Regiment** during WWII, in the South Pacific. His family can be reached at 293 Harvey Street, Thomaston, GA 30286.

**Siegfried Steinberger** passed away on Feb. 1, 2010, in Mississippi. Siegfried served during World War II as a Sergeant in "K" **21st Infantry Regiment**, and was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He was preceded in death by his wife, June Wilke Steinberger, and is survived by sons, Karl, Bruce, and Marty. (By Edward Burgess).

**Michael J. Szal**, 79, of Largo, FL, passed away Feb.



Szal

2, 2010. Life Member 736, Michael served with the **5th RCT** as a SFC during the Korean War receiving the CIB and the Purple Heart. He moved to Florida from McKees Rocks, PA, in 1984. Interment at Bay Pines National Cemetery, St. Petersburg, FL with mil-

itary honors by KWVA Suncoast Chapter. Michael is survived by his wife, Virginia "Jeanie" Szal, 998 Stephen Foster Dr., Largo, FL 33771-1306.

**Racy E. Tabor**, of Warren, MI, passed away Jan. 14, 2010. Life member #2105, Racy served in Japan and Korea with **Battery B, 52 FA Bn.** Ms. Bonnie Tabor, 32043 Lancaster Dr, Warren, MI 48088-1350.

## Keeping in Touch

Some spouses and surviving family members have asked how to keep in touch with friends they have met in the 24th IDA. I tell them that Associate Membership is an option they may wish to explore. It is only \$15.00 a year and with it you get the *Taro Leaf* and all reunion and other announcements. (see page 24)

A Blog or other social networking web site has been suggested but we have no one who has built such a site. Building a means of enabling spouses and surviving family members to connect is an area where one of our Directors could make a major contribution. tjt

## Association Non-Members

**Army Spc. Jason E. Ames**, 21, of Cerulean, KY, died Aug. 31, 2005 serving during Oper. Iraqi Freedom. He was with the 3rd Battalion, **21st Infantry Regiment**, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team), Fort Lewis, WA.

**Merle Owen Blew**, 77, died Jan. 27, 2010, in Belleville, KS. Staff Sergeant Blew was a heavy machine gunner with M Co. **21st Infantry Regiment**. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Jean Blew, 102 S McRoberts St, Mankato, KS 66956-2239.

**Tony Brannon**, Captain, of Jamestown, TN was killed in a vehicle accident Jan. 31, 2010, in Columbia, SC. Captain Brannon was E Company commander, a Basic Combat Training unit of the **34th Infantry Regiment** at Fort Jackson. He is survived by his wife, Jessica, and three children at 549 Abbeyhill Dr., Columbia, SC 29229-7574.

**James Francis Cochran III**, Major General (Ret.), 80, of St. Teresa, FL died Feb. 22, 2010 in Columbus, GA. He **commanded the 24th Infantry Division** at Ft. Stewart, GA from 1979 to 1981. His wife Faye predeceased him; he is survived by his son LTC (R) Lewis C. Cochran and daughter Faye Woolf.

**Bernard "Curly" Criswell**, 65, Grinnell, IA, who served with the **24th Medical BN** in Korea, 1955-57, passed away July 18, 1999. He is survived by his wife Judith N Criswell, 419 High St, Grinnell, IA 50112.

**William R. Evers**, Battery C, **555th FA Battalion** in Korea during the war passed away on Oct. 14, 2009 in Thornton, IL. He is survived by Mrs. Theresa Evers, 704 Forest Ln, Thornton, IL 60476.

**Benjamin P. Ferguson** of Haskell, OK died in 2005. He served with Company B, **21st Infantry** and was a POW from 7 July 1950 until his return on 25 August 1953.

(Continued on page 44)



# The Origin of "Taps"

During the Civil War, in July 1862 when the Army of the Potomac was in camp, Brig. Gen. Daniel Butterfield summoned Pvt. Oliver Wilcox Norton, his brigade bugler, to his tent.

Butterfield, who disliked the colorless "extinguish lights" call then in use, whistled a new tune and asked the bugler to sound it for him.

After repeated trials and changing the time of some notes which were scribbled on the back of an envelope, the call was finally arranged to suit Gen. Butterfield and used for the first time that night.

Pvt. Norton, who on several occasions, had sounded numerous new calls composed by his commander, recalled his experience of the origin of "Taps" years later:

"One day in July 1862 when the Army of the Potomac was in camp at Harrison's Landing on the James River, Virginia, resting and recruiting from its losses in the seven days of battle before Richmond, Gen. Butterfield summoned the writer to his tent, and whistling some new tune, asked the bugler to sound it for him. This was done, not quite to his satisfaction at first, but after repeated trials, changing the time of some of the notes, which were scribbled on the back of an envelope, the call was finally arranged to suit the general.

"He then ordered that it should be substituted in his brigade for the regulation Taps' (extinguish lights)

which was printed in the Tactics and used by the whole army. This was done for the first time that night. The next day buglers from nearby brigades came over to the camp of Butterfield's brigade to ask the meaning of this new call. They liked it, and copying the music, returned to their camps, but it was not until some time later, when generals of other commands had heard its melodious notes, that orders were issued, or permission given, to substitute it throughout the Army of the Potomac for the time-honored call which came down from West Point.

In the western armies the regulation call was in use until the autumn of 1863. At that time the XI and XII Corps were detached from the Army of the Potomac and sent under command of Gen. Hooker to reinforce the Union Army at Chattanooga, Tenn. Through its use in these corps it became known in the western armies and was adopted by them. From that time, it became and remains to this day the official call for Taps' It is printed in the present Tactics and is used throughout the U.S. Army, the National Guard, and all organizations of veteran soldiers.

Gen. Butterfield, in composing this call and directing that it be used for Tap' in his brigade, could not have foreseen its popularity and the use for another purpose into which it would grow.

Today, whenever a man is buried with military honors anywhere in

the United States, the ceremony is concluded by firing three volleys of musketry over the grave, and sounding with the trumpet or bugle Put out the lights. Go to sleep'...There is something singularly beautiful and appropriate in the music of this wonderful call. Its strains are melancholy, yet full of rest and peace. Its echoes linger in the heart long after its tones have ceased to vibrate in the air."

Day is done,  
gone the sun,  
From the hills,  
from the lake,  
From the skies.

All is well,  
safely rest,  
God is nigh.

Go to sleep,  
peaceful sleep,  
May the soldier or sailor,  
God keep.  
On the land  
or the deep,  
Safe in sleep.

Source:  
[www.arlingtoncemetery.org/ceremonies/originoftaps.html](http://www.arlingtoncemetery.org/ceremonies/originoftaps.html)

This documented story of the origin of "Taps" is presented here so that all readers of *The Taro Leaf* may know the real TAPS story and not one of those false ones going round the world via the email route!

TJT ED.



# 5th RCT in DEATH VALLEY 22-25 APRIL 1951

by Al McAdoo, 5th RCT, Reprinted from *Battle Stars* with permission of Hugh W. Ruckdeschel, Ed

Below is an official description of the Death Valley fight of the 5th Regimental Combat Team just as the Chinese (CCF) entrapped the 555th Field Artillery in April 1951. Hopefully more guys who were there will write in and give us their impressions. Al McAdoo

## DEATH VALLEY 22-25 APRIL 1951

The enemy allowed –A Battery to get on the road and then closed in with a fierce attack which stopped the column dead in its tracks.

(Apparently the area was not made secure before an attempt was made to close station marching order [CSMO] could be executed.)

The enemy attack was driven in from the east and inflicted heavy casualties upon friendly units along the road. Major Walls, Regimental S-3 (Operations Officer) immediately rushed to this area and reported the situation to Col. Wilson the 5th RCT CO, who was then with the 2nd BN., 5th Tank Co., Co “B” 6th Tank BN was near UKHALGYE still in the valley.

A platoon from the 5th Tank Co, commanded by Lt. Crockett was immediately dispatched to aid the Artillery while the 2nd BN hastily deployed its men on the remaining tanks and prepared to follow. (It was past 17:30 hours and daylight was fading on April 23, 1951).

When Lt. Crockett reached the ambush area the situation was critical. Many were wounded, including: Lt.

Fay the TACP, Capt. West CO Co. –A”, Capt. Lamb, CO Co. “F” and Major Wells the RCT S-3 who later died of his wounds. The escape road to the south was blocked by damaged vehicles.

Lt. Fay had called in an air strike which broke up the initial enemy assault, but the cloud of smoke that was forming over the area combined with the growing dusk served to prevent further observation or aid from the air.

This situation was reported to 24ID Operations by radio relay from the 5th RCT Air Section.

Tank fire from Lt. Crockett’s platoon held the enemy back from the south end of the column. Unfortunately, the road was effectively blocked with no passage through the defile. Some vehicles were burning while others were so badly damaged they could not be moved.

The Main Body of the 2nd BN, together with the remaining Tank column, was still north of the ambush site and was stopped cold.

The enemy concentrated its effort toward the 2nd BN, which fought from the road until the enemy force broke off.

Colonel Stewart, CO, 555th Field Artillery, voluntarily made a road recon west from the column to scout out a path headed west to determine if another passable road existed out of the trap.

The 2nd BN. moved south on both sides of the stalled column toward the pass, and while the enemy was engaged by the 2nd BN. the tanks and remaining elements were able to travel west and then south over the trail Col. Stewart selected.

Four guns of Battery –A” and three guns of Battery –C” together with HQ Battery and trains of the Artillery escaped by this route.

Most of the vehicles located south of the intersecting trail to the west had to be abandoned due to the fading light. Little repair or salvage could be done and all friendly forces were ordered to vacate the area.

As the last vehicle cleared the intersection, the 2nd BN. was ordered to break contact with the enemy and withdraw immediately to the west. This action took place under harassing long range machine-gun and small arms fire.

Contact was effectively broken, and the enemy did not pursue or was the column again attacked until it reached friendly lines in the vicinity of SAMSOKYONG.

One Platoon of the 6th Tank Battalion at the rear of the column headed south was stopped and surrounded by the enemy. Contact was broken as the 2nd BN withdrew to the west.

(A distance must have developed in the column headed south resulting

*(DEATH VALLEY Continued on page 9)*



in the loss of this tank platoon of Co. –B 6th Tank Battalion.)

This action occurred north of the intersection and was not reported before friendly troops were too distant to intervene.

Except for this accident all useable vehicles were saved and all wounded were evacuated. (Several of the dead had to be left behind and would be listed missing until their remains would be recovered and identified when the friendly lines extended north at a later date. This area is now in South Korea and can be visited through –Revisit Korea” Program.)

Casualties in this action were heavy from the initial attack which was delivered at close range particularly against Battery –B” 555th F.A. BN. Thereafter, losses were not abnormal as the 2nd BN forced the enemy back to the east.

(It is ironic that 8th Army’s offensive began on April 22, 1951, and the CCF launched its offensive on April 25, 1951. The CCF overwhelmed the friendly advance, which ended up losing some miles south before the CCF advance ran

out of steam. The CCF demonstrated an inability to advance and hold ground.)

On April 26, 1951 the 5th RCT hastily reorganized and prepared to move further south to a new blocking position.

On April 27, the 5th RCT prepared to cover the withdrawal of the 21st Infantry and the 28th British Brigade in the vicinity of the CHANG-DON-NI Dam on the Pukhan (Bukhan) River. This mission was executed without contact with the enemy.

On April 28, the 5th RCT provided security to an Engineer outfit that dismantled a pontoon bridge across the Pukhan River and the dismantled bridge was convoyed with the pontoons being utilized as barges to transport the Engineer equipment down stream

The 1st and 3rd BN moved south along the west bank of the Pukhan River and the next day closed with the 5th RCT assembly area as 24ID Reserve northeast of where the Pukhan joins the HAN River.

At this time the period of inactivity in Division Reserve was anticipated in order to complete the reorganization and to pick up replacements.

Equipment was inspected and shortages received. Emergency requisitions were made out and filled with minimum delay.

This closes the War Diary for April 1951. Casualties for the period were very heavy.

THESE LISTS ARE CUMULATIVE

- ◆ 7 WIA were listed for March 1951 and not listed on the March 1951 report.
- ◆ 317 WIA were listed for April 1951.
- ◆ 50 WIA were listed in the May 1951 report mostly in Co. “E” and mostly on April 22, 1951.
- ◆ 24 were confirmed KIA and 188 were listed as MIA (missing); some would end up recovered by other units, often wounded. Some would be reported POW but most of those would be later reported deceased. These remains continue to be recovered as of this writing in August 2009.

August 10, 2009  
Mr. Albert McMoo  
7506 S Mascotte St  
Tampa FL 33616

**24th Infantry Division Association**  
**Drawing Ticket**  
10-\$400 Cash prizes

**\$5.00**  
Ticket Donations Appreciated

**WINNER NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE BE AS GENEROUS AS YOU CAN**

email: \_\_\_\_\_



# My First Reunion

by Gerald F. Brown

May 18-20, 1995 the 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment of the 24th Infantry Division held its first reunion in Nashville, TN. It was 45 years after the BN had seen action in Korea during 1950-51.

The Battalion was stationed at Sasebo, Japan when North Korea invaded South Korea on June 25, 1950. Within days the UN Security Council voted to intervene, and the 24th was dispatched to Korea, entering combat action on July 5th.

The 24th took very heavy casualties those first weeks, many on the first day, July 5th. They fought a gallant delay action to help keep a foothold in Korea while more units were coming to help.

I was fortunate to miss that first month of hell. I was RA Private Gerald F. Brown and became part of the 1st Platoon, Company –A, 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment, on July 31, 1950. We were on a hill near the Naktong River.

We occupied this hill for two days repelling North Korean attacks, mostly at night. Just before daylight and just after nightfall our company jeep and trailer would bring all the rifle ammo and C-Ration meals it could haul, but a small jeep and trailer doesn't haul much.

Why were we new replacements always hungry? The original company guys were in poor health from fatigue, lack of sleep, missing meals and had diarrhea so bad many



Gerald Brown, Co. "A" Commo Sgt.

could eat only the cracker portion of the meals. I never really understood how they kept going. They drank water from rice paddy streams. Halazon tablets were available with the C-Rations, but thirst often would not wait the 30 minutes necessary for purification.

On my third day in combat our company went in the attack to take the next two hills, about a mile across the valley. The first platoon lead the attack, and a very young Pvt. Brown was sent ahead as the lead scout. This was a sobering experience for a young boy in his first attack. I tried to remember my training, but I was SCARED!

We took the first ridge line with light losses and then our platoon was to hold it and cover the second ridge line while the second platoon attacked. Now things became lively

and the second couldn't get anywhere; we were taking casualties.

In a couple of hours we got word that an air strike would be made on the North Korean positions. Soon the P-51 Mustangs flew in, made a good dry run over the NK positions, circled up and over to make the live strike.

But they came in on US instead, Their rockets, 50 caliber machine guns and napalm bombs hit us instead of the NK forces! We were the ones softened up and suffered lots of casualties.

Then the NK forces took advantage of this mishap and we were driven down the hillside. We took up a defensive position behind a rice paddy dike at the base of the hill.

We had lost many, many men and were pinned down, but we were able to keep the position until nightfall.

After dark we withdrew about four miles to a small ridge line and set up a perimeter of defense. Some vehicles got to us to take out the wounded we were able to get out. I really don't know how many didn't get off that hill.

We defended this ridge into the next night. About midnight a Marine Battalion, about 1,500 strong and new in Korea, took over our company position (we were down to about eighty in strength now).

*(First Reunion Continued on page 11)*



*(First Reunion Continued from page 10)*

We marched to a different sector some twelve miles westerly and took a new defensive position late in the day. We soon heard that the Marines had been attacked by an overwhelming NK force and had suffered severe losses. I shuddered at the thought of how we might have fared!

This was my first week in combat; I was seventeen!

During August our role was to try holding onto the southern tip of Korea. The battalion was placed in a "Mobile Reserve" status and we went from one firefight to another plugging holes in the line.

In September 1950 the 34th Infantry Regiment was de-activated and the "Colors" retired, and we became the 3rd Battalion of the 19th Infantry Regiment. Our –A Company was now Company –I of the 19th. Replacements began arriving.

General Mac Arthur's September Inchon invasion was successful and broke the North's supply lines. It facilitated our drive north.

By October the word was that the war would end before Christmas and we could go home. Happy days were ahead!

Late October 1950 found us in the far north near the Yalu River, which separates China and Russia from North Korea. Almost a week went by with little action. Company sized patrols took a few prisoners.

The war appeared to be over.

Suddenly, there were enemy attacks all along the front. Where did they get the equipment and fresh troops? Our answer was quick. China had entered the war and had massed a large strong army on the Korean side of the Yalu River.

They mounted a massive full front attack in early November 1950 and we were driven back into South Korea. When their supply lines became long and ours short, we began pushing them back to the north.

Winter COLD was upon us and blizzards of snow. In mid December we had pushed into North Korea again and the ground was covered with snow. I don't know just how far north we had gotten, but it had become very cold.

We were on a defensive position through Christmas. The company kitchen was brought up and we had a hot Christmas turkey dinner.

Our company front was strung out over a mile and we didn't attack the Chinese and they didn't attack us. We had fires going to warm by and so did they.

But that all changed about 10 p.m. on New Years Eve when the Chinese made an all out front line attack. We held for a couple of hours and then moved back to the next ridge line and fought them again. This ridge line to ridge line hopping continued until a secondary line was set up and we withdrew through it.

We were pushed back inside of the city of Seoul where we regrouped and held. We began gaining ground again in January through the bitter cold. The positions were all out on the mountain tops in the blizzards and the snow was sometimes a foot deep.

I don't think we would have fared as well without the fires we built. I personally think the Chinese were in the same shape except they had winter clothing.

On the third of February we began an attack to push the Chinese into a tighter ring. The Eighth Army had begun to surround what we were told was several hundred thousand Chinese. Our battalion began our attack and pushed north several miles. The only problem was our flanking forces didn't fight up along side of us and we were soon surrounded.

We were beyond artillery support and it was night-fall before we learned the flanking units were far behind us. We didn't think we were in too bad of a situation, then during the night the Chinese continually attacked in force.

We had the entire battalion in position around one large mountain top and we were able to keep from being annihilated.

We lost many men during the night. At daylight we got word by radio an air strike would come to our assistance. We waited until the planes came before putting out the identifying air panels. But the air-

*(First Reunion Continued on page 12)*



*(First Reunion from page 11)*

craft sent word there were identical panels on all the hill tops in our area and with all the fighting going on they could not tell which was ours. They declined to fire.

From experience, I knew that no air support was better than us being hit by our own planes.

We were then ordered to fight our way out. We placed Companies L and M in the middle of the battalion, K company fought the rear action and our company, Company I, led the attack out. L and M carried the dead and wounded.

We made it to the last ridge line and then switched places with K company. Our Company held the hill and Company K fought down the ridge across the stream to friendly lines, L and M followed with the dead and wounded.

Once they were safely across we began our fight out; the Chinese had closed in around us again. We took lots of casualties making our way out. We broke through the ice over a stream while crossing and those of us with worn out shoe packs got our feet soaked in the ice water.

Once we got safely behind the lines we continued to the rear some ten or twelve miles to recover. We immediately built fires and tried to dry out and warm up. My shoes and socks were solid ice and my feet felt very numb and cold.

Our Battalion was then put into

reserve just behind the lines and we made company-sized patrols several miles toward the enemy lines to see where the enemy was.

After returning from one of these patrols I took off my shoe packs to try to dry the sticky ooze from around my toes. The Company Commander saw me and told me to go to the aid station.

The doctor evacuated me for frozen feet. I went to the 10th Station Hospital in Pusan and was gone from my company for six weeks.

While I was gone, our forces tightened the ring around the Chinese. In March our forces inflicted great losses to the Chinese in an action near the Iron Triangle.

Early April saw another massive Chinese attack, and we were driven back south near Taujon. Again the Chinese supply lines faltered and we began another offensive campaign to the north.

In May the Chinese surrendered in large numbers. For a while we had more prisoners than our own strength. I wondered how China could come up with so much manpower, but then China has many, many people and their value of life was small in 1950-1951.

July and August 1951 became a more stable front line type of fighting than we had previously seen.

In July I was assigned as the Communication Sergeant at battalion headquarters.

The troop rotation program began in the spring; my turn came about the first of September. I arrived at San Francisco and boarded a troop train to Fort Riley on Sep. 11, 1951.

I would become 19 years old on October 21. I had spent nearly fourteen months in combat and had participated in six of the ten campaigns of the 24th Division.

At the reunion, would anyone wonder why I was happy to just stay at our reunion meeting room for the entire three days to reminisce?

I completed a twenty year, six month and twenty two day active duty career in the Army, retiring from Fort Sill, OK on July 1, 1970 as a Master Sergeant at age 37. I had served in the Viet Nam War and had duty stations at Fort Sill, OK (four times), Fort Carson, CO, The University of Missouri (ROTC Instructor) Columbia, MO, The Univ. of Kansas (ROTC Instructor) Lawrence, KS, and two tours of three and a half years each in Germany.

I must acknowledge the great support I received from my wife, Vee, and my family. Without this I would not have made it.

Gerald F. Brown  
1607 Pleasant Street  
Hutchinson, KS 67501  
620-662-0162  
jerryveebrown@cox.net

(See recent photo of Jerry and Vee Brown on page 46)



# Hollandia 1944 patrol

Dear Tom:

Here are snapshots showing 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division leaders with a patrol crossing Lake Sentaini at Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea on a very hot summer day in 1944.

There were two boats taking the patrol across for a ten- to twelve-mile mission to engage and destroy Japanese reported to be in small units attempting to retreat, east to west, along the New Guinea coast. They were going from their Imperial 18<sup>th</sup> Army base at Wewak, trying to escape through the jungle, skirting around our recently won Hollandia beach-head and big air-drome.

It was a routine patrol mission, daily duty for units of the 21st Regiment in securing their sector. The top brass went along that day for the experience, to observe their men in action, etc.

As it developed, there was no action; not a round was fired. At the designated trail crossing, we found



In the boat – from left to right – two soldiers from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineers (I do not have their names); Lt. Walter Page, ADC; Lt. Art Stimson, ADC; Brig. General Kenneth Cramer, Asst. Division CG, 24th Division; Col. Layman, CO, 21st Inf Reg; and Maj. General Frederick Irving, CG 24th Infantry Division.

many dead Japanese, apparently from hunger, exhaustion, or disease. The scene was not uncommon. The stench was overwhelming. Only one, very sick Japanese soldier was found. He managed to stand to surrender, be searched and then fell back down. He was carried

by stretcher but died before dark.

I would like to hear from anyone who was there.

Art Stimson  
4718 Hallmark Dr, Apt 102  
Houston TX 77056-3911  
Ph: 713-467-6906

Tom:

I have never met you....probably will not get to a reunion.

But I wanted you to know that I appreciate everything you do for us.

Jack Higdon CW4 Retired  
Company M 21st Inf (I am a Gimlet), Apr. 49— Jun 1951  
Task Force Smith  
918 NE Van Loon Lane  
Cape Coral FL 33909-2639  
Ph: 239-573-8182, email: Jack221316@aol.com

Send "Your Story"

to

[thetaroleaf@gmail.com](mailto:thetaroleaf@gmail.com)

or

19147 Park Place Blvd

Eustis, FL 32736

Now!



# Missing officer's wife tells of sudden move to war zone

By MARY LOU YOUNG, *The Standard-Star, New Rochelle, NY, Sept. 1950*

Camp Wood, Kumaniato, Japan, was a "madhouse" the night of June 30, 1950, when the 21st Regiment, 24th Division, was alerted to be sent to Korea. The men had no previous warning that they were to be sent to Korea and assembling the troops at the last minute caused much commotion and confusion in the camp.

Events that night were told in an interview with Mrs. Frank J. Cosnahan, wife of Lieut. (Frank J) Cosnahan, who has been reported missing in action since July 12. Mrs. Cosnahan returned recently from Japan with their six months old son, Frank Jr. She is the former Miss Norma Calafati, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Angelo Calafati of 19 Beat-tie Lane.

The men had no idea they would be sent to Korea, Mrs. Cosnahan reported. The Air Force had gone in the day after the invasion of South Korea, but her husband did not think they would have to go. In fact, she said, he dreamed a few nights before that he was on his way to Korea. Telling her about it, he said, "Now isn't that ridiculous!"

The couple had retired early that night, and at 11 P. M. the phone rang and a voice announced the ominous news. Lieut. Cosnahan was to report immediately to the camp to leave for Korea. They lived in a house a few miles from the base, and Lieut. Cosnahan told his

wife she was to go with him to camp. They packed in "no time at all" and were on their way in 20 minutes. He had on "only his uniform, field pack, heavy helmet and rifle."

Was "Madhouse"

When they arrived, it was as she said, "madhouse." They went to a friend's home, and Mrs. Cosnahan and young Frank stayed there. After her husband left, Mrs Cosnahan sat up all night with other officers' wives, drinking coffee. She recalled the only warning they had that the war in Korea might affect them was a blackout the night before.

Lt. Cosnahan went to a camp a few miles away and while there, "called me about 20 times until it was a "standing joke," she said.

Mrs. Cosnahan is confident her husband is either a prisoner of war or in hiding. For more than the two months she was there after her husband left, reports came in about men reported missing, hiding for several days in the hills, returning to their outfits or being prisoners of war.

She learned later from a sergeant who returned from the fighting and had been with Frank, that "they were surrounded by the North Koreans, ran out of ammunition and were throwing rocks at the Reds." Then, "they ran in every direction," and the sergeant fortunately got back.

Mrs. Cosnahan is bitter that so few

men were sent in at that time without being fully prepared or knowing what it was all about or why they were sent to Korea.

At about this time, Lt. Cosnahan's mother, Mrs. Alice Cosnahan of Mount Vernon, put through a call to her daughter-in-law in Japan. Her son's wife said she couldn't say then that her husband had left for Korea for safety reasons.

But the interpreter, a woman who also acted as operator, also had been "given" strict orders that she was not to say where the Regiment had gone told the Lieutenant's mother that he "isn't in Korea."

After the call, Mrs. Cosnahan said she grabbed the woman shook her and warned her not to do it again. But she did a few minutes later in a call from another anxious mother in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Cosnahan reported her to the authorities who said she had been under surveillance as a Communist for some time. The operator was later rounded up with several others.

"Soul City Sue"

During the days that followed at the camp, the wives listened every night to Seoul City Sue as the GIs call her, and then to later programs on which prisoners of war spoke. This program was authentic said Mrs Cosnahan "because I knew the men and recognized their voices as the other women did."

Seoul City Sue, however, did not

*(Continued on page 15)*



(Continued from page 14)

give authoritative information, and the boys -didn't like her because she was too old and her voice wasn't sex,"

Mrs. Cosnahan related that in articles in Stars and Stripes it was reported that Seoul City Sue announced that a certain soldier was killed in action and that while she was announcing it, the soldier was listening in with other fellows in his outfit and said -Look at me. The walking dead."

Since she's been home, Mrs. Cosnahan has been searching the newspapers for pictures of prisoners of war hoping to find her husband in one of them She says she is not going to worry about the atrocities reported because they couldn't all be cruel.

For example she related that a friend of her husband who had been a prisoner of war in Japan

during the last war had three Japanese guards who were very good to him, and since his return there have been his best friends. [end]

Note:

Hello Tom:

I knew Norma Calafati and the Calafati family, and thought *Taro Leaf* readers would be interested in this clipping from The Standard-Star, New Rochelle, NY, September 1950. It gives one of the few eyewitness accounts of the night of 30 June 1950 when the first orders from 8th Army headquarters in Tokyo had been received at Camp Wood, leading to the formation of Task Force Smith, a reconstituted 1st Battalion of the 21st Infantry Regiment and soon after, containing additional personnel of the 19th and 34th Regiments.

Sadly, Mrs. Cosnahan who narrated this article, did not get her wish re-

garding the status of her husband, 2nd Lt. Frank J. Cosnahan, who was announced as KIA as of 12 July 1950.

After her return to the US, she was contacted by a close friend of her husband, 2nd Lt. Ollie -O.D." Connor. Lt. Connor had been awarded the Silver Star medal for his heroic actions at Osan on 5 July 1950 where he fired 22 rounds from his 2.36" rocket launcher at attacking NKA T-34 tanks, disabling two of them and slowing the enemy's movements.

Eventually Mrs. Cosnahan and Lt. Connor married, moved to Texas where they raised two children and enjoyed a long and happy marriage.

Best wishes.

Al Silverstein

89 Harding Dr.

New Rochelle NY 10801-4641

914-632-5799

joan.silverstein2@verizon.net

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## SPECIAL INVITATION from the Friends of American Veterans of the Korean War...

**KWVA (Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.)** Members have received a special invitation from the Friends of American Veterans of the Korean War, for a special "Appreciation Dinner, Ceremony, Concert and Dancing, Symposium and Prayer in honor of American Veterans of Korean War."

We, Friends of American Veterans of the Korean War, plan to host it's "2010 Appreciation Event in honor of American veterans of the Korean War" on June 13-14, 2010 at Las Vegas as we did last year, commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the 6.25 Korean War this time. We hereby like to ask you to announce our "Event" at your organization's Home Page as you did it last year for us. Please find our formal letter of asking for your assistance and support as shown in the attached file here. We appreciate your help and publicity of our "Event" at your Home Page.

Thanks and Warm Wishes.

Sincerely,  
Woong Kyu Cho and Koo Oh  
Co-Chairmen, FAVKW

For details, please go to: [http://www.kwva.org/homepage\\_stories/pdfs/100201\\_friends\\_korea\\_veterans\\_letter.pdf](http://www.kwva.org/homepage_stories/pdfs/100201_friends_korea_veterans_letter.pdf)

If you have any questions, please contact: **Frank E Cohee, Jr**, 4037 Chelsea Ln, Lakeland, FL 33809-4063, Ph: 863-859-1384, FCohee@kwva.org



# Dear Mr. President

2-17-2010

Dear Mr. President;

I wish to call to your attention the dedicated endeavors of one Mr. Wilbert [Shorty] Estabrook of 37645 Flora Court, Murrieta, California 92563-2726!

Mr. Estabrook was a Career Military Man who was with the 24th Infantry Division in Korea, among many other military posts during his career within the United States Army in 1950. He was, to my knowledge, serving with one of the first units deployed to Korea in 1950, after the onset of our involvement there.

He was captured, along with my wife Brenda's uncle, Corporal Melvin Hampton Morgan in 1950, and marched north during the infamous – "The Death March", where he was a POW for several years. And although Shorty Estabrook survived captivity, my wife's uncle did not. Melvin is still buried in a shallow grave, location unknown, somewhere in North Korea, where he perished from starvation and beatings!

Shorty Estabrook strove for many years, along with my wife Brenda (Melvin's niece), and others, to have those who expired in enemy captivity, from 1941 to the present, finally recognized (awarded) a posthumous Purple Heart Medal. This, with the valued assistance of most of Congress, the Media, and many Veterans' Organizations, was finally accomplished!!

Shorty, now 80 years young, fought valiantly for years to have those who perished in enemy captivity made eligible for the award of this medal, a task now accomplished, and as such, it is my most humble opinion, that he too should be recognized in some small way for this monumental undertaking and achievement! And even though he never sought any special notice for his (and my wife's) labor of love, this work has now become an integral part of the Purple Heart Regulations!

How much would it take, Mr. President, to drop Mr. Estabrook a short line expressing your appreciation for accomplishing the monumental task that he undertook, and helped to bring to fruition? And although I fully appreciate the magnitude of your efforts and responsibilities, especially in this time of war, to forget the sacrifices of past warriors is also, in my most humble opinion, to overlook the sacrifices of those who now serve our nation gallantly, do you not agree?

Very Sincerely Yours,

That Perennial Pain In The National  
Conscience,

H. Rick Tavares  
1805 La Posta Road  
Campo, California 91906-2206  
619-478-1136  
sgt1@sciti.com

Tom:

I have never been able to attend a reunion for one reason or another. I look forward to receiving the *Taro Leaf*. I read it from page to page, but I have never found anyone from my outfit. I was a clerk typist at the MP Compound in Fukuoka, **11th FA** from the middle of 1946 until Nov 1948. I am proud of being a member of the 24th Division and all of the privileges that was bestowed upon me.

Sincerely, Donald A Anderson,  
13345 Hidden Creek Dr.,  
Grand Haven MI 49417-8965,  
Ph: 616-846-5254, email: mardo5254@charter.net



# Call for Officer Nominations for 2010-11

It is time to seriously consider our Association Officers for 2010-11.

The election of Officers will be conducted at the Annual Corporate Convention (Membership Meeting) which will be held at the Reunion in Buffalo, NY, Wednesday, September 29 after the Saturday Members Breakfast.

Only an Active Member as defined by our Constitution and Bylaws may be nominated and serve.

–Active Membership is defined as any person who has served as a member of the 24th Infantry Division, or as a member of a unit that

either is now or ever has been at any time attached to the Division.”

–The Officers of the Corporation, and one of the two Board Members at Large (these alternate on an even odd yearly basis), shall be elected annually by the Legislative Body (members) at its annual meeting.” All are for one-year terms except for the At Large Director, which is for two years.

If you would like to serve, or would like to nominate a fellow member to serve, please advise the Nominating Committee now.

All nominations must be received

by the Nominating Committee not later than July 15, 2010.

Keith Hagen is again serving as Chair of the Nominating Committee; members are: Dan Rickert, Dan Cretaro, and Tom Thiel.

Keith Hagen, Chair  
41091 Ingersol Road  
Concrete, WA 98237-9778  
Ph: (360) 826-3695, [hagenka@verizon.net](mailto:hagenka@verizon.net),

Dan Rickert 949-215-7553,

Dan Cretaro, 210-653-2251,  
[dac2729@aol.com](mailto:dac2729@aol.com), and

Tom Thiel 352-357-3943  
[thetaroleaf@gmail.com](mailto:thetaroleaf@gmail.com)

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## ***(President's Letter Continued from page 3)***

TAPS notices. Sal and his group have put together a fantastic program for us, so, don't miss it.

At the annual meeting we will need to elect new officers and are looking for volunteers. If you are interested in serving your Association please submit your name to Keith Hagen, who chairs the nominating committee (see article above).

We need a new Historian and a new *Taro Leaf* Editor. And all officers and one Director at large are to be elected. Please consider sharing your talents with the Association and submit your name to Keith (his address is in the article above).

All members who served in Korea have been invited to a celebration

of the 60th anniversary of the Korean War. It will be in Las Vegas, NV in June and the Korean community will provide a hotel room and an evening meal as part of their thanks for the American effort to keep South Korea free (see page 15 for more information).

Our campaign to erect a memorial at Arlington National Cemetery to the Heroes of the 24th Infantry Division who have been awarded the Medal of Honor is progressing well. Keith Hagen, who chairs the fundraising effort has done a fantastic job. He sent out hundreds of letters at his own expense. The committee designing the memorial is chaired by Dan Rickert, and all reports are that it is progressing well. I am certain Dan will have a mockup of the memorial at the annual Reunion.

I want to encourage every member to contact their member of the U.S. Congress to urge them to support this legislation (see pages 42 and 43).

Glen Carpenter has sent raffle tickets and you should already have them. Please be as generous as you can in supporting the annual raffle.

Until we meet again, let us all hold our servicemen and women serving all over the globe close to our heart and pray for their swift and safe return home. We all know freedom isn't free and we owe a debt of gratitude to them all and those that came before them. May God bless them and God Bless the USA.

*Mel*





# 24th Infantry Division Association

Melvin L. Frederick, President

950 W. Barney

Owatonna, MN 55060-3800

Tel: Summer—MN 507-455-1639, Winter—CA 760-772-7909

Email: [melfrederick@msn.com](mailto:melfrederick@msn.com)



April 1, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The 24th Infantry Division Association, founded in a grove of palm trees on a Mindanao, Philippine Islands beach in August 1945, meets annually to honor its fallen heroes, to renew old acquaintances and to establish new ones.

This year's reunion will be held September 26 to 29, 2010, at the Millennium Airport Hotel, Buffalo, NY. Everyone who has ever served as a member of the 24th Infantry Division, including any unit ever assigned or attached to it at any time from the Division's creation at Schofield Barracks up to today, is welcome to the Reunion, says Mel Frederick, Association President.

Featured at this year's reunion will be an Aloha Night Banquet on Tuesday, September 28, a Memorial Banquet on Wednesday, September 29, and the most treasured Hospitality and History room stocked with snacks, beverages and cocktails that is open daily.

Also featured at this year's reunion will be a tour of Niagara Falls and Casino Niagara on September 27, 2010, and tour of Graycliff, a Frank Lloyd Wright designed home, and the Buffalo Naval Yard on September 28, 2010.

Another feature of this year's reunion is a project to memorialize the fourteen Medal of Honors recipients from the 24th Infantry Division with a memorial marker in Arlington National Cemetery. The Association would welcome immediate family members of these fourteen MoH recipients. Please contact Mr. Schillaci.

To reserve your room, contact the Millennium Airport Hotel, 2040 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga (Buffalo), New York 14225, Tel: 800-323-3331 or 716-681-2400, Email: [buffalo@mhrmail.com](mailto:buffalo@mhrmail.com), and website: [www.millenniumhotels.com](http://www.millenniumhotels.com) no later than August 1, 2010, to reserve at the special \$99 rate, mention the 24th Association.

For further information contact **Melvin L. Frederick**, President, 950 W. Barney, Owatonna, MN 55060-3800, Tel: Summer-MN 507-455-1639, Winter—CA 760-772-7909, Email: [melfrederick@msn.com](mailto:melfrederick@msn.com), or **Sal Schillaci**, 59 Endicott Dr, Amherst, NY 14226-3323, Tel: 716-837-1635, Email: [ssrecon24@roadrunner.com](mailto:ssrecon24@roadrunner.com)

## See you in Buffalo

## September 26 to 29, 2010



# **24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association 64th Reunion Itinerary**

**September 26-29, 2010**

**~~ Buffalo, New York ~~**

*To be held at the Millennium Airport Hotel. Room rates are \$99 per night. Parking at the hotel and airport transportation are free. A hospitality room stocked with snacks, beverages and cocktails will be provided each day.*

## **Sunday September 26**

*2 pm Registration and Hospitality Room opens*

*Dinner On Your Own*

## **Monday September 27**

*9 am – 5 pm Tour Niagara Falls—Casino Niagara*

*Dinner On Your Own*

## **Tuesday September 28**

*9 am Board of Directors Meeting*

*9 am – 5:00 pm Tour of Graycliff-Buffalo Naval Yard*

*6-10 pm Aloha Banquet Dinner and Dance\**

## **Wednesday September 29**

*9 am Member Breakfast, to be followed immediately by the*

*Annual Corporation Convention Member Meeting*

*New Board of Directors Organizational Meeting*

*9-11 am Ladies Breakfast & Entertainment*

*5-10 pm Memorial Banquet Dinner and Program\**

~~~~~

*\* Banquet table seating arrangements will be designated at time of registration.*

**Call the Millennium Airport Hotel at 800-323-3331, no later than August 1, 2010, to make your hotel reservations. Ask for the 24th IDA \$99 rate.**

**COME JOIN US AS WE SHARE OLD MEMORIES AND MAKE NEW ONES!**

**For More Information, Contact: Sal Schillaci, 716-837-1635.**

**The Reunion BRAT—Phone: 360-663-2521; email: [Info@TheReunionBRAT.com](mailto:Info@TheReunionBRAT.com)**

**If you are going to Canada, you need your valid Passport to re-enter the U.S.**



# 24TH IDA 64th REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

September 26-29, 2010

YES SIGN ME UP FOR 24<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY ASSOCIATION 2010 REUNION!!!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT \_\_\_\_\_ YEARS \_\_\_\_\_ LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST NAMES \_\_\_\_\_

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY \_\_\_\_\_

IS THIS YOUR FIRST REUNION? YES: \_\_\_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_\_\_

## MEAL SELECTIONS:

ALOHA PORK LOIN \_\_\_\_\_ ORANGE ROUGHY \_\_\_\_\_ VEGETABLE \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORIAL CHICKEN \_\_\_\_\_ SIRLOIN \_\_\_\_\_ VEG LASAGNA \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE LIST ANY SPECIAL NEEDS: \_\_\_\_\_

## REGISTRATION FEES

REGISTRATION FEE (REQUIRED) # PERSONS \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_

ALOHA BANQUET # PERSONS \_\_\_\_\_ x \$40 = \_\_\_\_\_

MENS BREAKFAST # PERSONS \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_

LADIES BREAKFAST # PERSONS \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15 = \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORIAL BANQUET # PERSONS \_\_\_\_\_ x \$46 = \_\_\_\_\_

GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED ..... \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT IS DUE NO LATER THAN August 1, 2010**

PLEASE SEND PAYMENTS TO THE ADDRESS BELOW, AND MADE PAYABLE TO:

## THE REUNION BRAT

50721 State Hwy 410 E  
Greenwater, WA 98022  
(360) 663-2521

*A \$20 per person cancellation fee will apply to all cancellations received within 30 days of the event (prior to August 26). Cancellations received within 10 days of the event will be non-refundable.*

*Note1: Tour Registration is separate—see pg.22.*

*Note2: If you plan to go to Canada, be sure to have your valid passport as re-entry to the U. S. requires one.*



# 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association Reunion

September 26-29, 2010

~~ Buffalo, New York ~~

Make Your Reservations with the Hotel



## Address

2040 Walden Avenue  
Cheektowaga (Buffalo), New York 14225  
Telephone: 800.323.3331 or 716.681.2400  
Facsimile: 716.681.8067  
Toll-Free Reservations: 866.866.8086  
Email address: buffalo@mhrmail.com  
Website: www.millenniumhotels.com  
Worldwide GDS Code: MU

**Ask for the  
\$99 rate**

## Location

The Millennium Airport Hotel, Buffalo provides a unique and convenient location to suit all travelers. Located directly off I-90, the hotel offers quick and easy access to all area attractions and commercial centers. It is adjacent to the Walden Galleria, Western New York's largest shopping mall, and is just ten minutes from Downtown Buffalo. The grandeur of Niagara Falls is only 20 minutes away. Conveniently situated at Exit 52E of the New York State Thruway, the Millennium Airport Hotel, Buffalo is just three miles from the Buffalo International Airport and Depew Amtrak Station.



## Services

- Free airport transportation
- Free shuttle service within surrounding area (limited)
- Free parking
- Telephone with dataport
- High-speed Internet access
- Work desk
- Free credit card/toll-free calls
- Professional event planning
- Voicemail
- Air-conditioned rooms
- Cable channels
- Free in-room movies
- Coffee maker
- Iron and ironing board
- Hair dryers
- Laundry and valet service
- Room service

## Points of Interest

- Walden Galleria Mall
- Walden Galleria Cinemas
- Niagara Falls
- HSBC Arena
- Albright Knox Art Gallery
- Buffalo Convention Center
- Buffalo Zoo
- Pepsi Athletic Center
- St. Mary's School for the Deaf
- Dunn Tire Park
- Naval and Serviceman's Park
- Ralph Wilson Stadium
- Studio Arena Theater
- Buffalo Raceway
- Kissing Bridge Ski Resort
- Six Flags Darien Lake Theme Park
- Holiday Valley Ski/Golf Resort
- Seneca Niagara Casino
- St. Joseph's Hospital
- University of Buffalo
- Niagara University
- Area colleges include: Canisius, Daemen, D'Youville, Hilbert, Medaille, Niagara Community and Trocaire

**If you are going to Canada, you need your valid Passport to re-enter the U.S.**



# 24th IDA Reunion Tours—Description & Registration

## Niagara Falls-Casino Niagara Tour – Monday, September 27,

**2010:** Leave Millennium Hotel at 9:00 a.m. Arrive Niagara Falls at 9:45 a.m. Ride the famous –**Maid of the Mist**” boat to the base of the Falls. This will be a boat ride that you will long remember. After the boat ride, we will re-board the busses and go to the beautiful Casino Niagara where a sumptuous luncheon buffet follows at 12:30 p.m. After lunch there will be –fee” time for those who wish to try the slots or their luck at the tables at the Casino Niagara from 2-4:00 p.m. We will depart back to Hotel at 4:00 p.m. arriving there around 5:00 p.m. Cost per person \$55.00.\*

## Graycliff designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and the Buffalo Naval Yard Tour - Tuesday, September 28, 2010:

Leave Millennium Hotel at 9:00 a.m. Tour of **Frank Lloyd Wright** designed summer home of the Martin family in near by Derby. It is named **Graycliff**, as it stands on a cliff overlooking Lake Erie. See: <http://graycliff.bfn.org/> After completing the tour of the house and grounds we will board the bus and go to the second leg of our tour, the largest inland naval park in the country, the **Buffalo Naval Park**. We will be just in time to have lunch on the deck of the cruiser, Little Rock. After lunch and our tour of the Naval Yard we will head back to the hotel arriving there at 5:00 p.m. Cost per person \$55.00.\*

\* Prices include transportation, entrance fees and lunch. **Not included** are any gambling and cash bar costs.

## TOUR REGISTRATION FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

NIAGRA FALLS TOUR #PERSONS \_\_\_\_\_ x \$55 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

GRAYCLIFF/NAVAL PARK #PERSONS \_\_\_\_\_ x \$55 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

GRAND TOTAL ENCLOSED ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SEND PAYMENTS TO THE ADDRESS BELOW, AND MADE PAYABLE TO:

**24th IDA Reunion Tours**  
**c/o Sal Schillaci**  
**59 Endicott Drive**  
**Amherst, NY 14226-3323**  
**716-837-1635**  
**ssrecon24@roadrunner.com**

**PAYMENT IS DUE NO LATER THAN August 1, 2010.**

A \$20 per person cancellation fee will apply to all cancellations received within 30 days of the event (prior to August 26). Cancellations received within 10 days of the event will be non-refundable. **Note1: Reunion registration is separate—see pg. 20. Note2: If you are going to Canada, you need your valid Passport to re-enter the U.S.**



# The Taro Leaf

Vol. 63, No. 4 Fall 2009 The Official Quarterly Publication of the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Assoc.



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716-837-1635  
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## DIRECTORS

| NAME                | YEARS     | UNIT            | PHONE        | ST. |
|---------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------|-----|
| Gene E. Spicer      | 2006-2008 | 19th Inf. Regt. | 812-273-6996 | IN  |
| Wes Morrison        | 2003-2006 | 21st Inf. Regt. | 831-883-2156 | CA  |
| James F. Hill       | 2000-2001 | 19th Inf. Regt. | 770-998-3749 | GA  |
| Thomas Cochran      | 1997-1998 | 34th Inf. Regt. | 931-647-4793 | TN  |
| James F. Hill       | 1995-1996 | 19th Inf. Regt. | 770-998-3749 | GA  |
| Vincent Gagliardo   | 1993-1994 | 5th RCT         | 415-279-1982 | CA  |
| Albert McAdoo       | 1991-1992 | 5th RCT         | 813-837-2728 | FL  |
| Donald C. Rosenblum | 1987-1988 | Div. HQ         | 912-233-6717 | GA  |
| Warren C. Avery     | 1986-1987 | 21st Inf. Regt. | 203-239-3406 | CT  |
| Richard C. Watson   | 1985-1986 | 19th Inf. Regt. | 765-378-3721 | IN  |
| John R. Shay        | 1983-1984 | 21st Inf. Regt. | 708-724-5133 | IL  |
| John E. Klump       | 1977-1978 | 34th Inf. Regt. | 812-623-4336 | IN  |
| William C. Muldoon  | 1970-1971 | 19th Inf. Regt. | 941-743-7179 | FL  |
| Donald C. Williams  | 1968-1969 | 34th Inf. Regt. | 586-566-4627 | MI  |

**The Taro Leaf** is the official quarterly of the 24th Infantry Division Association, a 501(c)19 non-profit organization, and is published by and for its members. Opinions expressed or implied are solely those of their author(s), and not necessarily those of the Editor, the Association, or the Department of the Army. The **Taro Leaf** is printed in Leesburg, Florida, and mailed from the Leesburg Post Office.

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**Publication Guidelines:** Please send all **TAPS notices, Manuscripts, and Articles to the Editor** at above address. You may send either electronically as email attachments in text (word processor) format, or by USPS as typed or printed originals. Short handwritten material is acceptable, but may be incorporated as is in a graphic image. Articles may be limited to **two or three pages typewritten**.

**PHOTOGRAPHS are desired for TAPS and all articles**, and may be submitted in electronic format (300 dpi resolution or higher, please) as email attachments, or as prints (Note that *Xerox* or *Newspaper* Photos do not copy well; prints are much preferred). For all photos please provide the photographer's name and where they appear in the article, identify each person or other subject in the photo, and if you wish it returned. Copyrighted material should have permission to reprint. **Please include your current correct full name, address, phone number and email with all submissions.**

## Quartermaster

Byrd R. Schrock - Assoc.  
1009 Mesquite Drive  
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635-1292  
520-678-0207  
[byrd2a@cox.net](mailto:byrd2a@cox.net)

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716-837-1635  
[ssrecon24@roadrunner.com](mailto:ssrecon24@roadrunner.com)

## Taro Leaf Deadlines and Publication Dates

| VOL | NO | ISSUE  | DEADLINE     | DELIVERY  |
|-----|----|--------|--------------|-----------|
| 64  | 3  | Summer | Jul. 1, 2010 | Aug. 2010 |
| 64  | 4  | Fall   | Oct. 1, 2010 | Nov. 2010 |
| 65  | 1  | Winter | Jan. 1, 2011 | Feb. 2011 |
| 65  | 2  | Spring | Apr. 1, 2011 | May 2011  |





# THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



I desire to be: Enrolled  (or) Reinstated ; as a Member  (or) Associate Member   
(please check the proper two boxes)

*of the*  
**24th "Victory Division" Association**  
The Greatest Combat Division the United States Army has ever known.

Annual Dues - \$15.00 (1) Year From date of joining in The Association.

Life Member - \$150.00 Payable in one sum or 5 yearly payments of \$30.00 each.

~~~~~

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE+4 \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**Served IN the 24th Division, OR was Member of Any Unit Ever Attached TO the 24th at any time.**

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ Squad \_\_\_\_\_ Plt/Bat \_\_\_\_\_ Co \_\_\_\_\_ Bn \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g., 5th, 19th, 21st, 3rd Eng, etc.)

Location Served: \_\_\_\_\_ From (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_ To (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_  
(e.g., Pearl H., WWII, Japan, Korea, Germany, Ft. Stuart, Lebanon, Somalia, Desert Storm, Ft. Riley, etc.)

POW: From (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_ To (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_

Other Unit Served With: \_\_\_\_\_ From (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_ To (Yr.) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Comment: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks in above amount payable to the "24th Infantry Division Association"  
And mail with this completed application to:

**John A. Dunn, Secretary/Treasurer**  
**24th Infantry Division Association**  
**9150 Hwy. 51**  
**Westover, AL 35147-9527**

June 25, 2009



## 24th Infantry Division Association Quartermaster Order Form

Item #	Description	Price	Quan.	Amount
1	Philippine Liberation Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
2	National Defense Service Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
3	Good Conduct Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
4	Silver Star Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
5	Pacific Campaign Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
6	Armed Forces Reserve Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
7	Army of Occupation Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
8	POW Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
9	Distinguished Service Cross Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
10	ETO Campaign Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
11	The Soldiers Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
12	Meritorious Service Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
13	United Nations Service Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
14	American Defense Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
15	Vietnam Service Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
16	American Campaign Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
17	Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
18	U.S. Flag Pin	\$5.00		
19	Distinguished Flying Cross (Army) Hat Pin	\$5.00		
20	Korean Service Ribbon Hat Pin	\$5.00		
21	Army Commendation Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
22	WW II Victory Ribbon Hat Pin	\$5.00		
23	Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
24	Korean Service Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
25	WW II Victory Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
26	Bronze Star Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
27	Purple Heart Medal Hat Pin	\$5.00		
28	Air Medal	\$5.00		
29	24th Infantry Division Hat Pin	\$5.00		
30	Korea 8000 Missing Hat Pin	\$5.00		
31	19th Infantry Regiment Hat Pin	\$5.00		
32	Remember our POW/MIA Hat Pin	\$5.00		
33	POW/MIA Bring 'Em Home Hat Pin	\$5.00		
34	Combat Infantryman Badge (Mini) Hat Pin	\$5.00		
35	Combat Infantryman Badge Hat Pin	\$5.00		
36	Combat Infantryman Badge (2nd Award) Hat Pin	\$5.00		
37	Combat Medic Badge Pin	\$5.00		
38	U.S. Army Desert Storm Hat Pin	\$5.00		
39	Vietnam Heaven & Hell Hat Pin	\$5.00		
40	19th Infantry Regiment Ladies Necklace	\$5.00		
41	19th Infantry Regiment Ladies Bracelet	\$5.00		
42	24th ID Color Patch	\$5.00		
43	24th ID Association Patch	\$6.00		
44	Cap, 24th ID Black Taro Patch	\$15.00		
45	Cap, 24th ID White w/ Taro Patch (First to Fight)	\$12.00		
46	24th ID Window Sticker (2.5" x 2.5")	\$2.00		
47	Taro Leaf Bolo, Gold with Gold Braid	\$15.00		
48	Taro Leaf Bolo, Gold with Black Braid	\$15.00		
49	Taro Leaf Bolo, Silver with Black Braid	\$15.00		
50	Taro Leaf Belt Buckle, Silver	\$15.00		
51	Taro Leaf Belt Buckle, Gold	\$15.00		
<b>Total This Page (Include on rear of this form)</b>				

Please Detach and Complete Both Sides Continued on Reverse Side

The *Taro Leaf*



Item #	Description	Price	Quan.	Amount
52	24th Signal Battalion Unit Crest	\$9.00		
53	19th Infantry Regiment Unit Crest	\$9.00		
54	21st Infantry Regiment Unit Crest	\$9.00		
55	34th Infantry Regiment Unit Crest	\$9.00		
56	11th Field Artillery BN Unit Crest	\$9.00		
57	13th Field Artillery BN Unit Crest	\$9.00		
58	19th Infantry Regiment Color Patch	\$6.00		
59	21st Infantry Regiment Color Patch	\$6.00		
60	34th Infantry Regiment Color Patch	\$6.00		
61	11th Field Artillery Battalion Color Patch	\$6.00		
62	13th Field Artillery Battalion Color Patch	\$6.00		
63	24th Infantry Division Unit Crest	\$9.00		
64	Cap, 19th INF Dark Blue with Crest	\$12.00		
65	Cap, 21st INF White with Embroidered Patch	\$15.00		
66	Cap, 21st INF Dk Blue with Embroidered Patch	\$15.00		
67	Cap, 34th INF DK Blue with Crest	\$12.00		
68	Cap, 24th IDA Dk Blue with Taro Patch	\$15.00		
69	Cap, 24th ID White with Taro Patch (Germany)	\$12.00		
70	Cap, 24th ID Red with Taro Patch (Germany)	\$12.00		
71	Cap, 24th IDA Red	\$15.00		
72	Cap, 24th IDA White	\$15.00		
73	Cap, 24th IDA Green	\$15.00		
74	Cap, 24th ID White Mesh with Taro Patch	\$12.00		
75	3rd Engineer BN Unit Crest	\$9.00		
76	14th Engineer BN Unit Crest	\$9.00		
77	5th RCT Pocket Patch	\$6.00		
78	Cap, 5th RCT Red with Crest	\$12.00		
79	24th ID License Plate with Taro Leaf	\$8.00		
80	Cap, Desert Storm Veteran Black	\$12.00		
81	Cap, POW MIA Black	\$15.00		
82	Cap, WWII Veteran Black	\$12.00		
83	Cap, Korean War Veteran Black	\$12.00		
84	Combat Infantryman Badge Window Sticker (3"x7")	\$5.00		
85	Combat Infantryman Badge Window Sticker (2"x5")	\$3.00		
86	Bumper Sticker, 24th ID Proudly Served	\$3.00		
87	6th Tank BN Color Patch	\$6.00		
88	24th ID Neck Tie	\$20.00		
89	24th Medical BN Unit Crest	\$9.00		
90	24th ID Flag, 3' x 5' Outdoor Screen Print	\$65.00		
91	63rd Field Artillery BN Color Patch	\$6.00		
92	24th ID Sticker, 1" Taro Leaf, set of 12	\$1.50		
93	24th ID Christmas Cards, Set of 10 with Envelopes	\$8.00		
94	24th ID Neck Wallet, Green	\$5.00		
95	24th ID Keychain	\$10.00		
96	History of the 24th Inf. Div., Book, 2nd Ed. Rpt.	\$41.00		
97	Patch, 24th ID Korean War Veteran	\$5.00		
98	CD-Audio, 24th Division Song and March	\$10.00		
99	DVD, 24th Division Memorial at Punchbowl, Hawaii	\$15.00		
	Add Shipping and Handling (see below)			
<b>Grand Total (Include Totals From Page 1)</b>				

**Mail to:**  
 Byrd Schrock, QM  
 1009 Mesquite Dr.  
 Sierra Vista, AZ 85635  
 (520) 678-0207

Shipping and Handling is \$3.00  
 Cap orders S & H is \$5.00  
 No phone orders accepted  
 Please allow 4-6 weeks for  
 delivery

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City & ST: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



# Sec./Treas. Report—1 Jan.-1 Mar. Dec. 2010

## Income-Expense-Assets Report

INCOME	8/1--12/31/09	1/1--3/1/10	Total Period
Membership	\$4,335	\$1,710	\$6,045
Full Life	\$1,200	\$300	\$1,500
Partial Life	\$350	\$375	\$725
Assoc Member	\$150	\$115	\$265
Donations	\$2,105	\$1,889	\$3,994
Quartermaster	\$0	\$1,500	\$1,500
	\$8,140	\$5,889	\$14,029
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Misc. Office Expense	\$1,120	\$279	\$1,399
Taro Leaf	\$4,839	\$3,913	\$8,752
Mailing Taro Leaf	\$1,029	\$988	\$2,017
Reunion Prizes	\$4,000	\$0	\$4,000
Reunion Expenses	\$2,765	\$1,600	\$4,365
Insurance	\$750	\$0	\$750
	\$14,504	\$6,780	\$21,283
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Checking Accts	\$32,476	-\$743	\$31,733
Savingd Acct	\$34,832	\$0	\$34,832
Quartermaster			
	\$67,308	-\$743	\$66,565

### Fellow Taro Leafers

I cannot tell you how much I appreciate the notes that some of you include in the envelope with your dues payments. I am made more aware of the character of the men and women that undertake military service for their country. Some of the notes hint of the combat experience, I hope you will expand those moments and send *Taro Leaf* Editor Tom Thiel a full narrative of your service.

As you can see by the financial report our income and outgo are about even for this last period, but I need you to get your annual dues in on time. PLEASE don't let your membership lapse and be dropped from the active roll, we need each other! Check your Due Date right above your name on the address label of the

*Taro Leaf.*

*John A Dunn*

## New Members

Name	Regiment	Company/ Battery/Troop
Miller, Paul B.	21st Inf	Hq. Co
Olsen, Milton O.	26 AAA	HQ & D Batt
Powell, John T.	34th Inf	Heavy Mort
Franklin, George D.	63rd FA	
Garrett, John W.	19th Inf	C
Beeson II, Ralph A.	24th Div	
Smith Louis N.	24th Div	HHC

## Booster Contributions

Baker, John J.	34th Inf	\$ 50	Taro Leaf
Barnabi, John	19th Inf	\$ 10	Taro Leaf
Blow, Jasper D. Jr.	19th inf	\$ 20	Taro Leaf
Brown, Gerald F.	34th Inf	\$ 40	Taro Leaf
Bruno, Howard J.	34th Inf	\$ 10	Postage
Carpenter, Hubert L.	3rd Eng	\$ 50	Taro Leaf
Cierpiot, Richard J.	3rd Eng	\$ 110	Taro Leaf
Conway, James F.	24th Div Hq	\$ 10	Taro Leaf
Demaray, Dale I.	19th Inf	\$ 10	Taro Leaf
Dickson, Delmar E.	21st Inf	\$ 9	Taro Leaf
Farmer, Carroll W.	11th FA	\$ 10	Taro Leaf
Garceau, Alfred J.	3rd Eng	\$ 25	Taro Leaf
Garland, Max	34th Inf	\$ 10	Taro Leaf
Gibson, Wesley J.	34th Inf	\$ 15	Taro Leaf
Hamilton, John	19th Inf	\$ 35	Taro Leaf
Juni, Robert	21st Inf	\$ 5	Taro Leaf
Lane, William D.	34th Inf	\$ 30	Taro Leaf
Langone, Joseph H.		\$ 15	Taro Leaf
Marcinko, Joseph J.	21st Inf	\$ 10	Taro Leaf
McManus, Francis	19th Inf	\$ 50	Taro Leaf
Mecca, Daniel	13th FA	\$ 25	Taro Leaf
Perkins, James	3rd Eng	\$ 10	Taro Leaf
Stiner, Billy C.	19th Inf	\$ 15	Taro Leaf
Sugg, Charles	24th Med	\$ 25	Taro Leaf
Temple, Alfred R. Sr.	24th Div Hq	\$ 20	(1)
Teruya, Henry	21st Inf	\$ 35	
Turner, Ted D.	34th Inf	\$ 10	Taro Leaf
VanKirk, W. H.	19th Inf	\$ 50	Taro Leaf
Vickers, William E.	34th Inf	\$ 100	Taro Leaf
Weinstein, Mitchell	21st Inf	\$ 5	Taro Leaf
Wheaton, Jon F.	24th Med	\$ 100	Taro Leaf
Zimmerman, Harvey L.	24th Med	\$ 25	Taro Leaf
Korean Defense Veterans Assoc		\$ 1,000	(2)
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$ 1,944</b>	

## New Life Members

Name	Unit	Company/ Battery	Life No.	Date
Cherry, Michael J.	34th Arm	H&H	2364	1 Jan 10
Dull, Jack G.	2nd Inf	A	2365	1 Jan 10
Cierpiot, Richard J.	3rd Eng	D	2366	1 Feb 10
Vincent, Loyal A.	2nd Inf	A	2367	16 Feb 10
Harper, Sean E.	187th Abn	A	2368	22 Feb 10
Larson, Ian W.	19th Inf	2nd BN	2369	22 Feb 10

### Booster Footnotes:

- (1) In memory of 1st Sgt Cyrus Stirncobb, HHC, Augsburg, Germany - KIA Vietnam.
- (2) Memory of Norm Treadway.





If you were in the **63rd Field Artillery Battalion** — Oct. 1955 to Jan 1957 in Korea, or in the **13th Field Artillery Battalion Service Battery** 1960-61, in Augsburg Germany, please contact:

**Tom Vaughn**, Life #2286  
163 Poor House Road  
Catawissa, PA, 127820      Ph: 570-799-0118.

An **M-4 Sherman Tank** — **Ed Jarmuszka**



is looking for an M-4 Sherman Tank to place on a plot of land across street from site where Sherman Tanks

were built in Chicago during WWII. Ed thinks it would be a perfect setting and tribute to both the tank and the site.

Edward J. Jarmuszka  
11034 S Green Bay Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60617-6903  
Ph: 773-375-8427

## Is your Email here?

The following emails are failing.

**ymullins@kc.rr.com**  
**bowman@yahoo.com**  
**jjdiotte@aol.com**  
**jandjdoddy@aol.com**  
**k8zjg@tusco.net**

Please empty your inbox or send your current email to

[thetaroleaf@gmail.com](mailto:thetaroleaf@gmail.com) or  
[tthiel9@gmail.com](mailto:tthiel9@gmail.com)

**Russell G. Arnold** — (Association Life Member 104 — with the assistance of his son, Mark, would like to contact his old army buddies that served with him in Japan in 1945-1946 with the **24th Division MP Platoon**.

Contacts:

Mark Arnold, Proud Son of a WWII Veteran	Russell G. Arnold
182 Lexington Ontario Road	3999 State Route 55
Mansfield, OH 44903	Urbana, OH 43078
Phone 419-529-4299	Phone: 937-788-2789
email: ontario1994@aol.com	email: ontario1994@aol.com

(See related article page 39)

## Desert Shield/Desert Storm

Hoping to return to Fort Stewart next spring to mark the 20th anniversary of the Victory Divisions return from Desert Shield/Storm. Was wondering if anybody has heard anything or if anything is planned.

Would love to hear from anybody that served in the Division during that time. **FIRST TO FIGHT..... VICTORY**

**Francisco Irizarry** glory\_gunner@yahoo.com

*Dear Tom:  
and now you have 4  
Beautiful Tar Leaves under your belt.  
Let's go with, you do good work!  
Many thanks for the stay on Henry and I  
most appreciate.  
Tom I am an island, a cheet, could  
you sent me a couple extra copies of the  
Tar Leaf.  
Many thanks  
John - 3/4/09*

John Baker, 839 Newton St, Monterey CA 93940





My brother, **Ernest Clifford Robertson**, PFC, was reported wounded and captured in Korea on April 23, 1951, and died a few days later. He was in the **19th Infantry Regiment**, 24th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on May 6, 1951, but has never been found. If anyone has information about action involving my brother or who knew him, please let me know. His old letters were sent in for DNA; I haven't heard anything since then.

Charles Robertson  
Email: [janweb@windstream.net](mailto:janweb@windstream.net)

**Mrs. Jeanie Szal**, (Mrs. **Michael Szal**, 5th RCT, deceased Feb. 2, 2010, see page 6) is trying to locate a soldier named **Vince** (last name unknown), who served with Mike in Korea as his BARman and called him – IronMike.” If Vince reads this request, or if anyone know of Vince, please call Jeanie Szal at (727) 531-1639. Thank you

**Your help is needed** to update and add to our 24th Infantry Division Association. Only you can help us to make sure our files are complete today and for future generations. Send all address, phone and email changes today to:  
[thetaroleaf@gmail.com](mailto:thetaroleaf@gmail.com) or  
[jokdunn@aol.com](mailto:jokdunn@aol.com)

## Digital Photos in Taro Leaf

**Please be sure to scan and submit all digital photos at a resolution of 300 dots per inch or higher.**

**Make certain your email program does not compress the files to 72 dpi when you send it; send as attachment.**

**If a jpg file is less than 400-500 Kbytes it probably is too small!**

My name is **Paul Narson**. I served with the 1/21 from 2/60 thru 2/62 in **Munich, Germany**, and am in contact with several former 24 Inf. Div. friends from my **tour in Germany**. If anybody served with me in **"D" Co**, please get in touch with me at **eravet24@aol.com** and put 24th Division in the subject.

I want to pass along some information on three former members of the **Division's Boxing Teams**. **Bobby Carmody** won the all Army Flyweight Championship 1961, 62, 63, and 64, and won the bronze medal in the 64 Olympics. Bobby died in Vietnam. **Eddie Jackson** won the US Army Europe heavyweight championship three times fighting **Charles "Big Tom" Thomas** four times. Eddie also died in The Vietnam War.

Charles Thomas fought Eddie Jackson 4 times for the US Army Europe Championship winning the title once. Thomas continued boxing at **Ft. Dix**. Charlie Thomas served three tours with the Special Forces although wounded on several occasions he came home a highly decorated hero. His son was born while he was stationed in **Warner Kasserne** with the 1/21 and went on to join the Army Special Forces where he raised to the rank of Col. and is soon to retire after 28 of honorable service. Charlie resides in Florida.





A Message from **Larry Gay**, -G”  
Company, 19th Infantry

Those of you who read the *Taro Leaf* may recognize the name and also know that I have served the 24th Infantry Division Association as the Historian during the past five years. I have met a number of you, provided information to some of you and failed to answer some of your questions because I did not have, or could not find the answers. There have been requests for help from families whose questions regarding a loved one who was killed or wounded or who, like most of us, did our duty as members of the 24th Infantry Division.

I was a late arriver to the Association and was sponsored by Bill Roseboro, also a member of -G”/19th. In 2003, I agreed to help Norm Dixon, the Local Coordinator, with the Annual Reunion of the Association at Tucson, Arizona. It was there I met men who would become friends; it would be later, at other gatherings, that I would also meet other men who have become a part of my life. I worked with Norm on a committee to reorganize the position of Secretary-Treasurer; this was a pleasure. While I did not seek the job of Historian, I did accept it in 2004...with some reservations.

Early-on, it was my objective to work with the members of the Association and the family members of those men who could not ask the questions. In this I have had some small successes regarding the Association and also some larger success-

es as measured by those who individuals who found answers to long-unanswered questions. It is to those individuals I say: -Thank You”. [sic] In order to find the answers to your questions, I had to do the research and ask questions of others. My expression of appreciation to all of you is for providing me with an interesting and educational experience in the quest for answers over the past five years.

I am proud of being able to provide information to Director Wes Morrison who took on the task of correcting and revising the Honor Roll and bringing it up-to-date. Wes Morrison has done all of the -heavy lifting” in this endeavor. My primary focus in the effort has been on those men and women of the 24th Infantry Division who lost their lives in war since October 1, 1941 when the division was formed.

In early 2008, I received a request from the Secretary-Treasurer (S-T) for help with the problem of excessive costs associated with the publication and distribution of the *Taro Leaf*. With only limited information, I completed my analysis of financial problem and submitted a 12 page report containing 13 recommendations to the Secretary-Treasurer; I also requested that the analysis be sent to the Board of Directors for any action they might want to take. This was done and the results sent to the, then, President of the Association. To my knowledge, the expressions of the Directors regarding the financial analysis have never seen

the light of day.

While the primary objective of the study was to address the problem of *Taro Leaf* costs; there was also a major problem associated with -extra copies”, [sic] i.e., those copies in excess of those sent to those on the Membership Mailing Roster. Although the Association was paying for the -extra copies”, attempts to determine where the copies were being used did result in a reduction of this expense. However, this was not without some effort.

The most difficult technique in problem solving is defining the problem. A simple definition is: -A problem is the deviation from the norm.” The wasteful spending of monies for which one is responsible is not normal. Those who accept positions of responsibility should be good stewards of the assets of the Association. This has not been done. Repeated requests for an audit came to nought [sic].

It was at this time, I decided that I could no longer continue as Historian of the Association. I had lost all confidence in the leadership; I would leave the job. During the Board of Directors Meeting and Business Meeting at the 2008 Annual Reunion at Springfield, MO, the Membership was advised that the President’s proposal for an Honorary Membership had been rejected by the Directors. Following what could be described as an attempted -coupe” by the President and the Editor of the

(Gay Continued on page 33)



Tom,

In Vol.64 No. 1 of the *Taro Leaf* on page 40 –**Tps**” I read –Wade E. Sanders, Santa Maria, CA passed away on Jul. 11, 2009. Lew Howell says he is sure Wade was a 24th Division veteran from Korea.”

It was with a heavy heart that I read of Wade’s passing.

Lt. Wade E. Sanders was indeed a member of the 24th Division; he was Company Commander of –**Dog**” Company, 19th Regiment, serving in Korea in 1951. (He was also a veteran of WWII) I know this for a fact because I was First Sergeant of –Dog” Company and was proud to serve under his outstanding leadership.



Dog Company officers 1951 (fr. left): Lt. Barney Haynes, Lt. Wade Sanders, Lt. Best, & Lt. Walter Johnson.

Wade was the best example of a courageous leader, outstanding officer and a first class gentleman. Over the years I talked by phone with he and Doris and exchanged many letters and notes. May he rest in peace.

Shalom,

Carl B. Gamel  
Master Sergeant, –**Dog**” Co., 1951  
26431 Williamsburg Drive  
Bonita Springs, FL 34135  
Ph: 239-495-1586

Hello Tom,

You’re not getting older, you’re just getting better!

Your hard, diligent work is certainly evident in the latest *Taro Leaf*. Each issue continues to improve with your soaring learning curve.

It would also appear that you have captured many –slice of life” historical stories, one of your early main objectives towards creating a publication reflecting not only important individual history but as an interesting read as well.

I don’t know if you can use the attached. It is the front page of the *Taro Leaf* published after WWII and pre-Korea and the forerunner (grandfather?) of what exists today under your editorial management.

This particular issue was devoted to the 21st Regiment (see next page).

The top photo depicts the original Japanese front gate which stood when it led to the Imperial Marine base inside.

The Japanese configuration was considerably altered and entered a new phase as the entry point to the Gimlet’s Camp Wood as shown here.

It was later taken down and underwent considerable subsequent changes, only to fall back under Japanese control in later years when it again became a military base.

The other photo is of Camp Pearson, which was located a few miles from Camp Wood and housed the regiment’s anti-tank company and Cannon company.

Best regards and all best wishes.

Al Silverstein  
89 Harding Dr.  
New Rochelle NY 10801-4641  
Ph: 914-632-5799  
joan.silverstein2@verizon.net



DIVISION  
1942-1948

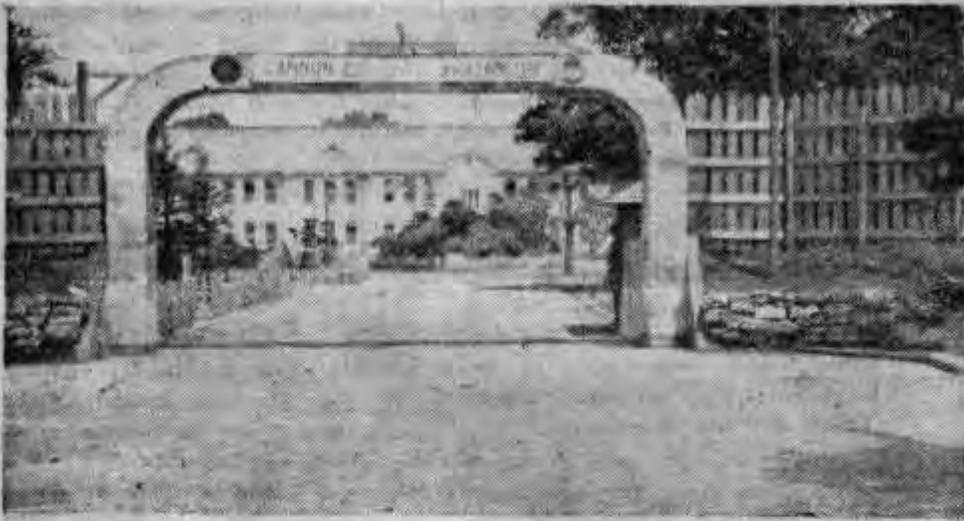


# 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION V-DAY

VOL 14 NO 7 3 MAY 47

Entrance to Camp Wood, Headquarters of the 21st Infantry Regiment, at Kumamoto, Kyushu, Japan. Formerly a marine installation, the area now houses Regimental Headquarters, three battalions of troops and their complements, in addition to Regimental Bachelor Officer Quarters.

A swimming pool, a spacious theatre, and McKay athletic field are three of the more important recreational facilities.



Gate to Camp Pearson which is located a few miles from the main regimental camp. Anti-Tank and Cannon Companies are located in this area.

Newly renovated buildings provide excellent quarters and a large athletic field adjacent to the camp area affords the men stationed here ideal opportunity for athletic activity.

## *With the 21st Infantry Regiment in Japan*



REGIMENTAL  
1942-1948



Famed correspondent **Eric Sevareid**, writing in 1953, concluded the GI performance in Korea: **"Outmatches the behavior of those who fought our wars of certainty and victory. This is something new in American society. This is something to be recorded with respect and humility."**

I grew up 40 miles from Velva, ND, where Sevareid was from. He is one of my heroes, and I echo these thoughts, as taken from an article by Richard Kolb in the December 1991 VFW Magazine.

Merry Helm, Life Member Honorary  
420 8th Ave S  
Fargo, ND 58103-2828  
701-293-5045

## Re: Nisei PW Interrogators

Good evening.

Just got off the phone with Dad after he had read the recent *Taro Leaf*.

He was reading the "Interrogator" article submitted by James Mims, and Dad said that he also knew Sergeant Shimbo.

Dad attempted to call the phone number listed in the article for Mr. Mims, but the area code was incorrect. If anyone asks, the number is 432-682-1757 (not area code 915).

Keep up the great work.

Mark Arnold

See related illustrated story  
on page 39

(**Gay** Continued from page 30)

*Taro Leaf*, my earlier decision to remove myself from the Historian's job was validated.

Following the meeting, I approached the newly elected President and told him "That had the attempt to override the Directors decision been successful, I would quit now." I also told him that: "I was giving him a year to find a new Historian." Later, I advised the Secretary-Treasurer and the Director who had appointed me to the job of Historian of my decision. I also contacted a few members who I thought might be interested in the job; no one was interested.

I did not attend the 2009 Annual Reunion; however, I did find the last issue of the *Taro Leaf*, Vol. 63, No. 4 of some interest. Your attention is directed to the Profit and Loss Statement on page 5 of this issue. There

appears to be a problem with the \$32,838 for *Taro Leaf* Expense. What is the problem? The \$7,467 for *Taro Leaf* mailing expense is the problem if one believes the Editor.

When one looks at the *Taro Leaf* cost information put forth by the Editor in Vol. 63, No. 3, page 5, the total cost of publishing and distributing the four issues for fiscal year 2008-09 is \$25,288. However, the total cost for Vol. 63, No. 3 is not correct as stated; the correct, invoiced, cost is \$ 3,706, not \$3500. This would result in the total cost of the *Taro Leaf* for fiscal year 2008-09 being \$ 25, 494.

After you do the math, you will likely have a better understanding of the problem.

Take care,  
Larry Gay  
George Company, 19th Infantry  
Issued: 28 Dec 09

Tom:

Thank you for hanging in on our *Taro Leaf*. You have done a great job.

Thank you for my article on Corregidor. When written I had considerable help from Jim Sullivan and Dan Valles, K Com. 34th (both now deceased).

Tom we all do appreciate you taking the time and effort that goes into producing the *Taro Leaf*.

I am sending you a 24th Infantry Division Shot Glass. You can use for either a Toddy or medication.

Thanks Tom.

Paul J. Cain  
3109B Chatham Drive  
Urbana, IL. 61802  
Ph: 217-344-1462



# Letter to Mother

Tom,

This is a letter that I wrote and sent to my Mother after I got out of the hospital from my wounds. It tells how I got out of the battle zone and back to where I got medical help.

Forty years later we located sixty men from our Battery and began having Reunions and continued them for over ten years. We stopped due to the fact that we had lost many of our members due to death and health reasons.

Thanks  
*Beryl D. Smith*  
Beryl Smith  
14659 NE 207<sup>th</sup> Place  
Fort McCoy, Fl 32134  
352-546-2908

Saturday, October 21, 1950

Dear Mom,

This is what happened when I was wounded in Korea on July 16.

On the day I got shot, July 16, 1950, I was in the 26th AAA Bty A attached to the 24th Division. We were at the Kum river north of Taejon. There were two roads that we were fighting on. The 21st Inf was on the road to the right. The 34th Inf and 19th Inf were on the left road.

My Battery had halftracks on both sides. We only had eight halftracks up there. Eight more were back at O.P. We had four halftracks on each side. I was on the side that the 34th Inf was on. I was a radio operator on a M-39 Personnel Carrier. My platoon leader Lt. Grimes from GA told PFC William Earley from Connecticut, a good friend of mine, to go to

the other side where the 21st Inf was. We were to see if our halftracks needed any gas or anything. Earley requested that I ride shotgun for him.

We left in Earley's jeep about 7:30 that morning. We reached the first halftrack about 8:30. It had an M-16 with four 50 cal machine guns on it. There were lots of North Korean artillery shells hitting all around, about 50 yards from where we were supposed to pass. Later we saw another one of our halftracks. It had a M-15 with a 37 mm, and two 50 cal machine gun on it, and it was on fire.

We were supposed to report to Lt. Mikuiski who was in charge of the four halftracks. But there were too many shells hitting around us so we didn't try it. We asked the Sgt. in charge of the M-16 if there was anything that he needed. He said no, so we started back.

We had gone about a half a mile when we saw about three trucks stopped on the side of the road. When we got about 20 yards from the trucks we heard machine gun and rifle fire. There was a mountain on the left of us. When we looked at the mountain we could see the bullets hitting the side of the mountain. They were going right over our heads.

The North Koreans had set up a road block, so we couldn't get out. Earley turned the jeep around and we went back about half way to where the halftracks were. There was an aid station there, so we stopped and ate our breakfast (C rations).

Then a US tank with an ambulance following it passed us heading for the road block, so we followed it. The tank reached the road block and one of its tracks came off. Then the ambulance hit the back corner of the tank blocking the road so we couldn't get by. The North Koreans started shooting the ambulance full of holes. There were 6 or 7 men in it. They jumped out of the ambulance into the ditch on the side of the road. They then started shooting at us, so we jumped out of the jeep and into the ditch. The ditch was about a half foot deep and full of mud. It was a hot day and the cold mud felt pretty good to us.

All Earley and I had was a 45 cal. sub-machine gun and it wouldn't shoot very far. Then someone said there was a radio in a jeep only about ten yards from me, so they told me to get to the jeep and call the airfield at Taejon, and to have them send another ambulance from the other way. But when I got to the jeep the radio was dead.

I found a carbine in the jeep. I went back to the ditch and told them that the radio was dead. I then shot at a few North Koreans, they were all over the mountain in front of us, but you couldn't see many of them. Some GIs got into the tank and drove it into a rice patty.

Earley and I started to get into the jeep and go for some help, but when we looked at the jeep's tires they were full of holes, so that was out.

(Letter to Mother *Continued on page 35*)



Then about ten trucks and jeeps came down the road and as soon as they got in front of us the North Koreans started shooting at them. They jumped out of the trucks with the trucks still moving. Some of them rolled into the rice patties. All together there were about a 100 to 150 men in the ditch. Earley and I looked up to see a full Colonel walking down the middle of the road and we yelled for him to get down, but he just kept walking.

There was a 50 cal machine gun on the tank in the rice patty. Everyone there said that they didn't know how to shoot one. Since I had shot one before, I gave Earley my rifle and we ran across the road behind the ambulance then over to the tank. I climbed inside the M-24 tank and went up to the 50 cal machine gun.

I tried to fire it, but it wouldn't fire, it was jammed. I then pulled the bolt back and this un-jammed it. I tried it again and it fired OK.

I stayed there shooting for about an hour. Then I heard a shot and felt something hit me in the chest. I turned around and told Earley that I had been shot. The bullet went in the center of my chest and came out the side of my back.

I turned back around and started firing again. I fired about 10 to 15 more shots, then the gun jammed again. I reached up to pull the bolt back and fell down through the tank.

When I fell I hit my head and hurt my ribs and back. The bullet must have hit my lung. I lay there about

five minutes gasping for breath. I couldn't feel a thing, then I passed out.

When I woke up I was still in the tank. I tried to get out of the tank but I couldn't move. This was about 4:30 pm.

About 30 minutes later I heard GI's up over me where the 50 cal was. I called to them for a long time, they finally heard me and came down into the tank and got me out. They laid me down beside the tank and gave me a very small drink of water. A Medic bandaged me up, gave me a shot and left me there.

I laid there until about 6:30 pm. I could see one of our halftracks stopped up the road, I tried to get up to get to the halftrack but couldn't move. I then tried to get to a rice patty to get some water, but I still couldn't move.

About 7:30 two GIs came down to where I lay. They put me on a stretcher and took me to a truck. There were about ten GIs on the truck, one had also been shot. The truck wouldn't run so they all jumped out and left me and the other guy that had been shot.

Then there was another shot, it hit my little finger and hit the other guy in the head. He fell over on me, I guess he was dead. I was a little out of my head and didn't have the sense to see if he was dead or not.

I knew I was going to get left there if I didn't do something. So this time I tried hard to get up, when I was setting up I looked down the road and I saw about 20 Koreans coming toward me. The guy that had gotten

shot had a 45 pistol. I reached over and got it. I tried to shoot the pistol but I didn't have enough sense.

The Koreans went on by me. Then I saw about 20 more coming and I said to myself that I guess this is it, but they went on by also.

Then I got out of the truck some way. I wandered over to the ditch where Earley was before, but he was not there.

I fell into the ditch when my pants fell around my legs, I did not know that they had loosed my belt when they put me on the stretcher.

I finally got out and back on the road. There was a Colonel about 20 yards down the road. He was yelling -I am shot in the arm, help me," and I yelled -go to hell."

There were about six trucks that passed me, but they wouldn't stop. I guess they were afraid they would get shot at. The bullets were still coming and hitting all around me, but by then I didn't give a damn.

After awhile another truck came by and stopped. I got on the side of the truck and fell into the bed of the truck. I stood and tried to pull up my pants and machine gun bullets started hitting all around us. The driver of the truck yelled to a South Korean to hold me down. I would hit him and get back up to pull my pants up. Then this truck wouldn't start.

I guess I passed out and when I woke up I was in a trailer being pulled by a jeep. We had about 40 miles to go. We picked up some more guys that were shot up.



# With the 26th AAA 1951-52

Hi Tom!

I want to tell you that you are doing a wonderful job as editor of the *Taro Leaf*. I get a real kick out of the different stories that I can relate to.

I was a cannoneer-machine gunner on a half track in the Second Platoon, Dog Battery, 26AAA, and would like to share a couple of funny happenings that occurred during my tour.

## Christmas in Korea, 1951

We were fortunate to be stationed at Danger Forward, 24th Division Headquarters, a few miles from the front lines. It was almost like being on R&R.

Our track was dug in about 50 feet from the entrance to the compound, and everything and everybody that came in or out was under our scrutiny.

It was Christmas week (1951) and the word was out that some movie stars were coming to put on a show for the troops. As the day approached there was snow and more snow all around us and as it turned out, nature called me and picked the wrong time. I struggled through the deep snow to get 15 or so feet from the road, stomped down as much snow as I could, and just as I squatted down.

Along came a parade of jeeps. To my chagrin the last jeep was carrying Paul Douglas and his beautiful wife, Jan Sterling. Thank God I had



**Ramon R. Cooper**  
**Korea, 1951**

enough sense not to stand up and cheer, but stayed crouched down and waved like crazy. They both smiled and waved back!

When I went back to our tent I told the crew what happened, no one believed me. So, I thought that's OK, this will always be my little secret!

## Christmas in Japan, 1952

Christmas 1952 found me at Camp Younghans in northern Honshu, Japan. My buddy, Eddie Critchley, and I had weekend passes and headed off Sendai about 10 or so miles from camp a day or so before Christmas.

We discovered a nice saloon type restaurant, where we were seated at a nice table, and ordered our drinks.

Soon the waitress came over to our table with a bottle of warm sake and two glasses. She pointed to Japanese man seated at a table close by.

He bowed his head to us, and we returned our thank you for the gesture. This gave us both a nice warm feeling and helped us to get over our homesickness at not being with our families.

A short time later he sent another bottle of sake, and still wouldn't accept a drink from us. He stayed at his table reading a book, and when he sent the third bottle over, we were really embarrassed.

The waitress then explained that this man was a movie star and he often did this with U.S. soldiers. We asked her if we could get his autograph and he invited us over. He wrote a message and signed his name for each of us. We thanked him, and he left.

We then asked the waitress to tell us what he had written. Here were his words: -Ha Ha, I no movie star. I just like to make joke. I just have fun with you!"

The way the waitress laughed lead us to believe that she was involved all the way! All in all, it turned out to be a fun evening.

In March of 1953, after 17 months, I was rotated home and happy to be with my wife, my mom, and to meet my 10-monthh old daughter, Laura.

Sgt. Ramon R. Cooper, Dog Btry  
26AAA

PO Box 548

Lake Como FL 32157-0548

904-649-4889

dobedobedo1@bellsouth.net



# The Virtual Wall

Tom, can you use this in the *Taro Leaf*? There were a lot of 24th ID guys that went to Vietnam.

<http://www.virtualwall.org/iStates.htm>

Please go to the link above, which is a virtual wall of all those lost during the Viet Nam War with the names, bio's and other information on our lost comrades.

It is a very interesting link, and those who served in that timeframe and lost friends or family can look them up on this site.

First click on a state; then when it opens, on a name. It should show you a picture of the person or at least his bio and medals.

Someone spent a lot of time on this web site and it is truly remarkable. Thanks!

Tom Appler, Life 2236  
24th S&T Bn, HQ Co.; 333 FA Bn, 'G' Btry  
1964-66, Germany  
2136 Herbert Ave.  
Westminster MD 21157-6947  
Ph: 410-848-1081

(**Letter to Mother** *Continued from page 35*)

I passed out about every five or so minutes. Every time I woke up they would be stepping all over me. I would get up and then pass out again.

As they were loading me on a train going to Pusan at Taejon I asked the Medic where my 45 Pistol was and he said that I would not need it any more.

At Pusan they put me on a British Hospital Ship (The SS Maine) to Japan.

We got to Yokohama Japan July 24th, where they unload the wounded on stretchers on the dock. A man came over to my stretcher and asked the nurse where I was wounded. I looked up at the person and it was General MacArthur.

I hadn't anything to eat for eight days, because of where I was wounded, so when I got to Japan, I weighed about 104 lbs.

I stayed in the hospital till the last of August and then returned to Korea and to my Battery. I was glad to get back.

(**Letter to Mother** *Continued on page 39*)

Tom

I was in the 2nd/19th/24th Infantry at Gablingen from 1962-1965. I don't see much about Gablingen in the *Taro Leaf*. You've written about Augsburg in your history articles a few times. Augsburg was just a few kilometers from Gablingen; I went there many times for R&R. If anybody out there knows Gablingen, I lived in the old concrete hanger that was used for the motor pool. I was a mechanic. I also spent three months in Berlin on a special tour during that time too. I've lost track of my old buddies over the years except for one, John Mountzoures, who lives on the east coast. We still call each other once in a while.

Keep in touch.

Larry A Mongan, Life 2106  
21469 Libby Road  
Emily MN 56447-5064  
lmmongan@emily.net

Larry

Thank you for the email. But I want to write to you and your fellow Gablingen, and all other places the 24th served members of the Association.

I'm sorry, but I am the Editor, or at least that is my title. **I don't write the *Taro Leaf*, you guys do!** I wasn't there, I didn't experience Gablingen. Wish I had been. But you guys did.

**I need you to write your Gablingen... all of Germany ... Desert Shield/ Desert Storm.... stories.** You need to put them down and I will help put them into the *Taro Leaf*. **We** make it what it is. Let's have your stories soon. Tom



# Leo Wenta receives recognition for his Army years

By Tom Kuhns, Meade County (Kansas) News, reprint permission granted

Lifetime Fowler (Kansas) resident, Leo Wenta was surprised recently when he received special recognition from the United States Army. Wenta, an Army veteran of World War II, received a certificate of appreciation from the Army's Freedom Team Salute program.

The certificate reads: "For outstanding service to the nation as a United States Army Soldier, you are being recognized for your patriotism and continued support of the Army family. Your legacy is today's Army and the values soldiers exhibit as they stand in defense of our country around the world. Their efforts are a direct reflection of your service and the United States Army and a grateful nation. Thank you."

The document is signed by General George Casey, the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army, and by Pete Green, Secretary of the Army. Wenta also received a letter of gratitude from the 24th Division -- his unit during his service years.

The odd thing about Leo's awards is, he has no idea why he got them or how he was chosen to be recognized.

(Editor Note: President Frederick nominated Leo, and all Association members for this award.)

Leo Wenta entered military service on September 28, 1944 and served in the Philippines as a machine

gunner in an infantry unit. He is a combat veteran and lost a number of friends in the war -- including his ammo bearer.

Wenta was wounded in action and spent some time in an Army hospital recovering from his wounds. He was in the Pacific theater when the war with Japan finally ended on August of 1945.

Although the United States observes the end of the war on August 14, Leo has a mild objection to that date. "Where I was at it was August 15 as I remember it" he said with a chuckle.

After the war Wenta served in the U.S. occupational forces in Japan for a year. On November 30, 1946, he was discharged from the Army.

Since that time he has been a member of Fowler's American Legion Post. Sarah Lauppe is the commander of that post. She said that she wasn't aware of the Freedom Team Salute program.

Lauppe herself was in the Army and is a veteran of Desert Storm. During that war she served as a hydraulics mechanic for helicopters. She was in the Army from 1991 to

1997.

Although their individual terms of service are separated by nearly 50 years, Lauppe said she is happy to see Leo get the Army award. "It's special to see our World War II veterans receive this kind of recognition, --he said. --I think they certainly deserve it"

A brief look at the U. S. Army Freedom Team Salute's web site shows that Wenta's honor is part of an organized effort to recognize former soldiers.

The program is operated and funded by the United States Army. Under the terms of the program anyone can nominate any U.S. Soldier who has been honorably discharged for the award.



Photo caption: Fowler resident and World War II Army veteran Leo Wenta is pictured here with Fowler American Legion Post Commander Sarah Lauppe. Wenta recently received a special Freedom Team Salute from the Army for the years he spent in service to the U.S. Army.



## Two Urbana, OH natives meet in Korea



8th Army Commander, General Eichelberger and S/Sgt Russ Arnold, both from Urbana, Ohio

Tom:

I sent you an email about Russell Arnold, a lifetime member of the Association getting in touch with me after you ran my letter about the Nisie's doing such a good job for us.

Russ and I have had several phone conversations, and he sent me a couple of pictures which I enclose, hoping you can use them. I have drawn a circle around Kenny Shimbo in the middle and around Russ on the right side. Russ labeled the big picture -This is the MP platoon in 1946-47 era in Kokura, Japan.

I joined the MP's near Davao, Mindanao, in '45 We quickly went to Matsuyama-Dogo, Japan. Then to Kokura. I left in August '47. This picture has been cropped on both sides, so it does not show the entire platoon.

While in Japan, 8th Army Commander General Eichelberger visited the 24th on March 6, 1947. He discovered that Russ was from Urbana, Ohio, which was also his birthplace too, and posed for this snapshot. Russ wrote on the snapshot, "3/6/47, Lt. Gen. Eichelberger with S/Sgt Arnold. His birthplace -home" is Urbana, OH. He got his 4th star after retiring."

Tom, I hope this will be of interest to you and to the members.

Regards.

James W. Mims, 811 Lawson Ave., Midland TX 79701-4144 Phone 432-682-1757 (note: the Area Code portion of Mr. Mims' phone number was incorrectly reported in the last *Taro Leaf*.)

Russell G. Arnold, 3999 St Rte 55, Urbana OH 43078-9611 Ph: 937-788-2789

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### **(Letter to Mother** *Continued from page 37)*

It was there that I found out that Lt. Grimes, Platoon Sgt. Jorgenson had been wounded and that Earley had been shot in both legs. And also that Lt. Mikuiski had been killed. And they were all in the same hospital that I was in and I didn't know it.

I stayed with the Battery about two weeks when it was determined that I was not fit for combat duty. I was sent back to the hospital in Pusan and was checked out and then sent to work in the Troop Movement Office.

Love,  
Beryl



# Notices

## **Korean Defense Veterans of America, Inc.**

We express our sincere appreciation to the KDVA for a \$1,000 donation in memory of Assoc. Life Member 1412, Norm Treadway, KDVA National Commander. Facilitated by Tom Murray, 3279 E.

Boquillas Dr.,  
Kingman, AZ 86409

## *The Retired Enlisted Association*



Retired with service over 20 years

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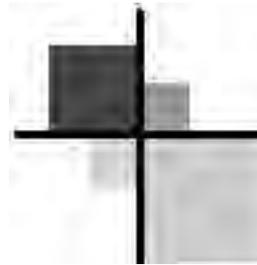
For information: Thomas M Caldwell, (21st Inf, HQ),  
email: [thomasmcaldwell@yahoo.com](mailto:thomasmcaldwell@yahoo.com), Phone: (724)  
547-7427

## **19th and 34th Mini- Reunion**

April 26-28, 2010, Pigeon Forge, TN

Bob Taylor

Tel: 828-884-9593 [bobnjoan@citcom.net](mailto:bobnjoan@citcom.net)



## **Florida Annual Mini Reunion**

### **5th RCT Association (17th) and Central Florida 24th IDA Group (1st)**

Thursday November 4 through Sunday November 7, 2010

Holiday Inn, 860 Hwy A1A Beach Blvd, St. Augustine Beach, Florida

Rooms: \$79 plus tax: 904-471-2555/800-626-7263

Reunion registration deadline: October 23, 2010; Contact: Bill Kane, 5023 Andrea Blvd, Orlando, FL 32807, 407-275-7450 or 407-421-4465 cell; email: [kcrabbybill@yahoo.com](mailto:kcrabbybill@yahoo.com)

## **Central Florida 24th IDA Group**

**Florida 24th IDA Members** (and all members in FL then)

Dutch Treat Luncheons, Golden Corral, Leesburg Florida, 11:30 a.m.

Scheduled: May 5 and Aug. 4, November Reunion (see above)

Space limited; contact: Tom Thiel, 352-357-3943 [cf24ida@gmail.com](mailto:cf24ida@gmail.com) or

Bill Stokes, 352-750-6741 [wsswriter@netzero.com](mailto:wsswriter@netzero.com)



# A tribute to a Task Force Smith Veteran

## Reverend Robert Sawyer

It was the end of June 1950. He was 17, and on occupation duty in Japan. When the alert sounded, he and his buddies grabbed their gear and headed outside to line up. Several of them grumbled about all these -alert drills." Oh sure, they'd heard some rumors about a little country called Korea—but Big Deal! He and his buddies were 17—18—20—and indestructible. Just let those guys start something! Ha!

He'd enlisted in December 1948—three years after World War II. He'd tried to enlist during the war but the Sergeant had patted his shoulder and said, -You're big enough son—but you need to wait a few years." So he waited—and -adjusted" his birth certificate—and at 16 he made it. He loved all of it—the training—the competition—the buddies—all of it.

He played football on his Division's team—and Sarge had told him his swimming was good enough to get him a chance for the Olympic swim team.

-Hey—wait a minute!" Something was different about this alert. Wasn't that. . . Yes, it was. . . that's the Chaplain coming down the line.

You okay, son? Would you like me to pray with you before you load up? Pray? Maybe this is the real thing! -All right men—load up!"

And so it began. Along with the rest of the outfit—composed of 406 infantrymen of the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment, Task Force



**Robert Sawyer, Age 16**

Smith. He landed at Pusan, Korea, on 1 July 1950, and they were joined by 134 artillerymen of the 52nd Field Artillery Battalion near P'yongtaek on 4 July.

Their job? To delay the main body of the enemy driving into South Korea. They faced an estimated 20,000 enemy troops near Osan on 5 July.

Before he was rotated out a year later he had been wounded three times and decorated many more. A special Certificate of Valor which was awarded in June 1952, to he and the few other survivors, best describes their success when it says, -With ammunition almost spent and its position in imminent danger of being completely surrounded, a hazardous but masterly withdrawal was effected. Rushed forward to effect this massive onslaught alone, the intrepidity and skill of these defenders of the ground can best be gauged

by their outstanding success in stemming the enemy advance during this very critical period."

In 2003, at the 50th anniversary celebration of the end of the Korean War, I spoke with a South Korean general who said, -People need to remember—the conflict in Korea was the first crack in the wall of Communism—the beginning of its downfall.

Well—Communism is still not dead—at least not in North Korea. Yes, we need to fight terrorism in all its forms, but we need also to keep an eye on all of the enemies of Freedom.

That 17 year old on his way to Osan in 1950 later became a United Methodist pastor who served God, through the church, for 30 years and for the rest of his life. Several times over the years he was heard to say, -We never really finished the job there. One day it will rise up to haunt us again." Was he right?

**FREEDOM IS NOT FREE.** It requires constant vigilance—constant effort. It is not a right or a gift. Freedom is a privilege to be earned by a people who care and work together to hold it high.

**MAY GOD BLESS OUR NATION  
AND ALL ITS PEOPLE.**

Love and Prayers,

Lyn Sawyer, 21st Association  
5435 SE 140th St.  
Summerfield, FL 34491



# 24th Medal of Honor Memorial Needs the Support of Your Representatives in Congress

The long and distinguished history of the 24th Infantry Division has seen many, many brave Americans.

But foremost among these are the fourteen men whose brave acts have earned our nation's highest recognition, The Medal of Honor, for heroic action above and beyond the call of duty.

These men, although honored, may be forgotten in the years ahead. Who will speak for them? Who will keep the memory of their deeds alive?

We will—if you will help. We want to place a monument dedicated to these gallant 24th Division MOH heroes at Arlington National Cemetery, where all may see and know of their dedication to their fellow soldiers and to their country.

But one cannot simply take a memorial to Arlington National Cemetery; it requires no less than an act of Congress!

On the facing page is a press release issued by **Congressman Chris Lee** (NY-26) on Thursday, January 28, 2010, describing legislation (H. Con. Res. 232) he has introduced to honor the Army's 24th Infantry Division and its 14 Medal of Honor recipients through a memorial marker at Arlington National Cemetery.

The Memorial is the idea of Dan Rickert, 2008 Verbeck Award Recipient for his highly successful ef-

**What is needed now is for you to write letters to your Congressperson asking them to support Congressman Lee's bill. Do it now, please.**

fort to bring to fruition a 24th Infantry Division Memorial at the Punch Bowl in Hawaii several years ago. And Dan is leading the Memorial Committee, which in addition to himself, consists of Sal Schillaci as Sec/Treas, Gene Spicer, Mel Frederick, and Keith Hagen.

Their thought is that the monument would be similar in many ways to the one at the Punch Bowl (see *Taro Leaf* 2007, Vol 61[1&2]) in that it will be glass covered, with the names of all 14 recipients in raised letters.

Many of those contributing their time and talents to the last one have likewise indicated that they are

willing to also contribute to this one.

An original concept sketch is shown below, but the committee is also considering alternative designs as well.

Dan and his fellow committee members ask that you help to make this vision a reality with a donation to the 24th Infantry Division Medal of Honor Fund.

All donations will be used to purchase the monument and have it installed.

Please send your donations, made payable to The Medal of Honor Fund, to Sal Schillaci, 59 Endicott Drive, Amherst, NY 14226.

**And, write those letters to your Congress person today!**

To contact your Member of Congress, you may go to [www.writerep.house.gov](http://www.writerep.house.gov) or call the House operator at (202) 224-3121.



# The Lee Bill to Honor 24th MOH Veterans at Arlington National Cemetery

For Immediate Release: Thursday, January 28, 2010

Contact: Andrea Bozek/Matthew Harakal

202-225-5265 (office)/716-598-4500 (cell)

Congressman Lee Introduces Legislation to Honor Veterans at Arlington National Cemetery

Lawmaker Introduces Bill to Commemorate the Heroes of the Army's 24th Infantry Division

WASHINGTON – Congressman Chris Lee (NY-26) today introduced legislation (**H. Con. Res. 232**) to honor the Army's 24th Infantry Division and its 14 Medal of Honor recipients through a memorial marker at Arlington National Cemetery.

This legislation was spurred by Amherst resident Salvatore Schillaci, who is the Vice President of the 24th Infantry Division's tribute association. Lee decided to introduce the legislation after being contacted by Schillaci and learning of the heroic sacrifices made by the 24th Infantry Division.

"I appreciate the opportunity to introduce this legislation to provide the 24th Infantry Division and its Medal of Honor recipients the solemn recognition they deserve," said Congressman Lee. "These brave patriots are true heroes and fought for our country during some of our nation's fiercest battles. It is a fitting honor that the 'Pride of the Pacific' be recognized in a memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. I wish to thank Mr. Schillaci for his continuing leadership in honoring these defenders of freedom."

"As a veteran of the Korean War who served in the 24th Infantry Division, I am just glad to see that those who I served alongside are being recognized for their sacrifices," said Amherst resident Salvatore Schillaci. "Thank Congressman Lee for his leadership and in helping in our effort to place a memorial at Arlington."

Installing a memorial marker at Arlington National Cemetery requires an Act of Congress. Congressman Lee's bipartisan bill calls for a site at Arlington to be provided for the marker (to view the legislation, please go to: [http://chrislee.house.gov/uploads/LEENY\\_047\\_xml.pdf](http://chrislee.house.gov/uploads/LEENY_047_xml.pdf))

Created in 1861, the Medal of Honor is the nation's highest military award for valor in combat. Only 3,400 service members have earned the Medal of Honor out of the millions who have worn the uniform since the award was created.

Deactivated in 2006, the 24th Infantry is one of our nation's most storied divisions. Dating back to 1941, the "Pride of the Pacific Theatre" has always followed the motto of "First to Fight." For more information on the 24th Infantry Division and its history, please visit its website: <http://victory24.org/>.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Cosponsors (19): Lee (NY-26), Adler (NJ-3), Shimkus (IL-19), Heinrich (NM-1), Teague (NM-2), Lujan (NM-3), Cao (LA-2), Michaud (ME-2), Kagen (WI-8), Kind (WI-3), Moore (KS-3), Harper (MS-3), Lincoln Davis (TN-4), Harold Rogers (KY-5), Carney (PA-10), Jeff Miller (FL-1), Peter King (NY-3), Bill Owens (NY-23), Massa (NY-29)



# The Taro Leaf TAPS

(Continued from page 6)

**Lonnie E. "Bud" Fawver** passed away Dec. 10, 2008 in Millville, CA. Bud served with the 60mm mortars in the 4th Plt, Company B, **5th RCT** during the Korean War.

**Donald L. "Don" Fee**, 83, of Barry, IL, died Jan. 23, 2010. Don served in the MP Platoon in Matsuyama/Dogo, Japan. His wife Bertha E. Frankenbach died July 27, 2005, and he is survived by one son, Kyle Fee of Wood Dale, IL. (By Russell G. Arnold, Life #104.)

**Walter C. Ferrell** passed away in Portland, OR on Jan. 16, 2010. Walter served with the **24th Infantry Division** in New Guinea, the Philippines and occupation duty in Japan. His wife Catharine predeceased him on Sept. 10, 2009; he is survived by three sons, Gregg, Steve and Brian.

**Charles M. Frost**, 78, Company K, **34th Infantry Regiment** passed away Jan. 24, 2010. Charles was a POW from Jul. 21, 1950 to Aug. 26, 1953. Burial in the Radcliff KY Veterans Cemetery. He is survived by his wife Edith Frost, 1827 Preston St., Radcliff, KY 40160.

**Eumont Henson**, 84, died Jan 12, 2010, in Montrose, CO. Eumont served with the **24th Infantry Division** from Mar. 1945 – Nov. 1946 in Japan. He is survived by his wife, Ms. Norma Henson, 66503 Kinikin Rd, Montrose, CO 81403-7752.

**Keith Carlyle Holdren**, 78, passed away Feb. 15, 2010, in San Bernardino, CA. Keith served in Korea with the **24th Infantry Division**. He was sent home due to injuries sustained in a bayonet battle. He is survived by his wife, Ruth M. Holdren, PO Box 30045, San Bernardino, CA 92413-0045.

**Ronald Izumigawa** passed away Sep. 5, 2009 in Wahiawa, HI. Robert served with Company L, **5th RCT**. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Marlene Izumigawa, 1129 Neal Ave., Wahiawa, HI 96786-2143.

**Jimmy Jiminez** of Daleville, AL died Oct. 2009. He

served with Company D, **Medium Tank Battalion** and was a POW in Camp 1 from Apr. 25, 1951 to Aug. 22, 1953. He is survived by his wife Soon Nyn and a son.

**Donald Legay** of Lancaster, PA died Jan. 15 2010. He served with Company C, **19th Infantry** and was a POW in Camp 5 from Nov. 11, 1950 until Apr. 1953.

**Randolph Lehs**, passed away on Dec. 4, 1998 in Fayette, IA. Randolph served with Company A, **5th RCT** in Korea from 1952-1953.

**Carl E. Lindberg**, 93, of Worcester, MA, formerly of Shrewsbury and Tatnuck Park, passed away Jan. 6, 2010. Carl was a Sergeant in the **34th Infantry Regiment** in WWII. He leaves his wife of 70 years, Elvira E. (Johnson) Lindberg.

**Sidney Benett Luria, MD**, 93 of Highland Beach, FL and Waterbury, CT passed away Feb. 27, 2010. Dr. Luria served as a Medical officer captain with the **24th Infantry Division** in the Pacific receiving a silver star for treating 264 wounded soldiers in five days without one fatality; he also received a bronze star and the Purple Heart. He is survived by his wife, Irene. Burial at the Arlington National Cemetery.

**Donald Barry Montgomery**, 78, passed away on Feb. 11, 2010, in Greeley, CO. Born in Mingo Junction, OH, Don served in the **21st Infantry Regiment** from 1951-53 in Korea, and received three Bronze Stars. He is survived by his wife, Faye Montgomery, 2634 Meadowbrook Ln, Greeley, CO 80634-7537.

**William Paul Mulkins**, 83, Louisville, KY passed away Jan. 26, 2010. He served in the Korean War with the **24th Infantry Division**. He was preceded in death by his wife Mary Jo., and is survived by his children, Karen McCloud, Paula Jo Mulkins, Cindy Murray-Vincent and WPM Jr.

**Charles Criss Napier**, died Feb. 22, 2010 in Huntington, WV. He was a POW in Korea for more than 37 months with the Tiger Survivors. Napier served with



# The Taro Leaf TAPS

(Continued from page 44)

the **19th Infantry Regiment**. He is survived by his wife Mary Napier, 1025 Madison Ave, Huntington WV 25704-2537.

**Raymond J. Noon**, 80, of Ashland, PA, formerly of Philadelphia, died on Jan. 14, 2010. His wife Elizabeth preceded him in death; Ray proudly served in Korea with the **24th Infantry Division** and was a recipient of the Purple Heart.

**Gilbert Perkins**, 78, passed away on Jan. 26, 2010 in Pocatello, ID. He was with **24th Infantry Division** for the first two months of the Korean War. He is survived by his wife, DeLoa Perkins, 925 Belmont St, Pocatello, ID 83204-2134.

**Louis Proietti**, 84, passed away Jan. 22, 2010, in Lockport, NY. He served with the **6th Tank Battalion** during the Korean War, receiving the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star. Surviving is his wife, Mrs. Helen Proietti, 118 Old Niagara Rd, Apt 4, Lockport, NY 14094.

**Raymond Anthony Ruther, Jr.**, Pensacola, FL, died Feb. 3, 2010. He served in the **24th Infantry Division** in Korea. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Sever Ruther, 7 Redwood Cir, Pensacola, FL 32506.

**William J. Sahovey**, 78, of Georgetown, MA, passed away Mar. 5, 2010 in Danvers after a short illness. William served with the **21st Infantry Regiment** during the Korean War, honored with the Bronze Star. William is survived by his wife, Janice M. Sahovey of Georgetown.

**Gilbert Silva**, El Paso, TX, passed away Feb. 8, 2010. Gilbert served in the **24th Infantry Division** in Korea where he received the Purple Heart. He is survived by his son Gilbert Silva, Jr. and daughter Rosemary. Gilbert Silva Jr, 412 Valle Suave Dr, El Paso, TX 79927-3891.

**Stanley E. Sousa** passed away Oct. 26, 2009 in

Bradenton, FL. Stanley served in Hq, 2nd BN, **5th RCT**. The family may be contacted at Peter Sousa, 4153 66th Street Circle West, Bradenton, FL 34209-7604.

**Leslie E. Stanford** passed away on Feb. 24, 2010. Colonel Stanford served with the **34th Infantry Regiment** in Korea in 1956. In WW II, he commanded Company L, 30th Infantry Division in France, Holland, Belgium, and Germany, receiving the Silver and Bronze Stars, and the Purple Heart. Leslie is survived by his wife, Arna. Burial at Arlington National Cemetery, VA.

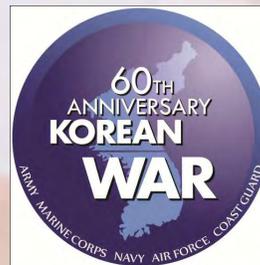
**Carlos B. "Carl" Stepp**, 79, passed away Jan. 23, 2010, Austintown, OH. Carl was a radio operator in the **24th Infantry Division** during the Korean War, receiving the Bronze Star. He is survived by his wife, Ruthellen Mulholland Stepp in Austintown.

**Charles H. Tindle** passed away Nov. 27, 2009 in Mount Vernon, IL. Reverend Tindle served with Hqs, **5th RCT** in 1953. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mildred Tindle, 12224 East Meadows Dr., Mount Vernon, IL 62864-2622.

**Harold W. Tomlinson** passed away Aug. 24, 2009 at Campbell's Point, NY. Tommy was a FO in Korea 1952-53 for the **555th FA Battalion**.

**William W. "Yogi" Winans**, 84, of Belmont, NH died July 22, 2009. He served with the **34th Infantry Regiment** in 1944. He was predeceased by his wife Marilyn Mueller Winans.

**Donald R. "Wolfy" Wolf**, 78, of East Liverpool, OH, passed away Jan. 26, 2010. He was a Korean War Veteran serving with the **24th Infantry Division**. Don is survived by his wife, Mrs. Betty Baughman Wolf, 829 Louise Ave., East Liverpool, OH 43929.





**John T. Edwards** presenting devotional books to a transportation Company from Ft Eustis, VA going to Afghanistan. –Sorry, I gave book to about 150 brave warriors; sorry, I didn't get their names. – John T. Edwards  
14370 Mill Swamp Rd., Smithfield VA 23430-3536, 757-357-2331, kvetedwards@yahoo.com



Gerald and "Vee" Brown at Springfield Reunion  
(See "My First Reunion" pages 10-12)

## Send TAPS Notices to the *Taro Leaf* Editor

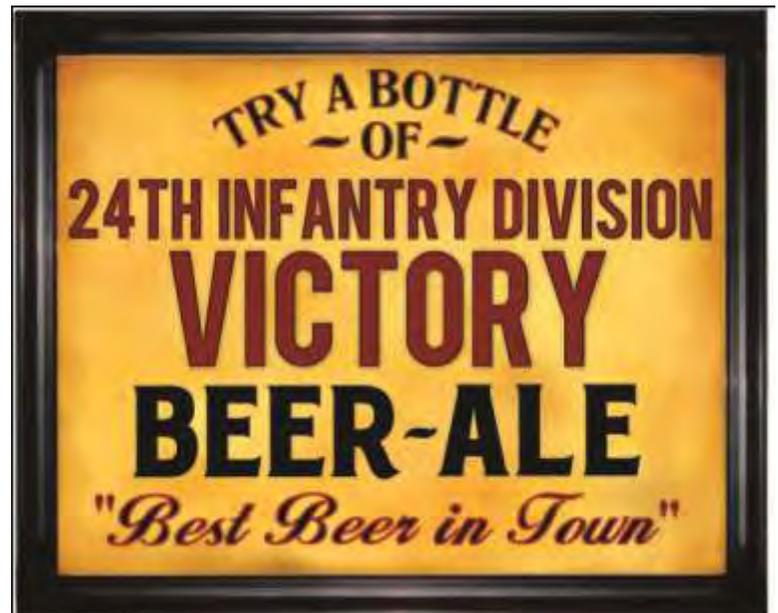
(Please include a photo)

[thetaroleaf@gmail.com](mailto:thetaroleaf@gmail.com)

19147 Park Place Blvd.

Eustis, FL 32736

If you want to ensure a TAPS notice is printed in the *Taro Leaf*, send to Editor



**Your help is needed** to update and add to our 24th Infantry Division Association files. Only you can help us to make sure our files are complete today and for the future. Send all address, phone and email changes today to:

[jokdunn@aol.com](mailto:jokdunn@aol.com) or

[thetaroleaf@gmail.com](mailto:thetaroleaf@gmail.com)

 <p>Send Dues &amp; Address Changes To: 24th Infantry Division Association Secretary/Treasurer John A. Dunn - 2nd Infantry 9130 Hwy. 31 Westover, AL 35447-9527 205-678-6165 jokdunn@aol.com</p>	<p>Check Your Dues Date Below</p>	<p>FORPRINTS TAPS FORGONE FAP Form #100 Landing, FL 34911</p>
	<p><b>Rear Cover</b></p>	<p>Your Renewal Date:</p> <p>Your Name Address City, State, Zip Code</p>



# A Deadly Reconnaissance Patrol—A Follow-up

In our last edition of *The Taro Leaf* [Vol 64(1) page 13], we brought you an account of a 3rd Combat Engineers patrol led by 1LT **Ward Neville** on 11 August 1950. Because a 1955 newspaper account indicated Neville's remains were returned to the United State by Communist Chinese officials, a question was raised about whether Neville and some of his men might have been taken prisoner.

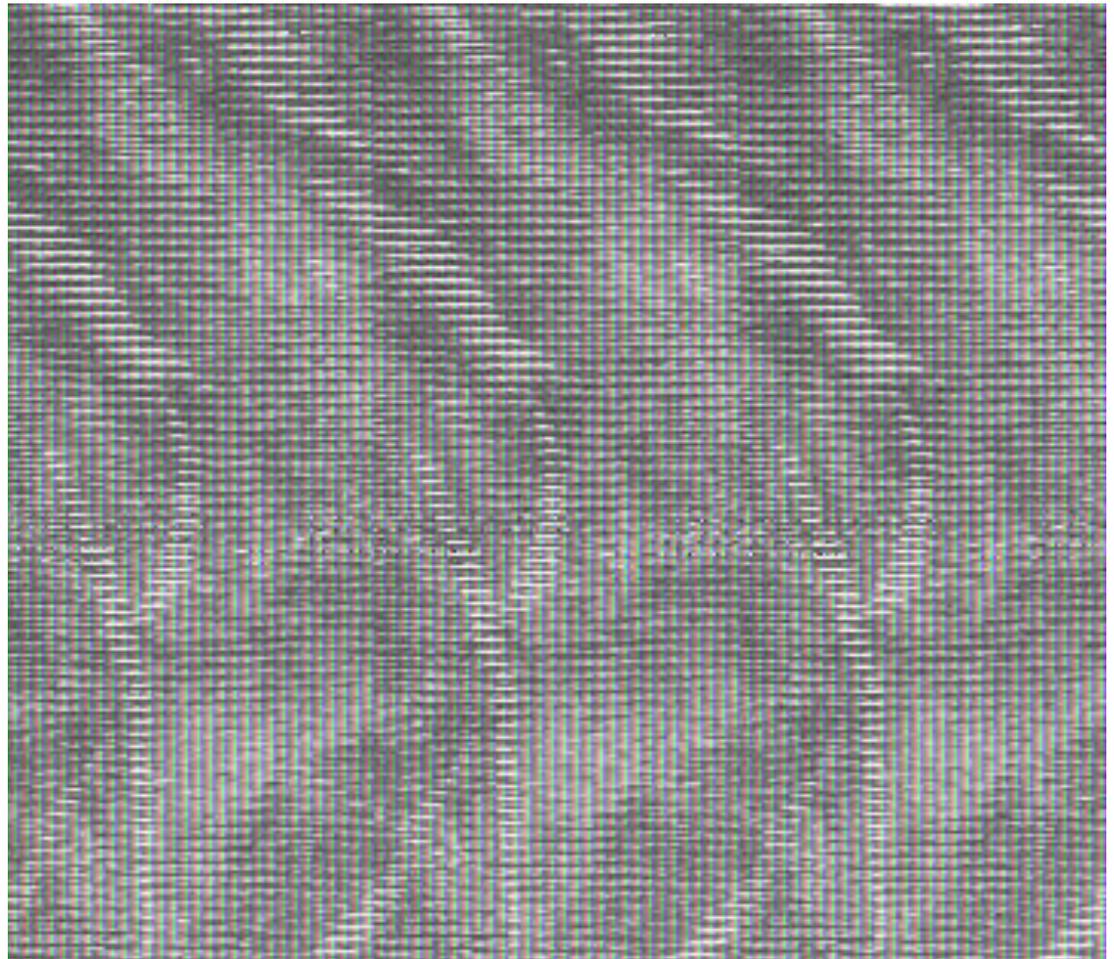
Merry Helm followed up by taking this question to the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC). On January 8, 2010, Major Ramon Osorio, Chief of Plans/Operations Public Affairs, met with JPAC's lead anthropologist, who confirmed the case was "resolved" many years ago but could offer no further details.

Major Osorio continued to investigate and, on January 15, he reported: "On 17 December 1951, members of the 565th Graves Registration Company recovered four sets of remains (one of these sets was those of 1LT Neville) in the Chang-dong area. These remains were sent to Tangkok mortuary lab, a facility newly stood up during the time by the United Nations, located on the outskirts of Pusan, South Korea. At this facility Neville was [later] identified by physical and dental characteristics."

Thus, the newspaper's assumption that Neville's remains were returned by the Chinese was inaccurate.

The Google Earth image at right shows the area in which the patrol was ambushed.

Merry Helm, 420 8th Ave S  
Fargo, ND, 58103-2828  
701-293-5045

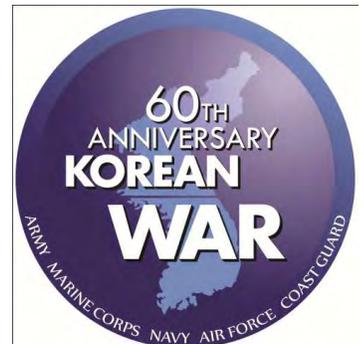


Hi Tom

I would like to express my gratitude to those who have contributed for the M.O.H. Memorial fund.

Thanks to all

**Keith Hagen**





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[jokdunn@aol.com](mailto:jokdunn@aol.com)

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# Editor Wanted



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