

# TARD

24th Infantry Division Association



FIRST TO FIGHT

# LEAF

Commemorating 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the War

## 2010 APPRECIATION EVENT

In Honor of **American Veterans**  
of the Korean War



See related story, page 37

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**COMING  
UP NEXT**

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# WWII Veterans — Remember October 20th, 1944?

Editor

*In this issue of the Taro Leaf, including the cover, there are many references to the Korean War, appropriate to its 60th anniversary. However, there is another notable anniversary this month.*

The Leyte invasion was the largest amphibious operation mounted by American and Allied forces to date in the Pacific theater. Gen. MacArthur was designated as supreme commander of sea, air, and land forces drawn from both the Southwest and Central Pacific theaters of operation. Allied naval and air support forces consisted primarily of the U.S. 7th Fleet under Vice Adm. Thomas C. Kinkaid. With 701 ships, including 127 warships, Kinkaid's fleet would transport and put ashore the landing force. The Royal Australian Navy forces seconded to the Seventh Fleet included five warships, three landing ships and five auxiliary vessels.

Following four hours of heavy naval gunfire on A-day, 20 October, Sixth Army forces landed on assigned beaches at 10:00. The X Corps pushed across a 4 mi (6 km) stretch of beach between Tacloban airfield and the Palo River. 15 mi (24 km) to the south, XXIV Corps units came ashore across a 3 mi (5 km) strand between San José and the Daguitan River. Troops found as much resistance from swampy terrain as from Japanese fire. Within an hour of landing, units in most sectors had secured beachheads deep enough to receive heavy vehicles and large amounts of supplies. **The 24th Division** was in the thick of it meeting heavy resistance in their sector. But it was well secured by 13:30 allowing Gen. MacArthur to make a dramatic entrance through the surf and announce to the populace the beginning of their liberation:

"People of the Philippines, I have returned!  
By the grace of Almighty God, our forces  
stand again on Philippine soil."

By the end of A-day, the Sixth Army had moved 2 mi (3 km) inland and controlled Panaon Strait at the southern end of Leyte. In the X Corps sector, the 1st Cavalry Division held Tacloban airfield, and the 24th Infantry Division had taken the high ground on Hill 522 commanding its beachheads. In the XXIV Corps sector, the 96th Infantry Division held the approaches to Catmon Hill. The 7th Infantry Division took the town of Dulag, which forced Gen. Makino to move his command post 10 mi (16 km) inland to the town of Dagami. The initial fighting was won at a cost of 49 killed, 192 wounded, and 6 missing.  
(From Wikipedia)



This is my first issue as editor of the Taro Leaf. I hope to build upon the excellent foundation that Tom Thiel has laid to make this the best military association magazine in the country. Our readers will judge our progress and I hope they will be frank in their criticism.

The life blood of any such publication flows from the involvement and input of its members. Your stories, pictures, and commentary are the heart and soul of the Taro Leaf. I implore all of you to make contributions, whether a short hand-written note or extensive story. We also welcome your photos, which we ask you to identify as well as possible.

Standing on the proud history of the 24th Division's many assigned units, we can further enhance its legacy and bring recognition and camaraderie to our surviving members who served in WWII, Korea, Europe, Middle East, or Stateside.

As a member of the association interested in our history and your personal experiences I welcome a deluge of material. However, in my role as editor I must also make critical judgments as to what meets the criteria for publication. For articles, the criteria are: credibility, interesting content, and cogency in stories of 500 to 1,000 words. Many of you are accomplished communicators and do not need advice, but you need not be a polished writer.

It is the responsibility of the editor to provide any fine tuning, spelling, or grammatical changes where needed. For *Letters to the Editor*, *Looking For*, and *Notices*, there are no particular criteria; just write what you have in mind. Inevitably, there may be circumstances when submitted material cannot be included in an upcoming Taro Leaf for lack of available space or suitability. If so, I will do my best to resolve the matter fairly and hope not to offend anyone.

Preferably, material for submission should be in digital format and sent via an email or file on a CD. Scanned images should be 300 dpi or higher. I realize most our members are not plugged into computers, so the next best option is typed material which can be scanned and converted into digital text. For this purpose a clean copy, or the original, is needed. Please note any printed material or pictures you wish to have returned and include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Original newsprint is preferred; if photocopied they need to be as clean as possible.

My goal is to create a publication that is interesting, relevant, and worthy of its readership. Your feedback and suggestions are always welcome. For more discussion about the publication, see pages 4 and 29.

David Valley



# TRAVESTY!

## Army to remedy chaos in Arlington Cemetery

ARMY INSPECTOR General R. Steven Whitcomb was right in saying that the daily work of honoring, burying and accounting for the remains of our nation's servicemen and women had to be a zero-defect operation. Even one error is too much. The numerous discrepancies in accounting and record keeping at Arlington National Cemetery, and the grave site maintenance failures that resulted in headstones in streams, are inexcusable.

The inspector general's report, released on June 10, found that the cemetery lacked up-to-date governing documents and standard operating procedures, had no structure for self-assessment or external assessment, and lagged in information technology. Reports in the Washington Post and *Salon.com* found mis-marked graves, mislabeled internal maps, and grave location records kept on cards.

More than \$5 million dedicated to the creation of a digital record system failed to result in any digitization of records, except as image files from which data could not be extracted. Thurman Higginbotham, the official spearheading the digitization, lacked information technology experience and served as the cemetery's contracting officer without any of the requisite training. Dozens of the cemetery's contracts cannot even be located.

Many of the errors stem from an excruciatingly outdated system in which records are still kept on cards and maps are updated by hand, resulting in discrepancies between the maps that visitors to the cemetery consult to visit the graves of their loved ones and the maps that cemetery workers use to determine open slots for burial.

The remedy for this is simple, and the technology for maintaining digital records already exists in the private sector. Instead of reinventing the wheel, as cemetery officials initially planned,

needlessly demanding that a special "Total Cemetery Management System"

to be built from scratch, the cemetery should use available technology to make its records manageable -- and sooner rather than later. Virginia high-tech companies have already volunteered their assistance.

But the more fundamental failure was one of management, oversight and accountability. As the contract investigation continues, the Army must hold accountable those who were responsible for squandering the public's trust -- and millions of dollars on noncompetitive, improperly documented contracts for an information technology system that never materialized.

Since the report emerged, change has been underway. The management structure in which, as Secretary of the Army John McHugh stated, "by placing everyone in charge, no one was in charge," has been replaced with an executive director who reports directly to the Secretary.

This is an important step toward accountability, and the changes that have already been implemented -- some as fundamental as creating standard operating procedures for when urns are exhumed to accommodate the burial of a family member -- were much needed.

But the most worrisome of all the inspector general's findings was that some of the problems had been noted 12 years earlier, yet nothing had been done. Arlington National Cemetery seems to be on the path to improvement. But continued monitoring will be necessary to hold it accountable.

For information contact: **Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia 22211**  
**Call Toll Free 877-907-8585**

**The Washington Post, August 10, 2010**

## Editor's Style Sheet

I have noticed in editing stories for the Taro Leaf that a variety of nomenclature is used to designate Army ranks and units. Since this may be confusing, I have attempted to introduce standard designations; bear with me if I've missed some in this issue. The exception is previously published material which must be reproduced verbatim. I hope in time this will be a benefit to our readers.

### OFFICERS

**2LT:** Second Lieutenant

**1LT:** First Lieutenant

**CPT:** Captain

**MAJ:** Major

**LTC:** Lieutenant Colonel

**COL:** Colonel

**BG:** Brigadier General

**MG:** Major General

**LTG:** Lieutenant General

**GEN:** General of the Army

**WO:** Warrant Officer

**CWO:** Chief Warrant Officer

**MWO:** Master Warrant Officer

### ENLISTED

**PVT:** Private

**PFC:** Private First Class

**CPL:** Corporal

**SGT:** Sergeant

**SSG:** Staff Sergeant

**SFC:** Sergeant First Class

**MSG:** Master Sergeant

**1SGT:** First Sergeant

**SGM:** Sergeant Major

**CSM:** Command Sergeant Major

**SMA:** Sergeant Major of the Army

### UNITS

**AAA:** Anti-Aircraft Artillery

**BN:** Battalion

**CO:** Company

**DIV:** Division

**ENG:** Engineers

**FA:** Field Artillery

**HQ:** Headquarters

**ID:** Infantry Division

**IDA:** Infantry Division Association

**MP:** Military Police

**ORD:** Ordnance

**PLT:** Platoon

**QM:** Quartermaster

**RECON:** Reconnaissance

**RG:** Regiment

**SQD:** Squad

# 2nd Infantry Regiment



Your new editor noted some of our officers and directors served with the 2nd Infantry and I made the mistake of thinking it was the 2nd DIV and wondered what the connection was to the 24th.

John Slattery, Director-at-large, who served in the 2nd Infantry, set me straight. As probably everyone but me knows, it is the 2nd Infantry regiment.

I did a bit of research and learned the 2nd RGT has had a long and illustrious history dating back to 1792 and its colorful leader Maj. General "Mad" Anthony Wayne.

The regiment has been engaged in almost every major conflict since then, with the notable exception of the Korean War, when it was garrisoned in the States. Its affiliation with the 24th Infantry Division began in January 1959 when the 2nd Battle Group of the 2nd RGT was re-assigned to the 24th ID in Germany.

In February 1962 the 2nd was reassigned from the 24th ID and returned to the 5th ID stationed at Fort Devens, Massachusetts.

The regiment has been handed off to many different commands over the years and is still on active duty.

The Regiment's motto "NOLI ME TANGERE" (Do Not Touch Me), was first applied when Major General Anthony Wayne requested Secretary of War Henry Knox to send the newly formed Legion of the United States a legion standard and standards for each of the four sub-legions. Each standard was to have this motto on a ribbon on the flag.

The editor is looking for details of the 2nd's activities while a part of the 24th ID in Germany. Our readers would be interested in their mission. And surely there must be colorful tales to tell (like the letter by Lanny Ray on page 9).

Let's have more stories!

**Editor, 24th Inf. Div. Assoc.**  
**Box 500907, San Diego, CA 92150**  
**24thtaroleaf@gmail.com**

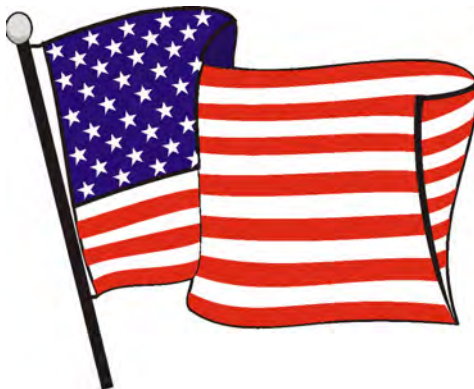
## U.S. FLAG DISPLAY PROTOCOL

1. THE (U.S.) FLAG, when displayed with another flag against a wall or from crossed staffs, should be on the right (viewer's left.) Its staff should be in front of the staff of any other flag.

2. THE FLAG, when flown at half-staff, should be first hoisted to the peak and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day. By "half-staff" is meant lowering the flag to one-half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff.

3. When flags of States, cities, or localities, or pennants of societies are flown on the same halyard with THE FLAG, the latter should always be at the peak. When the flags are flown from adjacent staffs, THE FLAG should be hoisted first and lowered last. No flag or pennant may be placed above THE FLAG or to the right of THE FLAG (viewer's left). When THE FLAG is half-masted, other flags are also half-masted, with THE FLAG at the mid-point and the other flags below.

4. When THE FLAG is displayed on a staff projecting horizontally or at an angle from a window sill, balcony, or front of a building, the union (field of stars) of the flag should be placed at the highest point of the staff.



5. When THE FLAG is used to cover a casket, it should be so placed that the union is at the head of the casket and the deceased. The flag should not be lowered into the grave or ever allowed to touch the ground.

6. When THE FLAG is displayed in a manner other than from a staff, it

should be displayed flat, whether indoors or out. When displayed either horizontally or vertically, the blue union is uppermost and to the flag's right (viewer's left).

7. THE FLAG should be at the center and at the highest point of a group when several flags are grouped and displayed from staffs.

8. When THE FLAG is displayed from a staff in a church or public auditorium on or off a podium, THE FLAG should be at the speaker's right as he faces the audience. Any other flags displayed should be placed on the speaker's left (audience's right).

9. When THE FLAG is displayed on a car, the staff shall be fixed firmly to the chassis or clamped to the right fender.

10. When hung in a window, the blue union of THE FLAG is in the upper left, as viewed from the exterior.

# Looking For

**Pfc. Christ P. Frangos** served with the **11th Field Artillery BN** of the 24th ID from 1941 to 1944 and died on Leyte. His sister hopes to find anyone who knew him, knew of him, served with him, or has any information about him. She is also hoping to get accounts from his time at Schofield Barracks in 1941 and his slight wounding on December 7. His Silver Star citation reads he was establishing observation and radio communication for artillery at the time of his death.

"My brother Christ "Greek" Frangos of Ames, Iowa served with the 11th Field Artillery Battalion at Schofield Barracks on December 7, 1941. He suffered a slight injury, but I never had an opportunity to find out anything else from him about that day.

I would like to know if there are any survivors of the battalion that served with him, and possibly remembered him. I do know that he saw service on New Guinea and on Leyte and he had one short R&R leave to Australia. Christ was killed by the Japanese on Leyte on November 17, 1944 and received the Silver Star for gallantry that day.

His citation reads: 'For gallantry in action on 17th November 1944. Private Frangos was a member of a radio party which was ordered to report to an observation post to furnish field artillery observation for the advance of a battalion of infantry. Due to heavy enemy fire, it was impossible to bring a radio to the forward slope of the hill where observation could be obtained. Though the fire continued unabated, Private Frangos laid and maintained for 45 minutes a wire line from the radio to the forward slope, making communication possible and the mission a success. The high courage and devotion of duty displayed by Private Frangos are in keeping with the high tradition of the military service."

If anyone remembers my brother, I would like to hear from you. I would also be interested in the battalion's World War II history, when and if it becomes available. Thank you.

**Pauline Frangos Englesson, 2186 Packard Avenue,  
Huntington Valley, PA 19006**

**Editor:** My brother's name is **CPL Fredrick Walter Bertrang**. He served in Korea with the **63rd Field Artillery Battalion** and was reported MIA July 20, 1950 at Taejon and the Kum River. I understand that the 63rd was part of the **24th Infantry Division**. Do you have any info on the 63rd? If so I would dearly love to know about it. I was only 4 years old when he was lost. I've been told he was on the Johnny Johnson list, but then another tells me he wasn't. Anything you can do to help is welcome. **Sharon Bertrang, 1112, Bartlett Ave., Altoona, WI 54720**

**Sharon:** I'll send a copy of the story written by Art Ambrose about the 63rd BN published a couple years ago. **Editor**



**David:** John Allen has been supplying us with some wonderful photos and memorabilia from Gen. Verbeck's collection, including this great photo of Captain McNeely, who was KIA at Leyte. John would like to trace this photo so he can give it to the McNeeley family.

Would you please put a piece in the Taro Leaf asking for leads on Capt McNeely? The writing on the picture is: "...killed 20 Oct. on beach at Leyte."

**Merry Helm, Historian 52pianos@cablone.net**

**Dear Sir:** I am looking for someone who knew or might have served with my uncle Joseph Wolk. He was a PFC with the **19th RGT** and killed in action July 8, 1951 in Korea. His full name: **Joseph J. Wolk**. Joseph was born in 1926 in Philadelphia, PA. His U.S. Army serial number was 52035280. Thank you for your help.

**Andrew Roll, 908 Wilder Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19147**

**Editor:** Thank you for replying to my E-mail about my Uncle. His son is developing Alzheimers and I am trying to nail down his father's story. The family does not have any military records. What I have is this: **Stanley Wilson Bennett**, known as Dutch, Service Number 35780648. He was a Private in K CO **34th RGT** killed in action Feb 17th, 1945 on Corregidor. He could not have been in very long since he enlisted in July of '44. I think some of his unit members were LT Edward Postelthwait, commanding officer of Warren MN, SGT Lewis Vershun of Britton MI, PVT Emil Ehrenbold of Hutchinson KS, and PVT Roland Paeth of Bay City MI. Thank you very much for any help you can give us.

**Ernie Bennett, SFC USA Ret. sfceb@yahoo.com**



**Editor:** I served in the **34th Regiment**, G Co. and **19th RGT**, and also L Co., 08/50-08/51. I took the photos (shown below) from June thru July 1951, and would like to find the folks in the photos so that I can send them copies. I also have quite a few more pictures and few names on orders. Sure hope we find someone that knows these guys, it's been a long time.

**Carl Hatmaker, Life Member 1477**  
**524 Woodland St., Eufaula, OK 74432-3610**

**Carl:** We'll let the guys have a look. If anyone would like pictures, let Carl know. **Editor**



**Hatmaker above and below**

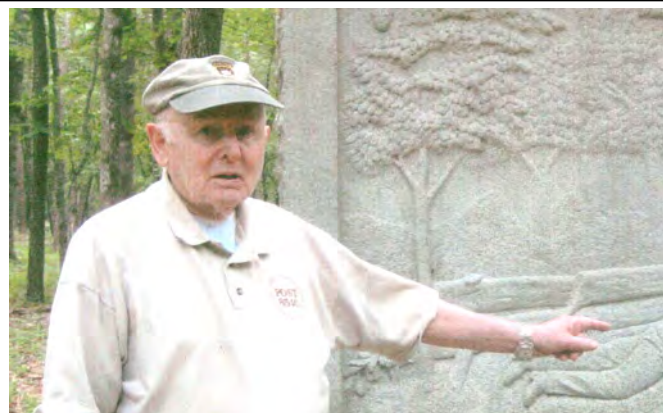
**Calwell, insert below**



**David:** The 2011 Annual 24th Division West Coast Reunion will be held at the Aquarius Casino Resort & Hotel in Laughlin, Nevada, from 27-30 March 2011. Room rates for this year's reunion are just \$28.00 per night. We had 105 soldiers, spouses, loved ones and friends attend last year's reunion so come on out to the desert and join us for a few days of fun and storytelling in Laughlin. **Byrd**

**Contact:** Byrd or D.J. Schrock for more information at: 520-678-0207, or 520-678-0513 or, byrd2a@cox.net

**Byrd:** Dottie and I are planning to attend again this year. We greatly enjoy meeting everyone and Laughlin has a lot to offer. The registration form is on page 36.



**David:** After picking up my son, Maj. Steven J. Ryan who is with the 82nd Airborne at Ft. Benning, Georgia, we stopped off at the National Park at Lookout Mountain (TN). I took this photo at the monument which is dedicated to the 19th Infantry Regiment's Civil War battle. The only unit which "held the line" was named the "Rock of Chickamauga." I was with the 19th in Korea. It was really something to see the site where our regiment first got its name sixty years after I served. **Herbert F. Ryan, Life Member 2115, 1013 78th St., Brooklyn, NY 11228 Tel. 718-836-1797.**

**Editor:** From May '53 to Sept. '54, I was a new lieutenant serving in the 2nd BN **19th RGT**, during the time covered in John Goedeke's article about the **34th RGT**. At Camp Haugan, Japan I was assigned as a Platoon Leader in Co. E. Later the battalion was flown to Korea.

We were to take over a POW camp from the South Korean Army to ensure that truce talks would not be interrupted by a release of Chinese prisoners who did NOT want to be repatriated. Shortly after the July, '53 truce the POWs were transported the truce site for repatriation interviews. Some who refused return to China were transported to Taiwan.

The BN reorganized to normal configuration and I was reassigned as BN S-1. We were transported by LST to Koje-do Island. We lived in what had been POW Quarters and there for Xmas and New Year's 1953-54, a very cold winter.

In March and April the Division was reassembled on the mainland at what was later known as Taro Leaf Camp. Deployed in the Yangu Valley, the **19th RGT** was in strategic reserve behind a South Korean army corps.

We often rehearsed our reaction plans in case the North Koreans and/or the Chinese broke the truce. In May '54 I was reassigned to E CO. In June I took command of F CO until I rotated back to the States in October 54.

**Theodore "TED" Risch, Member, 9855 E. Irvington Rd., # 128, Tucson AZ 85730-5230 rischspkr@aol.com.**

# Letters

**Editor:** Thanks for the Summer 2010 issue of the Taro Leaf. Enclosed is a photo copy of my story published in the newspaper. I was very proud of that period in my young life; I'm now 79. I noted the story on page 32 by **Jack Goedeke Sr.** of the **34th RGT** who was also on guard duty at that time (July '53). He asked what the 19th and 21st regiments were doing at that time. I was on POW camp duty with the **21st RGT** at Koje-do Island, site of the main POW camp in South Korea. My assignment was guarding prisoners being transported in LSTs to Panmunjom, about 200 each trip held in barbed wire cages. I always tried to conduct myself first as a human being then as a soldier. I never saw any cruelty by American soldiers toward the North Korean and Chinese prisoners. I was proud of my regiment being the first to fight in Korea.

**Al Belmonte, Member, 264 Shrewsbury St.  
Worcester, MA 016404-4620 Tel. 508-753-7599**

**David:** Association members, who have been gathering for a luncheon in Leesburg, FL, considered holding a 24th Mini Reunion, but could not get it going. Like 60 years ago, the 5th RCT came to the rescue! Especially Bill Kane and Tony Polemeni, who have been holding 5th RCT reunions in St. Augustine. Since their attendance has been declining in recent years they invited the 24th IDA Central Floridians to join them.

We jointly invite you to the Central FL 5th RCT/ 24th IDA Reunion in St. Augustine Beach, FL November 4-7, 2010. We'd like all Floridians and Taro Leafers from wherever to join us for camaraderie and to honor and perpetuate the memory of the men who distinguished themselves in the "Victory Division." See registration form on page 36.

**Tom Thiel Tel. 352-357-3943**

**Tom:** Sure wish Florida were not so far away. We'd love to join y'all this November. Enjoy yourselves! **David**

**David:** I was in combat during WWII with the 33rd ID in the Luzon Campaign. Went thru it from Manila, to Baguio and almost to the north end when I was put in a camp to get well enough for the Invasion of Japan. I had everything you could get over there, including a couple wounds. Went through amphibious training and was ready for the Invasion, when Truman dropped the A-bombs and we went into Japan for the Occupation. When the 33rd Division went back to the States and was deactivated, I didn't have enough points to go home. I was put in the 24th Division's **34th RGT**, along with others from the 33rd ID.

I didn't have the points to rotate because I hadn't been hurt enough to justify a Purple Heart. I found out later that it was worse than I thought. Crazy ... I was a 2nd Scout most of the time and was put in for a Silver Star and I turned it down.

*Go to top next column*

That's what happens when you're a young farm boy from Missouri. Anyway, I had to stay a little longer in Japan where I ended up in the 24th.

Don't get me wrong, it was a good outfit with a lot of good fellows. We were stationed at Himeji. As SSG I had the 2nd Platoon, **K CO**, until I got tired of teaching nomenclature of the M-1 to a group of uninterested guys. I tried out for the 34th RGT boxing team. Out of 70 they signed up only 7. I kept my rank and fought in the ring until I went home.

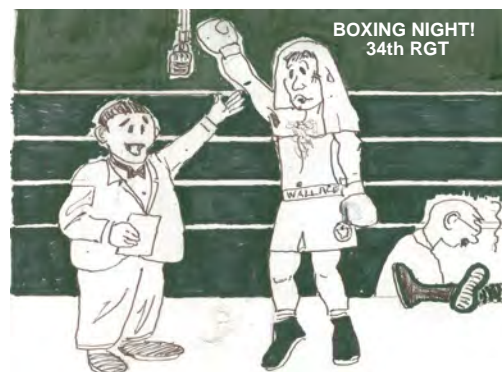
I went on the "Honor Flight" to Washington last year and what a great event it was. I thought the Korean Memorial was the best of all. Also in 2000, a fellow Vet and I drove a restored Jeep across America from Seattle to D.C. and put a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown for WWII Vets. Believe me when I say 3,166 miles in a jeep is enough! I came back and wrote a book, "Gene's Army Life." It was the first time I started talking about things.

I enjoy the Taro Leaf and I'm enclosing \$50 for it. Good luck on your new Editor's job.

**Gene Poynter, Member, 311 Donan St.  
Mount City, MO 64470 Tel. 660-442-0140**



Back: Paul J. Whitney, Richard Dalder, Raymond Syring, and myself. Front: Elva Colbert and Peter Krakken.



**Cartoon by:  
Bill Stokes  
34th RGT  
HQ & HQ CO**

**Editor:** An excellent Taro Leaf (Winter 2010) I especially enjoyed Lt. Canes' report on Corregidor. I was a part of that first wave — as radio operator for Col. Postlethwait. Enclosed is a check for \$100 for support of the Taro Leaf.

**Bill Vickers, Life Member 1493, 3521 16th St, #217  
Zion, IL 60099- 1404 Tel. 847-623-4526.**



**David:** My tour with the 24th was from 1983 to 1986. It was my first after IOBC, so I was a 2LT and later a 1LT. Gen. Swartzkopf was the CG when I arrived. I remember a particular speech by the General about July 4th '83 when he got a rousing cheer with the line, "I look forward to crossing the objective after you, seeing "V"s carved with bayonets on the foreheads of the enemy dead" or something very close.

Since the 24th was the "Victory Division" we painted V's on lots of things. It became a running mantra for quite some time including painting V's with camo stick on the foreheads of training exercise dead enemies. Fairly radical and combative even for the 80's considering we were peacetime.

We were the "heavy" (armored) component of the 18th Airborne Corps and still focused on training to fight a Soviet or Soviet-trained enemy. We had a sense of pride in the 24th Division's history. We were keenly aware the 24th Division and 25th, which I served in next, were major Army components in the Pacific Theater (WWII), that it wasn't just Marines.

I watched from afar with some sadness when the unit stood down (got reflagged) and have always disliked the US Army's rather cavalier approach to unit esprit and history. My initial regimental affiliation the 19th RGT "Rock of Chickamauga" was turned into a training unit, etc. It's sad units are reflagged and disbanded with such regularity. I will never understand why senior officers feel the need to just poke at something to put it on their OER support form.

I am active in Veteran's activities here and serve on the City's Veteran's Board. This is a very active veterans' area. I look forward to reading the Taro Leaf.

**Lanny Ray, Cantrell, Ray & Barcus, LLP, P.O. Box 1019, Huntsville, Texas 77342 Tel. 936-730-8541.**

**Editor:** I read with great interest my Taro Leafs. As a retired printer for over 40 years, I can say they are very well done. Keep up your good work.

My dues are enclosed. I assume \$15 is correct, but if not please let me know. Would there be any interest in my adventures with the 24th from basic to Japan and Korea and back home? And how about a picture?

Let me know if you can, and thanks. Hoping someone out there will remember me and get in touch. Hope to hear from you.

**LeRoy E. Atkins, Member, PO Box 1588, Orleans, MA 02653-1588 Tel. 316-684-3190**

**LeRoy:** Please send anything you think might be of interest to our readers; we'll take a look at it. **Editor.**

**David:** Regarding the article: "The 24th ID in Korea July 1955 to October 1956" by Glenn Richardson on page 7 of the Summer 2010 issue, I read and reread that article with pleasure and have some information to add. In early 1955 my connection to the 24th ID started. I also served, as did the author, on the north side of the Imjim River but as a radio operator assigned to the 1st Marine RGT, 1st Marine DIV.

During my time in Korea from June 1954 until my departure from Korea in May 1955, my regiment had responsibility for the defense of the north side of the Imjim river with the remainder of the division south of the river. In the late winter months, we received notice that the 1st Marine Division would depart Korea for California with the 24th ID replacing us. In late March, an advance party from the 24th arrived. I do not remember the unit's designation but it's logical to accept the 34th RGT was the unit.

Some years later, after my tour in Viet-Nam ended, I was assigned to the 24th. I reported to Fort Riley, Kansas to my assignment with the Headquarters and A CO, 724th Maintenance BN. Then on 15 April 1970, I participated in the division's reorganization ceremony and departed as a member of the HQ and A CO, 701 Maintenance Battalion, 1st ID.

In one sense; I had two tours of two months each, with the 24 ID; with the second and last as being the better.

**John Thompson, Life Member 2360, 124 Pilgrim Road Braintree, MA 02184-6022, Tel. 781-843-5054**

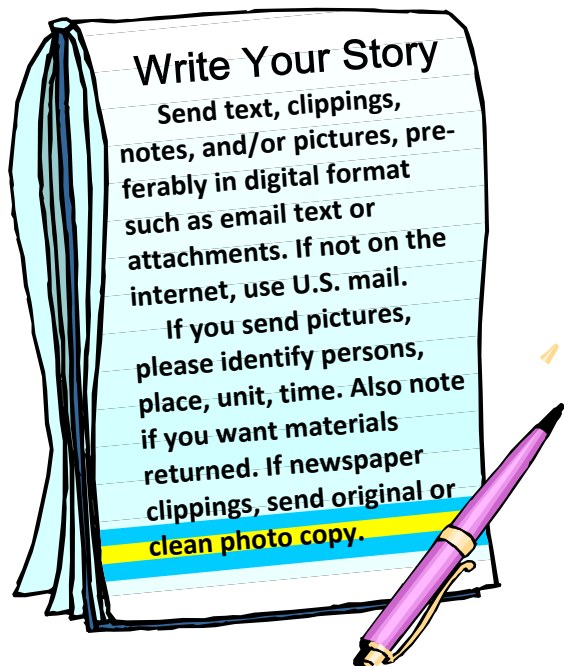
**Dear 24<sup>th</sup> IDA Members:** I was a SFC, A CO, 19th RGT, in Korea 1951. I am very humbled by the fact that my award, the Silver Star, is just three steps below that of the Medal of Honor winners. As a combat infantry-man I was fully aware of their morbid fears, but with continued vigor they overcame apprehensiveness during the frenzy of battle.

Fortunately as survivors, we will never experience the state of irreparable loss felt by the loved ones they left behind. We may not be able to comprehend the inconsolable grief that has befallen them. We can only offer our sympathy and prayers to God to invoke His blessings and to comfort them always.

What we can do, the living, is retain within our minds and hearts, the magnificent accomplishments of those who have conspicuously performed gallantly for the sake of freedom. They deserve the highest accolades that our country can bestow.

**Prudencio E. Rumbaoa, Life Member 2234 21128 S. Menlo Ave., Torrance, CA 90502**

**Readers:** See the graphic tribute and poem Prudencio created on page 39. **Editor.**



## Combat RECOM Team, 19th RGT - Korea 1952.

This picture was sent to the editor by the son of John A. Griffin (second from left). It is an interesting scene as apparently some maintenance was being done on 57mm recoilless rifles, and also because of the presence of the black soldier. During my tenure in Korea, '50-'51, I don't believe units were integrated. The only black soldiers I recall seeing were truck drivers (from the Red Ball Express?) I would appreciate hearing from readers who may know others in the group or may otherwise clarify my thinking.

Editor



**The Unsung Heroes. HQ & HQ Company Cooks, 21st. RGT on Thanksgiving Day, 1949 (from Otis Solo)**



# A Failed Cover-up

By Dale W. Fields, 19<sup>th</sup> RGT

We had been at Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea some months and things were rather quiet. Every once in a while Seabees invited a few of us to eat with them. They had such wonderful things as roasts and all kinds of foods we hadn't seen since we were civilians.

Our battalion's chaplain was invited there one evening to eat with them and noticed that all of the Seabees wore white T-shirts. In the Army all we had were olive-drab undershirts.

The chaplain had been quite concerned for a long time about the native Fuzzy-Wuzzy women who didn't cover their breasts. It was not unusual to see some of them walking around carrying a young boy or girl while nursing.

The chaplain asked the Seabees if they could come up with enough T-shirts for the native women so they wouldn't "look so bad."

The Seabees came through and the chaplain couldn't wait to give the shirts to the Fuzzy-Wuzzy ladies. They were very pleased to have them and danced around, so full of happiness to have such nice white T-shirts.

But, on the next day...every one of the ladies had cut two appropriate holes out of their shirts. It was a sight to behold! I don't think I ever saw anything funnier in my entire 37-month career in the Army.

The ladies continued to walk around with their breasts jiggling, and some nursing their babies. All of us guys got the biggest kick out of what the chaplain tried to do, but even with God on his side, he couldn't overcome native habits.



# My Day of Infamy

By Clifford C. Sears, C CO, 21st RGT



In the military, if you are not on duty, Sunday is a day of rest. That's the way it was Sunday morning, December 7, 1941. I was up that morning going to the latrine when I heard the first bombs fall. Most of the guys thought they were dynamiting down at Wheeler Field. Later, I was on my way to breakfast when the first planes came over... straffing. An older guy with me who had been in WWI grabbed me and

we fell behind a pillar in front of the building. That saved our lives as the bullets stitched right up that pillar.

The 1SGT sent some of the non-coms to the roof to fire at the Japs with BARs and light machine guns. The rest of us were sent to the barracks to get our gear and be ready to move out, and remain there until called. After about an hour we were loaded on trucks and moved out to a prearranged area in case of attack. "Dog in the tree gulch" was the name of the area. There was martial law at this time so we had to take over installations such as bridges, which the people didn't like very much.

Some of us were detailed to collect cloth bags to build pill boxes with and others to collect barbed wire for entanglements to try to stop the Japs if they came ashore, which was considered a real possibility. We had no other beach defenses in place at the time.

There was plenty of warning; the radar that reported planes coming in was completely disregarded. We had a Japanese submarine that was sunk in the harbor by the ward (sic) and that was disregarded also or didn't get to the right people at the right time, or soon enough. It was for me and the rest of the people on the island the first baptism of fire. Anything can happen under those circumstances, so there were a lot of irrational decisions made and understandably so.

I was then moved to Australia where we went through jungle training and in the Higgins boats. I made my first landing at Hollandia, New Guinea; my next four landings were in the Philippines, my last big one was the fight on Breakneck Ridge. I got home February 21st, 1945. As I'm getting older a lot of this is getting vague to me now.

*(Cliff is now deceased.)*



# Tony the Tailor's Son a War Hero

By BILL O'GUREK, Times News, May 25, 2010

When Mario Iezzoni came to the United States from Italy in 1947 he simply wanted to be an "average American." As a teenager, he enlisted in the Army after the outset of the Korean War. A little more than a year later he was exposed to the horrors of war and found himself in a bad situation, one which later resulted in his being awarded a Bronze Star.

Son of "Tony the Tailor," an Italian immigrant who settled in Lansford with his wife, Mario and some of his friends joined the military not long after the first American was killed in action on July 4, 1950.

Sixty years later and now a resident of Summit Hill, the highly-decorated soldier has quite a gripping story to tell about how he came home from the war with a Bronze Star Medal.

"My whole idea was, to come to America, join the Army, get educated and someday go back to Europe to give my friends and family a ride on an Army jeep," he recalled. At age 17, he joined the Army "to get an education," eventually undergoing 14 weeks of basic training and eight weeks both for advanced infantry and armored infantry training. "I was only 129 pounds, but by the time I was done with basic training, I wasn't afraid of anybody," he recalled.

With the war in Korea escalating, Mario, an ammo bearer for a 60-mm mortar team, was assigned to **Company G, 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment**. As the need to have fresh troops was paramount, he was sent to the front lines near the 38th Parallel in



**Mario Iezzoni**

April, 1951. "It was the 10th when we went to the front line," he recalled. "That night, we moved into enemy territory and got down to the bottom of the hill. There was freezing rain and snow, and fog all over the mountain. I don't know why, but I wasn't afraid. I even wondered if the Army gave you something to not be afraid."

"George" Company eventually advanced down the other side of the ridge before Iezzoni found himself retreating to take cover in a crack between two rocks after a sniper opened fire to his right. "For an hour-and-a-half to two hours I was pinned down. Bullets were zinging and flying everywhere. It was wet and cold, but I stayed there a long time," he recalled. Just a few hours later, 120-mm mortar rounds exploded against the Americans who had been guarding the ridge against a counter-attack, injuring four soldiers.

As they began retreating downhill, Mario and five others volunteered to stay behind and carry the injured down the mountain. With the enemy in close pursuit, they used ponchos to create makeshift stretchers, but continued their retreat amid showers of gunfire.

"The Chinese were shooting wildly," Mario said. We got to the bottom of the hill, crossed an open area and bullets were whistling. They were firing automatic weapons. It was a miracle none of us were hit."

During the retreat, Mario came across a wounded soldier who had apparently been left for dead. "I looked

at him, his eyes were closed and he had a wound in his chin. When he opened his eyes, I thought, 'Oh my God, he's alive.'" The soldier begged Mario, "Please don't leave me."

Mario carried the man, thought to be a soldier named Kelly who he had met when they went to Korea traveling together on a ship transport. "He was between 220 and 240 pounds. He was a burden, but I carried him for 6 hours, maybe, 2-1/2 to 3 miles," Mario said. Eventually, Mario was able to get the injured soldier to an aid station after which time he collapsed.

Six weeks later he learned "Kelly" died three hours after making it to the aid tent, apparently succumbing to a loss of blood.

**Mario Iezzoni, Life Member 1229  
29 W. Amidon St., Summit Hill PA  
18250-1401 Tel. 717-645-9326**

# Who's Volunteering For Today's Military?

*A number of myths have been perpetuated about the young people who volunteer.*

**Myth:** Military recruits are less educated and of lower aptitude than American youth.

**Fact:** The opposite is true. Over 90 percent of military recruits have a high school diploma – a credential held by only about 75 percent of their peers. A traditional high school diploma is the best single predictor of “stick-to-it-tiveness” and successful adjustment to the military. Recruits with a high school diploma have a 70-percent probability of completing a three-year term of enlistment, compared with a 50-percent likelihood for non-graduates. Nearly two-thirds of today's recruits are drawn from the top-half of America in math and verbal aptitudes – a strong determinant of training success and job performance.

**Myth:** The Military attracts disproportionately from poor or underprivileged youth.

**Fact:** Military recruits mirror the US population and are solidly middle class. A recent report shows that more recruits come from middle income families, with far fewer drawn from poorer families. Youth from upper income families are represented at almost exactly their fair share. Source *Heritage Foundation*, the distribution of 1999 recruits minus distribution of 18-24 year old population data shows that patterns in recent years are simply reinforcing this trend. More recruits are coming from families in the mid-scale and upper socio-economic strata, while fewer are coming from families with lower earnings.

**Myth:** A disproportionate number of military recruits come from urban areas.

**Fact:** Urban areas are the most under represented. Data show urban areas are actually underrepresented among new recruits. Sub-urban and rural areas are over-represented.

**Myth:** African Americans suffer a disproportionate number of casualties.

**Fact:** The opposite is true. Continuing the pattern from Desert Storm, African Americans remain under-represented among casualties in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Through November 5, 2005, African Americans represented about 17 percent of the force, yet accounted for 11 percent of deaths. On the other hand, whites

of the force, and suffered 74 percent of deaths. The corresponding numbers for Hispanics were 9 and 11 percent. This pattern results mostly from the occupational choices young people make. For example, African-American youths choose to serve in support occupations such as the health care field, which tend to feature valuable job training over bonuses or education incentives. These are the choices young volunteers make.

**Myth:** The military is not geographically representative of America.

**Fact:** Military recruits are closely proportionate to the general population. The southern region of the US generates the most recruits, but also has the greatest density of youth population. The south produces 41% of all recruits (compared to 36% of the 18-24 year old population). The northeast generates 14% of new recruits (18% of the 18-24 year old population). The west and north central regions produce 21 and 24% of new recruits (accounting for 24% and 23%, respectively, of the 18-24 year old population).

**Myth:** The military takes no better than an average cut of American youth when it comes to medical or physical conditioning.

**Fact:** About half of today's youth are not medically or physically qualified against current, and necessary, enlistment standards. Everyone joining the military is rigorously screened for a variety of medical and physical factors that bear on successful military performance – often under austere conditions. A number of common maladies among today's youth (asthma, orthopedic injuries, and obesity) are disqualifying. DoD sustains these standards to ensure that U.S. Forces are able to meet the demands placed upon them by worldwide deployments in physically challenging circumstances. Nearly one-half of American youth tend to be disqualified for health-related reasons, with obesity as the leading cause.

Anyone want to enlist?



**Myth:** The Military is a good alternative for youthful offenders.

**Fact:** Current enlistment standards bar many youthful offenders from enlisting. Today's military requires individuals with strong moral character. One underlying purpose of the moral character screening is to minimize entrance of those who are likely to become disciplinary problems in units, or may be security risks. Moreover, the Services have a responsibility to parents who expect their sons and

daughters will not be placed into close association with persons who have committed serious offenses or whose records show ingrained patterns of misbehavior.

**Myth:** Incentives and bonuses are not very effective in stimulating recruiting.

**Fact:** Bonuses and incentives are instrumental to the Services' recruiting efforts. Studies consistently show that bonuses and education incentives are cost-effective in offsetting challenges posed by a strong economy or changing enlistment propensity. The most efficient incentive packages – constantly redesigned -- are used by all Services to recruit the right people, at the right time, with the right skills, at the lowest cost. Incentives are used to expand the market, to channel enlistments into critical skills; to encourage specific "terms of enlistment" ranging from 2 to 6 years; to motivate sooner enlistment when needed to fill training vacancies; and to reward higher education. The bottom line is that incentives, when applied efficiently, are often the difference between failure and success in recruiting America's all-volunteer force.

• Thanks to Fencing.net for this report ([www.fencing.net/forums/thread20768.html](http://www.fencing.net/forums/thread20768.html))



# SOUTH TO THE NAKTONG, NORTH TO THE YALU

Roy E. Appleman



## American Ground Forces Enter the Battle, CH. VI

Appleman's book, written for the Center of Military History, U.S. Army, may be the most accurate and complete review of what happened in 1950 during the early months of the Korean War. The account of **Task Force Smith** is especially illuminating and will be presented in the Taro Leaf in the next few issues.

"If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself, but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle." *Sun Tsu, The Art of War*

Across the Korea Strait events of importance were taking place in Japan that would soon have an impact on the Korean scene. In Tokyo, General MacArthur on 30 June instructed General Walker, commander of Eighth Army, to order the 24th Infantry Division to Korea at once. Its proximity to Korea was the principal reason General MacArthur selected it for immediate commitment.

General Walker gave Major General William F. Dean, Commanding General, 24th Division, preliminary verbal instructions concerning the division.

These instructions were formalized in an Eighth Army Operation Order at 0315 1 July which provided that (1) a delaying force of two rifle companies, under a battalion commander, reinforced by two platoons of 4.2-inch mortars and one platoon of 75-mm. recoilless rifles was to go by air to Pusan and report to General Church for orders; (2) the division headquarters and one battalion of infantry were to go to Pusan by air at once; (3) the remainder of the division would follow by water; and (4) a base was to be established for early offensive operations.

The mission of the advance elements was phrased as follows: "Advance at once upon landing with delaying force, in accordance with the situation, to the north by all possible means, contact enemy now advancing south from Seoul towards Suwon and delay his advance." The order also stated that General Dean would assume command of all U.S. Army Forces in Korea (USAFIK) upon his arrival there. In the next few days Eighth Army transferred a total of 2,108 men to the 24th ID from other units to bring it up to full authorized strength, most of them from the other three infantry divisions. The division, thus readied for the movement to Korea, numbered 15,965 men and had 4,773 vehicles. Task Force Smith Goes to Korea.

On the evening of 30 June, LTC Charles B. Smith, Commanding Officer, 1st Battalion 21st Reg, 24th Infantry Division, went to bed at 9 o'clock in his quarters at Camp Wood near Kumamoto, Kyushu, tired and sleepy after having been up all the previous night because of an alert. An hour and a half later his wife awakened him, saying, "Colonel Stephens is on the phone and wants you." At the telephone Smith heard Col. Richard W. Stephens, Commanding Officer, 21st Infantry, say to him, "The lid has blown off-get on your clothes and report to the CP." Thus began Task Force Smith as seen by its leader. Colonel Smith had been at Schofield Barracks, Oahu, on 7 December 1941 when the Japanese hit Pearl Harbor, causing him hurriedly to take D Company, 35th Infantry, to form a defense

position on Barbers Point. Now, this call in the night vividly reminded him of that earlier event.

At the regimental command post, Colonel Stephens told Smith to take his battalion, less A and D Companies, to Itazuke Air Base; it was to fly to Korea at once. General Dean would meet him at the airfield with further instructions.

Colonel Stephens quickly arranged to lend Smith officers from the 3d Battalion to fill gaps in the rifle platoons of B and C Companies. By 0300 1 July Colonel Smith and his men were on trucks and started on the seventy-five mile drive from Camp Wood to Itazuke. They rode in a downpour of rain, the same monsoon deluge that descended on General Church and his ADOM party that night on the road from Suwon to Taejon. Smith's motor convoy reached Itazuke at 0805.

General Dean was waiting for Smith at the airfield. "When you get to Pusan," he said to him, "head for Taejon. We want to stop the North Koreans as far from Pusan as we can. Block the main road as far north as possible. Contact General Church. If you can't locate him, go to Taejon and beyond if you can. Sorry I can't give you more information. That's all I've got. Good luck to you, and God bless you and your men."

Thus, the fortunes of war decreed that Colonel Smith, a young infantry officer of the West Point Class of 1939 who had served with the 25th Division in the Pacific in World War II, would command the first American ground troops to meet the enemy in the Korean War. Smith was about thirty-four years of age, of medium stature, and possessed a strong, compact body. His face was friendly and open.

Assembled at Itazuke, Colonel Smith's force consisted of the following units and weapons of the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment: 2 under-strength rifle companies, B





**Maj. Gen. W.F. Dean  
views Korea Map**

and C; one-half of Headquarters Company; one-half of a communications platoon; a composite 75-mm. recoilless rifle platoon of 4 guns, only 2 of which were airlifted; and 4 4.2-inch mortars, only 2 airlifted. The organization of B and C Companies included 6 2.36-inch bazooka teams and 4 60-mm. mortars. Each man had 120 rounds of .30-caliber rifle ammunition and 2 days of C rations. In all, there were about 440 men, of whom only 406 were destined to be in the group air-landed in Korea that day.

Smith's force had a liberal sprinkling of combat veterans from World War II. About one-third of the officers had had combat experience either in Europe or in the Pacific. About one-half of the noncommissioned officers were World War II veterans, but not all had been in combat. Throughout the force, perhaps one man in six had had combat experience. Most of the men were young, twenty years old or less.

Only six C-54 planes were available for the transport job. The first plane was airborne at 0845. The first and second planes upon arrival over the small runway near Pusan found it closed in with fog and, unable to land, they returned to Japan. Colonel Smith was on the second plane but he could not land in Korea until the tenth flight—between 1400 and 1500. Colonel Emmerich, who the previous afternoon had received instructions to have the airstrip ready, a few other KMAC officers, and a great number of South Korean civilians met the first elements when they landed about 1100.

A miscellaneous assortment of about a hundred Korean trucks and vehicles assembled by Colonel Emmerich transported the men of Task Force Smith the seventeen miles from the airstrip to the railroad station in Pusan. Cheering crowds lined the streets and waved happily to the American soldiers as they passed. The city was in gay spirits; flags, banners, streamers, and posters were everywhere. Korean bands at the railroad station gave a noisy send-off as the loaded train pulled out at 2000.

The train with Task Force Smith aboard arrived at Taejon the next morning, 0800 2 July. There LTC LeRoy Lutes, a member of ADCOM, met Colonel Smith and took him to General Church's headquarters where the general was in conference with several American and ROK officers. Church greeted Smith and, pointing to a place on the map, explained, "We have a little action up here. All we need is some men up there who won't run when they see tanks. We're going to move you up to support the ROKs and give them moral support."

Colonel Smith then suggested that he would like to go forward and look over the ground. While his men went to their bivouac area, Smith and his principal officers got into jeeps and set out over the eighty miles of bad, bumpy roads to Osan. All along the way they saw thousands of ROK soldiers and refugees cluttering the roads and moving south.

Three miles north of Osan, at a point where the road runs through a low saddle, drops down, and bends slightly northwest toward Suwon, Smith found an excellent infantry position which commanded both the highway and the railroad. An irregular ridge of hills crossed the road at right angles, the highest point rising about 300 feet above the low ground which stretched northward toward Suwon. From this high point both the highway and railroad were in view almost the entire distance to Suwon, eight miles to the north.

After looking over the ground, Smith issued verbal orders for organizing a position there. A flight of enemy fighters, red stars plainly visible on their wings, passed overhead, but their pilots apparently did not see the few men below. Its purpose accomplished, the group returned well after dark.

That night, 2 July, Smith received an order to take his men north by train to P'yongt'aek and Ansong. The former is 15 miles south, and the latter 20 miles southeast, of Osan. Smith loaded his men into trains and they rolled north into the night. One company dug in at P'yongt'aek; the other at Ansong 12 miles away. Smith established his command post with the group at P'yongt'aek on the main highway.

The next day at P'yongt'aek Colonel Smith and his men witnessed a demonstration of aerial destructiveness. A northbound ammunition train of nine boxcars on its way to ROK units pulled into P'yongt'aek. While the train waited for further instructions, four Mustangs flown by Royal Australian Air Force pilots made six strafing runs over it firing rockets and machine guns. The train was blown up, the station demolished, and parts of the town shot up. All night ammunition kept exploding. Many residents of P'yongt'aek died or were injured in this unfortunate mistaken air strike.

That same afternoon friendly air also attacked Suwon and strafed a South Korean truck column near the town. ROK rifle fire damaged one plane and forced the pilot to land at Suwon Airfield. There, KMAC and ROK officers "captured" a highly embarrassed American pilot. One →

(continued from previous page.)

KMAG officer with The ROK Army headquarters at Suwon said he was under attack by friendly planes five different times on 3 July. This same officer in a letter to a friend a few days later wrote of these misplaced air attacks, "The fly boys really had a field day! They hit friendly ammo dumps, gas dumps, the Suwon air strip, trains, motor columns, and KA [Korean Army] HQ." In the afternoon, four friendly jet planes made strikes on Suwon and along the Suwon-Osan highway setting fire to gasoline at the railroad station in Suwon and destroying buildings and injuring civilians. On the road they strafed and burned thirty South Korean trucks and killed 200 ROK soldiers. Because of these incidents



**AMERICAN COMBAT TROOPS arrived at Taejon, 2 July, 1950. These were 21st Infantry men of task Force Smith**

throughout the day, General Church sent a strong protest to FEAF asking that air action be held to Han River bridges or northward. The next day, 4 July, Smith's divided command reunited at P'yongt'aek, and was joined

there by a part of the 52nd Field Artillery Battalion. This artillery contingent comprised one-half each of Headquarters and Service Batteries and all of A Battery with 6 105-mm. howitzers, 73 vehicles, and 108 men under the command of Lt. Col. Miller O. Perry. It had crossed from Japan on an LST 2 July, disembarking at Pusan late that night. Two trains the next day carried the unit to Taejon. There General Church ordered Perry to join Smith at P'yongt'aek, and about 2100 that night Perry's artillery group entrained and departed northward. Because of the destroyed railroad station at P'yongt'aek, the train stopped at Song-hwan-ni, where the artillerymen unloaded and drove on the six miles to P'yongt'aek before daylight.

*To be continued in the  
Winter Issue of the Taro Leaf.*

## 24th RECON Moving up to Taejon By Raymond K. McGuire

We were moving north, camping, moving again, and sending scout patrols out both day and night. No contact was made with the enemy. Where in the hell was the enemy, and the rest of our forces? Was the 24th Recon the only Army unit in this dried up dust bowl? Finally, about 16 July, we pulled into a place called Taejon. A few of our other troops were seen as we moved into town, so the "Lone Ranger" feelings soon disappeared.

Our Company set up bivouac in an abandoned school yard, a flat area with a low wall around its perimeter. News was scarce, rumors were flying that the front lines were along a River a few miles to the northwest. Rumor also had the 24th ID HQ was in Taejon. We felt safe, what with the Division HQ in Taejon, the area must be stable.

We moved out early with 3 tanks, half of our other vehicles, and men. Our objective was to help hold the main highway bridge across the Kapch'on River on the outskirts of Taejon. Unknown at the time, the NK (North Koreans) already had forces on both sides of the river. Our tanks took up positions along the road, in the cut through the ridge. The Bridge was

a few hundred yards ahead and to the left. Machine gun and rifle squads were deployed to the higher ground left and right of the tanks. We held our position until late in the afternoon even though the enemy held the high ground on top of the ridge to our right on our side of the river. A company of infantry that we assumed were from the 34th RGT, stormed the ridge with "Marching Fire" toward the end of the day, but were not able to reach the summit.

We pulled back into Taejon late in the day and dug in for the night. LT Moores was first to dig in; Fish still had his guitar minus one string and Rudy said C rations tasted better today. Working people knew nothing about the situation, if the brass knew anything they were not talking. About midnight 1SGT Jack Poland came into the area waking up working people. He said the "old man" wanted eight people with two jeeps to go on patrol. Shining a light in my eyes he said, Mac, go back to sleep, you were on the line all day, I'll get someone else. The patrol left, running dark, on a small road to the southeast.

At daybreak the patrol had not returned. Our platoon, the 3rd, was de-

tailed to look for them. The tank led the way followed by the rest of the platoon. Just outside of town we found the mangled jeeps on a steep curve in the road. Our advance drew machine gun and mortar fire from the enemy ambush, still intact. There were no signs of life or bodies seen in or around the jeeps. One jeep was lying in a ditch on its left side, the other hanging over the bank on the right. Intense fire continued for some time from both sides until we pulled back a few yards to get better cover. All eight of our patrol guys were thought to have been killed. They were reported M.I.A. just a couple of years ago in 2002. I learned some of these eight may have been taken P.O.W. Sorry, I do not have any names.

I was sent with a machine gun squad to the top of a low ridge on our left. Setting up the gun emplacement drew small arms fire, apparently from a long distance as it had little effect. From the ridge top we could see most of the town of Taejon. It was burning in places with the booms of cannon fire coming from everywhere. North Korean, T-34 Soviet-made tanks had moved into the town about daybreak.

**Continued on page 36**

# Soldier's remains finally come home...

Salina, NY -- CPL Frank Herbert Smith, **5th RCT**, was killed in action during the Korean War in 1951. His sister, Marion Smith Chester of Salina, was finally notified of the identification of her brother's remains last month (July, 2010).

Twelve days before his death, Smith wrote he hoped the conflict would end soon but warned his family that he might soon be headed into heavy combat. "I just hope we don't have to go back into the attack again," he wrote to his sister Arlene on July 13, 1951. "What's the matter with the big shots anyway, all they seem to be doing is talking about a cease fire? I wish they'd do something about it."

It was the last his family heard from him. Smith was killed July 25, 1951, at age 23, when his infantry squad attacked communist Chinese troops holding a hill near the 38th parallel.

The intensity of enemy fire prevented Smith's fellow soldiers from bringing his body off the hill, which changed hands more than once during the seesaw battles that marked much of the fighting in the Korean War from 1950 to 1953. His family never had a body to bury, and he never left their minds.

"We always wondered: what happened to him?" said his sister, Marion Chester, 89, who lives in Salina. "We were a close family. I thought about him every day."

A month ago, two Army officers came to Chester's home and ended the wondering. Remains discovered by a South Korean military team in June last year had been identified by the American military's Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii as Smith's.

His sister, Ms. Chester, said, "It's great, a great feeling of relief because we always wanted to have closure, and now we do."

Smith's remains, under military escort, will return to Syracuse September 1st. He will be buried Thursday with full military honors in the North Syracuse Cemetery.

"My mother always missed him," said Chester. "He was always good for her."



He was just a good kid." He was raised on a small farm in New York and worked as a plumber before enlisting in the Army in September 1950.

In March 1951, he arrived in Korea and quickly found himself in the middle of bloody back-and-forth fighting, much of it for hills known only by numbers on military maps but sometimes given names like "Pork Chop Hill" by the soldiers who fought on them. Chester said her brother was wounded in the legs and thighs by a land mine in June 1951 but recovered after a stay in the hospital and returned to duty.

He told of a rumor that his outfit would be placed in reserve in a few days. "I sure hope it's true," he said.

But he also saw signs of the opposite. The **19th RGT** which had passed through his unit's lines a few days earlier ran into a concentration of Chinese troops and was sending its wounded back ever since. "It seems to me like too near the end of the war for that to happen," he said. But the war would continue until July 1953.

According to a report given to Smith's family last month, elements of the U.S. Eighth Army, including units of Smith's **24th ID**, advanced on enemy forces along the width of the Korean peninsula near the 38th parallel in July 1951. The 24th anchored the center of the line north of Ch'unch'on.

On July 25, the **5th RCT**, Smith's unit, was deployed 30 miles northwest of Ch'unch'on when it came under enemy attack. The attack was repulsed, but Smith went missing. Soldiers

from Smith's company knew he had been killed.

Sept. 16, 1951, less than two months after Smith's death, his brother Robert received a letter from **James Clark**, a soldier in Smith's unit. Clark said Smith was killed by a grenade thrown by Chinese as he charged up a hill. Clark, who died in 2004, said, "Smitty was shooting like a madman. He said, 'I see one and I am going after him,' and they started on up. About that time, Chinese heaved a grenade and it got him right beside the head." Smith lived only a few minutes. A lack of stretchers and Chinese gunfire made it difficult to get the wounded and dead off the hill, and the squad did not even realize it had "left Smitty up there." Clark wrote, "It made us all feel bad. You would have been proud of him and the whole platoon."

South Korean soldiers later re-took the hill and buried Smith, he said. Smith's remains were nearly lost to history in the unmarked grave. Soon after his death, a military review board declared him killed in action but deemed his remains to be "non-recoverable," though the remains of another soldier reported missing on the hill were recovered and identified.

Smith's body remained on the hill until **June 26, 2009**. That's the day a recovery and identification team from the South Korean Ministry of National Defense Agency, working at what appeared to be a former fighting position on a hill designated on military maps as "Hill 735," just south of the Demilitarized Zone found human remains 20 inches below the surface.

Smith's family was not immediately told of the discovery of his remains. The U.S. military wanted to first match DNA samples from the remains to those of his living relatives. Later samples from the family confirmed Smith's identity.

*From a story by Rick Moriarty, The Post-Standard, Syracuse NY, Monday, August 30, 2010.*



# Remembering Task Force Smith



**WASHINGTON, D.C.** Army News Service July 8, 2010 -- **Retired Col. Jack Doody**, B CO, **21st RGT**, 9110 Belvoir Woods Pkwy Apt. 310, Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060-2719 **Life Member 1730** said a person has about three very memorable events in his or her life and being part of Task Force Smith, the first group of Soldiers to enter Korea and engage in battle in 1950 was a key one of his.

Members of the short-lived task force were stationed in southern Japan at the end of the World War II. The troops were very comfortable living in Japan, Doody said, adding that they were not prepared for the trip to Korea, and received little notification. Doody said after gathering their weapons the troops went north to Itazuke Airbase. They were unable to fly out the first night, but the next, they were on their way north toward Seoul.

**Retired SFC, Ezra "Phil" Burke**, Medical CO, **21st RGT**, 15322 Edgehill Drive, Dumfries, VA 22026-1037 **Life Member 194** said, "We didn't have time to think about it."

LTC Charles Smith, met with BG John Church who told him about the conflict with North Korea. "All we need is some men up there who won't run when they see tanks," Church reportedly told Smith.

Doody said, some have a misconception that Soldiers run from battle and that they do not shoot. He said, "Everyone fired their weapons. Every time there was a chance to shoot, they shot!"

The A battery of the 52nd Field Artillery was with Task Force Smith when North Korean tanks showed up.

Doody said there were more than a thousand North Koreans to only a few hundred task force members. He said the Americans suffered great losses.

They did not have tanks. They did not have many weapons capable of stopping tanks, Doody said about his Task Force Smith comrades. "You don't have a chance, you just do the best you can."

Despite the overwhelming circumstances, "Nobody left until they were ordered to leave," he said. Those orders did come. Smith, a West Point graduate, had commanded a battalion during World War II. "He knew what to do and how to do it," Doody said. That meant falling back in this battle. They began backing off the hill to the south. He described how some of those were injured got off the field. Some jumped on trucks, others jumped on artillery.

Burke recalled some of his experiences as a medic: "When the colonel gave the evacuation order, the doctor and the chaplain took all the wounded men and I stayed behind with the litter cases."

He said eventually enough people were able to carry the litters out. During the withdrawal, they were still receiving fire. He said a shell landed behind him. He told some of the others with him to go ahead of him and he would catch back up. He went to check on those behind him and found the mortar fire had killed two people. "I went back in to see how many wounded. All the ones I could find were KIA and dead."

He was injured when he went back after the first mortar fire. He said they were warned that when they see one shell, there is likely another following. "I should have remembered that," Burke said. Doody mentioned Burke's actions. "He was on that hill bandaging people up. He was great."

Doody did not know how many Soldiers made it off the hill. "The real number is the number of people we lost." Many, he said, were captured, killed or wounded.

Today there is a monument on the battlefield dedicated to those who fought and died as a part of Task Force Smith. With tensions rising between the two Koreas, Burke said he does not believe something like Task Force Smith will be necessary today because he does not think China will back the North Koreans. "I don't think they'll ever attack us."

*Let's hope he's right. Editor*



# Buffalo Reunion - 2010

## Spectacular Niagara Falls – Seeing is believing!

Our 2010 Reunion in Buffalo, NY gave us an opportunity to visit one of the most fantastic sights in North America. Niagara Falls, straddling the Canadian-United States International Border attracts more than 12 Million tourists a year to view her majestic beauty. The mighty river plunges continuously, over 175 feet, into a thunderous crash. It is the second largest falls on the globe next to Victoria Falls in south Africa.

Sal Shillacci reported the bus load of 66 reunion attendees who went to the Falls were not disappointed! Many took the boat trip, “The Maid of the Mist,” to witness the sounds and spray as falling waters crash at the base of the Falls. At lunch time they went to a nearby casino for a “great” lunch buffet followed by free time for those who wished to gamble.

The following day many went to the Buffalo Naval Park which features a retired naval ship, U.S.S. Sullivan named after the WWII vessel on which the five Sullivan brothers lost their lives when it was sunk in the Pacific.

At the business meeting plans were made for upcoming reunions. Dayton, OH had already been selected for the 2011 reunion; Springfield IL was selected for the 2012 reunion and New Orleans for the 2013 reunion.





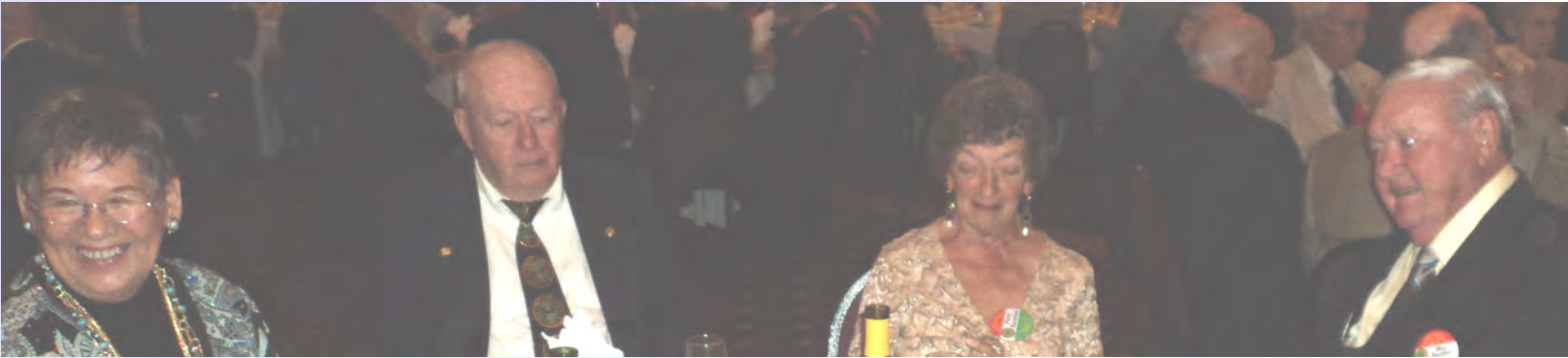
# Buffalo Reunion





# Buffalo Reunion

Readers: Only one person attending the reunion, Mel Frederick, made the special effort to get pictures to me before our deadline. Also, no fault of Mel's, but when taking pictures at a distance with a small camera in a dark room the photo quality is lacking. I did the best I could with what I had to work with. Perhaps we'll have some better pictures for the next issue. Ed.





# Buffalo Reunion



## 24th IDA 2011 Reunion - Dayton, Ohio

Dayton, Ohio is known as the birthplace of aviation. In their Dayton, Ohio, bicycle shop Wilbur and Orville Wright, self-trained in the science and art of aviation, researched and built the world's first power-driven, heavier-than-air machine capable of free, controlled, and sustained flight.

The Wrights perfected their invention during 1904 and 1905 in their hometown of Dayton before launching it at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. Wilbur and Orville's original laboratory has been moved to Greenfield Village in Dearborn, Michigan, but Dayton Aviation Heritage Park with

its Wright Brothers Aviation Center and Wright Cycle Company Building continues to pay tribute to their monumental achievement.

Plans for the reunion will be developed soon, but they are likely to include visits to: the American Veterans Heritage Center, the National Aviation Hall of Fame and, the National Museum of the USAF Wright-Patterson AFB. The Association is looking for members in the Dayton area who might help with the reunion. If you are interested, please contact Sal Shillaci, telephone: 716 837-1635.

# 24th Infantry Division Association Web Site

The Association has a new web site on the Internet! Its address is [www.24thida.com](http://www.24thida.com) or simply [24thida.com](http://24thida.com).

It contains the following features or "buttons": Home, 24th Division, Taro Leaf, Reunions, Officers, TAPS, Stories, Contact Us, Membership, and Links. From the Home Page there are links to other pages such as: The Association's Birth, Past-Presidents, Constitution and Bylaws, Quartermaster, Verbeck Awards, How to Join, and more.

*Here's what you can find at the various buttons:*

**24th Division:** Division Honors Recipients (MOH, DSC, and Silver Star), the Division March and Song (including Song of Arirang and China Night), Gene Spicer's book of Jody Calls, the 1952 book *24th Forward*, History from Norman Tredway's no longer functional site [victory24.org](http://victory24.org), and much more.

**Taro Leaf:** Provides access to all the *Taro Leafs* I have digitized, from 2006 to the present. Thanks to James Mims and Gene Spicer, there are a number of issues from the start of the Association: the very first in 1947; the 50th Anniversary issue in 1997; the 30th Anniversary of the Leyte Landing, and more. Others will be added as they are scanned.

**Reunions:** Shows the Association reunion and Regional reunions. The Association link shows locations of all 24th Reunions. Some of these have links to additional information about those reunions. "Regionals" are limited to what I know; if you can provide additional information, I will add to them.

**Officers:** Shows current officer's names, addresses and photos. The President's table on the Home Page shows all who have served as a Directors.

**TAPS:** Carries TAPS pages from the *Taro Leafs* since 2006, and some other info. Wes Morrison has contacted me about putting the Association Honor Roll file he maintains on the web site. It will be posted here when I receive it.

**Stories:** This is really why I wanted to do this web site. I believe we have in the *Taro Leaf* member's stories much that is unique because they are first-hand accounts of war experiences. I want more than our 2,100 members to have access to them. Libraries, including the LOC, I contacted offered no help. They said "put them on the web." So I have extracted them to html pages with pictures. There are over 50 there now and I plan to add more. This is where my interests really are. Send me your personal stories.

**Contact Us:** This page needs some work, but at this time it is a way to contact only me.

**Membership:** Provides information about membership in the Association, and a Membership Application form.

**Links:** Provides Internet connecting links to other organizations.

That's the overview of the site as it is now. I will accept new materials, especially stories, history, etc., but I do not want to get back into the overload situation I had as editor of the *Taro Leaf*. All changes, additions, etc., to the site must be done by one person, which for now is me. Some areas of special need are history of 24th in Germany, Desert Storm etc., and elsewhere the 24th served.

The web site has about 250MB of information, and over 1,000 files. Although not exactly true, this is roughly equivalent to 250,000,000 characters of information.

Some things that might be nice to add are: a place where people can post comments (but that would require a moderator and I do not know how to do it now); our Membership Database (only for internal use by officers etc.), and the ability to accept online payment of new and renewal memberships.

You may ask "why did you use .com instead of .org?" Because, I believe .com is much easier to remember, and know that although most think .org is for organizations, actually anyone can have an .org address. Therefore, I decided on 24thida.com.

This was uploaded to the Internet on August 31, 2010; on the day this is being written, Sept. 10, just 10 days after uploading, a Google Search on "24th Infantry Division Association" not only found the site's home page, but it listed it 5th among some 15,800 hits for that search. (It should be noted that much obsolete Association material also is listed among those 15K hits. I do not know how to remove them.)

Unlike "victory24.org," which was owned by Norman Tredway, the 24thida.com is the property of the Association. A copy of the site and all access codes etc., are in the possession of the Secretary/Treasurer so that should I become incapacitated someone else may be found to carry on.

To build the site I used Microsoft's Expressions Web 4.0, a tool that lets me design what I want in the final web page(s) and it writes all the code. It works beautifully! But sorry to say, it definitely is a high speed Internet site, so if you are still on dial-up, I apologize, but there is just no way to practically download a *Taro Leaf* via normal dial up telephone lines.

If you have material you think might make a nice addition to the site, please contact me. (But please only send materials relevant to our web site as I get enough of your "gems of the day" already! (Sorry, but those go automatically to my trash bin.)

Remember – [24thida.com](http://24thida.com) to go to our website

Tom J. Thiel, "E" 19th, 10147 Park Place Blvd.  
Eustis, Florida, 32736 Tel. 352-357-3943  
[24thidaweb@gmail.com](mailto:24thidaweb@gmail.com)



# Fallen Comrades

**CORRECTION:** Norm Dixon who was listed in Taps of the past Taro Leaf was a member of the **21st RGT**...not the 19th RGT as stated.

**Wilbur W. Hill**, 89, of Richmond, VA, formerly of Baltimore, MD, passed away April 12, 2009. Wilbur served with **21st RGT**, Company I. He was at Pearl Harbor, and served at Goodenough, New Guinea, Hollandia, Biak and Leyete. He was awarded two Purple Hearts and a Bronze Star. Wilbur is survived by his wife Mildred Hill, 2311 New Berne Rd., Richmond, VA 23228-6019. **Life Member 264**

**William Allen Jaecke** passed away June 15, 2010. He enlisted into the U.S. Army in 1948 at the age of 17, served one tour of duty in Korea, **CO G 19th RGT**, and two tours in Vietnam. He was wounded in July 1950 when half of his unit was killed. He received the Purple Heart, two Bronze Stars, and five Good Conduct Medals. He served from 1948 - 1971 and retired as Sergeant First Class. He was a member of Eagles Arie 67, a life member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the 24th IDA. **Life Member 1476**



**Charles M. Freeman** passed away June 30, 2010 in Naples. He was born in Albany, NY on March 27, 1921. He attended Syracuse University and graduated in 1943 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Applied Psychology. Following graduation, he entered active service in the US Army. He served with honor as First Lieutenant in the **24th ID** until 1946. **Life Member 2210**



**Leroy A. Frankforter**, age 85, of Perrysburg, Ohio, passed away July 16, 2010. He was a sergeant in the U.S. Army serving during WWII with the **24th ID**. Leroy was proud of his service in the 24th and when he was buried he wore the division pin on his lapel. He is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Dorothy Frankforter, 550 West

6th Street, Perrysburg, OH 42551. **Member**

**Billy C. Gaston** of Summerfield, FL, passed away July 21, 2010 in Summerfield. Bill served in the **24th MP** from 1951-1952, in Korea and Japan. Interment will be in Florida National Cemetery. Billy is survived by his wife: Mrs. Zillah Gaston, 17738 SE 119th Ave Rd, Summerfield, FL, 34491-8000, ph:352-347-4257. **Life Member 2310.**

**Robin L. Booth**, died 4/18/10. He served in Korea with **A CO 21st RGT**. Condolences may be sent to Booth Family at N 6597 Anderson Dr., Delevan, WI 53115 **Life Member 462**



**Richard "Red" C. Watson**, past president of the 24<sup>th</sup> IDA, died June 6, 2010. He served in the South Pacific during WWII in New Guinea and Leyte and Luzon in the Philippines from October 1942 to November 1945. The 24th ID and Taro Leaf meant a great deal to him. Red was a life member of the American Legion and the VFW, a Shriner, and a Kentucky Colonel.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Mrs. Phyllis Watson, 13910 W. Wild Cherry Ln., Daleville, IN 47334-9628. Telephone 765 378-3721 **Life Member 074**



**Lawrence R. Plaatje**, died 7/15/10. He served with **L CO 34th RGT** in Japan and Korea. My dad was very proud to be a member of the association. Condolences may be sent to his son, Rich Plaatje, 9706 N. 184th Lane, Waddell, AZ 85355 **Life Member 2147**

**Major Delbert Taylor Rasmussen** (Retired), age 69, died on July 20, 2010 following a courageous battle with Cancer. Major Rasmussen was born in Vernal, Utah. He served in the United States Army from 1958 to 1980 completing assignments with several units including the 24th ID.

**Alfred W. Sullivan**, 79 died Monday, Aug. 16, 2010, at Milford Regional Medical Center. Sullivan was an Army combat veteran of the Korean War serving in the **24th ID**. He received the Combat Infantry Badge, and the Korean Service Medal with 5 Bronze Service Stars. He is survived by his longtime companion, Ruth Thomas of Mansfield, MA.

**H. A. Delameter**, died 6/22/10. He served in **A CO 34th RGT** during WWII. Condolences may be sent to his wife Lenora, at 305 N.Washington St., Princeton, MO 64673

**Thomas Michael Burns** died June 20, 2010. He was born in El Dorado, KS on June 25, 1929. He was commissioned a 1st Lt. in the Judge Advocate General's Corps of the United States Army and served at Yangu, Korea with the **24th Infantry Division**.

**LeRoy V. Baumgartner**, died at his home in Warren, Indiana on May 23, 2010. LeRoy served in **CO D 21st RGT**, a member of Task Force Smith, and prisoner of the North Koreans from 5 July 1950 until his return to military control on 15 August 1953. He is survived by four sons, a daughter, four brothers and four sisters.

**Anthony S. (Tony) Fontana**, age 77, died on 29 June 2010 in Oklahoma City. OK. Tony served with **CO I 21st RGT**, in Japan and Korea and a member of Task Force Smith. Tony was taken prisoner on 12 July 1950 and returned to military control on 2 September 1953. He is believed to be the youngest of the Tiger Survivors.



**Lt. Col. (Ret.) Richard "Mike" Hammer** died in El Paso on June 26, 2010, at the age of 92. He is survived by his wife of more than 30 years, Abbie G. Hammer, and family. He joined the U.S. Army in 1940. As a member at Ft. Ord, California, he commanded a motorized infantry unit. When the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor and World War II began, he was assigned to the 7th Division, serving all through the war in the South Pacific. In the Korean War he served with the **24th**. At the end of the Korean War he earned a BA degree and worked at the U.S. Post Office for 20 years before his retirement.



**George J. Provencher**, 86, died June 29, 2010. A World War II Army veteran, he served in the 112th Infantry Regiment, 28th Infantry Division. He served in Normandy with five campaign stars and was involved in the liberation of Paris and the Battle of the Bulge. He was awarded the Bronze Star, the Combat Infantry Badge, and Purple Heart. He also served in the Korean War as Assistant Adjutant of the **21st RGT** of the 24th ID.

He received the CIB with Cluster, and the Korean Service Medal.

**W. B. "Jack" Jackson Jr.** died on July 2, 2010. He served in G CO **21st RGT** during the Korean War, and fervently desired that America would always be "the land of the free, and the home of the brave." Survivors include his loving and faithful wife of 51 years, Maureen.

**Lester Lee Sutton**, age 91, died on July 7, 2010. He was a United States Army Veteran and he served with the **24th Infantry Division** in the South Pacific in World War II. Mr. Sutton is survived by his wife Jimmie Youngblood Sutton.



**Thomas "Ted" R. Wood**, 89, died July 8, 2010. Tom was born May 25, 1921 in Des Moines, Iowa. Ted, a WW II army veteran, was an instructor at the Ft. Benning, GA infantry school before joining the **24th Infantry Division** in the Pacific Theater. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Doris.

**Arthur P. Lombardi**, COL (Ret.) passed on September, 2010 at age 86. He entered the Army in February, 1943, rose to the rank of 1SGT on New Guinea and received a battlefield commission on Luzon P.I. in 1945. He served in three wars; WW II, Korea and Vietnam. His awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, two Legions of Merit, the Soldiers Medal, three **Bronze Stars**, the **Purple Heart**, the Vietnamese Distinguished Service Order, the Vietnamese Gallantry Cross with Palm, and others. He is survived by his wife Dolores Long Lombardi, 533 Georgetown Road, Clarksville, TN 37043, 931 645-3009. **Life Member 1124**



**Leo R. Cullen**, age 82, of West Paterson, New Jersey passed away August 30, 2010. He bravely served this country as a member of the United States Army in L CO **19th RGT**, 1951-1952, during the Korean War. He was a member the Knights of Columbus, Elks, VFW, and the American Legion. **Life Member 2140**



Melvin "Mike" Butrica, of Milltown, passed away Monday, Aug. 30, 2010. He was 90. Born in Highland Park, he lived in Milltown most of his life. An Army sergeant during World War II, he was a Pearl Harbor survivor, serving with the **24th ID**. All that knew Mike knew he was a tireless worker who fought for what he believed in. He will be sadly missed. Surviving is his wife of 58 years, Roselyn (Calapa) Butrica, 33 E Foch Ave., Milltown, NJ 08850-1716. **Life Member 648**



**Bernie L. Rose**, 79 of Ona, WV passed away June 25, 2010. Bernie served during the Korea War with I CO **5th RCT** of the 24th Infantry Division from August 1951 to December 1952. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Wilma Rose, 3521 Wire Branch Rd., Ona, WV 25545-9514 **Life Member 1537**

**William P. Bauer**, died on August 3, 2010 in Sun City, AZ. He served with the **724th Ordinance** in Japan '46-'48. Condolences may be sent to his wife Ruth, at 9305 W. Wild Horses Ct. Sun City, AZ 85373

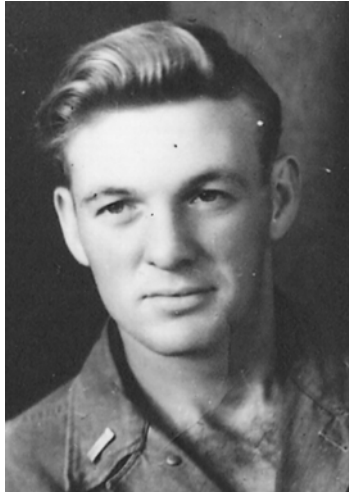


**Henry J. Gosztyla** died July 5, 2010. He served in B CO **34th RGT** during WWII. He was a Bronze Star recipient for heroism during the Liberation of the Philippines. For many years at our reunions, Henry lit the candles at our memorial banquet. He is survived by his wife Mary Gosztyla, 27207 Walsh Drive, Warren, MI 48092, 586-751-4720 **Life Member 191**

**Ramon F. Cooper**, passed away August 27, 2010. He was 83. Raymon served in Korea with Battery D, **26th AAA BN**. He was an Honor Guard in Japan when flags exchanged places after the Treaty. His wife Marilyn said, "He always enjoyed the *Taro Leaf*, and appreciated the hard work that went into its publication, and going to the Leesburg (CF24th) gatherings at the Golden Corral the few times that he was well enough. Thank you all, and God bless!" Marilyn W. Cooper, PO Box 548, Lake Como, FL, 32157-0548, Telephone: 386-649-4889, [dobedobedo1@bellsouth.net](mailto:dobedobedo1@bellsouth.net) **Member**

# Korean War Adventures of Walter Duke

I was recalled to active duty from the Inactive Reserves Nov 1950 as a PFC, having been separated from active duty in June, at the ripe old age of 19. After retraining I was sent to Korea. At Pusan we were put on a train to the repo center near Taegue. After several days we were sent to our units; mine was to Service Company of the 21st RGT. At the 21st I learned I had been reassigned to K CO and had my MOS changed to 4745, Rifleman. I joined K CO on 21



Feb 1950 and assigned to the 1st PLT, 3rd SQD. The platoon leader was 2LT R. Daigle, squad leader CPL Henry Miner, asst. squad leader was PFC Tony Baker.

I was involved in several skirmishes and did a lot of walking. I believe we were involved in *Operation Ripper*. The first serious battle I recall was in April when the Chinese started the 1st Spring Offensive. We were in position on a hill near a big reservoir, when we were hit; it started early in the day and continued into the night. LT Daigle came to the squad's position around 2 a.m. to check on our ammo; the BAR man had two or three clips left and most riflemen had fewer than 6 clips. He ordered fixed bayonets; it sure got my attention.

Fortunately, the Chinese had enough for that night. The next day we moved out and walked for over 20 miles. I was wearing snowpaks and the bottoms of both my feet were solid blisters. We caught up with our Supply and Mess and got the first hot meal in several days. I asked the supply SGT for a pair of boots and was informed he didn't have any. Later when passing the supply tent I saw a pile of equipment covered with a tarp with some boots exposed. I found a pair my size and took them, walking with combat boots was a whole lot better.

The next operation was the 2nd Chinese Offensive. Things had changed; SGT Otto Bailey was squad leader and I was the assistant. As I recall we were in a blocking position near a school yard; the squad on our left was tied into a unit from I CO. As we received word to move out we spotted a squad of Chinese on the road below us; our light machine gun

crew eliminated them. Soon a large Chinese force came over the ridge and overran the I company's position; we managed to escape.

In May, 1951 I was transferred to Company Headquarters as the CO's radio operator and later became the company's communication sergeant. In late August senior NCO's were asked if they were interested in receiving

a direct appointment to 2LT. I had been promoted to SFC in early August and agreed to be considered. I was offered a commission, but turned it down as I would be transferred to another unit to take over a rifle platoon.

I informed them that I was willing to take the BN Communication Platoon. Shortly, we went back on line. Just as we got settled I was summoned to the BN Forward CP by LTC Smith. He asked if I was still interested in the Communication Platoon. I said yes and was sent back to BN HQ. to report to the Adjutant, WO Haas, who asked if I was sure I wanted this as he had orders sending me home. I said I did and was sent to Div. HQ. I was discharged on 18 Oct. 1951, commissioned in the reserves and called to active duty as a 2/Lt. the next day.

When I returned to the 3rd BN. the unit had moved. I was briefed on the location of all the units by LT Meadows the S-2 Officer and then given a tour of L and K companies on line. The weather was lousy with limited visibility. Since I CO was in position on OPLR (Outpost Line of Resistance) we didn't get to their location; Lt. Meadows just pointed into the haze and said they are out there, somewhere.

Upon returning to BN HQ, LTC Smith said he wanted a land line into I CO, that night. LT Meadows was also present and briefed me on how to get there. He instructed me to go to a position on the line where we had been earlier that day and take the trail straight from that location to the next trail intersection where I would find a dead Chinese mule, there I was to take the trail to the left,

follow that trail to the next intersection where I would find two dead Chinese soldiers, take the trail to the right and it would take me straight to I CO.

At my platoon I got a wire team of six men and started out. We tied into the BN switchboard and started laying wire. We made it to the starting point at the line company and found the dead mule and the two dead Chinese soldiers and were headed to I CO. When I heard talking. We saw movement, but couldn't make out whether they were Chinese or American. Only armed with carbines and .45 pistols we were not prepared for a firefight.

I deployed the team to the sides of the trail and instructed them to lay low and keep quiet. Shortly thereafter I saw someone light a cigarette and knew then they had to be Americans. As we approached I challenged and received the correct reply. I talked to the leader and found out they were a platoon of I CO who, for some reason, left their position. He informed me we were on the right trail to I CO.

We laid our land line and arrived at I Co. position a short time later. I connected a EE8 telephone to the wire and got the BN switchboard with no problem, and great relief. My first mission as the Commo officer was a success.

The I CO C.O. informed me we were to stay and replace the troops we had met on the way, needless to say I was not happy with this. I used the telephone we had just installed to call the BN commander and informed him. My Colonel told me to give the phone to the I CO C.O. Soon we were on our way back to BN HQ.

Not long after that we got a new BN C.O., LTC Edward F. Baker. I don't remember much else about my stay in Korea. I continued to serve as the BN Commo Officer until I went back to Japan with the division in Feb, 1952.

I rotated to the States shortly after that, in March 1952.

**Walter Duke Jr. 3536 Roundtable  
Loop, Owensboro, KY. 42303  
Tel. 270 683-4676**



**HQ 24th ID 10 January 1946** The Silver Star is awarded to Staff SGT, then PFC **Paul E. Garland**, Infantry US Army, for gallantry in action near Calu-bian, Leyte, Philippine Islands, 11 Dec. 1944.

The platoon of which Garland was a leading scout met a withering barrage from a Jap machine gun 100 yards away. Jap riflemen fired and threw grenades at our troops. The entire company was forced to take cover. Several men crawled through the grass in an endeavor to knock out the machine gun with grenades, but two were killed and several wounded by its fire. To avoid further casualties, most of the company moved to cover.

Realizing the gravity of the situation **Garland** volunteered to knock it out, alone. With complete disregard for his own safety, under heavy enemy fire he crawled through the grass toward the gun. When he had come to within a few yards of the Jap machine gun, he leapt to his feet and charged the enemy crew single-handed. He seized the machine gun, turned it on the enemy crew, and killed them all with their own gun. He then brought the enemy weapon back to his company, which quickly over-ran the rest of the enemy's positions and seized the hill.

**Garland's** gallant and intrepid act at the risk of his own life is in the highest tradition of bravery of the combat infantryman of the United States Army. By command of Major Gen. Lester, 24th ID. *Submitted by his son.*

## Robert F. Philipps

**Washington Feb 14, 2001** "Korean War Veteran Given Belated Silver Star" — After serving in two wars, **Robert F.**



**Philipps** made military history his life's work...his own place in history almost lost. But, on Tuesday, Philips, 76, received the Silver Star more than a half-century since his heroism in the early days of the Korean War.

In a ceremony at Fort McNair the Commanding General, MG James Jackson, said, "That young private first-class standing before you today, is somewhat older, grayer and wiser, but it's a pleasure to see him."

On September 8, 1950, Phillips was a rifleman in the 24th ID in the area of Kyung-ju, South Korea. As a platoon-sized unit of North Koreans launched its attack Phillips followed his platoon leader to the top of the hill. The two men with rifles and grenades held off the attack until the platoon leader was killed. Phillips continued to fight, at one point charging over the hill and killing the last five enemy soldiers with rifle fire.

Phillips had already served in WWII before going to Korea. Robert and his wife, Marjorie, live in Vermont.

Robert Phillips, 5530 Beaconsfield Ct.  
Burke, VT 22015 Tel. 703-978-1228

## Chap. Herman G. Felhoelter

In July, 2010, the Army Chaplain Corps celebrated its 235th anniversary. Chaplain BG Donald L. Rutherford, deputy chief of chaplains, explained how chaplains have made a difference in the lives of service personnel and cited the heroism of individual chaplains who died in the line of duty.

Rutherford spoke of the bravery of Chaplain Herman G. Felhoelter, who served with the **19th RGT**. On July 16, 1950, Felhoelter was north of Taejon helping a group carry



30 wounded Soldiers. They came under attack and when it became apparent they could not endure the enemy assault, Felhoelter convinced the medical officer to lead all able Soldiers to safety while he remained with the wounded and dying. They were soon attacked and killed.

Felhoelter, who posthumously received the Distinguished Service Cross, "was the first Chaplain Corps casualty in Korea, but not the last," Rutherford said. "Today, the willingness of our branch to serve alongside our fellow Soldiers and die with them if need be, continues."

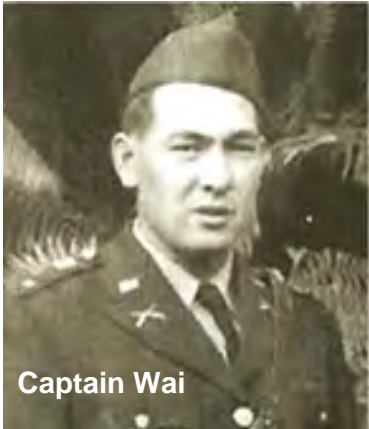
*Enough cannot be said for the dedicated men of the Chaplain Corp who stand side-by-side with our troops while under enemy fire, giving comfort and solace when their lives are near the end.*  
Editor

## Captain Francis Wai

**Francis B. Wai** was initially awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. After an extensive review of awards in 2000, his medal was up-graded to the Medal of Honor.



Francis was the son of a Native Hawaiian mother and a Chinese father. He attended the Punahou School in Honolulu where he earned athletic letters in track, football and baseball. Growing up, he often surfed with Duke Kahanamoku, regarded as the father of surfing, and Buster Crabbe, who later became an actor.



**Captain Wai**

He went to college at the Sacramento Junior College before transferring to UCLA. At UCLA, he was a four sport athlete and graduated in 1939 with a Bachelor's Degree in Banking and Finance. After graduation, Francis enlisted in the Hawaii National Guard and was called into active duty before the United States' entry into World War II. He received a commission as an officer and completed Officer Candidate School in 1941.

His commission was rare at a time when few Asian Americans were allowed to serve in combat leadership roles.

Captain Wai was assigned to the 34th RGT, 24th ID, which was extremely active in combat in the Pacific. In May 1943, he was deployed to Australia with the 24th where the unit began intensive combat training.

With training completed, the division moved to Goodenough Island on January 31, 1944, to prepare for *Operation Reckless*, the amphibious invasion of Hollandia, Netherlands New Guinea. The 24th landed at Tanahmerah Bay on April 22, 1944 and seized the Hollandia Airdrome despite torrential rain and marshy terrain.

Shortly after the Hollandia landing, the division's 34th RGT moved to Biak to reinforce the 41st ID. Captain Wai's regiment captured the Sorido and Borokoe airdromes before returning to the 24th ID on Hollandia in July. In two months, Captain Wai and his unit had crossed New Guinea and recaptured three airdromes from the Japanese.

On October 20, 1944, the 24th ID was paired with the 1st Cavalry Division and made an assault landing at Leyte. When Captain Wai landed at Red Beach, Japanese forces stationed on the island concentrated their fire on the waves of incoming troops from gun positions located in a palm grove.

When Captain Wai arrived on the beach in the fifth wave, he found the soldiers there to be leaderless, disorganized, and pinned down on the open beach. He assumed command, shouted "*Follow me!*" and moved forward without cover. Captain Wai's demeanor and example inspired the other men to follow him. He continued to advance without cover in order to draw Japanese machine gun and rifle fire, which exposed the locations of the entrenched Japanese forces.

Systematically, the Japanese positions were assaulted and overcome. Captain Wai was killed leading an assault against the last Japanese pillbox in the area. After the end of the war, Captain Wai's remains were interred at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii.

## Tom Thiel's at it again!

I want to thank David for allowing me some acreage in the *Taro Leaf* to express my appreciation to you all for your very nice thank you emails, phone calls, cards and letters on my "retirement" as Editor. I appreciate all of them very much.

Not having the day-to-day crush of doing the *Taro Leaf* is good, but I miss it and all your contacts very much. Now what I am doing with all my free time? I'm working on a 24th IDA Web site.

I had accumulated a considerable amount of content material about the Association and its members. And, our web site, [www.victory24.org](http://www.victory24.org), had become inoperable after the death of its owner Norm Tredway. So, I set out on another learning experience, that of placing our content on the web.

"Why a web site?" I hope to reach a many who served in the 24th in later duty assignments in Germany, Desert Shield-Desert Storm, Forts Stewart and Riley, and elsewhere. Hopefully, before this goes to press. Again thank you all very much.

**Tom J. Thiel**, "Retired Taro Leaf Editor"

**It's a done deal! See page 23**

(Stars & Stripes clipping)

## PWs Interrupt Chow Foraging

By Sgt. Allen Waters  
S&S Korea Bureau

### 24TH INF DIV IN KOREA

—“Some guys go Red-hunting and find eggs, but this is the first time I have ever heard of a guy going out for eggs and bringing back Reds,” said Cpl. John W. Moore of Louisville, Ky.

It seems that Corporal Moore and Pvt. Roy R. Roberts of Los Angeles, decided one morning to go out and get some eggs, or chickens for breakfast.

The division was making its final drive on Pyongyang and the column was moving so fast supplies were unable to keep up. So, armed only with a pistol, they started out for the nearest village.

As they approached the first buildings, a Red sprang out of the door with his hands over his head, shouting something in Korean. Moore walked to the door and shouted “Ire-wa,” meaning “come here,” and seven more Koreans ran outside with their hands over their heads.

Moore and Roberts were slightly annoyed by this interruption of their chow call, but they took their prisoners back to the convoy and set out again for the village.

On their second try, they got their breakfast.

Stars and Stripes - October 1951. Thanks to Merry Helm, Historian



## New Book "In Their Honor..."



Mitchell Red Cloud, Jr.

Congressional Medal of Honor recipient **CPL Mitchell Red Cloud Jr.** of the 24th ID has been highlighted in a recently published book that tells stories of soldiers who have had military installations named after them. Camp Red Cloud in Korea is named in honor of Red Cloud.

"In Their Honor: The Men Behind the Names of Our Military Installations" is comprised of more than 500 biographies of U.S. Servicemen. Author Linda Swink said the

book is the product of her effort to find and tell the stories of servicemen who had military installations named in their honor. "After discovering that there was very little information published about these men who had served and died for our country, I felt their stories had to be told so that generations to come wouldn't forget them."

**Red Cloud** served in Company E, **19th RGT** during the Korean War. He was awarded the Congressional Medal

of Honor after his death for heroic actions during a battle between U.S. and Chinese communist forces near Chonghyon, Korea, 5 November 1950. From his position, forward of the company command post, he was the first to detect the approach of Chinese Communist forces, and gave the alarm as the enemy charged at him from less than 100 feet away. Jumping up he fired automatic rifle fire into the Chinese, checking their assault and giving his company time to consolidate its defense. He maintained his position until severely wounded. Refusing assistance, he pulled himself to his feet, wrapped his arm around a tree, and continued to fire until fatally wounded. This action stopped the enemy from overrunning his company's position and gained time to reorganization and the evacuation of the wounded.

"I think it is well worth it that he would be recognized in the book," said Robert Mann, tribal veteran service officer with the Ho-Chunk Nation's Division of Veterans Affairs. "It is a tribute Red Cloud, his family, Ho-Chunks and other Native Americans across the country. Being included in Swink's book comes in a long line of well-deserved honors bestowed on Red Cloud for his military service, which also naming of a naval ship — the USNS Red Cloud — that



USNS Red Cloud

was launched in 1999." The 950-foot LMSR was christened by Annita Red Cloud, daughter of Corporal Mitchell Red Cloud Jr., Mann added, "Ho-Chunks believe when a warrior is killed in battle, his spirit lives on forever. This story is from an article written by Cassandra Colson, Jackson County (WI) Chronicle, February 24, 2010.

<http://www.jacksoncountychronicle.com/articles/2010/02/24/features/03boo.k.txt>

## About the Taro Leaf

I'm always happy to find the Taro Leaf in my mail box. I quickly fan through the pages looking for pictures and stories to which I can relate. I'm especially on the lookout for any references to the 19th RGT, my regiment. I scan "Taps," with some trepidation. I scour "Looking For" to possibly help a person trying to make a connection with one who served with us. I especially enjoy reading stories of personal experiences. Even if written by someone who served in a different unit or at a different time; a fellow soldier's story always strikes a resonant chord.

As editor of the Taro Leaf, I want to present relevant and interesting material in a quality magazine we can enjoy with pride. This issue is printed on more expensive paper which improves the sharpness of images and allows for the inclusion of more content per page. To keep the cost of the Taro Leaf at or below the cost of previous issues, the pages have been reduced from 48 to 40. This can be achieved, in part, by reducing redundant full page forms that can either be made smaller or only published occasionally.

I will strive for high value content for the majority of our readers. For example, although our national reunion is very important, should we devote multiple pages to it in each issue when only about 100 members attend...and we have 2,200 readers? Another example is the Quartermaster Order Form, which took up two pages, yet was only occasionally used by our readers. In this issue it has been reduced to about a half-page, and it may not be carried in every issue. I'm hoping more of our readers will hang onto their past issues to be referred to for items not carried repetitively.

I would appreciate knowing your thoughts about the changes made in the Taro Leaf and your ideas for its improvement.

**David Valley, Editor 24th IDA**  
**Post Office Box 500907**  
**San Diego, CA 92150**  
**24thtaroleaf@gmail.com**



# Veterans' Grave Medallions Available

**WASHINGTON (AFRNS)** -- Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Eric Shinseki, announced June 29 that the Department of Veterans Affairs is offering bronze medallions to attach to existing, privately purchased headstones or markers, signifying a deceased's status as a veteran.



"For veterans not buried in a national or state veterans cemetery, or those without a government grave marker, VA is pleased to offer this option that highlights their service and sacrifices for our country," said Secy. Shinseki.

The new item can be furnished instead of a traditional government headstone or marker for veterans whose death occurred on or after Nov. 1, 1990, and whose grave in a private cemetery is marked with a privately purchased headstone or marker.

Under federal law, eligible veterans buried in a private cemetery are entitled to either a government-furnished grave marker or the new medallion, but not both. Veterans buried in a national or state veterans cemetery will receive a government headstone or marker of the standard design authorized at that cemetery.

The medallion is available in three sizes: 5 inches, 3 inches and 1½ inches in width. Each bronze medallion features the image of a folded burial flag adorned with laurels and is inscribed with the word "Veteran" at the top and the branch of service at the bottom.

Next of kin will receive the medallion, along with a kit that will allow the family or the staff of a private cemetery to affix the medallion to a headstone, grave marker, mausoleum or columbarium niche cover. More information about VA-furnished headstones, markers and medallions can be found at [www.cem.va.gov/cem/hm/hmtype.asp](http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/hm/hmtype.asp).

The VA is currently developing an application form for ordering the medallion. Until it is available, applicants may use the form for ordering government headstones and markers, VA Form 40-1330. Instructions on how to apply for a medallion are found on the VA website at [www.cem.va.gov/hm\\_hm.asp](http://www.cem.va.gov/hm_hm.asp).

Veterans with a discharge issued under conditions other than dishonorable, their spouses and eligible dependent children can be buried in a VA national cemetery. Other burial benefits available for all eligible veterans, regardless of whether they are buried in a national cemetery or a private cemetery, include a burial flag, a Presidential Memorial Certificate and a government headstone or grave marker.

The new medallions will be available only to veterans buried in private cemeteries without a government headstone or marker. Families of eligible decedents may also order a memorial headstone or marker when remains are not available for interment.

The VA operates 131 national cemeteries in 39 states and Puerto Rico, and 33 soldiers' lots and monument sites. More than 3 million Americans, including veterans of every war and conflict -- from the Revolutionary War to the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan -- are buried in VA's national cemeteries on more than 19,000 acres.

Information on VA burial benefits can be obtained from national cemetery offices, from the VA website on the Internet at [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov) or by calling VA regional offices toll-free at 800-827-1000.

(Courtesy of VA News)



I was in Lowe's the other day pushing my cart when I collided with a young guy pushing his. I said, "Sorry. I'm looking for my wife and I wasn't paying attention to where I was going."

The young guy replies, "What a coincidence. I'm looking for my wife, too. I can't find her and I'm getting worried."

I said, "Well, maybe we can help each other. What does your wife look like?"

He says, "She's 24, tall, blond, big blue eyes, long legs, big breasts, and she's wearing tight white shorts, with a halter top and no bra. What does your wife look like?"

I said, "Doesn't matter --- let's look for yours."

ROPER  
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POST-GAZETTE



# REBUILDING JAPAN

*The 24th Infantry Division was one of four U.S. Army Divisions assigned for occupation duty with its territory primarily on the southern island of Kyushu. For everyone who served at that time, it was a profound experience never to be forgotten. Typically, however, the average G.I. had little knowledge of what was taking place at GHQ in Tokyo.*

*For Japan, the first six months of the Occupation would set its course for the future. In his book, "Bright Life," author David Valley discloses details about the crucial centerpiece of the Occupation, the framing of Japan's constitution. The majority of the Japanese ruling class were opposed to any change, the Russians were determined to forestall the process until they could exercise their control through the Far East Commission, and, although the Japanese populace was in favor of reform, they were helpless to bring it about. Their only hope was with General MacArthur, but they didn't know what to expect of their new foreign Shogun. Though told as an historic novel, the book contains more factual information about what took place in the "framing process" than can be found elsewhere.*

*The Prologue, presented below, sets the stage for this great drama. Readers interested in the book may contact David Valley. Post Office Box 501006, San Diego, CA, email: dvalley1@san.rr.com, or telephone 858 485-7550.*

## Prologue of "Bright Life"

In the closing days of WWII in the Pacific, two men of vastly different backgrounds and allegiances sensed with growing uneasiness that fate was inexorably bringing them to the most demanding roles of their lives. One, the emissary of the conquerors, General Douglas MacArthur, was most eager to take on this historic role. The other, Emperor Hirohito, reduced from omnipotence to near impotence, aspired to become the spiritual leader of the vanquished nation to help them rebuild and regain a sense of worth.

Both were sharing, in unprecedented ways, common problems of immense proportions. There was no blueprint for a multinational wartime military alliance to occupy and rebuild a defeated enemy nation of 80 million people, and no prescribed behavior for a country that had never been occupied in its 2000 year history.

Politicians and statesmen from Allied countries were anxious to satisfy their own interests, whether for revenge, political, or economic advantage. Fortunately however, for the everlasting benefit of Japan and the world, the United States was in the primary position of command by virtue of having the greatest resources and a leader of extraordinary qualities already in command in the Pacific.

After the surrender, September 2, 1945, the Occupation of Japan officially began under General Douglas

MacArthur, Supreme Commander Allied Powers. Few of the men and women from the East and the West who would work together for this grand purpose understood or appreciated the profound and far reaching consequences of the process in which they were engaged. In the early days, on the Japanese side, most were focused on survival: finding food, shelter, and trying to rebuild families.



**Hiroshima, August 7, 1945**

Meanwhile, American occupation forces and a small cadre of civilian specialists along with representatives of several Allied nations were making plans, establishing order, and redressing war crimes.

Almost unnoticed in the larger scheme of things, a new culture was being woven into the fabric of Japanese society, a line at a time. The circumstances and admixture of Occidentals and Orientals produced changes that might not otherwise have taken place for another century.

Once basic survival and policing problems were addressed, the revision of Japan's constitution, the foundation for the needed reforms, was at the top of MacArthur's agenda. To a culture where change is typically very gradual and reform is an anathema, the impact of the Allies' proposed amendments were a profound shock to many of the ruling class.

In October, 1945 the newly appointed Prime Minister, Baron Kijuro Shidehara, was blind-sided by a list of reforms from the General. Shidehara assigned cabinet member Dr. Joji Matsumoto the onerous job of establishing a committee to undertake the dreaded job of revising their constitution.

MacArthur's end date for the new constitution was the general election, April 10, 1946. The clock was ticking with barely five months to accomplish the monumental task. An intense drama ensued, which has been largely unknown to all but a handful of the individuals involved.



# INCHON - Go or NO GO!



Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Joe Collins, MacArthur, Admiral Forrest Sherman, Chief of Naval Operations

**MacArthur is shown with the two most important men he had to convince to back his plan for Inchon.** September 15th marked the 60th anniversary of the landings at Inchon. In the early days of the Korean, as United Nations and South Koreans forces struggled against North Korean forces, Inchon turned the tide of the war and secured General MacArthur's place in the pantheon of history's greatest generals.

Even historians whose works are relative unfriendly to MacArthur recognize Inchon as a "brilliant daring gamble." Words like "gamble" and "lucky" are frequently used in discussions of Inchon. That is because the landing at Inchon was a risky move, and most were against it from the start. How MacArthur developed and ultimately sold his self-described "5,000 to 1" vision of Inchon to his critics is a testament to his military brilliance and skill as a negotiator.

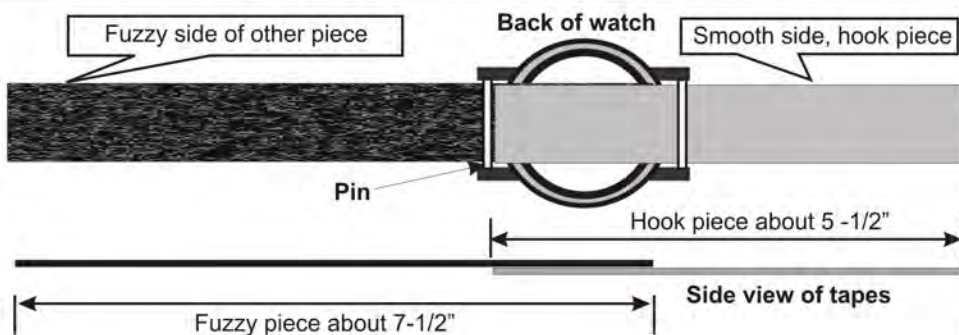
*From MacArthur Memorial Newsletter, Sept. 16, 2010*



**Editor:** I was in the Weapons Platoon, CO C, 21st RGT during the Mindanao Campaign and occupation of Japan. The photos were taken in the Davao, Mindanao area in 1945 about 3-4 weeks after the war officially ended. I have not seen any of these great guys since those days except for Art Kemp, who is in both photos. **Lloyd E. Gardner, Member, 1340 SE Hampden Square, Bartlesville, OK 74006, 918 333-2043, Lgacer2@cablone.com**

**Left Above, First Mortar Squad:** (L to R Top) Lloyd Gardner, and Archie Hampton (L to R Bot) Tom Coladonato, ?, John Gober.

**Weapons Platoon Members:** (L to R Top) Hebda, Bill Shipley, Lloyd Gardner, Moore, "Chicken" Battles and John Gober. (L to R Bot) Frank ?, Archie Hampton, Art Kemp. Six of these had been wounded during the Mindanao campaign.



## Do it Yourself Watchband

To replace leather watch band with Velcro, use sharp blade to cut leather band off pins. Do not remove pins. Cut Velcro to lengths shown and feed separately under pins, over-lapping as shown, then press together. Trim fuzzy piece to length that completely covers hook piece when wrapped around wrist. Purchase Velcro at crafts or fabrics stores in either 3/4" or 1/2" width.

DJV



## New Quartermaster

## Notices

We are pleased to announce member, John Walters, has taken the vacated post of quartermaster. John served in the 24th at Ft. Stewart from 1975-1976 and then in Korea from 1975-1976. He is a retired police detective from Coral Springs, FL. He was the quarter-master of the Fraternal Order of Police Assoc. for 15 years, and also for the International Police Assoc. We welcome you aboard, John.

The revised order form is shown below. If you wish to order please use this, or refer to an earlier issue for the old form.

Thanks, John for coming to the aid of the association. We wish you the best in your new assignment.

If you have an outstanding order, or wish to place an order (See Form Below), please contact John.

### From the Secretary/Treasurer

Due to the timing of the National reunion this year, it was not possible to include the usual financial reports, notices of donations and of new members.

Your help is needed to update and complete our 24th Infantry Division Association files. Only you can help us to make sure our files are accurate and up-to-date now and for the future. Many have not ever provided their email addresses, please do. Send all address, phone, and email changes today to:

jokdunn@aol.com, or  
24thtaroleaf@gmail.com, or

Write to: John A. Dunn

9150 Highway 51

Westover, AL 35147-9527 Tel.205 678-6165

## Quartermaster Order Form

**HAT PIN MEDALS all \$5:** 1. Philippines Liberation 2. Nat'l Defense Svc. 3. Good Conduct 4. Silver Star 5. Pacific Campaign 6. Armed Forces Reserve 7. Army of Occupation 8. POW 9. Distinguished Service Cross 10. ETO Campaign 11. Soldiers Medal 12. Meritorious Service 13. United Nations 14. American Defense 15. Vietnam Service 16. American Campaign 17. Armed Forces Expeditionary 18. U.S. Flag 19. Army Dist. Flying Cross 20. Korea Service Ribbon 21. Army Commendation 22. WWII Victory Ribbon 23. Marine Corp Expeditionary 24. Korean Service Medal 25. WWII Victory Medal 26. Bronze Star 27. Purple Heart 28. Air Medal 29. 24th ID 30. Korea "8000 Missing" 31. 19th RGT 32. Remember POW /MIA 33. POW/MIA "Bring 'Em Home" 34. CIB Mini 35. CIB Larger 36. CIB 2nd Award 37. Combat Medic Badge 38. U.S. Army Desert Storm 39. Vietnam Heaven & Hell

**PATCHES:** 42. 24ID Color \$5 43. 24th IDA \$6 44. 24th ID Black Taro \$15 45. 24th ID White Taro - First to Fight \$12 58. 19th RGT Color \$6 59. 21st RGT Color \$6 60. 34th RGT Color \$6 61. 11th FA BN Color \$6 62. 13th FA BN \$6 77. 5th RCT Pocket \$6 87. 6th Tank BN Color \$6 91. 63rd FA BN Color \$6 97. 24th ID Korean War Vet. \$5

**CRESTS:** 52. 24th Signal BN \$9 53. 19th RGT \$9 54. 21st RGT \$9 55. 34th RGT \$9 56. 11th FA BN \$9 57. 13 FA BN \$9 63. 24th ID Unit \$9 75. 3rd ENG BN \$9 76. 14th ENG BN \$9 89. 24th Medical BN \$9

**CAPS:** 64. 19th RGT Dark Blue \$12 65. 21st RGT White Embroidered \$15 66. 21st RGT Blue Embroidered \$15 67. 34th RGT DK Blue \$12 68. 24th IDA Blue w/Taro \$15 69. 24th ID White w/Taro - Germany \$12 70. 24th ID White w/Taro - Germany \$12 71. 24th IDA Red \$15 72. 24th IDA White \$15 73. 24th IDA Green \$15 74. 24th ID White MESH \$15 78. 5th RCT Red w/Crest \$12 80. Desert Storm Vet. \$12 81. POW/MIA Black \$15 82. WWII Vet. \$12 83. Korean War Vet Black \$12

**MISCELLANEOUS - NECKLACE:** 40. 19 RGT \$5 **BRACELET:** 41. 19th RGT \$5 **WINDOW STICKERS:** 84. CIB 3"x7" \$5

85. CIB 3"x7" \$3 **BUMPER STICKER:** 86. 24th ID Proudly Served \$3.00 **PAPER STICKERS:** 92. 24th ID 1" set of 12 \$1.50

**NECK TIE:** 88. 24th ID \$20 **NECK WALLET:** 24th ID Green \$5 **KEYCHAIN:** 24th ID \$10 **FLAG:** 90. 24th ID, 3' x 5', Outdoor Screen Print \$65 **CD:** 98. Audio, 24th ID Division Song and March \$10 **DVD:** 99. DVD 24ID Punchbowl Memorial, Hawaii \$15

**LICENSE PLATE HOLDER:** 79. 24th ID w/Taro Leaf \$8 **HISTORY BOOK:** 96. 24th ID, 2nd Edition \$41

Circle item number for purchase and indicate quantity Shipping & Handling \$5.00 Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery

Mail check payable to "24th IDA" with your address to Quartermaster: John Walters, 12358 NW 54th Ct., Coral Springs, FL 33076-3410 Tel: 954 345-8294, or 945 328-5344. Email: jaw234@bellsouth.net

Cut out and mail

## Please contact your Congressional Representative NOW!



Write a letter to your Representative asking them to support Congressman Lee's bill, H. Con. Res. 232, to honor the Army's 24th ID and its 14 Medal of Honor recipients through a memorial marker to be installed at Arlington National Cemetery. We need broad support from our members if we wish to see this deserved recognition in our nation's most prestigious cemetery. We also need your financial support, please send a donation to President Sal Schillaci.

-----Cut out and mail-----



### 24th Infantry Division Association



John A. Dunn, Sec'y./Treas.  
9150 Highway 51  
Westover, AL35147-9527

### Membership Application

- ☐ Enroll as Member
- ☐ Reinstate as Member
- ☐ Enroll as Associate Member
- ☐ 12 Months Dues \$15.00
- ☐ Life Membership \$150, or
- ☐ Installments \$30 / 5 years

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

**CHECKS PAYABLE TO:  
24th Inf. Div. Assoc.**

Unit \_\_\_\_\_ RCT \_\_\_\_\_ RGT \_\_\_\_\_ BN \_\_\_\_\_ BAT \_\_\_\_\_ CO \_\_\_\_\_ PLT \_\_\_\_\_ SQD

i.e. 5th, 19th, 3rd ENG, 955 FA, etc.

#### Location(s)

i.e. Pearl, WWII, Japan, Korea, Germany, Ft. Stuart, Lebanon, Somalia, Desert Storm, Ft. Riley, etc

POW ☐ Location \_\_\_\_\_ From / / To / /

Other Unit Service \_\_\_\_\_ From / / To / /

Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_



## 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division West Coast Reunion 27-30 March, 2011

**The Aquarius Casino Resort** 1900 S. Casino Dr, Laughlin, NV 89029

**Reservations: 1-800-662-5825** mention contract #C-WCR11. For **\$28.00** rate you must call no later than 12 March. **Registration Deadline 18 March 2011**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guests: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ Email (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

Roast Sirloin of Beef \$36 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Chicken Cordon Bleu \$36 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Filet of Salmon \$36 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_

Registration (\$20 per Family) = **\$20.00**

**Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

### Mail registration form and fees to:

Byrd Schrock , 1009 Mesquite Dr.  
Sierra Vista, AZ 85635  
(520) 678-0207 or (520) 678-0513  
byrd2a@cox.net

**Make checks payable to Byrd Schrock**

**Per our catering contract, dinner fees are non-refundable after 15 March 2011**

## 5th RCT & 24th IDA's Florida Mini Reunion Nov. 4, 2010-Nov. 7, 2010

**Holiday Inn**, 860 A1A Beach Boulevard, St. Augustine Beach, Florida 32080

**Phone** 904-471-2555 / 800-626-7263 **Specify:** 5<sup>th</sup> RCT for **\$79** rate



### Friday, November 5, 2010

All Members Meeting 9-11 am  
Get together-Food & Beer-6:30 pm

### Saturday, November 6, 2010 — Banquet

Cocktails-Scores Lounge (Cash Bar) 6-7pm  
Banquet Dinner — 7:00 pm

### Reunion Registration Deadline October 23, 2010

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Guest(s) Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

A. Prime Rib **\$30** X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

B. Chicken Marsala **\$30** X \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Member Registration **\$20** = \$ **20**

**Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

### Please mail check or money order payable to:

Bill Kane  
5023 Andrea Blvd.  
Orlando, FL 32807

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at **407-275-7450** or **407-421-4465**

## 19th & 34th Infantry Regiments Pigeon Forge, TN Reunion

**April 25, 26, 27, 2011**

Holiday Inn Express, 308 Henderson Chapel Rd.,  
Pigeon Forge, TN 37868 For reservations call  
**888 774-4366** Mention code **KVR** for \$60 rate

**No Fees – Come and have fun!**

This will be our 18th reunion. They began in 1994 in Myrtle Beach, SC. It has since grown in size and has re-united many wartime buddies. Later, the reunion met in Nashville, TN, but in 2006 the group voted to move to Pigeon Forge in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains and adjacent to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This location offers many fine attractions including: the world famous Dollywood, shopping malls, many showplaces, and excellent dining.

For information contact:

**Bob Taylor**

**828 884-9593**

**Email [bobnjoan@comporium.net](mailto:bobnjoan@comporium.net)**

## 24th RECON continued from page 16

They came along the road from the North without being recognized as enemy by our forces covering the road. Little could be done anyway, stopping a T-34.

Division Commander MG William F. Dean had moved Division HQ south to Yongdong on 18 July, but had stayed behind with the 34th RGT. Only the 34th and a few smaller units had remained in Taejon. Dean was awoken that morning 20 July, 1950 to the boom, boom, boom of T-34 Soviet tanks! What in Hell was going on?

General Dean's nickname was "The Walking General." He was about to join the Working People and become the "Walking, Working, General." Many accounts have been offered about Dean and the tank saga in Taejon; most are inaccurate or incomplete, but all portray a nuance of color. *Stars and Stripes* reported Dean had been captured in Taejon with a couple of cooks from the mess hall while trying to knock out NK tanks. Good copy, but no cigar. Another account says he was out tank hunting with his aide, Lt. Clarke, and a Korean interpreter who had become obsessed with the hunt.

It is not important who the general was with, the "Big Picture" was two divisions of NK supported by tanks had overrun our 34th RGT and 2nd BN 19th RGT on the north. The NK had crossed the Kapch'on River to the west. The road to the east was still blocked, at the site of the Recon patrol ambush the night before. The only way out was the road to the south, and that road was ambushed too. Where in the hell was the Air Force? Not a plane had been seen all day.

In the midst of all this chaos while the remnants of his command awaited direction, the "Biggest Star" in Korea ran amok in the streets of Taejon hunting T-34 tiger tanks with a pea shooter. In the middle of the afternoon, walking, working, cowboy Dean became desperate, he drew his .45 cal hand gun and emptied the clip trying to "Wyatt Earp" a T-34. He then decided it was time to get the "Hell out of Dodge."

Dean left Taejon about 1800 hrs to the south following a convoy of trucks. His jeep took a wrong turn, and then hit an ambush. The jeep was wrecked but they escaped, unhurt, in the dark. Later that night Dean, searching for water, fell down an embankment knocking himself out and breaking his shoulder. His people unable to find him, left, leaving him alone.

Dean finally awoke and spent the next five or six days crawling and wading through rice paddies, to the south. He was betrayed by a couple of so called friendly South Koreans, who turned him in to the NK, for a bounty of 30,000 won (about five dollars). General Dean was later criticized for his antics in Taejon, but there was no reprimand. Instead, in January, 1951 Dean received our country's highest military award, the Congressional Medal of Honor. Dean was finally repatriated in 1953 and died in 1981 at the age of 82.

**Raymond K. McGuire, 9 Pineburr Ct., Greensboro,  
NC 27455, 336 545-1766 Member**

## 2011 Reunion April 4-10, 2011



### 5th Regimental Combat Team Tampa Florida Reunion

We have arranged full suite accommodations at the luxurious Main Sail Suites Hotel with complimentary: breakfast buffet, airport shuttle, parking, Internet access, local calls, newspaper, full size kitchen and living room, and a spacious hospitality room for our get-togethers...all for only **\$99** a night. Some will want to enjoy this spectacular vacation spot for the full week, or you may stay for a shorter period if you wish.

Exciting daily venues include the "Fantasy of Flight" Show, Largo Armed Forces Museum, Tampa History Museum, Florida Aquarium, and Yebo City Cigar Museum.

**RESERVATIONS:** Call MAIN SAIL at (813)243-2626 or email at [www.mainsailtampa.com](http://www.mainsailtampa.com) and mention 5th RCT reunion for our special rate.

**INFORMATION:** Call Al McAdoo at (813)837-2728  
7506 South Mascotta Street  
Tampa, Florida 33616-2206



Korean War  
60th  
Anniversary

## SALUTE TO KOREAN WAR VETERANS

Las Vegas, June 13, 2010

**Friends of American Korean War Veterans** hosted a magnificent memorial and tribute for several hundred Korean War Veterans who responded to their kind invitation. It included a free night's lodging, banquet, breakfast and lunch the following day.

The festivities, held at the Orleans Hotel, featured multiple photo-ops and provided an unusual opportunity for the veterans to put their personal messages on huge outlines of the Korean and U.S. flags in red and blue ink. These messages, a unique collection of thoughts from our veterans, gave color to the flags when viewed from afar. They will be displayed in Korea.



At the banquet there were several guest speakers. Most notable were a personal representative, Mr. Ho-Young Joo, of the President of Korea and Congressman Edward Royce who was most informative about current U.S.-Korea relations. His speech follows beginning in the adjoining column. Your editor, David Valley, was invited to appear as Gen. Douglas MacArthur to give the General's view of the Korean War.

There were hundreds of our Korean hosts, from attractively dressed ladies in traditional colorful attire, young men acting as guides, and senior men who were mostly responsible for the event. In addition to the support by the Korean Government there were many industrial sponsors, most notably, Hyundai. All veterans were given the medallion shown above and other gifts.

During the evening the audience was entertained by the excellent Global Symphonic Band and singers under the able direction of Maestro Woo Shin Kim.

The following morning after breakfast the audience was entertained by Korean folk singers and dancers. After which veterans representing the four services gave personal accounts of their Korean War experiences.

**David J. Valley**



**Rep. Ed Royce, CA-40<sup>th</sup> CD**

"On June 25, 1950, the Korean War started and was halted three years later with an armistice still in place today. We will never forget the sacrifices veterans have made on behalf of our country, and tonight, we are giving special recognition to those who fought so valiantly during the Korean War.

More than 5.7 million Americans served during the conflict. Some 33,600 were killed in action, including about 8,200 listed as missing and presumed dead. Another 21,400 died of non-battle causes and more than 103,000 were wounded during the three years of war. Nearly 140,000 South Koreans were killed on the battle field, many of whom fought side by side with American forces for the cause of preserving freedom. The heroic deeds of these servicemen laid the foundation for an alliance between the U.S. and South Korea which has lasted over 60 years.

I am proud to have helped strengthen this alliance in Congress, co-chairing the U.S.-Republic of Korea Inter-parliamentary Exchange for the last eight years. I have introduced a resolution to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War. This House resolution recognizes the United States and the Republic of Korea continue to share a vital relationship which extends from its military partnership to robust economic cooperation.

Unfortunately, we were reminded of importance of this relationship by the sinking of the *Cheonan* and the loss of the 46 South Korean sailors killed by a North Korean torpedo attack. Our sympathies and condolences are with their families and the South Korean people. The House passed a resolution to this effect the other week.

Last month, South Korea unveiled the results of a methodical *international* investigation into the cause of the sinking. The evidence – *overwhelming* – showed what many were all but certain occurred on March 26<sup>th</sup> – the ship was sunk by a North Korean torpedo, in clear violation of the Korean War Armistice.

**This tragedy is offering, at long last, clarity across Asia after years of delusions about North Korea. Reality is setting in.**

In Seoul, it is offering *clarity* about the brutal nature of the Stalinist regime in the North. South Korean president Lee Myung-bak has been meticulous in announcing steps to pressure North Korea. [NK vessels will be blocked from South Korean waters, and he announced, “cooperative activity” with North Korea is “meaningless.” Importantly, he recognized, “now is the time for the North Korean regime to change.”]

Seoul is coming to grips with years of a failed “sunshine” policy of previous Administrations which hoped against hope North Korea could be dealt with as a normal state.

In Tokyo, it is offering *clarity* about the role of U.S. forces in the region. Largely because of North Korea’s provocation, Japan’s government has accepted the relocation of U.S. forces on Okinawa. This isn’t just an issue for the U.S. and Japan, but has regional implications, as U.S. forces there provide breathing space for others in the region, including South Korea.

This crisis is also offering *clarity* about Beijing’s role in Northeast Asia and beyond. Despite an international invest-

igation including Australian, British, Swedish and U.S. investigators working with their South Korean counterparts, China has announced it will complete its own assessment of the sinking. Beijing merely called the murder of these 46 sailors “unfortunate.”

Beijing’s meek reply came days after it rolled out the red carpet for North Korea’s Kim Jong-Il and reportedly showered him with 100,000 tons of food and \$100 million in other aid. *So much* for a “responsible” China!

This torpedo attack *should* offer clarity for U.S. policy toward North Korea as well. It should wake us up to the nature of the North Korean regime and the (hopeless) possibility of dealing diplomatically with Pyongyang.

The other week in Asia, Secretary of State Clinton offered the statement, “we asked North Korea to stop its provocative behavior...take irreversible steps to fulfill its denuclearization commitments, and comply with international law.” Well, *anyone* who has been watching North Korea over the last two months or the last two years knows the statement has no bearing on reality.

Those who have pushed fruitless nuclear negotiations with North Korea – in this Administration and the last – ignoring the type of regime we are dealing with, have to ask themselves: why has North Korea’s only definitive response to engagement come on a torpedo?

It is a tragedy dozens of brave South Koreans lost their lives at the hands of the North Korea’s reckless dictator, but, we should not forget they did so – just as those who fought in the Korean War sixty years ago – to protect their country and values they love.

I thank you for having me here tonight, and I am honored to share the room with so many brave soldiers.”

*It is reassuring to know we have a representative in Congress who sincerely appreciates our service and is a well informed effective advocate for Korea.*  
Editor



**War Monument at Mt. Bomun, Daejeon, Korea, Honors the 24th Infantry Division and General Dean, who is shown holding a bazooka.**

The plaque reads: “On this bright hill where freedom’s sunlight shines this monument to glory stands sublime. On June 25, 1950 the day the Red Horde swept down like an angry tide You, the United States 24th Infantry Division lifting high the United Nations flag came to our defense in the name of freedom fighting to the death on Daejeon’s broad plain. Your blood indeed was shed upon this ground but still reverberates the battle cry you raised. Apostles of Freedom Standard-bearers for peace upon the hearts of our countrymen, your name is deeply engraved.”



# MEDAL OF HONOR



**STANLEY T. ADAMS**

2 AUG 51



**NELSON V. BRITTIN**

7 MARCH 51



**MICHELL RED CLOUD, JR.**

5 NOV 50



**WILLIAM F. DEAN**

21 JULY 50 – MIA, COMBAT  
16 FEB 51 – AWARDED



**JAMES H. DIAMOND**

8 – 14 MAY 45



**CARL H. DODD**

30 – 31 JAN 51



**RAY E. DUKE**

26 APRIL 51



RECIPIENTS'

WWII

KOREAN  
WAR



**MELVIN O. HANDRICH**

25 – 26 AUG 50



**MACK A. JORDAN**

15 NOV 51



**WOODROW W. KEEBLE**

20 OCT 51 – COMBAT  
3 MARCH 08 – AWARDED



**GEORGE G. LIBBY**

20 JULY 50



**HAROLD H. MOON, JR.**

21 OCT 44



**CHARLES E. MOWER**

3 NOV 44



**FRANCIS B. WAI**

20 OCT 44

## WITH SOMBER THOUGHTS

P. Ed Rumbaoa Life Member 2234

THIS FITTING DOCUMENT WITH THEIR NAMES INSCRIBED,  
TO PRESERVE THEIR MEMORIES AND KEEP THEIR SPIRITS ALIVE  
WITH GENTLE APOLOGIES TO OUR SURVIVING COMRADES,  
WHO ARE STILL HEARTY AND HAPPY AMONG US.

THE BROAD RINGS OF STRIPED BLACK AND CRIMSON HUE,  
SURROUNDING OUR SINUATED TARO LEAF LOGO.  
THEY SIGNIFY THEIR SUDDEN, MOURNFUL DEATH,  
AND PRECIOUS BLOOD SPILLED O'ER FIELDS AND OCEANS DEPT

DATES ARE INDICATED, SHOWN TO BE REMEMBERED,  
FOR NEXT GENERATIONS TO ASK, "WHAT HAPPENED?"  
OH, MY DEAR GOD, WHY DID THEY RISK THEIR YOUNG LIVES!  
AND LEFT BEHIND THEIR LOVED ONES, CHILDREN, THEIR WIVES

THE HIGHEST DECORATION HAS BEEN AWARDED,  
WE CAN NO MORE THINK ANYTHING TO BE ADDED.  
OUR COUNTRY GAVE THEM THE HONOR THEY DESERVE,  
OUR JOB NOW IS TO GIVE THEIR VALUE AND TO PRESERVE.





John A. Dunn, Sec'y/Treas.  
24th Infantry Division Assoc.  
Highway 51  
Westover, AL 35147-9527

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**Members: Check dues date above your address**

## **Verbeck Award Nominations - 2011**

Association Pres. Sal Schillaci is seeking nominations for the member you think should be recognized with our Association's prestigious **2011 Verbeck Award**.

Sal advises: "All members have the opportunity to name their nominee for the award." Please send him your recommendation and a brief write-up as to why you believe your nominee deserves to be so honored. Since this will be the 2011 award you have until July 15, 2011 to make your submissions.



**Verbeck Guidelines:** The Verbeck Award is presented to that Association member who best displays the ideals of Bill Verbeck. He had an un-

abashed love for the Division and its Association. The award is to be given to a member who displays those qualities of Bill Verbeck and effectively furthers the interests of the Association and the Division.

This is not intended to reward popularity, but to acknowledge commitment and hard work in helping to make the Association more successful.

**Send to:**  
**Salvatore Schillaci**  
**59 Endicott Drive**  
**Amherst, NY 14226-3323**  
**(716) 837-1635**

### **Send Dues & Address Changes to:**

24th Infantry Division Association  
Secretary/Treasurer John A. Dunn  
Hwy. 51, Westover, AL 35147-9527  
(205) 678-6165 email: jokdunn@aol.com

### **Send Taps Notices to: Taro Leaf Editor**

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