

# TARO

# LEAF

24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

VOLUME XXII

NUMBER 8

1968 - 1969

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An  
**INVITATION...**

Proud am I to be the President of our Association as we announce our 21st Annual National Reunion and Convention to be held come August.

Let me be the one who carries the news that our planned get together is for all who ever served in the 24th regardless of when (anytime between 1941 and the present day) or of where (anywhere from Hawaii to Australia to Goodenough to New Guinea to the Philippines to Japan to Korea to Germany to Lebanon to Riley).

And it's for each and everyone who ever served, be he buck private, tech fifth, shavetail louey or star bearer - and it's for his wife and his children too - a truly family affair.

We plan to do everything possible to make your stay a pleasant one.


We look forward to seeing you there.

Yours 24th Division-ly,

  
Don C. Williams,  
President

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**ST. LOUIS ROLLS OUT  
THE WELCOME MAT**



Tentative Convention Program  
 24th Infantry Division Association  
 1969 Convention  
 Hotel Chase Park Plaza  
 St. Louis, Missouri

Thursday, August 14, 1969

10 AM - 5 PM	Early Bird Registration	Lido Room
10 AM - 5 PM	Conviviality	Lido Room
10 AM - 12 noon	Tours of Grant's Farm and Anheuser-Busch Brewery	
12 noon - 6 PM	On-Your-Own	
6 PM - 8 PM	Midwest Hospitality and Welcome - Food and Drinks Hosted by St. Louis area members	Regency Room
8 PM - ???	Enjoy the St. Louis night life.	

Friday, August 15, 1969

9 AM - 12 noon	Tours of Grant's Farm and Anheuser-Busch Brewery	
9 AM - 5 PM	Registration still open	Lido Room
9 AM - 5 PM	Conviviality	Lido Room
12 noon - 7 PM	See St. Louis	On your own
7 PM - 11 PM	Mississippi River Cruise	SS Huck Finn
11 PM - ???	As you will	

Have a convention  
**On the way to the convention**

Saturday, August 16, 1969

10 AM - 5 PM	Registration	Lido Room
10 AM - 5 PM	Conviviality	Lido Room
10 AM - 12 noon	Executive Committee Meeting	Room 1421
10 AM - 12 noon	Tours to Grant's Farm and Anheuser-Busch Brewery	
12 noon	Lunch -	On your own
2 PM - 4 PM	Annual Meeting, Elections	Regency Room
2 PM - 4 PM	Ladies Social	Zodiac Lounge
6 PM - 7 PM	Cocktails	Zodiac Lounge
7 PM - 10 PM	Memorial Service and Banquet	Starlight Roof
10 PM - ????	Infantry Semi-Formal Hop	Starlight Roof

Sunday, August 17, 1969

9 AM - 12 noon	Brunch and Alohas	Lido Room
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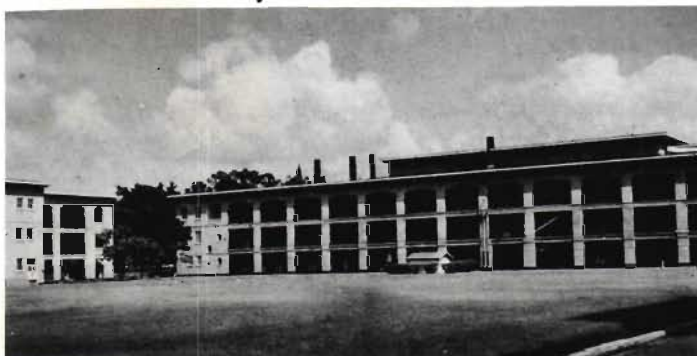
SCHEMM, JOHN T., (724 Ord. '50-'52), of Sunrise Trailer Pk., 8219 Belair, Baltimore, Md. Johnny liked the puzzle in our last issue. Remember that you were to number

	8	

4½	8	2½
3	5	7
7½	2	5½

the rest of the squares so that every row, column and diagonal adds up to 15. Remember too that the rule was that no number could be repeated. Johnny figured it out and came up with a solution. This was a toughie because it involved many kinds of thinking. First, pure addition, of course. Second, the foresight to go to fractions, not just whole numbers. Third, organized trial and error thinking. That's a lot of thinking. If you managed to solve it, hat's off to you. Thanks, Johnny.

It's Scofield's Quad C (shades of "From Here to Eternity" for BOB HOGUE (B 21st



'43-'45). From Decatur, Ala., Bob sends "regards to that Boston Irishman, BOB GERRY", adding that he'd love a word from anyone in Baker of the Gimlets. Gerry's making our luxury weekend, Bob; how about you and the little lady?

BERNIE E. BJORKMAN (Sv.19) and Nadine tell us of a sign in the Little Rock, Ark. recruiting office reading, "We honor draft cards".

We've a letter that goes: "I've said it before and I say it again, I love the guys who make these yearly get-togethers possible, and I don't care who knows it. Given a hammock large enough to accommodate all of them, I'd willingly snuggle in their arms 'til homeward come the cows while someone in snowy flannels plunked out 'Carolina Moon' on a round-bellied mandolin. They're great guys for trying to hold us together this way." So writes JOHNNY CLARKE, (Div.Hq. '42-'45), our popular onetime Division Chemical Officer.

HOWARD W. RICHARDSON, (724 Ord. '42-'45), not content with being a Life Member, just sent in a \$25.00 contribution.

Joining our happy throng are GEORGE and Viola SUDDOTH, (34th). They'll surely make St.Louis as they're close by, in Belleville, Ill. George will be interested in this story on a recent article by Maj.Gen.AUBREY S. NEWMAN, another Dragon. Red was stressing the importance of the bayonet as a mental force. He wrote: "A battle action by Co.F of my 34th illustrates clearly that, more often than not, the bayonet does its work before actual contact. The occasion was an action at the Manit River bridge on 28 Oct. '44 on Leyte. Co. F, led by their gallant commander, Capt.PAUL AUSTIN, launched a bayonet assault - complete with Rebel yell. That knife out front sparked and the view of oncoming steel collapsed the defense. A body count of stab wounds would have never evaluated the part played by the bayonet in that action. This 'trail of strength' in hand-to-hand fighting is not a simple or easy thing to understand. 'Shock action' is involved. True, the bayonet never gets out of ammunition, or gets unloaded or jammed in a melee - but, mostly, it's in the mind and heart of the man behind the bayonet. That's why the will to close in on the enemy or the determination to stand and meet steel with steel is so often decisive." Blood curdling, as you think back upon it, isn't it? Thanks, Red Newman.

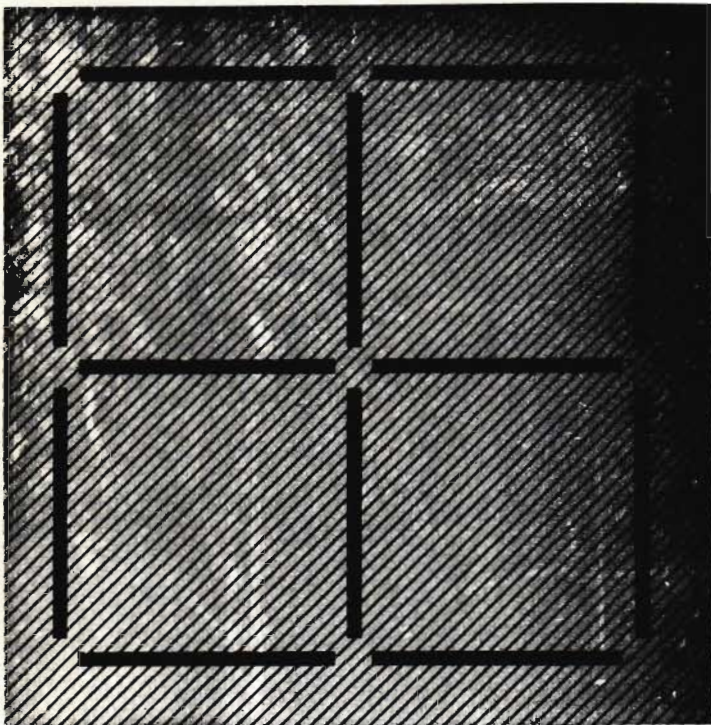
"The struggle to complete my effort at telling the future family of my WWII experiences continues slowly", writes



Maj.Gen. ROSCOE B. WOODRUFF who is something of a crusader in this matter of trying to get people to put on paper some of their army experiences for future generations. Sez Woody, "The youngsters may, at some time, want to know, and we won't be around for questioning." How many ever will set his experiences down in print?

CLARENCE A. LINDEKE, (24 Sig. '43-'45) and Ida, married in '52, have 4 - a girl 14 and 3 boys, 13, 11 and 9.

CLIFTON, HERBERT D., (C 3 Eng. '41-'45) of 935 Shank, Dover, Del. Herb and Reba want you to make one less square by moving only 3 lines. The clue is to build another square. Branch out. Solution next issue.



Newsy letter in from JOHN BAGLAMA who is presently on a ETO assignment. Writes John: "Was in 24th Recn. 1/47 to 6/47 when M/Sgt. RAYMOND J. RASZKOWSKI (of the 24th Med. from '47-'49), now a retired CWO in Mich., had me transferred to HQ 24th Med. Bn. because I was the fastest softball pitcher in Kokura. Stayed with them 'til '50 when I left to take Helen back to Detroit, Mich., and returned to the Far East. Participated at Inchon, attached to the 1st Marine Division. Rejoined the 24 Med. Bn. and took over as Bn.Sgt.Maj. Left them in Nov. 1951. Returned home for duty in Toledo, Ohio. Returned back overseas to Germany in Jan. '53 and remained there until Dec. 56. Then back to Ft. Carson, Colo., U. of Ill., St. Leonard Wood; Recruiting duty in both Michigan and Wisconsin; a year in Thailand and then back to Germany again. Plans are to retire this August with over 25 years service. We are grandparents of a sweet looking chick Jennifer; proud parents of son Mike (born in Japan) and daughter-in-law Julie. Here in Europe with Helen and I are sons Dennis and Terry. Think after the retirement, I'll just lay back and watch the Tigers take the world series again". Thank you for the good report, Johnny.

Why not relax at our St. Louis fun-in, TED and Margaret TOBEN, (Div.Hq. '41-'43)? Unwind. Let yourself go. We will really put the cool on summer.

#### TARO LEAF

The publication "of, by and for those who served or serve" the glorious 24th Infantry Division, and published frequently by the 24th Infantry Division Association, whose officers are:

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Give the family a fabulous August break in St. Louis, we say to JOHN and Mary STANSELL, (E19th), over there in Mt. Vernon, Ohio.

St. Croix sojourn in February it was for Prexy DON WILLIAMS and Past Prexies ED HENRY, C.G. HANLIN and BILL SANDERSON. Amanda Henry and Alice Sanderson tagged along to maintain order. The Division banner flew for one week from atop their rental. Who saw it and stopped by to find out what was going on but ROBERT and Jaonne STAATS, (19th and 21st, Korea). He's a writer for "Laugh-In" and had a walk-on part with a line on the short-lived "Turn-On". They stayed for cocktails.

Report HOWIE and Glad LUMSDEN, our indefatigable convention chairman, that the Playboy Club in St. Louis is just a few blocks south of the Chase Park on Lindell Blvd., and that there's a Playgirl Club on Lindell, "almost across the street". How's that for a midsummer pick-you-up?

Army Serial Numbers will be no more. Social Security numbers are replacing all service numbers.

REUNION REGISTRATION COUPON

TO: HOWARD R. LUMSDEN,  
Convention Chairman  
167 Hickory Street  
Wood River, Illinois 62095

I plan to attend the reunion, (     ),  
with my wife (     ), with (     ) children.

I will attend the following events:

- (     ) Early Bird Social, Thursday Night  
with \_\_\_\_\_ persons.
- (     ) Division Rally aboard SS Huck Finn,  
Friday night, with \_\_\_\_\_ persons.
- (     ) Banquet, Saturday Night  
with \_\_\_\_\_ persons.

Convention Registration Fee is \$5.00.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Mayor Samuel T. Wheeler of Hudson, N.Y. axed his own \$2800.00 salary by ten percent in leading a local economy program. Now there's a leader. In the last 4 months, your Editor has seen pay raises for the President, Cabinet, Supreme Court, Congress, his State Governor, his state legislature, his city mayor and his city council. Is that "holding the line"?

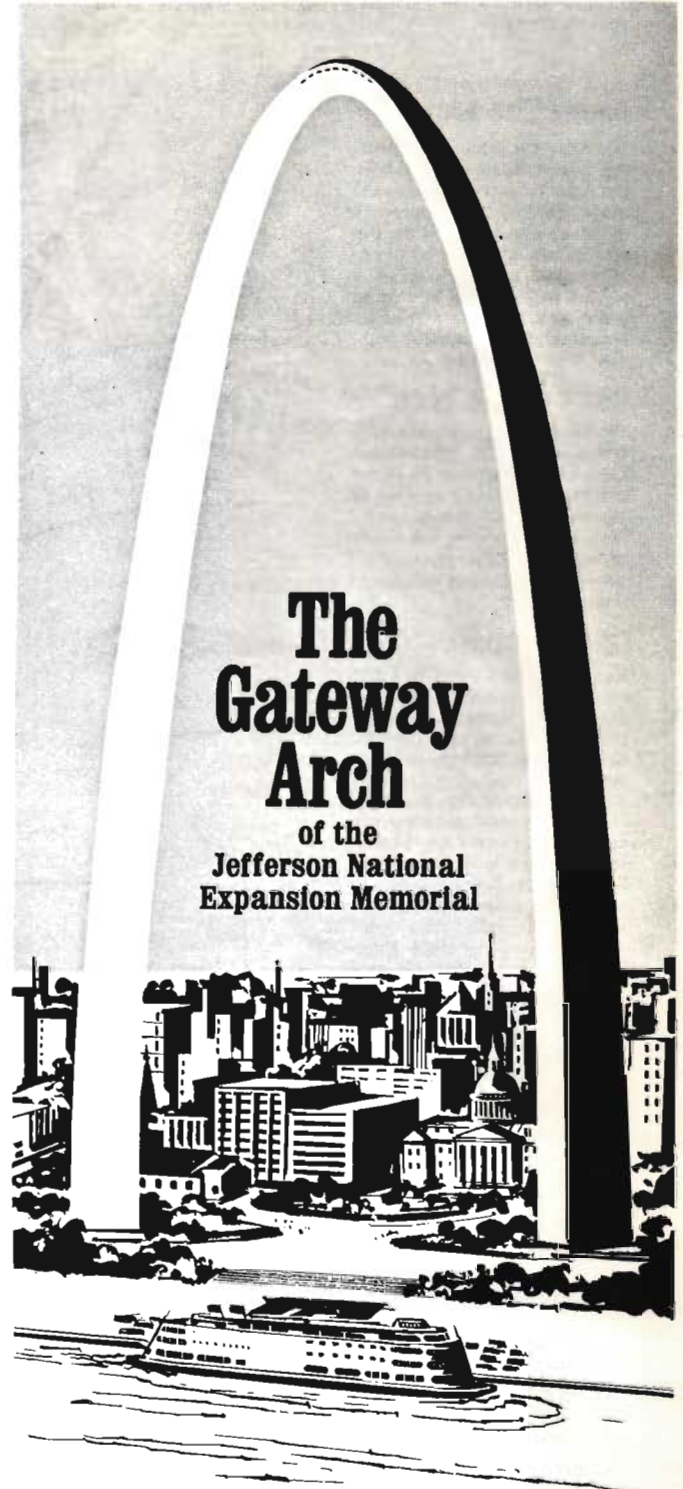
Recently deceased, J.Graham Brown, owner of Louisville's Brown Hotel, where we enjoyed 2 happy reunions, left his entire \$100,263,786.00 estate for charitable, educational and religious purposes. How's that for doing good?

Your vacation will be as perfect, as enjoyable, as exciting, as carefree as we can make it if you spend a part of it at our "Great Adventure" in St.Louis. BERNARD McLAUGHLIN, (G19th '50-'52) has asked us about our plans and this is part of how we're answering him. He's at 9 Howard, Pennsville, N.J.

There's fun for the whole family at St.Louis' "Gay 90's Melody Museum", next door to Busch Stadium. There you'll find nickelodeons, band organs, calliopes, microscopes, coinolas and all the other reminders of arcade life as it used to be. RUEBEN and Hilda ENGLE, (B34th '44-'46), tell us that you have to see it and hear it to believe it.

McCALL, OLIVER W. (34th '44-'45), of Sherwood Forest, Live Oak, Fla. We love that address, Oliver and Irene. It conjures up visions of Robin Hood.

We have it on no less an authority than ANGELO J. MANTINI, (A-19th), that St.Louis' Gateway Arch was designed by Eero Saarinen.



630' high, it has an observation deck at its apex for a 30 mile view to the east and west. Stairs? There are 1076 of 'em if you care to emulate the hearty pioneer spirit which the Arch commemorates. Ride a gondola, if you want to. The shape? It's an inverted catenary curve, in case you want to be a know-it-all. Nice report, Angelo.

As we go to press, a London family has drawn a jail sentence for smoking marijuana. The family that pots together rots together.

# TAPS

Another great soldier has passed on to his eternal reward. Major General George W. Smythe suffered a heart attack on January 16, 1969, and died at the Ft. Myer post clinic.

Gen. Smythe was born in Norristown, Pa., and studied at West Chester State College and Muhlenberg College in Pa., before entering the U.S. Military Academy in 1920.

As quarterback on the West Point team for four years, he was voted the best all-around athlete in his class of 1924. In 1922, he was selected as a member of Walter Camp's All-American second team. During his last year at West Point, he was elected President of his class.

After leaving West Point, he had assignments at Ft. Benning, Ga., Staunton Military Academy, Va., Ft. Wright, Wash., Ft. Leavenworth, Kans., and in Panama. At the outbreak of World War II, General Smythe was serving as operations officer of the 27th Regiment which was stationed in Hawaii.

Later he served with the International Division which was connected with Lend Lease and supply services in Africa. From that assignment he went to the 47th Infantry Regiment.

He was awarded the Silver Star for action at Cherbourg, in which he was wounded, and the Distinguished Service Cross for heroism in defying artillery and mortar shells to knock out an 88-millimeter gun in Belgium. He also was awarded the Silver Star with Oak Leaf cluster, the Bronze Star, and the Legion of Merit, as well as foreign decorations from France, Great Britain, Belgium, Korea, and Nationalist China.

During the German Breakthrough in Dec. 1944, he was credited with playing a major role in saving the vital communications center at Eupen, Belgium. By organizing what was essentially a new division from American units that had been smashed in the breakthrough, he was able to keep Eupen out of enemy hands.

Promoted to brigadier general in 1945, he later served as chief of staff of the 3rd Army and as an assistant division commander in Germany. During the Korean War, he commanded the 24th Infantry Division and the 3rd Infantry Division. He also served as deputy commander of the 2nd Army and was chief of the U.S. military advisory assistance group in Taiwan, and was an advisor to Chiang Kai-shek. He retired in 1957.

Gen. Smythe is survived by his wife, Susie, his son, Lt. Col. John Davis Smythe, now serving in Vietnam, two sisters, and six grandchildren. The General's other son Capt. George W. Smythe Jr., was killed in 1958 after ejecting from a jet fighter near Niceville, Fla.

To the family of General Smythe, we offer heartfelt sympathy.

"Maybe we'll see you in St. Louis" write VINNIE and Frances VELLA, (K 21st '44-'46). Someone asked Vinnie the other day: "Why do you always call your wife 'my first wife'; you're still married to her; and you've never had a second". Replied Vinnie, "Of course, but you'd be surprised how that keeps her on her toes."

Now in Korea as Chief of PROUMAAG is Maj. Gen. LIVINGSTON N. TAYLOR, (Div. Arty. '42-'45).

Selling yearlings at Saratoga will be Brig. Gen. CHARLES LYMAN, (21st), so "I'll have to miss the festivities". We'll Aloha you anyway, Gen. Lyman.

Chick JOE McKEON's wife "enlarged our garage by moving the rear wall back a couple of feet with our Mercury". Our mail brings us all kinds of news. Joe, you promised you'd make our '69 Mad Cap, if we "had it in the mid-west". Well?

Lois does the corresponding in the DON LUEDTKE family. They're in Arcadia, Nebr., where Don doubles as a farmer and a fireman. Alan 14, Brian 11, Curt 10 and Denise 8 manage to keep them busy. Why not bring the whole gang to our festive mid-August houseparty, Don? Our pageant is for everyone.

CHARLES T. WILSON, (21st '50-'51), dropped in on us the other day to remind us that the total debt in the American economy is \$1.3 trillion - yes trillion. It went up \$93 billion last year. Of the total debt, \$905.4 billion is private and \$362.1 billion is public. And merrily we roll along across the deep blue sea - to OBLIVION.



Mike  
in Vietnam  
11-15  
"I figger it's either a well-armed North Vietnamese outfit or Charlie Company."

Bring the whole family for our Egg-Stravaganza, we say to ED WEIL, (D19th), over there in Wicheta, Kans. Why not ask RALPH and Blanche WEST to join you?

# Twenty Fourth Infantry Division Association

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Dear 24th Infantry Division Association Member -

If you can't make St. Louis in August, you can at least be represented there with an expression of opinion as to when and where our 1970 conclave should be held.

The selection of the time and place must NOT be left up to only those who attend a convention if the interests and desires of the entire membership are to be given full faith and credit.

Won't you please send in this form to me that I can represent our members who cannot be present at St. Louis.

Thank you, sincerely.

  
DON C. WILLIAMS

Memo to Don C. Williams, President  
24th Infantry Division Association  
33712 Schulte Drive  
Farmington, Michigan 48024

Dear Don:

I want to go on record as to what I think about our 1970 reunion.

I think it should be held: in a city ( \_\_\_\_\_ )  
in a motel outside of a city ( \_\_\_\_\_ )  
in a mountain resort ( \_\_\_\_\_ )  
in a shore resort ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

I think it should be held: in the east, in ( \_\_\_\_\_ )  
in the west, in ( \_\_\_\_\_ )  
in the south, in ( \_\_\_\_\_ )  
in the north, in ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

I think it should be held sometime: in the spring, around ( \_\_\_\_\_ )  
in the summer, around ( \_\_\_\_\_ )  
in the fall, around ( \_\_\_\_\_ )  
in the winter, around ( \_\_\_\_\_ )

I have these additional comments to make:

**HEY, GANG!**  
**PLEASE RETURN THOSE**  
**RESERVATION CARDS**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Name

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

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