

TARO LEAF

24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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We're Sailing -

We'll meet you on the Eastern Steamship dock, Municipal Pier #2, Miami, Florida, sometime between 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., on Friday, August the 14th next. We're sailing at 4:45 p.m. for a 3 day cruise to Nassau and return, arriving back in Miami on the morning of Monday, August the 17th. Join the happy people! Start your planning now.

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
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Following considerable obfuscation and confustigation, the difficult decision to cancel plans to meet in August in Kansas City was reached by the Executive Committee and announced by Association President, Paul A. Harris, Jr. The plain, unvarnished truth is that there just ain't gonna be a 24th Division come August - at Riley or anywhere else.

So, instead of being spread upon the Kansas plains, Friday, August 14th will see us meeting in Miami, Florida and offshore thereof.

Three dozen jars of Smuckers' preserves (1 loganberry, 1 strawberry and 34 razz-berry) to Dean Martin for his comment following the announcement that he had asked Mrs. Dean for a divorce: "I'll always love Jeannie and I hope she'll always love me."

Priced to go! We have 10 copies remaining of Stanley Folk's "Decision at Leyte", the complete account of the '44 air, sea and land battles involving that lousy stretch of mud and palms and bananas. First come, first served. For your copy, send \$3.00 to the Editor.

When the First Infantry Division returns to the United States, it will be redesignated as the First Infantry Division (Mechanized) and will take over the mission assignments, organization and unit stationing of the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized). We will be inactivated.

The First Infantry Division (Mechanized) will be dual based with the major portion of the division in the United States and one brigade in the Federal Republic of Germany. It will be kept in a high state of readiness for a quick return to Germany and it will conduct exercises of the entire division once a year in Europe. The NATO commitment of the First Infantry Division (Mechanized) represents an unbroken continuation of the commitment originally given to the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) in 1967.

And with heavy heart, we have now reported THE END.

Concerning it, we say no more, such is our bitterness.

RALPH and Mary CARTER, (C19th), of Avondale, Pa., want to know where they can purchase 19th pins. Anyone know? Write them at RD 1, Box 225, Avondale, Pa.

Many questions and rumors arose from the announcement that the 1st would return from V/N and replace the 24th. Some of these questions are answered in a letter to the troops from Maj.Gen. ROBERT R. LINVILL, 24th CG.

The letter emphasized that the name and designation of the 1st Infantry Division (Mechanized) will come to Fort Riley, and the name and designation of the 24th Infantry Division will be removed from the active rolls of the Army. A small number of people currently assigned to the 1st Division will come to Fort Riley with organizational colors and records. The people now assigned to the 24th Division will be transferred in place to the 1st Division. The 1st and 2nd Brigades, Division Artillery, Support Command and separate units of the 24th will remain at Fort Riley as elements of the 1st Division, while the 3rd Brigade will remain in Germany as the 3rd Brigade of the 1st Division. The 1st Division will have the same number of the various types of units as the 24th Division has at the present time. General Linvill commented, "...this spells a great deal of planning and a great amount of work on everybody's part. It must go smoothly and professionally in the manner of soldiers of both the 24th Division and the 1st Division. As implementing directives are received from higher headquarters, they will be acted upon along the chain of command, as required."

Next issue - with convention details - will follow in a few days.

NEXT REUNION - AT SEA ! ! !

Announcing the 1970 Convention aboard the SS New Bahama Star on a mid-August cruise.

A couple of months ago, we intercepted raving reports on the merits of conducting a convention aboard a ship. Eastern Steamship operates out of Miami for 3 day cruises to Nassau. We contacted Eastern forthwith.

Boiled down, it comes out thus:

The New Bahama Star sails to Nassau on Friday, August 14th at 4:45 p.m. on a 3-day cruise, returning Monday at 8:30 a.m.

The ship - 12,000 tons, American owned, German built, and Liberian registered - boasts 255 staterooms, all with private shower and toilet. On a two-to-a-room basis, she sleeps 510. Her maximum is 750.

Don't throw up your hands. We're serious. Please read on.

The advantages of a convention afloat are myriad.

Eastern makes it easier for us to arrange our convention.

The usual problem of feeding oneself is here solved; all meals are included in the single rate. That also solves the annual banquet problem too; they include such as one of the meals.

Really, don't worry about food. They eat at 7 (or 8:45), 12 (or 1:30) and 6:30 (or 8:15), with bouillon at 10:00, tea at 4:00, and buffet at midnight. Can Dr. Pepper say as much? And all for the single cruise rate.

And if that isn't enough, there is fresh fruit in your stateroom nightly, included in the rated price.

Meeting rooms: she has plenty - a Star Lounge for 400, a Bahama Lounge for 150, a Theatre for 110, a Sports Roof for 400, a Discotheque for 120.

Eastern includes a Captain's cocktail party on the house.

There's dancing every night; there's a night club free of cover and minimum; professional entertainers are aboard. All for that single price.

There are sun decks, sports areas, plenty of deck chairs, swimming pools - all in the single price.

Of course, there's a minor - and obvious - catch. We'll have to be in Miami and aboard ship by Friday 4 p.m. None of this straggling in one at a time over a 3-day period. This time, we all start the reunion together. This means registration - way in advance of the sailing date - and leaves us free to take care of organization business and enjoy the festivities throughout the convention cruise.

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS:

Our Convention plans - of obvious necessity - have changed. We trust that you will enthuse with our decision to hit the water this time around. Something new - and different. Will you join us?

Sincerely,

Paul A. Harris, Jr.
Paul A. Harris, Jr.
President

NICHOLAS D'ALONZO, (19th '44-'46), of Narberth, Pa., raises the possibility that Zsa Zsa Gabor was once Elizabeth Taylor's step-mother, but squelches it on the ground that Zsa Zsa had divorced Conrad Hilton before Liz married Jr., now deceased. Next problem, Nick.

Lt.Gen.(Ret.) ALBERT WATSON II, (Div. Hq.), has been reappointed for another 3-year term as Governor of the US Soldiers' Home. His last active duty assignment was as CG of USARYIS/IX Corps and High Commissioner Ryukyn Islands.

Taken at Greenwich, R.I. last September. Taro Leafers all, they were gathered to do honor to Life Member and Past Prexy WILLIAM SANDERSON as he was elevated to the office of Master of his masonic lodge. Front row, l. to r.: Bill, PAT CIANGI, DON WILLIAMS, Assoc. Veep BILL MULDOON, and DICK WATSON. Rear row, l. to r., GERRY STEVENSON, Assoc. Prexy PAUL HARRIS, the Editor, FRANK KAWA, ED HENRY and JAMES O'DONNELL.



LEROY CRUCIUS, (24 Med. '43-'46) that jolly leprechaun out of Milwaukee, Wis., notes that Princeton and Yale have been admitting some pretty girls. Observes Leroy, "If it works, Smith, Mt.Holyoke and Radcliffe are going to try it."

"Always enjoy the Taro Leaf" reports CHARLIE HOLTSCLOW, (21st '44-'46), of Powhatan Point, Ohio.

RUSS JONES did a little travelling from his Averill Park, N.Y. home last fall. Called on KENNETH FLAGLE, (13th Art.), in St.Thomas, Pa., ELVIE CRAYTON, (24th Spec. Trps.) in K.C., Mo., the family of GEORGE B.C. SUR, (Div. AG Sect.), in Dugway, Utah - George himself is in V. - and the widow of BILL LITTLE, (H & H Btry., Div.Arty.), in Paso Robles, Calif.

ROBERT A. and Elsie NEWKIRK, (H 21st '41-'44), Franklin, Ind., parents of 15 yr. old Paul and teacher Gloria Jean, want to hear from 21st friends. Bob now with the 38th Div. out of Indianapolis, is looking toward retirement.

JACK DAVIES, (C 34th '44-'45), of N.Caldwell, N.J., couldn't St.Louis it; had to be at a Hammermill Paper Co. conference. Sorry, Uncle Budd! Our best to you and Marie and to Louise and Tom.

Dues in from C. RUCKER and Jane FORD. They're F 21st from 3/43 to 8/45. Mail reaches them at English Estates, Maitland, Fla. Rucker tells the one about one little mouse who jumped into the bathtub and saved another little mouse from drowning. He gave him mouse-to-mouse resuscitation.

FRANK and Janie FALBO, (D 34th '42-'45), of Tiltonville, Ohio, couldn't St.Louis it but have promised to make it this year.

The smartest decision since Welk dumped the Lennon Sisters is the one made by our Assoc. Prexy., PAUL A. "Junior" HARRIS, JR. to shift our annual carabao wallow from Kansas to Florida.

Senate has confirmed three stars for Lt.Gen. ARTHUR W. OBERBECK who is now Director, Weapons Systems Evaluation Group, Defense Research and Engineering.

BOB and Verda ALBRIGHT, (Cn. 19th '44-'45), of Waterloo, Ind., report that the Government Printing Office is pushing a book titled "Armed Forces Recipe Service". It's billed as a "set of tasty-tempting recipes". Price \$18.50. They've got to be kidding.

LES CLARK, (F 19 '42-'44), of Fullerton, Calif., wants legislation to ensure the use of pasties on Col.Sanders' chicken breasts.

"Now hear this, STUART and Jane MCLEAN", (24th Cav. Rec. '45) of Meadow Lands, Pa. - 2nd Inf. Div. Assoc. has 2752 members - 42nd has 3399 members - 16th Armd. is trying to top 500 members - Americal reports 691 - 12th Arm'd. has 1003 - 1st Cav. reports "approximately 15,000 members". They would! - 3rd Inf.Div. has 864. We're at about 1400 as we go to press.

How did other divisions fare on attendance at their last ('69) reunions? The 30th met in Chicago with 85 answering the roll. The 29th met in Roanoke with over 600 present. 207 made the 17th A/B Assoc. meeting in Buffalo. 86 made the 3rd Inf. Div. meeting. 6th Inf.Div. met at Boston and pulled 46.