

TARO LEAF



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another show...

24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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TARO LEAF

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

President:

Howard R. Lumsden Tel. 618-259-5771
167 Hickory Street, Wood River, Illinois 62095

1st Vice President:

John E. Klump Tel. 812-623-3279
R.R. #1, Guilford, Indiana 47022

2nd Vice President:

Michael J. Rafter Tel. 312-282-1965
3131 N. Keating Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60641

Sec'y.-Treas.-Editor:

Kenwood Ross Tel. 413-733-3194
120 Maple Street, Springfield, Mass. 01103

Chaplain:

Fr. Christopher J. Berlo Tel. 717-347-5691
1239 St. Ann Street, Scranton, Pa. 18504

Convention Chairman:

Brig. Gen. Lester L. Wheeler, USA Ret., Tel. 703-360-7597
2108 Stirrup Lane, Alexandria, Virginia 22308

Membership Chairman:

Fondo J. Finley, Jr. Tel. 614-746-8288
RFD #2, 8255 Barneby Road, Lancaster, Ohio 43130

Association membership is open to anyone and everyone who wears or ever wore the Taro Leaf. Dues are \$10.00 per annum inclusive of a subscription to the publication, Taro Leaf.

The Association is a strictly non-profit, non-military, non-rank organization of men and women who serve or once served together and desire only to keep alive the warm friendships formed in that service.

The Carter grant of a "full, complete and unconditional pardon" to the draft evaders was an affront to every military man. With one stroke of the executive pen, here was an attempt to sweep away the bitterness which is the legacy of Vietnam. But put aside the slap in the face. Put aside too the effort to heal the wounds left by the most divisive conflict in our history. One issue remains. No one else, as far as we can determine, has seen fit to wonder about the chances of raising an army, come another emergency. 100,000 men could and would-and did-enter and then desert the armed forces during those agonizing ten years. Unspeakable! Unthinkable! But the handwriting is there! What have we a right to anticipate should the need arise again? Concerning that, we do agonize.

The cost of military pensions has zoomed tenfold-to \$8.2 billion a year-since 1962. That's more than the Army spends for all active-duty soldiers, more than the Navy budgets for shipbuilding, more than the Air Force outlays for missile procurement. And there's worse to come. Between now and the end of the century, the pension bill will amount to \$424 billion. We know that old soldiers never die, but isn't this getting a little ridiculous? Or does anyone care?

With Sgt. Mike



"Okay, Sarge, okay — I'll have the brakes checked."

It was a breakfast of prune juice, cereal with cream and blubberies, fish omelet and jelly corn muffin..... HERB WERKHEISER, (Sv.13th F '50-52), of Bath, Pa., is fundraising chairman for his Kiwanis Club. Herb sends along a hefty contribution which is gratefully acknowledged. Said Herb - "Army conventions are when everyone gets together to see who's falling apart."

Newsy bit from BILL WILLMOT, (21st '44-'46), of 1630 Venus, Merritt Island, Fla. It goes: "I have taken on the task of helping the Society of Wireless Pioneers establish a Chapter. Now I'm busier than ever. However, the satisfaction received from this venture is well worth the effort. By the way, there are many Taro Leafers who have served as CW radio operators both in line organizations and the Signal Company who are eligible for Life Membership in this fine organization. Anyone interested can get the details by dropping me a line.

BOBBY DEWS who manages a rookie baseball club for the Atlanta Braves has found himself an ambidextrous pitcher. He's 19 year old Autry Scruggs, and he throws 'em left and right. A Forest City, N.C. young man, is in Bobby's hands for development. Says Bobby: "He throws right handed to RH hitters and changes for the lefties. His only problem is with the switch hitters. As Autry puts his glove on one hand to throw with the other, he finds the hitter switching over too." Keep us posted, Bobby, this sounds terrific.



President's Page

If it's a breakfast you want first, how about starting it off with a baked apple, poached eggs on whole wheat toast, coffee cake and strawberry preserves?..... The Material Management Center (DMMC) became an active unit of the 24th Infantry Division in ceremonies at Hunter Army Airfield on October 18th. Division Support Command Commander, Col. EDWARD L. PHILLIPS, presented the unit guidon to the commander of the unit, LTC TILDON A. MITCHELL III, to mark the activation. The mission of the DMMC, is maintenance management expertise for the 24th Inf.Div. It is composed of several sections. The Division Property Book Office, the major section, will consist of five property book teams who will work with customer units to ensure that all authorized items are kept on hand in each unit. Other sections will perform duties such as providing rations and personnel items, assuring availability of fuels and petroleum to Divisional units, ammunition support, weapons management, vehicle management, communication equipment and aviation items management.

It is said that the bureau in Washington which once ordered typists to use carbon paper only once "in the interest of economy" now tells its mini-skirted girls never to pick up a dropped paper clip as it detracts the attention of gentlemen employees from their work. This is understandable because nowadays girls are wearing their dresses up to where they used to pull them down from.

For Omni Hotel reservations, write them at 777 Waterfront Drive, Norfolk, or call them toll-free at 800-241-5500.

As your President for 1976-1977, I am most thrilled with the honor - along with being humbly proud and grateful. And I am proud to have with me First Vice President JOHN E. KLUMP and 2nd Vice President MICHAEL J. RAFTER.

I look forward to a big "Invasion of Norfolk, Va." next August. With the wealth of attractions within the city itself, or driving time away, I am sure that all our members and/or their guests will find more to do and/or places to visit than they can get done.

With BG (Ret) LESTER L. WHEELER as Convention Chairman, we are most fortunate. Nothing will be left undone by Les to assist in attaining our objective. As we emerge into the third century of Independence, let's all rally around Les near the site where it all began - Yorktown, just a hop, skip and jump away from Norfolk along with Jamestown, Williamsburg, and other places of interest too numerous to mention.

Not to be overshadowed by our convention effort is the equally important objective of membership. We need each and every new member we can get, along with retaining those already in the fold, in order to extend the lifeline of our Association. FONDO J. FINLEY at the helm for our 76-77 membership year, needs all our help so let's all lend a hand and "Every Member Get A New Member" and make this a banner year for our membership effort.

Again, for allowing me the honor of serving as your President, I thank each and every member of this great Association and assure you that I will leave nothing undone in discharging my duties to the best of my ability. Wishing all the best of luck and continued success along with hoping for your support and to see you in Norfolk in '77 if not before, I am, with warmest regards and -

TARO-fully yours,


HOWARD R. LUMSDEN
President

"It's easy to grin when your ship comes in
And your life is a happy lot.
But the man who is worthwhile
Is the man who can smile
When his shorts creep up in a knot."

Good BOB HALLOCK (CO Div.Arty. 4/51-12/51), down there in San Antonio, thoughtfully suggests using a cheaper rate for these issues. We're going to try it, Bob. Thanks. Also proposes that we skip membership cards. You'd be surprised how many insist on 'em, Bob.

Retired JIM McREYNOLDS, (H 19th '43-'46 and Hq. 2nd Bn. 19th '50-51), and good wife Clemie, have joined up. Reach them at 4610 N.E. Dearborn, Lawton, Okla.



Make it sliced apples baked with honey, eggs a la Benectdine, blueberry muffins and orange jelly..... We caught the picture of the female plebe being chewed out by an upper classman. Small wonder. Did you ever see such slopped, wrinkled fatigues? Our wager - that by June, the female contingent of the class of '80 will be down to an even dozen.

For breakfast, would you settle for strawberries and orange sections, puffy omelet, Canadian bacon, currant buns, and kumquat marmalade?..... Joined: BILL and Mary HARTMAN (Cn. 34th '41-'45), of 204 Mary, Washington, Ill. Bill was one of the Corregidor heroes. He's in "C of Y". Happy you folks are with us. Bill reminds us of the English law which prohibits a man from marrying his mother-in-law. Says Bill, "Now that's my idea of useless legislation."



"Dear Sarge: I really miss you and the other guys in the unit. . . ."

It's going to be sugared strawberries and raspberries, Swedish pancakes with linganberry sauce, and sausage links... Wirey little Col. MELVIN and Ethel MACCOUL, (34th Inf. - and we're not going to tell you the years - but as Mel says, "It was early") couldn't get over the fact that the Stewart troops are paid twice a month - by check if you please - mailed directly to each individual in a personal envelope - from Indianapolis.

How about a breakfast of prunes in orange juice, goldenrod eggs, hot biscuits and plum jelly?.....Members of Dog Company of the 21st, especially during '39-'42, are planning an eventual get together. They are asked to contact EDWARD J. VOSO at 1815 Sweetwater, Spring Valley, Calif. Ed and Bobbie are living in a mobile home there; They're anxious to make contacts in "hopes of reliving some wonderful old memories." There you are men.

It was a breakfast of broiled grapefruit, sweet potato waffles, Polish sausage, poppy seed roll, and cantaloupe conserve.....Vice Prexy JOHN and Hilda KLUMP were proud parents the day Cynthia married Dennis Gaynor last Oct. 16th.

Gregory Peck spent a week at West Point in November filming sequences for the film "MacArthur". They filmed a parade, simulating the one the cadets put on for "the old man" in '62 on the occasion of his last visit there. Only catch - the boys paraded in greys. In '62, they wore whites. It was Mac's last visit there, the time of his ever-to-be-remembered "Duty, Honor, Country" speech.

Joined us: CALVIN and Dot GARRETT, (Hq. Co. '44-'45), of Hanover, Pa. Says Cal: "am totally disabled; shot in leg on Leyte, 1st day, by a passenger in my jeep - accidental".

ZENO REITHMEYER, (A 34th '43-'45), of 1309 Nishishin Trail, Monona, Wis., has joined. He's a plant mgr. - retired after 29 reserve years.

Prexy HOWARD LUMSDEN introduces new member JOE (and Louise) KARAM, (5th RCT '51-'52), an attorney at 4040 Reed, Columbus, Ohio. Parents of 4 - Lisa, David, Suzanne and James - they are happy to be among us - and we are proud to have 'em.

BILL WILLMOT, (21st), down in Merritt Island, Fla., is suggesting a small stick-on label for use on sealing envelopes, etc. Wants the first 1000 if we go to press. Any reaction out there?



Let's order a strawberry and rhubarb fruit cup, buckwheat pancakes with pineapple syrup, salami slices, a spot of baked beans, croissants and orange butter.....Division recently convoyed to Joint Exercise Brave Shield XV at Eglin AFB. Here they are setting up for the night outside of Tallahassee. U.S. Army photo.

Wanna make it stewed prunes and pears, fried eggs with sauteed breaded eggplant, oatmeal muffins, and grape jelly?..... It's our ex-Prexy BILL BYRD with lovely Margaret at Savannah.



ROBERT "Robin" and Dorothy DNAIELS, (Div.Hq. '44-'47), spent 3 weeks in Hawaii in August. Robin made the return trip to San Diego on son David's carrier, USS Ranger, 80,000 tons of boat, 4000 man crew. Great thrill for Robin.

Frightening - the number of former CIA operatives who have turned to kissing - and telling. Makes one wonder if they ever could have been, or should have been, trusted.

Make your Norfolk reservations now.

For breakfast, how about pomegranate juice, fried apple rings, sauteed link sausages and rye pancakes with hot maple syrup?.....We'd like to defend the FBI- someone ought to. And we happen to think that the break-ins of militant underground groups were justified. You either had an FBI that would try to stop the arsons and bombings before they happened, or you didn't. It causes us little pain in trying to decide which side we're on.

Off To Florida are the RUSSELL HAGERMAN's Russ and Alice, (11F '45-'47). Once in Lansing, Mich., it's now Rt. 1, Box 200R, Ruskin, Fla. Russ retired in '75 as a Col. after 34 years of service. Their one and only, David, works for GM- makes Oldsmobiles. Would appreciate it, Dave, if you'd try to keep those prices down.

Thanks to Veep MIKE RAFTER who sent us the story on STEPHEN H. MIYAGAWA, (5th RCT), who lost his sight from injuries suffered in Korea. It appeared in the Chicago Daily News. Seems Steve went on to graduate a B.A. from Roosevelt U. and has since been visiting blind veterans at the Hines VA Center. Steve, a Hawaii native, was recently honored by the hospital for never forgetting those less fortunate than himself.

If you're driving to Norfolk from the North, plan on the 17-mile long Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel, one of the engineering wonders of the world.



Economists warn that, by 1980, one-half of our people will be supporting the other half. That is, 50% of us will be non-supportive and the businesses that employ the productive 50% will be unable to sustain themselves. From then on, people on the receiving end of government largess are not likely to want to turn back - we can depend on it - and we will in fact have changed our historically successful form of government to a parental form of socialism in the pattern of England's.



Warrant Officer RANDALL A. RICHTER of the 24th Aviation Battalion, received the Soldiers Medal for heroism in ceremonies Feb. 5. Brig.Gen.DONALD E. ROSENBLUM presented the award to Richter for saving the life of a downed civilian pilot during an air show in March 1975. The warrant officer was co-pilot of UH-1H helicopter participating in an air demonstration at Venice, Fla. A civilian aircraft began disintegrating in mid-air, the pilot bailed out and landed in the water with a partially open chute. After assessing the situation from the air, the crew discharged the passengers on the beach and flew to the injured pilot's aid. Richter jumped in the water and, in the words of the citation, "with complete disregard for personal safety....he held the injured pilot afloat." A rope was lowered from the helicopter which Richter secured to himself and held onto the injured pilot as they were towed toward shore. A fishing boat picked up the warrant officer and the downed pilot. We salute you, Randy Richter.

What do you want to call that History, we asked. Name it "U.S. 24th Infantry Division - At War and In Peace" cried out OTTO KRONE. Make it "Danger In War & Peace: From Pearl Harbor to Georgia" suggested SAM MAY.

DON and Lavon ARNOLD, (K 21 and 724 Ord. 10/51-11/52), who hang their hats at Box 274, Bluefield, Va., are celebrating 25 years of marriage. Dghtr. Jennifer graduated from Moody Bible Institute in Chicago last May. Dghtr. Dawn has started high school. This all shows you what a little pizza business (Peppe's Pizza) can do for a guy. Besides that Don serves full time in a machine shop. He writes us on yellow legal paper and at the bottom of his letter he adds a p.s. "How about that? A machinist who corresponds on legal paper!" Last fellow we heard of who went gung ho for those yellow pads was Richard Nixon - and we all know what happened to him.



Our last issue had to go to press before this photo of the late SAM GILNER came to hand. George Eliot once wrote words which fit Sam's case: surely Sam was one of "those immortal dead who lives again in minds made better by the presence".

Passed on DICK GARRITY, (D 3rd Eng. '41-'44), of Woodbridge, Va. The sad news came to us from VERNON E. MULLENGER who lives in the same town. Vern reports that Dick had been bedridden for several years with a chronic lung disease.

We have just received the sad news that Joseph T. Rennie, beloved father of Margaret (Mrs. JOSEPH I.) PEYTON (Sv.19th '42-'45), died last Jan. 29th in Towson, Md.

Deceased: ROBERT E. WRIGHT, (3rd Eng. '41-'45) of Binghamton, N.Y. Died Feb. 15, 1975.

Brigadier General Donald E. Rosenblum, has been nominated by President Ford for selection to the grade of temporary Major General. The Senate has confirmed.

General Rosenblum assumed command of the 1st Brigade, 24th Infantry Division and Ft. Stewart in Jan. 1975, and further assumed command of the 24th Infantry Division upon its activation, Sep. 21, 1975.

He began his career when he was commissioned a second lieutenant, infantry, upon graduating from the Citadel in 1951. Transferred to Korea, he served as a rifle platoon leader, a company executive officer and a regimental S-3.

He attended Infantry Officers Advanced Course and the Basic Airborne Course, then commanded a rifle company in the 87d Airborne Division, and later, a rifle company in Berlin.

At the Pentagon he served as executive officer of the Joint Command and Control Requirements Group, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and attended the Army War College for a year.

He served twice in Vietnam, first as S-3 of the First Brigade, 101st Airborne Division; and later, as Commander, 2d Battalion, 1st Brigade, 327th Infantry. On his second Vietnam tour he was initially Senior Liaison Officer and Advisor to the 9th Republic of Korea Division and, later, Commanding Officer, Division Support Command, 101st Airborne Division.

Named Director of Plans and Training at Ft. Dix, he was then reassigned as Division Chief. Executive to the DCSOPS (Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Military Operations).

From this position the general came to Ft. Stewart/Hunter AAF January 13, 1975. Since his arrival, the twin posts have been in the throes of a construction explosion, striving to meet the needs of an ever increasing military population--a struggle shared by the surrounding communities.

CHARLEY EVANS of 7301 W. Roma Ave., Phoenix, Ariz., desires to hear from former B Battery men of the 52nd in the '47-'48 days. There - we did it, Charley.

Inquiry in from CLARE BOAK, (Hq. 63 Field '45), of Dewitt, Mich. He wants news on us and our gatherings, desires to recall to mind with others "the good times on Mindanao". Clare, you're kidding. But join up anyway and get in on the fun. Clare did say he had a goodie - about the fellow who asked the other fellow, "Do you like bathing beauties". Came the reply, "Don't know; never bathed one". O.K. Clare, that'll do - you're eligible for membership in this set up.

How did the name Dixie, or Dixieland, originate? Before the Civil War, the Bank of Louisiana issued a ten dollar bill, on the back of which was printed the French word "dix," or "ten." Soon, the bills were being called "Dixies," and Louisiana became known as "Dixieland." As the notes spread through the Southern States, the entire region acquired the name.



"Straighten those shoulders! How long have you been in the Army?"

Norfolk is located in the Southeast corner of Virginia eighteen miles from the Ocean, and is bordered by the Chesapeake Bay and Hampton Roads Harbor. It encompasses 53 square miles of land area, 15 miles of public beach and is the nucleus of a metropolitan area of over one million people.



"I JUST DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD GO THIS FAR!"



VINCENTE SYDIONGCO, (I & R Plat., 34th 10/44-10/45 through Leyte, Mindoro, Zambales, Bataan, and Mindanao), has written us from his home in Tacloban: "We are coordinating the Philippine Project "Reunion for Peace". The plan is an invitation to U.S.

Veterans of World War II and their relatives to revisit the Philippines at reduced fares. The reduction is planned to reach as much as 50% plus hospitality privileges while in the Philippines. Can any of our members make it in '77?" Wish we could, Vicente, but money's a little tight right now.

Could anything be nicer than a meal of grapefruit sections and strawberries with prosciutto, Welsh rabbit with toast wedges, fried corned mush topped with brown sugar, and a basket of shelled almonds and walnuts?.....BILL WILLMOT (M Co. and 3HQ 21st, 44-45) is looking for pictures of any of the landing craft used at Hollandia, or any of the islands of the Philippines. He is also looking for pictures of the troop transport, the SS Van der Lijan Batavia, the HMAS KANIMBLA (the Aussie transport that moved part of the 21st to the Philippines) and the USS George Clymer (which moved part of the Division to Japan). If you have pictures of any of these vessels, please contact Bill at 1630 Venus St., Merritt Island, Fla. 32952. Says Bill, "I don't care what you say about baldness, you gotta admit it's neat."

Rates at the Omni, our 1977 convention host hotel in Norfolk are

Singles	\$24, \$28 or \$32
Doubles	\$30, \$34 or \$38
Suites	\$55 and up

They are going to be sticky on the booze question. Insist on providing all liquor served, offering same at a per bottle price and not a per drink price - but you know how that can murder us. Big tip - BYOL.

ROSS PURSIFULL has returned from a business trip to Saudi Arabia - consultant to Arabian American Oil. Ross says "it's not exactly Fun City - is hot, strange and lonely." - doesn't want to go back.

SEX

Now that we have your attention, we'd like to mention our next convention - in Norfolk, Va. next Aug. 12, 13 and 14. Do you want to start planning for it now?

This one is for ORVILLE D. FOSTER (Hq.Co. 2nd Bn., 34th), of 9104 E.36th Ter., Kansas City, Mo. He and his gang had a reunion in August at Amana Village, Iowa. Their next one is coming up. We'll publish it when O.D. tells us.

The Taro Leaf flag which waved so proudly at Peoria in 1975 is missing. O.K., you guys - who took it?

The BYRD's - BILL and Margaret - are grandparents. Their Sharon has had a boy. Eurieka!

We've heard thousands of silly ideas and propositions - but the most ridiculous one to come down the pike is the one about unionizing our military services.

