

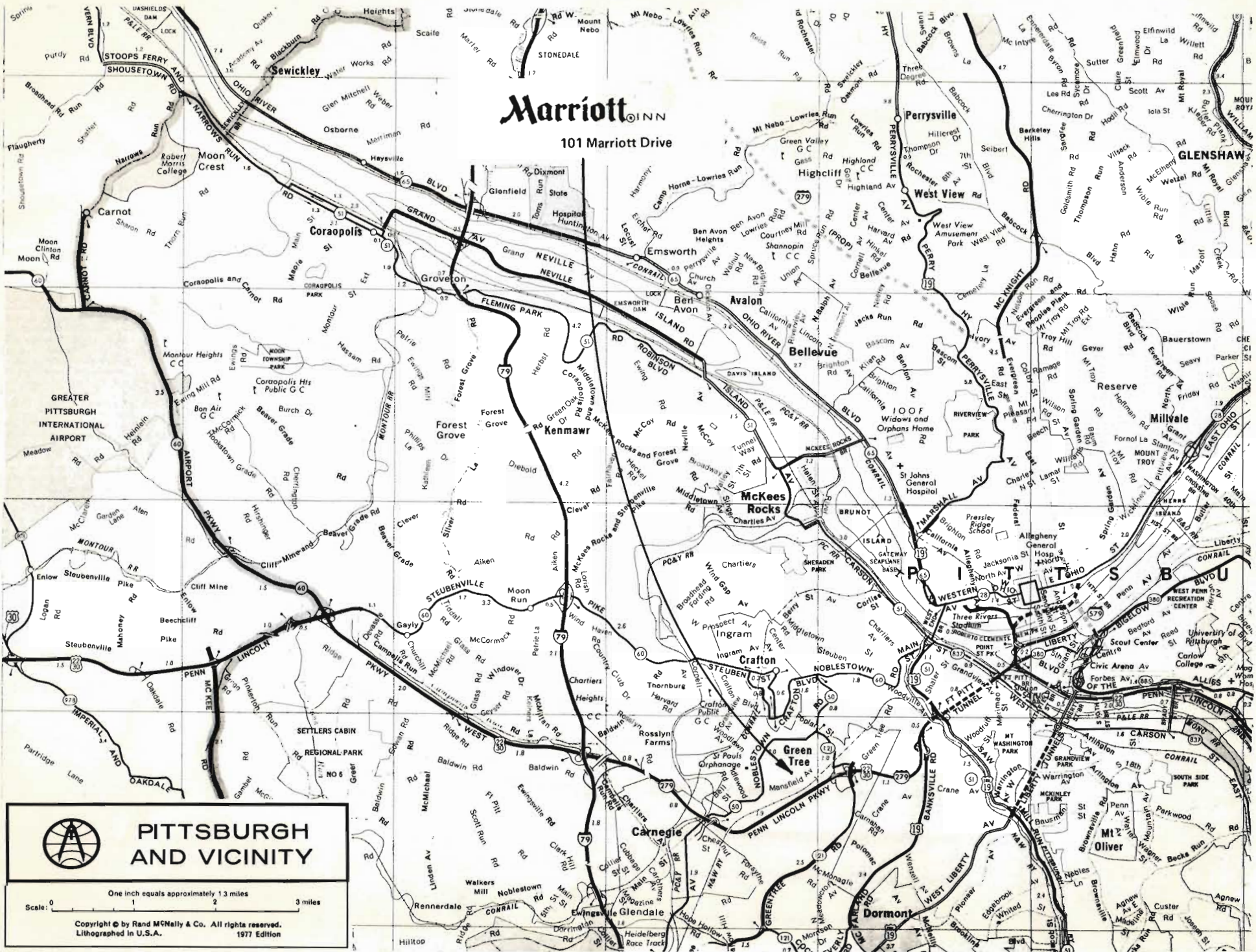
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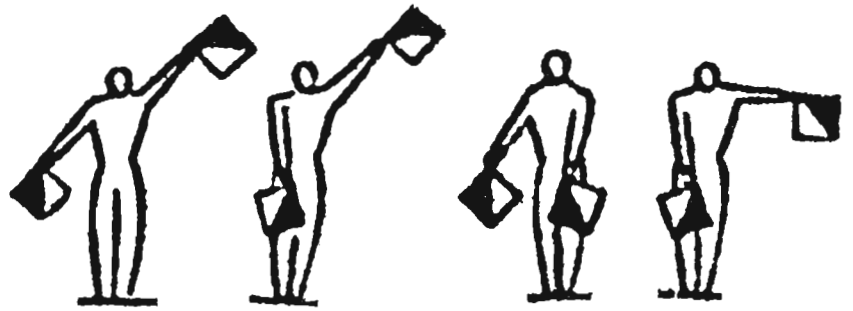
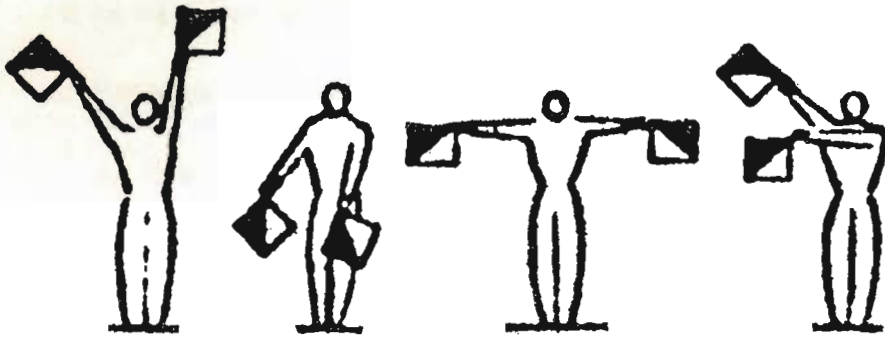
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***24th Infantry Division Association***

24th Infantry Division Association

**24th Infantry Division Association**

# TARO LEAF

Vol. XXXIII — No. 4

1979 - 1980

The publication "of, by and for those who served or now serve" the glorious United States 24th Infantry Division, and published frequently by the 24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION whose officers are:

**President:**

B.G. Lester L. Wheeler, USA Ret.  
2108 Stirrup Lane, Alexandria, VA 22308 . . . . . Tel. 703-360-7597

**Vice President:**

Walter Cunningham  
2828 Maryland Ave., Baltimore, MD 21218 . . . . . Tel. 301-243-6191

**Sec'y.-Treas.-Editor:**

Kenwood Ross  
120 Maple St., Springfield, MA. 01103 . . Office Tel. 413-733-3194  
Home Tel. 413-733-3531

**Chaplain:**

Fr. Christopher J. Berlo, C.P.  
1239 St. Ann St., Scranton, PA. 18504 . . . . . Tel. 717-347-5691

**Membership Chairman:**

Howard R. Lumsden  
167 Hickory St., Wood River, IL 62095 . . . . . Tel. 618-259-5771

**Convention Chairman:**

Victor Backer  
178 E. 73rd St., New York, NY 10021 . . Office Tel. 212-535-9202  
Home Tel. 516-482-5055

**Convention Committee:**

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Charles E. McMichael . . . . . 158 Freeport Road, Butler, PA 16001  
Dallas Dick . . . . . 1701 Bridge St., New Cumberland, PA 17070  
Virgil W. Scott . . . . . 2911 Clayton Ave., Beaver Falls, PA 15010

. . . . .

Association membership is open to anyone and everyone who wears or ever wore the Taro Leaf or served in any unit ever formally "attached" to the 24th Infantry Division. Dues are \$10.00 per annum inclusive of a subscription to the publication, Taro Leaf.

The Division History covering 1941-1980 will be released just as soon as the Editor, who is writing it, can finish it. The cost — \$20 per copy. Only members will be allowed to purchase copies.

. . . . .

**1980 Convention**  
**August 14 - 15 - 16 - 17, 1980**  
**Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

. . . . .

Laws, rules, dicta, and what not have been welling up inside of us for some time now. We thought we'd spread a few of them over the pages of this issue - and as the youngsters are saying these days, "let them all hang out". In sum, we want to get it over with - which calls to mind that there must be a law covering that too.

**DALLAS DICK'S THEOREM:** Every man has a scheme that will not work - including Dallas Dick.

ED BROWNE, (D & AT 21st '41-'43), of 4422 Raymar, Orlando, Fla., in paying his dues, adds "They say the Susan B. Anthony coin will soon replace the \$1.00 bill. I've got news for them - the \$1 bill has already been replaced by the \$5 bill."

**HARRIS' LAW OF SELECTIVE GRAVITY:**  
An object will inevitably fall so as to do the most damage.

Not to be confused with CUNNINGHAM'S COROLLARY: The chance of the bread falling with the buttered side down is directly proportional to the cost of the carpet.



The membership of this rinky-dink Assoc. is made up of all types. Now comes BOB HUTCHISON (24th Med. 7/49-7/51), of 2413 Westchester, Springfield, Ill., with a picture of a two story outhouse. Say's "it's for real - honest - in Gay, Ill." We're curious, Bob; why no windows on the upper floor?

**STEVENSON'S CONSTANT FACTOR** (sometimes referred to as **FLANNAGAN'S FINAGLING FACTOR**): That quantity which, when multiplied by, divided by, added to, or subtracted from the answer you get, gives you the answer you should have gotten.

Not to blow our own kazoo - honest - but rather to share with you one of the nice expressions found in our mailbox this ayem. This one's from retired Lt.Col. HERVEY J. LEBOEUF ("Partial Gimlet '48-'49; 3rd Eng. Munich 8/58-8/61). Herve winters in Naples, Fla. and summers in Wellfleet, Ma. Wellfleet is on Cape Cod in case you didn't know. Herve, that sounds like living!! As we started out to say, Herve writes: "I really enjoy the Taro - Keep it coming - Thanks".

We appreciate those words, Herve!!!

**ROSENBLUM'S FIRST LAW OF EVOLVING DYNAMICS:** Once you open a can of worms, the only way to recan them is to use a larger can.

Ye Olde LAW deMURPHY: If anything can go wrong, it will.

O'TOOLE's COMMENTARY on LAW deMURPHY: Murphy was an optimist.

FRED KLINGBAIL, (19th and 21st 8/40-12/45), of 217 Linwood, Stevens Point, Wis., came forward with his annual dues and the comment, "Who would have thought 30 years ago that a couple could have a daughter at West Point and a son at Vassar?"

BACKER's NON-RECIPROCAL LAWS OF EXPECTATIONS: Negative expectations yield negative results; positive expectations yield negative results.

Dues in from LAURENT DESROSIERS (AT 21st '44-'46), of 1 Holly, Manville, R.I. along with a Washington's birthday reminder that had old George lived, "he'd be 248 today". Thanks Laury.

Le Loi Autrement - The other line always moves faster.

Alice and RUSSELL HAGERMAN, (11th F '45-'47), are spending their 4th winter in Fla. At 2712 14th SE, Ruskin. Summers at 3021 Cabot, Lansing, Mich. We are green with envy.

BYRD's 90-90 RULE OF PROJECT SCHEDULING: The first 90% of a task takes 90% of the time; the last 10% takes the other 90%.

O'DONNELL's UNSPEAKABLE LAW: As soon as you mention something - and it's good - it goes away. If it's bad, it happens.

Letter of inquiry in from CHARLES CAMPBELL, JR. (B 52nd F 6/50-12/51). He signs it Newington V.A.M.C., Newington, CT. He became a member in less than 20 minutes. How's that for service?

LAWSON's LAW OF LARGE PROBLEMS: Inside every large problem is a small problem struggling to get out.

JOE MCKEON, ye retired M/Sgt. of the 19th and G-2 Div.Hq. (2/49-5/51) is a collector of mint US stamps. Wants only the plate # blocks. If you're a collector, you'll understand. If you're not, you won't give a damn. In any event, Joe had a lot of sheets (minus the blocks) left over. He sent them on to us for our use as regular postage. The gift involved over \$100 in postage. Joe was too busy to count it out and so were we. But it easily involved a \$100 plus contribution. We are grateful, Joe, and plan to tell you so - at the bar - in Pittsburgh.

WHEELER's GOLDEN RULE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES: Whoever has the gold makes the rules.

What this country needs is someone who knows what this country needs.

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August 14 - 17, 1980

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Type of Room	SINGLE 1 Person 1 Double Bed	DOUBLE 2 Persons Queen or King	TWIN 2 Persons 2 Double Beds	TRIPLE 3 Persons	QUAD 4 Persons	PARLOR 1 Double Bed	SUITE 1 Bedroom	No. of Persons
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Note: If Room is not available at rate requested, reservations will be made at nearest available rate.

NEWMAN's DISTINCTION: There are two types of people; those who divide people into two types, and those who don't.

Of the 10 front runners for nominations for the office of President, six are of the "Washington gang", (Carter, Kennedy, Baker, Anderson, Crane and Dole) who have given you zilch in the last 7 years on the energy problem, who have given you the \$1.00 plus gas gallon, the postal service, the Amtrak railroad, etc., etc., ad nauseum. Would you trust 4 White House years to any one of this crowd whose most distinguished service to mankind has been in periodically raising their own salaries.

IRVING's SECOND LAW: A man with one watch knows what time it is; a man with two watches is never sure.

Words about us are getting out. This is what we've been preaching for the last 30 years - we need publicity - it's our only chance for survival. One Col. EUGENE J. MURPHY writes us from Ft. Huachuca, Ariz. asking for info. He got it - pronto. Now he's a member. Welcome aboard, Gene.

KRESKY's FIRST LAW: When in doubt, mumble.

Get your suggestion in to President LES WHEELER if you have a possible '81 convention site in mind. We need your input on this one.

Plan on making Pittsburgh in August. Plan too on bringing your war stories with you. War stories, like pot bellies, grow bigger every year.

COMPERE's RULE: If the facts do not conform to the theory, they must be disposed of.

Consistently cheery is BILL McKENNA, (34th), of 970 Neilson, Albany, Cal., whenever he writes us. Witness his latest chapter: "Just a note of thanks for all your continuing efforts in bringing the Taro Leaf to us throughout the year. I look forward to receiving it second only to a tax refund which arrives less frequently these days. Have you seen the Time/Life publication 'Return To The Philippines'. I took it out of the library about two months ago and it contains some great photos and detailed text on all the P.I. campaigns. I have three wonderful Filipinos working in our accounting office who provide me with geography lessons, banana recipes, graciousness and charm. They are all about mid-twenties in age, and like my own kids, hazy about ancient history (1941-46). At least...I've got a place to stay, if I ever get to Manila. I really would be interested in a trip with the 24th. Whether the time would be right I'm not sure, but I'd like very much to hear more.

There's another one who wants to go back. Let's get organized, gang, and plan for just such a trip, say a year from now.

HANLIN's OBSERVATION: Necessity is the mother of strange bedfellows.

It's a funny world. Young men have been growing beards to make themselves appear older. Recently, the older men have been growing beards in order to make themselves look like the young folks. Can't figure it out.



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"What're you complaining about?  
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water bed and you're getting one for free."

We have it on the best of authority that TV is so lousy these days that the kids are now doing their homework instead. This comes to us from BOB MANSELIAN (24th MP '42-'44) as he pays his annual dues, August first to August first. Bob is now at 5235 E. Hamilton, Fresno, Cal. Thanks, Bob.

Out of the blue pops HENRY C. LAMB (E 21st '41-'45), of Rt. 1, Box 21C, Seward, Pa. Henry Lamb wrote that he'd like to join - he did - and that he'd like to hear from anyone of Easy Company - he will. Says he's a brother-in-law of THEODORE ANDERSON, another E 21st man from Creekside, Pa. What do ya know, we're getting the relatives into this thing now. Welcome aboard, Hank.

Lola LUEDTKE, DON's better half, (Hq., 34th '48-'50), of Box 4, Arcadia, Nebr., is paying up on Don's life membership.

TOM HALL (Hq. 3rd & Sv. 34th '45-'46), of 5205 Fairbanks, El Paso, Tex., tells us that he ran a want-ad about the Assoc. in a local paper. He adds: "Would you believe that out of a city of a half million, I got one lousy call?! Maybe my ad didn't have enough pazaz! Keep up the good work. It's always a pleasure to hear you in the T.L." Thanks, Tom, at least you tried. Thank for that.

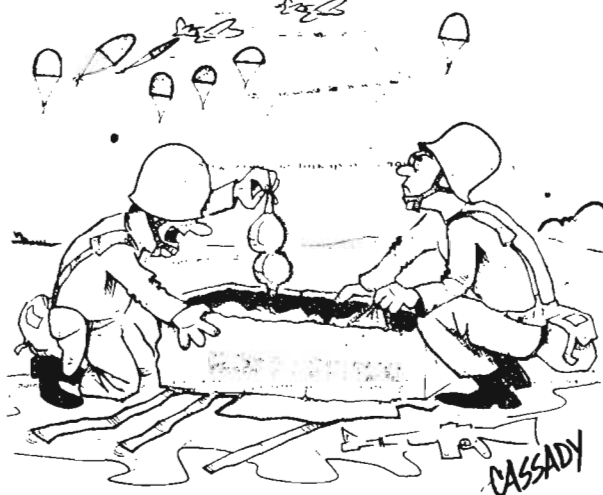
Faithful RALPH FERRARO (63F '40-'45), of 164 Valley, Montclair, N.J., has paid his dues. How about you and Evelyn making Pittsburgh this year, Ralph?

WOODSON C. TUCKER, our first Div. Chem O. and Lovena, have moved to 53 Tomino Way in Hot Springs Village, Ark. We failed to pick up Woody's change of address - he slipped it to us at Lexington and it got lost. That's what comes from loading a poor guy down at convention time. Anyway, error corrected, and all's right with the world.

JOE CENGA, (AT 19th 6/40-11/44), has a new address. Try 79 Piermont, Wollaston, MA. Our wonderful federal government which gave us the Amtrak RR and the Post Office Dept., among other busts, will not reroute our 3rd class mail. So if you move, please tell us in order to get our mail to you. The P.O. Dept. otherwise will help not one whit.

The Russians are marching everywhere - anything to get out of Russia. These are the sentiments of ROLAND W. MAPES, ye old supply sergeant, Hq. Co., 3rd Bn, 21st from Leyte to Japan. Rollie and Marian are now at 12349 Clay, Huntsburg, Ohio. That's a change of address for them.

RAY SANCHEZ, (D 21st 8/50-8/51), of 11 N. Milpas, Santa Barbara, Cal., telephoned us that, if we'd tell him that anyone from the Gimlet's Dog Company was going to be at Pittsburgh, then he'd make it too. That's the most impossible part of our job, Ray - predicting who'll be at the next convention.



"Just what do you suppose this means?"

JOHNNY ROBINSON, of 667 Gilmour, Brawley, Cal., tells us he's been in touch with MIKE MARINO (Cranford, N.J.) Mike and Johnny are planning on Pittsburgh. Johnny made Clearwater in '74. We look forward to seeing you, Johnny. You, too, Mike.

# 'All Gaul..'

Is divided into 3 parts, so said Caesar. But VIC BUZZINOTTI (I 19th '42-'45), of 404 Harrison, Kittanning, Pa., has other words about that mystery - "Who commanded I of the 19th on Mindanao?" Writes Vic...."I'll try and clear up the I Co. 19th mystery as to the C.O. For the record, I was fortunate to have been the I Company C.O. from April 28, '44 to June 24, '45. Then I was aptd. 3rd Bn S3. A month or so later Bn EX.O. FERD B. AUER, was aptd. I Company C.O. The Mindanao Campaign began in late April 1945 (Ed. note Apr. 17, Vic), and ended sometime in July 1945. It is possible LOU PERRY had myself and Ferd Auer as his C.O. in I Company. In regards to the Taro Leaf publication, let me take this opportunity to thank and congratulate you on a job well done. It's like a letter from home. Please put in a request to all my former comrades of I Company and 3rd Bn. 19th to drop me a line. Thank you, Vic". Nice words, Vic. Thanx. Thanx too for enclosing \$100 for a Life Membership. You are #337.

Command Sergeant Major LARRY J. HAMPTON, a 27 year veteran of Korea and Vietnam, has succeeded CSM JOHN R. HUMMER, as Command Sergeant Major of Division. CSM HAMPTON arrived at Ft. Stewart from a three year tour of duty with the 3rd Armored Division in Germany and assumed his duties as division and post command sergeant major on December 31. His previous assignment was command sergeant major, 2d Brigade, 3rd Armored Division.

Since FDR first recognized the Russians, every American president has, at one time or another, deluded himself and his countrymen as to the intentions of the communist empire. There is needed now in Washington men and women in power who will look upon Russia with the same suspicion, fear and loathing with which Churchill came to view its less successful model and precursor - Hitler's Germany.

Oops. In the Oliver E. Trechter tribute in our last issue, we indicated that Col. Trechter joined Division around February of "1945". Our picky-picky Vice President WALTER CUNNINGHAM caught our error - and told us so. Says he learned the need for accuracy under an earlier Chief of Staff, one Maj.Gen. AUBREY S. NEWMAN. Walter, we know what you mean. Trech joined us in February of 1946 and we apologize to the readership for the error.



During a recent visit to Stewart, General Edward C. Meyer, Chief of Staff of the Army, reenlisted Sergeant JERRY CHRISTIAN and Specialist Four FREDERICK W. NUNN, C Battery, 1st Battalion, 13th Field Artillery. (U.S. Army Photo by Geanna Woods).

Eureka: The Supreme Court has decreed that ex-CIA agent Frank Sneppe must hand over all profits he made on the '77 book he wrote without the CIA's approval. A small victory for the anti-kiss and tell forces.

New address for BOBBY BUTLER (24th MP '52-'54). Try 1208 Mockingbird Lane, Blytheville, Ark. Gotcha, Bobby.

Note in from SANDY VALVIN of Waterloo, N.Y. Says he was looking for the "Editor" and put an ad "in a Veteran's paper for help in finding him". Some "member" spotted it - he doesn't say who - and sent him our name. Now he's a member. Was with Easy of the 19th from Hawaii to Leyte. We're happy you found us, Sandy.

TOM ARETZ, (E 19th '40-'44), of 16135 N.Main, Jacksonville, Fla., postcards us that he'll see us in Pittsburgh. Adds: "I'm more than ready for a trip to the P.I. Am urging ALTON HALSO (Sv. 19th '40-'41), to go also. Hope enough of the troops will get the hots and make the trip possible". We're waiting for others, Tom. It takes more than two to tango in this ballroom. What about it gang? Wanna go back to that little grass shack in Palo, Davao, Subic Bay?



# General Officer Tapped for 2 Stars

B.G. HENRY DOCTOR, JR., Assistant Division Commander, has been nominated by the President for promotion to Major General.

General Doctor arrived at Stewart last June from the U.S. Army Military Personnel Center in Alexandria, Va., where he was Director of Enlisted Personnel.

A native of Oakley, S.C., he is a graduate of the Basic and Advanced Courses of the Infantry School, the Army Command and General Staff College, and the Army War College.

He is the second brigadier general to be nominated for major general from Fort Stewart since the 24th Infantry Division was activated here in Sept. 1975. Then Brig. Gen. DONALD E. ROSENBLUM, past division and post commander, was nominated for major general in December 1976.

So we can now expect General Doctor to be "flying the coop" next.

Here are a couple of things you can get today for \$20: 1) Dinner for two at Wendy's - salad bar and dessert extra. 2) one famous-name bedspread for queen size bed - irregular, slight imperfections, choice of colors...red, orange, yellow, green, blue, white and grey not available. 3) one-way air ticket to Des Moines - night coach only - no frills - eight seats across - snack served - rookie pilot - Tuesday through Thursday only - reservation 11 months in advance. 4) history of the 24th Division when it is released featuring you among others if you'll send in a contribution by reply mail.

Col. JIM OGLETREE is credited with one story in this issue, but he has also sent along a short second one which goes like this: "When Korea started and the Div. was committed, the first troops to land in Korea were one platoon of the 24th QM Co. which went over on an old WW II LST belonging to the 3d Military Railway Service in Fukuoka. They scared-up a small Japanese navy crew to operate the LST. QM loaded it with C & K rations, gasoline, and Infantry ammo, and set up the first supply point in Pusan before the Infantry started arriving! This operation was commanded by Capt. ERNIE OVERMEYER, 24th QM Co. That's news to us, Jim; thank you.

H. ROSS WISELY, (M 19th Korea), of 207 E. Mineral, Hot Springs, Ark., is pushing for the home town for our '81 convention site. More power to you, Ross. Here's how he wrote us: "I see in last Taro Leaf that Hot Springs is mentioned for '81 convention. Would like to invite you to select our fine city. I'll contact the Chamber of Commerce and see how much assistance they will offer. I think everyone would enjoy Hot Springs and the cost would be reasonable compared to other resorts. This is mentioned for information only. I'm not trying to change any plans that anyone might have. If you would like more information on Hot Springs, I'll be happy to send it." Well, let's have it for Ross; he's working on an idea.

JIM MEENAN, (I 21st '50-'51), of 6665 Long Beach Blvd., Long Beach, Cal., is in, thanks to BUD COLLETTE. Jim is Adj. of Bud's DAV chapter.



Taken at BILL BYRD's Jan. 13th retirement party. The pictures arrived six weeks later, just as we were putting this issue to bed. No caption provided so we'll improvise. It's Bill (left) and WALTER CUNNINGHAM (right), one of whom is slipping a dossier (center) to the other, we know not which or whom or when or why.

# PITTSBURGH 1980

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### FROM GREATER PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT:

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Group limousine service available if scheduled in advance. Buses: Airline limousine charter to and from Greater Pittsburgh International Airport. PAT Bus 36-D Westwood leaves corner of Stanwix Street and Forbes Avenue, Downtown, to the corner of Poplar and Mansfield Streets, in Greentree, 1/2 mile from Inn. Yellow Cab Taxi service is available at Inn. Dollar Rent-a-Car available at Inn and at Greater Pittsburgh International Airport.

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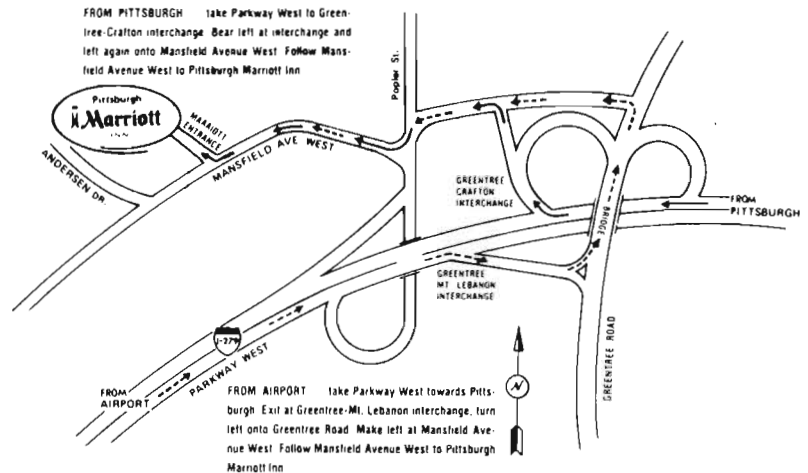
The Pittsburgh Marriott Inn is conveniently located off the Parkway West (I-279) at the Greentree Exit, just 10 minutes from Downtown Pittsburgh (Ft. Pitt Tunnel) and 15-20 minutes from the Greater Pittsburgh International Airport.

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Pennsylvania Turnpike west to Pittsburgh Exit #6. Follow Parkway West, I-376 through Fort Pitt Tunnel to Greentree-Crafton Exit — bear to Crafton side from Pittsburgh. Follow Marriott Drive signs to Inn. **Alternate**—Bypass Pittsburgh (urban area): East or West Pennsylvania Turnpike to Warrendale - Exit 3. Follow sign to Pittsburgh I-79 South (cross Glenfield Bridge - Neville Island) Take I-79 Pittsburgh Exit to I-279 East. Exit Greentree - Mt. Lebanon ramp. Turn left on Greentree Road and follow Marriott Drive signs to Inn.

It is our belief that Army has only itself to blame for its own recruiting scandals. It puts these recruiters out there in the boondocks - and then pushes, pushes, pushes - for results - all in that phoney effort to prove that volunteerism is working.

82nd A/B Div. Assoc. reports that it has 8476 members. Do you believe it? You'll remember how those leather-booted guys always could pour it on.



### FROM WEST VIRGINIA I-76 EAST:

Exit I-79 North. Take Pittsburgh Exit I-279 East to Exit ramp Greentree - Mt. Lebanon. Turn left on Greentree Road. Follow Marriott Drive signs to Inn.

### FROM ERIE, BUFFALO AND NORTH:

I-79 South across Glenfield Bridge (Neville Island) to I-279 Pittsburgh Exit. Exit Greentree-Mt. Lebanon ramp. Turn left on Greentree Road and follow Marriott Drive signs to Inn.

### FROM CLEVELAND, AKRON, YOUNGSTOWN AND WEST:

Ohio Turnpike I-80 to Pennsylvania Turnpike I-76, off at Warrendale Exit 3, then take I-79 South, across Glenfield Bridge (Neville Island) to I-279 Pittsburgh Exit. Exit Greentree-Mt. Lebanon ramp. Turn left on Greentree Road and follow Marriott Drive signs to Inn.

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Sad news from DALE W. FIELDS, (C 19th '42-'45), of Terminal Box 2782, Spokane, Wash. Dale asks us to insert the following and we are anxious to oblige. His notice goes like this: "I need the name and address of every fellow I can find from Co.C, 19th Infantry. I am writing a book of humorous anecdotes about what happened in the war with that outfit. I need your help. If you have any humorous incidents, please send them to me. Although I am disabled and going blind, I am going to see this book through. I have a total of 110 humorous anecdotes that people have laughed about ever since the war ended. I think it's about time that we had something to laugh about and not always to cry about." There's your notice, Dale - let's see how it pulls for you.





We're up to our goozles in happy tales of the retired and all that sort of thing. We reported, in our last issue, the Ft. Smith, Ark. ceremony retiring Past President BILL BYRD (on the left) and Vice President WALT CUNNINGHAM (on the right) who made the long trek southward to represent all of us at Bill's turning-out party. How do you like the story so far? But wait a minute, here's the good part - where we introduce the lovely and beautiful Margaret Byrd, Bill's smiling first lady (in the center, of course).

From the pen of JOHN and Pauline THORNBURG, (34th), of 351 Edmore, Fairlawn, Ohio:

"Checked my wallet and do not have a current dues card, which leads to believe my dues have not been paid - so enclosed is a check for \$25, which will keep me in good standing and assist in postage, etc. Pauline and I are making plans for Pittsburg this year if all goes well and the 'Good Lord' is willing. We have missed the get togethers for a number of years because we have a summer home in Canada that always called us 'home' at vacation time. We still have the home, but I retired last June and can vacation anytime now. We are enjoying our retirement - just doing what comes naturally. After 43 years with Firestone Tire & Rubber Company and working my way to Chief of Police of the Akron plants I think you will agree with me that I have earned retirement. We look forward to the Taro Leaf and are especially looking forward to the Division History of which I mailed you an article. Best wishes in your endeavors to make the next convention the best ever."

Congratulations on that retirement, Johnny - and as for Pittsburgh, it promises to be a great one. Look forward to seeing you there.

Heard from: KEN PHILLIPS, (E 21st '46- ), of Rt. 2, Bell Buckle, Tenn. What a delightful name for a town - Bell Buckle. Ken says he'd like to hear from LUCIAN K. TRUSCOTT III, under whom he served in Okayama and Kummomoto. We remember Truscott well - he came to us in '45 as a brand spanking new Lieut. out of West Point. He's now 8120 Northridge, Albuquerque, N.Mex, Ken. Drop him a line.

"The truth told with bad intent beats all the lies we could invent" wrote William Blake. Have some truths told with good intent when we tell you that BENNY MASHAY (D 19th '40-'43), of 32548 Knollwood, Warren, Mich., found out that one of the men who helped build his cottage up in northern Michigan, was JOHN REESE of the 19th from '45-'48 in Kochi, Shikoku and Beppu, Kyushu. Johnny is now a member, you can bet.

Mary Alice DAVIS, H. RAYMOND's better half, wants us to tell you that he's reaching 60. We'll tell you one thing, Mary Alice, we are very seldom asked to report this kind of info. Usually it's "Don't say a word!" Anyway, H. Raymond Davis is about to enter his sixth decade and we all offer congratulations. Mary Alice, by the way, is recovering from foot surgery. Hope you're on the mend, M.A. HRD, by the way, was A 24 Med. '43-'45.

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# PITTSBURGH

## WILL SURPRISE YOU.

### The "Egg" is Hatched.

Our "egg" that is. FRANK SAYRS (19th and Div. Band 1/43-1/45), of Box 108, Moro, Ore., has just "enlisted" into our ranks. Let's let him tell it just the way it came about:

PAUL FRASER (13th F) keeps sending me the Taro Leaf and I enjoy it so much I guess I'll join. I was in the 19th Inf. Band. Joined at Schofield and stayed until jungle rot got me. While in Australia, all bands in the 24th were consolidated and we were then the 24th Div. band. Any members of the band or Service Co. (19th) who remember me can call or write me. We band members had good times playing the Palace every Wed. noon, playing on the Lurline, en route to Australia we got early chow and slept in the Library (Hosp.). Good duty! Especially remember HARRY GILL, LLOYD B. TUCKER, HI LISTER, FELIPE AMEGAGU, and DICK HEAMS".

Great to have you in Frank. Next time don't wait so long. Hope you'll make Pittsburgh to make up for about 35 lost years.



"Well ... Yessir ... There is a slight possibility they all went through the same hole. What say we give her another go?"

JOHN EADIE, (L 19th '40-'45 & '48-'51), of 1116 Namdac, Bay Shore, N.Y., reports having a triple by-pass in December. Sounds like one of the Flying Wallendas. At any rate, Johnny says he's feeling younger - fit as a fiddle. Terrific, Johnny; we're happy for you. He tells us that the rumor is that Castro goes swimming every afternoon in Havana Bay. Says the sharks never bother him. Professional courtesy.

JOE MORGAN, (B, 3rd Eng. '51) of 2217 Grandview, Decatur, IL, in hospital for tests. Serious, Joe? Joe's Dad by the by was in the Hawaiian Div. in the mid-30's. Gosh, that was a long time ago. Joe adds "How come in that cartoon of the kid on the pot in a recent issue, the kid has an arrow on his arm? That's the 32nd Div. arrow". You're 100% correct, Joe - and we suspect you're the only one who caught it. We borrowed it from the 32nd's newspaper.

Dues in from HENRY BURGER, (Hq., 2nd Bn., 21st '42-'45), of Home, Kans. How about you and June Lee making it to Pittsburgh, Henry? Henry adds a delightful one-liner to his note: "All I can say is, Will Rogers never met Ayatollah Khomeini" Wonderful, Henry - just wonderful.

Billy Martin and Charley Finley - a match made in baseball heaven.

FRANCIS BOLLETER, (21st 8/50-2/50) of 9420 Dante, River Ridge, La., has some thoughts which he shares with us: "Just a note to say hello and attach a few bits of information that you might want to print in our Taro Leaf magazine. A thing that most veterans do not know, is that all veterans now have access to their V.A. claim folders in the regional offices. All they have to do is present their "C" number and sign a form. This information is no longer kept secret due to the privity act of 1974. You might want to verify this prior to printing; however I checked local, and it's true. Mardi Gras time here and fun for one of the 24th Conventions one year - O.K.???"

There Fran, we printed it just as you wrote it.

# WOMEN OF THE ARMED FORCES

It used to be said that war is hell. Now we're not so sure. The April Playboy issue would seem to put that myth to rest. Nevertheless, for posing in the buff, Marine Sgt. Bambi Lin Finney was discharged - for being out of uniform. Semper fidelis, Bambi, semper fidelis. The Coast Guard shrugged at seaman (sic) Kim Hempfield's pose in a see-through blouse. CG reasoned she had done it on her own time. The Navy gave Seaman Susan Gage a reprimand, closed a case against Lisa Ann Woolf, and took no action against Rebecca Vissman who posed in the nude. The reason? Her uniform was not part of the photograph.



Lisa Ann Woolf who serves aboard the USS Samuel Gompers. Sweepers, man your brooms.



Susan Gage and friends. The smoking lamp is lighted, fore and aft.



Navy machinist Susan Gage failed to pass her full-dress inspection. Good try though.



Navy considered the case of boatswain's mate Rebecca Vissman and decided to let her stay. Wouldn't you?





Marine Sgt. Bambi Lin Finney is El Gono - she showed too much.

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Eric Heiden is the best thing on ice since Canadian Club.

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JIM SHIRAH, (D 34 '56-'57), of 616 47th, Columbus, Ga., comes across like a brass band with 76 trombones. He sends us his diploma from the Ordnance School at Aberdeen. It was signed by the late Col. ALMON MANLOVE, the School Commandant, on 8/16/55. Whitey was our predecessor as Ord. O. on Leyte. Jim also sends us his certificate initiating him into the Mystic Order of the Golden Dragon. He was aboard TAP-143 en route to Japan. Adds Jim: "It might serve as an historical piece since nobody seems to cross the waters by ship any more." You're right Jim.

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JOE LAUCK, (24 Med Bn. '47-'49), was telling us he'd changed his image. "I've stopped dyeing my hair. I cut off my sideburns and I lost 45 pounds, mainly through karate," he reported. So we asked him, "How's the new image making it with the gals?" Came Joe's reply, "Not bad. Recently in Des Moines, two gals were banging on my door. I finally had to get up and let them out." Joe, you haven't changed a bit.

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Along with cabbages and kings, it's time to talk now about the couple which was shopping for matched wedding rings. "I don't want one too wide or too tight a band," he said. "It might cut off the circulation". "It's going to do that anyway," she said, smiling.

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Kim Hempfield serves in the Coast Guard. Chin in, sailor, stick that chest out, and keep that tummy in.

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An American tourist on a crowded British railway train noticed a large, tweedy woman whose large, tweedy dog was occupying the last seat in the car. Politely he asked if the woman would mind moving the dog to the floor. "Leave the dog alone!" the woman snapped.

The American left the compartment, walked the length of the train but failed to find a seat, so he returned and pleaded with the dog's owner again. "I told you to leave the dog alone!" she exclaimed. The exasperated American reached over, opened the window, tossed the dog out and sat down.

There was a stunned silence. Then an elderly Englishman across the aisle looked up over his "Times". "You Americans amuse me very much," he said. "In the first place, you eat with your forks in the wrong hand. You drive your cars on the wrong side of the road - and now, by Jove, I believe you've thrown the wrong bitch out the window!"

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Thoughts while shaving: Whatever happened to the Monroe Doctrine?..... One more article or news item on women in combat and we'll scream...Hats off to that politician in the Abscam scandal who was flushed out refusing a bribe. Deserves a seat in the Hall of Fame.

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Old friend of JOE PEYTON finally came aboard - and did it with \$100 for a Life Membership. FRED L. GRAY, (Sv. 19th 5/42-10/45), of 1371 Sherman, Watertown, N.Y. is the one. In doing it - for which our thanks, incidentally, Fred writes:

"During latter part of 1978, with the assistance of our local County Veterans Service Agency, I attempted to update my discharge with respect to my eligibility to the Combat Infantryman Badge. Numerous letters were mailed to the Dept. of the Army, St. Louis, Mo. My request was turned down by the Director, Personnel Services and stated that available records fail to show my eligibility to the 'Badge' - it stated that if I have orders for the award, or a pay voucher showing receipt of Combat pay, and send the information to St. Louis that, further consideration would be taken.

"Ken, would appreciate hearing from interested assoc. members who might have the knowledge of any orders that were cut showing personnel eligible to the 'Badge'.

"I retired Jan. 1, 1980 from New York Air Brake Co. after 43 years service - hope to see you in Pittsburgh next August."

Nice letter, Fred. And gang, can you offer Fred any advice on his problem?

CLARENCE "Bud" COLLETTE, (5th RCT '51-'52), has brought in 3 more as we go to press - 1) RAYMOND WINDLE (D 34th WW2), of 15577 Third, Victorville, Cal. (seems as though we had an airbase there in WW II - right, Ray?; 2) GEORGE TOMINAGA, (C 13th F '47 - '49), of 3105 S. Alma, San Pedro, Calif., and 3) RAYMOND ANDROS, (L 34th WW II) of 11843 S. Burgess, Whittier, Calif. We're right proud to have you with us, men.

Public Law 96-173, signed by President Carter on 29 December 1979, provides that any person eligible for medical care under the Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS) who is a veteran with a service connected disability may not be denied care and treatment for such disability under CHAMPUS solely because he/she is eligible for care and treatment for such disability in Veteran Administration facilities.

BOB and Connie GOLDTHWAIT, (Div. Hq. Fin. Off) have left Massachusetts for warmer climes - 12319 Escale, San Diego, Cal. Says Bob: "Everything just dandy. This is a great life - recommend it to all."

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MANUEL ALVARADO, (A 19th '48) of 650 A Elm, Seaside, Cal., reports injuring his arm a couple of months ago. Just now able to resume work. Manny tells us about the 1980 VA Insurance Dividend. Says that the VA will pay a record \$566 million in dividends during 1980 to 4.1 million veterans holding GI life insurance policies. The figure is a \$71 million increase over the amount paid in 1979. VA will make the payments throughout the year on anniversary dates of individual policies kept in force from World War I, World War II and the Korean Conflict. All VA insurance dividends are paid automatically and there is no need for policyholders to apply for them or to contact VA about them.

The amount of dividends paid during the year will vary with each veteran according to the type of policy, amount of insurance, age at issue of renewal, and the time the policy has been in force. Dividends on VA insurance policies represent a return of funds not needed to pay the cost of the insurance. Thanks, Manny, for the info.

Flying long distances back and forth across the Pacific often causes confusion about time zones. For one new navigator, crossing the international date line and then landing in Guam was just too much. When asked what the time was in Guam, he replied, "I'm sure it's four o'clock, but I don't know if it's yesterday, today or tomorrow."



Col. JIM OGLETREE, (Div. QM at Kyushu '47-'50), is now retired, living at 1007 Jackson, Tahlequah, Okla. Jim sends us a chatty note including a couple of notices on deceased members which read:

Deceased: Major JAMES B. LAVENDER, 24th Division Veterinarian, Camp Kashii Japan and Kokura - '47-'50. "Doc" was in command of the monumental task of cleaning up "the rations mess" left by the Marines at Sasebo when they departed. He didn't know the word "quit"!

Deceased: Major THOMAS M. PRICE, 24th QM '47-'50, at Camp Kashii Japan and Kokura Japan. Retired for Service Connected disability 1952. Died June 1979 in VA Hospital, Minneapolis. Tom came to the 24th via North Africa; Anzio Beach; Italy, Normandy, France and Germany. General Patton would have bestowed his high award of: "Good Soldier". His widow Margaret resides at 226 Grand, Winona, Minnesota 55987.

Deceased: CHARLES A SHEPLEY, (A 19th '41-'45), of 864 Eden, Lancaster, Pa. on Feb. 12, 1980. The docs discovered Cancer of the colon last June. More discovered in January. June brought him home "to die peaceful - which he did". We have expressed ourselves to June and the 3 kids, in your behalf.

Deceased: Capt. GERALD H. HINMAN (K & C 19th '34-'42), of 1603 Mass., St. Cloud, Fla. Mildred wrote us the sad news. Jerry was on his way home from a call on his dentist and barbershop and simply dropped dead. Had been in bad health for some time. Was a good friend of JACK FINAN. Mildred and Jerry were married Oct. 12, 1940 in Honolulu. "Almost 40 years of happiness" says Mildred. Jerry will be missed.

Died Oct. 27, 1978: WILLIAM H. SKIRBLE, (L 19th), of 344 W. College, Canonsburg, Pa.

Deceased: Clark M. Eichelberger, brother of the late Lt. Gen. Robert L. Eichelberger, died 1/27/80 in NYC. He was the retired director of the American Association for the United Nations.