

TARO LEAF  
24th Infantry Division Association  
Kerwood Ross, Editor  
120 Maple Street  
Springfield, MA  
01103-2278

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

X

VOL. XXXVI - NO. 3

1982 - 1983

# NEVER FORGET

Deceased: John J. Rafter, beloved brother of our past President MICHAEL J. RAFTER (A 34th), who came to BII with the loss of his brother still weighing heavy within his heart.

Died: DONALD W. OCKENGA, (H 21st) on July 21, 1982 from a massive heart attack. Ardyia is moving from their home in Canton, SD to a new home in Flondbeau, SD.

Deceased: HOWARD RIPPLE, of Maugansville, MD. Howie was a POW in North Korea for 38 months.

Word from LEROY CRUCIUS, (A 24 Med '43-'46) tells us of the death of his beloved wife Alys after a long, long struggle with cancer. Lee has moved back from New Mexico, where she died, to Sussex, Wis. Try him at 22208 McLaughlin Road. A cheer up card would do him good. Lee has been at the bottom of the well but he's slowly adjusting to his new way of life. Keep looking ahead, Lee.

BILL WEIDLE, (F 21st '40-'42), of 1095 Byberry, Cornwell, PA 19020, thoughtfully sent us a note advising us of the decease of JOHN ROMANOVICH, (H & F 21st '40-'44), of 2520 E. Indiana, Philadelphia, PA. John died last May 12, 1982.

VIC HABEEB, (G 21st '42-'45), of 5900 E. Thomas, Scottsdale, AZ, thoughtfully writes to advise us of the death of his G 21st buddy, CAMILLE TAMAR ASTAFAN, of 429 S. Mechanic, Carthage, NY. Camille is survived by his dear wife, Kathryn, a son, Jude, and a daughter, Susan.

Patty and Sam GILNER, Jr., at 184 Wayne, Suffern, NY 10901, are the bearers of sad news -- Susan, SAM's widow and Sam Jr.'s Mother, passed away last September 20th. She had gone to the hospital a week earlier with heart problems. That condition stabilized but then her diabetes took its toll. We have lost a wonderful lady; she loved us and what we stood for long after Sam's decease. She will be sorely missed. Sue and Sam -- a grand couple.

Deceased: ROBERT J. BAILEY, (M 21st '43-'45), of South Gate, CA.

BILLY C. KNOWLES, First Sergeant and then Company Commander of E Company, 19th between 1950 and 1954 died at Tacoma, Washington on Aug. 30, 1982. His widow, Ruth, wrote us from 8300 Phillips Rd., S.W., Tacoma, Wash. There were no children. Said Ruth, "He had been in poor health for a long time. Now he is at peace."

AL RIDGE phoned us to report the passing of VINCENT "Jimmy" MANGANIELLO, (L 21st '41-'45), of Boston, MA, on Dec. 10th last. Al himself was from L Co.

WALT REDFIELD's beloved wife, Margaret, recently passed away. A terrible blow for Walt. He's at 14 Oakland, Natick, MA.

Died: WILLIAM ALLEN MORNHINWEG (C 21st '44-'45), of 907 Kaw, Perry, OK, on Oct. 17, 1982. Bill is survived by his beloved wife, Ferol, one son, Larry, and three daughters, Debra, Denise and Diane, and nine grandchildren. Wounded on Mindanao on June 9, 1945, Bill was one of our oldest and most loyal members. A Life Member, #129, we last saw Bill and Ferol at Savannah, and at Clearwater before that. Grand couple. Bill will be sorely missed.

## MEMORY

There is no beauty like a  
memory  
There no one dies. The many  
I have met  
Who laughed with me a while,  
revealed a thought,  
Or touched with me the joy of  
sweet content --  
Though in the night, they  
quietly slipped away  
Into a thousand fields I'll  
never see,  
They are not gone so far  
that memory  
Will not recall them back to me  
--Author Unknown

# TARO LEAF

Where will you find  
the most Taro Leafers  
per square foot  
in the U.S.A.?



Savannah, Georgia /////  
August 18, 19 & 20, 1983  
Hyatt Regency Hotel //



"You'd THINK THESE CLOWNS  
HAD NEVER SEEN A GUY  
BATHE BEFORE."

## WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

A couple of issues ago, we put out an appeal for your favorite military words or phrases. And they're coming in, for which our thanks. If you think of one, send it in. Here are a few:

- Feather merchant - the guy from the higher headquarters with a clipboard and a gig list in his hand and these sweet words of self-introduction: "Hello, my name is Maj. \_\_\_\_\_ . I'm from \_\_\_\_\_ headquarters, and I'm here to help you."
- Coffin nails - cigarettes or cigars
- Battery acid - mess hall coffee
- Fruit salad - decorations
- The Head - latrine
- Highball - a salute
- ----- Rock - Wahoo
- The Rock - Corregidor
- Sawbones - The surgeon
- Skoshi - teeny, tiny or small
- SNAFU - need we spell it out?
- FUBAR - please don't make us say it.
- Kimichi - Korean sauerkraut - no Korean would leave home without it.
- Bug juice - soft drink powder, field ration
- Canvas cow - lister bag

Got any? Send 'em in. This is fun!

### TARO LEAF

Vol. XXXVI — No. 3

1982-1983

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:**

Chester A. Andrezak, 3225 N. Natchez Avenue,  
Chicago, IL 60634 ..... Tel. 312-685-7965

**Vice President:**

John R. Shay,  
1129 Shermer Road, Glenview, IL 60025

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

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

**Convention Chairman:**

Harry Rubin  
Box 774, Hinesville, GA 31313

**Membership Chairman:**

Lee B. List — 115 Ronald Road,  
E. Peoria, IL 61611 ..... Tel. 309-694-1681

**Chaplain:**

Joseph I. Peyton — 1405 Belmore Court,  
Lutherville, MD 21093 ..... Te. 301-321-6448

• • •

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

Target date for publication of "History of a Division, 1981-1983" is the Savannah Convention, August, 1983. Only Association members will be allowed to purchase copies. The price? Are you ready for this one? \$20 per copy. Closing date for orders — April 15, 1983.

ED VOSO, (D 21st '39-'42), of 1815 Sweetwater Rd., Spring Valley, CA, would like to start something. Writes he: "Reference Jack Finan's letter in the Dec. issue of Taro Leaf and specifically the line concerning 'Steady' Jackson as Schofield's finest athlete.

"I've known 'Pineapple' Jack for many years -- as good a soldier and officer as you would want to meet. However, I take 'special license' to disagree with his selection. My pick for Schofield's finest is -- MICHALESKI, a 21st Inf. Gimlet!

"I wonder if there are many around who knew these two gentlemen who would care to 'cast a ballot'?

"Another Gimlet who would 'run him a good race' was Boggey Bogardus.

"Maybe unit pride is clouding my judgment -- at any rate -- nice chatting with you."

Ed Voso, we wouldn't touch this one with a 10 foot pole -- or an 8 foot Hungarian. Jack Finan, where are you?

# Letting Off Steam

PAUL "Junior" HARRIS, 114 Georgetown Rd., Wilmington, NC 28401, asks a sensible question: "If medical science has made so much progress in the last 20 years, how come I felt so much better 50 years ago?"

## WERE YOU A HOSTAGE, TOO?

This delightful column appeared in the Cincinnati Enquirer about the time of the recommendation to pay the hostages (in Iran) \$12.50 for every day they were held captive. Try it; you'll love it.



**BOB  
BRUMFIELD**

## I Was The Hostage Of A Sadistic Army

I WAS delighted with the news that the President's Commission on Hostage Compensation has recommended that former hostages be paid \$12.50 for every day they were held captive. I can use the money.

I'm also glad that I'll get free medical, psychiatric or psychological care for as long as I need it — which should be for quite a while.

I was a prisoner of the U.S. Army for nearly four years. They captured me in Hopkinsville, Ky., when I was just a teen-ager, and sent me to a place called Ft. Thomas. There, crazed doctors injected deadly germs into my veins (tetanus, typhoid), and then forced me to board a filthy troop train and travel all the way to Mississippi without so much as a bath or hot meal en route. And while being held in such unspeakable places as Biloxi, Miss., Nashville, Tenn., Carlsbad, N. Mex., and Pyote, Texas, I was tortured, constantly, both mentally and physically.

SADISTIC REVOLUTIONARY guards (they called them corporals and sergeants then) forced me to get up before dawn and march to a mess hall where I was fed grits mixed with syrup and powdered eggs mixed with rubber cement.

I was forced to remain awake for hours listening to insurance lectures.

I was taken out to a field and forced to sniff poison gas (phosgene, mustard, lewisite).

Periodically, I was forced to fall out in only a raincoat and shower clogs, march to a large building, and expose myself to crazed sex maniacs who probed my body and made me do awful things for their pleasure, including coughing.

I WAS forced to stand at attention for long periods of time, and walk back and forth in an enclosed area for hours at a time carrying a heavy rifle on my shoulder.

I was forced to watch pornographic films and listen to obscene sex lectures.

On several occasions, I was awakened in the middle of the night, marched to the mess hall, and forced to scrub pots and pans.

I was cursed and threatened continually by revolutionary guards because I forgot to button my prison uniform pockets or because my shoes were not shiny enough to suit them.

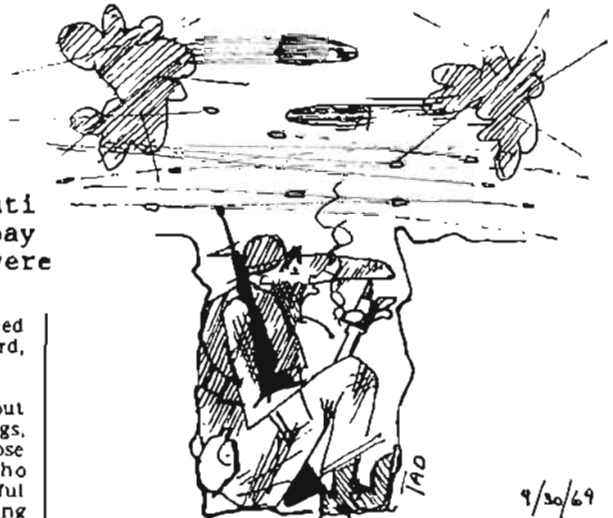
I WAS separated from my family and friends for years, and eventually taken to a tiny rock, smaller than Devil's Island, in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, where I was held for several months and then shipped to another island where the temperature was 115 degrees in the shade and the natives were hostile. I remained a prisoner there until I finally was released by the revolutionary guards (who by that time were officers).

When I got home, there were no welcoming ceremonies or yellow ribbons, and local merchants didn't give me gifts or free vacation trips to exotic places. I will say this, though. My former captors did give me a little souvenir bronze eagle to wear in my lapel.

Let's see now. Four years, at \$12.50 a day, comes to about . . .

We recently intercepted a paperback, "The Vietnam Funny Book" by one Tod Foster. As the author said in his preface, "The humor may seem a bit twisted, but aren't we all a bit?" But as he also wrote, "To those who tasted from the acrid plate of know, no translation is needed for the cartoon." We're reproduced a few of them in our pages for this issue. If you want the whole book, write Presidio Press, 31 Pamaron Way, Navato, CA. It's well worth the price.

## The King-Sized Absurdity.



"CAUTION: CIGARETTE SMOKING MAY BE HAZARDOUS TO YOUR HEALTH."

Special acknowledgment to ASSOCIATED PRESS for releasing this cartoon, nation-wide, on February 13, 1981

**MAKE DON'T  
MOVE A MOVE  
WITHOUT US.**



Wisdom out of Sarasota, FL -- and that way lies good friend AUBREY "Red" NEWMAN -- "In response to the person who challenged you to categorize the degrees of intoxication: Why didn't you tell him when a cucumber is being soaked in vinegar, no one can say for sure at what point it becomes a pickle? The only thing we know for certain is that it can never again become a cucumber."

Plan on Savannah next August. We've engaged for another rerun, JAMES "Spike" O'DONNELL and PAUL "Jr." HARRIS, the Laurel and Hardy of the 24th. They'll arrive early and stay late, as one act in our entertainment program.

# NIGHT & DAY

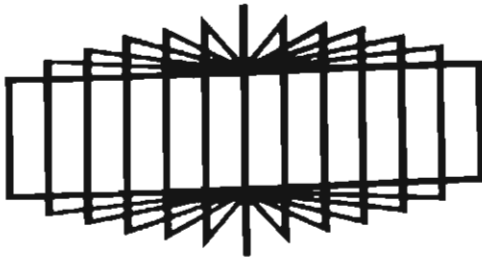
This business of allowing motorists to turn right after a stop at a stop signal is raising havoc with accident records. We spent 75 years trying to teach people the difference between green and yellow and red -- and then we threw it all out the window. For some unexplainable reason took it all as a signal that stopping at all was no longer necessary. We can thank the Carter administration for that goody.

RAY FIES, (H 21, '43-'44), of 3714 Romig, Reading, PA, bought "Follow Me", then showed it to a neighbor. Now the neighbor wants a copy; he's gifting a friend. That's how it goes. We're thinking of making Ray our "northeast distributor". Thanks, Ray.

BOB ROCK, (G 5th, '50-'51), of Box 204, Fairless Hills, PA, is looking for a 5th Regimental patch. We don't have any but we're trying to locate some, Bob. Will advise.

EVERETTE WOODRUFF, (52 F, '42-'45), of Box 31, Crawfordsville, AR, has ordered a copy of Red's "FOLLOW ME". Have you?

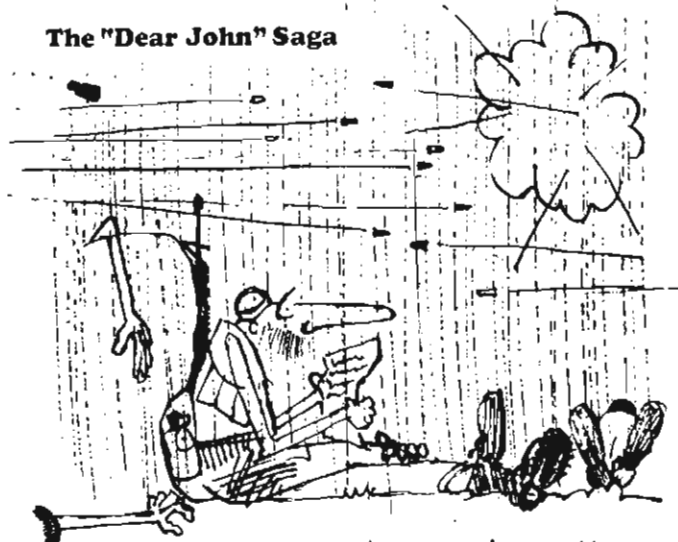




We've added a few new members since our Baltimore gathering last August. We'll not give the full data as to unit and time and present address -- for reasons of space, or lack of it. If you want a particular address, sing out. The new chaps, whom we welcome, of course, are listed in the order of their "enlistment".

Clinton, Patrick H.  
 Barnett, William P.  
 Seck, John F.  
 Thompson, Melvin H.  
 Howard, Francis  
 Hoover, Malcolm  
 Torres, Ray  
 Torres, Samuel  
 Paco, Emil C.  
 Townsley, Arthur D.  
 Osborn, Robert E.  
 Wheat, Jack  
 Crosson, Hugh S., Jr.  
 Pisanello, Alfred J.  
 Taylor, Livingston N.  
 Sherman, Ralph L.  
 Blackwood, Walter D.  
 Hanson, George E.  
 Jackson, John T.  
 Butrica, Melvin A.  
 Schafer, Shelby  
 Arnold, Adrian L.  
 Cimmino, Vincent  
 Budnpane, Anthony  
 Walker, Brian B. Jr.  
 Soyster, Brig.Gen.H.E.  
 Palumbo, James R.  
 Carpenter, David P.  
 Crosson, Jr., Hugh S.  
 Todd, Vann G.  
 Cullers, Forest  
 Acker, Wilford  
 Brunelle, Harry E.  
 Kaefer, Charles E.  
 Wright, Richard A.  
 Unlaub, LTC Carl G.  
 Carpenter, Edson A.  
 Hoffman, Col. Aldon M.  
 Mays, Dr. Harry B.  
 Clark, Charles A.  
 Shrum, Dr. Richard  
 Gallagher, Frank P.  
 Wynn, Kinley  
 Smith, Bill  
 Britto, George  
 Watson, Andrew A.  
 Venezia, John A.  
 Gotling, Hans  
 Kitchen, Albert  
 Morris, Jack H.  
 Clower, Samuel E.

### The "Dear John" Saga



... and I just want to tell you about this guy...

Hagar, Edward G. Jr.  
 Howard, Francis  
 Brezee, Fred E.  
 Clenton, Patrick  
 Steele, Tobie K.  
 Austin, Paul  
 Hembrey, William  
 Fletcher, William D.  
 Bearden, Woodrow  
 Frost, Charles  
 Vance, Paul M.  
 Shannon, Lt. Col. Wm.  
 Burns, R.  
 Hudnell, Milburn R.  
 Coates, Charles B.  
 Funderburk, Warren  
 Smith, Clifford H.  
 Goeas, Richard B.  
 Schurley, Andrew  
 Downs, Amon  
 King, Lloyd E.  
 Truran, Russell B.  
 Fortenec, Don  
 Watson, Doyle  
 Hester, Weldon B.  
 Colegate, G.L.  
 Witcher, James "Doc"  
 Fuggetta, Angelo  
 Arboneaux, John N.  
 Troetschel, Robert G.  
 Sabala, Tony  
 Rouse, Walter  
 Price, Donald M.  
 Sheppard, Guy E.  
 Rockenbach, Roger A. Jr.  
 Heaberlin, Gilbert O.  
 Burdette, Stanley —  
 DeLorm, Orville D.  
 Kilmartin, John P.  
 Papanic, George  
 Whalen, John  
 Crum, Matthew B.  
 Ladd, John C. Jr.  
 Broad, David K.  
 Hopkins, James  
 Simeona, David  
 Marsh, Edwin E.  
 Bos, Jerry

**The Trigger Finger and the Freedom Bird;**  
**The trigger finger was the game's**  
**most valuable player.**  
**The Freedom Bird was the flight home.**  
**The game and the goal,**  
**was to get there.**

# LETTERS

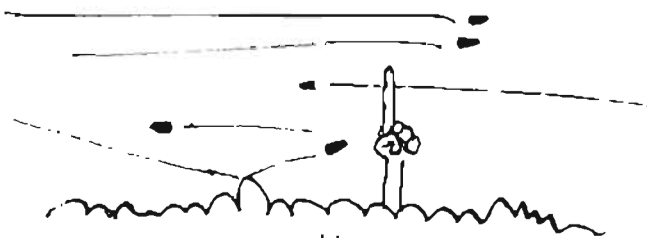
Tough words from MARTIN MUSKE, (B 21st '42-'45), of 514 S. Gilman, Litchfield, MN: "I am getting along okay but fighting cancer again. In March 1976 I had a kidney removed and everything went good and 5 years went by and I felt pretty safe but at 6½ years the same type of cancer was found in my lungs so they are fighting it with chemotherapy.

"Will try to make it to the Savannah reunion."

Martin, we're looking forward to that drink with you in Savannah.

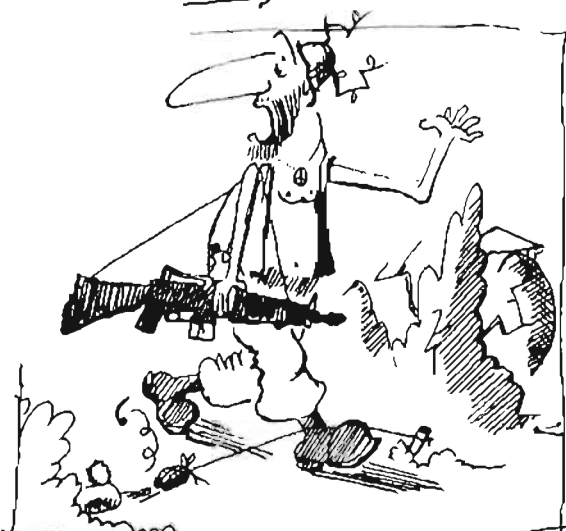
\$ from PAUL AUSTIN, (F 34th '42-'45), of 4141 6th Ave., Fort Worth, TX. He wanted Red NEWMAN's "Follow Me" for \$7.95 -- and got it. He wanted the forthcoming Division History for \$20.00 -- and didn't get it. He will when it comes out. Our target now is June of '83.

JESSE and Janet MURGA, (A & C 21st '50-'51), went from 3510 Costis, Augusta, GA. to the west coast for a holiday. Stopped in on JIM and Mary ERWIN (Med. 1st Bn., 21st '50-'51) at Morongo Valley, CA. "Desert hospitality was wonderful," reports Jesse.



"Doc, I'm hit!"

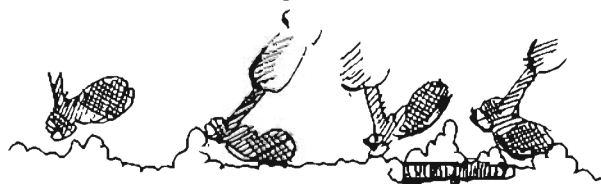
Dr. WALTER L. REHM, (34th & 24 Med. '42-'45), of 481 54th, Ste. Genevieve, MO. writes us with a shaky hand -- emphysema, high blood pressure, big knife 3 times. Boy has he had it. But he's not giving up. It was great of you to write us, Doc.



Now Boot the first thing you learn about the Nam is you can't afford to be a club-foot

JOHN ARBONEAUX, (24th Sig. '42-'45) of 1726 Paul Morphy, New Orleans, LA., has just joined. He was message center chief at Div. Hq. from Hollandia to Mindanao. Recently he and his wife dropped in on DAVID and June BEAUDOIN in New London, Wis. They put a call through to BUD and Jo POE. Result: All 6 are planning on being with us in Savannah. Eureka!!!

New address for Col. HOWARD BALLIETT, (A & I, 21st '40-'44): 3628 Inverness, Sarasota, FL. He has left his job as Asst. Chancellor, Univ. of Wis. at Oshkosh. Happy retirement wishes go to Howard and Marilyn. They'll make Savannah they say. Way to go, folks.



Back in the fold is DICK GOEAS, ye olde G-4 in Philippine days. Nice to hear from you again Dick; we have many pleasant memories of working side by side with you. Dick is at 410 Mamaki, Honolulu. He's an accountant and tax consultant. We caught him junketing to Las Vegas "to visit my money."



# forum



Wanna Know Something? Department:  
We've got a few copies left of  
"Follow Me", Maj.Gen. AUBREY "Red"  
NEWMAN's wonderful collection of stories.  
The book is a rare combination of anecdotes and recollections. Every Taro Leaf should own a personal copy. The price at your local bookstore, if they can keep them in stock, is \$14.95 for the cloth and \$9.95 for the paper. Our price, which means "your" price, if you order from us, is \$12.95 for the cloth edition and \$7.95 for the paper edition - and that includes our costs in mailing to you. Who else would give a bargain like that?

Send your order today to:  
Editor, Taro Leaf  
24th Infantry Division Assn.  
120 Maple St.,  
Springfield, MA 01103-2278

Please send Cloth edition \$12.95  
or paper edition \$7.95 per enclosed  
check, to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Raymond Kinder, 24th Div. Museum  
Curator, is convalescing at 622 Ogden,  
Hinesville, GA. Broken leg. Hit while  
riding his bicycle. Sorry, Ray.

Maj.Gen. CHESTER and Ursula DAHLEN,  
(21 and 34, '41-'44), have moved to  
902 Farmington Commons, 2611 Eisenhower,  
San Antonio, TX 78209.

Moved from Grand Junction, CO to  
Star Rt. 1, Box 15X, Dunnellon, FL  
32630 has CLEMENT C. HUTCHINS and Joyce  
too, of course. They know where it's  
warm. Clem was (34th Hq. and Div. Hq.  
'49-'51).

The fellow who can't figure out what  
to do on a rainy Sunday afternoon is  
usually the same one who is counting  
the months to his retirement.

The angry wife screamed when her  
husband staggered in at eight in the  
morning. "All right, now how are you  
gonna explain this?" He yawned, "Well,  
after I called to tell you I was working  
late, I drove my secretary home and she  
invited me up for anightcap. Then she  
got friendly and we finally decided to  
sleep together." The wife said,  
"Don't lie to me -- you've been playing  
poker again."

He's Not Heavy, He's My Brother  
Department: EDDIE ROBINSON and JOE CENGA  
have an idea. Shy Lum is 71 and without  
\$. They'd like to raise the \$600 or so  
needed to fly Shy to Savannah and back  
to Wahoo next August. They've started  
the fund by each throwing in \$25.00.  
There's \$50.00. We've just sent  
another \$25.00. There's \$75.00.  
Already we're off and running.  
Wanna contribute? Make checks payable  
to the "Shy Lum Fund" and mail to:  
Edward F. Robinson  
605 Truman Hwy., Apt. B1  
Hyde Park, MA 02136

or

Joseph A. Cenga  
206 Cedric Rd.,  
Centerville, MA 02632

They'll give a full accounting and we'll  
publish it in case anyone thinks it's  
a racket -- and out of 1500 members  
there will surely be one suspicious one.  
\* \* \*

Dear Ed and/or Joe:

Here's my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
payable to the "Shy Lum Fund"

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

JIM ERWIN sends us this bit of  
poetry credited to DNAIEL J. CARMEN  
(D 21st). Try it out on your piano:

A "Gimlet" is a fighting man  
A soldier tried and true  
The first to fight on Korean soil  
When fighting men were few

A "Gimlet" is a worthy man  
Imbued with spirit strong  
Against an overwhelming force  
He crossed the great Naktong

A "Gimlet" is a forceful man  
With one outstanding goal  
To restore freedom to this land  
His force forward roll

Aware of his most sacred trust  
Head high - He battled on  
Determined to fight 'til the last  
Of the enemy has gone

# News, Notes And Comments

FRANCIS R. SOLES, (C 21st '40-'42; 25th Recn. '42-'46) of 4619 Janet, Cocoa, Florida, is in close contact with RUSS DENNY, (C 21st '40-'44), of 250 S. Westwind, Lamplighter Village, Melbourne, Fl. Russ has lost both of his feet and now has artificial legs. Fran reports, "Russ is doing real well. Gets around good. Walks up and down steps. Rides his 3 wheel bike. Proves you can't keep a good man down."

Fran has retired from Pan Am Air -- after 25 years.

Incidentally, Russ writes us and asks: Who was the Bn. Executive Officer for JOCK CLIFFORD just before we left Hawaii for Australia? We're working on it, Russ.

Company came to call on MARTIN "Mouse" and Lorraine MUECKE, (F & G 21st '45-'46), out there in Heyburn, Idaho. It was FRED "Clem" and Elizabeth PUTZ, (G 21st) on their way to the west coast. Writes Mouse: "We all look a little older."

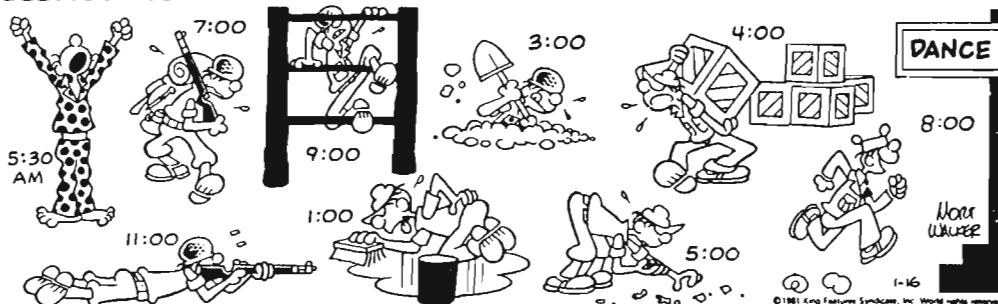
Nice message from TOM WILLIAMS, (A 5th RCT '49-'50), of 16 Sunset, Franklin, MA, written just following the Vietnam Memorial events in Washington last November: "During the broadcast of the events, I learned a lesson -- that of 'belonging'." Our sentiments exactly, Tom.

Marriages are made in heaven. So are thunder and lightning.

Linda JAMESON, CHARLEY's daughter, thoughtfully bought a "Follow Me" as a Xmas present for her Pop. Charley's at RFD 2, Bridgewater, VA. He was F and AT, 21st, '44-'45. Thank you, Linda.

BERT and Ginny LOWERY have moved from Lomax to Laharpe -- both in IL -- where Bert has a combo nightclub and restaurant.

## BEETLE BAILEY



MALCOLM MOOMEY, (B19th '43-'45), of 1472 Hawks Nest, St. Charles, MO writes an interesting memo on Pittsburgh Plate Glass stationery:

"Please find enclosed check for \$20.00. Apply \$10.00 due and \$10.00 for postage. Also, you will find note with name of Shelby Schafer. Wants an application so he can join. Was at PH. In my traveling, I bumped into him at a Motel Bar. Same way I found out about Assn.

"I retire Dec. 1, 1982; so, my traveling days will soon be over, except with "Mama". Hope I can attend 1983 Convention. However, don't see many names from my outfit and I have lost contact with all of them. Really appreciate Directory."

"Yours truly, Malcolm Moomey."

The nice young man called and said, "Mom, I'm coming over and I'm bringing a turkey and cranberry sauce and all the dressings and wine and..." Mom said, "That's wonderful." He said, "And then I'm going to take you to a show." She said, "God bless you." He said, "Sit tight, I'll be right over. By the way, how's Dad?" She said, "Your father has been dead for eight years." He said, "Is this Mrs. Davis?" She said, "No, this is Mrs. Schwartz." He said, "Oh, I'm sorry, lady, I must have dialed the wrong number." She said, "Does this mean you're not coming over?"

JESSE MURGA, (C & A 21st 7/50-5/51), of 3510 Custis, Augusta, GA, recently visited JIM ERWIN in Moronga Valley, CA. Wrote Jim: "Ken, it was like meeting your brother you have not seen in years. (31 years last May).

"Mary and I really enjoyed his visit. And hope to see Jesse this year in GA along with other men that I served with in the 24th.

"It's hard to explain why I will always remember the faces of men that I served with in Korea.

"A Taro Leafer, Jim Erwin." Nice words, Jim.

"TGIF written on basketball players' shoes at a local university doesn't mean Thank God It's Friday," says DON WILLIAMS. "It means: TOES GO IN FIRST."

**INFORM-  
ATIVE, AU-  
THORITATIVE,  
CHALLENGING, IN-  
NOVATIVE, ANALYT-  
ICAL, CAPTIVATING...**



**HAVE YOU  
SIGNED UP A  
NEW MEMBER  
THIS MONTH?**

*LOOK, SAILOR, I APPRECIATE A NICE CRISP  
SALUTE AS MUCH AS THE NEXT FELLOW, BUT...*

"The Devil's Feast," an account of Japan's record in germ warfare experiments in World War II, has become a best-seller here in Japan.

Written by Seiichi Morimura, a novelist who gained his reputation by writing detective stories, the book tells of ghoulish experiments and wanton killing in Manchuria.

"This is how the Japanese behaved in those days," writes Morimura as he describes the activities of what was formally called the "731st epidemic prevention and water supply headquarters," the formal name of the unit responsible for the deaths of some 3000 prisoners in medical experiments. Located in Harbin, the unit was under the command of Lt. Gen. Shiro Ishii, a Kyoto University graduate whose subordinates called him "father" as they went about the task of injecting prisoners with germs, freezing their limbs and engaging in other "tests" that could only end in death for the human guinea pigs.

It was after sales of Morimura's book had passed the one-million mark this year that a Japanese official finally admitted what the government previously said it had no way of knowing -- that the story of the 731st unit was largely true.

State Minister Kunio Tanabe spoke in carefully diplomatic language as he called the record of the unit "most regrettable from the viewpoint of humanity" but explained that the atrocities had occurred "during the most extraordinary wartime condition." Another official said the group had numbered 3559 officers and men at its height and, contrary to Tanabe, that the government had not known about the nature of the experiments on live human subjects.

"I had to collect the record before the witnesses all died," says Morimura, who began his research after getting

letters from members of the unit in response to a series of articles he wrote about the war in the Communist Party daily Akahata. "Most of them did not want to talk at first, but I persuaded them to understand the importance of the project," he said. "It seemed that many of them wanted to forget."

By the time Morimura had finished his questioning, he had firsthand accounts from about 60 survivors of the unit. Among the most horrifying was the description of an operation on a prisoner whose vital organs were removed one by one and placed in bottles on a laboratory shelf.

"The heart kept on beating for some time after it was removed from the body," said one of Morimura's informants. "The purpose of the test was to record the reaction of the organs to this type of pressure."

A few relatively "lucky ones," says Morimura, were administered drugs for the sake of comparison, but the purpose in most cases was to record the course of the disease as it gradually destroyed the body.

Finally, all the prisoners, virtually all of them Chinese, Koreans and Mongolians along with a handful of Russians, were killed. The end came several days before the Japanese surrender in August 1945 when the survivors were shot before advancing Soviet troops reached the camp.

"We didn't feel badly about it at the time because we didn't regard the prisoners as human beings," one of the unit members told Morimura. "We were fed three meals a day with dessert to keep us in good health for our work. Our treatment was much better than that of ordinary troops."

The prisoners themselves were also fed well so that they would be in the best physical condition for the experiments. It is, in fact, that irony that provided Morimura with his title -- "Devil's Feast."

# TICK.TOCK.TICK. TICK.TOCK.TICK. TICK.TOCK.TICK.TOCK.

It's the last picture show.

The grande dame of Waikiki movie theatres is taking her final bow.

In a short while, there will be a small hole in the heart of Waikiki. The original movie palace -- now designated Waikiki Theatre No. 3 -- is scheduled to be torn down. There will be no saving it.

The theatre is considered by many to be a landmark. It is often mentioned in the same breath with the Royal Hawaiian Hotel as both an example of arresting architecture and one of the few remnants of a bygone Waikiki.

It is most famous, of course, for the moving stars and clouds that adorn the ceiling, and for the live organ music which precedes the start of a film on Friday and Saturday nights. In the twilight of its years, the Waikiki Theatre seems as much a museum as a movie house. Its passing will fill many hearts with sorrow.

But even grand old movie houses must justify their existence these days. The Waikiki may be the finest theatre in the Islands and one of the finest in America. It may be architecturally significant and aesthetically pleasing -- in fact, a priceless artifact. Nevertheless, economic considerations are such that the space must be made more profitable.

Island architects and architectural historians, however, have not found the news of the demolition amusing.

The Waikiki Theatre has stood since 1936. It was designed by C.W.Dickey, who in his day was the foremost architect in Hawaii. He was also the designer of the Halekulani Hotel and the Alexander Young Building.

The primary reason the structure is considered so important is that it is a unique example of art deco architecture in the Islands.

Indeed, the theatre has always been worth the price of admission even if the movie sometimes wasn't. In addition to the theatre's outdoor interior, featuring the palm trees and the aforementioned stars and clouds on the ceiling, there are also: a courtyard where patrons can await the next movie; a fishpond that bears bronzed engraved autographs of such former film luminaries as W.C. Fields, Clark Gable and Jean Harlow; and a foyer with frescoes by one of Hawaii's top 20th-century artists, Marguerite Blasingame.

Although the exterior of the theatre has been altered quite a bit from its original design -- there are now boutiques and shops flanking the courtyard on both sides -- the interior remains relatively unchanged.

Anguish about the demise of the Waikiki Theatre is also due to the fact that it has its roots in a romantic past.

Hawaii was more casual then than now. But for Island residents, the theatre was an establishment with considerable class. It was a place you felt the need to put your shoes on before entering.

Even the usherettes had to pass inspection: hair, nails, shoes, uniforms, etc. It is said that if they were caught chewing gum, it was stuck in their noses. Not only did the usherettes show you to your seat, but they also got up and sang.

Today, as the final curtain descends, the Waikiki Theatre is surrounded by tacky curio stands and is almost lost beneath towering concrete castles. Many are sad to see it go. It will be missed and remembered for a variety of reasons, but perhaps primarily because it was a place where the simple pleasure of movie-going retained a decided elegance.

# HOT

Sixty-one of you caught the item in the December issue of American Legion and took the bother to clip it and send it to us. For these gestures, our thanks. For those who didn't see it, we copy it. It was short -- and went under the caption "Early, Late, 24th Division" and read as follows:

"Sunday, Dec. 7, 1941. The men of the 68-day-old 24th Infantry Division, later known as the Victory and Taro Leaf Division, had just returned from a week-long field problem. They were sleeping in -- until 7:45 a.m. -- when the clam of a beautiful Hawaiian morning was shattered by death and destruction.

"When the day was over, five Japanese fighters had been brought down by small arms fire from the 24th.

"The fledgling division was the first Army unit to feel the fury of Imperial Japan, the first to fight back.

"Immediately after the Pearl Harbor attack, the Division moved from Schofield Barracks to northern Oahu to set up defenses against a possible Japanese invasion. It maintained this position for almost two years.

"In September 1943, the division moved to Camp Caves near Rockhampton, Australia, for five months training in amphibious landings and jungle fighting. On the last day of January 1944 they moved again, this time to Goodenough Island.

"We jump ahead to November 1945. The intercom clicked on and the voice of our navigator came through my earphones as he said, "Sgt. Goodenough, look down. Not many people can say they have a tropical paradise named after them."

"We were flying at 5,000 feet in a C-47 over a mountainous island off the eastern tip of New Guinea. Below was Goodenough Island.

"Far from being a tropical paradise, Goodenough Island was in reality a botanical, biological and geological nightmare.

"But in those days of February and March 1944, it was a very active and valuable piece of real estate as the Taro Leaf Division honed its skills. The island duplicated conditions the division would encounter on New Guinea,



"IN VIEW OF YOUR FINE WORK, SGT. WITT, I'M RECOMMENDING THE OAK LEAF CLUSTER FOR YOUR GOOD CONDUCT RIBBON."

Biak, Leyte, Mindoro, Mindanao and Luzon.

"Thirty-two years ago I had never heard of the Taro Leaf Division, but, as a crew chief on a C-47 in the Fifth Air Force in 1945, I was evidently just a few jumps behind it.

"No, I didn't know about the 24th Infantry Division in those days when it forged its combat record in the Pacific. I wish I had. I'm proud to be associated with it today.

"Bob Goodenough"



# A PAIR OF ACES

A real pair, these two.

FRANKLIN "Hank" HARTLINE writing of AUBREY "Red" NEWMAN ordered his copy of Red's book and then added: "You might be interested in a little-publicized fact re the 'Red Duke' which I picked up during my year's apprenticeship under him in F Co., 19th ('39-'40).

"When about to give one of his carefully planned 'admonitions,' he invariably lit a cigar -- something he rarely did during drill hours. So, I came to the realization that, when seeing him with a cigar, someone was going to get 'it' and I would hope it wasn't to be I. I don't think he realized the idiosyncrasy himself."

## SHOPPING AROUND

One of the chapters left out of Irving Mansfield's book "Life With Jackie" (the late Jacqueline Susann) has to do with the late Sarah Churchill. It was the summer of '52 at The Concord Hotel. Jackie and Irving were watching TV in their room when there came a knock on the door. Jackie answered and there stood a lady, completely starkers, who introduced herself: "I'm Sarah Churchill. May I borrow a cup of vodka?" Inviting her in, Irving tells us that Jackie then remarked: "Say that's one terrific outfit you're wearing. It's so natural."



Who?

Why it's JIM ERWIN (left) and Lt. Col. JESSE A. MURGA, (A 21st '50-'51) meeting at Jim's -- Box 608, Morongo Valley, CA. after 31 years. Of course, says Jim, we talked about the "good and the bad of Korea." Adds Jim, "He was one of the finest officers I ever knew."

## Cerebrations

We've got a mover and a shaker in the outfit. He's CHARLES GAZZARA, (E 21st '40-'44), of Box 225 - Ancora Br. Hammonton, NJ. Writes Charley: "I have attended several reunions and it behooves me to ask why we can't set aside one of our days and have all those who do this thing called 'golf' get together in some sort of a tournament. If we can get 30, 40 or 50 guys; we can hire a bus to take us to a nearby course -- maybe one on military grounds. We can even have prizes and the whole bit. If those interested will contact me (address above), I'll do my best to get the plan off the ground."

There you are fellows. What do you say? Drop Charley a line if you're interested.

## Pretty Penny

Great to hear from BERT KOENIG (24 QM), of 3589 S. Ocean Blvd., Palm Beach, FL. again after 10 so many years. Have you and Eleanor moved to Palm Beach for good, Bert? Sorry your Christmas wish arrived too late for the Dec. issue.

# FACES & MORE FACES

GEORGE "Keouiki" PAPANIC, (D 19th '40 - '43), of 195 Morsemere, Yonkers, NY, has written a book -- "Who Else Was Guilty at Pearl?" Vantage Press is selling it for \$7.95 per copy. We are ordering a few copies and will forward one to you if you ask. The book raises many questions about P.H. Keouiki enlisted in Jan. of '40 and was at Schofield within 6 weeks.

This book was written for worldwide publication to inform everyone how, after ten years of planning, Japan scored the knockout punch at Pearl Harbor. Who Else Was Guilty at "Pearl"? provides excellent reading for those who want a firsthand perspective on this infamous day in American history. Lt.Gen. Walter Short and Adm. Edward Kimmel were accused of dereliction of duty and poor judgment. The book explains how others should have also been named guilty. The ultimate decision is yours. Read it and judge for yourself.

George "Keouiki" Papanic was born in Enfield, CT, in 1920. He received his formal education in the public schools of New York and Connecticut. A retired experimental machinist, who had been involved in quality control, Mr. Papanic lives with his wife, Margaret, in New York. They have three children: George, Jr., Alan, and Laura. The author has been a Veterans of Foreign Wars service officer for thirty years and a veterans' consultant of the American Legion for five years. He also is a member of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association. Who Else Was Guilty At "Pearl"? reflects the author's lifelong concern about the origins of American involvement in World War II, which he experienced firsthand while stationed in the army in Hawaii in 1941.

Okay, gang; any orders?

If you haven't yet, you soon will. More than 3.7 million of us will share a record \$673.2 million in GI life insurance dividends in '83.

They'll go out before May 2nd. Average will be \$122 on modified life plan policies, \$260 on other permanent policies, and \$123 on term policies.

Spend it wisely.

Fellow says to a lady, "I hear you caught your husband cheating and you had a terrible argument." She said, "Oh, I wouldn't say that. It's true that we had a fight and I stabbed him -- but that's as far as it went."



A Baltimore II photo -- with enough stars represented here to make up our own Milky Way -- Lt.Gen. DONALD E. ROSENBLUM, Maj.Gen. AUBREY S. NEWMAN and Maj.Gen. JOHN R. GALVIN.

New member ANDREW and Leona (Lee) SCHURLEY, (L & Sv. 21st '41-'43) anxious to get in touch with "buddies of that era." Try them at 58 Sidney, Spotswood, NJ.

JOE and Carolyn CENGA, (AT 19th '40-'44), have moved to Cape Cod. Try 206 Cedric Road, Centerville, MA. Beautiful country, Joe and Carolyn. Best wishes.

JACK BROWN (Sv., E & F 34th '42-'44), of Rt. 3, Lake Viking, Gallatin, MO. has made his "return." Made the PI on the "38th" anniversary. Doesn't seem possible that 38 years have passed each of us by. Tell us about your trip, Jack!!

Fully paid up as a Life Member is our #501 -- ALEXANDER BRONSBURG, (3rd Eng. '41-'45), of 78 Lackawanna, Swoyersville, PA. Sent in \$100.00 in one fell swoop. Wonder where "one fell swoop" came from?

BILL BYRD (21st '42-'45) would like to be sure that his mail is addressed to 205 Georgetown Circle, Ft. Smith, AR. 72903

The Park Avenue housewife discharged her pretty young maid for making love to her husband. Much to her surprise, the maid asked for a written reference. The wife asked, "What kind of reference do you expect after that?" She said, "Well, how about 'at least, she tried to please everyone.'"

# Up Front

As any fashion observer can relate with some relish, there is a quantum difference between the way fashions look as presented on the designer's runway and the way the same outfits look on the women who eventually buy them. The new-wave Japanese fashions of Rei Kowakubo and Yohji Yamamoto, two of the most talked-about Japanese talents of the moment, are a case in point. Stores have reported brisk sales of their dramatic designs, and New York women with an interest in avant-garde fashion have been wearing these somberly colored but boldly shaped clothes this winter. The Tokyo designers' signature look consists of layered and wrapped fabrics that appear to be torn, slashed or shredded, a quality that, at the least, disdains opulence. During their initial fashion showings, "Oriental folklore" was a phrase that many reporters found apt. The designs do give the gals sort of a frumpy look, don't you agree? Oh for the little corbato's of '45-'55 days. →



Kokura -- remember the place? In Japanese, the word means "success". Down in the Wall Street area of NYC -- at 19 S. William St. to be precise -- they have just opened a new restaurant. It's name? Why "Kokura".

There is an a la carte dinner menu with entrees mostly at \$10 - \$12, and complete dinners at about \$13-\$14.50. The meal starts with soup - clear, or bean, and continues on with two small side dishes, and one of pickled vegetables. When we visited, the latter was fermented black beans; the side dishes were a tasty slice of fish cake, and an attractively created affair of yellow and white egg sections.

Among the entree choices are the best-selling sukiyaki, tonkatsu (grilled pork cutlet), tempura (shrimp and vegetables, batter-dipped and quickly deep-fried), teriyaki (beef, pork or chicken, marinated and broiled), etc.

The sukiyaki is prepared at the table over a portable electric hot plate -- the thin-sliced beef (or pork or chicken), mushrooms, bamboo shoots, bean curd, greens, onions, placed in the iron pot with liquid. It cooks quickly, and is served with rice.

Among the a la carte entrees are boiled salmon or white fish with ginger (\$10), broiled eel (\$12.50), deep-fried shrimp cutlet (\$10.50), and tempura (\$10.50); beef rolled around scallions and marinated (\$11); shabu (thin-sliced beef and vegetables, cooked at the table by dipping in hot broth) (\$12); etc. Mouth watering?

**Don't  
forget**

to  
renew your  
membership  
for  
**1983!**

Things inevitably end up in the end. So said JAMES GARNER, (5th RCT '50-'51) as he was recently decorated with two Purple Hearts, 30 years after being twice wounded. "It's sure better to get these medals late than posthumously" said Jim -- and we can all add our own Amens to that. Jim was first injured by shrapnel in his face and hands. The second time he was hit Jim says, "I was hit in the backside going into a fox-hole." Immediately the news item appeared, we were hit with three telephone calls from news services trying to locate Jim. Seems the Pentagon referred them to us; they couldn't reach Garner directly. Our feeble reply: we haven't been able to work a reply out of Garner in 30 years. Jim apparently wants nothing to do with us.