



The Taro Leaf



24th Infantry (Victory) Division Veterans' Association

VOLUME I

JUNE 1948

NUMBER 4

VICTORY DIVISION READY TO INVADE MARYLAND

BALTIMORE, TARGET AREA FOR OPERATION REUNION

The command is 'forward'—forward to the first convention of the 24th Division's Veterans' Association.

Plans and Operations has completed its work. We will gather at the Lord Baltimore in Baltimore on 13 August. Registration starts at ten a.m. From that hour until the closing banquet on 14 August V.J. Day, the visiting veterans of the best division in the U.S.A. will have a full program.

Col. William J. Verbeck, chairman of the convention committee, has lined up a series of business meetings which will give way at suitable intervals to the more pleasurable features of a reunion.

Following registration you will be given an opportunity to bat the breezes—or whatever—with your buddies. For those who are not so disposed, the committee has arranged a program of sightseeing starting at noon.

The evening hours may be whiled away with what the committee describes as 'regimental, unit and spontaneous gatherings.' In a word, the first day of the convention will be devoted entirely to the



Colonel William J. Verbeck

Committee Chairman

1st CONVENTION CLIMAX DUE TO COME ON V-J DAY

social aspects of the convention. Not quite entirely, though. There will be several committee meetings at which the business program will be determined.

On Saturday, V-J day, we will get down to that business—although it will be delayed until the afternoon. The plenary session of the convention will convene at the Lord Baltimore at 2 p.m. Major General Kenneth F. Cramer, association president, will call the meeting to order. Thereafter Edmund F. Henry, secretary-treasurer, will submit his report. This will be followed by election of officers and any other business which may properly come before the convention.

Between the close of the convention meeting and the start of the memorial service for departed comrades, you will be on your own.

The convention banquet will be held at the Lord Baltimore. It had been hoped that Gen. MacArthur would be able to attend. However that is not to be as the following exchange of cablegrams will indicate.

" NO DIVISION CLOSER TO MY HEART " DOUGLAS A. MAC ARTHUR

GENERAL DOUGLAS A. MAC ARTHUR
TOKYO, JAPAN

"VETERANS OF 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION WHO PROUDLY SERVED UNDER YOUR COMMAND FROM AUSTRALIA TO JAPAN INVITE YOU TO BE GUEST OF HONOR AT REUNION IN BALTIMORE, V-J DAY."

EDMUND F. HENRY, SECRETARY
24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

EDMUND F. HENRY, SECRETARY
24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

"GRATEFUL FOR YOUR FINE INVITATION. NO DIVISION WITH WHICH I HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED IS CLOSER TO MY HEART THAN THE 24TH AND NONE MORE DISTINGUISHED ITSELF. I MUST DECLINE, HOWEVER, AS I EXPECT TO BE IN JAPAN AT THAT TIME. MY BEST WISHES FOR A GREAT REUNION."

MAC ARTHUR

It is apparent that the Commander-in-Chief Far East will be present with us in spirit. In the flesh, we will be happy to welcome Major Generals Frederick A. Irving and R. B. Woodruff, both former C.G.s

Undoubtedly they will have interesting and inspiring messages for us.

And while we are happy to welcome these distinguished gentlemen, you perhaps will get more real pleasure out of renewing friendships with those who went with you up the long, hard road from Hollandia and Leyte to Tokyo.

We'll be seeing you at Baltimore. Bring the family.

THE TARO LEAF

Issued Quarterly by the 24th Infantry (Victory)

Division Veterans' Association 402-410 First National Bank Bldg., Attleboro, Mass.

JAMES G. FAIRBROTHER, Hq. 2nd Bn., 34th Inf. Editor

Subscription: \$2.00—free to members of Association

Officers

Maj. Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer, President The Pentagon, Washington, D. C.

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Sgt. Walter B. Himes, (13 FA) Vice Pres. New York City

CWO Edmund F. Henry, (Div. Hq.), Sec'y-Treas. Attleboro, Mass.

REUNION REGISTRATION

The Reception and Registration Booth at the Lord Baltimore Hotel opens at 10:00 a. m. Friday, August 13th. The fee is \$2.00. This is to cover some of the expenses of holding an affair such as a reunion, these expenses are pretty hard to estimate in advance. The committee has to have some financial backlog, but has kept the fee at a minimum. When you register you will get a badge with your name legible at 10 paces. There will be additional space to fill in any nickname. Thus, when you meet your old Company Commander, you can forget the 'Sir' and call him Red, Butch, or even Stinky. Besides the badge, you will get a map of Baltimore, a list of the hotels, a list of interesting sights, and places, a program—and a map with the coordinates of the location of "Club 24", a special bar set up in the Hotel Lord Baltimore for our use—tuba and jungle juices will be dispensed to the thirsty.

You will find a blank on this page, marked "Reunion Registration". Notice that Maj. Francis R. Dice, 208 Oak Avenue Pikesville 8, Md., a well known ex-Gimlet is in charge of all registration. It is not absolutely necessary that you send this blank in ahead of time, but it will help the Committee in trying to estimate the probable attendance.

Herewith we print an announcement of the room rates at the Lord Baltimore. You will notice that you can share a room with some of your buddies and get something for as little as \$2.25 a day. The hotel is reserving sufficient sleeping rooms to accommodate all members who might wish to attend. However, if there are any members who desire lower priced accommodations, their reservations can be placed in nearby hotels. You can do this yourself, if you know anything about the hotels in Baltimore. We do not have room in this issue to print a list of the other hotels, but the Lord Baltimore said that it would be very glad to place your reservations at any place of your choice if you will just notify them. That seems fair enough!

RESERVATION CARD

Fill in this card and mail it to: LORD BALTIMORE HOTEL, Baltimore 3, Md. You will receive our confirmation at once.

LORD BALTIMORE HOTEL BALTIMORE 3, MARYLAND

24th INFANTRY DIVISION REUNION August 13th and 14th, 1948

Gentlemen:

Reserve (Type of room and rate desired) I will arrive in Baltimore at A. M. P. M. (Date) (Time)

Name Address City A prompt reply will be appreciated.

ROOM RATES

Single Rooms (for one) \$4.00, \$4.50, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$6.50, \$7.50, \$8.00 Double Rooms (for two) \$6.50, \$7.00, \$7.50, \$8.50, \$9.00, \$10.00, \$10.50. Twin Bedrooms (for two) \$7.50, \$8.00, \$8.50, \$9.00, \$10.00, \$10.50 Dormitory Room Accomodations as follows: Room for 4 at \$2.50 each person. Room for 5 or more \$2.25 each person.

FILIPINOS INVITED

Richard J. Krebs (Jan Valtin) formerly of Division Headquarters, author of "Children of Yesterday", the unofficial history of the Division and a member of the Executive Committee wrote the following letter to the Mayor of Davao:—"Dear Mr. Mayor:

"It is with pleasure and pride that I convey to you and to the people of Davao City the most cordial greetings of the Twenty-Fourth Infantry (Victory) Division Veterans' Association. No doubt you and your people remember as vividly as we do the liberation of Davao from the Japanese oppression by the fighting teams of our 24th Infantry Division.

"The former members of the 24th Infantry Division, most of whom participated in the battles for Davao and Mindanao, banded together in a Division Veterans' Association, have now set the date for a Convention to commemorate the historic events in which they have participated, and to honor the memory of those of their comrades who gave their lives in battle. As you know, hundreds of our 24th Infantry Division men who gave their lives to liberate Davao, were buried at the combat cemetery at Talomo. The date of this convention is August 13th and 14th, 1948. The place of the Convention is the Hotel Lord Baltimore, in Baltimore, Maryland, U. S. A.

"The veterans of the Twenty-Fourth extend herewith to the City of Davao and to its people a cordial invitation to send a delegate to their Baltimore Convention. The Convention, we feel, would not be complete without the honor of having

ATTENTION GIMLETS

It has been recently announced that the Army Historical Division will republish Col. Wm. J. Verbeck's "Regiment in Action". The original edition, which was reviewed in the February issue of The Taro Leaf was multilithed and distributed by Col. Verbeck to many former members of the 21st Infantry. At one time the Infantry Journal contemplated a new edition. These plans, however, have been supplanted by the present program which calls for an official edition by the Army Historical Division. The volume is already on the press. Advance reports indicate that it is something in which ex-Gimlets can take great pride. Col. Verbeck proposes to take 300 copies to the Convention and will make them available gratis to all first comers. Of course, he will favor ex-Gimlets in the distribution and you can't blame him for that. He justifiably takes pride in his former Regiment—and the Regiment can take pride in its former C.O.

present a representative of the friendly and courageous Filipino Nation, and particularly a representative of Davao, where the men of the 24th celebrated the day of Victory over Japan, and their brotherhood-in-arms with your own gallant people."

Secretary Henry sent a letter of similar tenor to the Mayor of Palo, Leyte, suggesting that the Mayor and City Council of Leyte might find it appropriate to extend the greetings of the municipality to the Division which was instrumental in liberating them from the Japanese.

REUNION REGISTRATION

Maj. Francis Dice, Registration Chairman 208 Oak Avenue Pikesville 8, Maryland

Enclosed find \$2.00. Kindly register me for the 24th Inf. Div. Reunion at Baltimore, August 13-14, 1948.

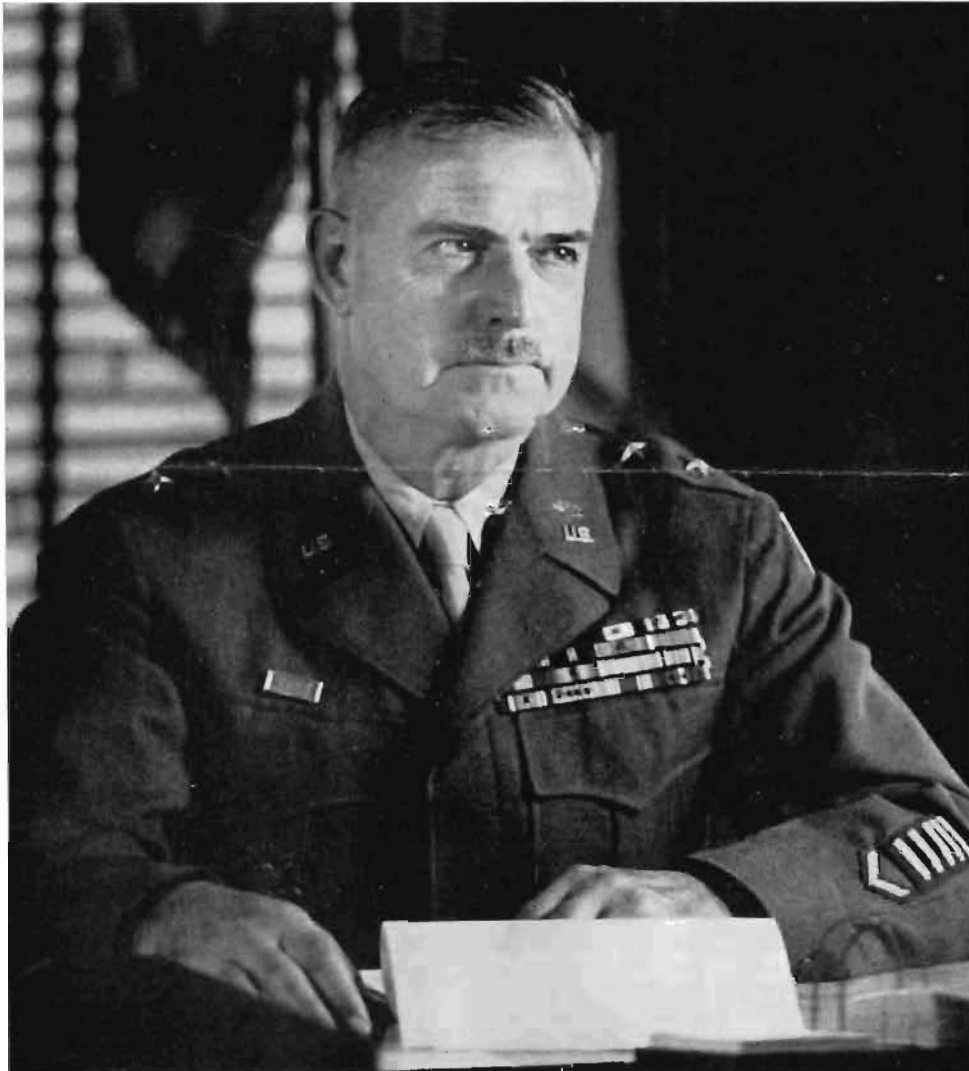
Name Former outfit Address

The Major General with the M-1

"Fifty-six years ago the wife of a cabinet maker named Calvin Woodruff, in Oska-loosa, Iowa, gave birth to a son whose life story is as American as the tales of Mark Twain. As a boy he went fishing along the headwaters of the Skunk River. As a young man at West Point he "pinch-kicked" in football (with his left foot) with a skill that brought triumph to the Army and sorrow to the Navy. As a mature commander he led the Victory Division in combat on Leyte, Mindoro and Mindanao. And after "Cease Firing" and the enemy's surrender the former youngster from Iowa assumed control of one third of the home islands of the former Empire of Japan.

"He is Major General R. B. Woodruff, known to veterans of the Twenty-fourth as the Division Commander who drove his own jeep and packed an M-1 rifle.

"My first meeting with General Wood-



Major General R. B. Woodruff

ruff occurred on Talomo Beach—in a shower stall. The day was hot. From Mintal drifted the sounds of fighting. I saw a wood-and-burlap shower stall, just rigged under the palms, and I entered to wash off the sweat. The only other occupant of the shower was a bronzed, burly man whom a few weeks earlier I had seen fall into a foxhole and crack a couple of ribs at Parang. He was naked, covered with soap. He stared at me; I stared at him. Finished, he gave me a quick grin and departed. Minutes later I saw him jeeping out of camp—in the direction of Mintal—and I realized that I, the PFC, had shared a shower with the Division Commander.

"Holy smoke," warned a lieutenant, "you'll hear about that."

I never did. The General is an infantryman at heart, cherishing the infantryman's simple virtues and achievements—and the infantryman's democracy—above all privilege of rank. I have seen him clean his own M-1, or dig cheese from a K-Ration packet. I have also seen him stand silently among the crosses of Talomo Cemetery, and I know that he once surrendered his quarters on Mindoro to a subordinate who had married a nurse so that the couple might enjoy a brief honeymoon in relative privacy.

"General Woodruff took command of the Victory Division in November, 1944, on Leyte. From the mopping-up of Leyte Peninsula he led the 24th through the campaigns of Mindoro and Mindanao and into occupation duty in Japan. November, 1945, he was promoted to command the First Corps, comprising six divisions, along with the control of more than twenty million ma Canal Department.

Japanese civilians. In addition, he was a member of the volley ball team which won the occupation Championship of Japan. And policing a big chunk of Japan, the General recalled that his father had been, long ago, a sheriff of Mahaska County, Iowa.

"As a professional soldier of fine caliber, General Woodruff has led an active and colorful life ever since he graduated from West Point in 1915, a class-mate of Dwight D. Eisenhower and Omar Bradley. Here is his record:

1916-1920 Mexican Border Service; to France in World War I with the famed Second Division; combat observer with the British Eighth Division; graduated from Command and General Staff School, A.E.F.; returned to U. S. and Military Intelligence.

"1921-1924 Battalion Commander with the 33rd Infantry Regiment in the Panama Canal Zone, later Assistant G3 of the Pana-

"1925-1931 Service with the 28th Infantry in New York; Advanced Course at the Infantry School, Fort Benning; Honor Graduate and Faculty Member of the Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth.

"1932-1942 Graduated from the Army War College; served with the Department of Tactics at West Point; advanced to position of chief of the Training Branch, War Department General Staff; became a Colonel commanding the 23rd Infantry Regiment at Fort Sam Houston; advanced to Major General and the command of the 77th Infantry Division in South Carolina, Louisiana and Arizona; commended during maneuvers by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill.

"1943 Commanding General, VII Corps, at Jacksonville, Fla.; secret mission to England; observer at the crossing of the Volturno River in Italy; initiated specialized training of troops earmarked for the invasion of Normandy, France.

"1944 Commander of the XIX Corps in England; Command of the 84th Infantry Division at Camp Claiborne, La.; transferred to Force 248, Oahu, Hawaii; moved into Leyte, P. I., on D-Day, and took command of the 24th Infantry Division on November 18, 1944, immediately after the Battles of Breakneck Ridge; led the Twenty-Fourth to Victory and to Japan.

"This is, by any standards, an impressive record. But what makes General Woodruff best remembered by the men who served under his command are R.B.'s qualities as a human

Continued on Page 6

CALL ME MISTER

Stewart, Alvin E., Co. F 21st, said he knew nothing of association until he received copy. Others made same comment.

Schnetzler, Charles D., of 1908 S. Main Street, Madison 4, Wis., sent names of five prospects and mentioned he found no names of former buddies or acquaintances in previous issues of Taro Leaf. Has 24th spirit, says he won't give up. Co. F., 21st.

Connell, Charles J., formerly with Hq. Co. 2 Bn. and Sv. Co. 19th, writes from 357 Cloverdale Avenue, Akron, Ohio. Says he is back at old stand as postal clerk in main office in Akron.

Baker, Joe. H. Jr., ex-Co. I 21st, home address 1906 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas, says he has lost contact with organization and has spent time since discharge working on a Bachelor and Masters Degree in Public Administration at Univ. of Texas. Says R. M. Cavness, former naval officer who worked as liaison officer with the 21st in Okayama, Japan, is at university working on Ph.D. degree.

Schildknecht, Glenn, Jr., of Rea, Mo., received Taro Leaf on birthday, said it was excellent gift (his dues are paid) and is looking forward to next issue. Former S/Sgt. with Hq. Co. 3rd Bn. 21st.

Engle, Rueben A., sent 30 names of ex-24th men. Now employed as lineman for power company. Address is Farnsworth, Great Lakes, Ill. Note:—Your \$2 makes you a member of the association. Co. B,

Pursifull, Ross W., of 9705 McQuade Avenue, Detroit, Mich., ex-Capt. with 34th Hq. Co., active in founding Michigan Chapter of Association says the group has received an abundance of newspaper publicity and 16 spot radio announcements. Nice Going, Ross.

Schoenberg, Roger M., Co. K, 34th, says an addition to the chow line delayed his membership application. Says wife and baby fine, but tough on the old man. Address is 506 Jackson Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Hartene, George, of Woodbine, N. J. writes that Taro Leaf is his first news of outfit since coming back to the states. Is waiting for other issues. Co. K, 21st.

LESTER LEAVES

A communication from Major General James A. Lester informs us that in April he terminated his tour of duty with the 24th Division with which he had served 56 months of his current 73 months overseas tour.

His new address is Headquarters Eighth Army, USA, Office of the Chief of Staff, APO 343.

Commenting on the transfer, General Lester said "It was with a deep emotional strain that I left the 24th. I am happy in my new assignment but a large part of my heart will ever remain with the division".

He said he has no idea when his current overseas tour will end but accepts an invitation to attend the convention this year if possible.

Douglass, Frederick D., 3rd Eng. is a geologist for Richfield Oil Corp. in Midland, Texas. Address him at Apt. No. 5, 510 N. Main St.

Maxey, Albert L., Hq. Co. 19th, 930 W. Third St., Plainfield, N. J., says he is "looking forward to the reunion. The TARO LEAF is great."

Ingelson, Leslie A., 24th Med. Bn., 1116-13th Ave., Moline, Ill., wants address of PFC Krugman of Co. B, 24th Med. Bn. Can you help?

Clark, Lamar S., Ex-chaplain 2nd Bn. 19th is minister at Glenwood Methodist Church, Tyler, Texas.

Woodward, Lewis K., Mai. 19th is with Dana Jones Co., Advertising, in Los Angeles office at 756 S. Broadway.

Carley, Lawrence E. Jr., Hq. and Hq. Co. 34th, Northport, Wash.: "Very glad to get a chance to join."

Savell, William A., M/Sgt. Sv. Co. 19th is manufacturing lumber and plywood in Blountstown, Fla.

Gray, Earl H., Maj. 3rd Eng. Bn., living at 120 Church St., Ferguson, 21, Mo.

Hogue, Chas. W., Sv. Co. 19th, Box 475, Edwardsville, Ill.: "Looking forward to reunion." Operator, Shell Oil.

Taylor, Robert, Co. A 1st Bn. 34th, of Middle Rd., Bayport, L. I., New York, says the Assn. is a great idea and everyone should join up.

Kahman, Chas. J., S/Sgt. Co. A 21st, is home from Letterman General. Address: 3638 N. Overhill Ave., Chicago, 34.

Llewellyn, William T., ex-Hq. Co. 2 Bn. 34th., sends dues from 124 Seventh Avenue, LaGrange, Ill. Says he's trying to get another copy of "Children of Yesterday". Have you tried The Infantry Journal, Washington, D. C., yet Bill??

Reylek, William F. Jr., ex-aid man of Cn. and F. Cos. of 34th, studying to be a funeral director. Address Sayville Blvd., Sayville, L. I., N. Y.

Kirwan, Bernard W., of 93 Walnut Street, Binghamton, N. Y., formerly with C Btry. 63rd FA, suggests we make Taro Leaf a monthly proposition. Ed. note—With our limited staff we are lucky to get it out quarterly. However, it's food for thought and perhaps it can be arranged at convention this year.

Gorski, Frank E., ex-Med. Det. 1st Bn. 21st, wants first and second issues of Taro Leaf. Address is 2804 So. Millard Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

Shaddock, Lemuel B., 22 Washington Street, Cauton, Pa., would like to hear from any old buddies in Co. C 21st.

Rockenbach, Roger A., ex-Co. G 21st., of Wheeling, Ill., thinks Taro Leaf is best thing since V-J Day. Hmm.

Muccio, Francis J., ex-Major with Div. Hqs., Asst. G-2, writes from 256 Naubuc Avenue, Glastonbury, Conn., asks for first two copies of Taro Leaf.

Payne, David R., formerly with Hq. Btry. 11th FA of 630 Pioneer Road, Springfield 2, Mo., is employed as a clerk at Producers Produce Co., that city.

Wilson, James Y., ex of 1st Bn. 19th is commander of Florida Department, VFW., 17 W. DeSoto St., Lake City, Fla.

Hoover, Varian M., of Hustontown, Pa., ex-Co. C 34th says he is back in his grocery store again. Taro leaf was his first news of outfit since Japan.

Wideman, W. E., ex-Cannon Co. 34th, of 1345 North Euclid Avenue, St. Louis, Mo. offers historical data of Div. and units, 34th on Luzon and Corregidor. Will send to us "providing we return same". OK send them along.

Ligman, Dr. Richard T., formerly with 3rd Engrs, a charter member of association sends along 1948 dues from 2707 N. Mozart Street, Chicago 47, Ill.

Seaver, Richard C., ex-Capt with 34th Hq. Co., and S-1 3rd Bn. 34th, sent a number of names of former division members. Thanks Richard. Home address is 753 South 43rd. Street, Richmond, Calif.

Geiringer, Arthur J., of 1326 Madison Avenue, N. Y. 28, N. Y., ex-A-T Co. 19th, sent seven names and remarked "you have an interesting paper. The names it contains arouse a nice warm glow inside".

Come, Alvin E., of 75 Joy Street, Pittsfield, N. H., asks about Thomas Schremer of Detroit with whom he served with in Mindanao in Hq. Co., 3rd Bn. 21st. Schremer's address is 19342 Prevost Street, Detroit, Mich.

Mackle, Bernard, Co. H. 19th. inquires about reunion, etc. See current edition for details. Address is Jumbo Hall, University of Montana, Missoula, Mont.

Fittz, S. C., ex-1st Lt. with Co. E 21st, remarked it is only fitting that ties of friendship forged in war be carried on in peace. Offers services to 24th Assoc. Address Box 4846, College Station, Texas.

Davignon, Leo R., sends membership application from new address at 3210 Clark Avenue, Cleveland 9, Ohio. Name of book about division is "Children of Yesterday" by Jan Valtin. Available at \$3.00 at Infantry Journal, Washington, D. C.

34th REGIMENT ELECTS

Officers for the year were named and installed at recent meetings of the 34th. Infantry Regiment Association, Inc., at 77th. Regt. headquarters, New York city.

Nat Levinson, corresponding secretary, reported that approximately 80 members took part in the election at the March 22 meeting and the installation a month later.

Victor Backer was elected president; Jack Davles, vice president; Martin Friedman, treasurer; Robert Solomon, recording secretary; Levinson, corresponding secretary; Dan Cuomo, sergeant-at-arms; and Frank Bosco, chairman of the board of directors.

Announced at the March meeting were plans for the second annual dance of the group to be held at the Beekman Towers Hotel, New York city, on Nov. 6. Members are now selling tickets on a television set which will be awarded at the dance.

Levinson wrote that the editors of the "34th. Inf. Informer" would welcome news concerning former members of the outfit. Contributions should be addressed to Nat Levinson at 357 E. 195 Street, N. Y. 58, N. Y.

WHY BALTIMORE?

The Committee had to sweat this one out. The concentration of members and potential members along the Atlantic Seaboard really demanded a convention city on the coast, but no farther north than New York City and no farther south than Washington, D. C. New York seemed too large. We thought of a small place like Newark, but it seemed a little too close to the big city to insure our obtaining a quorum at the Convention. Philadelphia had something to be said for it, but it seemed pretty big. The Committee toyed with the idea of Atlantic City, but it sounded pretty expensive. Washington, D. C., the obvious choice of the 30 yr. men, was too crowded. The Committee finally decided on Baltimore because it was of moderate size, quite accessible and most of all had a group of eager-beavers, mainly some of Col. Bill Verbeck's ex-Gimlets, who are ready, able and willing to do the work. The Baltimore Convention Bureau pitched in through its Manager L. H. Denton and things really got done.

It should be up to the Convention to pick next year's reunion city. If Baltimore is "as hot as Leyte" as someone predicted, blame it on Col. Verbeck, Dick Friedman (19th), Ray Ford (Div. Arty), Bill Davidson and Ed Henry (Div. Hqs.). They chose it one night in a smoke filled room in the association offices in Attleboro, Mass.

IS IT STAG?

The Committee had a lot of fun with this one. The first meeting—that was the one in the smoke filled room in Attleboro, Mass., broke up with a solemn vow that the reunion would be stag. No one was worried about leaving his wife for a couple of days. After all, how did we know that the wives hadn't been wishing we would disappear briefly and come back with a few new stories? The next meeting of the Committee, however, was held on Col. Verbeck's lawn, 6625 Lee Highway, East Falls Church, Virginia. Southern chivalry was the order of the day. The ladies were lovely and charming. Although they did not ask to attend, or even so much as hint, the Committee had already begun to weaken. So, at the most recent meeting of the Committee at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, it was decided to invite the ladies to the banquet, which will be held on Saturday evening, August 14th. Of course, those of you who come from a distance may want to bring your wives on Friday. The Committee will try to arrange something to keep the girls occupied while you attend to regimental parties, committee meetings and the Convention. Some thought was given to having a dance or ball following the banquet, but this idea was rejected, so that when the banquet breaks up, you are on your own.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

This Convention will have its serious side. No one of us can forget that from Pearl Harbor to V-J Day, the Victory Division lost 2275 men, killed in action. From Oahu to the hills of Mt. Apo, the Road of Victory is marked by crosses and stars of David. The memorial service for the honored dead of the Division will be held in the banquet hall of the Lord Baltimore Hotel. Present plans provide that it will be conducted by Rev. Charles J. Brady, Ex-Chaplain of the 21st, now of Syracuse, New York. Other chaplains of the Division who attend the Convention will be cordially invited to assist.

WHAT DID YOU DO IN WORLD WAR II?

So you think you won the war in the Pacific? Well, maybe you did. But you will have a chance to find out if you are one of the **FIRST ONE HUNDRED** veterans to get in your registration slip to Major Dice. (See P. 2).

We told you in a previous issue Gen. Lester had ordered the printing of "A Brief History" of the Division in 1947. The printing was delayed due to the shortage of news print. Maj. Gen. A. C. Smith has just notified Secretary Henry that a supply is on the way. This booklet is about 100 pages, and covers the history of the Division from Oahu to Japan. There is also a thumb-nail sketch of each unit—from regiment to Division Band. Moreover, it has color plates showing all regimental and artillery insignia—also maps and photographs.

If you are among the first 100 to send in the clipping on Page 2, you will get a copy for free.

BUSINESS SESSION

The Nominating Committee will meet at 4:00 o'clock on Friday, August 13th, at the Hotel Lord Baltimore. It is proposed to offer a slate of officers for the coming year for the consideration of the Convention. After nominations of this Committee, however, have been read, there will be plenty of opportunity for nominations from the floor of the Convention. The Convention itself will be held at the Reunion Headquarters in the Hotel Lord Baltimore on Saturday afternoon at 2:00 p. m. The main business will be to hear the report of the Secretary-Treasurer and to elect officers and to transact any necessary business. The officers who are now serving you were elected in Matsuyama, Japan, in November 1945 to serve only on a temporary basis until such a Convention could elect regular officers as provided in the constitution. The business meeting may not be as much fun as the other proceedings of the Convention, but it will be a vital part.

WITH THE REGULARS

Vaughn, 1st. Sgt. Robert D. of 415 Market Street, Emporia, Kansas, reports he has been transferred to Fort Riley, Kansas.

Whittemore, 1st Sgt. George, with F Co. 34th for 36 months overseas, sends his present address as Hq. & Hq. Detachment I, ASU 3420, Fort Bragg, N. C.

Dalton, Ralph L., Lt. Col., demoted by us in a recent column to Major is hereby restored to present rank. Sent along a bundle of names, says he is a member of the attack committee of the tactical section of Infantry School, Fort Benning, with Lt. Col. W. C. Wickboldt. Acknowledges that claim of being a father is not original but expresses pride in Victoria Ann.

Schaad, Lt. Col. Carl W., formerly CO 63rd FA, submits application with address, C/o military attache, American Embassy, London, Eng.

Marcy, Lt. Col. Roy W., ex Co. C and 2nd Bn 21st, can be reached at c/o Advance Class No. 1, Student Officers Co, "A", The Armored School, Fort Knox, Ky.

Weber, Lt. Col. Frederick R., formerly with Hq. 21st Inf., currently at USMA West Point, N. Y. writes that he is looking forward to the reunion.

Carr, Thomas R., 1st Sgt. formerly Thomas H. Evans of A-T Co. 21st, says he lost all contact with former buddies when he transferred to 7th Div. Can be reached at Room 505 Old Post Office Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa. Completes 20 years service in November and plans to retire and settle down in Connecticut.

Stitchalk, Sgt. Andrew A., Hq. Co., Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, sent names of seven fellow vets formerly with 13th. FA Bn. Asks that we publish an article on activities of Bn. and will do if we can find any material.

Jackson, Kenneth L., former 1st. Sgt. G. Co. 21st, of 1430 Charles Avenue, St. Paul 4, Minn., says hello to Lt. Frank Hammar, T/Sgt Spike O'Donne'l and Joe Benevente. Enjoys copies of Taro Leaf. ROTC duty.

24th Infantry (Victory) Division Veterans' Association

402-410 First National Bank Building, Attleboro, Massachusetts

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME.....

COMPANY AND REGIMENT, OR BATTERY.....

HOME ADDRESS.....

ADDRESSES OF FELLOW-VETERANS.....

.....

REMARKS.....

DUES ENCLOSED.....

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES, \$2.00

IF YOU WANT FUTURE ISSUES, CLIP THIS COUPON

MESS CALL

We sit down for this at 6:30 p. m., Saturday, August 14th. Remember it is V-J Day.

The dinner is really the climax of the reunion and Col. Verbeck has named John Farrell (2nd B.N. 21st) of Riderwood, Md., to Chairman this Committee. The menu has not been announced as yet,—but Baltimore, and this hotel, in particular, is famous for its food. This banquet ticket will cost you \$5.00 and this will include enough to cover certain extras such as dinner music, entertainment, etc.

Remember this is the event that the ladies may attend. During the dinner the music will be provided by an Hawaiian string band, the reason for which will be pretty obvious to all of you. There will also be music by a bugle and drum corps.

The Colors and Color Guard of the 175th Reg. of the 29th Div. (Md.) will attend. The Field music will furnish a mess call and at a point in the banquet will escort the Colors to the rear of the speakers' table where they will remain during the speechmaking, and then will play them out. Gen. Cramer will be the toastmaster. The other speakers will be announced in the public press, so keep your eye peeled for developments along this line.

CONVENTION SIDELIGHTS

The Committee planning the Convention has arranged to set aside a room in the Lord Baltimore Hotel, next to the registration desk, as a Trophy Room. It is planned to exhibit photographs, any other memoranda of a reminiscent nature, trophies, etc., which would be of interest to the boys.

There is a steamship called the "Bay Belle" that runs moonlight cruises from Baltimore into Chesapeake Bay. The steamship runs on Friday evening, leaving about 7:30 p. m. and returning about 11:00 p. m. There is a restaurant, music, etc. aboard, and the tickets are only \$1.00 a piece. This may be an interesting diversion for some of the wives while you attend regimental parties and spontaneous gatherings in the Lord Baltimore Hotel.

PROGRAM FOR THE FIRST CONVENTION OF 24th INFANTRY (VICTORY) DIVISION VETERANS ASSOCIATION AUGUST 13-14th, 1948, Baltimore, Md.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13th

- 10:00 Registration*—Reception Booth opens in Lord Baltimore Hotel.
12:00-4:00 Sightseeing, informal get-together.
4:00 Committee meetings.
6:00 Throughout evening—Regimental, unit and spontaneous gatherings.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 14th

- 2:00 Convention Meeting.
6:30**Memorial Service, followed by Banquet, speaking program, Music, at Hotel Lord Baltimore.

*\$2.00 charge
**\$5.00 charge

CALL ME MISTER

Caldwell, B. G., Div. M. P. Platoon, writes from 107 So. Sixth St., Hannibal, Mo., "Count me in on anything the Assn. does." Will try to make the convention.

Duff, Robert J., Capt. Asst. G-4, married Louise James on 19 June, 48 in Danville, Ill.

Ford, Raymond J. (Capt. Hq. 24 Div. Arty) et ux, 181 Cabot St., Newton, Mass. announce arrival of 1948 Model Ford, Rosamond, 17 June 1948.

Bridgforth, Walter G., Co. G. 19th, is an attorney in Yazoo City, Miss., P. O. Box 41.

Bates, James J., ex-Major and Dental Officer at Div. Hqs. is practising in Albia, Iowa.

Bazzinotti, Victor W., Capt. Co. I 19th, of 739 Rear 6th Ave., Ford City, Pa., says "You can count me in on all future plans."

Lager, Fred, Co. B. 34th, is in fur business at 76th St. and Broadway, New York. Irons, Philip S. III, ex-Gimlet, 1st Bn., is at 112 High St., Mt. Holly, N. J.

THE MAJOR GENERAL WITH THE M-1

(Continued from Page 3)

being. He has a genuine admiration for the private soldier. Unlike many younger officers, he refuses to be Napoleonic. He does not shy from cooking his own steaks and making his own fishing rods. He rebuilt an old canoe and carried it five thousand miles atop his car—for fishing when there was time. He is the father of two children. He likes a good joke and he is liked by those around him. He is a friend of the old M-1, and a friend of the men who carried the M-1 when the going was really tough."

Richard J. Krebs (Jan Valtin)

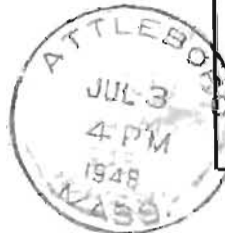
MERIT AWARD

The new C.G., Maj. Gen. A. C. Smith, suggested some time ago to Secretary Henry that the Association might be interested in furnishing a plaque to be awarded every 3 months to the Regiment in the Division which has the best personnel achievement records for the period. Such things as courtmartial records, athletic competitions, provost marshal delinquencies etc., are considered in determining the standard of the Regiments for this award. General Smith felt that the achievement award would have increased value if it came as a tribute of the combat veterans of the Division. The Association was very happy to fall in with this suggestion and a suitable plaque is already on its way to Japan. Copies of V-Day, the Division's daily, indicate that for the three-month period, January to March, the Merit Award was presented to the 34th Infantry Regiment, commanded by Col. Ralph C. Bing. At last report, however, the 19th Infantry Regiment, commanded by Col. Charles P. Lynch, was ahead on points for the period from April to June.

THE TARO LEAF
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