



The Taro Leaf

24th Infantry (Victory) Division Association

VOLUME IV

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NUMBER 4

DETROIT AWAITS ARRIVAL OF 24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PLANS CONVENTION

The President, Ex-President, Secretary and Ex-Convention Chairman made their annual pilgrimage to audit the Association Treasury at the home of the Treasurer in Swedesboro, New Jersey, on Saturday 21, April 1951.

The excuse THIS time was a meeting with the Membership Drive Chairman, Ken Ross, who could not make it at the last moment. Not to be daunted, the executives quickly found a NEW excuse - birthday of Max Cizon.

Among those present: President Spike O'Donnell, and his Secretary; Ex-President Ed Henry, fresh from a "Welcome Mac Arthur" tour of New York and still wearing the Mac Arthur Button; Ex-Secretary and publisher of the Taro Leaf, Bob and Mrs. Duff, Danville, Illinois; Secretary Joseph I. Peyton of Baltimore, Maryland; Col. and Mrs. Max Cizon of Washington, D.C. and Fort Meade, Maryland; Snapper & Mrs. Snavelly, without the four sons, from Lancaster, Pa.; Jim Russel of New England; and our hosts Moneybags and Mrs. Davidson.

Only the fact that the convention "strategy" is classified precludes my giving the readers of this piece all the details of this fantastic meeting. Rest assured however, my dear reader, that much was accomplished despite the varied views of all assembled. Everybody present was very much concerned with membership and only Ken Ross' absence prevented greater emphasis on the need of the Drive's success. Oh where, oh where are all those lists of former members of the 24th Infantry Division?

One Major conclusion was reached: It is imperative for the Secretary and the publisher of the Taro Leaf to be together; to be one and the same person is highly preferred. More on this subject on the afternoon of 11 August 1951 at the business meeting in the Tuller Hotel, Detroit, Michigan.

Many thanks and our sympathy are due to the hostess, not only for her splendid repast, but especially for her forbearance with the group of individualists who "Though vanquished argued still" - into the wee hours of the Sabbath morning. May she never have to suffer that way again. Amen!

GUEST SPEAKER KEPT SECRET

Detroit Committee after months of preparation is set to provide fun, and entertainment for everyone attending Fourth Annual Convention. Time nor space is available to tell you about what you will see, do and hear at the coming convention. We have purposely put this paper to press early, in order that we could get the necessary information to you in time, so that preparations can be made by all of you to attend "the best yet" convention of the Association.

As of this time, the Guest Speaker, is a secret being kept locked in the heads of the Convention Committee, but we are certain their selection will be an appropriate one, and interesting to all of you. We are looking forward to having General Irving, General Woodruff, General Cramer, and several others, but, due to the present situation in Korea, and elsewhere, we are not certain that these members will be able to be present. We are confident however, that they will make every effort to do so.

A tentative program of the entire three day Convention follows:

Friday - August 10th.

9:00 A.M. - balance of day - Registration. When registering, you will be asked the regular registration fee, plus current dues, the banquet tickets, and all necessary information to keep your Association record up-to-date.

The afternoon will be taken up with individual unit meetings, informal discussions and get togethers.

Tickets to radio broadcasts and television shows will be available to all members and their friends. Also, a cocktail party is being planned for the wives and lady friends of members.

Every effort is being made to obtain official 24th Div. films to be shown in the evening.

Saturday - August 11th.

The morning will be taken up with informal discussions and business meetings by members who are able to get out of bed, after the first big night. The nomination committee will be at work selecting officers for the coming year. A few changes are anticipated.

Saturday afternoon will be the second biggest attraction of the convention. At this time we will hold our business meeting, and the election of officers. As stated previously, a few changes will be made, but as a whole, the same officers will retain their positions. According to the vote of last year, officers elected in 1950 would hold such positions until after the emergency, which was meant to mean, the "police action" in Korea. Also do for discussion and selection is the site for the 1952 convention. So fellows have your selections ready. At this writing, California, (San Francisco) is making a bid for next year's convention. Remember, the convention site is picked by those attending the business meeting. Every one has an equal say. What is yours?

Saturday evening at 6:00 P.M., we will assemble in the Variety Club Room for our Memorial Service and Banquet. As in previous years, Hawaiian music will be the popular theme. The committee is making arrangements to have a good group of musicians on hand, as well as the color guard, which we have been fortunate to have during our previous banquets.

Sunday - August 12th.

Sunday morning, the last day of the convention, will be taken up with informal meetings and get togethers. Various units of the 24th will hold unit meetings. It can be expected, that many of the fellows will hold over a few days or so, to prepare for their long trips home. That was very evident last year.

During the entire three days, a Trophy Room will be open where you can reminisce, and look over the various trophies on display.

In addition to all the going ons at the convention, Mayor Albert E. Cobo, chief executive of the City of Detroit, has designated Saturday, August 11th as 24th Division Day. The proclamation appears elsewhere in this issue.

We could write more about the good time in store for every one who attends this year's convention, and about the great city of Detroit, but, the best way to really appreciate these facts is to be present in person. So let us all SET OUR SIGHTS on Detroit. Remember the dates, August 10, 11 and 12. Place: The Tuller Hotel.

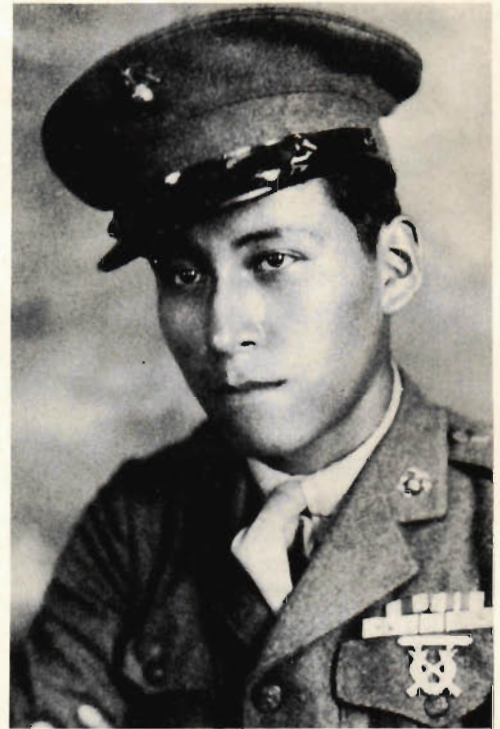
"CHICK" AWARDED MEDAL OF HONOR POSTHUMOUSLY FOR KOREA ACTION

The eighth Medal of Honor won by Army heroes in Korean military operations has been awarded posthumously to Infantry Corporal Mitchell Red Cloud, Jr., an American Indian from Friendship, Wisconsin, the Department of the Army announced.

Although wounded during a fanatical Chinese Communist attack near Chonghyon, Korea, Corporal Red Cloud refused aid or assistance. Wrapping one arm around a tree for support, the courageous Infantryman from Company E, 19th Infantry-Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, continued to pour deadly automatic rifle fire into the onrushing enemy troops until his position was completely overrun. His gallant action delayed the enemy attack long enough for the company to hastily reorganize in new defensive positions, and made it possible to evacuate all wounded personnel along with the company.

General Omar N. Bradley, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Presented the Nation's highest award to Mrs. Nellie Red Cloud, PO Box 161, Friendship, Wisconsin, mother of Corporal Red Cloud, in a ceremony at the Pentagon, on April 3 at 2:30 P.M. Merlin Red Cloud, a brother, also of Friendship, and Mrs. Sadie Leach, a cousin, (interpreter), PO Box 263, Adam, Wisconsin, will attend the ceremony.

"Corporal Red Cloud, Company E, 19th Infantry Regiment, distinguished himself by conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action against the enemy near Chonghyon, Korea, on 5 November, 1950. From his position on the point of a ridge immediately in front of the company command post he was the first to detect the approach of the Chinese Communist forces and give the alarm as the enemy charged from a brush covered area less than one hundred feet from him. Springing up he delivered devastating point blank automatic rifle fire into the advancing enemy. His accurate and intense fire checked this assault and gained time for the company to consolidate its defense. With utter fearlessness he maintained his firing position until severely wounded by enemy fire. Refusing assistance he pulled himself to his feet and wrapped his arm around a tree, continued his deadly fire until again, and fatally, wounded. This heroic act stopped the enemy from overrunning his company's position and gained time for reorganization and evacuation of the wounded. Corporal Red Cloud's dauntless courage and gallant self-sacrifice reflects the highest credit upon himself and upholds the esteemed traditions of the Army of the United States."



Corporal Mitchell Red Cloud, Jr.

KOREA CITATION FOR THREE DIVISIONS

The Republic of Korea, through its president, Syngman Rhee, recently authorized award of the ROK Presidential Unit Citation to the U.S. 2nd, 24th and 25th Divisions. The 24th was cited for its tenacity in action from July 2 to 22; the 25th was commended for its counterattack against three North Korean Divisions in the Chinju area in early August; and the 2nd was praised for repulsing a strong Communist attack on the Nakdong River line during the first five days of September. Award of the citation carries with it the right for those men involved to wear a white ribbon, trimmed with red and green stripes, and bearing the red and blue globe of the Korean government.

Robert L. Berner is at present a National Service Officer of the Disabled American Veterans with offices in Wichita, Kansas.



The parents of Corporal Red Cloud and three other Army enlisted men killed in the Korean conflict received Medals of Honor from General of the Army Omar N. Bradley. The parents, Mr. John Jecelin, father of Sgt. William Jecelin; Mrs. Mildred Craig, mother of Cpl. Gordon Craig; Mrs. Nellie Red Cloud, mother of Cpl. Mitchell Red Cloud, Jr., and Mrs. Rose Ouelette, mother of Pfc. Joseph Ouelette, were congratulated by the General, who made the presentation for the President.

Time Magazine's "Man of the Year" - The American Soldier - was represented by Sergeant First Class Jerry Christensen, Operations Sergeant of the 34th. The picture which all of you saw on the cover of the Jan. 1st issue was taken in July 1950 south of Chonan shortly after he, Col. Martin and and Sergeant Downs, both also of the 34th, had engaged a T-34 tank with a rocket-launcher. Only Jerry survived the action. Concussion from the blast of the tank's 85mm jarred his left eye out of his socket. Jerry replaced the eye himself. Jerry is missing in action as a result of the delaying action around Taejon two weeks following the action described. Every Division member - past and present - thrills at the thought of Jerry's heroism.

The Taro Leaf

24th Infantry (Victory) Division Association

ESQUIRE SUPPLEMENT

THE LONG WALK

Sergeant Wilson's 16-day guerrilla adventure, deep in Red-held territory,

is a stirring saga of American courage on the Korean front by HAL CLANCY

THE order seemed simple: Sergeant Charles T. Wilson was to proceed about one thousand yards over a steep Korean hill and set up an observation post. The lanky, thirty-year-old soldier, a forward observer for a mortar platoon of the 24th Infantry Division, began the long walk up the slope.

It was to prove a longer walk than he suspected. Ahead of him waited a sixteen-day guerrilla adventure—one of the most fantastic stories of American courage and determination to emerge from the Korean war.

Wilson, followed by a radio operator, made his way over the hill and down the far side. He was about two hundred yards short of his objective when the Reds struck. They came on in screaming swarms, thousands of them. The radio operator fell. Bullets chewed into the radio. Wilson joined the handful of G.I.s dug in on the slope, firing his carbine at the enemy hordes until his ammunition was gone.

Then he slumped in a foxhole on top of the empty weapon and tried to appear dead. It was a desperate gamble, but it worked. The Reds charged past him and continued over the hill.

Though alone, unarmed, without food or water, and completely cut off from his unit, Wilson wasn't thinking of surrender. He knew he could not stay where he was because Red mop-up squads would be coming soon. His only chance was to plunge deep into communist-held territory and wait for nightfall to creep back to the American lines.

He edged out of the hole and crawled down the hill to a thicket of scrub pine. Clinging to his empty carbine, he ran four miles through the brush until he fell from fatigue. He struggled to rise—but felt a rifle muzzle in his spine.

He turned, slowly, to face a teen-aged Korean girl. While they stared at each other, twelve men and another girl, all heavily armed, appeared among the stunted trees.

"Hello, G.I.," a youth said, grinning.

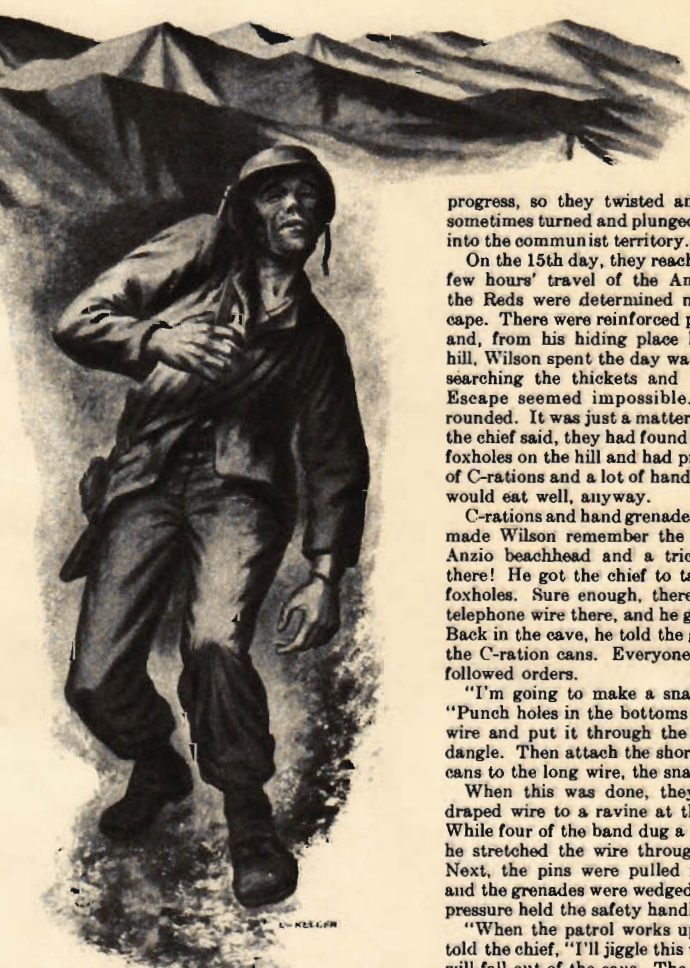
The other civilians lowered their weapons and joined in the grin. Suddenly, it dawned on Wilson—these were South Korean guerrillas!

"We go Taegu," the youth said. "You come?"

Taegu, Wilson knew, was well behind Yank lines. He followed them to a cave where they supplied him with ammunition and a bowl of rice and red peppers. He washed the red-hot mixture down with gulps of brackish water. By this time it was dusk and the young chief gave the order to move out.

They trekked silently through a maze of twisting gullies, slung their weapons across their shoulders while crawling on hands and knees through muddy rice paddies. About midnight they reached their objective, an isolated farmhouse occupied by a Red ammunition detail. There was no guard. The soldiers were asleep in the building. Two trucks, laden with ammunition, were parked under a camouflage net.

The guerrillas posted men at each window.



Then, on signal, they riddled the building while the chief and the two girls poured gasoline over the trucks and set them afire.

Then they fled, dogtrotting for several miles over the steep hills. It was almost dawn when they reached a hidden crevice where they planned to hide for the day.

"See?" the chief grinned. "Now we two miles nearer Taegu."

The next night, Wilson joined in a raid on a Red patrol guarding a bridge. Once, when they were pursued too closely by a group of the dreaded Communist Security Police, Wilson stayed behind with the chief and another to snipe while the others got a head start.

The routine never changed: By day they would hide out, while one or two scouted targets for the night. With dusk, they would sweep down on the targets and then dogtrot to reach the next hiding place before dawn.

The Reds tried desperately to trap them. Sometimes the guerrillas would pass up especially tempting targets for fear they were snares. They knew the Security Police were plotting their

progress, so they twisted and crisscrossed and sometimes turned and plunged several miles back into the communist territory.

On the 15th day, they reached a point within a few hours' travel of the American lines. But the Reds were determined not to let them escape. There were reinforced patrols on the roads and, from his hiding place halfway up a lofty hill, Wilson spent the day watching Red soldiers searching the thickets and underbrush below. Escape seemed impossible. They were surrounded. It was just a matter of time. However, the chief said, they had found some old American foxholes on the hill and had picked up two crates of C-rations and a lot of hand grenades. So they would eat well, anyway.

C-rations and hand grenades! The combination made Wilson remember the savage fighting at Anzio beachhead and a trick he had learned there! He got the chief to take him to the old foxholes. Sure enough, there was sound-power telephone wire there, and he gathered a roll of it. Back in the cave, he told the guerrillas to empty the C-ration cans. Everyone looked blank, but followed orders.

"I'm going to make a snake," he explained. "Punch holes in the bottoms of the cans. Knot wire and put it through the holes, so the cans dangle. Then attach the short wires holding the cans to the long wire, the snake."

When this was done, they carried the can-draped wire to a ravine at the foot of the hill. While four of the band dug a foxhole for Wilson, he stretched the wire through the underbrush. Next, the pins were pulled from the grenades and the grenades were wedged in the cans, where pressure held the safety handles in place.

"When the patrol works up to here," Wilson told the chief, "I'll jiggle this wire. The grenades will fall out of the cans. The safety handles will come off. Boom! Get it?"

"But even if you destroy this patrol, the one in the next valley will come running."

"Exactly," Wilson said. "So when this goes off, we start running into the other valley. Check?"

The chief didn't conceal his admiration. "Check," he said. "Also, okay."

It was almost nightfall when the patrol worked up to where Wilson was crouched in his foxhole. He yanked the snake. Thirty-two Reds fell in the resulting explosions; the few who were unhurt, fled. Wilson and the guerrillas escaped down the valley which the second Red patrol had left to come to the aid of the men caught in the grenade barrage.

Next morning, Wilson was back at division headquarters.

It was quite a while after that when I caught up with him in a dry river bed which was being shelled intermittently.

"Sure," he told me, "that's what happened. Only—if you write about it—don't say I'm a hero. Just say I started out for a walk that turned out to be a real long one." ##

CONVENTION CITY CELEBRATING 250th BIRTHDAY

Our convention city, Detroit, is celebrating its 250th birthday, and the 24th Infantry Division Association will participate in the celebration. Elsewhere in this issue you will find the Mayor's Proclamation which makes one of the convention days a "24th Division Day" as one of the features of Historical Detroit.

Detroit was founded by Antoine De La Mothe Cadillac (So that's where they got the name for the car?) on July 24, 1701, (He couldn't wait until 10 August!), and since then Detroit has had a long record of firsts: The first U.S. troops came ashore to take possession of Detroit as U.S. territory on July 11, 1796 (They couldn't wait until August either!); Michigan's first seat of Government was in Smyth's Tavern (Spike, please note!), which is now 313 Woodward Avenue; the latter street was named after August B. Woodward who founded the first Michgian bank in 1806 (We think in August) at Detroit; the first Michigan newspaper, the Detroit Gazette, was issued on July (Again they couldn't wait!) 25, 1817; and the first Michigan railway terminal, public school, hospital, toll gate (Oh yes!), post office, and of course, baseball park (In Detroit - natch!).

It is not accidental, of course, that Detroit is the very heart of the automobile industry. Henry Ford began experimenting with the automobile in a small work shop, in a little brick building of one story in the rear of his rented home in Detroit. Here in 1892, while chief engineer of the Detroit Automobile (Wagon - we think!) Company, he produced his first car - a two cylinder job, mounted on a light chassis geared to rubber-tired bicycle wheels. Where Henry Ford labored now stands the Michigan Theatre (How about FREE tickets you Detroit guys and gals?).

Speaking of Ford, his Greenfield village and Edison Museum occupy more than 200 acres within sight of the mighty Ford plant in Dearborn, and it is a MUST on your sight-seeing (if you still can see) plan. Greenfield Village draws aside the curtain of years and presents an inspiring panorama of the past. A few steps down any of its streets quickly takes the visitor back through history to the nineteenth and eighteenth centuries. (Note: The Gray Line Motor Tour No. 1 will pick you up at the hotel and take you there for only \$3.48 to which you must add - out of pocket - another 52¢ for tax to make the round figure of \$4.00 which will include a tour of the Ford Motor Company, on Friday, 10 August 1951. The editor of this piece thinks it can be done cheaper by bus or trolley).

Detroit is America's fourth largest city, population 1,850,000. Detroit's climate has a low monthly average (Feb.) of 25 and a high of 72.6 (July). (It usually gets hotter when the 24th Division gets there - a FUNNY!). The Detroit-owned street railway and bus system carries over a billion passengers annually. Nine railroads operate from three Detroit terminals. Seven trans-continental air lines operate from the Willow Run Airport.

By the way, you can go "abroad" for ten cents. That is the fare from Detroit to Canada.

City of Detroit

ALBERT E. COBO
MAYOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

PROCLAMATION

24th INFANTRY DIVISION DAY

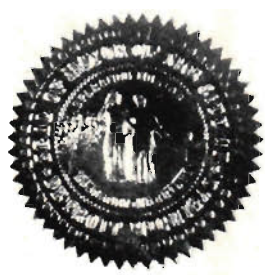
August 11 - 1951

WHEREAS The 24th Infantry (Victory) Division Association has chosen Detroit as its convention city for 1951, and will bring its national assembly here August 10, 11, and 12, and

WHEREAS Detroit is gratified and honored at being chosen as the meeting place of this splendid organization, the members of which have brought distinction to American arms through service in Hawaii, Australia, New Guinea, the Philippines, Japan and Korea, and

WHEREAS More than one thousand 24th Division veterans reside in Michigan, a large number of whom will attend the convention and personally welcome their comrades from other states,

THEREFORE, I, Albert E. Cobo, Mayor of Detroit, take pleasure in proclaiming August 11, 1951, as 24th Infantry Division Day in Detroit, and suggest its observance as such.



Albert E. Cobo

To cross the Detroit River to Canada, you may use the Detroit and Windsor Tunnel (Bates Street south of Jefferson), boarding the Canada bus at Woodward and Fort Streets or at the tunnel entrance; or drive across the Ambassador Bridge, 1227 21st Street, one of the world's great suspension bridges, offering a magnificent view of Detroit, the river and the border cities and Canadian countryside.

If you like the water, passenger steamers leave Detroit for Cleveland, Buffalo, Mackinac Island, Chicago, Duluth and Georgian Bay. Excursion boats make several trips daily to the Bob-lo Island Amusement Park for picnics, dancing, bicycling and, we suppose, other amusements.

You can go to the Detroit Zoo, if you wanna. It is owned and operated by the city and embraces an area of 122 acres. Barless

exhibits and outstanding landscape work make the Detroit Zoological Park, as it is called, one of the most attractive zoological displays in the country. It has been the idea of its builders to tie all of the exhibits into an over-all landscape plan which has gained international fame. Exhibits are planned to simulate the native habitats of the animals and are arranged according to natural geographic distribution - an African Veld, African Swamp, South American Pampas, an Australian Plains, etc. Admission, incidentally, is free at all times. Detroit's owned street cars and busses will take you there. The weekday parking fee for your car is 25¢; Sunday it's 50¢.

If you are not zoologically inclined you can go to look at Old Fort Wayne, which offers a striking contrast of modern and ancient.

(Continued on page 8)

KOREA VETERAN JOINS ASSOCIATION

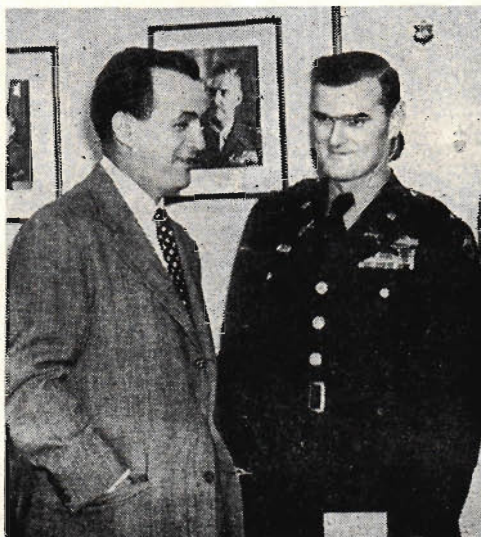
President James Spike O'Donnell, on a recent trip to New England, was personally able to welcome into the Association, 2nd Lieutenant Russell P. Tyler, a wounded veteran of the Korean Campaign who is presently on Detachment of Patients at the Chelsea Naval Hospital, Chelsea, Massachusetts. Lt. Tyler has attended several small gatherings of the New England group and was able to give them a first-hand account of the early days of the Korean Campaign when the 24th Infantry Division was the only force that opposed the North Korean hordes.

Lt. Tyler has been in the Army since 1940. A native of Cranston, Rhode Island, he served in World War II in the 43rd Infantry Division in the Solomons, Guadalcanal, New Guinea and Luzon. He remained in the Army and in November 1946 went to Japan. On 5 February 1950, Lt. Tyler, then a Sgt., was assigned to the 21st Infantry, Co. K, at that time stationed in Kyushu. The 3rd Battalion of the 21st was among the very first units of the Division that were rushed to Korea. He served under General Dean and later under General Church with such distinction that he holds the DSC and the Silver Star. The citation which accompanies the award of the Distinguished Service Cross (Eighth U.S. Army Korea, Eusak) reads:

SERGEANT RUSSELL P. TYLER, RA 20 152 744, Infantry, United States Army, a member of Company K, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, displayed extraordinary heroism north of Taejon, Korea on 10 July 1950. Sergeant Tyler's platoon was engaged in a counterattack which, largely due to his outstanding leadership, was successful in attaining its objective. Upon reaching the objective, Sergeant Tyler was wounded in the knee. Ignoring his own injuries, he rescued a fellow soldier who was wounded and lying in front of the position by going to his aid in the face of sniper and machine gun fire. He also directed accurate mortar fire on enemy positions. He refused to be evacuated until the position had been consolidated and darkness had fallen. The next day, hearing that his Company was being overrun, Sergeant Tyler left the hospital and, gathering up a group of stragglers, organized a road block with a view to stopping the enemy advance. He continued to direct the activities of the men comprising the road block until the enemy overran the position and he was ordered to withdraw. His courage, gallantry, and aggressive leadership reflects the highest credit on himself and the military service.

On 15 August 1950, Tyler received a battlefield commission as a 2nd Lieutenant. He remained with K Co. as a platoon leader and displayed such further gallantry in action that by General Orders No. 176, Eighth U.S. Army Korea (Eusak) he was awarded the Silver Star:

SECOND LIEUTENANT RUSSELL P. TYLER, 02212066, Infantry, United States Army, a member of Company K, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, displayed gallantry in action against an armed enemy near Pohang-dong, Korea, on 2 September 1950. On this



Pres. O'Donnell with Lt. Russell Tyler, DSC & SS, Co. K, 21st Inf., wounded veteran of Korean Campaign.

date, Lieutenant Tyler led his Platoon in an assault on Hill, 99, a mountain on which the enemy occupied extensive and well fortified positions. The enemy immediately countered this attack with heavy and devastating fire. Seeing many of his men wounded and the attack about to falter, Lieutenant Tyler jumped forward, placed himself at the head of his Platoon and signalled his men to advance using marching fire. Rallied by his example, his remaining men aggressively continued the attack. Shortly thereafter, Lieutenant Tyler was painfully wounded in the leg by enemy machinegun fire. Though ordered to the rear for medical treatment, he elected to

remain because by this time more than seventy percent of his Platoon had become casualties. He ordered his remaining men to prepare defensive positions, and, though weak from loss of blood, he successfully directed the defense of this area, repulsing numerous counterattacks by a fanatic enemy, greatly superior in number. During the lulls between counterattacks he directed the evacuation of his wounded men to positions of cover and relative safety. He himself was not evacuated until he was completely incapacitated many hours later. By his heroism and tenacity he was largely responsible for maintaining the American lines, and inspired his comrades to efforts which later resulted in complete victory and seizure of the enemy stronghold. The gallantry displayed by Lieutenant Tyler reflects great credit on himself and the military service. Entered the military service from Rhode Island.

As a result of a serious knee wound he was evacuated to Japan and thence returned by air to the United States. The medical officers at the Chelsea Naval Hospital have been debating whether to perform surgery on his knee, but without this he seems to be recuperating, although slowly. He hopes to be discharged from the Hospital in May or June.

Part of his duties have been to address civic groups so that the public will be acquainted with the job that our armed forces are doing in Korea. He says that he enjoys most visiting with former veterans of the 24th Division. His present ambition is to be restored to active duty in Korea, and again with the 21st Infantry Regiment.

We can be proud that the traditions of the Division are so gallantly carried on by men like Lieutenant Tyler and we are honored to number him among the members of the Association.

Seven 24th Medics Receive Battlefield Awards

Six Army medical aidmen, and one Medical Service Corps officer of the 24th Infantry Division were decorated recently for distinguished service on the field of battle in Korea. Three of the enlisted men received the Silver Star, while three enlisted men and the officer were awarded the Bronze Star Medal. Official orders accompanying each of the awards stated: "His gallant actions reflect the greatest credit on himself and the United States Army Medical Service."

Corporal Terry Mullen, of Somerton, Arizona, a member of Medical Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action against the enemy near Yangsan, Korea on 18 August 1950.

Corporal Eugene Schofield, of Brooklyn, N.Y., a member of Medical Company, 21st Infantry Regiment, was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action against the enemy near Pohang-dong, Korea, on 2 September 1950.

Private first class Allen J. Gifford, of Pemberton, N.J., a member of Medical Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action against the enemy near Taejon, Korea, on 18 July

1950.

First Lieutenant Jack E. Edgar, of San Antonio, Texas, a member of Medical Company, 34th Infantry Regiment, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster for heroic achievement near Kangni, Korea on 12 August 1950.

Corporal William D. Iler, of Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich., a member of the Medical Detachment, 3rd Engineer Combat Battalion, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement near Pohang, Korea on 2 September 1950.

Private first class Richard A. Roberts, of Cincinnati, Ohio, a member of Medical Company, 21st Infantry Regiment, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement near Pohang, Korea on 2 September 1950.

Private Roger E. Preston, of Manchester, N.H., a member of Medical Company, 21st Infantry Regiment, received the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement near Kyongju, Korea on 7 September 1950.

(Extracted from official records by Chaplain Chris J. Berlo)

PRESIDENT JAMES (SPIKE) O'DONNELL BUSY WITH CONVENTION PLANS

The whereabouts of our president James M. O'Donnell is a big secret, but you can all rest assured that 'Spike' is on the job getting set for Detroit, and the convention.

During the past four months, 'Spike' has been, "a round the nation president." He has visited, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Michigan, Washington, D.C., and Maryland. He went into detail at all these meetings, insisting that this coming convention must be the best convention of all. Considerable time and effort has been put out by 'Spike' to get the best for the 24th Infantry Division Association, at a cost that all of us can afford.

In Detroit Spike arranged for our meeting room to be very private, and adjoined by a special bar. It is a known fact, that this bar will help every one get down to business. For the wives and lady friends of the members, he has lined-up tours of Detroit's leading industries. Also a cocktail party for them during our business meeting. His motto is "Every-one must be satisfied."

For the guest speaker at the banquet, 'Spike' is not too hasty in letting that be known. He is keeping that for a surprise. Be assured, that it will be a good selection. Our president is a 'go getter.'

The Hotel is one of the leading hotels in



Detroit. Although it has just had its face lifted, remodeling will not increase the prices. The prices for the rooms and accommodations are very reasonable prices which all of you can afford. Yes, 'Spike' was thinking of you fellows when he was working out these details.

Let's not disappoint him. Let's all get to the Convention in 1951. The Dates: August 10, 11, 12. The Place: The Tuller Hotel, Detroit, Michigan. Come and have a good time with your buddies.

LETTER FROM SECRETARY

Fellow Members:

Another year in the Association's history is behind us. We are steadily growing into a fine organization. One which is our hope, to be the best in the nation. Our Association was founded; "to keep bright the friendship we forged in the fires of yesterday." It was anticipated that through our treasury we would help the needy families of the members of the 24th Infantry Division who gave their all, for our great country and for us, their comrades. So far, we have succeeded to keep alive our friendships, but the treasury has hindered us from fulfilling our other aim.

Yes, you guessed it. This is another reminder of your dues. The 1951-52 fiscal year starts during the coming convention. All of you have paid your last year's dues, or else, you would not be getting your Taro Leaf. But it is time to pay your dues again. This year the dues have been increased to \$3.00. This increase in dues was voted upon at last year's convention. Believe me, it was necessary to make this increase. The cost of printing your Taro Leaf, runs into a great deal of money. The supplies of stationery, postage, and other incidentals necessary for the successful running of your Association, take quite a bit of money too. I am confident, that you will all understand our position.

In order to cut down on a lot of clerical work, I am requesting all of you to submit your 1951-52 dues as soon as possible. They should be paid by September 1, 1951. Use the application blank in this issue of The Taro Leaf when sending your check. Please state the organization to which you were assigned while a member of the 24th Division. This will complete your record, and will enable us to give various members information that they desire. If you do not wish to cut-up your Taro Leaf, just write the information down on a piece of paper, and mail it in. That will be all right. But mainly, fellows, forward those dues. We don't particularly like writing you fellows and telling you, your dues are in arrears. And we want you to get your copy of The Taro Leaf, and Taro Leaflet. (Those planning to attend the convention may pay their dues at the registration desk).

In closing I would like to tell you all, that it was a pleasure serving as your 1950-51 secretary. I feel as though I know all of you personally. I consider it an honor to have been able to hold down this position. I only hope that I have done a good job, and that all of you are pleased. If I failed to answer all your letters, and requests, please excuse me, but I am sorry for doing so. You can rest assured though, that I tried my best. Thank you all for your patience with me.

See you at the Tuller Hotel in Detroit on August 10, 11, and 12.

Yours in Comradeship,
Joseph L. Peyton (19th Inf)
Secretary



The coffee shop, where moderate price meals are served. Waitress service is provided.

1951 ANNUAL CONVENTION of the 24th Division Association MENU

TOMATO JUICE
½ FRIED CHICKEN
AU GRATIN POTATOES
GREEN PEAS
MOLDED JELLO SALAD
ROLLS ... BUTTER

ICE CREAM
COFFEE

\$5.00

THE TARO LEAF

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ROBERT J. DUFF, Editor
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the Association.

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Staff, Fitzsimons Army Hosp., Denver 8,
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HISTORIAN—Col. Richard H. Lawson, C/S, Divi-
sion Headquarters.



The cocktail lounge in the Variety Club
where we expect to hold the "cocktail party".

Best Wishes for a Fine Convention
WILLIAM V. DAVIDSON

JAMES M. "SPIKE" O'DONNELL

ROBERT J. DUFF

WITH THE 24TH IN KOREA

The first UN troops to arrive on the Korean battlefield, the fighting "Gimlets" of the 21st Infantry, 24th Division, recently contributed nearly \$10,000 to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Major Raymond E. McDonough, Hqs. CO of the 24th Division, owns what is believed to be the first North Korean flag captured after the crossing of the 38th Parallel. It was taken when Maj. McDonough was serving as CO of the 21st Infantry's Heavy Mortar Company.

M Sgt. Ernest J. Jimenez, now with the 24th Division Replacement Training Center, was hit 26 times while serving with the 2d Ranger Battalion in World War II, and has 42 scars. It is believed he has over \$500.00 worth of silver in his body inserted by Army doctors into his bone structure.

A platoon of tired, but dogged 5th Regt. Combat Team, 24th Inf. Div., built up a wall of walking fire around a hip-carried machine-gun to route last ditch Chinese from their dungeon emplacements somewhere in Korea. Enemy last ditchers made desperate attempts to stop the oncoming GIs, but they weren't to be stopped. The boys were tired and wanted to get it over with. And they did.

The 24th Division boasts an exclusive group of men who scoff when "50 Mission hats," war-weary planes, or rotation for pilots and observers is mentioned. They are the "200 Mission" members of the "Dragonfly" Air Section. When an intruder enters their domain, he is greeted by a sign, proclaiming the unit is "The One, The Only, The Original Dragonfly. First in Missions, First in Korea, First to Lead a Fighter Strike."

Sgt. Charles W. Venninger of Los Angeles, has founded a society known as The Royal Order of Parallel Crossers. The only requirement for membership is having crossed the boundary between North and South Korea three (3) times. Sgt. Venninger designed a membership card, red-bordered with yellow letters, bearing the crest of the 21st Infantry. In the center is a cartoon of a GI with fixed bayonet chasing a Red northward. The Card reads: "This is to certify that (name and company) has crossed the 38th Parallel for the third time and, having accomplished this noteworthy feat, is entitled to a free tour of North Korea."

PERSONAL(itie)S

Francis H. Heller is back in the service with Btry A, 758 FA Bn, Fort Bragg, N.C. Cupid caught up with Frank by the way; the little lady being one of those cute Kansas gals.

Recently it was learned the Nick Jurian organized a VFW Post. It is the Woodside-Portela Post No. 8515 of Woodside, California.

M Sgt Elmer Van Zant returned recently from Korea and is at present assigned to Hq. Co., III Corps, Camp Roberts, Calif.

Capt. John Scipicea, formerly Asst. Div. g-1 has been recalled to AD and is instructor at Ft. Benning, Ga.

Maj. Geo. Gaynor, formerly Div. IG is back in Korea as Asst. IG in the 3d Logistical Command.

Richard S. Peifly of Allentown, Penn. finally took the waltz to the altar. He was married last December (sorry the news is just getting to us Dick).

M Sgt. Harold W. Bryan is back in the Army and is presently stationed at Ft. Riley, Kansas. Sgt. Bryan has met several former members of the 24th, and informs me that several wounded veterans, just returned from Korea are at Riley with the 10th Division. (Let's have their names Sgt.)

Maj. James B. Jones, one time S-3 19th Infantry and G-4 24th Infantry Division was married in Clemson, N.C. at the Clemson Baptist Chapel to Mary Louise Davis. The wedding took place sometime last March. Congratulations J.B.

Harold L. Henrikson's present address is American Consulate General Augsburg Branch, APO 178 % Postmaster, N.Y.

A note from Lamar S. Clark former Chaplain with 19th Inf., states that since returning to the states, he has re-interred two of his former 'Chicks'. The final resting place of Roy Nagel, Co G, 19th is Round Top, Texas, and that of Harold M. Adams, Co E, 19th is at Claude, Texas. Chaplain Clark also performed the wedding ceremonies of J.W. Hardeman.

Arthur H. Henderson, formerly Exec. Off. 21st Inf. is now with the American International Underwriters for the Philippines, Inc. in Manila.

Maj. Walter S. Page Jr. is back with his old pal General Cramer as G-4, with the 43d Infantry Division at Camp Pickett, Va. Walter informs us that the 43d is a mighty fine outfit, but he is mighty proud to wear that TARO LEAF on his right shoulder.

Gene Manley has made a few trips in and out of Korea and states that "he is proud to say that the men of the 24th look fine and since the New Year their spirits seem higher. They will again be a powerful unit."

Lt. Erwin L. Nedza, formerly Adjutant with 24th Med Bn, recalled to active duty and is stationed with the Medical Company, 34th Infantry Regiment, (the remainder, Incidentally), APO #50, San Francisco, Calif.

Robert A. Silverness was recently married and is now making his residence at 8526 Vinland St., Proctor, Minnesota. Bob advises us that he is looking forward to the Detroit Convention.

Jack A. Mote, former Gimlet, now back in service as Lt. with the Communications Department, the Infantry School Fort Benning, Georgia. (Look up General Church in your spare time Jack).

Gerd Heye, now making his residence at the St. Francis Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri writes that he is glad that he learned of the Association, and regrets not knowing about it sooner. (We are too Gerd).



Convention Chairman John F. Seck congratulating Jack Mote on his recent recall to active duty.

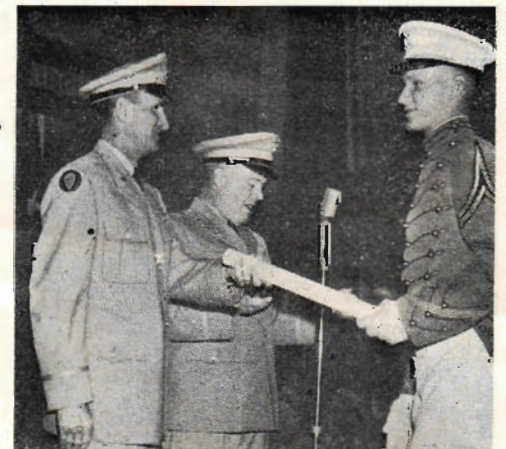
Sgt. LeRoy E. Johnson, Sgt. George Russell, Sgt. Louis Anthony and Sgt. Frank Fantinid are all members of Co-H, 33rd Infantry, Ft. Kobbe, Canal Zone. LeRoy writes in asking for the address of Ray Hanna who "used to come from Oklahoma". Our records don't show him. Does anyone out "in the field" know where he is?

Bill Ryan at 1116 W. Webster Ave., Chicago a new member wants to locate John Liddy. We don't have his address. We hope to solve part of this name and current address problem with the forthcoming "Directory".

Oakley W. Pandick, formerly of F Co of the 34th is back in the service again and is stationed in Japan.

Bob Moyer of Co. H, 34th is interested in weather records and statistics relating thereto and wants to correspond with others who are similarly interested. He lives at 235 S. 8th Ave., LaGrange, Ill.

Dr. P.H. Hostetter, MD writes that he is engaged in the general practice of medicine in Manhattan, Kansas. Would like to hear the 'Chicks' who served with him in the Philippines. Doc was Reg'l Surgeon in Japan before returning state-side.



Second Lt. Frederick Irving Jr. gets his sheepskin from his pop, the academy boss. He ranked 139th in the class.

HONORS FOR 24TH IN KOREA

General Orders Department of the Army
No. 45 Washington, D.C., 22 Dec. 50

V BATTLE HONORS. - As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (Sec. 1, WD Bul. 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (Sec. III, WD Bul. 11, 1942), the following unit is cited under the provisions of AR 260-15 in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citation reads as follows:

The 24th Infantry Division and the attached 441st Counter Intelligence Corps Team is cited for exceptionally outstanding performance of duty and extraordinary heroism in combat against numerically superior enemy forces in Korea during the period 2 July to 15 September 1950. When the gravity of the military situation in South Korea, and shortage of immediately available transportation necessitated piecemeal commitment of the division, despite its one-third shortage in all essential elements, the division faced an enemy force estimated to be a completely equipped corps, delayed this force and limited its advance. Stubbornly resisting the enemy's drive from Osan, where the advance force of two companies bravely blunted the driving onslaught, the division, though outnumbered, outgunned, and outarmored in the face of continual frontal attacks, intense guerrilla activities and infiltration of exposed flanks succeeded in delaying the enemy's main effort until United Nations reinforcements arrived in the critical combat zone. Fighting in the streets of Taejon, where the Division Commander himself led rocket launcher assaults, the enemy was made to pay dearly for every mile gained. Time and time again fierce fighting took place throughout the delaying action when front line units decimated waves of attacking enemy with rifle, machine-gun, and artillery fire, then killed the remnants that reached their position with bayonets and grenades. On 24 July, when a grave threat to the vital port of Pusan was made by superior enemy forces from the west, the division was called upon to meet this

crisis. With only 2 days rest, the 24th Infantry Division met this critical menace and foiled the enemy's attacks; battalions and companies tenaciously gave ground, exacting a heavy toll of enemy dead, and stopped this advance. Moving to a sector of the Nakdong River front it resisted and later eliminated a dangerous enemy bridgehead that threatened the entire United Nations beachhead. This determined and successful attack completely destroyed one enemy division as a fighting force. The division again distinguished itself in early September when it reinforced a Republic of Korea unit whose lines had been breached in the Kyongju-Pohang sector. By skillful strong attacks this last serious threat to the final defensive area was eliminated.

Throughout the entire period of this heroic action, officers and men distinguished themselves by conspicuous gallantry and courage. Service troops fought side-by-side with riflemen, supply, and medical personnel and performed their missions despite enemy infiltrations and flank penetrations. Engineers fought as infantry and stopped hostile attacks with mines and demolitions. Artillerymen fought off attackers to keep their guns in action, in fact, every man in the division was engaged in battle. The individual and collective heroism displayed by all ranks of the 24th Infantry Division in its valiant stand against great odds reflect the highest credit upon itself and the Armed Forces of the United States.

By order of the Secretary of the Army:

Official:	J. LAWTON COLLINS
Edward F. WITSELL	Chief of Staff,
Major General, USA	United States Army
The Adjutant General	

**FORWARD YOUR
1951-52 DUES TO
Secretary
24TH DIV. ASSN.
131 N. Culver
Baltimore 29, Maryland**

24th Infantry (Victory) Division Association
131 N. Culver
Baltimore, Md.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME.....
COMPANY AND REGIMENT OR BATTERY.....
HOME ADDRESS.....
ADDRESSES OF FELLOW-VETERANS.....
.....
.....
REMARKS.....
DUES ENCLOSED.....

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES, \$3.00

(Includes Subscription to TARO LEAF)

AWARDS TO 24TH DIVISION MEN IN KOREA

1--DISTINGUISHED-SERVICE CROSS. - By direction of the President, under the act of Congress approved 9 July 1918 (WD Bul. 43, 1918), the Distinguished-Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action against an enemy during the period indicated is awarded posthumously to the following-named enlisted man:

Sergeant First Class Robert E. Dare (Service No. RA 6794378), Infantry, United States Army, a member of Company K, 34th Infantry Regiment, distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action near Taejon, Korea, on 20 July 1950. His platoon was leading the company advance along the airport road when it was dispersed into the rice paddies and pinned down by cross-fire from six hostile tanks an estimated enemy battalion. Sergeant Dare, assistant squad leader, with utter disregard for his safety, exposed himself to the intense fire to take command of the platoon. Displaying outstanding leadership and courage, he personally directed the fire of his machine-gun squad, reorganized the platoon, and ordered its withdrawal to a defensive position. During this action he was critically wounded, but continued to command the platoon. Refusing aid, he ordered his men to leave him behind and withdraw to a secure position. His initiative, aggressiveness, and gallantry during this engagement cost him his life but saved many of his comrades. Sergeant Dare's heroic action reflects the highest credit on himself and upholds the finest traditions of the military service.

Col. John Lathrop Throckmorton, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action in Korea. While commanding officer of the 5th Regiment of the 24th Infantry Division, Col. Throckmorton distinguished himself in action around the Waegan-Kumchon area September 17-18. During this action, the regiment attacked and captured Waegan and Kumchon and succeeded in breaking the iron ring of the Pusan perimeter.

Col Charles W. Stratton, Arty, USA has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for heroism in Korea while serving with the 24th Infantry Division Artillery. The citation declares that Col Stratton's actions during a withdrawal action when he went to the rescue of a surrounded unit "saved numerous lives," notably men in the 19th Infantry Regiment and the 52d Field Artillery Battalion.

Sgt Richard R. Fontaine has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism for killing nine enemy and knocking out three machine guns in a single Korea action. Sgt Fontaine, a squad leader for Company K, 21st Infantry Regiment, covered his men in an entrenchment move and knocked out a gun crew, although wounded in the leg.

Col William J. Monroney, 24th Division Chief of Staff since the outbreak of the Korean War, was decorated recently with the Oak Leaf Cluster to the Legion of Merit for outstanding combat services.

PHILIPPINE PRESIDENTIAL CITATION IS CONFIRMED

U.S. troops who fought in the Philippines, now are entitled to wear another decoration. The Department of the Army General Order No. 47 of 28 December 1950 confirms a unit citation by President Quirino of the Philippines for those Armed Forces of the United States who served in the Philippines during the periods 7 December 1941 to 10 May 1942, and 17 October 1944 to 4 July 1945.

The Philippine citation ribbon is a hand-some one of broad red, white and blue, vertical (three) stripes, bordered in gold-colored metal; there are no oak-leaf clusters or battle stars for this ribbon. It is worn over the right breast pocket, on the left of any U.S. emblems or badges, but it should not be worn alone; at least one U.S. decoration, medal, or ribbon must be worn at the same time.

The general order lists all the Army units to which this citation applies, and it includes, of course, all organic and attached elements of the 24th Infantry Division.

A JAP FLAG "FACTORY"

A Gimlet Enterprise in 1945 by Col. William J. Verbeck

In February 1945 in the Philippines the Chief of Staff of my division asked me to investigate a report that someone in my Infantry regiment was selling enemy trophies to naval officers at exorbitant prices. As I understood it, all captured enemy property belonged to the United States Government, and it was illegal to sell such items to the Navy "sucker", especially at such high prices. Naturally, as a Regimental Commander, I replied that none of my men would take an unfair advantage of anyone, especially a Navy man. There must be some mistake. However, my investigation disclosed that sixty empty DDT containers had been sold to sailors at \$5.00 each by a sharp group in an adjacent regiment. They claimed them to be a new type of Japanese anti-personnel mine. I also discovered that someone had painted a jeep black and exchanged it to the crew of Navy LST for six cases of beer. However, my none too diligent search disclosed no miscreants in our own regiment. My report was received with an audible snort over the telephone.

About a week later, I entered a medical installation. I saw a couple of soldiers hanging up eight or nine Japanese flags on a clothes line. The men disappeared at my approach. I can read and speak Japanese, so I looked at the flags to see what was written on them. Usually they are inscribed with heroic statements and names of friends and relatives. One - instead of reading "KOMAT-SUZAKISAN, my honorable son, go forth and die for your Emperor", read: "Type 97, 37mm fixed ammunition, 70 rounds". Another that should have said: "Banzai, death before dishonor", read, "60 each, 1/2 kilo steel fragmentation grenades". A third, which reasonably might have borne the inscription, "KATAOKA, MORINUMA, MITSUDA AND

MATSUMOTO, your friends until honorable death separates us", read, "If you bring this ticket to the nearest American soldier and cease to resist you will be accepted as a prisoner and will receive three meals and five cigarettes every day. Americans do not kill prisoners."

This was all very confusing. Then I noticed that the red rising sun in the center of the silk flag was wet and that something very much resembling mercurochrome came off on my hand. Nearby were some empty Japanese ammunition cases. Also there were a few U.S. surrender passes lying about. Adjacent to us was a parachute regiment - that explained the white silk. It seems that I had happened into a Japanese flag factory. The output at this time was twelve flags per day, but they hoped soon to step up production to twenty. The mercurochrome was stamped on the center of a square of parachute silk by a neatly sawed palm log. Japanese characters were imitated in indelible ink and copied from enemy debris nearby. The price was \$50.00 US money per flag. Each flag was accompanied by a hair-raising story about its capture and the gallantry of the captor.

This, I thought, is a little rough on the Navy. However, further investigation disclosed that the sailors were peddling pints of cheap whiskey to our boys at \$50.00 per pint. Our boys had found a way to get FREE WHISKEY.

CONVENTION CITY (Cont. from p.3)

Built in 1848 the old buildings and earthworks are now overshadowed by neighboring heavy industry. At the time of its construction, the City of Detroit was three miles away and the Fort's nearest neighbor was an Indian Mound. It was originally intended to command the river and to defend Detroit which then had a population of 9,000. Border tension existed at the time with, of all places, Canada, but the Fort was actually completed after the United States and Canada had peacefully resolved their border difficulties. In 1949 the historic portion of the Fort was transferred to the City of Detroit for use as a museum.

For the information of those of you who have the money to go to Canada, by the way, there will be no rigid rules or passports confronting you on your trip. The Canadian city

of Windsor won't look like a "foreign" place; its tempo is a bit slower and possibly more agreeably restful after buzzing Detroit; but from Windsor you may send postcards to your relatives and friends in the USA and spend your money on Canadian souvenirs and imports from the British Isles. Everybody buys at least one wool blanket, especially in August when we are there. If you drive to Canada be sure to bring your state motor vehicle registration for identification purposes. U.S. Custom regulations permit returning residents of the U.S., who have been in Canada for not less than forty-eight hours, to bring back, duty free, articles for personal or household use, to the value of \$200 for each member of the family in the party. If you stay longer you can bring in more; There is a restriction as to the quantity of liquor and cigars which may be included in your exemption. The declaration is made at the border and boys in uniform will tip you off - if you ask.

In case you want to lose some money, you can go to the races at Hazel Park Race Track. If you want to eat, Detroit is cosmopolitan in its taste and provides Swedish, Hungarian, French, Russian, Chinese, German and Italian eating places. There are also a FEW hamburger joints where your editor will probably wind up after the bull-sessions.

Detroit has many hotels. Among its eighteen largest our convention hotel - The Tuller - is ranked as fifth. The first section of the Tuller was built in 1903. Later additions were built in 1917 and 1922-23. In June 1948, The Tuller owners started a \$300,000 "face-lifting" which ended last August and resulted in complete redecoration, in ultra-modern style, of the lobby and off-lobby shops. The rooms, eating and drinking places in the Tuller were also given attention by painters and decorators. The Detroit Convention Committee reports that the management has been very cooperative. No reports have been received about the FREE handouts, so bring your pocketbook.

Are You moving? Have you moved?
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THE TARO LEAF

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