

VOL. VI      NOVEMBER, 1952      NO. 2

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President.

Membership Chairman  
JOSEPH I. PEYTON  
131 N. Culver St.  
Baltimore, Maryland

(your name here) personally asked me to join and because of him I want to.



The official magazine owned and published regularly by the 24th Infantry Division Association in the interests of all men who have served and who continue to serve the 24th Infantry Division.

Kenwood Ross, Editor

Subscription: \$3.00 per year; free to Association members.

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## EDITORIAL

Increasing our membership is a challenging problem and we need your help in order to solve it. Last year, we tried every trick in the book. For instance, we mailed out 70,000 post-cards announcing our existence. With mailing costs at a penny per card, you can quickly figure out what that project cost us. In return, we picked up slightly better than 300 new members so at least the project paid for itself.

Then we went on with other ideas and "gimmicks" in order to attract new members. Some called them "high falutin'" but we tried them just the same. At least, we tried.

We worked a "guinea pig" in Ohio. We offered a yearly membership for \$2.00. We sent out 1000 letters. 14 replied. This proved to us that the boys weren't holding out because of the \$3.00 fee.

We mailed 1000 "Special Offers" in Massachusetts wherein we offered a 14 months membership for \$3.00. That brought in 6 new members.

Then we tried the personal contact plan in the Boston and Baltimore area wherein we tried to talk with these prospects by telephone. This effort brought in only 5 new members.

FRANCIS CURRIER has concentrated long and hard on the Maine names with discouraging results. ED HENRY has concentrated on Rhode Island people with equally negative results. JOE PEYTON has worked the Maryland area and AL MILLER has worked the Ohio area with similar response.

We have tried communicating via phonograph recordings. 100 records were sent and no replies were received.

We have distributed complimentary copies of the Taro Leaf by the hundreds. This hasn't proved effective.

We have tried the idea of appointing an interested member who would operate on a commission basis (50% for each member recruited). With all due respect to this very loyal member, this plan hasn't been effective.

We report this, not to cry on your shoulder, but to ask you if you have the key to the problem. We have better than 45,000 known prospects and we have only 1550 members. Why? What are we doing or rather, what aren't we doing?

# Madame Butterfly's Children

## THE PLIGHT OF "GI BABIES" IN JAPAN

A recent issue of Collier's carries a lead article, captioned as above, which proves to be an interesting and thought provoking analysis of a problem in which all of us have a more than passing interest. We are not in complete accord with all that the article contains but it does seem to state the case with understanding. If you served in Japan, the story will hit you between the eyes. You well know how the problem ever arose in the first place. If you didn't serve in Japan, you'll never know, brother, you'll never know. We had no first hand experience with the problem, but we had some second hand experience and we think it qualifies us to say that we think we know how and why it happened. We condemn no one, unlike the author of this magazine article. We simply regret the whole thing.

## In Highest Favor

Here's what we're doing in the case of the mother or wife of each of our boys who either were KIA or are POWs. We are sending them issues of the paper with our compliments. Many of them have responded by sending us \$3.00 to help us defray our expenses, for which we are exceedingly appreciative. But money or no, we want these good people to consider themselves as part of our official family.

## "sitting pretty"

Virginia claims another one of our boys. ED WHITAKER, who is practicing law at 2030 16th St. N. in Arlington, is an eager Assoc. member. Ed was in touch with Ambassador You Chan Yang of Korea just before our Columbus affair and the Ambassador gave him a statement to the Assoc. which we proudly carried in our last issue. Thanks, Ed.

## BACKSTAGE

The Assoc. is happy to welcome ANTONY J. SICILIANO (Ha. Btry., 13th F) into the fold. He lives in Arlington, Va. and practices law at 1010 Vermont Ave. Washington. Kangel, Tony!... ADRIAN D'ESMOND (19th) has now moved up to the job of Regimental Exec. Congratulations, Des. We knew you had it in you. He's living at P.O. Box 10, Wailuku, Maui, TH. We're proud of you, Des.... May we talk shop for a moment? Here are the printing costs and the number of copies printed of each of our last nine issues. We thought you'd like to see it:

Sept. '51	\$156.00	2000 copies
Oct.	69.00	1500 "
Dec.	112.00	1700 "
Jan.-Feb. '52	170.00	2500 "
Mar.	193.00	2800 "
Apr.	140.00	2000 "
June	184.00	5000 "
July	137.00	3000 "
Aug.	181.00	3000 "

Thus, you'll see that we printed nine issues (as compared with four in any previous year). We printed a total of 23,500 copies; 13,000 of these copies went to dues paying members. The remaining copies went to prospective members, Division in Japan, and to various U.S. Army hospitals around the world.

We have just learned that OSCAR AHUMADA (21st) died on July 22 in Mexico. We don't have any of the details...

Sgt Harry E. Habbitz The well-known "Vnn" of the 24th Division PIO staff, has won the Armed Forces Press Service Pat-On-The-Back cartoonist award for the month of August, according to the AFPS "Galley Guide" for October. His prize winning cartoon appeared along with several others in a "Cartoon Capers" spread in the Aug 8 edition of "Pacific Stars and Stripes." Vnn's cartoon was selected, "not only as the best in this group, but of all cartoons in Service papers during August," the editors' newsletter stated.

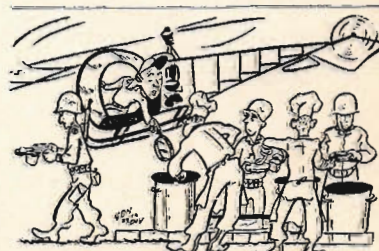
Certainly not to belabor the point, but merely in an effort to get reports of all of our various activities out to all of you members, we submit herewith additional facts and figures relative to recent accomplishments of the Assoc. First, as to the Taro Leaf. As to news content, we tried to divide the material between items on men of WWII and items on men of the Korean War. We have had comments from men of both groups that we are slighting their particular group. An editor knows before he starts that he can't please everyone. Nonetheless, it has been and will continue to be our constant aim to divide our coverage more or less evenly between these two groups. We have also tried to divide our coverage between items of division wide interest - or general interest - and items of personal interest. May we venture the opinion that if the paper is to have any all-around appeal it must cater to the interests of all? May we add, too, that if we have failed to give your particular story any coverage, it has quite probably been due to the fact that we did not receive the information from you? Our biggest problem is in getting the personal items to use. Repeated requests that you put aside your modesty and tell us about yourselves have been for the most part fruitless. Not all of our articles were well received by all. That was to be expected. We took counsel in the words "You can't please everybody; don't try." -- so we didn't and we don't. Our meaningless titles or headings to items are used, as you may have suspected, only to add color to the pages and we hope to bring smiles to your faces. Admittedly, our attempts at humor often fall short of the goal. But if we do succeed in getting a single laugh out of each of you during the year, then we gladly take a bow.

In this next comment, we do not cast any reflection upon any past editor. But it has been our observation that past issues of the paper had stressed altogether too much the fact that the Association was sorely in need of dues. Now members are people who have paid their dues. If they don't pay their dues, we release them from the privileges of membership. This we did last year in the case of 149 members who refused even to acknowledge four separate appeals for the renewal of their memberships. Accordingly we dropped these members from the rolls. It was obvious to us that they would not support us. We can take a hint. You don't have to hit us over the head with a shovel. We mention this in connection with a deliberate effort on our part in recent issues to refrain from the mention of dues whatever in any issue of the paper. Not that we don't need money, but we believe that if a man has done his part by paying his \$3.00, he has done his part as far as financial support was concerned.

As to the future of the paper, you might well argue that it appeared too often during the past year. In fact, we hope you do for it is our belief that nine issues are too many for any editor to attempt in the future. During the past year, there actually was no respite between one issue and the next for your editor. Believe it or not, a single issue represents about 50 man hours of effort. This year, we are committing ourselves only to as many issues as your editor can manage.

## For Your LIGHTER Moments

Requests are coming in for back issues of the Taro Leaf, a supply of which we just haven't got. If the demand is sufficient, we'll get past issues photostated FOR A PRICE! If you're interested in completing your set, write the Editor and tell us what issues you need.





## Wonderful feeling

**K**entucky produces fine horses, they say. We think they also produce some mighty fine ladies. There is one there whom we have never been privileged to meet. However, over the years, we have been made, in various pleasant ways, aware of the presence of Mrs. Burton Claxon, the mother of one of our most popular members.

We don't know that we have the right to do this, but because of its message and because of the very warm spot we have in our hearts for this wonderful person, we are reprinting herewith something which she wrote to us not so long ago:

"God Bless 24th Infantry Division always, World War II none braver, more ready than they.

Up front and fighting steady in Korea today. We kissed our only son, Roscoe Claxon, as he sailed away,

Over the wide Pacific, for God's beautiful Kentucky to pay, Even with his life if need be But God brought him, thin and weary, to me.

"Please God, abide with our service girls and boys.

For Jesus' sake, save each precious soul for Heaven's joys.

Thru faith in Christ, by the Grace of God, whosoever will may come -- Share with our Elder Brother Jesus, Beautiful Heaven, our Home."

## Going Places?

CHAPLAIN CHRIS BERLO faithfully writes and keeps us posted on what he's doing and thinking. We're taking the liberty of quoting parts of his last letter:

"And may I take this opportunity of expressing my pleasure and satisfaction at the Convention this year. Your pessimism over the size of the attendance, I do not entirely agree with - in consideration of the extremely wide distribution of our membership country-wide, I think the attendance was quite good. And we all certainly enjoyed the Convention. That downstairs Convention-Room did have a very low ceiling, but that was more than offset by the air-conditioning, which was a boon in the hot Columbus weather.

"Another item for what it is worth: recently I have been participating in some of the National Road Races for Sports Cars. I am a member of the Denver Sports Car Club and have a Jaguar XK 120. Last spring I took part in the Georgetown Alpine Trials in Georgetown, Colorado, and on 13 and 14 September 1952 I took part in the now nationally known Aspen Road Races. My mount took first place in the Concourse d'Elegance (beauty contest for cars) and in the main event, a 55 mile road race over a closed course in the town of Aspen, I took fourth place in my class. Had to make a most unusual pit stop - to have a large nail removed from the left rear tire - after which I continued on without changing the wheel. If you should desire it I will send you a photo. My interest in Sports Cars dates back to my childhood, when my father had the first garage in the city of Boston around the turn of the century."

That item about the sport cars tickles us as we've gone slightly daffy over them ourselves. We're not up in the Jaguar class yet as we're only beginners. We're learning fast now with a little Hillman Minx.

## AS YOU PLEASE

We were glad to see CHARLIE and MARTHA CARD at the Convention this year. Charlie has been having labor problems over at his plant this summer and was lucky to be with us at all..... BOB SEITZ (Hq. Spec. Troops from 6-44 to 1-46) is a cost accountant in Cleveland. He and his very lovely wife, Jo Ann, were at Columbus as were ERNIE and RUTH COMPTON (1-34 from 7-40- to 7-45). The Comptons came in from Warren, Mich..... As we sit before the typewriter today, our hearts are no longer young and gay. We have just picked up word that Dorothy Collins, the sweetheart of Lucky Strike, was married last summer. For us, life has no more future than a cake of ice. Oh well, back to the drawing board..... We were delighted to see our good friend, RUSS ARNOLD (MP from 9-45 to 7-47) at the Convention last summer. Russ is our idea of an A-1 MP. He's a civilian working for the Air Force..... VARIAN HOOVER (C-34) is a grocer at Hustontown, Pa.

**E**veryone of us will find interest in this news. A distinguished Army career closed at Polk recently when BRIG. GEN. HENRY J. D. MEYER, XV Corps Artillery commanding general retired from active duty.

The veteran artillery commander, with 34 years of service behind him, had been XV Corps Artillery commander at Polk since June 14, 1951. A native of New York City, the general was graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York and commissioned a second lieutenant of Field Artillery Nov. 1, 1918.

After serving with various field artillery regiments, he was an instructor in chemistry and electricity at West Point from 1925 to 1929.

In 1932 he was awarded his Master's degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Gen. Meyer served in the Philippines from 1935 until 1941. In 1943 he sailed to Europe with the 13th Field Artillery Brigade as its executive officer. After serving as the commanding officer of the 17th Field Artillery, he assumed command of 45th Div. Artillery at Anzio in 1944. Returning to the U.S. with the 45th in December, 1945, he assumed command of the division during its deactivation period.

In 1948, he became commander of 24th Division Artillery in Japan, and went to Korea with the 24th at the outset of Korean hostilities in July, 1950. He fought with the 24th until April, 1951, when he was reassigned to the U.S. In June, 1951, he assumed command of XV Corps Artillery at Camp Polk.

During his career Gen. Meyer has been awarded the Silver Star with three oak leaf clusters, the Legion of Merit with one oak leaf cluster for his Korean service, the Purple Heart, the French Croix de Guerre with palm for service in Italy and the Croix de Guerre with palm for service in France and Germany.

We wish you well, General, in your "new assignment."

## TODAY AS YESTERDAY

No one has ever accused us of being a woman-hater, but the feminine sex has irked us at last. We don't advocate beating women but the urge was sure with us quite frequently during the late-lamented political conventions. We know that for every "big" man on the national scene, there is a "little woman" behind the scenes to fan the fires of his ambition. Our gripe is that they don't remain behind the scenes. The feminine branch of the family was in evidence in Chicago. We saw, heard, and read about a variety of gals of all sizes and snapes. Firstly, women just don't have the voices to indulge in passionate speeches, and we include India Edwards when we say this. A woman loses something when she screams..... JEANNE and ART SCHREMSER (34th) of Detroit, where Art is a guard at the Ford plant, came down to Columbus for the Convention. They have two small children, Linda and Joan..... GEORGE and ANNA MARIE WHITE (34th) drove over to Columbus from their Sinclair gas station in Butler, Pa. in 5½ hours of pouring rain. They have three kiddies, Larry, Danny and Bruce. They brought CHARLES and HELEN McMICHAEL (19th), also of Butler with them. Charlie is with the Armco Steel Corp. there.

## RAIN or SHINE

HOBERT GILLESPIE (724 Ord. from 1-45 to 9-45) is now merchandising manager for Color Corporation of America in Evanston, Ill. We've had quite a few inquiries as to where Gil was these days -- now we know.

**D**AVID GRAY (19th) has moved to 406 Meeting St., West Columbia, South Carolina. Dave is starting a new business there known as the Palmetto Office Supply Co. Good luck, Dave!

BILL MARROTTA (G-19) of 60 Hazelwood Terr. Rochester, N. Y., is trying to locate JOSEPH C. GARRETT (also G-19). Joe, where are you?

LT. COL. JOHN C. COUGHILL has been named Regt. Exec. of the 5th ROT in Korea, replacing LT. COL. JOHN JACKSON, JR. who has rotated. We have a warm spot in our hearts for the 5th.

## OLD SOLDIER FAR FROM "FADING AWAY"

by Cpl. Max McCarthy

One day recently, as a torrid sun beat down on the desolate Ojojihara training area in north central Japan, a short, thin, leather-skinned sergeant with a hearty, rapping growl snapped to two of his men, "Get your bodies up that hill to the OP."

This fatigue-clad, sweaty and unshaven soldier was SFC ORLAND HUNTOON, age: 55, height: five feet four and a half, weight: 147 pounds; "hard as nails," "a soldier's soldier" and "the best-damned NCO in the world," a combat veteran of World War I, World War II and the Korean War, and today, Field First Sergeant of Charlie Co. of the 21st Regt.

"Sure, sonny, I'll tell you anything you want to know," the hard-bitten old soldier said after this reporter asked him for an interview. "Pull up some weeds, plant yourself down and stay down. The Old Man's up in that plane and if he sees anyone standing around, somebody's going to get chewed out."

ORLAND HUNTOON was an 18-year-old lad with an itch to fight when he joined the army at Fort Slocum, N.Y. in 1916. He trained with the 35th Regt. in the States and went to France with the 11th FA Bn, which is now part of the sergeant's 24th Div. He was engaged in many of the Great War's most bitter battles, including the Meuse-Argonne offensive, and, on the "11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month," he was on the "11th piece of the 11th Field Artillery that fired the last shot of the war."

Returning to the States for discharge after the Armistice, Huntoon embarked on an odyssey of interesting jobs. He went cow-punching in the then frontier state of Montana, gold mining in the wilds of British Columbia and farming in thinly populated Alberta, Canada. While in Alberta he married a girl from his New Hampshire home town and started raising a family. But family life and farming proved to be a trifle dull for the adventurous Orland, so he decided to re-enter the Army. In 1935 he came back and has been in the service almost continually ever since.

Assignments with various outfits in the States and Hawaii preceded his World War II duty.

In November of 1942 Huntoon was wounded at the fierce battle of the Kasserine Pass in North Africa. He was hospitalized and, after his recovery, returned to action in 1944 with the 65th Div. He fought through France and Germany and was on the Austrian border across from the Russians on V-E Day.

Back home in 1946, the sergeant took another discharge but after divorcing his wife he rejoined the Army -- this time "for good."

In 1949 he came to Japan and joined the 21st Regt. Shortly thereafter he married a Japanese girl in a Shinto ceremony. At the present time he is attempting to have this marriage recognized by U.S. authorities. A boy born of this union died while the sergeant was in Korea.

The first American unit to fight in Korea was the famous Task Force Smith which was composed of the 21st's 1st Battalion. Then as now, SFC Huntoon was the Field First Sergeant of Charlie Company, which took part in some of the most intense Korean fighting. The story he best likes to recall is the time his unit was "getting the hell beat out of it." As Co. C moved up through a river bed, Huntoon crawled up on a moving tank. There, as enemy fire whizzed around them, he shared his C rations with another tank rider, Col. (now Brig.Gen.) Richard Stephens, then 21st CO.

One year after he went to Korea, the Sarge rotated to the 21 but it wasn't long before he asked to be sent back to Korea and the 21st. By the time he reached the famed Gimlets, they were back in Japan. He's been with them since that time. Every day he can be seen trudging at the head of his company over bumpy roads and open fields.



"PERSONALLY, I PREFER MINE ON THE ROCKS."





We are not down and out worshippers at the feet of Douglas MacArthur. But we believe that as a servant of his country for over 50 years, he has no peer in military history. And further, when a man like Representative Emanuel Celler (D-N.Y.) proposes to offer a bill in Congress to force the old man to "quit" the Army, our blood begins to boil.

The taxpayers pay the gentlemen \$19,548.00 a year. Never was a pension more bitterly earned or deeply deserved. As old as he is, the General would still be in harness if his military judgement hadn't conflicted with that of the strategists in Washington who canned him for trying to win a war.

MacArthur, since his return, didn't make a dollar until he went with Remington Rand. If he had been greedy for quick money, he might have earned some spending money by writing a book, as did some others. But he didn't. He paid his own way so long as he was in politics, and he resisted the impulse to capitalize financially on his fame.

Celler makes remarks about the expense of the MacArthur salary upon the taxpayers. Coming from a professional politician, such talk of economy has a ridiculous sound.

We think that General MacArthur, after living off the pay of a military man for his entire military life (52 years and more) is deserving of the pension which the law, as it was written with him and Generals Marshall, Eisenhower and Arnold in mind, says he's entitled to.

*Aloha*

CHAPLAIN ROMAN J. NUWER (Div. Hq.) at the Vienna Military Post has been Chief Chaplain of U. S. Forces in Austria. He's now returning to the states for retirement. He has spent more than seven years in Austria.... We regret to report that HENRY E. HYLER (21st) was killed Dec. 8, 1951 in an auto accident while stationed at Camp McCoy.... LT. COL. JOHN W. MEDUSKY took command of the 34th Regt's 2nd Bn recently, replacing LT. COL. CLAUDE P. WHITE, now regimental executive officer. The son of a U.S. Navy Commander, the Colonel attended the United States Military Academy, graduating in 1939. He later received his Master of Science degree from the University of California in 1947. He holds the Bronze Star with one cluster which he earned with the 508th Airborne Regiment during World War II.

**GOOD  
any old  
time!**

We like the spirit of the Japanese girl, wife of an American soldier, who is now in this country. She is Hisako Nagashima, wife of M/Sgt. Alan J. Stevens who is now at Camp Detrick, Md. She hopes to organize all the Japanese wives of American service men in a "Japanese War Bride Club of America." One of its purposes is to "sell democracy to the people of Japan." We admire the lady greatly and wish her well.... Did you catch the article on Japan in the August issue of Holiday magazine. It's a beautifully written piece by James A. Michener. Don't miss it... ELTON EVANS (Recon) never fails to make a convention. He writes, however, that he's growing a little tired at the lack of interest on the part of the Recon. men. Where are you Callopy, Appel, Wiley, Hileman, Williamson, Powell, and all the rest?

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU, GEN. DUNKELBERG

Just as we were ready to go to press, word was received from Japan that Brig. Gen. Wilbur E. Dunkelberg had assumed command of the old Division. We regret that we haven't a picture of the "Old Man" that we can run with this story. We'll make up for it in the next issue. Meanwhile, our sincere good wishes to you, General Dunkelberg. We have a warm spot in our hearts for "your" division. We want ask that you treat it well as we know that you will. Our G2 has assured us that we need have no fear. Our congratulations and warm wishes go forward to you.



MAJ. GEN. GEORGE W. SMYTHE (Div. CO), BRIG. GEN. WILBUR E. DUNKELBERG (ADC), and COL. ARTHUR J. PETERSON (Div. C/S) recently participated in a bicycle race with the Vice Governor of Miyagi Prefecture at the ceremonies opening the new cycling stadium near Sendai. Smythe, took an early lead, rode the banks like a veteran and crossed the finish line far ahead of his opponents. Life is never dull in the old Victory Division.



DICK WARREN (21st and Div. Band from 11-42 to 3-45) who knocked away at that big bass drum all the way from Hawaii to Mindoro, has jumped aboard another bandwagon -- our bandwagon. Dick was a barber prior to his service and he's a barber again. Write him at 710 Mathieson St., Rensselaer, Ind. Here's how Dick expresses it: "It was a great honor to play the drum and guitar under Paul Ehrhard (remember Paul and his twirling baton?) and I will always have a warm spot in my heart for the 24th." You're cooking with gas, Dick!

## AT HOME and ABROAD

JOHN HORVATH (A-3rd E) is a grocer in Detroit. He made the long haul to Columbus last summer by auto.... LEON SWEM (AT-34 from 6-43 to 9-45) is a paper maker at Cartnage, N.Y. He has a lovely wife Alice and they have three children, Dennis (9 yrs.), Larry (6 yrs.) and Darlene (4 yrs.).... RAY and OPAL KAHR (SU 52F) complain that not enough boys from the 52nd Field were at Columbus. We wish we knew the answer, folks. Do you?... LES and CARMEL OLDS (SU 19th) motored over to Columbus from Canton, Ohio. They had a similar complaint; that they did not see more of the boys of the 19th. We sent out notices to more than 45,000 24th'ers. We too were disappointed in the size of the turnout.... LELON FREEMAN (C-34 from 10-44 to 2-45) is a master mechanic for TWA. Naturally, he "flew" to Columbus and naturally, too -- via TWA.



Lt. Col. Wilson H. Birch was appointed the new commander of the 26th AAA Bn last week, taking over the position from acting commander Maj. Harold W. Wessberg. The new CO expressed the feelings he had toward the entire battalion in an address to the men of Hq. Btry. He said in part, "It is a pleasure to serve with a unit like the 26th AAA Bn, which has such an enviable record in seven campaigns in Korea and four in Europe." In World War II, Col. Birch served six years in North Africa and Europe and was awarded the Silver and Bronze Stars for heroic action against the enemy. Before coming to the Far East, he was assigned with Sixth Army Headquarters in San Francisco.

Unless our memory has failed us, here are companies L and M of the 19th parading down the "main stem" (Rizal St.) of Davao City along about August of '45. The boys were really dressed up that day. WALTER MANNING (M-19 from 4-45 to 9-46) has very kindly sent us the picture along with others we hope to use in future issues. Thanks, Walt. Does anyone else have any pictures they care to send in?



## STARS OF The Greatest Show on Earth

GEORGE and CLARE PARNABLY (11 F from 2-44 to 12-45) over in Dayton where George is a sales promotion manager, have four children, ranging from 10 to 1. 10 to 1 says there won't be any more, too, eh George?.... JOHN FLAHERTY (11 F from 3-43 to 12-45) is a fireman in Jersey City. Johnny motored all the way to Columbus last summer to be with us... GUY OAKMAN (724 Ord) of McConnellsburg, Pa. is County Treasurer of Fulton County. He may be a candidate for governor some day. From where we stand, Penn. needs a new governor.... FRANK SHOWALTER (Div. Band) is a bus driver in Akron, Ohio.... HARRY BRANT (MP) is a farmer in Laidig, Penn.... New staff assignments at Div.Hq. were announced this week when Lt. Col. Eugene A. Traham, former G-2 was appointed G-3. He replaced recently promoted Col. Charles J. Denholm, who will serve with G-2, Hq. FEC. Maj. Gerald G. Coady, former assistant G-2, has been appointed G-2.

## America's Best "

Four year old Cozette Brannon, daughter of LT. CHARLIE E. BRANNON (5th RCT) who died on 6-15-51 in Tokyo of wounds received in action in Korea, received his Distinguished Service Cross and Oak Leaf Cluster in recent ceremonies in Washington, D.C. Her mother, Mrs. Regina L. Brannon, 5016 Bradley Blvd., Chevy Chase, Md. held Cozette's sister, Cynthia, who was born after her father's death. Charlie was cited for the DSC on 4-22-51 and for the Cluster on 4-25-51. Wounded, he returned to action early in May and on 5-18-51 received mortal wounds. Our hearts go out to Mrs. Brannon.

## ARE WE TALKING YOUR LANGUAGE?

JOHN and MARY STANSELL (C-19) live in Columbus so they were very much with us at the Convention.... TOM and VIRGINIA BIRCK-BICHLER (24 Recon.) drove over from Butler, Pa. Tom and Ginny report that there are 5 in the family now -- Tom, Dick and Ray.... WALTER and BETTY FESNAK (H-21) came down from Cleveland to be with us at the Convention, we're happy to say.... CHAPLAIN CHRIS J. BERLO (19th) left Denver in his sleek Jaguar to come to Columbus. His fuel pump conked out on him in the middle of Mo. so he prevailed upon a friend at Ft. Leonard Wood to pick him up. Before reaching Wood and in true 24th fashion, he had talked the friend out of his car. So Berlo made it the rest of the way to Columbus in a borrowed car. The nappy fact is that he made it.... BOB WEAVER (5th RCT) at Hq. Co., III Corps, Ft. MacArthur, Calif. wants to know if the 5th RCT received the Presidential or Korean citations. We frankly don't know. Does anyone?



## Picture OF THE MONTH



The process by which this paper is produced is a baffling one for us. In fact, it is just so mysterious that we are continually trying out new ideas, at your expense to be sure, but all in a bona fide effort to improve the paper and its contents.

You may not approve of our use of the nude for the present experiment. We hope you'll forgive us however on the ground that it's all "for research".

In his earliest beginnings, man opened his eyes to the world about him as he became aware of the miracle of creation. In his awe, he used the human body as an art form to express his worship of nature and to satisfy his love of decoration. To many, the female figure in the nude is the most sublime creation of nature, but that is all beside the point.

We merely want to check the result when we superimpose copy upon a photograph. So bare with us, will you please, while we run our little test?

Unfortunately, it's one of those things where we don't know how it will work out until after we've tried. After we've done it, it may be too late, but we're risking that.

### You can do it

**X** marks the spot. We have finally digested the Chambers version of the Hiss case. Hiss may have been the greater offender, measuring deed by deed. Frankly, however, it's growing tiresome -- not to say dismaying -- to read the pink confessions of so-called Americans who would have us believe that they once were duped but are now ready to change miraculously into stalwart souls. Men like Chambers are hardly more useful to us as citizens than they must have been to the Commies as vacillating tools of an ideology whose very foundation is based on doubt, fear and suspicion. ... ANGELO and FLORENCE STRADA (C-21) are the proud parents of Robert, now a year old. Congratulations, folks. ... JOHN and DELORES TRINEA (C-21) up in Chicago, by the time we go to press, are undoubtedly proud parents. We're waiting for the news and wish you all well.

### STATES OF MIND

**Y**ears make the difference, don't they? we see where the American President Lines is offering luxury passenger service from 'Frisco to Yokohama at around \$500. We well remember making our best trip at no cost whatever. As a matter of fact, the people we were working for at the time paid us to make the trip. ... LEROY and DOROTHY FRANKFORTH (M-34) have a daughter, Joyce, who is 3 years old. Leroy is a mason in Perrysburg, Ohio. ... It sure seemed good to see the FREDERICKS (WALTER and GERTRUDE) (D-34) at Columbus. Walter is a cop with the Detroit Police Dept. They have a daughter, Kathleen. ....

### "finishing touch"

HOWARD ARMIGER (H-19 from 1-51 to 10-51) is Commander of the Annapolis, Md. VFW post. Howard wants information on the latest G.I. bill. We hope to include some dope in a forthcoming issue, Howie. He also wants to know about decals and pins. New 24th Div. decals are on order and their sale will be announced shortly. As to 24th Div. pins, write the Secretary, Howie; he's got them for sale to any and all who ask.

# EYES FRONT

## Smythe Departs Assistant CG Takes Reins

Well, they've done it again. Just as we were getting on a firm footing with Maj. Gen. George W. Smythe, they upped and transferred him. It's the "same old army," you can easily see. Former Asst. Div. Commander, Brig. Gen. Wilbur E. Dunkelberg has assumed the CG's post and while we haven't heard from him yet, we look forward to a continuance of the pleasant relations which were rapidly taking shape under George Smythe's enthusiastic direction. We regret that we can't tell you where George will show up next. It's a military secret so we suggest that you just sweat it out and

wait for Time or Life to spill the beans. Our prediction is that they'll know it before we do.

George is going to be missed in the Division. Faced with the task of maintaining a combat-ready unit to serve as a security force in Japan, he tackled his assignment with a vigor that won the affection and respect of every man in the Division.

A one-time All-American football great, he is going to be missed by all but particularly by the sports enthusiasts of the Division.

George distinguished himself by his close work with the Japanese government in cementing good relations between our government and the government of the Japanese.

His constant cry to the command was to "train hard so that you'll be ready for anything that they might throw at you". Thanks in large measure to you, George, they are.

We hate to see you leave.

MAJ. GEN. FRED IRVING has written the following concerning CHARLIE JONES.

"All members of the 24th Infantry Division Association will be saddened to hear of the death of COLONEL CHARLES H. JONES, who died September 4, 1952 at Fort Collins, Colorado.

"Those who were members of the Division from early 1942 to late 1944 will remember him as the beloved Regimental Commander of the 19th Infantry. Charlie took command of the 19th Infantry in the spring of 1942 in Hawaii.

"Before that, he had been second in command of the 34th Infantry. He led the Regiment in an outstanding manner during its service in Hawaii, Australia, and during the campaign in New Guinea.

"He left the Division in 1944, after the Hollandia Campaign, to return to the States for a 30 day TDY, expecting to return in time for the Philippine invasion; but illness occurring in New Guinea, prevented him from rejoining us. He was a very efficient and capable Regimental Commander, and his amiable friendly personality endeared him to all who served with him.

"The members of the Division Association will mourn him as one of its most distinguished members and a beloved friend."

We are grateful to Fred Irving for writing this item for us. We only regret the circumstances which made it seem to us proper that we ask him to turn "reporter" for a moment. Knowing something of the feeling that existed between these two very fine men, we asked Fred to help us out.

### "child's play"

According to the VA, 103,774 veterans of all wars are hospitalized. Of these, 49,611 are veterans of WWII, 44,001 are WWI veterans, 3001 are veterans of Korea service, and 3361 are peacetime veterans or participated in other wars.

AL MILLER (A-21) of 737 E. Livingston Ave., Columbus, Ohio, asks that the man of the 63rd Field who obtained the names from him at the Columbus Convention please return them to him as he has a good use for them.

**B**ecause there is so much valuable information in the figures submitted below, we include them in this issue. The chart shows the number of members who have attended each of our five Conventions. These numbers are broken down so as to show the states from which they came. Read between the lines here and determine for yourselves where the '53 Convention site had best be.

	'48 Balti- more	'49 New York	'50 Chi- cago	'51 De- troit	'52 Co- lumbus
Ala.			2		1
Ariz.					
Ark.	2		2	1	2
Calif.	1	1	1		4
Colo.			3		1
Conn.	3	12	1	1	1
Del.	1				
D.C.	13	10	2	1	
Fla.	1	1	2	1	3
Ga.				11	8
Idaho					
Ill.	6	4	114	17	16
Ind.	2	1	9	3	15
Iowa	1	1	8	1	3
Kans.	1		2	5	6
Kv.	1		1	1	3
La.					10
Me.					
Ma.	20	12	2	1	3
Mass.	4	11	3	4	4
Mich.	11	3	9	46	16
Minn.			2	1	1
Miss.				1	
Mo.		1	3	1	7
Mont.					
Neb.			1		
Nev.					
N.H.					
N. J.	12	51	5	2	3
N.M.					
N.Y.	24	95	16	8	10
N.C.	3	5			1
N.D.					
Ohio	3	2	5	17	61
Okl.					
Ore.			1		
Pa.	29	20	5	11	24
R.I.	1				1
S.C.	2		1		
S.D.					
Tenn.					
Tex.	1				5
Utah					
Vt.					
Va.	19	4	2	1	2
Wash.					
W.Va.	2	2	1	1	2
Wis.			10		4
Wyo.					
Address Unknown					8
TOTAL	172	236	213	136	225

We regret exceedingly our erroneous statement made at Columbus to the effect that Chicago in '50 was "our largest." The official figures contradict us. The New York convention in '49 was "our largest." There's "meat" in those statistics, friends. Chew on them.

## Spit and Polish



FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE  
(if you're in arrears or  
know of a likely prospect)

Bill Savell, Secretary  
P.O. Box 268  
Blountstown, Fla.

Dear Bill:-

Here's my \$3.00 for a year's membership in the Association.

(name)

(address)

(unit of 24th Div.)

(Please notify the Secretary of your changes of address.)



we  
are  
pleased  
to  
announce  
that . . . . .

Not through oversight, but merely through lack of space, did we fail to recognize in our last issue the special worthy efforts of ED FARMER (21st), ROSCOE CLAXON (724 Ord) and BOB SCHLATTER (21st), who were in there pitching every inch of the way at our Columbus convention. There were hundreds of details to be handled and those boys each assumed more than a fair share of the load. We wish we had 5000 members like Ed, Roscoe and Bob. Thanks again, men.

## Report

Let's dwell for a moment on membership, may we? In February '51, we had 491 members. Between then and the '51 Convention in Detroit, we built it up to slightly under 1000 members. A year later at Columbus, we had seen it grow to 1515 members. This effort has represented hundreds of hours of work. We now have an individual card on approximately 35,825 prospective members. We have had addresses on 5223 more. Every single one of these fellows has been contacted, by letter, at least once. Some have been appealed to twice, some three times and certain of them have heard from us four times. We intend to continue to appeal to these people in further efforts to enlist their support of our cause.

These 35,825 names represent for the most part men who served in the Division between 1941 and 1948. We are fast accumulating additional records on the men who served subsequent to '48, thanks to our many enthusiastic supporters now in the Division in Japan.

The best AG and G-1 estimates we can obtain indicate that probably 85,000 men have served the Division at one time or other in its glorious history. We're not quitting until we've located them all.

We are in receipt of word that JIM "SHORTY" BRYANT (19th) who was in charge of rations in Hawaii, Australia and Goodenough, died of a heart attack in Germany in April. His body now lies in Arlington Cemetery. ROLAND CLOUD'S thoughtful wife, Eleanor, sends us the news. She says that Roland went to the funeral. She says that "Shorty" was released from the service after Goodenough, but reenlisted and served in Japan and later in Germany where he married a German girl.

JIM "CHUM" PURCELL (24 Sig.Co.) sends us greetings from Korea where he is signal advisor to the Korean Army. Jim reminds us the early organization days of the Association when he and ED HENRY got things underway back in the fall of '45 in the Governor's Chambers in the Enme Prefecture Bldg. at Matsuyama, Shikoku. We ourselves recall those early political maneuvers with a definite feeling of nostalgia. Jim was a priceless politician then and we have every reason to believe that, if anything, he has improved with age. The Army integrated a good man when it took Jim in. Our best wishes go out to you, Jim. Write us often.

## BY THE WAY

Possibly some of you can help Mrs. A.E. Martin, mother of GEORGE COOPER (21). She lives at 4911 Lincoln, E. St. Louis, Ill. George is a POW, having been captured on 7-12-50. Can anyone give Mrs. Cooper any worthwhile information? George has managed to get through 4 letters. . . . Likewise Mrs. Catalina Barraza, of Box 243, Central, New Mexico, would like to hear from buddies of her son, MANUEL A. BARRAZA who is MIA.



## WORKSHOP

(Ed. Note: We are proud to introduce with this issue, the "Chaplain's Corner" in which CHAPLAIN CHRIS J. BERLO (19th), our Association Chaplain will hold forth. The line forms at the right. Have your tickets ready.)

### CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Where did anyone get the idea that sin is brave, or difficult, or an accomplishment, an achievement? Chesterton once permitted himself a sneer at writers who wrote about adultery as if it were a feat like the solving of difficult mathematical problems.

Any dullard can lie abed and cultivate laziness. It takes an effort to get a body at rest to start into action. Did you ever hear a locomotive chug as it makes those first few yards? Or watch a large plane making that long tough run before it gets into the air?

Anybody can let his tongue run away with him and pick up dirty habits of speech. It is easier to steal than work for a living. When temptation is seductive it takes some stern doing to say "No". Any pig can be a glutton or get drunk. Even Ferdinand the Bull was able to be lazy. It's a snap to live off other people and their labors.

The sinner finds "Yes" much easier than "no" - the commandments easier to break than to keep - the lazy tempted body taking the lead and the soul being pushed around comes awfully easy to some people.

But nobody ever honestly believes in his heart that sin is a great human accomplishment - least of all the one who commits it.

Chaplain Chris J. Berlo

MYRON A. COLLINS (21st Inf.) has just joined our ranks. We're of course happy about that. He's at 336 Flower City Park, Rochester, N. Y. His twin, MARVIN COLLINS, was killed on July 20, 1950 at Taejon. Marvin was in the Med. Co. of the 34th. Myron would appreciate any information anyone can supply. Myron understands a chap by the name of "Smith" last saw Marvin. Can we have your help on this, fellows? . . . Mrs. Charles R. Landon, of RRL, Box 254, Joplin, Mo., wife of M/SGT. CHARLES R. LANDON (C-21) who is MIA, is anxious to locate M/SGT. PAUL E. NORRIS, also of C-21st. Can anyone help Mrs. Landon? . . . Mrs. B. L. Slatzer, mother of HOLLICE LOCKARD (K-21) who was KIA on July 11, 1950 wants to hear from anyone who knew Hollice. Her address is 1101 Sidney St., Columbus, Ohio. . . . Mr. Otis K. Ferguson, father of OTTIE FERGUSON, JR. (21st) who has been MIA since July 12, 1950 would like to hear from anyone who can tell him about his boy. You may address him at Box 285, Raceland, Ky. . . . GERALD A. CHOATE (21st) has been MIA since July 11, 1950. Will anyone with any information write to his mother, Mrs. K. M. Choate, at Worth, W. Va. . . . Mrs. Edith Klonowski, mother of CHARLES L. HEDDINGER (Med.Co. 21st) has heard from him at POW camp #3. She has received letters written Mar. 7/52, Mar. 21/52 and Mar. 28/52. She received them on June 13/52. If anyone can tell her any more about Charles, please write her at 410 Terrace Ave., Apollo, Penn.

For some time now, it has seemed advisable and desirable that members of the Association be encouraged to take a more active interest by way of writing for the Taro Leaf. We have had a few articles submitted up to now, all without urging. We trust and hope that, by making this request for your written efforts, we may be favored with more in the future. Do not feel shy about sending in articles long or short (and the shorter the better as they are more likely to be read). We cannot agree to print everything but we can assure you that everything sent in will receive careful consideration. This is your publication. We want to print for you those items which we believe you will be interested in.

### Week's Mail

Our hearts go out to Mrs. Betty M. Bolt, mother of Frank J. Bolt (21st) who was KIA on 7-11-50. She is at Laurel Fork, Va., and if anyone can give her any information about Frank, she will be very grateful. She would like the names of those who were with him on that day and unfortunately we can't help her. Can you?

Speaking of contributions, as we were in the last issue, HAL DUDECK (F-34) (from 6-45 to 4-46) sends us a prayer that he had with him while "with the ole outfit." Knowing it was a help to him, he asks that we reprint it for the boys now at the front lines and we gladly oblige. Here it is:

### SOLDIER'S PRAYER

Dear God, I need your help to do My duty in this war  
To win the kind of peace that will Endure for evermore.  
Give me the strength to use my gun,  
With steady aim and true,  
And guide me in all other things  
A soldier has to do.  
Let not my eyes grow weary now,  
Let not my stomach ache,  
And if the going gets too tough,  
Let not my spirit break.  
Watch over all my loved ones, God  
While I am over here  
See that they never are in want  
Or have a single fear.  
And when the air is still once more  
And we no longer roam,  
I pray that I may be among  
The soldiers going home.

### IN THE TARO LEAF --

5 years ago -- MAJ. GEN. KENNETH F. CRAMER (ADC) was appointed Chief of the National Guard Bureau by the President.

2 years ago -- COL. MAX N. GIZON (Div. A.G.) was receiving congratulations over being a grandfather.

1 year ago -- Rumor had it that the 34th Inf. Regt. had been inactivated.