

TARROOLEAF

24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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WELCOME HOME

BILL

AND ALL

THE GANG !!!

The official publication of the 24th Infantry Division Association, published regularly in the interests of all men who have served and/or continue to serve the 24th United States Infantry Division

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 Kenneth F. Cramer (Div Hq)
 Edmund F. Henry (Div Hq)
 Ross Pursifull (34th)
 James M. O'Donnell (21st)
 Kenwood Ross (Div Hq)
 Robert J. Duff (Div Hq)

E D I T O R I A L

While in St. Louis last month, we ate
 crow--fricasseed.

In the last issue, we made as graceful an
 exit from this assignment as we knew how.

However, at the St. Louis gathering of the
 clan, someone found our Achilles' heel and we
 quietly reentered the scene via the back door.

That anyone in his right mind would under-
 take a third year in the Taro Leaf Editor's
 desk is as incomprehensible as the binomial
 theorem.

We only pledge our untiring efforts to
 continue on in the effort of the past to make
 this your mouthpiece in any and all matters
 concerning that interest which we share
 in common--our beloved 24th Infantry
 Division.

The 6th annual "clambake" of the Assoc.
 is now recorded history, and in the words of
 our new Assoc. President, amiable, roly-poly,
 and enthusiastic Victor Backer, onetime
 sergeant in Able of the 34th (from '41 to
 '45), "It was TERRIFIC!"

What it lacked in quantity (only 108),
 it made up for in quality as we gathered
 under the roof of the air-conditioned Lennox
 Hotel in St. Louis for our annual gathering
 of the clan. Past President Bob Duff (Div.
 Hq.) could have made no better selection in
 a hotel than the one he did choose.

Mayor Raymond R. Tucker of the host city
 dropped in and paid us a glowing tribute in
 behalf of all St. Louisans and Colonel Wm. D.
 Paschall, C.O. of the Mo. Mil. Dist. extended
 greetings on behalf of the Army.

Between sessions, the boys-and girls-
 found entertainment at the Municipal Players
 Opera, on the SS Admiral down the Mississippi,
 or in East St. Louis at the Club Prevue, all
 in accordance with the individual yen for
 music, dancing, or what have you. Let it not
 be said that somewhere in that delightful
 town, the whims and desires of every one of
 our conventioners could not be and were not
 satisfied.

And for those who cared not to leave the
 cool confines of the Lennox--and they were
 legion as only mad dogs and Englishmen go
 out into the St. Louis sun in August--it was
 an easy matter to find someone to sit down
 with. Reinforced by a quart of suitable
 beverage, many groups of two and three
 veterans of "The Old Division" were
 observed, cursing the waiter for not bringing
 the ice fast enough, and listening to each
 other's stories as to how they single-
 handedly settled the issues of the day at
 Biak, Tunga, Mintal, or Taejon.

Convention Chairman Joe Badaracco (Div.
 Hq.) and his hardworking lieutenants went
 overboard in their efforts to make our stay
 in their fair city a memorable one. If we
 may make such a brutally accurate observation,
 we should like to say that they succeeded.

At the annual business meeting, "Veep"
 Roscoe Claxon (724th Ord from 2-44 to 2-46)
 presided in the unavoidable absence of
 President Bob Duff and did nobly well.
 "Roscoe wears well", someone was overheard to
 say, and the truth of the observation was
 brought home as we watched him handle the
 affairs of state from the rostrum. As each
 convention comes and goes, Roscoe's value as
 the Association's all-round ambassador of
 good--will becomes increasingly more clear.

Tom Compere (Div Hq from 2-42 to 9-45),
 as Chairman of the Awards Committee, was his
 old usual humorous and lovable self as he
 announced the 1953 awards for recognition
 of outstanding service to the Assoc. This
 year's honors went to James "Spike" O'Donnell
 (21st) and Kenwood Ross (Div Hq), both past
 presidents of the Assoc. who now join with
 Edmund Henry (Div Hq) and Joseph Peyton (19th
 in the ranks of award winners.

The motion was made and seconded that a
 cable be dispatched to Mrs. Mildred Dean, the
 Association's only Honorary Member for Life,
 advising her that it was the hope and
 prayer of the members assembled that her
 hours of grief and torture would soon be at
 an end.

When the call for nominations of officers
 for the new year was made, William Byrd (21st)
 in deep southern tones, proposed the name of
 Vic Backer as president. Spike O'Donnell was
 so quick on the draw in following up the
 nomination with an especially well delivered
 seconding speech that some members of the
 audience became no little suspicious as
 to what these two Gimlets had up their
 sleeves. The unanimous vote which swept
 Backer into office unopposed made it
 obvious that the 21st boys had no motive
 other than to place at the head of the
 organization the most logical man for the
 office. Capable and aggressive worker,
 proven able chairman of our '49 "rhubarb" in
 NYC (the most successful of our six
 conventions), Vic, long before the vote was
 taken, had given every assurance that he was
 the man for the task. The consensus was that
 the Assoc. was--and is--at a critical point
 in its life. Either it will go forward to
 bigger and greater responsibilities and
 accomplishments or it will wither like a
 hollyhock on the day after Labor Day. With
 the initiative and drive which Vic Backer
 possesses more than his fair share of, the
 impetus can be nothing but forward.

Backer's first move, after pledging to
 lead the Assoc. to the new and greater
 heights ahead, was to ask the assembled clan

"24th Forward", the book you've been
 hearing about is a dandy. 1000 pictures.
 400 pages. 5 dollars per copy. James
 Mitchener, the novelist, says of it: "It's a
 pistol". War Correspondent Bob Vermillion
 says of it: "Best I ever saw". Says Mao Tse
 Tung of the Chinese People's Republic:
 "Bourgeois capitalist propaganda!".
 Say what you will, you should have a copy.
 Write PIO at Division today. You know the
 address--as if you could ever forget--just
 in case, it's APO 24, PM, Frisco, Calif.

to retain in office, for another year, all
 other Assoc. officers. The confidence vote
 made the election of other officers
 unnecessary. Backer's idea had taken the
 crowd by storm. For the "other officers"
 concerned, the idea had sailed over like an
 iron ball. And so it was that quiet,
 unassuming Bill Savell (19th) continues on
 with his doubling-in-brass as Secretary-
 Treasurer, Chaplain Chris J. Berlo (19th), who
 at that very moment was likely basking in the
 balmy Oahu breeze) unknowingly resumed his
 duties as Chaplain, Maj. Gen. G. Stanley Meloy,
 Jr. (19th), who was also not present, he being
 busily engaged in his mission of managing Ft.
 Benning, unknowingly resumed his job of
 Historian, and Ken Ross, who was in the
 convention hall but was unable to defend
 himself, shuddered at the thought of carrying
 on with this poop sheet for his third year.

Then came the revolution!
 Backer merely mentioned the '54 convention.
 That did it.

"New Orleans", "Miami", "Kansas City",
 "Chicago", and all of the usual myriad
 number of wayside stations in between--each
 of them had their moment of recognition.
 Notable by its absence as the perennial
 suggestion was Claxon's proposal of his own
 personal selection--Lexington, Ky. Claxon's
 lack of enthusiasm in this "year of the peace"
 is, as we go to press, still unaccounted for.
 Rumor has it that the Kentucky delegation
 will be at the '54 conclave with a double-
 barreled "Lexington in '55 or Else"
 ultimatum.

The proposals were neatly deflated, one
 by one, by the presiding officer who queried
 each proponent in turn as to what could be
 expected of him by way of rolled-up-sleeves
 to put the '54 show over. Negative replies,
 one after the other, made two considerations
 obvious to the assembly. First, the convention
 should be held either in the west or the east
 (the last four gatherings have been held in
 the mideaction of the country: Chicago, Detroit,
 Columbus, and St. Louis in that order).
 Second, the convention must be held in a
 location where there is available the hard
 working crew that can and will do the leg
 work involved in planning and the like. These
 parties just don't happen. They take months
 and weeks of effort on the part of a few
 who are willing to give the problem the time.

The result was a compromise.
 Sometime in February or March of '54, a
 reunion will be held in San Francisco to
 satisfy the not-at-all unreasonable demands
 of our west coast members for some kind of a
 get-together and in August of '54, we'll
 assemble for our 7th annual convention in
 Washington, D.C. at the new Statler (one of
 the world's finest) under the watchful eye
 of Convention Chairman Joe Peyton, whose
 devotion to the cause is so clearly a matter
 of official and unofficial record as to call
 for no further comment here.

Washington, the nation's Capital, offers
 the optimum in the way of attractions for
 conventioners. Already there is talk of
 the planned White House reception, it being
 taken more or less for granted inasmuch as
 a "Chick" is the tenant. Ladies, start
 growing those bangs now.

As you may have noticed, all of the old
 established rules of good newspaper
 reporting are "out the window" as far as
 this paper is concerned. This was supposed
 to be an article reporting to you on the
 St. Louis convention. We started it out that
 way. We'll try to end it up that way merely
 by adding here and closing with the thought
 that the St. Louis party was a huge success
 in that it furnished new, positive evidence
 that there is a need for an Assoc. such as
 ours and that there are people--Taro Leafers
 and their wives--who know no limit when it
 comes to the problem of solving the ways
 and the means of attending one, if not all,
 of these annual get-togethers.

THEY'RE BACK, THANK GOD, THEY'RE BACK

(Ed. Note: The editing of this issue has been far from easy. The Division has been so very much in the public eye in recent weeks that it is hard to know how much of that news to include here, so much of it being "old hat" by the time our readers get to read it. The task has been rendered even more complicated by the decision reached at St. Louis to devote this entire to a Directory of the Members of the Association. We have therefore compromised. Believing that a list of the returned POW'S who wore the Taro Leaf at the time of their capture will be of special interest to you, we include same in the following columns. Elsewhere in this issue, insofar as space permits, we include a portion of the Directory of Members of the Association. The balance of the Directory will be published in the next issue.)

The recent return of the prisoners emphasizes with dramatic finality the epic which has been played out through long months of delay, disappointment, and frustration. The return of this vanguard of men, breathing again a free air and restored to homes long looted, overwhelms us. Perhaps our welcome is at its best without words. We make no secret of the fact that we are grateful. We salute them as they come home to take up their lives anew. We welcome them into the fellowship of this Association—with the compliments of the "Loyal 100" who humbly thank their God for the return of so many who have borne the long vigils on the peninsula.

If we have missed any, our deepest apologies, but from where we sit, it looks as though it's "Welcome Home" to the following:

ACEVEDO, BIENVENIDO (Pfc)
c/o Juan R. Acevedo (Father)
203 Broome St.
New York, N. Y.

ANDERSON, PHILIP J. (Sgt)
Birmingham, Ala.

ANDERSON, PHILIP R. (Jr.) (Sgt)
Cornish, Maine

AQUILERO, VINCENT (Cpl) 5th
c/o Pete Mendoza (Uncle)
Fort Worth, Texas

ATKINSON, RONALD H. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Edna Bohacheck
Greensboro, North Carolina

BADGETT, SYLVESTER (Pfc) I-5th
c/o Rufus E. Badgett (Father)
Kenner, Alabama

BALKCOM, WILLIAM M. (Pfc) A-5th
c/o Morgan Balkcom (Father)
Lindale, Ga.

BALLENGER, GORDON (Cpl) (E-21st)
c/o Grady Ballenger (Father)
Douglasville, Ga.

BANASH, ALFRED P. (Cpl) (H-19th)
c/o Mrs. Mary Banash (Mother)
Plymouth Penn.

BARCZYKOWSKI, STEPHEN W. (Pfc)
c/o Mrs. Anna Cross (Mother)
Wilmington, Del.

BARNES, EDDIE G. (Pfc)
c/o Mack W. Barnes
Fort Worth, Texas

BECKWITH, HAROLD W. (Cpl) F-5th
c/o Paul A. Beckwith (Father)
Meriden, Kansas

BEDROSIAN, RAYMOND N. (Pfc) E-5th
c/o Mrs. Ruth Thornton (Mother)
23 Van Housen St.
Albany, New York

BERNARD, CHARLES E. (Cpl) A-5th
c/o Mrs. Alice Rosa
Atglen, Penn.

BLACKBURN, WILLIAM I. (Pfc) E-5th
c/o Clifton Blackburn (Father)
Monrow, Wash.

BLAIR, JACKIE D. (Pfc) 1-5th Regt
c/o Mrs. Myrtle O. Goff (Mother)
Bloomington, Ind.

BLEVINS, JOHN R. (Cpl)
c/o Hazel Blevins (Mother)
Leavittsburg, Ohio

BOOTH, NATHANIEL (Sgt)
Bassfield, Miss.

BOWDITCH, ARTHUR J. (Cpl) A-5th
c/o Mrs. Florence M. Bowditch
Long Beach, Calif.

BRADFORD, HENRY E. (Sgt)
c/o Cleecy R. Bradford
Southern Pines, North Carolina

BREMERER, ALBERT (Sgt) C-5th
c/o Mr. Charles E. Rowland
Cincinnati, Ohio

BREWSTER, DEWEY A. (Pfc) I-5th Regt
c/o Mr. Floyd Brewer (Father)
Corinth, Ky.

BRIDGEWATER, LAWRENCE E. (Pfc.)
c/o Mrs. C. Bridgewater
Loogcootee, Ind.

BROOKS, ARNOLD W. (Pfc)
c/o Mr. William A. Brooks
Wilton, Maine

BROWN, ALFRED G. (Cpl.)
c/o Mrs. Mary M. Brown (Mother)
Westminster, Md.

BROWN, GERARD T. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Gloria Fretos
254-23 75th Ave.
Glen Oaks, Queens, N. Y.

BROWN, ROBERT A. (Pfc) H-19th
c/o Mrs. Catherine Brown (Mother)
329 Montgomery St.
Jersey City, N. J.

BRUNNER, CLARENCE (St.)
c/o Mrs. Bernice Brunner
Corona, Calif.

BRYANT, LOREN D. (Pfc) C-5th
c/o Mrs. Sally B. Porter (Mother)
Newsoms, Va.

BUELL, LESTER R. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Thel Buell (Mother)
Whittier, Calif.

BUTLER, AUBREY (Cpl)
Albany, Ga.

BUTLER, FREDERICK (Jr.) (Pfc)
Marston, Mo.

BUZBEE, LAWRENCE A. (Sgt.)
Ruskin, Fla.

CAMPBELL, PAUL B. (Cpl) C-5th
c/o Mrs. Edna Campbell (Mother)
Bishop, Md.

CAPLINGER, WILLARD L. (Pfc)
c/o Mrs. Margie A. Caplinger
Parkersburg, West Virginia

SGT. LAWRENCE BUZBEE won his race against time to see his father, L.E. Buzbee, whose last wish was to see his son before he died. Lawrence was released from a POW camp on August 10th and was flown home to Ruskin, Fla. where this picture was taken.

Picture by courtesy of World Wide Photos, Inc.



CARICO, GLEN N. (Pfc.)
c/o Mrs. Violet R. Carico (Mother)
Des Moines, Iowa

CARTER, MERIPEE (Cpl)
Wayne, West Virginia

CARTH, ROEPPY L. (Sgt.)
c/o Mrs. C. J. Carth
Arlington, Texas

CARVALHO, PAUL P. (Cpl) E-5th
c/o Mrs. Lucy P. Carvalho
Honolulu, T.H.

CASTON, HERBERT L. (Sgt) F-21st
c/o Mrs. Winnie Mae Costin
Goldboro, North Carolina

CHANCE, ADELBERT W. (Cpl)
c/o Joseph Chance
127 E. First Ave.
Mantua, New Jersey

CHANDLER, DOSS (Pfc) H.M.Co.5th
c/o Mrs. Sullie Chandler
Ooltewah, Tenn.

CHOMA, JOHN (Jr.) (Pfc)
c/o John Choma (Father)
Morgan, Pa.

CHRISTENSEN, FLOYD C. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Betty L. Johnson
Fairmount, Minn.

CLINE, OLIVER J. (Sgt)
c/o Mrs. Myrtle F. Cline
Fayetteville, N. C.

COLEY, EARL N. (Pfc)
c/o Mrs. Lorene Colby
Leary, Texas

COLE, THOMAS W. (Pfc)
c/o Mrs. Grace Cole (Mother)
Brooklyn, New York

COOPER, ESTLE L. (Pfc)
Winifrede, W. Va.

CORMIER, ERNEST P. (Cpl)
c/o Philip J. Cormier (Father)
Malden, Mass.

COSSIN, CARL V. (Sgt)
c/o Virgil Cossin
Columbus, Ohio

CRUZ, RUBEN D. (Pfc)
c/o Mrs. Jupa Calinda (Aunt)
Detroit, Mich.

CUNNINGHAM, WAYNE C. (Sgt)
c/o Mrs. Alice Cunningham
Wampum, Penn.

DAHLIN, HOMER A. (Sgt) I-19th
c/o Mr. Charles G. Dahlin
Charlestown, W. Va.

DAVIS, JAMES C. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Cardie Davis
Morehead, Ky.

DAVIS, LAVENGE E. (Sgt)
c/o Mrs. Addie C. Davis
Martinsville, Virginia

DAWSON, DAVID A. (Pfc) D-5th
c/o Mrs. Alma Dawson (Mother)
Bybee, Tenn.

DECKARD, ERNEST L. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Frances Booth
Wagoner, Okla.

DELEON, RICHARDO (Pfc)
c/o Mrs. Anita Deleon (Mother)
Corpus Christi, Tex.

DENTON, LEO A. (Sgt)
c/o Mrs. Lilly Denton
Center, Ark.

DICKEL, JAMES P. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Mary Dickel
Mount Savage, Mo.

DIXON, JOHN L. (Cpl) L-19th
c/o Mr. John A. Dixon (Father)
San Jose, Calif.

DOBSON, FLOYD J. (Pfc)
c/o Mrs. Mildred Dobson
Brimley, Ark.

DOLL, MARTIN (Jr.) (Cpl)
c/o Martin Doll, Sr. (Father)
Almont, North Dakota

DOMENECH, JAIME O. (Sgt)
c/o Mrs. Pamona P. Domenech
Aibonito, Puerto Rico

DONNER, DONALD E. (Pfc)
c/o Frank L. Donner
Arlington, Washington

DRANGE, JULIAN K. (Pfc) C-5th
c/o Mr. John Drange (Father)
Hazel Run, Minn.

DRAPER, FRANK E. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Edith Draper
Kansas City, Mo.

DROST, JOSEPH J. (Cpl) G-5th
c/o Michael Drost (Father)
San Rafael, Calif.

DURHAM, JESSE W. (Pfc)
c/o Mrs. Bessie J. Durham
Warsaw, Illinois

DUTY, CERMILLUS H. (Cpl)
c/o John D. Duty
Wurtland, Ky.

ELSBURY, IRVIN E. (Pfc) C-5th
c/o Mrs. Mabel M. Elsbury
Sutherland, Iowa

ENDRIS, EVERETT T. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Wilma Endris
Crown Point, Ind.

ERVIN, JOHN D. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Lucy M. Ervin
Wichita Falls, Texas

FALCONEIRI, DONALD (Sgt)
Middleboro, Mass.

FARRELL, THOMAS S. (Cpl) 5th
c/o Mrs. John A. Farrell (Mother)
Trinidad, Colo.

FENTON, DANIEL E. (Sgt) B-555th
c/o Fred M. Fenton (Father)
Terre Haute, Ind.

FIELD, HORACE E. (Mr.)
Hoisington, Kansas

FILLIPI, ERNEST D. (Pfc) E-19th
c/o Mrs. Colleen A. Fillipi
East Grand Forks, Minn.

FISHER, LOWELL D. (Cpl)
c/o Lewis G. Fisher
Charlestown, West Virginia

FISHER, MYLES E. (Cpl) A-19th
c/o Mr. Robert Fisher (Brother)
Lambertville, Mich.

FITZGERALD, ROBERT B. (Pfc)
c/o Mrs. Marian E. Fitzgerald
Ballston Spa, New York

FOWLER, HAROLD E. (Cpl) E-21st
c/o Mr. Tom M. Fowler (Father)
Manchester, Ala.

FRANZ, DAVID (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Grace C. Franz
Bridgewater, Mass.

FRAZER, CHARLES T. (Sgt)
c/o Mrs. Frances Frazer
Delpre, Ohio

FREEMAN, EVERETT (Cpl)
c/o Andy Freeman
Pennington Gap, Virginia

GARCIA, FRANCISCO A. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Antonia A. Garcia
Las Cruces, New Mexico

GASKINS, JUNE V. (Cpl)
Nashville, Ga.

GAUTHIER, JOSEPH A. (Cpl) A-5th
c/o August Gauthier (Father)
Opelousas, La.

GOOPREAU, THEODORE (Cpl)
West Wareham, Mass.

GREEN, WILLIE C. (Pvt) H-19th
c/o Wm. Green (Father)
Edna, Texas

GREGORY, HOMER F. (Cpl) K-19th
c/o Mrs. Edith E. Gregory (Mother)
2017 Skagway St.
Tampa, Fla.

GRUSSING, DANIEL (Pfc)
c/o Elliott Grussing (Father)
Waynard, Minn.

HALL, VAUGHN T. (Cpl) 6 Tk Bn
c/o Mrs. Elancho L. Hall
Asheville, N. C.

HARRISON, JAKE (Sgt)
Lake City, Tenn.

HATANO, BILLY K. (Pvt)
c/o Yoshimasa Hatano (Father)
Sacramento, Calif.

HEAD, CARL R. (P-21st) (Sgt)
c/o Mrs. Virgie Head (Mother)
Evansville, Ind.

HEMINGWAY, LAWRENCE J. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. F. M. Heminger (Mother)
Gulliver, Mich.

HENSLEY, MARSHALL O. (Pfc)
c/o Mrs. L.C. Hensley (Mother)
Speedwell, Va.

HEWITT, BEN F. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Beetta E. Hewitt (Mother)
Council Grove, Kansas

HILGART, JOHN E. (Pfc) F-5th
c/o Mrs. Alice Hilgart (Mother)
Park Falls, Wis.

HOLLAND, BILLY J. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. H. E. Wise
Fort Smith, Ark.

HOMONIA, JOE E. (Sgt)
Wadsworth, Ohio

HOPE, JAMES R. (Pfc) E-5th
c/o Mr. E. L. Hope (Father)
Belmont, N. C.

HOR, CHONG (Cpl.)
c/o On Hor
San Francisco, Calif.

HOTSON, WAYNE O. (Sgt) E-19th
c/o Mrs. Bonnie J. Hotson
LaCrosse, Wis.

HOWELL, THOMAS J. (Sgt) C-555th
c/o Mrs. Etta Ray Howell
Amarillo, Texas

HUBBARD, WILLIAM H. (Pvt)
c/o Joe Henry Hubbard (Father)
San Antonio, Tex.

IANNANTUONO, FRANK D. (Pfc) E-5th
c/o Mrs. B. Iannantuono (Mother)
Tiffin, Ohio

JARRETTE, J. W. (Pfc)
c/o James H. Jarrette
Paskin, La.

JARVIS, BOBBY W. (Sgt) B-555th
c/o Mrs. Nettie E. Jarvis (Mother)
Wichita Falls, Texas

JENNINGS, LACEY (Jr.) (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Virgie Jennings
Boothwyn, Penn.

JIMINEZ, LAURENCE R. (Pfc)
c/o Mrs. Agueda R. Jimenez
Marfa, Texas



JOHNSON, GEORGE H. (Cpl)
c/o Mrs. Thelma Johnson
Ada, West Virginia

JONES, FRANK J. (Cpl) A-5th
c/o Mrs. Lyda Jones (Mother)
Oakland, Calif.

KACZOREK, CHESTER A. (Pfc)
St. Louis, Mo.

KELMAN, WALTER (Sgt)
Natrona, Pa.

KEMP, ROBERT A. (Sgt)
c/o Mrs. Alice E. Kemp
Davenport, Iowa

KOLB, LESLIE G. (Pfc) E-19
c/o Mrs. Sylvia R. Kolb (Mother)
East St. Louis, Illinois

KREIZER, ALEXANDER (Pfc)
c/o Mr. Wm. Lebowitz
Danbury, Conn.

LAKEN, LLOYD C. (Sgt)
c/o Mrs. Jean Lakin
Phoenix, Ariz.

LAPOINTE, LAWRENCE (Cpl)
Lowiston, Maine

LAURENT, ALFRED V. (Sgt)
c/o Mrs. Yvonne Laurent
Lowell, Mass.

LEARY, ROBERT J. (Pfc) F-21st
c/o Mrs. Mary C. Leary (Mother)
Saginaw, Mich.

LEWIS, MICHAEL S. (Pfc) A-19th
c/o Mrs. Anna Levycky (Mother)
Philadelphia, Penn.

LEWIS, ROBERT T. (Sgt)
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McKINNEY, DAN L. (Sgt)
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MAHRENHOLZ, ROBERT W. (Pfc) I-5th
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MALONE, HASKELL, (Sgt)
c/o Manuel R. Malone
Leachville, Ark.

MARTIN, JAMES S. (Cpl) 11th F
c/o Mr. Joseph Graham (Uncle)
Loris, S. C.

MAYS, JACKSON T. (Pfc)
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SMITH, ROBERT L. (Pfc)
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c/o Mr. Shigeichi Tamaki
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TAYLOR, CLAYTON, (Pfc)
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c/o Mrs. Mary A. Thompson
Horatio, Ark.

THOMPSON, RAY A. (Pfc)
c/o Mrs. Bonnie G. Thompson
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c/o Lloyd Vaughn
Galion, Ohio

VEIHDEFFER, KENNETH D. (Cpl)
c/o Mr. Frederick Veihdeffer
Hyde, Penn.

VINSON, RICHARD N. (Cpl)
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WHEELLESS, DANIEL L. (Pfc)
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c/o Mrs. B. A. Harguth (Aunt)
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WHITE, RICHARD L. (Pfc)
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c/o Ralph C. Whitlinger
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c/o Mrs. Gertrude Williamson
New Hope, Penn.

WILSON, FLOYD R. (Pfc) E-21st
c/o Mrs. Anna Wilson
Rimersburg, Penn.

WINDSOR, ROBERT (Pfc)
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WOLFE, HOWARD (Cpl) A-5th
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WOLFE, WILLIAM J. (Pfc)
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WOLFE, WILLIAM L. (Sgt)
Fairmount, W. Va.

WOOLWORTH, CARL F. (Pfc)
c/o Mrs. Mary Woolworth
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YACKO, PETER (Pfc)
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KENNEDY, Sgt. DONALD R. (B-555th)
% Mrs. Jimmy Kennedy
Joplin, Mo.

KING, Sgt. DALE R. (B-555th)
% Orrin King
Oshkosh, Wis.

KING, M/Sgt. LEONARD G. (C-19th)
% Mrs. Helen King
Jefferson Barracks, Mo.

McANDREWS, Pfc. CHRISTOPHER G. (34th)
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MONTGOMERY, Lt. CHARLES B., JR. (555th)
% Mrs. Yolanda Montgomery
Seattle, Wash.

MORGAN, Sgt. MARION J. (C-19th)
% M.V. Morgan
Lake Village, Ark.

NAVILLE, Cpl. HERMAN F.
% Mrs. Josephine Naville
Floyda Knobs, Ind.

NIKKO, Pvt. KENNETH (555th)
% Mrs. W. Nikko
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PATTERSON, Pfc. LEWIS J. (21st)
% Mrs. Levina Patterson
Kildeer, Md.

REZA, Pfc. TIMOTHY JR. (21st)
% Mrs. Mary Reza
McKeesport, Penn.

RICKARD, Sgt. CLAYTON E. (63rd)
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Hagerstown, Md.

ROBINSON, Pfc. CLARK H. (L-21st)
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ROGUS, Pfc. GEORGE P. (G-19th)
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Lockport, La.

SCHMIDT, Pvt. ROBERT W. (C-555th)
% Mrs. Virginia Schmidt
Beaver Dam, Wis.

SINGLETON, Pvt. JESSIE J. (555th)
% Mrs. Louise Singleton
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STICE, Cpl. IVAN E. (A-63)
% Mrs. Gertrude M. Stice
Outlook, Wash

SUTTLES, Sgt. JAMES G. (L-19th)
Graham, Ky.

TALBERT, Pfc. JOE H. (21st)
% John L. Talbert
Falo Alto, Calif.

TALBERT, Sgt. MARVIN E. (21st)
% Wm. A. Talbert
Albermarle, N.C.

TALLON, Cpl. EUGENE P. (63rd)
% Mrs. Cecelia Murray
Braddock, Pa.

THOMPSON, Pfc. ROY L. (M-21st)
% Mrs. Lillie J. Thompson
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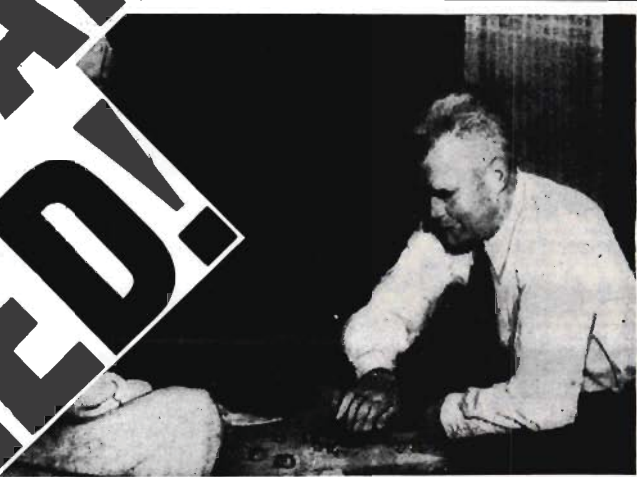
EXTRA
Daily Mirror
 NEW YORK 11, N. Y., FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1953
 Vol. 30, No. 83
 C.C.C.P.
 Weather: Hot

NEW YORK



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GEN. DEAN FREED!



Used by the enemy—Maj. Gen. William F. Dean playing checkers with a guard. Photo was taken by the Reds.

Reds Release Gen. Dean After 3 Years as a P. W.

PANMUNJOM, Korea, Friday, Sept. 4 (AP)—Maj. Gen. William F. Dean was returned to the Allied side today after three years of Communist captivity. The Allies and the Communists agreed yesterday to complete the Korean War prisoner exchange within three more days, with the prize captives of both sides to be freed in that period. The Communists, at a meeting of the repatriation commission, said that if for any reason they are unable to meet the deadline they will notify the United Nations command before noon on Saturday. Operation Big Switch thus will end Sunday (Saturday night, United States time), one month and two days after the first prisoners were traded.

Counting the ninety-five Americans promised for exchange today, the Reds are holding at least 197 American prisoners—and perhaps as many as 500 others. The Communists have said they will return more than 3,313 Americans listed originally, but they did not give exact figures. Returning American prisoners have told of seeing as many as 500 Americans awaiting freedom at Kaesong.

Reds Freed 12,115
 Communists have sent 11,000 prisoners, they were



Also from Tokyo... released... exercises in... according to... to The Asso... from other pris... commander of... days of the war.



War Post Special Column William F. Dean (far right) at pictures of his father, Gen. Dean.

New York Times
 Copyright, 1953, by The New York Times Company.
 NEW YORK, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1953.

Gen. Dean Is Released By Foe After 3 Years

PANMUNJOM, Korea, Friday, Sept. 4 (AP)—Maj. Gen. William F. Dean was returned to the Allied side today after three years of captivity. The Communist forces commander of the Twenty-fourth Division, highest ranking prisoner of the United States, only two days before the switch of sides. Gen. Dean, whose exploits in the Korean war won him the Congressional Medal of Honor, was captured in August, 1950.

FREEDOM VILLAGE, Korea, Sept. 4.—Maj. Gen. William F. Dean, highest ranking American officer and by the Communists, was released by the daily prisoner-of-war exchange to be in good health despite more of captivity and a left arm shortly before his capture. Dean, who then was in the 24th Division, disappeared about the battle of the Taegon, where he was last seen in a zoo gun. He learned in the past for three years.

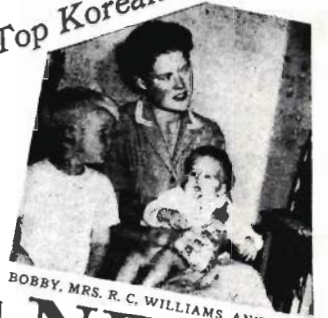
DEAN FREED!

TOP PRISONER RELEASED. Maj. Gen. William F. Dean (right), pictured in December, 1951, talking with Wilfred Burchett, Communist reporter for Paris newspaper, in Poyang-yang prison camp, N. Korea, was among group of PWs released today.

York Times.

Daily Mirror
NEW YORK 17, N. Y. SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1953

Rhee Gives Dean Top Korean Award
Freed General Lauded
as One Who Helped
Nation to Survive



BOBBY, MRS. R. C. WILLIAMS, ANN.

DAILY NEWS
NEW YORK'S PICTURE NEWSPAPER
New York 17, N.Y., Saturday, September 5, 1953*

GEN. DEAN WENT DOWN IN SHOOTING OF HIS CAPTURE



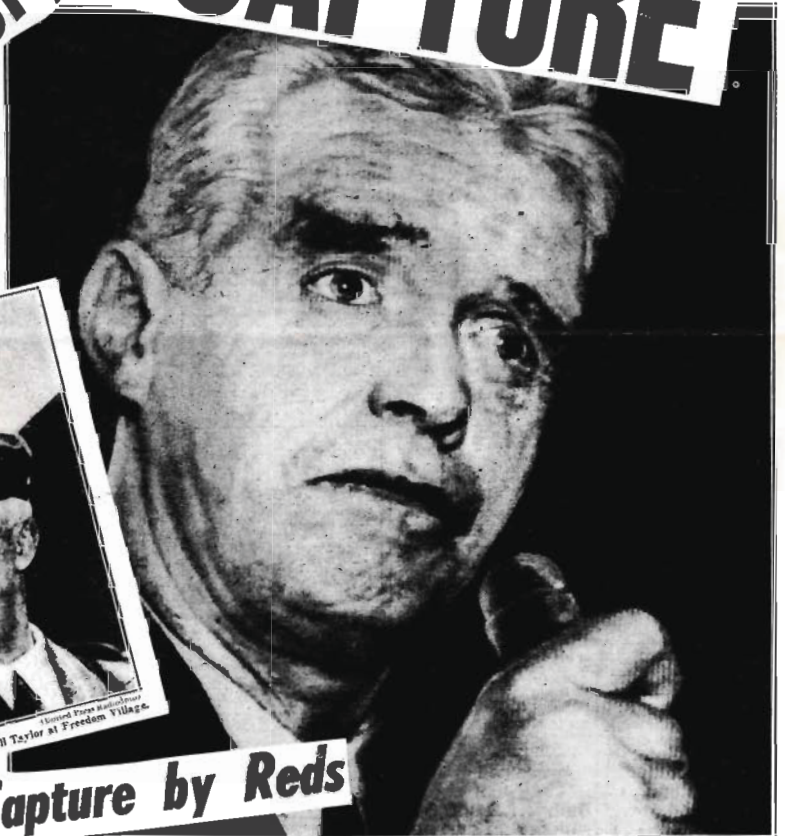
Mrs. William F. Dean, wife of the
reporter as she leaves her home

Full Text of Hero's Story-



Maj. Gen. William F. Dean (right) smiles as he converses with Gen. Maxwell Taylor at Freedom Village.

Gen. Dean's story of His Capture by Reds



Maj. Gen. William F. Dean uses mike at Freedom Village press conference.

(Associated Press Wirephoto via radio from Tokyo)

An Open Letter To "The Old Man"

Maj. Gen. William F. Dean, USA
1035 Park Hills Road
Berkeley, California

Dear General Dean:

There is general relief and rejoicing as this is being written for your release has just been announced.

For us, onetime members of your onetime command, that relief and rejoicing is particularly profound. The news has gladdened the very bottoms of our hearts. For us, you are the living symbol of what remains of good, honor and integrity in this sick, war-weary world.

Your gallantry was an inspiration to us, to all others who followed you into Korea, and to all freedom loving peoples throughout the world. It has been not so much that you were "Our General" that has mattered. It has been the fact that we have had in you a splendid leader, a man of indomitable will, a "real" soldier, and a prince among men.

What you did in those darkest of dark days shall be and will always remain a bright and shining page in American history.

Much will be heard in the hours ahead of what you have done and have endured for your country. Through all the shouting and tumult, we'll be standing by in the sidelines watching proudly and boasting to all within ear-shot, "He was our Old Man".

Yet beneath this outer crust of pride, each of us will be silently asking the question, "That's what he did for us, but what did we do for him while he was away?" We think it a safe guess, knowing the American man as we do, that only Taro Leafers will be so inquisitive and contemplating during this aftermath of war. The memory of the demobilization of '45 and '46 is too much with us to lead us to any other kind of thoughts, and the Bill Dean story is especially impressed into the minds and hearts of each one of us who at some time in our respective pasts shared a common bond with you in duty with our beloved Division.

You are coming back at long last - with a gap of more than three years in your life - three long, bitter, painful years that can never be replaced for you. The welcome news of that homecoming makes us the more conscious of our real obligation to you and to our country.

In the light of that homecoming, we shall not try to tell you what is in our thoughts concerning what we have or haven't done in your absence to help to make this a better world in which to live. We must be brutally frank and admit that we shall not for the simple reason that we're not at all sure of our own thoughts these days. Truthfully, we're confused - we're dazed.

Nonetheless, the Bill Dean story has shaken us into an awareness that we had best grab hold of ourselves before many more suns set and face up to our shortcomings, if the bitter humiliation you have suffered is never to be known again.

This isn't written with any morbid sense - none whatever. And we're not alone in this disorder. You are coming back, Bill Dean, to a much confused world, more confused and disordered than when you "walked" out of it on that July 21st day over three years ago. No, we write as we do because of the particular link which ties us to you and you to us. As the rest of the world makes its friendly overtures to you and tells you what you mean as its hero, we as Taro Leafers, knowing you as well as we do, want to put some "reverse English" on this business of adulation and tell you that in addition to being grateful for your return, we're especially conscious of where and how we've failed you.

We believe you'll think more of us as "men of your command" if we leave the shouting and flag-waving to the others and if we look you squarely in the eyes as the honest-to-God Americans we believe ourselves to be and admit our own failures.

We have thought for weeks and months about what we would write when and if this opportunity ever came; if our thoughts and prayers ever realized fruition. That moment is now here at long last and we find it difficult to rise to the occasion.

May we leave it this way? We believe that we can give you no better proof of our loyalty to you and our affection for you and yours than by way of this simple pledge: individually and collectively, we pledge every effort to bring about a change in the thinking of man that results in this periodic slaughter of our American manhood, and anticipating a failure there, every effort to insure that your experience, now ended, shall never again be suffered by any American man.

Please believe that you have the heartfelt wish of every single one of us for many, long years of good life and happiness among those you love; your mother, your wife, your children and your grandchildren.

Respectfully and faithfully,

The Members of the 24th Infantry Division Association

P.S. One thing remains to be explained. We're not apologizing for it, mind you, we're simply explaining it. While you were away, we invited into our membership for life, the very lovely Mildred Dean. Up to the moment, she holds our only Honorary Life Membership. In this exclusive fraternity, it has seemed quite fitting that Mildred Dean be "the rose among many thorns". Your homecoming will make no difference. Mildred Dean is IN-and IN she remains - for she has truly captured our hearts.

We ask you to accept from us this - our second - Honorary Life Membership. We're proud to have both of these simple tokens of our esteem reposed within one household. It couldn't have happened to two better people.

HERE'S THAT DIRECTORY

(Ed. Note: For months, we've heard raucous clamors for a Directory of Association Members. We've kept putting it off for the simple reason that our Secretary Bill Savell has had all he could do to keep his own files up to date, let alone prepare a Directory that would be sufficiently accurate so as to satisfy our 2400 members. We never knew that 2400 men could move so fast, and so often, and so secretly. It speaks well for that Division training. At any rate, here's the first chapter. The balance will follow in the next issue of the Taro Leaf. As explained elsewhere in this issue, the Directory is not published in its entirety because a bunch of very fine fellows won their freedom from a bunch of very fine (Censored) as this issue was being put together and we thought that there being listed was much more important to the members. Is there anyone who disagrees?)

Classified alphabetically and by states, our membership roster is as follows:

ALABAMA

ANDERSON, PHILIP J., Birmingham
 BADGETT, SYLVESTER, c/o Rufus B. Badgett, Kenner
 BARRENTINE, JAMES C. (Co. A, 21st) 51st Cml Smk Geng Co., Fort McClellan
 BEASLEY, ROBERT W. (Hq. Co. 21st), P.O. Box 73, Grove Hill
 BREWSTER, H.S., Scottsboro
 BURCH, MICHAEL K. (Div. Hq.) 3861st Air Base Sqdn, Gunter Air Force Base, Montgomery
 CHILDS, JOHN A. (21st) 1853 Norma Bridge Rd., Montgomery
 DAVIS, CHARLES E. (724th Ord), 104 Hawthorne Rd., Homewood
 ESPY, JAMIE G. (Hq. Btry, Div Arty), 328 Cherry St., Eufula
 FOWLER, HAROLD E. (E-21) c/o Tom M. Fowler, Manchester
 HOWARD, ANDREW (Btry B, 52d FA) Hissop,
 HUANER, P. C., 263 Turner Blvd., Marwill Hts., Montgomery
 KLEPINGER, WALTER J. (Div Hq) Mil. Dept. A.P.I., Auburn
 LINDSEY, JOSEPH (5th RCT) Route 1, Box 144, Seal
 NUNLEY, WILLIAM W. (34th Inf), Route 1, Anderson
 RENTSCHLER, ROBERT J. (34th) 1901 Leighton Ave., Anniston
 WHITE, ARTHUR C. (Jr.), Clayton
 WHITE, CLAUDE P. (CO 34th), Montebello

ARIZONA

CHINN, GEORGE B. (724th Ord), 1526 11th Ave., Yuma
 FRENCH, A. R. (Hq 1st Bn, 21st), 840 E. Windsor Ave., Phoenix
 LAKIN, LLOYD C. (C-19), c/o Mrs. Jean Lakin, Phoenix
 MILLER, RICHARD P. (E-34), 06-A Alzona Park, Phoenix
 PETERSON, LOUIS E. (Jr.) (21st & 724 Ord), A.F.F. Bd #2, Desert Det., Yuma Test Sta., Yuma
 ROMA, G. B. ("Leo"), (19th), 861 8th St., Douglas
 SARVIS, JOSEPH B. (Co K, 34th), P.O. Box 68, Prescott
 WOLFE, HOWARD (A5), c/o Jack Wolfe, Birmingham

ARKANSAS

BALESTRIERI, RALPH R. (13th FA), Co C, 5th QM Battalion
 5th Armored Div., Camp Chaffee
 BJORKMAN, BERNIE (Sv 19), 815 N. 16th St., Fort Smith
 CASKEY, JOSEPH K. (13 F.A.), Des Arc,
 DENTON, LEO A. (M-21), c/o Mrs. Lilly Denton, Center
 DOBSON, FLOYD J. (A-19), c/o Mrs. Mildred Dobson, Brinkley
 GOFF, BUFFORD F., 215 N. El Paso St., Russellville
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 JONES, ERNER (21st), 2915 Dalewood, Little Rock
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 LEWIS, RICHARD F. (11th FA - WWII) (555th FA (Korea), 620 North 13th Street, Van Buren
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 SHANNON, JOHN (11FA) Btry C, AFA Bn, Camp Chaffee
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 THOMPSON, JAMES T. (c/o Mrs. Mary Thompson, Horatio
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CALIFORNIA

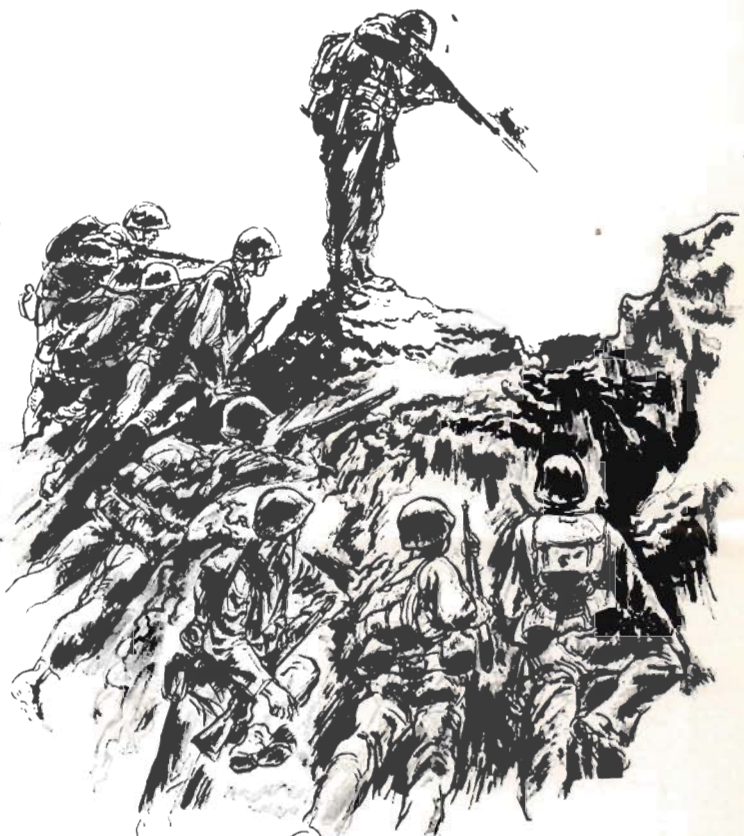
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 CARLSON, CARL R. (13th FA) R.F.D. #1, Newtown
 CLEE, GEORGE D. (Jr.) (34th) 22 Fairview St., Windsor Locks
 CORCORAN, CHARLES J. (Sv Co, 19th) RFD #1, Storrs
 DISKAN, A. ELMER, 29 Haynes St., Manchester
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 HOWE, PAUL W. (Hq & Hq Co. 34th) R.F.D. #1, West Redding
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 MUCCIO, FRANCIS J. (Div Hqs G-2), 256 Naubuc Ave., Glastonbury
 RENOUF, BERNARD N. (E-5) c/o Mrs. Mabel Renouf, Hillcrest Terr. West Hartford
 SCHLATTER, ROBERT J. (21st), West District Rd., Farmington
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 WALTON, ROBERT T. (K-19) c/o Thos. Walton, Wilmington

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 CHAPMAN, GEORGE H. (Jr.) (19th) National War College, Washington 25
 CRUMP, WILLIAM E. (Jr.) OAC of S, G-1, Pentagon, Washington
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McAULIFFE, A. C. (CG), Assistant Chief of Staff G-1, Dept of Army Pentagon, Washington 25
 RATHBONE, WALTER C. (Div. Hq), Box 1642, Washington 13
 SCHAAD, CARL W., Support Group, 8706 AAU, Pentagon, Washington 25
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 WHEELER, LESTER L., G-3, Pentagon, Washington 25

FLORIDA
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 DISKUKES, WALTER (Jr.) (Co. C 19th), Fruitland Park
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 WILSON, JAMES Y. (19th), P.O. Box 372, Lake City

If we've listed you incorrectly, would you please drop us a line and give us a chance to make amends? Simply write Bill Savell, P.O.Box 268, Blountstown, Fla. and the necessary changes will be made as promptly as possible. And while you're writing Bill, if you're in arrears with your membership dues, would you kindly enclose a \$3 bill--and if you don't happen to have one of those, one \$2 bill coupled together with a \$1 will look mighty good to our Keeper of the Purse Strings.

 ONCE IN A BLUE MOON, someone uses one of these membership blanks which we insert in among these pages from time to time. At the risk of boring you, we insert it once again. Should you know anyone who once wore the Taro Leaf and who still hasn't joined our ranks, how about snipping this form out and handing it to the uniformed character with the suggestion that he get on the ball?

To Bill Savell
 P.O.Box 268, Blountstown, Fla.
 Inasmuch as I was a member of the 24th Infantry Division from to, I'd like to join the 24th Infantry Division Association. I enclose herewith my \$3 to cover my annual dues.....

GEORGIA

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 MOORE, ANDREW, Sv Co., 30th Inf., Fort Benning.
 MOORE, WALTER O., Statesboro
 MORGAN, ROBERT E. (D-6 Tk Bn), c/o Mrs. Lina Morgan, Scottdale
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