

TARO LEAF

24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Vol. XIII OCTOBER 1959 No. 1

C. G. Hanlin at the Controls; Davidson Co-Pilot; Henry and Duff Tighten Seat Belts; 2 Joes with a Backer Plan for 1960 Landing in Atlantic City

Our Vice-President, C. G. Hanlin was elected President of the Association to succeed Tom Compere, at the annual business meeting of 1959. C. G., the Hoosier plumber boy, hunter, fisherman, and boatman has the experience to guide the Association throughout the coming year, as he was a very active vice-president during the year prior to his election.

Bill Davidson, Convention Chairman, and our host while in Philadelphia, was elected Vice President. Bill, a long time active member of the Association, was formerly our Treasurer.

Unopposed for the office of Secy-Treas. was our own faithful and hard working Ed Henry. Bob Duff was re-elected Editor of the Taro Leaf, and Bill D's hard working assistants in Philly, Joe Mashett and Joe McDonald, together with a great Assn. backer - Vic Backer, are to head the 1960 Convention committees.

Atlantic City was finally accepted by those in attendance at the business meeting. Mr. Tom Smith representing the Miami Convention bureau talked to us regarding the advantages of Miami. Bill Muldoon nominated Boston, and naturally Claxon came up with Lexington, Ky. Much to the surprise of those present, a member from the mid-west got up on the floor and nominated the Convention city - Atlantic City. Vic Backer then gave us some high-lights on the reason a successful convention could be held there.... besides active workers in the general, Atlantic City offers several ideal spots for a family vacation along with the reunion, and at special rates for the 24th, you can't beat it for 1960. Muldoon withdrew Barston, and Claxon withdrew Lexington - until next year.

The Treasurer's report showed that we had only \$205.43 in the bank with the last issue of the Taro Leaf yet to pay - approx \$230. (We had not received the statement at that time). Several life memberships had been re-

ceived up to meeting time. A list of these will be published in the December issue. Mr. Backer reported that he has a limited number of copies of Children of Yesterday and these may be purchased for \$2.25 by mail. Report from the Editor emphasized that more material from its readers is desired. This is necessary since the readers want to hear about you, and you, and YOU.

Dick Ligman, Pres. of the Chicago Chapter said that the Chapter is growing each month. They meet regularly, and from time to time have parties, picnics, and dances... usually family affairs. They are most successful.

Sue McNesley addressed the meeting. Sue, by the way is our only lady member. Her husband, Capt. John McNesley was fatally wounded on D-Day, Leyte. Sue told us of her work at the Crossnore School, Crossnore N.C. They are doing wonders down there.

Since Allyn Miller has been paying his dues more often than once a year, he is paid up to include 1972; therefore the men present voted him a Life Membership in the Association.

A matter long bothering a few men was cleared up before we retired from the meeting room. It had been roomered that our good friend Roscoe Claxon of Stamping Ground, Ky. had been a member of the Assn. all this time, and was not really a former member of the 24th Division. A member who requests his name be withheld from the general public thought that Roscoe had been picked up at a mission in the Philippines, and just went along with us!! After Roscoe had the floors, along with a couple of his faithful buddies from the 724 Ord. we were convinced that he was really eligible to belong. It was not necessary to call upon Col. A. W. (Whitey)

Manlove, who, by the way was present at the reunion and the meeting. (It would not be a complete reunion without Roscoe)

The banquet was also quite a success. C. G. explained that at first he was wondering what to talk to all the General Officers about. He said that the only time he ever talked to an officer while in the service was one time when a Sgt. let him speak to a 2nd. Lt. over a walkie-talkie! C. G. got things rolling early in the evening and introduced Lt. Col. Morse who conducted a wonderful memorial service. This service was inaugurated by Father Berlo back in 1952. It is one that you'll never forget, once you hear it.

Lt. General Blackshear M. Bryan our guest of honor and speaker spoke of the fighting in Korea. He also explained that even with all our new weapons and mechanized Divisions, the final victory is up to the Infantry soldier.

General Bryan stated that of all the units with which he had served, the 24th Division was his first love.

The evening hours after the banquet were filled with visiting, dancing for those who desired, and entertainment. The entertainment for Saturday night included Eddie Lang and his Hawaiian Orchestra with Guest Artist Joe Peyton doing the Hawaiian strip. The real Hula artists were the 24th's own Martha Ligman and Barbara Davidson.

To sum it all up, my friends, the 1959 Convention was a huge success. Aloha, see you in Atlantic City.

IN THIS ISSUE -

24th Assn. dedicated Reserve Armory
Convention Close-ups



Furnished by ANDRE

**YOUR SUBSCRIPTION
EXPIRES THIS MONTH**

**Renew
Early**

**ONLY PAID UP MEMBERS
WILL BE ON MAILING LIST
AFTER THIS ISSUE**

**ATLANTIC CITY
1960**

Hawaii - Australia - New Guinea - Philippines - Japan - Korea - Lebanon - Germany

TARO LEAF

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.

Robert J. Duff, Editor

Subscription: \$5.00 per year; free to Association members.

Officers of the Association:

President

C. G. HANLIN (34th)
1414 Main Street
Elwood, Indiana
(FE 2-7389)

Vice-President

WILLIAM V. DAVIDSON (Div. Hq.)
540 Park Avenue
Swedesboro, New Jersey
(HOMestead 7-0648)

Secretary-Treasurer

EDMUND F. HENRY (Div. Hq.)
First National Bank Building
Attleboro, Massachusetts
(ATtleboro 1-3234)

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ROBERT J. DUFF (Div. Hq.)
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Danville, Illinois
(HI 2-2153)

1960 Convention Chairmen

JOE MACDONALD
4317 E. Cheltenham Ave.
Phila., Pa.

JOE MASHETT
24 Rose Lane
Rosemont, Pa.

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Interstate Printers and Publishers, Inc.
19 North Jackson Street, Danville, Illinois

PAST PRESIDENTS

Brig. Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer, Div. Hq.
Edmund F. Henry, Div. Hq.
Ross Pursifull, 34th Inf. Regt.
James M. (Spike) O'Donnell, 21st.
Kenwood Ross, Div. Hq.
Robert J. Duff, Div. Hq.
Victor Backer, 34th. Inf. (2)
Joseph Peyton, 19th. Inf.
Roscoe Claxon, 724th Ord.
Thomas H. Compere, Div. Hq. (2)

PLAN NOW

ATLANTIC CITY

11th - 14th AUG. 1960

VIC BACKER
(34th)

DAUL WING STUDIO
480 LEXINGTON AVE.
NEW YORK



A FLYER FROM THE PRES.

HAWAII - AUSTRALIA - NEW GUINEA - PHILIPPINES - JAPAN - KOREA

TWENTY-FOURTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH DIVISION ASSOCIATION:

It is with a feeling of deep humility that I write this first letter in the capacity of your president. I am very grateful to all of you for your confidence in my ability to fill such a responsible position. I pledge to serve you in the best manner I know.

The committee members and all those who gave endlessly of their time to make the Philadelphia Convention such a big success, deserve a special vote of thanks. The attendance was great and everyone seemed to have a wonderful time. To those of you who were unable to attend this year, I encourage you to mark your calendar now with the date of 11th to 14th August 1960. Plan to attend -- it's in Atlantic City, and you'll have the time of your life. Should you have need, there will be baby sitter service. Plan your annual vacation for mid August.

It is impossible for me to contact each of you personally, however, it will be my pleasure to chat with you from time to time through the medium of the Taro Leaf. R. J., the editor of our great publication, is doing a bang-up job in keeping us informed of the activities of the Association and its members.

Looking forward to a wonderful year, I am

Sincerely,

C. G. Hanlin

C. G. Hanlin

See You In Atlantic City In 1960

Following Letter Received from Secretary of the Army



IN REPLY REFER TO:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

To the Citizens of Danville, Illinois,
on the Occasion of the Memorialization of the
Captain Robert Benjamin Chapman Army Reserve Center

The Department of Army joins with you today in this solemn occasion which memorializes the name of a native-born Danville man whose gallantry and fearlessness in action in the defense of his country were in the finest traditions of the service. That you name this building in honor of Captain Robert Benjamin Chapman is an example of the patriotism of the citizens of Danville who have never forgotten the sacrifices that brave men like Captain Chapman made for their beloved country.

We are confident that you will enjoy this building and make excellent use of it; that it will stand in your community as a symbol of the American ideals we hold so high; that it will serve to maintain the Strength in Reserve so necessary for the preservation of these ideals.

Wilbur M. Brucker
Wilbur M. Brucker
Secretary of the Army

ASSN. CONDUCTS CEREMONY NAMING ARMY RESERVE CENTER

The new half million dollar Army Reserve Center in Danville formally dedicated and named the "ROBERT BENJAMIN CHAPMAN ARMY RESERVE CENTER" after Captain Robert B. Chapman of the 19th Infantry Regt.

The ceremony was conducted by the 24th Division Association, with TOM COMPERE as the principal speaker, delivering the dedication address. Other representatives of the Association who were introduced during the evening included our National President, C. G. HANLIN, and BOB and ANN DUFF. MAJOR GENERAL F. A. IRVING who was away from home on business in the East, forwarded a message which arrived too late for the ceremony.

The following account of the ceremony, and the photographs are reproduced from the Danville Commercial-News:

Editor's note: The Photograph of Capt. Chapman which was reproduced from the original Army photo, was presented to the Robert B. Chapman Army Reserve Center on behalf of the 24th Division Association and on behalf of all men who have served and who continue to serve the 24th Infantry Division. Capt. William J. Hawkins accepted the photo for the Army Reserve.



LAST MISSION—Capt. Robert Benjamin Chapman studies map of Philippine Island terrain just before he went into battle in which he was killed.



IN MEMORY—A plaque commemorating the late Capt. Robert Benjamin Chapman was presented Tuesday night at dedication ceremonies which named the Army Reserve Center at 2408 E. Main St. after the illustrious Danville World War II hero. Admiring plaque are Thomas H. Compere, left, principal speaker, and Capt. Chapman's mother, Mrs. Agnes M. Chapman, of 1226 Walnut St.

WATCH THE DECEMBER ISSUE
FOR SPECIAL FEATURE.



ATTEND CEREMONY—The family of the late Robert Benjamin Chapman—son, Robert Benjamin Jr., center, and wife, Mary, attend dedication of Army Reserve Center. Capt. William J. Hawkins, left, area reserve commander, was in charge of the ceremony.

Army Reserve Center Named for War II Hero

Formal Dedication Held

By **RON DILLMAN**
C-N Staff Writer

"He knew no fear. His courage was unexcelled."

These words were used to describe the late Capt. Robert Benjamin Chapman Tuesday night as the Army Reserve Center at 2408 E. Main St. was named after the Danville World War II hero.

"He was a great leader of men and had superior qualities in tactical judgement," continued Thomas A. Compere, personal friend and combat companion of Capt. Chapman. Compere, a Chicago resident and past president of the 24th Infantry Division Assn., was principal speaker at the dedication ceremonies.

Compere was with Capt. Chapman when he was killed June 25, 1945, on a Philippine Island during a furious Jap counter-attack.

Capt. Chapman had planned and

led a heroic attack on the Japanese held island. During his career he had distinguished himself as a "courageous, efficient, and superior Army officer," said Compere.

For his valor and leadership, Capt. Chapman received some of the Army's highest awards.

Compere described the outstanding maneuver executed by Capt. Chapman on the day of his death.

"There was one enemy stronghold on the island. All other plans to eliminate it had failed. Capt. Chapman was given the job. His plan was brilliant."

"He completely surprised the enemy by getting over and through an almost impenetrable terrain that the Japs had left unguarded. But they counter-attacked.

"During the attack, Capt. Chapman's commander was hit. Capt. Chapman ran to his side. He never flinched once. The terrific danger never bothered him.

"Another shell fell where the

commander had been struck and killed Capt. Chapman," said Compere.

"However, after 78 days of constant battle, the island was finally taken. As operations officer, Capt. Chapman had planned the attack. Its success reflects his daring and courage.

"Deeds of heroism were almost commonplace, but the courage of Chapman was outstanding even among these," said Compere.

This was only one of several successful attacks planned by Chapman, Compere pointed out. Both were members of the 24th Division.

Compere said the hero established himself early in his Army career as an outstanding officer. His commanders soon learned of his ability.

Capt. Chapman was born in Danville, Jan. 12, 1921. He resided here until he entered service in 1939. He was graduated from Garfield School and Danville High School.

He was a member of the St. James Church, DeMolay, and Drum and Bugle Corps.

A plaque inscribed in his memory was unveiled by Capt. William J. Hawkins, area reserve commander, who was in charge of the dedication.

Hawkins introduced Chapman's mother, Mrs. Agnes M. Chapman of 1226 Walnut St., his wife, Mary, and son, Robert Benjamin Jr., who now live in Des Moines, Iowa. His father was the late O. J. Chapman.

Hawkins also read a letter from Wilbur M. Brucker, secretary of the Army, who authorized the naming of the reserve center.

Robert Duff of Danville, editor of a 24th Division Assn. publication, was also introduced. He presented the last picture taken of Capt. Chapman, just before his last mission.

Chaplain Billy J. Huffman gave the invocation. Company A, local reserve unit, also participated in the ceremony.

September 14, 1959

Mr. Robert J. Duff
202 N. Robinson Street
Danville, Illinois

Dear Bob:

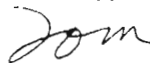
The recent naming of the Army Reserve Center in Danville for Captain Robert Benjamin Chapman, S3 of the 19th Infantry, who was killed in action in Mindanao, P.I., with his regimental commander, Colonel Clifford, has added new luster to the accomplishments of both the 24th Infantry Division and its Association. The honoring of the name and memory of Captain Chapman in this manner reflects most favorably upon every man who has ever or is now serving with the Division.

The warmth of the welcome that we received from Captain Chapman's family and fellow townsmen was most gratifying and we were deeply impressed by the eagerness of his family and friends for even the smallest bits of information about him during his period of service with the Division.

I hope that all members of the association will take the opportunity to be of service in their respective communities in the selection of names for Army Reserve Centers. When any member learns that an Army Reserve Center is being built in his area he should suggest the name of a former Taro Leaf and then advise Ed Henry so that our association can participate in the dedication. This is one of the finest ways of carrying out the objectives and aims of the association.

You are to be commended for your initiative in discovering the proposed dedication of the Chapman Army Reserve Center and following up with positive action for participation by the association in the dedication ceremony.

Sincerely,



Thomas H. Compere

THC:ds

SPECIAL ATTENTION is called to paragraph 3 above.

In following up what Tom has suggested, you will be helping to carry out the provisions and purpose of our Association. In what better manner can we gain proper recognition in communities throughout the United States than to participate in affairs such as the recent dedication ceremony in Danville, Illinois?

-- Editor

The inscription on the plaque reads as follows:

CAPTAIN ROBERT B. CHAPMAN

(1921 - 1945)

U. S. ARMY RESERVE CENTER

Dedicated -- 8 September 1959

A Native of Illinois, born at Danville on 12 January 1921, graduated from Danville High School in 1939 and entered the Military Service the same year.

Served as Operations Officer, 19th Infantry, 24th Infantry Division, in the Philippine Island Campaign of World War II in 1945.

On 24 June 1945, he conceived and prepared plans for an assault landing and general offensive action against the well organized and strongly emplaced enemy in the Davao area P. I. He personally directed and led the offensive which was supremely planned, resulting in the defeat of the enemy. During this operation Captain Chapman, displaying outstanding leadership and tactics, was mortally wounded by Japanese mortar fire during an unsuccessful enemy counter-attack, thus he made the supreme sacrifice in the defense of his Country. Captain Chapman was awarded the Silver Star.

"HE DARED TO DIE THAT FREEDOM MIGHT LIVE"

EDITOR'S SALUTE TO CONVENTIONEERS OF 1959

The three DAVIDSONS checked in on floor number eight,
Then came HANLIN and DUFF so they wouldn't be late.
The girls came too, that is ANN and MARIE,
It's just once a year that they have such a spree!

Then Tuesday we see Joes MACDONALD-MASHETT
Still rushing for badges and programs to get;
On Wednesday, the eve of our twelfth conflag
We go to the lobby to greet you and gab.

Speeding toward the desk we notice vonMOER,
He landed in Philly not one hour before.
On Thursday the desk was open at nine
With Mashett on duty -- and just in time!

For here comes SELTSAM not quite awake;
He registers in and his five bucks we take.
Close on his heels, PARNCUTT and JUARES,
HORNBECK, then STRAFFORD -- "from Texas", he sez.

SHAY and STEVENSON are seen in the lobby;
STEVE is the boy who cooks for a 'hobby'.
Back at the desk we notice a trio -
C.G. and BILL talk to Ben Franklin's DeKEO.

WISECUP comes in a combing his hair,
Who's that behind him -- why sure, it's COMPERE.
The LIGMAN'S arrive with two flags to unfurl;
Daughter MARTHA like BARBARA, is our hula girl.

The new clerk at our desk is BOB EAST we see
On a ten minute break with JANE on his knee.
Committeeman GILNER arrives with a smile,
Couldn't get there sooner -- been outa town for awhile.

Come SORAVIA, KUSHINA, FANNING and SANDERSON,
Now DANTZLER, MONACO, WIEGMANN and HENDERSON.
The doors open again - it's not even noon,
It's BOB WRIGHT, CLAXON, and BILLY MULDOON.

Chatting with ALLYN MILLER is our man with precision,
ED HENRY in person, -- Mr. 24th Division.
More 21st. men arriving, here are a few;
STRADA, TRINCA, BOB GERRY, and BOB SCHLATTER too.

Also DAVENPORT, SCOTT, GOINY, JIM WRIGHT,
Yes, they kept coming on into the night.
GIANGI, of Ordnance, SZAIFRAN from Engineers;
Young chaps, middle age, and some up in years.

JOHNSON, GAMBLE, PONCZKA and PROCTOR,
Plus WILLIAM D'ELIA, - Div-arty dooter.
LORETTA and MIKE RAFTER - he's a policeman you know,
With CHET ANDREZAK, whose car mart is on Cicero.

MATHIS, POTANI, DAVIS and SWEN
ANDRE, BUCK, KOENIG, and lots more of them;
Solicitor JOHN FARRELL with wife MARY enjoys
A home in the country with two girls and five boys.

It's Friday by now and all's going nice
Checking in are DON WILLIAMS, JOE PEYTON, DICK THEIS.
There were many more there, as you will remember,
To mention them, space makes us wait 'till DECEMBER.

Times up!

SPECIAL NOTICE

We've put this off as long as we possibly could. In the past we have kept many men on the mailing list who had not paid dues with the possibility and hope that most of them would become interested enough in the Association to forward a membership application with \$5, or if a past member, we hoped they would again become active. Some have, for which we are grateful.

The plan was to put out five issues of the Taro Leaf this coming year, and possibly six, BUT certainly, no less than four. We cannot, as things stand now, put out more than two or three UNLESS we make a change. We have come as far as we can. Printing - and postage - cost a lot of money these days.

So, to be fair with the paying members, it has been decided to put out the 5 issues, and six (every 2 month) with luck, to the PAID-UP MEMBERS ONLY. We are sure that the non-paying recipients of The Taro Leaf will understand -- it's just that we have a limited amount of money to work with per member, and we must give the best with what we have to those who support the Organization financially. If you do not receive your copy in December, please try to understand that.

We must operate on a sound business basis in order to serve the paying members and their families. Some dues have been coming in since the reunion, and for this we thank you new members, and also thank you older members who have renewed.

We have mentioned doing this before, but have strung along, and usually some member paid a little extra cash, or a few placed ads in the Taro Leaf to give us extra money to keep up the mailing; NOW we must budget more closely since we will be mailing out more issues each year. This is what you want and it is what we must do to keep everyone abreast of what is going on. The Association is becoming more and more active, especially with so many of the wives interested and working. We hope to be doing more work of a Civic nature; also, the 24th Victory Division in Germany will be of great assistance, and we are not forgetting all the Korean boys who are now interested.

To those of you who are not paid up, we hope you will by the 15th November in order that you can remain on the mailing list. If you cannot see your way clear at present to subscribe, we hope you will in the near future, so that you can again be with us and enjoy the friendship and so many things we have in common.

NEXT ISSUE - DECEMBER Deadline for dues is 15 November 1959.

Forward dues to:
Edmund F. Henry, First National Bank Bldg., Attleboro, Mass.

WE WERE THERE FROM

COAST TO COAST

CONVENTION GOSSIP

By Ed Henry, Nation-wide Reporter.

Doc LIGMAN hung a Taro Leaf Banner near the registration desk. He says it is displayed at all Chicago Chapter meetings.

SAM GILNER pitched in as usual at the registration desk. Sam, 13th FA, is from Bogota, N. J.

BILL MULDOON, E Co. 19th, was our busy candid camera man.

BILL DAVIDSON'S little daughter Barbara proved that she was real observant on her trip to Hawaii. She and Martha Ligman did the hula, complete with grass skirt. By the way, JOE PEYTON, a Chick from Md. did a strip tease hula late Saturday night.

Four Japanese civilians were spotted in the Hotel Ben Franklin at convention time. BOB DUFF wanted to sign them up.

ALLYN MILLER, Co. A, 21st, reported in from Columbus Ohio. We missed him last year due to sickness. Happy to say he's well again and he's happy too -- because the convention voted him a Life Membership inasmuch as he's paid up to 1972.

Past Pres. VIC BACKER, 34th aroused a lot of enthusiasm in projecting the idea of a convention in Hawaii in a couple of years via chartered plane. Vic's a New York operator and says it can be done real cheap. We'll hear more about this next year. Vic is already getting prices and data together and will no doubt have facts and figures for us.

Greetings via radiogram from Hollandia to the 24th Inf. Div. from Gov. Plattel of Dutch New Guinea were read at the banquet. The Governor described the 24th Division as the first to liberate Dutch soil in W. W. II.

You never did hear such accents -- BILL MULDOON'S from "Barston". BOB STRAFFORD, Co. F, 19th talks the Texas way, and SUE McNEELY has that Carolina speech, and talk about Carolina, way down in South Carolina is where the DANTZLER'S got that accent! None of the New Yorkers could understand a word spoken by ROSCOE CLAXON -- except when he made his annual speech to have the convention in Kentucky.

WALTER CUNNINGHAM, Div. Hq. never fails to show. And then disappears for another year. Just what does Walter do for a living?

C. G. HANLIN, our new Prexy flew home through several thunderstorms. Grounded at Muncie, Ind. Marie and the Bob Duffs finished the trip by auto. C. G. needed the plane the next day, so he eventually tree-hopped home, and in the dark.

This is the first convention that SPIKE O'DONNELL has missed. He is back in the Magazine business. We expect to see him in 1960.....

We shared the Hotel with the 4th Inf. Division Assn. A fine bunch, with the same problems we have.

Loretta Rafter gets prettier every year....that Mike is a lucky fellow.

Col. ARTHUR H. HENDERSON seemed to enjoy his first convention. He is a civilian now with business interests in New York. He is just back from Manila. Used to be Bill Verbeck's Exec. on Mindoro and Mindanao. Arthur lives at 239 E. 79th St., N. Y. 21, N. Y.

BILL SANDERSON et ux, 19th, just turned the key over to the boys at 7 A.M. Sunday and headed back to Attleboro, Mass. Didn't dare to go to bed or they'd been there yet!

ED WIEGMANN did his usual splendid job of opening Saturday's business meeting with prayer....the same recited in Philadelphia for the opening of the Continental Congress.

MAJOR GENERAL BILL VERBECK, just back from Rio, told us of his new assignment as C.G. of XIII Corps, Headquarters at Ft. Devens, Mass. The New England group is delighted.

Leis were again distributed to the ladies at the Memorial Service and banquet on Saturday night.

SEEN AND HEARD AROUND CONVENTION HALLS

LT. COL. URBAN THOM and JACKIE make a lovely couple. They're still at Fort Knox, Ky., and wouldn't miss a convention for anything.

ED HENRY brought along his charming sister RITA GALLANT and her 16 year old daughter BETSEY from Attleboro, Mass. They had a wonderful time. See you next year girls.

GENERAL IRVING looks younger every time we see him.

It wouldn't be a successful convention without JULIUS JOSE, Co. A, 19th Inf., and SOPHIE --- and the kids ---they were there.

Where has JACK DAVIES been keeping his beautiful wife?

MAJ. GENERAL A. S. (Red) NEWMAN and wife DOROTHY were present and in enjoyed the festivities. One of Dorothy's hobbies is fishing, and we hear she's an expert.

JOE DeMEO, a bellboy at the Ben Franklin dropped up to the desk bright and early on Thursday morning and stated that he had been a member of the 24th Division (19th Inf) for two weeks and wanted to know if he could join the Assn. During the conversation it was learned that Joe had been on active duty with the 24th in Korea less than two weeks when he was taken prisoner. He was a prisoner of war for 37 months! He was captured about the time of General Dean. Joe immediately joined the Association, helped us go through the right channels at the Hotel to get things done, and vows to help the 1960 committee all he can. Joe sent us a photo recently showing over 400 24th men being held in the building where he was. This will be published in the December issue.

General IRVING arrived a bit late, but was present at the Saturday afternoon business meeting. Maj. Gen. A. S. Newman arrived in time to be a delegate, and entered into the proceedings. His opinions were sound and respected, but he had only one vote just like you and I. That's why it's fun to be at a Convention

JOHN TRINCA and TOM COMPERE brought a fine display of Filipino weapons and other gear all the way from Chicago to make a fine display in the Trophy Room. Sam Gilner also did his part. The Officers of the Association and the Convention Committee thank all of you who did contribute to the success of the Trophy Room. It gets bigger and better each year.

Maj. Gen. BILL VERBECK was heard on WCAU, a powerful Philadelphia radio station on Friday night. The interviewer asked Bill a lot of questions about Military policies. Bill, of course, handled himself superbly. In fact, he fielded several curves that the interviewer served up. The idea was to get some publicity for the 24th Infantry Division and the Convention. Bill got in the plugs.

SUE McNEELY is doing a wonderful job down there at the Crossnore School, a non-profit endeavor. Should you have any clothes, toys or furniture you are planning on discarding, don't....just bundle them up and send down to the Crossnore School, in care of Mrs. Sue McNeesley. Address: Crossnore School, Crossnore, North Carolina.

FOR CHRISTMAS... Give Hubby a Membership in the Association, which includes Subscription to TARO LEAF. Only \$5.00 for 1 year. OR for \$20 start his LIFE MEMBERSHIP.. Do it now. Fill in the form on the last page of this issue.



Photo by MULDOON



by MULDOON



Courtesy RAFTER, STEVENSON & vonMOHR



Mashett & Bob Strafford, with Tom Compere signing in. In background are: Jane East, Loretta Rafter, Sam Gilner.

We'll have more photos
in the DECEMBER ISSUE.



By Andre of Chicago



Furnished by EAST

The Big man left foreground is SAM GILNER, then clockwise, BOB EAST, JANE EAST, BRENICE LIGMAN, DICK LIGMAN, MARTHA LIGMAN, JOE SZAFRAN, 1st. LT. HINO, Gen. Bryan's Aide, SUE GILNER, and the handsome young man is young SAM GILNER.

CONVENTION HI*LIGHTS

Tom Compere was on the spot at the business meeting. Last year at Chicago a gavel used by former Speaker Jos. W. Martin, Jr. (R. of Mass.) was presented to him. Roscoe Claxon then and there threatened to come up with a Democratic gavel. He did so. Tom, always the diplomat, used both, although he refused to commit himself. We have our suspicions -- although Tom has been a prominent Chicago lawyer for many years, he has never lost that Arkansas accent.

Ed Weigmann, Cn. Co. 19th, moved for the election of an Assn. Chaplain, without of course suggesting a name. It was referred to the Executive Committee for a report at the next Convention. By the way, your Executive Comm. is composed of all the past-presidents. There was a fine turnout -- Ed Henry (Attleboro, Mass.); Ross Pursifull (Detroit, Mich.); Joe Poyton (Lutherville, Md.); Vic Backer (New York, N. Y.); Bob Duff (Danville, Ill.); and of course Tom Compere (Chicago, Ill.); -- only Spike O'Donnell and Ken Ross were kept away because of family affairs. We all remember that we lost our first Pres. Gen. Kenneth F. Cramer (Wethersfield, Conn.) by death five years ago. But for his vigorous leadership we would never be in existence today.

Ken Ross' recently widowed mother, Maude Ross, of Springfield, Mass. made with loving hands several years ago our Taro Leaf banner. It was hung in the lobby of the Hotel. She will be happy to know that it also served as the back-drop of the head table at the Sat. night banquet and has been carefully furled by the Two Joes -- Joe MacDonald (19th Korea) and Joe Mashett (5th RCT, Korea) our 1968 Convention Committee for Atlantic City. We need two more as fine as this one made by Maude Ross -- one as a back-drop for the Registration Desk and one for the Trophy Room. Please forgive the pun, but do we have a second and a third Betsey Ross?

Col. Alva C. Carpenter, Div. JA from Oahu to PI tried to telephone his regrets from Memphis, Tenn (Parkview Hotel). He said we must have been whooping it up because he got no answer from Tom Compere's or Ed Henry's room. He'll be in Wash. D.C., next year and promises to be with us.

A long letter from our long-time and much loved Div. AG (Oahu-New Guinea) Lt. Col. Max N. Gizon (3601 Pickford, Los Angeles 19, Calif.). Max is in a civilian job. He would like to see us but the distance is too long. Maybe, if Vic Backer's idiosyncratic crystal izes we can see him in Oahu.

Sue McNeely made a touching plea to send anything to the Crossnore School, Crossnore, N.C., for the children of the mountain people. Sue is dedicated to her job, and we all love her and rejoice to see her at our reunions. Her late husband, Capt. John McNeely, 19th, was one of the first to fall on Red Beach, Leyte, P. I., 29 Oct. 1944 -- it's a long time ago but the memory of her husband will always

Bill Savell, Sv. Co. 19th -- one of our long-time members, and a former Sec'y, failed to report in from Vernon, Fla. We missed Bill. Perhaps he got himself married. Bill is one of our eligible bachelors.

The ladies had a cocktail party in the Garden Terrace, while we were having our business meeting, Saturday afternoon. Have you noticed that our Conventions are becoming family affairs? We like it. The wives and kids seem to have a wonderful time.

Our Pres. C.G. Hanlin did his basic at Camp Fannin, Tex. That's where he met his wife Marie, and she couldn't be sweeter.

Bob East -- 17 Mason Drive, Hazlet, N. J., was a willing worker at the Registration Desk.

Bob Schlatter -- West District Road, Unionville, Conn., was there, and as usual always smiling and ready for a detail -- which he got!

Bob Gerry -- 21st -- 51 Nixon St., Dorchester, Mass. -- flew down and rode back with Ed Henry. Says he remembers part of the Convention. Just what part he can't say.

On Sunday noon, a good many good-byes were being said under the Hotel canopy. The Herb Fischlers pulled away for the Gulf for N. Y., with Vic and Rita Backer. The Chrlan Birmans were there, the Bob Duffies en route to Danville, Ill., with the C.G. Hanlins, the John Farrells for Wash., D.C., Allyn Miller, etc.



L to R Seated: COMPERE, MAJ. GEN. F. A. IRVING, MAJ. GEN. BILL VERBECK, LT. COL. FREDERICK MORSE, Post Chap. Ft. Dix, MARIE HANLIN, ED HENRY, LORNA DAVIDSON, BILL DAVIDSON.

Standing L to R: Mr. HAFFLINGER, Mayor Dilworth's representative, DOROTHY NEWMAN, SUE McNEELY, BOB DUFF, ANN DUFF, MAJ. GEN. A. S. NEWMAN, Pres. C. G. HANLIN, & LT. GEN. BLACKSHEAR M. BRYAN, Principal Speaker.

Names that make the news

FROST, ROY L. - B Co. 34th fr April 1943 to Oct. 1944. Roy works for the Lehigh Portland Cement Co. as a salesman. He and wife Betty, have 3 children, Roy, Jr. 13 - Jane 10 - and Jeanne 6.

BIRCKHOLZ, MAYNARD A. - 24th Recon Tp. lives in Omro, Wisconsin with wife Lois and 2 daughters, age 6 and 4.

THORNBURG, JOHN W. JR. - 1st. Bn. 34th Inf. WW II, lives at 1031 Wyley Ave., Akron, Ohio. His wife Pauline and he have sons John and Robert, ages 17 and 12 respectively.

Doc. LIGMAN of Chicago was thoughtful enough to arrange to have sent to us a mailing from Honolulu, Hawaii - postmarked August 21, 1959, bearing a new Hawaii Statehood Airmail 7 cent stamp, canceled "First Day of Issue". This stamp shows all the islands of the Hawaiian group.

Doc Ligman runs the Ligman Optical Co. 3333 W. Fullerton, Chicago, and is President of the Chicago Chapter.

CARPENTER, COL. ALVA, Div JA, from Ohau to Philippines, has been ironing out some legal difficulties, presumably for Uncle Sam in Memphis, Tenn., expects to be there until the end of this year and then hopes to open a law office in Washington, D. C. A little bout with the Medios kept him away from the Convention in Philly, but he hopes to be with us in Atlantic City. His address: Parkview Hotel, Memphis, Tenn.

BJORKMAN, BERNIE - A note received in which he inclosed his annual membership renewal, and his new address: Bernie and his wife Nadine now live at 2506 Wilshire Drive, North Little Rock, Ark.

GEIRINGER, ARTHUR J. - A-T Co. 19th Inf. from May '42 to May '45. Art and his wife, BETTY have three children, Arthur Jr., 4, Lesette 3, and Katherine age 1. He is Sales Manager for a Printing & Packaging firm. The Geiringers live at 17 Wakeman Rd., Darien, Conn. ART says he hopes to be present for the Atlantic City festivities next August.

SCHENKEL, VERNON- Hq. Co. 1st Bn 34th Inf. '42-'45 - writes from

9461 Harold Drive, Overland 34, Missouri, that he spent his vacation in Las Vegas and shot craps for the first time since he left the 34th Inf. Said he had pretty good luck.

PLOWMAN, EDWARD M., M.D. - formerly 19th Inf. '45-'46 - is a doctor and lives at 121 N. 7th Street, Hannibal, Missouri.

HOUSER, CYRUS, Hq. 3rd Bn. 21st Inf. '44-'46 - works for the Jones-Laughlin Steel Corp. Cy and his wife, Mildred live at 836 State Street, Curwensville, Pennsylvania.

Minnella, Thomas - 34th Inf., Sv. Co. (from 1943-1945) is a Stationary Fireman - lives with his wife Margaret at 3464 Watson Rd., St. Louis, 9, Mo.

Meloy, Lt. Gen. G. S. - has received his third star - his new address is Hq. 4th Army, Office of the Commanding Gen., Ft. Sam Houston, Tex.

Salsor, Leroy B. - Hq. 34th Inf - from Oct. '44 to Sept. '45. He is a P. O. Supervisor and lives at 7235 N. Oatman Ave, Portland 17, Oregon.

Eyler, Floyd E. - 21st Inf. is not AWOL. The last issue of the Taro Leaf reported him missing. He lives with his wife and one boy (age 9) at 214 Strickler Ave, Waynesboro, Penn., not far from Gettysburg. Operates an Atlantic Service Station. Floyd is one of our long-time members and we are glad to have him on the Morning report. He adds that Don Eyler is a cousin and is running the Greencastle Dry Cleaners at Greencastle, Penn.

Nelson, Vernon R. - K - 21st Inf. from 12/44 to 1/46 - Personnel Officer at Veterans Administration, Ft. Howard, Maryland. Lives with wife, Gloria, and daughter, Linda, at 3117 Lynch Road, Baltimore 19, Md.

Division Awarded

Men of the 24th Inf Div will be proud to know that the Victory Division recently received the 1959 7th Army Charity Award as a result of the outstanding effort and generous spirit displayed by members of the command during the 1959 AER-ARS campaign.

Lt Gen F. W. Farrell, 7th Army Commander, expressed his sincere appreciation to all personnel for their efforts and generosity. Additional congratulations were extended by Lt Gen Gordon B. Rogers, VII Corps Commander, to men of the 24th. Maj Gen Ralph C. Cooper, 24th CG, also conveyed his commendations to all personnel for their outstanding participation.

TWENTY-FOURTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT: For Dues incl Taro Leaf, 1959-1960.

NAME _____	Birth Date _____	WIFE'S Name _____
Address _____	_____	Children _____ Age _____
_____	_____	_____
DIVISION UNIT _____	Rank _____	_____
Period of Service _____	_____	_____
Type of Membership desired:	_____	Business _____
LIFE - Dues \$100.00 payable as follows:	_____	Hobbies _____
() \$100.00 Inclosed.	_____	News ITEMS (Use additional paper for News
() \$ _____ inclosed; Balance at _____ per year.	_____	Items & names of prospective members with
Minimum \$20.00 down & \$20.00 per year	_____	news-notes regarding them.
ANNUAL DUES only \$5.00 per year.	_____	FILL IN AND MAIL TODAY!! MAIL TO:
	_____	Edmund F. Henry, First National Bank. Bldg.
	_____	Attleboro, Massachusetts.

CHICAGO News...

Haven't heard for sure, but believe the Chicago Chapter will hold their annual Hallow'een Party again this year. You in the Chicago area will be notified by the Chapter in plenty of time. Be certain to make your reservation in order that the committee will know how to plan.

Some of the boys from Chicago went down to Hanlin's home on the Lake for a little fishing. The only fishing done was by Pat Ciangi Jr., and Doc Ligman from the dock.....small perch. Doc was dumped (accidently) once while on skis. This resort is on Lake Wabec, Ind.

POET IN THE GANG.....Joe Mashett sent in the following:

"See you in Atlantic City in 1960,
Where the water is fine
And the girls are so pretty.....
(I mean our wives of course).

Dues must be paid in order to stay on the mailing list - next issue DEC.

CHECK YOUR ADDRESS BOOK - Following current addresses are brought to your attention:

COL. A. W. MANLOVE, now 32 Ruckman Road, Ft. Monroe, Va.
ARTHUR J. GEIRINGER, 17 Wakeman Road, Darien, Connecticut.
BERNIE BJORKMAN, 2506 Wilshire Dr., No. Little Rock, Ark.
LT. GEN. C. S. MELOY, Hq. 4th Army, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas.
FLOYD E. EYLER, 234 Strickler Ave., Waynesboro, Pa.

GIVE HIM a Membership in the 24th Assn. for Christmas. This includes the TARO LEAF also, for one year....Only \$5.00. Complete the form found in this issue and forward to the Secretary.

you've arrived!

JOE and KATHLEEN MASHETT are the proud parents of a son, JOSEPH P. MASHETT, Jr., born 25th August 1959. Joe Jr. weighed in at 7 lb. 5 oz. The Mashetts had a very clever announcement which showed the Technical Data, equations, etc. and stating that the entire project was engineered by Joe and Kathleen.

New!

Watch for the EXCLUSIVE SPECIAL FEATURE in the TARO LEAF in the DECEMBER & FEBRUARY issues. Don't miss them.

THE ROCK - THE ROCK - - THE ROCK - - THE ROCK - - THE ROCK - - THE ROCK

THE ROCK will again be published and sent out to men of the 19th. provided these men desire to receive it. Joe Peyton, a few years back did put this little paper out each month. He will do so again under the following conditions:

1. Each Chick must be a paid up member of the 24th Div. Assn.
 2. Application must be made to Joe Peyton, 1405 Belmore Ct., Lutherville, Md.
 3. Asufficient number of members must be interested in THE ROCK otherwise the undertaking cannot be accomplished.
- Get in touch with Joe if you want on his mailing list.
More about this in the December issue of the TARO LEAF.

THE TARO LEAF
24th Inf. (Victory) Division Assn
202 N. Robinson St.
Danville, Illinois

SPECIAL OFFER!

A Life Membership in the association may now be obtained for a small initial payment of \$20. and then \$20. per year for the next four years. At the annual business meeting of the members held in Philadelphia on August 15 it was unanimously voted to give full credit for 1959-60 annual dues already paid to anyone wishing to change from annual membership to life membership, provided the change is made within 60 days. So if you have already paid \$3.00 for your 1959-60 dues, you may send an additional \$15.00 to Ed Henry at any time before October 16, 1959, and become a LIFE MEMBER now. A life membership now is the surest way to perpetuate the association. Secy. will no doubt accept above up to Nov. do to mailing delay.

★ brighten your Christmas

Send your Christmas Message to all your old friends through the Taro Leaf. We will reserve a page for this purpose in the December issue. Remember, your Greeting will reach over 3000 people. They'll love hearing from you and you will also want to hear from them.

Cost: Only \$5. per greeting... Send in your copy, together with your name, address to the Editor of Taro Leaf. Deadline for copy is 15 November 1959.

Outstanding...

Letter RECEIVES ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP FREE!

All you have to do is forward to the editor a story or editorial for use in the Taro Leaf. Your news story may be on current events, or about your period of military service.

RULES OF THE CONTEST:

1. Any paid up member of the Assn. may enter. Winner will receive Paid Membership Card for year 1960-61.
2. Any former Assn. man or any former or present member of the 24th Infantry Division may enter by enclosing \$5 for his membership, together with his entry for the contest.
3. Stories may be either truth or fiction.
4. Stories and Editorials limited to 1000 words.
5. Officers of the Assn., members of the Executive Committee, and members of their immediate families are not eligible to enter.
6. Entries must be postmarked not later than Sunday, 1 Nov. 1959.
7. No entries will be returned. Final decision is by the Judges; board of Judges consisting of the Executive Committee.

(Photos may be submitted as illustrations to story, and will be returned by the Editor).

SEND IN YOUR ENTRY NOW - - WIN A YEAR'S MEMBERSHIP

FIRST CLASS

U. S. POSTAGE

4¢ Paid

Danville, Ill.
Permit No. 50

Renew
Early

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION
EXPIRES THIS MONTH