



'T'ARO LEAF

24TH INFANTRY DIVISION

VOLUME XVI

NUMBER 5

JULY 1963



During the Second World Wide Unpleasantness, the ETO boys had their Willie and Joe. On the other side of things, we settled for JAMES "SPIKE" O'DONNELL and JUNIOR HARRIS. Willie and Joe seem to have gone to limbo: happily, we are more fortunate in that, as this '62 Chicago Convention photo attests, we continue to have our Spike (left) and Junior (right) - and in fine fettle, too.

War to Spike, in G of the 21st, was full of ups and downs as he ran the gamut from private to staff - and back again - a veritable yo-yo in olive drab. War to Junior, in the same G of the 21st, was no more and no less than what it was to Sherman, as he filled the Spike-appointed role of side-de-camp to James M. O'Donnell.

That each can reflect today upon those earlier days of togetherness with such conviviality, that each has the happy capacity to give the rest of us who are exposed to their war memories such riotous pleasures, all of this is proof enough that we have here two mighty fine people - then and now - of whom we are deeply proud.

Let the "Big Picture" Boys - the Eisenhowers, Bradleys, Clarks, Eichelbergers, Kreugers, et al have their yawning memories of "Life As It Was": when it comes to filling the gap in the war tapestry, we'll settle for our favorite "Doggies" who tell us how they saw it from the squad level. Would that they could be fired with the strength to take pen in hand and set their exploits to paper: they'd have Book-of-the-Month problems such as to send Hargrove, Mailer, Jones, and those other war fiction boys scampering into the bushes to hide.

With no apologies to Henry R. Luce, we're making Spike and Junior our cover subjects for this issue. Had our staff of bureau chiefs, correspondents and editorial researchers not been a little more than fully-occupied with other reporting assignments, we'd have gone whole hog and stolen another Time technique by way of a supporting inside story. In lieu thereof, we commend to you an August trip to Louisville to hear it yourself and from the very mouths of the inventors. Like wine, their stories improve with the years. Give this duo another twelve months and it will appear that Uncle Sugar could easily have dispensed with Irving and Woodruff - by 1970, Douglas MacArthur.



"Those are regulars, by God!"

NOT
TO
BE
MISSED

ROBERT L. BASSETT (HQ & HQ CO., DIV SUPPORT COMMAND), presently with Division has sent a tape of a "Radio Drama of The History of the 24th Division". Bob wrote Ed Henry thereconcerning: "Last year for the organization day activities of the 24th Infantry Division here in Europe, I took it upon myself to write a Radio Drama on the History of the 24th Division. "The Story Of The Taro Leaf", which was aired over AFN Munich on Sept. 14, 1962. I am forwarding you a copy of the show in hopes that it will give the members of the association an idea as to what the 24th is doing and has done since we became the "Shield of Bavaria", in 1958. Though I am not a member of the Association I do wear the Taro Leaf and have for the past four years. If I can be of any service to you or the Association please feel free to call upon me." Thanks, Bob. Ed has sent the tape on to Prexy Dick Ligman who will undoubtedly have it on hand at Louisville.

IT ISN'T CRICKET

Faithful ROSCOE CLAXON, 724th ORD '43-'46, sends in a new member form for JAMES T. MEDLIN of Stone Rd., Lexington, Kentucky. Formerly with Div. G-4, Jim worked the Libby ("Claxon") Air Strip on Mindanao in '45. Jim's daughter is in college, two boys coming along, so his real estate business has to keep active. He's peddling, in Roscoe's words, "the best land in the world - around Lexington - covered with blue grass".

Are you kidding?

Prexy DICK LIGMAN (3rd ENG) announces that "The convention will officially begin on Thursday, Aug. 8 and will run through Sunday, Aug. 11. A special hospitality nite will be held on August 7 and will be hosted by the KENTUCKY BOYS. On Thursday Aug. 8, registration will open. A tour of the Old Fitzgerald Distillery is scheduled for the afternoon. On Friday, there will be a Tour of Fort Knox, and a Buffet supper in the evening. On Saturday, the usual business meeting of members and the banquet in the evening. Sunday morning, a breakfast will be held. Room rates are \$6.00. All rooms are air-conditioned. Free Parking at the hotel. Free transportation from Air-Port, Railroad station and Bus depot to The Brown Hotel".

HEADQUARTERS AT

BROWN HOTEL, Louisville, Kentucky

RESERVE	Check How	Rate
Single Room (One Person)		\$6.00
Double " (Two Persons)		\$9.00
Parlor Suites, Your choice		"

FREE PARKING
FOR
OVER NIGHT
GUESTS

Attending Convention of TWENTY-FOURTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSN

Date of Arrival _____ Date of Departure _____

RATES
Single—\$6.00
Double—\$9.
Parlor Suites—\$19.00 to 28.00
Double—\$22.00 to 28.00
All Public, Meeting, Dining Rooms and Bedrooms, Air Conditioned.

Name _____

Address _____

SEE YOU....
IN LOUISVILLE KY.



"SURE—THAT'S THE WAY I WANTED IT!!"

Our Chicago chapter - organized in '58 - and prexied over these several years by MIKE RAFTER, DOC LIGMAN, PAT CIANGI, BOB ANDRE and DICK GOINY and presently prexied by CHEI ANDREZAK meets every 3rd Friday at 9:00 p.m. at McDuff's Lounge, 4030 W. Fullerton Ave., in Chicago. This was our first Chapter and is our most active.

Presently they are preparing for a Picnic at Schiller Woods, Grove #6, Irving Park and River Road, on July 14th, a Sunday.

29 members and wives attended an annual dinner at Steve's on Feb. 17th and concerning this one, Pat writes:

"After dinner out-going president Richard Goiny, in his farewell speech thanked his officers and the members for their co-operation during the past year. During the next year, our new officers will carry out the aim of our organization. We are sure they will have one main thought in mind - to strengthen our chapter and bring it to even greater heights in the national organization of the 24th Division. To achieve the aims our officers have planned, they need the complete support of all our members. It is true many of our members have not been able to attend our meetings, but were able to attend our activities.

"In February of 1962, at our Installation dinner, we had 38 guests. The low attendance was due to the heavy snow storm that hit Chicago. In March, 45 guests attended our anniversary-St. Patrick's Day party. At our picnic in July, there were 171 guests, which was very good considering the weather. It had rained all day. In August we had one of the greatest and best conventions here in Chicago, with 73 guests attending Hospitality nite. 266 attended the Luau and 225 attended the banquet. A total of 112 members attended the reunion. 38 were from Chicago. At our Christmas party in December, the Chicago Chapter played host to 32 children."

NOT TO BE MISSED

Our Chicago Chapter's raffle is underway. If you want to buy a raffle book, send \$5.00 to PAT CIANGI. Their books close on July 1st: all tickets must be in before their July 14, 1963 picnic. 1st prize: a stereo hi-fi: 2nd prize: an FM radio: 3rd prize: a set of Corning Ware. Pat is at 4746 W. Monroe, Chicago....Pat tells us that BOB and Mary SHAY attended their March meeting following Mary's pre-Christmas surgery. Pat reports that she's as fit as a fiddle, for which our gratitude.... Pat was exercised about a dearth of Louisville convention notes in our recent issue. We printed every word given to us, Pat - and then some....DON WILLIAMS spent several weeks in Switzerland during February. Don is a ski bug...We're grateful to Pat for this one: In the office of a switchgear assembly plant, orders are assigned shop numbers, which currently run in the 64-00-00 series. The other day, after vainly searching for a certain folder, an engineer turned to one of the stenos and asked wearily: "If you were a 64-12-61, where would you be?" Without hesitation, the well-built young lady replied: "In a circus."

AMONG THE CONTRIBUTORS:

GEORGE N. EMERY of 1116 N. Berkeley, Kokomo, Ind. writes: "C.G. Hanlin and I have decided to attempt to get a Indiana Chapter of the Association started. We have discussed this for some time and hope to get the show on the road. I write you to keep you informed of developments. We feel that we can work towards having a good representation at the convention in Louisville. Since becoming a member of the Association, I look forward to each issue of the Taro Leaf, however being a Korean Veteran of the 24th would like to see a section for the Korean members. It would help create interest for these members. So far have only been able to get World War II members to join, but still am looking for all former members in my travels around the state". Thanks, George, with that spirit, we can't fail.

SPIKE O'DONNELL's analysis of a certain well known politician: "That phony hasn't made a decision since he decided where to part his hair".

Not on Tuesday

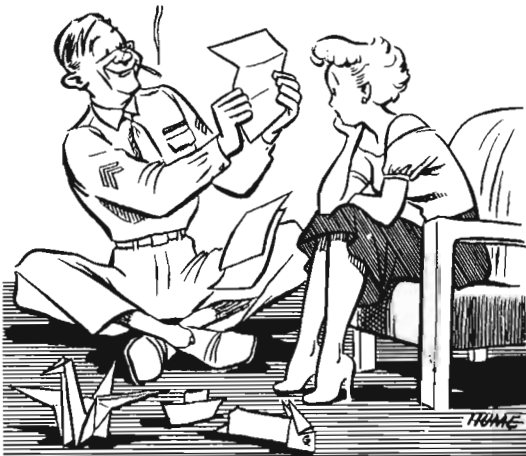
This issue, and the one to follow, comes to you by courtesy of a few especially faithful Faithfuls including Bill Verbeck, C.G. Hanlin, Jim Fanning and others who will be mentioned as their names are discovered, each of whom found in their hearts the desire and in their pockets the stray cash to underwrite the expense hereof.

You Speak



Federal social security taxes now take five times as much from an employee's pay check as they did 13 years ago, and further increases have already been scheduled.

Two years ago, the tax for everyone earning \$4800 a year or more went up by \$48. In 1962, it went up another \$12. In January, it rose again, by another \$48. This is a \$108 increase in only three years. Since 1949 the maximum cost of social security taxes to both employees and employers has climbed about 15 times faster than the cost of living which itself is up about 25 per cent. Without any medicare addition the tax is scheduled to rise to \$444. by Jan. 1, 1969. With the addition of medical care for the aged under social security as proposed in the administration-backed King-Anderson Bill the tax would rise to \$407. on \$5200. a year. These figures should remind us all that free pensions, free medical care, or free death benefits are mighty expensive.



"THIS IS THE MOST EXCITING THING I LEARNED IN JAPAN!"

Division is so spread out that for its Organization Day parade, it had to have two parades. One in Munich included the 1st Battle Group, 21st Inf; 2nd BG, 28th Inf; 3d Med Tk Bn, 34th Armor, 3d ARB, 46th Inf; 3d Engr. Bn; Hqs Div Arty; 3d How Bn, 11th Arty, 2d How Bn, 7th Arty; 1st Rkt/How Bn, 34th Arty; 1st How Bn, 13th Arty; 5th How Bn, 92nd Arty; 1st How Bn, 34th Arty; Co A, 724th Ord Bn and Co A of the 31st Trans Bn.

The other at Gablingen Airfield, Augsburg included the 1st BG, 19th Inf; 1st BG, 34th Inf, 2d BG, 19th Inf; 3d MTB, 32nd Armor; 2d Recon Sqdn, 9th Cav; 24th Sig Bn; Hqs Div Trains; 724th Ord Bn; 24th Med Bn and 24th QM Co.

Sitting pretty

Do you remember the story about an impromptu entertainment cooked up to help amuse the boys aboard a crowded transport bound for Hollandia. A sleight-of-hand artist was giving a performance. His audience was properly impressed, and a curious and somewhat surprised parrot was teetering on a perch overlooking the scene. With a few deft passes, the performer made an entire deck of cards disappear. The parrot was vigorous, and the parrot cocked his head to one side and blinked. The magician then made a gold-fish bowl, a table cloth and some other assorted odds and ends disappear, all in quick succession. The parrot forgot to teeter: watched it all in silence. The magician then approached the climax of his performance. "My friends", he announced dramatically, "I will now show you a feat unparalleled in the history of legerdemain". Just as the last syllables were ringing across the deck, there was a tremendous explosion. A Nip torpedo had found its mark. Lights went out; whistles blow; bells rang. The good ship went down within minutes. A little later, the parrot was sitting on a piece of driftwood. He saw the magician come to the surface, shout "Help", and go down. Again the man come up. Again he yelled "Help". Again he disappeared. The third time he went down for good. Now there was no trace of the boat, the passengers, or the performer. The parrot thought about the whole business for a while, and then softly murmured to himself, "Amazing".

solo flight

The unwelcome news of the serious injury to JOHN J. CLARKE, our WW II Chemical Officer was received via a newspaper clipping from Seattle, Washington. The clipping reads:

"JOHN J. CLARKE, 66, of 1065 East Prospect Street, was seriously injured in Cody, Wyoming, last evening when a runaway tourist stagecoach in which he was riding struck a stooped automobile.

"CLARKE was thrown to the pavement. He suffered multiple leg fractures and head cuts and was under examination for internal injuries.

"A snapped bridle caused the horses pulling the stagecoach to bolt two blocks through the middle of town, the Associated Press reports. The stagecoach driver and another passenger were not injured.

"Clarke's son, John J. Clarke, Jr., said his father was on a sight seeing trip and headed, eventually for Hardin, Montana. The elder Clarke is retired from an automobile agency in Seattle."

Faithful one-time editor AUBREY NEWMAN (Div HQ, 19th INF & 34th INF) who sent us the clip adds..."And we can add that JOHN was one of the finest soldiers and gentlemen we met during the war. Efficient in his work, pleasant to know, the kind of man you are proud and happy to call your friend".

'T A R O L E A F

Of, by and for those who served
and/or now serve the 24th Infantry Division,
published frequently by the 24th Infantry
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Good ROSS PURSIFULL, 34th INF '41-'45, gives us news of a distressing kind. Read it as Ross wrote it: "...FRED WEHLE, a few weeks ago, had a retina separation of the eye. He underwent surgery at the University Hospital at Michigan. Recently he had a "tear" in this operation and has undergone another operation at the Retinal Foundation, 66 West Cedar, Boston 14, Mass. where he will be for the next two weeks. (Ed. until July 2). This has caused cancellation of the "pre-convention" meeting of the Michigan Chapter. Fred's wife, Jane and his two boys are with him in Boston. A letter to him and your prayers will help."

For those who would write Fred, and we ask it of each of you, his home is 268 Yarmouth, Birmingham, Mich.

Get well, Fred: our prayers are with you.



**AND HE
KEEPS IT
UNDER
HIS HAT!**

We now have Col. ALBERT LEE GUILD, c/o Postmaster, Oklahoma City, Okl., as a new member, thanks to ROSCOE CLAXON, 724th ORD '43-'46. He was Asst. Air Officer of Div. under Maj. Kelley, in Mindanao days. Kelley, by the by, is at Godman Field, Ft. Knox. Al went on to Korea as Air Officer of the 45th Inf. Div.

WHAT A WONDERFUL IDEA

We have heard from M/Sgt. JOHN H. STYGLES Opns. Sgt. of 126 Maint. Bn., APO 326, N.Y., has been inquiring of Division in Germany as to the possibility of a Division reunion in Europe. Ed Henry in replying agreed that we had such in Garmisch in April of '55, which meeting was a tremendous success. Who knows, we may be able to engineer another before the end of the year.

Do you have all the answers?

ARTHUR J. HORNBECK, of 1503 Seymour Ave., Utica, N.Y. becomes our 48th Life Member by sending his \$100.00 to Sec'y. Ed Henry. We are happy to have you join the Inner Sanctum, Art. Thanks for the evidence of faith in our purposes.

A BIG WHEEL IN THE ARMY

MAJ. GEN. FREDERICK IRVING (Div. HQ ('42-'44), now at 2619 Ft. Scott Drive, Arlington, Va., sends us a kind word about our issues and follows it with the news that both his son and daughter were at Leavenworth at the same time, his daughter and family now having moved on to a new station in Hawaii. We hope you'll be with us in Louisville, Fred.

"Watch out who you're callin' an eight ball!"





Today, in the heart of Bavaria, stands a modern, highly mobile and efficient fighting force - the gang that fills our old shoes - and we're happy and proud to report a long overdue liaison with them.

A vital and integral part of NATO, it is the pace-setter of modern Army divisions. Equipmentwise, you who served would hardly recognize the present day team. Mechanization, new tactics, new ideas - all add up to a new dimension of combat readiness.

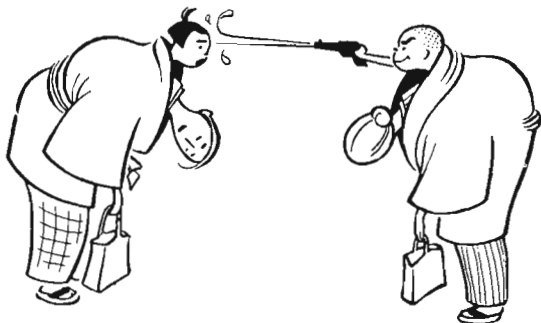
New load-carrying equipment allows the individual to carry his basic load with



greater ease (O.K., smirk you guys) and with greater accessibility of that gear.

The M14 rifle and the M60 machine gun are standard - firing standard NATO rounds. The truck, 1/4 ton - remember we couldn't call it a "1/4 ton truck" - it could only be a "truck, 1/4 ton" - and you could add "4 + 4" if you wanted to be real snooty - is now the M151 version - it's faster and easier to maintain - we wonder if it has eliminated the valve caps.

The M113 personnel carrier is a marvel of lightness and speed, which mobilizes every rifle squad in the Division and adds



the firepower of a 50 MG to every squad. Their M79 grenade launcher gives an indirect fire capability to every squad. Radar now allows greater surveillance. And the M60 tank, mounting a 105 mm is claimed to be of such capacity to penetrate any known armor in the world today. And - get this - its nuclear capability gives our Division more destructive power

than ALL of the WW II and Korean War divisions COMBINED.

A year ago, the 3rd Med. Tk. Bn., 32nd Armor arrived from Ft. Stewart, Ga. to expand the Division's armored right.

As we report this, we know how Miss Mae Craig of the Portland, Maine Herald feels when she dons a new hat. This is terrific news for we who knew the Division when. But let's go on.

For four years now, the "Taro Leaf" patch has been worn in southern Germany. Three times, we've been called upon to squelch the fires of disorder.

In 1958, "Task Force 201" were reached to Lebanon to put down the civil rebellion there.

In 1960, the entire Division was alerted and readied for flight into the Congo.

In August, 1961, the 1st Battle Group reinforced the Berlin garrison when "The Wall" went up.

For as the authors of "The Victory Division 1941 - 1962" have expressed it, we are "a Division honored as only few divisions in American history have ever been honored; privileged as only a few have been privileged - to stand guard anywhere in the world, as freedom's skilled."



"... what was the closest call I had in Korea? ... Let me see ... there was the time I was at my steady's house, and along about ten-thirty the M.P.'s started banging at the door ..."

Plan on hitting Louisville by Thursday evening, Aug. 8th and cut yourself in on the river trip on the Belle of Louisville. It's a grand experience.



*It's like we've been
Telling you...*

We've been editing this poop sheet - off and on - for years now. Frequently, we've been caught with a gag line on hand and, in a sincere effort to personalize same, have coupled it with a member, representing that it came from him - and all of this without complaint until WOW - our March issue, wherein we credited our lovable one time Div. Fin Off., LEON HOWARD (DIV HQ '44 - '45) with a story involving 24th lads and Aussie lassies.

Leon, in his normal, wonderfully friendly manner hit us with this: "Thank you for my "ad" in the March issue. While George Bernard Shaw used to say that he didn't care what anybody said about him as long as they talked about him, I strongly suspect G.B.S. was not married at the time he said it. I won't say I had some explaining to do about the incident you related; but I got the idea that I was on the defensive for a day or so. Perhaps you would consider running another ad stating that the Leon Howard referred to must be another guy".

So this next is for the eyes of Helen Howard alone - everybody else go to the next column. Helen, I'm not even certain that Leon ever got to Australia, much less had a roving eye. Forgive me, if you can find it in your heart, but above all else, forgive Leon, Please.

You know we have a hunch that this will do it, because over these many years since the days when Leon and we were close friends in the rice paddies and hemp fields of Leyte, Mindoro, Luzon and Mindanao, Helen and Leon Howard have kept in periodic touch with us. If we fail to receive their Christmas card come December, we're for hopping out to L.A. and explaining this one away face-to-face.

Leon continues, in more cordial vein and reports: "You will be interested to know that Helen and I had as our recent guests Col. Tony Chanco and his charming wife and three children who came through L.A. on their trip around the world. Tony was a Filipino cadet at West Point and during June Week attended his 25th class reunion at the Point. He was a plebe when our friend, Jock Clifford, was on the Army team. Tony says that, one day, Jock picked him up by the collar and held him at arm's length while he told him off. Tony, at this time, weighed about 94 pounds. Ever afterwards, Tony had a great deal of awe and respect for Jock Clifford. I told Tony that I had been with the group that buried Jock. He was very much interested in how Jock had brought the Division great honor and won for himself undying fame for his exploits. Jock will live for a long time in the memory of each of us. Tony, until a few years ago, was Colonel and Chief of Engineers for the Philippine Army. He was a great friend of Magsaysay. He was also at Bataan with Wainwright, was a participant in the infamous death march and spent the war years as a prisoner. Since the war, I have returned to the Philippines. This was in 1958 when my wife Helen and I made a trip around the world. We were guests of the Chancos in Manila, and once again I saw the Intermuros. How different it looked from that day in 1945 when I went into it with a detachment of the 24th Division."

A truly wonderful report, Leon, especially after we threatened the happy Howard household as we did.

be seeing you soon

TOM COMPERE (DIV. HQ. '42-'45) reports that an old Chicago member, ANTHONY DIFEO, now employed by L&M Travel Service, Inc., is trying to get up a special train for a Chicago-Louisville run and return at Convention time. He suggests that the Chicago Chapter hold a kickoff dinner or breakfast at the Illinois Athletic Club and then make a rail trip to Louisville for the Convention. This may be taken in two ways: First, the breakfast and a day trip to Louisville; second a Dinner and Cocktail party and a night trip to Louisville. DAYLIGHT TRIP: Round trip coach rail and Breakfast. One person \$45.50 - Family plan: Mr. & Mrs. \$77.75. NIGHT TRIP: Dinner and Cocktails. One person in Roomette: \$88.95, Two persons in Bedroom: \$86.43 each. Two persons in Bedroom Family Plan: \$150.30 Total. Any one interested may contact TOM COMPERE at MO 4-5030 in Chicago for other details. Tom will be pleased to answer all questions.

THE FACTS OF THE CASE

In our May issue, we ran a picture sent in by JAMES FROOME (21st INF) of a few of his pals on the deck of Westralia en route to Leyte. We asked for the whereabouts of some of those boys today. Within 3 hours of receipt of his copy, BILL VERBECK (21st INF & DIV. HQ) responded with this: "I can answer this question for you to some extent. The Battalion Commander, Lt. Col. Seymour E. Madison is retired and is now a professor and lives at 785 Kearney St., Denver 20, Col. Next to him, the man listed as "Don Parens" is really James M. Parent, who was in Company F, and later commanded Company G. He lives at 42 Loomis Ave., Westfield, Mass. The man next is listed as "Kilgore" is really Robert L. Kilgo, who was in command of Company E. He is solicitor of Darlington, South Carolina (Box 43). Jack Kelly, the next, was killed. The next, Lt. Ender, was later Captain of H Company. Present address - Robert R. Ender, 1208 High Street, Whittier, Cal. The next man recently retired as a Col. in the Maryland National Guard - Col. Francis R. Dice, 208 Oak Ave., Baltimore 8, Md. In the top row, Ivey was killed. Captain Corsson is really Hugh Crossen. I used to have his address, but I don't know where he is now. Red Mayer's address is - John Mayer, 3511 Jean Drive, Baltimore 7, Md. The next is Lt. Col. James H. Thomson, 2109 Paramount Ave., Austin 4, Texas, and the last - Doctor Erner Jones is on the staff of the Veterans Administration Hospital and his address is 6 Indian Drive, Little Rock, Arkansas."

Many thanks, Bill: rest assured that we immediately dispatched invitations to the non-members soliciting their support. Anyone else got any pictures to run?

LOUISVILLE

IN

AUGUST ?



"...but you seem so young to be a major."

Happy day. Information Officer, Maj. B.G. JOHNSTON of Division has sent us a copy of an imposing booklet titled "The Victory Division 1941 - 1962 Twenty One Years of Service" in celebration of Organization Day (Oct. 1, 1962).

The dedication reads: "To those officers and men, living and dead, who, while wearing the Taro Leaf, gave freely of their blood in the defense of the United States of America, and of free men everywhere we gratefully dedicate this book. Their sacrifices have given today's Taromen a glorious tradition to uphold."

We can hardly add to that.

But we can - and do - throw salutes in the direction of Editor Lt. W.J. HAAS, JR., Copy Chief Pfc. M.E. LOPES, JR., Art Chief Pfc. J.R. BOZZI, and Layout Chief Pfc. L.B. ROWNTREE for a beautiful piece of work, from which we take the liberty of quoting literally in this issue.



"I don't give a damn how shy you are. Rosenberc—you'll use the shower tent like everyone else!"

24th Infantry (Victory) Division Association
402-410 First National Bank Building, Attleboro, Massachusetts

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____ WIFES NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

OCCUPATION _____ FORMER UNIT _____

CHILDREN & AGES _____

SERVED IN 24TH FROM: _____ TO: _____

REMARKS _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES \$5.00

No passing the buck on this one

—because it is the best!

Let us forget - as if we could - but it's refreshing to set their glorious names in type from time to time - merely to see them all in one list at one time:

WORLD WAR II

Pfc. JAMES H. DIAMOND	21st INF
Pvt. HAROLD H. MOON	34th INF
Sgt. CHARLES E. MOWER	34th INF

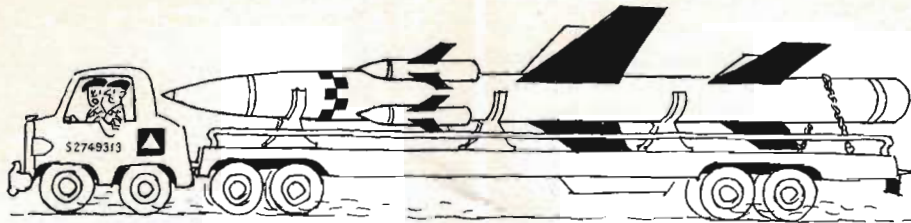
KOREAN WAR

M/Sgt. STANLEY T. ADAMS	19th INF
Sfc. NELSON V. BRITTIN	19th INF
M. Gen. WILLIAM F. DEAN	DIV HQ
1st Lt. CARL H. DODD	5th INF
Sfc. RAY E. DUKE	21st INF
Pfc. MACK A. JORDAN	21st INF
Sgt. GEORGE D. LIBBY	3rd ENG
Cpl. MITCHELL RED CLOUD, JR.	19th INF

Need we say it? They are our recipients of the Medal of HONOR, the nation's highest decoration.

To all but Maj. Gen. DEAN and M/Sgt. ADAMS, the award was posthumous.

"Hello, Coast Guard? This is Johnson at the lighthouse."



"Do you have to say 'Venus here we come!' every time we hit a bump?"

Issues ago - May of '62, to be precise - there was included a reproduction, from the 1940 issue of the 19th INF's "The Rock", which gave the pictures of the then Top Kicks of that grand old outfit.

JACK FINAN, a well known athlete in the Chicks at the time, and now a retired Lt. Col. at 758 E. Whitaker Mill Rd., Raleigh, N.C., tells us about these old veterans today.

Hq. Co.'s ARMIN L. GRAHLS is now a retired Lt. Col. c/o S.W. Goff, 1008 Minneapolis Bldg., St. Paul, Minn. Jack served with Armin in the 2nd INF. in Mich. and then joined his company in Hawaii.

Able Co.'s. ALBERT FALLON is now deceased.

Baker Co.'s. JOSEPH J. HUMMEL can't be located.

Charlie Co.'s. WADE E. BAILEY is a retired major now at 7223 St. Helena Rd., Santa Rosa, Calif.

Dog Co.'s. JOHN CHRISTOPHER is now retired and is living in Yokohama.

Easy Co.'s. LONNIE M. RENAU is now a retired captain at 1023 N. Foster St., Dothan, Ala.

Fox Co.'s. RAY H. ROLF is living the life of a retired major at 3911 Evergreen, Columbus, Ga.

George Co.'s. THOMAS E. MILLER is retired at 9509 Everman, Overland, Mo.

H Co.'s. JOSEPH E. WHITE is retired at 3620 S. Piedmont, San Antonio, Tex.

I Co.'s. LEO K. ROGERS is retired at 120 Rosewell Ave., Longbeach, Calif.

King Co.'s. MARTIN T. LYNCH can't be located.

Love Co.'s. HARVEY S. ALLEN is now deceased.

M Co.'s. JOHN FIRTKO can't be located. He was at age 71 in 1960 at Ft. Bragg at a 19th reunion and reportedly was the life of the party.

Service Co.'s. JOHN A. WETTERAU is a retired Capt. at P.O. Box 54, Grant's Pass, Ore.

Thanks for the news, Jack.



"Best darned supply sergeant I ever saw."

We do hope that our brand of humor doesn't offend. Military humor, regretfully, doesn't always lend itself to publication in our poopsheet which trickles into homes via the Post Office Department's courtesies. Now you and we know that armies are preoccupied with the fundamental things of life. Self-preservation is the primary consideration, but thoughts of food, digestion, sex, and the preservation of human dignity in the face of unnatural hardships, red tape, and ubiquitous superiors, come crowding close behind. Our humor inevitably reflects these understandable preoccupations. The gustiest specimens - and we have quite a collection - will have to be reluctantly sabotaged. We hope to use as many flavor-some items as we dare and will get them to you bit by bit. Further emasculation would negate one of the purposes of this paper. Squeamish stuffed shirts wouldn't like it anyhow!



"Pssst... G.I., you wanna woman?"

Bring Your
TROPHY(S)
to the
CONVENTION
Trophy Room will be Guarded

See You In Louisville



Under the editorial headline, "A Taro Trooper is Many Things", this appeared in a recent issue of Division's TARO LEAF. We liked it so much that we are stealing it. It is credited to Pfc. NORMAN A. TUCKER clerk-typist in S-1, Div. Trains and we are gifting him with a complimentary membership in our Association. It reads:

A "Taro Leaf Trooper" is many things and you have to be one to know one and when you know one, you like one. The majority of "Taro Leaf Troopers," just like the majority of other people, are good - there is good in the worst and bad in the best. He's tall and thin, short and fat, average and peculiar.

A "Taylor Man" is everything from a class ring to a fourth grade education, a West Pointer to a Masters Degree. He has two stars, new bars, faded stripes, slick sleeves, and imprints where rank once proudly showed. He's everything from spit shined boots to a whitewall haircut, pegged pants to tailored OD's, starched fatigues to civvies. He wears a cocked soft hat, a faded blocked field cap, or a dirty steel pot.

A Taro Trooper is everything from a Division Commander to an ammo handler. He wears a ranger tab, senior CIB, master parachutist badge, cross rifles or quartermaster insignia, four rows of lettuce or a bolo badge. He's fought the enemy from Pearl Harbor to Mindanao, from Osan to Chonggodong, Korea. He's been every where from Normandy in Europe to Taygaytay Ridge in the Pacific. He was the first to serve under the blue and white colors of the United Nations and later was a member of "Task Force 201" in Lebanon.

A Taylor Man is a Rock, a Gimlet, a Dragon, a Ram, a Redleg, and even a Lion - but most of all, he is a member of the "Victory Division". He's everything from a Negro to a Mexican, German to Hawaiian, Catholic to Jew, Christian to atheist - but most of all, he's an American.

From medic to Bandsman, tall or short, white or black, they all have one thing in common - they wear the Green Taro Leaf insignia on their left shoulder. Each of them has felt the wintry blast of the breezes over Hohenfels, and from the day's first "fall

in" to the last "lights out", they are "Taro Leaf" Troopers.

A "Taylor Man" is everything from the East Side in New York to the South Side of San Antonio. He's made every party from Mardi Gras in New Orleans and St. Patrick's Day in Philadelphia to Oktoberfest in Munich. He's swam on every beach from Daytona in Florida and Santa Monica in California to the Imjin in Korea and the Lido in Venice. He might have been a truck driver or a bookkeeper, a cowboy or a student.

A "Victory Man" has seen more places, done more things, known more people, had more fights, spent more money, loved more women, and told more lies than any other three men alive. He would fight you for anything and then give you the shirt off his back for nothing. He might be a Harvard graduate heading for a course at Crailsheim, or a home town nobody selected as Soldier of the Month.

These troopers speak with the slow drawl of the south, the clipped words of a northerner, or the weird accent of a foreigner. A former member of Boston society might be the best buddy of a Mississippi cotton farmer. A lumberjack from Oregon might be seen with a swamp rat from Louisiana. He's a thrillseeker and a show-off, but he's a damn good soldier.

Yes, a "Victory Division" man is many things. Some think they are better than others, while some are modest - but every wearer of the Taro Leaf has to do something that not everyone can do - he has to keep his courage and fighting ability to help preserve the freedom we now enjoy, and stand ready for whatever missions the future may hold in store. The many Battle Streamers and Citations show a record for valor of which every wearer of the Taro Leaf may well be proud. But let us remember that those honors were paid for with the blood of nearly 19,000 men who marched before us. Let us, like them, renew our determination and be prepared to make any sacrifice for the welfare of our country.

A "Taro Leaf Trooper" is always cognizant of the fact that he is "always first, to hell with second place".



"It's back in the tail--and quit callin' me stewardess!"



"For the last time, Schultz, I'll put your waiver in when I'm damn good and ready!"

Stolen from "The Rock", JOE PEYTON's wonderful poop sheet for the Chicks - first, this because it flatters us and we love it: "By now, I am sure all you CHICKS have the March edition of THE TARO LEAF in your hands. Ye Editor personally thought it was a GREAT edition, and made his feelings known to the editor of our Division Association's Publication. It might not be a bad idea if each of you CHICKS dropped a note to Ken Ross, and give him a word or two of congratulations. If any of you fellows have ever tried to put out a publication like THE TARO LEAF, you know what a job he has on his hands". Thanks, Joe: those are kind words. Then we also stole this from "The Rock": Note received from Robert Nelson (Co F) 6228 Cardiff St., Philadelphia 49, Pa., signed Bob, Marie, Linda, Lisa AND BOBBY. Is Bobby a new edition? Let us know - your friends will be glad to hear about the good news. I might be jumping the gun - but CONGRATULATIONS. And here's another one of those sign it and guess notes. Julius Jozs (Co A) 7344 Rockdale, Detroit 39, Mich., signed off his last note - "Julius & Stephanie Jozs, Bernadette, Lorraine and Baby Craig Stephen". What are all the secrets about?? Could Baby Craig be a New Edition, and the reason Stephanie was not at Chicago??

ANGELO DI DONATO (724 ORD '44-'45) of 524 Public, Providence, R.I. is ROTC Supply Custodian at Providence College... The charming Dorothy Shaw, secretary to TOM COMPERE (DIV HQ '42-'45), was with us again at Chicago. We can recall Tom in Hollandia, Leyte, Mindanao, always surrounded by efficient T/5's as clerks-typists. Somehow they never compared with Dorothy. Please keep coming, Dorothy... Do you remember how the Nips were hurting for heat during that first winter after WWII; how they relied on charcoal and pathetic splinters of wood scratched up from here and there? But no matter how cold it was, they refused to wear shoes in their houses. Rather they resorted to various items - such as lidless waffle iron - as a foot warmer, plugging it into an overhead socket and placing it in some central position in the room, usually beneath the round, sixteen-inch-high table. And worse, they usually kept a large greasy blanket under the table and over the waffle iron and each person would pull it over his knees. The more refined diners would use it occasionally as a napkin. Oh happy day! Or had you forgotten? We haven't. We still have a pair of socks from one of those sessions: they look like something whipped up in a Toddler-House, crisp and waffle-marked.

this is your drink...

Dues in from GERD HEYE (?), 604 Chestnut St., St. Louis, Mo. This kind of support helps to insure more frequent issues.Livermore Falls, Maine to Chicago. Who drove it? LAFAYETTE COCHRAN and his very sweet wife. And it wasn't their first Convention. We remember them at Louisville in '61 and Atlantic City in '60. Lafe was in 24th QM from '41 to '45. Perhaps the Cochran's came the farthest distance - no prize offered. But then how about BOB LUHRSEN (M-19th INF) 1031 N.E. 83rd, Miami, Fla.). Isn't that farther? Or is it? Well, at least Ft. Lewis, Washington, is certainly a longer stretch than either Maine or Florida, and Maj. Gen. FRED ZIERATH (19th INF ?) came to us as guest speaker from his duty assignment as CG of the 4th Inf. Div. And we had AH KEE LEONG (3rd ENG ?) from 210 Lower Rd., Honolulu. He's the lad who has for several years supplied by air-lift the floral leis for our Convention. And this year they were especially beautiful. As we said no prize offered for the person coming the longest distance, or for having had the most children, or such. Perhaps we can conclude the whole business by saying that the member who came the farthest distance was JOHN CHRISTOPHER. He came from Yokohama, Japan, address 166-2 Yaguski Dai, Na-Ka-Ku. He served in '41 and '42. He came to see all of us but especially, at the urging of JACK FINAN of Raleigh, N.C., to see FRED ZIERATH. Of course, JOHN CHRISTOPHER would be a Chick!

MORE AND MORE
PEOPLE ARE
CHECKING
INTO



TARO LEAF
KENWOOD ROSS
120 MAPLE STREET
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.



John R. Shay,
433 Bernice Ct
Wheeling Ills.



One of our number, who prefers to remain unidentified, had been back at civilian pursuits some 17 years when this astounding message was received from the Los Angeles office of the V.A.:

Dear Sir:

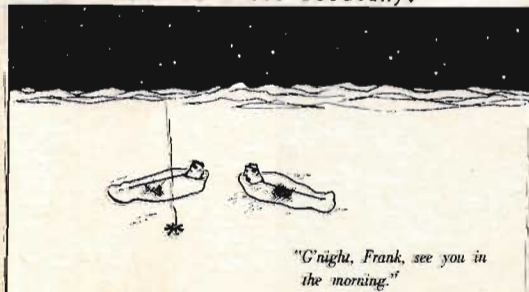
From time to time we must review all cases to be sure that all action taken is correct. The evidence now in your case shows that service-connection for Tooth No. 12 is clearly wrong. (The term "service-connection" refers to an injury that is considered to have occurred while a serviceman was on active duty.) Therefore, we propose to end service-connection for this tooth. Records show that service-connection was granted for Tooth No. 12 by comparison of enlistment examination which shows the tooth present and the discharge examination which showed it missing. Subsequent records from the Service Department show that this tooth was noted as nonrestorable on examination dated February 17, 1942, less than 30 days after entrance on active duty. The tooth was extracted on February 18, 1942. A determination has, therefore, been made that treatment for Tooth No. 12 was for defects which preexisted enlistment, and that the treatment given was remedial.

This is not a final decision and we realize how serious the matter is to you. Any additional evidence you may have

should be submitted as soon as possible. The most effective type of evidence would be a statement from a dentist or doctor who treated or examined this tooth prior to your enlistment. You may also come to this office to explain personally why you feel that service-connection is warranted. Sixty days from the date of this letter we will review all evidence in your claim and inform you of our decision.

If this action is taken we will terminate your service-connection for Tooth No. 12.

Our warrior had long since forgotten about Tooth No. 12 (he's currently worried about a shaky molar, #14.) He is worried for fear that the military may be concentrating a little too hard on Tooth No. 12 to the neglect of the maw of the enemy. He'd like an assurance that we have Castro's dental chart under as close scrutiny.



"C'nigh, Frank, see you in the morning."