

TARO LEAF

24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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TARO LEAF

The publication "of, by and for those who served or serve" the glorious 24th Infantry Division, and published frequently by the 24th Infantry Division Association, whose officers are:

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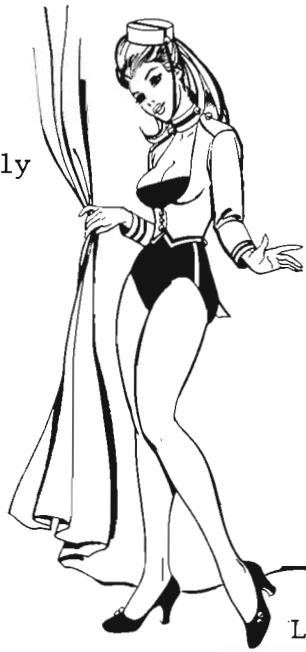
New members - LAWRENCE MUNDORF, of Box 376, Bolivar, Pa.; and JAMES R. GODWIN, of 2105 Tecumseh, Carrollton, Tex., each by courtesy of NATE McCALL, (I 34th and G 21st - Korea), of 314 N.Cedar, New Castle, Pa.

Complaint in that we don't tell people that dues are \$5.00 per annum. We answer that we try to operate without crying poor mouth in every issue. One without the complaint is AL SOUSA, (3rd Eng. '41-'45) of 3672 Woodlawn, Honolulu, Hawaii. Al and Mabel just paid their dues as they do every year.



Louisville Capers: The JULIUS JOSZ family with DON WILLIAMS in the background.

"The middle of August conflicts with my work schedule at Ford" writes EARL LEWIS, (34th '42-'45), of 32640 Ohio, Livonia, Mich. Let us abuse the privilege of being stupid and assume that once, just once, we ought to try for a convention date something other than the middle of August. Actuarially speaking, we owe it to the likes of Earl to have a winter meeting. In January? February? March?



In all the strife, turmoil and distraction being wrought by the young people today, we'd like to see someone ask, just once, "Where are the parents?" If we had a son or a daughter and he or she or it threw rocks at a policeman or defied an order of a National Guardsman, we'd be at him, or her, or it with a ball bat and would bring him to order fast.

The "word" from BOB LUHRSEN (M 19th), down at Miami Shores, Fla: "Just couldn't make the convention. Four funerals in family and too much business to attend to. Maybe next one. Keep the ball rolling". Bob sent a fiver for dues and another fiver for the kitty. Thanks, Bob.

LOUISVILLE TETE A TETE - Life Members and Past Presidents VIC BACKER and KEN ROSS.



Missed at Louisville - Life Member JERRY LIEBER (Div. Hq. '42-'45), of 6117 Hoffman, St. Louis. Jerry's Dad, age 87, has to have an insulin shot every ayem and Jerry is the one to do it.

ANGELO MARCHESI, (52 F '41-'42), of 4 Stoneham, Woburn,

Mass., advises us that Amelia Earhart is alive and well; she's in a holding pattern over JFK.

This wonderful "put-on" arrived from Jo Poe of Box 335, Bannock, Ohio:

"My husband, WILLARD F. (Bud) POE, has been afflicted with an arm ailment since his days with the 24th Sig. Writing too many "V" mail letters was the cause. As a result, he hasn't written a letter since '47, and I have been acting as his secretary. In Dec. '69, he received a letter stating that ED MACADLO, 141 Pierce, Buffalo, N.Y., was responsible for his membership in the Assoc. His many thanks to Ed for the nice gesture. If you would drop me a line, I would be happy to send you a check for membership for my husband and another Sig. Co. alumnus, HERSCHEL R. DEAKINS, Staunton, Ind. Bud and I visited "Deak" and his wife, Hazel, recently and he had never received the Taro Leaf or any letters from the Assoc. "Deak" is the psychologist at Indiana State Penitentiary, has a daughter, Donna, just graduated from Indiana State University. Bud and I have one son, Bruce, and two small grandsons. Thanks again, Jo Poe." And thank you Jo, for that wonderful note.

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS:

It doesn't seem possible that this much time has passed since Louisville, but time does have a way.

After the reunion, we went to Minnesota for a fishing trip. Caught just enough to keep us happy. When we came back from there, we went to see the Fondo Finley's for a few days. They are the nicest family ever; really did enjoy ourselves.

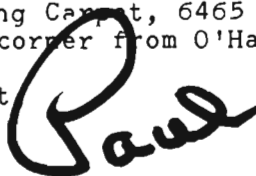
Then on the 30th of October, we went to Chicago for the Chicago Chapter's Halloween party. We stopped in Indiana and picked up John and Hilda Klump to go with us. We all stayed at the Ciangi's. The party was a great success.

Two hours after we left, Pat had the first severe attack. He hadn't been feeling too well while we were there, but his doctor told him it was muscle spasms of the chest. When Millie called up to tell us of Pat's death, we just couldn't believe it.

Pat will certainly be missed by the Association. He was really a staunch supporter. It meant so very much to him just to be part of it. Pat and Lu had, as you know, made all the arrangements for the '72 reunion. Pat was so pleased with everything and anxious that it meet with everyone's approval.

Dorothy and I do hope we'll see you at the Flying Carpet, 6465 N. Mannheim Rd., Rosemont, Ill. in mid August. It's just around the corner from O'Hare.

Best



Paul F. Wisecup
President

Some of our most famous Expressions You Don't Hear Much Anymore were born in other languages, so let's see if you can identify the following: 1. Una scopa nuova spazza bene. 2. Anguis in herba. 3. Dictum factum. 4. les murailles ont des orielles. 5. Par pari refero. We'll put them in English elsewhere in this issue.

Checking out that new Infantry Museum at Benning is Maj.Gen.AUBREY S. NEWMAN. Red will have a report for us in Chicago in August, with special reference to how we can fit into the picture. Red, by the way is scheduled for surgery - new plastic hip joint, stemming from a 1930 broken hip while playing basketball in Manila. Operation is scheduled for early April. Doc says he'll be walking again within a month. Cards to 612 Juan Anasco Dr., Longboat Key, Sarasota, Fla. 33577, will help cheer.

Writing in is Col. EARL "Red" HOLTON, the one time ('42) CO of H of the Chicks and now retired, living at 1037 Shikoh Way, Columbus, Ga. Wonderful to hear from you, Red.

PHIL FARRELL, (13th F & 52nd F.), of 20 Josephine, Somerville, Mass., says that "this is one outfit I don't want to fall out of."

...Now, about those famous expressions listed above: 1. (Italian) A new broom sweeps clean. 2. (Latin) Snake in the grass. 3. (Latin) No sooner said than done. 4. (French) The walls have ears. 5. (Latin) Tit for tat...

MaBell wants us to pay for calling "Information". She should pay us for teaching some of the new breed of ops how to spell.

Never one to get behind with his annual contribution, word is in again from JOE FAIREY, (A & Hq., 19th '45-'46), of St. Matthews, S.C., whom we ask, "Wanna talk Clifford Irving for a moment?"

It's about all over now, but wasn't it a wonderful story while it lasted? It all made the world seem a little less with us. We needed a change of pace in these turbulent times - and this one gave it to us. It pulsed with delightful suspense, and gave us a fleeting vision of beautiful women and a smidgeon of sex. And all the while this shadowy character Howard Whatshisname out there in the wings. Great theatre!

The bit about the scuba diver was yummy. The disclosures of McGraw Hill and Life being taken were terrific; they deserved it. The coolness of Irving throughout it all was uncanny. The possibility that, at any minute, he'd pull the rug on his little mate, Edith, was suspenseful. And of course, Baroness Nina Van Pallandt, reigning through the whole business with a sharp eye on her own future, was gorgeous.

Bloody Saigon, Bloody Attica, Bloody Bangladesh, Bloody Belfast, we'd had it up to here. The Clifford Irving story we needed. It was a delightful pull between the storms. Bloody what next?

Our August get-together will be our 24th national convention. Bring the wife, the family, a friend. They will be more than welcome. We give you 3 good reasons why you should attend: 1) for each of us to see the Ole Face again, 2) for you to see the other Old Faces again, 3) time is running out for each of us. Will we see you there?



November the 17th, 1971. As it comes to all men, Death came to PATRICK J. CIANGI.

We all have to come to grips sooner or later with the fact of Death. Yet soldiers, for reasons never explained, dote on the fiction that they better understand the fact, are better equipped to cope with it, than the man-on-the-street. The fiction was worn mighty thin in mid-November. The heartbreak, the sense of needless loss, all were there, soldiers or no.

There was no surprise in this latest turn of events for here was one among us who had made his share of sick calls, had been entered in many a Sick Book. As one of us reflected upon his sorry medical record over the years since his Pacific days, "Poor Pat was a veritable guinea pig when it came to diseases: only age 50, he'd almost had one of each". Quickly did he add about this sorely-troubled man: "Still I never once knew him to complain". True.

Inevitable is it that, in this writing, we would call upon personal recollections; Pat was, literally and figuratively, one of ours.

Well we recall Leyte. We were but one day into the Ordnance command, somewhat overwhelmed by a few early observations. We had caught the 724th at noon chow at its campsite in Jaro - or was it Tunga? No, Tunga was Division Forward. Jaro was Division Rearward. The Seven-Two-Four was astride a river just outside of town. Mess over, we went walking along the stream, away from the camp. A bold move or two was in order; the question was simply when. We wanted time to think. Upstream 300 - 350 feet, we came upon Pat, doing his Sunday afternoon laundry, smashing soapy OD's against the rocks, rinsing, wringing, the whole lousy bit. We were in a mood for cautious observations; Pat was in a mood for careful comments. At once, an early bond was made, strengthened with less and less "cat and mouse" as the months went on. When we would find trouble, we'd consistently manage to hold our fire until Pat would catch our chauffering detail - those were the "Vee" days of "Verboten driving", "Valve caps" and "Volley ball" - and we'd talk. We tried consistently to see the viewpoint of the "doggie", and Pat was as good a "doggie" as we had. Talk with Pat was always therapeutic, and pikestaff plain it was that whatever the problem, his primary concern was the good of the command.

Then, as ever after, the success of the 24th, its honor, its pride, came first. Aside from family and church, there seemed to be only one thing for which Pat had any real abiding love or affection - the 24th and its people. Deep, deep, deep it was; the 24th was truly his obsession.

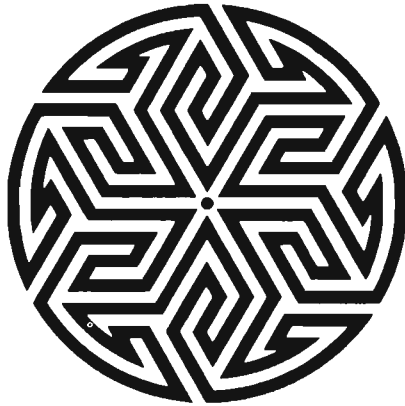
If army divisions go to Paradise, and we choose to believe that they do, then our wager is that Pat is happy - back with Jock Clifford and all the others whose names fill Chris Berlo's book.

Pat has escaped us now, as each of us must one day escape into Death. But the memory of his being, so closely and completely intertwined with anything and everything that smacked of "24th Division", is and ever shall be with us.

There is no disguising that the passing of Pat Ciangi is a heavy misfortune for us, his friends, not to mention, Lou, his steadfast mate over the years, and Michelle, his precious daughter who worked so hard to fill the family void when tragedy took their beloved Pat Jr. away two years ago.

The Association has lost incalculably in loyalty, dedication, enthusiasm, love, determination, doggedness. And alas, no one is standing in the wings, to come forward at this unhappy moment and fill those now empty shoes. Carry on, we must, and will. But it will be with a different verve, a different zest.

After life's fitful fever, may you sleep well, Pat. So long.



We followed the mandate of the '71 convention and published in our first subsequent issue a ballot by which each member was solicited to express himself with respect to the questions of time and place of future Association conventions. Also as per mandate, we now publish the results of that balloting, and without editorial comment, except to say that out of 658 members polled, only 59 say fit to respond.

In the following paragraphs, we give you the question and the answers.

1) I think that the time and place of each convention site should be selected by:

- 16 The entire membership by a mail ballot such as this
- 22 Those members who are actually in attendance at the preceding convention
- 17 The Executive Committee (composed of past Presidents of the Association)
- 1 Other (and explain)

Time and Place Committee.

2) I think that to allow only members in attendance at a convention or only members of an Executive Committee to vote on the all-important matters of convention time and place is to be blatantly unfair to members unable so to attend:

- 17 Yes
- 38 No
- 0 Other (and explain).

3) I think that a Time and Place Committee appointed by the President should make an intelligent survey of a reasonable variety of available sites during a 2 month time period and should report its gathered data (with particulars as to facilities, rates, etc.) concerning such of those sites as it considers best suited to handle out needs and its

own #1, #2 and #3 recommendations by October first to the President for publication in the Taro Leaf before November first and voting by mail by the entire membership before December first:

- 33 Yes
- 18 No
- 1 Other (and explain).

4) I think that the annual convention should be held:

- 41 in mid-August as it has been so held for 24 years
- 0 in mid-winter, preferably in January or February
- 10 in mid-August one year, in mid-winter the next
- 4 Other (and explain)

- 1 for "fall"
- 1 for "summer"
- 2 "immaterial"

5) I think that the annual convention should be held:

- 37 Somewhere reasonably along the Chicago - New York axis where 84% of our active paid up members reside and 67% of our potential members reside
- 8 Other (and explain)
 - 2 "alternate between north and south"
 - 4 "occasionally elsewhere"
 - 1 "south"
 - 1 "occasionally in west".

Continued →

"STRAIGHTEN UP THAT LINE!"



- 6) As a convention site, I prefer:
- 15 A downtown hotel in a large city
 - 13 A suburban hotel near the airport
 - 11 A beach resort in the off-season
 - 7 A lake or mountain resort in the off-season
 - 3 Other (and explain)
 - 1 "alternate between beach and mountains"
 - 1 "ocean trips"
 - 2 "any moderate place with something for the kids".
- 7) I have certain emotions concerning the best type of Association Convention:
- 43 It should be a family affair and be open to wives and children
 - 4 It should be a strictly member affair open only to we who served
 - 5 It should alternate as a family affair one year and a strictly member affair the next
 - 0 Other (and explain).

(Ed. note: Permit us one more comment please. Note the utter inconsistency between the answers to questions 1 and 3, proving that the Editor was at fault in so framing the questions that they could fight each other. This is the big problem of the poll takers - how properly to frame questions. We goofed. Our apologies. K.R.)



"NOW REMEMBER . . . WHEN YOU SERVE THE CHAPLAIN, IT'S CREAMED BEEF ON TOAST!"

A study by Editor Alfred Balk of the Saturday Review contends that one third of the total real estate valuation in the U.S. - up to \$600 billion - is tax-exempt. Eg: NYC's Chrysler Bldg. is tax-exempt. Cooper Union, its owner, is exempt by state charter from all property taxes. Eg: Holiday Inns in Alabama are tax-exempt. Eg: Defense plants leased to some of our largest corporations are also exempt. How do you like it? Had enough? Start complaining. Write your Congressman.

Post carded out of Bergen, Norway were we by JOHNNY BORZILLERA who is based in Denmark.

Latest word on the Johnny Carson salary is that it's \$30,000 a week; that's \$1,352,000 a year. That is not only ludicrous; it is also somewhat obscene.

We choose to believe that it was the press that made Americal, the ill-starred division that it was, that no division per se could be that bad, that the majority of its men fought hard and well under conditions that would have tried the best of troops.



Great news from NICK and Kataryn SLOAN, (21st '42-'45), now of 904 Sprague, Hopeton, Ill. Nick retired in August of '70 and started with Joan of Arc Cannery Co. So we'll surely count on these precious folks to be with us in August.

Veep AUBREY "Red" NEWMAN has made the unhappy discovery that he has cataracts forming in both eyes. The time for operating is out of Red's hands. As he expresses it, they operate at the "ripe" stage. Says Red, "The idea I might have cataracts never occurred to me; no one in my family ever had them. But I must live with the fact". We're pulling for you, Red.

In preparation for our August clambake, there are more memos passing than ITT ever dreamed possible.

TS Department (Navy Division). The word of caution for today's girls is: "Don't burn your bra unless you have something to show for it". Hats off to Navy Chaplain Andrew F. Jensen who beat the conduct unbecoming rap when two Navy wives at Cecil Field (Jacksonville, Fla.) blew the whistle. Cried one, a 24 year old wife of a Navy pilot, after relations on 17 occasions, and cried the other, a 38 year old wife of a Navy supply officer, after 4 liaisons, "This man must be reported". Reportedly it was the first court martial of its kind in U.S. Naval history. But it'll be a cold day in Hell when a Navy wife is ever again allowed to sign a complaint of this nature.

One of our more faithful readers is Past Prexy and Life Member TOM COMPERE, (Div.Hq. '42-'45) who says: "This rag has more old jokes than you'll find at a senior citizens' wife-swapping party." We heard ya, Tom.



Woops! Welcome new Life Member LOUIS C. DUHAMEL, (Cn. 21st '44-'45), of 509 Wentworth, Mass. Retired from the Lowell, Mass. police force, Lou has had 6 heart attacks in the last 5 years. Lou sends us this pic of the M8 platoon, gun section, taken at the Hollandia strip. He identifies only first row, Rube Saroyan of Fresno, Calif. (Hey Rube!) and Charley Louis of 'Frisco. Lou is 2nd on the left in the second row.

We've got more pictures of Lou's and we'll use them in later issues. Of his family, Lou writes: "During my

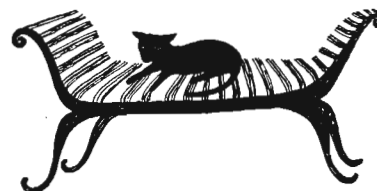
tour of duty, I was married, and still am, and still to the same wonderful woman, of 30 years. My wife's name is Claire, and we had two children, the oldest, Richard, is now living in Harlingen Texas. My second, a daughter, Ruby Cook, is living in Virginia, and married to an army career man. We are grandparents of three, one by my son's family, and the other two are my daughter's children. How do you like that for getting ones lifes history?" Thanks Lou.

Now a member: COSTAS S. ALONEFTIS, of Box 1991, Ft. Myers, Fla. He's one of the Task Force Smith boys and is planning a reunion for that gang.

Among those present at the PAT CIANGI funeral were: Ed Henry, Bill Sanderson, Paul Harris Jr., Paul & Dottie Wisecup, John & Hilda Klump, C.G. Hanlin, Dick Watson, Don Williams, Burt & Ginny Lowry, Tom & Eilise Compere, Spike O'Donnell, Chet & Gloria Andrezak, John & Bess O'Sullivan, Frank & Irene Gorski, Bob & Ann Duff, John Trinca, Dick Goiny, Richard Ligman, Adolph & Margaret Miller, Gerald & Belle Stevenson, Bob & Mary Shay, Mike & Loretta Rafter, John & Gloria Giustino, Tony & Lorraine Faro, Tom & Julie Strzoda, Angelo & Flo Strada, Hank & Toni Marinello, Matt Slowik, Gerald & Angela Lynch, Ray Kresky, Art Maybaum, and Heinz O'Gratz.

Sadly we report the decease of WILLIAM R. LEMON, (L 19 '44-'45), of 1040 Main, Dunedin, Fla. Writes good mate Helen: "It was last June 23rd; we were just talking together when he collapsed and was gone. He had a heart attack 9 years ago, but had been fine since". Our condolences went forward to Helen, of course.

Wonderful word in from Maj. Gen. FREDERICK IRVING is that he will try to Chicago it with us in August.



No black cat crossed our path. Not when a ten for the kitty came our way from Life Member and Past Prexy JOE PEYTON, (Sv. Chicks '43-'45), of 1405 Belmore, Lutherville, Md. Bring Maggie, to Chicago, you hear? And also bring those precious sons and daughters, Joe.

Sydney has ceased to be an R&R center for our V. boys. During the last 6 years, over 500,000 G.I.'s spent 6 days there, pouring tens of millions into the economy in the process. Gone is the R&R Hqs., in the less salubrious Woolloomooloo district, just a walk away from King's Cross (remember that?). They tell us that some 1000 females were operating in that area until the recent elimination of Sydney R&R. For the most part, they were of a special type. She'd pick up Joe in a coffee shop on the day of his arrival. If it looked as if they hit it off, they became companions for 6 days and nights. On departure, she'd swear eternal love, wave goodbye and go back to the Cross for her next one. And now it's all over. Sydney will miss them. Sydney likely has completely forgotten us.