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77-78

# TARO LEAF

*24th Infantry Division Association*



The publication "of, by and for those who served" the glorious United States 24th Infantry Division, and published frequently by the 24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION whose officers are:

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Association membership is open to anyone and everyone who wears or ever wore the Taro Leaf or served in any unit ever formally "attached" to the 24th Infantry Division. Dues are \$10.00 per annum inclusive of a subscription to the publication, Taro Leaf. Life Membership — \$100.00.

The Association is a strictly, non-military, non-rank, non-profit organization of men and women who serve or once served together and desire only to keep alive the warm friendships formed in that service. We ask nothing and expect nothing, as an Association, from the White House, the Capitol or the Pentagon. We are as non-official as we can possibly be. Our sole purpose is to enjoy the pleasure of one another's company and good will, sharing the joys of this common bond.



# Let's count our blessings

It's so easy to take the good things in life for granted. Have you paused lately to consider what you have to be thankful for?

You can be grateful that you're not starting new math or first-year Latin.

That Jody Powell didn't try to plant a story on YOU!

That Bert Parks, like Xmas, comes but once a year.

That Renee Richards doesn't belong to your club.

You can be thankful that Xaveria Hollander doesn't live next door.

Rejoice that you didn't name your daughter Chastity.

That running may be bad for your health.

That drinking may be good for it.

Give thanks that you couldn't afford to buy anything by Yves St. Laurent, even if you wanted to.

That Liberace won't make a comeback.

That you don't have a brother with a beer named after him called "Billy".

That Anita Bryant has nothing against heterosexuals. Yet!

That Amy Carter isn't in your kid's class.

That we've probably had the last of Erin Fleming.

That there is really such a person as Jeanne Pflug.

That Donny and Marie may outgrow it.

Be thankful that you haven't been asked to be a subject of a Dewar's Profile.

That things could be a lost worse. Really.

"Say Hello to PAUL CAIN, SAM SCHNEIDERMAN, JOHN GOODRUM and all Item mey of the 34th" writes LEWIS "Rick" RICHTIGER, now an officer at the Lincoln National Bank in Chicago. This gang were together on Leyte, Corregidor, Mindanao, and Japan "under Bugeye Willetts". Are you listening Bugeye? We recall with glee one of Bugeye's definitions. He defined a loser as "a lady who puts her bra on backwards and it fits".

We've a hot one. We don't know whether or not this is a "U.S. Army photo". Let's say it is; we don't want trouble. More importantly it's the assumption of command of the Army Readiness Region II at Dix. It's you know who on this end. On Don's left is Lt.Gen. Jeffrey A. Smith, the First Army Commander and, on the far end, it's Maj.Gen. William Krafft who was leaving the job. Says Don, "The assignment of working with the Reserves is important to the Army." You have our every good wish, Don.

We're sick of reading continuing references to the Dwight Eisenhower-Ray Summersby affair.

Writes BILL JUNGJOHAN, (K 19th '43-'45) as he becomes a Life Member: "About that earthquake at Hollandia, I noticed 3 distinct shocks. It happened!"

Adm. Hyman G. Rickover has come out backing the double-dipping ban. 141,000 retired military, he says, are working as federal civilians. He makes no comment on the fact that his own active duty tour is in its 55th year, and has been extended to 1980. Sounds like a pretty good first dip to us.

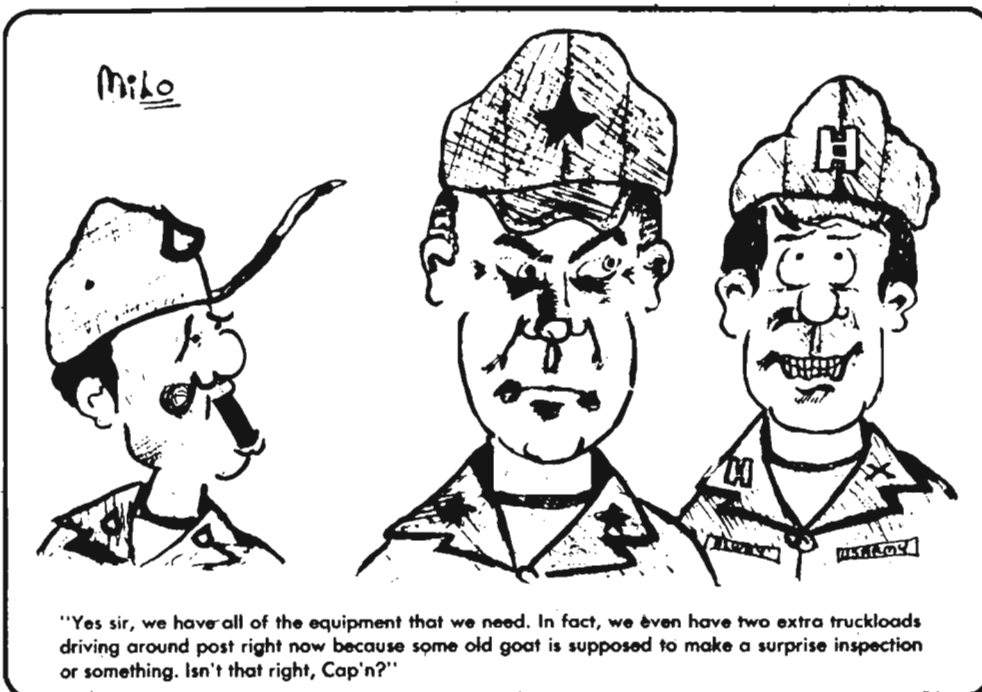
DEWEY PARSONS liked our suggestion that each of us seek a little convention publicity in his or her local paper. Dewey was able to get about 15 lines in the Santa Ana (Calif.) Register. Worked too. BOB LONGFELLOW (52 F and Div.Arty.Hq. '52-'53) of 12731 Poplar, Garden Grove, Calif., saw it and wrote us. Bob was a one-time member, dropped out somewhere along the line and is back again. Welcome home, Bob. Then RALPH L. KISNER, (B 19th 7/42-9/45), of 1801 S. Woodland, Santa Ana, also spotted it and wrote in. Ralph, an old JOE PEYTON buddy, wants to hear from anyone who remembers him. How about starting with you, Joe Peyton? Thanks, Dewey Parsons, for starting it all. Dewey, by the way, tells us that 1 in every 4 Americans is unbalanced. Adds he: "Think about your 3 closest friends. If they seem O.K., then you're in trouble".

ELMER MAY of 149 Griswold, Youngstown, Ohio, is looking for CHARLEY MULLIGAN, (13th Field). Anyone help here?



Wives of our 2nd Bn, 35th FA, were recently engaged in first-hand action during a ceremony commemorating the first official artillery firing by the battalion. The unit was activated on June 14 at Ft. Stewart along with the 24th Division's 2nd Brigade. After B.Gen. DONALD E. ROSENBLUM fired the first official round, the artillery battalion, commanded by Lt.Col. JAMES YORK, honored the wives with a demonstration of the actual procedure of steps taken during firing of the 105mm howitzer guns. The wives were then assisted in actually firing the weapons. In less than one year, the 2nd Bn., 35th Field Artillery, has increased from a handful of soldiers to a battalion of about 350 personnel.

Are you interested in obtaining Military Insignia? You might try Al Littman, American Society of Military Insignia Collectors, at 253-15 Leeds Road, Little Neck, New York 11362. Write him directly regarding inquiries and cost.



**DON'T FORGET  
YOUR DUES  
ARE NEEDED**

## ROBERT J. DUFF

PRESIDENT 1952 - 1953

EDITOR 1957 - 1961

We are 30,000 feet over Grand Rapids, en route to O'Hare - ED HENRY is 15 minutes, or 100 miles, ahead - likewise closing in on O'Hare. There we'll be joined by "SPIKE" O'DONNELL and GERRY STEVENSON (and Belle) for an evening's drive south to Danville.

We are making the trek to BOB DUFF's home for, on Sunday last, November 13th, Bob's tired heart could take no more, and he breathed his last. Bob is being buried on the morrow.

HOWARD (and Glad) LUMSDEN, President JOHN (and Hilda) KLUMP, and TOM COMPERE will join us at Danville.

We are at the end of a savage 15 months of pain and suffering for Bob, the victim of a disease which saw its onset during the hours of our first Savannah gathering. So sudden was its coming that Bob and Ann surrendered themselves to their fates and abruptly left us for a return to Chicago where the experts could put him aright. But aright was not to be - and Bob's medical course was a steadily degenerating one. Excruciating pain - agony - Bob faced it with stoicism nonetheless. He could be brave, that little fellow - and was - in his last battle.

So now Ed - and Spike - and Steve - and we - are preparing for a jointure in a few minutes to pay honor to Bob - and to attempt to ease the feeling of loss which Ann and the Danville folks now endure - that feeling which each of us comes to know in time.

With the brilliance of the setting sun directly ahead reflected on the wing to starboard, we find cause to recall that Ed, Spike, Steve and we, have been down this road before - not once - not twice - yeah, many times - together.

In other days - and in fact, even in other lands, we have renewed this partnership - which sees us responding to tragedy - to loss - to death.

We are about to cross over Lake Michigan - but our mind wanders back to another day - a day in May, 1945 at Talomo - on Mindanao - that cemetery, that hastily cleared patch of hempland where our honored dead from that last campaign of WW II lie buried - Ed and Spike and Steve and we - among others to be sure - are here this time - to stand in silence - and in prayer as we lay to rest one of Division's all-time greats, JOCK CLIFFORD. Our hearts are heavy as Jock goes to his reward.

It isn't easy to see a respected leader - a good friend - a loved man - rolled in a GI blanket - and lowered into a jungle land 10,000 miles from home.

No, it's never easy - but we are there -

And then there is Arlington - that November morning 13 years ago - almost to the day - when we - and Bob Duff is among our number on this one - walk the last mile for farewells to BILL VERBECK - to join in that outpouring of love which says "So long Bill". Yes, Bob is there.

And there are other days - sad days - all too numerous to set to paper on this flight - O'Hare is down there - and we'd like this to be finished ere we land. There's a deadline when we return home - and this must make it.

Permit us only the observation that, at many of those "farewells", Bob Duff was faithfully among those present - so deeply etched into his heart was the 24th and his own personal love for "her" - and for each who was ever in any way a part of "her".



And we, who knew and understood Bob best, knew that this was so - knew that a sizeable chunk of Bob's life - a solid span of more than three years had been devoted to Division.

Bob gave every inch of his fiber to Division. He was that way. He took his work seriously, himself seriously, when it came to what had to be done in Hawaii, Australia, Goodenough, Hollandia, Leyte. Let there be no doubt - he was truly a corporation man.

And now the descent into that conglomeration which is O'Hare - within the bowels of which we shall somehow find Ed - and Spike - and Steve - is fast upon us.

There is no joy in this upcoming meeting - the journey south to Danville will be a sad one - though, without doubt, we, each of us, shall make the effort to speak lightly at some time along the way and remember the time when....Bob would want it that way.

Gerry will remember early '42, when he was running the "24X" mess at Div.Hqs. A brand-spanking-new Lieutenant named Duff introduced himself as "Your new mess O." and asked "What do I do?" Gerry "advised" that all he need do was "Just sign these papers once a day." Bob removed himself from Gerry's kitchen, but it was the beginning of a 35 year friendship.

Spike will remember Bob's meticulousness. "No one was ever more precise, more orderly, more G.I. than Bob," Spike will say, reflecting upon a warm association that has gone better than a third of a century.

Ed will remember an effervescent Bob, forever darting this way and that, always with a mission - and this be so whether during their Division days together or in the days since, as Bob carved a career for himself as a construction man. Says Ed, "a top notch builder of buildings - banks exclusively, mind you, in his last few years - that was specializing, wasn't it? Great fellow! Bob had more soul than a shoe factory." Ed meant this last in a kindly way; he wasn't trying to be funny.

And we'll recall years of the closest of association with Bob - years when he edited this paper and years when we did - always warm friendship marked the relationship - always were we aware that after family - Ann and Bob Jr. - came Division in his affection and his devotion.

A few seconds are left to us before the writing desk goes up, the seat belt is fastened - time left to squeeze in a last but most significant fact about our good friend who seemed, in his last years, to be unable to settle down. The fact, the happy fact, was that, in Ann, Bob had an anchor, a devoted companion, the force who sustained him in his troubled hours. Here was the perfect balance for his lion's heart. Bob needed Ann. Bob knew it. Ann did not fail him.

A good man there, Bob Duff - inclined to be feisty, tough and abrasive at times, at least that's what you'd think if you were caught in his cross fire - but underneath that crust there was a heart of gold.

We're on our way, Bob, to say "Goodbye" - together - and in person.

Mrs. ROBERT HANTZ of 39355 Drake Way, Fremont, Cal., writes for Bob (A 19th 10/41-8/44), who is confined to bed with emphysema. She sends us a clipping on JAMES GARNER, when he was plain JIM BUMGARNER of Norman, Okla. serving in the National Guard when Korea broke out. He served 14 months as a dogface with us, picking up a couple of Purple Hearts. Anyone know his unit?

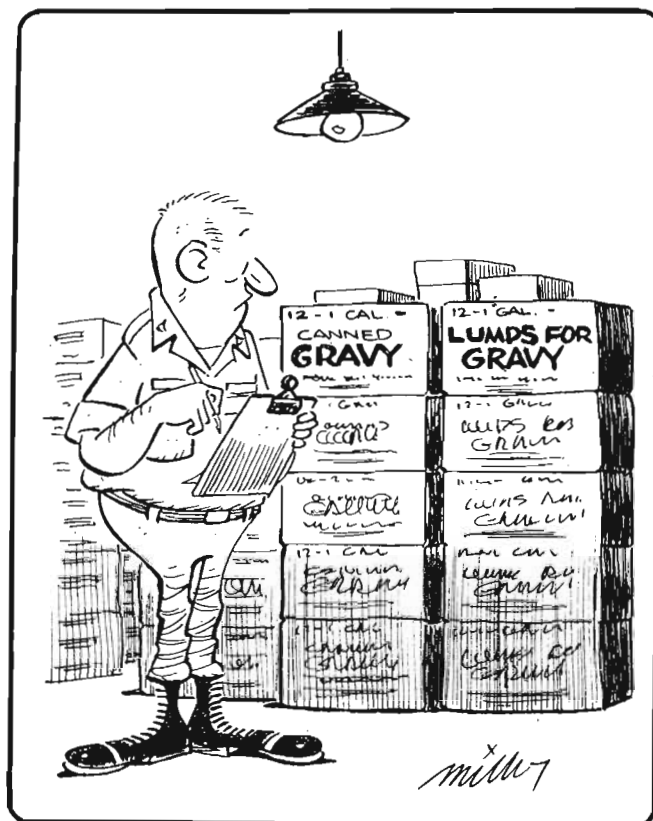
Missing - Life Member FRED WEHLE. Even his wife doesn't know. Anyone seen him or heard of him?

JAMES "Tommy" THOMPSON, (21st '42-'45) of 511 Helms, Wharton, Tex., is still teaching at Wharton County Jr College. Is looking for Taro Leafers in Texas. Tommy was talking about the absurdities in some of the government forms we are each called upon to fill out from time to time. Tells of one application for a loan sponsored by SBA. One question on the form reads: "How many employees do you have broken down by sex?" One little company president looking for \$ answered this: "None, but I've got 3 or 4 with an alcohol problem". You never change, Tommy.

The word from Brig.Gen. C.D. "Tommy" LANG, (Div.Arty. '42-'45): "Happy reunion to all Taro Leaf's! When my second retirement comes through I'll get to one of the get-togethers. My special greetings to the red legs from the 63rd FA Bn. and to the many others for whom I hold a special and long-standing regard. Johnny - I don't remember that specific beer/water incident with Max, but I wouldn't mind trying it again! Best to all and here's hopin' I'll see some of you in person soon. Tommy Lang". As Socrates said, Tommy, "I'll drink to that."

JACK and Mary FINAN, (19th) still have their wonderful sense of humor. Mary tells Jack's friends "I don't want to say he's out of shape, but how many other guys can pull a muscle while typing? If she could have seen the gals Jack knew in Honolulu Business College, she would understand.

Great friend ROSCOE CLAXON was at Norfolk looking a little ruffled - as if he had just run through a car wash, without his car. He was telling everyone the story about the modern-day Rip Van Winkle who fell asleep, woke up in the year 2077, rushed immediately to a phone and called his broker. They found his portfolio and told him: "You're IBM stock is worth \$50 million, your GM \$62 million and Bell Telephone \$26 million." The guy shouts: "I'm rich! I'm rich!" The operator breaks in: "You're time is up - deposit \$1 million dollars for the next three minutes."



Poet Rod McKoen made headlines recently in proposing that the FBI formally investigate Anita Bryant's anti-gay crusading group because more than 100 churches contributed to it. His thesis was that this involves the churches with a political organization and he wanted their tax exempt status examined. Separation of church and state, you know. We say O.K. Rod - and you tell the churches stuffed with gays to keep out of the fight too.

JOHN EADIE of 116 Namdac, Bay Shore, N.Y. writes: "You had an article on the earthquake we had in Dutch New Guinea, way back when. We were in the village of Sabron. It was pay day - I remember because that night a lot of us were in the mess tent shooting craps. I was in my tent alone, sitting on my "Beauty Rest" with my back to the entrance writing a letter to my sister by candle light. The cot started shaking. I yelled. I turned around at the same time and I was still alone. I thought I was due for a section 8 until I went over to the mess tent where everyone was talking about it. I was happy to find out it was only an earthquake and not me." We believe it now, Johnny.

HOMER PRICE is on the road visiting PHSA Chapters in Washington, Oregon and Montana. We missed you in Norfolk, Homer.

HAROLD CYRUS, (M/Sgt. in Div.Chem.O. '42-'45), of 1001 1st Ave., Grand Rapids, Mich., has sent in \$100.00 and is now our Life Member #216.



The 91st Division in Calif. publishes a paper and recently ran a page on our good friend ROGER HELLER, (19th Inf.), of Oakland, Cal. Says Rogers: "Like some of our Japanese enemy I have finally decided World War II is over! My retirement date from US Army is St. Patrick's Day - which fits well the modern green uniform? Most important, I've known a guy for 15 years and done business with him. Today I discover he was in Div. Hq. & Hq. 52d F.A., 1954, and wants to join the Association. Will you mail something to him so he can join? He's DON BERING, 3255 Woodside Road, Woodside, CA. That article we spoke of is reproduced here:

## 33 years from recruit . . . to . . . mentor



### LTC Heller remembers the fun, the work with a proud Division

By SSG Gary Thompson

In February the 91st Division will lose one of its most colorful individuals. LTC Roger K. Heller retires after 33 years of active and Reserve duty.

The genial mentor took time last MUTA to remove his sun glasses and recount some of his thoughts and recollections on his long career.

"There seemed to be more *esprit d' corps*. With only 120 officers and 35 EM's, there had to be", he mused.

"Most of us had stayed in the Reserves because on the way home from the Pacific after World War II the Navy transport sailors assured us that war was about to break out with Russia in Europe.

"We figured we had better keep our stripes just in case.

"We were in for the fun and camaraderie of the organization," he continued. "Money certainly didn't enter into it—we weren't even paid for summer camp."

LTC Heller entered the Army in 1942. He served in World War II as a sergeant in the 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, participating in five campaigns and four amphibious assault landings.

He transferred to the Enlisted Reserve Corps, California-Nevada Military District in December of 1945.

LTC Heller started his long association with the 91st Division in

March 1949 as a sergeant in the 361st Infantry Regiment. Upon graduation from the University of California at Berkeley in 1949 he received his commission.

Drills were held at the Oakland Army Terminal on Thursday nights from 8 to 10. Of his service as the officer in charge of the Heavy Mortar Company, LTC Heller recalls:

"All we really did was swap war stories then. We were totally unprepared for our mission. My mortar company never even had any mortars.

"One of my compatriots was LTC Douglas (now retired) who was in charge of a tank company.

"He only had one tank in his command, but they drove that tank everywhere around the Terminal," he said with a twinkle in his deep set eyes.

"One time we had to get it to Richmond, but there were no roads available, so we took it on the freeway. We were hustling along at a pretty good clip.

"I remember a pick-up chugging along in front of us. LTC Douglas sounded the siren, and I have never seen a driver get out of the way quite so fast in my life!

"That's the way it was, a casual type of Reserve organization," he added thoughtfully.

"The people that wanted to be in

the Reserves had to be crazy, or really enjoy war stories.

"Even when we started getting paid in July of 1949, things didn't change. It still seemed like we were all on laughing gas.

"When the Korean War started, they asked for volunteers. And most of us volunteered to stay home."

"Things changed in 1955, he noted seriously. Obligated Reservists, unheard of in the past, began attending drills.

"The face of the Reservist began to get more serious," he said.

"In the 'good ole days,' even though we weren't prepared, there was a much deeper camaraderie. I guess it was easier in an infantry division, because everyone was sweating together—almost like the camaraderie of Basic Training.

"When the Division became a training unit, we ended up with school teachers in funny green uniforms," he explained.

"They have a much higher level of education, talent and skills. I suspect there is a great deal less fun, but we can certainly perform our mission any time, any place.

"We are far more ready than ever before."

LTC Heller held a wide variety of command and staff positions with the 361st Regiment before he transferred to Division staff in 1962 as Staff Historian and Band Officer.

In 1967 he was reassigned as Division G2. His division staff service was interrupted when he transferred to the 4th Bde in 1970 as the Executive Officer.

In October 1973, he was reassigned for a second tour as Division G2 and Staff Historian, where he was instrumental in establishing the Division Museum.

LTC Heller numbers among his awards and decorations: the Combat Infantryman's Badge; the Bronze Star with Oak Leaf Clusters; the Presidential Unit Citation; the Philippines Presidential Unit Citation; the Philippines Liberation Medal with four Bronze Stars; and the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with Silver Service Star and Bronze Arrowhead.

He was associate professor at the University of California at Davis before becoming a professor of history at San Jose State University.

OTTO KRONE, of 1804 Akron Ave., Metairie, La., is deep in the affairs of "The Military Order of the Purple Heart". Is looking for new members out of our gang. \$6 per annum. Otto promises to answer any and all letters from people who are interested. So you Purple Heart men, go to it.

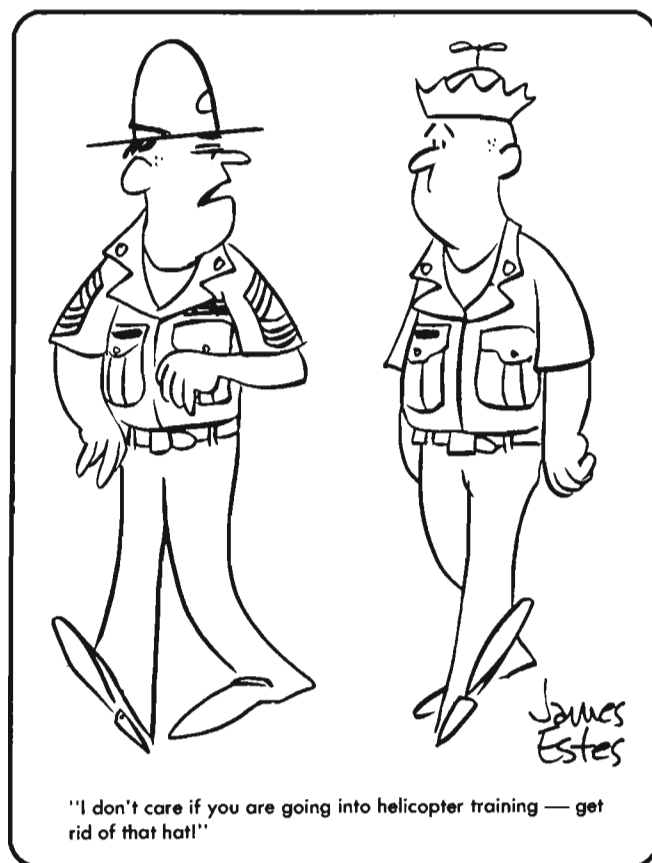
Editing has its compensations. We received a beautiful handbag from old friend ANICETO "Buddy" FAROLA, Chief of Police at Malita Davao Del Sur on Mindanao. You're a wonder, Buddy.

New energy-savings incinerator in action in the Pentagon. Burns 10 tons of classified material daily. 10 tons?

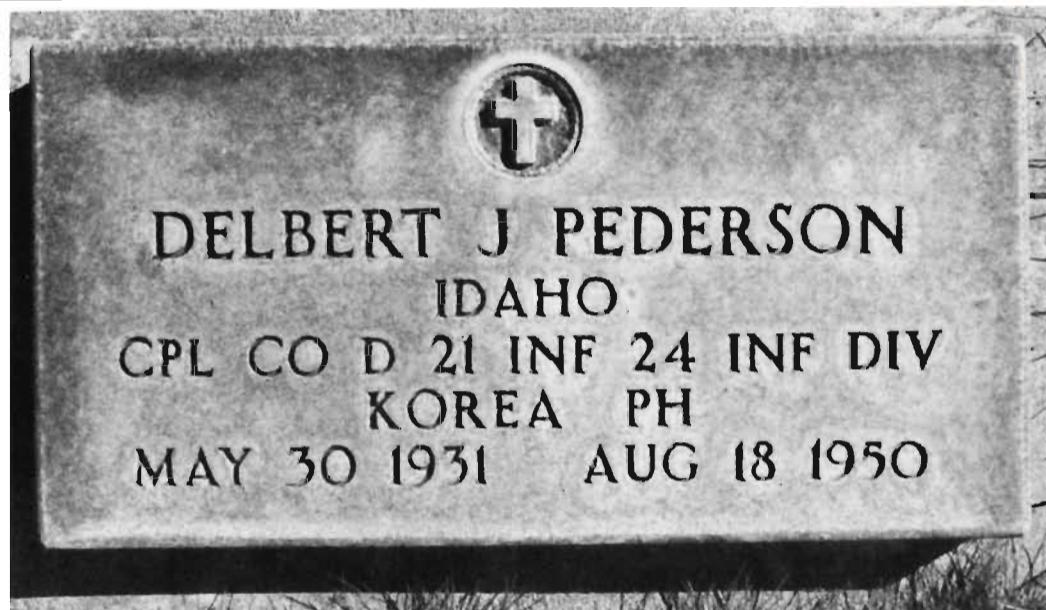
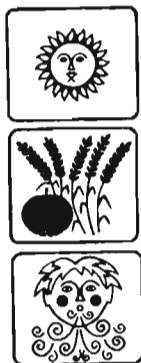
Gruesome item, but....Does anyone remember the name and unit of the man at Sentani who was hunched in his foxhole when the alleged alligator was said to have come out of the adjacent bog and eaten him? The alligator tracks were clearly there; the young man, after that last awful yell was never found. Does any one remember any part of that story?

Notes in passing: TOM COMPERE salts his grapefruit. Says he has a grapefruit every morning of his life.

FRANK ALLO (I 21st '41-'44) asks for a roster of Assoc. members. We hope to publish one shortly, Frank, as a supplement to one of our issues.



Nice set of glossy, black and white photos of Korea scenes for our History have been sent in by C.A. "Bud" COLLETTE. Do you have any you want included in the History?



C.A. Bud COLLETTE (5th RCT '51-'52), of LaCrescenta, Cal., stopped in at Emmett, Idaho recently to visit an old friend. Friend took Bud out to their cemetery to see this. Says Bud: "When I saw this grave marker of our Comrade, it gave me a lump in the throat. He was just 19. I wasn't even in the Army when he was killed. I was drafted and my first day in the Army was 9 Jan. 51. I arrived in Korea around the 3rd week of June 1951. I had my 22nd birthday there on Nov. 25, 1951."



Maj. BRUCE MAULDIN is CO of Troop B, 2nd Squadron of the 9th Cavalry, at Hunter Army Airfield. He is also Bill Mauldin's son. Maj. Mauldin was born in 1943 in Phoenix, Ariz. His first two years spanned a time that saw his father, then in his early 20's trudging up the Italian boot and on into France, moving with and immortalizing the "dogfaces" Willie and Joe.

Willie and Joe, like all ground pounders of all wars, had to put up with over officious officers, mud, dirt, lack of sleep, terrible chow and grinding combat.

But Bill Mauldin found humor in it, enough humor to take a soldier's mind off the agonies of war for a few brief moments. His humor was sometimes irreverent, but it was always right to the point.

Now, some 30 years, 12 books and three Pulitzer Prizes later, Bill Mauldin is syndicated in 300 papers in the U.S. and around the world as an editorial cartoonist.

He makes his home in Santa Fe, N.M., but maintains an office in Chicago. At present he is working on a book with one of the last great World War II generals still alive: Omar Bradley.

Bruce Mauldin grew up in California, Porterville, and married his high school sweetheart, the former Judy Hester. The Mauldin's live right on Hunter Army Airfield and have three children: Michelle, 14, Bruce, 13 and James, 6.

Major Mauldin entered the Army as an enlisted man in October of 1961. He became a Warrant Officer in 1964 and served the first of his two tours in Vietnam - at that time with the 52nd Aviation as lift and attack helicopter pilot.

It was during this tour that he decided to make the regular Army a career and he began work towards a commission.

Major Mauldin was commissioned an infantry second lieutenant in 1966 at Ft. Rucker, Ala., while serving as instructor in the Helicopter Instrument Flight Course. He went back to Vietnam in 1967 and commanded an aviation platoon in the 2nd Brigade of the 1st Air Cavalry. He also served as Aide-de-Camp to Major General John J. Tolson and Major General George I. Forsythe, Division commanders.

From 1969 to 1971, Ja. Mauldin, then a captain, served as the Aviation officer and also an aviation platoon commander in the 8th Infantry Division Artillery, Germany; and as the commanding officer of an artillery battery in the 8th. In June of 1973 he graduated from Auburn University with a bachelor's degree in Aeronautical Engineering.

From July of 1973 to July 1975, he was a brigade aviation officer and aviation platoon commander with the 197th Infantry Brigade at Ft. Benning, Ga.

In the summer of 1975 he commanded Troop A, 15th Cavalry, at Benning, and then in October 1976 returned to Auburn where he completed work on his master's in Soviet Foreign and Military Policy. He graduated summa cum laude and received a Pi Kappa Phi Key.

Maj. Mauldin states that his "dad" is the artist in the family. I like to write in my spare time, mostly articles on national security and aerospace". He is a contributing editor to Air Facts magazine.

Maj. Mauldin asked for his assignment to the 2nd of the 9th.

"While at Benning, we used to come down to Stewart for training and I liked what I saw," states the major. "The 24th just seemed to be a real comer, booming, growing, vital," he said.

"The air cavalry epitomizes the combined arms," Mauldin said, "It combines the roles of infantry, armor and artillery with the spirit and mobility of cavalry. We are bringing two new armored cavalry units on line and that is a tremendously challenging job. It gives you a real sense of satisfaction to watch a new unit grow from paper into men who are well-trained and disciplined.

"That's what today's Army is about," concludes Major Bruce Mauldin.





Veep MIKE RAFTER recovering nicely from surgery....Short note from IVO OTEY, Div. I.G. '46-'47. Wants to be remembered to ELMER VAN ZANT, HOWARD LEDGERWOOD, DAVID DILLARD and OLIVER TRECHTER.... LEW "Rick" RICHTIGER, are officer at the Lincoln Nat'l. Bk. in Chicago, who joined I of the 34th under PAUL CAIN on Corregidor and Mindanao, and who was Bn. S-2 under "Bugeye" WILLETTS asked to be remembered to Paul, Bugeye, SAM SCHNEIDERMAN and JOHN GOODRUM.



One of the West Point greats, on their athletic fields, was Col. Russell Potter Reeder, Jr., USA Ret.

As a Cadet, Red Reeder drop-kicked field goals and captained the baseball team. In 1928 he batted .413 in spring training with the New York Giants, but when John McGraw offered to sign him for \$5,500 he couldn't bring himself to resign his new commission as second lieutenant, which paid \$1,716. When he commanded the 12th Regiment of the Fourth Infantry Division in the Normandy invasion in 1944, a shell burst cost him his left leg, but he returned to West Point as a regimental commander of Cadets. ("I'll take him in a wheelchair," wrote General George Honnen, Commandant of Cadets).

A favorite West Point story is the one about Red Reeder and his good friend, the late Toots Shor.

Red stopped in at Toots' restaurant one day and Toots greeted him with, "Your friend, General Omar Bradley was just here and we were talking about you. He said that if you hadn't been wounded, you would've been a three-star general."

A few months later, Red stopped in again and this time Toots greeted him with, "Say, Red, I was talking with Omar Bradley about you only the other day. Brad said if you hadn't caught that wound on Normandy, you would have surely made your two-stars."

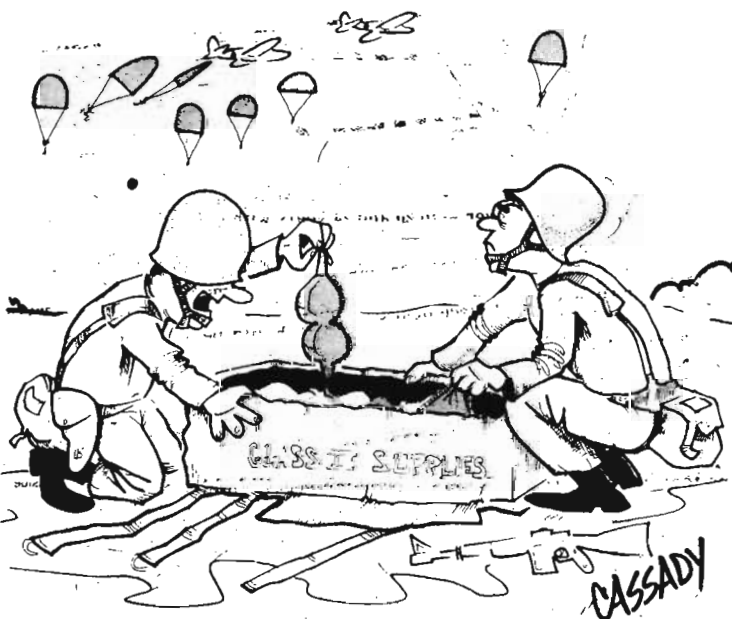
A month or so later, Red met Toots on Park Avenue and Toots said, "I was talking with Bradley the other night on the telephone. He happened to mention you. Thinks you're great. Says you'd have been a one-star general if you hadn't taken that steel on Normandy".

To which Red replied, "If you don't mind, Toots, I'd rather not discuss it anymore."

Dog Company Gimlets be warned. EDWARD J. VOSO, who was a member of that illustrious group in its salad days BPH and for awhile thereafter, is trying to organize a small get-together. You can reach Ed at 1815 Sweetwater Rd., Spring Valley, Col. 92077.

BOB HARDIN, 15th RCT 7/50-2/51), of 27000 S.W. 142 Ave., Naranja, Fla., has a daughter who makes up tee shirts for all kinds of groups. She'll make them for us at \$3.00 each. Any comments? Pro? Or Con?

Another retired postal service fellow has joined us - ROSS WISELY, (M 19th '51), of 207 E. Mineral, Hot Springs, Ark.



"Just what do you suppose this means?"

# Medal of Honor

by Bertha Morris

Medal of Honor recipient, Master Sergeant Charles B. Morris of the 24th Infantry Division's 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry, first crossed paths with the 24th Division in March 1954 when, as part of an Honor Guard, he welcomed the Division back to Japan from their duty in Korea.

Entering the Army in September 1952, Morris helped to lay out the Demilitarized Zone in Korea which still stands at the hard-won 38th Parallel, an internationally recognized boundary referred to as the DMZ.

Charlie Morris got out of the Army in 1954 but reenlisted in 1961 with the 82nd Airborne Division at Ft. Bragg, N.C.

Reassigned in 1963 to Ft. Kobbe, Canal Zone, and the 3/508th Airborne Infantry Battalion, Canal Sector, he was there during the Riot of Panama in 1964 before rejoining the 82nd ABN in the U.S.

In October, that same year, Sergeant York, the World War I hero who all alone had killed 25 and captured over 100 of the enemy, died. Sergeant Morris was one of the hand-picked Guard of Honor at the funeral — not dreaming that three years later, he, like Sgt. York, would wear the Medal of Honor.

Sgt. Morris served on many special missions throughout the world, including the American Expedition into the Dominican Republic to help quell the rebellion and bring peace to that country, and aid to the civilians. Thanks to cross-training, Sgt. Morris was able to render medical help to the populace, suffering from a lack of medical facilities.

He deployed with the 2/503rd Battalion, 173rd Airborne Brigade, to Vietnam in January 1966, participating in a number of actions including the one on June 29 for which Morris later received the nation's highest award, the Medal of Honor.

Sergeant Morris and about 40 men were sent to search for two enemy regi-

ments — approximately 2,000 men. They found the base which had one battalion reinforced by heavy weapons and by personnel from the remainder of the two-regiment base.

He deployed his squad and continued the reconnaissance alone, crawling unknowingly to within 20 yards of a gunner who fired at him and wounded him in the



chest. Morris killed the gunner and, crawling within feet of the machinegun, hurled a grenade that killed the rest of the crew.

In pain and bleeding, the sergeant continued reconnaissance, destroying everything nearby, then managed to rejoin his platoon which came under intense fire from both sides and the front, sustaining additional casualties.

Badly outnumbered, the platoon could have withdrawn but elected to stay, willing to lose more or all rather than abandon their wounded buddies there.

The platoon beat off five attacks throughout the day and suffered numerous casualties. MSgt. Morris credits the ample time he spent learning to do his job with enabling him that day to serve as platoon leader, squad leader, sergeant, rifleman, radio operator and, since the platoon lost its medic earlier, in that capacity as well.

"It was the young soldiers who were the heroes that day," Sgt Morris emphatically declared. "I had spent lots of time learning to do a job and I did it."

It is for this reason that MSgt. Morris regards the medal of Honor with a high state of reverence; in his eyes it represents something far bigger than self — the team effort of soldiers who lay their all on the line for their fellows and for their country.

The Medal of Honor holder must strive to be far above a mere soldier, MSgt. Morris feels. "To bring discredit on the Medal is to bring discredit on the entire United States," he said.

Sgt. Morris returned to the mainland in 1967 and his native state, Virginia, declared Jan. 14 "Sergeant Morris Day," with appropriate ceremonies including best wishes from President Lyndon B. Johnson and Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey, as well as parades and dinners.

Assigned in November 1967 to the 82nd Airborne Division, Ft. Bragg, N.C., Morris received notice to report to the White House. There President Johnson and the Army Chief of Staff, General Harold K. Johnson presented him the Medal of Honor and orders for limited duty to regain his strength.

Sgt. Morris returned to full duty and regular missions in July 1974. He attended the Sergeant Major Academy at Ft. Bliss, Tex., and came to Ft. Stewart in January two years ago.

Since then he has been operations sergeant of the 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry, helping rebuild that Civil War-era unit, inactive since 1970, into a modern day fighting force — an assignment he considers a challenging one.







Sergeant GERALD L. MAYNARD (in uniform) allows B Battery, 1st Battalion, 35th Field Artillery dependents to get some hands-on time with the 105mm Howitzer. Looking on are Mrs. Georgeanne Marine, wife of Brigadier General GEORGE MARINE, assistant commander, and Mrs. Betty Kicklighter (extreme right), wife of COLONEL CLAUDE KICKLIGHTER, Division Artillery commander. (US Army Photo by Sp.5 Larry Schlosser).

Aboard inflatable assault boats instead of their customary jeeps, "Rock RECON," the Reconnaissance Platoon of the newly activated Combat Support Company, 3rd Bn, 19th Inf., conquered more than 36 miles of the Ogeechee River recently in a 3-day Adventure Training exercise. Beginning the trek on Ft. Stewart's eastern border, the platoon spent the first day practicing aquatic skills such as small boat rigging, survival swimming, rope bridging, route reconnaissance, bridge classification and other conventional platoon missions. Adventure Training is an exercise no unit commander should overlook," according to 1st Lt. DWIGHT J. DAVIS, the platoon leader. "In addition to practicing some very useful skills, Adventure Training can do a lot for unit morale and spirit," he added.

"The most exciting part of the trip came as the platoon arrived at Ossabaw Sound on the Atlantic Ocean," stated the platoon sergeant, SFC SERGIO MARCIAS. "There were 5-foot waves crashing in front of the boats," he continued. "It was a real challenge." The platoon arrived safely on an uninhabited island near the sound and set up to practice survival cooking. The trip was the end result of several weeks of planning and coordination. "Rock Reconners" Staff Sergeant JIMMY WHITEKER, Sergeant GREGG KROLICKI and Sergeant BOB MCKAIN were the project NCOs for the operation.

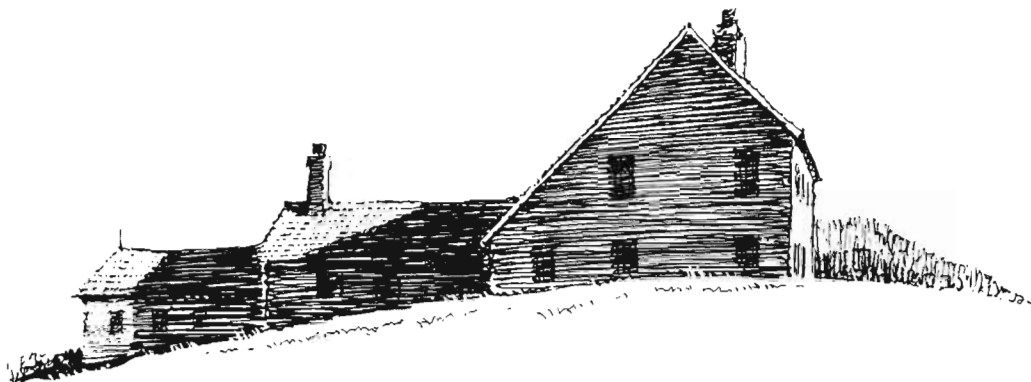
Great act! BOB HARDIN sends in dues for new member CARLOS DEESON (19th), of 28201 SW 152 Ave., Homestead, Fla., Carlos being sick and unable to work.

Call your History, "Men of the Taro Leaf" suggests OTTO KRONE. We just might, Otto. Thanks. Name not yet finally decided upon. Otto slipped one in on us about the lady talking to her landscaper. "What would you suggest planting in a clay spot on a rocky ledge that gets very little rain and a hot afternoon sun?", she asked. "I'd suggest a nice flag pole" the landscaper replied.



"We've been taking turns giving you the needle, Sir . . . don't want one guy to have all the fun!!"





The thought occurs that we don't have to wait until next August (at Savannah) to get some input on the part of the general membership as to where they want to meet in August of 1979. A survey is proposed to get the feel for the individual preferences for locations for future reunions - in 1979 and thereafter as well as preferences for the time of the year in which to hold reunions in 1979 and thereafter.

Discussions have been held on the advisability and wisdom of surveying the total membership for an expression of preferences on various possible reunion locations as well as the time of the year in which to hold reunions.

The results of the membership survey will be published in a future issue before Savannah.

There are 1207 members of the Association eligible to participate in this survey. It is of such vital importance to the future of the Association, that each and every member should consider it an obligation to express an opinion so that the deliberating bodies at the Savannah Reunion will have full and complete information at hand when the decisions are made. This is definitely not something to set aside. Your viewpoints and preferences are just as important as any member's. In order for this survey to be truly representative of what Association members want in the future, everyone must take part.

You are urged to give it some serious thought before writing in your choices on the survey form. While there is no firm deadline set forth in the voting, it is suggested that you make your choices as soon as possible, before the survey form gets misplaced or lost.



## REUNION SURVEY FOR 1979 AND THEREAFTER

### Part I - PREFERENCES FOR REUNION LOCATIONS FOR 1979 and LATER

1st Choice City \_\_\_\_\_  
 2nd Choice City \_\_\_\_\_  
 3rd Choice City \_\_\_\_\_  
 4th Choice City \_\_\_\_\_  
 5th Choice City \_\_\_\_\_

### Part II - PREFERENCE FOR TIME OF THE YEAR FOR REUNIONS 1979 and LATER

( ) Retain as at present, with the Grant Banquet on the 2nd Saturday of August

( ) Change from present arrangement to:

( ) January	( ) July
( ) February	( ) August *
( ) March	( ) September
( ) April	( ) October
( ) May	( ) November
( ) June	( ) December

\* other than as at present

( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_

How many 24th Reunions have you attended?

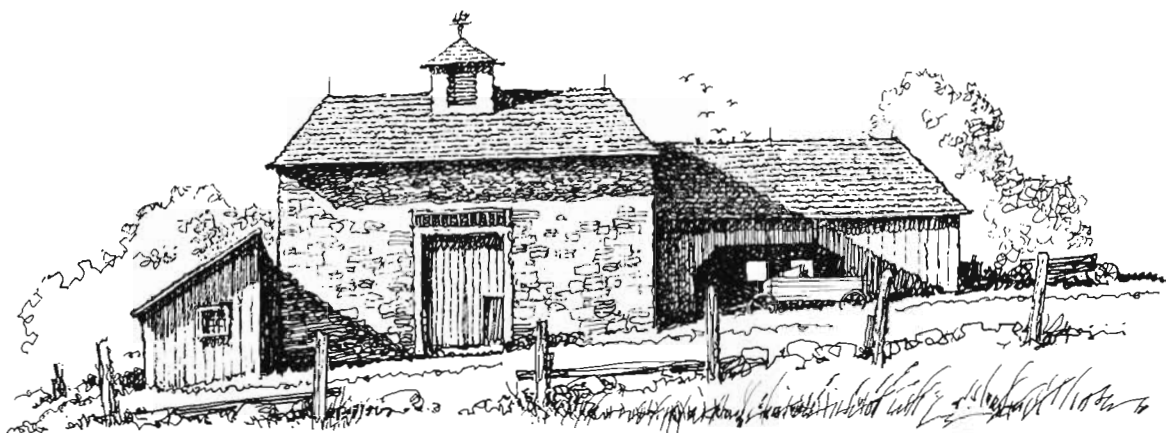
( ) None ( ) 1 to 10 ( ) 11 to 20  
 ( ) 21 to 30

Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Member's Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip and mail to  
 Secretary Kenwood Ross  
 120 Maple St.,  
 Springfield, Mass. 01103





Did you know "Buffalo Bill" Cody was awarded a Medal of Honor and then had it rescinded, along with 911 others in 1917? Or that over 260,000 Purple Hearts were awarded during the Korean War? Did you know that the Purple Heart was established by General George Washington in 1782? So writes Diane Makar of Division's PRO. Hi Diane.

She continues - Lt.Col. ETRIC P. GARTMAN - Etric??? - the Div.A.G. made it his business to know these facts and volumes of others concerning awards, medals and citations during his assignment at the Pentagon from '66 to '70. During this time, Gartman was the Chief of the Army Awards Program and advisor to the Army decorations board.

"It was my job to brief the President, Secretary of the Army, Secretary of Defense and Chief of Staff on the qualifications necessary for various awards," says Gartman. He recalls, "President Johnson used to ask a lot of questions and I had to know the answers. Johnson motivated me by the questions he asked."

As a result, Gartman, then a major, spent long hours in the historical archives in Washington. He would start with a book and follow various leads to other books and sources. According to Gartman, it took almost a full year to compile the information on awards and medals that he still uses, to some degree, on his job here as A.G.

The original Purple Heart was a piece of purple material cut in a heart-shape and worn over the left breast. It was started by General George Washington in 1782 and was the first, and until the Civil War, the only award used by the U.S. Army. The Purple Heart was presented, not only to those wounded in action as it is today, but for singularly meritorious action.

Gartman, in his research, turned up the names of the first three soldiers to be presented with the Heart: Sergeant Daniel Bissel of the 2d Connecticut Regiment; Sergeant Daniel Brown of the 5th Connecticut Regiment and Sergeant Elijah Churchill of the 2d Continental Dragoons, Connecticut Regiment.

After the Revolutionary War, the Order of the Purple Heart fell into disuse. It

remained so until 1932 when it was reinstituted on the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birthday.

The colonel's research showed that the Medal of Honor was adopted when Abraham Lincoln signed a Joint Resolution of Congress in 1862. At first the award, to be given for gallantry in action and other "soldier-like qualities during the present insurrection," was given to non-commissioned officers and privates. In 1863, the provision was made to include officers.

Soon it became apparent that many awards, the Medal of Honor among them, were being given upon the request of the recipient. In 1916, a board of five retired generals were appointed by the Secretary of War to investigate the awarding of the so-called Congressional Medal of Honor.

The board finished its review after eight months and by that time had stricken 911 names from the records. Among these were "Buffalo Bill" Cody and Dr. Mary Walker, the only woman awarded the Medal of Honor. Recently, the kin of Mary Walker battled to have her name put back in the records. They won.

We'll add one thing here that neither Etric nor Diane may know - that the late George Nee, father of our own JOE NEE, (Div. G3 and Rec. O. '45-'47), was a recipient of the Medal of Honor.

Here's ETRIC - is it really Etric, Etric? - GARTMAN shaking the hand of the old Arm Twister himself circa 1967.

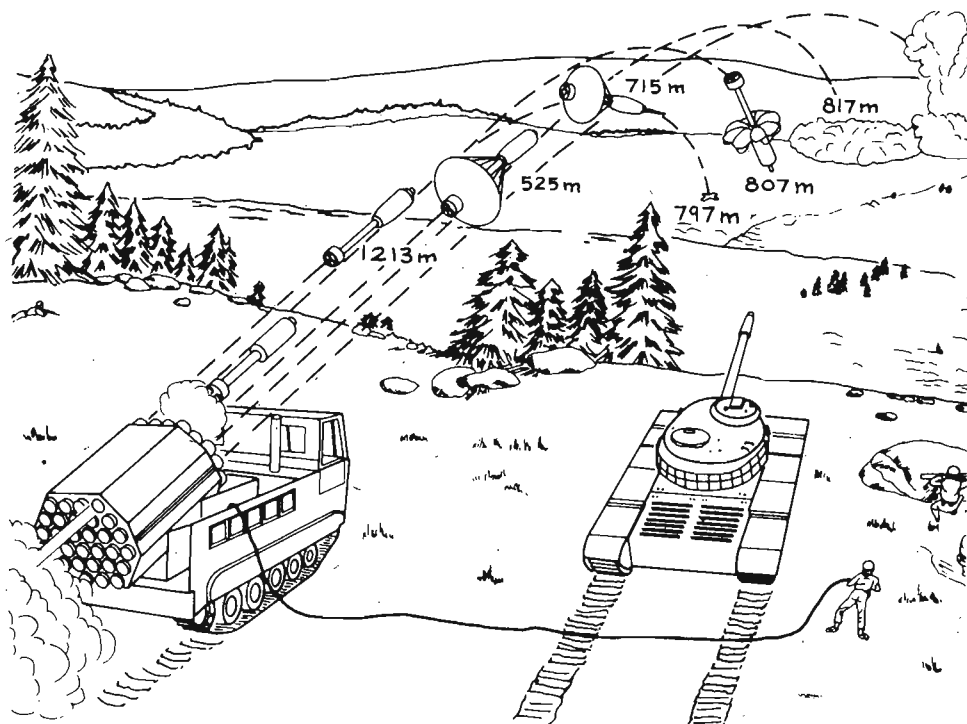




A new electronic fuse is being developed for Army's Surface - Launched Fuel Air Explosive System for breaching mine fields and clearing booby traps.

SLUFAE is mounted on the M-548 tracked cargo carrier and has a range of up to 1000 meters. It has 30 launch tubes and a fire control system able to fire from - one to 30 parachute-deployed rounds per launch sequence.

SLUFAE mine neutralization system — the first round launched goes to the farthest point. The fuze setting is changed for each successive round. As a result, by varying the spacing, a path is cleared through the field. (All distances are indicated in meters.)



The SLUFAE round employs a rocket with a fuel-air explosive warhead consisting of liquid propylene oxide, a volatile hydrocarbon. The destructive power that can be obtained with an FAE charge is considerably greater than a TNT charge of the same size.

Unlike most explosives, FAE weapons do not need to carry oxidizing agents. Instead, fuel-air explosives react with the air to form a highly volatile "cloud" that can be detonated. The FAE effect can detonate or neutralize a variety of a antitank and antipersonnel mines under land or shallow water.

White Oak began working on SLUFAE in 1975 when the Army needed a fuse that could be set quickly and remotely after the round had been loaded into the launcher.

The new electronic fuse can be set remotely while it is in the tube. The parachute can be set

to deploy from one to 12 seconds after the launch to control warhead range. After the parachute opens and has slowed the round, a six-foot probe extends. When the tip of the probe hits the ground, the FAE cloud detonators are ejected.

From OTTO KRONE comes word on the 4th star on the 19th regimental crest. Says the 3 stars originally were for the Civil War, Spanish-American War, and WW I. After '45, a fourth star was added for WW II. Sez there should be a fifth star for Korea. But ROGER HELLER refutes that 4th star story. Says Roger: "Let me put on my official hat - they still carry me as Historical Officer, 91st Division. In answer to the question about the 19th Infantry Crest - THERE ARE ONLY THREE STARS! No more was ever approved. Unfortunately some black-market ones made in Japan and by an un-named New York firm which the Office of Heraldry has black-listed.

Finally, the American Legion is protesting the sale of souvenirs on Navy property at Pearl Harbor. The souvenirs - you guessed it - are "Made in Japan".

JACK ANDERSON writes that he has some material for Ray Kinder's Division Museum at Stewart. Jack is trying to locate S/Sgt. JOHN DOHANISH who in '42-'43 was a squad leader in the A 19th 1st platoon. Anyone know? Jack tells us about the college basketball player who, when asked what he was studying, replied "I'm a Farrah Fawcett major". Thanx Jack, we needed that.

WILBUR LIND, Deputy City Mgr. of Hackensack, N.J. (B-24th Med. '44-'46), says: Jimmy Connor must be maturing - hasn't thrown a tantrum for at least two weeks.

Back as a member - JOE BADARACCO, 6237 Devonshire, St. Louis, Mo. (Div. Hq. '42-'45). Joe, you'll recall was a power in St. Louis politics for years. But listen to what he now writes: "I suppose I'm aging as is everyone. No more politics. Am thoroughly enjoying life as a practising attorney and private citizen." We're glad you're back with us Joe.



We had to include this one. It's Kathleen PEYTON Duley on her wedding day. You were gorgeous, Kate.

To Florida are the RUSSELL HAGERMAN's, Russ and Alice, (11F '45-'47). Once in Lansing, Mich., it's now Rt. 1, Box 200R, Ruskin, Fla. Ross retired in '75 as a Col. after 34 years of service. Their one and only, David, works for G.M. - makes Oldsmobiles. Would appreciate it, Dave, if you'd try to keep those prices down.

We don't want to start any trouble but - if women are so smart, how come they always dance backward?

We simply refuse to believe the recent conviction of Maj.Gen. EDWIN WALKER in Dallas for public lewdness in propositioning a policeman in a park lavatory. If we ever smelled a set up, we think we can smell one here - and Dallas is 1500 miles away. Pitiful story there.

Love that motto on a moving van flying down I95 the other day: The best packers east of Green Bay.



*"You R.A. or U.S.?"*

\$10 for the Division History in from Dr. HANFORD RANTS, Principal of Gahr H.S. in Cerritos, Calif. Han was Sgt. 2nd Bn. Hq., 34th '43-'45. Thank you, Doc.

JACK FINAN writes our Gal Friday, who sets up all of this: "Happiness is like a perfume. You can't sprinkle a little on others without getting some on yourself."



At an impromptu mock wedding in observance of 25 years of wedded bliss for HOWARD and Glad LUMSDEN (last Oct. 8th at Wood River, Ill.), JOHNNY TRINCA (in white) played the minister's part, HOWARD played himself - superbly - "Spike" played the irate father, complete with shotgun, and Glad got out the old wedding gown (found that it fitted perfectly) and likewise played herself.





Family photo of the JOE PEYTON wedding. Well not exactly - Joe's baby, Kathleen married Patrick Duley in September - and here's the Peyton gang: Standing - James Peyton, Susan (his wife) Tom Peyton, Kathleen, Patrick Duley, Patricia Foti (Peyton), her husband, James, grand-daughter Colleen Marie. Seated - Timmy Peyton, James M. Peyton Jr., Margaret and you know that handsome fellow.

**achtung!**  
PAY YOUR 1978 DUES  
OL' BUDDY...thanks



It's Life  
Member #168 -  
MOODY STARKS CROWE,  
officer of the  
Charlotte, N.C.  
DAV Chapter.  
Moody was recently  
decorated for  
14 years of  
unselfish and  
voluntary  
devotion to  
veteran comrades.  
Poor Moody lost  
Nelsie last  
January. We  
reported this  
tragedy in an  
earlier issue.



These fellows made the HOWARD and Gladys LUMSDEN "25 years of marriage" celebration the great success it was. 16 Taro Leafers made it. Count them. They are in left to right fashion: front row - DON DOSSETT, CHARLEY McCARTHY, the Guest of Honor, RAY HARDI, FRANK KUBA, JAMES O'DONNELL and GERRY LIEBER - back row - BENTLEY CALDWELL, FRAN MENNEMEYER, LEO CREAMER, BOB SHAY with both hands on both shoulders of the King for a Day, CHARLEY HOAG, President JOHN KLUMP, GERRY STEVENSON, JOHNNY TRINCA and PAUL MYERS. Grand bunch. Terrific party, Glad and Howard. Let's do it again on your 50th.

BOB GROGAN ('39-'44), of Shrewsbury, Mass., reports that of his 5 sons, Skip is a Lt. of Inf. at Rucker, Ron had one Navy hitch and got out, Herb after a stint in V. is now going to OCS, Steve, after 13 months in V. has "more medals than the rest of the family combined", and Bob is presently in the Army in Germany. Daughter Linda "showed no interest in affairs of the Dept. of Defense". Great record, Bob; one to be proud of.

One of the worst thoughts about Social Security is that members of Congress have not and apparently will not put themselves under it.

Private Joe Snuffy is a direct line descendant of Willie and Joe.

What Willie and Joe were to the millions of "ground-pounders" who slogged their way across Europe, Snuffy is to their grandsons. Snuffy admirably tells the real life, day-to-day story of today's "grunts."

"Bill Mauldin was always my hero," states cartoonist Charles Patterson of Santa Cruz, Cal. "The biggest thrill of my life was when I found out he was left-handed, too. My only problem is, I don't have a war." The lanky, 19-year-old private assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 19th, claims he's not so much Snuffy's creator as he is a reporter of the fictional soldier's trials and tribulations.

"Joe is everybody in the infantry who has ever had something done to them, or has done something to somebody," Patterson says. "Everytime I draw a strip, four or five guys will come and claim I've been spying on them."

Patterson first met Snuffy during basic training about a year ago, and when he first arrived in the 19th, he was himself accused of being Joe by his squad leader. "I guess I am a little bit," Patterson comments, "but isn't everybody?"

To get Joe Snuffy's activities down on paper was a communal project of Patterson's platoon. "I just cartoon incidents I see and the guys tell me about. They come up with the story lines. All of Joe Snuffy's adventures are real. They all actually happened to someone I know."

Patterson claims that the cartoon character just happened. "I woke up one morning and there he was."

Once started, however, the irrepressible Joe was hard to turn off. Patterson had been drawing Snuffy episodes for about two months before they attracted the attention of anyone outside of his own 2nd Platoon. The Ft. Stewart Patriot, discovered Snuffy and made him a regular feature.

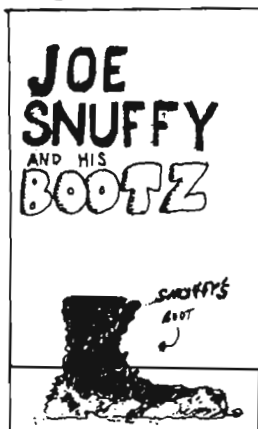
Snuffy and Patterson have about three years left of a four-year commitment, and neither plans to extend the association with the Army beyond that point. "I want to get out and study art at college,"



Patterson explains, "and since cartooning is such a hard field to break into, I'll probably end up teaching art somewhere."

"Joe's probably the only real work I'll ever do in the field."

If the initial reaction of the Patriot readers is any indication, however, Joe Snuffy just may not want to pull that old soldier trick and "fade away". He's so popular now that Snuffy may be around for a long, long while.





G. Gordon Liddy has written a good article in Chic bemoaning the damage done our intelligence people by our national "compulsion for public disclosure". While we don't think much of Liddy's selection of a forum (it's a Larry "Hustler" Flynt publication and the article is sandwiched in between a couple of sexually explicit photos of women and some sexually oriented cartoons), we do like what he says.

"Schizophrenically," Mr. Liddy writes, "we enact 'sunshine' laws, revealing critical intelligence material to virtually anyone who wants to know Congressional committee staffs release sensitive classified information; irresponsible news media, with the imprimatur of a judiciary in their thrall, disseminate military and diplomatic secrets for friend and foe alike, while a euphoric public, believing in the media millenium, celebrates the rule of law in international affairs."

"The rest of the world, more perceptive than we about the true intentions of world leaders, watches without illusion the steppes of Russia where, as on the German plain in 1938, row on row the panzers grow."

Mr. Liddy wrote that he disagreed with the belief of some Americans "that our troubles are the result of a vast conspiracy." Instead, he believes that "the American national character has acquired a tragic flaw," namely, the belief that "man's unalterable nature" can be, and already has been, altered, with "blind good will and optimism." This flaw, he suggests, will be the undoing of the United States if the nation continues to act on it.

To all of which we say "Amen". We do believe that the "compulsion" to disclose secrets began with Eisenhower's admission of the U-2 overflight. It's been downhill all the way ever since.

From RAY RASZKOWSKI, (24th Med. Bn. '47-'50, down in Taylor, Mich., comes this: "Often wonder if anyone remembers M/Sgt. SEVERINO GARZA, the band leader of the Div. Band in Kokura. There is a spot in my heart for this guy; the way he led the band when they played the "Col. Boogie March" and how he would always acknowledge me at the ball park in Kokura by playing a Polka. Some other guys one must mention like ART SMALL, Stewart of Club 24 (remember that great display of fireworks in front of the Clifford Theatre that Art engineered). JOHN BAGLAMA, whom I have to thank for signing me up in the association, VIC HUNGERFORD for his marvelous Training Sessions and others too numerous to mention." Ray was President of the Board of the NCO Club in Kokura during those days between the wars.



PAUL MEYERS (13 Field '43-'45), is commander of post #1308 of the VFW. Paul is with Monumental Insurance in Alton, Ill. That's Lucille with him. Hi Lou!

Now one of us is GEORGE W. RUTLEDGE, of 1104 N. Park, Bloomington, Ill. where he and Kathryn now reside. George, disabled, is on his way to being a Life Member. Was with the 5th RCT in Hawaii and Korea. Was aid man with K Co. when he caught it at Sockchoa up in the tip in Nov. of '50.

Sally Buck, writing for FRED BUCK, (M 19th 4/41-12/44), out in Erie, Pa, said: "Enclosed is a check for Fred's life membership. Since the children and I never know what to buy him, we decided on an early birthday gift for him. Our sever boys are out of school and on their own now (four married but only two grandchildren yet, twin boys)." Wonderful gift, Sally. Thanks.



"What an invigorating morning . . . man, I feel like digging a hole from here to China!!"



Featuring JOHNNY ROGERS (L 21 '43-'45), of 308 S.Cedar, Little Rock, Ark., on his second and last retirement day. Reaching 65, Johnny said Goodbye to the Pulaski County Sheriff's Dept.

The Division Soldier of the Year and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year were selected in mid-July.

They are: Specialist 4 JOHN J. POTTS, Soldier of the Year, a forward observer with Co.B, 2nd Bn, 21st Inf.; and Sergeant First Class JESS A. WATSON, NCO of the Year, a platoon sergeant in Co.C, 2nd Bn., 19th Inf. Potts was selected Soldier of the Year from a field of six by a six-member board of command sergeants major headed by Command Sergeant Major NATHANEL MCELROY, division and post CSM. The son of Mrs. Claudia Potts of Hinesville, Sp 4 Potts resides there with his wife, Sharon, and one child. The top NCO, SFC Watson, was chosen the best of six sergeants representing major division and post commands by CMS McElroy's board. The 34-year-old graduate of NCO Academy and Drill Sergeant School is a 14-year Army veteran. SFC Watson is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Kyle Watson of Sparta, N.C. He lives on post with his wife, Estella, and three children.

The Soldier of the Year and NCO of the Year each will receive a six-day Hawaiian vacation for two, which includes round-trip airline tickets, lodgings at the Hale Koa Armed Forces Recreation Center and expenses.

Cardio-Dial is a new computerized method that can tell patients how likely they are to have a heart attack within their next eight years. Such information as age, blood pressure, cholesterol level, and smoking habits is fed into a computer, which will assimilate the data and respond in two minutes, rating the patient's chances on a scale from 1 to 100.

CHARLEY JAMESON, (F & AT 21st '44-'45), of Bridgewater, Va., saw our item on the Philippine award and wrote the Embassy in Washington. They referred him to The Adjutant General GHO AFP Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo Quezon City, Philippines.



First Lt. Bob Reed, MP Co., 24th Inf. Div. is holding three reasons why his income tax won't be quite as rough as it could have been. What makes it triply sweet is that the exemptions came near the end of the year, on December 9. The lieutenant's wife, Jo, says she still finds triplets hard to believe. The exemptions - appropriately wearing Taro Leaf insignia - are: Ashley, who weighed in at four pounds, 2½ ounces; Alyson, four pounds, 1 ounce, and Amy, three pounds, 9 ounces.

LES "Larry" OLDS, (Sv.19th '44-'46), of Canton, Ohio, reports that he devours "each Taro Leaf from cover to cover". We like that. Also we like his P.S.: "Holding public office is like trying to dance in a nightclub. "No matter what you do, you rub somebody the wrong way." Same old sense of humor, Larry.

We still have DECALS for cars, boats, campers, etc. Only 50¢ each. They are approximately 2" in diameter. Help your buddies find you. Write your Treasurer for decals.