

TARO LEAF
24th Infantry Division Association
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Springfield, MA
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FIRST CLASS MAIL



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VOL. XXXVII - NO. 5

1983 - 1984

Maj.Gen. H. NORMAN SCHWARZKOPF was recently awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for his role in Operation Urgent Fury in Grenada.

The nation's highest peacetime award was presented by Gen. Richard E. Cavazos, Commander of the U.S. Army Forces Command, during a visit to Stewart.

During Grenada, Schwarzkopf served first as the Senior Army Advisor, and later as the Deputy Task Force Commander to Vice Adm. Joseph Metcalf, III.

In the surprise ceremony at Stewart Officers Club, Schwarzkopf paid this tribute:

"I accept this award for the soldiers who were there," he said, "men like Sgt. Randy Cline and Lt. William Eskridge."

Cline, from Cloverdale, Ind. was killed on Oct. 25, the first day of the operation. He was a member of the 1st Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry, at Hunter. At the time of his death, his wife was six months pregnant with the couple's first child.

Eskridge was from the 2nd Battalion (Ranger), 75th Infantry, at Lewis. His actions stirred Schwarzkopf when, while in the sick bay of the USS Guam with his leg amputated, Eskridge moved to come to attention as the General approached his bed. Eskridge hails from Falls-of-Rough, Ky.

Schwarzkopf also noted that the award is "another reminder that we always must be prepared to defend our country on a moment's notice."

The award, of which each of us is so proud, read:

"Major General H. Norman Schwarzkopf distinguished himself by exceptionally meritorious achievement while performing duties of great responsibility and grave importance to the United States of America from 24 October 1983 to 3 November 1983. During this period, Major General Schwarzkopf served as Senior Army Advisor to the Commander of Combined Task Force 120, and subsequently as Deputy Task Force Commander. His extensive military and political knowledge, tactical judgment, proficiency, and decisiveness directly influenced how Army forces entering Grenada were employed. His estimates and orders enabled these Army forces to accomplish all assigned missions with minimum casualties and with minimum danger to the largely friendly Grenadian population. His performance during actual combat as an advisor to the Task Force Commander was in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflects great credit on him, the United States Army, and the Nation."

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Vol. XXXVII — No. 5

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The publication "of, by and for those who served or now serve" 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 of its attached units. Dues are \$10.00 per annum, inclusive of a subscription to Taro Leaf.



We just happened to say to the new C/S, Col. DANIEL R. SCHROEDER: "We're not getting many pix outta Stewart". And then!!! Here's one you'll recognize. Mixing his C-rations is Pfc. DONALD A. MOYE, (E Co. 2/21). U.S. Army Photo.

ED PISAREK, (21st '41-'44) of Box 2641, Reno, Nev. is a fully paid Life Member #536. Paid his \$100 with one payment. By the way, Ed -- the usual dress at Cincy will be wild Hawaiian shirts (for the boys) and wilder Hawaiian mu-mu's (for the gals) -- for everything 'cept the Saturday night banquet.

Sex. The pleasure is momentary, the position ridiculous, and the expense damnable.

Lord Chesterfield

BILL ANDERSON, (C 21st '50-'51), of 13640 SE Highway, Clackamas, OR, has left the US National Bank to become collection manager with Citicorp Acceptance Co. in Portland, OR. Bill writes that he and Connie -- and "Sam", the cat, have moved the mobile home to Portland. Tel. 503-656-9637.

Sign on the desk of a secretary in a local law office:

"Yesterday I couldn't spell seckertery and today I are one."

Another chapter in this unbelievable saga -- The Shy Lum Fund. We now learn that HOWARD LUMSDEN was not mentioned as a contributor to that fund. He wasn't mentioned because the name wasn't given to us. Sorry 'bout that Howie. Anyone else missed? ED ROBINSON, please don't do this to us ever again.

JOHNNY MORRISON, (D 21st '41-'44), of 54 Chelsea, Mt. Sinai, NY, asks: "Is there anyone of the gang who remembers the late Sgt. DOUGLAS KEYSER, (D 21st '40-'44). He injured his knee in the Nov. '41 Championship game -- Gimlets vs. 35th Regt. He reinjured it in Korea. If so, will he, or her, or it please contact me?" It's all yours, Johnny.

CLYDE E. CROWELL, (H 21st '39-'41), of Rt. 2, Commerce, TX, is anxious to contact VERNON P. LOVELY. We misspelled Lovely's name in a recent issue. Sorry 'bout that, Clyde. That was not lovely!! If you have any information, call Clyde collect - Tel. 214-886-6388.

CINCINNATI
MEMBERS



Cincinnati

You can't say we don't use "old news". This just arrived from ALBERT DELAY of Box 154, Tilden, IL. It's a shot of men of the 3rd Bn., 21st in N.D. in June of 1982. Another Kodachrome!! We'll do our best, Al. Al writes: "Front Row: Wilbur Vander Vorst, George F. Ryals, Jr., Gordon Holt, Jack Parks (out front), Joe Vanderberg, Dale Eckhart, Lowell Hanes, Bill Dayton. Second Row: Lawrence H. Robinson, Herman Miller, Gregory Arriola, Bill Hull, Ernest Lewandoski, Jim Puls, Robert D. Nolan, Davis House, James Wright, Lyman Miller, Tom Maloney, Clyde Nettleton, Alfred Ridge, Harry Jacobs, Alvis Rock and Albert Delay.

"In December we received word that one of the guys, Lowell Hanes, passed away and we are truly sorry to hear it and our sympathy goes out to his wife, Vivian, and family.

"NORMAN K. SMITH, Life Member #452, has been taken out of the Mo. Vet's home and now lives with his wife Tommie at 603 St. Ann, St. James, Mo. 65559."

This gang is having another gathering at TOM and Toni MALONY's in Brownsville, TX on June 29 and 30. Tom's at 128 Highland Terr. The gang will stay at Motel #6 in Brownsville.



Sgt. VINCENT T. LYNCH, (D 2/21 -- say, D Company is really getting the play in this issue) is ready to fire. Doesn't look very mean, does he?
U.S. Army Photo.





"Now after this clean your fingernails before inspection!"

Another fully paid Life Member #384 -- JOHN TOOHEY, (13th F & 52nd F '40-'44), of 1416 Walnut, Ashland, PA. Surely, you'll join us at Cincy, won't you

New member W.B. BARTON of 2549 Altadena Forest, Birmingham, AL, wants a roster of the 724th Ord. in the period '44-'45. Wish we could respond, Bud -- but we simply ain't got. In over 40 years, we've never been able to compile any lists by company or battery. Darn shame too. But come to Cincy, W.B.; you're bound to meet some ordnance folks. Your Editor was one.

Another fully paid Life Member #384 -- JOHN TOOHEY, (13th F & 52nd F '40-'44), of 1416 Walnut, Ashland, PA. Surely, you'll join us at Cincy, won't you John? Remember, it's informal dress throughout the convention except for the Saturday evening banquet when we do dress up -- neckties, cocktail dresses, shoes shined, hair combed, 'n everything.

ED ROBINSON is heading up plans for a Saturday a.m. breakfast of all Chicks in Cincinnati. It'll be in the Hotel. Time and place to be announced. To help Ed in planning, drop him a line if you'll be there. He's at Warren Inn #420, 500 Denton Hwy., Haltom City, TX 76117.

Supreme Court unanimously has ruled that EMs cannot sue officers for alleged violations of their constitutional rights, reversing a 9th Circuit Court of Appeals decision that would have allowed 5 Navy EMs to proceed in federal court with a \$10 million lawsuit against their superiors aboard a ship. The 5, now discharged, alleged that 4 officers and 3 petty officers aboard the USS Decatur discriminated against them in making duty assignments, imposing punishments, and in evaluating their performance.



A Cobra gunship cruises the ridges of the "Valley of Death" searching for targets. We used L-5's. Remember? It's a U.S. Army Photo by Chris Feola. Nice shot, Chris.

ALBERT J. BELMONTE, (L 21st '53-'54), of 264 Shrewsbury, Worcester, MA, is trying to get the Purple Heart that he was told he was put in for. Happened about July 13, 1953, near Mason. He has written Sec.Def. Weinberger about it so that puts us "on hold" for awhile.

Maj.Gen. and Mrs. H. NORMAN SCHWARZKOPF will grace our Saturday night banquet table, bringing with them the new Command Sergeant Major as well as the Division NCO and Soldier of the Year -- not to mention the Division Band and the Color Guard.

For the Friday "German Night" activities, Chairman JOHN KLUMP has hired a real live German band.

Anthony J. Tirri, (I 34th, 3/41-8/44) now at Two Weatherstone Way, Smithtown NY 11787.

TENTATIVE
CONVENTION PROGRAM

Thursday, August 16, 1984

9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.	Registration	Caprice 1-2-3
	Lunch	At Your Leisure
9:00 A.M. - ? ? ?	Music and Sing Along Bar	Hospitality Room
	Dinner	At Your Leisure
		We'll spot the places and prices for you
	More Music and Fun	Hospitality Room

Friday, August 17, 1984

9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Registration	Caprice 1-2-3
9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.	Hospitality Room	
	Tours Available	If you want 'em
	Lunch	At Your Leisure
5:00 P.M. - ? ? ?	Cash Bar	
6:00 P.M.	"German" Dinner	
8:00 P.M. - 12:00	German Band and Dancing	

Saturday, August 18, 1984

9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.	Registration	Caprice 1-2-3
9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.	General Membership Meeting	
	Ladies: Shopping	At Your Leisure
9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.	Hospitality Room	
	Executive Meeting	
6:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.	Cocktails - Cash Bar	
7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.	Memorial Banquet	
9:00 P.M. - 12:00	24th Infantry Division Music	

Sunday, August 19, 1984

9:00 A.M. -	Coffee and Alohas
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CINCINNATI



How'd they get from there to there? Here are some of the 1st Brigade disembarking Norton AFB, CA from ????. Yep, a Boeing 747 jetliner. U.S. Army Photo by Adolph Mallory. It'll be awful dark when our photo-offset man puts it on paper, Adolph. Not complaining -- just warning you in advance.

Ursula "Marie" NELSON, BOB's lovely bride, (F 19th), of 6228 Cardiff, Philadelphia, PA, recovering nicely from a heart valve transplant. We learned of it in time so were able to "flower" her in your name. Bob says she'll be "in better shape than I am when she gets home."

We'd welcome payments on Life Memberships. Remember it's \$20.00 a year for 5 years. Some of you have fallen behind.

CHARLIE MORGAN, wounded on Mindanao while with Easy of the 21st is trying to contact MARSHALL W. GARRETT. He's not a member. Clues, anyone?

Dan, son of Membership Chairman LEE and Ceil LIST was married in March. Now at Ft. Sam Houston where the bride, also in the service, is stationed. Good wishes go to the bride and groom.

One man had this card on his windshield: "Notice to thieves -- this car has already been stolen."...Window sign on Broadway: "Our going-out-of-business sale was such a success, we're having another one next week."...In the Jamaica station: "One who gets nowhere fast takes the L.I.R.R."



This one came to us without a caption save for the news that it was a "U.S. Army Photo by SP4 Chris Feola. Small matter, Chris, we're gonna use it anyway. It's 4:30 but whether it's a.m. or p.m., we can't tell. In a field kitchen, it's always "4:30". Ask any K.P.

Comments from a friend who recently visited Cincinnati: "It's a clean city, with a predominantly German population, who insist upon a strong police force. Therefore it's a pleasure to be able to walk in the city in the late hours of the day and feel safe."

In sending in the name of a prospective member, please give full name, street address, city and zip. "Bill Jones, Chicago" is hardly enuf. Talk about the needle in the haystack???

Third Bn. Headquarters Company or the 21st from '42 to '45 is holding their Army Reunion at Motel 6 in Brownsville, TX, on next June 29 to July 1st. For further information, contact Tom and Toni Maloney at 128 Highland Terrace, Brownsville TX 78521.

2nd Brigade Commander, Col. HORACE G. TAYLOR, has joined our ranks. We're right proud of the way these folks are coming to our support. We aren't yet sure as to who will make up the Stewart contingent at Cincy -- but there'll be a representation, you can bet.

You may want to go over to see the Football Hall of Fame. Figure on 4 hours to go over, see it, and get back.

This is a football fanatic's paradise! See the Hall of Fame; hear Knute Rockne's pep talk in the Locker Room. There are football films all day everyday. Try out your strategy in the computer room. See if you can kick a game-winning field goal. But watch out! There are cheers if you make it; boos if you don't.

Remember, we're only suggesting; we're not selling!!

HARRY SHOCK, JR. (3rd Eng. & Hq.Co. '42-'45) now at 4512 106 St. W., Bradenton, FL 33507.



Meet JOAQUIN GOMEZ (H 21st) who was at the PHSA Convention in "San Antone" last Dec. "Buddy" was Vice Chairman. J.W. SKIPPER met him there and sent us the picture. Asked J.W., "Who is bigger, Mr. Bigger, or Mr. Bigger's baby?" When we answered "Mr. Bigger", he shot back with, "No. The baby. He's a little Bigger."

LEONARD F. KORGIE, (L 34th & G 21st, 7/6/50 - 7/22/51), of 5200 N. Woodview, Peoria, IL 61614, asked for a "little notice" that he's anxious to hear from any Love 34th or George 21st buddies of '50-'51 days.

WALT RAISNER, (D & 1st Bn. Hq. 19th-'40-'43), of 44 N. Missouri, Belleville, IL, trying to locate HERBERT MUELLER of D of the 19th '40-'41, last known to be living in Pittsfield, MA. Well that's only 40 miles away so we went up and rang doorbells 'til our finger was blue. SOL. Anybody out there got any ideas?

Due to demand we have ordered another supply of Red Newman's "Follow Me". Soft cover copies \$7.95; a few hard cover copies \$12.95. We'd be glad to receive your orders.

Have a party -- better yet, have an affair.



From Palo comes a letter enclosing a picture of the gate leading to the MacArthur Park Beach Resort at Red Beach.

If you want to propose a convention site for '85, you had best come prepared with a definite proposal. Merely to nominate Los Angeles or Chicago isn't enough. What about a specific hotel? Capacity? Rates? Etc., etc.

BILL ROMZ, (D 5th RCT '51-'52), of 6155 S. Keller, Chicago, IL, suggests raising dues from \$10 to 15.00.

River Downs Racetrack will be running while we meet at Cincy.

Col. ANTHONY L.P. WERMURTH, USA Ret. (G 21st 8/56 - 6/63) now at 1010 Lakeshore Dr., Mount Dora, FL 32757.

FRANK SKINNER, (Sv. 11th F '50-'51), of 2 Fourth, Camden, NY, reports that D/A is coming up with a replacement for the old-fashioned dog tag. It's to be an electronic chip. Insert it in a microcomputer and you get a complete readout on the soldier's financial, medical and personal history. What next?

Life Member 523 JACK HELLMAN, (QM '42-'45), of 5401 W. 25th, Topeka, KS, has retired after 36 years with Amoco Oil.

New member WAYNE PARSONS, (K 34th '49-'51), of 263 Melody Av., Greenwood, IN 46142, anxious to hear from anyone who was with him on the bloody trail from Pusan to Yalu and back.

LESTER A. JOHNSON (K 21st '51-'53) now at 10769 So. Pulaski, Chicago, IL 60655.

Golf is a sport
In which the ball
Usually lies poorly,
But the player well.



Joggers, here's your poop.

The Netherland Plaza is conveniently located in the heart of Cincinnati, overlooking Fountain Square, called the "Living Room" of the city.

Exit the Netherland Plaza from the Fifth Street door and go right.

Pass the Tyler Davison Fountain on Fountain Square. Purchased from Munich, Germany and erected in 1871, it is the focal point for most downtown activity.

Proceed down Fifth to Pike Street and go right. On your left will be the Taft Museum, birthplace of William Howard Taft. The home and the Taft's private art collection were given to Cincinnati in 1927.

Turn right on Fourth Street and cross into Lytle Park. Lytle Park, reconstructed in 1972, contains one of only three beardless statues of Abraham Lincoln, unveiled in 1917.

Go through the park to the footbridge leading to One Lytle Place. Here is a panoramic view of the Ohio River, with its many old paddlewheel boats and the Public Landing, home port of the Delta Queen. The distance to this point and back to the Netherland Plaza is 1 3/4 miles (5 3/4 kilometers).

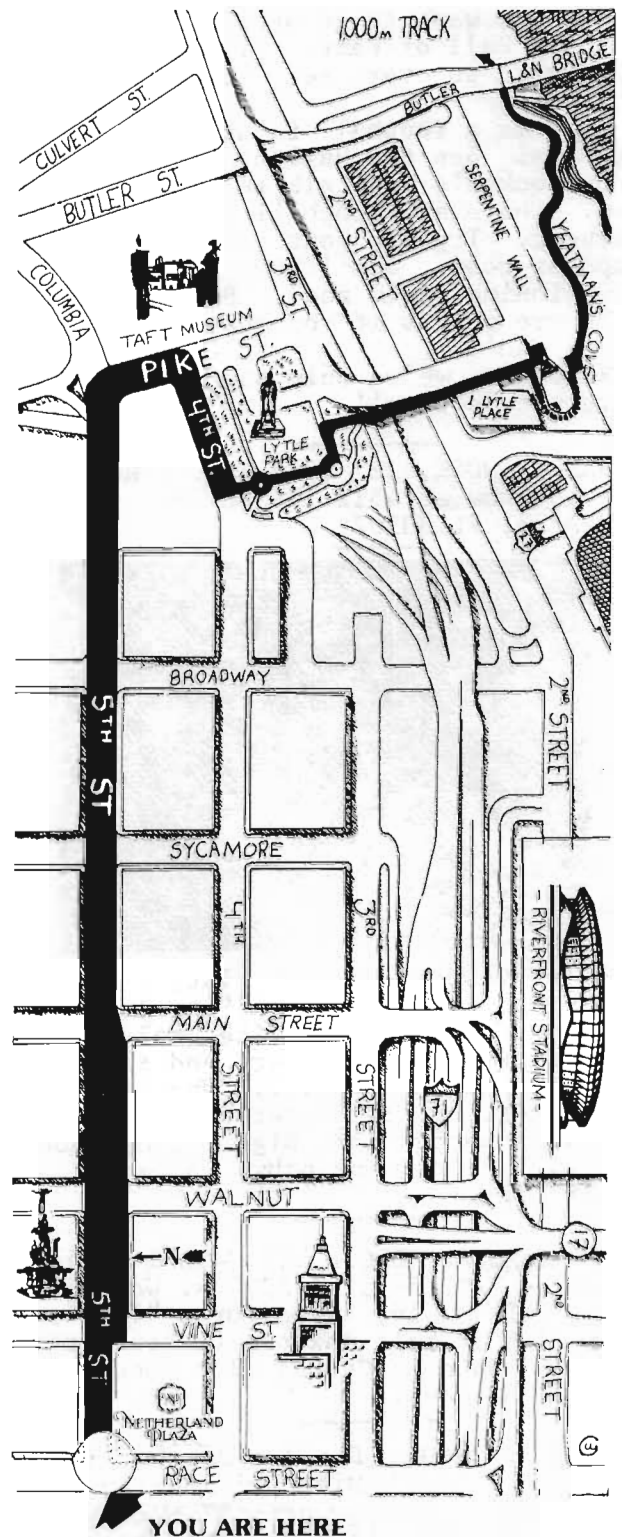
If you would like a longer job, proceed down the steps and through the Riverfront Plaza, a maze of pools, waterfalls and fountains. This will take you to the top of the Serpentine Wall, an amphitheater for concerts and shows on the river. Turn left and you will enter Yeatman's Cove where there is a 1,000 meter Par Course Physical Fitness track.

To return, simply retrace your tracks back to the Netherland Plaza. →

While in Cincy, be sure to visit the Jelly Bean Factory in the Westin lobby across the street from our place. 72 flavors from Amaretto to Wild Cherry. Fantastic!

Notice how so many of our gang are moving south. Latest is EDSON CARPENTER from Gaylord, MI to 32 N. Fillmore, Beverly Hills, FL. Beverly Hills? That's a new one to us, Ed, where is it?

If you were the only girl in the world,
And I were the only boy...
I wonder who I'd play handball with
down at the Y.



Our neighbor told us about the girl who passed herself off as a man and joined an infantry regiment during WW II: "She was just one of the boys. Ate with us, marched with us, slept with us, took showers with us -- everything! And she was beautiful, too." I asked, "How did she get away with it?" He said, "Who was going to tell?"

A fool and his money
Are soon invited everywhere.

Wonderful RALPH BALESTRIERI, (C & Sv. 13th F. '50-'51), of 41 Rose, Eatontown, NJ writes:

"Blame yourself. You've got me intrigued and every time I remember something I jot it down. Here's some more for your Army slang dictionary:
Meat wagon-- ambulance
Ammo carrier (ETO)-- Jerry ambulance (always brought up ammo returning to front lines so were fair game using slang indicated)
Bought the farm -- KIA
Bandit -- enemy aircraft (actually standard code)
Bucking for a Section 8 -- acting crazy
Brown-nosing, apple polishing -- buttering up seniors
Acting like a T/5 at an NCO meeting -- talking or acting above capabilities
Being GI -- enforcing the rules
Chicken sh-- -- enforcing beyond (or invented) rules
Little God -- PFC in charge
Jive -- smooth talk
My aching back -- expression of surprise, dismay, or amusement
Acting Jack -- temporary NCO
90 day wonder -- OCS graduate
Shavetail -- 2d Lt. (too old and common to be used?)
Bucking for a Silver Star -- suicidal CO (DSC above Bn.CO's)
Million dollar wound -- one that would get you sent stateside with no permanent damage
Flack -- anti-aircraft shell bursts (which concerned us because a lot of fragments landed on us)
Ack-ack -- anti-aircraft weapons
Bed Check Charlie -- Lone enemy plane that appeared every night right after our boys went to bed, flew around long enough to make you wish he would drop his load and go away.

Common Complaint Department:

In Europe: "All the good rations, equipment, and ammo are being sent to the Pacific."

In the Pacific: "All the good rations, equipment, and ammo are being sent to Europe."

Gee, thanks Ralph; you're terrific.

CHARLEY JAMESON, (F & AT 21st '44-'45) of Box 254, Bridgewater, VA 22812, writes this unhappy note: "Another Taro Leafer JAMES A. DAVIS (H 19th Korea) of Seaboard, NC 27876, did not know we existed. I met him at the V.A. Hospital in Richmond during radiation treatment in January. Yes, you guessed it, small tumor, left lung, removed upper half, Dec. 6, 1983, doing okay now, never smoked, but there she was." Cards to Charley might help, not to mention his inclusion in your next prayers.



The camouflaging is almost perfect for Sgt. ROY L. BURCHFIELD, (D Co.2/21). But the "Jeepu" in the background is due for a couple of gigs. U.S. Army Photo.

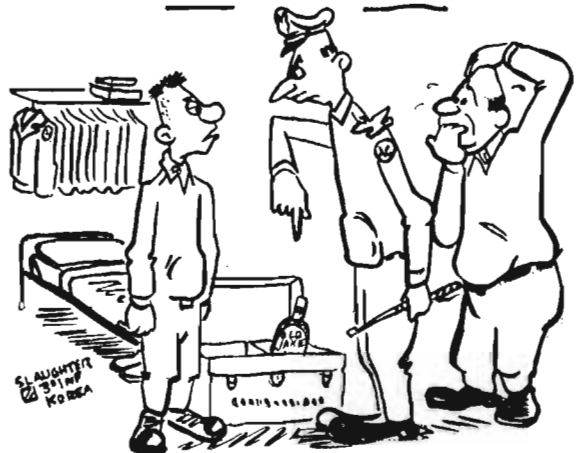
Again, we're not pushing. Those days are over.

You might like to make up a busload (of at least 35) to make this 7½ hour trip called "A Slow Boat to a Fast Track". Cost \$30.00 per person.

After a leisurely cruise down the river we will disembark at River Downs Race Track. There trams will transport us to the Club House for a delicious lunch and afternoon of racing. After the last race a motor coach will transport us back to Cincinnati.

Includes:

Round Trip Transportation
Admission
Complimentary Beverage on Cruise
Racing Program and Tip Sheet
Race Named in Honor of the Group
Lunch at the Club House
Cincinnati Cititour Guide



"I don't see any need for all this alarm, I always drink bonded bourbon."

CHARLES "Chuck" CLARK, (52nd F. '41-'43), of 14761 Holt, Tustin, CA, has been collaborating with VERNON GROSSHUESCH (52nd '42-'46) of 2228 Woody, Billings, Mont. 59102, on the alligator or crocodile incident on Leyte. Here is their report signed by Vern, for which we are exceedingly grateful:

"The 1st Bn. of the 34th under the command of Lt.Col. THOMAS E. 'Jock' CLIFFORD was given the order to occupy and hold Kilay Ridge at all costs. To occupy and hold Kilay Ridge would deny the enemy of having the advantage of this ridge which parallel the Ormoc Road.

"1st Lt. VERNON GROSSHUESCH and 1st Lt. JIM WAECHTER, both of the 52nd Field, were each assigned with Forward Observer parties (4 enlisted men, each) to report to the Battalion Command Post on Kilay Ridge for assignment as Jock directed.

"We left Colasian Point (52nd gun positions and Hqtrs.) on an LCVF and were taken around the point to Leyte Bay. It was foul, rainy weather and we camped the first night near a small Philippino barrio. The next day, the LCVF ferried us up the Naga River as far as they could navigate. We walked from there to Assembly Point Consuegra.

"Consuegra was a collecting and supply base to which amphibious vehicles and other water craft brought ammunition, supplies and men. From here, every need was physically carried, mostly by native bearers, to Kilay Ridge. Other troops and the native carriers were also bivouacked here. Consuegra was about a mile from Kilay Ridge.

"Arriving late in the afternoon, we put down for the night at this location. The river at this point was very narrow and could best be described as a stream, not very deep even though its banks were sheer drops of 4 or 5 feet. There was a board plank approximately 2 inches thick by 12 inches wide and 14 or 16 feet in length that was used as a footbridge across the stream. (We were later, the next day, to become acutely aware that this was a tidal stream, or river, and subject to the rising and falling of the tides). On one side of the stream was a grass covered coconut grove and on the other side was the general assembly area. Several buildings were on the assembly side of the stream.

"Our Forward Observer party of 4, not my regular crew, consisted of a Sergeant and 3 other men from A Battery, elected to spend the night on the grass of the coconut grove. I recall them bedding down on the grass, parallel to each other, in close proximity and about 10 to 15 feet from the stream. No fox-holes were dug as no danger from the Japs was apparent nor anticipated.

Waechter and I decided to sleep on the other side of the stream in the vicinity of the buildings, about 50 feet from where the observer party was sleeping.

"Before darkness set in, I cleaned my rifle and ammunition. Waechter cajoled me into doing the same for him. It was an extremely wet and dark night. After darkness fell, all movement ceased and all became quiet. We were awakened (sometime near midnight) by a blood curdling, desperation scream, the likes of which I had never heard before, or since. The scream seemed to last for about 30 seconds but I know it could have been for only 5 to 7 seconds. It ended as abruptly as it started. At first we thought 'Japs' and grabbed our weapons but no shots nor additional sounds were heard. An accepted front line combat law of survival discourages walking around or movement after dark. We, therefore, remained where we were and awaited the dawn.



"LIEUTENANT, MEET YOUR NOSE, BELLY AND TAIL GUNNERS."

"At first light, Waechter, I and others crossed the stream by the footbridge plank to contact our men and to determine, if we could, the cause of the scream. It was then as I met with my observer crew that I was made aware of the missing man. He was one of the inside men of the four sleeping parallel to one and other. The other men had been awakened by the scream and realized one of the men was missing, but stated they had seen nothing nor could they account for the missing man. The natives knew what had happened. They pointed to the deep crocodile paw marks in the wet, moist grass and to the stream now level with its banks. They said 'crocodile come and drag boy in river.' They went on to say that

crocodiles would drag their prey of live animals (this time a man) into the water, roll over and pull their victim under the water, thus drowning him. This could account for the shortness of and the abrupt ending of the scream.

"The man lost was a recruit, having been with us a rather short time. He was a young man, about 20 years of age, a rather big fellow, likeable, quiet and one who had carried his share of the load on this trip forward. I radioed Bn.Hqtrs. and advised them of our loss. They asked if I had any positive evidence. Since I had none, I replied 'negative'. He was, I believe, listed as MIA.

"We proceeded to Kilay Ridge where we were assigned to line Companies by Jock. I can remember nights that we spent on Kilay Ridge sleeping standing up in foxholes partially filled with water. The Japs were determined to gain control. Each night was a struggle to hold it. Waechter lost his radio operator in one of these engagements. 1st Bn. of the 34th hung on and earned a Presidential Unit Citation for their actions. Shortly after Thanksgiving Day, '44, we and 1st Bn. were relieved by units of the 32nd.

"My three man observer party, some members of the 1st Bn. and I walked down to Consuegra along with several American wounded and three Jap prisoners. We were then taken back by LCVP to the 52nd which was now located at Pinamopoan.

"As a civilian the crocodile incident is the most tragic event I ever had to deal with. It still tugs at my conscience. Maybe if I had known of the tidal stream -- of the crocodile danger. What if I had advised the men to sleep in another location? It also bothers me that I do not remember the names of those four men with whom I served on this assignment. In the December Taro Leaf, BERNARD BAGINSKI of Pittsburgh, PA (A Btry. 52nd) advised that the soldier was named 'Klein' and was from Chicago, IL.

"VERNON GROSSHUESCH states that he can accept that as he recalls he had a short name but that he does not remember for sure."

Again we say, thank you, Vern, and Chuck, for this report.

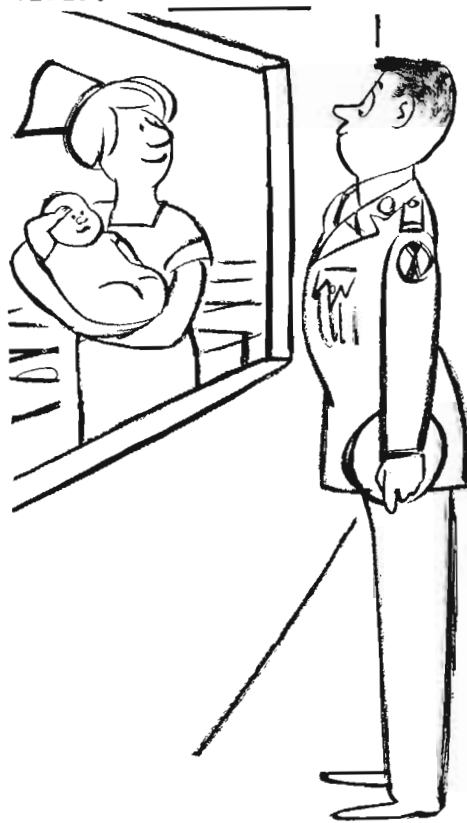
DON CHASE, (B 19th '51), of 31 Brush Hill, Sherborn, MA, tells us that DONALD ISON of Rt. 3, Box 63, Grayson, KY., would like to hear from anyone who served in Btry. A of the 11th Field. Okay to both of you Dons; we've done our part.

Col. JAMES D. OGLETREE (Div. QM, '48-'52) now at 1002 Mayberry Dr., Tahlequah, OK 74464.

Convention Chairman JOHN KLUMP recommends as a Thursday or Friday tour, a trip to Dayton to the Air Force Museum. But we're not, repeat not, including it as a part of our program. If you go, you're on your own. Tour information will be available at the registration desk.

Cincinnati Cititours will run a busload of 35 up to Dayton for \$10.00 per person. It's a 5 hour trip up during and back.

The Air Force Museum, near Dayton, OH, is the oldest and largest military aviation museum in the world. Exhibits include approximately 130 aircraft and missiles, plus aeronautical items, spanning the period from Kittyhawk to the present. In addition there are numerous informative exhibits of hardware, documents, photographs, a POW exhibit from WW II, and personal memorabilia.



This issue is a little late. Had a little argument with the medics -- and lost. Surgery. All okay now, thank you!

Life Member #403, JOHN A. BROWN (Hq. 2nd Bn. 21st '51-'53), of Box 15, 17730 Live Oak, Hesperia, CA, tells us that the doughboy in Korea was called a "gravelpounder, among other things." A.C. BRANDESKY was asking. Adds John: "I was proud to have been one even though I mostly packed an SCR300 up and down the hills before we finally moved back to Japan."

Eat, drink and re-marry.

During February, we made an unofficial survey of 462 members to determine preferences for the time and place of the 1984 convention. The survey was conducted by mailing a questionnaire to a randomly selected group of members. The purpose was, hopefully, to simplify and expedite the voting process at Savannah next August.

Questionnaires were mailed to 462 members. Surprisingly responses came from 321 -- an amazingly encouraging result.

The tabulated results follow:

1. Prefer a convention in a large city 40, in a medium size city 56, in a resort 88.

2. Prefer time:

Aug. '84	208
Nov. '84	16
June '84	2
Don't care	81

3. Specific locations:

Las Vegas, Nev.	36
San Francisco, Cal.	11
Chicago, Ill.	21
Honolulu, Hi.	28
New Orleans, La.	16
Florida	18
Toronto, Canada	6
Niagara Falls, NY	31

Other locations suggested:

New York, NY	2
Atlantic City, NJ	12
Hilton Head, SC	3
Catskills, NY	6

Conclusions, based on the responses of 321 members:

1. Most members prefer resorts
2. August is the favored month
3. The best site is Las Vegas, Nev.



"You GIs are all alike!!"

Remember - in Cincy, the dress is Hawaiian shirts or muumuus - as each prefers - except for the Saturday night banquet when we dress like ladies and gentlemen. Sneakers and sweatshirts will not be tolerated.

In his defense of Cpl. Alfred Griffin, the Muslim Marine who refused to go to Beirut, attorney William Kunstler explained that the Koran prohibits a Muslim from taking the life of a fellow believer.

As a gesture towards peace, perhaps the U.S. government should consider sending Mr. Kunstler to Tehran and Baghdad, where he could "explain" this prohibition to both the Iranians and the Iraqis, who thus far seem to be ignoring it.

NOTICE:

Hope we're in time for this one. ABC's "20-20" show will devote 20 minutes to the Division training at Ft. Irwin, CA on Thursday, June 14th.

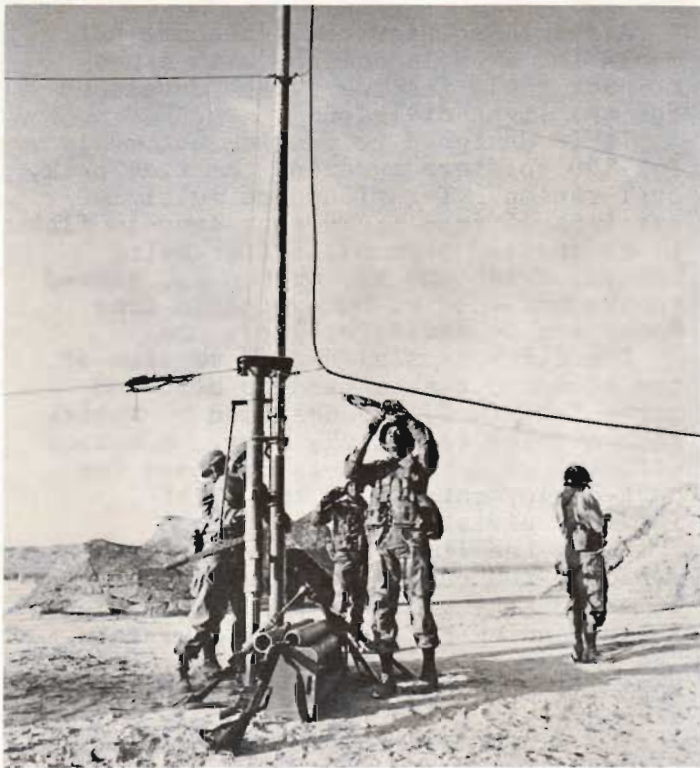


"See there, I told you it wouldn't dare!"

My wife's jealousy is getting ridiculous. The other day she looked at my calendar and demanded to know who May was.

Rodney Dangerfield

Veterans of the Chosin Reservoir campaign have formed the "Chosin Few" and welcome as members the survivors who served in, around, or above the Chosin Reservoir in November and December 1950. For further information, write: Mr. Frank Kerr, 33 Holbrook Av., Hull MA 02045.



24th Signalmen are aligning a VHF radio antenna with the antenna at the next station. A US Army Photo by ??? -- you guessed it -- Chris Feola.

No names supplied with this one. The tattoo on the soldier's arm reminds us of the fellow who had "Virginia" tattooed across his chest. In time, he fell out with Virginia and then settled down with Ruth. Just before the wedding he went in to see the local tattoo artist and had him scratch in "Norfolk" right over "Virginia".

ARE
YOUR
DUES
PAID?

If you're going to do something tonight that you'll be sorry for tomorrow morning, sleep late.

Henny Youngman

From ED HENRY comes a report on the late Chaplain WILLIAM J. WALTER. "Bucky", as he was known among his intimates, was Div.Arty.Chaplain in Hollandia and Div.Chaplain on Leyte. After the war, Bucky went to serve in the islands of Micronesia where he was much loved by the natives -- so much so that now, each Jan. 11th, the day he was buried in Ulithi 8 years ago, the natives mark the anniversary with a "celebration" of the event.

To remember the event of his almost 30 years of missionary labor among them, the entire day is given to a joyful celebration and banquet, speeches, and a specially composed dance by the local women which recalls in word and gesture the main events of his life and work among them.

We remember Bucky well -- both from WW II days and from correspondence which we engaged in therefollowing.

His last letter to us, from Yap, was dated 10-29-75 and it went:

"After having exhausted all other drugs I'm now taking a Japanese anti-cancer vaccine which is banned in the U.S. Pray that it works!"

"Because of the ups and downs of this illness I'm always making plans and always changing. I had planned to return to the States in October and now that has to be revised. To give the anticancer vaccine a fair trial I'll have to stay out here until after Christmas.

"Let us keep praying for each other trusting in God's mercy and love.

"Devotedly in Christ."

58 days later -- on Dec. 26, 1975, Bucky passed to his reward among the people he loved.



We simply had to give you this "one again" shot by Chris Feola. It's an A-10 anti-tank close support fighter heading out for an enemy position. You gave us some wonderful shots, Chris. Thanks.

From the lovely Suzanne Stoll Plank comes word of the passing of her wonderful Dad, Col. FRED H. STOLL, Exec. and then CO of the 21st during the '45-'48 period. Fred died last Feb. 19th. Fred Stoll's military career began in the Nebraska National Guard upon graduation from high school in '17. He went with the guard for training at Camp Cody, Deming, New Mexico, then to the Army Replacement Center, France, and then to Officer Training School, LeMons, France. He returned to the states in '19 as a 2nd Lieutenant. Upon his return to Nebraska, he served as Commander (Capt.) of Co. C, 134th Inf., 35th Div., E.O. (Maj.) of 1st Bn., 134th Inf.; Bn.CO (Lt.Col.) of the 1st Bn. In '40, Col. Stoll was called to active duty and continued to serve until his retirement at Fort Carton in '57. In 1945 he was assigned to the Army of Occupation in Japan, first to the 33rd Division (Okayama) and then to the 21st Inf. (Kumamoto, Kyushu) as Executive Officer, and then Commander.

Fred Stoll will be sorely missed by all who knew him and loved him for what he was -- a real gentleman.

That History we've been promising for lo these many months. We ask you to understand first that that project comes last -- of necessity. We are still trying to earn our daily bread -- a bit of a chore these days -- and we're devoting hours, beyond belief in numbers in trying to hold this little old Association together -- not to mention what we're throwing into the pot by way of \$. So that leaves the History, third in the line of our priorities. We hardly expect to arrive in Cincy with printed copies, much as we'd like to do. Forgive us, please. We're trying our d----est.

We write this on the night of the Academy Awards.

We are reminded of a similar evening 10 years earlier. The late David Niven was about to present an award when a streaker ran behind him -- completely in the nude. Hardly nonplussed, Niven came out with one of the best ad-lib lines ever -- "How nice of him to drop his pants and show up his shortcomings."

Today's trivia: Name the only player to hit more than 50 homers and strike out fewer than 50 times in the same season.

Good eating in C. MAISONETTE at 114 E. 6th. 2 1/2 blocks from our hqs. 5 star rated by Mobil Guide. Specialty: French cuisine. Price range: \$17 to 21. Reservations suggested. Tel. 721-2260.

A single soldier could prepare hot meals for a whole company with a new compact field feeding system developed for the light division.

It is designed to provide hot meals for 150 soldiers by using the tray pack, or T-ration. T-rations are multiple servings of food items that come in flat trays instead of cans. After being heated, T-rations are opened and served to troops. Heated but unopened tray packs can be saved for later use.

The CLFFK, a scaled-down version of the standard system used to heat and serve T-rations, was designed by Natick Laboratories in Natick, Mass. A Natick official said the kit is intended for post-deployment use by the light infantry division.

"When the light infantry division deploys, the only food service equipment it would take would be the company-level field feeding kit," the official said. "As the scene of action starts to mature, they may move in other (field) feeding assets."

The entire kit weighs about 500 pounds, and is designed to fit inside a High-Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV). The kit will be operated in the field by one food service soldier, he added.

A larger T-ration heating and serving system, dubbed the mobile food service unit, has been used in previous tray pack tests. The MFSU, which has a generator and boiler, is mounted on a truck or trailer.

Only one CLFFK, the one demonstrated here, has been assembled thus far, the official said. But several dozen kits are slated for testing this summer, he added.

The kit's major components are a tray pack heater, stock pot and burner, multipurpose table and insulated containers for off-site troop feeding.

The heater is a square metal box on a stand that can be used to heat up to 20 T-rations at a time, he said. A burner underneath heats water inside the device and that hot water then heats T-rations to serving temperature.

The stock pot, essentially a 15-gallon soup pot, also is heated by a burner. It would be used to prepare coffee or other hot beverages. A folding work table that also will be used as a serving line for heated, opened T-rations also is part of the kit. Insulated containers to carry tray packs and beverages to elements of the company not able to move to the site where the CLFFK has been set up also are part of the kit.

Trivia answer: Hall of Famer Johnny Mize, who, with the New York Giants of 1947, hit 51 homers and struck out 42 times.

This interesting letter came in from
LACY C. BARNETT, (A 24th Med.Bn., 34th &
19th '49-'51), 406 West South St.,
Winchester, Ind. 47394:

The following information is submitted reference the question of
the 34th Inf losing its' colors in Korea.

On 1 and 2 July 1950, Task Force Smith composed of 406 men from the
21st Inf and 108 men from the 52d FA arrived in Korea. They engaged
the enemy at 0816 hours on 5 July and fought until 1430 that afternoon
when a withdrawal was initiated. By 6 July, 181 men of this force had
become casualties.

The 34th Inf with a strength of 1,981 men arrived in Korea on
2 July 1950 (one battalion short and the other two understrength) and
engaged the enemy at 1600 hours on 5 July. Forty nine (49) days later
(23 Aug), the 34th Inf had only 184 of the original 1,981 men remaining.

The 34th Inf suffered a majority of their casualties in and around
Taejon. The sequence of events and the time of their occurrence in
Taejon on 20 July have been impossible to establish with certainty in
all instances. All battalion and regimental records normally kept in
the forward combat area, were lost by the 34th Inf on 20 July. The
34th Inf Command Post (Rear) was in Yongdong on 20 July which was more
than 20 miles South of Taejon. There were no records of this rear unit
lost. The regimental colors were with this rear CP on 20 July.

The only time that the 34th Inf could have possibly lost its' colors
would have been during the battle of Taejon on 20 July. Let me assure
you that it did not happen.

There were many heroic actions by members of the 24th Inf Div in
the first weeks in Korea. But there were also many uncomplimentary and
unsoldierly ones. There is no reason to suppose that any of the other
three occupation divisions in Japan (1st Cav, 25th, and 7th) would have
done better in Korea than did the 24th Div in July 1950. When committed
to action, the other 3 divisions showed the same weaknesses.

On 26 August 1950, Gen Walker (Eighth Army CG), after discussing
the matter with Gen Church (24th Div CG), ordered the 34th Inf reduced
to paper status and its' personnel transferred to the 19th Inf and
21st Inf. Given his choice by Gen Walker, Gen Church decided to take
the 5th Regimental Combat Team (newly arrived from Hawaii) as the third
regiment of the 24th Div, rather than rebuild the 34th Inf with
replacements.

In Sept 1950, the 34th Inf with about a dozen men was sent to Japan.
In January 1951, the 34th Inf started rebuilding at Camp Zama, Japan.
By August 1951, the 34th Inf was again up to full strength and combat
ready. It was deployed to Korea and immediately upon arrival, it was
redesignated as the 14th Inf of the 25th Div. In 1952, the 34th became
an active unit of the 24th Div again, and the 5th RCT was no longer
a unit of the 24th Inf Div.

Some of the above is based on personal knowledge but most of it
was obtained from the following book:

"South To The Naktong, North To The Yalu (June-November 1950)"
by Roy E. Appleman, Office of the Chief of Military History, Department
of the Army, 1961, Library of Congress Catalog Number 60-60043,
Reprinted 1975 (For sale by the Superintendent of Documents, US Govern-
ment Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 - Price \$19.95 - Stock
Number 008-029-00079-2, Catalog Number D114.2:K84/2/V.1).

This is a tremendous book (813 pages with numerous maps) and should
be read by everyone interested in the actions of the 24th Inf Div in
Korea. The book covers the heroes and reveals the shortcomings of all
units that fought in Korea from June to November 1950. After reading
this book, I believe that anyone will agree that never has a U.S.
Infantry Division been asked to do so much with so little, as the
24th Div was in July and August 1950.

Major General (Retired) Charles Beauchamp who was CO, 34th Inf
during July and August 1950, certainly can verify the fact that the
34th did not lose its' colors in Korea.

The previous information submitted to you by Dan Cavanaugh quoting
the Chief of the Army Historical Division and the Officer-in-Charge
of the Stars and Stripes is just about as official as you can get.

Yes, it does hurt those of us who served as members of the 34th Inf
in July and August 1950 to hear someone say, usually with an air of
authority, that we lost our colors.

Is not all of the above enough to convince everyone that the 34th
did not lose its' colors in Korea? The 184 of us who did survive, plus
many others who recovered from their wounds or were released as POW's
in October 1950 and in 1953, are quite proud of the accomplishments
and often wonder how any of us survived under the prevailing
adverse circumstances.



"At ease."

CHARLEY KAEFER (H 21st
'41-'45), of 177 Clinton,
Cowlesville NY wrote a pip.
Here, you read it yourself:

"Been meaning to write
since Savannah (my first) to
say how great it was to meet
buddies from so long ago and
far away. There were 9 of us
from H 21st (Crosson, Moore,
Skipper, Fies, Grady, Clinton,
Kramarchyk, Newkirk and my-
self). Now I'm 'hooked' on
the reunion bit. So far I
have a list of 5 (working
from 1945 addresses) who have
expressed interest. If you
print these names, I will
send addresses to any mem-
bers wishing to contact them:
Henry Gorgol, Alex Kopacz,
Patsy J. Buttaccio, Haywood
Kelly and Cecil Moyer.

"I think my goal is to
see a minimum of 15 ex H Co.
members at Cinci.

"Although I am a Life
Member (#498) I want to pay
the annual dues as a small
measure on my part to help
defray the mounting costs of
printing the paper."

Watta guy. Call him at
716-937-9078.

ALTON K. HALSO's report is given as he wrote it. He didn't tell us to keep it quiet -- so here goes. He was 19th from '40 - '45 and he and Julia are at Rt. 4, Box 399, Kinston NC, Tel. 919-569-5041. Here's his message: "Last October I found I had a problem. Doctors discovered I had cancer. I was operated on 17th November and all my stomach had to be removed. I seem to be recovering very well. My weight is down to 140 lbs. and I am still pretty weak. One more chemotherapy treatment to go. My appetite is not good now, but the doctors seem to think I will get that back and start gaining some weight after I get through with the treatments. Julia and I are looking forward to Ohio in August."



"Well, Achingback, we finally got you all patched up. Now relax, take it easy, and don't do too much laughing."

RALPH A. GOFF of 5901 Weber, Corpus Christi, TX (unit unknown) is anxious to start a "Korean Vets of Texas" organization. He asks for a plug in Taro Leaf. There it is, Ralphie. We do know that Ralph was a POW for 17 months and escaped. Eureka!!

DUES for August 1984 - August 1985 will be due shortly. We'd be happy to receive payments now.

Also due are Life Membership Payments for those of you that are presently paying \$20.00 per year for 5 years.

We do not mail dues notices. We try to notify you through these pages.

You've got to admire BILL KEYES, (D 21st '39-'44), of 120 Valley Crest, Wethersfield CT. Bill has faithfully watched over DICK AMERMAN during his recent troubled years. Dick, with a plurality of ailments, is now in Mediplex Convalescent Home, 341 Jorda Lane, Wethersfield CT. Sez Bill: "He'd love a card or two from his old 24th buddies." Adds Bill that he and Virginia are flying to L.A. Their 3 boys are into TV, all working for MTM Productions. With a p.s., Bill adds: "We 24thers still remember Nazism, Tojo-ism and Leninism. So, with the help of our experiences and hard realism, we won't let Leninism, the ant hill philosophy, lead our kids down the primrose path." We're with you Bill.

JOE HOFRICHTER tells us that his trip to the P.I. in October is fairly well filled. 101 have made deposits. He goes on: "Roughly 85% of the men are taking their wives, and some, their children. Interestingly, 85% will go on to Hong Kong and then stop over in Hawaii on the return. At present I have space for only 30 more people. The response has been overwhelming... thanks to your editorial support. You may wish to remind those interested to get their reservations in quickly to avoid possible disappointment."

You can reach Joe at 1718 Bird Dog Court, Loveland, OH., Tel. 513-677-0267.



You're "almost" looking down the barrel of Sp. 4 ROMILIO P. SUMERA's M-16. Romilio's with A Co. 2/21. U.S. Army Photo.

BILL COE (B 21st '43-'51), a Task Force Smith man, lives at 59 Lenox, Cohoes, NY. He is a collector of military items -- ours (USA) and theirs (Germany, Japan, North Korea and you know what else). If you have anything hot, call him. Home phone is 518-235-0194. If you want to catch him at work, try 518-237-1744.

John R. Shay
1129 Shermer Road
Glenview IL 60025

10608 Lake Shore Blvd
Bratenahl OH 44108
Tel 216 249 8970
April 26 1984

Dear Mr. Shay:

Since you are president of the 24th Infantry Division Association, and my information is that you were with the 21st Infantry Regiment in Japan from '46 to '52 in Korea, I suspect that the above salutation is in error.

Be that as it may, please allow me to introduce myself. I am an Air Force retiree who believes that hitherto published reports of the 1950 decision to employ US air, naval and ground forces in helping the Republic of Korea stop the North Korean invaders crossing the 38th parallel needs to be put in perspective.

For reference and possible inclusion in a book I am putting together, tentatively entitled Korea 1950: A history of a decision, I invited participating witnesses to the events in the Far East, from 25 June to 5 July that year, to contribute their accounts of those events, along with any documentation they deemed significant.

Robert G. Fox, of Lowell Massachusetts, sent me a copy of the 24th Infantry Division letter addressed to former "Taro Leafers."

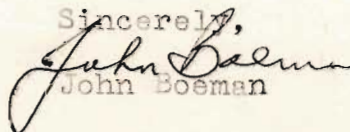
Certainly no military unit in history has been asked to do more, faster, with less, than those first units of the 24th Division who met the North Korean tanks at Osan. I want to tell readers about the days of occupation in Japan, and the effects of the various changes in mission concept up to 25 June, 1950, but the main thrust of the book I am writing is to give the accounts, as seen by the participants, from the time the North Koreans crossed the 38th parallel until they were met by Task Force Smith.

Can you tell me if your "Taro Leaf" has published any accounts of Task Force Smith, if there are any other accounts within your organization, or how I may be able to contact individuals who could and would be willing to give their accounts of those events?

Enclosed is an account I have put together from various sources, and a couple of maps from Roy E. Appleman's South to the Naktong, North to the Yalu, to refresh memories and perhaps give some clues as to the kind of information I am seeking. I am very much interested in personal versions of the accounts related to better put the whole Korean decision in perspective.

I believe that if you can help me with this, it will also help to revive and share the memories created while your members of the 24th Infantry Division Association served together.

I hope very much to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

John Boeman

Meet CHARLES W. MENNINGER, (A & K 34th; 2nd Bn., 21st '48-'53), of 5009 La Madera, El Monte, CA. He writes:

"Just received the 'Taro Leaf', and still remain totally frustrated. I recently had a nice visit with WALT CHRISTIANSON (G 34th '44-'45) (M 34th & H 21st '49-'51), of RR 1, Christie Road, Ladysmith BC Canada, → and his wife, Rose. He has a lot of slides taken during the first year in Korea, and was kind enough to have some made into photos for me.

"My reason for being frustrated is that Walt brought me a whole stack of back-issues of the Magazine, and once again a fruitless search through each and every issue looking for anyone who was with the 34th or 21st from '47 through '51. Not a one -- and this latest issue is the same.

"I was so excited when a friend wrote and said he was sending me a roster of the 21st -- it turned out to be only the Officers -- no enlisted people at all.

"I had hoped to hear from you about the book I sent to you, "South to the Naktong; North to the Yalu" -- even though some of the pages are mixed up, it tells quite a bit, and I, for one, learned what happened to many friends that I had been in the dark about -- for instance, Major Boone Seegers being ambushed, leaving me the sole survivor of the 3rd Bn. S-3 Section.

"It strikes me as strange that with the exception of JIM IRWIN, there does not seem to be another member of the 34th during the time period mentioned. I realize that when a Regiment loses all but 184 out of 2000 men in sixty days, there weren't going to be very many out there running around, but surely, they are out there somewhere..."

Like Cantonese or Szechvan cooking? Try My Good Friend Donny's in C. 3½ blocks from our hotel at 711 Main St. Tel. 579-1888.

NOBLE I. AYERS, (Hq. 1st & 2nd Bns. 19th '42-'44), a new member out of St. Joseph, MO, asks what our dues are. \$10 per year, Noble, and our year runs from Aug. 1st to Aug. 1st for everybody. Easier that way. Noble is an old JIM WILSON friend.

LINWOOD (John) NEWELL JR., Rt. 2, Box 887, Norway ME 04268, would like to hear from anyone knowing the whereabouts of M. Sgt. Faustin Marentes, who served with him in Co. C 19th Inf.

HERMAN "Jim" HALE managed to get this publicity in the April 6th issue of the Yonkers NY Herald Statesman, for which we are grateful:

Company halt! Answer roll call



This is a first. And its success depends solely on the word getting around to the former members of the 8th Airborne Infantry Ranger Company, a separate parachute light infantry unit which was attached to the 24th Infantry (Taro Leaf) Division in Korea during the Korean War.

The unit's shoulder patch depicted a curved scroll in black, red and white, bearing the words "8th Airborne Inf Ranger Co."

The first annual reunion of the group, which is also the first reunion to be held by any of the airborne infantry ranger companies which served in Korea, will be held July 21-24 at Fayetteville, N.C.

Herman (Jim) Hale is waiting to hear from you at 26 Annandale Drive, Route 5, Inman, S.C. 29349, or you may call 1-803-578-6228 collect.

JOHN PLENSKOFSKI (C 5th RCT '50-'51), of 390 Kalmia, Warminster PA has located Fr. THOMAS WALDIE, Regtl. Chaplain of the 5th. The good Father is at Blessed Sacrament Seminary, Wilson Mills Rd., Cleveland, OH and would like to hear from FURMON MOMBLION.

With so much memorializing around June the 6th time, we are reminded of W.H. Auden's much quoted lines:

"Let us cherish if we can
The vertical man
Though we honor none
But the horizontal one."

Japanese food? Try Sekitei Restaurant at 609 Walnut. Tel. 381-4500. You can walk over. It's only 2½ blocks away.

Bring to Cincy something concrete in the matter of where we ought to go in '85. And let's not forget our west coast members.

Apologies to TOM COMPERE for what we said about the Chicago Cubs in our last issue. We wonder still if the Cubs really mean it.

CHARLEY JAMESON (F & AT 21st '44-'45), of Rt. 2, Box 254, Bridgewater, VA., asks us to "play it in low key" -- but it's a story of myriad health problems. He adds: "I am feeling fine again. You know the good book says we can look forward to 3 score and 10 but we all want 4 score and more. I appreciate all the prayers and good, kind thoughts." How about a card to Charley, anyway? He adds to our growing Dictionary with these words: "I've never seen 'SAMFUTER' in our paper -- Situation Abnormal More Fouled Up Than Usual."

You've seen it now, Charley.

S/Sgt. JIM CHAMPION, Ret. (A 13th F '41-'45), of 622 Euclid, Erie, PA, is looking for EMERY CHESTNUT, supply sergeant of A Btry. Emery was from Ky. Hope you get results, Jim.

If the cancer-linked fumigant EDB keeps popping up in different foods -- today they've announced it's to be found in Cracker Jacks, then why not start with this -- stop making the EDB back at the source? It makes sense, doesn't it?

We're going to stop putting things off -- starting tomorrow.

We get this question at least once a week: "When are dues due?" Answer: Our fiscal year runs from August 1st to July 31st. Dues (\$10 per annum) are due each August 1st. Okay? And we don't send statements. We operate like a Jewish market -- entirely on trust -- and a lotta prayers.

What We Like to See Department: Life Member #490, PAT CLINTON, (H 21st, '39-'43), of 5826 W.8th, Tulsa, OK, sent in a membership application and check to cover same for EARL C. GARRETT, (F 21st '40-'43), of 313 W. Jordan, Claremore OK. Not only that -- but Pat sweetened the kitty with an extra \$15.00 and then added "Hope to make Cincy". We hope you do, too, Pat.

BUFFORD F. GOFF, (F 19th '48-'51), of 212 W. Circle, Russellville, Ark., will run for State Commander of DAV. Good luck, Bufford. No we don't have an E. O. WHITE from FL as a member.

Time in Service for Promotion Declines

By LARRY CARNEY
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — The average time in service for promotion to E-8, E-7, E-5, E-4 and E-3 has dropped since September 30, while the average TIS for E-9 and E-6 advancement has increased, Army promotion statistics show.

"We currently have more E-9s and E-6s than we need, and this has increased the average TIS for promotion in these two grades," an official said.

The Army is near its strength authorization for E-7 and expects service requirements to start increasing in that grade.

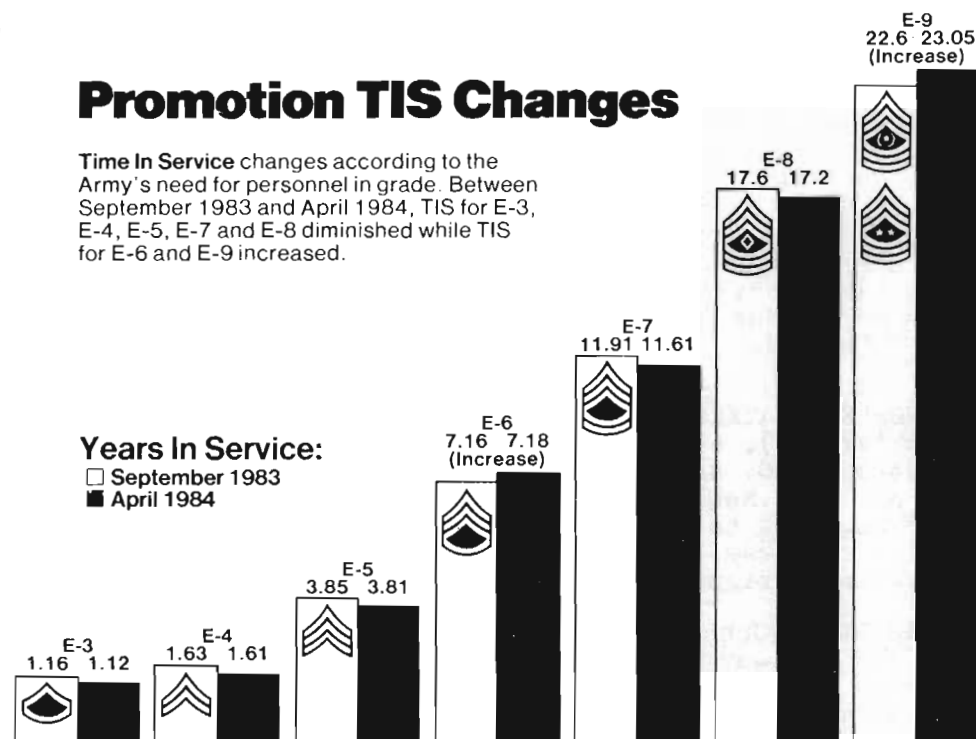
The average TIS for E-8 promotion dropped from 17.6 years in September 1983 to 17.2 years in April 1984. The average TIS for E-7 dropped from 11.91 to 11.61 years; the average TIS for E-5 dropped from 3.85 to 3.81 years; the average TIS for E-4 dropped from 1.63 to 1.61 years, and the average TIS for E-3 promotion dropped from 1.16 to 1.12 years during the same period.

While the average TIS dropped for these four enlisted grades, it increased for two others. The average TIS for E-9 advancement increased from 22.6 years in September, 1983, to 23.05 years in April while the average TIS for E-6 promotion went from 7.18 years to 7.21 years during the same period.

Because E-4 strength is sched-

Promotion TIS Changes

Time In Service changes according to the Army's need for personnel in grade. Between September 1983 and April 1984, TIS for E-3, E-4, E-5, E-7 and E-8 diminished while TIS for E-6 and E-9 increased.



Times Illustration by Matt Arozian

uled to increase to 192,000 by October 1, "we expect the average wait for E-4 promotion to drop even further in the months ahead," the official said.

The TIS statistics, he said, show

that promotion to the junior NCO grades is faster in the Army than the other services.

"Air Force and Navy people must wait at least two years for promotion to E-4 and a few

months longer than soldiers for advancement to sergeant and specialist five," the official said.

He said requirements for promotion start evening out in all the services by grade E-6.



Wait'll you figure out this one. It's Ms. Dean Thigpen, the seamstress who sews on all patches for new Stewart soldiers. What happened to the diddy bags and all that they implied? U.S. Army Photo. _____



VINNIE VELLA, (K 21st WW II), of 107 Homer, Buffalo, NY, is on the right. He can't recall the other two names. They were sent out as a team to observe the first Nip election (circa Feb. '46) in several small towns around Okayama. _____

Anyone who has knowledge of the following men, who died in the crash of a B-24 transport between Port Moresby and Nadzab, New Guinea, on March 22, 1944, or their units: 1st Sgt. Harold Atkins, 19018763, 670th AAA MG Btry A/B; 1st Sgt. Weldon W. Frazier, 6282510, 665th AAA MG Btry A/B; T4 Joseph E. Kachorek, 33170120, 5th Field Hosp; PFC Carlin E. Loop, 37495005, Co. C, 565th Sig. Aircraft Warning Bn. Contact Susan Sheehan, 4505 Klinge St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20016, who is writing a series of articles on the crash for The New Yorker magazine.



"So that's how they do it!!"

Stewart has been good to us in sending us pictures of goings-on both at Stewart and Hunter and at the National Training Center, Ft. Irwin, CA. Here's one you'll like. The provided caption read something like this: Pvt. DANA HENDERSON of B Co. 3rd Eng.Bn., uses his backhoe to dig individual fighting positions around the perimeter during the 1st Brigade's task force deployment to Irwin." Well for one thing, an individual fighting position was what we called a "foxhole" -- and if you ever knew of a 3rd Eng. coming over to backhoe it for you, please raise your hand. U.S. Army Photo by Adolph Mallory. We lived in different times, Adolph. ↓



The Post Office says it will all be solved with the nine-point zip code which will pinpoint exactly where you are -- Now all we need is a zip code that pinpoints where your mail is... Remember the mailman's creed: Neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet shall prevent the mail from being returned to sender.



"Let's promote ourselves!!"

New grandson for DON and Lola LUEDTKE, (34th Hdq.Co. '48-'50), of Rt. 1, Box 5, Arcadia, Ne. He's Austin Charles, arriving March 11th in New Orleans -- 8# 2 oz. -- the son of Al and Deb, who are moving to Seaford, Del. More gossip on Don and Lola. Daughter Denise married one Bill Emmons last Apr. 15th. And son, Brian, leaving Germany for Art.School at Sill. Watta family.

INVITATION

We're all invited to the Retirement Parade for Lt.Gen. DONALD E. ROSENBLUM, the First Army Commander. It will be held on the afternoon of July 20th on the parade ground at Ft.George G. Meade, MD. That's between Baltimore and Washington, you know, quite close to Baltimore's airport.

Back in the fold once again - RUDY and Alberta FRUEHOLZ (Sv.19 '42-'45) of 816 Novelda, Alhambra, CA. We're right happy to have these folks back with us again.

In spite of the cost of living, it's still popular.

BILL WILLMOT, whose Ham call is K4TF is arranging for an October 20th event that will be long remembered.

Concerning it, you can write Bill at 1630 Venus, Merritt Island, FL, for more particulars.

The Division Association will sponsor a Special Event Amateur Radio Station on October 20, 1984. This event will commemorate the 40th anniversary of the landing in the Philippines.

Undoubtedly, a number of our members are amateur radio operators. Perhaps some of these members will be interested in participating in our special event.

Bill adds the following for our members who are not amateur operators, but who would like to participate in this special event, it is suggested that you contact a local amateur in your immediate area and ask him (or her) to make contact with our special event station with you present. Most operators will be more than happy to cooperate.

In remembrance of the landing and those who took part, the Association will operate a Special Event Station, K4TF, from Merritt Island, Florida.

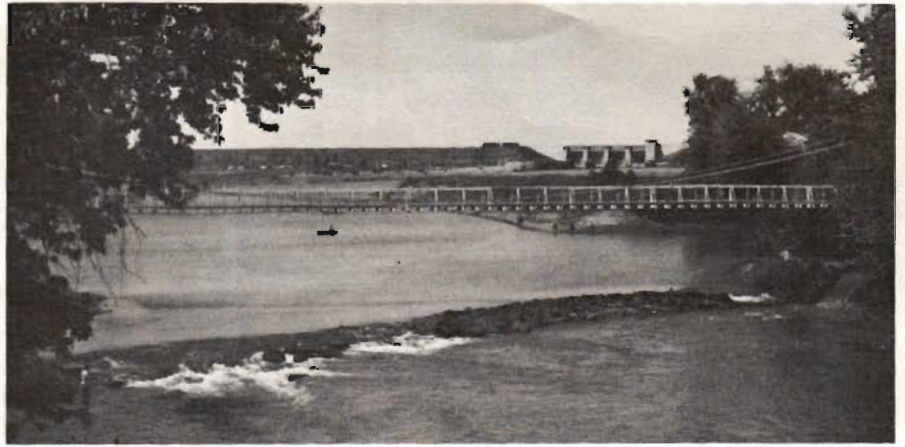
The Association will offer a special commemorative certificate to any amateur station making 2-way contact with K4TF during the 24-hour GMT period of October 20th. Operations will take place approximately 10 kHz inside the general portion of each amateur band. Bands to be used will be dependent upon propagation conditions. Certificates will also be available to short wave listeners who submit correct reports of reception.

To obtain a certificate, submit a QSL card and a large (9 x 12 inch) SASE to K4TF, 1630 Venus St., Merritt Island, FL 32953. If you don't mind your certificate folded, a business sized SASE will do.

Writes Lt.Gen. JAMES B. VAUGHT (USA Ret.), "Your Taro Leaf reminded me of the nice time we had at Savannah -- one of the best conventions ever." Our sentiments exactly, Jim.

JACK BRANTON, (C 13th F '51), of Rt. 3, Box 30, Wesley Dr., Leicester, NC hoping to verify back injury sustained while moving gun direction during a firing mission. That's a big order, Jack -- but we're trying for you.

ROBERT A. JOHNSON, 24 Whipple St., Somerville MA, contributes to our growing dictionary:
P-38 - Cration can opener
File 13 -- waste basket
S-- Skillet -- mess kit
F-- Sack -- sleeping bag



Surgery -- hernia -- last March for Past President ROSCOE CLAXON of Stamping Ground KY. Recovery -- miraculous. Roscoe was telling us this story at SIII:

"It was the eve of their wedding day. The groom said, 'I must tell you before we're married, I'm a golf nut. I eat, sleep and breathe golf.' The bride said, 'As long as we're confessing, I must tell you I've been a hooker all my life.' He said, 'No problem -- we'll just turn your hands a little to the left.'"

Just when you think you've got it made, they put a tax on it.

MURL D. RING, (Med. 19th '50-'51), of Pine Bluff, Ark., has sent in a check to cover dues for JACK CARTER, (19th '50-'51), of 28142 County Rd., Brush, Col. Jack carried Murl out when he was hit on 2/4/51 (Hill 704). Naturally there's a close association there. Thanks Murl. Welcome to the club, Jack.

The greatest labor-saving device for some people is tomorrow.

BERNIE COHEN, (E 21st '44-'45), of 2131 Wallace, Bronx, NY, has a complaint. His last issue arrived tattered and torn. We sent him a new one. Sorry Bernie.

Our own Lt.Gen. DONALD E. ROSENBLUM is retiring Aug. 31st. He will be succeeded as CG First Army by Maj.Gen. Charles D. Franklin.

AL BRANDESKY asked what we called ourselves in Korea. BILL ANDERSON said "I recall 'Doggie' and 'Ground Pounder.'"

One of our members claims it's just not logical to buy life insurance. He says when he dies, he wants to make sure it's a sad day for everybody.

Have found another who agrees with us that M*A*S*H was (is) a bummer. It's RAY FOLEY (M 21st '51-'52) of 5995 Deerfield, Milford OH.

From GERALD A. WILLEY (HQ, 3rd Div., '51-'53) of 1020½ North, Caldwell, OH, comes this one of the General William F. Dean Bridge across the Kaskaskia River in Carlyle, IL. The bridge, built in 1861 was renamed after our Bill following his death. Built in the mid-19th century, 124 years later it's still swinging. It's a suspension bridge built at a cost of \$45,000.

It was restored in '77 as a pedestrian crossing. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers maintains the General Dean Bridge National Historical Site at the east side of the bridge, providing restrooms, picnic tables and barbecue grills, and a historic display at the approach.

It never occurs to teenagers that someday they will know as little as their parents.

JAMES R. CHAMPION, (A 13th '41-'45), of 622 Euclid, Erie PA is looking for EMERY CHESTNUT, supply sgt. with A of the 13th during WW II days. Emery, of course, is not a member. Any clues?

We may have our faults, but being wrong isn't one of them.

GEORGE KELLUM of 530 Unicon, Delain, NJ became Life Member 542 in a hurry. Paid \$100 in one fell swoop and got it over with.

We welcome into the fold, Col. RAYMOND S. HAWTHORNE, Div.Arty. CO.

Forgive us, won't you, if we don't answer each of your letters personally. We just can't do the polite thing and answer each one. There just aren't enough hours in the day. Many of them we try to answer via these columns.

Mrs. Marion "Frankie" Weatherly, widow of MARION, recently gifted us with a beautiful \$25 contribution. Thank you, Frankie, so very much.

TAPS

This obit appeared in the December issue of "Assembly," the West Point Alumni publication.

Numa Augustin Watson

NO. 6901 CLASS OF 1922

Died 18 November 1981 in Clearwater, Florida, aged 82 years.

Interment: West Point Cemetery, West Point, New York



NUMA AUGUSTIN WATSON

NUMA AUGUSTIN WATSON was born in Salem, New Jersey, on 6 September 1899, the son of Captain and Mrs. Frank B. Watson. His father, a member of the West Point Class of 1895, named him after a classmate, Joseph Numa Augustin, who had lost his life in Cuba at the battle of San Juan Hill.

Numa grew up like most Army brats in a nomadic family intermittently moving from station to station, including for him such widely separated posts as the Philippines, Alaska, Texas and West Point. In many ways he profited by the experience but also paid a price for frequently disrupted schooling. However, at all times he enjoyed the priceless asset of knowing what he wanted to be—first, a West Point cadet and thereafter an Infantry officer in the Army.

While seeking an appointment to West Point, Numa entered Cornell University in 1917 where he remained until obtaining a Presidential appointment the following year to join a class entering the Academy on 2 November 1918. The reason for the unusual time of entrance was a critical need for second lieutenants to serve as Infantry platoon leaders in the victory drive planned for 1919

which was expected to bring an end to World War I.

Upon at last becoming a cadet, like most of his classmates Numa was disappointed to find himself not wearing the traditional cadet gray but the olive drab uniform of a private soldier with a campaign hat encircled by a wide yellow band, the only way he was distinguished from the "hellcats" whose fife and drums got him up on cold winter mornings. But things changed completely with the armistice of 11 November. Thereafter, Numa and his "Oriole" classmates were destined to wear cadet gray until graduation in June 1922 and then begin the slow climb upward in a stagnated between-war Army.

During his years at the Academy, Numa was a quiet, well-adjusted cadet, glad that he was there and at last in a gray coat. He was "spooney" and "dissey" but definitely not an engineer—but why should a future doughboy strain for tenths? He was well liked and highly respected by his many friends in the Corps—apparently also by the TACs who awarded him a lieutenant's chevrons in his First Class year.

From graduation until World War II, Numa's service was typical of the drab life of a junior officer in a small Army with a snail-like promotion system and little to command. Along with his classmates, it took Numa 13 years to become a captain. But in compensation, he was being prepared for better things by study in the Army's excellent service school system—in his case, the Infantry and Signal Corps schools, Leavenworth and the Army-Navy Staff College. Thus, World War II found him ready for the test of command in battle.

Numa fought the war in Europe, rising rapidly to the grade of colonel and to command of the 13th Infantry of the 8th Division while participating in the Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland and Central Europe campaigns. In so doing, he acquired two Silver Stars, a Legion of Merit, the Purple Heart and the Combat Infantryman Badge. It was the last one that he prized most.

Within five years after the end of World War II Colonel Watson was back in combat, this time in Korea. In September 1950 he landed with the 7th Division at Inchon and took part in retaking Seoul. Shortly thereafter he was made a brigadier general and Assistant Division Commander of the 24th Division, a position he held until November 1951 when he returned to the States. But whatever he had gained professionally in Korea, that war had cost him dearly. He had lost his only son, Lieutenant Numa A. Watson, Jr., mortally wounded while serving in the 3d Infantry Division.

Upon return to the United States, General Watson served as Chief of Staff of the Fourth Army until June 1954. As his final assignment before retiring, he was promoted to major general and placed in command of the Army Southern Command in Germany.

In retirement, General Watson took up residence in Clearwater, Florida, with his wife, the former Mildred Poff of Wrightsville, Pennsylvania, whom he had married in 1937. Here, over the years, he engaged in many activities relating to business, community, church and local politics. He enjoyed excellent health until early in 1981 when he was struck by a malignancy that was to prove fatal. In the course of ten long months as a bed and wheelchair patient, his devoted wife described him as having borne adversity bravely "with a clear and perceptive mind without audible complaints or demands." His full life ended 18 November 1981. He is survived by his wife, a daughter, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Numa was buried in the West Point Cemetery alongside his parents under a tombstone recording, at his request, that a combat infantryman lies beneath. It might well have been added: "and a true son of West Point."

—An Oriole Classmate

CHARLES "Chuck" WILEY (21st '47-'51), of 3345 S. 139th, Tulsa, OK, passed away last March 11th. Chuck, a particular good friend of our own HOWARD LUMSDEN, was 3rd Bn. Sgt. Maj. He was Life Member #420 in our Assoc. Retired as a Warrant Officer. To his good wife, Marilyn, we extend our sincere, but belated condolences.

Deceased: WILLIAM GREGORY, (24th Sig. '42-'45), of 8 Larkin, Randolph NY.

As we go to press, mail to ALVA CARPENTER in Cocoa Beach FL has been returned marked "Deceased". We are stunned. We're trying to run it down.

Deceased: Life Member #367, ULYSSES A. DAWES, (19th Inf. '40-'42), of Sun Valley, CA. We are advised by his son, Ulysses Jr., that he passed away on Oct. 3, 1983.

This tender little note from the GERRY STEVENSON family is certainly deserving of space:

"We thank you all sincerely for your loving support and for the flowers depicting the Taro Leaf. To those who were able to attend, your presence meant so very much to each of us. For the many cards, the phone calls, the flowers, we thank you all.

Isabelle Stevenson
and family.

"P.S. And a special thanks to Ed Henry for his heartwarming eulogy at the funeral."

Died: RUSSELL J. MCLAUGHLIN, (21st) of Canton, MA on Apr. 29, 1984. AL RIDGE called us and represented us at Russ' funeral. Thank you, Al.