

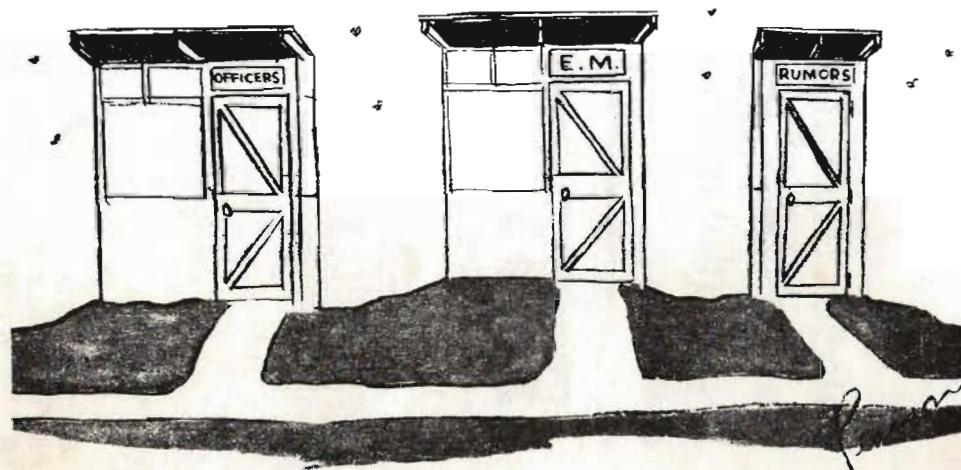
TARO LEAF
24th Infantry Division Association
Kenwood Ross, Editor
120 Maple Street
Springfield MA 01103-2278



VOL. XXXX - NO. 3 - 1986 - 1987

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Shay, John R.
1129 Shermer Rd.,
Glenview IL 60025



The second page

ATTENTION



Writes JIM FREDERICK (E 34th WW II), of 2116 Menefee, Arlington TX: "Recently, eight of us 2nd Battalion 34th guys got together in Cookeville TN for some good fellowship and reminiscences. We had a great time and are all looking forward to Chicago in '87. Left to right in the picture: JIM FREDERICK, E Co., CHESTER JORDAN, 2nd Bn. Medic, DOC CAMERON, 2nd Bn. medical officer, JACK BROWN, E & F Co., RALPH DYER, F Co., JACK WHEAT, F Co., PAUL AUSTIN, F Co. Missing from the photo was Talmadge Essex. He was visiting his sister when the picture was taken."

Dandy shot, Jim. Terrific black and white. Thanks.

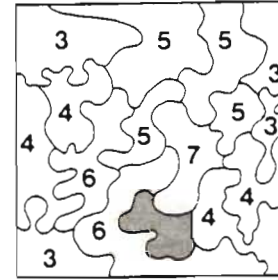
“Rejoice not at thine enemy's fall—but don't rush to pick him up either.”

Jewish proverb

FAST TRACK

PAUL HARTLEY (21st '42-'45) of 3663 Grand Av., Des Moines IA 50312, entered the army with MARVIN BELL - on the same day. They spent 3 months together at Camp Robinson, AR. Then together to Hawaii and the Division for 3 years and 3 months. Even came home together on the same ship. Beginning to sound suspicious, ain't it? No, they then lost track of each other for some 41 years - until the other day when Paul went hunting for Marvin and found him in the Veterans Home, Buffalo WY. You guessed it! Marv's now IN our little club.

Make yourself an honest man and then you may be sure there is one less rascal in the world. Thomas Carlyle.



This one's a little shady -- very shady, in fact. The problem is: "What number should go in the shaded area? And the answer is elsewhere in this issue."

Personality Parade

This item is intended to surprise one sweet little 8 year old gal by the name of Beth Anne ECKERT who has no idea that we're including her in this issue because she's one of us. She is the darling daughter of DAVE (5th RCT 4/50-11/50), over there in RD 4, Box 512A, Halifax PA.



Writes Dave, lovingly: "Everything I do, I do for Beth Anne's benefit. She's really the only thing I have in life to do for." Last fall the two of them were off to the KW reunion at Arlington. Says Dave, "That was the first time she'd ever been in a hotel room or a banquet -- but she acted like a real trooper."

Take care of your Dad, Beth Anne, he loves you.

Tips

Says BILL SHOWN (Div.Hq. & 24th Recon. '42-'44) of 1911 Francis, Waukesha WI: "The people who have no trouble separating the men from the boys are called women." Sounds logical, doesn't it? Makes sense over here, Bill.

HAROLD "Bill" JONES (D 21st '42-'45), of 4602 N.42nd, Omaha, NB recently received a surprise birthday gift. After considerable letter writing on the part of lovely wife, Nadine, a Nebraska Congressman rang their doorbell and announced he was there on behalf of RR to present the Purple Heart Bill should have received 43 years earlier. Congrats, Bill.

taro leaf

While a few of our gang were at Stewart early in December for the ceremonies honoring the beloved Maj. Gen. FREDERICK A. IRVING, one or two of them were interviewed by a reporter for The Fort Stewart Patriot, Division's newspaper. We want to share with you the way the reporting looked in print:

Former commander, comrades reminisce the days of World War II

By Sp Barry Reichenbaugh
Patriot Staff Writer

Following the ceremony where the headquarters building at Fort Stewart was dedicated for him, Maj. Gen. Frederick A. Irving had a chance to reminisce with some of his World War II comrades who attended the dedication.

Irving said of the veterans who served in the 24th Infantry Division under him, "I love to see them. They were a great bunch. No other theater had harder conditions to work or fight under than... New Guinea and the Philippine jungles.

"I'm just waiting to shake hands with some of the old comrades that are out here (at Stewart for the ceremony)," said Irving.

One of those comrades was Bob Ender. Ender spent his entire 42 months of wartime service with Company H, 21st Infantry, advancing from "a shavetail lieutenant" to battalion executive officer under Irving.

"He was a magnificent general, very spry and very wiry," said Ender. In fact, Irving still shows some of that spryness. The 92-year-old amazed many who attended the dedication as he stood throughout the 30-minute ceremony.

Asked how he felt, Irving replied that he's "able to get around, but not as strong as I used to be. In New Guinea I had to take hikes up to the front line, a total of about 20 miles over rough trails. I couldn't do it now," he

concluded with a slight grin, "not at 92."

Ender said Irving was also a mentally sharp leader.

"He knew what was going on," said Ender. "Before we went down to the south Pacific... we were well trained. We were actually overtrained by the time we left Oahu. We moved into Australia and trained some more, and went on and... trained some more!"

Lt. Col. (Ret.) Thomas F. Upton was a first lieutenant and held the important job of malaria control officer under Irving. He said Irving gave him a total free hand in taking measures to control the spread of malaria among the soldiers of the division.

"General Irving, as far as I'm concerned, covered himself with glory at that time because he insisted on it not being a medical problem but an administrative problem," said Upton. After the war Upton said he learned that, compared with other Army units in the south Pacific, the malaria casualties in the 24th Infantry Division "were absolutely minimal."

He added that although the division's control of the malaria problem is not publicized much in history books, he thinks Irving should get more credit for taking such good care of his troops and making sure they all received the drug atabrin to combat malaria. "(Irving) gave the order for strict atabrin adherence," said Upton. (The division's supplies of quinine were cut

off by the Japanese—atabrin was a dye which was also effective against malaria).

"Every one of us (changed color)," Upton said with a smile. "The blonds looked yellow and the brunettes looked green. That was our (skin) color in New Guinea. That's why we have trouble recognizing friends we knew. The last time I saw him he was green, and he was yellow... and skinny."

Lt. Col. (Ret.) Walter Cunningham served from the rank of first lieutenant through lieutenant colonel under Irving and at one time held the position of division adjutant general.

Speaking of Irving, Cunningham said, "It's easy to go overboard and make extravagant compliments, but General Irving was truly a man that merited high respect. And perhaps surprising was the affection the command held for him."

Cunningham said Irving, who commanded a machine gun company in World War I, is one of the few leaders from that war still living. "You will still meet an occasional veteran of World War I," said Cunningham, "but I doubt if you ever again will see a man who was commanding troops on the western front under Pershing in the campaigns of 1918."

Looking back, Irving said probably his most memorable experience was from World War II. After he led the division

in the recapturing of Leyte Island in the Philippines, he said he remembers Gen. Douglas MacArthur dramatically walking ashore on the beach at Leyte and proclaiming his return to the island, as he had sworn he would after the Japanese had taken the islands in the early part of the war.

When Irving was asked what he would have done differently in his career, he said, "For the moment, I can't think of anything. I had a very fine career; it was very interesting and worthwhile. I was very fortunate in my assignments and it was as good as I could have hoped for."



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Good chatty note from ORVILLE DE LORM (C 19th '40-'44) of Box 152, Mountainview, Hawaii. Here, see for yourself: "Noelani and I have been living on the Big Island for the last eleven years, about 20 miles out of Hilo on Route 11 towards the volcanoes -- in fact Mauna Kea is a beautiful mountain and is a great view from our front porch. From my bedroom window, we get a view of the beautiful orange red sky when the volcano in rear about 6 miles erupts which is on the average every 27 days. We're at the 2500 foot elevation and enjoy very good weather. The lots are 3 acres each so there's lots of room. I visit Schofield whenever I go to Oahu. It's not like it was in 1940 -- not as well kept up.

The old "Rock of Chickamauga" sits on the side of the street that went by all the barracks and the old officers quarters, don't look as big as I remembered it. We used to stand guard mount in front of the Rock. In the old days it was quite an adventure coming to Hawaii, enlisted April 1940 Rochester NY. Sent to Fort Slocum, June 8, 1940. Left Brooklyn Navy Base on USAT Republic. Will never forget first sight of the Statue of Liberty. Choked us up some -- then down East Coast to Panama through Canal, up West Coast to San Francisco, under the Golden Gate and anchored in the bay. Had a movie on deck but I think we were all awed by the lights of San Francisco. Then a stay at Fort McDougal -- then off to Hawaii arriving 9 July '40. The only thing recognizable now is Waikiki and Diamond Head. If any of the guys are coming over tell them, especially the pre-war guys, that the old places -- Western Rooms, The Anchor, New Senate, Honolulu Rooms, etc., are all gone -- don't know whatever happened to Big Virginia. She made Veteran Soldiers out of a lot of recruits. Enough bull. Here's \$25.00 to bring me up to date. The coffee pot is always on so drop by if you ever are over this way. Take care and thanks for the reminder."

You make it all seem like yesterday, Orville.

Asks SAM BUFALINO (D & K 5th RCT '49-'51), of 1217 Sloan, Scranton PA: "Will you please put in a plug for me that I'm anxious to hear from any old buddies." Don't ask, Sam, just tell me -- and voila!

But it can be much more.

WROTE WALLY and Eleanor KUHNER, (24th Rec'n '43-'45), of 1637 Falmouth, Charleston SC, after it was all over:

"Just a note to let you know how much Eleanor and I enjoyed the convention. The dinner and the banquet were most enjoyable and it was good to meet old buddies.

"We particularly enjoyed Saturday night. The prime ribs were excellent. The committee did a superior job in handling that crowd. One thing Eleanor and I were impressed by was the printed program, especially the various toasts. We both think it should be incorporated in future conventions.

"Once again, many, many thanks for a most enjoyable time and excellent arrangements and I won't forget the prime ribs. Hope to see you in Chicago in 1987."

E.E. "Mac" McCOOL, (D 19 '46-'47) of Box 23, Tuckerman AR has a friend from "the other side" -- one Hitoshi Okihara of Beppu, Japan, who is trying to locate old Beppu "pals" -- Lt. CALVIN BIRMINGHAM, Lt. RAY STAFFORD and RAY HAWKS. We don't have a clue. Sorry, Mac. Maybe someone out there in 24th land will spot a name and will signal.

Man on the phone crying hysterically: "What do you mean this is a recording, wait for the beep. You phoned me."

P EOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT...

WHAT'S NEW / WHAT'S COMING

A few words from EDWARD J. ATKINS, of 1602 Homann S.E., Lacey, WA.: "I can't work any longer so I have to take it easy. I went to Camp Hakata, Japan in Aug. of '49. I was in the B Btry of 13th FA. I went to Korea in July of '50. I stayed in Korea until August of '51.

"My brother Leonard came into the same Arty. Btry. with me. I left Korea and he had to stay. I never see any names in T.L. from the 13th FA. There is never anything said about the Arty. But we were front line most of the time. When you look down the tube and fire. We lost our guns 2 or 3 times. We had to run roadblocks too. I wish we would get more credit than we do. There are some old friends I would like to hear from: M/Sgt. James Butler -- We called him "PA" Butler."

Lifer 548, BILL KELLAR, of 450 S. Manhattan, Los Angeles CA asks: "I was wondering if you have a member by the name of Earl Cornell of Baltimore or Robert Heaton of Boston. They were both with me in the 52nd Field Artillery Service Battery from 1941-1945. I would greatly appreciate any information you could give me as to their whereabouts."

Regrets, Bill -- no dope on either one.

RUSS TYNDAL (TK 5th RCT '51) of 619 E. Denver, Holyoke CO, looking for men who served with him in "Dee Jay's Headache." Telephone him at 303-854-3459.



"THEY HAD ME A LITTLE WORRIED FOR A WHILE"

The VA is once again warning World War II veterans not to be misled by false information regarding the payment of a special life insurance dividend.

VA Administration Thomas K. Turnage, responding to a reappearance of a hoax that has plagued the agency for almost 40 years, reiterated that the VA "does not pay dividends on lapsed insurance policies.

The hoax, which first surfaced in 1948, is once again making the rounds, resulting in thousands of inquiries to the VA from all parts of the country. It is refueled every few years by the mysterious distribution of "applications," often poorly reproduced and sometimes directed to a non-existent "Capt. Prosser" at the VA Insurance Center in Philadelphia.

The forms claim that dividends are available for the asking, and promises World War II veterans a dividend based on their military service, "even if they haven't kept their policies in force."

The bogus application also claims that congress has passed a law authorizing the dividends. There has been no such action or is there any pending, Turnage pointed out.

Annual dividends on current GI insurance policies are paid by the VA to veterans who continue to pay premiums. Dividend payments are made automatically, usually on the anniversary date of the policy, and no application is needed.

A college professor heard from. He teaches French at Western Washington Univ. He's BILL BRYANT (D 19th '51) of 2707 Valletta, Bellingham WA. He writes: Thanks so much for the warm welcome into the Association and also thanks a lot for all of the material you sent. It brings back fond (and, sometimes not so fond) memories. Finally would you happen to have, or know how I could obtain, a list of the names and addresses of the fellows of the 75 Platoon that I served with at that time? I have a few, but only a few, and I'd love to get in touch with some of them."

Sorry, Bill, but such lists we simply do not have and from all we know, no such lists are available anywhere. We've tried for years to get our hands on such.

If you throw your weight around long enough, sooner or later someone will threaten to do it for you.

Dean Martin's advice on how to avoid a hangover: "Keep drinking."

You think you've got troubles. This arrived from the Mayor of Palo:



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF LEYTE
Municipality of Palo
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Mr. Kenwood Ross
President, 24th Division Org.
120 Maple St.
Springfield, Ma. 01103
U. S. A.

Sir :

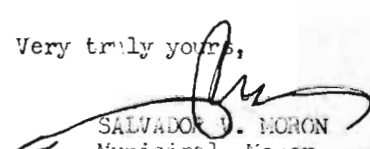
The historic Purisima Bridge found at the foot of Hill 522 which served as the entrance to the town of Palo, Leyte, from your landing site at Red Beach has practically been destroyed by neglect of the Philippine Government. It is so because another bridge, the Bernard Reed Bridge, had been constructed at another site which now links the main highway from Tacloban City to the interior towns of Leyte.

As new town executive of Palo under the regime of Pres. Corazon Aquino, I have thought of preserving historic sites in our community and this bridge is one of these that I aim to preserve. The Philippine Government has, so far, failed to appropriate the necessary funds for the restoration of this bridge perhaps because of the fact that there are other more vital government projects that require immediate funding. And the Philippine Government is presently utterly lacking in financial resources.

It is in this regard that I am writing your organization to seek your assistance. Being the military unit that first liberated Palo from the Japanese Forces, you will remember this bridge as the main artery through which the men and equipment of the 24th Division and other military units that followed which finally resulted in the liberation of the entire Leyte island. If there is anything which you can do by way of funding, this will greatly help in the attainment of this noble objective. Tentative estimate of the bridge's restoration is about ₱500,000.00 or roughly \$25,000.00.

Please let me hear from you hereon at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,


SALVADOR D. MORON
Municipal Mayor



This one, titled "Operation Halley's Comet," has been sent in by 4 different members. It must be going "the rounds," although it was new to us. And we love it: From the Colonel to his Exec:

"Tomorrow evening at approximately 2000 hours Halley's Comet will be visible in this area, an event which occurs only once every 75 years. Have the men fall out in the battalion area in fatigues, and I will explain this rare phenomenon to them. In case of rain, we will not be able to see anything, so assemble the men in the theater and I will show them films of it."

Executive Officer to Company Commanders:

"By order of the Colonel, tomorrow at 2000 hours, Halley's Comet will appear above the battalion area. If it rains, fall the men out in fatigues, then march to the theater where the rare phenomenon will take place; something which occurs only once every 75 years."

Company Commanders to Lieutenants:

"By order of the Colonel in fatigues at 2000 hours tomorrow evening, the phenomenal Halley's Comet will appear in the theater. In case of rain, the Colonel will give another order, which occurs once every 75 years."

Lieutenants to Sergeants:

"Tomorrow at 2000 hours, the Colonel will appear in the theater with Halley's Comet. If it rains, the Colonel will order the Comet into the battalion area in fatigues."

Sergeants to Squads:

"When it rains tomorrow at 2000 hours, the phenomenal 75-year-old General Halley, accompanied by the Colonel, will drive his Comet through the battalion area theater in fatigues."

Our President, WARREN AVERY, is looking for 3 buddies. If a president can't get into our columns, who can? He's seeking Sgt. MAX ENNIS, Pfc. JACOB GIBSON and Pfc. FREDERICK WILLIAMS. Can anyone help our President? Oh yes, timewise -- these chaps were together on 2/10/51 when Warren took lead. Little bit of a claim there, Mr. President?

Forgiveness is a funny thing. It warms the heart and cools the sting.



"Sarge—we better move in fast before those 2nd looeys start coming."

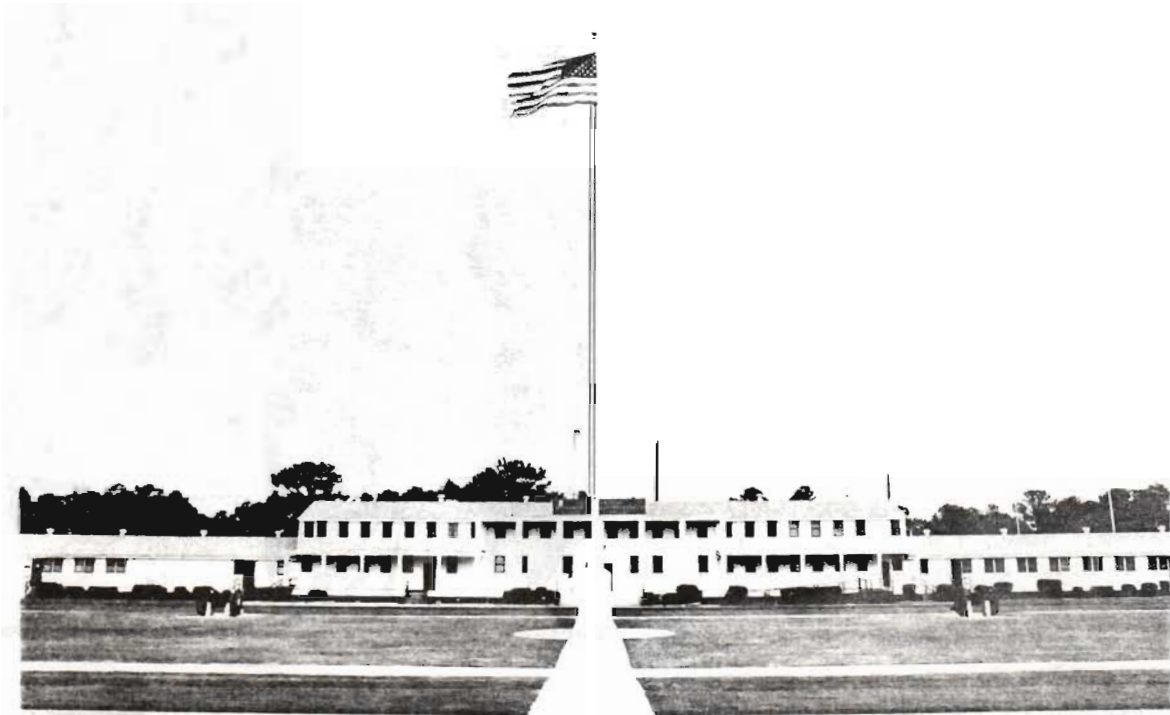
And sock it to us BOB LAVENDER did by sending this in to us. Here, you read it-- and weep:

Now that I am elderly, things are not the same. Everything is farther away now than they used to be. It is twice as far to the corner and they have added a hill I've noticed. I have given up running for the bus. It runs faster than it used to. It seems too that they are making the stairs steeper than in the old days. And have you noticed the smaller print they now use in the newspaper? There is no sense in asking anyone to read out loud.

Everyone speaks in such a low voice. I can hardly hear them. Even people are changing. They are so much younger than they used to be when I was their age. On the other hand, people of my own age are so much older than I am. I ran into an old classmate the other day and she had aged so much she didn't even recognize me. I got to thinking about the poor thing while I was combing my hair this morning, and in doing so, I glanced at my reflection and confound it!--they don't even make mirrors like they used to. And how was your weekend?

WARNING:

BILL WILLMOT (21st) of 1630 Venus, Merritt Island FL, writes to tell us that Florida salutes its war veterans next May 15-16 at Denison Stadium, Winter Haven, FL. Write Bill for details if you're interested. He's up to his ears in it. Or call us. We've got plenty of poop on it, thanks to Bill.



IRVING BUILDING DEDICATION - DECEMBER 9, 1986

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Ceremony Commences
Formation of Troops
Sound Off
*Invocation
*Honors to Reviewing Officer
*National Anthem
Irving Building Dedication
Remarks by MG Cooley
Remarks by MG(Ret) Irving
Pass in Review
*Division Song
*Army Song
Ceremony Concludes
*PLEASE STAND

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS IRVING

0-5261

Frederick A. Irving was born in Taunton, Massachusetts, on September 3, 1894, and graduated from the Taunton High School in 1913. Following graduation from the United States Military Academy he was appointed a second lieutenant of Infantry on April 20, 1917.

PROMOTIONS

He was promoted to first lieutenant on May 16, 1917; to captain (temporary) on August 5, 1917; to captain (permanent) on July 16, 1919; to major on September 1, 1932; to lieutenant colonel on July 1, 1940; to colonel (temporary) on December 11, 1941; to brigadier general (temporary) on March 14, 1942; to major general (temporary) on August 9, 1942; to major general (permanent) on January 24, 1948.

SERVICE

He joined the 35th Infantry and was assigned to Nogales, Arizona, until September 1917. He was then transferred to Camp Forrest, Georgia, for duty with the 11th Infantry and the 15th Machine Gun Battalion. He sailed for France with the latter organization on April 24, 1918. He took part in engagements in the Anould Sector, June 14 to July 13, 1918; in the St. Die Sector July 13 to August 23, 1918; and in the St. Mihiel Offensive in September 1918. He was wounded in action at St. Mihiel on September 12, 1918, and awarded the Silver Star and Purple Heart with a citation for bravery.

He returned to the United States in July 1919 and served at Camp Gordon, Georgia, commanding the 15th Machine Gun Battalion until August 1920, then as Machine Gun Instructor at The Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia. He concluded this tour in August 1922 and became an instructor at the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York.

In September, 1926, he entered the Advanced Course at The Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia, and was graduated in June 1927. His next duty was at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, with the 19th Infantry, and as Assistant G-1, Hawaiian Department. He returned in October 1930 for duty with the 22nd Infantry at Fort Benning, Georgia, and Fort McPherson, Georgia.

In August 1932, he was designated as an instructor in weapons at The Infantry School, Fort Benning, Georgia. In August 1937, he entered the Command and General Staff School, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and was graduated in July 1938. On July 1, 1938, he became an instructor at the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York, and on January 4, 1941, he was appointed Commandant of Cadets, United States Military Academy.

MG Irving was assigned to the Hawaiian Department in February 1942, and in July of that same year was named to command the 24th Infantry Division with station at Hawaii. He commanded the Division in the New Guinea Campaign in 1944 and in October of that year he led the Division in the invasion of Leyte, Philippine Islands. He commanded the 38th Division in the final stages of the fighting on Luzon. In August 1946 he was assigned as Coordinator of the Inter-American Defense Board in Washington. In January 1948, he was assigned as Chief, Career Management Group, Personnel and Administration Division.

He was assigned as Deputy Commander of the 6th Army at San Francisco in October 1950. He served as Superintendent of the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York, from February 1951 until August 31, 1954. MG Irving retired in 1954, and as of 1978 has been residing in Arlington, Virginia.

DECORATIONS

He was awarded the Silver Star with citation for extraordinary heroism in brilliantly and fearlessly leading his company through heavy artillery and machine gun fire until he was severely wounded at St. Mihiel on September 12, 1918.

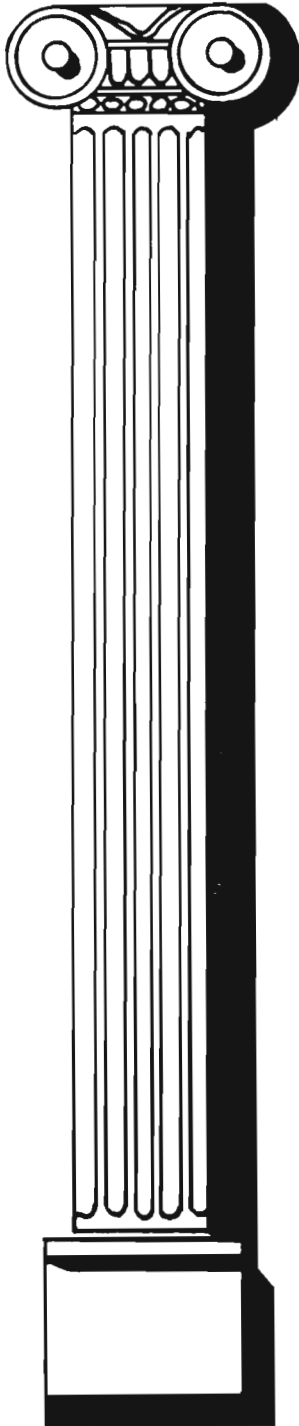
He was awarded two oak leaf clusters to the Silver Star for gallantry in action during World War II.

He also was awarded the Purple Heart for bravery when wounded.

He received the award of the Legion of Merit in 1943, with the following citation:

"For exceptionally meritorious conduct and exemplary fidelity in the performance of outstanding service as Commanding General of a division in the training of this division and its tactical employment in the Hawaiian Department. By his splendid leadership and spirit he developed the morale of this unit to its present high standard and through his outstanding professional knowledge, sound judgment, personal qualities and keen insight, he has imbued his officers and men with enthusiasm and confidence. His services have been a major contribution to the security of the Hawaiian Department."

He received an oak leaf cluster to the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star Medal for operations in the Philippines and New Guinea.



All hands on deck

for a swashbuckling adventure

The theme was beautifully expressed by him who gave the deeply-moving ceremony its very genesis: "We have to know our past if we are to understand our present and our future." Speaking was the Division Commander, Maj.Gen. ANDREW L. COOLEY. The time was the warm brilliant morning of Tuesday, Dec. 9th. The place: the front of Division Headquarters at Ft. Stewart. The occasion: the dedication of the Maj.Gen. FREDERICK A. IRVING Building, the present-day headquarters of the Division which he commanded 42-44 years ago.

Regretfully, the timing was a bit off, else more of us would have been able to make our presence felt on the appointed day.

As was, a few did manage to fly down - and "fly" is the word for once there we were appointed as "eagles" as reference to the next-following page will show.

The "eagles" were -- and they're in no particular order:

Lt.Gen. Donald E. Rosenblum (Laura)
Maj.Gen. Aubrey S. Newman (Dorothy)
Brig.Gen. Robert B. Spragins (Sally)
Assoc. President Warren G. Avery (Ann)
Membership Chairman Robert R. Ender
Chaplain Joseph I. Peyton
Thomas H. Compere
Hugh S. Crosson, Jr. (Doris)
C. Rucker Ford (Jane)
Harry Rubin
Dr. Thomas Broderick
Hon. Thomas F. Upton
Ernest Vienneau
Major G. Haywood
Walter Cunningham
James "Spike" O'Donnell
Paul A. Harris, Jr. (Lessie)
William Sanderson
Edmond F. Henry
Nicholas Sloan (Kathryn)
Raymond R. Kresky
Clifford G. Hanlin
and your Editor.

Talk about circumlocution; try this one on your piano: "I know you believe you understand what you think I said, but I am not sure you realize that what you heard is not what I meant."

General Cooley's gracious remarks at the dedication of the building housing the Division Headquarters speak for themselves. After reading them, you'll agree that they are deserving of a full page. As FRED IRVING said, after it was all over, "Wasn't it wonderful to be up there with all those eagles?" And we excitedly concurred. Thank you, General Cooley, for making it such a wonderful day for we "retreads," and especially for the Irvings, the brightest "eagles" of them all.

New top-level assignments reportedly have been approved for Gen. Maxwell R. Thurman and Lt. Gen. Arthur E. Brown.

A spokesman said the early summer retirement of Gen. John A. Wickham Jr. as Army chief of staff, and Gen. Bernard W. Rogers as commander, Supreme Allied Command, Europe, will trigger a number of changes in the military high command.

However, the Army spokesman said "no final decision" has been made on who will fill these top-level jobs.

Informed sources said Thurman, the Army's vice chief of staff, is expected to go to Fort Monroe VA to command Training and Doctrine Command, which is now headed by Gen. Carl E. Vuono. Vuono reportedly is being tapped for another top-level assignment.

Brown, the director of the Army general staff, is expected to be nominated for a fourth star and to replace Thurman as vice chief, the sources said.

In addition to Thurman and Brown, Army and Defense officials reportedly are reviewing new assignments for Gen. Glenn K. Otis, commanding general of U.S. Army Europe, and Gen. John R. Galvin, commanding general of U.S. Southern Command.

In a November article, the Washington Post said Army and Defense Department officials had recommended replacing Rogers as SACEUR with Galvin. Army sources, however, said Galvin is being considered for a different high-level job.

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust -
What's a sweater without a bust?

Man is not complete until he's married --- and then he's finished!

MAJOR GENERAL COOLEY'S REMARKS AT THE DEDICATION OF THE IRVING BUILDING

9 DECEMBER 1986

General and Mrs. Irving, General and Mrs. Rosenblum, General and Mrs. Newman, Members of the 24th Infantry Association, Honored Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, and Soldiers of the Victory Division.

This is a great day for the Division when we can honor the Commander who first led this Division in battle...because we're recognizing both a man and a heritage. And they'll be remembered together in this building which we've just dedicated that houses the headquarters of this great Division. And I think it's fitting today that we've turned out these super soldiers to do this.

I'd like to ask the Members of the 24th Association if they would stand please. Soldiers, this is a gathering of eagles and they've gathered to pay their respects to their Commanding General. And this is what happens when eagles gather. Look at them because these are the ones who defeated the Japanese Army...not a rag tag army, not a political army of revolutionaries, but an army whose navy almost defeated ours... whose air force came close to doing the same. And these eagles won it for us on the ground. They, more than anybody else, know what it's like to be under air attack. None of us do. They also know what it's like to be under intense artillery bombardment. None of us do. The worst we ever saw in Vietnam were mortars. And they know what it's like to fight continuously for almost three years without a break. Most of us got a break at six months...and came home in a year. So this is what you're seeing here. This is what started this great Division. I want you to look at them and be proud of them. And I want to give them a big round of applause.

The man we honor today with this dedication helped take this Division through its early days, formed it from the start, and made it into a formidable fighting force. We weren't the Victory Division then, but we were on our way. Forty-four years ago, General Irving looked out at troops, much as we are here, and similar units. And he saw young soldiers who were the hope of our nation. Eager soldiers, anxious to do their best on the battlefield. He had a tremendous task, an awesome responsibility. Many of the soldiers depended on his leadership and he didn't let them down. He trained his men for war and led them in their first campaigns...hard fighting...hard won.

One example of note was the Hollandia Operation in New Guinea. That operation cost the lives of 43 Taro Leaf soldiers, but the Japanese had over 1700 killed and more than 500 captured. General MacArthur termed the Hollandia Operation, "Not good...it was brilliant."

General Irving's tactical expertise was a hallmark in the Pacific because the Division suffered less casualties than any of the others and had the most intense fighting. Many people don't realize that in the entire southwest Pacific Campaign they lost less soldiers than in the Battle of the Bulge. And that's the kind of leader we want leading because he brings his soldiers back. General Eichelberger, who was the commander of Task Force Reckless which was built around the I Corps, said, "Fred Irving is one of the ablest Division Commanders and his performance under trying conditions at Tanahmerah Bay is first-hand testimony."

That was the start of a combat tradition that has carried us over through the Philippines and into Korea. It was a tradition of courage, of honor, and of victory. And it's a tradition that we follow today and it makes us proud to be wearing the Taro Leaf. You soldiers in formation this morning represent the units that General Irving commanded more than 40 years ago. You have a rare opportunity to see your past unfold...not with actors, not with stand-ins, but by those who really did it. Real men wear the Taro Leaf.

So we say this morning to you, General Irving, thank you for sharing this event with us and allowing us to show off a little bit. Thanks for what you've done in creating this Division, and it's appropriate that we name it in your honor. We'll continue to strive for victory. And as the Filipinos said to you in WW II and the Division "Mabuhai" - VICTORY. FIRST TO FIGHT.





It's Maj.Gen. FREDERICK A. IRVING and Maj.Gen. ANDREW L. COOLEY as they are about to unveil the bronze plaque bearing the new name for the Division Headquarters Building, in the rear of the photo. Having unveiled the plaque, two snappy soldiers stepped forward, took the plaque to its final resting place, to the right of the main entrance to the building, and with requisite bolting secured it in situ. A U.S. Army photograph -- with a credit line to Barry Reichenbaugh, the photographer. Great shot, Barry.



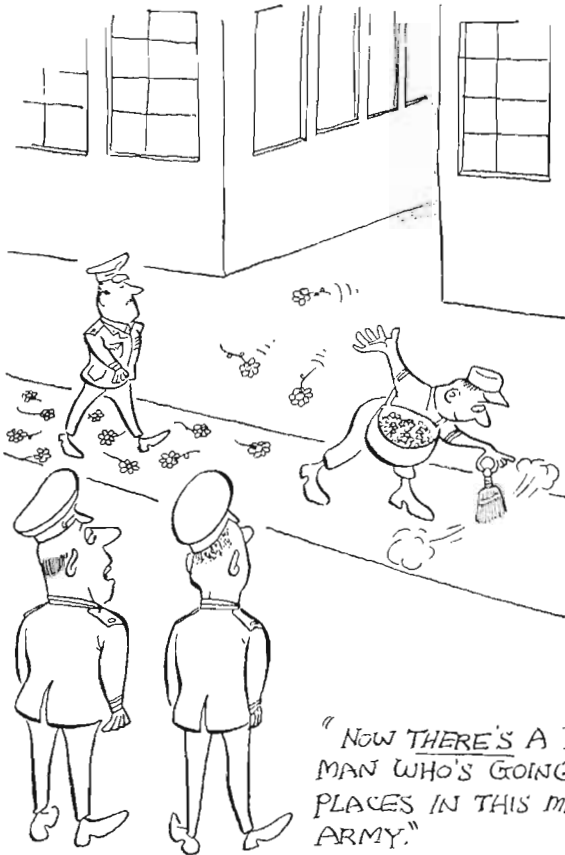
Need we tell you who? Of course not. Fred is acknowledging that warm and gracious speech which General Cooley has just made. U.S. Army photograph. Barry Reichenbaugh, you caught the General in a somewhat stern pose -- and we who know him and love him best know t'aint so. For these photos, we are grateful to Bill Licatovich of Division's Public Affairs Office. Appreciate your help, Bill.



Barry Reichenbaugh was all over the place with his cameras. Here is another U.S. Army photograph. For the occasion, General Cooley managed to find five WW II uniforms for his Color Guard honoring General Irving. Can you fit into yours? Can you find yours? Great show! And the units passing in review were the same units Fred commanded on Wahoo, Australia, Good-enough, New Guinea, Biak and Philippine Islands. A most considerate gesture on the part of the Division Commander -- for which our deep gratitude.

Laughing matter

For over a year, JOHN and Virginia MORRISON (D 21st '41-'44), of 54 Chelsea, Mt. Sinai NY, played 7-12-19-21-24-41 in the NY Lottery, including US in the partnership. For all of which, we say, "Thanks for nothing, folks" -- and we mean that in a kind way. You tried!!



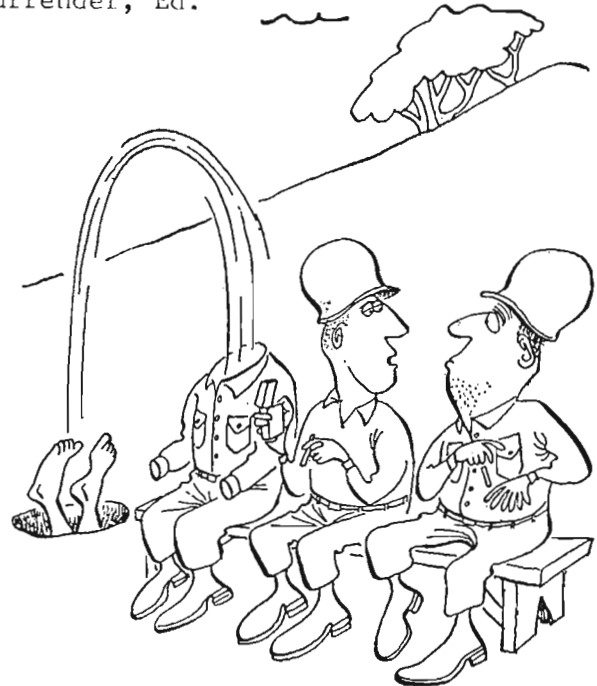
"NOW THERE'S A YOUNG MAN WHO'S GOING TO GO PLACES IN THIS MAN'S ARMY."

Please stay with us on this one. It's fascinating. What's JOHN MILLS, (24th MP '41-'42), of Azle, TX, doing these days? Glad you asked. He has "crossed paths" (better'n "crossed swords") with AL THOMAS many many times. They met at Carswell Hospital, Ft. Worth. Writes Johnny: "And since I joined the Association much in the same way, I thought it only fitting to show him the same respect. So -- sign him up! I'm sure we will all see the same in Al that I did." Johnny enclosed a tender to cover Al's admission into our pantheon. Al's now in. He was Hq. & Hq. Co. 19th '50-'51. He now lives at 12363 Abrams, Dallas TX. Welcome aboard, Al.

JESSE FOSTER (19th), getting plenty of mileage out of writing various letters to editors throughout Maryland on the meaning of Pearl Harbor. He also managed to sign up as a member JOHN J. BELKOSKI (G 19th) of 28 E. Taylor Run, Alexandria VA.

Spotlight

Isn't bad enough for ED WILSON (24th MP '47-'50), of 1827 S. 5th, St. Charles, IL, to endure the agony of having his beloved Laura in hospital (stroke), he yet had time to fun a bit with us. Seems he responded to an item we ran offering (for a fee) a picture of the "ship what brung ya." Ed ordered one of USS Shangri-la, framed it and gave it to his Navy son, Frank, for Xmas. Says Ed: "It's too bad life was so tough on him -- Navy and all. Only a few made Army -- and only a select few found their way into the 24th. You have to play the cards that are dealt to you." Shades of "The Gambler" there, Ed. We love it. As to Laura, never surrender, Ed.



"I THINK WHAT HE SAID WAS THAT WHEN YOU HEAR AN INCOMING ROUND YOU HAVE ABOUT TWO SECONDS TO..."

Big General -- a 3-star job, we think, comes out of his headquarters and proceeds down to his awaiting limo.

Driver snaps to and highballs him.

"Ah, a new driver" observes the 3-star fellow. "What's your name, soldier?"

"Charles, sir."

"Come, come, soldier. You know we never call soldiers by their first names" said the general. "What's your surname?"

"It's Darling, sir."

"Hrumpf!! Hrumpf!! Hrumpf! Well, take me to the Officers' Club, Charles."

"Wanna keep your sideburns" the 34th barber asked. The recruit answered: "Yeah." Said the barber: "Okay - catch."

NEED THE PENDULUM SWING?



You'll love Nathan in this one, even if you may not recognize his Grandpop, JAMES Y. WILSON, who writes from 72 West Hillsboro, Lake City FL.:

"It was good to see so many familiar faces in the convention issue, even if I had to identify the names with the pictures before being sure of who it was! I commanded Co. C, 19th Inf. before going over to Cannon Co. for a short time and then up to Battalion Exec and then Battalion Commander of the 1st Battalion, 19th Inf. It was good to see JOHNNY ROBINSON and BILL NAEGELE of old C Co. BILL HOSTETTER did a great job taking care of us back then too, and I was glad to see a picture of him and his wife, Helen. Forty-odd years will make a change, and I would not have recognized Bill and some of the others.

"Many of the names are still familiar, and bring back fond memories as well as tragic and unpleasant ones.

"Hopefully I will make another one of the conventions while I can still raise a toast to fellow comrades from battles of the past.

"Had to enclose a picture of me with our only grandchild, Nathan, my older daughter's son.

"I am still active in business, having a Dairy Queen and an RV camp park on U.S. 90 just off I-75 a few miles south of its intersection with I-10. It would be good to hear from any of our old 19th Infantry comrades."

Great letter, Jim. You've been away too long. Why don't you and Olema try for Chicago in '87?



Fishin'?

You might call it that.

Anyone who fought in Korea interested in corresponding with the English Korean Veterans Association? Contact Kenneth Parkes, 217 Newcastle Road, Trent Vale, Stoke-On-Trent, Staffordshire, England.



Captain Crawford's no snowman -- but someone wants to talk to him.

Spotted in Army Times' Locator File: CRAWFORD, Capt. Chester H., commanding officer in January-March 1951 of Co. K, 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, in Korea; stationed in 1952 at Fort Knox, KY.; or anyone knowing his whereabouts. Contact Winford A. Shilling, 727 Spruce St., Vinton VA 24179, Tel. 703-343-6396



Your postman will deliver your magazine--if you keep us informed of your correct address!



The heading has absolutely nothing to do with the story. We just liked the heading, so said we'd use it, come h--- or high water. And we just did.

Now on with the story.

We have a new Life Member, thanks to Maj.Gen. A.S. "Red" NEWMAN. And he is Dr. HOWARD P. TAYLOR of Box 855, Sea Island GA. Actually he was in the 36th Evacuation Hospital - and if ever any "outsiders" are entitled to being taken into the bosom of the 24th Association, then the medics and nurses who backed us up along the way. Any non-believers? There being none, we go on.

We were privy to bits of delightful correspondence going back and forth between Red and Howard in the recent past -- and begged for and obtained permission to copy from some of Howard's beautiful reminiscences.

This is the scenario. Red has just sent Howard a "Follow Me." Howare, we'll clue you was the surgeon who operated on Red in the Palo church. With that as a starter let's go. Remember now, this is Howard conjuring up memories with Red --

As I read "Follow Me" I realized that our paths had crossed in many locations and through many human beings. I now feel that I have come to know Red Newman outside as well as I once knew you inside.

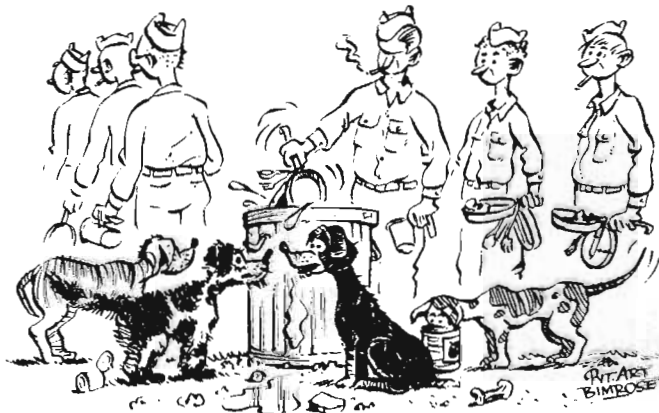
As a fellow octogenarian and an experienced member of the Writers Guild, I hope you will bear with me as I set forth, in my poor way, recollections which were stimulated as a result of reading your book.

Goodenough Island. The 36th Evacuation Hospital staged here in preparation of

the invasion of Hollandia. The surgical section, which I headed, was attached to the 24th Division Medical Battalion as an auxiliary surgical team.

Tanahmerah Bay. On "D"-Day, we were precipitously unloaded on a small beach which we soon found was separated from the mainland by an impassable swamp. Later that day we were ferried by LCVs to a useable landing area. We pitched our operating tent adjacent to the medical battalion's field hospital tent and immediately behind Gen. Irving's private latrine!! It was here that we were frequently inspected by Col. Newman. In fact, every time you came in our direction the grapevine sprang into action.

Major James Waller, was commander of the medical battalion and became my life-long friend. I met him frequently at medical conventions after the War. Casualties were light and communication with forward medical aid stations were sporadic: the Division Surgeon had disappeared, some said he was collecting souvenirs, so Jim



"I'M GETTING A LITTLE TIRED OF SPAM, AREN'T YOU?"

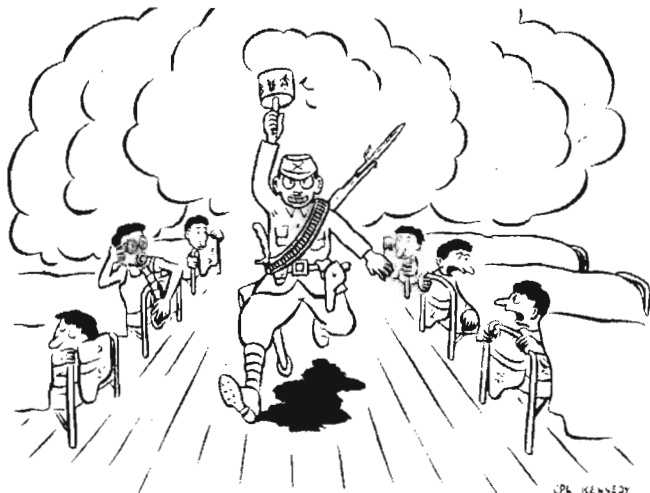
and I decided to make a personal reconnaissance of the forward medical stations. We walked all of the way to the Jan airstrip at Lake Sentini, stopping for a night in a native hut. It was along this trail that we encountered your Assistant Division Commander who remarked that he had never seen medical officers of our rank so close to the front. Later on the General was operated on at our hospital for a tennis elbow.

Pancake Hill - Pim Jetty. When we were released by the division we rejoined the rest of our unit at Pancake Hill the day after "Washing Machine Charlie" dropped a 250 pound bomb on our beach head destroying much of our supplies and ammo which had been piled on an established Jap dump. The next week we ate Japanese



crab meat and rice and smoked their cigarettes. Later we moved to a hillside location about half way between Pim Jetty and Lake Sentini.

Aboard an AKA enroute to Leyte. Imagine my surprise when, with our advance section loaded aboard, found that tough Col. Newman was now commanding the 34th Infantry. I visualized all sorts of inspections, drills and problems. The only administrative problem I did encounter was from the Catholic Chaplain who complained that my clerk, Sgt. Bob Gallagher (who had served with distinction as our lookout at Tanahmerah Bay) was not attending mass. I spoke to Gallagher about that and he said, "Hell, Colonel, I'd rather go to perdition with all my buddies than spend the rest of time in Heaven with all those angels." So be it!



"ARE YOU SURE THIS IS ONLY A GAS DRILL?"

I can sympathize with your situation as a patient aboard an AKA for I found it impossible to sleep in my small cabin and spent the nights on deck sleeping under a life boat. I understand that that particular ship was built for North Atlantic use and therefore did not require ventilation as needed in the South Pacific.

"D-Day" Red Beach, Leyte found us ashore in the 5th wave. The Beach Commander directed us to our assigned area in a coconut grove at the edge of the beach. There we erected our ward tents and awaited the arrival of casualties. It was here that General MacArthur waded ashore and gave his "I Have Returned" speech - electricity for radio furnished by our generator.

Later that day a hord of civilians swarmed on the beach, threatening to interfere traffic necessary to support your drive inland. We herded these people into our empty tents to provide them shelter and water. I assigned two medical technicians to each tent with instructions not to let them out of the tents until daylight. At dawn I got out of my foxhole and made rounds finding that five babies had been born during the night. Knowing that I was a "reformed" obstetrician my

medics were very proud to give me a blow-by-blow description of each birth and I must say I was very pleased with them. The civilians then wanted to go home and we were anxious to be rid of them so they all trooped away along the beach, new mothers and babies among them. Later that day, I did a caesarean operation on a woman who had received a gunshot wound of the abdomen. The baby was not injured and survived as did the mother.

The Church at Palo had sheltered about 5000 Filipinos during the bombardment and landing operations and was in a horrible state filth, littered with all sorts of debris. While we were burying the waste and rubbish, removing the pews and scrubbing the floors we set up our operating rooms in a school house next door. Two days later we moved into the church and decided to use the baptismal room for our surgery. There was a large concrete font in the middle of the room filled with Holy Water which we drained and cleaned before moving it to another location. Apparently it never had been cleaned since the church was built for the water was terribly polluted and smelled to High Heaven.

Even after all this effort the church bore no resemblance to the most primitive hospital in the States. Local Filipino women volunteered as nurses and housekeepers since our nurses were not permitted to join us until the area was secured. Strafing by Jap planes was an everyday occurrence.

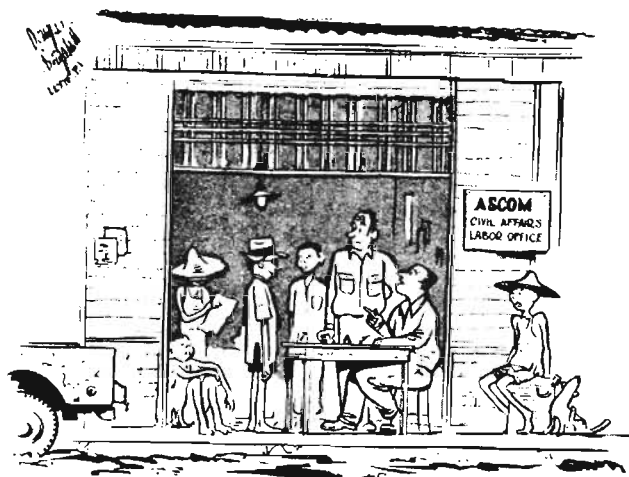


"STAND STRAIGHT, HAWKINS! YOU'RE SCREWING UP THE WHOLE RANK."
-Sgt. Geo. Mandel

36th Evacuation Hospital, Palo, Leyte,
30 Oct. 1944

An ambulance came to a screeching stop before our admitting tent. Two medics quickly unloaded a stretcher and carried it into the tent shouting, "It's Colonel Newman."

Examination revealed you to be in mild shock with a moderate sized wound of entry on the abdominal wall with no wound of exit. Your vital signs were stabile. In the operating room, under general anesthesia, we carried out an exploratory operation of the abdomen. None of the large abdominal organs were injured and we checked the intestines. Six perforating sounds of the small intestines were found and repaired. Then we proceeded to search for the missile. Deep in the abdomen, we found it -- 1" x 1" x 1" - resting on the aorta and pulsating with the vessel. We could not determine whether it had penetrated into the aorta, the largest artery in the body but it was imperative that it be removed. Dr. Charles Hardwick, my assistant, prepared to staunch the flow of blood should we have to suture a wound in the aorta. Very slowly, I teased the fragment and it began to move -- no bleeding yet -- a little more, and suddenly, I was looking at the missile in my forceps free from the artery which was not even scratched. A fraction of an inch more and you would not have lived to reach the hospital. Charlie and I both gave a prayer of thanks to The Greatest Assistant a surgeon can have. I must say, General, that after all you have been through He has been very good to you.



"HAVE WE ANY PLACE FOR A GUY WITH FOUR YEARS AT YALE AND TWO IN THE HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL?" --Sgt. Douglas Borgstedt

The rest of the story you know better than I. I was sorry to learn that you were evacuated to an AKA. I had been given to understand that you were to go directly to the hospital ship in the harbor.

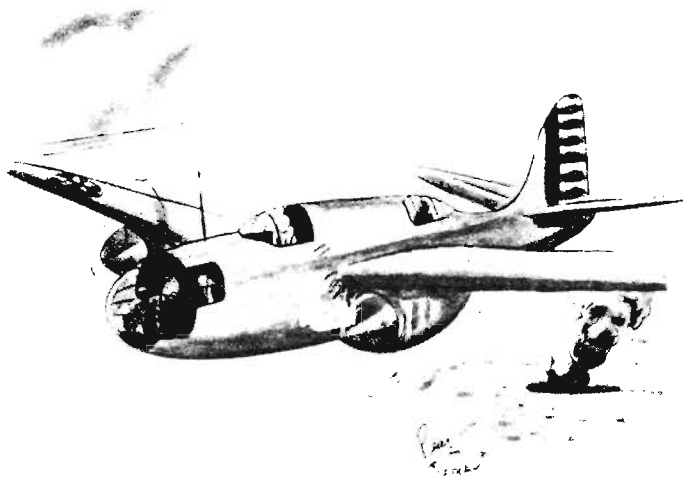
Dr. Don (Bert) Cameron. In January, 1945, we landed on Luzon to back up the action at Zig-Zag Pass near Subic Bay. One day while making rounds, I encountered a young captain, M.C. standing at the foot of a cot with tears streaming down his cheeks. I took him by the arm and walked out of the tent. He looked at me and said, "You are Howard Taylor. I helped you in the delivery rooms at Maternity Hospital when I was a medical student at Case Western Reserve Univer-

sity." Cameron's aid station had received an artillery round and nine of his men were wounded -- none seriously. I suggested that he return to the men with a smile on his face and congratulate them that all was well and soon they would be home.

In later years I was privileged to deliver 12 fine children to Don and his wife, Ann. He was one of Cleveland's leading internist's and is a wonderful father and husband.

Dr. Francis Bayless. Shortly after resuming practice in Cleveland, I had lunch with a group of doctors from my office building. Francis greeted me by saying, "Here comes one of Cleveland's finest surgeons." After the laughter ceased he went on to explain how he had met you and Mrs. Newman at Dewitt General Hospital, where he was a pathologist. I learned from him some of the problems you encountered after leaving Leyte. Unfortunately Francis died prematurely in the early 60's.

Lt. Col. Harold A. Conrad who signed your Line of Duty Report at VFGH and thus allowed you to continue your great career was graduated from Case Western Reserve



"VICTOR WANTS TO GO ON TO TOKYO. WE STILL HAVE A BOMB LEFT."

in the class after mine and was a fraternity brother of mine and Don Cameron. Frankly, I think you scared him into it.

My wife, Nadine, has been forever grateful to you for calling her when you returned to the States to tell her you had seen me in Leyte.

At Nad's command I retired from practice last August.

I hope that we can meet sometime in the near future to continue our reminiscing -- for the time being I'm exhausted.

One last thought. Never forget, "Surgeons operate but only God can heal."

Now can't you understand why we wanted you to read these absolutely fascinating notes. Thank you Red and Howard for allowing us to share them.

on my mind



Right!! On my mind. Had to use this one of four precious people. ELMER and Margaret PETERSON on the left, all the way to LAX from Seattle. And JOHN and Jay WELCH, all the way from Napa CA. Ain't this a terrific shot? Thanks, Elmer. Sorry it's so dark. Kodachromes will do it every time.

NAMES and faces



Names & Faces? Here are 4, thanks to ELMER PETERSON, lower left (I 19th). That's lovely Margaret behind him. And on the left, it's another I 19th fella; LEO K. ROGERS, and his sweet gal, Mary. Great shot; taken at LAX, of course. Note the hand holding. Love it, Leo -- and Mary.

An 80-year-old complained to his doctor about his loss of desire. "Don't worry about it," the doc said. "It's natural at your age."

"But my neighbor is past 90," the octogenarian continued, "and he says he makes love to his wife every night."

The medic offered a solution: "Why don't you say the same thing?"



Out of the file of Maj.Gen. FRED ZIERATH we note this little cow ditty and thought we'd use it once again -- believe we used it years ago:

Carnation Milk is the best brand
Comes in a red and white can
No lawn to mow
No hay to pitch
Just punch a hole
In the s-- of a b----!

Looking over BOB ENDER's shoulder as he wrote a note to BOB TREADWAY (G 21st): "...About 'Rosie' Rosenblatt. I was the last one to speak to him alive. On Leyte his platoon was overrun by Japs. He screamed on the walkie-talkie for mortar fire, but did not have time to give his location and adjust the 8ls. His last words were (and I can still hear them today) 'Here they come' -- followed by complete silence. His body was found days later.

"Jack Kelly was Co.Commander of G when I was Co. Commander of H Co. He was killed shortly after the war returning from a duck shoot. Some of your other officers were Glen Wicker, Seymour Smigrod, Rogers *KIA on Leyte), Roy Brown (wounded on Leyte, just recently passed on). I saw Smigrod a few times in New York City after the war (he was wounded in the heel on Leyte), but have lost track of him, as well as Wicker."

Margaret and BOB BACON (19th & 21st), of Lake Massosecum, Bradford NH, sent us this one out of the Manchester, NH Union Leader, the well known conservative paper:

'HEY, MA! GET ME ONE OF THE KID'S PEASHOOTERS, HERE COME SOME THUGS!'



ENDPAPER

Not the end but DANIEL MECCA, of 1 First, South River NJ asks, "By the way, anyone out there from 13th FA, B Btry, '51-'52?" We'll ask, Dan.

Here's one we're including for Wally. It goes: "Am interested in corresponding with any Freemason with the surname Kuhner. Also any Freemasons who served with the 24th Infantry Division during WW II. Wallace F. Kuhner, 1637 Falmouth St., Charleston SC 29407."

We continue to believe that the ladies should be our invitees at our annual meeting.

BODY + SOUL

We now have a new honorary member, thanks to Prexy WARREN AVERY. He is ROBERT DUMAS, of 20 Howe, Canterbury CT. He is the brother of ROGER who served in C of the 19th, was captured, and was not repatriated. The Dumas story appeared in our last issue. We are proud that BOB DUMAS is now one of us.

We continue to believe that we ought to try a convention over some weekend other than the one in mid-August.



STORE UP THE ANGER

DISCOPHORIA

A bit of lovely poetry we picked up somewhere. Don't know who wrote it. He titled it "Nurses-Curses":

Sing us a song of pain and penance,
Army nurses are all lieutenants;
Whether they're blondes, brunettes or
titians,
The hell of it is: they have commissions,
And privates, creatures of low degree,
Can dream, but never hope to be
More to the nurses who win their hearts
Than pulses, temperatures, graphs and
charts.

Now hear this; sweepers man your brooms.
A gripe from FRANK E. HICKS (Hv.Mortar
19th 1/50-8/51), down there at 427 N.
Alexander, Duncanville TX. Here, you read
it; it's a little too hot to handle:

"Mr. Ross: I was going to drop my member-
ship. But first there is something I
don't understand. I arrived in Korea
6/27/50 - 19th, been through hell, lucky
to have made it back July 51 and per the
24th Div.Assoc. magazine the 19th didn't
do nothing, wasn't even mentioned as even
being there. You know after going through
something like that it kinda hurts.

"Mr. F.E. Hicks."

There it is folks exactly as Frankie
wrote it. Note the "Mr. Ross" and the
"Mr. F.E. Hicks."

We replied. Wanna see how we answered?
Here:

"Dear Frank:

"Your letter hurts.

"You say I treat the 19th as having
done nothing, not even mentioning them.

"I've played with this thing for 36
years and this is the very first time I've
been accused of neglecting the Chicks --
or any regiment.

"Believe me, I love 'em all.

"Sincerely, Ken."



"NEVER FORGET, BOGOSTA, IT'S THE UNIFORM YOU'RE SALUTING."
-Cpl Ernest Maxwell

Realize a dream. We'll do the rest.

The past prexy of the 25th Assoc. --
and one of our members too -- RALPH MELCHER
(11th, 63rd Div.Arty. '46-'48), of 181
Dolomite, Colorado Springs CO reports
300 at their Seattle party -- while we
were having ours. Then he goes on:

"The thought was raised at our business
meeting, that both the 24th and 25th
might be interested in having their
reunions in Hawaii in 1991 on their 50th
Anniversaries. Schofield expressed an
interest in having both groups out with
activities in the old quadrangles that our
pre-WW II members from the 19th, 21st,
27th and 35th Infantry plus 8th, 11th,
13th FAR remember so well.

"We are scheduled now to have our '89
Reunion in Honolulu, but are inclined to
postpone it to '91."

There's something to chew on, gang.



LES WILLIAMSON, (19th '45), gave us
this one. In window: LARRY OLDS, WARREN
FOSTER, LES in the CKC, and BILL ANDLER.
Front: DICK DEIRING, S. MILLSAPPS, ART
JOHNSON and L. BUSCH. Chicks, every
single one. Les, if it comes out like
so much mud, don't blame us.

Listen, we're not perfect

Recently joined: JOHN H. BRUENING of 3454 Buskirk, Walnut Creek CA. Here's his note: "Was 13th FA from '41-'45, Battery B. Forward observer with the 21st. Then converted to the 52nd FA. Would like to know if any of the old gang are still around." We'll get the word out for you, John, although 40 years later, a lot of them have gone to their reward. We'll do our best.

Talk about going overboard. Read this one from CHARLEY and Rena KAEFER (H 21st '41-'45), of Clinton, Cowlesville NY.: "Thru the Taro Leaf I want to express my gratitude to BOB and Roberta ENDER for their devoted effort to assuring a successful 24th Division Reunion at Los Angeles. It was great! If they ever have the desire to be candidates for President and Vice President of the U.S.A., I'll cast 2 ballots for them. Hope to see you in Chicago."

That's what we call real enthusiasm.

An Army friend of ours was home on leave, telling us about his promotion and how he now had a larger home where he was stationed.

We asked his five-year-old daughter how she liked the new home. "It's wonderful!" she cried. "I have my own room now! My sister has her own room! And my brother has his own room!" Then, with a serious frown on her little face, she added, "But poor Mommy still has to sleep in Daddy's room."



"WELL, SIR, I GUESS THE BEST WAY TO EXPLAIN IT WOULD BE TO START WITH THE BEES AND THE FLOWERS."

—Sgt John W. Frost

CARL and Ruth CONNER, (3rd Eng. '41-'42), of 1025 Center, Mableton GA, have suggested a PET PEEVE DEPARTMENT. We answer, "Right on!" Here are a few of theirs:

My pet peeve is with persons leaving their Garage Sale signs up after the sale is over.

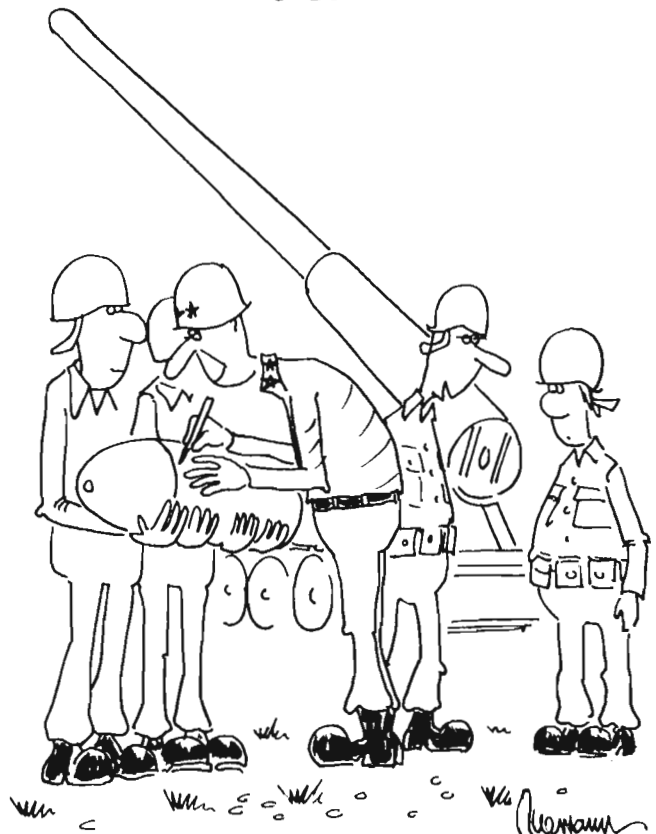
My pet peeve is when my auto insurance premiums are automatically increased every six months -- even though I haven't had a claim in 10 years.

My pet peeve is having my doctor's receptionist call me to make sure I'm on time for my appointment and upon arriving on time, then waiting 30 minutes because the doctor is running late.

My pet peeve is biting into parts of seed pods when eating a piece of apple pie.

They're beauts, Carl and Ruth. We buy every one.

Now folks, Pet Peeves are underway. Get yours in.



'He insists on a personal touch.'

DONALD M. BAYLES and his lady (34th) were flying KLM from Holland to J.F. Kennedy -- they live at Box 396, Southold, NY -- when they chanced to meet one CHARLIE INMAN, a retired army man who slugged it out with the 8th Div. in Italy. Charlie's hobby, he says, is "getting veterans out to their reunions." He gave us Don's name -- and you know the rest. Don is now one of our members.

EDITOR'S JOURNAL

HOWARD WAGNER (B 11th F '40-'44), of 1112 N. Hancock, Grand Island NB, cornered us at LAX. He knew of our interests in inventors and inventions. Howie belongs to that elite class. He has a hitch for a front bumper. We reproduce his brochure with permission. Hope you make a million, Howie.

The **Wag-Hitch**

A
Quality FIRST

in
Removable Front Bumper Hitches



The Wag-Hitch Features:

- ★ Pin-point maneuvering
- ★ Slips on and off in seconds
- ★ Eliminates protruding hitches
 - ★ Transferable from one vehicle to another
 - ★ Attractive license plate bracket
 - ★ Attractive zinc plated finish pulling plate

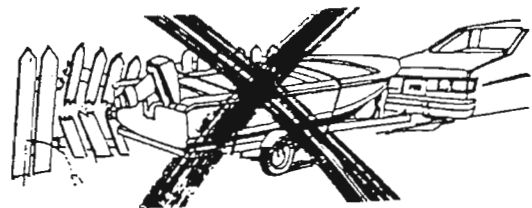


The Wag-Hitch was designed for use as a removable front bumper hitch. Its careful construction and attractive finish adds durable service and appearance to all vehicles on the market today.

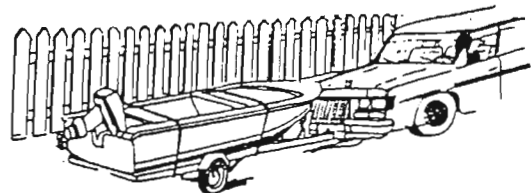
Our quick and easy hitch effectively makes the maneuvering of all types of trailers ranging from boats and campers to Agricultural and Industrial equipment. An added plus for the vehicle is the complete elimination of the permanent protruding hitch used on the front of some vehicles.

The Wag-Hitch is offered as a kit with do-it-yourself easy mounting instructions.

BACKING CAN BE A REAL HEADACHE!

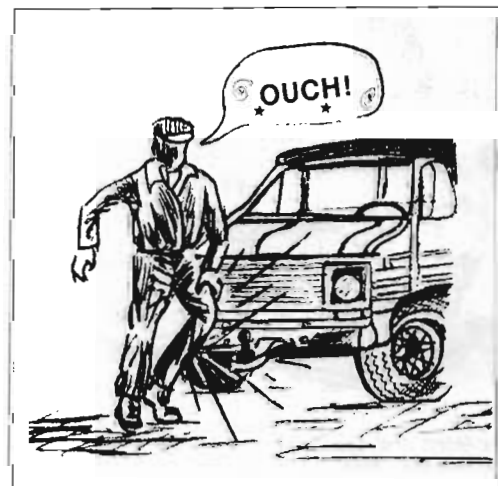


Not any more . . .



Now there's the "Wag-way"!

No more shin-busting with unsightly permanent objects on the front!!





Before I Forget...



A meeting of old C Co. Gimlet buddies took place a few weeks ago. Meet, left to right, ROBERT SIMPSON, LOU SELMI and RAY SIMPSON, all survivors of the Task Force Smith entanglement. Ray, on the right, was a POW for 3 years, 3 months. Yes, Bob, on the left, is Ray's brother.

"DEAR JOHN,

ANSWER to our shady stuff a few pages back. The missing number is 3. Why? The number in each area merely denotes the number of bordering areas. Told ya we were sneaky.

**Close
your eyes.
Now have
someone
read this
to you.**

H of the 21st -- at Sendai, Japan in the '52 era. Who has an address on Capt. ANDERSON, or Lt. DALE MCCOX or Lt. MELVIN SITTLE or Sgt. HOLKE? JOEL WALKER, of 101 Whispering Pines, Moore, SC 29369 seeks your help. "Whispering Pines" -- it's a lovely name, Joel. Hope we can help you.

A loafer is a person who is trying to make both weekends meet.

Verse

A chap in the 12th Armored Division Assoc., Bill Waddington by name, sent this poem in to his editor. Though the beat is to a different drum, Europe and not the Pacific, the poetry has a certain ring which we thought you might like to read aloud to your grandchildren as they gather around your rheumatic knee. Try it, you'll like it.

*Tell me, old friend, as we all near the end
and think back to that fog shrouded time
Could it be forty years and millions of tears
since that battle we called Herrlisheim?*

*Not many knew and survivors were few
of that winter in Alsace Lorraine
When we all had our youth and faced up to a truth
that war is forever insane*

*What company went first; and who caught the worst
seems faded and dimmer with time
But visions come back from that futile attack,
our attempt to take Herrlisheim:*

*A bridge knocked out and a tanker's shout
are not enough to warn*

*Find a better way to where Germans lay
across the river Zorn*

*Capt. Fairbairn's been hit, Sgt. Silverling's dead
Lt. Russell says hold on until dawn
Allendoerfer, Molan, Copus, and Best
also Tedrowe and Gentry are gone*

*It takes just one shell, in this damp frozen hell
to wipe out most of my squad
If the truth be told for all to behold
I question if there is a God*

*From fifty-five men we are down to ten
and no relief is in sight*

*Nine days on the line, I'll write Mom I am fine
Luck gives me just one more night*

*Looking back to that day the memory still
it makes little difference who won
on that grey frozen plain it all seemed in vain
but we did what had to be done*

*Let's think of all those, who suffered and froze
and felt the fear and the pain
And if there's once more around we travel some ground
on another cold and lifeless plain*

*Will it still be the same kind of horrible game
Where fate is to bless all too few?
Or will it be just a dream where things are to seem
Like they never happened to you?*

*So say one more prayer for those who died there
On that bleak spot of ground in Alsace
For you and I know, wherever we go
One of us could be in their place*

*Now tell me old friend, as we all near the end
and think back on that fog shrouded time
Could it be forty years and millions of tears
since that struggle for old Herrlisheim?*

Life is 10 percent what you make it
and 90 percent how you take it.

IN MEMORIAM

We never get to making up this page
but what these verses of Ernest Christopher
Dowson, a 19th century English poet, come
to mind:

They are not long, the weeping and
the laughter,
Love and desire and hate:
I think they have no portion in us
after
We pass the gate.

They are not long, the days of wine
and roses;
Out of a misty dream
Our path emerges for a while, then
closes
Within a dream.

Report in from ROBERT "Bobby" BRABHAM,
1120 Harrison Lane, Hurst TX 76053,
that his "good friend," HUGH A MITCHELL,
first Division Chaplain at Schofield,
passed away on Nov. 12th. Bobby says
that Hugh had cancer for almost two years.

Word in from TED SHIELDS is that
MERLE J. SHERAR passed away last
August 30th in Hemet CA. Merle suffered
a stroke last December -- and now this.
He was a Captain in Hq.Co. 19th from '44-
'46. Ted tells us that they first met on
Leyte when Ted "was assigned to the same
company. He was a wonderful man, and I
shall miss him dearly." Nice words, Ted.
Thank you.

DAVE LOPERA (A 21st '39-'45) of
1830 Catalpa, Anaheim CA reports thus
about his buddy and dear friend:

"Received word from his wife of the
passing of CHARLES (Chuck) STEPHANY,
A 21st '40-'44, in Wahiawa. He also
served in the National Guard Tank Company
298 Inf. as a Master Sergeant. A 21st
members and others of our division who
knew Chuck before and after Pearl, knew
him as a very proud Gimlet and soldier
who was proud to have served his country.

"His last 3 years in failing health from
a heart stroke, liver, and kidney failure.
Chuck passed away in the Wahiawa Hospital
on Sept. 7, 1986. He is survived by his
wonderful wife, Adelaide, 2 sons and
2 daughters."

Died Nov. 11, 1979. Lt.Col. NED A.
SCOTT (52nd Field 6/42-11/45) in Gaines-
ville, FL.

Deceased: RAYMOND E. WHALEY (Hq.1st Bn.
21st '42-'45), of Greenwood MO on Nov.18,
1986. Ray was a truck driver for the
Lee's Summit R-7 School District and
retired in 1981. He continued to drive
for the school district part-time until
his death. He was a member of the First
Baptist Church of Greenwood. He was a mem-
ber of the Greenwood Post of the Veterans
of Foreign Wars and the Tirey J.Ford Post
of the American Legion. He was a member
of the Pleasant Hill (Mo.) Masonic Lodge
and was past patron of the Ivy Leaf
Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star,
Pleasant Hill. He leaves his wife,
Willoa M. Whaley, a son, Henry L. Whaley,
Sr., Raymore in Cass County; two daughters,
Judy Haushahn, Kansas City, and Patty
Rhodes, Raymore; two stepdaughters, Jeani
Wells, Kansas City, and Jolene Greentree-
Booke, Watsonville CA; and 14 grandchildren.

Sad notes gleaned from the message of
IRVIN C. OLSON (24th Sig. '42-'44) of
9 S. Marina Plaza, Englewood FL 33533:
"Lost a grandson in 1984 and my son in
1985. So you can understand my mind was
on other things. Sorry to report
that MAURICE KING of 24th Sig.Co. passed
away in November '84."

Died: June 20, 1986 - HERBERT "Herbie"
TISCHLER (C 34th '42-'45), of 36-22
Northern Drive, Fairlawn NJ. Herbie will
be best remembered as one of the VIC BACKER
GANG which, in the early days following
WW II made the nucleus of a very active,
and playful, New York City group of
24th'ers. One only had to put out the
call that he was "in town" and the GANG
would "fall in" for a night or a weekend
of revelry, depending on how much one
could stand. It was a grand bunch.

We have lost another good buddy --
JAMES L. MALLEY (21st '39-'43). His old
friend, BILL KEYES represented all of us
at Jim's funeral for which our heartfelt
thanks, Bill.

Another tragedy for JOHN and Hilda
KLUMP. Hilda's sister, Marcella Thebo,
passed away on January 12th. This is the
second sister poor Hilda has lost in
the last six months. Our heart goes out
to her. Hilda is at Rt. 1, Box 256,
Guilford IN 47022.

SEEING IS BELIEVING

Eons ago -- in an issue of the distant past -- we pulled a terrific boo-boo -- our very first in 37 years with this scandal sheet. Ooops!

We made an announcement -- without any verification -- or, at absolute least, any attempt to verify it.

No, we copied something -- smack out of the middle of "Danger Forward," Division's picture history of the Korean business, written, edited, printed, published and distributed in Japan back in '54.

Incidentally we still get letters from fellows who are looking for their copy -- bought and paid for while they were in Division -- that apparently was another boo-boo -- but that's for another time. Enuf!!

We wanna talk now about that Bronze Star Medal allegedly awarded to every 24th'er and 5th RCT man who fought the good fight in that miserable 1950 summer.

We reported it because we were asked to publicize it. We did it in the mistaken belief that it was so. We admit -- we made not the slightest, teeniest bit of effort to verify the story. A cardinal sin for a journalist. Oh, we've paid for this one, we've paid.

For the goof, our sincere apologies.

No, we've spent hours in the intervening time frame to see any confirmation in black and white. To no avail.

Oh we get bits and drabs -- of this company or that one that got it because they had the "presence of mind" to apply for it -- etc., etc., etc. -- but never anything set down on paper. Oral reports only. More rumors only. Pure rubbish only.

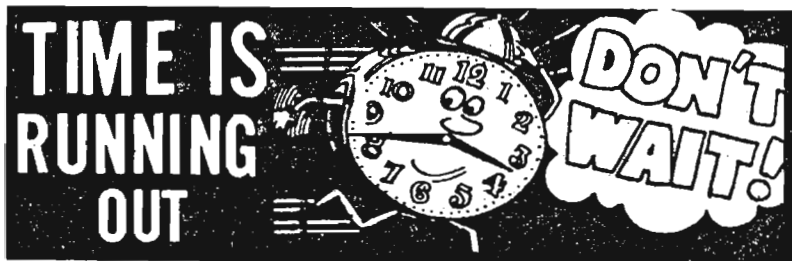
It's just like that annual rumor that the VA is making a dividend distribution to every WW II and Korean veteran.

Or like a letter received today telling me that "The Pentagon" told him, because he asked: "Awards such as the BSM are individually awarded, and not to units." Then he follows it up with: "How about the Silver Star awarded to the 101st A/B people for the stand at Bastogne?"

Hey, don't trouble us about the 101st. We're in enough trouble with dearly beloved 24th and that wonderful appendage, the 5th.

Be assured of this -- we'll not stop on this one until we get in writing a statement for what it really is -- and there upon we shall buck the whole business to the latrine whence it apparently came.

Sorry 'bout that. Boy, have we learned a lesson!!!



**Have You Paid
Your 1987 Dues?**



Thought this little heading would do nicely for this fresh off-the-wire report on cannibalism, a ritual that feeds the soul and not the body.

Contrary to myth, savage tribes rarely seized Christian missionaries on impulse and ate them, according to a University of Pennsylvania researcher.

Bound by complex taboos, cannibals were much more circumspect as they tried to serve their gods and feed their souls, says Peggy Reeves Sanday, author of a new study, "Divine Hunger: Cannibalism as a Cultural System."

Dead relatives or enemy captives were much more likely fare, she says. Sampling other people, especially for the sake of a meal, was considered the "ultimate anti-social act," sometimes punishable by death.

"The taboo comes with who you eat and how you eat them," she says.

"You couldn't just eat anybody." That's what we might call being picky.

Sanday, a Ph.D. in anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania, culled her findings from centuries of reports by missionaries, tribesmen and travelers.

She found that a meal of human flesh almost always had cultural and spiritual significance, and was not just a matter of nutrition.

Often the cooking was accompanied by singing and other ceremony, and was deeply interwoven into the society's sense of death and reproduction, she says.

Of the case studies that she examined, the victims were enemies, slaves or victims captured in warfare who were eaten to avenge other deaths and to bodily incorporate their foes' power, often with their gods' approval.

The women in New Guinea, where cannibalism was last observed in 1970, reportedly ate their male relatives to incorporate their spirit, Sanday says. In the formal New Guinea ritual, the women would then be treated as men, becoming, in effect, what they had eaten.

Sanday began her studies on cannibalism five years ago, after completing a book called *Female Power and Male Dominance*.

During that work she found that cannibalistic societies were often fascinated with a mother's ability to feed her young with her own body. Cannibalism was often practiced as part of a cycle of feeding,



"WE PUT A NEW ONE UP EVERY DAY, SIR. THEY NEVER MISS THE ROSTER NOW!"



Here's a goodie -- on the left, JACK and Alyce Louise CARTER (19th Med. 8/50-11/51) of 28142 County, Brush CO -- and right, MURL and Lucille RING. Jack has retired from the Army and also from his job at East Morgan County Hospital. Their daughter, Lauralyn is a midship-man? -- no, midshipwoman -- at Annapolis.

beginning with the mother. Mothers, in turn, were fed by sex with men. Men, fed as infants by women, were later fed by flesh, and in some cases so were the gods.

Reminds us of our favorite story about the two cannibals who found a missionary and before you could say Tanahmerah Bay had him cooking in a pot.

Complained one cannibal as he was halfway through his feast of the good reverend, "I've got a little heartburn; don't think I'll eat any more."

Advised his pal, "Oh, that's okay; just eat the noodles."

The Sick Book

BOB LAVENDER (34th WW II, 19th '50-'51) of 1120 Harrison Lane, Hurst TX 76053, reports going to dentist, nose & throat man, lung medic, allergy doctor, and urology specialist -- all in one week. Bobby, you get first prize for the month of January.

Triple by-pass for Laura WILSON, ED's best half. They're 24th MP -- '47-'50 and addressed at 35 W. 405 Oak Ridge, St. Charles IL. Says Ed, for which our gratitude: "Laura's doing okay but it'll be 6 to 8 weeks along the recovery road."

LAWRENCE DALEY (M 21 '41-'45) of 89 Sterling, Yonkers NY -- "Feeling good after a heart attack 24 months ago -- but it's slow."



Magnolia blossoms out of Raleigh NC. Mary FINAN, JACK's better half, Christmas carded us with two pages of news -- some sad, some glad.

Jack had major back surgery at Walter Reed -- a 6-hour surgery. In hospital 31 days. Then bladder surgery at Bragg. And while they had him on the block, did a little work on his prostate. Is recovering slowly -- "but nicely." Write Mary and Jack at 758 E. Whitaker Mill Rd. We're pulling for you folks.

Tragic news from the BERT LOWRYS. His 13 year old grandson is suffering from an inoperable brain tumor.

ROY MILLER (B 19th '45) of Box 42, Doniphan MO in and out of hospitals. Ulcers first, then heart attack compounded by diabetes. Poor Roy had his share of trouble early on. Stepped on a land mine 6/13/45 on Mindanao rupturing his eardrum.

JoAnn O'KEEFE (BILL's widow), who so nicely graced our LA gathering, has suffered a heart attack -- sounds like it was just following LAX -- but we're happy to report is recovering nicely. Card this lovely gal, won't you please? She's at 15208 Fern, Tacoma WA 98498.

Surgery is "over and done with" for good PAUL HARTLEY (21st '42-'45) over there at 3663 Grand, Des Moines, IA.

Back to hospital for another angioplasty went ART KEMP (C 21st '44-'46), of 411 Remington, Suffield CT. 1st time - in May. 2nd go-round - in October. Sez our boy, and we quote: "Had to go back to hospital to have another angioplasty. The same artery in my heart was 95% blocked as back in May. They blew the artery up with a balloon and improved the blood flow to 40%. They did it October 10th and I'm on top of the world again."

"While in the hospital, had a happy surprise. Jim and Louise Frederick, from Arlington TX stopped in to visit us on their trip through New England."

Have talked with Art and have flowered him. He's okay, thank fortune.

CHARLEY STANCIL, (Sv. 19th '42-'45), left 1217 Green Mountain, Little Rock, AR, for hospital -- "with a little heart problem." JOE PEYTON visited him on way home from LAX. Adds Charley, "Sure hope to make Chicago."

Back surgery for ELWIN MILLER (21st and 34th - Korea) of RFD 1, Box 212, Corning NY. We await word on his recovery.

REMEMBER WHEN?

Some random thoughts by DON CHASE, (B 19th '51) of 31 Brush Hill, Sherborn, MA: "I fought as a rifleman in WW II (Europe) and afterward in the Korean War. I was one of those who fought during the '51 winter and spring offensives when the fighting see-sawed up and down, was close in, and brutal. During this time I was shot twice, the second time had enough to send me back to the states with a broken neck. I came back to Korea in late '52 and fought until the end of the war, July '53 with the 3rd Inf.Div. At this time it was trench warfare, not as much movement as in the early days but still dirty, grinding, with death riding on your shoulder 24 hours a day. In fact it was at this time I was wounded for the 3rd time, the day before the war ended, when a mortar shell dropped in our midst. Shrapnel in my head and both legs. I have mentioned these experiences so you will know that my participation in that was was from a front row seat.

"The article about missing servicemen in your last Taro Leaf brought to mind an incident of which I know of, and I was there at the time it happened. During one of the Chinese major attacks, our unit, B Co. 19th, was forced to withdraw, along with other companies of the battalion. The squad I was in was left behind as a rear guard to hold off the Chinese from gaining access to the ridge line over which our company was withdrawing. Our squad leader at that time was a corporal named Melzer. (My spelling of his name may be wrong.) Anyway, I was teamed up with the assistant squad leader on one side of the trail. It was pitch black and we could see nothing. It seemed that we were there for hours. As I said, we could see nothing but we could hear the Chinese moving our way and were starting to smell the garlic smell of them.

"Finally, although we thought this was the end for all of us, a runner came from the company to tell us we could move out. While my partner and I were leaving our spot, a shot rang out. We never knew who fired it. As you can understand things were pretty tense as we started back up the trail. You just followed whoever was in front of you. On the way, we bumped into one Chinese soldier, and the shock of seeing each other was so great that before anyone could shoot he jumped off the trail and ran into scrub brush and trees. When we rejoined the company it was noticed for the first time that our squad leader



"MERRY CHRISTMAS! YOU'RE ON KPI"

-Cpl. Jack Ruge

was missing. I know this sounds crazy but it is true. Many times since this incident I've tried to reconstruct what happened and to my mind I'm convinced that the shot we heard was fired by the company runner who mistook the squad leader for a Chinese. The reason I believe this is because this squad leader usually stayed alone, and had a habit of wrapping himself with his winter sleeping bag which was brown and quilted and at times could be mistaken for a sleeping bag which was brown and quilted and at times could be mistaken for a Chinese soldier uniform. At night this could easily happen. The main point of this story is to try and explain to those who can't understand how men can disappear and not be accounted for. I think that no one will ever know what happened to many men. I'm sure that others who were in Korea can remember coming upon partial skeletons of G.I.'s still in their fox-holes who had been killed the year before when the same ground we were fighting on now had once been their battleground.

"Sorry to have gone on at such length, but once old memories are rekindled, it's hard to shut them off. Possibly my above stated story was boring -- hope not. Anyway, my best to all."

IN ANY EVENT

Thought we'd include this ad in any event. It'll help somebody: "Anyone having information about the execution of 35 American POWs Aug. 17, 1950, on Hill 303, South Korea; or anyone who served with the 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, or anyone knowing the whereabouts of survivors. Contact 1st David Kangas, HHD, 36th Signal Bn., APO San Francisco CA 96218-0183."

PEOPLE

Making It

Making it, they are.

President WARREN AVERY sends us this report on the Korean War Memorial.

The bill to allow a memorial to be built for Korean War veterans cleared Congress and was signed into law by President Reagan. The bill authorizes \$1 Million in taxpayer funds to be spent for site preparation, design and actual construction. Overall costs are estimated to be \$3.5 Million. Private contributions must make up the difference. The project will be overseen by the American Battle Monuments Commission, a Department of the Army agency. The President is expected to appoint a twelve member panel of Korean War Veterans to recommend a site and design for the monument, in concert with the monuments commission. Special thanks are in order for Bill Norris, President of the Korean War Veterans Association, who played an important role in ushering this bill through Congress. As additional information becomes available, including fundraising details, we will publish this news in future issues.

Eat your spinach.

In 1777, Washington's soldiers faced a cold, bleak winter of inactivity near Morristown NJ. Washington noticed signs of restlessness and grumbling. Grim-faced, he told the engineering officers that a fort must be built quickly. He had the sentry guard increased.

Work on the fortifications started on the double. The soldiers snapped out of their lassitude and began guessing when the attack might occur. When spring thaws came, the fort was not quite finished, but the general ordered a move.

"But will we move before the fort is finished?" the chief of engineers asked.

"It has served its purpose," Washington replied with a twinkle. "The fort was just nonsense, to keep the men busy at something they thought important."

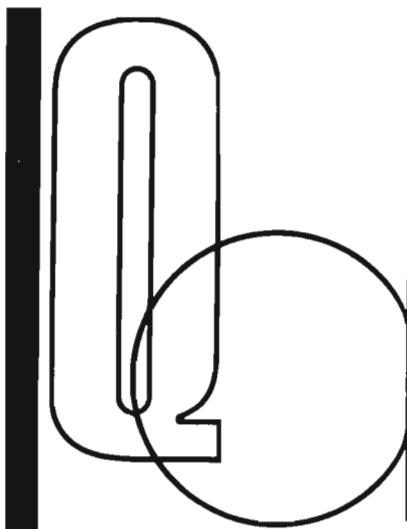
That was 210 years ago. Things haven't changed much, have they?

SINCE YOU ASKED

You didn't ask, maybe, but someone else did, with an ad that went like this: WILLIAMS, Roy and Billy, CID agent, Billy assigned in 1959-62 as infantryman in the 24th Infantry Division, Augsburg, Germany; served in Vietnam; was CID agent in 1969-70; originally from West Virginia; might have retired in 1979; or anyone knowing their whereabouts. Contact Sgt.Maj. Jackie G.Woodhurst, 14055 Reed Av., San Leandro CA 94578, phone 415-357-0739.

Editor's Letter

Christmas Greetings! We ran out of gas. We simply couldn't keep up with the wonderful wishes directed our way. Our warmest thanks to everyone for your kind thoughts, prayers, good wishes, and friendly comments. We wish we might have found the energy and time to respond to each in kind. It simply wasn't in the cards -- no pun intended. Your many and varied acts of gratitude and love in these recent days have been such that neither time nor words would suffice to express our joy and appreciation at your goodness. For us, we thank you from a full heart.



Inquiry from CLAUDE M. WATSON, (L 21st 8/43-1/46), of 2411 Hillcrest, Springfield, TN, goes like this: "I just wonder if the 24th still exists. Have never heard a word about it. It was a great Division!" It still exists, Claude; where've you been?

Professionals are people who can do their job when they don't feel like it. Amateurs are people who can't do their job when they do feel like it.

Say No To Drugs!

A proud father invited a professional opera singer to come to his home and listen to his daughter's singing. After the youngster's performance, he turned to the great star and said: "Did you like it? What do you think of her execution?" The vocalist replied: "I think I'd be in favor of it."

Grinning like Harpo Marx on the trail of a blonde, HARRY E. BRUNELLE tells us he'd love to hear from any POW's of Camps 1 and/or 4. He was 1st Bn., 5th RCT. Talk with him over 913-842-9032 or write him at 416 Sierra, Lawrence KS.



Well we've finally found this one. Years ago BILL BOYDEN (H & S, 3rd Eng. '49-'51), of 201 Old Taunton, Norton MA sent this one to us. The guy in the upper left corner, sitting on the bunk is PERRY SMITH, one of the "heros" in Truman Capote's "In Cold Blood." Hero? H---, he was one of the murderers. And there he is; strumming away -- as innocent as a Thanksgiving turkey following the sunflower seeds all the way up to the kitchen door.

To Do Is To Be
Socrates
To Be Is To Do
Plato
Do Be Do Be Do
Sinatra

Cerebrations

Written by ZANLY CAMPF down around Mt. Apo on Mindanao. Remember that beautiful mountain. Here's something to go with that memory:

WAR

War, ghastly slaughterhouse of greed,
Like the firey brimstone of hell,
And devastating with such great speed
That even God's counters could not tell
How many souls from men were stole,
How great their misery, their death toll.

How many mothers spend sleepless nights
Thinking of sons that war calls to fight.
How many fathers grieve for their sons,
That may have to walk against the guns.
How many sweethearts feel in chests
Great pains for their lovers laid to rest.

They fight for right, and for freedom too,
With the greatest courage to see it
through.

Freedom is for one and for all.
They know of this as many fall.
God Bless these brave and courageous men,
Thank God they fight we will win.

The Marine sentry waved the commander through the main gate at Pearl Harbor, but he failed to salute the officer. The commander stopped his car abruptly and backed up far enough for the corporal to see his blue Department of Defense sticker and asked, "Marine, doesn't that blue decal tell you anything?" The embarrassed Marine simultaneously saluted and apologized. With a high degree of self-satisfaction, the commander returned the salute and crisply accelerated (in reverse) into the car behind him.

Okay. Wanna peek?

It's our August 1987 caravansary.

Which one? The little one on the left; not the multi-story one on the right.

Convention Chairman BOB SHAY says the banquet hall will hold 800. And this time, we're gonna fill it. We've been around the 500 figure the last 3 parties.

Doesn't look like a hotel, does it? They call it the Hyatt Regency Woodfield in Schaumburg IL. Map provided elsewhere in this issue.



Face to face with another world.

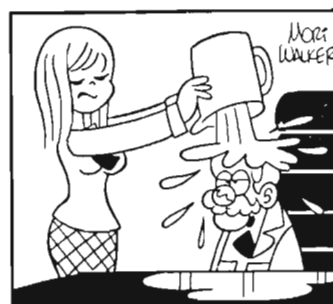
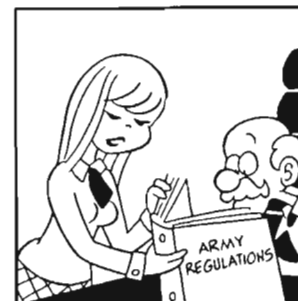
Another world is right. Note this list of 25th Division units:

4th CAV	25th AVN
5th CAV	26th FA
8th FA	27th INF
9th ARTY	34th ARMOR
9th INF	35th INF
11th FA	45th SP GR
12th INF	50th INF
13th FA	62d AD ARTY
14th INF	64th FA
16th TRAF COM	65th ENG
19th INF	75th INF
21st INF	69th ARMOR
22nd INF	89th FA
23rd INF	90th FA
25th INF DIV	125th SIGNAL
25th MED BN	161st INF
25th S & T	725th MAINT



TAKE A BOW

From Geneve Switzerland comes a new member -- ROBERT FLANAGAN. He introduced himself as a Lt. in the Security Platoon of the 19th Inf. on the DMZ (Munsani and Boboni on the Imjin River). His question was, "Am I eligible?" Before he could finish the question, Bob was signed up. He's now a Civil Service man in Geneve. We like that spelling -- it's Geneve over there, Geneva over here. Welcome to our club, Bob.



It's the Hyatt Regency Woodfield for 1987. Schaumburg, IL 60195

August 14, 15 & 16

Hold this issue up to a mirror to see an important message!

WOW NEW NOW
BEFORE IT'S
TOO LATE!

WE'VE MADE A CHANGE.

Yes -- a change -- and the change is this. No more statements of fact about any medals.

There is, however, another rumor which we spotted in the 6th Div's. paper.

As to it, we make a 100% disclaimer.

At any rate, this one goes like this. If you received the Combat Infantryman's Badge, you are entitled also the the Bronze Star Medal.

Letter should be sent to: Commander, RCPAC, ATTN. DARC-PSEAW, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis MO 63132 (including documentary evidence, if possible) to each member of the Armed Forces of the United States who, after 6 Dec. 1941, has been cited in orders or awarded a certificate for exemplary conduct in ground combat against an armed enemy between 7 Dec. 1941 and 2 Sept. 1945, inclusive, or whose meritorious achievement has been otherwise confirmed by documents executed prior to 1 July, 1947. For this purpose, an award of the Combat Infantryman Badge or Combat Medical Badge is considered as a citation in orders.

We're going back to reading Beatrix Potter -- gotta see what Peter Cottontail is up to tonight.



"THERE GOES SMITH, BUCKING FOR ARCHANGEL."

—S/Sgt. Thomas Shea

MAJOR HAYWOOD flew in from Kentucky for the Irving ceremonies, bringing with him a commission for Fred. Good son, Jim Haywood, has been dealing with the Governor over in Frankfurt since the invention of popcorn so lo and behold the Governor has now commissioned Fred Irving a Kentucky Colonel. Thank you, Jim; thank you Major for adding one more gem in Fred's scintillating day.

Off the Air

Yep, we've had it. We're off the air on this one.

If it's a question of medals, goose the National Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis MO 63132. Enclose a copy of your discharge papers.

ALL THE RIGHT THINGS. IN ALL THE RIGHT PLACES.

Donna MONTGOMERY, DON's great wife -- they're at 6824 Oaklawn, Edina MN - he was Hq. 19th '53-'54) - has written a book, "Surviving Motherhood" by title.



It's terrific. Looks at family relationships. Guess Donna's qualified. She and Don are the parents of 8. Here's a squib we'd like to run on the book -- "Surviving Motherhood" This is a great new book hot off the presses, written by Don's wife, Donna, and edited by Don. In fact, it's fantastic, with great reviews coming in every day. Don's son, Tim, oldest of Don's

eight children and staff artist for the St. Paul Pioneer Press, did the cover and sectional cartoons. This book is funny, filled with common sense, and a must for all mothers! You can do your married daughters and daughters-in-law a big favor by buying them this book right now as a gift. Send \$6.95, plus \$1.50 postage to: St. John's Publishing, 6824 Oaklawn Av., Edina MN 55435.

And we hope our gang will order 500 copies.

Wrote TOM UPTON upon his return to N.Y. from the Irving party: "A bunch of mud grunts sent aloft as eagles. My feet have barely touched the ground since. I'm even a bit embarrassed. I feel like a kid standing in front of the principal's desk."

As comedian Jackie Mason says: "Don't knock the one-man show. It only took one guy to paint the Sistine Chapel. And that was before rollers!"

WARMING TRENDS

Staying in Florida until May -- don't blame 'em -- are BOB and Carol CHURCH, (B 21st & Div.Hq. '40-'43), now of RR 2, Box 817, Stoney Point Rd., Sutton's Bay MI 49682. Any mail to 'em will be forwarded to Florida. Amazing that so many of our folks have migrated to Florida. Let's have a convention down there.

LETTER-PERFECT,



Meet Lt.Col. HAL DILL (C 21st) out there at 47-459 Hui Iwa St., #5, Kaneohe, you know where. Note that plate!

A Lucille Ball quote on staying young: "Live honestly, eat slowly, and lie about your age."

CASUAL FUNDAMENTALS

JOE DAWSON is talking up having an '88 get together in Texas -- BOB ENDER says "Back to Savannah!" Any other thoughts?

Excuses, Excuses!

When a 4-year-old put a nickel into his mouth, then swallowed it, his mother picked him up, turned him upside down, and slapped him hard on the back. He suddenly coughed up two dimes.

Whereupon she ran outside and shouted to her husband, "Your son just swallowed a nickel and coughed up two dimes. What shall I do?" Proclaimed papa: "Keep feeding him nickels!"

Don't settle for second best.

See where ABC TV is planning a mini-series, calling it "Amerika."

The theme? Our country has been taken over by the Soviet and is under the control of the U.N., it too having been taken over.

What earthly good will be served by this kind of garbage spewing out, hour after hour, over the airwaves.

Haven't we already enough problems without suffering this?

TOP DRAWER

Happy words from BILL and Lois MULLINS (13th F '42-'44) of 3412 Logan View, Baltimore MD: "Our daughter, Susan (SSG, USAR) has made us grandparents again -- her second child (our third grandchild). I work for Pinkerton's, and they are trying to make a sailor out of me. They have me assigned as the deck officer on the U.S.S. Hermitage, which is in Baltimore for some maintenance. I enjoy reminding these "squids" that the Army does the work, the Marines get the glory, the Air Force gets the decent food and the Navy gets the pay! Well, I'll leave their response to that one up to your imagination -- it tends to be unprintable at times."

"That fellow seems to know a lot about music."

"Are you kidding? He doesn't know his brass from his oboe!"

We can see that goofy jack-o-lantern grin on "Spike" O'DONNELL's face as he reads this one:

Homer Hatfield, an 84-year-old, had just returned from a trip to Paris. "I wish I'd done it forty years ago," he confided to a friend.

"You mean, when Paris was really Paris?"

"No, when Hatfield was really Hatfield!"

W

WILBER VANTINE (AT 19th '44-'45), of Murphy, NC, says he remembers JERRY

VON MOHR. "Was wounded I think." You're as foxy as a gold digger on the scent of new money, Wilber. Jerry's your man. He happens to be one of our personal heroes too. Why not write him at 3846 Villanova Dr., Dayton, Kettering, OH 45429.

POSITIVE
+
NEGATIVE
=
FABULOUS

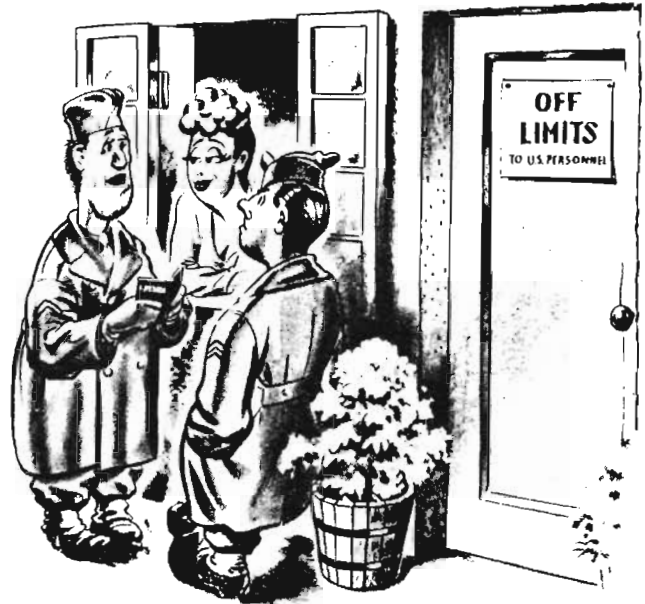
Six foot two, eyes of blue. This is fabulous! Dog tags? Want a set? Just like the old days? Try Acculine Co., 196 Lake Rd., Watertown CT. \$7.98 for 3 -- Print your information:

Name
Address
Ser.No.
Blood type
Religion
(or phone, allergies, etc.)



"NURSES, WACS, RED CROSS GIRLS -- A MAN CAN'T LEAVE HIS TENT WITHOUT HIS PANTS THESE DAYS!"

Some of you need to know the Convention dates at the earliest possible time -- It's the Hyatt Regency Woodfield, Schaumburg Ill. on August 14, 15 & 16, 1987.



"THAT'S FUNNY--SHE SAYS HER MOTHER WON'T LET HER GO OUT WITH YANKS!" --Pvt. Tom Flannery

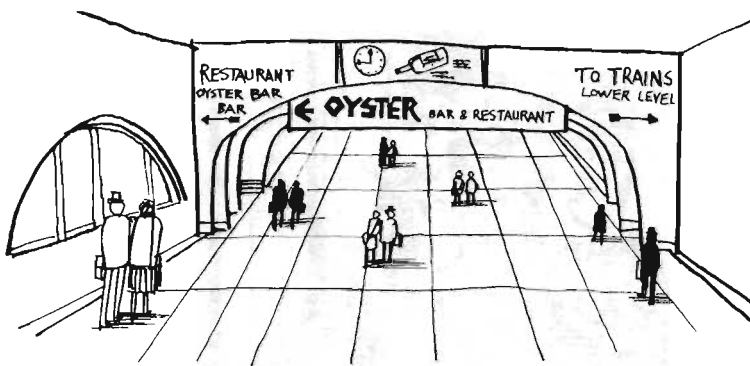
FOR THE RECORD

As we write, snow is falling, big and fluffy, like Ivory Snow flakes -- and Cleveland and Denver are tearing one another apart on the gridiron.

HERB and Ethel KINGSBURY penned this tribute to the Challenger people who gave their all; we know they'd like us to share it with you:

The brave seven went up in space
Their hearts, their hopes,
were geared to win the race
When disaster struck --
Just minutes away
What thoughts were in their hearts that day?
No words can sooth, nor deeds surpass,
They were in a "special class"
The seven who died
But not in vain
They will live in our memories,
again and again.
Now, they are in God's special care.
In our grieving hearts
We know they are there.
(Jan. 28, 1986.)

Our Membership Chairman, BOB ENDER, (1864 El Paso Lane, Fullerton CA 92633, Tel. 714-526-6860) is looking for prospective members for our Association. Will you please send him the names of your 24th friends, and their recent addresses only. Of course he doesn't want 20 year old addresses that will be returned as "not at". Wouldn't it be great if each of us could bring in a buddy!



You figure it out; we've given up. We've had it up to here trying to follow the bastardization of the 5th, 19th, 21st and 34th, let alone this new one to come down the pike.

The 2-9 Cav. is to be regimented under 2-4 Cav. Get it?

The 4th Battalion, 64th Armor did it. Various other units have done it. And now the 2nd Squadron, 9th Cavalry is going to join the ranks, but a little differently.

Join the ranks of the regimental system, that is. But the 2-9th Cav's big difference is that it won't be regimented under the old 9th Cavalry but under a new unit - the 2nd Squadron, 4th Cavalry.

Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, the 2-9th Cav's colors are being sent to Fort Ord, CA, where the unit will become the 7th Infantry Division's reconnaissance squadron. The 2-4th Cav, which had been inactivated is being reactivated at Stewart.

D/A determines which units go regimental. Army regulation 600-82 states that the mission of the regimental system is to enhance combat effectiveness through a framework that provides the opportunity for affiliation, develops loyalty and commitment, fosters an extended sense of belonging, improves unit esprit, and institutionalizes the war fighting ethos.

They might have added -- and raises havoc with the regiments as we of WW II and Korea vintage knew them.

The theory is that when a soldier joins the regimental system it gives him an identity. Soldiers have the opportunity to stay together which helps build a stronger union. This benefits the soldiers and also helps fulfill the Army's mission.

Going regimental is more than just a name change. The 2-9th Cav must give back their colors, guidons and historical artifacts.

The 2-4th Cav receives new troop guidons, new troop colors, and a new distinctive unit insignia. The 2-4th Cav remains a member of the Combat Aviation Brigade.

It's the Hyatt Regency Woodfield for August 14, 15 & 16, 1987.

The Irving Dedication Ceremony was an emotional one for those of our little clan who were able to make the trek to Stewart. The comments were of a kind and typically expressed by C. RUCKER and Jane FORD who wrote after it was over: "As I sat in the reviewing stand at Ft. Stewart and watched the splendid young men and women comprising the 24th Inf. Div. passing in review, honoring our beloved General Irving, I tingled with emotional pride -- so proud and thankful to be an American; so proud and thankful to have been assigned to the 24th Infantry Division in WW II -- and so honored to have served under General Irving."

You said it all, Rucker, thank you.



YOUR PRESIDENT HAS SOMETHING TO SAY:

"I was invited by John Bird of the BBC-TV to appear on a TV interview on Nov. 23, 1986 at the Watergate Hotel in Washington. This was in connection with the series "War In Korea" to be aired in '87; date and time to be announced. Carl Bernard was also an interviewed guest on this series.

"Prior to the taping, I had the privilege of spending some time at the home of Gen. Mike Lynch (Ret.) in Arlington, VA., who was the pilot who flew Gen. Walker from 'hot spot to hot spot'. After Gen. Walker's death, Mike was Gen. Ridgeway's pilot. It was interesting to hear him recall what was happening with the Generals when we soldiers were up on the line.

"On Dec. 9, 1986, I was a proud guest, one of a group of about 20 members, at the dedication at the Division Headquarters Building at Ft. Stewart. It will now be known as the Gen. Irving Building.

"Maybe by the next issue I might have some information regarding POW remains in North Korea."

Warren



In the last issue, the gimmick? We wanted an issue without so much as a mention of any WW II veteran. The idea was going beautifully until just before press time, we received word of Stewart's plan to dedicate its headquarters to Gen. Irving. So we pulled a page and substituted therefor the Division's invitation to us all to attend that ceremony. That was too important an event to keep out -- obviously.

So quite technically, it was not an issue without so much as a mention of a single WW II man. It did include a men-



tion of Gen. Irving, the grandest "WW II man" of them all.

And who first responded, recognizing the gimmick? BOB JOHNSON (19th, 21st, 34th 3/51-12/53) 24 Whipple St., Somerville MA 02144, was on the phone with his wide, canary-swallowing grin and hit it on the nose -- "An all-Korea issue!"

Bing Bam Alakazam -- the clock was on its way.

We tried to keep track of all of the entries.

Wrote Chaplain JOE PEYTON: "Assoc. address no longer Springfield. Do I get the clock?"

"No, Joe. Although using the President's address on the mailing cover did throw quite a few - including the President.

A few were on the trail of the Editor, fast like a hound dog on a trail of bacon grease. Some thought he'd quit -- or been fired -- now there's a thought.

The sainted ELMER and Margaret PETERSON took the Editor to be sick -- or with child -- and sent a "Get Well" message. Bless them.

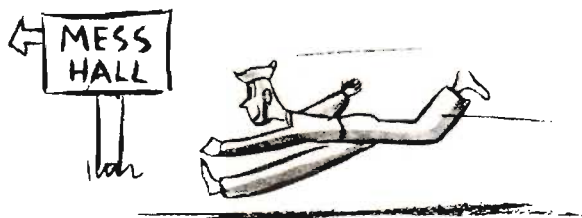
For causing any undue concern, our apologies. Such was certainly not our intent. We were just having fun.

We're gonna list a few who caught the "gimmick" and came forward saying so:

C.H. "Bronko" ATKINSON
LESTER WILLIAMSON
TED SHIELDS
CHARLES DEGREGORIO
HAROLD FAY
JERRY VON MOHR
EDWARD J. VOSO
PLANTER WILSON

Oh there were others -- many others -- space simply won't allow us to list them all.

Thanks, gang, for playing "What's the Gimmick?"



Precious note in from Ruth MEADORS as she made the final payment on HOWARD's Life Membership: "Haven't figured out whether paying fraternal dues and such is what all wives do or if I've simply spoiled Howard to the point it really is, or has become a part of, the wedding vow taken Aug. 7, 1945. Loved it, Ruthie -- and you just go on spoiling Lou -- we have a good suspicion that he enjoys it too. Lou was K & Sv. 19th '40-'44. These folks are at 202 19th St., Corbin KY. Get it? They live on 19th St. Yeah Chicks!"

Out of Lincoln, NB comes word from CHARLEY GORMAN (M Co. 5th RCT '51-'52): reminding us that the boys used to call him "Jusy" 'cuz at the time N.J. was home for him.

On Iran -- this fact seems to be lost in all of the hubbub:

Soviet designs on the Mideast are at the heart of the matter. It has been eyeing Iran for years and sees its chance once Khomeini goes to take advantage of turmoil, drive a wedge clear to the Indian Ocean.

Iran is THE key piece of real estate in that part of the world ...between Russia and the Persian Gulf, the principal oil shipping routes. Long borders abutting the Soviet Union, Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan. A position from which Moscow could intimidate Arabs, Israel and others.

Keep this in mind as you watch what's going on there...and here.

STERLING OYSTER (MP and D 34th '44-'45) of 3311 Drake, Santa Maria CA, anxious to hear from anyone in his old units.

LETTERS

For this, we are indebted to FRANK SKINNER:

"My grandmother is over 80 and still doesn't need glasses. Drinks right out of the bottle." (Henny Youngman)

ECHOES

From one Eric H. Archer of 6940 Bristol Drive, Berkeley, CA 94705 comes this letter:

"For some time, I have been researching the procurement and usage of shotguns by the military services. I am slowly writing a book on these unusual weapons. My work relies heavily on veteran's recollections of how shotguns were used by the services for combat, security, aerial gunnery training, or recreational purposes.

"I am interested in hearing from any 24th Infantry Division Association members who have first-hand recollections concerning the use of shotguns by the Army. Information concerning photos showing shotguns in use would also be of great interest.

"Whatever publicity which you might be able to give my research in an upcoming issue of the Taro Leaf will be greatly appreciated.

"Thank you,
ERIC H. ARCHER."

There you are, Eric.

Don't know that we can help you much, but we'll see.

Our boys usually were involved with the bigger he-man stuff.



"THINK NOTHING OF IT, SIR. I'M WEARING A TRUSS."

-Pvt. Walter Mansfield

HAPPY NEW YEAR -- 1987

There will be no New Year Resolutions for me. I have learned over the years, doing so, has brought me nothing but problems. I will continue to do what I have done for the past several years, devoting my time to obtaining new members for our 24th Infantry Division Association.

Last year (1986) with your help, I was able to contact and bring into the fold, seventeen (17) New Members. Thank You All for sending in the names and addresses. Again this year I ask each of you to send me the names and addresses of those former 24thers who sent you Christmas Card or Greetings in 1986. We will know these are current addresses, and I will contact each of the individuals in your name, and ask them to join us.

Our Memorial Service reminds us of this real Friendship ... different from every other kind of Friendship.

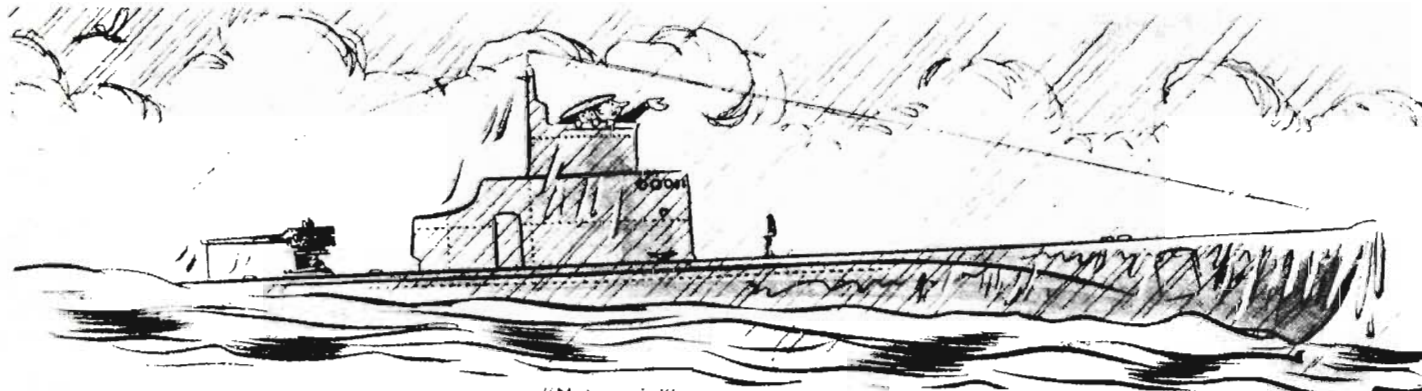
... "different from the ties of flesh and blood,
different from the ties of business association,
different from the ties of social acquaintance ..."

Let it be our aim to get every former 24ther in our group.

My Gift to each of you as this New Year begins, is a Special Prayer, that You and Yours will be blessed with Good Health, Friendship, Love and Peace. God Bless!

Joe

Joseph I. Payton
Association Chaplain



"Nuts-rain!"

We're interested in building a file of pictures -- one of each member. Here's a start. We've got one of GERALD RUTH (5th RCT '50-'51 - POW '51-'53) of Box 126, Gratis, OH. Thanks, Gerry. We're on our way.



CHATTER

Great letter from Life Member #30, FRANCIS H. HELLER (Div.Arty. '42-'47) Law Prof at the U. of Kansas. Writes Francis: "There is a common legend that people in the teaching field have all the time in the world. Well, this teacher has been so confoundedly busy this last year that he just has not found time for much personal correspondence. It's been this way ever since I got back last June from a thoroughly enjoyable semester as a visiting professor at the University of Vienna Law School. I lectured, in German, on the American constitutional system, and what would happen but that I was asked to expand my lectures into a book. It will come out in Vienna and Cologne but it kept me hopping for several months after my return here. There will be two more years before they put me out to pasture. In the meantime, I keep on trying to rouse my law students to something beyond addiction to 'black letter law' -- it's an uphill battle, all the way.

"You remind me that I hold Number 30 among our life members -- and remind me that, among journalists, '30' means Finis. Well, I have never been a slave to the mythology of numbers. If I had been, my life might have been quite a bit different: when, in the summer of 1947, I was offered a regular army commission, the serial number that went with it was 0-50,000! Now, can one really turn that kind of a number? I did, largely because on my way back from Japan I ran into a full colonel who was General Gruber's clone. I would gladly have stayed in an army with the Hugh Cortis, the Livvy Taylors and the Tommy Langs -- but not with The Grubers. But every once in a while I speculate of where I might have wound up if I had become Number 50,000.

"The Taro Leaf is always read from cover to cover not only by me but also by my wife. There is a Taro Leaf on the rear window of my car -- and there will be as long as I have one."

BILL WILLIS, of '45-'47 vintage, and living at 615 Summit, North Canton OH, writes: "Would be nice to hear from Cresman, Palmer, Lovett, Hinesley or anyone from Headquarters Battery 13th FA."

Taro Leaf Trivia: Do you know that, in NYC, Duffy Square, Herald Square, Greeley Square, Sherman Square, Sheridan Square, Times Square are each triangles?

BILL WING over at Box 1656, Springdale AR says, "I'd like to contact officers McClung, Decker, Fisher and Bell and NCO Wallis of C of the 5th RCT."



Another picture for our growing collection. Won't you send in yours today? This one is of JACK BROWNING (M 34th '49-'54 - POW 2/8/50-8/28/54). Jack and Billie are at Rt. 2 Brentlawn, Frankford KY.



From DICK GOINY comes this: "I edit The Clearing Legionnaire, for the American Legion Post I've been a member of since '48. We recently had the experience of having one of our members pass away without leaving any of his family any evidence of his having been in the service. The problem was that the undertaker could not procure a flag for this man's burial. Fortunately, several years ago we had passed a form and he had returned it, completed, to our Post. We were able to forward this to the undertaker who was able to get the flag in time for the funeral. I'm not saying that you should ask that the forms be returned to the Association. They should be retained by some member of the family. This might be a big help somewhere down the road."

Appreciate the item, Dick. However, we're constrained to the view that it must be a crummy undertaker if he can't produce a flag.