

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

VOL. XLV - NO. 4

1991 - 1992

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Spicer, Gene E.
RR 1, Box 303
Commiskey IN 47227

A circular postmark from Springfield, MA, dated SEP 1992, is stamped over a 27-cent postage stamp featuring Woodrow Wilson. Another stamp is partially visible above it.

RELIVE THE MOMENTS.

MONUMENTAL PROLIFERATION

There is many a boy here today who looks on war as all glory; but boys, it is all hell.

—General William Tecumseh Sherman
August 11, 1880

Not too many years ago, a former president's preteen daughter made the headlines by offering to her embattled father some profound political insights. When queried by the presidential patriarch on the most serious problem facing the world of that day, she reportedly replied, "Nuclear 'priferation."

Today, a new type of proliferation is occurring, monumental in nature, yet certainly of far less lethal significance than the now rapidly waning nuclear threat. Says journalist George F. Will, one of our most prolific Capitol Hill critics and a popular television talking face, "Monumentitis" is making the Mall in Washington a monument to Mars and to irritable factions."

It may be true that memorialization has taken on the appearance of a growth industry. From shore to shore, monuments are being created to help us remember the horrors of war and the noble sacrifices of those who served their country so well in America's conflicts.

Understandably, our nation's capital (though not necessarily Will's "Inviolable" Mall) leads with the abundance of new monumental tributes. Last Veterans Day a memorial was dedicated near the entrance to Arlington National Cemetery to honor America's Armored Forces. Recently the final stages of the Navy Memorial were completed along Pennsylvania Avenue.

On Flag Day 1992, ground was finally broken by President Bush for the long awaited Korean War Veterans Memorial, to be located in an area of the Mall that currently is not overly encumbered with the tread of tourism. Design plans have been approved to add statuary near the Vietnam Veterans Memorial honoring the women who served in that conflict. Memorials to World War II, Desert Shield/Desert Storm and Black Revolutionary War Veterans have been proposed, and the design has been approved and fund-raising is under way for a memorial to all Women in Military Service to America, to be incorporated into the existing Hemicycle at the gates to Arlington National Cemetery.

Elsewhere across the land, from quiet towns and hamlets in New England to bustling cities on the West Coast, yes, even to the territorial islands of the mid-Pacific, tributes large and small are being built. On Memorial Day 1991, a Bicentennial Memorial was dedicated to all veter-

ans of America's wars in Blue Ash, Ohio. An International Korean War Memorial is soon to be dedicated on a magnificent headland overlooking the Pacific Ocean near Los Angeles, Calif., while at another Los Angeles site, a monument is planned to recognize Japanese-American veterans of World War II. And on the far-away island of Saipan, in the Marianas, an American Memorial Park is being developed to remember those who turned the Japanese tide in the Pacific. The list could go on indefinitely.

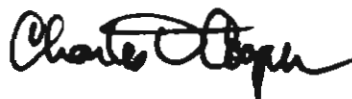
There are those who view this recent trend toward memorialization as an obscene attempt to glorify war. Yet I would submit that there is a far better explanation.

After more than half a century of pursuing a variety of wars—both hot and cold—Americans are pausing at last to reflect on the somber results, the tragedies of those wars. They are re-analyzing warfare as the extension of international political relations, and they are recognizing the sacrifices made by those who faithfully have served their country's goals in its pursuit of world freedom.

And, once again, they are seeing their nation's leadership slipping toward the morass of faulted policies of the past that led to our nation's involvement in a steady parade of conflicts, both global and regional. They remember how America's rapid disarmament and isolationist position following World War I created the power vacuum that resulted in World War II, and how a similar precipitous disbanding of forces following World War II led to Korea. And they are concerned for the future.

Perhaps rather than denigrating this rising trend toward belated remembrance, it's time to encourage more monumental proliferation. Not only in the towns and cities that gave up their precious sons and daughters, but also at every corner of Capitol Hill. Then those in power who would return America to an isolationist course, those who again would permit our defenses to wither to a hollow, untrained and ill-equipped force, could better remember the hard lessons of the past.

Monumental proliferation should not be considered a vain attempt to glorify war. Rather, as General Sherman so appropriately reminds us, war is hell, and we, as a nation, must never forget that fact.



—Col Charles D. Cooper, USAF-Ret.,
Editor

VICTORY

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VICTORY

VICTORY

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VICTORY

TARO LEAF

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF

24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

VOL. XLV

August 1992

NO. 4



The publication "of, by and for the men and women who served or now serve" the glorious United States 24th Infantry Division, and published irregularly 4 or 5 times a year by the 24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION.

News items for publications can be sent to the Editor. Anticipate a lead time of 6 - 8 weeks.

Association membership is open to anyone and everyone who wears or ever wore the Taro Leaf or served in any of its attached units.

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"I can't understand why it's still raining

... The exercise is over."

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to Sun., Sept. 27

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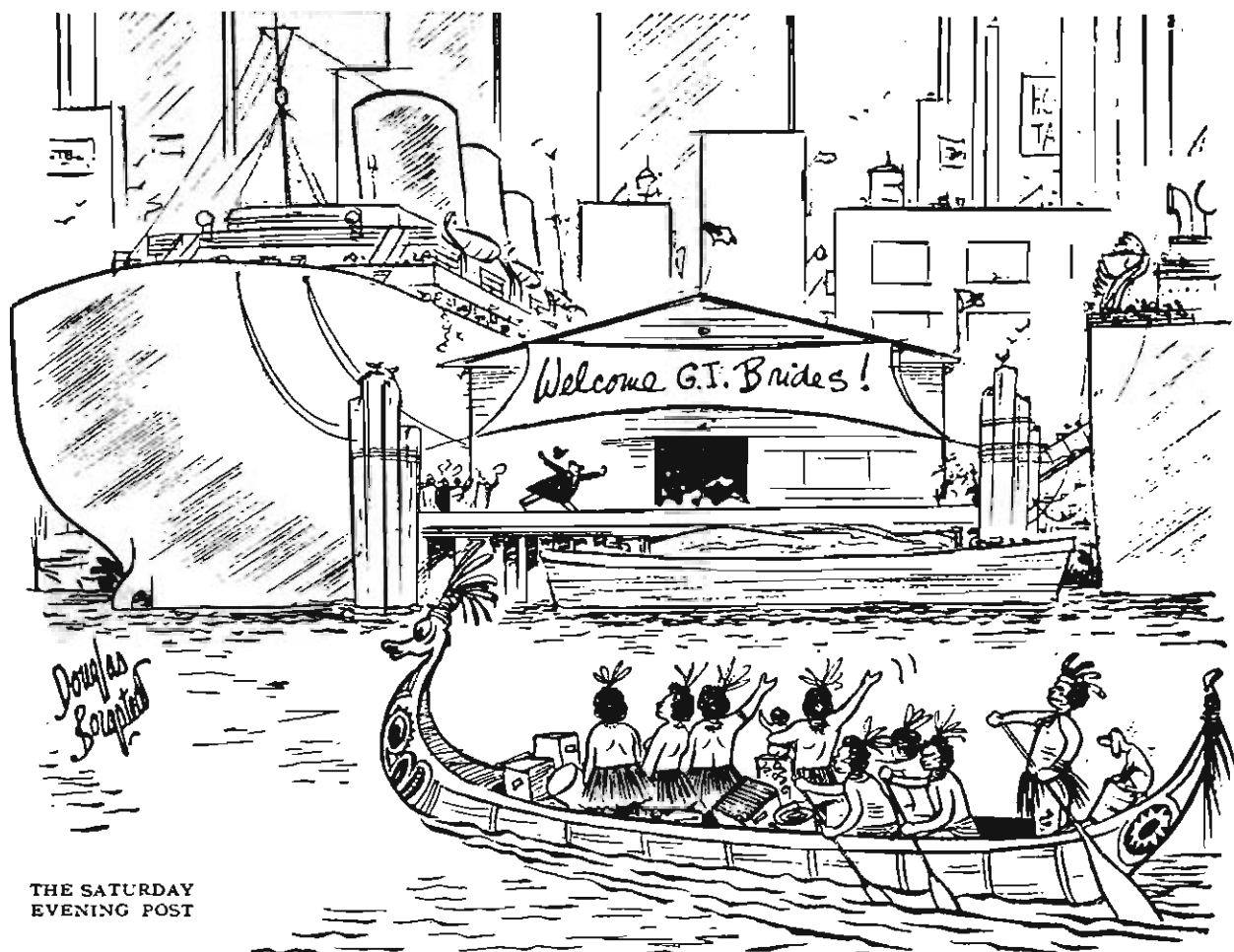
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"Oh, boy—here come the ones from New Guinea."

Now on board - for which our thanx -
and a hearty welcome:

PAUL M. SWEDA
Sv. 52nd F 1/51-10/52
6319 Fir Rd., Sebring FL

STEPHAN KOSTOFF
A 11th F 7/49-8/51
18 Quelch Av., Stony Point NY

LESTER JOHNSON just called and said
he had a prospect. Name is: EDWARD
SUDARIK, 9928 South Turner, Evergreen Par
IL. That did it. We picked it up from
there.

DICK GOINY is on the line and he says:
"This evening, as I was dining out, I
happened to overhear a couple talking
about WW II, Midway Island, Leyte, etc.
One asked the other what service he was
in. Well, this guy said he was in the
24th Division so I butted into the
conversation. Asked if he knew there
was an Association. Of course, he
didn't. Said he was interested.
Name is: DANIEL ROCCO, 5811 South Troy
St., Chicago IL."

We did the rest. Thanks Dick.

JIM SHARP asks us to notify the
gang of an H 19th '50-'52 get-together
at Buebler Park, Rolla MO on Sat.,
Sept. 19th. Contact Jim at 606-734-5959.
He's at 201 Longview St., Harrodsburg
KY 40330. Sorry we couldn't use your
Kodachrome, Jim. It would have come
out all grey.



loud 'n clear

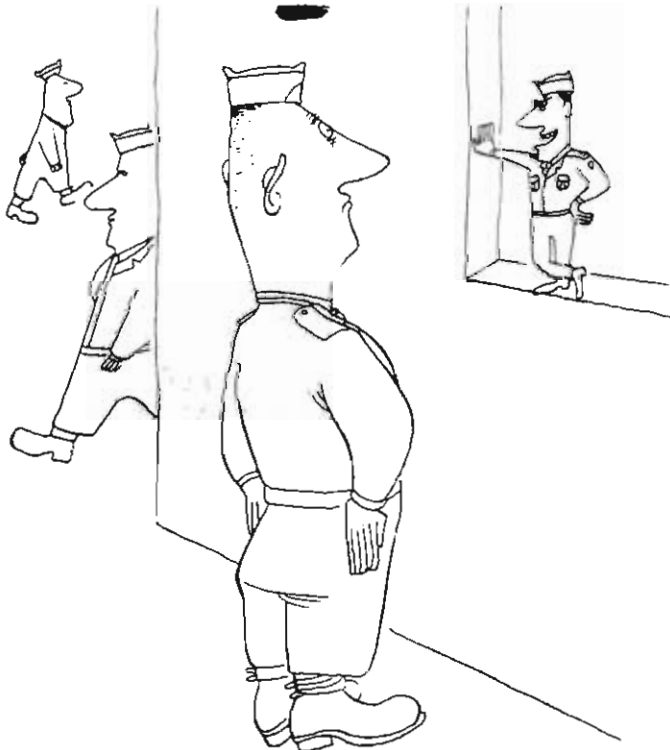
The pitch has been made to us for \$ in support of the "Museum of the Pacific War" at the Admiral Nimitz Museum of the Pacific War at the Admiral Nimitz State Historical Park in Fredericksburg TX (PO Box 777, 78624)

Looks to us as though it's going to be pretty much a Navy show.

For instance, one sentence in the brochure reads: "Detailed are major battles on the sea - Coral Sea, Midway, Leyte Gulf; on the land - Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Iwo Jima, Okinawa; and in the air - from carrier actions to the mass formations of B-17s and B-29s."

Don't read much into that about any of the land action.

So we simply filed it away - for the moment.

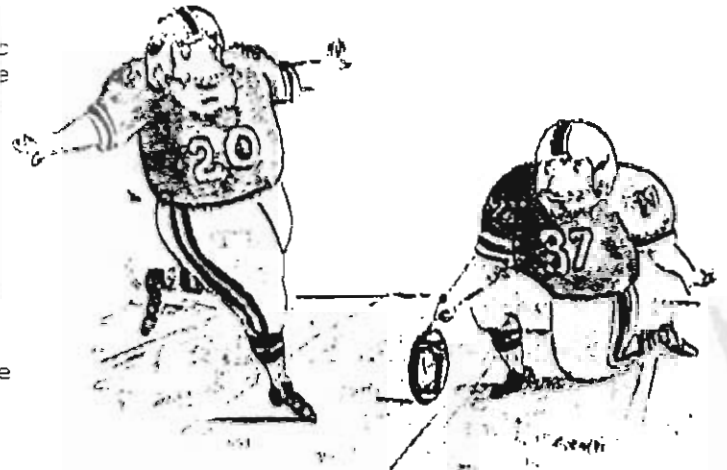


"OH, SO THE REASON FOR NOT SALUTING ME IS THAT YOU DIDN'T SEE ME... DO YOU EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT, SOLDIER?"

The House of Representatives has authorized the American Battle Monuments Commission to develop and build a memorial to World War II veterans. The site in Washington, D.C. has not yet been determined.

It has been proposed that the memorial be funded by the Treasury Department selling commemorative coins marking the 50th anniversary of the invasion of Normandy.

This will provoke comment; we guarantee it.



Why not kick off the fall season with a weekend at Savannah? The nostalgia will do wonders for you.

Wonderful Quotable Quote -

This one from GEORGE SOEMANN, of 2458 Hess, Appleton NY: "I just received the latest Taro Leaf. I am afraid that I am getting too old to remember the humorous things which happened during my 'visit' to Korea, and I have spent many years trying to forget the other things."

Good Friend and Life Member #436 (Med.Co. 19th 7/51-10/52) now at 809 Branchton Ct., Atchison KS 66002 never forgets us with his yearly contribution and good words, "Here's \$ to put to a good cause. Am trying to make it to Savannah."

24th Infantry Division Association member, RAYMOND H. ROBERTS, (E 34th 12/46-2/48) 26 High St., N.Brookfield MA 01535 (508-867-8738) would like to purchase your WW II Japanese weapons for his collection. Federal and State licensed, so they can be legally shipped to him.

Law enforcement command now at Stewart

Military Police from Stewart and Hunter unified under one command

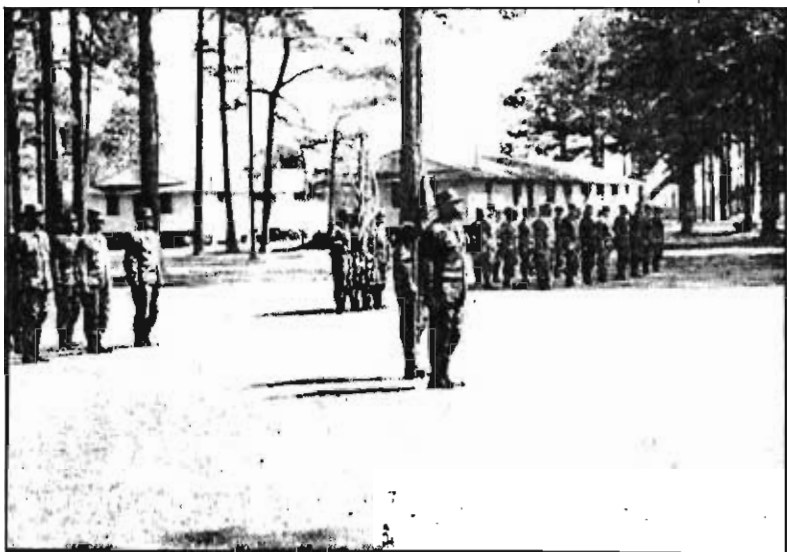


Photo by Spec. Karen Wright

The 24th Infantry Division Law Enforcement Command holds its first battalion formation April 1.

By Sgt. D. R. Doss

Editor

After months of preparation, Military Police units from the 24th Infantry Division, Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield are now unified under one command. The official activation of the Law Enforcement Command took place April 1. The new battalion-size command consolidates the 24th Military Police Company; B Company (MP), Fort Stewart and B Company (MP) Detachment, Hunter Army Airfield.

According to Lt Col. James Seagrove, 24th Infantry Division provost marshal and commander of the LEC, the new command structure will not necessarily be readily apparent to the military community on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. The Military Police support they receive will continue at the same level.

The most notable change, said Seagrove, "is a boost in morale for MPs." Prior to the activation of the LEC

the Military Police community on both installations had no battalion-level commander or staff fully versed in Military Police mission requirements, career progression, training requirements, or schooling patterns. The 24th MP Company fell under 2nd Squadron, 4th Cavalry and B Company (MP) under 1st Provisional Battalion for administrative support and UCMJ. Now, the LEC commander and staff service the companies in these areas. This will ensure the professional requirements of the individual MP are better met.

The establishment of the LEC would not have been possible without the support of Victory Brigade and other division staff and directorates. Cooperation and support from these sources during the staffing of the LEC concept was essential to its final approval, said Seagrove.

24th DIVISION CONVENTIONEERS WAIT ZERO HOUR



"What's wrong? It smells good today."

Genteel Savannah's going great guns

SAVANNAH is often thought of as a genteel city, founded by gentlemen farmers who lived in palatial mansions overlooking the landscaped squares that punctuate America's first planned city.

But its tree-shaded streets and magnolia-laced gardens were protected by bristling cannons in stout masonry forts to ward off impending invaders. The city was not just about cotton and rice, it was about cannonballs and muskets.

This legacy of military might is often overlooked by tourists traipsing through the carefully restored 18th- and 19th-century homes or riding horse-drawn carriages through the nation's largest National Historic District, but it's there, ringing the city.

From the very beginning, when Savannah was founded by the British in 1733, the city has been fortified to protect its residents and its strategic port. In the first years, the whole city was walled against the Spanish. Later, artillery fortifications protected Savannah against the British, Germans and Yankees during the Revolutionary and Civil Wars.

Savannah saw its first major military action during the Revolutionary War when Colonial insurgents took over the city at the beginning of the war. In 1778, the British recaptured Savannah. The following year, the American army laid siege to Savannah in an unsuccessful attempt to retake the city. Finally in 1782, the British left Savannah to return to England.

None of the early military fortifications remain from this era, but in a park on Bay Street between Drayton and Bull streets lies the Washington Guns. This pair of bronze cannons, which were captured by the Americans in the decisive Battle of Yorktown, were presented to Savannah by Gen. George Washington.

The brickwork fortification was constructed between 1809 and 1842 and saw service in the War of 1812 and the Civil War. It stands on the south bank of the Savannah River, a site which has been fortified since colonial times. The fort guards Five Fathom Hole, the 18th-century deep water port in the Savannah River. Cannons on the grounds point out over the river, waiting to challenge any enemy craft approaching.

Inside the fort, which is small by military measure, some of the buildings have been restored. Deep within the casements of its brick walls are displays of weapons, naval warfare and everyday fort life.

The fort is the scene of many military re-enactments and special events throughout the year.

The epitome of military fortifications, Fort Pulaski, is located 15 miles east of Savannah. The fort, a National Monument, was designed by Napoleon's military engineer and built between 1829 and 1847. It cost \$1 million, and took 25 million bricks to complete. A young Robert E. Lee was assigned to the fort as an engineer shortly after graduating from West Point. Its brick and masonry walls were thought to be impregnable. But the Confederates found out otherwise during the Civil War.

In early 1862, Federal troops began bombarding the fort. The rebels at first were unconcerned because the Union guns were a mile away, twice the range of normal cannons. But what they didn't realize is that the Federals had 10 new experimental rifled cannons. Within 30 hours, the new guns had shattered the brick fort's walls, not only leading to its surrender, but ending the era of the masonry fort.

The fort's story is told in the visitor center through a film and displays. Then visitors can explore the fort by walking over a bridge spanning the moat onto a small island guarding the rear entrance to the fortification. Here are a series of underground bunkers designed to protect the only entrance to the fort.

Across another drawbridge is the fortress, now restored to its former glory. Here are row after row of arched brick casements, which once housed an arsenal of cannons. A few still remain to show visitors what the fort once looked like. From high atop the ramparts, the marshlands of the coast spread out in all directions. On the horizon is Tybee Island, from where the Union forces bombarded the fort.

The island is home to a third Savannah fortification. Fort Screven was one of the last coastal artillery batteries built along the East Coast. It was built in 1875 and was manned during the Spanish American War and World War I.

A fort of a different color is Fort McAllister 25 miles south of Savannah. This earthen fortification, built between 1861 and 1862, proved to be more effective against the heaviest Naval gunfire than the masonry forts. The fort successfully resisted seven attempts at capture by the Union Navy using Monitor-type warships. It fell only after a fixed-

bayonet assault by an entire division of Union troops, culminating in Gen. Sherman's famed March to the Sea.

The restored earthwork houses a small museum containing many artifacts from the fort, as well as the Confederate blockade runner Nashville which was destroyed by the Monitor Montauk in 1863 in the Ogeechee River above the Confederate fortification.



The word came down that the new CG might like to have a word on these pages. That message went through the office like a pinball, ricocheting from one side to another. The envelope please... And here's the message:



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION (MECHANIZED) AND FORT STEWART
FORT STEWART, GEORGIA 31314-5000

August 12, 1992

Dear Fellow Taro Leafers:

The pace here at Fort Stewart remains fast and furious. We have just completed Operation Sand Eagle '92, a joint exercise consisting of some 13,000 soldiers, deploying to three different states. The Victory Division deployed the Division Ready Flyaway Force (DRF), consisting of more than 345 soldiers, tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles, combat support vehicles and equipment on 30 C5A transport planes. Sand Eagle demonstrated our ability to rapidly project a heavy force and to fight alongside light forces.

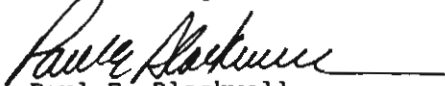
As the DRF redeploys to Fort Stewart, our Third Brigade at Fort Benning deploys to the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California, for thirty days. At Fort Irwin, 3d Bde will maneuver and train in 100,000 square miles of training area, employing each weapon system in the brigade against the NTC opposing forces.

When 3d Bde returns to Fort Benning, we will roll out on command post exercise, "Gallant Victory," to continue fine-tuning our command and control systems. This is a practice exercise pitting command and control systems against a computerized national foe. It is more complicated than it sounds, with more than a thousand soldiers and hundreds of vehicles deployed to various locations throughout Fort Stewart.

In addition to all the unit training we are accomplishing, soldiers recently completed testing for the coveted Expert Infantryman's Badge and Expert Field Medical Badge. 236 soldiers earned the EIB; 126 earned the EFMB. Additionally, the Division Support Command is conducting Air Assault School for 149 soldiers.

I believe our training focus is right on target. Our focus is to ensure a trained and ready force, capable of executing the directives of our Nation. Part and parcel of that is to ensure that we provide the very best care and quality of life for our soldiers, civilians, and family members.

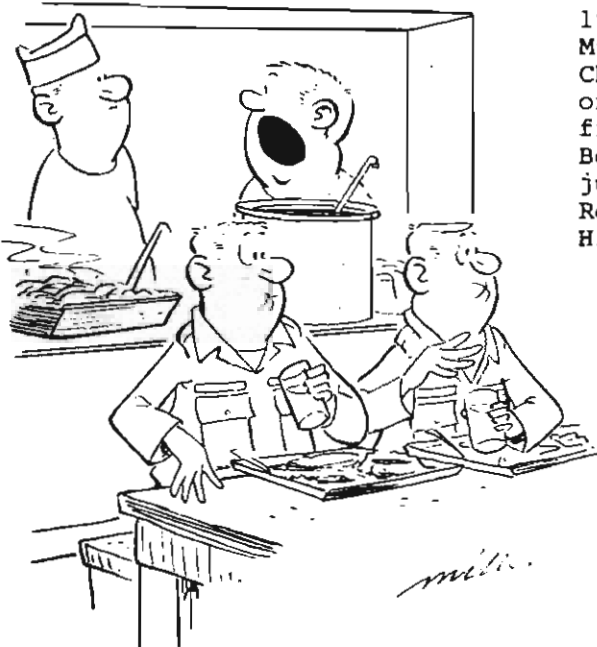
First To Fight!


Paul E. Blackwell
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

Something For a Song

Another who sends "a little extra" for the good of the cause -
BURNETTE A. BACON (5th RCT Hq.Co. 3rd Bn. 1/51-10/51) 450 Falcon Dr., Florissant MO 63031 - says he'll see us in Savannah!

Call received from Pembroke MA. Seems they're planning to honor the memory of KENNETH NELSON HANDY, KIA 11/5/50. They know he was a Division man. And we have no record. Incidentally thanks to HUGH BROWN, we purchased the printout of the Korean War casualties. And we can't find Handy listed thereon. Does the name ring a bell?



"First it was meat, then the potatoes... I suppose now they're going to complain about the lemonade."

A Father & Son Team to brag about - which we do. Rev. CHARLES M. SPENCE was 34th and 19th in '50-'51. He's at 810 Kelly Rd., Mt.Holly NC. He and Reita had Deborah, Charles Jr. and David. And David's the one - he's DAVID L. SPENCE of HHB 1/41 FAR from 1/90 to 10/92. Captain David's at Box 1061, Hinesville GA. Writes Dad: "I just love this Division." And so do we, Reverend. Dave's now in real estate in Hinesville. Tel. 912-368-3700.

JESSE T. MITCHELL, Life Member #434, (E 19th '46-'48), Rt. 8, Box 273, Crossville TN, sends a wonderful contribution. Hopes to see everyone in Savannah, especially his friends FRANCIS M. PAPAN, ARLIE BURNETT and ROBERT MADRYGA. Writes Jess: "We were part of a group selected to be the Honor Guard Company for General Eichelberger. This required a period of training followed by a number of "spit and polish" formations, parades and the primary duty of standing guard around the Emperor's Palace. This duty in Tokyo was shared with an Australian Honor Guard Company making life even more interesting."

RONALD LEE MCCLEARY (24 QM Co. '51-6/52) RD 3, Box 446, Hollidaysburg PA 16648, would like to find or hear from any members who were with the advance party sent to Camp Schimmel, Japan when 24th was relieved in Korea. Some 24th QM names I remember - Cpl. John Buyer, S.Sgt. Rudolph V. Balma, CA, Cpl. John Pimental, MA, Cpl. George Keenan, NH.

NOTICE

Don't forget -

ASSOCIATION DUES AS OF

AUGUST 1st: \$15.00

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS AS OF

AUGUST 1st: \$150.00



This is part of a spread of Norman Rockwell sketches appearing in the Satevepost for 5/8/43. "A Night on a Troop Train", N.R. titled the work. We knew you'd relish in nostalgia with this one.



Our much thanks go to Life Member 1139, ARTHUR MCGINNIS (24th Med.Bn., Ft.Riley '69-70), now of 117 Appaloosa Way, Sewell NJ. He has sent us a copy of the Apr.17,1970 issue of the Fort Riley Post. We reproduce parts of it here; it was a sad story and it speaks for itself.

Ft. Riley Again Is Home Of Famed Big Red One

The Big Red One returned to Fort Riley Wednesday in a colorful redesignation ceremony which saw the inactivation of the 24th Division and the assignment of the division's duties to the 1st Infantry Division. Melvin Laird, Secretary of Defense, was at the Post for the elaborate ceremony marking the return of the historic division to its home base at Fort Riley from service in Vietnam.

The Fort Riley

Home of the
1st Infantry Division

POST

Volume 11

Junction City, Kansas, Friday, April 17, 1970

No. 26

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REDESIGNATION COMPLETED



CASING OF THE COLORS marked the formal deactivation of the 24th Infantry Division during ceremonies Wednesday at Marshall Army Airfield, which were highlighted by the appearance of Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird, who spoke briefly regarding the history of the First Division and its return from Vietnam. A crowd of 8,000 to 10,000 spectators witnessed the deactivation of the 24th, and its redesignation as the First Infantry Division (mechanized).

Secretary of Defense Welcomes 1st Div.

Mr. Laird extended a "Welcome home" to the division from President Nixon, who, it was recalled, visited the division in a Vietnam combat area last July.

"The return of the First Infantry Division from Vietnam to Fort Riley, Kansas, will be followed in the months immediately ahead by the redeployment of additional troops in thousands."

Marching battalions of infantrymen and the latest military equipment.

A distinguished group was on the reviewing stand for the redesignation ceremony.

Included were Governor Robert Docking, Senator Robert Dole, Congressman Chester Mize, Senator William B. Saxton of Ohio, Mr. I. James K. V. General Lieutenant A. Mock, mand'



Laird Tells of More Military Withdrawals

Assignment of the 1st Infantry division here assures a long range military status for the installation, Melvin Laird, secretary of defense said Wednesday at ceremony welcoming the group back to Vietnam.

reception
Laird

Our never-tiring Convention Chairman JOHN HUMMER is offering some tours of Savannah. Here's his schedule:

Sept. 23 Wed.	2:00 - 5:00	Driving Tour of the Historic District, including 2 admissions
	2:00 - 4:30	Walking Tour, "Who's Who", with 1 admission.
Sept. 24 Thurs.	9:00 - 12:00	Driving Tour of the Historic District - including 2 admissions
	2:00 - 5:00	Low Country Driving Tour, with visit to Wormsloe Historic Site
	2:00 - 5:00	Military Heritage Driving Tour, visiting Fort Jackson and Fort Pulaski.
	2:00 - 4:30	Walking Tours: 1. "Madison Square Ramble" 2. "Who's Who in Savannah?" 3. "Things That Go Bump In the Night"
Sept. 26 Sat.	10:00 & 11:00	Depart for Savannah Mall
	2:00 & 3:00	Return to Hyatt
	2:00 - 5:00	Military Heritage Driving Tour, visiting Fort Jackson and Fort Pulaski.
	2:00 - 4:30	Walking Tours: 1, 2, 3 as above

Johnny will have all of the details at his Registration Desk.

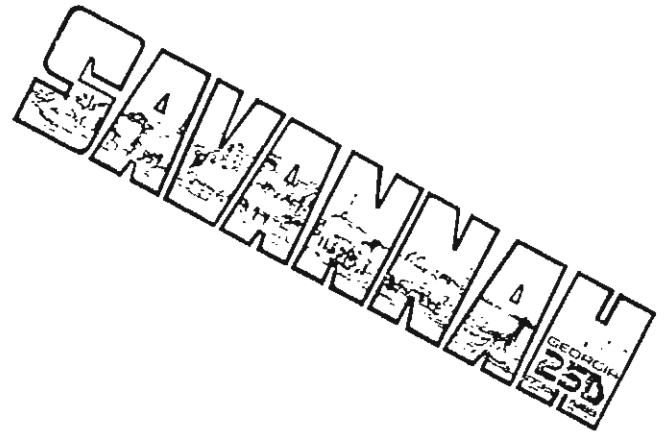
FORT STEWART - HINESVILLE, GA. POSSIBILITIES

At the Memorial Day meeting with the staff of the active Division pertaining to the upcoming Savannah reunion the discussion evolved into the topic of a possible Association Chapter being established at some future date in the city of Hinesville, which is adjacent to Fort Stewart and where several members now reside. This would be convenient for our members who are currently on active duty with the Division, as well as those residing in surrounding areas.

This possibility received all around favorable response, especially in view of the fact that our membership rolls will soon be peaking due the high rate of attrition among our members from WW II and Korean War eras. In view of this situation, such a Chapter could well mean the eventual perpetuation of our great association with the honor and responsibilities shifting to the younger members who served with our gallant Victory Division in combat in operation Desert Storm.

This matter is being brought to the attention of our general membership in order to keep everyone informed of future possibilities for our organization, and in view of the fact that it will be discussed in detail at our Savannah meeting.

The MPs' Best Friend



By Spec. Thomas Pape

Staff Writer

The real "teeth" of the Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield Military Police is the K-9 division. Here the dogs train in attack and patrol maneuvers, narcotic and bomb detection.

The dogs, 10 Belgian Malinois and one German shepherd, are imported from Germany and Belgium by the Department of Defense Military Dog Working Center at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

While some dogs are donated to the services, the average price begins around \$200. When they're completely trained, they are valued from \$10,000 for a guard dog to \$17,000 for a dog that can detect bombs, explained Staff Sgt. Tammy L. Quirin, kennel master at Hunter Army Airfield.

"Lackland is where the dogs receive their

"basic and initial entry" training, before being shipped to various military posts and organizations around the U.S.," said Quirin.

The Military Police use the dogs for a variety of patrol purposes, including narcotics detection for U.S. Customs and bomb detection prior to presidential visits.

"The dogs are trained not only to find the finished product (explosives), but also 11 components, such as black powder and nitro dynamite, that can make up a bomb," said Quirin.

The dogs value to the MP's is explained by one trainer: "unlike a bullet, a dog can be called back or stopped," said Sgt. Gys J. Moore, explosives and narcotics dog handler at Fort Stewart.

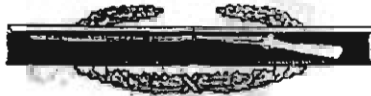
"Attack and patrol dogs are trained as partners with their handler-trainers. They're trained to protect their handler at all costs," said Quirin.

We're on our way



C.A. "Bud" COLLETTE (5th RCT - Korea) of 507 E. Timber, Payson AZ has asked us to plug the newly formed Combat Infantryman's Association. What we'll do, Bud, is insert the application form, if it's okay with you. Here goes:

COMBAT INFANTRYMAN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.



ENLISTMENT APPLICATION

NAME: _____ DATE: _____
(LAST) (FIRST) (MI)
STREET ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
TELEPHONE: (____) _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____

Membership Requirements: The applicant must have been awarded the COMBAT INFANTRYMAN'S BADGE as certified to by Official notation on the applicant's DD-214, Official Army Orders or other official documents. Applicant must attach a copy of such documentation to this enlistment (member) application.

DATE ENTERED U.S. ARMY: _____

DATE DISCHARGED OR RETIRED: _____

C.I.B. awarded for combat service during the following periods, (check all that apply):

WW II ☐ Korea ☐ VN ☐ Grenada ☐ Panama ☐ Desert Storm ☐

Organization assigned to when awarded the C.I.B.: _____

I hereby apply for membership in the Combat Infantryman's Association, Inc., and certify I am eligible as explained above. A copy of the documentation verifying my eligibility is attached.

Sponsor: C.A. Bud Collette Computer #: 295029L904-1

Signature: C. A. Bud Collette Date: _____

Amount of dues for member enlistment enclosed: _____ (Dues: \$20.00 for two (2) years "annual." Life Enlistment: \$75.00 Check #: _____)

Mail to: COMBAT INFANTRYMAN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.
43 Dunwell Ave. #5, Asheville, N.C. 28806-3431, Telephone: (704) 253-5493
Enlistment Card Will Be Sent Directly To You By Assigned Company

(Do not write below this line - for C.I.B. use only)

Date Received: _____ Assigned to Company: _____

Date Card Sent: _____ Enlistee Type: Regular _____ Life _____

Date Certifying Documentation Returned: _____

Signature of Authorizing Officer: _____ Rank: _____

Corps Area: _____ ***Title: _____



Who? None other than our own
EDWARD GRYGIER, (Hv.Mtr. 19th '49-'51)
of 136 Central, Staten Island NY:



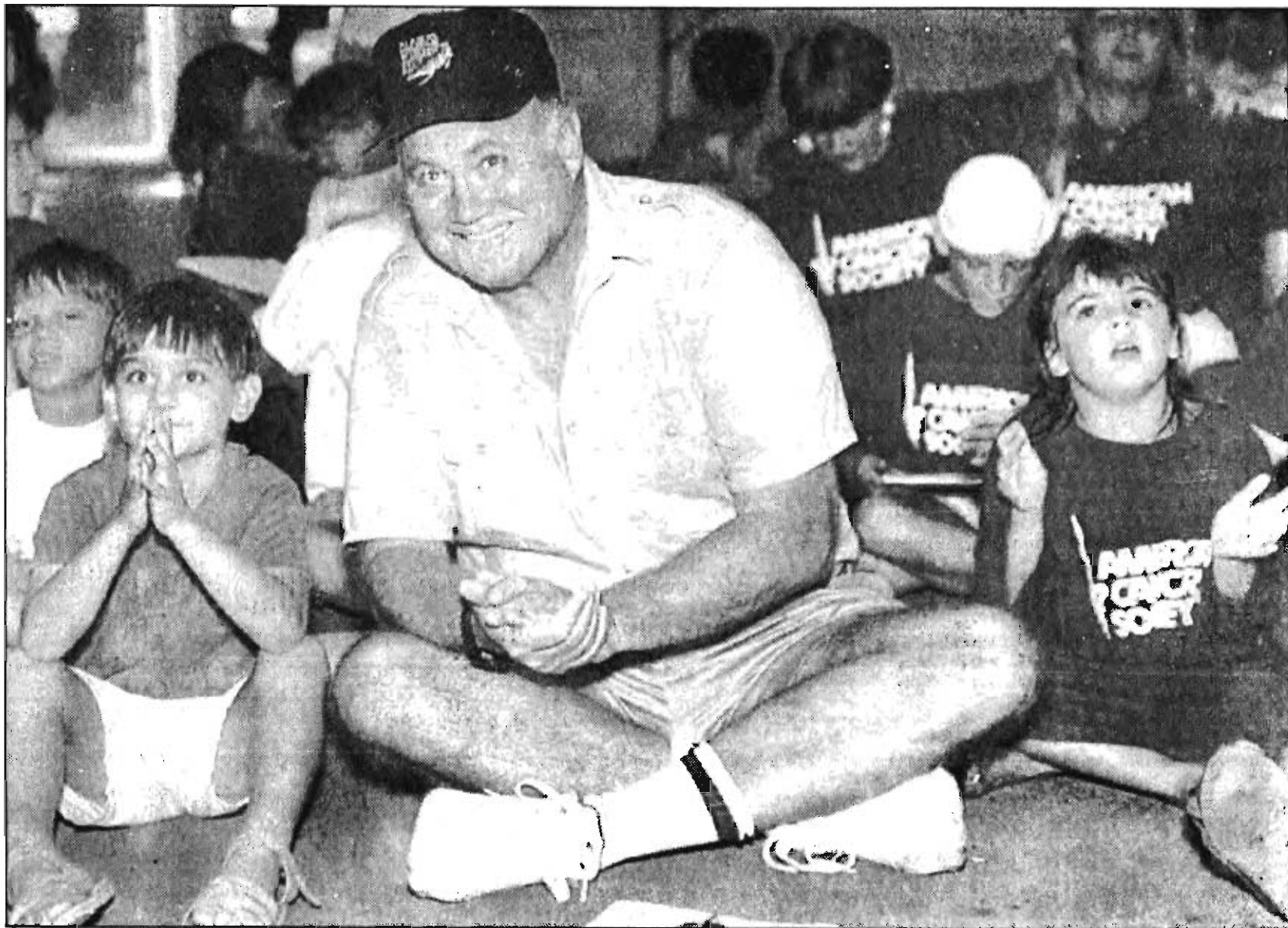
ADVANCE PHOTO/FRANK J. JOHNS

Remembering

The first Staten Islander to die in the Korean War was remembered in a special way yesterday at the veterans memorial in Manhattan's Battery Park. Edward Grygier, president of Staten Island's chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association, gives the welcoming address.

You Remember the Real America If you can remember . . .

When riots were unthinkable.
When you left front doors open.
When socialism was a dirty word.
When ghettos were neighborhoods.
When the Flag was a sacred symbol.
When criminals actually went to jail.
When you weren't afraid to go out at night.
When taxes were only a necessary nuisance.
When a boy was a boy, and dressed like one.
When a girl was a girl, and dressed like one.
When the poor were too proud to take charity.
When the clergy actually talked about religion.
When clerks and repairmen tried to please you.
When college kids swallowed goldfish, not beer.
When songs had a tune, and the words made sense.
When young fellows tried to join the Army or Navy.
When people knew what the Fourth of July stood for.
When you never dreamed our country could ever lose.
When a Sunday drive was a pleasant trip, not an ordeal.
When you bragged about your hometown, and home state.
When everybody didn't feel entitled to a college education.
When people expected less, and valued what they had more.
When politicians proclaimed their patriotism, and meant it.
When everyone knew the difference between right and wrong.
When things weren't perfect —but you never expected them to be.
When our government stood up for Americans, anywhere in the world.
When you knew that the law would be enforced, your safety protected.
When you considered yourself lucky to have a good job, and proud, too.
When the law meant justice, you were in awe at sight of a policeman.
When you weren't too embarrassed to say that this is the best country.
When America was a land filled with brave, proud, hardworking people!



HAPPY CAMPER: Retired U.S. Gen. H. Norman Schwarzkopf, hero of last year's Gulf war, claps and sings along at a summer camp for children with cancer yesterday near Tampa, Fla. 'If I made one of these kids feel a little better today, it's worth all the time in the world,' Schwarzkopf said. AP photo

THE SAD SACK



© 1971 SGT GEORGE DAKER

ALL ANNUAL DUES EXPIRE AUGUST 31 EACH YEAR

YOUR
BEST
CONVENTION
EVER
IS ABOUT
TO
UNFOLD

Don't forget -
ASSOCIATION DUES AS OF
AUGUST 1st: \$15.00
LIFE MEMBERSHIPS AS OF
AUGUST 1st: \$150.00

CHEERS!

You may not realize what a busy headquarters your Association maintains. Nearly every day we'll receive a letter of what we call the "Misc." type - meaning from other than a member. For example, try this one for size:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
THE CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY
WASHINGTON, DC 20374-5088

August 5, 1992

24th Infantry Division Association
Mr. Kenwood Ross
120 Maple Street, Room 207
Springfield, Massachusetts 01103-2278

Dear Mr. Ross:

I am a historian with the U.S. Army Center of Military History. As part of a larger effort to gather and study historical information regarding fratricide ("friendly fire") in past wars. I would appreciate it if you would place a notice in your division association bulletin requesting any Korean War veterans with knowledge of such events to write me at the following address: Stephen J. Lofgren, U.S. Army Center of Military History, ATTN: DAMH-RAP, 1099 14th Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20005-3402.

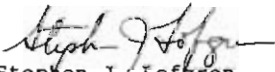
Please ask your members to include in their responses the following information: date, place, unit(s) involved, tactical situation, weather, weapon type, casualties (if any), and any unique or significant circumstances. Also, please encourage any respondents to describe events as fully as possible to permit the greatest possible understanding of the incident. They should not assume that any details are irrelevant or uninteresting. Information about instances of friendly fire that did not result in casualties is desired as much as those which did cause casualties.

My major interest is to examine the circumstances surrounding incidents of fratricide--that is, how and why do such "accidents" occur? Most historical research on the subject has been impressionistic (word-of-mouth, extracts from secondary sources). I hope to identify and gather information on a sufficiently large number of cases as to permit critical study. I would appreciate, therefore, as much detail as possible about each incident so that I can determine various factor(s) that caused or contributed to each incident.

This undertaking presently is limited to gathering information on fratricide incidents. As you are aware, "friendly fire" has been a heavily publicized issue since Operation Desert Storm. Since then, fratricide prevention and battlefield identification have continued to be the subjects of major U.S. Army studies. A large sample of Korean War fratricide incidents would allow us some historical perspective with which to compare and contrast present day findings and beliefs. For example, does increasingly complex or powerful technology increase chances of fratricide? Does fratricide tend to occur during a certain type of operation or event? There are many such questions. Finally, a large response conceivably would allow us also to make sound generalizations about fratricide in a war that, while no longer "forgotten," is still too little known.

Any assistance you can provide in publicizing this request will be deeply appreciated. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,


Stephen J. Lofgren
Historian, Staff Support Activity



QUARTERMASTER SUPPLY LIST 24 IDA

K-1	24th Infantry Division Cloth Colored Patch	\$ 3.00 PP
K-2	24th Infantry Division Assoc. 50th Anrvy. Colored Patch	5.00 PP
K-3	24th Infantry Division Assoc. Hat w/ Patch above NOTE: We expect to run out of this item with this ad.	10.00 PP
K-4	50th Re-Union Decal Price reduced \$ 2.00 each PP Six for	5.00 PP
K-5	50th Re-union "T" Shirts Children sizes only Each Reduced	5.00 PP
K-6	50th Reunion Key Ring a great give-away to friends each	2.00 PP

We have solved our supply problems for the following crests

K-7	5th Infantry Crest Current Issue \$ 5.00 Each or Carded Pair	10.00 PP
K-8	19th Infantry Crest Current Issue \$ 5.00 Each or Carded Pair	10.00 PP
K-9	21st Infantry Crest Current Issue \$ 5.00 Each or Carded Pair	10.00 PP
K-10	34th Infantry Crest Current Issue \$ 5.00 Each or Carded Pair	10.00 PP
K-11	11th Field Artillery Crest as above \$ 5.00 Each or Carded Pair	10.00 PP
K-12	13th Field Artillery Crest as above \$ 5.00 Each or Carded Pair	10.00 PP

The following Colored Cloth Pocket patches have become available
These a Crest Replicas about 3" X 4" in size

K-13	19th Infantry Pocket Patch Full Color (NEW ITEM)	8.00 PP
K-14	29th Infantry Pocket Patch Full Color (NEW ITEM)	8.00 PP
K-15	34th Infantry Pocket Patch Full Color	8.00 PP
K-16	5th R.C.T. Regulation Cloth Colored SHOULDER Patch (New Item)	8.00 PP
K-17	24th Infantry Division BOLO TIE Full Color (New Item)	15.00 PP
K-18	American Flag Hat or Lapel Pin Each	2.00 PP

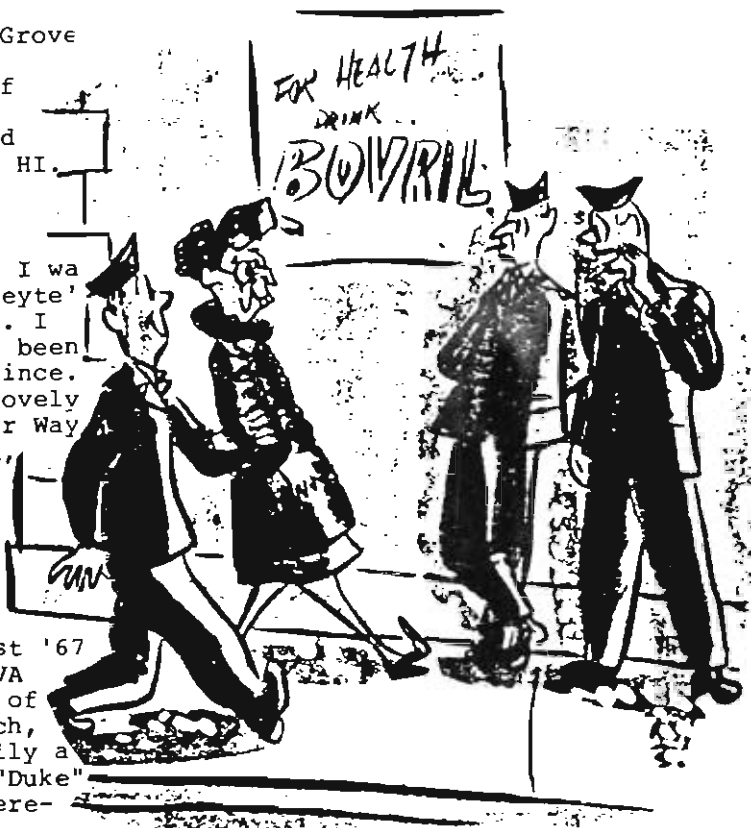
We expect to be offering additional Pocket Patches with our next Ad.
The following units are on order 5th Inf. 11 FA, 13 FA, 21st Inf.,
555 FA. We can accept advance prepaid orders on these items, all
priced at \$8.00 each post paid.

Make all Checks Payable to QM 24th I.D.A.

Send to:

Quartermaster 24 IDA P.O. Box 878 Acton, MA 01720-0012

H. GORDON BEHREL (Hq. 1st Bn. 19th 3/44-12/45) 843 Maple Av., Downers Grove IL 60515 tells how five years ago, while playing golf on the Island of Kauai - 90 miles NW of Schofield - was paired up with a couple. Asked the gentleman when he was first in HI. He said '43-Schofield.' Asked what Division - '19th, 2nd Bn. 24th'. Asked where he was on 10/20/44. He looked at me quizzically as though I was daft and then said, 'Red Beach - Leyte'. Turns out we were just yards apart. I was Hq. Co. 1st Bn. 19th. And we've been playing golf on Kauai every year since. He is PRESTON J. BAILEY with his lovely wife, Irene, of 8024 S.W. Winchester Way Wilsonville OR 97070. Small world, isn't it.



ROBERT J. OSWALD (B 2nd Bn. 21st '67 '68) 1401 Pathfinder Ln., McLean VA 22101 anxious to hear from anyone of B 2nd Bn. 21st from '67-'68, Munich, Germany, Warner Kaserne - especially a Col. French or a Sgt. Maj. called "Duke" or from anyone who knows their whereabouts.

"THEY CALL HIM RADAR. HE'LL PICK UP ANYTHING."

Sgt. Tom Zibelli

DeFrancisco welcomed as new 24th ADC-S

By Spec. Thomas Pape
Staff Writer

Brigadier Gen. Joseph E. DeFrancisco has been assigned to Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield as assistant division commander for support, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized). The ceremony was held Tuesday at 4 p.m. in Hangar 850 at Hunter.

DeFrancisco comes to the 24th from the Pentagon, where he served as executive assistant to the Secretary of the Army from July 1990 until June 1992. Prior to that assignment, he was the commander of the 7th Infantry Division (Light) Artillery at Fort Ord, California from July 1988 until July 1990.

He also served as the chief, War Plans Division, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, in Washington, D. C. from 1986 to 1988.

His decorations include the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star Medal, including the Purple Heart. He and his wife, Lynne, are from Albany, New York. They have a son, Eric, an Army lieutenant in Germany and a daughter, Laura, a graduate of LaSalle University.



Photo by Spec. Thomas Pape

**Brig. Gen.
Joseph E. Francisco**

Don't forget -

ASSOCIATION DUES AS OF

AUGUST 1st: * * * \$15.00

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS AS OF

AUGUST 1st: \$150.00

We can't keep
this a
SECRET
any longer.



"Hey, Homer! You're NOT
SLEEPING IN THE LOWER BUNK ANYMORE, REMEMBER

One of our long-term members wrote a poem years ago. He asked for anonymity - so he gets it. We simply liked so very much what he wrote that we are totally ignoring his, "Don't put it in Taro Leaf." Here it is:

WANDER-LUST

O'er land and sea I wander, 'tis the destiny of me,

To see enchanted places where I oft did long to be.

The mystery of India, the sights of ancient Rome,

The ruins of Acropolis, the musty catacomb.

The statement spires of Islam, the shores of sunny Greece,

As Jason in olden fable, did hunt the golden fleece.

The tinkling of the temple bells, in Burma's far off land,

The Sphinx and the Pyramids in Egypt's shifting sand.

The cresting, timeless ocean waves that always seem at strife,

The jungles of mother Africa, her veldts that teem with life.

The ships that ply the China Sea, the road to Mandalay,

The brilliance of the sunrise, over China 'cross the bay.

The ice-bound land of the Polar caps where the seal and walrus play,

Where men amidst this frozen void, survive in unknown ways.

So, on forever wandering until I find that place,

That quells this thing within me, and I quit the weary pace.

T A P S

HARRY P. JENKINS
died July 17, 1992
was 11th F.A. WW II
His wife, Hannah,
is at 1425 Davis Dr., Ft. Myers FL

JOHN SHEEHY PLACE
died August 1992
was Engineers WW II
Reported by PETER B. CROMBIE,

AL WEATHERMAN
died December 1990
was 24th Headquarters
Reported by his friend, CARL R. GROTH

PAUL H. NELSON
died July 20, 1992
was G 21st 6/42-5/45
Reported by his wife, Lela,
RR 4, Box 12, Forsyth MO 65653

Edith WEST
died February 23, 1992
Wife of RUSSELL W. WEST
(Russell was K 19th '44-'45)
Russell is at 1412 12th Av.,
Monroe WI 53566

WILLIAM H. GEORGI, M.D.
died July 23, 1992
was 34th, 3rd Bn. Surgeon
Reported by FRANK WILCZAK
Shash, his wife, is at
7233 Lower East Hill Rd.,
Colden NY 14033

"I received the copy of the T.L.
yesterday and I noted that you had
JEROME E. CASSIDY's name as deceased -
that is the 1st time I knew of his
passing away - I had been wondering
why I didn't get any answers to my
letters in the past few months. He
was a buddy of mine in Hq. Co. 19th.
He was in the 19th from '40-'43.

"He will be missed by us that
knew him - very much so -

"Aloha, Steady Eddie"

EDWARD ROBINSON
605 Truman Hwy.
Hyde Park MA 02136
AT 19th '41

N O T I C E

Don't forget -

ASSOCIATION DUES AS OF

AUGUST 1st: \$15.00

* * *

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS AS OF

AUGUST 1st: \$150.00

Let's just go!

RICHARD A. WOEHNER (I 21st '46-'48)
1314 Sherman Blvd., Ft. Wayne IN 46808,
looking for Capt. BOYLE or Capt. MATHEWS
of 21st Infantry.

Newly-joined member TOMMY WALSH
(L 19th 10/46-10/47) anxious to hear
from any pal. Says: "Sgt. at Oita,
about 30 days; balance at Beppu." Know
them both well, Tom. Oh, reach Tom at
810 Lordstill, Shrewsbury MO.

JIM FOWLER (F & Hq. 34th '44-'46),
says it all so nicely, writing us from his
home at 3206 Pennwood, Harrisburg PA: "Would
love to hear from anyone who served with me
As you get older and life slows down, the
memories come flooding back - visions of
war time experiences and great buddies."
It's the name of the game, Jimmy.

HARVEY G. STOKES (M 19th 6/44-11/45)
2257 Darlington Dr., Augusta GA 30904
says he'll make his 1st convention at
Savannah because he didn't know about us.
Would like to hear from anyone from
M 19th in New Guinea, Leyte, Mindanao,
or Mindoro during WW II.

Harvey was platoon sgt. of 1st platoon
M Co. 19th.

JOHN F. HAMILTON (H & H and I & R 19th
5/48-6/51) 6 Excell Lane, Willingboro
NJ 08046 would like to hear from anyone
serving during the same time period.
Says he will try to make Savannah.

KENNETH M. BUSH (G 34th 5/43-12/45)
Rt. 4, Box 168J, Winder GA 30680
would like to hear from any of his old
friends.

OTIS OUTLAW JR., (A 34 '45)
Box 668, Sweeny TX 77480 is looking
for KRUGER of L34th who he knew for
a brief moment on Corregidor. Would
also like to hear from anyone who
remembers him.

EDWARD T. BECKER (H 21st 8/50-11/51)
2089 Forest Dr., Clearwater FL 34623,
wonders if any members of his old unit
may live nearby.

Life Member #825, WILLIAM B.
SALSBURY (19th Anti Tank &
Service 19th '42-'45). His mail
addressed to 412 N. 4th Av., #A,
Yakima WA 98902 has been returned
to us as "Not At".

Maybe one of you "Ham's can help.
His call letters that he gave to us
were WDL SALSBWB802RE.

ROBERT J. HEATER (F 19th 1/51-4/52)
PO Box 490, Appomattox VA 24522 looking
for old buddies in F Co. 19th during
12/50 - 2/52. Please write!

BALLADS from the BARRACKS

One thing about being in the service, there was always someone in the unit who had a guitar or a harmonica to lead the group in song, and just before payday there wasn't much else to do but clean your rifle and join in the chorus. Send us the words of an old favorite of yours (not too raunchy — we've gotta be able to print it!) If your submission is selected we will send you a free book.

"LILY MARLENE"

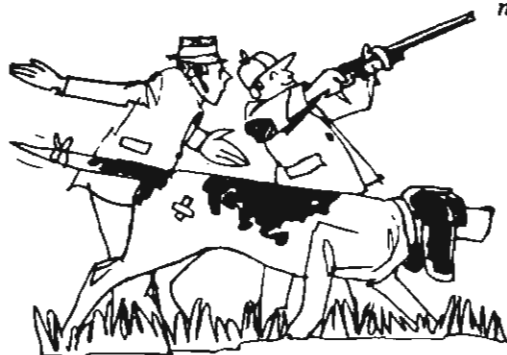
Underneath the lamplight, by the
barracks gate
Darling I remember the way you
used to wait
Was there that you whispered
tenderly
That you loved me, you'd always be
My Lily of the lamplight, my own
Lily Marlene.

Time would come for roll call, time
for us to part
Darling I'd caress you and press you
to my heart
And then 'neath that far off lantern
light
I held you tight, we kissed good
night
My Lily of the lamplight, my own
Lily Marlene.

Orders came for flying somewhere
over there
All confined to barracks was more
than I could bear
I knew she was waiting in the street
I heard her feet but could not meet
My Lily of the lamplight, my own
Lily Marlene.

Resting in a billet just behind the
lines
Even tho we're parted your lips are
close to mine
And in that far off lantern's gleam
Your fair face seems to haunt my
dreams
My Lily of the lamplight, my own
Lily Marlene.

Editor's note: This World War II
favorite, some say, came to us via
German Afrika Korps singing at
night in their trenches.



During quail season in Georgia, an Atlanta journalist met an old farmer hunting with an ancient pointer at his side. Twice the dog ran rheumatically ahead and pointed. Twice his master fired into the open air. When the journalist saw no birds rise, he asked the farmer for an explanation.

"Shucks," grinned the old man, "I knew there weren't no birds in that grass. Spot's nose ain't what is used to be. But him and me have had some wonderful times together. He's still doing the best he can — and it'd be mighty mean of me to call him a liar at this stage of the game!"

If the government ran it, crime
wouldn't pay.

Writes RUSSELL WEST (K 19 '44-'45) of 1412 12th Av., Monroe WI: "The 317th Eng are attached to Division. My nephew, JODY WEST is with them. Is on his 4th re-up. I never dreamed 48 years ago that I'd have a relative in my old Division." Time moves on, Russ.

True Taro Leafer, ALFRED I. BYRD
(B and C Btry, 11th FA 8/40-9/44)
Rt. 1, Box 416, Milton PA 17847 —
sends his dues — "and dues for someone
else or wherever needed." Pretty nice!

Bake Battery, 11th Field, meeting
at Ramada Inn, Garland TX, next
Sept. 16th — 19th. For info, contact
DICK LEWIS, Box 1776, Fredrick MD 21702.



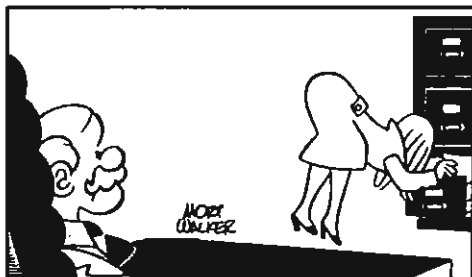
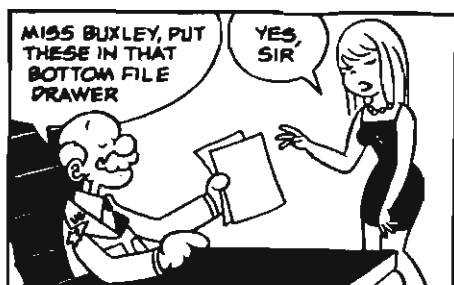
LAWRENCE A. DALEY (M 21 11/41-5/45)
89 Sterling Av., Yonkers NY 10704,
recently had heart by-pass. Says
his operation went fine.

MELVIN KAHLE (G 19th 11/42-45)
Rt. 5, Box 330, Ponca City OK 74601
had heart attack 6/22 and open heart
surgery on 7/20.

JOHN A. AMBROSE, JR. (24th Sig. 1/42-
5/45) 820 North Av., Pittsburgh PA
15209 sends dues and a little extra
"so we don't lose the Taro Leaf".

John and wife, Clara, have had their
health troubles - John had a stroke six
years ago and Clara has been unable to
speak for 6 years and is still bed-ridden.
John is going strong caring for Clara.

John would like to hear from any
24th Signal men '42-'45.



We're way overdue on this one of
Col. BOB ALLEN's - sorry Bob. He's C-
63rd F '52-'53 and would like to hear
from these 63rd F men:
LELAND T. POWELL, Ex CO, Little Rock AR
LLOYD JOHNSON, Ex CO
ROSS AMMONS, Ex 1st Sgt
RICHARD GRAF, Sgt., Indiana
MONTE CLARK, Sgt. Ex-Prizefighter from CA
ROBERT JAMISON, Sgt.
ROBERT MCMARTINO, Cpl.
JOE BREZENSKI, Cpl.
RUSSELL FREDRICKSON, from Wisconsin
BILL JOHNSON, Sgt. from New York state
JAMES REAGOR, 1st Lt., Retired Col.
JAMES RIGGS, American Indian
BILL JONES, Cpl. from KY
LOWELL GRAY
FAYETTE LAUNDY from NE
ROBERT TANBERG
ROBERT TANGEMAN

You can find Bob at 972 Stubbs Mill
Rd., Lebanon OH 45036, Tel. 513-932-2565.

New engineer commander sees job as chance to excel

By Cpl. John C. Peavy
Staff Writer

She's not exceptional; she's not special; she doesn't want to be in the limelight; she just wants to keep a low profile and get the job done.

That's how Lt. Col. Dorothy Klasse, the first-ever female commander of the 92nd Engineer Battalion, describes herself and her goal as the unit's new leader.

"Even being at the forefront, sort of one-of-a-kind (as a

female battalion commander in the engineer corps), I would rather not be singled out as exceptional," she said. "I got here just like anyone else would have. I like to keep a low profile and get on with the mission. That's the most important thing."

And "getting on with the mission" will be quite challenging. The 92nd Engineers often have elements deployed around the world in support of numerous activities.

But Klasse feels ready, she says, and is looking forward to

the challenges she will face. With 17 years in the Army, she has served at practically every level from platoon leader up.

Her last assignment was as senior executive officer to the Chief of Staff of the Army, Gen. Gordon Sullivan, and she has also served at NATO Headquarters and as an instructor at the U.S. Military Academy.

"Any battalion or brigade commander will meet and face a lot of challenges," she said. "In the 92nd in particular, I have a lot of ideas and a vision. Getting it all accomplished will require time management. That will be a challenge to me."

"I was ecstatic, very happy when I found out (she had been chosen for command)," said Klasse. "The engineer corps has given me a chance to be a great leader."

"The (Engineer) corps is working very hard to assimilate all the women within the corps," she explained, "giving them the good jobs so that they can grow, and become a battalion commander or a brigade commander. It is a great opportunity I have been given."

Perhaps Klassen's biggest concern, though, is teaching and leading her soldiers, gender notwithstanding. It is something she takes very seriously.

"I think mentoring subordinates will be a challenge," she said. "That is a great responsibility to me, and I want to be a role model for everybody, not just for women. We are all soldiers."



Lt. Col. Dorothy Klasse



Hero of the Week: HENRY LEE ROSSIE, (D 21st '42-'45), of 12379 W. Livingston Cressey, Livingston CA, joined up as a Life Member at "H Hour". Because he was not afraid to try to get "under the wire" as a "last minute Joe", he became a Life Member just before August 1st and paid the new rate of \$150.00. Hank, we salute you.

Here's one, written at the request of CARL GROTH of 35440 North Gate, Livonia MI: Carl says we ought to suggest to the membership that each one of us ought to join the local VFW post. Okay, Carl, we just did! Carl by the way hits us hard for not giving enough space to the Korean War. Some days it just doesn't pay to get out of bed.

One of those Letter
to the Editor things
stolen from a recent
issue of *Army*. We could
not pass this one by.
And a First Cav. man,
mind you.



A Little Uniformity, Please

■ As I was thumbing through the May edition of *ARMY*, the picture on the bottom of Page 27 caught my eye, and it is easy to see why it was not your cover picture. It is difficult to think of anything more peculiar than the mixing of combat kit and dress uniforms. A general officer marching in his dress greens while wearing bloused combat boots, a sidearm and a camouflaged helmet is an odd sight, indeed.

It seems to me that a ceremony should be held as either a garrison affair with normal uniforms—BDUs (battle dress uniforms) or class As—or as a tactical one with corresponding BDUs, load-bearing equipment and weapons. Taking an eclectic mix truly looks atrocious.

CAPT. STEPHEN A. BATZER
U.S. Army Reserve

Grand Blanc, Mich.



Kin of Korean War POW may finally learn his fate

FATE FROM/41

Now, they're being told by the Army that his death was witnessed by a "Waddy Doolittle," who was reportedly with Chuckie when he died. He was wounded and was recovering, Bernard Skero said he was told Thursday. He died because he refused to eat the food that was served to him.

"Nothing adds up," said Chuckie's sister, Dolores Skero Komenda of Scottsdale R.D. 1.

The silence of the Army and the federal government remains a sore spot with the family, many of whom have served in the armed forces despite what happened to Chuckie. There was nothing more than a telegram notifying them of his death: "Circumstances: While in the hands of opposing forces. Cause of death: Malnutrition." But, the unanswered questions left doubts in their minds.

VIVID MEMORIES

Mrs. Komenda vividly recalls the day the family officially learned of Chuckie's death. There was no visit from an Army grief team; no dog tags; and no body. And no U.S. American flag presented to the family as a keepsake for his duty to his country. There was her mother, crying and lying on a couch, surrounded by her friends.

Mrs. Komenda said her mother carried her grief over her POW-MIA son to her grave 17 years ago.

Her father, Charles, is starting the grieving process all over again with the latest news accounts.

It was 1948 when Chuckie re-enlisted in the Army. He wanted to return to Japan where he was popular because of his towhead, said Mrs. Komenda. The last time the family saw him was the summer of 1949.

"All I can hear is his footsteps running down the sidewalk" as he left, she said of his last visit to his home in Standard.

Mrs. Komenda and her brother were close — in age and emotions. They were in the same grade in school, though 11 months apart in age. In 1946, Chuckie dropped out of school as a sophomore and enlisted in the Army.

On one return visit, he walked the miles from Standard to Hurst High School in Norvelt to give his sister money to buy her class ring. The memory drew tears as Mrs. Komenda talked of her brother, the scrapper, the street-wise teen who knew how to survive whatever life dealt him.

"He could have survived," said Mrs. Komenda. "He was a scrapper ... but he wasn't bad. And he was proud of the Army. He called himself MacArthur."

CLOUDED MYSTERY

This isn't the first time the clouded mystery of Chuckie's death has startled the family. Three years ago, brother Ken-

neth Skero and his wife, who now live in Newton Falls, Ohio, were on a Hawaiian tour. The tour included a stop at the Hill of Sorrows where there is a memorial to dead soldiers. Skero's wife walked up a hill to read the memorial plaques while her husband stayed at the base of the grave of Ernie Pyle. There was Chuckie Skero's name — a memorial the family never knew about.

The experience piqued Kenneth Skero's interest and he started asking questions: at his Mt. Pleasant Township home and in Washington, D.C. His father gave him most of Chuckie's Army memorabilia in the past couple of years, and his sister handed over a newspaper clipping with Chuckie's name on it just last year.

"I carried it for 41 years. Now, you can carry it the rest," Mrs. Komenda recalled saying to her younger brother.

The Army's explanation of Chuckie's death didn't stop the inquiries and years of conversations among friends, family and neighbors. One Scottsdale friend frequently tells Mrs. Komenda: "I look for him to come marching back home one of these days."

Just last week, Chuckie's father looked at Mrs. Komenda and said, out of the blue: "I can remember Chuckie saying, 'Take care of yourself, Dad.' Chuckie's name crops up frequently and more so with the current Senate hearings.



Photos and newspaper clippings on Skero preserved by family

Mrs. Komenda's son, Paul, of McKees Rocks, said his uncle most likely won't be marching home anytime soon, but now there's strong hope that the new information will lay to rest the family's grief and questions.

Yet, he said, the possibility remains that Chuckie's still alive.

"He'd only be 62 years old. His age is the real factor in the underlying belief that he could still be alive. ... Probably they will find out all those boys were alive for one, five or maybe 10 years ... and probably died, if nothing else, of natural causes. But, it sure would be nice if just one was alive."

CLOSE TABS

The Skero family has kept close tabs on the Vietnam War POW-MIA inquiries, but "we never looked at our own problem," said Paul Komenda.

"Forty years ago there was nothing. Three years ago they saw his name on that monument. And now, it's rekindling."

Mrs. Komenda, tears streaming down her face and shaking her head in disbelief, has her own epitaph to offer Chuckie and the countless others who are on the list: "Talk about the true unknown soldiers."

Kin of Korean War POW may finally learn his fate

By Connie Gore

TRIBUNE-REVIEW

The Skero family of Mt. Pleasant Township has been shackled by prisoner of war stories for the past 42 years since the capture of U.S. Army Pfc. Charles M. "Chuckie" Skero of the 34th Infantry Regiment.

What happened to the 19-year-old Army private in the early years of the Korean War will soon be told to the family as a result of information being released as an outgrowth of Senate POW-MIA committee hearings now being conducted in Washington, D.C.

Skero is believed to be one of 125 servicemen captured in Korea, interrogated in the Soviet Union and marched off to a concentration camp in China. Skero's name was on a list released to the committee by Russian officials. Questions remain as to whether some of the Korean POW-MIAs are still alive.

Late Thursday, the Skeros were told they were the first family on the list to have the now-declassified information released, according to brother Bernard Skero of Scranton. The formerly classified information is to be sent today by registered mail by the U.S. Army.

But, says the Skero family, there are too many past and present unanswered questions — most arising out of what was told to them through the years and the revelations in recent days coming out of the hearings.

For more than four decades, the family has lived with this version supplied by the Army:

— June 27, 1950, he was issued a Purple Heart posthumously.

— July 20, 1950, he was declared missing in action.

— June 22, 1951, a death certificate was issued, but not received by the family until Feb. 15, 1954.

— May 1953, the *New York Daily Mirror* and *Life* magazine reprinted photos of the "Hate Parade" showing hundreds of POWs — including a soldier that resembles Chuckie — marching over the Han River near Seoul, Korea. The caption said the photo was distributed August 1950 by the Russian-controlled German News Agency ADN.

PLEASE SEE FATE/A5



Dolores Skero Komenda, of Scottdale RD1, awaits official word from the Army about the fate of her brother



Dear Kenwood

Enclosed some clippings on a missing POW. With Russia admitting to holding some POWs from three wars and the Cold War, inquiries were made about Pfc Charles Skero, 1st Battalion, 34th Regiment believed to be one of 125 servicemen captured in Korea who were interrogated in the Soviet Union.

Stories enclosed.

Jim Dever



Army to assist family of Korean War POW

By Connie Gore
TRIBUNE REVIEW

The U.S. Army says it can't recover the remains of a Korean War POW-MIA from Westmoreland County, but it will help the family search for the six soldiers who witnessed the man's death.

The Army's willingness to help the family of Pfc. Charles M. Skero, captured 42 years ago in Korea, was detailed in a package of documents related to the serviceman that was received by his family this week.

The ex-servicemen being sought are: Cpl. Thaddeus C. White Jr., Cpl. Gerard T. Brown, Capt. Alexander M. Boysen, Cpl. Adelbert W. Chance, Pfc. Wayne A. Johnson and 1st Lt. Wadie J. Roundtree.

Bernard Skero said Roundtree was previously identified as 1st Lt. Wadie Doolittle.

The Skero family is believed to be the first in the nation to receive recently declassified information on a POW-MIA, whose name appeared on a list of 125 soldiers remaining unaccounted for since the Korean War's end in 1953. "It was really eerie to read some of this," said Bernard Skero of Sharon.

Bernard Skero is heading the former Mt. Pleasant Township family's search for more information on his brother, the eldest of four.

In the Army documents, White, Brown and Boysen either witnessed Skero's death or saw his body. The other three ex-servicemen submitted statements that the Army deemed as hearsay, but corroborative.

The statements varied as to when the 19-year-old Skero died. Boysen said Skero died of "starvation, hepatitis, beriberi in the summer of 1950" while White said he died of wounds on June 21, 1951. Brown said Skero died of malnutrition in the spring of 1951.

The other three men said Skero died of malnutrition between the spring of 1951 and July 22, 1951.

"Nobody's really coming down with a date," Bernard Skero said.

The Army sided with Johnson in his hearsay statement and used June 22, 1951, as Skero's date of death for his death certificate issued to the family in 1954.

The Army documents, however, disputed that Skero was captured, taken to the Soviet Union for interrogation and marched to a concentration camp in China — information recently provided by Russian President Boris Yeltsin to a Senate POW-MIA Committee in Washington, D.C.

"There is nothing in your brother's file to substantiate such a claim," wrote John Manning, assistant chief of Army Mortuary Affairs.

If that's the case, said Bernard Skero, why was his brother's name on the list supplied by Yeltsin? "There has to be some reason," he said.

Skero's body is believed to be in Chungon, North Korea, an area inaccessible to the U.S. government, according to the Army. "Areas considered inaccessible in 1956 remain inaccessible today," Manning wrote.

The documents also included a description of the battle in which Skero was captured. The battle ensued on the morning of July 20, 1950, when Skero's unit, the 1st Battalion, 34th Regiment, was defending an airfield near Taejon, along with soldiers from the 2nd and 3rd battalions, 19th Infantry. The U.S. soldiers were forced to retreat, captured at an enemy roadblock and taken to Chungon.

"The fighting was heavy and losses were high on both sides," said an Army document dated June 18, 1952. "Under the cover of darkness ... without their guns and other equipment, they made their way out of Taejon ... and got caught on Kumsan Road."

3rd Brigade Victory Focus

'We stretched ourselves three weeks for hard, up-tempo exercise'

By Sgt. 1st Class Willie Hay

3rd Brigade, 24th Infantry Division

FORT BENNING, Ga. — Unlike any other exercise 3rd Brigade, 24th Infantry Division soldiers have undertaken since their return from Operation Desert Storm, Victory Focus trained the brigade's entire combat team.

That was the message Col. Robert J. St. Onge Jr., brigade commander, gave local T.V. and print journalists June 17 when he invited them to visit Sledgehammer Brigade soldiers in the field during their first Victory Focus, which ran June 4-24.

"Victory Focus is based on a training philosophy that you need to take the entire combat team to the field once or twice a year to exercise all of the combat systems," St. Onge said. "Most of our training is platoon or lower level training, but seldom do we have the opportunity to take the entire brigade to the field."

"During Victory Focus, we still focus training at the platoon level, but at the same time we're exercising all of our other components," he added, including the logistics of providing food and supplies to more than 4,300 soldiers for three weeks and getting appropriate medical treatment for any soldier who became sick or injured during the exercise.

St. Onge went on to place Victory Focus in the context of the 24th Infantry Division as the mechanized component of the XVIII Airborne Corps rapid deployment force.

"The corps rapid deployment force is made up mostly of light forces — the 82nd Airborne (Fort Bragg, N.C.) and 101st Airborne (Fort Campbell, Ky.) divisions, but the 24th Infantry Division, including this brigade, makes up the heavy component of that force," he explained.

"Just like in Saudi Arabia last year, the 101st may have landed first, but they sure were glad when the tanks rolled off the dock to give them the firepower and the mobility to fight a modern army (the Iraqi Republican Guard) that was an armored force," St. Onge declared.

Despite the addition of the 317th Engineer Battalion from Germany earlier this year, the 3rd Bde. still lacks some of the key elements to complete a combat team, St. Onge continued.

"We don't have organic air defense nor do we have organic military intelligence assets — collectors, jammers, and those kinds of things," he explained, adding that the 24th Inf. Div. sent soldiers from Fort Stewart to carry out those missions during Victory Focus.

"And because we are in transition in signal equipment, a company of 10th Mountain Division

soldiers from Fort Drum, N.Y., joined us to run mobile subscriber equipment," said St. Onge, describing that equipment as the "newest version of how the Army runs its microwave phone systems to support tactical training."

According to St. Onge, another key objective of Victory Focus was multiechelon training — training within a unit several layers at the same time — and circuit training. "Every day, each company moves through a series or circuit of training opportunities at various locations — platoon defense missions, land navigation, obstacle breaching, and those types of things," he said.

"One of the primary things we wanted to exercise was command and control," he continued. "Some of the questions we wanted to answer were do our tactical communications systems work, can they communicate with each other, and can they publish orders in a timely manner."

"During Victory Focus, the commands you give actually affect the soldiers in the field, and it's a higher standard you have to live up to," he declared.

The final objective was continuous operations under adverse conditions — something Sledgehammer Brigade soldiers must be prepared to do when they visit the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., in August.

"Whatever the weather, we continue to train for 21 straight days, with only limited back and forth travel to garrison, primarily for emergencies," he said. "Victory Focus is a substantial train-up for us for the NTC."

During an after-action review attended by Maj. Gen. Paul E. Blackwell, 24th Inf. Div. commander, June 25 in Kelley Hill Theater, St. Onge gave his initial assessment of Victory Focus after unit leaders and staff officers conducted group meetings to discuss the strengths and weakness of the exercise.

St. Onge reiterated his concerns about understanding and training according to standards, involvement by the chain of command in checking their soldiers, safety, and the impact of the training on the environment.

"Despite the criticisms and problems that this after-action review is intended to bring to light, let's not lose sight of the fact that we trained hard for three weeks," he declared. "Victory Focus was a very up-tempo exercise in which we really stretched ourselves."

"I'm proud of your performance, and I think you should be proud, too," St. Onge told the officers. "I think you did a great job, and I know we've taken a reasonable step forward in our preparation for the National Training Center."

formation out of the 'ville' had been accurate as-often-as-not, for some reason, I believed her. Wisbful thinking perhaps..." As it turned out, "very, very shortly," *mommisan* had been dead right.

Final Bush Walk

Finally, a few days prior to the patrol, the men of TF Gimlet were assembled at their base camp headquarters located on Hill 510 to prepare for the field. Despite months of endless speculation, optimism prevailed — maybe this was the last patrol after all.

The mission entailed sweeping through the Antenna Valley to make contact with enemy forces that had

Perhaps it was a blessing that it wasn't known for certain this was the last patrol. Too much caution can get you killed just as sure as carelessness. As Doyle said, "Coming out of our night-laager and onto that day's patrol, I was on point when I noticed a wet mound of dirt on an otherwise dry path.

"I called up the platoon sergeant and we concluded it was another booby-trap...We left it alone and continued our march by cutting a completely new path through the bush."

After a couple of days in the field, it became increasingly apparent: This mission was different. Unlike missions of the past where the bush

This ambivalent feeling of wanting to go home and then not, reflects the love and friendship that only men in a combat unit will ever know. Dale Tuttle of Muskegon, Mich., says, "Regardless of which way the war went, I didn't want to leave my platoon and the men I had come to know and love as brothers."

John Bruce agrees, "You are buddies. What can be said? I didn't want to leave them. I didn't feel that our job was done and I worried about the South Vietnamese we were leaving behind."

Bidding Farewell

While the transfer of troops occurred in the bush between TF Gimlet and the South Vietnamese Army (ARVN), they learned the Americans were leaving the field for good. They asked for, and the Gimlets gladly gave them, 30-round M-16 magazines as well as grenades.

Along with the ARVNs came a helicopter full of reporters to record the event. They landed, asked questions, took pictures and stayed with the ARVNs while TF Gimlet loaded up to leave.

Bill Doyle, the last man of the last platoon to be extracted, was on the last of the slicks (UH-1 helicopter troop carriers) that took off for Da Nang Air Base. He remembers, "Everybody on the other choppers, including ours, popped a victory smoke grenade and the smoke trailed from the slicks as we left the valley."

On Aug. 11, 1972, in a ceremony back at "Camp Swampy" in Da Nang, with the late CSM George Green and Ltr. Rocco Negris officially retiring the unit colors, the men of TF Gimlet, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, quietly ended the American infantrymen's ground war in Vietnam.

"As I reflect on that moment, I view with pride the men of Task Force Gimlet who were handpicked from their parent unit, the 196th Light Infantry Brigade (Separate) which was standing down," wrote retired Maj. Gen. Negris. "To the man, they were outstanding soldiers who carried out difficult and dangerous missions that included endless days in the field, frequent patrolling and daily helicopter and ground combat operations."

Hugh M. Stovall, Jr., a VFW member who lives in Houston, Texas, participated in the last patrol.



Members of Delta Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry, Task Force Gimlet, make the final U.S. infantry stand down in Vietnam at Da Nang on Aug. 11, 1972. Photo courtesy CWO2 William Doyle

been setting up 122mm rocket tubes which targeted Da Nang and to block VC and NVA forces in the area.

Former SP/4 Richard W. Miller of Kermit, Texas, says of the last flight out to the field: "Our last combat assault out to the bush was damn near like the first time for me. The feeling in my gut, the sweat, and the fear, I remember thinking that I've heard the standing down BS before and even if this was our last patrol, everybody knew you could die on the last as quick as you could on the first."

This feeling was underscored by the fact that while this patrol was, as patrols went, by-and-large uneventful, two men in the "Killer" platoon were wounded and had to be MEDEVAC'ed as a result of triggering booby-traps on the second day out. SP/4 James McVicar, 20, had the dubious distinction of being the last American grunt wounded in action in Vietnam.

would be humped from dawn-to-dusk, it was obvious that specific destinations had to be reached within a set time.

It was as if it had been prearranged to link-up earlier with other platoons in the area. On the patrol's fourth day, members were told, "We're linking up and heading to the landing zone (LZ) to go in." This seemed odd. A four-day patrol? As was the saying in Vietnam, "Never happen, GI."

At the LZ the men were met by South Vietnamese soldiers being combat assaulted in to replace them. Roy Hager of Frankfort, Ky., couldn't have been happier. "All I wanted to do was just for us to get through this patrol in one piece and go home, but from previous experience, I kept asking myself where were we going to be next? I wanted to go home, but then again, I didn't."

Back Then

Back Then

Back Then

The August issue of the VFW Magazine featured this one on Delta/3rd Bn./21st Inf. in 'NAM:

On Aug. 5, 1972, 92 members of Delta Company, 3rd Battalion, 21st Infantry of the recently deactivated 196th Light Infantry Brigade (LIB) performed a historic last mission. Reconstituted as Task Force (TF) Gimlet, they were combat-assaulted by helicopter into the Antenna Valley 10 miles southwest of Da Nang on what was to become the last U.S. infantry combat patrol of the Vietnam War.

To the infantrymen or "grunts," the patrol appeared no different from any other that had been carried out since they acquired the Da Nang area of operations (AO) in April 1971. The men of TF Gimlet did not know they would be closing the curtain on American ground combat involvement, first opened by U.S. Marines at Da Nang in March 1965.

From the latter part of 1971 through the summer of 1972, constant media coverage indicated the war was ending for U.S. ground troops. On the grunt level, such news was met with various reactions, ranging from total indifference to disbelief and cynicism.

This was commonly known as the "11 Bush Blues" (11B was the military occupational specialty designation for light weapons infantrymen.) As former rifleman Larry "Short Round" Varner of Vacaville, Calif., said, "Jesus... It got as though I thought hearing it was some kind of cruel joke."

Task Force Gimlet Formed

In early 1972, remaining U.S. infantry units were standing down and going home. When the 196th LIB stood down on June 15, TF Gimlet was formed from the approximately 400 men of the 3rd Bn., 21st Infantry. They were handpicked by officers, led by battalion commander Lt. Rocco Negris, for their exceptional skills as infantrymen, as well as their unblemished personnel records.

The 3/21 had become a sort of holding unit for many men who had belonged to recently inactivated infantry outfits. Members of the 1st Air Cavalry Division at Long Binh and Bien Hoa, the Americal Division in Chu Lai and the 101st Airborne Division at Camp Evans near Phu Bai were reassigned to 3/21 either because they didn't have enough time "in-country" to leave Vietnam when

their units stood down, or had extended their tours.

Varner says, "Yeah, I remember when the 1/20th of the Americal stood down, I only had three months in-country. When I saw that my next unit was 3/21, I wanted to go, but I didn't want to go, know what I mean? That was farther north than I wanted to travel."

To further illustrate this come-one-come-all process, former SP/4 Bill Doyle, now a CWO2 helicopter pilot stationed at Ft. Drum, N.Y., says, "When I first came in-country I was with the 101st. During that time my platoon was sent to Da Nang to relieve a platoon of 3/21, which had been sent to Chu Lai to relieve some

John Bruce of Justice, Ill., then a radio operator.

Grunts in Vietnam believed the most likely time to "get hit" was during the first three months in-country while learning the ropes, or the last three months when one became "short" and thoughts of DEROS (date expected to return from overseas) became all-consuming.

Unofficial SOP in some units allowed "short timers" to finish up their tours in relatively secure areas working safer jobs such as a mail clerk or driver. Otherwise, they were usually given the option of walking point or slack man positions on the squad or platoon level.

What happens when an entire

The Last Patrol

Twenty years ago this month, a historic event occurred in Vietnam. A Vietnam War patrol of the war.

by Hugh M. Stovall, Jr.

other unit in the Americal that was standing down.

"From the 101st I was sent to the 2/17th Air Cavalry and when that unit stood down, then I was sent to Delta Company of 3/21. Ironically, I was assigned to the very platoon I had been sent to relieve a few months before."

Wild Rumors Abound

Life in the last combat infantry unit in Vietnam was difficult during the spring and summer of 1972 with the abundance of rumors flying. "When I first heard that we were all possibly getting 'short' as a unit, my first reaction was surprise, but considering we'd been hearing that since the beginning of 1972, I didn't really go for it and figured we'd all, or at least I, would be reassigned to another unit, possibly one of the remaining air cav units," remembers

task force becomes short simultaneously? Who walks point? Who doesn't? Who doesn't want to be the last man hit on the last patrol of the war? Everybody.

AFVN Radio did not help matters with its optimistic reports of the Paris Peace Talks and the progress, or lack of same, as conducted by then Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and North Vietnamese Foreign Minister Le Duc Tho.

Rumors, innuendoes and opinions from USARV, MACV headquarters, to the slums of "Dogpatch" outside of 3/21 Battalion HQ in Da Nang only added to the anxiety of the grunts.

Doyle recalls, "I was up on the ridge line at Charlie Ridge when mommasan and her girls came up to ply their wares. During the course of my conversation with her, she told me matter-of-factly, 'Very soon GI go home. Very, very soon.' Since the in-

Ex-Wife of Man on MIA/POW List Nervous, Unsure About Disclosure

By GLORIA POLIQUIN
Union Leader Correspondent

LITTLETON — The former wife of a New Hampshire man whose name was on a list of 125 Americans in the Korean War who were interrogated by the Soviets and possibly taken to China, spent a difficult day yesterday dealing with the possibility that Leland R. Dunham may be alive.

"I don't know how to accept it" Frances Lytle said in a telephone interview yesterday afternoon.

Frances Lytle said her former husband was taken prisoner of war in 1950 while serving in Korea with the 34th Infantry Regiment. Notification of death was made in 1953, she said.

U.S. Sen. Robert Smith, R-N.H., is vice chairman of the Senate's POW-MIA Committee. On Tuesday, during a news conference in Washington, he released the names of the 125 Americans.

Dunham's name was published in The Union Leader yesterday and Mrs. Lytle said she received several telephone calls from friends who saw the newspaper account.

"Although not a day goes by that I don't think about him, I'm very nervous today," she said. She characterized her former husband as a wonderful man.

Lt. Col. Dunham was 37 years old and she was 35 when he was captured, she recalled. She is

now 78 and he would be 80 if still alive.

At the time he was captured, she said, she and their two boys, Rockwood, 10, and Paul Leland, 5, were in Japan.

After Dunham was taken prisoner, the family came home to Littleton, where she has remained.

Dunham, she said, is a native of North Bennington, Vt., and she was born in Berlin. Her family moved to Littleton while she was a youngster and she grew up in the North Country town, graduating from Littleton High School.

She and Dunham met while the two were in college and they married.

He served in Europe during World War II, with the Yankee Division from Boston, and was wounded twice, she said.

A career military man, he was assigned to various military installations after the war and was sent to Japan, where he served with the military government. He joined troops from the United States that went to Korea, she said.

Fifteen years after his capture and after both boys were out of college, Frances married James Lytle. They were married for 10 years when Mr. Lytle died.

Rockwood Dunham served in the military during the Vietnam War. He retired from military

service several years ago and lives in Alexandria, Va. Paul Leland Dunham lives in Franconia. Mrs. Lytle has five grandchildren.

Over the years, Mrs. Lytle, a teacher, did some substitute teaching in Littleton schools and was active in community affairs.

At the news conference in Washington, Smith attacked The Pentagon for not declassifying information on American POWs.

Smith and U.S. Sen. John F. Kerry D-Mass., the chairman of the Senate Select Committee on POW-MIA Affairs, obtained the

list independently from Russian officials during a visit to Moscow in February.

Subsequent cross-checking with Pentagon records found that of the 536 names on the Russian list, 265 were those of POWs later returned to the United States and 146 remained unidentified.



MISSING — A family photo of U.S. Army Lt. Col. Leland R. Dunham, formerly of New Hampshire, who was on the list of 125 Americans missing in the Korean War who were interrogated by Soviets in the 1950s and possibly taken to China. Dunham was 37 when captured, and would be 80 if still alive.



ADDRESSING TROOPS — Major General Robert R. Linvill, commanding general of Fort Riley and the 24th Infantry Division, makes a few remarks upon the arrival of a color guard of the 1st Infantry Division at Forbes Air Force Base.



ATTENTION—The Color Guard of the 1st Infantry Division stands at attention during an arrival ceremony at Forbes Air Force Base, Topeka. The 1st Infantry Division colors returned to Fort Riley April 8 after serving in the Republic of Vietnam for five years. The 1st will assume the duties of the 24th Infantry Division which is presently stationed at the Fort.



CASED COLORS of the 24th Div. Are Carried Off the reviewing field by former Taromen

*"The best thing to do
behind a person's back
is to pat it."*

*"The reason some people
know the solution is because
they created the problem."*

Interesting comment by BEN WAHLE on HAROLD MOON, MOH: "As you know, Moon was in my company. We got him out of the brig to come north with us to Leyte - and you know the rest." Yes, Ben, we remember - and RED NEWMAN mentions that frequently; it is etched in his memory.

GEORGE DERZIPILSKI (555th FA Bn. Btry 6/50-7/51) 174 Connie Park Dr., McKees Rocks PA 15136 says Hi to all the guys from C Btry. Triple Nickel. Says he's doing fine.

Looking for:

JOHN PAGLIUSO (Korea) of 2393 N. Campus Av., Upland CA 91786-1303 is looking for anyone who remembers him.

RICHARD and Elaine WOEHNER (I 21st '46-'48) are another couple who brought 8 into the world - Diane, Karon, Joseph, Maureen, Richard, Eileen, David and Ann. We're looking for the Taro Leafer with the largest family. As of the moment, Dick, you're KING. Dick's a brand new member too. He's at 1314 Sherman, Ft. Wayne IN.

PAUL A. DIERS (AT 19th 10/45-10/46) Box 155, Colesbury IA 52035, just joined us - says it took 45 years to find out there was a 24th Infantry Division Association.

JOSEPH BOCCHINO (L 34th '41-'45) 46 Orchard St., Newton NJ 07860 would like to hear from any of his buddies from L 34th '41-'45.

New boy on the block - NYLE G. DENNEY, (E 5th RCT '51-'54). Nyle has caught one of our ads, and has joined. Reach him at 2627 E. 2nd St., Bloomington IN. Welcome aboard, Nyle.



"I HEAR THE OLD MAN THREW THE BOOK AT YOU."

GOOD NEWS FROM HYATT REGENCY - SAVANNAH: PARKING

TWO DOLLARS DAILY! \$2.00! Regular rate is \$6.00 daily. Can't afford not to drive in now! This is the beginning of good old fashioned Southern Hospitality!

Everything is in place for a banner celebration. We look forward to seeing all of you there.

THE COMMITTEE



Aviation Brigade welcomes new commander



Photo by Spec. Steven Kindred

Incoming Commander Col. Anthony R. Jones, along with outgoing Commander Col. Burt Tackaberry and 24th Inf. Div. Commander Maj. Gen. Paul E. Blackwell inspect soldier of Aviation Brigade during the change of command ceremony.

By 2nd Lt. Britton Nowell

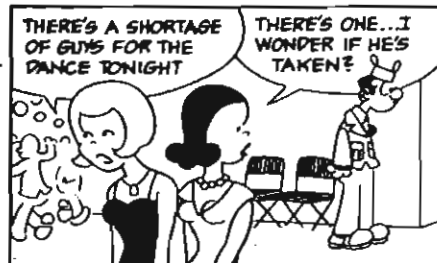
Public Affairs Officer, Hunter Army Airfield

Colonel Burt S. Tackaberry relinquished command of the Aviation Brigade, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) to Col. Anthony R. Jones, Tuesday at a ceremony held at Tuttle Field, Hunter Army Airfield. Tackaberry's new assignment is to serve as the chief of staff for the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea. Major Gen. Paul E. Blackwell, commander of the 24th, in his remarks during the ceremony, praised the accomplishments of the brigade and Tackaberry. "A quick review of the Aviation Brigade's history and long list of accomplishments over the past two years would show you this is a proud unit, a ready unit, a team of winners, composed of great soldiers. Burt Tackaberry has led this unit with distinction and the soldiers of this brigade have responded with a superior level of professionalism." Blackwell then recounted the Aviation Brigade's sweeping success in Operation Desert Storm and stated that "the Aviation Brigade is perhaps the most versatile, lethal brigade in our ranks."

Lt.Col. GEORGE HOWZE over in Tacoma WA suggests a Directory. We can do it easily enough as far as setting it up goes - but it'll involve many pages and that means \$. Questions: a) Do you want one? b) Do you really have a need for one? c) What would you be willing to pay for it?

Good friend MANUEL P. HERNANDEZ (A 19th Serv.Co. '49-'50) 12208 Pineville St., El Monte CA 91732 sees JOE TORRES every Sunday at an Am Vets dance. Joe was G 34th 10/55-12/56 and lives at 851 Rama Dr., La Puente CA 91746. Manny spotted Joe's cap with the Taro Leaf patch on it and found out that Joe didn't even know about us. He took care of that in a hurry and now Joe is one of us, courtesy of Manny. Isn't that Taro Leaf insignia a wonderful thing?

We are happy to introduce to you new member MARVIN E. EDWARDS (L 5th 1/52-11/52), out of Star Rt., Box 134, Dexter MO.



In which we welcome "freshman" member LUDVIG J. EGSTAD (F 19th '45-'46). He and Elsie (7 grownups, no longer "kids") are at 1021 14th Av., S., Grand Forks ND. Ludvig is a retired postal service man.

Division Reunions Over the Years

How many did you attend??

How many are left??

1948	Baltimore I
1949	New York City I
1950	Chicago I
1951	Detroit
1952	Colombus
1953	St.Louis I
1954	Washington
1954	San Francisco
1955	Garmisch
1955	New York City II
1956	New York City III
1957	Chicago II
1958	Chicago III
1959	Philadelphia
1960	Atlantic City
1961	Louisville I
1962	Chicago IV
1963	Louisville II
1964	Boston
1965	Hawaii
1966	Myrtle Beach I
1967	Chicago V
1968	Myrtle Beach II
1969	St.Louis II
1970	Nassau
1971	Louisville III
1972	Chicago VI
1973	West Point
1974	Clearwater
1975	Peoria
1976	Savannah I
1977	Norfolk
1978	Savannah II
1979	Lexington
1980	Pittsburgh
1980	Irvine, Cal.
1981	St.Louis III
1982	Baltimore II
1983	Savannah III
1984	Cincinnati
1985	Louisville IV
1986	Los Angeles
1987	Schaumburg, Ill.
1988	Savannah IV
1989	Fort Worth TX
1990	Buffalo NY
1991	San Francisco CA
1992	Savannah V
1993	Colorado Springs CO