

THIRD LEAF
84th Infantry Division Association

ROBERT LAMSON EDITOR
BOX 711
PROCTORVILLE, OH. 45669



VOL. XLVIII NO. 1 1994-1995

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JOSEPH P OCONNELL
251 KIPLING DR
WARMINSTER PA 18974

1995 Reunion News inside!

DATED MATERIAL

Office of the Commander
24th Infantry Division (Mech)



"FIRST TO FIGHT"

September 20, 1994

Dear Fellow Taro Leafers:

It was a distinct honor to be part of the Division Reunion in New Orleans. What a privilege to be surrounded by so many true American heroes - men who risked everything for their country and for each other without hope or expectation of reward or fame; men who still love their Division, their country and their buddies.

Lynne and I had a wonderful time; we enjoyed meeting all of you. Our special thanks goes to the members of the Association who did such a great job in running the Reunion. We promise to do our best to keep the Victory Division what it has always been - the best unit in the U.S. Army.

FIRST TO FIGHT!

Sincerely,

Joseph E. DeFrancisco
Major General, U.S. Army
Commanding

George T. Frohmader
W9945 30th St. W.
Camp Douglas, WI. 54618

August 19, 1994

24th Infantry Division Association
Attn: Editor, Taro Leaf
120 Maple St.
Springfield, MA. 01103

To the Editor:

Who from the Korean War remembers Bobby Lee?

He was just a young Korean boy in his early teens and orphaned by the war. Bobby states that he owes his life to the 24th Division who took him in during the war.

Today he is about 60 years old and pennyless. He has stood up for the U.S. Army during recent riots when Korean students wanted the U.S. troops to go home. They even arrested him when he told the students they were wrong and how good the U.S. Army was to him during the war.

He would like to hear from anyone who remembers him.
His address is: Bobby Lee
 & The Peter Family Counseling Center
 Taejon City
 TONG-gu
 Indong 78-7 1/2
 Republic of South Korea

Sincerely,


George T. Frohmader

Robert L. Lawhon
Rt.2, Box 711
Proctorville, Oh. 45669

**Moving! Please send in a change of address to:
Taro Leaf.**

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
OLD address:
address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

Profile of America's veterans

Based on the 1990 census, the VA's National Center for Veterans Analysis revealed these statistics:

- Veterans population declined by 4.7% between 1980 and 1990.
- Women make up 4% of veterans.
- WWII-era vets total 9.2 million.
- Vietnam-era vets total 8.2 million and will soon top the list.
- Of 27,180,000 total veterans, their racial/ethnic background is:
 - white — 24.1 million (88%)
 - black — 2.3 million (8%)
 - Hispanic — 925,000 (3%)

Korean Vets ? forgotten war



AL McADOO AND THE NEW TARO LEAF STAFF

LEFT TO RIGHT

JOHNNY RODRIGUEZ ASSOC. EDITOR

ROBERT LAWSON EDITOR

CARL GAMEL ASSOC. EDITOR

WILLIAM HANSON ASSOC. EDITOR

SEATING AT THE REUNION BANQUETS

Thanks to our good friends in the 4th Armd. Div. Assoc. for the use of the poem below which carries a message we have been trying to get across for forty-four years.

*Believe us, folks, 'twas a difficult job,
Arranging these tables and seating this mob.
We did all that we could do to have things come out right;
To see that our guests would be happy tonight,
And we did the best that we were possibly able;
To put you with friends at a desirable table;
But it would take more than the greatest inventor
To plan out a room and have you all in the center.
So when you are seated, and unfortunately find,
That you're a little too far, or a little behind,
Won't you please understand? . . . that is all that we ask,
For, to have this just perfect is an impossible task.
So, friends; just relax and have a good time,
By toasting your new neighbor with a glass of good wine.*

Ellsworth "Dutch" Nelsen

812 Orion Drive
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80908

(719) 475-7498
FAX (719) 473-7487

Robert L. Lawhon
Rt 2, Box 711
Proctorville, OH
45669

**SPECIAL
DON'T MISS THIS!**

1 November 94

Bob:

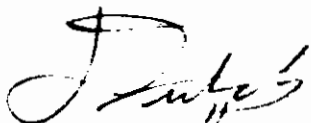
Regarding the ad to be placed in the next issue of the TL about the stamps. Please change it to read:

Our Association has acquired a large number of US commemorative postage stamps in plate blocks, (four stamps with the plate number.) These are mostly from the 40's and 50's and are 3 cents. As a fund-raiser we will sell one dozen plate blocks for five bucks. An excellent gift for someone who collects stamps. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to:

24th Division Association
P.O. Box 6066
Colorado Springs, CO
80934-6066

We'll get the stamps off to you the same day we get your letter. We guarantee it!

What will be the cut-off date for getting material to you for the next issue?



Dutch Nelsen

Sorry about the personal stationery, the new 24th IDA letterhead has not come back from the printer yet.

SEE STAMPS ON NEXT PAGE!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

24th Infantry Division Association

Date: _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

UNIT _____

DATES _____

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF: _____

Mail to: 24th Division Association
P.O. BOX 6066
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO. 80934-6066

Dues \$15.00 per year or
LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$150.00 or
(payable in 5 payments of \$15.00)

NEWSMAKERS

Now hear this

The order of the day from retired Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf: Older men, see the urologist. The former Gulf War commander considers himself the poster guy for prostate cancer. His doctors caught it early, and he has fully recovered 3½ months after surgery.



SCHWARZKOPF

Schwarzkopf urged men over 50 and those over 40 who are at high risk to get tested. "Look the urologist right in the eye and say, 'Bring me to my knees if you have to, but do a thorough exam,' because that way they'll save your life," he said yesterday on "CBS This Morning." Prostate cancer is one of the most common forms of cancer affecting men. Schwarzkopf, a native of Trenton, N.J. is 60 years old. He is a

West Point graduate and, besides his role in the Persian Gulf War, has seen service in Alaska, Georgia, Hawaii, Germany, and was deputy commander in the Grenada operation in 1983. In 1992 he retired as a full general in the U.S. army.



Material for publication can be sent to:
Bill Hanson - Assoc. Editor
2279 W. 230th St.
Torrance, Ca. 90501
Ph. 301-325-4948

Carl B. Gamel - Assoc. Editor
26431 Williamsburg Dr.
Bonita Springs, Fl. 33923
Ph. 813-495-1586

Johnny M. Rodriguez - Assoc. Editor
4331 Mission Rd.
Kansas City, Ks. 66103
Ph. 913-262-7972

OR TO:
Robert Lawhon - Editor
Rt 2, Box 711
Proctorville, Oh. 45669
Ph. 614-886-6935

Note: there are some changes in this issue.
We hope that they are for the better.
let us know how you like it, Feed back is
good for a fine publication as this is.

WE NEED TO SIGN UP MORE
NEW MEMBERS !

Ask not for whom the bugler calls . . .

Good for Spec. Michael Carmack ["About those bugle calls", July 25]. If the tradition and meaning of bugle calls is not being taught to today's soldiers, it certainly should be.

I have vivid memories of growing up to the sounds of Army bugles. Let me share some of them with today's soldiers and military families.

In the "Old Army," one did not need a watch. The time of day, as well as what was being done, was well-defined from dawn until lights out by the bugler of the guard. Soldiers developed ribald words for many of the calls.

My first memory of Reveille is in a converted wooden barrack on "The Fill" at Fort Monroe, Va., in the early 1920s. Awakened by the reveille gun, at the first notes of the call ("I can't get 'em up...") my father was out of bed and mostly dressed by the last bars ("...lieutenants worse than sergeants, and capt'n's worst of all").

By mess ("chow") call ("Soupy, soupy, soup, without a single bean..."), he was ready to walk to his post in the submarine mine department of the Coast Artillery School.

But it was at Fort Mills (Corregidor Island) in the Philippines in the late 1920s that the rest of the day really became defined for me by bugle calls.

We lived on Topside, the highest point of the island, directly across from the "mile long" barracks occupied by the 59th and 60th Coast Artillery Regiments. There, bugle calls were part of our lives.

About 45 minutes after mess call came sick call ("Look at their ears, look at their a- h-..."). Shortly thereafter came drill call, which started the working day for both regiments. It was followed by first call, which we hear at the race tracks, and assembly ("There's a sergeant in the grass with a bullet --"). Buglers would hold the last note as long as they could to keep soldiers from being late for formation.



Proud tradition: Although only a few recorded bugle calls are heard on posts these days, in an era past the bugler's calls regulated the military day.

Once a month we would hear no drill call, but at mid-morning there would be pay call. As each soldier's last name was called, he would step forward and salute the paying officer, respond with his first name, middle initial and serial number, sign with his "payroll signature," receive his pay and get the rest of the day off for interesting activities.

At 1100, we heard first sergeants' call. It seemed as though every orderly room door of the "mile long" barracks opened simultaneously as two regiments of first sergeants headed for the office of the regimental sergeant major, clipboard in hand. Only 15 minutes later came officers' call, when, with the same promptness, two regiments of battery commanders burst out of their offices, buckling on their sabers, and headed for the daily conference with the regimental

adjutant. Mail call followed at 1145 ("You've got a letter, you've got a letter, come and get your f----- mail!").

Mess call followed, and then, to start the afternoon, drill call at 1300. The end of the training and fatigue day came with recall, often quite early in the afternoon in the tropics.

The military end of the day came with retreat, the firing of the retreat gun, and the bugler's rendition of "To the Colors" (often the regimental band played the National Anthem).

After evening mess call, the bugles were silent until (and the times varied from post to post) tattoo at 2230 and Taps at 2300.

One memory of Taps comes from Fort Monroe in the mid-1930s. On the rampart above the main gate to the Old

Post (inside the moat) was a megaphone, about six feet long and swiveled on a post. Every evening at 2300 the bugler of the guard would pour his soul into Taps, using the megaphone: four times, to the north, south, east and west. It took about 10 minutes. There were those who claimed that they could tell which battery's bugler was playing.

Soldiers would compete to become the unit bugler. Not only did it mean extra pay (as did qualifying for sharpshooter or expert on the rifle range), but also exemption from walking post when the bugler's unit drew guard duty.

I remember exploring the jungle of Fort Sherman, in the Canal Zone, in 1937, where I met a soldier of the 1st Artillery practicing far from barracks to become a bugler. When a private drew \$21.00 a day once a month (with deductions), that extra two bucks or so was important!

It was at Fort Sherman that I first had a clear recollection of church call — the most beautiful, haunting and soul-inspiring of our calls. It was always one-half hour before the religious service, and we had ample time to walk to the chapel over the only mile of paved road on the post.

Yes, the Old Army and its bugles are gone, overtaken by technology and audio tapes. But that doesn't mean that much of the human part of the Old Army need be cast aside just to be modern. Armies have used bugle calls and the inspiration from them for three millennia. Their inspiration and significance should be explained to soldiers at all levels, perhaps even to our chief of staff.

As a starter, Army officials should be aware that a member of the Air Force Band, here in the D.C. area, is conducting in-depth research into the origins and traditions of military bugle calls. Try him, Gen. Sullivan!

Henry F. Grimm Jr.
Annandale, Va.

Times photo by Kate Patterson

4618 Apache Avenue
Jacksonville, FL 32210

Col. FREDERICK F. IRVING

4618 Apache Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32210
904 388 5283

3rd Engr.
63-65

Septemoer 8, 1994

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

Dear Ken,

I have just received my "Taro Leaf" and read your "last word". Certainly no one has done more for the Division Association than you, and you will be sorely missed. However, forty-nine years of service is "above and beyond" and your decision is probably long overdue.

I just want to add that we had Dad's 100th birthday in Washington, D.C. on September third. We had a luncheon in his honor and among the attendees were Les and Dottie Wheeler, General Edward "Shy" Meyer ex Chief of Staff of the Army and now President of the West Point Association of Graduates, and General Carl McNair President, West Point Society of D.C. The cake featured a taro leaf and a West Point shield. Mother was there at ninety-six and both are doing as well as can be expected.

Dad joins in sending his best wishes and appreciation for all you have done for the Division.

Sincerely,

Fred
Frederick F. Irving

Col. Frederick F. Irving (3rd Engr. '63-'65)

a MG Frederick A. Irving's son

Future Reunions

1995: We had Valley Forge all lined up for '95, but the deal fell through for lack of a chairman. At the last minute we proceeded to negotiate with the city of Nashville and recently signed a contract with Stouffer's Hotel, in that city, probably the finest hotel we have ever attended. Nashville is within driving range for 60% of the population in the US, so the location should be very favorable to a high percentage of our members.

The dates are Thursday, September 7th through Sunday, September 11th, 1995, check out Monday, the 12th. Rate \$75.00 single/double. The Executive Comm. voted to allow leeway in dates for this one time only, due to being in a last minute bind. The lowest rate we could negotiate was \$79 (average convention rate being \$115), but by occupying the rooms on Sunday night, when the occupancy rate is lowest, we were able to secure the \$75 rate, a savings of about \$5,000 to members.

A Friday night casual "Welcome to Nashville" barbacue is in the planning stage, the usual Hawaiian night dinner is scheduled for Saturday night, and our Memorial Service and Banquet is planned for Sunday night. Members polled expressed no objection to a Monday checkout, commenting along the lines that there will be less airport and highway congestion, etc., and some normally check out Monday.

Registration forms for the hotel and for the association registration will be printed in future issues of the TARO LEAF. Please be on the lookout for them. Also, more information will be forthcoming about the city of Nashville; there is so much to do and see. And, by the way, we do not have to have country music! We can have jazz, golden oldies, Broadway musical hits, etc. Country music is plentiful for those who prefer it. Many have asked why we did not sign up with the Grand Old Opry Hotel, and the answer is that the lowest possible rate they came up with was \$104, even after meeting with the exec. VP! But we can easily spend time there since the water taxi, which cruises up the historic Cumberland River, leaves from the dock one block from our hotel.

Room rates apply three days before and three days after; members are entitled to a 15% food discount in hotel restaurants; drink prices in the hospitality room and dinner functions will be about the same as in New Orleans, very nominal; rate for self-park in garage is \$4.00 per night. A shopping center is also a part of the hotel complex.

1996: We are all set for Savannah, having signed with the Radisson Plaza Hotel, which was recently taken over by the Marriott Hotel Corp., which is additional good news. Rate \$68.00 sing/dbl. Dates: Wed., Sept. 25 - Sun., Sept. 29, 1996. Parking \$2.00 nl. More later.

1997: Valley Forge?? Frank Plata has volunteered to chair this reunion, if he does not get tied down job-wise! Keep your fingers crossed! Any back-up volunteers? Lots doing in that area, and a chance for our members in the Northeast to participate in the action. Dates blocked: Wed., Sept. 17 - Sun., Sept. 21, 1997.

Bob Ender

Uphold Democracy

Nearly 1,000 local soldiers sent to assist Haitians with the effort to return elected government to power

By Maj. Kelly Fitzpatrick

Public Affairs Officer

More than 500 soldiers from the 24th Infantry Division and Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield have deployed in support of Operation Uphold Democracy, bringing the total number of local soldiers deployed to nearly 1,000.

The soldiers are from several different units: B Company, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry, which deployed with support elements from 224th Support Battalion; 3rd Engineer Battalion; and the 3rd Battalion, 41st Field Artillery. These soldiers, known as Team Victory, departed Tuesday for Haiti on two C-141 aircraft.

On Sept. 14, soldiers from 110th Quartermaster Company, 260th Quartermaster Battalion, and the 87th Corps Support Battalion also deployed.

The 110th QM Co. — which manages fuel for forward deployed units — headed for Pope Air Force Base, N.C. and the 87th Corps Spt. Bn. left for Homestead Air Force Base, Fla. The 87th is operating an interim staging base for elements traveling in to and out of the Caribbean area as part of Operation Uphold Democracy. This involves housing and feeding soldiers who come into the base, maintaining aviation and refueling operations, and providing general supply support.

Prior to this operation, units from the 24th Corps Support Group most recently deployed in support of humanitarian relief efforts for Cuban and Haitian migrants. Approximately 80 soldiers from B Company, 92nd Engineer Battalion are still in Suriname, where they continue to construct a camp.

The 559th Quartermaster Battalion has nearly 200 soldiers and the 293rd Military Police Company more than 100 in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The 559th is capable of providing about 400,000 gallons of potable water per day to the migrant camps there, while the 293rd soldiers are providing security and a range of law enforcement services.



Photo by Bob Close

A soldier from 3rd Bn., 15th Inf., displays his apprehension before boarding a plane to Haiti where he and his unit will assist in supporting Operation Uphold Democracy.

Normally I don't write to newspapers correcting inaccuracies. But in this instance, I feel that a hero of mine, the late General "Red" Newman, has had his "Follow Me" charge on Leyte Beach trivialized!

The description of this heroic act was better described by author, L. James Binder, Editor in Chief of ARMY, as copied in the Taro Leaf (Vol. XLVII-No.4-1993-94).

However, I have to take exception to the description of the event as depicted by General Lester L. Wheeler in the West Point magazine (Taro Leaf Vol. XLVII-No.6 9394). I don't remember seeing him at Leyte. I believe he joined the 34th Infantry at the end of the Mindanao Campaign and Japanese occupation.

Like our new president Vincent Vella, at our New Orleans Convention said, "General DeFrancisco, I was only a P.F.C., but I order you to Retire the Colors!"

I, too, was a P.F.C., but I request that General Wheeler set the record straight in the West Point Alumni Magazine.

I was in the fourth wave, not the fifth with "Red" Newman. I say "Red" with humility and respect. I carried the Regimental switch board on my back in a neoprene black bag, along with my own pack and rifle. When we hit Red beach, we ran to a spot behind the third wave and hit the sand. This description of "lead companys attack had bogged down.....and every officer and senior non-com in the assault echelon was killed or wounded. The critical situation demanded drastic action, and "Red" took it".

This description, I believe, is not an accurate account of what happened. I feel it is demeaning and a watering down of a heroic act. It was not an after thought. It was a spontaneous act of true leadership.

When we hit the beach, Red did not have a computer to tell him about "his officers and non-coms in the assault echelon, etc". It took only seconds between the dash from the landing barge to our position behind the third wave. There was a withering enfilade fire from the Jap pill boxes. Almost instantaneously, I was about three feet beside him, Red took off his helmet, because I believe, we all looked alike in our uniforms, but Red Newman's red hair glistened in a ray of sunlight and there was no mistaking who he was. He stood up and yelled "Get the hell off this beach! Follow Me!!!

(continued) ON PAGE 28



WWII veterans honor soldier at reunion in town

Several World War II veterans, along with their wives, met recently in Hiawatha at a reunion hosted by Sam and Minnie Finger.

The men, pictured above, visited the grave of a fellow soldier who had died while serving with them during the war. From left to right is Harry Heiland, of York, Penn.; Bruce Price, Anderson, S.C.; Billy B. Long, Wichita; Sam Finger, Hiawatha; Phil Hostetter, Manhattan; Chas Wiggins, Eureka and Walter Peters, Summerfield, Kansas.



While at the cemetery at Powhattan, the group also paid their respects at the grave of Bill

Currie, of Powhattan, who served with them. He has died since the war.

NOTICE - Once again - we ask you to check your mailing labels on your Taro Leaf just received.

We are still receiving returns because of the typo's made when the mailing list was compiled by our computerized mailer.

These returns are expensive to receive !

Please advise as to any errors - especially in your zip codes and street numbers.

Filipinos attacking plan to convert old base to resort

Associated Press

BAGUIO CITY, Philippines - A Taiwanese firm plans to develop a former U.S. military R&R base as a major resort, but ecology-minded activists are determined to block the project.

At issue is the future of Camp John Hay, a 1,750-acre tract which the U.S. military developed as a rest and recreation center in 1903.

On Tuesday, opponents of the plan filed a motion with the city council challenging a resolution declaring Camp John Hay a "special export zone," a status which would give the would-be developer big tax breaks.

The council has 80 days to

consider the protest. If the council rejects it, supporters can launch a petition drive to force a referendum on the issue.

Camp John Hay, named after the former U.S. secretary of state, was turned over to the Philippine government in 1991.

Last December, the Philippine government signed an agreement with the Tuntex Group of Taiwan to transform the camp into a theme park and four-star hotel complex.

But many residents of this city of about 130,000 people fear development will bring congestion, destroy its ambience and ruin its water supply.

ATTENTION:

SPECIAL

Any 24th Division Association member interested in purchasing their regimental Coat of Arms in vibrant colors on pure silk, approximately 11" x 14".

The cost will be \$50.00 which includes postage and handling.

Presently available: 5th, 19th and 34th.

Send you check in the amount of \$50.00 payable to: 24th Inf.Div.Assn. along with your name, address including ZIP code, and your telephone number. And, of course, specify the regimental Coat of Arms that you desire.

Mail your request to:
Ellsworth Nelsen
812 Orion Dr.,
Colorado Springs Co.
80906

NEW MEMBERS!

Arthur L. Brannon (B 19th '50-'51) resides at 7185 Railroad St. PO Box 131 Neville, Al. 36353 with wife Sally. In WWII served with the 7th 3rd Inf. retired after tour in Nam w/24 years as CSM - enjoying retirement with Angus Cattle.

Arlo L. Peterson (24th Med. Bn. 11/55-2/57 Korea) 541 Main St. Box 772, Limon, Co. 80818. A retired railroader with 3 children

Joseph P. LeMieux Hq. (19th 3rd Bn 8/40-6/42) of 705 W. Moore St Henryetta, Ga. 74437.

J.L. Sizemore 205 Moore St. Graham, NC 27253-9557 signed up by J.D. Williams J.L. was with 34th in WWII.

John Faro Jr. (Hq 21st 3rd Bn 5/53-9/54) of 14279 Crow Rd. Apple Valley, Ca 92307 Ph. 619-946-1121 would like to hear from some of the GI's that were in my outfit.

JOHN E. REGULA (F 19th '45) 524 N. Oak St., W. Lafayette OH 43845 says he has had two heart by pass operations in last 21 years. He would like to hear from anyone who served with him.

Change of address for:

BG Richard J. Dirgins USAR
236th BSB - Augsburg
APO AE 09178

For all who wish to hear from him.

EARL V. BRIDWELL (H 19th '38-'42) 5611 Bar "S" St., Tucson AZ 85713 (Tel. 602-578-8868) would like to hear from anyone who remembers him.

JACK S. STARR (G 19th 9/38-12/40) 4372 27th Ct., S.W. #105, Naples FL 33999 would like to hear from anyone who remembers him. Tel. 813-455-5473.

ROBERT H. LUHRSEN (M 19th '43-'46) 105 Fleur De Lis Lane, Naples FL 33942 (813-775-5998) now retired. Would like to hear from anyone who remembers him.

EUGENE H. BUGNER (13th FA Hq. Btry. 8/51 - 12/52) 2233 Cleveland St., Great Bend KS 67530, would like to hear from anyone who served with his group. He's at Tel. 316-793-5820.

John J. McKenzie (I & Serv. Co 19th 3/51-2/52) 203 Easton Ave. New Brunswick, NJ 08901 Married to Francis with 5 grown children, another success story!

HELP!

Mail to PAUL J. O'BRIEN, Box 121, Somerville MA 02143, has been returned.

Paul is a Life Member and we'd like to find him. Can anyone help?

ORVIE JD GOSNELL (M 3rd Bn
5th RCT '7/51-5/52)
2678 Travis St., Fayette-
ville AR 72701-4600, says:
"When I left Camp Leroy in
'48 they asked me not to come
back. Incident on the beach.
A friend of mine pinched a
beauty on an untouchable spot
and ran. I ran with him.
Did not know why until later.
Oh well.

DONALD L. DUERK (21st Med.
Co. 8/49-9/50) 115 Cove Ct.,
Columbia SC 29212, is now
a retired physician.

He is trying to locate
Cpl. ALTON J. BRAUDA
(21st Med.Co. '49-'51).

He is also trying to
locate our life member, #223,
WADE F. HERITAGE, formerly of
PO Box 545, Southern Pines NC
28387. Wade was Div.Surgeon
'49-'51.

BILL ALLRED (1st Bn.34th
and 3rd Bn.19th 1950) of
21861 Bean Rd.,E., Athens AL
looking for:

HARRY A. AMBLER
possibly Harrisburg PA

RICHARD A. BLACK
possibly Pell City AL

? CHAMBLY
possibly Hazzard KY.

? SLIEGEL
possibly Harlin County KY

Capt.HERMAN STINES
from somewhere in the
northwest

and any other K 19th people.

ATHOL W. GEORGE (Hq. Btry
13th FA Regt. 9/30-4/33 -
Hawaiian Division) was a
Pvt., Pvt. 1st Cl. and Cpl.
in Hq.Btry 13th FA REGT.
Hawaiian Div. 9/30-4/33.
Stayed in and retired as a
Lt.Col. OMC on 7/31/56.
Says even though most of our
people are of a period long
after '30-'33 he still enjoys
our publication. Wonders if
we have anyone on our rolls
who predates him.

CHARLES E. GARRETT (19th
Med.Co. and 19th Serv.Co.
12/48-8/51 and A 724th Ord.
Bn. 9/61-2/63) of Promenaden
Str.13, Ch-9400-Rorschach,
Switzerland, sends his best
wishes from beautiful Lake
Constance and says he will
drink a toast to all members
at the convention, present,
and missing, wishing all
well. Sends special
greetings to the veterans
from the 19th - Japan and
Korea, and the 724th Ord.,
Munich, Germany.

A married man (C 34th WWII)
shows a friend a story he had
cut out of a newspaper. It
concerned a man who had
obtained a divorce on the
ground that his wife went
through his pockets.

"Going to show it to your
wife?" the friend asked.

"No," the husband said.
"I'm just going to leave it in
my pocket."



Gen. Vaught and
Gen. DeFrancisco

Oct, 23, 1994

Robert,

The newspaper clipping is from the South Bay Daily Breeze, the local newspaper here in Southern Cal. The author is our very own Eric Diller, "H" 34th. The sentiments are reflected in all of our thoughts and I figured that you might find a spot for it in the TL.

The other two items are self explanatory. Tony Apodaca and myself attended the ceremonies and enjoyed it very much.

We were contacted by Philippine Consul Melba Lim and asked to participate. It's my guess that there were at least 1000 Filipino veterans in the parade. Very truthfully, I had no idea that there were that many Filipino vets in the area.

But to make a long story short, I had an opportunity to talk to several of them prior to the start of the parade and found them to be very enthusiastic about meeting someone from the 24th. who had landed with MacArthur. And although I hadn't actually landed on Leyte, (the 21st. landed on Panoan Island, off the southern tip of Leyte, to secure a PT base which became an important factor during the naval Battle of Leyte Gulf) the significance made no difference to them; I came with MacArthur and that's all there was to it.

In regard to MacArthur, the Philipinos hold him in the highest esteem. It's my guess that the only thing that sustained them following the fall of Bataan was his "I shall return" promise.

24th. fully

continued on page 55

**24th Infantry Division Association
The VICTORY Division**

29 August 1994

Memo for Ken Ross, Editor of the TARO LEAF

In the last issue of the TARO LEAF member Eugene Dishman, 24th Signal, '42-'45 requested some dates of the Division's relocations during World War II.

Thanks to a booklet entitled THE 24th DIVISION, A BRIEF HISTORY published by the Division PIO in 1947 I was able to find the dates member Dishman requested. They are as follows:

**Division organized in Hawaii-1 October 1941
Enroute to AUSTRALIA -July-August 1943
At ROCKHAMPTON, Australia -31 August 43 to 30 January 44
21st Inf embarked at SIDNEY
19th Inf embarked at BISBASNE
34th Inf embarked at GLADSTONE
The division consolidated at CAMP CAVES**

**At GOODENOUGH ISLAND -30 Jan to 17 April 44
34th Inf at BIAK ISLAND -16 JAN to 17 April 44**

**HOLLANDIA -22 Apr to 13 October 44
21st Inf at PANOAN -20 Oct to 21 November 44**

LEYTE ISLAND -20 Oct 44 to 29 January 45

**MINDORO -Dec 44 to 12 April 1945
Marinduque
Verde Island
Lubang Island
Romblo Island
Simara Island**

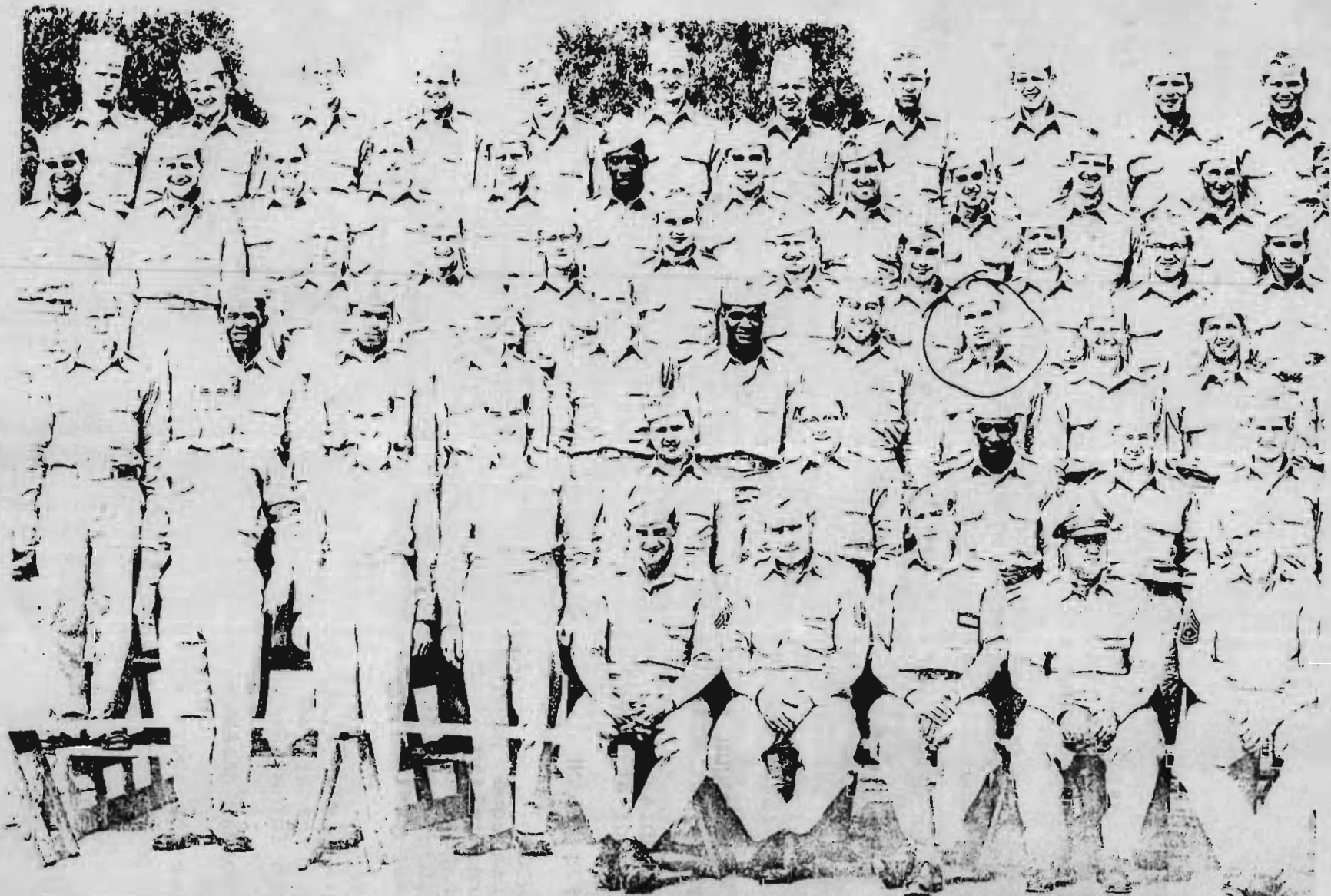
**LUZON
34th Inf at SIBIC BAY -29 January 1945
19th Inf at NASUGBU -4 February 1945
34th Inf at CORREGIDOR -16 February 1945**

MINDANAO-MALABANG-PARANG -17 Apr to 30 June 1945

Hope the above answers his question.


JIM HILL

61



16 AUGUST 1955

Arlo Peterson sent these prints in, Thanks Arlo
Arlo Peterson (circled)

August 29, 1994

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

Dear Ken:

I am enclosing my check for 1994 dues.

I made a trip to Hawaii in February 1981 and was fortunate to make contact with Bob Wai my Master Sgt. during my duty with the Finance Office of the 24th Division from Goodenough Island to the Occupational Forces in Japan. We had a good visit and recalled many things that happened during that time, both good and bad.

I was fortunate during my sojourn with the Occupational Forces to be selected by Captain Jones to accompany him to Tokyo to Return 7 Million Dollars of Occupational Money back to USAF Headquarters when the decision was made to use the regular Japanese Yen rather than Occupational Money. After the money was returned, Captain Jones stayed in Tokyo and I had the task of seeing that the two PFC's with us got back to Matsuyama. We had our own special car on the train and could take it off wherever we wanted to visit. Some Colonel, who was going to join our Language Detachment asked to join us in Tokyo and with him knowing the language, we had a ball in all the towns we stopped to visit. It took us about a week to get back to our outfit.

Just thought you might be interested because I doubt that many people knew that we were going to use Occupational Money until the decision was made to use the Japanese Yen.

I am getting ready to send Harry Rubin's letter to Senator Nunn regarding the changing of the 24th Division. I think it is ridiculous and I sure hope it is not done.

Name of the
Sincerely,

Eugene
Eugene H. Wells
5727 Southland Blvd.
Louisville, Ky. 40214

Hq. - Fin O&F

45-46

KOREA
1949-1954



August 22nd, 1994

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

Dear Mr. Ross:

Request you place the following reunion information
in your newsletter from now through April 1995.

5th Regimental Combat Team Association
3rd Annual Reunion, Orlando, Florida
May 3-7, 1995---Reunion Chairman, Bill Kane
5023 Andrea Blvd., Orlando, Florida 32807
Phone # 407-275-7450

The 5th RCT Florida Contigent deeply appreciates your
support in publicizing above announcement.

Submitted By:

Anthony F. Polemeni
1991 Birmingham Ave.
Holly Hill, FL 32107-2013

Sincerely,

Anthony F. Polemeni
Public Relations Committee



FOR FREEDOM PURCHASED AT SUCH A COST,
WE CANNOT AFFORD TO FORGET.



Mike Remeriz / Memphis Commercial Appeal

You know you're getting older when . . .

- You feel like the night before, and you haven't been anywhere.
- You get winded playing chess.
- Your children begin to look middle-aged.
- You join a health club and don't go.
- You decide to procrastinate, but then never get around to it.
- You look forward to a dull evening.
- Your favorite part of the newspaper is 25 years ago today.
- You turn out the light for economic rather than romantic reasons.
- You sit in a rocking chair and can't make it go.
- You stop looking forward to your next birthday.
- After painting the town red, you have to take a long rest before applying a second coat.
- Dialing long distance wears you out.
- You remember today, that yesterday was your wedding anniversary.
- You just can't stand people who are intolerant.
- The best part of your day is over when your alarm clock goes off.
- You burn the midnight oil after 9 p.m.
- Your back goes out more than you do.
- A fortune teller offers to read your face.
- A dripping faucet causes an uncontrollable bladder urge.
- You begin to outlive enthusiasm.
- Everything hurts and what doesn't hurt, doesn't work.

Seeking-

One of our new members is seeking First Sgt. Sherman Harris-I Co. 21st Inf. from James A. Jones 6444 Alisa Ln. Huston, Tx. 77084 Tommy E. Gilbert (Hq 19th 2nd Bn 2/50-3/51) 11525 Archery Ln. Baton Rouge, La 70815 read about the assoc. in the DAV Magazine, "Went to Sa. met buddies that I thought I would never see again in my lifetime". "joined the 19th 2/50 and was in the first group to land in Korea. Was wounded 7/20/50 in Battle of Taejon was wounded again in Sept 50 and Dec. 50. sent home and discharged because I was only 16 years old. I was one of the four GI's who Gen. Dean took and we knocked out the tank that ran through Hq in Taejon 7/20/50 would like to hear from any of the other three GI's and if they made it out of Taejon. I have not heard from any of them. William E. Kearn (M, Serv. and D 21st '48-'52) 225 Wallace Ave Covington, Ky. 41014 is looking for Harold L. Hoffman (M 21st '49) can anyone help ?

Paul J. Cain 3109B Chatham Dr. Urbanna, IL. 61801-7043 PH. 217-344-1462 Would like to contact anyone who served in I Co. 34th in Subic Bay, Kalakan Point, and Corrigidor campaigns which took place in Jan. and Feb. 1945. Send me your Ph. # and I will call you.

Alfred J. Jones (C 34th 11/42-8/45) 80 Millbrook Dr. Toms River, NJ 08757. would like to know if anyone from his old outfit is still alive. He would like to hear from any of them. He was S. Sgt Alfred Jones Sq. Ldr 1st plt. C Co. 34th. His Plt. Ldr was Lt. Gordep. Al's Ph. 908-341-3631.

William E. Conley (24th MP 12/46-11/47) of 9956 Johnnycake Rdg. 6-5 Painsville, Oh. 44077 is still looking for members of the 24th MP Plt. 46-47. Adelbert W. Chance (A Btry 63 FA 9/48-9/53-POW 7/50-9/53) of Rd 5, Box 699 Newfield, NJ 08344. Would like to hear from anyone who served with him in Japan during these dates.

Charles Christopher (26th
AAA 13th FA 4/56-5/57
Retired Safety Engineer with
Midwest Steel. Married to
Ruth with 2 children.
Winter Home-810 N Bentsen
Palm Dr. Mission, Tx. 78572 PH.
210-581-4970.
Summer home-1248 Castle St
Burns Harbor, In. 46304
Ph. 219-787-8977.

RICHARD J. DIMOND (D 19th
39-41) 552 Country Club Road,
Washington PA 15301, sends
a hefty contribution in memory
of our comrades that have
passed away.

Thank you for remembering,
Dick.



Bob Shoup (F & Hq 21st '35-
'37) of 1045 Haverford
St. Johnstown, Pa. 15905. He
stood parade for FDR, Shirley
Temple and got a good
picture of Amelia Erhardt at
Wheeler Field prior to her
departure WWII.

Phillip L. White (24th
Divarty Med. Det.) of 723
Ford St. Ypsilanti, Mi. 48198
retired on disability
pension from Ford Motor Co.
Married 42 1/2 years to
Shirley with 4 grown
children Good job Phil!

Charles W. Johnson would
like to hear from others
that he served with in Japan
and Korea. He is at 7114
Salmar Ct. Cincinnati, Oh.
45231 Ph. 513-931-0731.
Retired from Belden
Corp. ('49-7/50 A 34th)

Beetle Bailey



Philippines OKs WW II Medals

WORLD WAR II veterans who served in the Philippines for not less than 30 days between Oct. 17, 1944, and Sep. 3, 1945, are now eligible to receive the Philippine Liberation Medal (PLM) from the government of the Philippines.

The award will be issued free to veterans who make application, with appropriate verification of service, through the Defense and Armed Forces Affairs Office (DAFAO) of the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C.

In addition, DAFAO will issue five other medals to World War II veterans of the Philippine campaigns:

- the Philippine Defense Medal (PDM) to veterans who served in the Philip-

pines for not less than 30 days between Dec. 7, 1941, and June 15, 1942

- the Philippine Independence Medal (PIM) to veterans who received both the PLM and PDM

- the Philippine Republic Presidential Unit Citation Badge to veterans who served between Dec. 7, 1941, and May 10, 1942, and during the campaigns from 1944 to 1945

- the World War II Victory Medal to veterans who served at any time between Dec. 7, 1941, and December 1946, and

- the Asia-Pacific Campaign Medal to veterans who had continuous service of at least 30 days in the Asia-Pacific theater of operations between Dec. 7, 1941, and Mar. 2, 1946.

An administrative and shipping fee of \$7 (U.S.) is required for each medal other than the PLM. Checks must be made payable to DAFAO in Washington, D.C.

Eligible veterans wishing to receive these awards should forward their request with a copy of their discharge papers, DD Form 214, or other service record detailing their service in the Philippines to:

Defense and Armed Forces
Affairs Office
Embassy of the Philip-
pines

(Veterans Affairs Section)
1600 Massachusetts Ave.
Washington, DC 20036

For further information, call (202)467-9409 or fax (202)467-9437.

FRANK DOERR (I 5th RCT Hq. 3rd Bn. to P & A Plat. 4/51-4/52) 1619 Butano Dr., Milpitas CA 95035 sends in his dues AND dues for

ROBERT F. OTTE
947 John St.,
Covington KY 41016.

"Bob recently contacted me after he joined the 5th RCT assoc. We have been in touch for the past few months Bob and myself were in the same platoon in Korea '51-'52. As he is disabled due to severe health problems he is unable to attend any reunions.

"If anyone from the 3rd Bn. of the 5th RCT could see their way clear to possibly drop a card or letter to Bob, I'm sure he would greatly appreciate same."

HAROLD W. GOLNICK (Hq. & Hq. Btry. 13th FA '49-'51) looking for members of 13th FA '49-51 Japan and Korea. Please call or write: **HAROLD GOLNICK**, 506 Ogemaw, Grayling MI 49738, (517-348-9418) or **ALLEN R. SHARP**, Townhouse S., FM Road 1845, Apt. 307, Longview TX 75603 (903-758-2554).

Robert L. Heath (34th-M & NAS 11/46-2/48) teletype oper. is at 1095 Plantation Dr. #32 F Little River, SC 29566 Ph 803-393-1158 Retired.



Seated:

**Mrs. Wiggins, Mrs. Peters, Mrs Hostetter, Mrs. Currie
Mrs. Finger, & Mrs Long**

Standing:

**Bruce Price, Charles Wiggins, Walt Peters, Doc Hostetter
Sam Fingers, Mrs Heiland, Harry Heiland, & Billy Long**



**Past President Bob Ender
Joe McKeon recipient of
this years Verbick award!**

SEND IN YOUR DUES NOW WHILE IT IS ON YOUR MIND

I was about one thousand yards beyond the pill boxes, when I remarked to my buddy beside me, "How did we get here?" The last we both remembered was Red Newman's "Follow Me". Red Newman was a credit to his training at West Point and his heritage and the record should be set straight.

While I have my thoughts rolling, I believe I will have to set the record straight on General Douglas MacArthur. I discussed this with Red Newman at an earlier convention and he agreed that the General MacArthur "Memoirs" were incorrect.

The General did not come in on the fourth wave. Maybe it was the fourth hour?

I remember going back to the beach after setting up the regimental switchboard, for more rolls of wire. I was in the Hq-Hq Co 34th Infantry wire platoon - my wire chief was Sgt. Hanford Rants. We went back to the beach and we saw General MacArthur practicing his landing from the barge, with all the camera men on the beach and the microphones set up for the General to make his "I have returned" speech. By this time all the heavy equipment had already been unloaded on the beach!

Thank you for allowing me to correct these inaccuracies.

Gennaro (Gerry) Fischetti, Hq-Hq Co.-34th Inf. (43-46)



Membership Chairman Wally Kuhner

The New
secretary, treasurer
Dutch Nelsen

MURPHY'S LAWS OF COMBAT

1. You are not Superman.
2. If it's stupid but works, it isn't stupid.
3. Don't look conspicuous - it draws fire.
4. When in doubt, empty your magazine.
5. Never share a foxhole with anyone braver than you are.
6. Never forget your weapon was made by the lowest bidder.
7. If your attack is going really well, it's an ambush.
8. No plan survives the first contact intact.
9. All five second grenade fuses will burn down in three seconds.
10. Try to look unimportant because the bad guys may be low on ammo.
11. If you are forward of your position, the artillery will fall short.
12. The enemy diversion you are ignoring is the main attack.
13. The important things are always simple.
14. The simple things are always hard.
15. The easy way is always mined.
16. If you are short of everything except enemy, you are in combat.
17. When you have secured an area, don't forget to tell the enemy.
18. Incoming fire has the right of way.
19. Friendly fire - isn't.
20. If the enemy is in range - "So Are You".
21. No combat ready unit has ever passed inspection.
22. Beer math is: 2 beers x 37 men = 49 cases.
23. Things that must be put together to work, usually can't be shipped together.
24. Radio's will fail as soon as you need fire support desperately.
25. Anything you do can get you shot - including doing nothing.
26. Tracers work both ways.
27. The only thing more accurate than incoming enemy fire is incoming friendly fire.
28. Make it tough for the enemy to get in and you can't get out.
29. When both sides are convinced that they are about to lose, they are both right.
30. Murphy was a GRUNT.

Beetle Bailey



KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL ADVISORY BOARD

Office of the Executive Director

U.S. Department of the Interior, Main Building

18th & C Streets, NW, Room 7424

Washington, DC 20240-9997

202-208-3561

Fax 202-208-3459

DEDICATION COMMITTEE -- JULY 26-30, 1995

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 19, 1994

TO: Kenwood Ross

FROM: Bob Hansen, Executive Director

SUBJ: Dedication Briefing Meeting

1. Dedication of the Korean War Veterans Memorial in the Nation's Capital will be held on July 27, 1995. The official activities will occur July 26 through the 30th in accordance with the attached schedule.
2. You and/or the official representative(s) of the 24th Infantry Division Association are invited to attend a briefing for all veterans organizations to be given in the Auditorium of the Department of the Interior Building at the above address. The auditorium is located at the "C" Street entrance, and is to the right as you enter. For more specific directions call Brian Fiffe on 1-800-KORVETS. Also, please let Brian know who is coming.
3. This briefing will be held at 10:00am on Tuesday, October 18th and will last about two hours.
4. The agenda will include the following:
 - Status of the Memorial
 - Introduction of the Event Management Contractor, WorldTravel Partners
 - Souvenir Dedication Passports
 - Hotel arrangements while in DC
 - Travel arrangements to and from DC
 - Local transport and parking while in DC
 - Logistics for visiting the Memorial while in DC

**THE KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL
IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:



Brian Fiffe 1-800-KORVETS

**KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL
DEDICATION, JULY 26-30, 1995**

Washington, DC — The long awaited Dedication Ceremony for the Korean War Veterans Memorial in the Nation's Capital is now officially scheduled for July 26 through July 30, 1995. Over 500,000 veterans and their families from all over the world are expected to attend the Dedication Ceremony. All living Presidents are expected to attend as well as the President of the Republic of Korea, Kim Young Sam. The Ambassadors to the U.S. from all 21 Nations who supported the UN resolution opposing the North Korean invasion of the South will be in attendance as will many other foreign and domestic dignitaries. All veterans, their families and friends are invited.

The Korean War Veteran has never had a proper welcome home. In July, 1953, the American public was tired of the continued carnage after 2 long years of negotiations that eventually ended in an armistice — an armistice which then was not considered a clear victory. However today, that *armistice*, is recognized as one of the beginning steps in the demise of communism witnessed throughout the world. That is great cause for celebration and the reason for the theme for Dedication: "FREEDOM IS NOT FREE... A VICTORY REMEMBERED."

This long awaited and much deserved Memorial for the Korean War Veteran is a proud salute to all who answered their country's call for the cause of freedom.

There will be a parade, a mass muster, memorial services, fireworks, a major presidential entertainment gala at the Kennedy Center, a film festival, and academic seminars. Because every penny donated to the Memorial (\$17 Million) has gone solely to its design and construction, we are now gratefully accepting additional donations, specifically earmarked to fund these dedication activities. Please mail checks to:

**Korean War Veterans Memorial Advisory Board
18th & C Streets, Room 7424
Washington, DC 20240-9997**

Special discounts have been established for those veterans coming to Dedication who make their travel and hotel reservations early. Please call 1-800-KORVETS, or 1-800-567-8387 for more information.

- **Official Events**
 - Wreath Laying
 - Dedication
 - Muster
 - Parade, Fireworks
 - Memorial Services
- **Other Events**
 - Tent City
 - Film Festival
 - Entertainment
 - Official State visit for President Kim Young Sam
 - Expected attendance and crowd control
 - Your organization's private events
 - Ongoing events/activities of interest in DC
 - Veterans locator data base while in DC
 - Access to Memorial Honor Roll
 - VIP's
 - Your questions...

5. Coffee and doughnuts will be available.
6. There will be plenty of time for questions and everyone will receive handouts summarizing the main points.
7. Every Korean War veteran attending Dedication, and their family and friends, are all special to us and are all VIP's. This is YOUR dedication and your victory celebration, the celebration you never had.
8. The theme is "*Freedom is Not Free ... A Victory Remembered.*" A related objective, (a by-product of the dedication events), is to communicate to the world that the Armistice that ended the armed hostilities in Korea was one of the beginning steps in the demise of Communism.
9. All veterans are invited to attend. No tickets are required. Personal invitation will NOT be issued. All veterans are invited to attend the dedication.

X X X

KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

DEDICATION — Schedule of Activities

July 26 - 30, 1995

	Wednesday July 26	Thursday July 27	Friday July 28	Saturday July 29	Sunday July 30
AM	ALL DAY Check In, Register, Reunite with "Buddies."	Wreath Laying, Tomb of the Unknowns, Lighting Freedom Torch	Visit the Memorial	Memorial Church Services - all denominations, Visit the Memorial	Check out of hotel, Visit the Memorial
PM	ALL DAY Check In, Register, Reunite with "Buddies."	DEDICATION**	Mass Muster,*** Joint Chiefs Inspection	Parade, Visit the Memorial	Visit the Memorial
EVE	ALL DAY Check In, Register, Reunite with "Buddies."	Visit the Memorial	Visit the Memorial	Major Entertainment**** and Fireworks, Visit the Memorial	Visit the Memorial
Ongoing	receptions of units, hospitality suites, Mall Activities *	Mall Activities * Entertainment, tours, Visit the memorial	Mall Activities* Entertainment, tours, Visit the memorial	Mall Activities * Entertainment, tours, Visit the memorial	Visit the Memorial

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* Mall Activities include tents to visit from all Veterans Organizations, The Department of Veterans Affairs, Other Government agencies, Memorabilia sales, Mess tent, Master Registration Log, Embassy Tents, 24 hour vigil reading the names of KIA/MIA/POW, first aid, general information and command post, reception area, meeting and greeting and reuniting with buddies, the Memorial will be available for visitors 24 hours a day in order to accommodate everyone, only about 2000/hour can flow through the Memorial so schedule your time accordingly. Embassies of those members of the United Nations who participated with the United States and The Republic of Korea may be open for tours. (Australia, Belgium, Canada, Columbia, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Greece, India, Italy, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Netherlands, Norway, Philippines, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom.)

** Because of the huge crowds (over 500,000 veterans and their families) anticipated, the actual Dedication ceremonies will be short (about 30 minutes in length), there will be jumbo TV screens on the Mall so everyone will be able to see, but there will be no seating available, standing room only. All living Presidents will be invited.

*** Mass Muster - ceremonial activation of those units who bear battle honors from Korea and not now on the active rolls. It is anticipated that the colors of these units will be uncased and join the active units who bear battle honors from Korea at this muster and stand for inspection by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

**** The Major entertainment show will include such celebrities as Bob Hope, Rosemary Clooney, Ed McMahon, Mickey Rooney, Gregory Peck, Frank Sinatra and many others, pending their availability. There will be an ongoing international film festival showing movies of the Korean War. Entertainment troupes from Korea and all nations who fought under the UN Flag will also participate.



Sing in the shower. Treat everyone you meet like you want to be treated. Watch a sunrise at least once a year. Leave the toilet seat in the down position. Never refuse homemade brownies. Strive for excellence, not perfection. Plant a tree on your birthday. Learn three clean jokes. Return borrowed vehicles with the gas tank full. Compliment three people every day. Never waist an opportunity to tell someone you love them. Leave everything a little better than you found it. Keep it simple. Think big thoughts but relish small pleasures. Become the most positive and enthustastic person you know. Floss your teeth. Ask for a raise when you feel you've earned it. Be forgiving of yourself and others. Overtip breakfast waitresses. Say "thank you" a lot. Say "please" a lot. Avoid negative people. Buy whatever kids are selling on card tables in their front yards. Wear polished shoes. Remember other people's birthdays. Commit yourself to constant improvement. Carry jumper cables in your trunk. Have a firm handshake. Send lots of Valentine cards. Sign them, "Someone who thinks you're terrific." Look people in the eye. Be the first to say "Hello" Use the good silver. Return all things you borrow. Make new friends but cherish the old ones. Keep secrets. Sing in a choir. Plant flowers every spring. Have a dog. Always accept an outstretched hand. Stop blaming others. Take responsibility for every area of your life. Wave at kids on school buses. Be there when people need you. Feed a stranger' expired parking meter. Don't expect life to be fair. Never underestimate the power of love. Drink champagne for no reason at all. Live your life as an exclamation not as an explanation. Don't be afraid to say, "I made a mistake" Don't be afraid to say, "I don't know" Compliment even small improvements. Keep your promises (no matter what) Marry only for love. Rekindle old friendships. Count your blessings. Call your mother

**** Courtsey:- BACIL STEED (Canberra.Australia.)

s/ Bacil Steed

Tel. (06) 245-6193 [24 hrs.]

Contributed by: Bacil C. Steed
2 Wade Street
Watson, Act 2602

THOUGHTS TO PONDER ON !

Australia
24th Recon '49-'51
A-78th Trk Bn '51

I sent a radio-gram to Bacil on the article. Bob



BG Jack L. Higgons ('41-'52? 24th Divarty)
4205 Jasper Ave Las Vegas, Nv. 89108
Was in Leyte Invasion, Korea ;51-'52
Life Member



Frank Wilczak



President Vince Vella

'D-Day' in Philippines was one to remember

After celebrating the 50th anniversary of D-Day in Europe, we should remember there were also some "D-Days" in the Pacific Theater of World War II, Guadalcanal, Iwo Jima, Tarawa, to mention a few. The one I remember most vividly was the landing on Leyte on Oct. 20, 1944.

As a 20-year-old combat infantryman, I was considered a seasoned veteran after surviving several New Guinea campaigns. We were still hunkered down on Red Beach barely 150 yards from the water's edge when I saw Gen. Douglas MacArthur wade ashore surrounded by a few dozen of his staff and the news media.

He subsequently made his famous "I have returned" speech. It took several more bloody months to secure the island, with related casualties.

In memory of the many fallen comrades, I would like all peace-loving people to remember Oct. 20, 1944, the day that the liberation of the Filipino people began in World War II.

— ERIC DILLER
Redondo Beach



First V. President Jim Hill
Past President Vince Gagliardo
New President Vince Vella



*11th Airborne Division
Association*

8984 N. Agate Place
Tucson, Arizona 85741



Dear Editor:

Sir: As membership chairman for the 11th Airborne Division Association, I would deeply appreciate it if you could please place the following articles in your paper so that we may reach all ex-members of our division. Request is made as a public service.

The 11th Airborne Division Association is looking for all ex-veterans of the division starting from activation in 1942 until deactivation 1 July 1958. Again, members of the 11th Air Assault Division 1962 to 1965 at Fort Benning, GA.

Membership in the association is open to all ex-veterans of the above units. If you served in any capacity you should contact Pete Katz 11th Airborne Association, 8984 N. Agate Place, Tucson AZ 85741; Phone 602-744-2736. Our membership chairman will send you information on membership and our next reunion in Nashville, TN, 2-6 July 1995.

Pete Katz
Membership Chairman

Editor's message

We will attempt to publish the Taro Leaf as did Ken, who has done a tremendous and a monumental job that should have been performed by a battery of the members.

Thank you Ken for all of those hours of dedication to the Taro Leaf which you and Beverly gave so much.

We (I and the other Associate Editors) hope to build on the solid foundation that you and Beverly laid and nurtured through out the many years.

Our goal is to equal the standards you have set not, to surpass them. There are not enough words or space in the Taro Leaf to do praise to you and Beverly. I for one hold you in the highest regards.

Bob
Bob Lawhon

To Bob Lawhon
Rt. 2, Box 711
Proctorville, Oh. 45669

24th INFANTRY DIVISION
ASSOCIATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP _____

UNIT _____

WIFE'S NAME _____

Tell us about yourself: _____

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW
YEAR !**

Two-war veteran shares lessons from the trenches

By Darrin Sanger

28th PAD

Retired COL Floyd R. Martin experienced many of this country's most significant military campaigns and received some of the Army's most prestigious awards during his 34-year tour of service.

Through the years of leading soldiers and later, a civilian looking in, Martin said he's learned "a lot." He passed on some of his knowledge and insight to soldiers of 593rd Corps Support Group while speaking at the American Lake Club March 20.

During the conference, he said he wanted to place emphasis on soldiers' efforts toward accomplishing missions and the importance of performing at their individual potential. "I think if a soldier, or an officer for that matter, does the best he can do, no matter the outcome, I think he will feel more confident and satisfied with himself and live a healthier and happier life," Martin said.

Sharing the memories

He also shared several of his most memorable, learning experiences he gained while serving in World War II and the Korean War. Martin's most momentous battle in his military career was his first taste of combat as the executive officer of historical Task Force Smith during the war in Korea. He learned what it was like to be outnumbered, outgunned and ultimately, unprepared.

"My most memorable moment, I guess, was Task Force Smith, our first battle near Osan, Korea, July 5, 1950," he said. "That was my first day of combat. Here we sat on these little hills with two companies and here comes the Koreans," he added. "Our weapons weren't adequate to stop them and ultimately we were compelled to withdraw."

The lesson he learned in Task Force Smith was a valuable

one. Preparation for any battle is key.

"Don't send troops in to the field inadequately armed and



Floyd R. Martin

However, before he fought in Korea, Martin took his weapon in hand in World War II. In the Korean War, he experienced the start of a war. In World War II, Martin experienced the end of a war. While in the Aleutian Islands as commander of the 53rd Infantry Regiment, Martin remembered what it was like to hear the news of "D-Day."

"I remember we were happy to see that we (Allied Forces) were opening a front in Europe," Martin explained. "We were happy a landing had been made and the war was coming to a close."

Martin retired in 1960. Since then, he's done several public speaking events for Army units and noticed differences between the Army of today and the Army he served in 34 years ago.

"I think today's soldiers are more knowledgeable and have better education," he said.

not well trained," Martin advised. "The lack of communications equipment and inadequate weapons were our downfalls in Korea at that time.

"Always take care of your men," he added. "It's always important for a leader to make sure his men have the best equipment, living accommodations and training they can receive."

"For the most part, the Army's means of training is better than what we had."

Because of Martin's war-filled encounters over the years, he's been recognized. Martin has earned the Purple Heart, Silver and Bronze Stars for valor, the Combat Infantryman's Badge and the Army Commendation Medal. All are special, he said, with their own memories.

"I received the Silver Star medal when my battalion (1st Battalion, 21st Infantry) made an assault crossing of the Naktong River (Korea) in 1950," Martin said. "We continued to move north even after we broke the back of the North Korean Army."

"I'm really most proud of the Combat Infantry Badge," Martin added. "To receive that, you have to be in combat and really live the life of an infantryman."

Concerns on today's Army

Living that kind of life may be the reason why he's against some of today's changes that are occurring in the Army, he said. His biggest concern is the current draw-down and its dangers.

"I think we're drawing down too quickly," Martin said. "I know we don't need as many soldiers as we did 10 years ago, but there's too many bad guys in this world and we can't pinpoint them. We don't know where or when another Saddam Hussein or the next Task Force Smith will occur."

His granddaughter, CPT Lauren Wilson, commander of HHD, 80th Ordnance Battalion, arranged the conference between Martin and the soldiers.

Martin currently resides in Tucker, Ga., with his wife Helen. "I'm 83 years old," he said with a chuckle. "I'm not doing much of anything."

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 Ltc. 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 an event occurred in Vietnam that stirred emotions surrounding the last 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-



Sat. Aug. 27, 1994
Lowell, Mass.

Dear Ken:

Chuck Flanagan and his wife Helen, from Holyoke Mass. came to visit me and my wife Claire, here in Lowell.

We figured that we were not able to be in New Orleans in September, so the next best thing was to be together, after not seeing each other since the reunion at West Point.

Chuck and I took basic together at Camp Croft S.C. in 1943,. Then we stayed together via Fort Meade MD. Charlotte Slip, New Orleans (Or Chalmette Louisiana,)-Camp Stoneham Ca. and then to Milny Bay via the transformed Luxury Liner Lurline,. Then to Goodenough Island where we were separated. Chuck went to A.T. Co. of the 34th, and I went to Cannon Co. of the 21th,.

Our very Mini reunion only lasted about five hours. But rest assured we reminisced continuously all of that time. These folks are fine people and it was a pleasure entertaining them. Sure hope that we see them again soon.

I'm enclosing two photos that maybe you could use in the 'Taro Leaf'!

Would appreciate it if these pictures were returned to me after their use,
Hope one of them is good enough to use.

Sincerely:

Louis C. Duhamel

Louis C. Duhamel

509 Wentworth Ave.

Lowell, Mass. 01852

P.S. I gave the wooden picture frame from Palo Leyte, to Chuck to be delivered to you. Sorry it took so long. In fact I had forgotten about it. But believe me when I say that all of our intention were honorable.



Helen Hostetter

CG Joseph De Fransisco, Wife Lynn



**Frank Wilczak, Dutch Nelsen, John Hummer Wally Kuhner
Chaplin Joe Hofrichter, Ed Farmer**



KOREA, THE FORGOTTEN MEN

The forgotten war
they call it
In the face
of you good men
We'll pretend it
never happened
and never speak
of it again.

We'll forget the 54 thousand
killed
The hundred thousand
wounded or maimed
We'll cut it out
of our history books
And never speak
of it again.

But there are nearly
8 thousand missing
And the families
remember their names
And nearly a million
that served there
That came home
and were never
the same
To pretend it never happened
And never speak
of it again.

Finally, some 40 years
later
We stand and salute
you men
We'll raise a flag
And drink a toast
To wars forgotten, and then
We'll welcome you home
And shake your hands
It's ok for hugs and tears
Then we'll hang our heads
in humble shame
Cause it took
Some 40 years

It's time that we said
"Thank you"
For what you did
back then
To say "Welcome Home" and
"God Bless You"
Then to speak again and again
Of the honorable men
Who fought that war
Never, to be
forgotten again.

Welcome Home!

Paul Stewart Dumsch
D Trp 17th Cav
199th Lt. inf. Bde.
Vietnam 68-69
Copyright 94

559th QM Bn. sent to help in Guantanamo

By Spec. Matthew Wymer

Patriot Staff Writer

The 559th Quartermaster Battalion, 24th Corps Support Group at Hunter Army Airfield continued deploying a number of soldiers to Guantanamo Bay Naval Base, Cuba on Tuesday to provide humanitarian relief for Cuban and Haitian migrants detained there.

The group followed 2nd platoon, 512th Quartermaster Company, a tactical water distribution system unit of the 559th which sent about 60 soldiers to the base, according to reports.

Their equipment, including 10 miles of six-inch, above-ground water line and rubber bladders which hold 50,000 gallons, was transported to the port of Beaumont, Texas to be loaded on ships for movement to Guantanamo, the reports said.

The mission of the 512th QM Co. will be to provide water to 15 migrant camps.

The 559th began deploying Thursday, including transporting 15 Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Units and related equipment to carry out their mission, said a 24th CSG official.

About 80 more soldiers are scheduled to leave in less than a week, said the official.

Anthony Corio Jr. of 10131 W. Warren, Dearborn, Mi was looking for a Thomas Justice of Boyd Co. Ky., I run through Boyd Co. at various times and I will try to locate Mr. Justice Via Amateur Radio of which I belong, I will publish any results. Bob Lawhon, KB8PIB Rt. 2, Box 711 Proctorville, Oh. 45669 Ph. 614-886-6935

ON THE GROUND

Who's there? 47 units deploy to Haiti

By Paulette V. Walker
Times staff writer

WASHINGTON — Nearly 47 Army units from around the country have or will be deployed to Haiti to help keep the peace as the island nation's government changes hands.

Army officials said that when all is said and done, up to 15,000 American military personnel — most of them Army soldiers — will occupy the small Caribbean nation.

Soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y., and the 18th Airborne Corps from Fort Bragg, N.C., make up the bulk of the 8,000-member American military force now in Haiti.

MP units now priority

Meanwhile, military police (MP) units have moved up on the priority list to deploy, said Army spokesman Maj. Ray Whitehead. This follows President Clinton's statement Sept. 21 that the United States would not tolerate violence against Haitians by their local police force.

One thousand Army military police, some already there, will be deployed to provide security, said Whitehead. Most of them will come from the 18th Military Police Brigade and the 503d Military Police Battalion, both from Fort Bragg, N.C., and the 519th Military Police Battalion, Fort Polk, La.

As of Sept. 23, 200 soldiers from that

unit's 204th Military Police Company at Fort Polk were still waiting to leave.

Additional forces in Haiti will include military police companies from Fort Drum; Fort Campbell, Ky.; Fort Lee, Va.; and Fort Benning, Ga. The 504th Army National Guard Military Police Company, Yayo, Puerto Rico, is also on alert.

Fort Stewart's contingent

About 500 soldiers from the 3d Battalion, 15th Infantry Regular, Fort Stewart, Ga., left on two C-141 airplanes from Hunter Airfield Sept. 21 for Haiti.

They will join other soldiers from the 87th Battalion Corps and 110th Quartermaster Co. — also based at Fort Stewart — who will lead support to combat units.

Fort Stewart Army officials said the 87th left Georgia Sept. 14. They will provide fuel support, supplies, housing and food. The 110th also left Sept. 14 and will provide maintenance, fuel support and other supplies.

Whitehead added that the 7th Transportation group of Fort Eustis, Va., has been in Haiti for a while, running the port in Port-au-Prince.

"There will also be 250 to 300 soldiers from various detachments, companies and platoons who will go down," Whitehead said. "They will be made up of quartermasters, maintenance folks, truck drivers."

Haiti operations

Army forces deployed or to be deployed

10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), Fort Drum, N.Y.
1st Corps Support Command, Fort Bragg, N.C.
66th Engineer Battalion, Fort Drum, N.Y.
16th Military Police Brigade, Fort Bragg, N.C.
503d Military Police Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.
519th Military Police Battalion, Fort Polk, La.
10th Aviation Brigade, Fort Drum, N.Y.
2-25 Attack Helicopter Battalion, Fort Drum, N.Y.
3-25 Assault Helicopter Battalion, Fort Drum, N.Y.
2-159 Medium Lift Helicopter Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.
20th Engineer Brigade, Fort Bragg, N.C.
92d Engineer Battalion, Fort Stewart, Ga.
27th Engineer Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.
37th Engineer Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.
325th Military Intelligence Brigade, Fort Bragg, N.C.
110th Military Intelligence Battalion, Fort Drum, N.Y.
224th Military Intelligence Battalion, Hunter Army Airfield, Ga.
319th Military Intelligence Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.
519th Military Intelligence Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.
11th Signal Brigade, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.
10th Signal Battalion, Fort Drum, N.Y.
63d Signal Battalion, Fort Gordon, Ga.
710th Combat Support (Maintenance) Battalion, Fort

Drum, N.Y.
1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment
1st Battalion, 22d Infantry Regiment, Fort Drum, N.Y.
2d Battalion, 22d Infantry Regiment, Fort Drum, N.Y.
1st Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, Fort Drum, N.Y.
10th Forward Support Battalion, Fort Drum, N.Y.
2d Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, Fort Drum, N.Y.
2d Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, Fort Drum, N.Y.
210th Forward Support Battalion, Fort Drum, N.Y.
2d Material Movement Center, Fort Bragg, N.C.
330th Material Movement Center, Fort Bragg, N.C.
46th Corps Support Group, Fort Bragg, N.C.
264th Corps Support Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.
548th Corps Support Battalion, Fort Drum, N.Y.
7th Transportation Group, Fort Eustis, Va.
10th Terminal Service Battalion, Fort Eustis, Va.
18th Finance Group, Fort Bragg, N.C.
33d Finance Command, Fort Drum, N.Y.
18th Personnel Service Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.
44th Medical Brigade, Fort Bragg, N.C.
55th Medical Group, Fort Bragg, N.C.
28th Combat Support Hospital, Fort Bragg, N.C.
261st Area Support Medical Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.
32d Medical Logistic Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.
56th Medical Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.

Three soldiers at Fort Bragg are being deployed to run the satellite imagery program and install terminals so the Army can conduct teleconferences from Haiti.

"It's a NASA operation that we've been testing in the military for a year," Col. Paul Semmens, deputy commander of Army Space Command, told the Associated Press.

Space Command also runs the Army's communications satellites and is sending

two lightweight weather receivers to track storms in the Caribbean.

Many units are on standby. At Fort Carson, 400 engineers from the 52d Engineer Battalion have been on deployment since Sept. 14. When deployed, they will be building roads, bridges and buildings for the occupation force.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

UNITS IN HAITI

1st Bn. 10th Inf. Regt.
from Ft. Drum, N.Y. Part of
10th Mountain Div. at
Ft. Drum.

224th Military Intelligence
Bn. from Ft. Stewart.

3rd Bn., 15th Inf. Regt.
87th Bn. Corps.
110th Quartermaster Co.,
all from Ft. Stewart.



Louis C. Griffi
670 Ponce de Leon
Caribbean Towers #524
San Juan, P.R. 00907

Lou sends his best wishes to Doc Hostetter, A fine gentleman and a good doctor. It was an honor to serve under his guidance.

Best wishes to all 24th of WWII and all others.

A special Best wishes to those who were with me on Lake Ronbebar, behind enemy lines for 72 days. That is west of Hollandia in northern New Guinea.

Maj. Gen. Horace G. Taylor, has been nominated for appointment to lieutenant general and reassignment as commanding general of III Corps and Fort Hood, Texas. He is Deputy Commander-in-Chief/Chief of Staff, Forces Command, Fort McPherson, Ga.

Taylor, 53, has a bachelor's degree in physical education from Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, Tenn., and a master's degree in political science from Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan. He attended

the Medical Field Service School Basic Course, the Infantry School Basic and Advanced Courses, the Army Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

During Vietnam, Taylor served as an operations officer with 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) and later as an executive officer with 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile). Recently, he was commanding general of the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Stewart, Ga.

Decorations and badges include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device and four Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Medals and Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device.



JOE HOFFRICTER (LEFT)

information out of the 'ville' had been accurate as-often-as-not, for some reason, I believed her. Wishful thinking perhaps..." As it turned out, "very, very shortly," *mommasan* 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 Lt. Rocco Negriz 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. Negriz. "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."

IN HONOR

JAMES A. KEMPER
died August 30, 1994
Was B 19th WW II
His widow, Erma, at 109 Hill-
crest Dr., Washington IL
61571
Reported by LEE LIST

GEORGE W. RUTLEDGE
died August 18, 1994
was 5th RCT '50
His widow, Kathryn, at
713 E. Empire St., Bloomington
IL 61701
Reported by LEE LIST



Morales Sanchez Salvador (19th A Co. '52-'55)
Dues Received and the change of Address.
New Address is PO Box 148 Aquada, P.R.00002

Reginald Le Blanc (19th C Co. 1-41-44)
Received Dues. Reggie is at 170 Hallead Rd
Yale, Mi.48097

Shorty Estabrock of B 19th Signed up
Benjamin A. Perez (K 34th ca 41)
10 Sage Hill Ln. Laguna Hills, Ca.92653
Ben considers it a good day when he is in it
ED. good thoughts Ben.

Rec.dues from Edwin Ryan (C 21st) couldn't make
NO this time, Had hoped to see Earl Lee and others.
On page 7 last issue the unknown soldier may be
"angel" truly was that took care of men, foraged
and traded for food. Solier's soldier.

Page 19 Remembers Maj.Stafford as a YD and Lt.
Page 31 remembers James Jack.

Nilo Hyytinen (11th FA '44-'46) sent his dues.
Nilo is at 13290 Hedge Dr. Reno,Nv.89511.

Received dues from
Fred Eberhart.
we are sorry about the
accident, hope that you
are better now. thanks for
the good picture of you
and your lovely wife.
Frank and Helen were
married Nov.18,1944.Happy
Anniversary?
3 children,8 grandchildre
1 g.g child

Frank is at 711 N.
Erie St. Wheeling,W.V.
(B-3rd Eng. '40-'45

Received dues from
Harold S. Wood
14 Scullen Dr.
Trenton,NJ 08620-2953
He also sent the patch of
the 71st Div.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND AHAPPY NEW YEAR!



DID YOU WEAR ONE OF THESE PATCHES?

If you served in one of these Army units, would you like to meet former comrades?
Obtain souvenirs? Read about your old outfit? And/or attend the reunion?

Join Your Army Unit Association!

Write or call for more information and an application.



**Society of the
1st Division**

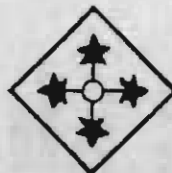
5 Montgomery Ave.
Philadelphia, PA 19118
215-836-4841

**1st Cavalry
Division Assn.**

302 N. Main St.
Copperas Cove, TX 76522
1-800-234-9313
9:00 - 5:00 CST



**2nd (Indian Head)
Div. Assn., Inc.**
National Headquarters
P. O. Box 460
Buda, TX 78610



**4th Inf.
Div. Assn.**
Ralph Lingert
Financial Secretary
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Sarasota, FL 34242



**24th Inf. Div.
Assn.**
120 Maple St.
Springfield, MA 01103
413-733-3194



**25th Inf. Div.
Assn.**
P.O. Box 340
Flourtown, PA 19031



70th Div. Assn.
Louis Hoyer
5825 Horton
Mission, KS 66202
913-722-2024



**82nd Abn. Div.
Assn.**
5459 Northcutt Place
Dayton, OH 45414
513-898-5977



**83rd Inf. Div.
Assn., Inc.**
36 E. Border Rd.
Malden, MA 02148
617-322-2754



**99th Inf. Div.
Assn.**
P. O. Box 99
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316-382-3475



**101st Abn. Div.
Assn.**
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615-337-4103

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Dutch and All Members!

Feb. 1, 1995

May 1, 1995

Aug. 1, 1995

Nov. 1, 1995

If the Taro Leaf is to be published on time the above dates are the last days that any revisions can be made.

This will give me time for assembly of the issues and mailing to the publisher. If the revisions to the mailing labels are sent to me or to the publisher at approximately the same time then the Taro Leaf will be mailed out on time barring a delay by the publisher.

PLEASE ADHERE TO THIS SCHEDULE!

Thank You

Bob

Bob Lawhon, Editor

Dear Sir

I'm writing this letter in hope you may remember my father-S//Sg Warren J. Corbin who was with the 24th Infantry, 21st Cannon Co. Regiment. In the P.I. during WWII. I am very interested in any help you can give me, about my father's Division or Company. Any information about him or the battles he was in. I received your name from Mr. Kenwood Ross.

I would appreciate any help you could give me.

Thank you

Douglas A. Corbin

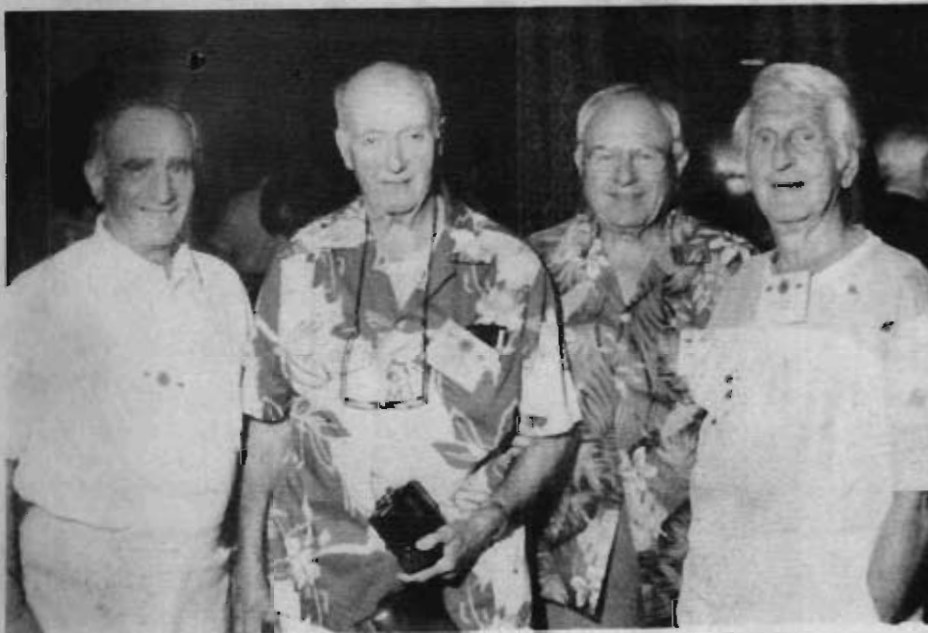
P.O. Box 2357

Stamford, Ct. 00906

Ph. 203-358-0257

continued on next page

Alright all WWII Vets can you help this fellow!



L-R Tom Brodderick
Phil Hostetter
Tom Hickman

MAYON Left
UNKNOWN?

FROM NEW ORLEANS

Two Corbins Serve In Navy; One In Army



S/SGT. WARREN J. CORBIN



S1/C JOSEPH J. CORBIN



S1/C EDWIN L. CORBIN

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Corbin, 123 Main St., have reason to be proud of the record their three sons, Warren, Joseph and Edwin, have made in the service of their country.

Warren, who is with the 21st Infantry Division in the Philippines, has been awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroism during the fight on Luzon. The citation accompanying the award states that Corbin, as a member of a self-propelled gun crew attached to an infantry assault battalion, repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire to move the gun positions where it would give maximum support to the infantry.

"As a result of his heroism, numerous Jap strongpoints were destroyed and the infantry advance facilitated," the citation said.

A recent dispatch, sent to the Advocate by the Public Relations Office of the 24th Infantry Division in the Philippines, tells of part of Warren's record with that outfit.

"The crack 21st Infantry Cannon Company of Staff Sergeant Warren J. Corbin, Stamford, is credited with destroying 500 Jap gun emplacements and helping free 2,200 prisoners on the road to Manila.

"It was a 28-day operation, covering 120 miles of jungled mountains, during which Corbin and his comrades smashed fanatical resistance so rapidly that Nip Forces were completely off balance and disorganized.

"In one position," Corbin said, "we were caught in the cross fire of three five-inch Jap naval guns. The Nips had removed a lot of armament like this from sunken ships and had mounted it in covered concrete emplacements with walls seven feet thick.

"We knocked out all three with our 81's. One of our tanks

destroyers would draw the fire while the others put their shells point blank into the emplacements' eight inch openings." Corbin's platoon spearheaded an infantry company's attack to free prisoners held by the Nips. The assault was so rapid that it demoralized the guards and every prisoner was freed unharmed. Japs fled to the hills.

"If we figure five Nips were killed in each one of those emplacements," said Corbin, "that makes 2,500 for us. Not a bad score. We lost only three or four of our guns the whole time, two of them by mines."

Warren, who has been overseas for nearly three and a half years, entered service on March 15, 1941, while employed as a painter. His wife, the former Lillian Lupo, resides at 541 Main St.

S 1/c Joseph Corbin, who enlisted in the Navy in June, 1944, has been on active duty aboard a transport in the Atlantic since October, 1944. He attended Stamford High School and was formerly employed at Electric Specialty, Inc.

S 1/c Edwin Corbin, who enlisted in the Navy in October, 1944, is now stationed at Davis-

ville, R. I. He attended Stamford High School and was formerly employed as a driver.

Douglas A. Corbin, of Box 2357, Stamford CT 06906, is trying to contact anyone who may remember his father, S/Sgt. WARREN J. CORBIN (21st WW II). You might reach Doug at Tel. 203-358-0257.

**NEW
ASSOCIATION
ADDRESS**

TO BE USED IMMEDIATELY!

**24th DIVISION ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 6066**



Anthony Alicknovic (E 34th '41-'46)
was at Fort Jackson and Camp Adair,
Schofield Bks. 208 Holmes St.
Bellefonte, NJ 07193 PH 201
450-8330 . Would like to hear from
anyone.



Cheryl Light & mother-
Stepfather is John Ragland

LOST
 NAMES →



—Fulton Lewis, Jr.

Woman Urges Truman 'Fire' Her GI Son in Korean War

Washington—Out of the hundreds of thousands of letters and telegrams that bombarded Washington as a result of President Truman's firing of Gen. Douglas MacArthur, several thousand came to

Mr. Lewis' articles are presented here as his own viewpoint, not necessarily that of The Press.

my office. One or two seemed to summarize all the resentment in hearts of American fathers and mothers who have youngsters fighting in Korea.

Mrs. Walter H. Jensen of Sioux City, Iowa, unloaded her feelings on Mr. Truman and was kind enough to send along a copy of the telegram to me.

Here it is:

DON'T KILL RATTLESNAKES BY STEPPING ON TAILS.

"Dear Mr. President:

"Since you believe in firing those who do not see eye to eye with you in the way to settle the Korean situation, please fire my son, Marine Pfc. W. I. Jensen. He is one of your so-called marine 'policemen.' He doesn't see any sense of going to Korea, maybe to die, if the source of supply for the Commies is left intact. Out here in these parts we don't kill rattlesnakes by stepping on their tails. Maybe you think my loss and grief will be less if he dies in your 'contained' war than if he dies fighting an all-out war on the commies.

"Please recall Walter at once, as he doesn't believe in your and Dean Acheson's method of fighting. Incidentally, my son was a marine reservist in his second year of pre-law college when you called him up in October, with no delay for him to finish the semester, no tests to gain deferment. He just went in when he was called.

"If my only child dies, don't try to ease your conscience and send me any medals. Since you are an old artillery officer you know what you can do with them. Get Dean Acheson to help you.

WOULDN'T VOTE DEM FOR NEW MINK COAT.

"I send this with full knowledge that you are commander-in-chief but also a vindictive man. But go ahead and dish it out. My son is a marine and can take anything a former army artillery officer can dish out. I just read a magazine article about what a good hater you are. I am a good hater, too.

I wouldn't vote for you again for an \$8,000 pastel blue mink coat.

"Yours, until next election.

"P. S.—Margaret sings here Saturday night, April 21. I thought sacrifice like charity begins at home. Why isn't she in Korea singing for the GIs?

"If they don't like her long-haired singing she can carry bedpans. That doesn't require any special training. Neither does it bring in \$1,500 per bedpan.

"Don't write me any nasty letters as I get riled up about my only kid, too, as well as all the other poor guys in Korea."

DECORATED SOLDIER RETURNS PURPLE HEART.

Joseph S. Winnill, of New York City wrote to Sen. Herbert Lehman (D-NY). Lehman has been busy defending Mr. Truman's action against Gen. MacArthur. Winnill, a purple heart veteran of the Pacific, wrapped up his medal in a little box and mailed it to Lehman. He asked his senator to please return it to President Truman with his thanks.

Haven L. Whiting of Los Angeles wired Mr. Truman in regard to the bomb shelter the president is having built under the White House. Whiting suggested the president rush the job so he would be able to use it right away.

"In view of what is happening in the country since Gen. MacArthur's return to the country it is urgent that you have the bomb shelter ready for occupancy without delay," Whiting advised the president.

Carl T. Jacobson, a disabled veteran from Bradford, Pa., asked Mr. Truman by wire:

"Is ex-Pvt. Harry Vaughan going to present Mrs. MacArthur with a mink coat and the general with a deep freeze? We as disabled veterans are afraid that short-haired gals and long-haired guys at Lafayette square and Acheson will split the commission."

(Copyright, 1951.)

World War II memorial update

To date, \$4.7 million has been raised for construction of the memorial through the sale of commemorative coins. No public monies will be used to build the WWII monument. Commemorative coins will be available from the U.S. Mint only through Dec. 31, 1954. If you are interested in purchasing a coin directly from the Mint, call 1-800-633-8888. Order forms can be obtained by calling 202-225-4146.

The WWII 50th Anniversary Commemorative Coins Act became law in late 1952. The law (PL 103-52), sponsored by Rep. Marcy Mattingly (D-Ohio), authorizing construction of the memorial was signed by President Truman in related news, a World War II Memorial Advisory Board was named this September. Only five of the 12 members appointed are WWII overseas veterans, including famed cartoonist Bill Mauldin.

Army pilot serves 16 of his 28 years with 24th ID

By Spec. Thomas Pape

Hunter Public Affairs Office



After donning his pilot's helmet and gloves, the aviator climbed into the cockpit of the OH-58C Kiowa for what would be his last flight in that aircraft.

Scanning the myriad of lights and gauges on the instrument panel, he commenced conducting the pre-flight checks — something he has done literally a thousand times before.

Flying the Kiowa is but one of many things Master CWO5 Richard Williams, division aviation safety officer, is doing for the last time on the eve of his departure from Hunter Army Airfield after spending 16 of his 28 years in the Army stationed at Hunter in the 24th Infantry Division.

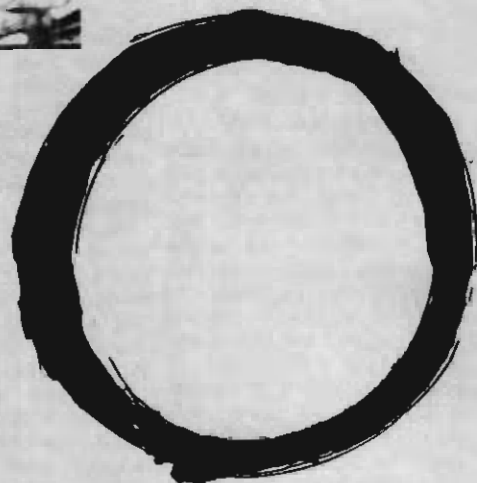
"I'll miss my routine knowing that this is the end for me here, but I've got a good three or four years left in the Army. I don't think that there's a landing zone on Fort Stewart or Hunter that I couldn't find without a map at night and I'll miss that," Williams said.

Williams will probably not spend those three to four years as a pilot, he said.

He enlisted in the Army in 1967 and after serving on other Army posts has been serving the 24th Inf. Div. since 1979, he said.

He made the transition from enlisted air traffic controller to warrant officer pilot after serving a tour in Vietnam.

CONTINUED ON 53



And, of course, it's the 71st Infantry Division insignia.

Any former member of the 71st may obtain information by contacting:

71st Division Association
Kenneth A. Hall, Secy.
8905 Yoder, Rt. 1
Farwell MI 48622

Tel. 517-588-9429

"My first experience with aviation was getting on a helicopter in Vietnam," he said. "I took the flight aptitude test in Basic Training, but I went to Vietnam instead. When I got back, I reapplied and did another tour in Vietnam by air where I flew the Huey UH-1."

Williams now has 5,000 hours of flight time and has flown nearly every non-combat helicopter ranging from the Bell Jet Ranger civilian model to the OH-13 Sioux, UH-1A,B,C,D and H models, and the OH-58 Kiowa, A and C

Master CWO5 Richard Williams looks through his flight book for the last time, after having served with the Victory Division for the past 16 years.

models. Additionally, Williams is certified as a pilot-instructor for the OH-58 series aircraft.

Climbing out of the OH-58 C helicopter after his last night-flight in a U.S. Army aircraft, Williams again reflected: "My main thought was 'is this the last time I'll look down at the Coastal Empire in a U.S. Army helicopter?' I can't say, but there is some kind of finality to it.

His nearly two decades of wearing the Victory Division's taro leaf patch included serving under such division commanders as recently retired four-star generals John Galvin and Norman Schwarzkopf, and Gen. Barry McCaffrey, present commander of the U.S. Army Southern Command.

Of those commanders, Williams was most

impressed with Schwarzkopf.

"He had a very commanding presence," Williams said. "He was a straight shooter with no 'ricochet' shots — right down the middle. Wherever you were at and he was within sight. You knew he was there."

Williams has also seen the division and the installation grow over the years.

"The construction that's taken place is phenomenal. I've seen it turn from a sleepy non-priority division to a front-line, high-priority battle-ready division," he said.

At Hunter, Williams was able to see the division grow with the addition of state-of-the-art equipment and necessary personnel assigned to comprise a complete division, he said.



Memorial Ceremonies at New Orleans

Robert Lawhon
TL Editor

28 October 94

Bob:

Will you please run this in the next TL. Thanks.

America's Forgotten War?

Your read and hear this always in the context of the Korean War. But I wonder if this does not also apply, at least to some degree, to the Pacific campaigns of WWII. Why would I say this? Well, because of October 20th. That, in case you did not know, was the 50th anniversary of the landing at Leyte. Led by McArthur four Army divisions, including the 24th, stormed ashore and began the liberation of the Philippines.

This milestone in world history went almost unnoticed in the American news media. One Association member reports that of four east-coast newspapers only one carried any mention of it at all, and this was two sentences in a one-by-six inch box. Our local Colorado Springs paper did better. It was mentioned in the front section but on page 19, and a lot of the story was about how there was a reenactment of the landing, during which the man acting as McArthur fell into the water. Apparently very, very funny -- a real knee-slapper.

Those of us who were in the Korean War know how you Veterans of that battle, and indeed of the Pacific campaign, must feel. Some years back the anniversary of an important battle in Korea went unnoticed. The President of our Korean War Veterans Association complained to several newspapers and the TV networks. They all told him the same thing, "Its just not newsworthy." It is a bitter pill to swallow.

Dutch Nelsen
Sec/Treas

Thanks



Dutch

LEYTE LANDING: PRELUDE TO VICTORY

Two and a half years
Japanese occupation,
Filipinos, Americans
suffered deprivation;
Desperate, downhearted
victims of isolation;
Famous "I Shall Return"
the only consolation.

Patriotic, brave men of
the resistance movement,
Waiting every moment
word from U.S. government;
Hiding short-wave radio
hope to enjoy freedom;
Addressing the friendly air
"are we in for martyrdom?"

Thanks to Providence
timetable was changed,
Gen. MacArthur's plan accepted
Washington men consented;
September 15, 1944, the date was
President Roosevelt authorized;
MacArthur's Leyte Invasion
October 20, joy to the nation.

Plan, strategy drawn up
actors for Leyte lined up,
MacArthur's American Forces
left New Guinea, October 11th;
Admiral Halsey's 3rd Fleet
mighty Kinkaid's 7th Fleet
Properly equipped this time
victory, success, in mind.

Casts not to be forgotten
Admirals King, Nimitz' men,
Gen. Krueger's brave 6th Army
eager to face the enemy;

Daring Eleventh Airborne
eagle and guide of all,
Australians, Philippines noble
made Leyte Invasion possible.

Plans effectively carried out
enemy defense down to naught,
October 9th invasion started
Japanese fleet intercepted;
Minesweepers leading the team
cleared beaches, deadly mines,
MacArthur's Forces full of beam
landed Leyte, October 20th.

Leyte Theatre turning bright
Ushering in a new light,
Giving in to his heart's delight
MacArthur made his famous wade;
President Osmena, General Romulo
make up the triumvirate,
Popular "Leyte Landing" photo -
snapped by Gae Fallace
Gen. MacArthur's photo guy.

Winston Churchill wrote, said it so
historians confirmed to be so,
Battle of the Philippine Sea
paved the way to victory;
Leyte Landing, now history
greatest naval battle in history,
Exceeds previous naval combats
Battle of Jutland, no match.

MacArthur's pride vindicated
"I Shall Return", documented;
Major turning point in history
LEYTE LANDING - PRELUDE TO HISTORY
Now - its 50th Anniversary

- End -

LINA R. CRUZ
Secretary
Gen. Douglas MacArthur Memorial
Foundation (Philippines)

OLD SOLDIERS NEVER DIE

By Candido A. Matias

(NOTE: With the new version from the Original)

Chorus Old soldiers never die, never die, never die,
Old Soldiers never die, they just fade away.

It was December seven, nineteen forty one,
That Pearl Harbor was bombed which was thoroughly done
By Japanese planes destroying U.S. Armed Forces,
Located in Hawaii at different bases.

On that very same day World War Two started,
Thousands of Filipinos were activated,
At the prime of their youth and in their level best,
To serve the U.S. Armed Forces in the Far East.

Both American and Filipino soldiers,
Were side by side guarding all entrances and piers,
Throughout the Country, Corregidor-Bataan,
In order to deter invaders from Japan.

Chorus Old Soldiers never die, never die, never die,
Old Soldiers never die, they just fade away.

Due to the American unpreparedness,
The Philippines was invaded by Japanese,
Despite hardships--lack of arms, munitions and food,
The morale of USAFFE men was very good.

After four months of engagements and fierce battle,
Both in the lowland and also in the jungle,
Bataan surrendered April nine, 'forty two.
Corregidor and all others surrendered too.

The soldiers were concentrated and thousands died,
Upon liberation their benefits denied,
Today, these Veterans are above Sixty-Five,
Some are sickly and yet they are still alive.

Chorus Old soldiers never die, never die, never die,
Old soldiers never die, they just fade away.



Dutch Nelsen



Gen. Vaught & Dutch Nelsen



L-R Mr. & Mrs. Frank Wilczak
Denise Wilczak
Jane Smolinski



Vince Vella on dance floor at
New Orleans.

FUN AND ENJOYMENT AT N.O.



The quill has passed. After forty-nine years as Secretary/Treasurer of our Association Kenwood Ross has stepped down. Actually, that is not an accurate statement in several regards. First, he was our President in 1966; second, beside Secretary/Treasurer he has also been our Attorney and legal mentor all this time; and third, Ken has never "stepped down" from anything -- "stepping aside" would be a better choice of words.

In addition to the honor of being one of our Founding Fathers, Ken was also awarded the Verbeck award in 1966.

While he has not actually been at the helm all of these forty-nine years, he as certainly been in the Chart Room all that time, and its going to be hard for a lot of us to get over the habit of, "give it to Ken." His will be a hard act to follow. For starters, it is taking two of us to do what he did -- and then no guarantee that we'll do half as good a job.

Back in the days when International Morse Code was still being used if a sending station transmitted a very long and complicated message, and the receiving operator got it all without having to have any groups repeated, the sender would extend his compliments to that operator by sending, "F B O M F B O M." That's operator chatter for, "Fine Business Old Man Fine Business Old Man." So, Kenwood, on behalf of all your friends in the 24th Infantry Division Association I say to you: "... -... --- - ... -... --- -".

Dutch Nelsen
Replacement Sec/Tres

Presidio turned over to Park Service

By The New York Times

SAN FRANCISCO — A soldier dreams of three things, or so the old Army saying goes. To be made colonel, to go to heaven and to be assigned to the Presidio.

But as of Saturday, the Presidio, the hilly, sprawling garrison with views of the ocean, San Francisco Bay and the Golden Gate Bridge is no longer run by the U.S. Army. It has been taken over by the National Park Service.

The transfer symbolized the end of an era, nothing less than the world changing. Yet not everyone felt the same way about it.

At a solemn ceremony on Friday marking the Army's retreat, military officers in full uniform saluted and openly cried when the unit's flags were lowered for the last time.

But nearby, a group of people who live near the Presidio cheered and clapped as a construction crew replaced Army signs with National Park Service entrance signs.

The Army has been reluctant to hand over the keys to its beloved post, which was first a Spanish garrison (hence the name), then Mexican and, since 1846, American. The post has been derided by some San Franciscans as a coun-

try club for military brass. The Presidio's 1,480 acres is 5 percent of all the land in the city, almost twice the size of New York's Central Park.

The Presidio has long been open to the public, although much of the post has been off limits. It is one of more than 80 military installations being closed as the federal government reassesses its military operations in light of leaner Pentagon budgets. The choice on what to do with the post was made in 1972, when Congress approved legislation creating the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and requiring that if the Army ever gave up the Presidio, it would be made a national park.

This event was in the later days of November 1944.
The action was reported to the public by the Denver Post in Denver Colorado.
from the military releases in the Battle of Break Neck Ridge.

Near the village of Lemon at the point where the later landing on Ormac
breaks out into the North Side of Leyte.

We on our part Lt. Ellenhausen, Myself S/Sgt Sletten and 2 other enlisted men
were observers for A Btry, 11th FA when the Japanese forces attempted a breakout
from the hills to the south.

We immediately called for fire from our 155 Howitzers catching the Japanese
in the somewhat open. Our fire was kept up late into the night using white phosphor
intermediatly to light up the front in the night.

Now, before I go on with this I must explain something.

Our Artillery were in positions just in from the North Coast of Leyte and our
units stayed in place continuously and able to fire.

Infantry units were shifted to various places and other units were moved in
their places so, for myself I do not know what unit we were supporting. They could
be from the 24th or the 32nd Division so, here is where maybe memory can be
brought in from elsewhere if this warrents printing.

We have further information on this battle as we were I gather all through
it but, that night seems to have broke Yamashita's back by his admission to our
Division CO during his War Crimes trial.

I was pulled back off this front and actually had some infantry men cry on
my leaving. Yes, I certainly felt for them but orders are orders.

Now there may be questions as to the men who cried on my leaving I can
only ask them, have you ever been on the line and seen your friends die or tore up
and only a rifle in your hands yet had to stay when you see untold numbers of
enemy appear on your front? Then a person speaks into the telephone and many of
those enemies disappear? Just what would you do?

I have seen men on both sides run. I need not explain further but, now this
happened 49 years and 8 months ago as I write this to-day.

If there is anyone who can remember that day and night so long ago, even
bits or pieces I would like to hear from them. No! I am not writing a book!
/There is no monetary gain in this other than the hope to see if some others sur-
vived from that time. (I will say this, Lt. Ellenhausen last wrote to me Dec. 14, 1994
and I wrote to him Dec. 18, 1994 noting the following to him, No answer).

This is basic as I remember writing to Lt. Ellenhausen.

I said "I was hoping to attend the reunion of the 24th Division in New
Orleans and would contact several of the 11th FA men who still have contact with
and would see if I could stir some into attending". Ed Ellenhausen Jr. lives in
New Orleans). I have not received an answer, so I do not know the reason.

I had better get this closed before it becomes a book.

The cost of everything in New Orleans will keep us from attending except
possibly one da as try and make Social Security do it if you may and other sob
stories get the picture. I will bring my tapes along so one time show and if I am
still able speaking one time will do.

Looking forward to an answer or suggestion as time is running out.

Don Slettin
Life Member
HC 2, Box 2640
Isabella, Mo. 65676

24th Infantry Division Association

President

Vincent Vella
(K 21st '44-'46)
107 Homer Av.,
Buffalo NY 14216
Tel. 716-873-7129

November 3, 1994

1st Vice President

James F. Hill
Bn. 1st Bn. 19th '49-'51)
280 Shelli Ln.,
Kennesaw GA 30075
Tel. 404-998-3749

2nd Vice President

John R. Hummer
(Div. CSM '78-'80)
PO Box 221
Hinesville GA 31313
Tel. 912-368-3227
FAX: 912-368-4447
Sec'y. - Treas.

Ellsworth Nelson
(34th, 15th, 19th, Trns.
46-47, 49-52, 59-63)
812 Orion Drive
Colorado Springs CO 80906
Tel. & FAX: 719-475-7499

Editor

Robert L. Lawhon
(6th Tank Bn. '51-'53)
Rt. 2, Box 711
Proctorville OH 45669
Tel. & FAX 614-886-6935

Directory Chairman

Joseph J. McKeon
(19th '49-'51)
12733 Muscatine St.
Alhambra CA 91331
Tel. 818-768-1704

Membership Chairman

Wallace F. Kuhner
(24th Recn. Co. '43-'45)
1637 Falmouth St.,
Charleston SC 29407
Tel. 803-766-8890

Quartermaster

Albert J. McAdoo
(E 5th RCT '52)
108 Central St.
Acton MA 01720
Tel. 508-263-1938

Reunion Coordinator

Robert R. Ender
(H 21st '42-'45)
1864 El Paso Ln.,
Fullerton CA 92633
Tel. 714-526-6860

Mr. Robert L. Lawhon, Editor
Rt. 2 Box 711
Proctorville, Ohio 45669

Dear Bob:

The calendars I spoke to you about, will be printed in a few weeks. A \$300.00 deposit for 1,000 calendars has been paid. The balance of \$990.00 will be paid when they are delivered.

The cost for mailing, plus envelopes etc. will be included in the price. That will amount to about \$6.00.

The calendars will have pictures of events pertaining to the outfits past and present. These are being submitted by fellow members.

If the members have anything of interest concerning the 24th Division, please have them submit them to Frank Wilczak at 224 Shanley Street, Cheektowaga, New York - 14206 - 2325.

If we don't sell all of them now, we will still be able to use them in 1996. We hope to print them for many years to come.

If you have any questions, contact me.

Yours truly

Ken Ross
"Dutch" Nelson
James F. Hill
John R. Hummer
Robert Ender

Vince Vella

I attended the veteran's day ceremonies at the VA hospital in Huntington, W.V. where Sen. John D. Rockefeller was the guest speaker for the 18th time. I asked him to keep me informed as to what was going on in the senate concerning veterans. He promised to send me material from time to time. The following is a speech he made to the Veteran's Home in Barboursville, W.V. Bob

REMARKS OF
SENATOR JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER IV
Barboursville, West Virginia Veterans' Home
November 11, 1994

I spoke earlier today at the Huntington VAMC, and I see that many of you were able to make both of these programs. So this afternoon, I would like to depart just a little from the traditional remarks on Veterans Day and talk specifically about Barboursville and what it means to us as West Virginians.

I am enormously proud to represent a state where military service is held in great respect and esteem. Ever since I entered public life to serve the people of West Virginia, it has meant working very closely with -- and for -- our veterans and their families.

As Chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I have had a great opportunity to improve the lives of veterans -- and I will continue fighting on many fronts to defend veterans' rights, just as you fought to defend our country.

It is through the laws we enact that we ensure our commitments to those who served, often in times of need, and often at great sacrifice to themselves.

Government cannot -- and dare not -- ever forget its commitment. There can be no greater monument to government keeping its commitment to veterans than West Virginia's State Veterans Home here in Barboursville.

This Home, and state veterans homes like it across the country, represent a true commitment of both federal and state governments, working together, to keep the promises made to our veterans. It's a great concept.

As early as the Civil War, our government realized that indigent and disabled soldiers, who were no longer able to earn their own livelihood, needed care. The federal government operated national homes, but were unable to meet the demand, and only veterans who served in the Union forces were eligible.

Today, the federal government provides grants to the states to establish veterans homes, not to exceed 65 percent of the cost, and the state provides the rest. Once the homes open, the federal government provides per diem payments for care, not to exceed one-half of the cost of the veterans' care. The remaining costs come from what veterans themselves are able to contribute, and from the state government.

That also sounds pretty good to me. Government helping government help veterans. In fact, it sounded like a pretty good idea to me even before I became your Governor. When I was Secretary of State, and while I was at West Virginia Wesleyan, and as a candidate for Governor, I heard a lot of talk about a veterans home.

But nobody ever seemed to do very much about it. Governors talked about it. Resolutions were passed. The Legislature passed a bill authorizing the state to establish one -- but somewhere along the line nobody ever stopped to point out that it cost money. So when it came time to put words into action -- into mortar and bricks and something tangible -- not one cent was made available to transform the rhetoric into reality.

I promised I'd do something about that when I made it to the Governor's office, and I did. You cannot begin to imagine the pride that I feel knowing that over 1,000 veterans have found a home at this facility since it opened in 1981.

That pride was matched this past year, as I watched veterans and veterans organizations, community leaders, men, women and children all come together from across this great State of ours in support of Barboursville.

Veterans helping veterans -- and veterans reminding those of us in government of our commitment. This nation must keep the promises it made to its veterans, just as responsively as veterans answered the call of our country.

We, in West Virginia, have over 200,000 veterans and close to two-thirds of them are World War II veterans. This is the age that is the most affected when we begin to fall short on our commitment to provide health care and domiciliary care.

Today, on this day set aside to remember those who sacrificed so much so that all can be guaranteed life in a free world, let us all pledge to remember our commitment: Others have done so much, we dare not do less.

Thank you for being here this afternoon, and for sharing with me in what has got to be one of the most gratifying honors I have received in over thirty years of public service.

The pride I feel for West Virginia and my fellow West Virginians is at times overwhelming to me, and on Veterans Day, when I return home to a State that has more veterans per capita than any other, I am reminded of the special character and spirit and strength that exists in the West Virginia veteran.

We will not forget the sacrifices made by our veterans, and the promises made to all of you and your families. Thank you and God bless you.

OCTOBER 1, 1994

Q.M. 24th I.D.A.
P.O.Box 13552
TAMPA, FL 33611

BY THE TIME THIS AD SEES PRINT WE SHOULD BE IN OUR WINTER DUES OF FLORIDA. WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE WITH OUR QUARTERMASTER SALES AT THIS NEW ADDRESS THROUGH SPRING WHEN WE WILL BE BOUNCING BACK NORTH WITH THE ROBINS.

PLEASE ALLOW SIX WEEKS FOR DELIVERY. TELEPHONE ORDERS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED, BECAUSE WE ARE TRYING TO AVOID RETURNING CALLS. GETS TOO EXPENSIVE.

THIS OPERATION RETURNED \$ 1,500.00 to the Treasurer in 92-93 \$1,800 in 93-94. We can continue to increase these amounts if we can avoid expensive Telephone Calls.

For your information, please be advised we deposit all checks promptly when received and if it becomes necessary we refund any amounts due when we fill the orders. We ship by the U.S. Mail all hats in sturdy boxes and we found a mailer softpack for pins and crests.

We have some more new items not listed in any previous ads.

BASIC 24 Inf Div. Patch attached to the open mesh HAT in Basic White, Black, and medium Blue. We got these hats too late for New Orleans \$ 10.00 Ea. PP

We have a very nice GOLF/SPORT, Shirt White with 21st Infantry Crest Embroidery on Right front. These have left pocket and full collar \$ 25.00 Ea,PP. We have them in sizes LARGE, Extra LARGE and XX LARGE.

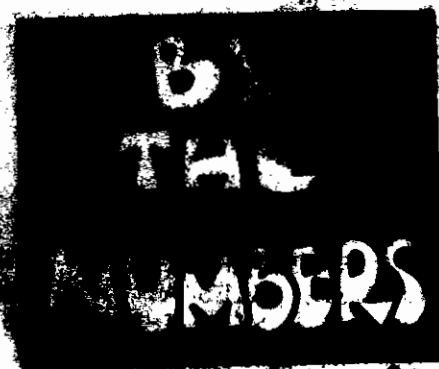
We have a New BOLO TIE with a Stainless Steel Base with the 24 Inf Div Patch replica or 24 Inf Div Patch replica with C.I.B. Both same price \$ 15.00 PP

We have two new Hat Pins. HP 869 COMBAT MEDICS BADGE & HP 870 PARATROOP Bdge

We also have a DRESS MESS MINI C.I.B. Second Award this is the STAR C.I.B. Same price of only \$5.00 Ea. PP

We also refer you to our old ads in the old TARO LEAFS. WE have all of the items listed. We wish everyone the happiest Holidays, and the best of HEALTH to you and yours always.





Quartermaster 24th I.D.A.
PO Box 878
Acton MA 01720

Tel. 508-263-2573

QUARTERMASTER
24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

We have a NEW 24th IDA hat made with a PATCH made especially for us similar to the PATCH made for the San Francisco Reunion. This PATCH has the 24th Div. Patch encircled with the lettering for 24th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, with all dates dropped. These Patches are sewed on Base Ball type hats and available in four Hat Colors, RED, GREEN, DARK BLUE, and WHITE \$ 10.00 each P.P.

We have another new item. HAT PINS (Replica Medals) These are well done and are listed below. Please order by number ONLY. The designs are similar and we want to deliver exactly what you want. We picked the medals we thought most of you would want. We may be able to get other when we reorder from our supplier. We can order in mixed lots, but have to order over 100 at a time.

These hat pins are only about an inch by about 3/4 of an inch and are made of metal. We can include them with other items and ship them Post Paid. We cannot ship them one pin at a time. We require a minimum of three pins @ \$3.00 each plus a Dollar Postage and packing if all you want are Hat Pins. Each additional HAT PIN same order are \$ 3.00 each. We hope that is clear and understandable.

HP-764 Purple Heart Medal	HP-963 Pacific Campaign Medal
HP-926 Bronze Star Medal	HP-964 American Campaign Medal
HP-927 Good Conduct Medal	HP-051 Army of Occupation Medal
HP-929 Korean Service Medal	HP-056 Meritorious Service Medal
HP-957 National Def.Serv.Medal	HP-059 U.N. Service Medal
HP-958 WW-II Victory Medal	HP-234 Prisoner of War Medal
HP-959 Silver Star Medal	HP-361 Phillipine Liberation
HP-960 American Defense Medal	HP-099 Korean Service Ribbon

We also have the following items all priced including postage.

5th Inf. 21st Inf. 34th Inf. 24 Inf Div. Lapel pins \$ 3.00 ea P.P.
5th RCT, and 24 Infantry Division Patch Replica Hat Pins \$ 2.00 PP
MINI-CIB (Mess Dress) replica \$ 5.00 ea P.P.
24th Infantry Division Colored Shoulder Patch \$ 2.00 ea P.P.
24th Infantry Division BOLO TIE new supplier only \$ 10.00 ea P.P.

We have Unit Hats & Crests but not enough room to list everything.
5th RCT, 555 FA, 19th INF, & 34th INF hats are still \$20.00 ea PP
5th INF, & 21st INF hats are embroidered and are \$12.00 ea PP.
Crests available are 5th Inf, 19 Inf, 21 Inf, 34 INF 11 & 13 FA
724 Maint. \$5.00 Ea & 10.00 Pr PP
24th Infantry Division Decals six for \$ 5.00 PP