



Taro Leaf

VOL. 52 No. 4

DR. PHILIP H. HOSTETTER RECEIVES VERBEK AWARD - 1998

DECEMBER 1998

A KOREAN WAR SOLDIER'S VERSION of "The Night Before Christmas"

**Twass the night before Christmas and all thru the tent
Was the odor of fuel oil (the stove pipe was bent)
The shoe paks were hung by the oil stove pipes with care
In hope that they'd issue each man a new pair.**

**The weary G.I.'s were sacked out in their beds
and visions of sugar babes danced thru their heads
When up on the ridge-line there rose such a clatter
A Chinese machine gun had started to chatter.**

**I rushed to my rifle and threw back the bolt
The rest of my tent mates awoke with a jolt
Outside we could hear our platoon Sergeant Kelly
A hard little man with a little pot belly.**

**Come Yancey, come Clancey, come Conners and Watson
Up Miller, up Shiller, up Baker and Dodson
We tumbled outside in a swirl of confusion
So cold that each man could have used a transfusion.**

**Get up on that hill top and silence that Red
And don't you come back till you're sure that he's dead
Then putting his thumb up in front of his nose
Sergeant Kelly took leave of us shivering Joes
but we all heard him say with a voice soft and light
Merry Christmas to all, may you live thru the night.**

24th Infantry Division Association



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1999 Reunion

22-26 September 1999
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TARO LEAF, the official publication of the 24th Infantry Division Association, is published quarterly by and for its members. Opinions expressed or implied are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or the 24th Infantry Division.

Articles Submissions

To improve speed and accuracy and readability in editing, manuscripts and articles should be originals or clear copies, with either typed or printed out double-spaced in near letter quality printer mode. Articles are to be received by the Editor not later than the deadline established by the President, Secretary/Editor and as published in the Taro Leaf. Any article received after the established deadline and not in the format described above will be put in at the discretion of the Editor. To be considered for publication, articles should not exceed 300 words and should be of general interest and in good taste. Political endorsements and thank you notes will not be used. Biographies or personal stories of interest to the general membership, not exceeding three pages, will be accepted for publication but must conform to policy as outlined above.

Volume 52 No. 4

DECEMBER 1998

CONGRATULATIONS TO PHIL HOSTETTER, M.D. - VERBECK AWARD RECIPIENT 1998!

The following **DEADLINE** is established for submission of material to the Editor Yvonne Mullins, of the TARO LEAF for publication.

Deadline to the Editor

3 January
1 April
1 July 1999
10 October 1999

Publication Date

February 1999
May 1999
August 1999
December 1999

Telephone # 573-365-1007
Fax # 573-365-7872
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NEW SECRETARY/TREASURER: Please send all dues, contributions to the new Secretary/Treasurer - Will Schumaker, 1300 Hartley, Ozark MO 65721-8437.

24th Infantry Division Association



Ladies and Gentleman,

Thank you for electing me as president of the 24th Infantry Division Association, I appreciate your trust and support.

Many past presidents and members have offered to help me, and I appreciate their generosity. You will be hearing from me. I have made many good friends; and I have never been associated with a greater group than this one.

Our reunion in Little Rock was a huge success, I have received numerous letters and phone calls confirming that. The biggest problem in Little Rock was that the hotel had over-booked and many of our members were not able to stay there, even though they had confirmed reservations. The Executive Committee met with the hotel management and they agreed to pay for one night lodging and a phone call for anyone that had to be relocated.

I want each one of you to know that I will be open to any ideas and suggestions you may have. This is your Association and it can only improve and survive with your participation.

For those of you who were in Little Rock you were introduced to William Schumaker, our new Secretary Treasurer and Glenn Carpenter, our new chaplain, they served in Desert Storm and Germany. Our goal is to get more young blood in the Association, but we must not forget our World War II and Korean War members. This will not happen as long as I am connected with the Association.

I want to work for the positive things for our great Association, increased membership, openness, and membership participation.

Vern & Donna Claric, from Bartelsville Oklahoma, have agreed to be our on-site chairpersons in Tulsa, September 22-26, 1999. All registrations will be handled by the Association. Diane Peters will handle the pre-registrations. Watch for more information in the next issue of the Taro Leaf.

In closing, let us all pull together and make this Association the best that it can be.

I want to wish each and every one of you the very best holiday season!

24th Fully Yours


Harold Corky Peters
President

Acknowledgments:

Special thanks to Charlie & Martha Andrews, our on-site chairpersons, their support, help, and encouragement gave us the strength to keep going on. Without their help this reunion could have never been the success it was.

To Joseph Hofrichter for the moving Memorial Service he gave at the Memorial Banquet.

To Nick Bacon for being our Keynote speaker at the Memorial Banquet. Thank you!

To Francis Wittman for again, crocheting the afghan and pillow for the Ladies Breakfast, and to Yvonne Mullins for donating the quilt rack. Thanks to both of you.

Many thanks to Jannine Liters and Flowers by Appointment for arranging all the flowers at the Memorial Banquet. They were beautiful!

To the Arkansas Excelsior Hotel and staff, Thank you for a job well done! A Special thanks to Mary Ann Meadows, through her efficiency and detailed planning, each event ran smoothly. She was a joy to work with.

A big thank you to Nancy Hicks, Kruger Tours, for keeping all tours running like clock work. Some of our members said they were the best tours they had ever been on!

To Jeanne Reffner and the staff at the Little Rock Convention Bureau, they did a great job handling all registrations prior to and during the reunion. A big thank you!

My gratitude to Joanie Tiefel, she was the entertainment at the Ladies Breakfast. This must have been one terrific party, as I'm still getting calls and letters from some ladies stating this was the highlight of the reunion. Leaves me wondering what us men missed!

To everyone who helped or offered to help prior to and during the reunion, I thank you. It takes countless hours to put on an event of this magnitude and everyone's help was appreciated.

To Dutch Nelsen, thank you for being our master of ceremonies at the Memorial Banquet, you were superb!

To Orville Jones, the hospitality room could not have run without you. From early morning to late at night it was you who kept the coffee hot and the snacks filled at all times. You're one in a million. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Last but not least, a big thank you to my wife, Diane, who kept this reunion organized and gave this event her complete attention and detail at all times. Believe me, this was a joint effort. I couldn't have done it without her. She was always there with her strength and support. Without her this reunion could never have been the success it was.

What makes a reunion successful is the membership. In my opinion we have the greatest group of men and women any organization could ever ask for. A special thank you to all the wives and guests who attended.

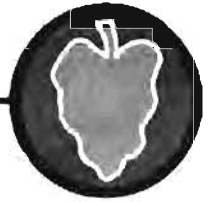
Thank you all!



Harold Peters

98 Reunion Chairman

24th Infantry Division Association



October 16, 1998

Memorandum

To: Wally Kuhner
Membership Chairperson

From: Harold Peters
President

I wish to see the 24th Infantry Division Association grow. We need new members from World War II, Korea, Germany, Lebanon, Somalia, Desert Storm, Fort Riley, and Fort Stewart.

I have found two members who were in Germany and two who were at Fort Stewart and Desert Storm and one who was with the 5th RCT. They will work very close with you. Our goal is to find new members. Glenn Carpenter and Frank Wilczak served in Germany with the Division, they will work on the German and Lebanon era.

Will Schumaker and Lloyd Hemenway served with the Division at Fort Stewart and Desert Storm. I am also asking Joe Wicinski to work on getting 5th RCT members to join the Association.

To: Vonnie Mullins
From: Harold "Corky" Peters

I was looking over the minutes and I concur that we should have not voted on a two year term for the president, Bill Muldoon stated this waiver was a one time shot. There seems to be no disagreement on this in the minutes.

This should have been published in the Taro Leaf ninety (90) days prior to the annual meeting.

Vonnie, if you recall I only discussed the advisability of the term for the president to go to two (2) years, and it should start next year.

I have also had many members inquire whether or not the vice president was elected for a two (2) year term? I did not make that a request, and when Mr. Barrett was elected it was not stated that he would have a two (2) year term. The minute's state that only the president's term would be for two (2) years. The membership never voted on this recommendation. There was no way that we recommended that the vice president would have a four (4) year term.

I believe I was only elected to a one (1) year term

24th Infantry Division Association



October 16, 1998

From: Harold "Corky" Peters

Memorandum:

I have named the following members of the Association to serve on the William Jordan Verveck Award Committee.

Joe McKeon, Chairperson
12733 Muscatine Street
Arleta, CA 91330-4245

Wally Kuhner
Dallas Dick
John Klump
John Shay

All members who wish to nominate someone for the Verbeck Award should send his/her qualifications to the chairperson, by **July 1, 1999** **There will be no nominees accepted after that date.** He will send the names of each nominee to the other members of the committee for their consideration.

The Executive Committee established the guidelines with respect to the standards upon which presentation was to be based. It was to be presented, not annually, but "from time-to-time as justification indicates." It was to be presented to that Association member who best displayed the ideals of BILL VERBECK, an unabashed love for Division and it's Association. It was to be awarded to the member best showing real effort in furthering the best interests of the Association and the Division. It was intended to reward sleeves-rolled-up hard work in helping to make the Association into a successfully operating organization.

Over the last thirty years, the Award has been made to members, each of whom was honored for best living up to BILL VERBECK's ideals, for best contributing that extra effort, that "extra mile" to enhance the glorious reputation of our Division and to bring success to the work of our Association.

Jeff #49

24th Infantry Division Association



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Tel 310-370-2095

September 18, 1998

To: Tom Cochran Wally Kuhner
Corky Peters Don Barrett
Vonnie Mullins Jim Hill
Joe McKeon

From: Joe Hofrichter

For the past ten years I have been privileged and honored to serve the Association as its "Chaplain". It is an honor I never sought, expected, nor felt I deserved.

In view of the importance, the dignity and seriousness attached to the job, I have given it my best effort at all times. It deserves no less.

This past year has been a most difficult and trying period during which I developed cancer and underwent two major operations. Most recently I was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease, complicated by other infirmities that have progressed to the point where I can no longer carry out my responsibilities.

Therefore, it is with a sad and heavy heart that I must ask you to accept my resignation as Chaplain, effective at the conclusion of the Little Rock Reunion.

I am sorry this comes to you so late. I thought I could go on, but I can no longer continue to deceive myself or you. My doctor confirmed that today.

I trust that you can decide upon my successor at your Executive Meeting in Little rock. This is important in as much as he must take custody of the Honor Roll Book and all items essential to the Memorial Service. He may also appreciate a copy of the Memorial Prayers and instructions I've prepared to help insure an orderly transition.

Thank you for the faith you have placed in me, thank you for your support and cooperation, and thank you for your understanding.

Warmest regards,

1998 Reunion

23-27 September 1998
Excelsior Hotel
Three Statehouse Plaza
Little Rock AR 72201
Tel 501-399-8050
Fax 501-375-7320

Letter from Phil Hostetter, Verbeck Bowl Award Recipient - 1998

I must get my old duplicating machine repaired. New ones are \$1,800! It's a lazy way of communicating to a bunch. You are not like a bunch of bananas - You are dispersed.

I went to the annual convention of the 24th Infantry Division Association in Little Rock last week, and spent 4 nights there. It was one of the largest gatherings we have had. Old soldiers don't all fade away, they go to conventions.

For the past 15 years I have taken numerous candid photos for the convention, and dozens have been published in the Taro Leaf, our journal. This is mainly by default because no one else does it. At our final banquet I was trying to do my thing sitting near the speakers' platform, as usual. It came time for the award of the Verbeck Bowl, This is the highest honor the Association can award. It was established about 30 years ago in honor of the first president of the association, and has been given nearly every year since. The actual bowl is sterling silver and a Paul Revere replica. Recipients keep the bowl a year or until the next person is chosen.

To my astonishment, my name was called! I handed my camera to someone, I don't know whom, and stepped on the platform. I still can't believe it! This picture I am sending turned up on my film, so it must have happened.

About two months ago our dedicated Chaplain Joe Hofrichter, called me and asked among other things if I would attend the convention. Joe and his wife Charlotte were tour guides for a group of veterans twice on returns to the Philippines. We enjoyed fantastic honors there as veterans that were meant for all Americans. Two terrorists burned down the magnificent hotel in Baguio north of Manila we were in. Eight of our group were killed. The women were greatly shaken by the experience, more so than the men. As one veteran remarked, "My last day in the Philippines is much like my first."

Joe and the other members of the Awards committee were totally successful in keeping secret the name of the next recipient, but I noticed our attractive and capable Editor Yvonne Mullins greeted me just a little differently. Her late husband Rudy received the Bowl last year five weeks before he died. She had my name engraved on it just before our convention.

Dallas Dick received the Verbeck Award in 1987. In 1945 he and I slept on the ground under a country home on the small island of Rhonblon in the Philippines. He was the excellent Company C commander in the 1st Battalion, 19th Regiment. At dawn Lt. Bill Naegele came stumbling in, totally exhausted. His platoon had been ambushed late the afternoon before with heavy loss of life. He reported what had happened. "My men need me" he murmured as he started back up the mountain. "You are going to Headquarters!" I ordered. I was Battalion Surgeon.

We all miss Ken Ross who was the enduring backbone of our organization for many years. Ken received the Verbeck Bowl award in 1966. We both enjoyed the humor and satire of Mort Walker in his "Beetle Bailey" cartoon, as he presented the whimsical side of army life. Ken knew him personally and printed quite a few of his cartoons. As a mutual friend Mort Walker sent me a personal letter and Christmas card.

Phil Hostetter

TARO LEAF NOTES
BY
JIM HILL
19TH INFANTRY

Remembrances from our 51st Reunion at Little Rock 23-26 September, 1998 —

We had a great turnout! The Annual Reunion Roster as published by Corky Peters, our Reunion Chairman, listed 320 Taro Leafers registered as attendees. Corky tells me we had over 600 folks at our Memorial Banquet on Saturday night. That's a great turnout for our Association of over 3000 members.

The Aloha Night turnout was terrific! Never saw that many aloha shirts and mu-mus when I was in Hawaii! Several old timers really had the hula dance down pat. I was afraid to ask them in front of their wives where they had learned to hula that well!

The Excelsior Hotel was a great reunion hotel although I think we overwhelmed them by our large numbers when many of us descended on them on Wednesday. We filled all the rooms that Corky had reserved in the Association's name and a few were forced to stay at other nearby hotels. The hotel was most gracious in providing the wine for our toasts on the night of the Memorial Banquet. The lobby and the front of the hotel was large enough to accommodate all the folks that just wanted to sit around and look at other people. As usual it was a pleasant surprise to see Joe McKeon (19th Korea) sitting out front greeting all the arrivals. The hotel also gave us the penthouse bar (the 18th floor) for our Hospitality Suite, which was well used by many of the attendees. Overheard a couple old vets asking if their room assignment was THAT room but the hotel stayed mum on the subject!

All the attendees were most happy to see Dr. Phil Hostetter (19th, WWII) receive the Verbeck Bowl Award for 1998. Dr. Phil is a life long member of the Association and for many years many of the reunion photos that have appeared in the TARO LEAF were taken by him. Congratulations from all of us, Doc.

The Memorial Banquet was perfect in every way. A special thank you is due Henry Gosztyla (34th, WWII) for his long time role in assisting the Chaplain in conducting the very solemn Memorial Service. For years you have added dignity to this event.

Our guest speaker for the Banquet was Nick Bacon, A Vietnam War Medal of Honor Winner and currently Director of Veterans Affairs for the State of Arkansas. Nick earned his Medal of Honor while serving with the Americal Division in Vietnam in August 1968. His talk centered on the change in the United States military and the lack of military service of most of the executive leaders of our Nation since the days that many of us served and also of the ever increasing need of the Government to take care of veterans as time continues on. His message came across to all — "We are all Americans and enjoy Freedom unlimited in the greatest country in the world thanks to men like we veterans of the 24th Infantry Division and that we and all veterans will never be forgotten by a grateful nation".

Several of the ex-Presidents of our Association were in attendance. Corky was most gracious in having an Ex-Presidents table set up for both the Aloha Night and the Memorial Banquet Night dinners. Ex-Presidents attending and their spouses were:

William H. Muldoon and Nancy	1970-71	19th Infantry
Dallas Dick and Peggie	1981-82	19th Infantry
Wallace C. Kuhner and Eleanor	1992-93	24th Recon
Vincent P. Gagliardo	1993-94	5th RCT
Vincent Vella and Francis	1994-95	21st Infantry
James F. Hill and Sue	1995-96	19th Infantry
Ellsworth Nelsen and Margo	1996-97	13th Field

A River Walk was planned for Saturday afternoon in honor of two of our most distinguished members, Kenwood Ross and Rudy Mullins. Tom Cochran had arranged for T-shirts to be available commemorating the event. Based on the unseasonably hot Little Rock temperature and high humidity the walk was canceled but many of us still wore our T-shirts in honor of those two stalwarts of our Association.

Turner Publishing Company, Publishers of our 24th Division history book, sent a representative to the reunion who informed us that they intend to publish a Second Edition of the book which will include additional input from the Association members. Members that are interested in acquiring the book will receive additional information that will be published in the TARO LEAF.

We will have a new Secretary/Treasurer beginning in October 1998. Will Schumaker (2/7th DESERT STORM) was elected to replace Vonnie Mullins. Vonnie will continue to serve as the Editor of the TARO LEAF and will retain the responsibility of conducting the raffle that has become part of our reunion activities. Congratulations are also in order to Don Barrett (19th, Korea) for being elected Vice-President at our general membership business meeting. A bit of sadness was felt when Joe Hofrichter informed us that due to personal reasons he was resigning from his position as Association Chaplain. A new Chaplain has already been appointed by our incoming President, Corky Peters (21st, Korea), our 1998-99 President. He will have a good, solid team to work with him for this next year.

Looking forward to our 1999 reunion at the Adams mark Hotel in Tulsa and our Year 2000 reunion at the Draw Bridge Estates, Covington, Kentucky (across the river from Cincinnati, Ohio) from 25 September thru 2 October. Joe Hofrichter (339th Engrs, WWII), a former travel agency operator and resident of Cincinnati has agreed to serve as Reunion Chairman. Make sure we don't run out of beer, wurst and pretzels, Joe!

At the reunion I heard many complimentary remarks about our superior publication, the TARO LEAF. Thanks, Vonnie for carrying on for Rudy and continuing to provide us the BEST military Association periodical that there is.

Lastly, a big 24th Division Association hand salute to Tom Cochran for serving so notably as our President for the 1997-98 term of office. A job well done, Tom!

VICTORY!



"No thank you. I'm not THAT hungry."



STATE OF ARKANSAS
MIKE HUCKABEE
GOVERNOR

September 26, 1998

TO: THE TWENTY-FOURTH INFANTRY DIVISION

Dear Veterans,

As Governor of Arkansas, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the 1998 Annual Reunion of the 24th Infantry Division and to welcome you to the beautiful Excelsior Hotel in downtown Little Rock!

We are honored by the presence of the 24th Infantry Division's members who fought in WWII, Korea, Lebanon, and Desert Storm. Words cannot express our deep gratitude for the sacrifices you have made for this great country in order to preserve the freedom that we hold dear. I sincerely hope this reunion, though poignant by reason of empty places at your table, will be both enjoyable and memorable.

On behalf of the citizens of our state, I offer my warmest and best wishes. May God bless America – and the 24th Infantry Division!

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Mike Huckabee'.

Mike Huckabee

MH:lb

264 Washburn Rd.
Northville, NY 12134
2 Oct. 98

To all members of the 98 Reunion Committee,
24 Inf. Div.

My sincere thanks for the time, effort, and sweat that each of you devoted to insure that our reunion in Little Rock was a success. AND IT SURELY WAS.

The accommodations at the hotel, the food , and the various trips planned made the creature comforts aspects of the reunion most enjoyable.

But more importantly, the fact that each of you was willing to spend untold hours to enable the rest of us to renew long enduring associations with men, who because of the nature of infantry combat, often became more dear than were blood kin. Many years after the event, tears often come to men's eyes when they recall the time when a close friend was killed. Some memories never leave us. And it is through the unselfish granting of your time and talents that allows each of us to, once again, meet with those men with whom we shared our food, water, smokes, and danger.

Thank you for making our Reunion a success, without each of you it would never have happened.

My best wishes to each of you.

Sincerely,



Philip H. Nast
I Co. 34th, WW2

Corky and Diane Peters
Charlie and Martha Andrews
Orville Jones
Robert Smith

National Order Of Battlefield Commissions is trying to locate all men, WW II Korea and Vietnam, who on the field of battle against an armed enemy received a commission from enlisted or warrant status to commission status. It may be you or someone you know. Contact John Angier, 67 Ocean Dr., St. Augustine, FL 32084

"During the Memorial Service in Little Rock, Chaplain Joseph Hofrichter paid special tribute to Kenwood Ross and Rudy Mullins. His stirring words prompted many in attendance to request copies. To comply with these requests and for those unable to attend the reunion, we are pleased to print the entire text as presented at the Arkansas Excelsior Hotel Saturday September 26, 1998".

24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION Memorial Service 1998

Joseph P. Hofrichter, Chaplain

Mr. President, officers, members, relatives, guests and friends of the 24th Infantry Division Association.

It now becomes our solemn duty and privilege, to devote a small part of our convention time to the honorable memory of our comrades in arms, whom above all, we would like to have in our midst today. Those heroes of our Division who have laid down their lives in the service of their country.

The friendship which is engendered among those who fight together on the field of battle, risking their lives, not only for the cause for which they fight, but also for one another, is different from every other kind of friendship.

It is: Different from the ties of flesh and blood; Different from the ties of business association; Different from the ties of social acquaintance.

Once cemented, this military and combat friendship lasts forever. Our gathering here today is proof, that it lasts beyond the grave.

Therefore, it is most fitting and proper that as we gather each year to renew our comradeship with

one another, we should dedicate and consecrate some of our reunion time to the evergreen memory of those who made the supreme sacrifice on the field of battle, and to all Association members who have preceded us in death.

In this spirit, we have erected in this banquet hall, a shrine to our fallen heroes and friends of yesterday. Upon this Altar of Valor, we place in reverence, the Honor Roll in which their names are inscribed. We will now light the tapers on this altar as symbols of their living memory.

The Two Sentinel Candles which flank our Honor Roll, by tradition, are lit to signify the sanctity of life and death.

Tonight, they take on added significance. For the first time in the long history of this Memorial Service, the Sentinel Candles will be lit in memory of two members, who are no longer with us, but who shall be revered and remembered forever, for their unmatched deeds, devotion and dedication to this Association.

The First Sentinel Candle: is lit in the memory and honor of Ken-

wood Ross, the Patriarch and the last and most memorable of the five founding fathers of our Association.

Every man in this room, every member of this Association, owes Ken a debt of gratitude we shall never be able to repay. Because he touched our lives in such a profound manner, Ken was indeed very, very special.

Perhaps it is a rhetorical question but what is a special person? Well, among other things, special people are those who have the ability to share their lives with others. They are honest in word and deed. Special people are those who willingly give themselves, their time and their God-given talents to others, without asking or expecting anything in return. Special people are those who possess the ability to turn a dream into a reality. Ken was this and much more.

For 47 years, Ken, with his incredible vision and wisdom, was the guiding force which makes our Association what it is today. Through his leadership and nurtured by our reunions, Ken molded us into a family of uncommon bond.

Paul J. & Florence E. Cain
3109B Chatham Drive
Urbana, IL 61902-7044

gatherings. Indeed, Ken regarded this Association and every member in it as his family. We were the love of his life and he was ours. Is it any wonder then, that the death of Kenwood Ross touches our hearts with such deep sadness?

The many moving letters of tribute to this great man found in the May 1998 issue of the Taro Leaf Magazine were filled with genuine emotions and sorrow. However, you did not have to go beyond the cover and Michael Petrick's animated GI characters, to sense the overpowering sorrow that gripped and shocked the Association to its very core.

Judging by the countless heartfelt letters of tribute posted in the Taro, Ken, you were blessed, loved, praised and admired by all — but you left us too soon. Somehow we seemed to harbor the silly notion that you would be with us forever. In retrospect, there are so many things our hearts forgot to say. Forgive us, Ken.

On this occasion we regret that we cannot give you the 21 gun salute of which you are so worthy. All we can say is, thank you, Ken Ross, for your friendship and thank you for your lifelong, ceaseless, single-minded dedication to the legacy you leave us — your beloved 24th Infantry Division Association.

We loved you, Ken. God be with you.

The Second Sentinel Candle: is lit in lasting memory of Rudy Mullins, a man of extraordinary courage, unusual goodness and love for the 24th Infantry Division Association.

Most everyone knows the Rudy Mullins story. How he rose from obscurity to chair the 1995

Nashville Reunion — and how in 1996, at a crucial time for the Association, he volunteered to assume the awesome tasks as Secretary-Treasurer and Editor of the Taro Leaf.

Further, we know that all the while Rudy labored in our behalf, he did so, while fighting a courageous but loosing battle against cancer.

We know that despite the terrible side effects of his treatments and the pain that accompanies Cancer, Rudy carried out these duties for two years without complaint. In fact, in his last year, he took on the added responsibilities as Quartermaster, when most of us would have given up all thoughts of taking on any such responsibility at the onset of such a dreadful and insidious disease.

We were in awe when we saw Rudy and his emaciated body, sitting behind a registration desk last year, still working, still smiling and helping all who needed help.

What we did not know is that when Rudy was awarded the Verbeck Bowl last year, the highest award this Association can bestow upon any of its members, it took every ounce of strength in his frail body to rise and say with great humility just two words — thank you.

What's more, little did we know that this incredible and courageous man who gave so much of himself to us, would be gone from our midst within five weeks.

By all standards, Rudy, was an astonishing man. His love of God and family, his value of friendship, his pride in country and his

dignity in work, set him apart. Wherever he went, Rudy cast a tall shadow — not in black or gray, but in magnificent Technicolor.

Thank you, Rudy, for serving us so nobly and so faithfully. Thank you for your friendship and thank you for teaching us how to live in happiness and how to die in dignity.

God be with you.

The list of units of the men and women who served under the colors of this great Division for more than a half century, is now so vast, that we are unable to recognize each unit individually as we would like.

Therefore, as the taper is lit, representing the period when you and your unit served under the colors of our Division, may I request that members here present, rise and stand in reverence to the memory of their fallen comrades **and to please remain standing.**

The First Candle — is lit in memory of those whom author Jan Valtin affectionately called in his book, "Children of Yesterday". It was the Veterans of World War II, who, half a century ago, set the cadence and established the standards which gave the 24th Infantry division the legacy of "first to fight — first to victory".

Will the Veterans of World War II — **please rise.**

The Second Candle — is lit in memory of those who raised high the colors of our Division and served with valor, to defend our nation and the world at large, from the oppressive tentacles of communism — **NOT** in a "policing

us believe, but in a war so awesome, it would inflict upon our Division the greatest number of casualties in its illustrious history.

Will the Veterans of the Korean War — please rise.

The Third Candle — is lit in memory of our newest members — those who brought new pride and glory to our beloved Division and added new pages to our legacy of victory, by their heroic action in the Middle East. Will the men and women of Operation Desert Storm — Please rise.

The Fourth Candle — is lit in memory of the men and women of our division who served in Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Missions throughout the world. May this light serve to illuminate their noble efforts, for all the world to see, honor, and respect.

Will those who served in such missions — please rise.

The Fifth Candle — is lit in memory of you, our loved ones — our spouses, family members and friends — who prayed and waited so patiently for our safe return as we served our Nation in times of War and peace. Will all spouses, family members and friends — please rise.

The Sixth Candle — is lit and dedicated to all Prisoners of War, those Missing in Action and those Unaccounted For. May they see this flame as a ray of hope and God's eternal salvation.

If through error, I have failed to acknowledge anyone still seated, with sincere apology, may I ask you to please rise for our Memorial Prayer. LET US PRAY

Almighty God, We give you thanks for the glorious and heroic spirit of patriotism, which you implanted in the hearts of these, our fallen comrades. We thank you for enabling them to find the strength to make the supreme sacrifice, to lay down their lives for their country.

Without this supreme sacrifice, without this bravery, without this heroism, our victory on the field of combat would have been impossible. The Holy Book says: "Greater love than this no man hath, than that a man lay down his life for his friends." By this token, these comrades, whose memory we commemorate today, surely paid the highest price, not in money or perishable goods, but in flesh and blood, for that priceless gift of freedom which we enjoy today.

Grant, we ask you, O Lord, that we the living may also be inspired by a spark from this consuming flame of faith and courage, so that we may labor and strive during all our days, for the preservation of that freedom, for which they gave their last full measure of devotion.

Bless O Lord all whose names are inscribed in the pages of our Honor Roll. In your loving mercy, Father of all, be pleased to receive them into your heavenly company and forgive the failings and faults they may have committed from human frailty.

And grant also, O God, a ray of inspiration to those men and women in whose hands today lie the destinies of nations, so that they may never make a decision, either in the halls of government nor at the conference table of peace treaties, which might be inimical to those God-given

rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for which we have fought and for which so many of our comrades laid down their lives.

Remember, O Lord, our members who suffer from illnesses and infirmities which prevent them from being with us tonight. Grant them your divine mercy and bless all who suffer the pains of illness, loneliness, anxiety and despair. Give them the strength and the courage to carry their burdensome crosses and to place their faith and trust in You. AMEN.

In conclusion I ask you to please join me in the Lord's Prayer.

Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done - on earth, as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from Evil —

For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, forever and ever.

Amen.

TAPS WILL NOW BE SOUNDED.

TREASURER'S REPORT
51ST ANNUAL REUNION
LITTLE ROCK, AR
23 27 SEPTEMBER 1998

At the beginning of the fiscal year 1997-98 we had a CD of \$33,682.86. This CD has earned interest of \$1,838.93 and now totals \$35,521.79 as of July 1998 and will mature January 1999.

The other CD was in the amount of \$14,165.15 and at maturity December 1997 it totaled \$14,576.46. As was reported at the annual meeting last year, a check of \$16,062.00 was sent to Turner Publishers on August 20, 1997 Check #1375 and a total amount of \$14,537.41 was in the checking account for history books leaving \$1,524.59 to be paid to the checking account from the CD in December 1997, when it would mature. There was an additional \$90.00 refunded from history deposits from the checking account, making a total of \$1,614.59 to be returned to the checking account from this CD of \$14,576.46. This left a balance CD of \$12,961.87 as of December 1997. This CD has earned interest of \$785.61 to June 11, 1998 making a total CD of \$13,336.17. This CD will mature December 1998. Since January 1998 an additional \$200.00 has been refunded to members representing history payments. This \$200.00 should be returned to the checking account when the CD of \$13,336.17 matures in December 1998.

\$13,336.17	CD @5.75 APR - General Fund, Matures 12/12/98
\$35,521.79	CD @5.20 APR - General Fund, Matures 1/12/99

<u>\$48,857.96</u>	Total C.D.'s (Total Interest earned on C.D.'s
	\$785.61
	\$1,838.93
	669.35 Interest earned on checking
	account

<u>\$3,293.89</u>	Total Interest earned for
	fiscal year 8/1/97 to 7/31/98

\$25,821.52 in checking account as of 7/31/98

Loan to Dutch Nelsen (1997 Reunion)	\$3,000.00
Amount repaid by sell of steins	- 356.61
Deficit in the sell of steins	<u>\$2,648.39</u>

As of August 5, 1998 donations on the 20/10/5 (5 % x 4) Raffle is \$12,823.00. Expenses incurred on the raffle was \$1,492.03 leaving a balance of \$11,330.97, half of this amount of \$5,665.48 will be for the six winners. We will have raffle tickets available for donations at the reunion. The drawing will be Saturday, September 26, 1998, 4 p.m. in the Hospitality Room of the Excelsior Hotel. Taxes for Fiscal Year August 1, 1997 - July 31, 1998 filed August 1998.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne

Yvonne Mullins, Treasurer

Secretary's Report
51st Annual General Membership Meeting

Minutes: 24th Infantry Division Association

The President Tom Cochran called the meeting to order at 1000 hours 26 September 1998, at the Excelsior Hotel, Little Rock, AR.

The pledge to our flag was rendered. Invocation by Chaplain Joe Hofrichter.

President announced that the T-Shirts in Memory of Kenwood Ross and Rudy Mullins would be donated to the membership present and they could be obtained at the conclusion of the meeting. The River Walk would not take place due to the inclement weather.

The President announced that 100 first timers were present at the reunion and asked that all first timers would stand. They received a resounding applause.

The secretary's report and treasurer's report were available to all present. Motion made by Bill Muldoon to accept the secretary/treasurers report, seconded by Bill Hosler, motion carried.

Audit report by Harold Peters: The Audit Committee appointed by the President Tom Cochran of the 24th Infantry Division Association met Friday, September 25, 1998. We found the financial records for the fiscal year August 1, 1997 through July 31, 1998, submitted by our Treasurer, Yvonne M. Mullins, 24th Infantry Division Association to be complete, accurate and with no restrictions.

Herb Banks from Turner Publishing Company was introduced by President Cochran. Mr. Banks spoke on the second edition history book of the 24th Infantry Division. He welcomed stories to be sent to him or Dave Mann, Chairman of the History Committee. He mentioned the 150 words limit and stated there would be a 20 cent charge per word after the limit was exceeded. In conclusion he stated that he would be available after the meeting to answer any further questions that members might like to discuss.

The Executive Committee recommended the President's term of office to be changed to two years.

Jim Hill read Article VII Section 2, "No proposal for amending the constitution shall be considered unless the text of the proposed amendment has been published in the official publication of the association not less than ninety (90) days prior to the annual members meeting held during the annual association meeting".

Yvonne read from the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of September 19, 1997. "The Executive Committee discussed Article VII Section 2 of the By-Laws of the

Association and a motion was made by Wally Kuhner to waive Article VII Section 2, motion seconded by Ken Ross. Motion Carried."

Bill Muldoon said the waiver was for only during the meeting of 1997 in view of the fact that the secretary/treasurer, Rudy Mullins was stepping down from his office due to health reasons. This waiver was necessary for the Executive Committee to take action of making Yvonne Mullins an Honorary Member in order for her to be eligible to hold office in the association. Bill stated it was a one time waiver.

Harold Peters introduced the new nominee for Secretary/Treasurer, Wil Schumaker. Will spoke to the membership and he received a resounding applause.

Bob Lawhon gave the Nominating Committee Report. Recommendations as follows:

Vice President	Rod Stock
Secretary/Treasurer	Wil Schumaker
Editor	Yvonne Mullins

Joe Wicinski nominated Don Barrett for Vice President and Frank Doerr seconded the nomination.

Rod Stock received 60 votes. Don Barrett received 76 votes. Don Barrett new vice president for 1998-99 year.

Resignation letter from Joe Hofrichter, Chaplain read by Tom Cochran. Tom commended Joe on the splendid work he did as Chaplain and Joe received a resounding applause and standing ovation.

Glen Carpenter was introduced as the newly appointed Chaplain. Glen spoke to the membership and expressed appreciation as to his new appointment.

Executive Committee recommended Covington, Ky (Drawbridge Estates) as reunion site for September 26 - October 2, 2000. This location was recommended because if chosen, Joe Hofrichter would volunteer his services to chair the 2000 reunion. Covington, KY will be the site for the 2000 reunion. The Reunion dates for 1999 is September 22, 1999 to September 26, 1999 at Tulsa, OK.

Bill Muldoon addressed the Chair and pointed out that the Nominating Committee Chairman had not given a report as to the President for 1998 - 99 year.

Bob Lawhon reported Harold Peters was on the slate for President and there were no nominations from the floor. Bill Muldoon made a motion to accept the nomination for President, seconded by Joe Wicinski. Unanimous for Harold Peters for President.

Harold Peters spoke on the cost of reunions. The Executive Committee recommended that the Registration Fee be increased \$5.00 per member for a reunion registration fee of \$20.00. This was seconded and carried.

New Business: Joe Wicinski asked for a concerted effort to recruit 5th RCT members to the Association.

Bronco Atkinson addressed the chair on a return trip to the Philippines. Joe Hofrichter responded on the danger of Americans returning to the Philippines as a group.

Johnny Rodriguez addressed the chair on the history book. He stated that he had waited too long to send information to Turner Publishers. He supported information being sent to Dave Mann, History chairman or Herb Banks of Turner Publishing Company for the Second Edition History book.

A donation in the amount of \$55.00 was presented in the name of Jerry Olivo from the 21st Infantry K Company.

President Tom Cochran announced that the raffle drawing was to be held immediately following the close of the meeting.

Motion to Adjourn - 12 Noon.

Respectfully Submitted,



Yvonne Mullins,
Secretary/Treasurer

ADENDUM: MEMBERSHIP PLEASE NOTE:

I. The Executive Committee discussed the issue regarding Article VII, Section 2 concerning the election of the office of President for a two year term. The Executive Committee supports the recommendation from the floor, brought forth by Jim Hill and Bill Muldoon. It would be in the best interest of the 24th IDA to leave the term of president for a one year term at this time since Article VII Section 2 reads, "No proposal for amending the Constitution shall be considered unless the text of the proposed amendment has been published in the official publication of the Association not less than ninety (90) days prior the Annual Members Meeting held during the Annual Association Convention."

2. The Executive Committee is recommending the President of the 24th IDA appoint a Parliamentarian (Roberts Rules of Order).

3. The Outgoing President appointed Wally Kuhner to be Chairman of reviewing and revising the Constitution and By-Laws and to have a report in the Spring (April - May) Taro Leaf 1999.



QUARTERMASTER 24TH IDA INCOME AND EXPENSE REPORT
OCT. 1997 THRU SEPT. 1998

INCOME

Total Deposits	\$7637.95
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EXPENSES

Total Refunds	\$21.00
Danang Enterprises	\$715.60
Erv Hoch	\$178.25
Av Aspects	\$459.40
McGrogans	\$388.75
WW II Tapes	\$120.00
Business Graphics	\$296.75
Staples	\$26.40
Fort Stewart Gift Shop	\$190.55
24 TH IDA	\$500.00
Ira Green	\$38.00
Cash - Change taken to reunion	\$250.00
Harland Checks	\$12.48
UPS - Ship merch. to reunion	\$124.67
Postmaster	\$285.97

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3607.82
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BALANCE SEPTEMBER 1998	\$4030.13
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OCT. 1998

Returned \$2,000 to Sec./Treas. 24TH IDA

Balance \$2030.13

34th Inf. Regt. Breakfast
September 26, 1998

Our Breakfast must be rated a success since for the second straight year, we had no casualties. Forty four members/guests were present. Ben Wahle, who conceived the breakfast, was absent due to colon surgery from which he is recovering slowly but surely. We miss him, but no one feels worse than he for not being able to be with us. He asked Hurdis Wise and I to carry on and his message be read:

The tusks that dashed in mighty brawls
of mastodons are billiard balls.
The grizzly bear whose potent hug
was feared by all is now a rug.
The sword of Charlemagne the Just
is Ferric Oxide known as rust.
Great Caesar's bust is on the shelf
and I don't feel so good myself.

My dear fellow soldiers,

Once more I fail to make roll call - not by my own doing, believe me. The men of the division and more closely of the Regiment will always be very close to me. There is a bond between combat soldiers that no one can understand unless they were there. I could list many names of men I know in the 34th - particularly the 2nd Bn. I miss you all. Wish I were there.

In Friendship,

Ben

P.S. The above poem (author unknown)
was sent to me by Red Newman in a letter dated May 6, 1989.

The breakfast was dedicated to Col. Red Newman, who was the C.O. on Oct. 20, 1944 (D-day Philippines) where and when he got us going with "Get the hell off the beach. Follow me!" Since we were more scared of him than the Japs, we complied. There is no doubt that he got the whole operation going. A short time later he was severely wounded, survived, and eventually returned to the 34th. He died a few years ago at a very ripe old age. On that Oct. 20, Hurdis Wise had an interesting personal encounter with the Colonel which he passed on to us. All heads were bowed for a few moments of silence not only for Red Newman, but also for Rudy Mullins, who did such a great job as secy/Treas., and Taro Leaf Editor, and Kenwood Ross, who with others, conceived our 24th Inf. Div. Assoc. Both Rudy and Ken were with us and very active last year in Colorado Springs. They will be missed! Tom Cochran, our outgoing Ass'n President, brought us up to date and enlightened us on numerous events which we may or may not have been aware of. First Timers were especially welcomed. Paul Cain offered information to determine a level of interest on the following: Apparently micro film strips are available describing ETO action in the Stars and Stripes magazine. If they also exist for the Southwest Pacific and Korea they could be advertised in the Taro Leaf and made available to the membership. Paul is following up to get more details. Another book is ready to compete for the Best Seller List. The title is Think!! Man Think!! by Hurdis Wise. The exploits of the WWII F Co. 34th Regt are vividly and realistically described as seen through a rifle company's 1st scout (the author). What is most amazing is that he survived. (For \$10 it's a much better buy than my "Memoirs of a Combat Infantryman".)

Eric Diller

Word received from Bruce and Kathryn Spencer of 485 North Broadway, Wells, MN56097-1520, "Had hoped we could make it this year to Little Rock. Bruce has not been well, was in the hospital a total of 9 weeks 4 different times. He is doing better but is slow going, hate to get too far away from home. Our best to you and all the 24th".

(We missed you in Little Rock and look forward to seeing both of you in Tulsa).

From Bronko Atkinson of 2716 Beaver Creek Ct #102, Las Vegas, NV 89117, "Would you please "Plant in h the next Taro Leaf the idea of a Return to Battlefields Trips to all WWII Vets who are still left and can get up and around and able to make this trip for The Last Time."

A letter from Ernest L. Samples, 1600 Brick Kiln LN , Louisville, KY 40216, "Just a little note to see how you are coping. I am not going to be able to come to the convention due to some health problems, but I'll be thinking of all of you, especially Battery A 11th Field. Tell the boys in A Battery to write me if they like. Maybe in the near future you could have the reunion here in Louisville, KY, this is really becoming a tourist center in the past few years. New water front, New Galleria downtown, etc."

(Thanks for writing Ernie and hope you hear from your Buddies!)

Heard from John H. Hargreaves, PO Box 58, Pelham, NH 03076-0058, "Thank you for my dues card and the other information on



the other information on the 24th Inf Division. I should have applied for membership years ago. I am sorry that I shall be unable to attend the reunion in Little Rock due to physical and medical conditions and other commitments. Actually all my long distance travel is no longer possible, doctors' orders. I enjoyed the copy of the May 1998 Taro Leaf which was sent to me. Although I did not know Ken Ross, it was obvious from the Taro Leaf publicity that he was truly a member of the "First to Fight", and "Last to Quit" Division.

The letter to the Editor and News Release I shall have reproduced and sent to newspapers in my local area as well as others in New Hampshire."

Joan Wetterau-Blankenburg of 1368 Highland Ave., Glendale, CA 91202-2047 writes, "Enclosing my check for renewal and contribution in memory of my wonderful father, Maj John A. Wetterau. He was 1st Sgt of Service Co for 8 or 9 years. After December 7, 1941 he was made M. Sgt and later in '42 Gen DeWitt recalled him stateside giving him a commission- Army Intelligence. We'd so love to hear from any of the men who served with my Father and if they could give me any special stories or memories of my Father. My happiest days were spent growing up in Hawaii at Schofield Barracks. Dad was first in the 21st Inf when transferred to Schofield from Ft. Francis E. Warren, Wyoming.

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Those happy glorious days were so unhappily ended when the Japs bombed us on Oahu. That was an awful day plus the days following, I will never forget. I loved being part of the 19th Infantry - always felt so special when allowed to visit Dad's Company." (Joan. hope you hear from some of the men who served with your Dad)

William J. Peters of 4500 26th Ave. SW., Naples, FL 34116-7820 would like to hear from any guys who were in "A" Battery at Leyte, Mindoro, Mindanao and in Matsuyama, Shikoku, Japan." (Let Bill hear from you)

Note from Rodney M. Olson, 4413 Oak Ridge, Sioux Falls SD 57103-4965, "I joined the 24th in the early part of 1943 in Hawaii and left from Mindora in 1945. It was an experience in ones life that left memories that never really go away. But I was fortunate to have been a part of the 24th. I look forward to each new issue of the "Taro Leaf" with information and news articles about fellow members." (Thanks for writing, Rod)

Letter received from Mrs Frank Eberhart of 711 N Erie St., Wheeling WV 26003-2313, "Thank you for reminding Frank about his dues. He is battling leukemia since March 17, 1997. Frank really enjoys the magazine "The Taro Leaf". He was in the 24th Infantry Division from December 1940 until his

discharge in 1944. He served in Hawaii for two years, was shipped to Australia then New Guinea where he was wounded." (Fellows, drop Frank a card or note)

Letter received from Robert (Bob) Phillips of 205 Payne Ave., Pocomoke City, MD 21851, "I am sure that Rudy and my path must have crossed at sometime but it has been so long ago, our careers were very similar, I went to Korea in July 1950 as a S/Sgt and was commissioned over there in May '51, returned to the States in August '51 and then went to Ft Sam Houston, TX, Camp Pickett, VA and then to Ft Meade, MD, so you can see why I feel that we had met at sometime, however, I got out of the service in 1963. I am enclosing a photo that was taken in late 1950 or early 1951, thought that some of the members might be able to identify it and the group of entertainers."



From Howard W. Camp, 430 South Stadium Dr., Xenia, OH 45385, "I'm going life this year with this \$150 check. I've been putting this off for a few years but now I've seen the light. Keep up your good work for the Division and thanks for the articles on Ken Ross. He was the first one I



wrote to when I joined up with the 24th IDA."

Charles J. Bianco of 3404 29th St. W, Bradenton, FL 34205 writes, "I would like to get in contact with any members of H Co. 34th Inf Regt 1942-1945 who remembers me. There were walking wounded from K CO who came into our section after dark. I would like to hear from any of them." (Hope you hear from some of the guys, Charles)

From Dayton Davis, 4218 ValleyRidge, Kalamazoo, MI 49006, "I am trying to locate anyone that can remember my accident, we were on maneuvers at Nightmare Range first of December 1955. While on Guard Duty at night I went over the cliff 100 feet or so, I slipped on ice and went down, my arms were broken, injuries to my back and leg. I was taken to a couple of Med Stations then to 121st Evc. Then to Tokyo Army Hospital, and returned to my outfit four months later. We was still up on line and I was put on light duty for the rest of my time in Korea. I need help in finding anyone that remembers this incident." (Can anyone help Dayton out?)

From Al and Barbara Chavez of PO Box 1051 Paradise, CA 95967-1051, "I have a story for you. One of my tax clients in Chico, Northern CA., brought me a document from her sister in Illinois, Ellen Compere. I men-

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

tioned having known Tom Compere and asked if they were related. She told me Tom was her sister's father in law and she thought he was a very fun, interesting man. She also told me that Tom's widow is still alive, living with her daughter in Arizona. Some people might want to write to her, so here is her address: Mimi Compere, 2601 NO Camino Principal, Tucson, AZ 85715. She is 91 years old, but in pretty good health."

Note from Vincent De Santis, of University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556-0368, "I was in the 2nd BN, 19th Inf Regt as a young officer from 1942 - 1945. Late in 1945, I was discharged from the Army in the U.S. to which I had returned from the 19th Inf. I enrolled in graduate studies in History, gained my Ph.D. and have been teaching American history at Notre Dame since 1949, almost 50 years. I now teach only in the Fall Semester and have time for myself from January - August. I write and travel in these months such as to Victoria, B.C., the Philippines, PA and MS and possibly Italy this year."

You may e-mail George Cuttle from Australia at <cuttledg@netspace.net.au>

From David R. Hanning of 2542 Oakview Dr, Rochester, NY 14617, "Does anyone from HQ 21st, circa 1946, remember Bill

Fujimura. Bill was a high schooler just outside Hiroshima when the Enola Gay made her drop. He joined the 21st at Okayama as a civilian interpreter and went with the Division to Kyushu serving as Colonel Winfield McKay's official interpreter at 21st HQ, Kumamoto. The surprise is that Bill was born in Seattle but in 1937, at the death of his grandmother, his father sent him along with his mother and other siblings back to Japan to care for his grandfather as was the custom. After the war, Bill returned to the States, was eventually drafted and spent years in the US Army and Reserves, retiring as a Major, Infantry. He also retired from Eastman Kodak as a Director, Optics Technology. Bill would be pleased to hear from anyone, and his address is: William S. Fujimura, 14 Bordeaux Way, Fairport, NY 14450-4614.

Dear Vonnie, Today a gentleman came by our house to talk about the 24th Div. He said he didn't want to join but just wanted to talk about the 24th Div. He would like to find someone who served with him in WWII. He served in Hawaii, Australia, New Guinea and the Philippines Islands. His name is Guy Teter, HC 81, Box 4A, Seneca Rock, WV 26884. He was in the 34th Regt Co C. Thanks, Harry Wittman".

Another letter received by Harry Wittman from Tracy L. Derks of 5026 Maple Brook, Kingwood, TX 77345, "Too often in histories of WWII the fighting on Leyte is framed in the context of MacArthur's personal glory in returning to the Philippines, or as a backdrop to the naval Battle of Leyte Gulf, or even as a prelude to the assault on Luzon. Seldom is the brutal campaign to take the



island focused on in its own rights. Yet, the Japanese Army High Command viewed the Battle for Leyte as their decisive battle, where the Americans would have to be stopped if the war was to be won by Japan. The enemy forces committed to fighting the American units attacking Leyte were the cream of Yamashita's Philippine forces. For the Japanese the gamble was all on Leyte. I have decided to write a mainstream account of the battle. As the authors of From Pearl Harbor to V-J Day write in their book, "...the campaign was not finished until early May (1945)" yet the campaign on Leyte had been disappointingly long and costly for the Americans". Despite the toil and blood of units like the 24th, the full extent of the fighting for Leyte seems mired in the thoughts of historians as a mere prelude to Luzon, unimportant of itself. The deeds of the 24th and the units that fought alongside them, deserve better than to remain the opening chapters on a book about retaking the Philippines - they deserve their own book. With your help I intend to tell this story, not to provide bona fides to your struggles — your actions speak for themselves — but so that a wide audience can appreciate those actions, and come to respect the men of the 24th as I do. If any members of the 24th would like to contact me they can do so in the following methods; mail your information or call me (281-360-6344. I also have an e-mail ad; tracy_derks@administaff.com

There has been a request to write more about the early days in Korea - 3rd Engineers. Is there any out there that would send articles to me to put in future issues?

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

e-mail from Jerry E. Conners, Msgt USAF Retired. "I received a letter from Jim Daley of Poughkeepsie NY in response to my inquiry in the May issue of the Taro Leaf regarding my Buddy Wayne Meyer. Jim wrote me that he was in that same convoy and actually saw a Sergeant take Wayne's body from the 2 1/2 ton truck and put it in a culvert for protection. He and other soldiers had to off load Wayne's truck while it was still smoldering. He said he heard the aircraft were American F-80's which coincide with my research. I talked to Jim on the phone after receiving the letter. He is quite a guy. Thanks so much for helping me in my quest."

e-mail from 1LT Joseph C. Tromblay. "As a lieutenant in the 2/34 Inf (Dragons), I did not serve during any combat. Infact, our unit did not even leave the states. However, history may someday remember the role that the men of the 24 ID not for where they fought, but for what they prevented from happening. You see, I served during the Reagan administration (1984-87) probably the greatest period of modernization and armament during American peacetime. Units from Ft. Stewart continually rotated out to the National Training Center for the best mechanized, battle-simulated training in the world. These were the last few years of the Cold War, and doubtless the Soviet Command was aware that American soldiers were well armed and equipped, but they were professionally trained to meet a threat anywhere in the

world - and win!! I had the good fortune to meet both General Schwartzkopf and General Newman. I have been a civilian for 11 years now, but my memories and experiences with the Dragons will always be with me."

e-mail from Goran Andersson (Sweden) "It would be highly appreciated if someone has any information about Sergeant first class Owen H. Metzger. He served in the 24th Inf Div during the Korean War. In 1974 he served in Japan. During a short period he was stationed at Camp Stoneman CA. I believe he was a MP. His registration number: RA 38493894. In 1968 he was stationed at US Army Garrison Fort Stewart Georgia. After that I have not the slightest idea what happened. Is he still alive, when and where was he born. If he is alive, does anyone know his address? Is it possible to read his military files and in that case - how can I get a copy of the files. I should be very grateful for all possible assistance in this matter. " (Anyone knowing Owen H. Metzger, please contact the Editor or e-mail Goran at goran.andersson@mbox337.swipn.et.se)

Letter received from Anna McInnis Lott of 421 W. Harding, Greenwood, MS 38930. "My husband, John R. McInnis, Jr was stationed in Japan with the 24th Inf Div and they were one of the first ground troops to go to Korea. I along with my young son were living in Japan at that time. Lt. Hagg was the company commander of his company. My husband was listed as missing a few days after they left for Korea and was later declared dead. Thirty one years later his body was returned back to Mississippi. He had a very good friend by the name of Max



E. Myers who help celebrate our child's first birthday. (June 12th) I know Max was a prisoner for around three years or more but was released. He contacted me by telephone and letter after he came home but I have not heard from him in many years now. (I think I did not answer his last letter). His last known address that I had was Max E. Myers, 93 Gilmer St., Gastonia, NC. If you have any information as to address or telephone number, I would appreciate if you would send it to me. I have had him on my mind for about two weeks remembering that he helped celebrate my son's first birthday forty eight years ago. Thank you very much in advance for your trouble." (Does anyone know Max E. Myers?)

From Urias Hughes of 106 Canterbury Dr., London, OH 43140-1222. "I joined the 24th HQ Company at 19 years old. I was always proud of the Division and early in my return to civilian life the Division had a convention at the Hilton Hotel in Columbus OH. Since this was hometown USA I went downtown to attend, being young, backward and seeing no one I knew I left. I would look later for future meetings in the paper and never found one. During Desert Storm my eyes were glued to the TV and I stayed up half the night watching the 24th return to Ft. Stewart, GA. My wife and I have an RV and visited Ft. Stewart shortly afterwards and I purchased a 24th cap there and that's my story. We were at Quartsite, AZ in 1997 and a couple of guys hollered at

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

me and asked if I was in the 24th. I said yes and we had a great conversation, they told me about the organization and I should join. My wife and I call home frequently for calls on our answering phone and believe it or not I had 3 calls from one of the men and he said he went ahead and sent my membership in. Now if that isn't comradeship, what is? Guess who? Delwyn Duncan, Barstow, CA was the caller and Don Barrett was his friend."

From Joseph R. Cintron of 5040 Sock Hop Way, North Las Vegas, NV 89031-6216. "I would like to get more information regarding my old unit. 24th Inf Div. I was assigned first to 1st of the 21st B Co. in 1964 stationed Warner Concern. Tdy to Berlin for 1 tour and then reassigned to the 2nd of the 21st HHQ Company 24th Inf Div. stationed Warner Concern. Tdy to Berlin for 2nd tour and stayed with them till my ETS September 1966. Tour of duty 1963 September to September 1966. "

e-mail received from Dianne C. Baczynski of 4 Romero Ct., Novato, CA 94945. "My name is Dianne (Wiegand) Baczynski, daughter of a WWII member of the 34th Inf Regt, 24th Inf Div., Company "B". He arrived in the Philippines I believe sometime in the Fall of 1944, then killed in action near Bancal, Mindanao on May 9, 1945. His name was Frank H. Wiegand, serial # 36842663, hometown was Appleton, WI. His nickname was "Gody", but don't know if he used that in the service. As I

understand it, he was hauling ammunition and rations to his company area about 1000 yards North of the city of Bancal when this barrage of mortar fire was landing right in the vicinity of his jeep. He left the jeep, along with his driver to seek protection on the side of the road. It was while he was running from the jeep to the road that he was instantly killed by enemy sniper fire. He was then buried in the U.S. Armed Forces Cemetery in the city of Taloma, Mindanao. Today his final resting place is in the Manila American Cemetery in Manila. I would be most interested in finding someone who knew my dad during his time in the service, or perhaps was a member of his infantry. We are in possession of a few letters from some buddies and officers to my mom after his death, so the following names may ring a bell with someone. Father James J. Moran, the Chaplain, U.S. Army; Russell V. Pyle, 1st LT 34th Inf Commanding, PFC Thomas Thompson 3698324 and PFC Bob Barton 39387023; Home address was Portland, Or. Thank you".

From Willard Willis, Beaufort, N.C. 28516. "Enclosed are the two pictures I spoke to you about. The picture of the "Rock" was taken at Matsuyama or Kocki and the soldier on our left was our platoon Sgt. Turner. On our right was a Cpl from one of the Southern States. Maybe some of our readers will recognize these men. The other picture, the one of the 19th emblem was taken on Mindanao, near Davao. These pictures would have been taken the last half of '45 and first of '46.

At the reunion in Little Rock a note was given to me that Dr. William J. Swanson, address: PO Box 27 Yasothon, Thailand 35000 was ill and he would appreciate bearing from all of his old friends.



EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR





EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To All Members and Friends

Thank all of you for writing. We did not have any letters from our members in the August 1998 issue of the Taro Leaf and I will try to include all of them in this issue.

This letter is from Gary Pray who has since become an Associate Member of the 24th IDA.

"Recently, I obtained information from a member of the 24th Div Assoc. that you are the Editor of the Taro Leaf. I am doing a comprehensive study about the Battle of Breakneck Ridge which involved the 21st RCT of the 24th Div. during WWII., on Leyte P.I. My father was a member of that unit who has since passed. He was severely wounded on Mindanao, P.I. and remained in the hospital for several years. He was not a member of the Association and I am sure that he probably was unaware of its existence. I'm in the editing process of a manuscript about the 21st RCT for publication. I am looking for members who may have also been involved in the battle. The manuscript needs a personal perspective. I have in my possession Col. Verbeck's book, Jan Valtin's work, Turner's latest publication and materials from the National Archives. They are valuable resources but lack that human element. Any suggestions would be appreciated."

Sincerely,
Gary Pray
859 S. Curtis
Kankakee, IL 60901

I wrote to Gary and sent him a

roster of the 21st Infantry Regiment during WWII for him to contact and told him I would put his letter in the Taro Leaf. If any of you Gimlets can help Gary out, please contact him. Thanks.

Received a note from John H. Peek, 508 44th Ave. E., Bradenton, FL 34203-3584 - "In reading your May 1998 issue of Victory Division News, - Page 57, asking who wrote "I've Done My Hitch In Hell", I wrote that! I have the words written down and will send them to Ed Voss as soon as I find them." (Well, Ed there is the answer to your question, I hope you heard from John).

Heard from William B. Nelson JR, 214 W Mockingbird LN, Harker Heights, TX 76548, "I am just wondering what some of the officers of the Association thoughts were on the Bronze Star, about the men that were there and did not receive it, like myself and many others. Go to the PX and buy it, or leave it alone?"

I received a letter from Wesley R. Morrison of 452 Gloria Circle, Marina CA 93933-4027. Wes writes, "As I unlocked my car door today, this napkin fell out. I guess it was placed in the door crack sometime during the day. As I read it I became quite touched by it. I'm sure the rest of our members from the Korean

war era will also be touched."

The words that were wrote on the napkin Wes speaks of were, "Korea is not a forgotten war - we are grateful for your courage and sacrifice."

The Next Generation

Next letter was received from our History chairman, B. David Mann of 119 Gaymont Road, Richmond, VA 23229. "I notice in the Taps Section on Page 52, in a letter from Vincent P. Ramoni, that his deceased uncle, Lewis Pucillo, served in the "Missing Battalion in Mindanao" during World War II. Since Lewis served in H Co. 19th Infantry, the battalion must be the 2nd/19th. Although I served with Company G 34th Infantry throughout the Mindanao campaign, I never heard of any reference to a "missing battalion." I was wondering if, in the next issue of the Taro Leaf, you would ask if anyone can enlighten me on this battalion. Sounds like a good story for the 2nd Edition of the division history. Hopefully another member of the 2nd Battalion 19th will send me an account of this episode and copy of newspaper clipping, other material, if available. Many thanks for your help. Would like to hear from a 19th Infantry World War II member".

e-mail from Chris Lewis: " I am seeking information on men that might have known my brother (Adelbert Blue) he was in Korea in 1950. The information I have about my brother is: He was in 34th Inf Regt and was taken POW on 7/6/1950. Any help you can give me is welcome.

e-mail address for Chris Lewis is:
topcat@erinet.com

Letter from John I. Lowgren, of 2104 W. 230 Th. St. Torrance, CA 90501-5404 "I received my Taro Leaf today and learned that a new book is forthcoming. Therefore, I feel I should alert my fellow Taro Leafers to use caution and good sense in sending in Memorabilia for the new book. Please do not send in any original material that you cannot stand to lose because there is a possibility it may be lost. I lost an original copy of my "Terrain handbook #25-South West Pacific". I have no idea who lost it, the Post Office or Turner Publishers. Three calls to Turner failed to locate it, so I must assume it's gone forever. For this reason, I urge everyone to hang on to their originals. Make copies, good ones because there needed, but make them because they are irreplaceable and can be lost in many ways. I understand it is my fault and I cannot blame anyone but myself for being so foolish as to send away irreplaceable objects in the hope that nothing would happen to them. I hope this finds its way to the next issue so no one else losses something they have carefully saved for 50 years or more. "A WORD TO THE WISE".

A letter from Dave Mann written to John I. Lowgren:

Dear John:

I was very sorry to learn from your letter of August 11 to Yvonne Mullins that you had still not found your Terrain Handbook #25-Southwest Pacific. That is unfortunate. Turner's policy is to return all such source materials to the sender. To my recollection, you are the only one who did not receive all his material back. It is not



your fault. I believe it was an honest, regrettable error that I, and I assume Turner also are sorry for your loss. I have reviewed your reminiscences of the action you observed at Hollandia regarding the rockets and the dogfights on Mindoro. I believe we can work these in to the text of the new edition of the 24th Division history, thus enhancing and giving more color to the narrative. Again, I regret your loss of the Terrain study, but thank you again for providing information for the history.

A card received from Louis Tachi, Sr of 6832 Bradley Ave., St. Louis, MO 63139-2237 reads, "I had planned to make the reunion but plans had to be changed. My wife had a second knee replaced and just wouldn't be up to it. She is doing fine. Hoping you all have a great reunion. The good Lord willing we will be able to make next years."

"NATIONAL ORDER of BATTLEFIELD COMMISSIONS are trying to locate all men, WWII, Korea and Viet Nam, who on the field of battle against an armed enemy, received a COMMISSION from enlisted or Warrant status to commission status. It may be you or someone you knowCONTACT: JOHN ANGLIER, 67 Ocean Drive, St. Augustine, FL 32084 or call 1-904-471-7695.

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter received from Col. (Ret.) Mike Thiel, 7161 W. Wynfield LP. Midland, GA 31820: "I lost a dear friend on 22 April '98, Howard R. Lumsden. Lum and I go back to August of 1950 in Korea as members of "L" Company, 3d Bn, 21st Infantry Regt. He was a booster of the 24th Infantry Division Association, VFW and Legion. Our friendship endured almost 50 years, with weekly telephone calls during the last couple of years, as Lum's physical condition began to deteriorate, when I would ask how he was feeling, his favorite answer was "I'm hanging in there", Never a complaint as the end drew near. Lum was always a man of few words but when spoken they were right and got the job done. He often times said, "He who speaks often and loud has seen very little. God Bless you Lum!"

Note from Bill Vrooman of 206 Boulevard Peru, IN 46970-1620. "Enclosed please find my application and check for reinstatement in the 24th Infantry Division Association. I was a member years ago and dropped out because there was never any items in the Taro Leaf about the 24th Cav. Recon. or any of its members. In now looking back I can easily see why not as we were such a small unit in such a large division. Our whole unit was composed of less than 200 men. In reading the July 18, 1998 Peru Daily Tribune came across an item concerning the Association searching for past members. I immedi-

ately wrote to you and want to thank you for your response and sending me a Taro Leaf dedicated in memory of Kenwood Ross. I was deeply grieved to learn of his death. It was through him that I originally joined the Association. I was assigned to the 24th Infantry Division after completing Basic Training on East Range in Oahu, Hawaii. I was stationed at Schofield Barracks until in 1943 we sailed off to Australia. I was with the Division until the end of the War in the Philippines. From an old 24th Div. Army Buddy."

Clinton Littleton sends his new address of 991 Hardesty Loop RD, Newport, NC 28570 and says, "We enjoy the Magazine very much". (Thanks for writing Clinton)

Received e-mail from David Bailie. "I am and have been a member of the 24th IDA for some time now and have sent many articles into the Taro Leaf of which have not gotten in for one reason or another. It is important to many others in the 24th that we keep up the quality of all of our work and this should include the publishing of the history of our Division. Even more so now that the powers to be in D.C. have "retired" it's colors after 55 years of service to this country. The 1st Edition printed in 1997 was not worth the time and cost in my opinion as a member and author. The long list of mistakes that still remain in it are inexcusable and the time it took to get it published and in the memberships hand was way beyond the time frame we were told it would take. If I have a vote in this matter, my vote is NOT to go with Turner Publishers for the second edition. If I am over ruled, then at the very least have the "watch dog"



committee make sure deadlines are kept and several edits are done before it gets published. I would also suggest that if a member who bought the first edition wants the "improved" second edition he/she should get it at half the cost. Lastly to put my foot in my mouth I'll even "volute" to be part of that "watch dog" committee for the second edition. Also announce the detail and sale on my web page in honor of the 24th Inf. Div. and it's 55 years of Service." From "Scottie" 34thkco@elnet.com(e-mail) Web site is: [Http://www.elent.com/34thkco](http://www.elent.com/34thkco) or <http://www.elent.com/34thkco/24thIDA-pg.html>

A note from Raymond Youngblood of 15 N 10th St., Kansas City, KS 66102, "My mother and Dad came to the USA from the "Old Country" to Kansas City, KS and my Dad went to work at the Swift Meat Packing House Company. I joined the Army and asked for overseas duty and they sent me to Schofield Barracks Hawaii. I arrived in Honolulu June 6, 1941 and I was in the 21st Inf Regt Company B. The morning of the attack, 7:45 a.m. I was on Guard Duty, 21st Inf Regt Parking lot." (Thanks for writing Raymond, we appreciate all that our veterans have done).

Received a letter from James L. Snow of East Brady PA saying that he has sent in our request in

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

searching for anyone who served in the 24th Inf Div Association to his local newspaper. James also states that he has given information about the 24th IDA to many that he talks to." (Thanks for sharing with us James, we appreciate you and so many others that get the word out to your local newspapers). You are recruiting and our membership is growing.

Received word from Ernest L. Powell, 1168 High St., Brandenburg, KY 40108-1501, "Found your message on the net. Vonnice, I have met some guys from the 19th (Thanks to you and the Taro Leaf). One more favor, I am looking for anyone from B Co 21st or any company that was at Camp Schimmelpfennig in 1952 and Kojido 1953. Thank you so much, Ernie". e-mail Ernflo@creative-net.net

Albert J. Miller of 40 S 2nd St., Newport, PA 17074 writes: "Anyone serving at Schofield Barracks, from 1938 to 1940 in the 19th Inf Company "C" or "HQ" Company, please contact me at the address above. Would like to hear from someone in Pennsylvania, but will appreciate a letter from any place. Hope to hear from someone real soon."

George P. Losio of 1-3rd Ave., Farmingdale, NY 11735 writes: "Before being trained and transferred to the 19th Inf I had been trained at Eustis, unfortunately my Battalion picture has been lost. If

It is possible that someone may have the above mentioned picture and any 1944 one would be fine. I realize this is a shot in the dark but all other approaches have hit a dead end...I will be willing to pay in advance for anyone who could supply a copy for me." (Could anyone help George out?)

Letter received from Francis H. Heller, 3419 Seminole Dr., Lawrence KS 66047-1622 dated May 3, 1998. "My copy of the Division history arrived a few weeks ago and I read it with interest and enjoyment. It is a handsome volume. I was most interested by the account on page 40 of the flank attack by the 1st battalion of the 34th. Although one would not normally expect an NCO from division headquarters to be detailed to duty as a forward observer that was exactly what I was doing and I was immensely impressed at time and still am by the leadership of the battalion commander, "Jock" Clifford. I am fairly certain that it was on Clifford's recommendation that I was, sometime later, given a battlefield commission.) Incidentally, I received that commission on the same day, May 15, that the division artillery commander, Colonel Hugh Cort, received his star. The book says that he was a BG at the time of the Mindanao landing — which was a month earlier. I am equally certain that General Lester was not in command of the division when it arrived on Shikoku but took over in November. In the interval BG Kenneth Cramer was division commander. Cramer was the only National Guard officer in any higher command position in the division; he was highly regarded by all. I was rather surprised how much of the World



War II account was based on Jan Valtin's Children of Yesterday. Valtin was the name he used as a writer; his real name was Krebs; he had come to the US from Germany and had published a fictionalized account of his experiences as a political prisoner of the Nazis. I do not know what became of him later on.

Krebs was assigned to the division's public relations office but, of course, the 24th was rarely in the limelight and the PR office was never very busy. Krebs had somehow managed to get a medical excuse that kept him from KP and similar duties — the word was that General Cramer had read his book and saw an opportunity to get the division's story on paper while the major actors were still around.

While we were at Taloma Beach outside of the city of Davao the PR office shared a tent with the Special Services office and for some time one officer headed both offices. The enlisted man in Special Services at the time Krebs was assigned to PR was a private by the name of James Bumgarner — he later dropped the "Bum" and became a well-known movie and TV actor: James Garner. I believe that Ken Ross tried several times to have him come to an annual meeting but without success.

Speaking of Ken Ross, I was much moved by the tributes to him in the last Taro Leaf. The entire issue was first rate. It is, of course, in the nature of any orga-

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

nization of veterans that the obituary section of its publication takes up a good share of the space. None of us get any younger; some of us just last a little longer than others. (James L.) Postma was a year older than I and had been ill for several years; he died at his home here on March 18. He and I had been the only WWII veterans of the division in Lawrence and, since we were both lawyers, had come to know each other quite well although we had not known each other during the war. Jim was wounded in the landing on Leyte and we later established that we had been, at that time, probably within 500 yards from each other. He was highly regarded as an attorney and had rendered outstanding service to the community in a variety of ways, including service as a member of the city council. He is survived by his wife, Sally, and a daughter, Rosalee Carttar, a member of the Spanish department of the University of Kansas. Jim and Sally were among the division party that went back to the Philippines for the observance of the anniversary of the landing there and then were caught in the hotel fire in Baguio."

From Robert W. Moser, 5835 Randolph Blvd., San Antonio TX 78233, "Enjoy reading the bulletin. I was with the unit when activated 129-C and TRF to Demo Plat HQ 515 in 1944. Later with 82nd 307 Eng. Jimmy Boyle was with me when we went to Hoffmann NC in early '43. Hope to make another Reunion.

SPECIAL SERVICE AT RINCON FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH HONORED U.S. MILITARY VETERANS

Every Sunday, Rincon First Christian Church observes Memorial Day around the communion table as worshippers partake of the cup and bread in remembrance of the death, burial, resurrection, and coming again of Christ.

However, on May 24, a memorial was also held for those who gave their lives for our great country.

Veterans were honored and about 15 in the congregation brought pictures from their military days, medals and other memorabilia which were displayed on tables in the church foyer along with a large American flag.

All branches of the military were represented.

Purple hearts, ribbon, uniforms and merit badges adorned the displays and covered a span of World War I through Desert Storm era.

Red, white and blue flowers were in the sanctuary and the call to worship was a choral rendition of "God of our Fathers" with trumpet accompaniment by teen-ager, Paul Fog.

The interim minister, Elbert Lilley, is a Korean War Veteran who received a purple heart as a result of being wounded in the conflict. His message compared

the life of a soldier for our country and one who is a soldier of Christ, there being many parallels.

The service inspired everyone to not only be thankful and patriotic to our country, but to be thankful to God our Father, who made and has protected the "land of the free."



Interim minister Elbert Lilley shows off his display of military memorabilia

I Said A Prayer For You Today!

I said a prayer for you today and
know God must have heard.
I felt the answer in my heart
Although he spoke no word!
I didn't ask for wealth or fame,
(I knew you wouldn't mind).
I asked Him to send treasures
Of a far more lasting kind!
I asked that He'd be near you
At the start of each new day,
to grant you health and blessings
And friends to share your way!
I asked for happiness for you
In all things great and small -
But it was for His loving care
I prayed for most of all.



(Sent in by J.B. Brock)
P.O. Box 8491
Spartanburg, SC 29305



From Jack Starr of 4372 27th CT SW, Naples FL 34116-7437. "I still have not located anyone who was in "G" CO 19th from 1938-41. Please put a notice in Taro Leaf for me. If anyone remembers me Jack Starr G 19th Inf from 1938-40. My phone number is 941-455-5473. I cannot travel as my wife of 56 years had a mild stroke and is 75 and I take care of her and take her to Rehab. and she is doing much better. My bestman at my wedding enlisted with me and he was in A Co 27th Inf Wolfhounds. I lost track of him when I was recalled back to the Army and enlisted in Navy where I served in South Pacific on a Sub tender USS Fulton AS11, out in October 1945. I retired in 1970. Maybe with a notice in the Taro Leaf I can locate some one."



Individual Displays of Men and Women who have served our Nation from World War I to the present.

These displays include their uniforms, pictures, memories and artifacts they brought home.

Letter from Richard J. Muir. "I learned this summer that "all roads do not lead to Rocky Mount" but did get as close as Branson. The new lady in my life is from Wichita, KS so I insisted on extending our trip to Atlanta, GA to visit Doug and Wilma Thornton and on to Houston to visit Charlie and martha Card. They both served in Co. "B" 34th Regt with me from Hollandia to Leyte. About three years ago while living in Centralia, WA to be near one of my daughters during her mothers declining health, I met a young man with a dream to start a Veterans Memorial Museum in Centralia. At the time, he had one room in his home with just a few uniforms and memorabilia of WWII. The picture enclosed is a mannequin uniformed with my dress OD and Div Taro Leaf. Oh yes, I'm a "Show Me", born St. Louis October 1919."



VETERANS MEMORIAL MUSEUM

712 West Main
Centralia, Washington 98531
(360) 330-7913

Picture from William B. Nelson.
 Left to right: Bobby J. Sheppard
 MSGT Ret. W.B. "Wild Bill" Nelson
 4 yrs. '47-'51 Cpl., Benjamin
 E. Sadler SSGT 12 Yrs., H.G.
 "Tex" Stiles MSGT Ret., Sherman
 J. Sickles Truck Master, MSGT
 Ret., Curtis L. Hilley MSGT Ret.



EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*It is the soldier, not the
 reporter who has given us the
 Freedom of the Press.*

*It is the Soldier, not the poet
 who has given us Freedom of
 speech.*

*It is the Soldier, not the
 campus organizer, who has
 given us the Freedom to
 demonstrate.*

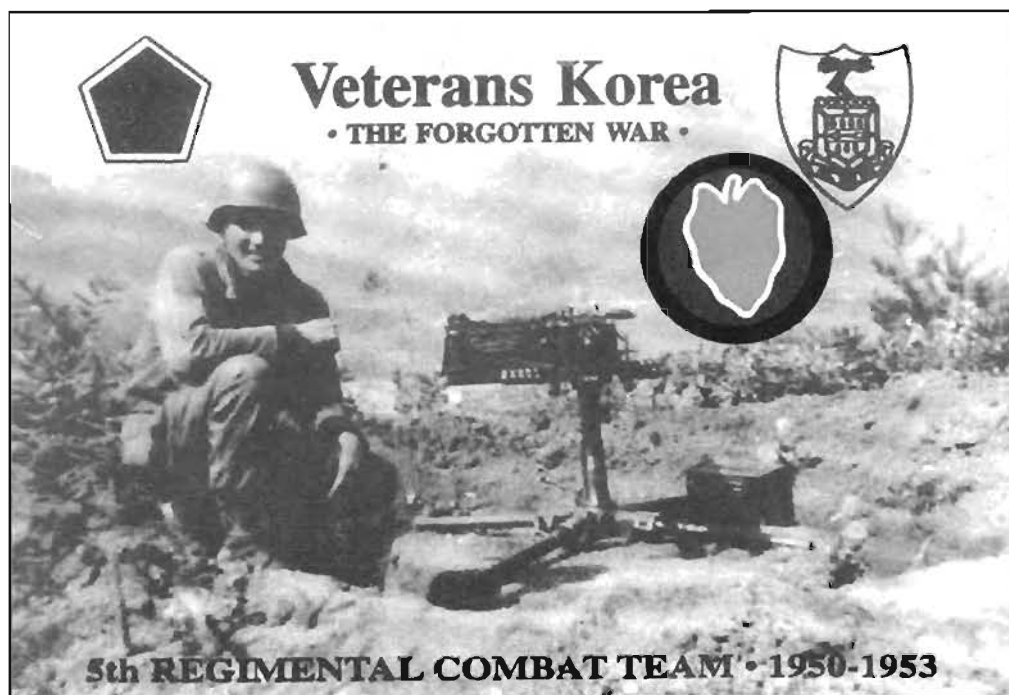
*It is the soldier, who serves
 beneath the Flag, who salutes the
 Flag; whose coffin is draped by
 the Flag..who allows the protester
 to burn the Flag.*

*It is the Soldier, not the politician
 who has given his blood, his body..
 his life*

Who has given us these FREEDOMS.



From long ago and far away. Cpl.
 Dan Rickert 50 Cal. machine gun-
 ner Co. "D" 3rd Combat Engi-
 neer's 24th Infantry Division. Gun
 in place to cover Engineer work
 party to the front of the M.L.R. at
 point of the Iron Triangle over
 looking the Kumsong Valley late
 October 1951 Korea. Co. "D" in
 support of the 5th R.C.T.



KOREAN ARMISTICE DAY WASHINGTON D.C.

July 27, 1998

This is the report on the services at our memorial and at Arlington National Cemetery on July 27, 1998.

Before services I contacted J. Norbert "Skip" Reiner who was in charge of the activities and asked him about the spray of flowers. He informed me that they were going to lay the sprays. I did see the one for the 24th Infantry Division "First to Fight" even though we didn't get to lay them. We had four men to help represent the 24th. LIFE MEMBER Robert Phillips I Co. 21st (new member) Domenick Pantalone (non-member) Paul Kowalewski 19th Inf and Life Member Cleon Eckler I Co 21st Inf. Bob Phillips laid the flowers on the Korean Memorial at Arlington. It was a beautiful day but less humidity than last year. I think we did the Division proud at least that's what a lot of people told us at both ceremonies.

(s) Cleon C. Eckler JR





Left: Asbed Zakarian
 Middle: Joe Subsak
 Right: George Rangold (My best buddies)



EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Matsuyama, Shikoku

Left: #1 Al Rosen; #2 Elliott Horton; #3 Donald Madden; #4 Jay Porpiglia (passed away) #5 Bernard Simonovitch; #6 Kneeling - Bill Goggins;



LT. Werelius, Spokane, WA



Left: Jay Porpiglia, Hazelton, PA
 Right: Joe Subsak, Wilkes Barre, PA

REUNION '98

Little Rock, AR



Attention! K Company 34th Inf Regt. James Sullivan, Paul Cain, Roy Cash, Phil Nast, Dan Valles, Francis McManus.



When our "Leader" speaks, everyone listens!



Phyllis and Joe



Dan and Bev



Wow, look at the color! -ALOHA NIGHT-



Say "Beer"!



What a Happy Group



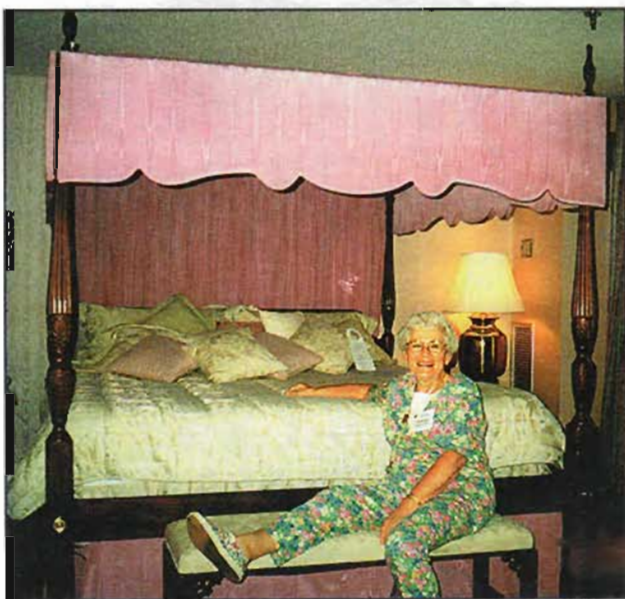
This is where its happening - Watering place, top of the hotel!



Color Guard



Our "Big Winner", Ernie Bayne (First Timer)
(I heard he's coming back)



Excelsior Hotel? Whose bedroom are we in, Fran??



Carla & Will and Vonnie



Let's do the "Bunny Hop"



Our "First Lady"



"Phil"



Secretarys'



Dancin' the night away.



Smile, you're on candid camera!



Two buddies, McGill and Naegle.



Zane, I'm glad to see you wearing your tie!! (I told you it would look good)



Presenting our new Sec/Treas - "Will Schumaker".



Reminiscing - Vernon, Donna, Chuck and Ruth.



Our guest speaker, Nick Baker.



"We're Proud"



Hot Springs.



The "Duck" stops at Hot Springs.



View to the West from the Pinnacle.



Historic Mansion in Little Rock.



Vinnie and his best girl "Fran".



Vinnie and his girlfriends,
Diane and Vonnie.
(Taken by his best girl, Fran)



The "Incoming" and "Outgoing"



"Bev"

VERBECK BOWL AWARDED TO PHILIP H. HOSTETTER, M.D.

September 26, 1998 - Little Rock, AR
CONGRATULATIONS, PHIL!

Since its inception in 1966 the William Jordan Verbeck Bowl has been presented to 29 members of the 24th Infantry Division Association. This is the highest honor the association bestows on any member, that member who best displays the ideals of General William Verbeck. It is no wonder the Verbeck Bowl was awarded to Phil Hostetter.

No one except the committee and officers knew who would receive this honor and certainly not Dr. Hostetter, for as usual he was ready with camera to take the picture of the next recipient when he was called to the platform. If anyone took a picture of Dr. Hostetter as his name was being called, please let us know, for I am sure that it would be a truly candid picture.

It was the highest honor I have ever had, presenting the Verbeck Bowl Award to Dr. Hostetter. Dr. Hostetter was not an elected officer nor was he appointed to any position. He took the initiative to do this service for the 24th Infantry Division Association and his motivation for taking the photos is to bring recognition to veterans who deserve everything and who receive very little.

Dr. Hostetter has written about his years as a Doctor and Soldier in the South Pacific....⁹"I was in the unique position of being a participant in the war and also a trained observer. These little stories illustrate how we survived day by day. They tend to be understated because at the time we felt what we were doing was pretty ordinary. I hope I can do honor to the countless service persons who also did their unglamorous duty to win the war. The 24th Infantry Division Association believes our experiences are worth remembering. It got me to writing them down."

Turner Publishers are looking at what he has written and it is my hope that it will be published for all to read.

All of us who read the Taro Leaf magazine thank you, Phil, for all of the pictures you so thoughtfully have taken for everyone to enjoy.

Yvonne

Yvonne Mullins, Editor





Yvonne Mullins presenting the Verbeck Bowl Award for 1998 to Dr. Philip H. Hostetter at the Memorial Service and Banquet on September 26, 1998 - Excelsior Hotel, Little Rock, AR



Bob, Walt and Phil.



I'll drink to that!



Where's the Duck?



Bev and Martha



Sing it, Johnny!



The Line Up! Sullivan, Valles, Cain and new members Dunkin and Cash.



Dan trying to convince his old Commanding Officer, Paul, why we won the War.



Vonnie and Joe



Another reunion, we're so happy.



Aloha Night.



Aloha Night.



Vince Vella lives it up with Sue, Vonnie, Diane and Margo!!



Dutch with the girls, Sue Hill, Vonnie Mullins and Margo Nelsen.



Sue and Jim Hill go native for Aloha Night!



Dallas Dick tells the 19th Inf Breakfast about the days in Hawaii, before Pearl Harbor.



Dutch, our M.C.



JD calling meeting to order!



Our happy helper, Fran - Just a little tired after a long day.



Hello from the Pinnacle Room.



Ellie, what's Wally lookin at?



Come on, tell us the joke.



"The Lobby"



You tell 'em John!



Chef's helpers, Charlie and Sidney.



Receiving Certificates



Memorial Service



Bob, Frank, Hank and Arnold



"Bob"



"Don"



Pat Lemon (a happy winner)



Where are you going girls?



"Jackie and Tom"

A VERY SINCERE THANK YOU TO THE FINE MEN OF THE 24TH DIVISION

In 1991, after the death of my mother, I became a true WWII orphan. My dad had joined the army in Feb. 1944. He left a young wife and 2 small sons at home. From reading his letters, written to my mother and to his parents (given to me shortly before my mother's death), I was able to track his brief army career as he went through various training camps (Fort Knox, Camp Gruber, Fort Ord) and then his shipping out from San Francisco to the South Pacific. He left the West Coast on December 15, 1944 on the USS General R.L. Howze (AP-134) arriving at Hollandia Bay, New Guinea on January 2, 1945, then on to Leyte Island, landing Jan 17, 1945, where he joined a replacement depot. On January 26, 1945 he shipped out on the USS Haskell (APA-117) and joined Company M, 3rd Battalion, 24th Division, 34th Infantry Regiment while sailing to a landing at San Narcisco, (San Antonio), Luzon, Philippine Islands on January 29, 1945.

With the help of men of the 24th Division, I have been able to follow my dad's short life on the Bataan Peninsula. The 34th Reg. marched and trucked to Olongapo and on January 30, 1945 had their first action at Lighthouse Point. From Feb. 1-6, the 34th Reg. was involved in action in Zig-Zag Pass, 3 miles east of Olongapo. There were many fine young American men killed in this action, including my Dad, James Charles Shields, Jr. My dad was killed on Feb. 5, 1945 when his machine gun sqd advanced to the top of a small hill to provide cover as the 1st and 2nd Battalion withdrew to Olongapo. A short round of our 105's struck the tree they were under and the rest is history.

On May 1, 1997, I traveled to Luzon and met up with Mr. David Mann, who I had been corresponding with for over a year. David had been planning a return trip to Luzon and had invited me to join him. He changed his travel plans twice so that they would fit in with my needs. David made all necessary arrangements for travel and lodging while there and made sure that I visited all the places that were of interest to my search for information on my Dad.

It was a very special feeling of honor, pride and closeness with my Dad and the men of the 34th Reg. that I stood on the Western shore of Bataan and looked inland at the valley and mountains that they were to travel through. Then we drove east to Olongapo and David gave me a full accounting of the action at the Lighthouse. We then spent several hours in Zig-Zag Pass and I climbed to the top of the small hill where my Dad was killed. I was moved to tears as I stood on top, alone with my thoughts, but happy to have this time to remember my Dad and visit this hallowed ground. David was very patient and compassionate with me as he reviewed the action of the 34th during those early days in Feb. 1945. It was a trip that I had looked forward to making for several years and very grateful that I found David and had the honor of traveling with him. It is a trip that I will never forget and will make sure that my children and grandchildren will know of the great sacrifice that the men of WWII made for them.

There are so many men that I need to thank. Men that called me or wrote me letters giving me information or leads of other men to contact. I hesitate to give names because it is so easy to overlook someone, however, I feel that I should try, so here goes: David Mann, Myrl Brown, Johnny Rodriguez, Dr. John Kennodle, Harry Velick, William Dowdy, Jr., W.B. Hester, Paul Bader, Donald Barrett, Joseph P. Hofrichter, Phil Nast, James A. Wittkower, Enos Torsch, George W. Dickinson. To all of you I offer my very sincere thank you. I will always be grateful for your interest and help. I'm proud that my Dad served with such an outstanding group of men.

Very truly yours,



R. Gary Shields
Rt. 10, Box 408-A
Lake City, Florida 32025
904-752-8264
FAX 904-752-8255
E-mail gshields@hankins.com

PS: Enos Torsch and George Dickinson were close to my Dad when the blast came and Myrl Brown was his sqd leader and was wounded from the same blast.



Over 80 attendees, Veterans, their wives and guests at the 5th R.C.T. Living Memorial Dedication, Arlington Cemetery, 27 July 1998. LtGen. Richard F. TIMMONS, speaker Col Clarence COSTER, Chairman.



Subuc-San Battle Monument. Dedicated 4 December 1995 to The 5th R.C.T. and Capt. Robert T. TIMMONS, CO "A" Co. 5th Inf Regt, K.I.A. August 1950, by his son LtGen TIMMONS. L-R: MG Jae Pyong Ha, CG 39th ROK Div; Mr. Chi Kap-Chong, Chrmn UNKWAA; LtGen Richard F. TIMMONS, CG EighthUSArmy, Korea; MG Lee Suk-Bok, Asst C/S CFC. Korea



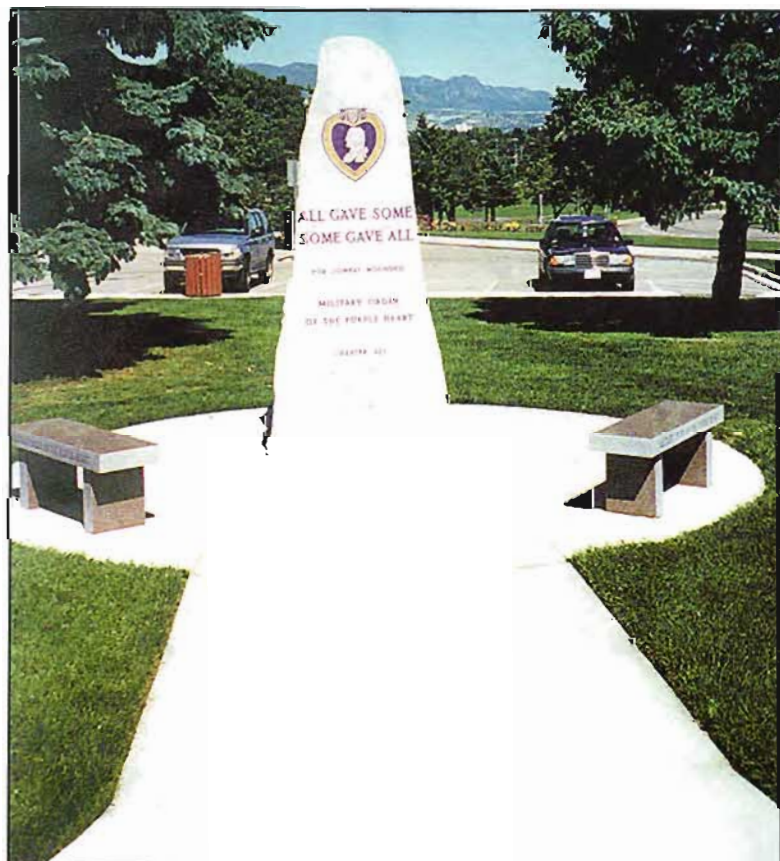
Our 5th R.C.T. Memorial Roosevelt & Wilson, just below Tomb of Unknowns.

Time to Pay Your **ANNUAL DUES**

***Please send dues to: Secretary/Treasurer -
Will Schumaker,
1300 East Hartley, Ozark, MO 65721-8347.***



Earl Lee and L Col Dutch Nelsen taken at Colorado Springs War Memorial
(Picture sent by Earl Lee) Earl was in Co "E" 19th Inf and Dutch was attached to Co. "E"
'50-'51 and Earl's friend Sam Ferraro was his radioman.



Congratulations to Andrew and Leona Schurley. They will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on November 21, 1998. Andrew served in Co. "L" 21st Inf Regt from Mar 1941 to April 1943.

Received a letter from William J. Neff Co. I 34th Inf Regt now living at 3150 Rochambeau Ave, Bronx, NY 10467. "I was with the 34th Inf Regt Co I 24th Division for almost 5 years. I served at Hollandia, Biak and Philippines. I am 81 years of age now and recuperating from major heart surgery. I lost part of my vision. I also played baseball for the 34th Regt in South Carolina, Pearl Harbor and Australia. We had a very good team as I remember. It would be nice for me to hear of my old buddies again. I don't think many made it home as we really went through Hell once we went into combat against the Japanese from Hawaii to the Philippines. Would appreciate any word as to who made it home. I have 2 bronze stars from Hollandia and Biak, Dutch New Guinea and 2 bronze stars from the Philippines aside from other awards."

Charles W. Johnson of 7114 Salmar CT, Cincinnati, OH 45231 sends his home page address: <http://members.aol.com/grampscwj/charlie.htm> (Look for his article elsewhere in this issue.)

Letter received from Gerald J. Giannini of 5 Valmere Ct., Edison, NJ 08817-2243. "This past week I located a Co "A" buddy thru the Internet. I haven't seen him in 52 years. The last time was in Okayama, Japan. My brother in law and myself put his name thru the Internet, Sammy H. Goodman and only one address came up with his telephone number. I called him up in Bonita, CA and it was him.



EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

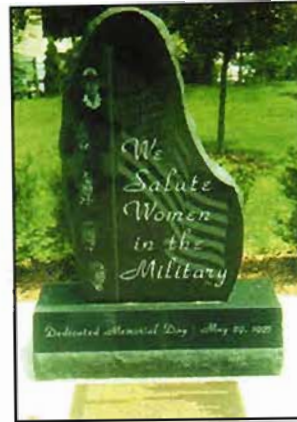
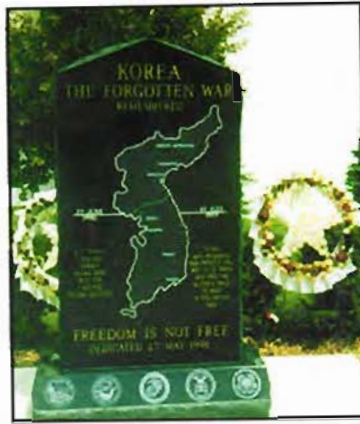
He knew nothing of the Association. I'm sending in his first years dues so he'll know what's going on in the Association. I would like to put this story in the Taro Leaf. I'm enclosing my picture and he and his wife's picture. His address is Sammy H. Goodman of 3667 Corral Canyon Rd., Bonita CA 91902."



Way back in April I received a letter from Wesley Olesen of 45611 283rd St., Hurley, SD 57036-6020: "We are leaving tomorrow for Center Ossipee, New Hampshire to visit with our good friend, Linda White. Her husband Rodney died of a heart attack just before Christmas last year. Rodney and I were in the service together in K Company, 34th Regiment. We have been in contact with them for the last years. " (I appreciated hearing from you and all of your kind words.)

Letter received from Beryle E. Schlarb of 2012 Bald Eagle Dr., Hephzibah, GA 30815-4872: "We are planning on a Korea revisit tour this year in July with the Task Force Smith group as their tour covers the time period 3rd thru 8th July the same time frame when we landed in Korea in 1950 from Sasebo, Japan with "I" Company, 34th Inf Regt.. I also hate to see the "Taps" section of the Taro Leaf but I try to just feel happy that we have been able to last this long when considering what we went thru in the early days of Korea as none of us should be here or survived those first few weeks. I am currently reading the book South to the Naktong, North to the Yalu by Roy E. Appleman as the historian from the 21st RCT Association wants to get my reaction to what was wrote up and I have read half of it and find it to be pretty well what went on regarding my company. They did miss a few actions but not many so far as I have gone but the only way it

could have been reported better is if you had been there and have seen what went on and I would not want anyone to have gone thru that unless it was needed as it was not pretty."



Pictures received from Bernard Robinson of 8968 Henry Ruff Rd., Livonia MI 48150:

Pictures of the Memorial in Sterling Heights, Michigan.



Picture received from Walter F. Marszalek of 8713 S Tulley Ave, Oaklawn IL 60453:

Mr. & Mrs. Khement Marszalek, although foreign born, were exceptionally proud of their seven sons that served in the services of the United States:

Bottom Row: Stephen - 20th Air Force 215 Bomb Wing 76th Air Serv. Grp.
Joseph - 70th Div 276th Inf. Div. B CO

Middle Row: Frank - 8th Air Force 353rd Fighter Grp. 352nd Fighter SQD
Clement - U.S.N. VPB 104

Top Row: Richard - U.S.A.F. 3513 Arm-Elct Air Training Command
Walter - 24th Inf. Div. 3rd Engr. D CO
Robert - U.S.A.F. 3513 Arm-Elct Air Training Command.

July 3, 1998

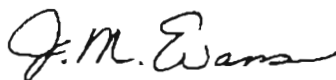
Mr. William C. Willmot
1630 Venus Street
Merritt Island FL 32953-3162

REPLY REQUESTED: MAN OF THE YEAR - 1998

Dear Mr. Willmot:

I am delighted to announce your nomination for the prestigious title MAN OF THE YEAR - 1998. The Institute's International Board of Research decided on your nomination due to your overall accomplishments and contributions to society.

Sincerely,



J. M. Evans
President

Life Member of the 24th Infantry Division Association #292, Bill Willmot was recently nominated for the American Biographical Institute's prestigious title MAN OF THE YEAR - 1998 and received a certificate in September stating that he had been selected for the above mentioned award.

Congratulations, Bill!



Letter from Richard L. Bettien of 670 Mt Gilead Pl Dr., Murrells Inlet, SC 29576. "I am in the process of preparing a paper covering my experiences in Pyongyang just before the fall of the city in December of 1950. If so, it would be extremely helpful to me if you could furnish the following information:

The location of our Command Post (Danger Forward) at the time that Pyongyang fell, including date and the name of the closest town or village.

The date of our air strike ordered to destroy or inflict damage to vast quantities of supplies and equipment left in the large Pyongyang rail yard.

In the G4 Section of the Historical Records, any entries pertaining to the recovery of desperately needed winter clothing for the entire division contained in seven or eight box cars in the Pyongyang rail yard." (If anyone can assist Mr. Bettien, please let him know.)



EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A picture from Gilbert Willman of 10809 E. Heywood Dr., Seymour, IN 47274-8512. "Picture taken in Japan shortly before going to Korea. Know anybody? I am in back row. Most of these guys went to Korea 4 July '50.



Picture from Harold D. Walker of Div Band CC-1 Korea 1957



Picture of Harold Kurt Hamel of 3118 NE 123 St, Seattle, WA 98125 with friend Carla fishing early in the morning in the Cascade Mountains.

Joseph L. Subsak of 27 Rutter St, Wilkes Barre, PA 18702-1119 sends a poem written by his daughter, Anne Subsak Rinkevich

SOLDIER

You gained nothing from war
But each day was followed by more

You carried a gun, but never felt hate
What a feeling to live, only by fate

The smell of gunfire in the air
Just created much more fear

Your body seems to shake with every little sound
What a way to live, not wanting to be found

Came so many men who had just been wed
So many of them among the dead

Your mind slowly drifts into the night
But only to be startled by a gleaming light

Deep in your mind lays a pain that thrives
Will people believe what I saw were no lies

Please stay close as you can to that thought
For that may be the reason why you struggled and fought!



Picture received from Richard A. Stuben of 505 S 6th St., Council Bluffs, IA 51501-6436

Least We Forget December 1950

This picture was taken during a 1st BN 19th I & R Squad Patrol, December 1950 in "No Mans Land" northeast of the 1st BN observation post which was tied in with the "C" Company line on the 38th parallel. Shortly before the C.C.F. New Year offensive. "C" Company was in a forward screening line, backed by "A", "B" & "D" Companies. To our left was the 19th Regt of the R.O.K. 5th Division. To our right the 3rd BN, 19th with the 21st Inf Regt to their right. "G" Company was used frequently on night patrol. On New Year's eve, "C" Company withdrew to the east to occupy the "K" Company, 3rd BN positions which had been overrun and vacated by both "K" CO and the C.C.F.

4-14-98



DEAR VONNIE,

SORRY TO BE A LITTLE LATE WITH MY DUES. PLEASE FIND MY CHECK ENCLOSED. AS YOU CAN SEE, I CONTINUE TO RESIDE IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY - NOT FAR FROM CARLSBAD. HAVING BEEN BORN AND RAISED IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, AND HAVING THEN SPENT MANY YEARS TRAVELING AROUND THE WORLD IN THE SERVICE OF THIS GREAT COUNTRY, IT IS GOOD TO BE "HOME".

THE WEATHER IS, WITHOUT A DOUBT, THE BEST IN THE WORLD. JUST A LITTLE RAIN NOW AND THEN. EVEN WITH THE MUCH OVERPLAYED "EL NINO", WE CONTINUE TO HAVE THE SUN AND WARMTH. AND, I SHOULD ADD, MORE AND MORE PEOPLE COMING TO WHAT I REFER TO AS "PARADISE" - SAN DIEGO!

I LOOK BACK AT MY SERVICE IN KOREA AND GERMANY WITH THE 24TH AS GOOD AND REWARDING TIMES. QUITE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIVING JUST SOUTH OF MUNSON IN KOREA (THE VILLAGE WAS "PAGURIE" - NOT SPELLED RIGHT!) AND BEING STATIONED LATER WITH THE DIVISION IN MUNICH, GERMANY.

I HOPE THIS FINDS ALL WELL IN THE GREAT STATE OF MISSOURI. SPRING TIME THERE IS MOST BEAUTIFUL.....

WARM PERSONAL REGARD,


JIM CULLEN
COLONEL, USA (RET)

PS: I NOTE THAT THE ASSOCIATIONS RECORDS FAIL TO INDICATE AND RECOGNIZE THE 34TH ARMOR BATTALION AS BEING PART OF THE 24TH DIVISION IN MUNICH, GERMANY DURING THE LATE 50'S AND EARLY 60'S. AS I SERVED 3 YEARS IN THAT BATTALION FROM 1959-1962, I THINK WE SHOULD RECOGNIZE THE 34TH ARMOR FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE DIVISION AND ITS OVERALL SERVICE. IT WAS DURING THIS PERIOD OF TIME THAT I COMMANDED "D" COMPANY OF THE 34TH ARMOR AND WAS LATER THE BATTALION'S ADJUTANT, S-2 AND S-3 AIR. I WAS THERE WHEN THE WALL WENT UP IN BERLIN. GENERAL ROGERS, THEN COLONEL ROGERS, COMMANDED THE 19TH BATTLE GROUP WITH "D" COMPANY, 34TH ARMOR AS ITS ATTACHED TANK COMPANY. AS I RECALL, THE 34TH ARMOR WAS IN HENRY KASERNE JUST ON THE NORTHERN EDGE OF MUNICH. I ALSO RECALL THAT, DURING THE U-2 CRISIS OF 1960, WE PARADED THE ENTIRE 24TH DIVISION THROUGH DOWNTOWN MUNICH AS THE PARIS SUMMIT FELL APART. GENERAL WALKER WAS THE CG AT THAT TIME. MY BATTALION COMMANDERS DURING THOSE 3 YEARS WERE: ARMISTED HARPER AND "JEB" STEWART. I MAY NOT HAVE THEIR NAMES SPELLED CORRECTLY.

ENOUGH! AGAIN MY BEST. I AM STILL VERY ACTIVE AS A REAL ESTATE BROKER IN SAN DIEGO. MY TOLL FREE NUMBER IS: 1-800-578-0053. JIM CULLEN

20th Anniversary

Thursday, September 28, 1995 *Patriot* 3A

Division leaders remember



Retired Lt. Gen. Michael Spigelmeier

1. "I started out as a second lieutenant in this division in Germany in 1961. My feelings are deep seeded."

2. "This has always been a great division; it will always be a great division."

3. "I can't tell you how proud I am of all of you — you will continue to do great things for your country."



Retired Lt. Gen. Donald Rosenblum

1. "The highlight of my tour was the 33 months I spent at Fort Stewart, Georgia activating this great division and making this great post into what it wasn't when I got here."

2. "Well, obviously they've done very well. The post has grown as we planned it to grow."

3. "Well, I think they should be very very proud of what the 24th has done. Not only here but obviously in WWII and Korean War. I think the most outrageous thing that the Army has ever done is to take the 24th Division off the rolls."



Retired Lt. Gen.

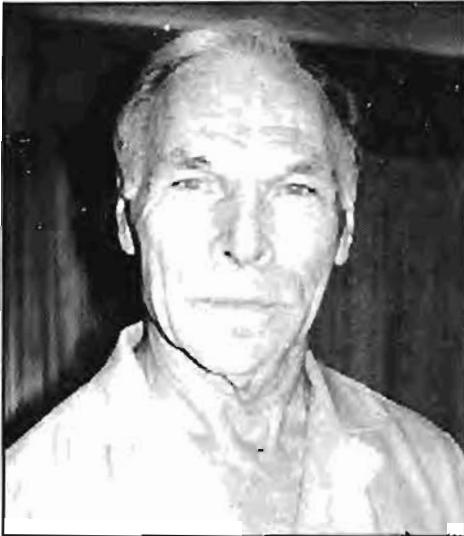
Horace Taylor

1. "Just being in charge of a great outfit and being around soldiers. It has a tremendously impressive record over many years of service for their country. I sure hate to see it go out of the active Army. One day it will probably be back, but it was just a pleasure to be here."

2. "It was a great thrill to be part of Fort Stewart, because I spent a lot of my military career on Fort Stewart."

3. Just how fortunate that we have had the opportunity to serve in an outfit like the 24th. It has a tremendous history and reputation. And, I'm going to miss it, and we hate to see it go away."

Division leaders remember



Retired Lt. Gen. James Vaught

1. "(The highlights of my tour as commander were) Improving the Installation and getting this division into the XVIIIth Airborne Corps and increasing its readiness and making a lot of progress in our relationship with the 48th Brigade of the Georgia National Guard.

2. "It's the greatest division in the Army and somebody has really got their head up their stack if they want to deactivate this division. It's a big waste of money and it ought to be stopped by somebody who knows what to do with money other than to throw it away on new insignias and road markers. It's a dumb idea."

3. "I'm very proud of them. It was a pleasure to serve with them. I lived through the Korean War for 29 months with this division. I put two years in as one of its early division commanders in its present configuration. I consider it the best, most modernized, potentially effective division in the Army "



General Barry McCaffery
commander in chief
U.S. Southern Command

1. "The last day of the Desert Storm War when I realized all that we had done, how far we had come and how few of our soldiers we had lost. Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Randolph and I felt this enormous feeling, not only of pride but relief of the low losses killed.

2. "Of course it's a division that's been around for a long time. It was born in a war and with the end of the cold war it will pass into history ready to be reactivated when it's needed again."

3. "Well, if you would I'd probably just suggest that the country defends honor. The division has deployed 15 times to 12 different countries in the last two and a half years and we all watched them with enormous pride and confidence that they know what they're doing. So best wishes as we watch them with great pride."

A very old Division newspaper was sent to me from Nolan McNally. Just a bit of nostalgia.

Divisional Contests Arranged

A Division Competition Program has been announced by 24th Div Hqs.

Contests will be held in varied army skills and activities with prizes running from individual medals to extra R&R's to Japan.

Heading the list is the recently announced plan for Soldier of the Month. Competing on the fourth Thursday of each month, five men of the division, representing each of the regiments, DivArty, and Special Troops, will be judged. The winner will be awarded an extra R&R, a prize worth \$25, a helicopter trip of the division, and a division commendation.

PLAQUES

Plaques are to be offered for the Best Day Room, Best Orderly Room, and Best Supply Room. These will be judged by a division committee which will inspect the best units of each regiment, DivArty, and Special Troops. The competition will be judged monthly.

Quarterly judging will be conducted for Best Vehicle Maintenance Program and Best Communication Platoon.

DRILL

Organization Day will be the date for the first judging of the Best Drill Platoon. One drill platoon from each regiment, one from DivArty, and

TARO OLEAF

Vol 5, No 19

24th Infantry Division

June 12, 1955

Five Taromen Upped to Master



CG Presents First Stripes In 16 Months

The first new master sergeants in 16 months were given their chevrons last week in ceremonies in the office of Maj Gen Mark McClure, 24th Div CG.

New master sergeants are Albert F. Simmons, O Co 21st Rgt; Harry L. Lott, D Co 31st Rgt; Porter Walker, Btry A, 11th FA Bn; Everett M. Hamby, C Btry, 11th FA Bn; and Richard J. Adams, I Co, 34th Rgt.

The promotions were the division's share of the Department of the Army allocation for the month of May. The

24th Infantry Division Association



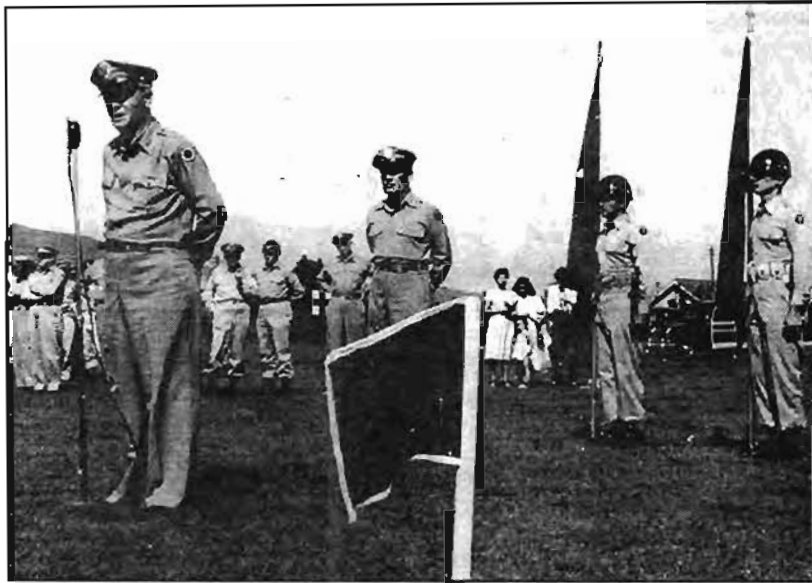
REUNION 1998 - LITTLE ROCK, AR

THE AUDIT COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT, THOMAS COCHRAN, OF THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MET FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1998.

WE FOUND THE FINANCIAL RECORDS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR AUGUST 1, 1997 THROUGH JULY 31, 1998, SUBMITTED BY OUR TREASURER, YVONNE M. MULLINS, 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION TO BE COMPLETE, ACCURATE AND WITH NO RESTRICTIONS.

HAROLD W. PETERS, CHAIRMAN OF AUDIT COMMITTEE:

HARRY L. WITTMAN, JR., MEMBER OF AUDIT COMMITTEE:



Picture From: Michael (Sach) Sacchitella, HQ Co 21st Regiment 1949-51

Taken at Camp Wood, Kumamoto, Japan, Parade Grounds, Approx September 1949. (I was flag bearer for General Coulter, General McAuliffe was 24th Division Commander

Left to Right: General Coulter - I Corp Commander
General McAuliffe - 24th Div Commander
PFC Michael (Sach) Sacchitella
Unidentified Soldier



Picture from: Donald Lennon 24th Recon CO 24th Infantry Division
Back Row Left to Right: H.H. Hall, J. Gosa, Trazinski, J.Q. Moran, S. Clifton, M. Gregory, M. Redding, E.J. Taylor, H.O. Trout, T. Gorman, G. Archer, C. Lytton

Middle Row Left to Right: Don Kissle, B. Casias, A. Fritz, Medic Murphy, R. Cadena, D. Garcia

Bottom Row Left to Right: Jim Goad, Greeney, Shebeya, Kilfoyle, Shick, Duncan, Deschand, C. B. Fender, L. Molten, Neil R. Hughes, D. Hicks.

Front and Center: 1st LT. Mayberry



EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Pictures received from Joe Subsak of 27 Rutter ST, Wilkes Barre, PA 18702-1119:

Left: Mel Ennes, Visalia, CA. Mel lost an eye, ZigZag Pass.
Sitting: Charlie Taffel, New York City, NY
Right: Bob Meyer, Fort Wayne, IN

Left Bob Moskowitz; Right: Dan Sanchez



I remember a few of them on this photo:

First Row: Left, #3 Charles Ries; #6 Max Sommers

2nd Row: #1 William Staskiewicz; #2 Bill Pennecke; #3 ? #4 Jim Moran; #5 Lawrence (Red) Derhake; #6 Brand; #7 Louis Principi;



Bob Dienslake

BULLETIN BULLETIN BULLETIN

WEST COAST REUNION

DATE: 21-25 APRIL 99

PLACE: VENTURA, CA. BY THE SEA

HOTEL: DOUBLETREE VENTURA 805-643-6000

RATE: \$65.00 A NIGHT-----GREAT PRICE

DINNER: SATURDAY NIGHT
Menu and price not yet determined

ATTRACTIONS: A FRIDAY NIGHT AND SATURDAY ALL DAY AT THE
RACES AT THE DERBY CLUB. SEASIDE PARK.
VENTURA

A FRIDAY NIGHT BUFFET AT THE DERBY CLUB

A TRIP TO THE SEEBEE MUSEUM AT PORT
HUENEME NAVAL BASE

COMPLETE INFORMATION IN THE NEXT TARO LEAF

Don Barren
2854 Pinckard Ave
Redondo Beach, Ca 90278
310 370 2095

GET YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION IN EARLY. HOTEL WILL ONLY BLOCK 60
ROOMS AT THIS RATE.



24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOC. WEST COAST REUNION

Ventura, CA

April 21 - April 25, 1999

Dinner Selections

Saturday April 24 7:00pm

Fiesta Salad with ranch or raspberry vinaigrette dressing
(and choice of)

Top Sirloin Steak with five peppercorn sauce and garlic mashed potatoes
\$28.00

Oriental Swordfish marinated in ginger with rice
\$28.00

Chef's selection of seasonal vegetables
Rolls and butter
Vanilla ice cream with chocolate sauce

Breakfast buffet

sunday april 25 8:00am

Choice of scrambled eggs or egg beaters

Crisp bacon and sausage

Breakfast potatoes

Assorted chilled fruit juices

Mini - croissants, danish and muffins

\$15.00

Fresh brewed coffee, tea and decaf coffee served with dinner and breakfast. Prices include all taxes and gratuity.

Menu order form (return this portion with check)

Saturday eve dinner

Top sirloin steak \$28.00/person x () = \$

Oriental swordfish: \$28.00/person x () = \$

Sunday morning breakfast

Breakfast buffet \$15.00/person x () = \$

Registration Fee \$ 10.00

Make checks payable

Send to

Phone:

Donald Barrett

2854 Pinckard Ave

Redondo Beach, Ca 90278

310-370-2095

Total \$

Deadline April 10, 1999 (no exceptions, please)

24th Infantry Division Assoc. West Coast Reunion

VENTURA, CA.
April 21- April 25, 1999

Hotel Reservations

Hotel accommodations provided by the DOUBLETREE , VENTURA, CA.

<u>Room Type</u>	<u>Rate (Does not include 10% tax)</u>
Standard Single	\$65.00/night*
Standard Double	\$65.00/night*
Standard Triple	\$65.00/night*

*This discounted rate will be available 3 days prior and 3 days after the reunion. Beyond that, rooms are subject to hotel availability. Please call the hotel for room rates.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Tel No. () _____

Date of arrival _____ Time of Arrival _____

Number of Nights _____ Date of Departure _____

Special Requests*: _____ Smoking _____ Non Smoking _____ Disabled Room

* All special requests will be noted but cannot be guaranteed.

If you wish to guarantee a room with a major credit card, please provide the following information:

_____ AMEX _____ VISA _____ MC _____ DISCOVER
Credit Card Number: _____
Expiration Date: _____
Signature: _____

Send this form to: DOUBLETREE HOTEL
2055 HARBOR BLVD.
VENTURA , CA. 93001

OR CALL 805- 643-6000
FAX 805- 643-7137

Cut off date for hotel reservations is: APRIL 1,1999 - NO EXCEPTIONS

October 21, 1998

Yesterday I accompanied Don Barrett to our Ventura West Coast Mini Reunion site. Since Don is now our Ass'n Vice President, I thought he could use some help in getting minor details squared away. We first visited the Ventura Visitors and Convention Bureau. Don had made an appointment and they were very helpful with brochures, trip recommendations and name tags - most of it free. Ventura has a population of 95,000 and nothing is far away - once you get there. Shuttle service to and from LAX is available for \$35.00 round trip per person, approximately a 1 1/2 hour one way ride. Getting there by car is cheaper. 1/2 day, all boat rides to Channel Island National Park, walking tours, museums, shopping in town, free shuttles from our nearby Double Tree Hotel are available. More trip details and prices will be finalized for the next Taro Leaf issue. Don already nailed down a terrific deal with the Derby Club @ Seaside Park, all inclusive, including a buffet for \$15.00. Those inclined to wager on the ponies will be delighted with this one. Finally we checked out the Double Tree Hotel, very close to the ocean and easy access from the freeway. Don introduced me to the Sales Manager and I was totally and favorably impressed with the facility and am looking forward to an enjoyable mini reunion in April.

Eric Diller

IN GRATEFUL MEMORY OF
RODOLPH (RUDY) MULLINS
AID MAN EX ORDINAIRE
1ST BATTALION, 19TH INFANTRY
KOREA 1950

Submitted in humble appreciation by
Jim Hill, 2nd Lieutenant
1st Battalion, 19th Infantry
Korea 1950



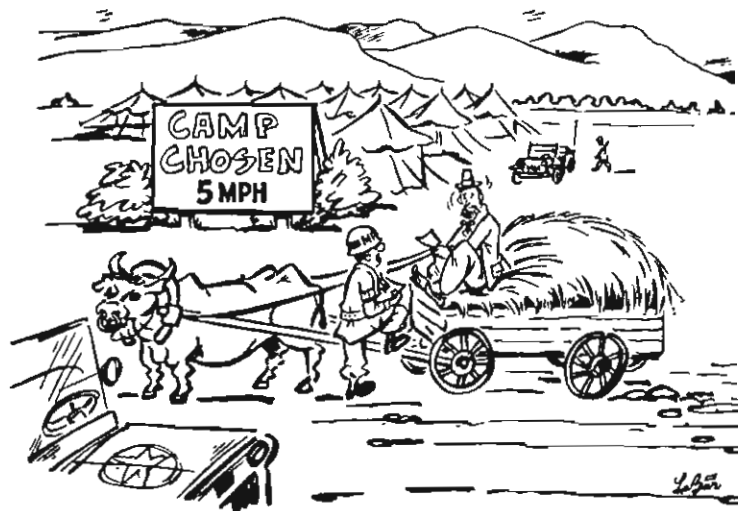
"Hell. Just when I git me practice built up they transfer me to another regiment."

RAFFLE WINNERS AT THE 1998 REUNION IN LITTLE ROCK, AR

\$2400.00	Ernie Bayne (1st timer)
\$1200.00	Mary R. Deal
\$ 600.00	William L. Watkins
\$ 600.00	Charles L. Belanger
\$ 600.00	Pat Lemon
\$ 600.00	John D. Kornman

Merchandise winners:

Crystal Decanter & glasses	Anna Belle Autin
Ladies Watch	George N. Watkins
Mens Watch	Bacil Steed
Red, White, Blue Afghan	Edward Schreiber
Boom Box Radio	Wilbur Deeter



"... For speeding!"

Three flags were donated by Bill McClure, HQ CO 21st Inf Regt

Winners of Flags: Henry A. Woloszyn
Stephanie Josz
David Montgomery

(20) 24th Division pins donated by John Seelie designer and maker of the 24th watch, plaques and pins

Bob Lawhon	Louis Genova	Norm Groetzinger
John Heard	V. J. Keegan	James Ray
Gerald Giannini	Heinz Gratz	Phyllis Slater
Robert Moritz	Alice Hanrick	Jerome Krejci
Frank Mc Manus	Jack Measley	Bob Sloat
Eddie Maiers	Ray Smith	Theodore Geelhoed
Sam Gupton	Charles Millard	

Congratulations to all of our winners. You did not need to be present to win and prizes were mailed out to winners who were not in attendance at the reunion.

BEETLE BAILEY

By Mort Walker



NEW MEMBERS OF THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION (7/4/98 THROUGH 10/12/98)

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Zip</u>	<u>Unit 1</u>	<u>Recruited by</u>
John E	Anderson	Cooksburg	PA	16217	63rd	Harold Peters
Thomas J	Banta	San Antonio	TX	78232-2303	HQ	
E Glen	Barnett	Tecumseh	OK	74873	21st	
Jack C	Bell	Rainville	AL	35986	21st	T Cochran & H Peters
Joseph	Bell	Lakewood	NJ	08701	19th	Newspaper
Shirley	Brickman	Lakewood	CO	80227		Gary Shields
Gerald L	Brown	Rising Sun	IN	47040	24th Div Ar	Local Paper
Frank	Buckner JR	Strawberry Plains	TN	37871	21st	
Robert	Cadena	San Antonio	TX	78250	24th Recon	Herman Hall
Harold E	Chambers	Dundee	IA	52038	26th AAA	Wally Kuhner
Frank	Constable	Lake Mary	FL	32746	21st	Harry L Wittman JR
Henry Lester	Conway	Salisbury	MD	21804	2/70th Arm	Sam Taylor
Richard G	Corbitt	Weirton	WV	26062-9718	24th Div	Paper
Floyd N	Crain	Ripley	TN	38063	19th	
Dayton H	Davis	Kalamazoo	MI	49019	34th	
George R	DeSalles	Stevinson	CA	95374	2/70th	Sam Taylor
Daniel F	Donovan	Denver	PA	17517	34th	
Charles E	Drahman	Florence	KY	41042	24th Sig	William E Kerns
Joseph John	Droz	Albrightsville	PA	18210-2559	21st	William E Kerns
Junior Ney	Ebling	Schuylkill Haven	PA	17972	19th	Harold Peters
Virgle G	Edgmon	Wichita	KS	67209	26th AAA	Wally Kuhner
Roland	Elenich	Cudahy	WI	53110-2329	26th AAA	Wally Kuhner
Albert	Fassi	Summit	NJ	07901-2570	34th	
Charles M	Fisher	Hayward	CA	94541	24th AVN	Internet
Vincent O	Furtado	North Dighton	MA	02764-1339	26th AAA	Bill Boyden
William P	Gardner	Ship Bottom	NJ	08008	21st	Harry Wittman Jr
Joseph	Gbur	Salem	OH	44460	24th Sig	Glenn Behrends
Stanley	Gilbertson	Palm Bay	FL	32905	34th	Harold Peters
Walter F	Goetting	Maumee	OH	43537-3714	19th	
Sammy H	Goodman	Bonita	CA	91902-2836	21st	Gerald Giannini
John	Gruz	Holderness	NH	03245		
John H	Hargreaves	Pelham	NH	03076-0058	11th	Harold Peters
Anthony J	Heneghan	Marion	IL	62959	19th	
Richard A	Humphreys	East Earl	PA	17519	21st	Harry L Wittman JR
Raymond J	Kaehr	Albuquerque	NM	87110	52nd	
Kenneth H	Kalsem	Ames	IA	50014	197th BDC	Harry Wittman JR
Richard A	Kasprzak	Philadelphia	PA	19114	19th	Harry L Wittman JR
Edward	Kolesar	Ottawa	IL	61350	21st	T.Cochran & H.Peters
Herbert J	Konkoff, MD	Tiburon	CA	94920	34th	Wally Kuhner
Benny E	Konoski	Montrose	MI	48457	555th	Ralph E Heiser
Douglas	Lay	Independence	KY	41051-9276	5th RCT	William E. Kerns
Owen J	Light	Hartland	WI	53029	24th	
Richard S	Lipka	East Haddam	CT	06423-1436	34th	
John D	Lubus	Lake Ozark	Mo	65049-0661	34th	
Howard	Luey	Hershey	PA	17033-2349	24th	Newspaper
Herbert L	Martin	Ava	IL	62907-0387		
Robert S	Matchett	Brownsburg	IN	46112-1661	21st	
Doyle T	McCullar	El Dorado	AR	71730	6th Tank	Harry L Wittman JR
Nolan L	McNally	Rockville	CN	06066-3802	3rd Eng	June/July Graybeards
Anthony J	Mercurio	Punta Gorda	FL	33982	19th	
Don	Mickey	North Little Rock	AR	72116	21st	T Cochran & H Peters
Melvin	Miller	Lady Lake	FL	32159	24th	Harry L Wittman JR
Timothy P	Moran	Moscow	PA	18444	19th	Harry L Wittman JR
Eric R	Nagengast	Edison	NJ	08837	19th	Local Paper

NEW MEMBERS OF THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION (7/4/98 THROUGH 10/12/98)

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Zip</u>	<u>Unit 1</u>	<u>Recruited by</u>
William D	Nilles	Fort Dodge	IA	50501	34th	Paper
Charles T	Northam JR	Princess Anne	MD	21853		Arnold Hayward
Wayne	Orrell	Hidalgo	IL	62432	34th	Harry L Wittman Jr
John Hatch	Peek	Bradenton	FL	34203	19th	Don Clark
William	Peters	Naples	FL	34116-7820	13th	
Mike	Pragitt	Fort Myers	FL	33919	21st	David E Wahl SR
Gary J	Pray	Kankakee	IL	60901		E-mail
William	Rigsby	Clearwater	FL	34619-3961	13th	Paper Ad
Mearl D	Ross	Clarksville	TN	37043	21st	Thomas Cochran
Donald C	Roth	Madison	WI	53704	3rd Eng	Harry L Wittman JR
Samuel	Sadoff	Middletown	DE	19709	11th	Cleon Eckler
Robert E	Shilharvey	Warrenton	MO	63383	21st	VFW Ad
Ralph William	Styer SR	Millersville	PA	17551-1515	21st	Paper
Marion	Thacker	Grand Island	NE	68803-5822	26th AAA	Yvonne Mullins
Charlie L	Trice	Kevil	Ky	42053	21st	
James W	Turpin	Odenville	AL	35120	2/FD Armo	Paper
SFC Philip	Van Dyke RET	Forest Grove	OR	97116	724th Main	Walter K. Kline
William V	Vrooman	Peru	IN	46970	24th Recon	Paper
Harry J	Wadding	Lake Station	IN	46405	19th	Wally Kuhner
Chris	Watson JR	Lafayette	LA	70503-3313	3rd Eng	Harold Peters
Herman A	Westrich	Arnold	MO	63010	21st	
John D	Wheeler	Gladstone	MO	64118	24th	Harry L Wittman JR
Jerry E	White	Kent	CT	96757	19th	Phillip Taormino
Frank	Wilamosky	Reynoldsburg	OH	43068-0352	24th Med	
Frank J	Wuscher	Nazareth	PA	18064-9505	19th	Paper& Rudy Mullins
Robert D	Zickefoose	Newark	DE	19711	21st	Harry L Wittman JR
Total Count	80					

NEW LIFE MEMBERS OF THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION 7/4/98 THROUGH 10/12/98

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Unit 1</u>	<u>Exp.Date</u>
Michael K	Burch	2753 Remies RD	Carthage	MS	24th MP	Life xx
Donald K	Finney	1230 Thompson Rd	Cottonwood	AZ	3rd Eng	Life xx
Charles M	Fisher	22693 Hesperian Blvd, Suit	Hayward	CA	24th AVN B	Life xx
Donald J	Fritsch	888 Gretna LN	Cincinnati	OH	21st	Life xx
Walter F	Goetting	2433 Detroit Ave	Maumee	OH	19th	Life xx
Willard H	Lee	25503 32nd PL S	Kent	WA	19th	Life xx
James E	Livingston	710 Joe Morse Dr	Copperas Cove	TX	34th	Life xx
Joseph H	Marston	184 Marston Rd	Leoma	TN	19th	Life xx
Clinton A	Roberts	1409 W Walnut St	Washington	IN	34th	Life xx
Donald C	Roth	221 Knutson DR	Madison	WI	3rd Eng	Life xx
SFC Philip	Van Dyke RET	10953 NW Shearer Hill RD	Forest Grove	OR	724th Maint	Life xx
Eugene M	Welsh	2209 7th St	Ceres	CA	19th	Life xx
Richard A	Woodland	4601 Weckerly Rd	Monclova	OH	19th	Life xx
John M	Yunckes JR	14 Sterling CT	Perth Amboy	NJ	34th	Life xx

COUNT:
14

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM 7/4/98 THROUGH 10/12/98

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Unit 1</u>	<u>Co.</u>	<u>Donation</u>	<u>In Memory</u>
Benjamin R	Allen	19th	(HQ)	\$35.00	
Claude E	Barrick Jr	11th		\$10.00	
Joseph S	Barto	19th	(M)	\$30.00	Rudy & Ken
H Gordon	Behrel	19th	(HQ)	\$20.00	
Joseph	Bell	19th	(HQ)	\$20.00	
Allen	Brooks	34th	(L)	\$5.00	
Creighton	Bryson	19th	(K)	\$10.00	
Michael K	Burch	24th MP		\$10.00	
Jack W	Carter	19th	(MED)	\$50.00	Rudy Mullins & Murl Ring
Raymond V	Clark	3rd Eng		\$5.00	
William E	Clark	19th	(L)	\$10.00	
Harold	Cockrell	21st	(F)	\$15.00	
Claude C	Crist Jr	21st	(HvyMtr)	\$5.00	
Peter B	Crombie	339th Eng		\$10.00	
John T	Curran	21st	(I)	\$5.00	
Angelo R	Darin	6th Tank		\$10.00	
Donald F	Darke	5th RCT		\$5.00	
Bennie D	Davidson	21st	(G)	\$5.00	
Elmer R	Davidson	34th	(Medic)	\$5.00	
Ervin	De Muth	21st	(C)	\$5.00	
Eric	Diller	34th	(H)	\$10.00	
Edward E	Dishman	24th Sig		\$10.00	
Robert O	Evins	21st		\$15.00	
Richard C	Francis	19th	(B)	\$15.00	
Laurence V	Frank	3rd Eng	(A)	\$5.00	
George P	Gorham	21st	(F)	\$5.00	
Henry J	Gosztyla	34th		\$50.00	Ken and Rudy
Gerald R	Goulet	19th	(C)	\$10.00	
Virgil C	Green	19th	(2D BN)	\$10.00	
Edward F	Harrison	11th	(A Btry)	\$5.00	
Thomas A	Hearn	34th	(A)	\$5.00	
Robert H	Heins	21st	(L)	\$5.00	
Shelby L	Jackson	19th	(A)	\$10.00	
Donald H	Johnson	13th		\$10.00	
Chester	Jordan	34th	(Medics)	\$5.00	
Reginald A	Le Blanc	19th	(B)	\$5.00	
James W	Lender	19th	(Med.Det)	\$5.00	
William T	Livingston	34th	(HQ)	\$35.00	Ken Ross
Frank R	Lopez	24th Med		\$5.00	
Bernard C	Markey	24th Div Art	(HQ)	\$25.00	Mother, Anna Markey 85 Yrs.
Herbert L	Martin			\$25.00	
James P	McKenna	5th RCT	(Serv)	\$5.00	
Angelo	Montaglione	34th	(G)	\$10.00	
Robert J	Moore	19th	(E)	\$10.00	
William R	Musselman	24th Repl		\$5.00	
Salvatore A	Nicoletta	21st	(C)	\$10.00	
John R	Nugent	325th		\$10.00	
Joseph P	O'Connell	19th	(H)	\$10.00	
Earlwin C	Oklaire	21st	(L)	\$5.00	
Jerry	Olivo	21st	(K)	\$5.00	
Jim	Owens	34th		\$10.00	

Winston Churchill said: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we GIVE."

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM 7/4/98 THROUGH 10/12/98

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Unit 1</u>	<u>Co.</u>	<u>Donation</u>	<u>In Memory</u>
Roderick	Owens	26th AAA		\$10.00	
Theodore F	Peer	24th Admin	(HQ)	\$10.00	
John	Petkac	3rd Eng		\$10.00	
Lawrence R	Plaatje Jr	34th	(L)	\$5.00	
Alex	Poland	34th	(L)	\$10.00	Rudy & Ken
Kenneth R	Popovich	21st	(M)	\$10.00	
Lloyd T	Potterton	19th	(E)	\$10.00	
Chester A	Pulst	34th	(HQ)	\$10.00	
Stanley E	Rodrigues	5th RCT	(H)	\$10.00	
Nicholas A	Russello	34th	(3rd Bn)	\$5.00	
Van Buren	Sandgren	3rd Eng	(C)	\$5.00	
Henry W	Schoch	Div Hq		\$50.00	
Nunzio	Silicato	19th	(Hvy Mtr)	\$20.00	
Albert J	Silverstein	21st	(E)	\$20.00	Rudy Mullins
Oliver C	Simmers Jr	21st	(G)	\$5.00	
Andrew	Simpson			\$10.00	
Maurice R	Slaney	24th Sig	(Sv.Co.)	\$10.00	
Ronald S	Sloat	34th		\$10.00	
Walter B	Snyder	34th	RCT	\$10.00	
Raymond Lee	Stevens	19th		\$10.00	
Howard W	Struecker	19th	(E)	\$10.00	
Joseph L	Subsak Sr	34th	(2nd BN)	\$5.00	
Edward B	Sund	21st	(H)	\$10.00	
Ernest P	Terrell	11th		\$75.00	
Ralph W	Thomas	19th	(K)	\$10.00	
Gerald G	Vincent	11th		\$5.00	
Carl	Vogt	724th Ord	(M)	\$5.00	
David E	Wahl Sr	21st	(G)	\$20.00	
Ben H	Wahle Jr	34th	(E&G)	\$25.00	
Zane G	Wallace	24th Recon		\$10.00	
Rudolph	Weber	21st	(K)	\$10.00	
Joan	Wetterau-Blankenbur	19th	(Serv)	\$5.00	John A Wetterau, Father
Robert L	Williams	21st	(L)	\$10.00	
Edward L	Wilson	63rd	(A)	\$10.00	
Roy E	Wolf	34th		\$10.00	
Walter S	Wyand Jr	34th	(C)	\$5.00	
Raymond M	Youngblood	21st	(B)	\$20.00	Honor of 21st Inf.Gimlets

TOTAL Donation:

\$1,105.00

UPGRADED FROM LIFE \$100(LIFE X) TO LIFE \$150(LIFE XX) 7/4/98 THROUGH 10/12/98

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Unit 1</u>	<u>Co.</u>	<u>Upgrade Life xx</u>
Menifee	Carter	1326 Carpenter Branch CT	Oviedo	FL	5th RCT	(B)	8/18/98
Roscoe	Collier	PO Box 65	Sugar Tree	TN	21st		9/24/98
Mrs Harold R	Cyrus	660 NW 20th Ave Apt #218	Grand Rapids	MN	Div Hq		8/24/98
Albert	Fassi	12 Chestnut Ave # 107A	Summit	NJ	34th	(C)	7/12/98
Herbert	Fordyce	343 Skyline Dr	Vallejo	CA	19th	(E)	8/18/98
William E	Hartman	204 Mary St	Washington	IL	34th		9/24/98
Bernard A	Luszc	3732 N Olcott Ave	Chicago	IL	Div Hq		8/24/98
Daniel J	Rickert	PO Box 720418	Pinon Hills	CA	3rd Eng		9/22/98
Ulysses F	Sheppard J	320 James Ave	Hamlet	NC	724th Or		8/24/98
Richard T	Sisley	1218 Northside Ave	East Liverpool	OH	19th	(HQ)	8/18/98
Edward J	Voso	1815 Sweetwater Rd Spc 134	Spring Valley	CA	21st	(D)	8/20/98

24th Infantry Division Association



President

Harold (Corky) Peters
(Co. G 21st)
14030 Xanthus Avenue
Rogers, MN 55374-9332
Tel. 612-427-2433
Fax. 612-427-5944

Vice President

Donald L. (Don) Barrett
(Hd. Co. 19th '51-'52)
2854 Pinckard Avenue
Redondo Beach, CA 90278-1535
Tel. 310-370-2095

Secretary-Treasurer

Will Schumacker
(27th 5/88-5/92)
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Quartermaster

Harry L. Witman, Jr.
(G Co. 21st Inf. '51-'52)
1385 Terri Street
Keyser, WV 26726-2119
Tel. 304-788-0465

Reunion Coordinator

Wes Morrison
21st (F) 9/50-1/51
452 Gloria Circle
Marina, CA 93933-4027
Tel. 831-384-0139

1999 Reunion

22-26 September 1999
Adams Mark Hotel
100 East Second Street
Tulsa, OK 74103
Tel. 918-582-9000
Fax. 918-560-2232

October 7, 1998

Dear Comrades,

I wish to thank you for electing me Vice President of this great association.

I want to let you know something of my background. I served six years Army and four years Air Force. I retired from Hughes Aircraft Company after twenty five years in management.

While at Hughes, I managed a Research Development Test and Evaluation Lab (R.D.T.E.) with 100 employees under my direction. In 1988 I worked with the Department of the Army at the Pentagon, testing the Hughes man pack radio (E.P.L.R.S.) which the Army and Marine Corps. purchased and used in the Gulf War with great success. I am currently employed part time at Nordstroms, as a Regional Security Agent.

I want only the best for the members of this Association. Working with our President, Harold Peters, I will strive to make this Association the best it can be. You deserve nothing less.

Thank you again for the honor of electing me your Vice President. It is my privilege to serve you.

Sincerely,

Don Barrett
Vice President
24th Infantry Division Association

24th Infantry Division Association



Ladies and gentlemen of the greatest Army Association in existence today, I want to thank all of you for allowing me the honor of being your President for 1997-1998. There has been many highlights in my life of 67 years, 50 of those years in Federal Service (24 in the military and 26 in Civil Service). But I can say with justifiable pride that none of those past highlights equals to, or comes near to be a President of the best Army Divisions' Association, the 24th Infantry Division Association.

With all the losses we've had this past year of prominent members my year was a difficult one coping with those losses for so many of them were on my committees, and Kenwood and I were in constant contact. Those that came to my rescue helped me through those difficult times and business was taken care of for the association. That is indicative of the association we have, each and everyone pulling together to ensure we survive the ordeal, whatever it may be. I love each and everyone of you for your help, your guidance, your concern, and yes, most of all for your friendship.

I would be remiss if I did not openly thank those that gave me their help and wise guidance; Jim Hill, Dutch Nelsen, Vince Vella, Wally Kuhner, Dallas Dick, Tom Upton, Howard Lumsden, John Klump, Joe Hofrichter, Joe McKeon, Bill Muldoon, Don Rosenblum, and I know there must be others, but to those, thanks gentlemen!

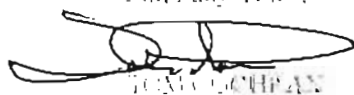
To Vonnie and Corky, thanks so much for being there when I needed you, and I needed you a lot. You're the greatest and you'll be there for others like me, I know that.

My thanks also go to Norm Reigler and Cleon Eckler and others who so graciously volunteered to carry our colors in Washington on 27 July at the 45th Anniversary of the cease fire in Korea. Although Norm, for health reasons, was unable to attend at the last moment, he did volunteer and coached Cleon and the others who did attend. Thanks men! My sincere thanks also go to Don Knoll who, when seeing the notice in the TL attempting to have someone make up T-shirts with Rudy and Ken's picture on them to honor them with a River Walk in Little Rock. Don came to the rescue and after several weeks of discussing this, he provided us with those T-Shirts and I hope those who have them will treasure them. Thanks Don!

Now, although things got off to a rocky start at the Excelsior, it did end with a delightful Banquet Dinner and Ceremonies. Our sincere thanks go to Diane and Corky Peters for their hard work on putting this together. My thanks to Dutch for Meing the event, and certainly all our thanks to Chaplain Joe Hofrichter for his final performance as our Chaplain on the Candlelight Memorial Ceremony. Joe, you are in our prayers and we hope to see you in Tulsa and especially in Covington, Kentucky, you having volunteered to be the reunion chairman at that event. Thanks too, for all those years you have given your services to this association. We will miss you Joe, in your position as Chaplain, but pray you will be with us many more years as Joe Hofrichter, our Friend!

Jackie and I are proud to have served you this past year, we were glad to have seen so many old friends in Arkansas and make new ones, and look forward to seeing all of you again in Tulsa in 1999.

In closing, I ask all of you to throw your support to Corky and Diane, to Will Schumaker and Glen Carpenter, helping them with their new duties of carrying on the business of this great association. And to all of you who served in the 34th Infantry Regiment 5,6,7, and 8 July 1950 at the Battle of Chonan, upon arrival home from Little Rock I had an e-mail from Colonel John M. House, Areas Support Commander for Area III in Korea. He tells me the memorial/monument for the 34th Regiment is on track and will be erected this coming year, to be dedicated 8 July 2000, memorializing those of the 34th gave their lives. Working on this now with the Korean Freedom League and Charles Muston (PAO for Korea). Will keep you informed.

24th Fully Yours,

JOE HOFRICHTER

VICTORY

"Another Soldier's Coming Home"



*His back is bent and weary
His voice is tired and low
His sword is worn from battle
and his steps have gotten slow,
But he used to walk on water
or it seemed that way to me,
I know he moved some mountains
and never left his knees.*

Chorus:

*Strike up the band, assemble the choir
another soldier's coming home
another warrior hears the call
he's waited for so long.
He'll battle no more, but he's
won his wars, make sure Heaven's table
has room for at least one more.
Sing a welcome song,
another soldier's coming home.*

*He faced the winds of sorrow,
but his heart knew no retreat.
He walked in narrow places
knowing Christ knew no defeat.
But now his steps turn homeward,
so much closer to the prize,
he's sounding kind of homesick and
there's a longing in his eyes.*

Chorus:

*Strike up the band, assemble the choir
another soldier's coming home
another warrior hears the call
he's waited for so long.
He'll battle no more, but he's
won his wars, make sure Heaven's table
has room for at least one more.
Sing a welcome song,
another soldier's coming home.*



Deceased	Last Name	First Name	Street	City	State	Unit 1
2/98	Anderson	Chester C	2300 Wilson St #510	Miles City	MT	3rd Eng
7/98	Bjorkman	Bernie E	2506 Wilshire Dr	North Little Rock	AR	19th
8/98	Curtis	Carl J	716 W Utica ST	Sellersburg	IN	21st
5/98	Cyrus	Harold R	660 NW 20th Ave Ap	Grand Rapids	MN	Div HQ
8/98	Eadie SR	John	1207 NW 126th Ter	Sunrise	FL	19th
8/98	Eyer	Floyd E	234 Strickler Ave	Waynesboro	PA	21st
4/98	Hawkins	John T	444 Pearl St Ste A-1	Monterey	CA	21st
7/98	Kies SR	Robert P	336 Hower Town RD	Catasauqua	PA	19th
6/98	Leong	Ah Kee	430 Kaiolu Ave Apt 3	Honolulu	HI	3rd Eng
7/98	Martin	Col Floyd R	4706 Ginson DR	Tucker	GA	21st
	Schiller	Wilfred L	13904 Broadway ST	Alden	NY	21st

Ralph H. Dyer

COOKEVILLE — Funeral services for Ralph H. Dyer, 73, who, with his brother, Paul Dyer, founded Dyer Funeral Home more than 30 years ago, will be held Monday at 11 a.m. at Jefferson Avenue Church of Christ. Burial will be in the Crest Lawn Memorial Cemetery.



MR. DYER

Mr. Dyer died Friday, June 5, 1998 at University Medical Center in Lebanon.

He was born February 26, 1925 in Putnam County and was the son of the late Russell P. and Kittie Belle Johnson Dyer.

He was an army veteran of World War II with the 34th Infantry, 24th Division serving in the Philippine Islands and was awarded the Purple Heart and other service medals. He was also a member of VFW 6296.

Mr. Dyer was a member of Jefferson Avenue Church of Christ.

A 1961 graduate of John A. Gup-ton School of Mortuary Science in Nashville, Mr. Dyer founded Dyer Funeral Home in Cookeville in 1966 with his brother, Paul Dyer, and served as funeral director and embalmer.

In 1997, he was recognized for 50 years of service in the funeral profession by the Tennessee Funeral Di-

rector Association, of which he was a member. He was also a member of the Upper Cumberland Funeral Director Association.

His family includes his daughter and son-in-law, Pat and Ray Bennett of Goodlettsville; a son and daughter-in-law, Tom and Karen Dyer of Cookeville; a sister and brother-in-law, Peggy and Henry Richardson of Cookeville; brother and sister-in-law, Paul and JoAnn Dyer of Cookeville; and grandchildren, Jennifer Leigh Dyer of Cookeville, Shannon and Joe Agee of Nashville, and Matt Bennett of Goodlettsville.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Martha Leigh Fox Dyer, who died on Dec. 22, 1985; a sister, Frances Dyer Tribble; brother T.J. Dyer and also an infant brother.

Family members will serve as pallbearers.

The family will receive friends at Dyer Funeral Home today from 1-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. and at the church on Monday from 10-11 a.m.

Bro. Glen McDoniel and Bro. Jerl Weeks will officiate at the services.

Ralph was a Life Member of the 24th Inf Div Association.

He was a former member of the 34th Infantry and fought with the Regiment in the Philippines where he received a Purple Heart for his combat wounds. He last attended our Nashville reunion in 1995. (Submitted by Jim Hill, 19th Inf. 1949-51)

Bernie Bjorkman

NORTH LITTLE ROCK — Bernie Edward Bjorkman, 86, of North Little Rock died Sunday, July 5, 1998. He served in the Civilian Conservation Corps in northern Minnesota in the 1930s and in the South Pacific during World War II. After being called to active duty as a member of the Minnesota National Guard, he was stationed at Fort Chaffee. He was retired from Dyke Industries and an active member of Central Baptist Church, the American Legion, AARP and the 24th Infantry Division Association and served as a volunteer for Baptist Memorial Medical Center.

Funeral will be 11 a.m. Wednesday at Central Baptist Church with burial at Rest Hills Memorial Park under the direction of Griffin Leggett-Rest Hills Funeral Home, all in North Little Rock.

He is survived by his wife, Nadine; one son, Tom of Lovettsville, Va.; and one granddaughter, Anne Bjorkman of Lovettsville.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Central Baptist Building Fund or a charity of one's choice.

EADIE, John of Sunrise, FL passed away on Saturday, August 1, 1998. Formerly of West Islip, NY. He is survived by his devoted wife of fifty years, Toyoko; his 4 children, Sayuri Hanlon, Grace Michel, John Eadie, Jr., and Dorothy DeDario; 8 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. John worked for TWA for 26 years. An army veteran of World War II and the Korean War, also a member of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association.

July 1, 1998

TAPS



13 Saucito Ave.
Monterey, CA 93940-5535

Dear Mrs. Mullins: I have delayed this report too long. My friend, neighbor and buddy died April 28, 1998 of cancer. Born October 11, 1917, he was stationed at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii when Pearl Harbor was bombed. Capt. John T. Hawkins was retired with 31 years service. He was a soldiers soldier and I will miss him. He is survived by three brothers and 3 sisters all of Anderson County, South Carolina and his wife Mildred died in 1991. He was a member of the 24th Inf Div Association. He also attended several West Coast Mini Reunions. He and I both talked with Rudy and you just before you left Reno, Nevada. John had planned to attend the Colorado Springs Reunion with my wife Moira and I, but his Dr. found a spot on his lungs so he could not go.

Sincerely

Clyde S. Lafitte
Clyde S. Lafitte
Life member

Robert P. Kies Sr.

Robert P. Kies Sr., 67, of Catsauqua died Tuesday, July 21, in St. Luke's Hospital, Allentown Campus. He was the husband of Ruth A. (VanHorn) Kies.

He was a service manager for the former Holtzman Petroleum, Emmaus, for many years until retiring.

Kies taught night classes in home heating technology at Lehigh Carbon Community College.

Born in Hellertown, he was a son of the late Paul and Ruth (Strunk) Kies.

He was a past president of the Lehigh Valley chapter of Oil Heat Service Managers and a member of the Lehigh Valley Oil Heat Association.

An Army veteran of the Korean War, he was a member of American Legion Post 215, Catsauqua.

Survivors: Wife; sons, Robert P. Jr. of Kunkletown and David E. of Allentown; stepsons, Thomas Morrell of Reading, Michael Morrell of Allentown and David Morrell of Coopersburg; brother Alton of Bethlehem; sister, Caroline Hempel of Catsauqua, and seven grandchildren.

Services: 11 a.m. Friday, John H. Brubaker Funeral Home, 3rd and Walnut streets, Catsauqua. Call 10-11 a.m. Friday.

Contributions: American Cancer Society.

Martin

Col. (Ret.) Floyd Richard Martin, age 88, of Tucker died Tuesday, July 28, 1998. Funeral services will be 10:00 A.M., Friday, July 31, 1998 at the St. James Lutheran Church, Norcross, GA with Rev. Mary Faith Nesmith officiating. Burial will be in North Atlanta Memorial Park with full military honors. Col. Martin, a native of North Tonawanda, NY was retired from the U.S. Army with 33 years service. Col. Martin was a member of Task Force Smith; the first American combat troops committed to the Korean conflict. During his illustrious career he was awarded many distinguished medals to include the Silver Star, the Bronze Star with the "V" device and two Oak Leaf Clusters and the Purple Heart. Col. Martin was also a devoted member of St. James Lutheran Church, Norcross.

Survivors: wife of 66 years, Helen Scheithier Martin, Tucker; son and daughter in-law, Mason and Arlyne Martin, Northfield, VT; daughter and son in-law, Sandra and Ed Biel, Dahlonga; grandchildren, Shawn and Diana Martin, Lee and Laure Biel, Lauren and Tim Wilson, great-grandchildren, Katarina and Alexander Martin, Natalie and Garrett Biel, Brandon and Aaron Wilson, many, many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to the St. James Lutheran Church, 6081 Singleton Rd., Norcross, GA 30093.

Col. (Ret.) Floyd Richard Martin



CORRECTION:

HL (Bill) Adkison was listed in the Taps section of the February 1998 Taro Leaf. The address for his widow Marion Adkison was incorrect and should have been: 611 Mount Homer Rd Apt 52 Eustis FL 32726-6266.



TAPS

Dear Vonnie, I received your letter addressed to Harold today. My heart is sad when I tell you that Harold passed away on May 18th this year. His death was very sudden due to an acute heart attack. We were married 57 years - it was such a shock and it will take some time to adjust. All of those years were wonderful with a son, daughter, 4 grandchildren and one great granddaughter born this month. Harold looked forward to reading the TARO LEAF, and would comment on different articles, which I would also read. I'm enclosing an obituary which appeared in our local Grand Rapids, NM newspaper. I'm sure Harold would have been pleased to read of your kindness in upgrading his Life Membership status to Life plus. I appreciate your writing. Sincerely,
Mrs. Harold R. Cyrus (Agnes)

Harold R. Cyrus, 85, Grand Rapids, died Monday, May 18, 1998, at the Itasca Medical Center.

He was born in Blabon, N.D., on Sept. 10, 1912, and moved to the Grand Rapids area as a child. He attended LaPrairie Grade School, Greenway High School and Itasca Junior College graduating in 1932. He served as chief clerk for 34 months for the United States Forest Service, F-13 in Civilian Conservation Corps Company 702 in Bena. He married Agnes G. Holum on June 3, 1941, in Grand Rapids. He served in the South Pacific and was promoted to master sergeant in Headquarters, 24th Infantry Division earning a Bronze Star. After his discharge in 1945, he was employed by King Lumber

Company where he was the credit and collection manager for 18 years. He then became the business manager for North Star Clinic for 20 years. He was a member of the First Evangelical Lutheran Church where he served on the church board and was chairman for two years. He was a life member of the American Legion Post No. 60, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 1720, Disabled American Veterans Post No. 13, all of Grand Rapids, and the 24th Infantry Division Association. He also was a member of the Itasca Historical Society and the Minnesota State Historical Society.

He is survived by his wife, Agnes; a daughter, Mary Brennan, Missoula, Mont.; a son, David Cyrus, Chaska; a sister, Elaine Johnson, Grand Rapids; a brother, Gordon Cyrus, Casper, Wyo.; and four grandchildren.

Preceding him in death were his parents, John and Alma (Ellefson) Cyrus.

Memorial services: Friday, May 22, at 3 p.m. at First Evangelical Lutheran Church with the Rev. Michael Eckert officiating. A time of refreshment and fellowship in the church social hall will follow the service.

Burial: Itasca-Calvary Cemetery.

Arrangements by Rowe Funeral Home, Grand Rapids.

Dear Mrs. Mullins,

Sorry to report that my husband, Floyd E. Eyler died suddenly of a massive heart attack August 18, 1998. He attended as many reunions as his health would permit. He especially did enjoy the magazines especially the last one dedicated to Kenwood Ross. We were looking at pictures from the very first one and we were talking about the first Reunion. He was in 24th Infantry L Co. 21st and proud of it. I noticed on the address it has the expiration date as 8/98, I did send the check 8/6/98 as I have the returned check and would like to get the magazine until next year.

Sincerely,
Cleovesta C. Eyler

Floyd E. Eyler

WAYNESBORO, Pa. — Floyd Ephraim Eyler, 94, of 234 Strickler Ave., died of a heart attack Tuesday, Aug. 18, 1998, at Waynesboro Hospital.

Born Dec. 27, 1903, in Frederick County, Md., near Emmitsburg, Md., he was the son of the late Ephraim and Flora Tressler Eyler.

He owned and operated the Atlantic Service Station on Clayton Avenue for 39 years, retiring in 1968 because of poor health. He also worked at Waynesboro Knitting Mill.

A veteran of the U.S. Army, he served in the South Pacific during World War II.

He was a member of Christ United Methodist Church in Waynesboro.

He was a member of BPOE Lodge 731 in Waynesboro, 24th Infantry Division Association, National AARP and a life member of Disabled Veterans Association.

He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Cleovesta Oyer "Cleo" Eyler; one son, Floyd E. "Butch" Eyler Jr. of Waynesboro; one sister, Evelyn Santinelli of Maryland; two brothers, Kramer Eyler and Sterling Eyler, both of York, Pa.; two granddaughters; and nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by two brothers, Clarence Eyler and Edwin Eyler.

Private graveside services will be held at the convenience of the family in Green Hill Cemetery, Waynesboro. Chaplain William A. Robertson will officiate.

There will be no public viewing.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Waynesboro Ambulance Squad, 48 S. Potomac St., Waynesboro, Pa. 17268.

Arrangements are by Grove Funeral Home, Waynesboro.

QUARTERMASTER 24TH IDA-SUPPLY PRICE LIST

Control #	Item	Description	Price Ea.
1	24th Inf Cloth Patch	(Colored)	\$3.00
2	24 IDA Colored Patch		\$5.00
3	24 I.D. Black Cap W/Patch		\$10.00
4	24 I.D. Cap White W/Patch	First to Fight	\$10.00
5	24 I.D. Decal 2"	6 for \$5.00	\$1.00
6	24 I.D. Decal 4"	Each	\$3.00
7	Bolo Tie/W/TL (New Type)	W/S Steel background	\$16.00
8	Bolo Tie 2 Emblem (Korea)	Bolo Tie 2 Emblem (Korea)	\$16.00
9	Bolo Tie Dogtag W/TL	Bolo Tie 24 ID Single Emblem	\$14.00
10	Bolo Tie Dogtag W/CIB	24th I.D.	\$16.00
11	24th Sig BN Unit Crest		\$5.00
12	19th Inf Crest	Current Issue \$10 Pr	\$5.00
13	21st Inf Crest	Current Issue \$10 Pr	\$5.00
14	34th Inf Crest	Current Issue \$10 Pr	\$5.00
15	11th FA Crest	\$10 Pr	\$5.00
16	13th FA Crest	\$10 Pr	\$5.00
17	19th Pocket Patch(Color)		\$5.00
18	21st Pocket Patch(Color)		\$5.00
19	34th Pocket Patch(Color)		\$5.00
20	11th FA Pocket Patch(Color)		\$5.00
21	13th FA Pocket Patch(Color)		\$5.00
22	24 I.D. Lapel Pin		\$5.00
23	21st Inf Lapel Pin		\$5.00
24	34th Inf Lapel Pin		\$5.00
25	CIB(1stAward)1-1346(Mini)	Mini DRESS MESS	\$5.00
26	CIB(2ndAward)1-1347(Mini)	Mini DRESS MESS	\$6.50
27	CIB Lapel Pin		\$5.00
28	19th Cap Dark Blue/Crest		\$10.00
29	21st Cap White/Embroid/Crest		\$12.00
30	21st Cap Dark Blue/Embroidered	Crest	\$12.00
31	34th Cap Dark Blue w/Crest		\$10.00
32	24 IDA Cap DarkBlue w/Patch	On front, Poplin Twill	\$10.00
33	24 IDA White Caps		\$10.00
34	24 IDA Red Caps		\$10.00
35	24 IDA Green Caps (Patch)		\$10.00
36	24th Inf Div White Mesh/Cap		\$10.00
37	3rd Engr Crest		\$5.00
38	14th Engr Crest	1-C0805-S	\$5.00
39	19th Inf Bracelet(Ladies)		\$10.00
40	19th Inf Lapel Pin		\$5.00
41	19th Necklace(Ladies)		\$5.00
42	24th Div. License Plate		\$4.00
43	Desert Storm Cap - Black		\$12.00
44	Desert Storm Hat Pin		\$3.00
45	Korean Veteran's Cap	Black w/CIB	\$12.00
46	Bumper Sticker	W/TL and WWII	\$3.00
47	Bumper Sticker	W/TL and Korea	\$3.00
48	Bumper Sticker	W/TL and Desert Storm	\$3.00
49	6th Tank Btn Cloth Patch	Cloth Patch	\$5.00
50	Purple Heart Medal HP-754		\$3.00
51	Bronze Star Medal HP-926		\$3.00
52	Good Conduct Medal HP-927		\$3.00

QUARTERMASTER 24TH IDA-SUPPLY PRICE LIST

Control #	Item	Description	Price Ea.
53	Korean Serv Medal HP-929		\$3.00
54	Nat'l Serv Def Medal HP-957		\$3.00
55	Victory Medal HP-958		\$3.00
56	Silver Star Medal HP-959		\$3.00
57	ETO Campaign Medal HP-962		\$3.00
58	DFC (HP-965)		\$3.00
59	Korean 8000 Missing HP-115		\$3.00
60	CMB 1st Award HP-569		\$3.00
61	US Flag Clutch Back HP(V-37)		\$3.00
62	US Flag Pin Back HP(V-38)		\$3.00
63	Pacific Campaign Medal HP-963		\$3.00
64	Am Campaign Medal HP-964		\$3.00
65	Army Occupation Medal HP-051		\$3.00
66	Meritorious Serv Medal HP-056		\$3.00
67	UN Serv Medal HP-059		\$3.00
68	Philippine Liberation HP-361		\$3.00
69	Korean Serv Ribbon HP-099		\$3.00
70	Air Medal HP-925		\$3.00
71	DSC Hatpin-308		\$3.00
72	Bring Em Home/Back HP-214		\$3.00
73	Am Def Medal HP		\$3.00
74	Viet Nam Serv Medal HP		\$3.00
75	24 Inf Div Hatpin		\$3.00
76	24th Inf Div Tie(Reg.Length)	Regular length	\$20.00
77	24th Inf Div Tie (Clip-on)	Extra Length	\$20.00
78	63rd Field Artillery	Cloth Patch	\$5.00
79	Army Commendation Medal HP		\$3.00
80	Soldiers Medal HP		\$3.00
81	POW Medal HP		\$3.00
82	Armed Forces Reserve Medal HP		\$3.00
83	1" Decal 24th I.D.	Sell 12 for \$1.00	\$0.08
84	24TH CHRISTMAS CARDS	10 ea. Packet	\$5.00
85	World War II Tapes	Starts Australia - 5 left	\$15.00

QUARTERMASTER, 24TH IDA

Harry L. Wittman, Jr.
1385 Terri Street
Keyser, WV 26726

(Replica Medals) These are well done and are listed above. Please order by Control Number only. These are designed as HAT PINS, but some have been used in displays. Each pin is about 1/2 inch by 3/4 inch in size. We cannot ship them one pin at a time. We require a minimum of three pins @ \$3.00 each plus a dollar postage and handling. We can include Hat Pins with other items. If you have a cap in your order and include \$3.00 postage, no additional postage for hat pins is necessary. We cannot affix stars, etc.

Please allow six weeks delivery. No Phone Orders Please.

Post a copy of this or any of our ads at your local Vets Clubhouse. Others may be interested in some of these items.

Chapter Affairs

Greene County Chapter #125 of Ohio



Mrs Edith M. Cline honored as a Gold Star Mother on her 100th birthday.

On March 13th the Greene County Chapter #125 of the K.W.V.A. Xenia, Ohio honored their Gold Star mother on her 102nd birthday. The Greene County Chapter was formed in February of 1996. The first action taken by the Chapter was to honor Mrs Edith M. Cline as a Gold Star Mother on her 100th birthday. Mrs Cline's son Robert was the second casualty of our county. Sgt. Robert L. Cline, a medic with the 24th division, 29th regiment, was killed on July 27th 1950.

The chapter has honored her each year on her birthday. At this year's celebration she wanted to know if we would be back next year. The chapter President Howard Camp told her if you're here we will be here. (Sent in by V. President Robert D. Anderson. God bless our Gold Star Mothers who gave so much—Ed.)

FACTS ABOUT THE FIRE AT THE NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER (NPRC)

I. RECORDS BLOCKS AFFECTED BY THE FIRE

The July 12, 1973, fire at NPRC destroyed about 80% of the records for Army personnel discharged between November 1, 1912, and January 1, 1960, and about 75% of the records for Air Force Personnel with surnames from Hubbard thru "Z" discharged between September 25, 1947, and January 1, 1964.

II. A LISTING OF THE RECORDS LOST IN THE FIRE CANNOT BE COMPLETED

When a record is not in NPRC's files at the present time, and it would have been in the area that suffered the most damage in the fire on July 12, 1973, Center employees often cannot determine for certain if it was burned because:

1) There were no indices to the blocks of records involved. The records were merely filed in alphabetical order within each major block:

*World War I - November 1, 1912 - September 7, 1939

*World War II - September 8, 1939 - December 31, 1946

*Post World War II - (Army) January 1, 1947 - December 31, 1963

2) Millions of the records (especially medical records) had been withdrawn from all three blocks and lent to the Veterans Administration prior to the fire.

III. A VETERAN MAY SUBMIT PHOTOCOPIES OF DOCUMENTS IN HIS/HER POSSESSION TO THIS CENTER

If a veteran who inquires about his/her record is advised that it was probably lost in the fire, he/she may send to this Center photocopies of any documents he/she has in his/her possession, particularly separation documents. These will be added to the computerized index and filed for permanent retention.

IV. ALTERNATE SOURCES OF MILITARY SERVICE DATA

In the event a veteran has no records in his/her possession, the essential military service data is available from a number of alternate sources. The Veterans Administration, for example, maintains records on veterans whose military records were affected by the fire. If the veteran or his/her family filed a claim prior to July 1973. Other sources of service information include various kinds of "organizational" records such as morning reports, payrolls, and military orders at this Center. There is also a great deal of information available in records of the State Adjutants General, and other state "veterans service" offices. By using the alternate sources of information which are available at this Center, NPRC employees can often reconstruct the veteran's beginning and ending dates of active service, the character of the service, rank while in service, time lost while on active duty, and periods of hospitalization. Usually this Center is able to issue NA Form 13038, Certification of Military Service—which is considered to be the equivalent of a DD Form 214, Report of Separation from Active Duty—for the purpose of establishing eligibility for veteran's benefits.

V. DATA NECESSARY TO START THE RECONSTRUCTIVE PROCESS

Of course, the key to reconstructing military data is to get enough specific information from the veteran to allow the Center personnel to search the available alternate sources. The information normally required is:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1) full name used during service, | 6) place of discharge, |
| 2) branch of service, | 8) last unit of assignment, and |
| 3) approximate dates of service, | 7) place of entry into service. |
| 4) service number, | |

A LESSON FROM YOUR CHILDREN/GRAND CHILDREN--LAUGH A LITTLE

Scientists have found that laughter is not only good for the soul, but also the body. According to the American Association for therapeutic Humor, laughter improves blood circulation, increases muscle inflection and, most significantly, strengthens the immune system.

Children laugh hundreds of times a day; most adults laugh only a dozen or so times. Take a tip from your kids and make laughter a bigger part of your day. University Physicians, Columbia, Mo.

Senators efforts hindered to restore benefits to veterans

By Rick Maze
Times staff writer

Congressional leaders are going to great lengths to avoid a direct confrontation with veterans.

First, they used a transportation bill laden with pet projects to terminate disability benefits for veterans with tobacco-related illnesses. Now, they are using a tax reform measure to make sure the cut in disability benefits sticks.

When the transportation bill was drafted, it was loaded with errors. Now an amendment that corrects those errors and clarifies the cutoff of disability benefits has been attached to the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring Act. This was done to block efforts in the Senate to restore the veterans benefits.

Sen. John D. Rockefeller IV, D-W.Va., ranking minority member of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, has been waiting for the transportation bill corrections legislation to come to the Senate floor. He wanted to offer an amend-

ment restoring the veterans benefits. Rockefeller was convinced that in a straight up-or-down vote, the Senate would not support a cutoff of disability pay for veterans whose addiction to tobacco dated back to their military service.

Tacked onto tax bill

To stop Rockefeller, Senate leaders attached the highway corrections package to the tax bill, which was nearing final passage. The bill cannot be amended when it comes up for a final vote.

The House of Representatives adopted the bill June 25 by a 402-8 vote. Senate leaders have scheduled a vote after the July Fourth congressional recess.

When it comes up, Rockefeller's options will be limited. Since he cannot amend the measure, he can only seek its defeat or try to get it sent back for further negotiations. Leadership aides predicted Rockefeller has little chance of success.

Among the provisions in the tax reform bill that affect veterans are three clarifications of the cutoff of disability benefits.

First, the bill removes any references to smoking or tobacco-related ailments as being the result of willful conduct. This is a largely symbolic change made in response to complaints from veterans.

Second, the bill makes clear that while no new claims will be accepted for smoking-related disabilities, anyone already awarded such benefits will continue to be paid. The termination of benefits would apply only to veterans who file claims after June 9.

Third, the bill makes it clear that the cutoff only applies to disabilities that have not appeared by the time the service member leaves active duty.

Officials at the Department of Veterans Affairs said the corrections are important if the benefits cutoff is to be permanent.

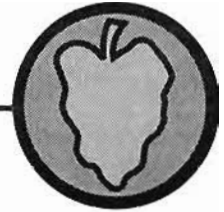
The Following Article on Patriotism submitted by
Dick Deweerd of 906 Hazel St., Pella, IA 50219-1447

I love AMERICA but I do not love what she has become. Scripture says blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord and AMERICA has forgotten the godly foundation upon which she was built. SOMETHING IS WRONG--Children are asked to attend public schools that in many cases resemble war zones without even the most basic rights of any soldier, the right to pray to the God of Heaven. Many times the wild eyed drug addicted, gun carrying teenager is allowed to stay in school while our Supreme Court decided to expel God from the classrooms over 30 years ago.

SOMETHING IS WRONG--Television daily bombards the senses of our nation with the idea that wrong is right, that the abnormal is normal, that the abhorred is acceptable and what GOD calls an abomination is nothing more than an alternative life style and it's had an affect--30 years ago the No. 1 television program was the Andy Griffith show--look what we have today. SOMETHING IS WRONG when our Government can pass out contraceptives to children in schools and yet, the Gideons can no longer hand out the Bible on campus. YES, MY FRIENDS "SOMETHING IS WRONG" when our leaders can say to your children and mine that premarital sex is all right as long as it's safe--YES, SOMETHING IS WRONG.

Well, I for one am ready for change. I will say to my Government--I'm not raising dogs at my house, I'm raising children created in the image and the likeness of almighty God and I'm going to teach them the Bible. If the Bible says it's right, it's right. If the Bible says it's wrong, it's wrong. The only hope that America has is the Godly men and women of character, will stand together as one mighty army, and say to the immoral, the impure, the obscene and the vial that your days of unlimited access to the minds of AMERICA are over. The army of God that's been silent too long is taking AMERICA back.

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24th Infantry Division Association

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