

24th Infantry Division Association

FIRST TO FIGHT



Taro Leaf

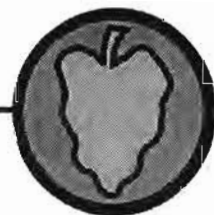
VOL. 53 No. 2

He Is A Veteran

MAY 1999

He's a man who looks the world in the eye. He's a man who feels an extra heart-tug when the flag goes by.
He's a man who steps a little faster when he hears the beat of a military band.
He's a Veteran.
He comes in all assorted sizes and shapes. He's a big man, he's a small man...he's a short man...he's a tall man.
He is the "Doughboy" of World War I...the "GI" of World War II...
He's a man who's seen Korean skies, fought the cold and silent battle of uneasy Berlin... and braved the booby traps and ambushes in the Ia Drang Valley in Vietnam.
He's a Veteran.
He is a Sailor...Soldier...Marine.
He is a Flyer...Seabee...Coast Guard.
He is Artillery...Infantry...Medic...Aviation Machinist Mate...Armored and Ordnance.
He's a Veteran.
He has the quiet dignity of a man who knows the pride of freedom...He has the clear eyes of a man who respects himself.
He is courage living on Main Street.
He is patriotism mowing the lawn on Saturday afternoon.
He is a good citizenship with a smile on his face.
He's a Veteran.
He is Republican, Democrat, Independent...He is mechanic, farmer, banker...He is Catholic, Protestant, Jew...
He is rich and poor and in-between.
He's a Veteran.
He's a man who loves peace because he knows the price tag of war. He's a member of history's most exclusive fraternity.
He knows that war is ninety percent boredom and ten percent sheer terror. He's been there.
He's a Veteran.
He likes the majesty of America's mountains...the tranquillity of America's valleys. He likes the bustle of America's cities and the friendliness of America's Main Streets. He likes the sound of American's children playing on the American playgrounds.
He likes to see the flag go by...
He feels a bit sad when he hears the sound of an American bugler playing "Taps". He is a citizen soldier...Peacetime leader...
He's the first to volunteer in time of trouble...and the last to come home. He's a Veteran.
He is proud of his American past...alert to his American present...confident of his American future.
He likes the legends of America's great...the Washingtons...the Jeffersons...the Abraham Lincolns...the Roosevelts...the Robert E. Lees...the Stonewall Jacksons...the Pattons...the Eisenhowers...the MacArthurs...the Nimitzes...the Pulles...the Dalys and all the proud patriots who have marched through America's history books.
He has bivouacked at Valley Forge...charged the hill at Gettysburg...stormed the sands at Guadalcanal...swarmed ashore at Omaha Beach...advanced on Pork Chop Hill and fought in the bunker complex in War Zone "C" in Southeast Asia, Khe Sanh, Da nang, Pleiku, Con Tien, Quang Ngai, Ashau Valley and the Mekong.
He parachuted into Grenada.
He stood watch in Beirut.
He fought in the streets of Panama and served in the Middle East in support of "Operation Desert Shield" and fought in Desert Storm.
He's a Veteran.
In the very rear of his secret heart there is always a tinge of sorrow, a souvenir of sadness for lost and departed comrades.
No matter how gray his temples grow or how many inches he adds to his middle-aged waist, he always walks with a distinctive pride that isn't given to lesser men.
He is America with an honorable discharge...
He is Democracy with a Good Conduct Medal lost in the darkness of his keepsake box...
He is freedom with a Purple Heart.
He's a first class fighting man with a quiet walk and sentimental grin.
He's America's most honorable citizen.
He's a Veteran.

24th Infantry Division Association



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1999 Reunion

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

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, the 24th Infantry Division, the 24th Infantry Division Association or the Editor of the Taro Leaf.

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 and 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.

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May 1999

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Deadline to the Editor

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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 Inf. Div. to be reactivated
June 5, 1999
Ft. Riley, KS.

See page 12 for details

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Letter from the Editor:

World War II - 1941 - 1945. I was very young during this time, however, I recall the time very vividly. I attended the same school for 12 years beginning in September 1942. Every morning we said the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and my favorite patriotic song to sing was, "It's a Grand Old Flag."

Everyone in the schools, churches and the community were talking about "our boys" overseas. I remember feeling very proud hearing people speaking about "our boys." My older sisters had friends going off to serve in the military. We would see stars in windows of many homes. We had a star, my uncle, (my mother's youngest brother) was killed in Italy.

Every noon when I walked home from school for lunch, my dad would have the radio turned on to Lowell Thomas with the news of the war. Whenever we could afford to go to a movie, we would see the newsreels of the war. There was the rationing of food, I never heard anyone complain. That would have been unthinkable. "Our boys" were overseas, we wanted them to come home. We prayed they would come home.

In May each year on Decoration Day our school band would meet in the school and march one mile to the cemetery. There would be the gun salute, the placing of poppies in crosses and graves. There would be prayer as we remembered those who gave their lives.

Then there was the Korean War, Vietnam, Desert Storm and still continues. We love all of you who sacrificed for our country.

This Memorial Day let us remember those who gave for us,
"OUR BOYS."

Because of you, Veterans, we have the freedom to be all that we can become.

It is a privilege and honor to serve as Editor of the 24th Infantry Division Association. God Bless all of you!!

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24th Infantry Division Association



November 3, 1998

Memorandum for the General Membership

Subject: Nominating Committee for officers 1999-2000

Robert Smith, Chairman, Ben Wahle, Jim Hill, Norman Wolak, and Clyde Neal

The five individuals name above have agreed to serve on the nominating committee for 1999-2000. Robert (Bob) Smith will be the chairperson. The chairperson or his designated representative will be responsible for providing names of individuals selected as the 24th Infantry Division Association Reunion in Tulsa Oklahoma, September, 23rd to 26th, 1999.

It is important that you take time to consider nominees who are both willing and capable of filling the position.

If you want to nominate someone for a position, mail his or her name to the chairperson, Robert Smith, along with their qualifications. The committee will review and recommend the person they feel best suited to fill the position.

***The nominating committee can only recommend, they cannot nominate.**

Vice President

- He/she shall acquaint him/herself with the duties of the President in case of a vacancy.
- He/she shall be available to handle any assigned duties requested by the President.

President

- The President shall preside at the Association Convention and at meetings of the Executive Committee and shall supervise all activities of the Association. In an emergency he may direct immediate action in any matter or policy of finance, reporting the matter immediately there after to the Executive Committee.
- In the event of the absence or incapacity of the President, the Vice President, or next senior member of the Executive Committee shall perform his duties.

Secretary Treasurer

- He/she shall administer the affairs of the Association, implement the policies of the Executive Committee, and be responsible for the development for all correspondence, records, and other matters of administrative routine and office procedure.
- He/she shall organize and operate the Association offices and be responsible for all correspondence records, and other matters of administrative routine and office procedure.
- He/she shall be the custodian of the Association Fund and be responsible for the collection and receipt of dues and other income and the disbursement of accounting for funds.

- He/she shall prepare an annual audit of the Association Fund, submit the report of audit to the Executive Committee, and make it available to the membership.
- He/she shall be responsible for the acquisition of and accounting for all Association property.
- He/she shall be bonded in favor of the Association by a surety company approved for acceptance of bonds by the United States Treasury.
- He/she shall keep, record and preserve the minutes of all meetings.

Editor/Raffle Chairperson

- He/she shall gather material, edit, publish, and mail the official publication "Taro Leaf" four times per year.
- He/she shall be responsible for printing, mailing, and keeping track of money collected for the raffle.
- He/she shall report the Executive Committee at the reunion.

I would like to thank you for your support and participation.

In Camaraderie,


Harold "Corky" Peters



Chang, Y.I., vice president of the Korea Chapter corporate members, left, and Brig. Gen. Barry Bates, Korea Chapter president, placed floral wreaths at the Task Force Smith National Monument on behalf of the chapter membership.

□ Korea Chapter. The chapter corporate members and Brig. Gen. Barry Bates, chapter president, placed floral wreaths at the Task Force Smith National Monument, Osan City, Korea, during a memorial ceremony that paid tribute to the fallen task force members.

24th Infantry Division Association



Ladies & Gentlemen:

I want to report that everything is on track for our reunion in Tulsa, September 22-25, 1999. Vernon & Donna Clark, reunion co-chairs, have been busy making preparations for this great event. The registrations are starting to come in and I urge all of you to send yours in as soon as possible. Remember, if you want to be seated with friends at the Aloha or Memorial dinners, please mail your registrations in together, along with your check. The Adams Mark Hotel is encouraging us to register early. Donna & Vernon along with Karen Moon have planned a great program and some outstanding tours. Remember to check inside the Taro Leaf for 1999 Reunion registrations and information.

There will be an Executive Committee meeting Friday, September 24, at 8am. Please plan to attend for we have a full agenda. All past presidents are encouraged to attend this meeting.

We made some changes in our Association in Little Rock. Yvonne Mullins resigned her position as Secretary/Treasurer, but remained on as editor of the Taro Leaf and Raffle Ticket Chairperson. What a fantastic job she has done. Thanks to Vonnie I believe we have the best magazine printed.

Will Schumaker took over as Secretary/Treasurer and he is doing a terrific job. This was a huge undertaking for Will and his wife, Carla. Our membership thanks you.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have taken the time to help me with the daily business of the Association, our past presidents, especially, Joe McKeon, Jim Hill, Wally Kuhner, Vince Vella, Tom Cochran and Dutch Nelsen. Gentlemen, I could not do this job without your help!

Our Quartermaster, Harry Whittman, reports that he has been kept very busy this year. Harry and Francis work very hard keeping our members' orders processed and mailed out in a timely fashion.

Glen Carpenter, our Chaplain, is very involved with the daily functions of this Association.

Wes Morrison, our reunion coordinator, has been busy locating different sites for future reunions. He said he has some wonderful recommendations for us to consider.

I would hope that the chairperson for each of the Regimental breakfasts will try to obtain a speaker at your meeting.

You have all been great to work with and this is what makes the 24th Infantry Division Association the best.

Robert Smith is accepting names of members that you feel could fill the following positions; President, Vice president, Secretary/Treasurer, and Editor. Submit the name to Robert Smith, Chairperson of the nominating committee, 7721 Deer Lane, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494-9119. The deadline for nominations is July 15, 1999.

The following members have agreed to serve on the auditing committee: Harry Wittman, Chairperson, Glen Carpenter and Robert Smith. They will make their report to the membership at the Tulsa Reunion. The fiscal year runs from August 1, 1998 - July 31, 1999.

Our Association is very privileged to have Cleon C. Eckler of 570 Blackbird Landing Rd., Townsend DE 19734-9138 who served in Company "I" 21st Infantry Regiment, Clyde Neal SR of 144 E Charleston Ave., Lawnside, NJ 08045-1609, who served in Company "G" 21st Infantry Regiment, Domenick Pantalone of 712 Dorchester Dr., Wilmington DE 19808-2214 who served in Company "E" 19th Infantry Regiment, and Robert F. Phillips of 5530 Beaconsfield CT, Burke VA 22015-1913 who served in Company "I" 21st Infantry Regiment carry the Division colors. These men will represent the 24th IDA at the Korean War Veteran ceremonies to be held in Washington D.C. on July 27, 1999 and will place a wreath at the Korean War Memorial to honor the members of the 24th Infantry Division who served and died during the Korean War. We of the Association, are thankful and proud to have these four men volunteer to represent our organization at this Memorial and we appreciate this great service to our Association and our Country.

I hope to see all of you in Tulsa. Remember to mail your registrations in early!

In camaraderie,

Harold "Corky" Peters
President



Dividends coming for life insurance holders

WASHINGTON — Almost two million active policyholders of veterans' life insurance will share in the 1999 distribution of \$751 million in dividends by the Dept. of Veterans Affairs.

Veterans will receive the payments on the anniversary date of their policies, with the individual dividend amount determined by age, type of insurance and length of time the policy has been in force. Recipients will automatically receive their annual dividend through one of nine payment options.

The dividends represent a return of trust fund earnings on the premiums paid by policyholders through the years. They reflect the fact that veterans are living longer than originally predicted and also are attributable to the higher than expected yields earned by the trust funds from investments in US government securities.

Only those veterans with policies that have been kept in force when premiums were required are eligible for the payout. Inaccurate notices periodically have surfaced in the veterans community, falsely suggesting that those who have not elected to maintain insurance are eligible for a special distribution if they contact VA.

In fact, the only dividends VA distributes are automatically sent to eligible policyholders, who were issued government life insurance policies between 1917 and 1956. Veterans of subsequent eras are covered by government insurance programs that do not pay dividends.

The largest group receiving 1999 payments will be 1.6 million veterans of World War II with National Service Life Insurance ("V") policies who will receive an average pay-

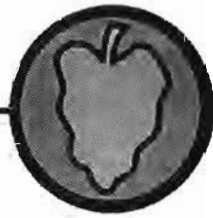
ment of \$409. Total payments are expected to reach \$623.8 million.

Dividends totaling \$3.7 million will be paid to the 18,966 mostly World War I veterans holding US Government Life Insurance ("K") policies. Some 222,512 veterans who have maintained Veterans Special Life Insurance ("RS" and "W") policies can expect to receive dividends totaling \$100.3 million. Veterans who hold Veterans Reopened Insurance policies ("J," "JR" and "JS"), currently numbering 73,895,

will share a \$24.1 million dividend.

Although VA also administers a special life insurance program for disabled veterans and a program offering mortgage life insurance coverage, these policies have a different financial structure and neither pays dividends. For current active-duty servicemembers and reservists and more recently separated veterans, VA supervises a contract with a private underwriter for Service Members' Group Life Insurance, which also does not pay dividends.

24th Infantry Division Association



TARO LEAF NOTES

By

JIM HILL

19th Infantry

Our 52nd reunion in Tulsa is getting closer and closer. I'm looking forward to seeing some real cowboys out there in Oklahoma! Hope to see many of you there! Our President, Corky Peters tells me it is going to be a great one!

Received a phone call the other day from Paul Chapman (Div Hqrs, 1945-46) Morristown, Indiana responding to my question in the last TARO LEAF about the Japanese Geisha houses during the days of the American and British occupation. Paul tells me he arrived in Shikoku from the States shortly after the division had arrived from the Philippines. He remembers pulling guard duty at two Geisha houses there; one for the Officers (figures!) and one for the Enlisted but they were put OFF LIMITS a short time later. He also fondly remembers MG James A. Lester who was the division Commanding General from December 1945 until January 1948 and how the General looked after the young, homesick soldiers.

Received a nice letter recently from Lewis R. Howell (21st, Japan, 1946-49) Santa Monica, California giving me some additional information on the 21st and 22nd Brigades of the old Hawaiian Division. He reaffirms that the 19th and 21st Regiments were assigned to the 21st Brigade and the 27th and 35th Regiments were assigned to the 22nd Brigade. So it figures that the 21st Brigade was the forerunner of the 24th Infantry Division and the 22nd Brigade was the forerunner of the 25th Infantry Division. For your information, Lew, is that "hunting horn" on the crest of the 19th Infantry is an Infantry bugle of the Civil War time period that was the symbol that identified soldiers and units that were serving as Infantry.

Also received a letter from Life Member Joe Sweeney (19th) Dellslow, West Virginia in which he attached a letter from member Jack Starr (19th, pre-Pearl Harbor) Naples, Florida in which he describes the garrison life of the pre-war days in Hawaii. An interesting letter, Jack. Jack ended up being a deep-sea diver for the Navy. Don't guess there was much need for a deep sea diver in the 24th Infantry Division, Jack!

Note to Joe Sweeney: Your article in the last issue of the TARO LEAF about Korean MIAs from the 19th Infantry was very interesting. I have a regimental roster from the Beppu days of 1949 which show Pfc Leonard Jinks as a member of C Company and Pvt. Lawrence Harnage as a member of H Company at that time.

Life Member William C. Hosler (19th, Japan & Korea) of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania has been keeping me up to date on actions being taken to establish the US Army Museum near Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. Thanks Bill for your time and effort in keeping me informed. Understand that other sites under

consideration are Fort Belvoir, Virginia (near Washington, DC) and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. We'll keep you informed.

Life Member Ken Bradshaw (E/19th, Korea) Inverness, Florida informs me that a US Navy cargo ship will be christened at San Diego, California in July and will be named the RED CLOUD after Medal of Honor awardee Cpl. Mitchell Red Cloud (E/19th, Korea). Ken tells me that he and other former E Company members plan on attending the ceremony. I hope to attend also. As many of you know there is a US Army Camp in Korea and a firing range at Fort Benning, Georgia named in honor of Mitchell. Although we have copies of photos made of Mitchell while he served as a US Marine we do not have one of him in his Army uniform. If anyone has a photo showing him in an Army uniform please share it with the TARO LEAF.

Did you know? According to Bevin Alexander in his book "Korea, the First War We Ever Lost" that of the 3,400 Infantry and Artillery men of the 24th Infantry Division committed in the Battle of the Kum River Korea (Taepyong-ni) over 650 were KIA, WIA or MIA.

Ran across Member James M. Ray (21st, WWII, Japan & Korea) Sharpsburg, Georgia the other day at the Fort Gillem, Georgia PX. Jim is a regular reunion attendee and told me how much he and the Mrs. enjoyed last year at Little Rock. He tells me that are already planning on going to Tulsa this year and Cincinnati in 2000. He asked me if we had selected a 2001 site. Now that is really forward thinking, Jim!

Harry Budreau, Historian for the 1st Cavalry Division who lives in Plano, Texas (telephone 972 491-2055) called me the other day with a request. He tells me that in 1957 units of the 24th Infantry Division were redesignated as units of the 1st Cavalry Division. He has a copy of Department of the Army General Orders inactivating the 24th Infantry Division on 27 Sept 1957. All he can find out is that the 24th Medical became the 15th Medical Company. The change was accomplished in Korea. He would appreciate a call from anyone that was in a 24th unit that became a 1st Cav unit at that time. I have a copy of General Orders dated 15 December 1957 that transferred the 24th Division (Less personnel and equipment) from the Far East Command to the Department of the Army pending reorganization.

I had a pleasant surprise recently when Association Member F. S. (Gib) Gibson, San Antonio, Texas sent me a book about Civil War (or is that The War Between the States?) Confederate Generals. Thanks, Gib, for your thoughtfulness. Gib commanded I Company of the 21st Regiment from 19 July until 22 December 1950 upon which, as he writes "some *%#@! North Korean shot me!"

It always make me proud to read where Life Member General Barry R. McCaffrey (Commanding General, Fort Stewart and DESERT STORM, 1990-92) who now serves as the Director of the Federal Office of National Drug Control Policy has successfully accomplished another task in reducing the illegal drug problem in our country. All of us are proud of you and what you are doing for our nation General.

What about the last issue of the TARO LEAF? A great issue in every respect. Vonnice, thanks for doing such a great job as Editor of our publication. Until next time, VICTORY! See you in Tulsa!

FRIENDLY FIRE

Suddenly shots from a single rifle rang out as the 1st Battalion of the 19th Regiment, 24th Infantry division warily advanced in dispersed lines on both sides of a little country road. It was June 12, 1945. We were 10 miles northwest of the Capitol City of Davao, Mindinao Island, in the southern Philippines.

"Out of the corner of my eye I happened to see this fellow," an observant Infantry man told me later, "He was just sitting there on the bank in plain sight!" A hundred soldiers including myself had walked past that spot. What a grotesque way to commit suicide!

The 600 men of the 1st Bn continued up the hill and occupied a camping area used by the enemy that very day. We knew they were not very far away concealed by the dense vegetation. The Battalion prepared to set up a defensive perimeter by digging slit trenches in a "V" shape with two men in each trench around our position. Headquarters personnel and the Medics dug in near the center.

"If the enemy gets inside our perimeter," I told my men, "Do not fire your carbines. You could hit someone. Use your trench shovel". I filed my shovel sharp on both sides. It made a formidable weapon.

"Have the men dig two trenches for wounded and one for me", I told our First Sergeant Griffin. I usually dug my own trench but this time I had other things to do. Even a shallow trench is protection against rifle and machine gun fire. We chose an area for ourselves under a roof the enemy had built but that day there was no sign of rain. We were ready for a counter attack.

I noticed one of our Medics was just sitting on the ground. "What happened to you?" I asked not too gently. "I'm tired," he replied. "Get Busy!" It was getting late in the day. All soldiers always gave their very best.

Large mortar shells began exploding several hundred yards from our position. It was a welcome sound because we knew the enemy was out there ready to attack. Gradually the bursting shells came closer as the artillery observer drew them in to about 100 yards. The precision was remarkable because the mortars were firing from so far away we could not hear their fire. Such a barrage is dangerous because of a "short round" that does not carry quite as far as intended.

About dusk our Aide Men carried Norman Richards to us for care. His right arm was badly wounded and shrapnel in his left chest made breathing painful. We gave him a shot of morphine that helped immediately. Our directives were to not attempt to clean wounds in the field but to sprinkle sulfanilamide powder in the wound, and to control bleeding by direct pressure over the wound. This proved to be remarkably effective. We would have given blood plasma in the vein but he was not in shock.

Battalion Commander Joy Vallery came by. "How is the wounded man?" he asked. "The arm is pretty bad", I replied. "Can we get him back?" "Can't do it", Val had to answer. "We'll take care of him," I declared.

Our uniforms were dripping with sweat, and we had no other. Nights in the Philippines always felt cold to us. I carried a light sun-tan cotton uniform to sleep in. We gave it to the wounded soldier.

A moonless night closed in. We heard no sound but the "whump" of mortar shells exploding at irregular intervals. It is an eerie feeling. Men sometimes hear and see things that are not there. A

jumpy, "trigger-happy", frightened man fires into the darkness. Others join in. At a distance they sound like a string of firecrackers going off. Frequently nothing is found the next morning.

Solitary young soldiers endure hours of terror at night and deny it the next day. A few days before this at midnight our Battalion caught a tree-burst (a shell that exploded over us when it hit a tree) and killed seven men. One of our soldiers on the perimeter became turned around in his trench. He mistook our group for a large body of enemies attacking us and shot his buddy through the liver.

We had a tragedy. After midnight D.F. Downing was shot through the head by a rifle in the hands of one of our men. "Friendly fire" they call it. How can this be "friendly" when it is so terrible? We carried the body to our Aide Station on a litter where it remained under a poncho until morning, another of the many tragedies of war.

Richard's arm properly bandaged was not giving him great trouble but the shrapnel in his chest - also from "friendly fire", a mortar shell that exploded too close - caused pain with each breath. Using a flashlight cautiously so as not to be seen, I injected novocaine into the wound. This anesthetic enabled him to pass the night in some comfort.

The enemy did plan a counter attack but was unable to pull it off because of the mortars. The next day we walked to Mandog Hill, and the next had a skirmish with more casualties.

Philip H. Hostetter M. D.

Philip H. Hostetter M. D.
Former 1st Bn Surgeon 19th
March 17, 1999

ORPHANS OF WAR

(Baldwin Ledger, Thursday, September 7, 1995)

In Seattle, Washington last weekend children who lost their fathers in W.W. II gathered together to remember. Here's a personal account of their weekend.

Story by Monte Miller
TeleGraphics Publisher

This weekend in Bremerton, WA, near Seattle, a re-enactment of the 50th anniversary of the Victory over Japan was held on the decks of the battleship USS Missouri.**Doris J. Downing Miller**, Lawrence, KS, lost her father Army PFC **D.F. Downing** on June 13, 1945 on the island of Mindanao in the Philippines. PFC Downing was asthmatic, the father of three children, a farmer near Warsaw, MO and volunteered for military service in July of 1944. He was a machine gunner in the 24th Infantry Division, 19th Infantry and following his death was buried at the U.S. Military Cemetery near Manila.

In March 1999, Mrs. Doris Downing Miller contacted Dr. Philip Hostetter, in an effort to learn more about her father, therewith the recount of "Friendly Fire."

New 24th Infantry Division to make Fort Riley home

by Gene Smith
The Topeka Capital Journal
April 9, 1999

Fort Riley - The Army can't seem to do without its 24th Infantry Division for long. The Department of the Army announced this week that the division's headquarters will be activated here in October, and added in its new guise, the 24th will be the first of the new "integrated" divisions, made up of an active-duty headquarters component and assigned "enhanced" brigades of the Army National Guard.

"Enhanced" National Guard units enjoy increased resources and manning priorities and get more intensive training to ensure their ability to deploy within 90 days after callup. Such units are organized, equipped and designed to be fully supportable by any U.S. Army corps or division.

The new 24th division will be commanded by Maj. Gen. Freddy E. McFarren, the Fort Riley post commander. Assigned

Guard regiments for the reactivated formation include the 30th Infantry Brigade (Mech.) N.C.; the 218th Infantry Brigade (Mech.), S.C., and the 48th Infantry Brigade (Mech.), Ga. The forward element of the division will be at Fort Jackson, S.C.

An activation ceremony will be conducted at 10 a.m. June 5 on Fort Riley's Cavalry Parade Field.

Organized in February 1921, the 24th "Hawaii Division" received its baptism of fire at Pearl Harbor, fought on Luzon and Leyte in the Philippines and on the big island of New Guinea in World War II. It participated in five amphibious landings.

Occupation soldiers of the 24th Division were ordered from Kyushu, Japan, to Korea in June 1950 to stem the invading North Korean armored columns thrusting south across the 38th Parallel.

They were the first U.S. forces engaged with the Inmin Gun, suffered the first casu-

alties, and remained constantly in action for 19 months. Headquarters and two of the division's three regiments returned to Japan in late January 1952. The third regiment remained as part of the United Nations force engaged with the Chinese and North Koreans until the armistice in 1953.

The entire division was ordered back to the Republic of Korea in July 1953 but saw no further action.

The 24th earned an unsought distinction in 1950 when its commander, Maj. Gen. William F. Dean, was captured by the North Koreans driving southward toward Pusan.

The 24th also saw combat in the Vietnam War and in Desert Storm in 1991. In 1970, the division was deactivated at Fort Riley after returning from Vietnam, only to be reactivated in 1975 at Fort Stewart.

By then mechanized, the 24th was deactivated in 1996 at Fort Stewart, Ga., when the Army was reduced to 10 divisions.

ORPHANS OF WAR (CONTINUED FROM PG 11)

September 1995. Four Star Army General Wayne A. Downing pauses for a photograph with Ledger Co-Publisher Doris Miller, prior to speaking to the American World War II Orphans National Conference in Seattle. Both General Downing and Mrs. Miller and War Orphans and Mrs. Millers' maiden name was Downing.



The following is a story written by one of our newest associate members, Dianne Wiegand Baczynski in memory of her father, PFC Frank H. Wiegand who was killed during the second World War....

My dad was born December 17, 1910, in Appleton, Wisconsin. He was the only boy in the family along with six sisters. The one remaining sister is my Aunt Eunice, who is now 89 years young!! He married my mom in January 1936. That union produced five children, in eight years!!...My dad was 34 years old when he was drafted into the army. He was older than most of the other comrades he fought side by side with and was called "Papa" by them, because of the five children he had waiting for him at home!! He had another nickname of "Gody" that the family called him, but whether his buddies called him that, I don't know.

I have a few memories of my father, and this confuses me, as I was nine years old when he died. I had a packet of letters that he wrote me and I remember him telling me in many of them to "take care of your mother." Since I was the oldest, I have and I am.

When he left to be inducted in June of 1944, he went first to Fort Sheridan, Illinois, from there to Basic Training at Ft. Wolters, Texas in Co D, 54th BN Inf Tng. He wasn't planning to go overseas but after basic he felt he wanted to do his share and volunteered. What a guy!! We think he probably went overseas in the Fall of '44 from Camp Roberts, California. We are not quite sure of his path from then until May of 1945. My mom remembers sending him his birthday card and a little Filipino girl asked if she could have the blue ribbon from his card so he must have been there in December already.

On May 9th, my dad was hauling ammunition and rations to his company area about 1,000 yards North of the city of Bancal, Mindanao, when this barrage of mortar fire was landing right in the vicinity of his jeep. He left the jeep, along with the 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 shot in the back several times by a Japanese sniper and instantly killed.

I will end this tribute to the "daddy" I never really knew but always loved. This saying has always been one of my favorites and now I know why..

**SOME PEOPLE COME
INTO OUR LIVES
AND QUICKLY GO..**

**SOME PEOPLE STAY
AWHILE AND
LEAVE FOOTPRINTS
ON OUR HEARTS..**

**AND WE ARE NEVER,
EVER THE SAME.**

The footprints are on my heart forever..

Father of: Dianne (Wiegand) Baczynski,
Michael T. Wiegand and
Patrick F. Wiegand.



PFC Frank H. Wiegand

**PFC Frank H. Wiegand
34th Inf. 24th Div. Co. B
Killed in Action 9 May, 1945
near Bancal, Mindanao, in the Philippines**

Book Review
By
James F. Hill

The Greatest Generation, Tom Brokaw, Random House, New York, New York, 1998, 390 pages.

"They came of age during the Great Depression and the Second World War and went on to build modern America--men and women whose everyday lives of duty, honor, achievement, and courage gave us the world we have today." Fly-leaf to The Greatest Generation.

Tom Brokaw is best known for being the anchor man for the NBC nightly news. After reading his book, The Greatest Generation, this reviewer senses that he will also become well known as an author.

Tom Brokaw is of the generation that grew up after World War II, although he remembers his childhood days during the war living with his parents at an isolated Army Ordnance Depot in South Dakota. He remembers the struggles of his parents to provide the necessities of life during those times following the great economic depression of the 1930's and relates the struggles of others during that time when food, clothing and shelter was the main concern of the majority of our nations population..

Looking back on that period in the history of the United States he has taken many individuals of that time and has developed this superbly written book of their later accomplishments in life after they had given several years devoted to the cause of our country during the war.

Brokaw has taken selected individuals, some famous and some not so famous, and has related how their service to our country helped them and helped the United States in later years after they returned to the more normal periods of post-war living. He breaks down the categories he writes about to Ordinary People (men and women who are a success in the business world based on the experience they gained while serving in the military), Home Front (individuals who served in a non-military status during World War II), Heros (highly decorated individuals that returned to successful civilian careers), Women in Uniform (women who served in a military capacity), Shame (the treatment of minorities during WW II), Love, Marriage and Commitment (wives who kept the "home fires burning"), Famous People (individuals whose names are well known today) and the Arena (men and women who have made their mark in politics at the National level).

The underlying point that he brings out in his book is that the generation he writes about, The Greatest Generation, had and have different values of life from present generations (the

Baby Boomers, the X Generation, etc.) based on the difficulties of growing up during the Depression and their commitment of "Duty, Honor and Country" that was instilled in them by service to our nation either in a civilian or military status. Brokaw, more than once, brings out the lack of commitment to marriage vows, obligations to our country and overall family values that are a hallmark of the generation he writes about as compared to present generations.

For the reader who doesn't know or doesn't understand the sacrifices that the "Greatest Generation" made this book is "must" reading. It should be required reading in every high school history class in our country. Our entire nation owes a debt of gratitude to those men and women of "The Greatest Generation".

Many of our 24th Infantry Division Association members not only can relate to the time that Brokaw writes about but many of us were and are part of "The Greatest Generation". Our Nation can be proud of the sacrifices that were made by many while serving in the military and the accomplishments made after returning to civilian life.

The author of this review is James F. Hill, an individual who considers himself part of "The Greatest Generation" having grown up during the Great Depression and having served in the military in the later stages of World War II. He serves as a Trustee for the Historical Society of Georgia and was President of the 24th Infantry Division Association for the 1995-1996 term of office.

WORLD WAR II 1941-1945

A VOLUNTEER

So many times there comes a person who gives so often that we who benefit from the contribution, seemingly take it for granted. Our 24th Infantry Division Association has such an individual in the person of Henry (Hank) Gosztyla. For all of the many years that I can remember, Henry has been assisting the Chaplain at the Memorial Service during our Conventions, lighting the candles at the Table of Valor. The service is done from his heart and as each candle is lit, we who attend, feel the emotion of remembering the brave men who gave their very lives.

We thank you, Henry and it is our hope and prayer that you will continue to assist the new Chaplain in the coming years.

Editor of "Taro Leaf"

Letter written to:
Lee R. Phillips
P.O. Box 432
Wilder, ID 83676

From: Atomic Veterans Radiation News

"Since you have multiple myeloma, you are entitled to compensation according to Public Law 100-321 if you participated in the occupation of Hiroshima and/or Nagasaki between the start of the occupation and July 1946. According to this law, you don't have to prove that you were exposed to any amount of radiation as long as you can prove you were there during the specified period. There is also no time limit. The time limit or latency period was abolished by the 1992 amendment to Pl. 100-321 by Pl. 102-578. Write to the: National Association of Atomic Veterans if you feel you have a claim: Diseases referred to are:

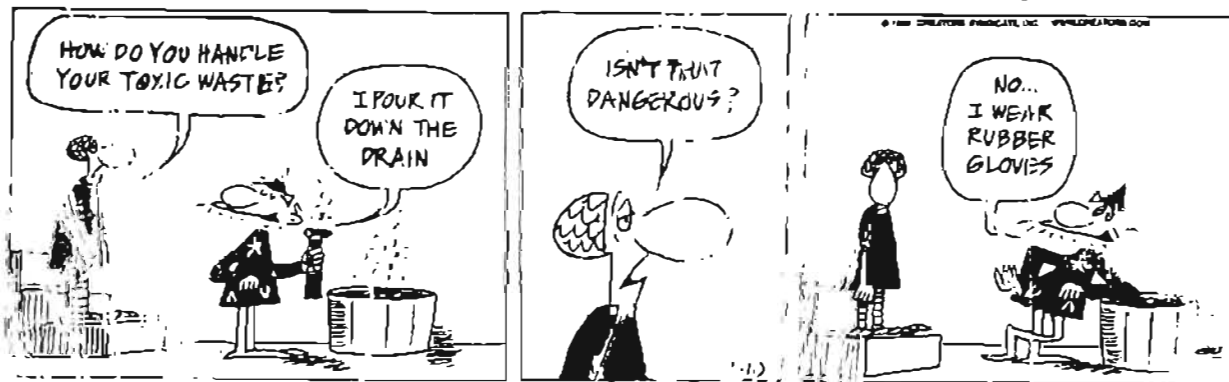
- (A) Leukemia (other than chronic lymphocytic leukemia)
- (B) Cancer of the thyroid
- (C) Cancer of the breast
- (D) Cancer of the Pharynx
- (E) Cancer of the esophagus
- (F) Cancer of the stomach
- (G) Cancer of the small intestine
- (H) Cancer of the pancreas
- (I) Multiple myeloma
- (J) Lymphomas (except Hodgkin's disease)
- (K) Cancer of the bile ducts.
- (L) Cancer of the gall bladder
- (M) Primary liver cancer (except if cirrhosis or hepatitis B is indicated)

(Note: Thank you Lee, for sending this information on to the "Taro Leaf" and we hope this will be helpful to others as well).



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Parker & Hart



ONE DAY IN KOREA - 1950

(Trucks, Ammo and War planes Don't Mix)

I think it was sometime in October we had a big fight going on, on the western side of Korea. There was a hill about 6 or 700 feet high and it had a sister hill on the north side of it. The road went between these two hills. The engineers came up with two or three bulldozers and leveled the sister hill. The dirt was used to make about a 6 or 7 foot high burn in a U shape for a forward ammo dump. We had filled the ammo dump with 105, 155 and 90 MM tank ammo plus 30 and 50 cal ammo.

We were hauling the ammo to a forward position, which was a Korean house that had a small stream just behind it. The front line people were hauling it out as fast as we were hauling it in. This location was about 1/2 mile from the front line. We had people to help load the ammo but the drivers had to unload it by themselves. That ammo was real heavy but we got our job done. This one day I had just unloaded a truck full of ammo and I got pretty hot. I went to the back of the house to that stream and washed my face, arms and hands. Just before I got in my truck I heard a round of artillery going over my head heading west to the front. This was the only time I heard anything going over heading west. I just thought maybe it was one of our 8" guns. If you have ever heard one of these rounds going over your head, you will never forget how it sounds. I went winding around this big hill back to the ammo dump. When I got there, four trucks were backed up to the ammo and loading up for another trip. I had backed my truck up and was heading west into the sun. I was sitting on the left front fender. I saw a 3/4 ton truck coming from the west. There were 2 men in it. They were about 400 yards away when I saw an airplane coming from the west heading straight for the 3/4 truck. All of a sudden he dropped a bomb. The bomb didn't hit the road or the truck but it hit close enough to turn the truck over. He came right over the top of us (about 15 trucks and 15 or so men). He then made a wide circle and headed straight for us again. Somebody hollered "run." Where I was, there was no way I could out run him. (Earlier we were issued colored I.D. material to put on top of our trucks so our airforce could identify us from the air.) He had made his circle and was headed straight for us. I knew he was going to drop a bomb or strafe us. I reached in my truck and got out this orange red colored I.D. material. It was about 3 ft. wide and about 6 foot long. I then started waving the hell out of it. At this time I really thought I was going to get it for sure. I was expecting to be hit but he flew on over and made another big circle and came at me again. Only this time he was about 30 yards to the north (me waving this orange red material all the time). I could see him clearly in the cockpit. The World War II helmet with goggles on his forehead. He then made another circle and came by again and again he was about 30 yards to the north. Only this time he was almost on the deck. I could see him clearly and I knew he could see me also. He then gave me a thumbs up and I in return gave him thumbs up. He waved his wings at me and I never saw him again. I believe if I ever saw his face in person I could identify him, he was that close. This plane was blue, white star and NAVY on the side. I think it was a "Thundbold," but I am not real sure of this. Had it been a jet airplane I don't think we would have been so lucky.

Oh yes, I had to get another color coded I.D. strip, I tore that one up waving it at him. I know the navy pilot will not read this but if he did I know he would remember the encounter. Maybe one or two of the men who read the Taro Leaf, if they read it, they will remember. To this day I do not know what happened to those two men that were in the 3/4 ton truck.

W.B. "Wild Bill" Nelson
SV CO 19th Regt 24th Div
"First to Fight"

I am looking for two U.S. soldiers who were stationed in Japan.

Dear sir,

Though it was sudden and impolite, your message was seen with Korean War Project.

I sometimes want to ask.

My name is Toshihiko Tsuchiya. I am an ex-crew member of the U.S.Navy LST-629

I am searching for two U.S. army sergeants who were stationed in Japan during the Korean War.

These two men were "transportation supervisors" aboard the " U.S. Navy LST-629"

They were assigned this position by MSTs owned by the 24th division (if my memory is correct) of the U.S. Army around October 1954.

On August 15, 1945, the people of Japan began the most difficult task of rebuilding their lives among the ruins of a war stricken country.

In an attempt to aid the Japanese people in their recovery, various American relief agencies organized by labor unions and religious organisations, provided Japan with food, medical items and clothing.

I felt grateful to America, and it is for this reason that I joined the Korean War as a volunteer crew member of the American Navy aboard SOT and LST from June 1950.

I was engaged in the transportation of soldiers and military supplies to various parts of North Korea from Hakata, Moji, and Sasebo ports.

I also participated in the Landing operations of the U.N. Army on the east coast of North Korea to escort people from the North to the South.

Even after the truce of the Korea War was signed in July 1953, I continued working aboard these transportation vessels. It was during this time on board the "LST-629" from Oct 1954 to Mar 1955 that I met the two American soldiers I'm looking for now. Except those two Americans, "LST-629" was served by the Japanese.

They were very kind to me and guided me in various matters. I would like to contact "the two unforgettable U.S. soldiers" and meet with them and their families if it's possible.

I'd appreciate your help with any information about the two U.S. army sergeants.

Information of the U.S. army sergeants

The transportation operation where they were involved was conducted

- * from Oct 1954 to Mar 1955
- * from Hakata port, Fukuoka to Pusan port, Korea
- * on boat "LST-629"
- * by the 24th division of the U.S. army sent from the Hakata transportation office. (MSTS, Hakata Camp or Kokura Camp)
- * on "LST-629" only two American soldiers were aboard. The rest were only Japanese.

* rank	name	age(1954)
master Sergeant	unknown	in his thirties
technical sergeant	unknown	in his twenties

"a former crew member of the U.S.Navy LST-629"

Toshihiko Tsuchiya (I was called "Tony" -my nick name.)

36-1011 5-5, Nanko-naka, Suminoe-ku, Osaka JAPAN zip 559-0033

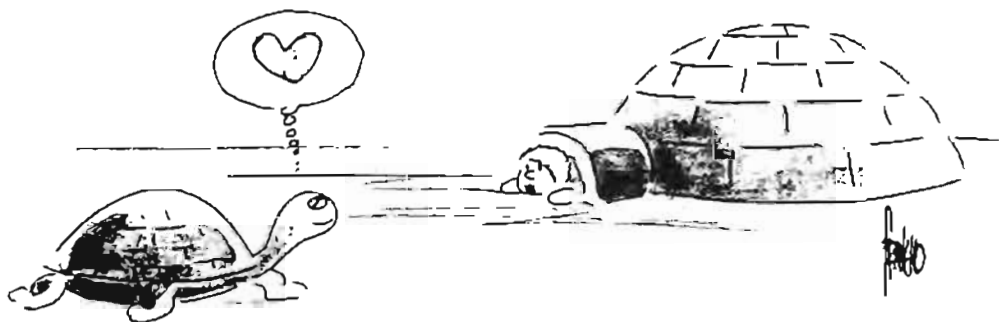
<http://www2.osk.3web.ne.jp/~miki21/tutiya.html>

E-mail : miki21@osk.3web.ne.jp

WALLY'S SAGA WITH THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

- Day One: Went to Doctor: "Hey Doc, I got these problems see. Back hurts like H— and I got a leakage problem." Doc says, "take your pants off." (CHEEZ ??????????)
- Day Two: MRI Technician says, "Take all your clothes off and put this gown on." (CHEEZ not again!!!!!!) "Lay down here and I will put a cloth over your eyes." (WHAT?) "Are you comfortable?" (Can't see a damn thing)
- Day Three: Back to Doc #1. "Pal, you got to see a specialist for your back and another one for your leakage. I'll make the appointments."
- Day Four: To Doc for back. "Take your clothes off and walk across the floor." He takes a rubber hammer to my knee. No response. Looks at me like I'm nuts. Doc says, "You need a nerve block. Go to hospital. I'll make appointment."
- Day Four: To the Hospital: "Take your clothes off. Put gown on. Are you comfortable? (Oh sure) "Bend over." (OH! OH! OH!) Takes out BIG NEEDLE, about a yard long. Sticks it in my back. "Does it hurt?" I say, "Nah Doc, piece of cake." Pulls out needle. He says, "Don't drive, don't pick anything up weighing more than fifteen pounds." I says, "What does two ounces of scotch and four ice cubes weigh?" He says, "You want me to try again, smart guy?"
- Day Five: To leakage Doctor: "Take your clothes off." (Feel, feel, feel. Grope, grope, grope.) He says, "Now just where does it leak?" (CHEEZ all over the D—place. He says, "HMMMM." He gives me high blood pressure pills. I say, "but Doc, I don't have high blood pressure." He says, "Take one a day and come back on the 26th."
- Day Six: Back to Doc #1. He says, "How did you make out?" I say, "I did not have a chance to make out." Now he says, "You got anemia and low blood sugar." (CHEEZ!!!!!!) I say, "There is no sugar in scotch." he says, "Smart Aleck!"

Now I have to start all over again and see each one for an evaluation. From Day One to ?????????????? CHEEZ, CHEEZ, CHEEZ!



24TH DIVISION ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The 24th Infantry Division Association is planning to award two scholarships of \$500 each to two persons for furthering college education for the year 1999-2000.

Individuals applying for either of these two grants must be from the immediate family of a 24th Infantry Division Association member, grandchildren or by legal adoption.

The following information is required from individuals applying:

1. Sponsor's name and address and telephone number.
2. Applicant's name, address and telephone number.
3. A transcript of grades from the last two years of school attended.
4. If your last two years of school was a secondary school, please attach a transcript of your grades from the last two years and a recommendation from your school counselor.
5. A recommendation from two persons in your community.
6. A one page attachment describing your school and community activities.
7. A one page, typewritten essay on what it means for you to be a citizen of the United States.

SPONSOR'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Applications must be received by August 15, 1999. Send to:

James F. Hill
260 Shelli Lane
Roswell, GA 30075-2967

THANK GOD FOR EVERYTHING!

I went up for my first physical in April 1944 after my 18th birthday and was deferred until after the harvest. With 2 weeks left in my senior year in high school I received a second call from the army. Mr. Dillon our Superintendent wanted me to get another deferment but I thought I'd just as well get going. Neil Weber, Paul Robinson, Kenneth Wright, some others and I were inducted September 28 at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas. We received our uniforms and went to Camp Walters at Mineral Wells, Texas.

While on our 13 weeks of training, my brother Andrew got word to me to meet him in Dallas. He was about to leave for the Aleutian Islands. I got a pass but the Camp was quarantined until about 4 P.M. When we got to Mineral Wells about nine-thirty all of the buses had gone. Finally an old fellow with a '39 Ford said if we could get 5 passengers he would take us to Dallas.

In Dallas I started to go in a hotel Andy had named, when I noticed all the people were in tuxes and evening gowns. I went in anyway, and when I came out I found Andy just around the corner, at about 11:30 p.m.

We finished our training at Camp Walters and went on to Ft. Ord, Calif. in January 1945. There we were split up. In about a week we got shipped out — to where? It took 28 days to cross the Pacific. We stopped in New Guinea at Finch Haven and Hollandia, and took another troop ship to Leyte Island in the Philippines. We were there a week and went on to our regular unit, Company L, 34th Regiment 24th Infantry Division, on Mindoro Island. They were in a rest area rebuilding their Unit. They had been on Corregidor Island and the Bataan Peninsula of Luzon Island where there was very heavy fighting. After a week we were loaded on an L.S.T. (Landing Ship Tank) for Mindinao Island in the south Philippines.

Ashore, we marched somewhere, I'm not real sure of where, and dug in. Green as we were, that night our corner of the perimeter was awake all night. The next morning it was just an Army Post. We noticed things better from then on.

We marched inland a number of days when we came by a village made on stilts of bamboo and straw, and burned by the enemy, and some atrocities. This was was for real.

As we continued up toward the mountains we saw a black field. We wondered what it was. Later that afternoon we found out - grasshoppers, several hundred feet of them! That night here they came, hopping through our bivouac area.

One time we were watching the Air Force strafing below our position when all of a sudden one of our buddies Cole fell back in his foxhole. A fifty-caliber machine bullet in his lap. He had a red mark of the bullet cross-ways of his chest!

"I am going to save that," he remarked. "It might be a good luck piece."

We continued eastward across southern Mindinao toward the great Mt. Apo. One night it rained and the water came down the hillside. It was cold, and we all noticed something strange about us. The next morning we found out, it was maggots! We cleaned our guns first, then everything else.

We were marching along one day thinking we would come in contact with some of our troops. We were still "green" when we encountered some soldiers. We couldn't get an I.D. (identification) from them so my first machine gunner Ralph J. Ming waved his carbine at them. We found out

then who it was, the Japs! We got out of that without any loss. I don't know what happened to the enemy.

I was in the hospital 10 days with jaundice. A very good Filipino nurse told me her horror story of how she survived. She had three saber marks diagonally across her back and had been left for dead with her family. Finally someone found she was alive.

I was told my outfit had gone back up another time and lost Gonzolas, my Ammo Bearer. He was a good person. I keep him in my prayers. We went back to the coast for some rest.

We were sitting on coconut logs at a show waiting for it to get dark. All of a sudden over the loud speaker came the startling announcement, "The Japanese have surrendered!" We could not believe it! I think it was announced several times. Finally we went back to our company and sure enough, it was true! This was August 15, 1945.

In Japan we landed at Matsuyama City on the southwest coast of Shikoku Island. As we marched through the city we could see people peering at us from the windows. We were surprised to find our camp was surrounded by a moat with huge goldfish in it. It was the grounds of an old castle.

We received orders to go to Nagasaki where we were put in an empty six-story hotel. I was put on Guard Duty on a supply boat and train. Up the hill from us was a big Colonial-type building with big pillars out front and tall doors. We did not have Class A uniforms so we could not go inside. All we could do was walk around it. We noticed the M.P.'s (Military Police) and S.P.'s (Shore Patrol) going towards the building. All at once sirens started going off! As we watched it looked like a corn popper exploding. Sailors ran out of there putting on their hats as they ran. Wow! What a good laugh we had.

While at Nagasaki some of us received R and R (Rest and Relaxation vacation) to go to Kyoto for 6 days. Boy did we enjoy that! We took in a night club and saw GIRLS! We walked back in the prettiest snowfall with big flakes, no wind, and not cold. What an end to a great night! On Sept. 14, 1946 I received my orders to go home. This took 14 days on the US Marine Dragon. We passed under the Golden Gate bridge. What a sight! We were stationed at Marysville, Calif. at Camp Beal. We went to Glendale To my sister Mary's and Marion Mendenhall's and found my brother Andrew who was out of the service by then. They took us out to a club where 2 bands were performing - Jimmy Dorsey and Tommy Dorsey!

I got discharged November 30, 1946. THANK GOD FOR EVERYTHING!

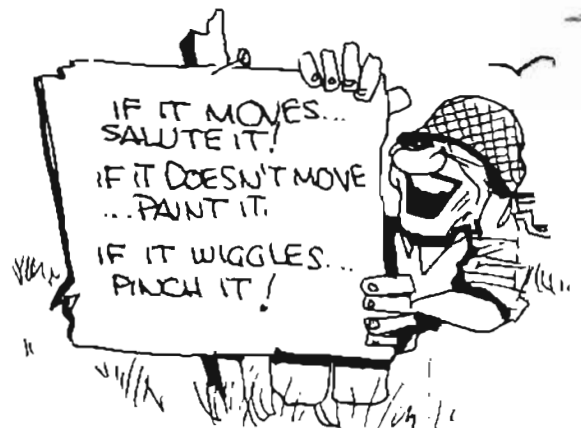
Leo S. Wenta
Box 434
Fowler, Kansas 67844



"Somebody has been helping themselves to extra rations!!"

"Ya don't git combat pay 'cause ya don't fight."

The cartoonist Bill Mauldin paid this stinging sardonic tribute to his colleagues in the medical corps during World War II. Mauldin, who served as a combat infantryman, wrote that "the dogface's real hero is the litter bearer and aid man who goes into all combat situations right along with the infantryman, shares his hardships and dangers, and isn't able to fight back... Sooner or later, like everybody who works around the infantry, the medic is going to get his. Many aid men have been wounded and many have been killed. It should comfort the families of those who have died to know that there are many friends who grieve with them." (Mauldin was quite explicit, however, that this regard for the medics did not extend to "the commissioned intern who entered my ward in Naples one winter when I was recovering from pneumonia and ordered me to lie at attention.")



beetle bailey



Dear Abby Column(February 10, 1999)

I know many or most newspapers carry the Dear Abby Column, but just in case you missed it, I would like to pass it on.

"Dear Abby: In Branson, Mo., in the heartland of America, we embrace patriotism. Not only does our community host the nation's largest Veterans Day celebration - Veterans Homecoming - we honor veterans every day. Our Fourth Annual Homecoming (Nov. 5-11) was attended by more than 25,000 veterans, and we spared no effort to make that week of celebration even more memorable than in years past.

"Abby, the Branson Veterans Task Force is a nonprofit organization that creates events honoring veterans year-round, among the major events we have planned for 1999: Branson Remembers - a Memorial Day tribute; an old-fashioned patriotic Fourth of July celebration for veterans and families; special memorial services for POW/MIA Day; a ceremony to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the VFW; the annual memorial service for the Four Chaplains of the USS Dorchester; and a ceremony during which we place the flag at half-staff to honor veterans of the Korean War. And, of course, there will be the Fifth Annual Veterans Homecoming, Nov. 5-11, 1999. These are just a sample, in addition to numerous military reunions and conventions throughout the year.

"Celebrated entertainers who make Branson their home will participate in the special events and services, and give of their time and talents - Wayne Newton, Tony Orlando, the Lennon Sisters, Mel Tillis, the Osmonds, Jim Stafford and Box Car Willie, to name only a few. They enthusiastically join in the programs to let our veterans of all conflicts know they are truly honored guests.

"Our goal is not only to honor those who have served, but also to educate our youth regarding the sacrifices veterans have made to preserve our freedom. An ongoing educational program has been created in our schools that includes many Medal of Honor recipients as guest speakers.

"So please, Abby, convey to veterans everywhere that Branson, MO., honors American Veterans every day!"

(s) Debbie Ikerd
Executive Director

The following is Abby's reply:

"Dear Debbie: Armed conflicts are painful to remember. As time has passed, many Americans have forgotten what was accomplished because of the sacrifices of the members of our armed forces to ensure our comfort, freedom and well-being. However, we must never forget or allow our children to forget - our courageous veterans, both on the battlefield and behind the lines. This includes not only those of World War II and the Cold War that dragged on for decades, but also those of Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Panama and Desert Storm.

"To all the members of the Branson Veterans Task Force: I salute you for keeping the memory alive. It's a pleasure to publicize your efforts on behalf of all veterans."

Joe Potami 21st Inf
24th Division

Submitted by: Johnny Rodriguez

Joe passed away September 26, 1994. He was with "C" Company, 1st Battalion. I first met Joe in Goodenough Island. It was there, that we became good buddies. Joe became one of the Company's barbers in Hollandia. We dug fox holes all the way from Hollandia to Mintal, Mindinao. He became Supply Sergeant for the Company in Mindinao. Joe wasn't with me when I was wounded in Mintal, but close by. He was fortunate enough to go all the way to Japan. John Trinca replaced him after he was sent back to the states.

After Mindinao I didn't see Joe until 1971, when I vacationed to the East Coast. I last called Joe in September before I went to the Philippines in 1994. He wanted me to promise him that I would take pictures of Breakneck. I told him that I didn't have to promise him as I had intended to do that anyway.

When I returned from the Philippines it was a shock to learn of his passing away as when I last spoke with him I was not aware of him being ill at all. I miss a good friend, but as with our war buddies that have left us, a very large part of knowledge and history is lost.

Joe was in every sense of the word "A GENTLEMAN". He is survived by his wife, Nettie and a daughter.

Joe Potami, his wife Nettie and daughter taken April 1946.





REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY
SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND
FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA 28307-5200

27 January, 1999

Mr. Harold C. Peters
President 24th Infantry Division
14020 Xanthus Avenue
Rogers, MN 55374-9332

Dear Mr. Peters.

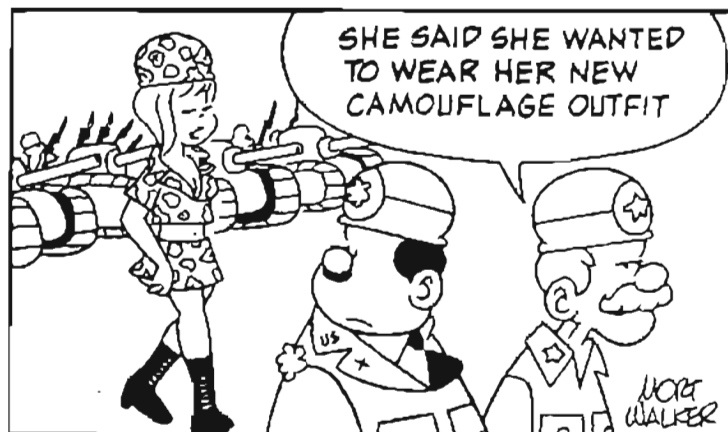
I just wanted to congratulate the Association on their selection of Will Schumacker, as Secretary-Treasurer. I had the honor of serving with Will during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. I was the executive officer for 2d Battalion (Mech), 7th Infantry. Will was assigned to the Headquarters Platoon as my gunner and the unit armorer. He was instrumental in several key engagements most notably the recovery of POWs with corroborating information on the capture of US crewmembers from a downed UH-60 Blackhawk.

I am privileged to have Will as a friend and I know your organization will flourish with this dynamic and dedicated soldier on your staff.

"Cottonbalers-By God"

Sincerely,

Robert S. Brown
Major, United States Army
Plans Officer





EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

email received from Sharon Karsten. Pinmn@aol.com I'm looking for information on my father Mr. Lowell Richard Karsten who served in the Korean War. He was stationed in Fort Smith, AR and went into the service on August 31, 1951. We believe that he was in the 24th Infantry Division, however, we aren't positive. We know that he was transferred to Japan as a guard in the M.P.'s. Served in Korea, then went back to Japan. We are attempting to track down his service record number and/or discharge information. If you have any means, including other military personnel, to gather information about my father, please let me know.

ATTENTION:

Anyone knowing a Fred Freeman possibly in the 21st Inf, Possibly I Company, maybe in Mindoro or Mindanao, please contact the Editor of T.L. The only person Fred recalls is a Lt Leo Stein, who was his Platoon Leader. Can anyone help??

Received a letter from Fay June Poczatek saying her husband Stanley is living in Virginia due to illness. She asks for prayers for Stanley. Anyone wishing to write to him should do so at: Stanley Poczatek, 15110 Castle CT., Dale City VA 22193-1612.

Received from Hurdie Earl Wise of 724 W. Seline CR., Benton, AR 72015. "I've enclosed everything that I received recently in the mail from Bob Dole on the proposed National WWII Memorial. I sure hope the Memorial Fund Drive and Construction is successful!

Received word from W.B. "Wild Bill" Nelson of 214 W. Mockingbird Ln., Harker Heights, TX 76548. "After the December issue came out I got a letter from a young man whose father was in the 24th. He said his father was captured in Korea in November '50. He was interested in how to get his dad to tell him something about the War in Korea. I misplaced his letter and have been unable to answer him. Maybe someone in the Association could write a short article for the Taro Leaf about Veterans talking to their children about the War. I would like him to know that I received his letter and I misplaced it and hope that he would write me again." (How about it? Anyone out there that would write such an article as mentioned?)

Thanks, for writing Bill, and I hope that the young man reads this.

Letter from: Ron Larby, 178, Braemar Ave, Neasden UK "Thanks for sending me the latest edition of "Taro Leaf", as always full of interesting articles and news..After I finished reading my "Taro Leaf" I will, as usual, take it down to the next meeting of the British Korean Veterans Association where it has always been a popular item with our members. If any Taro Leafers are visiting London this coming summer for the International Korean Veterans Reunion, I hope that I will be able to make contact with them at some of the planned events. Meanwhile good health and happiness to all of you for the remainder of 1999. With regards, Ron Larby

Greeting to all the G, 19th Inf Regt members from Frank Plata. (email address Silverfps@aol.com "I keep reading the December '98 edition of the TL and it constantly reminds me of how proud it makes me to have been a member of the division. I haven't been able to make the last couple of reunions because of health problems but am looking forward to Tulsa this year. I also hope to get into Chicago at some point and team up with Joe Sagami. I was also hoping that Ed Williams and Tony Lavernea would turn up at some point and fill us in on recent years. I have had some contact with Richard Mercy in New York. Just wanted all of the former "G" 19th Alumni to know that all of you are continually in my thoughts and prayers. Take care out there and hope we get to see each other in '99. From the City of Brotherly Love. Frank Plata.

Received email from someone requesting information about her Dad, Robert L. Smith. Information available is that a PFC Robert L. Smith RA13357452 from Summers County WV was wounded 19 October 1951 and evacuated to the States 27 December 1951. If anyone remembers Robert L. Smith, please contact his daughter by email ONOJUNAS@aol.com or send information to the Editor of the T.L.



email from Bill Allen: I have my book (journal) completed and ready to go. If anyone is interested the cost is \$12.00 plus \$3.00 plus postage for a total of \$15.00. All proceeds go to students who want to continue their education. Also any other group that may be interested in having me talk to them. "My Old Box of Memories, Thoughts of the Korean War" Bill Allen, 421 4th Ave N., Tierra Verde FL 33715

email from Jim Handley, Box 297, Cape May Point, NJ 08212: "I'm from the original 24th. Would like to talk to and swap stories of anyone who was involved with the Philippine invasion. My email is ltate@bellatlantic.net

Note from Paul A. Csiszar of 3637 Jay Dr., Kalamazoo MI 49008-1409: "I'm sending in a picture of my Korean Veterans Plate, the Mackinaw bridge connecting the lower and upper peninsula. (Picture Below)



Note From the Editor: I am asking the help of our membership and spouses: Whenever a member dies, please notify me. If a spouse wishes to continue to receive the Taro Leaf that is possible. The appropriate arrangements will be made. I recently was notified of 13 members who had died 3 years ago. It is important that our records be kept up to date and thank you for helping me in this matter.



EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

email from Dale Lockhart RD #2, Uniontown, PA 15401: "I found the Korean project on the web. This lead me to your web site. My brother, John A. Lockhart, Co. C , 34th Regt, 24th Inf Div was KIA 6th August 1950 near the Pyontek river. I'm hoping to contact anyone who may have known him in Korea. I was one year old at the time of his death and of course, have no memory of him. To me, he'll always be the unknown soldier. Dale's email address is: potent45@1csys.net

Note from Will Schumaker, Secretary/Treasurer: "The picture below is of me and Captain Scott Brown "liberating" a battery from a wrecked Mercedes. Our Hummv driver got tunnel vision one night and rear ended the vehicle in front of us causing a lot of damage to it and the driver had to be sent to the aid station. Our company left us there and at fir light but the blades off the fan since the radiator was pushed into it and that was the only way we were able to catch back up to the action. When we ran across this car we decided to grab the battery to replace one of our two that was damaged in the wreck since there were no spare batteries to be found. I still laugh when I see this one and have an 3x10 of it on my wall.



"DESSERT STORM"

Captain Scott Brown and Will Schumaker

**CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS
OF THE
TWENTY FOURTH INFANTRY
DIVISION ASSOCIATION**

ARTICLE I

1. Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the 24th Infantry
2. Division Association and shall herein after in this instrument be referred
3. to as the "Association".
4. Section 2. The objectives of the Association shall be to preserve in
5. patriotic reverence the memory of the fame and glory of the 24th Infantry
6. Division, to maintain and strengthen the bonds of comradeship which
7. distinguished the men and women of that Division, to provide for the
8. gathering and dissemination of information concerning those men and women
9. for their periodic assembly in local and national reunions.

ARTICLE II

10. Section 1. The Association shall: (a) Electrify and unify the invisible
11. current of comradeship molded in the throes of war and in peace time and
12. preserve that comradeship common to the veterans of the 24th Infantry
13. division; (b) Promote the interests and welfare of the members of the
14. Association; (c) Honor and perpetuate the memory of the men and women who
15. distinguished themselves by their services and sacrifices while with the
16. 24th Infantry Division; (d) Memorialize the valiant acts and patriotic
17. deeds of the 24th Infantry Division; (e) Encourage and aid historical
18. research in relation to the activities of and acquire and preserve
19. records of the 24th Infantry Division and the personnel thereof; (f) Mark
20. scenes of the activities of the 24th Infantry Division with appropriate
21. memorials; (g) Celebrate with appropriate ceremonies the anniversaries
22. of events in the history of the 24th Infantry Division; (h) Promote the
23. National Defense and help to maintain and extend the institutions of
24. American freedom; (i) Defend and uphold the Constitution of the United
25. States of America.
26. Section 2. The Association shall not engage in any political profit making
27. activities and no profits nor earnings shall accrue to the benefit of any
28. member.

ARTICLE III

29. Section 1. The officers of the Association shall consist of a president,
30. vice-president, secretary/treasurer and an editor for our publication, The
31. Taro Leaf.
32. Section 2. The Association shall be governed by an executive committee
33. which shall consist of the president, vice-president, secretary/treasurer,
34. editor, 2 at large members in good standing and all past presidents who have attended at
35. least one convention during the past five years, each of whom shall have one vote.

36. Section 3. The term of office for the president, vice-president,
37. secretary/treasurer and editor shall be one year or until their
38. successors have been elected and have taken office. However, the
39. president, vice-president, secretary/treasurer and editor may succeed
40. themselves upon approval of the executive committee and a majority of
41. membership meeting in convention and voting, for a period of not more
42. than one year.

43. Section 4. Each president, upon the completion of his/her term of
44. office shall serve as a past president and a member of the executive
45. committee.

46. Section 5. No officer with the exception of the secretary/treasurer and
47. editor shall receive any compensation for his/her services and any compensation
48. for the secretary/treasurer and editor shall be determined by the executive
49. committee.

ARTICLE IV

50. Section 1. The president shall preside at the Association convention
51. and at meetings of the executive committee and shall supervise all
52. activities of the Association. In the event of the absence or incapacity
53. of the president, the vice-president or next senior member of the
54. executive committee present shall preside and perform his/her duties.

55. Section 2. An annual Association convention shall be held at a time
56. and place designated by the membership.

57. Section 3. The executive committee shall convene in an annual meeting
58. during the annual Association convention and at such other times as
59. the president may direct.

60. Section 4. The legislative body of the Association shall be the
61. Association convention. Such convention shall be held annually during
62. the period from April 1st to October 31st.

63. Section 5. A quorum of an Association convention shall exist whenever
64. the lesser of seventy-five (75) or ten (10) per cent or more of the
65. total active members are present.

ARTICLE V

66. Section 1. The officers of the Association shall be elected annually
67. by the membership at its annual business meeting during the annual
68. Association convention and shall take office immediately after the
69. election.
70. Section 2. The election shall be decided by a majority vote of the
71. members present.
72. Section 3. Nominations may be taken from the floor for any elective
73. office. When this occurs the steps outlined in Section 2 above apply.
74. Section 4. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of president
75. the vice-president shall succeed to that office for the unexpired
76. portion of the term of office.
77. Section 5. A vacancy in the office of vice-president shall be filled
78. for the unexpired portion of the term of office by the executive
79. committee.

ARTICLE VI

80. Membership shall be divided into five (5) categories; (a)
81. active; (b) associate; (c) honorary; (d) affiliate and (e) life.
82. Section 2. Active membership: All persons who have served as members
83. of the 24th Infantry Division or of a unit which has at any time
84. been attached to the Division, shall be eligible for active membership.
85. Section 3. Associate membership: Any person who is related to any
86. deceased person who served with the Division shall be eligible for
87. associate membership.
88. Section 4. Honorary membership: Any person who by act or deed has
89. indicated a special devotion to the 24th Infantry Division and who
90. has been approved by the executive committee shall be eligible for
91. honorary membership.
92. Section 5. Affiliate membership: Any employee of the American Red
93. Cross or other agencies officially recognized by the Department of
94. the Army who has been assigned or attached at any time to the 24th
95. Infantry Division shall be eligible for affiliate membership.

96. Section 6. Life membership: Any member who upon payment of the sum
97. \$150.00 shall be given a life membership in the Association. Payment
98. may be made in five (5) equal annual installments of \$30.00 each until
99. such time as the total of \$150.00 has been paid in full.

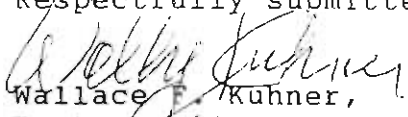
ARTICLE VII

100. Section 1. The Association fund(s) shall consist of all funds derived
101. from dues, contributions, interest, interest on deposits, investments
102. and from other appropriate sources as may be approved by the executive
103. committee.
104. Section 2. The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on August 1st
105. and end on the following July 31st.

ARTICLE VIII

106. Section 1. This constitution may be amended by a vote of two thirds
107. (2/3rds) of the active members present and voting at the annual
108. business meeting during the annual Association convention.

Respectfully submitted


Wallace F. Kuhner,
Past president, member
executive committee.

March 2, 1999

*The Bylaws and Constitution will be presented to the membership
for adoption at the Reunion in Tulsa.*

SOUND FAMILIAR?

A great story of this so-called "Bamboo War", is included in the VFW Magazine for February, this year. The article will be especially interesting to Taro Leafers, who will realize that little had changed between 1898 and 1944--the jungle, the heat, the disease, and a fierce and relentless enemy awaited the infantry coming ashore.

**"THAT'S JAPAN, 1945. TALE NO. 4, 1997. FOUR OF FOUR. KOREAN WAR
"TALES", TAKEN FROM THE WRITING OF DALE LOUIS SCHREIBER, P.O. BOX 7, CARLSBAD,
CA 92018, PERMISSION TO PUBLISH GIVEN THIS MAGAZINE ONLY, ALL RIGHTS RETAINED,
BY COPYRIGHT.**

What a wonderful place, this, Kokura, it is a port on the Inland Sea, on northern Kyushu. They are rebuilding the steel mills and the cotton mill, as Gen. Curtis Lemay's Army Air Force planes bombed the hell out of this place in nineteen hundred and forty five. As soon as "Indian Summer", arrives, it will remind me of back home in Illinois this time of the year. I just left the E.M. Club, after a short audit and nice chat with the new elected custodian. It seems they are having problems with the cooperage refunds, of the bottles and barrels of the local brewer. It's not a lot of money but we do so need the extra funds for the athletic activities on the garrison.

It will not be long until the snow is on the ground and all the sports are moved inside. That means more boxing gloves, equipment, basketballs and mats. Don't anyone tell me that all this army does is eat and march. We don't want the Seventh or the Twenty-Fifth Division to beat us at anything this year. It might be all in fun for some people but it is damn serious for me. Better equipment produces better results anyway you measure it. I first became interested in "Sports", when I was a very young boy of five years old, that's four on the English measurement scale.

I just went by the C.P., and picked up my mail and read the extent of what my duties were for the next two weeks. Not much has changed, it seems I get the same thing, week after week. This is my free weekend, so I think I

will go into Tokyo for the fun of it. After asking for company, I have found there is no one who wants to spend any money, as it is the wrong time of the month. I should call the Civilian quarters and ask Nancy if she would like to go out for the weekend. Only yesterday she told me she was tired of the little brats at the base school. I just smiled and said that story will change when some of them belong to you. All she said was, "No way, Jose".

I had met several nurses at the G.H.Q. Base Hospital in Tokyo, maybe I can get some fun and laughs from one of them without spending a lot of money. I have a rather strange arrangement going here as I an American Officer in the 24th Infantry Division when out of uniform, I am seen as a Nisei, which is said to be an American-born with Japanese parents. The true story is that I am half Anglo and half Korean and maybe ten percent Japanese, way back on mother's side. While in Japan its o.k. to be a "Nisei", but its good to be an American back in the good old U.S.A.

The history of my family goes back to the Tokugawa days, when the political capital was Yedo. (The old name for Tokyo), while the Emperor, continued to live in Kyoto. This period ended with the landing of Commodore Perry in 1853. The Japanese traders and pirates were very active in the Southeast Asia. A group of four visited, Lisbon, Madrid and Rome, in

1582. It was at this time that the Missionaries and foreigners first came to Japan. Quickly regional thought, (Christianity, for instance), was offered in various forms. Soon they became a problem to the Tokugawa Government. Having fear of being taken over by the larger nations, with Christian leaders and thoughts made for more trouble for the leaders.

The Shimabara revolt in 1637-38, resulted in the death of some thirty-three thousand people. The Dutch were the only traders, other than the Chinese, to side with the leaders. It was at this time the name, "secret agent", appeared as an office of the Board of Elders. They were attached along with the censors. The secret agents, were from that time forward known as, "METSUKE". In general the high government positions were held by loyal Vassals (fudai), a hereditary leadership manner of organization. The Laws of proceeding Japanese lawbreakers, followed the Confucian exhortations, loyalty to superiors, rightful conduct and virtuous actions in personal relations.

The farmers consisted of eighty percent of the population, and this statement, which still exists today, was true then also. It is still heard about the country that "THE FARMER FEEDS THE WARRIOR". The warrior or samurai group includes everyone from the Shogun down to the humblest foot soldier. The classes below these were the farmers, artisans and merchants. The outcasts were the bottom of the groups and were made up of two

(THAT'S JAPAN, continued)

factions, the "hinin and eta's". The former were the beggars and did the puppet shows, storytelling and juggling acts, etc. The latter worked with the dead animals and were, for the most part, leather and wood workers.

As the tax basis rose to about fifty percent of the annual incomes of each household, it was hard to meet the demands of the tax collector. When Mr. Townsend Harris, an American, signed the first commercial trade agreement with Japan, the country was open to trade with the U.S.A. Very soon thereafter, Russia, Holland, and England also had agreements to trade. Following the trend of England which doubled its population when it industrialized, Japan also doubled its population in fifty years. The cheap factory labor was Korean after the turn of the Century, as Japan occupied that country. Only fifty percent of the population was needed to supply the food in 1941 as to eighty percent some fifty years previously. This tells you something of the ability to produce food with better equipment.

For what its worth, there were two thousand Americans in Japan in the year of 1940. Mostly all missionary people and teachers. I can assure you they were all present and accounted for as the rest of the country was 99.7 Japanese Nationals. The Koreans were not counted, as they were mostly day laborers not being employed on a permanent basis. Concentration of economic control was within the watchful eyes of Mitsui, Iwasaki (Mitsubishi), Sumitomo and Yasuda groups, called Zaibatsu. The Second World War changed very little in this country concerning the ability

of the people to produce products. The World Bank is doing the money bit in this part of the world while the Marshall Plan has the same process in the European recovery zones.

I am at present riding this old Baldwin steam engine train trying to get to Tokyo. It's interesting looking out the window watching the farm laborers planting a rice patty. This place is fifty years behind anything you would see in the good old U.S.A. Soon after I got off the train I spotted a wrestling tournament, must be five thousand people watching these fellows throwing each other off the mat. The strange thing is that they all weigh about four hundred pounds. No one gets hurt and they all bow to each other before starting and after finishing the match. Can you imagine two Irishmen doing this crazy game without getting mad at each other. Not in my lifetime, would be my answer.

These Japanese people do have one thing going for them. They all gather at their temple and sit quietly until someone goes out and sounds the gong or rings the bell. This is to call "GOD", to come to help them with their needs. They do not wish to waste his time, as he is quite busy these days.

We Americans do not see it quite that way, we are always ringing the bell to get the people in the church as "GOD", is already there waiting for us to arrive.

I hear the thunder and see the lightning, as the heavens, have opened up with the best rain shower in months. Can't seem to find a Taxi Cab, so will

go by Jinrikisha to the Ernie Pile Theater. There I can see the Pathe News and get a good look at the latest movie without the bulb getting burned out in the projector. What a life, being in Japan, in the Fall of nineteen hundred and forty seven.

Ship will bear name of Wisconsin soldier

Eau Claire — A U.S. Navy ship will bear the name of an American Indian Army corporal from Wisconsin who died defending his troops during the Korean War.

The U.S.N.S. RedCloud, named after Medal of Honor recipient Mitchell RedCloud Jr., will be dedicated in early July in San Diego.

RedCloud, a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation, was killed Nov. 5, 1950, when he was 26.

RedCloud's company was defending a ridge near Chonhyon, South Korea, when he saw enemy troops approaching from a brush-covered area less than 100 feet away, military reports say. RedCloud, of Black River Falls, shouted a warning and began to fire his automatic rifle. The effort allowed his company to organize a defense.

RedCloud maintained his position by wrapping an arm around a tree until he was mortally wounded. He was hit eight times by enemy gunfire.





TO: 24th Division Association
Members who were in the
Artillery

FROM: Robert H. Smith

SUBJECT: Artillery Breakfast

Last Year men of the Artillery Branch of the Association held its first breakfast together. Many of you were there and I am sure you enjoyed the talk given by Dutch Nelsen. His talk was inspirational, informational and at times humorous.

This year Jim Hill has agreed to give a talk at our breakfast concerning the interaction of the Artillery with the Infantry. We of the Artillery think we know what we did and now we are going to find out what we really did. While we had a nice turnout last year, I'm hoping we will have more members attend this year.

I hope to see you all in Tulsa in September!

Robert H. Smith

Robert H. Smith
A Battery, 11th Field

HELPFUL INTERNET ADDRESSES

HTTP://WWW.LEGION.ORG

- American War Library—members.aol.com/veterans—America's largest military/veteran registry and locator database.
- DefenseLINK—www.defenselink.mil—This is the official public access web site for the U.S. Department of Defense.
- IntelliHealth—www.intellihealth.com—For doctors' opinions, health advice and news on medical issues.
- The Library of Congress—www.loc.gov—The nation's library provides a vast array of information on our nation's history and access to current bills under consideration in Congress.
- GulfLINK—www.gulflink.osd.mil—The Department of Defense provides Persian Gulf War veterans and others with immediate documents related to the possible causes of the illnesses being reported by Gulf War veterans.
- Vets.com—www.vets.com—Extensive source of veteran-related information concerning benefits, news, and reunions.
- Welcome to the White House—www.whitehouse.gov—Provides a link to online resources made available by U.S. government agencies—Benefits and Assistance, Education, Health, Employment, Consumer Protection, etc. You can e-mail the President.

☐ VA announces new Hepatitis C treatment program. The VA has announced new initiatives to combat the Hepatitis C virus that is believed to infect nearly 4 million Americans, especially former military personnel. Spread through contaminated blood, Hepatitis C can cause serious liver damage and require costly medical treatment, including liver transplants. Veterans who test positive for the virus will be offered the new VA package of drug therapy.

In related news, Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, has introduced legislation (S. 71) which would presume service-connection for most veterans with Hepatitis C. Similar legislation is being considered for introduction on the House side as well. AUSA supports passage of S. 71.

Information outreach for Persian Gulf veterans and providers of care

Persian Gulf illness was voted the number one concern of delegates representing every segment of the Total Army at the October 1995 **Army Family Action Plan Planning Conference**. Probably no relation, but the Department of Defense is now reaching out to Persian Gulf War veterans and providers of care with information about health care and education programs available to them.

DoD encourages physicians and

others to call a special toll-free number when they believe they have medical information about the causes of health problems, including reproductive health problems, suffered by veterans of the Persian Gulf War. For this purpose, a toll-free **DoD Incident Reporting Line** has been set-up at 1-800-472-6719.

Another resource is the **DoD GulfLINK** (<http://www.dtic.dla.mil/gulflink/>). GulfLINK is a Web site devoted

to Gulf War issues. It provides users with access to a variety of topics, including reports on Gulf War veterans' illnesses.

In addition, the Department of Veterans Affairs operates a toll-free help-line for Persian Gulf war veterans and their families. It provides information about medical care, disability compensation, and other benefits and services. For more information, call 1-800-749-8387.



N A T I O N A L
WORLD WAR II
M E M O R I A L



"America's National Memorial to those who helped win World War II"

P9AAQ

Dear Senator Dole:

- ☐ YES! I want to help build America's NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL on the Mall in Washington, D.C., a long overdue tribute to the men and women who helped win World War II, both overseas and on the home front. Future generations must always remember their sacrifices for freedom in the defining event of the twentieth century.

I understand that the NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL cannot be built without private contributions like mine. So I am contributing in the amount checked below to help you raise your goal of \$100 million. Please list me as a Charter Member of the World War II Memorial Society and send me the following benefits:

- ☐ \$20 A Subscription to the World War II Memorial Newsletter, Certificate of Appreciation and a personal Membership Card.
- ☐ \$35 All of the above, plus the World War II Memorial Lapel Pin.
- ☐ \$100 All of the above, plus a large scale Limited-Edition Print of the Memorial, suitable for framing.
- ☐ \$500 All of the above, plus a print of Norman Rockwell's famous World War II painting, *"The Homecoming."*
- ☐ \$1,000 All of the above, plus a personal listing in the *Donor Book of Remembrances* that will be widely circulated following the Memorial's dedication.

METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ I'm enclosing my check made payable to: WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL FUND

☐ Charge my credit card (check one): ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ American Express

Card Number

Exp. Date /

Signature

Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.


**SEE OTHER SIDE TO REGISTER A NAME IN
THE WORLD WAR II REGISTRY OF REMEMBRANCES**



American Battle Monuments Commission
P.O. Box 96766 • Washington, D.C. 20090-6766



THE WORLD WAR II REGISTRY OF REMEMBRANCES



Anyone who helped win the war, either a veteran or someone on the home front, is eligible for the Registry of Remembrances. You may enter your own name, or the name of someone you wish to honor for their service to our country during the war. The Registry of Remembrances will be kept on permanent display in Washington, D.C. to ensure that the names of these Patriotic Americans are recorded in history for all time. Please complete or check all that apply, if information is available. If you wish to register more than one name, please make copies of this form and return with the original. Be sure your name and address appear on all copies. Maximum of four honorees per Certificate of Appreciation.

Honoree's Title:

[illegible]

Honoree's First Name:

MI Last Name:

[illegible][illegible]

Hometown:

State:

[illegible]

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Honoree Status: ☐ Killed in World War II ☐ World War II Veteran
☐ Civilian on the Home Front

Service Branch, if applicable: _____

Brief description of wartime activity: _____

Your relationship to Honoree: _____



Thank you. We look forward to hearing from you!



A SIGNATURE REMEMBERED....FOR 45 YEARS!

This story began back in December of 1954 when I headed home after my tour of duty in Korea. It has always been a desire to have a reunion with my buddies that I served with in the Regimental Headquarters Platoon of the 34th Infantry Regimental Headquarters.

This last summer, I made a cyberspace inquiry as to any information about organizing a reunion of 34th Inf. HQ's. & HQ's. (Head & Head Co..as we called it) who served in 1953 - 55. A retired Master Sgt. (Via the Web) advised me to contact Vonnie Mullins and that set me off and running.

Vonnies sent me the May 1998 Taro Leaf Publication and while looking through it..I spotted a familiar left handed signature on a letter of praise for Kenwood Ross. This signature just had to be one that I remembered from 45 years ago. After looking further at the letter that caught my eye, I found that this had to be the same fine officer that I served under as our Regimental S-3 Officer. He was a Captain at that time. It just so happened that I had been trying to find this Officer ever since he was transferred to Japan in 1953. I knew he was a "West Pointer" and had asked many "Pointers" if they could help me locate him. None took the time and I kept hoping that someday I'd be able to once again meet up with this gentleman.

But before we go into this further, let me digress a bit. I want to give you a picture of why this officer and gentleman made such an impression on a 19 year old kid who hated the Army for taking me away from my bride and shipping me to this God forsaken place called Korea. (We had many other names for Korea that we wouldn't want to print).

Upon arrival on a hot, humid day in Pusan, Korea punctuated with the stench of freshly emptied "Honey Buckets"; we were trucked to Tongnae and dumped off at a Repo Depot in a POW Camp. (Reppledeppel as we called it). After hanging around for an eternity, a Major Caudell (S-3 Officer) came into the tent we were all waiting in and asked if anyone here had Engineering Drafting experience. Since I had, I stepped forward not knowing what would happen to me and he marched me off to Regimental Headquarters. I was then introduced to two other Operations Draftsmen in the Regimental S-3. I was now the third addition to the group. Hiag Gopian and Bob Pasta and I were now a team that really turned out the work, as there was always plenty of work keeping map overlays, troop displacements, artillery overlays etc. for a Regiment. Major Caudell was a very cold Officer who showed little respect for enlisted men. Fortunately, he was soon replaced by a Captain who we always felt "Could go Bear Hunting with a Switch!"

At first we were all on edge as we felt this Officer was really going to be mean. Well, we soon discovered he was just the opposite. Very quickly we found this Captain (who was now the replacement S-3 Officer) was one Sharp Guy! He had a quality that made him stand ten feet taller than his peers. He had respect for us and he showed it in a professional manner. This quality made us all want to do our very best for him. He made each of us feel important and necessary for the tasks that lay ahead. That quality was what separated him from some of the Oaf's that he interfaced with. When he was transferred to Japan we really missed him. Fortunately Major Nicholas Angeles who was like a second Father to all of us replaced him. I visited this Captain in Japan on one of my R&R's and that was the last time I saw him. (August of 1954). **After all those years gone by..a signature that I recognized in the TARO LEAF has reunited me with him.**

As Paul Harvey would say, "Now for the rest of the story"! This great Officer was none other than the Capt. James B. Vaught that I served under. As soon as I saw that distinctive handwriting, I sent an E-mail to Vonnie Mullins to see if she could give me any background on him. Vonnie told me that he was alive and well and had sat next to him at the Reunion in 1995 when he was the keynote speaker at Nashville. She then gave me his address and I took it from there. Well, this is when I really became proud of him! He is now **LT. General James B. Vaught (Ret) commander 24th Infantry Division 1977-79**. It is no mystery to me why he went up through the ranks. He had that one quality that born leaders exude...**Respect for each and every person under his command.**

Very few men have made such a lasting impression on me as General Vaught. I guess a few of us Old Soldiers understand the bond that develops in a trooper who has served under such an exceptional officer as "General Jim". A few months ago, I was at my workbench repairing a clock (I am a Certified Master Clockmaker) one evening and our first contact after all these years took place. I can't tell you how much it meant when he called me and said, "Is this Joe Sowders?" To which I replied, "yes". He said, "This is Jim Vaught". Well, my first reaction was to stand up at attention. To this day, when we talk..I still have to call him General Jim, as he deserves my utmost respect as one very Special Person in my life.

I'm hoping to pull off a reunion of my platoon this Spring or Summer and just maybe..I might be able to coerce "General Jim" to join us. The men who served under him as Division Commander probably didn't have the insight that I had of what a fine officer and a gentleman General James B. Vaught is! It was certainly a heart-warming feeling to once again be reunited with him. A great Friend!

Sincerely,

Ex. St Joe H. Sowders

REMEMBRANCE OF WORLD WAR II

“GETTING TO KNOW YOU”

by

Philip H. Hostetter, M.D.

Our maids in the small Japanese hotel bowed so low when we arrived their foreheads touched the ground indicating their desire to serve us. This is not an American custom and we felt embarrassed. When the 24th Division landed 21 October '45 on the southern Japanese island of Shikoku at Matsuyama we were not sure what we might find ashore. We went in armed as usual, but very soon we stopped carrying weapons. The people were as glad as we that the war was over.

After two weeks of living in tents, about a dozen company-grade officers were sent to live in a small hotel in the evenings. This was to improve public relations by letting the Japanese know us better. If they believed any of the terrible propaganda they had heard about us they showed no sign and were genuinely friendly, helpful, and respectful. Everyone recognized my medical insignia and I may have received a little more attention than the Infantry Officers. They were all fine men. When I was in Japan I never heard of even one unpleasant incident between civilians and the military.

When we entered the hotel we noticed the three maids wore sandals but no socks. Their feet were blue from the cold. Very soon the ladies wore GI army socks half again as long as their dainty feet. There was plenty of room for the thong between the first and second toes.

A young man Mit-su-zo Ko-har-i was our interpreter. He carried a note book in his hip pocket he called his “paper memory”. He often asked for clarification of words we used. “When you say ‘funny’”, he asked, “do you mean ‘strange’ or ‘humorous’?”

I showed my camera and said “Kimono” to the three maids. They disappeared and in 10 minutes returned in nice “kimonos with obies, a sash worn around the waist and tied in an elaborate bow knot in the back. The obie-shima goes around that, a heavy decorative cord. Kohari took this picture of the pretty ladies and me. Me-no (her family name) Mich-i-ko is to my right, Ka-o-ru is to my left, and Ter-u-ko to the left of her. They wrote their names for me.

Teruko was a widow at 27. Her husband had died not from the war as I assumed, but from cancer of the stomach called the “Japanese disease” because it was so common. Stomach cancer was also common in the United States at the time and is now very rare.

The second day I stayed in the hotel I found my name in Japanese characters over my door. Teruko studied the name carefully and pronounced it correctly the first time.

The floors were covered by woven rice-straw mats. There was little furniture.

When I was ready for sleep my first night, Michiko brought in a comfortable quilt. The problem was when I lay down it came only to my knees. She laughed and brought me another to fold over my feet. We must have looked like giants to them.

Michiko was only 18 and had never married. One day she seemed particularly cheerful. She sang as she went about her work. Some suggested she had sampled some sake or rice whiskey. I slept late one morning. Michiko burst into my room. “Jeep-oo! Jeep-oo!” she exclaimed. My transportation had arrived. They often ended words with “oo”. In Tokyo the cute high school age elevator girl asked politely, “Up-oo? Down-oo?” When we told her which of the 8 floors we wanted, she looked it up on a chart on the wall.

Some excellent color photos came from home of my wife Helen and Jimmy who was two years old. Of course I proudly showed them to Michiko and Teruko and everyone else who would look. The maids were pleasantly impressed as they gestured “yours?” Neither had any children. They were delighted to see a picture of my wife and child and happy for me that I would soon be going home.

One evening I was lying on my floor mat, the only furniture in the room, when Teruko entered. She carefully closed the sliding door behind her and knelt beside me. She was my age of 27. She had lost her husband. Very few Japanese soldiers returned from the war. She wished to share some companionship, but my vocabulary was limited to counting hers was no better.

I must have looked depressed as I thought of my home I had not seen for two years. I did not touch her but I moved a little closer. “Wife’-oo! wife’-oo!” Teruko repeated as she made a gesture of tears coming from the eyes. She did not wish to cause my wife any unhappiness. She sat beside me a moment longer and then left as silently as she had come. People, like water, seek their own level. Wars decide one thing, who loses the most.

Two months later I was home with Helen and Jimmy. Dorothy was born nine months and fifteen minutes later. Many of our friends experienced the same timing.

Overseas we predicted rather crudely that our children would be red-headed, coming from a rusty load. It’s not true.



REMEMBRANCE OF WORLD WAR II

Left to right: Michiko, Dr. Philip H. Hostetter, Kaoru and Teruko.

美野子 (Me'-no [family name] Mich'-i-ko)

テル子 (Ter-u'-ko)

KOREAN WAR VETERANS NATIONAL MUSEUM & LIBRARY

A national museum in honor of Korean War veterans is planned for construction in Tuscola, Illinois, which is centrally located in the United States, in East Central Illinois at the intersection of I-57 and U.S. Route 36. The Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library will be among the first museums of national scope devoted entirely to the subject of one particular war.

The primary objectives of the national museum and library are to build a seven-gallery museum facility with attached convention center with seating capacity for an audience of 1,000; advertise throughout the United States, in South and North Korea, and in Allied Nations, for outright donations (no permanent loans) of objects associated with the Korean War, and to hire museum professionals to catalog and preserve all donations. Educational programs will be scheduled to help the general public gain a better understanding of the events that surrounded the Korean War and the role in which Korean War veterans played to stop the spread of communism in South Korea and the world. Veterans trying to locate those who served with them in various divisions, units, battalions, and companies will be assisted by a Korean War Veterans registry. A nation-wide oral history project to tape the memoirs of Korean War veterans in the United States and throughout the world will also be one of the primary objectives of the museum and library. A research library will be established in the museum for books that give perspectives of the American, Allied, and Korean history pertinent to the Korean War; reference books which provide historical information about the Korean War era; movies and video tapes; photographs and slides; audio tape recordings; maps, documents and ephemera as associated with the Korean War and its participants. General public use of the library, as well as scholarly research, will be encouraged. Youngsters will be provided with hands-on opportunities to learn about Korea with the use of visual aids and three dimensional objects. Traveling educational programs for schools will be established, and visitation by school groups will be encouraged. Reunions will be encouraged in the museum's convention center. Fact sheets, videos, and publications will be created and utilized to educate the public about the war. A museum store will sell Korean War-related educational materials. Visits from Korean nationals living in the United States, as well as foreign travelers, will be encouraged. The museum will be aggressively promoted through public service announcements, the Internet, a quarterly publication, and by building coalitions with military museums and war memorial associations that honor the United States, South Korean, and Allied participation in the Korean War.

On January 26, 1999 the Museum Board exercised their option to purchase the first 11 acres of land with an option for another 11 acres by the end of 1999. The first acreage will be the location for the Museum structure.

The establishment of the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library is not financially supported by federal legislation. Fund-raising for the museum is entirely the responsibility of the board of trustees. Most of the funds will come from individual and corporate sponsorship, and sponsors will be recognized on inscribed tiles incorporated into the convention center walls. The museum project is a grassroots effort that began in Illinois, but is one that has been embraced by interested persons throughout the United States and South Korea.

Membership dues in the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library are now being accepted. Annual dues structure is: individual veteran or spouse - \$25; veteran family membership - \$30; general public (individual) - \$35; general public (family) - \$40; Corporate or Civic - \$50; Student - \$15; and Sponsor - \$ 100. Dues are renewable each year during the month the member joined. A life membership, payable once for one person only, is available for \$1,000. Other categories of membership are as follows: Patron - \$2,500; Benefactor - \$5,000; and Founder - \$10,000. A portion of all dues (5 percent) is being placed in the museum's Endowment Fund from 1997-2000 to perpetuate the preservation and educational activities of the museum after the year 2000, the portion placed in the Endowment Fund will increase to 10 percent, although the dues amount will stay the same. The remainder of the dues fees will be used for general operating costs and newsletter expenses. Dues entitle members to issues of a quarterly newsletter which will provide updates about progress on, contributions to, and activities of the national museum and library, as well as free admission to the museum when it opens.

Checks for dues and/or contributions should be made payable to: Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library. Funds may also be direct deposited to the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library Building, Campaign Fund, c/o First State Bank of Tuscola, 801 S. Main Street, Tuscola, IL 61953. For more information, call the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library secretary, Lynnita Sommer, 700 South Main, Tuscola, IL. 61953 (217 253-2535) **E-Mail** dcmuseum@net66.com **Web Site** www.theforgottenvictory.org.



KOREAN WAR VETERANS ARMISTICE DAY COORDINATING COMMITTEE (KWVADCC)



27 JULY COMMEMORATION CEREMONIES: GENERAL DATA

Ceremonies @ Korean War Veterans Memorial: Same format as previous years=
0930: Musical Prelude
10:00 Ceremony
11:00 Wreath/Floral presentations & Taps

PARKING: Ohio Drive, FDR Memorial, & Constitution Ave. (Advise for handicap).
(Busses= Drop off on French Drive, follow direction of U. S. Park Police.)

Ceremonies @ Arlington National Cemetery & Memorial Bench: Same format as prior years=

11:30 - 01:30 Luncheon @ NCO Club, Ft. Myers, Va.
02:00 Plaza of the Tombs of the Unknown
02:20 KWVM Bench

PARKING: Use parking area in front of NCO Club, Ft. Myers. Distance to the ceremonies is about a 5-10 minute walk. Busses can drop-off and park as directed by MP's. Handi-cap please advise.

COLOR GUARDS welcome. Division, Regimental banners, etc. are welcome.

FLORAL DISPLAYS: Thru KWVADCC= Floral Sprays, give data for ribbon; Donation \$ 50.00 (Minimum)
Small wreath, give data for ribbon, Donation \$ 100.00 (Minimum). [All delivered to site.]

All donations are welcome to cover the costs and expenses (Annual expense are \$ 5,000). [No salaried employees. Band & Fife and Drum Corps is given an honorarium for their participation--Most are former members of the military bands.] Expenses include but aren't limited to: Program, Postage, Stationery, Porta-Johns, Chairs, ID for Marshals (Required by Dept. of Int.--[Badge, Hat & Sash]), Telephone, Printing, Wreaths & Floral Tributes, Donation to for EMT's from Washington D.C. & Arlington, Va., Photographer/Video, Audio System, Donation to U. S. Park Service for stage, press riser, electricity, water, extra Park Rangers & and extra U. S. Park Police, rental of FRS units for key personnel, and other sundry and miscellaneous costs.

Please make all checks payable to: KWVF, send/mail to KWVADCC, 6632 Kirkley Ave, McLean, Virginia 22102-5510.

Telephone: J. Norbert "Skip" Reiner, 703-893-6313 [Fax= Dial & transmit].

Anthony P. "Tony" Dzierski, 703-451-5591.

"FREEDOM IS NOT FREE"

A subsidiary of the Korean War Veterans Foundation (KWVF) — An IRS registered nonprofit organization



Terminally ill veterans may receive insurance payment

Terminally ill Veterans' Group Life Insurance policyholders may now receive up to one-half of the face value of their VGLI coverage, up to a maximum of \$100,000, during their lifetimes.

The Veterans Programs Enhancement Act of 1998 authorizes the US Dept. of Veterans Affairs to pay these benefits under the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance and Veterans' Group Life Insurance programs.

"This option will greatly improve the quality of the final days of the service member's or veteran's life, providing them and their families

much-needed finances for medical care and other essentials," said VA Under Secretary for Benefits Joseph Thompson.

Terminally ill VGLI or SGLI policyholders or their authorized representatives may call the Office of Servicemember's Group Life Insurance at 1-800 419-1473 to apply.

Hurdis Earl Wise has written a book titled "Think Man Think". The cost of the book is \$10.00. For your copy of this book, please send \$10.00 to: **Hurdis Earl Wise**
724 W. Seline Circle
Benton, AR 72015

Today's Chuckles

5-6th graders ideas about science-

"Clouds are high flying fogs."

"I'm not sure how clouds get formed. But the clouds know how to do it and that is the important thing."

"Some people can tell what time it is by looking at the sun, but it's difficult to make out the numbers."

"A monsoon is a French gentleman."

"A hurricane is a breeze of bigly size."

REUNION

26th AAA (AW) SP BN - A Battery, Japan - Korea - 1948 thru 1952. September 9-12, 1999. Pensacola, FL.

Contact: Bill Earley

25 Kelly Road

Hamden, CT 06518

Telephone: 203-248-6834

REUNION

5th RCT Florida Mini Reunion, Daytona Beach, Florida
Best Western La Playa Resort, 2500 North Atlantic Avenue
1-800-874-6996

November 10-14, 1999 - \$64.00 Oceanfront Room with Kitchen
Convention rates will be offered both three days prior and three days after the event. Guests need to make their own reservations and mention they are with the 5th RCT. Reservations need to be made by October 10, 1999.

SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET

Number of Persons _____ at \$23.00 per person +\$ _____

Please include \$5.00 registration fee.

Please send check or money order payable to:

Bill Kane, 5023 Andrea Boulevard, Orlando, FL 32807

407-275-7450

Payments must be received no later than October 29, 1999



"I don't identify it—I just serve it..."

24th Infantry Division Association



Mr. Gerald E. Wujkowski
1212 6th Street, Apt. 3
Bay City, Michigan 48708

260 Shelli Lane
Roswell, GA 30075
2 March 1998

Dear Mr. Wujkowski:

Mrs. Yvonne Mullins, Secretary of the 24th Infantry Division Association, has asked that I respond to your letter of 20 February 1998 in which you requested information concerning Wilfred G. Specht, a former member of A Company, 21st Infantry Regiment.

As you are aware Wilfred was reported missing in action (MIA) on 10 July 1950 and died as a POW in North Korea on 2 December 1950. Wayne "Johnnie" Johnson (who, incidentally, is a Life Member of our Association) included Wilfred on his "Johnson List" that he has provided the Department of the Army. On this list Johnnie provided the following information:

SPECHT, Wilfred G. CPL 21/24 12-2-50 Saginaw, MI
21/24 translates to 21st Regiment, 24th Division and 12-2-50 is the date of death.

Your letter states that you are attempting to have Wilfred's service record amended to show the award of the Army of Occupation Medal (Japan) as one of his awards but the Department of the Army has informed you that the 21st Infantry Regiment "doesn't appear in the computerized data base".

For your information the Army of Occupation Medal is an individual award and was not officially awarded to units. The award is authorized by Army Regulation 672-15 and states in part that to be awarded the medal requires "30 days consecutive service in occupied areas of former enemies". Such service must have been in the 1945-1955 time frame. Therefore, if Wilfred had been stationed in Japan for 30 days prior to deploying to Korea he is eligible for the medal. I am enclosing DA Form 180 for you to submit the DA Special Actions Division of the Army Personnel Center in St. Louis for their actions in correcting Wilfred's military records, if he is eligible.

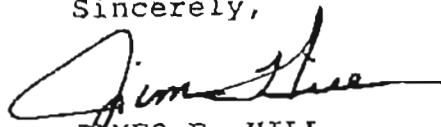
For your further information, the 21st Infantry Regiment was called upon to provide the first combat troops to go into Korea when the war first broke out on 25 June, 1950 when North Korea invaded South Korea. These troops were identified as TASK FORCE SMITH. They deployed by air and arrived in Korea starting on 1 July 1950. TASK FORCE SMITH was commanded by Lt. Col. Charles B. (Brad) Smith, the CO of the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry at Kumamoto Japan. Smith was a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, class of 1939 and was a seasoned combat veteran, having commanded an Infantry battalion on Guadalcanal during World War II. TF Smith was comprised primarily of soldiers from B and C Companies of his 1st Battalion, individuals from the 3rd Battalion of the 21st (During the occupation days in Japan the Infantry regiments has only two battalions activated; in the case of the 21st it was the 1st and 3rd Battalions), two heavy weapons platoons and A Battery of the 52nd Field Artillery Battalion, The 52nd was the normal artillery support battalion to the 21st Regiment.

A Company, of which Wilfred was a member, did not deploy with TF Smith but was moved to Korea by sea arriving in Korea after TF Smith had gone into blocking positions near Osan, Korea. On being ordered to go forward to join TF Smith both A/21st and D/21st were halted by a General Officer and ordered to prepare defensive positions in the vicinity of Chonan. Therefore, A Company was not engaged when the North Koreans attacked TF Smith on 5 July 1950.

After over running the positions of TF Smith on 5 July the North Koreans continued on South towards Taejon and on the morning of 10 July attacked the forward positions of A and D Companies at Chonui, north of the village of Chochiwon. At that time the 3rd Battalion had joined the Regiment and the Regimental Commander, Colonel Richard Stephens, commanded the units there. Concealed by heavy fog the North Koreans, supported by Russian built T-34 tanks, attacked the positions of the American troops. After holding their position for over three hours the Americans were forced to retire further South. From all indications, it was at this time that Wilfred was captured.

Gerald, I hope that I have provided some information that will be helpful to you in your endeavors to correct Wilfred Specht's military records. If I can be of any further assistance to you please feel free to contact me at the address shown on this correspondence.

Sincerely,


JAMES F. HILL
19th Infantry
1949-1951

"A FRIEND"

Around the corner I have a friend
In this great city that has no end,
Yet the days go by and weeks rush
on,
And before I know it, a year is
gone
And I never see my old friend's
face,
For life is a swift and terrible race,
He knows I like him just as well,
As in the days when I rang his
bell,
And he rang mine.

We were younger then,
And now we are busy, tired men.
Tired of playing a foolish game,
Tired of trying to make a name.
"Tomorrow" I say "I will call on
Jim"
"Just to show that I'm thinking of
him."
But tomorrow comes and tomorrow
goes, And
distance between us grows and
grows.
Around the corner! - yet miles
away,
"Here's a telegram sir-"
"Jim died today."

And that's what we get and de-
serve in the end.
Around the corner, a vanished
friend.
If you love someone, tell them.
Remember always to say what you
mean.
Never be afraid to express your-
self.
Take this opportunity to tell some-
one
What they mean to you.
Seize the day and have no regrets.
Most importantly, stay close to
your
friends and family, for they have
helped
make you the person that you are
today
and are what it's all about any-
way!!

I'M FINE, I'M FINE

There's nothing at all the matter
with me, I'm just as healthy as I can
be. I have arthritis in both of my
knees. And when I walk I talk with a
wheeze. My pulse is weak, my
blood is thin, BUT I'M AWFULLY
WELL FOR THE SHAPE I'M IN.

My teeth will eventually have to
come out, my diet I hate to think
about. I'm overweight and I can't
get thin, BUT I'M AWFULLY
WELL FOR THE SHAPE I'M IN.

Arch supports I have for my feet, or
I wouldn't be able to walk on the
street. Sleep is denied me every
night, and in the morning I am a
sight. My memory is failing, my
head's in a spin; I'm practically liv-
ing on aspirin, BUT I'M AW-
FULLY WELL FOR THE SHAPE
I'm IN.

The moral is this, as a tale we un-
fold, That for you and I who are
both growing old,
It's better to say, "I'm fine," with a
grin, THAN TO LET THEM
KNOW THE SHAPE WE'RE IN.

How do I know my youth has been
spent? BECAUSE MY GET-UP
AND GO HAS GOT UP AND
WENT.

Age is so golden, I've heard it said,
But I sometimes wonder as I go to
bed. My ears in a drawer, my teeth
in a cup, my eyes on the table until I
get up.

As sleep dims my eyes I say to my-
self, Is there anything else I should
lay on the shelf?

But I'm happy to say, as I close my
eyes, MY FRIENDS ARE THE
SAME AS IN DAYS GONE BY.

When I was young my slippers were
red. I could kick my heels right over
my head. When I grew older my
slippers were blue. But I still could
dance the whole night through.
Now that I am older, my slippers are
black. I walk to the store and puff
my way back.

But I really don't mind, when I
think with a grin, of all the grand
places my Get-up has been.

And now that I am out of competition,
All my days are just a complete repe-
tition.

I get up in the morning and dust off
my wits, I pick up the paper and read
the obits.

If my name is missing, I know I'm not
dead, So I eat a good breakfast and go
back to bed!!

Trivia

A bus station is where a bus stops. A
train station is where a train stops. On
my desk I have a work station.....

If Fed Ex and UPS were to merge,
would they call it Fed Up?

I believe five out of four people have
trouble with fractions.

How come you never hear about grun-
tled employees?

If quitters never win, and winners
never quit, what fool came up with,
"Quit While You're Ahead"?

Do Lipton employees take a coffee
break?

What hair color do they put on
driver's licenses of bald men?

I was thinking about how people seem
to read the Bible a whole lot more as
they get older, then it dawned on
me—they were cramming for their fi-
nals.

Employment application forms always
ask who is to be notified in case of an
emergency. I think you should
write....A Good Doctor.

Why do they put pictures of criminals
up in the Post Office? What are we
suppose to do...write to these crimi-
nals? Why don't they just put their
pictures on the postage stamps so the
mailmen could look for them while
they delivered mail?

I was thinking that women should put
pictures of missing husbands on beer
cans.

email from Bill and Sue Andrews: hobos@webtv.net or PO Box 3417, Shallotte, N.C. 38459: My husband Bill Andrews, served with Cpl. Harold Pierce. Harold was killed in Korea while leading General Dean out of Taejon. Do you have any information regarding Harold? He was an M.P. but we do not remember what outfit except the 24th Division. (Is there anyone that can help Sue?)

email from Jim Fine@ionet.net: "Had a call from Al Sebring and he says he is coming to the reunion in Tulsa. His email address is asebring@tyler.net

Carl Hatmaker sent email: "Looking for anyone knowing what happened the last two or three weeks of August 1950 (34th Inf Regt "C" CO) around hill 910robong-ni ridge when the north Koreans relieved us of it, then the "C" Co went into reserve in an apple orchard. Please contact me: iluvhat@cwis.net Also is there anyone out there who has a San Francisco newspaper, dated August 23, 1950 with a picture of the USS Gen. Pope, which has the names of 4290 Korean War Vets returning from Korea.

email from Jim Hartranft: My father was Arthur R. Hartranft from Lancaster County, PA. He was WIA October 13, 1951 and RTD November 28, 1951. Anyone that knew of him or could tell me a little more about what he saw. Jim's email address is: APretzel@aol.com

email from Charles W. Foster of 13030 Los Verjeles RD., Marysville CA 95901-9517. email address is: cwf33@yahoo.com

"When I receive current issue of the Taro Leaf everything stops until I've gone from front to back without putting it down. The



current issue was different, I only got to Joe Sweeney's letter when I realized I could not see the words.....Its hard to believe a human can do to another what we see and hear in War.

email from Col (RET) Don Burke. email address: MayapleEnt@aol.com

"I have a friend whose father served with the 24th during WWII and is interested in finding out about what his father did during the war. His name was MSG Robert Jones. (Anyone, can you help and if so Don's phone number is 314-458-1413.

email from W. MacIntire. email address WMacintire@aol.com "Vonnie, I very much enjoy reading each issue of the "Taro Leaf". Your spirit, enthusiasm and patriotism call out from each page. I thank you sincerely because there is not enough of those qualities in so many people today. Last July, my wife and I were watching a 4th of July parade. At the very beginning when the colors were coming through my wife observed a man about thirty and a young lad about ten sitting on their duffs when the flag passed by. My wife immediately advised them (in very strong terms) that when the flag goes by in a parade you should show respect and stand up. The gentleman was quite embarrassed, and I was quite proud of my wife."

email from Robert J. (Bobby) De Frain, email address: ER-COUPERS@aol.com "Wondering if you or anyone could help me in finding a buddy from days in Korea? I am trying to

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

get in touch with a Joseph Luke Legere. We served in G Company, 19th Inf from August 1950 to August 1951. Joseph Legere entered service from Caribou, Maine. My address is 1638 Granville Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025, PH: 310-826-8236

email from Laura (Putzier) Villoria; email address@gte.net

"I am very interested to find any and all information on my uncle, Private Gene Putzier, 24th Infantry. My father (his brother) believes that he was supposed to be sent to Okinawa, but was sent straight to North Korea, instead. He also believes that he was captured shortly thereafter, and died of Malaria in a POW camp. His body has never been recovered and anyone who was with him near the end of his life would certainly be a great find for our family".

email from Bernard Fergus email address: bernardf@intrstar.net "Members of the 11th Artillery, 24th Inf Div, I am looking for Will Kaserne, Munich, Germany 1962-64."

email from Harry Reed II email address HHR2@aol.com "I am looking for info on my father Cpl Harry Reed (Korea Feb. 12 - Nov. 12, 1951). Is there anyway for me to get info on this company during his time of service? (Can anyone help?)

Received a note from Jesse Foster of Annapolis, MD "Joe Lockard was on duty at the radar that detected planes heading for Hawaii 12-7-41. As you know the officer in charge said to not worry, "It's only B 17's arriving from California". I wish we would have had a few hours of warning. Lockard was a private like me. I'm doing my best to contact Joe; he lives in Pennsylvania. When I do I'll share it with you. I had the good fortune of meeting the brother of Joe Lockard (Allen) who lives in my area."

Thank you for all you've done for us, the 24th Div. This note was received from George Kuti of 13126 N 42nd ST., Omaha NE 68112-3806. (George, It is you and all veterans who have done so much for all of us. We can never thank you enough).

More kind words from Howard Struecker Company E 19th Infantry. Howard says, "Plan on going to Tulsa in September".

A note received from Mary Nepote: "We're doing o.k. here and hope the same from you. I had a hip replacement on January 4th and doing just fine. Pete is o.k. too."

Note from Bill Gardner of PO Box 443, Ship Bottom, NJ 08008. PH: 609-494-1112. "Enclosed are my tickets and a check. I hope I'll be well enough to come to the reunion. Time will tell. Have fun, doing a great job."

Note from Joseph R. Cintron of 5040 Sock Hop Way, North Las Vegas NV 89031; "I am now on disability mostly bed bound with rheumatoid arthritis which has limited my functions." (Friends, please let Joe know you are thinking of him by way of a note or



phone call.)

Letter received from Nicholas A. Russiello of 269 Haywood Dr., Paramus, NJ 07652-3327.

"Clinton Acquitted - Let's End IT" Ever since the T.L. was published in 1947, I have never seen any article of a political nature in it. However, in the February 1999 issue of the Leaf, I noticed that Mr. Johnson has written an article of such a nature. It was the main purpose of our founders of the TL to keep it non-political and base it on the camaraderie of the 24th. Mr. Johnson has every right to voice his opinion, but he should voice his opinion in the "Vox Populi" of any of our nation's newspapers. I have no animosity towards Mr. Johnson because he has rights too and so has everyone in our nation. But let us keep the Taro Leaf as unbiased as possible and keep it away from partisan politics. All the members of the 24th did their part during the battles and we respect one another....

Roman Welter of 19416 Military Rd., Monticello, IA 52310 "H" Co., 21st Regt. writes, "I realize that an organization such as ours should try to remain neutral in national politics but I agree with Mr. Johnson in his letter in the February issue of the Taro Leaf."

Letter received from Donald Bourgeois requesting information about joining our association and mentions his two uncles Raymond and Leland Bourgeois served side by side in the 24th Infantry Division during

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WWII. Both survived the war, but have since died. Neither were much for telling their experiences, so family members are basically ignorant of what they might have experienced during their military service. All that is known is that they entered the service together in 1942 and both trained and served together. Raymond was later wounded and sent to the European Theater after his recovery. He was awarded 4 bronze stars, but for what, I do not know. By writing you, I am hoping to learn more about the 24th Infantry Division and its role in the Pacific campaign. Also, I would like to try to contact any veterans who may have known these two men."

Note from Jesse Frank, 845 Deer Lane, Rochester PA 15074.. "Enclosed are ticket stubs and hope to see you all in September."

Note from Joe and Phyllis Wicinski: "Thanks for the tickets. This year to save you the time, trouble and expense of mailing more tickets I'll just wait and buy them in Tulsa. Hope all is well with you and we look forward to seeing you in Tulsa." (Joe and Phyl, I'll be ready with the tickets, you can count on that)

Betty Hood from 146 Miramonte Dr., Moraga, CA 94556 sent in the raffle tickets and money with a note, "Sorry I'll not be in Tulsa, have a great reunion". (We will miss you, Betty).

Note from John Roussel of 5032 Perkins Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70808, "Thanks for doing such a great job with the Taro Leaf. I enjoy every issue. I hope that all is going well with you. Sorry I did not get to talk very much at the Little Rock meeting. I was impressed with our new treasurer." (Thanks for writing John and I would like to say that our new secretary/treasurer, Will Schumaker and his lovely wife, Carla are doing a tremendous job).

Letter received from Vinnie Vella of 107 Homer Ave., Buffalo, NY 14216. "Hope all is well with you, I know you are busy with your duties as Editor. Fran and I think of you often. When I first arrived in the Philippines I was assigned to "K" Company. When the 21st Infantry went to Japan, I asked for a transfer into the Motor Pool. Here is a picture of me taken January 1946 at Okayana. I was the driver for the Battalion Commander. If you think I'm cute go ahead and print it. See you in Tulsa, Man of few words." Vincent Vella (Do I think you are cute? just ask your other girlfriend, Diane, she and I are still fighting over you) (Don't tell Fran).



VINCENT VELLA TAKEN
JANUARY 1946



A note from Alex Poland of 160 W 71st St., New York NY 10023-3901 sent along with raffle tickets and money. "I am doing volunteer work at the VA Home and I will be 84 this month. You're doing a great job and the magazines are great." (Thanks for the kind words, Alex and have a very happy 84th birthday.)

Letter received from Oliver C Simmers Jr of 12 Ray Dr., Denver PA 17517-9235: "I have pictures of fellows of "G" Company 21st Inf Regt during 1953. I have no one to leave the pictures to and would like someone from that time period to contact me. I do remember the name of Bennie Davidson." (I know Oliver would like to hear from any of you fellows who remember him, write him a letter.)

Letter received from Betty J. Snyder of 17410 SE Maple Valley Hwy #104, Renton, WA 98058.. "I am responding to your ad in the Good Old Days regarding the 24th Infantry Division. I'm not certain if my husband was associated with that Division, and I cannot ask him as he died in December 1998. However, he did receive a letter from a buddy he soldiered with and this buddy did serve in Korea with the 24th Division. The buddy has since died also, his name was Bob Moser. I have my husband's DD214 Form and I know he must have served with "Moe" and it had to have been in Korea as far as I know, so it may be likely that my husband was attached to the 24th Div. It was at the end of the Korean conflict that I met and married him. He had arrived in Seattle on a Troop Ship when we

EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

met. That was in August of 1955. It would be nice if you could ask if anyone remembers Maurice P. Snyder formerly from Salamanca, NY. He was part Seneca Indian and also Robert Moser, known as "Moe". (Does anyone remember these men?)

There was a phone call received from Mr. Lakie from Syracuse NY. He's a member of the Association. He told about visiting a graveyard at a nearby military installation and finding headstones which showed the deceased were in the Civil War and had been assigned to the 24th and 21st Regiments. He thought it would be good to publicize these findings and that he had tried to do so before without any luck.

Attention All Members: Any of you who find headstones in various cemeteries which are marked with units which served in the Division are encouraged to forward the information on the headstone to the Editor of the Taro Leaf or the Historian of the 24th IDA so that we may include it in our Honor Roll.

A mother was teaching her 3 year old "The Lord's Prayer". For several evenings at bedtime, the child repeated it after the mother. Then one night the child was ready to solo. The mother listened with pride to the carefully enunciated words, right up to the end. "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us some e-mail, amen."

Letter received from Earl J. Lee of 11216 Ainsworth Ave S., Tacoma, WA 98444-2526: "Along with raffle tickets I am also sending you a few old pictures of different buildings from Beppu and one picture I have of 1st Sgt Kenneth D. Wise of CO B 19th 1950-51. I would like to get in touch with him in this way if possible. I hope you will return these pictures as you did of the one of "Dutch" and I. Col Nelsen and Margo are just super nice people. My wife told me in Colorado later after we went out for lunch "what a real gentleman he is." She got it right."



EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS



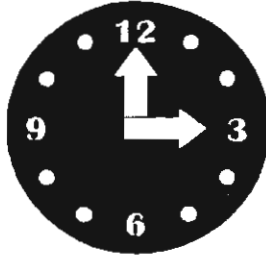


FOUR DAYS IN JAPAN by ~ Philip H. Hostetter, M.D.

The early morning of October 21, 1945 was dreary and overcast. Our ships made their way into the harbor at Mitsuyama on Shikoku Island, the island farthest south in Japan. Landing barges carried us ashore armed to the teeth as usual. We were not sure what we might run into. We heard there were fanatics among the Japanese who preferred to die and take their countrymen with them, rather than to surrender even after peace was declared. All-out* resistance would have killed 10 million Japanese, mostly civilians, and taken one million of us.

We landed without incident and drove about in our Jeeps to see the countryside. Houses appeared to us to be neat and clean, and on a small scale like doll houses. We saw no people our first day. The second day we caught sight of people at a distance. They would hide as we approached. The next day the people stood their ground, they studied us as we observed them. That day we no longer carried arms. The fourth day children lined the roads, "Cho-ca-lat-e?" and "chewing-gum-oh?" they asked as they offered to trade picture postcards.

We knew then the war was over.



It's Tulsa Time In 99

Tulsa is in the heart of the continental United States and is uniquely accessible by air, rail, or interstate.

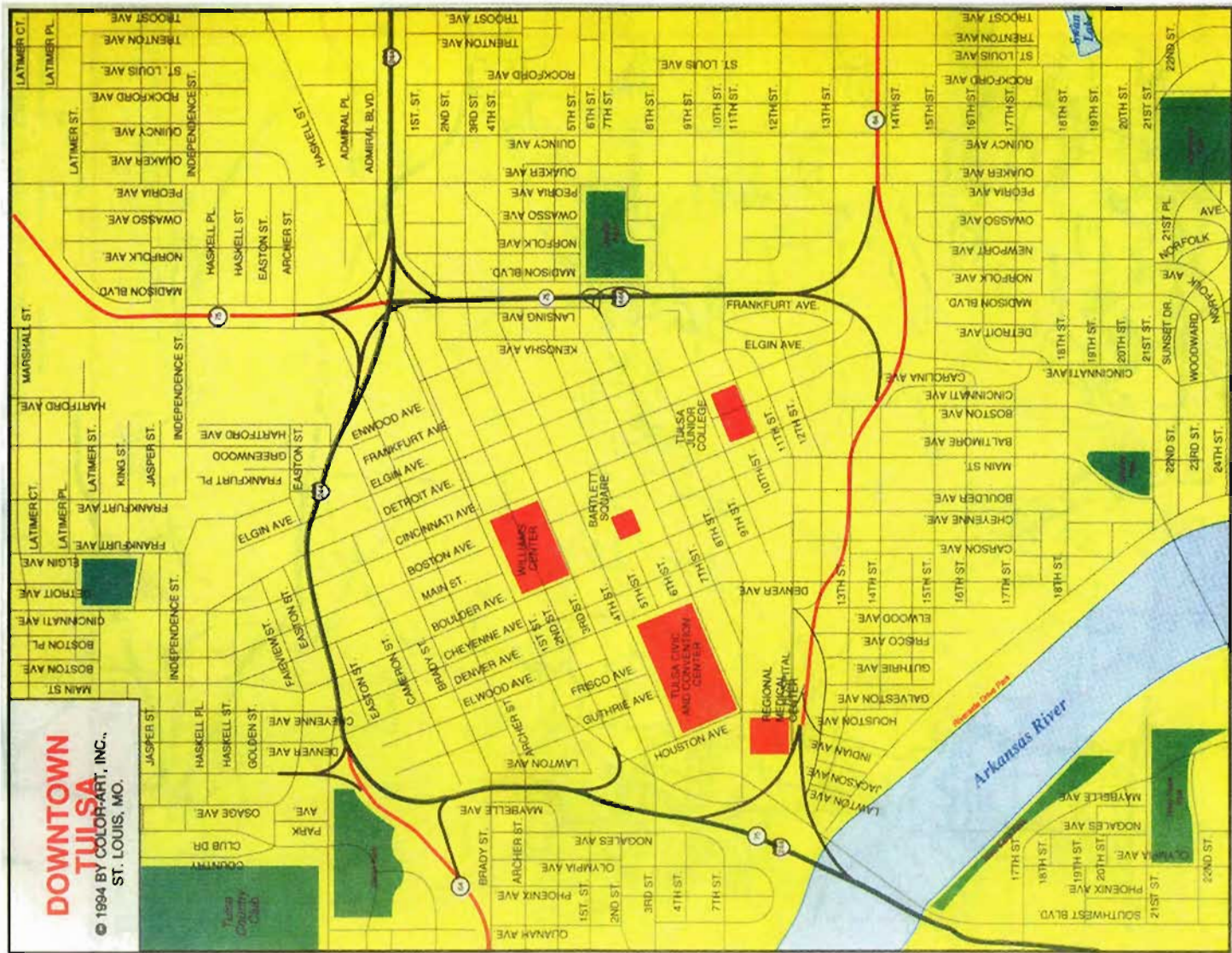
In 1999 the 24th Infantry Division Association Reunion will be held at the Adams Mark Hotel in Tulsa . This is a 5 Star Hotel. The Adams Mark Hotel is conveniently located downtown, at the Williams Center, in the heart of Tulsa's largest cultural and business district. Just 8 miles from the Tulsa International Airport. They offer: courtesy airport shuttle service, 24 hour room service, same day laundry service, business center, florist, gift boutique, shoe shine, and repair, and express check out. Valet parking and wheelchairs available upon request. The rooms are spacious and clean. There is adequate complimentary parking approximately 2 blocks from the hotel. You may use the hotel shuttle to take you to and from the parking lot. If you are driving your own motor home or camper you may park in the hotel lot at no cost. This is a great place to renew old acquaintances and meet and make new friends.

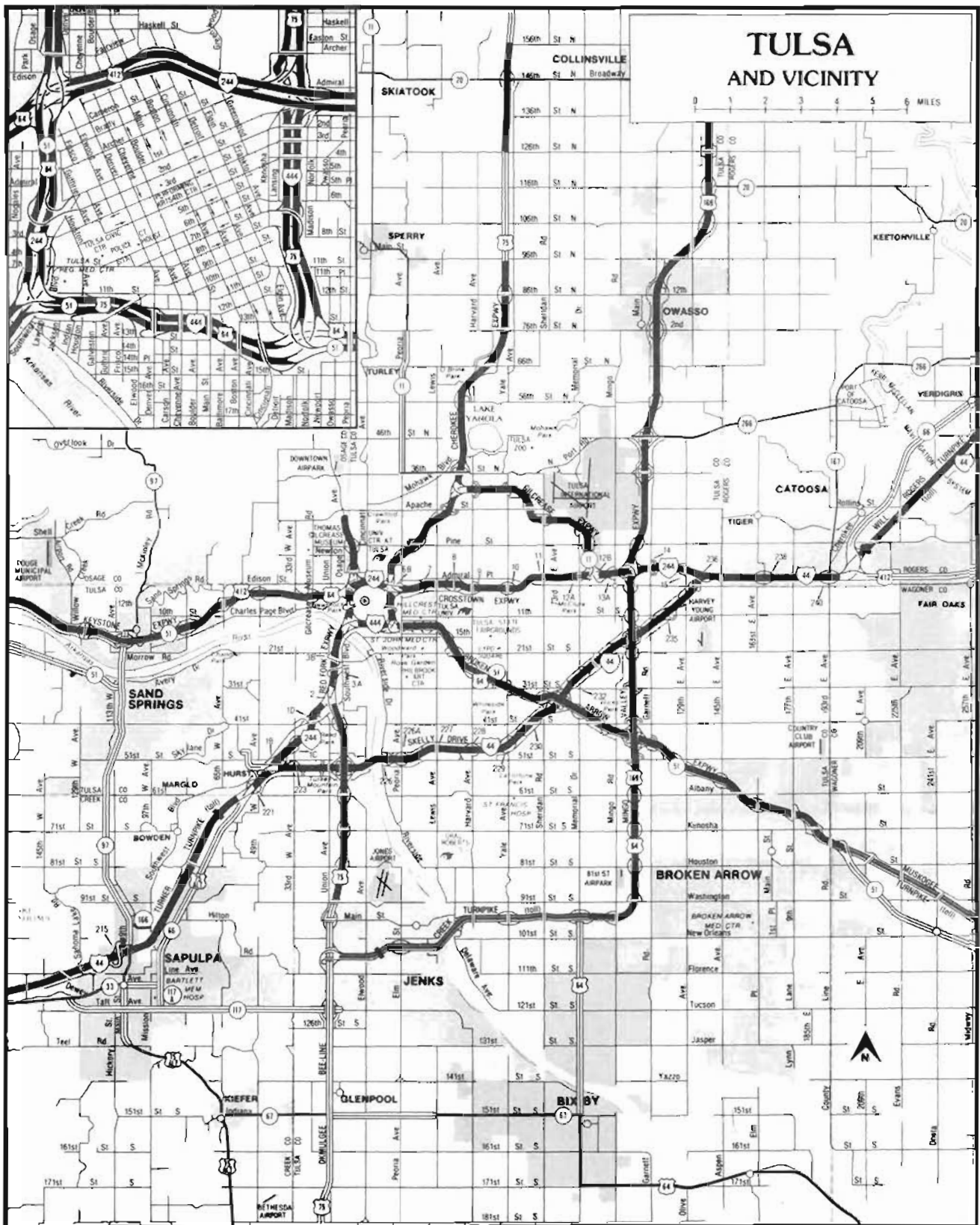
If you are driving to Tulsa and you need more information on sites to visit you may contact the Oklahoma Department of Parks and Tourism.

The hotel will go to any length to make your stay pleasant!



TULSA





**WELCOME TO THE ADAMS MARK HOTEL
HOTEL RESERVATION FORM**

24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

September 22 to September 25, 1999

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS:

Room Type Request

Rate

Standard Single.....\$68 00 (1 King-Size Bed)

Standard Double.....\$68.00 (2 Queen-Size Beds)

SPECIAL REQUESTS:

Smoking___ Non-Smoking___ Connecting Room___ Disabled Room___ Hearing impaired Room___

*All special requests will be noted but cannot be guaranteed, due to the overall hotel availability.

CUT OFF DATE FOR HOTEL RESERVATIONS IS SEPTEMBER 5, 1999

The discounted room rate will be extended 3 days prior and 3 days after your reunion.

(After this date, rooms will be on space and rate availability only)

Date of Arrival_____

Time of Arrival_____

Number of Nights_____

Date of Departure_____

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____ STATE_____ ZIP_____ TEL.NO. ()_____

Sharing Room With_____

If guaranteed to a major credit card please give the following information:

___AMEX___VISA___MC___CARTE BLANCHE___DISCOVER___DINERS CLUB

Credit Card Number_____

EXP. DATE_____ SIGNATURE_____



For Additional Hotel information call 1-(800) 444-2326

**MAIL THIS FORM TO: Adams Mark Hotel
100 East Second Street
Tulsa , OK 74103**

IMPORTANT!

PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS

*** You must mail your checks along with your registrations to the following:**

- | | |
|--|---|
| *Hotel Reservations | Mail to the Adams Mark Hotel only! |
| *Unit Breakfasts | Mail to the chairman of your unit breakfast only! |
| *Registration, meal, tour, &
Ladies breakfast | Mail to Diane Peters only! |



Ladies Breakfast

*Saturday, September 25, 1999
9:00am*



Be sure to sign up for the Ladies Breakfast, it is something you won't want to miss. The program is planned at the same time the Unit Breakfasts and the 24th Infantry Division Association Business Meeting are taking place.

The menu consists of: O'Brien Potatoes, Chilled Fruit Juice, Fluffy Scrambled Eggs, Ham, Freshly Baked Danish Pastries, butter, Jams and Preserves, Freshly Brewed Coffee, Tea, and De-caf.

We will have an action packed morning planned for you. A scrumptious breakfast, good friends, and an all around very enjoyable morning for only \$15.00

Send your reservations in early! This is one Ladies Breakfast you won't want to miss!

We will announce the program and entertainment in the next issue of the Taro Leaf.

If you had a good time at the Ladies Breakfast in Little Rock you won't want to miss this one!

**24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL REUNION**

September 22 - 25, 1999
Adams Mark Hotel, Tulsa, Oklahoma

MAIL TO:

Diane Peters
14030 Xanthus Lane
Rogers, MN 55374

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

24th Infantry Division Association

NAME _____
Please **PRINT** legibly

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone _____ - _____ - _____
Area Code

Name of Wife/Guests Attending _____

Please List Food Allergies and/or special diets required. _____

***Information for your identification badge**

Nickname _____ First Timer: _____ Yes _____ No

Unit served with the 24th Division (**Please only list one**)

Company _____ Unit _____

Remember!

If you have a group of friends who wish to be seated together
get together and pay together. **Only 10 people at each table.**

**If you want to be seated with your friends at the Aloha and/or Memorial Dinner
you must mail your registration forms in together. If your forms are not mailed
in together along with your check we will not guarantee that you will be seated
together!**

1999 Tour & Meal Registration Form

	Per Person	No. Attending	Amount
Wednesday, September 22			
1. <u>Philbrook and Gilcrease Museums Tour</u>	<u>\$33.00</u>	_____	\$ _____
9:00am-3:30pm			
2. <u>Muskogee & Ft. Gibson Tour</u>	<u>\$36.00</u>	_____	\$ _____
9:00am-3:30pm			
3. <u>Amish Dinner in an Amish Home Tour</u>	<u>\$29.00</u>	_____	\$ _____
4:45pm-8:00pm			

Thursday, September 23			
4. <u>Jenks & South Tulsa Tour</u>	<u>\$21.00</u>	_____	\$ _____
9:00am-3:00pm			
5. <u>Muskogee & Ft. Gibson Tour</u>	<u>\$36.00</u>	_____	\$ _____
9:00am-3:30pm			
6. <u>Bartlesville & Wootaroc Museum Tour</u>	<u>\$35.00</u>	_____	\$ _____
9:00am-3:30pm			
7. <u>Allen Ranch Bar-B-Que Tour</u>	<u>\$32.00</u>	_____	\$ _____
4:45pm-8:00pm			

Friday, September 24			
8. <u>Jenks & South Tulsa Tour</u>	<u>\$21.00</u>	_____	\$ _____
9:00am-3:00pm			
9. <u>Claremore & Pryor, Oklahoma Tour</u>	<u>\$30.00</u>	_____	\$ _____
9:00am-3:00pm			
10. <u>Tulsa City & Shopping Tour</u>	<u>\$22.00</u>	_____	\$ _____
9:00am-3:00pm			
* <u>Aloha Dinner</u>	<u>\$21.00</u>	_____	\$ _____
5:30pm Social Hour - 6:30pm Dinner			

Saturday, September 25			
* <u>Ladies Breakfast</u>	<u>\$15.00</u>	_____	\$ _____
9:00am-11:30am			
* <u>Memorial Dinner</u>	<u>\$23.00</u>	_____	\$ _____
5:30pm-Social Hour - 6:30pm Dinner			

Registration.....\$20.00 1 \$ 20.00

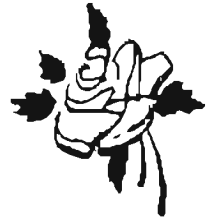
*Spouse and guests do not pay registration fee

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE \$ _____



Muskogee and Ft. Gibson Tour

Wednesday, September 22, 1999
9:00am- 3:00pm



Philbrook and Gilcrease Museums

Cost: \$33.00

We will visit two of Tulsa's finest museums on this 6 hour tour. Classic and western art lovers, beautiful garden enthusiasts, and any one interested in magnificent architecture, won't want to miss this tour. Philbrook Museum of Art is housed in a 1920's Italian revival style mansion built by oil magnet Waite Phillips. The setting is beautiful with 23 acres of formal and informal gardens. The museum has permanent and changing exhibits. September's exhibit features "American Landscape" works of famous American Artists like Wyeth. Thomas Gilcrease Museum offers a wonderful collection of western art including Moran, Russell and Remington, also a fine collection of Indian art and artifacts. There is also 24 acres of various theme gardens to be explored. On the site is the former home of oil man and art collector Thomas Gilcrease.

* LUNCH INCLUDED

Wednesday, September 22, 1999
4:45pm-8:00pm Evening



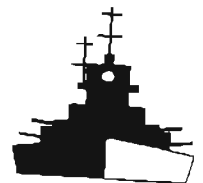
Amish Dinner in an Amish Home

Cost: \$29.00

20 minutes east of Tulsa is an Amish settlement. Several families open up their homes and serve wonderful dinners served family style. These meals are home-cooked, made-from-scratch dinners with hot rolls, pies, and all the trimmings that will melt-in-your-mouth. After dinner, they will be glad to show you around and to discuss their culture. Many homes have bakery goods for sale for tomorrow's breakfast.

*FAMILY STYLE DINNER AND FARM VISIT INCLUDED

Wednesday, September 22, 1999
Thursday, September 23, 1999
9:00am-3:30pm



Muskogee and Ft. Gibson Tour

Cost: \$36.00

This 6 1/2 hour tour takes you to two historic sites of military interest. At the Muskogee War Memorial Park, we will tour the USS Batfish, a WWII submarine that sank 13 enemy vessels during battles. Also at this site is a War Museum and Memorial that honors all Veterans. After LUNCH we will travel a few miles to Ft. Gibson and visit the 1824 fort built to help maintain the peace on the frontier, to deal with the Indian population and as a supply center for explorers, pioneers and traders going west. This fort is still in tact and was used by the military until 1890. Some famous military men serving here were Sam Houston, Jefferson Davis and Washington Irving.

*LUNCH INCLUDED

*THIS ONE WILL FILL UP EARLY SO GET YOUR DEPOSIT IN ASAP.



Thursday, September 23, 1999
9:00am-3:30pm

Bartlesville and Woolaroc Museum

Cost: \$35.00

This 6 1/2 hour tour takes us 45 miles north of Tulsa to Bartlesville, home of Woolaroc Museum one of the finest Western and Indian museums in the U.S. The short drive from town through the Osage Hills, passes by a wild horse preserve and some picturesque scenery, on the drive through the grounds to the museum watch for buffalo, deer, long-horn cattle, antelope and many other animals, roaming free.

Woolaroc stands for woods, lakes and rocks. In the museum are priceless works of western art and sculptures, collections of many kinds and descriptions, even some shrunken heads and some dinosaur eggs. Another feature is the Y-Indian Center with a film presentation about Indian culture and folk-lore. Also on the property is a petting zoo, nature walk, and gift shop. After a wonderful morning we'll head back to town for LUNCH, then take a tour of this unique town. you'll see the first oil well drilled in Oklahoma, the Price Tower that Frank Lloyd Wright designed, the Frank Phillips Mansion and much more.

***LUNCH INCLUDED**

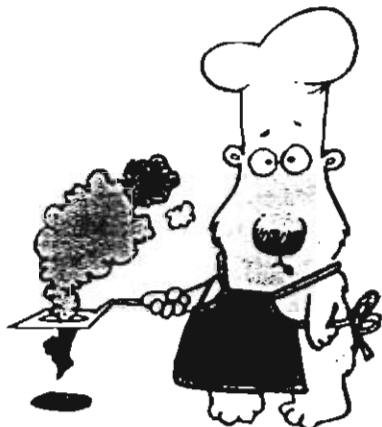
Thursday, September 23, 1999
4:45pm-8:00pm Evening

Allen Ranch Bar-B-Que and Cowboy Evening

Cost: \$32.00

About 20 minutes south of Tulsa is the Allen Ranch. This family owned and operated ranch had been a working ranch since 1945. Over the years it has been a cotton farm, a dairy farm and a horse ranch. It still is a working ranch, but now, its emphasis is on a youth ministry for troubled teens. Life on the ranch teaches the youth responsibility, and discipline that so many kids miss today. The kids live, go to school, and work on the ranch. The cowboy counselors are dedicated to helping these kids regain their lives and become productive citizens. We have the privilege to support this worthwhile ministry and have a great evening to boot. The evening will consist of an all-you-can-eat authentic Oklahoma B Bar-B-Que dinner, hay ride around the ranch, cowboys doing rope tricks, a gunfight and campfire sing-along with real guitar-playing cowboys, and much more

***ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT INCLUDED**



Thursday, September 23, 1999

Friday, September 24, 1999

9:00am-3:00pm



Jenks and South Tulsa Tour

Cost: \$21.00

For 6 hours you shoppers will be in heaven...Jenks is a small town just minutes south of Tulsa. It is litterly full of antique and unique gift shops. (Lots of benches around for husbands) After **LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**, we'll drive back through some of south Tulsa's elite 1920's and 30's neighborhoods to see some "Old Oil Money" Mansions, to The Tulsa Garden Center and Rose Gardens, and Woodward Park, then finish off the day at Utica Square an exclusive shopping area, and then take a short drive around Swan Lake, and interesting bird sanctuary.

***LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**

Friday, September 24, 1999

9:00am-3:00pm



Claremore and Pryor, Oklahoma

Cost: \$30.00

Did you know that Will Rogers was from Claremore, Oklahoma? This 6 hour tour goes first to Pryor to tour the Vogue Motorhome Facility. Vogue custom builds motor homes starting at \$100,000.00 and up. We'll stop for an early lunch at an Amish Restaurant, they serve a fantastic home-cooked-all-you-can-eat-meal...so go lite on breakfast. After we roll out of the restaurant, we'll have a few minutes for a nap before we arrive in Claremore. We will visit the Will Rogers Memorial, built on the site that Will Rogers planned to retire and build a home. His death saddened the world. He is buried on the site. We'll also visit the J.M. David Gun Museum. The world's largest collection of guns. Also in the museum are saddles, musical instruments, steins and WWII posters

***LUNCH INCLUDED**

Friday, September 24, 1998

9:00am-3:00pm



Tulsa City Tour and Shopping Extravaganza

Cost: \$22.00

This 6 hour tour will take in some of Tulsa's downtown sights including Boston Avenue, Methodist Church's unusual architecture, then on to south Tulsa for a driving tour of some of Tulsa's old mansions, drive around Swan Lake, a bird sanctuary, then stop at Utica Square, a beautiful shopping area with some exclusive shops. Then on we go for more shopping at Promenade Mall. At the Mall you can have lunch on your own and shop, shop, shop or go to a movie at Tulsa's newest Mall, We'll spend the rest of the afternoon here

***LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**



REUNION BANQUET SEATING

If you have a group of friends who wish to be seated together,

GET TOGETHER AND PAY TOGETHER

Send your Registration Forms in one packet (envelope). Only ten (10) people can be seated at each table. Reserve one table, two tables or as many as needed to accommodate your group. Designate one person (or couple) and send in your registration forms along with the appropriate amount of money, by check or money order, to whoever is designated. That person (or couple) will put it all together in one envelope and forward it on to Diane Peters who will then complete the paperwork and notify each person or couple by receipt. A packet in your name will be waiting for you at the pre-registration desk at the Adams Mark Hotel. Tables will be assigned in order of receipt. So start your planning early and get your reservation and registrations in as early as possible.

Any table seating arrangements received after September 4, 1999 will not be guaranteed seating assignments!

Once tables are assigned they will not be rearranged.

***Remember door prices are 10% higher so be an early bird and register early!**

**THE CUT-OFF DATE IS - SEPTEMBER 4, 1999
THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS AFTER THAT DATE!**



TLC by Karen

Are you planning to fly into Tulsa for the 1999 - 24th Infantry Division Reunion?

Call Karen Moon of TLC Travel and save from 15-20% on your plane tickets... She would love to help you with your other airplane tickets as well...

She can book cruises, travel packages and rental cars too... check out the bargains by calling her toll free at (877) 634-7390, day, night, and weekends, or by E-Mail at KMOONTLC@AOL.COM. She will have an 800 number available...soon!



TLC by Karen
1630 Smysor Drive
Bartlesville, OK 74006

ATTENTION

19th, 21st, 34th, 3rd Engineers & all Artillery & Miscellaneous Units

Your annual breakfast will be held Saturday, September 25, 1999, 7:30 A.M. at the Adams Mark Hotel. The rooms where each breakfast will be served will be posted at the registration tables. The cost for each breakfast is \$12.00 with no registration fee for this event. Since the 24th Infantry Division Association Annual Meeting follows at 10:00 A.M., it is requested that attendees at the Memorial Breakfast be punctual so that we may conduct our business, eat our breakfast and adjourn to the Association Meeting at 10:00 A.M.

Breakfast Menu: The Will Rogers Breakfast

O'Brien Potatoes, Chilled Fruit Juice, Fluffy Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Freshly Baked Danish Pastries, Butter, Jams and Preserves, Freshly Brewed Coffee, Tea & De-caf

Please mail your registration & check to the chairperson of your Unit listed below

19th Infantry - Mail Registration To:

Gene Spicer
8937 W. 750 N.
Commiskey, IN 47227
(812) 873-6548

**Make checks payable to:*

Gene Spicer

3rd Engineers - Mail Registration To:

Billy Johnson
2416 Kimberly Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28306-2345
(910) 424-3840

**Make checks payable to:*

Billy Johnson

21st Infantry - Mail Registration To:

Harry Wittman
1385 Tern Street
Keyser, WV 26726
(304) 788-0465

**Make checks payable to:*

Harry Wittman

All Division Artillery Units - Mail Registration To:

Robert Smith
7720 Deer Lane
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
(715) 325-5057

**Make checks payable to:*

Robert Smith

34th Infantry - Mail Registration To:

Marvin Wallace
405 Locust
Ardmore, OK 73401-1772
(580) 223-8452

**Make checks payable to:*

Marvin Wallace

Miscellaneous Units - Mail Registration To:

Robert Lawhon
49 Township Road 88, #1152
Proctorville, OH 45669-9067
(740) 886-6935

**Make checks payable to:*

Robert Lawhon

UNIT MEMORIAL BREAKFAST REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

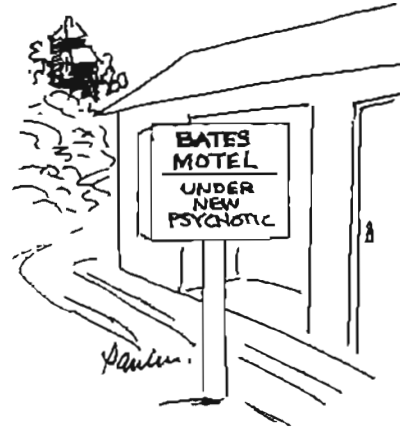
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Cost of breakfast \$12.00 each

SCHOOL DAYS

Received via e-mail

(Excuse notes from parents and forgeries of parents' notes.
All spelling is the original spelling)



My son is under a doctor's care and should not take P.E. today. Please excuse him.

Please excuse Lisa for being absent. She was sick and I had her shot.

Dear School: Please excuse John being absent on Jan. 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and also 33.

Please excuse Roland from P.E. for a few days. yesterday he fell out of a tree and misplaced his hip.

John has been absent because he had two teeth taken out of his face.

Carlos was absent yesterday because he was playing football. He was hurt in the growing part.

Megan could not come to school today because she has been bothered by very close veins.

Chris will not be in school cus he has an acre in his side.

Please excuse Ray Friday from school. He has very loose vowels.

Irving was absent yesterday because he missed his bust.

Please excuse Jimmy for being. It was his father's fault.

I kept Billie home because she had to go Christmas shopping because I don't know what size she wear.

Please excuse jennifer for missing school yesterday We forgot to get the Sunday paper off the porch, and when we found it Monday, we thought it was Sunday.

Sally won't be in school a week from Friday. We have to attend her funeral.

Please excuse Jason for being absent yesterday. He had a cold and could not breed well.

A DECEPTIVE MIRROR by Nita Sodeman

I LOOK IN THE MIRROR,
AND WHAT DO I SEE?
THE REFLECTION OF SOMEONE
MUCH OLDER THAN ME.
HER FACE IS WRINKLED,
HER HAIR IS GRAY.
IT MUST BE ME
BUT, I DON'T FEEL THAT WAY.

WOULDA-COULD-A-SHOULDA by Shel Silverstein

ALL THE WOULDA-COULD-A-SHOULDAS
LAYIN' IN THE SUN
TALKIN' BOUT THE THINGS
THEY WOULDA-COULD-A-SHOULDA DONE
BUT THOSE WOULDA-COULD-A-SHOULDAS
ALL RAN AWAY AND HID
FROM ONE LITTLE DID.

OPERATION ROMBLON
Philippines March 1945
by
CHARLES E. BLUNT
Squad Leader 1st Squad
C CO. 1st Platoon 19th Inf 24th Division

I am setting the record straight about a specific combat operation that was expressed in the 24th Infantry Division History Book, page 45, middle column. The following facts are the true facts, as experienced by me.

As Squad leader of the 1st squad, C CO 1st platoon 19th Infantry Regiment, we landed under the cover of darkness by rubber rafts, on the Island of Romblon, in the Philippines. We had to make our way up a steep mountain in difficult terrain. All of the riflemen were required to carry extra mortar shells strapped to their back, plus their own equipment so that the mortar squad would not run out of ammo when we attacked the Japanese Garrison stationed there.

We arrived at our destination and our troops proceeded to move into position. While we were doing this our movements had been spotted by a Japanese soldier. He had a hand held siren that he started to crank to warn his fellow troops. When they came running out of the barracks we opened fire and killed quite a few of them. Part of our force was trying to get into a position to contain them but they managed to escape to the hills. In the following days we proceeded to try to flush them out by sending patrols up a ridge and down a valley while moving around the island. We eventually arrived at their stronghold and proceeded to assemble our troops at the top of the ridge. Lt. Naegele called the Platoon Sgt and the two Squad Lead-

ers together to discuss our strategy. I was one of the Squad Leaders, Sgt Charles E. Blunt serial #39119339 and I had joined C CO 19th Infantry 24th Division since May 1943 in Schofield Barracks Honolulu, Hawaii. I don't recall the Platoon Sgt's name as he had joined the platoon after/Sgt. Osborn had his arm blown off when our landing craft had been hit while landing on a beach head on Leyte. I do not recall the other Squad Leaders name and I believe he was killed in the action on Romblon.

At one of the reunions a few years back I had a conversation with Lt. Naegele about this operation. In the article in question 24th Division History Book, Gene Welsh was not a Sgt at that time but a PFC and one of my riflemen. The machine gunner Roy Welch was evidently misinformed. While Lt. Naegele gathered us three non com's together he was in touch by radio with our CO Commander Captain Dallas Dick on another ridge. I heard LT. Naegele request some air support or heavy weapons support. Then I heard the Captain tell the Lt. that it was not possible and to move his troops forward. LT. Naegele started to have a discussion with the Captain. Then Captain Dick said to the Lieutenant if he did not move his troops forward into the Japanese stronghold he would be court martialled. So Lt Naegele had us move into position to engage in a fire fight. My squad on the right

and the other squad on the left with the machine gun squad in the middle and Roy Welch the machine gunner. I proceeded to deploy my squad and I placed one rifleman on my right flank and told him to kill any Japanese soldier who tried to attack us from that side. I had a Filipino Scout attached to my squad. We took a position where we could observe and I could shout orders to my squad. I don't recall his name but he was a very intelligent guy and a graduate of the University of the Philippines and a Filipino patriot. I still remember some of my guys names, Dan Reeves, Paul Wright, Prater, Porky and Gene Welsh. I observed Roy Welch the machine gunner, spraying the area and doing one helluva job keeping the Japanese busy. It was difficult to see much movement because of the tall grass. My squad was not doing much firing because of that so I started shouting orders to pick out a pattern in front of them and lay down some fire power at least that would get their attention. At that moment I looked to the right of me and observed that my Filipino scout was dead and the next thing I felt a burning sensation in my right leg and blood started flowing. I then realized that a Japanese soldier must have killed my rifleman on my flank and got close enough to kill my Filipino scout and toss a hand grenade at me that landed between my legs. I crawled back to some cover and had one of my riflemen put some sulfa powder on my wound and bandage it the best he could. Later one of my other

Operation Romblon (continued)

riflemen crawled back and said ,
"Sarge I saw a Japanese Officer waving a samurai sword an shouting like he was going to lead a bonzai charge towards our position." I motioned for the rest of my men to follow me including Gene Welsh who was wounded. He had been shot in the foot. I saw the Platoon Sgt. a few yards back at the base of a low lying hill with a gradual slope. I told him about the Japanese Officer and he just looked at me and did not say anything. I told him I was taking what was left of my squad out of here. We proceeded to make our way up the hill about fifty or seventy five feet. I looked to the left and spotted a Japanese machine gun squad preparing to open fire on us. They had flanked us and had the high ground. I signaled to my squad to get down on the ground and follow me. We crawled toward a ravine with thick underbrush. The Japanese machine gun had opened fire on us but they could not see us in the tall grass. We were lucky it was just starting to get dark. We stumbled down into the ravine grabbing branches or anything we could to break our fall until we finally reached the bottom where the thickest underbrush was located. I motioned To my men to be very quiet, then we sat down back to back facing four directions with our rifles pointed in front of using case they located us. We could at least have a fighting chance. I took off my T shirt and wrapped it around my wounded leg. We could hear the Japanese soldiers beating the brush with machetes and jabbering in Japanese. It got dark and they went away. We stayed there in

that position all night. When morning arrived we crawled out of there and we got our bearings and I proceeded to lead my Squad on a trail headed for the coast and the beach. I am sure glad I did not have to fire my rifle as I discovered the barrel was clogged with dirt from dragging it on the ground. I did have a side arm 45 pistol. As I remember it took about four hours to reach the beach. When we reached the beach we took cover and watched to see if there were any Japanese soldiers around. I spotted a Filipino in a small boat and I walked out on the beach and motioned for him to come ashore while my men were covering me. He turned out to be friendly. I don't recall if he paddled me around the point where our camp was located or if he went around and sent a boat back to pick us up and back to our base camp. Gene Welsh and I ended up at a makeshift hospital where I believe they operated on me and removed some of the shrapnel out of my leg. I am sure glad the grenade was not one of ours or I would not be here today. Gene Welsh and I were flown back to a field hospital on the Island of Mindoro to recover from our wounds. While we were in the hospital in beds next to one another, a group of officers came in and presented us with the purple heart. Later we went back to pick up the dead.

This is how it happened on the Island of Romblon in the Philippines.

HUGS

It's wondrous what a hug can do
A hug can cheer you when you're blue.
A hug can say "I love you so,"
Or "Gee, I hate to see you go."
A hug is "Welcome back again"
And "Great to see you, where've you been?"
A hug can smooth a small child's pain
And bring a rainbow after rain.
The hug: There's just no doubt about it
We scarcely could survive without it.
A hug delights and warms and charms..
It must be why God gave us arms.
Hugs are great for Fathers and Mothers,
Sweet for sisters, swell for brothers.
And chances are your favorite aunts
Love them more than potted plants.
Kittens crave them, puppies love them,
Heads of State are not above them.
A hug can break the language barrier
And make your travels so much merrier.
No need to fret about your store of them
The more you give the more there's more of 'em.
So stretch those arms without delay
And give someone a hug today!!

---Dean Walley

More Veterans Authorized Cold-Injury Compensation Under New VA Regulation

By Dick Maggrett
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

A new VA regulation that revises benefits for cold-weather illnesses took effect, making veterans eligible for compensation from such injuries to any part of the body, not just the feet.

In anticipating the change over the past year VA explained the proposal to its physicians, and veterans can now file claims at regional offices.

"The wait has been far too long for too many veterans," said Deputy VA Secretary Hershel Gober in a statement. "We are beginning to better understand the long-term effects of cold injuries."

A group called the Chosin Few, referring to a reservoir in North Korea where ferocious combat took place, was instrumental in lobbying for the change, which took over 20 years, according to other Korean War groups.

The Chosin Few couldn't be reached for comment.

"I think it's great," said Donald E. Barton, first vice president of the Portland, Ore.-based Korean War Ex-POW Association. "We went through a lot of years without getting headway on that."

The Korean War was fought in sub-zero winter temperatures without adequate warm clothing and equipment, the war's veterans have argued over the years.

"There is a lot of residual effects of frostbite that have shown up in the last 10 years," Barton said. "It's time VA recognized that."

The department said it expanded eligibility for the cold regulation because of better medical knowledge of injuries due to low temperatures.

Besides the Chosin Few, Korean War veterans organizations credit VA's top doctor, Kenneth Kizer, who heads the Veterans Health Administration, for the change.

"Kizer came out to Oregon and talked to the Chosin Few about cold injuries, and they jumped on him," Barton said. "Now they are service connected."

Conditions that now may be related to cold exposure include peripheral neuropathy, circulatory problems, skin cancer in frostbite scars, chronic night pain, arthritis of exposed parts and fungal infections, VA said.

Eligible veterans and their survivors can receive benefits.

Monthly compensation rates in late December ranged from \$94 for a 10 percent disability to \$1,924 for a 100 percent disability.

TRIVIA

He that leadeth and has no one following him, is only taking a walk. "Law of Leadership"

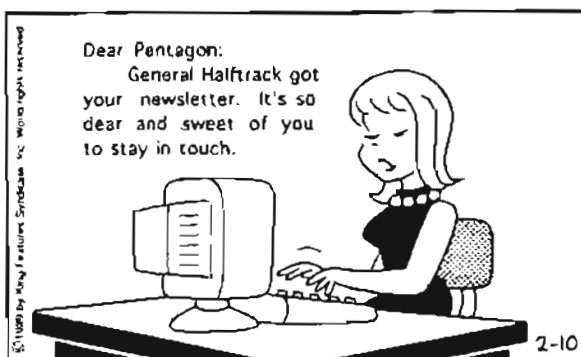
Show me a thoroughly satisfied man and I'll show you a failure.

(Thomas Edison)

Remember, old folks are worth a fortune, with silver in their hair, gold in their teeth, stones in their kidneys, lead in their feet, and gas in their stomachs. I have become a little older since I saw you last and a few changes have come into my life since then. Frankly, I have become quite a frivolous old gal. I am seeing five gentlemen every day. As soon as I wake up, Will Power helps me get out of the bed. Then I go see John. Then Charlie Horse comes along and when he is here he takes a lot of my time and attention. When he leaves Arthur Ritis shows up and stays the rest of the day. He doesn't like to stay in one place too long, so he takes me from joint to joint. After such a busy day, I'm really tired and go to bed with Ben Gay. What a life!

P.S. The preacher came to call the other day. He said at my age, I should be thinking about the hereafter. I told him, Oh, I do all the time. No matter where I am - in the parlor, upstairs, in the kitchen, or down in the basement, I ask myself - What am I here after?

BEETLE BAILEY



By Mort Walker



BUDDY FAROLA

Submitted by:
Johnny Rodriguez

Buddy was a Filipino scout, did service time with the 24th and 34th Divisions. I first met Buddy in Hollandia, New Guinea. One of the last nights in Hollandia, before embarking for the Philippine invasion, Buddy and I went to see a movie that was being shown in our jungle area.

He wore his hair long at that time. I asked him that night at the movie as to why he wore his hair long. His answer to me was that he would not have his hair cut until the Philippines would get their independence from the United States. That was in October 1945. I was not to see him until a few days before the 21st pulled out from Dulag for Mindoro.

The local people held a dance a few nights before. I went to the dance and that's where I saw him again. He had his tommy gun slung over his shoulder. That was the last time I saw him. I remember him smiling at that time. After Mindoro he went with the 24th Division to Mindanao. Although I didn't even know about that until after the war. Information about Buddy was given to me by Elmer DeMaree from Wichita. I visited Elmer, who had been a machine gunner, for the 1st Platoon, C-Co. 21st Inf Regt.

One of the times I visited DeMarre, he told me about the Company pooling their moneys together and buying Buddy a piece of land in the Davao area. That was the last I was to hear of Buddy until our Reunion in Savannah, when Don Damme of the 34th asked me if I had heard from Buddy or of him.

In May of 1997 I made a trip to the Philippines. I made it a point to try to find Buddy or his family. I did find his family in Dulag, Leyte. I learned of Buddy's demise and that was all I learned at that time as it was difficult to talk to his family. The element of time was against me and the fact they do not speak English very well.

I had to rush back to Taclobon and catch my plane to Manila. I made it back in less than five minutes to spare. I had given my home address to his family and they in turn sent my address to one of his four sisters who live in the California area. I made a trip to visit them in California and that is when I received the following: "After the war Buddy stayed in Mindanao. Living in Davao where he became Chief of Police for 31 years. He was ambushed by the Guerrillas in November 1984. Buddy was very famous in the Leyte area. During the 50th anniversary of the return of MacArthur to the Philippines, this picture I'm sending of Buddy, appeared on a large billboard. He was the only person to have had that honor. During the war, before the return of American forces, Buddy went into hiding from the Japanese. It was during this time that in order to visit his family it would be at night dressed as a girl, which was the only way he could visit his family in Dulag. After the war, he married and lived with his family in the Davao area."

Lt. Campbell of the "C" 21st had written to Buddy several times to get him to come live in the U.S., but Buddy loved his country too much to even consider it. The most important thing I can say of Buddy is, HE WAS A FANTASTIC PERSON WHO LIVED BY THE GUN AND DIED BY THE GUN.

BUDDY FAROLA



DAV Disabled American Veterans

February 5, 1999

Mr. Charles W. Foster
13030 Los Verjeles Road
Marysville, CA 95901-9517

Dear Mr. Foster:

Thank you for your E-mail message concerning commissary and exchange privileges for veterans rated 30% or more disabled.

I am pleased to inform you that the delegates to our most recent National Convention, held in Las Vegas, Nevada, August 23-27, 1998, approved Resolution No. 238, which calls for legislation to extend commissary and exchange privileges to service-connected disabled veterans and their dependents.

On January 19, 1999, Congressman Bob Filner (D-CA) introduced H.R. 362, a duplicate of H.R. 2050, which he introduced in the 105th Congress.

May I suggest that you write to the Congressman and thank him for his efforts, as well as writing to both of your Senators urging them to support this worthy objective.

Thank you for taking the time to correspond with us and for your interest in DAV legislative affairs.

Sincerely,


RICHARD A. WANNEMACHER, JR.
Associate National Legislative Director

RAW:lmb

ATTENTION ALL DISABLED VETERANS:

As suggested in the above letter, please write to thank Congressman Filner and write to both of your Senators urging them to support H.R. 362.

“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.

T A P S



Deceased: 03/1997
Benjamin V Bezdziecki
52nd
2141 W Avon Cir
Anaheim CA 92804-4306

Deceased: 03/1999
John J Breeden
34th (G) '42-'46
603 Knighting Rd #Apt 33
Gordonsville VA 22942

Deceased: 07/1997
John F Byrom
21st
5540 Dornington Ave NE
North Canton OH 44721-3285

Deceased: 04/1996
George B Cullison
21st
950 Dartmouth DR
Wheaton IL 60187-6126

Deceased: 12/1998
Angelo R Darin
6th Tank 12/54-1/56
13157 Wesley ST
Southgate MI 48195-1030

Deceased: 03/1999
Edward T Doubek
21st
3340 196th ST
Homewood IL 60430-4327

Deceased: 09/1997
Orville W Elie
13th
921 Soledad Way
Lady Lake FL 32159-9112

Deceased: 01/1997
Robert S Ellinger
21st
124 Greengate DR
Columbia SC 29223-5806

Deceased: 03/1999
Robert H Fountain
21st
1406 Maplewood DR
Macon GA 31210-3014

Deceased: 09/1998
BG Samuel M Goodwin
Div HQ
Crossed Sabers Ranch
Cerrillos NM 87010-0779

Deceased: 11/1998
Col Joe E Griffith
21st
3966 N Granite Reef Rd
Scottsdale AZ 85251-4919

Deceased: 06/1998
Martin E Griner
24th QM '41-'44
130 N Cherry ST
Starke FL 32091-3304

Deceased: 07/1998
Gerald G Heath
63rd
444 Hillcrest DR
Girard PA 16417-1308

Deceased: 12/1998
George E Horn
63rd 9/54-3/55
452 Douglas LN
Cedarburg WI 53012-9016

Deceased: 12/1998
Raymond E Humphrey
19th (C) 11/43-1/46
PO Box 766
Gleneden Beach OR 97388-0766

Deceased: 08/1998
A Bertram Koenig
24th QM
Briar House #A62
Elkins Park PA 19027

Deceased: Unknown
William Kral
21st (HQ) '43-'45
6 Champagne DR
Lake Saint Louis MO 63367-1629

Deceased: 02/1999
Raymond R Kresky
24th Recon
PO Box 907
Menominee MI 49858-0907

Deceased: 03/1999
Sang Yun Lee
19th (C) 8/50-4/51
1304 Hyun Dai Intalex
Non Hyun-Dong, Kang Nam-Ku Seoul,

Deceased: 01/1999
Stanley C Lemm
21st (G) '43-'45
1012 Catalpa Way
Petaluma CA 94954-5413

Deceased: 05/1998
Joseph M Leonard
21st
68 Crestview DR
Pottsville PA 17901-4000

Deceased: 11/1998
James R Lewis
19th
411 2nd ST
Covington IN 47932-1108

Deceased: 12/1998
Billy M McCarthy
21st (H&D) 9/46-5/51
2881 N Star Rd
Columbus OH 43221-2920

Deceased: 01/1999
Charles L Morgan JR
21st
105 E High ST
Liberty IN 47353-1119

Deceased: 09/1996
William Aaron Mullens
21st
109 Juniper DR
Arlington TX 76018-1635

Deceased: 02/1999
Raymond R Patton
19th
6511 Misty Morning DR
Charlotte NC 28212

Deceased: unknown
MG Elmer Pendleton
21st
3028 Knoll DR
Falls Church VA 22042-3111

Deceased: 09/1998
Leon F Pratt
24th Recon
240 Connecticut Ave
Newington CT 06111-2114

Deceased: 02/1999
Ralph Dale Pulis
24th Inf Div 10/51
525 Jefferson Ave TR #6
Moberly MO 65270-2691

Deceased: 10/1998
Gordon A Raitz
19th
RR 2 Box 60
Hector MN 55342-9623

T A P S

Deceased: 09/1997
Charles D Renfro
21st
2907 W Kent DR
Carbondale IL 66290-1922

Deceased: 01/1999
Norman Riegler
19th (C) 10/51-1/52
2504 38th ST NW
Canton OH 44709-2208

Deceased: 12/1998
John L Shields
21st
12150 Hwy 41 S #3
Gibsonton FL 33534-5538

Deceased: 03/1999
Edward M Wilson
21st (M) '48-'50
1223 Mondale DR
Rockford IL 61108-4144

Deceased: 12/1998
AB Revlett
21st
PO Box 169
Sacramento KY 42372-0169

Deceased: 02/1999
Benjamin E Sadler
19th
1503 Phyllis ST
Lakeland FL 33803-3349

Deceased: 01/1998
Robert M Starks
21st
2215 S Stratford DR
Owensboro KY 42301-3431

Deceased: 08/1998
Jack G Young
34th (I) '42-'45
46 Nottingham ST
Tallmadge OH 44278-1814

Jack G. Young

TALLMADGE — Jack G. Young, 83, died Aug. 13, 1998.

Mr. Young retired in 1976 as a production manager with the General Tire & Rubber Co., with 43 years service. He was born in Akron and lived in Tallmadge since 1957. He was a World War II Army veteran, serving with the 24th Infantry, and received the Purple Heart for his service. He was the founder and charter member of the General Tire Credit Union and served as president of GenFed for 29 years, and was also involved in the Credit Union Leagues. He was a graduate of South High School and was involved in organizing the class reunions.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Lorraine M.; daughter and son-in-law, Maureen and John Schaffner of Antioch, Calif.; sons, Jack W. Young of Coral Gables, Fla., and David L. Young of Tuscaloosa, Ala.; daughter-in-law, Erzsébet Szilagyi-Young of Akron; brother, Lester Young of Anz.; and grandchildren, Alexander and Cynthia Young of Ohio, and Scott and Paul Schaffner of California.

Funeral services at 11 a.m. Monday at the Hennessy-Bagnoli Funeral Home, 339 Southwest Ave., with Pastor D. Lynn Snider officiating. Burial at Greenlawn Memorial Gardens. Friends may call at the funeral home from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday. (Hennessy-Bagnoli, TALLMADGE, 376-4251)



Received a letter from Paul Cain of Homestead FL and Urbana, IL of the death of Jack G. Young. "Enclosed is an obituary of Jack Young. His wife Lorraine, advised me in a Christmas card, he had passed away in August. He has been a member since some 10 years ago, when he came to see me in Urbana, IL. He and his wife Lorraine visited me here in Florida last December 1997. He joined Company "I" 34th Infantry Regiment on the boat, on the way for the landing on Luzon, Zambales Province. He was with us the remainder of the Philippine operation and spent sometime in the occupation of Japan. He received the Purple Heart on Corregidor, also the Combat Infantry Badge and a Bronze Star."

Deceased: 01/1996
Meredith E Reynolds
21st
918 Farwell DR
Columbus GA 31906-4222

Deceased: 03/1999
Alvin L Sebring
21st (L)
11809 FM 3311
Tyler TX 75708-2411

Deceased: 01/1999
Robert G Walker
52nd
14501 Atrium Way Apt 221
Minnetonka MN 55345-4756

Received word from Robert L. Donovan of Belmont, CA about the death of Stanley Lemm of 1012 Catalpa Way, Petaluma CA 94954-5413. Stanley served in Company "G" 21st Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division 1943-1945. Bob writes, "I met Stanley a few years ago and he introduced me to the 24th IDA." Obituary below:

LEMM

Stanley Lemm - Passed away in Petaluma, Ca. January 20, 1999 at the age of 82 years. Husband of the late Betty Lemm; loving father of Susan and Son-in-law Rick Whitney of Petaluma; grandfather to Jennifer and Scott Whitney, Petaluma, and brother of Mrs. Marion Masi, Hercules, Ca. and uncle of many nieces and nephews.

A native of San Francisco. He served in the U.S. Army 24th Infantry as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Pacific Theater during WWII.

A vigil will be held at White Oaks Chapel, San Carlos, Ca. Monday January 25, 1999 at 7 p.m. The Funeral Mass will be celebrated Tuesday January 26, 1999 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Matthias Catholic Church, 1885 Cordilleras Road, Redwood City. Interment will follow at Skylawn Memorial Park, San Mateo. Donations may be sent to Hospice of Petaluma.

White Oaks Chapel
1896 El Camino Real
San Carlos, CA.
650-591-5791





Robert Walker, 73, dies; was longtime leader at Pillsbury

By Lucy Y. Hor
Star Tribune
Staff Writer

Robert Walker led remarkable careers as a military man and as an engineer.

As a soldier, Walker rose to the rank of major general in the Minnesota National Guard and was commander of the 47th Infantry Division from 1979 to 1982. As an engineer, he had a core part in the construction of the Pillsbury Center in Minneapolis.

Walker, who was born in Hibbing, Minn., died at home Wednesday of cancer. He was 73.

Dick Schuehle of Eden Prairie, who was corporate purchasing manager at the Pillsbury Co., said his friend was a "very good engineer, and he wasn't afraid to express his thoughts." He had worked under Walker, who was vice president of engineering at Pillsbury. He retired in 1986 after 29 years.

"He was a really nice guy and would help anyone any way he could," Schuehle said.

In 1991, Walker received the O.D. Gay engineering award for his work on the Minneapolis Convention Center.

Gary LeBlanc, assistant adjutant general of the Minnesota National Guard, was in the Army with Walker and said he was always professional.

"He was a sharp soldier," he said. "He was a leader who led by example, which is the best kind."

He said Walker had the kind of style that co-workers wanted to mirror. LeBlanc, of Royalton, Minn., said he appreciated the time Walker took to talk to his soldiers and find out how they were doing.

Walker enlisted in the Army in 1943. After graduating from Officer Candidate School in 1945 he served with infantry units in Europe. When he returned to the United States he was promoted to first lieutenant.

In 1947 he joined the Minnesota National Guard, and the same year enrolled at Hibbing Junior



Walker, who was a vice president of engineering for Pillsbury, also rose to the rank of major general in the National Guard.

College. Two years later he was transferred to a National Guard field artillery unit.

In 1950, after receiving his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Minnesota, he volunteered for active duty in the Korean War. For three years he served as a firing battery commander with the 52nd Field Artillery Battalion of the 24th Infantry Division in

Korea and Japan.

He returned to the United States in October 1953 and was released from active duty in January 1954.

The next month, he rejoined the National Guard and was assigned as an intelligence officer. Soon after, he was promoted to major. In 1961 he was promoted to lieutenant colonel, and in 1974 to brigadier general. In 1979 he became a major general.

Bob Walker of St. Louis Park said his father felt he had a duty to the community. He had served as president of Chambers, a singing organization, and he was a member of the Masonic Lodge.

He was also a good provider. "He took his job as head of the household seriously," Bob Walker said. "He expected a lot from his kids." When the children were young, their father was strict, but when they became adults, they came to know him as a friend, and "he was quite a sentimental guy."

Walker's first wife, Louise DePetro, died previously. He is survived by his second wife, Donna, of Minnetonka; daughters Nancy of Hastings and Deborah of East Brunswick, N.J.; another son, Richard of Edina; sister Lenore Martin of Torrance, Calif.; six grandchildren, and five step-grandchildren.

Services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday at the Fort Snelling Memorial Chapel. Visitation will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel, 50th St. and Hwy. 100, Edina.

Bruce Glenn Spencer was born on October 8, 1926, in Blue Earth, MN., the son of Roy and Gladys (Griffith) Spencer. On April 8, 1947, he was united in marriage to Kathryn Meyer at St. Casimir Catholic Church in Wells. He had lived in Wells since 1946 where he worked as a structural mover, retiring in 1992. He was a veteran of World War II serving in the U.S. Army, Company E, 24th Infantry Division in the Pacific Theater. He was a member of St. Casimir Catholic Church of Wells, Member of Wells Fire Department, Member and Past Commander of the Wells American Legion Post, Wells VFW Post and International Association of Structural Movers. He enjoyed caniping, fishing, hunting, going to movies and spending time with his grandchildren.

Bruce G. Spencer died on Friday, January 1, 1999 at the VA Medical Center in Minneapolis, MN. He was 72 years, 2 months and 24 days of age.

Bruce is survived by his wife Kathryn Spencer of Wells, MN.; one daughter: Debra Mikolai of Wells, MN.; four grandchildren: Jeremy, Barry and Tim, and Tricia Mikolai; mother-in-law: Lena Meyer of Wells, MN.; one brother: Wayne and his wife Gertrude Spencer of Blue Earth, MN.; one sister: June Kirsch of Albert Lea, MN.; one sister-in-law: Lois and husband Maynard Grunzke of Minnesota Lake, MN.; one brother-in-law: Clifford and his wife Julie Meyer of Wells, MN.; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by: his parents, son Robert B. Spencer in 1965, one granddaughter Angel in 1980, two brothers Fred and one (Dale) in infancy, two sisters: Marvel Anderson and Orlean Hendrickson.

The Dance by Garth Brooks

Looking back on the memories of
The dance we shared 'neath the stars above,
For a moment all the world was right
How could I have known that you'd ever say goodbye?

Holding you, I held everything,
For a moment wasn't I a king?
But if I'd only known how
The king would fall -
Who's to say,
You know I might have changed it all.

And I'm glad I didn't know
The way it all would end.
The way it all would go
Our lives are better left to chance.
I could have missed the pain
But I'd have to miss the dance.



T A P S (continued)

Received word from Harry and Fran Wittman of the sudden death of Ralph Dale Pulis from Moberly, Missouri on February 3, 1999 at his home. He was born May 22, 1928. Ralph served in Korea Company "G", 21st Infantry Regiment and was awarded the purple heart.

Received word from Mary Morgan of 106 East High St., Liberty, IN 47353-1119 of the death of Charles Morgan January 9, 1999 of a heart attack.

Received word of the death of Benjamin E Sadler of 1503 Phyllis St., Lakeland FL 33803-3349, February 19, 1999. Benjamin served in Korea in the 19th Infantry Regiment. W. B. Nelson of 214 W. Mockingbird LN, Harker Hts., TX writes of Benjamin's death: "Ben passed away while having dinner at a local restaurant with friends. He and I have been in close contact since I located him in 1991 through the Taro Leaf. We had our first reunion in Waco, TX in October 1997. He was a real swell fellow and a dear friend. We were in Beppu, Japan and Korea together."

Received email from Phyllis and Phil Burk of the death of Robert H. Fountain on March 4, 1999. He is survived by his wife, Flo Fountain of 1406 Maplewood Dr., Macon, GA 31210.

Received email from Bill Anderson of the passing of Sang Yun Lee of Seoul, Korea on 17 March 1999 due to liver cancer. (Thanks for sending this information Bill, and I will publish the obituary for

Mr. Lee when it is received.

email received from Marilyn Gaev and Joe Koenig of the death of their father, A. Bertram Koenig on August 30, 1998. "He was a Captain in the Quartermaster Corps and served in the Pacific. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Eleanor Schneider Koenig who resides in Elkins Park, PA and Palm Beach, FL.

Letter received from Cleon C. Eckler: "I'm enclosing the obituary for Norman Riegler. Norman was very instrumental in making sure our division colors were present at the Korean Memorial and Arlington in 1997. He did all the calling and getting the information from the KW-VADCC in Washington, D.C. Dutch Nelsen was president of the association that year and he gave Norman the permission to proceed and set everything in place. Norman asked if we three guys would help in 1998, we agreed to assist and when Norman was too ill to continue, he told Tom Cochran that I would make sure the flags and men were in place in 1998, which as you know, we did. This year 1999 we have four men to represent the division."

Norman J. Riegler

Norman J. Riegler, age 72, of Canton, passed away Saturday evening, January 16, 1999 at his residence, surrounded by his loving family. A World War II and Korean veteran, he served with the U.S. Navy and U.S. Army (Company "C" 19th Infantry

Regiment 24th Infantry Division) and was awarded the Purple Heart among many other prestigious medals for his brave and honorable service to our country. He was a McKinley High School and Kent State University graduate and he attended McKinley Law School. He established and ran his own successful business, Riegler Midnight Supply. Preceded in death by his father Lester, mother Edna, brother Paul, sister Elizabeth and wife Betty Lou (Strawn). Survived by his wife, Jean (Okey); daughters, Paula Riegler of Sierra Vista, AZ and Stephanie Riegler of Accomac, VA; stepdaughters, Debra Keiser of Cornwall, NY, Jan Rainwater of Harker Hts., TX, Barbara Lovinsky and Sandy Upberman of Canton and Scott Okey of Massillon; brothers, Lester John Riegler and Daniel Riegler of North Canton and Bobby Riegler of Utah; sisters, Pauline VanMuyden of Woodland, CA, Mary Alice Gonnuscio of Centerville, UT, Bertha Riegler of Stockton, CA, Donna Sarri of Garden Grove, CA, Ida Mae Riegler of Gardena, CA and Helen Wentworth of Canton; 16 grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral Services conducted by Rev. Dr. Clifford A. Price. Interment in Forest Hill Cemetery.

Orville W. Elie of 921 Soledad Way, Lady Lake FL 32159-9112 died September 12, 1997. A.L. Britt, stepson writes: "Orville was especially fond of the 24th Infantry Division Association."



T A P S (continued)

Edward T. Doubek

Edward T. Doubek, 73 of Homewood, formerly of Chicago's Roseland community, died March 19, 1999 at Olympia Fields Hospital. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Friday at Panozzo Brothers Funeral Home, 530 W. 14th St., Chicago Heights with Rev. James Finno officiating. Burial will be at Evergreen Cemetery in Evergreen Park.

Mr. Doubek was born April 28, 1925 in Chicago's Beverly area. He retired in 1987 from the Ford Stamping Plant in Chicago Heights where he was a materials manager and worked for 21 years. He was a member of the United Auto Workers Union, Local 588.

He was a past president of the Palos Heights Chamber of Commerce.

After World War II he was employed as an artist with the Cling Photo Studios in Chicago. He later owned the Palos Cleaners in Palos and the Doubek Cleaners in Chicago.

He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving with the Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 21st Infantry Regiment of the 24th Infantry Division in the Asiatic Pacific Theater. He also participated in the liberation of the Philippine Islands, and was discharged as a sergeant.

He was a graduate of Morgan Park High School.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Helen Doubek (nee Charloes); two daughters, Denise John-

son and Emily Moser of Tinley Park; two sons, Mark Doubek of Evansville, IN and Roger Doubek of Spring Creek, NV and four grandchildren, Michael Luzan, Maria Johnson, Andrew Doubek and Benjamin Moser.

Received word from Isabel Darin, 13157 Wesley, Southgate MI 48195 of the death of her husband Angelo R. Darin. Angelo died December 21, 1998, a losing battle with leukemia. Angelo served with the 56th Amphibious Tank and Tractor Battalion, 1954-1956.

Gertrude Heath of 444 Hillcrest Dr., Girard PA 16417 informs us of the death of her husband, Gerald Heath who died on July 3, 1998. Gerald trained at Fort Bragg NC and Hawaiian Islands and spent 40 months without a furlough with the field artillery in the Pacific. He was active in the campaigns of Luzon, Bataan, Mindanao, Philippines, New Guinea. He was awarded 5 battlestars, Asiatic Pacific medal with 3 bronze stars. He was Section Chief of his gun crew.

Received word from Jeanie L. Humphrey of Gleneden Beach OR 97388-0766 of the death of her husband Raymond Humphrey. Raymond died on December 26, 1998. He served a T Sgt in WWII, Cannon Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division in the Asiatic Pacific campaign. He received 3 bronze service stars, purple heart, distinguished unit.

Raymond R. Kresky

Raymond R. Kresky, age 85, of 1334 First St., Menomonee, died February 10, 1999 at the Rennes Health Center-West. He was born in Marinette, January 10, 1914.

He served in the U.S. Army during WWII. After service he lived in Chicago and was a salesman for trucking companies for 35 years. He returned to Menomonee in 1986. He was a member of Holy Spirit Church, the Menomonee Knights of Columbus and former member of the Marinette Elks Lodge.

He is survived by nieces, Shirley Rak of Thousand Oaks, California and Joan Corsten of Wauwatosa; nephews, Pete (Bonnie) Kresky of Sarasota, Florida, Richard (Sheri) Kresky of Port Wing, Wisconsin, Michael (Bridgette) Kresky of Stockton, California and Thomas Kresky of Las Vegas, Nevada; a grandniece, Ann Heider of Marinette. He was preceded in death by 5 brothers and 3 sisters.



TAPS (continued)

Note received from Bonnie Kresky (Neice of Raymond Kresky) See Obituary on previous page. "I am a neice of Ray's and found your letter in his things. (letter from Bill Vrooman) He died on February 10th after he awoke saying he had just had a wonderful dream. He loved mail and enjoyed sending mail. We carried out his wishes of cremation, Mass and a big dinner party for his friends. Pete and I were responsible for Ray per his request 3 years ago. He was a Great Uncle and a fitting tribute to him on the altar by a Pastor who was one of his best friends. Thank you again for your notes to Ray. Warmest Regards, Bonnie Kresky. This letter was written to Bill Vrooman.

Received a letter from Moose and Boots Hoffman of Sunbury PA regarding the death of Chuck Mainor. "On our way home, we stopped at Pierson, FL to look up Charles (Chuck) Mainor, B Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, a member of our 24th IDA. To our shock and dismay, we were advised that Chuck had expired on or about 22nd February. The cause of his death was a massive stroke while sitting at his table eating. His wife Carol had already departed for NJ, therefore, we were unable to talk directly with her. Information was provided by his next door neighbor. American Legion provided military burial honors. Chuck was cremated and some of his ashes were spread on the Lake where he so loved to fish."

Letter received from Polly Civiello of 240 Conn. Ave., Newington, CT 06111 of the death of "My beloved Leon F. Pratt on September 27, 1998. I am executrix of his estate and all mail comes to me. I love to read the Taro Leaf magazine and would like it addressed to me if possible as he was a life member. (Thank you for writing. Polly and you will receive the magazine.)

Received email from Sharon Kral of the passing of her father William T. Kral on March 1, 1999. William served in the 21st Infantry, Headquarters Company from 1942 through 1945. SSG Kral earned the Bronze Star, Combat Infantry Badge, 1 Arrowhead and 4 Landing Stars. He was the dedicated husband of Bonna Jean Kral and loving father of William, Gary and Mark. The loss of this true American Hero will be felt by many."

Word received from Mrs Raymond Patton of the death of her husband on February 9, 1999 after a long illness with diabetes and cancer. He was a life member of the 24th Infantry Division Association and served in Company "A" 21st Inf and "E" Company 19th Inf Regt." Obituary and picture below.

Raymond Roscoe Patton, 66, of Charlotte died Tuesday, February 9, 1999, at Mercy Hospital.

Born in Nottingham Township, Pa. on July 16, 1932, Raymond was the son of the late Ray and Alma Patton. A US Army veteran of the Korean War, Mr. Patton served with the 24th Infantry Division. Mr. Patton had owned and operated the Patton Exxon Station before he and his wife, Joyce, retired to Lakeland, Florida. While in Florida, Mr. Patton was employed as a manager for a local motel. Mr. and Mrs. Patton moved back to Charlotte 7 years ago.

Survivors include his wife, Joyce Smith Patton of the home; son, Darrell Patton of Seminole, Florida; daughter, Patricia Rader of Charlotte; brothers, Billy Patton of Stanley, Wis., Bobby and Roger Patton, both of Galax, VA, and Herman Patton of Fries, VA; sister, Dottie Vaughan of Pine Bluff, NC; also grandchildren, Ryan Crist and Eleese Zoeller.

Family will receive friends on Wednesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Carolina Funeral & Cremation Center, 5505 Monroe Road.

Funeral services will take place Thursday in Galax, Virginia.

Memorials may be made to the American Diabetes Assoc., 1820 E. 7th St., Charlotte, NC 28204.



Raymond and Joyce Patton

"THE ONLY THING THAT WALKS BACK FROM THE TOMB WITH THE MOURNERS AND REFUSES TO BE BURIED, IS THE CHARACTER OF A MAN. THIS IS TRUE. WHAT A MAN IS SURVIVES HIM. IT CAN NEVER BE BURIED."

J.R. MILLER

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 Gold	W/Gold or Black Chain	\$15.00
8	Bolo Tie W/TL Silver	Silver W/Black Chain	\$15.00
9	Belt Buckle W/TL	Gold or Silver Belt Buckle	\$15.00
10	29th Inf. Cloth Patch (Color)		\$5.00
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		\$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

QUARTERMASTER 24TH IDA - SUPPLY PRICE LIST

Control #	Item	Description	Price Ea.
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
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)		\$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	\$1.00
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

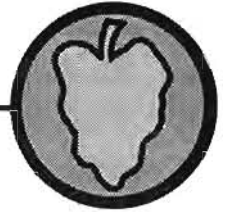
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