

24th Infantry Division Association
FIRST TO FIGHT



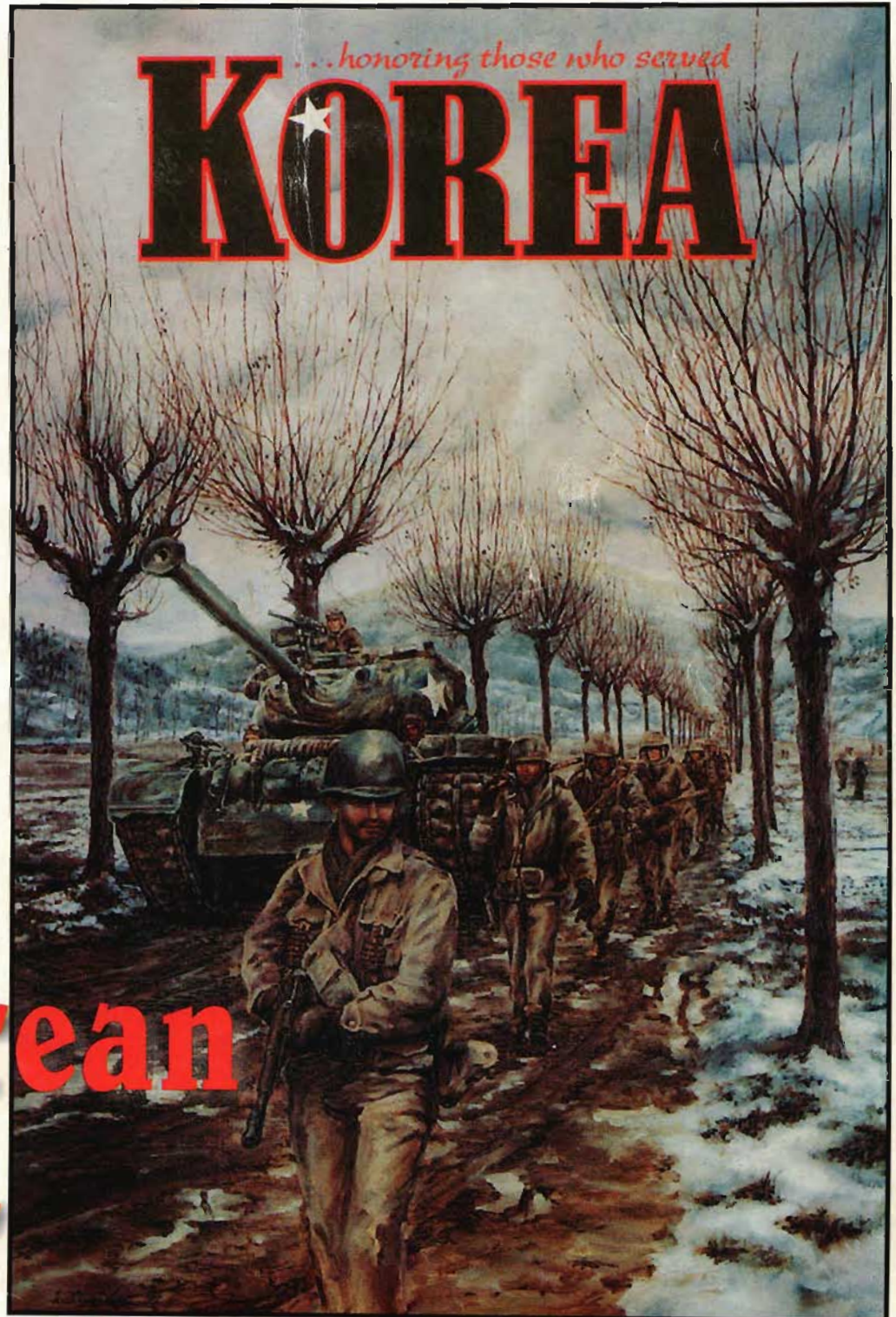
Taro Leaf

VOL. 55 No. 1

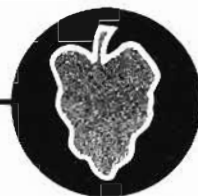
March 2001

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The
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War



24th Infantry Division Association



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Reunion 2001

19 Sept. - 23, 2001
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1815 West Mercury Blvd
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Tel. 757-838-0200
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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 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.

Deadline to the Editor

1 January 2001
1 July 2001
10 October 2001

Publication Date

March 2001
August 2001
December 2001

VOLUME 55 NO. 1 March 2001

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From the President

24th Infantry Division Association



A belated Happy New Year to each and every one of you! This year is going to be a busy year for our Association in many ways.

As it is every year our reunion in the Fall of each year is the highlight of our Association activities. This year's get together scheduled for Hampton, Virginia 17-23 September is no exception. Thanks to the special efforts by our reunion coordinator, Wes Morrison (21st) Marina, California and our two reunion co-chairmen, Dave Mann (34th) Richmond, Virginia and Bill Garry (34th) Virginia Beach, Virginia everything is shaping up to make this one another great one. Its not too early to start making your plans on attending now. We have never met in the Tidewater Virginia area and there is lots to see and visit to include museums, Colonial Williamsburg, great seafood restaurants, Langley Air Force Base as well as historic Fort Monroe and other Civil War attractions.

Another very important matter is the amending of our Association's Constitution. Our original Constitution was written in 1948 shortly after many of the 24th Division men had returned to the United States after serving with the division during the war time years of 1941 - 45. Although the Constitution has served the Association well with minimal changes for the past years some changes may be required to keep it as a viable document in the present day environment that now governs the Association activities. Included in this issue is a copy of our current Constitution and directions on how you, as an active member of the Association, can recommend changes to this document so it will conform to our present day organization.

According to our Secretary/Treasurer, Dutch Nelsen (13th FABN) Colorado Springs, Colorado, we now have 3,165 members. That is more members than we had a year ago at this time. Thanks to all you recruiters that continue to find individuals who once wore the Taro Leaf on their uniform. Since the 24th Division is now back on the active Army rolls we are starting to get members that still wear the Taro Leaf on their military uniform. I welcome you men and women to the greatest military division organization that exists!

I have appointed Joe Sweeney (19th) Dellslow, West Virginia as our Association Historian replacing our long time historian, Joe McKeon (19th) Arleta, California. Thanks, Joe, from all of us for the many years of dedication that you have given us as our Official Association Historian. I always appreciate hearing from you about the actions/events concerning our great division.


According to the presentation we heard at our Covington reunion this past year the Korean War Veterans National Museum and Library at Tuscola, Illinois is back on track and is going forward in its activation process. Past President Tom Cochran (34th) Clarksville, Tennessee has been active in providing guidance and assistance to the organizing group. I have asked Tom to keep us all updated by providing timely reports for inclusion in the TARO LEAF.

I see that the United States Postal Service is scheduled to unveil a new commemorative first class postage stamp in May of this year entitled "Honoring Veterans". According to the latest count there are over 25 million United States military veterans living today. The stamp will have a photograph of the American flag flowing in the breeze; across the top will be printed "Honoring Veterans" and across the bottom "Continuing to Serve". It is gratifying to know that our government recognizes the contribution the veterans of all of our military services have given our Nation.

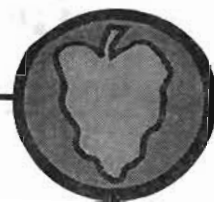
I was most impressed with our December issue of the TARO LEAF although I heard some members did not receive the issue when scheduled due to an equipment break down at the printers and the large amount of "Christmas Mail" that was being handled by the Postal Service during the holiday season. A great issue. Vonnie! A big "thank you" to Doctor Phil Hostetter (19th) Manhattan, Kansas; Bill Hosler (19th) Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania; Charlie Reese (724th Ord) Euclid, Ohio and others for providing the excellent photos for the issue.

It is always a sad time when I hear of the loss of one of the individuals that had contributed so much time and effort to the Association for many years in the past. This was true when I learned of the death of Beverly Corris in Springfield, Massachusetts late last year. Beverly was an associate of our long time Secretary/Treasurer/Editor, Kenwood Ross, and was a most important individual in the day to day operations of the Association. She will be greatly missed by all of us who knew her and depended upon her knowledge and ability in conducting the affairs of the Association.

Looking forward to seeing you at Hampton!


JAMES F. HILL
19th Infantry
President

24th Infantry Division Association



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Psalm 133:1 "How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity." Mary and I had a good time at the reunion. We met some special people. Congratulations to Jim Hill, President and Billy Johnson, Vice President.

I tried to get around and meet all the first timers. I think we need to get out of our comfort zone and try to mingle with the other people. I talked to some people who wanted to talk and also got prayer requests. We have to mingle and put our arms around each other. There are people within our own group, 24th Infantry Division, that are hurting or need help in some way.

Contact someone in the 24th, someone you don't really know and become friends.

Isn't this time of the year pretty?

In Christ,

Chaplain Carpenter

BATTLEFIELD TOUR OF KOREA

A National Tour Service has scheduled an eight day tour of Korea commencing 20 October 2001 with a departure from San Francisco International Airport and arriving at the new Incheon International Airport on 21 October 2001 and return on 28 October 2001.

The first day of arrival will be spent clearing customs and exchange of currencies at the Airport. Then a short trip to the hotel in Seoul where the rest of the day is spent relaxing and catching up on the jetlag.

Starting on Monday, 22 October, the tour will commence with visits to Osan, Pyongtaek, Chonan, Kum River battlesites, Taejon, Taegue, Kaesong, the tunnels/ Tabudong, Bowling Alley, Naktong River Bulge area. On the return trip north, some sites can be revisited or a visit of those missed can be arranged. There will also be a visit to Chorwon/Iron Triangle battlesites, Incheon and Panmunjom.

Cost of the program: \$1,945.00 per person, West Coast departure

Hong Kong extension: \$580.00 per person

Honolulu extension: \$550.00 per person

The above prices reflect a cash discount (I.e., payment by cash, check, or money order). Credit Card payment will be \$60.00 additional.

For 24th Inf. Div. Association members interested in the tour, the contact person is:

Wes Morrison

831-384-0139

email: wesm8@aol.com

Fax: 831-883-2156



Secretary/Treasurer's Page

(All data as of 21 January 2001)

Financial

Checking Account: \$19,544.55
Certificate of Dep. \$54,139.05 @6%

Cost to print & mail last issue of
The Taro Leaf: \$13,108.99

We are solvent at this time. But with the number of Members who pay dues annually on the decline (see below) it is obvious that, superb as it was, we cannot continue to publish a Taro Leaf of the size and quality as the last issue.

Membership

Total number of members; 3,101

Annual: 1,604
Life (paid) 1,325
Life (paying) 77
Comp 50
Associate 44
Honorary 1

Those members paying annual dues:

Annual: 1,604
Life Paying: 77
Associate: 44
(About \$27,500 per year)

We have 177 members who have not paid dues since 1999. One attempt will be made to contact them before they are dropped. (This is what keeps Wally Kuhner so darn busy.) Most Comp are widows of General Officers or "original" members. Current policy is that Life Membership does not automatically pass on to the widow.

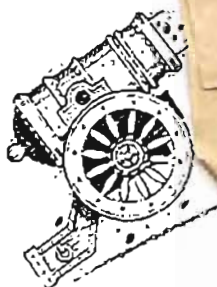
Members by place and time of service:

WWII 976	Japan 850
Korea 1526	Germany 15
Desert Storm 22	Riley 12
Pearl Harbor 51	Stewart 24
Task Force Smith 34	
POW 25	

Many members served in more than one area and war. (WWII & Japan, Korea & Japan, etc)

Margo and I want to thank everyone for being such a great bunch of folks to work with. We have kept an informal count, and on the average day we process 18 memberships, plus address changes and of course the banking. Nearly every envelope has some nice greeting or word of encouragement. I'm dammed near thinking of running for reelection at the next reunion!!!

Dutch



*Every Gunner
knows that it is a
shot he dath
before he
dath*

New Members October 2000-January 24, 2001

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>first name</u>	<u>Unit 1</u>	<u>Donation</u>	<u>For</u>
Bailey	Preston J	19th	\$10.00	
Brault	Charles E	21st	\$5.00	
Brielh	Richard C	21st	\$250.00	Men of G, 21st, Korea
Bullock	John C	3rd Eng	\$50.00	Up \$100 Life to \$150
Cap	Michael	24th Recon	\$10.00	
Crist Jr	Claude C	21st	\$5.00	Buddies
Davis	James C	19th	\$5.00	
Davis	Robert E	21st	\$5.00	
Dick	Peggy K.	19th	\$100.00	In memory of Dallas.
Doyle	James E	19th	\$10.00	
Eberhart	Mrs Helen	3rd Eng	\$10.00	Frank, 3rd Eng, WWII
Farmer	Carrol W	11th	\$5.00	
Flanagan	Charles J	34th	\$5.00	
Geraci	Carmello F	24th Recon	\$10.00	Joe Velasquez
Grady	Thomas E	21st	\$25.00	Lt Haas, KIA, Nov 1944
Horvat	Frank R	63rd	\$5.00	
Hostetter MD	Philip H	19th	\$100.00	
Jackson	Andrew	26th AAA	\$5.00	
Johnson	Donald H	13th	\$35.00	
Josz	Mrs Julius	19th	\$10.00	Julius Josz
Kilfoyle Jr	Thomas F	24th Recon	\$25.00	24th Recon men KIA
Lance	George F	21st	\$20.00	Peter Rufo, 21st
Le Blanc	Reginald A	19th	\$5.00	
Mason	Carl Boone	3rd Eng	\$60.00	
McCourt	Jack G	24th Div	\$10.00	
Miller	Richard H	724th Ord	\$5.00	
Montaglione	Angelo	34th	\$10.00	
Moulin	Frank C	19th	\$5.00	
Peniston	Donald	21st	\$25.00	For Glen C. Posten, Jr
Priest, Sr	Robert R	24th Sig	\$15.00	
Pulst	Chester A	34th	\$15.00	
Rochon	Louis W	5th RCT	\$5.00	
Russiello	Nicholas A	34th	\$5.00	
Sacchitella	Michael J	21st	\$5.00	Ernest Cox, 21st, KIA
Slater	Edward N.	24th Friend	\$25.00	
Smith	Wayne F	24th Sig	\$50.00	"Tithe" from Raffle
Taormino	Phillip J	34th	\$10.00	Men who did not return.
Terrell	Ernest P	11th	\$25.00	
Tuohy	Wendell H	509th	\$25.00	
Turbeville	Milton	19th	\$5.00	
Van Kirk	W H	3rd Eng	\$10.00	Wm. A. Chandler, WWII
Thompson	James M.	21st	\$30.00	
Profitt	Jack R.	G1 Div HQ	\$10.00	
TOTAL Donation:			\$1,020.00	

New Members October 2000-January 24, 2001

Last Name	First Name	City	State	Zip	Phone	Unit 1
Applegate	Margaret Brittin	New Smyrna	FL	32168		19th
Bickford	Bobbie R.	Noble	OK	73068	405-872-8746	26th AAA
Bieniek	Eugene J	Sparta	WI	54656-0223	608-269-5891	24th Repl
Cavanaugh	Leota E.	Clarksburg	WV	26301		19th
Cockrell	Harold	Greer	SC	29650-2614		
Doyle	Gerald F.	Baltimore	MD	21208	410-486-5277	19th
Doyle	Jesse W.	Sellersburg	IN	47172-9683	812-246-1960	6th Tank
Gilbert	Beulah	W. Lafayette	OH	43845-9775	740-545-9987	19th
Grow	John W.	Rome	NY	13440	315-337-8854	24th MP
Hill	Harold W.	Marina	CA	93933-4020	831-384-8058	19th
Manson	William C	St. Joseph	MO	64503	816-232-9219	2/35th
Moffa	Dorothy Brittin	Dushore	PA	18614	570-928-7863	19th
Nicholson	William G	Lake Ozark	MO	65049	573-365-5436	MP Co
Pierce	James E.	Independence	MO	64055	816-252-0739	21st
Pinnell	Floyd J.	Edgewood	TX	75117	903-896-1189	21st
Reardon, Jr	John P.	Worcester	MA	01603	508-756-2967	21st
Schutte	Clarence F.	Evansville	IN	47720-7028	812-425-6454	19th
Steckler	Ted M.	Stafford	VA	22554-5080	540-720-1248	34th
Tremel	Joseph E.	Richfield	MN	55423	612-869-0586	63rd
Zielezinski	John	Lakewood	NJ	08701	732-920-0031	19th
Total Count	20					

New Life Members

Eugene J. Bieniek, 24th Repl
 Harold W. Hill, 19th
 Eddie L. Romero, 26th AAA
 Nathaniel D. Luthro, 52nd
 Ted M. Steckler, 34th
 Bobbie R. Bickford, 26th AAA
 Joseph Bell, 19th
 Marvin D. Hovey, 19th
 Wayne J. Hicks, 19th
 Owen C. Cherry, 52nd
 Donald E. Donner, 11th
 Clifford M. Koan, 6th Tank
 Erwin J. Krause, 34th
 William H. Dodson, 34th
 David E. Ramsey, 21st
 James O. Joyal, 34th
 Carl A. Weitz, 19th
 John D. Burns, 34th
 John J. Baker, 34th
 George R. Rogers, 52nd

An editorial, in the September 1994 magazine, World War II:

General Douglas MacArthur gave his country a lasting symbol of courage and defiance.

General Douglas MacArthur had always believed that his personal fortunes were inevitably tied to those of the Philippine Islands.

His father had served there during the Philippine Insurrection at the turn of the century and had been the islands' first U.S. military governor. When young MacArthur was commissioned a lieutenant of engineers, one of his first assignments was to survey the island of Leyte, from whose beaches he would command an army of liberation nearly half a century later. He served as a brigade commander there during the early 1920s and returned in 1935 with orders to establish the army of the Philippine Commonwealth.

When war came to the Philippines in 1941, American and Filipino forces were still not thoroughly prepared to defend the islands. MacArthur concentrated his forces on the Bataan Peninsula and on the fortress island of Corregidor, where they held out for several months against an overwhelmingly superior enemy force. When Corregidor was surrendered on May 6, 1942, the Japanese took 76,000 American and Filipino prisoners in the largest mass capitulation of U.S. troops in history.

By then, however, MacArthur was already gone. Against his strong protests, he had been ordered by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to proceed to Australia. Along with MacArthur were his wife, Jean, and their small son Arthur, who would have shared the general's fate.

When MacArthur stepped on Australian soil at Bachelor Field, he was immediately bombarded with questions. He later recalled his exact words at that moment and believed that he had spoken them in a rather casual manner. "The President of the United States ordered me to break through the Japanese lines and proceed from Corregidor to Australia for the purpose, as I understand it, of organizing the American offensive against



A promise is kept. True to his word, MacArthur wades ashore at Leyte on October 20, 1944. His immortal pledge "I shall return" was made to the defeated people of the Philippines 31 months earlier.

Japan, a primary objective of which is the relief of the Philippines. I came through and I shall return."

The last three words of the general's statement captured the imagination of the American people and became a rallying cry for the American march across the Pacific. The phrase stands with "Damn the torpedoes," "Remember the Alamo" and "LaFayette, we are here," as an icon in American military lore.

From the beginning, MacArthur battled long odds in keeping his promise. Logistics and supply were twin nightmares as the "Germany first" strategy adopted by the Allied leadership with the Atlantic Charter gave the European theater priority in allocation of troops and war materiel. Also as important, the U.S. Navy advocated a strategy against Japan that included the recapture of strategic islands in the Central Pacific and the invasion of Formosa and then mainland China, which would bring the Japanese home islands within range of U.S. warplanes.

MacArthur believed that the United States had a "great national obligation" to the people of the Philippines. He advocated driving through the Southwest Pacific and across the northern coast

of New Guinea. The islands of the southern Philippines would have to be taken for either strategy to work. Ironically, a report from Admiral William F. "Bull" Halsey, which indicated that Japanese resistance to raids from his fast carriers had been almost nonexistent, suggested that conquest of the northern Philippines would be quicker and less costly than the Formosa strategy.

At midday on October 20, 1944, General Douglas MacArthur departed the light cruiser *Nashville*, picked up exiled Philippine President Sergio Osmena, and headed with his sizable entourage toward the beach on the east coast of Leyte. The draft of the general's landing craft was too deep to deliver him

all the way to the beach, so an aide contacted the Navy's beachmaster and asked for a smaller boat to complete the final leg of the historic trek. The beachmaster, who was responsible for the traffic all along the narrow strip of sand, was in no mood to extend a courtesy to the Army. "Let 'em walk!" he growled back.

Some distance from the shore, MacArthur and his party stepped down the ramp and into the surf, which lapped at their knees. Quite by accident, one of the most famous photographs of World War II was made possible. The general inspected the beachhead and then strode to a microphone. In his supreme moment, MacArthur utilized his flair for the dramatic to its fullest. With a voice worthy of the finest Shakespearean actor, he boomed: "People of the Philippines, I have returned. By the grace of Almighty God, our forces stand again on Philippine soil. Rally to me!...For your homes and hearths strike!...In the name of your sacred dead strike!...Let no heart be faint. Let every arm be steel. The guidance of Divine God points the way. Follow in his name to the Holy Grail of righteous victory!"

The promise was kept, the circle closed. The legend continued to grow. M.E.H.

HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

24th Infantry Division Association
September 19 - 22, 2001

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING ACCOMODATIONS:

ROOM TYPE	Single Rate	Double Rate
King Beds	\$69	\$69

*NOTE: ADD 10% ROOM TAX

▪ Special Requests:

Smoking Rm. ___ Non Smoking Rm. ___ Connecting Rm. ___ Hearing
Impaired ___ Sight Impaired ___ Other _____

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DEPARTURE DATE _____ DRIVING? _____ AMTRACK? _____

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INTERNATIONAL? _____

NAME: (PLEASE PRINT) _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ FAX _____ E-
MAIL _____

SHARING ROOM
WITH _____

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DATE _____

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TOURS FOR THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 2001 REUNION

Presented by
Phillips Tours, Inc.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

TOUR A – HAMPTON CITY TOUR *Including* RIDING CITY TOUR, VIRGINIA AIR AND SPACE CENTER, FORT MONROE - CASEMATE MUSEUM, AND LUNCH AT THE OFFICER'S CLUB

9:30 AM – 3:30 PM

A great way to get oriented to the area, board the motor coach with your guide to ride through charming downtown Hampton. See the revitalized waterfront area, the antique carousel, old St. John's Church and other points of interest. Tour the Virginia Air and Space Center, official visitor center for NASA Langley Research Center. View interactive exhibits, suspended aircraft, the space gallery and historical displays of Hampton Roads. Enjoy the exciting movie in the 300 seat IMAX theater, and shop for unique gifts in the Museum Shop. Next, visit historic Fort Monroe, home to the Army Training and Doctrine Command. Fort Monroe is the "think tank" of the Army where the doctrine, weapons systems, equipment, organization and training needs are developed. The fort, occupying 63 acres, was first established in 1607 by English Settlers, and has been used as a strategic site because of its vantagepoint on the Chesapeake Bay during all major wars. Tour the Casemate Museum housed within the thick walls of America's largest stone fort. Exhibits include the prison cell of Confederate President Jefferson Davis, Civil War artifacts and displays relating to the Battle of the Monitor and Merrimac. A buffet lunch will be included at the Officer's Club on base, overlooking the Chesapeake Bay and the entrance to the Hampton Roads Harbor.

Package Price: \$40.00 per person, inclusive. LUNCH INCLUDED

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

TOUR B – FORT EUSTIS ARMY TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM & WAR MUSEUM OF VIRGINIA,

9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

Visit Fort Eustis in Newport News, home of the U.S. Army Transportation Corps. Here at the U.S. Army Transportation Museum you will explore the world of motion and transportation, from mighty steam locomotives of days past to the world's only captive "flying saucer", experience the history of wagons, and trucks, airplanes and helicopters, locomotives, tugboats and DUKWs and experimental hovercraft, such as the "flying jeep", and examine more than 200 years of Army transportation history, from miniature models and dioramas to full-size vehicles and equipment. Next, tour the War Memorial Museum of Virginia, which studies U.S. Military history from 1775 to the present, with a special emphasis on World War II. The collection contains more than 30,000 artifacts, including uniforms, weapons, documents, posters, aircraft and vehicles.

Package Price: \$24.00 per person, inclusive.

TOUR C – GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR MEMORIAL, *SPIRIT OF NORFOLK* LUNCH CRUISE & MACARTHUR CENTER, 9:15 AM – 4:30 PM

Board the motorcoach for the short drive to Norfolk where you will visit the MacArthur Memorial for a glimpse into our country's history. During your visit you will view the outstanding collection of artifacts, documents, photographs and memorabilia housed in Norfolk's historic city hall which trace the life and times of five-star General Douglas MacArthur. You will also have the opportunity to view the 25-minute film, which chronicles General MacArthur's life. Both the General and Mrs. MacArthur are entombed in the rotunda of the memorial. A gift shop with unique memorabilia is located on the premises. Next, board the magnificent *Spirit of Norfolk* for a two-hour luncheon cruise. Feast on a sumptuous buffet and enjoy the informative narration as you cruise through the Hampton Roads Harbor. View the many interesting sights along the waterfront, including the mighty aircraft carriers and nuclear submarines at the Norfolk Naval Base. Enjoy dancing and a show following lunch. The ship has two climate-controlled lower decks and an open-air upper deck. Following your cruise, enjoy a stop at the brand new MacArthur Center located in the heart of downtown Norfolk. Anchored by Nordstrom's and Dillards, and offering over 150 specialty shops, boutiques and restaurants, this beautiful new complex is considered one of the most outstanding in the Mid-Atlantic region. Special discount coupon books will be made available for the members of the 24th Infantry Division Association Reunion group.

Package Price: \$45.00 per person, inclusive. LUNCH INCLUDED.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, CON'T.

TOUR D – EVENING EVENT – LIBERTY CALL “DINNERTAINMENT” AT THE HISTORIC BOXWOOD INN, 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Board the motor coach for the short drive to Newport News and the historic Boxwood Inn for dinner and a show. “Liberty Call, Liberty Call” is a tribute to the dramatic years of the 1940’s and the women and men who won the war. Featuring the well-known songs of the era, the entertainers dress in uniforms and period dress. The program is a warm, friendly trip down memory lane to a time when the country was united as never before. The program features such familiar numbers as “Rum and Coca-Cola”, “Don’t Sit Under the Apple Tree”, “The White Cliffs of Dover”, and many more. You will enjoy an hour of toe tapping reminiscence, and a delicious seated dinner as well.

Package Price: \$44.00 per person, inclusive. Limited to 138 people.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

TOUR E – COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG OVERVIEW & JAMESTOWN ISLAND

8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Depart via motor coach with your tour guide for the charming town of Williamsburg. Your guide will provide interesting and informative narration during your ride about the historic Virginia Peninsula and the Hampton Roads area. Once you arrive in Williamsburg, you will step back into the 18th century while strolling through the streets of Colonial Williamsburg. Your historical interpreter will guide you through the past and the events that helped shape America’s history as you enjoy a one and one half hour *leisurely* walking tour through the restored area of this lovely colonial capital city (Actual distance is approximately 4-5 blocks). Following your overview tour, enjoy free time to shop and browse in the many unique specialty shops in Merchants Square. High quality apparel, gifts, jewelry, unusual quilts, beautiful furniture and holiday decorations are but a few of the offerings found in this quaint, picturesque shopping area. Enjoy lunch on your own in one of the Colonial Taverns or in Merchants Square. Your guide will point out all of the dining options as you pass through town. Next, board the bus and admire the view as you ride along the scenic Colonial Parkway to Jamestown Island, original site of the first permanent English settlement in America in 1607. Exhibits include ruins of the 17th century settlement and a Visitors Center with a 15-minute film, museum and gift shop. Also on display at this time are recent archeological finds, including the 400 year old skeletal remains of one of the first settlers. Archeological digs are ongoing and open for daily observation.

Package Price: \$32.00 per person, inclusive.

TOUR F – NORFOLK NAVAL BASE & RIDING VIRGINIA BEACH TOUR, 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Tour the Norfolk Naval Base, the largest naval installation in the world. Home port to over 100 ships, 26 aircraft squadrons and headquarters of the Atlantic Fleet, the base occupies over 8,000 acres of land and is home to more than 100,000 military personnel. Your tour will take you past the piers, through the Naval Air Station and past the historic homes built for the 1907 Jamestown Exposition on “Admiral’s Row” which now house the flag officers. Next, enjoy beautiful views of the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay as you ride through Virginia Beach. See the historic lighthouses and the First Landing Cross at Cape Henry where the English colonists first came ashore in 1607. Walk out on the overlook to see where the bay and the ocean meet, and where the famous Battle of the Capes took place during the Revolutionary War. Ride down the resort strip and past the Tidewater Veterans Memorial, a unique structure which pays homage to veterans everywhere.

Package Price: \$25.00 per person, inclusive.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

TOUR G – WILLIAMSBURG OUTLET & POTTERY FACTORY SHOPPING TRIP

11:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Enjoy an afternoon of shopping at the Prime Outlet Mall featuring over 100 high-end brand name manufacturer outlet shops. Featured here are Liz Claiborne, Lennox, Nautica, Tommy Hilfiger, Rockport, Coach, Harve Benard, Mikasa, Lillian Vernon, Jones of New York, Carol Little, Eddie Bauer and Crabtree and Evelyn, just to name a few. The coach will also make a stop at the world famous Williamsburg Pottery Factory, featuring an astonishing array of handmade articles including saltglaze pottery, wood items, plaster art, custom lamps, floral arrangements, dried flowers, and gardenware. Shoppers will find a bonanza of bargains in the factory owned and operated shops and stores here as well. Several options for lunch on your own are available at the Prime Outlets, or at the restaurant at the Pottery Factory.

Package Price: \$21.00 per person, inclusive.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 CON'T.

**TOUR H – NAUTICUS, THE NATIONAL MARITIME CENTER & BATTLESHIP *WISCONSIN*, ,
12:30 PM – 4:30 PM**

Board the motor coach with your guide to visit the beautiful downtown Norfolk waterfront area where you will tour Nauticus, The National Maritime Center. Features here include a series of ingenious interactive exhibits, shows and theaters. Enjoy the Academy Award nominated film "The Living Seas" which celebrates the beauty, power and significance of the ocean, all shown in 70 MM on a giant screen. New for 2001, the mighty Battleship *Wisconsin* will be permanently berthed here on the downtown Norfolk waterfront. Tours of the top deck will be available, as well as numerous interactive exhibits pertaining to the *Wisconsin* at Nauticus. Also located on premises is the Hampton Roads Naval Museum, one of ten museums officially operated by the U.S. Navy. Highlights of naval battles and exhibits of detailed ship models, artwork and memorabilia are showcased in the museum.

Package Price: \$35.00 per person, inclusive. To include a box lunch, price will be \$45.00 per person, inclusive.

November 27, 2000

Dr. William W. Garry
24th Infantry Division Association Reunion
3204 Huntwick Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23451-3977

Dear Dr. Garry:

It was such a pleasure meeting with you and Mr. Mann recently at the Holiday Inn Hampton to plan the tours for the 24th Infantry Division Association Reunion. I have enclosed the tour descriptions as discussed. Please review this information and call if any changes are necessary.

Package price includes motor coach transportation, tour guide, admissions as listed, meals as listed, taxes and gratuities. Gratuity for guide is not included, and is at the discretion of the individual. A \$300 deposit will be required upon acceptance of this proposal for meal deposits. Full payment is due two weeks prior to tours, September 5, 2000. No refunds after this time. Last minute participants will be accommodated on a space available basis.

I am looking forward to working with you and the rest of the members of the 24th Infantry Division Association next fall, and to being a part of making the 2001 reunion the best ever!

Sincerely,

Anne Phillips, President
Phillips Tours, Inc.

Enclosure

24th Infantry Association
Annual Reunion Tour and Registration Form
September 19-22, 2001

Mail To: _____ Make Check Payable to: *Twenty Fourth IDA*
William Garry P.O. Box 1013
Virginia Beach, VA 23145-0013

Name: _____

Please print legibly

Street: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: () _____ E-mail _____

Name of Spouse/Guests attending: _____

ID Badge Information: _____ FirstTimer? Yes No

Nickname: _____

24th Infantry Division Unit Served (1 ONLY):

Company/Battery _____ Reg't or Unit _____ Tour and Meal
Registration

Per Person	No Attending	Amount
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Wednesday, September 19

Tour A - Hampton City plus \$40
(9:30 AM - 3:30 PM)

Thursday, September 20

Tour B - Fort Eustis, etc. \$24
(9 AM - 12:00 Noon)

Tour C - MacArthur Memorial \$45
(9:15 AM - 4:30 PM)

Tour D - Evening Show Dinner \$44
(6:30 PM - 9:30 PM)

Friday, September 21

Tour E - Colonial Williamsburg \$32
(8:30 AM - 4:00 PM)

Tour F - Norfolk Naval Base \$25
(9:00 AM - 12:30 PM)

- Aloha Dinner \$28
(5:30 PM Social Hour
6:30 - 10:00 Dinner/Dance)

Saturday, September 22

*Ladies" Breakfast \$12
(9:00 AM - 11:00 AM)

*Regimental Breakfasts \$12
(7:30 AM - 9:30 AM)

Tour G - Williamsburg Shopping \$21
(11:30 AM - 4:00 PM)

Tour H - Nauticus/USS Wisconsin \$35

With Box Lunch \$45
(12:30 PM - 4:30 PM)

*Memorial Dinner \$30
(5:30 PM Social Hour)
(6:30 - 10:00 PM Dinner \$30)

*Registration Fee \$20

\$20.00

All members except spouse and guests must pay the
Registration Fee

Total Amount Due _____

ATTENTION

19TH, 21ST, 34TH, 3RD ENGINEERS & ALL ARTILLERY & MISCELLANEOUS UNITS

Your annual breakfast will be held Saturday, September 22, 2001, 7:30 A.M. at the Holiday Inn. The rooms where each breakfast will be served will be posted at the registration tables. The cost for each breakfast is \$12.00. 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

Choice of Orange or Grapefruit Juice, Homemade Biscuits, Butter and Preserves, Fluffy Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Home Fried Potatoes, 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:

Daniel Rickert
PO Box 418
Pinon Hills, CA 92371-0418
760-868-6634

***Make checks payable to:**
Daniel Rickert

21st Infantry – Mail Registration To:

Harry Wittman
1385 Terri 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:

B. David Mann
119 Gaymont Rd.
Richmond, VA 23229-8016
804-288-8238

***Make checks payable to:**
B. David Mann

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)

David J. Valley

Post Office Box 501005
San Diego, CA 92150
(858) 485-6616 dvalley@fda.net

January 23, 2001

Editor Yvonne Mullins
24th Infantry Division Assoc.
6527 NW Sioux Dr.
Parkville, MO 64152-3853

Dear Yvonne:

I'm a new member of the association and received my first copy of the TARO LEAF just yesterday. I've always been proud to have been a member of the 24th, now I can also be proud of its association and publication, the TARO LEAF.

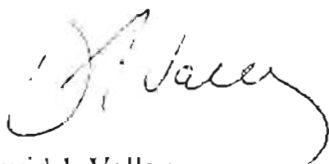
I was one of the first replacements sent into Korea to join the 19th Inf., just at the end of the bloody Taejon campaign in July, 1950. Eight months later I was miraculously spared when a group of men serving in Gen. MacArthur's Honor Guard in Tokyo volunteered for combat duty. The General agreed on the basis that they be replaced by combat veterans from Korea, and I was one of two selected from the 24th Division.

This year is the 50th anniversary of the end of Gen. Douglas MacArthur's illustrious military career. To help keep his memory alive I am joining a group of former honor guards and family members going to Japan for commemorative ceremonies that we have organized. There will be a military ceremony at Atsugi Airbase (April 16) and a public ceremony in Tokyo (April 17).

Next week I will be presenting the Gen. MacArthur Legacy Award to the Manila Hotel in the Philippines, for maintaining the General's former residence (Gen. MacArthur Suite) in their hotel as an historical site. At the commemoration ceremonies in April we will present Legacy Awards to the Dai Ichi Life Insurance Company in Japan for maintaining the General's former office as a historical site, and to a Japanese businessman, Mr. K. Takahashi for the statue of General MacArthur and Memorial Park at Atsugi Airbase.

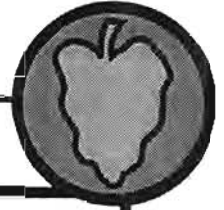
My book, "Gaijin Shogun. Gen. Douglas MacArthur, Stepfather of Postwar Japan, 1945-1951," published in March, 2000, was written in support of the commemoration. It is available from Amazon.com, or from me at the address above at the special rate of \$11.50 for veterans. I hope you can put this notice in the "Books by 24th IDA Members" section.

Sincerely,



David J. Valley

24th Infantry Division Association



MEMO TO: Members of the 24th Inf Div Assn

25 November 2000

FROM: James F. Hill, President of the Association

SUBJECT: Appointment of Historian

As of this date I have appointed the following individual as Historian of the 24th Infantry Division Association replacing Joseph J. McKeon:

Joe Sweeney (19th Infantry, Korea)
PO Box 506
Dellslow, West Virginia 26531-0506
Telephone (304) 292-7266

NOTICE 18 January 2001

"The city of CHONAN Korea and the Republic of Korea Army have expressed a desire to recognize members and families of the 24th Infantry Division soldiers that fought in the Battle of Chonan 5-8 July 1950. They have requested the names of individuals from the 21st Infantry, the 34th Infantry, the 63rd and 52nd Field Artillery Battalions and any supporting units that were KIA in that battle and the current address of their next of kin. They have also requested the names of the survivors of the battle and their current address.

The purpose of their request is to compile a mailing list so as to send cards of appreciation and gifts to the individuals that are listed above.

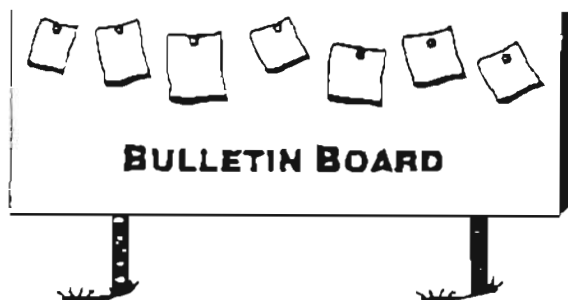
There are several organizations assisting in fulfilling this request including the Department of the Army, the Eighth US Army in Korea and individuals that have personal knowledge of the actions at Chonan. The 24th Infantry Division Association has numerous members that fought there.

Life Member Wesley Morrison (21st) Marina, California has been designated to receive any information provided by members of the 24th Infantry Division Association. His address is as follows:

Wesley R. Morrison
452 Gloria Circle
Marina, California 93933-4027
FAX: 831-883-2156
Email: WesM8@aol.com

Information received from members will be provided to the proper authorities for the necessary appropriate action."


President



WEST COAST REUNION

Palm Springs, CA
April 29th – May 3rd 2001
Ramada Convention Resort (\$75.00)

For further information call or write:
Don Barrett
2854 Pinckard Ave.
Redondo Beach CA 90278
310-370-2095

Korean War Veterans Group Reunion

1st BN. 34th & 19th Inf Regiment

April 24,25,26,27,28, 2001

Hawthorn Inn & Suites
Nashville, TN

For more details contact:

Charles W. Shoe
3924 Harrisburg DR
Harrisburg, NC 28075
PH. 704-455-2937 or
Email: shoecw@vnet.net

Many thanks to the person giving the
anonymous donation of \$200.00 in honor
of Kenwood Ross to the 24th Infantry Di-
vision Association.

In Prosperity our friends know us, in adver-
sity we know our friends.

John Churton Collins

CORRECTION: From James W. Lemon.
C'o. K 21st Inf, WWII. "I don't know Don
Finney, but the photo on page 44 of the De-
cember TL should be from left to right: Jim
Lemon, Rudy Weber, Gene Madden and Don
Williams. Thanks for correcting this."

CORRECTION: Page 54 (Picture Terry Van
Meter. Museum Curator and Mrs. Aubry
McFarren.)

"When Cheerfulness is kept up against all
odds, it is the finest form of courage."

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

The next Taro Leaf will be July-August 2001.
There will be no May issue.

Last minute request was received from
George Fair, Rt 5, Box 1491, Muldrow, OK
74948 requesting to hear from anyone who
knew his Uncle Earl Fair and his Dad Curtis
A. Fair. They served in Korea.

**Please check your label on the back
of the Taro Leaf. The date, is the
date your dues are paid to. Send
your dues and any contributions to
the Secretary/Treasurer: Dutch Nel-
sen, 812 Orion DR., Colorado
Springs, CO 80906-1152.**

Notice the Reunion Forms in this
issue and send them in early. Be
an Early Bird, plan to attend the
Reunion in Hampton, VA and get
together with your friends and
send them in early.

Ladies Breakfast

\$12.00/ea.

Information in next issue.

HEADQUARTERS
EIGHTH UNITED STATES ARMY KOREA (EUSAK)
Office of the Commanding General
APO 301

General Orders
Number 52

27 January 1952

BATTLE HONORS - CITATION OF UNIT

By direction of the President, under the provisions of Executive Order 9396 (Sec I, WD Bul 22, 1943), superseding Executive Order 9075 (Sec) III, WD Bul 11, 1942), and pursuant to authority in AR 260-15, the following unit is cited as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citation reads as follows:

COMPANY G, 21st INFANTRY REGIMENT, 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION, is cited for outstanding performance of duty and extraordinary heroism in action against the enemy in the vicinity of Kumsong, Korea, from 14 to 18 October 1951. On the morning of 14 October, COMPANY G was assigned the mission of attacking and securing a series of interlocking and heavily fortified enemy emplacements located on a strategic hill. As the friendly force moved to the precipitous slope, which was almost completely devoid of cover, it became a target for the heavy small-arms and automatic weapons fire pouring down from connecting enemy bunkers and trenches extending 1500 yards in width. Despite the devastating fire being concentrated on them, the friendly troops advanced with dogged determination. As they reached the outlying enemy positions, a fierce battle ensued which caused numerous casualties to be inflicted among the hostile troops and forced them to flee down the reverse slope of the hill. Using machine guns and flame throwers, the friendly force further decimated the demoralized enemy troops as they attempted to escape. Under continuous enemy artillery and mortar bombardment, the members of COMPANY G were then deployed in a defensive perimeter which they held despite the numerous attempts made by the fanatical hostile troops to dislodge them. On the morning of 16 October, the company was again assigned the mission of taking a hill which was defended by a numerically superior enemy force occupying a net work of strong fortifications. As the friendly troops advanced across the open terrain toward their objective, a devastating enemy artillery barrage accounted for many casualties. Undaunted, they continued moving forward and, upon reaching the base of their objective, they fixed their bayonets and charged directly up the hill. With great courage, the members of COMPANY G fought their way toward the crest, destroying each enemy position in their route of attack. Fighting hand-to-hand with the enemy, the friendly troops, with indefatigable persistence, moved steadily forward until the objective was secured and the hostile force was annihilated. Then, from forward defensive positions, the members of COMPANY G poured a heavy volume of fire into the remaining adjacent enemy emplacements in support of other attacking friendly units until the entire area was secured. During this four day period, the enemy suffered approximately 444 casualties with 162 killed and an estimated 282 being wounded. In addition, eight enemy prisoners were captured. COMPANY G displayed such gallantry, determination and esprit de corps in accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set it apart and above other units participating in the action. The indomitable courage and aggressiveness exhibited by the members of this company throughout this action reflect great credit on themselves and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

KAG-MD 200.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL VAN FLEET

OFFICIAL


/s/ Lawrence E. Nobles
/t/ LAWRENCE E. NOBLES
Colonel, AGC
Adjutant General

O.C. MOOD
Brigadier General, GS w/Troops
Chief of Staff

DISTRIBUTION

B and S plus the following

- 4 - TAG (AGAO-I)
- 3 - TAG (AGPO-A)
- 2 - CINCPAC (AG-PH)
- 2 - CINCPAC (AG-OA)
- 2 - CINCPAC (PIO)
- 15 - CINCPAC (AG-OP)
- 75 - 21st Inf Regt, 24th Inf Div


JOHN C. WILLIAMS, JR.
WOJG, USA
21st Infantry Regiment

"THIS IS A TRUE COPY"

CHRISTENING THE USNS NELSON V. BRITTIN

BY

Charles F. Sugg

CLR. CO. 24th Medical BN 11/52 - 8/54

On October 21, 2000 a new navy ship was christened to commemorate the heroic action of Sergeant First Class Nelson Vogel Brittin of I Company, 19th Infantry Regiment. Sergeant Brittin was killed in action March 7, 1951 in Korea and received the Congressional Medal of Honor. The christening ceremony was in New Orleans beside the ship. Joe Sweeney presented a plaque from the 24th Infantry Division Association to Vice Admiral Gordon S. Holder, Commander of the ship. This part of the ceremony was very impressive. Joe was in the battle when SFC. Brittin was killed and in his remarks he told how their group was pinned down by enemy machine gun fire and SFC. Brittin was killed in his efforts to get rid of the enemy machine guns.

Another part of the ceremony included remarks from a sister of SFC. Brittin in which she told about the kind of person he was; He had fought in Italy in WWII and went back in service in the Korean War. Another member of the family had fought in WWII, and a nephew, Nelson J. Brittin served in Viet Nam as a gunner on a helicopter. I am very favorable impressed with the Brittin family and feel that they represent the best of United States patriotism and good values.

The entire ceremony was carried out with great respect and dignity. There were speeches by officials of the ship building company, Generals, Admirals and Navy Captains. General Terrence Dake, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps until he retired six weeks before the christening, was principal speaker. He made many good points about the need for a strong military and how this ship fits into having a strong defense force. The USNS Brittin is 950 feet long (second in length only to an aircraft carrier) and can transport a large number of personnel and their equipment. It is so large that 2800 cars could be parked inside. Other presentations included a portrait of Sgt. Brittin that had been painted by his brother. At the end of this part of the ceremony, Dorothy Brittin Moffa (Sgt. Brittin's sister) and Sue Dake (Ship's sponsor) cut two cords to release two bottles of champagne to break against the side of the ship.

The day began at eight a.m. when the family of Sgt. Brittin, many officials of the ship building company, several military officials, and interested persons like myself met at the Fairmont Hotel for continental breakfast, briefing on the days activities and transportation to the ship yard. The family traveled by limousine, the remainder in busses with a police motorcycle escort. After the christening we were taken back to the Fairmont Hotel for a luncheon and more ceremony. At the very end a number of pictures were shown that reviewed the day and they were accompanied by Lee Greenwood's "God Bless USA". It was very emotional and I don't think there was a dry eye among the approximately 400 people in the room.

The entire day's events were done in such a manner that I felt a great sense of pride to be a 24th Infantry Division veteran of Korea and all members of the 24th IDA can be proud of Joe Sweeney for doing a wonderful job in representing our Association.

Christening of the USNS Brittin

Plaque presentation speech given by Joe Sweeney Oct. 21, 2000
New Orleans La.

Vice Admiral Gordon Holder, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen, I am thrilled to be here today and honored to be representing the 24th Infantry Division Association for this historic celebration and launching of this magnificent ship. This ship is here because of the efforts and hard work of so many men and women, many who largely remain nameless. Our Division Association wants you to know that we recognize and appreciate your efforts.

Throughout the Division's history, in war and during peace, the Navy has always been there with us, helping with our objectives and our victories, during WW-II in the Pacific, in Korea, Germany, and the Persian Gulf War. So, the men of the 24th Infantry Division Association have a warm spot in their heart for the Navy. Today's celebration only reinforces those warm feelings! Our Division Association is greatly moved, and appreciates that the United States Navy has chosen to christen this ship, so vital to future military operations of the Infantry, with the name of one of the 24th Infantry Divisions own heroes, SFC Nelson V. Brittin.

In honor of SFC Nelson Vogel Brittin, whose actions against the enemy on March 7, 1951 near Yonggong-ni, South Korea earned him the Nations highest military award, the Medal Of Honor; we, the 24th Infantry Division Association proudly present this plaque to the United States Naval Ship Brittin.

The plaque reads:

With Hallowed Reverence
To A Fallen Comrade
SFC Nelson V. Brittin
Medal Of Honor
Company I, 19th Infantry Regiment
Korea

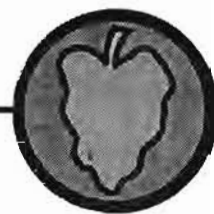
Presented By
24th Infantry Division Association
"The Victory Division"

The Taro Leaf, symbol of the 24th Division is engraved in the center of the plaque



Brittin

24th Infantry Division Association



BOOKS WRITTEN BY 24TH IDA MEMBERS



"My Old Box of Memories, Thoughts on the Korean War"

by: William Allen
421 4th Ave N
Tierra Verde FL 33715-1730
Cost: \$20.00

"Think Man Think"

by: Hurdis Wise
724 W. Saline Cir.
Benton, AR 72015-2531
Phone: 501-778-8673
Cost: \$10.00

"Memoirs of a Combat Infantryman by an Enemy Alien"

by: Eric Diller
504 Via La Selva
Redondo Beach, CA 90277-6505
Phone: 310-375-2024
Cost: \$10.00 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling

"Korea, A Thousand Days of Torment"

by: William Funches
107 Brookwood Dr..
Clemson, SC 29631
Phone: 864-654-4617

"Line Kansas-Memories of Korea 1950 To 1958"

by: David Baillie
PO Box 5
Elburn, IL 60119-0005
Cost: \$24.00

There are plans to print a 2nd edition along with a book of poems (just military ones) by 2001 and anyone who orders 1st printing of "Line Kansas" will receive a special price on the poem book!

"Doctor and Soldier In The South Pacific"

by: Philip H. Hostetter, M.D.,
2045 Jay Court
Manhattan, KS 66502-3640
Phone: 785-539-2913
Cost: \$22.95 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling

"Love, War and Other Memories"

by: Glenn Edward Behrends
107 E. 9th St. Apt. 109
Monticello, IA 52310-1053
Phone: 319-465-5121
Cost: \$25.00

"Love Labor & Laughter"

Contact Hugh A. Brown
Phone: 706-548-2094
75 Jefferson CR
Athens GA 30601-1760
Hard Cover: \$32.97
Soft Cover \$25.19

"Front Line Medic"

by: Donald Bert Cameron, M.D.
451 Rosebury CT.,
Cleveland OH 44124-3621
Phone: 216-442-3612
Cost: \$20.00

Harvey W. Phelps, Lt. Col. MC. USA Ret. of 2424 N. Greenwood St., Pueblo, CO 81003 has written a book about his experiences in Korea as a Battalion Surgeon. "I joined the 6th Tank BN in July 1950, later I was transferred to the 3rd BN, 19th Inf in October 1950. Anyone can read it by going to my web site www.battalionsurgeon.com It contains many pictures and narrative. No charge.



LOOKING FOR OUR BUDDIES (and information of family members who served in the military)



Email from **Aaron Belcher**, email address is **air@communicomm.com**
"I'm sending this request on behalf of my grandfather Sgt. Gerald Green. He would like to contact anyone who was in the 24th Div during Dec. '50 through Dec. '51. Some people that he served with was Lt. Smith (Bear) Cpt. Baily, Sgt. Mononegro, Sgt. Bearkheart and James B. Gregg from Tulsa OK. He also served with two roks, Peewee and Commie. He would like to know what happened to Chi Sia. He was wounded on Baldy Hill."

Dr. Harold Schierbecker sends email (Philnbud) "I am looking for anyone who served with me in Korea July 1950 – May 1951. I was with the battalion aid station from Pusan to Pyongyang and north to Unsan. (6th Tank Battalion, Med. Detach, 24th ID)

Mark Pedersen (email address – **mpedersen@cox.rr.com** writes: "I'm seeking information on a Lt. Col. J.V. Pontrello who served with the 24th Infantry in one of the Field Artillery groups during WWII. I'm interested in any information I can get on his wartime service. I recently purchased a uniform belonging to him and would like to be able to document his service. From Social Security death records I have identified a John Pontrello, born 1903 and deceased 1985, who could be the man."

Van Truelove, email address: **ab5sf@juno.com** writes: "I am trying to locate a Medic whom I took basic training with, we took inf. Basic, but he went to medic school as I was shipped to Japan to the field Arty after basic. When I was wounded in Korea, he loaded me on to the ambulance but I don't know what happened to him. His

name is Lesly Edwards and if by chance anyone remembers him, please contact me."

Jack Smith sent email **jacksmth@jps.net** "Looking for photos stories etc., of the 21st in 1941-1946 in the Pacific. My father C.C. Smith passed away a number of years ago but I continue to look for information to share with his descendants."

Email from Bill Garry **Drbillgarry72@aol.com** "There is a digital picture of a group of soldiers from Heavy Mortar Company, 19th Infantry. It is the only picture of me in Korea and of course, I am the only one out of uniform. The picture was taken by a soldier with one of the first Polaroid Instant Cameras. The notation in back of the picture is: Korea, 11 May 1951 Sambong-mon Han River, Pvt. Falvey, PFC Garry, Sgt. Len, Sgt. Miller, Pvt. Cacek. I am looking for any of these soldiers as well as the man who took the picture. The reason is that I have been in touch with Falvey's son, Mark. Falvey was rapidly promoted and was awarded a battlefield commission within a few weeks after this picture was taken. Lt. Falvey died of cancer when Mark was quite young. He has no other picture of his father. Since the unknown photographer took several pictures of the group, I am trying to find him or the others so that I can present Mark with a picture in which Pvt. Falvey's back was not turned."

Keith Forton writes: "On page 62 of the December 2000 TL there is a note about Sgt. Bill Ryan CO D, 19th Inf passing away. He was a very good friend of mine. He was with D Co. in '50-'51. I wonder if anyone else out there knew Bill? (email **Paco-Brains@webtv.net**)

VETERANS' DAY PARADE

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO



Sec/Treas and past President Dutch Nelsen was given the honor of Grand Marshal at the Colorado Springs Veterans Day Parade. He is shown here leading the parade with an "Honor Escort" of Fifth Grade students from the Skyway Elementary School. It was a snowy and bitterly cold day. Dutch served the first 473 days of the Korean War.



VETERANS' DAY PARADE

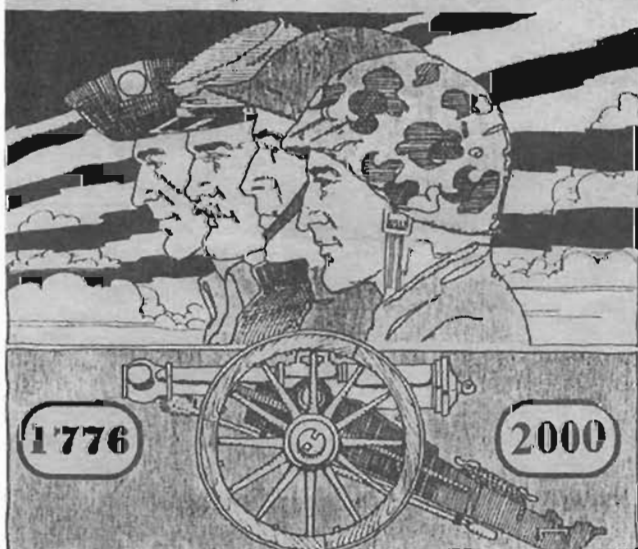
GRANITE FALLS, NC




Virgil Lee Anderson
L CO 21st Inf
1949-1950 Korea
24th IDA Life Member #1975

These war Veterans from the Korean War rode in the Annual Veterans' Day parade held in downtown Granite Falls Saturday afternoon.

HONOR OUR VETERANS





It is the Soldier, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press.
It is the Soldier, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech.
It is the Soldier, not the campus organizer, who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.
It is the Soldier, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.
It is the Soldier who salutes the Flag, serves under the Flag, whose coffin is draped by the Flag, and who allows the protestor to burn the Flag.

U.S. VETERAN POPULATION	
Persian Gulf	- 2,223,000
Vietnam	- 8,113,000
Korea	- 4,064,000
World War II	- 5,940,000 (Down from 6,694,000 in 1999)
World War I	- 3000 (Down from 7000 in 1999)

OPERATION BLUE BAT

(Continued from December 2000 issue)

"President Eisenhower went in anyway and it's a good thing, but we heard 24 divisions of Russians were massed on the Iranian border. And hundreds of thousands of Russians demonstrated against the U.S. at our embassy in Moscow." Fortunately, says Blanco, neither the Syrians nor the Russians came in, even though a Christian was elected the Lebanese President." Sometime after arriving at Furstenfeldbuk, the troopers were issued their parachutes, two-days C-rations, double loads of ammunition and hand grenades. Until then, no official word concerning the events of day had yet to be passed down to the ranks. Rumors had been spreading that the President had sent the Marines into Lebanon, and it was the 187th's destination.

Other essential tasks would also be attended to among them: updating medical records and inoculations. The Chaplains would conduct well attended services. Lastly, the troopers were also advised if they wanted to make any changes to their wills and life insurance now was the time to do so.

With these activities having taken place the normally boisterous young troopers now more subdued settled down to spend a restless rainy night in their pup tents. They would be roused early the next morning, given some chow, and loaded on the aircraft. Those who were assigned to the new, to them at least, C-130As, Hercules found themselves flying in the fastest sleekest and air transports of the day.

Those who loaded on the C-124s Globemasters found themselves inside the belly of a behemoth of a plane with two decks. Troopers assigned to the upper deck had to struggle, fully loaded carrying a parachute, horseshoe wrapped field pack, weapon, ammo and whatever other gear they were assigned up a narrow set of stairs which was more like a ladder, asking themselves, "How in heaven am I supposed to jump out of this thing?"

Then there were those who ended up on the aged, shaky, noisy, lumbering C-119s Flying Boxcars. If a 119 could get off the ground, gain enough airspeed to stay aloft, it had a fairly good chance of getting to its destination, eventually. The first aircraft, a 119 took off at 0817, 16 July, enroute to Adana Air Base, Turkey via France and Italy. The 124s and 130s would take more direct routes, landing for refueling in Italy. It is reported that the airlift, which traversed some 2,100 miles, consisted of 22 119s, 6 124s and 32 130s.

Aircrews and troopers flying over Austria would find themselves accompanied by fighters from that nation's Air Force. It had not given the U.S. permission to overfly it enroute to Turkey; nor did Greece. Greece had denied the U.S.'s request for the 119s to overfly it. The denial would cause them to take more indirect, time and fuel consuming routes to Adana.

The troopers landing in Adana would find themselves on a large desolate airfield possessing only their parachutes and their combat gear. Their "B" bags did not accompany them. It would be a long while before the troopers would see them. They would also get their first

taste of the searing heat they would live in during the months ahead.

The Third Event - 16 July

While the 187 was in flight to Adana, the third of the potentially cataclysmic events occurred in Lebanon. Just prior to the time the Marines planned to leave their beachhead to enter Beirut enroute to the port area, the U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon, Robert McClintock discovered that most of the available artillery and armor of the Lebanese Army garrisoned in Beirut had lined up, with guns placed for enfilade fire along the main route of access down which the Marine column of tanks and amphibious personnel carriers was to move.

Upon learning of the development, the Ambassador sent word to the senior Marine commander on shore requesting that the movement be delayed. Reluctantly and despite the extreme rigidity of his orders, he agreed to hold off on the deployment of his forces for one hour. During the brief breathing spell, Amb. McClintock called upon the Pres. Chamoun and Gen. Chehab suggesting that he and the General go to the site in an effort to forestall what might become a highly explosive situation. The General agreed to do so.

Just outside the airport, they found the Lebanese force opposing the halted column of Marines. By happenstance, Adm. Holloway appeared on the scene at the same time as the Ambassador and General. The Admiral and the General discussed the situation and arrived at a mutually satisfactory solution. Instead of proceeding independently, the Marines were led into Beirut by Ambassador McClintock and Admiral Holloway, in the company of General Chehab. It was subsequently learned that the Lebanese units had orders to fire on the Marines, and that the unauthorized orders establishing the roadblock had been issued by some young officers.

Staging At Adana

At 0600, 17 July, the last C-124 arrived at Adana with 187th's commander Col. Thomas Sharkey aboard; and by 1600, Force Alpha had closed on Adana. Earlier, after landing at Adana, Gen. Gray met with the Base Commander, LTC Thomas and Brig. Gen. James Roberts, USAF (the Commander, U.S. Air Forces at Adana). LTC Thomas was confronting the realization that his almost empty base was about to be inundated with one of the largest concentrations of U.S. aircraft since World War II.

MSG. William H. Brushwood, USA (Ret.) in the Voice of the Angels, 15 July 1996 would later recall: "General Gray, Our American Land Forces Commander (sic), called the whole 187th Infantry together in Turkey and day before we inserted, and told us that Russia had told Eisenhower that, if American forces landed in Lebanon, they would be pushed back into the sea by the Russians. He said that if Russia thinks (sic) they might get a 'bloody nose' doing it, they might think twice before doing it. We, the 187th were going to give them the 'bloody nose.' Russia ended up being the 'paper tiger'."

OPERATION BLUE BAT

(Continued)

Much to the dismay of some enthusiastic troopers who had been drilling holes in their wings with the anticipation of being able to have a combat jump star mounted on them, they learned there would be no air-drop; instead the Force Alpha would air-land at Beirut International Airport.

Earlier in the day, Gen. Miller, USAF, and Gen. Gray had been directed to meet with Adm. Holloway in Beirut. At the meeting he asked them to meet with his staff to plan for a possible air-drop at Tripoli. Astounded by this development, they did as directed. After coming up with a plan for a what would have been a most challenging air-drop in the Tripoli area, the two Generals met again with the Admiral, who then directed them to proceed to Beirut as originally planned. However, the potential for an air-drop on Tripoli remained for a while after ATF 201 arrived in Beirut.

Arriving In Lebanon And Digging In

While some air crews and troopers reported their aircraft were fired on while on the final approach to land, there were no reports of shooting once the aircraft landed or reports of casualties. Immediately after unloading the aircraft, the 187 went about its business of establishing a perimeter around its bivouac in an olive grove to the east of the airport.

Most of the 187 did not see a Marine on landing and saw only a few thereafter. One reason for this was the need to safeguard the airport. The airport proper and everything east and south of it soon became the 187's prime responsibility, whereas everything north of the airport, the Port of Beirut, and the area northeast of Beirut up to Tripoli became the Marines' responsibility. To the west of Lebanon lay the Mediterranean Sea. During the first few days, some troopers were assigned to build sand bagged bunkers at the north end of the airport. The bunkers overlooked a sandy area with clumps of tall grass and twenty to thirty foot depressions. Building the bunkers in the heat of the day was one thing, manning them on a dark night was something else. Listening was all the troopers could do, that is, until an aircraft flew over and dropped parachute flares or took photos of the area, then they lost their night vision. During those brief periods of light the troopers were plagued and somewhat nerve wracked with thoughts that they saw figures diving for cover attempting to hide as the flares lit. They may well have, but thanks to solid training to realize that although there was no jump into Beirut, Lebanon was far from safe and stable.

C-rations would be the only safe food available for a long time, and the water for the canteens, warm as it was, had to be treated with those wonderful iodide tablets. For those who were adventurous and purchased locally grown fruits and vegetables, dysentery awaited them. In some units, it was evidently like a plague. In addition to the dysentery and drinking water situation, there was another problem, scorpions. Turning jump boots over and shaking them upside down before putting them became

the norm, otherwise a scorpion's sting might await the unwary.

With the daytime heat often reaching into the 100s, maintaining an adequate supply of drinking water was of critical importance. Getting the untreated water to the bivouac areas often required lugging five gallon cans, two at a time up rugged trails. Having an adequate supply in each company area would remain a challenge for many units throughout the entire operation especially those out in the rugged hills between Beirut and Syria.

American Land Forces Middle East

Within a few days after ATF 201s arrival, Major General Paul D. Adams, the former Executive Officer of the infamous First Special Service Force, Commander of the XVIII Airborne Corps, and the future first Commander in Chief of the Strike Command, arrived to take command of all - Army and Marine - American Land Forces (AMLANFOR) in Lebanon. AMLANFOR HQ would be in the American Community School in downtown Beirut near an area known as the Basta - the rebel stronghold. A few days before the School became AMLANFOR HQ on the night of 21 July, it had come under fire from snipers. Until the last day of Blue Bat, no United States soldier or Marine entered the Basta - then it was entered by Gen. Adams.

It was at the School that troopers of the 187 saw their first Marines. The troopers had been assigned to provide security. As they arrived, the Marines were leaving. What the troopers saw explains why the Marines got all the publicity. There were more Marine photographers and photo equipment in the building than could possibly be imagined. To the troopers, it appeared as though the Marines viewed Lebanon as a photo-op while the Army considered it serious business.

Within a few days after landing, elements of the 187 moved to establish strong points and road blocks along side roads and out in the hills between Beirut and Syria. The forward units of the 187 would have Navy Forward Observers with them during most of their stay on the line.

The Killing Of Sergeant Nettles

During the first three weeks of August there was an increase in provocation by rebels. There were more incidents than in July of sporadic and senseless small arms firing by the rebels. During the night of 2 August, Sergeant James R. Nettles, while riding in a U.S. military vehicle in Beirut, was killed by rebel small arms fire. Gen. Adams, very disturbed by the killing, directed there be an exercise demonstrating a U.S. show of force. It was a scaled down version of a combined Army, Air Force and Marine assault.

Although invitations to observe the exercise were sent only to Lebanese officials, all Lebanese, rebels included, were permitted to observe it. Gen. Adams had privately informed the Lebanese that if the rebel who shot Sgt. Nettles was not arrested and prosecuted, the roadblock occupied by the offending rebels near the place where Sgt. Nettles was shot would be destroyed. A few

OPERATION BLUE BAT

(Continued)

days later, a Memorial Service was held for Sgt. Nettles and Gen. Adams dedicated a heliport in his honor.

Throughout Blue Bat, there were other incidents, among them at least one where soldiers were subjected to sporadic machine gun fire at night. They returned fire, but in accordance with standing orders, not with the intent of injuring, the opposing force, but rather as a warning to the rebels by carefully shooting out a light in the rebel position every time it was lit. The shooting stopped, and in the morning a rebel came out and apologized. He said he had not intended to shoot at the troopers.

Several small aircraft were fired on, and according to some reports soldiers in them wounded. At least one soldier was kidnapped and held hostage, for a short while, then released unharmed.

From shortly after landing until the withdrawal, the troopers would be taking increasing responsibility for more of what is best described as the front line and for Beirut proper. Some companies would move into positions on near the crests of hills that had previously been occupied by unknown forces many years earlier. What the troopers found were trenches four to five feet deep, dug into the hard cement-like-ground - all looking eastward to Syria. The ground beneath the bivouac was so hard it would require extensive blasting by the engineers to dislodge enough soil so that latrines could be built. "Fire in the hole" was heard quite often.

The sides of the hills were not sheer, but steep, and covered with thorny bushes capable of tearing clothes apart and inflicting nasty wounds. Similar to the nights at the airport, the nights on the line were long and dark. In some positions, even those on the top of a hill, the troopers did not even see a house light. The rustling of bushes and periodic unidentifiable sounds would keep the troopers alert throughout the night. Elements of the 187 would remain in the hills between Beirut and Syria until the last days of the operation.

Patrolling In The Hills

They would see houses when they went on foot patrol. Small clusters of houses were scattered in deep in the valleys, other clusters would be found in clan-like communities on the tops of hills. At times moving along the road, the troopers would hear chanting or wailing. Initially they would not know what it signified, only to all of a sudden come upon a community with either a wedding or funeral taking place.

In moving through these communities, the troopers would often be ill at ease because men would be seen sitting outside their homes with a rifle or shotgun across their laps, or walking along the road with a gun in their arms. The troopers did not know whether the individual was a rebel or not, and they could not disarm or detain anyone, nor could they show fear. They would develop a keen sense of hearing for anything that sounded like a round being chambered.

Beirut - The Rear Area

As apparently exists in every action there was rear rest area. During 1958, it was Beirut. At the time of

the intervention, Beirut was a city with two faces; one a beautiful cosmopolitan city - sometimes called the Paris of the Middle East - with beautiful buildings on wide boulevards overlooking the Mediterranean; and yet just a few blocks inland, it was a Muslim city in the throws of a revolution with barricades and carnage scattered about.

When Gen. Adams perceived the situation in Beirut to be reasonably stable - it would never be totally stable - limited passes were authorized. He commented during a later interview, in essence, that he never felt safe especially driving past the Basta sector in Beirut, and that he always carried an M-1 with him in his jeep. As an example of what could happen, late in the afternoon of 21 August, PFC. Larry Williams, unarmed and on pass, was shot in the back when he refused a rebel command to proceed toward a rebel road block. He survived the wound although the bullet passed near his heart.

Winding Down?

By mid-August, the Marines had started to withdraw from Lebanon. But that did not mean the shooting had ceased. On 21 August, a French Vice Consul was shot and seriously wounded while traveling from the airport on the Main Supply Route (MSR); a U.S. Army vehicle was hit by gun fire as it proceeded along MSR from the airport to Beirut; and as mentioned above, PFC. Larry Williams, shot in the back. On the morning of 22 August, two U.S. Embassy staffers were pinned down by machine gun fire in a filling station just outside the Basta, and another U.S. aircraft was fired on. Following these events, three strong points were established in and around Beirut.

During the last week of August and into mid-September, the 187 conducted parachute jumps from 130s. Until Blue Bat, these aircraft were not used in Germany - normally jumps were from 119S.

The site of the DZ, named DZ Sahara, was the sandy area north of the airport just beyond where the bunkers had been constructed shortly after landing. It was not flat at all, but had a series of undulations that formed a pattern of swales and depressions often twenty to thirty feet deep. Had it been necessary to parachute into Lebanon, it would have been the DZ. September did not get off to a great start and did not get better. On the first and the twelfth, more U.S. aircraft were hit by small arms fire. On the nineteenth, a journalist of the militant Christian Phalange Party was kidnapped, tortured and murdered. However, one good thing did take place, on 23 September Gen. Chehab was inaugurated as the President of Lebanon. Regrettably, due to renewed turmoil, on 24 September, four tankinfantry strong points that had previously been withdrawn, had to be reestablished. Lastly, on 27 September, the United States commenced formal its withdrawal of troops from Lebanon. The withdrawal, which was to be completed by the end of October, was made as a result of an earlier request by President Chehab.

Continuing the cycle of pseudo-peace followed by turmoil, October began with a continual build-up of

OPERATION BLUE BAT (Continued)

political demonstrations and disruptive acts by the Phalangists who were not pleased with the composition of Pres. Chehab's cabinet. Once again American soldiers found themselves in harms way. Luckily it was not violent, just embarrassing and aggravating when, on 8 October, three soldiers were relieved of their pistols at gun-point by the rebels.

Gen. Adams responded to that incident by sending a patrol consisting of: 1 1/4 Ton Truck Command Vehicle, 1 1/4 Ton Truck with a 106 mm Rec. Rifle, and 1 1/4 Ton Truck with a machine gun; reinforced by a CYCLONE FORCE (A platoon m42s mounting 40 mm, and a platoon of motorized infantry, reinforced with a platoon of M48 Tanks) to the location. There was no opposition.

Within days of its appointment the President Chehab's Cabinet resigned, and a new Cabinet was sworn in averting a threatened 15 October 1958 general strike of the Lebanese United Trade Unions. On 19 October, the 187 began its withdrawal from Lebanon. As the withdrawal was taking place, one rebel leader approached Gen. Adams and asked him if he could arrange for the troops to stay. The General politely told him no, that it was time for the Lebanese to solve their own problems. Shortly after the 187th's return to Gablingen, the troopers found themselves being transferred again - some went home with the 187 to join the 82nd Abn. Div. because their and unit's tour in Europe were up; Others ended up in leg units in the 24th ID. Regardless of where they went, they have all remained Rakkasans and Angels.

Observations And Comments

The records call it an 'intervention.' Regardless of how it is classified, some things cannot be overlooked: Sgt. Nettles life was taken by a sniper's bullet; PFC. Williams, while unarmed, was shot in the back; there were numerous instances where troops were fired on and reportedly wounded. As recently as last year the Army could not locate Sgt. Nettles records to tell me where he is buried. Neither he nor any others received the Purple Heart or CIB.

There is a little bit of mystery surrounding the 24th Abn. Bde. and the black and red airborne tab its troops wore. The Army Institute of Heraldry states that the Brigade never existed and the tab was never authorized. The Brigade did exist; it is specifically mentioned in the official After Action Report. Also, the "un-authorized" tab appears above the 24th ID's patch, appears in numerous photos, including those in the National Archives. They attest to the wearing of the tab, including by the Brigade's highest ranking officer Gen. Gray. It is possible, considering its brief period of service, that it was a provisional brigade; but most who served in it do not recall it being called provisional.

A great deal of the information contained in the above came from documents at the U.S. Army Military History Institute. Other parts were shared by MS William Brushwood USA (Ret), Richard Becker and Paul Janesta, all of whom participated in **Operation Blue Bat**.

MY THANKS TO "CORKY" AND DIANE PETERS FOR THEIR TWO YEARS OF GREATNESS

Thanks Corky and Diane for Minneapolis in '96, Little Rock in '98, Tulsa in '99 and Covington in 2000. And thanks too, for the reactivation of the 24th in June '00 and then the "Open House" at Riley in May 2000. Through your leadership, your dedication, your hard work and your love for this association these great moments have been witnessed by all who came. You, although battling sickness did not allow that to curtail you in your pursuit to render greatness for each of us, members of the 24th Infantry Division Association. You, as William Jordan Verbeck have rolled up your sleeves for more than four years and given it your best. You have always gone "that extra mile" to ensure and enhance the reputation of this great association. and I will remember those years you gave us that which will always be memorable to Jackie and I, Minneapolis, Little Rock, Tulsa and Covington and those side trips along the way to Fort Riley. You built an everlasting friendship with Major General McFarren and because of you, it was he who personally invited those of us to come to Fort Riley for the reactivation of the 24th Infantry Division.

I could tell you this privately, and I shall, but this great magazine, the "Taro Leaf" speaks to over 3000 members and I would hope that more will express to you their gratitude for what you have given us once they read my letter. See you in Charleston, WV in June.

Happy New Year to everyone, and looking forward to Hampton, VA. That's where Jackie and I met, married and had three children. Returning to the scene of the crime after forty-four years.

VICTORY!

(signed)
TOM COCHRAN
President (1997-1998)

New Published in 2000

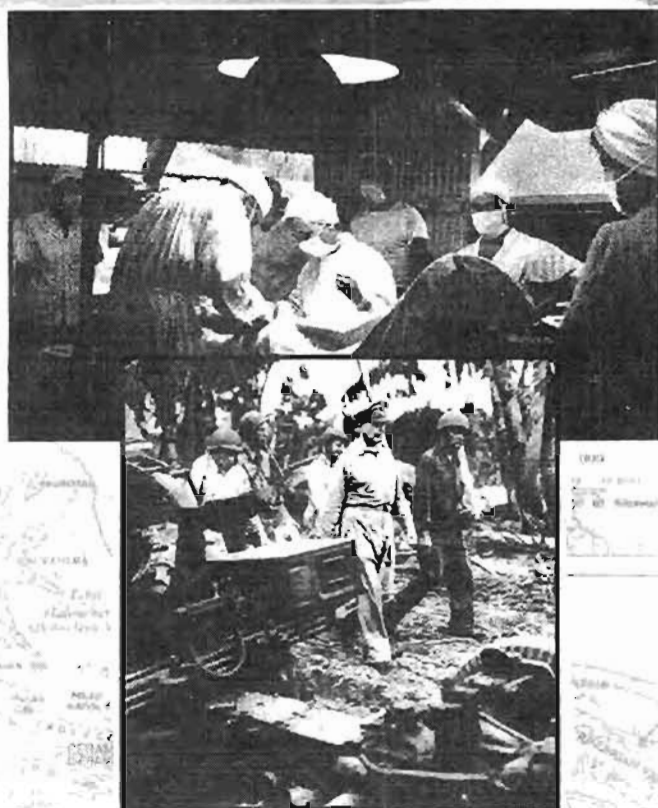


Donald Bert Cameron, M.D.

Front Line Medic

A Battalion Surgeon's Story of War in the South Pacific

By Donald Bert Cameron, M.D.



Donald "Doc" Cameron retells the story of his experiences as a front line medic in the South Pacific during WWII. He recalls the summons to active duty in 1942 from his army reserve unit, to shipping out as an emergency replacement in a combat unit 10 days later. Assigned to the 24th Division 34th Infantry, Dr. Cameron tells of training in Hawaii and Australia, and the campaigns of liberation of New Guinea, Biak, Leyte, Luzon and Mindanao.

Published By

Donald Bert Cameron, M.D.

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Baillie remembers Korea

by Denise Perry Donovan

Often called the Forgotten War, the mid-20th century conflict in Korea is not forgotten by Elburn resident David Baillie.

Baillie was just 15 years old when he entered the U.S. Army in 1949. By the age of 16, Baillie, who was born in Greenwich Village, N.Y., and raised



Baillie, Korean War

New York City and Massachusetts, found himself living near the rice paddies of Korea.

"I spent my 17th and 18th birthdays in a rice paddy as well," said Baillie. "While other kids were going to the prom I was ducking my head."

Ducking, among other survival and soldiering skills, kept Baillie alive. Of the 1,900 men that landed with him on June 25, 1950, only 183 were left by August.

"Then I was one of 36 transferred to another regiment until we only had six left," said Baillie. "Then I was transferred to another regiment with 40 others ... finally I was the only one left."

Promotions came rapidly to the young soldier. "There was nobody else left, so at 19 I was a sergeant first class in charge of a platoon," he explained.

"A second lieutenant's life expectancy was 30 seconds," said Baillie, "marked as they were by brass insignia and bright yellow stripes."

When he reached that rank, Baillie said he tore off the stripes. "If the men did not know you were leading them, then you had worse trouble than not being in uniform," he explained.

By Vietnam, the military had smartened up, said Baillie, and created rank patches the same color as the uniform.

Baillie fought with many "retreads," a nickname given to World War II veterans fighting in Korea. Their biggest complaint, he said, was that the equipment was left-over from WW II. In fact, Baillie recalls that when he started his tour in Korea he drove a tank with a hole in the side covered with sheet metal.

This equipment, he said, was lightweight in comparison to that supplied to

the North Koreans and used by the Chinese Communists.

Such stories and more have been chronicled in a book Baillie has written



Baillie, recent

and was recently publish about his experiences in the Korean War. He titled it "Line Kansas: Memories of Korea 1950-1958" to refer not only to the years he spent in Korea, but to the loca-

tion as well. Line Kansas, explained Baillie, was the name of a demilitarized zone at the 38th parallel. Several such lines were named after states in the U.S. that shared the same latitude line with the Korean location.

Through his book, Baillie hopes to make the "Forgotten War" a little less forgotten. The three-year Korean War, Baillie reminds us, is one in which there were 55,000 American casualties—about as many casualties as those counted during the 10-year Vietnam War.

Moreover, another 3,000 have been killed by hostile fire since the close of peace talks with Korea in 1954. It is a conflict, explained Baillie, that is technically still going on. A peace accord was never signed and neither side has surrendered.

Baillie, who also served in Vietnam and retired as a sergeant major, has two other books in rough draft based on his military years. He has compiled his years of overseas duty in the army into books that are more fact than fiction, he said. Nonetheless, he has labeled them fiction to allow for creative elements.

Baillie is a poet as well as a memoir writer. One of the books he hopes to publish is called "Dry Tears." It is a collection of military poems that Baillie says is "mostly memorial, not blood and guts, about military life, including the humorous, sad and bizarre events."

Baillie's poetry can be read and his book can be ordered on his Web site www.elnet.com/~34thkco/index.htm.

His poetry may also be found at the Web site thewallusa.com. In addition, the author can be contacted or the book ordered by writing to David Baillie, P.O. Box 5, Elburn, IL 60119.



LOOKING FOR OUR BUDDIES (and information of family members who served in the military)



Gary J. Silvers of 7102 100th St. E., Puyallup, WA 98373 writes: "I am writing on behalf of my father **James H. Silvers**, M/Sgt. Co. B 3rd Engrs. BN (C) who served in Korea from August 1951 to November 1952. He is now deceased. I am trying to find someone who served in Korea with him and would like to correspond with them. Anyone wishing to correspond with me, please write to the address above. I have pictures with names on the back."

Email from Shorty Estabrook: "I am sure all of you are aware of a trip several veterans of the Korean War made to China to meet with Chinese Veterans of that war. One who went was Gerald Doyle, brother of Lawrence Doyle who died in a POW camp in North Korea. He was part of the Tiger group. The article in my morning paper said that Gerald Doyle's brother is still missing in Korea. That is not the case. Lawrence Doyle died and is not among the missing. His remains are still in North Korea but he has been accounted for. The news article may have meant that his remains are still missing. The article is misleading. Gerald Doyle came to a reunion once and even spoke with someone, MacAndrews I think, who buried Lawrence. (Shorty the Tiger)"

Email from Marta L. Purvis, Major USAF, Chief, Intel Systems Integration and Architecture Branch: "My Uncle, PFC Fernando Mena was assigned to the 24th Inf Div. 19th Reg., 3rd BN in Company K during the Korean War. He arrived in Korea in July 1950 and was captured and killed reportedly by artillery fire on 1 Jan. 1951. I, along

with my father, Lt Col Bobby Joe Argumedo, USAF, are trying to find out more information about his brother and his unit. We were wondering where he was held as POW, when/where he was captured, where he was killed and what action the company saw from July 1950 to January 1951. Can you provide any information? I am currently assigned to **HQ USFK/J2 Operations Directorate, Intelligence Systems Division at Yongsan Army Garrison in Seoul, South Korea**. Any assistance you can provide would be great."

Ruthetta Wilt of R.D.#1, Box 2-A, Blain, Perry County, Pennsylvania 17006 writes: "I am trying to find someone who knew my brother John A. Aumon. He was killed in Korea September 19, 1950. My brother was sent to Korea from Japan June or July 1950. John was in the 19th Infantry, 24th Inf Div. He was killed along the Nakdong River. John was 19 years old and his hometown was Newport, Perry County, PA. I would like to hear from anyone who knew him during that time. He was in E Company." Write to Mrs. Wilt at the above address or email her at gtwilt@pa.net Telephone: 717-536-3323

My name is Liz Diamandis and I am inquiring if anyone new Constantinos (Charlie) N. Diamandis. He was in Company B 34th Inf Reg., 24th Div from 1944-1946. He was a cook and then a mess sergeant at the end of his service. Email address is: music119@go.com



FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Bayway Post #260, The American Legion
Department of New Jersey, Union County.

COMMANDER, GEORGE H. SMITH, 22 WADE AVE., CRANFORD, NJ 07016-2567, (908) 276-1202, GHSMITH1122@HOME.COM

President 24th Div. Assoc.
James F. Hill

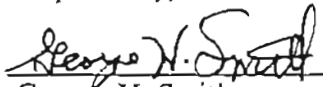
November 12, 2000

I was asked by an acquaintance to find out information on his brother KIA in Korea. His brother was in CO. L, 19th Reg., 24th Division. I know that it takes forever to get information out of St. Louis, so I figured I would do better and faster to go to the 24th Division Association. I know that Richard Alexander was in the 24th so I asked him who to contact. Rich gave me the name and address of Harry Wittman, Jr., 24th Division Association Quartermaster.

I called Harry and asked if he could help. The response I got from Harry was excellent, he not only found the history of my friend's brother in the 24th, but he also sent a package of miniature medals he was entitled to (CIB, Purple Heart, Korean Service etc)

The 24th Division Association can be proud of their Officers like Harry for the services they render not only their members but also to the families of those that did not come home. Our grateful thanks to the 24th Division Association.

Respectfully,


George H. Smith

Dear Mr. James F. Hill.

November 4, 2000

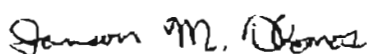
My name is Janson M. Thomas and I was this year's recipient of a \$500.00 scholarship from the 24th Infantry Division Association. I would like to express in this small note a great deal of appreciation and thanks for this scholarship. All of this money will be used to directly reduce the cost of my tuition here at Northwest Missouri State University.

I continue to be involved with the Union Federation of America, Inc., the online US Civil War reenacting association of which I am a co-founder and Vice President. I am also involved in several organizations here at Northwest. I am an active member of Student Senate, Young Democrats, and the Model United Nations.

Thank you very much for allowing me to continue my undergraduate experience. I will make the most of my time here-- as I know that my education is in my hands. I am committed to receiving my BS degree in political science and then entering the field of choice for my future career.

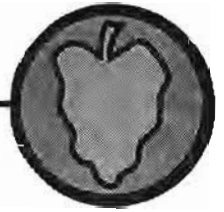
Once again, thank you for the scholarship.

Sincere regards,



Janson M Thomas

24th Infantry Division Association



TO: All Members of the 24th Infantry Division Association

FROM: James F. Hill, President *Jim*

SUBJECT: Proposed Amendments to the 24th IDA Constitution

The 24th Infantry Division Association had its beginnings in August of 1945 at the end of World War II on the Philippine island of Mindanao when a group of 24th Infantry Division men, under the direction of the Division Commander, Major General Roscoe B. Woodruff, formed the nucleus for the Association. The first reunion of the Association was held in Baltimore in August 1948 in which at that time the Constitution and By-Laws were formalized. The objective of the Association was, as it is now, is to persevere in patriotic reverence the memory of the fame and glory of the Division, to maintain and strengthen the bonds of comradeship which distinguished the men of the Division, and to provide for the gathering and dissemination of information concerning these men and for the periodic assembly in reunion.

The 1948 Constitution remained in effect until a new Constitution was adopted at the 1983 Savannah annual reunion. The 1983 document has remained the official Association Constitution with minor changes since the adoption at Savannah.

Any amendments to the Constitution must be made, as authorized by Article VII, "by a vote of two thirds (2/3rds) of the active members present at the Annual Meeting during the Annual Association Convention". The By-Laws of the Association that support the Constitution can be amended "by the written approval by a quorum of the Executive Committee" providing written notice of any proposed changes are provided to the committee members at least six weeks before voting on the amendment.

At the time the 1983 Constitution was adopted the organization was basically operated under the direction of one individual who held the title of Secretary/Treasurer/Editor of the Association with the other elected members of the Executive Committee having a minimal role in the day to day operation of the Association affairs and with the publishing of the Association's periodical, THE TARO LEAF, which was published on a non-scheduled basis. As the Association has continued on in the years the responsibilities of Association affairs have changed from the responsibility of one individual to the responsibility of several members of the Association, both elected and appointed.

Several concerned members, looking forward to the years ahead in our Association's future, have recommended some amendments to our Association Constitution. The suggested amendments include changing the position of Editor from being an elected position to an appointed one; to change the procedures to allow all Active

Members to vote on Constitution changes by a mail ballot; to allow any relative of an individual who has served or is now serving with the 24th Infantry Division be eligible for Associate Membership in the Association and other minor word changes to clarify other sections of the contents of the Constitution. In order that all Active Members be given an opportunity to recommend changes to the Constitution, I, as current President of our Association, with the concurrence of other elected individuals of the Association have established the following procedures:

1. The current Constitution of the 24th Infantry Division Association be published in this issue of the TARO LEAF.
2. ALL members of the Association will be given an opportunity to recommend changes or corrections to the Constitution.
3. Members desiring to comment are directed to provide written, repeat written, comments to the following Life Member who is serving as the Association's coordinator for making any recommended changes:

Mr. Wesley Morrison
452 Gloria Circle
Marina, California 93933-4027

Any recommended changes, as approved by the Executive Board of the Association, will be published in the Summer edition of the TARO LEAF and will be voted on by the Active Members attending the Membership Meeting held during our annual reunion in Hampton, Virginia this year.

It is recommended that all members retain the copy of the Constitution that is in this issue for future reference.,

Incl: Constitution of the 24th Infantry Division Association

CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS

Of the

24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

**CONSTITUTION OF THE
24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION**

PREAMBLE: Under the provisions of ARTICLE V of the ^{By Laws} ~~Constitution~~ of the 24th Infantry Division Association, effective 1 November 1945, as amended, we the Membership of that Association do hereby amend that Constitution and the accompanying By Laws by revoking them in their entirety and ordaining and establishing in their stead this new Constitution and By Laws which shall become effective as of the date of adoption hereof 20 August, 1983 at Savannah.

ARTICLE I

Section 1. The name of this Association shall be the 24th Infantry Division Association and shall hereinafter in this instrument be referred to as the "Association".

Section 2. The objectives of the Association shall be to preserve in patriotic reverence the memory of the fame and glory of the 24th Infantry Division, to maintain and strengthen the bonds of comradeship which distinguished the men of that Division, to provide for the gathering and dissemination of information concerning those men and for their periodic assemble in local and national reunions.

The Association shall:

- a. electrify and unify the invisible currently of fellowship moulded in the throes of war and preserve the comradeship common to the veterans of the 24th Infantry Division;
- b. promote the interests and welfare of the members of the Association;
- c. honor and perpetuate the memory of the men who distinguished themselves by their services and sacrifices while with the 24th Infantry Division;
- d. memorialize the valiant acts and patriotic deeds of the 24th Infantry Division;

- e. encourage and aid historical research in relation to the activities of and acquire and preserve records of the 24th Infantry Division and the personnel thereof;
- f. mark scenes of the activities of the 24th Infantry Division with appropriate memorials;
- g. celebrate with appropriate ceremonies the anniversaries of events in the history of the 24th Infantry Division;
- h. promote the National Defense and help to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom;
- i. defend and uphold the Constitution of the United States of America.

Section 3. The Association shall not engage in any political or profitmaking activities and no profits nor earnings shall accrue to the benefit of any member.

ARTICLE II

Section 1. The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, and a Secretary-Treasurer-Editor.

Section 2. The Association shall be governed by the Executive Committee which shall consist of the President, the Vice-president, all living Past Presidents, and the Secretary-Treasurer-Editor, each of whom shall have one vote.

Section 3. The term of office of the President, of the Vice President and of the Secretary-Treasurer-Editor shall be one year or until their successors have been elected and have taken office.

Section 4. Each President, upon the expiration of his term of office, shall serve as a Past President.

Section 5. No officer shall receive any compensation for his services.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. An Annual Association Convention shall be held at a time and place designated by the membership.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall convene in an annual meeting during the Annual Association Convention and at such other times as the President may direct.

Section 3. The legislative body of the Association shall be the Association Convention. Such Convention shall be held annually during the period from April 1st to October 31st.

Section 4. A quorum of an Association Convention shall exist whenever the lesser of seventy-five (75) or ten (10) per cent or more of the total active members are present.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1. The Officers of the Association shall be elected annually by the membership in its Annual Members Meeting during the Annual Association Convention and shall take office immediately after election.

Section 2. Election shall be decided by a majority vote of the qualified active members.

Section 3. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of the President, the Vice President shall succeed to that office for the unexpired portion of the term of office.

Section 4. A vacancy in the office of the Vice President shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term of office by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V

Section 1. Members shall be divided into five classes; (a) Active, (b) Associate, (c) Honorary, (d) Affiliate, and (e) Life.

Section 2. Active membership: All persons who have served as members of the 24th Infantry Division, or of a unit which has at any time been attached to the Division, shall be eligible for active membership.

Section 3. Associate Membership: Any person who is related to any deceased person who served with the Division shall be eligible for Associate Membership.

Section 4. Honorary Membership: Any person who by act or deed has indicated a special devotion to the 24th Infantry Division and who has been approved by the Executive Committee shall be eligible for Honorary Membership.

Section 5. Affiliate Membership: Any employee of the American Red Cross or other agencies officially recognized by the Department of the Army who has been assigned or attached at any time to the 24th Infantry Division shall be eligible for Affiliate Membership.

Section 6. Life Membership: Any member who upon payment of \$100.00 shall be given a Life Membership in the Association.

Section 7. Members whose annual dues become more than one (1) year in arrears shall forfeit all membership privileges.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1. The Association Fund shall consist of all funds derived from dues, contributions interest on deposits and from other appropriate sources as may be approved by the Executive Committee.

Section 2. The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on August 1 and end on the following July 31.

ARTICLE VII

Section 1. This Constitution may be amended by a vote of two thirds (2/3rds) of the active members present at the Annual Meeting during the Annual Association Convention.

Section 2. No proposal for amending the Constitution shall be considered unless the text of the proposed amendment has been published in the official publication of the Association not less than ninety (90) days prior the Annual Members Meeting held during the Annual Association Convention.

24th Infantry Division Association



260 Shelli Lane
Roswell, Georgia 30075
22 January 2001

Mr. Harry L. Wittman, Jr.
Quartermaster, 24th Inf. Div. Association
1385 Terri Street
Keyser, West Virginia 26726-2119

Dear Harry,

The Secretary/Treasurer of the 24th Infantry Division Association, Dutch Nelsen, has informed me that you recently sent the Association a check for \$3,000.00 as the profit derived from the sale of items by the Quartermaster of our Association.

Harry, words can never express the appreciation that all members of the Association have for the outstanding job that you have provided us during these past few years. I realize that the personal time and dedication that you have given as the Quartermaster desires a lot more than a "thank you" from the members for a job well done. Without the unselfish participation that both you and Francis have given I am well aware that our Quartermaster function would not be where it is today.

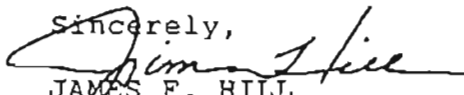
Not only have you been an active Quartermaster, you have been most dedicated in performing the responsibilities of the position in every respect. You (and Francis!) are the sole reason that our QM supplies have always been adequate and that order requests from members have always been promptly expedited. It is always a pleasure at our reunions to see so many of the attendees wearing the logo of the 24th Division and the other unit badges on their caps and shirts, thanks to your actions in having them available for sale at the Quartermaster table in the Hospitality Suite

It is indeed a distinct pleasure, as the Association President for the 2000-2001 term, to know that our Quartermaster responsibilities are in "good hands". You and Francis are a distinct asset to our organization. Besides being a superior Quartermaster it is to be noted that as an Association recruiter you have recruited many members for the Association and on numerous occasions have represented the Association at military related affairs where the presence of our Division representation was most appropriate.

Please accept my personal congratulations for doing a demanding volunteer job well above what would be expected of most individuals.

Copy: B. Johnson
E. Nelsen
H. Peters

J. L. A.

Sincerely,

JAMES F. HILL



I received an email from Joe McKeon of California after Thanksgiving Day informing me he had received a phone call from Beverly Corris' daughter about the death of her mother. I know that I and all who knew Beverly are saddened by her death. Beverly told me many times how much she loved the people of the 24th Infantry Division Association. She had worked so many years with Ken Ross when he was Secretary/Treasurer and Editor of the Association. Beverly and Ken were a great source of strength to me when I became Editor.

I received a letter from Chester E. Flavin of Ross, Ross & Flavin Attorneys at Law, 120 Maple Street, Springfield, Massachusetts. "I want to let you know that our beloved secretary, Beverly M. Corris, passed away on Thursday, November 23, 2000. I know that she served Ken Ross and the 24th faithfully for many years."

BEVERLY CORRIS

Beverly (Treat) Corris, 61, of Springfield died Thursday at Baystate Medical Center. She was a legal secretary for 40 years with Ross Ross & Flavin. Born in Bennington, VT., she was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in East Longmeadow, and was a Sunday School Teacher. Her husband, William H. Corris, died in 1971. She leaves three daughters, Beverly A.M. Corris of Springfield, Jeanne M.E. Kennedy of East Longmeadow, and Maria D.L. Corris of Springfield; and a granddaughter. Services were held at Forastiere-Smith Funeral Home and the Church, both in East Longmeadow with burial in Hillcrest Park Cemetery, Springfield. Contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society, 31 Capital Drive, West Springfield, MA 01089.

A letter was received from Geraldine M. Dobek of 8224 Melissa Court, Bayonet Court, FL 34667-6972 informing us of the death of her husband, Joseph K. Dobek on November 4, 2000.

Received word that **Fred Brickman** of 8526 W. Duquesne Dr., Lakewood, CO 80227 died recently.

A letter was received from Irma Schwartz of 209 Fair St., Traverse City, MI that her husband **Ellis Schwartz** died on May 10, 2000.

Received word from Bill Kerns of the passing of **Charles M. McComas**, November 2000. He served in Co. L 34th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division.

Received word from Bill Vickers of the passing of **Willis Fell** on November 20, 2000. "Lt. Fell served from 1942 to 1945. He was a Sgt in the 34th Infantry, 3rd BN., HQ. Co. in charge of the Anti Tank platoon. During the Philippine campaign he was commissioned First Lieutenant and led his anti tank platoon throughout all activity until peace was declared with Japan. He returned home to his wife Sarah in Ohio and later he moved to Mesa, Arizona. We salute you well, your friend and 34th member." Bill Vickers

Received word from John Dick of Butler, PA of the passing of **Summer W. Kivian** in September 2000. Mr. Kivian of Evans City, PA served in the 24th Infantry Division in the Pacific during World War II.

William "Bill" Campbell of 01151 New Sulphur Springs RD., San Antonio, TX 78263 died December 20, 2000. He was 83 years old. Bill was a US Army Veteran and a professional educator and administrator in the East Central, Judson and South San School Districts. Bill is survived by his beloved wife of 61 years, L. Patricia Campbell, a son, W. Gibbs Campbell Jr., and daughter Alyson Campbell McHatton, a sister, grandchildren and a great granddaughter. Burial was in the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

Received word of the passing of **Meniffee Carter** of 657 Hager St., Deltona FL 32725-7020 on October 26, 2000. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth, 3 daughters, one son, and three grandchildren. Burial was in the Elmwood Cemetery, Wayne, West Virginia.

Received email from Shorty Estabrook of the death of **Tony Apodaca**, on December 16, 2000. Tony served in M Company 34th Infantry Regiment of the 24th ID. He was captured on 8 July 1950 and released on 28 August 1953. He was 69 years at the time of his death. Cards may be sent to the Family of Tony Apodaca, 303 East 3rd St., Lordsburg NM 88045.

A note received from the Post Office informing me that **Weldon B. Hester** of Norfolk, VA is deceased.

Stephen M. Gaffney, age 37, 3rd son of Thomas W. Gaffney, passed away Saturday, January 6, 2001 in New Port Richey, FL. A Mass of the Resurrection was on January 9th at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church in Port Richey. Mass cards in the name of the departed can be sent to his father at 624 Vestpers Kway, Orange City, FL 32763.

David Hosterman of Pleasant Gap, PA passed away December 8, 2000. "He served in World War II and was with the squad that set up a road block on Breakneck Ridge. We were in Headquarters Company, 2nd BN, 21st Inf from New Guinea through the Philippines." John R. Porter.

Received email of the passing of Colonel **Russell Wayne Bertholf, Jr.** on November 4, 2000 in Austin, TX. "In June 1950, Bert deployed to Korea with Task Force Smith. After this first combat action of the Korean War, Captain Bertholf was personally awarded the Bronze Star by President Harry Truman. Colonel Bertholf served in a number of key staff and command assignments for over 32 years. He retired from the Army in 1973. He is survived by his wife Joan of 52 years, 2700 Sunrise Rd., Round Rock, TX 78664-9486.



John C. Ladd, Jr. "Pop-Pop"
Major U.S. Army Retired age 74 of North Wilmington died Thursday, November 30, 2000 at Wilmington Hospital, surrounded by his family.

He was born in Oklahoma City, OK to John and Ruby Ladd. Mr. Ladd was a graduate of Capital Hill High School, Class of 1947, attended the University of Oklahoma and graduated from Widner University in 1977. Mr. Ladd was a WWII and Korean War veteran receiving a Battlefield Commission and was awarded 3 Bronze Stars for valor. During his military career he played and coached football in the Army and retired as a Major in 1965. He settled in North Wilmington and retired as a Transportation Specialist with Red Clay School District in 1992. He was an active member of the United Methodist Church and also coached baseball and football with numerous local Little League teams.

Mr. Ladd is survived by his wife of 47 years, Mabel; sons, John III, Evert, Alan, Ron and daughter Laura, many grandchildren and two sisters, Jane Fulcher of NM, Jean Wangler of IL and Billie Gladish of OK.

Received a letter from Don Williams reporting the death of our member **Earl L. Lewis** of Livonia, MI on April 17, 2000. Earl was born August 13, 1922.

Mrs. Colleen Edgmon of 201 S. Doris St., Wichita. KS 67209

writes: "My husband **Virgle G. Edgmon** passed away August 27, 2000 of bone cancer. He was a member of the 24th Division, 26th AAA in Korea, wounded and lost an eye.

LT. Colonel James O. Gay

LT. Colonel James O. Gay died in Savannah, Georgia just before Christmas. Funeral services were held in Savannah on 23 December 2000. He had fought a long battle against illness. He is survived by his wife, Nell, a son, James, Jr.; two daughters, Angela and Ellen and two brothers, Charles and John.

He served in the 24th Signal Company in Japan and Korea from 1949 until 1951. He became the Division Wire Officer and Wire Platoon Leader in Korea early in the war after his two immediate predecessors in that position had been killed in action. He remained in the Army until 1967 when he retired, having served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

He established himself in Savannah where he became owner and President of the Gay Trucking Company. He was active in civic affairs and in his Church.

His awards included the Bronze Star, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the U.S. Presidential Unit Citation, the Meritorious Unit Citation, and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation.

Robert J. Ostrowske of 2614 Canfield RD., Akron, Ohio 44312-3820 died December 11, 2000. Mr. Ostrowske was 70 years old. He was born in Akron and lived in the area all his life. He was employed by the General Tire and Rubber Co. for 30 years, retiring in 1982. Robert was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War with the 24th ID. He was a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Korean War Veterans Association and the Military Order of the Purple Heart. He is survived by sons, Robert of Springfield TWP and son David of Canton, grandchildren, a brother, a sister all of Akron. The family gives special thanks to Kenny Anderson and his family.

William Robert McPhail of 9689 E. Sandpiper Dr., Minneapolis, MN died September 10, 2000. "Bob" was drafted in 1945 to serve his country in WWII. He served his country well being decorated many times and receiving a field promotion. He was in Hiroshima one month after the atomic bomb was dropped. He married Delores Jane Palm on May 8, 1948, who survives and two children, Tom and Teresa and four grandchildren. Burial was at Fort Snelling National Cemetery, Minneapolis, MN.

Albert DeLay passed away January 9, 2001. He is survived by his wife Betty and family of 821 S. Craford St., Tilden, IL. He was a WWII Veteran, serving in the 24th Med CO. 21st Inf Regt.

T A P S



Wilford Ray Acker was born September 26, 1923 at the family home near Wheatland, MO, the son of Jacob and Ada Durnell Acker and died October 27, 2000 in the same house in which he was born. He died at the age of 77 years. He was baptized at an early age into the Holiness Church. Wilford was united in marriage to Jeraldine Wood on May 10, 1947. To this union 3 children were born: Katherine Lee, Elizabeth Anne and Robert Joe.

Wilford served his country proudly. From Nov. 15, 1944 to Nov. 15, 1946 he was a weapons platoon T Sgt. In the 24th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army. He served in the Pacific Theater in the Philippines on Leyte, Mindanao and the Luzon Islands, New Guinea, Honshu and Kyshu Islands in Japan and in Hiroshima. After the war ended he served in the occupation of Japan.

Wilford's service to his country was one of which he and his family were always very proud, and rightly so, as it was one of distinction. During his tenure of service he earned the following de-

coarations: Combat Infantry Badge, President Unit Citation, Good Conduct Medal, 2 Bronze stars, one from Leyte and one from Mindanao, WWII Victory Medal, "Japan" WWII American Defense Medal and Liberation of the Philippines Ribbon. At the time of his death he was a Disabled American War Veteran.

Wilford and his Army buddies were like brothers. They enjoyed being together each year at the 24th Division Army Reunion. Wilford and Jerry had attended the 53rd Reunion in Kentucky prior to his passing.

Wilford was preceded in death by his parents, a sister, Ruby Pearl Acker, 2 brothers, Lawrence and Clarence Acker and a daughter, Katherine Lee. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Jerry, a daughter Beth and Mike Bray of Quincy, a son Bob and Sandy Acker of Hermitage, Grandchildren, Ashley Bray, Ryan Blake and Lindsay Acker, mother in law, Helen Wood, several nieces, nephews and cousins and a host of friends.

Malcolm "Mick" Darroch Aitken died September 17, 2000 at his home in South Lake Tahoe, following a lengthy battle with cancer. He was 81. Mr. Aitken was born April 3, 1919 at Philadelphia, PA to Robert T. and Gladys B. Aitken. When he was 3 years of age his family moved to Hawaii where he attended Grammar School and graduated from Roosevelt High School in Honolulu. Mr. Aitken was a Pearl Harbor survivor and served in the Pacific during World War II as a captain in the U.S. Army. He graduated from San Jose State College in 1952 and married Patricia L. Gatch in 1953. His career in law enforcement included criminal investigation at the Pentagon and White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico, where he was Chief of Intelligence. He received his master's degree in criminal justice from San Jose State University in 1971.

Survivors include his wife, Patricia Aitken of South Lake Tahoe, four daughters and one son and their spouses, one brother, one sister and 7 grandchildren. Burial in the National Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii.

"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
worn 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.

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 HP754		\$3.00
51	Bronze Star Medal HP-926		\$3.00
52	Good Conduct Medal HP-927		\$3.00
53	Korean Service 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	24th Medici BN Crest		\$10.00
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, Regular or Clip-On		\$20.00
77	Flag, 24th Div, 3x5 screen print	Outdoor Flag	\$45.00
78	63rd Field Artillery	Cloth Patch	\$5.00
79	Army Commendation Medal HP		\$3.00
80	Soldiers Medal HP		\$3.00
81	POW Medal HP		\$3.00
82	Armed Forces Reserve Medal HP		\$3.00
83	1" Decal 24th I.D.	Sell 12 for \$1.00	\$0.10
84	24TH CHRISTMAS CARDS	10 ea. Packet	\$5.00
85	World War II Tapes	Starts Australia	\$15.00

QUARTERMASTER, 24TH IDA

Harry L. Wittman, Jr.

1385 Terri Street

Keyser, WV 26726

We require \$3.00 postage and handling.

Please allow six weeks delivery. No Phone Orders Please.

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

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	\$16.00
9	Belt Buckle W/TL	Gold or Silver Belt Buckle	\$15.00
10	29th Inf. Cloth Patch (Color)	Cloth Patch	\$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	Cap, W/ TL, Red or White GERMANY		\$12.00
34	24 IDA Red or White 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	5th RCT Pocket Patch		\$5.00
40	5th RCT Cap. Red	W/ Patch	\$10.00
41	19th Lapel Pin		\$5.00
42	24th Div. License Plate		\$4.00
43	Desert Storm Cap - Black		\$12.00
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24th Infantry Division Association



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Ellsworth (Dutch) Nelsen
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24th Infantry Division Association
EDITOR TARO LEAF
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