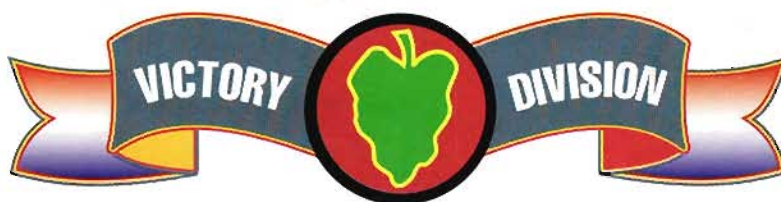


Volume 57, Number 1

24th Infantry Division Association

Winter 2003

Taro



Leaf

FIRST TO FIGHT



24th Infantry Division Association

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Reunion 2003

September 17—September 20
Holiday Inn Palo Verde
4550 S. Palo Verde Blvd.
Tucson, AZ 85714
Tel Reservations: 502-746-1161
1-800-465-4329



The 24th Infantry Division The Victory Division • "First to Fight"

Lineage:

Constituted 1
February 1921 in the
Regular Army as
Headquarters,
Hawaiian Division
activated 1 March
1921 at Schofield
Barracks, Hawaii.
Reorganized and
redesignated
1 October 1941 as
Headquarters, 24th
Infantry Division.
Reorganized and
redesignated
1 April 1960 as
Headquarters and
Headquarters
Company, 24th
Infantry Division.
Inactivated 15 April
1970 at
Fort Riley, Kansas.
Activated 21
September 1975 at
Fort Stewart,
Georgia.
Inactivated 15
February 1996 at
Fort Stewart,
Georgia.
Reactivated 5 June
1999 at
Fort Riley, Kansas

Honors:

Presidential Unit
Citation (Army),
Streamer embroi-
dered DEFENSE OF
KOREA
(24th Infantry
Division,
Department of the
Army General Order
45, 1950)
Philippine
Presidential Unit
Citation, Streamer
embroidered 17
OCTOBER 1944 to
4 JULY 1945 (24th
Infantry Division,
Department of the
Army General Order
47, 1950)
Republic of Korea
Presidential Unit
citation, Streamer
embroidered
PYONGTAEK (24th
Infantry Division,
Department of the
Army General Order
35, 1951)
Republic of Korea
Presidential Unit
Citation, Streamer
embroidered KOREA
(24th Infantry
Division,
Department of the
Army General Order
24, 1954)

Campaign

Participation Credit
World War II
Central Pacific; Luzon;
New Guinea (with
arrowhead); Leyte
(with arrowhead);
Southern
Philippines
(with arrowhead)
Korean War
UN Defensive; UN
Offensive;
CCF Intervention;
First UN
Counteroffensive;
CCF Spring
Offensive; UN
Summer-Fall
Offensive; Second
Korean Winter;
Korea, Summer 1953
Southwest Asia
Defense of Saudi
Arabia (Operation
Desert Shield);
Liberation of Kuwait
(Operation Desert
Storm)

On the Cover: Circa 1940, this poster shows our soldiers from 1776 to the "present." Notice that the WWI and WWII men are both armed with 1903 Springfields. Cover provided by "Dutch" Nelsen.



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Taro Leaf, the official publication of the 24th Infantry Division Association, a non-profit organization, is published quarterly by and for its members. Opinions expressed or implied are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army, the 24th Infantry Division or the 24th Infantry Division Association.

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Article Submissions

To improve speed, accuracy and readability in editing, manuscripts and articles should be originals or clear copies, either typed, printed out double-spaced on a high-quality printer, or e-mailed in plain-text format to the editor. 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 two pages, will be accepted for publication but must conform to policy as outlined above.

Deadline to the Editor

15 January 2003
15 April 2003
15 July 2003
15 November 2003

Publication Date

February 2003 Winter
May 2003 Spring
August 2003 Summer
December 2003 Fall

24th Infantry Division Association Executive Committee

William Sanderson1967-1968.....19th Inf Regt
Donald C. Williams1968-1969.....34th Inf Regt
William C. Muldoon1970-1971.....19th Inf Regt
Paul F. Wisecap1971-1972.....34th Inf Regt
John C. Klump1977-1978.....34th Inf Regt
John R. Shay1983-1984.....21st Inf Regt
Richard C. Watson1985-1986.....19th Inf Regt
Warren C. Avery1986-1987.....21st Inf Regt
Donald E. Rosenbloom.....1987-1988.....Div HQ
Albert McAdoo1991-1992.....5th RCT

Wallace C. Kuhner1992-1993.....24th Recon
Vincent Gagliardo1993-1994.....5th RCT
Vincent Vella1994-1995.....21st Inf Regt
James F. Hill1995-1996.....19th Inf Regt
Ellsworth "Dutch" Nelsen1996-1997.....13th FA; 19th
Thomas Cochran1997-1998.....34th Inf Regt
Harold Peters1998-2000.....21st Inf Regt
James F. Hill2000-2001.....19th Inf Regt
Billy Johnson.....2001-2003.....3rd "C" Eng



24th Infantry Division Association

The Prez Sez



Life is great in my world, and I hope in yours.

Our Association is growing steadily with the influx of Active Members from Germany, Desert Storm and Associate Memberships from all time periods. Members are signing up spouses, children and grandchildren for Associate Memberships. We are getting requests for Associate Membership from family members of the *Men who were with us in the Wars*. These young people are looking for some much needed answers. They want to know just what happened to end the life of their beloved family member, and to make contact with anyone who remembers their soldier; anyone who has a story to tell about his or her loved one. Much of what we do here at the *Taro Leaf* is an attempt to bring people together, sharing our memories and stories of our great 24th Infantry Division. More and more of our Active Members are finding Missing Buddies and reuniting with them, some after fifty-plus years have passed. Whether by mail, e-mail, phone, short trips or making it all the way to a reunion with the 24th IDA, it is an experience that they are all thankful to have. Every time I get word of Buddies being reunited, I feel grateful to have been a help in their search.

Talking with Norm Dixon is like talking to the Tucson Chamber of Commerce! He has visited the city's sites and selected the best ones for us. The tours are listed in this *Taro Leaf*. Plan to have a grand time in Tucson; Norm is quickly getting everything ready for our 2003 Reunion in September and...I hear the food is good too.

Our Election Committee is formed and is looking for members to hold offices next year. The Committee Members' names and addresses are on another page in this issue. If you, or anyone you know, would like to run for an office, let any member of the Election Committee know. The Chairman, Jim Hill, will present the qualified nominees at the General Membership Meeting in Tucson on Saturday, 20 September 2003. Remember, every officer, elected or appointed, is a volunteer, and every office takes a lot of time to do the job right. I am going to ask the Chairman to give me a short Bio of members who plan to run for each office. This information will be in the August 2003 *Taro Leaf*. This will give you an idea of who is running for each office before you arrive in Tucson. Of course, there will still be open nomination from the floor. Remember, we, collectively, all members, want what is best for our 24th IDA.

Corky and Diane Peters did an outstanding job with our prize drawing tickets. This issue will have a list of the ten winners of \$500 prizes from the KC reunion. We all owe the Peters a big handshake and a warm thank you. I believe when you have a winning plan, use it; therefore, I have asked Corky and Diane to chair the Donation Drawing again this year. You will receive your 2003 Drawing tickets in the spring. The letter you will get with your tickets explains that the proceeds from the drawing are used for *Taro Leaf* publication.

I am still in contact with Mr. Chin Yu, who arranged for us to get the 50 Year Commendation Medals. I am attempting, as is he, to get more of them for us. If we do, I will let you know through the *Taro Leaf*. Again, I am sorry that I could not get enough for everyone the first time around.

I have a roster of Battery A, 21st AA Battalion, showing that they joined us in Korea in January 1951 and were reassigned in July 1951. The roster has 127 EM; most were RAs, 12 ER and 6 US. Welcome aboard 21st AA Battalion. We were pleased to find out about you and to have you join us. Welcome to each and every one of you.

I want to thank all who have taken your time to send comments about the *Taro Leaf*. A few let us know what needs to be changed or needs to be corrected. We try to fix those things immediately. Almost all comments are positive. It is good to hear that you like the way the *Taro Leaf* is being edited. The items that you tell us that you are enjoying most are the photos and stories coming in from our Members. Without your input, the *Taro Leaf* could not be nearly as great as it is. There is no way to do this job without all of us working together—to keep us together.

Take care and I'll see you in Tucson. ♥

Billy

The 19th Infantry, presently stationed at Fort Benning (Columbus), Georgia, is planning a two-day orientation for all interested veterans of the 19th Infantry Regiment. Purpose is to allow former Rock of Chickamauga veterans to observe how the present day Army is organized and how it trains and prepares for combat action. Also, the orientation will allow the present day soldiers of the regiment to talk with the veterans on how the Army was organized, trained and fought in prior times. The event and dates are still tentative but the current commander has informed Jim Hill that they are looking at 8-9 May 2003 as the time of the orientation. Additional information will be provided in the next issue of the *Taro Leaf*.

Any former member of the 19th Infantry who is interested in attending is requested to contact Jim Hill at (770) 998-3749 or e-mail jimandsuehill@aol.com in order that the CO can be informed of possible attendance figures. ♥

Chaplain's Corner

The Reflex Action of Words

In the beginning is the Word.

We commonly think of the Word as the end, the product and eventuation of a thought. It is. But, once uttered, a Word has a certain reflex action, and returns to have an effect on the speaker.

We not only say things because we think them, we also think things because we say them.

There are some who tell us to say we are well, and never to say we suffer, to assert happiness and success, and deny sorrow and failure, and it will be unto us according to our assertion. Perhaps we have been impatient with such advice, and declare we will not lie nor act the hypocrite, but will honestly say what we feel. And possibly we have regarded people who talk so to us as imbeciles, trying to lift themselves by their bootstraps.

But revise your harsh judgment. Go over the matter thoughtfully, you may perceive these enthusiasts are not wholly wrong. There is a modicum of truth in their idea. They have glimpsed the secret power of the reflex action of Words.

Physically, a Word is a sound vibration; it is possible to break a wine-glass by a properly pitched tone. And spiritually also a Word has its vibrations, and affects the mind and feelings.

We think in Words, when we think clearly. For when our thoughts cannot be expressed they are quite vague and influence us not much.

We even feel in Words. Most of our desires and passions run in the channels that Words have worn.

So there is sound psychology in saying that Words can make us sick or well. Talk of your diseases and they will grow. Talk health and you will be healthy.

It is not a matter of lying, but of selection and suppression. Search out any normal, happy, successful, healthy ele-

ment in yourself—you can always find something of the kind if you look for it—and speak of that. And if you have pain, depression, fear, worry or any sort of gloom, turn away your mind from it as much as possible, and at any rate, do not talk about it.

Your strong bright Words will fly back to you. In every one of them is a seed of feeling; it will fall between the garden of your heart and make a flower.

And if you have the yeastings of sourness and bitterness within you, at least give them no culture of Words; batten them down in darkness and silence, and they will die for lack of air.

You can always keep your mouth shut. It may help you. It certainly will help us. ♥

—Four Minute Essays by Dr. Frank Crane

You must be the change you wish to see in the world.

—Mahatma Gandhi



Honorable Service Lapel Pin

The Honorable Service Lapel Pin was issued to every service member who was honorably discharged between September 1939 and December 1946.

The small badge was affectionately nicknamed the "Ruptured Duck" by the more than 12 million soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen who returned to civilian life after World War II.

The small gold-plated brass emblem, 7/16" high and 5/8 inch wide, had its beginnings 9 June 1925 when War Department General Order No. 13 authorized the wearing of the "Badge of Service" for honorably discharged veterans.

After the war, veterans proudly wore this small symbol of service on their civilian lapels. Later, it was replaced by organizational, veteran or service club lapel pins considered more appropriate for wear in a world no longer at war. The

Honorable Service Lapel Pin gradually disappeared, having been lost, put away or forgotten.

Army veterans should write to US Army Reserve Personnel Center, Attn: DARP-PAS-EAW, 9700

Page Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63132. Phone:

(314) 538-3573. Navy, Marine Corps and

Coast Guard veterans should write to

National Personnel Records Center, 9700

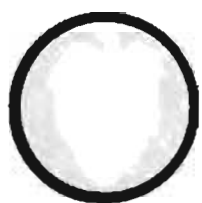
Page Boulevard, St. Louis, MO 63132.

Phone: (314) 538-3071. The verification

process takes up to eight months or more, said officials at the National Records Center.

Authentic replica "Ruptured Duck" pins are for sale through The American Legion, Attn: Emblem Sales, PO Box 1050, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Phone: 1-888-453-4466, or shop online at <http://emblem.legion.org>. ♥





24th Infantry Division Association

Secretary/Treasurer's Report



All data as of 5 February 2003

Financial

Checking Account	\$25,705.72
CD	<u>58,851.68</u>
Total	84,555.40
Accounts Payable	None
Cost to print and mail last issue of the <i>Taro Leaf</i>	13,034.93

Our financial position remains very good. My personal opinion as to why is:

- Our membership continues to grow, not decline.
- Many men are upgrading to Life Membership.
- Donations continue to be strong.
- Richard Hubbard sends a card to each member whose dues are coming due. This has produced a huge upsurge in dues payments the likes of which I have not seen in two tenures as Sec/Treas.
- The continuing efforts of Membership Chairman Wally Kuhner to contact seriously past due members. They either pay up or are dropped. Some members had not paid dues in three years, but were receiving the *Taro Leaf* all that time.
- The great success of Corky Peters with the Annual Drawings. The last one added a clear \$15,600.91 to the till.
- A well-run Quartermaster operation with two \$3,000 checks this fiscal year.

Membership

Total number of members: 2,906, which is up 54 since the KC reunion
 1,405 Annual, 60 Associate (all paying dues)
 54 Comp.
 3 Honorary (Petric, Mullins, Harp)
 1,324 Life Paid Up
 48 Life (still paying)
 13 Assoc Life (still paying)

By Area/Time of Service

WWII	837	Ft. Stewart	38
Korea	1,500	Ft. Riley	11
Japan	980	Pearl Harbor	57
Germany	182	TF Smith	37
Desert Storm	23	POW	27

(Many of our men served in several areas; such as WWII and Japan or Japan and Korea. Also, many men do not report when and where they served. There is a general increase in these numbers over past reports because I have been digging for the information.)

By Unit

Our weakest area by far. Just got another new member who shows "24th." Many do not show a unit at all. We still have 62 units reported. Of these 62 units, the 10 largest (in order) continue to be: 19th, 21st, 34th, 5th RCT, 3rd Eng, 11th FA, 24th Sig, 13th FA, 52nd FA, 63rd FA.

By State

We still have men in all fifty states and in some foreign countries. California has the most and Montana has the least. The ten states with the largest number of members continue to be California, Florida, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Georgia and Missouri.

Donations

Edward G. Bouzan	19th	\$10.00
Charles E. Brault	21st	5.00
Robert L. Childers	24th Med	10.00
Raymond V. Clark	3rd Eng	5.00
James T. Cooper	19th	5.00
Domenic T. Demilio	21st	24.00 in lieu of drawing tickets
Roger L. Eustrachy	24th Med	25.00
Charles W. Foster	19th	20.00
Max Garland	34th	5.00
David C. Hill, Sr.	13th	10.00
Frank R. Horvat	63rd	5.00
Herbert R. Kingsbury	34th	5.00
Jack G. McCourt	24th	5.00
Frank Moyer	19th	15.00
Dutch Nelsen	13th FA, etc.	15.00
Charles E. Nunnally	13th FA	20.00
Robert R. Priest	24th Signal	25.00
Arvel Riddle	559th FA	20.00 to help with <i>Taro Leaf</i>
Louis W. Rochon	5th RCT	5.00
Frank A. Smith	21st	5.00
Phillip J. Taormino	34th	5.00
Wendell H. Tuohy	509th MISF	10.00
Eric Webber	724th Ord	10.00 to help with <i>Taro Leaf</i>

New Life Members

Robert G. Shipley, 21st
 John L. Kirby, 19th
 Lawrence J. Lenahan, 504th
 Murl Marsh, 19th
 Robert R. Priest, 24th Sig
 Martin J. Milita, Jr., 19th, Assoc.
 Thomas J. Thiel, 19th
 David D. Preston, Repl Co

New Members

Armstrong, Joseph T.	19th	567 Hemlock Circle, Terra Alta, WV 26764-2642	(304) 789-2468	Germany. Also 24th MP
Arn, Marcia J.	63rd	11203 Powder Mill Trail, Austin, TX 78750-1032	(512) 335-0244	Father Donal E. Bell WIA WWII
Barr, Donald A.	19th	1146 W. 5th St., Carson City, NV 89703-4802	(775) 884-1779	Germany
Bennett, Clayton D. Sr.	19th	Rt. 2, Box 2771, New Castle, PA 16101	(724) 654-2095	Assoc. Uncle Boyd Bennett KIA Korea
Borysewicz, Charles S.	19th	65 Beach Road, Wolcott, CT 06716-1936		Korea
Bronner, Earl D. Jr.		196 Jacobson Rd #13E, Cathlamet, WA 99812	(360) 795-6518	No unit or dates provided
Cervantes, Antonio Y.	34th	3424 Mountain Ave, San Bernardino, CA 92404	(909) 883-3116	WWII, Japan
Engstrom, William H.	34th	958 Fredonia Road, Stoneboro, PA 16153	(724) 376-2642	Korea
Fisher, Charles R.	19th	12543 Harney Road, Taneytown, MD 21787-1030	(410) 756-6825	Korea
Green, Robert C.	19th	219 South Blaine St, Wellington, KS 67152	(620) 326-8622	
Hanner, Kenneth C.	19th	12828 Denham Rd., Baton Rouge, LA 70818	(225) 262-1455	Korea
Jensen, Norman A.	34th, 21st	2125 Alder Drive, Anchorage, AK 99508-3259	(907) 279-0882	34th Colors retired in Sept 1950
Kirby, John L.	29th/19th	12934 Candlewood Road, Apple Valley, CA 92307-1103	(760) 247-1725	Life Member, Korea
Leak, Edwin S.	19th	811 Tupper Lake Road, Lake Odessa, MI 48849-9413	(623) 379-8777	Life Member, Japan
Lenahan, Lawrence J.	504th Abn	548 Long Pond Road, Mahopac, NY 10541-2914	(609) 292-3648	Life Member, Germany
Loesch, Herbert C.	24th Med	9245 Coleman Road, Barker, NY 14012-9678	(716) 795-9191	Korea
Logan, Col Edward O.	19th	5444 Woodford Drive, Birmingham, AL 35242	(205) 980-0300	Japan, Korea
Lovasz, Edward T.	19th	2633 Scott St., Hollywood, FL 33020	(954) 929-3283	19th, Div MP, Japan
Lovett, Joel L.	669th Med	1024 7th Ave SW, Alabaster, AL 35007-9725	(205) 663-7331	Korea. Attached to 1st FA
Marsh, Murl	19th	2180 Pioneer Road, Delta, CO 81416-2767	(970) 874-7098	Life Member, Korea
Mayo, Hubert P.	div HQ	2763 W. 14th Ave, Apache Junction, AZ 85278-4784	(480) 982-0985	Japan, Korea
McMahon, Joseph R.	34th	4427 Green Valley Drive, Arnold, MO 63010	(636) 296-7385	Also 19th; Japan, Korea
Melton, Fred L.	3rd Engr	140 Ashwood Lane, Mooresville, NC 28117-6886	(704) 658-0665	Japan, Korea
Milira, Martin J. Jr.	19th, WWII	3 Darby Ct., Annandale, NJ 08801-3347	(973) 222-1855	Father was CO, B Co., WWII, Japan
Miller, John E.	34th	59 Woodgate Road, Tonawanda, NY 14150	(716) 836-1641	Japan
Molitor, James C.	34th	911 Wedgewood Drive, Glenview, IL 60025	(847) 724-4011	WWII
Petrucchi, Richard W.	34th	21 Christopher Court, West Islip, NY 11795-2635	(631) 661-2766	Korea
Preston, David D.	Repl Co	557 SW Goodwin, Ankeny, IA 50021-2831	(515) 965-1157	Ft. Stewart, Life, also 1-5 Cav
Santoro, Anthony A.	24th Sig	29 45th St., Islip, NY 11751-1701	(631) 277-9382	WWII, Japan
Thompson, Edward W.	29th, 19th	13230 Mission St., #1510, Hesperia, CA 92345-4126	(760) 949-2703	Okinawa to Korea to 24th
Torres, Candelario	21st	1126 E. Haley St., Santa Barbara, CA 93103	(805) 963-2649	Korea
Williams, David M.	29th, 19th	3641 Oak Shores Drive, Stockton, CA 95209-3763	(209) 951-4193	Okinawa to Korea to 24th

Korea



Kum River, Taepyeongni, 12-13-1950. North to Chochwon, about twenty miles, where on 11 July 1950 the remnants of the 21st drew back on the (MRS) National Highway 1, crossing the Kum Bridge to the south side of Taep'yong. On 12 July 1950, the 21st was replaced by the 19th.



Site of original Kum River Bridge. "B" Company on dike 112-16 July 1950. Jim Hill with Kim Myrenta, car driver and interpreter, and ROK Army Captain Chang Yong' Po, who guided Jim over the Kum Battle Sites of the 19th Regiment.



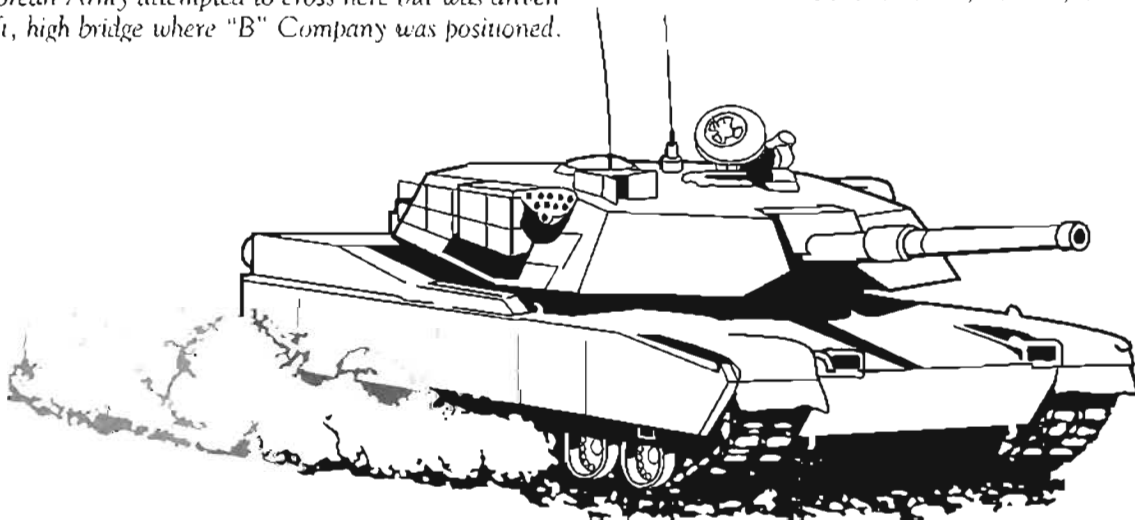
Kum River, Northeast, downstream. "A" Company position on the dike. 1950, only a path, weeds and grass exist in the dike. Now two small paved roads are on top of the dike from east of the bridge to four miles downstream. 15 July 1950, the North Korean Army attempted to cross here but was driven back. Left, high bridge where "B" Company was positioned.

On 3 February 2003 the following was printed in the "Letters to the Editor" of the *Athens Banner-Herald*.

The loss of Columbia has been a serious blow to the families, NASA and the country. As sad as it is, the media has wrenched every ounce of coverage possible from this disaster for the last 48 hours. They saturated the television with non-stop coverage. They interviewed everyone connected with the space program, friends of the astronauts, friends of friends, and anyone who will focus into a camera lens. They have flashed the pictures of the seven astronauts on the screen hundreds of times, and covered every aspect of their biography.

We, as a nation, are saddened by this terrible event. But I have one question: can anyone name the four Blackhawk crewmembers who gave their lives for this country in Afghanistan last week? They served anonymously, in a barren desert, away from their loved ones, and for little pay. There would have been no cheering crowds when they landed at home base. It would have been just one more day of service for them. ♥

Gene Baldwin, Athens, GA



Present-day Korea



*Memorial at the base of Hill 303
on the Nakdong near the bridge.*



Seoul: It's come a long way.



*War Memorial, Seoul. They have a better life
because of our sacrifice.*



*Looking north over the Han River at Seoul from a hotel.
They are clearing away an area for apartments. Notice the
golf driving range to the left. It looks a little better now
than when we crossed the Han in winter 1950.*



Going north out of Seoul. I remember this from 1950.



Waegewon Bridge, looking north.



*South end of Waegewon Bridge
Photos by Billy Traylor.*

Dear "Dutch,"

Trust you're OK now. Enclosed are my dues for the coming year along with some local political commentary. This is not meant to criticise, just to show you what some of the locals feel.

Still looking for the e-mail of "A" Company 26th Engineers at Camp Crouch, Yamaguchi-city, Yamaguchi-prefecture from 1949-1951. Rec'd an e-mail from the family who drove my Plymouth while I was in Korea. Tried to answer but the e-mail was returned, unknown. Can you help?

Did you ever know or hear of a USAR CPT Thomas from Penn.?

Forgive my writing as this is my first Microsoft Word!

You ever meet Marguerite Higgins in Korea? (1920-1966)

Have fond memories of Beer stored in holes in the ground and Russian artillery filled with nails!

I believe the Engineer-chap was from Charlottesville, VA.

Told you my G/M Nancy Mason had a brother in Colorado Springs by the name of Ullom. Any Ulloms in the local phone book? He lived to well over 100!

Matthew P. Montee was my Platoon Sgt. for a time, don't know if he's still around.

Don't know how I got the colored lines!

Keep in touch. ♥

Cordially,
Bacil Steed
Canberra



Matthew P. Montee, 24th Recon Co., Korea 1950.



Bacil Steed and Bernard R. Symerson,
24th Recon Co., 2d Infantry Division, August 1948

DOD Tests Space-Available Travel Privileges for Dependents Within CONUS

The Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Transportation Policy) has approved a one-year test to evaluate the expansion of space-available privileges for dependents traveling within the Continental United States (CONUS). The test will allow dependents of active duty and retired Uniformed Services members to travel within CONUS when accompanied by their sponsors. The test is scheduled to begin 1 April 2003 and will end 1 April 2004.

Dependents will assume the same category of travel as their sponsor.

Space-available sign-up for this program will be

effective 1 April 2003. Retired members may sign up 60 days in advance but no earlier than 1 April 2003.

Active duty Uniformed Services members must be in a leave or pass status to register for space-available travel, remain in a leave or pass status while awaiting travel, and be in a leave or pass status the entire period of travel.

For additional information concerning space-available travel and sign-up procedures, please review the Air Mobility Command public web site at <http://amcpublic.scott.af.mil/Spaces/spaces.htm> or contact the servicing DOD air terminal of interest. ♥

There were a couple of things which particularly caught my attention.

A photo on page 27 shows five "young" fellows: Messrs. Sullivan, Valles, Cain, Duncan and Cash, all of whom were with the 3rd Bn of the 34th. The description stated that "all are veterans of the taking of Corregidor and were sitting on top of Malint Mountain the night the Japs decided to blow the tunnels."

A copy of a Commendation of the 34th for the Corregidor operation issued by Colonel William W. Jenna appeared on page 67. The Commendation, in part, states that "the Third Battalion, 34th Infantry, reinforced, made a difficult landing on Corregidor on D Day under most adverse conditions." Col. Jenna stated that "the fine job which it did is being made the subject of a Presidential Citation." Although not specifically referred to, the reinforcement of the 3rd Bn was by Company A of the 1st B of the 34th. I assume that A Company's members were recipients of the Citation also, but I really don't know.

In his Journal, Captain George E. Morrissey, 1st Bn Surgeon, 34th, relates that he learned some details of the operation from an aid man with A Company (the other aid man was killed). Dr. Morrissey said that the "Japs' habit of blowing out their own tunnels at night was terrifying. An earthquake would result followed by a landslide. "A" Company lost six men buried alive and a dozen injured in the biggest blowout of Malinta tunnel." I assume this was the same incident referred to by James Sullivan and his colleagues. I'm glad I was back on the Bataan Peninsula with the rest of the 1st Battalion when this occurred.

If you've located Dr. Morrissey's Journal, you'll find his reference to this on page 33. ♥

Hang in there
Dan Donovan
34th Infantry

Just received the following information from Bob Hartley, Co. B, 19th Inf. Evidently he just talked to the family today.

Mr. B.J. (Bobby J.) Hunt's family reports he passed away on 24 December 2002 at a hospital in Payson, Arizona, after a long illness. He will be buried at an Arizona national cemetery near his home. He was attached to the 19th Infantry Regt's Co's B and C while in Korea 1950-1951. He has also served as Regimental Sergeant Major of the 19th on his second tour of Korea.

Condolences may be sent to the Hunt family at HC 3 Box 508, Payson, AZ 85541-9708. ♥

Wes Morrison
Vice President &
Reunion Coordinator

Harold A. Smith, 19th Infantry

Billy, you may remember the clippings about me finding Smith after 50 years and finding he had received a DD for AWOL despite severe wounds and valiant combat duty. You received a letter about it from Joe Sweeney which was published in the *Spring Taro Leaf* (p24). Joe also called me at the time. Glad to report I received a call from Smith in Montana today; an Army review board has reversed that action and is giving him a **General u/Honorable Conditions** retroactive to 1954. He can now apply for VA Benefits, etc. He really needs it for he has had rough life since '54 working his butt off, no pension, only SS. Has blind wife and 5-6 kids (now all grown, I think). I visited him in Montana last July and have to envy his outlook. No bitterness. Now obviously happy as a lark, on Cloud Nine. Don't have Sweeney's e-mail if he has one but do have his telephone number and will call him. Thanks again for all the help offered. ♥

Joe O'Connell
H-19th 1951/53

I have a quotable quote that I thought you might want to use in the *Taro Leaf*: "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 who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protesters to burn the flag."—*Father Dennis Edward O'Brien, U.S. Marine Corps*. I also want to tell you that it is a pleasure to work with Norm Dixon on the upcoming reunion in 2003 here in Tucson. ♥

Howard Bruno

POW Stories:

"Telling the Folks Back Home"

by (C Co 19th Inf Regt) Marion J. Morgan

My husband, Marion J. (Jud) Morgan, has recently had a paperback book published about his experiences as a Korean War POW for 32 months. The title is *Telling the Folks Back Home*.

The book is just what its title implies—one man's experiences in Camps 5 and 3. He was in C Company, 19th Infantry, 24th Division. Also a little about his return home to Arkansas.

We are selling the book for \$15.00, shipping and handling paid. ♥

Editor, *Taro Leaf* Mag

At your suggestion, I joined the 24th Infantry Association.

I received my first magazine in November. You guys are doing a good job in printing it.

I was with the 24th Division in Hollandia, New Guinea, in 1944. But I was in the Navy. I was with the Division again in Leyte. I was still in the Navy.

I finally joined the 24th Division in August 1950 in Korea. I was in M Co., 19th Regiment, 24th Division. I was a section sergeant in the recoilless rifle platoon.

We ran up and down Korea two or three times before I came back to the States in August 1951. I got out of the Army in 1952. I got out because I had been at one time listed as Missing in Action and Killed in Action. My new wife didn't want me to go to Germany without her.

Bill, I am sending you some pictures I have had over fifty years. Maybe some members will see someone they know. I would like to hear from any of these guys. ♥

L. A. Wright
14528 Wiley St.
San Leandro, CA 94579-1151

company. One would go to the Motor Pool and the other to the mess hall. We took a test drive in a Jeep. The best driver would go to the Motor Pool. The test drive was on a rice paddy. I did not do well but the other guy did worse. I was happy to get the Motor Pool. The other guy got the mess assignment. Later we compared notes. We both got what we wanted.

The Motor Sergeant told me the only position open was PIO driver, but later I could change. I enjoyed driving for the PIO staff. Capt. Tufts (not sure of the spelling) was great to drive for. Enclosed is a picture of me, "Cpl. Lee" and "King" that was published in the L.A. Examiner 11-22-51. I am sure the sight of "Cpl. Lee" and "King" will bring a smile to the faces of all who were men of 24th Div. HQ and HQ Co. the summer of '51. ♥

Victor Holloway
1656 Rowland Drive
Santa Maria, CA 93454
(805) 922-4420

Dear Sir,

Thanks for mentioning in the Fall 2002 *Taro Leaf* that I am willing to help WWII veterans write their recollections. I received a phone call from Dr. Philip of Manhattan, Kansas, who wrote a book about his experiences with the 24th Infantry Division. You may have read his story, "Doctor and Soldier in the South Pacific." Dr. Hostetter sent me a copy of this book, and I enjoyed reading of his work with the medical corps.

I have not heard from any other veterans of the 24th Infantry Division to date. If you wish to repeat your notice, please feel free to do so. My correct e-mail address is 3LUCKYPEOPLE@msn.com.

Thank you for your opinion that my work is "very good." The veterans I work with appreciate my help, and it's a pleasure to receive your commendation as well. ♥

Sincerely,
Rich O'Hara

Jan 2, 2003

Taro Leaf Editor—

Dick Mikelson's "Memories from Korea" (page 73, *Taro Leaf* Fall edition) brought back memories of my duty in Korea. I went from the 24th Repple Depot to 24th Div. HQ Motor Pool in May 1951. There I was assigned to drive for 24th PIO. There were 2 of us assigned to HQ



Hello Sir.

We made it to Bosnia three months. Good training. We are as good as the active duty if not better. If you could have the 24th Inf magazine sent to this address, I would appreciate it.

Jim Watkins/6464
28th ID
HHC 1-109 IN/HQ
Eagle Base
APO AE 09789

24th Infantry Division Association

Schofield Barracks

19th Infantry Regiment
21st Infantry Regiment
11th Field Artillery Battalion
13th Field Artillery Battalion
52nd Field Artillery Battalion
63rd Field Artillery Battalion
26th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Bn
3rd Combat Engineer Battalion

World War II

19th Infantry Regiment
21st Infantry Regiment
34th Infantry Regiment
11th Field Artillery Battalion
13th Field Artillery Battalion
52nd Field Artillery Battalion
63rd Field Artillery Battalion
26th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Bn
3rd Combat Engineer Battalion
24th Medical Battalion
Division Headquarters Company
724th Ordnance Battalion
24th Quartermaster Company
24th Signal Company
24th Military Police Company
24th Mechanized Cavalry Recon
Company

Korea

19th Infantry Regiment
21st Infantry Regiment
29th Infantry Regiment •
34th Infantry Regiment
5th Regimental Combat Team
11th Field Artillery Battalion
8th Ranger Company
13th Field Artillery Battalion
52nd Field Artillery Battalion
63rd Field Artillery Battalion
21st Anti-Aircraft Artillery Bn •
26th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Bn
3rd Combat Engineer Battalion
6th Tank Battalion
24th Medical Battalion
Division Headquarters Company
724th Ordnance Battalion
24th Quartermaster Company
24th Signal Company
24th Military Police Company
24th Mechanized Cavalry Recon
Company
1st Platoon, Co. B, 519th
Military Police Battalion
1st Platoon, Co. C, 519th
Military Police Battalion
Battery B, 1st Field Artillery Bn
5th Field Artillery Group
92d Field Artillery Battalion

Korea

145th Field Artillery Battalion
711th Field Artillery Battalion
(ROK)
780th Field Artillery Battalion
987th Field Artillery Battalion
822d Field Artillery Battalion
(ROK)
196th Armored Field Artillery
Battalion
300th Armored Field Artillery
Battalion (ROK)
3rd Platoon, 10th Special Services
Company
24th Counter-Intelligence Corps
Detachment
51st Army Postal Unit
153d Medical Detachment
509th Military Intelligence Platoon
8219th Army Unit Field Artillery
Meteo and Topo Detachment
8221st Army Unit Field Artillery
Meteo and Topo Detachment
8284th Army Unit Armed Forces
Korean Network (Trubador)
Columbian Infantry Battalion

Desert Storm

7th Infantry Regiment
15th Infantry Regiment
18th Infantry Regiment
197th Infantry Brigade (Separate)
64th Armor
69th Armor
24th Division Artillery
41st Field Artillery
212th Field Artillery Brigade
5th Air Attack Artillery
24th Support Battalion
224th Forward Support Battalion
724th Main Support Battalion
197th Support Battalion
36th Engineer Group
3rd Engineer Battalion (Combat)
5th Engineer Battalion (Combat)
92d Engineer Battalion (Combat)
299th Engineer Battalion (Combat)
24th Aviation Brigade
2d Squadron, 4th Cavalry
HHC, 24th Infantry Division
24th Military Police Company
24th Signal Battalion
124th Military Intelligence
Battalion
24th Personnel Services Company
24th Finance Support Unit
24th Infantry Division Band
211th Military Police Company

Desert Storm

260th Quartermaster Battalion
(Petroleum Service)
91st Chemical Company
159th Aviation Regiment
632d Maintenance Company
(Direct Support)
3d Platoon, 498th Medical
Company (Air Ambulance)

Lebanon

Headquarters, 24th Airborne
Brigade (Airborne)
1st Battle Group, 187th Infantry
(Airborne)
3rd Battalion (Medium Tank),
35th Armored
Troop C, 17th Cavalry (Airborne)
Battery A, 1st Howitzer,
13th Field Artillery
Battery A (AAA AW SP),
23d Artillery Battalion
3rd Engineer Battalion (Airborne)*
Detachment, 11th Parachute
Support and Maintenance Co
(Airborne)
Detachment, 24th Aviation
Company
Detachment, 24th Quartermaster
Company
Detachment, 24th Signal Battalion
Detachment, Forward Support
Company, 724th Ordnance
Battalion
Platoon, Company A (Ambulance),
24th Medical Battalion
Platoon, Company B (Clearing),
24th Medical Battalion
Headquarters, Flight Section
* Company not known

Somalia

1st Battalion, 64th Armor
1st Battalion, 15th Infantry
Regiment
1st Battalion, 41st Field Artillery
3rd Engineer Battalion
224th Forward Support Battalion
724th Forward Support Battalion
Companies B and D, 24th Signal
Battalion
Companies A and B, 124th Military
Intelligence Battalion
24th Military Police Company
Detachment 2, 18th Area Support
Group

• Added 29th Infantry and 21st AA

Looking for Family Members, Buddies and Friends

Dear Sir:

As you can see I was given your address by Mr. McKeon, to whom I am very grateful for the knowledge he has given me of the chaos during that time with the 29th. I am looking for information on my uncle, PFC Douglas Stanley Kuechler, a 19 year old, blue eyed, red headed kid out of Fort Campbell, Kentucky. We only know that he was wounded and later killed in action, just hoping to find someone who might have known or met him and could give us a few details. He was dead before I was born in 1954, but the eldest of my father's family and of course their hero. My father, I guess, was about 16 when his brother was killed. They are haunted by the experience, as when my uncle's body was returned to the US no one in the family ever viewed the body. They were given the choice but declined, trusting wholeheartedly in the United States Army. I think now, that because he died overseas and of course not actually seeing the body, that someone who was around when he was killed or wounded or fought with him could ease their frustration. Whatever information you could share would be greatly appreciated. ♥

Thank you,
Christy Haddad



Marcia Arn's request for information about her dad, Donald Bell, was in the November Taro Leaf. Her e-mail address was incorrect in that issue. Below are words written by Don Bell and sent to the Taro Leaf by Marcia. Her correct e-mail address and postal address are at the end of this article.

"I am going to print dad's handwritten account below with the hopes that I might hear from someone who may have served in the same area and dare to hope for someone who knew him. His name was Donald (Don) Bell from Wellman, IA. He died in 1972; our family is trying to learn more of his W/WII experience. Where does the battle of ZigZag Pass fit into this narrative, or does it sound like he wasn't there? At what point did the 63rd FAB serve a different regiment than the 34th? I haven't heard from anyone else who went from Mindanao to Mindoro at the same time he did when he was wounded. Was that a battle? We wish we could learn of how he earned the Bronze Star; the National Personnel Records does not have the information."

Don Bell's Notes

Worked on farm at home till entering the service in Dec., 1942. Inducted at Camp Dodge, IA. Sent to Camp Roberts, Calif., for basic training. Arrived there Dec. 25, 1942. Spent three months there, then shipped to Indian Town Gap, Penn. There thirty days, then back to Camp Stoneman, Calif. Then to Oahu, Hawaii. Joined 24th Infantry Division Battery A, 63rd Field Artillery

Battalion, as a radio operator and forward observer of artillery fire. In Schofield Barracks a short while and saw many instances of the 1941 Pearl Harbor bombing. Much of the debris was still around. We were stationed in the hills near Pupakei and Wahawai. After six months in Hawaii, I was shipped to Rockhampton, Queensland, Australia. I spent six or seven months there, where we took amphibious training. From Australia, I was sent to Goodenough Island, off the coast of Dutch New Guinea, with a short stop at the island of Pango-Pango. Spent about six-seven months on Goodenough Island. From there to Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea, and our first amphib landing under fire. An unforgettable experience and one you can't describe. We pushed inland about five miles to Hollandia airfield, which was really three fields in one. The corduroy road (made from logs laid side by side) broke down under the caterpillar tractors pulling our guns and A Battery plus a company of infantry, were marooned for about thirty days. Food and ammunition was dropped from planes. From Hollandia, we went to Lingayen Gulf, in Leyte, Philippine Islands. I was in a group of five observers who went in with the shock troops as a "Naval Fire Shore Control Party." We directed fire from the naval guns, until the artillery could get ashore. I was about twenty feet from Douglas "I will return" MacArthur, when he waded ashore for the first time since he had been driven off. We were in several battles on Leyte, but got within about two miles of Manila and were relieved and sent somewhere else. Four of us were in the party that made a landing at Corregidor pass and pushed through to liberate prisoners. After Leyte, my outfit made an amphibious invasion at Mindanao Island. From Mindanao, we made another invasion at Mindoro Island. We had been there about two months when I was wounded by a mortar shell on the 13th of May 1945, I went to a field hospital, then seven days later, was flown to a base hospital at Leyte. Awarded Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon, Philippine ribbon with four clusters, Unit Presidential Citation ribbon, sharp shooting medal and good conduct medal." Please contact Marcia Arn, 11203 Powder Mill Trail, Austin, TX 78750, (512) 335-0244, e-mail mjam51@hotmail.com. P.S. From writing letters to some, I have heard from a few wonderful gentlemen who have shared some of their experiences and gave me helpful information. I have also purchased and read Children of Yesterday by Jan Valtin. Thank you for your help.

Marcia Arn



Above is an excellent example of why service members need to write or record their own war experiences. More and more we hear from family members wanting any bit of information we have, or help we can give in their search. Even with this much information from Don Bell, his family needs more. Consider the feelings of your families, who know nothing at all about how

you, the service member, spent those months and years away from home. ♥

♥ ♥ ♥

John Moore, 3rd Eng., is looking for members from HQ & Service Co. who were in Korea 1956. John worked in the motor pool. Contact John at his home: 1309 Deer Lane, Quinlan, TX 75474-8421 or phone (903) 883-4432.

♥ ♥ ♥

Alan V. Hess is trying to locate Leon P. Boyer, 34th. He last saw Leon at Schofield Barracks. Does anyone know if Leon survived Pearl Harbor and if he is alive or deceased? Alan says thank you for any information. Please contact Alan, 229 South Center St., Cleona, PA 17042-3218.

♥ ♥ ♥

Thomas J. Thiel wants to find three old friends, Wilson, McConnell and Meyer. Pictures of these men are elsewhere in this *Tavo Leaf*. If you are one of these friends, or if you remember Thomas and would like to contact him, write to 19147 Park Place Blvd., Eustis, FL 32736-7262 or e-mail rthiel5@comcast.net.

♥ ♥ ♥

My name is Kenneth Terry Morrison and my brother was James L. Morrison. He went by Jim. Jim was killed on 5 July 1950. Jim was one of the first ones sent to Korea. He was stationed in Japan also. I would like to hear from anyone who remembers Jim. Please e-mail to mtpa@torch-lake.com.

♥ ♥ ♥

Earl D. Bonner Jr. is seeking information on his father's service with the 24th. Earl D. Bonner Sr. served on Leyte and Luzon and was sent to Korea possibly as an MP. Earl's grade may have been T4, he was called as JB by his friends. Contact Earl Jr. by e-mail at bronnecg@direcpc.com.



Would appreciate it if you would keep me informed.

Wes Morrison
Vice President

♥ ♥ ♥

Joseph Richmond, 21st, would like to make contact with any 24th members who may be located in the Greater Tampa Bay area of Florida. E-mail joseph.Richmond@worldnet.att.net, phone (727) 789-

3982 or write to 2707 Penzance St., Palm Harbor, FL 34684-3982.

♥ ♥ ♥

Cpt. Scott Greenblatt, 2nd Bn, 11th Field Artillery, Schofield Barracks, HI, is interested in locating any soldiers who have served in the 11th FA and are living in that area. The current members of the 11th FA are interested in meeting you and hearing your stories. Write to Scott: 95-1077 Wikao St., Milalino, HI 96780. E-mail GreenblattSC@schofield.army.mil or phone (808) 655-6496.

♥ ♥ ♥

Dave Teich, Major, Ret., formerly 3rd Tank Platoon Leader, Co. C, 6th Tank Bn., 24th, Korea 1950-1951, is trying to locate members of the 6th Tank Bn. If you were with 6th Tank, or know anyone who was, Dave is interested in talking to you. Ted Baker needs your help with a book, Korean War Project. Contact Dave at tankleader@aol.com.

♥ ♥ ♥

Paul J. Cain would like to make contact with anyone who was on Corregidor, PI, from 16 to 25 February 1945. Paul especially would like to talk to anyone who was on Malinta Hill the night the Japs blew up the Malinta Tunnel. Phone (217) 344-1462, e-mail pgeecain@prairienet.org or write to 3109 B Chathan Drive, Urbana, IL 61802-7044.

♥ ♥ ♥

This e-mail from Joe Wolf reminds all of us how much time and effort family members put into research while looking for answers to what their loved ones did during the "wars." Once more, please write your memories, or speak them into a recorder, or tell the stories to family members. Preserve those military records and our history.

Does anyone out there remember Joseph M. Wolf?

Dear Billy:

It's been several months since our last communication and I've been able to find out more about my father. To remind you, his military history is mostly a mystery to me and my family, but we did discover this tidbit of information. My dad, John M. Wolf, was in the 24th Infantry Division, Company MD3 according to the piece of paper found in the records center. I believe this was a "medical detachment," but he is listed as a PVT Rifleman (Enfield Expert). I know he also carried a BAR at some time. Another place on that paper seems to say "24th" then something like "Clt" then "Co. C." To contact Joe, e-mail joe@csgo.com.

♥ ♥ ♥

Good morning. I am trying to research a US Army officer's dress cap in my collection that is identified to "Major General E.A. Walker, Comdg. Genl 24th Inf. Division." I posted a note on a website seeking info and one of the

responders suggested I contact you. The individual recalled that the *Taro Leaf* contained an obit by Ken Ross and a photo of the general when he passed in the early 1980s. I don't mean to trouble you but would you have access to any info about General Walker? I would much appreciate any information you have and would really like to secure a photograph of him for display with the cap. Thanks for your attention and consideration of my request. Bill Howard, e-mail pmorgan3@nycap.rr.com.



My name is Allen Smith, I am a firefighter/paramedic in NJ and am also a collector and historian of cavalry. I am trying to locate a former Colonel who served with the 24th Div sometime after Desert Storm. His name is Col. John Brown. He was a Lt Col with the 3/5 Cav (3rd Armored Div) during Desert Storm.

Do you know of him? I am mainly interested in what unit he served with while assigned to the 24th Div. If possible, I would like to contact him so any help you can give me would be appreciated.

Thank you for your time and attention. Allen Smith, e-mail apsmith@comcast.net.



Billy Johnson:

I am unable to locate my discharge papers from 1953 and hope you can assist.

I began my service in the 24th Div in Korea in October 1951. When the 24th was transferred out in February 1952, I and several others were sent to the 40th Div which took the 24th's place. We were assigned to Battery B, 625th Field Artillery Battalion, 40th Infantry Division. I remained in the 40th until rotated back to the US.

I have the name of Bob Bice, Red Jennings and someone named Blatt from Wyoming who were also transferred

along with me into the 40th.

My service records were in St. Louis, MO, and were destroyed in a fire in 1973.

Do you have an address or e-mail for the 40th Division? I would appreciate being able to contact someone who might have more information. Hopefully you can find the above names in your records for the 24th. Wherever they went, so did I.

Thank you for your help.
Everett H. Britt



Do you remember Sgt. Joseph W. Krafchak Sr? Joe Jr. is looking for information from any of you guys who knew his dad. Joe Sr. was in the 19th Infantry, A Company. Joe's father passed away in 1991. Like many before him, he did not leave nearly all the information his family wants and needs to know of his time during the Korean War. If you can help Joe fill out his father's history, please write to 21633 Erben, St. Clair Shores, MI 48081, phone (586) 775-3076 or e-mail joseph_krafchak@hotmail.com. ♥



You know you come from a serious hunting family when:

- Your grandmother has ammo on her Christmas list;
- You have the local taxidermist on speed dial;
- You've been to court in a custody fight over a hunting dog;
- Christmas is your favorite time of year because you can sit on your roof hoping to fill your deer quota; and
- Your idea of fast food is hitting a deer at 65 mph.

Pickles

By Brian Crane



Korean vets swap tales of "forgotten" conflict

Belated honors please many who served in war

By Dan Miller

The Patriot-News, Harrisburg, PA

It took but a few minutes of conversation for Fred Graves, Bill Hosler and Les Blouin to be time-warped into that world only combat veterans understand.

They remember their time in Korea as if it were yesterday, even though yesterday was 50 years ago.

"It was frozen in the winter, and you baked to death in the summer. The artillery saved my butt at least 12 times," said Graves, a combat engineer.

Hosler was a 24th Division infantryman arriving in Korea on 4 July 1950, just days following North Korea's surprise invasion of South Korea on 24 June 1950.

Blouin was in the same area of Korea and, being in the artillery, would become one of Hosler's guardian angels. But neither man would know of the other until many, many years later.

"Just about every place Bill was, I was right there with him. Our trails probably crossed many times, but we didn't know it," Blouin said.

The three men continue exchanging stories, one right after the other with no end in sight.

Blouin and Hosler of Mechanicsburg and Graves of Boiling Springs were among Korean War veterans honored during a recent ceremony at the Mechanicsburg Area Senior Adult Center.

A number of events held throughout the Veterans Day week have focused on the Korean War. It is now 50 years since the conflict historians often refer to as the nation's "Forgotten War."

Lt. Col. Robert D. Walk, an Army War College student and guest speaker at the event, asked the veterans if any had seen the Korean War Memorial in Washington, DC.

Hands went up, yet the voice of one Korean War veteran came through the crowd, saying, "But it doesn't have any names on it."

Walk said about the only things most Americans

remember from the Korean War is "we didn't win" and Gen. Douglas MacArthur lost his command.

"To many Americans, it was a confusing war," Walk said. "But it was a war that needed to happen because it showed the world our resolve."

"In a lot of ways you could compare it to the current conflict. Osama Bin Laden didn't believe the US had the willpower to fight back. They were both proven wrong," Walk said.

Hosler was wounded on 3 January 1951 as the Chinese were pushing south. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He said he believes recognition of the nation's Korean War veterans is "long overdue."

"The Korean War vet never got the parades like the World War II guys. The World War II guys came back in ships. We came back one at a time," much as the veterans returning from Vietnam would a generation later, Hosler said.

Graves said he is glad to see more attention paid to Korean War veterans, even if it has taken this long.

"Each one sort of restores your faith a little in human beings," said Graves, who is originally from Bennington, Vt. He was drafted in 1950 and served in the Army until 1952.

Hosler and Blouin realized their connection in recent years, as they've gotten to know each other at reunions.

Blouin, a native of North Dakota, spent a career in the Army and then another career as a civilian working at the Naval Support Station in Hampden Twp. He is retired.

For Walk, the contribution of the Korean War veterans is perhaps best symbolized in a composite picture of the world at night. The northern half of the Korean peninsula appears dark while the southern half is well-lit, evidence of the economic prosperity of South Korea relative to its northern neighbor.

"This is what you helped achieve," Walk told the veterans. ♥





NEWS RELEASE

Public Affairs Office
Fort Riley, KS 68442
Telephone (785) 239-2022 Fax (785) 239-2592
After Hours (785) 239-2222
Email: 19extinfo@riley.army.mil
www.riley.army.mil



For More Information, Contact Christie Vanover, Deputy Media Relations Officer

Metz to Receive Third Star, Leave Fort Riley

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announced Dec. 16 that the President of the United States has nominated Maj. Gen. Thomas F. Metz for appointment to the rank of lieutenant general. The North Carolina native has also been nominated to fill the assignment as commanding general, III Corps and Fort Hood, Fort Hood, Texas.

Metz has served at Fort Riley since November 2001 as the commanding general of the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, and as of October 2002, he has served on temporary duty as the Chief of Staff for the US Central Command based out of Tampa, Fla.

Metz's new assignment requires confirmation by Congress, and it is not scheduled to reconvene until Jan. 8. Therefore, no change of command date has been set or his replacement named.

Metz was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and awarded a Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Military Academy in 1971. He also holds a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from North Carolina State University. His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, United States Army Command and General Staff College and United States Army War College.

His commands range from platoon to division level, and he has held numerous staff positions, including Aide-de-Camp to the Commanding General, US Army Readiness Region VI, Fort Knox, Ky., and Chief of Staff for the 1st Infantry Division (Mech), Fort Riley, Kan. Metz has also served in two joint assignments in Washington, D.C.

Metz's awards and decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Good Conduct Medal, the Expert Infantry Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab and Belgium Brevet "A" Commando.

Lt. Gen Metz Bids Farewell to Fort Riley

Fort Riley, Kan.—6 Feb 2003: Today was an emotional day at Fort Riley as Lt. Gen. Thomas F. Metz farewelled his soldiers and the Fort Riley community.

Metz relinquished command of the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley at 0900 in Hangar 817, where approximately 300 people gathered for the farewell.

While leaving Fort Riley is tough, he said he is happy to continue serving the Army and his country as Commanding General, III Corps and Fort Hood at Fort Hood, Texas.

"It is an emotional time for me," he said. "I love soldiers, and I love soldiering. There is no better place in the US Army or in the heart of the world that you get an opportunity to do that."

While it is hard to leave, he said he is very fortunate, upon departure, to take command of the III Corps and Fort Hood.

"There are many very important challenges ahead for the United States Army, and I'm glad that I get the opportunity to continue to serve my nation, soldiers and their families," said Metz.

He said the day after his departure ceremony it would be business as usual as he gets immersed in the details and operations at his new installation.

The 4th Infantry Division out of Fort Hood is preparing equipment and soldiers just as some of Fort Riley's are, he said.

"Those will continue because there is a long enough list and enough work to do that that will continue for a while," he added.

During the ceremony, Metz thanked soldiers, officers, spouses and the surrounding communities for their service to the Army.

"These soldiers are flat good," he said. "They are tough and physically fit to go out for a fight. They are disciplined."

As the senior reviewing officer, Lt. gen. Joseph Inge, commanding general, First US Army, offered his remarks at the ceremony, and said it is important to remember that we live in troubled times.

"We're here today to say farewell to Tom and Pam Metz, a soldier and spouse who dedicated all their lives to committing and serving the US Army and the nation—a magnificent soldier—a wonderful lady for a wife," he added.

Metz received the Legion of Merit Award at the ceremony for exceptional, meritorious service while serving as Commanding General of the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley.

His wife, Pam, received the Outstanding Civilian Service Award and the III Armored Corps Helping Hand Medallion for extraordinary contribution to numerous volunteer organizations dedicated to improving the quality of life and well-being of soldiers.

Inge said the United States has uniquely and properly chosen Metz to command III Corps, a corps that is beginning to lead the transformation of the Army.

"Tommy Metz has impeccable credentials to fill that position. He is a trainer, a soldier, a leader and he understands technology and technology development," he said. "We could not have chosen better."

"We wish you Godspeed and God's blessing as you leave for your new post," Inge said.

Drawing Tickets—2002

Income	\$24,090.91
Expenses	739.25
Prizes	5,000.00 (10 people won \$500 each)
Profit	\$18,351.66

- A savings account was opened at the First National Bank of Elk River.
- Tickets and letters were printed by Print Plus.
- Tickets and letters were assembled by volunteers; each member received 6 drawing tickets, cover letter and a self addressed return envelope.
- All members were mailed 6 tickets. Each ticket asked for a \$5.00 donation.
- One \$10.00 check was returned for non-sufficient funds. The bank charged an overdraft fee of \$3.00. A call was made and a follow-up letter was mailed to the purchaser asking for \$13.00 but there was no response.
- Members did not have to mail in any money to participate...this information was stated on each ticket. Very few members returned the tickets without any money.
- Some members included money for dues with their drawing tickets; that money was sent to the Secretary/Treasurer.
- The drawing was held Saturday, 21 September 2002 in Kansas City, Missouri, immediately following the membership meeting. A volunteer from the audience did the drawing.
- Due to the overwhelming response from the drawing I suggest we continue with this fundraiser. It was not a lot of work considering the amount of money it raised.

And the lucky \$500 Winners were...

Eugene J. Bieniek	24th Replacement	1331
George M. Brown	24th Medical	1326
Joan R. Cunningham	34th Infantry	1329
Lawrence Hegstrom	19th Infantry	1333
Richard T. LaFlame	11th Tank	1327
Yvonne Mullins		1324
Lois Polito	19th Infantry	1330
Joseph Rizzo	19th Infantry	1328
Basil Steed	24th Recon	1334
Evan Walker	34th Infantry	
(Grandson of Chester B. Walker)		

All the Weird Stuff

A Montana district judge ruled in January that for a homicide suspect with apparent multiple personalities, exercise of a Miranda right by one of them carries over to all the others. Tessa Haley lawyered up when police sought to question her about the stabbing death of her roommate, and though police questioning ceased, Haley transformed into "Martha" and spontaneously confessed to the crime, according to officers. Judge Thomas Honzel ruled that Martha's statements could not be used against Haley (although Haley is still free under existing law to argue that she is not responsible for Martha's crime).

wrappers down Frisco Street, across the railroad tracks, and into the mobile home park where Brown lives.



Australian Supreme Court Justice Barry O'Keefe rejected the challenge of a drug-possession suspect in November that his rights had been violated during his arrest. Contrary to the suspect's contention, O'Keefe said that when Rocky the police dog nuzzled the suspect's crotch, it was merely a "social gesture" that dogs habitually do, rather than an indecent assault.



Michael Brown, 33, was arrested in Marked Tree, Ark., in January and charged with burglarizing the lobby of the Marked Tree Bank after security cameras caught him hauling away a clock radio, a CD player and a handful of Dum-Dum suckers, which the bank has on hand for customers' children. The next morning, according to the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, police followed a trail of Dum-Dum

Officials on Rankin Inlet, on the north shore of Hudson Bay in Canada's Northwest Territories, began installation of an artificial ice rink because rising temperatures in the last three decades have reduced hockey season from nine months to five. And a female murder victim was identified (even though her body had been dismembered) when the coroner checked the serial numbers on her breast implants. ♥

3rd Engineers

The 3rd Engineers met in Branson, MO, for their reunion this year. We had a good turnout and everyone had a good time. We took in several shows, toured the Veterans' Museum where Eli Hostetter and Mary Roth found their brothers' names on the wall of World War II casualties. A moving moment for both of them.

Next September 14th, 15th and 16th, we will meet in Tucson, Ariz., for our reunion. The same week, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th, the 24th Division will meet. So save the dates and plan to spend the week attending one or both reunions. We'll have a great time.

Any questions, contact: Don or Dorothy Lloyd, 6804 Occidental, Yakima, WA 98903. Telephone: (509) 965-3231.

e-mail: dotandon@nwinfo.net.



Short Back Row: Billy Johnson, Eli Hostetter, Don Roth and Ray Cook.

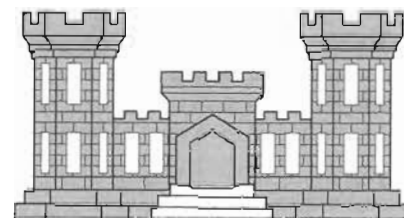
Second Back Row: Chuck Neverovich, Eugene Greenwalt, Don Finney, Dick Otto, Bill Ladany (at flag), Don Lloyd, Minie Johnson, Mary Roth, Ethel Cook.

Middle Row: Wilma Hunt, Helen Greenwalt, Dee Finney, Bev Otto, Dorothy Lloyd (at flag), Minie's cousin, Evelyn Seebo.

Front Row: Mary Baker, Ivan Baker, Enrique Pino and Aurora Pino.

3rd Combat Engineers will be meeting in Tucson, Arizona, 13 through 16 September 2003. The 24th infantry Division Association is from 17 through 20 September, same city, same hotel, so plan on attending both. We'll have a lot of fun.

Anyone who was in the 3rd Combat Engineers, any years, send us information we can put on our page in the *Taro Leaf*. Send your funny stories, war stories, photos, deaths, inquiries about former buddies, buddies who are ill, etc. We will do our best to keep this informative, and about you! Contact: Don and Dorothy Lloyd, 6804 Occidental, Yakima, WA 98903, Phone: (509) 965-3231, e-mail: dotandon@nwinfo.net. ♥



Engineers from our past 1938—
They built the gun emplacement
in Hawaii.
Sent in by old engineer
Robert Maher, Sr.



Hear Ye, Hear Ye

The *Taro Leaf* has received a true Warrior Story from Lloyd T. Potterson.

I was a member of E Co., 19th Inf., and served in New Guinea and the Philippines. Captain Ebbetts was my Company Commander. I was the first American soldier to cross the bridge into Palo.

I was carrying a BAR. Captain Ebbetts came up to me and told me to run across the bridge as fast as I could and get under a porch on the second house on the right. He said the rest of the company would cover me.

That was a long bridge, carrying the BAR and all the ammo I could carry. The minute that I got across, the church door opened and people came running out. I held the BAR on them till I was sure there were no Japs in the group. This was 21 October 1944.

We dug in around the church for the night. About 2 am, all hell broke loose. No sleep again.

We started for Castilly on 26 October. I was wounded and evacuated to the church in Palo, which was made into a hospital. I was sent back to Hollandia for further treatment, and then shipped back to a hospital at Colorado Springs, Colorado. On 2 November 1945, I was sent home.

I lost many good friends in the short time I was in Leyte.

God Bless America.



OK. We goofed! The story about Lee Marvin and Captain Kangaroo is e-mail folklore; however, Lee Marvin was a Marine and a hero, earning a DSC. The DSC gave him the right to be buried in Arlington. Captain Kangaroo was a Marine; however, there was no action during the time he served. John M. House, Div. HW, was the first to forward this information to me. Thanks to each who wrote or called.



Carl Mason, 3rd Engineers, has raised \$1500 of the \$2500 needed to put a Taro Leaf plaque in the Museum of the War of the Pacific. The Plaque will list all battle areas where our Division has fought. Let's get behind Carl and get this plaque made. I should have a copy of it for the May 2003 *Taro Leaf*.



OK. Put your beer down and listen up! This is important! Guy Sheppard issued hunting permits to some of you in KC. Guy says he has not received a report of anyone getting their bag limit, so he is expecting those reports in Tucson.



In this issue of *Taro Leaf* you will find the list of members who have agreed to serve on our Nomination Committee for

2003-2004. Like all of us, they do not know everyone in the Association. Like most of us, we personally know a few members and have a lot of wonderful acquaintances. So talk it up, and let's find our new officers for the coming year. Phone, write or e-mail to a committee member and say who, and why, you would like to have a certain member run, or *why you feel you would like to have that position yourself*.



Received a message that Donald R. Porter had lung cancer surgery 27 January 2003. Donald will have surgery on the other side this month. I know all wish Don the very best and a speedy recovery. Get Well cards may be sent to his home: 1836 Arthur Street, Hollywood, FL 33020-3101. Phone: 954-920-1871.



Domenic T. DeMilo writes: "Dear Dutch, while sorting out my records and bills for 2002, I ran across my drawing tickets for the reunion. Sorry I did not get them in, but please accept my donation of \$24.00 to help with the mailing of the *Taro Leaf*. Enjoyed the last one very much as it had articles and pictures of my era with the 24th." K Co. 21st regt 1946-1948.



Dear Dutch, enclosed find a check to cover dues for next year. Joyce and I did not get to the reunion this year. Joyce went through surgery for cancer. The treatment was a success in that the cancer was removed. We are still fighting the effects of the Chemo. We missed being at the reunion and seeing friends there. You generally call me "Ordinance." Maybe that will put a face to the name. Dutch, you do a hell of a job for the Association. Thank you. Eric Weber, 1119 31st St. Bellwood, IL 60104-2449.



If we list only an e-mail address, that is all we were provided by the person writing to the *Taro Leaf*. If you do not use e-mail, and want to get a reply message to someone whose name is listed, send a note to the *Taro Leaf* and we will make every effort to get a mailing address for you.



Attention • Attention • Attention

WWII Memorial Dedication is set for Memorial Day, Saturday, 29 May 2004. This is long overdue. If any of our members plan to attend, let me know. I am sure our Reunion Coordinator, Wes Morrison, would find a hotel and reserve room for us. Now is the time to do it. DC hotels book up early for summer tours and the thousands of veterans who will be in town for that weekend, so now is the time to start thinking about it. ♥

Taro Leaf

2 January 2003

24th Infantry Division Association

Ref. Life Member #921

I was assigned to the Hqs. & Hqs. Co. 21st Inf. Regt.

The time was as I remember, April 1945, on Mindanao, PI.

My assignment was first as a perimeter guard around the Hqs. Later I was transferred to Message Center just prior to the end of the war. We soon left for Japan, and was stationed in what was a former Japanese Army post, in Okyahama on Honshu Island. I stayed until after the New Year, 1946.

I have lost most all records of other men in my unit. I would like to hear from anyone assigned during that time.

A very interesting story that began the day I got off the ship and was assigned to the 21st. I had been on the ship and without a bath for quite a time and the salt water made me feel sticky and itchy. I asked the guys in my guard post where I could take a bath. They identified a small stream not far away. I got my towel and headed to the spot for a much-needed bath. There were a couple men already in the water. About the time I got there one guy left, leaving myself and a man who had a patch of gauze on his back. He asked me to wash around the patch and try not to get it wet. I accepted the request and accomplished the task without any problem. I, of course, was a new replacement, and didn't know any better as a kid. I began talking to the guy and using very bad language. We left the water and began to walk back toward the CP. I had my arm around the guy's neck and I was trying to dry his back, I knew I had found a new friend. Upon getting back to my post the men asked me about my bath and if I knew to whom I had been talking? I said no, why? It just so happened that was Regt. Commander Verbeck. I felt like a fool. Later when I was driving his jeep I apologized for my language at the water hole.

The Colonel (at that time) had been wounded more than once. He was and has always been a great inspiration to me. Many years have passed but the time I spent with the 21st is still a very important part of my life and in my memory.

I went on to spend a total of fifteen years in the Army and Reserves.

I thought about reading the *Taro Leaf*, for several years, I would share the above story. Feel free to use it, file it, or what ever.

Thank God for all those who've served and are serving our Country today.

God Bless America. ♥

Kenneth W. Hammer
4429 Harwen Terrace
Fort Worth, TX 76133

Dear Dutch,

Here is some information it seems most people are not aware of:

Why has it never been made public that on or about 19 June 1940 we had an "all-out alert" at Schofield Barracks that we were being attacked by the Japanese?

All plans in those days were called "Code Yellow"; guess why.

I was a platoon sergeant in Company H, 21st Infantry, and was ordered with my platoon plus a rifle platoon from Company G to guard all water, electrical and any other installation in the vicinity that was vital to Schofield operations.

We immediately set up machine gun nests and dug foxholes. Riflemen were in foxholes about 100 feet from the machine guns along the main highway in front of Schofield. The sentries would challenge all walking personnel or vehicles. If the cars failed to stop when challenged, I would fire a burst of tracer ammo across their bow which immediately changed their minds. We also guarded Wheeler Field. Note: In Addition: Revetments were built to protect the aircraft. Why was the alert called off on Friday, December 5? Why were all the aircraft on the runway? General Short was a tough commander. ♥

Regards,
Ed Farmer

Edward J. Olender served in three wars. He was a PHS, WWII, Korea and Vietnam. 21st Inf. Company I, 1941—
There were only 230 soldiers in three wars earning the Combat Infantry Badge. ♥

Bob Newkirk
(914) 658-9364

Chinese Army Propaganda

Your folks want you

HOME
and
SAFE

That's where you should be, and can be. We know you were ordered here—you didn't chose to come.

We sent some captured men back to your lines.
Why did MacArthur stop them from talking?

They would have told you that men who have put down their arms and come over to the Chinese people's volunteers are receiving good treatment and will get home—all in one piece.

That's the Road for You

We are ordinary Chinese people who have volunteered to save our homes. You are ordinary American or British people. We have no reason to hate you. But we Chinese, like the Koreans, cannot stop fighting while you are here carrying out orders to invade our lands.

YOU HAVE ONLY ONE WAY BACK HOME

Get wise to yourself. The people who got you in this mess are making plenty on this deal. Do you want to die for their dividends?

HERE'S WHAT TO DO
..... (use this as a safe conduct pass)

When you see a Chinese soldier: Put down your weapon and say

投 TOW SHONG 降
(surrender)
Tow rhymes with show Shong rhymes with long

DO YOUR FOLKS AT HOME A GOOD TURN—THEY NEED YOU

We guarantee you safe conduct and your return home as soon as possible.

The Chinese People's Volunteer Forces

SAFE CONDUCT PASS

We guarantee:

If you put down your weapon and say

TOW SHONG

(surrender)

TOW rhymes with SHOW
SHONG rhymes with LONG

投

降

You will be escorted to the rear—to safety. You will get medical treatment if you need it. You will be well treated and, in the end, you'll get home in one piece.

THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S VOLUNTEER FORCES

WHY ARE YOU HERE?

No one believes this bunk about a "United Nations" war. How many British, French and other troops are here? Just enough to make propaganda about. It's an American show and you are the sacrifice.

THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S VOLUNTEER FORCES
K 2

**YOUR BUDDIES ARE DOING FINE HERE
IN A POW CAMP**



From Dickie Griesler to Mrs. Amanda Griesler, of Ring Street, Howland, Maine dated February 25th 1951.

"I am in fair health and in high spirit. We are receiving excellent treatment."

COME OVER! Join your buddies here. You will go to the rear in safety and get home in one piece.

Leave Korean to the Koreans.

-----USE THIS AS A SAFE CONDUCT PASS-----

When you see a Korean People's Army soldier or a Chinese Volunteer soldier, lay down your gun and shout:

投 "TOW SHONG" 降
(Surrender)

We guarantee you safe conduct and good treatment.

THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S VOLUNTEER FORCES

CHINESE VOLUNTEERS WELCOMING NEW POWs



From Paul B. Miller to Mrs. Miller, Route 1, Madisonville, Alabama dated January 14, 1951.

"I am a prisoner of the Chinese People's Volunteer Forces and am safe and well. They have received me as a friend."



From Willard A. Riger to Mrs. Mary Riger of Route 2 High Point North Carolina dated January 25, 1951.

"They are very good to us all. Our wounded get medical attention."

SENT IN by Victor Holloway

Sent in by Victor Holloway

50 years later, soldier returns to a different Korea

Fifty years later, it has never been more clear to Dan Rickert why he went to Korea and did his duty as a soldier in the US Army.

The years have not diminished the harsh memories of what he saw there, and a trip back to Korea brought a whole new batch of memories. This time, they're good memories of the amazing things he saw on the streets of Seoul, South Korea.

"Here, see this?" he was saying the other day, seated on the sofa at his daughter's home in Quartz Hill, armed with two thick photo albums. "See these beautiful children? Their teacher stopped me as we were walking and asked me to speak to these beautiful kids, and I did. Look at them. Don't they look great?"

Rickert closed the 2002 photo book and picked up the old one, the one from 50 years ago. He showed me a picture of a starving little boy begging for food. "Here," he said. "This is how I remember the Korean children. See the difference? We used to give them candy. They were starving."

The people of South Korea, most of them anyway, have never failed to see that difference and now they're doing all they can to show their gratitude to the Americans—now in their late 60s and their 70s—who fought in the Korean War. Rickert, a Valley area resident for some 46 years and a Gas Co. retiree, was among those accepting the invitation of South Korea's version of the Veterans of Foreign Wars to come and see the nation as it is today.

It's a good reminder, given the headlines of the day.

One need only look across the border, to the tyranny of North Korea, to see the fate that would have awaited the entire country had the United States not intervened. "We

went to the border, and the first thing you notice is that the guards on both sides are facing the same way—north. The North Koreans keep people in, and the South Koreans keep people out," Rickert said.

"The North Korean soldiers look at you with sheer cold hatred," said Kathleen Clark, Rickert's daughter and a teacher in the Lancaster School District.

Dan Rickert was 22 when he got called up for duty in June of 1951, just 10 days after marrying his sweetheart, Beverly. He was one of the older guys. Most were 18 or 19. He told the gas company he wouldn't be in to work for a while and off he went to basic training at Fort Ord, followed by infantry training. He was selected for the army engineers purely at random, and he thought that

was a good thing. But he found out the engineers were often right in the thick of the action, deep in enemy territory. He was a member of D Company, Third Combat Engineers, in support of the Fifth Regimental Combat Team, all part of the 24th Infantry Division.

The Rickerts have kept up with friends and former colleagues from Dan's unit through the years, and they jumped at the chance to go back. They were given first-rate treatment everywhere they went.

They visited the War Memorial in Seoul, viewing the cemetery where some 500,000 soldiers are buried.

"That bus got awfully quiet then,"

Rickert said.

The soldiers were treated like heroes, returning heroes, which is what they are. They marveled at the high-tech high rises in Seoul and the progress of the people south of the DMZ. "All of us came out of there feeling that we'd done something right," Rickert said. ♥



Back in Korea—Korean War veteran Dan Rickert and daughter Kathleen Clark attend a dinner in Seoul in honor of American soldiers.

Fort Riley requires Microchip ID for pets (Think about it: soon G-1 will have a chip...)

Beginning June 24, all Fort Riley residents are required to have their pets implanted with a microchip ID. The Fort Riley Veterinary Services will microchip all dogs, cats and equines through 31 July on a walk-in basis. The microchip costs \$17 for the first animal and \$15 for every other animal implanted the same day.

Appointments are still required if pets need vaccinations or need to be seen for other health concerns.

(You know dog tags may be replaced on GIs in the future.) ♥



From Kenn Oster (3/15):

I deployed to the Persian Gulf in August 1990 with Delta Company, 3/15 Infantry, out of Ft. Stewart, Georgia. The 24th ID was a rapid deployment unit, which resulted in our being put on alert the first week of August and arriving in country (Saudi Arabia) before the end of the same month. We married up with our vehicles and headed out into the desert for what would become a nearly 8-month stay.

My job was dismounted squad leader. Being in a mechanized unit we were dispatched to clear bunkers and fighting positions, and mark enemy munitions and equipment for the engineers to destroy. At the outset of the ground war we captured Iraqi soldiers, searched them and loaded them onto trucks headed to the rear. These were some weary, beaten men who wanted nothing more to do with the war.

As I stood guard over one such soldier, my weapon pointed at his head as he was searched, he raised his hand toward me. In his fist was a large wad of Iraqi money, which he desperately wanted me to have. At the same time he offered me the money, he kept repeating, "Bush number one, Saddam no good," as if the statement assured his safety. When he opened his hand to offer me the money, the wind, which was blowing extremely hard, ripped it free and sent it sailing across the desert floor. His face bore a sinking expression as we both watched the money flutter into the distance in bright red flashes. Looking down, I noticed that a single bill had wrapped around the ankle of my boot. I reached down and grabbed it, almost without thinking, and stuffed it into my pocket. We then loaded the vehicles and drove on with the mission.

I still have that same bill, framed and hanging on my wall with my other memorabilia. I don't know what it means, but I know when I look at it, I can still hear the wind roaring past my Kevlar helmet as I watch the bright red money fly away across that desert in southern Iraq. The frightened, defeated look on the Iraqi soldier's face as he was loaded on a truck stays with me. As he was taken away, I realized he was no more certain about his future than I was about mine. ♥

Kenneth

I just returned from an extended trip following our reunion in Kansas City and I wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed it. I had a great time. Got to see some of my buddies when we were stationed at Camp Mower 1949 and 1950. Congratulations on your reelection as our President and all the best in the coming year. I was not able to personally thank Johnny Rodriguez on the good job he did so if you will, please convey this to him. I know there were some who had nothing but complaints, but then they would not be happy unless they had something to complain about. So again, thanks for all that you and the others do for the Association. ♥

Dan Cretaro
D/31

An American soldier serving in World War II had just returned from several weeks of intense action on the German front lines. He had finally been granted R&R and was on a train bound for London. The train was very crowded, so the soldier walked the length of the train looking for an empty seat.

The only unoccupied seat was directly adjacent to a well-dressed, middle-aged lady and was being used by her little dog. The war-weary soldier asked, "Please, ma'am, may I sit in that seat?"

The English woman looked down her nose at the soldier, sniffed and said, "You Americans! You are such a rude class of people. Can't you see my little Fifi is using the seat?"

The soldier walked away, determined to find a place to rest, but after another trip down to the end of the train, found himself again facing the woman with the dog. Again he asked, "Please, lady, may I sit there? I'm very tired."

The Englishwoman wrinkled her nose and snorted, "You Americans! Not only are you rude, you are also arrogant. Imagine!"

The soldier didn't say anything else, he just leaned over, picked up the little dog, tossed it out the window of the train and sat down in the empty seat. The woman shrieked and railed, and demanded that someone defend her and chastise the soldier.

An English gentleman sitting across the aisle spoke up, "You know, sir, you Americans do seem to have a penchant for doing the wrong thing. You eat holding the fork in the wrong hand. You drive your cars on the wrong side of the road. And now, sir, you've thrown the wrong bitch out the window." ♥

Army buddies meet after 59 years

Two years ago, Bill Willmot of Merritt Island received a letter from Redondo Beach, California. The name on the return address, Eric Diller, looked somewhat familiar but Bill couldn't quite recognize it. On opening the letter, there was a note asking Bill if he was the fellow who had taken basic training with him at Camp Fannin, Texas, back in 1943. The author of the letter stated that he had seen Bill's name in a recent issue of a military newsletter. The mention of Camp Fannin immediately brought back memories of an old buddy who had in fact taken his basic training at Camp Fannin.

Bill immediately recalled that Eric had been in the same squad, had shared the same barracks, and they had frequently gone to town together on weekend passes. Eric's letter was immediately answered and an old friendship had been renewed.

The two men had completed their basic training in December 1943 and immediately departed on a 13-day delay-enroute (furlough). Before leaving the camp, their company had been told that half of them would be going to Fort Meade, Maryland, and the other half would be going to Fort Ord, California.

It turned out that both men were headed for Fort Ord although neither one knew that the other was also headed

there. At the time, all contact was lost and on arriving at Fort Ord both men were assigned to different units. Surprisingly, they both left Fort Ord and sailed overseas on the same ship, the USS *Monticello*, which carried some 8,000 troops.

Surprisingly, after arriving in New Guinea, both men were assigned to the same Infantry Division but to different regiments. Also, both were assigned to heavy weapons companies as machinegunners. Neither man knew of the other's assignment and both went through the remainder of the war never separated by more than 5 to 10 miles or at the most by 40 or 50 miles.

In December 2002, Eric and his wife were visiting Florida and stopped off to visit Bill and his wife. The two men had not seen one another for 59 years since they had finished their basic training in 1943.

Says Bill, it is amazing that two old Army buddies would actually meet again after not having seen one another for 59 years. Bill adds that it just goes to show that this is indeed a small world. ♥

D. Oster
Sgt., US Army



Dear Billy and Minnie:

At the Kansas City Reunion last September, I passed along to our 24th Division family over 100 24th Division Terrorist Hunting Permits, you two included.

I expected, when I read my issue of the Taro Leaf, to see a list of names of those who had seen, captured or apprehended at least one terrorist. I am heartbroken. Maybe we are getting old, complacent or lazy. We ain't what we used to be. I can remember a time, like in 1944-45, when we would have already rounded up these scoundrels and be celebrating by drinking a beer or two from our beer ration.

Have a great new year and continue giving us a good quality *Taro Leaf* that we all look forward to. You are doing a great job.

Respectfully but disappointed ♥

Guy Sheppard
13340 Willow Springs Road
Hasler, TX 76052
817-439-3397

Back Cover of Taro Leaf, Fall 2002

PFC Preston McKnight shown in the photo was a 23 year old enlisted reserve from Hancock County, West Virginia. He was one of 36 replacements assigned to Charlie Company, 19th on 4 January 1951. The company was at Chulong-ni in the vicinity of Seoul when he joined. At the time the photo was made, the division was set up on Line D in defensive positions in the vicinity of Yongdang, South Korea. PFC McKnight was killed in action on 8 February 1951 while assaulting the Chinese MLR north of Ichon during Operation Thunderbolt. ♥

From January 1952 Command Reports

Radio Peiping of Communist China announced that the 19th Infantry, having been decimated by the Chinese Volunteers, was being withdrawn and replaced by the 160th Infantry (40th Infantry Division), which was composed of sixteen-year-old soldiers. ♥

Reply to Karen Brooks

PFC Jack E. Brooks, George Company, 19th Infantry, was wounded on 19 September 1950 and died of those wounds on 11 October 1950. You gave no mailing address, else I would have sent you a form to obtain his Individual Deceased Personnel File from: US Total Army Personnel Command, ATTN: TAPC-ALP-A, 200 Stovall Street, Alexandria, VA 22332. ♥

Joe Sweeney
Historian, 24th IDA

Letters to the Home Front

Terry

P.S. Be sure to insure the package for twice the value, I've seen how they handle mail.

29 May 1952

Yo, Mama,

How yah doin, Ma. How come I got no mail from you this week, lost your pen? You know you're my favorite mom and letter writer. I heard the word that you are also the president of my fan club. Is this true? When were the elections? I would have voted for you. Did you have to make a speech?

Let me tell you this job gets some kinda boring sometimes and it don't always make sense either. The other day two prisoners made a break for it and we had to ask permission to shoot, and then convince the Sarge we wouldn't really hurt them. And all the while these two guys are running their you know whats off. So my buddy and I finally get an okay and I yell, "you take the right," and we each put a round by these guys' feet. They stopped dead in their tracks; threw up their hands. But guess what? Sarge got busted for letting us fire at escaping prisoners! Why are we even guarding them and keeping them here? Why not just let them go so they can shoot at us some more? I think I am beginning to learn about politics like you said I would. I also think I don't like it.

About that break by the prisoners: things they don't tell you in the news back home. You know how we call the bathroom the throne room? Well, we have this great big tent where a baseball team could be all on the throne at the same time. And I mean throne. You have to step up about a foot to this platform where there's a double row of toilet seats, back to back (about 20 of them). Anyway, there I was on my throne and all of a sudden guns started going off in the distance. And there was this pop, pop, pop and I figured real quick that it was bullets going through the tent roof! Ya, know. I almost forgot to wipe getting out of there.

And we were the alert company anyways, so I had to get into my gear and fall out with the other guys. And bullets kept flying all the time. It turns out we didn't have to go. Well what actually happened was that an R.O.K. soldier had to go inside the compound for a P.W. and for some reason killed him with his weapon. Well the commies got a hold of him and some Korean M.P.s went inside to get him and that's when they let out their yell and charged towards the M.P.s and the gate and then the shooting started. The sum total of dead was about seventy-five commies, no Koreans or G.I.s. We don't really know. What happened then was that some Sergeant backed a jeep up near the compound fence with a .30 caliber machine gun mounted in the back and when the prisoners started to climb the second fence, he mowed them down. While he was doing this some major was screaming at him to cease fire, we don't have permission to fire. Can you imagine this jerk? If all those prisoners got loose, they would be killing us with their bare hands, and this officer wants to wait for permission to shoot, huh! Like I said, I'm learning about politics and I don't think I like it. If you read anything in the papers, clip it out and send it to me.

I'm glad that we're getting out of here soon. Rumor has it that we will be going north to the line, called MLR, as in Main Line of Resistance.

So where's my camera and film? I hope you didn't go and lose my money on the ponies again. I keep sending you money to put in the bank for me when I get home, but you never tell me how much I have so far, and it worries me more. You know when I get back I want to finish high school and go to college or else I... ♥

Front Row Seats

An usher in a very posh theatre noticed a man sprawled across three seats. "Sorry, sir," the usher said, "but you're only allowed one seat." The man groaned but didn't budge. The usher became impatient and said, "Sir, if you don't get up from there I'm going to have to call the manager." Again, the man just groaned, which infuriated the usher who turned and marched briskly back up the aisle in search of his manager. In a few moments, both the usher and the manager returned and stood over the man. Together the two of them tried repeatedly to move him. "All right buddy," the manager said, "what's your name?"

"Sam," the man moaned.

"Where did you come from, Sam?"

"The balcony." ♥

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1st Bn 34th and 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Division ♥

Bless Your Heart

Author Unknown

Someone once noted that a Southerner can get away with the most awful kind of insult just as long as it's prefaced with the words "Bless her heart" or "Bless his heart."

As in, "Bless his heart, if they put his brain on a head of a pin, it'd roll around like a BB on a six-lane highway." Or "Bless her heart, she's so buck-toothed, she could eat an apple through a picket fence."

There are also the sneakier ones that I remember from tongue-clucking types of my childhood: "You know, it's amazing that even though she had that baby seven months after they got married, bless her heart, it weighed 10 pounds."

As long as the heart is sufficiently blessed, the insult can't be all that bad, at least that's what my Great-aunt Tiny (bless her heart, she was anything but) used to say.

I was thinking about this the other day when a friend was telling me about her new Northern friend who was upset because her toddler is just beginning to talk and he has a Southern accent. My friend, who is very kind and, bless her heart, cannot do a thing about those thighs of hers, so don't even start, was justifiably miffed about this. After all, this woman had chosen to move south a couple of years ago. "Can you believe it?" she said to another friend. "A child of mine is going to be taaaalllllkkkin' a-liliike thiiiss." I can think of far worse fates than speaking Southern for this adorable little boy, who, bless his heart, must surely be the East Coast king of mucus. I wish I'd been there. I would have said that she shouldn't fret, because there is nothing so sweet or pleasing on the ear as a soft, Southern drawl. Of course, maybe we shouldn't be surprised at her "carryings on." After all, when you come from a part of the world where "family silver" refers to the large medallion around Uncle Vinnie's neck, you just have to, as Aunt Tiny would say, "consider the source."

Now don't get me wrong. Some of my dearest friends are from the North, bless their hearts. I welcome their perspective, their friendships and their recipes for authentic Northern Italian food. I've even gotten past their endless complaints that you can't find good bread down here.

The ones who really gore my ox are native Southerners who have begun to act almost embarrassed about their speech. It's as if they want to bury it in the "Hee Haw" cornfield. We've already lost too much. I was raised to swanee, not swear, but you hardly ever hear anyone say that anymore, I swanee you don't.

And I've caught myself thinking twice before saying something is "right much," "right close" or "right good" because non-natives think this is right funny indeed.

I have a friend from Bawston who thinks it's hilarious when I say I've got to "carry" my daughter to the doctor or "cut off" the light. That's OK. It's when you have to explain things to people who were born here that I get mad as a mule eating bumble-bees. Not long ago, I found myself trying to explain to a native southerner what I meant by being "in the short rows." I'm used to explaining that expression (it means you've worked a right smart but you're almost done) to newcomers to the land of buttermilk and cold collard sandwiches (better than you think), but to have to explain it to a Southerner was just plain weird.

The most grating example is found in restaurants and stores where nice, Magnolia-mouthed clerks now say "you guys" instead of "y'all" as their mamas raised them up to say. I'd sooner wear white shoes in February, drink unsweetened tea and eat Miracle Whip instead of Duke's than utter the words "you guys." Not long ago, I went to lunch with four women friends, and the waiter, a nice Southern boy, you-guys-ed us within an inch of our lives. "You guys ready to order? What can I get for you guys? Would you guys like to keep you guys' forks?" Lord, have mercy. It's a little comforting that, at the very same time some natives are so eager to blend in, they've taken to making microwave grits and biskits in a tube (abominations), the rest of the world is catching on that it's cool to be Clampett. How else do you explain NASCAR tracks and Krispy Kreme doughnut franchises springing up like yard onions all over the country?

To those of you who're still a little embarrassed by your Southernness, take two tent revivals and a dose of red-eye gravy and call me in the morning. Bless your heart. ♥

King Arthur legends come from ancient tales. Recent translations reveal he met with his followers in a "tabled rotunda," a sort of temple.

Understandable how "tabled rotunda" came down as "round table." But the fellow had no round table, evidently. ♥

Billy,

Enclosed find the Organizing Picture of A Battery
11th FA 24th Division

We were prior to that D Btry 11th FA—Hawaii
Depart.

Our quarters were in the newer barracks on the west
side of Schofield Barracks.

Our barracks were on the north end of the Schofield
Barracks and on the south side of the parade grounds also
on the west side of the railroad tracks.

Kolly Kolly Pass was straight up the road to the west of
us.

When the Japs hit us, they came from the east at
Wheeler Field dropping their bombs there then headed
west over us strafing.

The first plane I seen I was getting out of bed and
some old timers were yelling those are the red forces and
we are the blue.

See, they are not firing in on us.

The arrow points to our window and Freeman Smith
was either #1 at the window and I #2. Maybe one more
but there went the red circle by our window.

According to my directions in case of prep for the field
it was my duty to immediately get my field fatigues on and
go on foot to the plotting car in the field maybe 2 blocks
away.

As I came out of the barracks something nicked my
left arm at the elbow. I exited where noted on the front
page here. When hit I knew it was Japs so I went back in
on 1st floor as we slept on the 2nd. We had a supply room
on the right side of the passage and I went in and broke
the lightweight chain that went through the trigger hole
and got my pistol, a .45 caliber, and went to the supply
sergeant's desk and got shells he had shown me a few days
earlier.

I then went out to the storage building and got every-
thing installed on the plotting car ready to move out.

Now note, I did all this myself without any orders
which was my duty.

I then went out by the guns to see what orders to do.
Now note, we were both coast artillery and field artillery.
That meant we had both to man but the coast artillery
first and the GPFs were already in the field in the north.

At this point, I had to wait for orders. No officers or
NCOs were to be seen and the strafing had stopped and
people were milling around in wonderment. A friend of
mine, one of the truck drivers, was there and asked me
what he should do. I looked back at the sheds and the
howitzers plus trucks were in the sheds. I told him I would
be getting the guns scattered out so the enemy could not
blow them all. He did that and everyone else followed
suit. Yes, everything was out on the parade ground.

At about 10 AM we were ordered to go to our mess
hall. Note we had not ate yet. Our battery CO, Capt.
Little, then told us the Japs had hit us. He asked me if the

plotting car was ready to move out and I said Yes Sir!

Now note again I was not even a Private First Class.
Never was, in fact. I was a Technician 4th Class. This was
changed shortly never to be used again as far as I know.

Now at about noon we moved to the field on the
north shore just up east of the soldiers beach where we
had the GPFs set. I finished laying them and then Capt.
Little asked me if I knew where the howitzers for the
battery would go and I said Yes Sir!

Yes I did.

He then said the new officers would meet me and I
would lay the guns. He said the guns were on the way and
I was to bring them in and lay the battery. He assigned his
driver of his command car to intersect the guns and take
them up in the eucalyptus format.

Here things started to erupt. First we went to the vil-
lage a quarter mile from the GPFs where we would go to
the KAM Highway and up toward Schofield to meet the
howitzers. At the village where we were then a Japanese
who lived there ran out and asked me if we would get his
wife to the hospital. We were going by it so she came in.
They rode in the back seat of the command car and short-
ly we heard a thud. Yes. New life.

When we got to the hospital shortly they weren't
going to let her in so I just drew my pistol and minds were
changed. That episode cost us no time.

Then to find those guns as we had no sign of their
reaching us. We had to go all the way up to the post and
found they had gone on so then away we went back and
clear to where we found the guns at the bridge to the east
of where they should be.

Now came the problem, how do you turn a battery of
guns around and have #1 gun lead the parade on a narrow
highway as it was then? I decided to exchange the men.
Boy what an uproar.

Also something else. We hardly knew the men from
one section to the other and few knew me and also the
section chiefs were on furlough or transferred about Friday
so few even knew me and I did not even have a sleeve
patch as in those days they did not have a T rank or
patch. So at night as it was then, and no lights except blue
dots on vehicles, I could be a captain or anyone and no
one was going to argue. We got the guns up in the eucal-
yptus forest and reassigned. Sometime later the guns may
have been changed but I doubt it.

The officers I was promised never arrived as they were
in a serious accident, so I learned. It ended up that I laid
the guns and did the required for having the guns ready to
fire at 4:00 am—as required by orders. Many other things
happened there or near such as the Midway battle. Yes, on
to Australia, New Guinea, Philippines, Leyte and Luzon,
plus the LST at Battan and 34th RCT.

We were there.

Yes, I have the records as well. ♥

Philip H. Nast
2367 Apple Ridge Drive
Duluth, MN 55811-4261

Lt. Paul Cain, Company Commander I Co. 34th Inf., 24th Division WW2

I was fortunate, as a Second Lt. Fresh out of Benning, to have been assigned to I Co. Fortunate because Paul Cain was the CO. He had been in the Pacific for over a year and had seen action in New Guinea and Leyte. Paul accepted me for what I was, a green officer who had a hell of a lot to learn and a very short time to learn it if I were to stay alive and not have men in my platoon needlessly killed. He was calm under fire and somehow transmitted a feeling of confidence that spread to the men around him.

Paul also had a dry wit. An incident, the memory of which has stayed with me over the years, occurred in a place called Zig Zag Pass in Luzon early in January '45. The company had moved into a perimeter defense for the night. We had taken some tree bursts, had a few casualties and were preparing our holes before it got too dark. I had situated my men and automatic weapons to cover my platoon's section of the perimeter and then moved to Cain's hole for final instruction before it became too dangerous to be above ground. Paul and I talked for a few minutes and while we were talking, he was taking his boots off. In a matter of fact way I said, "Paul, do you always take your boots off at night?" He replied, "yes, don't you?" I said no. "Why, are you going someplace?" he responded. "I don't know, but if I decide to I don't intend to stop to put my boots on" was my answer. Paul laughed and continued to rub his bare feet as I scooted back to the safety of my hole. Seeing him remove his boots was his way of telling us all that he would be there when the sun came up the next day. It was the small things that he did, always appearing unafraid, never rattled, always in control of his voice, that said to us that he was the man that would get us home alive. ♥

Capt Edward Farmer

Boy! That name sure brought a lot of memories! Just got your Christmas card. Thanks for thinking of me and it was nice to hear from you again.

You must be kidding! It's been over fifty years ago and you're going to tax that old head of mine to think that far back? Well! I think the 1st Sgt was a guy named Hardin and he was from Rhode Island. He was short and stocky. I think the G3 Sgt was a blonde fella, named Carl Erickson, he's a Swedish fella, for I do remember, he makes a pretty good Japanese flag, but he did not know how to write the Japanese characters on it for him, so that he can peddle the flags down at the air strips for things from the Air Corps guys and the flags look pretty good, for I wrote my Chinese names all over it. What a memory! I can still remember good old Hallandia. Three airstrips, one bombers strip, another was for fighters and the other one for transport plane and Old Man "Doug" has his headquarters on top of a hill, overlooking all the strips. As a matter of fact, after all the combat die down, we build our camp up along side of the hill, overlooking the bomber strip and protecting the outer perimeter. I can still remember one incident. Our camp site was make-shift, so everyone have to do their KP and I remember that it was my turn to cook (I keep telling them that I don't know how, but they insist, so with our 10 and 1 rations, try to think of something nice. I remember seeing sacks of rice piled up down by the strip and since I haven't had any for a long time, went down there and scooped me a pan full, went down to the stream to wash the rice, but little bugs keep popping up to the top of the water. The more I washed, more bugs keep popping up. Then I notice that quite a few of the bugs were clinging onto the rice grains. Finally I got tired of picking the bugs. I just dumped all the cans of hams and eggs (powder) in with the rice and put it on the fire. After it was cooked, I brought the whole pan back to camp and hollered to the guys, "chow." I must say the food looks pretty good—if you're hungry—and guys really went for it. They asked me what are all those little black spots and I told them that they were some Japanese pepper that I found. They asked me why I am not eating and I told them I was eating as I was cooking (which was a big lie, for I wouldn't eat those bugs). Never told anyone about this incident; that's why I am still here.

Well! Ed! I think you tax my brain enough, so until the next time I hear from you, a very happy holidays to you and your family. Good health! a

"Ole" Sgt. Ed Lee

24th Infantry Division Honor Roll

Submitted by Joe Sweeney, 24th IDA Historian

Name	Unit	Date	Rank	ASN	Residence	Korea
Arnold, William H.	5th	1969				•
Atkins, George	34th	Dec. 2000				
Austin, Everette Jr.	24th Recon, 21st	1999				•
Babcock, George W.	19th	1987				•
Bass, William	5th: F Co	June 1985				
Beckwith, William	5th					
Bercaw, Roger M.	555 FA	1983				
Brantley, Charles P.	21st: 3d Bde HQ; POW	25 June 2002				•
Bravard, Harold R.	29th	27 July 1950	PFC	RA16313750	Wayne, IN	•
Brimberry, Bud	5th: F Co					
Brockman, Martin C.		1998				
Cahill, Francis X.	29th	27 July 1950	CPL	32084975	New York, NY	•
Coghlan, Thomas E.	5th	19 Sep 1950	CPL	RA14274558	Pike, MS	•
Collette, Joseph R.	5th	7 June 1952	2LT	O 2201458	York, ME	•
Combs, Bobby V.	5th: I Co	2 Sep 1952	Sgt	RA13320260	Letcher, KY	•
Conroy, Thomas E., Jr.	29th	27 July 1950	Pvt	RA12329237	Hudson, NJ	•
Copas, George	5th: I Co	18 July 1953	CPL	US53120409	Sullivan, TN	•
Cottle, Billy L.	6th TK: A Co					•
Cross, Harold R.	5th: K Co	27 July 1953	SFC	RA16268746	Wayne, MI	•
Cunningham, Wayne C.	6th Tk: H&S; POW	19 July 2000				•
DeVries, Gerrit L.	5th M Co	Oct 1986				•
DiPino, Frank J.	34th: I Co; MIA	31 Dec 1953	PFC	RA11165706	New Haven, CT	•
Ekers, Floyd K.	21st	11 July 1995				•
Falin, John	555 FA: A Btry	12 Aug 1950	PFC	RA13338235	Raleigh, WV	•
Fisher, R.J.	5th	1999				
Fisher, Ronald J.	29th	27 July 1950	PVT	RA17273503	Marshall, LA	•
Freedman, George K.	5th	1995				
Gant, Pappy	5th					•
Gillingham, Charles	34th	20 July 1950	SGT	RA06889905	Beaver, PA	•
Goble, Kenneth P.	5th: Tk Co, A Co	1981				•
Gorman, Joseph P.	5th: HQ, S-3	1982				•
Greenberg, Jerome E.	5th: Med, C Co	31 July 1952	PVT	US51137901	Kings, NY	•
Harris, Louis A.	5th: A Co; POW	1991				•
Hatfield, Robert H.	555 FA					
Haworth, Perry R.	21st	5 Nov 1950	SGT	38589268	Cherokee, OK	•
Hendricks, Judd	555 FA; Bosnia	2 May 2001				
Holmes, Willard B.	5th: B Co	7 Dec 1951	PVT	US52003101	Lorain, OH	•
Howard, Luther	5th: C Co	12 June 2001				•
Hutchison, George F.	5th	1981				•
Jackson, Arthur	21st; POW	1992				
Judy, Henry E.	21st: L Co					
Kiecka, James C.	24th Sig	1976				•
Lang, Raymond J.	5th; POW	22 April 1951	PVT	US52058653	Franklin, OH	•

24th Infantry Division Honor Roll

Submitted by Joe Sweeney, 24th IDA Historian

Name	Unit	Date	Rank	ASN	Residence	Korea
Leathers, Harry F.	5th	8 Aug 1950	CPL	37818823	Wyandotte, KS	•
Love, Charles A.	29th: HQ; I&R	27 July 1950		RA14289034	Bay, FL	•
Marek, Raymond W.	5th: I Co	26 July 1953	CPL	US55306070	Chariton, MO	•
Martin, Dickie C.	29th: B Co	27 July 1950	PVT	25834303	Limestone, TX	•
Mathews, James L.	11th FA: A Btry; POW	2 Nov 1950	SFC	RA15045260	Warren, KY	•
McCall, Russell L.	5th: 72d Engr	1972				•
McPherson, Loren L.	29th: 1st Bn	2 Aug 1960				
McQuiston, Vance Ray	5th	24 Sep 1950	SFC	35160090	Lake, IN	•
Mexico, Frank	5th: 72 Engr	1994				
Myers, Paul	555 FA: C Btry	1996				•
Musselwhite, Willie	29th	27 July 1950	SGT	44024458	Macon, GA	•
Naylor, Clifford M.	29th	27 July 1950	PFC	RA16307293	Shiawassee, MI	•
Newport, James	5th	13 Oct 1999				•
Odom, Billy James	5th: G Co	27 Jan 1952	PFC	US54028580	Garza, TX	•
Olsson, George A.	21st: E Co	Dec 1993				•
Palmero, Philip T.	5th: Tk	1999				•
Phillips, Carleton T.	21st	1959				•
Powell, Fred M.	21st: M Co	13 April 1952				•
Pratersch, Kenneth	24th Med: D Co	1994				•
Radke, Thomas	5th: B Co	25 July 2001				•
Rice, Curtis R.	5th: B Co	13 Oct 1951	PFC	US54025085	Tascosa, TX	•
Rose, Vernon		11 March 1985				
Roshon, Robert W.	29th: I Co	27 July 1950	PFC	RA12092110	Albany, NY	•
Schlaak, Leonard	555 FA: HQ	1978				•
Sheehan, Edward J.	21st: L Co	March 1978				•
Sheehan, Thomas F.	21st: M Co	1986				•
Short, Thomas L.	5th: A Co	25 April 1951	PFC	RA13338374	Allegheny, MD	•
Shuman, Herbert C.	5th	13 Aug 1950	CPL	35752659	Trumbull, OH	•
Simard, Joseph A.F.	29th	27 July 1950	PVT	RA11199525	Androscoggin, ME	•
Sloan, Theodore	POW	1996				
Speakman, Clويد V.	29th	27 July 1950		23182508	Madison, KY	•
Staah, William T.	21st	16 March 2001				
Sremer, Alton	5th: L Co	19 June 1950	PFC	US52219186	Somerset, PA	•
Steward, David D.	19th	21 Sep 1950	PVT	RA19360369	Imperial, CA	•
Stratton, Bruce	21st	15 May 1995				•
Talmadge, Jack	13th FA: HQ	6 Dec 2001				
Tillman, Bernard J.	29th	27 July 1950	PVT	RA12272597	Ramsey, MN	•
Trector, John J.	52d FA	Jan 1999				
Waldron, Edward E.	555 FA	Feb 1985				•
Webb, Coy R.	19th: B Co					•
Wells, George E.	5th: C Co	1 Sep 1997				•
West, Richard K.	21st: I, F Cos					•
Whitsitt, Robert J.	19th: B Co	10 Sep 1952	PFC	NG28114231	Los Angeles, CA	•
Wyatt, Lindon	5th	1981				•

Dr. Morrissey's 34th Infantry Journal

28 Oct 1944

Air raids all night but no bombs dropped in our area. At dawn the perimeter was attacked. Seventeen Japs killed. "A" Company had three wounded. As soon as they were taken care of the Bn moved out. A large bridge on the edge of town was blown up and crossing was difficult. My detachment and I were in the middle of the column. After a 300 yard advance down the road we were all pinned down in a ditch by machine gun fire. Evacuated one litter case back over the river then hurried to catch up with the Bn.

Very exhausting hot march. Now in the open steaming valley. Our objective was Alang-Alang, but at 4 p.m. we were short of objective by two miles and preparing to dig in on edge of another small town. Colonel Newman came up and said someone had to get to Alang-Alang by night, so we quit digging and got on the road. While we were marching Colonel Clifford went ahead by jeep to the town. They were met by heavy fire, three men wounded, so they returned, stopped us and we formed a perimeter with the road in the center. We had just begun to dig when an artillery shell lit in the forward part of the perimeter. I ran up thereto find three killed, eight seriously wounded. Just then the rain began to pour furiously and it began to get dark. The first man I saw was bleeding from a jagged hole in the neck. It was a hell of a thing there in the rain not being able to do anything but having to try anyway. This man died on the way in and another next day of cord injury.

No supper. Foxhole full of waer. Not much fun. Our artillery...

29 Oct 44

I have never been so filthy before. My HBT suit is coming apart at the knees and back. We moved ahead on the road and passed through Alang-Alang without trouble. Our objective was Cuvite. Not much of a town, but a key point as the road divided here into the Carrigara branch and Barrugo branch. To reach this junction it was necessary to cross a long bridge over a swift river. The bridge was the steel span type common on our roads. The river banks steep and overgrown with vegetation. Many trees on both sides. Our point ran into a lot of fire at the bridge. Japs dug in on reverse slope. Trees and brush full of snipers, who popped down the road driving all of us into the ditches.

We were held up all morning. Had ten wounded and heat exhaustion was prevalent. Tanks would run up, fire a few rounds, then beat a hasty retreat. Neither artillery nor mortars could reach the Japs on the reverse slope although they did succeed in knocking out a log bunker about ten yards square in the middle of the road directly across the bridge and landed one right on the center of the bridge making a gaping hole.

In the afternoon "B" and "C" Companies engaged the Japs on this side while 2nd Bn crossed the river on the right flank and came rapidly through the brush cleaning up the far bank. After about one hour of a red hot fire fight, we got

both sides of the river. Had some more wounded including my good friend Lt. Frost's belly wound, then helped get those of 2nd Bn back across the half demolished bridge. Dug in again in the dark and almost without food.

30 Oct 44

Rained like hell last night. We stayed here along the river. Had a good bath and rinsed clothes. Our kitchens caught up with us and we had hot food all day.

Held sick call this afternoon. About 100 men attended. Most common complaint is inflamed feet. The alternating soaking by rain at night and broiling on the road by day has produced a maceration of the skin and denuded areas. Evacuated nineteen men for feet, fevers, etc.

1 Nov 44

Around daylight seven Japs crossed the stream below the church and began to set up a mortar. Our machine gun mowed them down. 2nd and 3rd Bns engaged in big fight outside of town. Japs on a heavily wounded mound and using heavy mortars and artillery. Had another big sick call. Mostly feet.

We moved out about 4:00 p.m. and passed long lines of jeep ambulances with wounded. Some very severe wounds today. Many amputations. Col. Newman put out of action by bullet in abdomen while being where he shouldn't have been—at the point.

4 Nov 44

"B" Company out in front went under mortar fire and had one man killed by machine gun fire when about 200 yards from the bridge. They deployed to high ground. The Japs were strongly dug in on reverse side of hill and lower down on the creek bank. "B" Company could not advance. "A" Company left the road and went to high ground passing through "B." They rested near us and we heard their 3rd Platoon Sergeant telling his weary, foot sore, unshaven, hungry men that the only way to get the Japs out would be with bayonets.

We prepared for casualties at the point 200 yards from the bridge where the highest ground gave us defilade. The artillery had been pounding away with no effect on the dug-in Japs although one of their machine guns across the creek was knocked out.

It was at this time when we got the first disconcerting news about the Jap column nearly ten miles long moving up the Orimoc Corridor toward Limon.

"A" Company established a Command Post on top of the hill. One platoon was to work up the creek bed from the left while another went right down on it—from the top. The Japs charged the Command Post twice, screaming, throwing grenades, waving swords. They had eight to ten killed in hot close fighting each time. Meanwhile the rest of "A" Company got down into the draw where a bitter bayonet and grenade fight went on in a space about 100 feet long and thirty feet wide. The sides were about even, thirty

men each. Our men killed seventeen and lost ten killed. The rest of the Japs fled. Down where we were taking in casualties one of our light machine guns was set up on the road trained on the bend. As "A" Company fought an occasional Jap would be squeezed out and the machine gun would open up as he ran across the road.

The Japs lost sixty killed in this hot spot today. We had twelve killed, twenty wounded, most from one platoon of "A" Company. The last wounded wasn't back till dark. We got him out, but he died later. We made an attempt to get one more but couldn't make connections. It was too dark and I had the men come back, which was the only reason I went along.

Our 3rd Bn—or rather, a reinforced company—made an amphibious movement by alligator past us to land near where the road climbs up the mountain.

They were supposed to have done away with a lot of Japs before things got too hot. They came back about twilight.

5 Nov 44

We rested today while the 2nd Bn passed through. I saw the creek bed where the fighting had been yesterday and we brought the bodies out. Thank God I'm not a rifleman. Near the scene of battle were two sad heaps of humanity. In the first were five Filipino men, bound and bayoneted. In the second three women and three children, bound, bayoneted and partially burned.

We marched slowly this afternoon to join 2nd Bn and Regiment two miles up the road. Plenty of time to rest, dig in and eat. ♥

Brig. Gen. Umbarger to receive second star

by Dor Yount

US Army Forces Command Public Affairs Office

Army National Guard Brig. Gen. Roy M. Umbarger, Deputy Commanding General (Reserve Component), US Army Forces Command (FORSCOM), will receive his second star in a ceremony to be held at FORSCOM headquarters Monday at 9 am.

Gen. Larry R. Ellis, FORSCOM commanding general, will host the ceremony.

Umbarger has been assigned to FORSCOM since May. He oversees the training, mobilization and deployment of the reserve forces in support of Army operations worldwide.

An Indiana native, Umbarger joined the Army in June 1971, two years after receiving his bachelor of science degree in business from the University of Evansville in 1969.

Before his assignment to FORSCOM, Umbarger was the Assistant Division Commander (Training), 38th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Indiana National Guard in Indianapolis. a

Originally published in the Fort McPherson, GA, Army Sentinel newspaper. General Umbarger was the honored speaker at the 24th Infantry Division Association Memorial Dinner at Covington, Kentucky, in September 2000.

Hi Dutch and Margo:

Hoping you're feeling better as I read you had another set back, while back.

I'm Bob Kadrlik and I was with the 19th Regt. F Co, in 1951.

I spoke to you about this in Colorado Springs or Little Rock. It was my first fire fight and I was point man. After we took the hill, we were all sitting around taking a break. I needed a cigarette but didn't have matches. There were two GIs coming up the path and I asked the first one if he would give me a light. He kind of looked at me and gave me a light. A while later, one older guy asked if I knew who that guy was. I said no. He's our FO, he told me. Well, I didn't see no brass, but I noticed that your clothes were a lot cleaner than ours.

Why I remember it so well, because it was April 13, a Friday, my lucky day. After I seen you at Colorado Springs, I knew you were that man. Well, Dutch, I'm glad we all made it. And those that didn't, we'll just have to remember them.

So you and Margo keep up the good work and God Bless.

Bob Kadrlik

I haven't been well since Little Rock, in and out of hospitals. And last July I had a pacemaker put in and in August I got a stroke. But we'll all make it, but it's a little too slow. We'll have a good reunion in September. ♥

Bye.

Who was the first woman in the United States to have a statue put up in her honor?

Hannah Duston, in what later became New Hampshire. She was particularly skillful when she worked alone with a knife and a hatchet. Twelve Indians killed Hannah's daughter and captured Hannah in 1697. Temporarily. She killed 10 of them and took home their scalps for the bounty money. ♥

A Page for Artillerymen

11th Field Artillery, Pusan Perimeter

A well-drilled 155mm gun crew. Gun is in full recoil. Number 1 is reaching for the firing lock and breech handle; two men starting to lift loading tray with next projectile (96 lbs.), rammer-staff and charge ready to go. Missing is the bucket of water and swab—indicating the urgency of the situation. I have seen the situation so bad and the crews so short that one man carried the projectile up on his shoulder, another pushed it into the powder chamber and they both rammed it, another put in the charge, #1 already had the firing lock in—slammed the breech shut and it's "On the Way." Again, no time to swab the gun—an extremely dangerous situation. Ammunition for the 155mm went up to Charge 7, but I have seen situations where the 11th would throw in an extra powder bag and fire "Charge 8." Also note there is no gun pit or protection of any kind for the gun crew. The desperate situations we faced at that time necessitated these extreme measures, but in doing them there was a cost in cannoneers' lives lost. (2nd Lt. Dutch Nelsen, 13th Field Artillery.) ♥



2002 Ladies Breakfast, Kansas City



Dee Finney and Minie Johnson, wearing her favorite robe, were checking the breakfast list. Ninety-three ladies had registered, 127 attended. Thanks to Diane Peters, Dot Lloyd, Julie Eull, JulieLynn Johnson and the other true Ladies of the Taro Leaf, the breakfast was a success. Hope to see all of you in Tucson, pre-registered please.



Beverly Rickert said she enjoyed making her outfit. She was beautiful!



Linda Jeanne Johnson with her Aunt Evelyn.



Dot Lloyd and Beverly Rickert dressed for breakfast.



Evelyn Seebo from Chesapeake, VA, came to the reunion with a great program prepared for us.



Hey, I told y'all I was not dressing for an 8AM breakfast.

Fifty Years!



Over a half century had passed and then two men who had served together in Mindanao and Japan, A.T. Company, 34th Infantry Regiment, 1945-1946, got in contact with each other. They decided to attend their first ever 24th Infantry Division Association reunion in Kansas City, MO. It was a very enjoyable reunion indeed.

Henry J. Poth, 429 Niagara St., Kiel, WI 53042 is on the left and Lawrence Brockmann, N2349 Overgaard Road, Elroy, WI 53929 is on the right.

We are looking forward to the next reunion in Tucson, AZ.



Margo Nelsen's Prize-Winning Photo

The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks got Flag Day, 14 June, to be a national event. On this day, every Elks Lodge in America conducts an observance of that special day. Last year, Dutch was to give the "History of the American Flag" portion of the ceremony. Margo snapped this picture as Dutch sat on the dais waiting for things to begin. She submitted this photo in a state-wide competition under the title "Still Serving," and was one of the winners. For her efforts Margo won a fancy 35mm camera with all the buttons and dials, and had her picture sent off to competition at the National level. **Way to go, Margo!**

Further Thoughts from the Sec/Treas

1. I have been getting many, many good and interesting photos from you guys, all of which I'd like to see in the *Taro Leaf*. But, unfortunately, most of them are of such poor quality that Billy and I both know that they will never reproduce. Back in the times of WWII and Korea, photography was not what it is now—that's for sure. If you have an interesting photo but it is of poor original quality, and you put it on a Xerox machine and send us the result—forget it. We need the original, but in this there is danger that you may not get it back. I never had a very good brain to begin with, and it is now 78 years old and been too close to a couple of too many cannons. Thus it may come back to you or it may not. Sad but true. So if your photo is of great value to your family either have it professionally copied or don't send it.

2. All you *Old Timer Life Members* listen up. You are entitled to a brass Life Plate with your name and number engraved on it. The cost of the plate, engraving and postage is a hefty \$12.96—but at no cost to you. This is part of what you are entitled to when you upgrade to Life. So if you were never issued one, let me know and I'll take care of it.

3. You no doubt saw that to print and mail the last issue of the *Taro Leaf* cost a bit over thirteen thousand bucks—and that is by design, not accident. It was realized a few years ago that the only things we can really do for our members are the Reunions and the *Taro Leaf*. Statistically, only one out of every seven members get to the reunions, but every member gets the *Taro Leaf* four times a year. So even I can figure out that the *Taro Leaf* has to be our main effort.

4. The above notwithstanding, the Tucson Reunion is already shaping up to be a winner. We have a bunch of *gung-ho*'ers down there all fired up about it. Some great ideas already taking shape—including, of all things, some "goodies" in the Goodie Bags.

5. I have to say one more time how much I and my Company Clerk (I'll be paying for that) appreciate the nice comments so many of you put in your letters. They sure do ease the load and brighten the day.

6. Still having problems with the IRS for the former Sec/Treas'ers failure to file and pay the necessary payroll taxes. Now they want to lay a Civil Fine on us. Our CPA, Harp, is working on it.

7. President Billy Johnson has appointed the Nominating Committee for the September elections. So here is your chance to step forward and show everyone how we really should have been doing things. ♥



An "Expert" does not necessarily know any more about the subject than you do. He is only better organized and has slides.

Taro Leaf Taps

*And also that every man should eat and drink,
and enjoy the good of all his labour,
it is the gift of God.*

Ecclesiastes 13:3

11th FA

Donald Ison

19th Infantry

Noble L. Ayers, Jr.
Lestern J. Berends
Jerome A. "Jerry" Von Mohr
B.J. "Bobby" Hunt

21st Infantry

Albert Braden
William L. McCoy

24th Medical

Ralph J. Kaufman

34th Infantry

James F. Brogan
George E. Neville
John J. Mrowca

Quartermaster

John F. Malodogi

Unit Unknown

Thomas H. Hewes

11th FA

Donald Ison

Donald passed away 3 August 2002. Donald was a veteran of WWII. His wife Gladys and sons survive him. Cards may be sent to: RR 3, Box 63, Grayson, KY 41143-9509.
19th Infantry

Noble I. Ayers, Jr.

Noble, 86, of St. Joseph, MO, passed away on 17 August 2002. During WWII, he served as a Captain in the 24th, earning a Purple Heart while on duty in the South Pacific. Cards may be sent to: 103 Winston Pl., St. Joseph, MO 64506-3147.

Lester J. Berends

Lester passed away 29 August 2002 in Grant, MI. Cards may be sent to: PO Box 165, Grant, MI 49327-0165.

Jerome A. "Jerry" Von Mohr

Jerry, who was 72, passed away 5 August 2002 at Hospice of Dayton, OH. Cards may be sent to: 3847 Villanova Drive, Dayton, OH 45429-4542.

Bobby J. "B.J." Hunt

Bobby passed away on 24 December 2002 at a hospital in Payson, AZ, after a long illness. He was buried in an Arizona National Cemetery near his home. Bobby J. was attached to the 19th Inf. Regiment Companies B and C while in Korea 1950-51. He also served as Regimental SGM of the 19th on his second tour in Korea. Cards may be sent to the Hunt family at: HC 3 Box 508, Payson, AZ 85541-9708.

21st Infantry

Albert Henry Braden

Doctor Braden passed away on Sunday, 21 October 2002 of natural causes. He was with the 21st as Battalion Surgeon, with the 34th as Regimental Surgeon and with the 24th Medical Battalion as Battalion Commander in the Pacific Theatre. Cards may be sent to: 11202 Tyne Ct., Houston, TX 77024-7416.

William L. McCoy

Bill, a member of Company A, 21st Regt., during the Philippine Campaign, passed away 19 June 2001. His wife Joan passed away 28 October 2000. Cards may be sent to: 1925 Monte Largo NE, Albuquerque, NM 87112.

24th Medical

Ralph J. Kaufman

Captain Kaufman died 10 November 2002. He was buried in Brownsville, NY. Ralph was a 1/Sgt of Company C before receiving a battlefield commission in Korea. Cards may be sent to: 6145 Courtly Alcove, Apt. B, Woodbury, MN 55125-4361.

34th Infantry

James F. Brogan

Mrs. Jean Brogan sent a card to let us know that James died 11 August 2002 after a series of illnesses. Cards may be sent to: 1421 Union, Port Huron, MI 48060.

John J. Mrowca

John was a WWII veteran. He earned the Purple Heart while serving with Company K as a platoon leader. His wife Florence, their children and grandchildren survive John. Cards may be sent to: 4117 W. 58th Pl., Chicago, IL 60629-4907.

George Earl Neville

Mr. Neville was 78 when he passed away at home on 8 October 2002. Services were held at United Methodist Church, Horseshoe Bend, AR. His wife, eight children, sixteen grandchildren and six great-grandchildren survive him. Cards may be sent to: 1506 N. Shore Drive, Horseshoe Bend, AR 72512-5344.

Quartermaster

John F. Malogodi

John served with the 24th QM from 1 July 1958 to December 1959. John passed away 29 June 2002. Cards may be sent to: 3 Chadwick Rd., Burlington, MA 01803-3603.

Unit Unknown

Thomas H. Hewes

Thomas died 19 September 2002 in Northampton, MA. We don't know which outfit Thomas served with, but we do believe he was a Taro Leafer. He sported a Taro Leaf on his spare tire cover. Memorial gifts may be made to the American Lung Association or the Alzheimer's Association. If anyone recognizes Thomas from his Taro Leaf days, please contact the 24th IDA Historian, Joe Sweeney, or the Taro Leaf Editor. Cards may be sent to: 117 South Street, Chesterfield, MA 01012.

Noble I Ayers Jr.
1916-2002

Mr. Noble I Ayers Jr., 86, St. Joseph, Mo., died Saturday, 17 August 2002 at a local health facility.

Mr. Ayers was a real estate agent with the former Eder Agency and previously co-owner of Ayers Auto Supply of St. Joseph.

Born 31 May 1916 in Horton, Kan., Mr. Ayers lived most of his life in St. Joseph.

During World War II, he served as a Captain in the United States Army Infantry and earned the Purple Heart in the South Pacific.



Albert Henry Braden, MD
1915-2000

Dr. Albert Henry Braden, Jr. passed away on Saturday, 21 October 2000 of natural causes, surrounded by his loving family in the privacy of his home. He will be deeply missed as a devoted and loving husband, father and grandfather. Dr. Braden was born to Dr. Albert Henry St. and Kathleen O'Connor Braden on 19 July 1915 in Beaumont, Texas. He graduated from San Jacinto High School in 1932, from Rice Institute in 1936 and from the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, in 1940.

After serving an internship at Kansas City General Hospital he was inducted into the 120th Medical Regiment of the US Army on 15 August 1941 as a first lieutenant. Dr. Braden also served in the 21st Infantry as a Battalion Surgeon, the 34th Infantry as a regimental Surgeon and the 24th Medical Battalion as Battalion Commander. Dr. Braden saw extensive action in the Pacific Theatre where he was awarded the Silver Star Medal, the Bronze Star Medal, a Meritorious Service Unit Citation, the Philippine Liberation Ribbon with two Bronze Service Stars, the Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon with three Bronze Stars and the American Defense Ribbon.

The following is an excerpt to the citation accompanying his Silver Star: "During the night of 23-24 May 1944 an undetermined number of enemies attacked the perimeter of the unit which Captain Albert H. Braden, Jr., was attached in New Guinea. With complete disregard for his own personal safety he administered medical care to our wounded and checked the dead, using a flashlight, thereby endangering his own life by becoming a visible target for the enemy. His calmness and devotion to duty under hostile fire reflect great credit on himself and on the military service."

Upon his discharge as a Major in 1945 Dr. Braden served his residency at St. Louis City Hospital.

John J. Mrowca

John J. Mrowca, WWII US Army Veteran, Purple Heart Recipient, 24th Infantry Div., 34th Infantry Rgmt., Co K Platoon Leader. Beloved husband of Florence, nee Klaslo; loving father of James [Jacqueline] Mrowca, Mary Ann

[Timothy Pirk] Mrowca, Lori Ann Mrowca, Julie Ann Mrowca, Rita Ann [Gregory] Hatfield and JoAnn [Michael] Louer; dearest grandfather of Daniel, Linda, Thomas, Emily, Joseph, Michael, John, Sarah and Nicholas; son of the late John and Julie Mrowca.

Thomas H. Hewes

Of Chesterfield, 19 September 2002, Thomas H. Hewes, 72, of 117 South St. Survived by his wife Louise M. (Piech) Hewes, his step mother Irene Hewes, 4 sons Jeffery M and Paul Hewes and Christopher and Cary Day, 2 daughters Debra Hewes and Lisa M. Cyntron, 2 brothers Robert and Frederick Hewes, a step brother Robert Houle and a step sister Karen Hollywood, 7 grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. The funeral will be Monday morning 10am at the Ahearn Funeral Home, 783 Bridge Road, Northampton. Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery. Calling hours are Sunday from 6pm-8pm.



"Jerry" Von Mohr dies after lengthy illness

Dayton—Jerome A. "Jerry" Von Mohr, who rooted for University of Dayton athletic teams from a wheelchair for more than 50 years, died Monday at Hospice of Dayton after a lengthy illness. He was 77.

A Dayton native, Mr. Von Mohr graduated from Stivers High School in 1943 and UD in 1953.

"We've had a lot of loyal Flyer fans down through the years and there are a lot of loyal ones out there right now, but none any more loyal than Jerry Von Mohr," UD football coach Mike Kelly said Monday. "He'll be missed at the sporting events and as a personal friend."

A veteran of World War II, Mr. Von Mohr had both of his legs amputated at the knees in May 1945 after an army jeep in which he was riding ran over some dynamite in the Philippines. He was sent to Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, DC.

"I was on the amputee ward, but right then I took on a philosophy that's served me well ever since," he said last November. "The way I saw it, just because I was injured, I shouldn't think the world owed me a living. My life would be what I made of it."

Mr. Von Mohr worked at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base until his retirement. ♥



Memories of 2002 Reunion, Kansas City



Dan did it!



Billy told you? I don't know anything about it. Really!



One of the happy winners.



David Spencer, Rudy Weher, Bill McFarland, Don Williams and Jim Leher enjoying the hospitality room.



Two happy winners.



Jim Hill presents CSM Pete Arroyo an award from Korea for military service in Korea. MG Thomas Metz, CG, 24th Infantry Division, looks on.



Enjoying the hula competition—what are they laughing about?



24th ID Aloha Banquet. I have no idea who belongs to the legs.



Happy dancers? It's all in the feet.



Evelyn Seebo and Julie Lynn Johnson.



24th ID Aloha Banquet. I have no idea who belongs to the legs.

Memories of 2002 Reunion, Kansas City



Mimie and Don Lloyd selling at the Quartermaster table.



Color Guard from the 24th Infantry Division (Mech).



Registration



Hospitality Room.



Thanks to our hardest worker,
on-site Reunion POC Johnny Rodriguez.



Registration



Registration



Walter "Slick" Marszalek and
Lloyd, Harry Truman look-alike.



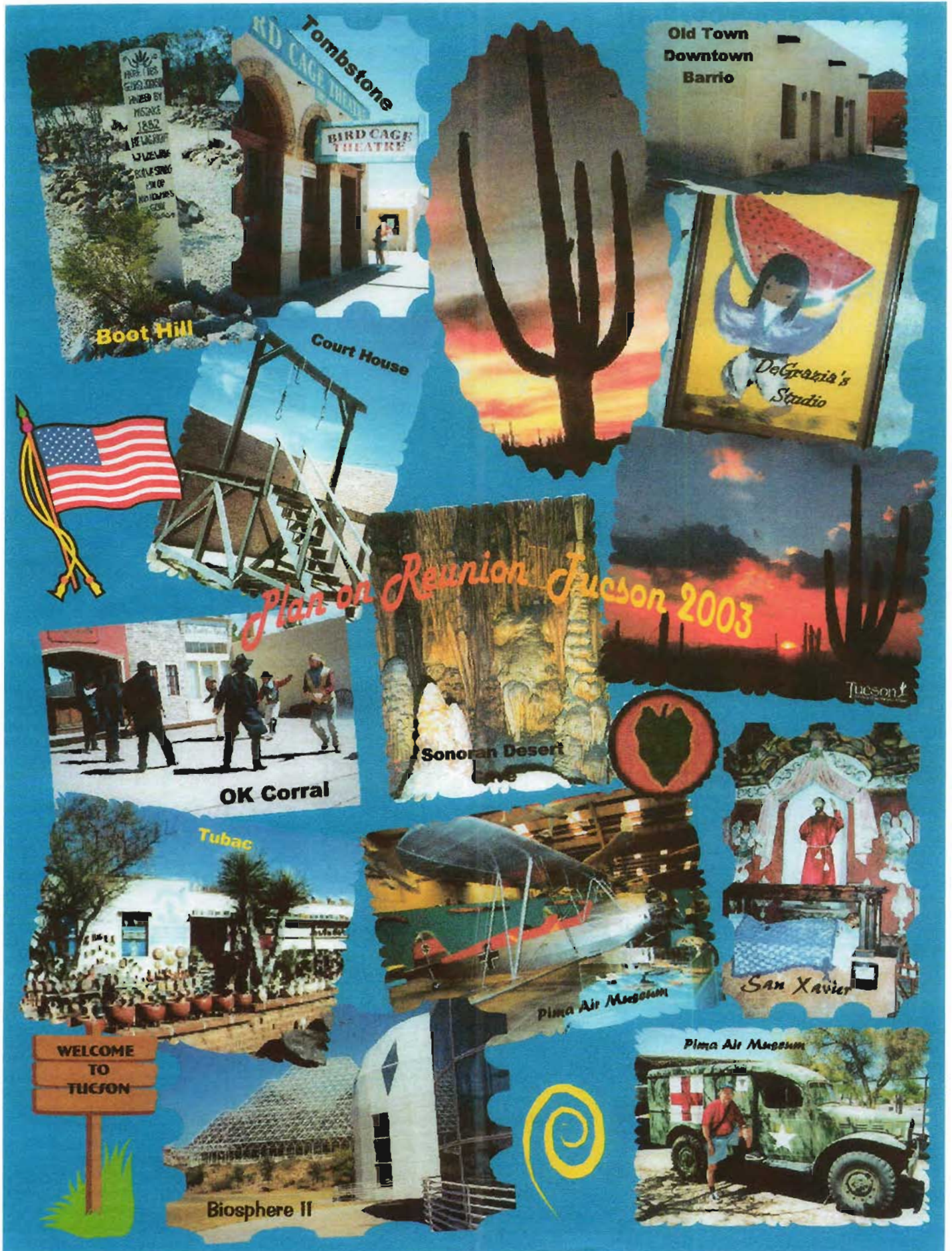
Floor show at Aloha Banquet, 24th IDA
Convention, Kansas City, MO. Photo
by Gary Schmidgall.



Mimie and Billy Johnson and Walter
"Slick" Marszalek.



Dan Rickert, Lloyd (Truman look-
alike), Billy "Prez" Johnson and Walter
"Slick" Marszalek.



Welcome to Tucson, AZ

Reunion Site for 2003

Tucson, known as the "Old Pueblo," is the oldest continually inhabited settlement in the United States dating back to the Cienega period (800 BC to 150 AD) and offers visitors a striking blend of contrasts shaped by a distinctive heritage and accessible natural wonders.

Founded 20 August 1775 by Irishman Hugh O'Connor, who served in the Spanish Army, as the Presidio of San Augustin de Tucson in what is now in the heart of downtown Tucson's historic El Presidio neighborhood. Once known as a rowdy frontier town, Tucson has evolved into a modern metropolitan city that blends a laid-back lifestyle with world-class culture.

A city of approximately 800,000 that feels like a sleepy desert town, Tucson has plenty to offer outdoor enthusiasts, history buffs, urban cowboys and culture vultures alike. Tucson is located in a valley surrounded by five mountain ranges and gently rolling hills and is a true southwest city with character, history, cultural diversity and charm with sunshine 350 days a year.

It is hoped that we can plan more exciting activities for the ladies this year, especially the ladies breakfast. In addition to our other interesting activities, Tucson has many sights to see and tours to take. Those tours planned for our reunion are as follows:

Wednesday, 17 September

Tour A

South to Apache Land**

9:00 am—3:00 pm Price per person: \$50.00
Tumacacori National Historical Park, Tubac Presidio State Park, Lunch at Cow Palace and Mission San Xavier Del Bac. This is one of the more comfortable and beautiful tours of the reunion. Heading south, we soon enter the area of the old Apache Wars. Tumacacori is a massive adobe structure that was built around 1880 but was soon gutted by Apaches and abandoned. From Tumacacori we head north and soon come to the Tubac Presidio, the site of Arizona's first newspaper and school. Jesuit priest Kino entered the area in 1691, and by 1738, it had been established as a village. In 1751 the Pima Indians revolted against the hated Spanish and caused widespread destruction. Spanish troops put down the revolt and established a fortress or presidio. It is a great place to shop for gifts, arts and crafts. Following lunch at the Cow Palace, the tour will head back toward Tucson and stop at San Xavier, which is one of the most beautiful spots in the Southwest. No surface is left unadorned. Every nook and cranny is meticulously painted. Missionary priest Kino first visited the site in 1692 but the present building was built somewhat piecemeal from 1783-1797. The mission is still in use today. Includes lunch at the Cow Palace.

Tour B

Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum*

8:00 am—12:00 noon Price per person: \$35.00
Nestled in the Tucson Mountain Park, 14 miles west of downtown Tucson, the Desert Museum exhibits the living, outdoor world of nature found in the Sonoran Desert Region. On the way to the Museum, you'll drive through Saguaro National Park, which preserves the most magnificent Saguaro Forest in the world. The Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum provides a unique opportunity to see a comprehensive collection of the plants, animals, mini-caverns and geology of this area. Rest stops and water are available along the trail but this is an outdoor experience that requires comfortable walking shoes. So don't forget your sunscreen.

Tour C

Hidden Valley Inn Dinner and Show

5:00 pm—10:00 pm Price per person: \$57.00
Located at the foothills and near Sabino Canyon, The Hidden Valley Inn is a dinner and show theater where you can dine and be entertained by look-alike actors. The current primary show is "A Portrait of the Chairman," a fantastic show that will have you clapping your hands and tapping your feet to the beat of all "Frank's" Favorite Tunes with friends dropping in from Nancy Sinatra to Dean Martin. Included meal offers several choices.

Thursday, 18 September

Tour D

Tombstone and Fort Huachuca*

8:00 am—5:30 pm Price per person: \$35.00

The tour will enter Ft. Huachuca first and tour this fort which was established to protect settlers and oversee tours of hostile Indians. High points include the museums, cemetery and the old quarters. Tombstone can boast of being one of the most authentic tourist spots in the country. Its residents take pride in this authenticity, and many of them trace their ancestry back to the "bad ol' days." It is suggested that each visitor jump on one of the horse and buggy tours as they will see more of the town and understand the high points. The visitor can have a snack or dessert whenever and wherever they want. Interesting points include many things such as the Courthouse with its Gallows, the Bird Cage Theatre, the OK Corral, Boot Hill and The Tombstone Epitaph.

Tour E

Pima Air Museum, Saguaro National Park East**

7:30 am—1:30 pm Price per person: \$45.00

Display of old US Air Force and US Army equipment as well as enemy planes. Experience aviation history at Pima Air & Space Museum. There are more than 180 aircraft on display at the museum—which represents America's aviation history, from a full scale replica of the Wright Brothers' 1903 Flyer to the SR-71 Blackbird, the world's fastest aircraft. Also on the grounds is an original WWII/Korean War

Barracks with displays. Price includes a box lunch. Sixty-four reservations have been made for those who desire a narrated tram tour of the Pima Air Grounds. Cost is an additional \$4.00; first come first served basis.

Tour F

Sabino Canyon and De Grazia Studios**

8:00 am—1:00 pm Price per person: \$35.00

Sabino Canyon: Twelve thousand years ago, Colombian mammoth roamed in Sabino Canyon. Hohokam Indians built irrigation dams in the creek about 1200 years ago. In the 1870s, pony soldiers from Fort Lowell enjoyed excursions to the swimming hole, which is still in use today. Many varieties of birds, deer and other animals make their home here in the Coronado National Forest. The landscape makes this a super place for cameras. De Grazia Art Studio—Ted De Grazia's classic depictions of native Indian and Mexican children have become icons of the southwest and a testament to his work. The studio here also includes a great gift shop.

Tour G

Dinner at Pinnacle Peak

5:00 pm—9:00 pm Price per person: \$45.00

Here within Trail Dust Town at Pinnacle Peak, several menu items are offered and are included in the tour price. Also available around Trail Dust Town are shops and galleries. From time to time there are Western events and other entertainment activities.

Friday, 19 September

Tour H

Old Tucson Studios**

9:30 am—1:30 pm Price per person: \$38.00

The Old Tucson Movie Studios are noted as a fun family place to wander around, snack and wait for the next bit of entertainment, such as the next gunfight. It has been home to more than 300 western movies and television series such as John Wayne's greatest classic movies and TV series such as High Chaparral and Little House on the Prairie. Tombstone is one of the best. Price includes entrance fee.

Tour I

BioSphere 2**

9:00 am—2:00 pm Price per person: \$49.00

See the Upper and Lower Rainforest, Upper and Lower Desert, the Ocean and its function in the formation of reefs and lagoons. This display can be viewed through the glass of a 676,000 gallon tank with 21-foot lagoon. Many other

interesting displays of the life zones and what must be done to preserve them. Also, the elaborate control rooms. Tour includes Cafeteria Lunch at BioSphere 2.

Tour J

Historic Downtown Tucson**

1:00 pm—4:00 pm Price per person: \$25.00

See the Downtown Presidio area including Old Town Artisans and the Barrio. This downtown redeveloped area of territorial Tucson is part of the original Barrio Libre, the oldest part of the city located south of the walled Presidio. It includes the famous El Triadito Wishing Shrine. Old Town Artisans, located within the El Presidio Historic District, consists of an entire city block of adobe structures, housing a wonderful choice of shops and wares with a southwest flavor and a restaurant with relaxed courtyard dining. Also included is a visit to beautiful Mission San Xavier.

All tours are by Deluxe Air-Conditioned Transportation.

* Indicates iced soft beverages on board. ** Indicates knowledgeable guide and iced soft beverages on board.

Bonus

There are several Casinos in the area and at least one has offered a shuttle to pick up groups in the evening at the hotel. No arrangements are made by this committee but all that is needed is a phone call.

News Release

Taro Leafers:

Below is a press release pertaining to our reunion in Tucson, AZ. Regardless of whether you plan to attend, please cut this out and mail to your local newspaper for publication in either their military section or "Letters to the Editor" section. It would be nice if we could blanket the country with this announcement and let all former 24th Infantry Division members know there is an active association in existence. Your initiative in this matter is appreciated.

(Date) 24th Infantry Division Association, US Army

For immediate release.

On September 17-21, 2003, the 24th Infantry Division Association will hold its annual reunion honoring the Veterans of World War II, Korean War, Desert Storm, Grenada and Lebanon. All former and current members of the 24th Infantry Division or members of any unit that has been assigned or attached to the Division at any time are welcome. The reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn, Palo Verde, 4550 S. Palo Verde Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85714. Telephone (520) 746-1161. For further information contact: Association President Billy Johnson, Telephone (910) 424-3840, e-mail: bj24sf45@aol.com; Reunion Coordinator Wes Morrison, Telephone (831) 883-2156, e-mail: wesm8@aol.com; or Reunion Chairman Norm Dixon, Telephone (623) 266-1479, e-mail: Ndixon24th@aol.com.

Important!

Please read and follow instructions

You must mail your checks along with your registration to the following:

Hotel Reservation:

Mail to Holiday Inn, Palo Verde

Unit Breakfast

Mail to the Chairperson of your unit breakfast

Registration, Meal & Tour Form

Mail to Reunion Chairman Norm Dixon, PO Box 7056, Surprise, AZ 85734

Ladies Breakfast

Mail to Reunion Chairman Norm Dixon, PO Box 7056, Surprise, AZ 85734

Reunion Banquet Seating

If you have a group of friends who wish to be seated together, *Get Together and Pay Together*

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

* Any table seating arrangements received after 18 August 2003 will not be guaranteed seating assignments. Once tables are assigned they will not be rearranged.

The cut-off date is 18 August 2003.

There will be no refunds or seating changes after that date except in cases of emergencies.

Fellow Taro Leafers,

The time has come again when I must start looking for new reunion sites. In 2003, it will be in Tucson, AZ. In 2004, it will be in Albuquerque, NM. Next, for the 2005 reunion site I am going to be looking at sites east of the Mississippi River, preferably from among the East Coast states. But here is the thing: since we are all growing older and some are having medical conditions there are fewer people willing to take on the responsibilities of the on-site reunion chairperson.

True, there is much work involved with this position but there is plenty of help available for those who ask. The experiences of past reunion chairpersons are the most helpful of all. In the past there was no working guide the reunion chairpersons could rely on. I am currently working on a Reunion/Convention Guide that should make the duties of the chairperson clearer and simpler. For those who have computers connected to the Internet, preexisting forms can be downloaded without the need for new designs. One has only to fill in the blanks, so to speak, and they are ready to submit them to the Taro Leaf.

Don't forget that I will be available to come to the new site and assist the inexperienced reunion chairperson, working side by side in any way needed. If there are active or Associate members who would like to host a reunion in their city or vicinity, please contact me and I will make a point of going to the Convention and Visitors Bureau of that city with the information pertaining to our requirements. For all those sites that I visit and find acceptable, I will call members in the local area asking for a volunteer(s) to host the reunion. If there are no volunteers then that site will have to be passed by.

See you in Tucson, AZ. It's going to be a really exciting reunion. Norm Dixon is doing a great job putting it together. ♥

Wes Morrison

Reunion Coordinator

24th Infantry Division Reunion Meals 2003

Traditional Breakfast

Fresh Orange Juice • Fresh Scrambled Eggs • Crispy Bacon • Breakfast Potatoes
Broiled Tomato • Assorted Breads and Pastries • Fruit Jams, Honey and Butter • Coffee, Decaf and Hot Herbal Teas

Friday Night Dinners

Garden Green Salad and Apple Caramel Granny	Baked Cod Topped with Fresh Fruit Salsa
Roast Pork Loin Smothered in our Apple Jack Brandy Sauce	Rice Pilaf
Cubed Seasoned Roasted Potatoes	Fresh Seasonal Vegetable
Fresh Seasonal Vegetable	Rolls and Butter
Rolls and Butter	Coffee, Iced Tea, Decaf
Coffee, Iced Tea, Decaf	

Saturday Night Dinners

Garden Green Salad and Boston Cream Pie	Breast of Chicken with Chipotle Demi Glaze
Sliced London Broil with Merlot Demi Glaze	Wild Rice
Roasted Red Potatoes	Fresh Seasonal Vegetable
Fresh Seasonal Vegetable	Rolls and Butter
Rolls and Butter	Coffee, Iced Tea, Decaf
Coffee, Iced Tea, Decaf	

Welcome to Palo Verde

Hotel Reservation Form

24th Infantry Division Association Reunion

17-20 September 2003

Room Rate: \$75.50 per night

Room Type Requested

Queen Size Single Bed

Queen Size Two Beds

King Size Bed

Number in Party
(Children under 18 stay free)

* Note: Current room tax is 7.5% and is subject to change.

Special Requests

Smoking ☐ Non-Smoking ☐ Connecting Room ☐ ADA Room ☐ Hearing Impaired ☐

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

Reservations must be received by 18 August 2003 to ensure room availability.

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

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

Date of Arrival _____ Time of Arrival _____ Number of Nights _____

Date of Departure _____ Arriving by: Air ☐ Car ☐ Train ☐ Bus ☐

Name (Please Print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

AMEX ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ Carte Blanche ☐ Discover ☐ Other ☐

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Mail this form to Holiday Inn Palo Verde, 4550 S. Palo Verde Blvd, Tucson, AZ 85714

Telephone Reservations: (520) 746-1161 Confirmation Number _____

24th Infantry Division Association

Annual Reunion

17-20 September 2003

Holiday Inn Palo Verde, Tucson, AZ

Make checks payable to:
24th Infantry Division Association

Mail to: Norm Dixon
PO Box 7056
Surprise, AZ 85374

Name (Please Print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone (____) _____ E-mail Address _____

Name of Wife/Guest Attending _____

Please list food allergies and/or special diets required. Please be specific! _____

Information for your identification badge

Nickname _____ First Timer Yes ☐ No ☐

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

Company _____ Unit _____ Period _____ Location _____

Remember!

If you have a group of friends who wish to be seated together, get together and pay together. Only 10 people at each table. If you want to be seated with your friends at the Aloha and/or Memorial Dinner, you must mail your registration forms in together. If your forms are not mailed in together along with your check we cannot guarantee that you will be seated together!

Tour and Meal Registration

	Per Person	Number Attending	Amount
Wednesday, 17 September			
1. (Tour A) South to Apache Land (9:00 am—3:00 pm) (Includes lunch)	\$50.00	_____	_____
2. (Tour B) Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum (8:00 am—12:00 noon)	\$35.00	_____	_____
3. (Tour C) Hidden Valley Inn Dinner & Show (5:00 pm—10:00 pm)	\$57.00	_____	_____
Thursday, 18 September			
1. (Tour D) Tombstone & Fort Huachuca (8:00 am—5:30 pm)	\$35.00	_____	_____
2. (Tour E) Pima Air Museum & Saguaro N.P. (7:30 am—1:30 pm)	\$45.00	_____	_____
3. (Tour F) Sabino Canyon & DeGrazia Studios (8:00 am—1:00 pm)	\$35.00	_____	_____
4. (Tour G) Dinner at Pinnacle Peak (5:00 pm—9:00 pm)	\$45.00	_____	_____
Friday, 19 September			
1. (Tour H) Old Tucson Studios (9:30 am—1:30 pm)	\$38.00	_____	_____
2. (Tour I) Biosphere 2 (9:00 am—2:00 pm)	\$49.00	_____	_____
Friday Night Social Hour: 5:30 pm—6:30 pm	Cash Bar	_____	_____
* Aloha Dinner: 6:30 pm—11:50 pm	\$30.00	_____	_____
Please indicate choice of meal: Roast Pork <input type="checkbox"/> Baked Cod <input type="checkbox"/>			
Saturday, 20 September			
(Tour J) Historic Downtown Tucson (1:00 pm—4:30 pm)	\$24.00	_____	_____
Saturday Night Social Hour: 6:00 pm—7:00 pm	Cash Bar	_____	_____
* Memorial Banquet: 6:30 pm—11:59 pm	\$30.00	_____	_____
Please indicate choice of meal: Sliced London Broil Breast of Chicken			
Registration Fee (Association members only; spouse and guest do not pay a registration fee)			\$15.00
Total Amount Due			_____

Attention

All Units

Your annual breakfast will be held *Saturday, 20 September 2003* at 8:00 am at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde, Tucson, AZ. The room where each breakfast will be served will be posted at the registration table. The cost for each breakfast is \$15.00. Since the Association's Annual Meeting follows at 10:00 am, it is requested that attendees at the Memorial Breakfast be punctual so we may conduct our business, eat our breakfast and adjourn to the Association Meeting at 10:00 am.

Unit Memorial Breakfast Registration Form

Name (Please Print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$_____ (Cost of breakfast \$15.00 each)

Please mail your registration and check to the Chairman of your unit listed below.

19th Infantry

Joe Sweeney
PO Box 5067
Dellslow, WV 26531
(304) 292-7266
Make checks payable to Joe Sweeney Sr.

21st Infantry

Harold "Corky" Peters
13791 Dorthy Drive
Rogers, MN 55374-8899
(763) 428-4158
Make checks payable to Harold Peters

34th Infantry

William J. McKenna
970 Neilson Street
Albany, CA 94706
(510) 525-7902
Make checks payable to William J. McKenna

3rd Engineers

Don Finney
1230 Thompson Road
Cottonwood, AZ 86326-5611
(928) 639-1526
Make checks payable to Donald K. Finney

All Artillery Units

Max L. Pitney
17500 West 119th Street, Apt #3113
Olathe, KS 66061
(913) 541-0289
Make checks payable to Max Pitney

All Other Units

Robert Lawhon
49 Township Road 88, #1152
Proctorville, OH 45669-9067
Make checks payable to Robert Lawhon

Ladies Breakfast

Saturday, 20 September 2003 at 9:00 am

Be sure to sign up for the Ladies Breakfast—you don't want to miss it. It will take place at the same time the Unit Breakfasts and the 24th Infantry Division Association General Meeting takes place.

Traditional Breakfast

Fresh Scrambled Eggs with Crispy Bacon • Breakfast Potatoes and Broiled Tomato
Assorted Breads and Pastries with Jams, Honey and Butter
Fresh Orange Juice • Coffee, Decaf and Hot Herbal Teas

Guest Speaker

Meet Sharon Riester, Senior Sales Director of Beauty Products. She can give you "new" ideas on looking healthier and younger in a timely fashion. Sharon has many ideas, tricks and much more to share with you.

Make checks payable to 24th Infantry Division Association
Mail checks to Norm Dixon, PO Box 7056, Surprise, AZ 85374

Ladies Breakfast

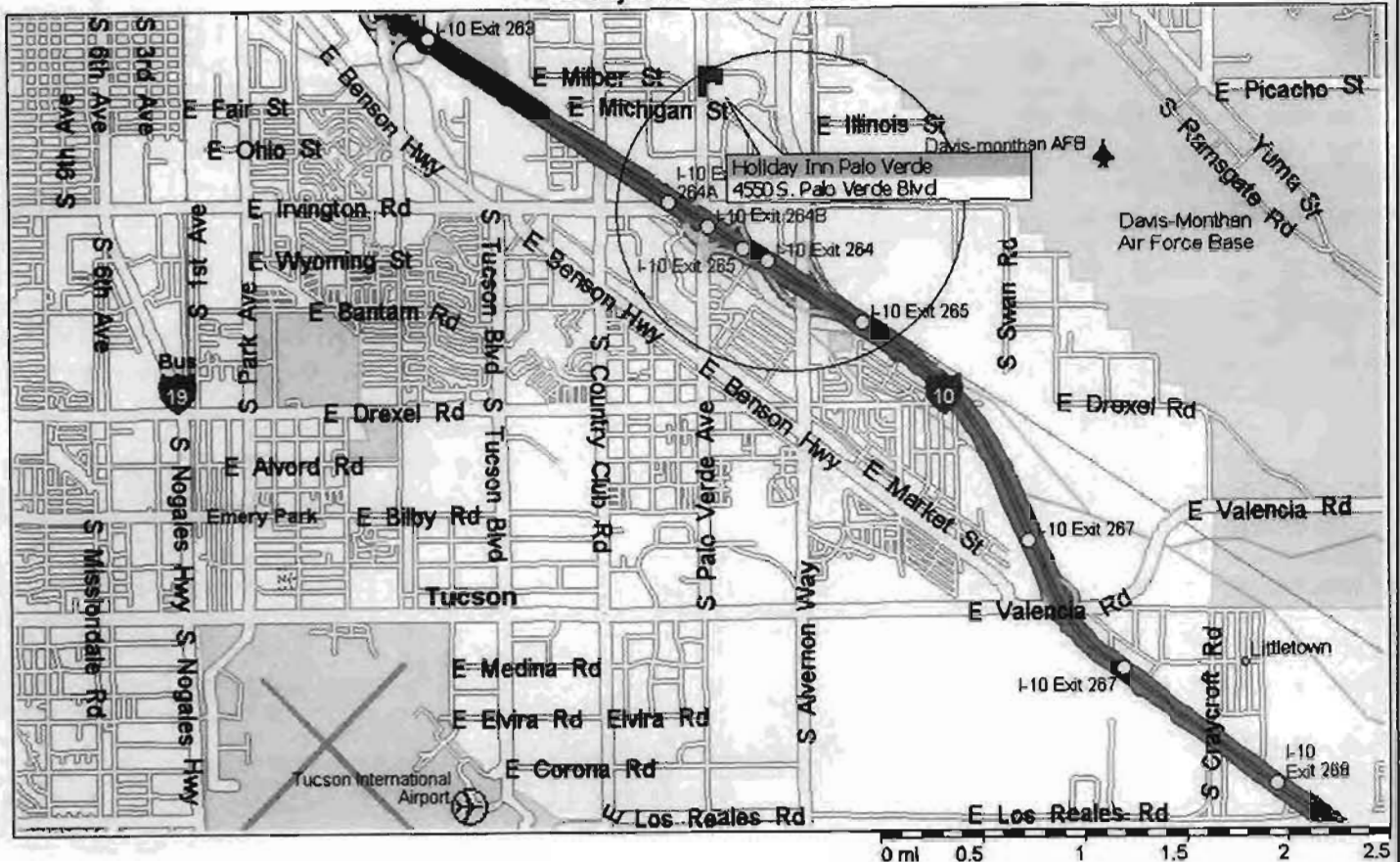
Name (Please Print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$_____ (Cost of breakfast \$15.00 each)

Holiday Inn Palo Verde



IF YOU ARE DRIVING WEST, TAKE THE IRVINGTON RD EXIT 264 TOWARD PALO VERDE RD, TURN LEFT ONTO IRVINGTON AND RIGHT ONTO PALO VERDE. FOLLOW PALO VERDE NORTH TO THE HOLIDAY INN ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE STREET.

IF YOU ARE DRIVING EAST, TAKE THE EXIT 264B TOWARD PALO VERDE RD...NORTH/IRVINGTON RD. MERGE ONTO S PALO VERDE BLVD. IF YOU MISS YOUR STREET OR EXIT, DON'T SWEAT IT. THE HOTEL IS EASY TO FIND ANYWAY. IF YOU ARE FLYING INTO THE NEARBY TUCSON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, JUST CALL FOR A HOLIDAY INN HOTEL SHUTTLE.

PHONE: (520)746-1161

Tucson—Real. Natural. Arizona.

A sophisticated city of 800,000 that feels like a sleepy desert town, Tucson has plenty to offer outdoor enthusiasts, history buffs, urban cowboys and culture vultures alike. Tucson is one of the oldest continually inhabited settlements in the United States. Evidence of a settlement dates back to 800 B.C.

"Tucson" is derived from a Native American word for "spring at the foot of a black mountain." Settlers changed the name to a more easily pronounceable Tucson. The "black mountain" is just southwest of downtown. It is known as "A" Mountain, named for its white rock "A," painted by University of Arizona students annually since 1915. The "spring" was the Santa Cruz River. What remains is a sweeping sand "wash" where water still flows beneath the sand and rocks of the riverbed.

Five flags have flown over Tucson—those of Spain, Mexico, the US Confederacy, the Union and the USA. Tucson joined the United States with the Gadsden Purchase in June 1854.

Spread out over a 500-square-mile valley, surrounded by five mountain ranges, Tucson is a fresh-air fan's dream. Visitors enjoy hiking and horseback riding among towering saguaro cactuses—Saguaro National Park has the world's largest concentration of them—or teeing off on one of the area's many fine golf courses designed by some of the world's top golfers. Aficionados of the feathered find themselves in bird-watching heaven and everyone is astounded by the Sonoran Desert blooms. Spa lovers are in heaven in Tucson, home to world-class spas, including the famous Canyon Ranch, Miraval Life in Balance and Elizabeth Arden Red Door spas. Tucson is the only city in the nation to host three Major League Baseball teams for Spring Training in March every year. Even rock hounds from all over the globe know Tucson is home to the world's largest gem, mineral and fossil show.

Did we mention the weather? There are more than 300 days of sunshine every year—more than most cities in the world—allowing visitors to play outside year round. It gets a bit toasty in summer, but shaded getaways abound and (as the local mantra has it) it's a dry heat.

Tucson has a strong Spanish, Mexican and Native American heritage. The Mission San Xavier del Bac still serves the same Tohono O'Odham Indian community for whom it was established by the Franciscans two and a half centuries ago, and parts of the original Spanish presidio

(fortress) flank downtown's mosaic-tiled courthouse. Celebrations such as the annual International Mariachi Festival in downtown Tucson attest to a continuing influence from south of the border (Mexico is only 64 miles away).

Nor has the west been lost here. City slickers mingle with cowboys at guest ranches, and country and western dance bars. Old Tucson Studios, where some of the west's most famous legends were captured on film, offers simulated shoot-em-ups and western entertainment shows. Huge annual rodeos feature some of the swiftest steer-roping around.

Civilized pleasures are plentiful, too. Tucson is one of only a few cities in the U.S. that have a resident symphony as well as opera, theater, and ballet companies.

Palate-stimulating southwest cuisine and authentic Mexican food are among the city's myriad dining options, and tiny resorts offer all the latest amenities in a casual, laid-back atmosphere.

Although lively nightspots are easy to find, Tucson is also ideal for folks who are happy just to gaze at the stars after dark. Ordinances against "light pollution," designed to aid visibility at the five world-class observatories in the area, ensure that the views of the heavens are optimal for even streetside astronomers.

Those whose idea of a successful trip involves unique souvenirs will be delighted, too. Country western gear, Native American crafts

and southwestern gifts—say it with salsa or cactus—can be found everywhere from mom-and-pop shops to air-conditioned malls.

In the artists colony of Tubac, about half an hour away, masters of all kinds of crafts sell their unique, hand-wrought wares. Another half hour will bring you to Nogales, Mexico, where bargains and treasures mingle in arrays of colorful stalls.

Tucson is a jumping-off point for many other terrific Southern Arizona day trips. Within easy driving distance are the old west mining towns of Tombstone, Ishee, Douglas and Ajo; the Arizona vineyards around Sonoita and Patagonia; the Native American art collection of the Amerind Foundation; Kitt Peak National Observatory, part of the Tohono O'Odham Indian reservation; the unusual rock formations of Chiricahua National Monument; and much more. ♥

Sent in by Jim Hill, 19th Infantry.



Dear Tiger Survivors and Friends:

It is with a very heavy heart that I report the Promotion to Glory of Wilmer A. Bartlett on this date, 20 January 2003. He died from a combination of things among which was a broken collarbone, flu, mild stroke, being refused a bed at a VA Hospital in Florida, neglect at a nursing home where he was not cleaned up and not fed, and transfer to a hospital a hundred miles from his home in Largo, Florida, and all this being done when he should have been getting treatment.

This sounds like prison camp. I am so sad and mad by this turn of events.

Bartlett was known as the "Colonel" because he was the Colonel's driver. He was of French Canadian heritage and was born and raised in Northern Maine. During World War II he was on General Marshall's driving staff. I wonder if General Marshall knew that Bartlett was color blind.

Bartlett was a Corporal at capture on 12 July 1950 and with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 21st Infantry Regiment, of the 24th Infantry Division. He was released on 30 August 1953.

Bartlett and I were in the same hut under the Chinese and were very close buddies as we were from the same state. He visited my home many times and we did some serious partying back then.

Bartlett nearly died in captivity of neglect...and now neglect finally took him away from us.

There is no one to send a card to as he lived alone in Largo, Florida. Darrell Krenz, another Tiger, checked on him from time to time as well as Honorary Tiger Gene Peeples. ♥

Love to you all,

Shorty Estabrook
Tiger Survivor
Tamagosan



The Dogface

He leads a life that is worse than a dog's

He marches through rice paddies, mud and bogs

He sleeps in a foxhole under the stars

And dreams of smoking two-bit cigars.

He gets shot at and shelled at all through the day

He knows damn well that he's earning his pay

If he's lucky he has some C rations to eat

He's tired from his head clear down to his feet

He hasn't shaved for quite a while

He takes his hardships with a smile

He gets all the news—straight from the latrine

He forgets all the names of the places he's been.

He's dirty with seldom a chance to get clean

Unless they stop to rest near a stream

His clothing gets dusty and mixes with sweat

The mud that is formed makes him dirtier yet.

He longs for the day he'll return to his home

He longs for that ocean trip over the foam

But he knows he has still got a long way to go

And he knows it will all be a tough row to hoe.

He thinks of his girl and wishes she'd write

He thinks of a bed with sheets clean and white

He thinks of a bathtub with hot running water

He thinks of the joke of the old farmer's daughter.

His dreams are filled with thoughts of home

He vows that he will never roam

He says, "If I ever make it back

I'll go up in the mountains and build me a shack."

He thinks of the way the civilians sneered

And laughed because he had no beard

But in peacetime civilians are usually like that

They think that their taxes make soldiers grow fat.

You all know this guy I've been talking about

He's related to most of you without a doubt

He may be your father or brother or son

Or maybe a cousin with whom you had fun.

But now he's a "Dogface" fighting a war

Fighting like he's never fought before

He's here in Korea doing his best

And yearns for the day he'll be able to rest.

He's doing a helluva job over here

The odds are enough to cause most men fear

But he's ready to fight till this whole mess is done

And you know he won't quit till the victory is won.

Was written by Goldy Norton, 21st Infantry, Korea

What is a Veteran?

He is the cop on the beat who spent six months in Saudi Arabia sweating two gallons a day making sure the armored personnel carriers didn't run out of fuel.

He is the barroom loudmouth, dumber than five wooden planks, whose overgrown frat-boy behavior is outweighed a hundred times in the cosmic scales by four hours of exquisite bravery near the 38th Parallel.

She is the nurse who fought against futility and went to sleep sobbing every night for two solid years in Da Nang.

He is the POW who went away one person and came back another or didn't come back at all.

He is the Parris Island drill instructor who has never seen combat—but has saved countless lives by turning slouchy no-account rednecks and gang members into Marines, and teaching them to watch each other's backs.

He is the parade-riding Legionnaire who pins on his ribbons and medals with a prosthetic hand.

He is the career quartermaster who watches the ribbons and medals pass him by.

He is the three anonymous heroes in The Tomb of the Unknowns, whose presence at the Arlington National Cemetery must further preserve the memory of all anonymous heroes whose valor dies unrecognized with them on the battlefield or in the ocean's sunless deep.

He is the old guy bagging groceries at the supermarket—palsied now and aggravatingly slow—who helped liberate a Nazi death camp and who wishes all day long that his wife were still alive to hold him when the nightmares come.

He is an ordinary and yet an extraordinary human being—a person who offered some of his life's most vital years in the service of his country, and who sacrificed his ambitions so others would not have to sacrifice theirs.

He is a soldier and a savior and a sword against the darkness, and he is nothing more than the finest, greatest testimony on behalf of the finest, greatest nation ever known.

So remember, each time you see someone who has served our country, just lean over and say Thank You. That's all most people need, and in most cases it will mean more than any medals they could have been awarded or were awarded.

Two little words that mean a lot, "Thank You."

It's the soldier, not the reporter, who gave us our freedom of the press.

It's the soldier, not the poet, who gave us our freedom of speech.

It's the soldier, not the campus organizer, who gave us our freedom to demonstrate.

It's the soldier who salutes the flag, who serves others with respect for the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protester to burn the flag.

Prayer for our Servicemen: *Lord, hold our troops in Your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.*

Thank you, to all the veterans...and the ones still serving! ♥

Dear Sir,

I would like to join the 24th ID Association and need information on where to get an application. I am John Murphy, Bugler, 24th ID Band, and Gulf War. Here in Florida I volunteer to play Taps at funerals for veterans. I started back this year full time. From July 17th until now, I've done sixty-three funerals, not counting The National Cemetery. You can do seven to twelve a day there. I've been there four times so far.

I wear a 24th ID patch on my VFW, American Legion and AMVETS shirts for some of the details with them. Also, while playing 9/11 services, using 22 Buglers and covering 30 commitments, Veterans Day, Marine Corps Birthday, Pearl Harbor Day, etc., I wear my Greens or Blues with 24th ID brass and patches. I have an award from the local high schools.

Anyone playing Taps twenty-five times either for funerals or special days, and in support of veterans' groups, gets a Taro Leaf patch and a Bugles Across America patch to put on their Band uniforms. I have six trumpet players who wear them. They even have a copy of the Lineage and Honors for the 24th ID there in the trophy case. They all know the motto First to Fight.

My services in Florida are free. I play trumpet here and I am teaching Boy Scouts new bugle calls. If you or your organizations ever need buglers, contact me at 2550 Eustace Ave., Deltona, FL 32725 or phone me at 386-789-0400/ Email: jremy@cfl.rr.com or contact Bugles Across America. Their website is www.buglesacrossamerica.com. You can also use the website to request buglers. They are very supportive.

Fr Riley PAO just sent me some patches and brass. I'm going to Arlington in April with the local VFW 8093 team to place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on 26 April 2003. I should be playing Taps there and I will be in blues if I can get permission to wear them there with 24th ID brass.

First to Fight has been my motto, I want to make sure all veterans get honors. Nothing a veteran can do for a fallen comrade is more important than honoring those who served. I use First to Fight at every turn, And so far I am getting out the word. The Air Force, Navy, Marines and even the Coast Guard have used my services. Fort Stewart has also been supportive. Call if you need me.

John Murphy, 24th ID Band. First to Fight—Victory. ♥

Posthumous Citizenship Restoration Act

Rich Draus sent in the information that President George W. Bush signed the Posthumous Citizenship Restoration Act into law on the weekend of 2 November 2002. The act grants honorary citizenship to any foreign born member of the U.S. Armed Forces who died as a consequence of their military service. A deceased veteran's next-of-kin will be able to file paperwork with the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Congress granted citizenship to immigrants who died in WWII, and this law is patterned after a law that expired in 1992. Its immediate effect will be to grant citizenship to the Irish-born veterans who died in Korea. PFC Patrick McEnery, Company I, 19th Infantry Regiment, KIA 13 November 1951, is now eligible along with 27 other Irish-born veterans. ♥

Courtroom Honesty

A small town prosecuting attorney called his first witness to the stand, a grandmotherly, elderly woman.

He approached her and asked, "Mrs. Jones, do you know me?"

She responded, "Why, yes, I do know you, Mr. Williams. I've known you since you were a young boy. And frankly, you've been a big disappointment to me. You lie, you cheat on your wife, you manipulate people and talk about them behind their backs. You think you're a rising big shot when you haven't the brains to realize you never will amount to anything more than a two-bit paper pusher. Yes, I know you."

The lawyer was stunned. Not knowing what else to do, he pointed across the room and asked, "Mrs. Jones, do you know the defense attorney?"

She again replied, "Why, yes I do. I've known Mr. Bradley since he was a youngster. I used to baby-sit him for his parents. He, too, has been a real disappointment to me. He's lazy, bigoted, and he has a drinking problem. The man can't build a normal relationship with anyone and his law practice is one of the worst in the entire state. Not to mention he cheated on his wife with three different women. Yes, I know him."

The defense attorney was also surprised and shocked.

At this point, the Judge brought the courtroom to silence and called both counselors to the bench. In a very quiet voice, he said with menace, "If either of you asks her if she knows me, you'll be jailed for contempt." ♥

Infantry Battle Casualties

With V-E day just past but with V-J Day still to come, I thought you might want to be reminded of the price the Infantryman paid during World War II:

In 44 months of combat, total Army battle casualties (excluding the US Army Air Force) in all theaters were 823,483. (USAAF casualties were 112,776.)

Of that total number of Army casualties, again excluding the USAAF's, the total number of Infantry battle casualties in all theaters amounted to 565,986. Of that number, the total Infantry dead from all causes was 118,945. And that last number is broken down as follows:

100,364	Killed in action
16,991	Died of wounds or injuries
972	Missing in action, declared dead
142	Killed trying to escape capture
104	Died while prisoners of war
367	Other causes
5	Missing in action

Here is a brief comparison with three of our other "modern" wars. These are Army casualties:

War	Months of Combat	Total Casualties	Infantry Casualties
WWI	19	224,089	195,547
Korea	35	109,958	92,185
Vietnam	84	230,398	184,318

There is little question that the "Poor Bloody Infantryman" has paid a high price in each of our 20th Century wars. There is not much likelihood the price future US Infantrymen will pay will be any less. ♥

Albert N. Garland
Columbus, GA

A General retired after 35 years and realized a life-long dream of buying a bird-hunting estate in South Dakota. He invited an old friend to visit for a week of pheasant shooting.

The friend was in awe of the General's new bird dog, "Sarge." The dog could point, flush and retrieve with the very best, and the friend offered to buy the dog at any price. The general declined, saying that Sarge was the best bird dog he had ever owned and that he wouldn't part with him at any price.

A year later the same friend returned for another week of hunting and was surprised to find the General breaking in a new dog.

"What happened to Ole Sarge?" he asked.

"Had to shoot him," grumbled the General. "A friend came to hunt with me and couldn't remember the dog's name. He kept calling him Colonel. After that, all the dog would do is sit on his ass and bark." ♥

(You can thank Colonel Jim Hill for this one.)

Why would anybody eat an anchovy on purpose?

You mean the anchovy on the hors d'oeuvre? In Mediterranean countries it served to kill the bite of bad liquor.

In old Russia, caviar worked. Scandinavians did the job with herring. It is said of the Scots they did not cultivate a similar appetizer because they refused to admit there was any such thing as bad liquor. ♥



Many people would sooner die than think.
In fact, they do. ♥

—Bertrand Russell



Ranger and Combat Training School

HAWAIIAN DEPARTMENT

19 June 1943

SUBJECT: Completion of Ranger and Combat Training School

TO : T/5 Roger L. Reid, 140067787, Ser Co, 34th Infantry

1. You have successfully completed an eight week course of intensive Ranger and Combat Training covering all phases of modern jungle fighting.

2. The course of study included Platoon Leadership, Combat Weapons (*Rifle, M1; Rifle, '03; Pistol, .45; BAR; Thompson Sub-Machine Gun; Light and Heavy Machine Guns; Browning Machine Gun, cal. .50; 37mm Anti-tank Gun; 60mm and 81mm Mortars*), Demolitions, Jungle Stream Amphibious Operations, Hand to Hand Techniques, Knives, Bayonet, Grenades, Wartime Wrestling, Wartime Boxing, Jungle Fighting Techniques, Physical Conditioning, and other allied subjects.

3. I want personally to commend you for your fine spirit, attitude and success while undergoing such strenuous training. It is my sincere belief that the instruction you received at this School will always be of value to you as a leader in any organization of which you may be a member.

My congratulations to you on becoming an instructor of Ranger and Combat Training.

RATING: Very Satisfactory

Francis B. Euse
Lieut. Colonel, Infantry,
Commandant.

Elburn poet plans reading at memorial

By Christopher Petersen

David Baillie was 15 when his mother and the school superintendent decided that the Army would be best for him. By the time he was 16, he was serving in the 34th Infantry Regiment in the Korean War.

Nearly 40 years after his experiences in southeast Asia, the Elburn resident set them down on paper in two books of poetry, "Line Kansas—Memories of Korea" and "Dry Tears."

Baillie has been asked by Village President Jim Willey to recite some of his poetry at the dedication of the village's Veteran's Memorial, and recently received the Studs Terkel Humanitarian Service Award.

Willey nominated Baillie for the award, which is given by the Illinois Humanities Council to individuals who have made contributions to arts and humanities in their community. The award is named for the famous Chicago author and oral historian and has been given to Elburn residents Donald Leslie and Larry Martin in previous years.

Baillie was good choice to receive the award because of his active role in the community, Willey said. Baillie has given the village five service flags to place around the new memorial and has helped the Three Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts of America establish a web page.

Originally from New York City, Baillie moved to Elburn after he met his wife, Peggy. Although he worked as a teacher for years after retiring from the military, Baillie had never thought about writing about his experiences until about 10 years ago. After he wrote an article for a local newspaper in New England about Memorial Day, Baillie was contacted by a local Marine who was so moved by it that he suggested Baillie write more. Once he sat down and started writing, though, Baillie discovered the therapeutic value in it.

"I wrote the book mainly because it was something I needed to do for myself," Baillie said.

Although he saw many terrible sights on the battlefield, Baillie's poems focus mainly on the day-to-day lives of the soldiers who served and the effects of war on their minds.

Baillie's poem "Naktong River" includes the lines: "No young men here, now all old as time itself, for evermore / Moment to moment recalled forty years from now is true / Gone the baby faced smile of youth swallowed by horror's gore / Dreams of the river clear today, nor sleep the night through."

For his next project, Baillie said he is working on a history of African-Americans promoted to the office of Sergeant Major of the Army. He also said that with tensions rising again in North Korea, he would serve again at a moment's notice, pending his wife's approval.

"I would go again, but she wouldn't let me," Baillie said.

Despite the fact that Baillie has only lived in Elburn for six years, the contributions he's made to the community have been noteworthy.

"David is one of Elburn's newest citizens, but he is also one of our best," Willey said. ♥

The Nature of Things

Robert G. Ingersoll (1833-1899)

"In nature there are neither rewards nor punishments—there are consequences."

On to Songju

While the IX Corps with the 2nd and 25th Infantry Divisions and attached ROK units drove to the southwest from Masan, the I US Corps with the 24th Infantry Division and its 27th British Brigade, the 1st Cavalry Division and the 1st ROK Division pushed 35 miles northward in a matter of days. The British Brigade, with neither artillery nor tank support, cracked the stout defenses of Songju on 24 September. An assist was recorded by 19th Regiment infantrymen who, after an overnight hike, took up positions with the Englishmen, circumvented the main NK force in a diversionary feint. ♥

A Check List

Information and Documents to Keep with Your Important Papers

Birth Certificate
Marriage Certificate
Divorce Decree
Social Security Card
Military Records
Naturalization Records
Tax Records
Will
Living Will
Health Care Power of Attorney
Health Insurance Policies
Medicare Card and Records
Medicaid Card and Records
Disability Insurance Policy
Life Insurance Policies
Funeral Insurance Policy
Funeral Instructions
Cemetery Plot Deed
Durable Power of Attorney
Home Deed and Title
Mortgage
Apartment Lease
Homeowners or Apartment Insurance Policies
Automobile Title
Automobile Insurance Policy
Appraisals of Jewelry, Other Valuables
Checking, Savings and Investment Accounts

Avenge Bataan, The Battle of ZigZag Pass.

By B. David Mann, Ivy House Publishing Group, Raleigh, North Carolina, 2001.

348 pages with photographs and maps. Reviewed by James F. Hill.

World War II holds a certain mystique for people of the present day. That period is not so far back that most know to some degree the sacrifices of our country and its fighting forces. Few, however, are aware of the details of many of the battles that occurred during that war. Historians have well documented, and some case overdetailed, many of the major events of war such as the Pearl Harbor attack, D-Day and Guadalcanal. Such events will be part of American history forever, but some of the lesser actions will never gain their rightful place in the history of that historic time. The Battle for the ZigZag Pass in early 1945 is one of those lesser-known actions.

Most present day authors of World War II history rely on research of previous publications dealing with the particular event, and in many cases, were not even alive during the period on which they are writing. Mann is an exception. He was an infantry lieutenant assigned to the 34th Infantry Regiment and participated in the battle of which he writes. The battle between the US Army and the Imperial Japanese Army at the area nicknamed ZigZag Pass on the Bataan Peninsula in the Philippines. With the invasion of the Philippines by United States military forces in 1944, memories were still fresh of the atrocities committed by the Japanese when Americans were forced to surrender in 1942.

A three-mile corridor of rough terrain with dense jungle, the ZigZag was honeycombed with Japanese foxholes, tunnels and trenches. The original scheme had the 152d Infantry leading the advance into the pass, but it was clear soon after the action began that the unit was too green to do the job; hence, Mann's unit, the battle tested 34th, was

thrust into the forefront. The fact is, as Mann declares, no one really understood the strength of the Japanese forces in the ZigZag. Indeed, the official history of the action notes: "In three days at the ZigZag the regiment had lost nearly half as many men as it had during 78 days of combat on Leyte." (324)*

The fighting with the Japanese was a "no holds barred" individual against individual fight in many cases, writes Mann.

Mann has done an outstanding job in researching both the American and Japanese participants. It is most intriguing to read how he was able to contact the few remaining Japanese soldiers of the action and portray their life after the surrender of Japan in April 1945. Through unit rosters and other sources he was also able to contact American GIs who survived and interview them and record their memories of that action. Wartime photographs of the individuals provide a personal touch to the narrative. The maps are most helpful in following the actions as written by the author. The book is not for the casual reader. Mann has written an accurate historical description of a battle that the history of World War II has ignored. It is a book that should be included in every research library's World War II shelves. It is highly recommended for reading by anyone who is interested in a detailed description of how the US Army fought in the jungle of the Philippines.

* See Robert Ross Smith, *The War in the Pacific: Triumph in the Philippines*. United States Army in World War II. (Office of the Chief of Military History, Department of the Army, Washington, DC, 1963), 315-332. ♥

Billy and Minnie:

This is Joe Wilson from Columbia, South Carolina, and I wanted to thank you for the article on page 19 of the *Taro Leaf*, about Fox company 24th Infantry Division in Korea, in book Volume 56, Number 3 of the *Taro Leaf*. It has already gotten me in touch with some of my buddies from Fox company I was with during Korea, Donald Duffy (who is a recent member) and Jack Goedeke, who is really helping me out a lot, and they are putting me in touch with others. The *Taro Leaf* is one of the best books of all. Anyway, thanks again for helping me out with finding old buddies from Fox company, and Happy Thanksgiving. ♥

Warmest Regards
Joe Wilson

Shorrry,

It was sad and frustrating to receive your e-mail about the death of Bill Bartlett on 20 January 2003. It is disturbing to learn that someone who has sacrificed so much for his country gets so little in return. I know you and others will take the necessary action to right this wrong. I will inform Joe Sweeney, the 24th Inf Div Assn Historian, of Bill's death so that his name can be added to the 24th Infantry Division Roll of Honor

Jim Hill

Note for Joe Sweeney—

Bill was a Corporal assigned to Hq & Hq Company, 21st Infantry, and became a POW 12 July 1950. He was released on 30 August 1953 and lived in a nursing home in Florida prior to his death. There are no family survivors. ♥

Sometimes...in history, an event can entail mistakes on the front lines when no one is injured or dies. This happened on the fourth coming landing on the beach of Bataan just west of Corregidor.

I, Staff Sergeant Sletten, of the 11th Field Artillery, 24th Infantry Division, was directed to lead the landing of supplies with about sixty men from the various units of the 24th ID. No officers were present, for unknown reasons. I had some of the personnel search the beach for any explosives. This we did, and when one man and I surfaced from a dive, we found that the LST had evacuated and here we were alone and amidst all sorts of equipment. We saw the planes fly in from the south and start a parachute drop onto Corregidor. Some of the jumpers landed in the South China Sea between Corregidor and us. We saw no Japs in that area, but considerable firing ensued, I cannot say who was firing on the bank inland. Our LST returned for us and we unloaded the supplies either there or on the north side of Corregidor.

My wife and I were at the 50th reunion at Pearl Harbor, and the 55th, also the 50th in the Philippines. When my wife and I were at the reunion of the Memorial we met some of those men who said they were rescued by a landing ship of the First Infantry. I had seen the men come down ramps on each side of these ships. I forgot their type barge name.

I had received a small diary in the mail from a girl I had met in Sydney, Australia, so this event I wrote in that diary which I still have. In it my final days of the war are written. Those days are uneventful, as I was sent to a hospital on Leyte and then shipped home on a Walking Casualty Hospital Ship. The rest is a blur. I have my records and medals here at home. I never turned in for injuries as they were mild and I treated them myself.

My service DD214 has six medals, plus Philippine medal and Pearl Harbor Recognition or whatever it means. I had one beachhead, Hollandia, New Guinea, two beachheads, one on the Leyte, Philippines, the other on Luzon. I have 6 Arm Patches. Staff Sgt. Insignia, it was a Platoon Sgt. Also a Specialist 4 prior to Pearl Harbor. Three and a half years of war, one-half year prior. That is all.

In a book called *Children of Yesterday*, there is mentioned at least three events in which I was actually the person written about, but as I said to one of my officers, Lt. Strasser, that was just my job. Some of my men have written to me to confirm what they had written. Nicholas Matvia had an article in the *Taro Leaf*, the one before the last. He was one of my corporals, I believe.

I have sent various articles to the *Taro Leaf* over a few years and it seems they must be lost. I even sent a picture of the 11th FA men dated Christmas 1941. The picture was taken at the time of the organization of the 24th and 25th Divisions. None of these articles or photos that I have sent over the years has been used. Oh yes, they were typed, except the list of names for the Battery picture. (Donald would like to hear from any 11th FA soldiers who read this.) ♥

Donald Sletten
924 Russell Way
Thornton, CO 80229-7632

History project captures veterans' stories

Washington (ARNEWS)—The Veterans History Project is giving veterans a chance to share their stories. Project organizers are also looking for volunteers of all ages to help chronicle veterans' oral histories. These stories will become a collection in the Library of Congress' American Folklife Center in Washington, DC, and part of the national Veterans History Project Collection at the Library of Congress. Eventually, portions of the material will be available digitally on the Library of Congress web site.

Volunteers interview veterans, collect letters, photographs and journals from former service members of WWI, WWII and the Korean, Vietnam and Persian Gulf Wars, and the civilians who supported them.

Charlie Mendoza, vice president of membership and member services for the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), a founding sponsor of the project, said everyone, particularly youth, have a lot to benefit from the project. A Korean and Vietnam veteran, Mendoza was interviewed by his youngest daughter.

Authorized by Congress through Public Law 106-380, the Veterans History Project has chronicled histories of about 1,500 veterans to date.

Ellen McCulloch-Lovell, director of the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress, hopes to reach more people for the ongoing project.

Already, more than 420 organizations have partnered with the project, including veterans' service organizations, colleges, museums and libraries.

To become involved with the project, visit the Veterans History Project web site at www.loc.gov/veterans or call the toll-free number at 1-888-371-5848. ♥

Monday night, 6 January 2003

Billy:

I noticed in the last issue of the *Taro Leaf* under the heading "Heros All" on page 66 and again on page 74 your call for us to share our stories of our time with the Victory Division. Let me give you just a brief background of "my story."

Almost exactly one year ago this week I received the following e-mail message:

Subject: E Co., 19th IR, 24 ID

Dear Thomas:

I believe my Dad, John Houlihan, was in your unit...It is extremely hard to get information on Easy Company and since my Dad died in 1979 I have very little info to go on. He rarely spoke about the War. I would appreciate anything you can tell me about your unit. Many thanks! Bernadette Houlihan.

I wrote back to Bernadette that I did indeed remember a guy named Houlihan and sent her a photo of the two of us. She replied: "That's My Dad!!!! Thanks for getting back to me. I was so happy to hear from you! Your Houlihan is my Houlihan." (That picture is the one you carried on p. 19 of Vol. 56, No. 2, Spring 2002. John and I are the two on the right side of the picture.)

You most likely recall Bernadette as she has contributed to the *Taro Leaf* and has also become an affiliate member. She was the one who got me interested in the Assoc.

So after her e-mail I began to place those somewhat hazy recollections way back there in the recesses of my cranium down on "electronic paper." I now have over 120 pages of text in a word processing file. I also have nearly 200 photographs that I have assembled into an album also in electronic format on my computer.

That's where I am now. My intention is to give my children copies of everything I have to date on a CD-ROM where they can read it as they wish. I hadn't given much thought to publishing it in printed form until I read your appeal mentioned above.

Do you have any suggestions for my publishing my memoirs? Do you know of any printers that would be good for me to work with? I really would appreciate your ideas.

To give you an idea of what I have written I've excerpted a three-page section entitled "Christmas Even 1951." If you find it suitable for including in the *Taro Leaf* please feel free to use it.

Thank you again Billy for all you do for all of us! ♥

Sincerely,
Tom Thiel



Tom Thiel's unit found this card, along with many others and a few trinkets, wrapped in a poncho. The Package was left on the road in front of our lines. These "gifts" made the men of Easy Co. even more determined to stay until the job was done. Next day, Christmas Day, the unit was relieved to go to the rear for Christmas dinner, complete with all the trimmings, served in their mess kits.



Tom Thiel's last time on the line.
Korea, January 1952—Easy Company,
19th Regiment.

Chaplain Herman Gilbert Felhoeter

O 549 715, Captain, U.S. Army

KIA 17 July 1950 near Tuman-ni, South Korea

Herman G. Felhoeter was born in Louisville, Kentucky, on 17 July 1913. He was ordained a Catholic priest by the Order of Franciscans in 1939. During WWII he was commissioned a captain in the Chaplain Corps of the U.S. Army in 1944. He earned a Bronze Star for service under fire in that war. After the war he was appointed an assistant pastor in Cincinnati, Ohio. Herman G. Felhoeter returned to military service in July 1948 and recommissioned in the Army. Subsequently he was assigned to Headquarters Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, and stationed in Boppu, Japan. After the Korean War began he accompanied the 19th Infantry to Korea on 4 July 1950 and was present with 19th Infantry troops at the defense of the Kum River line on 13 July.

North Korean forces, led by tanks, crossed the Kum River on the night of 15-16 July. While some NK forces attacked the units at the river, others moved south through gaps in the 19th Infantry's line and established a roadblock three miles south of Tuman-ni to the rear of the MLR. The block covered about a one and a half mile stretch of the main supply route to Taejon. A small pass was created by the Yongsu River and a steep hillside that came down to the road on the other side; there was no room to pass vehicles on either side of that stretch of road. Control of the highway at this point by the North Koreans effectively blocked the withdrawal route of the 19th Infantry. All attempts to break the roadblock failed. Withdrawing troops of the 19th Infantry piled up behind the roadblock until about 1900 on the 16th when they were ordered to abandon their vehicles and move overland to try to reach safety. Approximately 500 men and 100 vehicles were at the roadblock at that time. The critically wounded and those who couldn't walk

were placed on litters. After destroying the vehicles the last of the men cleared the road at 2100 and moved into the hills to the east.

One group of men numbering approximately 100 took about 30 wounded, including several litter cases, and climbed the mountain east of the road. About 40 men were designated as litter bearers. On top of the mountain the men with the seriously wounded decided that they could not carry them any farther. Chaplain Herman Felhoelter stayed with the wounded and, when a party of North Koreans were heard approaching, urge the battalion surgeon to escape while he stayed with the wounded. The surgeon barely escaped and was seriously wounded while doing so. (The surgeon, Capt. Linton J. Buttrey, was evacuated to the U.S. and returned to duty in April 1951. He died in 1972.) From a distance, at daybreak the North Koreans were seen to murder the wounded, and then they murdered Chaplain Felhoelter as he prayed over the dead and dying.

Chaplain Herman G. Felhoelter was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his heroism on 17 July 1950. He was honored by the National Chaplains Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, and was buried in the Saint Michael Cemetery in Louisville, Kentucky.

The words President Harry S. Truman penned to a memorial for an Irish national who died serving in the U.S. Army in Korea seem very appropriate for Chaplain Felhoelter:

He died in the service of his country. He stands in the unbroken line of Patriots who have dared to die that freedom might live, and grow, and increase its blessings. Freedom lives, and through it he lives—in a way that humbles the undertakings of most men! ♥

I wanna be a bear!

If you're a bear, you get to hibernate. You do nothing but sleep for six months.

I could deal with that.

Before you hibernate, you're supposed to eat yourself stupid.

I could deal with that, too.

If you're a bear, you birth your children (who are the size of walnuts) while you're sleeping and wake to partially grown, cute cuddly cubs.

I could definitely deal with that.

If you're a mama bear, everyone knows you mean business. You swat anyone who bothers your cubs. If your cubs get out of line, you swat them too.

I could deal with that.

If you're a bear, your mate expects you to wake up growling. He expects that you will have hairy legs and excess body fat.

Yup...I wanna be a bear. ♥

Lest We Forget

Extract from the Morning Report of Headquarters Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, for 16 July 1950— Records of Events Section

The Co Hq Sec was alerted at 0135 to prepare to defend the Regt'l CP. This group consisted of Cooks, Mechanics, Supply and Administrative personnel. The Sec arrived at the Regt'l CP at 0630 hours. At this point the Sec was committed with the Security Platoon. The objective was secured and all advanced to higher ground. This ground was held until 1200 hours at this time the Security Platoon and Co HQ Sec was ordered to withdraw to the Regt'l CP.

At this point elements of the 1st Bn, 19th Inf, had also arrived. The enemy had gained the high ground in rear of the CP. A fire fight began about 1230 hours and lasted until about 1700 hours. Most of the troops had made their way over the high ground and through the rice fields. All personnel that crossed the rice field joined the Regt'l Motor convoy which had formed approximately 2 miles from where the Regt'l CP was formerly located. The enemy had formed a roadblock, placed automatic weapons on the right and left sides of the road. The fire was very effective against personnel and transportation. The convoy tried to move for approximately 4 hours.

1200 hours the Regt'l Commander gave the order to destroy all equipment and transportation. This was completed in about 1 hour then Father (Chaplain) Felhoelter formed a carrying party for the wounded and started thru the hills back to the Regt'l train area. Most of them arrived safe, a few died on the way. The dead had to be left because the carrying parties were depleted.

Maj Robert M Miller was relieved from command and assigned Executive Officer, 1st Bn, 19th Inf. Capt Samuel O Clark assumed Command of the orgn. Capt Clark was killed in action at approximately 1500 hours. 1st Lt Charles Jenkins assumed command of the org.

Casualties for the day: 1 Officer killed in action, 4 Officers wounded in action, 3 Officers missing in action, 8 EM wounded in action, 29 EM missing in action, 1 2½ ton truck, 2 ½ ton trucks, 13 ¼ ton trucks, 2 1 ton trailers, 15 ¼ ton trailers and all signal equipment was destroyed. Morale of the men remained high. ♥

Submitted by Jim Hill, 19th Infantry. Thanks to Joe Sweeney, 19th, for research.

Recommended for Citation

Outfit Given Up; Gains UN Line, Rejoins Battling

By William Burson

A Forward Battalion CP (UP)—The captain stepped up to the operations map with an eraser

He rubbed out the symbol which had designated "King" Company. In its stead he drew a blazing arrow topped with the mark used by a Chinese regiment.

"King," he said, "has ceased to exist as a military unit."

It had borne the brunt of the initial thrust of the Communist spring counteroffensive, and stood its ground for four hours in a sea of charging Chinese.

Its men were presumed dead, captured, or fighting a death stand surrounded by Reds.

But The Presumption was made without reckoning with the never-say-die spirit of Capt. Herman Stein of Neenah, Wis., and his doughty loyal men.

Twenty-four hours later "King" Company's symbol was back in the tactical lineup.

Stein and some of his infantrymen were battling again after a cross-country escape march. Sixty hours later the company fought a rearguard engagement screening the withdrawal of its regiment across the 38th parallel.

Sixty-six hours later this scrappy force, its ranks decimated, jumped aboard tanks and roared off in a vain attempt to bust a roadblock which had trapped 2700 withdrawing GIs. And they might have been successful had not two of the tanks been knocked out before they reached the ambush valley.

Thereby hangs the tale of "King's" recommendation for a Presidential Unit Citation.

The recommendation was made by Lt. Col. Curtis Cooper of Detroit. And it was endorsed by Col. Peter W. Garland of Gastonia, NC.

The men—The battalion and regimental commander respectively credited "Stein and his boys" with saving their division from possible encirclement. It is a story of fighting courage unsurpassed in the Korean War.

It began the preceding Friday when the company attacked into the Chinese buildup and with marching fire and bayonets knocked a battalion from a hill which could give UN troops a vantage point to view the Red concentrations in the Kumhwa Valley.

The advance left "King" out in front of the main line like a sore thumb and when the Chinese threw their Sunday punch it was against this point.

"They milled in front of us all day Sunday," Stein said. "Artillery splattered them by the hundreds. But the gaps were filled as swiftly as a river closes over a tossed stone."

At 7:30 pm sharp, Communist mortar and artillery shells started screaming in followed by close rank columns moving up the ridge in front.

"They massed in the valley below," the captain said. "The whistles blew and the bugles blew. They whooped blood-curdling yells and charged like bulldozers. Everyone had a grenade in each hand."

Two suicide waves were downed. The third made the top and pushed the GIs back. But Stein regrouped the company and led a successful counterattack.

From then until 11:30 the infantry held fast.

"We had to pull back when they started in on us from the flanks as well as the front," the company commander said. "We withdrew to the next ridge and were ready for them when they followed up."

The GIs met the next charge without moving. They came to hand to hand grips with the Chinese who got within the perimeter. "We mowed them down and still they came," 1st Lt. Charles Post of San Antonio, Texas, reported. A radio operator died at his post as he called in artillery so close that shrapnel sprayed the Allies.

When their ammo ran out they took up where they left off with .45 automatic pistols or bayonets used as daggers.

The story was the same with the 57-mm recoilless rifle crew led by Cpl. Richard Osuna of Peoria, Ill.

1st Lt. Dayton Poe of Bluefield, W. Va., said he counted 28 dead Chinese in front of Stein's foxhole.

Sgt. Robert Farrell of New Bedford, Mass., destroyed the mortars and flat trajectory weapons as they ran out of ammunition. He said he saw several GIs without rounds for their rifles tackle Red soldiers in fistfights.

Some used the butts of their M-1's to batter the attacking Reds to death.

"Our ammo was gone," Stein said. "When I saw two of my men disemboweled with bayonets, I knew it was hopeless. I saw a column moving through the draw of my left trying to get behind us. I yelled for everybody to make to the hills and make their way back as best they could."

Cpl. John Bostwick of Richmond, Va., a medic, loaded every litter he had with wounded and ran with his bearers down the trail. They were the last ones to get out the way the company had come.

A machinegunner stayed behind voluntarily to cover the withdrawal. He died firing his gun.

The men split up. Every able-bodied soldier took a wounded man with him. No wounded were left on the hill.

Stein led one group toward what he thought to be the positions of Easy Company. Sgt. Louis Lese of Thomaston, Conn., and six men with him made their way to Love Company and helped that outfit on its way out of the encirclement.

For six hours Stein's men stumbled through dark valleys and crept up unfamiliar hills. To their south they got near the enemy so they turned north into Red territory. PFC Billy Jay Wells of Norman, Okla., scouted ahead of the main party.

In one instance SFC Ray Remp of Pittsburgh, Pa., said the men saw an enemy patrol on the ridge line moving south while they were in the valley moving northeast.

"I think every one of us stopped breathing as those Chinese went by," he said.

After three hours of this stealthy march, Stein consulted his company and turned south. As the first rays of the morning sun lighted the hills, the tired bedraggled troop topped a crest and saw American tanks below.

"I think we all must have said a little prayer of thanks," 1st Lt. Ray Admire of Ravenna, Ohio, said. "I think if we had been 15 minutes late we would not have gotten out. In the

daylight we wouldn't have lasted ten minutes in those hills."

The tanks carried the company back to the battalion headquarters. There Stein's group was reunited with the six men led out by Sergeant Lese.

After 12 hours rest on a sunny sandbar in the Ildong River, Captain Stein led his remaining men back into the hills and into the fight. ♥

The Distinguished Unit Citation for King Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, reads as follows:

As authorized by Executive Order 9396 (sec. I, WD Bul. 22, 1948), superseding Executive Order 9075 (sec. III, WD Bul. 11, 1942), citation of the following units in the general orders indicated is confirmed in accordance with AR 220-315 in the name of the President of the United States as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction. The citation reads as follows:

Company K, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division (second award), and the following attached units:

Machine Gun Section, Company M, 19th Infantry Regiment (second award);

Forward Mortar Observer Team, Company M, 19th Infantry Regiment (second award);

Medical Aid Team, Medical Company, 19th Infantry Regiment (second award),

Are cited for outstanding performance of duty and extraordinary heroism in action against the enemy near Chip'o-ri, Korea, during the period 18 to 23 April 1951. During this period, Company K and attached units were spearheading an attack by the 3rd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, to secure the high ground overlooking a suspected enemy build-up area in the Kumhwa Valley. Fighting their way over rugged terrain, the company and attached units seized objective after objective and, on 22 April, reached a terrain feature from which they could observe the enemy build-up area. Throughout the day, friendly artillery placed devastating fire in the area with effective results. At 1930 hours, two enemy columns, supported by intense mortar and artillery fire, advanced up the ridge and charged Company K's positions. Two waves of the assaulting enemy were immediately cut down by the accurate fire from Company K's automatic weapons and rifles. The third wave made the top of the ridge, and its overwhelming numbers forced Company K and attached units to withdraw to more tenable positions. The company commander then regrouped and encouraged his men and led them in a bayonet counterattack which, after a fierce hand-to-hand engagement, succeeded in driving off the enemy and regaining the lost positions. From that time until 2330 hours, the courageous and inspired soldiers of Company K and attached units held fast as wave after wave of determined hostile troops hurled themselves at the friendly positions. When the enemy attacked in overwhelming numbers from both flanks as well as from the front, the weary but still aggressive friendly troops were forced to withdraw to another ridge line, where they immediately began preparing for the next assault. Company K and attached units met the fanatical enemy charge with a devastating volume of fire and succeeded in repelling it. As the numerically superior enemy began to envelop Company K and attached units, it was necessary to take up more favorable positions. With able-bodied men carrying their wounded comrades, they successfully withdrew with all casualties. In the course of this action, Company K and attached units inflicted approximately 900 casualties on the hostile forces and displayed such gallantry, determination and esprit de corps in performing their mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set them apart and above other units participating in the action. ♥

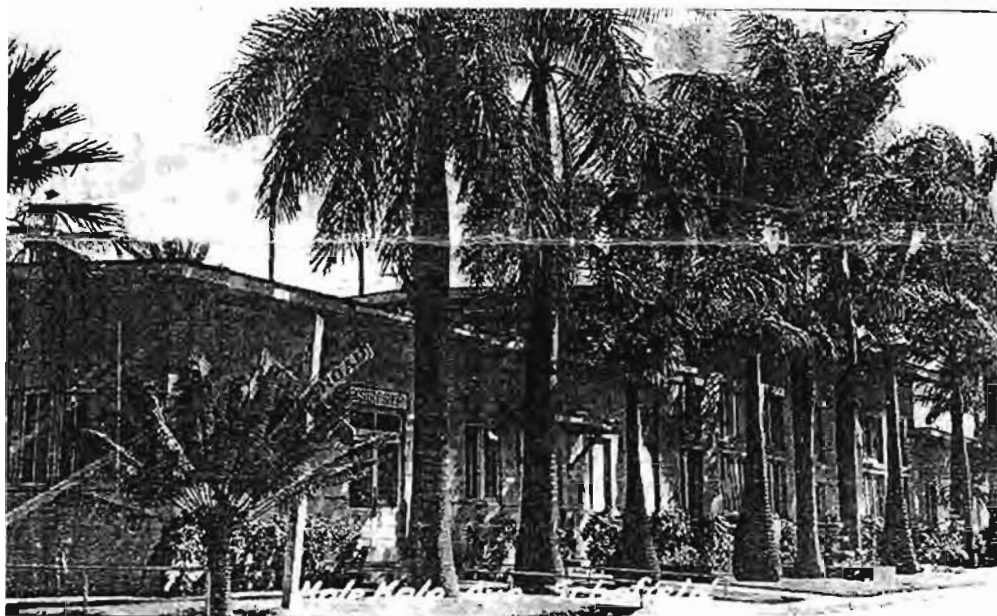
It Takes an Italian Man

On a recent transatlantic flight, a plane passes through a severe storm. The turbulence is awful, and things go from bad to worse when a wing is struck by lightning. One woman in particular loses it. Screaming, she stands up in front of the plane. "I'm too young to die," she wails. Then she yells, "Well, if I'm going to die, I want my last minutes on earth to be memorable! Is there anyone on this plane who can make me feel like a woman?"

For a moment there is silence. Everyone has forgotten their own peril. They all stared, riveted, at the desperate woman in the front of the plane. Then an Italian man stands up in the rear of the plane. He is gorgeous: tall, well built, with dark brown hair and hazel eyes. He starts to walk slowly up the aisle, unbuttoning his shirt...one button at a time. No one moves. He removes his shirt. Muscles ripple across his chest. She gasps. He whispers... "Iron this, and get me something to eat." ♥

"My mother thought they were blanks."

Originally published in the Tulsa World, 4 July 2001



Terry Clark remembers a loud explosion that rocked Schofield Barracks and "forever changed our lives."

On the morning of 7 December 1941, a very loud explosion rocked our home at Schofield Barracks and forever changed our lives.

My father had left the house to buy the Sunday paper, and my mother was feeding my baby sister and my other sister, and I was getting dressed. The sound of airplanes immediately followed the explosions, and we ran out onto the parade ground behind our quarters to watch the "air show."

Planes were flying so low and going through such antics that we were completely fascinated. The barracks were a short half-block away, and already soldiers with machine guns were firing back at the planes.

I often have wondered in the years since what those pilots thought seeing that woman, holding a baby with two little girls by her side...all waving at them!

My father came running through the house yelling at us, "Get down! They are shooting live ammunition!"

Well, my mother thought they were blanks and ignored him. We ran to my dad, and he pushed my sister and me to the ground.

My father put on his uniform and told my mother to stay there until he called and told her what to do. As soon as he left, we ran back out on the parade ground.

By then, things had rather settled down, so we went back into the house. My father came back with ammunition of his own and said to my mother, "My God, Kathleen, this is the real thing. I will not argue with you anymore. This is war!"

We went to the barracks, where we spent the day. That night we were evacuated with other women and children by blacked-out bus to Honolulu. Women took turns hanging out the door with flashlights shined on the road in front of the bus. I will never forget driving along the highway by Pearl Harbor with the sky aflame and sirens going off constantly.

We spent the night on the floor of a school and returned to our quarters several days later. There was a huge bomb shelter in our front yard, and one room had been blacked out for us to stay in at night.

There are always wonderful stories about the Pearl Harbor survivors, but the military families were survivors too.

Terry Clark, Tulsa

Sunday Morning

Dec. 14, 1941

Dearest Family,

First of all we are all safe, everything is under control, and you must not worry about us a speck. We are home again now in our

quarters, we have an air raid shelter in our front yards and one bedroom and the bath completely blacked out so we can turn lights on at night in those two rooms so we really are very comfortable and life will soon be going on quite as before. Jimmie is on the post and comes in whenever he is off duty. The children have been grand—all have colds, but I am used to that—and I am fine and quite the calmest person, as is everyone else.

Now back to the beginning—I think my greatest concern has been about you all for when I could not get word thru to you and wild rumors were running about so promiscuously I was afraid you would all be wild. They would not take cables over the telephone but you had to go to the Honolulu office. I could not get down but finally got a friend to take mine down on Tuesday. People were standing in line for blocks to get to the office. Jimmie thought perhaps he could get one thru the Army cables this week and of course I am trying to send this by clipper but have no assurance when it will reach you. No regular mainland mail is being accepted at the P.O.

Sunday morning—the fateful Sunday morning—Jimmie had gone over to Kemoos for a paper. I was in the kitchen feeding the baby and the other two were getting dressed in the bedroom. The first bomb that hit Wheeler Field shook our house and was immediately followed by successive explosions and machine gun fire. Airplanes were zooming overhead so with the baby in my arms and followed by the other children and Ardith we all ran out on the drill field in back of our quarters to see what was happening. Planes were diving over the barracks and sweeping down that drill field at such low altitudes that they were just skimming the tree tops. Well, we were all simply fascinated for we thought the planes from Wheeler Field were staging an alert and sham battle for practice. Mrs. Castellow called out her window asking what in the world



Clark (right, in front of her mother) and her family were bused to Honolulu after the attack on Pearl Harbor, known as the crossroads of the Pacific Ocean.

was going on and gaily I called back that the Wheeler planes were having an alert. The alert call sounded from the 19th Barracks and in a few seconds it seemed the machine guns from the top of the barracks were firing away. I still thought they were only using blanks tho' at this moment Jimmie arrived home, came dashing to the back and hollered, tho' you could hardly hear him above the roar, "Hir the ground they are shooting live ammunition!" He got

both of the children down and shouted for me to come under the trees and seeing two planes swooping right down the middle of the drill field with the smoke from the tracer bullets showing, I came ihed in to get into uniform he exclaimed that this was the real thing, that they were enemy planes and that they were shooting live ammunition. I had seen the symbol of the Rising Sun on the planes and some of them had come in so close that we could see the pilors but I refused to believe that they were Japanese. All I kept saying to Jimmie was that his good sense would tell him that planes could not have possibly gotten in here—that he was being an alarmist!

Jimmie dashed to the barracks and I still not believing that it could be anything but a practice alert went back out to the drill field to watch. Mrs. Maloney, my other neighbor, came out and tho' I still had the baby I did tell the other children to stay back by the house. The planes stopped coming over our area so I came back in and started to give Suzie her bottle. By this time Jimmie dashed back with ammunition of his own, came into the room and said, "My God, Kathleen, this is the real thing. Stay in the house. No, get the children and go down to the first floor of the barracks." And with that out he ran for his office but my parting remrk as he went out the door was, "Jimmie for Heaven's sake don't say that to anyone else—they'll think you're a rumor monger!" To which he exclaimed, "I'm not going to argue with you anymore. This is war."

I went out and told Ardith we would go to the barracks but that we would eat our breakfast first so we started to but the electricity went off and then Jimmie called on the phone from the office telling me again it was true that Pearl Harbor had been attacked and that Wheeler Field was in flames (the damage was not as great as that sounds). By this time I did have to accept the truth but it was a bitter giving in because the whole thing seemed so fantastic. We got to the barracks and of course everyone had their own tale of adventure. I don't believe I really accepted the fact that we had been attacked until the brief announcement came over

the radio and until Capt. Castellow came in and showed a machine gun bullet taken from his own house. Their house had several huller holes thru it so at the first opportunity I came home to see if I couldn't find one in mine but there are none!

We stayed at the barracks for the morning, they brought in coffee and rolls and milk for the children and we camped on an army cot. Suzie the angel went off to sleep and the others stayed put beautifully. At noon we ate at one of the companies, of course in the mean time all the troops took to the field.

In the afternoon we were told we could go home but would return if another air raid occurred. Of course we were all dying for news so as soon as I could get the children settled at home I went out looking for a paper as I had heard there was an extra out. I went to the taxi stand by car first but there was nothing but military transportation on the road and everything was so guarded that I came back home in a hurry and then started out on foot. However I never did find a paper and came home shortly before five. In a few minutes they came and told us we would return to the barracks for the night so we gathered what we would need again and went over. When we got there we learned we were all to be taken to Honolulu! We had blankets and warm clothes on and baby food for one day for Suzie. Jimmie came to see us just before we left. It was after dark when we left and we drove all the way in complete black-out. We were all in great big Rapid Transit buses and the driver was a Honolulu bus driver who I am sure had never been to Schofield before in the darkness and simply could not find his way out of the post. When we got on the highway two people hung out each side of the bus with flashlights lighting the white line on the road. When we got down by Pearl Harbor we stood for half an hour in the traffic. That was the hardest part of the trip for I would have preferred being in one of the nearby cane fields with my brood than stopped on that highway. It was eight o'clock now. (The next sentence was censored.) It took us almost three hours to get to the school in the center of Honolulu where we were taken for the night. Everything was still in total darkness and we spread our blankets on the floor and the ones in charge brought us in more blankets—perfectly beauriful ones of lovely colors that nearly killed me to see going on the dirty floors!

I fixed the children and by ten Terry dropped off to sleep but Carol lay wide awake until after one and it was two before Suzie closed her eyes. She was good as gold—never a sound out of her but just sat on my lap and played. Every time I would lay her down between the children she would get right up and start walking over them or lean down and pat them. So to keep her quiet I held her. Finally with a bottle Ardith got her to lie down beside her and she finally went to sleep. But I still stayed awake and sat beside her for I was afraid some one would step on her in the dark—she did not make enough of a "lump" on the floor.

There were rumors to expect an attack at dawn but none came and we all began to wish we could get back home. The cafeteria at the school served us breakfast and as none of us had eaten since the noon before we were mighty

hungry. After lunch we heard we could go to private homes so I immediately got in touch with Maureen Davey for I knew there would be room for us in her big house and as it is built of heavy lava rock into a side hill it would be the safest place to be. It is high up on a mountain side too. When I got her she said she had tried to get me at Schofield and to find out where I had gone. She came for us within a half hour and we all got resettled at her house. Ardith wanted to stay with friends at the school so I left her. Maureen had had a houseful of evacuees from Hickam Field and it was the headquarters for the Civilian Defense for that area but she put us in a downstairs room that had a bath and the next day Jimmie brought me the baby's bed which was a godsend and all kinds of other necessary paraphernalia so we were very comfortable.

The hardest part was meals. Carol stopped eating as did the baby and that of course was a nervous strain on me. Everyone spoke of how grand my children behaved but behind the scenes there were several fracas. Carol is so composed and quiet that she is no trouble but Terry is my difficult one to manage but all really went very well tho' home never looked so good to me as it did yesterday. The authorities said that Schofield evacuees could return on Friday but Jimmie could not send for me until Saturday. We came home in an official car with a driver and a soldier guard. Now we are back to routine again. We have everything we need tho' they are rationing food and gasoline so there will be no waste. Ardith is here with me and she has a young girl friend staying with her too so we are a household of three adults and three children. Ardith expects her baby in January and will have to go to town to the hospital there. We do not know yet what arrangements there will be but I imagine they will allow ambulances from here to take maternity cases down.

(One sentence in the letter is unreadable.) The Thursday night before the Lurline sailed I wrote Xmas cards until eleven and mailed them and debated then that I should stay up and write so a letter would be on it too and then I saw that a clipper was scheduled the first of the week so I decided I would send a letter on that to make up for it. How many times I wished in the week that followed that I had stayed up and written the letter! For it least it would have kept you up to date a little. I did get my Xmas package off so I hope it was on the Lurline. And about half of my cards went. I was going to write a Christmas letter about my box because we could put no messages on the greeting cards. As you will see practically everything is from the Orient—even Japan—but even tho' we're mad at them I still like the Japanese things I sent so don't tear them to bits or something! And Helene, in practically everyone's package are packed hibiscus glasses for you. They are "cheese glasses" so it made no difference if they got broken but I thought they would be cute with your mats and napkins. I think I sent ten.

And the last week was Suzie's birthday. I could not have her party on Wednesday because I was so pressed with Xmas at home and at school so I had the party on Saturday. It was a darling party—all in red and Christmasy. I went to so much trouble but it was awfully cute and I am so glad we

had it for her and I am in hopes we got good pictures tho' of course I have not seen the man who took them since tho' I am going to try and get in touch with his wife tomorrow. We went out to dinner that night and I came home exhausted and said I was going to bed and not budge from it all day Sunday. I did not know the "Rising Sun" had other plans for me!

No one knows of course but I feel certain that we shall be sent home now. I have done nothing about it yet for today I have spent on this letter but beginning tomorrow I am going to pack things that I can and get my household in order. I don't think we will be sent out in a hurry at all because there is no longer any danger whatsoever. Everything is under complete control—they could never get in again—but I know we are all just in the way here and our food will be needed for the soldiers. I imagine our houses will be used for barracks. I want very much to stay here until after Christmas but then I am ready to come because I realize we are a tremendous worry and concern to Jimmie and I can only see him a short time daily. He has a big job to do and we can't help him by being here. It still seems so unreal for as you know I was a staunch believer that there would be no war and particularly that we would never be reached here. It has no explanation. All mail is being censored so I can not give you details. Helene will remember how near are the barracks so can explain what I mean when I say that as the planes dived on them that they barely skimmed my roof top coming out of the dive. My only regret now is that I didn't or wouldn't realize they were Japanese planes attacking us. I was completely enthralled instead of knowing the fear of being in an air raid. I wonder what the pilots thought of us all out there! The children spend their time hunting for blank shells cases everytime they go out to play. Please always tell all the family, Carol and Carl and Grandma O'Brien when you get word from us because we are sending to only one address and all those messages are censored. I shall send this clipper tho' I do not know when it will arrive. It may be my Christmas letter too so my great love to you all for the day and you can be sure I shall be thinking about you. I want you to have a Merry Christmas so don't worry about me but just know we are all quite safe and will be having our Christmas here too. I hear the freighter with the 74,000 Christmas trees on it ran aground off the coast of Oregon so we probably won't have a tree but I shall cut some branches off our big Japanese fir trees in the front! Some people got mail today so something came in tho' I have not heard and Suzie's birthday package



The front page of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

never arrived. I hope it still does because I was all excited about the dress you wrote about. She looked darling in another one tho' for the party with a pinafore as big as a minute. If you have time Helene, drop a card to Bertha and Polly telling them we are all alright. Bertha, The Kennedy Warren, Conn. Ave., Wash. D.C. and Polly, Camp Crowder, Missouri.

I wanted to call you on the telephone but I was afraid it would startle you all so and just hearing your voice might start me off on the weeps—I'm so unpredictable—tho' I assure you I am the most unconcerned and unalarmed person you can imagine but I was afraid I might not get anything said in a telephone conversation! So I'll send cables occasionally but remember too that no news is the best news but just remember to send on to Grandma everything we send you for that is the only way she is hearing too.

We can only have 10 gallons of gas a month so you see I won't be traveling far. I don't expect to get into Honolulu again and I haven't a Christmas present for Jimmie and now can not think of a thing to get him. He brought me over my present the night we were being evacuated for I really think he thought we were going to be put right on a boat and be gone. But I did not open it for I was so sure we would be back to have Christmas together so now he has it back again. I do know now how all refugees feel while sitting on their bags with blankets wrapped around them! I was a typical one with all the wrong things. We had one bag of clothes and one of food and the "potty seat." Ardith carried

the baby, the two children held hands and Terry carried that wooden potty seat that you no doubt remember. I tored the two bags and blankets. All went well til' we started to get off the bus and Carol had gone to sleep and wouldn't wake up and walk. Everyone got off the bus in pitch blackness and here I was with my hands full of bags and Carol as limp as a rag on the seat. I couldn't afford to lose track of my bags with our only possessions and I couldn't bear to leave Carol lying there for even a moment while I took them off the bus and then came back for her. At that crucial moment the bus driver came back and asked if he could help me—I could have kissed him, big and fat and Hawaiian as he was! So he carried the bags into the school and I carried in my sleeping child.

Well, my dears, the children are asleep by 6 at night for it is dark by then and all lights have to be off so they are up at dawn too so I must to bed. I have busy days ahead of me so will not get many letters written—just know that all is well—and Grandma, Jimmie is perfectly fine, very busy but thrilled with his job—he talked to Sec. of Navy Knox while he was here. And best of all we are all perfectly safe. ♥

With all our love,
Kathleen

This letter was written by the wife of Major James O'Brien, the 24th Division assistant chief of staff in December 1941.

Ode to a Volunteer

*Many will be shocked to find
When the day of judgment nears
That there's a special place in
Heaven set aside for volunteers.*

*Furnished with big recliners
Satin couches and footstools
Where there's no committee chair
No group leaders or carpools.*

*Telephone lists will be outlawed
But a finger snap will bring
Cool drinks and gourmet dinners
And rare treats fit for a king.*

*You ask,
Who'll serve the privileged few
And work for all they're worth?
Why, those who reaped benefits
And not once volunteered on earth. ♥*

—Author Unknown

One of Their Own

Quick to claim their own, Military Traffic Management Command Western Area points out that President Ronald Reagan once served during World War II with the unit that eventually became MTMCWA.

Reagan, then an Army second lieutenant, was stationed in 1942 with the San Francisco Port of Embarkation at Fort Mason and was assigned to the Port's plans and training division. The SFPE was commanded by Maj. Gen. Frederick Gilbreath, to whom the MTMCWA headquarters building at Oakland Army Base was later dedicated.

In 1964, the SFPE headquarters moved from Fort Mason to Oakland, then an SFPE subport, while the greater part of Fort Mason in San Francisco was turned over to the National Park Service. The Army still maintains government quarters and an officers' club there.

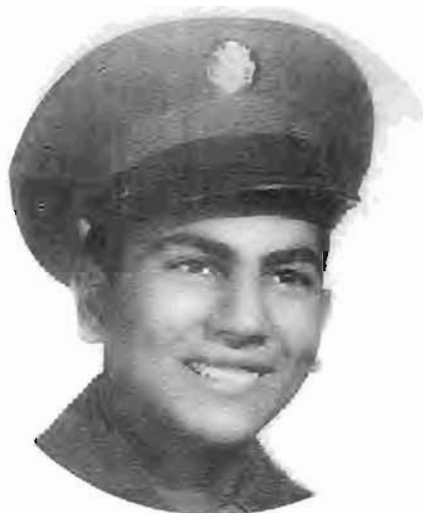
*10 September 1941 to 5 February 1942
At this time, I was stationed at Fort Mason as Provost
Sergeant Major, having been shanghaied out of the infantry.
Ronnie and I were here together. ♥*

—Ed Farmer
Sgt

Waiting for Dawn

Company K, 31st Regiment
Company C, 17th Regiment
United States 7th Infantry Division

Inchon
Suwon
Osan
Seoul
Kimp'o
Chosin Reservoir
Yalu River
Manchurian
Border



Lawrence J. Capelli

Company F, 27th Regiment
United States 25th Infantry Division



Harry R. De Nofio

Masan
Sanchong
Kumsan
North Korea
Manchurian
Border

Killed in Action

United States Navy
Battleship USS Missouri
"Big Mo"

North and South
Korean Coasts
Wonsan
Hamhung
Sudong
Hungnam
Manchurian Border



Romaine Howey

HQ 34th Regiment
United States 24th Infantry Division



John J. Baker

Taejon
Kumchon
Waegwan
Taegu
North Korea
Manchurian Border

Korea

The WAR That Never Was

1950-1953

54,246 Died • 103,000 Wounded
8,100 MIA/POW Still In North Korea

Sent in by John Baker

Murphy's Laws of Combat

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

Sent in by Joe Cannon

Election of Officers

2003-2004

Nomination and election of the Association Officers for the term of 2003-2004 will be conducted at the Annual Membership Meeting held at the annual reunion in Tucson, Arizona, on 20 September 2003.

The Constitution of the Association designates three positions as elected offices. They are:

President

Vice President

Secretary/Treasurer/Editor

(Interpretation of the Constitution allows the Secretary/Treasurer to name an individual as Editor of the *Taro Leaf*.)

Chairman

James F. Hill, 19th Infantry
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Roswell, GA 30075-2967
Phone (770) 998-3749
E-mail: jimandsuehill@aol.com

Harold "Corky" Peters, 21st Infantry
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Rodgers, MN 55374-8899
Phone (763) 428-4158

Bob L. Lawhon, 6th Tank
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Proctorville, OH 45669-9067
Phone (740) 886-6935

Ben H. Walke, 34th Infantry
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Burlingame, CA 94010-3349
Phone (650) 697-3308

Frank Wilczak, 24th Quartermaster
224 Shanley Street
Cheektowaga, NY 14206-2325
Phone (716) 893-7426

Any Active Member of the Association who desires to nominate an individual for the above listed offices is requested to provide the name of the individual, his or her qualification for the position and concurrence of the individual to one of the above.

It is desirable for the nomination(s) to be made prior to 5 September 2003.

Irish playwright Sean O'Casey didn't learn to read until he was in his teens. And he didn't try to write a play until he was 40. It was he who said, "No man is so old as to believe he cannot live one more year." ♥



A G Company, 21st Infantry, platoon. Taken on the day the war ended—27 July 1953; it was Maurice Quarles' birthday.

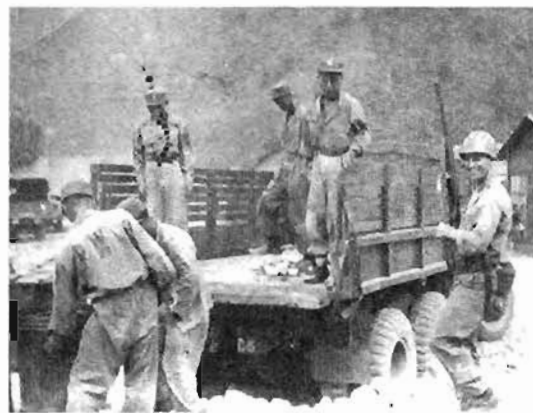
Now, that was a great present.

Front row: #2 Bean; #3 Ruiz; #7 Bowman; #8 Ragland.

Second row: #4 Nieves, 36 Brown, #7 Bowman; #8 Vasques.

Third row: #4 Bush; #7 Vigil; #8 Quarles; #9 Russell.

Back row: #3 Hicks; #6 Nicholas; #9 Gintile.



Special Forces Get Free Rein

by Rowan Scarborough

Originally published in the Washington Times

US Commandos inside Afghanistan have been given historic autonomy to plan and execute attacks when needed, resulting in "hundreds" of deaths of enemy soldiers, military officials say.

One official described the special-operations forces' (SOF) rules of engagement as an "unrestricted hunting license" for Taliban militia and Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda terrorist army now in disarray. Special-operations troops the past two weeks have conducted their first sustained ground combat in Afghanistan. Sources say small teams of Delta Force soldiers, and other commando units, have ambushed the enemy and killed them in small batches.

"From the reports I've seen, they have killed in the hundreds," a senior administration official said. "There have been no deaths on our side." This official, and others, said in interviews they credit the success to a premium placed on special-operations training the past 20 years. They also praise the freedom granted the units by Gen. Tommy Franks.

Gen. Franks, who as head of US Central Command is directing the war in Afghanistan, is part of the "conventional" Army, and thus suspect in the eyes of hardened covert warriors. But some in the community are applauding the general's willingness to give SOF their loosest rein since the Vietnam War. Then, Army Green Berets infiltrated enemy territory and attacked at will. Commandos are working in small teams at night in southern Afghanistan, attacking Taliban and al Qaeda soldiers around their stronghold of Kandahar. US commandos can conduct reconnaissance, identify the enemy and plan missions to attack without getting approval from Central Command, officials said. "You've got to give these guys freedom to plan direct action because the intelligence is so fragile," an administration official said. "In conventional warfare, you can rely on older intelligence of enemy positions because the enemy is not as mobile. In direct action, they're going after people. They have to do their own intelligence and act on it right away. You have to give these guys some slack." In some cases, soldiers have used sniper fire, taking advantage of stealth and superior night-sight equipment. In other encounters, soldiers used Barrett .50-caliber weapons, heavy sniper rifles that can take out an armored vehicle, or a person, at 1,500 yards.

The administration official said now that hundreds of

SOF soldiers are behind enemy lines they must act quickly or lose their prey. "It's only when you operate in country that information becomes minutes old," the official said. Personnel in the special-operations community say Afghanistan has provided a playing field for SOF specialists to ply two classic trades at once: unconventional warfare and direct action. In unconventional warfare, Army Special Forces, or Green Berets, have worked with the Northern Alliance and other opposition groups. The US soldiers, trained in indigenous customs and language, give tactical advice, supply arms and bond with commanders who will one day run the country. In "direct action," carried out by Delta Force and other SOF units, commandos find targets for fighter jets to strike, blow up some targets themselves and conduct hit-and-run raids. "They're not leaving a footprint," said the administration official. "When these guys do sleep, they sleep on the ground. They don't have a fixed base camp."

Delta Force is under the control of US Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC), located at Pope Air Force Base, which borders Fort Bragg, NC, home to Army Special Operations Command. JSOC not only oversees the super-secret Delta anti-terrorism unit, but also the Navy's SEAL Team Six. "There are elements of JSOC we don't talk about," an Army officer said.

Under the command of Army Maj. Gen. Del Dailey, JSOC units train in total secrecy. Few outside the units know who they are or what they do. Gen. Dailey, an ex-member of the 800-strong Delta unit, personally briefed President Bush on their missions in Afghanistan before the war began.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld visited Pope and Fort Bragg this week to fire up troops on whose shoulders much of the war's fate now rests. Backed by air power, they must not only kill terrorists, but also help catch, or kill, the two primary al Qaeda leaders: bin Laden and his top aide Ayman al Zawahiri.

While at Fort Bragg, Mr. Rumsfeld credited SOF with turning the war in Afghanistan in the United States' favor. In the first weeks after the air campaign began 7 October, opposition forces made little headway. But once US warriors entered the country in significant numbers and began finding crucial command and troop targets, the Taliban began its retreat. "The air war enabled the ground war to succeed," Mr. Rumsfeld said. "And it turned when we had Special Forces down there to help with the targeting. And God bless them for doing it." ♥

...But some in the community are applauding (General Tommy Franks') willingness to give SOF their loosest rein since the Vietnam War.

Easy Company, 19th Infantry Regiment, Korea, 1951



Gorgeous Meyer, Bob Wilson (MI) & Hawkshaw McConnell (NY)
May 1951



Roscoe Owen (KY/TN) - Summer 1951



Bob Wilson (MI) & Tom Thiel (OH) - September 1951



???? & Tom Thiel (OH) - December 1951
Tokyo R&R



Jim Monahan (CA) - Summer 1951

Quartermaster 24 IDA

Supply Price List

Control #	Item	Description	Price Ea	Control #	Item	Description	Price Ea
1	24 ID Colored Patch		\$3.00	42	24 ID License Plate		4.00
2	24 IDA Colored Patch		5.00	43	Desert Storm Cap-Black		12.00
3	24 ID Black Cap w/Patch		10.00	44	Desert Storm Hat Pin		3.00
4	24 ID White Cap w/Patch	First to Fight	10.00	45	WWII or Korean Veteran's Cap		12.00
5	24 ID Window Sticker	2" x 3"	2.00		Black w/CIB		
6	24 ID Decal	4"	3.00	46	Bumper Sticker-CIB		3.00
7	Bolo Tie w/TL Gold		15.00	47	Bumper Sticker-		3.00
	W/Gold or Black Chain				Proudly Served w/TL		
8	Bolo Tie w/TL Silver		16.00	48	Book-24 ID 2nd Edition		30.00
	Silver w/Black Chain				WWII-Korea-Desert Storm		
9	Belt Buckle w/TL		15.00	49	6th Tank Bn Cloth Patch	Cloth Patch	3.00
	Gold or Silver Belt Buckle			50	Purple Heart Medal	HP-754	3.00
10	29th Inf Cloth Patch (Color)		5.00	51	Bronze Star Medal	HP-926	3.00
11	24 Sig Bn Unit Crest		5.00	52	Good Conduct Medal	HP-927	3.00
12	19th Inf Crest		5.00	53	Korean Service Medal	HP-929	3.00
	Current Issue \$10 Pr			54	Natl Defense Service Medal	HP-957	3.00
13	21st Inf Crest		5.00	55	Victory Medal	HP-958	3.00
	Current Issue \$10 Pr			56	Silver Star Medal	HP-959	3.00
14	34th Inf Crest		5.00	57	ETO Campaign Medal	HP-962	3.00
	Current Issue \$10 Pr			58	DFC	HP-965	3.00
15	11th FA Crest	\$10 pr	5.00	59	Korean 8000 Missing	HP-115	3.00
16	13th FA Crest	\$10 pr	5.00	60	CMB 1st Award	HP-569	3.00
17	19th Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	61	US Flag Clutch Back	HP(V-37)	3.00
18	21st Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	62	24th Medical Bn Crest		10.00
19	34th Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	63	Pacific Campaign Medal	HP-963	3.00
20	11th FA Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	64	American Campaign Medal	HP-964	3.00
21	13th FA Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	65	Army of Occupation Medal	HP-051	3.00
22	24 ID Crest		5.00	66	Meritorious Service Medal	HP-056	3.00
23	21st Inf Lapel Pin		5.00	67	UN Service Medal	HP-059	3.00
24	34th Inf Lapel Pin		5.00	68	Philippine Liberation	HP-361	3.00
25	CIB (1st Award) 1-1346 (Mini)		5.00	69	Korean Service Ribbon	HP-099	3.00
	Mini DRESS MESS			70	Air Medal	HP-925	3.00
26	CIB (2nd Award) 1-1347 (Mini)		5.00	71	DSC Hatpin	HP-308	3.00
	Mini DRESS MESS			72	Bring Em Home/Back	HP-214	3.00
27	CIB Lapel Pin		5.00	73	American Defense Medal	HP	3.00
28	19th Cap Dark Blue/Crest		10.00	74	Vietnam Service Medal	HP	3.00
29	21st Cap White/Embroid/Crest		12.00	75	24 ID Hatpin		3.00
30	21st Cap Dark Blue		12.00	76	24 ID Tie-Regular		20.00
	/Embroidered Crest			77	24 ID Flag, 3x5 Screen Print	Outdoor Flag	45.00
31	34th Cap Dark Blue w/Crest		10.00	78	63rd Field Artillery	Cloth Patch	5.00
32	24 IDA Cap Dark Blue w/Patch		10.00	79	Army Commendation Medal	HP	3.00
33	Cap w/TL, Red or White GERMANY		12.00	80	Soldiers Medal	HP	3.00
34	24 IDA Red or White Caps		10.00	81	POW Medal	HP	3.00
35	24 IDA Green Cap (Patch)		10.00	82	Armed Forces Reserve Medal	HP	3.00
36	24 ID White Mesh Cap		10.00	83	1" Decal 24 ID		0.10
37	3rd Engr Crest		5.00		Sell 12 for \$1.00		
38	14th Engr Crest		5.00	84	24th Christmas Cards	10 ea. Packet	6.00
39	5th RCT Pocket Patch		5.00	85	World War II Tapes (Starts Australia)		15.00
40	5th RCT Cap, Red		10.00	86	24 ID Forward History Book	Korea	50.00
41	19th Lapel Pin		\$5.00	87	24 ID Neck Waller		3.00

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Concept of the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized)

On 1 October 1998, the commanding general of Fort Riley, Kansas, assumed the responsibility for the training, readiness and oversight of three National Guard brigades. The new unit was deemed the Integrated Division (IDIV) and is composed of an active division headquarters at Fort Riley, an active forward headquarters at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and three National Guard brigades.

The IDIV received telephonic notification 8 April 1999 that it would be designated the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized), with formal activation occurring 5 June 1999 at Fort Riley.

The 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) is composed of three enhanced separate brigades, the 30th Separate Infantry Brigade at Clinton, NC; 218th Separate Infantry Brigade at Columbia, SC; and the 48th Separate Infantry Brigade in Macon, GA. Each brigade consists of two mechanized battalions, one armor battalion, a field artillery battalion, an engineer battalion, a Forward Support Battalion, and several specialty companies to include a cavalry troop, a military intelligence company and an air defense artillery battery.

The mission of the "Victory Division" is, on order, the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) plans, coordinates and conducts pre- and post-mobilization operations and training to deploy three enhanced separate brigades with or without equipment to any location in order to conduct combat and/or stability and support operations and redeploys them to home station.

In addition to being the headquarters for the "Victory Division," Fort Riley also maintains its previous mission of providing training, readiness and deployability for three active component combat brigades; mobilizing and deploying active and reserve component units; and providing effective support for soldiers and families during peace and war. ♥



24th Infantry Division Association



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Membership Application

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I desire to be enrolled or reinstated as a member of the **24th Infantry Division Association**,
and thereby be affiliated with the Greatest Combat Division the U.S. Army has ever known.

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Unit: _____ From _____ To _____

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Please make all checks payable to "24th Inf. Div. Assoc."
and mail with this completed application to:

Ellsworth (Dutch) Nelsen
Secretary/Treasurer
24th Infantry Division Association
812 Orion Drive
Colorado Springs, CO 80906-1152

Recommended by: _____

Granite Falls, NC, Veterans Celebration honors Korean War vets

The Korean War 50th Anniversary Commemoration Community Committee of Granite Falls recently sponsored a *Veterans Celebration* in Granite Falls. All veterans were honored and Korean War veterans were recognized.

On 9 November 2002, the Veteran's Celebration was held in downtown Granite Falls with sunny skies and a brisk wind. Mayor Barry Hayes was the Master of Ceremonies with Brigadier General Furman P. Bodenheimer, Ret., as the featured speaker. General Bodenheimer is a hometown native of Granite Falls. After graduating from Granite Falls High School, he served in the Navy and later in the Army National Guard. At the celebration, the Granite Falls Middle School band played

patriotic songs, the American Legion served as the honor guard, a high school student sang the National Anthem and led the group in songs, and the Army National Guard was present with military displays. The Korean War flag was dedicated and will be flown in Granite Falls through the end of the year.

Following General Bodenheimer's address, each veteran or the next of kin was recognized and presented a *Certificate of Appreciation* adopted by the Granite Falls Town Council, a lapel pin issued by the Defense Department and a red or white carnation donated by a local florist. Their memory was honored and their families recognized of the five veterans who died during the Korean War. ♥



Fred Turnmire (24th Division) received certificate and pin from Mayor Barry Hayes.



Virgil Anderson (24th Division) looks on as Mayor Hayes talks about the Korean Medal. Pictured: Virgil Anderson, Gen. F.P. Bodenheimer, Mayor Barry Hayes, Jerry Hedrick.



Phyllis LeFevers Bumgarner receives a Certificate of Appreciation for her brother, William "Billy" LeFevers, who was killed in action on 10 September 1950. Billy LeFevers was in the 24th Infantry Division, 19th Regiment.



Gean Smith receives a Certificate for his father who was killed in the line of duty on 26 April 1951. Joseph Stearl Smith was in the 24th Division and had joined the Army in 1939 and served through WWII. Gean was two years old when his father was killed.



Korean War veterans rode in the Christmas parade held 7 December 2002 in Granite Falls, NC. Virgil Anderson, Company L, 21st, front row with balloons, filled his truck with veterans and settled in to enjoy the ride.

In Memory



"I guess it's okay. The replacement center says he comes from a long line of infantrymen."

24th Infantry Division Association
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