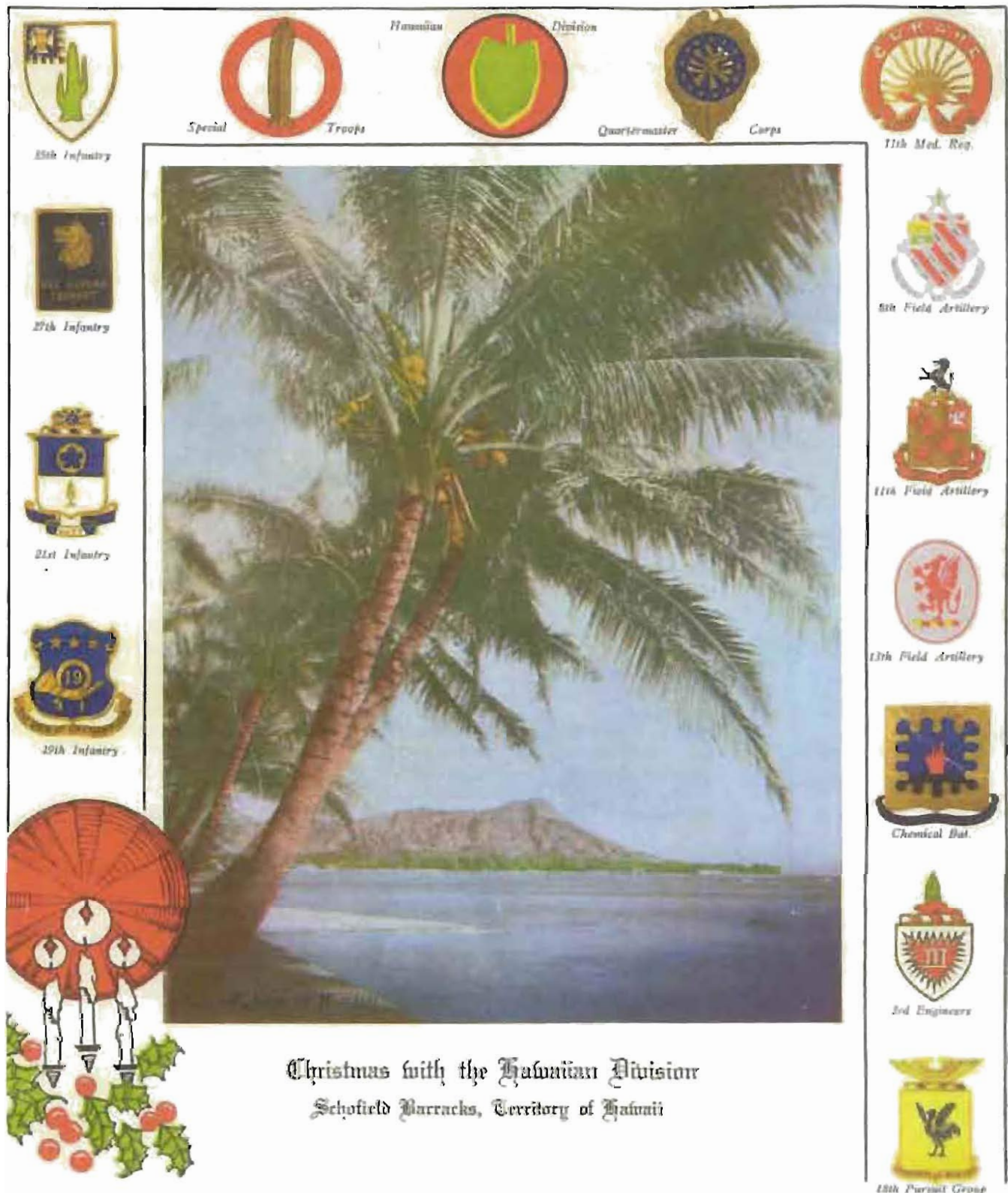


Taro Leaf

FIRST TO FIGHT



24th Infantry Division Association



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REUNION 2005

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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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Articles Submissions

To improve speed and accuracy and readability in editing, Manuscripts and Articles should be originals or clear copies, with either typed or printed out double spaced in near letter quality printer mode. Articles are to be received by the Editor not later than the deadline established by the President and Editor and published in the Taro Leaf. Any articles 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. Biographic 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.

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Paul F. Wisecap	1971-1972	34th Inf. Regt.	813-936-6103	FL
John C. Klump	1977-1978	34th Inf. Regt.	812-375-6184	IN
John R. Shay	1983-1984	21st Inf. Regt.	708-724-5133	IL
Richard C. Watson	1985-1986	19th Inf. Regt.	317-378-3721	IN
Warren C. Avery	1986-1987	21st Inf. Regt.	203-239-3406	CT
Donald E. Rosenblum	1987-1988	Div. HQ	912-233-6717	GA
Albert McAdoo	1991-1992	5th RCT	813-837-2728	FL
Vincent Gagliardo	1993-1994	5th RCT	415-467-2316	CA
Vincent Vella	1994-1995	21st Inf. Regt.	716-873-7129	GA
James F. Hill	1995-1996	19th Inf. Regt.	770-998-3749	GA
Ellsworth "Dutch" Nelsen	1996-1997	13th FA-19th	719-475-7499	CO
Thomas Cochran	1997-1998	34th Inf. Regt	931-647-4793	CA
Harold Peters	1998-2000	21st Inf. Regt	612-427-2433	MN
James F. Hill	2000-2001	19th Inf. Regt.	770-998-3749	GA
Billy Johnson	2001-2003	3rd "C" Eng.	910-424-3840	NC

Deadline to Editor ~~~~~Publication Date

15	January	2005	February	2005	Winter
15	April	2005	May	2005	Spring
15	July	2005	August	2005	Summer
15	October	2005	November	2005	Fall

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Cover Picture – Submitted By Marion M Williams, 21st INF

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I wish to thank the Membership for reelecting myself, as President, Don Lloyd as Vice President and Norm Dixon as Secretary/Treasurer for the coming year. I particular want to thank Don Lloyd and Norm Dixon for all the help they contributed to make the past year a successful year. This year in addition to the reelected officers, I appointed William F. (Bill) Boyden, 3rd Engr, as Asst Vice President. Bill was nominated for the position of Vice President when Don Lloyd was nominated for President. However, Don express a desire to serve one more year as Vice President to have more experience so I accepted the nomination for a second term as President.

I want to thank Walt Newlin and his wonderful wife Priscilla for the hard and well-planned reunion in Albuquerque. The entertainment on Friday night was great with the Black Eagle Dancers, Grammy Award Winners, and a Combo Band playing our favorite songs and the serenade by the mariachi band during Memorial Dinner was fantastic. Walt found a wonderful speaker in LTG John Myers. Retired.

I wish I could have personally met all the first timers who came but I was pretty busy helping Walt get the necessary help from the hotel. When I ask all First Timers to stand, I was going to ask them to introduce themselves to the membership, but I just plain forgot it. No excuses.

I want to encourage all members to start thinking about the reunion in Philadelphia next year. We are not getting any younger and I feel we should make every attempt possible to visit with our friends and comrades at these reunions. Based on the past two reunions, our attendance has drop each time, I have lowered the room block at the Adams Mark Hotel in Philadelphia. I just hope I will have to ask for more rooms as the year progresses.

I want to thank Corky & Dianne Peters for outstanding work again this year in soliciting donations to support the Association. Again this year they received in excess of \$25,000.00. Sorry to say though, they have stated this was their last year doing the solicitation. I have asked Bill McClure to take on the task and he has agreed.

Speaking of Bill McClure, I want to thank him for acting as the Quartermaster at the reunion. Bill brought an assortment of items from Francis Wittman for sale. Let's hope Francis will be able to attend the next reunion in Philadelphia.

One more thing, The Association is looking into requirements for placing a Division Memorial on the walkway to the Punch Bowl National Cemetery in Hawaii. Further information will be published as received.

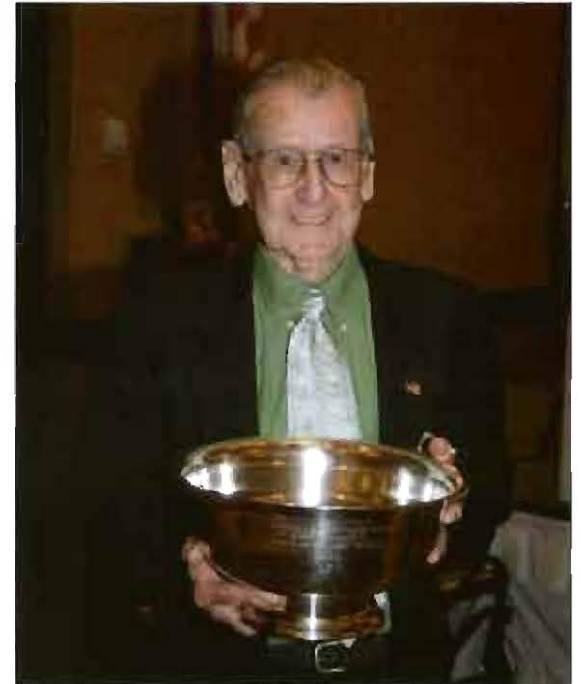
Verbeck Bowl - NM 2004



Bill Muldoon, 19th & Ben Wahle, 34th
Submitted By ~ Walter Newlin, 19th



Bill Muldoon, 19th
Submitted By ~ Walter Newlin 19th



Bill Muldoon, 19th with The Verbeck Bowl
Submitted By ~ Walter Newlin, 19th



Two old buddies of A.T. Company, 34th Regiment, 24th Infantry Division, Henry Poth on the left and Lawrence Brockmann on the right at their dinner table at the Reunion in Albuquerque, New Mexico (September 22, 2004 to September Sept.25, 2004) pictured with William C. Muldoon, in Center holding his silver bowl the Verbeck Award, the highest award, which Bill so justly and honorably received. ~ Henry Poth
Submitted By ~ Henry Poth, 34th



From Left to Right:
Nancy (Wife), Bill
Muldoon, Patsy
(Daughter)
*Submitted By ~ John
Klump*



From Left to Right: Bill Muldoon & John Klump, 34th
Submitted By ~ John Klump, 34th

Secretary/Treasurer's Report As of Mid-Oct 2004
Account Balances As of 10/19/2004

Bank Accounts:

Cash Flow 24th Checking	\$18,041.74
Bulk Mail Account	\$150.47
CD Savings	\$30,000.00
Money Market	\$21,136.54
TOTAL Bank Accounts	\$69,328.75

Cash Account

Operating Expense	\$83.00
TOTAL Cash Accounts	\$83.00

Asset Accounts

Office Furniture & Equipment	590.00
TOTAL Assets Accounts	\$590.00

OVERALL TOTAL \$70,001.75

To the members of the 24th IDA:

I regret that I was unable to attend the last reunion due to a recent surgery. Never-the less, I have remained busy. Due to certain unexpected expenses we were forced to transfer some money from the money market account. But things are balancing out at the moment and I plan to replace it back to the money market. As I write this report, the membership numbers 2823, down slightly from the last report. This is due partly because of a rash of those who have passed away and partly as a result of cleaning out unqualified members. But we seem to have quite a few new members coming in as you can see by the report.

I haven't heard anymore from the IRS concerning the 2002 income tax return but I am sure I will. We can only hope that their answer will be forgiving.

Norm Dixon
Secretary Treasurer

<u>Donors</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Amt</u>	<u>Donor</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Amt</u>
Benjamin Allen	19th Regt	35	Don Maggio	24th AG	5
LeRoy Atkins	21st Regt	35	Robert Martin	63rd FABn	5
Claude Barrick	11th FABn	10	Jack McCourt	24th ID	10
Hubert Berube	6th Tank Bn	10	Paul E McDevitt	19th Regt	10
Charles Best	19th Regt	20	John McMurray	5th RCT	10
Ernest Brandon	63rd FABn	10	Robert Moritz	19th Regt	10
Jackie Cauble	Div HQ	5	Lowell Neifert	34th Regt	10
Dewey Coles	13th FABn	12	Dutch Nelson	13th FABn	25
Joseph Costello	19th Regt	10	Linwood Newell	Div HQ	50
Daniel Cretaro	34th Regt	40	Goldy Norton	21st Regt	10
Claude Crist	21st Regt	5	Earlwin Oklaire	21st Regt	5
Danny Cuomo	34th Regt	60	Jim Owens	34th Regt	10
Bennie Davidson	21st Regt	5	Robert Parker	Div QM	5
Gino Dente MD	24th Med	5	Ted Peer	Div HQ	10
John Diotte	52nd Med	40	Laurence Personeni	Div HQ	10
James Doyle	19th Regt	10	Richard Petrucci	34th H&H	25
Raymond Eckardt	19th Regt	3	Charles Reese	724th Ord	10
Robert Evarts	19th Regt	5	Maurice Slaney	24th Signal	10
John Fecko	3rd Eng	10	Nicholas Smallridge	Div QM	35
Stanley Fijol	21st Regt	10	Bill Smith	19th Regt	10
George Gorham	21st Regt	15	Joseph Subsak, Sr.	34th Regt	10
Robert Harper	19th Regt	5	George Updike	34th Regt	10
James Hopkins	Div Arty	15	Gerald Vincent	11th FABn	5
Don Johnson	13th FABn	35	Ben Wahle	34th Regt	25
Joseph Kane	19th Regt	10	Francis Welsh	21st Regt	100
Lloyd King	34th Regt	10	Herman Westrich	21st Regt	10
Charles Lowry	21st Regt	5			

<u>New Life Members</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Thomas Appler	Div HQ
George Boyd	34th Regt
Leo Cullen	19th Regt
Norm Dixon	21st Regt
Heidi Edgar (Assoc)	34th Regt
William Harbin	3rd Eng
Dorothy Lloyd (Assoc)	3rd Eng

<u>New Members:</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Donna Adler (Assoc)	21st Regt
Larry Ayers	70th Armor
William Cartmell	19th Regt
Blass Chapa	19th Regt
Donald Chapman	622 MP
Carl Douglass	3rd Eng
Gary Erwin	Div HQ
Leroy Frankforter	34th Regt
Richard L. George	19th Regt
Michael Goldberg	7th FABn
John Paul Hayes	3rd Eng
James C. Jones	19th Regt

<u>New Life Members</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Hibbert Manley	5th RCT
Larry Mongan	19th Regt
Robert Quintero	19th Regt
Arthur Reddish, Jr	3rd Eng
Michael Sacchitella	21st Regt
Charles Williams	21st Regt

<u>New Members:</u>	<u>Unit</u>
Harlan Kreider (Assoc)	38th Regt
Dan L. McKinney	19th Regt
Richard O'Brien	21st Regt
Jerome J. Rader	34th Regt
James Reid	29th Regt
Theodore Risch	19th Regt
Harvey Salter	24th Signal Co
Nicholas Smallridge	Div QM
Jane Smolinski (Assoc)	34th Regt
James Stark	19th Regt
Joe Tomasello	19th Regt
Henry Williams	Div Med Bn

A Page For Artillerymen

(Required reading for Redlegs,
all others please turn to next page.)

In a previous issue we talked about the Army's heavy and superheavy guns of the old Coast Artillery. But that was not the only place big guns were to be found -- they also existed "inland" in the form of **Railroad Artillery**. How do you transport a gun weighing 20 tons -- well on a ship, of course. What does it matter if a gun weighs a hundred tons when the ship displaces 25,000 tons? But inland transport of such a gun is impossible except via railroad. US "railroaders" were mostly Naval 12 to 15 inchers. Why -- because there guns were already in production and crews to serve them already existed. In fact often the guns crews were Sailors. They wore Army uniforms but with USN on the collars -- as in the gun and crew shown below.

Deflection was accomplished via a curved track with small on-carriage refinement. Recoil??? Simple -- lock the wheels Fire, and let that Hummer slide down the track as far it cared to go! **Get the hell out of the way and let 'er rip!** Didn't that create flat spots on the RR wheels??? Well, hell yes! -- but who cares???? Push her back up into position, load, lay and shoot again!!!



Cannoneers prepare to move the 14-inch US Naval gun, mounted on railroad carriage. The tube is winched into traveling position (as shown) by gasoline engine on front truck. Outriggers on sides added stability. Projectile weight 1400 pounds, range 42,000 yards.

How big can railroad guns get? In WWI The French made a RR howitzer that was 520mm (20 1/2 inches), and that wasn't the biggest -- or latest. In WWII the Germans created a Railroad Gun of 800mm (31 1/2 inches). The Battery numbered 1,420 men with a full Colonel Battery Commander. Once emplaced the "Schwere Gustav" crew was cut to 500 Cannoneers. Two AntiAircraft Battalions and two Infantry Companies were attached to the Battery. Two 10 Ton cranes were part of the "section equipment." But - - - more of this, plus pictures, in a later issue.



In the Artillerie it is wisely said.
That a Battery seen is a Battery dead.

Arthur

Dutch Nelson

A WELL EARNED BREAK: 1st Lt. Ellsworth "Dutch" Nelsen was near Kumhwa, Korea, when this photo was taken. Nelsen fought with the B Battery, 13th Field Artillery Battalion, 24th Infantry Division in the Korean War and received a Purple Heart.

Vets recall heroics of fallen comrades

Memories fresh from WWII, Korea

By DENNIS HUSPENI THE GAZETTE

Saturday's Veterans Day Parade served as a reminder of the stories of heroic Americans in wartime.

One of those heroes' stories belong to Dutch Nelsen.

Retired Lt. Col. Ellsworth "Dutch" Nelsen, 79, of Colorado Springs, watched Saturday's parade from the grandstand.

Nelsen, a decorated Army soldier from the Korean and Vietnam wars, rolls out of bed some nights after having nightmares from his time in Korea.

Watching reports about the war in Iraq probably has triggered the memories, he said.

The former artillery man dreams of being surrounded by enemy troops – as he was at least three times during his 484 days of combat in Korea more than 50 years ago.

"This time they got me. My leg is hurt. I can't move. I'm out of ammo," Nelsen said.

Nelsen earned the Purple Heart in Taejon, Korea, in July 1950.

"I got into a fight with three Russian Army tanks, and I only had a light Howitzer (cannon) and I lost," he said.

An explosion behind him sent shrapnel hurtling toward his leg. Luckily, it hit a bayonet he had strapped to his belt, shattering the bayonet and sending metal shards into his thigh.

"If that bayonet wouldn't have been there, the shrapnel would have ripped my leg off and I would have died in another minute," he said.

Medics took Nelsen to a makeshift treatment center in a school in Taejon. They removed the metal from his leg, sewed him up and gave him medicine. He soon got restless.



"I didn't think I was hurt that bad and figured I had a better chance of getting out with my troops," Nelsen said. "There were some crutches there, so I grabbed them and got up."

Nelsen limped through the streets of Taejon, stopping at every corner to look for enemy troops, and followed the sound of his battery firing in the distance. "I finally got back," he said.

Years later, he still mourns the men lost in that battle. "Nine-hundred and twenty men died in two days during that battle," Nelsen said. "Each one had a history. A family. A mother."

Parades like Saturday's help remind the American public of the sacrifices of those men.

"Most people have no comprehension how good our soldiers are," Nelsen said. "When it's time to go, Americans get up and go when anyone in their right mind would say, 'To hell with you, Jack.'"

Nelsen, whose veteran friends named the local chapter of the Korean War Veterans Association after him, has participated in as many parades as he could – even in the bitter cold.

"I remember one kid ran up to me and gave me a medal made out of paper and colored with a gold crayon," he said. "That was really moving."

As president of the Veterans Council – which represents 42 area veterans organizations – he got to sit in the grandstands this year.

"So many people have paid such a heavy price. If we don't remember them, who will?"



Photos Submitted By ~ Bob "Chic" Kodama, 3rd ENG



Photos Submitted By ~ Walter Newlin, 19th

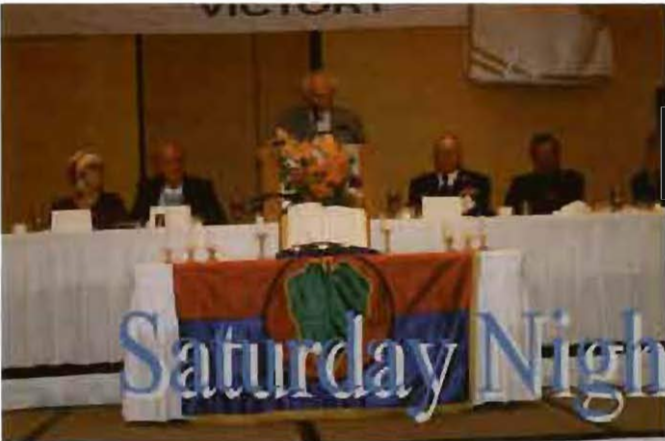


WM 2004

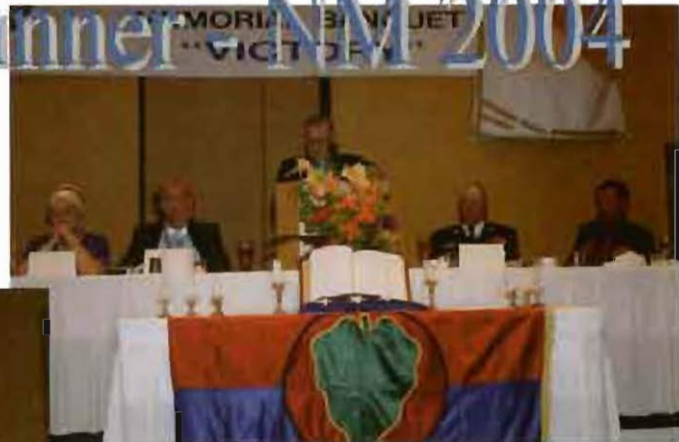


Aloha





Saturday Night Dinner - NM 2004



The Trip To Korea.

When I heard about the chance to apply for a trip to South Korea to participate in the 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Signing of the Armistice Agreement I immediately submitted my application. I was notified that I was accepted during March 2003. These trips were being sponsored by the Federation of Korean Industries.

Skyline of Seoul Photo



Our travel began with a flight from Tampa, Florida to Atlanta, Georgia at 10:30am. on July 22, 2003. We changed planes at Atlanta to a Korean Airlines Boeing 747 for the nonstop flight to Seoul, Korea. After the grueling 18 hour flight we were met at the new Incheon International airport by a welcoming committee of active personnel from all of the military services. The Korean Immigration Service was very helpful and made our arrival very easy. They set up additional check points that were for the veterans and their parties only. We were assigned to our hotels by the travel agency that made all of our travel arrangements. The active duty members took us into their control and made sure that all of our baggage was loaded on trucks and sent to our correct hotel. The personnel then assigned us to our tour busses for the 1 hour trip to the hotels located in downtown Seoul. My wife and I were assigned the Hotel Lotte, one of the largest hotels in Korea.

We had arrived on Wednesday and had all day Thursday to rest and recover from the trip. On Friday we started the commemoration ceremonies with a trip to the Korean National Cemetery. We took part in a Wreath Laying Ceremony and a tour honoring the Korean Military Who lost their lives in the war. We then went to the War Memorial for a tour and lunch. The War Memorial is dedicated to honor all the wars that Korea has fought in since about 500 AD. They have a black granite wall that has the names of all the military personnel who died during the period of the war that began June 25, 1950 and ended July 27, 1951. This wall is sectioned for each country who had troops serving in a combat roll. That evening we attended a banquet sponsored by the USO

Saturday we spent the entire day on different sightseeing trips. That evening we went to the military base for a bar-b-que supper hosted by the VFW post in Seoul.

Sunday, July 27, the actual day of the signing of the armistice we went to Panmunjom for the Armistice

Signing Commemoration. Following that we were given a reception and tour of the Freedom complex. That evening we attended World Peace Day Ceremony at the Korean War Memorial.

Monday we were given a chance to rest or relax by attending shopping centers and markets. Forget about all the malls that we are accustomed to here in the US. These are open fronted stores with stalls on the side walk.

Every thing that is displayed has a starting price for bargaining. The actual price will prove how good you are at bargaining, maybe only 50% of the ticketed price. In the evening we attended another banquet, this one was hosted by the Federation of Korean Industries. During this dinner all veterans from every country that served in the war was presented a Korean War Veterans Medal. (KWV Metal Photo) All Veterans were also awarded a pure silver Medal as a thank-you from the Federation of Korean Industries.



World Peace Monument



All American visitors left on Tuesday for our return home. I believe that we were all very happy to get back home and to rest and recuperate from the tiring trip of the past week. I am very certain that those Koreans that are old enough to remember what their country went through 50 years ago are very thankful for all of the UN forces who fought to protect the freedom that they live in today. I now know what it was that I fought for, so long ago. It was not for a little country that no one had ever heard about, it was for the freedom of the entire world.

The most touching moment of the entire trip happened when my wife and I entered an elevator in the hotel. An elderly Korean businessman, old enough to remember, pointed to my identification badge, which we all wore during the time we were there, and asked if I was a veteran? When I affirmed that I was he repeatedly said "Thank You, Thank you Thank you" and gave me a bear-hug. I will never forget. It brought tears to the eyes of my wife and myself.

Don Lennon
24th Armored Cavalry Recon Co. April 1950 - August 1951

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Finally, after over ten years of research, French translations, writing, and finding and dealing with a publisher, my history of XVIII Airborne Corps in the Gulf War will be distributed in September. I believe you will like the result of my efforts – especially my detailed coverage of the 24th ID from deployment through redeployment.

The book, "*XVIII Airborne Corps in Desert Storm*", is available now from the publisher, Hellgate Press, with a 20% pre-release discount. I hope you will consider ordering a copy through my website: <http://www.lanetoomey.com> (I get an additional 10% royalty for all sales originating through my website – what a deal!)

Please consider notifying members of your association through your newsletter and on your website. I would welcome a link from your website to mine.

I want to get the word out throughout the Army and Corps veterans – the ones for whom I wrote the book. My hope is that this will become a book that military professionals will abuse with marginal notes, underlining, highlights, and dogeared pages.

Sincerely,
Lane Toomey I.TC, U.S. Army (Retired)

Sorry I can't make it to reunion this year, but looking forward to next year.

I attended the dedication of WWII Memorial and what a great day. I felt a sense of pride that I could be among all those WWII heroes, as they were the one what made this country strong.

My group was near the Wash. Monument so I was able to get a good view of the great crowd.

Enclosed are a few pictures of the crown yours to keep.

Have a great reunion.

Bill Hosler, F, 19th 1949 - 1951

I received the Taro Leaf the other day. I noticed that someone was nice enough to send you the information for Edward D. Fitzgerald.

I am sending the correct information on his passing away on January 19, 2004. He was in the 24th Infantry Division. He was the first one to go to Korea; and was in for 6 years.

Also address was wrong it was 52 Osceola Avenue, Deer Park, NY 11729.

Ed's wife

Mrs. Ann Fitzgerald

Thank you

Time to check your Dues Date!

NOTICE: West Coast Mini-Reunion

To be held at the Ramada Express in Laughlin, NV 89028. Sunday 4/17/04 to 4/19/04. Rooms \$16.00. For reservations call 1-800-243-6846.

Dinner Choices are 1) Chicken, 2) Beef - \$35.00

Please send to: Dan Rickert

P.O. Box 720418

Pinon Hills, CA 92372

(949) 215-7553

I would appreciate it if you can put this in the Taro Leaf. My Brother-In-Law from GA wrote this book and ¾ of the book is of personal events from all Branches of service. He plans on giving copies away at the VA Hospital with the help of Veterans.

Best Wishes

Angelo Quadarella, Life Member 11thFA

Books For Veterans

You can help a veteran pass the lonely times of day by donating a book – given in your Name – to a patient in the VA Hospital

"*They Answered The Call*" is a book about some of the events that occurred during WWII and personal interviews of the brave men and women who served in the armed forces of The United States of America in remembrance of the 60th Anniversary of D-Day

Your book will be hand-delivered to a patient in the VA Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia Price: \$10.00 each

Contact: Sal Amico

83 Pine Ridge Road NW

White, GA 30184

(770) 386-8358



Billy Johnson (L) with friends in Korea Rudy Hernandez "Medal of Honor" recipient (C), Bill Boyden (R) at the 50th Anniversary of the Cease Fire

Photo Submitted By ~ Bill Boyden, 3rd ENG

ATTENTION 24TH IDA MEMBERS

Sorry for the late delivery. Life happens.

~ Billy

P.S. Don't forget to send your reunion photos for the next issue. Especially if you have some photos of the Indian dancers. ~B

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! (Cont.)

I am James Watkins an a life member..I would like to report that my address is changing for the better.

James Watkins
58 Joyce Street
Moosic PA 18507

I would like to thank everyone who work on the staff very well done. If the desert vets would get involved before the history becomes lost, that would be great also.

Thanks Again

Jimmy Watkins
260TH QM BN

Robert Green K Co 19th INF would like any book about the 24th in the Korean War. Can any of you help him out? His address is 219 So Blaine Street, Wellington, KS 67152-3820

~Billy

Thanks for a copy of your OUTSTANDING division magazine. I'm sorry that I do not recognize the name on the insert you sent. The sands of time have not been good to my memory.

I was excited to read of the reunion in Arizona, until I noticed the date of 2003. Next time.

I have a new address: Paul G. Petredis
6411 Wollochet Drive, N/W
Gig Harbor, WA 98335

I am in the process of writing a book about the Korean War, and the 24th is listed prominently. I believe it will be of interest, because of the research I developed. One will be shocked at what really happened to get us there. It should go to print around June 05. I have an editor and publisher already.

Thanks again, Billy, and I look forward to meeting you

CB Mason, 3rd ENG says with the help of Celebrex he played 27 holes of Golf in the last week and a half. Way to go CB! You can't keep an Eager Beaver down.



Superman in his later years

I was reading the Summer 2004 issue of the Taro Leaf recently and came across a couple of photographs that are incorrectly identified in the magazine. These are the two on the left side of page 33, Life As We Knew It

The photograph in the upper left of page 33 is Raymond Salyers of Illinois, not Ed Bouzan. The 19th is correct; we were in E Company. I took that photo in December 1951 near hill 747 in the central sector of Korea.

The photo immediately below Ray's, the one with the 3.5" rocket launcher, is of Jim Klocentrup of Kentucky. I took that photograph during a training exercise in the Summer of 1951. Jim's assistant gunner in the background is Bill McKenzie. I know that Jim has passed away; I have never been able to locate Bill.

Billy, I don't want you to take this as a complaint. I'm sure you receive lots of stuff. I think I sent you a package of photographs a couple of years ago and likely these got mixed in with someone else's stuff.

It is also possible that Bernadette Houlihan may have sent these to you. As an aside have you had any recent communication with Bernadette? She and I communicated extensively several years ago and all of a sudden she disappeared. Her father John and I served together in E Company and she was trying to locate persons who served with her father, who died in an auto accident when she was but 17. Since she disappeared I have completed a CD-ROM entitled "My War - The Unforgettable Forgotten War," and I would like to send her a copy. (I'd be happy to send you a copy if you'd like one.)

Thanks Billy for all you do to keep the 24IDA what it is today and for the fine job as Editor of the Taro Leaf. Its one of the best of it's kind!

Sincerely,

Tom Thiel, Life Member 2184

I would like all the members of the 24th Infantry Division Association to know the outstanding job James Cooper of Albuquerque, NM has done in putting out the word of the 24th Infantry Divisions Annual reunion this year and last year. Last year Jim sent the reunion notice to all major newspapers in New Mexico. This year he has sent the notice to the newspapers in New Mexico but also to all major Military Publications. Currently I have received 53 responses from these military ads. Recently, Jim sent the notice to newspapers through out the United States. Although I have not yet received any request for information from these ads, I did receive the following from an individual who read it in the Express-times of Easton, PA.

"Dear Mr. Morrison,

I came across your e-mail in my local paper in which the article had to do with your infantry co. reunion. I wanted to express my gratitude and extend my heartfelt thanks to you and all of your fellow soldiers for their service to this great country. My brother did two tours in Vietnam, also was in the infantry. He survived and got home without too much personal baggage, but we don't talk about that time either.

Well I'm not much for melancholy so I will just say, a big THANK YOU to all of you and wish you God Speed.

All the best to you and your buddies,
Michael Domanski"

I do not have his mailing address but if anyone with Internet capabilities and thank him at: matt1015@msn.com

Thank you Jim for the outstanding service you have given to the Association.

Wes Morrison
President

21st Infantry Regiment



"Duty"
21st Infantry
Regiment

FAIJUHAH, Iraq -- Sgt. Rafael Peralta built a reputation as a man who always put his Marines' interests ahead of his own. He showed that again, when he made the ultimate sacrifice of his life Tuesday, by shielding his fellow Marines from a grenade blast. "It's stuff you hear about in boot camp, about World War II and Tarawa Marines who won the Medal of Honor," said Lance Cpl. Rob Rogers, 22, of Tallahassee, Fla., one of Peralta's platoon mates in 1st Platoon, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment. Peralta, 25, as platoon scout, wasn't even assigned to the assault team that entered the insurgent safe house in northern Fajirah, Marines said. Despite an assignment that would have allowed him to avoid such dangerous duty, he regularly asked squad leaders if he could join their assault teams, they said. One of the first Marines to enter the house, Peralta was wounded in the face by rifle fire from a room near the entry door, said Lance Cpl. Adam Morrison, 20, of Tacoma, who was in the house when Peralta was first wounded. Moments later, an insurgent rolled a fragmentation grenade into the area where a wounded Peralta and the other Marines were seeking cover. As Morrison and another Marine scrambled to escape the blast, pounding against a locked door, Peralta grabbed the grenade and cradled it into his body, Morrison said. While one Marine was badly wounded by shrapnel from the blast, the Marines said they believe more lives would have been lost if not for Peralta's selfless act. "He saved half my fire team," said Cpl. Brannon Dyer, 27, of Blairsville, Ga. The Marines said such a sacrifice would be perfectly in character for Peralta, a Mexico native who lived in San Diego and gained U.S. citizenship after joining the Marines. "He'd stand up for his Marines to an insane point," Rogers said.

Rogers and others remembered Peralta as a squared-away Marine, so meticulous about uniform standards that he sent his camouflage uniform to be pressed while training in Kuwait before entering Iraq. But mostly they remembered acts of selflessness: offering career advice, giving a buddy a ride home from the bar, teaching salsa dance steps in the barracks. While Alpha Company was still gathering information, and a formal finding on Peralta's death is likely months away, not a single Marine in Alpha Company doubted the account of Peralta's act of sacrifice. "I believe it," said Alpha's commander, Capt. Lee Johnson. "He was that kind of Marine."

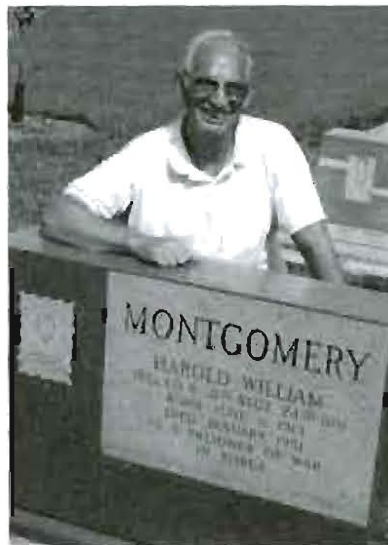
This is an extract from the Seattle Tribune on Sunday, November 21, 2004. Lance Corporal Adam Morrison is my Nephew. My nephew is from Puyallup, WA. ~ Wes Morrison

We lost our Daughter on June 19, 2004. Rita had an aneurysm in her brain. Nothing could help, but her organs were used in four other people.

Bob and Ludene Treadway

The Treadway's address is: 7667 Hwy 13 N., Carlisle, AZ 72024

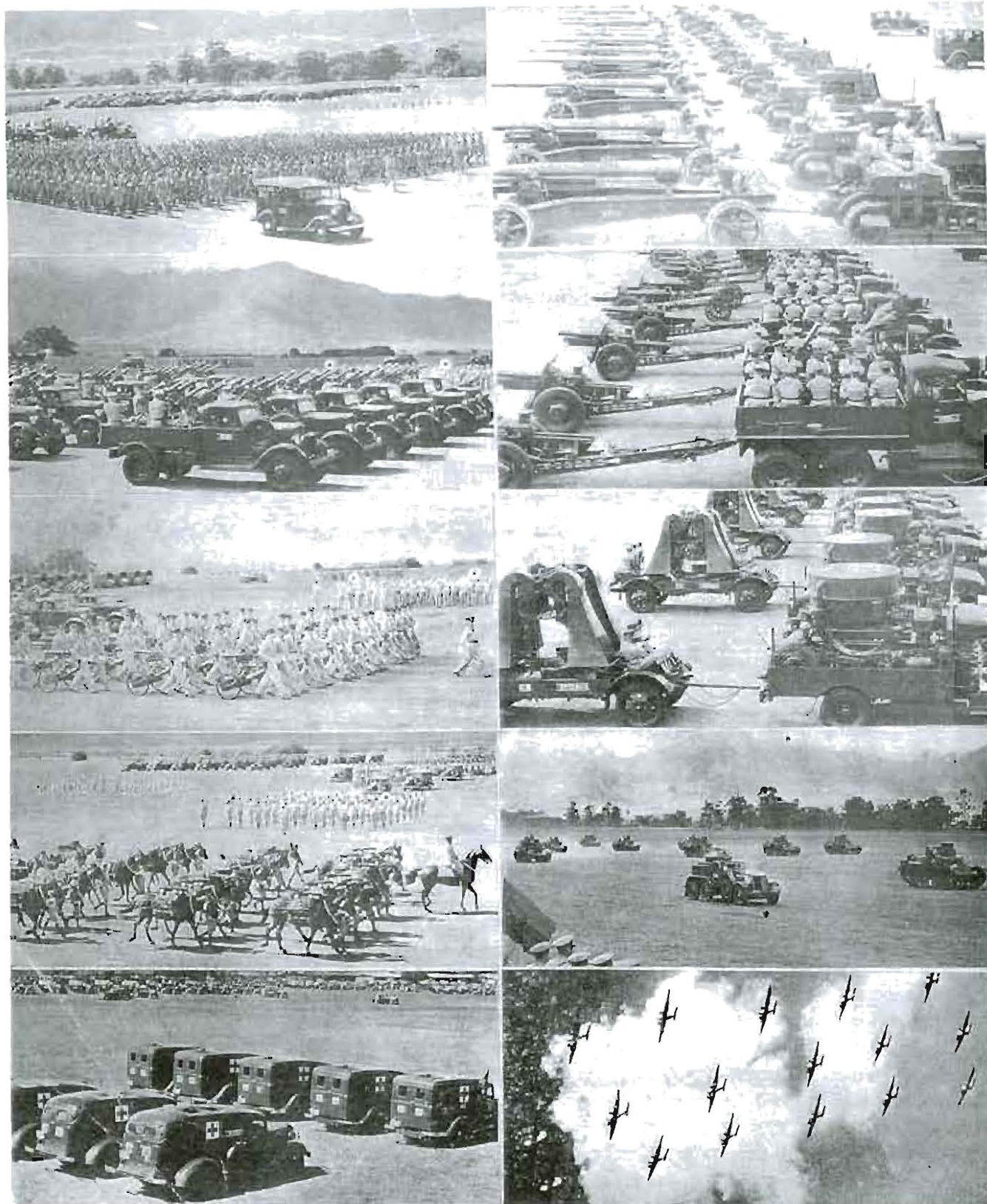
Scott Defebaugh, 21st INF paying his respects to his platoon buddy Harold Montgomery



Winford M. Carr
Military Police Platoon
H Co, 21st Reg - 24th Division
Taken in Komoto - Kyushu Japan
Winford left Japan July 1947



The Town of Granite Falls held a brief flag raising ceremony on Friday, July 25, 2003, in the downtown park. Billy Lefevers and Stearl Smith, who were killed in the line of duty during the Korean War, were recognized and honored during the ceremony. Lefevers and Smith both served in the 24th Division. The town continued to fly the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration flag through August 1, 2003. **Virgil Anderson** was in attendance and represented the 24th Division.



AMERICAN TROOPS IN HAWAII PASSING IN REVIEW, SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, T H

The back of the December 1940 Christmas Program for Company "I" 21st INF Schofield Barracks
The front of the program can be seen as the cover of this issue of the Taro Leaf.

Please tell me what is that? Right Column, 3rd Down ~Billy

Photo Submitted by ~ Marion Wilson, 21st INF

December 7, 1941

The private in Company E, 21st Regiment of the 24th Infantry Division had been with the division for 1-½ years. During a typical day, privates used their rifles in drills for marching in a column..."column right, column left, to the rear march, right oblique, left oblique..." Each private marched with his own rifle ..."his own buddy that was his for 24 hours a day", whether being utilized in drills during the day, or being stored in the rifle case upstairs in the barracks at night. Rifle ammunition wasn't available in order to maintain the safety of the personnel and civilians on the range.

On Sunday, the private was waiting for breakfast in the quadrangle near the mess hall, looking forward to attending the Luau at the chief's home in Honolulu later in the day. It was a sunny day, and there were many military personnel resting in the sunshine on the barrack rooftop. Over head, there was the sound of planes circling in the Hawaiian sky. Next, unfolding, a horrible scene becomes the plot.

The private looked up as he heard a plane diving and saw a grinning pilot turning to skim the barrack rooftop. The planes led to bombs, led to chaos, and preceded to lead to death. The first painful loss for the private was of his friend sitting next to him. The private embodied humanity as he ran outside of the quadrangle to warn others of the circumstances that were unfolding, "We've been hit. The Japanese have hit us."

He estimates that the attack on Pearl Harbor lasted about a half hour—and that the Japanese brought what seemed to be about 45-50 planes on an aircraft carrier. The planes circled, dove, shot, and bombed. Two American planes went up, but were indistinguishable from the many other planes. Even if there could have been ammunition for the Americans to return the fire, it would have been useless against the tactics of planned warfare brought by the quickly moving planes. The Japanese went back to the carrier to get more ammunition as needed. When their attack was finished, they loaded the planes back onto the carrier, and left, "leaving death and destruction behind."

There is pain in the veteran's eyes as he relates that there was much to be done to restore the barracks and environment, and then everyone returned to their regular assignments.

During and after the attack, he and others paused to tend to fallen comrades, "He is still your buddy; you never leave him alone." He'd noted that not all nations have soldiers that risk themselves for the fallen. Bonds amongst American soldiers form strongly, because each American is in it for all; humanitarians that have been thrust into war. The American people awaited, and President Roosevelt officially declared war on Monday. The private thought "How could it be happening to me, and how could it be happening to us?" Strangers were aiming for the destruction of the land of the free, and were simultaneously activating the strength and caring of the home of the brave.

The U.S. Army veteran with the medals is now a senior aged gent with sorry, deep eyes that obviously haven't forgotten. How could he forget? Every American soldier in the war was to kill, be killed, or be in danger of being killed, or knew of those who were killed. We are all human beings of souls, with little protections of flesh. Each word that he uses to express himself is muted to protect those who are innocent of knowing of these experiences, and looking into his eyes, each word must have paragraphs of emotion behind it. He and others had been involuntarily thrust into a war, creating for them a world that is now too easy to contain some darkness. It must be hard to take off the darkly tinted glasses after having been in battle. "All I do is look down and look at my feet and where my feet take me." The private's VFW magazine and Taro Leaf of the 24th Infantry Division Association magazine are like diaries that are written by all of his other surviving comrades of war, who also know similar pain. The magazines have feature articles, and also list those who have passed away. His awareness of loss of beloved life includes from that first moment with his dining partner, to the fallen soldiers he'd bonded with prior to war time, and, those who were destined to live and to hold those memories until the day that they died.

The veteran's medals and badges are tangible remembrances.

Continued Next Page

December 4, 1941 (Cont.)

A medal dangles from a gold ribbon that sports a soldier underneath the words "American Defense." Worded on the back, is "for service...proclaimed by the president...during emergency." It is an American Defense Service Medal given for serving in the defense of our country during the years of 1939 to 1941.

A medal dangles from a red, white, and blue ribbon, and was received for warning men to take cover during the Japanese bombing. It is the Bronze Star Metal, embossed with a beautiful five pointed star that surrounds a little 5 pointed star. On the back, the words "Heroic or Meritorious Achievement" form a circle that surrounds recipient "**Alfred J. Freeman**" in its center.

A medal dangles from a red, white, and blue ribbon, and Mr. Freeman softly jokes that this medal is given "for the good boys", and it is embossed with the wording "conspicuous service."

A medal dangles from another red, white, and blue ribbon and is worded "American campaign", and on the back states "United States of America" and sports the picture of a handsome eagle. It is issued to a soldier who chooses to serve overseas.

There is a peacetime issue medal dangling from a red and white ribbon, and, and there is an eagle pictured with the wording "efficiency/honor/fidelity". Embossed on the back is the words "good conduct".

The inscription on one medal is "for those who served -a date which will live in infamy."

Pictured on the CIB badge, the combat infantry badge is a wreath around a rifle. Mr. Freeman relates that it means "The soldier *faced* the enemy in combat. You see him-he sees you. Both have rifles, machine guns and other weapons". He adds, "The moment the bullet leaves the rifle, you can't retrieve it". From Mr. Freeman's expression, it is definitely a hard way to acquire this badge, and he relates, "it's either him or you".

And this next particular peacetime issue medal seems to say it all. On a red, purple, and yellow ribbon, the medallion is embossed with the words "Freedom of speech and religion, United States of America 1941-1945"

The U.S. Army Veteran was one player in World War II. One person can make such a difference for the nation. He is humble and proud at the same time. He embodies the intertwining of humility, strength and empathy toward others. In an America where we can strive toward those qualities of spirit, and hope that we don't have to endure such pain to perfect those attributes. "Freedom is expensive", Mr. Freeman relates, and that "to this day, if there is a parade or band playing the "American Emblem" (also known as the American Anthem) I automatically rise in respect of the flag...that's how all GI's are." And, "If you ever get to see the memorial wall in Washington..." he chokes up as he relates this and that essentially finishes his sentence. We must never forget those who have fought for our freedom... and that war fought by our brethren has been sacrificed for peace for us all.

Dedicated to the memory of beloved wife Helen M. Freeman by Alfred J. Freeman of VFW Post 509, Stroudsburg, PA

Written by Dr. Juli Ann Weitzen 7-17-04

Copyright 2004 Dr. Juli Ann Weitzen

Mr. Freeman resided in Tobyhanna, PA and moved to Frederick Mennonite Community, Frederick, PA. The so obviously profound depth of Mr. Freeman's experiences is something that I've attempted to record on paper for him, and for those who may learn from him. God Bless Him. God Bless America.



LOOKING FOR BUDDIES

Billy, I was given your address by J. McKeon

I'm looking for anyone who was connected with the 24th Inf. Div., 21st Regt. Co. "I" or "F" from 1951 to 1953. I want and need information concerning my late father, Richard W. West. Do any of the following Soldiers and/or their families attend the 24th IDA Association Reunions? Company "I" - Robert Reyes, William Stacy, Otto Schmidt, Patrick Romero, Alfred Fulton, and Charlie Griffin. Charles Haas, Personnel Officer or Company "F" - Robert Ellison, Frank Teth, Edd Perkins, David Thomas, Mathew Lawson, William Kimball C.O. (None of the men are on our current roster, Editor) I lost my father in 1973 to a rare form of cancer caused from radiation exposure. The Government says he can't be placed in a contaminated area. He was 13 years Army, and was treated, and died in a Veterans Hospital. I was told the VA never destroys a file, however; after 6 months of their searching, the file came back empty. How odd; were the records destroyed? Anyway, what has happened to all these Soldiers that dad served with? Is it possible that they too died at an early age? I would love to find someone to talk with about this. No doubt that some of them were young kids when they went to Korea, so may be in their 60's/70's now. Can you help me? I'd sure like to get some closure on this. I've wondered all my life about my dad and his cancer. About 4 years ago I did manage to locate a son of one of the Soldiers. He lost his father the same year I did mine. He had lung cancer, and since he worked in a coal mine, it was assumed his death was caused from the exposure to the coal dust. (He was the same age as my dad-56. That Soldiers name was Paris Dalton. I'm afraid I have lost contact with Paris Dalton's son. He lived in Virginia. He phoned me once and we talked for several hours. 2 strangers, but yet we felt connected. I do often wonder what happened to him. Like my dad...his dad didn't discuss war too much. (They were MP's together) I appreciate any and all you can do for me!! Thanks again, I do have several old photos of Dad and other Soldiers. I will copy them also & send. I don't know any of them. Maybe someone will recognize an old buddy. I'm sure they are from the Korean War time frame.

Sincerely,

Rita (West) Myers, 2947 E. Hwy.CC, Fair Grove, MO. 65648, (417-759-7369). If E-mail is used. put "Richard West" in the subject line. I screen my Email. Mamamia88@hotmail.com

Ken Grass gave me your name and said that you could help me in my search for information about where I was captured, and some details of morning reports for my outfit.

I was in K Co.19th Inf., and was captured on April 22,1951 at a place called Chipu-Ri. I have been unable to find any such place on the maps I have seen. It would be a source of great satisfaction to see this, and to know how many of the men in my unit lived through that night.

One man told me that only 17 of our company survived. He also said that the 24th was having a reunion in Albuquerque this September. Since I live in Clovis, NM, it would be very easy for me to attend if the dates are right. Any thing you can do would be very much appreciated.

• Contact information for Don: **PO Box 653, Clovis NM 88102** - Email: leemck@plateautel.net

Thank you,

Dan L. McKinney, ER38585268, Sgt. POW 28 months.

NOTE: *Someone* gave us Bob Spangole name and ask that we send Bob a couple of Taro Leaf magazines and a Membership Application. I must confess that I did not get them sent. While waiting for an address for Bob, the envelope, properly stuffed and ready to address, fell behind my desk. I found it today. *Please*, if you are the one who requested the Taro Leaf to be sent, or if you know Bob Spangole's address. I would appreciate it very much if you would send it to the Taro Leaf, so that I may get mail sent out to Bob. Thank you, Minie Johnson

ASAY'S VIEW



LOOKING FOR BUDDIES (Cont.)

My name is Richard Demmin, brother of Dale Demmin who was taken POW on 07/20/1950 in Korea and later died 01/11/1951 while POW. This information I got off the internet. I am looking for any more information about my brother's capture and/or while he was a POW. Anybody who knew him, any pictures, anything at all.

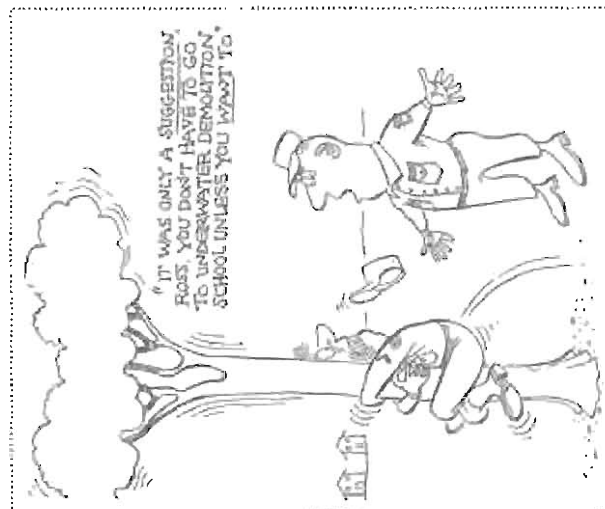
Dale Demmin (RA16290310) was in Heavy Mortar Company, 34th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. Again this is information I got off the internet. I would really appreciate any assistance you can give me on this. Thank You!

Note: At time of publication we had not received the necessary contact information for Mr. Demmin. We hope to have this for the next issue.

Dear Mr. Johnson, my Uncle, **SFC Carlos (Charlie) M. Cajero** RA19368617 Pima County AZ (Tucson, Arizona) was assigned to B Company, 19th Infantry, 24th INF Div. when he was KIA 17 October 1951. I was three years old at the time. I am interested in developing and maintaining a web site memorial for him and the other young Americans who served with the 19th Regiment in Korea and died in this 1951 time period.

I would like to understand what actions the 19th was involved in during 1951. I am currently researching the military history websites for information but would like to narrow my search to the actions (locations, names, hills) just before and after his death on Oct 17, 1951. Any information about the 19th during this time period would be appreciated. My cell phone number is 240-475-8684. My office number is 703 333 5670. Any help would be appreciated. Some background information on my company and self is enclosed.

Joe Molina, 1126 East Capitol St. NE, Washington DC, 20002,



I am very interested in any information I can secure concerning **Cpl. Paul Keith Grimes'** fate. I know he was captured on 21 July 1950 at the Battle of Taejon, and that he was shot to death by a guard on 02 Nov. 1950 while on the Tiger Survivors Death March. I am in contact with **Shorty Estabrook**.

I would like to hear from anyone who knew Paul from the time he arrived in Korea. I would like to know the circumstances of his capture and why he was killed. Last year I found a web site with a lot of information about Paul, however; I cannot pull it up again. Any information I receive on Paul will be forwarded it to his sister. Paul and I grew up together. We were the very best of friends. Where you saw one, you saw the other. We always said we were cousins. Thank You Billy – Don Huddy

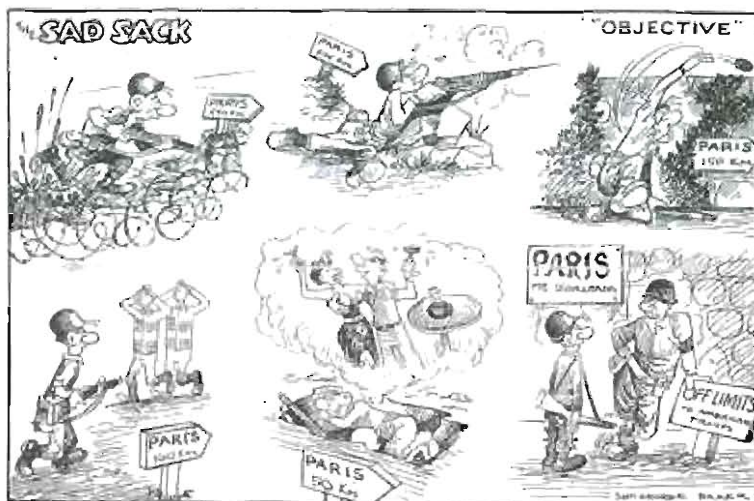
Email address: alndonhuddy@yahoo.com

Mailing address: Donald M Huddy

11201 Lake Highland Drive, Apt. # 1029

Dallas, Texas 75218

Phone:(214) 343-8428)



Dear Diary,

The following was recovered from the diary of a young beautiful lady after taking a week-long cruise.

MONDAY: Dear Diary: What a wonderful cruise this is going to be! I felt singularly honored this evening. The Captain personally asked me to dine at his table. Great food and lively conversation.

TUESDAY: Dear Diary: I spent the entire afternoon on the bridge with the Captain. It was a very interesting place to be, but I didn't understand all the technical instruments.

WEDNESDAY: Dear Diary: This evening the Captain made proposals to me unbecoming an officer and a gentleman. While he is an attractive man, I'm not that type of a lady.

THURSDAY: Dear Diary: Tonight the Captain threatened to sink the ship if I do not give in to his indecent proposals!

FRIDAY: Dear Diary: This afternoon I saved 1,600 lives. Twice.

19th Infantry Regiment



19th Infantry
Regiment



Christmas in Korea 1951



Taken 25 December 1945

Front Row: Em. Rhine, Alfano, Back Row: Mueller, Amon, Harman

Submitted By ~ Hesman Hartman, 19th



T-34 Russian Tank



Seoul



Unless otherwise noted—

Photos on this page Submitted By ~ Ed Bougan

William H. Lambert, 19th of Boca Raton Florida was reported to the Taro Leaf as having past away. Bill said his death was greatly exaggerated and that he is running for election to the Florida Congressional Seat at age 93. Bill served as a Combat Medic on Bataan and Corregidor and was awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star and Combat Medical Badge. Bill was captured by the Japs at the fall of Corregidor.



← March 28, 1946 – Age 34
After 14 Months of U.S. food following liberation in January 30, 1945, from Cabauatoau Jap Prison Camp. – William



↑ December 2, 1980 – Age 69 — ↑
I also picketed the V.A. Central Office, Washington, D.C., and the Florida Regional Office in St. Petersburg. – William

July 1995
 At the Korean War Memorial Dedication
 Washington, D.C.



Photo Submitted By ~ Billy Johnson, 3rd ENG

**Let's have the Reunion
 in YOUR City!**

A Very Frightening Day – December 7, 1941
U.S. Army 24th INF Division Reg. Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
By ~ Al Miller

I enlisted in the Army Dec 28th 1937 for duty in Hawaii. I arrived there April 1938. My tour of duty was to be only 2 years. But in 1940 my tour was up and I could of got out but I reenlisted for 2 more years. I liked it there because of the weather it was so nice never no snow or ice to put up with. Right then I said I am going to stay here as long as I can. I enjoyed my service. I even made Cpl. which at that time meant 42 dollars a month instead of 30 dollars a month.

Then on Dec. 1st 1941, which was payday, I told my Buddy lets wait till Sat. the 6th to go to Honolulu. Neither of us had any duty on Sun. the 7th we could sleep in. We went and had some beer and other things that a serviceman does on Payday.

Well, we got back to the Barracks about 3 in the morning. We were feeling pretty good after all the beer we had to drink. So we hit the sack and went to sleep right away.

Well about 10 minutes till 8 I was awoken with a lot of bombs and gunfire. I had no idea what was going on until some said we are being attacked by the Japs. I could not believe it until I saw a couple of guys go down with blood all over them. Then I knew it was true. All the rifles were locked up in the rack until the C.Q. came up and opened them. We all grabbed our weapons and got ammo from the supply room. They also gave us helmets and gas mask.

So this was my most frightening day as I was only 20 years old at the time; but I grew up real fast after that.

After we received our weapons we got under cover as best we could and started to fire at the planes that were coming over. They attacked Schofield first because they came from the North. They came over what is called Kola Kola Pass, and the 19th INF Reg. was the first one to be hit. Everyone was so confused they didn't know what was taking place.

Then after the first wave went past, about 5 or so minutes, there comes another batch of planes. By that time we knew what was taking place. There were wounded and dead men everywhere. The Barracks were all shot up and there were fires in several places.

The whole attack at Schofield lasted about a half hour or maybe a little longer. I didn't keep track of time at that point. After the attack came the worse job; clean up some of the dead lying around. The Medics were there but were very short handed. The 1st Sgt. Had roll call out of my company there were about 15 wounded or dead. Some of the other Companys had a lot more than that.

We set up tents to live in. In my estimation, it was one hell of a mess to go through. Then they gave a list of the wounded and the dead. Some of my best buddies was on that list two of them were just wounded but one of my best buddies was killed at the beginning of the Attack.

On Monday the whole Island was put under Marshall Law. After we got set up and every one accounted for; we were sent to Honolulu on Security Detail. Our job was to take into custody all persons of Japanese decent. We took them to an empty Barracks to be held to be shipped somewhere else. The Japanese population in Hawaii was at the top of the list there were more than any other. There was one incident that was pretty funny to us this fellow was walking around with a sign on that said "Me Chinese". We did check him out and he was Chinese. But at the time it was really funny. He didn't want to take any chances.

We were on Security in Honolulu for a long time. We also checked all the beaches in the area. Honolulu was hit pretty hard in the Attack there was a lot of cleaning up there. Everything was really a mess; the Army set up Tents for those that had nothing to go to. It was real sad with the children. They just did not understand what it was all about. I didn't see any; but I assume that there were children killed also.

As the years passed things got back to as close to normal as can be expected. In early 1943 I was called in and told that I had enough point to go Stateside. Well I jumped at the chance as I had not seen my family since I joined the Army in 1937, so you can just know how I felt about that. When I applied for it; the Company Commander suggested that I go to a Recruit Training Center so they put me down for Camp Lee VA to training Draftees. They said I would be made Buck Sgt as soon as I got there also I would get a 30 day leave. Well hearing that I was really flying high.

I left Honolulu in March on an Army Transport Ship for San Francisco. But I must admit going to San Francisco on that Transport I was scared out of my wits. But thank God we made it to the States safe. I left by train the next day for Petersburg and Camp Lee. They gave me a Government Voucher for Travel. I was to report to Company C 43rd Recruit Training Reg. Oh yeah, Camp Lee at the time had a Reg. of WAAC's stationed there which was very interesting.

I took my 30 day leave at home. Believe me that was something that I will never forget. They were all there at the Train station to meet me. My Mother, well she just could not stop crying, like she said they were tears of joy. When my leave was up I went back to training recruits. In 1949 I decided to leave the Army with 12 years in. I know it was a big mistake. But I had my mind made up and I got out.

I went to driving a truck for a living. Life just went on. There were a couple of times that I did miss the Army life.

Well, that's my story what there is of it. I must admit there were some things about the Attack that I just couldn't get myself to write about. It brought back too many bad memories. I close now. Say, Thanks for reading this little story. ~ Al Miller

"THERE IS NO DEATH"

Stanzas 11, 12, 13

John Luckey McCreery

THEY ARE NOT DEAD! THEY HAVE BUT PASSED BEYOND THE MISTS THAT BLIND US HERE.
INTO THE NEW AND LARGER LIFE OF THAT SERENE SPHERE.

THEY HAVE BUT DROPPED THEIR ROBE OF CLAY TO PUT THEIR SHINING RAIMENT ON;
THEY HAVE NOT WANDERED FAR AWAY—THEY ARE NOT "LOST" OR "GONE."

AND SOMETIMES, WHEN OUR HEARTS GROW FAINT AMID TEMPTATIONS FIERCE AND DEEP,
OR ON WILDLY RAGING WAVES OF GRIEF OR PASSIONS SWEEP,

WE FEEL UPON OUR FEVERED BROW THEIR GENTLE TOUCH, THEIR BREATH OF BALM;
THEIR ARMS ENFOLD US, AND OUR HEARTS GROW COMFORTED AND CALM.

11th Field Artillery

Merle Hamilton

13th Field Artillery

Sam H. Davis

19th Infantry Regiment

Louis Dammeyer
Paul A. Diers
Phillip H. Hostetter
Frank Hellman
Norman W. Pallay
Edward H. Wiegman

21st Infantry Regiment

Willis Fed Lowrey
John A. Brown
William L. Broome
Harold L. Wright

3rd Engineers "Combat" Bn.

Clyde M. Matlock

34th Infantry Regiment

James C. Thomas
Leo Seitelbach

5th Regimental Combat Team

James E. Gardner

Heavy Mortar

John E. Miller

Unknown Unit

Gray I. Clawson
Donald Printer

11th Field Artillery

Merle Hamilton

Florence Hamilton has let us know that her husband Merle passed away August 2004.
15 Maplewood Drive, South Burlington VT 05403-5927

13th Field Artillery

Sam H. Davis

Sam passed early in August 2004
427 Woodhaven Court, Sheboygan, WI 53081-8227

19th Infantry Regiment

Louis Dammeyer

I received notice from Dale Dickie that Louis Dammeyer, of St. Marys Ohio, passed away on 25 September 2004, after a lengthy illness. Louis served in G Co, 19th Infantry in 1951-52, as did Dale.

For more information Dale at daled@defnet.com

OUR RANKS GET THINNER.

Regards,
Bill Roseboro

Paul A. Diers

Eunice Diers writes that her husband Paul passed away 10 June 2003.

Philip H. Hostetter MD

I am sorry to report that Phil died at 12:00 AM, 29 September 2004. We will all miss him. It was hard to imagine him not taking pictures at this last reunion. Cards may be sent to: 2045 Jay Ct., Manhattan, KS 66502-3640. His brothers and son are there. ~ Wes Morrison

Frank Hellman,

Frank, 78, died August 7, 2004. He served in the Luzon campaign during the liberation of the Philippines and also served in Japan before coming home in '46. Frank is survived by Dorothy, his wife of 56 years, three daughters, four sons his brother Pete and eight grandchildren.

Norman William Pallay

8-14 1912- 3-2 2004

Norman was in the Philippine Campaign with HQ Co. Norman's brother Don was in New Guinea at the same time. Don said Norman was in the worst part of the war, called Norman a hero, but Norman said "All of the American soldiers on these Islands were heroes. Norman was in awe of being lucky enough to live through WWII.

Edward H. Wiegmann

Edward has passed away.

8300 Maysville Rd, Room 212, Ft. Wayne IN 44815-6619

21st Infantry Regiment

Willis Freed Lowery



LTC Lowery died July 17, 2004 in Fayetteville, NC. He was 93 years of age. His military career began when he joined the Mississippi National Guard in 1928. In 1956, he was transferred to USA Europe where he served as Chief, Soviet Order of Battle Section, (G2, Intelligence). In 1957 he was assigned as Deputy Commander, then Commander of the 2nd Battle Group 502nd Airborne Infantry, 11th Airborne Division, which was re-designated in 1958 as 1st Battle Group, 21st Inf., 24th ID. Condolences may be sent to his family % his nephew, Nash Lindsey-238 Pine Crest Dr.- Fayetteville, NC 28305, or telephone 910-484-1698.

**America has lost another Soldier.
"Hero of the Greatest Generation"**

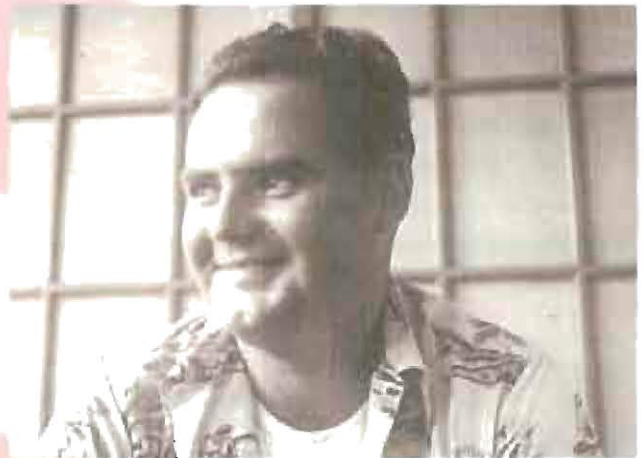
John Allen Brown 1929-2004

Jeanne Brown sent a letter that her husband John passed from this life, at his home in Kingman AZ on May 25, 2004
403 Box 6217, Kingman, AZ 86402-0217

"Truthful"

**He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly...
He will dwell in the heights.**

Isaiah 33: 15-16



Jack

William L. Broome

William's son David has let us know that his dad died April 1, 2002. He served in WWII.
973 Manderly Dr., Milford MI 48381-1313 telephone 313-476-6818

Harold L. Wright

Harold died Sept 13, 2003

34th Infantry Regiment 24th Med.

James C. Thomas

James, 73, formerly of Boothbay Harbor, died Dec. 22, 1930-Aug. 25, 2004. Jim was attending the University of Pennsylvania when drafted into the Army. He served as a medic during the Korean War, from 1952 to 1954. He received his Masters degree at Rutgers University and was a Marine Biologist for the Department of Fish & Game in New Jersey, Department of Fish & Game in California and lastly at the Department of Marine Resources in Boothbay Harbor. He was the senior scientist who directed the Lobster Research Project at Department of Marine Resources. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Frieda K. Thomas, daughter Dawn her husband Francis Lorello, two granddaughters who were the joy of his life, four nieces and four nephews.

Contributions may be made to: The American Cancer Society, 1 Main Street, Suite 300, Topsham, ME 04086 or Hydrocephalus Association, 870 Market St., Suite 705, San Francisco, CA 94102

Note: We met the first week in basic training and stayed together throughout the entire time, in states, Japan & Korea. Our families and we remained close friends for all these years. Respectfully, Walt Snyder

Leo Seitelbach

Leo (86) passed away on September 28, 2004. He was a member of the 34th while serving in Japan and went to Korea. Condolences can be sent to his wife Akiko at 493A Somerset Lane, Monroe TWP, N J 08831-1819.

Hans Manz sent the notice to us.

3rd "Combat" Engineers Bn.

Clyde M. Matlock

Clyde Matlock of Imperial, MO has passed away.

YOB: 1932

Date of death: 27 August 2004.

5th Regimental Combat Team

James Elkins Gardner

James (9-25-28/2-18-03) has passed away. James is survived by his wife Jeanette. Condolences can be sent to: 145 Kelly Lane, Homer, LA 71040

Heavy Mortar

John E. Miller

Unit Unknown

Col. Gray I Clawson

Col. Clawson has passed away.

Donald Printer

Donald's nephew, Donald F. Printer reports his Uncle died Aug 3, 2004. He had been in a Nursing Home for the past 9 1/2 years.



BAPTISM TO COMBAT

The 3rd Battalion 29th Infantry at Hadong Pass, July 1950.

By James F. Hill

(Continued From Last Issue of the Taro Leaf)

In the morning of 27 July the battalion moved out towards Hadong led by Company L, commanded by World War II combat veteran Captain George F. Sharra, and a platoon of the Heavy Weapons Company. Just before reaching the pass going into Hadong L Company encountered a small NK patrol coming through the pass. After firing two 75mm recoilless rounds at the enemy Sharra ordered L Company to secure the pass and take up positions on each side.

The road through the pass was a typical, narrow, one lane Korean road. It had numerous sharp turns up to the pass and then went down hill towards Hadong a mile plus away. To the right of the pass a higher peak overlooked the road and to the left the terrain dropped off to rice paddies along the Sumjin River.

After taking up positions along the pass the 3rd Battalion command group came forward to include General Chae and some other Korean officers. While looking over the road coming from Hadong a column of NK soldiers were observed marching down the road, and from all indications, were unaware that the Americans had secured the pass. When they were in closer range it was determined that they were a company of North Koreans. General Chae shouted to them in Korean asking them their identity. The unit immediately hit the ditches on either side of the road and Captain Sharra directed his 30 caliber machine guns to open fire. In quick response the North Koreans answered with their machine guns and mortars on the pass. From the higher ground on the right the Americans also received small arms fire.

The initial burst of the enemy fire immediately killed General Chae and also wounded Major Raibl. Colonel Mott and some of his staff were also wounded. The mortars also destroyed several of the battalion's vehicles, including the Air Force radio jeep. During the firefight US planes flew over the area but did not fire since they did not have any radio contact with the forward controller. Major Raibl was wounded again during the early stages and Colonel Mott shortly after broke his foot when an ammunition container dropped on him. For a period of time he was out of contact with his fighting units,

On the north (right) side of the pass Lt. J. Morrissey and his 1st Platoon engaged in a fierce fire fight with the enemy that were dug in on the higher ground above them. However, even after taking heavy casualties from close in fighting, the 1st Platoon held their position. On the south (left) side of the pass Captain Sharra and the 2nd Platoon gave fire support to the 1st Platoon across the road. The young soldiers, who were only a few weeks before had just completed basic training, held their positions and took a heavy toll on the North Koreans.

During the first stages of the fight, Captain Robert M. Flynn, the 3rd Bn. S-3, went back to hurry up the supporting units. He ordered Company K, commanded by Captain Joseph K. Donahue, to attack up the hill toward the enemy and then continued on down the road. Captain Donahue was killed later on in the day. Flynn came upon Lt. Alexander G. Makarounis of I Company and ordered him to move between L and K Companies through the rice paddies on the left hand side of the road. MSgt James A. Plegate led the lead platoon behind the small paddy dikes for protection. Shortly after noon Lt. Ernest Philips of L Company found Capt. Sharra and informed him that he had talked to Colonel Mott. Sharra sent Philips back to bring Mott forward. Mott was carried forward and when briefed on the combat conditions told Sharra to take over command of the battalion and to retire from the area of the pass. Sharra ordered his three platoons to withdraw to the foot of the pass.

The runner he sent to Lt. J. Morrissey and the 1st Platoon never reached the platoon position. The rest of L Company, after coming down the hill, were loaded on trucks and headed back to Chinju.

On the way back to Chinju the group met a section of B Battery, 13th Field, commanded by Lt. Ellsworth (Dutch) Nelsen. As recalled by Nelsen the battery tried to turn around on the narrow road by unhooking the guns from their tow and turning them around by hand. The battery was directed to return to Chinju having to abandon one 105 howitzer and four 2 1/2 Ton trucks that had become mired in the rice paddies. (Dutch served as the President of the 24th Infantry Association for the 1996-97 term.) Another Association member who was there is Earl Lee, C/19th, who now lives in Tacoma, Washington. In a letter to the author Lee recalls going towards Hadong with a company from the 19th Infantry and coming in contact with the 3rd Battalion's kitchen trains heading back to Chinju. Lee also remembers seeing the many casualties and the "mass of confusion" that was present there.

Colonel Mott was finally able to contact Capt. Flynn by radio and ordered a unit still in or around the pass to withdraw. Flynn was able to call out to Lt. Morrissey and tell him to take his unit and retire back down the hill. Morrissey had only 12 of his platoon left and he and another soldier were wounded. The Air Force controller had fought as a rifleman all day but when the men retreated he was either dead or missing. Captain Mitchell, the battalion S-2, had also fought all day as an infantryman but lived to fight another day.

After what was left of L Company had been loaded on trucks and sent towards Chinju Flynn observed much of I Company still in the rice paddies on the left of the road. He also saw at least a battalion of North Koreans coming down the hill behind a mortar barrage and machine gun fire that was preceding them. I Company men had to cross a 20-foot stream to escape and many drowned trying to cross. Others were killed by the enemy fire. Flynn and a group of other Americans were able to get away and while they rested, about a mile behind the pass they again came under enemy fire. Flynn and about ten others walked all night on the 25th and on the morning of the 26th were able to reach the forward lines of the 19th Infantry. Others who escaped went South to the coast where they found a small fishing vessel that took them out to sea to a Korean Naval vessel, which returned them to Pusan. MSgt Applegate of I Company led almost hundred men to safety this way.

First reports of the Hadong fight were encouraging. Later as the survivors returned to the 19th's lines the reports changed to a gloomy picture. Major Ed Logan, S-3 of the 19th, in his report to division headquarters stated "No estimate on total number of casualties. Over 100 WIA now in aid station." The next day a head count of the 3rd Bn 29th Infantry showed only 354 officers and men present for duty with some of them being walking wounded. A final account based on straggler reports listed 2 killed, 52 wounded and 349 missing. A North Korean POW later said that at Hadong they took over 10 American prisoners. In September of 1950 when American forces broke out of the Pusan Perimeter and went back through Hadong a search revealed over 313 American bodies mostly along the river and in the rice paddies.

The officer loss was great. It included the battalion Executive Officer, the S-1, the S-2 and the Asst. S-3. The I, K and M Company Commanders were killed or missing, Capt. Donahue (Company K) and Capt. Hugh P. Milleson (Company M) were killed with the Company Commander reported missing. Lt. Makarounis (Company I) was captured but later escaped while a POW in North Korea. Most of the battalion vehicles, crew served weapon and communication gear was lost as well as most individual soldiers lost all their weapons and equipment trying to return to the American lines.

On 28 July 1950 the remaining men of the 3rd Battalion, 29th Infantry were reorganized into K and L Companies. On 29 July K Company was attached to the 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry at Chinju and L Company to the 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry near Chinju. The 29th remained attached to the 19th Infantry until 2 August 1950. General Order Nr. 134 Hqrs., 25th Infantry Division, dated 10 September 1950 and effective 5 September 1950 transferred the remnants of the 3rd Battalion, 29th Infantry to the 25th Division as the 3rd Battalion, 27th Infantry, 25th Infantry Division and the 1st Battalion became the 3rd Battalion, 35th Infantry, also in the 25th Infantry Division, under authority

Hadong Pass Continued.

of the same order. The battalion colors of the 1st and 3rd Battalions were returned to Okinawa on 6 September 1950.

Thus ends the brave tale of the valiant struggle of the young men of the 3rd Battalion, 29th Infantry and their short time in the annals of the history of the 24th Victory Division.

The author of this article, James F. Hill, Roswell, Georgia, is a former member of the 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division and was at Chinju during the time of the actions of the 3rd Battalion, 29th Infantry at Hadong Pass.

End

REFERENCES:

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South to the Naktong, North to the Yalu, Roy E. Appleman, US Army, 1960.

The Forgotten War, Clay Blair, Doubleday Publishers, New York, 1987.

Letter to Author, Earl Lee, Tacoma, Washington, 31 January, 1997.

Numerous conversations with Ellsworth "Dutch" Nelsen, Colorado Springs, Colorado concerning his involvement at Hadong Pass. Telephone conversation with CSM Frank C. Plass, US Army Retired, Ellerslie, Georgia, President of the 29th Infantry Regimental Association, concerning his involvement at Hadong Pass.

Letter, Albert McAdoo, Acton, Massachusetts, 5 June 1992 giving a brief history of the 29th Regiment at Hadong Pass.

Article, The Hadong Massacre, Harold Gamble, 29th Infantry Regimental Association Newsletter, date unknown.

Article, Korean War, 1st and 3rd Battalions, 1950, author unknown, 29th Infantry Regimental Association Newsletter, December 1995.



"Joe, yestiddy ya saved my life an' I swore I'd pay ya back. Here's my last pair of dry socks."

Bill Mauldin

©Stars and Stripes



34th Armor in Germany

THE 24TH INFANTRY DIVISION-MEMORIES OF A YOUNG LIEUTENANT

By Col. Garth Holmes, Ret., 34th Armor

On 29 May 1960, I was commissioned a Second Lieutenant Regular Army in the Medical Service Corps. I had just graduated from the Senior ROTC program at Idaho State College in Pocatello, Idaho. The Corps was a little long on officers, so I was deferred until 4 January 1961 when I attended the Officer's Basic Course at the Medical Field Service School, Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas.

While attending the basic course, I received orders assigning me to the US Army Hospital Munich (2nd Field). I was thrilled with the assignment and in early March, I took a train from Pocatello, Idaho to Fort Dix where I boarded an aircraft at McGuire AFB bound for Europe. When I landed at Rhein Main in Frankfurt, the day was cold, rainy, and strange. All of the signs were in this language I didn't understand and all of the cars were Mercedes, Audi, VW, or BMW. I reported into the replacement battalion, and informed them that I was the new kid going to the hospital in Munich. This kindly looking sergeant smiled and without a hitch, told me my orders had been changed. I was going to the 3rd Medium Tank Battalion, 34th Armor, 24th Infantry Division located on Henry Kaserne in northern Munich.

I was sure the personnel sergeant was mistaken, but he assured me he hadn't. Apparently, the Chief of Pharmacy Service at the hospital I was to replace had extended for 18 months and I was needed as the Medical Section Leader with the tanks. What made matters worse, the pharmacist who extended was a fraternity brother of mine who I had gone to pharmacy school with. After being processed, I immediately went to the Officer's Club and proceeded to drown my disappointment in way too many beers.



*2nd Lt. Garth Holmes – Medical Section Leader
3MTB, 34th Armor, 24th Div 1962*



3rd Bn Aid Station on maneuvers

The next day, the Medical Service Corps officer I was replacing in the battalion drove to Frankfurt, picked me up, and took me to my new home, the BOQ near the Kaserne. The Kennedy ban was in effect at the time, so I was alone in a foreign country for three months before my family could join me.

The tank battalion was located along with an Engineer Battalion, an Infantry Battalion (Separate), and an Ordnance Company. Our battalion commander, a LTC Lewis Stewart, Armor was a fine southern gentleman, who ran the Kaserne like a plantation. Everything was painted white, with well groomed grounds, and sharp looking guards. Not only was I assigned as the Medical Section Leader, I was given responsibility to oversee the consolidated dispensary on post, and to act as the Battalion Surgeon, since we did not have a Medical Corps Captain in tow at the time. Sick call was managed by troops from all four units and our physician was a contract doctor from Germany named Hans. From that point on, I was officially known as "Do".

I turned the control of the medical section over to my NCOIC SGT Bass, and concentrated my efforts in restoring the dispensary to its former glory. I was told the dispensary was the worst in the division, so the challenge was great. I asked each of the units on post for as many corpsmen as I could get, and we started in. We painted the place a bright white, tiled the minor surgery room, established a laboratory, put in plants, and set up examining rooms. For three months, the soldiers worked themselves to death, but in the end, we were visited by the Division Surgeon, a Major Pratt, and were told we were now one of the best dispensaries in the Division. This accomplishment had little to do with me, but was reflective of the caliber of soldier found within the division.

The Commander, LTC Stewart, was a tiger, but fair. Soon after I arrived, he told me he wanted me to participate in the battalion sand box games, and to become familiar with how a tank battalion works. I also learned how to drive a tank, fire the main gun, and operate the 50 caliber machine gun mounted on top of the turret. I never worked so hard in all of my life, but my biggest challenge was the battalion Adjutant, a Captain Cullen. Cullen was a West Pointer, and his big thing was to force me and my medical section to take off our maroon neck scarves we wore, and to replace them with the Golden Scarves of the Armor Corps. In spite of all the regulation he spouted, I never did change, and LTC Stewart backed me up.

MEMORIES OF A YOUNG LIEUTENANT (Continued)

The primary role of the battalion was to support the division in infantry/armor tactics at two of the major training sites in Germany, Hohenfels, and Grafenwehr. Several times a year, we would load the tanks and armored personnel carriers (APCs) on railcars for shipment, and then we would convoy the wheeled vehicles from Munich up the autobahn to the training areas. What a sight that was, hundreds of vehicles stretched out for miles. Since we were the only tank battalion in the division, we had to remain for long periods as the different infantry units were rotated through.

I was with the battalion when we turned in the old M-48 model tanks for the new M-60. What a day that was when the new diesel powerhouses arrived. The tankers were like kids with new toys. I enjoyed myself somewhat as well, when we turned in our three Armored Personnel Carriers (APC) belonging to the Medical Section for the new APCs.

The battalion also gave me other opportunities to excel. They made me the mess hall inspector, the pay officer, a defense counsel, and the maneuver damage control officer. Under the status of forces agreement, whenever the battalion went of maneuvers around the German countryside, I would follow up in a few weeks and settle any claims the Germans has for damage the tanks caused to their property. The battalion gave me a jeep and a driver who spoke fluent German. We would then meet with the local town officials, travel to the damage sites, and negotiate for a settlement price. I enjoyed that duty. It gave me a chance to see some of the most beautiful country in the world, to eat some of the wonderful food, and to meet some of the greatest people.

I was only with the battalion for eighteen months, but grew to respect the professionalism and pride the tankers felt for themselves and their equipment. I had so much fun, I thought at one time of branch transferring to the Armor Corps, but then I had a beer and forgot about it.



3rd Bn Aid Station on maneuvers

3rd Bn Aid Station on maneuvers



Sgt. Kinney Bass – Section Commander of PCs



3rd Bn Aid Station on maneuvers





34th Inf. Reg't. Breakfast

As usual we had a very pleasant 'get-together'. It was chaired by **Bill McKenna**, WWII survivor of the ZigZag (Luzon), Corregidor and Mindanao campaigns, in the Philippine Islands. He made sure that our program would be of interest to all attendees - and indeed it was.

For starters, **Ben Wahle**, WWII C.O. G Co., filled us in on his interview with Oliver North, which was aired on the Fox News channel on May 30, 2004. **Paul Austin**, C.O. F Co., was with him in Fredericksburg, TX, while **Angelo Montaglione**, Pfc., G Co., was being interviewed in New York City. Ben described the 'trials and tribulations' we faced/endured during our D-Day landing in Leyte, Philippines. For those of us who experienced it, some scary memories surfaced. However, most of that program appeared to be dedicated to the huge Naval battle immediately thereafter. Typically, and as usual, the Army, especially the 24th Division, never got the media attention it deserved.

I had the honor of relating my visit to Washington, DC for the WWII Memorial Dedication. Since approximately 130,000 people attended I was fortunate to 'bump' into several 24thers - **Ed Farmer**, 21st Reg't., **Carl Schaad**, 21st Reg't., and my foxhole buddy, Angelo Montaglione, plus some younger ones. The Memorial IS BEAUTIFUL. It is unfortunate that too many of our departed comrades did not have the opportunity to see it. I talked to a group of Iraqi citizens who had their right hand chopped off for supposedly 'stealing'. They had been invited for breakfast with President George W. Bush. In the War Stories pavilion I heard great war and post war stories from Bob Dole and George McGovern. They are good friends despite being political opponents. Also listened to the Code Talkers, whose Navajo language was their only code, which was never broken. Other speakers were Bob Feller, Cleveland pitcher, Monte Irvin, Giant outfielder and Ernie Borgnine, Movie star. I received many handshakes and 'Thank Yous,' mostly from 2nd generation WWII family members. It was a heartwarming experience and made the trip for me and wife very worthwhile and memorable.

Rod Stock related his experiences, which occurred during his second tour of Korean duty. He served as the 3rd platoon Sgt. and later Ammo Sgt. in Tank Co. (M-46's) on the DMZ, in Korea. He joined his platoon at Freedom Bridgehead on the north side of the Imjin River. They ran patrols to stop the line crossers going both ways, and occasionally captured or had firefights with North Korean irregulars. Col. Keith Ware, (Medal of Honor winner, WWII) decided to form a river patrol using DUK's armed with 50 cal. machine guns. As a senior NCO, Rod was instrumental in forming that unit. In 1956 he was promoted to Field 1st Sgt. and handled daily operations. He and a M/Sgt. from Service Co. were later detached to a back-up unit, the 55th Royal Eng. Reg't, British Army. Much was going on occasionally in the DMZ which neither the Homefront nor even the Military knew anything about and it best remain unsaid. All in all, it was an interesting second tour in Korea.

Phil Nast detailed some of the history of the Bataan Death March in 1942. Phil, a platoon leader with "I" company, 3rd Bn, 34th, landed at Mariveles, Bataan in February 1945. This was the site of that heroic struggle by Americans and Filipinos some three years earlier, and the place where the Death March, for many, began. Phil teaches a class on the subject at his home in Duluth, Minnesota. He is active in seeking recognition and official closure for those prisoners of war at the hands of the Japanese. Nast was severely wounded on the assault landing on Corregidor.

Paul Cain was "I" Company Commander and was part of the "Rock Force" that recaptured Corregidor in February 1945. Paul told of the initial landing where enemy mines and heavy anti-tank fire took a heavy toll of vehicles. Paul's company attacked the North Dock area and fought a close-up battle with a determined and suicidal enemy. His 3rd Battalion and other units were awarded the Distinguished Unit Citation for their action.

Paul's children, Mike and Christie, joined veterans of the 34th for the Saturday breakfast and taped their dad's presentation.

First-timers to the 24th Reunion included, **Laurence Personeni** from Hemet, California, ex-platoon sergeant with Cain's company, and **John Miller** from Denver, Colorado, a platoon leader with L Company. Both, veterans of Corregidor.

We all made it safely to our 10 AM business meeting.

Eric Diller, H Co. 34th

Teenage Soldier in ZigZag Pass

Leon Hesser, with the 24th Division, 34th Regiment in the Philippines during World War II, was one of the few to have earned both the Combat Infantry Badge and the Combat Medics Badge before he was 20. His story is told in the new book: *Nurture the Heart, Feed the World: The inspiring life journeys of two vagabonds*, by Leon Hesser with Foreword by Norman Borlaug, 1970 Nobel Peace Prize laureate.

Hesser's bunkmate in basic training at Camp Hood, Texas in 1944 was Hugh Hefner – they were a couple of 18-year-olds. In his book, Hesser says, "At that time, Hugh was just one of the boys – he put his pants on one leg at a time, just like all the others. But even at that time, Hugh demonstrated differences from the others. (Hugh's entry in Hesser's autograph book) was unique. The group had just accomplished its final 20-mile march with full field pack. Hugh exhibited artistic ability when he did a caricature, which he signed 'Hef.'"

Hesser joined the 34th near the end of the Leyte campaign in January 1945. His book continues:

General MacArthur had taken Leyte in his triumphant return to the Philippines, but with heavy casualties. Leon was one of the many replacements to join the forces before their move to the northernmost island of Luzon in an attempt to liberate Manila. He was assigned to G Company, 2nd Battalion, 34th Regiment, 24th Division. The pink-skinned tenderfoot replacements – many, like Leon, still teenagers – were eyed with skepticism by the rough and ragged survivors of Leyte, but they would have to do.

The huge convoy approached the western coast of Luzon on the evening of January 28, 1945. The ships' guns bombarded the coast all that night. The next morning the guns silenced while the troops made a successful beachhead. There were no casualties, for the enemy had retreated – leaving a trail of burning bridges – to well-fortified positions in the rugged hills several miles inland in Zigzag Pass. The military objective was to clear Route # 7 which, as the name implies, ran in zigzag fashion through the pass. The jagged corners, replete with machinegun nests, were an infantryman's nightmare.

The U.S. Army's intelligence had suggested that there were only a few Japanese soldiers in the pass and that they were not well supplied with arsenal.

Wrong! In the ensuing action, G Company made a flanking reconnaissance, with few casualties. In late afternoon they began to dig in for the night on the side of a slope. Unnoticed as yet, an enemy soldier with a walkie-talkie, perched high in a tall tree, radioed G Company's position to his mortar company. The next several minutes – it seemed like hours – were literal Hell.

Alternately, Leon buried his face in the ground and prayed, then jumped up and ran for a safer spot. It seemed that each time he ran, a shell exploded where he had been lying. He says, "I'll never doubt that God held my hand." When the shelling ended, those who were able helped carry the less fortunate over a long, rugged trail to awaiting ambulances.

After three days of taking a beating in Zigzag, the commander pulled the troops back a few miles to make camp and regroup. Among others in Leon's squad of 10 soldiers, the BAR (Browning Automatic Rifle) man had been killed.

While in camp the squad leader said, "Hesser, you look strong. We'll give you the BAR." Obediently, Leon took the imposing thing to a makeshift range and fired a few rounds to get a feel for it.

As he returned to camp a jeep carrying Captain Fremont P. Koch, MD pulled up. He said, "Is your name Hesser?"

"Yes, sir."

"How would you like to transfer to the Medics?"

"Sir, anything is better than carrying this BAR!"

Captain Koch did not tell Leon at the time, but he learned later that the 34th had lost 12 Medics when an artillery shell landed in the Second Battalion Aid Station, so they transferred a dozen of the new recruits to replace them. Leon finished out the war in the Medics, being one of the few who has ever earned both the Combat Infantry Badge and the Combat Medics Badge. Leon recalls, "One sad event during the remainder of the war was my writing out the tag of a contemporary who had been given my BAR: 'KIA.' By that time, we were 19."

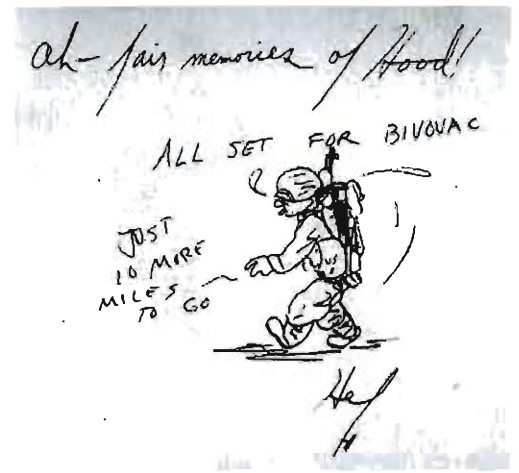
During mail call at camp, Leon had a letter from his mother. She wrote, "Son, if you can get your hands on a Bible, you might find comfort in reading the 91st Psalm." Leon checked around but could find no one who was carrying a Bible. Several had New Testaments – Leon's, in his left breast pocket, had a brass cover intended to slow a bullet aimed at his heart – but no one had a Bible.

As Sunday approached, the Regimental Chaplain announced that he would hold services in an adjoining coconut grove. Filipinos had placed a series of coconut logs in parallel fashion to serve as pews. Attendance was exceptionally good that Sunday morning – standing room only! The Chaplain stood before the troops at a makeshift altar and pulpit and said, "For my text this morning, I'm taking the 91st Psalm."

Leon says, "I knew my mother was tuned in, but I hadn't realized before that she had a hot line."

After Luzon came mopping-up operations on Mindoro, toward the middle of the Philippines, and then on the southernmost island of Mindanao. While they were on Mindoro, in April 1945, President Roosevelt died. While on Mindanao, President Truman gave the order in August to drop the Atomic bomb on Hiroshima. Two months later Leon sailed to Japan as part of the Army of Occupation.

***Nurture the Heart, Feed the World*, by Leon Hesser**, can be ordered from major bookstores or through www.amazon.com. \$19.95, hardcover, 130 pages (Synergy Books) ISBN: 0-9744668-8-3



24th Infantry Division Plaque
Admiral Nimitz Museum of the War of the Pacific

Funds Chairman: C.B. Mason

Design Chairman: Billy Johnson

Donations:

C.B. Mason	WWII and Korea	3 rd Eng. "C" Bn.	\$500.00
John Ventimiglia	Korea	3 rd Eng. "C" Bn.	20.00
Jack Hughes	Korea	34 th Inf. Regt.	25.00
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Walter Marszalek	Korea	3 rd Eng. "C" Bn.	20.00
C.B. Mason	WWII and Korea	3 rd Eng. "C" Bn.	200.00
Billy Johnson	WWII and Korea	3 rd Eng. "C" Bn.	20.00
Robert Moncur	Korea	19 th Inf. Regt.	20.00
Louis L. Marchesano	WWII	19 th Inf. Regt.	25.00
C.B. Mason	WWII and Korea	3 rd Eng. "C" Bn.	200.00
Ben Wahle	WWII	34 th Inf. Regt.	25.00
Malcom East	Germany	724 th Ord.	25.00
Robert Heins	Korea	21 st Inf. Regt.	10.00
William E. Vickers	WWII	34 th Inf. Regt.	10.00
James T. Cooper	Korea	19 th Inf. Regt	20.00
Alfred J. Garceau	Korea	3 rd Eng. "C" Bn	25.00
Roger Reid	WWII	34 th Inf. Regt.	10.00
Lark Repset			10.00
Roger Reid	WWII	34 th Inf. Regt.	10.00

Gentlemen, This is a list of members and friends who contributed to the WWII Monument that was dedicated to the members of the 24th Division who lost their lives in WWII. Thirty-one people donated the twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for the plaque. Dedicated to honor the WWII soldiers, almost half of the donations for the monument were from veterans of the Korean War. How's that for pride in your Division? C.B. Mason started the movement to get the plaque installed at the Museum of the War In the Pacific, located in Fredericksburg, TX. C.B.'s mission was to get the plaque in place, "Before all of us WWII vets are gone!"

If I have missed the name of any donor or misidentified your unit, please forgive me and call or write to me and I will get your name in the next Taro Leaf. ~ Billy



Jackson Evans



Jack Moore My Little (230 lb) 3rd BN Man.
Takuma Naval Air Base – Jan 1946



William Livingston I&E Section, WWII



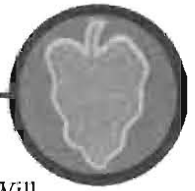
Standing: Potts (L), Jackson (R)
Kneeling: Fox (L), WTL (R)



WTL & Chet Potts
Hiroshima, Japan – Jan 13, 1946



Beach at Minndanao P.I. – Aug 1945



Chaplin's Corner

Take a moment and read the following. I believe that there is a little bit of Ben Stein in each of us, at least I hope so. Will
Submitted By ~ **The Commish**

For many years Ben Stein has written a biweekly column for the on-line web site called "Monday Night At Morton's," from that famous restaurant which was often frequented by Hollywood Stars. Now, Ben is terminating the column to move on to other things in his life. Reading his final column to our military is worth a few minutes of your time because it praises the most unselfish among us; our military personnel, others who protect us daily and portrays a valuable lesson learned in his life.

Ben Stein's Last Column

How Can Someone Who Lives in Insane Luxury Be a Star in Today's World?

As I begin to write this, I "slug" it, as we writers say, which means I put a heading on top of the document to identify it. This heading is "onlineFINAL," and it gives me a shiver to write it. I have been doing this column for so long that I cannot even recall when I started. I loved writing this column so much for so long I came to believe it would never end. It worked well for a long time, but gradually, my changing as a person and the world's change have overtaken it. On a small scale, Morton's, while better than ever, no longer attracts as many stars as it used to. It still brings in the rich people in droves and definitely some stars. I saw Samuel L. Jackson there a few days ago, and we had a nice visit, and right before that, I saw and had a splendid talk with Warren Beatty in an elevator, in which we agreed that *Splendor in the Grass* was a super movie. But Morton's is not the star galaxy it once was, though it probably will be again. Beyond that, a bigger change has happened. I no longer think Hollywood stars are terribly important. They are uniformly pleasant, friendly people, and they treat me better than I deserve to be treated. But a man or woman who makes a huge wage for memorizing lines and reciting them in front of a camera is no longer my idea of a shining star we should all look up to. How can a man or woman who makes an eight-figure wage and lives in insane luxury really be a star in today's world, if by a "star" we mean someone bright and powerful and attractive as a role model? Real stars are not riding around in the backs of limousines or in Porsches or getting trained in yoga or Pilates and eating only raw fruit while they have Vietnamese girls do their nails. They can be interesting, nice people, but they are not heroes to me any longer. A real star is the soldier of the 4th Infantry Division who poked his head into a hole on a farm near Tikrit, Iraq. He could have been met by a bomb or a hail of AK-47 bullets. Instead, he faced an abject Saddam Hussein and the gratitude of all of the decent people of the world. A real star is the U.S. soldier who was sent to disarm a bomb next to a road north of Baghdad. He approached it, and the bomb went off and killed him. A real star, the kind who haunts my memory night and day, is the U.S. soldier in Baghdad who saw a little girl playing with a piece of unexploded ordnance on a street near where he was guarding a station. He pushed her aside and threw himself on it just as it exploded. He left a family desolate in California and a little girl alive in Baghdad. The stars that deserve media attention are not the ones who have lavish weddings on TV but the ones who patrol the streets of Mosul even after two of their buddies were murdered and their bodies battered and stripped for the sin of trying to protect Iraqis from terrorists. We put couples with incomes of \$100 million a year on the covers of our magazines. The noncoms and officers who barely scrape by on military pay but stand on guard in

Afghanistan and Iraq and on ships and in submarines and near the Arctic Circle are anonymous as they live and die. I am no longer comfortable being a part of the system that has such poor values, and I do not want to perpetuate those values by pretending that who is eating at Morton's is a big subject. There are plenty of other stars in the American firmament... the policemen and women who go off on patrol in South Central and have no idea if they will return alive. The orderlies and paramedics who bring in people who have been in terrible accidents and prepare them for surgery, the teachers and nurses who throw their whole spirits into caring for autistic children, the kind men and women who work in hospices and in cancer wards. Think of each and every fireman who was running up the stairs at the World Trade Center as the towers began to collapse. Now you have my idea of a real hero. We are not responsible for the operation of the universe, and what happens to us is not terribly important. God is real, not a fiction, and when we turn over our lives to Him; He takes far better care of us than we could ever do for ourselves. In a word, we make ourselves sane when we fire ourselves as the directors of the movie of our lives and turn the power over to Him.

I came to realize that life lived to help others is the only one that matters. This is my highest and best use as a human. I can put it another way. Years ago, I realized I could never be as great an actor as Olivier or as good a comic as Steve Martin... or Martin Mull or Fred Willard - or as good an economist as Samuelson or Friedman or as good a writer as Fitzgerald. Or even remotely close to any of them. But I could be a devoted father to my son, husband to my wife and, above all, a good son to the parents who had done so much for me. This came to be my main task in life. I did it moderately well with my son, pretty well with my wife and well indeed with my parents (with my sister's help). I cared for and paid attention to them in their declining years. I stayed with my father as he got sick, went into extremis and then into a coma and then entered immortality with my sister and me reading him the Psalms. This was the only point at which my life touched the lives of the soldiers in Iraq or the firefighters in New York. I came to realize that life lived to help others is the only one that matters and that it is my duty, in return for the lavish life God has devolved upon me, to help others He has placed in my path. This is my highest and best use as a human.

Faith is not believing that God can. It is knowing that God will.

By Ben Stein



Army Museum at Wakiki Beach Oahu Hawaii - Ft. DeRussi



Schofield Barracks Museum - Hawaii

"I enjoyed the visit to my old home at Schofield Barracks. Things have really changed since I was stationed there and the rest of the island is just unreal. 4-6 lane freeways hundreds of high rise hotels and you can't find a decent beach there all full of tourist even the other islands are gradually getting over crowded. When I sent to Schofield I did not hardly see any troops, they said most were shipped to Iraq and Afghanistan. Though they said 3600 were being brought in from Okinawa. They're going to make a new Stryker company there." ~ Bob Maher, 3rd ENG



"I sure hope you had a great reunion. Hello to everyone out there, in America, Hawaii where I was 62 years ago. I may cut some words short, not that it will serve any good purpose. 62 yrs ago today, we had good feed at Schofield Barracks, 25th Div, we were organized 58 days before Pearl Harbor. The WWII F.D. Roosevelt got started, well guess my near 88 yrs is catching up with me, old tropic lightning soldiers, I want to try to correct my spelling I hope.

Just hear Bush in Baghdad, IRAQ campaign. I had my 4 yrs Pacific, well less three months, Mar 1941 to Dec 1944 Hawaii, Mamariana Islands, Building B 29 C Field. Rain than more rain, getting ready to eat our dinner, NP C Rations, I got fat on for 45 months.

You all write me, at 1024 Center Street SW, Mableton, GA 30126-2101. I don't have e-mail.

I'm GA Red Ambulance Driver, Staten Island, NY Halloran Army Hospital, Jan to July 1945. Me out South Pacific to NY. Snow, Snow, Cold. Time to feed folks, Hawaii, Ga. NJ, New York, FL, & beyond.

(signed) Carl L Conner, Regular Army
Dec 1940 to July 1945
Aloaha Nu Loa,,

Carl L Conner
3rd Engineers, Hawaii 1941
65th Engineers, 1941 Schofield Barracks
25 Division, 1941-1942

The Taro Leaf has received a note from Mrs. **Martha Kunes**, who will be 80 years old on August 22 of this year. Jack was listed in the TAPS section of the Winter 2004 Taro Leaf, we did not have and address for Mrs. Kunes at that time. Her address is: 704 Will Rogers Drive, Rogers, AR 72756. Telephone 1-479-621-5404

3rd "C" Engineers' Dinner - NM-04



The Men who served

& the Ladies who love them.



09 21 2004

24th Infantry Division WWII Memorial Dedication

Fredericksburg, Texas



Plaque at Admiral Nimitz Museum



CB Mason, 3rd ENG at Dedication Ceremony



Saturday Night Dinner - NM 2004

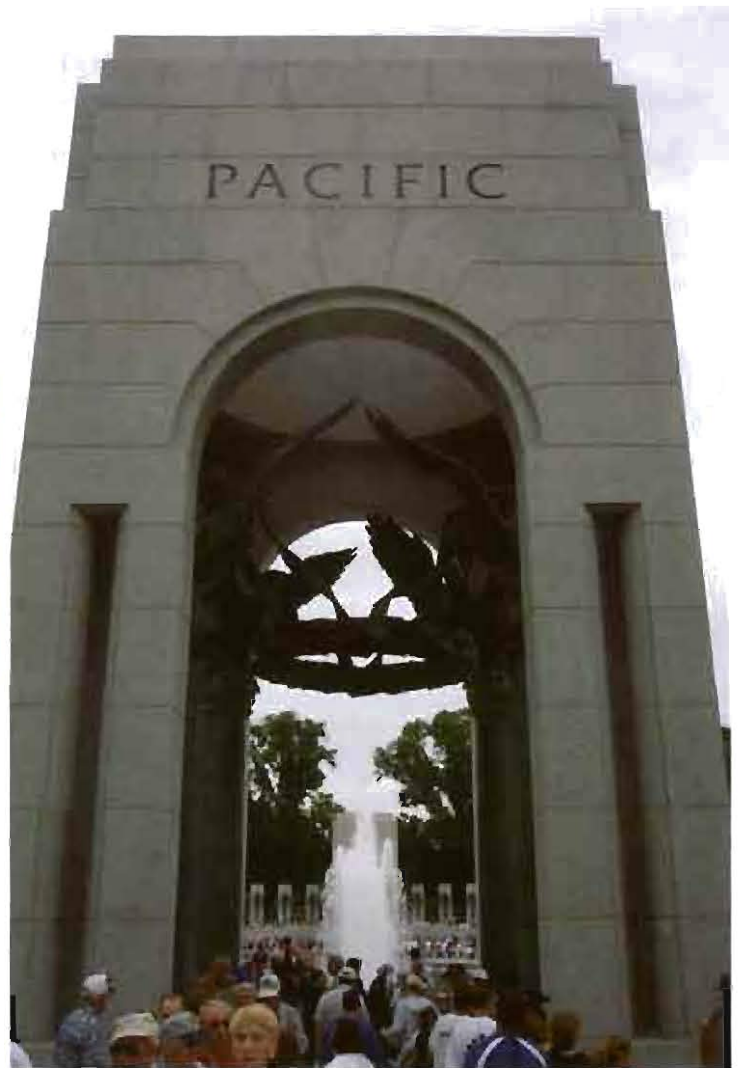
WWII Memorial Washington DC



"This Chinese General from Taiwan gave me the medal because of our fighting on Leyte drew so many Japanese Division from China. The 16th Division known as the 'Rapers of Nanking' was one." ~ Ed Farmer



Bill Hosler, 19th



Pacific Gateway at Memorial



Bill Hosler, 19th (2nd from Right) & his group in Washington



Minie Johnson & her new Son-In-Law Robert Veverka

24th Infantry Division Association



24th Division Memorial Planning Committee

On September 25, 2004 at our annual business meeting in Albuquerque, NM, the Executive Committee agreed to present a proposal to the membership to create a 24th Division Memorial, to be placed on Memorial Dr. of the **National Cemetery of the Pacific, Punch Bowl, Oahu, Hawaii**. This is the proposal that was approved by the membership:

1. To sponsor the Memorial Committee by allowing the use of the 24th IDA Letterhead for correspondence with the Directors of the "Punchbowl" to determine the procedures required to secure authorization of a 24th Infantry Division Memorial.
2. To use the TARO LEAF Magazine to run a feature article about the proposed 24th Infantry Division Memorial. The objective of the article would be to inform and also solicit support from present and past members of the Division.

A Committee was formed headed by Dan Rickert, 3rd Eng., Korea, who lined up the following Committee members:

Bill Boyden, 3rd Eng., Korea

Eric Diller, 34th Inf., WWII

Billy Johnson, 3rd Eng., Korea

Ken Fentner, 52nd Artillery, Korea

President Wes Morrison contacted the Punch Bowl Authorities regarding our 24th Division Memorial. He received a nine-page response, which was forwarded to Dan Rickert and the Committee members. It outlined in detail what needs to be done to bring our Memorial to fruition. The Plaque shall be 12" wide and 24" long, landscape or horizontal format. It will be mounted on a suitable stone base 18" high at the front with a sloped mounting surface to a maximum height of 24" at the rear. The stone base is to be 20" deep and 33" long. Our 1st step is to prepare a design inscription, which must be approved by the Director of the Cemetery. Next will be the procurement of the base. That will determine the cost involved, which will then be presented to the membership for donations.

Eric Diller, Committee member



While in Hawaii Robert Maher stopped by to see the Baseball Backstop that he and his fellow 3rd ENG Constructed in 1938-1938. The backstop is an exact replica of the Army Engineers Building. Nice job Robert. By the way that is Robert sitting in some bleachers outside the field. Robert also sent these pictures of the US Arizona Memorial. ~Billy



Most of 2 crews of 2 A & C Battery
 Top Standing: Aberle, Adams, Markway, Curry
 Front: Fernandez, Contina, Wheeler, Wilson
(If you are the man in the halftrack, or if anyone can identify him please contact the Editor.)

Ready to cross lines on a fire mission.
 Turn right about 1000 yards ahead to cross lines.

Triple Nickel Field Artillery on a fire mission. Fall of 1951
 Submitted by: *Harold Aberle, 26thAAA*



Photos Below and to Right – Submitted By: *Harold Aberle, 26thAAA*



Special Orders Number 57 - 26th AAA - 6 May 1952

HEADQUARTERS
26th AAA AV Bn (SP)
APO 24, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California:

SPECIAL ORDERS
NUMBER 57

6 May 1952

1. The fol Off and EM, Btry D, 26th AAA AV Bn (SP), APO 24, WP c/o 8 May 52 from Camp Youngmans, Japan to Katakai AA Firing Range, Katakai, Chiba Prefecture, Honshu, Japan on TDY for approx ten (10) days in connection with military activities (AA Practice Firing). Upon completion of TDY, Off and EM will return to proper station. TDM. TRCAA or Tvl by RM auth. No per diem. (Auth: VOOB, XVI Corps, per Col Watson, G-3.)

GRADE, NAME, SN

CAPT HERMAN M RIKENBURG, 0420529
1ST LT BERNARD R GILLAGHER, 0974256
1ST LT JOHN J FRANZOSIA, 02210728
2D LT JAMES E HAYES, 09041457
Y/SGT JOE O HERBERT, RA34230059
SFC PAUL R HILL, RA1338820
SFC WILLIAM HURDS, RA1187714
SFC R G DARTS, RA14917538
SFC CHARLES H DAVIS, RA18292941
SFC RUSSELL W DOWNER, RA13316931
SFC DONALD J KIRKLAND, RA18111617
SGT ANGEL B AMELIA, US54077644
SGT H ROSE E JENSEN, RA31200577
SGT JOHN H BACHMAN JR, RA27319067
SGT RICHARD A BOND, RA16332566
SGT DANIEL B DUNGLASS, RA13299806
SGT THOMAS J GAVIN, US51067757
SGT PHILIP HATTEN JR, RA35955161
CPL FRANK WILLIAMS, US28139079
CPL WILLIAM T BAKER JR, RA13442536
CPL ELMER E LITSTER, US5144415
CPL PHILIP J DENIG, US5144741
CPL ELMER E GILBERT, US51094412
CPL ELSON F COOPER, US51059917
CPL EDWARD F CATCHLEY, US51035178
CPL JAMES E CUMY, RA1348870
CPL ANTHONY S GIVAT, US51085831
CPL JAMES L FAWCETT, US51061759
CPL CARL E HUNTLETON, US5104461
CPL HARRY A HUNTLEY, US51013347
CPL ALBERT H LEPILLON, US51072570
CPL ROBERT I LIAH, US52104802
CPL THURGOOD F PAUL, RA13389941
CPL EDWARD MORGENTHAU, US51032934
CPL LAIL B RITCHEY, RA13389065
CPL EDWARD C O'NEILL, US51032564
CPL EDWARD F RALL, US52105899
CPL LUTELL A DENTON, US51087725

GRADE, NAME, SN

CPL EMANUEL B RICHIN, US51070001
CPL LYNN E ROGERS, US51123294
CPL JERRY A VALENTINO, US51055714
CPL CORNELIUS R WILKINS, US51125000
CPL GARY N WILSON, RA13390157
CPL DONALD A WYNN, US51030339
PFC FRANCIS ANDERSON, US51149041
PFC EDWARD ARMBRECHT, RA13375595
PFC MARY D BROWN, US51149041
PFC JOSEPH A BARTLE, US51149041
PFC HENRY CHURCH, US51149041
PFC GARY HART, RA13390157
PFC MARCEL B HART, US51149041
PFC WILLIAM R HART, RA13390157
PFC ROBERT C HART, RA13390157
PFC JOSEPH E HART, RA13390157
PFC CHARLES J HART, RA13390157
PFC PAUL J JACKSON, US51149041
PFC HERBERT J. JAMES, RA13390157
PFC WALTER L KLAFF, US51149041
PFC MARCEL B LAMSON, US51149041
PFC JOSEPH A LAMSON, US51149041
PFC CLIFFORD A LAMSON, RA13390157
PFC CHARLES C LAMSON, US51149041
PFC JUNIOR B LAMSON, US51149041
PFC JOSEPH F LAMSON, US51149041
PFC JOSEPH LAMSON, US51149041
PFC GEORGE W LAMSON, US51149041
PFC ARTHUR W LAMSON, US51149041
PFC THOMAS J LAMSON, RA13390157
PFC PHILIP H LAMSON, RA13390157
PFC LARRY D LAMSON, RA13390157
PFC JOHN H LAMSON, RA13390157
PVT THEODORE ALBERT, US51149041
PVT OWEN B LAMSON, US51149041
PVT JAMES L LAMSON, US51149041
PVT CHARLES STEPHENSON, US51149041

SO 57, Hq 26th AAA AV Bn (SP), APO 24, dtd 6 May 52 (Cont'd)

2. Pol EM, Btry D, 26th AAA AV Bn (SP), APO 24, WP c/o 8 May 52 from Camp Youngmans, Japan to Katakai AA Firing Range, Katakai, Chiba Prefecture, Honshu, Japan on TDY for approx ten (10) days in connection with military activities (AA Practice Firing). Upon completion of TDY, EM will return to proper station. TDM. TRCAA or Tvl by RM auth. No per diem. (Auth: VOOB, XVI Corps, per Col Watson, G-3.)

GRADE, NAME, SN

CPL CURIA H HURNESS, RA1338820
CPL WILLIAM B DAUGHERTY, RA1338820
CPL ROBERT M STUMER, US51030339
CPL RUBEN I THURMO, US51030339

3. So much of per 11, CO 56, this order, as, as pertains to PVT-2 (E-2) JOHN J JOHNSON, RA19401194, is deleted.

4. PVT-2 (E-2) JOHN J JOHNSON, RA19401194, MOS 1602, Basic (Cru), Camp PA, TOS 3 yrs, ETS Jun 52, having been sent this order from 7th Regt Co, APO 24, per per 22, SO 108, Hq 26th Inf Div, APO 24, is further sent to Btry D, 26th AAA AV Bn (SP), APO 24, EDCS 7 May 52. WP TDM. TRCAA or Tvl by RM auth. No per diem.

BY ORDER OF JAMES K. VANAMORE:

OFFICIAL:

JOHN F. JOHNSON
1st Lt, Army
Adjutant

Mark F. Johnson
MARK F. JOHNSON
1st Lt, Army
Adjutant

OF THE ORDER:

A & E

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

2005-2006

Nomination and election of the Association Officers for the term 2005-2006 will be conducted at the Annual Membership Meeting held at the Association Reunion in Philadelphia, PA on Saturday, September 17, 2005 at 10:00 AM. Only an Active Member as defined by our Constitution and Bylaws may be nominated. There are three (3) positions open for election each year. They are:

President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer

All nominations for the elected offices will be made to the Nomination Committee for consideration. Any nomination made from the floor will be referred to the Committee for consideration and if found qualified will be referred to the membership for vote. Nominations should be made on the basis of the individual's contribution to the welfare of the Association, his participation in Association activities, his ability to communicate with the membership and his ability to perform the duties for which nominated. All nomination including those from the floor will be in writing and will be accompanied by a biographical sketch of the nominee and their acceptance of the nomination. Any Active or Associate Member may make a nomination but only Active Members may vote on any nomination.

All nomination should be sent to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee not later than 1 August 2005. Your committee is the following:

CHAIRMAN
Edward F. Balbi
P.O. Box 807
Plains, MT 59859-0807
(406) 826-0880

MEMBERS
Rodney F. Stock, Jr, 34th Infantry
Robert Osborn, 34th Infantry
Daniel Cretaro, 34th Infantry
Robert A. Newkirk, 21st Infantry

VERBECK AWARD & COMMITTEE

MG William Jordan Verbeck, onetime Regimental commander of the 21st Infantry and Division Chief of Staff demonstrated in myriad ways and consistently from his Division days of 44 and 45 to the day of his death on November 4, 1965 an unparalleled love for and devotion to the Division and Association.

The William Jordan Verbeck Award had its genesis in the mind of the late Edmund Henry, one of the Associations founders. He presented his concept to the Executive Committee in 1966 and agreed to furnish the silver bowl, which was to serve as indicia for the Award. The Executive Committee established the guidelines with respect to the standards upon which presentation was to be based. It was to be presented, not annually, but from time-to-time as justification indicates. It was to be presented to that Association member who best displayed the ideals of Bill Verbeck, an unabashed love for Division and its Association. It was to be awarded to the member best showing real effort in furthering the best interests of the Association and the Division. It was not intended to reward mere popularity and the like. It was intended to reward sleeves-rolled-up hard work in helping to make the Association into a successfully organization.

As President of the Association, I am honored and privileged to name the following Association members to the Committee to review nominees for the award and, if appropriate, selection of the most qualified nominee who best represents the criteria established by the Executive Committee.

CHAIRMAN
Donald J. Lloyd
Vice President

MEMBERS
John E. Klump
William H. Muldoon
Ben Wahle
William F. Boyden
Keith R. Hagen
Roger C. Mitten

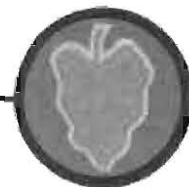
Past President & 1985 Verbeck Award Winner
Past President & 2004 Verbeck Recipient
2003 Verbeck Award Recipient
Life Member 426
Life Member 1688
Member

Nominations are to be received NOT LATER THAN 1 AUGUST 2005.

Mail nominations to: Donald J. Lloyd
6804 Occidental Avenue
Yakima, WA 98903-9647

*Time to check
your Dues Date!*

24th Infantry Division Association



BE A MEMBER

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

RECRUIT A MEMBER

I desire to be enrolled (or) reinstated as a Member (or) Associate Member of the
24th Infantry Division Association,
and thereby be affiliated with the
Greatest Combat Division the United States Army
has ever known.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL _____

OCCUPATION _____

SPOUSE'S NAME _____ CHILDREN & AGES _____

SPONSOR'S NAME _____

(Relation to sponsor if the Application is for Associate Membership) _____

SERVED IN THE 24th or was ATTACHED TO THE 24th From _____ To _____ Location: _____

UNIT.....SQUAD _____ PLATOON _____ COMPANY _____ BN. _____ REGT. _____ HQ _____ FROM _____ TO _____

UNIT.....SQUAD _____ PLATOON _____ COMPANY _____ BN. _____ REGT. _____ HQ _____ FROM _____ TO _____

REMARKS _____

Dues:

____ Annual - \$15.00
1 Year From Date of
Enlisting in Association

____ Lifetime - \$150.00
Payable in lump sum of \$150.00
or in 5 yearly payments of \$30.00

Please make checks payable to:
"24th Infantry Division Association"
Mail with this completed application to:
Norm Dixon
Secretary/Treasurer
24th Infantry Division Association
16849 W. Villagio Dr
Surprise, AZ 85387-7565

Recommended By: _____



Old Glory ~

The picture displayed left is real, an unmanipulated photograph from an event held in Yuma on 11 September 2002 to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the USA. Several local businesses participated in the creation and display of the large flag: SewMasters crafted it, equipment from Sellers Crane Service held it aloft, Fry's Food and Drug allowed the use of their parking lot, and radio station KTTI-FM 95.1 hosted the event.

As for the cross-like light effect, the weave of the flag's fabric acts sort of like a camera's star filter: the spaces between

the vertical threads allow vertical strips of light to shine through, and the spaces between the horizontal threads allow horizontal strips of light to shine through. The appearance of a cross-like shape when a strong light source (such as the sun) is on the opposite side of the flag from the viewer while predictable is nevertheless beautiful.

Photo Submitted by ~ Commish,

Thank Goodness I'm on God's Mind

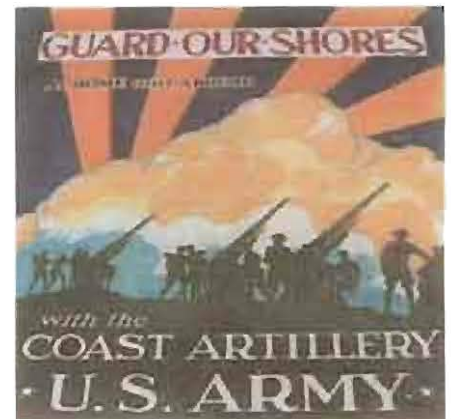
Have you ever wondered if God ever thinks about you. Have you ever thought, "Am I ever on His mind?" If God is thinking about me, what are His thoughts? The scriptures give us some real insights into this subject when it says: For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

~Jeremiah 29:11 through Jeremiah 29:13

How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them!



Coast Artillery Recruiting Posters reflecting the change in WWII from Long-Range Guns to Anti-Aircraft Artillery.



Quartermaster 24 IDA

Supply Price List

Control #	Item	Description	Price Ea	Control #	Item	Description	Price Ea
1	24 ID Colored Patch		\$3.00	41	19 th Lapel Pin		\$5.00
2	Same as #1 with 24 ID written around outside edge		5.00	42	24 ID License Plate (new) w/TL		6.00
3	24 ID Black Cap w/Patch		10.00	43	Desert Storm Cap - Black		12.00
4	24 ID White Cap w/Patch	First to Fight	10.00	44	Desert Storm Hat Pin		3.00
5	24 ID Window Sticker	2" x 3"	2.00	45	WWII Veteran's Cap	Black w/CIB	12.00
6	24 ID Decal	4"	3.00	46	Korean War Veteran's Cap	Black w/CIB	12.00
7	Bolo Tie w/TL Gold		15.00	47	Bumper Sticker-CIB		3.00
8	Bolo Tie w/TL Silver		16.00	48	Bumper Sticker - Proudly Served w/TL		3.00
9	Belt Buckle w/TL		15.00	49	6 th Tank BN Cloth Patch	Cloth Patch	5.00
10	29 th TNF Cloth Patch (Color)		5.00	50	Purple Heart Medal	HP-754	3.00
11	24 Sig BN Unit Crest		5.00	51	Bronze Star Medal	HP-926	3.00
12	19 th Ing Crest		5.00	52	Good Conduct Medal	HP-927	3.00
13	Current Issue \$10 Pr		5.00	53	Korean Service Medal	HP-929	3.00
14	21 st Inf Crest		5.00	54	Natl. Defense Service Medal	HP-957	3.00
15	Current Issue \$10 Pr		5.00	55	Victory Medal	HP-958	3.00
16	34 th Inf Crest		5.00	56	Silver Star Medal	HP-959	3.00
17	11 th FA Crest	\$10 pr	5.00	57	ETO Campaign Medal	HP-962	3.00
18	13 th FA Crest	\$10 pr	5.00	58	DFC	HP-965	3.00
19	19 th Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	59	Korean 8000 Missing	HP-115	3.00
20	21 st Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	60	CMB 1 st Award	HP-569	3.00
21	34 th Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	61	US Flag Clutch Back	HP (V-37)	3.00
22	11 th FA Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	62	24 th Medical Bn Crest		10.00
23	13 th FA Pocket Patch (Color)		5.00	63	Pacific Campaign Medal	HP-963	3.00
24	24 ID Crest		5.00	64	American Campaign Medal	HP-964	3.00
25	21 st Inf Lapel Pin		5.00	65	Army of Occupation Medal	HP-051	3.00
26	34 th Inf Lapel Pin		5.00	66	Meritorious Service Medal	HP-056	3.00
27	CIB (1 st Award) 1-1346 (Mini)		5.00	67	UN Service Medal	HP-059	3.00
28	Mini DRESS MESS		6.50	68	Philippine Liberation	HP-361	3.00
29	CIB (2 nd Award) 1-1347 (Mini)		5.00	69	Korean Service Ribbon	HP-099	3.00
30	Mini DRESS MESS		6.50	70	Air Medal	HP-925	3.00
31	CIB Lapel Pin		5.00	71	DSC Hatpin	HP-308	3.00
32	19 th Cap Dark Blue/Crest		10.00	72	Bring 'Em Home/Back	HP-214	3.00
33	21 st Cap White/Embroidered/Crest		12.00	73	American Defense Medal	HP	3.00
34	21 st Cap Dar Blue /Embroidered Crest		12.00	74	Vietnam Service Medal	HP	3.00
35	34 th Cap Dark Blue w/Crest		10.00	75	24 ID Hatpin		3.00
36	24 IDA Cap Dark Blue w/Patch		10.00	76	24 ID Tie-Regular		20.00
37	Cap w/TL, Red or White GERMANY		12.00	77	24 ID Flag, 3x5 Screen Print	Outdoor Flag	55.00
38	24 IDA Red or White Caps		10.00	78	63 rd Field Artillery	Cloth Patch	5.00
39	24 ID Green Cap (Patch)		10.00	79	Army Commendation Medal	HP	3.00
40	24 ID White Mesh Cap		10.00	80	Soldiers Medal	HP	3.00
	3 rd Eng. Crest		5.00	81	POW Medal	HP	3.00
	14 th Eng. Crest		5.00	82	Armed Forces Reserve Medal	HP	3.00
	5 th RCT Pocket Patch		5.00		1"Decal 24 ID		.10
	5 th RCT Cap, Red		10.00	83	Sell 12 for \$1.00		
				84	24 th Christmas Cards	10 ea. Packet	8.00
				85	World War II Tapes (starts Australia)		15.00
				86	24 ID Neck Wallets		4.00



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EXIT LAUGHING (or Crying)

After finally shaking off his mortal coil, Yasser Arafat made his way to the pearly gates. There, he is greeted by George Washington. "How dare you attack the nation I helped conceive!" yells Mr. Washington, slapping Arafat in the face.

James Madison comes up next, and says "This is why I allowed the Federal government to provide for the common defense!" He drops a large weight on Arafat's knee.

Arafat is subject to similar beatings from John Randolph of Roanoke, James Monroe, Patrick Henry, and 66 other people who have the same love for liberty and America.

As he writhes on the ground, Thomas Jefferson picks him up to hurl him back toward the gate where he is to be judged.

As Arafat awaits his journey to his final very hot destination, he screams "This is not what I was promised!"

An angel replies "I told you there would be 72 Virginians waiting for you. What did you think I said?"



Bullknitters

Little Noncy was in the garden filling in a large hole when her neighbor peered over the fence. Interested in what the cheeky-faced youngster was up to, he politely asked, "What are you doing there, Nancy?"

"My goldfish died," replied Noncy tearfully without looking up, "and I've just buried him."

The neighbor was very concerned. "That's an awfully big hole for a goldfish, isn't it?"

Noncy potted down the last heap of dirt then replied, "That's because he's inside your darned cat."



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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

Penguin Love Only A Stone's Throw Away

In 1996, Cambridge (England) University researcher Fiona Hunter, who studied penguins' mating habits for five years, reported that some females apparently allow male strangers to mate with them in exchange for a few nest-building stones, thus providing what Hunter believes is the first observed animal prostitution. According to Dr. Hunter, all activity was done behind the backs of the females' regular mates, and in a few instances, after the sex act, johns gave the females additional stones as sort of a tip.

Beam Them Up, Scotty

Walt and Kathy Viggiano of Wichita, Kan., convinced Judge James Burgess to return their four children from foster care in 1999, following their removal because of excessive unsanitariness of the family's mobile home. Judge Burgess realized the Viggianos had not abused them and had no alcohol or drug problems. Also, according to police, Walt and the kids seemed to have warm conversations, even though entirely in Klingon (from Star Trek).

Least Competent Criminals

Fort Smith, Ark., police arrested James Newsome, 37, in 1999 and charged him with taking money at gunpoint from the Gas Well convenience store. The robber's face was easily identified from the surveillance tape, and the coat worn by the robber was found in Newsome's car. Also, Newsome's wife said the family car had a radiator leak, and a puddle of antifreeze was found beside the store where the robber parked. And, also, the robber wore a hard hat with "James Newsome" on the front.

Why They Go Postal

Letter carrier Martha Cherry, 49, was fired by the Postal Service in White Plains, N.Y., in 1997 after 18 years of apparently walking her rounds too slowly. Wrote a supervisor, of the 5-foot-4 Cherry: "At each stop, the heel of your leading foot did not pass the toe of the trailing foot by more than one inch. As a result, you required 13 minutes longer than your demonstrated ability to deliver the mail to this section of your route."

Postal worker Douglas C. Yee, 50, was indicted in 1996 in San Mateo, California for pulling off bulk-mail scams that grossed him \$800,000. Found in Yee's garbage were notes he had written to God expressing gratitude for his continued help in evading police. Read one: "Lord, I am having a difficult time myself seeing you as a God who hides crime, yet your Word says that it's your privilege (or glory) to do just that."

Chuck Shepherd,
News of the Weird (Weird News@earthlink.net)

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