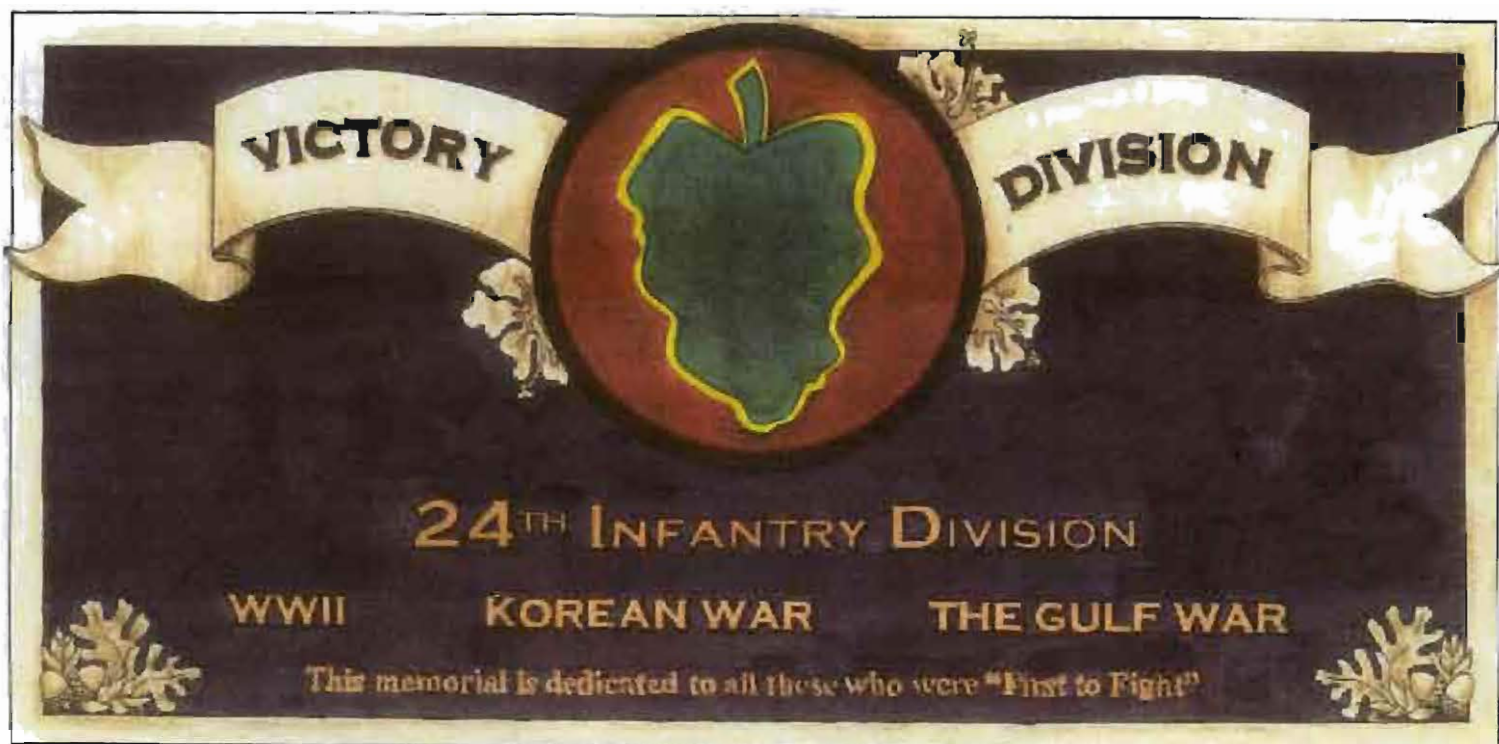


24th Infantry Division Association

# Taro Leaf



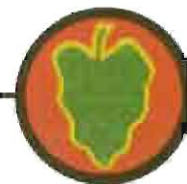
FIRST TO FIGHT



*I designed this memorial for my grandfather, Daniel Rickert, and all the men and women of the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry who were "First to Fight". I wanted the Taro leaf to be the most prominent part of the design. This symbol of the protection is lifted at approximately 20° and in full color enamel. The Victory Division banner is also elevated off the foundation of the memorial. The lines of the banner draw you eye inward, focusing again on the Taro leaf emblem. There are three hibiscus flowers, one for each war, growing from under the emblem. The hibiscus flowers blooming symbolize the life that survives war. The acorns and oak leaves in the bottom corners reiterate this idea of life renewed. The memorial is for those men and women, our protectors, in appreciation for the sacrifice they have made so that we may carry on. ~ Danielle Rickert*



# 24th Infantry Division Association



## **President**

### **Reunion Coordinator**

**Wesley R. Morrison** – 21<sup>st</sup> Inf.  
452 Gloria Circle  
Marina, CA 93933-4027  
Tel. & FAX : 831-883-2156  
Email : WesM8@aol.com

## **Vice President**

**Donald J. Lloyd** – 3<sup>rd</sup> "C" Eng.  
6804 Occidental Avenue  
Yakima, WA 98903-9647  
Tel. 509-965-3231  
Email: dotandon@nwinfo.net

## **Secretary/Treasurer**

**Donald E. Maggio** – 24<sup>th</sup> AG  
631 Concord Rd  
Fletcher, NC 28732-9736  
Tel. 828-684-5931  
Email: tarheel0@lycos.com

## **Taro Leaf Editor**

**Billy Johnson** – 3<sup>rd</sup> "C" Eng  
2416 Kimberly Drive  
Fayetteville, NC 28306-2345  
Tel. 910-424-3840  
Email: BJ24SF45@aol.com

## **Historian**

**Larry Gay** – 19<sup>th</sup> Inf.  
15335 W Echo Canyon Dr  
Surprise, AZ 85347-2081  
Telephone #: 623-214-6090  
Email: lngay@worldnet.att.net

## **Chaplain**

**Glenn Carpenter, Jr.** – 21<sup>st</sup> Inf.  
501 Michigan St.  
Buchanan, MI 49107  
Tel. 616-695-2934  
Email: chaplincarp@hotmail.com

## **Membership Chairman**

**James T. Cooper** – 19<sup>th</sup> Inf.  
9604 Lagrima DeOro NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87111-2524  
Tel. 505-296-2154  
Email: jcoop14@Comcast.net

## **Quartermaster**

**Frances Wittman** – Assoc 21<sup>st</sup> Inf.  
1385 Terri Street  
Keyser, WV 26726-2119  
Tel. 304-788-0465

## **WebMaster**

**Norman E. Tredway** – 24<sup>th</sup> MP  
422 Lincoln Avenue  
Dunellen, NJ 08812-1127  
Email: kdva.hq@att.com  
Website: <http://home.att.net/~victory24/index.htm>

## **REUNION 2005**

September 21 – September 24

### **Chairman**

**Sam Slater** – 19<sup>th</sup> Inf.  
425 East Moreland Road  
Willow Grove, PA 19090-3605  
Tel. 215-657-5104  
ssams104@aol.com

**TARO LEAF**, The official publication of the 24<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division or the 24<sup>th</sup> 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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Taro Leaf Editor:	Billy Johnson
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Telephone:	910-424-3840
Email:	BJ24SF45@aol.com

## **Executive Committee: President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and Past Presidents**

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Vincent Vella	1994-1995	21st Inf. Regt.	716-873-7129	GA
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## **Deadline to Editor ~~~~~Publication Date**

15	July	2005	August	2005	Summer
15	October	2005	November	2005	Fall
15	January	2006	February	2006	Winter
15	April	2006	May	2006	Spring

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The Front Cover is the Technical Drawings by **Danielle Rickert**, GrandDaughter of **Dan & Beverly Rickert**, 3<sup>rd</sup> "C" Eng. for a Memorial Plaque to be located in The National Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii.

# 24th Infantry Division Association



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sorry I missed the last issue but so many things have been going on that involved the Association I just completely forgot about a letter for the TARO LEAF.

Now, our reunion is coming up in September and I am going to ask every member of the Association do advertise it. In the TARO LEAF with the reunion information is a "For Immediate Release" notice. I would like every member to make a copy of that release and send or take it to your local newspaper or television/radio station and have it published or announced over the air. If there are other members within the vicinity, please, don't assume they will take the notice for publication and or announcement. The more requests submitted, the more likely it will be accomplished. By doing this, not only will it announce the reunion, but it will also alert other former members of the Division that there is an Association for them to get together with former comrades. We need more members from Germany and later generations to carry on the tradition of this outstanding Association.

Wes Morrison  
President

---

### *In honor of the 4th of July. America's 'Independence Day'*

*"We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal."*

-- Thomas Jefferson

*"I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death."*

-- Patrick Henry

*"To sin by silence when they should protest makes cowards of men."*

-- Abraham Lincoln

*"They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."*

-- Benjamin Franklin

*"Liberty is always dangerous, but it is the safest thing we have."*

-- Harry Emerson Fosdick

*"The right to freedom being the gift of God, it is not in the power of man to alienate this gift and voluntarily become a slave."*

-- Samuel Adams

*"In giving freedom to the slave, we assure freedom to the free - honorable alike in what we give and what we preserve."*

-- Abraham Lincoln

*"Let freedom reign. The sun never set on so glorious a human achievement."*

-- Nelson Mandela

*"The only freedom which deserves the name is that of pursuing our own good in our own way, so long as we do not attempt to deprive others of theirs, or impede their efforts to obtain it."*

-- J.S. Mill

*"Whenever I hear anyone arguing for slavery, I feel a strong impulse to see it tried on him personally."*

-- Abraham Lincoln

*"Those who expect to reap the blessing of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it."*

-- Thomas Paine

*"The will of the people is the only legitimate foundation of any government, and to protect its free expression should be our first object."*

-- Thomas Jefferson

*"The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave."*

-- Patrick Henry, 1775

*"America will never be destroyed from the outside. If we falter and lose our freedoms, it will be because we destroyed ourselves."*

-- Abraham Lincoln

*"The basis of a democratic state is liberty."*

-- Aristotle

*"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."*

-- Martin Luther King, Jr.

*"Our flag is our national ensign, pure and simple, behold it! Listen to it! Every star has a tongue, every stripe is articulate."*

-- Robert C. Winthrop (1809-1894)

*"Ay, tear her tattered ensign down! Long has it waved on high, And many an eye has danced to see that banner in the sky."*

-- Oliver Wendell Holmes

*"In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I will not be afraid. What can mortal man do to me?"*

-- Psalm 56:4 (NIV)

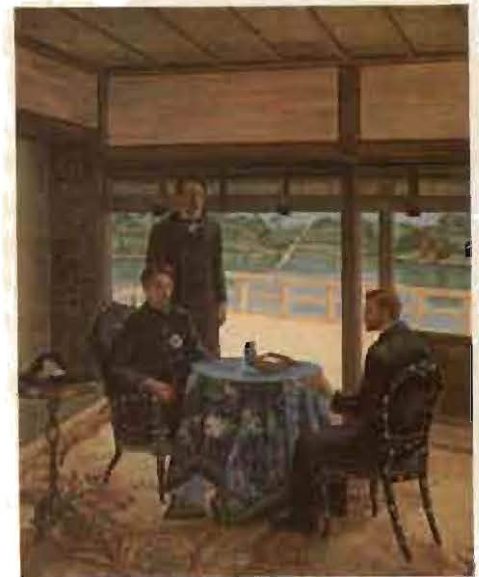




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[106]  
戦艦 静 画  
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Antique postcards of pre-WWII Japanese Imperial Army

# HQ 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry



24th Infantry Division  
Headquarters  
Kokura, Kyushu, Japan



24th Infantry Division  
G2/interrogation of Prisoner of  
War Team



Bob Shiroishi  
Getting ready for Korea - July 50

Front Row, L to R

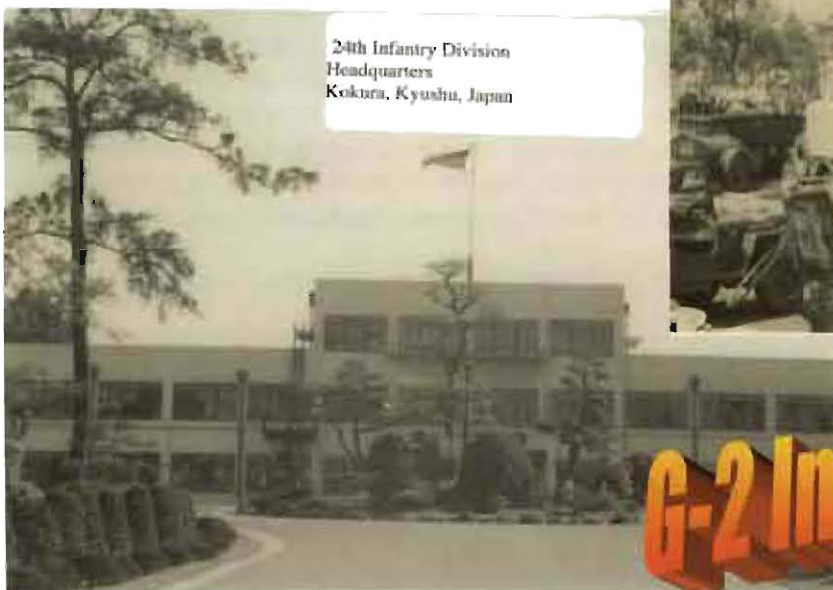
#4 Peterson; #9 Okeefe; #10  
Miyamoto; #11 Sakamoto

Back Row, L to R

#3 Otsuka; #18 Shiroishi;  
#19 Terao; #22 Vorobyoff



"Deploy to Korea"  
19th Infantry Regiment  
Beppu  
July 1950



24th Infantry Division  
Headquarters  
Kokura, Kyushu, Japan

## G-2 Interrogation Team

Photos Submitted By ~ Bob Shiroishi, Div HQ

*These are the remarks Col. Al Aycock, Garrison Commander at Fort Bragg, NC, made to young soldiers (and some not to young), to get them to write about their experiences. It's not too late for YOU to write about your experiences. Col. Aycock is now a life member of the 24<sup>th</sup> IDA.*

*~Billy, Editor*

I would like to welcome everyone here tonight. This is a very important occasion. I equate this to the first time that you open up to a page of a book and you're getting ready to write on the page. In our case, first person history is one of those things that we need to capture and we need to capture it while it's fresh in everyone's mind.

Let me tell you a little story. About 45 miles from here, over this weekend there's going to be the recreation of the Battle of Bentonville. Many, many years ago a noted historian, Jay Luvass, came down to Bentonville and he wrote a 30-page pamphlet that said, "The soldiers had a battle here but not a lot happened, and I don't think we need to cover this much more since it was the end of the war." So, so what? Well one historian by the name of Mark Bradley said, "There had to be more than that. There were 60,000 soldiers on one side and 30,000 on the other, and they spent three days there. Something had to happen. Well Mark Bradley went back to first-person accounts of what happened at that battle. And in a day when Civil War books seem to come out every other day and then they go out of print, Mark Bradley's first-person account of what happened at Bentonville is still in print after more than 10 years because it's a first-person story. It's a Soldiers' story. It's a families' story. It's those that were in the battlefield.

And that's why what we are going to do in the next day is so important. Because when the historians look back at this time, they'll get all the dates and events right but they won't get your heart right. They won't get your emotions right, and we need to capture those emotions. We need to capture what you felt. We need capture how you saw today's events in today's words so that they mean something to historians in the future so that your story doesn't go away when you go away, it lives forever and ever and ever.

Now there is a difference between telling a story and telling a good story. You all know that some of you can tell jokes and some of you can't, right? I can see some of you who can't going, "Yeah I can't tell a joke. I'm not into that." But people have the ability to tell a story and make it interesting, and what we're going to do is tell you how to make your story memorable. Make it so that it sticks in a person's heart, so that someday, somebody will want to take your comment and put it into a book. Or write a play about what you did. Or tell your story in a video and capture what you did while you were out there.

We are very fortunate to have some of the most distinguished people in this field who are going to lead seminars, people who have done this before.

I want to tell you how meaningful this is. How many of you have been out and visited monuments and statues and battlefields? Let me tell you the one that has touched me the most. In Norfolk, Virginia, on their River Street, they have this monument that's there. On the ground there's these small metal pieces that are curved over, and there's writing on those metal pieces as if someone took a piece of paper and threw it down on the ground. And they are all over this corner right by where you can watch the sun rise. And on those sheets of paper, on this monument, are the last letters that Soldiers wrote back to their family, their girlfriend, their mother, their father, before they died. And it's the most touching, the most memorable monument that I have ever been to. I've been to Gettysburg and I've seen all the monuments there. I've been to Washington and I've seen all of the monuments there. I've been to almost every Civil War battlefield on the East coast and I've seen their monuments, nothing touched my heart more than seeing those letters strewn on that monument area and reading the last comments that somebody said not knowing that they would die but writing back to their families about everyday things. About how much they loved them, about what they saw that day. About what their life was like, and that is what we would like you to do.

Over this time tomorrow, Steve Lang and Andrew Carroll are going to lead writing workshops to help everyone here capture those pieces of history.

Steven Lang developed and performed stage adaptations of Larry Smith's book, "Beyond the Glory," which captured what Medal of Honor awardees knew and saw in their own words.

Andrew Carroll is the author of, "War Letters," and he founded, "The Legacy Project," a national effort to honor those who served in wartime by seeking out their letters.

On behalf of Fort Bragg I am very proud to welcome these great folks here to teach us how to do that. I'll now ask Eleane Mason, the Senior Deputy Chairman of the National Endowment of the Arts to introduce our writers. Please join me in welcoming her.

Col. Al Aycock, March 2005

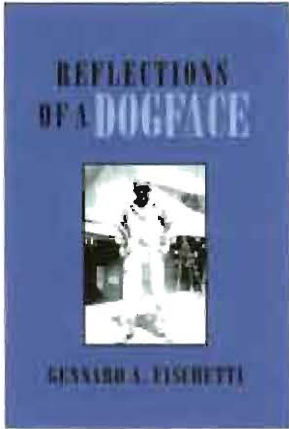


## Books of Interest

The Taro Leaf is pleased to announce the new Books of Interest section. This area is for Members who have written of their experiences with the 24th and other who have written about the Warriors of the 24<sup>th</sup> ID. We look forward to having many more books to share with our Membership. ~ Billy, Editor



### Reflections of a DOGFACE

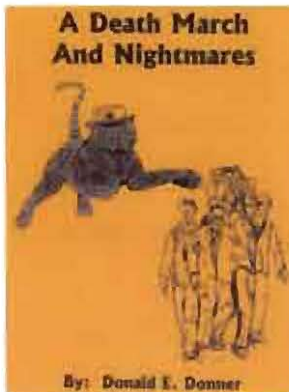


Gennaro Fischetti's poignant memoir begins in Brooklyn and is followed by a collection of vignettes depicting life as a "Dogface" in the Pacific during World War II. Fischetti manages to capture his own innocent 18-year-old spirit. The writing tells of his and his buddies delight in bucking the establishment. The stories are original and the Author's personality shines through at every step. You will laugh out loud about Fischetti's "size 13 clodhoppers" and "monkey cacciatore". You will learn about his being a sole witness in his Commanding Officer's Court Martial. This "quick read" offers one man's description of a very different view of World War II.

This book can be purchased in any major bookstore, or online at Barnes & Noble, Borders or Xlibris. The author, (the CommishWC@aol.com to those who do Email,) will be signing his book at the reunion in Philadelphia.

Gennaro Fischetti will be donating a portion of the proceeds from his book sales to the 24<sup>th</sup> IDA.

For more information please contact the Editor, Billy Johnson.



Donald also writes, "First of all let me express my appreciation for the great job you have done as editor of our "TARO LEAF". As per our conversation, I am enclosing a copy of the book," **A DEATH MARCH AND NIGHTMARES**". (NO CHARGE)

"**A DEATH MARCH AND NIGHTMARES**" is available from Trafford Publishing (Suite 6E, 2333 Government St., Victoria, BC, Canada V8T 4P4) or signed copies from me at the enclosed addresses. Donald E. Donner, P.O. Box 1335, Newport, WA 99156

My book is \$ 15.00 + \$5.00 S&H.

Thank you for your interest in my story."

2

### **A Death March and Nightmares** **"MEMORANDUM"**

It should hereby be noted that this TRUE story was written in 1963, from notes made while a Prisoner Of War, and shortly after my release from North Korean Forces.

At the time I completed the original text, I viewed as just another War story, and perhaps of little interest to most people, so I put it away or rather my wife did, and in time it faded from my thoughts.

Then in time, children came to me and asked to interview me about my experiences during the Korean War as school projects. They all told me that there wasn't much information available concerning the Korean conflict.

As my Grand Children, and other people's children, came to me with the same request as my Children had, I began to realize that this experience had to be told. It was true not much was ever written about this "**FORGOTTEN WAR**", and now with Great Grand Children nearing school age, I felt compelled to leave this legacy to them and other children, while I still can.

It is so asinine, that those of us who lived this nightmare must also be the ones to preserve for posterity the truth of what happened there.

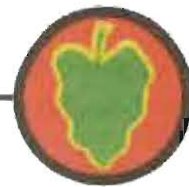
My wife, Barbara, to whom I have been married for over 46 years has also encouraged me to rewrite the old, time worn manuscript that she has saved all these years.

Our Children, who said, "I never talked much to them of my experiences", now eagerly await the chance to learn what actually happened there.

It is my hope that all who read this manuscript will better understand the price American fighting men pay to keep us free.

*Freedom Is Not Free  
Donald E. Donner*

# 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  
**24<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup> or was ATTACHED TO THE 24<sup>th</sup>

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:  
"24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association"  
Mail with this completed application to:  
Donald E. Maggio  
Secretary/Treasurer  
24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association  
631 Concord Rd  
Fletcher, NC 28732-9736

Recommended By: \_\_\_\_\_

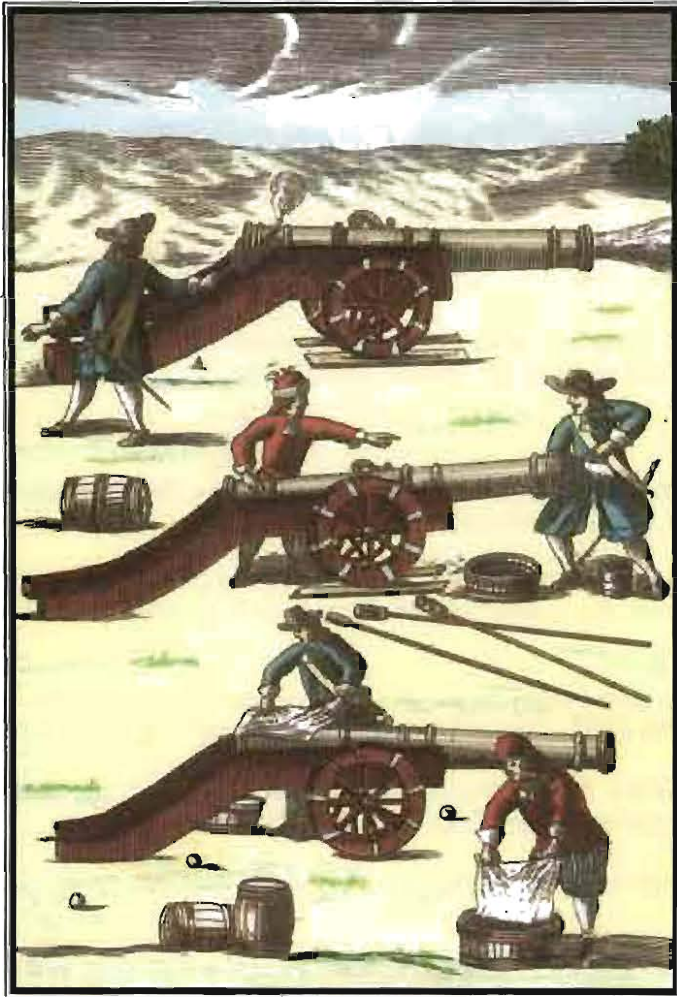


# A Page For Artillerymen

(All others may politely ignore)

## *"Service Of The Piece, 14th Century"*

(Germany)



A. To fire the weapon correctly, the Gunner holds the Igniter in his right hand, his back toward the gun, and his weight on his left foot. His head is turned toward the gun so that he may fire it upon command. After lighting the gun he turns on his left foot to shield himself from the blast and recoil -- but he must also be 'at the ready' to prepare for the next shot.

B. The biggest concern is that the gun is cooled down correctly, especially if the gun is in continuous service. Correct cooling will insure that the barrel does not crack or explode. Without cooling the gun must rest for one hour after every ten shots. But with proper cooling this can be exceeded to 30 shots in one hour.

C. To cool the gun, stuff the Vent and elevate the gun slightly. Pour water into the muzzle. The water must reach the powder chamber. The gun may also be cooled by soaking sheepskins and laying them over the barrel. The very best thing for cooling is a mixture of 2 measures of wine vinegar into 4 parts of water.

It must be remembered that at this time Artillerymen were not part of the regular forces. They were Guildsmen who built their own cannons, made their own powder/shot, and hired and trained the gun crews. They would demonstrate to the King or Nobleman what they had and what they could do. Only after a contract was worked out did they go to war. The regular soldiers looked upon them with ridicule and hate. If a "Campfollower" was known to have had "relations" with a Gunner she was thereafter shunned by all regular soldiers. Thus, "Son of a Gunner" meant your mother was a prostitute and your father was an Artilleryman -- no greater insult was possible.

*David Nelson*

# Chaplin's Corner

## The True Story of An Old Soldier and His Friend Pete

This time, St. Peter wasn't taking no for an answer.

Maybe the Pearly Gatekeeper finally got as tired of making the invitation as the old soldier was of fending them off.

Perhaps the soldier, like the old cats that stretched out to catch the warmth of that spring morning in his back yard, just flat ran out of lives.

Perhaps, he thought, while the world was absorbed in the tragedy of Schiavo and the pageantry of papal succession, he might do what all good soldiers are supposed to do - just fade away.

But he didn't fade. That never was his style. He seemed to enjoy stringing Pete along, a little bit of drama in a world that had shrunk from the wild blue yonder to the dull beige walls of his room.

The soldier and Pete had known each other a long time. The first time they met, Pete was peeking through the cockpit of his B-17 as Foke-Wulfs riddled the fuselage deep over Germany. The soldier was too busy fighting the Luftwaffe and the balky controls, holding the shuddering hulk level long enough for his crew to bail out. He rode the plane down, trading the fiery wreck for biting cold and the suffering of a stalag.

Pete went home impressed. This man had a lot more fighting to do.

Over the years, he'd check in on the soldier occasionally. Long and lanky before that, he was downright skeleton-ish by the time he got home. Even after he regained his weight, cold weather still chewed through him.

So Pete bided his time, dropping by on occasion.

Once the soldier lingered near death after a stint as Santa nearly became a holiday horror story. Errant candles ignited the soldier's Santa suit. "Ready to go?" Pete asked. "Nope. Not yet," the soldier said.

Another time, he was nearly killed by his own car. He slipped on a patch of ice - another unkind gift of winter - and laid in unceasing agony for months. Pete no doubt figured by now the soldier was ready to pack it up and move along now. "Nope. Not yet."

His mobility, his health, his friends all began to pass. He spent more time in bed, in hospitals, lingering near the door where Pete kept a patient vigil. But for whatever reason, the soldier decided he wasn't finished fighting. Nope, not yet.

A few weeks ago, a bunch of friends and well-wishers held a 90th birthday for him. It was, they said, the best he had looked in a long time. They talked about his life, all the people he had touched, the difference he had made.

The soldier, the fighter, finally seemed at peace. A few days later, Pete knocked quietly at the door one more time. "That was a nice party," Pete said. "Yep."

"You really have made a difference in a lot of lives over the years. I'm glad you told me to take a hike back in Germany." "Yep."

"Can you think of anything else you'd like to take care of down here?" The soldier paused, looking at the IVs and monitors, catheters and prescription pills that had become his constant companions. "Nope."

"Well, then," Pete said. "It's a gorgeous morning. I guess you wouldn't mind if we went outside."

He stuck out his hand. One more time, the old soldier hesitated ... just an instant. Old habits, you know. Then he took St. Peter's hand. A firm handshake, as would befit an old friend.

*And one more time, he went flying.*

By Chick Jacobs, Staff writer  
The Fayetteville Observer, Fayetteville, North Carolina  
NC's Oldest Newspaper, Established 1816



Chick Jacobs can be reached at [jacobsc@fayettevillenc.com](mailto:jacobsc@fayettevillenc.com) or 910-486-3515.

## Open Letter to all members of the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association

Dear Taro Leafers,

There are some very serious Questions, unkind Remarks and Rumors floating throughout our Association Membership. We use Email, phones, letters, travel and any other ways available to keep in touch with each other. Actually, *keeping all of us in contact with each other*, finding old friends, sometimes foxhole buddies, sharing memories and keeping our history a living thing is the primary the primary goal of this Taro Leaf Editor.

While all subjects are open for debate and individual opinions, the subject of this article is:

### **The Verbeck Bowl Award.**

All who read the Taro Leaf know the history and importance of the Verbeck Bowl Award, so I need not go into the story except to say that it is an honor given each year to a member who has proven to be worthy, by his deeds, actions and leadership abilities, thereby keeping the Spirit of the 24<sup>th</sup> IDA Alive and Well.

A committee chooses the Honoree, using information and nominations from the members. *Before September 2003*, the President would ask a former recipient of the bowl to chair the committee and choose his own committee members. *Since September 2003*, the president has selected the chairman and *all* committee members. This change has caused some dissension, and harsh words from both sides. A change, for the sake of change, never improves a situation. Interpretations of rules vary, even in our highest courts. Major change to standard procedures should be directed to, and discussed by the Executive Board and brought up for vote by Board Members, rather than decided and implemented by a single person or group of persons without the authority to do so.

Let us, as Taro Leafers, put aside our differences and build an ever-greater 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association.

Billy Johnson  
Editor, 24<sup>th</sup> IDA Taro Leaf

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### Verbeck Bowl Committee

#### Verbeck Bowl Chairman

Donald J. Lloyd  
Vice President 24<sup>th</sup> IDA

#### Committee Members

John E. Klump – Past President 1977–1978 and 1985 Verbeck Award Recipient  
William H. Muldoon – Past President 1970–1971 and 2004 Verbeck Award Recipient  
Ben Wahle – 2003 Verbeck Award Recipient  
William F. Boyden – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President 24<sup>th</sup> IDA  
Keith R. Hagen – Life Member  
Roger C. Mitten – 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



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*The bill (next page), HR 2369, Honor our Fallen Prisoner of War Heroes, was introduced into the House of Representatives on 16 May 2005. Please give this the widest dissemination possible and hopefully you will publish it in the Taro Leaf.*

*This is a grass roots effort started by Shorty Estabrook, Life Member and formerly with B/19/24 and a POW for 37 months and 13 days. 59% of his group of POWs, now called the Tiger Survivors died in captivity.*

*Thanks a lot  
Shorty the Tiger*

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**Dear Tiger Survivors, next of Kin and Ex POWs all wars, veterans, friends, members of the 24th Infantry Division and the 24<sup>th</sup> IDA;**

I am respectfully requesting your support in getting House Resolution (HR) 2369, ***"Honoring Our Fallen Prisoners of War Act,"*** introduced into the Senate as a Companion Bill.

The Gallant American Prisoners of War, who died in enemy captivity over the years, can no longer speak for themselves. As such, it is left to us (the living) to champion their cause.

Our Prisoners of War who died in enemy captivity gave their last full measure of devotion to *Our Nation* and her people. And even while serving as POWs, these courageous souls never gave up the fight and maintained their patriotism and dedication at the cost of their own lives! "Let us now speak up for them with our remembrance and appreciation for their supreme sacrifice!"

I am taking the liberty of enclosing herein a copy of a bi-partisan bill that was introduced on 16 May of this year by Congressman Bob Filner of California. I sincerely hope that after you read this worthwhile legislation, you too will lend your support to our efforts in getting this Bill [HR 2369] ***"HONORING OUR FALLEN PRISONERS OF WAR ACT"*** passed into law!

**I URGE YOU TO CALL YOUR REPRESENTATIVES and SENATORS** asking them to co sponsor this bill in the House or introduce it into the Senate as a companion bill. ***It is important that you act now as all of our Senators and Representatives have been sent this bill!***

Again, this Legislation would finally grant (long overdue) recognition in the form of a **Posthumous Purple Heart Medal** to our courageous men and women in uniform who expired while in enemy captivity (7 December 1941 to the present, and indeed, even into the future)!

We would greatly appreciate your help in this effort, and know that you too share in our gratitude for the supreme sacrifices made by America's Prisoner of War, especially those who died while being held captive under often-brutal circumstances!

Sincerely,

Brenda and Rick Tavares (Relatives of Corporal Melvin H. Morgan, a Prisoner of War who died of starvation & beatings in captivity in North Korea, 12/6/1950, age 20)

And Wilbert (Shorty) Estabrook (Ex-Prisoner of War in North Korea) Founder of the Tiger Survivors and author of this bill.

## **Honor Our Fallen Prisoners of War Act (Introduced in House)**

HR 2369 IH

109th CONGRESS

1st Session

H. R. 2369

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the Purple Heart to be awarded to prisoners of war who die in captivity under circumstances not otherwise establishing eligibility for the Purple Heart.

### **IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

May 16, 2005

Mr. FILNER (for himself and Mr. MCNULTY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

#### **A BILL**

To amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the Purple Heart to be awarded to prisoners of war who die in captivity under circumstances not otherwise establishing eligibility for the Purple Heart.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

#### **SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.**

**This Act may be cited as the 'Honor Our Fallen Prisoners of War Act'.**

#### **SEC. 2. AWARD OF PURPLE HEART FOR PRISONERS OF WAR WHO DIE IN CAPTIVITY.**

(a) Persons not Otherwise Eligible for the Purple Heart- Chapter 57 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

Sec. 1135. Purple Heart: members who die while prisoners of war that are not otherwise eligible under the circumstances causing death

(a) For purposes of the award of the Purple Heart, the Secretary concerned shall treat a member of the armed forces described in subsection (b) in the same manner as a member who is killed or wounded in action as the result of an act of an enemy of the United States.

(b) A member described in this subsection is a member who dies in captivity under circumstances establishing eligibility for the prisoner-of-war medal under section 1128 of this title but not under circumstances establishing eligibility for the Purple Heart.

(c) This section applies to members of the armed forces who die on or after December 7, 1941. In the case of a member who dies as described in subsection (b) on or after December 7, 1941, and before the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary concerned shall award the Purple Heart under subsection (a) in each case which is known to the Secretary before the date of the enactment of this section or for which an application is made to the Secretary in such manner as the Secretary requires.

(b) Clerical Amendment- The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

1135. Purple Heart: members who die while prisoners of war that are not otherwise eligible under the circumstances causing death.

**NOTE: It only takes a post card or a phone call to help support HR 2369 IH. Contact your State's Representatives, Today! ~ Editor**

## ***CARRY ON, SMALL WORLD!***

Reprinted from the IMJIN LINE

GORDON SMITH and I went to the D-DAY Military Vehicle Festival on the occasion of it first being moved from Southsea to Denmead near Waterlooville.

We were strolling around the stalls when we spotted a stallholder wearing a Korean Vets baseball cap, naturally we went up to speak to him and found he was Albert Guerrio, a Native American who had served in the USAAF, WW2, Korea and Vietnam, he'd married a English girl and had settled down in South Ruislip.

When Albert found we had served in Korea he told us the following story...I was on one airfield in the early days of the Korean War, and we were being hard pressed at the time and we were told we would have to provide for our own defense until relieved by British troops later that day, I didn't even know that there were any British troops in Korea and as the day wore on I was beginning to doubt that there was any, then someone called out 'Listen, what's that strange noise?' I listened and having been in Britain during WW2 knew what it was. "It's the British, and they're Scotties!" I cried out, and sure enough, a few minutes later, down the track came a line of British soldiers headed by a BAGPIPER!"

Gordon, who had been with the ARGYLLS in Korea, late 1950's and was listening intently, then asked Albert "Was this near Taegu, about the first week of September?"

"Yes, it was", replied Albert, to which Gordon exclaimed "Well then. I was one of those Scotties!" Albert was over the moon with this, pumping Gordon's hand and slapping his back "Boy, was we glad to see you!"

We gave Albert information on BKVA, and his wife who was present thought it would be a good thing for him to join, but sadly we never did hear from him.

**Time to check  
your Dues Date!**

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### ***MORE CARRYING ON SMALL WORLD!***

Having been given the book PEGASUS BRIDGE as a Christmas present I recalled a time that I was looking around the ROYAL SIGNALS Museum during the RSA weekend at Blandford Camp and was in the company of ARTHUR STONE, West Middlesex BKVA and former Airborne Signals WW2, Arthur had dropped into France in the early hours of D-Day, 6.6.1944 with 5th. Independent Brigade with orders to strengthen the perimeter around the glider seized bridges at Ranville, now known as PEGASUS BRIDGE.

We were looking at the model of the bridge (There's a similar one in the PARA Museum at Aldershot) which depicts the moment, Airborne Signals Corporal 'Darkie' WALTERS dashed across the bridge, laying the first land line between the two banks, a feat for which he was later awarded the MM.

Arthur was explaining to me what was happening when I asked, "Where were you whilst this was going on?" Arthur pointed to the painted backdrop of the model." In those trees, by the crashed gliders which had landed with the chaps who first took the bridges."

With that, a member of a nearby group, looked round and in a very deep, distinctive voice with a Lancashire accent and exclaimed, "If you were in those trees, then I must know you!"

Arthur's reply " I know that voice, its Lofty, the Liverpool policeman!" Lofty, for indeed it was him, laughed "Well, Southport, actually" and he and Arthur went on to further establish identities and found that they had last seen each other on returning from Palestine in 1947/48.

Amazing, that I should have asked that question at that particular moment, wasn't it?

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*The 'Carry On Small World' article first appeared in IMJIN LINE a British paper in response to mail about a previous article, 'It's a Small World'. Send your stories of chance encounters to Editor of the Taro Leaf. Maybe we can get enough to make this a regular feature. ~ Billy*



Below is a copy of a letter that won a competition in UK as complaint letter of the year

Complaint Letter of the Year. The British do have a way with words...  
(A real-life customer complaint letter -- sent to NTL Complaint's Department)

Dear Cretins,

I have been an NTL customer since 9<sup>th</sup> July 2001, when I signed up for your 3-in-one deal for cable TV, cable modem, and telephone. During this three-month period I have encountered inadequacy of service, which I had not previously considered possible, as well as ignorance and stupidity of monolithic proportions. Please allow me to provide specific details, so that you can either pursue your professional prerogative, and seek to rectify these difficulties – or more likely (I suspect) so that you can have some entertaining reading material as you while away the working day smoking B & H and drinking vendor-coffee on the bog in your office:

My initial installation was cancelled without warning, resulting in my spending an entire Saturday sitting on my fat arse waiting for your technician to arrive. When he did not arrive, I spent a further 57 minutes listening to your infuriating hold music, and the even more annoying Scottish robot woman telling me to look at your helpful Web site...HOW?

I alleviated the boredom by playing with my testicles for a few minutes – an activity at which you are no-doubt both familiar and highly adept. The rescheduled installation then took place some two weeks later, although the technician did forget to bring a number of vital tools – such as a drill-bit, and his cerebrum. Two weeks later, my cable modem had still not arrived. After 15 telephone calls over 4 weeks my modem arrived.... six weeks after I had requested it, and begun to pay for it.

I estimate your Internet server's downtime is roughly 35% of the hours between about 6pm – midnight, Mon-Fri, and most of the weekend. I am still waiting for my telephone connection. I have made 9 calls on my mobile to your no-help line, and have been unhelpfully transferred to a variety of disinterested individuals, who are it seems also highly skilled bullock jugglers.

I have been informed that a telephone line is available (and someone will call me back); that no telephone line is available (and someone will call me back); that I will be transferred to someone who knows whether or not a telephone line is available (and then been cut off); that I will be transferred to someone (and then been redirected to an answer machine informing me that your office is closed); that I will be transferred to someone and then have been redirected to the irritating Scottish robot woman...and several other variations on this theme.

Doubtless you are no longer reading this letter, as you have at least a thousand other dissatisfied customers to ignore, and also another one of those crucially important testicle-moments to attend to. Frankly I don't care; it's far more satisfying as a customer to voice my frustrations in print than to shout them at your unending hold music. Forgive me, therefore, if I continue.

I thought BT were s---, that they had attained the holy p---pot of God-awful customer relations, that no-one, anywhere, ever, could be more disinterested, less helpful or more obstructive to delivering service to their customers. That's why I chose NTL, and because, well there isn't anyone else is there? How surprised I therefore was, when I discovered to my considerable dissatisfaction and disappointment, what a useless shower of bastards you truly are. You are sputum-filled pieces of distended rectum incompetents of the highest order.

British Telecom – wankers though they are – shine like brilliant beacons of success, in the filthy puss-filled mire of your seemingly limitless inadequacy. Suffice to say that I have now given up on my futile and foolhardy quest to receive any kind of service from you. I suggest that you cease any potential future attempts to extort payment from me for the services which you have so pointedly and catastrophically failed to deliver – any such activity will be greeted initially with hilarity and disbelief quickly be replaced by derision, and even perhaps bemused rage. I enclose two small deposits, selected with great care from my cats litter tray, as an expression of my utter and complete contempt for both you and your pointless company. I sincerely hope that they have not become desiccated during transit – they were satisfyingly moist at the time of posting, and I would feel considerable disappointment if you did not experience both their rich aroma and delicate texture. Consider them the very embodiment of my feelings towards NTL, and its worthless employees.

Have a nice day – may it be the last in your miserable short life, you irritatingly incompetent and infuriatingly unhelpful bunch of twats.

John

*Submitted By ~ Joe McKeon, 19<sup>th</sup> Jan*

## DOD BRAC PROPOSAL CALLS FOR CREATION OF ARMY 'CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE'

The Army will draw on the Pentagon's Base Realignment and Closure recommendations to create "centers of excellence" that consolidate efforts and coordinate doctrine and training, the service said last week.

The BRAC recommendations include calls for the closure of 15 active-duty Army installations, including Ft. Monroe, VA, Ft. Monmouth, NJ and Ft. McPherson, GA.

Ft. Monmouth is home to the Communications-Electronics Command; Ft. McPherson is the home of the Army's Forces Command; and Ft. Monroe is where Training and Doctrine Command is located.

The Army also plans to create two new entities -- the Maneuver Center of Excellence and the Net Fires Center, which will support the service's future plans for a lighter, more agile force that relies on networked communications to call in fire support.

The Maneuver Center would be positioned at Ft. Benning, GA, and would combine the base's existing Infantry Center with the Armor Center and School from Ft. Knox, KY, according to the Pentagon's BRAC recommendations.

Consolidating the Infantry and Armor One Station Unit Training together at one base will reduce the number of basic training locations and will assist ground forces training and doctrine development, the Pentagon said.

Although Ft. Knox is slated to lose the Armor Center, it would pick up an infantry brigade combat team, as well as troops from Europe and Korea, according to the BRAC proposal.

A similar realignment is slated for Ft. Bliss, TX, and Ft. Sill, OK. Ft. Sill, according to the Pentagon, could relocate an artillery brigade to Ft. Bliss, but it would also become home to the "Net Fires Center," to be created by combining the Air Defense Artillery School with the Artillery School at Ft. Sill. The number of workers at Ft. Sill would increase by 3,602, according to a statement from Ft. Sill.

Additional consolidations to assist with training include a Combat Service Support Center at Ft. Lee, VA, to be created by the consolidation of the Transportation, Quartermaster and Ordnance centers and schools; a realignment that would combine the Aviation Logistics School with the Aviation Center and School at Ft. Rucker, AL; and the movement of the "Prime Power School" under the Maneuver Support Center at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO.

According to the Pentagon's plans, announced May 13, Ft. Monmouth's current operations would be scattered among many different locations. The program executive office for command, control and communications-tactical would move to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, according to Army spokeswoman Maj. Desiree Wineland. The Joint Network Management Systems program office would be transferred to Ft. Meade, MD, and the program manager's office for enterprise information systems would shift to Ft. Belvoir, VA, where the program executive office for EIS is located, she said.

The Ft. Monmouth closure recommendation provoked an outcry from New Jersey legislators who lauded the base for its work developing anti-improvised explosive device technologies and said they were disappointed the Pentagon had ignored its value to national security.

"I am sorely disappointed with this list, and I will fight like hell to change it," Rep. Rush Holt (D) said in a statement.

With the closure of Ft. McPherson, FORSCOM would be moved to Pope Air Force Base, NC, where a large concentration of operational forces are located, according to DOD's recommendations. Pope also is close to the Army's Ft. Bragg, home of the 18th Airborne Corps.

The Ft. McPherson closure recommendation provoked a mixed reaction among Georgia politicians. Rep. David Scott (D), who represents the district where Ft. McPherson is located, issued a statement condemning the closure. But Brian Robinson, a spokesman for Rep. Lynn Westmoreland (R), who represents a neighboring district that also is home to Ft. Benning, said that economic losses spawned by Ft. McPherson's closure would be offset somewhat by the growth of Ft. Benning, which is part of the Pentagon's plans, and would open up prime Atlanta real estate for redevelopment.

Ft. Benning, which is slated to grow as a result of the BRAC recommendations and gain the new Maneuver Center, will continue to be "a shining star," Robinson said.

Ft. Monroe is slated for closure as well, which would uproot TRADOC as well as the northeast regional headquarters for the Installation Management Agency. TRADOC headquarters would be moved to Ft. Eustis, VA, leaving them within commuting distance of the headquarters for U.S. Joint Forces Command, which is located in Norfolk, VA, the recommendations said.

"TRADOC's core missions will remain the same, even if the locations of where we conduct our business changes," said TRADOC spokesman Greg Mueller.

Redstone Arsenal, AL, came out of the round of BRAC recommendations as a potential winner. The base could become the home of a Joint Center for Rotary Wing Air Platform RDT&E, gain Missile Defense Agency and Space and Missile Defense Command activities and assume a recruiting brigade from Ft. Gillem, GA, which is on the recommended closure list, according to a statement from Redstone.

The base would shed a robotics program that could be consolidated with the program executive office for ground combat systems in suburban Michigan. The recommendations for Redstone also call for the move of its Information Systems Development and Acquisition office to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, and a shift of the Missiles and Munitions Center to Ft. Lee, VA. The latter move would bring together combat service support training and doctrine development in one location, the statement said.

Now that the Pentagon has issued its recommendations to the BRAC commission, its members will review them over the next few months and develop its own list to be forwarded to President Bush by Sept. 8. The president will have until Sept. 23 to accept or reject the recommendations, and if they are accepted, he will send them to Capitol Hill, Congress will have 45 legislative days to reject or accept the entire package.

— Jen DiMascio, ITA May 16, 2005

Submitted By ~ Jim Hill, 19<sup>th</sup> Inf.

*This explanation is from my niece Patricia's daughter, Julie Mullholland, who was an actual witness to the Tsunami. Thank GOD she survived. ~ Commish – Gerry*

To all of my dear friends and family,

I cannot even attempt to adequately express how much your numerous phone calls and emails praying for my safe return from Thailand have meant to me. It has been simply overwhelming, and I sincerely apologize for causing any of you to worry about me for even a moment.

Although I have told the story over and over, I know I haven't been able to reach out to everyone personally. As succinctly as I can tell it, this is how it happened. Geoff and I were in Phuket for Christmas, staying at The Chedi hotel, a beautiful resort situated very high on a hill in a cove overlooking the ocean. One of the most beautiful sights you will ever see. At 8:30am on the day after Christmas I felt an earthquake that a Californian wouldn't even bother to wake up for. We went to breakfast like every other morning and then walked down to the beach to relax on a lounge and plan out the day. We noticed right away that the tide had receded very far out, but when you are on the other side of the world you don't know what normal is. There were lots of tourists intrigued by this incredible sandbar and they walked out as far as they could, but instead we chose to simply enjoy the view from afar.

Within minutes, the tide came rolling in without warning and rose up about two feet, catching lots of sunbathers off-guard and the sight of them jumping out of their lounge chairs was almost amusing. The water hit the retaining wall behind us and then retreated as quickly as it came. Yes it was strange, but no one seemed to be anything more than curious. As we walked down the beach to help the local shop that resembled a thatched cottage retrieve sarongs and t-shirts that had floated out to sea, we noticed numerous small holes in the sand (about 3 inches in diameter) and you could feel a blast of cold air emerging from them. It occurred to us that this could be connected to the earthquake that came an hour or so before and looking back, it should have been a cause for concern. Geoff pulled out racks of clothing from the ocean and the last clear memory I have is throwing a parasol onto the beach while the water was lingering around my calves. Within seconds, the water began to rise with an agenda, and although there was no clear tidal wave that we witnessed - it is hard to believe that one didn't exist somewhere. I can't say that I actually sensed life-threatening or imminent danger, but it clicked that my digital camera was in a bag on a ledge that was about 4 feet high and in jeopardy of being washed away. Since it contained the memories of our trip, I ran for it with a mission and was completely focused on saving it. I got ahead of the water for a moment and grabbed the bag without a second to spare, and at this time the water was at least waist-high. People were being tossed around like Styrofoam cups and teak lounges and umbrellas that were essentially unmovable beforehand, flew around like popsicle sticks. I managed to navigate around the fallen trees and make it to the stairs ahead of Geoff. I spotted him immediately in the distance, kids clinging to him like an anchor. I was screaming for him to hurry up so that he could use me as a reference point to safety. When he finally made it to where I was, with the children that could hang on in tow, we ran up the steps as though our lives depended on it, and that was the truth. The water chased us and it didn't seem like a race that we could ever win. We saw it rise over the 30-foot retaining wall, crashing into the pool, as the roofs of the lower bungalows disappeared. It was too frightening to look back at that point and we ran and ran up the hundreds of steps to our villa that had to have been several hundred feet above sea level.

We had no idea of the magnitude of the disaster we had just witnessed or the tragedy that we had just been a part of. You simply could not believe your eyes. Had our hotel not been in a cove and on a huge hill, we wouldn't have stood a chance. It took about a half an hour for the water that had just caused unprecedented life-loss and unsurpassed devastation to dissipate. An hour later, Geoff took a walk around the area of the hotel to gather information and to assess the situation.

What he saw is unprintable, but by now you have all probably seen the disturbing visuals on television continuously and repeatedly. The images are haunting, and not from a standpoint of morbid curiosity, but because the film doesn't lie, and there are human beings in there. It was though the ocean decided to take over the land.

As traumatic as it was, we know that the odds were against us and that we are lucky to be here to tell the story. And most of all, we are grateful to have you in our lives. Thank you for caring. Be as generous as you can afford to be to assist in the recovery efforts. And please don't cross Thailand off your list as a vacation destination. They rely on tourism and it is an amazingly beautiful country filled with friendly and genuine people. Chiang Mai and Koh Samui are not to be missed and completely unaffected by this tragedy. More than 155,000 are confirmed dead and counting. 4,000 Americans are missing. Phi Phi Island is gone. They need our help desperately. \$2.50 is equivalent to 100 baht and can feed an entire family for a week. If you can't count on the ocean to stay put, what can you count on? Each other. Please consider any kind of donation.

With love,  
Julie



## Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

A Big Taro Leaf Welcome to  
Donald E. Maggio, 24th AG, Germany,  
our new Secretary/ Treasurer.

For those of you who had not heard: Due to continuing illness, Norm Dixon resigned as our Secretary/Treasurer in April. Our best wishes and prayers to Norm for a speedy recovery.

Please send Dues, Change of address and Obituary Announcements to our new Secretary/Treasurer at the address below:

Donald E. Maggio  
631 Concord Rd  
Fletcher, NC 28732-9736  
24th AG, Germany, 67-69  
Telephone #: 828-684-5931  
E-mail: tarheeldon0@lycos.com

*We are fortunate to have one of our younger members willing to take on this very important job.*

*~Billy, Editor*

Hi to all Military Retiree's

Thought I would write to tell you of a bill now in the Senate and in the House of Representatives, which may impact you favorably if passed.

These bills are called the "Keep Our Promises to America's Military Act." You might remember a Colonel Day won this battle only to have it retried upon Bush's request and then the Supreme Court upheld the last decision favorable to Bush.

Now this issue has been reborn and in the House it is HB 602 and in the Senate it is S407.

This issue needs your support so do what you know has to be done. Please pass this on to other retired friends of yours and ask them to do likewise.

SFC Shorty Estabrook  
USA Retired 1 Sept 1970  
tigersurvivors@comcast.net

### **Correction to Winter 2005**

I wrote awhile back about my uncle that was in the Korean War. His name was Calvin D. Gamble. The winter 2005 issue has his last name listed as Wentz, that is not correct, it was Gamble, also, he was in E. Co., not B. Co.

Thank you for your time and effort in this matter.

Sincerely,

Darlene Linthicum  
4532 Swift Rd. Apt.102B Sarasota, Fl. 34231, Darlene131@aol.com

Dear Taro Leafers,

Today brought one of those phone calls that make the Editor's job a pleasure! We had a call from Don Hannsen, 34<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup>, who now lives in CA. Don had seen pictures on page 14 of the Winter '05 Taro Leaf which were submitted by Les Johnson, 21<sup>st</sup>. Very simply, Dan wanted to find Les. We were able to provide an IL address and phone number for Les, right then.

*Now! That's what the Taro Leaf is all about.*

*~ Billy, Editor*

On the cover of this issue of the Taro Leaf is the proposed bronze and enamel plaque, designed by Danielle Rickert. It is to be placed in the **National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Oahu Hawaii**. A place called the Punch Bowl. The bronze 2' by 1' plaque will be placed on a piece of granite approximately 2 foot high. Right before printing we received information the design has been approved by the offices of the **National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Oahu Hawaii**.

Memorial Plaque Committee Members:

Chairman: Daniel J. Rickert,  
Treasurer: William F. Boyden,  
Members: Eric Diller  
Kenneth W. Fentner  
Billy Johnson

*Donations should be sent to:*

*William F. Boyden, Committee Treasurer  
P.O. Box 114  
Norton, MA 02766-0114*

*Please make checks payable to:*

*24<sup>th</sup> IDA Memorial Fund*

We would also like to announce that Bill's family has kicked off our fund raising for the plaque with a very generous donation of \$1000.

*~ Billy, Editor*

### **Correction/Addition to the MOH story on the back cover of Winter 2005 Taro Leaf.**

Ben Wahle was Company Commander of G. Co. 34th Inf., and was with Private Moon at the time Harold earned the Medal of Honor during a battle near Leyte. Ben tells us, "I was his Company Commander at the time he was killed on the night of October 21, 1944. We were hit broadside by a Jap Battalion and the battle lasted all night." We regret that we left this important information off the back cover story on Private Harold Moon.

Our sincere apologies go to a true American hero, Ben Wahle. The 24th Infantry Division Association honored Ben with our highest award when they presented the Verbeck Bowl to Ben at the 2003 Reunion in Tucson, AZ

*~ Editor*

## Hear Ye! Hear Ye! (Cont.)

It is times like this that I really hate to send out these messages to the membership.

I have receive word that Ron Hanson, 29th Infantry Regiment and 3rd Engineers who served with the units in Korea 50 - 51 is terminally ill with cancer which has spread to his lungs. I'm sure there are many out there who know Ron and would like to send him a card. Cards can be sent to Ron at:

Ron Hanson  
PO Box 34  
Bagley, MN 56621

My very best wishes to Ron, he doesn't live far from where I was raised in Duluth, MN (Morgan Park) and we had many discussions about the area.  
Wes

## SMALL WORLD

I thought this picture might be worthy of a note in the Taro Leaf, in as much as John Callahan and I live directly across the street from each other here in Ridgecrest



Mobile Home Park in Leesburg, Fl.

I wish more of the guys from 26th AAA would join up with the 24th Association.

Thank you

Very truly yours,

Duane L. Hall  
1637 Blackfoot Court  
Leesburg, F134748  
E-Mail duane32@comcast.net

Clp. Duane L. Hall Battery Clerk and Sgt. John Callahan, Communications Operator. Both of Battery "B" 26<sup>th</sup> AAA Bn in 1953-1954.

## CHECK IT OUT -

PETE & MARY NAPOTE'S 10 GRANDCHILDREN!  
PETE SERVED WITH THE 3<sup>RD</sup> "C" ENG. IN KOREA.



Dear Billy,

I appreciate the content you have for the Spring 2004 issue more than any Taro Leaf that I have received since joining the Association a couple of years ago.

I served as Captain Medical Corps and was Bn. Surgeon for 6<sup>th</sup> Tank Bn. in Korea, January 1951—7 August 1951 when I was transferred back to the occupation of Japan.

I particularly liked:

- 1) Letter of Gen Bryan, Commanding the 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineers. (Gen. Bryan was our General at that time and I realized he was a superb officer)
- 2) Honoring the Fallen Quietly by Evans
- 3) The letter from Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Rowney!!!

At least a "3 Star" letter, my comment

Best wishes,  
Nate Smith

Dr. Nate E. Smith is currently working at the VA Hospital in Winston Salem

Nate,

*Did you know a young Lt. In the 6th Tank by the name of George F. Seiferth?*

~ Billy

The comments you requested are attached. Hope you received my lifetime membership for the 24th Infantry Division Association.

Regards,  
AI

Col AI Aycock  
Garrison Commander  
Fort Bragg

*Col. Aycock's comments about the importance of soldiers writing of their experiences can be found on page 10.*

~Billy

## Hear Ye! Hear Ye! (Cont.)

Dear Mr. Johnson:

My name is Linda Heltemes, and I am a writer.

Currently, I am serving as an assistant to a woman by the name of Merry Helm. Merry has successfully written for various entities--including two screenplays which were made into feature films by two of the three major television networks.

The true story of a warrior by the name of Master Sergeant Woodrow Keeble has come to our attention. Our team is in the process of creating a documentary focusing on M/Sgt Keeble and his actions during WW II and the Korean Conflict with the 19th Infantry Regiment.

Everyone involved with this project feels that it is important to tell the story of M/Sgt Keeble, who was recommended twice for the MOH, but has yet to receive a decision. He passed away several years ago. Our hope is that our documentary will motivate the governmental "powers that be" to take action in awarding M/Sgt Keeble's well-deserved medal.

In reading correspondence between Merry Helm and the soldiers who served with M/Sgt Keeble, the praise and respect expressed for this man continues to amaze me. We have heard from several men who say they owe their lives to him. Even soldiers who do not wish to discuss their personal military experiences seem willing to talk about those involving M/Sgt Keeble. I have never seen such a display of support.

We have been in contact with several wonderful gentlemen from G Co., 19th Infantry, including Jim Cooper and Bill Roseboro. It is Jim Cooper who suggested that we contact you.

We are extremely interested in communicating with people who knew M/Sgt Keeble.

Thank you very much for your consideration. And thank you for your service to our country. I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Linda Heltemes (motorista1@aol.com)

You may Contact Mary Helm at:

Mary Helm

420 8th Avenue South

Fargo, ND 58103

(701) 293-5045

I just want to thank each and every one of you for your thoughtful notes, cards and Emails to me. It really helps to have such wonderful friends and family

The year 2005 is a much kinder and gentle year for us. I had my monthly doctors visit yesterday and the blood tests were good, so I am still in remission from the Multiple Myeloma. Let me hear from you as often as you can; I enjoy the news and updates.

We plan to be in Philadelphia for the reunion.

Sue Hill

Hi to all my 24<sup>th</sup> DIV friends.

I just learned today I had cancer of the right and left lung. My right lung is gone and a 3<sup>rd</sup> of my left one gets air.

Too many smokes I guess. LOL

Tell all I said Hello and I have lived my life the way I wanted to live it.

Most of my friends were killed the 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of July 1950.

Night all,

Robert Hysell

A 34<sup>th</sup> Man.

All. let's send Robert some cards.

~ Billy

I recently send you an article from the Oct 1944 Chicago Tribune regarding the day McArthur "Returned." It must be my "Shell-shocked" mind at 8: as I referred to the group as the 2<sup>nd</sup> BN, when indeed it was the 1<sup>st</sup> BN - Led by Lt. Col. Fred Zierath. A West Point graduate - early 30's. I was BN operation Sgt and spend much time - on and off the "Playing Field" with Col. Zierath. One word was lacking from West Point vocabulary- FEAR - When there was a "commotion" he would stand up to see where it was coming from. I would be on the ground hoping it would go away. My MOS did not qualify for Hero.

Sincerely,

H. Gordon Behrel

HQ Co, 1<sup>st</sup> Bn, 19<sup>th</sup> Inf. 3/44 - 12/45

The article Gordon refers to is on Page 37.

And Gordon, you know you did well. Your MOS was in as much danger as the rest of us.

~ Billy



The sign was installed by the Chamber of Commerce and the Civic Improvement Association Each March 10th William E. Putman rents the sign to display this message. Bill is at 105 S. Calhoun St., Calhoun Falls, SC 29628-1403

Thanks Bill!



## LOOKING FOR BUDDIES

Could you cause the following to be printed in the Taro Leaf under "Looking For"?

I appreciate this.

~Shorty Estabrook

Looking for information regarding a Platoon Sergeant of perhaps the 3rd Platoon of Item Company, 19th Regiment of the 24th Division. He used to wear two six shooters and I believe he was from Texas. If you remember him or myself, Jamie Portillo, please get in touch with me. On April 18th 1951 I was wounded several times for which I was awarded the Purple Heart Medal. Please communicate with me at I'll follow through with any information I can remember that you might need to help locate the sergeant of 3rd Platoon, "I" Company, 19Inf Regiment, 24th Division, April 1951. I was in 2nd Platoon. Talking to Shorty helped jog my memory a bit.

Thanks for your help. JGPortillo

Jamie Portillo, 32015 Via Bonilla, Temecula, CA 92592

E-Mail: jport1934@adelphia.net

Photo L to R

Ed Hiem, of NY, "Lom" Lomnitzien of Conn, Jim Norton of Boston, MA.

"Would it be possible to put photo in Looking for Buddies Page instead of the 34th Page?"

Jim Norton writes, "Need help. St. Louis fire apparently destroyed medical records.

Co "A" 34th & Co "L" 34th 1947 - 1948

When Co "A" was stationed in Kokura (Summer '47) Does anybody remember Jim Norton being on crutches or hospitalized?

Hurt on night problem during bivouac, when

field first Sgt. Henderson sent me and guy from Iowa on diversionary attack on airfield.

After 1st BN deactivation (Fall 1947) sent to "L" Co.

Slept 1st Floor "M" Co side away from ocean.

Squad Leader from (Tenn?) One guy's brother was a full Colonel in the Air Force. Please write or call collect."

Jim Norton

83 Landseen Street

West Roxbury MA 02132

(617) 323-7427



Where did all that hair go?  
~Jim Norton

Please publish this message in the next Taro Leaf.

Betty Campbell Porter is trying to find someone who knew or was with her father, **MSGT Roscoe Campbell**. He served in the 24th Division, 21st Regt.

She was 3 years old when her father was KIA, July 11, 1950 near Chochiwon, South Korea. He was killed the 6th day after they met tanks, and his body was recovered.

Please contact Betty Campbell Porter at 423-542-8667.

Thank you,

Frances Wittman



Brian Koontz Sr. is looking for anyone who knew my Uncle **Cpl. Robert Perez**. He was with Co. G 2nd BN, 5th RCT 24th INF DIV he was wounded in 1950 and



again in April 23, 1951 where he became a POW for 1 and a half years. Enclosed are some pictures of my Uncle and one of his buddies (name unknown). It would be greatly appreciated to hear from anyone who knew him.

Please contact Eric B. Koontz, Sr 1595 Bloom Road Westminster MD 21157 Thank you



Hope this finds you and yours in good health and spirits. In vol.59 No 1 winter 2005 issue I found a familiar name of a engr, from my era. **John Smith Baldwin**. He was the 1st Sergeant of HQ's company. Most of the time the Bn. Aid station traveled with HQ co. during combat, so there was a lot of contact with HQs co. I wonder if you can help me get in touch with him. Any info you can give me, send an e-mail at johnfrie@mwt.net. How is the weather in your area? Finally the snow has melted, all the runoff is gone. The lake finally is clear of ice, sure had a long winter in our part of Wisconsin. Thanks for all the help you can give me. John J. Fecko. Formally of the 3rd Engr C bn. 1942-1945

Hi, Johnsons -from-the-south:

Very good to hear from you. We are enjoying our new computer, but it takes some re-education to learn how to use it.

Very sad to learn of Norm's illness. I thought it was inadvisable for him to keep that job for another year. Very few people know how much work there is to being Sec/Tres. Almost as much as you all do as Editors.

An old army friend from Japan and Korea has asked me if we have an address for: **Richard Stuben**. He is not in the roster I have, but then it is several years old. Maybe you could look at the current mailing list.

Continue to do well here. Every day is a gift. I used to say that a lot, but now I mean it.

Please take care of yourselves. You are special folks.

Dutch

## LOOKING FOR BUDDIES (Cont.)



Rita (West) Myers is looking for information about her father **Richard W. West** Co "F" and Co "I", 21<sup>st</sup> INF around

Nov. 1952 to Sept. 1953. Perhaps in Korea and Japan at Camps Sahimnelpfenning or Younghans. If you remember Richard please contact:

Ms. Rita Myers  
4947 E. State Hwy  
Fair Grove, MO 65648-8363 or Email:  
mamamia88@hotmail.com



Richard W. West

### Guillermo (William) Garcia KIA 9-2-50 3 ENG BN (C) 24th Inf. Div.

I have recently learned that this was my father. I would like someone to tell me something about him if they knew him. I started searching for him and finally found out he was killed in Korea and I have his unit information. He and my mother weren't married. The army shipped him out when I was two months old. I was born in '48. My mother heard from him until mid-'49 and then nothing more. She married someone else and I didn't know about my real father until I was much older. I thought he didn't think about me all these years, or care, now I know why he didn't try to find me. I still have so much to find out about him and any family members I may have. When I saw his name on the Killed in Action list I felt so sad. It's like I'm grieving his loss now even though I didn't know him. He was so young. Thank you for any information you may have.

Nancytdj@aol.com



Clayton Karrigan, 6th Tank, sent a photo of himself with his tank #29. (See regiment page for 6<sup>th</sup> Tank, Pg 32.) Clayton would like to hear from any of the old tankers. Clayton was in Korea 1952 - 1953 with Co "B" up in the Iron Tangle and Kumwa Valley.

Contact: Clayton Karrigan  
P.O. Box 73  
Benson, MN 56215-0073  
Ph (320) 483-4962

Hi, My name is **Robert E. Gregg** I arrived in Sasbo sometime around June 1949. I was assigned to the PX whse. I made many trips to Kokura Japan to pickup supplies from the big PX whse in Kokura for the PX in Sasabo. We rode a train up there and took men from the Co. for guards to guard the boxcars back. Sometime thereafter I was sent to Osaka to PX accountability school. When I finished I came back and was put to work in the main PX in Sasabo. Shortly thereafter I was transferred to Camp Mower where I was put in charge of the bowling alley and horse riding stables. I was to help Sgt. Ralph Vargason in the Camp Mower PX. The PX officer was a Major Dunn. While I was in Sasabo I got to know a Japanese man who worked in the PX by the name of Frank.

He had been a pilot in the Japanese Airforce. (I think) When the 34th Infantry Regiment was called up Major Dunn called me and told me to put all the Yen and Military Money in a foot locker, lock it, and put the key in the safe and lock it up. Then report to L Company. Which I did within the hour. When I reported to L Company, they assigned me to a squad. When we got to Korea we rode a train for 2 to 3 days. I got in my first fire fight on or about the 4th of July, 1950. I was in many fights, including the battle of Taejon. Sometime after that I was transferred to the 24th Div HQ Co. as a driver. The motor pool officer was a Lt. Kessler. The Company Commander was a Capt. Hafman.

The reason for this letter is to find some of the men with whom I served with over there.

Robert E. Gregg  
312 21<sup>st</sup> St. SW  
Hickory, NC 28602-2125

I am writing to seek some information of a friend who is listed as missing in action to date.

My friend's name is Arthur F. Jewett. I notice in the last issue of Taro Leaf his name was listed. "B" Company, 1<sup>st</sup> INF.

I was wondering if you can have a notice posted in the next issue of Taro Leaf to find out if anyone knew him or was well acquainted with him while he was in Korea before he was missing in action.

Thank you.  
Earlwin Oklaire  
Box 967  
Eagle Butte, SD 57625



# 21<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment



Dear Billy.

With Memorial Day coming soon again I thought I'd send you this photo of my back yard memorial maybe you could put it in the next issue of the Taro Leaf. The flags flanking "OLD GLORY" and the POW/MIA are the Army flag and the Korean War Veterans flag, (I had to set them this way because of the trees), the black rock is reminiscent of the mountains of Korea, and as you can see the plaques are for the 21<sup>st</sup> Reg. and the 24<sup>th</sup> ID. as well as the Korean service ribbon It's dedicated to all Taromen and to my brother Gimlets past and present but especially to all the good friends we left behind. Lest we forget.

Hope to see you at the reunion, God bless, best regards, T.J. Nicholas, 21/24

Photo on Left Submitted By ~ T.J. Nicholas, 21<sup>st</sup> Inf.



Les Johnson  
"K" Co  
21<sup>st</sup> INF  
Outpost  
in Korea



24<sup>th</sup> DIV back in Japan at Camp  
Younghans after Korea

N. Korea  
Oct. - Nov. 1951

Les writes, "Some copies of  
pictures from N. Korea and Camp  
Younghans, Japan after Korea."



Photos Submitted By ~ Les Johnson, 21<sup>st</sup> INF

When I returned home from vacation on July 4, 2004, I found a message from Murl Marsh on the answering machine. Murl had called to tell me that he had received the Bronze Star that he had been promised almost 53 years ago for his actions during the assault on Hill 585 during the Korean War.

On October 16, 1951, then Pfc. Murl Marsh was a Combat Medic attached to the 3rd Platoon of George Company, 19th Infantry when he earned the medal that day for removing a wounded, unconscious, rifleman from the top of a bunker still occupied by the enemy. Neither of the individuals involved knew each other that day; almost 50 years would pass before they would meet in Tucson, Arizona at the 24th Infantry Division Association Reunion.

Michael Davitt would later write about the experience.

"I was a rifleman in the 3rd Platoon, George Company, 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division in Korea during Operation Nomad which began on the 13th of October, 1951.

We began moving up the finger leading to main ridge of Hill 585 on October 15th, and encountered a lot of resistance from the enemy, which was in a good defensive position. On the 16th, we were on the main ridge and were attacking an enemy bunker. I had reached the top of the bunker when I came face to face with a Chinese soldier who had come out of the bunker and tossed a grenade at my feet. The grenade went off and I was hit by flying shrapnel. My left calf and the inside of my right thigh sustained the most severe injuries, but I also sustained flesh wounds in my mid-section. I passed out due to the loss of blood, but later was told that someone had call a "Doc", and Pfc. Murl Marsh, showed up and managed to carry me off the bunker and down the ridge, where I was given first aid.

I was carried off the hill to the aid station, and then evacuated to a hospital in Japan. Several months later I was sent stateside." (Michael Davitt Letter dated 1 Jul 03) Following the grenade explosion that wounded Davitt, other members of the squad began shouting for "Doc". Marsh left his position down the ridge and under heavy automatic weapons and rifle fire ran up the ridge to the top of the bunker where Davitt lay unconscious and bleeding out from his wounds. Marsh then picked up Davitt, slung him over his shoulder, and then ran back down the ridge under heavy enemy fire to a position of relative safety. Marsh then administered medical aid to Davitt.

In looking at the photo taken in September 2003, it is hard to believe that Marsh, on the left, could pickup a taller, unconscious, Davitt and run down the ridge that day so long ago. While the affects of age and gravity have changed both of the men, the lesson to be remembered is that under the stress of battle men have shown both moral courage and physical strength.

On Friday July 2, 2004, there was an awards ceremony at VFW Post 1247 in Grand Junction Colorado. Brigadier General Harry Hagaman, USMC, Retired; presented Marsh with a Bronze Star Medal for his actions on 16 October 1951. During the same ceremony, four other men from World War II and Vietnam received long overdue recognition of their actions.

Marsh appreciates the efforts of Frank Plata, Platoon Sergeant/Leader, of the 3rd Platoon, George Company, 19th Infantry who finally located Michael Davitt. Congressman Scott McInnis provided assistance and moved the process along for Marsh and the other four veterans who were recognized on 2 July 1951.

I have enclosed a copy of the photo of Marsh and Davitt taken at the Reunion.

Regards

*Larry Gay*

Larry Gay

George Company, 19<sup>th</sup> Infantry



Murl Marsh

Michael Davitt

Larry,

*It is a pleasure when I receive letters like this. What soldiers do in combat; can't be understood, except by another combat soldier. Thank you for sending the story in.*

*~ Billy, Editor*



# TARO LEAF TAPS

## 3rd Engineers "Combat" Bn.

James V. Dalev

## 13th Field Artillery

Edward Clark Smith

Bury Me Amongst The Soldiers

Bury me amongst the Soldiers  
On that land where Crosses stand in line  
And perpetual care will be  
given me until the very end  
of time  
Bury me amongst the soldiers  
Where on Resurrection Day I  
will be with my friends  
Put all of us war soldiers  
together and into Heaven let  
us ascend

Bury me amongst the soldiers  
for with them I died before  
Let my grave be a peaceful  
place away from the guns of war

*Joseph A Langone / Copyright 2005*

## 11th Field Artillery

Joseph Harper Hodges  
James J. Snyder

## 5th RCT

Perry Lawson  
Arthur Schremser

## 19th Infantry Regiment

Nobel I. Ayers, Jr.  
Joseph S. Barto  
Alfred Freeman  
Donald Hahn  
Levon H. Marshall

Gerald James McHugh  
Leo J. Puffer  
William A. Savell  
Henry H. Wintczak

## 34th Infantry Regiment

Modester B. Duncan  
John Rounds  
Hurdis Earl Wise

## 21st Infantry Regiment

Robert G. Charvat  
Harold J. Dethlefsen  
Hervcy J. LeBoeuf  
James O. Keagy  
Douglas L. Stokes, Sr.  
Avery C. Vogt

## 24th Medical Bn.

Joshua W. Weiner, MD

## 24th Division HQ

Richard E. Reinke

## 24th Band

Gilbert Willman

## Unknown Unit

Bobby E. Parrish

*Dear Tigers, Next of Kin, Honorary Tigers and Friends:*

*Larry Zellers informed me today of the Promotion to Glory of Father Philip Crosbie (Bing) in his native Australia on Tuesday 22nd of March 2005 at age 89.*

*Father Crosbie was with the group of Civilian Internees that were held with the Tiger Survivors in Korea. He was arrested on 6 July 1950 and was interrogated by the Tiger a few days later in a local jail.*

*Father Crosbie was held under house arrest by the Japanese Army when the Second World War began and was soon deported to Australia. He returned to Korea and his parish soon after the war.*

*Father Crosbie wrote a book that came out in three different titles. March Till They Die, Three Winters Cold and Pencilling Prisoner. It is a most accurate account of what happened to our group.*

*Even with the cold climate in Korea and the many many years that he served there Father Crosbie had a long life and was a dear friend to us all. He had a quick wit about him and suffered long and hard as a Civilian Internee Tiger Survivor.*

*So we think of you now Father Crosbie, Catholics and Protestant and Muslim alike. We miss you so very much.*

*Love to All,*

*Shorty Estabrook*

*Founder of the Tiger Survivors*



## 11<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery

### Joseph Harper Hodges *(Photo on Right)*

Col. Hodges, 91, died 29 January 2005. He graduated from the US Military Academy in 1937. He was stationed on Oahu, HI during the attack on Pearl Harbor. He served in the Southeast Pacific through WWII. He earned Silver and Bronze Stars, Legion of Merit, Air Medal and seven Campaign Medals. He was Commander of the 11<sup>th</sup> FA. He is survived by Barbara, his wife of 53 years, a daughter and two sons. The Hodges Family, 75 Myrtle Bank Rd, Hilton Head Is. SC 29926-1870. George King of "B" Battery said, "Joe was a Gentleman and a damn fine Commander."

Joseph Harper Hodges



### James J. Snyder

James, 83, passed away on May 17, 2004. Jim served in both WWII and Korea. He was in Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941 and was a member of the 24<sup>th</sup> ID and the Pearl Harbor Associations. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Rochelle, three children and two grandchildren. Cards may be sent to the family at 9430 E. Desert Lakes Drive, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248.

## 13<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery

### Edward Clark Smith

Clark Smith, 73, 1106 Ousleydale Rd., Hartsville, SC, Service Battery, 13th Field Artillery Battalion, Korea August - October 54, died 26 March 2005 as reported by his daughter Karla Tompkins. He served during Desert Storm.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> "C" Engineers

### James V. Daley

James wife Ellen wants the group to know that he passed away 18 December 2004. He was with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Eng. in Korea. Family address: 10 Meadow Road, Poughkeepsie NY. 12603-2512

## 5th RCT

### Perry Lawson

Died October 2000

### Arthur Schremser

Arthur's daughter, Jeanette Kilyanck, has told us that her father died 22 April 2005.

## 19<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment

### Noble I. Ayers Jr.

Died 16 August 2003. Notice sent by his son David Ayers.

### Joseph S. Barto

Died 18 Mar 2005. Joe served in Korea and Japan 1951 and 1952. Co. M 19th Inf

### Alfred Freeman

Alfred passed away 25 May 2005

### Donald Hahn *(Photo on Right)*

Received the information that Donald Hahn, 73, Life Member, D/34th-19th Inf died Monday Morning, February 21, 2005, while hospitalized in Cincinnati. "A lot of people could win medals, and their characters weren't the best," said Jesse Gonzalez, who served in Korea with Hahn. "But Hahn was a guy you could always count on. He had character." Cards can be sent to the family of Donald Hahn, 8520 County Trwnk, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494. (Wes)



Donald Hahn

### Levon H. Marshall

Levon passed away 20 August 2003



## 19<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (Cont.)

### Gerald James McHugh

James, 74, lived in Carson City NV for 33 years before his death on 28 July 2004. He was an SFC with HQ Co Platoons "R" and "I".

### Leo J. Puffer (Photo on Right)

Leo was 87 when he passed away 23 July 2004. He joined the army in January 1942, June '42 found him on his way to the Philippines, then to Australia. He was in the 19<sup>th</sup> Inf, which was already overseas, when the war began. This was under General MacArthur's command. Next, New Guinea, and he took part in the Leyte landing. He spent 39 months of his 42 months in the army on overseas duty



Leo J. Puffer

### William A. Savell

With sad hearts we write to inform you of the passing of another lifetime member. William A. (Al) Savell went to be with his Lord on March 23rd. He served the 24th with the 19<sup>th</sup> infantry in the South-West Pacific during WW11. His wife Irene, of 42 yrs, 6 children, 16 grandchildren and 1 great grand daughter, survives him.

He loved God, family and country and the 24th was always close to his heart. During his decline he enjoyed receiving the Taro Leaf so much. Cards may be sent to 12651 Seminold Blvd. #12N, Largo FL 33778.

### Henry H. Wintczak

Henry H. Wintczak, 2106 Atchison Avenue, Whiting, IN, HQ, 3rd Bn, 19th Inf, 23 August 50 - 8 August 51, died 12 April 2005, as reported by his wife Agnes.

## 21<sup>st</sup> Infantry Regiment

### Robert G. Charvat

Have just received word another Association member has passed away. Robert G. Charvat passed away on December 12, 2004, in Toledo, OH. Cards can be sent to his widow Nancy J. Charvat at 5535 Douglas Rd, Apt #1, Toledo, OH 43613-2053

### Harold J. Dethlefsen

Harold died 7 January 2005

### Hervey J. LeBoeuf

Lee, 87, passed away 8 January 2005. He was commissioned as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in 1942. He rose to the rank of LTC early in his military career, serving with the 24<sup>th</sup> ID in the 21<sup>st</sup> Inf. Regt. and the US Army Corps of Engineers, in both the Pacific and European Theater in WWII and in Korea.

### James O. Keagy

Sorry to report the passing of James O. Keagy, 21st Infantry, WWII on March 19, 2005. I have entered him on the Honor Roll. Cards may be sent to his widow Florence Keagy, 153 S. Spencer Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46219-6321.

### Douglas L. Stokes Sr.

Douglas died 23 February 2005

### Avery C. Vogt

Avery Vogt, 80, died 29 May 2004 at Saint Angelo TX. He had served from 9 March 1944 to 25 January 1946. He served as a Staff Sergeant with the 24<sup>th</sup> during the occupation of Japan.

## 24<sup>th</sup> Band

### Gilbert Willman

Gilbert A. Willman, 1111 Washington Avenue, Seymour, IN, 24th Band, Korea April 50-July 50, died 28 March 2005 as reported by his wife Mary.



## 24<sup>th</sup> Medical Battalion

### Joshua H. Weiner MD

Joshua died 10 March 2005

## 24<sup>th</sup> Division Headquarters

### Richard E. Reinke

Col Reinke passed away 7 March 2005. He was 97 years old.

## 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment

### Modester B. Duncan

M/Sgt Duncan, K. 34<sup>th</sup> died 19 August 2004. Paul J. Cain, Sgt. Duncan's Plt. Leader on Leyte, PI received this information from Sgt. Duncan's daughter.

### John Rounds

John Sergeant Rounds, 73, passed away January 8, 2005. After his High School graduation, John entered the US Army. Joining the 34<sup>th</sup>, he went to Japan during the Occupation and went to Korea with the 24<sup>th</sup> IDA.

### Hurdis Earl Wise (Photo on Right)

Hurdis died on 7 March at the age of 79. He served in WWII in the Philippines as a foot soldier, rifleman, scout and platoon leader, earning two purple hearts and a bronze star. He documented his wartime experiences in his book, *Think Man, Think!* Survivors include his wife, Virginia and three children.



Hurdis Earl Wise

### Raymond A. Dende (Photo on Right)

Ray passed away 27 April 2005 at his home. Helen, his wife of 55 years, and two daughters survive him. Ray was a Staff Sgt. with the 24<sup>th</sup> during WWII.



Raymond A. Dende

## Unknown Unit

### Bobby E Parrish

Bobby was 73 when he passed away on 27 April 2004. His wife, Dorothy, son Mark and daughter Laura survive him.

Bobby served with the 24<sup>th</sup> ID in Germany

### Dutch

I enjoy reading your articles in the Taro Leaf. I spent a few months in Fort Rosecrans at San Diego in 1947 just before they turned it over to the newly formed Air Force. It was artillery; they had four gun battery's on Point Loma. Two sixteen inchers and two eight inchers plus one eight inch down at Imperial Beach that rolled out on a railroad track from it's camouflaged cover. They were all guns that had previous service on battle ships. All power plants and facilities were underground. I think the Air Force replaced the guns with guided missiles. But you probably already know about that.

The little booklet is a sort of a condensed bio of my long uneventful life.

~ Bill Eddy, 19<sup>th</sup> Inf.

### De Donder

He'd just been on patrol  
Greetings with a smile  
Just going around the bend to eat  
I'll see you in a little while

I heard a loud explosion  
I looked up in the air  
Rifle with front band guard gone  
Is what I saw up there

I guess it was a land mine  
And I could almost cry  
When I heard somebody say  
It was the tall blond guy

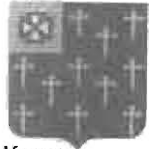
Lost both legs plus his left hand  
He lived about a week  
I got a lump down in my throat  
I couldn't even speak

When I heard poor Jimmy died  
I didn't take it very well  
I already learned to handle death  
But loosing a friend is hell

~ Bill Eddy



## 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment



### Co "G"

Pfc Don Jordison & Lee Myong Jo a ROK Katusa attached to our squad.



Pfc Don Jordison & Pvt. Bill Morning Star

**Don Jordison**, 34<sup>th</sup> Inf writes, " ...here's a couple of pictures if you would like to put them in the Taro Leaf. They were taken at the DMZ above the Imjin River."



## Veterans of Corregidor

Paul Cain, 34<sup>th</sup> Inf, writes, "I was a Platoon leader on the landing on Leyte, Dan was a PFC rifleman in my Platoon. Our BAR man got wounded on the landing. Dan picked the BAR and carried on. He latter became Platoon Sargent 1st Plt Com. K.

He (Dan Valles) earned the Combat Infantry badge, Silver Star & Bronze Star. He was an outstanding soldier in combat."

Photo taken Ft. Mitchell, KY 30<sup>th</sup> September 2000.

Photo Submitted By ~ **Paul Cain**, 34<sup>th</sup> Inf



Front Row L to R: **Hilja Hast** and **Jim Sullivan**

Back Row L to R: **Phil West**, **Don Valles** and **Paul Cain**



**Lawrence Personeni & Monty Huckabay in Oaho, Hawaii**



**"Bugg" Lawrence Barron & Lawrence Personeni  
In the Philippines**

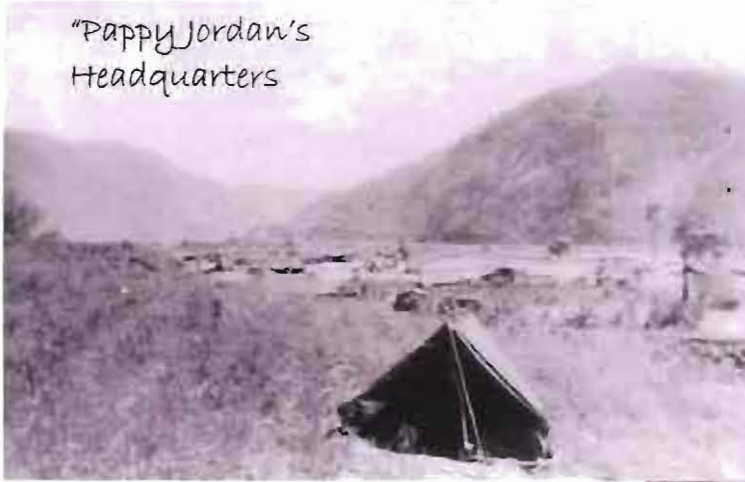
## 3<sup>rd</sup> Engineer Combat Battalion



Back when she sent these photos, Mrs. Clyde Matlock wrote, "We enjoy the Taro Leaf very much. When it comes in it's almost a fight to see who can look at it first; of course he wins."

My husband has these pictures that were taken in Korea while he was there during June 1950 to June 1951. He was in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Combat Engineers. These were taken on some of the few breaks they got. Clyde passed away in August 2004.

"Pappy Jordan's  
Headquarters



HQ & SV CO 3<sup>rd</sup> "C" ENG



"Snickies



Marty, 14 Yrs Old



Perkins Cadet ?





## THIRD ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION 1901-1952

### History

The 3rd Engineer Combat Battalion was organized, as the 3rd Battalion of Engineers, on 25 March 1901 at Fort Totten, New York. During the next fifteen years the Battalion was employed, by companies, in all the foreign service stations of the U. S. Army. Units served in Cuba, Panama, the Philippines, and the Hawaiian Islands, as well as in the United States. It was during this period that General Douglas Mac Arthur, served with the Battalion from 1909 to 1911, first as Commander of "K" Company and then as Battalion Adjutant.

On 1 August 1916 the Battalion was expanded and reorganized as the 3rd Engineer Regiment with components in the Philippines, Hawaii and Panama. In April 1921, the Regiment assembled in Hawaii and became the Engineer component of the Hawaiian Division. During the ensuing twenty year period most of the military construction on the Island of Oahu was accomplished by the 3rd Engineers. The Battalion earned for itself the proud title "Pacific Engineers" with a present day record of 40 consecutive years of overseas service in the Pacific Area.

On 3 October 1941 the Regiment was reorganized to form the 3rd and 65th Engineer Combat Battalions. On the same day the 24th and 25th Infantry Divisions were formed with the 3rd Engineer Combat Battalion becoming one of the original components of the 24th Division. In July 1943 the Battalion left for Australia where it engaged in extensive training along with other units of the Division. Leaving Australia in 1944, the Battalion served in the Tenamerah Bay and Hollandia operations in New Guinea, and in Leyte and Mindanao campaigns in the Philippines performing many difficult feats of engineer work; chief of which was the construction of two roads across Leyte in the face of tremendous natural difficulties. "C" Company was later attached to the 34th Infantry for the assault on Corregidor, with the 3rd Platoon winning the Distinguished Unit Citation for this action.

Following the cessation of hostilities with Japan, the 3rd Engineers moved with the 24th Division to occupy Japan, landing in Shikoku in November 1945 and moving first to Honshu in January 1946, then to Kyushu in June 1946; where the Battalion took up station in Kokura. During the early occupation period, from 1946 till 1949, the Battalion was mainly concerned with occupation duties such as the supervision of erection of troop and dependent housing at the various stations of the 24th Division.

In July 1950 on three days notice the Battalion moved to Korea with the rest of the 24th Division to stop the onrush of the Communist Forces into South Korea. The Battalion furnished Engineer support throughout the Kum River Campaign with "C" Company being cut off and suffering heavy losses in Taejon. Later, the 3rd Engineers lived up to the combat portion of their designation when committed as infantry along the Naktong River for a period of three weeks.

During February 1952 the 3rd Engineers returned to Japan with the 24th Infantry Division and have been actively engaged in continuing engineer support to the Division while training the numerous replacements who have joined them.

# 19th Infantry Regiment



Photo on Left: 1949 at Sasebo. **Russell Montcalm** arrived in Co "F", 19<sup>th</sup> INF in 1949. He was an M.P. in Guam. This picture taken in Sasebo, home of the 34<sup>th</sup>, at football game. Russ was working the chains.

Russ was Co cook and was wounded at Taejon July 20, 1950.

Photo on Right – taken July 2002  
– From Left to Right:

**Bill Hosler**, 19<sup>th</sup> INF from PA wounded on January 3, 1951.

**Russell Montcalm**, 19<sup>th</sup> INF from MA

**Lloyd Oler**, 19<sup>th</sup> INF from WJ got frostbite around the middle of January 1951.

**John A. Griffin**, 19<sup>th</sup> INF with wife, **Lucy** and **Robert Priest**, 24<sup>th</sup> Sig and his wife.

Photo Submitted By ~ John Griffin, 19<sup>th</sup> INF.



Sfc Holder, Sgt Grebon, Sfc Watson, Sgt Defrancio  
Pfc Turnball, Pvt Hawkley, Cpl Dailey, (Name torn off)

*"Swell bunch of guys!"*  
~ Raymond Colton



Left to Right –  
Pfc Kosky, Pvt Ocker, Sfc Hatfield, Sgt Wilson

Three bottom Photos  
Submitted By ~ Raymond C. Colton, 19<sup>th</sup> Inf



Hepechan, Korea



## THE 19<sup>th</sup> INFANTRY THE LOST BATTALION

During combat operations on Leyte the Second Battalion of the 19<sup>th</sup> Infantry was "lost" for 13 days. Based on the heroic actions of the unit it received a Presidential Unit Citation. The award reads as follows.

The Second Battalion, 19<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, is cited for conspicuous gallantry and the accomplishment of an extremely hazardous mission in action against armed Japanese military forces in the Leyte Island operation of the Philippine liberation campaign, 10 to 23 November 1944. On 10 November, this battalion, entering its twenty-first day of continuous combat, with only 692 men, was ordered to move from Hill 1525 into the Ormoc Valley and drive a wedge between the two enemy regiments already at the northern end of the valley and reinforcements moving up from Ormoc. It fought its way through the enemy screen over difficult mountain terrain, despite heavy rain and high winds and on the 15<sup>th</sup> drove strongly entrenched forces from a dominating hill and severed the enemy line of communication. For five days, surrounded, attacked repeatedly, unable to evacuate it's wounded, and with ever increasing attrition from hunger and exposure the battalion held. It broke up four enemy truck columns, dispersed three strong foot columns, neutralized four field pieces and artillery observers directed devastating fire on numerous concentrations. Enemy supply was reduced to sporadic runs of a few light tanks and enemy reinforcement was limited to infiltration by small patrols. Withdrawal was ordered on 19 November. At daylight 20 November, a Japanese "Banzai" attack of an estimated battalion was repulsed, as was a second attack a few minutes later. The evacuation was a running fight over rugged terrain, during which the battalion protected a party which had been sent to carry out wounded and sick. Many of the carrying party themselves were wounded, and some of these already wounded were wounded again or killed. Litters had to be passed from hand to hand in moving up and down steep slopes. One blinded casualty and the soldier leading were killed by snipers. Appropriately, first elements of the battalion arrived at Pinamopoan on Thanksgiving Day, the reminder on 24 November to begin staging immediately for another operation. Unit morale, including that of attached troops, was high throughout the 13-day mission. The battalion had completely outfought elements of the Japanese 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division, hardened veterans of fighting in Manchuria and China. With a loss of 31 killed, all of whom were buried with religious services, and 2 missing, the unit had killed at least 600 enemy troops, a ratio of 20 of the enemy to 1 of its own. It successfully evacuated 55 wounded and although 241 men were hospitalized for skin disorders, sore feet and fatigue it was not until they had seen the action through. The establishment and maintenance of this block of enemy communication contributed decisively to cracking of the strong Japanese defense of "Heartbreak Ridge" and paved the way for the advance of our troops toward Ormoc. The men of the Second Battalion, 19<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, by their outstanding courage, fortitude and tactical skill, have written a stirring chapter to American history.

Harold H. Palmer, 19<sup>th</sup> INF  
taken in '51



Harold writes, "To the 24<sup>th</sup> Div to all that are interested in these Chinese pictures. I don't remember how I got them I think I took them off dead Chinese or Chinese prisoners."





**Clayton Karrigan**, 6<sup>th</sup> Tank, sent this photo of himself on the loader. Number 29 was his tank and he is the one on the left. Their tank Commander was Steve Clayton from Beckenridge, Minnesota. Clayton would like to hear from any of the old tankers. Clayton was in Korea 1952 - 1953 with Co "B" up in the Iron Tangle and Kumwa Valley. You did good work Corporal. Contact Clayton at P.O. Box 73, Benson MN 56215-0073 Ph (320) 483-4962.





# Welcome to Philadelphia

Founded in 1682 by William Penn, Philadelphia became the city of democracy. The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were drafted here. They stand as the most recognized symbols of the American Enlightenment, which had its roots 100 years before 1776. Philadelphia hosted American's first historical convention in 1774 when the first Continental Congress met at Carpenter's Hall. Philadelphia has many historical, cultural and social attractions. You have the opportunity to explore the historic sites of Independence Hall, Betsy Ross House, City Hall, Penn's Landing, The Liberty Bell and perhaps see Ben Franklin. Other favorite places to visit include the Philadelphia Art Museum, Franklin Institute, Philadelphia Zoo, and the Mummers Museum or you may want to visit the Avenue of the Arts and Kimmel Center home of the acclaimed Philadelphia Orchestra. Philadelphia is known for many fine-eating establishments close to the hotel. Philadelphia is serviced by 9 airlines, offering non-stop service from 82 cities.

## **Airlines servicing Philadelphia:**

**Air Tran Airways, American Airlines, America West, ATA,  
Continental, Delta, Northwest, United and US Airways.**

Of all Philadelphia hotels, the Holiday Inn Philadelphia Hotel Historic District is one of the best located, centered in the Nation's most historic square mile, while Philadelphia Airport is only eight miles away. The Holiday Inn Philadelphia Hotel Historic District offers easy access to shopping, fine dining and the many Philadelphia visitor attractions all within walking distance. Holiday Inn Philadelphia presents it's own restaurant, Benton's Grill serving tempting dishes for breakfast lunch and dinner.

Reunion Chairman is Sam Slater (19<sup>th</sup> Infantry) and he can be reached at 215-657-5104. We look forward to welcoming you to Philadelphia.

# The Place that Loves YOU BACK

**Important! - Please read and follow all instructions.**

**You must mail your check along with you registration to the following:**

**Hotel Reservation**

Holiday Inn Philadelphia Historic District Hotel  
400 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106-2120  
215-923-8660 or 1-800-843-2355

**Registration, Meal & Tour Form**

Sam Slater  
425 East Moreland Road  
Willow Grove, PA 19090-3605  
215-657-5104

---

**Reunion Banquet Seating – Deadline September 7, 2005**

*If you have a group of friends who wish to be seated together. Get together and pay together.*

Send you registration forms in one envelope. Only 10 people can be seated at a table. Reserve as many tables as needed to accommodate your group. Designate one person and send in your registration forms along with the appropriate amount of money to that person who will then forward all registration forms and payments to the reunion chairman. Once the reunion chairman has received all paperwork and money, he will notify each person by a confirmation letter. A packet in you name will be waiting for you at the pre-registration desk at the reunion. Tables will be assigned in order of receipt - so start your planning early and get your reservation and registration in as early as possible. Any table seating arrangements received after September 7, 2005 will not be guaranteed seating assignments. Please note – Once tables are assigned they will not be rearranged. There will be no refunds or seating changes after September 7, 2005 except in cases of emergencies.

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**Notice to Taro Leafers:**

Below is a press release pertaining to our reunion in Philadelphia, PA. Regardless of weather or not you plan to attend, please cut out and mail to your local newspaper for publication in either their military section or "Letters to the Editor" section. It would be nice if we can blanket the country with this announcement and let all former 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Members know there is an active association in existence.

**For Immediate Release**

**September 21, 2005 – September 24, 2005**, the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association will hold its Annual Reunion honoring the Veterans of the Division. All former and current members of the 24 Infantry Division or members of any unit that have been assigned or attached to the Division at any time are welcome. The reunion will be held at the Holiday Inn Philadelphia Historic District Hotel, 400 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

For further information contact: Wes Morrison – Association President and Reunion Coordinator at 831-883-2156 or e-mail: [wesm8@aol.com](mailto:wesm8@aol.com), or Sam Slater, Reunion Chairman at 215-657-5104 or e-mail: [ssams104@aol.com](mailto:ssams104@aol.com)



**WELCOME TO HOLIDAY INN - HISTORIC DISTRICT  
PHILADELPHIA  
HOTEL RESERVATION FORM**

**24TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION  
September 21 - 24, 2005**

Room Type Requested	Rate (Single/Double/Quad Occupancy)	Number in Party (Children under 18 stay free)
Queen Size Single Bed	\$95.00	_____
Standard Size Two Beds	\$95.00	_____
King Size Single Bed	\$95.00	_____

\*Note: Current room tax is 14% and is subject to change.

**SPECIAL REQUESTS:**

Smoking\_\_\_\_\_ Non-Smoking\_\_\_\_\_ Connecting Room\_\_\_\_\_ ADA Room\_\_\_\_\_ Hearing Impaired\_\_\_\_\_

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

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY September 1, 2005 TO ENSURE ROOM AVAILABILITY**

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

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

Date of Arrival\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Departure\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Nights\_\_\_\_\_

Name (Please Print)\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

City:\_\_\_\_\_ State:\_\_\_\_\_ ZIP:\_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number:\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address:\_\_\_\_\_

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

AMEX\_\_\_\_\_ VISA\_\_\_\_\_ MC\_\_\_\_\_ DISCOVERY\_\_\_\_\_ OTHER\_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number:\_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date:\_\_\_\_\_

Signature:\_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form to:  
Holiday Inn  
Historic District  
400 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19106-2120

Telephone Reservation: 1-800-843-2355 Confirmation Number:\_\_\_\_\_

Reservations may also be made by logging onto <http://www.holiday-inn.com/philadelphia-historicdistrict> using 3 letter booking code INF

# **24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Reunion Meals**

## **Holiday Inn Philadelphia Hotel Historic District**



### **Aloha Banquet**

#### **September 23, 2005**

Pork Cutlet in an Apple Brandy Sauce  
Or

Herb Crusted Filet of Sea Bass topped w/a Mango Salsa

Served with Salad, Rolls & Butter, Fresh Vegetable, Appropriate Accompaniment, Chef  
Select Dessert, Coffee, Tea & Iced Tea.

**\$31.00 Inclusive of Tax and Gratuity**

### **Saturday Morning Breakfast**

#### **September 24, 2005**



Cinnamon Supreme French Toast  
Luscious Slices of Cinnamon-Infused Rolls Dipped  
In Egg Batter & Grilled to a Golden Brown  
Served with Creamy Butter & Warm Syrup,  
Scrambled Eggs w/Bacon  
Served w/Fresh Orange Juice, Bakery Basket & Coffee or Tea

**\$19.00 Inclusive of Tax & Gratuity**



### **Memorial Banquet**

#### **September 24, 2005**

Nine Spice Roasted Rib-eye of Beef served in a Burgundy Demi Glaze  
Or

Chicken Mediterranean – Sautéed Chicken Breast topped w/Roasted Red Peppers served  
in a Zinfandel Demi-Glaze

Served with Salad, Rolls & Butter, Fresh Vegetable, Appropriate Accompaniment, Chef  
Select Dessert, Coffee, Tea & Iced Tea.

**\$31.00 Inclusive of Tax and Gratuity**

**CASH BAR WILL BE AVAILABLE**

## ***24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Reunion - TOURS***

**Thursday September 22, 2005      Atlantic City      \$35.00 per person**

Atlantic City is well known for it's dazzling array of Casino Hotels, but there's more! Take a walk on the oldest boardwalk in the world – constructed in 1881, which boasts fine restaurants, unending attractions and a variety of boutiques and shops. A special bonus will await you upon arrival. Bus departs from the hotel 9:00am for the casino and will depart Atlantic City at 4:30pm we should arrive back in Philadelphia approximately 6:00pm.

**Thursday September 22, 2005      Washington, DC      \$55.00 per person**

Washington, DC is not only the proud home of the nation's capital; it is a sophisticated city in its own right. We will arrive at The Orleans House where we will feast on your choice of Prime Rib, Baked Chicken or Broiled Haddock and a Salad Bar. We will meet our tour guide at 1:00pm for a four-hour tour of our nation's capital including the Monuments such as World War II, Vietnam, Koran along with FDR and Roosevelt Park. We will departure the hotel at 8:30am arrive for lunch at 11:30am – departure Washington DC 5:00pm and arrive back at the hotel approximately 8:00pm.

**Friday September 23, 2005      Battleship New Jersey      \$60.00 per person**

Among the most notable battleships in the Navy's history is the USS New Jersey. Her keel was laid at the Philadelphia Navy Yard in 1940, and the hull was launched on December 7, 1942. The ship's sponsor was Mrs. Charles Edison, wife of the Governor of New Jersey and daughter-in-law of the famous inventor Thomas Edison. Laying of the Wreath Ceremony will take place upon our arrival at 8:50am. We will tour the Battleship New Jersey until 11:00am at which time we will leave the Battleship New Jersey to set sail on the Spirit of Philadelphia for sightseeing along the Delaware River. Lunch will be provided during the cruise. We will depart for the hotel at 2:10pm and arrive back at the hotel approximately 2:20pm.

**Friday September 23, 2005      Fun in Philadelphia      \$60.00 per person**

The National Constitution Center is an independent, non-partisan, and non-profit organization dedicated to increasing public understanding of, and appreciation for, the Constitution, its history, and its contemporary relevance, through an interactive, interpretive facility within Independence National Historical Park and a program of national outreach, so that We the People may better secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity. We will arrive at the National Constitution Center at 9:15am for a film at 9:40am. We will depart the National Constitution Center at 11:30am for the Spaghetti Warehouse where lunch will be served. We will depart the Spaghetti Warehouse at 1:30pm to Ride the Ducks of Philadelphia. We will depart at 3:30pm for a short ride back to the hotel.

**Saturday September 24, 2005      Valley Forge, PA      \$31.00 per person**

Valley Forge is the story of the six-month encampment of the Continental Army of the newly formed United States of America under the command of General George Washington, a few miles from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Though no battles was fought here from December 19, 1777 to June 19, 1778, a struggle against the elements and low moral was overcome on this sacred ground. We will depart the hotel at 12:30pm and arrive approximately 1:30pm for a ninety-minute visit. Will we leave Valley Forge 3:00pm and arrive back at the hotel approximately 4:00pm.

**Saturday September 24, 2005      Historical Philadelphia      \$25.00 per person**

Philadelphia is the place where much of our history was born and today, history lives on as Colonial, Revolutionary, and Federal History periods are preserved through museums and exhibits. We will depart the hotel at 12:30pm and meet the Good Wife Mrs. Benjamin Franklin at the Independence Mall for a three-hour tour of Philadelphia. We will depart at 3:30pm for the hotel and will arrive approximately 3:45pm.

### ***Enjoy your trip to Philadelphia – The City That Loves You Back.***

All prices are based on using 57-passenger motor coaches. If a minimum number of guests are not registered the trip may be cancelled.



24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association Annual Reunion  
September 21, 2005 – September 24, 2005  
Holiday Inn Historic District Philadelphia  
Philadelphia, PA

Name: (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Wife/Guests Attending:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please list any food allergies or special diets required. Please be specific.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Information for your name badge**

Nickname \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_ First Timer? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Survey for Reunion Coordinator. Will you be arriving by:

Air \_\_\_\_\_ Car \_\_\_\_\_ Train \_\_\_\_\_ Bus \_\_\_\_\_

**REMINDER**

If you have a group of friends and wish to be seated together, get together and pay together. Only 10 people at a table, if you wish to be seated with your friends at the Banquets, you must mail all registration forms along with appropriate payments in one envelope otherwise we cannot guarantee that you and your friends will be seated together!



**Make Checks Payable to:**



**24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association**

**and Mail to:**

**Sam Slater**

**425 East Moreland Road**

**Willow Grove, PA 19090-3605**

## ***Tour and Meal Registration***

<u>Time/Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Per Person</u>		<u>#Attending</u>		<u>Amount</u>
<b>Thursday</b>						
<b>September 24, 2005</b>						
9:00am-6:00pm	Atlantic City	\$35.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
	<i>or</i>					
8:30am-8:00pm	Washington, DC	\$55.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
<b>Friday</b>						
<b>September 23, 2005</b>						
8:30am-2:20pm	Battleship New Jersey	\$60.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
	<i>or</i>					
9:00am-3:30pm	Fun in Philadelphia	\$60.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
6:30pm-11:00pm	Aloha Banquet					
	Pork Cutlet	\$31.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
	Filet of Sea Bass	\$31.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
<b>Saturday</b>						
<b>September 24, 2005</b>						
9:00am-12:00pm	Ladies Breakfast	\$19.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
8:00am-10:00am	Unit Memorial Breakfast	\$19.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
12:30pm-4:00pm	Valley Forge, PA	\$31.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
	<i>or</i>					
12:30pm 3:45pm	Historical Philadelphia	\$25.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
6:30pm - 11:00pm	Memorial Banquet					
	Rib-Eye of Beef	\$31.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
	Chicken Mediterranean	\$31.00	x	_____	=	\$ _____
<b>Registration Fee</b>						<b>\$ <u>15.00</u></b>
<b>Total Amount Enclosed</b>						<b>\$ _____</b>

Please Note: Spouse and Guests do not pay a registration fee. All Association members, former and current Division Members must pay.

**Make check payable to: 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association**  
**and mail to:**  
**Sam Slater**  
**425 East Moreland Road**  
**Willow Grove, PA 19090-3605**

***Remember those who pay together stay together***

## ATTENTION ALL UNITS

There is a change in the procedure for the Unit Memorial Breakfast. Starting with this reunion and all future reunions, the Memorial Breakfast will be treated as another Association event. Your annual breakfast will be held Saturday, September 24, 2005, 8:00 AM at the Holiday Inn Philadelphia Historic District, Philadelphia, PA. The Unit Mess Hall location for each unit will be posted at the registration table. The cost for each breakfast is \$19.00. Since the Association's Annual Meeting follows at 10:00 AM, it is requested that attendees at the Memorial Breakfasts be punctual so we may conduct our business, eat our breakfast and adjourn to the Association Meeting at 10:00 AM.

*Make checks payable to: 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association*

*Mail checks to: Sam Slater, 425 East Moreland Road, Willow Grove, PA, 19090-3605*

### UNIT MEMORIAL BREAKFAST REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT BREAKFAST TO  
ATTEND \_\_\_\_\_

Unit Mess Hall  
3<sup>rd</sup> Engr / 5<sup>th</sup> RCT / 555<sup>th</sup> FA  
19<sup>th</sup> Infantry / 29<sup>th</sup> Infantry  
21<sup>st</sup> Infantry / 52<sup>nd</sup> FA / 11<sup>th</sup> FA  
34<sup>th</sup> Infantry / 63<sup>rd</sup> FA / 26<sup>th</sup> AAA

Headcount  
Bill Boyden  
To Be Announced  
Wes Morrison  
To Be Announced

Members of units not listed above may, if they desire, sign up for a breakfast with whatever unit they feel comfortable with.

No one, NO ONE, will be allowed into the Mess Hall with out the proper identification showing they had paid for the Breakfast. Headcounts may at their discretion, accept payment at the door but must list each payee for accountability.

Send this form along with your Association Registration Meal & Tour form.



## LADIES BREAKFAST



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2005 AT 9 AM

Be sure to sign up for the ladies breakfast – you don't want to miss it. *Donna's Danceworks* will perform for you. *Donna's Danceworks* has performed in Wildwood, NJ, Disneyworld in Orlando, FL and has participated in the Philadelphia Thanksgiving Day Parade.

BREAKFAST WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE SAME TIME THE UNIT  
BREAKFASTS AND THE 24<sup>TH</sup> INFANTRY DIVISION  
ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING TAKES PLACE.

### LADIES BREAKFAST

Cinnamon Supreme French Toast

Luscious Slices of Cinnamon-Infused Rolls Dipped

In Egg Batter & Grilled to a Golden Brown

Served with Creamy Butter & Warm Syrup,

Scrambled Eggs w/Bacon

Served w/Fresh Orange Juice, Bakery Basket & Coffee or Tea

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY AND ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

COST: \$19.00 (Inclusive of Tax & Gratuity)

NUMBER ATTENDING: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

Send this form along with your Association Registration Meal & Tour Form



# 24<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Recon Co



Photos Submitted By ~ Don Lennon, 24<sup>th</sup> Recon

These photos were part of a presentation about the 24<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop  
The photos are mostly from 1948 – 1950 with some from the present.

# 13th Field Artillery Regiment



## Battalion Insignia



The shield is divided into three bands, scarlet, gold and orange, from upper right to lower left. The scarlet represents the Artillery color, the gold is taken from the colors of the Arms of Lorraine, where the 13th Field Artillery Regiment, from which the Battalion was formed, engaged in the heaviest fighting in World War I. The orange represents olive drab (the closest color used in such shields) which was the color of the uniform worn in the first World War.

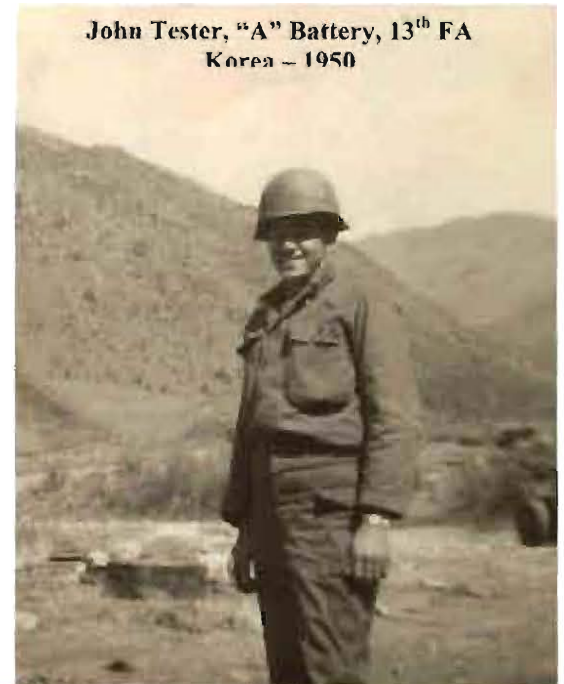
The fishhook in the upper right corner of the shield represents the shape of the battle line held by the Federal Army at the Battle of Gettysburg, where the 5th Field Artillery Regiment, parent of the 13th, took a gallant part. The star represents the badge of the 12th Corps of the Army of the Potomac in the Civil War, to which the 5th Field Artillery belonged. The broken howitzer in the lower left represents the damage done to "C" Battery by enemy action on the Veisle River during World War I.

The dragon crest over the shield typifies the achievement of the Regiment during the Muese-Argonne offensive. The Regiment there fought over shell-torn and destroyed roads and through enemy fire from position to position in support of the 4th Division. The rampant dragon is thus typical of the action of the Regiment progressing in the manner of a mythical monster, riding over all human opposition.

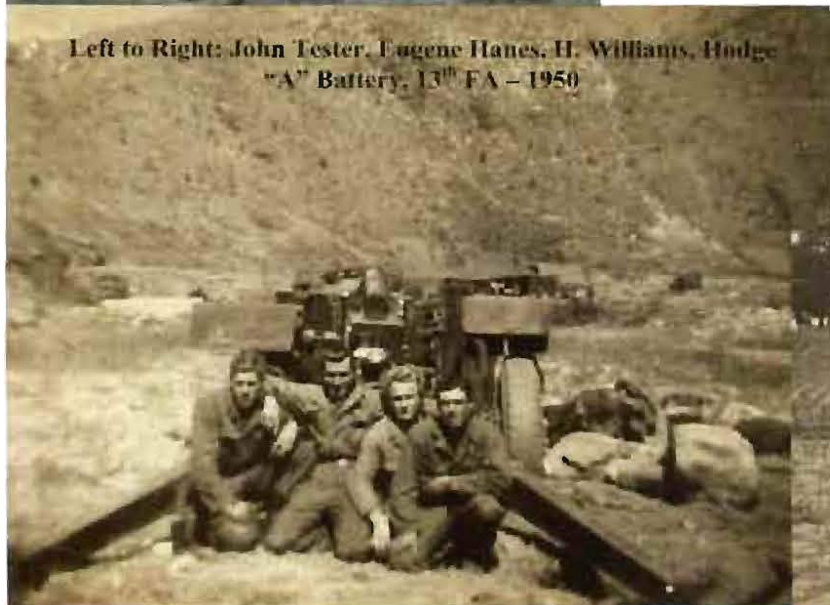
The Battalion Motto is "Without Fear, Favor, or the Hope of Reward".



John Tester, "A" Battery, 13<sup>th</sup> FA  
Korea - 1950



Left to Right: John Tester, Eugene Hanes, H. Williams, Hodge  
"A" Battery, 13<sup>th</sup> FA - 1950



Camp Hakata,  
Kyushu, Japan 1949





# CHICAGO MEN HELP STEAL HILL

## Wade Chin Deep Swamp, Go on Knees to Peak.

BY ARTHUR VEYSEY  
[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]



Clarence Schumacher

ATOP HILL 522, LEYTE ISLAND, Oct. 22 [Delayed]. — This is the story of Pvt. Clarence Schumacher, 4919 Northwest Highway, Chicago, and since he tells it best, here are his words:

"We stole this hill, and it's mighty lucky we did. If we hadn't slipped thru the Japs on the beach that first day and climbed up one side of this hill before the Japs climbed up the other we undoubtedly would still be fighting for it.

"We beat the Japs to the top by only a few minuets and dropped into an elaborate trench, pillbox, and tunnel system. Just below the edge of each ridge the Japs had dug a trench. Every 20 feet or so cross-trenches ran across the ridge leading into pillboxes on the seaward face. Near the peak were positions for big guns.

### Deep Caves at Crest.

"Deep, reinforced caves honeycombed the crest. Never in the southwest Pacific had our troops found such a perfect defense system.

"The Filipinos tell us the Japs had worked virtually all of the men and boys of the town of Palo as slaves for the last two months, digging and hauling. The hill was studded with platforms built of coconut logs seven layers deep onto which guns were to be run out from excavations.

"At the peak was a command post with concrete roofing two feet thick. At the back base of the hill was a supply cave so large that Jap cavalymen defending the hill stabled their horses in it.

"The hill is so steep the Japs had, dug stairs into the rear. We had to come up its face virtually on our hands and knees. Our four companies lost some men even before we hit the beach when shells hit their barges. And on the beach we were pinned down.

### Thru Swamp Up to Chins.

"The two men next to me were killed. Our commander, Lt. Col. Fred Ciprath of Sheboygan, Wis., ordered three companies to slip around the right flank of the Japs' beach Defenses. We had to go thru swamps up to our chins but we made it. The swamp was so bad we got thru without being shot at; the Japs thought nobody would try to cross it.

"The base of the hill is about a mile inland. Moving fast we carried only canteens, ammunition, and guns. I had a tommy gun.

"As we neared the top of the hill just before dusk two machine guns opened up. We lost seven men, one dead.

"Lt. Dallas Dick of B Company took over when his captain was killed in a landing barge. When we were pinned down on the beach a bullet hit the lieutenant's helmet and glanced back tearing his shirt.



Then on the top of the hill a bullet went thru his pants leg; another put a hole in a record book he carried, and still another hit his carbine.

### Japs Get a Surprise.

"After knocking out the two machine guns at the top we looked down the rear side-right into the faces of surprised Japs. We knocked off 50 or 100 and the rest ran.

"But we were surrounded by Japs. For two days and two nights we sat here, and only this afternoon did we manage to wring in supplies and get our wounded down.

"The first night the Japs tried to come back up the rear and on the second day we had to clean them off again. We discovered that a tunnel ran from the summit almost to the base and they kept slipping up thru it until we closed it. The second night some Japs from the beach started up the face, thinking their men were still here. Those are their bodies down there.

### With Children's Thanks.

"On the second day we watched, while our buddies went into Palo, right at our feet. When children fell down before our troops as a token of their thanks, James Barker, 6254 S. Racine Av., said that made up for all the hardships.

"Today the Japs laid down a barrage and it killed three men and hurt some more.

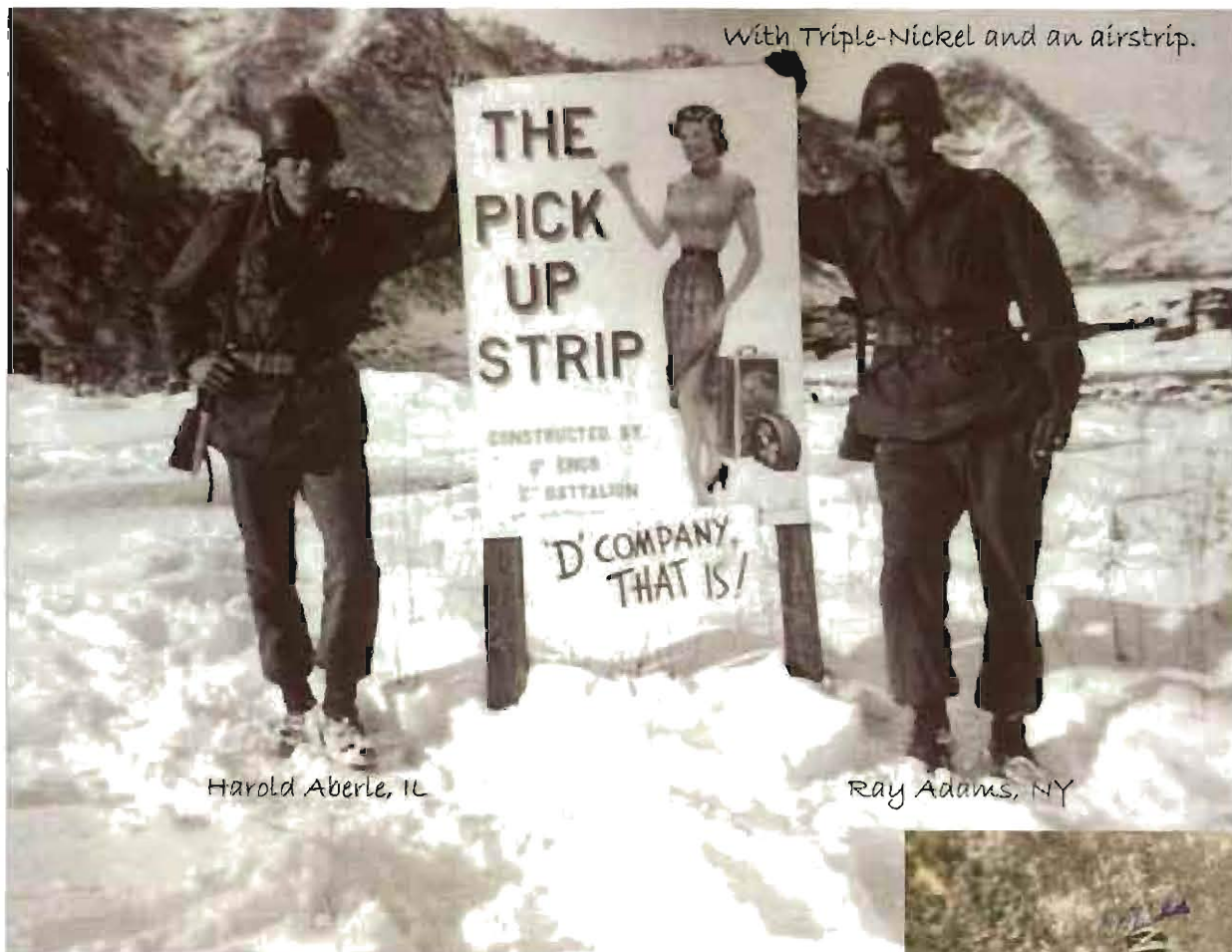
"Some of the other Chicagoans atop the hill are Charles Chapin, 650 W. 8th St.; a Herman Pritzler, 1924 Crystal St., Ted Nieswinski, 5727 Agate Av.; Robert Poe, 8347 Oglesby Av.; Donald Price, 501 Sberidan Rd., and Casimir Rasimas, 3700 S. Emerald Av.

"Our doctor, Capt. Robert Munch of Cook County hospital, Chicago, came up to help get the wounded down.

"Gordon Behrel, 843 Maple Av., Downers Grove; Henry Petroucek, 4020 Anna St., Brookfield, and Aurlthur Kmiecik, 3121 Mount Vernon Av., Milwaukee, also are on the hill."

From an October 1944 Chicago Tribune  
Submitted By ~ H. Gordon Behrel, 19<sup>th</sup> HQ





Harold Aberle, IL

Ray Adams, NY

Photo Above Submitted By ~ Harold Aberle, 26<sup>th</sup> AAA



## "B" Battery Korea Spring 1951



"B" Battery Photos Submitted By ~ Frederick E. Baker, 26<sup>th</sup> AAA

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



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# The Dog Days of Korea

By Raymond K. McGuire

*Below is an excerpt from a recently completed paper "The Dog Days of Korea." Written By Raymond K. McGuire*

Division Commander Maj. General William F. Dean had moved Div. HQ., south to Yongdong on the 18th. of July but had stayed behind with the 34th. Reg. only the 34th. and a few smaller units had remained in Taejon.

Dean was awoken that morning, 20th. July, 1950 to the BOOM!, BOOM!, BOOM!, of T-34 Soviet tanks. What in Hell was going on?

General Dean's nickname was "The Walking General." He was about to join the working people and become the "Walking, Working, General."

Many accounts have been offered in the "Dean" and tank saga in Taejon, most are inaccurate or incomplete but all portray a nuance of color. The Stars and Stripes reported, that Dean had been captured in Taejon along with a couple of cooks from the mess hall while trying to knock out North Korean tanks. Good copy but no "cigar."

Another account says Dean was out tank hunting with his aide, a Lt. Clarke and Korean interpreter and had become obsessed with the hunt.

It is not important whom he was with, the "Big Picture" was. Two Divisions of the N.K.P.A. supported by tanks had overrun our 34th. Regiment and 2nd. Battalion 19th. to the north. The N.K. had crossed the Kap'ch'on River to the west. The road to the east was still blocked, at the site of the Recon Patrol ambush the night before. The only way out was the road to the south, that road was ambushed too.

Where in the hell was the Air Force? Not a plane had been seen all day.

In the midst of all this chaos, while the remnants of his Command awaited direction, the "BIGGEST STAR" in Korea ran amok in the streets of Taejon hunting Tiger T-34s., with a pea shooter.

In the middle of the afternoon, walking, working, cowboy Dean became desperate, he drew his .45 cal. hand gun, emptied the clip trying to "Wyatt Earp" a Tiger T-34. He then decided it's time to get the "Hell out of Dodge".

Dean left Taejon about 1800 hrs. to the south following a convoy of trucks. His jeep took a wrong turn, then hit an ambush. The jeep was wrecked but they escaped, unhurt, in the dark. Later that night Dean, searching for water, fell down a bank, knocking him out and breaking a shoulder. His people unable to find him, left, leaving him alone. Dean finally awoke and spent the next five or six days crawling and wading through rice paddies, to the south. He was betrayed by a couple of so called friendly South Korean's, who turned him in to the N.K.P.A., for a bounty of 30,000 won. (The equivalent of about five dollars)

General Dean was later criticized for his antics in Taejon but there was no reprimand. Instead in January, 1951, Dean received our country's highest Military Honor, "THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR", in a ceremony at the White House. Dean was finally repatriated in September, 1953.

General Dean died in 1981 at the age of 82.

When the Roll was called, 1 August, 1950, almost 2,500, 24th. Inf. Div. people did not answer, all casualties in July, 1950 in and around Taejon.

HONOR ROLL 24th Recon. (Early, this list is not complete)

- 1) Hugh A. Townsley, Sgt. 19, July 1950, Rogers, OK
- 2) Robert R. Blair, Pfc. 19, July, 1950, Rock, WI
- 3) Albert Bellucci, Pfc. 11, Aug. 1950, NY
- 4) James R. Leslie, Pfc. 11, Aug. 1950, Reno, KS
- 5) Don E. Fritz, Cpl. 21, Sept. 1950, Kings CA
- 6) Robert W. Plaunt, Cpl. 21, Sept. 1950, Cheboygan, MI
- 7) Marinus Karenbeck, Sgt. 22, Sept. 1950, LA CA
- 8) David P. Mopher, Pvt., P.O.W. 29 Oct. 1950, Seneca, OH
- 9) Leonard E. Tye, Pfc. 1, Nov. 1950, Snohomish, WA
- 10) David C. Wentley, Pfc. 1, Nov. 1950, Arlington, VA
- 11) Robert J. Smith, Cpl. 5, Nov. 1950, Marion, IN
- 12) Clyde D. Steele, Pfc. P.O.W. 10, Dec. 1950, Flood, IA
- 13) George W. Kristanoff, 1Lt. P.O.W. 31, May. 1951, Ithaca, NY

From a Book, "The Dog Days of Korea"

By, Raymond K. McGuire, a member of the 24th Recon, 24th Inf. Div. in Korea, from 4, July, 1950 - May, 1951.

Raymond K. McGuire

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# West Coast Mini-Reunion April 2005



# Stand and deliver

*This letter was written by a Fort Bragg based Special Forces soldier. For security reasons, he would not allow his name to be used.*



I started Special Forces Selection and Assessment on Sept. 9, 2001. What happened two days later would shape for many of us the directions our lives would take in the years to follow.

Normally, Special Forces candidates would be isolated from all outside communication. However, we were shown small segments of the news every couple of days so that we might have an idea of what the nation was going through.

I can still see in my mind's eye the image of an African-American male falling toward the earth. I remember his attire, posture and the background through which he fell. I also remember thinking, "I'll fight for you. You who did nothing wrong other than go to work on an idle Tuesday morning."

Our society certainly has its flaws. However, our nation was founded on the principle of self-governance, which allows each of us to choose the path our life will follow. This principle is what makes our nation great; this is the same principle I'll kill to protect.

I've never felt hatred or animosity toward those responsible for the attacks but feel that some things we must never allow. We're all God's children, but we can and should destroy those who forcibly seek to

impose their will on us. And there's no need to feel bad about doing it.

While my time in harm's way hasn't changed my attitude any, it has helped me gain an appreciation for my fellow Special Forces soldiers and the caliber of individual that I often find. A study of World War II fighter pilots revealed that 1 percent of fighter pilots were responsible for 40 percent of the enemy aircraft shot down.

Subsequent studies indicate that 98 percent of the male population experiences varying degrees of hesitation and remorse when killing their fellow men. Then there's the other 2 percent that, if given a legitimate reason, have no objections or regrets about killing once it meets a certain moral framework.

While serving in combat certainly isn't pleasant, I've learned that I have neither the interest nor inclination to do anything else. What I took from that experience is that we, as a nation, possess a small portion of soldiers who will kill those in need and no one else. Men who see doing anything less as unprofessional and incompetent. We should count ourselves lucky to have such men.

*Reprinted from the Fayetteville Observer*



## EXIT LAUGHING (or Crying)

Woman's dishwasher quit working one day so she called a repairman.

Since she had to go to work the next day, she told the repairman, "I'll leave the key under the mat. Fix the dishwasher, leave the bill on the counter, and I'll mail you a check"

"Oh, and by the way don't worry about my bulldog. He won't bother you. But, whatever you do, do NOT, under ANY circumstances, talk to my parrot! I REPEAT, DO NOT TALK TO MY PARROT!!!"

When the repairman arrived at the woman's apartment the following day, he discovered the biggest, meanest looking bulldog he has ever seen. But, just as the woman had said, the dog just lay there on the carpet watching the repairman go about his work.

The parrot, however, drove him nuts the whole time with his incessant yelling, cursing and name calling.

Finally the repairman couldn't contain himself any longer and yelled, "Shut up, you stupid, ugly bird!"

To which the parrot replied, "Get him, Spike!"



**"You don't look anything like the long haired, skinny kid I married 25 years ago. I need a DNA sample to make sure it's still you."**

### ***Information You Can't Do Without!***

#### **Toilet Seat**

It isn't widely known, but the first toilet seat was invented by a Polish scientist in the 18th century. This invention was later modified by a Jewish inventor who put a hole in the seat.

#### **Ten Commandments**

The real reason that we can't have the Ten Commandments in a Courthouse! You cannot post "Thou Shalt Not Steal," "Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery" and "Thou Shalt Not Lie" in a building full of lawyers, judges and politicians! It creates a hostile work environment.

#### **Zero Gravity**

When NASA first started sending up astronauts, they quickly discovered that ballpoint pens would not work in zero gravity.

To combat this problem, NASA scientists spent a decade and \$12 billion developing a pen that writes in zero gravity, upside down, on almost any surface including glass and at temperatures ranging from below freezing to over 300 C. The Russians used a pencil. Your taxes are due again--enjoy paying them.

#### **Cows**

Is it just me, or does anyone else find it amazing that our government can track a cow born in Canada almost three years ago, right to the stall where she sleeps in the state of Washington. And they tracked her calves to their stalls. But they are unable to locate 11 million illegal aliens wandering around our country.

#### **Our Constitution**

They keep talking about drafting a Constitution for Iraq. Why don't we just give them ours, it was written by a lot of really smart guys over 200 years ago, and we're not using it anymore.

## NEWS OF THE WEIRD

### **GOVERNMENT INACTION**

The Las Vegas Sun reported in January that the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services agency has begun phasing in an under publicized policy of ending all walk-in traffic. Eventually, all immigration offices, to improve efficiency, will do business only by appointments made over the Internet (even though many immigration clients, most notably migrant workers, obviously do not have convenient Internet access).

After five years of the New Mexico government always accepting Viola Trevino's child support claims against Steve Barreras (over the vasectomized Barreras' objections), a court in Albuquerque finally ruled in December that the child never existed. The judge concluded that Trevino had lied numerous times and had forged DNA evidence, birth certificates, and other documents and that Barreras had been unjustly forced to pay \$20,000 in support, even though Trevino had never publicly produced the child. In December, having run out of excuses, Trevino borrowed a little girl from a stranger on the street and took her into the courtroom to "be" her and Barreras' daughter (but the stranger followed Trevino inside and exposed the ruse). Gov. Bill Richardson ordered an investigation as to how so many state officials had been hoaxed for so long.

### **INIVEY LEAGUE**

Harvard University this year hired a recent graduate as a full-time promoter and coordinator of social activities, apparently because so many at the school are too busy to relax. According to Associate Dean Judith Kidd, "The kids work very, very hard here. And they worked very, very hard ... to get here. They arrived needing help having fun." (By contrast, two weeks later, a police raid in Durham, N.C., turned up 200 noisy Duke University students, many of them bikini-clad women, wrestling in a plastic pool of baby oil in the basement of a fraternity house, apparently inspired by a scene from the movie "Old School.")

### **LEAST COMPETENT PEOPLE**

According to police in New York City, schoolteacher Wayne Brightly, 38, who was having trouble passing the state's modest certification exam, paid a former mentor, Rubin Leitner, to take the test for him. Though Leitner is a learned man, he is also age 58, white, chubby and afflicted with the autism-like Asperger's syndrome, while Brightly is 38, black and thin. When Leitner (using the fake ID Brightly had supplied) scored high on the test, officials naturally wanted to interview Brightly to ask about his sudden brilliance, but Brightly decided to send Leitner to the meeting, instead, virtually assuring that the ruse would collapse.

### **THINGS PEOPLE BELIEVE**

(1) Mr. Mamadou Obotimbe Diabikile was shot by police and arrested after his unsuccessful attempt to rob the Mali Development Bank in Bamako, Mali, in March, in part hindered by the nearly seven pounds of magic charms he was wearing to make himself invisible. (2) Musician Edna Chizema went on trial in March in Harare, Zimbabwe, for allegedly defrauding Ms. Magrate Mapfumo by convincing her to pay the equivalent of \$5,000 for Chizema to fly in four invisible mermaids (folkloric goddesses of revenge, according to the Shona people) from London to help recover Mapfumo's stolen car.



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

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





The Medal of Honor, the nations highest award for military Valor is given to those who have acted with supreme courage and to their won safety in the face of most conditions. It is an award that is a comparative handful of men in the entire nation entitled to wear. It is bestowed by Congress and reflects Democracy's honor to those who, in moments of crisis, risked everything they had in its defense, in themselves. The medal is but a humble gesture of recognition for sacrifice that cannot be repaid to its honored heroes and survivors, in worldly goods. Twelve soldiers of the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry, between 1944 and 1951, so distinguished themselves with sacrificial and intrepidity on the battlefield and received this decoration. Three recipients are from World War II and the other nine received it during the Korean War. Only Sergeant Charles E. Mower, Lieutenant Dodd, and Sergeant Adam receive the Medal personally. Sergeant Mower survived combat but died later in a Japanese POW camp. All others were killed in action, and along with Sgt. Duke received their decorations posthumously.

**Sergeant Charles E. Mower**, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin  
A Company, 34<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment  
3 November 1944, near Capocan, Leyte

Sergeant Mower, an assistant squad leader, was participating in an attack against a strongly defended Japanese position, which was situated along both sides of a stream that ran through a wooded gulch. As the squad moved forward through intense enemy fire, the squad leader was killed and Sergeant Mower took charge. He led his men across the stream, but was severely wounded before making it all the way. After halting his unit, he realized that his exposed position was the best place from which to direct the attack and he stood fast. Gravely wounded and lying half submerged in the stream, he refused to seek cover or to accept aid of any kind. Shouting and signaling instructions to his squad, he directed them in the destruction of two enemy machine guns and the killing of numerous enemy riflemen. The remaining Japanese concentrated their fire at Sergeant Mower, who was killed while still directing his men forward.

**24<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Association**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**  
**Donald E. Maggio**  
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