

TARO

24th Infantry Division Association



FIRST TO FIGHT

LEAF



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**COMING
UP NEXT**

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About the Cover

The painting by artist Virgil Stephens is titled, "National Treasure," Virgil may be reached at: HC 67 Box 55, Nogal, NM 88341



Greetings!

As we enter a new year we have many events and issues that we must deal with. Many of us are looking forward to west coast reunion to be held in Laughlin, Nevada on March 25th through 28th. This is a favorite event and is like a prelude to summer. I hope that many of you are able to attend. I look forward to seeing you there.

The next big issue that faces us is the monument Dedicated to the Medal of Honor that we are attempting to have placed at Arlington National Cemetery. At the present time I am working with one of the new Congress members, a first term Congresswoman, Kathy Hochul, and a member of her team, Peter Snodgrass.

This office is being a great help and I feel confident that at last we are almost at the end of the road! Today I was told that our best approach to getting it done is to put a bill on the floor of Congress and have all of our members petition their Congressmen to push the bill and get the support of enough of the Congress to support it and push it through the house.

I also have a person who works in the Pentagon who is working on another approach. I have high hopes that this will be our year to get it done.

When we have our reunion in New Orleans, we will not be using the Reunion Brat!! I know that many of you were displeased with the reunion in Dayton and you had a right to be! I will not go into the response that I got from many of our members, but I will say that we did not get the service and consideration that we should have. I look forward to a better reunion under a new organization in New Orleans.

I wish all of our members a very happy and healthy New Year and look forward to seeing you all at our next reunion.



Sal Schillaci, President

NOTICE: YOU MAY NOTE THIS ISSUE HAS FEWER PAGES THAN PRIOR ISSUES. THE EDITOR DOES HIS BEST TO ASSEMBLE SUFFICIENT INTERESTING MATERIAL, BUT HE MOSTLY DEPENDS ON INPUT FROM MEMBERS. CONTRIBUTIONS THIS PERIOD HAVE BEEN ESPECIALLY LIGHT. PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN. EDITOR



We have concluded another Holiday Season and have opened the new calendar. I hope you had an opportunity to enjoy the holidays with family and friends and wish you a blessed and prosperous New Year.

These holidays seem to roll around faster than I can keep track. For those of us well past the age of retirement, we are just grateful to be alive for another year and enjoy whatever good measure of health we have. My thoughts and prayers go out to our comrades who are less fortunate.

One of the interesting challenges in putting together the Taro Leaf is to find something suitable for the cover. I was scanning Bing on the internet and found a painting of children praying with our flag in the background. The artist, Virgil Stephens, kindly consented to allow us to put it on the Taro Leaf cover.

I don't know what the artist had in mind, but when I saw the painting I immediately thought they could be children of a military person deployed in the Middle East. Such children carry a great burden of our far-flung wars yet may not be counted among those making a sacrifice. Many have lost a loved one or have witnessed the returning veteran coming home a disabled or changed person. As I am writing this just before Christmas my prayers go out to these innocent ones.

There are a lot of charities looking for handouts. Most are probably worthwhile, but too many are run by professionals for their profit and return very little to the intended benefactor. I would single out *Wounded Warriors* and the *Salvation Army* as two organizations that I know are properly dedicated to returning most of their collected goods and funds to the needy. I would welcome others' views on this subject.

Since we are off to a new year the time is appropriate to reflect on our blessings and consider what we can do this year to improve our lives and lives of others. As members of the 24th ID Association we have a focus on our military heritage and above all others we should have a concern for veterans. I know many of us belong to either the VFW or American Legion, both of which are great fraternal organizations. If you are fortunate to have a post nearby I hope you take advantage of your membership and if not a member...what are you waiting for?

There is always something to do at these posts and something you can do to help out if you are able and willing. It's strictly voluntary. About a year ago a stranger came to my local VFW post; he had been a member back East. He was a small quiet man, who in many places would not attract any attention. He asked, "What can I do to help." He was told we always need more help in the kitchen and he went to work. Today he is well known and appreciated by all. You can tell by the smile on his face he knows he is among friends.

David Valley

Looking For

Editor: To any parties who may know of an interested knowledgeable person or persons with experience in dealing with the VA, or other govt. agencies. My return Stateside in Feb. 1948 was accompanied by an procedure to upgrade an existing disability award. My file folder at Bay Pines has a copy of Court Martial Records where three members of my 34th Regiment beat another member and myself and when observed by civilians they left the other soldier laying on the concrete roadway while they dumped me in a sewer. The three were apprehended and courts marshaled. I appeared as a witness at the trial. Bay Pines after 63 years claims to have sent a copy to me (Harley H. Joseph, 10644 Kendale Blvd., Miami, FL 33176-2771). Bay Pines zip code is 33716. The person that put the address on that mailing used the wrong zip code. We have been informed, from what we can make of it, they are not going to be able to be of further assistance. **Harley H. Joseph, Life Member** <hjchyum94@gmail.com>

Subject: 24th ID HQ Location in 1954

I have, just in the last couple of days, become familiar with our Division Association and have mailed today a check for my membership. There is a lot of good information. Thanks. I was at the APO 24 from August 1954 through November 1955. The reason for my belated interest is that my son and I are going over to Korea and Japan right after Christmas. The purpose is to show him where we were in Yanggu Valley (Camp George), up above Seoul on MSR 1 (the area later named Camp Howze) and also Camp Hakata at Fukuoka, Japan.

I have not been able to pin down the location of Camp George where I was stationed in HQ Co. All these years I thought we were more directly north of Chunchon, toward Hwacheon, in what I have thought was Yanggu Valley. It appears now that we were located over nearer the town of Yanggu by the K-52 airfield. That designation has a familiar ring to it. We had an airstrip located nearby Division Hq. My recollection of our airstrip is of a gravel runway with a down slope toward the north (I had to go out one day down to 1st Base Hospital by Seoul. It seemed as if the pilot had to almost "slingshot" the C-47 to take off and then he did have to circle around in the rain and fog to gain altitude in order to clear the mountains around us.) In my searching I have found info that indicates K-52 was a 6500 foot long runway built by our engineers and sounds more fully developed than I remember ours to have been. I am trying to clarify if our airstrip was K-52 or something else in order to pinpoint our location in 1954 so I can show my son where we were. Using "24th Infantry Division Hq", "Camp George", "Yanggu Valley" and the airstrip as some of the prime identifiers I have yet to determine if K-52 and that airstrip were the same, or not. This all to serve my primary purpose: finding where Camp George was located in August, 1954.

I sure will appreciate any help or advice you can give me.
Richard J. (Dick) Bryant (SP4)

Bill Roseboro: My uncle Richard Daugherty served in G CO, 19th RGT during the Korean War. He was trapped behind enemy lines for a while and evaded capture. He wore the soles of his boots off walking south at night and suffered from frost bite but he made it back to US lines. He weighed about eighty pounds by the time he crossed into friendly territory. I believe that he was awarded the Bronze Star, but I don't have any documentation. In fact, all of this is just oral family history at this point. My uncle died from cancer back in 1998 and he would never talk about his time in the service. He was proud to serve, but I believe that he suffered from PTSD for the rest of his life, and reliving those memories wasn't something that he enjoyed doing. If you can point me in the right direction, I would like to do a little research. Thanks for your service and thanks for documenting the history of the 19th. **Bret D. Daugherty, BG, Assistant Adjutant General-Army, Washington Army National Guard (253) 512-8201**

BG Daugherty: Good to hear from you. I am always interested in being contacted by former members of G CO, 19th RGT, and by their friends and family, and happy to help. I do have a little information on Richard which may be of interest to you. I have four company rosters on which his name appears. One of these was prepared on 2 July 1950 as the company loaded on an LST to move from Japan to Korea. Two others are "MRU" company rosters, prepared by higher headquarters, dated 31 July 1950 and 31 January 1951.

I also have a company roster prepared in December 1949 in Japan. In addition there are four platoon pictures made in Beppu, Japan. The pictures are unfortunately copies of copies and not very good. No date, but from the uniforms it appears the pictures were obviously made in summer. Richard may or may not appear in any of them.

I have a vague recollection of Richard. When I reported to G Company I was assigned to the 2nd Platoon machine gun squad as an ammo bearer. I never really got to know anyone from the other squads for quite some time. However, I think he may have also been in the 2nd Platoon in one of the rifle squads. Around late February or Early March of 1951 we were struggling up one of those famous Korea hills. I passed him as I went up the trail. He had stepped off the trail for a breather, and I guess I looked like I was about to drop out. He said to me "Take a break". A little further up I did just that. I do not recall seeing Richard again after that. I was wounded on 9 March 51 and sent to Japan to the hospital. When I returned to the company in mid-May I think Richard had already left for home. I have no record of him being in the 2nd Platoon after that time,, but he could have been in a different platoon. However, some of the men who went to Korea from Japan with the company left in April/May '51.

Not much information, but about all I have at this time.. I will forward your email to the 24th Infantry Division Association. **Perhaps there are others who might remember Richard.** Please send me a snail mail address and I will send you copies of the rosters and pictures I mentioned.
Best Regards, **Bill Roseboro, Life 1323, 910-582-1189**

Looking For

David: I am doing this for a friend of mine, Joseph Stanislaw Patterson, RA12245918, who was in the 1947 Occupation of Japan, 24th Inf Div., **34th RGT Co G**. He is looking for his friend Charles (Blackie) Patterson from Oklahoma City who was a rifleman in the infantry. Would you please help me find him or direct me to a place to find him?

Eddie Watts, Vietnam Veteran
Quartermaster VFW Post #4938
Edmond, Oklahoma 73034

Editor: My dad, Ronald Sanchez, was in the 24th division Company G, **19th RGT**. His nickname was Santa Fe. I would love to talk to anyone as we are in search of his DD214. Dad is living in Kennewick Washington. Thank you for any information that you can give. Year was 1951-1952. Email: kathys@columbiaindustries.com **Kathy Schmauder**

Editor: I hope you can help us find a buddy. I am looking for William E. Bishop. He was in the 24th Infantry Division, **21st RGT**, Service Company, motor pool section and left Korea between January and March of 1956. William was from Georgia or Mississippi. Anyone with knowledge of William E. Bishop please contact me. Thank you for any assistance anyone may give.

Jimmy E. (Joe) Woodard
Munford, Alabama
256-358-9800
chucky@cablone.net

To Members: I met my buddy, **Gilbert D. Dumais** at the Engineering School in Ft. Belvoir in 1950. After graduation as map makers we were on our way to the 7th Div. at Sendai, Japan. Before we got there we were reassigned to the **19th RGT** as infantry riflemen. I went to the HQ CO and "Gilly" was assigned to **G CO**. The first chance I had to catch up with G CO I went looking for him. No one I met knew him. I went to the CO clerk and was told Dumais was KIA. Later I learned from Army records that he died on August 19, 1950. It is probably unlikely, but I would like to hear from anyone who might remember him or know the details of his death. **David Valley**, dvalley1@san.rr.com

Hi David: It was good to talk to you last week. Could you please put the following notice in the "Looking For" section. I'm looking for anyone who served with the 24th during the Berlin Wall crisis but especially those who went into Berlin. That would be from about August 1961 to early 1962 when we were allowed to go home again after the involuntary extensions. I would like to share experiences.

Wayne Mike McCaughey
539 Paradise Ridge Ct
Oakland, MD 21550
301 387 3225 wmmccaughey@verizon.net

Editor:
I'm looking for any information regarding the actions and men of CO C, **19 RGT**, in the timeframe of Aug-Sept of 1950. My grandfather was in the Battle of Pusan Perimeter with this unit and I'm researching his life, trying to find more information than what is in his records (which is hardly any at all). My grandfather, Robert A Bridges, has been deceased since 1961 and didn't speak much of his war time experiences. Please let me know if you have any information.

Rob Morris Email: mrobertmichaelmorris@gmail.com

Subject: Remember SFC Richard A. McDole

Bill Roseboro wants to know if anyone remembers SFC Richard A. McDole, Company G, **19th RGT** who was KIA on 27 May 1951. He was from Polk County, IA. If you have Bill's email address contact him directly or if not, send the information to me and I will forward it. Please email me:

Wes Morrison, WesM8@aol.com



A friend sent the picture above saying it was taken during the Korean War. The MG and LCOL seem to be focused on some action. Does anyone recognize them. **Editor**

Letters

Hello Merry! My name is jee-young and the public servant in Osan cityhall. I recieved the 24th infantry Division Association's website address from the USFK. I think you have heard about me(or Osan project) from Lisa Sholl.

Osan is the combat place of Task Force Smith on 5 July 1950. We made a plan of memorial hall for honor the Task Force Smith members. The building is under construction(about 40% complete) and will be done on April 2012. We need many memorabilia for the exhibition in the memorial hall about each member of TFS, 24th infantry division.

We would like to collect the following:

- Photos of TFS members and the Osan battle
- Personal documents such as diary, notes that are related to the Osan battle
- Authentic things related to TFS and the Osan battle
- Symbol patch or other things of 24th infantry division
- Information about Gen. Charles B. Smith and Gen. Miller O. Perry

We wish many Americans to remember Task Force Smith and their first battle of Osan on 5 July 1950 and to help us collect exhibition items. **Jee-young**

Hello Jee-young: Thank you for contacting us about your very worthy memorial to the men of Task Force Smith who fought at Osan. We will share your information with our 24th Division Association with a notice in our Taro Leaf Magazine and on our website. I am requesting other members of our association so they can contribute, as well. Let us know how we can provide you with physical items.

There are a number of things we can gather for you. As historian for the association, I have a number of declassified documents I can provide, as well as a photo of Colonel Stephens, who was the commander of the 21st Regiment who arrived with the rest of the men the day after the initial clash at Osan. As historian, I have focused on the first three days of the fight, as it was a very bitter battle that claimed many men from Task Force Smith and the others who joined them the next day with Brad Smith's friend, Lt. Col. Jensen and his men.

Please extend our gratitude to your city for this acknowledgement of our shared sacrifice with the people of South Korea. Our veterans are very proud of the rebuilding of your beautiful country which was made possible because of their sacrifices. **Merry Helm**

Merry: Thank you for picking up this story

Eighth Army/Osan City Hall

December 13 , 2011

Dear Soldiers of Task Force Smith:

Thank you for your service and participation in the Battle of Osan as a member of Task Force Smith July 5, 1950. In 1955, the U.S. military created the first memorial at the battle site at Jukmi Pass in Osan, in order to commemorate the first battle between U.S. and North Korean troops, and to honor the soldiers who paid the ultimate sacrifice during that battle. Annually this ceremony has been held at the location in the soldiers' honor.

In 1982, the Korean government and Kyeonggi Province sponsored the funding of the second memorial, similar to the monument built by the US military. Osan city would like to commemorate the 60th anniversary by making the memorial and surrounding battlefield a historical park.

The city has started construction of a new museum within the park. The city is in the process of selecting a contractor who will be able to build a museum that reflects the sacrifice given in defense of Jukmi Pass. The building is projected to be completed in April, 2012 with the annual ceremony being held at its location.

In order to gather personal accounts and artifacts, a representative of Osan city is going to meet and interview Soldiers living in the U.S., who took part in Task Force Smith. We will use the materials donated by the Soldiers and their families as part of a display in the museum. The city would like to include all of the Soldiers in the interview process; however, due to limited time and resources, Soldiers who do not receive an interview will be given this letter of gratitude from Osan city.

It would be greatly appreciated if you could send any materials and/or artifacts, as well as personal accounts, to the museum so they can be included in the display. The purpose of the display is to highlight and to honor the soldiers of Task Force Smith and always remember the sacrifices that were made on behalf of the United Nations.

The city of Osan is also considering opening an online museum, allowing you to to check out information, pictures, artifacts from the museum on the internet. The heroes of the Task Force Smith museum (a provisional name) are you and your buddies! Thank you for your service and your sacrifice.

John D. Johnson, LTG, Eighth Army, Commanding Kwak, Sang-Wook, The Mayor of Osan City



David: Enclosed is Photo of my coffee cups when I was First Sergeant of E Battery First Battalion, 13th Artillery and A Battery First Battalion, 35th Artillery, 24th Infantry Division at Sherdlan Kaserne, Augsburg, Germany 1959-1962. Thoughtn you might like to see them. **Gene W.Jones, Life Member 1801**, P.O. Box 66, Ellijay, GA 30539-0002

9-24-11

Army Reunion



Standing: Benny Riley, Ken Clark, Jerry Feustel, Allen Gross, Paul Carney. Kneeling: Tony Navarro, Joe Gerace, and Bob Heinz. Front: Harry Dillingham. Reunion after 51

Editor: My name is Jerry Feustel. I was in the US Army from 1958 to 1960. I hadn't seen my old Army buddy's since. I looked on the internet and by chance one of them was doing the same on Face Book. He found my Face Book picture and wrote to me. That's when we started to talk about having an Army Reunion. Yes it was 51 years since I'd seen them. I knew two lived in WI but I didn't know about the rest.

I found a web site called ZaBa Search.com and with it I found eight more. I e-mailed those who had a computer and called two others. I asked if they would like to meet again? They all said yes. I found one in a nursing home who has Alzheimer's.

I planned a reunion in September and for a central site picked Rockford IL. I told the guys to write a short story about their last 51 years. We got up one at a time and told them. These stories were the fun of the party. It was the Greatest Time. I brought my Army album with old time pictures. I also made a DVD of all my pictures for all of them. Boy was it fun to look back and see how we looked when we were over in Germany '69 & '70.

We all had a ball talking about the last 51 Years. When it was time to leave it was hard to say "so long," but not goodbye. Now we know where we all are, we'll have another reunion. I sure wished I could have done this 15 years ago. But now we'll keep in touch. I'll keep trying to find some of my buddies that I haven't found yet. We'll always miss the ones who are gone.

The ones I've found: Bob Heinz, Kenneth Clark, Leo LeClair, Harry Dillingham, Benny Riley, Paul Carney, Allen Gross, Joseph Labauve, Tony Navarro, and Joe Gerace. **Jerry Feustel** jfeustel@charter.net

Jerry: I hope you will encourage your buddies to join the Association. You can join any of our reunions and although you may not find many "Germany" vets, you'll be surprised how well you will feel a part of the 24th Division brotherhood. **David**

Letters



Black Beach landing on Corregidor by John Laguna

I remember on day two the navy brought in members of the 503 paratroops. They were not on the regular landing craft we came in on. As they unloaded on the beach a Jap 50 Cal MG hidden in a cave in the brush to the left of the landing started to spray the area. Our Navy Cruiser setting offshore shut him down. I remember this happening. Not sure if we were still clearing out North Dock area or heading up Malinta Hill to relieve CO K.

We were pinned down trying to cross Black Beach, by MG fire from Malinta Tunnel to our right and another from the **Ice House**, 500 yds to our front. We called for tank fire to shut them down.

David: John has sent me a picture of the Ice house taken recently (below). That window we shot out of the Icehouse is still there and has never been repaired. **Paul Cain**

David: Just a note to thank you for putting my story in the Taro Leaf about my service in Ashiya, Japan after I left Korea. I'm sending a poem from a local paper printed on Veteran's Day. You might consider it for the Taro Leaf. **Clinton A. Roberts, Life Member 1768**, I & E CO, Korea, 1950, 9649 W. State Road 56, French Lick, IN 47432.

Clint: Thanks for your note and the poem. I'll use this opportunity to let all our readers know we cannot publish third party material without the author's consent. It is often difficult to track down the author, and we cannot do it. The alternative is for the person submitting a piece to obtain the permission and include it with material submitted. **David**

Editor: I am a veteran of the 21st RGT and life member #370 of the 24th IDA. Is it possible you could put in the Taro Leaf the current status of the 19th, 21st, and 34th regiments? **Karl A. Krassler**, 165 Brown Avenue, Holyoke, MA 01040.

Karl: The 24th ID with its units was deactivated after the Korean War, but re-activated in 1956 and later served during Desert Storm and later deactivated again, I believe. I welcome more information from someone better informed. **Editor**



24th Supply & Transportation Battalion

Augsburg, Germany, Sheridan Kaserne

David: I served proudly with the 24th S&T BN in Germany, 1964-1966. I have compiled the following information about the unit and I would appreciate it if you would put it in the Taro Leaf.

Unit Insignia: Gold color metal and enamel device. 1 inch in height overall consisting of gold taro leaf bearing a blue wheel with winged helmet of Mercury, in purple.

Symbolism: The taro leaf is representative of the Hawaiian Islands and denotes the origin of the unit. It's combined with the winged helmet of the old transportation corps and the wheel of the supply service.

Background: The distinctive unit Insignia was originally approved for Hawaiian Division Train on 24 March 1924. It was re-assigned for the 11th Quartermaster Regiment effective 1 April 1936. It was then re-designated for the 24th Supply and Transportation battalion 1 April 1963, Augsburg, Germany. It was again re-designated for the 24th Support Battalion with description and image revised on 28 July 1987.

Statement of Service:

- Constituted 17 March 1921 in Regular Army as Hawaiian Division Train, Quartermaster Corps.
- Organized 3 May 1921 at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
- Re-designated 23 March 1925 as the Hawaiian Division Quartermaster Train.
- Inactivated 31 May 1931 in Hawaii
- Re-designated 1 May 1931 as the 11th Quartermaster regiment and activated at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii
- Re-Organized and designated 1 November 1942 as the 24th Quartermaster company, 24th Infantry Division
- Re-designated for the 24th Supply & Transportation Battalion 1 April 1963, Augsburg, Germany, Sheridan Kaserne
- Inactivated 15 April 1970 at Fort Riley, Kansas.
- Activated 21 September 1975 at Fort Stewart, Georgia as an element of the 24th Infantry Division

- Inactivated 15 September 1985 at Fort Stewart, Georgia.
- Re-designated 1 May 1987 as the 24th Support Battalion and activated at Fort Stewart, Georgia, as an element of the 24th Infantry Division
- Activated 16 October 2009 in Germany and assigned to the 170th Infantry Brigade

Campaign Participation Credit:

- World War II, Korea, South West Asia
- Central Pacific, UN Defensive Defense of Saudi Arabia
- New Guinea (with arrowhead), UN Offensive Liberation and

Defense of Kuwait

- Leyte (with arrowhead), CCF intervention Cease-Fire
- Southern Philippines UN Summer-Fall offensive
- Second Korean Winter
- Korea, summer 1953

Awards & Decorations:

- Presidential Unit Citation, Streamer Embroidered Korea
- Meritorious Unit Commendation, Streamer Embroidered Pacific Theater
- Meritorious Unit Commendation, Streamer Embroidered Korea
- Meritorious Unit Commendation, Streamer Embroidered South West – Asia 1990-1991
- Army Superior Unit Award, Streamer Embroidered 1994
- Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, Streamer Embroidered 17 Oct 1944 to 4 Jul 1945
- Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, Streamer Embroidered PYONGTAEK

Thomas M. Appler, Life Member 2236, Director-at-Large, 24th IDA. Email: tom-steph@comcast.net

To Whom It May Concern c/o Taro Leaf Editor: I just finished reviewing Taro Leaf Vol. 65, No. 4, Fall 2011.

Three items of equal importance:

1) Confirmed recipient of MOH, SGT George D. Libby, dishonored/downgraded to Silver Star award (why?) T.L. Vol. 65, No. 4, Fall 2011, pg. 25, and T.L. Vol. 65, No. 1, Winter 2011, Pg. 31 (photo of grave marker shows MOH).

2) PVT Ova A. Kelly, MOH posthumously awarded recipient Nov., 1944 – T.L. Vol. 65, No. 3 Summer 2011, pg. 7 & T.L. Vol. 65, No. 2, Spring 2011, pg. 28 (no reply)

3) Ms. Merry Helm, enthusiastically nominated for Verbeck Award. Letter to a member of Verbeck Award Comm. with cc: to M.H. & Editor D.V. (Letter for 2011, for year 2012 request still available.)

P.S. Immediate reply requested, be it negative, or positive. Thank you. **P. Ed Rumbaoa**, Life Member 2234, 21128 S. Menlo Ave., Torrance, CA 90502

Ed. 1) Re story on pg. 25 referenced above, it was picked up from a news story. Talk to the author. Perhaps Libby was also awarded a Silver Star. I think it reckless to insinuate we dishonored or downgraded Libby. 2) You asked a question in your prior letter of why Kelly was not included in a list of MOH recipients. Apparently you didn't get an answer. Maybe this letter might stir a response. 3) Re: Verbeck Award candidates, I imagine many recommendations were made to the Committee. I leave it to them to respond and/or consider former candidates again. **Editor**

David: I found your email on the 24th Infantry Division website. This afternoon I purchased a picture (at a yard sale) of the First (?) reunion dinner held March 15, 1949 of the 24th Infantry Division. The reunion was held at the Narragansett Hotel in Providence, RI. If I can get good picture of it would you like me to email a picture of it to you. The picture is framed and around 8 inches high and 12 inches wide. **Bob Griffin**, Email: hawkeyeronin@gmail.com

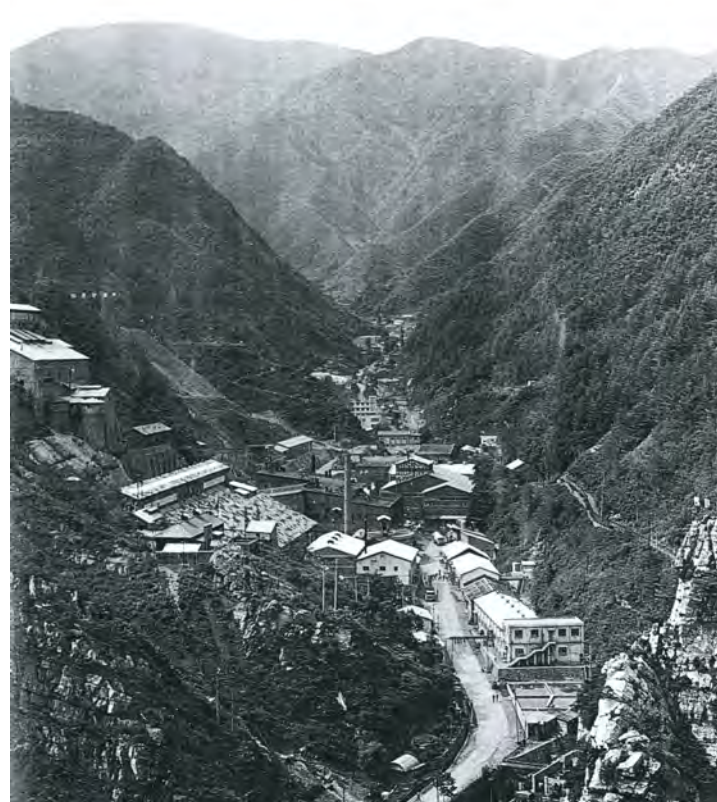
Bob: Thanks for the picture, it is not the first reunion, but certainly an early one. Members, I would like to hear from anyone who was in attendance and of your recollections of the event. **Editor**



David: In answer to your request for info on mining in Korea in the fall 2011 issue of the Taro Leaf, I offer the following. I was a member of Fox CO, 34th RGT. We were sent to Korea on the 1st of July, 1953. See my earlier letter about this move in a previous issue. We had many assignments after the cease fire and one of them was to guard a tungsten mine at Sangdong. We were there from about Feb. 10th to April 11th of 1954. I will send you a picture of the mine from a 1975 issue of Korea Photo News Magazine which is a interesting story in itself as to how I came upon the article. My friend Don Duffy, also a member of Fox CO., did a lot of research on the move and location of the mine, etc.

John F. (Jack) Goedeke Sr. 29381 Woodridge Dr., Easton Md. 21601 jjgoe2005@yahoo.com

Jack: I appreciate the information and the picture of what was then called "World's Largest Tungsten Mine at Sandong"



"... AND THE RAINS CAME."

In November of 1943 an advance detachment of the 24th Division under Colonel Homer Kiefer found itself in the wilds of Goodenough Island, New Guinea, to select a staging area for the troops who would arrive from Australia early in 1944.

A rain chart revealed an average annual rainfall of more than 200 inches per year, but it all fell during the February-March rainy season.

A message warned incoming troop commanders that great care should be taken to have tentage pitched on all available high ground; low ground would certainly be flooded— and how!

Sure enough, two days after the last 24th Division troops had arrived on Goodenough, the rains came—36 inches of it within 48 hours. Rugged engineer road and bridge

construction washed out the first night. (Remember that Engineer Saw Mill called "The Thick and Thin Lumber Company" with a slogan "The Best is none too good."

As the second night approached, troops encamped on a certain small knoll surrounded by swirling floodwaters, congratulated themselves on their good fortune.

The animals in New Guinea had learned that lesson long ago! During the night snakes (they grow from 9 to 15 feet long), lizards (5 or 6 feet long is not unusual), wallabies (small scale kangaroos), giant rats, and even alligators (being amphibious, they could leave if they didn't like their company) sought safety on the crowded knolls among the tents.

The frightened animals became entangled in the tent ropes; tent stakes pulled out of the soft mud! Tents collapsed and lights went out! Rifles and machetes were held ready but no one dared use them; who could distinguish man from wild animal in that wet pitch blackness under the sodden tents?

Finally some, heroic soul thought to turn on his vehicle lights and there the entire camp huddled in wet misery and with frayed nerves until dawn.

The animals, no doubt, were also relieved at having the comforting darkness left to them alone. Though no one was bitten or hurt that night the harrowing experience takes its

place alongside the most nerve-wracking of battlefield tales. Imagine your own feelings in such a predicament.

Dick Lawson vouches for this tale. He was there and talked to a soldier whose friend said it was a fact. From: The Taro Leaf, Vol III(2) 1949.

Goodenough Island was a relatively small piece of real estate off the eastern tip of Papua New Guinea, but of great strategic significance in the early months of WWII in the South Pacific. Editor

The Editor's Korean Geography Lesson

A few months ago Marvin Reed sent me a blurry picture of himself with a penciled title "Marvin Reed, CPL, North Korea, November, 1951." I sent a note to Marvin asking if it was actually November, 1950. Since I had crossed the Han River just south of Seoul about the beginning of January, 1951 with the enemy in hot pursuit, the MLR was then entirely in South Korea. I have just learned from reading the 24th ID history that "Operation Killer" was mounted 27 February, 1951 and pushed the Chinese back across the Han, and by March 7 liberated the capital once more, and for the final time. I was sent back to Japan in late March, 1951 at which time we were north of Seoul, and I believed the 24th ID was all in South Korea. In reading further I learned by mid-April our forces were beyond the 38th parallel again. According to the history book, "What followed over the next several days was the largest single battle of the Korean War.

Geographically, it is not obvious from my resources, just where this took place. The Eighth Army objective of mid-April was the "Iron Triangle" an area that encompassed Chorwan, Kumhwa, and Pyonggang (not Pyongyang). Also mentioned is a town called Mugok. Battles in this area went on for several months with the heaviest fighting taken place on hills 628 and 1168. In August, 1951 the 24th went into reserve and returned on line in October with orders to take the heights above Kumsong to prepare for winter operations. Three weeks later, now into November, the division achieved its objective.

Getting back to Marvin Reed, in response to my question of whether the 24th was in North Korea in November, 1951 (which it was), he wrote. "I think the 24th was in that area twice. I know where I was in 1951 and 1952. One of the infantry guys pointed out Kumsong to me."

Thank you, Marvin. I stand corrected and in the process of doing this research I have learned a great deal. In all honesty I must say once I got out of Korea, I paid little attention to what was happening there. Maybe it was because I was enjoying Japan so much, or perhaps it was because I deliberately wanted to detach myself from thinking about it. Going further on that thought, it wasn't until after I retired that I became interested in what was the most significant nine months of my life there in Korea.

David Valley, Editor

P.S. In a book, mostly of photos, sent to me by John K. Shank, I recently found a citation for CO G **21st RGT** for their valor at Kumsong. It is presented on page 23 with a map of the DMZ area and the approximate location of Kumsong. I have scoured the internet looking for good maps of this area with the towns and villages of North Korea indicated. I could not find any showing Kumsong, but from the 24th ID history book, the village of Pyonggang was mentioned, which is shown on the map of page 23. Therefore, I indicated approximately where Kumsong might be. **Editor**

Angry Tank Sergeant Blows Up Red Tanks With Bazooka

With U. S. Eighth Army at the Front (AP) -- A slightly built, 24-year-old master sergeant from Texas became the first Korean war candidate for the silver star Thursday by destroying two Communist tanks with a bazooka.

Sgt. J. R. Glaze, Linden, Tex. is a tank commander. His tank was shot out from under him in his first battle. He jumped out, grabbed an infantryman's bazooka, knocked the turret off one North Korean tank, and set fire to another.



As Morthew put it: "He ducked inside and hit the tank on the treads near the engine, setting it afire." (By Robert C. Miller, Waterloo Daily Courier. July 13, 1950.)

Our historian, Merry Helms notes that Master Segeant Glaze actually was not the first candidate for a Silver Star in the Korean War. Nor did he receive one. But he did receive the Distinguished Service Cross. His citation

follows:

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Service Cross to Master Sergeant J. R. Glaze, RA-18213079, United States Army, for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy of the United Nations while serving as a member of Company A, 78th Heavy Tank Battalion, 24th Infantry Division. Master Sergeant Glaze distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism in action against enemy aggressor forces near Chochiwon, Korea, on 10 July 1950. On this date, Sergeant Glaze, Tank Commander of a light tank, engaged a much heavier enemy T-34 Tank. Seeing that the 75-mm. ammunition with which his tank was equipped had no effect on the heavier tank, he left his tank to procure a rocket launcher from friendly infantry. Having procured a rocket launcher he advanced to within 25 yards of the enemy tank and destroyed it. He then moved forward eighty yards under heavy enemy small arms fire and destroyed a second tank. During this action he was severely wounded. The extraordinary heroism displayed by Master Sergeant Glaze on this occasion reflects the highest credit on himself and the military service. (Eighth U.S. Army, Korea: General Orders No. 54, 6 September 1950)

The battle took place when Glaze's dug-in tank began a fight with a Russian-built T-34 carrying an 85-millimeter gun. The American tank fired four rounds at the heavier opponent and accomplished nothing.

Cpl. Roy E. Morthew told the story: "Glaze started to cuss when the first Korean shell hit us. He jumped up and told me to take command of the tank. Artillery and machine gun and rifle fire were buzzing all around the place, but Glaze managed somehow not to get hit. He yelled for a bazooka, but everybody was dug in where it was safe. Finally a GI handed him his bazooka. Glaze went after that Russian job.

"Talk about David and Goliath. He cut through the woods and came out about 20 yards to one side and let fire. From the way he stood there, exposed to every North Korean infantryman in the place, you would have thought he was on maneuvers. The bazooka caught the tank right at its turret and blew it off. The Korean tanker came out of there like a rabbit and beat it."

But Glaze wasn't satisfied yet. He went after a second tank. He stalked it from the shrubs alongside the road.

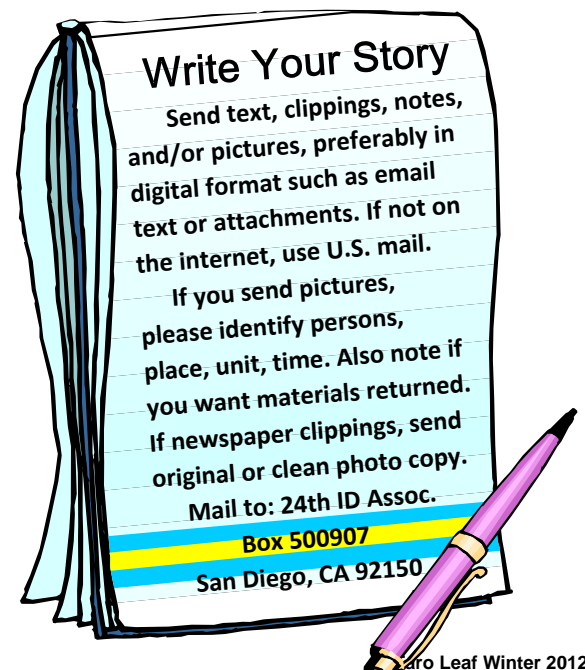
Fallen Comrades

Continued from page 16

Sumner Lee Robinson, 78, of Front Royal, Virginia, passed away December 19, 2011. He was a proud U.S. Army Veteran of the Korean War having served with the **24th ID** in Korea and with the 532nd Corps of Engineers in Japan.



Michael M. Cullen, Member, age 90, died October 15, 2011. He served with the 24th RECON in the South Pacific in World War II.



Ed Browne Remembers Pearl Harbor—

but unfortunately, not much else... by Tom J. Thiel



On Dec. 2, Lois G. Herbst of Wyoming, wrote to me: "I receive this newsletter* for my brother, Major Edward J. Browne, Ret. who is now in Arbor Village at Wildwood, FL.... Ed started his military career at age 16 in Jan. 1941 when he joined the U.S. Army with the **24th** Infantry Division at Pearl Harbor (Schofield Barracks) on December 7, 1941. **The Florida 24th IDA Vet*, which I write quarterly.

Ed served in South Pacific. The Leyte battle helped him be assigned to Gen. MacArthur's Honor Guard during the occupation of Japan. He then went to Korea with the First Cavalry Division where he was wounded twice...he has commendations and medals from three wars. He has no family in Florida and I am trying to get someone ... to visit him on Dec. 7th. Ed has dementia, but I think he would enjoy a visit from a fellow military man."

I replaced my 24th IDA hat when I received this with my Korean War Veterans Association of Lake County (FL), Chapter 169 hat, where I serve as Chapter President. I contacted one of our members, Don Lynch is from Wildwood, who is also in the Color Guard. I asked Don if he might contact "Major Ed."

The end result was that Don, and two more of our Chapter members, Charlie White and Bill Shumaker visited Ed early afternoon on Dec. 7, after they had done their color guard duties at the Villages Veterans Memorial that morning.

Don reported "Ed has advanced Alzheimer's disease. He looks alert and healthy, but could not put things together. When we mentioned Pearl Harbor, Ed replied: 'I was at breakfast.' But that is about the most that we could get from him. We saluted and shook his hand, right off the bat and he saluted back. His sister should know he is well cared for and likes the people he is with. It was a good visit, I told him we would visit him again."

I contacted Lois with the results that Don reported, and she was most pleased. She even mentioned becoming an Associate Member of the 24th IDA. I noted that Ed's Association dues date is a little in arrears.

Now speaking with both my Taro Leaf and my KWVA hats, I am very pleased that we were able to have members of our Chapter visit Ed on Dec. 7. When I meet with our Florida 24th IDA Vets in January, I will relay this story to them and we will send a group or Taro Leafers to visit Ed.

When I read the story Tom Thiel submitted I remembered writing a piece about Ed for the General MacArthur Honor Guard Association newsletter a few months ago. Ed is truly a grand old soldier who dedicated his life to serving his country. Following are additional accounts of Ed Browne's military career. David Valley, Editor

- VE Day, Ed was separated from service.
- Reenlisted in '46 and was assigned to the occupation of Japan assigned to **Gen MacArthur's Honor Guard**, and later Troop C, 7th Cavalry Regiment, **First Cavalry Division**.
- Entered the Korean Campaign with Troop C in Jul '50. Wounded that month and recuperated in Japan, returning to Korea in Nov '50. Wounded again his first day back with the unit. Returned to US for medical treatment. Grade: Sergeant First Class, Platoon Sergeant.
- Next was a tour as First Sergeant, **30th Infantry** which was in support of the Infantry school. Had malaria frequently during this period. Was also Operations Sergeant, Combat Training Command.
- 1952 – Selected for National Guard Advisory duty with the NC National Guard headquarters in Raleigh, NC.
- 1955 – Rotated to Ft Bragg, NC, where he was Operations Sergeant with **81st Chemical Group**. Became a "super grade" (E8) when they became available.
- 1959 – Called to active duty in commissioned status; transferring from Infantry to Chemical Corps. Promoted to 1st Lt and assigned to 100th Chemical Group, Ft. McClellan, AL. While there he also commanded **317th Chemical Co** and attended Chemical Officer Career Course that included nuclear weapons employment.
- As Captain he was assigned to US Army Technical Escort unit and attended Explosive Ordnance School. This unit was responsible for safe movement of chemical and biological weapons, and disposal of unsafe munitions.
- When assigned US Army Alaska as Chemical Officer and Nuclear Weapons Employment Officer with 171st Infantry at Fort Wainwright. Participated in Arctic maneuvers at 60° below zero. Promoted to Major.
- Returned to Technical Escort Unit at Edgewood Arsenal in Maryland. Then assigned to Commanding Officer of the Troops Battalion.
- Next assigned overseas to US Army Thailand as General Staff Officer specializing in chemical operations.
- Returned to States and Edgewood Arsenal where he retired in Jul '69.
- Total service: 27 years. Overseas service 11 years.

Awards: Combat Infantry Badge with Star, Purple Heart w/Oak Leaf Cluster, Asiatic Campaign w/3 Battle Stars, Army Commendation Medal w/Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star Medal, Explosive Ordnance Badge, Philippines Unit Citation, WW-II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Army Occupation Medal, Korean Service, United Nation Service, National Defense, American Defense, Philippines Liberation.

Way to go, Ed! And thanks to our comrades who took the time to visit the old soldier.

Story of LT Leonard K. Warner by Sam Kier

For some time, due to a note in Slater's *Hills of Sacrifice: The 5th RCT in Korea*, I was under the impression that a young Hawaiian platoon leader, 1st LT Leonard Kalani Warner, had received two distinguished service crosses during the first year of the Korean conflict. I conferred with several other unit historians and the curator of the Hawaii Army Museum and no one could provide a written citation for a second award.

Therefore, on Saturday, October 1, while those with good sense enjoyed the wonders of Waikiki and the hospitality room at the 25th IDA Reunion, I spent much of the day at the Hawaii State Library reading old newspapers in an effort to solve the mystery of the alleged second DSC.

Leonard Warner was born in Honolulu on April 23, 1924; the youngest of four sons born to Samuel and Emma Warner. The four boys were tragically orphaned in the summer of 1930 when Mr. and Mrs. Warner died within two days of each other. Leonard's Hawaiian heritage and scholastic ability enabled him to receive his early education at Kamehameha School for Boys.

In 1942, during his senior year in high school, he enlisted in the Army Reserve. Following graduation, he attended the University of Hawaii until he was called to active duty in 1944 and shipped state-side to Officer Candidate School.

Following OCS, Warner reported to Camp Adair, Oregon and was assigned as a platoon leader to Company K, 381st Infantry Regiment, 96th Infantry Division. After a period of extended training, including amphibious training with the Marines, the 96th left for the Pacific and participated in the assault on Leyte in October 1944. On April 1, 1945, the 96th and 7th Infantry Divisions and three Marine divisions went ashore on Okinawa with orders to destroy the Japanese 32nd Army during, what would turn out to be, the final battle of World War II. The task required eighty-two days of tough fighting,

LT Warner's platoon was involved in the effort to secure Conical Hill, a key Japanese defensive position. Between May 18 and May 23, Warner and his crew killed 250 Japanese, captured eight machine guns and 25 rifles and secured a ridge, which enabled his battalion to successfully attack neighboring Sugar Loaf Hill. Leonard Warner personally accounted for one

machine gun emplacement with a satchel charge. He received the Silver Star for gallantry in action.

Warner returned to the family home in Honolulu, after the war, and elected to remain in the Army Reserve. In the summer of 1950, his reserve unit was training with the 5th Regimental Combat Team at Schofield Barracks. On June 24, when the 5th RCT was alerted for shipment to Korea.

Warner and a number of other reservists volunteered to extend their period of active duty and accompany the 5th RCT to the Far East. He was assigned to Company H as a weapons platoon leader.

On the night of September 16, Warner's 2nd Battalion was under heavy attack in a wooded area on the outskirts of Waegwan. Given the option of withdrawing, the young lieutenant led his machine gun platoon forward and fought through the night to hold the line intact. He was wounded and spent forty-one days in Japan before returning to Korea.

He received his second Silver Star for his actions at Waegwan. On April 20, 1951, the 5th RCT relieved the 21st Infantry on Line Utah, near Umjich-on, and was preparing to attack north to Kumwha on the following day. However, patrols sent out during the night ran into the vanguard of 337,000 Chinese soldiers just itching to regain the initiative.

At 2120 hours on the 22nd, devastating mortar and artillery fire and hundreds of Chinese infantrymen hit 2nd Battalion. Warner and his machine gun platoon held their positions during repeated attacks. Leonard Warner moved along the ridge line, in full view of the enemy, encouraging his men and directing their fire. When the order came to withdraw, he moved from emplacement to emplacement to ensure that none of his men were left behind. He was last seen on the morning of the 23rd, the 27th anniversary of his birth, engaged in hand-to-hand fighting with a group of enemy soldiers.

The missing Leonard K. Warner was awarded his sole Distinguished Service Cross for his gallantry at Umjich-on. His remains were finally discovered in August 1953, and shipped home to Honolulu. They are buried in the Punch Bowl next to those of his parents and an older brother, CSM Herbert Warner.

Fallen Comrades

Ira Thomas DeFoor passed away October 29, 2011 in Denton, Texas at the age of 92. During World War II, he earned the rank of Sergeant with the **24th ID, SP SVC**, stationed in the South Pacific including campaigns in New Guinea and the Southern Philippines. He received an Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with 2 Bronze Stars, Philippine Liberation Ribbon with 1 Bronze Star, Good Conduct Medal, and WW II Victory Medal. **Member**

William C. Annis, died October 6, 2011 in Boskawan, NH. During WWII he served with the **724 ORD Maintenance CO of the 24th ID** in the Philippines and in Japan.

Benjam E. Wallacker passed September 22, 2011 at the age of 84 in Davis, California where he was professor emeritus in the Department of Anthropology at the University of California, Davis. Ben joined the **24th ID HQ** in 1945 on the island of Mindanao, Philippines. He served in Division I & E during the Occupation of Japan in Matsuyama, Shikoku, Okayama, Honshu and Kokura, Kyushu.



Richard Martin, 91, of Bethlehem, PA passed away Saturday, November 19, 2011. In World War II, he served with the **24th ID** through four campaigns in New Guinea and the Philippines.

Nicholas L. Marasco passed away Saturday Oct. 29, 2011 at Andover, NY. Nick served during WWII, 1941-45, in the South Pacific with **L CO, 34th RGT. Life member #362.**



Eldon Collins died at 6:50 p.m., Sunday, December 4, 2011. He served in **CO H, 19th RGT**, 1951-52 during the Korean War. Merry interviewed him in 2007 about his experience in the battle called Operation Nomad, which took place during the second half of October 1951, near Kumsong, North Korea. *See Story Page 13*

Alexander W. Nicholson, Sr., 91, of Bonita Springs, FL, died December 6, 2011 at Hope Hospice Health Park in Ft. Myers, FL. He proudly served his country in the **19 RGT, C CO**, during [World War II](#).

Raymond Charles Bagley died Nov. 23, 2011. He served in the United States Army during the Korean War with the **24th ID, 21st RGT.**

GEORGE A MAXIN, 77, of Dahlonoga, GA and Mt. Dora, FL passed away September 22, . He proudly served our country in the US Army during the Korean War in the **19th RGT, 2nd Bn, HQ CO.**

Wayne Wehrli died Thursday, Dec. 1, 2011 at age 88 in Albany, OR. He joined the **24th ID** May, 1941. On December, 7 of that year he had just sat down to a plate of hotcakes at Schofield Army Barracks when Japanese planes dropped their first bombs. He ran outside near the quadrangle and a burst of machine gun fire from a Japanese plane barely missed him. He said he was close enough to see the pilot's big smile, complete with a gold tooth. He and his buddies raced for the armory, which was locked. So they jumped in a Jeep and drove right through the doors, grabbed boxes of ammunition and "fed it as fast as we could back to the Japanese." "I never did get breakfast, that day," Wayne said. Later Wayne was transferred to the 25th ID and served in the South Pacific where he was awarded the Bronze Star, World War II Victory Medal and Combat Infantry Badge. From a story by **JENNIFER MOODY ALBANY DEMOCRAT –HERALD**

Warren William Lewis of Finlayson, MN, died unexpectedly on Sunday, Feb. 15, 2009 in Duluth. He was 76 years old. He was born on March 2, 1932 in Knapp, WI. At age 17, he joined the Army, later he was shipped to Korea to serve with Company C, **21st RGT**. After four years, he was discharged as a sergeant with medals and honors. He was a hero to many. His medals included the Silver Star, two Purple Hearts and many others. He is survived and will be sadly missed by his wife, Tammy and family. (See Above & Beyond, page)

Alexander W. Nicholson, Sr., 91, of Bonita Springs, FL, died December 6, 2011 at Hope Hospice Health Park in Ft. Myers, FL. He had been a resident of Bonita Springs since 1989 coming from Plainville. He was born October 26, 1920 in Danbury. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army, **24th ID**, during WWII.



Henry Warner Schoch, 82, died Sunday, August 7, 2011. Mr. Schoch was a veteran of the United States Army. Survivors

include his wife, Jane Schoch, 140 Vonron Dr., Macon, GA, 31210-7314, 912-474-2919, He served in **24th ID HQ**, 1946-1947, in Japan. **Life Member #1722**



Stanley J. Kalich passed away on December 7, 2011. He was a decorated soldier during the Korean War, serving with the 24th Infantry Division, **24th RE-CON CO** during 1951 and 1952. He was a true patriot. It was only fitting that he passed away on Pearl Harbor Day. He leaves behind his wife of 57 years, Lydia, 1601 Twinpeaks Dr., Wenatchee, WA, 98801-1478 **Member**

Sumner Lee Robinson, 78, of Front Royal, Virginia, passed away December 19, 2011. He was a proud U.S. Army Veteran of the Korean War having served with the **24th ID** in Korea and with the 532nd Corps of Engineers in Japan.

Melvin L. "Roy" Collins, 82, of Horse Shoe, NC passed away December 24, 2011. Roy served in Korea with the US Army **24th Division.**



David: Thanks for the story on page 13 of the Fall taro Leaf about my search for the name of a soldier who was killed next to me in the Philippines before I even knew his name. As you know from my story, I finally located his name after 66 years. I had the pleasure of dedicating a memorial brick to him at the Willow Lake Veterans Memorial. I've included pictures. Thanks for a great Taro Leaf. **John Trinca**, Life Member 1252, 25426 W. Highwoods Dr., Antioch, IL 60002 847 395-3668

John: Thanks for the follow up to your story. This picture of you touching Bateman's memorial brick completes the story better than any words can do. **David**



Osan Memorial Hall artist drawing to honor Task Force Smith and shown below under construction, as of Nov. 2011, in Osan, South Korea



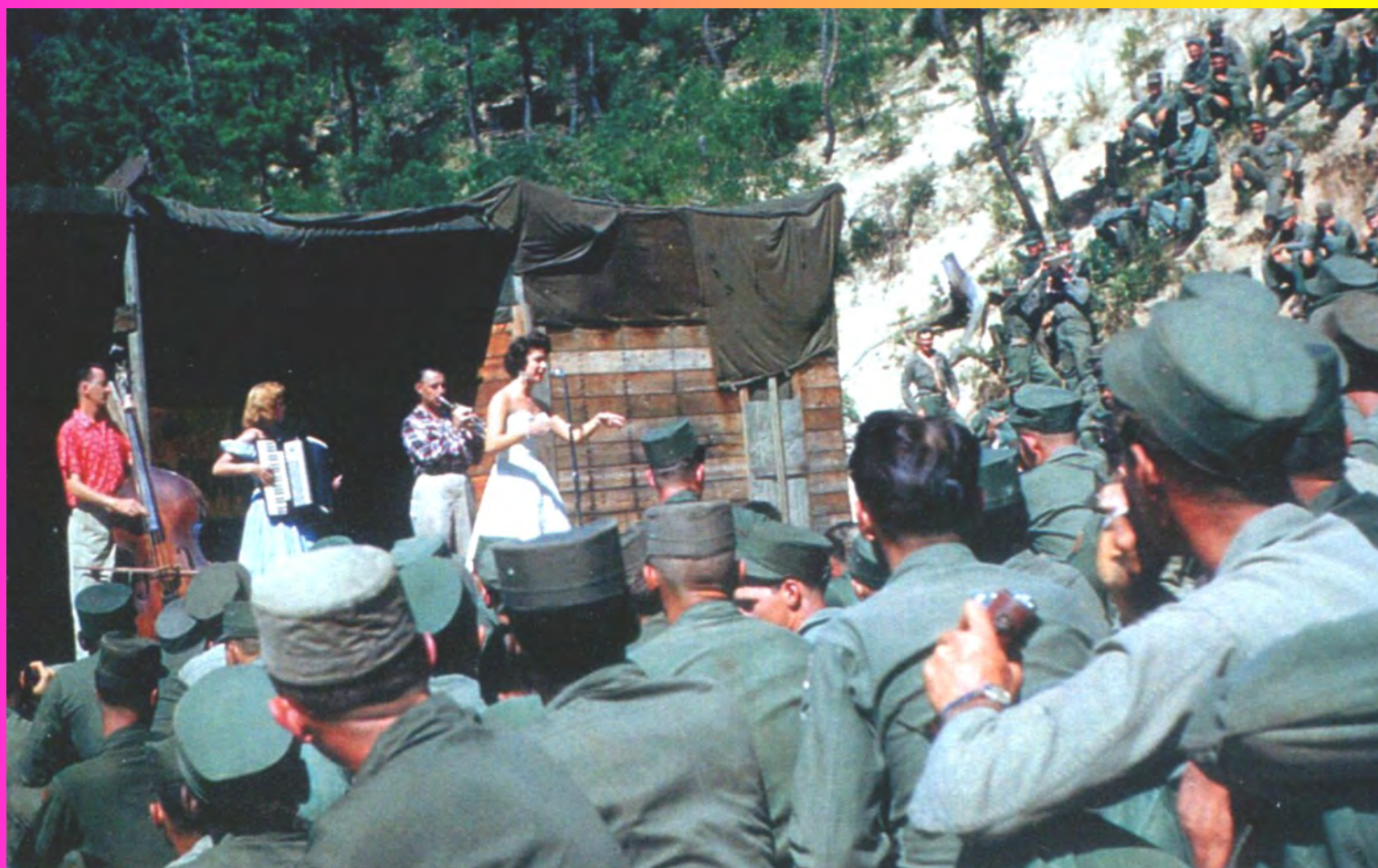
Tank CO, 21st RGT, 24th ID.
Left to right: Jessup - Alabama
Pathenroth - Pennsylvania
Paul Martin -

John Shank - Indiana

Kneeling: Earl Ehernt - Arkansas
And, Erlick, who just made CP
(others, no names given)

This picture and those on the following two pages are from a book called, *Yang gu, Korea, Pictorial Interlude - MLR to P* (Main Line of Resistance to Peace and Life Zone) by John Shank. It is an impressive collection of photo and cryptic titles from John's service in Korea, 1952-1954. Also from the book is the citation shown on page 23. **John Shank, Box 360, Tuscon, AZ 85740, email: johnshank2009@hotmail.com**





USO SHOW held at the "Kimchee Bowl"



Terry Moore and Penny Singleton "Blondie" were among those who came to entertain the troops



Field Kitchen, complete with smiling Red Cross ladies (*I never saw the likes of that when I was in Korea. Ed.*)





SHORE WATCH
by David Fredenthal



COWBOY ARTILLERY AT SOYANG
Hongchon, South Korea, May 18, 1951
National Guard Heritage series



A STEP TOWARD DESTINY by Peter Varisano
On April 28, 1993 Defense Secretary Les Aspin announced an end to the policy of barring women from combat aviation. The U.S. Army's First Woman Attack Helicopter: 2LT Charlene Wagner graduated from AH-1 Cobra on June 17th 1993.



THE AMERICAN SOLDIER, 1944
Artist unknown

Paintings courtesy of U.S. Army Historical Archives

Mario Iezzoni's memories of the Korean War

Replacement. G Company was on reserve and needing to replenish itself back into a whole fighting unit for the next attack. I was one of the forty-five replacements that joined G Company on the 23rd and 27th of March, 1951. After being assigned, replacements trained with their respective platoons. I was assigned as an ammo bearer #2 in the 60mm mortar section of the 4th Platoon with SFC Balingit Aniceto (Gabby), Leader, SFC Alley Thane, as section leader, SGT Coleman Ellis, gunner, PFC McMinn Clark, assistant gunner, Miranda Jose, ammo bearer #1. We all trained as a gunner and assistant gunner. Our training was conducted using live ammo to hit a given target. We had to set up the mortar as fast as possible, and faster, zero in on the target and put it out of action by firing multiple rounds for effect. We repeated this over and over, to a point where we wished we were in actual combat.

On our way back from training, the 4th platoon sang, 'Pees-onia', 'Lee-onia', or whistled the tune to the Bridge on the River Kwai. After one long and hard day training, my section leader asked me if I was tired, knowing full well that I was, he still wanted me to answer. He kept asking until I said, "Yes." Then he replied, "You'll be able to sleep tonight."

It took me six weeks to realize the meaning of his answer. In battle, you attack, dig in, defend your position when attacked, and rotate. Guarding hourly the most sleep you get is nothing but a cat nap. Sleeping is a luxury you can only afford when you are on reserve, and, only if you are not on guard duty that night. After my first attack, 11 Apr 51, I had one day on reserve out of 55 consecutive days on line or attack.

Attack on a 3604 ft mountain, 38th Parallel, 2nd Day. In each attack, you're faced with situations that may take your life. The attack on Mae-bong lasted five days 20-24 May 1951. My first experience came, I think, the second day, while standing in line waiting for the assault platoon working on its objective. I saw an enemy soldier lying on a big boulder about twenty-five feet above me, his rifle and fully extended, bayonet aimed directly at me. I quickly dropped down and pulled my pistol; we stared at each other for a long time. I fired once and he rolled towards me, off the rock, dead. Why he didn't fire first, I don't know...maybe he knew others would get to him.

SGT Alley did not believe "one shot" Iezzoni. Weeks later, he bet \$50 I couldn't hit a good size tree – I missed eight times. He didn't take the money when I offered it to him. So, it could be, someone else shot that enemy at the same time I

fired my pistol, or the Guardian Angel was with me.

The objective taken, we moved up a quarter mile where the mortar was set up to fire. Shortly after, the BARman next to us on the line was hit. Over an hour later, a squad of enemy soldiers appeared on the ridge just eight feet away from us.



Before they could fire, two of our new US ammo bearers opened fire and killed at least six of them. The enemy counter-attacked and we ran back a half mile, down the ridge, and started digging in. That night we were attacked five or six times. We continued our attack in the morning and retook our objective and more. On the way past our old position, I counted the 5 dead enemy out loud to Sgt. Alley and added one more 6th on the other side of the ridge.

4th Day. This day on the attack, we reached the top of the mountain, altitude: 3604 feet. It was littered with bloated decomposing enemy bodies from an earlier air strike. The stench was so strong, we thought it was a reason for the missing enemy. As the 3rd platoon began to clear the area the enemy opened fire on us. When automatic fire came my way I hit the ground with the mortar tube and base plate on my side, shielded only by tall weeds.

SGT Alley called me to set up the mortar. As I moved the weeds moved and the enemy's automatic fire came just overhead. Alley kept calling for the mortar. As I responded, so, too, did the enemy. This went on until automatic fire hit me on the pistol belt and the ground around me! He had me zeroed-in; I knew I couldn't move again. I played dead let the enemy think he got me. Even SGT Alley stopped calling.

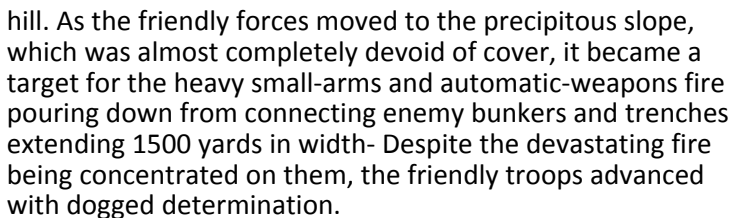
As I played dead, the enemy had stopped firing at me so I felt obligated to set up my mortar. I pretended to be ready for a 'fire mission'. With my body still tight to the ground I started calling for ammo. "Ammo, ammo, Ammo" I yelled, "get that ammo here." I don't remember how long we lay there, but I knew that I was not going to be the first to move. As I figured, no one else was about to move, either. Thank God. A squad of the 3rd platoon worked their way around the right flank placing the enemy in a cross-fire and ran them off.

That was just too close. The bullet that nearly got me put a deep gash on the flap of my Pistol Holster for everyone to see and comment; how I hated when I had to turn in my Pistol and my badge of Honor.

Mario Iezonni, Life Member 1229, 29 W. Amidon St., Summit Hill, PA 18250, 717-645-9326

By direction of the President the following unit is cited as public evidence of deserved honor and distinction.

numerical superior enemy force occupying a network of string fortifications. As the friendly troops advanced across the open terrain toward their objective, a devastating enemy artillery barrage accounted for many casualties, Undaunted, they continued moving forward and, upon reaching the base of their objective, they fixed their bayonets and charged directly up the hill. With great courage, the members of COMPANY G. fought then- way toward the crest destroying each enemy position in their route of attack. Fighting hand-to-hand with the enemy, the friendly troops, with indefatigable persistence, moved steadily forward until the objective was secured and the hostile force was annihilated.



Then, from forward defensive positions, the members of COMPANY G. poured a heavy volume of fire into the remaining adjacent enemy emplacements in support of attacking friendly units until the entire area was secured.

During this four day period, the enemy suffered approximately 444 casualties with 162 killed and an estimated 282 being wounded. In addition, eight enemy prisoners were captured. COMPANY G displayed such gallantry, determination and esprit de corps hi accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set it apart and above other units participating in the action. The indomitable courage and aggressiveness exhibited by the members of this company through this action reflect great credit on themselves and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL VAN FLEET, CG, EIGHTH UNITED STATES ARMY KOREA (EUSAK) 27 January 1952

Except for map, from John Shank's book, Yang qu, Korea

Eldon Collins Story by Merry Helms

I read Eldon Collins obituary and would like to share a few details about his military experience. I interviewed him in 2007 about his experience in a little publicized battle called Operation Nomad, which took place during the second half of October 1951, near Kumsong, North Korea. Few historians have covered this battle, because it took place under the radar. There were so many American casualties in the fall of 1951, that censorship was utilized to keep the reality from the American public. Merry Helm, 24th IDA Historian, 701-293-5045

Eldon Collins belonged to Company H, 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment of the 24th Division assigned to Operation Nomad. It was a brutal battle, taking place on steep rocky mountainsides where the Chinese had dug elaborate trench systems and underground bunker systems. As Collins said, "The entire area was trenched. I could have walked miles and miles and miles in a crouched position in those trenches, and never would have silhouetted myself at all. I mean miles. Literally miles.

"Their bunkers were built like our storm cellars. They'd be dug down into the earth some four or five feet, and they had logs over the top of them, and the dirt that had been dug out would be put on top of that. They'd leave an opening to the south, because we would be coming in from the south (for firing positions), and those bunkers were strong. You'd have to get right up on them before you could throw a grenade into one to take it out."

The 24th Division's mission was to seize a series of mountains that protected Kumsong, a main supply depot for the Chinese infantry. Because the weather in Korea is very similar to North Dakota, the Chinese fought tenaciously to hold onto this terrain. Within these mountains, they had prepared an elaborate underground system of tunnels and caverns in preparation for the oncoming winter.

"That anyone could live through the winters that we went through was unbelievable," said Collins. "I mean, from the time I landed in Korea until I left, I never was in a building. Not one time. And the temperatures went to as low as 30 below zero."

As in almost every battle in Korea, U.S. troops had to fight uphill during Operation Nomad. The North Koreans and/or Chinese would wait for them to climb up and then attack them with rifles, automatic weapons and grenades. As one of Collins' comrades said,

"There were so many grenades coming down on us, it was like a flock of blackbirds flying over."

Collins had arrived as a replacement in Korea during the summer of '51. At that time, there was hope of a truce, and fire fights and skirmishes were manageable. Operation Nomad was an entirely different matter.

"This was really the first big battle that we had been in. It was unbelievable, and really it's almost impossible to describe what it was really like," he said.

Collins operated a recoilless rifle, a monster of a weapon in the mountainous terrain of Korea.

"The 75 recoilless was one of the heaviest weapons used by the foot soldier," he said. "It weighed nearly a hundred pounds, and when it fired there was no recoil, but the back-blast would kill you if you were behind it. It was a very effective weapon, and when we started firing, they'd do everything they could to wipe us out. We were a big target, so we kept moving from position to position to try to stay away from them."

In addition to the hundred pound rifle, the tripod on which it sat "weighed about another 40-50 pounds," he said. "The ammunition was also very heavy. We had a lot of Korean ammo bearers who would carry ammunition for us, and they would carry like two rounds at a time. It almost equaled an artillery piece. Two men usually carried it, but if we got in rough terrain where it was hard to maneuver, one man would carry it. It was very difficult to move around and keep enough ammunition for it."

The brutality of the operation may surprise those who are not familiar with the Korean War.

"The worst of it was the first week or ten days," Collins said. Indeed, between October 13 and 24, the 24th Division suffered 1,846 casualties, with more than 300 killed. "Nobody thought they'd make it through. It just didn't seem possible that we could."

In the end, Collins and his comrades accomplished their mission. Kumsong was neutralized. But no soldier came out of it unscathed, and even after 56 years, Sergeant Collins had a difficult time talking about it.

"They threw everything they had at us, and it was very tough."

See Collins obituary on page 16

BOOK NOTICE: "The Korean Pipeline" by Dr. Raymond Flanders

Country singer Hank Snow kicks off Dr. Raymond Flanders' book. In the author's acknowledgement, Dr. Flanders first sticks with the original lyrics to Mr. Snow's "I'm Moving On," a number one song in 1950. "That big eight-wheeler rollin' down the track means your true lovin' daddy ain't comin' back I'm movin' on, I'll soon be gone." But then he gives the reader an amended version.

The men of the 24th Division of the Army crafted the second set of lyrics while they were serving in The Korean War around the time the song was released. "You hear the rumble of running feet The 24th Division is in full retreat We're moving on, we're moving on."

The creation of the song is a true story. Dr. Flanders should know—he was among the men

in the 24th Division, serving in The Korean Pipeline from 1950-51. It was an experience that

inspired his novel of the same name, "The Korean Pipeline," which mixes historical facts with fictional characters to tell a story set during The Korean War. The book follows three enlisted men recalled to active duty and sent to Korea. It also contains historical information on the war, of various generals, and events that took place.

"The Korean War started so abruptly that the United States had to quickly

mobilize large numbers of enlisted men to be sent to the Korean theatre of war," Dr. Flanders writes. "This mobilization and subsequent funneling of troops from civilian status to the front line in Korea in a matter of weeks became known as the Korean Pipeline."



It took Dr. Flanders, 82, three years to write the book, getting the idea after he retired in 2007. "I started thinking, I was there during the first year of the war and I felt I'd like to write something about it," said Dr. Flanders.

After graduating high school in upstate New York in 1946, Dr. Flanders enlisted in the Army and was stationed in Italy. He returned and enrolled in the pre-dentistry program at Colgate University but later was recalled to serve in the Korean War in 1950. Dr. Flanders earned the Korean War Victory Medal and the Bronze Service Star.

"I've always enjoyed writing, but it wasn't until after I retired that I became interested in writing fiction and writing about the Korean War," Dr. Flanders said.

BY KELLY SODERLUND
soderlundk@ada.org

*This story, which was published in a Dental Journal was sent by , **Christopher Watson, Jr.**, Life Member 2288, 201 Clem Dr., D, Lafayette, LA 70503. Frankly, I don't know what to make of it. Flanders Korean experiences are not very specific. **Editor***



David: I the Fall Issue of the Taro Leaf, 2011, was a letter from a member showing his license plate from Virginia. I am enclosing a picture of my Iowa license plate. To get the plate we have to have a special order, so there's no other plate like it in Iowa.

I served with the 34th RGT, CO M in Japan in 1946.

Ralph Burge, Life Member 1846, 16591
35t St., Mechanicsville, Iowa 52306

Being in the Army and Going to War by Joe Langone

David, our dedicated editor has requested we send stories to assist him in putting out an excellent publication. Mainly, this is for we warriors who were part of the beautiful, full-of-history, U.S. Army's 24th Infantry Division.

I first went to the 24th in November, 1948. The division was stationed on the Island of Kyushu, Japan, the southernmost island in the chain. It was there I met some of the best soldiers one could know in a lifetime. We 'boys', and really that is all we were, took to each other like a pick-up football team. We were mainly poor, had not much of an education, but tough as they come, and healthy as a horse. Our biggest obstacle was discipline. It took us a while to really fall into line.

Back in the late forties, a Sergeant could kick your butt. I remember the first day in formation in my new line company when a tough WWII FSGT named Locke, said there wasn't one of us he couldn't whip, and if we doubted him, step out. Being the smart ass I was, I told one of the soldiers, "I damned near stepped out and gave that guy a try." "Damn good thing you didn't," was his reply. "A guy stepped out last week and Locke broke his jaw."

I loved the Army, I loved the division, and I love my comrades. Soldiers are of a different breed, and they would stand by a brother as they did during the war. Whenever the signal was given to mount an attack, we jumped up and went because Bill, Jack, and Tommy were already out in front. Who could stay back when you saw your comrades leaping from their positions and going into battle. We gave each other encouragement. An artillery barrage is a very scary thing. I remember my friends always had a smart ass answer for this shelling. Some saying things like, "When they run out of shells, I'm going over and kick some ass."

The hardest part of war is when we lose a dear friend. It is bad enough to hear your friend got killed, but to be with him when he died, was the worst. This picture stays imbedded in your mind. Please don't believe that line, 'Time will heal.' It won't and it doesn't.

When I say, as above, that I loved the army, it is so true. Being poor and not having enough to eat during the week, then having fish every Friday night... having shoes and clothes that always had holes... having a toothache you couldn't afford to have taken care of...and so, can you understand the happiness that came into my life once I joined the Army. I remember my first meal at Fort Dix, NJ. It was lunch time and they were feeding pork chops. Hell, I couldn't wait for supper. I thought, if they're having pork chops for lunch, what are they having for dinner? I knew then I had found a home.

I know some of you reading this will agree. I loved every day of basic training. I always wanted to be a soldier in the infantry. Nothing was hard for me. The long hours...sergeants screaming at you to perform better...long marches to the firing range...learning tactics...the physical training. The boys with me were just like me. We enjoyed everything the Army threw at us.

Now the Korean War. I was scared most of the time. But I never ducked a combat assignment. I can't tell you how many patrols I was sent on. Sometimes I felt they were trying to get old Joe killed. One thing I had in my favor was the 'wildest soldier' I ever soldiered with. His name is, Bill Coe. Bill was our radioman. Back in those days I had terrific hearing. We'd be out a few miles from the MLR on patrol when I'd hear the sound of aircraft. I don't know how many times you were strafed (I had been numerous times). I'd hear the planes coming and yell to Bill to get out the panels. Bill never failed us. He was tough in combat and tougher in Japan while on RR. I know, as I was fool enough to go with him. One could almost say that Bill was a soldier's soldier.

This morning it was raining, cold, and with a low over-cast when the sun finally came up. It was 0300 hours, July 05, 1950. We had dug our positions in the rain not saying too much. I really wasn't sure what was going on. We had dug in before, but nothing happened. One thing that stayed fresh in my young mind was remembering the Catholic Chaplain who pulled open the flap of our transport truck, while still in the company area asking, "How many of you boys are Catholic?" Several of us nodded and the Chaplain said, "Bow your heads I'm administering the last rites."

I'm not going into the actions of Task Force Smith as you have heard it many times. I want to tell you how those young inexperienced soldiers behaved. The WWII guys would have been proud of them. No one, not a single soldier, ran. The machine gunner was doing his thing, the mortar men were firing like crazy, the bazooka men performed (just about all them were killed), the artillery guys, though firing rounds that were ineffective, were making direct hits. Making our withdrawal is where we suffered the most casualties. Our medical guys did their best. They were overwhelmed. The combat medic is the bravest of the brave.

Many of my dearest friends were lost at Osan. The 'boy' soldiers fought the greatest fight of their young lives. If you were a member of this wonderful outfit doing those years that I just described, I love you Brother!!!

Wars are fought by young men. Maybe a better term would be young boys. Eighteen, nineteen year old soldiers have not really started on their life's journey. One thing we could do, and did, was to obey orders and fight like hell. Our soldiers during the Korea War did our Army proud. You Korean War veterans reading this know it is true.

I've heard people say, "That war took over 38,000 young lives. What did it accomplish? They still have two Koreas. If you have been to South Korea in the last fifty years you'll see what you brave Korean War veterans were ready to die for, what you did for a country you never heard of, or a people you did not know. What a wondrous time it was back in those days. We were young, crazy, and poor, but we knew it was our destiny to go into the great American Army. Our war, forgotten...no way! We know what we did, and for those who do not, they can go to Korea and see for themselves.

Joe Langone, Member, CO B, 1st BN, 21st RGT, 16829 Acebo Dr., San Diego, CA 92128 858 592-0159

Pres. Sal Schillaci Applauds Monument Donors

At long last events have reached a point that allows me to pay homage to all, who by their donations, have made the monument dedicated to those men of the 24th Infantry Division a reality. I would be remiss if I did not mention the great effort and expense on the part of Keith Hagen to make this project reach our goal. Thank you Keith! I accept the blame for any omissions or mistakes in this report. If you let me know of any I will correct them in the next Taro Leaf. I would like to say that all who contributed, regardless of the amount, you are heroes in my eyes! Thank you.

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TASK FORCE BYORUM *an excerpt from Prairie Boys by Historian Merry Helm*

"HE WAS BORN WITH A GUN IN HIS HAND," said Henry Byorum Junior of his father. "He was a great hunter and fisherman. He and his brothers used to love hunting pheasants, partridges, ducks, geese – he lived for it. In all of his travels throughout the world, if he could find a place to hunt, he would hunt."

Ultimately, Byorum would become Chief of Staff in Iran, where he trained all armored forces until retiring in 1966. But in Korea in 1951, the 44-year-old lieutenant colonel had just taken command of the 6th Tank Battalion when the Chinese were carrying out their Second Spring Offensive.

Byorum was a major stationed at Fort Sheridan, Illinois, when the Korean War broke out. A month later, he was deployed to the Far East, assuming he would go to Korea. But when he flew into Japan in September 1950, he learned he was being assigned to a U.S. advisory group with the mission of setting up a Japanese internal security force. Prior to this, American occupation troops had carried out security duties, but when those men were hurriedly ordered to Korea, their absence created a security void in Japan. Byorum's job was to organize the logistics for creating regimental-sized Japanese security forces to take their place.

During the next five months, Byorum traveled throughout Japan to carry out his duties. But, having trained anti-tank soldiers during WWII, Byorum wanted to get into combat again. "I was none too happy working in Japan, in spite of being promoted to lieutenant colonel," he said, "and I started looking for angles to take command of a tank battalion in Korea."

Byorum did manage to get transferred to Korea in mid-April 1951, but he was assigned to IX Corps headquarters. Given the opportunity, he stuck his neck out and asked Major General William Hoge for a combat assignment. Hoge agreed.

"I was given command of the 6th Medium Tank Battalion, **24th Infantry Division**, in early May 1951," he said. "I assumed command at the junction of

the Han and the Pukhan River, just east of Seoul. The 6th Tank Battalion performed admirably during the nine months prior to my assuming command from Lieutenant Colonel John Growdon. He was a fine regular army armor officer. He should've been an armor general, but he was a non-conformist, and the system doesn't like that."

During the latest Chinese offensive, it had become clear the enemy was concentrating its efforts in the eastern sector. So General Ridgway ordered I Corps and IX Corps troops to go on the offensive in the central and western sectors to draw pressure away from the beleaguered troops to their right.

The 24th Division shifted farther east in the central sector, where *Task Force Byorum* was formed from the elements of the 8th Ranger Company, the 52nd AAA, and the 3rd Combat Engineers. Spearheaded by Byorum's tanks, the column attacked north toward Kumhwa on May 17.

The Chinese had taken tens of thousands of casualties by then, and *Task Force Byorum* was nipping at the heels of retreating enemy soldiers. It was a harrowing experience that shattered the nerves of more than one tanker. Associated Press correspondent George McArthur reported: "A fighting column of American tanks wrought havoc in the Chinese rear today, rushing eight miles through swarms of Chinese who clambered over the tanks in a narrow defile. At times, the tanks fired on one another to knock off the Chinese. Almost from the beginning, American artillery burst shrapnel directly on the column to hit the Red attackers.

"Some of the Chinese blew themselves to bits with satchel charges trying to get the tanks," said a platoon leader, Lt. Felix Winfield, of Washington, Mo. "They threw everything they had at us."

The column, commanded by Lt. Col. Henry Byorum of Minot, N.D., pushed out from U.N. lines just after dark, accompanied by infantry and halftracks. The infantry was left behind after a few miles. The tanks dashed on. The Chinese began throwing mortar shells, grenades and small-arms fire at the

tanks. Several minefields were blasted from the road by the tanks' 90mm guns.

Eight miles within Red territory above Kumgong, the Chinese waited for the patrol to reach a narrow road cut from the side of a mountain. There, the Reds leaped in swarms onto the tanks. They exploded two Bangalore torpedoes (a type of pole charge) against the tank of Sgt. Arthur Knuttila of Hancock, Mich, temporarily stalling it.

Cpr. Doyle Boon of Purcell, Oklahoma, the tank driver, said, "We got out of there because of the colonel (Byorum). His tank opened up on us and blasted the Chinese off. We still had parts of Chinamen plastered on the tank when we got out."

Col. Byorum's tank was under similar attack. So were other tanks ahead and behind. James R. Broussard of Abbeville, La., the gunner on Winfield's tank, opened up with his machine gun on the colonel's tank. He swung the turret around to fire on the tank behind him when it was hit.

"When I ran out of machine-gun ammunition, I used high explosives on the 90s," he said. "I must have killed 30 or 40 with it during the day," he added.

Capt. Woodrow Brown of Miami, Fla., an artillery spotter pilot who flew over the fight, said: "The Chinese were all over the tanks like ants trying to move bread crumbs. You could see their grenades going off and American artillery bursts chopping them down."

Lt. Paul B. McDaniel, of Lafayette, Ky., and his crew had to abandon their tank and flee under a protective curtain of fire from American forces. McDaniel's tank had a track blown off. The crew escaped through a hail of small-arms fire to safety in other tanks. When the fire slackened, they returned to tow their tank back.

Byorum later said, "Fighting was tough in Korea. The valleys we traveled widened out, then narrowed, becoming dangerous defiles. We got caught in such a situation. Fortunately never again, because we got a bit more cautious after that episode."

Notices

Please contact your Congressional Representative NOW!



Write a letter to your Representative asking them to support Congressman Lee's bill, H. Con. Res. 232, to honor the Army's 24th ID and its 14 Medal of Honor recipients through a memorial marker to be installed at Arlington National Cemetery. We need broad support from our members if we wish to see this deserved recognition in our nation's most prestigious cemetery. We also need your financial support, please send a donation to President Sal Schillaci.

Cut out and mail



24th Infantry Division Association



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* In memory of Tom Bateman

Secretary's Taps List

May include some names not shown in Fallen Comrades

Anderson, William C. 1647 Goddard Rd., Lincoln Park, MI 48146 24th ADM, Germany	Monroe, Thomas W. 4103 Rockford Dr. Dallas, TX 75211 34th RGT, Korea
Colette, Dominic E. 2396 27th Ave. S. Apt 216 Grand Forks, ND 58201 19th RGT B CO, Korea	Nicholson, Alexander W. 3111 Laurel Ridge Ct Bonita Springs FL 34134 19th RGT C CO, WWII
DeFoor, Ira T. 1407 Kendolph Dr. Denton TX 76205 24th ID SP SVC, WWII	Rose, Perry W. 605 Broadway Park #25 Longview, WA 98632 21st RGT E CO, Korea
Juni, William R. 1116 SE 2nd St., Apt 4, Willmar, MN 56201 21st RGT G CO, Korea	Schoch, Henry W. 140 Vonron Dr. Macon, GA 31210 Div HQ, Japan
Kalich, Stanley J. 1601 Twinpeaks Dr. Wenatchee WA 98801 24th RECON, Korea	Sloat, Ronald S. 4 Thames Place Brick, NJ 8723 34th RGT HQ, WWII
LaRue, Theodore N. 115 LaRue Lane Jamestown TN 38556 34th RGT I C, WWII & Kor	Tucker, David B. 168 Oak St. Westwood MA 2090 34th RGT
Marasco, Nicholas L. 1494 Gleason Rd. Andover, NY 14806 34th RGTL CO, WWII	Velick, Harry A. 24591 Oneida Blvd. Oak Park, MI 48237 34th RGT I CO WWII&Japan

New Members

Unit

Station

Alvarez, Charles	Div Provost, 24 MP	Stewart '83-'86
Barnhart, Edward	724th MSB, E CO	Stewart, Desert Storm '88-'93
Bryant, Richard J.	24th Div, HQ	Korea-Japan '54-'55
Covert, Roger H.	21st RGT, A CO	Japan-Korea
Gonzales, Dan M.	5th RCT	Korea '50-'51
Hilliard, James L.	Div Arty, HQ	Stewart '81
Mourlot, Emilio	13th Arty	Germany '61-'64
Ross, John K.	3rd Eng, HQ	Korea '56-'57
Schumacher, Mike	Father, Eugene	5th RCT '51 (Associate)
Squadrito, James	24th Arty. HQ BT	WWII '45-'46
Thomas, Irven E.	21st RGT, D CO	Korea '51-'52

New Life Members:

Bissett, Charles W.
327 FA #2396

Bissett, Charles P.
21st RGT #2397

Jones, Joseph H.
19th RGT C&F #2398

Richardson, Glenn S.,
34th RGT F CO #2399

Reunions

19th & 34th Infantry Regiments Pigeon Forge, TN Reunion April 23-25, 2012

Holiday Inn Express, 308 Henderson Chapel
Rd., Pigeon Forge, TN 37868
For reservations: call **888 774-4366** Mention code
KVR for \$60 rate

No Fees, Come and have fun!

This will be our 19th reunion. They began in 1994 in Myrtle Beach, SC. It has grown in size and has re-united many wartime buddies. Later, the reunion met in Nashville, TN, but in 2006 the group voted to move to Pigeon Forge in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains adjacent to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. This location offers many fine attractions including: the world famous Dollywood, shopping malls, many showplaces, and excellent dining.

For information contact: **Bob Taylor, 828 884-9593**

Reunion!



Gimlets

L CO, 21st RGT

**April 18-22, Sands Resort
Myrtle Beach, SC**

**George Vlasic 910 287-5618
geonanvlasic@atmc.net**



Florida 24th IDA—5th RCT



Invites you to its 18th

Annual Mini Reunion

Thursday, November 3 to Sunday, November 6, 2011

Holiday Isle Oceanfront Resort

860 A1A Beach Blvd, St. Augustine Beach, FL 32080; Phone: 904-471-2555 / 800-626-7263

\$79.00 per night, plus tax & gratuity

Registration deadlines: October 23, 2011

Contact: Bill Kane, 5023 Andrea Blvd., Orlando, FL 32807

Phone: 407-275-7450 or 407-421-4465 cell Email:

2012 Quarterly Dutch Treat Luncheons

Jan. 4, 2012 Leesburg Golden Corral 11:45 a.m.

Space limited to 50; contact: Tom Thiel, 352-357-3943 or fl24thida@gmail.com

or Bill Stokes, 352-750-6741 or wswriter@centurylink.net

Remaining 2012 Luncheons — Apr. 4, Jul. 11, and Oct. 3 — place open, offer one.

24th Infantry Division

West Coast Reunion

25-28 March, 2012

The Aquarius Casino Resort

1900 S Casino Dr, Laughlin, NV 89029



Room Rates: \$29.00

Call 1-800-662-5825 for reservations.

You must book your rooms under contract # C-WCR12

No later than 15 March 2012 to qualify for the \$29.00 rate.

Contact: Byrd or D.J. Schrock for more information.

New Address



P.O. Box 1626

Sierra Vista, AZ 85636

(520)678-0207 or (520) 678-0513

email: byrd2a@cox.net

Reunion Registration Deadline 18 March, 2012

Registration Fee: \$20 per Family

Banquet Dinner \$36 (Evening of 28 March)

In accordance with our Catering contract, dinner fees are non-refundable after 18 March 2012

----- Cut Along Dotted Line -----

Name: _____ Spouse/Guests: _____

Unit: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone (optional): _____ Email (optional): _____

Roast Sirloin of Beef \$38 x ____ = ____

Chicken Cordon Bleu \$38 x ____ = ____

Filet of Salmon \$36 x ____ = ____

Registration (\$20 per Family) = ____

(total) \$ ____

Mail dinner fees, registration form and fees to:

New Address  **Byrd Schrock**
P.O. Box 1626
Sierra Vista, AZ 85636

Make checks payable to Byrd Schrock

QUARTERMASTER ORDER FORM

HAT PIN MEDALS ALL \$5: 1. Philippines Liberation 2. Nat'l Def Svc 3. Good Conduct 4. Silver Star 5. Pacific Campaign 6. Armed Forces Reserve 7. Army Occupation 8. POW 9. Distinguished Svc Cross 10. ETO Campaign 11. Soldiers Medal 12. Meritorious Svc 13. United Nations 14. American Defense 15. Vietnam Svc 16. American Campaign 17. Armed Forces Expeditionary 18. U.S. Flag 19. Army Dist Flying Cross 20. Korea Svc Ribbon 21. Army Commendation 22. WWII Victory Ribbon 23. Marine Corp Expeditionary 24. Korean Svc Medal 25. WWII Victory Medal 26. Bronze Star 27. Purple Heart 28. Air Medal 29. 24th ID 31. 19th RGT 32. 37. Combat Medic Badge 38. Army Desert Storm 39. Vietnam Heaven & Hell 104. Desert Storm 110. Philippines Presidential Unit Ribbon

PATCHES: 42. 24th ID color \$6. 43. 24th IDA \$6. 58. 19th RGT Color \$6. 59. 21st RGT Color \$6. 60. 34th RGT Color \$6. 61. 11th FA BN Color \$6 62. 13th FA BN Color \$6 77. 5th RCT \$6 87. 6th Tank BN Color \$6. 91. 63rd FA BN Color \$6. 97. 24th ID Korean Vet \$6. 107. Division Artillery \$6. 108. 29th Inf Div Color \$6. 109. 24th ID Victory Patch \$6.

CRESTS: 52. 24th Sig \$9. 53. 19th RGT \$9. 54. 21st RGT \$9. 56. 11th FA BN \$9. 57. 13th FA BN \$9. 63. 24th ID \$9. 75. 3rd Eng BN \$9. 76. 14th Eng BN \$9.

CAPS: 65. 21st RGT White \$15. 66. 21st RGT Dark Blue \$15. 69. 24th IDA White w/Taro/Germany \$12. 70. 24th ID Red w/Taro/Germany 71. 24th IDA Red \$15. 72. 24th ID White/1st to Fight \$15. 73. 24th IDA Green (X) 74. 24th ID White Mesh (X)

78. 5th RCT Red w/patch \$12. 80. Desert Storm Vet \$12. 81. POW/MIA Blk \$15. 82. WWII Vet Blk \$12. 101. WWII Veteran w/CIB \$15.

MISCL: 40. **Ladies Necklace** 19th RGT \$5. 41. **Ladies Bracelet** 19th RGT \$5.

46. 24th ID Window sticker \$2. 85. CIB Window sticker 2x5 \$3. 86. **BUMPER**

STCKER 24th ID "Proudly Served" \$3. **BOLO TIE:** Taro Leaf Gold w/Blk Braid

\$15. **BELT BUCKLE:** 50. Taro Leaf w/Silver Buckle \$15. **NECK WALLET:** 94.

24th ID Green \$5. **KEY CHAIN:** 95. 24th ID \$10. **FLAGS 3'x5':** 90. 24th ID Outdoor Screen Print \$65. 102. Korean War Silk Screened \$65. 103. Korean War Vet Silk Screened \$65. **CHRISTMAS CARDS:** 93. 10 cards w/env. \$8. **CD:**

98. 24th ID Songs & March \$10. **DVD:** 99. 24th ID Punchbowl

Memorial/Hawaii \$15. **License Plate:** 79. 24th ID w/Taro Leaf/First to

Fight/Victory Div \$8. **HISTORY BOOK:** 96. **T-SHIRTS \$15 ea.** 24th ID Hawaii Div/Black in Color (Sizes XXL/L/M) 24th ID Hawaii Div/White in color (Sizes

2XL/XL/L/M) **NEW ITEMS:** 116. 24th ID Airborne Hat Pin. Bumper Stickers:

24th Infantry Div PROUD TO SERVE. Also have bumper stickers for WWII and the Korean War. 120. CIB Bracelet \$35.

Circle item number for purchase and indicate quantity. Shipping and handling is \$5.00. Allow 2-4 weeks for delivery. No phone orders. I suggest if you have an email address send me an email first, before ordering any items and I can check and see if I have them in stock. We do not accept credit cards. Make checks payable to the 24th IDA. Send the completed form and your check to:

Quartermaster John Walters, 313 Heritage Overlook, Woodstock, GA 30188. Email: 1k34cspd@gmail.com



My CIB Bracelet

My proudest possession is the Combat Infantry Badge I was awarded for service in the Korean War. I have a mini version I wear in the lapel of my jacket. If a person asks, "What's that?" I explain briefly without elaborating on its significance. Occasionally a veteran might say, "I've got one of those," and comment how much the badge means to him.

A few months ago I came across a CIB bracelet advertised for sale on Ebay. It was a genuine CIB badge that someone had bent and drilled a hole into each end to attach a chain. While I thought the idea of a CIB bracelet was a good one, I was appalled to see a real badge desecrated in the process. I was motivated to design an attractive CIB bracelet without sacrificing a real badge.

It took a couple months and several trials, but I finally got something which I am satisfied with and proud to wear. The badge itself is 2/3 the size of an original. The bracelet is made entirely of durable stainless steel. It is virtually bulletproof. It is guarantee for a lifetime. The back of the badge can be laser engraved with name, rank, and serial number.

I just love my CIB bracelet! Although I've worn a wristwatch for many years, I have never worn a bracelet and find it very satisfying. Since the bracelet is a bit larger than my wrist it frequently slips onto the heel of my hand, reminding me of its presence.

I was recently at a Home Depot when a cashier said, "I like your bracelet." I asked, "Do you know what it is?" He replied, "I sure do, I was in the Army, but don't have one." I felt I should express my feelings about it and said, "I wear it because I'm proud of the badge and I also wear it to remind myself of all the soldiers who earned the badge, but never had a chance to wear it." He nodded and said, "I know what you mean." **David Valley,** dvalley1@san.rr.com, 858-485-7550

(see item 120. on QM List)



New Orleans, Louisiana is beautiful and beguiling, eccentric, exciting and enchanting. Sultry jazz clubs, blues bars and supper clubs invite visitors inside. There's always a party going on. After the party, the best way to imbibe the true history and flavor of the real New Orleans is by taking a walking tour or carriage ride through the streets of the historic Vieux Carre (French Quarter) and the Garden District.

Visit secluded courtyards, haunted mansions and above-the-ground cemeteries, the "cities of the dead." Learn the scandals and secrets of New Orleans colorful past and present.

Mardi Gras is the biggest party of the year in New Orleans, but the rest of the year the city is just as relevant. If you miss Mardi Gras, catch its spirit year-round at the Louisiana State Museum Presbytere, located in Jackson Square.

Marvel at galleries of splendid Mardi Gras memorabilia. Around mid-morning listen for the sounds of a steam calliope calling visitors for a Mississippi Steamboat Natchez Cruise, a unique view of life along the mighty Mississippi River.

Scour the French Market for trinkets and treasures. Indulge in a cloud of powdered sugar with beignets and café au lait at Café de Monde.

The atmosphere around Jackson Square is colorful and entertaining as dozens of artists, street performers, fortune tellers, and professed psychics, compete for attention and tourist dollars.

New Orleans isn't just a place to visit, it's where you can enjoy an experience of a lifetime!

NEW ORLEANS

24th IDA Reunion Site

Mark your calendar now for
September 23-26, 2012

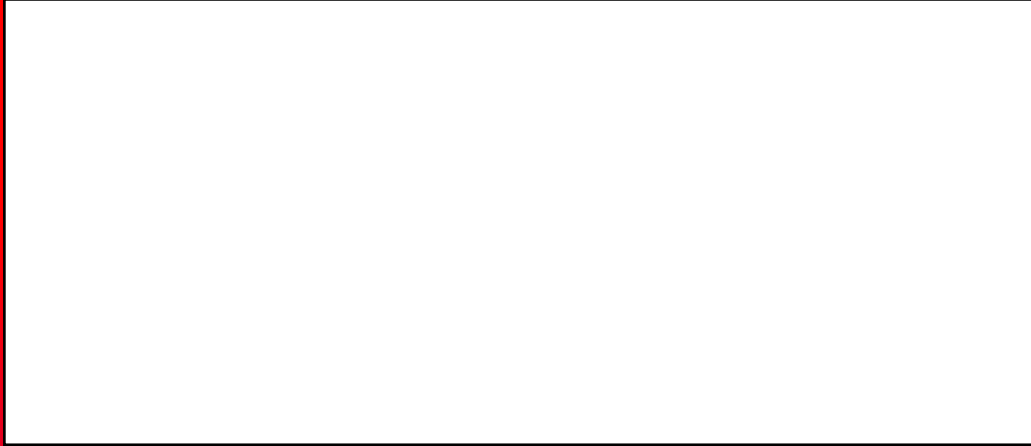
Registration Forms and more details
Will be in the next issue of the
TARO LEAF





John A. Dunn, Secretary/Treasurer
24th Infantry Division Association
Hwy. 51, Westover, AL 35147-9527

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MEMBERS: Check your dues date above your address
12 months dues = \$15.00

Send Dues & Address Changes to:

John A. Dunn, Sec'y.-Treas.
24th Infantry Division Association
9150 Hwy. 51, Westover, AL
35147-9527

Send Obituaries to: Taro Leaf Editor

(Please include a photo if available)
Post Office Box 500907
San Diego, CA 92150
24thtaroleaf@gmail.com

Verbeck Award Nominations - 2012

The 24th Infantry Division Association is seeking nominations for the member you feel should be recognized with our Association's prestigious 2011 Verbeck Award. Association President, Sal Schillaci advises: "All have an opportunity to name their nominee for the award." Please send your recommendation and a brief write-up as to why you believe your nominee deserves to be so honored. You have until July 15, 2012 to make your submissions.

Verbeck Guidelines: The Verbeck Award is presented to that Association member who best displays the ideals of Bill Verbeck. He had an un-abashed love for the Division and its Association. The award is to be given to a member who displays those qualities of Bill Verbeck and effectively furthers the interests of the Association and the



This award is not intended to reward popularity, but to acknowledge a person's commitment and hard work in helping to make the Association more successful.

Send recommendations to any of the following members of the Nominating Committee:

Don Maggio, 411 Concord Rd.,
Fletcher, NC 28732-9734, 828-684-5931 email: the24thidavp@aol.com

Dan Rickert, 2899 Calle Valdes,
Mission Viejo, CA, 949-215-7553

Gene Spicer, 8937 W. 750 N.,
Commiskey, IN 47227-9345, 812-873-6548, email:
gspicer@seidata.com

Tom Thiel, 19147 Park Place Blvd.,
Eustis, FL 32736-7262, 352-357-3943, email: