

63D INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION



1971-72

President's Message



At the time of this writing it appears I'll be with my unit at Camp Picket, Virginia and not with the many friends in attendance at the 63d Infantry Division Association Annual Dinner. It is a great disappointment not to see the old friends and familiar faces.

Via this vehicle I wish to welcome and greet the members and their guests with the sincere hope that I will be able to do so in person next year.

In behalf of the membership I thank the Board of Governors for their sage advice and dedicated effort. They have made serving as your president a privilege as well as a pleasure.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'W T Allen'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

William T. Allen
LTC Inf USAR
President



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TERM EXPIRES JUNE 1973

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Board of Governors 1971-72



Whooze Nuze...

Just so this carefully composed column does not get confused with the syndicated three-dot journalism, or any other kind of regular material that is subject to reduction or recycle, please note the four dots that separate the major news items reported to your world-famous editorial staff. Treatment and rehabilitation seems to be working but they have a long way to go

Just heard that MGen and Mrs. William J. Hixson are now on a world-wide tour. He is now retired and when not traveling, resides at 3747-43 Vista Campana, South, Oceanside, California 92045. Andy heard from them while they were in Palestine. Kind of close to a powder keg, there, General. Don't volunteer for anything President William T. Allen was recently decorated with the Meritorious Service Medal and promoted to LTC. Nice to see an ex-G1 finally make good BGen Robert D. Upp was elected to Vice President Army for ROA Nation. Upward and onward, (well, what can you say?) Colonel Arthur T. Vikander graduated from the resident course at the Command & General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth. With new sheepskin in hand, he returned to his command at Patton USARC, the 916th Field Depot

LTC & Mrs. Noah F. Modisett, blessed with their first addition, an artilleryman COL Ralph J. Hippert is attending the War College Colonel Tommy R. Gilliam was awarded the Legion of Merit upon his recent retirement Promotions since last year's annual bash include Major Kenneth A. Bishop, LTC James N. Creacy, LTC Fred W. Grassly, CW4 John Harrison, Maj George W. LaPold, COL Homer B. Lind, BGen Albert G. Peterson, COL James B. Price, Jr., LTC Alfred K. Rusk, LTC Michael H. Schirm, COL Gordon A. Wallace, COL William M. Walsh, Maj Vernis R. White and several others that have not been reported to the scribes

MG Kaufman Awarded Legion of Merit

Major General Louis Kaufman has been awarded the Army Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious service in positions of great responsibility. As the first and only Commanding General of the 63d ARCOM, he was cited for exceptional achievement in organizing and administering the new command through its initial period of operation.

Also included in the citation were recognitions of his contributions to the US Army Reserve when Assistant Division Commander of the 63d Infantry Division and as Commanding General of the 311th Logistics Command.

Major General R. W. Whitney, Deputy Commanding General, Sixth US Army, presented the award during ceremonies at the close of the Winter Commanders' Conference held at ARCOM Headquarters.

63d ARCOM NEWSLETTER

MGen Louis Kaufman presented the Meritorious Service Medal to COL James B. Price, the 63d ARCOM IG and LTC Thomas V. Chandler, his Ass't C/S G-4 at a recent ceremony held at their HQ. Price is the former Bn CO of the 763d Maintenance Bn and Chandler Ass't G4 of the 63d Infantry Division. COL William E. Mannatt received the MSM in January. He is assigned as the Chief of Staff of the 63d ARCOM We heard that MGen Kaufman took a trip to Hawaii just recently. Naw, not R & R. Strictly business according to reliable sources

Hope you have a look at the history section of your little Annual Report. It seems that Major Gustafson had some correspondence with MGen Hibbs years ago and the material was just resting in a huge, brown envelope. Maybe someone will give one of these new PIO type units the job of sorting out the material and writing a good history of the 63d, with lots of pictures. No Hughes hoax stuff, just the facts. There is lots of material around and it needs a good inventory. Volunteer your information to your association and by publication, the keys to this huge project might just unlock the right doors

Remember the morning someone took the salute gun from the top of the hill at Camp Roberts and placed it in front of a certain HQ down below? the suspenders? the kind MD COL who researched what the wet bulb was and read it? Even put the troops under the trees for a short spell that long slow ride in from HLMR, late in the afternoon when we had to live at Roberts and fire over thar the Glendale Railroad Station? the little bar at the Hacienda? watching the tankers play deadbug at Fort Irwin, leading our gallant brigade troops astray until they learned how to fall without a concussion? Bicycle Lake not-so-International Airport? when everybody had good, close haircuts? them was the good old days

LTC Chandler new G4; Col Vikander heads 916th

LTC Bennett Retires As G2; Replaced By Major McGourty

LTC Charles C. Bennett, 63d ARCOM Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence, has retired. He will be replaced as G-2 by MAJ Charles G. McGourty, former Commanding Officer of the 207th Field Press Censorship Detachment, Long Beach.

LTC Bennett had served as G-2 since May of 1968. He is considered one of the Army's foremost authorities on weapons security, electronic intrusion detection systems and other security counter measures.

LTC Bennett began his military career in 1947 as a Counter Intelligence Agent with the Active Army. In 1955 he reverted to reserve status and served with the 63d Infantry Division as G-2.

LTC Thomas V. Chandler, former commander of the 155th Supply & Service Battalion, Patton USAR Center, has been named the new G-4 for the 63d ARCOM. As the new G-4, his primary responsibility will be to advise the Commanding General on supply and logistics within the command. In civilian life he is Program Planning and Information Officer for the San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District.

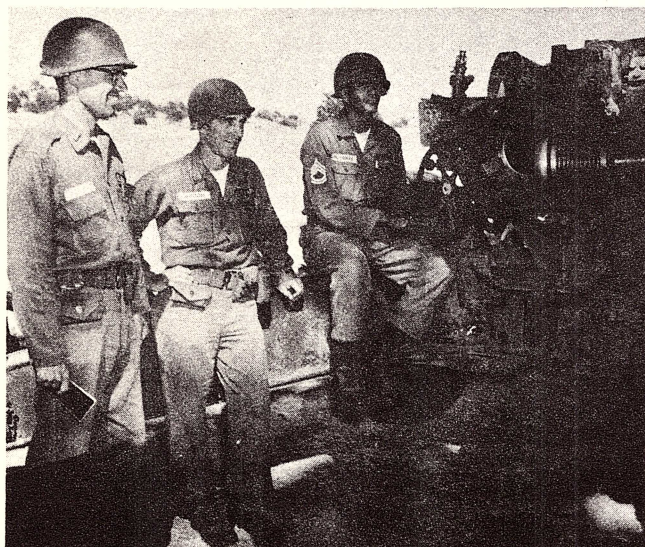
LTC Chandler replaces COL Arthur T. Vikander, who assumed command of the 916th field Depot at Patton USAR Center on 6 Feb 71. COL Vikander will also serve as Center Commander for Patton USARC, ARCOM's largest center with an approximate strength of 1,800 reservists.

COL Vikander joined the ARCOM staff in December of 1967 when the command was initially organized. He served as Inspector General until his appointment as G-4 in August of 1969. In civilian life he is Manager of Information Services for Santa Fe Railway.

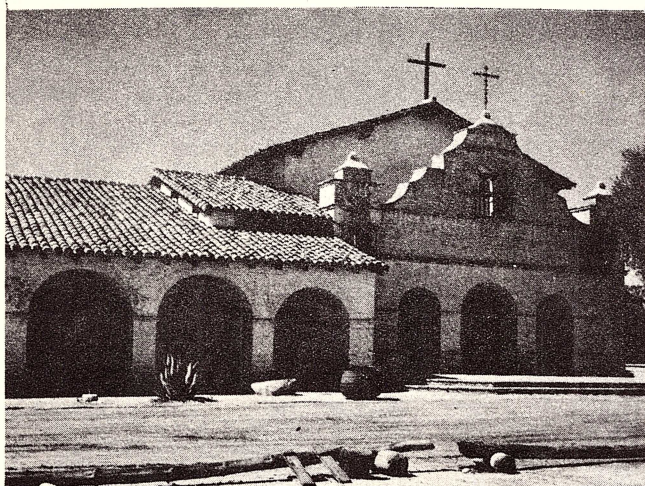
Remember When...



.....Big John lost his stripes and gained that WO bar?



..Ken Lindley had a firing battery?



...Div-Arty Officers were invited to dinner by the Priests at the Old San Antonio Mission near HLMR?



..General Lolli came to the party?

1972 ANNUAL DINNER DANCE MEETING

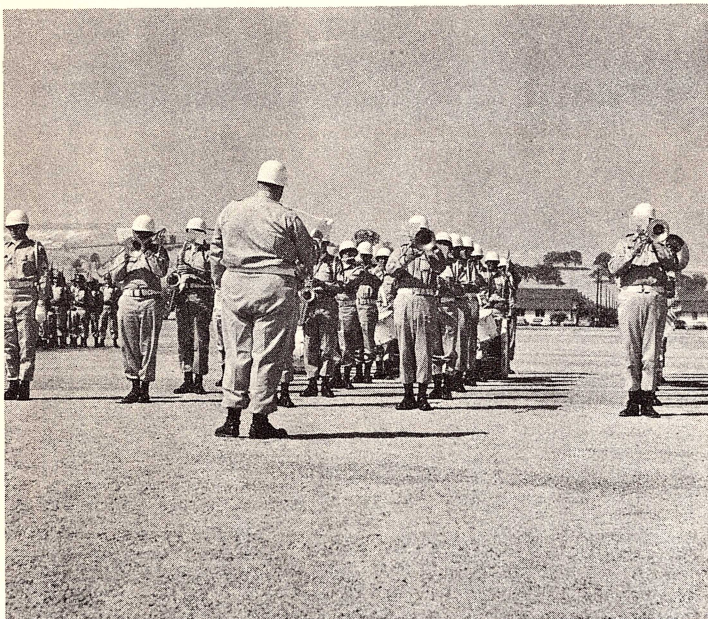
The 63d Infantry Division Association will hold its annual dinner dance meeting on Armed Forces Day 20 May 1972.

Arrangements have been concluded for use of the facilities at the U.S. Navy Commissioned Officers' Open Mess located at Terminal Island, Long Beach, California. Cocktails at 1900 hours, dinner at 2000 hours.

Members who plan on attending will be furnished a ticket free. The second ticket for members wife or guest will cost \$6.00. Additional tickets for guests will cost \$6.00 each.

Reservations and checks payable to "63d Infantry Division Association" must be forwarded by 12 May 1972 to LTC Harold Pellegrin, 217 W. First St. Rm 302, LA, Ca 90012.

Uniform: Dress Blues with bow tie or appropriate civilian attire.



....they painted the patch on the rocks before ecology-mania set in?

....the band changed step during the last Division review?

63D INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

1 March 1972

Balance on Hand : 15 September 1971

Deposited - Bank of America, Los Angeles	\$ 450.88	
Los Angeles Fed. Savings & Loan	693.71	
Cash, Stamps on hand	13.01	
		\$ 1,157.60

Receipts: 15 September 1971 - 1 March 1972

Memberships - 1 @ 1.00	\$ 1.00	
48 @ 2.00	96.00	
Sale of Decal	.25	
		127.43
		\$ 1,285.03

Disbursements : 15 September 1971 - 1 March 1972

Bank of America, Chg. for Ind. Stamp	\$ 3.15	
Yost Printers	12.44	
Stamps	8.00	
		23.59
		\$ 1,261.44

Balance on Hand: 1 March 1972

Deposited - Bank of America, Los Angeles	\$ 531.29	
Los Angeles Fed Savings & Loan	723.89	
Cash, Stamps on hand	6.26	
		\$ 1,261.44



....LTC Walt Maxwell was a dirty, unshaven, hungry Captain?



.everybody worked, nobody panicked?

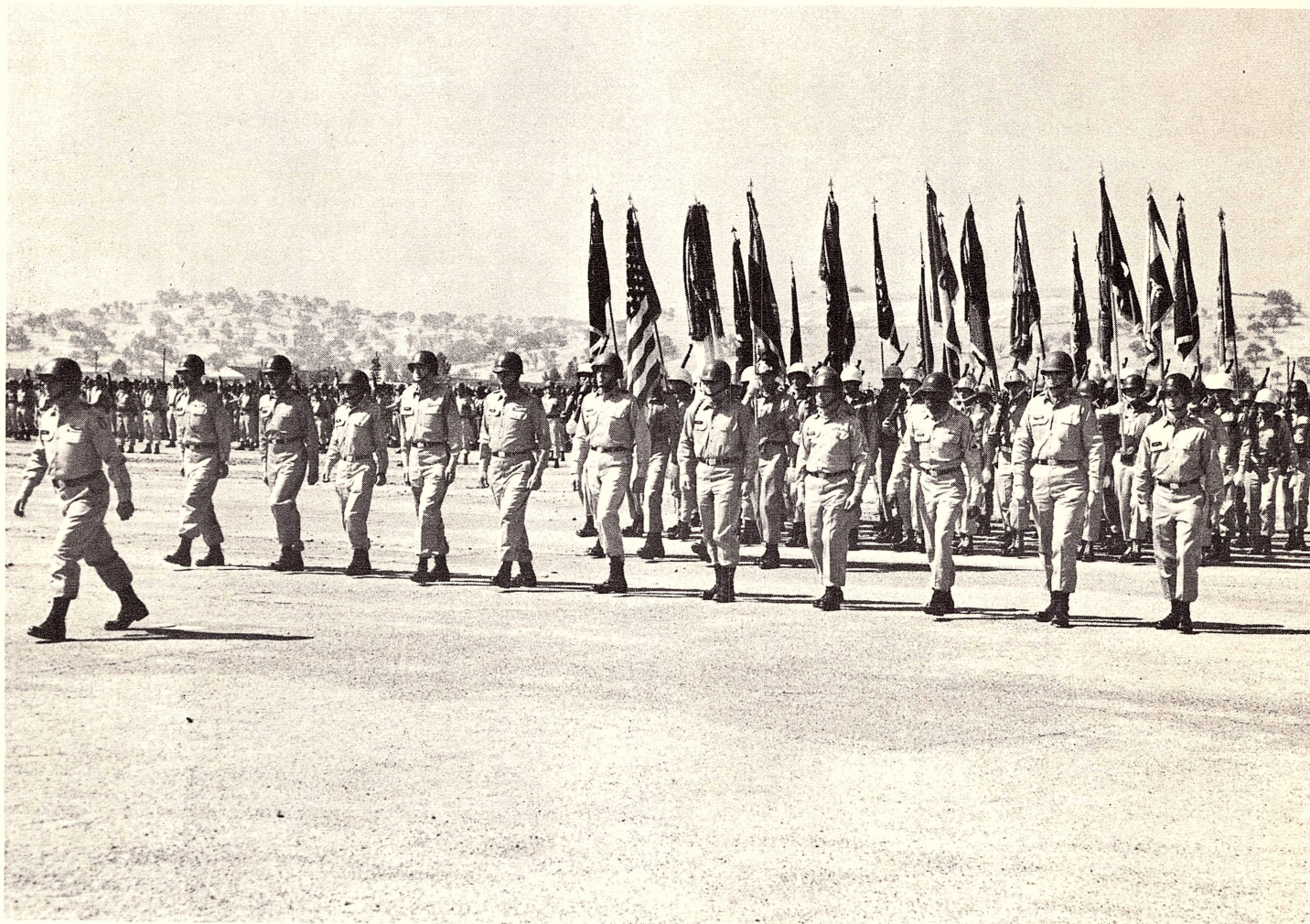


*.....MGen & Mrs Kaufman and LGen
& Mrs Larson came to the ball?*



.....everybody got gassed?

*.....the massed colors, the soldiers to be decorated and the Saturday
morning parade made you damn proud to be a part of it?*



Summary History 63d Division

The 63d Infantry Division was "born" during World War II and formally activated at Camp Blanding, Fla., on June 15, 1943. The division's name-slogan "Blood and Fire," followed the warning pledge to the Axis sounded by President Franklin D. Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill at Casablanca in 1943: that the enemy shall "bleed and burn in expiation of their crimes against humanity."

The newly-activated division under command of Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs was transferred to Camp Van Dorn, Miss., in August of 1943, and continued extensive training until Nov. 25, 1944, when the first units departed for the European Theater of Operations.



One of the advance infantry regiments to enter European combat before Christmas of 1944, was the 254th Regiment, which distinguished itself in the bitter fighting that liberated Colmar, France.

With the arrival in Europe (Southern France) of artillery and other division units, the 63d began operations as a division on Feb. 8, 1945.

During that month the division forcibly crossed the Saar River and led the Seventh Army in its re-entrance onto German soil.



A month later the 63d made the Seventh Army's first penetration of the enemy's vanted West Wall and the last barrier to the Rhine, the Siegfried Line. Through this gap in the German defenses rolled U.S. armored units to make the Seventh Army's historic victorious link-up with the Third Army.

Late in March, 1945, the 63d swept across the Rhine. Then, serving as the left division of the VI Corps, the 63d fought eastward from the Rhine for three weeks of continuous day-and-night combat, forcing the withdrawal of the 17th SS German Panzer Division.

Continuing the offensive, the 63d turned south, crossing the Danube River on April 25, and capturing the cities of Gunsburg and Landsberg. On April 29, within sight of the Bavarian Alps, and just nine days before victory in Europe, the division was withdrawn from combat.

The 63d was scheduled for duty in the Pacific and was being refitted with equipment and replacements. But the surrender of the Japanese changed the plan and sent the division home to the U.S. for de-activation on Sept. 27, 1945.

The Division colors were unfurled again on Washington's birthday, Feb. 22, 1952, when the division was assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve forces. On March 1, 1952, the first divisional units were activated in Los Angeles, Calif., replacing the 13th Armored Division and absorbing its personnel.

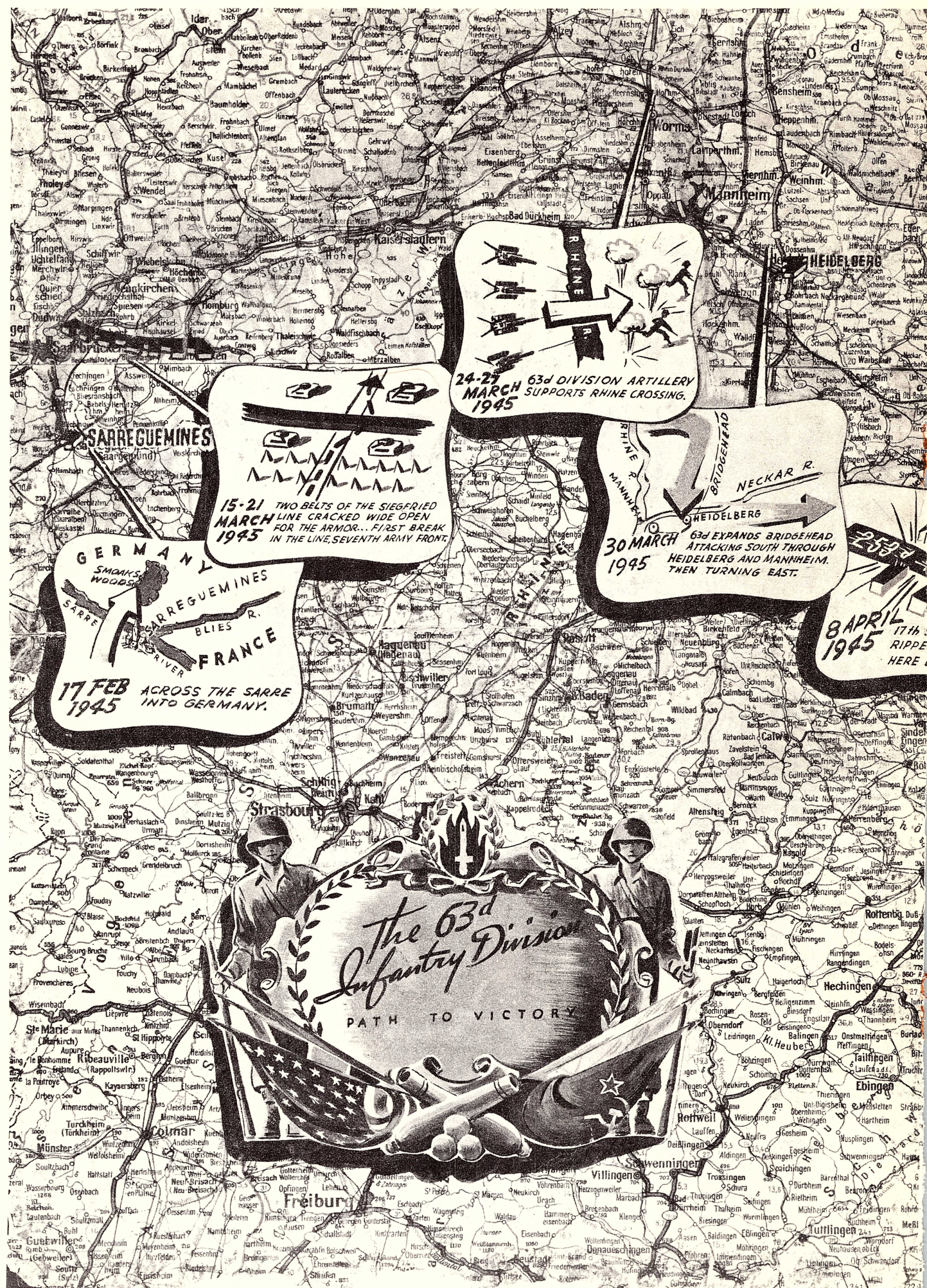
Reserve activity of some of the division's personnel dates back to Nov., 1947, with the activation of the 19th Armored Division and successive designations, first as the 13th Armored Division and finally as the 63d Infantry Division.

In 1952, operating at summer training for the first time as infantry, following re-activation as the 63d, the reserve soldiers went to Hunter-Liggett Military Reservation. This sprawling maneuver and artillery firing area near King City, Calif., also had been virtually shut down since World War II.

Since 1954, the 63d made its annual summer maneuver headquarters at Camp Roberts, the famed West Coast infantry training center during World War II and the Korean conflict. Division artillery units bivouacked and conducted firing exercises with their bigger guns at HLMR. Division tank and armored reconnaissance units trained at Fort Irwin, on the desert, near Barstow.

Major General William J. Hixson assumed command of Southern California's 63d Infantry Division on Nov. 1, 1961, succeeding Major General Henry K. Kellogg, who, during his service did much to build the 63d to the largest Army Reserve unit in the west. General Hixson had served as Assistant Division Commander during the entire period of growth.

The Division was de-activated once again on December 31, 1965. The designation of the 63d U.S. Army Reserve Command, the original "blood and fire" patch and a new crest depicting 63d Division history are now worn by all members of the Command who do not have their own distinctive insignia. Major General Louis Kaufman, former ADC of the 63d Infantry Division now commands the 63d ARCOM.



SARREGUEMINES

17 FEB 1945 ACROSS THE SARRE INTO GERMANY.

15-21 TWO BELTS OF THE SIEGFRIED MARCH LINE CRACKED WIDE OPEN FOR THE ARMOR... FIRST BREAK IN THE LINE, SEVENTH ARMY FRONT.

24-27 63d DIVISION ARTILLERY SUPPORTS RHINE CROSSING.

30 MARCH 1945 63d EXPANDS BRIDGEHEAD ATTACKING SOUTH THROUGH HEIDELBERG AND MANNHEIM. THEN TURNING EAST.

8 APRIL 1945 17th RIPPEN HERE

The 63d Infantry Division

PATH TO VICTORY

NECKAR R. 254 255 30 MILES JAGST R. COCHER R. CRAILSHEIM
5-8 APRIL 1945 254th INF ON OUTSIDE OF THE WHEEL, FIGHTS FOR 15 MILES A DAY... DIVISION ON 30 MILE FRONT.

10 APRIL 255th INF DRIVE ACROSS THE KOCHER PUTS 10th ARMORED ACROSS... HEILBRONN LINE FALLS.

18-22 APRIL 1945 ROAD BLOCKS AND DELAYING ACTIONS.

SS DIVISION D TO RIBBONS BY 253d INF.

23-25 APRIL "RAT RACE" TO THE DANUBE

25 APRIL 253d AND 254th FIGHT ACROSS THE DANUBE

WERTACH R. LANDSBERG LECH R. BIBERACH
30 APRIL 253d AND 255th FARTHEST SOUTH, AGAINST ALPS... CROSS WERTACH AND LECH RIVERS... CAPTURE LANDSBERG.



More wine ! ! !



President Gozawa.



Chief Andy, COL Frank



What's for dessert?



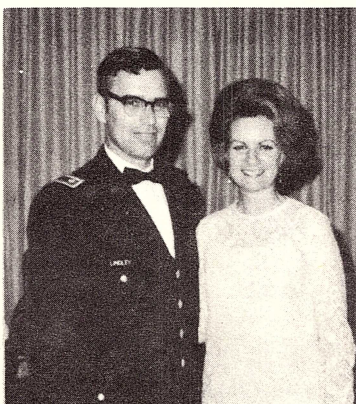
Capt Ramiddy & Guest



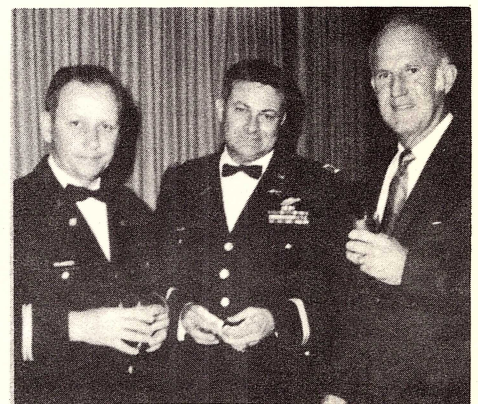
The hangin' judge & friends.



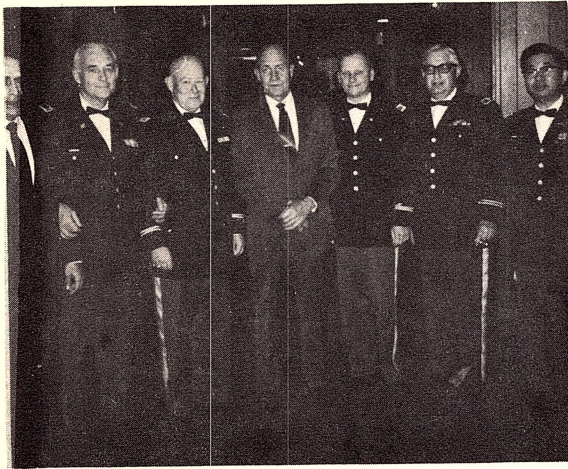
The Gozawas, Hodges & Hicks.



Major Lindley & Guest



*COL Vikander, COL Gilliam
LTC Pierce*



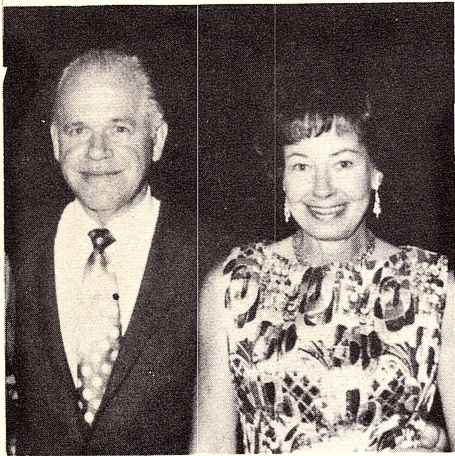
Board of Governors



The Rices



The Pattinsons



The McTavishs



Look who came to dinner. . . .



. . . and to our Annual Meeting.



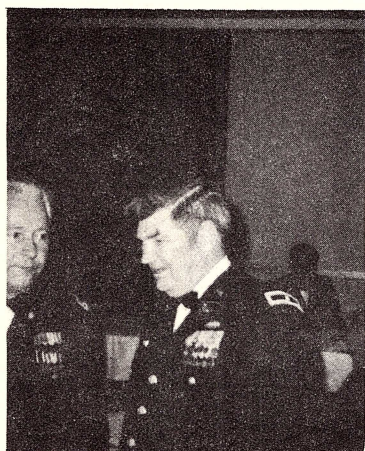
BGen Upp, COL Nepute



Bashful Mike Schirm and friends.



Sec'y & Mrs Pellegrin



LTC Hicks, BGen UPP



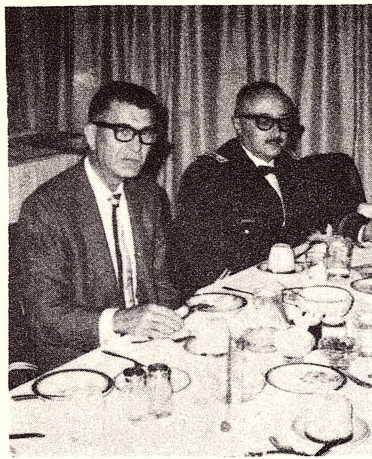
How did Allen, Cornwell and Lauth get to sit with the finest of Div-Arty?



No chow, just juice. . . .



The Mendoncas



Hi ya Hernandez, Mitchell Who's with Maj Bishop? LTC Winn, LTC Romandy and Wolford.



Maj Teague, LTC Winn

Camera shy. . . Hanlon, Bechdolt & McKinney



Whose zis? . . .

The Youngs

Kroener, Robertson & Boell

63D INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

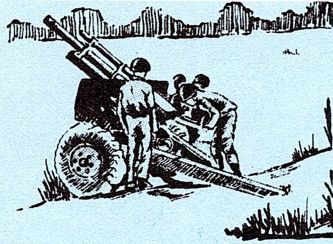
Membership - March 15, 1972

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LTC Richard P. Adams, 6731 E. 9th Street, Long Beach, CA 90815
LTC Edward H. Ahlgren, 20707 Amie, Torrance, CA 90504
LTC William T. Allen, 21322 So. Legend Ave, Carson, CA 90745
1LT Douglas W. Anderson, 825 Las Gallinas, Apt 307, San Rafael, CA 94903
CW4 Ernst H. Andreas, 2502 Mt. View Road, El Monte, CA 91733
*1LT David J. Bannon, 1712 Santee River, Placentia, CA 92670
CWO Edgar E. Bean, 1619 W. 110th Pl., Los Angeles, CA 90047
LTC Carl P. Bechdolt, 2856 Fidler Ave, Long Beach, CA 90815
LTC Charles C. Bennett, 17164 Courtney Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647
MAJ Kenneth A. Bishop, 1200 E. Fairhaven, Apt 5, Santa Ana, CA 92701
LTC William E. Boell, 4231 Artesia Blvd, Torrance, CA 90504
COL Milton I. Bremer, 4922 Fulton Ave, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
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 *MAJ James R. Helms, Jr., 2220 Sewanee Lane, Arcadia, CA 91006
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 COL Ralph J. Hippert, 2952 Pemba Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626
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 LTC William A. Hodges, 16222 Monterey Lane #22, Huntington Beach, CA 92649
 LTC Gene Holder, 13225 Anawood Way, Westminster, CA 92683
 CPT Joseph N. Holtz, 3134 Ruth Place, Orange, CA 92669
 LTC S. T. Hoversten, 1829 E. Stuart Ave, West Covina, CA 91791
 MAJ Bruce H. Huntley, 13836 Faust Ave, Bellflower, CA 90706
 CPT George E. Hutson, 11931 54 Ave N, Minneapolis, Minn 55428
 MAJ Oscar B. Jensen, 3945 Ingraham Street, Los Angeles, CA 90005
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 MG Henry K. Kellogg, 814 Parma Way, Los Altos, CA 94022
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 LTC Robert D. Kleist, 284 S. Madison Ave #401, Pasadena, CA 91106
 LTC Walter B. Kroener, 3926 Hill St, Huntington Park, CA 90255
 MAJ William E. Kuntz, 135 Daisy St, Sandown, Johannesburg, South Africa
 MAJ George W. LaPold, 1128 S. Monterey St, Alhambra, CA 51801
 MAJ Robert M. Lauth, 8074 Cornflower Circle, Buena Park, CA 90620
 COL Homer B. Lind, 532 Bond St, Anaheim, CA 92805
 MAJ Kenneth R. Lindley, 241 S. Olive #7, Alhambra, CA 91801
 *MAJ Harry F. Lindroth, 4256 Greenbrier Road, Long Beach, CA 90808
 LTC William H. Lingle, Jr., 5700 Ostin Ave, Woodland Hills, CA 91364
 MAJ Ralph Luevano, 1302 South Rene Drive, Santa Ana, California 92704
 MAJ George Lundgren, 1054 N. Vinedo Ave, Pasadena, CA 91107
 COL Vernon MacPherson, 125 N. Olive Ave, Alhambra, CA 91801
 COL William E. Mannatt, 2226 Paseo Del Mar, San Pedro, CA 90732
 CPT William J. Martin, 1705 Fletcher Ave, So. Pasadena, CA 91030
 LTC Walter R. Maxwell, 3542 Sage Lane, San Bernardino, CA 92404
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 *LTC Richard A. Morgan, 15908 S. Disney Ave, Norwalk, CA 90650
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 LTC G. A. Romandy, 1790 N. Warbler Place, Orange, CA 92667
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 COL Gordon H. Wallace, 12537 S. Eucalyptus Ave, Hawthorne, CA 90250
 COL William M. Walsh, 618 N. Lincoln, Fullerton, CA 92631
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* Membership renewal pending



Lift the cover of some history books and you will find accounts of an assortment of actors performing in some particular play of human affairs.

Lift the cover of other history books and you will find accounts of a great assortment of actors performing in many plays of human affairs.

Lift the cover of almost ANY history book and you will find one actor who is always there—the soldier. His is the supporting role, without which the play would collapse. The enlightened monarch, the dictator, the popular national leader—all these make military demands. But it befalls the soldier to plan, prepare, and execute.

Cherished in war and damned when no enemy threatens, he must show poise and dignity as he stoically paces the stage between these extremes of public attitude.

Those who have viewed the play of American history have seen these inevitable supporting actors change repeatedly from roles of solicitude to the pinnacle of dare-and-do, and every time capturing the admiration—yea, the adoration—of their people. So raise a toast to the American soldier—for what he has been, for what he is, for what he must be.

— The Editor
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