

ARDENNES

CENTRAL EUROPE

RHINELAND

CAMP VAN DORN

Blood and Fire

63rd Division Association



Vol. 28, No. 1

November, 1975

Saginaw, Michigan

THE 63rd DIVISION ASSOCIATION

VISITS VALLEY FORGE, PA.

FOR THE 1976 ANNUAL REUNION

JULY 29-30-31, 1976

SHERATON HOTEL-PHILADELPHIA

TOLL FREE 1-800-325-3535 — SEE PRESIDENT'S LETTER INSIDE

Blood and Fire

Published by the 63rd Division Association to perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the Esprit de Corps of the Division, to assist in promoting an everlasting peace.

Vol. 28 **Three Issues Annually** **No. 1**

Editor Earl W. Kipp

1975 - OFFICERS - 1976

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 254th Inf. Regt. WILLIAM SCOTT
 255th Inf. Regt. CLAUDE ATKINS
 Artillery WILLIAM HOOVER
 Special Troops EUGENE POMANTE
 Service Officer WILLIAM RETZ
 Service Co. 255th Inf. Regt.
 515 Packer Street
 Sunbury, PA 17801

POINT OF INTEREST +++ YOUR OLE SECY. IS IN THE PROCESS OF PUTTING INTO BINDERS ALL OF THE ISSUES OF THE BLOOD AND FIRE SINCE THE ASSOCIATION WAS FORMED. IN THE NEXT ISSUE, I WILL LIST THE ISSUES I HAVE AND I'D SURE APPRECIATE YA ALL LOOKING INTO YOUR CLOSETS, OR WHAT HAVE YOU, AND THEN COMPARE IT TO OUR LIST AND IF YOU HAVE ONE WE DON'T +++ THEN WILL IT TO THE ASSOCIATION. THANK YE.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT 63rd Division Association

July 14, 1974 to July 14, 1975

Balance on Hand, July 14, 1974 \$5,120.95

RECEIPTS:

36 Life Memberships @ \$40.00	.....	\$1,440.00
48 1974 Memberships @ \$5.00	.....	240.00
243 1975 Memberships @ 5.00	.....	1,215.00
2 1976 Memberships @ 5.00	.....	10.00
Decal Sales	.....	2.00
3 License Plates @ 2.50	.....	7.50
1 History Book @ 2.00	.....	2.00
Donations	.....	369.00
Interest on Savings Account	.....	299.38
Received from Hartford Reunion	....	1,800.00
Total Receipts	.....	5,384.88
Net Receipts	.....	\$10,505.83

EXPENDITURES:

Foot Locker to Hartford (Books)	.....	\$ 24.20
Ed Witt, Secretary's Fee	.....	200.00
Earl Kipp, Editor's Fee	.....	200.00
Earl Kipp, Travel to Hartford	.....	306.90
Chuck Beaver, Travel to Hartford	.....	179.40
Phone Calls	.....	29.35
Office Supplies	.....	5.15
Stamps & Stamped Envelopes	.....	64.40
B & F Returns	.....	30.40
Printing, Life Cards	.....	22.89
Printing, Letterheads & Cards	.....	57.40
Glen Sine, Advance to Michigan	.....	200.00
Earl Kipp, Postage & B & F Permit	.....	230.00
Commonwealth of Mass., Corp. Fee	....	13.00
Crestline, 300 License Plates	.....	285.00
Klement Printing, \$899.60, \$878.80, 915.20, Nov., Feb., June	.....	2,693.60
Total Expenses	.....	\$4,541.83
BALANCE AS OF JULY 14, 1975	.....	\$5,964.00
Savings Account, Bexar County	.....	\$5,358.39
Checking Account, Pan Am. Bank	.....	604.11
Cash in Petty Account	.....	1.50
Total	.....	\$5,964.00

EDITOR'S NOTES

CHESTER LOBB - K Co. 253rd Inf. Regt. - Rte. 4, Box 94, Smiths Grove, KY 42171 . . . Chester says he was located by Murry Moore in late June and was invited to the reunion, but due to a progressive terminal disease of the C.N.S. was unable to attend. He is still single, and he lives with his two sisters. He wants to thank Howard Harrison and Murry and Stella Moore for the pictures taken at the reunion. He wants the rest of K Co. men's moral support in the way of cards and letters. He will answer as many as his disability will allow . . . (Sept. 3, '75)

BILL SMITH (Smitty) - F Co. 253 Inf. Regt. - Smitty says all you guys in and around Baton Rouge or any place else, start making your plans for Baton Rouge reunion the last two weeks in March, 1976. Contact Smitty for details: William G. Smith, 7528 Primrose Drive, Mentor Lake, OH 44060, Phone 216-257-7936 (Not a toll free call) Smitty was well pleased with the turn out in Lansing. He won his bet with Murry Moore.

PART OF COMPANY K, 253 AT LANSING, 1975



Les and Kate Utterback — Jo Jacko — Lucy and Charlie Congemi



Murray and Stella Moore



Mary and Jim Downie — Jo and Norvel Boyd



Dick and Doris Bruno — Ruth and Herb Smith



Dave and Sara Strawn — Andy Jacko — Marc and Bill Cornier



Pat Enoch — Lucille and Howard Harrison — Mary Downie

COMPANY H, 254th INFANTRY REGIMENT

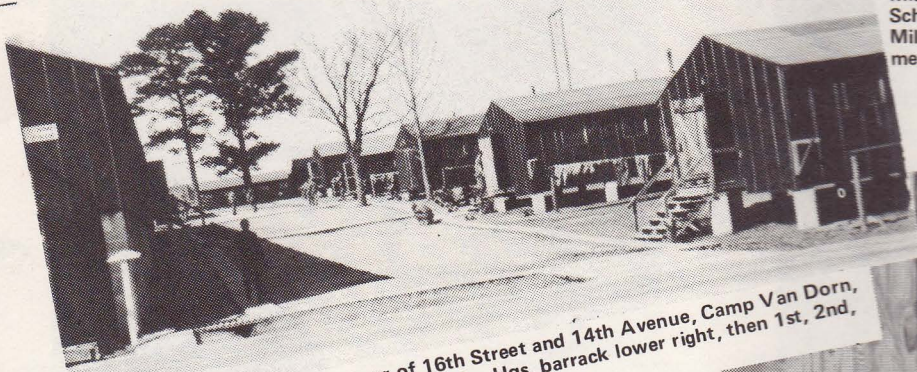
Photographs courtesy of ROMAN H. HERR



Handing out the chow, a la Mess Kit Louie style in Co. H, 254th Regt. at Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi, 1943.



Some guys of H. Co., 254th Regt. that were part of levy made by AGF in April 1944 of 63rd Inf. troops at Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi. Back row, extreme left of picture - Herr, then Schoenig, Kennedy (Big Chief). Extreme right of picture - Miles (Itchy). We were taking 'ten' during processing for shipment to POE on east coast.



Co. H, 254th Regt. area at corner of 16th Street and 14th Avenue, Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi, 1944. Orderly room to left. Co. Hqs. barrack lower right, then 1st, 2nd, 3rd platoon barracks and mess hall at far end.



Guys from H Co., 254th Regt. waiting for the magic words - Mail Call - Sept. 1943, Camp Van Dorn, Mississippi



Main Street, Centreville, Mississippi, Sept. 1943

PICTURES SENT BY BILL HOWE, CO. B, 363rd MEDICS
(See article in the news section)



Co. B 363rd Medics (Standing L to R) 1. —, 2. —, 3. Lt. Henuk died 1947.
4. —, 5. Paul Noble, 6. Arnold Biderwyck. Front, 1st Sgt. James D. Colbert



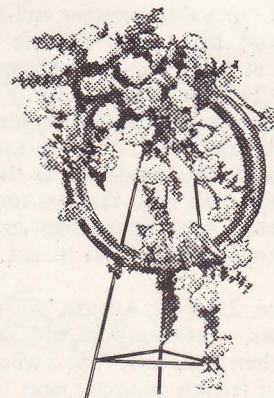
Siegfried Line 1945 — Bill Howe in front.



March 1944 — Paul Berberst and Bill Howe, Driver

**DON'T FORGET
YOUR DUES
ARE NEEDED**

DEATHS



CHARLES WILSON
HQ Btry 861st FA BN
Barret Hill Rd., Lake Carmel, NY 10512
April 18, 1975. Massive Coronary

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Philadelphia Chapter and I want to thank all of you for your renewed confidence in letting us host the next reunion.

We have chosen what we consider the finest hotel in the Philadelphia area, and we are sure everyone will enjoy their stay here.

As you all know, Philadelphia and historic Valley Forge will be the hub of the bi-centennial activities. All the hotels in the area are heavily booked, especially in the summer, and the Sheraton has set aside 175 rooms for the 63rd Division. I strongly urge all of you to make your reservation as soon as possible, either by mail or phone, (Toll Free 1-800-325-3535, any day, including Sunday and holidays, 24 hour service) as rooms will be hard to come by. When making reservations, be sure to mention the 63rd Division Association or else you will be told they are sold out for these dates. Just as important we have a special reduced room rate available for our convention. These rates will be in effect your entire stay, whether you arrive early or stay later than our convention dates. You can plan your vacation around our reunion time and take in all the historical exhibition and bi-centennial activities that will be happening in Philadelphia and surrounding areas.

We are planning tours of Valley Forge and are hoping to once again use the London, England double decker buses.

As you can see, the committee here is working hard and making great plans for the '76 convention — so make sure you do your part and make your reservations early.

DO IT NOW — CALL TOLL FREE — 1-800-325-3535

Thanks again for your confidence in our group.

Irv. Schlocker
and the Philadelphia Committee

MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETING LANSING, MICHIGAN, JULY 26, 1975

The annual business meeting of the 63rd Infantry Division Association was held at the Longs Banquet Hall, Lansing, Michigan on Saturday, July 26, 1975. The meeting was opened officially at 10:05 A.M. by Phil LaChance, our president, with approximately 150 members present. The opening prayer was given by Rev. Pete Kunnen, and the president then presented the Mayor of Lansing, who welcomed the 63rd Division Association to both the state of Michigan and the city of Lansing. The Mayor gave a talk for a few minutes and then presented our former Secretary-Treasurer, Chuck Beaver with the key to the city, a letter opener, and a small leatherette note pad.

The minutes of our last meeting held in 1974 in Windsor Locks, Connecticut were read and approved, and the Secretary-Treasurer then gave his financial report for July '74 to July '75, in addition to a small presentation of our financial status for the past 17 years. It was then moved by Lou Terilli and seconded by Pete Kuanen that the financial report be approved as read. Motion carried.

The Secretary-Treasurer detailed to the membership problems encountered from the past reunion with regards to forwarding of records, financial report, and association articles. It was a difficult problem to retain a good set of records, both financial and record-wise, and our financial report depicts income from the Connecticut reunion at \$1,800.00. It was agreed at this time for all future reunions to have a treasurer assigned at the local level, designated by the new president and name submitted to the National Secretary-Treasurer within the first month. The National Secretary-Treasurer to forward required funds to the Reunion treasurer upon submission of the information from the new president.

Earl Kipp, our Editor, submitted a report to the membership with regards to a limited mailing of the B & F to only dues-paying members, as follows: approximately 500 copies at a cost of \$620 as compared to \$880 for 3,300 copies. The June issue '75 was mailed to 3321 addresses at a cost of 1.7¢ for mailing, and it is believed the new Postal Rate will go to 1.8¢ per copy plus the Permit fee for the year. Bill Smith made a motion and it was seconded by Tony

EDITOR'S NOTES

We have had a most enjoyable summer and fall. We were glad to have Charlie Beaver and his delightful wife with us before the reunion. We stayed up at night and played aggravation. On Sunday when we came home, Clarence Cozart and wife came for dinner and the evening. Harold Miller was here also. Our son-in-law took Harold on a quick tour of Mackinaw Island, the Straits and the Taquamenon Falls. He left for home on Wednesday after the reunion. Then my wife's two brothers came with their families for 2 days. There were nine of them, so we had a great time. Then my wife's aunt passed away on the 16th of August, which left us sad because she was like a mother to my wife.

The weekend of the 23rd of August, we went to Rochester, Michigan to visit kids we went to school with, and finalize plans for our 40th reunion. We then went north for a week and it rained most of the time, but we had friends camping next to us, so we still had fun playing cards and aggravation. On the 13th of September, we had to go to Flint and sort out my wife's aunt's household furnishings and decide what to do with them.

On September 19, Olen Wesner and Mary came from Indiana for the weekend. The boys played golf on Saturday and Sunday. The next weekend we had a visit from friends that we went to school with. On October 3, we went to Greenfield, Wisconsin for three days for our niece's wedding. My school reunion is October 18, so after that we will settle down for a while. Also my sister was here from California on the 18th and 19th of October.

Late News from Smitty on his Mini Reunion in Baton Rouge, LA. It will be at the Holiday Inn North, 5955 Airline Highway, P.O. Box 3178, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, Route 190, on April 2,3,4, 1976. Smitty says anyone from the 63rd Infantry Division Association is welcome. Give Smitty a call or drop him a line.

NOTICE

Youth of the 63rd, unite in order to celebrate the nation's 200th birthday. The sons and daughters of the 63rd are going to get together at next year's reunion, so if you have never attended a reunion, plan on making this one.

Some special plans are being made by our own little reunion committee. So how about getting in touch with one of the persons listed below.

Mrs. Patty (Kipp) Close
12701 Frost Road
Hemlock, MI 48626

Cpt. Chuck Beaver
7648 Sumter Hwy., Apt. 104
Columbia, S.C. 29209

DeSantis that we continue mailing to all membership regardless of dues status. Motion carried.

Phil then advised the membership that all folks leaving Lansing Sunday by airlines, if notified at the registration desk, members of the Michigan committee would furnish shuttle service.

On the selection of a site for the '76 reunion, Irv. Schlocker presented the Sheraton-Valley Forge with a guaranteed double rate of \$32.00. The Hotel would reserve 150 rooms and the 63rd rate would cover earlybirds as well as late stayers, and the reunion would run from July 29th to August 1st. Chuck Beaver moved and Tony DeSantis seconded that we go to Philly for '76, and motion was carried.

The Vice President, Tony Soyotovich spoke a few words to the membership and wished to convey his thanks to all of the Michigan members of his committee and their wives for the hard work put in working towards a great reunion. The Membership gave a good round of applause to those concerned.

Ed Witt presented San Antonio as the proposed site of the '77 reunion and after a bit of discussion and a goodly showing of hands as to who might attend, San Antonio was voted as the proposed 1977 site of the 63rd's reunion.

A few of the members then discussed the Southern Reunions held in Baton Rouge in April each year. While this was originally a 253rd F Company affair, Bill Smith invited all of the members to join in. Bill further directed the Editor to insert into the Blood and Fire some information of the Southern Reunion and perhaps we can induce some of the local lads to join in to a more active life with the 63rd Association.

Chuck Beaver discussed the Official Division Photographer and how our members look forward to photos from past affairs, which has been rather unproductive the past few years. He suggested we add the functions of Photographer to the Editor and finally worded it into a motion, which was seconded by Lou Terilli and motion passed. The Division to reimburse the Editor for film and processing as required, photos to be used for insertion into the Blood and Fire and then put into the Reunion yearbooks.

Ed Musiel discussed the progress he has had with contacting lost members. He hit the jackpot, more or less, when he received a check

for \$75 from Joel LeSeur, from Arvona, Virginia, a former Ex Officer of the 861st F.A. The Secretary to send along a letter of thanks to Joel and our association owes a big thanks to Musiel for the effort he puts into the association, along with a few other members who accomplish the same objective.

Phil LaChance then read letters from Gov. Millikin, General Earle Wheeler, and General Allen Burdett, former G Company Commander, 255th, currently Head of the U.S. 5th Army at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas.

Motions were in order for 1975-76 officers and the following were elected:

Pres. Irv Schlocker - Motioned by Larry Sullivan, 2nd by Ed. Musiel

1st V.P. Shorty Myers - Motioned by Don Warren, 2nd by Haydell 2nd V.P. Ed Hooven - Motioned by Bill Gold, 2nd by Tony Soyotovich

Sec'y-Treas. Ed Witt & Merlyn - Motioned by Art Lee, 2nd by Tony DeSantis

Editor-Photo Earl Kipp - Motioned by Don Warren, 2nd by Ed Hooven

The Board of Directors for current year and expiring in 1978 were as follows:

253rd Inf.	Donald Warren	Company B
254th Inf.	Bill Scott	Company E
255th Inf.	Claude Atkins	
Arty.	Wm. Hoover	718th F.A.
Special Troops	Eugene Pomante	63rd Q.M.

Ed Fowle of Dayton, Ohio, who is responsible for the furnishing of our Data Labels and keeping our records current, was given a membership vote of thanks plus a good hand of applause.

There were 18 first-timers at the meeting and we closed with the pledge of allegiance to the flag at 12:15.

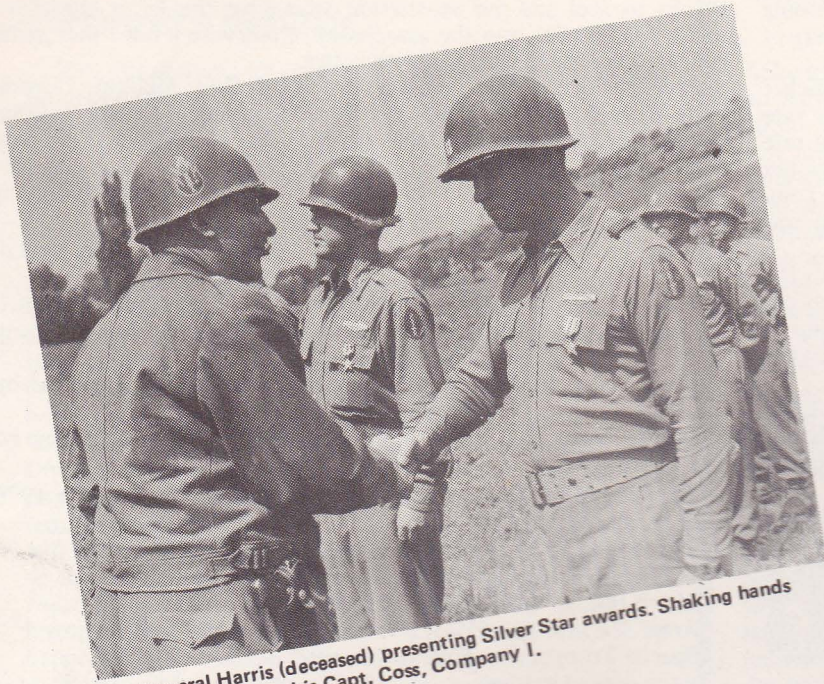
Respectfully Submitted,
Edward Witt .

THE OFFICERS OF THE 63RD DIVISION ASSOCIATION
WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH ALL OF YOU A

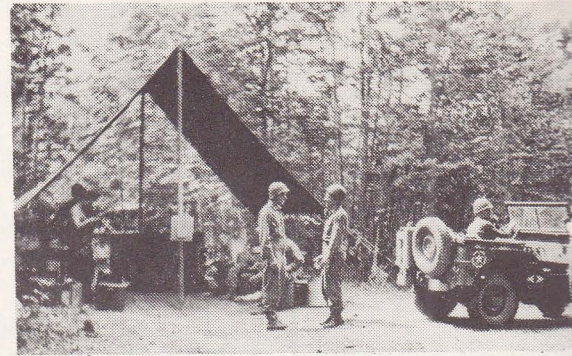
Merry Christmas

and Best Wishes for the New Year

... MORE FROM COMPANY I, 254th



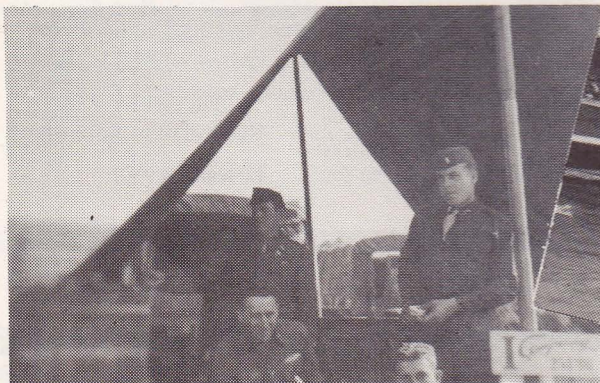
General Harris (deceased) presenting Silver Star awards. Shaking hands with the General is Capt. Coss, Company I.



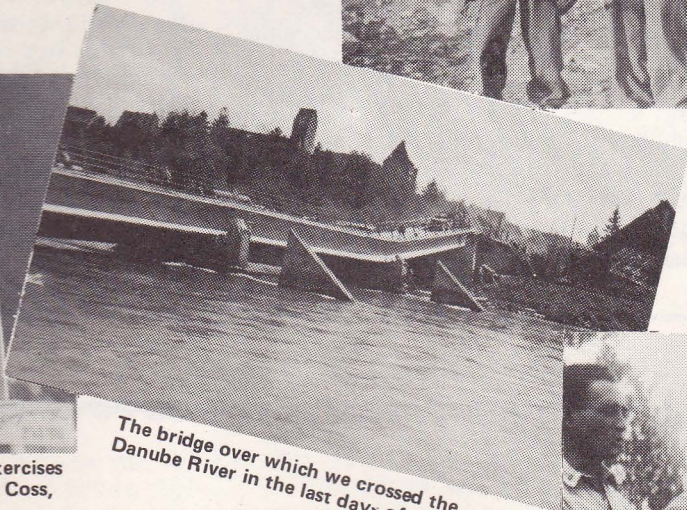
Company I kitchen in bivoac area.



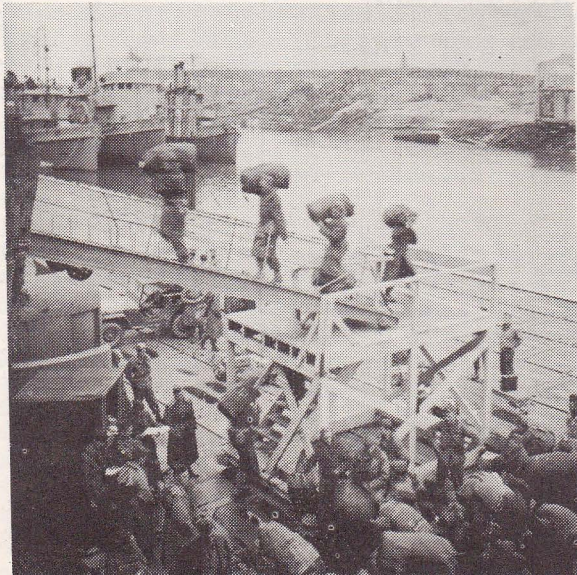
At the staging area north of Marseille, France just before boarding the 408. L to R: S/Sgt. Meims (deceased), Lt. McKeever, Lt. Thompson.



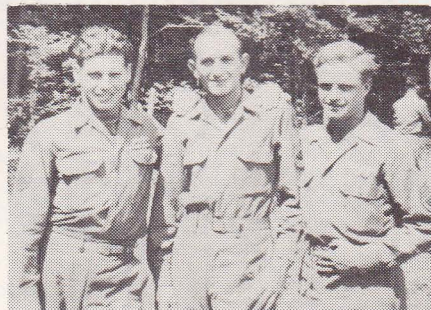
Company I camp kitchen at Bad Mergentheim field exercises. Lt. Thompson, top left; Lt. Van Roy, top right; Capt. Coss, bottom left; Lt. Poliak, bottom right.



The bridge over which we crossed the Danube River in the last days of combat.



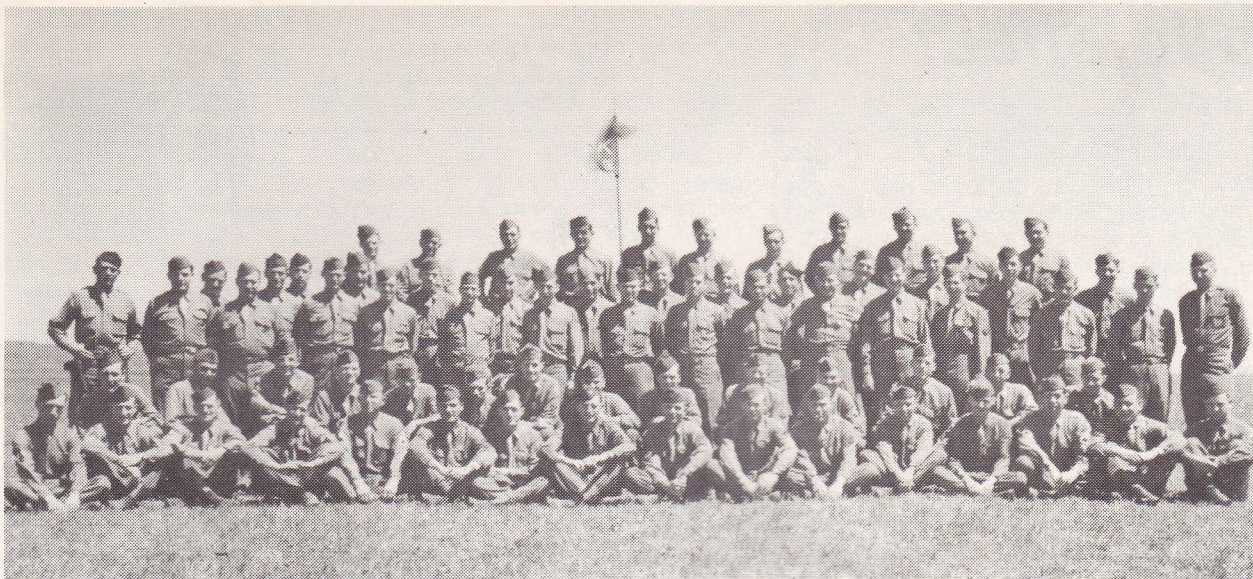
Going home at last!! Company I men boarding ship at La Harve, France for that long awaited trip back to the states and home.



Overseas bivoac area. Sgt. Riley, Sgt. Vuc-Vuchmonivich, & ??



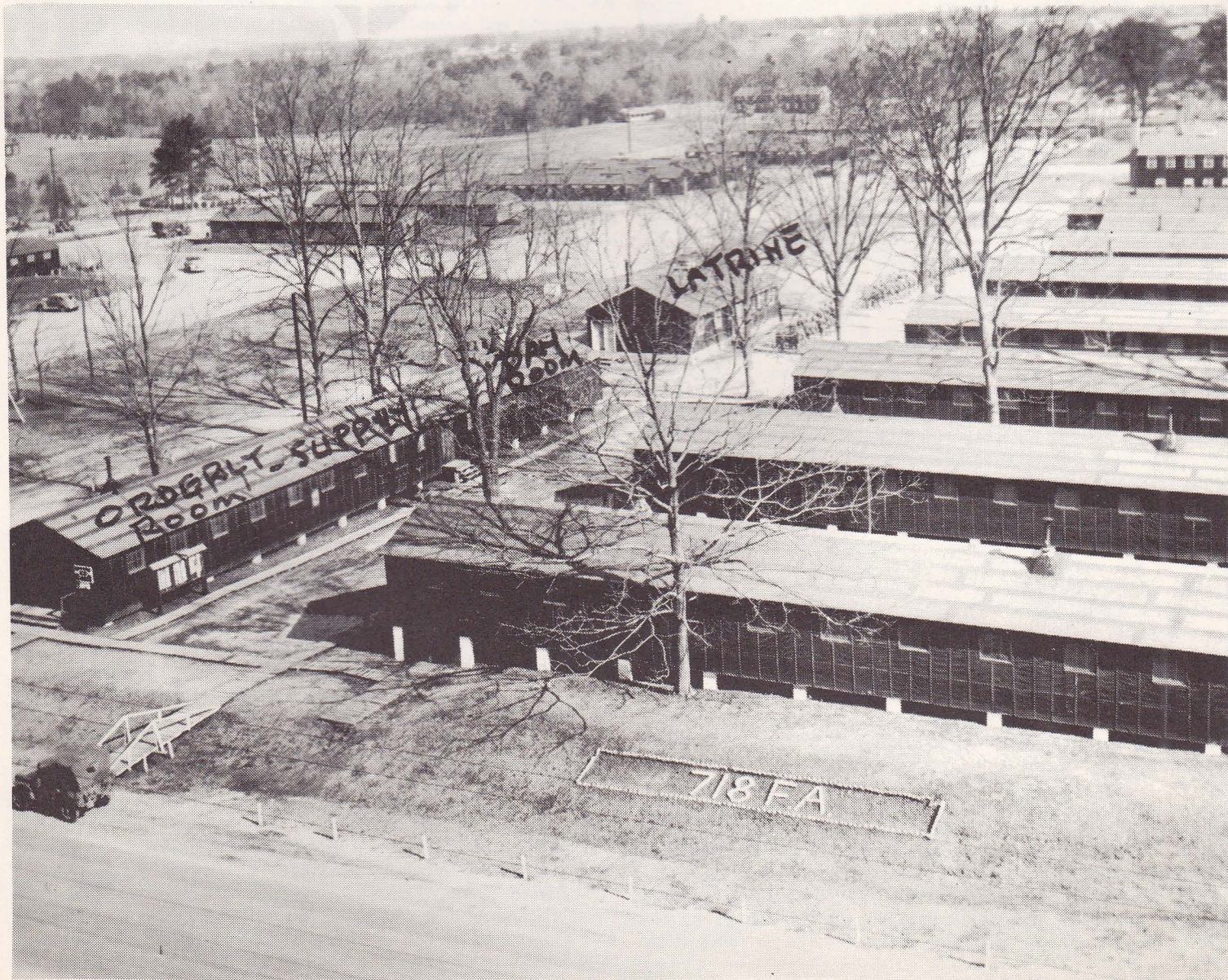
First officers of Company C, 254th at Ca Blanding, FL. then Lt. Coss is the third man from the left.



Mosbach,
Germany
June 1945

Camp
Van Dorn . .

Look
Familiar?



Ye Ole Bull Sheet



ALEXANDER DURTKA — 863rd F.A. Batt. C — RR 2, Box 334, Culver, IN 46511 . . . I noticed in Al's address the name of Maple Manor Farm, so I presume he either lives on, works on, or owns the farm. Let's hope the latter, as I do know that he is an electrician. He also is a new member of the Lifer Team and I hope he and Phyllis can come over to Michigan and join us this July. Bring along Darlene, too, as many of the kids from infant to adults are a permanent part of the 63rd Organization . . . (April '75)

CHARLES C. LANE — 253rd Hq. Co. 3rd Bn. — Route 8, Box 228, Mobile, AL 36608 . . . Chuck is still working at the Coast Guard Aviation Center and hopes sometime to bring Sophie to one of our reunions. The sooner the better, Chuck, as we honestly do have fun. In fact, you can have as much fun as you want to, and make as many friends as you feel you can stand . . . (April '75)

JOHN F. BARRY — 363rd Med. Co. C — 20 Briggs St., Quincy, MA 02170 . . . John sent in his dues for the first time and tells us that he is a Senior Loss Prev. Representative. How about that? He also was cadre from 98th Division and helped form the 63rd at Camp Blanding in Florida, then stayed with the Blood and Fire until it became "POINT" unit . . . (April '75)

CHAS. COLEMAN — MED DET. 863rd — 1244 Merryfield St., Pittsburgh, PA 15204 . . . Charles is another first-timer and a retired painter who keeps in touch with some of the members of the 863rd Medics. Charley, get Ruth in line, and head for Lansing this summer as there are quite a few members going from the Pittsburgh area . . . (April '75)

MILTON KLEIN — 863rd F.A. Hq Btry — 5261 Kimberly Drive, Flint, MI 48507 . . . Milt will be in Lansing this summer with wife Veva and wants to see some of the gang from the 863rd. So come on you Red Legs, show up and have your own bull-session. Milt is retired from Sears now after 31 years as a Shoe Dept. Manager. However he still manages to put in a few hours each week in a family-type shoe store to keep from going crackers . . . (April '75)

R.H. DICK CROUCHER — 763rd Ord. Co. — 710 Gratiot, Alma, MI 48801 . . . Dick is a purchasing agent and he and Shirley have 4 daughters, and I think that all of em are in college. I would guess at Alma. Dick will be at Lansing and be on the lookout for Ord. members. So be sure to look him up as the official host of all Ord. folks. Dick is active in community affairs, mainly this year as the Vice President of the Alma School District . . . (Apr. '75)

JAMES A. AICARDI — 254th Co. K — 231 Blue Hill Pkwy., Milton, MA 02187 . . . Jim is another first-timer in the dues department, and currently is a food service administrator. Jim tells us that he thinks of Van Dorn a bit and looks forward to our paper. (April '75)

WALTER SCHURIG — 254th Co. D — 26 Willis Ave., Cresskill, NJ 07626 . . . Walt is another of our Lifers who still think of us each year and quite often sends in donations to help keep alive. Thanks fella, and give our best to Julia, Eileen and Richard, and hope to meetcha all in Philadelphia in '76 . . . (April '75)

ALEX KAEMPFER — 763rd Ord. — 3800 S. Decatur No. 276, Las Vegas, NV 89103 . . . Alex sent in a long letter where he is pleading for the association to have a reunion in Vegas and wake up the town. Well Al, in that we're heading for San Antonio in '77, we may end up in your town yet, wanna bet? I wonder what odds we might get? Now for the Kaempfer news: Jon the oldest guy is coaching all sports at St. Philomenes Church in Sacramento while No. 2 son Chris is going to be Judge Foley's Law Clerk for a year. The No. 3 fella, Gary, is going to start teaching in January and perhaps even sooner if the job opens up. Ole dad is still a court reporter and kinda looking forward to retirement within the end of '76, with luck, while mom is a realtor with Jessie Emmett Realty Co. (June '75)

EDWARD R. DOLLARD — 255th Med. Detachment 3rd Bn., — 215 Elmwood Road, Oakhurst, NJ 07755 . . . Ed has just been added to the roster and we received his dues and hope he and Dorothy get the chance to join us at the Reunion in Valley Forge in '76 . . . (May '75)

ALBERT L. SMITHSON JR. — F Co. 254th — RFD No. 1, Whitefield, ME 04362 . . . Al is a retired Lt. Col. and presently a Teacher-Administrator who is keeping busy enjoying semi-retirement, clearing out some of his land and planting trees, shrubs, etc. Al and wife Toni would like to hear or see any former F Company folks. They'd even settle for any former 1st or 2nd or even 3rd Bn. people, so get to it, ya' al . . . (June '75)

ROBERT BEEKS — K Co. 255th — RR No. 3, Fort Recovery, OH 45846 . . . Bob and wife Alberta are parents to Kay and Ginger and grandparents to about three by the time this gets into print, which should be around the latter part of 1975 . . . lets see . . . Bob farms 410 acres and the mommie works at the local feed elevator. So any of you 63rd'rs in that buckeye area, go over and buy some feed or sumpin! Well write anyways . . . (June '75)

LESTER A. NOEL — Co. L 254th — 914 25th St., Huntington, WV 25703 . . . Ole 1st Sgt. Noel is a former President of the Association and still a Deputy U.S. Marshal in West Virginia. Les sent in his Life Membership and now carries card No. 248. He'd like to hear from some of his L Company men and associates. So get out that pen and paper, you guys . . . (June '75)

S. JORDAN PERIMAN — 763rd ORD. — 13845 Superior Road No. 2001, East Cleveland, OH 44118 . . . Jordan is a bachelor and owner of "JORDAN'S SHOPPE" which accounts for his happiness and probably wealth, as he's been in the same location for 34 years. As we have quite a few 63rd gals in that area, why not stop in and see if being a Blood and Fire alumni will get ya all a discount, smile, or just what? ?? (June '75)

ROSS E. STOKELY — 254th and 255th — 3115 Lake Margaret Drive, Box 8114, Orlando, FL 32806 . . . Ross sent in his dues and donation plus a nice long letter on all of the latest from the Sunshine State. After duty with the 63rd, Ross went with Military Gvt. and then to the State Department with the CIA and now retirement, forced by a couple of hospital stays. Ross and Mary were very kind to your ole Secy. and his wife back in 1970 and I hope they get to San Antonio so we can repay the friendship. Ross mentions that Disney World has made Orlando a big town now and they have a high crime rate, etc., so join the rest of us big towns, Ross. The Stokelys son Dan finished his army tour and is working in the Naval Hospital along with his wife who is a former WAC. By the way, I think the son lives next door to ole mom and dad. With all of the 63rd'rs moving to Florida, they can almost have their own reunion. Better yet, why not plan to join us in Baton Rouge next April? . . . (June '75)

WALTER R. BOCHENEK — 253rd Medics — 1658 W. Cortland St., Chicago, IL 60622 . . . Received dues from Walt and he tells me that they sold the tavern in November '74; that they have operated for the past 25 years. Now he and Anna are retired and they have a home in Wisconsin where they intend to spend some time with their five dogs. Lots of Luck, Bocheneks! . . . (June '75)

DE LYLE OLSON — Co. G 254th — Route No. 1, Hollandale, WI 53544 . . . De Lyle and Pat made it to the Chicago reunion and I know they were heading for Lansing too. They're looking for some of his old buddies, mainly Howard Klein, Don Koth, Ralph Lane, or Norm Haskins. The Olsons and their two youngest sons are engaged in the daily bizz and that still leaves Terry, Gary, and Mary, assuming that Jerry and Dennis are the youngest . . . (June '75)

JEROME T. MCGOWAN — Hq 1st Bn 254th — 5604 Crenshaw Road, Richmond, VA 23227 . . . We had a note along with his dues plus a donation from wife Kay, and she tells us that ole Jerome is now retired and looks forward to getting the paper . . . (May '75)

FRANCIS CANNAROZZI - 263rd Engr. Co. C - 31 Pillmore Drive, Rome, NY 13440 . . . Francis is another retired 63rd'r, this time from the USAF and spends much of his spare time on the golf course chasing that little white pill. He keeps in touch with a buddie, Joe Kristofik of New Kensington, PA, who we put on the mailing list. Fran wanted to know if there was a history of the 63rd that he could purchase and we must say NO, as far as a complete book. There are bits and pieces of history in our issues of B & F, plus the book of the 254th. Remember the old issues where Burnt Waters was in type so small it forced half of the members to get glasses? ? (April '75)

WILLIAM D. WELLER - Hq. Btry. 862nd F.A. - 75 S. Brentwood, Lakewood, CO 80226 . . . We received dues plus from Bill who is currently a Brig General as the Adjutant General for Colorado. We also had a card in the envelope from Col. Clifton Wingate who is now Chief of Plans for the S. Carolina National Guard, formerly a 263rd Engineer . . . (May '75)

JAMES DOWNEY - K Company 253rd - 1410 N. Canal St., Alexandria, IN 46001 . . . We finally got to Jim and he is now a fully-paid up member and he was planning on taking wifey Mary to the Lansing Reunion. Jim is retired and living it up - Lucky Dog - and perhaps we'll get to see more of the Downeys from now on, especially if he saves his pennies for the future reunions, especially next year in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania . . . (May '75)

WILLIAM L. LOVEKIN - F Co. 253rd - R.D. No. 1, Box 155, Conemaugh, PA 15909 . . . Bill is a Steel Worker and tells us it's still the same ole story, working harder and getting poorer. Seems I've heard that story somewhere before. Bill wonders if any of his former buddies would like to write to him. He reads the Blood and Fire very faithfully and promises to answer all the mail, get up and go . . . (May '75)

GEORGE ORTMANN - Div. Arty Btry - 611 Calais Drive, Apt. 4204 . . . Pittsburgh, PA 15237 . . . George sent in a note that due to his limited finances from Railroad Pension, he loves to read the Blood and Fire, but would understand if we cut him off. NO WAY FELLA! I'll bet we'll get somebody to send in your dues when this hits the press. Come on Artillery Fire For Effect. George was a Chaplain's Assistant from September 1943 at Van Dorn to discharge at Indiantown in September 1945 . . . (June '75)

FLOYD C. HUGHES - 255th HQ 2nd Bn. - Maple Avenue, Paoli, PA 19301 . . . Floyd's wife, Catherine, sometimes called Kit I think, sent in dad's dues plus a donation and tells me that pop is still a Vice Pres. at the Central Penn. National Bank. Their two children have presented them with four grandsons, two from each offspring, I believe. Let's see if we can't wake up the 2nd Batt. 255th and get some of ya all to Valley Forge in July '76 . . . (June '75)

HENRY H. LAUCHLEY, JR. - Hq Btry. 718th - 5915 Belrose, Houston, TX 77035 . . . Got a real nice letter along with his dues from Hank, and he is still a Project Engineer with the pipeline division of Brown and Root, Inc. He just returned from 15 months in Brazil and still travels all around the states, so you 718th guys send him your address and you'll probably get a visit if he hits your area. Henry and Carlee are now grandparents and Kevin the 2nd offspring, our count is 3, just graduated from high school and will be going to WHERE ELSE? ? the U. of Houston . . . (May '75)

JAMES P. BROWN - Co. D 363rd Medics - 1612 Bullard Ave. Metairie, LA 70003 . . . Jim sent in his dues, and is still the District Credit Manager for B.F. Goodrich Co. Do they have the Balloon or are they the other guys? ? ? Ruth and Jim are proud parents of George, Susan and Melinda. The oldest two graduated from college while Melinda is still in High School and probably figuring out which college to go to . . . (June '75)

FRANK C. FULTZ - 255th Hq Co. 1st Bn. - 61 Peach Lane, Lancaster, PA 17601 . . . Frank is one of our LIFERS who still sends in a check to help out the cause. Thanks fella. He also bet your ole Secy. that his outfit had more Life Members than any other, Welllll, it seems F Company of the 253rd might even beat all of the 255th Regiment the way they're going. So it seems that Frank will have to show up at Valley Forge and buy a BIG ONE . . . (June '75)

EDWARD T. TRAPP - 254th Co. F - 5254 S. Kilpatrick, Chicago, IL 60632 . . . Ed is still a bartender and getting a bit tired of 6 and 7 days a week. So you guys in the Chi. area go over and B.S. with your friendly bartender*Hey Ed andsElda! It's only an easy 2 day drive from the windy city to San Antonio. So start saving gas money now and meet the gang in 1977 . . . (June '75)

WILBUR VIETH - Co. K 253rd - RR Beason, IL 62512 . . . Will is busy these days as a farmer, trying to keep us city folks full of good American food, and he and Marilyn expect to meet some of his company at the Reunion . . . (May '75)

ARTHUR C. JOHNSON - 11 S. 5th St. W., Aurora, Minn. 55705 Art sent in his dues plus a donation to help out with the expenses. Art Jr., the oldest fella, is in his last year in college. Paul the middle guy, is finishing his Navy hitch, and the youngest of the tribe, a gal, is still in High School. Art should be at the Lansing shindig, we hope. (May '75)

JACK KERINS - 255th Co. D - Tam O'Shanter Golf Club, West Middlesex, PA 16159 . . . We got a note and dues from Jack just before the Lansing affair and were expecting both he and Mary Lou. But from what I understand, he broke a wrist, or ankle, or something. We missed them a lot, as they're mighty fine people as well as their kids, Mary Ann, John, and Rick . . . (June '75)

TO: EDWARD G. WITT

422 Winfield Blvd.

San Antonio, TX 78239

63rd DIVISION ASSOCIATION 1975 DUES FORM!!

Name _____ 63rd Unit _____

Address _____ Zip Code _____

Wife's Name _____ Children's Names _____

Occupation _____

Annual Dues \$5.00 _____

Life Membership \$40.00 _____

Tell us about yourself! _____

DON'T FORGET YOUR DUES ARE NEEDED



← **BEFORE**

CRAILSHEIM, GERMANY . . photo taken before the devastation of war. Picture shows Wilhelmstrasse with Post-office.



AFTER ←

Picture again of CRAILSHEIM . . photo taken after it was "hit". Rumor had it at the time that the town had surrendered to the armored troops. The armor moved out, leaving 8 M.P.'s in charge of the town to await the arrival of the infantry. When the infantry arrived the M.P.'s were found dead . . whereupon the infantry commander called for artillery and air help and the town was leveled with only chimneys and church spires remaining intact . . whether or not it is factual we do not know . . over there that's the way it was told.

EDWARD G. WITT
Secretary - Treasurer
422 Winfield Blvd.
San Antonio, TX 78239

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