

The T-Patcher

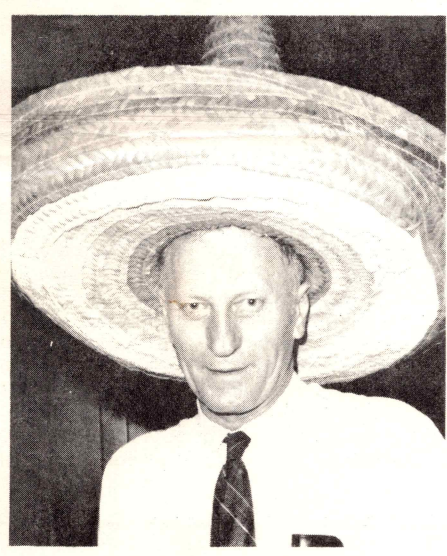
36th DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Editor - James O. Quick

MARCH, 1971

TWO BIG GUNS OF THE ASSOCIATION

The one with the big hat is Director Amil Kohutek (if you have not met him, I'll bet you have received a letter from him). The other one is our President Lance "Moon" Mullins



Amil Kohutek



Lance Mullins

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

In some units there are men who stand out in leadership ability, far above the average. Amil Kohutek is this kind of man. He has the drive (not a pun, even though he does drive a truck for a living) necessary to keep going when most are in the rut. He evidently has a huge light bill, because of the midnight oil he is bound to be burning, writing those letters to recruit members (now totaling 800 with the current membership over 1200) for the Association.

The hat he is wearing in the above picture is no small thing and if they made them any bigger then this is what he should wear. Not because of the fit, but because this is as it should be. Now I could go on in praising Amil for the outstanding job he has done and is doing, but due to limited space I will end it with—THIS MAN IS A SOLDIER.

I want to thank each of you for electing me as your President and giving me the opportunity to lead one of the greatest Associations in the world.

With your help we will have the largest Membership and Reunion in Houston next year of any in History.

Call and write your buddies, for those that were in Dallas, tell those that missed what a wonderful time we had, and it truly was one of the greatest.

My family and I wish each of you a healthy and happy year, till we meet again in Houston, Labor day weekend, 1971.

Sincerely,
Lance "Moon" Mullins

1970-71 BOARD

PRESIDENT:

Lance P. Mullins, 2727 San Medina, Dallas 75228

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Roger Cannon, 3520 W. Brookview Dr., Waco 76710

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141st INF.:

Sammie D. Petty, 3304 Bennington, Pasadena 77502

142nd Inf.:

Osborne L. Oakes, 1516 Avenue C, Brownwood 76801

143rd Inf.:

Norris B. Morgan, 825 Carney Dr., Garland 75040

144th Inf.:

Gaston Howard, Box 2306, Longview 75601

DIRECTOR:

A. F. (Amil) Kohutek, 2404 Lincoln Street, Irving 75060

DIRECTOR:

Bert D. Carlton, 313 N. Oak Cliff Blvd., Dallas 75208

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

James O. Quick, P. O. Box 4113, Waco 76705

LETTER OF APPRECIATION

The family of the late Major General Fred L. Walker thanks Colonel Oran Stovall and Colonel Andrew Price for their major contribution in the publication and distribution of the General's journal, **From Texas to Rome**.

It was a labor of love and its success illuminates the devotion they brought to their task.

Although his terminal illness prevented the General from sending personal letters of commendation to these officers, he repeatedly expressed his heartfelt appreciation for their efforts and recognized always that the book would never have been published and distributed without their invaluable assistance.

Margaret M. Walker
Colonel Fred L. Walker, Jr.
Lt. Colonel Charles W. Walker

To Members of the 36th Division Association in Reunion, September, 1970.

The death of your General almost a year ago brought many floral tributes and notes of sympathy from the Association, all units and many individuals which were most sincerely appreciated.

He was proud of the men of the 36th, their helpmates, and their children.

I deeply regret not being with you today. Please believe that your expressions of love and esteem for the General are a continuing comfort to me and his family.

Sincerely,
Margaret M. Walker
6742 Towne Lane Road
McLean, Virginia 22101

NEWS FROM THE AUXILLARY PRESIDENT

Mrs. Laverne Simonton has asked for help. She said she would need all the help she could muster. So all you ladies can start now by dropping her a line and volunteering your services. Her address is: 15347 East Ritter Circle; Houston,

Texas 77071. Houston is an available town and this is a go getter President, it should be the best Auxillary meeting yet. She also said to ask the men to send their wives' names and address to her at the above address. After all, behind most good men there is a good woman.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

At this time I am going to acknowledge all of the donations that have been sent in through the efforts of one of our outstanding Directors, Amil Kohutek. Some of you may not have heard from Amil this year but I'll guarantee that before the year is out, you will. He has secured donations of: \$75.00 from Dr. Leo D. Bricker of Houston, Texas and \$50.00 from Schaffe T. Courey of Pittsburg, California who is the National Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart USA; to name a couple. He has received many more too numerous to name and amount. In addition he has personally recruited over 500 members since the reunion. Some have been paid for by other members more fortunate than some of our comrade's in arms. We now have more than 950 members. He hopes to break his record of a couple or so years ago when our ranks swelled to 1300 members and with our help he will. Ask your buddies if they have paid their \$3.00 dues for the current year?

For a Financial Status Report as of December 1, 1970 we have on account \$, , . . . Thanks mainly to efforts and evidently tireless work of Amil. He seems to have a lot more go power than I do.

If some of your letters have not been answered, try again, as I am or have recuperated from the Reunion and the Board meeting. The recruiting drive seems to have slowed down some.

I do appreciate all the help of so many people who send in information for this publication. If you do not see your info in this issue please try to understand that we have a limited amount of space. We will try to acknowledge your information and print it in the near future.

James O. Quick
Executive Secretary

A newspaper published for Veterans, called "The Veterans Voice," official publication of the Council of Veterans organization, is published bi-monthly in the Dallas area. The editor is Hymie Greenspan and the 36th Division Association was given good coverage in the September-August issue, 1970. The subscription rate is \$1.00 per year with single issues at 20 cents. The Publication's address is P. O. Box 1301, Dallas, Texas 75230. The Publication's current circulation is now 11,000 and publishes news items of interest to veterans and also accepts advertisements in general.

"FROM TEXAS TO ROME"

For those of you who have not yet purchased your copy of Gen. Walker's book, you may order it for \$10 by writing:

Walker Book Fund
P. O. Box 27
Bowie, Texas 76230



General Frank McDonald also known as Judge Frank McDonald the Memorial Day speaker.

Judge Frank McDonald, Chief Justice of the Tenth Court of Civil Appeal at Waco, a member of 36th "T-Patcher"

Division Association told delegates to the 45th Annual

National Reunion at their Memorial Services that:

"MY BUDDIES OF THE 36th INFANTRY DIVISION,

It is a proud privilege to be here today on this 36th Division Reunion occasion; and a sacred honor to be present at this Memorial observance of love and appreciation for our buddies and former members, who have given their last full measure of devotion.

We 36th Division Veterans join together this morning in honoring our departed comrades on this 45th Anniversary Reunion occasion. World War I was the 1st major foreign war since our country's independence, and many of our buddies were left in France.

World War II was the costliest in the history of mankind. We as a nation left our boys at Pearl Harbor and Corregidor; on Guadacanal and Iwo Jima; on the desert stretches of North Africa, in Sicily, at Anzio and Casino. We left our boys in Normandy, Belgium, Holland and Germany. And of course in the some 25 years since the close of World War II many of our comrades have answered to that last sound of Taps.

And we honor today not only our departed comrades, but we honor their mothers and fathers and their families, whose sacrifice, whose heartache, whose anguish and whose sleepless nights, will only be known completely, when the Great Book of Life is opened at the Judgment Day.

But we do more than these things. We pause and refresh our memories of the ideals for which our departed buddies and comrades were willing to sacrifice their lives. We take stock of the price that has been paid for the ideals for which we fought, and of our present abilities to preserve—and to pass on to our children, and our children's children those great ideals.

As we honor the memories of our departed comrades,

we know that now is the time to safeguard the principles, and the country, for which they fought so bravely and so unselfishly in time of war. We can best show our gratitude to those who have gone on, and our appreciation and sympathy for their mothers and loved ones, who still mourn them, by guarding those things for which they fought, with sleepless vigilance.

This objective does not call for vague and impractical pacifism that has not saved us from war in the past, and will not save us at any future time. Only hard work to achieve peace based on justice will last, and we can best honor our departed comrades by working with courage and constructive thought toward the achievement of such a peace.

Freedom and Democracy demand that we take an active interest in our government. As long as we take an active interest in our system of government, then we will be alert to defend its institutions against any enemy, internal or external. Our government represents each one of us, and for this reason, its strength and welfare is our individual concern.

To be free means more than a recognition of the debt we owe the men who gave their lives. It means that we, like they, recognize that eternal peace is the ultimate goal of all mankind, but that peace at the expense of freedom is worse than no peace at all. We must recognize further that eternal vigilance is the price of freedom, and that we, as citizens, are the guardians in peace of what those in war fought and died for. The sons of Gold Star Mothers did not consider themselves, when in combat. They gave their lives so that their comrades might live. They did not fight for personal profit or to enslave other men. They knew what was right and just, and their duty, and for these things they fought bravely and well.

To recite the glorious history of our country is to recite the history of our war dead. Their deeds, sacrifices and heroism are the monuments they built for themselves. Nothing we can say today can add to their achievements, for their works speak in great eloquence for themselves. They did not glory in war, as our nation does not glory in war, but we do honor and respect the battles they fought to preserve our American ideals.

As a strong nation, with a free government and a free people, whose acts and laws reflect true democratic principles, our country exerts great influence in the world today. We want a world of peace and security, and the vigorous leadership of these United States can help to fulfill our duty to mankind.

These are the thoughts, the ideals, and the acts which will make our observance of today meaningful. These are the things which will prove to our country, and to all the world, that our boys have not given their lives in vain, and that their dear mothers have not sacrificed in vain.

We must do all that we can toward insuring that the families of our deceased comrades, and those of our comrades who returned, but who are sick, who were wounded, who are suffering and in ill health, never go in need and want. We must insure and make certain that our government is never neglectful of the sacrifices which have been made.

I should like to read a little poem which exemplifies the debt that we who remain owe to our comrades whom we honor today:

"MY SON, MY SON

I prayed each hour of every day
That the star of blue would always stay
On the field of white, would be the same
But at night I knew as I breathed your name
That the star would change to a golden hue
And my heart must break from the loss of you.
We must have the peace, we will pay the price,
But O, my son, — what sacrifice."

We of the 36th Division will never forget the sacrifice and contribution of our departed comrades.

LETTERS TO THE T-PATCHER

Stumpy Holcomb tells us he has moved to 2125 Walnut, Pasadena, Texas 77502. Sends his dues for '71 and promises to try to make it in Houston. Said he talked to Andy Simonton and was informed that we had a nice meeting in Dallas.

* * *

Ralph Brown sends in a change of address. Moved from Fort Worth to 1083 W. Elm St., Stephenville, Texas 76401.

* * *

John E. Mathis sends his regrets for missing the reunion in Dallas. He also sent his dues and a change of address: University of Hawaii Program; c/o HEW Department, USCAR; APO San Francisco 96248.

* * *

Alban E. Munson, Jr., P. O. Box 1463, Santa Barbara, Calif. 93102 sends his dues and says he would like to hear from the 736 Ordnance bunch. Says he appreciates Mrs. J. B. Barnett, Jr's letter, in August T-Patcher, pertaining to Col. Martin.

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Note from Raymond C. Wells, Co. H 141st. Sends his dues and a request for a copy of the roster. Says he's sorry he didn't make it this year.

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Braley Villanueva 608 Withers St., Denton, Texas 76201 sends in his '71 dues.

* * *

Tom Buloca of 505 Omondaga Road; Syracuse, N. Y. 13219 sends dues for '71. Says he's met a lot of old 36th people in his area of the country and that his old platoon leader, Lt. R. Blackwell, has written a very interesting memoirs.

* * *

Note enclosing dues for Harry C. Pruett, 1957 MacKingfield, Abilene, Texas. Wish you could have been there.

* * *

Robert E. Adams of Tuscola, Texas 79562 writes asking about Andrew L. Steele 550 Craven St., San Antonio, Texas.

* * *

Former Sgt. Co D 141 Inf Cyrus C. Marden sends his dues. Asks about General Walker's book. Address is elsewhere in newspaper Cyrus.

* * *

New member James V. Brennan, Box 2, Rt. 1, Old Bridge, N. J. 08857. Was with Btry A 133rd Field Artillery.

* * *

Fred A. Booth encloses a change of address to 2022 Theresa, Harlingen, Texas 78550.

* * *

Earl A. Mansee writes asking about General Walker's book. Also asks to note new address, Rt. 1, Box 158; Clinton, Ark.

* * *

Don L. Latimer sends a change of address to 13607 Fordham Ave., Rosemont, Minnesota 55068.

* * *

Charles Marchluk writes wanting to know the whereabouts of R. C. Hipp. He's living at 1001 Winston, Dallas, Texas 75208 and was formerly with Hq Co 141st Inf.

M/SGT. E. C. "Pop" Flanagan passed away at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Dallas, Texas on Sept. 28, 1970. Pop was Section Chief for Col. (now Gen.) Robert M. Ives, G-1, Div. Hqs.

* * *

Clarence R. Harris passed away Nov. 6, 1968 in Temple, Texas. This may have appeared before but had another note from his widow so evidently someone had written to him. He was in Co. L, 141st Inf. for a number of years and remained behind in Camp Edwards so had no oversea duty. However had had 13 years with the Division so it was special to him. He had attended several reunions.

* * *

Mr. Cecil P. Clinton passed away on Jan. 19, 1970. Note from Mrs. Clinton contained no other news.

Brig. Gen. Barry D. Greer passed away July 29, 1970. He had made his home at 201 Carolanne Dr. in Marshall, Texas.

* * *

Delbert C. Willson of 2921 Silverbrook, in La Porte, Indiana 46350. Delbert was in the first group to fill the ranks at Brownwood, that was not a Texan. He served throughout the war in Btry C, 132nd F. A. Bn. He was Btry. recorder. Delbert had promised many times to come to the reunion but pressing business, family responsibilities, nursery and farming kept him away.

* * *

An announcement to all that were not at the reunion. Grover Tirey was killed in an auto accident in July, 1970. He had served in Btry C 132nd F. A. Bn. was transferred to Hq Btry in Camp Edwards, Mass. to form AntiTank Platoon, then went to OCS. Served in the war with an Arty Unit Firing Btry in the 103rd Div. Returned to the States as a Capt. and was at the Fort Worth reunion. He made his home at Harold, Texas on the south bank of the Red River where he owned and operated a service station.

* * *

Gen. Louis E. Hibbs died May, 1970 in Florida. He was Stateside CO 36th Arty and after leaving 36th was Wartime Commander of 63rd Inf. Div. General always paid Amil Kohutek his membership dues and he once confided to Amil that he had been told by Gen. Walker how the 36th Inf Div Arty saved the day at Salerno. He made his home at Mirror Lake, N.H. His wife had preceded him in death nearly two years ago.

* * *

A letter from Mrs. Arno Feltner to Amil Kohutek tells of the passing of Arno Feltner on Jan. 19, 1970. He had a heart attack 4 years ago and had congestion in his lungs. Evidently died of Emphysema.

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A note from Mrs. Alvin H. Freise to Amil Kohutek that Alvin had passed away on Sept. 3, 1969.

* * *

A note also to Amil from Mrs. Josephine Britchy, Clymer, Pa. That Mike passed away on Dec. 29, 1969.

* * *

We have also received word that Herbert R. Patrick, 5504 Midway Road Fort Worth, Texas 76117, a former member of 155th F. A. Bn. died on May 5, 1970.

* * *

Jack Lampel who, at the time of his death, July 23, 1969, which was reported to Amil by his widow, resided at 300 West 23rd St., N. Y., N.Y. 10011.

* * *

Card was returned from O. H. Bryant, 866 Meander, Abilene, Texas marked deceased; no other news on this. Perhaps someone in Abilene can give us some word.

* * *

Another member Charlie W. Menn departed this life, May 10, 1970, and is now in the hands of his maker. A letter from Mrs. Charlie W. Menn who is at home at 1018 Coral Place, Corpus Christi, Texas 78411.

Deaths as reported in Btry C 132nd Mourning report were: Howard (Ugg) Johnson passed away last spring near Cheyenne Hills, Colo. Howard was a roughneck on a drilling rig. He died in his sleep, was 48 years old and is survived by a daughter and son, both of Lamar. This was sent in by Charles Haskell.

* * *

Also Ernest L. (Tuffy) Lanier died June 11, 1970 in Ft. Wayne, Ind., apparently from a heart attack.

A letter from Mrs. Kathy Broumley to Amil Kohutek informs us that her husband Ernest Brumley passed away. He served in the 36th Div. Band and was making his home in Elmo, Texas.

* * *

Mrs. Anita Sue McKeel passed away on Oct. 31, 1970 after a long illness. Anita served the Ladies Aux. in many capacities, and was at the Dallas reunion in a wheel chair.

NEWS FROM THE ROVING REPORTER AT THE
REUNION (AMIL K.)

Stanley Kapela calls New Hyde Park, N. Y. home. Made his first reunion, Co I 142d. See you next time Stan.

John Davenport, never misses, from Evansville, Ind., G, 143d, took time to look up another T-Patcher in Evansville, Bayles Knodle. Maybe next time we'll see both of them.

C. F. Martignetti calls New Jersey home, C, 131st. Understand he stayed in and is now TyenyttuHy7 etain nu n derstand he stayed in and is now a twenty year man, he walked into a group of his buddies, many of this group were present. This was his second reunion, its a long time from 1952-70; let's see you next time; less catching up to do.

Edward Bernda first reunion 9157 Utica, Evergreen Park, Ill. Div Hqs. Supervisor Chicago Transient Authority. The Assoc. has been lost to him and we understand we'll be seeing him next time.

Ralph Fingeld 71 Sabo Drive, Mansfield, Ohio. Served with A 141st, liked the Fort Worth reunion, see you next year.

Peter Walters and wife Mary must have traveled the longest distance, Wales, Mass., must be of the Cape Co H, 141st which captured Rapido River Crossing.

Always good to see Robert Ritchie drive over from Florida. He was in 142d, employed by Tex. Edwards Const. Co. Heavy Equip.

Janee N. Palernoi, Vicksburg, Miss., C, 131st. That's all we got from him, will look you up next year and get a better story.

M. C. Wyatt, C, 131st, Fort Worth, Texas is concerned with the drop in current paid up membership, and is doing something about it.

Robert Buckley was one of Pet Greens' Artillerymen and proud of it, he missed last year but came on strong this year.

Another Artilleryman John Smith 132nd from Tyler, Texas. First reunion; let's see more of you John.

Billy Skidmore has a habit of skipping every other reunion, Sgt Major 132nd; let's shape up buddy and see you in Houston.

Col. John N. (Pete) Green, C. O. 132nd. Arrived at the motel, checked in, picked up his room keys, drove around the building, parked and unloaded, then on the way to where the action was got lost.

Quincy Hazelwood, A, 132nd, first reunion, from Paris, Texas.

It seems Elmer Trapp can't read the signs on restroom doors; Shame on you Elmer.

From Birmingham, Ala. the Dan Browns 133rd, Eid McGee 131st, Bob Bradford and Pauline 131st, Wesley Garrison 141st. Always welcome, a good bet we'll see them in Houston.

H. A. Green, Culman, Ala. never misses. This time brought wife. Will we see you both next time?

Past Association President, Amil Kohutek sold 20 of 132 Field Artillery books, fast moving story of this Ar-

tillery Bn in combat, no more need be said, only a few left, the price is \$6.50 if interested, make personal checks to Jack Hawkins and mail to 2404 Lincoln St., Irving Texas 75060.

Jim and Marion Lee Minor, first since Houston. Jim was C. O. 142nd Bn. Was the youngest Lt. Col. in those parts at the time and still looks it. Jim is past Association President, past Mayor of Post, Texas, past Legion Commander, owns and operates a furniture store and a funeral home, drives an ambulance, and farms on the side. Where does he get his go?

Heard from James E. Murphy, 77 Marie Ave., Brockton, Mass. 02402, K, 143d. Jim is looking for the whereabouts of S. Sgt. Hector J. Kilrea, last known address 160 Lyon St., Ottawa, Canada. Any current info please send to this paper.

Distant note—James J. Cavalcante, USAID-RO, APO San Francisco 96352. In letter to Amil Kohutek sends his dues "to help keep the association alive."

Received a letter from one of the original members of the 36th. John J. Wright served as an enlisted man in Hqs. Co, 144th Inf., from the autumn of 1917 until discharged in June 1919. He joined C Btry in 1930 as a 2nd Lt. and transferred out in December 1941. He is now living in Weatherford, Texas.

Letter from Bill Jary formerly with Div Hqs saying business kept him from last reunion. Next time Bill.

Bill Hagle sends note to Amil Kohutek with dues. Said would have been there but "had to take our daughter to the U of I that weekend, like moving a platoon."

Heard from Frank W. Gaston of Arlington, Texas known as "Old Folks." Told Amil "would never think of letting you down".

Walter Evans of Clinton, Miss. sends his due and best wishes for the success of the association.

News from Amil Kohutek (Mr. 36th Div Assn);

Big friendly Earnest Uptmore has recently undergone surgery at the Providence Hospital in Waco; Have not heard the outcome at printing time. Will be in the next issue.

Report from Col. Ernest L. Kirkland who suffered a heart attack last July, is back at work, but is having to take it easy and has to walk a mile every day.

Dr. Michael B. Hernandez from Austin has sent in his dues for the next two years and then some. He was with Co D 142nd Inf.. ret. as a Major..

Our congratulations to Gladys (Cookie) Kohutek Cox on her recent marriage, in September, to Richard Cox. Most all of you that have made a reunion in recent years know the young girl (Amil's daughter) that took the kids off your hands at the reunion. We all wish you many happy years Richard and Cookie.

Heard from Thomas F. Langston, P. O. Box 1, Norris, S.C. 29667. Looking for CMH Winner Sivelstra R. Herrea, that at one time lived in Phoenix, Ariz. Any one knowing the current whereabouts of him please send this info to Tom. Both served with Co. E, 142nd.

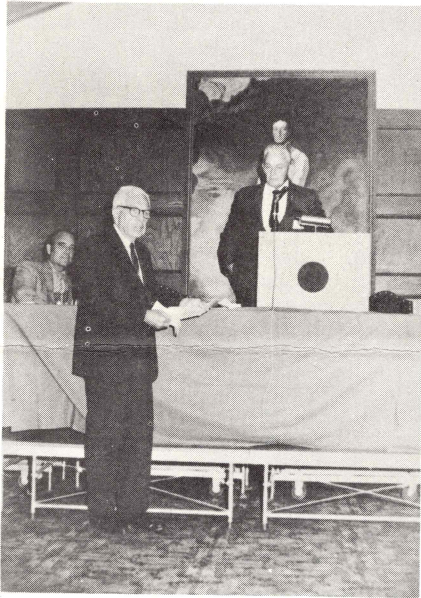
Oma Beth Fallis, wife of Loyd Fallis Co. E 143 WWI suffered a broken hip in Feb. 1970. She is improving and with the aid of a walker is getting around. Loyd and Oma own and operate the Lazy F Motel Pecos, Texas. A good place



The Royal Coach in Dallas "it doesn't look any different than the one in "Houston" the next Reunion site."



Two dedicated T-Patchers getting some publicity something we need more of, left Riley Tidwell and President Lance Mullins.



During General Assembly Col. Oran Stovall makes a motion.



The busiest man since the Reunion, he has recruited over 500 members. Amil Kohutec, Director at Large.



From the rear it looks full.



The front view showing seats reserved for those that didn't show.



The Welcome Party.

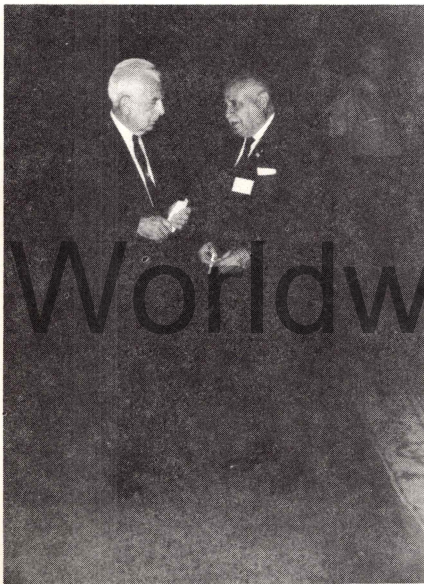
Worldwartwoveterans.org



The Ladies Auxiliary registration. Left Mrs. Pauline Kohut, Mrs. Laverne Simonton, President.



The registration desk "Will they show up?"



Two men you can count on at the Reunion Left Oran Stovall and Morris Gitman.



Two retired Generals Clayton P. Kerr (seated) and James L. Stell.



Two busy men take time out to visit Reunion: Major General Ross Ayers, Adjutant General State of Texas on right and News Columnist Wick Fowler (in some circles known as the Chili King)

to spend the night if traveling in that area, made better since they got rid of that rooster out back.

* * *

Barbara Bush, wife of Walter Bush from Jackson, Mich. has suffered a broken hip in a fall in a parking lot at Church late in 1969, last report was not getting around, both have been in Texas and past reunions.

* * *

Heard from Asa C. Smith, Rt. 1, Juliette, Ga. 31046, formally Btry C, 132nd F A.

* * *

Donald A. Wieta, 236 Duckpond Dr., So Wantagh, N.Y. 11793 looking for the whereabouts of anyone that served in G Co., 141st with him.

* * *

Leslie W. Enslow of Garden City, Kansas sends in his dues and then some, couldn't make it to the reunion said he hoped Cannon Co. 143rd was well represented. See you next time Les.

* * *

John C. Mader, Midland, Texas, sent more than his dues. Sends his regards to all the boys in Btry., C, 132nd F. A. Bn.

* * *

Italy revisited: Julian M. Quarles, Miami, Fla. Now an attorney tells us he has just returned from a vacation in Italy, with his family. They visited all the battle areas south of Rome, including the cemetery at Nettuno, where many of our comrades are resting. Sent more than his dues.

* * *

Commander of the American Legion, Livingston County, N.Y. H. Ross Glover from Dansville, N.Y. sends his dues and apologies for not making the convention. Distance and a busy schedule kept him away. He formerly served with Co. D, 142nd Inf.

I FEEL FINE

"There's nothing whatever the matter with me,
I'm just as healthy as I can be,
I have arthritis in both my knees
And when I talk I speak with a wheeze.
My pulse is weak and my blood is thin,
But I'm awfully well paid for the shape I'm in.

I think my liver is out of whack,
And I have a terrible pain in my back.
My hearing is gone and my eyes are dim,
Most everything seems to be out of trim.
The way I stagger sure is a crime,
I'm likely to fall at any time,
But, all things considered, I feel fine.

Arch supports for both my feet
Or I wouldn't be able to walk down the street.
My fingers are swollen, stiff at the joints
My nails are impossible to keep in points.
Complexion is bad, due to dry skin,
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

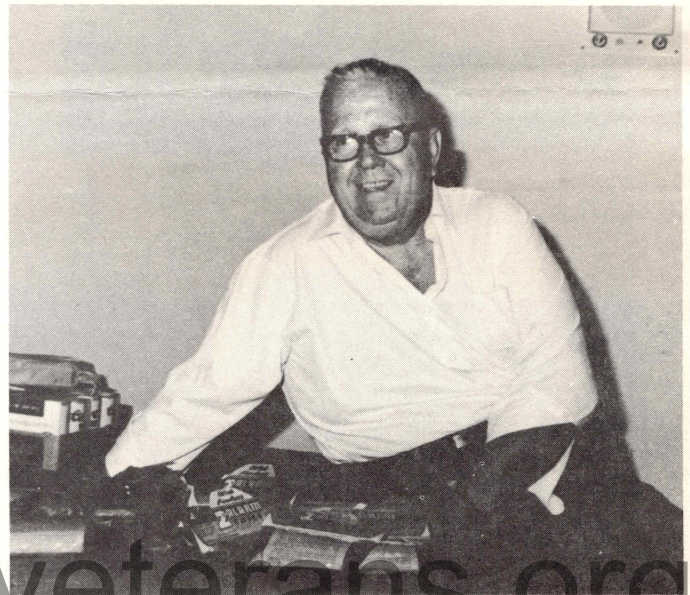
My dentures out, I'm restless at night,
In the morning, I'm a frightful sight.
Memory's failing, head's in a spin,
I'm practically living on aspirin.
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

Now the moral is, as this tale unfolds
That for you and me who are getting old,
It's better to say, I'm fine with a grin
Then to tell everybody the shape we're in.

—Anon



Wick Fowler then (and GI food)



Wick Fowler now (He must have been eating his own chili)

HERO'S FLAG IS UNFURLED AT COLISEUM; Fort Wayne, Ind. The flag flying in front of Memorial Coliseum this week is that of Tom Suedhoff, Indiana's most decorated infantryman of World War II.

Suedhoff died Oct. 13, 1944, in Naples, Italy, from wounds received in August while serving as a staff sergeant in the Army's 36th Division near Montelimar, France. The series of weekly flag memorials are being sponsored by Jim Eby Post 857, Veterans of Foreign Wars. Another of the city's posts memorializes Sgt. Suedhoff's name. Sgt. Suedhoff after graduating from the Wharton School of Finance of the University of Pennsylvania, was inducted into service immediately, with other members of his class. They

were scheduled to enter officers training but were assigned as privates to the 36th Division of Texas. They served in North Africa and participated in the invasion of Italy at Salerno, which included the battle at Mount Casino and at the Rapido River where casualties were heavy. Later they fought at Anzio Beach and in the invasion of Southern France.

Wounded near Lyons, France, Sgt. Suedhoff was flown to Naples, Italy, where he died two months later.

Sgt. Suedhoff, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl J. Suedhoff, received his fatal wounds when checking his mortar position while a German 280-millimeter railroad gun was harassing the area.

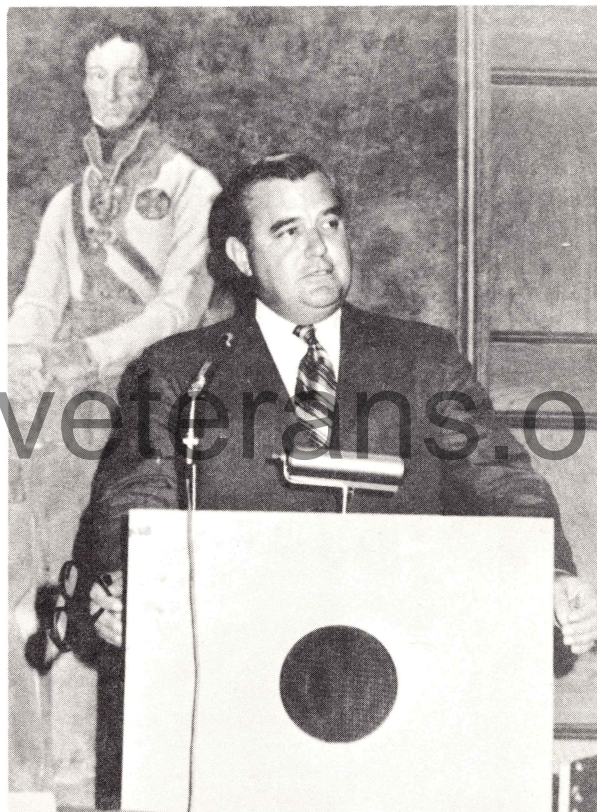
He posthumously received the Silver Star Medal on Memorial Day 1944, near Velletri, Italy, just off the Anzio Beachhead when taking his patrol rifle squad into battle with an enemy strongpoint, he killed nine Germans and destroyed an ammunition dump.

Earlier he earned the Bronze Star Medal in combat operations from Dec. 16-28, 1943, as a private when assigned to carry vital ammunition, water, and food to troops in defensive positions on a mountain height overlooking the road to Rome. Nine-hour trips over rocky cliffs made extremely hazardous by rain-sleet and enemy fire, were carried on for six days and then he joined his company in sealing the mountain and attacking a vital ridge.

Other decorations earned by Sgt. Suedhoff included three Presidential Unit citations, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Purple Heart, and the French De Guerre with Palm.

* * *

Heard from R. L. (Bob) Phinney, 1907 Exposition Blvd, Austin, Texas formerly with Finance Division. In a letter to Amil Kohutek, urged To Keep up the "newsworthy publication, known as the T-Patcher.



Mr. Murphy Martin delivers address.

INTRO TO MURPHY MARTIN SPEECH:

Murphy Martin is a veteran of 22 years in broadcasting and President of UNITED WE STAND (promoting the release of American POW's) and was formerly associated with WFAA-TV and ABC News. As former director of Special Projects Department of Channel 8, he wrote and produced many award-winning documentaries and is also remembered for his interview program "Face to Face." He accompanied the wives of POWs from the Dallas-Fort Worth area in their attempt to secure information about their husbands from the North Vietnamese delegation in Paris in 1969. In his speech at the 45th Annual Reunion he told the former T-Patchers and their families:

"JUST 1500 MEN"

Over 1500 American prisoners of war are rotting in North Vietnam, Laos, and South Vietnam. These men are kept in bamboo cages, caves, holes, chained to trees and held in solitary confinement. Some of these men have been prisoners longer than any other prisoner of war in the history of our nation.

Every American bears the responsibility for gaining the release of these men. This is our country; it is our war; these are our men. The American people hold the key to the fate of these men. They have made an awesome sacrifice for us. Are we willing to make some very small sacrifices for them?

The North Vietnamese consider these men unimportant. In one conversation they said, "Why all this fuss over just 1500 men? These prisoners are unimportant." I tried to explain to them that in our country every life is precious, and that 200 million Americans can become deeply aroused



The past President and current Director Bert D, Carlton.

over 1500 helpless men who are being starved, tortured and beaten.

The North Vietnamese replied, "We do not believe you, Your nation has lost over 40,000 men on the battlefield in this war. Yet, after years at war, most of the people of the United States have not become aroused in any way, either for or against the war. Why should we believe that your people care about "just 1500 prisoners."

In every discussion, the North Vietnamese state, "North Vietnam is not at war with the people of the United States. The people are our friends. North Vietnam is at war with the government of the United States. The government is our enemy."

In another conversation, the North Vietnamese talked at great length about the moratorium demonstrations—"More than 1 million people demonstrated on behalf of North Vietnam." After strongly pointing out that there is a great difference in demonstrating against the war and demonstrating for North Vietnam, I asked, "Do you know the population of our country?"

They did. I then stated, "You have accounted for 1/2 of 1% of our population. Don't you wonder what the other 99 1/2% is thinking?"

Without any hesitation, the North Vietnamese shot back, "Most of them aren't thinking anything."

In other conversations, the North Vietnamese made repeated reference to certain publications, groups, and public officials in the United States as being "totally committed to North Vietnam."

I strongly stated that organizations and individuals in our country may disagree with the administration's policy, but in no way does this indicate any commitment to North Vietnam. The North Vietnamese sweep this aside, saying that these individuals and organizations, while extremely critical of the United States policy, have expressed little or no criticism of North Vietnam. The North Vietnamese refer to this as a "clear pattern of activity."

The North Vietnamese think in stereotypes, such as "capitalist" and "worker." They consider the American worker their friend and the capitalist their enemy. The recent pro-America Demonstrations by American working men are a valuable contribution toward giving the North Vietnamese a sense of urgency to negotiate a settlement of the war. These demonstrations eliminated any feeling that the American working man was "totally committed to North Vietnam."

The North Vietnamese are fascinated and frightened by a free press. They have been particularly sensitive to adverse press on the prisoner issue.

The North Vietnamese are extremely sensitive to United States public opinion. They realize that the public mood is an important factor in the outcome of the war. They are watching the 1970 elections with even more interest than our prospective candidates. These elections give them a feel for the mood of America.

The North Vietnamese are keen students of our country. My conversations with them have caused me to conclude that it is not the moratorium groups or other groups favoring unilateral withdrawal that prolong the war. Instead, it is the great bulk of the population that has taken no position and remain completely uninvolved that is prolonging the war. Most of us have not been involved in this war in any way. The North Vietnamese people are totally involved in the wartime effort. Can you wonder that the North Vietnamese consider the people of the United States, and our government, as "inherently weak?"

The North Vietnamese have very little interest in the prisoners of war. They will agree that upon completion of interrogation, a prisoner of war loses all military significance and becomes a burden to his captor, using food, facilities and guards. On the subject of food, the prisoners live on a diet of fish heads, pumpkin stew and pig fat. I had this diet prepared for a number of journalists. No one sampled it. You would have to be starving to eat it.

The North Vietnamese can give no reason for not releasing the names of the prisoners they hold. I consider it a form of oriental torture, devised by North Vietnam, and directed against women and children in the United States.

The North Vietnamese consider the war the major issue and the prisoners a minor issue. They don't think the people of the United States will become aroused over "just 1500 men."

Don't expect North Vietnam to be moved by sentiment, emotion or concern for life. As long as they consider the prisoners an asset, they will hold them. When it is to North Vietnam's interest to release the prisoners, they will be released.

The key to the release of these men is for our entire nation to become deeply aroused and display this outrage visibly. Without regard to positions on ending the war, every American can unite in demanding the immediate release of the prisoners. This will impact the North Vietnamese because it threatens the "clear patterns of activity." The North Vietnamese will release the prisoners in an effort to refocus the full attention of the American people on the war. You can be sure that the North Vietnamese will not allow the American people to hate them over "just 1500 men."

The real question then is—Will the individual citizen in the United States become directly involved in demanding the release of these men? Certainly no American should feel weak or inadequate in the role he can play in bringing these men home. We hold the key to the fate of these men. When the North Vietnamese see our people, the owners of our country, turn against them because of the brutal treatment of our men, the risk will become unacceptable. The men will be released.

Our challenge is to visibly display our outrage of the treatment these men are receiving. Here is what you can do.

1. Contact every congressman and senator that is campaigning for re-election in 1970. Ask each one to make the release of the prisoners of war a written part of his 1970 campaign platform. In the stereotype thinking of the North Vietnamese, this is the classic way to make the prisoners of war an issue. Mail copies of these campaign platforms and any printed material on this subject to the North Vietnamese, Pathet Lao and Viet Cong.
2. Write United States Senators and Congressmen who favor a unilateral withdrawal from Vietnam, urging them to do everything within their power to gain the release of the prisoners. Strong demands for the release of the prisoners from these officials will impact Hanoi. The North Vietnamese won't allow a minor matter of "just 1500 men" to distract these men from the major issue of the war.
3. Contact your local newspaper, radio and television stations, asking them to take an editorial position and urging the immediate release of the prisoners of war. Suggest that your local newspapers prepare a special prisoner of war issue similar to the Pottstown Mercury of June 18. This newspaper had a front page story written in Vietnamese urging the immediate release of the prisoners. The advertisements were written in English and Vietnamese urging the immediate release of the prisoners. Pictures urging the immediate release of the prisoners. Pictures and statements from many private citizens were included in English and Vietnamese urging the release of the prisoners.

I mentioned earlier that the North Vietnamese were impacted by a free press. The people of Pottstown are mailing their newspaper to North Vietnam. I would like to be there when the mail is opened, to see the consternation as the North Vietnamese read an American newspaper printed in Vietnamese, condemning them and demanding the release of the prisoners. That sort of activity really puts a kink in their "clear patterns."

4. Write national magazines, radio and television networks, urging them to take strong editorial positions, demanding the release of the prisoners of war and condemning the North Vietnamese for their brutal treatment. Send copies of these editorials to North Vietnam when they are published.
5. Clip out any adverse articles about North Vietnamese treatment. Send copies of these editorials to North Vietnam.
6. Write North Vietnam a letter in longhand, condemning them for the brutal treatment of the United States prisoners of war. Include in your letter condemnation of the North Vietnamese for enslaving thousands of Laotian citizens, routinely massacring civilians in Laos and South Vietnam, and murdering one child from each family of the village leaders in a newly captured village to insure complete obedience from the leaders in return for not killing the rest of the children in the family.

Condemn the North Vietnamese for their total lack of regard for treaty commitments in Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, and their flagrant violations of the Geneva Accords.

The cumulative effect of this activity will allow the North Vietnamese to literally see that the American people have become aroused over the fate of "just 1500 men," and that,

while we may disagree on the war, no American is "totally committed to North Vietnam." Eliminating this false impression is a major step toward peace.

North Vietnam has been waging an extremely successful battle for the minds of the American people throughout the war. They will not risk their progress over a minor matter of "just 1500 men."

Never forget, some of these men have been in prison over 6 years. 1500 families in this country are waiting for their fathers and sons to return home. Only you can bring them home.

The sacrifice these men and their families have made for you and me has been awesome. Will you make a very small sacrifice for them? Will you become involved in demanding their release? Send your letter to:

PHAM VAN DONG
OFFICE OF THE PREMIER
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF VIETNAM
HANOI, NORTH VIETNAM
TON DUC THANG
OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF VIETNAM
HANOI, NORTH VIETNAM



THE GENERAL AND HIS BUDDIES—It was a reunion, too, when Maj. Gen. Ross Ayers, right, commander of the Texas National Guard, was Veterans Day speaker at Slaton Wednesday. He ran into three old friends, from left, Ells P. Schmid of Slaton, Bob Ritchie and Bud Myers, both of Lubbock. All were members of C Battery, 131st Field Artillery unit, commanded by Gen. Ayers in World War II.

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Oh, Father, thy gentle voice is hushed,
Thy warm true heart is still;
And on thy pale and peaceful face
Is resting death's cold chill.
Thy hands are clasped upon thy breast,
We have kissed thy marble brow.
And in our aching hearts we know
We have no Claren E. (Curley) Thompson now.

Written for the 36th Division and the 141st Infantry
February 6, 1971 Mrs. Bernice B. Maxfield

IN MEMORIAM

A precious one from us has gone
A voice we loved is stilled;
A place is vacant in our midst,
Which never can be filled.

God in his wisdom has recalled,
The boon his love had given,
And though the body slumbers here,
The soul is safe in Heaven.

A tribute to a very dear friend
Claren E. (Curley) Thompson

February 6, 1971

Mrs. Bernice B. Maxfield

Most everyone in the Division knew Curley Thompson as the man who moved the mountain, and gave a small Italian boy named Johnnie a chance to grow up in this great country of ours. Curley died, February 6, 1971, of an apparent heart attack and was buried on February 8, 1971 in Waxahachie, Texas.



Worldwartwoveterans.org

36th Division Association
P. O. Box 4113
Waco, Texas 76705



Worldwartwoveterans.org

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