

SHERMAN DECKROW 3740 N. Pontiac Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60634

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED FORWARDING POSTAGE GUARANTEED DEADEYE DISPATCH WINTER ISSUE 1973 - 1974

96TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION IS RECOGNIZED AS AN OFFICIAL VETERANS ORGANIZATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. OUR CHARTER IS IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS. BEING A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, WHATEVER INCOME THERE IS MUST BE USED TO BENEFIT THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP.



EDMU Says Seventeenth BIG GS RE Annual Reunion Ź INDIANAPOL \* JULY 25, 26, 27, 1974 Chairman

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Non-Profit Org.

Portland, Oregon Permit No. 793

#### OFFICERS - 1973 - 1974

PRESIDENT: James Breece - 382 - Serv. 6618 Robinhood Lane, Huntsville, Ala. 35806

1ST VICE PRESIDENT: Edmund Biggs · Q.M. 213 Wayside Drive, Plainfield, Ind. 46168

2ND VICE PRESIDENT: Ed Dakan - 381-B P.O. Box 1254, Dubuque, Iowa 52001

TREASURER: Cyril D. Sterner (Col. Ret.) 2nd Bn. Hdq. 382 3053 Stratford Ave., Lincoln, Neb. 68502

RECORDING SECRETARY: Tyson Shelton - 382-E Box 454, Elk City, Oklahoma 73644

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Sherman Deckrow - 2nd Bn. Hdq. 382 3740 N. Pontiac Av., Chicago, III. 60634

HISTORIAN: Harold Strand - 381-M 604 S. Hazel, Glenwood, Iowa 51534

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Charles Ratz-Div. Hdq. & 321 Eng. 301 S. Adelia-Springfield, III. 62704

LEGAL ADVISOR: George Buttell - 381 Hdq. 311 Milburn, Crete, Illinois 60417

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Alex Markus · 382-B 3629 N. Plainfield Ave., Chicago, III. 60634

INDIANAPOLIS CHAIRMAN Edmund Biggs - Q.M. 213 Wayside Drive, Plainfield, Ind. 46168

KANSAS CITY MO. 1975 Convention Chairman: John Rader - 381-Serv. Co. 5203 Skiles, Kansas City, Mo., 64129

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY: OUR KINDA GAL AWARDS TO THE FOLLOWING:

Dorothy Benson

Rachel Butler

Gail Funk

Eva Grostefon

Rosalie Hamilton

Helen Stuckemeyer

LaVon Wilker

#### AUXILIARY OFFICERS 1973 - 1974

PRESIDENT: Eleanor Markus (Alex) 3629 N. Plainfield Ave., Chicago, III. 60634

1ST VICE PRESIDENT Frances Huff (Robert) 6320 Woodwind Drive, Indianapolis, Ind. 46217

2ND VICE PRESIDENT Mary Jane Ragsdale (Howard) Box 510, LaMar, Colorado 81052

3RD VICE PRESIDENT Etha Caswell (George) 4323 Locust Ave., Odessa, Texas 79760

TREASURER Virginia Alberts (Harm) Culbertson, Neb., 69024

RECORDING SECRETARY Dorothy Benson (Sam) 1725 Travis St., Waco, Texas 76711

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY Elvira Leal (Ruben) 5418 Morningside Drive, Dallas, Texas 75206

CHAPLAIN Florence Moore (James C.) 2462 Newland St., Denver, Colorado 80214

#### ATTENDANCE BIG TEN

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#### CONGRATULATIONS!

#### PEORIA IS NUMBER TWO

#### IN ATTENDANCE

528

NAME	rp
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HICAGO, ILL. 60634 REMARKS:	
Send free Roster	
Of my Outfit	
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NDIANAPOLIS GOES BIG WITH"B	BIGGS

CITY\_\_\_\_

MAKE REMITTANCE PAYABLE TO 96th Infantry Division Assn.

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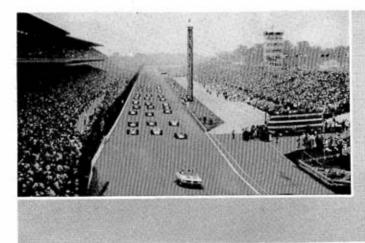






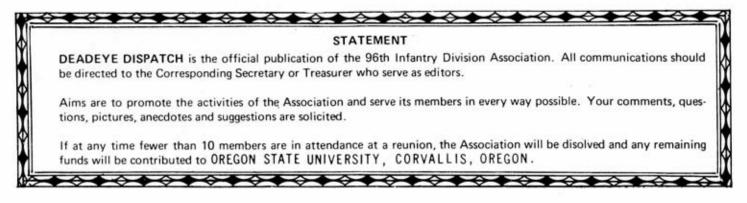
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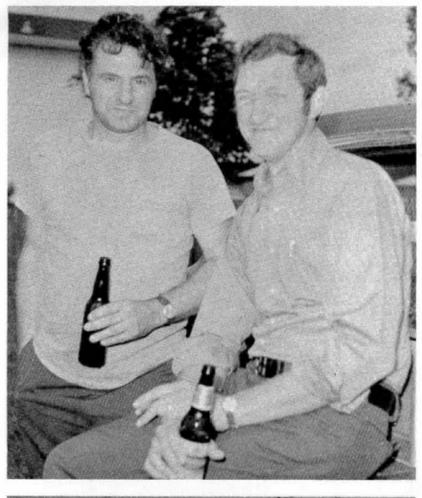
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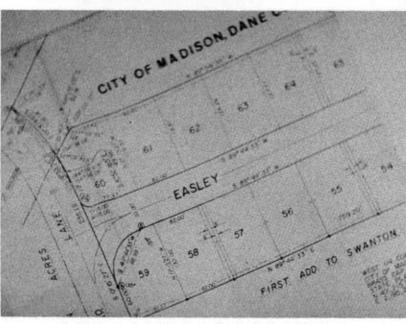


### INDIANAPOLIS

Home of the world's largest one-day sporting event (300,000+) now offers facilities to accommodate large crowds of visitors every day!







#### MICHIGAN CHAPTER INVITES ALL, "DEADEYES"

The Michigan Chapter will meet on April 27, 1974 at the Quality Inn, 901 Rosehill Drive, Jackson, Michigan 49202. Telephone: (517) 787-1111. Registration starts at 9:00 A.M., business meeting 1:00 P.M., Beer Bust and Bull Session 3:00 P.M., Dinner and Dance starts at 6:30 P.M. We have kept the cost for everything except the motel to \$20.00 per couple.

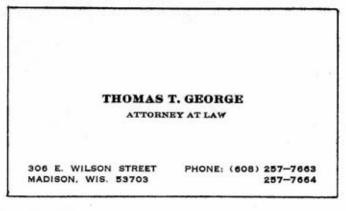
#### CITY OF MADISON, WISCONSIN TO HAVE EASLEY LANE

There is going to be a new residential development on the east side of Madison, Wisconsin. The sewer system is already in and bulldozers are readying streets for blacktopping. Street signs will be up soon - one proudly enscribed "Easley Lane".

A DEADEYE, Thomas T. George, 363 F.A. - B, is the sponsor of this action to preserve the memory of one of the heroes of the 96th. George, now an alderman and a lawyer, says that the street will lead directly into a public park. "The park will be situated on the highest spot in the city which was formerly occupied by the radar station for Truax Air Force Base. I know of no more befitting location for Easley Lane than a project that is changing a military site to peaceful purposes."

AT LEFT: Taken on September 8, 1973, George is shown with Tom Parker, 17th District Alderman and fellow politician, at the Elvehjen Community Picnic in Madison.

#### NOT AN ADVERTISEMENT



AT LEFT: Portion of plat map shows west opening of Easley Lane. Interstate Highway 94 is nearby.

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#### INDIANAPOLIS

JULY 25, 26th and 27th

The Chairman is: Milo Thompson 807 Third Street Jackson, Michigan 49203 Phone: (517) 789-6593

- 5 -

#### GOVERNOR OF INDIANA SENDS GREETINGS TO DEADEYES



Otis R. Bowen, M.D., Governor, is scheduled to participate in a number of functions at the reunion in Indianapolis.

In the following message he remembers how it was back in 1945 and tells about his own experiences that were somewhat related to those of the men of the 96th.

After 35 days of being subjected to Japanese air attacks and submarine raids, I landed on Okinawa with the invasion forces on Easter morning, 1945. Our 19-ship convoy had taken a zigzag route in order to reach our destination safely.

While with the Tenth Army Headquarters, Plans and Operations Section of the Medical Department I witnessed the heroism displayed by men of the 96th and other divisions in combat activities that were required to "crack" the narrow, heavily defended multi-level caves along the Yonabaru, Naha, Shuri line.

I am looking forward to visiting with those who share my memories of that time. . . from the emergency-prepared Yontan and Kadena airfields, the hara-kari rituals, and the burial caves . . . to the goats and chickens and sweet potato fields. I am sure that none of us will forget the death of General Buckner and his replacement by Vinegar Joe Stilwell, nor any of the hard-earned victories.

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#### DISTINGUISHED DEADEYE

Each year the President of our Association has a chance to reward the man that he feels has gone beyond daily efforts to help make this Association the greatest and largest of its kind from World War Two. Iden Johnson did just that and a lot more when he chose Harold Strand. Harold has over extended himself for a number of years and his love for the association and his fellow Deadeyes shows in every move that he makes at every reunion.

Iden is presenting Harold with his Citation which reads as follows:

#### HAROLD STRAND - 381 -M

Seeking and finding tasks that need doing are your strong points. Sharing a grand adventure in Comradeship that goes on for deadeyes, in a world of give and take, you stand with those who are willing to give what it takes.

#### JULY 1973 - PEORIA, ILLINOIS

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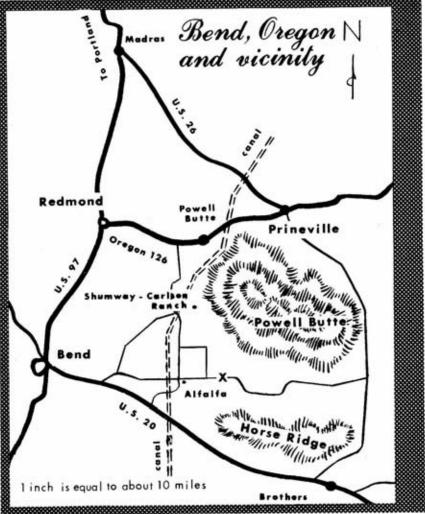
#### INDIANAPOLIS

JULY 25, 26 & 27TH, 1974

# TRAVEL GOOD ROADS TO BEND

The Oregon desert appears dull and brown in November, just the way we left it a long time ago.





# "... but there is a bridge out east of Alfalfa."

#### BY ED DAKAN (381-B) and HAROLD ROETKER (96QM), WHO MADE THE TRIP

On a chilly afternoon in November two of us old **DEADEYES** were returning to the place called Alfalfa. Driving in from the west, the first familiar sight was the irrigation canal, then a short distance further on, we found three frame buildings alongside of the road - a schoolhouse, meeting hall and a combination grocery store and gas station, each with Alfalfa as part of its name. Obviously, this speck on the map could not be accurately described as a town, for there were no houses, dogs or any sign of people, except for a couple of cars parked at the hall.

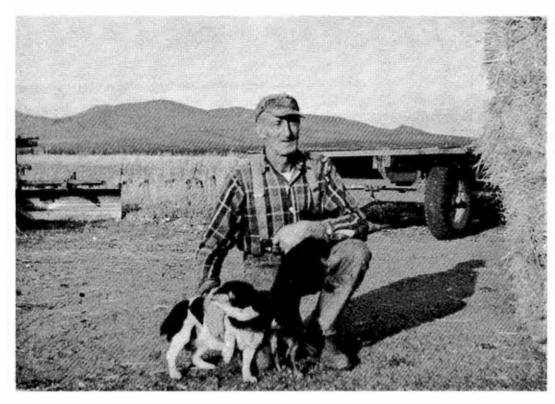
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#### TRAVEL GOOD ROADS TO BEND (Continued)

Recollecting, we decided that the place called Alfalfa had not really been a town 30 years ago when thousands of our buddies in the 96th had bivoucked hereabouts. That had been during the fall of 1943 at the time when the Division was participating in IV Corps maneuvers and the Blue and Red armies were theoretically spilling their blood on the barren hills in tactical situations.

We had come to reconnoiter the area again, so we drove right on through Alfalfa (past a field of alfalfa). Straight ahead down the road a piece, a homemade sign was posted warning us "bridge out". That was the end of the road, so we turned left to follow a trail through the sagebrush and sand.





Running along slow, looking for landmarks, we joined up with a Travelall that had pulled out of the scrub. He headed north as if he knew where he was going, so we followed.

The truck turned in at Ron Miller's ranch. He said that they had been on a field trip to pick up a load of red-colored lava rocks.

As we warmed ourselves in the kitchen, he told about coming to the Alfalfa community after the war and hearing about the maneuvers. "I found an M-1 rifle and a part from a field range with "U.S. Army" on it, but souvenier hunters got them away from me," he said. "The people around here didn't value the stuff at that time."

Miller had a hard time coming up with names of people who might have been around in '43. Finally, he directed us to Vern Matthews' spread further north up the road on the southwest side of Powell Butte.

We found Mr. Matthews to be much interested in our trip, but he did not have any first-hand tales about the maneuvers because he had come to this area in 1947 from his original home in the Willamette Valley.

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Top: Ron Miller, Harold Roetker and the Miller kids posed with Horse Ridge in the background.

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Bottom: Vern Matthews wanted us to tell him our story.



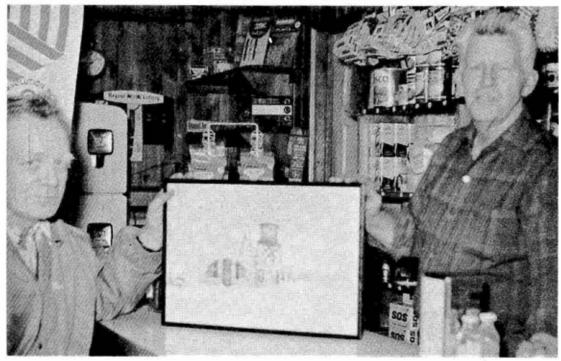
#### **BROTHERS STORE**

Roetker remembered having been to Brothers years ago. Clayton Constable displayed this charcoal drawing of the original store. He explained that the drawing shows Brothers Store after a Thanksgiving Day blizzard four years ago.

Brothers Store is now situated on the north side of the highway. The first store which **DEADEYES** remember, on the other side, still stands, but has been remodeled into a residence by the Constables.

. . . . . . . . . . . .





#### TRAVEL GOOD ROADS TO BEND (Continued)

Because we hoped to get to Brothers before dark, the search for old timers around Alfalfa was postponed, then we cut across country on a gravel road to U.S. 20.

At the Brothers Store, our conversation with Nell and Clayton Constable was crowded in while they served their customers and passed out mail. They kept filling our cups with free coffee and talking about the war years.

Constable reminisced about an incident that nearly destroyed the old store. The way he told about it, there was a lieutenant who set off an explosive charge out there in an open space one morning and it shook up everything and everybody. "A big rock that had been blown up in the air came crashing through the roof and into the floor of the store," he said with a laugh. "The spliced rafters and joists are still there."

(Continued Next Page)

#### TRAVEL GOOD ROADS TO BEND - EPILOGUE

Our aim was to go to Bend and scout around for a weekend, so we headed out from foggy, rainy Portland on U.S. 26 . . . this being the route that had been traced for us by the check-out girl at Avis Rent-A-Car.

We figured that our ETA in Bend ought to be close to noon, other than that our schedule did not amount to much. In fact, we had not decided where to spend the night, but camping out or hiking was not part of the plan.

Neither of us had been in Central Oregon since 1943. Having raised his family in Portland, Roetker had the best chance to take a second look, but just never got over the mountains.

Driving along, we naturally talked about vaguely remembered incidents that had been associated with the journey of the 96th at the time of the movement from Fort Lewis, but our experience had not been similar, since one of us had made the trip by train and the other by truck convoy. We could not even agree on the exact area from where the D series had started.

Anyhow, we made good time and within less than two hours we had passed the turn off for the Government Camp near Mt. Hood. The country had become more open and the weather cleared up as we started down the other side of the Cascades.

Prospects were for a fine day when we stopped for a break at a roadside cafe at Warm Springs where two pretty Indian girls worked the counter.

Hitting the road toward Redmond, we soon noticed longer stretches of sagebrush mixed with patches of junipers; we had entered the desert.

At noon we pulled into a truck stop on the south side of Redmond. We reviewed the map again during lunch and decided to start our search for someone to talk to around Bend, then try to visit some other towns on the list ... Sisters, Brothers, Fort Rock, Wagontire, etc.

Now you know the way we got involved in the adventure, part of which we have just told about. It turned out that we finally found people who remembered the DEADEYES, but that will be another story.

.......

Ed Dakan, P.O. Box 1254, Dubuque, Iowa 52001 Harold Roetker, 5348 N.E. 38th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97211

#### Deadeyes,

\*\*\*\*\*\*

It's at a time of one's sorrow we find out what friends we really have. Your expression of sympathy was very gratefully received and I wish also to extend a warm thank you to the 96th Infantry Division Association Auxiliary members and their friends.

I write this on behalf of Edward and his Father on the loss of their wife and mother.

We wish you to please have this printed in the newsletter, if at all possible, since I have no other way to thank all of those concerned.

. . . . . . . . . .

With Kindest thoughts, Edward & Ann Dunning & David E. Dunning (his Dad)

#### Editorial:

The bright spot in each reunion has been the presence of Mrs. Claudius Easley. Just as bright and warm as the spring sun she made her presence stand out each year for fifteen years. We missed her greatly at Peoria, especially her happy Hellos and smiling face. We have grown to love her as much or more than we respected and followed her great husband. We all hope that her illness that kept her from attending Peoria will be overcome and we can look forward to seeing this Great Gal in Indianapolis in 1974.

To you, "Sweetheart of All Deadeyes," get well soon and take good care of yourself. We missed you deeply.

#### THE EDITOR

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#### HE WORE THE "DEADEYE" PATCH TILL 1972

Colonel Paul Eugene Edson, D.D.S., Division Dental Surgeon, Division Headquarters.



Doctor P.E. Edson graduated from the College of Dentistry, University of Southern California in 1936 and went into private practice until 1939, in Ogden, Utah.

As each of us he answered his call on April 1, 1939 and was assigned to the Presidio Station Hospital, San Francisco, and a member of the 30th Infantry Regiment which brought a commission in the regular Army in June 1940.

This assignment was as Regimental Dental Surgeon.

Preparation came right behind with the Medical Field School at Carlisle Barracks from October to December 1941.

A cadre was formed for a famous outfit and Edson left Fort Ord for Camp Adair arriving on July 20, 1942 with the camp far from complete. Paul was not alone, for in the group was Lieutenant Colonel Jesse W. Mecham who became Battalion Commander of the First Battalion- 382nd Infantry and was killed in action on Leyte, October 26th. Edson soon found his place with the **DEADEYES** as Division Dental Surgeon till 1945,

(Continued Next Column)

when Paul was transferred to the 233rd General Hospital on Okinawa on July 19, 1945, and experienced the sight of many P.O.W.'s that were released from the Japanese Camps.

Paul took the cruise we all looked forward to aboard the Lakehurst, October 1, 1945, and was assigned to Bushnell General Hospital, Brigham, Utah.

Edson was separated in November 1946 with a U.S.A.R. Commission as Major. Later he was assigned to the 328th General Hospital, Brigham City, Utah, and transferred to Retired Reserves on October 18, 1972, as a Colonel.

He now enjoys his private practice and his family life with his wife, Marie and their three children in Ogden, Utah.

#### CHICAGO TODAY - JANUARY 29, 1973

#### 'VETS DIVIDEND'

#### Law Labeled Hoax

A REPORT that Congress had passed a bill authorizing a special dividend to military veterans of World War II who carried GI insurance has been branded a hoax.

"It's a cruel hoax", said Mrs. Marlene Ritzer, administrative assistant to the GI insurance information officer at Fort Snelling's Veterans Administration Center in St. Paul.

"This rumor has been popping up frequently in recent years, saturating our phone service and loading our office with letters demanding payment," she said.

CONGRESS DID authorize a 1948 special dividend for payment to soldiers and veterans who still carried the insurance, but this dividend was paid in full by 1951, Mrs. Ritzer said.

She said this applied only to holders of GI policies, and did not include Army veterans of the war who dropped the insurance before 1948.

Mrs. Ritzer said 16.5 million veterans shared in the special dividend totaling nearly \$3 billion.

#### NOTES TO THE EDITOR

Enclosed find my dues. Sorry I didn't get it off sooner. I had open heart surgery last February and did not get to it before. I am feeling pretty good, at least I am back to work on a lighter job.

Vernon Kangas 96 Q.M. • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

I appreciate the excellent epitaph to General Easley. His disregard of personal safety inspired the men of the 96th to hold their lives lightly in the performance of their duty, for this example he paid the supreme price. In particular, I daily retain the vision of fallen buddies, the moonlight and the star shells of the night blanketed them in a dull silvery mantle. They had held their lives lightly. The rest of us huddled here and there pressed to the cold earth, praying for the passing of the night. How can our debt to them, or their loved ones be expressed. I know we there, thanked them for the sun we felt on the following day, and I'm sure those still about thank them all for every sunrise since. I do.

I will try to make Peoria my first.

Charles C. Sheahan Staten Island, New York 361 F.A.

After all the years you people have mailed me the "DEADEYE DISPATCH", I am finally writing to let you know that I am still alive. I was a member of the 362 F.A., later transferred to the Med. Bn., attached to the 362 F.A. After my discharge, I re-enlisted and stayed for another twenty years.

I served in Korea and Vietnam, but out of all the outfits I have served with, none ever had the SPIRIT of the 96TH. Please don't stop sending me the DEADEYE DISPATCH.

Harvey Ollstedt Fayetteville, N.C. Med. Bn. 362 F.A. Med. Bn.

Please add the name listed below to the mailing list. We missed the New Orleans re-union, but we have high hopes for Peoria.

> Jo and Russell Watts A.T. Co., 382nd Infantry

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I have just received information that there is a 96th Infantry Division Association. I was a member of the 96th and went out on cadre to the 69th. I still have very warm memories of the 96th and Camp Adair. I would appreciate information on how to obtain the Division History Book. Enclosed find my check for current dues and make sure that I receive a bulletin or Newsletter and notices on when you have your re-unions.

M.C. Embeck Co. E. – 382 Inf.

#### To the Editor:

Like many others, I followed my soldier husband up and down the West coast. Camp Adair, Fort Lewis, San Louis Obispo, and Camp Beal. I guess I grew to know many fellows in the company and their wives. It was my privilege to sing at the Post Chapels occasionally.

With thanks to Mr. Butler and others who worked so diligently from year to year the 96th is now a great and historical organization. An association of men who know what it is all about. Down to earth citizens who take civic responsibility seriously knowing what it costs to keep our country free. Men who have delightful wives and families who understand straight from the heart and share their beliefs. Since receiving several letters and many thanks by word of mouth, I would like to take this opportunity to say that I am proud and happy to have been asked to share in a small part of this association:

Thank you.

Harriet Hooker, Soloist Wife of Jewell Hooker 321st. Engr. Co. A 96th.

YOU CAN HELP FIND

#### YOUR LOST, "DEADEYE", BUDDIES.

#### CHECK THOSE TRUNKS AND

#### SCRAPBOOKS.

#### SEND THEM TO:

Sherman Deckrow 3740 N. Pontiac Chicago, Illinois 60634

#### TAPS FROM JULY 1972 THRU AUGUST 1973

Delmar L. Graves 796th ORD 7/8/71 per notice from Sister 8/16/73

Charles E. Heck Div. Hq. 12/68 per rt N.L. 7/72

Lloyd Rutherford 381-E Per Percy Jones P.O. 7/72

Henry K. Duer 96 Q.M. 6/19/72 per Itr frm wife 9/72

Fred Harris 921 F.A. per Itr frm E. Biggs 2/22/73

Wm G. Reather, Jr. 362 FA per rt N.L. 3/73

Fred Erdman, Jr. outfit unkn per notice frm wife 2/73

Randall Harrison 321 MEDICS 11/23/72 per ltr frm wife 2/20/73

Joseph B. Troiler 381-C per ret N.L. 3/73

John Phillips 728 AMT per P.O. notice 3/73

William J. Bryan 921 FA per ret. N.L. 3/73

James R. Rice 381 SVC per ret N.L.3/73

Ramon Gregston 361-FA 11/27/72 car accident

Freddie B. Bouchard 381-I per ret N.L. 3/73

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Marcy M. Francis 382-3rd BH per rt N.L. 3/73

Edward Nowak 383-L 12/54 per P.O. Notice 7/72

Paul Tutt 321 Eng. Per P.O. Notice 7/72

Freeman B. King 728th Amtrac 8/8/71 per notice frm wife 8/72

Fred F. Wagner 381-G 4/24/72 per ltr 12/72

Gaylord Jellison outfit unkn per Itr frm M. Torpey 2/73

Norval O. Eggar 383-I 10/23/72 per ltr frm wife 2/21/73

Edward Witucki 383-B 11/2/72 per Itr frm wife 2/25/73

Leslie F. Perrin 381-M 7/19/71 per Itr frm wife 2/20/73

William Burgoyne 361-FA 2/28/73 per rt N.L. 3/73

Thomas I Weber 363-FA per rt N.L. 3/73

Col. Clinton I. McClure 96th Div. Art. H&H per rt. N.L. 3/73

Stanley P. Gonowski 361 FA per rt N.L. 3/73

Charles B. McDonald 321 Med 2/27/73 per notice frm wife

. . . . . . . . . . . .

#### TAPS (Continued)

Virgil Harvey 383-D 1972 per ltr frm Earl Zinc 3/73

Edward Brisel 381-F 11/18/72 car accident Albuquerque per notice from Iden Johnson 3/73

Henry Rehling 321-Med per rt N.L. 6/73

James G. Collier 382 H&H per rt N.L. 6/73

Glenn Harlan 381-G per rt N.L. 6/73

Petter J. Van Loben Sels 361 FA per rt N.L. 6/73

Leo E. Bringard 381 Svc 12/19/72 per notice from J.E. Taylor



Glenn Hamilton and his committee in Peoria this year really put it all together.

Here, Glenn and his lovely wife Rosalie relax after a job well-done. Rosalie told Glenn she was very pleased with the way everything went, BUT, "MY FEET STILL HURT".

James O. Butler 381-Can 1971

Orlando R. Davidson 96th Div. Hq. 4/3/73 per ltr from wife 12/18/72 heart attack

Virgil Brewer 96th HQ 4/26/73 per notice from wife

James W. Baker 381-Can 1966

Johnny W. Johnson 382-E per rt N.L. 6/73

Emmett G. Robinson 361-FA per rt N.L. 6/73

Charles Bresnan 383-D 2/12/73 per notice frm W.C. Bolin 7/73

Eugene A. Kowalsky 381 Can 1971

Fred Nottom 382-M 7/1/73 per Itr frm sister 8/10/73

Robert Anderson (H) 362 FA 10/25/66 per notice frm wife

#### AUXILIARY REPORT - Norma Bauer

The attendance attained in Peoria was 103.

The current project is the Division Patch, in a pin form which costs \$3.00. Orders may be sent to Virginia Alberts, Culbertson, Nebraska 69024. Dues may also be sent to Virginia or Mrs. C.R. Sterner. They are \$1.00 per year.

The Auxiliary began to issue ten-year attendance awards this year.

The Ten Year Awards were as follows: (1961-1971)

Norma Bauer - Ella Birkman - Dorothy Fitzpatrick - Rose Fritz - Ora Nell Heine - Theresa Hoffman - Helen Klassen - Eleanor Markus - Mary Jane Ragsdale - Juanita South Kimmel - Loraine Strand and Inez Easley.

1972-1973.

Doris Anderson - Rhodia Berger - Pat Buttell - Ann Dunning - Bette Haake - Else Heinrich - Frances Huff - Elvira Leal - Matilda Noska - Ann Pohl and Lois Qualls.

The Auxiliary Cook Book is complete and will be available at the Indianapolis Re-union. (1974)

We wish to commend Women's Auxiliary Peoria Committee for their very attractive and successful program. They were as follows:

Rosa Stuckmeyer - Mary Lou White and Mrs. K. Eyer.

Women are urged to bring some unique, useful, "White Elephant", gift for exchange at the Auxiliary Business Meeting Exchange, at Indianapolis.

#### LET'S SHARE THE LOAD!

This was the cry of many a Convention Chairman, and each time it was heard and a convention was brought about with flying colors. But this time it was the call by our Treasurer, and again an active **DEADEYE** accepted the call. Now, Dean Sterner has an extra pair of hands in Milo Thompson. We will have his address on the front of your membership dues envelope in the next newsletter.


MAIL YOUR RESERVATION AFTER JANUARY 1, 1974.

> "DEADEYES" PLENTY OF TIME TO WRITE

YOUR BUDDIES.

INDIANAPOLIS

JULY 25, 26 and 27TH, 1974

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#### "JUST A PIECE OF CLOTH"

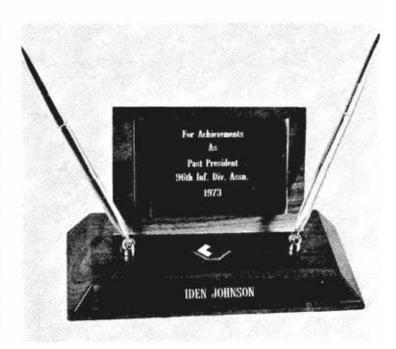
That is all it is -- just a piece of the cloth.

But when a little breeze comes along it stirs and comes to life, and flutters and snaps in the wind, all red and white and blue! ! ! And then you realize that no other piece of cloth could be like it.

It has your whole life wrapped up in it - - the meals you eat, the time you spend with your family, the kind of things your boy and girl learn at school, the strange and wonderful thought you get in church on Sunday.

Those stars in it - - they make you feel just as free as the stars in the wide, deep night. And those stripes - they are bars of blood to any dictator who would try to change this way of life.

Just a piece of cloth, that is all until you put your soul into it, and give it meaning. Then it is a symbol of Liberty, and Decency, and Fair-Dealing for EVERYONE. It is just a piece of cloth until we breath life into it: until we make it stand for EVERYTHING WE BELIEVE IN, and REFUSE TO LIVE WITHOUT IT!



Not only did the 383 - 1st Bn. Hdqtrs., make it to the top-ten list but they also brought with them one of their outstanding men - IDEN JOHNSON, the President for 1973. To show their appreciation for the job well done they presented him with this beautifully engraved desk set. YOU DESERVED IT IDEN.

INDIANAPOLIS

IS

THE PLACE TO BE -

SO

SEE YOU THERE!

JULY

25, 26 and 27 th

1974

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SEND IN YOUR REUNION RESERVATION