

ONCE A DEADEYE — ALWAYS A DEADEYE

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FORWARDING POSTAGE
GUARANTEED
DEADEYE DISPATCH

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.

To:



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NINETEENTH

JULY 29 * 30 * 31 - 1976

WHOOPEE!

Reunion Chairman

T. HOWARD CARRICO

4324 Geddes

Fort Worth, Texas 76107

ANNUAL DEADEYE REUNION

STAMP

TO
Sheraton-Fort Worth Hotel



SHERATON HOTELS AND MOTOR INNS, A WORLDWIDE SERVICE OF IIT
815 MAIN STREET, FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102

CAR STORAGE AVAILABLE No Charge For Children Under 18 Occupying Room With Parents

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96TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
Name of Convention or Group

Rates:
Singles: \$19.00-\$22.00-\$24.00-\$26.00
Doubles: \$25.00-\$27.50-\$29.50-\$32.00

Free Parking for Registered Guests
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Parlor Suites
Parlor & 1 Bedroom \$45.00
Parlor & 2 Bedrooms Main Bldg. \$62.00
Annex \$70.00 Annex \$95.00

If Type Room You Wish Is Not Available, The Nearest Priced Room Will Be Assigned.

NOTE: Unless Requested, Reservations Will Not Be Held After 6:00 P.M. — Check-Out Time 1:00 P.M.

Clip and fold on the dotted lines. Either staple or tape together, and mail for your reservations.

YOU CAN STILL

BE A WINNER!



EVERY
DEADEYE
SHOULD PAY
HIS DUES.
DUES PAY FOR THE
DISPATCH.

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Lincoln, Nebraska 68502

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Box 454
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2ND VICE PRESIDENT

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Peoria, Illinois 61604

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6723 Cr. 11
Risingsun, Ohio

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P.O. Box 2034
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501

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Coggon, Iowa 52218

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Ruth Below (Virgil)
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Rising Sun, Ohio 43457

CHAPLAIN

Mary Lou White (Henry)
P.O. Box 544
Mackinow, Illinois 61755



Deadeye Dispatch

Harold & Lorraine Strand
(M Company-381)

Editors

604 S. Hazel St.
Glenwood, Ia. 51534

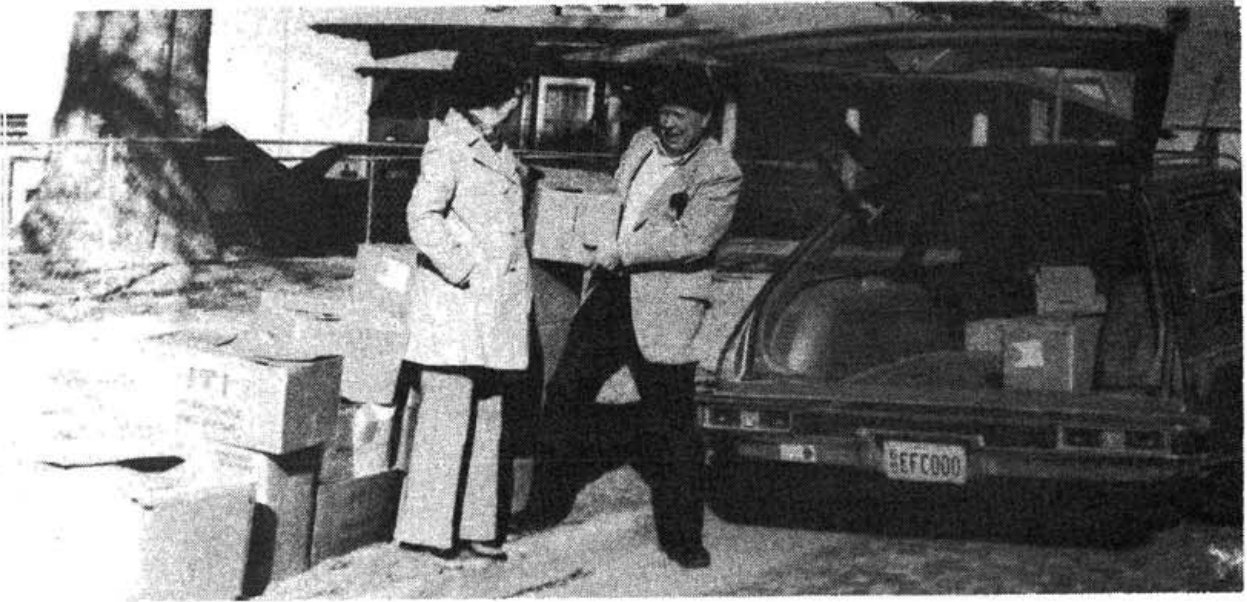
A Note of Thanks...

Your editors wish to thank each and everyone of you who have taken the time to drop us a note and have called us about the

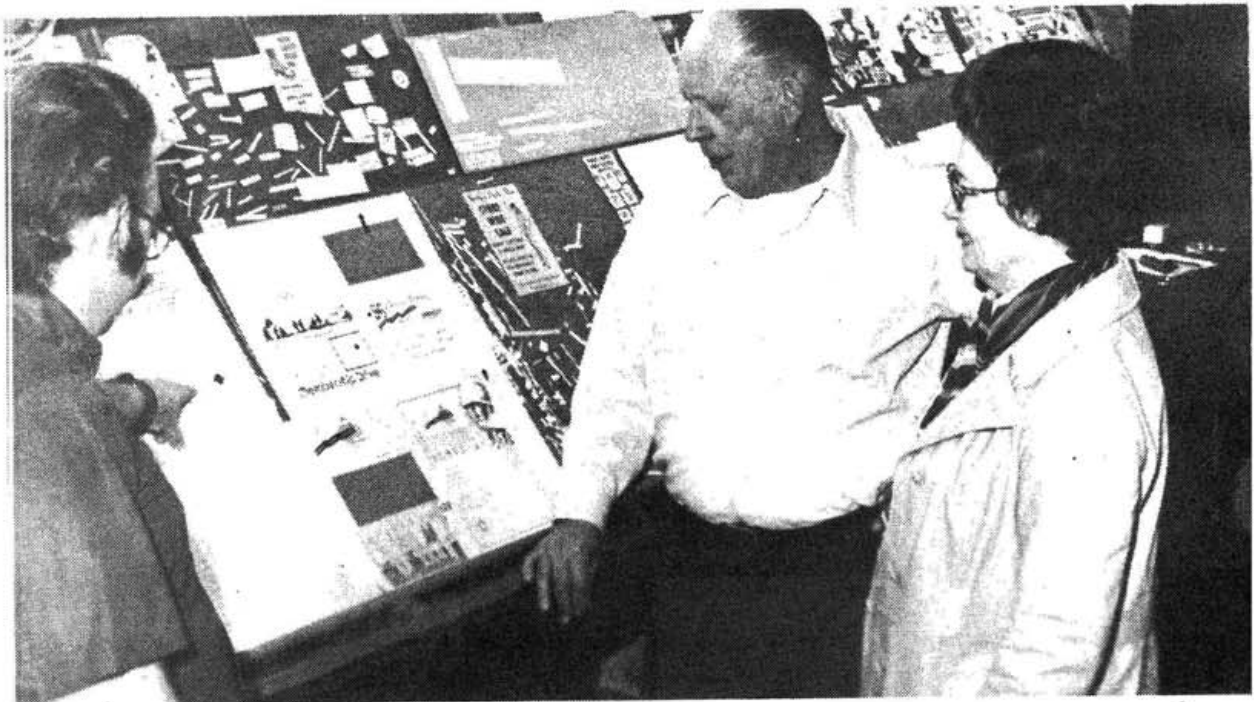
Deadeye Dispatch. We wish to publicly thank Pete and Dottie Graham, Malvern, Iowa, for the fine printing job they have done

for us, the encouragement and for the extra little touches they added.

Harold and Lorraine Strand



Lorraine and Harold "Loadin' Up The Dispatches."



Editors Discuss Dispatch Lay-out with Printer Graham

96th Inf. Div. Assn. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ATTENTION: Be sure to complete blank for Unit Served. Fiscal year August 1, 1976 to July 31, 1977.

HERE ARE \$4.00, my annual membership dues for the year JULY 31, 1977.

NAME _____ Unit Served _____
 (please print) last first middle

Address _____ Army Serial No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make Remittance Payable To: _____ Signature _____

96TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Mail to: Glenn Hamilton

2918 N. Western

AUXILIARY - Membership Dues are \$ 1.00 per year.

Peoria, Illinois 61604

DUES PAY FOR THE "Deadeye Dispatch"



TO INSURE PROMPT DELIVERY OF

Deadeye Dispatch

And other information, please advise the Corresponding Secretary of any Change of Address

Name _____ Unit _____

New Address _____

Old Address _____

SEND TO

Virgil Below

6723 Cr. 11

Rising Sun, Ohio 43457

Send free Roster
Of my Outfit

OFFICIAL COLORS

Brilliantly colored 4" x 6" printed rayon flags mounted on 10" black enameled wood staff with gilt spear



\$3.00 per set postpaid

TABLE SET - U. S. flag and 96th Infantry Division flag

GLENN HAMILTON
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PEORIA, ILLINOIS
61604

Make Remittance Payable To
96TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

I am ordering

enter number
TABLE SETS

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



President's Corner

by Dean Sterner

Dear Fellow Members:

April 1st marks the passage of 31 years since our landing on Okinawa. We who survived that "last battle" have not found the peace we had hoped would follow that mighty struggle. Military victory has neither solved the basic problems nor created the conditions whereby leaders around the earth could construct a better world. Wars and threats of wars have come so frequently that they appear to be the normal state of affairs to a new generation. In this bicentennial year we celebrate the founding of our nation by those who too had known war, threats of war and frustration. Let us, like them, persevere against all temptation to give up the fight, to let someone else do it, to criticize those who are trying. Liberty and freedom can never be won; only earned by eternal vigilance and willingness to give of ourselves in an ongoing struggle. May we be equal to the task.

Dean Sterner

The following is a copy of a letter received. I have no personal memory of the incident concerning the air support mentioned. I assume it is correct. My memory concerns the ground actions at Tabontabon.

Dean Sterner

Dear Col. Sterner:

First off, congratulations on assuming the position of

leadership of our association. If you do half as good a job as you did with the 382nd in Leyte and Okinawa, we have a whale of a good calendar ahead of us.

I served with the H Co., 382 from Camp White to San Francisco in 1946. I have been a practicing Chiropractor in Dallas since 1949, and have a "Small World" tale to tell.

Some 6 or 7 years ago, a very good friend, with whom I serve in Kiwanis, became a patient, and through conversational channels, we started discussing WWII. I learned that he had been a P 38 pilot, and related to him the story of the 2nd Battalion being pinned down in Tabontabon, Leyte on the 6th day of the operation, and how a flight of P 38's helped us out in a great time of need. He queried me on some of the details of the incident, even so far as to ask me if there was a disabled tank on the road with a marker panel in front of it. I found out that this man, Howard Channel, had been the squadron leader of that flight, and they were on their way back to base after aborting a mission above Manilla, and received your Mayday call just before they jettisoned their load preparatory to landing. This squadron received a Presidential Citation for this action, and Mr. Channell received a big steak dinner from me many years after helping to get me out of trouble. Just a little story which happened many

years after the incident.

Hoping to see you in Ft. Worth, and very probable I will be able to bring Mr. Channell with me to meet you.

Dr. Everett M. Combs, D.C.
4324 Gaston Avenue
Dallas, Tex. 75246



President Sterner

**There still
isn't any
place
like home.**



**Take stock in America
Buy U.S. Savings Bonds**

Memo

This organization has grown from an embryo idea in 1958 until it has world-wide recognition. It fosters comradeship that was always a trademark of the Division. Our rosters include many thousands of names and addresses of your and my buddies. Please let me hear from you.



VIRGIL BELOW
Corresponding Secretary
6723 CR #11
Risingsun, Ohio 43457

381-M

SEND FOR YOUR UNIT
ROSTER

**THE
ASSOCIATION BELONGS
TO THOSE WHO
SERVED IN THE NINETY
SIXTH INFANTRY DIVISION
OR ITS
ATTACHED UNITS.**

**DUES
PAY FOR THE DISPATCH.**

LEYTE, P.I. A-DAY: October 20, 1944 ★ OKINAWA L-DAY: April 1, 1945

If...

**This is a change
of address,
PLEASE
give old address
as well as new!**

TO INSURE PROMPT DELIVERY OF

Deadeye Dispatch

And other information, please advise the
Corresponding Secretary of any Change of Address

Name _____ Unit _____
(Co.-Regt.)

New Address _____

Old Address _____

REMARKS:

Send free Roster
Of my Outfit

Use Your ZIP Code!

Postal Service requires a FULL ADDRESS.



Auxiliary Corner

Come on "Gals" let's help make this one of the biggest reunions we have had.

Don't forget your "White Elephant" gifts for the Auxiliary meeting. I'm sure that you can sew, crochet, knit, do macrame, ceramics, paint. Let's all remember to take some thing for a gift exchange.

Howard Carrico has a luncheon arranged for us on Friday right in the hotel.

The death of Rose (Mrs. Joe) Fritz on February 9, 1976, has been reported. Rose was a Charter member of the Auxil-

iary, and held several offices. Under Rose's guidance and hard work, the Auxiliary Cookbook was published. She will be missed and our sympathy and prayers are extended to Joe and Joe Jr.

Apologies to the Officers of the Auxiliary. A picture of the "Gals" was not among the pictures received for the Dispatch. President Ann Dunning sent a snapshot, but it could not be reproduced. Hopefully this will not happen again. The Gals do a great job and should not be slighted.

Girls... We'll See You in Ft. Worth!

and, we hope, on our post-convention

fiesta tour MEXICO



Not sponsored by 96th

Join Our Upcoming Phillipines

32nd Anniversary Tour

Contact Ed Biggs, 213 Wayside Drive,
Plainfield, Ind. 46168



Not Sponsored by 96th



photo from
1971 Dispatch

Looking south along the landing beach, the remains of some LCM's and LCVP's that had been left there in 1944. Just north of this point were stumps of pilings where a dock had been. (From 1969 Trip)

USE SPECIAL
MEMBERSHIP ENVELOPE
ENCLOSED IN THIS
NEWSLETTER

DUES PAY FOR THE DISPATCH

LARGEST AND MOST
ACTIVE GROUP OF ITS KIND



\$4.00
MAIL TODAY

Flash...

Calling All Deadeyes!

The 96th Deadeyes from all states will be invading "Cow Town" July 29, 30 and 31, 1976. Howard Carrico is calling for all Texas Deadeyes to help defend the Sheraton-Fort Worth Hotel. If you all come you can beat the Chicago reunion. How bout it

Fellas!

Howard Carrico has a tour planned for Thursday evening starting at 5 P.M. to Six Flags Over Texas. The price of the tour is \$10 which includes the bus fare out and back, a barbeque, admission plus all the

rides you can cram in before 10 P.M. Please mail your reservations to Howard Carrico, P.O. Box 9450, Ft. Worth, Tx. 76107. Be sure you wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Come on, let's all be kids again for 5 hours.

Six Flags Over Texas



**Take a flying leap
into our all new
1976 outing.**

**A full day's fun for you and
your family at Six Flags.**

You can count on me to be there.

Name

Number in party

Jewel Chelette, Co. F 383

Daughter's Search for Dad's Grave Ends in Hawaii, She'll be at Reunion

Mary Ann Melancon and her husband of Houston will be our guests at the reunion in Ft. Worth. She is the lady who received national attention a year ago upon finding her father's (Jewel Chelette, Co. F 383) grave in Hawaii under remarkable circumstances.

According to AP news stories, Mrs. Melancon had not known where her serviceman father was buried nearly 30 years ago. Then on a trip to Hawaii in mid-November 1974, she found his headstone at her feet.

Mrs. Melancon's father, Pfc. Jewel Chelette of Louisiana, was killed in the Pacific Theater June 3, 1945, when his only child was three years old. The family always believed he was buried on Okinawa, based on information from the Army.

While preparing for the Hawaiian tour, Mrs. Melancon copied information from an Army photograph of her father's headstone.

The first organized activity was a bus tour of Honolulu and nearby points. When they were driving into Punchbowl Cem-

etry they happened to see a lot of headstones with 'M's' on them but the bus kept on driving. After a tour of the cemetery and a visit to the lookout, the bus made a rest stop.

Mrs. Melancon and her seatmate ran back and searched the names and numbers on the hundreds of white headstones lined up row on row. They were about ready to give up and return to the bus, when Mrs. Melancon looked down and her father's headstone was at her feet. She returned to the bus in tears.

She said, "My family never knew where or how my father was killed. My mother was only 19 years old at the time and lived way out in the county. She did not investigate the circumstances of daddy's death. But now that I've found him, I'm going to find out everything about him that I can."

Mrs. Melancon and her husband would like to meet and visit with all the men of Co. F. 383.

96th INF. DIV. ASSN.



SEND IN YOUR REUNION RESERVATION

Here's The Schedule...

Sheraton-Fort Worth Hotel
815 Main Street
Fort Worth, Texas 76102
Telephone (817) 332-3151

96th INFANTRY DIVISION . . . JULY 29 - 31, 1976

THURSDAY, JULY 29

9 AM - 6 PM	Mezzanine Foyer	Registration
2 PM - 4 PM	Shorthorn Room	Executive Comm. Mtg.
1 PM - 12 MN	Longhorn Room	Teen Headquarters
5 PM - 10 PM	Six Flags Over Texas Barbeque -	All Rides & Shows

FRIDAY, JULY 30

9 AM - 5 PM	Mezzanine Foyer	Registration
9 AM - 11:30 AM	Grand Ballroom 12	General Business
9 AM - 12 MN	Longhorn Room	Teen Headquarters
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Santa Gertrudis	Auxiliary Meeting
12 Noon - 1:30 PM	Crystal Ballroom	Auxiliary Luncheon
2 PM	Bus Tour City of Fort Worth	
8 PM - 12 MN	Grand Ballroom 345	Beer Bust

SATURDAY, JULY 31

9 AM - 5PM	Mezzanine Foyer	Registration
9 AM - 12 MN	Longhorn Room	Teen Headquarters
9:30 AM - 11 AM	Grand Ballroom 12	General Session
12 Noon - 1 PM	Grand Ballroom 12	Memorial
6 PM - 7 PM	Grand Ballroom 5	Reception
7 PM - 1 AM	Grand Ballroom 1234	Banquet & Dance

Sunday A.M. - Ole! We Head for Fiesta Land Mexico!

SPECIAL NOTE . . . Parking free to people who have a room in hotel
Pool is Open (no life guard)



At Ft. Worth...



*Appearing For
Your Pleasure!*

SANDY SANDIFER "the Showman of the Trumpet"

SANDY WORKED HIS WAY THROUGH TCU by playing trumpet in the Russell Ward orchestra. When he organized his own band, members were Sandy's brothers, Perry and Cody, pianist Frank McMordine and a saxophonist named TEX BENEKE.

AS A BANDLEADER, Sandy has played in 40 States of the U.S. and in Venezuela. Sandy played six months at the Thunderbird Hotel in Las Vegas Nev. Aquarium Restaurant in New York, N.Y. Cricket Club in Los Angeles, Calif. and many others.

HE HAS PLAYED shows for Bob Hope, Jane Russell, Vic Damone, Red Skeleton Dinah Shore, Jerry Colonna, and others.

HE WAS BAND DIRECTOR AT TWC for four years, During the summer months studied at the University of Southern California on a Master's Degree.

SANDY IS ATTUNE to the proper beat for the dancers and their particular dance. He plays four instruments, TRUMPET, SAXAPHONE, TROMBONE, AND SOLOVOX.

HE PLAYS BOTH "MODERN" AND "NOSTALGIA."

MUSICAL RANGE IS ASTOUNDING FROM "MISSISSIPPI MUD" TO "SOMEWHERE MY LOVE" TO "PROUD MARY" AND ALL POINTS IN BETWEEN. MUSIC IS ARRANGED AND PLAYED WITH DANCEABLE RHYTHM AND FABULOUS BIG BAND SOUND.

HE AND HIS ORCHESTRA HAVE BROUGHT PLEASURE TO THOUSANDS THROUGH THE YEARS.

Plans For Latest 96th "Deadeye's" 15-Day Phillipines Tour Now Underway

VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II 32nd ANNIVERSARY TOUR LEYTE, PHILIPPINES

Departure Oct. 09, 1976
Return Oct. 24, 1976

15 Days \$1150.00
ROUND TRIP FROM SAN FRANCISCO

ITINERARY IT5PR1CH25

OCTOBER 09 – HOME CITY/SAN FRANCISCO
Depart from your home city for San Francisco and assemble at San Francisco International Airport – Philippines Air Lines counter for your flight to Honolulu.

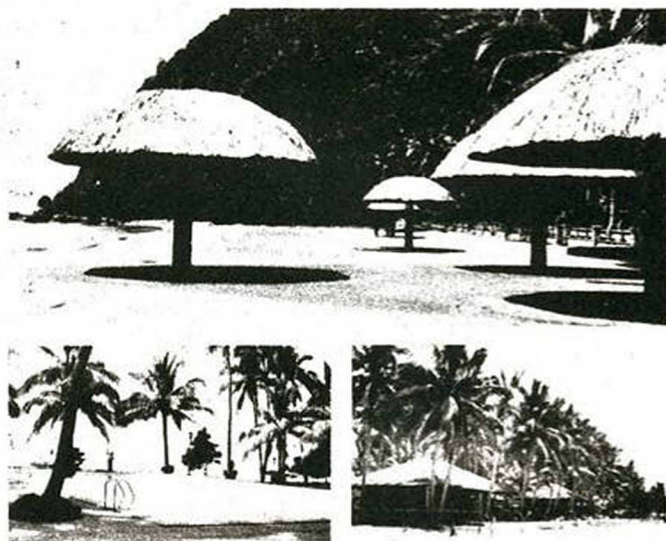
DEPART SAN FRANCISCO
2200 – Leave San Francisco, PR107.
0030 – Arrive Honolulu.

OCTOBER 10 – DEPART HONOLULU
0115 – Leave Honolulu, PR107
INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE – LOSE ONE DAY

OCTOBER 11 – MANILA
0705 – Arrive Manila. You will be met upon arrival and transferred to your Hotel.
Rest of morning free at leisure.

1400 – Afternoon: **MANILA CITY TOUR** – Visiting Intramuros (The Walled City) with its San Augustine Church, the oldest stone church in the Philippines, historic but grim Fort Santiago, Commercial districts, Malacanang Palace. Tour includes the suburban town of Makati, the country's richest town, Forbes Park, known as "Millionaries' Row" and Manila American Cemetery & Memorial, the largest and most beautiful American Memorial outside the continental United States.

Evening at leisure.



OCTOBER 12 – CORREGIDOR ISLAND TOUR
You will be transferred from hotel to Philippine Navy Pier, Roxas Blvd., to board hydrofoil boat for the cruise to CORREGIDOR ISLAND. Bus tour visits the "Mile-Long" barracks of Middleside, Batteries Way, Hearn, Geary, Croquette Topside Barracks, the new Pacific War Memorial, Malinta Tunnel and other historic spots that etched themselves in the annals of military history. Return to Manila after the tour.
Balance of day at leisure.

OCTOBER 13 – MANILA/HONG KONG
0700 – Transfer to Manila International Airport
0900 – Leave Manila, PR300
1040 – Arrive Hong Kong

Transfer to hotel. Balance of day free to shop and sightsee.
Evening tour of Hong Kong with dinner aboard the famous SEA PALACE floating restaurant, night clubs with floor shows and back to hotel.

OCTOBER 14 – HONG KONG/MANILA
Morning and afternoon free to shop and sightsee.
1700 – Depart for Hong Kong International Airport.
1840 – Leave Hong Kong, PR307
2020 – Arrive Manila
Transfer to hotel.

OCTOBER 15 – MANILA/TACLOBAN
0800 – Depart hotel for Manila domestic Airport.

0910 – Leave Manila, PR141
1020 – Arrive Tacloban
Reception at airport and transfer to hotel.

OCTOBER 16 – TACLOBAN
Tour of WWII Battle areas.

OCTOBER 17 – TACLOBAN
Boat trip to Dinagat Island where 6th Rangers landed early for invasion of Leyte.

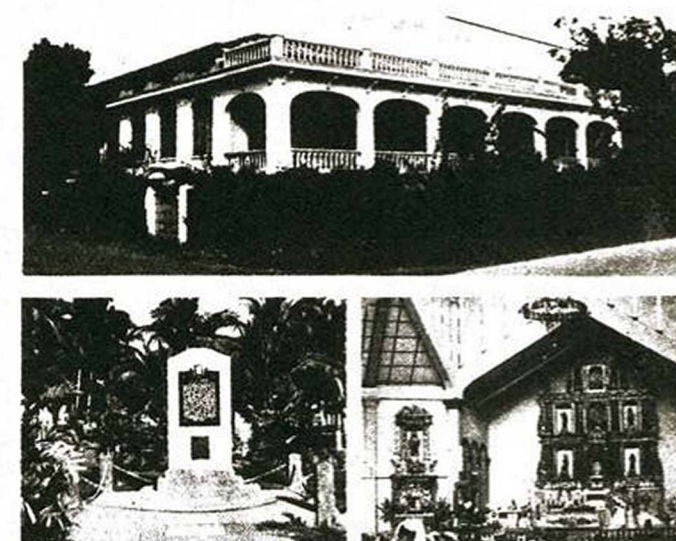
OCTOBER 18 – TACLOBAN
Courtesy call on the Governor of Leyte.
Courtesy call on the Mayor of Tacloban.
Depart Tacloban for Palo, Leyte, visiting the city of Palo and staying up to Evening.
Return to hotel.

OCTOBER 19 – TACLOBAN/DULAG
Depart hotel for Hill 120 San Rafael (Dulag, Leyte), where American Flag was raised in the Philippines October 20, 1944. Program, Motorcade to Town proper. Thanksgiving Mass, Commemorative Liberation Celebrations. FULL DAY OF FESTIVITIES.
***Optional trip to Burauen, Julita, and return to Dulag.
Return to Tacloban.

OCTOBER 20 – TACLOBAN/PALO/RED BEACH
Motorcade to Red Beach.
1000 Program at Red Beach under the auspices of the Municipality of Palo, Leyte.
Motorcade to Tacloban.
Testimonial Banquet, tendered by the Province of Leyte.
Military and Civic Parade
Commemorative Program – Capitol Terrace.
Balance of day free at leisure.

OCTOBER 21 – TACLOBAN
Optional trip to ORMOC, LEYTE.

OCTOBER 22 – TACLOBAN/MANILA
Morning free.



1050 – Leave Tacloban, PR142
1200 – Arrive Manila
Transfer to hotel.

Balance of day free to shop and rest.

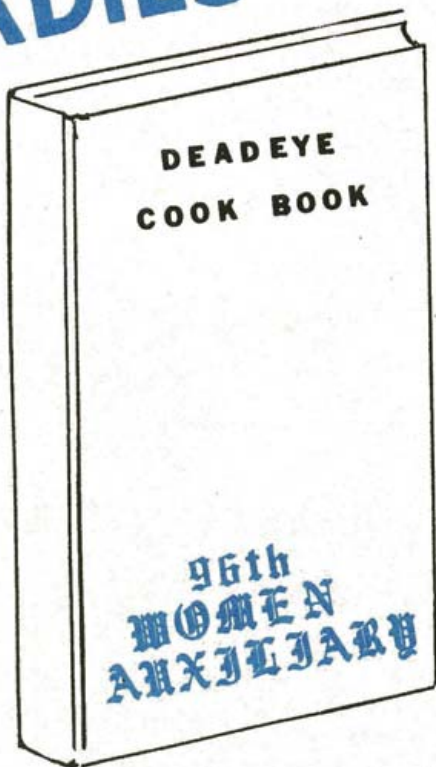
OCTOBER 23 – MANILA/HONOLULU/SAN FRANCISCO
1500 – Depart hotel for Manila International Airport
1800 – Leave Manila, PR106

INTERNATIONAL DATE LINE—GAIN ONE DAY

0930 – Arrive Honolulu
For those who want to stay a few days in Honolulu, then fly on to the mainland later, plan to do so at no extra added fare.
1120 – Leave Honolulu, PR106
1805 – Arrive San Francisco
Change planes and board your connecting flights home.

*To Be Escorted by Ed Biggs,
96th Infantry Division Association
Not Sponsored by 96th*

LADIES



THE OFFICIAL DIVISION COOKBOOK

IS OFF THE PRESS.

IT'S TERRIFIC AND GOING FAST.

**GET YOUR COPY NOW!
THE PRICE IS JUST A LOW, LOW \$3.00.**

A special thanks to all the "DEADEYE", families that helped make this great project a success.

To order your copy fill out the coupon below and mail to:

Virginia Alberts
Culbertson, Nebraska 69024

NOTE:

Mrs. Richard Ellis wants to make this correction.

RHUBARB BREAD, page 51 of the cookbook should read 2½ cups of flour.

Mail to: Virginia Alberts
Culbertson, Nebraska 69024

Auxiliary Dues For 1976 _____

_____ Cookbooks at \$3.00 ea. _____

TOTAL _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make Check Payable to 96th Inf. Div. Assn. Aux.



NINETEENTH ANNUAL DEADEYE REUNION
JULY 29 * 30 * 31 - 1976

Sheraton-Fort Worth Hotel
 SHERATON HOTELS AND MOTOR INNS
 A WORLDWIDE SERVICE OF **ITT**

815 MAIN STREET
 FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102

TELEPHONE (817) 332-3151

96TH INF. DIV. DEADEYES

SEND IN YOUR REUNION RESERVATION



DEADEYES are men of action

So, Pay Your Dues Today...And...

Sign Up

For

Our Ft. Worth Reunion!

In Memorium...



“Taps”



God, in his infinite Wisdom, has summoned more “DEAD-EYES” who served their country faithfully and well in war and peace. The 96th Infantry Division Association mourns their passing and extends sympathy to their surviving families.

John R. Loggie, Hq & Hq 382
9-1-70 per letter Mother

Frank Kiszka, Co. M. 381
12-18-74 per letter Wife

George Bell, Co. K. 381
per ret. newsletter 5-75

Bernard B. McCluskey, 321 Eng.
2-28-73 per letter Wife

John J. Taflinger, 796 Ord.
per letter Ed Biggs

Marjorie Main, PIN-UP GIRL
4-10-75

Clyde Maxwell
per ret. newsletter 5-75

Theo. C. York, 362 FA
per ret. newsletter 4-75

Stanley Biddis, QM
1-27-75 per letter Wife

Ernest Tieman
1-4-75 per letter Wife

Tony Oakley, Co. F. 383
Per P.O. notice

Victor A. Wilde, 382 Bn. Hq.
4-7-74 per letter Wife

William Roby, 96 Band
2-1-75 per letter Wife

Fred P. Booth, Div. Art.
per P.O. notice

Thomas G. Youmans, 362 FA
5-12-75 per letter Wife

Standford Pidgeon 382 Hq.
6-8-74 per letter Wife

Thomas Forman, Hq & Hq 382
8-13-74 per letter Wife

Raymond K. Lowry, Co. K. 381
1-2-75 per letter Wife

Ralph W. Howard, Co. C. 381
per ret. newsletter 5-75

Willis E. Weber, 763 Tank Bn.
3-1-75 per letter Wife

Fred Bonomo, 95 MP
10-18-74 per letter Wife

Leo Butler
12-6-74 per letter Wife

George Macadlo
4-73 per letter Wife

John T. Lewis, 921 FA
per ret. newsletter 5-75

Harry V. Mock, Co. C. 382
1-11-75 per letter Wife

James R. Dean, SVC, 383
4-12-75 per notice Harold Hall

Harry Banach Co. D. 383
9-30-74 per P.O. notice

Henry Waninger, 796 Ord.
7-10-74 per letter Wife

Harold R. Bell, 921 F.A.
6-75 letter from Sister

continued on page 17

Taps Continued

Alvin T. (Bud) Rolls, 921 FA
7-13-75 per letter Wife

Harold East, 921 FA
2-25-75 per letter Wife

John P. Kwaznik, 383 Bn. Ha.
per ret. newsletter 5-75

Anthony Chavent, 381
1-72 per letter Wife

Eteinne F. Monson, 321 Med.
per letter Wife

Sisto Bernardini, 321 Med.
5-75 per letter Ray Gullion

Paul Southard, Co. K. 382
10-24-75 per letter Wife

William C. Breshears, Co. K 381
1-20-75 per letter Wife

Earl Mannel, 382
per letter Wife

Delbert O. Foltz, 796 Ord.
Auto Accident 1963

Winfield S. Wilson
7-1-75 per letter Wife

Lou Govern
7-17-75

Joe Kaminski, Co. M, 381
12-8-75 per letter Wife

Lee Spears, 383 AT
1974

Martin L. Schillinger
10-29-74

Peter Raniewski, QM
12-75 per word from Ed Biggs

Thomas Hampton, 921 F.A.
3-75 per letter Betty Yeager

Herschel A. Johnson, Co. G, 382
per letter Wife 12-12-75

Hillard F. Jasinski, 921 F.A.
per ret. newsletter

Waldon F. Smith, 361 F.A.
per ret. newsletter

Sherman E. Gwynn, 362 F.A.
per ret. newsletter

Harold A. Zorn, 921 F.A.
per letter Mother 2-17-76

Herschell Minor
7-7-68 per letter Wife

Will Denoyer, 383
7-1-75 per letter
Ralph Josephson

Frederick A. Pfeiffer
5-73 per letter Wife

James Cottle, Co. M. 381
6-13-75 per letter Wife

Herman Russell
12-31-73 per letter Mother

Joseph A. Young, 96 Recon
2-21-74 per letter Mother

Stanley E. Crawford, 921 FA
per letter Daughter

Edward J. Lewandowski, 362 FA
3-20-74 per letter Paul E.
Cropper

James Kelker, Div. Art.
11-74 letter,
Chaplain E.J. Konisky

Walter Brandys
3-75 per letter Brother

Joseph S. Pudlo
1974

Kenneth E. Wicklund
1-28-75

Alec E. Bohy, Co. A, 383
per ret. newsletter

Thomas L. Queltette, AT Co.
382
12-73 per letter
Francis Charbonneau

William E. Crawford Serv. Co.
382
per ret. newsletter

Raymond D. Greij, 362 F.S.
per ret. newsletter

Richard D. Townsend Co. E. 381
per ret. newsletter

continued on page 18

Taps Continued

Charles F. Komarek, Div. Band
per ret. newsletter

Thaddeus Hoinko, 728 AMT
per ret. newsletter

Edison R. Warnebold,
Co. B. 382
4-21-45 per letter Wife

George E. Hines, Div. Art.
per card from P.O.

Roy E. Warne, 1st Bn. 381
4-28-75 per letter Wife

David G. Lougridge 321 Med.
per ret. newsletter

William D. Forsythe, Co., 381
per ret. newsletter

Willis E. Challand, 3rd Bn., 382
per ret. newsletter

Robert W. Nyvold, 96 QM
per letter Ed Biggs

William L. Osborn, Co. G. 382
per ret. newsletter

Kenneth Peterson, Co. G. 381
12-12-75 per letter Wife

James C. McKelvey, Co. I, 381
11-15-74 per letter Wife

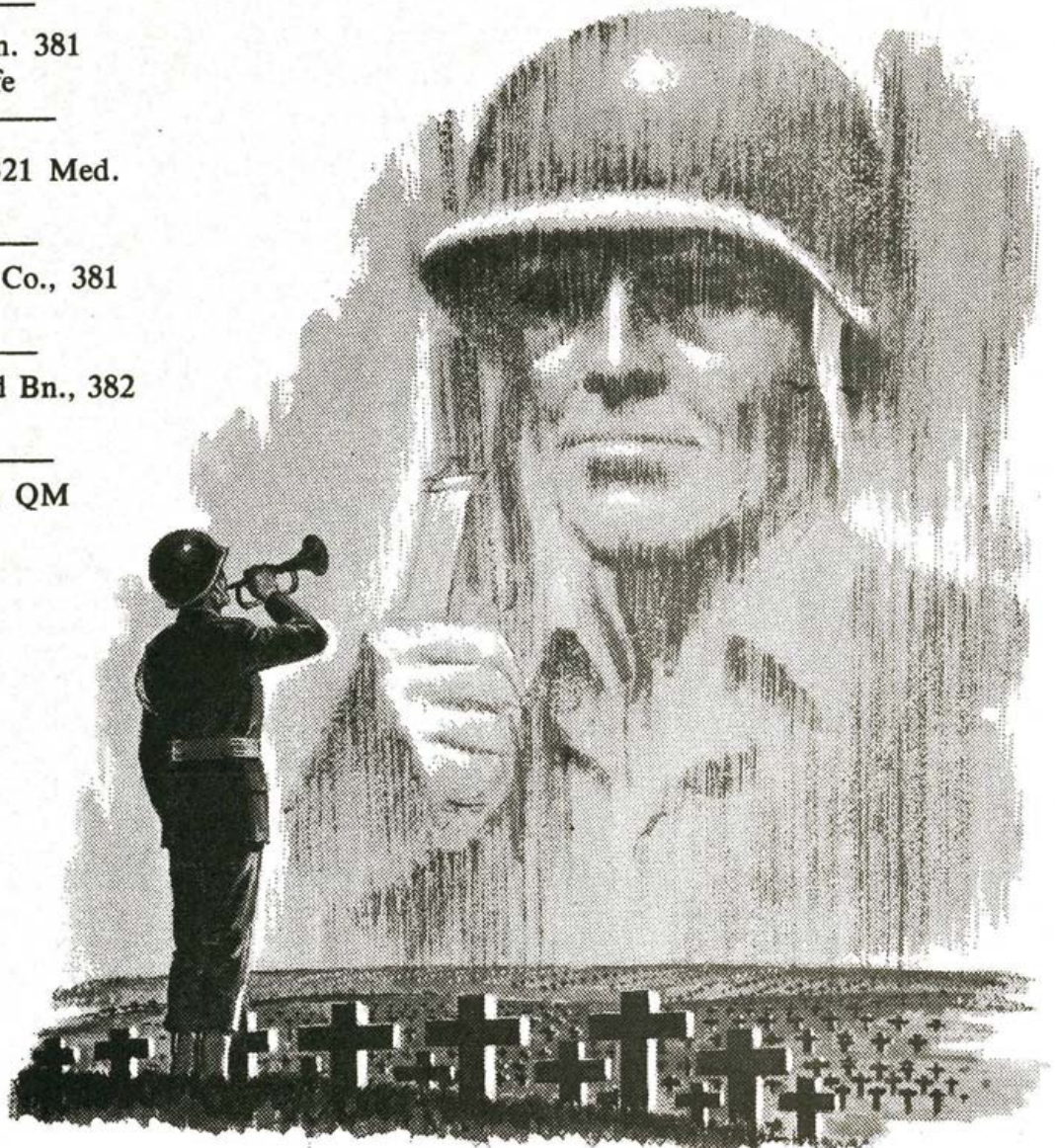
Eldon H. Gwaltney, 3rd Bn. 382
per ret. newsletter

Even F. Payne, 361 F.A.
per ret. newsletter

William F. Crowfeather,
921 F.A.
12-73 per letter Betty Yeager

Frank A. Alexander, 96 QM
per letter Ed Biggs

Jack Fugate, 96 QM
per letter Ed Biggs



Tours Anyone?

How about Mexico? Carrico has a tour schedule August 1 for 8 days. Leave on Sunday after the reunion. Cost -- \$349 per person. \$25.00 will reserve your place. You will need your birth certificate and all the ladies will need a "head covering" for some of the stops. If you are interested contact Howard Carrico, 311 Whitesettlement Rd., Ft. Worth, Tex. 76107.

Ed Biggs is again planning a trip to the Philippines for the 32nd Anniversary Celebration of the Philippine Liberation -- October 9, 1976 thru October 23, 1976. Are you interested? Contact Edmund Biggs, 213 Wayside Dr., Plainfield, Ind. 46168.

*These Tours Are NOT Sponsored by
The 96th Infantry Division Association!*

I am ordering
TIE TACKS
at \$3.00 each

Glenn Hamilton
2918 N. Western
Peoria, Ill. 61604

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

MAKE REMITTANCE PAYABLE TO:
96th Infantry Division Assn.

ZIP _____

DeadeyeTIE TACK



\$3.00 ea. postpaid



Here is \$4.00 for membership dues and use the other \$4.00 for postage or whatever you wish.

I think back to 1942 once in a while—when I first went in the 96th Division at Camp Adair, Oregon, and can very well remember those fellows names in the Division Hq. Co. listed in the Dispatch as I was a cook.

I am proud to have been a part of a Great Division like the 96th.

Geo. O. Hopkins
603 Shelby Ave.
Effingham, Ill. 62401

I retired from U.S. Government service after 28 years of service in May 1973.

Sorry I cannot be at the reunion in Fort Worth, but I have arthritis and take care of my 79 year old Mother. Will be thinking of all the Deadeyes.

Harold H. Kokemuller
806 South Main Street
Maquoketa, Iowa 52060

It's a pleasure to enclose my check for my annual dues plus \$1.00 for the Auxiliary.

Sometime I hope we can make the convention of this great Association.

The Officers are to be highly

commended for the splendid job they are doing for the 96th Association.

Al Olson

I am sending check for my dues and the Auxiliary dues for my wife.

I have received several copies of the DEADEYE DISPATCH and enjoy it very much.

Wish I would have known of the reunions earlier when I was still able to travel. My health is not very good.

I would enjoy hearing from any of the guys who would care to write.

Earl Daugherty
2224 LaPorte Ave.
Ft. Collins, Colo. 80521

We enjoy receiving the Deadeye Dispatch.

Angelo & Yolanda Arcara
3645 N. Nottingham Ave.
Chicago, Ill. 60634

Enclosed are my dues for the years of 1975, 1976 and 1977.

I have begun 1976 with a little bad luck, but if things get better in the near future, I hope to see

you in July.

J.S. Tapia Co. G 382
1122 So. Walters
San Antonio, Texas 78210

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$10.00 representing 1976 dues and a small contribution to help defray some of the expenses of the Association.

The current issue of The Dispatch indicates that the Kansas City reunion was enjoyed by all who attended, and Fort Worth may be hard pressed to maintain the record.

Cal Stevens, also of I Co. 381, and his wife Carlene visited with us last summer, and as is usually the case we spent a good deal of time reminiscing about old friends and faraway places.

Please extend my thanks and appreciation to the officers of the Association for the job they are doing.

Sam E. Hughes
2700 Fairmount Boulevard
Eugene, Oregon 97403

Thanks for the Deadeye Dispatch received today. Enclosed find check for my 1976

continued on page 21

Mail Call Continued...

dues and Mary Eleanor's. The little extra is to repay for stamps, etc., for past issues.

God Bless you and all Deadeyes everywhere. Served in two units of the 383rd and loved them all.

Samuel S. Wood
2352 Bruce Ave.
Spartanburg, S.C. 29302

I'm sending my dues for myself and my wife. I will try to make it to Ft. Worth, but I'm not sure as my wife has been in the hospital, but we are planning for 1977.

Rosendo Jeminez Co. B 381
7971 Olive Street
Commerce City, Colo. 80022

I'm glad to get my Deadeye Dispatch, and to send in my dues. I'm proud of what you all are doing. Maybe some day it will be possible for me to attend a reunion.

Lawrence P. Ash Co. K 381
511 5th Avenue
Canyon, Texas 79015

I do so enjoy getting the dispatch and would really like to attend a reunion, but my vacation isn't at that time of year. When I retire LOOK OUT.

Gordon B. Engebretson
1525 Main
Spearfish, S.D. 57783

Many of the 96th Division members are unaware of our association. A good inducement to join, would be to send a copy of our Dispatch. If you have about 10 copies, I will mail them out to anyone I can find. It may

take some doing, but I'm willing to try.

It will give me something to do in my retirement.

Rudolph Wallinger Co. B 383
6501 West 18th Street
Berwyn, Illinois 60402

As we have been unable to attend the reunions for several years, we are enclosing a check for dues from the last reunion we attended. God willing, hope to see you all in Ft. Worth.

We really enjoy receiving the 96th Deadeye Dispatch.

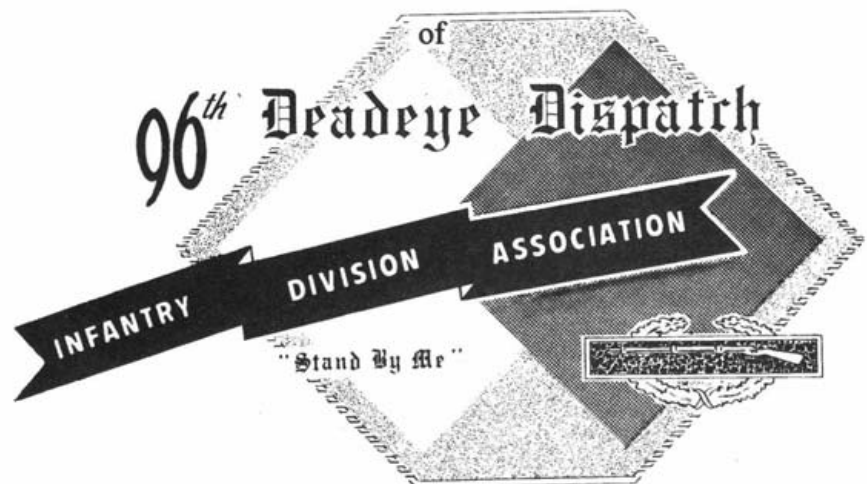
Harley T. Johnson Serv. Co. 382
10235 Pennell Dr.
St. Louis, Mo. 63136

I have remained in the background all these years, but some names appeared in the 1975 edition of the Dispatch that have prompted me to write and I'm also enclosing my check for 1976 dues.

I'm sorry I have not been able to attend a convention, but either I was unable to get a vacation or the convention was just too far away.

To all the guys, a great big HELLO.

L.T. Altig 2nd Bn. Hq. 381
7403 Halray Avenue
Whittier, Ca. 90606





Reverend Leonard F. Todd

CHAPLAIN



**Recalling
good times and bad
with the 382d**



BY

ED DAKAN · 381 B

P.O. Box 1254 * Dubuque, Iowa 52001

Volunteering for the army was no big deal for Reverend Leonard F. Todd. Sunday after Sunday through the summer of '42 he had noticed that more young men were disappearing from his congregation - going into the service. Aside from that, the pastor of the United Church of Christ in Jerseyville, Illinois simply felt patriotic.

"If they can go, then I can go, too," he thought when he made up his mind and sent in his application to the Chief of Chaplains.

To begin with, there was one month of officer's training at Harvard University; then came his first and only assignment - 96th Infantry Division, 382d Regiment. Reporting to Camp Adair, Oregon, in early January, 1943, (1st Lieutenant) Chaplain Todd found a lot of men already there. He was about as green as any of the GIs, just a little older and, perhaps, more experienced.

Todd trained right along with the men. "Everything that they did, I did, because I wanted to know - including the handling of a rifle. You see, I had to have a rifle for self protection, if nothing else. I figured that we were going to fight a war and we were going to win," he said.

Through months of basic training, advanced training, maneuvers, amphibious training and moving up and down the West Coast, Chaplain Todd got to know the men and to become known by them. He spent most of his time with the line companies, a

practice which he continued in combat, even after Colonel Dill said that he wanted a live chaplain, not a dead one. The idea was to be on the business end of things.

At Leyte the chaplain landed in the assault wave. Recalling the first night in the swamps, he said: "I didn't think that I could dig a hole in water to lay in in a rice paddy, but it was the best place to live at the time. We were getting overhead fire and there were snipers in the trees, too. When my message runner and I had finished digging, the water was up to our belts."

"Then we noticed our artillery observer (I believe his name was Arzino) had been too busy to dig in, so I yelled at him, 'Come stay with us. Jump in here.' He did. We didn't sleep all night - scared to death - but we made it," Todd said.

Any Japanese banzai attack had a way of sticking in the memories of DEADEYES. One of Chaplain Todd's experiences with that fearsome tactic was remembered because a baby was born that night - right in the midst of the battle - to a Filipino woman who had remained with her family in their hut in the jungle.

"The next morning the dad came out holding his side as if he had been shot. He couldn't speak English, so he tried to use signs when we went up to him. Our medical officer, Captain Christensen, who examined him, could not find anything wrong.

(Continued next column)

(Continued next page)

REVEREND LEONARD F. TODD, CHAPLAIN - E. Dakan

Finally, we were able to make out what he was saying, 'baby, baby', but not that plain," Todd recalled.

"We found the new baby in the hut. He was alive and well. Several of us had D rations from which we broke off pieces of food and gave to the dad. Instead of eating, he gave the chocolate to the mother - so that she would have milk to give to her baby - so that he could live. Then we put the family on a weasel and sent them back to the beach," he said.

Tabontabon was an infamous place which cost the 382d a lot of men. Todd was there, in the thick of the fight, then helping to pinpoint Japanese positions on Colonel Dill's map for the bombardment at the finish of the battle.

Later, according to Chaplain Todd, there was a second battle at Tabontabon which did not attract much attention. It happened when he took a special detail to recover bodies that had been buried in a private cemetery.

"Lo and behold! There were some Japs left. We had to fight another battle - a small one, but we got 'em and we got our bodies," he said.

Finally General MacArthur declared the island secure on Christmas Day, 1944, but that did not stop the Japanese and the fighting went on.

On that special day Chaplain Todd started out early to reach as many units as possible, to serve communion. The going was tough; there were places where his jeep could not make it because of the mud, then he went afoot.

During a service with the Third Battalion, up in the mountains, they would fight awhile, then worship awhile, but he finally got all of them served.

At the end of the day, Todd was driving along a trail on his way back to regimental headquarters when Major Nowlin spotted him and called out: "We want communion, too, on Christmas Day, Chaplain." Chaplain Todd answered, "Major, you have it." So communion was served to the Service Company, the thirteenth one that day.

While any DEADEYE lives, the night of March 31, 1945 will be remembered. It was the night before the landing on Okinawa, Easter Sunday.

Chaplain Todd sized up the mood of the troops on his ship. "Can we make one more landing? Stay alive? Sure, we were old battle men - the scare

was partly gone, a lot of it was out by that time - but we looked at each other and didn't say much," was the way he described it.

"Communion was scheduled in the galley on that last night after we finished eating. The men wanted it - getting ready for the next morning - not knowing how long they might live. The ship's captain hesitated and hesitated, because there would be too many men in one close area."

"Then he gave us permission. We went ahead, down there where the garbage, water and vomit was about six inches deep," Chaplain Todd said. "Everybody was served."

Two months of battle on Okinawa took away many of the men who had made the trip to the beaches. No relief or replacements were in sight for the line companies which were mostly down to skeleton strength. It looked as if there was still a long way to go.

One day in the middle of the campaign on Okinawa two old friends were sitting on the edge of a foxhole taking a break and sunning themselves. Their voices were low as they passed the time of day.

For a moment the regimental commander and the chaplain eyed each other. Both men hesitated to put their thoughts into words, mindful of the wretched situation in which they found themselves. The good old dependable 382d was just about fought out and the men were close to exhaustion. There was no doubt about that - every man knew it and so did the top officers, all too well.

Chaplain Leonard Todd spoke to Colonel Macy Dill: "Colonel, how long can these men stand to see the warm blood run on this cold ground?" Colonel Dill understood the cryptic question. He did not answer immediately, then he said wearily, "Chaplain, you know more about that than I do."

They were talking about the fate of the 96th in general and of the 382d in particular. As usual, the colonel was much interested in the opinion of the chaplain. Because the pair had hit it off right from the start, they had often before discussed the physical and spiritual condition of the troops. Plainly, the fighting spirit was not now at the same peak that had enabled the regiment to come so far so successfully; endless wounding and dying had had a bad effect on morale.

Shortly after that incident, Chaplain Todd recalled, he and all of the other chaplains and medical officers were called to headquarters for a

(Continued next column)

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short meeting with Colonel Dill. The principal topic dealt with the handling of stragglers; too many soldiers were wandering away from their front line companies and the problem had increased noticeably recently. "There will be no more coming back from the lines. That sort of thing is all over," the colonel declared.

His listeners did not ask how they were supposed to carry out the order. They left and went back to work.

According to Chaplain Todd, the first soldier whom he encountered regarding the matter did not have any teeth in his mouth; he had had false teeth, but did not have them in. He said: "Chaplain, I'm going back - my teeth, I lost them."

"No, you're not going back! There is no going back! Who is going to fight this war? We need everyone - a lot of men were killed yesterday and many more the day before. We don't have any replacements - there isn't anyone to take your place," Chaplain Todd told him. "No, you can't go back."

"What happened to that ration that you are supposed to have - your C ration?" the chaplain asked. The soldier pulled out the ration cans, but argued, "I can't eat - I'll fall over - I'll get weak."

"I talked to him like a Dutch uncle," Chaplain Todd went on. "We got out those old hard cookies. Pretty soon we had a fire going and water on to boil in a canteen cup. He dunked one of the cookies, unknowingly. Then he was chewing and I was chewing - we got some more - he began to eat. After he got some food in his belly, he automatically forgot about going back."

While the chaplain and the soldier talked, they noticed a group of men passing by going in the wrong direction. The toothless man jumped up and hailed them. "There's no going back," he said. He stopped them.

"It was that sort of thing that stopped the running away," Chaplain Todd said. "Yes, sir. That stopped it."

Replacements did come eventually. Within another month the battle had been won. Chaplain Todd was elevated to Division Chaplain just before the war ended. Then he came back home to Lula and the two boys.

(Continued next column)

Reverend Todd's 41-year career in the ministry came to an end in 1974. His retirement address is: 4421 Thadway Drive, Alton, Illinois 62002, a new housing development on the edge of a quiet woods.

This man who found undreamed of way for doing his job as chaplain while living an odyssey in brotherly love kept few souvenirs of the war. One of them is a Japanese bayonet which he is shown examining in his living room in the first picture. Another is a picture of himself and a native boy with his water buffalo, below.



Todd says that he came upon the boy near the village of Dogowa, since disappeared. "I was on my way back with a message from a battle where the men were dug in and holding on, needing artillery and mortar support, but with communications out," he recalls.

The chaplain still keeps a well-worn notebook full of names and addresses of DEADEYES with whom he exchanges letters and cards.

Besides those mementos, there is a whole raft of stories which he greatly enjoys telling.



The 96th Infantry Division Association

Salutes America's Bicentennial, 1776 - 1976



96th INF. DIV. ASSN.



**DOWNTOWN
FT. WORTH**
Prepared especially for DEADEYE Dispatch

