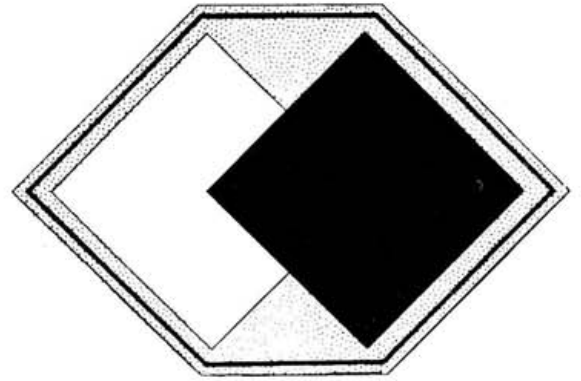


96TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION-WWII

# THE DEADEYE DISPATCH



**Spring Issue 1986**

Return to  
Mrs. Harold R. Strand  
604 S. Hazel St.  
Glenwood, Ia. 51534

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DEADEYE DISPATCH

# 1985-1986 Officers

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RR3 Box 339  
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Enid, Ok. 73701

### **HISTORIAN**

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Coggin, Ia. 52218

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#### **1ST VICE PRESIDENT**

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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.



## President's Corner

Greetings to all Deadeyes and their wives, members of the 96th Infantry Division Association and its Ladies Auxillary:



Dear Fellow Deadeyes:

Again, it is my pleasure to send "Greetings" from the far west State of California. It doesn't seem possible that this is a new year, and the 29th Reunion is "just around the corner."

I hope by this time that all of you are making plans to attend the reunion in Fresno, Ca. It is going to be a very interesting, fun-filled, enjoyable one.

Doug Burton, his wife Thelma and their committees are really busy preparing for the week of July 23 through July 26.

Elsewhere in this issue, you will find information on the tours and all the activities planned. There will never be a dull moment. We encourage you to use the PRE-REGISTRATION system. It is a time saver for you and a big help to our treasurer Tony Skaronea.

For those of you that have a temporary mailing address in the winter or spring, we ask that you make arrangements to have your Deadeye Dispatch delivered so that it will not be returned. It is impossible to maintain two separate mailing lists and we can not forward the Dispatches.

My heartfelt thanks and appreciation to our Editor Lorraine Strand for a "job well done." The Fall 1985 issue of the Deadeye Dispatch was outstanding.

We all hope to see you in Fresno.

Sincerely

Louis E. DeLuca, President  
96th Inf. Div. Assn.

P. S. SEND IN YOUR DUES!  
SEND IN YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS!  
SEND IN YOUR PRE-REGISTRATION!

# Old Meets New at Deadeye Reunion

By Dennis Drake

Over 400 World War II "Deadeyes" and their spouses met with their present day counterparts in Oklahoma City on July 26.

The occasion was the 28th annual reunion of the 96th Infantry Division Association. Maj. Gen. Richard O. Christiansen, commander of the 96th ARCOM, CSM Robert E. Peterson and Capt. Dennis Drake, Public Affairs Officer, 96th ARCOM, attended the reunion.

The ARCOM was invited to make a presentation during the opening session of the reunion, which included an address by Gen. Christiansen and the ARCOM briefing. Several issues of the *Deadeye News* were distributed to the audience.

20 DEADEYENEWS NOVEMBER 1985

The above article appeared in the *Deadeye News* -- ARCOM newsletter. Thanks Capt. Drake for the kind words.

"It was a very emotional experience," noted Gen. Christiansen. "Most of the people in attendance had no idea that the 96th ARCOM existed."

"As we walked through the foyer in our Army green uniforms, many of the veterans would grab their wives, point to the double diamond shoulder patch, and say, 'That's our division!'" added Peterson. "Some even had tears in their eyes as they saw the shoulder patches and recalled their experiences."

The 96th Infantry Division originally formed during World War II, was involved in heavy combat during the Pacific campaigns of Leyte and Okinawa in 1945. The Division reverted to a Reserve Headquarters after the war

and was deactivated in 1965. The 96th ARCOM became activated on Dec. 22, 1967, and adopted the Division's shoulder patch and flag.

Mr. Virgil Below, president of the 96th Infantry Division Association, expressed his appreciation to Gen. Christiansen for attending the reunion, and the general was presented with an elaborate cut glass design of the 383rd Infantry Regiment crest, backed with the blue and white double diamond division shoulder patch with the numerals "96" included. It was crafted by Mr. Jim Leicher of Luverwe, Minn., a veteran of the 383rd.

The glass design will be displayed in the 96th Infantry Division section of the Fort Douglas Museum.



## TO OBTAIN THE FOLLOWING:

Note: In both cases you must submit a copy of your Discharge. (both sides)

The PHILIPPINE LIBERATION MEDAL, and the Presidential Unit Citation Badge:

Send to: SINFORSO L. DUQUE, Brig. General  
AFP Adjutant General  
General Hdqs.  
Camp Aguinaldo  
Quezon City, Philippines.

(Spec. Note, it may take a year or more to hear.)

for Medals awarded while in active service:  
Commander, RCPAC,  
Attn. AGUZ-PSE-AW,  
9700 Page Blvd.  
St. Louis, Mo. #63132

( Spec. Note, this may also take some time to hear)

Be sure to state your complete outfit. ( 96th Div. 382 nd., Co. K )

# Auxiliary Corner

**96<sup>th</sup> INF. DIV. ASSN.**

**DEADEYES**  
ANNUAL REUNIONS



*25<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary*

Dear Ladies of the Auxiliary:

Here in Athens, Michigan, winter is giving way at long last to sweet and most welcome spring.

Our reunion time will be upon us sooner than we think. If you have not made your plans to join us, now is the time.

In talking to our Gracious Past President, Thelma Burton and her husband, Doug, we are in for a most interesting stay in Fresno.

Please make your reservations for the Ladies Luncheon soon, so that you will not be disappointed.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you in Fresno.

Sincerely

Celia Ellis, President

96th Inf. Div. Assn. Auxiliary

CHARTER MEMBERS -- Dallas, Tx. 1962

Grace (DeWitt) Adams; Lula (Lynn) Andrews; Geraldine (Oris) Bakkeotis; Fritz (Dewitt) Ballard; Norma (Paul) Bauer; Ella (Milford) Birkman; Virginia (Don) Bloom; Eloise (LeRoy) Boudreaux; Nita (Keith) Burbridge; Dolores (Milton) Colliflower; Dorothy (Hugh) Coykendall; Ella Mae (Arthur) Cross; Andrea (Harold) Davidson; Mary (Charles) Downs; Inez (Claudius) Easley; Fay (Lawrence) Fisher; Dorothy (Robert) Fitzpatrick; Barbara (Paul) Foster; Rose (Joe) Fritz; Dorothy (Wm.) Garrett; Carol (Frank) Gatewood; Lou (James) Gibson; Nellgene (Clarence) Giles; Elizabeth (Roy) Grubb; Ora Nell (Fred) Heine; Teresa (Hubert) Hoffman; Judy (Frank) Huggins; Doris (John) Keller; Helen (Richard) Klassen; Viola (Earl) Mannel; Eleanor (Alex) Markus; Katie (Arthur) McGhee; Joyce (Hans) McLain; Dorothy (George) McMahon; Mary (Wm. M.) Meyer; Lorene (Loyd) Miller; Wanda (S.T.) Morris; Ione (Leonard) Nelson; Irene (W.T.) Pearson; Phyllis (Perry) Phalen; Mary Jane (Howard) Ragsdale; Johnnie Ruth (B.F.) Ray; Pauline (Fred) Ray; Louise (Johnny) Sain; Juanita (Tyson) Shelton; Elaine (Clarence) Snyder; Juanita (Claude) South; Elizabeth (Fred) Stoltze; Lorraine (Harold) Strand; Anna Lou (Ronald) Talley; Cecil (Jacob) Tatman; Dolores (Tommy) Thomas; Mary (Francis)



Charter Members (continued)

Thompson; Maxine (Leonard) Wahlstrom; Mary Lou (Henry) White; Alise (Robert) Wilson; Wanda (Edward) Wilson; Thelma (William) Weidler; and Agatha (Alfred) Zapalac.

The above sixty "Gals" started the Auxiliary, three have attended all twenty-eight reunions and five have attended every Auxiliary meeting.

Teresa Huffman, Elaine Snyder and Mary Lou White have attended twenty-eight reunions. Teresa Hoffman, Eleanor Markus, Elaine Snyder, Lorraine Strand and Mary Lou White have attended twenty-four Auxiliary meetings. CONGRATULATIONS LADIES!

---

DO YOU REMEMBER?

1962 - Dallas, Tx.	Juanita (Claude) South -- Presided
1963 - Little Rock, Ar.	Inez (Claudius) Easley -- President
1964 - Portland, Or.	Norma (Paul) Bauer -- President
1965 - Minneapolis, Mn.	Norma (Paul) Bauer -- President
1966 - Indianapolis, In.	Dorothy (Hugh) Coykendall -- President
1967 - Omaha, Ne.	Juanita (Claude) South -- President
1968 - Chicago, Il.	Juanita (Claude) South -- President
1969 - Des Moines, Ia.	Lorraine (Harold) Strand -- President
1970 - Detroit, Mi.	Dorothy (Robert) Fitzpatrick, -- President
1971 - Denver, Co.	Lila (George) Buxton -- President
1972 - New Orleans, La.	Hilda (Edmund) Biggs -- President
1973 - Peoria, Il.	Rose (Joe) Fritz -- President
1974 - Indianapolis, In.	Eleanor (Alex) Markus -- President
1975 - Kansas City, Mo.	Frances (Robert) Huff - President
1976 - Ft. Worth, Tx.	Ann (Edward) Dunning -- President
1977 - Cincinnati, Oh.	Florence (James) Moore -- President
1978 - New Orleans, La.	Dorothy (Sam) Benson -- President
1979 - Denver, Co.	Virginia (Harm) Alberts -- President
1980 - Springfield, Il.	Imogene (Stanley) Smith -- President
1981 - Milwaukee, Wi.	Van (Atwell) Champion -- President
1982 - Dearborn, Mi.	Frances (Joe) Marlenga -- President
1983 - Houston, Tx.	Lois (Ernest) Qualls -- President
1984 - St. Paul, Mn.	Lucille (William) Guthrie -- President
1985 - Oklahoma City, Ok.	Thelma (Douglas) Burton -- President
1986 - Fresno, Ca.	Celia (Richard) Ellis -- President



# 96<sup>th</sup> INF. DIV. ASSN.

**DEADEYES**  
ANNUAL REUNIONS



## TREASURER'S REPORT

"California Here We Come", is the Deadeye cry for our next Reunion which will be held in Fresno. Doug Burton, our Reunion Chairman, is diligently working to make the Fresno Reunion the biggest and the best.

The committee has agreed to hold Pre-Registration again this year, a means of eliminating standing in long slow lines during Registration at the Reunion. The percentage of Pre-Registrants have increased each year since the implementation of the procedure.

There will be a Wednesday early bird tour for early arrivals and Pre-Registrants will be able to pick up their packets on Tuesday evening. I strongly encourage everyone to Pre-Register by using the form in this issue of the DISPATCH.

A brief overview of the financial results of the Oklahoma City Reunion closed out at a slight profit. The financial status of the organization will remain favorable as long as our Reunions keep operating in the black or break even point. Our organization was audited by the IRS and the results were highly commendable in the manner which our organization has functioned.

I have experienced an increase in communication by our membership using our postcards. Many new members have joined our organization by being contacted by some of their buddies as well as spotting our Reunion Ad in Veteran Journals. In closing I wish to reiterate - make plans to attend the Fresno Reunion - Pre-Register early - and encourage a Buddy to join you at the Fresno Reunion.

Tony Skaronea  
Treasurer

**TO ALL DEADEYES:**

Your dues are what pays for the "Deadeye Dispatch". Please mail your dues in today to Tony Skaronea using the following form.

**96TH INF. DIV. ASSN. Membership Application**  
*ATTENTION: Be sure to complete blank for Unit Served.*

Here are \$6.00, my annual membership dues for the year.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Unit Served \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print) last first middle

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Army Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Make Remittance Payable to: 96th Infantry Division Association      Auxiliary dues are \$2.00 per year.  
Mail Remittance to: Anthony V. Skaronea, 231 Rouse Ave., Mundelein, IL 60060

**IF . . . this is a change of address, give old address as well as new!**

TO INSURE PROMPT DELIVERY OF **Deadeye Dispatch** and other information, please advise the editors of any address change.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_  
(Co. Regt.)

New Address \_\_\_\_\_

Old Address \_\_\_\_\_

**SEND TO: Mrs. Harold Strand, 604 S. Hazel, Glenwood, Iowa 51534**  
**USE YOUR ZIP CODE! Postal Service requires a FULL ADDRESS!**

**WANT A UNIT ROSTER?**

If anyone wishes a Roster of your old outfit PLEASE REMIT \$2.00 to:

**William (Bill Broschk, 17819 So. Station Rd., Columbia Station, Ohio 44028.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Unit \_\_\_\_\_  
Co. Regt.

New Address \_\_\_\_\_

Old Address \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE USE YOUR ZIP CODE! Postal Service requires a FULL ADDRESS!**

**Do you get your DISPATCH promptly?**  
**Be sure we have your correct address in full . . . and . . . your ZIP Code!**





# AWARDS

The following "Deadeyes" received certificates for attending reunions:

## 10 YEAR CERTIFICATES:

Aubry Apple, Jacob Bitzer, Edward DeWitt, W. Bradley Dodge, William Elkins, Harle Ethridge, Eugenio Gonzales, George Hannig, Ralph Kopp, Ernest Malkewitz, Thomas Martin, Clarence Moes, Russell Nickerson, Jack Pintacura, Arthur Plith, Percy Poche, Arthur Risley, Carroll Simmons, Robert Teuber.

## 15 YEAR CERTIFICATES:

Robert Bartlett, Myron Buroker, Leslie Calhoun, John Cramer, Frank Dowell, Kenneth Eyer, Earl Fidler, Ernest Ganaway, Roman Klimkowicz, George McMahan, Roland Niemann, Joseph Picone, Nathaniel Servi, Milo Thompson, Charles Visockis, Alfred Wasinger, Alfred Zapalac.

## 20 YEAR CERTIFICATE:

Sherman Deckrow, Richard Ellis, Andrew Hosnedl, Williard M. Mitchell James C. Moore, S. T. Morris, Ernest Qualls.

## 25 YEAR CERTIFICATES:

Cloyce P. Rucker and Elmer C. Stuckemeyer.

**Congratulations to each and every one of you!**

**You are truly dedicated and live up to:**

**"ONCE A DEADEYE ALWAYS A DEADEYE."**

# 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION — FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

**JULY 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 1986**

*Send in your reservations now!*

## *Centre Plaza Holiday Inn*

2233 Ventura Street, Fresno, CA 93721  
209-268-1000

(Fold this portion down)

ACCOMMODATIONS WILL NOT BE CONFIRMED WITHOUT A CHECK FOR THE 1st NIGHT'S DEPOSIT OR USE YOUR AMEX OR DINERS CLUB CREDIT CARD # TO GUARANTEE YOUR RESERVATION. YOU WILL BE CHARGED FOR THE 1st NIGHT IF RESERVATIONS ARE NOT CANCELED 48 HOURS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.

CREDIT CARD # \_\_\_\_\_  AMEX  DINERS CLUB  VISA  MASTERCARD EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
(PLEASE CHECK ONE)

PLEASE CHECK PREFERRED ACCOMMODATIONS		
\$55.00	Single	SUPER BONUS: Early Bird registration qualifies you to enter a drawing for a complimentary room when your reservation is made for minimum of 3 nights.
\$65.00	Double (2 persons)	
_____	Suites upon availability	
\$8.00	Additional Per Person Charge	

IF RATE REQUESTED IS NOT AVAILABLE, NEAREST AVAILABLE RATE WILL BE ASSIGNED. RATES ARE SUBJECT TO APPLICABLE TAXES.  
NO CHARGE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 16 OCCUPYING THE SAME ROOM AS PARENTS. 9% CITY TAX

(Fold this portion up first.)

Centre Plaza - Holiday Inn  
2233 Ventura Street  
Fresno, CA 93721  
(209) 268-1000

**DON'T FORGET —**  
MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER  
PAYABLE TO Centre Plaza  
DO NOT SEND CURRENCY.

ORGANIZATION 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

FUNCTION Deadeyes Annual Reunion DATES July 23-27, 1986

ALL REQUESTS FOR THE ABOVE GROUP MUST BE RECEIVED BY June 23, 1986

Please reserve accommodations for		Print or Type
NAME	LAST	FIRST
ADDRESS		COMPANY
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
SHARING ROOM WITH	NO. OF PERSONS	
SIGNATURE	PHONE NUMBER	

MONTH	DAY	YEAR
ARRIVAL DATE		

ARRIVAL TIME
--------------

MONTH	DAY	YEAR
DEPARTURE DATE		

CHECK IN TIME 3:00 PM  
CHECK OUT TIME 12:00 NOON



FRESNO, CA 93721  
2233 VENTURA

*Venture Playa Holiday Inn*

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PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

# notices

All Deadeyes are invited to attend the Michigan Chapter's 25th (Silver Anniversary) Reunion April 26, 1986 in Jackson, Mi. For further information contact MILO THOMPSON -- 807 3rd St., Jackson, Mi. 49203.  
OHIO "BUCKEYE" CHAPTER -- 96th Inf. Div. Assn.

The Ohio Chapter of the 96th Inf. Div. Assn. will hold their annual reunion May 17, 1986 at the Buckeye Lake cottage of Jack and Jinny Hawkins. All 96th members and attached personnel are invited. For further information contact Bill Broschk -- 17819 So. Station Rd., Columbia Station, Oh. 44028 or Russell Watts -- 66 W. Norwich Ave., Columbus, Oh. 43201

## TIME AND PLACE COMMITTEE -- 1986

In order to have adequate time for the committee to function, it is requested that petitions to host our 1989 Reunion be directed to the Committee Chairman Peter Pohl no later than May 1, 1986. Such petitions should be accompanied by the name, address and phone numbers of the ON-SITE Chairman and his assistants, together with a program and commitments of the City and/or Convention Center involved. Please direct correspondence to:

Peter Pohl	6500 - 335th St., Stacy, Mn. 55079
Harold Somers	Lincoln, Mi. 48742
Tyson Shelton	522 W. Broadway, Elk City, Ok. 73644

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE -- 1986

Anyone interested in becoming involved in committees and/or office please contact the following persons:

Russell Watts	66 W. Norwich Ave., Columbus, Oh. 43201
Virgil Below	C.R. No. 11, Risingsun, Oh. 43457
Robert Huff	6320 Woodwind Dr., Indianapolis, In. 46217

## NOTICE TO ALL THE MEMBERSHIP

THE NORTHWEST CHAPTER of the 96th In. Div. Assn. will hold their annual reunion June 8, 1986 at the Pan Club, Portland, Or. Airport. All 96th Div. members and attached personal are invited. It will be "POTLUCK" as usual and arrival time will be 9:30 to 10:00 A. M. For more information contact DEEVEERE L. HERSHEY -- 191 B St., Veronia, Or. 97064, President or Cecil L. Williams -- 1218 King Rd., Winlock, Wa. 98596, Corres. Secy.

DEADEYE REUNIONS DRAW CROWDS

No.	Year	Location	Official Count
1	1958	St. Louis, MO.	103
2	1959	Chicago, IL.	223
3	1960	Kansas City, MO.	264
4	1961	Detroit, MI.	over 250
5	1962	Dallas, TX.	over 200
6	1963	Little Rock, AR.	about 200
7	1964	Portland, OR.	about 150
8	1965	Minneapolis, MN.	330
9	1966	Indianapolis, IN.	364
10	1967	Omaha, NE.	351
11	1968	Chicago, IL.	551
12	1969	Des Moines, IA.	354
13	1970	Detroit, MI.	434
14	1971	Denver, CO.	376
15	1972	New Orleans, LA.	426
16	1973	Peoria, IL.	528
17	1974	Indianapolis, IN.	433
18	1975	Kansas City, MO.	482
19	1976	Ft. Worth, TX.	462
20	1977	Cincinnati, OH.	449
21	1978	New Orleans, LA.	398
22	1979	Denver, CO.	432
23	1980	Springfield, IL.	533
24	1981	Milwaukee, WI.	487
25	1982	Dearborn, MI.	476
26	1983	Houston, TX.	376
27	1984	St. Paul, MN.	591
28	1985	Oklahoma City, OK.	549

-0-

Perhaps you sent a lovely card,  
 Or sat quietly in a chair.  
 Perhaps you sent a funeral spray,  
 If so we saw it there.  
 Perhaps you spoke the kindest words,  
 As any friend could say;  
 Perhaps you were not there at all,  
 Just thought of us that day,  
 Whatever you did to console our hearts,  
 We thank you so much whatever the part.

The family of  
 Minor Butler

MINOR BUTLER DIED APRIL 15, 1986

By Ed Dakan

Minor Butler (B-381) died at the V.A. Hospital in Marion, Illinois, where he had been treated on and off for cancer during the past two years. His last days were probably fewer because he refused to be attached to a machine that could have prolonged his life.

The man who founded the 96th Infantry Division Association by calling a meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, in the summer of 1958, then serving as president through the second reunion in Chicago, Illinois, never claimed any importance in the organization. Minor said his greatest satisfaction was in having brought together "a bunch of guys who knew how to do things". The details were left to other DEADEYES a long time ago, though Minor kept a grandfatherly interest in the group's affairs. He was proud that the Association would live on, even into the next generation.

.....

Minor and I went to war together. We came to Company B about the same time at Camp Adair, Oregon. He was the acting non-com who first showed me and some more draftees how to makeup a bunk.

Except for his family, chances were that I knew more about Minor than anyone else. One time my old comrade told me he looked at his disease like a recon patrol in the jungle: "I will deal with it when I have to. Nothing can take me until my purpose in God's plan is finished. And at that point, all medical knowledge cannot keep me here."

.....

You may write to: Mrs. Rachel Butler  
 Box 221  
 Dahlgren, Illinois 62828

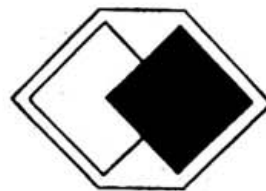






# 96<sup>th</sup> INF. DIV. ASSN.

**DEADEYES**  
ANNUAL REUNIONS



Dear Deadeyes:

We in California are anxiously awaiting your arrival in July. It seemed appropriate that since so many of you are coming from such a great distance, that we should extend the reunion by a day and start with an "early bird" tour of Yosemite. The tour of Yosemite will leave Fresno at 8 A.M. on July 23 and arrive back in Fresno that evening about 8 P.M. The tour will include a visit to Glacier Point, the Mariposa Big Trees and Yosemite Valley. The price will include coffee and rolls on the bus, a box lunch in the valley, a ride on the tram through the valley, and all entrance fees and the bus ride.

On July 24, we will tour the farm lands of our area conducted by the ladies from the California Women for Agriculture. The tour will include a cross section of the Valley from the Sierra's to the Coast Range or from "the fruit bowl to the salad bowl of the nation." The price will include the bus ride and buffet lunch served by the ladies at Avocado Lake which is nestled in the foot hills of the Sierra's, and a tour of a fruit packing operation with a chance to purchase fresh fruit. This tour will leave Fresno at 10 A.M. and arrive back at 4 P.M.

The people from Cribari Winery will present a fine California tradition on our arrival back to the hotel from the ag tour, a "Wine Tasting Party" at the hotel from 5:30 P.M. until 7 P.M. The Cribari Winery is one of the oldest, finest, and largest wineries in California, and I am honored to have them do this for us. This same evening we will enjoy the customary "kick off party" with entertainment and an open cash bar. This will be from 9 P.M. to 12 midnight.

From the wine to the winery. On Friday July 25, after the business meetings and the Ladies Luncheon (which from what I see and hear will be "super special") busses will be available to tour the Cribari winery and more wine tasting and a chance to purchase some of their fine wines and spirits -- then on to a raisin packing operation and to the Duncan Water Gardens. That evening we will have our traditional "Beer Bust" with plenty of beer, wine and soft drinks and dancing to the music of Cam Hardings Dixie Land Band.

On Saturday July 26 at 11 A.M., there will be a Memorial Service in the Saroyan Theatre just across the street from the hotel.

During the cocktail hour just before the dinner dance, a group of photographers from the "On Site Photo Graphics Inc.," to take pictures of everyone attending the reunion, and also some of the activities for a mini-yearbook of the reunion. These yearbooks are quite unique. We will be able to identify everyone attending the reunion. You may order one even though you may not be able to attend the reunion.

We are looking forward to seeing you all here in Fresno in July. We have had lots of inquiries from people who have not known about our association.

Fresno in the summer time is quite warm, but with low humidity and cool evenings.

Best regards to all and hope we will see all of you in July.

Sincerely

Douglas Burton and the Committee

-----

DON'T FORGET TO MAIL YOUR RESERVATIONS IN EARLY FOR THE REUNION IN FRESNO, CA., July 24, 25 and 26, 1986. The Reunion will be held in the Centre Plaza Holiday Inn, 2233 Ventura Street, Fresno, Ca. Douglas Burton and his Committee have worked long hard hours to put together a reunion that will be enjoyed by everyone. Elsewhere in this issue Doug tells about some of the things that are going to happen. SEND IN YOUR PRE-REGISTRATION AND ALSO YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS TODAY!

An early registration at the hotel assures you of a room at the hotel, and an early pre-registration of activities assures you of a ticket to the tours of your choice and the ladies of a ticket to the luncheon.

Pages 17 and 18  
are missing.



It was a great pleasure for Jack to receive the copy of the Deadeye Dispatch. He had sent a letter when he read of the reunion in Oklahoma City. That must be how he got on the mailing list as he did not know of the existence of the Dispatch. Jack had to retire from private practice as an Internist 1½ years ago because of Parkinsons disease, but he enjoys reading the activities. In the process of seeing the roster, he found an old pal also from Co. C - 383 that he had not heard from since discharge. They have been corresponding. Enclosed is a check for dues.

Mrs. John Koler, Jr.  
10032 31st N.E.  
Seattle, Wa. 98125

-----  
Enclosed is a check for my membership dues. I enjoy receiving news of the division and look forward to each copy of the Dispatch. I hope one of these days to attend a reunion. I occasionally see a familiar name.

Marvin C. Nagel -- 321-Medic  
Rt. 3 Box 194  
Atchison, Ks. 66002

-----  
I have not been able to make any of the reunions so far but will be aiming for the 1988 one in Peoria, Il. I was in the ASTP unit at Bradley University when they closed it down and sent us all to Camp White, Or. to join the 96th. I enjoy receiving the Deadeye Dispatch and checking the names of those attending from my old company -- Co. E 381. Enclosed is a check for my dues, my wife's auxiliary dues and the extra for postage.

James G. Knight  
252 W. Franklin St.  
Nelsonville, Oh. 45764

It's always nice to get the Deadeye Dispatch and see what has taken place with the "Old Gang". I won't be able to make it to the reunion in Oklahoma City, but I'll surely be in Fresno, Ca. next year. I'm one of the original cadre members from the 53rd Infantry, who went to Camp Adair, Or. when they first opened. I went the complete operation in the Pacific and finally got out of the service with high points and returned home. I was 1st Sgt. of Service Co. 383 and refused any other promotions to stay with the same group I trained with. As I said before, it's always enjoyable to read about my old buddies. Most of the fellows are closer to me than my own brothers and I think very highly of them all.

Lou Emasian  
2530 37th Ave.  
Sacramento, Ca. 95822

-----  
We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone that sent get-well and thinking of you notes to Don last November, when fell and broke his back. It means a lot to be remembered by so many nice people. Like lots of us have discovered, we have our own Family, but we also have the 96th Family. Don has recovered nicely and is learning what he can and can not do. Glad we were able to make it to the Reunion in Oklahoma City this past July. Hope to see all of you plus lots of new ones at the Fresno, Ca. Reunion in July 1986.

Don and Donna Foster -- Div. Arty.  
232 N.W. Knox St.  
Topeka, Ks. 66606

-----  
Enclosed is a check for my husband's membership dues and my auxiliary dues. We were not able to attend the Oklahoma reunion this year as my husband had a stroke. It would have been our tenth reunion. Hoping to make California next year.

Nick J. & Jean Spinelli -- 383-D  
79 Cordello Ave.  
Central Islip., N.Y. 11722

-----  
My wife and I sure did enjoy the reunion at Oklahoma City last year. It was my first time. Hope to see everone in Fresno in 1986.

J. L. Albert -- 381-C  
Box 316  
Fritch, Tx. 79036

My regards to all the comrades of the 96th. We were unable to be with our company this year at the reunion. My wife and I had a good time in St. Paul in 1984. Enclosed are our dues for 1985-1986. Our best to the men of the 382 H & H.

Henry F. Ahrenholz  
11737 N. Ridgeway Ave.  
Mequon, Wi. 53092

-----  
My wife and I are looking forward to seeing everyone in California in 86.

Vincent Jacobson -- 361-FA  
5837 Tweedsmuir Dr.  
Rocklin, Ca. 95677

-----  
Enclosed is my check for membership for the coming year 85-86. Sorry I did not attend the Oklahoma City Reunion. The Good Lord willing, I will be attending the one in Fresno and those in the future. We have enjoyed the 8 or so we have attended. I worked with the one we had here in Springfield and I was able to see for myself what a terrific job and the sacrificies of time and self the old timers, who have held this organization together, have made. Sorry that we have lost some of them in the past year.

Joe Mate -- 796-Ord.  
2050 No. 6th St.  
Springfield, Il. 62702

-----  
Enclosed is my cheque for my dues in USA funds for this years Assoc. dues. This cheque clears thru Chase Manhattan Bank. Thank you for taking the time and effort towards the continuation of this Association.

Charles S. Ronzio -- 383-H  
127 Blueridge Ave.  
Kitchener, Ontario Canada N2M 4E2

-----  
I wish to take this opportunity to thank the "Deadeye Family" for the many cards, notes, letters, phone calls and visits during Harold's bout with lung cancer. I wish to thank all of you for every thing that was done for me at the time of his death and wish it was possible for me to thank each one of you personally for the cards, notes, letters, phone calls, visits, memorials and floral offerings that came from across this nation. What a truly remarkable grape-vine the "Deadeyes" have. Harold would have been so very proud (and I am so



grateful) to know that so may Deadeyes travelled so many miles to attend the services. What a great pillar of strength you are in the loss of the best friend I have ever had, as well as a kind, considerate, and loving husband. May God Bless each and every one of you.

Lorraine (Mrs. Harold) Strand --381-M  
604 So. Hazel Street  
Glenwood, Ia. 51534

-----  
We want to express our appreciation to past and present officers and staff that have been doing a superb job in keeping the memories of the 96th alive and keeping the membership informed. We send our greetings to each and every Deadeye, and hope you had a successful meeting in Oklahoma.

Marvin & Lola Hoffman -- 361-FA  
1045 Cherl Dr.  
Syracuse, Ne. 68446

-----  
Enclosed is a check for my dues and for my wife, Harriett. I regret that I wasn't at this year's reunion in Oklahoma City, but just couldn't be away this summer. I do hope to see you all next year in California. We sure had a dandy reunion in St. Paul. I can't make every one, but all I have attended have been the high-light of the year -- seeing all my old buddies of the several units I was in in the 96th Division. I think it was the best in the Army.

Ewing S. Johansen -- 383-D  
P.O. Box 31 - 108 N. Broadway  
Hudson, Il. 61748

-----  
The enclosed check is for 2 years dues for myself and my wife, Jane. Sorry I couldn't be in Oklahoma City, but will make every effort to be in Fresno.

Virgil N. Thompson -- 381-1st BH  
805 S. 12th St.  
Coeur D'Alene, Id. 83814

-----  
The Oklahoma Reunion had a fine turn out and a hardy compliment to the Reunion Chairman and his committee for a wonderful schedule of activities. Now all Deadeyes should set their sights on "Fresno" in '86. This will be the second National Reunion on the West Coast.

A. L. Pavell -- 382-K  
R.R. 3 Box 403  
Monticello, In. 47960

Enclosed find a check for my dues and also for my wife for the Auxiliary. Thanks for the Deadeye Dispatch. Great to get--great to keep abreast of the Association news.

Michael Cuomo -- 321-Medic  
3810 - 5th St. E. #423  
Bradenton, Fl. 33508

-----  
Here's my dues for another great year. I always look forward to receiving the Deadeye Dispatch. I share mine with a fellow I met in Florida, from the 381st. All of you are doing a fine job. Hope to make the reunion.

Will Morrison -- 321-Medic  
1844 Cherry Creek Dr.  
Homewood, Il. 60430

-----  
Doubt if we will ever make the reunions, but always await the Deadeye news and letters. Have so hoped to someday hear from some of my old buddies from Co. A - 382. Enclosed are dues for my membership and my wife's auxiliary dues for 1986.

Marion E. Rankin  
4246 Logan Ave. RR 2  
Waterloo, Ia. 50703

-----  
Enclosed is my check for Association dues, including a bit extra to help defray expenses. Dorothy and I enjoyed attending the reunion in St. Paul, Mn. We were unable to to be present in Oklahoma City, but are looking forward to seeing old friend and acquaintances in Fresno in July. To fellow 381-"Itemites", I am certain that there are many from the West Coast who have been unable to attend prior reunions who will make Fresno. Thanks to each officer and member of a committee who have helped to make the Division Association such an outstanding success.

Sam Hughes  
2700 Fairmount Blvd.  
Eugene, Or. 97403

-----  
Enclosed is my dues and Auxiliary dues for Mildred. We attended the Reunion at Oklahome City in July and enjoyed it very much. Hope to attend more reunions in the future..

Paul J. Nicholson -- 381-HQ.  
206 Monroe  
Abilene, Ks. 67410

I wish to thank the many "Deadeyes" and their wives for the cards and letters sent to my wife, Louise, during her recent illness. We had every intention of attending the reunion in Oklahoma City last summer, but her illness prevented it. She lost her battle with cancer on August 25, 1985. Enclosed is a check for my dues and a little something extra for the "Kitty".

Elgie Clark -- 321-Eng.  
Suite 147 - 5726 Cortey Rd. W.  
Bradenton, Fl. 33507

-----  
Cleaning out my billfold, I noticed my 96th Div. membership expired July 1985. Please reinstate me and my wife for another year. Sorry to have missed the reunion in Oklahoma City, but the press of business kept my nose to the grindstone. Maybe one of these years I will be able to make one.

Robert N. Quinn -- 383-E  
8012 Oakland Ave.  
Kansas City, Ks. 66112

-----  
Enclosed is a check to cover my auxiliary membership and the balance for the benefit of the 96th. I know this is what Dexter would have done. He was so proud to have served with the 96th Division. We joined the Division at the inception at Camp Adair. We both made a number of friends with whom I still have contact and share many happy and sad memories. Should you see any one from the 362 FA who remembers Capt. Hyland, I would be pleased to hear from them.

Arlene Hyland  
Rt. 11 Pautipaug Ln.  
No. Franklin, Ct. 06254

-----  
Sorry to have missed the last few reunions; however, the "Deadeye Dispatch" brings much in recalling fond memories of all the men and their ladies. Best regards to all.

Sam Woods --  
2352 Bruce Ave.  
Spartarburg, S. C.

Please find enclosed an application for membership in the 96th Inf. Div. Assn. I served in the 96th Div. 382-Serv. as a chaplain's clerk from November 1942 to January of 1945.

Louis J. Tolladay  
5393 Walmsley Rd. RR 6  
Decatur, Il. 62521

-----  
I am enclosing dues for 1986 for my wife and I. Thanks a lot for the Deadeye Dispatch and all the good news. We won't be able to get to Fresno this year, but would like to say "Hello" to all the gang from 3rd Bn. Hq. -- 381.

Robert J. Reichter  
4779 Highridge Ave.  
Cincinnati, Oh. 45238

-----  
Here is my check for my annual dues. Deeply sorry that I am unable to attend any of the reunions. I always look forward to receiving the Deadeye Dispatch.

Edward Karpienia -- 382-C  
17 Lake Tahoe Rt. #2  
New Era, Mi. 49446

-----  
Enclosed is my check for dues. I sure appreciate receiving the Deadeye Dispatch, and being a member of this fine organization. I have been fortunate to attend two reunions -- the 8th and the 27th ones.

Charles V. Thoren -- 382-1st BN.Hdq.  
3341 23rd Ave. South  
Minneapolis, Mn. 55407

-----  
Enclosed is my check for my annual dues for the Dispatch. In the last almost 40 years, this has followed me from Penn., to Ohio and now to Florida. I always stop everything and read it from cover to cover. I have never made a reunion, but hopefully next year we will make Memphis. Keep up the good work.

Bill Algeo -- 321-Medic  
6471 5th Ave. N.  
St. Petersburg, Fl. 33710

I have been a member of the 96th Div. Assn. for a number of years. I'll always be a very proud member. I was in both the Leyte and Okinawa campaigns. I was wounded twice, the second time was taking Dick Hill on May 16. I was hospitalized for 23 months and was discharged April 5, 1947. I will forever remember my buddies and especially those who gave their lives. I pray for all their dear departed souls. I have been unable to attend any of the past reunions. I have heart and other problems. I wish to thank you for the Dispatch. I read it like the Bible. I only wish I could see all my buddies. God Bless You all.

Peter A. Caserta -- 382-E  
5227 Edgewood Dr.  
Lorain, Oh. 44053

-----  
Here is my check for 1986 dues. I am looking forward to the possibility of attending the Fresno reunion. Several of the 381st Medics have informed me that they also are planning to attend. Many thanks to those who have kept the 96th Association alive and well.

Maj. (ret.) William H. Hewes, M.D.  
253 Wallace Dr.  
Saline, Mi. 48176

-----  
Hi to all Deadeyes! Enclosed is a check for dues for my wife and I. We both enjoy the Dispatch and all the news it brings to us. Keep up your good work. A big salute to all of you.

K. L. Bennington -- 362-FA  
5046 SE Ogden  
Portland, Or. 97206

-----  
Enclosed are my dues. I enjoy getting the Deadeye Dispatch. I see several names of my fellow soldiers in each issue. I hope some day to attend one of the reunions and get acquainted again, It would be fun!

Peter C. Pisk -- 383-I  
178 2nd Ave. E N.  
Calispell, Mt. 59901

It has always been our wish to attend one of the reunions, but I'm sure that will never be. George has Alzheimer's disease, and his memory is completely gone, as well as his ability to communicate. I still have him at home with me. I think you are all doing a wonderful job in keeping these reunions going. Attendance certainly holds up well, which I'm sure is due to the hard work and dedication of so many of you. Keep up the good work. Enclosed is our check for our dues.

Frieda Farmer -- 381-G  
6844 Waite Dr.  
San Diego, Cal. 92115

-----  
Just a little note to let the 96th Infantry know what has happened to my brother, Elmer Rauch, the past 6 years. On Jan. 30, 1980, which was his 59th birthday he had open heart surgery. Had to have 4 by-passes, valve and a pacemaker. Two and a half years ago in June he had a blockage in the aortic artery which resulted in surgery. November 1st, 1983 and December 14th, 1983, he had to have both his legs amputated due to poor circulation. He is doing great and we are thankful. Hope to make a reunion one of these years. He was in HQ Co. 2nd BN 383. Elmer has resided with my husband and me since June of 1983.

Bernice Barry  
12900 So. Monitor  
Palos Hghts., Il. 60463

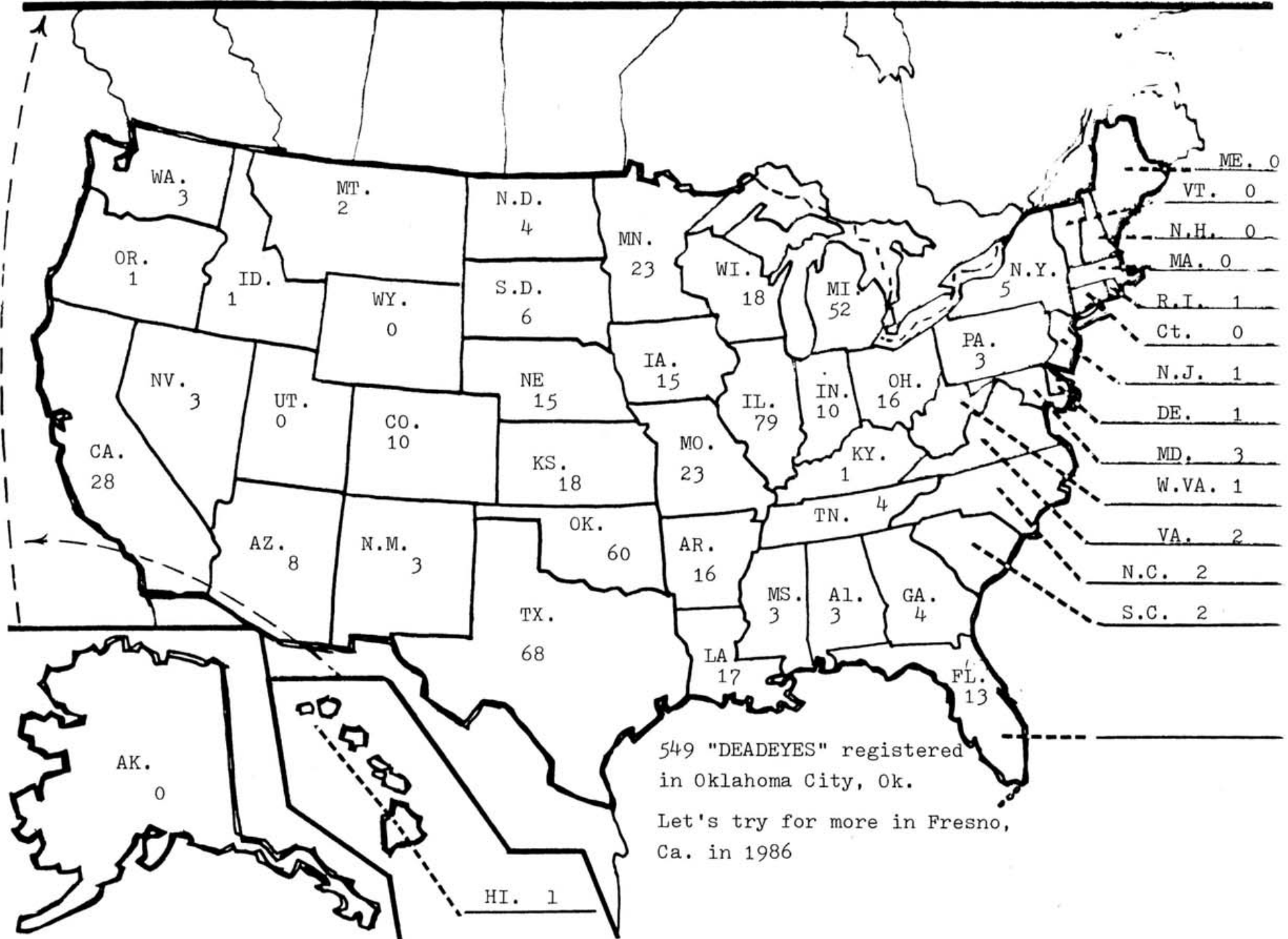
-----  
Here is my dues and a little something extra for unexpected expenses. Sure would love to hear from some of the guys who remember me. I was with 382-AT from Camp White until I was wounded on Okinawa on April 4th -- maybe a note in the Dispatch could accomplish this.

John B. Moore  
723 Memory Lane  
McKeesport, Pa. 15133

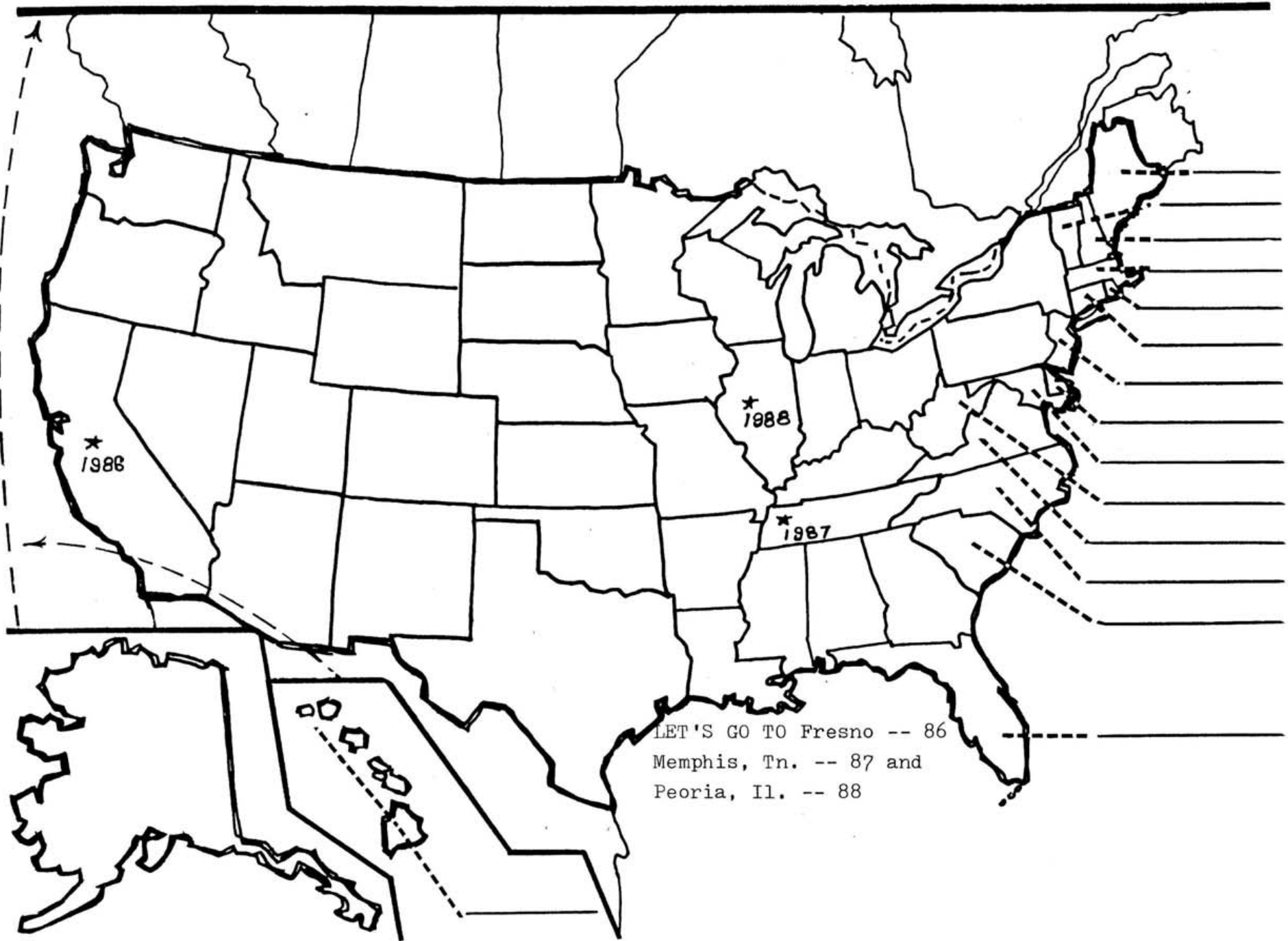
-----  
Had planned to pay my dues in Oklahoma City but at the last minute was unable to attend. Enclosed is my check for dues and God willing, I will be in Fresno in 1986. Hope to see all my friends at this reunion. I really enjoy the "Dispatch" and read it cover to cover.

Noah W. Simpson -- 381-AT  
2908 Linn  
San Antonio, Tx. 78223





549 "DEADEYES" registered  
 in Oklahoma City, Ok.  
 Let's try for more in Fresno,  
 Ca. in 1986



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE  
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES  
Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City

AGMD2

GENERAL ORDERS  
NUMBER

AWARD OF THE PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC  
PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION BADGE

By direction of the President, pursuant to paragraph 19 1, Section II, Armed Forces of the Philippines Regulations G 131-052, this Headquarters, dated 24 April 1967, as amended, the PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION BADGE is hereby awarded to

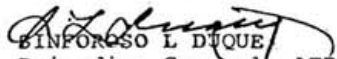
96TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
UNITED STATES ARMY

for acts and services of exceptional gallantry and heroism rendered by its officers and men during the Leyte Campaign, from 20 October 1944 to 1 March 1945. The 96th Infantry Division landed with General Douglas MacArthur in Leyte on 20 October 1944. Capturing the critical terrain of Catmon Hill which was fiercely defended by elements of the 16th Infantry Division of the Imperial Japanese Army, the Division advanced through deep swamps and penetrated to Tubon-Tubon which was heavily infested by the enemy. After four days of attack, counterattack and heavy losses of personnel and equipment, the Division succeeded in defeating the enemy. Again, in December 1944, the Division participated in the counterattack against the 2nd Parachute Brigade, Imperial Japanese Army which was then assaulting the airfields and supply depots in Central Leyte Valley. By these achievements, the 96th Infantry Division, United States Army, greatly contributed to the success of one of the decisive battles of World War II and earned the lasting admiration of the Republic of the Philippines and its people.

BY ORDER OF THE DEFENSE MINISTER:

OFFICIAL:

FABIAN C VER  
General, AFP  
Chief of Staff

  
EUFORCISO L. DIOUE  
Brigadier General, AFP  
The Adjutant General





REUNION'S END

The bivouac is over,  
the banners are furled and cased,  
the hall is deserted and empty,  
all the signs have been erased.

The troops who were assembeled  
have raised a final toast  
then once more seperated  
and returned to their regular post.

This place has now been hallowed,  
for here the valiant met  
to renew their pledge to the fallen  
and affirm their patriot's debt.

For those who have gone into combat  
know a permanent obligation  
to honor their fallen comrades  
and maintain the pride of their nation.

They'll continue to assemble  
till time has taken its toll,  
when they'll proudly answer "Here, Sir!"  
in response to the final roll.

- - -Jim Leicher

While driving home from the reunion at Oklahoma City, I felt the same feeling that I've known after every reunion I've attended.

Jim Leicher -- 383-1st BH  
609 N. Cottage Grove Ave.  
Luverne, Mn. 56156



## In Memorium...



96<sup>th</sup> INF. DIV. ASSN.  
DEADEYES

# "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.

James W. Spellman  
Per Post Office

James F. Humburg -- 381-3rd BH  
per wife -- 1-5-1985

James T. Billy  
per brother -- 8-10-1984

Homer Howard -- 321-Eng.  
per Post Office

Harvey Holland -- 362-FA  
per Post Office

Edwin H. Hildebrand -- 362-FA  
per Post Office

Richard W. Dohra -- 383-L  
per Post Office

Leonard A. Dyer -- 382-2nd BN  
per wife -- 7-20-1983



John B. Hinch -- 921-FA  
per wife

Alfred Schmeling -- Div. HQ.  
per Thomas Roby -- 5-5-1985

Ivan W. Horr -- 921-FA  
per Post Office

Charles Freiberg -- QM  
per wife -- 4-20-1985

Carl F. Anderson -- 382-Serv.  
per Post Office

Louis E. LaFramboise -- 321-Medic  
per Larry Claydon -- 5-19-1985

Howard W. Huebner -- 381-Serv.  
per wife -- 3-7-1984

Albert J. Milwid -- 382-E  
per wife -- 5-6-1985

Fred P. Dyhrmann -- 796-Ord.  
per James Breece -- May 1985

Murrel E. Hogg -- 321-Eng.  
per wife -- 4-12-1985

Thomas E. Head -- 382-M  
per wife -- 6-25-85

Paul V. Rahaley -- 381-M  
per wife -- 5-24-84

William C. Bosworth -- Qm  
per wife -- 9-9-1984

Harold R. Strand -- 381-M  
per wife -- 6-14-1985

William C. Higgins -- 362-FA  
per Post Office

Robert R. Hughes -- 381-1st BH  
per post office

Charles Martin  
per post office

John F. Miller -- 382-L  
per wife -- 3-24-1984

Kenneth E. Lawrence -- Div. Art.  
per post office

Robert Weibel -- 383-D  
per wife -- 4-8-1981

Bernard M. Stevens -- 361-FA  
per post office

Alfred F. Pisano -- 361-FA  
per daughter -- 1-20-1977

James Nelson -- Band  
per daughter -- 4-5-1985

Oliver Vanditto  
per James Warren -- 7-1985

Irvine Keener  
per William Broschk -- 1980

Gordon W. Nelson -- 383-H  
per Jim Cassidy -- Jan. 1985

Harold Arms -- 381-E  
per wife -- 5-20-85

George Mooney -- 381-M  
per wife -- 1-29-1985

Horace P. Gregory -- 382-D  
per sister -- 62-1985

S. C. Greenhaw -- 382-K  
per post office

Marion E. Mifflin -- 381-H&H  
per Alvis Harrell -- 5-26-1985

Lyman D. Mead -- 381-BH  
per wife -- 11-15-1984

Julius J. Meyer -- 381-C  
per wife -- 10-31-84

Freddie Wallace -- 728-Amt.  
per wife -- 3-4-1985

Palmer J. Tollefson -- 796-Ord  
per post office

Gerald H. Schoen -- 382-Reg. Hq.  
per wife -- 9-26-1984

Lanance Permlaux -- 921-FA  
per post office

Lloyd W. Anderson -- 382-AT  
per Russell Watts -- 10-30-1982

Ben Thaisen -- 382-H  
per William Broschk

Hiram Moore -- 382-AT  
per William Broschk



Robert E. Shields -- 382-AT  
1965

Mart Thomason -- Recon.  
per son & daughter -- 7-12-1985

Hobart Pyle  
per Gail Wooters -- 2-1983

Carroll Howell -- 361-FA  
per Virgil Below -- 8-30-1985

Don J. Boyd -- 381-H  
per William Broschk

Herbert Cooper -- 382-C  
per Walter Kleinschmidt -- 11-15-1984

Ray Wattunen -- 381-E  
per wife -- 6-24-1984

Martin Allen  
per post Office

Mitchell Tepiew -- 321-Medic  
per wife -- 9-10-1985

Pebble V. Roberts -- 383-AT  
per John Nasser -- 9-29-1985

Travis Word  
per post office

Melvin P. Vietti  
per wife -- 12-5-1985

Albert Cudmore  
per post office

Fred S. Atmore -- 362-FA  
per wife -- 9-2-1985

Forrest Ashcraft -- 363-FA  
per Merwin Hill -- 10-3-1985

Jacob J. Steffens -- 763-TN  
per post office

Tom Brashear -- 381-K  
per son -- 6-29-1985

George E. Nixon -- 362-AT  
per William Broschk

Carl W. Werner -- 381-H  
per wife -- 1-13-1985

Larry Rodenbert -- 383-M  
per wife -- 12-9-1984

Harold L. Shucart -- 361-FA  
per William Broschk

Frank Matheny -- 381-A  
per Ed Dakan -- 8-30-1985

Joseph A. Spellazza -- 383-B  
per Frank Zimmerman

Jesse R. White -- 381-H & H  
per wife -- 5-21-1985

Russell Pipe -- 381-G  
per Ed Dakan -- 1-7-1985

Mack Sumerour  
per post office

Mike L. Harsantyt, Jr.  
per Tony Skaronea -- 10-24-1985

Neil E. Hoover -- 796-Ord.  
per wife -- 11-12-1985

Loren Mosely  
per Post office

Ewald H. Votava -- 383-1st BH  
per post office

Jay White -- 921-FA  
per post office

Arthur Busboom -- 381-1st BH  
per post office

Leonard R. Burton -- 381-L  
per wife -- 9-28-1985

Farrell C. Voyles -- 921-FA  
per post office -- 10-3-1985

Wesley Quail -- 362-FA  
per wife -- 10-5-1985

Al Knight -- 382-L  
per wife -- 9-17-85

Paul Bauer -- 382-SVC  
per Harm Alberts -- 12-23-1985

Milo "Pete" Medema  
per Tony Skaronea

William H. Harmon -- 382-B  
per William Broschke

Lawrence P. Ash -- 381-K  
per James Glasscock -- 1985

LOUIS Grosjean -- 382-2nd BH  
per post office

Louis N. Salverson  
per wife -- 7-3-1980

Jack Carpenter -- 381-E  
per Douglas Burton -- 1985

J. Clapp -- 381-G  
per George Cook -- 11-2-1985

Herman Hendricks -- 381-Can.  
per wife -- 3-9-85

R. L. Calhoun -- Hq.  
per Edward Dunning -- 4-85

Douglas Dye -- 383-E  
per William Broschke

Stanley Klimek -- 382-2nd BH  
per wife -- 3-16-86

Daniel Contento -- 382-B  
per William Broschke

Berney Osborne -- 381-AT  
per wife -- 9-17-1985

Clyde Tunks -- 383-I  
per Mary Lou White

Jack S. Horn -- Div. Art.  
per brother

Carl D. Ulhorn -- 382-2nd-BH  
per Robert Kline -- 7-8-1985

Joe Jimenez -- 382-H  
per Florence Moore -- 9-30-1985

William K. Weidler -- 382-F  
per post office

H. H. Reimers -- 381-1st-BH  
per wife -- 2-7-1985

John T. McCarty -- 321-Medic  
per Allen B. Schall -- 8-1983

Robert E. Schuldt -- 383-AT  
per John Nasser

Fonnie Hicks -- 383-AT  
2-13-1986

Harold Fredricks -- 361-FA  
per Douglas Burton

Wm. D. Meyer -- 381-A  
per William Broschke

Col. Harry Hewitt -- 381-1st BH  
per Richard Todd -- 3-11-86

Minor Butler -- 381-B  
per wife -- 4-15-86

Arnold Lottman -- 383-K  
per Joe Fritz

Belton B. Gilliland  
per Wm. Broschke

Charles Holt -- 361-FA  
per wife -- 2-6-86

# WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO FRANK MATHENY'S COLLECTION?

By Ed Dakan (B-381)

Frank Matheny's funeral was September 3, 1985, in his hometown of Decatur, Illinois.

I rode back from the cemetery with some of the other pallbearers. There was not much left to talk about, but somebody remarked that the priest described Frank pretty much the way we knew him. "He didn't stand out from the crowd - carrying on as husband, father and Scout leader - just an all-around good citizen, always with a cheerful grin. Never with a necktie, though, for he hated to dress up."

Father Sullivan knew how to say it, all right, we agreed. While everybody else in our group had bid farewell to their long-time friend and neighbor, I, the one from out of town, lost a traveling companion and Army buddy.

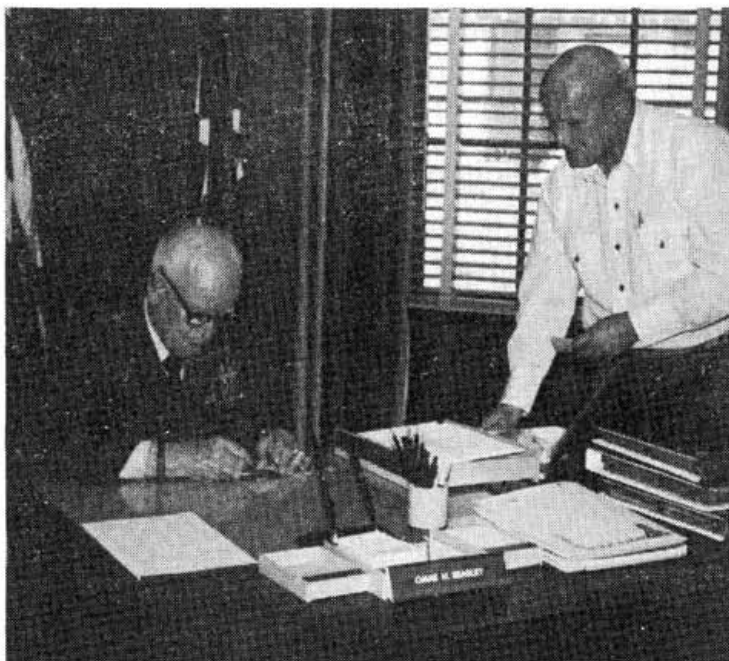
His career was working second shift as tool crib attendant at Borg-Warner Corporation. Back in February 1979 the company newsletter printed an article

(Continued next page)

Frank "Ted" and Mary Jane made it to 12 reunions of the 96th Infantry Division Association in all. Whenever the Mathenys headed out in the station wagon, an A-381 roster and Mary's cameras were at the ready. There were surplus stores and PXs along the way to prowl through, too, and other collectors to visit.



In 1977, Ted toted a boxful of albums to Fort Bliss, Texas, where he met two different times with General Omar N. Bradley, the nation's last five-star general. After reviewing the albums piled on the corner of his desk, General Bradley contributed some of his own insignia to the collection, then autographed an 8"x10" picture of himself.



WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO FRANK MATHENY'S COLLECTION? (Continued)

about his hobby. That was about the extent of the publicity he and the collection received during his lifetime.

Ted started collecting shoulder patches of active Army divisions. From there it snowballed to include chevrons, other unit shoulder patches, insignias (all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces), ribbons and decorations. Sometimes by arm twisting or occasional finagling, he finally got about everything.

The collection occupied whole walls in the Matheny house, filled shelves with loose-leaf albums and his correspondence overflowed file cabinets, for he wrote at least 6,000 letters.

.....

During the months since Frank's death, Mary Jane and son Franklin Jr. have been putting away the collection. It will be cataloged and stored for a while. Frank did not leave any instructions. He turned off the question when I tried to find out his plans one time.

Mary Jane asked me to pass along the word to anybody who may want to suggest a suitable repository for the Frank Matheny Collection of Military Memorabilia.

Write to: Mrs. Mary Jane Matheny  
2741 S. Mt. Zion Rd.  
Decatur, Illinois 62521

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At home, the Wall of Rank, made up of colored photos of all of the highest ranking officers and enlisted personnel in the various branches of the U.S. Armed Forces (male and female), was updated whenever there was a retirement or transfer. The seven small pictures just in front of Ted show him with generals whom he visited on their own turf.

Frank got together with Gen. Mark W. Clark at his home in Charleston, S. Carolina, a few years ago.



# Camp San Luis Obispo, California:

## FROM RAGS TO RICHES

PART ONE

By Ed Dakan (B-381)

The Great Depression of the 1930s stranded migratory laborers by the thousands in rural towns along the Central Coast of California. In and around San Luis Obispo destitute families went on relief rolls in wholesale numbers - so hard up that they could not leave if they wanted to. Such suffering brought a certain amount of notoriety in a perverse way, when a photograph taken in a pea field south of town was widely circulated. That picture made by Dorothea Lange and called Migrant Mother became an enduring symbol of the times.

It might have happened anyplace for people across the country were stuck in the same predicament. Few jobs. Not much hope. And talk about the Selective Service Act and wonder about another war.

As the decade ended, the majority of Americans were engaged in a national debate that centered around the question of how to avoid another global conflict. On one side the isolationists cried, "America first! Stay out of that mess in Europe." President Franklin Roosevelt espoused the opposite view of foreign policy - a theme that he hammered at in a series of "fireside chats" on the radio. The nation should begin to mobilize, he said. His catchword, "We must become the great arsenal of democracy," set a course for the country.

Heedlessly, the sons of the depression who would serve as DEADEYES later on whiled away their high school years.

Current events backed up the President's argument: Hitler was marching across Europe, a new Italian empire was being built by Mussolini and Japan had achieved dominance in Asia.

President Roosevelt and his advisers foresaw an opportunity to push the mobilization effort forward in what was proving to be an unsafe and hostile world, while at the same time providing an easy way to justify additional deficit spending to jolt the nation out of a ten year economic slump.

In 1940, the 8,881 people who were hanging on in San Luis Obispo dared to hope that Federal money might be on the way.

They saw other communities being transformed because of defense contracts. The list included Burbank and El Segundo in Southern California, as well as Richmond, Oakland and Vallejo in the Bay Area where massive plants were building airplanes and ships. Large military bases like Camps Beale, Roberts and Stoneman were going in, too, leading to growth of their surrounding communities. Government monies flowed through wage and salary payments, investments in public and private facilities, the purchase of materials and supplies and payments in the form of grants, subsidies and interest.

The promoters of the Central Coast began grabbing at straws in the whirlwind of war preparations that seemed to be going on everywhere else. They seized upon the most visible subject - oil - to guarantee defense expenditures. In its

issue for March 22, 1940, the local newspaper Telegram-Tribune, printed a story about a major Army base that would be established in San Luis Obispo County to protect the Santa Maria oil fields and the San Luis Obispo port, since both facilities were the largest of their kind in the world at that time. The proposed camp should be expected to "double the population in San Luis Obispo County in five years and bring developments that only the staunchest Chamber of commerce opponent would object to." But those defense plans never got beyond the rumor stage.

On May 16, 1940, President Roosevelt announced his "Billion Dollar Defense Plan." Included in the plan was only one million dollars to improve Morro Bay Harbor.

That news upset the citizens. They intended to get a piece of the action by selling one or several projects - no matter how farfetched. Lobby groups began pressuring the City Council to do something about: setting up heavy caliber guns at Port San Luis Obispo Estero Bay and San Simeon, bringing in four regiments of 155 GPF artillery at Camp San Luis Obispo National Guard facility, constructing a naval station on Santa Cruz Island off Santa Barbara, establish-



MIGRANT MOTHER - California, 1936

(Reproduced here approximately one-half size)

A photographer for the Farm Security Administration made this picture in a pea field in the south part of San Luis Obispo County.



ing an aviation and bombing school in San Luis Obispo and Paso Robles, offering R.O.T.C. at all high schools, utilizing Cal Poly facilities in an R.O.T.C. program to train 1,000 mechanical engineers and pilots a year and stationing two regiments of infantry with machine guns at the National Guard Camp. One group asked for \$1,500 to finance their lobbying trip to Washington (they did not receive the money).

Meantime, news about the war in Europe dominated the headlines. The American public grew even more fearful through the summer of 1940. The residents of the Central Coast of California, in particular, considered themselves to be unprotected if an attack came against the continental United States. A popular scenario assumed that an enemy would land troops, then head inland toward the oil wells.

During the summer the Federal government quietly bought options on ranchland near and around the old National Guard Camp. Camp Merriman had been built in the mid 1920s under the administration of Governor Frank P. Merriman. The camp, in its day, was considered to be one of the finest year-around training facilities, however, it was obsolete by modern warfare tactics that required more open space for troop movements involved with trucks and tanks instead of horse cavalry.

By September there were definite assurances from General J.B. Dickson of the National Guard that Camp Merriman, also known as Camp San Luis Obispo by now, would be used for stationing troops; they should arrive before the end of the year. Though elated at this news, the residents of the town realized that they had to get ready for a population explosion. Mayor Fred Kimball appointed a committee of one to survey recreational facilities for the new troops. Problems of far greater magnitude remained unidentified.

Perhaps the camp was not the excellent training facility that some had hoped it would be. Separate engineering surveys done by a private consulting group and the Quartermaster Corps discovered shortcomings at the campsite that would have to be resolved before construction could begin. The problems had to do with the size and location of the camp, also the question of drainage, or lack of it, at the central headquarters located at the base of two large mountains. Would unusually heavy rains turn the campsite into a swamp? When the concerns about the lack of open spaces and the camp's rough terrain came up again, the Army had to reevaluate its goals and options regarding whether to establish a major training base there.

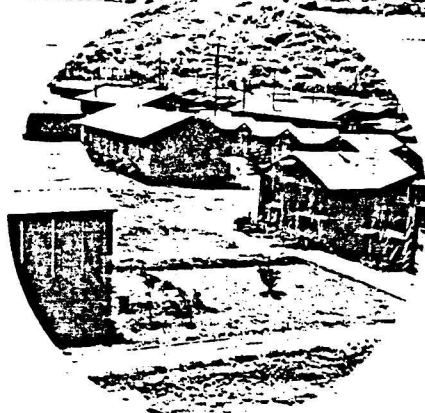
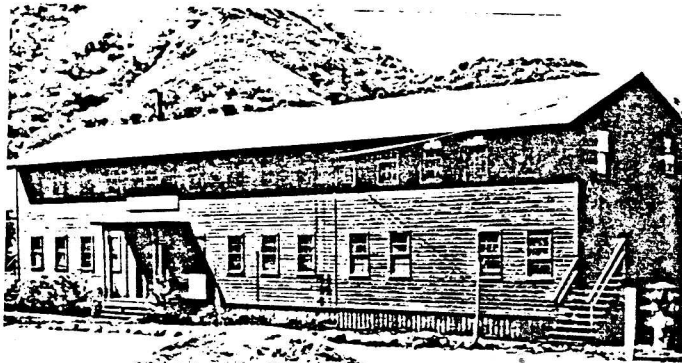
The next rumor had the Army negotiating with agents of William Randolph Hearst for a large parcel of his ranch in the northern part of San Luis Obispo County. Suddenly it appeared likely that the Army might abandon the Camp San Luis Obispo project altogether. A decision was made to go ahead with the plans for the camp, however, after heavy lobbying at the state capital in Sacramento. The finishing touch came in a \$130,000 appropriation from the state's emergency fund, which together with \$50,000 raised by local businessmen, went to buy land not all ready optioned by the Army around the National Guard Camp. The state negotiated to lease the land back to the Army for training purposes. With this purchase of land by the State of California, the camp's construction project

spread throughout the entire Chorro Valley - from San Luis Obispo to Morro Bay.

The development costs at the camp were budgeted between \$4.75 million and \$5.5 million for the last four months of 1940. Construction workers from all over California swarmed to San Luis Obispo. Hiring at the camp caused some W.P.A. projects to collapse. Relief rolls were a thing of the past. By the end of December, there were about 4,500 workers on the job mostly from outside of the San Luis Obispo area.

Day laborers drew 50 cents an hour and carpenters were paid \$1.50 an hour. Many men lived at the camp where they were charged \$1.50 a day for bed and meals. Some of those with families had to look for housing as far away as Santa Maria or Atascadero, then commute. People were driving 30, 40 and even 50 miles each way to work at the camp. Oftentimes wives lived in the family automobile or rented stairways for a place to sleep. The housing situation was bad and it stayed that way through 1946.

(To Be Continued)



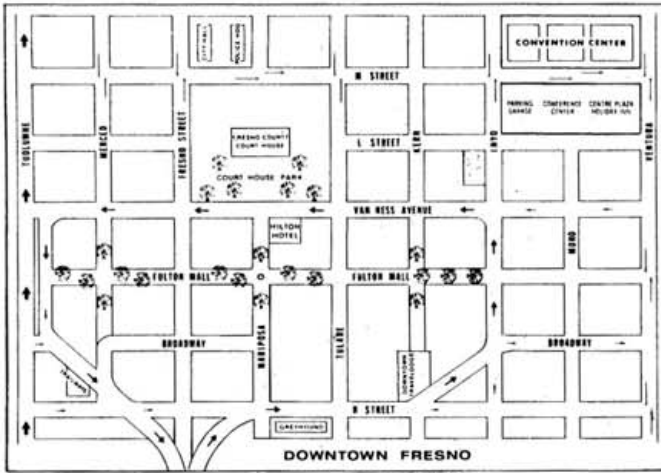
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CAMP SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

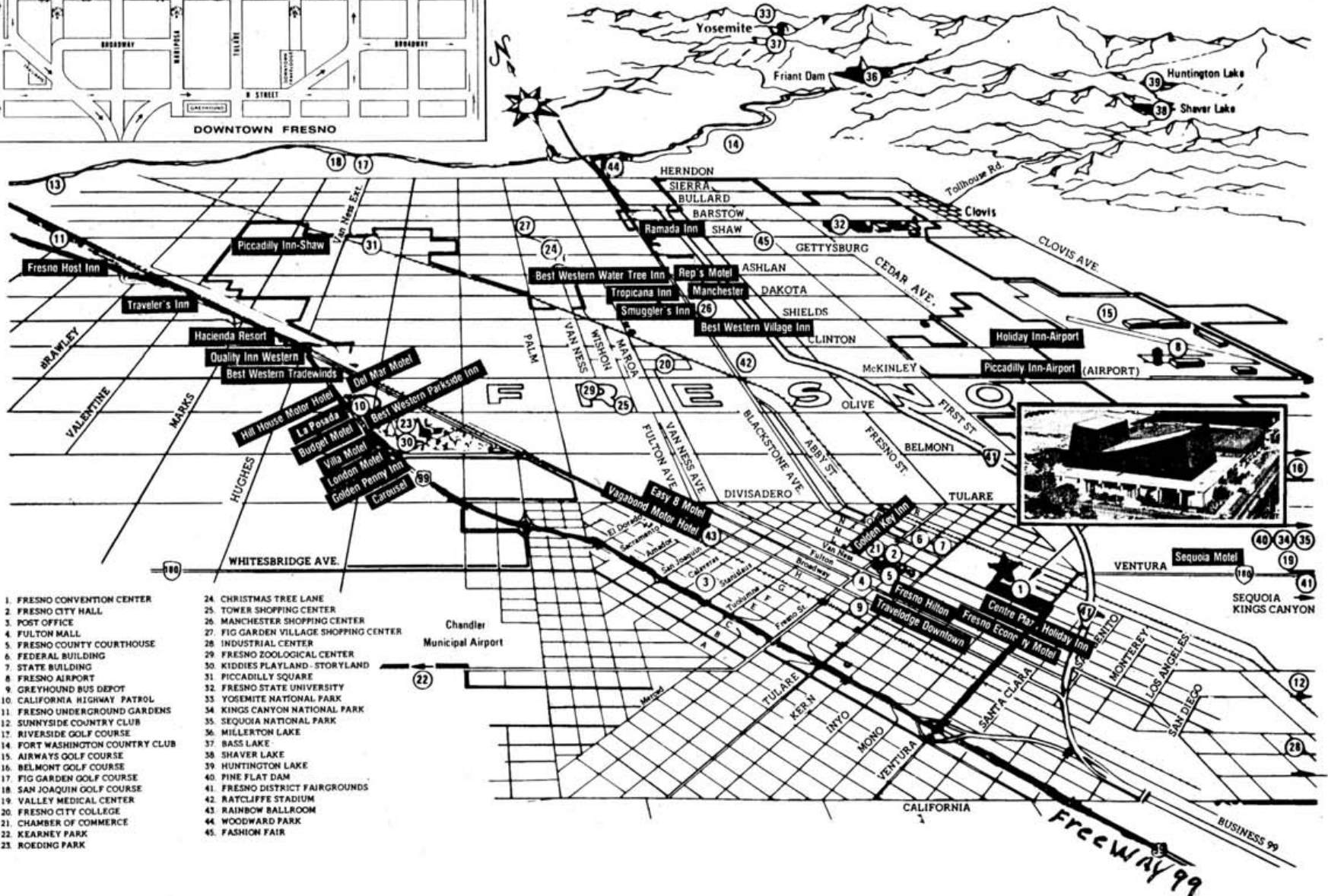
The tent camp had been rebuilt into hutments by 1942.





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Courtesy of Fresno Convention Bureau  
700 "M" St., Fresno, CA 93721, (209) 233-0836



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