

# The CUB

PUBLISHED BY AND FOR  
*The Veterans of the  
106th INFANTRY  
DIVISION*

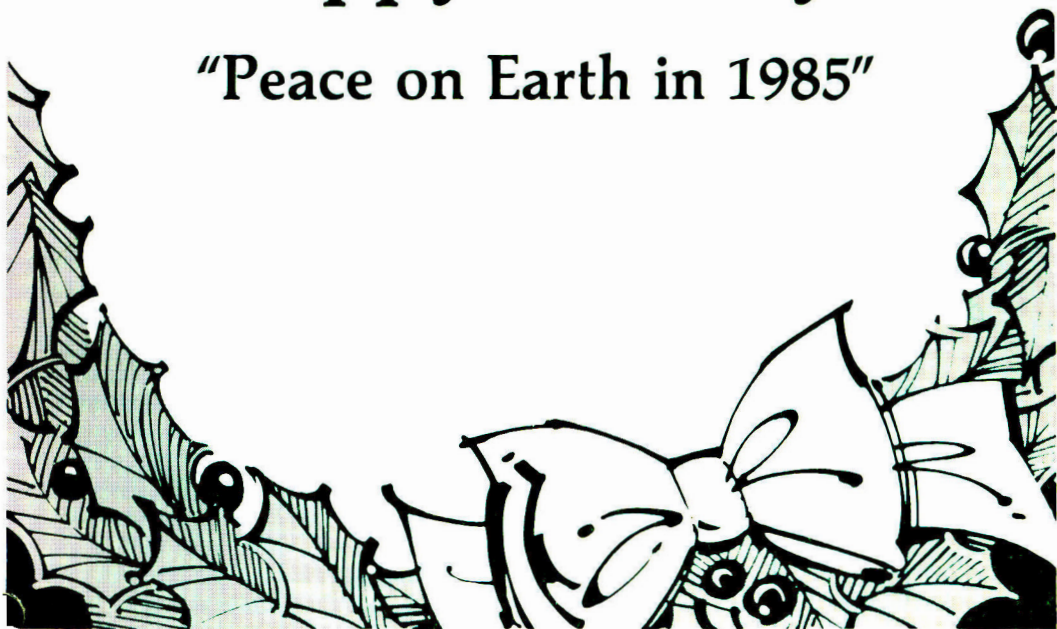
*of the*  
**GOLDEN LION**

Vol. 41 - No. 2

Dec. 84 - Jan. Feb. 1985

## Happy Holidays

"Peace on Earth in 1985"



**THE CUB  
106th INFANTRY DIVISION  
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**1984 - 1985**

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Chaplain.....Rev. Ewell C. Black Jr.  
Cub Editor.....Richard De Heer  
Memorials Chairman...Douglas S. Coffey

The *Cub* is the official publication of the Association. Membership in the Association is \$10.00 per year which includes subscription of the *Cub*.

All editorial matter should be addressed

to: Mr. Richard De Heer  
86 Berkshire Lane  
Palm Coast, Florida 32037

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(November 1 - May 15)  
122 Skyline Boulevard  
Satellite Beach, Florida 32937  
(May 16 - October 31)  
P.O. Box 371  
Maggie Valley, N.C. 28751

Dues for renewal of membership, Associate and Auxiliary membership and memorial fund contributions should be addressed to:

Mr. Sherod Collins, Treasurer  
625 Channing Drive, N.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30318

Membership Dues 84-85...\$10.00 per year  
Associate Dues 84-85.....\$10.00 per year  
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**President's  
Message**



**To The Members Of The  
106th Infantry Division  
Association**

*"Let me plant my banner in West Augusta (W.Va.) and I will surround it with fighting men who will drive the invaders from our land." . . . George Washington, 1775. This was stated in gathering troops for the Revolutionary War in 1775. Fortunately we have had no so-called invaders since 1812.*

I would like to make two points here. After seeing the display of readiness at Savannah, (Fort Stewart), of the 24th Division, it is a relief to see our government is ready and defense is now working. I remember January, 1941 when I went active for "a year", we could not have, and did not fight a good mumbly peg war with a scout knife.

Plans are going forward in preparation for the 1985 reunion. We have observed Sheraton Lakeview handling thousands every week-end this fall because of the highly successful WVU football team. Sixty to sixty-five thousand fans attend the games which are held at our beautiful stadium, which is located practically in my back yard.

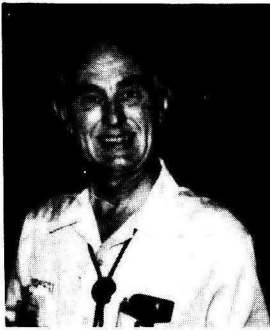
We wish you every success in planning your visit here next July, for the 1985 July Reunion. We welcome you and hope you are making your plans and keeping in mind when we send you the information later on, about the reunion that you make your hotel reservations ahead of time and that you fully fill out the event schedule which will be on a first come, first serve basis.

Sincerely,

Your President  
Ted J. Straub

# Chaplain's Corner

by Ewell C. Black, Jr.



*Even though it has now been forty years, each December brings back stark memories for me and I would expect for each member of the 106th. It was at this time of the year, which so many of us had always associated with "Peace on Earth", that we made our walk through the "Valley of the shadow of death." I can still close my eyes and see those dead tankers lying barefooted beside their tanks on the road into Schoenburg. It was the afternoon of December 19th, following our capture and I doubt that any of us could help but feel that there, but for the grace of God, lay us.*

*In those dreary months which stretched ahead of those who were captured, I suspect that many were strengthened by the words of Psalm 23: "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; . . ."*

**OUR FATHER GOD, WE THANK THEE THAT EVEN AS WE MADE OUR WALK, THAT WE WERE COMFORTED BY THE ASSURANCE OF THY CARING FOR US. CONTINUE TO GUIDE AND STRENGTHEN US, WE PRAY, EACH DAY OF OUR LIVES. AMEN.**

## NOW and THEN (And Some In Between)

A Column By The Association Historian

In beginning this column and in looking back through the old CUBS, I came across Volume 13, a good year, and one in which I attended my first 106th Reunion. I was living only fifty miles away and toddled over to Savannah where our friends the Wells were hosting a jam-up reunion. Larry Gubow presided at the meetings and Dick DeHeer was elected President.

Other officers elected or appointed were Ed Collier V-P, Austin Byrd Adjutant, Bob Kelly Treasurer, and John Loveless Chaplain, and for some reason I was appointed Historian. John Gallagher, Editor, continued to put out his stomped-down good issues of the CUB. The above was our eleventh annual convention (in 1957.) Even then Doug Coffey was in contact with the school in St. Vith relative to a donation of a window for the college chapel as well as construction of a building. Room rates at the Gen. Oglethorpe Hotel that year were \$6.00 single and \$10.00 double.

There were several items of interest in Volume 14 covering the ensuing year, among them were a picnic for 35 guests given by the DeHeers at their home in Jersey; complete reunion pictures; personal notes about some of our friends -among them - Jack Bryant was married, Joe Matthews retired from the army, Tom Riggs moved to Cleveland, Joe Salber moved to California to work; a story of the birth of the Golden Lion Division at Camp Jackson at noon, March 15, 1943, mentioning the dignitaries present including the Governor, Post Commander, State Adjutant General, Corps Commander, and Gen. Jones, Division Commander. The colors were formally presented and the ceremony came to a proper end. Also articles about the coming reunion in Philadelphia in 1958.

On a different tack I have been reading about the war as seen from the German side and so with a nod of the head to the author, Matthew Cooper (an Englishman, I believe) here are a few quotes and facts about the Ardennes or Bulge offensive.

This campaign had absolutely no hope of success, and at no point was it near to achieving victory. All it succeeded in doing was to exhaust the last reserves of strength remaining to the German Army so that it collapsed in January 1945 when the Soviets struck in the west. It was the ultimate folly of the most irresponsible warlord known to history. The idea was Hitler's and the plan almost entirely his. The Germans were to mass more than 240,000 men to attack an area defended by only 80,000; surprise was to be a vital element; and there was to be a speedy exploitation of the attack towards objectives some 110 miles distant. Hitler





Following our Savannah Reunion, it was my privilege to take part in two more Memorial Services. On Friday, July 20th, I had a part in the POW/MIA Day service at Shaw Air Force Base, Sumter, SC. As I looked around at the other persons taking part in the Memorial Service, I noticed that I was the only representative of the ground troops , all of the others were Air Force personnel. The following Saturday, I attended the ceremonies at Ft. Jackson at which medals were presented to the next-of-kin of our Viet Nam MIAs. This was a very solemn and moving ceremony and I was honored to have been invited by the South Carolina Congressional Delegation to attend as a POW representative. This made three memorial services which I had attended at three different military posts in just over two weeks.

In September, Dot and I fulfilled a promise made to our son and daughter-in-law several years ago but which we had been unable to keep. We went with them to Disney World-Epcot Center. This was their third visit but the first time that my schedule had allowed us to go with them. I had to attend the meeting of our Synod of the Southeast in Atlanta on September 18-19 and following that we went on to Ft. Benning. David had a company graduation (he is a Training Company Commander) on the morning of September 21st, which we were able to attend. Following that, we left for Florida to spend four days at Disney World-Epcot Center. It certainly was all that we had been led to believe it would be.

I will be attending a three-day meeting on the Georgia-South Carolina border at one of our State Parks the end of this month. Then the end of November, I will be in Dallas for three days. This new work of Executive Presbyter/Stated Clerk which I began this year, in addition to my work as a pastor, keeps me on the move. However I find it to be most rewarding, as I feel that what I am doing is making a real contribution toward smoothing the reunion process in our Presbytery.

Faithfully,

*Ewell C. Black, Jr.*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

After returning from the very enjoyable reunion in Savannah, Georgia, Bobbie and I have been busy working on our house and at the plant. It seems we can always find plenty to do.

Last weekend the Kentucky Park Service celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Kentucky Park System at Kentucky Dam Village State Park. It looked very much like the 106th Division Association had invaded again. A large crowd attended the open house of all the facilities.

Yours in comradeship,

*Van and Bobbie Wyatt*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Dear Dick,

Please publish this letter in the next "Cub" to let the friends that know Edward L. Lizzie of the 590th F.A. that he is alive and well and enjoying good health.

Ed lives in Western Springs, Illinois with his wife and family and works in downtown Chicago, at the Recorder of Deeds office.

I talked to Ed on arriving home from the reunion in Savannah, had a nice visit on the phone and also a little laugh. Hope to have lunch with him the next time I am downtown.

In the "Cub" it said date unknown. The reason it's unknown is that it hasn't happened yet!

I sent you the pictures taken at the reunion, Jim Henning had the colored pictures turned into black and white so you can use them in the Cub.

As of this writing Jackie and I have only 31 days left to work, as we will be retiring November 30th. Hope to have our December 16th get together on December 1st this year at Florence and Bill Lucsays. The Lucsays and the Hennings will be heading it up this year, as Jackie and I will be leaving on a two week vacation to Mexico on December 2nd to celebrate our retirement.

As always the best from Jackie to you and Marge.

Sincerely,

Russell Villock

★★★★★★

*From all of us in the 106th,  
we wish you fun on your vacation  
and  
Enjoy Your Retirement!!*

★★★★★★

**The deadline for the next Cub  
is February 1st. Please  
remember that date so the  
Spring issue with all the  
reunion news can get to you!**

Dear Robert,

I am not sure if you are still adjutant but hope so. We were away this spring when the spring Cub arrived and it got lost in the pile of magazines.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$50.00 to cover both arrears and current dues, with whatever is left to be put in the Memorial Fund.

We are doing fine - traveled to San Diego, Los Angeles and Yosemite this spring in our Motor Home and visited relations and friends both going and coming home.

October 15 will find us flying to Venice, Italy for a three day stay before boarding a cruise ship, the Royal Viking Sea, for a 37-day cruise through the Adriatic, Mediterranean and Atlantic ending up in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida the end of November.

Hope all is well with you.

Charles Richards SV 423  
Pine Rich Hill  
204 Crestview Drive  
Hendersonville, N.C. 28739

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Bob,

I hope I have not missed the Cub issue that reported on the convention in Savannah and the Anniversary European-Russian trip.

Best regards to you and your spouse.

Very truly yours,

Ed Leavitt  
(brother of Ralph  
deceased POW of 423rd Inf.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Richard,

At the Convention one of the guys had a VIDEO TAPE of the 106th. Could you advise me who?

Would like to get a copy!!!

Regards,

Henry H. McKee  
Col USA (Ret)  
Hq422 Inf-106th.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Dick,

I've been married for 37 years, and have two sons and two grandsons.

I'm working as a specialty advertising salesman after delivering milk for 28 years.

Would be interested to hear from old buddies of Co M 423rd.

Ed Dorn of Evergreen Park told me about the organization.

Sincerely,

*Gertrude and Richard C. Eckenstahler  
Co M 423rd  
3653 W. 107th Place  
Chicago, Illinois 60655*

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Bob,

I hope all the 106ers and you and yours are feeling fine.

Went to the POW MIA day in Louisville, and met another guy from the 106th. He is Jimmy Dent - perhaps some of the fellows remember him. I didn't get what outfit he was in.

That's all for now.

Sincerely,

*Kenneth T. Hester - C/590  
Route 4 - Box 320  
Shepherdsville, Kentucky 40165*

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Bob,

I received a letter from Ken Bradfield. It was nice of him to write. I was unable to get to the reunion this year as Michael will be getting married in April 1985 - so I have been so busy with parties and trying to sell my house in Port Chester.

I have this condominium in Florida for the winter months and just want a small place up north for the summer months.

Best wishes and hope to see you at the 1985 reunion.

Best wishes,

*Libby Dolitsky*

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Mr. Robert Pierce,

I have just returned home from an extended overseas trip which we enjoyed very much.

While in Europe I paid homage to our Memorial at St. Vith. I also had the privilege of attending a special 40th anniversary ceremonies at the Malmedy Memorial honoring those American Prisoners of War Massacred on December 17, 1944 in Malmedy.

I made a special trip to the American cemetery in Luxembourg where I found many graves of our 106th buddies. A visit to Banbury, England brought back memories of the time there prior to the Bulge.

It was indeed a time for remembering our fellow Golden Lions who did not return.

Sincerely,

*Mervin S. Smith - Co A 424th  
1208 Tanager Street  
Kerrville, Texas 78028*

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Jim,

I see in the VFW magazine there is to be a reunion of the 106th Inf. Div. in July. Please let me know all about this reunion in Savannah.

(Ted Straub - be sure you let this fellow know about the reunion in West Virginia) in 1985.

Sincerely,

*Irvin G. Minow  
6911 49th Ave. N.  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33709*

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Jim,

Many thanks for your quick reply to our questions about the 106th Div. reunion. Our thoughts are with you this weekend, and a successful reunion.

Several things came up this past two weeks making it impossible for us to attend.

We are enclosing our dues, and hopefully will get a list of those attending.

Hopefully we may be able to make it next year, at Morgantown, West Virginia.

Getting to conventions is rough . . . have health problems at home . . . (not me . . . I'm still classified 1-A) . . . I sure do miss those conventions. The best - were the CRUISE . . . OAK BROOK/CHICAGO and VALLEY FORGE.



Sorry about Joe Torre and the Braves. It wasn't Torre's fault . . . injuries, etc. I was really rooting for the CUBS. The METS surprised everybody . . . The YANKEES wait until next year. Meanwhile, the GIANT FOOTBALL TEAM is killing me . . . started out real good . . . and two BEATINGS.

Still active with the V.F.W.

Maybe with some luck - we can get away to the next convention.

All the Very Best.

"Wild" Bill Donovan  
59-25 71st Avenue  
Ridgewood, New York 11385

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Jim,

Saw the notice in VFW & American Legion magazines concerning the 106th (Golden Lions) If. Div. reunion in July. I'm interested in attending and would like information as to schedule of events, lodging etc.

I was with the 106th from the beginning at Ft. Jackson, SC in March 1943 until I was discharged in late December 1945. Lost a lot of friends in the "Bulge". I was one of 83 who escaped being killed or captured in the 423rd If. Regiment. As you know, we lost most of the 422nd and 424th. I was 1st cook with HQ & HQ Co, 2nd Battalion, 423rd Inf. Regt. at the time.

I still have contact with a few of the old buddies but have lost contact with most.

Will appreciate any information as mentioned before.

Yours very truly,

Leon A. Murphree  
409 13th Street NE  
Cullman, Alabama 35055  
For Reference: ASN 34708420

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Bob,

After another fantastic reunion in Savannah, we visited with Duke and Martha at their home in Marietta.

Our next meeting was in Belgium in September. They were with the group heading for Spain and we had just arrived after 10 days in the USSR. What a trip!

We feel privileged to have been a part of that group, and will be talking about it for years to come.

It will take a whole "Cub" to tell about our experiences. I know we join the other 40 people in saying we wouldn't have missed it for the world, but we never care to go again.

Sincerely,

Anne & Jack McDevitt  
188 Queen St-Camelot  
Rehoboth Beach, Delaware 19971

"God Bless America"

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Robert,

This is to renew membership for Robert B. Morrison - G Co. 424th, who is in the VA hospital in Ashinwall, Pa. Bob has alzheimers disease. I have been remiss in renewing his membership and did not realize it until I noticed he hasn't been receiving the "Cub" - one thing he really look forward to.

Thank you so much.

Mrs. R. B. (Katherine) Morrison

P.S. If any one lives near here it might be a good idea to stop in and pay him a visit.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Bob,

Sorry I didn't make the reunion this year, hopefully next year.

This summer I had the pleasure of having Bill Hemelt from Baltimore stop and see me. We enjoyed the visit and a dinner being served by Our Local Ralph Gracei Legion Post.

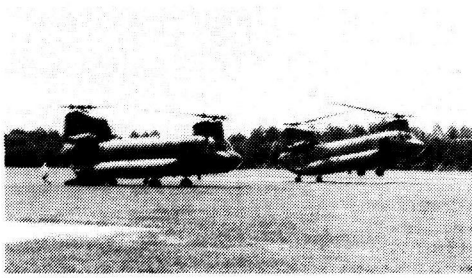
Bill carried me out of the mine field when I was injured, February 14, 1945 at Neuhooff, Germany. It was certainly good to see him.

Best regards,

George Murray - Co H, 424th  
521 W. 9th Street  
Bemidji, Minnesota 56601

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

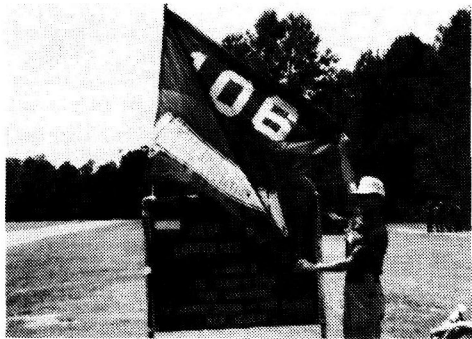
# Photos From Our Ft. S



*Our transportation to Fort Stewart.*



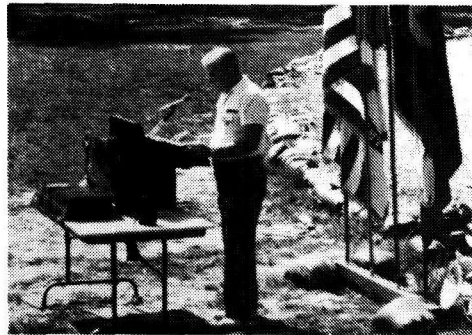
*Dick DeHeer-Editor, Doug Coffey-Memorial Chairman, Sam Cariano-1st Vice Pres., Ted Straub-President, Sherod Collins-Treasurer and Van Wyatt-2nd Vice Pres.*



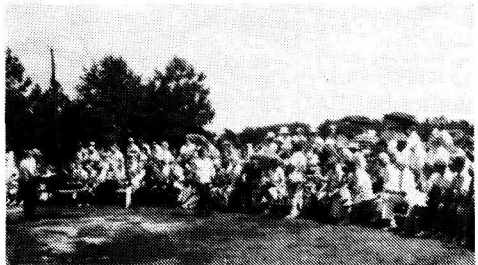
*106th Flag flying over Fort Stewart.*



*Front Row: Clare Henning, Jackie Willwolk, Back Row: Maydean Wells, Florence Lucsay, Louise Howell.*



*President Jim Henning Memorial Service.*



*Memorial Service at Fort Stewart.*



# Stewart & Savannah Trip



*Martha Ward, Sherod Collins, Nita Matthews and Jean Schutte.*



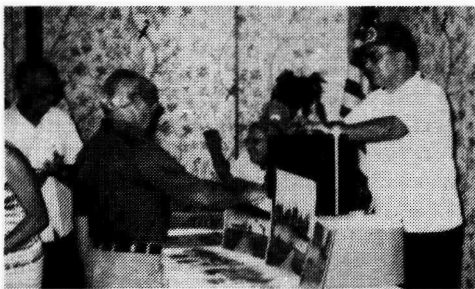
*Clare Henning, Jean Schutte and Carol Beals.*



*George and Ella Pina.*



*Ben Britton, Marge DeHeer, Bob Scranton, Mildred Scranton and Dick DeHeer.*



*Gus Agostini telling about our trip to Fort Stewart.*



*Reverend Black and Reverend Mosley.*



*Congo Line lead by Jean Schutte.*



*The Jitterbugs.*

Dear Jim,

Thank you very much for the information on the 106th reunion.

I'm sorry I will not be able to make it this year, perhaps next year.

I was in C Co. 422 Reg., was taken prisoner December 21, 1944 and went to Stalag IV B.

There is a IV B reunion held in Scotland each year on April 23rd (the date the camp was liberated). I attended the year before last, and had a very good time with those old driegies. I was the only one there from the USA, and was treated super. They would like to have more Americans attend, so if any one would like to go, have them get in touch with me, and I'll give them all the information.

I plan to go back next April, so if anyone is interested, perhaps we could go together.

Sincerely,

Jack McLeiere

1493 N.E. 60th Street

Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33334

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Jim,

Sure good to receive your letter and I was surprised - I had no idea there was such an association or that there were reunions. Noticed that you indicated that there are 7 members living in Kansas and the only one I have knowledge of is Tom Ballowe retired as a Sgt. Major, Ft. Riley, KS, after many years of military service. Tom was with the 423rd Battalion, was captured and has lived in our vicinity for a number of years. Tom served as Clerk of the District Court of Geary County here in Junction City for some years and is presently employed under Civil Service at Ft. Riley, KS. His address is Thomas C. Ballowe, RR 3, Box 256, Junction City, KS 66441.

Have not been back to Europe since the War, had no desire although recently curiosity is taking over. In fact, was making plans for a trip through an agency sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign War, but would appreciate information through the 106th Association.

Do want to belong to the Association and will enclose a check in the sum of \$12.00. I understand this would be for my

annual dues plus my wife, Mary Lou, being an auxiliary member (\$2.00). Specifically, I served with H Company (machine gun), 422nd Battalion, joined the organization at Camp Atteberry, Indiana and was captured December 19, 1944. Specifically served with what we called the Battalion Rangers during the time we were on the line - 10 or 12 guys, do not remember any names involved. Have pretty well blocked out the experience of the prisoner of war proposition but it keeps creeping back. Do plan to do some traveling, so hopefully it can be this Fall. Doubt if I can make the Reunion, but will make some plans for future times.

Sincerely,

William F. Stahl

815 West 6th Street

Junction City, Kansas 66441

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Mr. Collins,

Time slipped away again on payment of my dues. Dorothy and I have just returned from the Belgium/Spain reunion and, the issue of the CUB in our mail reminded me of my obligation.

The Belgium reunion was great and I believe everybody enjoyed themselves. It was a good congenial crowd and we did get to see quite a bit during the short time we were there. Dot and I made some good friends and we are looking forward to seeing them again next year in Morgantown, West Virginia.

Enclosed is a check for \$20.00 to cover Dorothy's and my dues for 84-85.

Sincerely,

Neil K. Farrell - HHC, 3d Bn, 422 Inf Regt  
1804 Halbert Street  
Killeen, Texas 76541

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Send material for next Cub  
by February 1st!!!

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★



Charles Whiting, the British writer and author of "Death of a Division" in which he villifies the Americans in general and the 106th Division in particular, has been at it again. This time it is a book called "Kasserine: First Blood" in which he targets the First Armored, and the First, Ninth, and Thirty-fourth Infantry Divisions of the American II Corp in the battle of Kasserine Pass.

His caption of the book described the actions as the day GIs first encountered the Wehrmacht; a tale of inept command, wasted lives and lessons learned hard but well. The book description goes on to say that this takes place when Americans confronted Germans on the battlefield for the first time in World War II. The description continues: "Nearly a fourth of those unprepared American soldiers, plus 4000 British troops sent to their aid, were cut down, wounded or taken prisoner; and just when the entire Allied front teetered near collapse, Rommel called off the attack, leaving behind a shaken, confused American army." This is sheer nonsense, but is typical of Whiting when writing about Americans.

The American II Corp (not an army) had been fighting German units mixed with Italians under German General Von Arnim for months, pushing them out of Algeria. To protect the German supply lines in Tunisia, Von Arnim and Rommel unleashed a vicious two-pronged counterattack through Kasserine Pass and Faïd Pass on February 14, 1943 using their 10th and 21st Panzer divisions. Much damage was done but it was short. In ten days the German bolt was shot when they had to withdraw to protect their supply lines. Some British Tanks and Artillery were rushed down from north of Fondouk to bolster the shoulder. Their losses were minor.

American losses were reckoned at 192 killed, 2624 wounded, and 2459 prisoners and missing. But Rommel's offensive action in war was over. A bare nine months earlier the British had lost three times this number and mountains of supplies when they gave up Tobruk to inferior numbers, but Whiting hasn't told us about that.

*Dean Redmond*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

I would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to the officers and Board of Directors of the 106th Infantry Div. Assoc. and especially to Jim and Maydean Wells and their committee for a wonderful 38th reunion in Savannah, Georgia.

Jeanette and I had the time of our life and looking at the actions of others, we were not alone. I can honestly say that I never saw or met a stranger. Again thank you and I promise, if it is within my power, we will never miss another reunion with this organization.

I was with the 106th Div. at Ft. Jackson before it was activated - I Co 422 Reg. I was captured December 19, 1944 and was liberated March 31, 1945. We marched to Gerolstein and rode in box cars to Bab Orb, Germany, Stalag 9B. On the 26th of January 1945 the N.C.O. were transferred to Ziegenheim, Stalag 9-A.

If anyone knows the whereabouts of Melvin Crank, John Lynch, John Longenicker or Henry Linder, please let me know.

Let me extend an invitation to all of you 106'sers, if the opportunity presents itself and you are near Ft. Meyers, Florida, call me or come over for a visit. My number is 813-995-2490. If any P.O.W.'s need help call me or Frank White, Washington, D.C., - P.O.W. hot line 1-800-821-8139. Just tell him I said to call.

Thank you for both of us for it was our pleasure just being with you. The best of luck and happiness to all and I hope to see you in Morgantown, West Virginia.

Sincerely,

Ross E. Gillikin, Commander  
Southwest Florida Chapter No. 100  
of American Ex-prisoners of War, Inc.  
517 Avanti Way Boulevard  
N. Fort Meyers, Florida 33903

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Dear Bob,

I am a retired Cabinet Maker and Molder Operator. I took a course in Cabinet Making under the GI Bill and have worked with wood since November 1946. I also had 15 years service with the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad.

My wife and I like camping and have been very fortunate in the last dozen years of so. We have seen a lot of our wonderful country and hope to see a lot more of it. I will anxiously look forward to your next reunion.

Thank you for letting me in on this organization and I hope to see you, and others, next July.

Be sure to send me a notice.

Charles L. Kendrick  
Route 4, Box 636  
Byhalia, Mississippi 38611

P.S. Byhalia is 25 miles southeast of Memphis, Tennessee on Hwy. U.S. 78.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Bob,

I was sorry that I couldn't make the reunion in Georgia. I understand that Charles MacDonald will be coming out with his book this year - "A Time for Trumpets" - Publisher Wm. Morrow & Son - NYC.

I hope it will reflect the correct version of what happened in the Bulge. A lot of corrections must have been due to the work of Ralph Hill who has devoted time and effort in digging up the facts. In my opinion he is probably the most informed individual on the Bulge.

He has clearly established that the 106th Division men or units did not block the 7th Armored in their advance on St. Vith (12-17-44).

If I was an Author I would want to make sure that Ralph was through before coming out with my book.

Sincerely,

Victor C. Rauch  
37 Chateau Court  
Loudonville, New York 12211

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Sherod,

Enclosed is a check for my dues.

On a recent visit to Daytona Beach, Hugh Mulligan, the astute writer of the MULLIGAN'S STEW column for the Associated Press revealed that he joined the 423rd Regiment shortly after the Bulge.

He indicated that he will be visiting Belgium on the 40th anniversary of the Bulge, and intends to do a story at that time.

If any of the 106th members are fortunate enough to read papers carrying his column, they may be on the lookout in December of his experience.

All the best.

Cordially,

Carl Hulbert - Adjutant HQ, 424th Inf.  
2801 North Halifax Avenue - No. 242  
Daytona Beach, Florida 32018

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Bob,

Last week had a small reunion with Ed Prewitt and Roger Rutherford who were with Co.B of 424th. Ed owns a walnut ranch near Brentwood, California and we had a very pleasant visit and won the war again.

Sincerely,

Joe Salber - Service Co., 424th  
2681 Cameron Park Dr. - No. 80  
Shingle Springs, California 95682

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Mr. Pierce,

I understand that you are an official with the 106th Inf. Div. Association, so I would like to solicit your help. During the winter of 1944 and 1945 I went to the clerk school in Fort Bragg, N.C. Another student (Harbison, from the state of Kansas) and I were assigned to the same outfit overseas - 589th FA Bn of the 106th Inf. Div. and were eventually moved to Solingen, Germany.

In Sept. of 1945 the 106th was sent home and de-activated. I came home with the outfit, but Harbison was reassigned and stayed over there. My question to

The Ceremony was brief and dignified with the Mayor, our friend Mayor Pip, placing a wreath on behalf of St. Vith. The Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge placed one also. Then it was our turn and Doug placed our wreath and Jim Wells made a very fine talk, as usual. Reverend Ron Mosley had previously taken part in the Church service, together with the

local Priest and a Chaplain from the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. For those of you who attend Conventions and have heard Ron's Memorial services know that this one also was excellent despite the fact that he had been ill in the Soviet Union and lost most of his voice. He always seems to have that reserve that holds him in good stead.

Everyone then marched back to the Town Hall where another Vin d'honneur was held and speeches made and translated. The Mayor presented Doug with a plaque for the 106th and Doug in turn responded with thanks and a short speech in French outlining our friendship for St. Vith and The Mayor. He said that the 106th have not only been friends for many years but consider ourselves citizens of St. Vith. This pleased the Mayor and other dignitaries attending.

As to our visit to the Soviet Union it all began in Moscow. We met with the Committee of Veterans amidst Klieg lights, Cameras and microphones. The greetings were warm and affectionate. I think Doug kissed more Soviets than his wife. Everyone was interested in our visit and pleased with the responses Doug made to their speakers. Gifts were presented to all on both sides.

We placed a wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier outside the Kremlin. Visited the Kremlin and one of the many churches of Russia which have been turned into Museums. There are some functioning Churches but we did not see them. We attended a typical Azerbaijan restaurant and tried the unusual food and had a balalaika band and dancer for our entertainment.

In Volgograd (Stalingrad) were met by the Veterans and had our talks with one another and saw all the sights as well as a movie showing the battle from the Russian and German cameramen.

Most of us walked the 200 steps to the top of Mamayev Hill where a huge statue of Mother Russia looks over the entire city holding a giant spear.

On the way up the hill there are carvings out of solid stone showing life in the Soviet Union. On the route is also a large pond and in the center there is a statue "UNTO DEATH DO WE STAND". A small miniature of this was presented to Doug. We placed a wreath at the Hall of Military Victory which shows a large

hand holding a torch of Eternal Flame.

The group took a fast scenic ride on the Volga river in a Hovercraft traveling about 50 miles per hour.

Group then took off for Leningrad but weather forced us to go to Estonia where we had to kill a few hours and then had a lunch until things cleared up.

In Leningrad we visited the Czars Palace and Museum. Words cannot tell the grandeur of the Palace and grounds with the fountains and gardens.

Here we also saw a Panorama of the Battle for Leningrad and visited a mass grave site where 500,000 people were buried. There were tears in the eyes of the Soviets when they and we placed our wreaths in Memoriam.

It should be noted that all over the Soviet Union thousands of people each day place flowers on monuments in memory of the dead and a hope for future peace. Even newlyweds place their wedding bouquets on the monuments to do honor to those who died that they might be free.

This is only a thumbnail sketch of the trip. I'm sure others will write and give more details and also send photos to show what we have seen and done.

The 106th can well be proud of this mission for peace and the impression they made on the Soviets. With many more Veterans going to the Soviet Union and talking we may help to make a better world for all of our children and grandchildren. When you see what the Soviets suffered in the War and meet with a Veteran who has been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by our President Roosevelt you wonder how anyone can even conceive of talking of War.

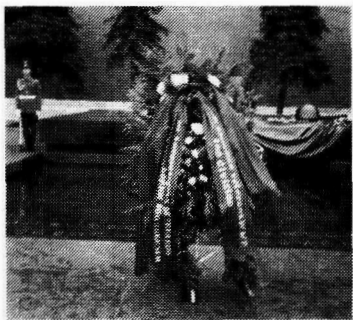
### *Doug Coffee*



*Doug speaking at Parkers Crossroads.*



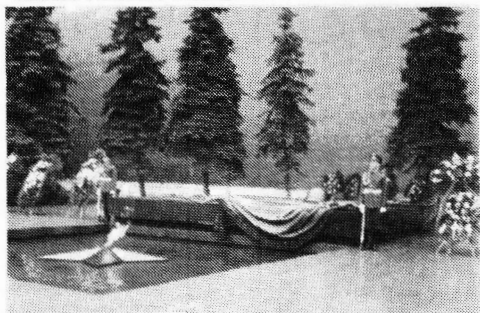
# Memories Of Memorial Visit



*106th Wreath placed at Unknown Soldier's Grave outside Kremlin, Moscow.*



*Ben Britton and Doug Coffey getting prepared to place wreath in Stalingrad.*



*View of Unknown Soldier Tomb with our wreaths and showing flowers placed everyday by citizens.*



*Doug and Soviet General pose outside Veterans Home in Moscow.*



*Unveiling Lions Club Monument to 589 F.A. Bn at Parkers Crossroads.*



*Entertainment at Azerbaisar Nite, just see Jack McDevitt of 106th.*



*Brides about to place their wedding bouquets at Tomb of Unknown Soldier Moscow.*



*One building left in Stalingrad - Mill - so people don't forget.*

*Honorable Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.*

*My Dear Mr. President,*

*I have just returned from taking a group of Veterans to the Soviet Union. After all, we were allies during World War II and we embarked on a friendly peace mission.*

*We met Soviet Veterans and heroes in Moscow, Volgograd (Stalingrad) and Leningrad. We were greeted with open arms and presented gifts and in turn presented gifts to them. We placed wreathes on their Unknown Soldiers Monuments proudly displaying the flag of the 106th Infantry Division Association. The 106th was one division which was decimated in the Battle of the Ardennes. Having suffered so much we could feel for the Soviets who suffered so much in Volgograd and Leningrad. When you pay tribute to their monument to 500,000 persons buried in a mass grave you can understand how their **people** want peace. All I talked about in my speeches to those Veterans and their responses to me were strictly about peace and how we could all preserve it. I pointed out to them that you, as a father and a grandfather wanted peace as well as they did for their children and grandchildren.*

*If you could meet with Veterans of the Soviet instead of the Politicians peace could be assured. Thousands of people each day place flowers on the monuments in hopes for peace. New brides place their wedding bouquets on the monuments giving thanks for the Veterans who fought so that they could live in peace.*

*One of the Veterans we met had been given the Distinguished Service Cross by President Roosevelt for his bravery in the defense of Leningrad.*

*Don't give up in your quest for peace, among our peoples. As long as we talk with one another and as long as Veterans such as my group go to the Soviet Union the respect for one another has to rub off and better relations all around will occur.*

*Sincerely yours,*

*Douglas S. Coffey  
Memorials Chairman  
106th Infantry Division Association*



# 106th QUIZ

**WHO?** All members of the 106th  
Infantry Division Assn.  
and Friends

**WHY?** Annual Reunion

**WHEN?** July 18-19-20-21, 1985

**WHERE?** At the Beautiful  
Sheraton Lakeview Resort  
Morgantown,  
West Virginia

If your answer was YES, I'll be there -  
you will be rewarded with a  
Fabulous Long Weekend  
with old friends!

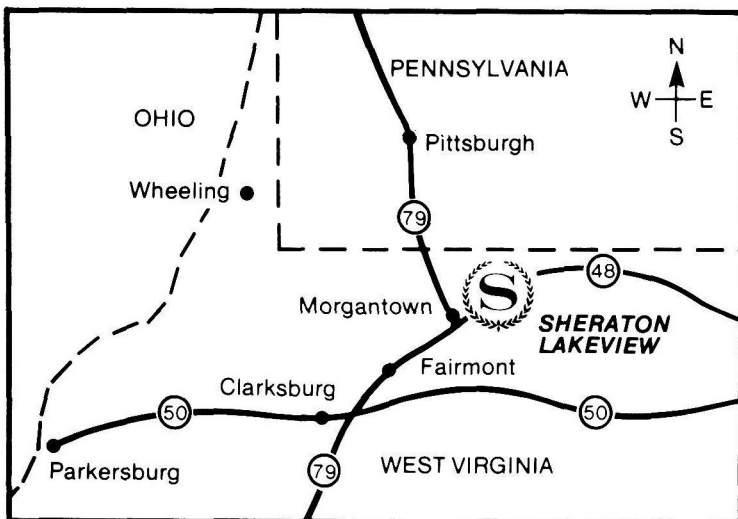
# MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA



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