

# The UB

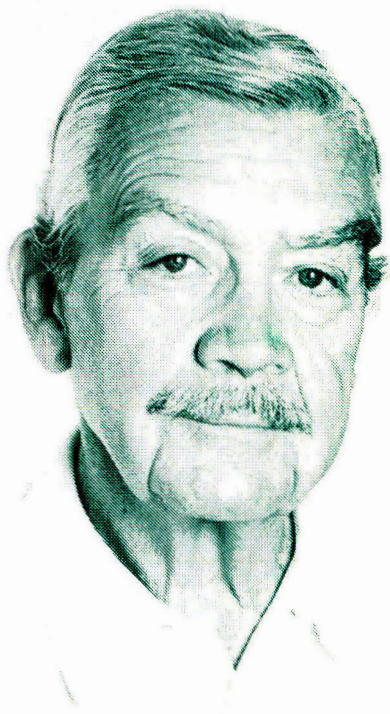
PUBLISHED BY AND FOR

*The Veterans of the  
106th INFANTRY  
DIVISION*

*of the*  
**GOLDEN LION**

Vol. 44 — No. 4

July–Aug–Sept 1988



Lt. Colonel Thomas J. Riggs, Jr.  
Commander, 81st Engineers Combat Battalion

**Association Membership  
over 1,000 and  
growing**

**Feature Story:**

*Lt. Col. Riggs' remarkable odyssey,  
traveling through 8 countries to  
rejoin the 81st after escaping from a  
Stalag in Poland. Total—5,000 miles*

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# The CUB

*a publication of the*  
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**Association, Inc**  
**1987-1988**

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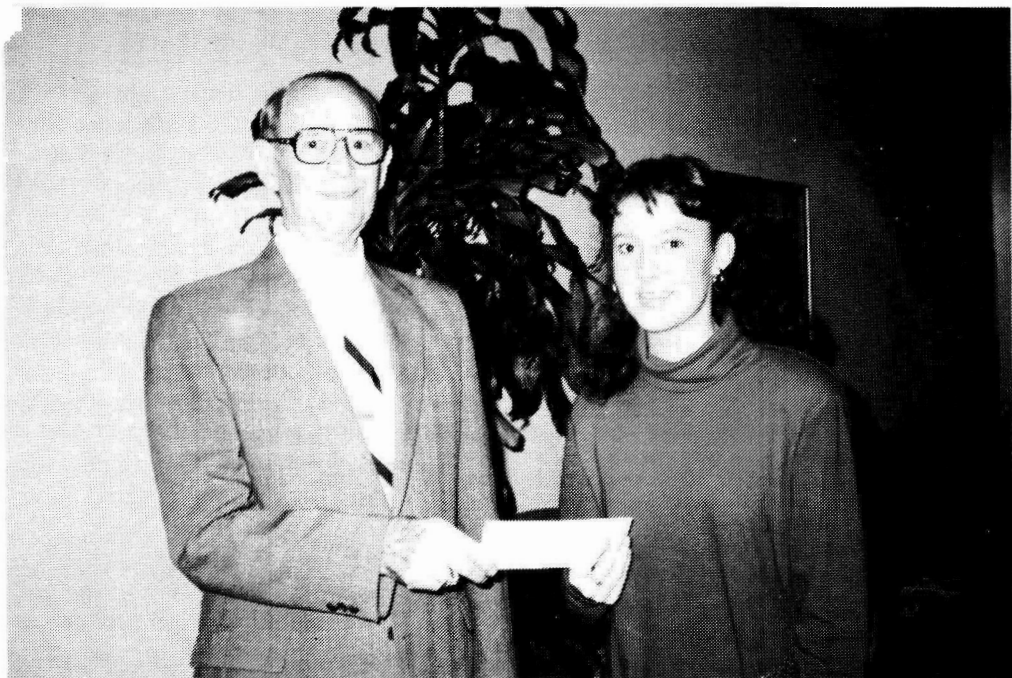
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**President, Roger Rutland presenting a \$200 Golden Lion scholarship check to Elizabeth Calhoun of Columbia, South Carolina. Ms. Calhoun, is an outstanding student of the Richland School District Two in Columbia.**

We were unable to go to New Jersey to attend the wedding of our grandson in April. I had heart surgery, a quadruple bypass, the week before the wedding. My recovery has been satisfactory, but I don't plan to water ski this summer.

Mattie and I returned from our trip to the West Coast on June 28th. We had a nice overnight visit with Ken and Betty Corrigan in Olympia, Washington.

We then traveled down the coast to visit with our long time friends, Edward and Reddie Prewett of Brentwood, California. After several days in their home they took us to their place at Lake Tahoe which we enjoyed very much. On the way we stopped in Sacramento to have lunch with John Gregory and his wife.

John had arranged for us to tour the hotel which will be the site of the of the 106th Association reunion in 1990. After seeing the beautiful hotel, and discussing what all is available for activities, Mattie and I will be looking forward to the 1990 reunion. We hope all of you will plan ahead and be there also.

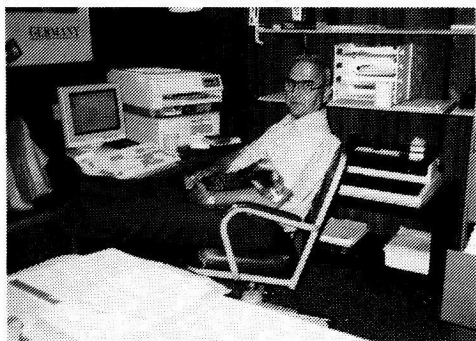
This is my last message as president of the 106th Infantry Division Association. It has been my pleasure and honor to serve you. With capable people like Sherod Collins as Treasurer/Historian, Samuel Cariano as Adjutant and John Kline as CUB Editor there hasn't been any big decisions for the me to make. I wish to thank these three gentlemen for the outstanding performance of their duties during my term as president.

I hope to see many of our new members, and "old timers" in Roanoke this September at our 42nd Annual Reunion.

Sincerely,

Roger Rutland

# From the editor's outpost



John Kline, CUB Editor, in his basement office, relaxing for a few moments with Oliver, one of his cats. Who usually takes up at least one-half hour nightly.

Once again I have to apologize to a few contributors, whose material I did not use. I had good intentions of publishing some material on revisits to Stalags 9B, 9A and 4B. I think I can finally get to it next issue.

The numerous NEW MEMBERS as well as other material that was backed up precluded the use of that material in this issue. It is of such interest and quantity that I could not have done it justice at this time. The roster is important also just before the Reunion. We hope this will be of help to you. I hope by time you receive this CUB that the membership has reached the 1,000 mark. As of 4 July, the day I am typing this column, the membership stands at 989.

When I received CUB material from Majorie DeHeer, the widow of our late editor Richard (Dick) DeHeer, I found many items of interest that had been filed awaiting space, timing or opportunity to publish.

One of the most fascinating and interesting was a news article that had been published in the newspaper — Providence Journal (Rhode Island) on December 30, 1985.

It is the story of Lt. Colonel Riggs, Commander of the 81st Combat Engineers Battalion, and his experiences in those never to be forgotten days from Dec 16, 1944 through March 1945.

Col. Riggs, after fighting a holding action for seven days was, like many of us, eventually captured. His story, about his capture

and escape, then the long trek back to join his outfit was told in the Providence Journal story. I have retyped that story, and it appears on the following pages, with Col. Riggs permission.

It is a proud story, reflecting many of the emotions and trauma that all of us felt.

Here we have an officer, who felt shamed in the trauma of his capture, that he might have let his men down. These thoughts as well as the training he had told him that he must escape and return.

That fierce determination, coupled with a fortunate opportunity triggered his escape and return to his unit.

In a recent letter to me he says *"I appreciate your interest in publishing the story from the Providence Journal. You may do so, but please do not make me out as a hero."* He continues, *"I did no more than what I was trained to do as an officer, that is to try to escape and rejoin my unit. The story entitled 'Tom Riggs' remarkable World War II odyssey,' is the story of my path to freedom, with nothing but a set of dog tags, no passport, no money, no food, nothing but an aggressive desire to return to my unit."*

If you are like me, as I read the Colonel's story, you will feel proud of the fact that there were officers like him in the 106th Infantry Division. Lt. Colonel Riggs' story is especially great, for here is a person to which much credit has been given for the defense of St. Vith, the defense that in its final analysis did great damage to the German time table. Without that defense the outcome of that stage of the war could have been much different.

Thanks to them, by turning the Nazi tide, we were finally overtaken by our advancing Allied troops, in time for many of us to survive. Had the time table not been upset, the Allies entrance back into Germany could have been stalled for months.

Quite frankly, I don't think I would be at this typewriter tonight, had the Germans prevailed. — My clock was running down. Was yours?

We thank you Col. Riggs!

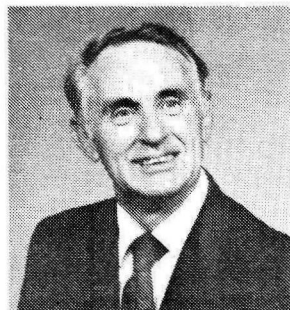
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## ***Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God...***

Deuteronomy 8:7-14

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The denomination of which I am minister, the Presbyterian Church (USA), began it's Bicentennial Celebration in June of this year and the congregation which I serve will celebrate it's Sesquicentennial in October. For those who may not know, the Presbyterian Church is connectional in nature. This means that while each congregation exercises many responsibilities independently, it still has responsibilities to higher courts or governing bodies, all of which are ultimately responsible to God.



Reverend Ewell C. Black Jr.

When we become God's people, we become aware of the fact that while we live in this world and interact with it, still our citizenship is lodged in the kingdom of God. As we declare our independence from worldliness, we declare - at the same moment - our dependence on God. This was brought to my mind as I was reading an article on the Fourth of July. The writer pointed out the fact when this nation stated in it's Declaration of Independence, the fact that it was no longer dependent on Great Britain, the document solemnly declared in it's closing words the new nation's dependence on almighty God:

*"With a firm reliance on the Protection of the Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."*

It seems to me that the fighting men learn very early that, whether in combat or a POW situation, we may be independent in many things but that our very existence is largely dependent on our relationship with one another. No person would want to be on patrol with others on whom he could not rely. Neither would you want to have someone in the next fox-hole who would not back you up. And yet, as important as relying on one another was, we all came to realize that our final dependence was on God. - for as the saying goes, *"There are no atheists in fox-holes."* It didn't take - even for the densest of us - long to realize that we were involved in something where we needed help from a power beyond ourselves.

I suspect that most of us brought this important lesson back with us. Realizing that we need the reinforcement which we receive from family, friends and associates, but even more, we needed to acknowledge our dependence on the protection of the Divine Providence. With this truth ever before us, neither we nor our nation can afford to forget the warning that God gave to the nation of Israel which had just been declared independent. That warning is found in Deuteronomy 8:7-14 and I would like to put particular emphasis on the first part of Verse 11, ***Be careful that you do not forget the Lord your God...*** We may feel able to declare our independence from the things of this world, but we put ourselves to risk when we fail to declare our dependence on God.

***Lord God Almighty, help us to know that our ultimate reliance and responsibility is not to self, nor to principalities, but to Thee;  
For Thou art the strength and hope, both for Now and for Eternity.***

# Cedric Foster's Broadcast—January 21, 1945

The tone of the times and Lt. Col. Rigg's odyssey can be augmented by repeating parts of a broadcast by Cedric Foster that occurred on January 21, 1945.

The broadcast started with good news about the Russian offensive, the Russians had a spearhead aimed at the city of Breslau, they had driven twenty miles into German Silesia (the territory west of the Polish, Czech border), a rich area comparable to the German Ruhr.

In his illustrious manner Cedric Foster explained the Russian offensive stating "The Oder is not so strong a defense line as the Rhine. Whether the Germans can make a stand of it depends entirely upon whether the German armies have been destroyed in the field as the Russians advance. If not then the Russians will have to slow down to allow supply lines to catch up, to establish bases and to consolidate gains."

He continued, "In any event, however, there is ground for good cheer tonight. In the west, Von Runstedt's men have been all but driven out of the Belgian Salient....."

He reported, "Tonight for the first time, there may be told a story which, in its dual aspects, is one of the most tragic and yet one of the most glorious episodes in the history of American arms. Before I tell you that story... the story of America's 106th Infantry Division.... I want to remind you of two things.....  
(time out — insurance commercial)."

The broadcast continued, "The American 106th Infantry Division was activated at Fort Jackson, Mississippi in March of 1943. Major General

Alan W. Jones, who commanded it at that time.. told the 106th Infantry Division... 'You are brand new. You have no past history to live up to. You have no past sins to live down.'"

"Tonight the 106th Infantry Division has a past history to live up to, but it still has no sins to live down. It fought gloriously and it fought heroically in the full flush of German power on the 16th of last December. Two of its regiments were all but eliminated from the war. They were the 422nd and 423rd. Three hundred men out of those two regiments were all that survived. Most of the others are presumed to be prisoners of war.

"On the 11th of December the 106th Division was in a sector of the front designated as "quiet." The Division had not been in action. As a matter of fact the 106th Division had engaged in nothing more dangerous than a few night patrol skirmishes. Five days later on the 16th these men of the Golden Lion Division were struck by an avalanche of German steel and fire. The attack got under way just before six o'clock in the morning. In the battle that followed, the division suffered eight thousand, six hundred sixty three casualties. 416 were killed, 1246 wounded and 7,000 missing in action.

"Censorship can now reveal that the 106th was spread in a manner described as "pitifully thin," along a front of twenty seven miles. It was holding a sector along the Schnee Eifel... the Eifel Forest which is just northeast of the frontier of Luxembourg, Belgium and Germany.

"This was in the general sector of the Belgian town of Saint Vith...



twelve miles southeast of Malmédy. The Germans first laid down an earth shaking artillery barrage. They directed this against the 106th positions which curved to the north from the center of the Eifel woods... positions which were held by the 14th Cavalry Group... an armored group attached to the infantry. A field artillery battalion, which was attached to the 106th was the next target. In thirty-five minutes more than 100 rounds of German fire had landed squarely in the midst of that battalion.

"At six o'clock the Germans opened up on Saint Vith itself. Civilians of Saint Vith were all in their cellars. They were pro-German and the Huns had told them by radio that the barrage was impending. When the barrage was over at two o'clock in the afternoon, the civilians came out.

"The 422nd and 423rd Regiments bore the brunt of the German fire. This fire was followed by German tanks and infantry. When dawn broke the next day, December 17th, the Germans had two divisions in the line. They literally engulfed those two regiments and they forced the 424th to retire.

"Yet these two regiments fought on. At half past three in the afternoon of the 18th of December., radio communications was lost. The last word that was sent through that they were in need of ammunition, water and food. The fog which blanketed the countryside made it impossible to send them supplies by air. They then said "We are now destroying our equipment. "After that came silence. Thus it is believed that most of these men are prisoners of war.

"Saint Vith and divisional headquarters were protected for a time by the heroic fighting men of the 81st and the 168th Engineer Battalions...

under Lt. Colonel Thomas Riggs of Huntington, West Virginia. They were out gunned and they were out manned. Their weapons consisted of three tank destroyer guns and three 57-millimeters. That was all.

"That was all except the raw courage which was theirs as they faced the foe.

"The 424th Regiment of the 106th has not been destroyed. This regiment was supported by a combat command team from the Ninth Armored Division and by the 112th Regiment of the 28th... the Keystone Division.

"It had other support too. Back into the line of battle came the survivors... three hundred of them.. the survivors of the 422nd and 423rd Regiments.. and it was not until the 21st of December that the 106th went off the line to reorganize. But on the 24th the emergency was so great that the valiant and broken remains were hurled back into the line on the northern side of the German salient between Stavelot and Manhay.

"If only they had a chance to fight.. to prove themselves." Those words spoken to me on the telephone from Rochester, New York two weeks ago by Mrs. Leon Brown the mother of a lad in the 106th Division. They did have a chance to fight and they didn't fail. They fought magnificently in the greatest American battle of the war... their first battle with foe. The record they wrote is a shining example for all the armed forces of the United States."

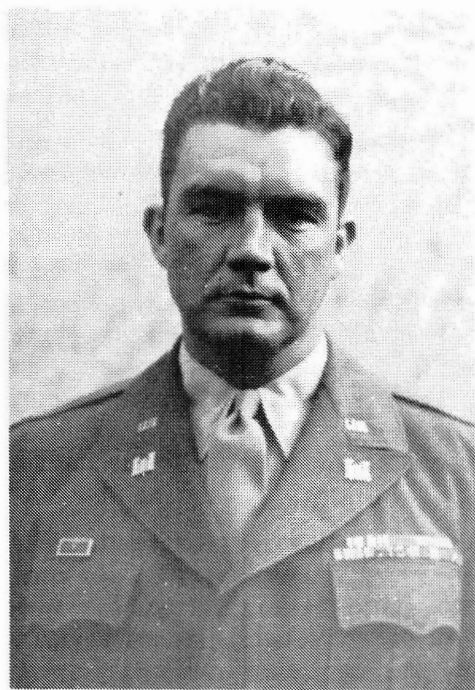
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# *Lt. Col. Tom Riggs' remarkable World War II odyssey*

From the Providence Journal, December 30, 1985:

By John Hanlon, special to the Journal-Bulletin

*John Hanlon commanded the First Battalion of the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment at Bastogne and is a former Journal-Bulletin columnist and sports writer.*



**1944 photo – Lt. Colonel Thomas J. Riggs, Jr.  
Commander, 81st Combat Engineers**

Tom Riggs fights a different battle now. Last September (1985) the 69 year-old Riggs underwent surgery for the removal of a cancerous lung. (another operation in 1987) He is recuperating these days with the aid of his wife, Virginia, in Providence. The post operative process goes well, and Tom looks ahead optimistically. He is a former Textron executive, now a management consultant, and a director of several companies, work that is largely on hold.

The ailment and its treatment have taken a toll on Riggs' weight and vigor. Still the

marks are there of a big, handsome man of commanding presence — such as the young Riggs out of West Virginia who, at 6-3 and 225 pounds, was a captain and star tackle of the University of Illinois football team of 1940. The same year he played in the Blue-Gray game, captaining the Blue team. Later the Washington Redskins could not understand his lack of response to written offers to play for them at \$250 a game.

He didn't answer because by then he was in the Army as a reserve second lieutenant. And before long, by competitive exam he won one of six appointments available as a Regular Army officer in the Corps of Engineers.

Then, Tom Riggs was thrust into the other big battle of his life.

It began in the "bitter woods" of the Ardennes in Belgium, where, at age 28, Lt. Col. Thomas J. Riggs Jr., was commander of the 81st Combat Engineer Battalion of the 106th Infantry Division. His 650 men and officers had been well trained and kept together as a unit back in the States, whereas the division's first crop of infantrymen had been drained off as fillers for outfits already fighting in Europe. In their place came the first of the 18-year-old draftees, plus others taken from specialists schools and made foot soldiers — not exactly willingly. Sparsely trained, they comprised essentially, the greenest of the green divisions when the 106th went on line in northeastern Belgium on 12 Dec., 1944.

This was the time of General Eisenhower's "calculated risk" in defending the area. Normally, a division is assigned to a five mile front to defend.

The 106th Division's front extended for some 27 miles. But no German action was anticipated.

# The odyssey of Tom Riggs



**Lt. Colonel Riggs, — Commander — 81st Engineers Combat Battalion, who escaped after 83 days of captivity, traveling a total of 5,000 miles through 8 countries to rejoin his 81st Engineers near St. Nazaire, France.**

"When we took over from the veteran 2nd Division," Riggs recalled recently, "they said it was a country club, a great place for a new outfit to break in."

Four days later, at 5 a.m. on Dec 16th, heavy artillery shells slammed into the 106th Division around the town of St. Vith. Hitler had unleashed his last-ditch offensive. Tanks and infantry in huge numbers began breaking through all along the division's area, with the main thrust headed directly at St. Vith. To the east of St. Vith, closest to the attackers, was Tom Riggs.

On the second day, with battle confusion almost chaotic, Riggs was ordered to block the prime road into St. Vith with a hastily formed "Cox's Army," as he later called it. He had about 350 men, parts of his own outfit not already fighting, remnants of routed outfits, some of the division's cooks and band members and a tank destroyer

platoon so new its three guns were not yet equipped with aiming sights. (The entire platoon, sent off by Riggs for its first action, simply disappeared.)

With this "army" Riggs directed operations that held back a superior force for five days. He personally led several counterattacks that steadied his positions; he stalked the line boldly so his troops could see that he was still there, encouraging scared soldiers to hold on.

As a division, the 106th fought doggedly before being overwhelmed. For five days they stalled the Germans around St. Vith, which was 25 miles closer to the enemy than Bastogne, the defense of which epitomized the American effort in the Bulge. But if it had not been for the 106th which lost 70 percent of its 12,000 some people killed, wounded and captured, there might not have been time to put together a Bastogne.

For all their greenness and ultimate fate, the 106th Division won even the admiration of British General Bernard Montgomery, not given to generally praising American troops. In his best English manner, Monty said of the 106th after the battle, "By Jove, they stuck it out those chaps."

Riggs' battalion, for its part, was awarded the Unit Citation, a medal not easily gained. The commendation told of the 81st's "extraordinary heroism, gallantry and determination... setting the battalion apart and above other units participating in the same engagement."

Riggs himself received the Silver Star and, additionally, an unusual compliment in a Saturday Evening Post article published about two years later detailing the story of the 106th Infantry Division.

"All combat troops are pretty skeptical of decorations," the Post story said in part, "knowing too well that too many acts of high valor go unrewarded because an officer did not happen to be around to file a report. But the 106th's soldiers to a man, are unanimous in agreeing that Lt. Col. Thomas Riggs... was the outstanding hero of the division."

On the sixth day of the battle, Germans with tanks were so close to Riggs' position, he said, that he could hear them talking at times. The weather was freezing cold and it was snowing.

"The only hope we had left," Riggs said, "was to break up into small groups, travel by night and try to infiltrate out of there."

At dawn on Dec. 21, with seven men, no maps, no food and little ammunition, Riggs' group headed out. He wore the standard wool uniform and only the liner of his trench coat. He removed his insignia of rank and discarded his helmet, the latter because of the noise made by rubbing against branches.

"The first day we stayed out of trouble," Riggs said, "But the second night, moving along a creek line someplace west of St. Vith, we ran into a platoon or so of Germans. They surrounded us and then mortared us."

A fragment grazed Riggs on the back of the head, enough to break the skin but not cause any lasting damage," he said. But the impact knocked him out. When he came to, several Germans were standing close to him. He was a prisoner of war.

### **Prisoner of War**

The Germans marched him to an assembly point where about 40 other Americans — none from his outfit — were under guard. Soon they were put on the road, marching toward a railhead, they were given to understand. So began Tom Riggs' odyssey.

The march continued for 12 days, covering 110 miles eastward to Stalag to a railhead in the direction of Berlin. (probably Stalag 12-A at Limburg — CUB ed's note.)

Their treatment as prisoners, Riggs said, was "fairly brutal."

"We'd stop near a village, and the guards would go in and forage for food for themselves," he said. "for us there was mainly hardtack and snow. But the guards would come back with sandwiches for themselves. They'd eat them and throw the crusts to us. After a while, I'm sorry to say, there'd be some groveling for the remains. Part of it, I think, was done to get even with us. With all the bombings we, the Allies, were doing, it didn't leave the Germans with much to eat themselves. So I think they took delight in watching us grovel like a pack of dogs for the crusts."

"At that point, anything" that was happening to Riggs was made worse by the let-down at being taken prisoner.

"I guess that was the lowest I ever felt in my life" was the way he expressed it. "I had hardly eaten or slept during the fighting at St. Vith. Then, with the march, cold and being have starved, I guess I was down to about 170 pounds. I just felt beaten into the ground."

### **Lost his outfit**

Something else was eating away at him. He was a commanding officer who had been taken away from his outfit.



"I was absolutely embarrassed," Riggs said. "I felt I had lost a lot of guys. I felt I had not done the job I was given to do, and that hurt. I couldn't understand why we had no advance information of that attack coming, and little or none of the help we had asked for. At that point in time I had no knowledge of any purpose served in the loss of those guys with me. I think I was on the way to becoming a basket case, mentally. That lasted for a few years after the war, when I learned that what we had done at St. Vith helped."

At the railhead the prisoners were put in freight cars. A couple of days later they arrived at a prison camp — Stalag 4-B — outside of Berlin.

(Stalag 4-B is Northwest of Dresden approx. 35 miles, on the Elbe River, and approx. 75 miles South of Berlin, near the town of Mühlberg — CUB editor's note)

Riggs was there for about 10 days, during which, he said, he "kind of just observed things." One conclusion he reached was that the Americans were not as "good" as the British at being prisoners of war. A lot of Americans, he said, seemed satisfied just to sit on the sidelines, as if at a football game, waiting for it to end.

"But the British were always doing something to bedevil the Germans," he said. "One time, for example, they got hold of a length of wire. They ran it down one post of a two-tiered bunk and covered it loosely with tape — on purpose, so the Germans would be sure to find it.

"Then they snaked the wire through the floor and, underneath, dug a hole about eight feet deep and put the wire in it. At the bottom they placed an envelope with a message inside it, filled the hole up and settled back to see what the Germans would do.

"Well, they spotted it a day or two later. They were really delighted with themselves, figuring they had found something to do with a radio.

"So, they cleared out the barracks, and they followed the wire to the ground underneath. They then dug out the hole and came to the envelope. Now they were really

elated. They opened the envelope, thinking they were on something big, and read the message. Written in German was the one word. "S---."

*Riggs said he was interrogated "pretty hard" at Stalag 4-B.*

"They'd try to compromise me," he said. "by saying the others had given some kind of information and asked me to verify it. I said only what I was required to say: name and serial number. That infuriated them a few times, and I was hit across the back with a riding crop for my stubbornness. After 10 days, possibly as my punishment, I was sent off alone by truck to a camp in Poland. It was somewhere near Poznan which is roughly halfway between Berlin and Warsaw.

## Prisoner in Poland

There Riggs lived in a two-story barracks with outside facilities, with older Germans as guards. Food was sparse, mostly ersatz bread and soup. He said the treatment there was generally "not that bad."

Twice, in keeping with prisoner protocol, he proposed plans for his escape. Both were turned down by the senior officer among the captives. In one case, he was told, he must wait his turn; the other was such that it might cause trouble for those left behind.

"I still had enough drive left in me, though, that I absolutely wanted to get back and see what happened to my outfit," he said. "Also a rumor started that the Russians had taken Warsaw and that the Germans were going to march us out of Poland and back to Germany. I decided I wasn't going to have any of that."

Just before dawn on his 28th day in the camp, Riggs left his barracks for the latrine. He noticed immediately that the usual guard was not in sight. Spontaneously, without prior planning, he decided that his chance to escape might be there.

"I walked straight to a deserted mess hall, a few buildings away, near the wire fence," he said. "I went inside. In a corner was a walk-in ice chest, seven or eight feet tall. I climbed on top of it and rolled back until I

climbed on top of it and rolled back until I was snuggled up against a wall, and I lay there.

"In a while, I could hear the Germans taking a roll call. My name was the second one called. When there was no answer, I could hear all hell breaking loose. Then the search was on. Four or five times patrols came through the mess hall. One of them even had dogs with them, barking like hell. Each time, the guards opened the ice chest doors and looked in. But nobody checked on top." After a long, cold day, Riggs left his hideout when darkness fell. He clocked the routine of the German patrols passing outside the double barricade of barbed wire.

"I soon figured out how often they came by the place I would have to go," he said. "Then something said to me, 'This is the time to move,' and I went for it. I don't remember exactly how I did it, except that I didn't go over the wire, I just went through it, somehow. Only after I was out did I notice that I was terribly chewed up by it."

He was still wearing only his regular uniform, the coat liner and a scarf to cover his head. His only plan was to travel at night, checking road signs at major intersections that would point his way to Warsaw. His physical condition was scarcely up to the task.

*"The first night I walked in the scrub beside the road,"* Riggs said. "By the second night I was so weak and tired and cold and frustrated that I said to hell with it and walked tight out in the middle of the road. I was challenged twice by guttural voices. But I just put my head down and kept moving.. and got away with it.

"The third night I came to the outskirts of Poznan, and I knew it was too big for me to get through unnoticed. As I was sitting on a culvert in the shadows, I saw a small group coming toward me down the road. I faded through a fence and lay there. Suddenly I felt a tap on my shoulder, and there was a guy challenging me. 'I'm an American colonel,' I said. With that this guy threw his

arms around me and kissed me on both cheeks.

"It turned out that he was a teenager, a member of the Polish underground, and so were the people coming down the road. One of them spoke good English. They took me to a house in Poznan and filled me with potatoes and that great Polish sausage and warm milk, things I hadn't seen in two months. I ate and ate — and then I upchucked."

### **The Russians arrive**

The underground moved Riggs from house to house for about a week. Then the Russians arrived, and Riggs' Polish friends put him in the hands of a Russian colonel commanding an armored unit fitted with mostly American made equipment.

"He was a burly man who couldn't read or write his own language," Riggs said. "but he certainly could fight. First thing he said to me was, 'Come on, Americanski, I'll have you in Berlin in a couple of weeks and you can meet your own people.'"

Riggs fought and lived with the Russians for 10 days, an experience that left him with a warm feeling for Russian hospitality and a certain awe for their fighting style.

"At night the colonel would take over the biggest house in the village," Riggs said, "and there would be plenty of scrounged food to eat and a lot of vodka to drink. When he noticed I didn't have an insignia of rank, he had a mechanic make one out of a bottom of a mess kit." It is a perfect replica of an American lieutenant colonel's silver leaf, which Riggs still has as a cherished souvenir.

As for fighting, Riggs recalled the time the Russians encountered a single German tank.

"Instead of firing at it," he said, "they put 20 soldiers on a stake-bodied truck and they went after it. They just swarmed all over it and literally beat it to death. It was scary, the lack of fear they showed but that's how they did it."

### **On the move again**

The Russian episode ended when the word came to have Allies such as Riggs returned to Warsaw. The Russian colonel took him part way and he completed the trip by train. At Warsaw he spent about 10 days putting his engineering training to work in helping rehabilitate a displaced persons camp. The odyssey resumed.

From Warsaw, Riggs travelled some 750 miles on a Russian-manned, wood fueled train to Odessa on the Black Sea. There he talked his way onto a British tanker for the 500-mile lift to Istanbul, Turkey. The tanker captain passed him onto a British freighter bound to Port Said in Egypt, some 1,000 miles away and considerably off Riggs' course. It turned out well enough, though, because at Port Said, with the help of the Red Cross, he caught a ride on the troopship Mauritania, heading some 1,800 miles to Naples, Italy.

There for the first time in nearly three months, Riggs checked in with the American military. When he spoke of his desire to rejoin his 81st Engineers, the reply he received was crushing.

"They told me flatly that Army policy forbade me going back there," he said. "Anyone in my situation, they said, was automatically sent home on a 60-day medical furlough. Something about the danger to escaped prisoners of war being captured again, or the possibility that they may have been compromised by the enemy.

"I didn't know exactly what that all meant," he said. "But I told them, 'If you don't let me go back to my people, you are going to have a basket case on your hands.'

"They relented, finally, because of the way I put it, I guess. Also by then — this was early in March — there were signs the war was beginning to wind down. They said I could go back."

### Back to the unit

He was flown to Marseilles, France, then to Paris for a few days of rest and a debriefing he found almost laughingly inept and shallow.

"My first night in Paris, though, something unbelievable happened to me. 'I went to a bar frequented by Americans. I had just taken a seat when a man from my outfit — the last person I'd seen around St. Vith — came over and stuck his big nose in my face. 'You big devil,' he said, 'we've been looking for you or your remains ever since.'"

A day or two later, Riggs was driven to a place in Brittany — no more than 350 miles west of his point of capture. There the 106th division, including his 81st Engineers, was refitting before taking over the containment of a German garrison holding out in the vicinity of St. Nazaire.

The reunion, when it came after so long a trail for Riggs, was simple in its way. Tom Riggs' words could only touch on its full impact, and his description of it was spoken in a quiet and almost distant voice.

"When I walked into the 81st's headquarters," he said, "everyone was astonished to see me. My place had been kept open, and a major, my second in command, came roaring out from behind the desk and we hugged. I was a little broken up, all right, and so were the others. Then we had a big party, with a lot of story telling. The party lasted all night long."

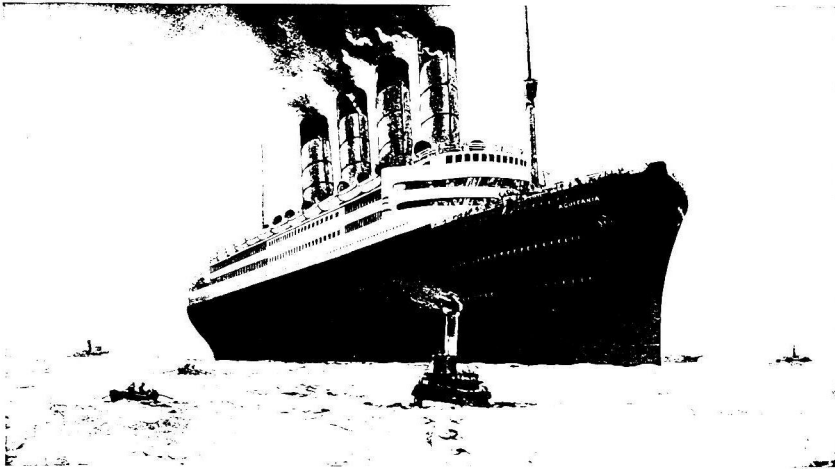
### Epilogue

Tom Riggs was assigned to the American Embassy in Mexico as a Military Attache, after the war. In 1947, he resigned his commission to enter private business.

His 81st Engineers never did get back to the fighting, because the 106th was given a different assignment. Instead of taking up positions around St. Nazaire, the division was sent in late spring to the Ruhr Valley to round up and process German prisoners... nearly one million of them by the time the task was done.

*Ironically, Riggs' task was to supervise his battalion in the construction of barbed-wire compounds to hold them.*

## THE AQUITANIA, ONE OF THE LARGEST SHIPS AFLOAT



The latest wonder of the Atlantic is 901 feet long and 57 feet wide. Set on end beside the Woolworth Building, which is 51 stories high, it would reach 150 feet above it. Its gross tonnage is 47,000 tons and its speed is 23 knots. It has eight passenger decks which afford accommodations for 3,250 passengers, and carries a crew of 1,000. On one deck are four large motor lifeboats equipped with wireless apparatus. In case of accident these would tow the rowboats and rafts, carried for the rescue of passengers. The ship draws so much water that there are only a few ports to which it can go without danger.

### *Remember the Aquitania?*

Harvey Bradford, 424/Service Co.

71 Rosemont Avenue  
Aston, PA 19014  
215-494-1087

In December 1987 I rejoined the 106th Infantry Division Association after previously having been a member from 1946 into the 50's.

I was contacted by Frank Borbely of Norristown with whom I was acquainted back in 1942 when he was assigned to the 29th Division at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, we were also stationed in Washington DC and Fort Benning, GA..

The INFANTRY SCHOOL where I assisted as Infantry Weapon and Vehicle Instructor; and to Army Air Force in Arkansas at which time 36,000 of us who had not yet begun air training as Pilot Cadets, were sent back to the ground forces. I was then transferred to Service Company, 424th Regiment of the 106th Infantry Division at Camp Atterbury.

As a youngster, in Rutledge, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Philadelphia, we had a complete 20 volume set of THE BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE, printed in 1922, educational – but not exactly an encyclopedia. In one of the volumes was a

picture of the **Aquitania**, but little did I know at the time that this same ship would transport me from the United States to England, later to participate in **The BULGE**.

Perhaps over the years another member has located a picture of the **Aquitania**, never the less I am sending you a copy from the 1922 Book of Knowledge, while it appears to be a drawing, rather than a photo, it might bring back memories to some of the members.

As for me it brings back memories, but mostly of greasy mutton and motion sickness. I do not get "airsick," but water and I do not agree.

(From the 1922 caption)

The **Aquitania** was 901 feet long and 57 feet wide. Set on end beside the Woolworth Building (51 stories) it would reach 150 feet above it. Gross tonnage is 47,000 tons and a speed of 23 knots. Contained eight passenger decks, accommodates 3,250 passengers and 1,000 crewmen.

On one deck are four large motor lifeboats equipped with wireless apparatus. In case of accident these would tow the rowboats and rafts. The ship draws so much water that there are only a few ports to which it can go without danger.



# BROOKLYN CLOSEUP

## What's in a Name?

### This Secret is 303 Years Old

A reprint of an article by Caryn Eve Weiner, about Charles Lewis 806 Ordnance (LM) Co.

18 Court St.

Brooklyn, NY 11241

Charles R. Lewis, a Brooklyn attorney, former 106th Infantry Division Ammunition Officer (Captain), who specializes in matrimonial law, has become an advocate in what may prove to be a very complicated breakup: He is hoping to win a divorce for the Borough of Brooklyn from a long-dead monarch. And he wants the borough to take back its maiden name.

"We ought to be called 'Brooklyn County' not King's County" Lewis said. "As it happened, when the little towns here were all consolidated in the 1880's it was made the City of Brooklyn.

"So Brook-lyn," He said, emphasizing the two syllables, "was the name of the city...

"But Kings County? Around here, if you say you are from King's County, people look at you. They think you are from King's County Hospital, the neurological, you know, the mentally ill part.

"And if you travel around to Europe, or around the country, no one ever heard of King's County," he said. "But there are people everywhere who are from Brooklyn." In fact, Lewis who now lives in Forest Hills, Queens, is among those. The same is true of his wife Gladys. The couple met and married in Williamsburg, where they both grew up.

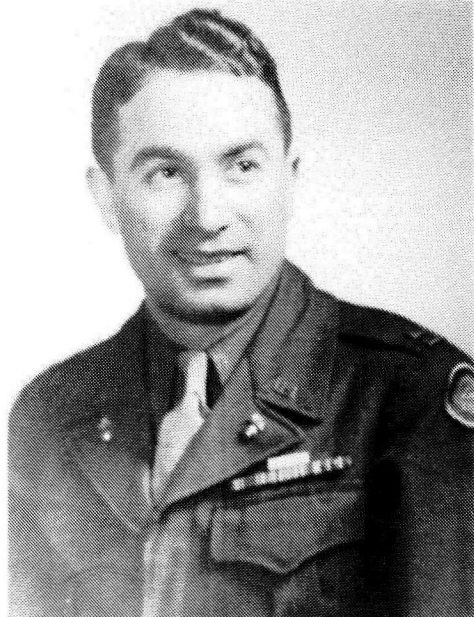
What seems a little unclear to him is the precise name of the king to whom the name refers.

"I think Kings County got its name from a Dutch king," Lewis said. "When the English took over, they called it Kings County."

He paused. "At least, I think that's it.

"Of course, some reference books, such as the 'Illustrated Dictionary of Place Names,' says the borough is named for King Charles II of England. And others, such as the 'Brooklyn Almanac' simply note that the borough was given that name, in 1683, by the Duke of York.

The king's identity may be in dispute, but Lewis' intentions couldn't be clearer: He wants the State Legislature to rename Kings County—Brooklyn County.



*Cpt. Charles Lewis, 106th Division  
Ammunition Officer*

"It makes sense, especially now with the borough's population," he said. "Who is colonial anymore? The colonials are gone, their children have intermarried.. That happened three hundred years ago. Is there a reason we should show allegiance to any king?"

A spokesman for the Brooklyn Historical Society said that, official or not, Brooklyn will always be Brooklyn.

"I don't know if this would make a great deal of difference" said the society spokesman John L. Hopkins. "Either way, people are still going to refer to Brooklyn as Brooklyn."

Lewis, 67 already practices what he professes. He is a member of the Brooklyn—not the Kings County—Bar Association. He is a graduate of Brooklyn—not Kings County—Law School. The only sticking point is the Veteran's of Foreign Wars Post to which Lewis, a World War II veteran, belongs. "It is called Brooklyn Council, Kings County," he said. "So we are going to try to eliminate that. We are trying to get rid of Kings County."

He said he expects that move to meet the local post's approval, which will then present the proposition at the VFW state convention.

Of course, as a resident of Forest Hills, the Brooklyn-born Lewis has suffered no compunction about telling people the name of the county he now calls home. "I live in Queens," he said. "Queens County."



21 Dec. 1944, St. Vith, Belgium — (L/R) Pvt John R. Sheehan, Brooklyn; Lt. Ivan H. Long, Pontiac Mich. and Pvt Sam Bordelon, Birmingham, Al. talking over their experiences escaping the ring of Nazi armor which completely surrounded them. They and others (68 men in all) escaped without losing a man.

(Credit — photo and caption, U.S. Signal Corp. )

### ***Ivan H. Long, LCol, (USA Ret)***

formerly I&R Platoon Leader, 423rd Regiment  
18610 Hummingbird Drive  
Penn Valley, CA 95946

Having read the most recent issue of THE CUB , in particular, Rev. Harris' article (pg 13, Apr, May, June '88), I feel compelled to comment briefly on the incident and my participation therein.

Please find enclosed a copy of the article from the Tactical Department of the Infantry School (see parts of that article following this letter...editor) which is the Army record of the action at St. Vith. Passing of time erodes memories, but I will mention some highlights.

First, my Platoon consisted of professionally trained experts in intelligence and reconnaissance and excelled in scouting and patrolling. We received the highest marks in the Army Ground Forces Tests! During the Ardennes Offensive, when combat conditions dictated, we changed our mission from one of defense to one of aggressive

patrolling. We were prepared!

Time and space prohibits detailing our incidents and brushes with the enemy. Against my better judgement, I assumed Command of three separate groups of stragglers, an officer and his A&P Platoon, another officer and two men and the group with Harris. These people were untrained in our specialty and could have possibly led to our capture by the Germans. However, we did reach St. Vith and the non-members under my Command were released and returned to their units.

I was reassigned as S-2 to a Battalion in the 424th Infantry and my Platoon members were assigned to Units where they were needed.

The Signal Corps picture shows my lead scout (Bordelon) on the right facing, and the rear scout (Sheehan) on the left facing, two of the best!

(Infantry School article next page)

(From the article referred to as coming from the Tactical Department of the Infantry School)

During the night of 20-21 December approximately 68 men and two officers led by Lieutenant Long of the Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon, 423rd Regiment (one of the surrounded regiments of the 106th Infantry Division) infiltrated back through CCB's lines.

When interviewed, Lieutenant Long stated the commanding officers had told them that the two regiments (422nd and 423rd) were preparing to surrender, and that orders were being given for the destruction of their arms and equipment. These troops had been told that any personnel wishing to attempt to infiltrate to friendly

lines rather than surrender were authorized to leave. These men were some of those who had chosen to risk returning and fighting again to lay down their arms and surrendering. CCB established an assembly point in the schoolhouse at St. Vith where these men were given rations, such other supplies as they needed, and a well deserved rest. During the night 21-22 December, when the situation became critical, these men were put back in the line, their enthusiasm was high, and subsequent reports obtained from the troops with whom they fought indicated without exception these men discharged their duty in an exemplary fashion.....

(Note — Col Long would like to locate the men in the picture., Sheehan and Bordelon. — editor)



(L/R) Front Row — Charlie Datte, 591/SV — Bob Caskey, 424/G — Stanley Wojtusik, Jr., 422/G  
Back Row — Harvey Bradford, 424/SV — Frank Borbely, 424/M — James Bard, 423/I

## Philadelphia BULGE

### Commemoration

John, after reading the Feb-Mar issue of the CUB I was really embarrassed by the Philadelphia Commemoration activity being conspicuously absent. Forgive me for my procrastination, but we in this area did gather, although few in number, and looking forward to increased numbers in the future.

After receiving a list from Sherod Collins of the 106th Infantry Division Association members in this area, Nancy and I sent out 16 notices for a dinner meeting at our home for 13 December, 1987.

Although most were committed to other things

on that Sunday, we were fortunate to have 5 members and their wives for a most enjoyable evening.

I enclose a picture of the men. It was a good feeling to share this time with the men of the 106th and their ladies.

We look forward to December 1988 and the opportunity to once again gather, hopefully more in numbers.

The Good Lord willing, see you in Roanoke!

ATTENTION PLEASE — Service Battery, 591st FA Bn — Load em Up and move em Out! — see you there, in Roanoke,

**Charlie Datte**

231 Davis Ave

Clifton Heights, PA 19018 215-626-1866

# Four Nights

Four People – \$100

*In a posh London Hotel 1944*

Dan Bied 422/A



In one of my self-published nostalgia books, printed back in 1976, I asked my readers if they could imagine spending four nights in a posh London hotel – four people in two rooms – \$100.00.

"I can," I wrote, "because I managed to do it 32 years ago – November of 1944 – while in the employ of a wealthy uncle name 'Sam.' More than three decades later, only a few highlights remain as memories. But, without a doubt, November of 1944 was one of the most exciting times of my life."

It was more than just exciting, as all of you know. And that week-end, which included my 19th birthday, came to mind again a few months ago when my wife, Millie, and I spent a week in London on a vacation trip. It was a Globus Gateway package deal and our hotel The Hospitality Inn Piccadilly, was just a few blocks east of the

Piccadilly Hotel, now called The Meridien, where we stayed in 1944.

This is near Leicester Square, in the heart of the West End theater district,

where I groped in the dark during a blackout one night in '44 to find the Odean Theater where, I think I saw a Boris Karloff flick.

During our month in England, while our battalion was at a town called Fairford, living in quonset huts, I had \$100 my dad sent to me. The money order arrived while we were at Camp Myles Standish and, in one of the best things I ever did in my life, I shared it with three buddies from A Company, 422nd Regiment; Jim Robbins, Joe Zematis and George Meminger.

It seems to me that it cost around \$7 a night for each room at the Piccadilly, then one of the nicest hotels in London. The place got to looking pretty shabby in recent years but, in April of this year, Millie and I spent a few minutes in the

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***I shared the \$100 my dad had  
given me with three buddies  
from A Co./ 422***

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revamped Meridien lobby and, to be honest about it, I doubt if I could afford the place much more in 1988 than I could in 1944.

Back to 1944 – The bombing of London was going on almost nightly, as many of you can remember, with assaults from V-1 buzz bombs and the high velocity V-2 rockets. "The crush of humanity was overwhelming," I noted in my 1976 book, "particularly during the air raids when the hordes – in which Rudolph Hess or Mahatma Gandhi could have gotten lost in the shuffle – plummeted into underground shelters, en masse.

"Early one morning, just as the four of us were going to bed, the Piccadilly Hotel was shaken a bit by an exploding rocket which, I assumed, had gone off somewhere in the neighborhood. Actually, the rocket – one of Adolph Hitler's high-flying V-2's – had detonated in a distant part of London."

My item, captioned "Battle of Britain," related a fight that took place in a night



club, called some kind of "brasserie," a few blocks away from the Piccadilly. "I got hit once—perhaps twice—from the rear and fell down without any coaxing," I recalled.

"Then managed to flee up the carpeted steps just as the MP's arrived, their arms waving like semaphores and their whistles slicing the night air."

Joe Zematis, a tough cookie who wasn't much for tact, just about started World War III one night in the "lift" at the Piccadilly when he got upset at the sight of a foreign military officer sharing our space in the lobby.

"Just what the .... are you supposed to be?" he asked, after looking the officer over from head to toe. "I am a Polish major," the gent said in precise, measured English.

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**"Sheeesh," Zematis retorted.  
"No wonder we haven't won the war."**

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"Sheeesh," Pfc Zematis retorted. "No wonder we haven't won the war!"

When we got to running out of money, Jim Robbins located an Air Force officer, Captain John Flynn and invited him to our room at the Piccadilly. Before we could put the touch on him, though, Cpt Flynn ask Robbins—a long time friend from St. Louis, if he had a few bucks, he could spare.

So our final day in London was, of necessity, pretty dull.

We spent it sitting in the lobby, reading whatever we could get our hands on, twiddling our thumbs, trying to avoid Polish majors in the elevator and that sort of thing.

Jim Robbins, a very good friend, died several years ago in St. Louis. His wife "Mickey," still lives there. His son, Jim Robbins, Jr., is a good friend, and lives in Connecticut.

Joe Zematis, I was told after the war, was killed by a German guard after some kind of incident in a prison camp.

I don't know what happened to George Meminger. He hardly ever said a word so, of course, we called him "Lippy." If his is alive he is, I'm certain, still the strong silent type.

Jim, Joe and "Lippy" danced around in my mind like ghosts when, earlier this year, Millie and I patrolled the sidewalks around Piccadilly Circus and Leicester Square.

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## Book Review

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By John Kline -- Editor

Just a couple of notes. I see since the last CUB that Brig. General Oliver Patton's *THE SILENT SNOW* is appearing in the local book stores. This is a fictional story about the BULGE. It is apparent that Gen. Patton did much research in the writing of this novel. It is of a couple of 106ers trapped behind the advancing German lines, and their efforts to remain free and the war that they waged against the enemy.

It is a Signet book, published by NAL Penguin, Inc., 1633 Broadway, New York, NY 10019.

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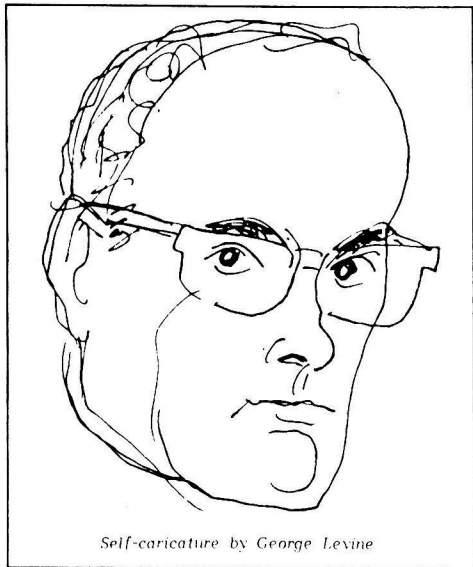
Oliver Lothrop Jr. (423/B) writes, "I liked your listing of books in the CUB, and have read most of them. I would like to add another, *DARK DECEMBER* by Robert E. Merryman, Ziff Davis, Chicago 1947. The author was an Army historian with the Ninth Army and the 7th Armored. The writing is simple and straight forward."

If any of you have other books that you think the 106th Infantry Division Association members would enjoy, please drop me the name, the author and the publisher and a short commentary about it's content. My address is on the inside cover of this CUB.

**Make it 1,200  
by Chicago**



## Introducing – George Levine 424/M



Self-caricature by George Levine

(One of Gil Helwig's recent new member recruits, George Levine 424/M, turned out to be a free lance cartoonist. I thought it would be to THE CUB's benefit to solicit George's help in producing a quarterly cartoon for inclusion in THE CUB. Fortunately George agreed and we will be featuring one or more cartoons in each of the future issues. I have had several conversations with him, along with a couple of letters, parts of which follow....editor, John Kline)

25 April, 1988

John, I enjoyed our phone conversation and again thanks for THE CUB and the other material.

Enclosed are four cartoons for use in THE CUB if they meet your needs. I suggest a tentative title of "CUB Laughs" if it is to be a regular feature.

Let me know what you think. Also enclosed is a caricature of myself and a few clippings of my published cartoons. Geo

6 May, 1988

John, as a follow up to our phone conversation yesterday I'm enclosing a recap of my background. I want to let you know that I can only contribute a cartoon "CUB Laughs" for THE CUB, but I cannot supply any of your other

art needs. Let me know what your members want, standard gag material, GI humor or what? We will probably know after we run a couple of these if they are going over or not. If there is a definite slant on the gags, this is important to me, when creating a cartoon for a particular audience. Let me know

### *A recap of my background*

George Levine,  
M Co. 424th Regiment

Enlisted for one year with Federalized New York National Guard 155 MM Gun Coast Artillery Regiment in Sept 1940. Trained at Virginia Beach (Camp Pendleton, VA). Recalled to active duty in January 1942. Assigned to various stateside C.A. units on 155s to 12" guns.

Volunteered for infantry from the Coast Artillery, assigned to the 106th, Atterbury in April 1944. Did the whole thing from Camp Myles Standish to Chipping Norton to positions on front replacing 2nd Division as a mortar (81mm) gunner, 424/M.

Participated in all the 424th action from 16 December, 1944 to 15 January, 1945 when I was evacuated with severely frost bitten feet, at Wanne, Belgium.

Hospitalized at 55th General Hospital near Great Malvern, England (Worcester County).

Discharged from hospital 3 April, 1945, requested return to infantry, but because of condition of feet was put on "limited duty" for the duration. VE day in Antwerp, then assignment to Bremerhaven, 10 day furlough to Denmark 1 Sept, '45.

Discharged on points, Calais Staging area, Marseilles, November 12, 1945. Victory ship to the States, Discharged Fort Dix 29 November, 1945.

GI Bill, Cartoonist and Illustrators School. Free lanced cartoons to major

magazines.

Re-enlisted in the regular Army in September 1948. Assigned by my request to the 1st Division in Germany in 1949. Rifle Company 26th Inf Regiment.

Though I held a rifleman's MOS—I drew on the side a regular feature for the "American Traveler" the 1st Infantry Division's paper.

These cartoons in 1951 and 1952 were consolidated into paperbacks published by the "Stars and Stripes" and put on sale in newsstands and PXs all over Europe. A fifty-fifty deal and successful.

I returned to civilian life after 12 years of active service, turning to editing (Humor Mags) and free lancing cartoons to magazines and newspapers.

Also in 1958-59 created and wrote a syndicated cartoon panel "Senator Caucus" distributed by General Features. This was a two man effort.

I enclose a list of the publications my work has appeared in. Though not in the best of health and over 70, I continue to draw and submit as always, but not in the same volume (Whew!). Best Regards, George

**CUB Laughs**

*by George Levine*



*"Yes, I know what grandpa said he did in the war - but why did he need the rest of the Army?"*

**CUB Laughs**

*by George Levine*



*"I'd like the Army better if we didn't have to recruit civilians!"*

George is an Alumnus of the School of Visual Arts and a member of the National Cartoonists Society

**Cartoons by George Levine have been published in the following publications;**

Leatherneck, Daily News Magazine, LAFF-A-DAY, McCall's, The Star, New Woman, Good Housekeeping, Women's Day, Family Circle, Ladies Home Journal, Los Angeles Magazine, Wall Street Journal, Reader's Digest, National Enquirer, King Features Syndicate, McNaught Syndicate, Diversion, Journal of Commerce, Medical Economics, Medical Tribune, Case & Comment, Phi Delta Kappa, American Medical News and many others.

**In Europe;** Frau (Germany), London Free Press, Sunday Express, My Weekly, SHE, Week-End, Annabel (England) Trading Post (Australia.), Welwoche (Switzerland), and many others.

## ***Timepiece from War Returned***

### **GI in prison camp traded it for bread.**

The Associated Press, Richmond VA—May 1988

A watch traded by a famished American prisoner of war for a piece of bread near the end of World War II found its way back to his widow.

Thomas Willis Pitts, who was captured during The Battle of the Bulge in December 1944, gave his watch to a fellow GI for the bread at a compound at Muhlberg, Germany. (Stalag IV-B.....Editor.)

After the war, Pitts returned to his job with the Internal Revenue Service, working until retirement in 1976. He died June, 1987.

After her husband's death, Esther Pitts joined the 106th Division Association, composed of men who had belonged to that Division and their wives. One day while looking through the Association magazine she saw this notice from Theodore William Young of Ozark, Alabama.

### **Anybody out there who traded a watch for bread in 1945?**

I had a piece of bread...when some GI came over to me and said 'I'll give you this watch for your bread.' I still have the watch [and] would like to return it."

"When I saw the ad, I got cold all over," Mrs. Pitts said. "I said 'That's got to be Willis'."

She wrote Young and described the watch. They agreed it had been her husband's. Young said he kept the watch in an old matchbox for the rest of the war. When he returned home, then in Columbus, Ohio, Young gave the timepiece to his father-in-law.

About four years ago the father-in-law returned the watch to Young.

The watch still keeping time was delivered to Mrs Pitts' home Monday.

(editor's comments—The above story appeared in several papers throughout the United States .

This article started when I received a letter from **Ted Young, Service Company/423rd Regiment** prior to the Feb-Mar 1988 CUB being published. Read page 29 of that issue, Vol 44 No.2.

My notes here are not to take credit for the deed, that was triggered by Ted Young's desire to see that the rightful owner of the watch was found. As Ted said to me "John, it's a one in a million chance that the owner belongs to the Association." How right he was, but the odds paid off and I am happy that I had something to do towards its successful conclusion. There are two parties involved, Ted Young who has had possession of the watch since January 1945, and Mrs Esther Pitts, wife of the late Thomas Pitts, a former 106th veteran of D Company, 422nd Regiment.

Last year in July, 1987, while I was in search for my former comrades of M/423, I decided to contact 43 former 106th Ex-POW members who I could identify as having been held captive in Stalag VIII-A, Gorlitz, Germany at the time I was there.

One of my letters was addressed to Thomas W. Pitts, Richmond, VA. Mrs Esther Pitts answered my inquiry, stating that her husband had died on June 25, 1987, that she would be interested in receiving a copy of the diary I had prepared, showing my experiences there and on the long 415 mile evacuation march from Gorlitz to Helmstedt, Germany and thence to Liberation.

I sent Esther my packet of material, we corresponded on two occasions as well as on two phone calls. Esther told me her husband Tom had been active in the Denny Landrum AX-POW Chapter in Richmond, VA and that she was still attending some of the meetings. She said her husband had found several 106th fellows. She named three—Calvin Nunnally, Richmond, VA; Vaughn Bozman, Crewe (?), VA, and Alighierd Azzi, Mechanicsville, VA. Calvin Nunnally is a member of the 106th Infantry Division Association.

Since Esther was active with the AX-POW group I urged her to join the Association so that she could keep up with the news on the members. Had she not joined she would not have read the Feb-Mar issue of THE CUB, therefore the watch in question would not have found its owner. I hope this makes you feel as good as it did me..

**In a recent phone conversation Esther Pitts said to me "John, this was supposed to happen, it was God's will."...**

(editor, John Kline)

## Revisiting Germany

Rocky Moyer 424/Cannon  
939 Falcon Cret Drive  
Lawrenceville, GA 30245

In a letter to Sherod Collins, Rocky relates the story of his revisit to Germany.

I've enclosed two photographs that you might find of interest. You recall when we talked some time ago about where I was located at the end of the war, I mentioned the town of Langenlonsheim. While in Germany last May (87), I said to my wife Ginnie "I'm going to see if I can find the site of the German prisoner of war camp the Americans had in the Bad Kreuznach area."

We drove from Bavaria to Bad Kreuznach and I watched for the road that would lead from there to Langenlonsheim. As we made a right turn, in a down pouring rain, I said "I believe this is the place." She said "How do you know?" I answered, "I recall a very large open field, with low hills in the background on the north side, with vineyards. I remember the German citizens standing along the hill shouting out names, trying to locate relatives."

Suddenly I saw a Cross on the left side of the road. We stopped and I took a photo of the



Monument and Cross. It appears as a black plaque with a face and a German WW II helmet, with an inscription that says something about a memorial to the war and those that fought.

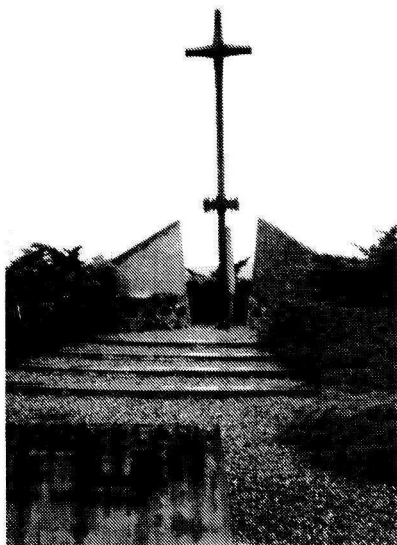
There were several wreaths and flowers placed around the memorial.

We drove further on and I stopped and took the picture showing that Langenlonsheim was two kilometers ahead.

We drove to the town and even though 42 years had passed I was able to recognize a small open square and the house where that acted as our command post..

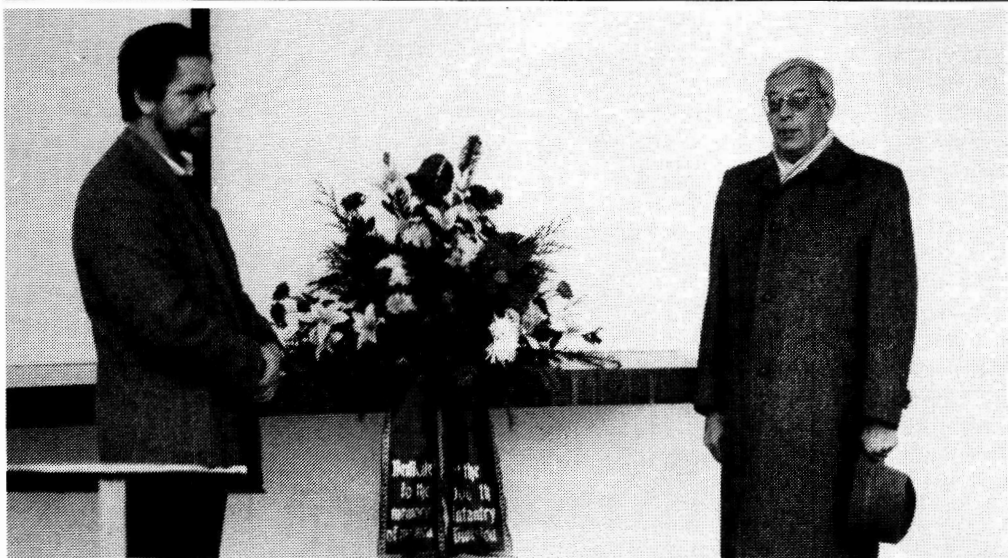
I could vividly recognize this area, as I had to walk a punishment tour for fraternizing with a very nice young German girl. At the end of the cobblestone street where I walked this tour, was an old house with several old folks living in it. As the other soldier, who was also taking the punishment tour, and I walked by the house the old folks would put out a tin cup filled with white wine. we would take a sip each time we made the turn at the end of this narrow street. It's funny how things like this come back to you as you concentrate on the old memories.

signed  
Rocky Boyer



# *A Report from our Memorials Chairman*

Douglas S. Coffey



*At the 106th Infantry Division Memorial,  
Mr Cremer, Memorial Director and Mayor Wilhelm Pip, mayor of Saint Vith  
presenting the memorial wreath*

I have received correspondence from the person that looks after our Memorial at St. Vith, Mr E. Cremer of the Bischofliche Schule. He has also proposed certain renovation plans which I shall take up with the Board during the Roanoke Reunion. The plans include sprucing up the existing Memorial as well as providing a more attractive appearance to the parking grounds. I will discuss these matters with the Board.

*Doug Coffey.*

## **The letter from E. Cremer.**

As promised, I am sending to you this report concerning the St. Vith Memorial of the 106th Infantry Division.

On 16 December, 1987 Mayor Wilhelm Pip and a delegation of the school (pupils of the secondary school, 1st and 2nd years) and myself assembled around the Memorial to honor the dead of the 106th Infantry Division.

In my speech I pointed out that the soldiers took great risks and that many of them gave their life in order to

liberate Europe from the terrible dictatorship. We would never forget what they have done for us.

We then remembered the dead in a moment of silence. Mayor Pip and I laid down a wreath.

In 1987 several renovation works were accomplished. The roofing had to be replaced because it was leaking. These works were completed by students and teachers so that we would have no labor costs, only costs for the material.

Furthermore several rents had to be repaired. The Memorial received new paint and the inscription was renewed.

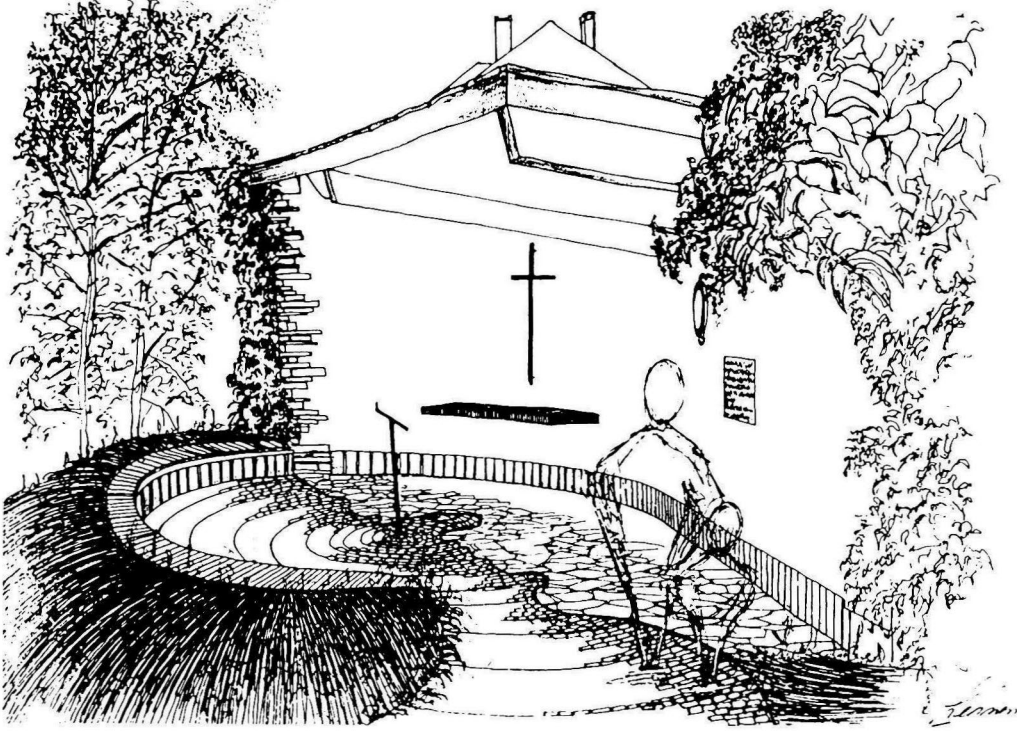
As I informed you in April 1987, I would like to provide you a more attractive appearance for the parking grounds. I have enclosed proposed plans and costs for this project.

I will not start this project until I receive approval from you.

With my best wishes to you and your family and to all of the 106th Infantry Division, I remain

*Yours very truly E. Cremer, director*





*An artist's sketch of proposed renovations to St. Vith Memorial. Larger and more detailed plans will be shown by Mr. Douglas Coffey during the Roanoke Reunion*

## CUB Deadlines

Remember these dates, they are the last day that I will accept new articles or pictures to the next CUB.

With the increase in membership, as well as prudent practice the editor must schedule the various parts of THE CUB.

All articles, whether you write them long-hand or type them have to be retyped as they are prepared for the CUB.

I have no secretary, I do all the typing myself. I take sole responsibility for any typographical errors you see in THE CUB.

### **CUB DEADLINES**

**Material to editor by**

**Oct 1 for Nov CUB**

**Jan 1 for Feb CUB**

**Apr 1 for May CUB**

**Jul 1 for Aug CUB**

These are maximum dates, I would like the material 15 to 30 days earlier!

I expect to mail each publication on the 15th of Nov, Feb, May and Aug.

THE CUB is mailed Third Class Mail. There is no promise by the Post Office on delivery. THE CUB has been received by members in two to four weeks, depending on the whims of the Post Office. The cost of publication precludes First Class Mail at eighty-five cents each, with the present dues structure. We depend on you to keep us advised of ADDRESS CHANGES. While I have found some old addresses being forwarded, I am sure that in some cases THE CUB ends up laying in a Post Office DEAD Box.

Keep us advised of your address changes.

### **NEWS and MATERIAL NEEDED**

Photos and articles of your experiences are needed,

**KEEP The CUB Alive!**

# *In Memoriam*

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## ***George H. Kaufman, 423/H***

A letter from George's Brother-in-law.

We wish to inform you that George Kaufman, Apt 2, 915 East High St., Springfield, Ohio 45505 passed away 12 February 1988. He was admitted to Mercy Medical Center on 10 February.

He is survived by 2 nieces, 1 nephew, 3 great-nephews, 1 great niece, 2 sister-in-laws and 1 brother-in-law.

We shall all miss him greatly. signed Howell Shaffer, Brother-in-law.

## ***Charles W. Freed, 423/I***

Charles Freed of 218 Jackson Circle, Pittsburgh, PA 15229 passed away 18 March 1988 from a heart attack during sleep. Charles was planning on attending the Roanoke Reunion. He enjoyed the 106th Association and it's reunions. I am keeping on as an Associate member and if all goes well will attend the Roanoke Reunion. signed Edith Freed.

## ***Louis J. Lemmo, 424/Medics***

April mail was returned marked "deceased." We have no further details.

## ***Phillip Robichaud, 422/G***

Manuel Silvia, 422/G, has informed us that Phillip died one or two weeks after the Mobile Reunion. Phillip had planned on being at the reunion, but canceled plans at the last moment. Phillip's address was — RFD 4, Box 118, Danielson, CT 06239.

## ***James Erwin Teel, 424/K***

We have been informed by his widow, Doris, that James passed away 28 May 1988. He is survived by Doris, his wife, 2 daughters and 2 grandsons. Doris wishes to thank all for the pleasure the 106th Association gave him, he belonged for 14 years. James will be greatly missed by all.

## ***John B. Hursey***

A letter from George Kelly, 424/C, Water Mill, NY, informs that the death of John B. Hursey (who was not a member of the Association) appeared in the local paper. George was not acquainted with John, but thought others might know him and his family. John passed away at the age of 80 on Friday May 20, 1988. He was a Hotel Manager who lived in Wainscott for two decades. His wife Mary, during a phone conversation with George Kelly, thought that John Hursey was in a message center with one of the Field Artillery units. Their address: Mary Hursey, Box 263, Wainscott, NY 11975. 516-537-1285.

## ***E. Bruce Foster 422/HQ***

Captain E. Bruce Foster was Commander, Headquarters Company, 422nd Infantry. He was captured during *The Bulge*

Cpt. Foster, a conservationist, avid sportsman and defender of home rule for local governments died Monday 25 April, 1988 at the University of Tennessee Hospital.

Foster, age 77, the senior officer in the firm of Franz, McConnell and Seymour, had practiced law in Knoxville since 1932. The list of credentials is long. His son Bruce Foster, Jr, also a Knoxville lawyer said his dad was an avid fisherman and dove hunter.

*The Officers, Directors and Members of the 106th Infantry Division Association wish to express their condolences to the families and friends of the deceased.*

Dear John and Margot,  
We received your last bulletin (referring to a bulletin sent to M/423 members and former POWs of Stalag 8A). Martha and I have moved to Florida, a lot of the people here in this adult park are from Minn, Wisc, Illinois and New Jersey.

Martha and I are planning to be at the Roanoke Reunion, if The Lord is willing. I'm really looking forward to it. Our invitation to visit still stands. Hope to see you in Roanoke.

As Always

**Cliff Gamble (Martha) 442/C**

357 Hickory Hill  
Lady Lake, FL 32659

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Dear Gill (Helwig),

I received your letter today and was glad to hear from you.

I was in Mobile last September and met old buddies that I had not seen in 43 years. I really enjoyed it. I am looking forward to meeting you in Roanoke.

I am holding office in The Knights Templar and our inspection is Sep 17, so I will have to miss Saturday night. I visited an old POW bunk mate last September, Theodore Schoenk, PO Box 101, Lind, WA 99341. I visited another POW buddy in Oklahoma City in Oct. James C. Green, 2736 SW 60th Pl, 72159. He is a 106th Assoc. member.

**James D. Dickerson 422/HQ 3BN**

Rte 1 Box 153  
Zebulon, GA 30295

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John,

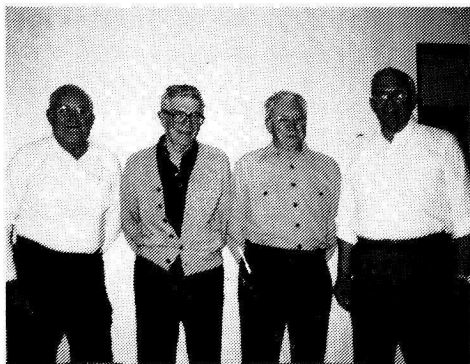
You sure are doing a great job as editor. It's nice to see some other 81st Engineers joining from Company B. I think the Roanoke reunion will find a number of Co. B, 81st Engineers there. On April 23rd I attended a POW meeting at Madison, WI. I located some more 81st Engineers. Enclosed is a picture, this is the first time we were together since we were captured in

1944 — What happiness!

Thank you for the map, it has been unfolded many times since I recieved it. I am very proud to tell the fellows who I got it from. See you in Roanoke.,

**Edward Wojahn.**

1553 West Young Dr  
Onalaska, WI 54650



**81st Engineers**

**L/R Edward Nagle, John Hendrickson,  
James Tetzlaff, Edward Wojahn**

It is with regret I begin this letter knowing I will be unable to attend the 42nd Annual Reunion in Roanoke. We are committed to attend the Great Lakes Shrine Association Convention in Milwaukee the very same week-end. My wife, Wilma, and I still talk about the Columbia and Mobile and look forward to Chicago with Russ Villwock busting his buns to make it a success. I have good intentions of seeing Russ at the VFW State Convention in June.

Most of our summer plans are precluded by short trips, Shriners, and VFW related activities. But we do regret not being able to attend Roanoke. I suppose I am very high on Leo Leisses "Extra Training Roster" as I have failed to call him in quite some time. Oh well, while we were in the old 106th I believe I was one of his steadiest and don't feel uncomfortable there today. How about that "Sarge" but don't get to heady, as I did out rank you in the end.

I want Lisse, Gehrig, Seevers, Dickerson and all the others of 422/HQ 3BN

# Mail Bag

to have a fine time and hope this little note reaches them through **THE CUB** and that they and their loved ones are well.

Until we meet again, God Bless you and keep you.

**Milton G. Haas 422/HQ 3BN**

600 South Lafayette St.  
Millstadt, IL 62260

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Dear John,

I received your diary and enjoyed it very much. I do believe that we were in the same group on the long march, but some things don't match up with my memory. I remember a large tent with straw on the muddy ground, I remember a brick factory.

You were sure smart in keeping the record that you did. I kept a few details in a small book.

I did get the lost check back, I also received the Feb-Mar CUB and enjoyed it very much. You are doing a fine job as editor. When we first met you promised a copy of your first publication, but I have not received it. Would appreciate a copy if possible.

Thanking you very much for the cooperation and keep up the good work on **THE CUB**.

**Clyde Filkins 422/C**

Rd 1 Box 176  
Westerlo, NY 12193

(editor's note — Clyde, I am sorry about the copy of the November CUB. We had so many new members that all I have left is a file copy which I must keep with my CUB records. I may have already written you about this — if so excuse the repeat. Thanks, Good Luck — John)

---

Dear John,

I attended the first reunion which was held in Indianapolis. The only people I knew were comedian Joe E. Brown and General McMahon.

I keep writing to old friends that I will be at the next reunion, but I've never made it. Will try to be there next year and would like to take the Germany trip in 89 (Vienna also).

I was Radio Sergeant in Battery B/589th FA from its formation until captured at Braque de Fraiture (Parker's Crossroads).

I'm proud of the Division, my friends, serving under Cpt. Arthur Brown and my unit.

Would be interested in purchasing an authentic Guidon for Btry B, 589th FA Bn.

Sincerely

**John C. (Jack) Rain 589/B**

203 West Elm Street  
Alton, IL 62002

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John,

Mary Lou and I flew to Philadelphia, rented a car and drove to Atlantic City. By per-arrangement Sergeant Lou Edelman and his wife Essie drove down from Bellrose, NY. We stayed in the same Hotel "Harrah's Marina." Between our activities we had quite a time going over the "Battle of the Bulge" pictures and memories. We found Lou and Essie quite charming and I did recognize him after all these 42 years.

Regards,

**Reuben Hay 423/M**

2 Northwood Road  
Asheville, NC 28804

(editor's note — as a way of comment, Lou Edelman, Motor Pool Sergeant for M/423 was the first voice I heard from M/423 since the war. I contacted him on 5 May, 1987, the first of thirty four M/423 men I have contacted since. I caught up with Reuben Hay in August of 1987. Twenty men from M/423 now belong, I think there were 7 that belonged before. These thoughts prompted me to call Rueben as I was typing this, he says he will be in Roanoke.)

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From my friend and ex-pow Stalag 8A, John Adams who suffered the long march out of Gorlitz to liberation.

Dear John,

It's 99 degrees here today (Phoenix 3/26/88). Thanks for the extra copies of **THE CUB** that had some of our D/422 boys on the cover. John, in regards to **THE CUB**, If anything you are doing too good a job. It isn't reasonable to ex-

*pect you to continue the same effort you put in the last issue. I happen to know you are getting deserved high marks from many members and officers of the Association. I was not the person who sent you the card that said something about falling off a ladder (referring to a Xmas card signed "John," where I failed to keep the envelope). Keep up the good work. Katherine and I wish you and Margot the best and hope to see you at Roanoke in September.*

**John Adams, Jr. 422/D**

208 North 11th St.  
Oakland, MD 21550

(editor's note — Thanks John, while THE CUB is a chore at times, it is a work of love. I will do my best to keep it attractive and in keeping with the member's needs as long as I can. See you in Roanoke.)

---

*Dear Sam,  
Just thought you might like to know what we are doing!*

**Guy Stephens 423/F**

5477 Yankeetown Road  
Booneville, IN 47601

(editor's note — The above came to my attention, apparently sent to me by Sam Cariano, in some papers I had received in the past months.

Guy Stephens, a School Principal, a former Infantryman, is Chapter Commander for the Southern Indiana Chapter of the American Ex-Prisoners of War organization. He has sent the above note along with one of his chapter meeting notices. Attached to it was a clipping, showing a picture of "Jacques W. Bloch," another one of the 106th Infantry Division members. Now Jacques Bloch is a former 422/K veteran.

Either I mixed the papers up or "Murphy's Law" is working. To clear this up I called Guy Stephens and had a pleasant visit with him. I hope I convinced him to show up in Roanoke. He doesn't know how Bloch's picture and article got stapled together, but said Sam Cariano had written him to ask him where the rest of his letter was. So is solving one mystery I uncovered two different stories and shall follow with the next Mail Bag article with the story for Mr Bloch. Guy it was so nice to talk to you, hope to see you in Roanoke. John Kline, Editor.)

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## JACQUES W. BLOCH 422/K

*Jacques if you read the article just above you can see what happened to your article that was written in the "Hospitals and Health Care Estab-*

*lishments" Journal. We are honored to have this information about you.*

Jacques Bloch has been director, Food Services, Montefiore Hospital and Medical Center since 1954. Earlier he was food production manager, The Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore and before that, special assistant to the catering director, The Commodore Hotel, New York. He graduated from the College Technique Hotelier in Strasbourg, France.

Mr. Bloch is co-author of "Training Manual for Dietary Aides and Food Service Workers," and "Factors Affecting the Quality of Frozen Prepared Food Products."

He is past president of the American Society of Hospital Food Service Administrators and of the Hospital Food Administrators Society, Inc. of Greater New York. He has served as consultant on foodservice for the American Hospital Association; to "Hospitals" Journal of the American Hospital Association; and to the Hospital Research & Education Trust Fund of New Jersey.

Mr Bloch is currently a member of the American Hospital Association, the Council of Hotel, Restaurant and Institutional Education; the Society for the advancement of Food Service Research; the Culinary Institute of America and many other professional associations.

Amongst his numerous awards are the 1981 "Metro Award" from Metropolitan Restaurant News and IFMA's 1982 Silver and Golden Plate Awards in hospitals and health care.

(Thanks Jacques for the information, Congratulations! — if there was a letter with the above I missed it, Editor)

---

*Dear John,  
Thanks for such a nice CUB publication. I know it takes a lot of work to produce it.*



# Mail Bag

*I enjoyed the roster of the members who attended the Mobile, AL 41st Reunion. Please make a correction — You have my unit wrong — it should be 423/E. I will be in Roanoke in September, wouldn't miss it!*

*Does any person have a departing overseas roster for E/423? I would like a copy of the old roster.*

**Howard S. Edwards 423/E**

828 Cherokee Lane  
Signal Mountain, TN 37377

(editor's note — Personnel, St Louis tell us that all old roster were destroyed in accordance with a standing order. Possibly one of our members has a roster of that time in the 106th history. There are many members of E/423 that belong to the Association, maybe they can help. Our annual roster appears in this issue, segregated by company, possibly that will help you find a lead if you could write each of the old E/423 men. J.K.)

**Peter E. Novosel (100th Division)**

51 Linden Place  
Uniontown, PA 15401

*Peter writes, to Sam Cariano  
Sam, my request is a long shot at best.  
I've been attempting to contact a friend  
of mine who served in Europe with the  
106th. His name is "Fred"*

*Mac' McMillen. He used to live in  
Brooklyn. After the 106th disbandment  
he was assigned to the 29th Infantry  
Regiment. We served together at Weis-  
baden and the Bremen Enclave. Any in-  
formation would be appreciated.  
Thanks, Peter E. Novosel - address  
above.*

---

*Sherod,*

*Enclosed are my dues. .  
We are hoping to attend this years  
reunion in Roanoke. That will be our  
first.  
Til and I were in Myrtle Beach, SC  
during January and February and were  
visited by Shinie & Frances Lee (Futrell  
H. Lee) from Waycross, GA. We both  
made up our minds to attend the  
reunion this year.  
Sending my best regards to all members*

*of the 106th and especially to the boys  
from C/422.*

**Carl S. Kwaczek 422/C**

122 Connelville St.  
Dunbar, PA 15431

*(a note from Sherod — This struck a  
bell with me. I've known Futrell-Shinie-  
Lee for many years since I'm from  
Waycross too. I wrote Carl a letter,  
signed Sherod.)*

---

*John,*

*I sat next to you at the Saturday Din-  
ner in Mobile, should have written  
sooner.*

*Philip Robichaud G/422 died one week  
after the reunion at Mobile. He's from  
Danielson, Conn.*

*John, you are doing a beautiful job  
with the CUB — fantastic — keep up the  
good work, will keep in touch  
Sincerely,*

**Manuel Silvia**

18 George Street  
Bristol, RI 02809

(editor's note — Thanks Manuel, I will put another ar-  
ticle in the "Memoriams" column. Hope to see you in  
Roanoke.

---

*John,*

*You are an excellent Editor. The man-  
ner in which you presented my material  
improves it such that even I could enjoy  
reading it.*

**Ed Prewett 424/B**

Rte 2 Box 730  
Brentwood, CA 94513

(editor's note — Thanks Ed, when you have good  
material it easy to edit.)

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*Ron Mosley has a number of ascots  
left (no ties). He would be glad to mail  
you one. Proceeds go into the Memorial  
Fund. Price is \$10.00 plus \$1.00  
postage.*

*Write:*

**Rev R.A. Mosley DIV/Chaplain**

PO Box 25  
Petite Riviere Bridge  
Nova Scotia, B0J 2P0

I would like to once again ask for your help. My father Alvin Burr Grisby ("Bud"), was a Tech 4 in the 589 F.A.B., battery A, Motor Section, and was captured December 17th, 1944 and liberated by the British on April 28th, 1945.

My father died in 1974 and prior to his death spoke very little about his experiences.

While my memory is vague, I believe I remember my father telling me as they pulled back he was riding on the hood of an ambulance, when they began to take rifle fire. The ambulance was stopped and they ran for cover. My father and several other men took refuge in a small farm pond. Every time they stuck their heads up, bullets would hit the water. Finally, they ran for the woods and unfortunately ran into the Germans. As such, I would like to correspond with anyone who may have been with my father, who spent time with him in the same Stalags. (XII-A, II-D, II-A, X-B, X-C), or who care to share their experiences with me. You may call COLLECT (502) 897-5211.

I would also like to thank those members of the 106th that have most graciously provided me with information, specifically Mr John Gatens, Mr Donald Store and Mr. John Kline.

Sincerely,

**R. Kirk Grisby ASSOCIATE**

3333 Dayton Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40207

The CUB is looking excellent. I am so glad that you stepped forward to join that long line of important persons who have served our Association in this position.

I appreciate the opportunity which our Presidents have given me to serve in my capacity as Chaplain.

Hope you and your's enjoy a Happy Easter and Spring. Looking forward to

seeing you and all the others in Roanoke in September.

**Rev Ewell C. Black Jr. 422/A**

Box 66  
Bishopville, SC 29010

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Dear Sherod,

As always I am sending this years dues. The first time we met was on the rifle range at Ft Mclellan.

John Gallagher, Clay Rarick and I used to go to the reunions together. We used to have fun. Rarick passed away.

My wife is improving somewhat, She is over 82 years old and I am just over 80.

I do all the work at home and try to take care of everything, it keeps me busy.

So long for now,

**Norman S. Spayd 423/H**

1518 Schuylkill Ave.  
Reading, PA 19601

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Dear Sherod,

It sounds as if the Association is going to have a wonderful time at the Roanoke Reunion. Really wish Harry and I could attend — Is not to be.

In January Harry was critically ill. Was in a coma nearly 40 hours. Fortunately, he came out of it. No damage other than weakness. He is now in a Care center home in Elmhurst, Illinois. How fortunate I am only one mile away. I can go visit every day. Hopefully he will be home in a few weeks.

We extend best wishes to you and everyone in the 106th.

Best Regards,

**Mildred Holder for  
Harry Holder 424/H**

474 North Addison Ave  
Elmhurst, IL 60126

(editor's note — Harry, all of us with the 106th wish you the best for a speedy recovery and return to good health, with happiness in the future. We'll be thinking of you in Roanoke.)

---

Hello Sherod,

Here are my dues. We are both doing

# Mail Bag

*fine. I had a cataract taken from my right eye last summer. I also had my 80th birthday in December.*

*We made two trips to Connecticut and one to Ohio.*

*We haven't made up our minds about the Roanoke reunion yet.*

*Hopes this finds everything good on your end.*

*As ever,*

**Tom and Flo Bickford DIV/HQ**

311 Bloomingdale Ave  
Cranford, NJ 07016

(editor's note—Tom & Flo—Sherod tells me you made every reunion for 30 years. Roanoke is going to be a big one. It is close to many of the members. At this point in time we have 972 members, going for 1,000 before Roanoke. Don't miss it. J.K. editor)

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## FROM Sherod Collins:

*For most of us, our first introduction to the idea of thrift was when we received our first piggy banks as children. Would you be hard pressed to figure out the connection between swine and savings?*

*The average English villager in the Middle Ages possessed few utensils other than a knife and a cooking pot. (sounds like Stalag 8-A, we had no knives and nothing to cook, editor)*

*Metal was so expensive that most household utensils were made of the type of clay known as "pygg." Family funds were typically stored in one of these earthenware containers. Over the years, these containers became known as pyggy banks. By the 19th century, the origins of the term were so obscure that when a customer requested a pyggy bank, the potter produced a hollow statue in the shape of a pig.*

*That's how an animal with an otherwise unlovely reputation has become associated with the admirable qualities of thrift and frugality.*

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**REMEMBER—POW MEDAL AVAILABLE.** Call toll free on your telephone.

Dial 1-800-873-3768, ask for information on receiving the Prisoner of War" medal.

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*Sherod,*

*Here are our dues.*

*Have nothing new to report. I have uncovered some old drawings—photographs—records of our stay in England before going to the Continent. Maybe I'll work up something for THE CUB.*

*The 42nd annual reunion is in conflict with our 40th wedding anniversary plans—Hawaii and New Zealand areas—Here's hoping. Anyway, take care.*

**Shirley and Jack Gillespie 422/C**

3536 Darcy Drive  
Birmingham, MI 48010

(editor's note—Jack, I have been looking for some material on the points in England where we stayed. was in Cheltenham, if you have anything I would be happy to put it together for the CUB., John Kline Editor)

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*John,*

*Here are a few things I ran across. I am sorry I took so long to answer, but time and circumstances prevented me from answering until now.*

*When I come across more I will send it to you.*

**Charles M. Caracozza 423/M**

73 Morrissee Ave  
Wallington, NJ 07057

(editor's note—Charlie, one of the M/423 men I came across recently sent along an old 1944 roster of M Company that was prepared by 1st Sergeant Clyde T. Ellis, a menu form the Thanksgiving Day Dinner for M Company, 423 at Fort Jackson, SC for 25 November, 1943, newspaper clipping about the 106th and The Bulge and a copy of THE CUB for Jan, Feb, March 1963 where he appears, third man from the right, in a picture of the group, including Doug Coffey, that were attending the Metropolitan eighteenth anniversary Memorial Dinner on Sunday 16 December at Glenon's Restaurant, Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey. He also sent along a news clipping showing Coffey's picture and a picture of the St. Vith Memorial which was written by a Newark News Military Writer and entitled Bulge Veterans, Ex-GIs to Reunite. It refers to 85 members of the 106th leaving Kennedy Airports for a 25th Anniversary get-together at St Vith. Thanks Charlie for all the info.)

John,

I want to congratulate you for the very good job you did on the May issue of **THE CUB**. It was the most interesting issue I've read.

I assume you received the article I sent for July-Sept.

I have contacted Isaac Lucero, who was in my company (422/A) and I am in contact with Ray Russell, who lives on Long Island and was in my work group near Leipzig. Let me know where the 1989 Reunion will be held.

**Dan Bied 422/A**

151 Holiday Terrace

West Burlington, Iowa 52655

(editor's note — Dan, who wrote "The Good Old Days" in the May CUB, is now a regular columnist, see his article in this issue. Thanks Dan, the 1989 Reunion will be held in Chicago Illinois in September of 1989, hosted by one of the best — Russell Villwock, 106 Signal and his wife, Jackie.)

## CORRECTIONS,

They tell me it's never too late to apologize. The FEB-MAR CUB contained some errors.

Page 17 My good friend Bill Johnson, of the 28th Division, was mis-named by this editor as Bill Smith,

Page 18 in setting the photos Ernestine Holland was cut out of the picture

Page 19 the two top pictures were reversed.

Your editor apologizes.

Dear Mr. Kline,

Having lead a combat patrol from Wanne the day prior to the January 13th, 1945 attack, Mr Prewett's article in the May CUB was of particular interest.

I ended up in command of A Company, 424th on January 13th following the death of Lt. McKay. I was platoon leader of the weapons platoon of Co. A, 424th Infantry.

I have memories of events and individuals. However, I am lacking the knowledge of the actual location of our unit on a day to day basis during the

*Battle of the Bulge* If there is a Division chronological history I would appreciate getting a copy of it. Could you help me secure it.

We are planning a trip to Europe in August this year and would appreciate some information.,

Sincerely

**Donald W. Beseler 424/A**

1624 Highway C

St. Germain, WI 54558

(editor's note — Donald, by the time you have received this I will have sent a list of the 424/A members to you, along with some other ideas. Hope you find what you want. I think what you are wanting is the Order of Battle and possibly that could be procured from the Historical Division Records in Washington DC. maybe somebody else has a better idea.

*The recent issue of THE CUB was most interesting and informative, good work!*

Several names were mentioned that I knew because of my assignments as Personnel Officer and Adjutant.

The 424th Regiment was fortunate to have such capable individuals as Huddleston, Welch, Carter, White, Salber, Berwick and Burkes, to name a few mentioned in the articles. Recently I had a note from Major Tiller Carter, our S-4, who now lives in Texas. I also have contact with Sam Leibowitz from Massachusetts.

I am retired from the education field, having been a music teacher, professional trumpet player, and finally as Registrar and Humanities teacher at a Junior College. Enclosed is a copy that isn't too clear, of the 424th Service Company Christmas dinner in 1943 at Ft. Jackson.

**Carl M Hulbert, 424/HQ**

2801 N. Halifax Ave, #242

Daytona Beach, FL 32018

904-672-5528

(Editor's note — Thanks Carl for the information, the 422/SV list shows 15 Association members — good show!)

*Dear John, Congratulations to you and all other officers for a terrific job!*

# Mail Bag

*My primary request is to hear from someone who would have the deployment sites of the 422 and 423 during the latter part of April and early May of 1945, near Rennes, St. Nazaire and Lorient, France.*

*A quick summary of my 106th contacts: Inducted (age 18) at the time the 106th were shipping for Europe.. joined I&R squad, HQ 1st BN/422 at Rennes in early April, 1945; deployed several times near above French cities...traveled with unit through Metz, Saarbrucken to Rhine, up to Koblenz, then to a camp site near Mayen, late May until July (period included several truck convoys through Ardennes).. then to a location near Karlsruhe where I&R unit was disbanded in late July and sent to Namur.*

*After the atom bomb drops, spent the next 12 months with ordnance units in Belgium, France and Germany, along with fellow I&R squad member, Vince Kamrath of Lincoln, NE.*

*In 1984, after reading "St. Vith, a Lion in the Way" I joined the Association.*

*By the fall of 1985, Vince and I decided to retrace our paths in Belgium, France and Germany. Our first step on the itinerary was to pay our respects to the 106th Memorial at St. Vith.*

**R. Wayne George, 422/HQ 1BN**

9 Crestridge Dr.  
Huntington, WV 25705

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*John,*

*I want to commend you on the beautiful way you have developed THE CUB since you have become editor. It is truly professionally done and it should and will mean a better Association in the future.*

*When they were asking for some person to replace Dick DeHeer, I did step forward, but only in desperation. I could not have done the job you are doing, because I have had no contact with publishing or editing.*

*I have written several 106th men encouraging participation in the Roanoke Reunion. My wife and I will be there, God Willing.*

*For your information I have a complete copy of the 106th Infantry Division order #52 (naming the division, the regiments and companies as 'Combat Units'), I also have order #51, which names the members of the 423rd Regiment as being eligible for the Combat Infantry Badge. .*

*I was with Headquarters 423rd, joined the 106th in January of 1943 and was captured 19 Dec, '44, released as a POW at Gorz, Germany on 2 May, 1945.*

**Sam E. Davis, Jr. 423/HQ**

816 N. Eola Dr.  
Orlando, FL 32803  
(407) 896-9240

(editor's note — Order #51 referred to above is the Combat Infantry Badge order for the 423rd Regiment. It is 17 double sided legal pages. I had 10 copies made, at a cost of \$3.89 each. Mailing with envelope is about \$1.25, anybody interested in the complete package send \$5.00 and I will send the packet. If you want only the list that shows your company, send 50 cents or two 25 cent stamps to cover mail and copy costs and I will send it to you. I hope you recognize this is a personal offer, strictly non-profit and is not part of your Association fees. The complete order shows all known dead, MIA (presumed dead as of 31 July 1945) and survivors of the 423rd who are entitled to the CIB.; Order #52 of 1 Aug 1945 is a one page order, announcing that the 423rd Regiment, its three battalions and its companies were proclaimed to be a "COMBAT INFANTRY REGIMENT, COMBAT INFANTRY BATTALIONS and COMBAT INFANTRY COMPANIES" due a minimum of 65% of each of the unit's Tables of Organization strength had been awarded the COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE. I also have a copy of the 423rd Headquarters order #1, dated 4 January, 1945. It contains 32 names and awards of the Combat Infantry Badge to men of the 423rd Service Company. Colonel Cavender tells me that order #51 was put together by he and others while he was hospitalized in France recuperating from wounds sustained in a bombing raid just before his liberation.

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*John,*

*I know you through THE CUB, but we have never met. My wife, Flo, and I have been members of the 106th Infantry Division Association since the*



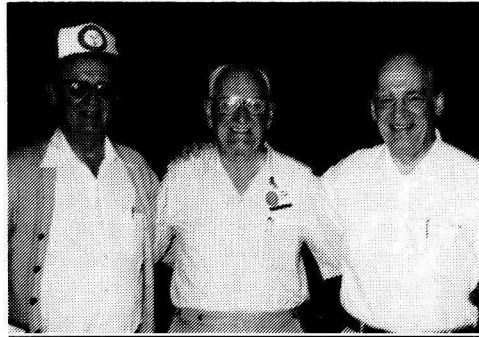
*them all, even one that was printed at Camp Lucky Strike, and the ones they issued as we came back on the boat. Let me know, I can have Harold Brummer bring them down to Roanoke and you can pick them up there. Yours,*

**Tom Bickford, DIV/HQ Motor Pool**

311 Bloomingdale Ave  
Cranford, N.J. 07016

(Tom, thanks for the offer, I will accept. — I contacted Tom on 4 July and made arrangements for the delivery of the CUBs. Tom related to me how well he had known General Jones, since he was in the Division

Motor Pool. Tom, it was nice to talk to you, and again, Thanks for the CUBs — you're just great for that kind gesture. Sorry we won't see you in Roanoke, have a good time in Ohio, I think that's where you said you be. — John Kline, editor)



Mobile picture by Frank Raila 423/E  
L/R Howard S. Edwards 423/F,  
Col Joseph Puett, CO 423/2Bn, and Frank Raila

## Adjutant's Report

### ***Proposed Amendment of the BY – LAWS:***

Pursuant to Section XVI b, ASSOCIATION BY-LAWS, notice is hereby given that at our next Annual Meeting an amendment to Sect II b of the BY-LAWS will be proposed to read substantially as follows:

- "b. Members of the Board of Directors will be elected at the Annual Meeting for a term of three years. After serving a term of three years, a Board member shall not be elected again until the expiration of one year from the date last served on the Board." (This amendment will be in effect immediately upon approval by the General Membership)"***

Initially, during the 1988 Reunion, seven selected members of the Board will not be eligible for re-election and seven new members will be elected for a three year term; the remaining fourteen members will be nominated for election for one or two year terms.

# New Members

## DIV/HQ

### **Hoinash, William**

11 Raymond Street  
Englewood Cliffs, NJ 07632

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Bill indicates he is a CPA, and was in the Finance Office 106th Division Headquarters.*

### **Schuetz, Kenneth N.**

34 Oak Drive  
Roseland, NJ 07068

Solicited by Sherod Collins

*Kenneth says wife "Marion", three children, 5 grandchildren. Retired from Schering-Plough Corp. (Pharmaceutical), worked in accounting/finance. Hobbies - ship models and travel.*

## 106 RECON

### **White, Rishel**

13 West Church St.  
Adams, NY 13605

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Wife's name Shirley*

## 106 SIG

### **McGranaghan, David E.**

140 South Clinton St.  
Olean, NY 14760

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*David indicates he was with other units. Gill, will try to write a brief account of my time with the Golden Lions, appreciate your invitation to rejoin "the old outfit."*

### **Ream, Granville C.**

3408 SW 25th St  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33312

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*I was not a POW, stayed in the Army after the war to retire in 1963 as a Major MPC. GI bill for college (MBA accounting), now CPA and Controller of private company.*

## 331/B

### **Feiertag, Arthur J.**

968 Broad Street  
Bloomfield, NJ 07003

## 422/HQ

### **Love, E. Pressly**

617 Carolina Ave  
Gastonia, NC 28502

## 422/AT

### **Wilson, William L.**

111 Forest St.  
Hamden, CT 06518

### **Merritt, James**

RFD 5 Box 241  
Bangor, ME 04401

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Gill, I am married, with 3 children, formerly building construction, owner retails Sport Store, Presently - Supt, Industrial Construction and Piping, living in wooded area, Orono, ME.*

### **Telfer, Dick**

5357 Spencer  
Las Vegas, NV 89119

*Dear John, Bill Wanless (an Assoc member), who I haven't heard from in over 40 years located me earlier this year. I understand you found my name in the AX-POW directory and gave it to him. We have been corresponding since then. He told me of the 106th Infantry Division Association. I joined the 106th at Ft. Jackson in March of 43 and was with it until captured 19 December, 1944.*

*Needless to say a lot has happened since—spent 35 years in Education—K-12 through Grad level teaching—consulting etc. Have done lots of writing and editing which is a great challenge. I was originally from Ann Arbor, Michigan. Looking with eagerness to learn more about the Association. I am doing a book on the activities as a POW in a workcamp—trying to emphasize the humor amidst the trial and torment.*

*Keep in touch, if I can be of assistance we have the National Convention in September here for the AX-POW—will be interesting to see if there are any AT'ers, Best Wishes*

## 422/HQ 1BN

**Horan, Joseph**

301 Garfield Ave  
Palmyra, NJ 08065

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

Dear Gilbert, I'm trying to locate a buddy who was a prisoner, "John Plotowski," formerly of Hamtramck, Detroit, Michigan — Is he on your roster or do you have any info — I would appreciate any lead. (ed. note — Anybody got a lead for Joe? Joe indicates he was in the Ammunition Pioneer Platoon)

## 422/B

**Curcarola, Joe F.**

Rte 2 Rd 41-20627  
Sterling, CO 80751

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

Joe writes to Gill "Later." Looking forward to a short summary Joe.

## 422/C

**Kapsalis, Thomas H.**

5204 N. Virginia Ave  
Chicago, IL 60625

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

Tom furnished Gill with a short biography and describes himself as an "Artist." Congratulations Joe. Born in Chicago May 31, 1925: Service 44-45, wounded and held as a POW. (no indication where): 1949 BA from School of the Art Institute of Chicago, 50-52 Chicago Public Schools as Art Teacher.; 53-54

Studied in Stuttgart, Germany with Willie Baumeister, Otto Baum and Hans Warnekeon a Fulbright Fellowship. Traveled throughout Europe; 54 to present — Member of the Faculty of the School of Art Institute of Chicago as Associate Professor.

Married Stella Manos in 1956; Summer 56 Huntington Hartford Foundation Grant. Pacific Palisades, California; 1957 Master of Art degree, School of Art Institute, Chicago; 58-71 Taught at Northwestern University Evening School; 51-58 traveled throughout Mexico; 59 (summer) Huntington Hartford Foundation Grant, Pacific

Palisades, California; 1965 A daughter Adamandia Eugenia and a son in 1971, Harry Thomas.

Congratulations Thomas.

**Smith, Josh L.**

1404 Darling Ave Apt 1  
Waycross, GA 31501

Solicited by Sherod Collins

Shortly after the Association was formed I joined and was a member for several years. I did drop my membership and would like to get re-instated. I was a member of 422/C. Thanks Welcome back Josh.

## 422/HQ 2BN

**Gardner, James**

704 LaBelle  
Shelbyville, IN 46176

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

Jim made no comments — Welcome back Jim.

## 422/F

**Mays, Joseph A.**

276 Forrest Rd.  
Huntington, WV 25705

**Totura, Stanley**

275 NE Oliveway  
Boca Raton, FL 33432

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

Gill, I retired in March from Florida Atlantic University where I was internal auditor and later accountant. My wife is a librarian at the Boca Raton Public Library. We have three married sons and three grandchildren.

## 422/I

**Phelps, Hugh L.**

PO Box 508  
Molalla, OR 97038

John,

I was in I Co. 422nd. I do not remember which squad or platoon. I was captured near Schoenberg, marched to Koblenz then to Limberg. Loaded on box-cars then sent to Mühlberg Stalag 4-B. Was then sent out to Pague on a work Kommando until I was liberated. I would like to hear from anyone who was there.

# New Members

(Ed. Note—Hugh sounds like we were right together until you stayed in 4-B, I went on to Stalag 8-A Gorlitz, 80 East of Dresden. Will send you a little info later. Were you in the barracks at Koblenz when we were bombed two days in a row? If you were we were side by side. If you still remember your POW number given to you at 4-B let me know. Mine was 315136. The closest number I have found so far is Leo Leisse, St Louis - HQ 38N/422, his was 315151. Let me know, my address is on the inside cover of this publication, John Kline-Editor)

## 422/MED

### **Mangiaracina, George P.**

5018 North Lockwood  
Chicago, IL 60630

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Gill, I was an aid-man in the 422nd Infantry, I was a prisoner in 9B and 9A. My POW number was 25568. Entered service September 1942. I was in Co. B, 331 Medical assigned to Heavy Weapons. I have a letter from Colonel Descheneaux (deceased) from Fitzsimmons Hospital, it brings tears to my eyes every time I read it. I am still unable to find some one that was with me in 9A when a German Officer, who I could not understand he was telling me to stand at attention, beat me with a rifle butt on my knee and body, then spit on me. I wish I had him now. I am 78 years old now, do you have a life membership? Thank you so much for getting in touch with me. I am having plastic surgery on my knee in March. Sincerely, George*

## 423/A

### **Behling, Jackson**

5519 E. 114th Street  
Tulsa, OK 74137

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Gill, POW 9B, Bad Orb, Hammelburg. Forced march from Hammelburg to escape near Wartenburg, Germany April 28, 1944. Relieved from active duty December 1945, discharged April 1, 1953. Returned to Texas A&M January 45, graduated as a Mechanical Engineer May 47. Worked for Stanolind Pipeline Co (all part of Standard Oil of Indiana. Retired January 1, 1986 after living in Tulsa Oklahoma, Anadarko, OK: Shawnee, OK:*

*Lubbock, TX; Chicago, IL; Denver, CO; and Casper, Wyoming; then back to Tulsa.*

*Still hear from 8 to 10 old platoon members from the 106th days. Three daughters, stepson and daughter, 8 grandchildren. My wife's name is "Marianne."*

(ed. Note—Welcome back, give us you old buddies names and we will try to get them back in the organization)

## 423/C

### **Cashman, John F.**

Star Rte 1, Box 250  
East Hebron, NH 03232

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*John made no comments—Welcome back John, send us a little history.*

### **Westort, Raymond F.**

1031 West Indian Hills Pl  
Phoenix, AZ 85023

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Gill, my wife's name is "Helen." I went to the University of Utah, played football, made a few All American teams, drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles, injured knee, and next year signed on with the Detroit Lions, had a car accident. Went to work for the Chicago Board of Education as an Engineer Custodian, worked for them until I retired in 1985.*

*Live in Phoenix with my wife and three grown children. Coached two Chicago City High School Champs in 1956 and 1957. Thanks for contacting me Gill Sincerely*

## 423/G

### **Adams III, Walter S.**

906 Shady Fork Rd.  
Chattanooga, TN 37421

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*(written by Walter's wife- Joy) Walter worked for 3-M Corporation for 35 years in various managerial positions in the Electrical Products Division. He has 4 children and 8 grandchildren. In 1985 he married me. On January 27, 1986 he suffered a mild heart attack, but was left incompetent because of lack of oxygen. He is now in good health, but*

with a little memory and under-standing problem, and very little speech He is not paralyzed and we go dancing once a week and take aerobic exercises constantly. I take care of him now - My son calls me "Mother Theresa." We both married other spouses in the 40's after the war, but had been high school sweethearts. He is now on long term disability and will retire from 3-M on his 65th birthday on January 7, 1989.

## Gresham, Joseph W.

Rte 1 Box 129-B  
Lindale, TX 75771

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

Gill, Forty of us were sent to a work camp near the Polish border, a small vil-lage called Neudorf. We left there on April 18th ahead of the Russian drive. Our guards left us on the day the war ended and we finally made our way back to the American lines on May 16th. I was discharged in Nov 45. I was employed by the Tyler Pipe Industries in 1946 and retired from them in 1982. I have 2 daughters, 4 grandchildren, love to play golf, hunt and fish.

I appreciate you sending me the applica-tion for membership. I probably can't make the reunion in Roanoke, but would like to hear more about the "Bag Lunch" Division.

Sincerely Joe

## 423/H

## Kurzeja, Michael

3829 Rosemead Ave  
Brookfield, IL 60513

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

Gill, excuse the late reply to your letter. I have had the flu a couple of weeks and am just getting around to feeling like writing. I was a POW in 9-B Bad Orb. Married to my wife Carol for 38 years, five grandchildren Mat-thew & Elizabeth McNichols from daughter Karen and husband Bob; Kevin, Bethany and Jimmy Quilty, by daughter Kathy and her husband Jim; My son Keith is married to Judy. I am

retired from Polygram (phonogram) Records. Carol is a Registered Nurse (retired).

## 423/I

## Widdicombe, Robert W.

8603 Fiesta Way  
Fort Wayne, IN 46815

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

Last minute, from Gil, more infor-mation later.

## 423/K

## Yensel, Harvey

6432 SE County Line Rd.  
Indianapolis, IN 46259

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

Harvey, give us a little history for the next CUB, nice to have you with us.

## 423/MED

## Harsfield (S), R. Edward

53 Joyce Street  
East Falmouth, MA 02536

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

Dear Gill, I see we were in the same Regiment, but I can't remember you. Maybe you can remember me as I was the Asst Battalion Surgeon and was in command of the evacuation of the wounded when the SS caught us going cross country with over 100 wounded men in ambulances and jeeps. I was wounded in POW camp when the RAF bombed us by accident. (must have been Limburg 12-A)

After liberation I was in the hospital for two years before they decided to retire me.

I went to work for the DOD in 1950 and retired in 1975 as the Principal Contract-ing Officer on World Wide Communica-tion Systems. In those days the Air Force kept me on the go constantly, so didn't have time for organized activities.

I have three children who have given Shir-ley and me nine wonderful grandchildren. Would like to hear from anybody who remembers me.

Sincerely



# New Members

## 423/UNIT?

**Honan, John J.**

W. 5013 Biety  
Johnson Creek, WI 53038

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Received at last moment by phone  
from Gil, information later.*

## 424/AT

**Gould, Clayton**

11 South Park St.  
Bangor, ME 04401

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Gill, I received your letter and am  
glad to say that you found me. I am  
happy to join the Association. I hope we  
can make the reunion at Roanoke.*  
*Signed; Clayton Gould, P.D.C. Depart-  
ment of Maine, Disabled American  
Veterans.*

## 424/SV

**Uveges Jr., John**

70 Andrew Street  
Trenton, NJ 08610

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Gill, I was captured just outside  
Winterspelt, we were taken to Stalag  
12-A, Limberg, where we were bombed  
on Xmas Eve, 1944 with 2,000  
pounders. From Stalag 12-A we were  
transported by box cars to Stalag Res.  
Lazaret II located at Stargard. Nearly  
all of us suffered frozen feet. Many com-  
rades died there with gangrene. Medi-  
cal treatment was non-existent. When  
the Russians made their move we were  
put on the road, marching from early  
morning till late night. The only food  
we received was from some of the Polish  
Forced Laborers who received advanced  
word of our coming and filled our cups  
with warm soup.*  
*Our next stop was Stalag II-A at Neu-  
Brandenburg where we spent a few  
weeks. We were then put on the road  
again and marched to Stalag X-B at  
Bremervorden at which point we were  
liberated by the British. I contracted  
blood poisoning from a gangrenous  
wound I had on my right forearm. At  
Camp Lucky Strike Field Hospital, the  
Doctor told me I was very lucky for on*

*the outside I had about 3 days to live if I  
had not been given immediate medical  
attention. At present I am retired from  
the US Postal Service. I belonged to the  
106th Infantry Division Association,  
but lost touch years ago. I would like a  
copy of the membership roster.*

(Ed. Note — John, could only use part of your letter be-  
cause of space. I gave your name to the son of one of  
our deceased members, Kirk Grisby — his father's name  
was Alvin (Bud) Grisby, it looks as if you were in the  
same camps as his father. He has been trying to find  
someone who knew him, I hope you are that person..  
The annual roster appears in this issue. John Kline,  
Editor.)

## 424/A

**Sheehan, John P.**

PO Box 422  
Clinton, CT 06413

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*John made no comments, but hope  
he will drop us some history for the  
CUB.*

## 424/D

**Langlois, Leon J.**

543 Hanover St.  
Manchester, NH 03104

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Gill, I worked 40 years as a licensed  
plumber in Manchester, NH, retiring  
in 1985. My wife was a school teacher.  
We have four children and ten  
grandchildren. (Welcome Back Leon).*

**Sutich, Christian P.**

7512 - 4th Ave  
North Bergen, NJ 07047

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Gill, when I received your letter I  
was surprised to see that the 106th As-  
sociation still existed. I was a member  
years ago and lost track because I  
received no mail. I thought they had  
folded. I would like to become a member.  
I have 6 children, 5 grandchildren. I am  
retired (1984), was a construction  
worker. I have been in touch with Leo  
Langlois, he was also a D Co. member.  
Thanks for writing  
Sincerely, Chris.*

## 424/E

**Sharrow, Robert L.**

Box 413  
Millville, PA 17846

## 424/F

**Madden Jr., Lawrence H. M.D.**

9102 Babcock Blvd, Doctors Bldg  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Solicited by Sherod Collins

Enclosed is my membership fee. I was an original member of F Company, 424th Weapons Platoon from the time of activation until going overseas as a replacement in the 33rd Division in late 1944.

I have been practicing Medicine in Pittsburgh the past 28 years.

Very Truly Yours, Larry

**Williams, Everitt M.**

249 Wininah Ave  
Mantua, NJ 08051-1446

Last minute press time info from Sherod Collins, more later.

## 424/I

**Stilley, Calvin L.**

PO Box 1586  
Lexington Pk, MD 20653

## 424/L

**Herndon, Donald F.**

PO Box 32036  
Oklahoma City, OK 73123

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

Donald, write us a little history when you get time. Thanks.

## 424/M

**Berkery, Timothy**

3832 W 84th Pl  
Chicago, IL 60652

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

More later - last minute sign up by Gil.

**Levine, George**

120 East 31st St.  
New York, NY 10016

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

Gill, I arrived in Camp Atterbury in 1944 as a volunteer for the Infantry from the Artillery. I sailed on the Aquitania as a mortar gunner (81mm) m/424. Participated in the Bulge from the onset and was evacuated with

frozen feet on January 15th, 1945 near Wanne, Belgium.

I re-enlisted in the Army in 1948, served mostly with the 206th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division in Germany. Left the Army in 1956. Have been employed as a free lance cartoonist. My work has been published by Wall Street Journal, King Features, McCall's, American Legion, Leatherneck, Ladies Home Journal, Reader's Digest, American Medical News and many others. In Europe I have been published by Frau (Germany), London Free Press (England), Sunday Express (England), Trading (Australia), My Weekly, She, Weekend, Annabel (all England) and WeltWoche (Switzerland). Gill, Thanks for contacting me, send me a copy of THE CUB

(Ed. Note — George Levine and I have had several nice conversations since I received his application from Gill. I am going to feature his cartoons in each quarterly publication of THE CUB. Look in this one for the first one, George sent me a little more history which you will see along with his first cartoon as published in this issue — Thanks George, I know your talent shall dress up THE CUB and give the members a chuckle or two.)

## 424/MED

**Brooks, Douglas**

805 Creekside Dr.  
Memphis, TN 38117

## 81st ENG/A

**Karns, Russell J.**

116 W. Siddonburg Rd.  
Dillsburg, PA 17019

Press time application, from Sherod Collins, more later.

## 81st Eng/B

**Carpenter, Edgar R.**

1360 Chapel Pike  
Marion, IN 46952

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

After discharge attended Rose Hulman Institute Tech. Graduated December 1946 and joined the paper industry. After 22 years as Chief Engineer for Bell Fibre Products Corporation I am retiring June 30, 1988.

# New Members

*Martha and I love to travel and will certainly try to make it to Roanoke this next September*

(Ed. Note Edgar, your mention of Rose Poly Tech institute brings back many memories of my childhood. I went to Glen High School, just a few miles east of Rose Poly. In my teens I used to sneak into Tony Hulman's estate across the road and fish and swim in the large lake. After the war I played many rounds of golf at the country club just West of Rose Tech. I think it was called the Phoenix Club. I was not a member, but it was open to the public as I remember. Those were the days when my drives used to slice into the rough I was impetuous enough to throw my driver half-way across the course (now that I think of it, that could have been "post trauma stress." I will be in Roanoke, let's get together. John Kline, Editor.)

## 81st ENG/C

**Thompson, James L.**

Rte 2 Box 476  
Galesville, WI 54630

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Gill, I am married to "Marian," have three children. Worked as a welder, truck driver and a musician. Retired two years ago. My wife works in a Division of Babson Brothers factory in Galesville, Wisconsin.*

## 820 TD BN/C

**Weaver, Donald E.**

6455 Lance Ave S.W.  
Grand Rapids, MI 49508

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

(Donald, nice to hear from one of the 820 TD men. Hope you know a few more who can join. Thanks for joining. Give us a little background for the CUB. John Kline, Editor)

## 589/A

**Miedema, Eldon L.**

Rte 2 W6658 CTH-D  
Holmen, WI 54636

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Gill, I am now retired. received a letter today from John Gatens (an Association member). He and I were in the same section, when we were wiped out at Baraque de Fraiture(Parker's Crossroads), Belgium on December 23rd, 1944, by elements of the 2nd SS Panzer Division.*

*We were at Gerolstein and Stalag 12-A. Did not know until today that he sur-*

*vived. How exciting it was to hear from him. Thanks for writing me, I am happy to join.*

## 591/B

**Davenport, Wendell D.**

4516 South Albany  
Chicago, IL 60632

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Thanks for joining us Wendell, let us hear a few words from you for the next CUB.*

## DIV/ARTY

**Camfield, Galen L.**

2732 Vermont St.  
Joplin, MO 64814

Solicited by Gilbert Helwig

*Gill, I retired in Oct 1984 from the Empire District Electric Co, Joplin, MO. with 44 years service. I was a line foreman for the company. My wife was retired from office work and had open heart surgery in Sept of 1984. I am commander of the American Ex-Prisoners of War, the Southwest Missouri Chapter Ax-POW. Captured by the Germans on December 16, 1944, Marched to three different prison camps.*

(Editors Note - Galen, we marked you down as being in Division Headquarters Artillery, is that correct, or were you with one of the other units, like the 589, 590, 591 or the 592nd FA?)

## ASSOC

**White, Mrs Wolfred K.**

1039 Idylwild Dr.  
Richmond, KY 40475

**Parquette, Mrs Roland**

410 Super Street  
Mosinee, WI 54455

**Marshall, Sandy (Stilley)**

PO Box 1586  
Lexington Pk, MD 20653

# *Adjutant Resigning, volunteer wanted*

## After years of dedicated service Sam asks for relief

A LETTER FROM ADJUTANT SAMUEL P. CARIANO, TO ROGER RUTLAND, PRESIDENT AND JOHN ROBB, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT, DATED 9, JULY, 1988

*During the final Board Meeting in 1984 at Savannah, Georgia, I volunteered to be Adjutant of our Association to replace Robert W. Pierce, Sr., who repeatedly asked to be relieved and to also aid in keeping the late Richard DeHeer, Sr., on as our CUB Editor. I informed him that I would take on the Adjutant's job if he would remain as our CUB Editor. Our residences being near one another would facilitate the handling of any tasks and problems more readily.*

*During the past two years I have found it difficult to keep up on my home work at both residences, here and in Florida. A lot more work has to be done on our new villa even though we have had it nearly a year. Also, just moving back and forth twice a year creates extra time and is time consuming in getting settled each time.*

*Our membership has grown from 500 to over 1,000 in the four years that I have been Adjutant. Administering this number of people takes more time than I can devote to it. This workload along with bad health and eyesight makes it nearly impossible for me to keep up with my own housework which has been neglected during the past few years, as I was trying to do a good job as Adjutant.*

*Therefore, in view of the above reasons, I do not wish to be appointed Association Adjutant at the next annual meeting, or thereafter.*

*You may wish to publish a notice in **THE CUB** asking for volunteers.*

*Sincerely,*

*(signed)*

Samuel P. Cariano

Adjutant

cc:

Sherod Collins

John Kline

# Remember!

The 42nd Annual Reunion  
of the  
106th Infantry Division  
Association

Roanoke, VA  
Sept 14-18, 1988

If you haven't registered!  
Contact Fred Farris, 104 Pinehurst St.  
Salem, VA — Tele: 703-389-2674

## *Special event*

*A real  
Virginia Hoe-Down  
FEATURING  
an Old Southern Pig Roast  
Music and Dancing  
Food, Fun and Fellowship*

*Thursday evening, 15 September, 7:30-11:00pm*

\$20.00 per person  
38.00 per couple

checks payable to 106th Infantry Division Association