

THUNDERBOLT

VOL. 3, NO. 2

WASHINGTON, D. C.

JULY-AUGUST 1949

Lt. General McLain To Be Guest Speaker

Lieutenant General Raymond S. McLain, Commanding General of the XIX Corps in Europe during World War II, will be the guest speaker at the 83rd third annual banquet in Pittsburgh on August 6. General McLain is now the Chief of Information with the Department of the Army at the Pentagon in Washington, D. C.

The General was born near St. Rose, Washington County in Kentucky. From a private in the infantry with the Oklahoma National Guard, he has come up through all of the ranks to become a Lieutenant General.

His first taste of World War II action came as Artillery Commander of the 45th Division in its am-
July 10, 1943. In three successive days' fighting, he led elements of the 45th to capture its three principal objectives, for which he was
(Continued on page 4)

Eastern States Vets Meet In New York

What originally started as a New York Chapter has now grown into an Eastern States Chapter. The knowledge that there were no active chapters in the States of Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania prompted the New York Chapter to invite all Thunderbolts within travelling distance to attend its meetings. We reproduce, in part, information which appeared in its last bulletin:

"Enthusiasm for an idea and the spirit of comradeship brought together over 70 members of the 83rd Division on January 8, at the 77th Division Clubhouse in New York City. The newest, and so far as we know, the largest chapter (Editor's note—this is the largest chapter) of former Thunderbolts was organized as the Eastern States Chapter. Most of its activities and meetings will be centered in New York City. The major objective of the day
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Convention Guest



Lt. General Raymond S. McLain

Thunderbolts Plan Third Annual Reunion In Pittsburgh, August 5th and 6th, 1949

HOTEL WILLIAM PENN CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS

Plans for the 1949 Thunderbolts' Third Annual Reunion to be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on August 5 and 6 (Please note—the 5th and 6th of August and not the 12th and 13th as previously selected and announced) at the Hotel William Penn are almost complete according to recent information received from the committee of that city.

William Appleton, 331st Inf, 1105 Reddour St., Pittsburgh, Pa., chairman of the 1949 Smoky City

Committee, has made the necessary arrangements with the convention bureau, the city officials and hotel representatives. Headquarters for the convention will be located in the William Penn and all of the main reunion activities will take place there. The Hotel William Penn is now accepting room reservations. For these, simply clip the reserve accommodation block appearing in this issue of Thunderbolt, checking the desired type of room you will need, and forward it to Mr. Thomas F. Troy, General Manager, Hotel William Penn, Pittsburgh 30, Pa.

Lieutenant General Raymond S.

the Army, will be the guest speaker at the banquet. Major General Robert C. Macon, our commanding general in Europe, is also planning to attend.

A \$10.00 registration fee has been set per person to furnish you with tickets of admission to the Stag Bull Session and Floor Show (for men only, hum!) on Friday night, a scenic bus tour of the city of Pittsburgh, the Banquet and
(Continued on page 4)

ROOM RESERVATION THIRD ANNUAL REUNION WILLIAM PENN HOTEL PITTSBURGH, PENNA.

If you plan to attend the 83rd Infantry Division Third Annual Reunion in Pittsburgh on August 5 and 6 use this room reservation block below to assure you and your friends of the necessary accommodations. Do it now. Forward to: Mr. Thomas F. Troy, General Manager, Hotel William Penn, Pittsburgh 30, Pa.

PLEASE RESERVE ACCOMMODATIONS AS CHECKED

Name..... (Please Print)

Address..... City..... State.....

Date arriving..... Date departing.....
am pm am pm

ROOM AND BATH 4.50 5.00 5.75 6.25 7.50
SINGLE—PER DAY 4.75 5.25 6.00 7.00

DOUBLE BEDROOM—BATH 6.75 7.25 7.75 8.25 8.75 10.00
TWO PERSONS—PER DAY 7.00 7.50 8.00 8.50 9.00

TWIN BEDROOM—BATH 7.75 8.25 9.00 11.00 12.00 13.00
TWO PERSONS—PER DAY

SUITES: PARLOR 15.00 18.00 22.00
BEDROOM—BATH 16.00 20.00 27.00 Large suites, two bedrooms subject to confirmation.
17.00

Third person in room \$2.50 additional Reservations assigned at next available rate when indicated rate not obtainable.

IT'S FIGURES, IF YOU'RE INTERESTED

According to Lieutenant General Levin H. Campbell, Jr., Chief of Ordnance, United States Army from 1942-46, war materiel was manufactured in the United States during World War II (1940-1945) in the following quantities:—

Rounds of artillery ammunition.....	900,681,530
Helmets	22,996,269
Rifles and carbines.....	12,234,608
Machine guns and mounts.....	3,283,837
Pistols and revolvers.....	2,827,708
Submachine guns.....	2,026,798
Light and medium trucks.....	1,380,925
Units of artillery.....	755,380
Bazookas	476,628
Heavy trucks.....	145,454
Tanks	85,933

THUNDERBOLT

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

The Thunderbolt is written by and for past members of the 83rd and published bi-monthly by The Infantry Journal, 1115 Seventeenth Street, Washington 6, D. C.

EDITOR.....RAYMOND J. GOGUEN
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BY-LAWS

THE 83rd INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP

ACTIVE: Any person assigned to the 83rd Infantry Division during the period 8 August 1942 to 30 April 1946.

ASSOCIATE: Members of designated units attached to the 83rd Infantry Division during the above specified period long enough to qualify for a battle star shall be entitled to all privileges of active membership except voting and right to hold office. The next of kin of any person qualifying as an Honorary Member is eligible for Associate Membership.

HONORARY: Any person who would qualify for Active or Associate Membership and is deceased shall be an Honorary Member of this Association.

No person who has been dishonorably discharged from the service of the United States Army will be eligible for membership.

OFFICERS

This Association shall have an Executive Board composed of the first eight National Officers and four Members-at-Large.

The National Officers shall be:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. President | 8. Asst. Secretary for Publications |
| 2. 1st Vice-President | 9. Chaplain |
| 3. 2nd Vice-President | 10. Historian |
| 4. 3rd Vice-President | 11. Assistant Historian |
| 5. Secretary | 12. Judge Advocate |
| 6. Secretary-Treasurer | 13. Sergeant-at-Arms (3) |
| 7. Secretary for Publications | |

Commanding Generals of the 83rd Infantry Division during the period required for membership shall be Honorary Presidents of the Association.

Election, Term of Office, and Duties of Officers.

Election of Members-at-Large to the Association Executive Board and the National Officers of the Association will take place at the annual meeting.

The term of office of the above named will be for one (1) year.

A member of the Association in good standing will be entitled to one (1) vote. Voting by proxy will not be permitted.

In the event that no annual meeting is held the annual election shall be conducted by mail in a manner prescribed by the Executive Board.

PRESIDENT

1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the members and of the Executive Board and shall assist in the formation of all policies of the Association. The President shall have all of the other usual duties of the Office of the President as well as such additional powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT

2. The 1st Vice-President shall in the absence of the President assume the duties of the President. He shall also have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT

3. The 2nd Vice-President shall in the absence of the 1st Vice-President assume the duties of the 1st Vice-President. He shall also have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

3RD VICE-PRESIDENT

4. The 3rd Vice-President shall in the absence of the 2nd Vice-President assume the duties of the 2nd Vice-President. He shall also have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

SECRETARY

5. The Secretary shall read at the annual meeting all reports submitted by the Secretary-Treasurer. The Secretary will assist the Secretary-Treasurer with Association correspondence.

SECRETARY-TREASURER

6. a. The Secretary-Treasurer will be responsible for the Association's funds from all sources.

b. The Secretary-Treasurer will establish an address which shall be known as the headquarters for the Association.

c. The Secretary-Treasurer may be paid a salary in an amount to be determined yearly by the Executive Board.

d. The Office of Secretary-Treasurer may or may not be held by a member of the Association.

SECRETARY FOR PUBLICATIONS

7. The Secretary for Publications shall supervise and be a member of the Editing Staff of all publications released by the Association. He shall have additional powers and duties as prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR PUBLICATIONS

8. The Assistant Secretary for Publications shall help supervise and be a member of the Editing Staff of all publications released by the Association. He shall have additional powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

CHAPLAIN

9. The Chaplain shall have all of the duties of the Office of Chaplain as well as such additional duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

HISTORIAN

10. The Historian shall keep a record of events of the Association. He may, at the discretion of the Executive Board rewrite a Division History, collect from members and maintain a file of published and unpublished unit histories, pictures, papers, and, in conjunction with the Chaplain, conduct contact work between the War Department, deceased members' families, and Association Members to establish the full stories of the deceased members' deaths.

ASSISTANT HISTORIAN

11. The Assistant Historian shall help keep a record of events of the Association and shall assume the duties of the Historian when required.

JUDGE ADVOCATE

12. The Judge Advocate shall be the legal advisor of the Association and, in particular, of the Executive Board and shall have such additional powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS

13. The Sergeants-at-Arms shall maintain decorum at the annual meetings and have such other powers and duties as may be prescribed from time to time by the Executive Board.

DUES

The annual dues of the National Association shall be payable in advance before 30 June each year.

CHAPTERS

The National Association shall grant charters, at its option, to geographic sectional chapters who agree to operate under the provisions of the National Association's By-Laws. A Membership of not less than ten (10) members in good standing shall be required in order to obtain such charters.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A nominating committee of five members, holding no office in the Association, shall be selected by the President, subject to the approval of the Executive Board, for the purpose of yearly selecting a panel of members to be voted upon for positions of Executive Board and National Officers. This committee shall be charged with the specific duty of nominating adequate representation of former enlisted personnel and officers for offices in the Association.

(Continued on page 3)

LETTER FROM IKE



General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
New York 27, N. Y.

President's Room

Dear Mr. Straus:

Most certainly I should be delighted to attend the 83rd Division reunion in Pittsburgh this August if it were at all possible to be with you. However, my calendar is committed for that period to an extensive trip in the West which will not permit my return to this part of the country until well into September. The engagements for that period are of

such a nature that they cannot be interrupted for even a brief visit to Pennsylvania.

You will appreciate the situation which confronts me, I am sure, and will explain it to your associates. It is most disappointing to me personally that I very seldom, under present circumstances, can meet with my comrades of the Mediterranean and European campaigns. But for many months to come, I must resign myself to the fact that new consultative responsibilities I have assumed in the public service, added to my present duties as President of Columbia University, will not permit many of my own personal desires.

There will come a time, however, I am sure, when a greater measure of leisure will permit me opportunity to renew old friendships and strengthen old ties. In the meantime, I cannot do more than say through you to all the veterans of the 83rd, "My thanks and my best wishes to you all for a very happy and fruitful 1949."

Sincerely,

DWIGHT EISENHOWER.

Mr. Jack M. Straus
422 South Western Avenue
Los Angeles 5, California

Here, There and Everywhere

Letter from the management of the William Penn in Pittsburgh indicating their wholehearted support to make our reunion there a success. They can accommodate 600 of us. Let's hope that there will be 600 there and 600 more in other hotels. So you see the first 600 to write in for room reservations get to stay at the William Penn. Do it now. . . . LT. COL. JULES H. DESHOTELS, former G-2 of the Division, is on a 60-day tour of active duty in the Pentagon. His home address is 412 Church St., Kaplan, La. . . . 1ST SGT. GEORGE H. WAPLE of Hq Co 331st is now GENERAL BRADLEY's driver. . . . Write to RICHARD B. DOWLER, Box 151, Coal Center, Pa. . . . ARTHUR KOERNER, I-329, 426 Elm St., Kent, Ohio, states that company I-329 will have the largest representation in Pittsburgh. He has over 200 of them all lined-up. . . . ALEXANDER E. MICELLI, C-330, wants men of that company to keep in touch with him by writing to 110 East Hancock, Detroit 1, Mich. . . . HAROLD FREEMAN, Haddenfield, New Jersey, will be a member before this reaches you. HOWARD DAVIDSON, 39 Hadley St., Lowell, Mass., is rounding up the Recon men for Pittsburgh. Snoopers get in contact with him. . . . RUBEN A. LIGHT has a new address: 815-95th St., Niagara Falls, N. Y. . . . WILLIAM D. BAKER attended the first reunion in Cleveland, missed the one in Indianapolis, but plans to make Pittsburgh. He is from Rippon, W. Va. . . . ELMER SUTTINGER, 229 169th St., Hammond, Ind., has sent some stinging letters in and we all agree with him that the association needs a shot somewhere. This is only one example, not introduced as an excuse but as matter of fact. Since being Editor, which has been since the association was founded, I have received exactly three stories from members of the association in three years, and two of these came from the same person. Men, you can't expect a THUNDERBOLT regularly unless you, the members, send in some copy and pictures. Now, I expect a flood of mail after that statement, I hope. . . . Another Thunderbolt has changed his address, write to Q. W. BYRNES, M.D. now at Veterans' Administration Branch, P. O. Box 505, Dayton, Ohio. . . . Received a letter from SGT. HARRY R. ILIFF, Hq-1-329, stating he is now with Co H, 9th Inf, 2nd Div., at Fort Lewis, Wash. . . . SIDNEY M. STEIGER of 83 QM lives at 1868 Conlyn St., Philadelphia 41, Pa. . . . 329ers can now reach STANLEY A. WIENCEK at 10831 So. Peoria St., Chicago 43, Ill. . . . All men from the 331st are urged to contact WALTER G. ASHMORE, 101 Persons Building, Macon, Ga. . . . GENE NOLTE, D-331, wants to say hello to all Thunderbolts. His address—529 Hackett Rd., Toledo 10, Ohio. . . . GEORGE E. MACLEAN, A-324 FA, 74 Vine St., Saugus, Mass., wants to hear from the boys of battery A. . . .

(Continued on page 4)

BY-LAWS

(Continued from page 2)

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

A membership committee of five members appointed by the President will assist in the securing of new members, and carrying out the policies of the Association in matters concerning membership.

Other committees may be established by the Executive Board.

AMENDMENTS

The By-Laws of this Association may be changed by a three-fourths ($\frac{3}{4}$) vote of members present at the yearly meeting.

Amendments should be submitted to all members in written form no less than thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting. This will not prevent submission of amendments of an urgent nature to the Executive Board for its approval and presentation by the Executive Board to the assembly for immediate action.

Gilbert Says:

Guess I'd better
send in for my
reservations
now.
Looks like a
BIG
AFFAIR
this year.



APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP—1949-50

Name (Please Print)..... First Middle Last

Rank..... ASN..... Address.....
Number and Street

..... City or Town State

I served with the 83rd Infantry Division in.....
Co., Troop, Btry. Bn. or Regt.

..... from..... to.....
Arm or Service

I now have an honorable discharge or separation from my Army Service.....
or I am still on active duty.....

I hereby apply for regular membership in the 83rd Infantry Division Association and certify
that my answers to the above are correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Check or Money Order (\$4.00) payable to the 83rd Infantry Division Association c/o The
Infantry Journal, 1115 Seventeenth Street NW, Washington 6, D. C. is enclosed herewith. 50¢
of which is for one year's subscription to the Thunderbolt.

Date..... Signature.....

Decorations: (Check)

Silver Star

Legion of Merit.....

Soldiers Medal.....

Bronze Star

Purple Heart

Others

Campaign Stars: (Check)

Normandy

Brittany

Central Europe.....

Ardenes

Rhineland

Others

Hawaii Organizes "49th State Chapter"

Just to prove that nothing is impossible, The Territory of Hawaii, thousands of miles away from the association headquarters, came up with a chapter of its own last March to be known as the "49th State Chapter." Thunderbolts, both military and civilian, stationed near Schofield Barracks met on the night of March 9.

Elected to office were: President, Lt. Col. Norman Campbell, CO 1st Bn 330th; Vice-Pres., M. C. Miranda, former S/Sgt. with Co A, 331st; Treasurer, Capt. A. W. Kahopea, Co L 331st; and Historian, Capt. Paul C. Rapp, Co E 330th. Others who attended the meeting were: Brig. General C. B. Ferenbaugh, Assistant 83rd Division Commander; Capt. C. B. Watts, 83rd QM, W. L. Young, Co E 329th; Sgt. E. Torres, Co E 329th; A. W. Jay, Co B 331st; Sgt. A. K. Warren, Co I 331st; and Capt. S. Howarth, S-3, 1st Bn 330.

One former Thunderbolt unable to make the meeting wrote in from the Island of Hawaii wishing the group success. We of the Thunderbolt Staff also wish "The 49th State Chapter" the best of luck. It is very gratifying to know that a minority, such as the group which is now in Hawaii, could get up enough spirit to form a chapter. Wouldn't it be a wonderful thing if States like Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana where over 75 per cent or close to 16,000 former Thunderbolts reside could find just a little fraction of the same spirit? Wouldn't it? Come on, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana, let's go.

"MONKEY BUSINESS" AROUSES CITY COUNCIL

While browsing through a Boston morning paper one day Sheldon E. Simmons, former Thunderbolt with the 329th Infantry, discovered the following article:

MONKEY BUSINESS AROUSES COUNCIL

This is the only major city in the country that hasn't got any monkeys in its zoo, but the city council decided yesterday to do something about it.

At the behest of Councilman Julius Ansel of Dorchester, the council directed the park commissioner to find a suitable monkey house and get some monkeys to put in it. Ansel said this would encourage children to visit the zoo and keep off the streets.

After all of these years, we have reason to believe that Ansel's mother-in-law is now proud of him.

"WE SAW IT THRU"

The 83rd Infantry Division Association has finally located the whereabouts of the 331st Inf Regt History "We Saw It Thru" in answer to numerous requests. Those interested in purchasing a copy of this history are requested to send \$1.50 to Colonel Robert H. York, Department of Tactics, West Point, N. Y. The money will be used to make the 331st Reunion Dinner held in conjunction with the Reunion in Pittsburgh an all-out success. An added note of interest in regards to this history "We Saw It Thru" is that our present President, Jack M. Straus, is its author.

THUNDERBOLTS REUNION

(Continued from page 1)

Floor Show for Saturday night and the 83rd Dance following the Banquet. On Friday night the ladies will have separate tickets to the Civic Light Opera's Presentation of the "Wizard of Oz" to be held in Pitt Stadium, while the Thunderbolts are 'whooping it up' at the Stag. The ladies will also be conducted on a tour of the world famous H. J. Heinz "57 Varieties" Plant. Needless to mention that all liquor consumed at any of the reunion functions will be purchased by the individual.

Registration will start Thursday evening for those planning to arrive early, continue through most of Friday, and end at noon on Saturday. A general meeting will take place on Friday afternoon. The Business Meeting and Election of 1950 Association Officers will be held Saturday morning. Unit meetings will be left under the control of the individual organizations and meeting rooms will be furnished as requested.

GUEST SPEAKER

(Continued from page 1)

awarded the DSC by the late General George S. Patton.

We in the 83rd well remember the XIX Corps and General McLain, when on that mad dash across the Rhine and to the east we ran over all German opposition and finally established a bridgehead east of the Elbe River near Barby. The bridgehead was enlarged and the drive on Berlin set, when word came that we should stay in position and not advance beyond our present lines. We stayed there until the end of hostilities joining with the Russians in the vicinity of Wittenberg.

HERE, THERE AND EVERYWHERE

(Continued from page 3)

JOHN B. KREBS, wrote requesting a supply of applications for membership. He is promoting within the 330th. Write 38 York St., Hanover, Pa. . . . We wish to thank KEITH ECHERD of Taylorsville, N. C., for the up-to-date roster he sent. . . . Well, Thunderbolts, see you in Pittsburgh, August 5 and 6, here, there, and everywhere. . . . WHERE? Pittsburgh, of course.

Division Conventions

The information in the following list of scheduled conventions and reunions of division associations was furnished by the associations listed.

The JOURNAL will publish announcements of other division conventions as the information is provided it by the various associations. To insure publication notify The JOURNAL at least 60 days before the convention is held.

5th Mar. Div. at Philadelphia, Aug. 5-7.

24th Inf. Div. at New York City, Aug. 12-14. Write Victor Becker, 480 Lexington Ave., New York City.

88th Inf. Div. at New York City, Aug. 12-14. Write 88th Inf. Div. Assn. Box 328, Cooper Station, New York 3, N. Y.

4th Inf. Div. at Toledo, O., Sept. 1-4. Write Toledo Convention and Visitor's Bureau, 218 Hurrion St., Toledo 4, O.

32d Inf. Div. at Grand Rapids, Mich., Sept. 3-5. Write Joe Hrdlick, 1803 N. 49th St., Milwaukee 8, Wisc.

104th Inf. Div. at New York City, Sept. 3-5. Write Mr. Howard Bedney, 14-10 Franklin Ave., Flushing, N. Y.

By far the most common war-amputation is the loss of one foot. The entire breakdown given by the Veteran's Administration follows. No mention is made of loss of two hands and one foot.

Loss of	War I	War II
1 hand	934	3,322
1 foot	2,384	10,405
2 hands	13	64

Eastern States Vets Meet In New York

(Continued from page 1)

was attained when chapter officers were elected: President, Rev. Edward L. Swartout, 331st; Vice-President, Sidney J. Ettman, 329th; Secretary, James Kelly, Spec. Units; and Treasurer, Raymond A. Broglie, 330th.

Lt. Col. Robert H. York, former CO of the 331st and now with the Department of Tactics at West Point, addressed the chapter stressing the need for strong local chapters. "The life of the 83rd Division Association depends upon a chapter in every large populated center."

Action was taken as follows: In that annual dues will be \$1.00; Saturday was chosen as the best day of the week for meetings; the Executive Committee empowered to arrange the place, the date, and the program for the next chapter meeting.

Thunderbolt urges all former 83rd men residing near New York City to join this chapter regardless of the state in which you live. Write and send dues to Secretary James Kelly, 163 Elmora Ave., Elizabeth, N. J.

TOTAL STRENGTH: 1,626,000

The combined strength of the Armed Forces on April 30 dropped 20,700 below the figures of March 31, 1949.

The strength report (estimated on preliminary reports) revealed that the Air Force was the only service to show an increase, rising from 417,000 on March 31 to 418,000 on April 30. Army strength on April 30 was 671,700, a drop of 19,800 from March 31; the Navy dropped from 450,300 on March 31 to 448,700 on April 30, a decrease of 1,600, and the Marine Corps decreased 300 from 87,900 on March 31 to 87,600 on April 30.

Total strength was 1,626,000.

The figures represent total full-time military personnel, comprising both Regulars and Reserves on full-time active duty, and include 18-year-old and one-year enlistees under the Selective Service Act of 1948, cadets and midshipmen of the Military and Naval Academies, and other personnel in full-time training.

Estimated total recruitment by the Armed Forces during the month of April was 26,138, which was 3,450 less than during March. One-year enlistments under Selective Service dropped to 1,451, approximately 980 under the March figure.

Other new recruits — enlistees without prior Military Service — numbered 6,900, approximately 1,255 fewer than March.