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TANK DESTROYER NEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TANK DESTROYER ASSOCIATION...3050 Harcross Road Redwood City, CA 94062-2321

INTER 1988

TDA MAIL LIST EDITION. 3,500 MAILINGS

NEWSLETTER NO. 24



from left to right: Pedrag Vojinovic, Jugolinija Line United States Resident Representitive; John Valluzzo Director -Museum Administrator; Petar Vidovic, Yugoslav Counsul General; and Mladen Sobol. Captain of the Koper Express. The M-18 is in the background and is loaded aboard a "low-bed" trailer for its next leg of the long journey which will take it to the MILITARY MUSEUM OF SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND which is located in Danbury, Connecticut.

ARMOR MEMORIAL PARK

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THE UNITED STATES ARMY ARMOR CENTER MEMORIAL PARK IS DEDICATED TO THE SOLDIERS WHO FOUGHT WITH ARMOR IN WARS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.

The park is located in the area between the <u>PATTON</u> <u>MUSEUM</u> building and the museum parking lot. Its area encompasses approximately 400,000 square feet of theme space commorating organizations from the United States Army that are recognized in the <u>Official Army Order of Battle</u> signifying service in a combat theatre.

This edition of your TANK DESTROYER ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER salutes the members of the <u>610th TANK DESTROYER BATTALION</u> who collectively wanted to see their Battalion memorial placed in the PATTON MUSEUM ARMOR MEMORIAL PARK <u>BEFORE</u> THEIR BATTALION REUNION TO BE CONDUCTED OCTOBER 7TH AND 8TH, 1988.

TDA VICE-PRESIDENT QUINT ATKINSON sent us the photo set which pictures ELMER R. STAIB of Louisville, KY. ELMER is the "LEG-MAN" of the 610th who coordinated the order placing and follow-up inspection of the Battalions monument. Elmer was concerned with the composite items selected by the Battalion's Committee which included a representitive from each company and which was chaired by ROY McGRANN the Battalions active duty S-2.



/ TDA / TANK DESTROYER NEWSLETTER

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0 REUNIONS-REUNIONS-REUNIONS-REUNIONS-REUNIONS-REUNIÓNS 637 Aug. 6 & 7, 1988 Jackson⊖MS CONTACT: William Hearst, Bog 115 ****** 626 Sept. 23, 1988 @ 6:00 pm, Non-Hanscom AF Base, Com Club, Bedford, MA 01731. CONTACT: Fred Benton, MS 39039 wH Thanks to one and all for your +++++++++ individual effort advising us of O. White, 18 Spring Park Ave., 638 July 16 & 17, 1988 Anderson Jamica Plain, MA 02130 the following listings of our IN CONTACT: Robert O. Palmer 1923 Beverly Ct., Anderson, I Tank Destroyer Battalion reunions! JFC & EAS (617) 522-9048 1923 Beverly Ct., Anderson, IN 46011 (317) 643-6457 ROP. GG/AL ++++++++++ 1988, Cavalier Lodge, ****** 627 May 7, +++++++++ Niagra Falls Blvd., Buffalo, NY 640 Sep.16-17, 1988 Qualit Inn 14210 CONTRACT: George P. Lucas, 151 Salt Lake City, UT CONTACT: Glenn Zittel St., Buffalo, NY 14210 J. Johnson, 8771 So. 1260 Tast TANK DESTROYER OCS #54 (ALL GRADS-JES&GPL&GG/DAV 10 March 1944) Reunion Proposed CONTACT: Frank R. McCain 536 Lee Sandy, UT 84070 JHP&GC/DAV ++++++++++ 628 July 1988 West Middlesex, PA CONTACT: George Howell, 138 Quaker ++++++++++ \bigcirc 7 & 8, 1988 Ramada Inn 643 Oct. Ct., W. Melbourne, FL 32904 Mass. CONTACT: Walter GG/ROM Church Rd., Randolph, NJ 07869 Seekonk, (305)729-8121 Reynolds, 98 John St., Providence GG/VFW 601 May 12-14, 1988 Orlando, RI 02906 RJL. GG/AL FL CONTACT: John F. Coughlin, 1309 July 1988 Savannah, ++++++++++ GA 630 844 May 3-6, 1988 Ramada Resort. NE 8th St., Gainsville, FL 32601 CONTACT: Edgar Waller, 97 Azalea Kissimmee, FL. CONTACT: B. G. Ave., Garden City, GA 31408 GG/DAV Mashburn, 119 Carter Rd. BQOXI GG/ALM ++++++++++ (912) 964-5371 GG/DAN 602 Sept. 19-21, 1988 Las Vegas, NV CONTACT: J. K. Chenault, 302 MS 95313 631 Aug 1988, Mt. Horeb, WI. ++++++++++ \mathcal{O} 314 E. 22-23, 1988 Tulsed CONTACT: William Wittwer, 645 Apr. 22-23, 1988 Tulser, 0% CONTACT: T. Hunker, P.O. Bose 127, Wheatland, OK 73097 (405) 745-243¢ 03 Missionary Ridge, Hampton, VA Main St., Mt. Horeb, WI 53572 GG/ALM/ROA 23669 GG/ALM (608)437-3618 GG/AL ++++++++++ 605 Sept. 3-5, 1988, Riverside 632 Aug. 19-21,1988.Pittsburgh, PA ++++++++++ Park, Findlay, Ohio CONTACT: CONTACT: Bart Shakarian, 307 648 Sept. 1988 Lake George, NY Lawrence N. Montgomery 120 E. 1st PA Twin Hills Drive, Pittsburgh, CONTACT: Jack Sonntag, 3 KetEle Rd Ave. Planwell, Mich. 49080 15216 <u>OR</u> Michael J. Fajtik, Jr. 711 Crabtree Lane, Racine, WI Norwalk, CT 06850 (203) 847-0822 LNM (616) 685-8729 WT 711 Crabtree Lane, +++++++++++ ++++++++++ MJF 648 Aug. 1989 Claremont Hote 606-Co C Oct 17-19, 1988 Crompton 53406 Oakland, CA. CONTACT: Bill Adams, ++++++++++ Ridge Camp Ground, Branson, MO 632-CO.A CAPE MAY, NJ 1988 CONTACT: 16 Del Rio Ct., St. Helena, CA CONTACT: Arthur V Hicks, POBox 313, Anthony Kubiak, 215 Grant St., 94574 (707) 963-5788 ŝ AVA, MO 65608 (417)683-4476 AVH/JHS Cape May, NJ 08204 GG/DAV ++++++++++ +++++++++ Being planned-Interested ++++++++++ 654 607 42nd annual picnic/dinner-July 1988 Vicinity of Cp. Gordan, GA. CUNTAGI 19-21, 632-Co.C Aug. Laurelhurst Park, 10, 1988. CONTACT: Bart Pittsburgh, PA Taylor, 941 Atlantic, Portland, OR Any TDers welcome! E. A. 307 Twin Hills Dr., EAT EAT Milford, Mich., 48042 Sharkarian, CONTACTS: Francis J. Maloney, 2308 Pittsburgh, PA 15216 OR Michael J. NE 149 Ave., Portland, OR 97230 Fojik, Jr., 711 Crabtree Lane, Racine, Wisc. 53406 GG/DAV 656 Aug. 1988 Cleveland, GF CONTACT: Carl Gumina, Box 503, 1988 Cleveland, Őŀ (1-509) 252-0410 OR Norm Kennedy GG/DAV (1-509) 282-8289 QR Al Lucas (1-Lorain, OH 44052 GG/ALN ++++++++++ 509) 253-4117 FJM 632-RCN Aug. 1988 Holiday Inn, Uniontown, PA. CONTACT: A.A. Wolf, +++++++++++ 661 April 25 to May 1, 1988 Twir 608-(MINI-REUNION) May 6, 1988 Bridges Marriott Hotel, I-395 & 8441 Greenbelt Rd #102, Greenbelt, Fremont, Ohio. CONTACT: Bernard J. Haas, 729 Nickel St. Fremont, US-1, Arlington, VA 22202 CONTACT MD. 20770 OR Melvin L. Shelton, 412 Riverside Dr. Baltimore, MD William R. Beswick, PO Box 576, West Point, VA 23181 (804) 843-HSR & BJH-Sec. Ohio 43420 21221 +++++++++++ WRI ++++++++++ 2696 608Sept. 9&10, 1988, Days Inn, Lancaster, PA. CONTACT: Harry S. 633 Oct. 2, 1988 Macomb, Ill. *++++++++ Lancaster, PA. CONTACT: Harry S. Rapp, 317 W. King St., Lancaster, 661 Aug.14-21, 1988 Campbell House CONTACT:Kenneth L. Holiday Inn 12C. Lakeview Apts. Inn, Lexington, KY HSR&BJH-Sec.&GG/DAV Hirth, PA 17603 CONTACT: William R. Beswick, P(Morton, 111. 61550 ++++++++++ West Point, VA 2318 ++++++++++ Box 576, 609 Sept. 15-17, 1988 Holiday Inn-634-Co.A & all other Cos. June 25 &26, 1988 Killeen, TX CONTACT: Densell L. Sullivan, 3132 NW 16., GG/ALI (804) 843-2696 Downtown, Jackson, Mississippi. CONTACT: John Price OR George O. Funke, Bn. Sec. 3260 Oakford Rd., 691 Oct. 7-9, 1988 Park Inn CONTACT: Dic Fayettville, AR Forsythe, 701 Oklahoma City, OK 73107 GOF Trevose, PA 19047 Rockcliff Rd. DLS (405) 943-1508 ++++++++++ Fayettville, AR 72701 DF. GG/VF +++++++++ 7-8, 1988 Ramada Inn, MA CONTACT: Walter 610 Oct.7-8, 1988 Holiday Inn/-South Airport, 3317 Fern Valley 634 Oct. 692 May 1988 Willaimsburg, VA Rd at I-65, Louisville, KY CONTACT: Seekonk, Reynolds, 98 John St., Providence, CONTACT: Joe Kolenda, 17 Opal Dr. Elmer R. Staib, 1434 Haskin Ave., Dearborn, MI 48126 (313)846-6197AL GG/VFW RI 02906 Louisville KY 40215 QCA/ERS.GG/DAV ++++++++++ 3-5, 198 636 Aug 20-21, 1988 Aurora, NE 702-<u>Co's.A & B</u> June 612 Aug. 4-7, 1988, The Trace Inn, Nashville, Tenn Leadership Tupelo, MS 38801. CONTACT: Jack Flanagan, 139 St. Andrews Road, Youth Hermitage Inn, Nebraska

Development Center CONTACT: Thomas M. Sherman, Rt. 1, Box 129,

Severna Park, Maryland 21146

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TANK DESTROYER NEWSLETTER / 1 TDA

Marguette, NE 68854 (402)854-3137 (704) 284-2244

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CONTACT: James F. Ridenhour, Bo Cooleemee, NC 27014

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the "Winter" issue of the quarterly TANK DESTROYER ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER! Take it from each of us here in Redwood City that we are just as put-out about the late date min this Quarterly issue of the TDA Newsletter as we know you must be! We were brought up to never use "Sorry" as an excuse when we were required to do something we had promised to perform within a schedule. However, you would not enjoy our having heard many times: "Sorry" or the now popular "sorry-about-that!" which we received from all of the referrals we chased down to get the office computer back in service!

What happened? Easy enough to recognize then-but not to remedy without help! In late January we were preparing the corrections to our ROSTER and MAIL-LIST following our receiving mailing corrections from the US Postal Service which was a result of our Newsetter NO. 23 requesting address corrections from the mailing destination post office. If you can believe it the five hundred some odd corrections and deletions overloaded the two computer files and the d--n this? locked up as tight as a drum; literally as the wizards would say "it crashed!" So, you would say just what we did; find someone and get them in and fix the thing, let's get going! Ho-Ho! Would you believe the office computer is a CP/M Machine which is absolutely antiquated in today's, world of computers and as such all of the service people have switched to the IBM operating asking for help from friends of friends and ending up with the noted "Sorry" sequences. In midi-July we fould a wisard from a firm in the Silicon Valley (south of here) who did his thing-the did the head-shaking episode of "you gotta-get-a-better operating system" after I fix the offd unit. This would allow the transfer of old information to a IBM operating system machine. So, ye I'll be d--ned if I'll say we are sorry! Let's look at the more important things we need to get into as a follow-up to the articles in this issue.

Please note the coverage we gave to the Tank Destroyer Battalion and Group Monument site sat aside for all of our units at the PATTON MUSEUM at FORT KNOX, Kentucky! As you read this late edition of the TDA Newsletter the 610th will have dedicated their Memorial for all of the museum. visitors to recall and discuss the heroic deeds and the actions of that Battalion in combat. We individually should give this form of PERMANENT RECOGNITION the attention it deserves from the members of your Battalion or Group and start up your order for your individual monument! Give) thought to the matter of our being in Louisville in '89 for a Tank Destroyer Association Reunion and how much impact the presence of your units Memorial would have upon the members and guest of each of the attending Battalions and Groups! And, the price is right!

You will read and be reminded that the Armor Monument, which will be located at the entrance to the Arlington Cemetary, is shaping up and still needs EACH OF OUR CONTRIBUTIONS to aid in the funding. The \$400,000 monument gives honor to our place in a History of the United States Armed Forces and their use of the armored vehicle in combat against the foes of our country! As you have noted, the placement of the Tank Destroyer Forces insignae is very-very prominent and does, share its place of honor with those of other wars and service branches who used that weapon df, warfare forged in armor. Your contribution will join ours seeing the fund raising go over the top by contributions from the Veterans alone.

As I recall one of the many reasons we wanted to form a TANK DESTROYER ASSOCIATION it's very easy to remember that we had been so disheartened that no publisher had assembled sufficient and factual information to publish a first-class <u>HISTORY OF THE TANK DESTROYER FORCES</u>. Marshall Hanks (our Sparkplug & Founder) editorialized to every person who would listen that we needed a "real history" of our period in the United States Army. And, as you recall, Marshall found Lonnie Gill who was thereafter appointed as the TDA's Honorary Historian. Since that time Lonnie has been interviewing Publishers and did locate the Turner Publishing Co. in Paducah, Ky. The Turner Publishing Co. is a creditable firm which has an envyable reputation in publishing the activities of every major branch of the United States Armed Forces while. at the same time they are developing unit and activity histories such as for types of Naval ships, types of Army and Navy Aircraft; and for the TDA an agreement to do the special history of the Tank Destroyer Forces and their part in World War II. Please look forward to receiving your special invitation in the mail requesting each of us to participate in the development of the History. They will use our Tank Destroyer Veteran's input in a very dignified way which will relate their wartime activity and what they have been doing since that time. This method of editing has proven very

credable and is a style that does relate to each and every reader. Please look forward to your invitation to be a part of the histroy of the Tank Destroyer Forces! We are pleased to note that our suggestion in Newletter No. 23 pointing out that you could replace your earlier individual issues of the Tank Destroyer Newsletter for \$1.00 per copy has proven to be of great interest to our readers. So, let us know if we may provide you with those individual copies for your reference. Thanks!

WANT A ROSTER OF YOUR TD UNIT?

You can obtain a computer printout of all the men in your TD unit on our National TD Roster. Price only \$10.00, whether only 1 name or 500. Order now! HAVE YOU NOVED? PLEASE SEND TDA YOUR CHANGE OF ADDRESS!

SEARCHING FOR A TD BUDDY?

Your TDA Newsletter is sent to you at bulk mail rates and will not be forwarded. Advise us ASAP of your new address and keep your mailing up to date; we'd hate to lose you! For only \$1.00 we can give you hi address, provided he's on ou National TD Roster. If we have n reference - we'll list as AWOL an ask the readers for their help.

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ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO TDA ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

TDA is a non-profit veterans assoiation. All contributions to TDA are voluntary and tax deductable. IRS ID Number is 94-2757549

Calif. Corp. # is D-1094557 TD8A Arkansas in November of 1984. I had most of my war souveniers stored in a shed and it burned on December6, 1986 so I lost most of then in the fire. I do have my scrap book with lots of pictures National Guard from Manchester, NH takenin various places we served in during WWII.

there we went to Camp Bowie, from TX, then to Shell Camp near Camp Hood, TX and later moved to Camp From there we were on Bood. manuevers at Camp Ibis, CA then to San Francisco POE to Hilo, HI and thereafter to the Palau Islands in the south west pacific. I was glad to get home in December of 1945. Virgil W. Clemetson (819) Rt #9, 415 Spring Lake Drive, Pine Bluff, AR 71603

KDITOR'S NOTE:

The 819th TD Bn. was activated at Camp Chaffee, AR, used M-10's, left San Francisco POE 15 March 1944, arrived in Havaii 21 March 1944, thereafter arriving in the Palou Islands 1 February 1945; the unit was deactivated in the Palou Islands 2 November 1945. The Unit Campaign was "WESTERN PACIFIC", which included the Palou Islands as an area of Pacific actions between the period from 15 June 1944 to 2 September 1945.

I just received the TDA Newsletter and it was the first time that I had seen any thing at all about 701st TD Bn. We were formed the out of the First Armored Division at Fort Knox, KY in 1942.

I was in Company A of the 701st TD Bn. having been transferred out of the 68th FA Bn.

Sr. 7300 Louisville, KY James E.Braden, Shepardsville Rd., (606)969-2170 40219 EDITOR'S NOTE:

The 701st TD Bn. was activated at Fort Knox, Ky 15 December 1941, used the M-3 and the M-10; left New York POE 31 May 1942, arriving in Ireland 11 June 1942, thence to Scotland 27 October 1942, later to England 28 October 1942, arrived in North Africa 10 December 1942, Italy 29 October 1943, returned to Boston POE 22 August 1945 and deactivated at Fort Leonard Wood, MO, 29 October 1945. Campaign Theatres: Algeria-French Morocco, Tunisia. Naples-Foggia, North Rome-Arno and the Po Apennines. Valley!



I was drafted March 1941, took basic (3 Mos.) at Fort Bragg, NC & was sent to Camp Blanding, FL joing the 774th Provisional TD Bn. which was created from 2 company's plus 2 company's from Atlanta, GA. We had one 37 MM gun to train with Ne were in Camp Chaffee, AR when for each company. We left Florida the 819th TD Bn. was activated; for Louisiana manuevers in late August; we had no equipment outside of WWI rifles. During the Louisiana manuevers we made our own gun to train , with. It consisted of an old rearend of a car we found at a local dump; we added a plywood sheet for a shield and a log for a gun. It sounds unbelievable, but that is what we danced around.

We left late in October and motored directly to the South manuevers; completing Carolina them we motored back to Camp Blanding, FL. Pearl Harbor was attacked shortly after we returned to Florida.

We moved to Fort Jackson, SC April of 1942 staying there until August when we left for the Tennessee ₩e bad hetter manuevers. equipment coming to us; 75 MM guns with split trails. After Tennessee we left by rail for Camp Hood, TX where we finally saw our first Tank Destroyer with a mounted 75 MM gun. After all of our training was completed our 774 TD Bn. sent out three cadres for new TD Bns.

I was cadred out as a 1st Sgt. for the 671st TD Bn., one of the last two TD Bns. at Camp Hood.

After completion of our training we were sent to Camp Swift, TX late in 1943. In the spring of 1944 we were shipped to Fort Knox, KY as School Troops for OTS.

December of 1944 we left Seattle POE for Hawaii and stayed there for 6 months as a truck Bn. In July we were shipped to Leyte, PI's; equipped with M-36 TD's (90 MM's) and all the latest new equipment. With the dropping of the Atomic Bombs the war was over; several months later, with enough points T for discharge (57 Months), arrived back home before Christmas of 1945

Nice writing to the TDA Newsletter. I receive the 774th TD Bn. Newsletter; but no news of the TD Bn. particularly 671st regarding reunions. Andrew A Palguta (671/774) 2595 Manor Ave., Poland, OH 44514

this the past year and a half, have had a number of TD'e contact me. Several of these d

to display a TD decal

not even know of the TDA, bu recognized the logo. Naturally, supplied them with the TD address. Let's face it folks non of us are getting any younger, ap the above is a good way to keep u our roster and help counteragt th natural attrition of losse through demise. "Nuf-said?" O CHEERS! JAMES K. ALLEN (605/TDC

I just wish to urge <u>ar1</u> TD'ers to display a TD dece

the back window of their cafs. even have one on the back true box of my motorcycle) By doip

P. S. I urge all to contribut to the ARMORED FORCE MEMORIAL FUN as well as to the TDA. I thin the 1969 TDA REUNION is a grea idea and will be there if 读友 al possible! 0000@20000000000000000000000@2000

I joined the 629th when' the were at Camp Ibis(ED:Cp.Essex?) just out of Needles, Califyand part of the California desert) a a machine gunner in the Recon Company and was assigned to Company. We moved to Camp MAxey Texas, and from there to Cam Kilmer, New Jersey. We went t Liverpool, England, and ther dow to Dorchester in Southern England Then to the Stone Hedge area ou of Salisbury. D + 2 saw u crossing the English Channet and bing with General Hodges assigne to different Armored and Infanty Divisions. After the beachhead did get to Paris for the Wictor Parade; then, through Luxenbourg Bastogne, Belguin to Trier finally being transferred to th Aachen, Germany area. We were bu the North side of the Battle o Buldge and thereafter helpe the out at Cologne and crossing the Rhine at the Remagen Bridge. Whe we got to Dresden I was evacuate to a hospital just outside o Paris; I know the name but canno spell it! I'm not certain wher our Battalion went from there. hope that you can get mor CLY

information on the 629th. SEAMONS (629) 700 E. Fairview 192 Meridian, ID 83642

PS: I understood our uni the French Croix d received Guerre!

EDITORS NOTE: The 629th TD Bn. wa activated 15 December 1941 at For George G. Mead, MD; was towed-late Self-Propelled, left New York PO 1 Jan 1944, arrived in England Jan 1944, landed in France 2 Ju

1944, used M-10s in its campaigns ending the war in August of 194 in Neurath, Germany. Arrived a the New York POE 2 Dec 1945 th unit was deactivated 3 Dec 1945 a Camp Kilmer, New Jersey.

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(502)443-0121 (502)443-0128 Publishers of America's History
Publishers of America's History
TANK DESTROYER ASSOCIATION SERVICE AND SUPPLIESCONTRIBUTION AND ORDER INFORMATION FORM SKETCHES: 11" x 14" pen and ink sketches of our Tank Destroyer Vehicles and Towed 3" gun; suitable for framing! They are identified and marked with our TD Logo and reproduced since we started the TDA. We offer them as a set of five (5) with a sixth sketch of a M-10 with the tube 'in travel position as a bonus! Shipping in a good container at a cost of \$2.50-you will enjoy them either individually or as a set! SEARCHES: Looking for a long-lost buddy or fellow TDer? Send \$1.00 for a current address. If we min not have that reference we will ask for information in our AWOL column! Let's hear from you! DECALS: Two decals form this set; a big 3" diameter TD PATCH in four colors and the second as a two line 1" bigh block letters "TANK DESTROYERS WW II". They look great! Put them on the rear
window of your auto; you will be pleased how many of your fellow TDers will find you! All orders must be be made on the Order Form below. If you do not wish to cut up your Newsletter you may photocopy. type a copy or duplicate a copy of the form by hand. NO. DESTROYER UNIT PRICE TOTAL HOW TO ORDER: Please print. Mail with check or money order 75mm GMC M3 \$10.00
INDIVIDUAL SEARCH Yes, I want to continue receiving the Tank Destroyer (Name-Rank-Unit) \$ 1.00 Newsletter. (Name-Rank-Unit) \$ 1.00 \$
TD Decals # 2.50 UNIT #ROSTER \$ 10.00

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is Your Heritage.

505h Our goal is to dedicate this grand monument on Veterans Day of 1990 which commemorates the Anniversary of the establishment of the Armored Force and the TANK DESTROYER FORCE in 1940. (F) To achieve this goal we need \$400,000 to erect this grand war memorial. Would you please contribute to this nobel cause. We need your Support! Please be generous. \Box

-AN IMPORTANT REMINDER- -AN IMPORTANT REMINDER

