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TANK DESTROYER NEWSLETTER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TANK DESTROYER ASSOCIATION, 255 CASTENADA DR., MILLBRAE, CA. - 94030

AUGUST 1984

NEWSLETTER NO. 71

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Newsletter No.11. This is our second edition using two of today's modern wonders.... the computer-word processor for preparation of the text and the electronic printer for the copy.

Secretary Jerry Cohen has been burning the midnight oil learning how to operate these tricky little critters, and has even found time to train my beter half Dorothy!

One thing became very evident following decision making discussions to use the computer -- it requires large doses of information in order to prepare an interesting and informative newsletter.

Thanks to our readers who have been very diligent in writing and feeding us with all sorts of newsy items, we have more than enough material to fill the columns of this edition.

Nevertheless, we can always use new material. So take your trusty pen in hand and send us your letters with pictures, comments (good or bad) and especially tidbits about your very own TD Bn, what it is doing, and even about your own travels to and from your reunions.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU! LET'S LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE NEWSLETTER!

> WARREN J. MITCHELL 661 TD Bn Redwood City, CA President

<u>ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO IDA</u> ARE TAX

TDA is a non profit association. All contributions to TDA are tax deductible. Our IRS ID Number is 94-2757549 and our State of California Number is 109455.

HAVE YOU MOVED? BE SURE IO SEND YOUR CHANGE OF ADDRESS !!!!!!!!!

This Newsletter is sent to you by bulk mail. If you move, it will NOT be forwarded to you. So be sure to send us a Change of Address card! BOARD OF DIRECTORS !!!!!!!!!!! FOR NEWSLETTER !!!!!!!!

reader poll, taking into consider— aked to respond to the quary eration the excessive cost of dis-whether a charge should be asse tributing the Newsletter and care-ed annually for four quarterly fully deliberationg the matter, the Board of Directors has deter- As this Newsletter goes topres mined that it is not financially feasible to continue distributing 13,278 copies of the Newsletter free of charge to everyone on the National ID Roster.

The Board has further determined, albeit reluctantly, that henceforth, commencing with the next issue of the Newsletter (i.e No. 12), the Newsletter will be sent only to those readers who want and request it by filling out and returning the printed form appearing in this edition.

IMPORTANT DECISION BY !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! POLL FAVORS CHARGE !!!!!!!(T)!!

After reviewing the results of the In Newsletter No.10 readers wer sues of the Newsletter. we have received a total of on 400 responses from some 13,278 recipients of the Newslet@r. Of the 400 that did respond , how ever, an overwhelming number of 392 were uneqivocally in tavor an annual tax-deductible contr ution or charge of \$10. The results of the poll were:

ن400 Total responses In favor of \$10 contribution or charge ial Collections I In favor, but \$10 too high Opposed

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TANK DESTROYER NEWSLETTER

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	Attn	: The Editor		
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		Here is my tax-deductible contribution of \$for the next 4 issues of the Newsletter.		
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ITEST ON BATTALION REUNIONS!!!!!!

Sept 5-8 - St. Louis, MO intact Bill Harper, Rt 1, Box 8, Cookville, TX 75558.

Sept 1-3 - Riverside Park, ndley, OH - Contact ntgomery, 120 E. First St., ainwell, MI 49080, (616) 685-

9: Sept 20-22 - Greensboro, , Holiday Inn Four Seasons ntact George Funke, 3290 Oxford .,Trevose, PA 19047, or Robert rry,, 3520 N Cherry nston-Salem, NC 27105.

O<u>."A" CO.</u>: Oct 5-6 - Hyannis, - Contact Albert A. Sangster, Moncrief Rd., Rockland MA 02370.

Oct 7 - Havana, IL, Foor chard's Restaurant - Contact on Coker, 1400 S Johnson, - Contact comb, IL 61546.

5: Aug 30-Sept 2 - (w/36th Div) n Antonio, TX, Tropicana Hotel ntact W.L. Gallman, Box 84, aly, TX 76651.

5: Oct 6 - Newport, RI, Chief's ib, U.S. Naval Station ~ Contact val J. Little, 107 Hope St., ovidence, RI 02903.

: Sept 28-29 - Newburg, NY itact Everett Stites, 581 Forest , River Vale, NJ 08751, (201) ---9639**.**

704: Oct 12-14 - West Foint, NY-Contact Phil Hosey, 82 West Gates Ave., Lindenhurst, NY 11757, (516) 226-8807.

771: Sept 21-23 - Loch Sheldrake, NY. Brown's Hotel - Contact Nick, Perrino, 7-5 Straight Path, Rock Hill, NY 12775.

Sept 18-19 - Indianapolis, 7731 IN, Airport Rodeway Inn - Contact Ed McClelland, 4384 W 182nd St., Cleveland, OH 44135.

Oct 3-5 - Myrtle Beach, SC, Poindexter Motor Hotel Contact Bill Hart, 93 Key West Dr., Fittsburgh, FA 15329.

<u>801</u>: Oct 5-7 - Syracuse, NY -Contact Arthur J. Langdon, 9 Lyon Flace, Utica, NY 13502.

<u>804:</u> Sept 22-23 - Roswell,NM Sally Fort Inn - Contact John Gaddy, Rt 3, Box 118, Roswell, NM 89201, (505) 622-6274.

806: 1st Reunion! Organizational get-together planned for this Fall - Contact Richard A. Allen, 208 W hillside Ave., Barrington, IL 60010.

<u>809:</u> Sept 1 - Warwick, Sheraton Inn - Contact RΙ, Walter Sroka, Sr., Rt 117, Coventry, RI 02816.

813: Labor Day - Lebanon, TN

<u>820</u>: Sept 28-29 - Traverse City, MI - Contact Charles kleim, 1356 Archdale, Detroit, MI 48227.

<u>822:</u> Sept 13-15 - Oklahoma City, DK - Contact Joe Tricomizzii 🕏 Mill Creek Rd, Niles, OH 44440.

<u>823</u>: Sept 13-16 – Coloraში Springs, CO, Crown and the Rose Motor Lodge *(note change Contact Oscar Hewitt, Rt 3, 55, Johnson City, TX 78636, 7512 B68-4821.

<u>825</u>: Oct 4-6 - Orlando, FL 🛶 Contact Louis J. Celentano, 400 Blatchley Ave., New Haven, Ci 06513.

<u>893</u> Sept 1-3 - Towson, MD -Contact Harry Sinclair, 684 MD Rte 3N, Gambrills, MD 21504.

899: Sept 6-8 - Mountain Home, AR-Contact Ivan and Jeri Krapac, Rt 9, Box 503, Slick Rd., Mountain Home, AR 72653.

1985 AND 1986

JULY '85 - Contact Francis <u> 607:</u> J. Maloney, 2308 NE 149th Ave., Fortland, OR 78697230.

640: Aug '86 - Los Angeles, CA -Contact James H. Fittinger, 500 Secret Town Ln., Colfax, CA 95713.

<u>808</u>: 1985 (date not fixed) -Kansas City, KS - Contact Pat Donovan, 5 W Shawnee, Paola, KS 66071.

85 - Fort Walton Beach, FL - Contact Manuel Santos, 815 Newcastle St., Brunswick, GA 31520, (912) 265-2835.

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MAIL COLL INTIMITE TELEFICIONE

Editor's Note: This is your column. Your letters and comments are cordially invited.

In accordance with yourTD Newsletter, dated May 1984,I vote on paying a \$10.00 fee per year to receive the newsletter. I am a member of Co. "A" 776th TD BN. and I agree that if a few people try to keep all the TD people together, then it should be up to the major ity of the TD personnel to pay the bill. I am inclosing my check for \$100.00 and this is for all the past newsletters that I have received. I am sorry that I could not be at any of the reunions. but I have been out of the hospital for only six weeks in the past two years. But I am well now and I want to make all the next reunions. So keep up the good work for the TD people and God be with everyone of them. GENE EGGLESTON (774) FT. WORTH.TX I just received my first copy of TD newsletter. I didn't know there was such an organization and I enjoy reading it. Keep me on the mailing list. I was a WAC in No. Camp Hood, TX during the war, served as a chief personnel clerk for the 138th TD Replacement Training Center. Of course I processed hundreds of men's records coming and going, making out all the payrolls, taking care of all their service records (etc). It was quite a rewardng job. It was great when people asked me what the patch was I wore on my uniform and I told them "Oh, I'm in the Tank Destroyers". Naturally they laughed at me--being a female--but I was proud of it! The picture of the monument was beautiful! Hopefully. someday, I'll get back to Ft. Hood and see once more where I spent several happy years. ABIGAIL BISHOP (1381D RTC) Penfield, NY.

My respects to the late Marshall B. Hanks for his foresight, leadership and hard work in making the TDA and the resultant TD Nemorial a reality. My gratitude to the TDA Officers for their outstanding efforts and planning which made the Ft. Hood Reunion and Dedication Ceremony such an enjoyable and nostalgic experience for my wife and me. JOE MARTINEZ (602/2nd/652) San

Antonio, TX.

I am enclosing a check in memory of my husband Calvin Post, who passed away March 6,1977. He was a member of Recon Co., 894th ID En. and I might add so very proud of being a member. I keep hoping some-day I'll see someone's name in the Newsletter that might have been in his company. He was at Abbio Beachhead, Naples, Foggia, North Appenines, Fo Valley, Rome, Arno, and Tunisia. MARGARET T. POST, Highland Falls, NY

Keep up the good work with the newsletters, they are great. My day is made when I go to my mail box and find a TDA newletter or an 807th TD Bn newsletter. ED SEAGER (807) ROCK RAPIDS, ID.

I think you are publishing an outstanding paper--Keep up the good work. Didn't realize there were so many TD Bos. It might be interesting to know which of the battalions saw combat and if any went to the South Pacific theater. Leonard Huber (607) Portland, OR.

Thank you for the TD Newsletter-enjoy it very much. I was in the 601 TD Bn, the best TD unit in WWII. I'm hoping that sometime we could have a reunion. PETER DYKSTRA (601) Holl, IA.

I sincerely want to congratulate you on your past accomplishments as it has been of great interest to me. While I was not permitted to serve with the 803rd TD in its combat phase during its overseas service, I still hold a very keen interest in it's activities and record of service. FRANK A. LOUGH (LTC AUS Ret) Tacoma, WA.

I was a Staff Sgt. in Co. C. 644 TD. Hope to hear from some of the men from 644th. I enjoy the newsletter.

HENRY MUTZ (644) FT. Bragg, CA.

Your Newsletter of May, 1984 supplied the information that I have been pondering for sometime- just how much do I owe the Association to ensure the continuation of the newsletter and the objectives of the association in general. My check is enclosed to take care of my own personal responsibility and a little extra to cover for those unable to contribute. I am patiently and anxiously waiting for the resolution of the TD Museum question so that a safe repository of the 610 TD files in my possession may be found. I thank my lucky star that I was assigned to the TD Force--that I served with a great battalionand survived to be associated with such a great group of dedicated veterans.

RDY T. McGRANN, (610) TULSA, OK

Received the May Issue (#10) and enjoyed it very much. Feep up the the good work! I must agree with you that the shameful and disgraceful neglect of military historians is something that should not be permitted to go unchallened. It appears that most of the armored divisions aren't too wild about seeing the TD Bn's receive the credit due them. Hopefully the TDA will overcome this dumb attitude on the Army's part. WALLY RIGHTON (704) Flainfield, IL

I would like to hear from my B ies that were in C Co. 68% TD We were a bastard outfit but of of the best. We fought with ju about every Division in toe Pa ific. Didn't see a tank but we captured and killed a few hund Japs. We did a bang up job on Japs and do deserve to be near about. We trained with 1/2 ton pick-ups with a piece of 🥰 pip out the back, etc. COL. ANTHONY STEELE, (632) Decatul

I have enjoyed receiving ∰he T⊅ Newsletter. The last letter uring Major Rudy Cooper was gre Because of it I will be attend! a reunion of my old 774th En. Myrtle Beach, SC. Otherwise I never would have known about to reunion. Many thanks. RAY V. BRASSARD (774) Deland,

Received May 1984 newslet Fer. E joyed it so much. Whoever beques the names of Co.B 825 Bn Struck a "cord" in my heart --- knew them all. I was Plt.Sgt. of 1st platoon and Galeazzi was 💅 jek driver--I'll try to locate some them. You're doing a grea∯ job Keep it up! WILLIAM E. MOCK (825) Savahnah

I had the pleasure of visiting memorial at Ft. Hood in April o this year. It made me feet real good to have my picture maple standing by the memorial. (I intend to take them with some oth to the 809 reunion over Labor D weekend. To all of you who have worked so hard--Thank You90 WALSTEEN HALL, SR. (809) Savannals

Whoever is now editing the 1Dnewsletter seems to be too mode: to put his name on it but he's'(ing a hell of a job. I, too, tal considerable pride in our part in WWII and remember my old outfit and friends most fondly. God Luck.

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J.RAY CORLISS (1st TD Gr/813) Palm Springs, CA.

Just received my newsletter and enjoyed it throughly. Guess I ju never gave it a thought that do; this all costs money. Thanks so much for someone's forthought to get all this together and get if along as far as it is. Am look: through some old papers and scra books to see if I can't find so history to send you on the 602nd TD Bn.

LEO W. McCANN (602) Fremont, NE.

I enjoy your newsletter very muc Don't let it die on the vine. I wore my TD patch for 32 years as still wear it to Retired Officer Affairs. WILLIAM BOYLSTON (608/820) Charleston, SC.

SWAP SHOP !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

TD Patches 2nd AD Museum Gift Shop, PO Box 5009, Ft. Hood, TX 76544, sells TD patches for \$3.95 ea postpaid.

LTC Loehr M. Rigby, 581 Tamarron Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80919, has a limited supply for sale at \$1.85 ea. postpaid.

Insignia M.A. Couch, a TDA contributor, 8590 30 Mile Road, Romeo, MI 48065

48065, is an avid collector of metal insignia, either enameled or painted for a collection he hopes to donate to a museum. He is looking for 601 (2 different ones), 605,608,643,702 and 776 insignia worn on overseas cap or on each shoulder.

Officer's Pinks: Anthony V. Zielkiewicz, 812 Sutton Dr., Kileen, TX (son of 661 TD Bn vet) had a case built in his bottle store at Ft. Hood, TX to display a TD officer in his WWII class "A" uniform. Needs size 34x 31 pinks.

TD Badges: Carlton "Buddy" Mott, 5 Hampden St., Barrington, RI 02806 has a limited supply of badges with the TD logo for sale. Write directly to Buddy for particulars.

ID MUSEUM PROJECTISTILL ON HOLD!!

Please continue to hold on to all of your WWII TD memorabilia for the TD Museum until arrangements are completed for proper storage and notification is given in the Newsletter when and where to send same.

ID DECALS AND 11111111111111111111 PRINTS OF 3 INCH TOWED GUN !!!!!!!

TD window decals and pen and ink prints of the 3 inch Towed Gun and Half-Track Frime Mover will soon be available. Watch your Newsletter for announcement.

Appreciate the TD Newsletter. The wife and I enjoyed our trip to Texas for the dedication.What is on the agenda next? Hope to be at whatever comes up next. HAROLD SNYDER (601) Brooksville,FL

I received and read every word of the newsletter. It is a surprise to hear the TD's that built Ft. Hood have been given so little recognition, especially since they were the best outfits in the U.S.Army. All can be proud of their units and the TDer's. Congratulations on the memorial monument. It couldn't represent a nicer and better bunch of soldiers. GURNEY CADDY (776) Portland, OR.

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What a wonderful surprise to have received my very first copy of the TD newsletter. It has been enjoyed immensely by both my wife and myself, and we hope we will receive all other copies. What a wonderful way to keep in touch!

ROBERT LANE (822) La Crescenta, CA

Just got my #10 Newsletter.Read it twice so I wouldn't miss anything, Enjoy it very much. You guys are doing a bang-up job and should be complimented. I'm trying to get some info and contact more members from the 815th. PAUL WILLOVER (815) Collins, NY

Really enjoy the newsletters.

Keep up the real fine effort you people are putting into the cause. Old memories are coming alive because of it,Don't let them smolder away. Keep em burning!

JOHN A. BERTUCCI (771) Wanaque,NJ

I would be very honored if you would include my name on the TD Roster and on the mailing list for the TD Newsletter. I did not know they had a TD Association until a buddy showed me a copy of the TD Newsletter, which I read with great interest. I was Recon Sgt with the 601st TD Bn and went to North Africa and landed at Oran. From there we went to Tunisia, and while on a mission to destroy some Tiger tanks with rifle grenades I was captured on Jan 2,1943 and spent the next 2 1/2 years as guest of Adolph Hitler. JAMES 6. EVERETT (601) Dracut, MA

My service in the 704th TD En. was a very important part of my life. We were formed from the 4th Armored Division, trained with them and served principally with them through five campaigns in Europe. Our experiences were probably similar to many of the TD's in Europe. Part of the Tunsian Campaign is vividly described in "Road to Tunis" by David Rame, a war correspondent and dedicated to "C" Company 701st.

Please continue to publish the newsletter. I find it very interesting reading letters and comments of the TD men from all over the USA and also the families of the deceased, especially the men of 825 TD Bn.
DENNIS J.HEALEY (825)Cranston,RI

I attended the 605 reunion last year and hope to this year. I would never have known about it except for the TD newsletter. Wish I could have gone to the one at Ft. Hood. I renewed several friendships at the 605th reunion and I have the TDA to thank for it.
L.M. GUSTAFSON (605) Rossville, GA

A small group of us from the 801 TD Bn attended the National Reunion at Fort Hood in 1983. It was a memorable occasion and we will definitely urge more participation in National activities. CORNELIUS VAN BUREN (801), Ballston Spa.NY

I must be crazy—making a donation to an organization that represents all those hellish times at Camp Hood, Camp Ibis (Calif. desert) New Guinea (etc). Old age has set in for sure!

ARTHUR ROSE(640/815)Albuquerque,NM As the years go by old memories become more important and for some

reason easier to recall—Your publication helps put them in perspective.

GEORGE W. DOWNS (636) Ephrata, PA. Kindly put my name and address in the Newsletter so anyone that was with the 633 TD will write to me. R. L. BURGESS, (633) US 60 W, Lewisburg, West Virginia, 24901

BATTALION HISTORIES !!!!!!!!!!!!!!

TDA Historian Lonnie Gill is still missing the following battalion histories:

629 637 654 805 814 636 640 701 808 894

He has only partial histories of:

609 703(3 pg) 803(1945 only) 632('44 only 813 (2 pages) 633(to 4/44 821(1944 only)

Lonnie also needs data and personal experiences from Tunisian vets of the 601st, 701st, 776th, 805th, 813th 894th and 899th TD

If you have historical info pertaining to any of the above please send it to:

Lonnie Gill,TDA Historian 1422 Greenhaven Anaheim, CA 92801



TANK DESTROYER ASSOCIATION 255 CASTENADA DR., MILLBRAE, CA. 94030

Keep the TD newsier and more the better. I have re-estished communications with for never forgotten comrades and are certainly pepper-uppers. dull moments in their correspence. We are saddened sometime with information on other veterancis Garra (774) LYNCARURG,

I would like to say "hello" to TDers and especially the 2540th B. This is your Buddy wishing best of health to each one of Hasta luego.

ARNULFO R. MOTA, (640), Ajo, AZ

A.W.D.L!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

A TDer who cares is looking for old TD buddy. You can help ho his search by looking through local telephone directories. you find a potential verify it by a phone cal I cessful please notify ws at ALLEY, WILLIAM J., (823) ANTHONY, WAYNE, (702) ASHER, HOWARD, (Recon. Co. 633 GLYMPH, CHARLES G., (825) Last known address:Gen.Del. Hills. SC. JOHNSTON, JOSEPH E., (Lt. Le Co Originally from Louisiana. thought to be in California. SCHWARZENBEK, CARL M., (6) SMITH, JOHN A., (702) TUCKER, LESTER, (P1. Sgt () 899) 704 TD BN Looking for member served with unit from 1元Dec to April 1957. Ex 704 Twers awarded the French Croixode Gu with Falm (twice) and the Fr Contact Walter Fourragere. Righton, 29 West Wilken's & Plainfield, IL 60544. 19 0 cm 823 TD BN, B CO. Trying to cm anyone who served with this a Write or call Frank Wilts, Danville, Olney Ct., 94526,(415) 837-8983.

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