

1982

Re - Union Bulletin

The 776th
TANK DESTROYER BATTALION



"The Vandals"



C A M P A I G N S



T U N I S I A

16th March '43 - 9th May '43



N A P L E S - F O G G I A

16th September '43 - 21st January '44



R O M E - A R N O

22nd January '44 - 9th September '44



R H I N E L A N D

30th October '44 - 21st March '45



C E N T R A L E U R O P E

22nd March '45 - 8th May '45



P R E S I D E N T I A L C I T A T I O N

"A" and "C" Companies — 63rd Division — Seigfried Action

"A" Company — 2nd Battalion, 114th Infantry — Schalbach, France

"C" Co., 1st Platoon — 1st Bn., 114th Inf. — Enchenburg, France



U N I T M E R I T O R I O U S S E R V I C E P L A Q U E

Headquarters Company



C O M M E N D A T I O N S

1st Armored Division

34th Infantry Division

2nd Division Infantry Moroccan

Combat Command "B", 1st Armored Division

85th Infantry Division

91st Infantry Division

5th United States Army



Minutes of 1982 776 T.D. Reunion

Meeting was called to order by the President Ken Backlund. Lloyd Fikejs, reunion chairman, gave a brief welcome to Iowa and a big Thank You to all for attending.

Old business of 776 T.D. Memorial was brought to a discussion with Lou Wadle giving a report. Where to place a memorial and also what kind of memorial and how much to spend on it were discussed. Should some of the money in the Tiger Track fund be used to help finance a memorial? With a report of four thousand dollars in Tiger Track fund maybe should use some of that money for memorial.

Chet Vosburg made a motion to send someone to Ft. Hood for the TDA reunion in September 1982 to look into the possibility of putting 776 memorial there. Vosburg moved to table Old Memorial Idea, seconded by Dempsey. Voted on, motion carried.

New business: Don Anderson made motion that Lou Wadle be chairman of a committee of volunteers to Ft. Hood, Texas in September 1982. Seconded by Dempsey. Motion carried. Volunteering to attend TDA reunion were Joe Calvert, Lloyd Fikejs, Frank Young, Gaston Boatright, Albert Liegl. This committee will make a report which will be printed in Tiger Track paper at a later date.

Vosburg asked that after the TDA Reunion the findings of the committee and their recommendations on a

memorial be placed in Tiger Tracks paper, along with a ballot to be returned within a specified time. Motion carried.

President Backlund had asked Kolbo, Mostad and Vosburg to be on a nominating committee for officers for next two years. Their choice was Mike Richins for President and Cliff Sizemore for Vice President. Don Anderson asked that a unanimous ballot be cast. Motion carried.

Cline made motion that reunion be held just two days, seconded by Fikejs, motion defeated. Anderson asked to leave reunion as is with three days and Lou Wadle asked to leave it near the July 4th date. Fischer seconded and motion carried.

Dr. Caddy invited us to Idaho for 1982 reunion. Vosburg moved that we accept, second by Fikejs, and motion carried.

1986 reunion site was discussed. Wadle made motion to go to Minot, N.D. with second by Gortmaker. Joe Calvert invited us to Tulsa, Okla., seconded by Anderson and motion carried to go to Tulsa, Okla., in 1986.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Liegl, Secretary

Thank You Vandals

Words cannot tell you how much we enjoyed having you at the 1982 reunion in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. It was great seeing you men of the 776 T.D., your wives and also the widows of the 776 men. We had a good time and we hope you did too. Our memories will be with us for a long time. Each reunion is great in its own way and we always enjoy them. Yes there is work that goes into the planning but not as much as some of you might think. It is YOU that make the reunion the success that it is. The musicians who entertained us with great music, thought you were a good group too. And just in case you left early on Sunday evening, you missed our special closing of the 1982 reunion. This was not planned in advance, but after eleven o'clock in the evening, Leo Cortimiglia came to me and asked what he should do. He was supposed to play for another half hour or longer. I told him, why not play one more old song and if not too many were dancing, we would call it a day. Then I said, it would sure be nice if you would play the Star Spangled Banner for us. He did, and you would not believe the quiet that came over the ballroom as YOU good people

realized what was being played. Yes our reunion ended with hand over the heart and many a tear in the eye with that beautiful music of The Star Spangled Banner. Thanks again for helping make this another memorable reunion. We will be looking for you at the next reunion in Idaho in 1984.

Albert and Betty Liegl

Dear Vandals,

Thank you so much for coming to Iowa for the '82 reunion in Cedar Rapids. Your attendance really made it a great week end for us.

They say "you can't take it with you!" However, in this case, I think you will -- all the memories of these reunions. They belong to only you fellows and I think its wonderful you make an effort to keep up these friendships. More power to you! See you in '84.

Sincerely,
Evelyn Fikejs



Hdq. Co. standing L to R, 1st row, Ed Scheiman, Wm. O. Shirley, Rollie Pringle, Milt Lawson, Rex Miller, Leon Sanford, Henry Jackson, Al Gortmaker. 2nd row: Albert Liegl, Ambrose Kommes, Bryan Barnard, Walt Brueggemann, Don Kolbo, Lloyd Fikejs, Clancy Byrne. 3rd row: Gottfred Olson, Wm. Cunningham, Steve Karwowski, Robert Fischer (absent Mostad)



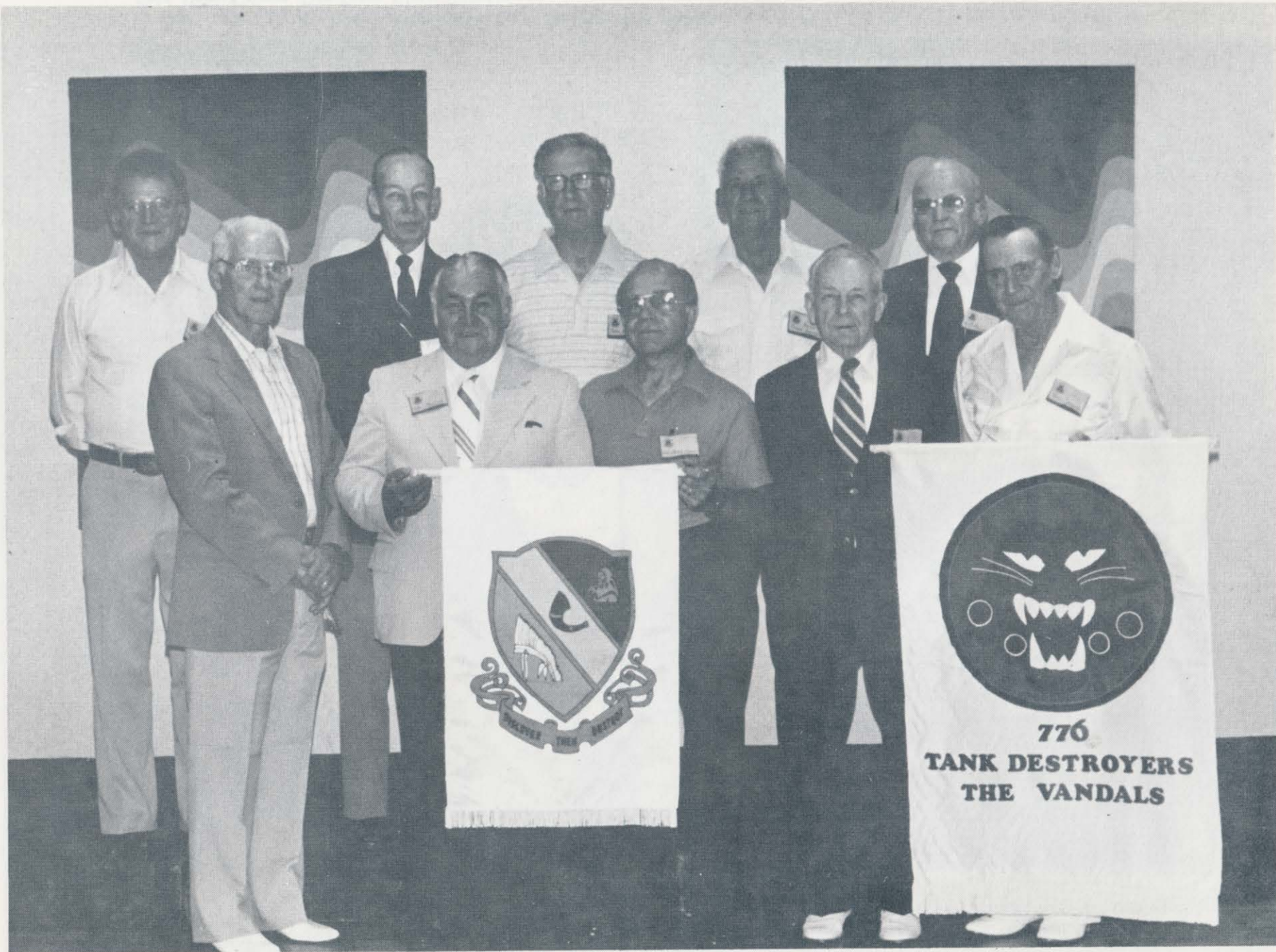
A Co. 1st row: Lou Wadle, August Heyne, Norvin Black, Don Beberg, Gaston Boatright, Howard Gilbert, Ted Huber, (absent Idol). 2nd row: Orville Skar, Elden Scott, John P. Wiltenmuth, Jr., Marion DeKock, Ed Hendrickx, Glenn Bovill, Dyle Smith. 3rd row: Paul Sundberg, Ken Backlund, Norman Lunde.



B Co. 1st row: Evard Montague, Barney Brunton, C. P. Kuyawski, Don Anderson, Ray Grundhoefer, Ralph Veale, Chet LePien, Fritz Carroll. 2nd row; Joe Calvert, Ross Baker, Fred Eberle, Sigurd Johnson, Addis Metzдорff, Jim Montgomery, Merland Park, Harold Gall, Chet Vosburg.



C. Co. 1st row: Richard Cline, Ted Bodling, Louis Barome, Sam Randazzo, Louis Pieper, 2nd row: Orville Polzin, Mike Duffield, Louis Grimm, Don Sater, Elmer Bornsen.



Reconn. Co. 1st row: Ed Backman, Les Racine, Lawrence Lang, Martin Stefanik, Tom Yocum. 2nd row: Lyle Arneson, Wm. Dempsey, John Nicholls, Frank Young, E. O. Bernstrom (absent Richins).



Hdq. Co. 1st row: Terry Pringle, Helen Karwowski, Dot Barnard, June Fischer, Marianne Brueggemann, Bunny Shirley, Evelyn Fikejs, Florence Cambridge a guest. 2nd row: Betty Liegl, Marian Kolbo, Gerry Kommes, Velma Byrne, Lois Hubred, Anita Caddy, Marie Cunningham, Florence Jackson, Mary Gortmaker, Goldie Olson



A Co. 1st row: Phyllis Black, Aileen Huber, Shirley Boatright, Mary Lunde, Mildred Heyne. 2nd row: Neva Bovill, Lil Backlund, Edna Sundberg, Lorene DeKock, Betty Smith, Arlene Skar. 3rd row: Joanne Hendrickx, Esther Beberg, Frances Scott, (absent Evelyn Idol).



B. Co. 1st row: Clara Calvert, Vesta Baker, Minnie Gall, Ollie Brunton, Lois Laffoon, Gladys Park. **2nd row:** Clara Carroll, Margaret Eberle, Marcella Montague, Eileen Anderson, Florienne Grundhoefer, Alice Vosburg, Elsie LePien, Juanita Veale.



C Co. 1st row: Eunice Bodling, Dolly Randazzo, Alice Pieper. **2nd row:** Irene Duffield, Ruth Polzin, Malla Grimm, Doris Bornsen



Reconn. Co. 1st row: Norma Young, Mae Backman, Stella Yocum, Alvina Bernstrom, Elouise Lang. 2nd row: Ann Arneson, Doris Nicholls, Bea Dempsey, Paulline Metzdorff, Arlene Racine (absent Gayl Richins).



Medics: Doraine Hanson, Conklin Hanson, Anita Caddy, Gurney Caddy.



Steve & Helen Karwowski



Alfred & Mary Gortmaker



Bill & Marie Cunningham



Rollie & Mrs. Pringle



Norvin Black, Paul Sundberg, Edna Sundberg



Kujawski, Gall, Anderson





Racine, Young, Dempsey



Bacome, Randazzo



Cline, The Grimm's



It's in her purse, she'll find it.



Arneson, Fisher - Leo, do you know Col. Barney's Troopers?



Amana Colonies



Sanford & Gortmaker



Lawson, Caddy



Sater, Duffield



Leo Cortimiglia, great music



Pringle & Liegl. Yes, he can still get into his uniform.



Lyle and Ann



Albert & Betty Liegl



**Juanita Veale, Ralph Veale, Evard
Montague & C. P. Kujawski**



Beberg & Gilbert



Huber & Hendrickx



Addis Metzendorf



F. Young's memories

DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE 776th

Ira E. Amerman 12-7-1961
 Quentin Allen 11-19-1978
 Alvin E. Anderson
 Andrew C. Anderson
 Frank W. Andrasak 3-25-61
 William D. Austin
 Andrew Bakalar, Jr. 11-1976
 Clarence B. Bakken
 Gilbert H. Bangs
 James C. Barker 4-8-74
 Colonel James P. Barney, Jr.
 9-1-1977
 Eugene Bartlett 3-3-1976
 Clarence Bauer 11-20-79
 Duane Baukol
 Charles Bennett
 Walter A. Binsz.
 Joe Bierman 11-13-1978
 Ed Billings 9-30-81
 Paul Bonderenko
 Raymond E. Boyd 12-1969
 John C. Britz 11-6-1960
 Lonnie Bruner 12-1975
 David Bucholz
 Elbert R. Burton 4-2-1977
 Francis Callahan 2-25-77
 Edmund R. Carlson
 Anthony Casciello 10-12-1977
 Frank Childs
 Jewell C. Christensen 12-19-1975
 Harry W. Cota 6-19-1968
 Clyde L. Covington
 Harry Curran
 Henry Curran
 Edmund J. Czernicki 2-1971
 Robert W. Darling 8-30-1973
 James B. Davis 10-15-1972
 Irwin C. Devitt
 Jacob DeVries
 Ralph E. Dilday
 Charles L. Diven
 Vincent Doheny 2-6-1973
 Leonard Dorsch 11-18-1975
 Alan T. Dorsey 8-13-1961
 Leander W. Ege
 Selmer M. Eliassen - 1950's

Ted L. Erbstoesser
 Andrew C. Estes
 William G. Erickson 6-23-1968
 David E. Evans
 Ralph Faller 1978
 Thomas Floyd 12-1981
 Arvid M. Forde 10-20-81
 Harold Gallagher 12-13-81
 Harley P. Garner
 Ira M. Gaulke 1963
 James M. Gerrard
 Stanley J. Gierut 1-10-82
 William L. Gilligan Jr. 7-29-79
 Perry J. Goodwin
 Harold Granlie 10-13-77
 Ross Grimes 11-1974
 Homer Grove 10-1975
 Fred Guenther 5-17-1981
 Elmer Gullickeson 7-1968
 Cheslie Hakenson 9-28-1975
 Sammie E. Hallford 9-4-1976
 Louis Hamblin
 Chester L. Hankins
 Clifford Hauge
 James W. Hayes 6-8-1976
 Lindsay Hayes 6-18-1971
 Henry Heil 5-19-1972
 John J. Hennessy
 Jason C. Hensley 1952
 Andrew Herman 11-11-1976
 John J. Hoffer 3-2-80
 Robert Hines 5-17-1977
 Henry A. Hoines 11-28-1971
 Joseph C. Hubred 2-21-1971
 Joseph L. Hulbert
 Glenn A. Huseby
 Ronald H. Hutchens 6-3-1976
 Leonard F. Ira
 Burnett Ives 9-7-1976
 Frederick O. Jacobson 3-17-82
 Orville Jacobson
 Alden Johnson 12-13-1976
 Alf E. Johnson 12-4-1978
 Wallace A. Joyce
 Henry G. Joyce
 Pius B. Kraft

Jake M. Kramer 11-1970
 Ralph P. Kuhnert
 Ledrue Laffoon 4-11-1976
 Clem Landaker
 Harry Lang 3-22-1979
 Harold W. Langford
 Lewis A. Large 1-7-1973
 Clifford I. Larson 1978
 Leland E. Larson 3-4-1972
 Edward Leathan
 Orville R. Lee
 Morris W. Lehman 1-22-1979
 Verlon E. Lemmon 9-13-1977
 Arne Lindgren 9-7-1974
 Curtis Lowry
 Rudolph E. Mallon 1-19-1976
 Al Manno 2-1979
 Maj. R. R. Martin
 Nicholas Masica
 John C. McCann 1-11-1974
 Mayo McCulloch 12-1970
 Stanley McCulloch
 Reese McCulloch
 Frank Meek
 Ralph O. Mikelson
 Henry Moen
 Dr. Harlan Monroe 1972
 Co. Dwight E. Moorhead 11-1965
 Olen Nation 6-4-1976
 Jack Nellis 1981
 Edwin N. Nelson
 Oliver P. Nelson
 Thorvald C. Nelson
 Charles N. Newman 2-11-1972
 Russell Nyvall
 Ernest R. Olson 7-1970
 Orville M. Osborne
 J. D. Owen
 Jesse L. Owens 9-30-1975
 Harold W. Peihl 12-1950
 Edward R. Peterson
 Kenneth Peterson 2-1973
 Melvin Peterson
 Paul Prellwitz 2-14-1976
 Asal Prescott 1-15-80
 Jack T. Prescott 2-19-1980

Gerald R. Price 9-8-1978
 Lloyd G. Reitan
 Joseph F. Randash 4-13-1973
 Leon R. Riddle 1969
 Lawrence Rieger 12-71
 Henry Ries
 Don A. Riggs
 Rawleigh W. (Pete) Roberts
 12-31-1953
 Omas T. Roberts 6-8-1978
 Rowland B. Rohrer 8-9-1976
 Victor J. W. Rwet 10-1975
 John J. Schimmel 10-4-1973
 Eugene Scovel 3-23-1976
 James Severson 1976
 Warren M. Shearer
 Stanley A. Shurson
 Anthony Shutto
 William I. Siler
 Milan Simich 12-1978
 Colgate O. Sorlie
 Claude L. Speer 7-1970
 Bud Stoddard
 Kenneth H. Stone
 Alfred Strand 10-31-1977
 John D. Suter 1-23-79
 Virgil M. Thomasson
 Chester Thompson 7-15-1969
 Ted J. Thompson
 Willard A. Thompson 3-18-81
 Harold Thorn
 Leonard Toso 12-1971
 Marion M. Toyne 2-2-82
 Stephen Turk
 Albert Ulich
 Robert T. Veach 3-2-1974
 William Vedaa
 John Vrataries 5-2-1976
 John H. Wajda 8-12-81
 C. B. Warn 5-19-1975
 John C. Welch 1963
 Ralph Welsh
 William T. Willingham 1-1975
 John L. Whitaker
 Frank L. Ziskovsky 10-20-80

IN MEMORIAM

Killed in Action

PFC Ardine M. Harstad
 PFC. Nils Eidsness
 T-5 Lloyd Holland
 Sgt. Robert F. Jones
 S-Sgt. James G. Newman
 1st. Lt. Edward S. Kafka
 Pvt. Robert H. Burns
 T-5 Kurt Wasel
 S-Sgt. Doyle D. Grimm
 T-5 Harold H. Stichel
 Sgt. Millard E. Stigen
 Sgt. Raymond E. Larson
 S-Sgt. Harold T. Brown
 T-5 Jesse L. Anderson
 1st. Lt. John P. Hughes

Cpl. Donald F. Ramhorst
 PFC. Norman Togstad
 Pvt. William R. Hanson
 T-4 Albert Colaianni
 Pvt. Carl A. Applequist
 S-Sgt. Oscar E. Lystad
 T-5 Gustave Hager
 Sgt. Harold F. Mooney
 Cpl. Henry G. Popp
 Sgt. Ernest E. Parris
 2nd Lt. John B. Haywood
 Sgt. Sigval M. Carlson
 Sgt. Francis M. Zerr
 T-5 Norman C. Dutoit
 Pvt. Dale H. Ellingson

PFC. Woodrow Milligan
 Pvt. Edward P. Paddoek
 Capt. Paul R. Brunt
 Sgt. Arthur Mygland
 1st. Lt. Harold O. Weisweiver
 Cpl. Clarence A. Larsen
 Pvt. Ferdinand J. Schmidt
 T-5 Arnold E. Freelandier
 S-Sgt. Eric A. Antonson
 Sgt. Robert C. Elijah
 Cpl. Stanley E. Hams
 S-Sgt. Alvin K. Waggoner
 Sgt. Arthur B. Rossland
 PFC. Henry O. Stenberg

