



8-1961

164th Infantry News: August 1961

164th Infantry Association

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The 164th INFANTRY News

AUGUST ISSUE



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Texas Monument Dedicated To North Dakotans

ERECTED 7 APRIL 1960

IN RECOGNITION OF 1007 OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN OF THE 1ST NORTH DAKOTA INFANTRY, NORTH DAKOTA NATIONAL GUARD WHICH OCCUPIED THIS AREA AS A CAMP SITE 1916-1917.

HISTORY

ORGANIZED AS 1ST DAKOTA INFANTRY 1883
REDESIGNATED 1ST NORTH DAKOTA INFANTRY 1885

FEDERAL SERVICE

SPAN.-AMER. WAR & WAR OF INSURRECTION 1898-1899
MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE 1916-1917

REDESIGNATED 164TH INFANTRY

WW I - - AEF - FRANCE 1917-1919
WW II - PACIFIC THEATRE OF OPERATIONS 1941-1945
KOREAN CONFLICT-CAMP RUCKER, ALABAMA 1951-1953

THIS REGIMENT, AS A PART OF THE AMERICAL DIVISION, WAS THE FIRST UNITED STATES ARMY COMPONENT TO TAKE THE OFFENSIVE IN WORLD WAR II - GUADALCANAL, 13 OCTOBER 1942.

CONVERTED TO 164TH ENGINEER GROUP NDAK NG 1955

MERCEDES APRIL 8, 1960

Three old soldiers visited their camping grounds of 1916-1917 to dedicate a monument at Ohio and Tenth Streets to the First North Dakota Infantry. Lt. Gov. C. P. Dahl made the dedication address in behalf of the 1007 North Dakota

Infantry men who once tramped the brushland that is today a comfortable residential section.

He was accompanied by Gen. Herber L. Edwards, Col. H. A. Brocopp and P. R. Jaynes all of Bismarck, N. D., who were with the First North Dakota

when it was stationed here.

Jaynes, now a civilian was a corporal in the infantry unit that Dahl said came to Mercedes when its population was only 1500 people. They grubbed out their own campsite and built their own roads and walkways, he said.

"The First North Dakota," Dahl said, figured in the "Birth of a modern army," on the grounds around the monument. Until 1916-17 cavalry had been the most mobile branch of any military organization but at Mercedes the First North Dakota was the first to mount motor vehicles that were more mobile.

A handful of Mercedes citizens who were on hand 44 yrs. ago to see the arrival of the First North Dakota turned out Thursday to watch the monument dedication. Among those introduced by Mayor C. A. Ripley were R. H. Kern, Mrs. Mary Lee Kern Ewing, Paul Schrank, Ed Longoria, Elvida Hinajosa and Mrs. Fred Hard Wright.

Headquarters of the First North Dakota actually was on Mrs. Wrights front lawn which she showed to Lt. Gov. Dahl and his party. It was just across the tenth street from the monument. Mrs. Wright was acquainted with some of the returning soldiers. Mrs. Florence Johnson Scott, Rio Grande City, accepted the monument for Mercedes and Rio Grande Valley.

On the speakers stand were S. F. Cernosek, superintendent of Mercedes schools and Rep. Eligio De La Graza of Mission who was born in Mercedes.

Mercedes High School Tiger Band directed by Richard Crain played for the ceremony, and units of the Mercedes company of the 49th Armored Division

continued on page 2

TEXAS DEDICATES—

continued from page 1

provided the color and honor guard.

The monument bore this inscription:

"Erected April 7, 1960, in recognition of the 1007 officers and enlisted men of the First North Dakota Infantry, North Dakota National Guard which occupied this area as a camp-site in 1916-17.

"Organized as the First North Dakota Infantry in 1883. Redesignated First North Dakota Infantry 1885. Served in Spanish American War and War of Insurrection 1898 and 1899.

"Mexican Border Service 1916-17; Redesignated 164th Infantry in World War I. Served with A.E.F. in France 1917-19. World War II, Pacific Theater 1941-45. Korean Conflict served at Camp Rucker, Ala., 1951-53.

"This regiment as part of the Americal Division, was First U. S. Army Component to take the offensive in World War II, Guadalcanal, Oct. 13, 1942. Converted to 164th Engineer Group, North Dakota National Guard 1955."

The North Dakota party in Mercedes included Mrs. Dahl, Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Brocopp and Mrs. Jaynes.

Windows, Displays Add To Convention

Robert Coutts and Erwin Barta, co-chairmen of displays, urges all members who have pictures or souvenirs to get in touch with them, that they might be used. Some five windows have been donated by the local business men. President Brocopp stated he has many pictures that he could set up in the convention hall. If you have some of these items, let us know at once, please label them and they will be returned.

Food For A King

A banquet with food, "fit for a king" will be in store for all registrants of the convention, stated co-chairman LaRoy Baird. "Why shouldn't we give them what a king deserves, for even a king could not join our ranks if he did not belong to the 164th between 1883 and 1955.

"The menu consists of some sixty entries with the course being, Prime Ribs, Chicken, Shrimp, Serloin Tips, Turkey,

Ham, and two tastefully prepared "suckling pigs." Entertainment will be provided during the banquet and a dance will follow.

Sunday's Smorgasbord will be equally well prepared, you may rest assured that you won't go hungry," continued Baird, "we want you to eat, drink, and be merry, during your stay here."

Mrs. F. Richards Women's Chairman

Mrs. Frank Richards, wife of Brig. Gen. Frank Richards will be chairman of women's activities. "They are all queens to us," and they shall be entertained as such. Bridge and other activities are planned for



Mrs. Richards

the convention," she continued, "the women are just as much a part of the association and should attend the convention and meet the many men with whom their husbands served.

Events for the women will be listed in the next issue of the 164th Infantry News.

164th Infantry President Visits

President Brocopp and the "Mandolin playing", Luther Mason attended the last 164th Infantry Stag held at the Legion Club rooms August 16. A chow mein dinner was feed to some hundred in attendance.

Brocopp expressed satisfaction on all plans being made by the Dickinson committees. Brocopp commented, "I wish all the existing organization would hold such stags, as it would get them closer together and make them financially sound."

Bands To Appear

Word has been received by both Bismarck and Williston Bands of the desire to accept the invitation to preform for the convention. Details are to be worked out later. No word has been received from Harvey, N. Dak. or the drill team from Beach.

"We would like to have all these organizations here, for I know it will add color and entertainment for all," stated Edgar Agnew chairman. "These organizations have preformed before thousands and have been greatly received," he continued.

Out-of-Staters Show Interest

Treasurer Floyd E. Henderson of Fargo reports memberships from out-of-state have been most encouraging. The following out-of-state members have remitted their dues direct to Henderson:

Col. G. A. M. Anderson, 6303 19th Ave. NE, Seattle 15, Wash.

E. R. Morris, 4174 6th St., Omaha 31, Nebraska.

James R. LaMont, 817 Minnesota Ave., Bemidji, Minn.

Col. Carl E. Anderson, 4692 Via Bendita-Hope Ranch PK, Santa Barbara, California.

Otto L. Chantler, 132 Rockwell St. Port Orchard, Wash.

Lloyd Gordon, Box 586, Dillon, Montana.

Lt. Col. A. F. Wiest, Mainz Sub Post, A.P.O. 185, New York, New York.

Andrew C. Matthews, P. O. Box 307, Middleburg, Vermont.

Arthur D. Gussner, 3037 California Ave. San Bernardino, California.

Norman Flow, 685 Capitol Heights, St. Paul 3, Minnesota.

Thomas P. Franciamore, 430 Wegner Ave. Trenton, N. J.

These out-of-state memberships comprise approximately 20% of the total memberships submitted direct to Henderson. It can easily be seen if 20% of the former members of the 164th Infantry residing in North Dakota would pay their membership dues, the organization would be one of the larger veteran organizations in the state. Since so many of the members out-of-state have shown their interest in the organization by paying their dues, why don't you manifest similar interest and mail your dues promptly to F. E. Henderson, Treasurer, P. O. Box 1287, Fargo, North Dakota.

Shepard Invitation Referred

August 16, 1961

Dear Mr. Agnew:

I have contacted officials of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration with regard to an appearance at your convention of Commander Alan B. Shepard.

However, NASA officials informed me that because of the commitments of Commander Shepard and other astronauts, requests such as yours have been turned down almost without exception. Nevertheless, I urged that your invitation be given every consideration.

You may expect to hear from me again just as soon as I have a reply from NASA.

Sincerely,

Quentin N. Burdick

Registration Fee Listed

Registration fee of \$5.00 single and \$7.00 a couple has been set. The committee agreed that this would cover the banquet, social hour, dance, and the Sunday smorgasbord, also there will be free drink tickets from various clubs and bars in your packet.

"Personally," quoted Mort McBride, chairman of the registration, "we in Dickinson would like to have everything free for our visitors but we are going all out. We would like all local members to register early to avoid last minute snags which are expected at the convention.

"CO" Stags Urged

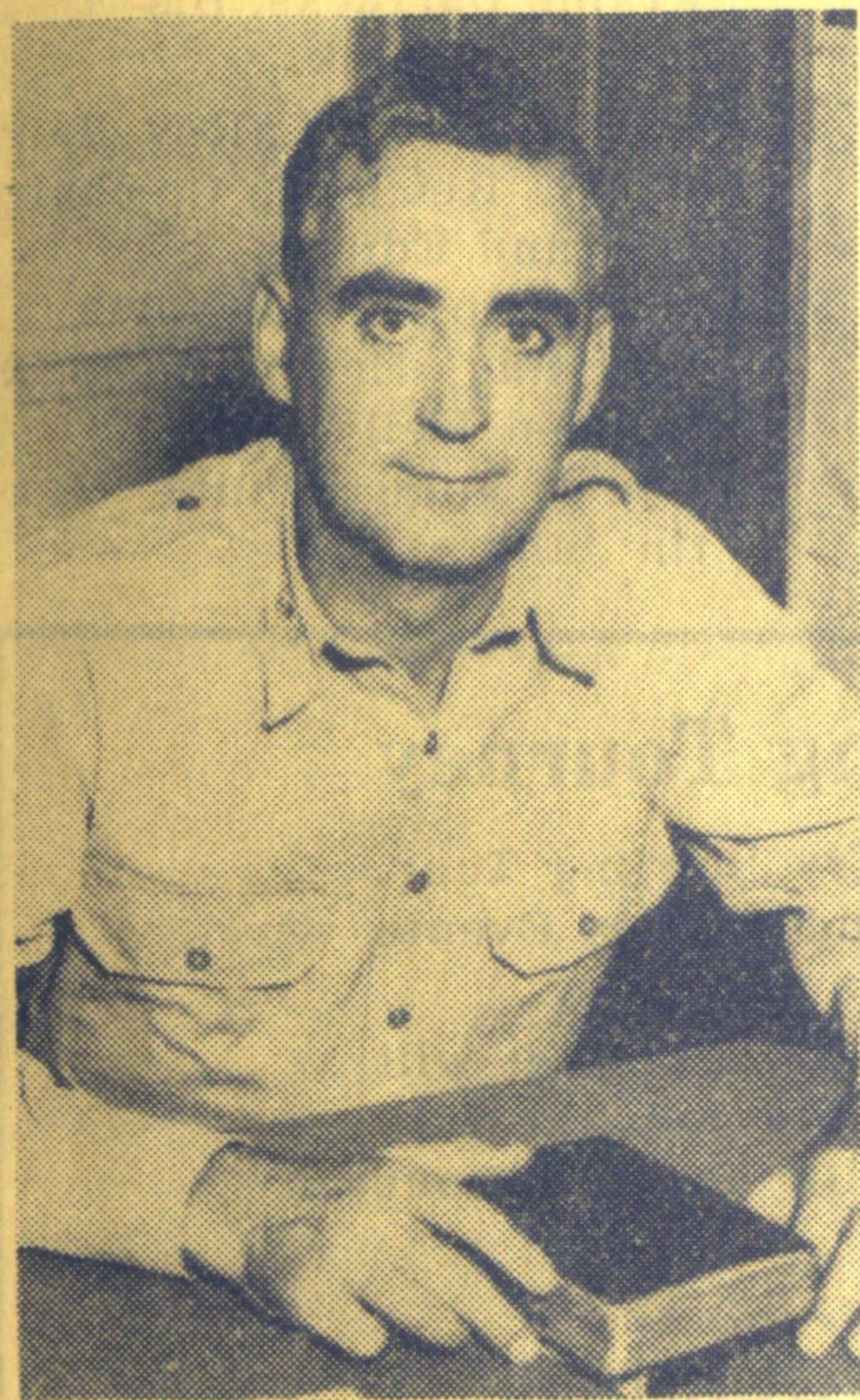
Floyd Henderson, Treasurer, stated, "Most of the old outfit still have their company organizations, I know a few; "B" in Fargo, "A" in Bismarck, "F" in Carrington and there are many others. We would like to urge these outfits to hold stags and raise money to help your state organization and to assist financially in sending your members to Dickinson. At the present time our state treasury is depleted and we do have obligations to meet, if your organizations can afford it we would appreciate any contribution," he continued, "the states only revenue is the \$2.00 dues and these are coming in very slow. If we are to survive we need \$\$\$\$," added Henderson.

Rev. Thomas Tracy 'Fox Hole Padre' Ill 2 Years, Dies

Quoted from **The Bismarck Tribune**, October 19, 1960:

Bismarck's "Fox Hole Padre", the Rev. Thomas J. Tracy, 49, died Tuesday night in St. Joseph's Hospital at St. Paul, Minnesota after suffering with a heart condition for more than two years.

As chaplain of North Dakota's famed 164th Infantry Regiment the Bismarck priest earned his fox hole sobriquet



Father Tracy

by accompanying the troops into action on Guadalcanal in 1942 and was credited by Army sources at Camp McCoy, Wis. of being the first American Army chaplain to see action in World War II.

During the regiment's arduous duty on the bitterly-contested island, Father Tracy lived with the troops in their fox holes as they fought off Japanese attempts to dislodge them from their positions and crucial foothold on that Pacific outpost.

During 26 months overseas Father Tracy also saw action in the Bougainville campaign and for his services was awarded the Bronze Star medal. The citation read: "Chaplain Tracy repeatedly disregarded his own safety and traversed difficult terrain under enemy gunfire to offer guidance and encouragement to troops in foxholes and dugouts."

He was discharged in 1946 but as a reserve officer recalled to duty in 1951 serving in the Trieste area of the Mediterra-

nean until released in 1953.

Father Tracy was born in St. Paul, July 31, 1911, a son of Mr. and Mrs. James Tracy, and was a graduate of St. Thomas Seminary at Denver, Colorado.

Note: It would be a wonderful idea that our convention go on record in setting up a memorial for our deceased chaplain—give it thought.

Origin Of 164th Association Revealed By Lyons

It was revealed by Bernie Lyons that the 164th Infantry Association was originated at the American Legion Department Convention in 1955 at Bismarck and the breakfast meeting was held at the Prince Hotel, a contribution of \$66.00 was taken up from the following members present; Elmer Farnam, Edgar Agnew, Elmer A. Dawson, Donald V. Stanley, Art Narum, Noel F. Thoralsen, William W. Jeffery, Bernard A. Wagner, Donald Robinson, James M. Fenelon, Leonard Bechtel and Laurel L. Miller

It was planned that the convention be held in Dickinson sometime in October.

Some 300 registered at Dickinson, a good time was had by all and it was voted to continue this organization and the convention was as follows; 1956 Jamestown, 1957 Valley City, 1958 Bismarck, 1959 Fargo, 1960 Grand Forks. Stated Herman Brocopp, "This is a crucial year. We need members if we don't get them we might as well fold," he continued, "if anyone knows of eligible members they should collect the \$2.00 or have them send it to Floyd Henderson, Treasurer, 164th Infantry Association, Box 1287, Fargo, North Dakota."

Harry S. Truman Sends Regrets and Greetings

Former President Harry S. Truman sent the following letter to Edgar Agnew dated August third.

My Dear Mr. Agnew:

Thank you very much for your letter of July 15. Your invitation was most highly appreciated. I do wish I could accept it. With other commitments, however, it is not possible. I do hope that your organization has a successful convention and that you will

convey to your members my regrets.

Harry S. Truman

Not to be discouraged by the turn down, the committee has written Allen Shepard, America's first astronaut, requesting that he join us in on "Outer Space" convention, in October. It is hoped he can attend, however, the committee will not be watching the sky for his arrival. If turned down other "Noted Speakers", will be invited.

1960 North Dakota Mexican Border Veterans Listed

A list of the 1960 North Dakota Mexican Border Veterans were announced by Fraine Barracks in Bismarck in a June 22 report, the following names and addresses. We hope that all will join their ranks in membership.

Col. Carl E. Anderson, Santa Barbara, Calif.; Col. Gustave A. Anderson, Seattle 9, Wash.; William Andreason, Santa Ana, Calif.; Irl Beaal, Minot, N. D.; James Thomas Brady, Minot, N. D.; Emil T. Bressler, Bremerton, Wash.; Robert Bridges, Detroit Lakes, Minn.; Col. Herman A. Brocopp, Bismarck, N. D.; Capt. Arthur Brown, Albuquerque, N. M.; James P. Brown, Mandan, N. D.

Clarence V. Carlson, Valley City, N. D.; Gilbert W. Cass, Washington, D. C.; Fred A. Couch, Portland, Ore.; Ferris D. Corder, Bismarck, N. D.; Patrick J. Cox, Bismarck, N. D.; Harry Cunz, Onamia, Minn.; Ward Davenport, Fargo, N. D.; Fay C. DeWitt, Minot, N. D.; Lt. Col. Leo H. Dominick, International Falls, Minn.

Maj. Gen. Herber L. Edwards Bismarck, N. D.; Alvin F. Feichert, Santa Ana, Calif.; Capt. George J. Fischer, Wahpeton, N.D.; Norman Flow, St. Paul, Minn.; Frank Flynn, Dickinson, N. D.; Judge Arnold C. Forbes, Wahpeton, N. D.

Maj. Leroy W. Goodwater, Enderlin, N. D.; B. Fred Gram, Enderlin, N. D.; Walter Granes, Minneapolis, Minn.; Lt. Col. James D. Gray, Bremerton, Wash.; Col. Robert K. Hall, Los Angeles, Calif.; Tom Hatten, Cadwell, Iowa; Minard Halvorson, Lisbon, N. D.; George H. Harvey, Williston, N. D.; Stanton A. Hayes, Oswego, Ore.; Lt. Col. George H. Haynes, Lisbon, N. D.; Lawrence A. Hull, Valley City, N. D.

Roland E. Jaberg, Mill Val-

ley, Calif.; P. R. Jaynes, Bismarck, N. D.; Emery W. Jeffrey, Williston, N. D.; Lt. Col. William W. Jeffery, Williston, N. D.; O. D. Jenson, Omaha, Nebr.; 1st Lt. James E. Jones, Lisbon, N. D.; Lt. Col. William N. Jones, Lisbon, N. D.; Alfred Kasper, Bismarck, N. D.; Peter Klick, Minneapolis, Minn.; G. Fredrick Lawrence, Bismarck, N. D.; John Leondorf, Tacoma, Wash.; Maj. John A. Lytle, Jamestown, N. D.

Douglas Martin, Rugby, N. D. Milton H. Mason, Valley City, N. D.; Andy Mathews, Middlebury, Vt.; John Mauer, St. Louis, Mo.; H. C. McCready, San Jose, Calif.; Lt. Col. Ronald J. McDonald, Valley City, N. D.; Col. LeRoy E. McGraw, Brandenton, Fla.; Donald J. McPhee, Bismarck, N. D.; Col. Archibald W. Melchior, Pebble Beach, Calif.; J. Orville Mills, Portland, Ore.; Luther L. Monson, Bismarck, N. D.; Harley Moore, Lisbon, N. D.; Dr. Max M. Moore, Valley City, N. D.; Eugene R. Morris, Omaha, Neb.

Berto A. Olson, Hollywood, Calif.; Arne Olstad, Valley City, N. D.; Myron Omlie, Grafton, N. D.; Giles L. Personius, Bismarck, N. D.; Adrian H. Pfusich, Valley City, N. D.; Col. Frank L. Putman, Alexandria, Va.; George A. Rasche, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.; Brig. Gen. Frank Richards, Dickinson, N. D.; Maj. Austin P. Reid, Daly City, Calif. D. E. Rutland, Fargo, N. D.; Col. Duane Y. Scarles, Oakland, Calif.; George Smith, Washington, D. C.; John Spare, Bismarck, N. D.; Alex Steinback, La Jolla, Calif.; Walter Stopfer, Passaic, N. J.; B. O. Swanson, Valley City, N. D.

Neal H. Tracy, Valley City, N. D.; William K. Trueman, Grand Forks, N. D.; Col. Carl M. Ulsaker, San Antonio, Texas Col. Joe S. Underwood, Tacoma Wash.; Lt. Col. Danna Wright, St. John, N. D.; Vernon B. Zacher, Ventura, Calif.; George Zalusky, Fargo, N. D.

If any are interested in joining the Mexican Border Veterans they can write to the National Headquarters, United Mexican Border Veterans, Post Office Box 5435, Indianapolis 3, Indiana.

A famous Hollywood wolf visiting Chicago was taken to see a strip-teaser in one of the well-known local bars. When asked what he thought of the act, the wolf dryly remarked, "We don't consider sex a spectator sport in Hollywood."

Newspaper thru Courtesy of Local Merchants

This newspaper is coming to you through the courtesy of the following merchants:

Mann's Automotive (Kenny, Fred and Paul, Jr.)
Main Bar
Stockman's Bar
Dickinson Abstract
West Plains Motel
Q. B. & R. Auto Parts
Amerian Legion Service
Queen City Motel
Jerry's Lanes
Dickinson Beverage
(Hamm's Beer)
Lisko Inn
Ray Hotel
Wecker's Drug
Dakota Beer



H. A. Brocopp, W. R. Reichert, "Pinto" Flynn and Luther Munson visit over the coming reunion at the last "Co" K Stag.
— Note Coffee! —

Plan to Publish 164th Infantry News Monthly

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W. R. Reichert, Co-chair-
men and Editors
Membership, Erwin Barta
Advertising, Erwin Barta &
Wilfred Kelly
Banquet, John Schuld, Mar-
tin Jahr

Mr. and Mrs. Wong, a Chi-
nese couple, became parents;
and to the consternation of Mr.
Wong, the baby was white.
When he was the newcomer,
Mr. Wong was taken aback.
Confronting his wife, he com-
mented acidly, "Missy, two
Wongs do not make a white."

With complete aplomb, she
answered, "It was purely oc-
cidental."

The sultan kept his harem
several miles away from his
palace, and each day he sent a
trusted servant to fetch one of
the wives. The sultan lived to
be 87; the servant died at the
age of 40.

Moral: It's not the women
who kill you, it's the running
after them.

Item from an etiquette book:
"A gentleman invariably fol-
lows a lady upstairs. . ."

**PLAN TO ATTEND THE
164TH REUNION!**

**164th INFANTRY NEWS
BOX 1087
DICKINSON, N. DAK.**

1st Annual 164th Infantry Bowling Tourney

Be sure to bowl in the 1st Annual 164th Infantry Bowling Tour-
nament, at Jerry's Lanes — October 14. Doubles and Singles Events
— All handicap. Trophies and cash prizes for every fourth entry.

This will be the first 164th Bowling Tourney and we hope it will
become an annual affair. Bring your bowling ball and join the fun.
Shift times and details are included in this issue with handy cut-out
entry blanks.

1st ANNUAL 164th INFANTRY BOWLING TOURNAMENT

—Entry Blank—

Doubles	Name	Last Known Average	Circle Shift Desired
1.	Noon - 2:00 - 4:00
2.	
Singles			
1.	1:00 - 3:00 - 5:00
2.	1:00 - 3:00 - 5:00

Entry fee — \$3.00 per man per event — Handicap 75% of 190
Cut out and send your entries to Jerry's Lanes, Dickinson, N. Dak.