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Norman Rockwell’s Doughboys’ painted in 1918 for the Leo Feist Inc. 
Music Company song sheet of “Over There” captures the essence of the song and the essence of George M. 
Cohan, the “Yankee Doodle Dandy” songwriter who would have marked his 100th birthday this July 4. “Over 
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THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE • JULY 1978 3
In recent years, energy has emerged as one of the major concerns of this nation. Much like a spendthrift, unless we change our ways, we’ll soon be bankrupt. For we are confronting, as President Carter puts it, “the greatest domestic challenge of our lifetimes.”

Two facts stand out clearly. First, the present energy dilemma will not go away, no matter how tightly we shut our eyes. There is no escaping the reality—demand for energy is outstripping development of energy supplies; non-renewable natural resources are being depleted. And we often are not using the energy we consume to its best advantage. One example is oil. Granted, there are very substantial oil reserves waiting to be found—and we are getting on with the task of finding them. But the world’s oil and gas cannot last forever. Sometime in the next century, petroleum will likely cease to be a major contributor to our fuel mix. And the demise of the hydrocarbon era may necessitate substantial changes in our economy and our life-styles—unless, that is, we do our planning now.

The second fact is that we must pull together as a nation, sharing sacrifices, if we are to resolve our difficulties. The problem is national—even global—in scope. And solutions must be just as far-reaching. As Aristotle observed centuries ago, “a common danger unites even the bitterest enemies.” While our enmities may not be bitter, energy shortages surely present the sort of common danger that requires—indeed demands—unity. Unfortunately, some states are now embracing provincial postures. Good husbandry of resources is essential, but hoarding is not. Perhaps anticipating a degree of divisiveness, the President straightforwardly dealt with this issue in his April energy address, his words were the following: “We must not permit energy shortages to balkanize our nation.”

But that may be exactly what is happening. Newspaper story after story demonstrates the growth of regional conflict. A recent New York Times story—and this is just one example—led off this way: “Instead of the moral equivalent of war, the nation faces what some regional officials are calling ‘the economic equivalent of civil war’ over President Carter’s energy proposals.” That is hardly good news.

Let’s forget the specifics of the Carter proposal. Congress will, in the course of exercising its authority, massage the President’s proposals; and the American people will be heard from, too. Moreover, whatever Congress enacts this year is likely to be changed in years to come. Still, the importance of these actions cannot be underestimated.

At long last, we—as a nation—have recognized the seriousness of our situation and are moving toward a solution. That is good news.

But solutions will slip through our fingers if our nation becomes, instead, “balkanized.” Just as in war, massive efforts that can only grow out of unity are required . . . if victory is to be achieved.

But the specter of spreading regionalism cannot be dismissed as illusory. Atlantic states increasingly oppose offshore drilling—but the outer continental shelf is one of our last petroleum frontiers. These same states argue against refinery siting and nuclear plant construction.

At the same time, many of these states are intensive energy customers. Their cooler climate leads to greater-than-average dependency upon energy to fuel factories and heat homes—dependency underscored by the bitter cold winter of 1976-77 that began early and ended late. Many residents of these states clamor for inexpensive energy; yet, their actions can only result in more expensive energy.

In the same vein, California—long a major energy producer—is seen by some to be sliding into an anti-energy posture. Officials in that state (Continued on page 35)

Letters to the Editor

Sir: The President and the 68 senators who voted to ratify the give-away of the Panama Canal might ponder the verse:

As we lower Old Glory for the last time
From its Panamanian mast
And we bow our heads in pride
For our country’s glorious past,
We wonder what the future is for
Uncle Sam
And pray that Panama
Is not another Vietnam.

GEORGE A. THOMPSON
Sun City, AZ

Sir: The Legion fought a good fight on the Panama Canal and lost. Now let’s see how those senators fare with the voters.

CHARLES A. MCAFEE
Wichita, KS

Sir: Many of us in the Bastogne area are anxious to establish contact by mail with Americans who fought in our region during World War II.

MRS. MICHELINE DUFONT
22 Place de la Foire
6620 Neufchateau
Belgium

Sir: I served in WWI. It’s time Congress did something about a pension for us.

R. S. SHACKELFORD
Cheyenne, WY

Sir: The April article about the troops in Russia in WWI was most interesting. My 332nd Infantry was the only regiment stationed in Italy, I believe. We did occupation duty in Austria-Hungary.

HENRY S. BLANK
Dayton, OH

Sir: We purchased the Panama Canal Zone and now we’ve given it away. Are the President and the Senate going to give away the Louisiana Purchase, and Alaska, too?

GRANT RITTER
Roscoe, IL

Sir: I noted the recent suggestion that employers count military service when giving pension credits. The United Mine Workers Union already does this.

FREDERICK MERVIN, Sr.
Amsterdam, OH

Sir: I’ve just paid my 1979 dues and I want to say to all veterans: Just think what we wouldn’t have if we didn’t have The American Legion.

PAUL S. FULLKERSON
San Francisco, CA
(Continued on page 46)
The Ultimate Tax Shelter

Tax experts are now referring to a small, privately owned corporation as "The Ultimate Tax Shelter." This is especially true since the passage of the Tax Reform Act of 1976. This law makes most former tax shelters either obsolete, or of little advantage. Investments affected include real estate, oil and gas drilling, cattle feeding, movies, etc. These former tax shelters have lost their attractiveness. Aside from that, these tax shelters required a large investment. Only a small segment of the population could benefit from them.

I've written a book showing how you can form your own corporation. I've taken all the mystery out of it. Thousands of people have already used the system for incorporation described in the book. I'll describe how you may obtain it without risk and with a valuable free bonus.

A corporation can be formed by anyone at surprisingly low cost. And the government encourages people to incorporate, which is a little known fact. The government has recognized the important role of small business in our country. Through favorable legislation incorporating a small business, hobby, or sideline is perfectly legal and ethical. There are numerous tax laws favorable to corporations, which is remarkable in this age of ever-increasing taxation. Everyone of us needs all the tax shelter we can get!

Here are just a few of the advantages of having my book on incorporating. You can limit your personal liability. All that is at stake is the money you have invested. This amount can be zero to a few hundred or even a few thousand dollars. Your home, furniture, car, savings, or other possessions are not at risk. You can raise capital and still keep control of your business. You can put aside up to 25% of your income tax-free. If you desire, you may wish to set up a non-profit corporation or operate a corporation anonymously. You will save from $300 to $1,000 simply by using the handy tear-out forms included in the book. All the things you need: certificate of incorporation, minutes, by-laws, etc., including complete instructions.

There are still other advantages. Your own corporation enables you to more easily maintain continuity and facilitate transfer of ownership. Tax free fringe benefits can be arranged. You can set up your health and life insurance, and other programs for you and your family wherein they are tax deductible. Another very important option available to you through incorporation is a medical reimbursement plan (MRP). Under an MRP, all medical, dental, pharmaceutical expenses for you and your family can become tax deductible to the corporation. An unincorporated person must exclude the first 3% of family's medical expenses from a personal tax return. For an individual earning $20,000 the first $600 are not deductible.

Retirement plans, and pension and profit-sharing arrangements can be set up for you with far greater benefits than those available to self-employed individuals.

A word of caution. Incorporating may not be for you right now. However, my book will help you decide whether or not a corporation is for you now or in the future. I review all the advantages and disadvantages in depth. This choice is yours after learning all the options. If you do decide to incorporate, it can be done by mail quickly and within 48 hours. You never have to leave the privacy of your home.

I'll also recall to you some startling facts. Why lawyers often charge substantial fees for incorporating when often they prefer not to, and why two-thirds of the New York and American Stock Exchange companies incorporate in Delaware.

You may wonder how others have successfully used the book. Not only a small unincorporated business, but enjoyable hobbies, part time businesses, and even existing jobs have been set up as full fledged corporations. You don't have to have a big business going to benefit. In fact, not many people realize some very important facts. There are 30,000 new businesses formed in the U.S. each and every month. 98% of them are small businesses; often just one individual working from home.

To gain all the advantages of incorporating, it doesn't matter where you live your age, race, or sex. All that counts is your ideas. If you are looking for some new ideas, I believe my book will stimulate you in that area. I do know many small businessmen, housewives, hobbyists, engineers, and lawyers who have acted on the suggestions in my book. A woman who was my former secretary is incorporated. She is now grossing over $30,000 working from her home by providing a secretarial service to me and other local businesses. She works her own hours and has all the corporate advantages.

I briefly mentioned that you can start with no capital whatsoever. I know it can be done; since I have formed 18 companies of my own, and I began each one of them with nothing. Beginning at age 22, I incorporated my first company which was a candy manufacturing concern. Without credit or experience, I raised $96,000. From that starting point grew a chain of 30 stores. I'm proud of the fact that at age 29 I was selected by a group of businessmen as one of the outstanding businessmen in the nation. As a result of this award, I received an invitation to personally meet with the President of the United States.

I wrote my book, How To Form Your Own Corporation Without A Lawyer For Under $50, because I felt that many more people than otherwise would could become the President of their own corporations. As it has turned out, a very high proportion of all the corporations formed in America each month, at the present time are using my book to incorporate.

Just picture yourself in the position of President of your own corporation. My book gives you all the information you need to make your decision. Let me help you make your business dreams come true.

As a bonus for ordering my book now, I'll send you absolutely free a portfolio of valuable information. It's called "The Incom Plan" and normally sells for $14.95. It shows you how you can convert most any job into your own corporation. You'll increase your take-home pay by up to 25% without an increase in salary or even changing jobs in many cases. If you are an employer, learn how to operate your business with independent contractors rather than employees. This means that you'll have no payroll records or withholding taxes to worry about. And you'll be complying with all I.R.S. guidelines. "The Incom Plan" includes forms, examples and sample letter agreements to make it possible.

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IRS BOWS TO U.S. COURT ON RETROACTIVE DISABILITY QUESTION: The Internal Revenue Service has announced it will follow a 1976 U.S. Court of Appeals ruling in handling cases of veterans who had been getting regular military retirement pay and received a retroactive disability rating from VA... Previously, IRS held that no portion of the regular military retirement could be excluded from gross income...The Court of Appeals, however, held that the disability determination by VA was "controlling" and that veterans were entitled to exclude a portion of the benefits they received before their retroactive disability rating from gross income...IRS agrees.

Los Angeles VA Regional Office approves millionth home loan... In informal ceremonies at the VA Regional Office in Los Angeles... Jack Dweck, right, Chief of the Loan Guaranty Division hands Edward Verdugo, a Vietnam Era Navy veteran, the approved papers for his home loan as wife, Melissa and son, Justin watch... The Verdugos will be living in Westchester... The Los Angeles VA Regional Office is the first to have reached the 1,000,000 mark in Home Loan Guaranties.

DIRECT DEPOSIT OF VA BENEFIT CHECKS NOT "AUTOMATIC"... In February we announced the introduction of a new system for receiving VA benefits checks by direct deposit to accounts in savings institutions...Veterans are reminded that policies for making these funds available to the recipient differ between banks... Some will allow access to funds immediately upon receipt of credit authorization at the bank and others require that the account holder wait up to five days...Veterans are urged to determine their bank's policy before submitting government form SF-1199A...VA makes these deposits by Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) through the Federal Reserve, but not all financial institutions are equipped to process EFT...Check first.

VA OPENS SECOND REHABILITATIVE RESEARCH CENTER...VA Administrator Max Cleland has announced the establishment of a new Rehabilitative Engineering Research and Development Center at the VA hospital in Palo Alto, CA... The first such center is at Hines VA hospital, Chicago...Cleland has ordered high priority and expanded support from the VA for rehabilitative engineering research in amputations, spinal cord injuries and other severe physical handicaps... The Palo Alto Center will work closely with the Stanford University School of Medicine and Stanford Engineering School... Projects already underway at the California facility include techniques for immobilizing patients with spinal cord injuries in such a way that healing is assured, yet the patient's mobility in non-spinal areas is unimpaired, a sonar-like system with micro-computerized controls which can be worn on eyeglasses to warn blind persons of hazards, and "robot" arms which will enable severely disabled veterans to perform virtually any manual task.

VETERANS AND DEPENDENTS DON'T HAVE TO LOSE BENEFITS BECAUSE THEY'VE LOST ORIGINAL MARRIAGE OR BIRTH DOCUMENTS... VA says important papers should be protected under any circumstances, but if they are misplaced VA will accept a certified statement in lieu of the original document as long as it is the first marriage for each partner and such information does not conflict with information in VA files... Any questions concerning eligibility will be answered at your nearest VA office or through your Post Service Officer.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS HOME IN PENNSYLVANIA DRAWS CRITICISM... Pennsylvania Department Commander Eugene C. Eichelberger completed a tour of facilities at the Soldiers and Sailors home in Erie and voiced astonishment at the conditions he found... "I just couldn't believe that our veterans were living under such deplorable conditions," he said... Eichelberger told of seeing as many as eight veterans living together in one room, using clotheslines to store their belongings... The Commander said that the people of Pennsylvania should be ashamed that any veteran is treated in this way adding, "Governor Shapp and the Pennsylvania General Assembly should hold their heads in shame, expecting our veterans to live under such conditions."... Eichelberger said his criticism did not reflect on the performance of the Home's Superintendent, John Driscoll, who he said was "doing the best he can with what is available", but added that Pennsylvania's quarter-million Legionnaires will be demanding action "not promises" from the state's Military Affairs Department... New construction has begun with federal assistance, but according to Commander Eichelberger the new building "will not correct conditions in the present facilities" where the 175 residents pay for food and housing from their pension incomes.
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THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE • JULY 1978 7
The endless U.S.-Soviet negotiations over limiting strategic weapons, and the continuing national debate over the "balance of terror" between the two countries, obscure attention on a move in Congress to revive and renew our moribund civil defense system.

Rep. Donald Mitchell (R-NY) has introduced legislation providing for a seven-year comprehensive civil defense program which will "guarantee the survival of a nation, its people, and a way of life sacred to us all." Russia, he claims, is so far ahead of us in civil defense preparations for its population and its industries, that the USSR in effect has gained major advantage over us in the so-called "rough equivalence" between our military might. U.S. apathy over civil defense, Representative Mitchell observes, stems from the myth that a nuclear war would wipe out both countries. But there are ways of surviving for which the Soviet is prepared, and we are not, he maintains.

A slow trend toward pre-paid legal insurance, being pushed by some unions and civic groups, may have received an unexpected boost from President Carter's recent attack on the American bar. Ninety percent of our lawyers serve 10 percent of our people, the President declared.

Today, more than a million workers have a right to call on legal advice and help as a benefit in union labor contracts. Among other assistance, these beneficiaries get legal counsel, and direct assistance, in such areas as preparation of wills, arranging divorce, and defense against suits, and in some cases, even undertaking suits.

Among the unions, the pre-paid legal insurance is known as the Cadillac of the fringe benefits, but the idea is spreading.

The House by a two-thirds majority has voted to give the District of Columbia, which now has only a non-voting Delegate in the House, full representation in Congress, that is, two Senators and at least one Representative. Should the Senate similarly approve the legislation by the necessary two-thirds vote, the constitutional amendment would then also require ratification by 38 states.

An effort to gain House approval was rejected two years ago, but this time, there is strong bipartisan support for the District of Columbia measure.

--- PEOPLE & QUOTES ---

ENGLISH UNSPEAK

"That the effort to render English unintelligible is proceeding vigorously at the highest levels of learning." Essayist Howard Nemirov.

RED POLICY

"... Moscow and Havana intend to take advantage of every opportunity to demonstrate that those who accept their political philosophy can also count on receiving their assistance when it is needed." CIA Deputy Director Frank Carlucci.

TAX HIM, NOT ME

"Tax reform means don't tax you, don't tax me, tax that fellow under the tree." Louisiana Sen. Russell Long.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"Much of television is what I call junk food for the mind... just something to pass the time." Actor Steve Allen.

RUNNING OUR NATION

"People can't agree on the facts, let alone the answer." Arizona Rep. Morris Udall.

WAY OF LIFE

"Conservation of energy must become a way of life—in our personal lives, and in commerce and industry." Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.

SAVE OUR NAVY

"Abandonment of a preeminent naval presence in the world would well prove to be the single largest strategic and political mistake the United States might make in the 1970's and 1980's." Colorado Sen. Gary Hart.

FREEST COUNTRY

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America's Upstanding Song
Why Do We Rise for the National Anthem?

Our National Anthem, often battered in melody and lyrics, criticized periodically, and sometimes even ignored, is unique.

Although nearly every student eventually learns the words of the first verse, anyway, and can squeak through the melody-range of "The Star-Spangled Banner," few are aware of the full story of the stirring song's history or how and when it received recognition, both unofficial and official.

The beginning is well known. It occurred during the War of 1812, when the youthful United States of America was fighting to secure its hard-won independence first declared in 1776. One young lawyer, Francis Scott Key, wrote a lyric poem while on a diplomatic mission aboard an English frigate during the British bombardment of Fort McHenry on Chesapeake Bay, during the night of September 13-14, 1814. The British guns failed in their purpose, but Key's words were destined to resound through the rocket's glare to announce that the American flag was, and still is, there.

The very day after Key's poem was written, it was brought to the attention of a Baltimore printer who ran it off as a "broadsheet" (a single-sheet handbill), under the title "Defense of Fort McHenry."

One account has it that an actor-singer named Ferdinand Durang realized the poem's words fitted a traditional English melody, "Tune na-creek in Heaven," composed for the Anacricen Club at London in 1771 by John Stafford Smith. On Sept. 15, 1814, Durang gathered a small crowd of Yankee civilians and colonial volunteer soldiers at McCauley's Tavern next to the Holliday Street Theatre in Baltimore. There, standing on a chair, Durang is said to have led the first singing of the song.

The origin of the melody was sometimes attributed to other composers, such as Samuel Arnold and Turlough O'Carolan, but the claims for Smith as the true composer are now generally accepted. Francis Scott Key had, in 1806, written verses of similar meter for the same melody by Smith.

Key's new poem was next published in the Baltimore Patriot of Sept. 21 and the Baltimore American of Sept. 21, 1814, under the title "Bombardment of Fort McHenry" without naming its author.

Historians disagree on a report that Durang was called upon to sing the song again several nights later at the Holliday Street Theatre, or possibly at the same tavern next door. No theatrical programs were being presented in Baltimore during this period. On Oct. 19, 1814, however, a performance of the play Count Benyowsky was given at the Holliday Street Theatre with the playbill announcement that: "After the play, Mr. Harding will sing a much admired New Song, written by a gentleman of Maryland, in commemoration of the Gallant Defense of Fort McHenry, called 'THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER.' No coverage of this musical rendition, or further information regarding the obscure singer Harding, has come to light, but it is known that the song was sung again sometime in November of 1814 at a performance "commemorating the repulse of the enemy from Baltimore."

Although successful despite its difficult melodic range of an octave-and-a-fifth, "The Star-Spangled Banner" dawdled on the road to national maturity. The spirited tune "Yankee Doodle" from the French and Indian War and the powerful "Hail, Columbia," as well as other nationalistic airs, were more popular. Not until the Civil War did "The Star-Spangled Banner" take on a tarry significance.

Several parodies of the song were written as Americans turned against each other. One embittered Southern version, author unknown, titled "Cross of the South," began:

"Oh, say can you see through the gloom and the storm
How peaceful and blest was America's soil,
'Til betrayed by the guile of the Puritan demon
Which lurks under virtue and springs from its coil
To fasten its fangs on the lifeblood of freemen . . ."

In reply, youthful Massachusetts lawyer Oliver Wendell Holmes penned:

"When our land is illumined with Liberty's smile,
If a foe from within strike a blow at her glory,
Down, down with the traitor that dares to defile
The flag of her stars and the page of her story!
By the millions unchained when our birthright was gained,
We will keep her bright blazon unstained! . . ." etc.

"The Star-Spangled Banner" still waved at war's end but the song suffered and criticism seemed to still patriotic fervor. It was not performed at the opening of the six-month American Centennial exhibition in Philadelphia on May 10, 1876. An orchestra of 150 and chorus of 1,000 voices gave a 30-minute rendition of "national airs" climaxing with "Hail, Columbia."

On Sunday, July 2, 1876, however, in New York City, a festival Centennial celebration sponsored by the New York Allgemeine Saengerbund, a 50-piece orchestra and 400-voice choir, concluded a concert of music by German composers with a performance of "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Two days later, New York City held a large public celebration-review at Union Square, where massed military bands and a 500-voice choir "thrillingly rendered" the song "with a vigor and well-marked style," according to the New York Times, which also noted "the early choruses (were) sung with poor effect."

On the same day in Brooklyn, an even more impressive Centennial show featured 15 brass bands and a crowd of 200,000 persons. "The Star-(Continued on page 48)
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CLOSE ENCOUNTER OF FLIGHT 101...

HE LOVED swimming in the ocean—alone on Sunday mornings on a stretch of beach near the Olympic Country Club.

That Sunday—Aug. 16, 1942—he drove from his home on Chestnut Street, splashed in the cold water, lay in the sun, read the newspaper and drank hot coffee from a thermos bottle. In those summer days of wartime 1942, solitude and serenity were rare delights.

Then Riccardo Capovilla glanced up at the horizon. He stopped abruptly. He closed his eyes, but when he reopened them it still loomed out there, 50 feet from the water's edge, like a gray whale. A long kelp-like strand dangled from its nose. It made not a sound as it slowly approached.

It was an airship—a blimp. A long rope from its front end dragged along the top of the water. The propellers were not turning. No crew was in sight.

But whose airship? Ours? Japanese? Was Capovilla unfortunate enough to be the only American around when the long-feared enemy assault finally began?

The ship reached the shoreline and made a little turn in the sea breeze. Capovilla saw UNITED STATES NAVY. He could breathe again. But why was the airship landing here? And its shape was not right. There was a deep crease across its middle, as if some giant had straddled it and broken its back.

The ship's single landing wheel dragged across the sand. The craft rose gently and moved up along the high ground and across the road. The gondola scraped, a depth charge broke free and rolled down an embankment. Free of the weight, the ship jumped quickly to 100 feet and continued inland, out of Capovilla's sight.

Capovilla ran to his car and raced to phone the San Francisco Police Department.

Sgt. William Brannan of the Ingleside Station was in Radio Car No. 1 when he spotted the craft. Brannan sounded his siren to clear the streets, but people ran from their homes to see what the excitement was about.

Caddies at the Lake Merced Golf and Country Club saw it disappear between two hills and then bounce up, its starboard engine packed with dirt and grass.

Elmer Kennedy, an assistant battalion chief of the Daly City Fire Department, saw it approaching just above the tree tops and power poles. "It looked like a big broken wiener," he said.

Mrs. Horace Appleton was in her kitchen when she heard what sounded like heavy chains dragging across the roof of her Daly City home. The room darkened and she smelled the strong odor of helium. The sky out the window was filled with a big airship. She watched it gasp through one last hop and fall into the street in front of 419 Bellevue Avenue, the home of William Morris. A power line broke and sent arcs of lightning into the air. The helium bag draped itself lazily over Morris' 1928 Dodge. Morris looked out just in time to see his car disappear beneath the blimp and his lawn disappear beneath some 2,000 spectators.

Firemen, policemen and air-raid wardens formed a cordon to hold back the crowd. Within minutes, Navy and Army units armed with rifles and bayonets took over an excited, confused Bellevue Avenue.

To prevent the blimp from rising again, firemen tore large wounds in its gas bag. Fireman Thomas O'Brien climbed into the gondola. The door was latched open—rather odd, he thought. The safety bar to block the open doorway was not in place. The pilot's hat still lay on the instrument panel. A microphone attached to an outside speaker system dangled through the open doorway. The radio was on and working. The ignition switches for the engine were on. The gasoline fuel lines were open and there was still plenty of fuel in the tanks. It was as if the engines stalled. Why? Where was the pilot, his passengers? Their parachutes and the rubber life raft were still in place. There seemed nothing amiss in the cabin.

(Continued on page 40)
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THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE • JULY 1978 13
Yankee Doodle Dandy

Give My Regards To Broadway

Mary's A Grand Old Name

(I'm A) Yankee Doodle Dandy

Over There

Harrigan

Forty-Five Minutes From Broadway
America’s Yankee Doodle Dandy would have been 100 years old this Fourth of July.

George M. Cohan didn’t make the century mark, he died in 1942; but his music and his reputation will live as long as there’s a “grand old flag,” and as long as Americans serve “over there.”

A critic once asked Cohan if he could write a song or a show without a flag.

“I can write a song or a show with nothing but a pencil,” he barked.

Fortunately for all Americans, everything the Irish vaudeville kid was born to in Providence, R.I. came out red, white and blue.

For the first two decades of the 20th century, Cohan dominated the New York theater and gave the nation and the world the American musical comedy. He was hailed as the “prince of Broadway,” “the man who owned Broadway,” the real life “Yankee Doodle Dandy who went to London, just to ride a pony.”

He was the epitome of the New Yorker who visited friends in New Rochelle, and came back to Manhattan to write “Only 45 Minutes from Broadway... Oh, what a difference it makes.”

He was the sentimentalist who captivated every woman in the land with “Mary Is a Grand Old Name” and “So Long Mary.” (But he married a girl named Ethel Levey in 1899, divorced her, then married Agnes Nolan in 1907.)

He had a roguish side, too. At 16 a publisher bought “Why did Nellie Leave Her Home?” and Cohan followed quickly with “Hot Tamale Alley,” a forgettable hit called “I Guess I’ll Have to Telegraph My Baby,” and “You’re the Warmest Baby in the Bunch.”

And he was a professional Irishman. His “H-A-double R-I-G-A-N Spells Harrigan” rings out every St. Patrick’s Day in a timeless salute to Ed Harrigan, an old family friend and vaudevillian.

For half a century; no, for all of 64 years, George M. Cohan somehow knew what America was thinking, or what it wanted to think, and in 1939 Congress and President Franklin D. Roosevelt said “thank you” by awarding Cohan the Congressional Medal of Honor for his inspirational songs “You’re a Grand Old Flag” and “Over There.” Cynics said the award was part of the conditioning of the American public for a return of the martial spirit and eventual entry into World War II. But where Cohan was concerned, the cynics were in a distinct minority.

“If ever a man put his love of country on a song sheet, it was George M. Cohan,” said his longtime producer-partner Sam Harris.

In more recent years it’s been said that Cohan’s view of America was simplistic; that he made millions by writing about an American dream that never really existed, that he wrote of ideals that men and women wore like Sunday finery, but never really worked in. No matter, Cohan captured the American idea in the surging early 20th century when a

You’re A Grand Old Flag

Song sheets and various poses capture essence of George M. Cohan, the Yankee Doodle Dandy who was born on the Fourth of July and grew up to be the man who owned Broadway and the heart of America. At left he is a turn-of-the-century song and dance man. Top right is a teenage vaudeville pose; center right is successful Broadway producer, 1920; lower right, still whimsical older Cohan, rich in memories
President Franklin Roosevelt awards Medal of Honor to Cohan in gratitude for songs like "Over There" and "You're a Grand Old Flag"

bustling, building young giant was forcing its way onto the world stage. The fact that his music lives on, that four generations of Americans can sing his most popular lyrics is testimony enough that he knew what he was writing about.

And how many times this Fourth of July do you suppose television stations will show Jimmy Cagney's memorable Academy Award portrayal of "The Yankee Doodle Dandy?"

Cohan wrote of the America he knew. And he had an uncanny knack for writing in rhyme.

"I scribbled parodies and patter for comedians, comic songs and extra verses for serio comics, and even took a shot at a couple of afterpieces for burlesque shows," he once said. "After awhile, I got to writing sketches for variety teams, and orders came so fast that I found it was impossible to supply the demand. With parodies in every pocket and sketch manuscripts under my arm, I was soon the envy of all the pencil pushers in the variety branch of the theatrical game."

At one point, Cohan even contracted to produce a show on Broadway without the slightest idea of what it was going to be about.

His first hit show on Broadway, "Little Johnny Jones" opened in 1904. It had three hit songs: "Yankee Doodle Boy," "Give My Regards to Broadway," and "Goodbye Flo."

He followed with a show titled "Give My Regards to Broadway" that left its audiences singing and humming "45 Minutes from Broadway," "So Long Mary" and "Mary Is a Grand Old Name."

This led to "George Washington, Jr," a show that was built around the song "You're a Grand Old Flag." In the first performances the title was "You're a Grand Old Rag," but when critics complained that Cohan was profaning the Stars and Stripes he quickly changed the lyrics.

The idea for the song, he said, came from a Civil War veteran with whom he once rode in a funeral cortège. The veteran was holding a folded American flag on his lap and recounting stories of the War Between the States. As he talked he stroked the flag fondly and finally he said, "she's a grand old rag..."

Historians of American musical comedy rate "Give My Regards to Broadway" the most successful musical staged in America since "The Black Greek" in 1868 and they regard Cohan's hit as the show that set Broadway's trends for 30 years.

Speed and audience identification were Cohan's keys. He based his shows on living personalities or easy-to-identify situations. "Running for Office" was based on the activities of "Big Tim" Sullivan, leader of New York's famous (or infamous) Tammany Hall. Politics always fascinated Cohan. So did baseball. He was a regular at Yankee Stadium and the Polo Grounds.

Rennold Wolf, critic for the Morning Telegraph, complained that "if Cohan would play fair and give his audience a chance to catch its breath it might make a few unkind remarks."

But Oscar Hammerstein, II, premier theatrical producer, said "Cohan's genius was to say simply what everybody was unconsciously feeling." And the New York Times' Brooks Atkinson wrote "Cohan's songs, both words and music, were sublimations of the mood of their day. They said what millions of people would have said if they had Cohan's talent."

Cohan himself described his music as "full of Irishness and nonsense."

Scorning sharps and flats, he said "I could never find use for over four or five notes in my musical numbers." The result? Everyone, it seemed, could remember them.

The man who came to own Broadway, arrived with impeccable credentials. His parents were Jeremiah (Jerry) Cohan and Helen (Nellie) Costigan. Jerry was born in Boston in 1848, the son of Michael Keohane and Jane Scott, both immigrants from County Cork in Ireland. In Ireland, Jerry's ancestors spelled their name "O'Caomhain." It was apparently simplified to Keohane before they set sail for America, but immigration officers of the day shortened it again to Cohan.

The name is generally pronounced "Co-Han," but George liked "Co-En." It was thought he derived the pronunciation from his many Jewish friends in the theater.

Jerry was the son of a tailor, saw brief duty in the Union Army during the Civil War, became a harness maker and wandered into show business because of his ready wit and a knack for Irish songs and dances taught him by his parents.

By 1874, he was established on the New England vaudeville circuit when he married Nellie and promptly made her part of the act. A daughter Maude, born in 1875, died in infancy. Josie came along in 1876 and George
two years later. The mother, father, daughter and son were destined to become one of America's foremost theatrical families, playing together as The Four Cohans for more than 30 years. Audiences came to anticipate George's inevitable curtain call: "My mother thanks you, my father thanks you, my sister thanks you... and I thank you."

George got his first billing with the family at age nine in 1887 as "Master George—Violin Tricks and Tinkling Tunes." He hated the violin. His first starring role in "Peck's Bad Boy" came at age 13. That role was almost his undoing. In town after town, local boys would lurk near the stage door to pounce on the "kid actor" to find out if he was really as tough as the character he portrayed on the stage. According to Jerry, George usually took care of himself.

By the 1890's the Four Cohans were headliners across the country, from the Orpheum in San Francisco to Tony Pastor's Music Hall in New York. (The family decided to play New York for the first time in 1893 after George threatened to run away to the big city on his own.)

The closeness of the Cohen family was incredible and it showed through in George's songs.

Cohan's generosity was legendary. Comedian Eddie Cantor called Cohan "one of the softest touches in show business. For many years he sent weekly checks to unemployed actors, disabled stagehands, women, stagehands and anyone who, at one time or another, had been associated with him."

In 1906 Cohan arranged relief shows for victims of the San Francisco earthquake. During World War I he was a premier star at Liberty Bond rallies and he raised money for survivors of the torpedoed Lusitania.

Friends told the story that one close pal, Edward Selwyn called Cohan, requesting $1,000 for his sick wife. Cohan sent Selwyn a signed blank check. "You fill in the amount you need," he said.

George M. Cohan, the Yankee Doodle Dandy, owned more than Broadway. He owned a big chunk of the heart of America. One hundred years after his birth, 36 years after his death, he still does.

—Peter Kalt

The four Cohans who headlined vaudeville bills from coast to coast.
He was a helluva battery commander in World War I, and his gunners weren't surprised when he made a helluva President.

He came home from France, became a haberdasher and lost his shirt.

He was a man of controversy and contrast. He also was a man of conviction, compassion, integrity, loyalty and decision.

Capt. Harry S. Truman, Battery D, 129th Field Artillery, 35th Division, was the independent man from Independence, MO.

When Captain Truman took command, the battery was standing at attention, ready to let its Irish blood boil over. The men expected the worst. Nothing happened. Truman inspected and dismissed them.

"From that time on I knew that Harry Truman had captured the hearts of those Irishmen of Battery D, and he never lost it," said Judge Albert A. Ridge of the Federal District Court in Kansas City.

But Truman told the colonel who assigned him to Battery D that "he might as well send me home right then and there. I was never so scared in my life, not even later when we were under fire, but—I—well, it was one of the things I had to do and I did it."

These quotations are found in "Plain Speaking," an oral biography of Harry Truman by Merle Miller (Copyright 1973, Berkley Publishing Corp., New York City).

Although they didn't serve to-
in the outfit, and most battery commanders, company commanders, wouldn't pay any attention, but not Harry. I don't think he ever went to bed at night before he answered every one of those letters.

"I used to come, maybe late, maybe toward nearly dawn even, and I'd see him in his tent writing letters, answering the letters he got that day. And he never changed. Even after he got to be President.

"In 1948, in December, we had a bad accident. My son ... he had just been married two years, and we were driving when an old truck skidded in front of us, and my son was badly hurt ... he lasted only five days.

"And during the time we were praying at his funeral I received a telegram of condolence from Harry Truman. I don't know how he was notified. I don't think he ever was. I think he saw it in the paper. I would say, if you were to ask me, I would say that Harry Truman was the kindest and most thoughtful man I have ever known. Bar none."

And from Eddie Meissburger, another veteran of Battery D:

"The men trusted him to get them through the war and get them back home. And he went out of his way to help them.

"That was illustrated I think by something that happened when we were on a march in the Vosges mountains on our way into the St. Mihiel sector.

"The men would be walking all day and leading their horses, and the infantry would ride in trucks and yell at us to join the infantry and ride.

"Anyway, they were riding and we were walking. And we were pretty well fagged out. And the colonel of the regiment came by and, by the way, he had a fine mount. He came down the road one afternoon and started sounding off about how we were just straggling along and were a sight to behold and so on, and he wanted to know whose outfit it was.

"Captain Truman was walking at the time because he had put his own horse into harness to help pull the guns. That's how bad things were. They had to have that horsepower. So he was walking with us. When the colonel came up, Captain Truman said that this was his outfit, Battery D.

"And the colonel said it was a hell of a looking outfit and that he wanted the men to be called to attention and fall in and double-time up the hill about half a mile away.

"Captain Truman realized the men were out on their feet, and instead of giving the men a double-time order, he took us off the road, gave us a right turn and took us into a forest with instructions to put the horses on the picket line and to bed the men down.

"And he said that he would go down and see the colonel, which he did. And he risked a court-martial by his action. But he told the colonel that his men weren't going any farther. They were going to rest that night. And he said if the colonel wanted his job, why, to court-martial him.

"The result was, he came back with orders that we'd stay right there that night and the whole outfit bedded down.

In his "Memoirs," Truman recalls his baptism of fire.

"We fired our first barrage on the night of Sept. 6 (1917)," he wrote. "We were occupying an old French position which probably was fairly well known to the Germans, and as soon as we had finished the barrage they returned the compliment. My battery became panic-stricken, and all but five or six scattered like partridges. Finally I got them back together without losing any men, although we had six horses killed.

World War I changed the course of his life. His associations and the friends he made at St. Mihiel and the Argonne would provide a springboard from which his political career could be launched.

All through the years between the wars his warmest and most loyal friends, the men with whom he played poker and went to regimental reunions and American Legion conventions supported him for public office. They had fought in France together. They were Democrats and
they were also Republicans.

As a lieutenant, Truman was selected to go overseas ahead of the division in March 1918, with some other officers for advanced training at the French artillery school at Chantillon-sur-Seine. There he received word that he had been promoted to captain.

He rejoined the regiment at Coetquidan, where they picked up French horse-drawn 75’s and at Rennes he assumed command of Battery D.

Battery D’s personnel had been described as being “90 percent pick handle and shanty from Kansas City.” It was with difficulty that this outfit had been dissuaded by a regimental colonel from substituting a shamrock for the crossed cannon on the battery guidon. And they were put under Captain Truman, a Missouri Baptist and Mason.

When he was discharged in 1919 as a major, Truman and his old pal Eddie Jacobsen couldn’t make a go of a haberdashery shop. Times just weren’t right. So Harry attended Kansas City Law School and began dabbling in local politics. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1934 and to the Vice Presidency in 1944, becoming President on the death of Franklin Roosevelt, April 12, 1945.

He was elected on his own in 1948. As President, military decisions were always on his desk. He declared the “Truman Doctrine” which stopped communist encroachment in Greece, Turkey and the eastern Mediterranean. After a futile attempt to woo Joseph Stalin, Truman ordered a get-tough-with-Russia policy and the airlift that beat the 1948 Soviet blockade of Berlin. He appointed Dwight D. Eisenhower as Supreme Commander of NATO. He made the decision to drop the A-bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, saving millions of American casualties that would have been suffered if the United States had been forced to invade the main islands of Japan to end World War II. He fired Gen. Douglas MacArthur, a legendary American military hero, for insubordination during the Korean war.

In 1950, President Harry S Truman dedicated the Washington office building of The American Legion.

Black American Units Won Salute From French on July 4, 1918

In early June of 1918, the first black troops of the American Expeditionary Force arrived in France to take their place in the front lines beside French troops.

General Order No. 215, June 6, 1918, issued by the French Army read in part, “At the moment when two American colored regiments join us I am bowing to their colors and I am wishing the best welcome to our new companions in arms.

“The French units of the 157th Division will give, I assure you, the best welcome to their American brothers in arms who crossed the sea for the triumph of civilization, justice and liberty in the world."

The 157th consisted of two regiments of black American infantry and one regiment of French infantry, backed by French artillery, cavalry, engineers and other supporting units.

The two American black regiments were the 371st formed and disbanded at Camp Jackson, SC, and the 372nd formed at Camp Stewart, VA and disbanded at Camp Sherman, OH.

Assigned to the Adjucat sector, the new division took over trenches made famous earlier during the battle of Verdun. Names like Mort Homme, Montfaucen, Forges Creek and Ezines brought back memories of titanic struggles in 1915 and 1916.

The Germans were quick to test the Americans and when French officers saw them stand their ground, they showered respect on their new comrades.

On the Fourth of July, Gen. Mariano Goybet, commanding general of the 157th, issued a General Order taking “special notice of the fact that this is the first 4th of July to be celebrated by his Franco-American Division. It is a striking demonstration of the long-standing and blood-cemented friendship which binds together our two great nations . . .”

The Franco-American division was to serve well until the Armistice and on Nov. 11, Goybet said, “. . . for seven months we lived as brothers in arms sharing the same burdens, the same hardships, the same dangers. We have participated in the great battle of Champagne, which was crowned by such a magnificent victory. The 157th Division will never forget the irresistible and heroic rush of the colored American regiments up the Côte des Observatoires and into the Plaine de Monthois. The most formidable defenses, the strongest machine gun nests, the most crushing artillery barrages were unable to stop them . . .!”

The American elements were demobilized on Feb. 28, 1919. In his farewell order, Col. Perry L. Miles said, “You have had a unique and brilliant service. You have suffered hardships uncomplainingly and stood up to battle losses heroically. . . .”

—Philip R. Smith, Jr.

He said, in part:

“We didn’t start this organization just to look out for our own interests as veterans or to give an excuse for reminiscing about what heroes we had been.

“We started this organization so that we could work together as patriotic citizens for the good of all Americans. That is what we have been trying to do for the past 30 years. . . .”

Truman was a life member of Tirey J. Ford Post 21, Independence, MO, becoming an active Legionnaire after his discharge from the Army and his return to Missouri in 1919.

In an address before the 1962 American Legion National Convention, Truman said:

“For 38 years I was chairman of the Missouri delegation to the National Conventions of The American Legion.” In his speech dedicating the Washington office building, he reminisced about his early days as a Legionnaire in Missouri “when I helped to establish four Legion posts.”

Truman was the first Legionnaire to be elected President.
The Fourth of July: Paris, 1918

It was the Fourth of July, 1918, in Paris. Contingents of the armies of all the Allies were assembled for a giant testimonial against the enemy in World War I.

On my way to the parade I stopped at a street corner near the Etoile to admire an old lady's lapful of manypetalled scarlet anemones.

I asked, "How do you call them?"
"Coquelicots. Two sous."

I handed her a large copper piece, expecting a few blossoms in exchange. To my astonishment she rose from her stool and emptied her voluminous black skirt into my arms. Thus decorated in glory, I tripped down the boulevard toward the Seine, lifting my face to a shower that fell from a seemingly cloudless sky. The transparent rain, the crisp sunlight, the high hope of Paris!

The tall old hotel at No. 1 Place d'Iena was occupied by the United States Naval Aviation headquarters. Beneath its tiers of balconies the serpentineing crowds were beginning to surge. A Marine sergeant was studiously keeping the entrance clear. He bowed to admit me.

Pressing close beside me, a pale young French girl asked pleadingly, "Please let me to watch the parade from an upper window!"

The sergeant hesitated, then entrusted her to me. She walked beside me up the wide stair. Her words seemed to be bubbling out. She was Madame Clark, she said, the three-day bride of an English aviator who had that morning returned to his squadron. She had the look of a bride—tendrils of light-brown hair, emotional eyes. Her chin quivered, her slender wrists gestured as she spoke.

Across the boulevard from the balcony where we stationed ourselves, in the center of the Place d'Iena, rose a pompous equestrian statue of the father of my country—George Washington—like an earnest guardian of a relationship between the French girl and me.

The colorful phalanxes swung past, while the French girl and I swayed as though we, too, were marchers being woven into history.

When the French division advanced—faded blue uniforms on weary short men with black mustaches—the voice of the girl at my shoulder throbbed: "Nos petits bleus!" She was staring through tears that brimmed but did not fall.

That terrible, compassionate cry! The French soldiers had endured four years of anguish, yet they were still sturdy of spirit if no longer of body. Yes, our little blues.

Next in the parade came the jaunty United States troops. Plenty of spring in those legs! Each man displayed twice the size of the blues.

Madame Clark tearfully exclaimed, "You came in time, you came in time!"

It awakened in me a crushing recognition of the world's debt to France for her culture, her patriots. Suddenly I was ashamed we had not gone to France's rescue earlier.

When the last of the military units had passed, Madame Clark and I dove into the wildly celebrating throng at the Place de la Concorde. There the Statue of Strasbourg, which for so long had been draped in black, was now festooned in flowers. (The black drape was a constant reminder to Parisians of the loss of Alsace-Lorraine to Germany in the War of 1870.) To me, that day, my companion was France. I hope I gave her the armful of coquelicots, but I don't remember. I took her address before we separated, but it, too, has long been lost. Lost, I suppose, with youth.
—by Glenn Clairmonte


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THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE • JULY 1978
Three 'White Houses'

The homes of Presidents have earned such designations as "the Texas White House," "the Plains White House" "the western White House"—wherever the Chief Executive spends his time when not in Washington. Three such "White Houses," including that of the Confederacy, lure summer vacationers.

During his lifetime, Herbert Hoover was known as a humanitarian, an engineer and the 31st President of the United States. Today, that spirit lingers on in West Branch, Iowa, Hoover's birthplace and location of the Herbert Hoover Historic Site.

Established a year after Hoover died, in 1964 at the age of 90, the historic site is less than one mile north of Interstate 80 at the West Branch exit, some ten miles east of Iowa City. Visitors can see the birthplace cottage, the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and the burial site of the former President and First Lady. The two-room cottage was built by Hoover's father, Jesse Clark Hoover, in 1870. Herbert Hoover was born there Aug. 10, 1874, and it was the family home until 1879, when they moved to a larger house in West Branch. The cottage has been restored and features much of the furniture and many of the belongings the Hoovers used there.

Just across the street is a replica of the blacksmith shop Jesse Clark Hoover ran while a resident of West Branch. The shop is fitted with authentic period tools and implements, including a bellows-fired forge. Smithies work at the forge, providing a touch of realism.

The Friends Meetinghouse, recalling Hoover's Quaker upbringing, also stands near the cottage. Hilda, Hoover's mother, once preached here.

Other period homes have been preserved to create a village within a village, allowing visitors a unique glimpse into the life of a former President.

Herbert Hoover National Historic Site is open 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. throughout the year, except Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

—Warren H. Spencer

A sign along Highway 290 near Johnson City, TX points to the LBJ Ranch, site of the one-time "Texas White House" and birthplace of the late President Lyndon Baines Johnson.

The National Park Service provides open-air buses with uniformed guides. Guides play tape recordings made by President Johnson shortly before his death. On one tape the President said he returned to the scene of his childhood whenever possible because the climate is better, water purer, air cleaner and "even the stars shine brighter."

First stop on the guided tour is the Junction School where he enrolled in 1912. It was heated by a wood stove. Next is the four-room house set in a grove of pecan trees where LBJ was born. It is typical of homes built in the late 1890's by English and German settlers. It contains some original furniture.

President Johnson is buried about 400 yards from the house along the Pedernales River. The plot contains graves of about 15 family members. The LBJ tombstone is not ornate but a wreath of fresh flowers is placed on it daily.

Mr. Johnson bought the "Texas White House" from an aunt in 1952. The house is off-limits to visitors but tour buses stop outside so visitors can snap photos over a white fence.

About one million people visit the LBJ Ranch each year. There are good overnight accommodations in Johnson City. The ranch is only an hour's drive from Austin.

—M. S. Chipp

Jefferson Davis Home

Interstate highways I-95 and I-65 bring motorists to Richmond, capital of Virginia and Capital of the Confederacy, and within a few blocks of two famous homes—the "White House" of the Confederacy and the residence of Gen. Robert E. Lee. Both have been rescued as museums and are open to the public.

Richmond is one of the richest cities in America in history and in contributions to the Republic. Other favorite sights there with visitors are St. John's Church, where Patrick Henry shouted his plea "Give me liberty or give me death!"; and the Capitol Building, designed by Thomas Jefferson, where General Lee took command of the Army of Northern Virginia in 1861.

The White House of the Confederacy still stands as a memorial to a lost cause. President Jefferson Davis and his family lived in the three-story columned home from August 1, 1861 until April 12, 1865.

Nearby is the red-brick Robert E. Lee house, which early in the War Between the States was used as bachelor quarters for young officers, including Lee's son, Gen. Custis Lee. It became Lee's home in 1864.

Visitors will find the sword and uniform worn by Lee during the surrender at Appomattox, Davis' Colt revolver and personal effects, various battle flags, books, art, money, photos and other memorabilia of the soldiers in gray, including the Great Seal of the Confederacy.

The house was built in 1817 by Dr. John Brockenbrough, a prominent Richmond banker and was designed by Robert Mills, a leading architect of his day.

The Robert E. Lee house was built in 1844. In 1864, the officers billeted in the house relinquished their lease to Mrs. Robert E. Lee and her daughters, who were then homeless. Lee himself returned to the house following the Confederate surrender.

—Michael Remas
Up to $11,000 Life Insurance—$24 a Year!

It sounds impossible, but it’s true! And if your life insurance needs are greater, here’s more good news. You can buy up to 6 units of American Legion Life Insurance at the same modest rate of $24 per unit. That means you could be eligible for up to $86,000 in insurance benefits for only $144 a year! That’s about 40¢ a day.

Once you’ve accepted into the plan, your premiums never increase and you may continue this coverage for life. Many insurance policies terminate at age 65 or 70—just when you may need protection the most. As long as you pay your premiums, the Legion plan keeps working for you for the rest of your life regardless of the future condition of your health.

This fine life insurance plan has been designed exclusively for Legionnaires like yourself—non-members can’t join the plan at any price. And the only place you can buy it is right here from this page.

You can apply as long as you are a Legion member in good standing, under age 70, and able to meet the underwriting requirements of the Insurance Company. For complete benefits and rates, see the chart below.

Is there a better way to provide your loved ones with the security they need and deserve? We urge you to take advantage of this exclusive opportunity by completing the Application below, mail it today along with your check or money order for the amount of coverage you select.

*PRORATED PREMIUM TO SEND WITH YOUR APPLICATION. The premiums shown at left are for the remainder of 1978, for approved applications effective August 1, 1978. Premiums for applications approved for September 1 are proportionately less, by $2 PER UNIT-PER MONTH, and any overpayments will be refunded. Premiums accompanying non-approved applications will be refunded in full.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Insurance becomes effective on the first day of the month coinciding with or next following the date the member’s application is received in the office of the Administrator, subject to Insurance Company approval. Insurance may be maintained in force by payment of premiums when due.

If you live in Fl., IL, NJ, NY, NC, OH, PR, TX, or WI send for special application. Applications and benefits vary slightly in some states. Make check or money order payable to The American Legion Life Insurance Plan.

MAIL TO:
The American Legion Life Insurance Plan, P.O. Box 5609, Chicago, Ill. 60680

APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO UNDERWRITER’S APPROVAL.

 NOTICE OF DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION

Information regarding your insurability will be treated as confidential except that Occidental Life Insurance Company of California may make a brief report to the Medical Information Bureau (M.I.B.), a non-profit membership organization of life insurance companies which operates an information exchange on behalf of its members. Upon request by another member insurance company to which you have applied for life or health insurance, or to which a claim is submitted, the M.I.B. will supply such company with the information it may have in its files.

Occidental may also release information in its file to its reinsurers and to other life insurance companies to which you may apply for life or health insurance, or to which a claim is submitted.

Upon receipt of a request from you, the M.I.B. will arrange disclosure of any information it may have in your file. Medical information will only be disclosed to your attending physician. If you question the accuracy of information in the Bureau’s file you may seek correction in accordance with the procedures set forth in the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act. The address of the Bureau’s information office is P.O. Box 105, Essex Station, Boston, Mass. 02112, Phone (617) 426-3660.

ENROLLMENT CARD FOR YEARLY RENEWABLE TERM LIFE INSURANCE FOR MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

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| I apply for the amount of insurance indicated below. (Check appropriate box or boxes.) |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 6 Units [ ] 5 Units [ ] 4 Units [ ] 3 Units [ ] 2 Units [ ] 1 Unit [ ] ½ Unit [ ] |

The following representations shall form a basis for the Insurance Company’s approval or rejection of this enrollment. Answer all questions.

1. Present occupation? [ ] Are you now actively working?

2. Have you been confined in a hospital within the last year? [ ] Yes [ ] No If no, give reason.

3. During the last five years, have you had heart disease, circulatory disease, kidney disease, liver disease, lung disease, diabetes, or cancer, or have you had or received treatment or medication for high blood pressure or alcoholism? [ ] No [ ] Yes [ ] If yes, give details.

I represent that to the best of my knowledge, all statements and answers recorded on this enrollment card are true and complete. I agree that this enrollment card shall be a part of any insurance granted upon it under the policy.

I authorize any physician or other person who has attended or examined me, or who may attend or examine me, to disclose or to testify to any knowledge thus acquired.

Dated: 19 Signature of Applicant

The American Legion offers this insurance through Occidental Life Insurance Company of California, Home Office: Los Angeles, California

GMA-300-19 10:70

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND AUTHORIZATION

I have received and read the Notice of Disclosure of Information at left. Further, I authorize any physician, medical or related facility, hospital, clinic, or other medical or medically related facility, insurance company, the Medical Information Bureau or other organization, institution or person having any records or knowledge of me or of my health to give Occidental Life Insurance Company of California any such information.

A photographic copy of this authorization shall be as valid as the original.

Dated: 19 Signature of Applicant

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Please enter my name in the free drawings for two Ford Granada 2 door Hard-tops donated by the Seagram Posts to the American Legion National Convention Corporation of Louisiana. Drawings to be held Sunday, August 20, 1978 at the Superdome, New Orleans, Louisiana. Entries must be received no later than midnight, August 18, 1978.

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Address ______________________
City ______________________ State ______________________ Zip ______________________

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To be on the receiving end, just mail in the coupon.

Because Seagram Posts 658, California; 807, Illinois and 1283, New York are donating two brand new Fords to the American Legion National Convention Corporation of Louisiana.

It's our 32nd consecutive convention giveaway drawing. And if you win, your Post wins too—an extra $250, donated by the Seagram Posts.

Drawings will be held Sunday, August 20, 1978 at the Superdome, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Here are the official entry rules: 1. Fill out and send in an official coupon (Sorry, no facsimiles permitted.) 2. You have to be a dues paid member. 3. Entry must be received by midnight, August 18, 1978, NOTE: Don't send us your membership card.
When I finished my college economics course in the 1950's, a free trade policy made sense. Twenty-five years later, reality requires a different conclusion: free trade policies are allowing foreign nations to take advantage of the United States.

The free trade philosophy worked when the U.S. economy was so strong it could set international standards. It would still work if the world economy was expanding. But starting with the 1974-1975 world-wide recession, international economics changed rapidly, and the United States has paid the price ever since.

The answer: we need fair trade, not free trade. The world today penalizes free trade. Our businesses do not compete with foreign manufacturers, but against the resources of entire governments. For example, 45 percent of the free world steel capacity outside the United States is government owned. Moreover, free trade vanishes when countries erect barriers against American products. Is it free trade when Japan marks up the price of a Buick Regal from $7,995 to $15,883? No wonder Japan imports less than 1 percent of its cars.

Americans pay the price of our import policy in several ways. First, entire industries—shoes and TV manufacturing are examples—have been virtually destroyed by unchecked foreign-government-subsidized competition. Second, foreign countries sell at prices below profit to keep their citizens employed. They export their unemployment to the United States. Third, massive imports lead to trade deficits which create inflation by lowering the dollar's value which forces U.S. prices up. Finally, the impact is disastrous in towns that depended on import-riddled industries.

Import restrictions will work. In some industries foreign producers should be restricted to a certain share of the market. This protects our economy while still allowing trade and competition. Another option is unfair trade practice mechanisms—such as anti-dumping laws—which if strictly enforced will prevent countries from selling goods at prices way below their actual production cost.

The points raised against such import restrictions fail the test of reality. First, the American market is the largest in the world. We need not fear mass retaliation by foreign countries, because they cannot afford to lose the entire U.S. market. Second, import restrictions work. Specialty steel illustrates an instance where a controlled import level allowed a U.S. industry to rebuild and compete while not totally eliminating foreign competition. Third, cheap imports lower some prices in the short run, but we all pay through unemployment programs, lost taxes and industrial decline.

We do not need to close our markets totally to foreign products, but neither can we cling to free trade theories. We need realistic policies to protect our economy, and a fair trade plan with reasonable restrictions will reach that goal.

Rep. John P. Murtha (D-PA)

If you wish to let your Congressman know how you feel on this issue, fill out
Show me an import restriction and I'll show you higher consumer prices or adverse effects on some American workers. All too often, the adverse effects will outweigh any benefits, and import restrictions will mean a weaker U.S. economy.

Earlier this year, the President announced that he would restrict foreign steel imports coming into this country and would give government aid to the ailing U.S. basic steel industry. Having watched several big steel companies fail to modernize and also move into other lines of business over the years, I was skeptical about this effort, but I decided to see what would happen.

Higher prices for U.S. consumers are what has happened. Since the President's announcement, U.S. steel companies have raised their prices twice. The second increase announced by the country's largest steel producer was $10.50 a ton. That was more than twice what the Council on Wage and Price Stability calculated was needed to cover the company's increased costs. Only after severe pressure was exerted on the company did it roll back that price increase to some extent.

You can imagine how much those restrictions on foreign steel imports are going to cost us. Certainly billions of dollars a year in higher prices. They are also going to hurt workers in those industries that use steel as a raw material.

Beware the call to "keep out those cheap imports." American companies and workers are among the most competitive in the world, but imports help keep them that way. Where would we be today if the homely little VW Beetle had been kept out of the U.S. car market? Probably still driving those huge American gas guzzlers.

I'm not asking that we let all foreign products into our markets, but only that we look critically at any call for import restrictions. Imports are often made the scapegoat for other problems, and needless import restrictions can build crippled industries by letting them get by for a while without adjusting to changing conditions.

The fact is that we already have some pretty stiff limits on many imports, including steel, shoes, textiles, wearing apparel, color TVs, and CB radios, just to name a few. Congress has also established procedures to restrict other imports, especially if they threaten to result in injury to American workers or firms.

We do desperately need to curb our foreign oil imports, which cost us $45 billion last year and significantly weakened the dollar in world markets. We also need better treatment from some countries for our exports, which now provide jobs for one in every eight U.S. manufacturing workers. Finally, we desperately need to control inflation. As the Congressional Joint Economic Committee has said, "One of the best ways to slow domestic inflation is to avail ourselves of inexpensive supplies of foreign goods."

I have read in the American Legion Magazine for July the arguments in PRO & CON: Should the United States Curb Imports?

IN MY OPINION THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION IS:

YES □  NO □

SIGNED ________________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________________________

TOWN ____________________________ STATE __________

AN ISSUE which the United States Senate and each American must squarely face in the months ahead is the SALT II proposal.

By all expert estimates, we are losing nuclear parity with the Soviet Union. Moreover, the Soviet Union is surpassing us in over-all military power. They have put more resources into their strategic nuclear arsenal than we have, and these investments continue to grow. While the United States has not been idle, we have not approached the massive production and deployment effort they have achieved. Negotiations for a second Strategic Arms Limitations Treaty have been very difficult as a result.

We cannot expect something for nothing. They will not stop building strategic weapons simply because our own strategic programs are inadequate. We are not negotiating from a position of strength and simultaneously we cancel the B-1 bomber, delay production of the MX missile and slow down the Trident.

At the Spring National Executive Committee meetings in May, the Foreign Relations, Legislative and National Security Commissions listened to Paul H. Nitze, former Deputy Secretary of Defense and former SALT I negotiator. His analysis of the trends and where the United States would be by 1985 was gloomy to say the least. Based on recommendations of these commissions, the NEC adopted Resolution #39 which states:

"The American Legion, aware of the imminent danger to the national security of the United States, urges the Administration to develop and maintain the Triad of nuclear strength sufficient to deter the Soviets from any nuclear strikes against our country and to combat successfully any nuclear warfare, if ever waged against us; and, further

"We emphatically urge the U.S. Senate to refuse to approve any SALT Treaty which would permit any inferiority in the nuclear power of the United States."

Public Law 92-448 outlines our SALT negotiating objectives:

- A stable international strategic balance which does not threaten the survivability of U.S. strategic deterrent forces.
- A future treaty that would not limit the United States to levels of intercontinental strategic forces inferior to the limits provided for the Soviet Union.
- Maintenance of a vigorous research development and modernization program.

The current SALT negotiating team will not say that the proposed treaty will meet any of these objectives. All they will say is that we will still have a few more nuclear warheads than the Soviets while failing to men-

SALT II: Its Future and Ours
Houston Picked for 1979 National Convention

A contract to hold the 1979 National Convention of The American Legion in Houston was signed by National Commander Robert Charles Smith (seated), during the Legion’s spring meetings at National Headquarters in Indianapolis. Legionnaires looking on left to right are: Bertram G. Davis (NY), National Judge Advocate; Lawrence E. Hoffman (FL), chairman of the National Convention Commission; Jack W. Flynn, president of the Houston National Convention Corp.; Jack Tancred, general chairman of the Houston National Convention Corp.; W. H. McGregor, department adjutant of Texas; Harvey Holcomb (TX), department commander; Robert R. Walsh, Texas NECman; and Joe L. Matthews, past national commander.

 news of the legion

Paid-Up-For-Life Membership Plan Called Hedge on Inflation

More and more Legionnaires are becoming aware of the long-range benefits of the special Paid-Up-For-Life membership plan. Particularly attractive to Legionnaires with 25 years and more membership, the plan offers not only a savings in dues paid over a number of years and elimination of the annual reminders to pay dues, it also serves to protect you against the erosion of the dollar’s buying power through inflation. Paid-up-for-life membership lets you pay your dues in full now, during your peak earning years, and guarantees your membership after retirement regardless of any increases in yearly dues. The cost of the plan is based on your age and the dues you currently pay to your post. This plan should not be confused with honorary life memberships offered by posts to some members.

For more information on the Paid-Up-For-Life membership plan, clip and mail the attached coupon.

TO:  Membership and Post Activities The American Legion P. O. Box 1055 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206

I am interested in knowing more about the National Paid-up-for-Life Membership Plan. Please send application to:

(NAME)  

STREET ADDRESS.  

CITY, STATE, ZIP. 

I am a member of Post No. , Department (state)  

Legion Supports ‘N Bomb’

Citing Warsaw Pact military superiority in conventional forces, the American Legion has urged President Carter and Congress to authorize production and deployment of the “Neutron Bomb,” an enhanced radiation nuclear warhead that it said can restore NATO forces to parity with Communist armies.

The Legion also served notice to the Senate that its membership would not accept any strategic arms limitation agreement with the Soviet Union which in any way left the U.S. inferior in nuclear firepower.

The actions were taken during the spring meeting of the National Executive Committee in Indianapolis.

The NEC also reaffirmed Legion support for continuation of the veterans preference in all federal employment, voicing vigorous opposition to proposed legislation which would revoke veterans advantages in a reorganization of the federal personnel system. It also came out in strong support for the embattled Federal Bureau of Investigation, pointing to the FBI’s excellent record of public service in protecting the lives and property of US citizens.

The NEC also resolved:

To urge Congress to provide necessary funds to restore the physician strength in the services’ Medical Corps to required levels, and to consider reinstating a selective conscription system, if appropriate, toward that same end.

To ask VA to reverse its decision to cancel construction of a new hospital in Camden, NJ and to proceed with the hospital as originally planned.

To oppose Department of Labor (Continued on page 30)

NEC Endorses Pension Bills

Two resolutions supporting legislation raising veterans’ pensions in specific areas were resoundingly approved by the National Executive Committee during the spring meeting in Indianapolis. One measure would increase from $30 per month to $65 the pension paid to hospitalized veterans. The second proposal doubles the special pension paid to Medal of Honor holders from $100 to $200.
Jim O’Neil Retires; B. G. Davis Is Named Publisher; Magazine Consolidation Planned

Bertram G. Davis

Bertram G. Davis, national judge advocate of The American Legion, has been named to the dual role of publisher of The American Legion Magazine, National Commander Robert Charles Smith announced at the spring meeting of the National Executive Committee.

Davis succeeds James F. O’Neil who retired June 30 after 27 years as publisher of the magazine. O’Neil is a past national commander (1947-48) and a former chairman of the American Legion’s Publications Committee.

Smith also announced that the magazine’s editorial, advertising and production operations will be moved from Washington, DC to the Indianapolis National Headquarters Building in the near future, thus consolidating all operations of the publication. The circulation department and the electronic data processing center are already located in the Indianapolis building under the direction of assistant publisher Dean Nelson.

O’Neil’s New York office was closed June 30. The retired publisher will be honored at a National Convention Luncheon Aug. 19.

“Jim O’Neil has given great leadership to our publication and under his direction, the credibility of The American Legion Magazine has been firmly established,” Smith said in a tribute to the retiring publisher.

In his final appearance as publisher before the Magazine Commission, O’Neil said “… down through the years I can look with gratification at my accomplishments.”

Smith said all 13 editorial, advertising and production employees in the Washington Headquarters Building have been invited to move to Indianapolis as soon as renovations are completed.

The National Executive Committee also approved a change in printers for the magazine, effective with the September issue. Low bidder on a new three-year contract is Kansas Color Press Inc. of Lawrence, KA. For the last five years the magazine has been printed by the Baird-Ward Printing Co. of Nashville, TN.

(continued from page 29)

Legion Supports ‘N Bomb’

plans to divert functions or funds from the Help through Industry Retraining and Employment (HIRE) program to prime sponsors of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA), and to support a move to transfer HIRE reimbursable activities to state employment agencies.

To support legislation requiring state employment security agencies to assume responsibility for certifying and referring CETA applicants to prime sponsors. This is designed to further insure protection of veterans preference in federally-funded jobs.

To oppose any legislation which would seek to consolidate programs under the 1933 Wagner-Peyser Act and the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973.

To oppose a proposal which would transfer the Veterans Employment Service from the Labor Department to the Veterans Administration.

To condemn the actions of the American Nazi Party which has sought to foster Anti-Semitism.

To support continuation of the Disabled Veterans Outreach Program.

To call for improvement in the identification system for all workers in the United States, citizens or resident aliens, as an aid in controlling illegal aliens working in the U.S.

To commend the 32 US Senators who voted in opposition to the treaties on returning control of the Panama Canal to the Panamanian government.

To direct the National Convention Commission to consider barrier-free auditoriums when selecting sites for future conventions so that all delegates will have ready access to all parts of the auditorium. Past conventions’ seating arrangements have sometimes hindered handicapped Legionnaires and prevented free movement between delegations.
Patton, PA Vet Named Legionnaire of Month

When comrades in The American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars cite him for outstanding service to veterans, John J. Toskey, 49, of Walter McCoy Legion Post 614, Patton, PA has to be the Legionnaire of the Month. So he is.

A 26-year member of the Legion, Toskey holds a Gold Life Membership card for exceptional service in American Legion programs and activities.

He has served as his post's commander, finance officer, judge advocate and post adjutant.

His service to veterans earned him a life membership in VFW Post 779, Patton, PA.

Toskey was hospitalized for 28 days after contracting the mysterious disease that struck Legionnaires attending the Pennsylvania department's convention in Philadelphia in 1976.

Toskey has conducted all military funerals in his area for the last 18 years and is active in civic affairs in Pennsylvania.

Retired Treasurer Gets Fond Goodbye

W. Francis (Fran) Polen, retired National Treasurer, was honored by the National Executive Committee. A resolution expressing deep appreciation for Fran's dedicated service as National Treasurer for nearly 20 years was unanimously passed. At the National Commander's Banquet, Polen shared the dais with dignitaries and was presented with an engraved copy of the resolution. Fran served from October 1958 to January 1978.

My Feet Were Killing Me...Until I Discovered the Miracle of Hamburg!

It was the European trip I had always dreamed about. I had the time and money to go where I wanted—what I wanted. But I soon learned that money and time don't mean much when your feet hurt too much to walk. After a few days of sightseeing my feet were killing me.

Oh! I tried to keep going. In Paris I limped through Notre Dame and along the Champs-Elysees. And I went up in the Eiffel Tower although I can't honestly say I remember the view. My feet were so tired and sore my whole body ached. While everybody else was having a great time, I was in my hotel room. I didn't even feel like sitting in a sidewalk cafe.

The whole trip was like that until I got to Hamburg, Germany. There, by accident, I happened to hear about an exciting breakthrough for anyone who suffers from sore, aching feet and legs.

This wonderful invention was a custom-made foot support called Flexible Featherspring. When I got a pair and slipped them into my shoes my pain disappeared almost instantly. The flexible shock absorbing support they gave my feet was like cradling them on a cushion of air. I could walk, stand even run. The relief was truly a miracle.

And just one pair was all I needed. I learned that women also can wear them—even with sandals and open-backed shoes. They're completely invisible.

Imagine how dumbfounded I was to discover that these miraculous devices were sold only in Europe. Right then I determined that I would share the miracle I discovered in Hamburg with my own countrymen.

Today thousands of Americans including those who have retired—many with foot problems far more severe than mine—have experienced this blessed relief for themselves.

Here's why Feathersprings work for them and why they can work for you. These supports are like nothing you've ever seen before. They are custom fitted and made for your feet alone! Unlike conventional devices, they actually imitate the youthful elastic support that Nature originally intended your feet to have.

Whatever your problem—corns, calluses, pain in the balls of your feet, burning nerve endings, painful ankles, old injuries, backaches or just generally sore, aching feet, Flexible Feathersprings will bring you guaranteed relief with every step you take.

Don't suffer pain and discomfort needlessly. If your feet hurt, the miracle of Hamburg can help you. Write for more detailed information. There is no obligation whatsoever. Just fill out the coupon below and mail it today.

WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT THE MIRACLE:
Received my wife's Feathersprings two days ago. They are superb—neither of us can believe the result. She has had terrible feet for years; already no pain. Incidentally, her sore knee is much better -- . As a retired physician, this result is amazing. C.O.C. MD/Tucson, Arizona

YOUR SELF DISCOVERY IS WAITING!

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Seattle, Washington 98125

YES! I want to learn more about the guaranteed relief Flexible Featherspring Foot Supports can give. Please send me your free brochure. I understand that there is no obligation and that no salesman will call.

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Address
City
State
Zip
The Past Commander's Club has named cartoonists Milton Caniff and Mort Walker as winners of its 1978 "Good Guy" award. Caniff is the creator of the "Steve Canyon" and "Terry and The Pirates" comic strips. Walker is the creator of the "Beetle Bailey" comic strip.

The awards will be presented at the club's annual luncheon, Aug. 22, aboard the riverboat President. The luncheon promises to be one of the highlights of the American Legion's national convention in New Orleans.

The club also announced a special award of excellence to Edgar A. Poe, distinguished Washington correspondent of The New Orleans Times-Picayune.

Caniff and Walker will be saluted for "their longstanding contributions to veterans, the national defense and ideals of patriotism."

"Their artists' pens, their wit and their mastery of words has constantly rekindled memories of our own military service and has reemphasized the need for an alert, strong, security-conscious America," the citation says.

Poe was selected for more than a quarter century of Washington reporting distinguished by "remarkable insight."

"Courteously and courteous in the true tradition of the 'Old South,' Poe also has been incisive and intrepid in reporting the national scene to the people of the 'New South,'" his citation says.

1978 Past Commanders Club "Good Guys" are, clockwise from bottom: Correspondent Edgar A. Poe; Cartoonist Mort Walker with "Beetle Bailey"; "Steve Canyon" and "Terry and the Pirates" creator Milton Caniff; and famed instrumentalist Pete Fountain in full Mardi Gras regalia.
A Message for the 4th

By THE REV. WALTER D. POWER
National Chaplain of The American Legion

"No man is an island, entire of itself, every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as if a manor of thy friends or of thine were; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind. And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

My reason for bringing this 350-year-old quotation of John Donne to your attention is to ask you to consider what is happening in our Nation today, and what we are going to do about it in view of our mutual responsibility for one another and for these United States of America. We Chaplains have an advantage in that we can not only speak openly of morality—or its lack; belief in God and the Judeo-Christian ethic, but we are even expected to do so.

In their astounding wisdom, our Founding Fathers established the principle for all time in the beginning of the Declaration of Independence when they said,

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. . . ."

The key words in this great statement are "BY THEIR CREATOR."
If we were to place a Soviet citizen on a polygraph, we would find he was truthful when he says that the State has the right to take life, to restrict liberty and to control the pursuit of happiness. Indeed, he would be truthful when he says that the State not only has the right but the duty to take these steps.

Conversely, in these United States of America, all of our rights are granted by God and therefore no man may properly take them away. It is really that simple. We must be certain that this principle is never destroyed, or even weakened, or tampered with, by man.

During the second 100 years just concluded we have seen global wars and area ones. Man has increased his ability to destroy his brother and has done so with dispatch. Here at home we have seen a gradual, but none the less steady decline in morality, in sanctity of the home, in respect for the God-given rights of others, in following the Golden Rule. The mention of God has been prohibited in our schools.

How does all this stack up with the supreme sacrifice of the "FOUR CHAPLAINS" of World War II who died together on a torpedoed ship?

Have the courage and initiative to speak up, to protest instead of remaining silent. Combat the evil in high place and low. Shake off the shackles of apathy. Sacrifice a little time from your busy schedule. Raise your voice. Do not close your eyes to evil, oppression, darkness or injustice.

Drill Your Own Water Well
50...100...200 Feet Deep.
SAVE HUNDREDs OF DOLLARS!

You can tap the vast, unlimited supply of good, clean, pure water beneath the surface of your property and have all the water you need for 2¢ per day.

What makes this possible is a remarkable invention called the Hydra-Drill. Amazingly, it is almost as easy and inexpensive to operate as a power lawn mower. In the last 10 years, thousands of people all over the world have drilled water wells with a Hydra-Drill.

If you want to know more about this wonderful way to drill your own water well and have a lifetime supply of chemical-free water for just pennies per day, then do yourself a favor. Send just $1 for our big, fully-illustrated information package including complete instructions on "How To Drill For Water." The information package will be rushed to you by return First Class mail. Satisfaction guaranteed or your $1 back!

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Enclosed is $1.00 . . . Please send me the illustrated information package including complete instructions on "HOW TO DRILL FOR WATER."

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CITY ST ZIP

Michael Colantuono of Cornwells Heights, PA is the winner of the 1978 Department of Pennsylvania High School Essay Contest. A junior at Bensalem Senior High School, Michael received a $500 Scholarship and will read his essay at the 60th State Convention in Philadelphia. Second place honors and a $250 scholarship went to Steven Kopelic of Glenshaw, PA, and Theresa Marie Gabana of Shickshinny won third place and a $100 scholarship. The topic of this year’s essay was “My Rights and Responsibilities as a Young American.”

POSTS IN ACTION

More than 200 Legionnaires from posts throughout the state of New Jersey attended the 23rd Annual Leadership College and 5th Annual Service Officers’ School in Fort Dix, NJ. Directed by Past Department Commander Joseph F. Ward and Department Service Officer Thaddeus J. Gniedzieko, the three-day workshops centered on the major Legion Programs. Speakers and lecturers included Robert W. Spanogle, Internal Affairs Director, Americanism Commission Chairman Daniel J. O’Connor, Maj. Gen. William A. Patch, Fort Dix, and representatives of state government.

Captain Harry B. Doremus Post 55, Hackensack, NJ, has pledged a $25,000 donation to the Hackensack Hospital’s Burn Service over the next three years. Dr. Anthony Barbara, Chief of Burn Services (left) describes some of the specialized equipment used in treating burn victims to Post 55 Commander Henry Them (right) as Fire Chief Charles Jones, Past Commander, looks on. Presentation of a check representing the first installment of the three-year pledge was made at Post 55’s annual dinner.

The Pennsylvania War Veterans Council recently honored State Representative A. J. DeMedio with a testimonial dinner recognizing DeMedio’s “long and dedicated service in the Pennsylvania Legislature in behalf of several million Pennsylvania veterans.” Council President, Commander Joseph Dougherty, characterized DeMedio as the driving force behind all meaningful veterans legislation passed by the General Assembly in recent years.

The Chairman of the House Military and Veterans Affairs Committee, DeMedio has introduced or sponsored bills to convert a state hospital into a 500-bed home for veterans; provide real estate tax exemptions for 100% disabled war veterans with demonstrable needs; and called for representation by all veterans’ organizations on the State Veterans Commission.

At the Annual Dart Banquet of Clara Barton Post 324, Edison, NJ, left to right: League President Joseph LaRoce; JoAnna DeBoer, President of the women’s league; Women’s League Secretary Gale Zick; and League Coordinator Thomas Heaton stand behind an impressive array of trophies. Post 324 organized a competitive dart league six years ago. Last year, a six-team women’s league was organized.

William J. Hocking Post 91, Wharton, NJ celebrated its 50th anniversary with an open house featuring the pictorial and written history of the post. The Golden Anniversary year got under way in grand style as Post 91 went over the top in membership for the 14th consecutive year. Above, left to right, Wharton Mayor Thomas Grohowski presents a certificate of appreciation for the post’s half-century of service to the community to Post 91 Commander Charles F. Ullman. Looking on are Harry Weeks, Sr., DEC from Morris County, NJ and Past Commander William Kassay, 50th Anniversary Committee Chairman.

May was “American Legion-American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Month” in Pennsylvania. Witnessing Governor Milton Shapp’s signing of the proclamation are Department Commander Eugene C. Eichberger, seated left; Edward T. Hoak, Department Adjutant, standing; and Pennsylvania Auxiliary President Mrs. John Stay, right.
Notes on Our Desk

are holding up construction of facilities for handling Alaskan crude oil—oil that cannot all be consumed in Pacific states and must be shipped to other regions. The still-stalled plan, calling for shipment by pipeline through California, is cheaper by far than the alternatives ... yet it languishes in the bureaucracy.

Farther north, in Washington State, there is considerable antagonism to a plan that would result in additional crude oil tankers plying the waters of Puget Sound. The destination—via pipeline—of this petroleum from Alaska and elsewhere would be the energy-thirsty midwest. Let’s listen to what the Seattle Post-Intelligencer says about this idea: “It seems to us the time has come to say no, definitely, to ... any ... company planning to tanker large amounts of oil into the Sound for shipment to the midwest. The costs to the state will be too high. The benefits nil.”

Worse still, Congress has endorsed this position. Last October, a seemingly innocuous amendment to a marine mammal protection act was introduced by Sen. Warren Magnuson (D-WA). In short order, the act and amendment became law. In the process, a major option for distributing Alaskan oil to the midwest was eliminated. The New York Times has editorially characterized Magnuson’s move as “bad lawmaking.” Why? Again quoting the Times, because it pre-empts an option that at least deserved to be discussed and weighed on the merits.” I couldn’t agree more.

In the Rockies, Colorado is invoking environmental regulations to ensure veto power over oil shale development in the western part of the state. Meanwhile, its western neighbor, Utah, is seeking to develop its eastern portion. Since prevailing winds move west to east, conflict is certainly brewing. More importantly, however, oil shale is one of this nation’s richest untapped energy lodes, containing an energy-equivalent far higher than our petroleum reserves. Blocking its development unnecessarily would be counter-productive to the entire effort to formulate an effective national energy policy.

Perhaps as a reaction to developments in consuming-states, key producing-states are enlisting in the movement toward factionalization. As columnist Joseph Kraft commented, Louisiana Gov. Edwards is “not prepared to let his state be ‘drained’ of its energy resources because other states refuse to accept offshore drilling or strip-mining or nuclear plants.” What is Edwards’ solution? He wants to keep Louisiana petroleum in the ground. As the governor remarked, “that may sound provincial to you, but we’ll rejoin the union when New York does, and California and West Virginia.”

Edwards is not alone in his views. The governor of Oklahoma has indicated that unless consuming regions make “some form of energy sacrifice, we will have to re-evaluate our position” about providing oil and gas to other states.

Curtained production is not the only tool available to producing states. In Louisiana, there is talk of instituting a “first-use” tax on petroleum coming to Louisiana refineries from its offshore platforms. Texas is contemplating a refinery-processing tax—most of which would be passed on to Eastern consumers. And Alaska is considering legislation that would bar, in three years, the flow of state-owned oil to other states and increase, as well, the severance tax on Alaskan oil. If enacted, measures of this sort would inevitably increase the cost to consumers ... while generating mounting regional hostilities.

The catalog of regionalisms could continue, but the drift is clear. Clearer still is the danger. Costs could be increased, while production is decreased.

Yet, at this juncture in the nation’s history, we need—perhaps more than ever before—as much energy as we can economically lay our hands on, not curtailed by supplies. President Carter’s intent was to produce a fair national energy plan. As he put it, “our guiding principle, as we developed the plan, was that none of our people should be asked to bear an unfair burden, and none should reap an unfair advantage. There will be sacrifices, but they will be gradual, reasonable —and fair.”

We might dispute the fairness of Carter’s plan, but there is no arguing that whatever plan is adopted be a fair one. That goal is undeniable and essential. But regionalism is not fair.

As the Washington Post editorialized, “The rest of the country is ... subsidizing imports of ... oil, most of it into the Atlantic states. It isn’t a government subsidy; it’s paid by one consumer to another through the refineries and distributors, to equalize fuel costs nationwide ... The sections of the country that pro-

(Continued on page 46)

A small Tampa Cigar Manufacturer would like to demonstrate to a few Havana Lovers that you can still enjoy the unique Havana Flavor without Mr. Castro’s permission.

If you remember savoring and lingering over a fantastically mild and flavorful Cuban leaf cigar in the days before the Cuban embargo, you will be interested in this offer — and the story behind it!

When the Cuban embargo hit, we and other small manufacturers of fine custom-made cigars faced ruin. Our very existence depended on maintaining the same incomparable quality we had made our reputation on.

The solution was pure cloak-and-dagger. One dark night a few years ago a group of daring Cuban expatriates put to sea carrying a precious cargo of Cuban tobacco seeds. After running a gauntlet of Cuban gunboats they finally reached their destination—Honduras. Here under almost identical conditions of climate and soil, this prime tobacco flourishes to this day, far from its native land. This is the tobacco we use to make our superbly mild and flavorful cigars — cigars an expert can’t tell from Havana.

My Offer to Cigar Lovers

I will send you postpaid a variety of 60 Factory Fresh Cigars. Smoke one or a half dozen with our compliments. If these cigars aren’t all you expect and a great deal more, return the remainder by Parcel Post and I’ll refund your money. No questions asked. Your delivered cost is only $9.90 for 60 Factory Fresh Cuban Seed Leaf Cigars.

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O K, TOM! Ship me the Thompson Sampler under your money-back guarantees for only $9.90

☐ Check for $9.90 enclosed, ( Fla. residents add 6% sales tax:)

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Vietnam-era veterans in Congress have formed an informal working group to deal with problems of veterans of the Southeast Asia conflict. Left to right: Reps. David E. Bonior (D-MI), John P. Murtha Jr. (D-PA), Albert A. Gore, Jr. (D-TN), Thomas R. Harkin (D-IA) meet with Veterans Administrator Max Cleland.

Eleven members of Congress who are veterans of military service during the Vietnam era have organized an informal working group to push for more recognition, employment opportunities and benefits for veterans of the conflict in Southeast Asia.

The group already has met with Veterans Administrator Max Cleland and Stuart E. Eizenstat, assistant to the President for domestic affairs.

Members of the working group are Reps. Leon Panetta (D-CA), David Conaway (D-IN), Thomas E. Harkin (D-IA), David E. Bonior (D-MI), John Cavanaugh (D-NE), James Jones (D-OK), John P. Murtha Jr. (D-PA) Albert A. Gore Jr. (D-TN), Les Aspin (D-WI), John J. LaFalce (D-NY) and Sen. H. John Heinz III (R-PA).

Child Welfare Awards $69,925

The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation, Inc., has awarded a record $69,925 to eight voluntary, non-profit organizations to assist children and youth. The grants were made during the annual meeting of the board of directors.

Since its founding in 1954, the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation has made awards totalling nearly $700,000 to non-profit organizations and institutions.

A grant of $14,400 was awarded to the National Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Atlanta, GA, to produce a film on cystic fibrosis for use in high school biology classes. The University of Minnesota was awarded $4,725 for a workshop to train foster parents and social workers working with children in placement. The Institute for Human Resources and Services, Wilkes-Barre, PA, received $10,000 to develop a training program for parents and teachers who are in contact with potential juvenile delinquents. The Pre-Schooler’s Workshop in Syosset, NY, was awarded a grant of $10,000 to prepare a film on classroom behavior. A grant of $800 was added to $1,600 presently being held in a special fund to provide expense grants for police officers to attend the Delinquency Control Institute of the University of Southern California. This amount will allow for four expense grants of $600 each.

The National Society for the Prevention of Blindness, New York, was granted $10,000 to produce a film and other materials on eye care and eye safety for fifth and sixth graders. A grant of $10,000 was awarded to the National Council on Crime & Delinquency, Hackensack, NJ to produce a slide/tape presentation on equal justice for all juvenile offenders.

The National Council for Homemaker-Home Health Aide Services, New York, was awarded $10,000 to publish and distribute a book on in-home aid for handicapped children.

60-Year Medallion

National Emblem Sales now has the American Legion 60th Anniversary Medallion in stock. A collector’s item, the specially-struck 1½ inch diameter medallion is available in bronze or .999 pure silver and comes attractively gift boxed. The bronze medallions are $5 and the numbered silver edition is available in limited quantity for $25. For your 60th Anniversary medallion, send your request, along with the appropriate remittance to National Emblem Sales, Dept. 9, The American Legion, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.
TAPS

The Taps Notice mentions, whenever possible, those Legionnaires who have held high National or Department Office in the Legion, US Government, or other forms of national prominence.

Tom B. Clark, 82, died March 31. Mr. Clark served as Dept. Cdr. of Okla. (1958-59), alternate NECman (1959-65) and as the Legion's National Chaplain (1953-54).

Miguel A. Munoz, 87, died recently in Sanurce, Puerto Rico. He served as Nat'l. Vice Cdr. (1933-34).

Roy Lewis Cook died at the age of 79. Mr. Cook served as the Dept. of New Mexico as Commander (1930-31), Nat'l Vice Cdr. (1931-34), Natl' Exec. Committee (1931-33), and as chairman of the Natl' Emblem Committee (1936-42).

General Lucas D. Clay died at the age of 80 on April 16. Commander of the US military forces in Europe after World War II, Gen. Clay prevented Soviet attempts to cut off Allied access to Berlin in 1948, and directed an airlift of 2.4 million tons of coal and food to Berlin for 16 months. In 1962 he received the Legion's highest award, the Distinguished Service Medal. On that occasion, Clay said the U.S. would be in a stronger position if it followed more closely the Foreign Policy views of the Legion.

OUTFIT REUNIONS

Reunion will be held in month indicated. For particulars write person whose address is given.

NOTICE REUNIONS

Notices accepted on official forms only. For return a stamped, addressed return envelope to O. R. Form, American Legion Magazine, 1608 K St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. Sentinels may be received at least five months before scheduled reunion. No written letter necessary to get form.
AIR

44th Repair Sqd, 81st ADG 5th AF (Sept) 1977 Norman Grude, 532 S. Vale Ave, Villa Park, IL 60181

49th Serv Sqd 16th Serv Grp (Sept) Mark Grass, 3002 E. 16th Ave, Portland, OR 97212

66th Airdrome Sqn (WW2) 86th Air Force (Sept) Bill Austing, 1846 Rose Cir., Park Hills, KY 40001

85th Depot Repair Sqn (WW2) 85th Air Force (Sept) Grover Batty, Jr., 603 Duke St, Thomasville, NC 27360

315th Trp Carr Grp (WW2) 70126 McNair St, 264 Lake Point Dr., Shreveport, LA 71109

321st Avn Engr Sqd (Sept) Nilsen Nelson, 5215 N.E. 85th St., Seattle, WA 98103

316th Sqn 8th AF (Sept) John E., 2402 Thomas Rd, Stamford, CT 06903

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The award of a life membership to a Legionnaire is by a Post by a testimonial by those who know best that such a member has served The American Legion well. Below are listed some of the previously unpublished life membership Post awards that have been reported to the editors. They are arranged by States or Departments.

Raymond Hackl, Earl Copeland, Ellen Steinbaugh (all 1977) Post 29, Glendale, AZ

Wm. Wright, Harry Eck, Grant Jacobson, Lester Tappan, Dr. H. C. Wolfe (all 1978) Post 69, Thomas, EN

Donald Ambrose (1977) Post 79, South Lake Tahoe, CA

Morris Lynn, A. M. Minton, Meredith Stone, F. Hayes, Edmunds, Philip (all 1978) Post 81, Melbourne, FL


George Bedell (1970) Post 258, Greenacres, FL

Harry Evans (1978) Post 265, Tamarac, FL

Ward Scott (1977) Post 13, Plainfield, IL

Ted Nind, Harry Kilmier, Otto Stump, Harry Luckwik, Niles, IL 60062

402nd Ftr Sqn 370th Ftr Grp (Sept) Ed. Meyer, Jr., 6823 Deux Ave, New Orleans, LA 70126

43rd TCW (Sept) Talmage McCord Jr, 117 S. Spencer St, Indianapolis, IN 46219

45th Bmg, 8th AF (England) (Sept) Rom Blaylock, 2103 Center Ave, New Bern, NC 28560

28th MG, Air Evac Sqn (54th Trp Carr Wgn) (Sept) Richard Brown, 350 Lightwood Ave, Shrub-wood, 515 Woodland View Dr., York, PA 17402

3rd Ftr Fg Sqn 370th Ftr Grp (Sept) Ed. Meyer, Jr., 6823 Deux Ave, New Orleans, LA 70126

COMRADES IN DISTRESS

Readers who can help these veterans are urged to do so. Usually a statement is needed for VA claim purposes.

Notices are run only at the request of American Legion Officers representing claimants, using Search For Witness Forms distributed by the American Legion Service Officers. Please contact CID #2, The American Legion Magazine, 1608 "K" Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006.

Stillwater, OK—Need to hear from comrades who recall Doris "Skip" Sadowski Merrick, who died in an automobile accident when another WAVE jumped into his car, killing him while he was stationed at OK A & M College, July 1944. Contact CID 495-A.

Secret Service needs information from anyone who remembers Robert M. Belyea, duty at Lownsdale Park, April 1943 to 1955. Contact CID 495-B.

4th Armory, 317th Ordinance Hm Co—Need to hear from comrades who recall Joseph C. Allen fell and injured his left knee at the armory while building a gun emplacement, many, Oct. 1953. Contact CID 496.

5th Inf. Bn, 149th Inf. Arty, Sept 1947-Dec 1947—Need information from anyone who remembers Roy Calvin White had a pre-existing disease interfering with his ability to perform military duties while stationed at Segregal, WA. Contact CID 496.

6th Inf. Bn, 182nd Inf. Arty, sept 1944-Oct 1945—Need information from comrades who recall John A. Spina injured his legs and back when ship was struck by enemy torpedoes Aug. 2, 1944. Contact CID 497.

68th AAA Bn—Need to hear from comrades who recall Harry S. Bracchetti, who was shot from gun emplacement on a mountain top and injured in the spine while stationed at Inchon, Korea, March 1945. Contact CID 499.

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California coast, to warn of Japanese attack and to spot and sink Japanese submarines. It had been instituted in the midst of nearly hysterical fears of a Japanese invasion. In January, the scow *Tahoe* had smashed an enemy submarine in broad daylight off the Farallons just outside the Golden Gate. On that same day a submarine put a shell through the oil tanker *Agaworld* off the coast of Santa Cruz, south of San Francisco.

In February 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 allowing the Secretary of War to define military areas and to remove "any and all persons” from those areas.

On Feb. 23, the first Japanese attack on the West Coast took place. Shortly after 7:00 p.m., a Japanese submarine surfaced in the Santa Barbara Channel, cruised in close to shore and fired more than 30 shells inland. The shells sailed over Highway 101 along the coast, where traffic continued uninterrupted. Drivers apparently thought it was an American sub firing practice rounds. Later that evening, after observing the California traffic, the sub commander radiated Emperor Hirohito that he had left Santa Barbara "a seething mass of flames, with wild panic visible on shore."

At 3 a.m. on Feb. 25, unidentified aircraft were reported over Los Angeles, and antiaircraft batteries around the city blazed away. As a result of all of this, the lighter-than-air craft patrols were instituted as an early warning and defense system. Squadron 32 took off from Treasure Island and patrolled a 50-mile radius from the Golden Gate Bridge. The L-8 was relatively small as airships went, only 150 feet long and with a maximum diameter of 47 feet. Her helium content was 123,000 cubic feet. She was propelled by two Warner Super-Scarb type 50 engines, each with 145 horsepower. Her armaments were two Mark 17 Aircraft depth bombs and a 30-caliber machine gun.

On her daily patrols, the L-8 flew from the Golden Gate Bridge to the Farallons, then to Point Reyes and along the coast back to the Bridge. She repeated this patrol as often as possible on her 150-gallon fuel capacity.

On Aug. 16, shortly before 6:00 a.m., a member of the ground crew at Treasure Island started the L-8’s engines. For 15 minutes he listened and checked and rechecked her controls.

Aviation Machinist’s Mate James Riley Hill arrived a few minutes after 6:00 a.m. He had flown on the L-8 patrol the previous day and he expected to make this routine Sunday flight. He made some pre-flight log entries. Moments later Lt. Cody climbed aboard the craft followed by Ensign Charles Ellis Adams.

Cody, 27, was one of the most capable pilots in the Wing Command. He was a 1938 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. Superiors said he "always displayed keen intelligence and sound judgment." Other naval personnel at the base remembered him as quiet and introspective and in no way excitable. He had 800 hours flying time in non-rigid airships.

Ensiger Adams had been commissioned only the previous day after 20 years as an enlisted man. He had flown in every type of naval aircraft and had logged nearly 2,300 hours of flying time. He was 37.

The L-8 was towed onto the short runway. Because she was statically heavy, she would need to taxi down the runway for more than 100 yards before becoming airborne. Cody was at the controls. He placed his hat on the instrument panel and his briefcase behind his seat. He gunned the engines and watched the flight instruments. Then he turned to Hill and ordered him from the ship. Hill waited for an explanation. None was forthcoming. Cody and Adams stared out the windows and waited for Hill to depart. Finally, the machinist’s mate stood, opened the door and jumped onto the runway. He closed the door behind him. He stood on the runway and watched the L-8 taxi for about 150 yards before lifting off, heading toward the Golden Gate Bridge.

At 7:38 a.m., the first message from Flight 101 arrived at Treasure Island: "Position four miles east of Farallons—stand by."

Four minutes later a second message: "Am investigating suspicious oil slick—stand by."

That was the last message received from Flight 101.

But there were other ships and air-
craft in the area and Flight 101 was observed by several.

The S.S. Daisy Gray was making her way toward San Francisco Bay when Capt. A. A. Backman spotted the L-8 coming overhead from the east. Five minutes later the lookout called to him, “Come up here! Look at that smoke down on the water!”

Backman took the binoculars and watched the L-8, which was about one mile to port. On the surface of the water directly below the craft he saw two areas of smoke and some flames. The blimp was slowly descending, apparently under control. Backman concluded that she had dropped some signals.

The steamship Albert Gallatin under Capt. Byron Brown was several miles astern of the Daisy Gray when her lookout spotted Flight 101. He saw her drop a smoke bomb, the signal for submarine below me. A general alarm aboard the ship was sounded. It was 7:42 a.m. The deck guns on the Albert Gallatin were manned. Brown watched the L-8 slowly descend to within 30 feet of the water. Since there were no objects in the sea beneath her except the smoke signals, he concluded that the L-8 had spotted a whale and was carrying out a practice maneuver. There was nothing unusual in her movements. He watched through his binoculars as the L-8 pulled up very slowly to about 150 feet, stabilized, circled the smoke signals and climbed slowly into the cloud cover.

A few minutes later Captain Brown looked back for the L-8. She was nowhere in sight. He thought this very strange. He continued to look for her all the way into San Francisco. But he never saw her again.

Shortly before 11:00 a.m. Flight 101 was spotted again, this time by the pilot of a Pan American Clipper about three miles off the Golden Gate Bridge. She was flying at about 100 feet, was fully inflated and under control by her crew. The pilot of an Army P-38 also saw her at about the same time and discerned nothing unusual.

Yet only a few minutes later the pilot of a Navy patrol plane had a frightening experience with Flight 101. He was flying over the cloud cover at about 2000 feet. Suddenly, the L-8 loomed up right beside his plane, as though the crew had decided to take a peek into his cockpit. The airship floated beside him for a moment, then like a great whale it dropped back into the clouds.

The next reported sighting was that of Riccardo Capovilla.

The Navy salvage crew found no good reason why her engines had stopped. Her door was latched com-
(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10)

America’s Upstanding Song

Spangled Banner” was played at the American flag was hoisted over the Martyrs Tomb at Fort Greene. A salute of 100 guns and a display of fireworks closed the ceremony.

In Philadelphia, a midnight parade to Independence Hall started off the July 4th celebration, after which the First Regimental Band and a 600-voice chorus presented a concert, opening with a selection from Verdi’s opera “Aida,” followed by “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

The nation’s capital was content to celebrate America’s Centennial July 4th with a gun salute and a public meeting under auspices of the Oldest Inhabitants Association held at Ford’s Opera House.

The first performance of the American Centennial at Philadelphia on November 10, 1876, programmed mostly non-American music such as Wagner’s commissioned “Centennial March,” Beethoven’s final movement from his “Symphony No. 5,” and the “Hallelujah” chorus from Handel’s “Messiah.” But the orchestra and choir did finally perform “The Star-Spangled Banner” and closed America’s first 100-year festival with the duxology “Old Hundred.”

Despite these Centennial occasions, “The Star-Spangled Banner” was not yet America’s national song, though its popularity was obviously growing. It received a big boost at a little noticed occasion when the custom of rising to stand during the playing of “The Star-Spangled Banner” was initiated.

The place was Chicago. American conductor Theodore Thomas was performing a customary Saturday night concert of his Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Thomas introduced much of the great music of Wagner, Liszt, Tchaikovsky and other famed foreign composers to American audiences. John Philip Sousa called Thomas the greatest conductor who ever lived.

The date was October 31, 1896. Chicago was excited over the national Presidential election between William McKinley and William Jennings Bryan. Thomas was asked to perform “The Star-Spangled Banner.”

The programs had already been printed, so Thomas decided on a bit of showmanship he’d used at the World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. A drum corps was placed on stage behind the orchestra, and the chorus was seated in front, beside the auditorium’s great organ. Immediately following the final note of the regular programmed selection, the conductor dramatically flourished
MIDYEAR ECONOMIC WRAP-UP.
GROUND RULES FOR STARGAZERS.
CONSUMERS COULD GET $ BREAKS.

Inflation will be more of a problem in the second half of this year than in the first six months. This is what to look for:

1) The overall inflation rate in the months ahead will be in a 7 percent to 7½ percent range. We've had more alarming rates than that in the past, but the scary thing about the current figures is that they could portend real trouble in 1979.

2) Some costs will rise dramatically in the second half, while a few will slacken. For example:
   • Food costs won't rise nearly so much in the next six months as they did last spring. The upturn will be around 7 percent vs. the double digit leap of a few months ago.
   • On the other hand, housing and energy costs will go up steadily. The coal wage pact is adding new leverage to energy prices, while material costs keep boosting housing tags.
   • Interest rates have started a new climb, particularly for short-term loans. But mortgages, too, will be affected.
   • As for unemployment, it likely won't exceed the 6½ percent mark.

Meantime, here are some new data on living costs by regions: The Sun Belt is by far the least expensive for families with intermediate incomes. Austin, TX, ranks No. 1 in low living costs, followed by Orlando, Baton Rouge and Nashville. High costs occur in Boston, New York, Washington, Buffalo, Milwaukee and San Francisco. Highest of all: Alaska and Hawaii.

** ** **

New space probes, movies and a spate of popular books are giving astronomy an unprecedented boost. If you're tempted to join the ranks of amateur stargazers, heed this advice from the experts:

1) Don't rush off to buy a telescope. A good pair of binoculars will do for a starter.
2) Your first priority is to familiarize yourself with the location and movements of celestial bodies. You can do this via books, maps and beginners' courses at nearby schools or astronomy clubs. If you can't locate a club via your phone book or library, write Norman Sperling, Sky and Telescope, 49 Bay State Road, Cambridge, MA 02138.
3) As for telescopes themselves: Prices for worthwhile ones begin at about $250 and range on up into the thousands of dollars. You can build your own for much less, and there's a growing second-hand market.

** ** **

Notes of the month:

COLOR TV SETS: Prices were expected to rise sharply this year but the reverse is happening—you can get bargains galore if you shop around.

CASUALTY-PROPERTY INSURANCE: It looks as though the recent steep rate increases for car and home insurance have topped out, and you may even see some decreases and revisions. Casualty and property insurers are in much better financial shape than a few years ago, hence can't plead poverty to state regulators any longer or risk adverse public sentiment with new hikes. By Edgar A. Grunwald

"If Patton was anything less than a man of genius, I'd probably be dead today."

Nat Frankel was a tank commander under Patton. Many call his old unit the best single combat force in American history. But Nat Frankel was an NCO and this book, PATTON'S BEST: An Informal History of the 4th Armored Division is one fighting man's appreciation of an extraordinary military man.

In less than one year, the 4th rolled from the beaches of Normandy to the streets of Prague—with stops along the way at Bastogne and the Rhine. Frankel saw it all from the turret of a tank and describes these momentous battles vividly. But it is in capturing the human details of war that his book is most absorbing: little-known names and faces along with commanders such as John S. Wood, Thomas Churchill, Edgar Conley, Albin Irzyk, Creighton Abrams and, of course, George S. Patton; the humor and the courage; the less-famous but no-less-bloody battles at Singling, Metz, and the Meuse; the first American liberation of a concentration camp; and above all, the brilliant, arrogant, unforgettable man who drove the 4th to "impossible" triumphs. General Patton himself once remarked, "There has never been such a superb fighting organization as the 4th Armored Division." In this book, one of his men shows why!
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LIFE IN THE OUTDOORS

10 minutes. Don't jog right after a heavy meal. On a highway, jog against the traffic so you can see it coming and it will not come at you unexpectedly. Don't waste energy jogging up a hill at your usual speed; take it slow. If you meet an un-friendly dog, yell to scare it—not "no," a command familiar to most dogs. Then keep on going. Cross the street if you must; you might have to change your course next time.

Dirt roads are good jogging surfaces but keep a sharp lookout for rocks, sticks and holes on which you might turn your ankle. Paved roads are good; potholes and ridges are easy to spot from a distance. In a secluded area, such as a remote bridge path, before passing another person going your way, say, "passing," loudly so he or she will know you're a jogger meaning no harm. This is also good advice when jogging in a city park. Obey traffic lights when crossing city streets. Although you must break your stride, you can keep your rhythm by jogging in place; thus you will give joggers a better reputation among motorists, pedestrians and the police. An indoor track would probably be best for jogging, but it's apt to become more monotonous than jogging outdoors where the scenery changes.

Probably the ideal jogging day is one that is windless, dry and sunny with an air temperature of about 50 degrees. Remember that when jogging in the rain or after a rain, you must always keep an eye on your path to avoid slipping. The best time of day depends on each jogger's preference. It might be early morning, during lunch-hour break from work or in the evening. For jogging in poor weather or bad light, stick strips of fluorescent tape around your ankles, shoes and legs, also on your arms and jacket so they will glow in the lights of approaching cars. Arrange your schedule to jog at least twice a week. Jog by the clock, not by the mile. Measure your jogging by time, not by distance. Stop before you are exhausted. Chances are you will agree with other joggers who say they never felt better in their lives.

TENT ROPES are hard to see after dark. Some campers paint the stakes with luminous paint to make them visible. Lane Olinghouse of Missoula, MT, has an improvement. He paints not only the stakes but also the ropes.

BEST BOBBERS for fishing, insists Irene Carcella of Punxsutawney, PA, are the little lemon-shaped plastic containers the come filled with lemon juice. On the cap glue a button with a metal loop to take the fishline.
This book stands out in the growing stream of Vietnam War literature. The writer is an Army colonel. He
taught at West Point, fought in Vietnam and served in the Office of the Army Chief of Staff. He traces Amer-
ica's involvement in Vietnam step by step from the earliest advisory mis-
ion. Gen. William Westmoreland call his account "comprehensive, ob-
jective and highly creditable. "Gen. Matthew Ridgway hails Palmer's"excellence, clarity, frankness and
readability."

Best of the Original Sad Sack, by George Baker. Sad Sack Books, Bos-
ton, MA, 128 pp. $3.95.
This is just what the title says. If you enjoyed Baker's cartoons during
World War II you'll do a lot of re-
membering.

A Time for Truth, by William E. Simon. Readers Digest Press/Mc-
graw-Hill, New York, NY, 248 pp. $12.50. The former Secretary of
Treasury weighs into the national
economic debate with a provocative
and controversial book that could af-
fect all our dollars. Simon claims
Americans are fast losing their eco-
nomic freedoms and if this trans-
spires, their political freedoms will
quickly drain away. His analysis is
disturbing; even more disturbing is
the strong concurrence of Nobel Prize economists Milton Friedman and
P. A. Hayek.

A History of War at Sea, by Helmut
Pemsel. U.S. Naval Institute, Annap-
olis, MD 176 pp. $15.95.
This is a book for the naval scholar
and for modern sailors who wonder
how ships, strategy, tactics—and
even nations—evolved over the cen-
turies. Classic naval actions are de-
scribed from the times of the ancient
Greeks and Persians to operations off
Vietnam. Over 250 maps lead to
ready understanding of complex
maneuvers.

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new appreciation of seapower and its
influence on the destiny of nations.
No one can read it and feel secure
in light of the growing Soviet domi-
nance on the oceans of the world.
—Ray McHugh
Notes on Our Desk

duce and refine oil have a right to ask how much they are to pay, and for how long, while the fight over environmental standards goes on in the Atlantic states.

As the Post notes, the costs of regionalism are great ... and they are steadily mounting. A recent University of Rhode Island study, to cite one source, estimates that a three-year delay in outer continental shelf lease sales off the Atlantic seaboard would cost the nation $3.8 billion. Energy, as always, remains inextricably linked with the economy; and, if the chains that bind our separate states together rust and weaken, the delicate fabric that is our economic stability weakens as well.

Thé 1973-74 oil embargo demonstrated beyond refutation the deleterious impacts that energy—particularly its shortage—can have on our economy. The 400 percent increase in world oil prices in recent years only underlines the point. Unless domestic production increases, the costs of importing foreign energy—and this year's tab will likely exceed $40 billion—can only climb.

With that increase comes the heightened threat of economic or political dislocations.

With producing states urging curtailments, only imports stand ready to take up the slack.

Finally, let's return to President Carter's energy message. Two of his key points are, first, that "our energy crisis is an invisible crisis, which grows steadily worse" and, second, that "if we work together as a united people, we will succeed." The crisis is undeniably real. Yet the unity—which is essential—may be illusory.

Regional thinking undermines our search for solutions to what is a shared problem. It is understandable, of course, that states and their citizens want to protect their environment and their resources. But energy development can be—and must be—compatible with environmental protection and with proper husbandry of depleting resources.

It's understandable, too, that producing states might resent the no-development view that prevails in some areas of our nation. But the answer cannot be to withhold or overtax available supplies. Instead, consuming and producing states must join to further both sets of interests. Energy is a national, not a regional, problem. Solutions must be achieved nationally.

The simple truth is that we can no longer ask for energy supplies, but demand that the energy be produced or refined in someone else's backyard—as many consuming states have advocated for years.

A second simple truth is, it is no longer feasible for producing states to suggest that consumers "freeze in the dark"—a view expressed not long ago. The result would be that all of us would in time freeze; and that's a result none of us wants.

In recent months it has become obvious that The American Legion ... the closest brotherhood of all ... is divided on these issues. We can ... and we must ... resolve our differences and unify our efforts to convince our fellow Americans to do likewise. The energy crisis embraces all Americans. We can work together to find a solution ... or we can individually suffer the consequences. It's up to us.

(continued from page 4)

Sir: After the Panama vote it looks as if we may become the football of every small nation that can now safely insult us and kick us around to their hearts' content.

Paul Chiera
Silver Spring, MD

Sir: It was with great pride that I read your article on the WWI "Lost Battalion." My late dad—Francis J. McCormack—was in Company D, 308th Infantry.

Agnes McDougall
Ridgewood, NY

Sir: Let's urge Congress to reaffirm our national motto "In God We Trust," and its use on our currency.

Henry Newbigging
Kenmore, NY

Sir: I note that atheists are campaigning to ban religious broadcasts. If I see a program not to my liking I can complain to the station, the network or the advertiser, but I do not have the right to prevent others from viewing what I do not appreciate.

Kim A. Edwards
Ridgecrest, CA

Sir: The overwhelming American majority opposed this incredible Panama treaty, yet President Carter and 68 senators mounted an all-out campaign marked by deceit and misrepresentation. They should be held accountable.

Ben L. Graves
Hemet, CA
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MISSING PERSONS
Now where are all those girls
Who in my youth would fly,
Preferring the advances
Of a much, much older guy?
R. C. Shebelski

TONSORIAL PICTORIAL?
Men have but three hair styles,
No matter what fads have started.
Parted, unparted, and departed?
Ruth M. Walsh

Sage Advice: If at first you don’t succeed,
try, try again. Then quit. No point in making
a fool of yourself.
Dallas Reed

DEPARTMENT OF INJUSTICE
It must be a Highway Department plot,
Putting roadside tables at a spot,
Where we can’t stop to snack,
’Cause we had to buy it—a mile back!
Kathleen M. Deiter

WELL-L-L
"Is life really worth living?" the philosopher
asked his students. From the back row came this reply: "What else can you
do with it?"
Mary Reddy

CREDIT WORTHY
My husband, a World War II veteran,
decided to fly Old Glory from the terrace
of our new home.
At the specialty shop he made his flag
selection, carried it to the counter, wrote
out a check and said, "Wait, I’ll give you
some identification."
"That won’t be necessary," replied the
cashier, "People who buy flags don’t write
bad checks."
Dorothy Eichen

NO WIN
The minister’s son had been sent away from the table and told to wash
his hands. As he went, he mumbled, "All I ever hear around here are germs
and Jesus—and I’ve never seen either one."
Dorothea Kent

TALK IS CHEAP
The first woman said, "My husband bought me some diamond bracelets.
Then my skin broke out and the doctor said I was allergic to diamonds.
So we had to return them."
The second said her husband bought her a mink coat, which had to
be returned because she was allergic to mink.
The third woman fainted. "I’m allergic to hot air," she explained when
revived.
Lucille Goodyear

THE GOOD . . . AND THE BAD
A real estate broker called his actor client. "Good news," he said. "We
can get that estate for only half a million."
"That’s great," said the actor. "What’s the bad news?"
"They want a thousand dollars down."
Fran Allen

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT
Be kind to your friends. If it weren’t for them you’d be a total stranger.
Gene Forster

Too Late: Harried mother, after another day of cooking, cleaning, and
disciplining children: "Sometimes I wish I had loved and lost."
Doris Dolphin

SIGN OF THE TIMES
It used to be that a fool and his money were soon parted; nowadays
it happens to all of us.
Henry Leabo

STARS AND STRIPES: The decoration of independence.
Val London

‘I’d like to grow up to be the President’s brother!’
The American Legion Magazine
We salute a great organization. And provide you with something to remember your 60th convention. So we designed this unique, one-of-a-kind collector decanter filled with our finest Daviess County Kentucky Bourbon. The decanter is made of genuine Imperial Hurstbourne China with 24 kt. gold leaf. It will be available only a short time in Louisiana.* After the convention, the mold will be destroyed, making it truly a collector's item. So enjoy your convention. And take home a memory from Daviess County Bourbon.

* Distributed nationally only as quantities permit.
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