COMMANDER WILLARD G. McQUOID

Willard G. McQuoid, a veteran of Base Hospital 21 of the first World War, has been elected commander of Rouen Post 242 for 1948-1949. Mac was one of the original group with sufficient courage to assist in the organization of Rouen Post 242 and since has been one of its most faithful members. There was a stretch of many years when he did not miss a single meeting of Rouen Post.

McQuoid was born and educated in St. Louis and has called it his home ever since. He is a sales executive of the McCarthy Motor Company of St. Louis.

Friendly, genial, quiet and kindly describes our new commander ... and he'll do a fine job. Post 242 is to be congratulated for naming Mac its leader, a fitting reward for a truly loyal member. He has never sought an office ... the office has always sought him. Best of luck, Mac.

ANOTHER 21ST IS ACTIVATED

The 21st General Hospital has been reactivated. On August 5, 1948 the unit was placed on active reserve duty by the Fifth Army Headquarters.

This is the third unit of the 21st formed, on Washington University affiliation. Colonel Lester White, Medical Corps Reserve has been assigned as commanding officer of the new unit on active reserve duty. Twenty-one male officers and a chief of nurses have already been assigned to duties commensurate with their previous military status and present professional capabilities.

Captain Edward J. Manley, Adjutant of the unit reports that duty orders are being cut on presently assigned officers and a complete duty roster will be available shortly.

The officers of this unit have been availing themselves of the excellent film presentations of the St. Louis Organized Reserves, regular meetings and are keeping abreast of current military and medical advancements through attendance at these reserve training meetings. It is anticipated that specialized training for the unit will begin as soon as directives are received from the Surgeon General's Office in Washington.

Former 21st's who are unassigned are urged to contact Colonel White at his home or at the University for further information concerning their active reserve duty with the newly formed 21st General Hospital.

* * *

AGAIN WE SALUTE COLONEL

FRED TOWSLEY MURPHY WHO IN 1916 LAID THE FOUNDATION UPON WHICH ALL FUTURE UNITS 21 OF WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY ARE BEING BUILT

* * *

NOTE!

21st General Veterans

EXCERPTS FROM ARMY AND NAVY REGISTER

Vol. 69, No. 3593—October 16, 1948

Service Medals

The Departments of the Army and the Air Force published this week Army Regulations 600-65 and Air Force Regulations 35-50, dated Sept. 22, 1948, which lists 22 service medals that are awarded to members of the active military service of the United States for performance of specified duty, usually during war or periods of national emergency. The medals included:

* * *

American Campaign Medal
Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal
European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal
World War II Victory Medal
Army of Occupation Medal
Army Citation Certificates Available

Maj. Gen. E. F. Witsell, The Adjutant General, Department of the Army, has advised all holders of World War II military decorations that they may obtain certificates attesting to the awards by writing directly to him.

Medal winners will receive certificates of the diploma type, each bearing a replica of the decoration for which it is granted.

Nearly 1,000,000 servicemen and women who received decorations during the war have not yet received the certificates to which they are entitled. The Department of the Army estimates that 4,300 are authorized to receive certificates for the Distinguished Service Cross; 73,000 for the Silver Star; 20,000 for the Legion of Merit; 126,000 for the Distinguished Flying Cross; 12,000 for the Soldier's Medal; 395,000 for the Bronze Star, and 341,507 for the Air Medal.

Winners of decorations should address their requests for certificates to The Adjutant General, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C., indicating the number, date, and headquarters of the general orders which awarded the decoration originally, and enclosing copies of the general orders and of the complete citations, if available. In the case of decorations awarded posthumously, the next of kin may obtain the certificate.

* * *

THE ARKANSAS RIDGE RUNNER SENT US A CARD

Dr. Allan A. Gilbert, of Fayetteville, Arkansas, noted for his tales of the Arkansas ridge runners, noodies and other backwoods characters of the Ozark Hills of Arkansas, sent us a card from Miami, Florida where he attended the American Legion National Convention. Allan stated the convention was wonderful. We wonder how much of it he actually saw. Following the convention he spent Friday, Saturday and Sunday in Havana, Cuba. At the time the card was sent he was attending The Doctor's convention also at Miami. Evidently there was a contrast between that meeting and his previous days as he wrote, "The Doctor's convention is dignified, scholarly and definitely relaxing." The strain of the years is beginning to tell. The good doctor was in St. Louis just before the Legion meeting, to replenish his wardrobe, for his visit to Florida and Cuba. He doesn't do too badly with the clothes he is able to procure in his natural habitat, the hills of Arkansas. Envision this splendid bit of manhood, correctly garbed in the latest vestments of the day as he enjoys the gold coasts of Florida and Cuba ... really a sartorial picture suited to the pages of Esquire.

The ridge-runner is the number one registrant for our 1949 reunion. He has suggested that the usual suite he is engaged in the past, for a couple of vagabonds. And we are happy to comply.

* * *

BERNARD KELBER MARRIED

Bernard Kelber of the 21st General took unto himself a bride in a pretty ceremony solemnized on June 27th. Barney Kelber got hold of us about 2 years ago and then disappeared but through the grapevine we hear that he gave up his chosen profession (seems to be a habit) and instead of pleading before a Jury, he's doing out war surplus to the people of Ontario. Sherman McDowell has just given him his job as an escrow man in a local bank and will soon be trucking off to school with the aid of the G.I. bill to learn the trade of interior decorating. To Marcus J. Silvera, one time secretary to the Chief Nurse and later Foist Sergeant with another outfit, goes the honors of having the only offspring any of us local Angelenos can brag about. The little one is a son and resides with his Momma and Poppa in a new home in Pasadena. George Bray was out here for a while and decided to contend himself with a telephone conversation. Some of the guys have seen Morris Goldberg and McDowell once upon a time bumped into Sam 10% Goldstein—all of which brings us to our own back yard. Mrs. Hollander is home again, having recovered from the bug which necessitated our leaving the 21st in such a hurry back in dear old Mirecourt. We are enjoying the pleasures of a new home in a small town near the big city—Monterey Park to be exact and contrary to all our plans which called for us becoming a newspaper editor we are driving a dry-cleaning truck and making a comfortable living. And now having disposed of the local 21sters one more word, about the Post naturally, we've enjoyed receiving it. We hope that it keeps on coming and we also hope that you get more contributions from the enlisted personnel. It's been a great thrill seeing such names as Carlo, Palastro, Russo, Cirilla, Kleinman, Patti and all the rest. Keep 'em coming and when enough excitement happens on the western end, we'll try another column and fire it your way.

Sincerely,

Dave Hollander

Bernie and his bride took a very interesting and extensive honeymoon trip, which took them as far north as Alaska. Following the coastal highways by car to Seattle the newlyweds continued their trip from that point by boat through Alaskan waters with stops at many places of interest.

We of the two 21sts extend cordial greetings to the Kelbers.
THE ROUEN POST

COLONEL CADY’S CONTRIBUTIONS

Miss Beverly Andre, 7133 Etiwanda avenue, Reseda, California writes:

Since last September I have been pursuing my degree in nursing education. In January, I was permitted to speak to the student body about my overseas experiences. Most naturally I included several enjoyable memories of the time I spent with the 21st General Hospital. Often, I have spoken of the wonderful spirit of the unit and the excellent morale that accompanied the program of activities of the organization. Col. Cady's comments:

Miss Frances M. Barksdale, ARC, Callands, Virginia answers our questionnaire: "In regard to my "pet peeves and justifiable gripes," I have none with the Army. My sojourn with the 21st General was a wonderful experience and I shall always be grateful to you for your understanding and kindness at a time when I was at the mercy of those who did not wish to see the situation as it was in the Red Cross in the hospital unit. Your loyalty and backing at that critical time in Naples saved me from what I would have considered a demotion. I feel that my success and good record in the files at ARC headquarters in Washington, D.C., are due in a large part to you." The Colonel's comment: All I did was to insist that she be allowed to continue to bill the long fatigueing hours she and Elizabeth Schwab had set for themselves, day after day, on the wards! As a matter of fact, bureaucracy had decided to move into the 21st, and I thought the jobs being done were more important than a bureaucratic ritual. She really did a job for Lt. Col. John Ray Power's unit at Mannheim after she reported there.

Miss Wilhelmina Black, 6335 Bayton street, Germantown, Philadelphia, Penna., who joined at Mirecourt, France, December 16, 1944, the day of the von Runstedt Bulge, believed her pet peeve was the long distance from Nurses Quarters to Building 1... and that she was obliged to wear "dog-tags." Eight of us lived in one of the prefabricated huts, called 'Toujour Gai' as we were a happy-go-lucky group. One night while I was in the dark shower, I felt something crawling down my back." The other girls finally determined it was only a piece of tap paper from the wall of the shower, and so was life for these plucky nurses who had "volunteered" for continental duty in preference to the "spit an' polish" and black mastic polished floor of England.

A. A. Block, 368 West Princess Anne road, Norfolk, 10, Virginia... "One of the boys received a salami and we decided to have dinner in our tent on Saturday. Inspections were usually at 11 o'clock or not at all. At 11 am we started to fry the salami with eggs (shell eggs) we were able to get, and had just put the eggs into the pan. 'Attention!' It was the Colonel himself. After a very polite dressing down, the 1st Sergeant winked as he walked out... and came back uninvited." The Colonel comments, no doubt he pulled his rank and dined.

The funniest thing happening to someone else was to Lt. Herman B. Golden, and he refused to tell about it. His pet peeve was being sent home on rotation. One cannot blame him, for he got his Purple Heart after he left the Unit.

Petite nurse, Inez E. Genrich, now spouse of General C. L. Adcock, BiPartite Control Office, APO 757, PM, New York, N. Y., sent a happy look snapshot of herself. The APO means she is in Germany. I am really not surprised now that she is Mrs. Adcock, for the General always seemed to have more business around the 21st in France than I could really account for most of the time. He was a nice fellow, too.

Dr. R. D. Schilling, Pueblo Clinic, 702 North Main, Pueblo, Colorado, was in 53d General Hospital Cadre which the 21st General took over. We found him to be a fine chap and later contacted him in Paris, France as a member of the 48th General Hospital. He married Virginia Cunningham, ANC, so I was informed by a mutual friend.

ANNOUNCING

James Edward McCracken, Junior, June 1, 1948. Mrs. Jean (Nellie) Friend McCracken has acquired a registered wirehair terrier and sprung a 'tiger' cat from the local Federal jail, Seward, Alaska, with anticipations of a lot of little tigers to keep little Jimmy, and the rabbits they expect to acquire, company.

Joyce Carol Bagley arrived July 31, 1948 according to a message received from Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Bagley, Benton, Arkansas.

Bart and Maggie Loomis are doing quite well 'thank you.' Baby Theresa Frances put in her appearance on September 6, 1948.

The Robert W. Kelley's are endeavoring to keep pace with many of the others of the 21st General Hospital since their return from active duty. Bob passed cigars at the last Rouen Post 242 meeting October 14, 1948, proudly announcing the arrival of another daughter in the Kelley family.

GRAPEVINE

Dr. Stanley S. Goldberg sent me a picture of the Grand Hotel, Bou-Hanifia, which I believe is one of the very best. Many of us never knew he had a Purple Heart Medal as a result of his service with the 9th Inf. Div. Artillery, 22 Feb. 1943, Tunisia.

Eve Brouillet has returned from "The Institute of American Affairs," Haiti, and has asked for a transfer to the Veterans Administration in Florida.

Howard E. Whittemore was doing a bit of active duty in the grade of Captain, Governors Island, N. Y. He has been hobnobbing with the big brass, as might be expected of an Old 21-ster, and wrote me a few nice things he dug... crossed by the 1st Sergeant, for I am very fond of salami and eggs too.
THE ROUEN POST

up about the old outfit. Many will remember how much punishment Howard and Herb Slattery took for three years overseas, but undoubtedly many others did not realize it was going on, or what all this pair of “wild deuces” did for the comfort, welfare, and productivity of the Unit.

Speaking of Slattery, his questionnaire said his most serious gripe was WORK ORDERS (underscored), and that his pet peeve was WORK ORDERS (underscored), and the thing which impressed him most, strangely enough, was COMING HOME (not underscored). He is now Assistant Superintendent, East Tennessee Packing Co.

Ella M. Burlingame is still an independent little person. She told me in Oran, Algeria, she did not like this saluting business the Army was putting on to nurses. Now, after I get her to working in the VA Hospital at McKinney, Texas, she ups and transfers to VAH at Van Nuys, Calif. She has a sense of humor though, for she thought it was funny to be lost in a London fog with five American captives. Justifiable gripe was “Expansions!!!” and pet peeve was “Night Duty,” but she was most impressed by “The team work and complete understanding among the Unit.”

Dr. Russell J. Crider has established his practice in Spokane, Washington. He says the funniest thing he experienced was when he accidentally met Henry Schwarz II in Cairo. Well, it was curious how the “flyin’ and fightin’ 21st” got knocked or blown off the course, now and then.

He also was witness to another amusing event, the famous double landing of that Master Boar Hunter, Colonel C. (Killer) Edwards, at the invasion of Southern France. Crider’s justifiable gripes have faded into insignificance, but his pet peeve seems to have remained and that was Captain Richard Crouch’s driving about on his motorcycle. He has put his finger on the secret of success of the AUS: “Ability of the GIs to do any job when necessary, and avoid any unnecessary job as well.”

John Landgrover came to us in the original 53rd Gen. Hospital at Ft. Benning, and is an old timer, and finally ended up in that good outfit, the 127th General Hospital at Nancy. He married Miss Mary Bianco of his hometown OctobeT 6, 1946. He is thinking of becoming a member of Rouen Post No. 242. Somebody better give him the necessary blanks.

Lorine E. Mullins has done double work and managed to get her B. S. in Nursing. Her pet peeve was saluting, and her greatest impression was her “trip to Cairo (while we were restricted to MBS area).” I wonder when the statute of limitations runs out on this off limits business!

Chaplain John R. Peterson, who played an important part in the 21st General Hospital in North Africa, has sent me a most interesting communication. He is retired from the Army. He is Assistant Priest. Church of the Good Shepard, Rosemont, Pa. Maybe Lester Jasper can appreciate it now, but Chaplain’s most amusing thing was Jasper’s attempt to get Grand Hotel beds for the officers in BouHanifia. I value these notes, but it is not quite time they may be published here. He pays us the high compliment: “It impressed me in both ways; i. e., from the medical-surgical point of view, it did its main work splendidly (which is the only reason for its being), and secondly, it was "military" in the right and best sense of that abused word. I repeat, I feel honored to have belonged, and to be now an “alumnus.” Amen, Pete. I witnessed a courageous act on your part once!

Hal J. Kapsch, was still in Frankfurt a/Main, Germany, APN-EUCOM, APO 757, C/PM, NY., and was spending all his salary in seeing and doing things interesting, and getting himself ready for a good job when all this Germany business will be past and gone . . . Helped me get some belated medals for the unit, and certain individuals have reason to be grateful to Kapsch for being strategically and tactically located.

L.D.C.

THE SORT OF LETTER WE LIKE

Dear Mr. Engel:

I’m sorry that this contribution was delayed, but I assure you that it was not for lack of interest in the Rouen Post. Thank you for keeping me on the mailing list in spite of my seeming indifference.

More news of the 21st General would be appreciated, but, of course, you can’t print information that you don’t receive, and there are many like me who never write.

As to a brief summary of news of myself—after my return to the States in December, 1948, I was stationed at Lovell General Hospital, Cushing General Hospital, and Fitzsimons General Hospital. On the 4th of May, 1947 I arrived in Hawaii for assignment with the 147th General Hospital on the outskirts of Honolulu. Recently the entire staff was transferred to the Army’s new and luxurious Tripler General Hospital. My two years will be completed in May next year, at which time I expect to be separated from service. Am tentatively planning to study industrial nursing at Simons College in my hometown, Boston.

In my travels I have met many acquaintances of the 21st General, all of whom recall their visits or stays with us as some of their most pleasant days overseas. Have also met members of the unit. “Gus” Blesse, Rose Miller, and Marcella Vediner were at Fitz when I was there, and Jeannie Carter came to Denver at that time. When I first returned from the ETO I had a grand chat with Marcella Cazaux Di Bona, who had married Pete just a short time before. Pete was as interested in the news of the unit as Marcella was. Later I spent a pleasant vacation in Pennsylvania with Evelyn Craig, altho the latter part of the visit was spoiled by Evelyn’s hospitalization for an operation. My most recent news from her is that she is doing private duty, and has obtained her pilot’s licenses to fly. Here in Hawaii I met Lilian Ahlquist at Schofield Barracks when I first arrived. Later Maudie Morris Horne recognized me one day on a downtown street. I saw her several times before she left for Guam. And Katey Creech, now RA and a captain, arrived here for assignment at Tripler not long ago.

I’m sorry that every time the 21st General holds a reunion I am unable to attend. I was still in the ETO at the time of the first one, and on my way to Hawaii when the one in 1947 took place. I did enjoy my brief visit in St. Louis in ’46, but was sorry I could not stay longer and see more of the gang. Are we still sticking to the plan of a big reunion in 1960? I’ll certainly try to come if there is one.

Keep the Rouen Posts coming, and I’ll try to keep up the small contributions. Thanks again for continuing to send them.

Sincerely yours,

Bedonna Jacobs

P. S. Forgive the typing—it’s poor quality, I mean . . . My friends in the unit will tell you that my handwriting is even poorer.

B.B.J.

Ed’s. note: We are planning a reunion in 1949, due to popular request. The date—as close to May 17, 1949 as we shall be able to obtain hotel reservations.

Bill Engel
CHRISTMAS PARTY

DECEMBER 18, 1948.
FOREST PARK HOTEL BALLROOM
BUFFET DINNER AT 7:00 PM

Wives, husbands, and sweethearts are urged to participate.

This party is being arranged by Drs. Joe Edwards and Bob Kelley. They are inviting a number of crippled children from one of the schools to be our guests for the evening. We will have a Santa Claus and gifts for the children. Some special entertainment also is being negotiated.

This invitation is all inclusive for any of you desiring to bring your children. We shall be most happy to have them join in the festivities. There will be gifts for them too.

A good turn-out will make Joe and Bob very happy.

Please indicate your intentions on the enclosed card and be certain to return it, promptly. This is doubly important for this occasion.

THE COMMITTEE
Next meeting - October 14, 1948
For time and place read carefully below.

It has been considered desirable by the membership who regularly attend our meetings that we have a change of atmosphere. Drs. L. C. Boemer, Bob Kelley and Jim Rose are the committee in charge of the current arrangements and we quote Bob Kelley's letter which will be the REGULAR MEETING NOTICE:

Dear Bill:

With the general approval of those present at the last meeting of the Rouen Post, I approached the management of the Forest Park Hotel in regard to holding the dinner meetings of the Post at that Hotel. The following arrangements were made.

1. On October 14, 1948 they will furnish us with a private dining room and will serve a Buffet Supper at a cost to the Post of $1.75 per person.

2. We shall be allowed to set up our own bar, the Hotel furnishing ice, glasses and set-ups. We shall pay the Hotel for any soda, Coca-Cola, etc. that we use.

3. The meeting which follows the Buffet will be held in the same room and there is no limit on the time we shall occupy the room.

I have spoken to Forney Dixon and he will be happy to officiate as bartender. We thought that we would charge about 35¢ per drink in order to realize enough profit to cover the cost of set-ups and to take care of any tips that are indicated.

The man in charge at the Forest Park is named "Watkins". I told him that we would let him know when we wished to be served and how many would be present. If we should say that the Buffet should start serving at 7:15 P.M., then the stragglers could be taken care of as they come in. I told Watkins that we could not tell him closer than ten persons as to the number that would be present. I gave him your name and said you would contact him in regard to the time and the number of persons to be present.

I suggest that we get out the notice of the next meeting as soon as possible after the last of October, stating that this is a trial arrangement, the aim of which is to cut down the cost of the meetings to the members and also to eliminate the delays occasioned by waiting until everyone arrived before sitting down to eat. We would like a good turn-out so that we can get a representative expression from the membership as to whether we should continue with this type of arrangement.

Yours very truly,

Commander Villard G. McCuoid is happy with the new arrangements and urges your hearty co-operation. Let us make this a meeting which will be remembered by those stalwarts of the committee who have worked so hard to produce results.

AND PLEASE DO NOT FAIL TO RETURN YOUR CARDS. This is more important for this meeting than usual. Bob Kelley has asked the undersigned to convey this to you and in some manner forcibly impress it upon one and all.

LET US HAVE A FINE TURNOUT. We are expecting some speakers with messages in which we all should be interested.

W. E. ENGEL, Adjutant.

FOREST PARK HOTEL
4910 West Pine Blvd.
St. Louis, Missouri