

REUNION
REFLECTIONS

Adventureland Inn!
Superlatives! Not captured but delight-
fully retained and contained! This is
what the Des Moines Kommittee did for the
guys and gals who braved Chicago's O'Hare
Airport and got to Des Moines. Some like
John Shirk came by car and had a great
time. For some, even after all these years
came for the first time and had an invol-
ved and glorious time. For me in spite of
John T. Jones, admonition, I had a sober
time but a marvelous one. (I am still re-
cuperating but not from a hangover!)

Many of us like me started our re-
union at point of departure. I even got
so involved with Ray Marnien and Joe
Barrett at the Airport in Philly that I
forgot to call my office before I left at
11:00 AM Friday Morning.

So onto Des Moines. Arriving there
we get 4 Star General treatment, Lt.
Colonels carrying our bags to the buses;
checking our return reservations and
giving us a big pleasant welcome to Des
Moines and Adventureland Inn.

By Army bus to the Inn. Greeting us
at the door of the Inn was just about the
entire Kriegy Kommittee with wives and
flowers in buttonholes. You knew right
then and there it was going to be a great
time! And it was!

Friday night the usual informal din-
ner of your choice with friends, reviewing
old acquaintances talking, talking, talk-
ing and some listening.

Most of we early arrivals ate at the
Inn and then hit the open Bar the Kriegy
Kommittee had for us in the Hospitality
Room #166. Good number! As the evening
grew longer the number of Ex-Kriegies
around diminished. It finally reduced to
Hubbell, Wilcox and their wives and Slack
having breakfast at 3:00 AM. All were
Sober too, including your editor. Isn't
that amazing John Jones.

Saturday, A.M. Up and at 'em early so
as to be in time for the 10:00 A.M. meet-
ing Ex Kriegies only.

Boy that guy "Hubb" can certainly
run a meeting. Of course the main thing
that came out of the meeting was the plan
to hold our get-together in '76. (I think
Frank Maxwell may have envisioned this
when he elected even years to get-to-
gether.)

Anyway, PHILADELPHIA '76. Lay your
plans now! Come to the BiCentennial City.
Get plenty of History of the founding of
this great Nation and have a great week-
end with your ex Kriegy Buddies at the
same time. We'll keep you posted on plans
as they develop.

The "meeting" broke up after Engle-
hart had his say which was all in fun.
Don't ask me (or him) what he said. He
won't remember! and I know I don't.

The afternoon was spent
Then Dinner in the evening. Good food!
And another well run meeting by "Hub".

A door prize drawing. What a door
prize! A round trip fare on a New S.A.S.
DC-10 presented by Henry Soderberg. Cour-
tesy of S.A.S.

It was won on 1st drawing by Father
Brach who graciously declined to accept it
for his own reasons.

The next drawing was the name of
Robert Milligan and his wife Norma. Con-
grats!

Its my understanding that Norma is
still on Cloud # 9.

The round trip is from New York to
Copenhagen and will sure be a great trip.

After things and Norma had settled
down a little, "Hub" presented MG. Joseph
G. May. Adjutant General of the Iowa
National Guard.

Gen. May's talk centered mostly on
our Heritage and the virtues of this great
Nation. Indeed a real pleasure to hear
for a change, from the public platform.

Sunday A.M. What a delightful time!
First our usual chapel service. This con-
ducted by Father Brach with Don Waful
assisting at the organ (even though Don
usually doesn't play organs.) The service
was great and all present knew that He al-
so was present.

The Chapel was at Camp Dodge where
the Army bus or cars conveyed us all in
prompt fashion.

Then, as the French might say, the
piece de/la resistance, a brunch at the
Hyperion Club adjacent to Camp Dodge. An
officer's Mess Club but not one, but more
a Golf Club, but still the Hyperion Club.

Sitting high (for Iowa) on a ridge
overlooking Camp Dodge (900 acres extend-
ing for seven miles) and the surrounding
Fall colored Iowa country side. With win-
dows on three sides of the dining area.

Beautiful decor and what a layout.
Two huge tables of hot dishes; a full table
of deserts; another table of fruit and re-
lishes and of course lots of pastries and
cakes. The service was also great with the
coffee cup never allowed to be empty.

All who were able to stay wound up a
great week-end well pleased and pleasantly
prepared to tackle the hardships of even
O'Hare Airport.

Thanks go to each of the Iowa Kriegy
Kommittee for a memorable occassion.

A vote of confidence and to a great bunch and their wives.

Of course it wouldn't have been any fun if all of you who attended hadn't been there. The slide program of the "Polish Safari" in 1971 was re-run with great success and received a great ovation. Thanks goes to Ken Goddard and Frank Diggs for their help in bringing the slides and conveying the technical know how to Bob Bonomi and son who helped put it all to-gether. Great!

I feel certain I speak for each when I say, We enjoyed seeing each of you again and are looking forward to '76. (sorry Bob Bingham had to leave so soon. Hope your much better. Ed.)

(NOTE: In addition to all the great things that took place in Des Moines, the Kriegy Kommittee also added a sizable sum to the Postage Fund. This has already been put in a savings account and will be able to earn some interest before use by the U.S. Postal Service. Ed.)

Between Verris Hubbell & myself we received many letters from those not able to attend the Re-Union in Des Moines. Many of these were read at the dinner on Saturday night.

Some of the ones heard from were Mrs. Quincy Drake, Art Bryant, General Waters, John T. Jones, etc.

There were a total of 65 Kriegies plus wives or friends, raised this to total attendees of 103, at the Saturday night dinner.

Note received from Bill Rudel saying he wanted his address changed to

P.O. Box 571

Old Lyme, Conn. 06371

He's retired from active business. Guess doing business in N.Y.C. would make many retire early anyway.

Dick Rossbach sure reads the newspapers and I love him for it. News item 10/20/74. A.G. Carter Foundation supplied money to build a little "garden quiet spot" in the middle of downtown Ft. Worth.

Description of the Fort Worth Water Garden sounded fantastic. Don't fail to see it as well as say hello to Amon whenever in Ft. Worth.

Have lost the following Kriegies: Please advise whereabouts -----

Francis B. Stevens

J.L. Boyd

John Vargo

John Carpenter

Fred Blaumont

Nice note from Irv Yarock saying how much he enjoyed Des Moines. Also noted that 'We meet people we haven't seen in many years and pick up (with them) just as though we saw them the week before.' Nice comment Irv.

Some new ones on the list:

Art Bryant

John Raffeto

Had a nice note from Larry Higgins included were copies of a long ago track Meet held at Schubin, Poland, Sept. 16, 1944. I have 18 copies of this and will be glad to send them to anyone desiring a copy. Times and winners of events are also shown. The next track meet is scheduled for -----

What a great person! Who? Mrs. George "Bits" Lucey.

Great long letter telling all the events that George has been through since last re-union which he missed because of a car accident. He's fully recovered now and apparently still the human dynamo he always was. Look up George when you get Down East for good dining in that area.

Here are some names that I picked up at the Re-Union. Any information, addresses or even cities where they used to live may help to add them to our mailing list:

Russell Sparks, Maxwell, Iowa

Stewart Birs

Bill Burkhardt

Al White

John Simms

Terry Daruan

Marty Lawlor

Pete Knapp

Ivan Carlise

Jake Taylor

Larry Leas

Freddy Hughes

Horace Spaulding

Lt. Gen. Bruce Palmer

George Dwigin

Woodley Warwick

Holmes Penn

Robert Langley

If I want to get this to you by Christmas I better close this out now. The best indeed to you and each of your family this Happy Christmastime and let each of us strive to make 1975 a real Good Year for this Nation and the World.

Thanks for the many greetings from both Mary and I. May God add a special blessing to each of your homes at this time of the year.

Your Editor

John F. Slack