

GLADWYNE, PA What a busy month for the folks here in Gladwyne. Travel, garden, church, baseball games, etc. But a happy one.

Pending items to report on.

1. Annual Reunions have had a few more notes but it will be best I think to take the vote at our meeting on Saturday morning Oct 11, 1986 in Orlando.
2. The same suggestion could be made for the reproduction of the Oflag 64 Items that Jim Bickers has offered to do for us. Perhaps Jim could offer us a price for reproducing them by a printing process and also a price based on a photocopying process, then let us pay him right on the spot for reproductions with a few extra ones for those that don't make the reunion. A vote at the meeting could determine which he would use and how much money to collect.

Think this over Jim. See you in Orlando. Nice to chat with you a few weeks ago on the phone.

3. I should get a firm commitment soon from Cardinal Glemp of Poland regarding the Oflag 64 Chapel as Cardinal Krol has suggested that I correspond directly with him for the final answer to this project. More later, on this one. This I have done and hope to let you all know more fully in the next news letter.

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX While visiting San Antonio, TX recently, Mary & I drove to "Corpus" and spent a delightful day with Len Vaden and Evelyn

While there Len produced the ALOG Army Logistician which contained an article entitled, The Great General's "Only" Mistake. This article referred to Hammelburg "Raid" headed up by Major. Abraham Baum. The article written by Eric A. Arsini, Deputy Ass't Secretary of the Army concluded by indicating two great lessons to be learned from this operation.

1. Send an adequate combat force to do the job.
2. Provide adequate logistics to support the force.

Thanks, Len it was a very interesting article. Copies are available for \$ 1.00 including postage. Ed.

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PINSAN, AL Just a short note from John C. Reed who wants the details on reservations at Orlando. He's already signed up for the Cruise and the reservation card for the Marriott is enclosed.

He would also like to know if any men from Barracks 9B Cubicle 8 have gotten in touch with me. Could be but I don't remember. If, any of you out there fit this category let John know by writing him at

6625 Roe Chandler Rd.  
Pinson, AL 35126

the enclosed reservation form don't leave any questions in doubt. Just send it in. We need your cheerfulness as does all of Room 28. Sure hope to see you in Orlando!

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NEW YORK CITY, N.Y. Well, the world sure gets smaller. Dick Kossbach sent me a short note saying he saw Bill Cory and his nice wife in Antigua. Boy, it sure would be good to see Bill in Orlando!

Dick, I know if your health holds up that you'll be there. It will be good to see you, too!

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HONOLULU, HI In late February I received an excellent letter from our late General Alger whose obituary is enclosed.

He mentioned the fact that he was waiting to go on to Manilla from Honolulu. He also wrote about how well situated he was in meeting old friends because so many come to Honolulu.

He met Harris & Elaine Machus (who is a member of our group). Also mentioned that Harris is writing a book and will have to depend on Harris to let me know when his book is published. Tentative Title "Bread & Survival".

Thanks, Harris.

Also mentioned and sent me photo-copies of portions of a book by Charles Whiting entitled "Kasserine". (Charles Whiting is the same author that wrote 48 Hours to Hammelburg.)

A very nice contribution for the Postage Fund. He also was hoping to join us in Orlando, so indeed those of us who knew him will indeed miss 'Gentleman' Jim Alger in Orlando.

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Thompson a 1st Lt. of the 100th Air Div. ... Larry has a note at the bottom of the letter stating that De Vere was shot. Killed by a civilian on Oct, 20 1944. Larry wrote me this letter on his 45th anniversary induction date into Federal Service. Thanks Larry for an interesting letter and also your contribution.

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SYRACUSE, NY Back to that "used car" salesman from upper New York State non other than Don Waful.

He sent me a copy of the news article on George Gaer. The last remaining German P.O.W. left in America.

There have been two books published about the subject.

1. Title "Hitler's last soldier in America" Stein & Day Publishers

2. "Nazi Prisoners of War in America"

Don indicated that they were very interesting. Also included with the letter was a check from Col. Max. Gooler who as many of you may know was S. A. O. in Italy and was captured with the Italians at Tobruk.

Thanks Don for the extra special info. Hope to see you & Casie in Orlando.

Also thanks for the note on John Glendenning.

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HUEYTOWN, AL Jim Denman is another one of our group who is waiting for this letter including the reservation form for the Marriott Airport Hotel. Looking forward to meeting you and yours. Hope you enjoyed all the articles and thanks for the contribution to the Postage Fund.

VILMETTE, IL While passing thru Chicago recently had a great chat with Jim Bickers. We are looking forward to seeing you in Orlando. Reservation slip enclosed. It will be great to see you.

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SHOP, CA "Higgy" Higgenbotham is planning to be in Orlando. We will look forward to greeting you. Thanks also for the contribution to the Postage Fund. See you in Orlando.

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OTOMAC, MD General Waters sent me back the postage from the envelope of the last mailing as well as a contribution for the Postage Fund. It was nice of the Post Office not to cancel the stamps. We thank them also. Sure hope you can make Orlando. Keep in good health.

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PITTSBURGH, PA This ITEM is full of you guys telling me that you will be in Orlando. Here's another on John "Slick" Cramer. Great! John! and thanks also for the nice contribution. We'll look forward to seeing both you & Dorothy.

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HARRISON, ARK Boy! A long time no hear from Garvin Hinton. Thanks for the note and the included check for the Postage Fund. Sorry, to hear that you will miss the gathering in Orlando. If your plans change don't forget we'll be there waiting to greet you.

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LEESBURG, FL Happen to see an article in the newspaper on the Katyn massacre which went to Col. Van Vliet. This prompted a brief reply and I'm sure we'll learn more about this at Orlando. See you soon Col.

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COLWYN, PA Don't hear from Harry Albertson very often but when I do it's usually a brief note and a check for the Postage Fund. Thanks Harry and glad you enjoy the ITEMS. Planning to go to Orlando?

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ROSELLE PARK, N.J. Charlie Eberle whose well spoken German allowed him to escape from a train in Germany sent me the name of Phillip Wade of Far Hills, N.J. Welcome to the group Phil. Its nice to know that

you are fully recovered and in great shape. Sure hope you can make it to Orlando. You would really get a real boost from attending. Charlie, in case you haven't sent it to me the amount owed is \$ 20.00  
Ask Emma ?  
See you in Orlando

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SPARTA, N.J. North Jerseyites are really taking the "front page" in this ITEM. Good! nice to hear from my "Neighbors!" Bill Gray wrote about where he could park his RV at Orlando.

The nearest place according to our Venerable Chairman Richard Meskill is a place about 4 miles from the Hotel. Bill if you haven't learned the exact location, let me know and I'll get back to Dick and see if we can pin it down. I don't think you'll be the only one to come by R.V. Thanks much for the Contribution, Bill.

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FT. MYERS, FL Bill Haynes requested a copy of Sage and also a copy of Captain Zolton Tack's journal.

I did not know that Tack had written one but would love to get a copy of it for the "64" Archives. If any one can send me a copy or still has contact with Mrs. Tackas pls. try to obtain a copy for me. Thanks for the information Bill.

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BOWIE, MD Well, I'm sure that Friday May 23, 1986 was a big day for not only Paul Miller whose name has not been on our list, but whom we welcome, but also for Col. Gershenow and others in Washington D. C. area who may have attended the ceremonies of Paul Miller's retirement. Paul was given a military retirement review even though he was a civilian. This indeed was a rare type of ceremony and a real honor for Paul.

Paul's job in the Military District of Washington was, Director of Ceremonies & Special Events. This includes the small and the large which involved the inaugural parades. President Reagan commended Paul especially for his 2nd inaugural parade that had to be moved inside because of the extreme cold as many of you recall. Thanks Lou for the very informative letter regarding this outstanding event.

NORTH ROYALTON, OH. Chuck Snider has retired and wrote me about Henry Soderberg's talk in 1946 at the Cleveland YMCA. Henry called Chuck, from the audience and pinned a medal on him but was out of medals.

Finally after a reminder by Chuck in 1984 at Las Vegas, Chuck got his medal personally from Henry 38 years later. Thanks for the story Chuck and I know Henry appreciated your thanks See you in Orlando. Henry also plans to make it.

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JEFFERSON, GA Thank you Judge Wood for your fine contribution to the Postage Fund. It was nice you could attend the Memorial Service at Ft. Benning W/George Britto. Hope you can make Orlando.

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POTAMAC, MD As indicated in my previous newsletter I have enclosed the article contributed by General Waters relating to "Pop" Goode our Senior American Officer after Col. Drake was repatriated prior to our liberation in Mooseburg. Thanks General for this article.

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E. GREENBUSH, N.Y. Nice note from Jim including a note from Mrs. Glendinning, Thanks Jim for forwarding these two items. I also received notices from Dick Rossbach.

MACAREVEY

NOTE

ALL MEMBERS SAFARI TO POLAND & GERMANY. SPRING 1985

Arrangements have been made for our group to have breakfast as a group on:

FRIDAY MORNING  
OCTOBER 11, 1986

Sign up when you register. This was a suggestion of Nan and Jim Mac Arevey's Be here for a great get-together.

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LADWYNE, PA You'll be interested to learn I have received several checks that were lost in the Mail and if they have been replaced. Many thanks to each of you. Ed.

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ORPUS CHRISTI, TX Thanks to Len Vaden's inquiry and follow-up it is a real pleasure to add you to our mailing list.

John J. Hannon  
4 Dayton Crescent  
Bernardsville, NJ 07924  
In Len's letter he also discussed various details about the Cruise.

Most all the questions are answered when each of you receives their reservation Papers. See you on board ship and before.

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BERNARDSVILLE, N.J. Welcome back, John Hannon Hope you can join us in Orlando. We would love to see you.

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HEMET, CA Herb Sierck's welcome letters will not be coming anymore. See enclosed Obituary March 30, 1986. What a great guy he must have been. I know he had a real fondness for our group. Our Sympathies to Mrs. Sierck's

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GLENMONT, N.Y. Thanks, Alex Bloom for the returned check as I have indicated elsewhere many have been returned to me. Thanks for the funny bone tikler. Its good I comprehend English & German. Thanks for the Red Cross Bulletins. Will check them out. See you in Orlando!

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KNOXVILLE, TN The return of the check by you is much appreciated, Glad you received the article and hope you enjoyed reading it. Sure hope to see both of the W.K. Jones' in Orlando.

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RIDGE, N.Y. AND CLEARWATER, FL Gardner Simes gets double billing. Those of us who journeyed to Poland all remember Gardner and Gert.

Gardner bought me up to date on major events on Apr. 30.

He also mentioned seeing and being with John Glendenning when he played with Gloria Swanson & Jose Ferrar in "20th Century. Also meeting him again at Sardi's

Thanks much Gardner for your contribution. Later on June 12, 1986 I received another letter from Gardner advising me of Gert's passing on June 6th 1986. We have missed both you both over the years, Gardner and hope that the rest of the years will be good to you. We would sure love to see you and hope you could see your way clear to join us in Orlando. Our sympathies are extended to you by all of us who knew her.

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also received an invitation but was unable to attend.  
Mary & I are looking forward to seeing you well as all the others at Orlando.

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ROCKLINE, MA Nice to hear from a recent addition to our mailing list, Max Drukman. He sends his greetings to Ken Reed for sending his address to me, as well as to the other Kriegies who knew him years ago. Thanks, Max and also for gift to Postage Fund.

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SKIVING RIDGE, N.J. How nice to hear again from a great guy Harold Kraft. Thanks much for the fine contribution to the Postage Fund, part replacement and part additional monies to the fund. I'll be unable to greet us in Orlando for many reasons including celebration of his 50th Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations to you both! I'll keep you posted on where & when the next one will be held.

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ROVER, NJ Victor Danylik's mail was returned and that he had moved to Kennebunk, ME. Pls advise me if anyone knows his address. Thanks

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AINESVILLE, FL Thanks much Ken Johnson for the check for the Postage Fund. Every contribution keeps the mail coming your way. Glad to hear about the good news on Mildred and hope it continues this way. What are you going to do with your time now that there is no grass to cut, Kenny? Ha, HA! Sure look forward to seeing you both in Orlando.

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BATON ROUGE, LA Nice note from Gordon Smith along with a contribution for the Postage Fund. As you can see from this letter we will have a great group at Orlando.

Dick Meskill will have his hands full but I'm sure he is up to it and I'm sure we will enjoy great hospitality at the Marriott.

Good to hear you talked to Bill Paty. Tried to reach him at of General Alger's death but was unsuccessful. See you in Orlando, Gordon.

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WAIANAE, HI Thanks to Fred Livingston for the obituaries on General Alger. Expect to have more material at a later date from Jim Fraser who also was in Hawaii at the time of his untimely death.

Great Work, Fred.  
Sure hope you can make Orlando. Be great to see you again.

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FREDERICKSBURG, TX Very nice of G. J. Greene to send a nice contribution to our Postage Fund as well mention having seen Pat Carlson and Bob Weinberg at a recent meeting of Ex P.O.W. group. He didn't say he was going to be in Orlando but sure hope so. Please send me Pat Carlson's Address.

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LOUISVILLE, KY What a pleasant surprise! A brief but nice note from Bill Cory. Bill Doesn't very often write but noted that it was "not for lack of interest". The ultra fine contribution was certainly additional indication that there is no lack of interest. Thanks much Bill. Good to hear from you.

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VIENNA, VA Another communication from George Juskalian. This time it included the program on Paul Miller retirement ceremonies. As noted elsewhere this was an unusual ceremony and included the Secretary of the Army as Host, John O. Marsh, Jr., and Major General John L. Ballantyne, Commanding General of the Military District of Washington as Co-Host.

It would be nice to have Paul with us in Orlando. Hope you can make it Paul. Thanks, George for this copy of the program.

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ELKHORN, NE Kermit Hansen wrote that Gen. Alger was one his cubicle mates at the Ofl. When these things happen it always hits some harder than others. Sure looking forward to seeing you, Kermit. It will be a great time for all in Orlando.

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KITTY HAWK, N.C. Welcome to Kern P. Pi (see address last page) who I understand was in our Hammelburg group. Hope you can join us in Orlando. You'll enjoy it.

POTOMAC, MD Just a short note from General Waters saying he would be attending his 55th reunion at West Point. He later reported that about 50% of the class attended.  
Congratulations

Page 6 June 1986

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SAN FRANCISCO, CA Thank you very much, Clarence Meltesen for your contribution to the Postage Fund. Clarence writes that he completed a pet project that is "Route of March from Oflag 64 -1945" This is based on his march diary and intensive map study. It is condensed into 3 pages and shows the daily listing from Schubin to Parchim.

Anyone interested in a copy just send for it to:

Clarence R. Meltesen  
810 Gonzalez Dr. 4-D  
San Francisco, CA 94132

Include \$ 2.00 for each copy.

To the best of my knowledge I do not have Frank Bucholz on my mailing list. Pls. advise his address. Thanks.

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VIENNA, VA I think George Juskalian now leads the list of adding new names to our mailing list with General Waters being a real close contender. Anyway be that as it may, welcome back on the list to Nathaniel Hoskot who makes his home in Alexandria VA.

NEW ADDITIONS

Nathaniel R. Hoskot  
404 Cambridge Rd  
Alexandria, VA 22314

be Col. Kern P. Pitts USA (Ret)  
137 Dogwood Trail  
Kitty Hawk, NC 27949

John J. Hannon  
14 Dayton Crescent  
Bernardsville, NJ 07924

Phillip Wade  
RD #1 Box 158  
Fairhills, NJ 07931

John C. Culler  
124 Autumn Lane  
Lexington, S.C. 29072

NEED NEW ADDRESS

Patrick Trainor  
312 Sherman Ave.  
Ordway, CO 81063

Cap't Henry G. Schulte  
4012 40th Ave SW  
Seattle, WA 98116

Victor Danylik  
213 N. Perry St  
Dover, NJ 07801

Mr. Tom McHale  
13612 Midway Ste 520  
Dallas, TX 75240

Joseph R. Green  
2406 S. Kapoo  
Springfield, MI 65804

James M. Gillersie  
Wilmatic, CT 06226

B. G. John W. Dobson  
51 Brain Point Box 1066  
Hilton Head, S.C. 28828

Lt. Robert J. Miller  
4051 S. Normandie  
Los Angeles, CA

Lt. Edward Baker  
549 Hellman St  
Phila, PA

Lt. Harvey A. Todd  
"Pop Phill Foster, Penn State

Thomas Rush  
Red Weigand

Ernest M. Gruenberg, M.D.  
722 W. 168th St  
New York, NY 10032

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Weldon Plants  
441 Blandings Ct  
Columbus, OH 43085

Kenneth A. L. Johnson  
2805 N. W. 83rd St  
Apt SD 415  
Gainesville, FL 32606

## Herbert M. Siercks

Services for Herbert Martin Siercks, 69, of Hemet, who died Sunday at the Jerry L. Pettis Veterans Hospital in Loma Linda, will be Thursday, 1 p.m., at Riverside National Cemetery.

Capt. Donald Butenshon will officiate. Visitation is today, until 5 p.m., at Miller-Jones Valley Mortuary.

Mr. Siercks was born Dec. 31, 1916, in Arlington, Neb., and had lived in Hemet 14 years, California 27 years.

He served in the Army 16 years, and retired as a major. He was a life member of Disabled American Veterans, chapter 2, and a life member of American Ex-Prisoners of War, Inc.

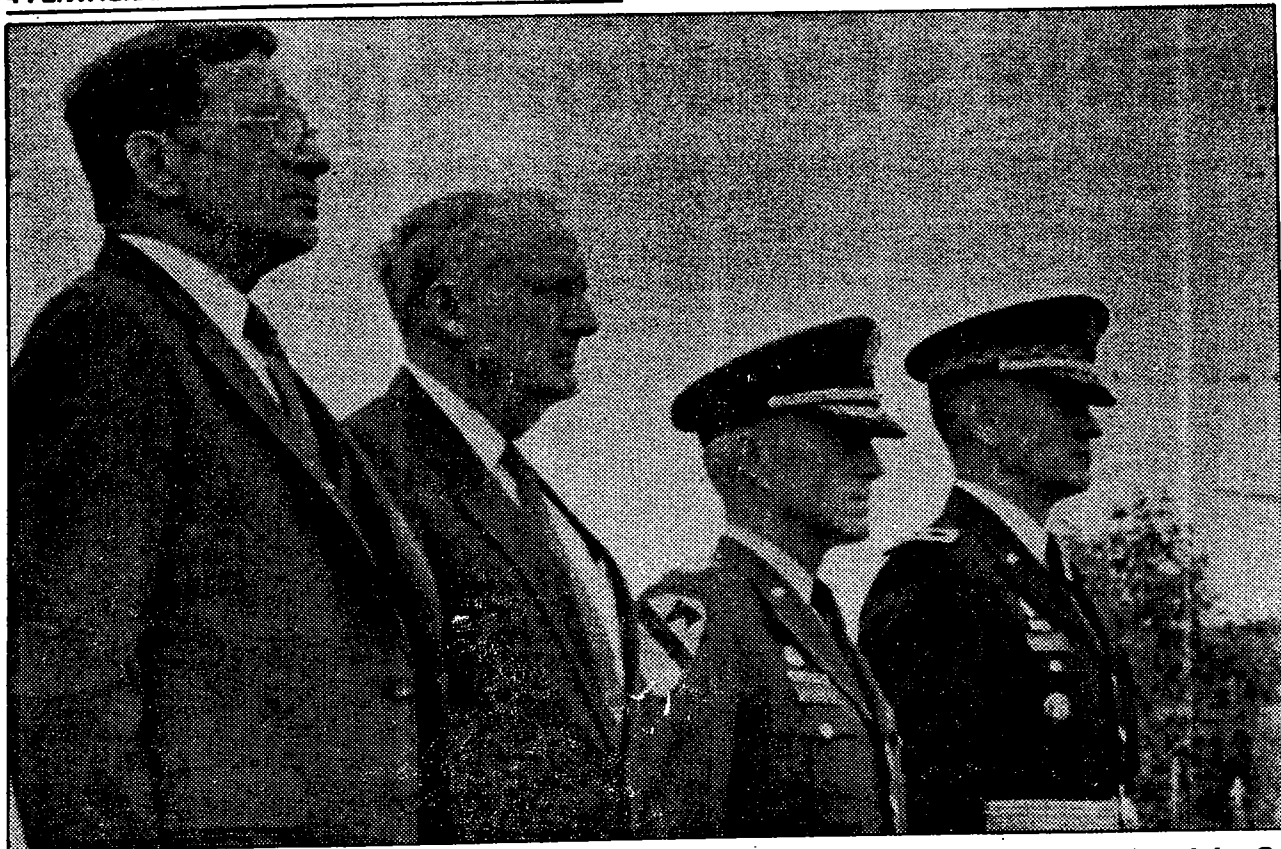
In the Army, he was decorated with two Silver Stars, the British Military Cross, the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. Serving in the European Theater during World War II, he was awarded six Battle Stars, and was held prisoner in Poland, escaping after one year.

He also was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Survivors include his wife, Florence Siercks; two daughters,

Carol Nease of Pauma Valley and Sandy Channing of Marysville, Wash.; four grandchildren; two brothers, Don of Wahoo, Neb., and George of Kansas City, Mo., and a sister, Madge Hansen of Linden, Iowa.

Memorial donations may be made to American Ex-Prisoners of War, Inc., or to Hemet Hospice.



## Miller honored

Ceremonies' Paul Miller, Army Secretary John O. Marsh, Army Chief of Staff Gen. John A. Wickham and MDW Commander Maj. Gen. John L. Ballantyne stand on the reviewing stand during Miller's retirement ceremony at Fort Myer Friday. (Photo by Barbara Bertelson)

### James Alger

James D. Alger, 74, of Makaweli Place died Monday. He was a retired Army lieutenant general who served in both World War II and the Korean war.

A funeral Mass will be said at 10:15 a.m. Tuesday at Star of the Sea Church. Burial will be in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, Punchbowl.

The family asks that aloha attire be worn.

Mr. Alger was born in Brockton, Mass. He graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1935.

He was a battalion commander with the 1st Armored Division in World War II. During the Korean conflict, he was chief of staff of the 45th Infantry Division and later became chief of staff of the Korean Military Advisory Group.

In 1954 he was named chief of staff of the 4th Armored Division at Fort Hood, Tex. He became assistant deputy chief of staff for military operation of the Department of the Army in 1963 and became chairman of the Inter-American Defense Board in 1967.

Among his military decorations are the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star and Army Commendation Medal.

Following his retirement in 1970, Mr. Alger was active in business in Hawaii, the Mainland and overseas. He was president of ALDA Properties, a land development firm in New Mexico, and vice president-treasurer of CONAL, Inc.

He is survived by his wife, Consuelo Zobel de Ayala y Montojo.

Arrangements are by Williams Funeral Services.

### obituaries

## James Dyce Alger, retired general, 74

Retired Army Lt. Gen. James Dyce Alger, of Makaweli Place, died May 19, 1986. He was 74.

Alger, following his retirement in 1970 after a distinguished Army career, was active in business in Hawaii, the Mainland and overseas. He was president of ALDA Properties in New Mexico, and vice president and treasurer of CONAL Inc., a U.S.-based corporation.

He was born in Brockton, Mass., and graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1935. As a cavalry officer, he commanded the 2nd Battalion, 1st Armored Regiment in the 1st Armored Division in World War II.

During the Korean War, Alger was chief of staff of the 45th Infantry Division and later chief of staff of the Korean Military Advisory Group.

In 1954, he was named chief of staff of the 4th Armored Division at Fort Hood, Texas. In 1963, he became the Army's assistant deputy chief of staff for military operations and in 1967 assumed chairmanship of the Inter-American Defense Board.

His decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit and Bronze Star.

Mass will held at 10:15 a.m. Tuesday at Star of the Sea. Burial will follow at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. Arrangements by Williams Funeral Service. Aloha attire.

He is survived by his wife, Consuelo Zobel de Ayala y Montojo and a cousin, Mrs. Cornelia Alden Greaves.

HONOLULU ADVERTISER, Thursday, 2 May 1986

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## OUR FIRST REUNION

Mary and I had first heard of the OFLAG 64 Association from Don Graul at the May '84 meeting of the Palmetto chapter AXPOW.

We had planned, for well over a year, to make the next reunion, which was to be at Orlando.

On the 9th of October, we arrived at the Airport Marriott and checked in. We were greeted with open arms and made to feel very welcome.

The arrangements were very nice, there was a shortage of food and drink for the "Continental Breakfast" on Saturday, but that was more than made up for on Sunday Brunch.

Of the wives present at the reunion, the only one that we knew prior to the 9th of October were those we met in July at the National Convention of AXPOW in Jackson, Mississippi.

The reunion was very nice and I enjoyed seeing and renewing old acquaintance and meeting the wives. Mary enjoyed meeting all.

All who hosted the reunion, did a very nice job and are due thanks for a job well done.

*Mary and Bill Stular*

15 November 1986

Mr. John Slack  
P.O. Box 170  
Gladwyne, Pennsylvania 19035

Dear John,

The Washington group accepts the challenge placed on us in Orlando! We will coordinate the Oflag 64 Reunion in the nation's capitol on 8,9,10 and 11 October 1987.

The committee enthusiastically conducted its preliminary meeting on Wednesday, 12 November 1986.

J. Frank Diggs in absentia (and because of it) was unanimously appointed Chairman. The co-chairmen are as follows:

Al Casner  
Vincent DiFrancesco  
Louis Gershenow  
Marcellus Hughes  
George Juskalian

Donald May  
Paul Miller  
Jerry Moher  
Al Moss  
Wilbur Sharpe

General John K. Waters honored us with his presence and offered considerable inspiration and encouragement.

After much work by Jerry Moher, who visited several potential locations prior to our meeting, we settled on "The Old Colony Inn" in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia for hotel and activity accommodations. Its close proximity to Washington National Airport, convenient transportation to metro and important sights, plus ideal accommodations and price, were determining factors. (Brochure enclosed)

The dates of our meeting coordinate favorably with the annual meeting of the United States Army scheduled in Washington, D.C. for 12, 13, 14 October 1987. The discount price on the hotel will run through the 12th.

Thanks to Paul Miller, we will be entertained on Saturday evening at the banquet by the United States Army Band and chorus!

Soon after the new year, we expect to have a package deal for you to communicate to all. Warmest regards.

Sincerely,



Wilbur Sharpe

From the distaff side ---

When John asked me to cover the reunion from the distaff side, I decided to talk to as many ladies as possible to find out what they felt. Let me begin with what Helen Chappell wrote:

"Second to my blood family, I feel a warm closeness to our P.O.W. group. The bond between the guys has extended in a unique way to the wives."

That pretty much expresses what the wives in general felt. We feel fortunate to be part of this tremendous, close-knit group! We wonder sometimes how such a talented, caring, upstanding group of men happened to be put in the same camp!

Now about this particular reunion: All agreed it was fantastic -- beautiful setting, great food, good fellowship (girlship?), excellent planning! Thank you from the distaff side to Dick Meskill and his helpers. We felt having an opportunity to break bread together (just the wives) gave us a rare chance to exchange news about children, moving, even if the men did steal our croissants!

A personal note -- the breakfast arranged for the people who toured Poland and Scandanavia was super! Talking with the folks who were there was fascinating. We sincerely missed those of you, who could not make it. See you next year in Washington?

Because each reunion is filled with opportunities to greet old friends and make new ones, the wives welcome the change to every year for reunions.

All in all the reunion was great, wasn't it?

S/NAN MACAREVEY  
NAN MACAREVEY