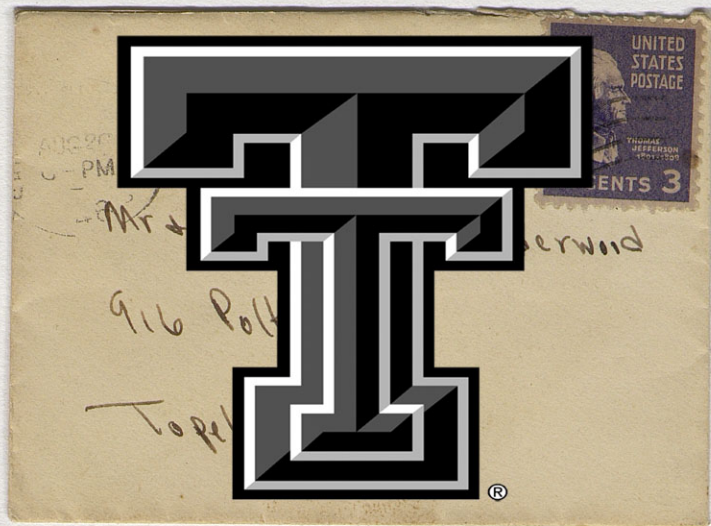




Victoria Ann Underwood

August 3, 1946

Major and Mrs. Charles C. Underwood



117 Howard
San Antonio Tex

257-2
WHITE & WYCKOFF
HOLYOKE, U. S. A.



November 13

Es ist zwischen kalt
here its as so in
America?

Liebe Oma,

Wie bist du?

Ich bin good.

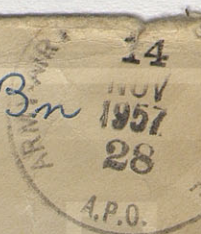
Wir gehen

zu America an
den 1 Dec. its das
nicht Wunderbar?

Alle family
send good We
is Mary Jane?

Vickye

Underwood
1st Armd Rifle Bn
51st Inf
2d Armd Div
Apo 28 ~~NY~~ NY



Mrs Underwood

916 Polk st

Topeka, Kan

7070
800 225
00791
E 10
00707

5837 Winding Ridge
San Antonio, Tx 78239
1 Feb 97

Dear Phillip Stanhope,

Before I ramble on with comments, congratulations on a superb accomplishment on Dark Side of Rising Sun. Thanks to your mother for sending it to me. You have done a wonderful job. It was more than nostalgic. My wife (Jimmie) read it and was in tears.

And let me apologize first for not responding sooner and for what will probably be some bad typing. I finally parted with an electric typewriter that I had had for about 20 years--no longer could get repair parts. ~~For this newer~~ and supposedly better model. It is too damn sensitive for me--you blow on the keys and it takes off. And tracing back to problems stemming from PW tenure, I have a nerve deficiency; the practical effects being that I do not have normal sensations in my fingers, toes, etc. Also I have suffered an imbalance last couple of years (hard to putt when you sway over ball--or to hit it for that matter ~~golf~~ that is), so I just try to time the lunges with my shot...and I still play golf about 3 times a week.

So bear with what will be a sloppy performance. (My kids said I should have gotten a word processor. But I am too damn tight.)

Before we get into comments on your production (and please consider these only my thoughts and in no way critical), let me cover a few miscellaneous items.

Art Christensen was kind enough to send me a copy of his letter to your mother. I agree completely with his comments.

Scott Harrison, US Embassy in China, is attempting to produce a book as I understand it, on life in the Philippines just before WWII, with emphasis or at least coverage of the military there. He has contacted a number of us, including Art Christensen. His questions go on for pages. Rather than respond in writing, I sent him two full audio tapes. He now has come back for more info and elaboration of some of the things I have said. One of his interests, which the things ~~is~~ long on human interest and news worthy for his purposes is my remarking that Earl was a driver for both MacArthur and Eisenhower. He has asked if I knew of any biographies on Earl Short. I am going to send him excerpts from your story dealing with that phase in Earl's career. And I'll give him your address, as he probably will contact you for a release to use that info if he finally decides to do so.. he may want a copy; if so I know he will help defray costs involved.

of your book

Along same line, John Olson here (also PW who was with Scouts--57th Inf) is active with Ft Sam Houston museum. It has been declared by Army as official repository of Scout materials. It also is pretty heavy on all PW matters, particularly dealing with PI. He has asked me to request a copy of your work for this library. Addressees follow: Scott Harrison, US Embassy, PSC 461, Box 50, FPO AP 96521-0002. Olsen, Col John Olson, 1 Towers Park Lane, Unit 510, San Antonio, Tx 78209.

To say that I really liked Earl and valued his friendship is an understatement. He would call about once a month. I would do the same, but less frequently. We travel a lot and he seemed to enjoy the post cards we sent him, especially a couple trips to Turkey where we both had been stationed ~~there~~ although in different places.

The last time I saw him was day before Gene Conrad died, about three years ago around Labor Day. We knew Gene was dying and would check in with Wanda to see how he was doing. We had planned a trip to visit Robley (Bob) Evans (visited each other from time to time--about once a year--usually when he returned to Texas from Ga). We had talked to Wanda and she told us that Gene was brought home from hospital and that his days were limited. I asked her if Gene was up to seeing us, and she said please come, it would make him feel better. So we moved up trip a week or so and spent night with Conrads (Friday) and he died Sunday. We met Earl for lunch at Marietta that next day--a Sat-- on our way to Rome, Ga to visit Evans. Then when Earl was in hospital and with Betty we either talked to him or Betty about once a week.

Now that we have got above out of way, let's get to your manuscript. Have to do it now as we are leaving next week for cruise-fly trip to New Zealand and Australia, returning 23 Feb

If you need to contact me, you have address. Phone is 210 655 8964.

(Sending Chris copy of my letter to you.)

Chris

I agree with Chris on picture of Earl. It probably was taken in Panama. And I think Helen and Earl were married there. In your narrative, you indicate Earl went from Panama to PI. This would have been unlikely, although not impossible. Probably he had a stateside assignment in between. Your mother or Sarah could verify.

One other minor point. You refer to Earl as chief mechanic and chauffeur. I doubt that he was a mechanic, per se. If he was the driver, of course he was responsible for the maintenance and operation of the vehicle. But I believe actual work was done by civilian contract with dealer. And altho Gen MacArthur technically was retired as two-star, he considered and was regarded there at least as field marshal of PI Army - about 5 stars.

These comment follow pretty much in order which they appear in your book. And as this is really the diary of Earl, my comments probably do not even belong in the book. But they may elaborate as foot notes or you may wish to work in some in your narrative.

Passage to Japan

It is interesting, under conditions of command and organization, how this 300 man group was formed. It is my understanding. US camp officials first asked Chris if he wanted to head up this detail and he agreed. He also was given authority to pick officers, less medical personnel, to comprise the group. Enlisted men were all to be in (comparatively speaking) good physical shape and capable of working. Art asked me along with Earl, Nealson and Conrad if we wanted to go. Things were getting tight again in PW camp at Cabanatuan. Being a small detail, we thought we would have more control over our destiny. At least that was why I decided to go, and of course we would be with people we knew and liked. Tex Evans I knew only from PW camp. But I had been a barracks leader and he was in my barracks. We became good friends. And I asked Chris if I could take Tex, which he approved. *Thanks to Chris, going in this detail, may have saved my life.* How Renka made the detail, I have forgotten. But he was a pilot and I think we thought we would likely go to work on a Jap airstrip in PI and I think we all had grandiose and impractical plans to steal a Jap aircraft and escape. Renka said he could fly anything. When we got to Bilibed and were issued winter clothes it was obvious we were not staying in the PI.

We were organized into approximately three 100 man companies

I had the Navy and Marines with Tex as my exec (even tried to learn some Navy/Marine basic commands) which surprized my troops.

You have ^{any} error in ranks in this part. But you have it ~~right~~ correct later. Chris also has correct ranks (Tex, 1st Lt, Connie, Cpt). Bahrenberg first names was James (I think). I thought Renka was 1st Lt. But with both records and Chris having him as 2d, I am sure they are correct.

Gibbs Comments:

Agree with Chris. I do not remember eating with chop sticks. I think we had spoons. Also I think Gibbs' sketch of camp is incorrect in that he shows galley by our office, shop and bath. I think it was immediately to left after you enter camp, with storage area as shown. (But my memory is not the greatest. I even forgot about Earl's reading to me--a most kind action on his part, which having seen his diary I know happened.)

As my connection with galley operation is mentioned in Earl's diary and ^{on Food Preparation} Gibbs' comments, let me add my recollection at this point. There was a Jap guard as sort of supervisor of our mess operations. But we prepared food ourselves, and when I was running mess. at least, Japs had little to do with our operation except to steal (knock down,) what I thought was supposed to be our food, or a significant portion thereof. Frankly, I do not recall if the Japs prepared their own food in our galley or elsewhere--probably in our facility and they cooked it themselves; we may have cooked some of their rice, but I doubt that as they had regular, dry rice and we never or seldom had enough to prepare it that way.

As to Japs firing me as mess officer. True, as Earl mentions in his diary. I would continually complain to the Japs that we were not getting enough food--even by their standards and the amount they promised to provide. (When Chris et al left our camp, I took over from Connie as mess officer--I had operated a mess as assistant and then in-charge in Cabanatuan.) What brought all to a head, as I recall, was on one occasion I saw a Jap guard walk out of camp hiding some food --either fresh fish or meat. I called this to the attention of either the camp

CO or NCO. And of course they were not too happy about this--especially my reporting of same. I had complained over and over that the Japs were taking practically everything but fish heads and meat intestines (still will not eat menudo here) which should have gone to us--at least a portion thereof. This was not a popular course of action on my part. Secondly, and Chris has mentioned a moist bread we were baking for our sick troops.) The Japs also were getting some of this. In all honesty, we were stealing some of the supplies (meager so that in all probability it would not be detected) to increase what we could give the sick bay. Japs saw our delivery to sick bay at this time and concluded we were giving them too much, by their standards, which was true. They accused me of mis-appropriating

41

food, which would have been a serious offense, ~~and~~ I think both Jap and we used same source for this bread. I immediately demanded that all bread for that day's baking be weighed and compared with supplies I had drawn. (Of course water, etc would increase weight slightly, which I hoped would put me in clear.) I think Japs did not actually weigh as I asked, but they did fire me. (And our bakers probably were eating a few morsels on side, and were not caught.)

(This is Feb 13 item in Earl's diary.)

Beating incident: ~~Mar 3~~ 3 45 item

When a soldier was marked by Dr as too sick or injured to work, and was not put in sick bay--lack of room or other reasons--he was given a card in Japanese to be displayed at his sleeping area. This card stated man was sick and was authorized to remain in bed and did not have to jump up and come to attention when Jap entered his barracks. As Earl mentioned a Jap guard was making his inspection of barracks accompanied by me and interpreter (not sure interpreter was present). When Jap guard saw this soldier on his mat,, Jap guard yelled Jap command for attention and demanded soldier get up and stand at attention. Soldier did not respond and guard started beating him. I told guard man was sick and was authorized to remain in bed. And when guard continued to beat on soldier, I pulled him off, perhaps a little forcefully and sort of threw him against the wall. He immediately ran to the Jap camp NCO. I told Bill and Earl I was going to be in big trouble, not

Thinking

the others would be involved. Shortly thereafter we three were called to Jap area. And when NCO reached over and removed glasses of Bill and me, we knew what was coming. But although I realized I would be in some difficulty I was not just going to stand by and see ^{one} ~~what~~ of our troops beaten for no cause.

Train episode: Sep 7 item.

As Earl mentioned after we arrived at Onahoma (forgot name of town) nothing happened. No ships to take us out of Japan. Troops getting uneasy, as we all were, and it became apparent the Japs did not know what they were talking about or what ^{at} they told us--that there was no plan to get us into US hands. We could envision our soldiers taking off on their own, roaming all over that ^{part} of Japan with dire consequences. So Earl asked me if I would get on a train, contact US forces wherever they might be and get us out of there. He explained all this to the troops and this calmed them down. We made arrangements with train station manager for transportation. Besides what Earl has said, I think we had two Jap MPs with us. I insisted on a private car, with guards on each end for security purposes. We were all armed. But frankly I was a little scared because we were going through Mito (I think) which was station of Jap division and I did not know what might happen when train stopped there. Jap soldiers were all over the train. They attempted to enter our car, but ^{our} Jap ^{MPs} ~~soldiers~~ told them they could not, and they obeyed. We arrived at an American check point that evening. It was the

®

10
first time US troopers had seen anything in a part US uniform who looked as decrepit as I. And it was first time I had seen our modern troops. After identifications were established I was taken at my request to what I believe was XI Corp Hq. I told them of my missionⁿ, conditions at our encampment and requested immediate train to return and bring our troops to US custody. It was night and I got all sorts of reasons why nothing could be done then--that phase lines had been established and US troops could not cross them. I had reached a stonewall (either at G1 (personel)ⁿ or perhaps some other office.

I noticed a well dressed Japanese man sitting at a ~~DESK~~ ^{IN THE} Hq. I asked what he did and was told he passed on US requests, orders, to Jap governmentⁿ. I went over to this man, told him there was a US PW group waiting for US transports to bring them home and nothing had happened. I told him Gen MacArthur (when I said MacArthur he jumped up bowed about 5 times) was displeased and desired that these men be brought to US custody immediately. ^{I had already learned saying Mac Arthur to Japs was like w} I gave him the number (approximately) folks involved, told him there must be a train at (7AM I think) that morning for me

to return to bring them back. He immediately started making calls and assured me my requirements had been met. I told him thanks, got something to eat, a little sleep and returned to Earl and the rest. US officials I had attempted to deal with were flabbergasted ^{at my getting train} and asked why I was going back with train, / I said something

to effect, if you don't know, you don't even deserve an answer.

Then when we got back to Earl, he had discovered another PW camp and since I had gone through the drill once would I stayⁿ

and bring them back which I did the next day. And there was
was a bonus to all this. My adopted home town, Amarillo, Tx,
where I had been ~~reported~~ ^{no paper printed} on Globe-News before war was having
a printers' strike. When AP story came through telling of my
experiences, and Lt Gen Eichelberger meeting our train with
band, the editor of the paper saw the story and telephoned my
parents in Topeka, KS... This was first time they knew I was alive,
altho ~~that~~ ^{they} had been notified of my PW status and had received cards
from me.

Return to US, item Sep 27.

Earl mentions our being unable to fly because PI soldiers
being sent to US for schooling. This may be true. But later I
was told ~~by~~ ^{by} someone in MacArthur's HQ that when he saw Earl and
the conditon we were in, he told his Chief of Staff to inform
processing people in PI to send us back by ships so that we had 30 days
to put on a little weight and get stronger.

Court-martials:

Not mentioned by Earl. We had some physical and of course mental
abuse by Japs in our camp--on the whole not as severe as many camps.
I interviewed the victims and got short statements from them
which I thought would be helpful in war crime trials. Obviously
I hid this information very carefully. While we were waiting to
leave our camp after the surrender, I elaborated on these
incidents, swearing in appropriate personel, witnesses, victims, etc.
I turned this information over to Army Criminal Investigation Div.
Representatives ~~later~~ interviewed me mainly to verify what I had
given them and to have me confirm in sworn statements. This was
used in the trials Earl went back to Tokyo to testify. (R)

I can't close this without mentioning one other thing^g,
which sort of illustrates our mind-frame after our recovery.
When we were in San Francisco waiting to be sent to hospitals
near our homes, we stayed with Bill, Earl's brother./ But we
first underwent a physical at Letterman hospital. Then we
were assigned to a ward, with ward CO saying he would be able
to arrange passes for u s in due time. Earl, Bill and I practically
in unison replied, here is our phone number (Bill's) call us when
hospital train is ready to take us to San Antonio (Bill Nealson
went elsewhere). And we'll call you about midnight each night if
we have not heard from ^{you} ~~you~~. This poor guy and the nurse said, we could
not ^{leave} ~~do that~~. And we said after what we have been through, what the
hell can you do to us that the Japs and the ^{way} ~~was~~ .hasn't.
Then we walked out of the hospital.

5837 Winding Ridge
San Antonio, Tx 78239
6 Feb 93

Honorable Sam Nunn
Chairman, Senate Armed Services Comm

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As you know, much has been written and said about lifting the ban on homosexuals serving in the military. Many of these comments come from people who, I am sure, do not understand or appreciate military life, have never served in the military, have never heard a shot fired in anger and promote their own special interest agenda rather than the combat effectiveness of our Armed Forces.

Little so far has been heard from the people who would have to live with--and I mean this literally--a change in policy. The Retired Officer magazine published the results of a Gallup poll, which I am sure you have seen, showing retirees heavily opposed to changing the current policy.

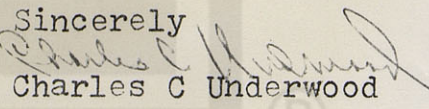
It seems to me that it would be helpful to learn what the men and women currently serving--especially career personnel--think about the matter. In this regard, it was heartening to learn of Sen Gramm's meeting yesterday in closed session with service personnel at Randolph Air Force Base (later at Ft Hood) to solicit their views.

When you begin your hearings, I hope you will seek opinions of those on active duty; not just the Chiefs, although their views are extremely important despite how the Commander-in-Chief regards them.

I think you should talk with squad and platoon leaders and company and battalion commanders, especially those in infantry and armored units. Here the living is close, the training hard and intense, unit cohesiveness essential and success in battle, if it comes to that, crucial. Learn what they have to say about who they want to serve with. Ask the company commander his reaction to imposed sensitivity classes (which I am sure will be mandated); company punishment and courts martial resulting from taunts and fights; investigation of claims of prejudice and complaints which may go directly to congressional sympathizers or the President rather than through the chain of command or the inspector general. But still the company commander will have to respond with impossible deadlines. All these are time-consuming distractions which will interfere with his primary mission--to take care of his troops and train them to fight.

In your coming hearings, I am confident you will be thorough and objective. I hope you will conclude the President is wrong and that Congress will prevent implementation of what I consider his ill-conceived and disruptive policy.

Sincerely


Charles C Underwood

Copies:

The President
Sec Def
Sen Gramm
Sen Krueger
Rep Smith, Lamar

5837 Winding Ridge
San Antonio, Tx 78239
9 Jan 91

Dr. R. Dean Mills
Dean, School of Journalism
University of Missouri

Dear Dean Mills:

Mike Royko's comments of something put out by the Multicultural Management Program at the University (October Reader's Digest, which I read yesterday) should be, I think, required reading for your graduates who are going into the news business.

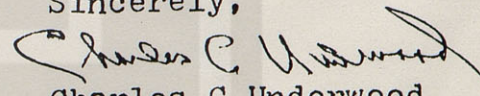
Judging from his remarks, it appears that this style sheet, bad-word check list or whatever rivals government gobbledygook. You should send copies to Kilpatrick and Safire.

As a double graduate (39 and 50), I have high regard and affection for the J School. I enjoyed my years there, learned a lot and thought most things were run with common sense. Now?

Down here we have more than our share of undocumented workers. But a lot of them don't work, and we usually refer to them as illegal aliens or just illegals. We have become sophisticated enough now not to use "wetback"; at least in print or on the air. (I never realized that in all the years before I became a retired senior citizen--a term I sort of like--that I was a documented worker.)

And just maybe, if old Mizzou had a few more burly jocks we might win a few more games. Or is that now also objectionable?

Sincerely,


Charles C Underwood

Copy:
Mr Royko



UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-COLUMBIA

School of Journalism

Box 838
Columbia, Missouri 65205
Telephone (314) 882-4821
Fax (314) 882-9002

February 25, 1991

Mr. Charles C. Underwood
5837 Winding Ridge
San Antonio, TX 78239

Dear Mr. Underwood:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter.

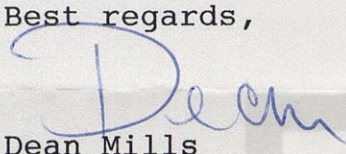
The Multicultural Management Program dictionary certainly has raised a ruckus. Two points, though:

It was not a publication of the school. It was done by several of the fellows who attended one of the MMP workshops.

It's probably fair to say that the fellows were overly "sensitive" in some instances. On the other hand, the publication does not suggest banning any of the words. It merely intends to caution those of us who might use some of the words thoughtlessly in regard to people whom the words might offend. That doesn't strike me as censorship. It strikes me as good manners.

I appreciate your continuing interest in the school. Why don't you come back and see how it's changed since 1950?

Best regards,


Dean Mills
Dean

DM/jh

5837 Winding Ridge
San Antonio, Tx 78239
3 Jul 97

Hon Floyd D Spence
Chairman, House Comm on National Security

Dear Mr. Chairman:

You hit the bull's eye in your article in the July issue of the AUSA News. All of us who wear or have worn the uniform are indebted to you.

It hurts me to conclude that the combat effectiveness of our Armed Forces slowly but surely is deteriorating. I wrote you to this effect about a month ago.

Of course I do not look at readiness reports. And my impression comes from a "feel" of the situation. And it is based on my continuing desire to stay abreast of today's military. I have made 11 visits during the past 13 years to Germany and you just tell by observing soldiers, their equipment, talking with some, reading their gripes (and their wives) to Stars and Stripes. The troops are unhappy, and they think they are not getting the tools or the people to do the job. And those in Bosnia are frustrated and bored. And their wives are mad. Also living here in a military community we get reports from sons and daughters of our colleagues. Most are field grade Regular Army officers, and most of them seem to be leaving the service at 20 years. And this isn't good.

I doubt the Chiefs would deliberately mislead the Sec Def. Perhaps it is an overall command decision to thin out and degrade our readiness as there is no apparent major threat. Troops fight as they train, and they need to be in a cohesive full-strength unit. I think this is not the case now.

I may be overly concerned. But I have been a victim of unpreparedness. In May 41 I was a 2d Lt in the 31st Inf in Manila (having come from 2d Inf Div here). We were not ready. And you know the result--defeat on Bataan and 3½ years as Japanese PW. We repeated the mistake in Korea.

I just do not want it to happen again.

Sincerely,



Charles C Underwood

Copies: Rep Lamar Smith, Sens Gramm and Hutchinson

5837 Winding Ridge
San Antonio 78239
29 Mar 97

Senator Gramm
Senator Hutchison
Representative Smith

Seldom do I write you except about the security of the United States (which I think is deteriorating) because that is of paramount concern to me. And military matters often affect my pocketbook which of course makes the issue personal.

But today's subject--which I think in a way affects our security or at least our way of life--is drugs. It seems to me our efforts to do something about this problem have brought pitiful results.

I know a little about stopping drug usage from my Army experience. As you know, we had a drug problem which many of us thought was eating at the very soul of the military. We did something about it. And today the Army is practically drug-free. I know you can't do incivilian life what you can in the military, but I think we can do more and do it more effectively than we are doing.

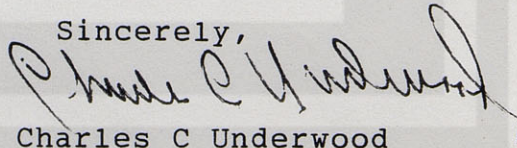
Leadership from the President on down is lacking; he even jokes about his own use. And have you ever seen one of his Hollywood buddies or a Wall Street official bust ed for drug use? Of course not. And that sends a message. Maybe the pusher might be caught but not the user, particularly if he is "important."

We get all over Mexico, for example, as a conduit for drugs coming into the US. And of course we should. But we are hypocritical. We need also to look inward. At best we seem to be making a half-hearted effort to eradicate production within our own borders--some say marijuana is our biggest cash crop. Peter Jennings has a hour TV program on the subject and he talks to a marijuana grower as though he was discussing a wheat crop in the Panhandle.

Growing is one thing; using is another. As foreign leaders whom we criticise respond, if you did not offer this insatiable market, the stuff would not be coming into your country. If you did not buy it; others could not sell it to you.

There's got to be a solution. I don't know the answer. But I do know we need to crack down on both our users and our growers. Maybe you can help. I hope so.

Sincerely,


Charles C Underwood

7400 Crestway, Apt 403
San Antonio 78239
26 Nov 97

Dear SenatorsGramm and Hutchison:

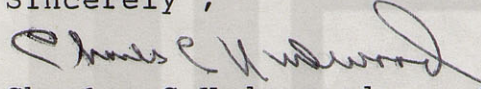
The appointment and Senate confirmation of the new head of Medicare scares me.

Despite Ms de Parle's academic accomplishments, I doubt that a 40 year old has the experience and common sense to run an operation vital to seniors--she's half my age. And as my wife said, "I never really understod old people until I became one."

And the fact that she apparently was one of Hillary's principal cohorts on the Administration's health care proposal to overhaul Medicare and Medicaid is not very assuring.

It seems to me that this appointment deserves more than normal scrutiny.

Sincerely ,


Charles C Underwood

Incidentally--this is a new address (from 5837 Winding Ridge.)

®

7400 Crestway, Apt 403
San Antonio, Tx 78239
3 Mar 98

Senator Gramm
Senaror Hutchison
Representative Rodriquez

This is to urge your support of legislation introduced in the House (HR 3107) which would provide for paid up Survivors Benefit Plan status for members who have reached age 70 and have paid SBP premiums for 30 years.

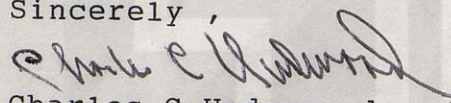
It is my understanding that when SBP was enacted in 1972 Congress agreed SBP premiums would cover 60 per cent of the long term benefits with the government subsidizing the other 40 percent. Now Defense actuaries say retirees are paying 72 per cent of the costs. In essence this indicates that the government has been collecting too much from retirees for the promised benefits.

I have been participating in this program since my retirement in May 72 (after 31 years plus Army service). Today my retirement pay is reduced by \$359.82 per month for SBP. Of course like insurance, if I had died shortly after my retirement at age 55, this program would have been great for my spouse and at that time one child of 14 still living with us. But as you can see, my payments far exceed the benefits which may come to wife, particularly with the Social Security offset.

Although the odds are I will not live to benefit from the proposed legislation which would become effective in 2003, it would help others. Thus I hope you will support the legislation-- it should, I think, be effective on passage but I understand the money crunchers oppose an earlier effective date.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Charles C Underwood



Pay those held by the Japanese

I noted in the Sept. 20 Light that our most benevolent Senate voted to present the Japanese interned on the West Coast during World War II \$20,000 each as pecuniary compensation for their ordeal. The total is approximately \$500 million.

I'll wager those poor internees were not subject to performing unpleasant and menial tasks, beaten or tortured, nor did they subsist on starvation

rations. Not so with our servicemen behind Japanese wire who were picked up on Bataan.

So, why not a proposal to compensate these folks? There must not be too many left, since over three years in a Japanese pigpen contributed little to their longevity. I'm sure Col. Charlie Underwood and Maj. Gen. Chester Johnson, both of whom I was privileged to serve with on active duty, and who now reside in the San Antonio environs, would find some use for \$20,000.

I wonder if bleeding hearts Sens. Pete Domenici and Warren Rudman have thought of this magnificent gesture?

SA Light
12 Oct 89

-GIB GIBSON
San Antonio

Senator Domenici

Probably 99.9 per cent of the military both active duty and retired agree with Col Gibson, who is not a former PW.

Charles C Underwood



5837 Winding Ridge
San Antonio, Tx 78239
14 Dec 84

Letter to the Editor
Wall Street Journal

Dear Sir:

Your statement that officers who retired in 1972 get more retirement pay today than officers of the same rank on active duty get in salaries ("Cutting the Budget", 13 Dec) puzzles me.

As of 1 Jan 85 a colonel with 26 or more years service will receive \$4329 in base pay plus \$599 (with dependents) for quarters allowance plus \$106 for subsistence or \$5034 per month. (There are other special and incentive pay provisions for extra qualifications such as flight or airborne status or for doctors and dentists.) I retired in April 72 as a colonel with more than 31 years continuous active service. My retired pay, to include an anticipated cost of living allowance effective 1 Jan 85, will be \$3762. (I get \$3635 now.)

Please publish your computations so that I can send them to the Finance Officer and get all that back pay I have been missing these many years for which the Wall Street Journal says I am entitled.

Sincerely,

Charles C Underwood



5837 Winding Ridge
San Antonio, Tx 78239
28 Jul 95

Dear Mr Jennings:

Someone said something like you got to know where you came from if you are to know where you are going.

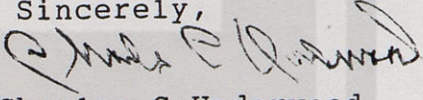
When the bombs were dropped on Japan, I do not know where you were. But I was there--in a PW camp in Hitachi.

And I am sure had not the bombs been dropped I would not be here writing to you today. There is no doubt in my mind that Japanese soldiers would have killed us or stood aside as civilians did. The Japanese camp commandant--he spoke some English--with whom I had nearly daily contact practically told us that.

So instead of the maulding ending complaining of brutal manner in which many of us came down on the Smithsonian folks--most of whom were not there and probably never heard a shot fired in anger--I had hoped you would have summarized some of the benefits achieved by the action of President Truman. To mention a few: thousands of lives saved on both sides (this idea that the Japanese would not fight to save their homeland is silly), saving lives of PWs who had been through too much to die then, keeping Russia practically out of the war and thus setting up a reasonable post war administration of Japan, other nations knowing we had the weapon and not knowing if we would use it again (admittedly the war was starting to go against them) but Ike's not too well concealed threat to drop some on North Korea-Chinese helped to make possible the unsatisfactory settlement of that conflict. The plus far exceeds the minus.

Of course I am sorry for the victims. But I am more sorry for our troops murdered on the death march--I was there--starving, beating and killing by the Japs in prison camps, rape of much of the Far East and of course Pearl Harbor.

So, Mr Jennings, I guess it all comes down to where you are coming from.

Sincerely,

Charles C Underwood

5837 Winding Ridge
SA 78239
26 Nov 96

Sen Gramm
Sen Hutchison
Rep Lamar Smith

Perhaps you have read the inclosed column of Hackworth which appeared in Saturday's Express-News.

Ole Hack is a warrior, somewhat single-minded and a little nuts at times. Buthe is on to something here. About a year ago I attempted to find out just how many military we had in various parts of the world. Answers from Defense were less than complete.

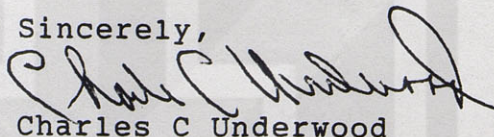
If in fact we have forces deployed in some form or another and this does not include Marine guards at embassies, I think you in Congress should know all about it and so should the public, excluding of course any classified missions.

What are our forces doing in 92 countries? How long have they been there? How long will they stay? What is their mission? What is it costing, both in direct and support costs? Do the funds come out of military budgets, thus probably reducing expenditures to support training, maintenance, spare parts, etc?

If you think these are legitimate questions, would you please request the Chairmen of the House and Senate Armed Services Committees to look into the matter and let us know what is happening?

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Charles C Underwood

Incl:
Hackwoth column



5837 Winding Ridge
San Antonio, Tx 78239
10 Apr 97

Hon Floyd Spence
Chairman, House National Security Comm

Dear Mr Chairman:

Today's San Antonio Express-News carries an AP story in which you point out that our military is not prepared to do its job. Overworked and undertrained personnel would be hard-pressed to carry out another gulf-type war ~~war~~ operation, you are quoted as saying.

Thank you for making public by an authoritative source something that I have sensed for at least the past four years. I have written my Congressional representatives, Sec Def and others voicing these same concerns.

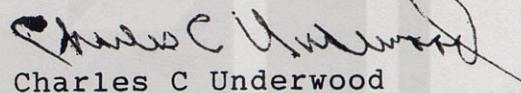
Having been retired since 72, obviously I do not have access to fitness-readiness reports but from my own observations (11 visits to Germany in past 13 years, conversations with parents of Army officers and other sources) I just think the Army, especially, has deteriorated in readiness capability, and I think this is true of other Services.

You fight as y ou train. And it seems to me that the tanks are not rolling, the guns are not shooting, the planes are not flying and ships are not sailing to prepare for war. "Peace-keeping" is not realistic training.

I am a victim of an Army illequipped to do its job, having been stationed in the Philippines when WWII broke out and suffered through the Japanese PW atrocities. And in commands from platoon leader through brigade commander in infantry, armored infantry and armored units, I have been part of an Army which went from poor to magnificent. But now I think we are on that slippery slope of reducing our combat ability.

I hope you and your colleauges can reverse the tide. It is obvious this Administration will not.

Sincerely,


Charles C Underwood

Copies:

Chairman Senate Armed Forces Comm
Sen Gramm
Sen Hutichison
Rep Lamar Smith

30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10112
212 664-4444

A Division of
National Broadcasting
Company, Inc.



1 February 1999

Dear Mr. Underwood,

The response I have received to THE GREATEST GENERATION, book and documentary, has been overwhelming and most gratifying. I appreciate your letter and kind words.

Thank you for sharing your perspective on that era, your memories of the Bataan death march and the Japanese prison camps, and the difficulties of returning to civilian life after these experiences.

All best,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tom Brokaw", written over a large, faint, stylized "T" watermark.

Tom Brokaw

Mr. Charles C. Underwood
8116 Quebec Road
San Antonio TX 78239



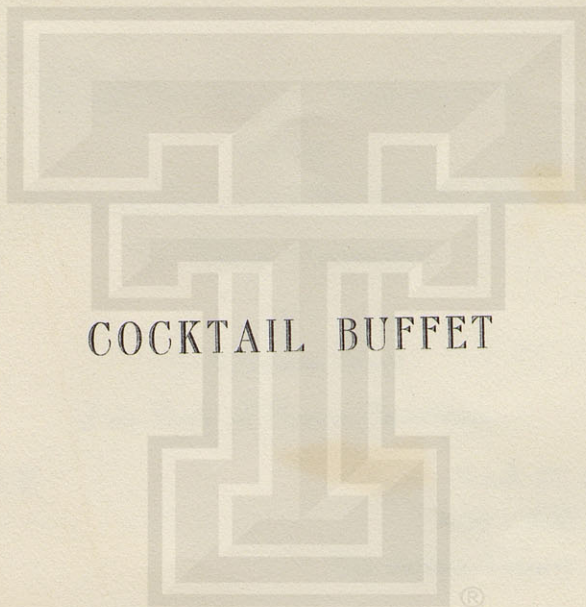


SEASON'S GREETINGS

The Army Chief of Staff and Mrs. Wheeler

send all good wishes

for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



COCKTAIL BUFFET

®

Mr. and Mrs. Claude L. Witherspoon, Jr.

honoring

Lieutenant General and Mrs. Carl H. Jark

The Military Commanders

and

The Executive Board

of the Battle of Flowers Association

R.S.V.P.

March 27, 1963

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

San Antonio Country Club

Colonel and Mrs Charles C Underwood
accept with pleasure
Mr. and Mrs Claude L. Witherspoon, Jr's
kind invitation for
Wednesday ^{the twenty} ~~twenty~~ seventh of March



The Fiesta San Antonio Commission,
Incorporated

and its

Member Organizations

request the honor of your presence at a

Dinner

honoring

The Military Queens

and Commanders

Wednesday Evening, April the Tenth

Peraux and Anacacho Rooms

St. Anthony Hotel

Cocktails: 7 o'clock

Dinner : 8 o'clock

R. S. V. P.

CApitol 7-5191

Informal

March 26, 1999

Dear Jimmie and Charlie:-

Don't know if you have seen the enclosed article. It was given to me by a neighbor. My daughter-in-law father (in Utah) also saw this article. I am not familiar with the magazine. I have sent a copy to Janie Thompson.

I recognize Don and also Max Talbot. The article on John is correct but there has been considerable conversation and John's picture - winter and outside the family.

Enjoyed our phone visit on Sunday. Happy all goes well.

Laverne

You are always welcome to visit. The invitation is for Clearwater - please don't be saddened by thoughts of Lakeland.

Me

E C Rea
54 Banyan Court
Lake Jackson, Texas 77566

August 28, 1989

Dear Charley,

Since receiving Charlie Underwood's letter, and his response to my answering letter, I guess I'll have to conclude that I won't be able to attend your planned reunion of us old folks.

I was a 1930 initiate and the house was brand new when I lived in it.

I was there with Charley Proctor (my brother-in-law), Elmer Lower, Eddie Gibbons, Count Solomon and a bunch of other good folks.

I'll be in Columbia the 16th thru 19th of September to play in the Don Faurot golf tournament, with Charley Proc as my partner. If you are around, maybe I'll get to see you then. I am a member of the CCMO, and usually make it up there at least a couple of times a year. Also, go to Hawaii annually with Faurot and other members of the Missouri Senior Golf Assn for Jan. and Feb.

But, I don't think I'll be able to stay over or come back to your meeting.

I hope it will be a good one, and am sure I'd know quite a few. Give 'em all my regards.

Fraternally,

Elmer Rea



Subject: Re: List of Places/Charlie reply
To: Betty and Bob <bettybob@wiredbrush.com>

You have a list in some kind of tablet. You also have his medical record & military discharge papers, but here is what I know:
was an ROTC student at Univ of Missouri, went to some basic training while still a college boy, graduated & commissioned I think in '39, called to service '41 at Ft Sam, (not sure, but think that's right) went to the Phil. in about May-june of 41, fought Jap, surrendered to them in Apr 42, death march to ocean, went on Jap transport in bottom of ships so if ship was bombed they would go 1st, worked in several mines in Jap during the duration of war, liberated in 45, transported home that info is in Earl Short's book, don't know how many stops, but on a slow ship to San Frans '45, spent a short time in SF, stationed at Ft. Sam until '46, moved fall of '46 to Ft. Benning, Ga, stayed there until '49, (I thought it was about 3 yrs, check diploma, but then a yr at Univ ersity of Mo. 49-50?, then 50-52 Pentagon, then 52-53 Ft. Levenworth KS, some kind of school where lots of our allies were also trained, 53-57 Germany, Ausberg, 1 yr, Heidelberg, 1 1/2 yrs, Worms about 6 mos. took battalion, Hell on Wheels to Ft. Hood, 58-part of 59, 59-60 Turkey, don't remember but near Anqurage (not spelled right, he lived in a little town as an Amercian advisor outside of this big town, 60-64 Ft. Sam, summer of 64-66 Pentagon, 66-72 Ha, Schofield Barrack & then a few yrs later Ft. Schafer, retired in 72. This info should be on some of the military paperwork you picked up.
I don't mind Megan getting things, but I would like to know what it is so just ship anything back to me. You left some markers ets here & I found some more military pix, Carr pix & some fashion things. There was also a bk, Bataan, our last ditch, by John W. Whitman that was in Dad's personal collect, It isn't a first person book, but has lots of footnotes, Jay wanted this bk, but it appears to be a really well researched book, but might want to mention it to museum. It was published by Hippocrene books in 1990. Thanks for all your help. I went thru all albums & have made piles, but project isn't finished, but I work for a wk so I am putting it aside. I still think Brian's interview is a good source of info if you can get the background noise out. Again I really appreciate what you did. So far Mother says no to extra help, but we will see. love, vickye

Betty and Bob <bettybob@wiredbrush.com> wrote:

*Note from Vickye Underwood Lambdin,
daughter of Charles Underwood Jr. aunt,
Betty Carr, April 2007*

Hope you all can
make it to Brunern.
Tell everyone hello
for us.

Have a wonderful
trip.

Love,
Erny

®

March 6, 1988

Dear Jenny,

Thanks for the call; the folks enjoyed talking with you too! I think it's great that your'e going over to Europe & I hope that these addresses help you to have a more enjoyable trip. Marinell, my sister, will be arriving from Germany next Sunday, March 13th in the pm. You may want to call & ask for her on Mon. March 14 in the after noon or eve to ask her about the weather, what to wear, etc. Call 913-367-2930 if you would like to talk to her.

The drive from Frankfurt airport to Grunern (which is only 10 minutes from Freiburg) is only about 2 hr. drive. You will get on the "famous autobahn" directly from the airport & head towards Freiburg (the black forest area of Germany). There is no speed limit on the autobahn, but they are very strict about wearing your seat belts. On the way to Grunern, you will pass some beautiful cities & also cities that have meaning for the Haegelin Family. Heidelberg is a must for all tourists with its big midieval castle on the hill overlooking the beautiful city of Heidelberg. You will also see another town located near the autobahn & the sign will read "Riegel".. that is the village where our g-grandmother ZIEBOLD (ZIBOLD) was born who married Joseph F. Haegelin (mother of my grandfather, August Haegelin). There you will see the cobblestone streets, the church she was baptized in, etc. A realitive who lives there (& I only met her & her family on my last trip) was Elisabeth BIHLI Hanel (You can see in the History of the Ziebold-Haegelin Family book geneology how we fit into the Bihli/side of the family. She has a hubbund George & grandson Steven...their adress in Riegel is "Spitalstrabe 6, 7831 Riegel a.k., West Germany." Phone 07642-7636 They don't speak English

Another town right on the way/is ^(Endingen is only several minutes from Riegel) ENDINGEN . (where g-g-grandfather Florian Haegelin wa born...I don't know anyone from that town but thats where the Haegelins originated before they moved to Grunern. Lovely little cobblestone sts. & has a cute village tower to the old section of the town.

ON the way down the autobahn you will also see a exit that reads "Buhl" or "Achern" which you can take to see two more cities that have interest for us. My grandmother, Mary Haegelin was born in Ottersweier. There is a family by the name of Gustav Denu (Rontgenstr. 11, 7583 Ottersweier, W. Germany) phone 07223-22687....they are not related but just very good friends who can show you which house is the one she was born in. There is also a beautiful church of St. Johns that she was baptized in. She was brought over to USA by her mother, Rosena Sauer. Right down the road from Ottersweier, is a village called LAUF where all of the GANTER family comes from. My g-grandfather Valentine Ganter who married Rosena Sauer from Ottersweier was born in Lauf. There are two directly related relatives who still live in the house that he was born in live. Anna & Sofie are about 72 & never married...they live at Horenbergstr. 43, 7591 LAUF, W. Germany... they just got a phone in their house last year. Quaint little German house way up in the hills overlooking Lauf...if Armin is available, (he speaks English & can act as translator) you almost need someone to drive you up the mountain to find them.. Armin could call & possibly go with you to meet them. They are very old fashioned & private people, deeply religious, but cordial.

Freiburg is a big mideval university city in the black forest. The old city square is a must for any tourist along with the big Cathedral...lots of neat shops too. In Freiburg lives a few distant relatives. In the Haegelin history book there is a section of how all the Haegelin children of Florian Haegelin emigrated to America. except one (Theresia Haegelin)...her grand-daughter is Mrs Mathilde Rau who lives in Friburg..about 73 yrs old..has a daughter Sigrid who is a teacher, married/divorced, 2 college age sons...delightful people Sigrids phone number and adress is:Auf der Haid 43, 78 Freiburg 1 B, W. G Phone: 0761-471850 - SP-17 END

Next is Grunern. Grunern is the "hub" of where the Haegelins lived. It is a very small rural village which is 10 min. from Freiburg & a 2 minute drive from STAUFEN which is only a mile from Grunern. Staufen is a beautiful city & also has an international language school which is there.

Grunern is where the Baren Bad restaurant & Inn is. In former days it was "quite the place" but now is simply a quaint Inn. The Haegelin history book can give you more details about its history etc. In Grunern, our dear friends are Guido & Gertrud Gramelspacher, that live only a few blocks from the Baren Bad (translated, Bears Bath). They have 2 sons, Diethardt (divorced) & Edgar (who is married to Birgit & they live in Herbolzheim), also a daughter Silvia who just had a baby & is married to Herbert Hess & they live in Ballrechten which is only about a mile or so from Grunern.

Guido is past mayor of Grunern. His grandmother was a Haegelin. He is now retired from operating a grocery store in Grunern & may have time to show you around. His adress is Dorfstr. 28, 7813 Staufen-Grunern, W. Germany. His phone is 07633-5656. There is lots to see around Grunern such as Staufen, & also Belchen which is the highest mountain pt in the area...lots of hiking paths & big lodge..Germans love to hike! Also Badweiler is a famous bath resort town only ½ hr from Grunern...see some old Roman ruins there..also remember Lucern Switzerland would be a nice day trip too. Also a world famous pilgrimage spot of Einsiedeln Benedictine Monastery where the famous Black Madonna is. Could see all that in 1 day. Also Breisach is German town on French boarder...neat town...could go & see the Haegelin Winery in Orschwihr, France Not far & pick up some Haegelin wine for souvineers..may be related but not for sure...adress is 68-Orschwihr, Alsace France..phone 89-769517 Materne & Elisabeth Haegelin own winery. Have daughters Regine, Eliane. Also in Grunern is Gerd & Margaret Koepfer, who have winery in Grunern. You must see their old wine press in Grunern. Are cordial, he came to USA for our Haegelin reunion. Speaks broken English (both of them). is a distant relative.

Guido can show you Grunern cemetery & where Haegelins are buried. Guido nor Gertrud speak English - their daughter Silvia does & also Birgit, daughter in law. Also see village church of Haegelins.

Well, I had better get this letter off to you before you leave for
your trip. If you have any questions please dont hesitate to give
me a call here at the rectory. Hope this letter & info has helped
you some....

Love,
(fr) Emily Hagelen



March 6, 1988

Dear Jenny,

Thanks for the call; the folks enjoyed talking with you too! I think it's great that your'e going over to Europe & I hope that these addresses help you to have a more enjoyable trip. Marinell, my sister, will be arriving from Germany next Sunday, March 13th in the pm. You may want to call & ask for her on Mon. March 14 in the after noon or eve to ask her about the weather, what to wear, etc. Call 913-367-2930 if you would like to talk to her.

The drive from Frankfurt airport to Grunern (which is only 10 minutes from Freiburg) is only about 2 hr. drive. You will get on the "famous autobahn" directly from the airport & head towards Freiburg (the black forest area of Germany). There is no speed limit on the autobahn, but they are very strict about wearing your seat belts. On the way to Grunern, you will pass some beautiful cities & also cities that have meaning for the Haegelin Family. Heidelberg is a must for all tourists with its big midieval castle on the hill overlooking the beautiful city of Heidelberg. You will also see another town located near the autobahn & the sign will read "Riegel".. that is the village where our g-grandmother ZIEBOLD (ZIBOLD) was born who married Joseph F. Haegelin (mother of my grandfather, August Haegelin). There you will see the cobblestone streets, the church she was baptized in, etc. A realitive who lives there (& I only met her & her family on my last trip) was Elisabeth BIHLI Hanel (You can see in the History of the Ziebold-Haegelin Family book geneology how we fit into the Bihli/side of the family. She has a hubbund George & grandson Steven...their adress in Riegel is "Spitalstrabe 6, 7831 Riegel a.k., West Germany." Phone 07642-7636 They don't speak English

Another town right on the way/is ^{/(Endingen is only several minutes from Riegel)} ENDINGEN . (where g-g-grandfather Florian Haegelin wa born...I don't know anyone from that town but thats where the Haegelins originated before they moved to Grunern. Lovely little cobblestone sts. & has a cute village tower to the old section of the town.

ON the way down the autobahn you will also see a exit that reads "Buhl" or "Achern" which you can take to see two more cities that hav~~e~~ interest for us. My grandmother, Mary Haegelin was born in Ottersweier. There is a family by the name of Gustav Denu (Armin is his son) (Rontgenstr. 11, 7583 Ottersweier, W. Germany) phone 07223-22687....they are not related but just very good friends who can show you which house is the one she was born in. There is also a beautiful church of St. Johns that she was baptized in. She was brought over to USA by her mother, Rosena Sauer. Right down the road from Ottersweier, is a village called LAUF where all of the GANTER family comes from. My g-grandfather Valentine Garter who married Rosena Sauer from Ottersweier was born in Lauf. There are two directly related relatives who still live in the house that he was born in live. Anna & Sofie are about 72 & never married...they live at Horenbergstr. 43, 7591 LAUF, W. Germany...
phone 07841-22815 they dont speak English

they just got a phone in their house last year. Quaint little German house way up in the hills overlooking Lauf...if Armin is available, (he speaks English & can act as translator) you almost need someone to drive you up the mountain to find them.. Armin could call & possibly go with you to meet them. They are very old fashioned & private people, deeply religious, but cordial.

Freiburg is a big mideval university city in the black forest. The old city square is a must for any tourist along with the big Cathedral...lots of neat shops too. In Freiburg lives a few distant relatives. In the Haegelin history book there is a section of how all the Haegelin children of Florian Haegelin emigrate~~d~~ to America. except one (Theresia Haegelin)...her grand-daughter is Mrs Mathilde Rau who lives in Friburg..about 73 yrs old..has a daughter Sigrid who is a teacher, married/divorced, 2 college age sons...delightful people. Sigrids phone number and adress is: Auf der Haid 43, 78 Freiburg 1 B, W. G
Phone: 0761-471850 - Speaks English

Next is Grunern. Grunern is the "hub" of where the Haegelins lived. It is a very small rural village which is 10 min. from Freiburg & a 2 minute drive from STAUFEN which is only a mile from Grunern. Staufen is a beautiful city & also has an international language school which is there.

Grunern is where the Baren Bad restaurant & Inn is. In former days it was "quite the place" but now is simply a quaint Inn. The Haegelin history book can give you more details about its history etc. In Grunern, our dear friends are Guido & Gertrud Gramelspacher, that live only a few blocks from the Baren Bad (translated, Bears Bath). They have 2 sons, Diethardt (divorced) & Edgar (who is married to Birgit & they live in Herbolzheim), also a daughter Silvia who just had a baby & is married to Herbert Hess & they live in Ballrechten which is only about a mile or so from Grunern.

Guido is past mayor of Grunern. His grandmother was a Haegelin. He is now retired from operating a grocery store in Grunern & may have time to show you around. His address is Dorfstr. 28, 7813 Staufen-Grunern, W. Germany. His phone is 07633-5656. There is lots to see around Grunern such as Staufen, & also Belchen which is the highest mountain pt in the area...lots of hiking paths & big lodge..Germans love to hike! Also Badweiler is a famous bath resort town only 1/2 hr from Grunern..see some old Roman ruins there..also remember Lucern Switzerland would be a nice day trip too. Also a world famous pilgrimage spot of Einsiedeln Benedictine Monastery where the famous Black Madonna is. Could see all that in 1 day. Also Breisach is German town on French boarder..neat town...could go & see the Haegelin Winery in Orschwihr, France Not far & pick up some Haegelin wine for souvineers..may be related but not for sure...address is 68-Orschwihr, Alsace France..phone 89-769517 Materne & Elisabeth Haegelin own winery. Have daughters Regine, Eliane. Also in Grunern is Gerd & Margaret Koepfer, who have winery in Grunern. You must see their old wine press in Grunern. Are cordial, he came to USA for our Haegelin reunion. Speaks broken English (both of them). is a distant relative.

Guido can show you Grunern cemetery & where Haegelins are buried. Guido nor Gertrud speak English - their daughter Silvia does & also Birgit, daughter in law. Also see village church of Haegelins

Well, I had better get this letter off to you before you leave for
your trip. If you have any questions please dont hesitate to give
me a call here at the rectory. Hope this letter & info has helped
you some.....

Love,
(fr) Lily Hagelin

March 6, 1988

Dear Jenny,

Thanks for the call; the folks enjoyed talking with you too! I think it's great that your'e going over to Europe & I hope that these addresses help you to have a more enjoyable trip. Marinell, my sister, will be arriving from Germany next Sunday, March 13th in the pm. You may want to call & ask for her on Mon. March 14 in the after noon or eve to ask her about the weather, what to wear, etc. Call 913-367-2930 if you would like to talk to her.

The drive from Frankfurt airport to Grunern (which is only 10 minutes from Freiburg) is only about 2 hr. drive. You will get on the "famous autobahn" directly from the airport & head towards Freiburg (the black forest area of Germany). There is no speed limit on the autobahn, but they are very strict about wearing your seat belts. On the way to Grunern, you will pass some beautiful cities & also cities that have meaning for the Haegelin Family. Heidelberg is a must for all tourists with its big midieval castle on the hill overlooking the beautiful city of Heidelberg. You will also see another town located near the autobahn & the sign will read "Riegel".. that is the village where our g-grandmother ZIEBOLD (ZÆIBOLD) was born who married Joseph F. Haegelin (mother of my grandfather, August Haegelin). There you will see the cobblestone streets, the church she was baptized in, etc. A realitive who lives there (& I only met her & her family on my last trip) was Elisabeth BIHLI Hanel (You can see in the History of the Ziebold-Haegelin Family book geneology how we fit into the Bihli/^{- Ziebold}side of the family. She has a hubbund George & grandson Steven...their adress in Riegel is "Spitalstrabe 6, 7831 Riegel a.k., West Germany." Phone 07642-7636 They don't speak English

Next is Grunern. Grunern is the "hub" of where the Haegelins lived. It is a very small rural village which is 10 min. from Freiburg & a 2 minute drive from STAUFEN which is only a mile from Grunern. Staufen is a beautiful city & also has an international language school which is there.

Grunern is where the Baren Bad restaurant & Inn is. In former days it was "quite the place" but now is simply a quaint Inn. The Haegelin history book can give you more details about its history etc. In Grunern, our dear friends are Guido & Gertrud Gramelspacher, that live only a few blocks from the Baren Bad (translated, Bears Bath). They have 2 sons, Diethardt (divorced) & Edgar (who is married to Birgit & they live in Herbolzheim), also a daughter Silvia who just had a baby & is married to Herbert Hess & they live in Ballrechten which is only about a mile or so from Grunern.

Guido is past mayor of Grunern. His grandmother was a Haegelin. He is now retired from operating a grocery store in Grunern & may have time to show you around. His adress is Dorfstr. 28, 7813 Staufen-Grunern, W. Germany. His phone is 07633-5656. There is lots to see around Grunern such as Staufen, & also Belchen which is the highest mountain pt in the area...lots of hiking paths & big lodge..Germans love to hike! Also Badwiler is a famous bath resort town only $\frac{1}{2}$ hr from Grunern...see some old Roman ruins there..also remember Lucern Switzerland would be a nice day trip too. Also a world famous pilgrimage spot of Einsiedeln Benedictine Monastery where the famous Black Madonna is. Could see all that in 1 day. Also Breisach is German town on French boarder..neat town...could go & see the Haegelin Winery in Orschwihr, France. Not far & pick up some Haegelin wine for souvineers..may be related but not for sure...adress is 68-Orschwihr, Alsace France..phone 89-769517 Materne & Elisabeth Haegelin own winery. Have daughters Regine, Eliane. Also in Grunern is Gerd & Margaret Koepfer, who have winery in Grunern. You must see their old wine press in Grunern. Are cordial, he came to USA for our Haegelin reunion. Speaks broken English (both of them). is a distant relative.

Now Bertard speak English - their daughter Silvia does & also Birgit, daughter in law. Also see village church of Haegelins.

/(Endingen is only several minutes from Riegel)

Another town right on the way/is ENDINGEN . (where g-g-grandfather Florian Haegelin wa born...I don't know anyone from that town but thats where the Haegelins originated before they moved to Grunern. Lovely little cobblestone sts. & has a cute village tower to the old section of the town.)

ON the way down the autobahn you will also see a exit that reads "Buhl" or "Achern" which you can take to see two more cities that have interest for us. My grandmother, Mary Haegelin was born in Ottersweier. There is a family by the name of Gustav Denu (Armin is his son) (Rontgenstr. 11, 7583 Ottersweier, W. Germany) phone 07223-22687....they are not related they speak English but just very good friends who can show you which house is the one she was born in. There is also a beautiful church of St. Johns that she was baptized in. She was brought over to USA by her mother, Rosena Sauer. Right down the road from Ottersweier, is a village called LAUF where all of the GANTER family comes from. My g-grandfather Valentine Ganter who married Rosena Sauer from Ottersweier was born in Lauf. There are two directly related relatives who still live in the house that he was born in live. Anna & Sofie are about 72 & never married...they live at Horenbergstr. 43, 7591 LAUF, W. Germany... they just got a phone in their house last year. Quaint little German house way up in the hills overlooking Lauf...if Armin is available, (he speaks English & can act as translator) you almost need someone to drive you up the mountain to find them.. Armin could call & possibly go with you to meet them. They are very old fashioned & private people, deeply religious, but cordial.

Freiburg is a big mideval university city in the black forest. The old city square is a must for any tourist along with the big Cathedral...lots of neat shops too. In Freiburg lives a few distant relatives. In the Haegelin history book there is a section of how all the Haegelin children of Florian-Haegelin emigrated to America. except one (Theresia Haegelin)...her grand-daughter is Mrs Mathilde Rau who lives in Friburg..about 73 yrs old..has a daughter Sigrid who is a teacher, married/divorced, 2 college age sons...delightful people. Sigrids phone number and adress is:Auf der Haid 43, 78 Freiburg 1 B, W. G Phone: 0761-471850 - speaks English