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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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## The Octofoil, October 1947

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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J. J. Clouser, Veteran B-5  
J. J. Clouser, College  
J. J. Clouser, Illinois

# THE OCTOFOIL

VOLUME 2  
NUMBER 10

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

One Year, 60 cents  
Single Copy, 10 cents

WASHINGTON (13), D. C. (P. O. Box 1704)

OCTOBER, 1947

## NEW SECRETARY WANTS HISTORY REPORT

### FORMER 9TH MAN INSTRUCTS CADETS



When the National Moose Convention was held in Columbus, O., last month, several hundred cadets were presented to the delegates by John Clouser, assistant N.I.D. instructor at Mooseheart Home, and president of the Illinois Chapter of the Ninth Infantry Division Association.

### COMMITTEE GIVES PROGRAMS LEFT TO THE OCTOFOIL

#### COMMITTEE ASKS BOARD TO RELIEVE THEM OF FUTURE RESPONSIBILITY.

The Columbus Convention Committee has continued to function since the Reunion and to mail out the programs, badges, caps and directories of those who attended the Reunion.

But as of Sept. 15, the Committee has audited the accounts and plans to submit their report to the next Board of Governors meeting and ask to be discharged from further responsibility.

The Committee still has a few of the programs, caps and other items and has turned them over to The Octofoil office. Dick Pestel, vice-president Columbus Chapter, has agreed to stop in The Octofoil office weekly and pick up any letters sent in from members desiring these items and to mail them out immediately.

Anyone desiring these items may secure a set by mailing \$1 to The Octofoil, 337 S. High St., Room 318, Columbus, O. After paying for the postage and shipping carton the remainder of the \$1 will be turned over to the Columbus Chapter to be used as a majority of the members see fit from time to time.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

#### IMPORTANT MAN?

After an absence of four years, a certain man went back to visit his old home town. The first four people didn't remember him, and the next three didn't know he had been away.

HAVE YOU PAID '47 DUES?

### Mrs. John Finley In Receipt of Mail After Octofoil Story Appears

Dear Editor: Since the story appeared in The Octofoil about my son, John Finley, we have received two letters and both very interesting, from boys who served with our son. One came from Franklin, Ky., and he really told us the true story of our son's death, and the other who buddied with him was from Los Angeles, Calif.

I remain,

MRS. JOHN FINLEY,  
1046 S. Water St., Decatur 22,  
Illinois.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

### Ed McHugh Doesn't Care to Miss Octofoil

Uncle Sam fouled up and didn't deliver June and July Octofoils to Ed McHugh's house—so he sits down and writes in what he thinks about such neglect.

Anyway there happened to be a few extras around which were sent to Ed and everybody's happy.

For the benefit of anyone who would like to contact McHugh, he is living in Suffield, Conn., on Thompsonville Road.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

#### PSYCHO?—NATCH!

A psychiatric board was testing the mentality of a new soldier. "Do you ever hear voices without being able to tell who is speaking and where the voices come from?"

"Yes, sir," answered the G.I. "And when does this occur?"

"When I answer the telephone."

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

GET A NEW MEMBER IN '47!

### DON'T BLOW YOUR TOP IF LETTERS ARE A FEW DAYS LATE

During the past month mail to The Octofoil office has been unusually heavy—as many as twenty letters coming to the office in one day.

As a reminder to some who may not know—all letters that are answered by your Octofoil editor have to be answered on his own time after completing a pretty rugged day's work in a printing office. Because of this it has been impossible to answer all letters as promptly as they should be answered. However, if the members will just be patient each and every letter will eventually be answered.

#### PICTURES RETURNED

All photos sent to The Octofoil for publication will be returned as soon as they are used. However, if pictures sent cannot appear in the very next issue of The Octofoil please don't be too quick on the trigger—because the pictures received are dated and must await their turn before they can be printed.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

### UNIVERSITY LADS STILL MAKING THE REUNION RECORDS

Some six or eight orders for the Memorial Services records were a couple of weeks late being mailed because Richard Schumann and Pearl Nickle, the "engineers" on this project were on extended vacations.

Both of these Ninth Division boys are back on the job now and future orders will be filled more promptly.

It is gratifying to The Octofoil to receive the many letters from those who have bought the records and to learn how well pleased they are with the product.

The playing time for the records is 16 minutes and no one can appreciate the impressiveness of these recordings unless they are heard.

Anyone else desiring a set of the records may obtain them by sending \$5 to The Octofoil, 337 S. High St., Room 318. After buying the blanks, needles, shipping cartons and paying the postage the \$5 represents just a small amount over and above actual production costs.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

### Enjoys Reading The Octofoil Each Month

Dear Sirs: I get The Octofoil and enjoy it so much. It brings to memory so many of the boys that I had all but forgotten about. I would like to hear from all of my old buddies of the Ninth Division.

FRANK STALKER,  
Orleans, Ind., Route 2.

### CHARLIE TINGLEY ACCEPTS SECRETARY'S JOB --- FULFILLING REQUESTS FILED BY MEMBERS.

#### NEW SECRETARY-TREASURER SEEMS TO BE "ON THE BEAM"—BUT IT WILL TAKE A FEW DAYS OR WEEKS TO BECOME FAMILIAR WITH MANY ANGLES.

Charlie Tingley proposes a Progress Report concerning Ninth Division History be published every month in The Octofoil. Excerpts from his letter to Lieut. Joseph Mittelman, Division Historian, and the lieutenant's answer are self-explanatory and should satisfactorily answer many questions being asked by the members.

Dear Lieut. Mittelman: I have just taken over the duties as Secretary-Treasurer of the Association, so far it looks like a very interesting job, as well as a busy one.

I was talking to General Stroh a few days ago and he made a suggestion concerning The Octofoil so I am writing to you to see if you can help me. It was suggested that each issue of The Octofoil contain a news item concerning the progress of the history. We receive many inquiries relative to the history and when it will be finished. If you could write up a short summary each month telling in a few words just what the status of it is and send it to me before the fifth of each month then it could be sent on to Plunkett in time for that month's issue.

#### FEATURE ARTICLES

The other thing that was mentioned was to run a column or part of a column concerning items of interest that occurred during the particular month of issue. In other words, for the October issue, there would be a column concerning special events about the Division that took place in October, not necessarily for any one particular year but perhaps for several years, listing each occurrence in order. Say in October, 1940, the Division did so and so on the 5th of the month. Maybe on the 10th of October, 1944, the division or some part of it was catching holy hell from a bunch of 88's in such and such a town in Germany.

Is there any way you could gather such information and let me have it by the 5th of the month. If so, I sure would appreciate it and think that it would make good reading in the paper.

CHARLES TINGLEY,  
Secretary-Treasurer, Ninth Infantry Division Assn.

#### NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION HISTORY PROJECT

##### Special Report to the Chief of Information

For period ending 9 August, 1947:

1. Research (1917-1945)—100 per cent complete.
2. Compilation (1917-1945)—100 per cent complete.

### HARRY T. FORTNER WRITES FROM WAY DOWN IN DIXIE

Dear Friends: Thought I would write a line or two to let you hear from an old member of the Division. I have been a member of the Association ever since it was organized.

I enjoy receiving and reading The Octofoil every month. I wish I could attend every Reunion.

I was with Co. C, 60th, and I certainly would appreciate hearing from any of the boys from the Company.

Hoping to receive my history soon, I remain,

Sincerely,

HARRY T. FORTNER,  
2736 Dunn Ave., Memphis, Tenn.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

3. Organization of material (1917-1945)—100 per cent complete.
  4. Layout—400 pages and covers—12 per cent complete.
  5. Procurement of maps (AMS)—100 per cent complete.
  6. Procurement of photos from ETO and Signal Corps—estimated 8,000—95 per cent complete.
  7. Movement to Baltimore—100 per cent complete.
  8. Book cover drawings—100 per cent complete.
  9. Book jacket and artwork—First proofs now back from publisher—31 per cent complete.
  10. Photo choosing, layout, captions—estimated 125 pages and 150 prints.
  11. Map work—Estimated 28 maps—10 per cent complete.
  12. Preliminary draft text—estimated 200,000 words—22 per cent complete.
  13. Final Draft Text—estimated 180,000 words.
  14. Reviews (first 42,000 words now out for correction of experts.)
  15. Publisher negotiations—100 per cent complete.
- Whole project average completed, 46.18 per cent.
- JOSEPH B. MITTELMAN,  
1st Lt., Infantry Division Historian.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

# THE OCTOFOIL

EDITORIAL AND EXECUTIVE OFFICES, WASHINGTON, D. C.  
(Printed monthly at 337 S. High St., Room 318, Columbus, O.)  
Form Cards 3578 should be sent to P. O. Box 1704, Washington 13, D. C.)

HENRY S. RIGBY, *President*  
MAJOR GENERAL DONALD A. STROH, *First Vice-President*  
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BONNIE C. NEASE, *Third Vice-President*  
CHARLES O. TINGLEY, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association with offices located in the Army War College, Fourth and "P" Streets, S. W., Washington, D. C. Single copy price of this publication is 10 cents per issue, or by mail, 60 cents per year, payable in advance. Subscribers should notify this office promptly of any change in address.

Published each month by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News articles, feature stories, photographic or art material from members will be welcomed and every effort will be made to return photographic and art work in good condition. Please address all communications to The Octofoil, 337 South High Street, Room 318, Columbus, Ohio.

Extract from the certificate of incorporation of the Ninth Infantry Division Association: "This Association is formed by the officers and men of the Ninth Infantry Division in order to perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the Division, to assist in promoting an everlasting world peace exclusively by means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to members and former members of the Division."

Advertising Rates will be furnished upon request. Write Paul S. Plunkett, 337 South High Street, Room 318, Columbus, Ohio.

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MAIL NOTES OF INTEREST THAT SHOULD BE PUBLISHED IN THE OCTOFOIL, DIRECT TO THE PUBLICATION OFFICE HEREFTER—337 S. HIGH ST., ROOM 318, COLUMBUS, OHIO. TELEPHONE: MAIN 6998. IT WILL EXPEDITE HANDLING AND MORE NEARLY ASSURE YOU OF PUBLICATION IF RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE THE 10TH OF EACH MONTH.

## GOLD STAR MOTHERS APPRECIATIVE

Appearing in the news columns of this issue of The Octofoil is a short story concerning the determination of a Philadelphia member to see that Gold Star Mothers attending the Philadelphia Reunion are made to feel at ease.

The Gold Star Mothers . . . and Dads, if you please—are a very grateful group. Their presence adds dignity to any gathering.

The presence of the Gold Star Mothers, as a group, at the Memorial Services of the Second Annual Reunion, was the outstanding and most impressive feature of the program. But ever since that memorable day the president of Chapter No. 1, Gold Star Mothers, has leaned backward to extend courtesies to the Ninth Infantry Division Association Chapter in her home town. She has extended invitations for the Chapter to attend their meetings on the nights they have their social gatherings—at which time all the Gold Star members have packed boxes of food and served these ex-G.I.s—food that no hungry G. I. was ever capable of dreaming it was possible to prepare.

All ex-G.I.s who have witnessed the guy next to him stop a piece of shrapnel or a machine gun bullet—a guy who had come to mean more to him than his own brother—has a more tender spot in his heart for these Gold Star Mothers than the average person.

The war will never be over for these devoted mothers whose sons paid the supreme sacrifice. The war will never be over for those who suffered hours of front-line combat. Already groups of Gold Star Mothers are being told by unprincipled and un-American individuals, "Come down to earth—the war is over." Since there are two groups of individuals—the Gold Star Mothers and Infantry Combat Team men for who the war will never be over—local Chapters should go down the heartless civilian roads hand in hand with Chapters of the Gold Star Mothers. Make just a little gesture—a committee visit to one of their meetings—it will do their hearts good.

No one could write the kind of letter the unknown Philadelphia lad writes unless such words were stemming from his heart. He feels in planning for some Gold Star Mother, indirectly he is planning for the mother of that buddy he will never see again.

Let each Chapter of the Ninth Infantry Division Association sponsor and encourage the attendance of a Gold Star Mother in your community to the Philadelphia Reunion.

**It Can Be Done!**

—Did You Pay for This Octofoil?—

## Unsung Hero - - - - - By Plunkett



MEET BUSTER BOOMSTOOL  
SLING SHOT CHAMP OF THE 9TH DIV.  
REPUTED TO HAVE HIT 6 CROWS, 2  
MESSERSCHMIDTS AND ONE SECOND  
LT. DURING THE N. AFRICAN CAMPAIGN.

## WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

By GREER WILLIAMS,  
Special Consultant,  
Veterans Administration

Before the war it seemed, with some exceptions, that wealthy neurotics were about the only class of people who went to psychiatrists willingly.

They had more money and, it seemed, more problems of the mind than the rest of us. At least they had the money, and it became fashionable to be psycho-analyzed. Actually, the rest of us had our upsets, our frustrations, our fears and our difficulties, too. But we poor neurotics just stayed away from psychiatrists.

### WRONG IMPRESSION

One reason was that we could not afford \$10, \$25, or \$50 an hour for psychiatric treatment. There was another reason though. In our somewhat limited view of things, we were convinced that anyone who had to see a psychiatrist was headed for an institution. It is human nature to take the worst possible view of such things.

As a matter of fact, psychiatrists, with the advance of knowledge, have become much more than traffic cops on the road to state hospitals. They are doctors of the human mind, and the majority don't spend much time in "asylums." Nor do their patients.

### EX-G. I.s KNOW THE SCORE

Some of the most successful people have been to psychiatrists, and that goes for successful veterans of combat, too. In fact, World War II was a liberal education in psychiatry for many a veteran. Military psychiatrists didn't claim to know all the answers, as do some of us who don't know any of them. But when they insisted that the way a man felt about things, consciously or unconsciously, could make him sick, a lot of soldiers and junior officers in the line knew what they were talking about.

The Army and Navy attracted many of the best psychiatrists to be had—not the fancy ones with a Van Dyke beard and the piercing eye but well-trained, well-balanced guys who would wear well. The Veterans Administration has tried to do the same thing in staffing its Neuropsychiatric Hospitals and Mental Hygiene Clinics.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## APPLICATION BLANK

Give the coupon below to a fellow-member of the Division. Better yet, fill it out for the new member of The Association and then let him sign it in your presence. Remember !!! Every member gets a new member in 1947.

(DATE)

Enclosed herewith is Five Dollars (\$5.00) in check—money order (cross out one) to cover initiation fee for membership in The Ninth Infantry Division Association. Sixty (.60) cents of the above amount will be applied as (your) subscription costs for the monthly publication of The Ninth Infantry Division Association.

My present address is: (Please print or typewrite.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

R.F.D. or Street \_\_\_\_\_

City and State \_\_\_\_\_

My address while with the Ninth Infantry Division was: \_\_\_\_\_

Rank and Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature)

Note: Make check or money order payable to the Secretary-Treasurer, The Ninth Infantry Division Association, P. O. Box 1704, Washington (13), D. C.

## NAVY WANTS TO PUT WEB FEET ON COLONEL'S EAGLES

Efforts to run down a fairly well-founded latrine rumor so far has been unsuccessful, but the way the story goes is that when this unification of armed forces business gets definitely settled, the Navy will try and get eagles on Army colonels' shoulders equipped with web feet.

### PORT OF MISSING MEN

Another columnist commenting on the unification program, has this to say:

"The Navy high command is to occupy part of the Pentagon Building. Hereafter it will be known as the Port of Missing Men."

### PORTABLE FOXHOLE

Still another suggestion:

The Army has developed a 75 mm. cannon which can be carried on the shoulder of one soldier. The next step is to devise a portable foxhole with air conditioning.

Another problem bothering the top Navy "brass" is what kind of gun salute to give the head of this unified defense set-up. Having already established the practice of who receives a 19-gun salute and who gets the 21-gun salute—with even numbered salutes taboo, their only solution seems to be to fire a 19 gun salute and let a detail of gobs give one bubble gum salute. At least that's the suggestion of a famous newspaper columnist from out in the Middle West.

The guests at Plane Builder Howard Hughes' wartime aviation contract parties seemed to fly pretty high—at least higher than one of the planes ever got.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## Infantry Journal Press Release An Interesting And Educational Book

"Front-Line Intelligence" has been placed on sale by the Infantry Journal Press, 1115 17th St., S. W., Washington 6, D. C. In advertisements sent out concerning the book and the authors the publishers have this to say about our own Colonel Robb:

### THE AUTHORS

Colonel Robert Robb was called to active duty in 1941, and has spent practically all his time since in Intelligence work. He was G-2 of the Ninth Infantry Division from Christmas, 1942, until August, 1944, when he went to work as Chief of the Training Branch, Military Intelligence Division, WD General Staff.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## REMEMBER WHEN COLONEL RANDLE SENT A MOTHER'S DAY CARD FOR "HIS BOYS?"

No one element made the Ninth Division the great combat team that it developed to be. The sturdiness of the men themselves was the No. 1 factor, but the humane characteristics of practically all of the Ninth's ranking officers helped the men in the ranks to maintain their morale and a desire to do their best.

A most appealing paragraph, almost hidden from view, was located in The Fort Bragg Post, issue of July 29, 1942, sent to The Octofoil by Wilton Taylor, Taft, Calif. The paragraph was under the heading "Raider Regiment's Events of Year." It read something like this:

May 7—Col. Edwin H. Randle sends letter to the mother of every enlisted man and officer of the regiment extending his best wishes for Mothers' Day, May 10."



# THERE'LL BE HOT TIME IN THE OLD TOWN

## THESE KRAUTS HEARD OF THE NINTH



Lieut. Jess Nunn, 1st Bn., 47th Regt., gets a shot of those big-shot supermen from the Kraut ranks who couldn't take any more of what the Ninth was dishing out.

## COOTIES PASS THE OCTOFOIL AROUND

The Octofoil is getting some very favorable publicity—really nice compliments—but these pats on the back do not pay bills—as much as everyone connected with The Octofoil appreciate the orchids.

During the National Encampment of the V. F. W. in Cleveland, Ohio, early in September, many members of the Military Order of the Cootie, honorary organization of the V. F. W., used copies of The Octofoil as a pattern for their own paper when presenting arguments for the inauguration of such a paper.

The Grand Council (State of Ohio) Military Order of the Cootie, authorized the issuance of a newspaper, same size, type style, etc., as The Octofoil for its membership.

### PLUNKETT EDITS SHEET

Newspaper wire services on Tuesday, Sept. 9, announced that Paul S. Plunkett, member of the Board of Governors of the Ninth Infantry Division Association, would be editor of the Cootie paper, which will be called "The Buckeye Louse."

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

### HAVE YOU PAID '47 DUES?

**John Stempert, 47th Man, Wants to Hear From Some Buddies**

John Stempert, after serving in both the First and Ninth Divisions says the Ninth was "tops." His letter follows:

Dear Sirs: I am interested in locating a few of my buddies from Co. L, 47th Regt. I would like to hear from Charles Freedman; also Lt. Engelheart of the Third Platoon. I used to be a scout with the Ninth. I served also in the First. I think the Ninth was one of the greatest outfits ever to be made. Its combat record not only proves it, but their willingness and fine teamwork is beyond comparison.

I still remember what Ernie Pyle said: "The Ninth is good. It will never be beaten."

I hope to be able to locate these two buddies and I can hardly wait for my copy of "Eight Stars to Victory."

Keep up the good work with The Octofoil. After I read my copy I pass it around to everyone in the neighborhood.

**JOHN STEMPERT,**  
842 Pequonnock, Bridgeport, Conn.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## Gold Star Mother Says She Hopes to Make Trip to Philadelphia

Thanks Mike Puzak, President Rigby and Others for Their Courtesy.

Dear Sir: Will you please put a notice in The Octofoil for me? I am a Gold Star Mother and no words can express the thankfulness and appreciation for all the wonderful boys that I met in Columbus, O., at the Reunion. I want to name a few that were nice to me and me being so far from home. But these boys made me feel at home in Columbus.

Among the ones I want to mention are Mr. and Mrs. Jean Mitz. They were with me at the Memorial Services. I don't know what I would have done if it had not been for them. I will never forget them, and President Rigby was very courteous. He helped me get in touch with some of the boys who knew my son. Please thank Mr. Rigby for me for what he did.

Mr. Jerome Cornza came to my room and talked to me about my son and I appreciate the news he gave me. Mike Puzak was also very kind, and all the rest of the boys—many whose names I can't remember. But please give my thanks to all of them for all they did for me. I had a nice time in Columbus at the Reunion and I hope very much to see them all in Philadelphia next year.

So long and good luck to all of you.

Sincerely,

MOM.

MRS. CONNIE CAMPO,  
Box 571, Gastonia, N. C.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## JUST JOINED, AND LIKES TO READ THE NEWS IN OCTOFOIL

Dear Sir: I have just joined the Association and believe me I am glad I did. I enjoy reading The Octofoil very much. I was with Co. M, 60th for almost three years. I really thought a lot of the outfit. Would like very much to hear from some of my buddies.

**PAGING DONALD DAYA**  
I'd like to hear from Donald Daya, an old buddy of mine. His home town is Chicago, Ill.

I am looking forward to getting the History of the Division.

Hoping to hear from some of the fellows, I am

**WILLIAM A. ZIMMERMAN,**  
1512 Abbottston St., Baltimore 18, Maryland.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## OTTO SIROVY GIVES SOME TIMELY TIPS

WANTS MORE OLD TIMERS TO WRITE LETTERS, GIVING NAMES AND ADDRESS.

Hello Fellows: Just a few lines to let you know I'm receiving The Octofoil regularly and that I really enjoy reading it and reading about the activities of former members of the Ninth Div.—especially of the 47th Regt. and First Bn.

I wish more of the older gang—from the North African landings on through—would write letters to The Octofoil and have their names and addresses printed.

As it is many of the names published are replacements that come in after many of us former members left, so naturally there are many names mentioned that some of us don't know.

There are many members of the Ninth Div. that left it before the organization of the Association that don't belong. In fact, there are some that do not know of the existence of the Association.

If the Association and Octofoil would get in contact with these former members not yet in the Association I believe most, or many of them would join—and we'd begin hearing from many of them through their letters to The Octofoil.

### WANTS LIST

If The Octofoil would print the complete list of names and addresses and former companies or outfits they were in, of present members of the Division Association I'm sure it would meet with the approval of all members and make it easier and simple to contact one another. I hope this can be done in a future issue.

(Ed's Note: This will be discussed with the Board, but with the space in The Octofoil limited such a list would have to be published serially for several months. However, we may be able to work something out. Thanks for the suggestion.)

### WHERE ARE THESE GUYS?

I'd like to know the addresses and hear from such fellows of Co. C, 47th, as: John DeFreitas, Captain Wm. Klaus, Capt. Burton Anderson, Victor Axelsson, Ronald Tesno, Paul Hursh, Bob Cahill, Sam Confalone, Joe Selvaggio, Howard Brooks, Pete Wujcik, Vincent Piediscalzo, Norman Routson, Captain Jim Leopold, Howard Skarison and any other former 47th men that knew me.

I read the letter in the September issue of The Octofoil by Jim Ciluffe, who said he was a former sergeant in Co. C, 47th and said: "We fought side by side with them (the First Div.) from Africa to Germany." I joined the 47th in October, 1942 and was in the 3rd Platoon, Co. C, until wounded at St. Lo, July 28, 1944. However, I can't place Jim Ciluffe—and I am wondering just when he was in the company and would like to know his present address.

Am waiting patiently for that Ninth Division History. You fellows keep up the good work.

**OTTO R. SIROVY,**  
150 Jackson St., Jackson, Minn.  
(Former sergeant Co. C, 47th.)  
Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

### WHAT'TA YOU THINK?

A beautiful young lady and her bashful suitor were alone in the parlor. After several minutes of silence she finally said: "What are you thinking about, John?"

"The s-s-same thing you are," he finally blurted out.

"Oh, you bad boy. I've a good notion to slap you."

## ONLY A FEW DAYS LEFT IN WHICH TO GET TICKETS FOR DANCE -- OCTOBER 4TH WILL BE THE DAY.

**TELLS OCTOFOIL NEW YORK CHAPTER IS PLENTY BUSY; WANTS YOU NEW JERSEY GUYS TO COME OUT OF YOUR SHELL AND ATTEND THIS DANCE.**

Stan Cohen sounds off to the whole cock-eyed world and tells them about that big-time dance the New Yorkers are staging. Any former members able to attend this gala affair and don't must be just plain nuts. Get that ticket, Joe—and get on the band wagon.

## Philly Lad Thinking About the Gold Star Mothers and Dads

The lad from down in Philadelphia who sent in \$1 last month to start the fund for the entertainment of Gold Star Mothers and Dads at the Philadelphia Reunion sends to The Octofoil another \$1—but still insists on remaining anonymous. Among other things in the current letter to The Octofoil he has this to say:

"Just let the fellows in the Association think about the boys who can't be with us. At least we can try to get the Mothers and Dads with us."

"Wish the Chapters would bring this up on the floor and see what they think of it. Hope The Octofoil will give this more publicity."

What do you say fellows? This Philadelphia member is paving the way—and he seems to be an insistent number. He's not going to take no for an answer. He intends to get as many Gold Star Mothers and Dads to Philadelphia as possible. His contribution and others will be given to the Philadelphia Committee with definite instructions that it is earmarked for the benefit of visiting Gold Star Mothers and Dads. The Octofoil hopes to smoke this lad out before the Reunion so the visiting Gold Star Mothers and Dads will know which of our members it was who thought so much of them.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

### A HITLER LANDMARK



Remember the Hitler Youth Camp, near Stoleberg, Germany. Pictured by Hitler's monstrosity is Lieut. Jess Nunn, Hdq., 1st Bn., 47th.

## Paging You Company I, 39th Regt. Fellows

Charles Lee Richards is living in Frankfort, Ind., at 604 N. John St., and he wants some of you Co. I, 39th men to write him. He says he will answer any and all letters. Come on fellows—let Richards hear from you.

GET A NEW MEMBER IN '47!

## ONLY A FEW DAYS LEFT FOR TICKETS...

That's all there is... and from the portals of the Capital Hotel, 51st and 8th Avenue in New York City... music and merriment will be the keynote of the evening.

### ARRANGEMENTS MADE

The New York Chapter is busy all right... all arrangements have been made. There are still some tickets available... If any of the local New York or New Jersey fellows still haven't received their tickets, they better do so immediately. All they have to do is to contact any of the officers or members of the Board of Governors for tickets.

### NUMBER LIMITED

It is the suggestion of the New York Chapter that they do so in a hurry... We are only allowed a limited number of tickets and cannot go beyond.

### BRING YOUR WIVES

We extend this invitation to all former members of the Ninth living in and around New York City. Bring your friends and wives and sweethearts.

What are we going to have? Well that's simple... A DARNED GOOD TIME... If you want to join this band wagon of fun and frolic at the Hotel Capital let's hear from you former Ninth boys in the big city.

### BIG-TIME ORCHESTRA

The orchestra that has been hired is tops... the entertainment will be out of this world... So let's go New York to the HOTEL CAPITAL on October 4th.

**STAN COHEN,**  
Publicity Chairman.  
Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## Many 9th Men Are Entitled to Wear the Bronze Star Medal

All men who were awarded a Combat Infantry Badge or a Medical Badge by orders in the field between December 7, 1941 and September 2, 1945, are entitled to the Bronze Star Medal.

If such Combat Infantry Badge or Medical Badge were awarded to the individual by War Department letter order or were awarded after September 2, 1945, such individuals are not entitled to the Bronze Star Medal.

For information on this and for application for Bronze Star if eligible, please write to The Adjutant General's Office, Decoration and Awards Branch, The Pentagon, Washington 25, D. C.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## NOW THE GALS HAVE AN "AUXILIARY" FOR THE MEN

World War II struck many a new note and, if anything else is needed to prove it, this does:

Members of a women's veterans' group in Pittsburgh are planning a "men's auxiliary." The Post Commander has this to say: "Any man who had a sister, daughter or wife in the service will have a right to belong to the men's auxiliary upon presentation of her discharge."

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

# FIRST INSTALLMENT OF P.O.W.'S DIARY

**PREAMBLE PORTION OF VIC WOJTAS' DIARY WHILE A P.O.W. GIVES AN INSIGHT TO THE LAD'S THOUGHTS.**

**NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE WILL CARRY NAMES OF HIS PALS WHO WERE ALSO P.O.W.s; POEMS IN THIS ISSUE ARE WORTH PRESERVING.**

Vic Wojtas, who lives at 1729 N. Wood St., Chicago, Ill., is a modest "Joe." After The Octofoil learned about Vic's diary he wrote in saying, "I don't want any publicity. If you must print it, though, print it anonymously." Here it is fellows and you gotta admit no other veteran newspaper has ever been able to print anything so heart-touching. Let's give Vic a vote of thanks for allowing The Octofoil to print the diary he kept while a P. O. W.:

## NOTICE . . .

Mostly everything printed in this book was done when I was



Wojtas nothing but the truth—So Help Me God!

Prison VII-A 111983  
III-B 202373  
Army Serial Number 16002334  
U. S. A. Prison Number G-2365

## A PRISONER'S PRAYER . . .

O God, my Creator and Protector, I know that Thou art near me and so I adore Thee and give myself to Thee, body and soul, and with submission to Thy will.

Thou hast saved me from death which has overtaken many of my companions, and hast permitted that I be a prisoner; I will bear patiently and hopefully for love of Thee with all the difficulties of my state.

Bless me and all my companions here; grant us to live in peace, comforting and consoling one another with fraternal love and charity. Bless my family who are far away; my friends and all I love, my country and my comrades in arms. Give me peace and protect me from melancholy and despair and above all, keep me from offending Thee.

My God, I thank Thee for all Thy blessings and I will try and serve Thee as St. Paul has told us:

"Rejoicing in hope. Patient in tribulation. Instant in prayer."

## IRISH IE DEUM . . .

Thanks be to God for the light and the darkness;

Thanks be to God for the hail and the snow;

Thanks be to God for shower and sunshine;

Thanks be to God for all things that grow;

Thanks be to God for lightning and tempest;

Thanks be to God for weal and for woe;

Thanks be to God for His own great goodness;

Thanks be to God that what is, is so;

Thanks be to God when the harvest is plenty;

Thanks Be to God when the barn is low;

Thanks be to God when our pockets are empty;

Thanks be to God when again they are overflowing.

## MOTHER . . .

Here in the Stalag as days pass by

I've got time to recall—to think—to sigh;

I remember the days when I used to cry,

And to your open arms I would fly;

I remember, too, when just a lad

How many times I made you sad;

I remember all this, but still

I'm glad, because you're the sweetest mother a guy ever had.

In the heat of battle I had no guide—

My friends, my buddies either wounded or died—

You never taught me to run and hide,

So I fought it out, with you by my side;

The day is near when home I'll go,

To those I knew so LONG AGO.

I've learned so much from friend and foe—

Yes, now I know why I love you so.

## FAMILIAR PHRASES OF G. I.s ON R. C. DAY! . . .

"Who wants?"

"Cigarettes for G. W."

"Prem for bully beef."

"D-bar for hard candy."

"Cocoa for coffee."

"Cheese for Biscuits and—"

"Coming for can lemon."

"No eight for hard candy."

"I'll bet a can of bully beef."

## LONGING . . .

As we sit here in the compound

The days are rolling by. We all know we'll be home, safe and sound.

For our love for freedom will never die. This war's going to be over, and we'll all go home again.

To be leaving home—NEVER. For I'm a peace lovin' American.—By Albrault, P.O.W.

## PRISONERS OF WAR . . .

One hundred men and forty more,

On triple bunks reclining,

The one lone light is dreamy, bright,

The barracks half defining.

A trio softly sings of home,

Fulfills the plea, "Encore"—

You'd never guess that all of us Are Prisoners of War.

Forgotten now, the sentries tread,

The wire fence without,

Our comrades dead, of how we bled,

The distant battle shout.

Tonight our thoughts are all of home,

We live as once before!

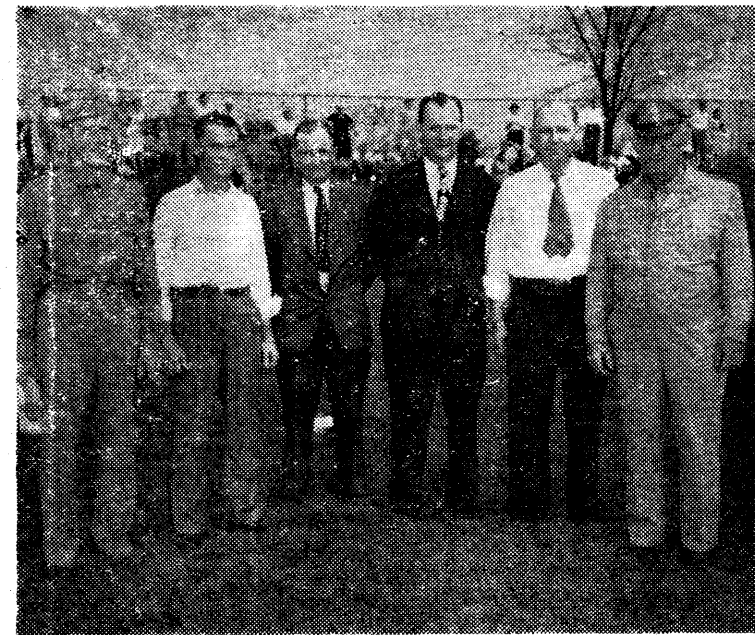
But though our spirits span the foam,

We're Prisoners of War.

Some dawning sun will surely see,

Us FREE! And even more

## "REVIEWING" MOOSEHEART "TROOPS"



Sporting his Octofoil shoulder patch while attending the National Moose Convention, John Clouser, president of the Illinois Chapter, insisted on all former Ninth Division men he could locate, standing by and reviewing his "troops." Pictured, left to right as the cadets passed by, are: Clouser, Richard Pestel, vice-president Columbus Chapter; Paul S. Plunkett, Octofoil representative; Glenn O. Moore, president Columbus Chapter; W. J. Leinweber, superintendent of the Mooseheart Home, and Col. R. A. P. Holderby.

A World in which there need not be Prisoners of War.  
—Written by a P.O.W.

## PRAYER FOR GENEROSITY . . .

Dear Lord, teach me to be generous, teach me to serve Thee as Thou deservest, to give and not to count the cost, to figure and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labour and not to seek reward, save that or knowing that I do Thy holy will.—(St. Ignatius.)

## THE DRAFT DODGER! . . .

I'm writing this short letter, And every word is true— Don't look away Draft Dodger For it's addressed to you.

You feel at ease, in no danger, Back in the old home town; You cooked up some pitiful story, So the draft board would turn you down.

You never think of real men Who leave home day by day— You think only of their girl friends That you take while they're away.

You sit home and read your paper, You jump and yell, "We'll win," Just where do you get that "we" stuff? This war will be won by men.

Just what do you think, Draft Dodger, That this free nation would do If all the men were slackers, And scared to fight, like you?

Well, I guess that's all, Mr. Slacker, I suppose your face is red— America is no place for your kind And I mean every word I said.

So I'm closing this, Draft Dodger, Just remember what I say: "Keep away from my girl, you dirty bum,

For I'm coming home some day."

—Written by a P.O.W.

## AFRICA—22 March, 1943 . . .

The sun rose from behind Makey Pass,

(Continued on Page 5)

## Attention, You Illinois Members

The Chicago Group of the Illinois Chapter, Ninth Infantry Division Association will hold its regular meeting on Friday, September 26, 1947, at 8:30 P. M. The meeting will be held in the Moose Temple, 1016 N. Dearborn St. All former members of the Ninth Division are more than welcomed, whether members of the Association or not.

President John J. Clouser stopped in The Octofoil office personally to leave this notice. You guys turn out in a big way. John is a hard worker—don't let him down! Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## Carl Hientz Prepares For Newspaper Work

Miles McFarland, Columbus, O. Chapter, calls The Octofoil to advise he has recently received a letter from former Sgt. Carl Hientz, Co. L, 39th Regt.

Carl, after graduating from Stanford University has entered Columbia University, where he is taking a post graduate course in journalism.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## ANY G.I. COULD HAVE TOLD 'EM WITHOUT THESE FACTS

It's official now—in a tight spot a G.I. would rather have cigarettes and coffee than any other ration items. Next in order of preference comes biscuits and crackers, candy, chewing gum, cheese, sugar, bacon or ham and eggs, frankfurters and beans, meat and beans and matches.

This information is the result of a postwar survey conducted by the Quartermaster Corps seeking to determine what the preference of G. I.s were when they were cut off from regular supplies.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## DIPLOMACY

He: "Why didn't you answer my letter?"

She: "I didn't get it, and besides I didn't like some of the things you said in it."

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## HAVE YOU PAID '47 DUES?

## SEPT. 7 WAS A BIG DAY FOR CLOUSER

John Clouser, president of the Illinois Chapter and assistant ROTC instructor at the Mooseheart Home, Mooseheart, Ill., sends The Octofoil a beautiful engraved invitation to an special Military Day celebration that was held at Mooseheart on September 7. The invitation reads:

The Mooseheart Governors, the Superintendent of Mooseheart, the Commandant of the Mooseheart R.O.T.C., extend a cordial invitation to attend the

## Fourteenth Annual Military Day

September 7, at 2:30 P. M.

Illinois Memorial Stadium, Mooseheart, Illinois

## Special Guests

The National Championship American Legion Band

Harwood Post No. 5, Joliet, Ill.

Appearance sponsored by Joliet Moose Lodge

Reception at Women's Building after Review

W. J. Leinweber, Superintendent of Mooseheart

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## EYES RIGHT . . .



Clouser's snappy little "soldiers" from Mooseheart Home, pass the reviewing stand.

## Marietta, Ohio, Police Chief Helps Locate F. Camden's Relatives

A recent issue of The Octofoil printed the "unmailed" letter Frank Camden had written to his wife just before he was killed in action. Many inquiries came to The Octofoil concerning the possible whereabouts of Frank's nearest-of-kin. Through the cooperation of H. O. Wolfe, chief of police in Marietta, O., one of Frank's brothers was located and he called at The Octofoil office and gave the desired information.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## NOBODY'S KIDDING YOU—YOUR "DOGS" ARE BIGGER

So you have a sneaking suspicion that your feet have spread out a little from "picking 'em up and laying 'em down" in the Army?

Well, Joe, it seems that you know whereof you suspicion. A. C. Fellman, war time consultant to the Navy in the purchase and design of shoes, has this to say: "Ex-servicemen's feet have increased from a half to a full size over prewar days."

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?



## COLUMBUS GANG BUSY - - - WEDDINGS, BABIES, PICNICS, AND MEETINGS ALL TAKEN IN STRIDE BY BUCKEYE GANG

**PRES. MOORE ON VACATION; DICK PESTEL DOES GOOD JOB PRESIDING; DAVE BORING A "NATURAL" ACTING SECRETARY; THANK 2ND VICE-PRES. MAHON.**

The following minutes are verbatim as per the copy furnished The Octofoil by Dave Boring early the next morning after the Columbus Chapter Sept. 5. meeting. President Moore returned from his vacation and was able to attend part of the meeting, but declined the courtesy of the chair since Vice-Pres. Pestel had already opened the meeting. One new member, Richard Corbin, formerly of the 15th Engineers, now on the Columbus Police Dept., attended the meeting, and his application will be in Washington very soon.

Jesse R. Davis, who lives in Hebron, O., some 25 miles from Columbus, attended the meeting, as he does whenever possible. His loyalty should be inspiring to all other members.

### THE MINUTES

The monthly meeting of the Columbus Chapter No. 1 of the 9th Infantry Division Association was held at 8 p. m. September 5, 1947 at 33 W. Gay St., V.F.W. Clubrooms, Benson Hough Post.

The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Pestel, who read a card regarding the expanding of the Columbus Chapter. Pestel read a resolution addressed to the Board of Governors petitioning to be called the Ohio Chapter and to be allowed to accept as members men wishing to join in communities not already having a local chapter.

Discussion followed.

The motion was made by Moore to approve the petition as revised. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

The motion was made that the secretary record the petition as unanimously accepted by those present. Seconded and carried.

### GOLD STAR MOTHERS

Plunkett reported that the Gold Star Mothers definitely do not want combat pictures at their dinner for the Columbus Chapter on Sept. 12. In order to give the Gold Star Mothers an estimate of the number of dinners to prepare, it was agreed that a joint committee of Moore, Plunkett, and Pestel would contact by phone all possible members and notify Mrs. Grace Hall a tentative number to be present, by Monday, and a definite number, or within two or three, to be given on Tuesday.

### VISIT THE EAGLES

Monday, the 15th, was agreed upon to accept the invitation of the Hilltop Eagles to be their guests. Through the co-operation of the U. S. Army Recruiting Office the combat films will be shown at the Eagles party.

### VISIT LEGION

Wednesday, the 17th, was agreed upon as the date to accept the invitation to be guests of the Southway Post, American Legion. Films and projector are to be taken.

### MAHON PRESENTS FILMS

A motion was made and carried that a vote of thanks be recorded to Walter Mahon, Chicago, Second Vice President of the National Association, for the color films of the second annual reunion, which he presented to the Columbus Chapter.

### THANK EXECS

The motion was made and carried that a vote of thanks be given to Vice-President Pestel and Acting Secretary Boring for the excellent manner in which the meeting was conducted.

Motion made and carried that meeting stand adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
DAVID B. BORING,  
Acting Secretary.

### LEO HOPE MARRIES

The Octofoil received the following beautiful engraved invitation to the wedding of Leo G. Hope. Leo's wedding took place on the same day the Board of Governors were meeting in Wash-

ington and The Octofoil regretfully was unable to be represented at the wedding:

Mrs. Charles H. Gallione requests the honor of your presence

at the marriage of her daughter Marvinne Frances Thompson to

Mr. Leo G. Hope  
Saturday, August Twenty-third  
Nineteen hundred and  
Forty-seven  
at Nine o'clock a. m.  
St. Ladislaus Church  
277 Reeb Avenue  
Columbus, Ohio

Reception  
Two o'clock p. m.  
799 East Whittier Street

### BABY AT HILDITCH HOME

Olen Hilditch, secretary-treasurer of the Columbus Chapter after advertising to everyone, far and near that twins were on the way to his home had to be content with sending out the following clever little announcement after it was all over:

Olen Hilditch Productions, Ltd. present  
their first outstanding production  
"TWO FEET FROM HEAVEN"

Starring  
Lawrence Olen Hilditch  
six pounds four ounces of  
personality

"The Howling Success of 1947!"  
Previewed  
9:50 a. m., August 17, 1947  
Mt. Carmel Hospital

Opening Unlimited Engagement  
At 1884 E. Rich St., Columbus,  
Ohio

PRODUCER—ELSIE HILDITCH  
DIRECTOR—OLEN HILDITCH  
TECHNICAL ADVISOR—DR. R. F. DALY  
GOWNS BY—VANTA & CURITY  
Original Music Composed and  
Rendered by the Star

### DON JEWELL MARRIES

Don Jewell pulled a fast one on the gang and got married, keeping it a secret until the day of the picnic.

### KEEPS WEDDING "SECRET"



Don Jewell and the pretty little number he married. Picture taken at the Columbus Chapter's picnic.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## Former M. P. Wants to Hear From Buddies

Kenneth L. Meyer, 468 Pearl St., Akron, Ohio, former Division M. P., sent The Octofoil a photograph taken in Rott, Germany in the fall of 1944, but the photo-engravers couldn't get a good cut made from the print.

In his letter Kenneth asks his old buddies to contact him.

He is especially anxious to hear from Mess Sgt. Shute of K Co., 47th Regt., and Lt. West, 2nd Bn. Communications, 60th Regt.

### BABY AT KEN'S HOME

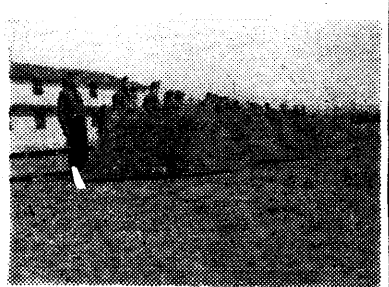
Just as The Octofoil was ready to go to press along comes a cute little announcement which reads as follows:

My name is Richard Bruce Meyer.

I arrived Sept. 5, 1947.  
My parents are Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth L. Meyer.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## AN M.P. CAN PITCH TENTS



Kenneth Myers, Akron, wants to remind everyone that down Fort Bragg way they made the M.P.s pitch their pup tents by the numbers.

Six permanent forms of National Service Life Insurance administered by Veterans Administration are open to veterans of World War II and to members of the armed forces—ordinary life, 20-payment life, 30-payment life, 20-year endowment, endowment at age 60, and endowment at the age of 65.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## MORE OF VIC'S DIARY . . .

(Continued from Page 4)

To announce to us, that another night had passed, And there in the valley coming so fast,

Were Germans and Panzers of every class; Rommel was running; he was being forced—

The British 8th Army made his cause so lost.

We were so few, but the order was tossed:

Hold him men at any cost; We hit the dirt, side by side—

Fired bullets and shells into their fronts so wide;

Creeping and crawling, bit by bit, The enemy was closer, hit-on-hit;

Bodies were flying, still no one quit

Till their machine gun was shoved into our pit;

We were trapped, so many died— But God only knows how hard we tried.

I pray that you and you will never see

"Hell in all its fury as did we." It will never be forgotten by them

or by me, That 22nd of March in '43.

—By another P. O. W.

### "ITINERARY" . . .

S.-Sgt. Victor Wojtas, 11-17-1942: Left U. S. A. 10-14-1942. Invaded Africa 11-8-1942. Captured by Germans in Tunisia 3-22-1943. Taken to Naples, Italy, by airplane, 4-8-1943. Taken from Naples, Italy, to Moosburg, Bavaria, 50 kilometers from Munich, Germany, 4-14-43. Taken from Moosburg, Bavaria, to Furstenberg, Germany, 110 kilometers from Berlin, 5-4-1943. Walked from Furstenberg, Germany, to

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CHAPTER GIVING BREWERIES A BIG PLAY

The District of Columbia Chapter of the Ninth Infantry Division Association held another one of its monthly meetings on August 26, 1947, at the Heurich Brewery in Washington.

About 20 members showed up, notwithstanding the fact that just about an hour before meeting time a terrific thunder storm broke over the city, which reminded one of days in the ETO when our heavy artillery was letting off steam.

Besides consuming a goodly portion of beer and pretzels, Sal Trapani, the entertainment committee chairman, had secured some interesting sport films depicting several interesting sporting events which took place while we were overseas. A fifth of choice Scotch whiskey, Ballentine, to be exact, was raffled off, and Captain Lawrence L. Turnipseed was the lucky winner.

The next meeting of the Chapter will be held on Tuesday evening at 8:30, September 30th. The meeting place has not as yet been decided upon.

## PROBABLY JANUARY BEFORE HISTORY WILL BE IN THE MAIL

Many inquiries from not only Washington members but from various parts of the country are coming to the Washington Chapter concerning the date "Eight Stars to Victory," the Ninth Division History, will be mailed to the members. A "Progress Chart" from Lieut. Mittelman is published in another section of this Octofoil. However, very little definite release data can be arrived at from examining the chart—but the consensus of opinion seems to be all the members should have copies of the history by or before the first of the year.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## MRS. ETHEL MILES GRATEFUL FOR THE COURTESY SHOWN BY THE MOWRERS

Dear Mr. Plunkett:

Through the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Mowrer of Sidney, Nebr., I have received a year's subscription to The Octofoil. Words cannot express how much I have enjoyed reading The Octofoil which was a Mother's Day gift to me from them.

I have prayed constantly for three years that I might hear from some one who knew my son and who could give me any details in regards to his death. Soon after reading Mr. and Mrs. Mowrer's letter in The Octofoil and while I was watching each mail, I received a letter from T-Sgt. Frank A. Hamer, Hdqtrs. Co., 15th Eng. Bn., 9th Div., who knew my son from the first day he joined the 15th Engrs., at Bragg, until the morning of July 25, 1944, when during a bombing raid over St. Lo

my son was killed. At the same time, Lyle Mowrer, who was the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Mowrer, was killed.

Words cannot express how deeply grateful I am to Mr. Frank A. Hamer for his wonderful letter, in which he furnished me with first-hand details of my son's death. I shall long cherish Mr. Hamer's letter, as the link that binds me to my son.

In closing, I wish to quote a sentence from Mr. Hamer's letter. "I personally am very glad to have known your son; who gave his life so that men, women and children all over the world may live in peace."

Very sincerely yours,

MRS. ETHEL MILES,

A Gold Star Mother,

South Orrington, Maine.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

Luckenwalde, Germany, 8 Feb. 1945. Liberated by Russian soldiers April 22, 1946. Left III-A May 6th for Schoenbeck, from there to Hilorsheim, Germany, from there to Le Havre, France, and from there to Boston, Mass.

COUNTRIES I'VE SEEN . . .

Cities
French Morocco
Algeria
Tunisia
Italy
Bavaria
Germany
Port Lyautey
Oran
Tunis-Sean
Naples-Capua
Moosberg
Furstenberg
Lukenwaite
Le Havre
Dieppe, Paris, Rougen

(Continued next month.)

(Editor's Note: The next installment of Vic Wojtas' diary outlines the hardships and deprivations experienced by he and his buddies. This initial installment is more or less the basic ground work for the real contents of his diary which will follow from month to month until it is reprinted in its entirety. Don't miss any of these installments. Why not preserve each issue of The Octofoil until the series is complete? The preparatory remarks from Vic's diary, printed above, will give some idea of the thoughts going through the minds and hearts of those more unfortunate buddies who were forced through the months of hell, that only one who has been a P.O.W. can really appreciate. Next month's installment will also include a list of Vic's buddies who were confined in these hell-holes with him.)

## Remembers His Gal's Old Man Chased Him Off With a .22-Cal.

A Columbus, Ohio, columnist in writing about how fast United States Senator John Bricker got out of firing distance of that hombre who was after him down in Washington with a .25 calibre automatic, says it reminds him of a certain GI, who remarked to his buddy, as they lay against a stone wall, trying to appear inconspicuous as possible while 10-inch shells roared overhead: "And to think I once let my girl's old man chase me off the place with a .22 calibre pistol."

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## NO BABIES!

At a wedding reception the young man remarked: "Wasn't it annoying the way that baby cried during the whole ceremony?"

"It was simply dreadful," replied the prim maid of honor. "When I get married I am going to have printed right in the corner of the invitation: "No babies expected."

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## Ed Kuklewicz Wants 15th Engrs. to Write

Ed Kuklewicz, formerly of the 15th Engrs., writes that he would like to hear from any former members of the 15th Engrs. residing in the Baltimore area. He is particularly anxious to hear from Allen Copeland and William E. Jones, who were in the S-2 section.

Ed is living at 3 Altimeter Court, Baltimore 20, Md.

# EARLY DAY HISTORY OF 47TH REGIMENT

## WILTON TAYLOR'S HELP MAKES LIFE EASIER FOR THE OCTOFOIL EDITOR; NEED MORE LIKE HIM.

**CALLS OCTOFOIL'S ATTENTION TO LAST MONTH'S ERROR CONCERNING PVT. JAMES MILLER'S ADDRESS—IT SHOULD BE KIMBERLY, W. VA.—NOT KENTUCKY.**

Excerpts from Wilton Taylor's letter to The Octofoil are printed below, followed by a reprint from The Fort Bragg Post, published in 1942. Pictured on this page is Taylor and two of his brothers. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Quint Taylor, Box 46, Sunset, Texas, had five sons in the Armed Forces.

Dear Paul:—Thanks for the nice compliment to me but I want the 47th regiment to get all the praise.

There is a correction about the address of Pvt. James Miller. You published his address in September issue as Kentucky. His home is Kimberly, W. Va. Please mention this fact as his mother, Mrs. Sarah Miller of Kimberly, W. Va. deserves credit for her son who gave to the 60th Inf. the supreme sacrifice in the Battle of Normandie in 1944.

Just a bit of Taylor history:

Mr. and Mrs. Quint Taylor of Box 46, Sunset, Texas, formerly of Fort Worth, Tex., had five sons in the service. My mother was first 4-star mother in Fort Worth, Texas.

All the boys returned okay. Mark W. Taylor re-enlisted after five years in the Air Corps and is stationed in the Pacific now.

How about asking the members to send in for publication funny of unusual experiences they can recall from service days. While reminiscing here something that struck me as funny: One night on a night problem in England, Co. M, 47th Infantry, Dowers, who was from a farm back home, said as we were passing an English farm at night, as it smelled strong of horse manure, after a couple of sniffs he said "Boy, boy, smells just like home"—and we all had to laugh, especially from the way he said it. How many M Co. men remember that medic we called "Cowboy?" and how he said "Boy, what a pretty little baby" when we put on the play? Remember the camp fire singing at Port Lyautey? Who could forget Palmatere and Kelly?

How many remember when Watson of Mississippi was on guard and the camels came through the barbed wire entanglement. Did his eyes pop out on a stem?

How many remember when Sgt. Elliot jumped into the grease pit of the M Co. 47th kitchen when some of our planes flew low. He was plenty scared.

I took some ribbing at Safi from Co. M 47th men because I kept firing the .45 pistol at an enemy bomber on the 9th of November. I think everyone who had a gun in his hand did too. Anyway we got the bomber.

How many Co. M 47th men remember when Corporal Lloyd Graff dropped a big limb on Sgt. Joe Smith of the First Plt. while we were on maneuvers in Maryland in 1942.

### RECOMMENDS SOME MAGAZINE ARTICLES

"True" Magazine had some very interesting articles about General George Patton. The article "Bungling At the Bulge" is good and General Patton pays some mighty fine compliments to the First Army.

Another article in the April issue, "Whose Terrible Blunder?" by Lieut. Col. Jack Widmer, is a

very interesting article. Members who read the article will certainly appreciate his G. I. language.

The way he quotes our good friend and a great general "Old Blood and Guts" is a treat.

### PAGING ED DACHAWSKI

I wish you could contact Edward Dachawski of Reading, Pa. He should have some interesting pictures from M Co. 47th for The Octofoil.

Please convey my best regards to all members of the Association and especially 47th, M Co. men.

Fraternally yours,  
WILTON M. TAYLOR,  
100 1/2 Taylor St., Taft, Calif.

### FAMOUS REGIMENT HAS LONG HISTORY

(Reprinted from July, 1942, Issue of Fort Bragg Post.)

### THIS MEANS 47TH!



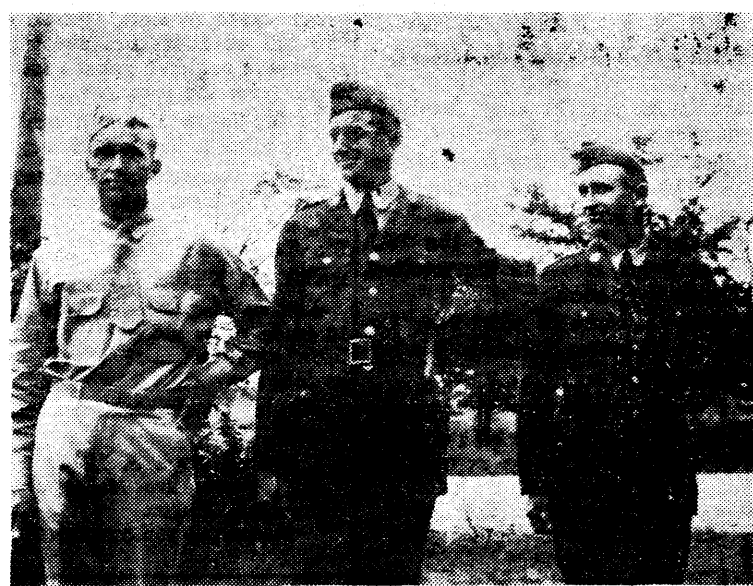
The imperial Chinese dragon at the upper left of the shield signifies the origin of the 47th Infantry from the old 9th Infantry. At the center of the white shield is the ivy leaf of the 4th Division of which the 47th was a part. The motto of the regiment is "Ex Virtute Honos"—Honor Comes From Virtue.

The history of the 47th Infantry is one of efficiency and color, a history which in many cases of association with other units has repeated itself in the past two years.

The 47th was originally organized on June 1, 1917, at Syracuse, N. Y., by transfer of personnel from the Ninth Infantry, which had just come to Syracuse from duty on the Mexican border. As a matter of fact, the roots of the 47th go back as far as the Boxer Rebellion of 1900, because it was in this conflict that the Ninth Infantry gained widespread fame.

At full strength, the 47th moved in October of 1917 from Syracuse to Camp Greene, at Charlotte, N. C., being the first Regular Army unit to arrive there. At Camp Greene, it became a member of the Fourth Division, side by side with the 39th Infantry.

## THREE OF THE TAYLOR BOYS



Three or the five Taylorites who were in the Armed Forces, are pictured above. Left to right: S.-Sgt. Merle W. Taylor, U. S. Army Air Corps; Cpl. H. B. Taylor, Medical Corps, U. S. Army, and Pvt. Wilton M. Taylor, 47th Inf. Regt. (Wilton is the lad who has furnished The Octofoil with so much material for this issue, past issues and future issues.)

### NOW, LISTEN TO THIS, WONTCHA, BABY?

The G.I. dialed a phone number and said "Hello Baby; this is Gideon!"

"But I don't know any Gideon," she replied.

"Listen, Baby," continued the G.I. "it's Gideon—G for gin, I for ice, D for drink, E for excess, O for off duty and N for nothing to do. Get that?"

"Well, I still don't know who you are," replied the girl, "but it sounds interesting, so come on over."

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

### ELTON DUHON MARRIED IN JUNE - - - REUNION TIME

Elton J. Duhon's new address is Box 7223, University Station, Baton Rouge, La. Duhon is another Joe who picked the month of our Reunion as the time to get married—the date of his wedding was June 2nd. Claims that's why he couldn't make the Second Annual Reunion. You guys that get married next June just put Philadelphia on your honeymoon itinerary.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

GET A NEW MEMBER IN '47!

In May, 1918, the regiment sailed for France. Facing the enemy in many engagements, the 47th Infantry established itself as a gallant outfit and wrote many pages of glorious history at the Ourcq and Vesle, at Serget, at Thibaut-Bazoches, during the St. Mihiel operations, and in the Argonne. The 47th earned battle honors at Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, the Meuse-Argonne, Champagne, and Lorraine.

### OCCUPATION TROOPS

Following the Armistice, the regiment prepared for its march into Lorraine, Luxemburg and Germany as part of the American Army of Occupation. Traveling 360 kilometers in 16 marching days was the feat performed by the 47th Infantry in moving from France into occupied territory to the west of Coblenz in Germany. BACK TO U. S.

It was not until early in May that reports dropped out of a clear sky to the effect that the Fourth Division, including the 47th Infantry, was to return to the United States immediately, but the original sailing date was cancelled, and it was not until July 26 that the "Mobile" pulled into New York harbor with the 47th aboard. On September 28, 1921, the regiment was made inactive at Camp Lewis, Wash.

Nineteen years later, in August, 1940, the 47th was reactivated in Fort Bragg, and by a strange coincidence it was again a cadre from the Ninth Infantry—the same unit out of which the old 47th was formed—which cleared the ground, pitched the tents, and settled down to the tough business of organizing a regiment. And oddly enough, the 47th once again found itself side-by-side with the 39th Infantry, the outfit with which it had served gloriously in the last war.

The 47th was first quartered in old Tent City, later moved into the new white and red barracks, and made plans for even more extensive a training program.

During the months of the Carolina maneuvers last fall, the regiment saw most of its action near Hamlet, Rockingham and Monroe, N. C., and between Chester and Winnsboro, S. C. The two main base camps were at Rock Hill and Lancaster, S. C.

On December 10, 1941, a certificate of commendation was awarded by the commanding general of the 9th Infantry Division for Especially Meritorious and Outstanding Service during First Army Maneuvers, 1941. Quote:

"Citation. For fortitude, resourcefulness and extraordinary achievement on the night of November 25-26, 1941. The 47th Combat Team, consisting of the 47th Infantry: 1st Platoon, Company B, 15th Engineers; Company B, 9th Medical Battalion; 84th Field Artillery Bn., made a cross country march through the enemy position and back areas which was extremely successful in execution, secrecy and surprise. During this engagement 35 tanks, scout cars and half track vehicles were either destroyed or captured. The Esprit De Corps during this period was exceptionally marked and demonstrated the extraordinary qualities of leadership that have accentuated this excellent achievement."

### COL. GIBSON LEAVES

Colonel Samuel A. Gibson, who had led the Raiders throughout the long fall maneuvers, remained at their head only until January 14, 1942. The present regimental commander, Col. Edwin H. Randle, took the helm in the third week of February and has since led the organization in its rigorous training program.

## W. M. TAYLOR SAYS GANG FROM CAMP WOLTERS AN ASSET

Wilton M. Taylor, 100 1/2 Taylor St., Taft, Calif., the loyal Association member who furnished The Octofoil with so much valuable material for this and future issues, has some very definite ideas about the replacements sent to the Ninth Division from Camp Wolters, Texas. And The Octofoil is inclined to agree with him 100 per cent, and from time to time will print some of the Camp Wolters scenes sent in by Taylor, because they will most assuredly appeal to many Association members who began their apprenticeship in soldiering down at Camp Wolters, Texas.

Parts of Taylor's letter to The Octofoil is self-explanatory and reads as follows:

Dear Sir: Please find enclosed 32 photographs of "Life in the Ninth Division." Many of these photographs were taken in Camp Wolters, Texas. Many men in both the 47th and 60th Regts. were trained at Camp Wolters.

I am also enclosing separately a copy of Fort Bragg Post of August 1, 1942.

I believe these Camp Wolters scenes are valuable. Wolters is where I took my basic training. And I am proud of our cadre and officers there, who give us a good send-off to the greatest fighting unit in World War II.

My best wishes go to all men of the Ninth Division Association, and I hope this is the best year the Association ever had.

We do not have a chapter in Taft, Calif., but I will have an ad put in our local paper The Midway Driller, here in the oil fields of California.

### PRaises ATTACHED UNITS

Please help the attached organizations like the 60th F. A., the 15th Engrs., etc., to get recognition, as our cause would have been lost without their support and they were our comrades all the way through.

Best wishes to each and all,

Sincerely,

WILTON M. TAYLOR,  
100 1/2 Taylor St., Taylor, Calif.  
Formerly Pfc. Wilton M. Taylor, 18040378, Co. M, 47th Infantry, 1942 to 1944, Fort Bragg to Africa to Sicily and England.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

### LAST "BREAK" AT WOLTERS



Lieut. Morgan, left, who accompanied the Camp Wolters Co. B, 56th Bn. rookies to Fort Bragg. Wilton Taylor snapped the above picture during the "break" at Wolters before they were shipped out to join up with the Ninth at Bragg.



# SIDEWALKS OF NEW YORK TO BE INVADED

## Captain Sharra Asks Aid in Locating Some Co. "G", 60th Men

Captain George F. Sharra is now stationed in Dothan, Ala., as a Regular Army instructor for the Alabama National Guard. A letter in care of the National Guard Armory, Dothan, Ala., will reach the captain. He writes The Octofoil and asks that anyone knowing the addresses of these men to please advise him: First Sergeant Vernon Mugerditchen and Staff Sergeant William Horton, both formerly of Company "G," 60th.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## IT'S A BOY AT THE KAROL J. WESSOS

Mr. and Mrs. Karol J. Wesso, of Depot St., Montague, Mass., announce the arrival of a son, Thomas Karol, on September 4, 1947. (Karol was formerly T-Sgt. K. J. Wesso, Serv. and Am. Btry., 34th F. A. Bn., 9th Inf.)

A clever little announcement brings the above information—and among other things conveys the news that young Karol tipped the scales at 7 lbs. and 10 ounces on the day of his arrival.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

HAVE YOU PAID '47 DUES?

## TAKE A GANDER --- THE JOE YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR MIGHT BE LISTED

Names and addresses of a few who have written to The Octofoil during the past few days are as follows:

**Nathan Hyman**, 300 W. 72d St., New York City, former Co. K, 47th (medic), sends his best regards to Dick Pestel, vice-president Columbus (O.) Chapter.

**Robert W. Edwards**, 603 Grand Ave., Yazoo City, Miss., former Co. A, 9th Med. Bn., writes in to say he enjoys reading The Octofoil—and to get a program.

**Paul F. Camisa**, 11 Linden Pl., Morristown, N. J., is another former 60th Med. Detch. man that say he enjoys The Octofoil.

**Michael Palush** is living at 341 Stockton St., Perth Amboy, N. J. **Ben Bosco** lives at 1516 Hendrickson St., Brooklyn 10, New York. Ben asked The Octofoil for a 60th Inf. History. The supply of those histories in The Octofoil office is exhausted but there are a few more at headquarters in Washington, P. O. Box 1704.

**George T. Brandon** lives at 814 College St., Anderson, Ind.

**Edward J. Craton** writes a nice letter from 10650 Wellsworth Ave., Los Angeles 24, Calif.

**John Berry** lives at 897 Hillside Ave., Phillipsburg, N. J. John's a lucky guy. Has a swell little wife who takes care of his correspondence.

**Frank Wade**, Port Tobacco, Maryland, member of the Board of Governors, is another who is lucky enough to have a swell wife who'll write his letters. But Elizabeth Wade had a two-fold reason. She wanted the 9th Combat films sent to Port Tobacco so she could check on what she said was some "outlandish yarns" Frank had been telling her about his combat experiences.

### VELTFORT A MARRIED MAN

**Ernest R. Veltfort**, 41 Woodland Way, Manhasset, N. Y., former T-5 M. D. 39th Inf., writes the Convention Committee for the programs and apologizes for not being at the Reunion, saying he was another of those who were getting married at the time.

**Leonard G. Romaine** asks for a buck's worth of the programs and writes from 22 Whippany Ave., Little Falls, N. J.

**Claude M. Sipe** is now living in Newton, N. C., 1319 N. College Ave.

**Joseph Crane** lives at 62 Reeve Pl., Brooklyn 18, N. Y. The Octofoil likes Joe's salutation by starting his letter off with: "Dear Buddy."

### ON AGAIN, OFF AGAIN

**Cpl. Francis Finnegan** is back in. This time its Cpl. Francis Finnegan, 11067882, 501st ATC Hdq. Washington, D. C. The corporal was a member of E Co., 47th.

**Chris Patterer**, 227 Bedford

Rd., Battle Creek, Mich., is operating the Urbandale Floral Co., in Battle Creek. Claims he had so much business he couldn't leave long enough to make the reunion.

**Alvin F. Thieme** is living at 3900 Plaza Rd., Charlotte, N. C. He's in the dog kennel business—and wants some of the old gang to write him.

**T-SGT. LEON D. ROBINS ASKS 47TH MEN TO CONTACT HIM**

T-Sgt. Leon D. Robins, Hdq. Det. 772 M. P. Bn., Fort George G. Meade, Md., sends a newsy letter. Has a little gripe about not getting The Octofoil at his new address. Was also a little disappointed because there were no more 47th men at the Reunion. But he's expecting many more to be in Philadelphia, especially from Regtl. Hdq. Co. After witnessing the Memorial Services he wants the Memorial Records. From his letter he likes it at Meade. Was placed there in April. One thing Sgt. Robins writes that will interest many 47th men is this: M-Sgt. Unsell is Sergeant Major of this outfit. He was former First Sergeant of Hdq. 47th Inf. and later with Div. M. P.

**W. M. Johnson**, 1318 Whitney Ave., Albany, Ga., sends regards to the old gang.

**Walter E. Pasch**, 153 S. Main St., Clintonville, Wis., says The Octofoil is coming through fine—and he intends sending some pictures soon. (They'll be taken care of Walt and returned.)

**Ted Karasti**, Rt. 2, Box 255, Clatskanie, Ore., had some kind words to say for The Octofoil when he sent for his records.

### WOODSIDE ON THE BEAM

**Good Old Robert S. (Bob) Woodside** is still hanging out at 207 S. Doxtater Ave., Rome, N. Y. Woodside never passes up a bet to boost the 9th Div. Assn. While on a fishing trip he run into some former Ninth men who are non-members and sends their names in. One in particular who wants to hear from the old gang is **Robert White**, 325 State St., Carthage, N. Y. White was with Hdq. Co., 60th. He just got married a few weeks ago. In his letter Woodside mentions seeing Conse DeLutis, former Ninth man, now on the repertorial staff of The Rome News-Sentinel. Woodside asks that the Memorial Service records be sent him right away because he intends making every former 9th man in that part of the state listen to them. Bob and his sparring partner, good old Leo Henry, also of Rome, go around with application blanks and Octofoils in every pocket for the benefit of any non-members they meet up with. We really need a few more like Bob Woodside and Leo Henry.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## Robert Higgins Writes From Memphis, Tenn.

Dear Sir: I have enjoyed the paper very much. I was with the 60th Personnel and I am now giving away that cheap real estate in Memphis, Tenn. My address is 1799 Mignon. I would like to hear from any of the fellows.

I was wondering if the Association has a map of the route of the Ninth Division through the NATOUSA and ETOUSA November 8, 1942—June, 1945. It was prepared by the G-3 Section, reproduced by 664th Engr. Top. Co. Corps, July, 1945. This map is fairly large but I would be very glad to have it brought down to size and send you a negative. Please let me hear from you.

Yours very truly,  
ROBERT R. HIGGINS,  
1799 Mignon, Memphis, Tenn.

Just before press time The Octofoil received Bob's map. It is easily understood and is educational. It would be very appropriate hanging on the wall of every former 9th Div. man's den. It is just about the size of two Octofoil pages. If the expense is not prohibitive efforts may be made to have a cut made and run as a double-page spread in some future issue of The Octofoil. The matter will be discussed with the Board of Governors at an early date.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## SGT. DUNSTAN WANTS TO HEAR FROM 60TH INF. MEN

S-Sgt. George F. Dunstan, C Troop, 91st Con. Sqdn., APO 65, care P.M., New York, would like for any former Item Co., 60th Inf. men to write him.

Here's a good chance now to help a poor lonesome Joe who is stranded over yonder with all those heathens.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## Former 60th Fellows Have Private Reunion

Dear Sirs: I am enclosing a picture that I would like to see appear in The Octofoil. The men are all former Co. D, 60th Regt. men who enlisted when the Ninth was at old Tent City, and Roy Fairchild and Charles Walker were still in the same company at the end of the war.

Five of us, Roy O. Fairchild, Charles T. Walker, James U. Deal, Lloyd L. Vest and Delbert D. Thompson recently had a get-together. Anyone wishing to get the addresses of any of the above men should write Charles T. Walker, Route 6, Fairfield, Illinois.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## SAYS FATHER DELAURA WAS DEFINITELY A 47TH MAN AND WANTS THAT 39TH PROPAGANDA "SHUSHED."

**CHICAGO PAL REACHING FOR HIS SHOOTIN' IRONS—SAYS HE'LL BOUNCE A COUPLE OF BALLS AGIN SOME NEW YORKER'S "PUNKIN' HAID."**

Ted Matusik, 1802 Wilmot, Chicago, says he ain't hankerin' for no feud with those New Yorkers but he's telling them off about a thing or two. Take it easy, Ted. Whether 39th, 60th, 47th or attached unit men—they're all proud of Father DeLaura.

### MATUSIK'S LETTER

Dear Ed:

We uns of the 47th ain't hankerin' for feuding and fighting and fussin' with the New York Chapter of the Association but if they intend to call Father DeLaura a 39th Infantry man, well I reckon it's time to get our shootin' irons out and bounce a couple balls agin their "punkin' haid."

As long as I could remember Father DeLaura was strictly 47th. He and I came back to the states on the George Goethels; the last I saw of him was he standing on a step of a barracks at Camp Miles Standish, Mass., waving good bye and a final good luck and God bless you.

For my money he's tops and I think all the men of the "Blue Bn." of the "Raiders" will back me up.

### BACK IN SCHOOL

As for myself, well, trying to combine work and school. I am to enter the University of Illinois this fall while holding down a job at Western Electric Co. as a telephone switchboard cable foreman.

### WEIGHS ALMOST A TON

The First Platoon of Co. M, 47th should see me now, if they thought I had too much weight then. Well I picked up 34 pounds in seven weeks after discharge in September, 1945. The rest of the company will remember me as the mail clerk from V-E day on, Schoenhouser, Mooseburg and all those places.

### PAYS FOR OCTOFOIL

Oh, yes, last year the Association, when sending me my 1947 membership card, issued No. 69, and I intend to keep it. I paid for my Octofoil, but early!

### MORE PUBLICITY

How about more publicity for the Ninth? I'm getting tired of people saying "never heard of the Ninth," and my answer is "Of course not—the Ninth only had eight campaigns in Europe." This seems to puzzle them.

Not trying to take credit from other units more publicized, but for less combat time. It's time the Ninth sounded off long and loud—First Sergeant Style.

Sincerely yours,  
THEODORE MATUSIK,  
1802 Wilmot, Chicago 47, Ill.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## George Brandon Lives In Indiana; Wants to Locate Some Hoosiers

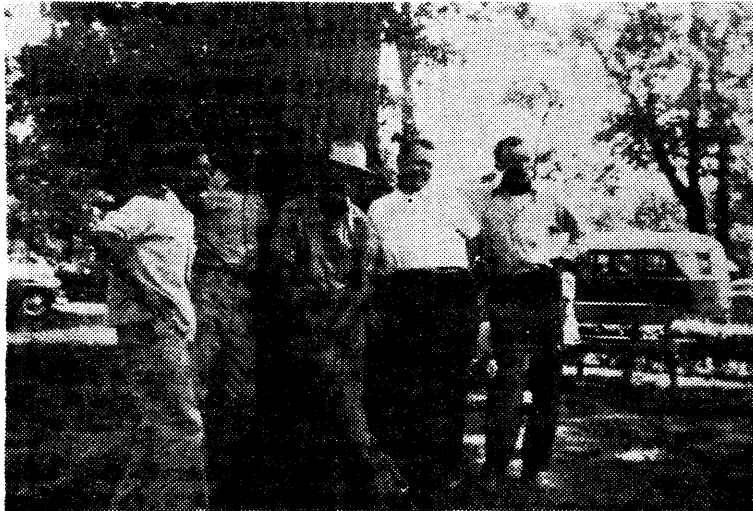
Dear Sir: I have just finished the September issue of The Octofoil and enjoyed it very much. I am always looking forward to the next issue. I regret that I was unable to attend the Reunion, but will try mighty hard to be there next year.

Would like to hear from any of the old fellows of Co. E, 60th. If there is a Chapter in this Hoosier state I want to join. Keep the ball rolling.

GEORGE T. BRANDON,  
840 College Dr., Anderson, Ind.  
(Formerly Co. E, 60th.)

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## Hold Their Own Private Reunion



Reading from left to right: Roy O. Fairchild, Charles T. Walker, James U. Deal, Lloyd L. Vest and Delbert D. Thompson. (See story concerning this photo, printed in this issue.)



# 899TH T. D. BN. MEN GOLD BRICKING

## REUNION MINUTES ARE IN PAGE FORM

Finally the stenotypist who kept a record of the proceedings at the Second Annual Reunion has finished transcribing and typing the proceedings.

Well over 100 typewritten pages are filled with this transcription. It is next to impossible to print this in full in The Octofoil. The text would fill six complete pages. There are certain committee reports that should be printed in full. The matter will be called to the Board of Governors attention within a few days. To print the minutes in The Octofoil would necessitate a supplement of at least four pages, costing about \$150 for the 11,000 copies we have printed and The Octofoil is just about defunct—so it is hardly likely the minutes can be printed in their entirety. However, the next issue of The Octofoil will advise its readers what disposition the Board makes of the proposition.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## John Carpenter Cuts Letter Short -- Has to Feed the New Arrival

Likes the Memorial Services Recordings -- Also Gives Octofoil a Pat.

Dear Sir: Yesterday I received my copies of the Memorial Service recordings and was very pleased. They were dispatched with such speed that it surprised me. I wish to thank who ever was responsible for the recordings and the mailing, for the excellent results.

A note of praise for The Octofoil. I look forward to each issue, not only for its interest, but for its ability to bring back memories and familiar memories that have been temporarily displaced in my mind.

### EX-PRISONERS MEET

While in Indianapolis attending a convention of ex-prisoners of war, The International Association of Barbed Wire Clubs, I received many calls and letters from old Co. G, 47th buddies and was pleased to find that so many of them were still in good health and alive.

### KNOWS RIGBY

In my town here there is only one other veteran of the Ninth that I have run into, Charles Meyers, formerly of the 60th, and we have some good chats about old times. He knew Rigby and Henry and I are old friends, so we have lots to talk about.

I have a new 7½ lb. baby boy which we have named Jay Bryce and now must go in and feed the little brat. He's howling his head off.

Sincerely yours,  
JOHN B. CARPENTER,  
R. F. D. 4, Grand Junction, Colorado.

(Ed's Note: Examining the stationery John used in writing the above letter it was noted that he is on the Board of Directors of the International Association of Barbed Wire Clubs.)

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## MRS. RYKALA ASKS HELP IN LOCATING SGT. ATABRELLO

Mrs. Kathryn Rykala, 130 Linden St., East Lansing, Mich., would like for Sgt. Atabrello, formerly of Btry A, 26th F. A. Bn., to contact her. Sound off, Sarge. Come outta that shell!

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## Admire His Guns -- His Eyes On Legs



Story over the above picture in the Los Angeles papers read: "Bathing Beauties Admire Local Merchant's Trophies." Bob Turner says the paper should have read "Local Merchant Admires Bathing Beauties." Can't blame, Bob—can you?

## TIMMONS PHOTO WAS TOO LATE FOR THIS OCTOFOIL

William E. Timmons, 4122 Jacob St., Wheeling, W. Va., writes a letter to headquarters dated 30 August, 47, enclosing a photo of a Co. A, 60th Inf. Mortar Section. However, by time the photo reached The Octofoil office all photos for the current month's issue had been processed.

Thanks anyway, Bill—and don't worry—that Mortar Squad picture will get a good spot in the next issue.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## MAGGIE'S DRAWERS ???



Thanks to George Ginsberg, 1140 White Plains Rd., Bronx, N. Y., The Octofoil is in receipt of the snapshot of the Mott Lake range with Captain Fletcher doing the honors with the machine gun.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## GET A NEW MEMBER IN '47!

## FORMER TANK DESTROYER CAPTAIN A BIT SARCASTIC BECAUSE THE BOYS FAIL TO WRITE TO THE OCTOFOIL.

SAYS 899THERS MUST BE TOO LAZY TO WRITE—WANTS TO HEAR FROM SOME OF THE OLD GANG—TOOK A RAZZING ABOUT HIS "SOUVENIRS."

Bob Turner has opened a camera shop out in Los Angeles and decorated the walls with those "souvenirs" he lugged all over the world. If you'll note the picture on this page and see what those souvenirs attracted to Bob's shop, everyone will probably agree the trouble he went to is paying good dividends.

### BOB'S LETTER

Dear Editor: Regularly every month I receive The Octofoil, and regularly every month I read every word in it trying to grab sight of the "899th Tank Destroyer Battalion" in print, but so far, either I miss it or it just isn't in. I guess all the 899thers are in the same boat I have been. Not too lazy to read, but too lazy to write. I think it would be swell if some of the gang would start writing in telling what they are doing and where they are so that the 899th could live along with the Ninth rather than die a slow lingering death as it is now doing.

### A PART OF THE DIVISION

We were part of the division as much as the 47th, 60th, 39th, Div. Arty. and the rest. We were as proud of the red, white and blue patch as we were of the "Tiger." There was no hesitation when we were honored by being told we could join and be members of the "Ninth Division Association," so how about following through and at least once every issue, have "The 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion" in print.

I know I for one would sure like to hear what all the old gang are doing and how they are weathering this civilian life.

### GETS LUCKY BREAK

I opened a camera shop here in Los Angeles when I got out, and much to my joy is doing rather nicely. I have been lucky in being able to obtain nearly everything in the photographic line from home movies on down to still cameras and everything to go with either, so I can't complain.

### TOOK A LOT OF RAZZING

While overseas I used to get razzed regularly in every tone about all the souvenirs I sent home. The enclosed photo shows it wasn't such a bad idea. The local paper took it along with a story on the war trophies I have adorning the walls of my shop. I have around 28 sabers, 20 rifles, all sorts of old pistols, knives, pictures and the like I was able to pick up in Africa, England and Europe. It almost makes a museum out of it, but it sure brings 'em in to look around, so it has well been worth it.

Incidentally, the caption on the photo read: "Bathing Beauties Admire Local Merchant's Trophies." Should have been "Local Merchant Admires Bathing Beauties."

### BOB G. TURNER,

627 S. Atlantic Blvd., Los Angeles 25, Calif. (Formerly captain 899th T. D. Bn.)

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## WHERE'S VOGTMANN?

Arthur Volkammer, 41 Surprise St., Elmont, L. I., N. Y., formerly of Co. G, 39th, wishes to contact Roy Vogtmann, former Tech Sarge. Roy's address is not on file in the office of the Secretary-Treasurer, so some of you fellows will have to help Art out.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## HAVE YOU PAID '47 DUES?

## WITH NINTH JUST A SHORT WHILE --

WM. BEER, MANSFIELD, O., WITH DIVISION ONLY TEN DAYS BEFORE WOUNDED.

Dear Sirs: Please bear with me for a while as I have several questions and requests to bring up.

I was a replacement to the 60th in July, 1944, and was with them only about ten days before I was wounded and sent back to the states. From the few short days of association with the men in my outfit, I could see what kind of men they were who had fought all the way from Africa with the 9th Division. From what I saw then and have read and heard of the 9th Division since, I am more than proud to have been a part of it. In fact, my friends here at home kid me about the 9th Division winning the war all by themselves.

### LIKE TO HEAR FROM PALS

There were several buddies of mine who had trained together at Fort McClellan, Alabama, and were replacements along with me but were sent to other regiments of the Ninth. Some of the names were Jack Portor, Orie Dale, Chuck Benedict. If anyone knows anything about these fellows or they themselves see this, please contact me at the address below. I would like to hear from them and will surely answer their letters.

### VISITS BUDDY'S MOTHER

The above named Chuck Benedict was K. I. A. about three days before I was wounded and I have since then visited his mother and corresponded with her. If anyone remembers him, please contact me because he was my best friend and I would like to know more about him. I would like to request that a history of the Division (when they are mailed out) be sent to his mother, Mrs. Jane Benedict, State St., Pleasantville, Pa. I will stand any costs.

I was ill during the Columbus Reunion.

I never received my Combat Infantry Badge. The money involved with the badge does not interest me in the least. In fact, I would waive any claim to such but some buddies and myself are thinking about joining the National Guard and a combat infantry man without a combat badge would look kind of out of order. The honor of wearing this badge would mean more to me than the Purple Heart or many other decorations or awards.

Respectfully yours,  
WILLIAM D. BEER,  
16 Glen Beck Lane, Mansfield, Ohio. (Pfc. 60th Infantry.)  
Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

World War II veterans who do not have the maximum of \$10,000 of Government life insurance and saw active service between Oct. 8, 1940, and Sept. 2, 1945, are eligible for National Service Life Insurance.

Did You Buy This OCTOFOIL?

## AFTER THE SICILIAN STORM



Another shot sent in by Sam Douglas that was taken in Sicily after the fall of Randazzo. Pictured from left to right, back row: Coleman and Wilder. Front row: Douglas, Gresparda, Kreve.

## MAJOR MORRIS THANKS THE OCTOFOIL

During the past month The Octofoil has received two letters from Major Cornelius T. Morris, Public Relations Officer at Fort Dix, New Jersey, the new home of the reactivated Ninth Division.

"If and when we resume publication of a post newspaper we intend to make use of material from old issues of The Octofoil concerning the Ninth Division's background.

"Even before we resume publication I am sure the material supplied will be of a great deal of assistance to us.

"We are very pleased indeed to receive your paper and to learn of the publicity which our activation ceremony received in your area."