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The Octofoil, November 1954

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

Volume 9
Number 8

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

One Year \$1.50
Single Copy, 15 cents

Jersey City (3), N. J., P.O. Box 428

267

NOVEMBER, 1954

A Message From Massachusetts To The United States

Dear Friends:

This is a BIG YEAR for us — men of the 9th Division. On Sunday, November 7, at 10 a.m. I shall offer our 10th Memorial Mass for the Deceased of the 9th Division. As in the last two years, our Memorial Mass will be offered in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Worcester, Mass.

I have met no Chaplain who has had such consolations as I — when each year we gather together to pray for our Dead and to remember their Bereaved. You come not only from the vicinity of Worcester and Boston and Springfield and Providence, but from New York, Syracuse, Newark, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburg. Infantrymen, artillerymen, medics, engineers, members of the Special Troops — officers and men — from private to general. We are united strongly because of our mutual sharing in the worrisome days of battle — as we made our way from the beaches of Tunisia to the River Elbe. We continue to be united strongly because of our mutual remembrance of our Dead — and our compassion for their Bereaved.

As General Craig observed at one of our Reunions — this is a 9th Division Family Gathering. It is a Family Gathering because most of the married men bring their wives. Many bring their children. In fact, this year the boys who will serve the Memorial Mass are sons of 9th Division men. We not only remember our Dead and their Bereaved, but we enjoy meeting one another again, and meeting the families of 9th Division men. Truly, this is a 9th Division Family Gathering.

At this 9th Division Memorial Mass and reunion we have no political guests. Our only guests are our Gold-Star people. Each year many of these attend — and they find in this gathering great consolation. Them we honor — to them we extend the consolation of our prayers.

I am sending copies of this letter to 700 9th Division men. I am sure that many others would be glad to hear about this Memorial Service. Get the word around. Tell others — or send me their addresses, and I shall write to them. All are invited — all are welcome. To those who are unable to attend our Memorial Mass, I send this recommendation that on November 7 you write your prayers with ours as we pray for our Deceased. Some of you may wish to attend services in some other church. That is fine, but let us pray together. And even though you attend services elsewhere, try to come to Connors' Coffee Shop on Saturday evening, November 6, and come to dinner Sunday noon at the Hotel Sheraton.

Our 10th Memorial Mass and Reunion

SATURDAY EVENING — November 6 — Immaculate Conception Church Hall — CONNORS' COFFEE SHOP

SUNDAY — 10 a.m. — November 7 — MEMORIAL MASS
Immaculate Conception Church

SUNDAY — Noon — DINNER — Hotel Sheraton

Please sign and fill in the card which is enclosed. Return to me by November 1, if possible. However, if you find out only at the last minute that you can come, come anyway. You will be taken care of. If you wish to reserve a room at the Hotel Sheraton, let me know — or you may write directly to the Hotel.

Here we go again, Gang! November comes more quickly each year. Let us continue to share this day together. God bless you all — and your families. I am looking forward to our 10th Memorial get-together more than any of our previous Reunions. This is the BIG ONE!

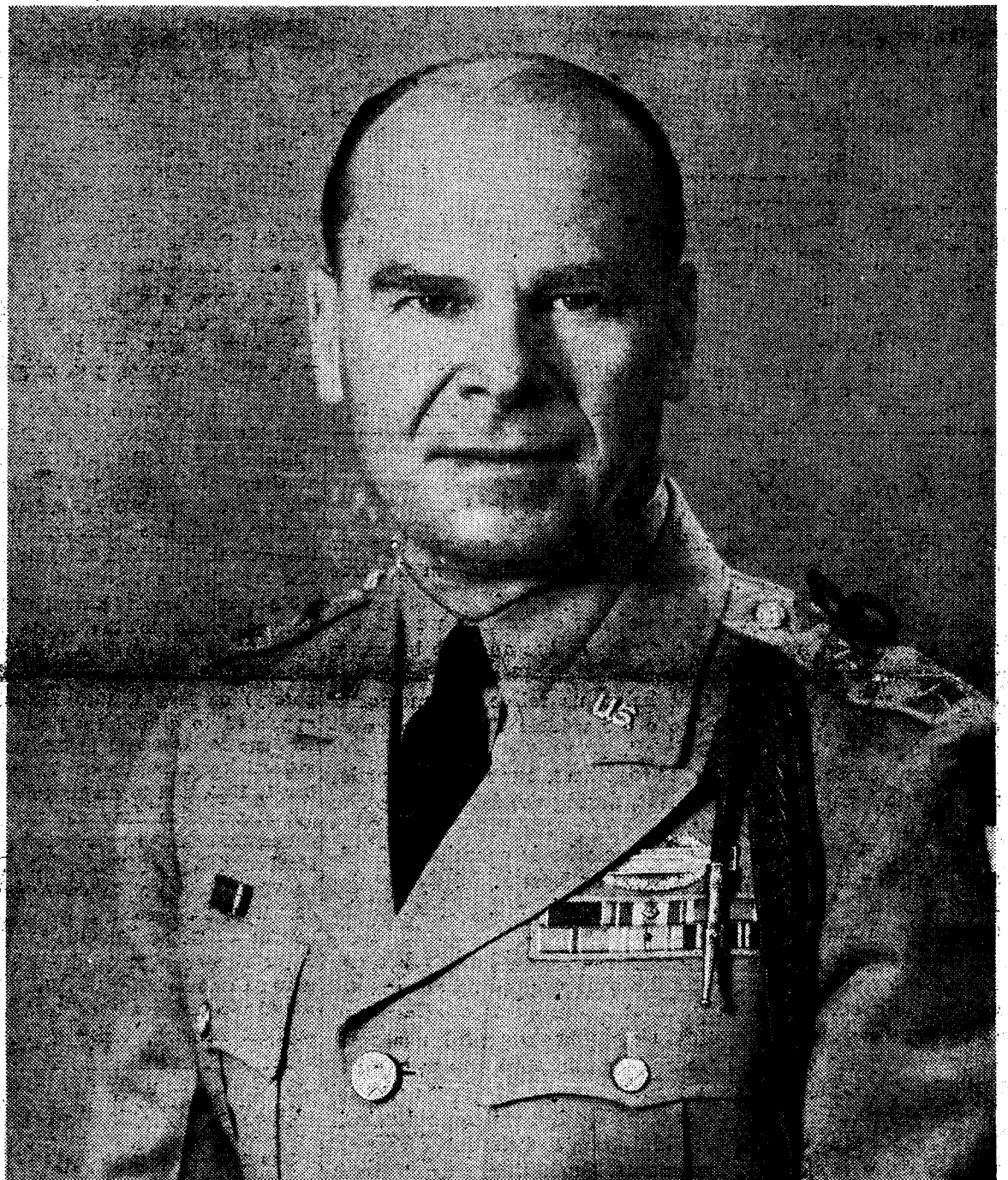
Sincerely yours,

(Rev.) E. T. CONNORS

P.S. I hope that the Catholic men will receive Holy Communion on November 7. P.P.S. Again this year Bishop Wright, my C.O., will try to attend either the Mass or our dinner. Last year he was deeply impressed. He knows that the 9th is the FIRST TEAM!

The 9th President:

Major General George Winfered Smythe



George W. Smythe was born at Norristown, Pennsylvania, Aug. 4, 1899. He served as a private in the SATC at West Chester, Pennsylvania State Teachers College from October 9, 1918 to December 12, 1918, and became a cadet at the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, on July 10, 1920.

In 1922 he was selected as a member of Walter Camp's second All-American Football team. In 1924 he was President of his class and was awarded the Army Athletic Association Sabre as the best all-around athlete in his class at the Military Academy.

He was graduated from the Military Academy and commissioned second lieutenant of Infantry June 12, 1924. His first duty assignment in the Army was with the 29th Infantry Regiment at Fort Benning, Georgia, followed by tours with the 33rd, Fort Clayton, C.Z.; the 4th, Fort George Wright, Washington; and the 27th, Schofield Barracks, T.H. He served as Tactical Instructor at Staunton Military Academy, Virginia, at the Military Academy at West Point. He was graduated from the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia, in 1928, and the Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas in 1936.

His service included duty as S-3 of the 27th Infantry, 25th Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, at "Pearl Harbor," December 7, 1941; Chief, Requirements Section, International Division, ASF, Washington, 1942-43; and the Executive Section, Hq. SOS North Africa, 1943. He was the Commanding Officer of the 47th Regiment, 9th Infantry Division from 1943 to 1945, in North Africa, Sicily, England and Europe. While under his command, the 47th Regiment had a distinguished combat record. The Regiment was the first unit to cut the Cherbourg Peninsula from St. Sauveur to La Haye du Puits in June 1944.

On the night of December 7, 1944, the Regiment moved 40 miles to Monschau to plug and hold the northern shoulder in the Battle of the Bulge. On the night of March 6, 1945, the Regiment again moved 50 miles to become the first combat team across the Rhine at Remagen, and establish the spearhead in the "Bridgehead." The action of the Regiment in its determination to advance and never give up ground earned for it the Distinguished Unit Citation. He was assigned as Assistant Division Commander of the 80th Division from March 1945 until the end of the war.

His post war service included assignment as Chief of Operations, G-3, Army Ground Forces, Fort Monroe, Virginia; Chief of (Continued on page 2)

THE OCTOFOIL

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The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association with offices located at 116 Danforth Ave., Jersey City, N. J. Single copy price is 15 cents per issue or by mail \$1.50 per year, payable in advance. Subscribers should notify the Jersey City Office promptly of any change of address.

Published each month by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News articles, feature stories, photographs or art material from members will be welcomed and every effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condition. Please address all communications to the "Octofoil" 9th Inf. Div. Assoc. P. O. Box 428, Jersey City 3, N. J.

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 ever lasting world peace exclusively by means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to members and former members of the Division.

Copy and pictures must be received on or before the 5th of each month to guarantee publication.

Advertising Rates will be furnished upon request. Write to Stanley Cohen, Ninth Inf. Div. Assoc., P. O. Box 428, Jersey City N.J. Entered as Second-Class Matter under Act of March 3, 1879 at Post Office Jersey City, N. J.

Volume 9

November, 1954

Number 8

Mail Bag

Two years of editing this publication has proven to your editor that the Octofoil is essentially, "the trunk," in the tree of life of this organization.

When we analyze the scope of our operations we quickly realize that each member is the root of life and the branches that make up our organization. News of old comrades is the only thing that we have that helps us relive old memories about our group. We have no other vehicle that is commensurate in value than the Octofoil.

Sure, we have our local get-togethers, our regional parties and our national conventions. But, during the interim months all we have is the Octofoil.

Your editor is not the only one who is conscious of this medium. The lads in far flung areas as Lost Hills, California; Big Timber, Montana and the like consider the Octofoil the entire Ninth Infantry Division Association.

What then can we do to improve this situation. We can always offer alternatives that's the easy way out. One that we use is the method of fill ins. That is, we go to our files and bring up new ideas and sources of information. This is news good news. But we are sure and certain that this is not the detailed news-men want to read.

We may be wrong in our thinking, but we can only clarify this statement with facts. The letters and the cards that we receive daily justify our comments. Such things as, "Say, I thought so and so was out west, but I see he is in the east now, or... it was sure a swell idea knowing about so and so, I think I'll drop him a line, I haven't heard from him in years.

We honestly believe that this is the news that is pertinent, we feel other applications are merely a journalistic veneer.

We are not spilling out hogwash about important items, but we just harbor the feeling that this is the news that we in the field say, "Fill INS".

Well we have given this matter deep thought and consideration, here then are the plans that we have lined up for the future. We are going to issue a questionnaire to all of our members. The prime purpose of this questionnaire is to gather information. Whether you are a bank president or an assistant sanitary engineer (Garbage Disposal Department) fill in the form. It is this type of news that we feel is pertinent and the only way we can get it is to announce this to our membership that it is coming.

Therefore, don't discard this form, fill it out. So, when we next go to press we will have a mail bag full of news.

Assist us in our drive, and help us revive our real news department. Please send back the forms filled out as complete as you can.

If you have any ideas on this matter let us know and we shall try to incorporate your thoughts. One fact is certain: if the root of any tree is left high and dry it will rot in no time at all. Let's not let this happen to our group. We are strong, we are willing and we are sure by a little bit on your part we will be able to live on and on.

Major General George Winfred Smythe

(Continued from page 1)

Staff, Third Army, Atlanta, Ga.; Assistant Division Commander, 1st Division, Germany; Commander of the 2d Constabulary Brigade in Germany. From 16 March, 1952 to 7 October, 1952, the General was Commander of the 24th Infantry Division in Japan. From 9 October, '52 to 9 May, '53, General Smythe served as Commander of the 3rd Infantry Division in Korea, a division which participated in the Korean summer-fall offensive and the 3rd Korean winter campaign. On 30 June, '53, he returned to the United States, where he served as special adviser to the Chief of Staff, Department of the Army, in Washington, D.C. until 31 August, 1953. On 1 September, 1953, he assumed responsibilities as Deputy Commanding General, Second Army — his current assignment.

General Smythe was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, the Purple Heart, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star with Cluster, Legion of Merit, and the Bronze Star. He participated in 7 campaigns during the past war. His foreign decorations include the French Legion of Honor (Chevalier) and Croix de Guerre, the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, the Belgian Officer of Order of Leopold with Palm, Croix de Guerre with Palm, Fourragere with two citations, and the Korean Taekuk Distinguished Military Service Medal.

He was promoted through the various ranks to the grade of colonel (temporary) on July 8, 1942, to brigadier general (temporary) on May 1, 1945. He was appointed to colonel (permanent) on June 10, 1948 and to brigadier general (permanent) on November 1, 1949, and to major general (permanent) on May 25, 1952.

General Smythe married Susie Hubbell Coley of Wilton, Conn., at West Point, N.Y., on August 12, 1924. Two sons are in the service — George Smythe, Jr. is a jet fighter pilot in the European Command, and John D. Smythe a lieutenant of Infantry at Fort Benning, Georgia.

New York Chapter

The September 10th meeting of the New York Chapter was held at Gerdes Restaurant, 112 East 18th Street at 8 P.M. Because of Hurricane EDNA only 23 men were on hand to partake in the chapter activities. After a report of the minutes and finances the meeting proceeded. Pres. Charles Fabre congratulated each and every man of the New York Chapter for the splendid cooperation and hard work at the New York Convention. To insure all present that the affair was successful a net profit of \$700.00 was announced; and in addition, according to statistics there was a total of 700 people attending from 22 states and Puerto Rico.

George Apar then suggested that a round of applause be given to the President for the wonderful job he performed in guiding the convention. A temporary Hospitality Committee Chairman was appointed, Vic Iannucci. Rounding out this committee are Peter Uhl, (D Co. 39th), Pat J. Higgins (D Co. 39th), Geo. Stegner (D Co. 39th), and Carl Winter (Cannon Co. 60th).

MAIL BAG

47th INFANTRY

Brigadier General W.C. Westmoreland now stationed with the Department of the Army Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-1, Personnel, Washington 25, D.C. sends the Octofoil the following news note: "I very much regret that I was unable to attend any part of the 9th Infantry Division reunion, but I can state that there was a very excellent reason for my absence. My wife was expecting about the time of the reunion and it could not have been timed more appropriately. She presented my with a 7½ pound boy at 8:05 P.M., Saturday evening, 31 July. Therefore it was manifestly impossible for me to get in even on the final toast at the banquet on the last evening of the reunion. I hope that circumstances will permit my attending this occasion next year. Having been one of the instigators of the organization and a charter member, I have and will continue to have a great deal of interest in the 9th Infantry Division Association."

ATTENTION:

Brigadier General Edwin H. Randle, of 503 Althea Road, Belvoir Estates, Clearwater, Fla. is interested in combat information. General Randle is writing an account of the Safi operation by

the 47th Combat Team. There are two names that he cannot remember and thought that perhaps some reader of the Octofoil could help him out. One is the name of the Major who commanded the Shore Party Engineers at Safi. The other is the name of the Lieutenant — and he is pretty sure he was from the 1st Battalion, who with his platoon captured an entire battery of French field artillery. Gen. Randle sends his regrets about having missed the convention, but will try to make the Philadelphia convention in 1955. . . Can anyone help: — Please contact Gen. Randle.

F COMPANY

Jay G. Oberholzer, of Goodville, Pa., has recently joined the throngs of the 9th Inf. Div. Association.

G COMPANY

Steve J. Fermanides, Hamont Grill, 1304 Morganton Road, Fayetteville, N.C. has become an active member. Steve reminds us that part of his tour in Uncle Sam's army was spent as a POW for two years. If you're in the area, stop and say "hello."

C COMPANY

Howard Brooks, former 1st Sgt. writes us about some interesting details — Howard tells us that

(Continued on page 3)

Behind The Scenes...

For the past few months correspondence has been carried on with the 9th Division in Germany regarding the establishment of a memorial at one of the Military cemeteries in Europe. This all started from an inquiry of one of our members who visited Malmedy, Belgium and noticed the frayed condition of U.S. flags for this small cemetery. This office then proceeded to contact the 9th Division in Europe for assistance.

At this point, Captain Frank Babish was detailed by his commanding officer to check into the situation. The Commanding General of the 9th assigned Captain Babish to investigate the bad conditions of military cemeteries where 9th Division men were buried. Captain Babish toured the continent but was not very successful in establishing the whereabouts of the 9th Division personnel in these military cemeteries. Once more correspondence was on the move back to this office. This time we contacted the "American Battle Monuments Commission. Here then is the answer to our query.

Reference is made to your letter of October 18th to Brigadier General Thomas North, Secretary of this commission, regarding a contemplated memorial project of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. I shall be happy to bring this to the General's attention upon his return from Europe in about a month.

In the meantime, however, I am very sorry to have to say that it will be impossible for the Commission to furnish you a list of the Dead of the Ninth Infantry Division and their places of burial. The casualties of World War II have not been compiled by organization and the information you request could be furnished only by searching records of the some 90,000 Dead interred in our overseas cemeteries, and this the smallness of our staff and the urgency of the work upon which it is presently engaged will not permit.

What is undoubtedly more im-

portant to your project, however, is the Commission's policy with respect to the erection of memorials in the overseas cemeteries. It is, itself, erecting in each of these cemeteries a memorial to honor the Dead interred in them and to commemorate the services of our armed forces. In each memorial will be graphically portrayed the military operation in that region. Outstanding architectural firms of the United States have designed these cemeteries and the memorial within them, so that in each case the cemetery and the memorial complement are intimately related to one to the other. The introduction of additional memorials the Commission feels would adversely affect this relationship and it has, therefore, adopted the policy that no such additional memorials or other form of commemoration shall be permitted in these cemeteries.

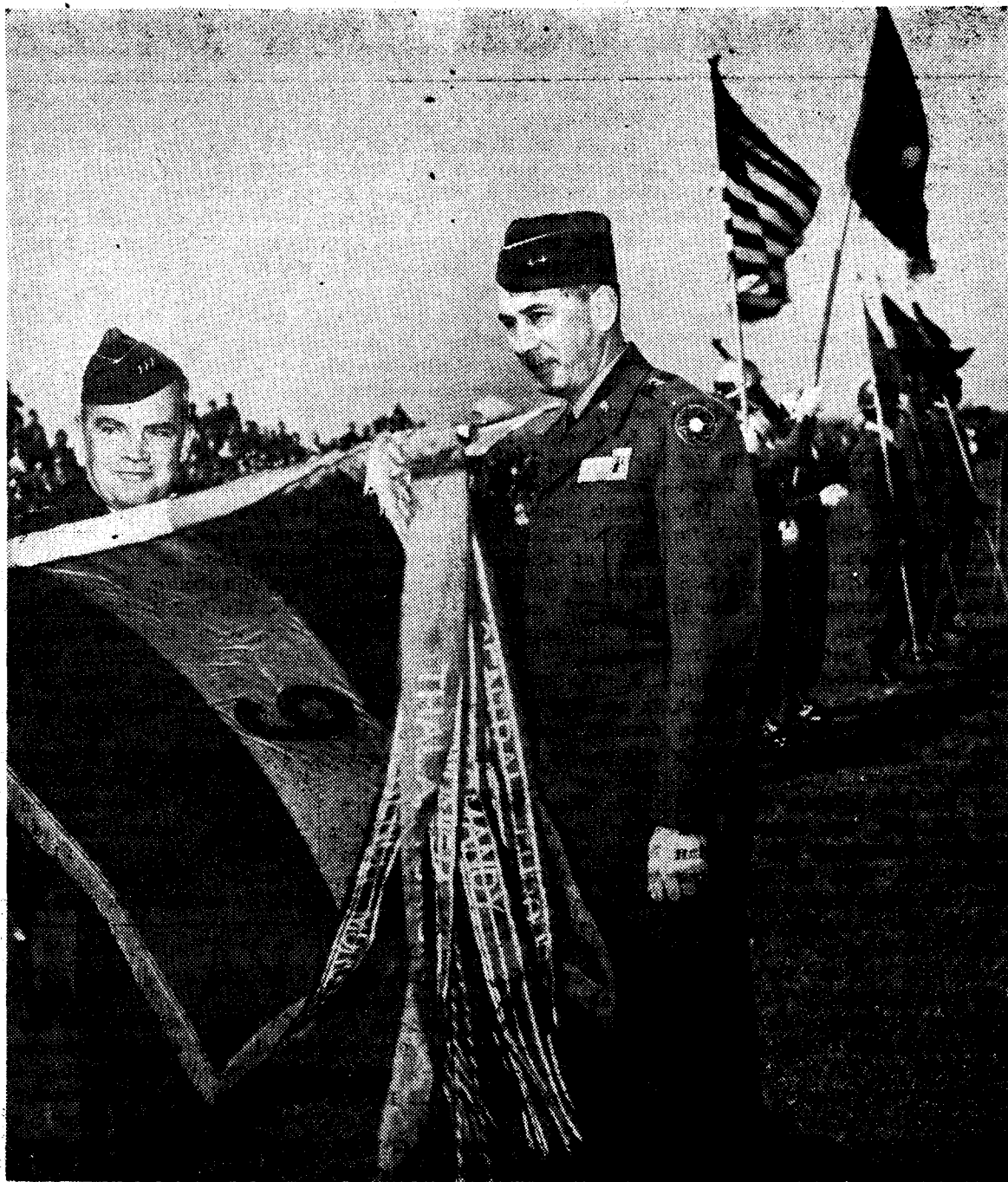
I know that the Commission, when your letter is brought to its attention, will be deeply appreciative of the wish of the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association to pay tribute to their comrades who gave their lives in the war, and I regret keenly that this acknowledgment cannot be more favorable. . .

Any further suggestions to help us with this project will be greatly appreciated.

FINAL CALL

We have been recently informed that on March 31, 1954, Benjamin Trower, of the 47th Infantry died of Cancer. Ben had been ill a year and had three major operations. Ben leaves three children and his wife, Ben was 34.

Pennants and Guidons



Lt. General Anthony C. McAuliffe, C.G. 7th Army (left) and Major General Donald P. Booth C.G. 9th Infantry Division Colors at Re-Designation Day ceremonies.

Ninth Signal Did It-- 'Talkies' Were There

The "Dit-Dah" Men Were Up Front At All Time During Combat

Communications in the war-time Ninth Division were the responsibility of the Ninth Signal Company. Originally the 209th Field Signal Battalion, the unit was redesignated as the Ninth Signal Company and submitted its first morning report under that title August 11, 1940. The 209th was a part of the World War I Ninth Division, activated in 1918, demobilized in 1919 and reconstituted as an inactive unit of the Regular Army in 1923. It was made an active unit as a part of the new Ninth Infantry Division at Fort Bragg, N.C., August 1, 1940.

It was made active with a cadre of 19 men from the 5th Signal Company, at that time on maneuvers with the Second Army, and brought to full strength with the addition of recruits to be trained a "tent City."

Supported Infantry

Detachments of "Signal" were attached to each of the Regimental Combat Teams and given the responsibility of maintaining field communications. Everywhere the Ninth had units, miles and miles of field wire was unrolled to keep telephone connections going. If all the wire were still laid, it would not be in the least impossible to call from French Morocco to the "jumping off point" across from Sicily, or from Normandy

to the heart of Bavaria Mobile radio units mounted in trucks, command cars, jeeps and carried on backs of Signal Company men, filled the ether with coded messages reporting the position of enemy troops and giving the orders to "exterminate" them.

Handicapped by serious shortages of signal equipment, at times, the men soon became accustomed to the answer given by signal supply men every time they asked for anything new, "Use field wire". And they used field wire for everything imaginable and some things which seem highly imaginative.

Suffered Casualties

The company records show seven men killed in action and eight men died from wounds received as a result of enemy action. Heroes were commonplace to the point that many deeds of heroism were never fully acknowledged.

The company as a whole bears point that many deeds of heroism the Distinguished Unit Citation for "extraordinary" heroism and outstanding performance of duty at the Remagen bridgehead. These few words fully cover a small group of men who advanced across the bridge under fire to establish the lines of communication from the first crossing party to the American troops advancing from points further back.

Radio along with wire played an important role during the war. The SCR (Signal Corps Radio) Series of -00 to 600 was used by the Infantry and Artillery to maintain communications among Corps, Army and Division. The "walkie-talkie" or 530, which had a range of one mile and could communicate with the SCR 694 or 193, was one of the most valuable pieces.

A Tale of Titles

Last week we received a note from a friend of ours who visited England during an overseas trip. He wrote and told us that he managed to secure a room at the Hotel Savoy and as the clerk presented him with a big old fashioned register, The listing on the page read like this:

Gen. Lard Winifold, I.J. Innis-

stam, KCB, KBE, DO, MC

Lt. Col. Humphrey Wills Lollis-

ter, OBE, DSO, MC

Col. Sir William Lanforth, VC,

KCMG, OL

Group Capt. Jeffrey Ray Bans-

folden DFC, AFC, MO

Comdr Leslie R. Wottlesworth,

DSC, SM, RN

CPL. James Joyce, RA, USA,

AWOL.

NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER NEWS

The New England Chapter held its regular meeting on October 5, 1954 at the Y.D. Memorial Club, 200 Huntington Ave., in Boston, Mass. The meeting was called to order by President Mullholland with 21 members present. A short business meeting was the order of the night because of the main emphasis of the night was relegated to the establishment of a suitable memorial to the deceased members of the Ninth Infantry Division.

In order to facilitate the memorial fund a motion was made to contact the National Secretary requesting him to define the geographic limits of the New England Chapter, if no limits have been defined, the New England Chapter requests the right to be known as the local chapter to all

Mail Bag

(Continued from page 2)

this is his first letter to the Octofoil. He is very interested because he has a long record of achievement with the 9th, Howard was one of the first and original members of the 9th from the old Fort Bragg days in 1941 and is always anxious to read about some of his old acquaintances. Howard tells us that in one of the issues of the Octofoil we mentioned Larry Connors, Larry, back in Magenta, Africa, took some snapshots of which Howard still has, and still gets a kick out of looking at them. Howard is interested in finding out who the Captain of the Medics of the 1st Battalion was after the 47th crossed Remagen bridge. Can some one help Howard out with this one?

It seems that every time the Convention is one place Howard is in another, so he could not get his dates to meet, but he intends to catch one of the conventions. Howard was in West Harpswell, Maine on July 27, where he was exhibiting at a Watercolor show at the Centennial Hall. Howard's regular job is that of a Laboratory Technician and now makes his home at Route 1, Hopewell Jct., New York. Howard is now doing some very interesting research work and living in the beautiful Hudson River valley where he finds plenty of subjects to paint. Howard mentions that some of the ideas that we are

members of the Association living in the section of the United States known as the New England States.

trying to put together sound especially good as: former members' addresses, high spots of actions we were in, honors we received. . . Howard still has the original roster of Charley Company personnel that left England for France those long years ago. If any of the old boys read this column Howard wishes that they would write. Howard closes his

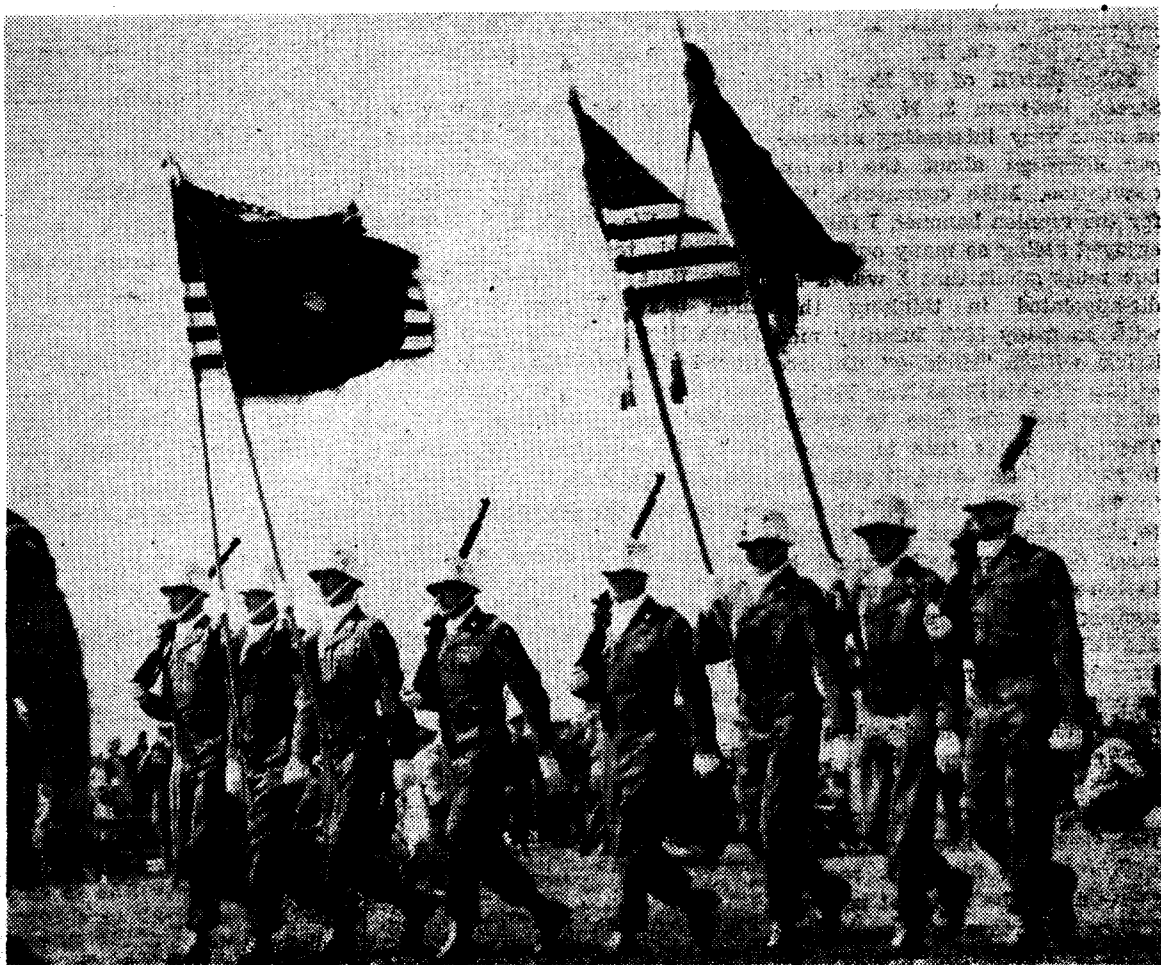
note with the comment that his records of Charley company are very accurate as he served four years and four months with this outfit.

Herbert E. Olsen, Jr., of 389 Highland Ave., Randolph, Mass., tells us that his wife recently gave birth to a baby girl.

James J. Corcoran of 602 Ma-

(Continued on page 4)

New Ninth on the March



COOKE BARRACKS, Goepingen, Germany. The "colors" pass in review at the Redesignation Ceremonies held there May 25, 1954.

9th INFANTRY DIVISION COMBAT DATA

**Starting 8th November, 1942, Thru
11th May, 1945, The 9th Infantry
Division Has Glorious Record**

**MANY MEMBERS HAVE WRITTEN THE OCTOFOIL
FOR AUTHENTIC INFORMATION CONCERNING
COMBAT RECORDS — THIS IS YOUR ANSWER**

1. The 39th Infantry Regiment, 47th Infantry Regiment, 60th Infantry Regiment, 9th Reconnaissance Troop (Mecz); 15th Engineer Combat Battalion; 9th Medical Battalion and 26th Field Artillery Battalion, 9th Infantry Division are credited with battle participation in the following:

Campaigns	Dates
Algeria-French Morocco	8 November to 11 November 1942
Tunisia	17 November 1942 to 13 May 1943
Sicily	9 July to 17 August 1943
Normandy	6 June to 24 July 1944
Northern France	25 July to 14 September 1944
Rhineland	15 Sept. 1944 to 21 March 1945
Ardennes-Alsace	16 December 1944 to 25 Jan. 1945
Central Europe	22 March to 11 May 1945

MAIL BAG

(Continued from page 3)

hontossique St., Pottsville, Pa., tells us that Domenick Carey, a former member of the 39th Infantry sends his best regards to all his buddies. Carey is a Veteran's representative for the Pottsville District in Pennsylvania.

60th INFANTRY

Americo J. Martin of 51 Fulton Street, Peabody, Mass., has finally learned about the Association, and is now a member in good standing. Americo was with E Company.

Warren W. Roberts, Jr., of 741-46th Street, Brooklyn, N.Y., contacted Al Bruchac who told him about the association and recently joined. Warren was with "A" Company.

39th INFANTRY

We recently received an inquiry from Captain Robert B. Meinerding, Visitors Bureau, HUSARPAC, APO 958, PM, San Francisco, contacted us about joining the Association. Captain Meinerding was back in '44, a 2nd Lt. with Co. K.

Mike Batelli of 67 East 20th Street, Paterson 3, N. J. sends us some very interesting newspaper clippings about the recent convention. Mike comments, "As for the reunion banquet, I for one enjoyed seeing so many out there, but must admit that I was a bit disappointed in thinking that with so many 39th Infantry men living within 'flicking' distance of New York's Hotel New Yorker, so few took the time to attend. The same holds true in regards to news of the AAA-O regiment in the Octofoil. Perhaps a way to stimulate interest in each regiment and other units would be to have separate columns, representing each group. That way, MAYBE — the men would take time to drop a note for insertion in what they might consider their own column. This might also tend to lighten too much of the one outfit story leads.

Lt. Col. R. C. Mailing, Stu. Det. CGSC, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas; a former 84th F.A. member tells us that he has just returned from a 3½ years in Hawaii where he was the senior artillery instructor with the ROTC at the University of Hawaii. Lt. Col.

Mailing, his wife, and four children, (two boys and two girls) are now on their way to the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth.

Al Lee of 424 Street 42 Ave., Rock Island, Illinois, writes to us buddies recently when he took a that he met quite a few of his old trip down south.

Nicholas Colombo writes us a very interesting bit. "During the liberation of Leige, I met a family in that city while I was having a few at a local cafe. However, the bar maid refused to take my French money when I offered to pay, so these fine people condescended to exchange the currency. After these people did me this favor, they invited me to their home. Before coming home in 1945, I came down from Schrobenshausen, Germany to Leige and spent three days with them prior to leaving for the States. When I left, we decided to correspond, and we did steadily for the past nine years. This man's name, incidentally is Victor Delevoy who is an Electrical Engineer.

Recently Mr. Delevoy was attending an Electrical convention in Philadelphia and had an excellent opportunity to visit me which he did. We spent a memorable week-end together even taking in a Post 52, American Legion clam bake. I gave Victor the Ninth Division history and I mentioned if anybody over there would want to buy them, to please contact me. I thought it would be nice to let you know how a friendship can be kept up.

DIVISION HEADQUARTERS

Joseph M. Moroney of 3 Rowe Street, New Haven, Conn., reminds us that he was the red-head of the APO Mail section, the part of Joe's letter that really impressed this writer was the following. "After reading the editorial in the Octofoil (which was sent to Joe gratis) I felt that I should re-insate my membership and help to raise the quota". All we can add to this is "Thank you Joe."

876th AAA BATTALION

Leonard Kokka of Route 2, Box 23, Sault St. Marie, Mich., tells us that everything is going

2. Medical Detachment, 39th Infantry Regt. was awarded a Meritorious Service Unit Plaque in General Orders 88, Headquarters, 9th Inf. Div., 11 June 1945 for meritorious service from 1 September 1944 to 1 November 1944.

3. Service Co., 39th Infantry Regt., was awarded a Meritorious Service Unit Plaque in General Orders 54, Headquarters, 9th Inf. Div., 22 April 1945 for meritorious service from 20 January to 20 March 1945.

4. The 1st Battalion, 39th Inf. Regt. was awarded two Distinguished Unit Citations in War Dept. General Orders 10, 1945, for action on 18 June 1944, St. Jacques de Nehou, France, and from 6 to 9 August 1944, Cherence le Bousset, France.

5. The 2nd Battalion, 39th Inf. Regt. was awarded a Distinguished Unit Citation in War Dept. General Orders 24, 1945 for action on 11 and 12 July 1944, Le Desert, France.

6. The 39th Infantry Regiment 9th Inf. Div. was awarded the Belgian Fourragers per Belgian Decree No. 1301, 20 November 1945, for action from 8 to 13 September 1944 along the southwest border of Belgium to the Siegfried Line and for action from 20 December 1944 to 26 January 1945 in the Ardennes. Personnel who served with the division during both periods for which unit was cited are entitled to wear the fourragers as a permanent part of the uniform. Individuals who served with the unit subsequent to these periods may wear the decoration only on special occasions while assigned to that organization.

along fine with he and his family.

To extend this column we need news. The only way we get news

is from you who read. A birthday — an anniversary — any happy event — wh not let us know so we can write about it.

7. The 1st Battalion, 39th Inf. Regt. was awarded two French Croix de Guerres with palm per French Decision No. 267, 22 July 1946 for action on 18 June 1944 in the region of Sainte-Jacques de Nehou and for action from 6 to 9 August 1944 in the region of Cherence le Roussel. However, these are organizational awards and do not entitle the individual members to the decorations.

8. The 3rd Battalion, 39th Inf. Regt. was awarded a French Croix de Guerre with palm per French Decision No. 267, 22 July 1946 for action on 13 and 14 June 1944 at Quineville, Normandy. However, this is an organizational award and does not entitle the individual members to the decoration.

9. The 39th Inf. Combat Team is credited with participating in assault landings at Algiers, No. Africa, from 8 to 10 November 1942.

10. The Medical Detachment, 47th Inf. Regt. was awarded a Meritorious Service Unit Plaque in General Orders 138, Headquarters, 9th Inf. Div., 30 July 1945 for meritorious service from 1 January to 31 March 1945.

11. Service Co., 47th Inf. Regt. was awarded a Meritorious Service Unit Plaque in General Orders 88, Headquarters, 9th Inf. Division for meritorious service from 13 June 1944 to 13 December 1944.

12. The 2nd Battalion, 47th Inf. Regt. was awarded a Distinguished Unit Citation in War Department General Orders 98, 1946

for action from 2 to 5 April 1945, Oberkirchen, Germany.

13. The 47th Inf. Regt. was awarded a Distinguished Unit Citation in War Department General Orders 65, 1946 for action from 8 to 19 March 1945, Germany.

14. The 1st Battalion, 47th Inf. Regiment was awarded a Distinguished Unit Citation in War Department General Orders 123, 1945, for action from 17 to 19 November 1944, Nothberg, Germany.

15. The 2nd Battalion, 47th Inf. Regt. was awarded a Distinguished Unit Citation in War Department General Orders 86, 1944 for action from 21 June to 26 June 1944, Cherbourg, France.

16. The 3rd Battalion, 47th Inf. Regt., was awarded a Distinguished Unit Citation in War Department General Orders 28, 1945 for action from 22 to 29 June 1944, France.

17. The Medical Detachment, 47th Inf. Regt. was awarded a Distinguished Unit Citation in War Dept. General Orders 120, 1945, for action from 21 to 27 November 1944, Germany.

(To be continued in next issue)

VA News

GI home builders now are required to give veteran-purchasers a one-year warranty that their homes have been constructed in "substantial conformity" with Veterans Administration-approved plans and specifications.

VA said the one-year warranty (is being put into effect (October 1, 1954) under the Housing Act of 1954, which stipulates that all new housing purchased with the aid of VA or Federal Housing Administration guaranteed or insured loans must carry the warranty.

The warranty does not apply to existing homes which have been occupied for more than a year.

It applies only on new homes for which VA issues a Certificate of Reasonable Value on or after October 1, 1954.

Builders or sellers of new housing will give each veteran-purchaser a warranty in a form which has been prescribed by VA. A copy of the warranty, on which the veteran has acknowledged receipt, must be forwarded to VA by the lender before VA will guarantee or insure the loan.

Notice of any substantial non-conformance with plans and specifications must be given by the owner of the house to the warrantor within one year from the date the veteran takes title or the house is initially occupied, whichever is earlier. The terms of the warranty will run to successors or transferees in event the property changes hands before the expiration of the warranty.

The warranty terms prescribed by VA and FHA are identical. For homes sold with GI financing where FHA has made compliance inspections, the warranty form prescribed by FHA will be used. VA emphasized that the one-year warranty required by the Housing Act is in addition to any other rights or privileges a purchaser or owner may have under any other law or instrument. VA said it will be up to the purchaser to enforce his rights under the warranty.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

9th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Stan Cohen, National Sec.-Treas.

Post Office Box 428

Jersey City 8, New Jersey

Enclosed please find 1954 dues for:

Name Serial No.

Street Address

City Zone State

I was a (Battery member of (Company Regiment 9th Div.

I wish to sign up for the following:

Regular Member \$3.50 per year ()

Sustaining Member ()

THREE YEAR MEMBER \$10.00 ()

Life Membership \$50.00 ()

Octofoil Auto License Disc \$ 1.00 ()

Eight Stars to Victory \$ 3.50 ()

(Pictorial History of 9th Div. in Action)

Ladies Auxiliary Member \$1.50 ()

Decals \$.25 apiece — 5 for \$1.00

Combat Route Map \$.50

60th Infantry History \$1.00

Please credit the following chapter:

Philadelphia () Illinois () EUCOM ()

Buffalo () Columbus () Greater N. Y. ()

Columbus () Pittsburgh () Wash., D.C. ()

New England () Northern Ohio () Detroit ()

Twin Cities () ***

Explanation of Dues:

Non-Chapter member all payment of dues to Nat'l.

Chapter Member: \$1.00 for chapter, \$2.50 to Nat'l.

Ladies Auxiliary \$5.00 to chapter, \$1.00 to Nat'l.

Three Year: \$3.00 to chapter, \$7.00 to Nat'l.

Life Member: \$12.50 to chapter, \$37.50 to Nat'l.

Sustaining Member: Chapter to receive 1/3 of amount over \$3.50 balance to National.