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The Octofoil, May 1956

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

Volume 19
Number 12

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

One Year \$1.50
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Livingston, N. J., P.O. Box 66

267

May, 1956

Two More Months to Convention Time

Time's A Fleeting

Yipes, look at the calendar, and you will sound off too. Now is the time to check on the details. Make your plans and arrangements with your boss for your vacation schedule. Be sure you get July 26, 27 and 28. Are you certain you have a baby sitter lined up. (Are the In-laws available?) Is the car in good shape? Get new tires, etc., that new suit



or dress.

Memorial Parade

You don't have to worry about your marching shoes, because we have learned that this year the march will not be as long. We have been informed that the Memorial Parade will only be a few blocks from the Hotel Morrison. A side note to those who have larger bunions, this is just about half the distance of the 1950 Reunion.

Hotel Costs

Are you interested in getting a C.P. Room set up? Well, if you are then here are the details surrounding this set-up. A C.P. room can be had for \$15.00 a day. This is a cinch for those who have the big parties. Not much when you divide it up among 10 or 20 lads who can usually be counted on to attend. Why not do the smart thing today. Contact those who you think will attend. Round up all the cold cash and start fresh. Don't wait until you get into the hotel and then you start hunting all over the place for some one

from your outfit. If you start today you can be sure of a good time when you hit the City of Chicago.

If you are interested in a suite of rooms, these are available for \$28.00 and up a day for two rooms. The hotel will provide two beds to a room but we are told that four men can hold down this type of room.

Assists

Perhaps this might serve as a thought to those who would want to set up a party deal. Then why not contact us here at National. We have the complete list of names and addresses of all of the men in our outfit. One idea would be to start a chain letter going. You send the information here on who you would like to contact and we can set up this letter for you. We will supply the names and addresses and help you follow this up. This way you can get a personal contact started and perhaps this will assist you in getting a larger group together.

From our experience in the past, (Continued on page 4)

26 F. A. Notes

by Joe McKenzie

It seems rather strange that a man in the eastern part of our country should write a few words about other men in the middle and far west. But, I suppose it is such contacts that keep our association and our paper alive.

A sad note has been received from Ross V. Kepple. Any man in 26FA who ever drove a truck will remember Ross as that smiling and obliging mechanic from Battalion Motors. He was one of the originals from Tent City. Somewhere in France he got tired repairing trucks so he transferred to the ammunition section of Service Battery. In Germany, Ross did something that I would not believe unless I saw it. He was one of those who liked to strum a guitar. Like many other liberators, he had one, but it was minus strings. His inventive genius went to work. In the area were miles of telephone wires left behind by the infantry. Ross cut this wire to the desired length and removed all the kinks in it. The unbelievable part of it all is that he wound one wire around the others as is necessary on a six string guitar. It was amazing the way he did it.

Ross tried civilian life back in 1945 but decided it was not for him. Reenlistment gave him a tour of duty in Korea. After that another sample of civilian life and another reenlistment. This time he went back to Germany. He decided to see America at his own expense. About six months of this was enough then back to the Army. This time he did not get in. Doctors discovered that Ross has advanced tuberculosis. At present he is confined in the Elm Grove Sanatorium, Bushnell, Ill. You fellows in that area can cheer him up by a visit or a letter recalling the old days.

Recently I received a letter from Harold Wallace, 4510 Pine St., Bellaire, Texas. He tells me of his return to the hills of Tennessee where he found our old friend Travis Seymour. What a meeting that must have been. The first one in ten years. Harold also found a relative of Elbert Turner. The last known whereabouts of Elbert was with the army in Iceland. He also met the ex-wife of Joe Halloran. Joe from New York and his wife from the hills just didn't get along in the big city so she went home to Ma.

We Goofed!

In the April issue of the Octofoil your editor welcomed a new member to the Association. Frank Hughes. Well is our face red, it is not Frank Hughes, but Frank Higgins, and he is not a new member because he joined the 9th Inf. Div. Association back in August of 1945.

New England Chapter News

By Vic Campisi

Worcester Meeting Big Success

With Rev. Edward T. Connors as a genial and hospitable host, the last meeting of the New England Chapter, 9th Infantry Division Association was held Saturday night, April 28, at the famed "Connors Coffee Shop" situated in the basement of the Immaculate Conception Church, 47 Prescott St., Worcester, Mass.

Members Come From Far and Wide

Travelling from points as far north as Bennington, New Hampshire, and as far south as New Haven, Connecticut, more than 50 members, wives, and guests enjoyed a social evening featuring movies and refreshments.

Movies, Refreshments

Highlight Evening

Father Connors, who doubled in brass as movie projectionist for the evening, showed his personal color movies depicting various reunions at his annual memorial masses. This was followed by color movies showing the Ninth Infantry Division in World War II combat action from the sands of North Africa, through the murderous hedgerows of Normandy, and finally to smashing victory at the River Elbe in Germany.

One of the highlights of the combat movie was a scene showing Father Connors on the Ludendorf Bridge at Remagen while troops of the 39th Infantry were rushing across during the surprise breakthrough over the Rhine River.

Si Garber presented an unscheduled and added attraction by projecting color slides depicting scenes and activities at various national conventions of the Association.

Refreshments followed after which the assembly broke up into little conversational groups which discussed subjects ranging from World War II tactics to stereoscopic restitution by double projection. It was well past midnight before reluctant members were able to tear themselves away to make the long trek home.

Next Meeting May 28 at Boston

Annual Elections to be Held

The next meeting of the N.E. Chapter is scheduled for May 28, the last Monday of the month, at the YD Club, 200 Huntington Avenue, Boston. Annual election of officers will be held at this time. The nominating committee is composed of Ronnie Murphy, John McLaughlin, and Si Garber. Presentation of a slate of officers by the nominating committee

does not preclude nominations from the floor. Members are urged to attend this important meeting and election.

N.E. Chapter Personnel Notes

For the benefit of those seeking names and addresses of "list" buddies, printed below is a list showing names and addresses of most of those who attended the Worcester meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Pope, Box 14, Bennington, New Hampshire (A Co, 15th Engrs).

Ralph Renna, 60 Prince St., Boston, Mass. (A Co, 15th Engrs).

Mr. and Mrs. John McLaughlin, 6 Goodrich Rd., Jamaica Plain, Mass. (A Co, 15th Engrs).

Mr. and Mrs. James McLaughlin, 3 Schlager Ave., West Quincy, Mass. (K Co, 47th Inf).

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gibson, 127 Glenwood Ave., Hyde Park, Mass. (A Co, 15th Engrs).

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lovell, 81 Bennett St., Brighton, Mass. (60th FA).

Frank Page, 33 Emerson Rd., Milton, Mass. (Hq, 15th Engrs).

Richard Martin, 151 Dorset St., Springfield, Mass. (E Co, 60th Inf).

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Berthiaume, 128 Putnam St., New Haven, Conn. (A Co, 15th Engrs).

Mr. and Mrs. Gerard Leone, 23 Mott St., Arlington, Mass. (26th FA).

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Dickinson, 20 Knowles Rd., Worcester, Mass. (Hq, 15th Engrs).

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Maddona, 1 West St., Worcester, Mass. (B Co, 15th Engrs).

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Maher, 8 Boyden St., Worcester, Mass. (C Co, 15th Engrs). Mr. and Mrs. George Bunza, 142 Beaver Brook Pkwy, Worcester, (A Co, 15th Engrs).

Byron Angell, 572 Smithfield Rd., North Providence, R.I., (B Co, 15th Engrs).

Manuel "Doc" Simmons, 249 State St., New Bedford, Mass. (39th Inf).

Mr. and Mrs. William Davidson, 174 Larch Rd., Cambridge, Mass. (B Co, 15th Engrs).

Connie Matulis, 49 Mendon St., Worcester, Mass. (26th FA).

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Extract from the certificate of incorporation of the Ninth Infantry Division Association: This Association is formed by the officers and members 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.

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EDITORIAL—

Convention Time

The weather is as yet undecided, and we imagine that many of you feel the same way about tending one of our conventions.

Well, we have news for you. Our telephone has been working overtime these past few weeks. We have been talking to the Chicago Chapter lads and we have news to report. The boys out there are giving it their all and they have made great strides in climaxing a near perfect end in Convention details.

We have a speaker, we have invited guests, we have the cooperation of a great hotel in Chicago, and we have the plans to help you have a great time.

To enlarge on the subject is erroneous and space wasting, but to emphasize the importance is your decision. We can safely say that a convention has a nostalgic sting that that just can't be found anywhere else. We can say that a Convention has a let go feeling that is hard to replace in any form of get-together. We can say that finding an old face in a crowd here is a lot different than meeting your friends anywhere else.

We can only say these things because we have seen, we have observed and we have reported on conventions for a good number of years.

We would like to let you in on a secret. the current ads that we have been running in the V.F.W. and American Legion magazines have had a stronger pull this year than ever before. There must be a reason for this strange magnetism that brings men from all over the country together again.

We who have attended these conventions know what it is, but to you who have never been at a convention. We would like to make this editorial end real short and sweet.... Why not attend this one in Chicago, in July and find out for yourselves.

Date: July 26, 27 and 28

Place: Hotel Morrison Chicago, Illinois.

New England Chapter News

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. and Mrs. George Wilkin-son, 231 Main St., Concord, Mass. (26th FA).

Daniel Mazeika, 31 Peachdale Ave., Worcester, Mass. (26th FA). Disabled Veterans — On Guard!

Disabled veterans are under fire again, this time by Pres. Eisenhower's Commission on Veterans' Benefits. Gen. Omar Brad-

ley, once known as "the soldiers' soldier," is chairman of the commission which has made revolutionary and radical recommendations which, if approved, will throw overboard many of the statutory rights and privileges earned by loyal veterans in the service of their country. Several of the commission's 70 recommendations are as follows:

(Continued on page 3)

1 — Abolishment of statutory awards. (A statutory award is that special grant paid those who have lost arms, legs, sight, etc.)

2 — Eliminate 10 and 20 percent service-connected disabilities with a cash lump-sum apyment after which the veterans cease to be classified as a service-connected disabled veteran. Losing this classification also entails losing VA hospitalization rights as a service-connected disabled vet, and also loses for the vet his civil service preferential rating.

3 — Deduct social security payments from veterans pensions so he won't get more than a total of \$70.00 a month from both sources, if single, and \$105 if he had a dependent wife.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: — Women always talk about having nothing to wear to a party, but we notice they never wear it.

HOW MUCH IS A BILLION? — The simplest analysis of a billion is fantastic: If, 785 years before the birth of Christ, a man had borrowed one billion dollars — without interest — and had started immediately to pay it back at the rate of \$1000 a day, he would have made his final payment on January 1, 1954. (Pierce Harris, Spiritual Revolution, Doubleday & Co., Inc.)

ASSOCIATION WINS COURT CASE

The 9th Infantry Division Association recently won a default judgment against a former member who was charged with misappropriating some \$3700 stemming from the 1952 national convention held in Boston.

The judgement was for \$2477 and takes into account \$1185 restitution made by the defendant before court action was initiated for the balance.

The president of the New England Chapter declined to identify the defendant other than "a former member, and a practicing Boston attorney."

Our editorial thanks to the Worcester Sunday Telegram which, on Sunday, March 11, 1956, ran a vivid and extremely interesting story on Rev. Edward T. Connors, pastor of the Immaculate Conception Church, Worcester, Mass., a former Division chaplain, and an outstanding member of the 9th Inf Div Association.

It gives us great pleasure this month to reprint the text in full. We regret our reproduction process does not permit printing the fine portrait of Father Connors, which appears in the original story.

The Worcester paper's five-column head proclaims, "Profile — Rev. Edward T. Connors is Widely Known For His 9th Division Reunions Held Annually in Worcester" and the story goes on to say:

"Here I am ready to build a church — and in the Army I couldn't even set up a pup tent," Rev. Edward T. Connors said.

And the amazement of the husky, gray-haired priest showed the humility of a man who, 35 years ago, was a part-time poolroom attendant in his home town of Whitinsville and who now is pastor of Immaculate Conception Church in Worcester.

The bridge connecting the careers is as full of action, excitement, human warmth, and humor as could be hoped for in fiction. The parishioners, friends and admirers of Fr. Connors, however, will be the first to attest that none of his experiences as student, teacher, army chaplain, and parish priest borders on the fictitious.

Born in 1905, Fr. Connors attended public grammar schools and Northbridge High School. He graduated from Holy Cross College with the class of 1927 and enrolled in St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Md.

While at St. Mary's, Fr. Connors' early career caught up with him briefly. He said he had always figured a poolroom was pretty much on the rough side — based on his early teens when his job as attendant involved mastery of the art of self defense.

Shortly after his arrival at the seminary, he was shocked to see some pool tables in the recreation hall of the school. While he was looking them over, a fellow seminarian challenged him to a game. Fr. Connors didn't know whether to act innocent or expose his past. He finally consented to a game providing he was to get the first shot.

Fr. Connors said he then "called" a real trick shot that involved four banks and a side pocket.

"The ball did just what I said it would," he recalled, "and as it dropped into the pocket, my challenger quietly placed his cue back on the rack and moved away."

"I remember one of the onlookers saying, 'This guy didn't spend all his evenings at vespers,'" Fr. Connors said. "His name was Frederick A. Donaghy, present bishop of Wuchow, China, who was recently released by the Chinese Reds after about five years detention."

Fr. Connors was ordained in Springfield May 30, 1931, by the late Bishop O'Leary. He was promptly assigned to St. Peter's High School as athletic director and in apparent gratification the school football team won the mythical state championship.

Speaking of football, Fr. Connors recalled the names of some of the stars on his St. Peter's team.

"There was John Sweeney, 'Red' Ruane, 'Bud' Lavigne, and 'Shorty' Muir," he said, "among other real fine boys. I was really proud of that gang."

Two years after his arrival at St. Peter's, Fr. Connors joined Fr. James M. McCarron in forming the Catholic League for city and county high school basketball teams.

In 1935 Fr. Connors was transferred to Sacred Heart Academy and a year later to St. Bernard's High School, Fitchburg, where he served as director of athletics until he entered the U.S. Army in 1942.

After a brief period at Camp Livingston, La., Fr. Connors was involved in a fateful transfer. He was assigned to the 9th Division at Ft. Bragg, N.C. — an assignment memorable today to both the man and the division.

The legend of the chaplain's "coffee shop," his friendly, humble mingling with enlisted men, his disregard for rank, his intense interest in "his boys," regardless of religion; and his heroism are all reflected in years of action with the Division.

To Africa in December, 1942, his comment was, "I was lucky to get over so soon."

Through Tunisia, Sicily, Italy, and to England in November of '43. To France in June — "D-Day plus 4," as the priest put it. With the 15th Engineer Battalion of the 9th Division, he was with the first Allied troops to enter Belgium.

And all along the way it was the same. Connors Coffee Shop was a tradition among officers and men. Whenever a stop was made, the chaplain had coffee on before the dust could settle.

Made it in a big aluminum pitcher and heated on a ration can stove with kerosene fuel, the coffee was simply boiled and served.

When the coffee ran low, Fr. Connors would merely add more grounds and water.

"We never dared get all the way down to the bottom of the pot," he mused. "We were afraid of what we might find in it. There was a quarter-inch cake of coffee on the sides of it to add to the flavor and there were some days when the men claimed they had to chew it — it was too strong to drink."

"We used to have a real set-up when we weren't moving and General Louis A. Craig used to say the shop was the only civil place in the 9th Division. Rank at the coffee shop pertained only to the coffee."

Fr. Connors said he had a penchant for getting lost and that when he disagreed with his driver, it always turned out that the driver was right.

"One day we were travelling by jeep in Belgium when we came to a fork in the road. The driver thought we should go left — I thought we should go right, so I pulled rank on him and we went right."

"Soon we came to a little village and we were surprised at the warmth of our welcome. The driver was kissed by everybody from 6 to 60 and just as we were ready to have coffee with the mayor, a thought struck me."

"When I asked why the big reception, our hosts answered that we were the first Allies they had seen."

"You are our liberators," they said. "But be careful, the Germans are just outside of town!"

"You can imagine how long we stayed around there!"

When it comes to talk of heroism, Fr. Connors immediately becomes shy. He denies all stories — especially the one where, it is said, he rescued a boy from No Man's Land through a mine field that was considered suicidal to cross.

He'll deny it, but he can't deny the Silver Star he received, as a reporter put it, "not because he was popular with the troops."

No sooner was Fr. Connors out of the service and back at St. Peter's than he felt the urge for a reunion with his 9th Division comrades.

The result was the first of a series of Ninth Division Reunions here in Worcester — reunions that have grown from the 130 who attended the first one to the 500 who attended the most recent.

Each reunion has included a mass for the dead followed by a dinner at the Hotel Bancroft. Masses were held in St. Peter's Church in 1945 through 1949, in St. Mary's in North Grafton in '50 and '51, and at Immaculate Conception Church since then.

By popular demand, Connors Coffee Shop was reopened three years ago with a get-together the Saturday night preceding the mass.

And the former chaplain's flock have gathered from near and far. This past year, one man came from Chicago, another from Atlanta, Ga. Protestants, Catholics, Jews, and "not very religious," they "gather in a spiritual background to remember and pray for the dead, console the bereaved, get together with living friends."

Not all the reunion members are Ninth Division veterans. More than 60 Gold Star Mothers attended the latest reunion. Parents whose sons believed in Chaplain Connors and all he stood for but

(Continued on page 4)

New England Chapter News

who did not return from battle, have turned to the understanding priest for consolation.

One couple from Pittsburgh, Pa., whose son died in Father Connors' arms, has attended every one of the reunions.

Veterans of the division are interested in the new Immaculate Conception Church and many have made contributions toward a Memorial Altar which is planned for it. Fr. Connors said the outdoor altar will be dedicated in memory of all those who have died in the service of their country.

He spoke of a Jewish "boy" who recently sent a check for \$1000 for the edifice for which the pastor expects the groundbreaking to take place soon. The contributor addressed the gift to "our pastor."

Another story involves the son of a Lutheran veteran from Levittown, L.I., who wanted to attend the latest reunion with his parents — but who enjoyed a perfect Sunday school attendance.

At the boy's request, Fr. Connors wrote a note to his teacher explaining the absence. So the youngster was able to maintain his attendance record.

A reputation for rough or "dirty" basketball is among the amusing recollections of Fr. Connors, a former athletic director. He tells of the days when he used to help Marty O'Malley with the coaching of the North High basketball team.

"I remember one of Marty's stars, Ray Forkey, who was always a target of opposing teams. Marty used to get me into practice scrimmage because he was sure that Forkey would meet no one in the game who was as rough as I was.

"The best athlete I have known in 16 years connection with athletics was "Spanky" Flynn. He weighed only 140 pounds, but it was all dynamite."

And so it went. . . Ray Creamer, another of O'Malley's boys . . . others from the three area high schools. . . and those of the 9th Division. . . his parishioners at Immaculate Conception. . . the old pup tent and the new church.

All fit into the life and into the heart of this parish priest.

P.S. — If you haven't paid your 1956 dues yet, please send check or money order for \$4.00 to Sec'y Tom Boyle, 39 Hall Ave., Somerville, Mass. Payment of your 1956 dues will assure continued receipt of your Octofoil and Sound-Off in addition to making possible other Chapter activities.

Western Pennsylvania Chapter

By Bill Palady

The May 16th meeting of the Western Penn. Chapter proved once again to be the kind of meeting we enjoy having out here. A good time was had by all and we did not hear any complaints to speak of. Among those attending were: Mr. and Mrs. Mike Bish, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Bindus; Mr. and Mrs. Jay Dennison; Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Dominick; Mr. and Mrs. John Compel; and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Buck; Mr. and Mrs. Steve Lelak; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Schmidt; Mr. and Mrs. William Hilton; Mr. and Mrs. Bill Palady and Chesley Mischler.

The W. Penn. Chapter intends to hold a real wing ding of a family outing and picnic sometime in

MAIL BAG

47th

Manny Schonfield of 2875 Sedgwick Ave., Bronx 68, N.Y. writes to the Octofoil informing us of the following: My wife Miriam and I have recently become the proud parents of a son Mitchel Mark. Mitchell was born March 26th 1956 at the Jewish Memorial Hospital in New York City. Manny was with Company G. . .

David D. Silberberg of Memphis, Tennessee encloses the following item and report.

"Today the latest issue of my favorite periodical arrived — the Octofoil, of course — wherein an article by Shepard Stone drew my particular attention, as did the historical account "Pushing Back the Years" which recaled events during the period that we were attached to the BIG RED ONE near Eschweiler. However, it was the Stone article which prompted me to send you these lines.

This article first appeared in the January 22, 1948, issue of the New York Times, which issue devoted considerable space to the archives. Inasmuch as it involved the 47th, I wrote a letter to Mr. Stone, which he answered quite appreciatively, together with a bit more detailed account, copy of which I am enclosing herewith. Thought you might like to read it. It was quite an experience for us at the time, and I have since felt deeply grateful to the editors of EIGHT STARS TO VICTORY for including a brief summary of that event in our division history. (p. 386)

It was early the second week of April 1945. All resistance on the part of the German forces encircled in the Ruhr pocket had been crushed and many thousands of prisoners taken. The Ninth Infantry Division, whose task forces and combat teams had been deployed over a wide area during the Ruhr pocket campaign, was reassembled — one of its regiments, the 47th Infantry, in the vicinity of Siedlingshausen.

On 9 April the Division was ordered to the Harz mountain area in central Germany. There, disorganized remnants of several enemy divisions and Kampfgruppen, including several units of the notorious SS Totenkopfverband, had been isolated from their parent organizations and forced into the densely forested mountains by the rapid advance of American armored columns.

It was towards the end of this campaign, while the MIS-CIC section of the 47th Infantry Regiment was occupied with interrogations and security screenings of prisoners of war, deserters, security threats and automatic arrestees in the vicinity of Pansfelde, when word was received that elements of the 1st Bn had captured the chateaux at Degenershausen and found a number of persons of possible counter intelligence interest residing there.

(Here it is necessary to briefly describe the organization and method of operation of the regimental MIS-CIC section. Its personnel consisted of two PW interrogators, two MI interpreters, and two CIC

August. More on this at the next meeting and we hope to have the information ready for the Octofoil announcing the dates.

The Chapter at this point will have the following men represent them in the Chicago Convention: Luke Savage, Adolph Dominick, Mike Bish, Chesley Mischler and Bill Palady. Many of the boys have high hopes of attending, providing they can get their vacations that week.

agents. They functioned as two teams; one (IPW) for positive combat intelligence, and the other (CIC) for counter intelligence purposes. The MI interpreters, who were also trained PWI's, were employed primarily within the CIC mission.)

Following receipt of the above information the counter intelligence team, consisting of one special agent and two MI interpreters, proceeded to the chateaux. Upon arrival, and inquiry as to the proprietor, a servant guided the team to a room where a woman, about 40 years old and speaking an excellent Oxford english, received them in the typical German defeatist submissive manner. While the special agent proceeded with the normal questioning, she handed another member of the team a letter addressed to the Baroness. . . (name forgotten) and signed by P. G. Wodehouse, an English writer who resided on the continent throughout the German occupation, apparently with complete freedom of person and movement.

The letter merely contained a note of gratitude to the baroness in appreciation for the generous hospitality shown him during Wodehouse's stay at the chateaux.

This woman, then, was the baroness. She was fairly attractive for her age, extremely high-sprung, a widow (circumstances of her husband's death forgotten), highly educated and widely traveled both at home and abroad, and participant, together with her husband, in a number of hunting expeditions of Africa, a statement to which pictures taken during those trips and numerous heads and pelts of jungle animals displayed throughout the chateaux, attested. Recalling pleasant experiences in the company of Americans, she stated that she had all reason to disbelieve stories, circulated by the German Propaganda thru its controlled press and radio, of looting and general atrocious behavior on the part of American troops. She claimed to have been correct in her judgment, expressing great respect for the American company commander and his troops for their exemplary behavior during, and subsequent to, the capture of the chateaux.

When asked for a detailed list of all occupants throughout the estate, she showed no reluctance to comply. Upon its completion, the team examined the list and found among the names a "Baron von Greisheim, librarian of a bombed out library in Berlin." Questioned on this point, the baroness stated that a considerable number of crates containing "books and files of a bombed out Berlin library were forced upon me for safekeeping when the Allies started to bomb Berlin." She was also "compelled" to take the Baron von Greisheim and his family and provide them with quarters in the same part of the chateaux where the "library" material was to be stored.

The team then proceeded to the quarters occupied by the Baron von Greisheim and his family. After completing general security screening of the family, the Baron was subjected to a detailed interrogation during which he disclosed, among less significant statements, that "at one time" he had been an employee of the German Foreign Ministry. When asked as to the reason for his deferment from the service, he attributed his good fortune to his having a wife and two children, which explanation, of course, was ridiculous. The team then demanded the key to

the rooms wherein the "library" material was stored. He wearily complied and, while one of the MI interpreters proceeded to those rooms, the interrogation continued.

Only a few minutes had elapsed when the MI interpreter returned and informed the other two members of the team that the rooms were full of crates and shelves containing files and other documents and that those which had hastily examined contained correspondence, notes, and memos signed by Laval, Petain, von Ribbentrop, and Gen. v. Stulpnagel. The entire team, "accompanied" by the Baron, immediately went to the store rooms. It was after a number of the files and other documents had been examined by the team that the tremendous significance, value, and potentialities of the contents of the rooms were realized. The regimental S-2 was contacted instantly and informed of the discovery.

(Continued in next issue)

60th Infantry

E. Company:



We have just found out that this happy couple are Mr. and Mrs. John Bachman of Oregon, Illinois and they are living in a new home at 612 South 8th Street. John by the way and the Mrs. celebrated their 1st wedding anniversary on April 23rd, 1956. His wife is the

60th Infantry Reunion

About three or four o'clock in the A.M., the wife grabbed me by the arm and said, "come on let's go home." Well, that's the way it is at this type of get-together. Nobody wants to leave, even those who want just seem unable to get away from the tables.

A reporter has a hard job at these reunions, with trying to keep tabs on the food, the guests the refreshments etc., etc., something happens to time and places and things.

How far will people come to attend these affairs, why not ask Truitt Davis and his wife. They only came up from Franklin, Georgia to attend this shindig. . . From all parts they came. Why even a few hardy souls braved the mighty Hudson River and came into the wilds of Long Island City.

Can't say whether it was worth it, but I'll tell you this I wouldn't have missed it for all the world.

Some tried to come but could not—such men as Col. Dilly, Gen. Van Houten, all sent telegrams and others sent letters of regret. This is not just a get-together, this is just one great big party.

It is absolutely amazing to note the faces. Monsano, Golub, Haberman, Surm, Wasserman, these guys don't attend meetings of any kind except this type of deal. More, oh sure there were dozens more, Thomas Henry and his frau. Say by the way, What's with Pete Castellano (someone saw him with his wife, and friend Pete why did you wait so long). Bet she don't miss any more of these affairs. The Morris's's, (Jack never looked so good).

former Joan Worman of Byron, Illinois.

F. Company:

Jerome E. Ploskusk of 415 Sangeman, Streator, Illinois tells us that he is going to make the convention in Chicago, and wants to see some of his friends attend. How about that all you F Company lads. . .

F. Company:

Stewart Salters of RFD No. 6, St. John's, Michigan, sent us a note explaining how he caught our announcement and is anxious to see some of his old friends again. We sent Stewart all the info on the Association and the Convention.

G Company:

Edward P. McGrath of 157 Roosevelt Ave., Torrington, Conn., is another new man to our group. Ed was also with G Company.

47th Infantry Reunion

By Dom Miele

On May 12, 1956 the 47th Infantry Gang had their reunion. Our reporter expressed the opinion that a good time was had by all. Why not when you glance at the list of guys and dolls who attended. For example here are a few:

Mr. and Mrs. Danny Quinn; Mr. McInerney, Mr. and Mrs. Sheridan (They never miss a 47th affair) (And all the way from Baltimore, Md.) Dom Miele, Mr. and Mrs. Leonardo Ricco, Mr. and Mrs. John Rizzo (Whom we heard are still tearing the joint apart with their terpsichorean wizardry), John Schlopp;

Mr. and Mrs. Guglielmino, Mr. and Mrs. Vince Iannucci, Mr. and Mrs. John Trevelise, Mr. and Mrs. Irving Feinberg. (From Philadelphia, Pa.) Mr. and Mrs. Bob Coleflesh.

The Fazio's were all there: Frank, Mike, Ann, Vita, Al Orletti and Margaret, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Avvento, Mike Gatto and Arlene, Harry Orenstein, Salvatore Giunta, Louis Greco, Peter J. Imbesi, Jack Scully, Hans Schoenmann, Rose A. Giordano and Ed Egan.

Here is one event that is not limited to just eating and dancing. The fare of the night was entertainment. And entertainment we had. Music, singing, skits and to top it all off, a swell meal.

Of course being a chow hound extraordinaire, (and I hate food) the roast beef was out of this world. Everyone thought it was the greatest. The band as usual did not stop. They played all night and didn't miss one request. We had some guests at the affair and even though they were not part of the Ninth this is the second time they joined hands with us. The 443rd AAA. A nice bunch of lads but loud and helpful.

The comment that we can make now is to those who could not make it, well try next year. These affairs are like old whiskey, they get better with age.

See you next year. . .

Hard to say where the band started and just about where they ended. All they did was play and play and play. To be sure all the crowd did was dance and dance and dance. Never seems to be any slack in having fun and a good time at these parties. Good thing many baby sitters sat in for the night. (I know mine did.) To Al Bruchac, Pat—The Surms and Habermans and all who assisted — we thought you all did a grand job.

This synopsis may be short, but we can assure you that the good time will long be remembered. Say what about next year!

Two More Months To Convention Time

(Continued from page 1)

many men just come in and check the registration and then sit and wait for someone they know to show up. This we also know from past experience is at times very taxing when you are all by yourself. The success of any convention is depended upon how many of your friends show up. Why not take our suggestion and give it a try.

Strip Tickets

For those who can't make the three days, don't feel that you might be taxed for the whole deal. The strip ticket arrangement was set up to make it convenient for you to attend one or more of the functions.

Advance Registrations

May we caution those who cannot see the benefit of advance registrations to try to make your plans in advance. We have learned that it is the wise man who takes advantage of the advance registration. He is the man who is most satisfied when he arrives at the hotel. This hotel will be completely Air-Conditioned. Write to the Hotel Morrison today — here is their address. Hotel Morrison, Madison and Clark Streets, Chicago, Illinois. Address your letter to the Advance Registration clerk and ask for confirmation. This will be the key to making your stay more enjoyable. Honestly nothing is more unpleasant than sweating out a hotel room. Take our advice, write today.

Car Pools

Many men live in areas that are close by but not close enough to Chicago, why not start up a car pool. Some of the fellows here in the New York Chapter are thinking of chartering a plane.

If you live in the New York area why not check this through with the New York Chapter. This type of cooperation is extremely helpful and thrifty.

We can sit at our typewriter and think up all types of ideas but it is you who read this article that makes up his mind. Don't wait for the last minute, by acting now you will have a better time tomorrow.

New York Chapter

by IRV FEINBERG

June will find the New York Chapter holding a family picnic. This promises to be a grand day in as much as it will be the first affair that the children can attend and really enjoy themselves. Sunday, June 3rd, has been picked by the committee. The place is "Seeley's Pond" in Scotch Plains, N.J. Seeley's Pond is located inside the Watchung Reservation. It is about a half hour ride from New York City, and can be reached by taking Route 22 at Newark Airport. It is hoped that the affair can be fun for about \$2.00 per ground up. All children free.

The price of admission pays for all the hot dogs, hamburgers, beer and the rest of the delicacies that are generally found at any pick nick. Ladies, no pots, or pans to worry about, just bring the family and relax and have a good time. You men here is the chance to combine the works, you can have lots to eat and drink and the whole affair will be for the entire day. . . What more can you ask for so little.

Please Pay your 1956 dues
Now!

9th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Stan Cohen, National Sec.-Treas.
Post Office Box 66
Livingston, New Jersey

Enclosed please find 1956 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	\$1.00 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 ()	Western Penn. ()	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, \$3.00 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 \$35.00 balance to National.

Philadelphia Chapter

A new replacement for the Treasurer's job has been announced by the Philadelphia Chapter. Jerry Nothman will take over the position as Treasurer. Bill Solli-day has asked for a leave of absence. The Philadelphia chapter wants to openly thank Bill for his great job in handling the finances of the past reunion.

The Philadelphia has several events planned for the very near future, such as a Doggie Roast sometime in May, a Picnic in August or September, and a Banquet in November. For exact dates of these affairs, watch the Octofoil.

Local Chapters of the Association!

New York Chapter

Sec. Dom. Miele
Grand Central P.O. Box
N.Y., N.Y.

Meeting place:
Gerdes Restaurant
112 East 18th St., N.Y. 3, N.Y.
Tel.: GR 7-9817

Meeting Time:
1st Frid. of each Month

Phila. Chapter

Ray Connolly
Krewestown, above Walsh Rd.
Phila., Pa.

Meeting: 3d Monday every month
P.R.R. Amer. Leg. Post 204
3202-04 Chestnut St.
Phila., Pa.

Buffalo Chapter

Sec. Henry J. R. Golabiecki
265 Cambridge Ave.
Buffalo, N.Y.

Northern Ohio Chapter

Sec: William C. Mauser
6632 Bliss Ave.
Cleveland 3, Ohio
Endicott 1-1007

Detroit Chapter

Sec: Robert J. De Sandy
1685 Faircourt
Gross Pointe Woods 30, Mich.

Twin Cities Chapter

Sec: Richard W. Sims
3932 Brunswick
St. Louis Park, Minn.
Phone Wh 3311
Meeting — New Years Eve

New England Chapter

Sec. T. J. Boyle
39 Hall Avenue
Somerville, Mass.
Meeting: Y.D. Club
200 Huntington Avenue
Boston, Mass.

Columbus Chapter

Sec: Glenn O. Moore
22 East Gay St.
Columbus Ohio

Illinois Chapter

Fed Matusik
2058 W. 76 Street
Chicago, Ill.
Meeting place: 3346 N. Springfield
Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Second Friday of the month.

Capital Chapter

Sec: Anthony B. Micke
7 Underwood Place, N.W.
Washington 12, D.C.

Pittsburgh Chapter

Sec. William Palady
322-31st Street
McKeesport, Pa.

1956 Chicago Convention
Chairman

Frank Ozart
2241 S. Marshall Blvd.
Chicago 23, Ill.
Ted Matusik
2058 W. 76 Street
Chicago, Ill.

Col. Brown Retires



INDIANTOWN, GAP, Pa., March 30—Active Army Units stationed at Indiantown Gap Military Reservation will participate in a retirement ceremony tomorrow honoring Colonel J. Trimble Brown, Deputy Chief, Pennsylvania Military District.

Colonel Brown will retire from active Army duty after 32 years of service. He is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. David Paul Brown of Philadelphia. He has been assigned to the District since August of 1954. Previous to that time, he commanded Schuylkill Arsenal, Philadelphia and in addition, served as Senior Unit Advisor for Army Reserve units in the Philadelphia area.

From July 1947 until 1949 he was assigned at IGMR as Army Instructor with the Pennsylvania National Guard and was appointed as the Senior Army Instructor in 1948.

Colonel Brown's Army career as an officer dates back to October 27, 1924 when he received his commission as a second lieutenant. Among his Army assignments, are service as aide-de-camp to Major General Fox Conner, former G3 and Chief of Staff to General John J. Pershing and service in 1940 in the Panama Canal Zone as Deputy G1 to Lieutenant General Frank Andrews.

During World War II, he participated in the invasions of North

Africa, Italy and Southern France. In North Africa he commanded Combat Team 39 and in the Italian Campaign he commanded a battalion of the 141st Infantry Regiment. Returning to the U. S. in November 1944, he assumed command of the First Training Regiment at Fort Benning, Georgia. In 1946 he was assigned to the Department of the Army as Chief of the Planning Branch, Schools Division.

Colonel Brown, Deputy Chief, Pennsylvania Military District, received Pennsylvania's Distinguished Service Medal in recognition of his nearly 32 years of service in the Army.

Major General A. J. Drexel Biddle Jr., State Adjutant General, presented the medal to Colonel Brown at ceremonies honoring him on his retirement from the Army.

Colonel Brown also was cited during the ceremonies by the United States Army with a certificate from Second Army Headquarters for outstanding service.

Colonel Brown, a native of Philadelphia, had been assigned to the PMD at Indiantown Gap since August 1954. Prior to that he commanded Schuylkill Arsenal, Philadelphia and served in addition as senior unit advisor for Army Reserve units in the Philadelphia area.

Colonel Brown plans to reside in the Raccoon Club, Philadelphia.

JOURNAL ADVERTISING CONTRACT

John Huffman
2907 South Court
Arlington Heights, Illinois

Dear John:

Please insert our greeting or ad in the Souvenir Journal to be issued at the 11th Annual National Reunion at the Hotel Morrison on July 26th, 27th and 28th, 1956.

Name

Address

'56 Journal

You can be part of the '56 Journal. Any donation is acceptable. Booster, company, battery or regimental pages are now being assembled. Upon receipt of donation, your name will be printed on a booster page as designated by you. Just fill in the blank:

Company	Battery	Regiment	
type of ad:			
One Page	\$20.00	Half Page	\$10.00
One Quarter	5.00	Booster	1.00

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