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The Octofoil, July 1956

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

Volume 19
Number 14

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

One Year \$1.00
Single Copy, 15 cents

Livingston, N. J., P.O. Box 66

July, 1956

On Our Mark — Get Set — Go!

To The 11th Annual Reunion

Morrison Hotel, Chicago, Ill., July 26-28, 1956

We have received a last minute report from the Chicago lads and we are printing an early edition to deliver the facts. The most important detail of any convention is usually founded in the final banquet. We will therefore work backwards in our summation.

SATURDAY NIGHT

The gourmet (Webster definition — A connoisseur in eating and drinking) will be thrilled. The gourmand (Webster — One who delights in luxurious food) will be excited. The ordinary joker will be, well, let's examine the menu.

Fresh Fruits en Supreme
Chilled Hearts of Celery,
Ripe and Green Olives
Roast Tenderloin of Beef
(with mushroom sauce)
Julienne Stringbeans
Rissolo Potatoes
Chef Salad Bowl with dressing
Morrison Ice Cream Cake
with Fresh Raspberry Sauce
Coffee Supreme

Need we say any more regarding this delicious and tempting offering, all we can add is! Attend and find out.

SPEAKERS

The main speaker for the evening will be Brigadier General Hiram D. Ives, Commander of the Illinois Military District. We also expect our former Commanding General, Manton S. Eddy, who has notified the Committee that he hopes to attend the convention.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Saturday morning about 10 A.M., you will be alerted by the members of the American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps that the parade is about ready to begin. After a short march to the Memorial Mall our guest speaker will be Major General John G. Van Houten. General Van Houten commanded the 60th Infantry "Go Devils" from October 1944 to June 1945. General Van Houten is now the Commanding General, stationed at Headquarters Military District of Washington, Washington 25, D.C.

We, of the 9th Infantry Division Association should turn out hundreds strong to honor our dead. General Van Houten was kind enough to find time to fly up to Chicago just to speak to our group. We would like to quote from his letter: "In respect to giving the memorial talk to the 9th Division Association in Chicago on 28 July, I find that I can do it and will be very happy to." The general has to be back in Washington in the afternoon but is taking time out just for his old friends and comrades. If

ever a reason to make our Memorial Service we have one now. Let us try to establish the same spirit and attend our Memorial Service. If you cannot make all of the functions, try to at least make our Memorial Service.

TRAFFIC INFORMATION

We received some last minute information from Ted Matusik. The Chicago Motor Club has informed Ted that highway construction up to the Ohio Turnpike is in pretty good shape. Minor delays only upon reaching the Chicago Metropolitan area. Watch for traffic around Gary and Whiting, Indiana on U.S. 12, 20 and 45. We have been informed that the Indiana Turnpike is not as yet open for traffic. We have been advised to caution those intending to use this artery to take U.S. 6 and 20 after coming into Indiana. Note to those travellers using U.S. 12, 20 and 45. When approaching Chicago, use the City route not the bypass route. Take the Lake Drive to Grant Park, (which is downtown Chicago) Turn off the Lake Shore Drive just before you get to the Prudential Building. After you get off the drive at this exit we would advise checking in with Chicago's finest for directions to the Morrison. Chicago has like most major cities developed a fine one way city traffic system that is great for the local people but plays havoc with the out of towners. (Our map says take East Randolph to Clark Street, then turn left on Clark to the Morrison.)

CHURCH FACILITIES

St. Peter's Church is almost diagonally across from the hotel and the Chicago Temple Church is a few blocks down the street. Further complete information will be available at the registration desk.

HOTEL COSTS

We are quoting the following prices for hotel rooms:
Single (One person)
\$6, 7.50, 8.50, 9.50, 10.00, 11.00, 12.50
Double Room-Double Bed (Two persons)
9.50, 11.00, 12.00, 13.00, 13.50, 14.50, 16.00
Twin Beds (Two persons)
\$13.50, 14.50, 16.00
Two Room Suite, Parlor, Bedroom

(Continued on page 4)

Father Edward T. Connors Feted On 25th Anniversary

(A reprint from the Worcester Daily Telegram; May 31, 1956)

The Rev. Edward T. Connors, pastor of Immaculate Conception Church, stepped into the church all after benediction for "coffee with a few parishioners" last night and was greeted by close to 1,200 persons in a surprise testimonial to the athlete, war hero, parish priest. It was his 25th ordination anniversary.

The testimonial was planned by parish members for the native of Whitinsville who was awarded the Silver Star with oak leaf cluster for gallantry during World War II.

Bishops, monsignori and curates mingled with ex-GI's and persons from every walk of life in honoring the tall, lean 51-year-old priest.

The Very Rev. William A. Donaghy, S. J., president of Holy Cross College, who was a guest last night, had remarked at Fr. Connors' anniversary Mass in the morning, "Father Connors is a priest's priest; he has all the qualities we other priests wish we had," toastmaster John F. Driscoll recalled.

TRIBUTE

Mr. Driscoll said he would add, "Father Connors is also a people's priest possessing all the wonderful qualities we in the parish would want a priest to have."

Mr. Driscoll is vice president of the Holy Name Society, which co-sponsored the testimonial, planning with the Women's Guild of the church. President E. T. McCarthy was ill and unable to take part in the program.

The Very Rt. Rev. Msgr. V. ncent Brosnan of New York City, chaplain of the Catholic Actor's Guild, said, "He is indeed a wonderful priest. He is your pastor, you know him, you love him. . . we know him and we love him."

Roland Murphy of Cambridge and Thomas Boyle of Somerville represented the 9th Division, both having served in action in Europe with Fr. Connors during World War II.

PRESENTATION

Mr. Murphy presented Fr. Connors with a huge coffee pot, a replica of the one the priest made famous in the front lines of Europe. Mr. Boyle gave him a sterling silver coffee pot engraved "Connors' Coffee Shop," the name given the chaplain's jeep which carried the coffee.

(Continued on page 2)

New England News

By Vic Campisi

McLaughlin Elected President

John H. McLaughlin was elected president of the New England Chapter, 9th Inf. Division Association, at the annual meeting held Monday, May 28, at the YD Club, 200 Huntington Avenue, Boston.

McLaughlin succeeds Victor A. Campisi who was not a candidate for re-election.

Others elected include Frank Page, vice president; Tom Boyle, secretary, and Ronnie Murphy, treasurer.

Elected to the Executive Board were Ralph Renna, Sid Levison, Si Garber, Tom Boyle, Vic Campisi, Ed Shea, Ronnie Murphy, John McLaughlin, and Frank Page.

McLaughlin's first act upon assuming the presidency was to reappoint Vic Campisi as director of publicity, and editor of Sound-Off, the Chapter's monthly publication.

McLaughlin also pledged a program of increased social activities designed to increase membership and to bring members and their families closer together.

PRE-NATIONAL CONVENTION MEETING SLATED FOR WORCESTER

The N.E. Chapter met again Saturday, June 16, at the YD Club, Boston, with discussion centered on the forthcoming national convention July 26, 27 and 28 at Hotel Morrison, Chicago, Illinois.

What's the best, quickest, and most inexpensive means of getting to distant Chicago seems to be the main question. Car pools? Fly? Train? Bus? (Note: Chicago is 849 air miles from Boston.)

Discussion on the subject was inconclusive and it was decided to have another meeting on the subject to determine final plans. For the benefit of the many Chapter members in the Worcester area, it was decided to hold the meeting Saturday, June 30, at 9 p.m., at "Connors' Coffee Shop," 47 Prescott Street, Worcester.

Members with late model cars in good condition are urged to attend the Worcester meeting if they are interested in obtaining paying passengers to defray transportation expenses to and from Chicago.

Don't forget, the time and date for the informal Worcester meeting is 9 p.m., Saturday, June 30, in the rectory of the Immaculate Conception Church, 47 Prescott St., Worcester. And of course, the Association's most popular member will be there — none other than Rev. Edward T. Connors.

If you don't think your buggy will make it from Boston to Worcester, meet the boys at the usual IP, Brookline Village, at 8 p.m. Transportation will be waiting for you there.

1957 NATIONAL CONVENTION IN BOSTON?

The N.E. Chapter is submitting a bid for the 1957 national convention, the first to be held in Boston since 1952. In addition, the Chapter's two representatives on the national board of governors (Fred D'Amore and Vic Campisi) have been instructed to work on behalf of this bid.

Unbridled enthusiasm has been quite evident among local Chapter members for many months over the prospects of having another national convention in Boston. They well realize the arduous and detailed responsibilities involved, but they are eager indeed to prove that the combination of the N.E. Chapter and Boston can make 1957 the year of the greatest national convention in the history of the 9th Infantry Division Association.

In any event, it is hoped that those who sit idle on the sidelines and those who are active only when it serves their own selfish purposes will all pitch in to help ease the burden for the few who for years have been carrying the whole load.

N. E. CHAPTER PERSONNEL NOTES

According to recent reports, Matty Wall currently is hospitalized at the Rutland VA Hospital, Rutland Heights, Mass. A card, letter, or visit will do lots to cheer him up.

Accolades to Fred D'Amore, outgoing Chapter treasurer. The greatest tribute to his zeal, efficiency, and financial wizardry is the fact that during his term of office, an anemic Chapter treasury was nursed back to such good health that the N.E. Chapter now may boast of one of the most robust Chapter treasuries in the Association.

Rev. Edward T. Connors recently observed the 25th anniversary of his ordination as a Roman Catholic priest. According to reports, his faithful parishioners tendered a surprise party for him.

(Continued on page 4)

THE OCTOFOIL

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The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association with offices located at 9 Orchard Lane, Livingston, N. J. Single copy price is 15 cents per issue or by mail \$1.50 per year, payable in advance. Subscribers should notify the Livingston 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. Post Office Livingston, 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 15th of each month to guarantee publication.

Advertising Rates will be furnished upon request. Write to Stanley Cohen, 9th Inf. Div. Assoc., P.O. Box 66, Livingston, N. J. Entered as Second class matter at the Post Office Livingston, N.J.

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Number 14

Eleven Years Later

Eleven years is a long time in any man's life. Especially, when the past eleven years is completely divorced from a particular way of life that was full of nostalgia.

You as I, and many others like us, we are sure have had this reaction at one time or another during the past eleven years. You are sitting in an easy chair, or watching a TV show, or reading a book, and suddenly a familiar scene is reactivated before your eyes. Suddenly, you chance to drift back a few years. Your memories recapture the vivid thoughts of yesteryear.

For a few moments you are once again living your past all over again. Not, the sordid details but the happy memories of some particular incident.

As these memories waft before your eyes, you are once again back in khaki and re-living an incident that is becoming more distant with every passing year.

We, of the Ninth Infantry Division Association, are trying to keep these past memories alive. We are trying to keep the wonderful relationships that were formed in the past not as a memory but as a reality. We are doing or shall we say trying to do this by staying together as a harmonious unit.

To keep this spirit alive we have an association. This association we may add, is probably the strongest association of its type in the United States.

It is strong because we want it to be strong. We cannot point out our esprit de corps in any other way than to merely re-iterate General Van Houten's reaction to our request to speak at our Memorial Service. Here is a man who is burdened down with a great many more important details. Yet, he is sandwiching a quick trip to Chicago, so that he can be with his former comrades in arms once more.

This is just part of the famous Ninth Infantry Division call. We are sure that you who read this editorial will once again come to the forefront and answer the call.

We are holding a convention merely to bring you all together under one roof. A chance to re-live some past memories. A chance to meet old friends.

We are offering this opportunity to the men in the Middle West. To those who have not had a chance to get to a convention since July 15, 1950. Five years is a long time. Eleven years is longer.

Let's all shorten these years, let's all make it a point to try and attend our convention. Even, if it is just a chance meeting. Try to attend, we know you will not regret the meeting and we know that you will go back home filled up with pleasant memories again.

Eleven years can be brought back in a twinkling of an eye by merely attending our 11th annual reunion.

What do you say!

The Saga of a Combat Ship

History of USS Thomas Stone (APA 29) (Ex AP 59, President Van Buren)

The story of the USS Thomas Stone is a brief one, but one filled with the spirit of a ship determined to do her job in spite of all difficulties.

The ship was built by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, Newport News, Virginia, in 1941. Slated to be called the PRESIDENT VAN BUREN, she was acquired by the Navy instead and converted to use as a transport.

The USS Thomas Stone was first placed in commission on 18 May, 1942, while tied up at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company, Newport News, Virginia. Named after Thomas Stone, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and twice a delegate to the Continental Congress, the vessel became a unit of Transport Division 5, Amphibious Force, Atlantic Fleet, Captain O. R. Bennehoff, USN, was her first commanding officer.

After trial runs and exercises, troops for transportation to Belfast, Ireland. She put to sea on 26 September 1942 in company with convoy AT 23, arriving safely on 6 October after calling at Halifax. At Belfast equipment and vehicles of the 39th Infantry, 9th Division, U.S. Army, was combat loaded in preparation for the first landings in North Africa.

Amphibious exercises were conducted off the coast of Scotland. On the 24th, Rear Admiral Burrough, RN, commander of the task force, Major General Ryder, USA, Brigadier General Everley, RA, and Captain Edgar, USN, were piped aboard shortly before noon for an inspection and a brief address to the crew and troops. That afternoon, Lieutenant General Anderson, Commander, FIRST Army, Great Britain, came aboard and spoke to the officers of the 39th Infantry. On the 26th, the entire force put to sea for Operation Torch.

The Thomas Stone was assigned to British control for the assault on Algiers. Her convoy, designated KMFA 1, made the passage from the First of Clyde, Scotland, through the Strait of Gibraltar without incident, doing everything within their power to preserve the element of surprise, which was to be the deciding factor in the success or failure of the expedition.

The STONE, on the night of 7 November 1942, was steaming second in line on the left flank of the convoy, 600 yards astern of the USS SAMUEL CHASE. At 0510 she went to a routine General Quarters as the convoy continued on course at 11 knots. Then, at 0535, a torpedo from an unidentified source hit the ship just under the fantail, knocking her bottom out around the stern, breaking the propeller shaft and driving the propeller and rudder to starboard. Nine men were killed or wounded in the blast, but the entire crew reacted quickly and efficiently to localize the damage and keep their ship afloat.

Just before the torpedo hit, a two-engined plane had approached the ship and dropped a bomb nearby. At first, it was believed that perhaps the torpedo came from the plane, but later it appeared more likely that a German submarine did the damage. Another torpedo was reported to have missed the ship by 50 yards

when the officer of the deck, seeing a torpedo wake, ordered the rudder over hard right and rang up flank speed on the engines to parallel the wake.

The operation order for the invasion specifically required that any damaged ships be left behind, since the delay would mean risking the loss of a great many more lives. Detaching the corvette HMS SPEY as a screen, the convoy continued toward Algiers.

When day broke, an examination of the damage revealed that while the ship was in no danger of sinking, she could not hope to get underway under her own power. The 1400 assault troops on board formed a vital part of the invasion force, however, and when word came that two destroyers and a tug were standing out from Gibraltar to assist, Captain Bennehoff and Major W. M. Oakes, Troop Commander, decided to send part of the troops on in the landing craft, escorted by the SPEY.

The decision was a big gamble. The STONE was adrift without protection 160 miles from Algiers. It was quite likely that the U-boat who had torpedoed her was still in the vicinity. The landing craft had never been intended for a long voyage in the open sea. But, feeling that the troops must be on hand in case of decided enemy resistance, Captain Bennehoff gave the necessary orders, and after dark on 7 November, a flotilla of 24 of the most seaworthy boats with 800 of the troops left for Algiers, commanded by Lieutenant (jg) R. C. Marlor, USNR.

The flotilla had not been under way for more than an hour before the first break-down occurred. From that time on there was hardly a period of over 30 minutes that all the boats were able to proceed at one time, due to broken oil lines, broken water lines, overheating and other difficulties. When one boat broke down the guide and all boats of the group had to stop and wait until the boat could be taken in tow or until repairs could be made.

The first boat had to be abandoned shortly after midnight. By dawn, it was apparent that it would be almost impossible to proceed as planned. The sea was building up, the troops were wet and sea-sick; all the gear and equipment soaked. After a conference with the captain of the SPEY, who stated that he would have to speed up in order to carry out his orders, it was decided to scuttle all boats that would not run, place all troops and equipment on board the SPEY, and to try to make Algiers with the seven boats in best condition. Even these could not make the necessary 11 knots, and it was necessary to scuttle all but two, which the SPEY took in tow. The SPEY made Algiers that night. Since the French had already ceased resistance, the troops were not put ashore until the morning of the 9th, when they were able to step ashore on the main passenger quay dryshot.

The two destroyers sent to assist, HMS WISHART and VELOX, arrived on the night of the 7th, and began attempts to tow the THOMAS STONE. The next morning a tug, HMS ST. DAY, arrived to lend her aid. Bad weather conditions taxed the seamanship of all the commanding officers to the limit, but on the morning of 11 November 1942 the ill-fated transport made Algiers.

The ship was then moored to

the Quai de Falaise, Algiers, and completed discharging her troops and equipment. Then, on the 19th, she was advised that it would be necessary to move the ship and anchor her in the outer harbor, although she still was unable to move under her own power. Because of the necessity for making room for two large convoys the STONE was moved, over the protests of her commanding officer, and anchored in the outer harbor.

An air raid on the night of 24-25 November caused further damage when a bomb pierced two decks and went through the hull, apparently exploding in the water. On the 25th a gale began blowing up, and the ship began to drag, even with both anchors down.

Continuous calling by searchlight failed to raise the shore signal station. Finally the EMPRESS OF AUSTRALIA relayed the message to shore, and one tug came out. In the meantime, the HMS QUENTIN heard the STONE's whistle distress signal and attempted to take her in tow, but the strain from the force of the wind and the heavy swell caused her line to part. The tug, HMS HENGIST, finally managed to get a line aboard, but was unable to bring STONE's head into the wind. In spite of her best efforts the swells and the wind drove the transport aground, further damaging her hull.

It still seemed feasible to salvage the helpless craft, and she was securely anchored in order to prevent further damage. Efforts to pull her off continued until the Spring of 1944, but nothing seemed to be enough to budge her.

Placed out of commission on 1 April 1944, the vessel was sold by the State Department to a private company. Later the company abandoned the vessel and she had to be destroyed by the U.S. in July 1945.

Successive commanding officers were Commander W. H. Weaver, Jr., USNR, who assumed command on 12 June 1943, and Lieutenant Commander A. E. Chapman, USN, who relieved on 27 September 1943.

The USS THOMAS STONE earned one battle star for participation in the Tunisian operations from 8 November 1942 until 9 July 1943.

Compiled: 13 May 1954

Fr. Connors

The Rev. John F. Gee, curate at Immaculate Conception presented gifts on behalf of the parishioners — a portable radio, a hi-fi record player, and a small package containing a key and a sterling silver tag, which read:

"To Father Edward T. Connors from your loving and grateful parishioners of Immaculate Conception Church on the occasion of your silver jubilee, May 30, 1956."

The key was to a 1956 sedan parked in front of the church.

OTHER GIFTS

He received other gifts from the Youth Council and the altar boys of the parish, and a portrait painted by Sister Mary Francis of St. Bernard's Church in Fitchburg. His sister, Mrs. Leo Conway of Uxbridge was presented a bouquet of roses.

Jack Simpson was in charge of an entertainment program.

Letters were read from Army Gen. W. C. Westmoreland and Colin Craig and Col. Charles Malumphy of the Chaplains Corps.

MAIL BAG

(Continued from last issue)

John J. Graham of 157-14-88th Street, Howard Beach, Queens, N. Y. sent us a note for information about the convention.

39th Infantry Regiment:—Wm. N. Barringer of 401 East Keys, Springfield, Illinois writes: Just so my friends will know, the above address is a new one. Bill tells us that he noticed in our March issue of the Octofoil an article in regard to Reed Palmer of Company A, 39th. The name Bill relates, is very familiar and I was in Merode, Germany on the dates mentioned in the article are recognizable to him. The other names in the article are familiar also especially Sgt. Hubert Bains of Virginia. I noted that Lt. Stratton's name also but it sticks in my mind that Stratton was killed in Germany. (Editor's note: We are happy to say that Lt. Stratton was not killed) but I hope that I am wrong about that. I used to write to Lou Bable in Montana but I don't believe I can help in Palmers case. I don't recall any facts of the case. I got quite a shock when I read of the death of Theodore Pomeroy in the April issue. I was quite close to him all during my stay with the 9th. I thought a lot of Pomeroy as did every one who knew him. I drove from Illinois to Terre Haute and at least 3 or 4 times since the war to see him and missed him every time. (Sorry we don't have any of the particulars). Bill tells us that he is presently employed by the Chicago Motor Club in Springfield and he has two girls age 9 and 8. Bill would like to close his note with a favor. "How about some of the old 39th lads turning out in Chy"? Good thought.

60th INFANTRY

Major Harold W. Smith: "As a matter of information, I arrived back in Japan from Korea last December and have been recently assigned to my present headquarters. (G-2, Hq. AFPE/8A (R), APO 343, San Francisco, California). My family arrived in March and we are pretty well settled down. Occasionally, I see a 9th Division patch being worn on the right shoulder. The old patch is the finest letter of introduction one could desire. Last fall, prior to leaving Korea I ran into Lt. Col. Pat Williamson, formerly "K" Company, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry. Pat and I cut the Normandy peninsula a second time that night (ending up at Barneville Sur Mer, if my memory serves me right.) As the empties piled high on the table, we were in complete agreement that "Wilson's Whirlwinds" won the war. Lt. Col. "Slick" Wilson was the 3rd Battalion C.O. in those days.

The other evening I rode home with Major Jesse L. Wheeler, who hailed from "L" Company 39th Infantry from September 1944 on. He expressed regret at missing the reunions but the Army has a way of interfering with the "Best Laid Plans." He hopes to make one when he rotates Stateside in the vague future. I hope to make the 1957 reunion if the Army does not move me on. My best to all."

M. Company: Received a card of information about the reunion from Master Sergeant P. A. Pinard of 513 North Michigan, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. Pinard hopes to make the coming convention.

Martin A. Brown of Box 163, Campbell, New York, wrote to us telling that he saw our notice in the American Legion Magazine and would like to attend our convention.

39th INFANTRY

Stephen Hart of 26 Mt. Tom Road, New Rochelle, N. Y. who was formerly with F. Company writes us as follows. I have three children now, Stephen Tyler, age 8, Leontine Jane, age 6, and Philip Sheridan, age three. I am now a salesman selling book matches and an advertising copywriter. I have now taken on a new hobby, stamp collecting, and enjoy this immensely.



The little kids at the New York Picnic

I. Company: Carl I. Stansberry of 455 South Diamond Street, Ravenna, Ohio, wrote to us asking information about our convention. Carl served with Company I in North Africa, Sicily, England and France.

47th INFANTRY

I. Company: Clarence G. Martens of 1724 East Broadway, Denison, Iowa, tells us that he is today



The big kids at the New York Picnic

a very happy family man. Clarence has three children, Mark who is 3, Marilee who is 4 and Murro who is 6. He is an Office manager and accountant by profession and is still nuts about Baseball and golf and football. Clarence tells us that Baseball is still his favorite hobby. Baseball, because it is a carry-over from his days with the Ninth Infantry

Division, especially I company of the 47th. Clarence says they really had some excellent baseball material in this outfit. He would like to say hello to one and all from I company.

M. Company: Wilton Taylor of Lost Hills, California writes us as follows:

Just received the latest Octofoil and am very happy to see so much activity, especially the regimental unit reunions. I would like to visit each one, if I had the chance especially the 47th gang. Maybe some day the Easterners and the Westerners will compromise on say Denver, Colorado or Fort Worth, Texas, or some city half way across. Then we westerners will welcome you to the wide open spaces. We are sure you easterners will feel better after

Our Guest Speaker

Brigadier General Hiram D. Ives

Brigadier General Hiram D. Ives assumed command of the Illinois Military District on June 1, 1956.

Prior to this assignment, General Ives served as Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, 7th Army from June 1954 to Oct. 1956 and as Assistant Division Commander, 5th Infantry Division, Augsburg, Germany from October 1955 to April 1956.

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, November 11, 1905, General Ives graduated from Baltimore Polytechnic Institute in 1924 and attended Cornell University and John Hopkins University.

The General began his military career with the Maryland National Guard in 1928 and received his commission in April of the following year. Entering Active Duty with the 29th Division in 1941, he served as Company Commander of the 175th Infantry Regiment. He served with the 80th Division from May 1942 until November 1945. General Ives was integrated

into the Regular Army in 1956.

During World War II he was a member of the campaign of Northern France, the Ardennes, the Rhineland and Central Europe. While in Europe, General Ives was Battalion Commander, Regimental Executive Officer and Regimental Commander of the 319th Infantry.

Upon his return from Europe in 1947, he was assigned to the War Department's General Staff in the Personnel and Administration Division.

Among his decorations are the Silver Star and Bronze Star, both with Oak Leaf Clusters. He is a graduate of the Command and General Staff School, the Armed Forces Staff College and the Army War College. General Ives has also completed Airborne Training.

Mrs. Ives is the former Constance Morley, New Rochelle, New York. They have two children: H. Dudley, Jr., and Stewart M.

A Story from The Past —

The Avenging Ghosts Of The 9th

Nobody ever knew where they were or what they were doing, but these veteran infantrymen always popped out of the night to surprise their own commanders. . . as well as surprising the krauts.

By THOMAS R. HENRY

For thirty months an American mystery division fought from Morocco to the Elbe in fire-streaked darkness, always unhonored and unsung — until the top brass counted results and totted casualties. It left its dead strewn from the black kasba of Port Lyauty to the bewitched forests of the Harz Mountains. Only three or four times did its riflemen, wearing on their left shoulders the mystic blue, red and white Octofoil of demieval heraldry, walk briefly with fixed bayonets across moonlit rifts.

From Maknassy to Remagen the 9th Infantry Division emerged from the invisible in hours of crisis, struck four or five of the hardest blows suffered by the Axis in the west, and vanished again into obscurity. The 9th swooped across North African mountains in blinding snow to save the day at El Guettar. It captured Biberte. It flanked the German army in Sicily. It pushed the first holding force into Cherbourg and thus established the first firm American foothold in Normandy. It poured through and held the first break in the Siegfried Line. It rose like an avenging spirit in swirling snow to blunt the first spearhead of The Bulge. It established the first American beachhead east of the Rhine.

Always the ghostly 9th materialized out of darkness in time of need and performed far beyond the expectations of the armies of which it formed a part. Its losses were heavy — between 300 and 400 per cent in the course of the war. Nearly 50,000 men wore its shoulder patch. But it seemed always the role of the 9th to be the hole ace in the poker

game of war.

One advantage the 9th enjoyed — integrity of leadership — for it was commanded by Maj. Gen. Manton S. Eddy, of Columbus, Georgia, from the first landing in North Africa until it reached the Belgian border. Its chief units were the 47th, 39th and 60th Infantry regiments, all Old Army organizations with proud histories. The 60th made a fighting landing to capture the walled Arab quarter of Port Lyauty in a short, murderous battle — one of the first fought by Americans on the soil of Africa.

Within three months came the first of its avenging exploits. Marshal Erwin Rommel's Afrika Korps broke through the Americans at Kasserine Pass. Prospects for stopping the three-pronged drive were dim — the situation was frankly desperate. The most serious American deficiency was in artillery. The 9th was bivouacked at Tlemcen, in Algeria, nearly 800 miles away. All its artillery and the cannon companies of its infantry regiments were ordered to the battle front in Southern Tunisia.

(Continued in next issue)

(Continued on page 4)

On Our Mark — Get Set — Go!

\$27.00, 28.00, 33.00, 37.00, 41.00
Three Room Suite; Parlor Two-Bedrooms
\$44.00, 49.00, 53.00, 57.00.

We once again caution our convention goers, remember when making your advance registration ask for, "Air-Conditioned" rooms. Again, tell them that you are attending the 9th Infantry Division Reunion.

FROM HERE AND THERE

We have been advised that his Honor, the Mayor of the City of Chicago Richard J. Daley, has indicated that he may designate one of the days of the reunion as a Ninth Infantry Division Day.

Contacting some of our former commanding generals we were asked to pass on their regards to the men of the Ninth and wish them the best of luck during the 11th convention. Major General George Barth, former Chief of Staff, who is now the Deputy Army Commander, 1st Army, asked us to say hello to all his friends in the Ninth. General Barth cannot make the convention because he will be stationed at Camp Drum during the Summer maneuvers.

LADIES

The Registration Committee requests that the wives of the members of the Association be urged to register early for the tour of Chicago. The tour is scheduled to start early Friday afternoon.

BANQUET RESERVATIONS

Don't wait for the last minute in making up your table reservation for the final banquet. The charge de affair of this event, has informed us that he will try his best to keep all regimental gangs together if possible. A word to the wise, we have attended many a convention and have always witnessed a last minute rush for tables. This can make for real bad unpleasantness. Why not check up with Mr. Shirts Matusik

and tell him about how many will be in your group. The earlier you make these reservations the better off you will be.

Want to send your dough in advance. If you do, it will have you time and effort. Make all checks or money order out to the Ninth Infantry Division Association, 1956 Reunion and mail it to Theodore M. Matusik, 2058 West 76th Street, Chicago, Illinois.

STRIP TICKETS

Just for the record, if you buy a full deal it will cost you just \$10.00. But, if you buy the strip broken down, the entire deal will cost you \$14.00. For each day is registration this is \$2.00 plus the event you intend to make. Be wise, buy the full package and save in the long run.

THE MORRISON

Here is what you will find at the Morrison. All 46 floors of this modern metropolitan hotel are attractively furnished and maintained at a level of service that inures friendly hospitality. 1850 rooms, deluxe suites, penthouse, exhibit halls, spacious air conditioned committee rooms and parlors are included in a wide selection of 30 well-appointed Public Meeting rooms, having capacities that range from 25 persons to 1500 persons. Included are the well-known Burgundy Room, Embassy Room, Constitution Room, Cotillion Room, Hollywood Room, Grand Ballroom, Madison Room, Terrace Room, Venetian Room and the Walnut Room.

The Boston Oyster House (Main Hotel Dining Room) continues to enjoy the reputation, established in 1874, of being one of Chicago's foremost dining places. Menus regularly feature a variety of out-of-the-ordinary seafoods, top grade meats and imported delicacies.

Sophisticated cocktail lounges, smart shops and first-class salons

complete the Morrison Hotel facilities offered for Gracious Living in Chicago.

Gentlemen, we have spoken. . . . Now it is up to you.

New England Chapter News

(Continued from page 1)

Foremost among the gifts for their beloved cleric was a new car.

John McLaughlin, newly elected president of the N.E. Chapter, recently was a top contender for Boston Policeman of the Month honors. John, a member of "Boston's Finest" for more than 11 years, came into contention as the result of singlehandedly apprehending an armed suspect wanted in connection with a bank hold-up. Formerly with Station 3, John now is assigned to Station 14 of the Boston Police Dept. He makes his home at 6 Goodrich Road, Jamaica Plain, with his wife, the former Helen Concannon of Dorchester, and their two children, Thomas, age 5, and William, age Two.

John's younger brother, Jim, a combat veteran of G Co 47th Inf, also is an active member of the Association. Jim is happily married, the father of five robust youngsters, and a partner in the McLaughlin Bros. dry cleaning business in Dorchester.

New Wonder Drugs for Mental Illness: — Using new, revolutionary "tranquillizing" drugs, the VA has increased by 36% the discharge of former chronically ill mental patients at the Northampton, Mass., VA Hospital, they report. The new drugs were identified as chlorpromazine and reserpine. It was found that in many cases, those successfully treated with the new, wonder drugs had failed to improve under other types of treatment. It appears a giant stride has been taken to improve the mental health of the nation.

Sign of the Times: — VA says the average veteran buying a GI home during the past two years was 32 years old, had a monthly income of \$494 (wow!), and paid nearly \$11,800 for his home.

Disability Certifications Mailed: — Between June 14 and June 30, Boston VA office mailed out 33000 disability certifications in card form for disabled Mass. vets to use in applying for real estate tax exemptions on their homes. Under state statute, World War I, World War II, and Korean vets rated by VA as 10% or more disabled are entitled to a \$2000 real estate tax exemption. Disabled vets are advised to file these disability certificates with their local boards of assessors. Filing deadline is October 1.

Thought For The Day: — Be wise today — you don't know how foolish you may be tomorrow.

Dues Paid? — Pay your 1956 dues yet? If not, please forward check or money order for \$4.00 to Sec'y Tom Boyle, 39 Hall Avenue, 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.

What's New With You? — Got a new job or a promotion? Have you moved? Any new addition to the family? Seen any of the old gang lately? You'd be surprised to know how many of your bud-

dies in the Association would like to hear the answers to these and many other similar questions. If you have any news about yourself, your family, or fellow Association members, please send it along to Vic Campisi, Editor, Sound-Off, 10 Lesley Ave., Somerville 44, Mass.

Mail Bag

15th ENGINEERS

B Company: Fred J. Elmo of 158-51 89th Street, Howard Beach 14, New York, tells us that he is now settled on the road to happiness. The reason is rather obvious when you consider his two lovely daughters, Anna Marie who is 10 and Elena Louise who is seven. Fred is a Hair Stylist and enjoys his weekly pinochle game. He has been in contact with Charlie Hoffman of B Company and they have a ball every time they meet. Fred wants to say "Hello" to Major Gray. Fred is anxious to contact a lad by the name of Johnny who was a corporal in the 9th Division Post Office. Arthur Schmidt sends a note telling us the following: I had a fine time at the picnic. It probably would have been even more enjoyable, were it not for the fact that I am on a pretty strict reducing diet and such things as beer, hamburgers, and frankfurters are not exactly low caloric foods.

NOW ATTENTION!

Art tells us that, "I have been contemplating driving to the convention in Chicago. But I have been hesitant up till now, because I would have to make the trip alone. If two or three members would like to come with me and share the expenses and perhaps some of the driving, I would be glad to have them. I have my vacation scheduled from July 21 to August 5th. I have a 1956 Plymouth and plenty of room for four others in addition to myself. If you know of any fellows who might be interested please have them get in touch with me as soon as possible. I can be reached from 8:45 A.M. to 5 P.M. at my office at the New York State Division of Employment, 1181 East New York Avenue in Brooklyn 2, N. Y. The telephone there is President 4-7100. Also I can be reached at my home any time after 5:30 P.M. from Monday to Friday and all day Saturday and Sunday. My home telephone Number is HYacinth 7-3993. Art's address is 69-20 69th Street, Brooklyn 27, New York.

Editor's Note: Here is a chance to save some dough and an opportunity to see the sights on the way to Chy.

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

Note: Make all checks payable to John Huffman.

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
Krewstown, 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

Ted 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.

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\$4.00 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 \$50 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.