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9th Infantry Division Association

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## The Octofoil, November/December 1961

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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# THE OCTOFOIL

VOLUME XV  
NUMBER 2

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

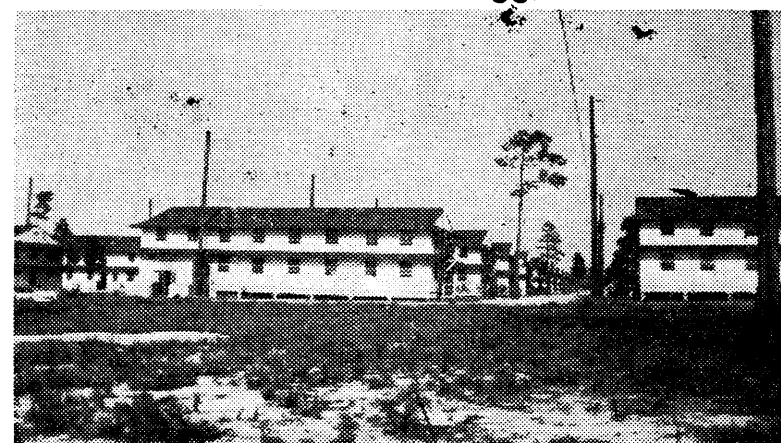
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November-December, 1961

## WORCESTER HOSPITALITY UNSURPASSED

After 20 Years—Look Out Bragg, Here We Come



Pictured above will be noted the home Uncle Sam provided for the 47th Regiment 20 long years ago at Fort Bragg. The old grads are looking forward to spending a few days at their old Alma Mater in July, 1962, at which time the Army will be much more interested in the visitors' comfort than it was in the long, long ago. Indications from the letters received are that the Army will drag out the red carpet in an effort to make amends for the mean tricks it played on many of the G.I.s of the 1941-42 vintage.

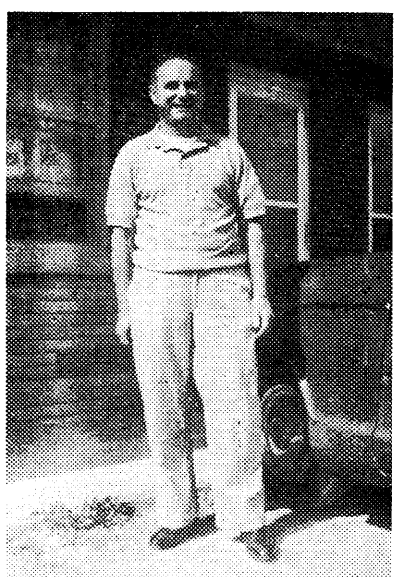
### CO. K, 47TH HELD A SESSION ON OCT. 27

On Friday night, October 27, a big gang of former K Co. 47th men got together at Rod's Bar in Union City, N. J., and really made whoopee. Many of them hadn't fully recovered when they reached Worcester for the Memorial Services. Among those who attended the Union City shindig were:

George Klinger, Robert Nedwell, Walter Kowalski, Ray Strall, Irving Nagel, Phil O'Mara, George Bastedo, Larry McCabe, Joe Fasone, Frank DiBlasio, Joe Lagattura, Homer Graff, Ben Piazza, Ted Zawish, Mike Proocovic, Karl Geibner, Max Uman-sky, Andrew Tomasula, Dan Quinn, Tommy Curran, Martin Davidson, Arthur Miller, Murray Morrell and Ralph Witzkin.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

### Harry Wax In Canada



Harry Wax, active member of the New York Chapter, was Art Schmidt's navigator on the trip to Detroit—and the pair wound up in the wilds of Canada. But Wax doesn't seem too disturbed about the incident as he is preparing to leave their motel near Hamilton, Ontario, and follow a new azimuth he'd shot for the rest of the journey.

### REUNION HELD AT THE MAHER HOME

Within a few minutes after the banquet in Worcester, Mass., that followed the Memorial Mass Mr. and Mrs. Francis K. Maher's home at 14 Davenport St., Worcester 10, Mass., was the scene of another Reunion. Their lovely home was packed with guests from all over the country who had come to Worcester for the services. There's been much talk and writing about Southern Hospitality—but until a person enjoys some of the Maher New England hospitality "they ain't seen nothing yet."

One of Dick Pestel's hand carved Octofoils graces the Maher guest bar, situated in the recreation room.

There were many guests at this impromptu get together who had 800 miles or more to drive before reaching their homes, but they continued to linger on so as to enjoy as much of Francis and Olive Maher's hospitality as they could before taking the highways for the long grind.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

### SABATO STRESSES THE NEED FOR DRIVE TO GET NEW MEMBERS

At the Board meeting in Worcester President Sabato devoted much time in outlining a membership campaign. New members brought into any organization is the sure way of perpetuating the organization. If every paid-up member as of this date would make up his mind that he intended sending in one new application for membership in the very near future the membership drive would be assured of success. IT CAN BE DONE!

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

### THE NAVY TRADITION

A soldier who lost his rifle was reprimanded by his captain and informed he would have to pay for the rifle.

The soldier protested. "What if I lost a jeep or tank, surely I wouldn't be expected to pay for them?" he asked.

"Yes, you would," the captain said sternly. "Even if it took you the rest of your life."

"Hell," the soldier said. "Now I know why a captain goes down with his ship."

### A VACATION TRIP TO BRAGG WILL INVOLVE VERY LITTLE EXPENSE

LT. GEN. T. J. H. TRAPNELL  
GIVING FULL CO-OPERATION TO COMMITTEES.

(Editor's Note: Will papers in Charlotte, and Raleigh, N. C.; Columbia, S. C.; Augusta and Atlanta, Ga. please take note of the following?):

Secretary Dan Quinn made a report to the Board of Governors in Worcester about the 1962 Reunion plans in Fort Bragg that should make every former Ninth Division man start planning now to attend that reunion. The 75 rooms that will be available at the Charles Hotel have set reasonable rates: Singles are \$4.50-\$6; doubles, \$7.50-\$9; twin beds, \$8-\$10. Plenty of free parking space. Sears Roebuck, immediately back of the hotel, offers 500 spaces for autos free. Three-fourths of the hotel rooms have TV and are air conditioned. Motels in the area are of the best—Holiday Inn, Howard Johnson and the Americana, ranging from \$8 to \$12.

Rooms for three are available—\$10 to \$11 and for four from \$11-\$12.

The most that can be expected as a banquet charge will be \$3, which will be held on Saturday night in the Lafayette Officers' Mess.

The Thursday night cook-out affair will be at McKellar's Lodge. The Friday night buffet-dance will be held in the 82nd Airborne Mess.

So many interesting things are being arranged that plans are in the making for the committees to get together on Thursday night, report on Friday A.M., so the members can enjoy the Friday afternoon entertainment being arranged for. Entry into the Post's swimming pools will be free. There are a number of tennis courts which will be available at no cost. Association members will be welcome in both the Officers and NCO's Open Messes where for a modest sum food and drink may be purchased.

This is a thing that happens only once in a lifetime when members can take the whole family on such an economical vacation. The parachute show being arranged in itself will be worth the trip.

The next issue of The Octofoil will print more details and all the information that is available. Members in the deep South should clip out or retype the Reunion stories that will appear in The Octofoil in succeeding issues and see that the city editors of Southern newspapers use the material in local stories and for wire service so the many former Ninth men who are hidden away in Southern points will learn about the Association and the Fort Bragg 1962 Reunion.

The Board of Governors meeting in Worcester appointed a committee of three board members to work with Secretary Quinn, Gen. Clayman, Herb Clegg and Hank Royall to see that no stone is left unturned to make this the biggest affair any Division Association has ever staged.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

### Capt. W. C. White

#### Receives Bronze Star

Capt. Will C. White, as platoon leader with the 47th Inf. at Normandy, now a Chaplain at Fort Gordon, is the proud possessor of the Bronze Star.

### BEFORE CURTAIN WAS DOWN ON IMPRESSIVE '61 MEMORIAL SERVICES FATHER CONNORS HAD GREAT PLANS FOR 1962

The 1961 Memorial Services held in Worcester, Mass., at the Immaculate Conception Church, by Father Ed Connors is now history but many fond memories linger on—and always will. Again the fine people in that parish worked tirelessly around the clock to make Father Connors' "boys" enjoy every minute they were in Worcester.

Space just does not permit enumeration of near all of the many human interest incidents that transpired at this great event.

#### NOT A 9TH MAN—BUT THERE

One man, Joe Brenick, from Logan, Ohio, who was a seagoing bellhop and doesn't have the distinction of having served with the greatest Fighting Division of all time, made an 800-mile trip to attend these Memorial Services and pay his respects to Father Ed Connors because Father Ed had befriended a blind sister and brother-in-law of Brenick's many years ago, who live in Boston. Things like the favor to this couple happens so many times in the life of Father Connors that he had forgotten the instance until reminded. But it made him happy to know that this man appreciated his kindness enough to come clear across the country on this special day to thank him!

#### COLOR GUARD

Columns could be written about the fine job done by those Worcester police who were the color guards during the services both inside and outside the church.

#### MRS. SECRETARY THERE

While Secretary Dan Quinn was perched up at the speakers' table during the banquet his pretty and friendly wife, Marie, was visiting the many tables renewing old friendships and making new. This is the first time Marie has attended one of the services in Worcester. But its a cinch if Dan comes in next year without her, those who were so carried away with her charm will send the guy right back after her.

#### MAHER HOSPITALITY

The hospitality extended by the Mahers is mentioned elsewhere in this issue. However, representatives of The Octofoil had hardly reached Ohio before mail started coming in from Francis Maher with a full list of names of those who were at the speakers' table and the all-inspiring clippings from The Worcester Daily Telegram.

Among the dignitaries seated at the banquet table were Bishop Bernard Flanagan, Bishop of Worcester, and as Father Connors puts it, his ecclesiastical Commanding Officer; City Manager Francis J. McGrath, Congressman Harold D. Donahue; Rev. John F. Gee, a former assistant of Father Connors, and his present assistant, Rev. Peter J. Scanlon (he stands about 12 inches taller than Father Connors), John Sabato, president of the Association; Dan Quinn, secretary; Rev. John Donohue, Rev. James M. McCarren, Rev. Henry Murphy (who was a chaplain in the Navy, which proves the hosts of this banquet were tolerant), Rev. J. Bryan Connors, S.J., all these priests were World War II chaplains, and of course the Association's own Rev. Gerald Rowan, a former 9th M.P., now of Wichita, Kansas, and Rev. Robert G. Howes who is stationed with Father Connors. He too was a G.I. in World War II and then a lieutenant. He studied for the priesthood after the war. These good men were all thrilled at the tremendous gathering of Ninth Division men of

all faiths—from near and far. The parishioners are still excited about the impressive showing at the Memorial Mass. It was the largest attendance of any of the services held heretofore.

#### BISHOP APPROVES

Bishop Flanagan is giving hearty approval to Father Connors proposed Memorial to be erected in honor of the Ninth's Beloved Dead. More will be published about this Memorial from time to time.

#### GOLD STAR PEOPLE

There was one of the largest gatherings of Gold Star parents at this Memorial Service that has ever attended before. All of their names will be a part of the next issue of The Octofoil.

The 3-column picture printed in The Worcester Telegram showed Mr. J. C. Lynch, father of Capt. Paul Lynch, the well-loved 39th man who so bravely gave his life during the last days of combat; John Sabato, president of the Association; Rev. Gerald Rowan and Father Connors. If The Telegram will furnish that picture or cut to The Octofoil it will be used in a later issue.

#### PARISHIONERS WONDERFUL

There's no use trying to do justice with verbs and adjectives that would convey how wonderful those parishioners of Father Connors proved themselves to be to those who had journeyed to Worcester for this great occasion. The variety and unlimited supply of delicacies available at the Connors' Coffee Shop were something to behold. How these good people hovered around to see that their guests' every wish was quickly and pleasantly taken care of was another touching part of the entire operation. They were GREAT!

The story carried in The Telegram and written by Jack Tubert is clear-out-of-this-world and is being reprinted below verbatim:

#### 17th Memorial Mass VETERANS OF 9TH INFANTRY JOIN IN PRAYER HERE

By JACK TUBERT  
Telegram Staff Reporter  
World War II veterans of the Ninth Infantry Division — from across America they came. Doughboy, dog-face, footlogger.

United once more. This time to pray. They knelt yesterday, shoulder to shoulder. Protestant, Catholic, Jew at the unit's 17th annual Memorial Mass. Fittingly, it was held in Immaculate Conception Church—overlooking Gold Star Boulevard.

Rev. Edward T. Connors said the Mass.

War-time chaplain, peacetime pastor—Big Ed they call him, the adhesive quality to this tender ceremony.

The Mass has been held wherever Father Connors knelt to pray — St. Peter's in Worcester, St. Philip's in Grafton—now, Immaculate Conception. Always the Sunday before Veterans' Day.

#### COMMON BOND

Father Connors looked out across the overflow throng. Ex-GIs, Gold Star parents and parishioners knelt before him in the soft-toned house of prayer.

(Continued on Page 3)

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THE OCTOFOIL

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Forms 3579 Should be sent to 286 Zimpfer St., Columbus, Ohio

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DANIEL QUINN, Secretary, 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N. J.

THOMAS BOYLE, Treasurer, 39 Hall Ave., Somerville, Mass.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1962 —

John Korobko, Detroit, Mich.

Michael Belmonte, Chicago, Ill.

Anthony Chaconas, Washington, D. C.

Paul S. Plunkett, Columbus, Ohio

1963 —

Maj. Gen. W. C. Westmoreland, U.S. Military Acad., West Point, N.Y.

George Apar, Franklin Sq., L.I., N. Y.

Edward McGrath, Green Harbor, Mass.

John Sabato, Philadelphia, Pa.

Robt. Rumenapp, St. Clair Shores, Mich.

1964 —

Francis Maher, Worcester, Mass.

Alfons Cuprys, Mt. Emphram, N. J.

John Clouser, Mt. Prospect, Ill.

John Rizzo, Long Beach, L.I., N.Y.

Board Members Emeritus

Lt. Gen. Manton S. Eddy (Retired)

Maj. Gen. Louis A. Craig (Retired)

Honorary Chaplain Emeritus

Father Edward Connors

Worcester, Massachusetts

★

The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association—offices located at 286 Zimpfer St., Columbus, Ohio. Single copy price is 20 cents per issue or by mail \$1.50 per year, payable in advance. Subscribers should notify the National Secretary, Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N. J., of any change in address.

Published six times yearly, September-October, November-December, January-February, March-April, May-June, July-August, by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News items, feature stories, photographs and art material from members will be appreciated. Every effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condition. Please address all communications to Paul S. Plunkett, Editor, The Octofoil, 286 Zimpfer St., Columbus, Ohio.

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

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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1961

No. 2

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MINUTES OF THE 62ND MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS... 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSN.

The 62nd meeting of the Board of Governors was called to order at 5:00 P.M., Nov. 4, 1961, at the Worcester - Sheraton Hotel, Worcester, Massachusetts, attended by Messrs. John Sabato, John Clouser, Paul Plunkett, Alfons Cuprys, John Rizzo, Max Umansky, George Apar, Francis Maher, Edward McGrath. Also present were Messrs. Vincent Guglielmino, Thomas Boyle and Harrison Daysh, and guest Dick Pestel. There being a quorum the meeting was called to order by President Sabato.

The secretary, Daniel Quinn, then read the minutes of the 61st meeting.

After a motion duly made by John Clouser and seconded by Francis Maher, it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes, as read, and place same on file.

The Treasurer, Thomas Boyle, gave a financial report of the Association's income and expenses since the last Board and General Meeting. President Sabato thanked Thomas Boyle for his report.

After a motion duly made by John Rizzo and seconded by Max Umansky it was voted to: Accept the financial report.

The Secretary, in the absence of the Board members from Michigan, gave the 1961 Reunion report. A profit of \$479.22 was turned over to the Association. President John Sabato instructed the secretary to send a letter of commendation to the Michigan Chapter for a job well done.

After a motion duly made by John Clouser and seconded by Al Cuprys it was voted to: Accept the report and to grant the Michigan Chapter the sum of \$100.

**SCHOLARSHIP REPORT**

John Clouser gave a report on the Scholarship Committee. As of this date \$120 has been donated to this fund by the members. John Sabato thanked John Clouser for his report.

After a motion duly made by Max Umansky and seconded by John Rizzo it was voted to: Accept the Scholarship Committee report.

The secretary, Daniel Quinn, was called upon to give a report on the progress of the 1962 Fort Bragg, Fayetteville, Reunion. A favorable report was given by the secretary.

After a motion duly made by John Clouser and seconded by Francis Maher, it was voted to: In the absence of a Chapter in the Fort Bragg area, have the President appoint a committee from the Board Members to act as a Reunion Committee to assist the Fort Bragg group for the 1962 Reunion.

President John Sabato appointed George Apar as Co-Chairman, and Vincent Guglielmino and Alfons Cuprys as committee members.

After a motion duly made by Francis Maher and seconded by Ed McGrath it was voted to: Invite all former Division, Regimental, Battery and Group Commanding Officers, to the 1962 Fort Bragg Reunion. Also

FRANK HEIKKILA RIDING HERD ON THE MEN WHO "APPROPRIATED" AAA-O

Frank E. Heikkila is a busy man as marketing manager for the Westinghouse Electric Corp., with offices at 40 Wall St., New York City, but he wasn't too tied up to get busy after reading the last issue of Octofoil and noting how the 7th Army in Europe had stolen Paddy Flint's AAA-O motto and morale booster and how the Stars and Stripes were encouraging this inexcusable act.

A letter from Florence P. Dwyer, member of Congress from the 11th Congressional District in New Jersey, reads:

Dear Mr. Heikkila: I have contacted the Department of the Army concerning your request for a story in the European edition of Stars and Stripes, explaining the origin of the "Triple A Bar O" motto.

Please be assured that I will do everything possible to see that credit for the motto is given to your former 39th Regiment. As soon as I receive any information, I will write again.

The next bit of information Frank received was a lot of G.I. gobble de gook from down Pentagon Way about these 1st and 2nd Battle Groups of the 39th Infantry. It appeared to be some old-time Army buck passing—but Frank Heikkila is not a guy to give up easy. He's demanding that the European editions of Stars and Stripes print a story telling how the AAA-O started and by whom. That should cut somebody's water off over there and is a quick way to circumvent the Army's attempt to have someone spend the rest of their lives writing letters for a proverbial merry-go-round.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-WI—

**NEW YORK CHAPTER'S NOMINATING COMMITTEE PRESENTS A FULL SLATE**

A letter dated Nov. 9 from Art Schmidt, New York Chapter's correspondent for The Octofoil is self-explanatory. Parts of the letter is as follows:

I am submitting the list of nominations of officers chosen by the Greater New York Chapter of the Ninth Infantry Division Association Nominating Committee.

I would like to make it clear this is a tentative slate. At our next meeting members will be permitted to make nominations from the floor. If there should be any nominations from the floor the election of officers will depend upon a vote of the membership. Therefore it is urgent that we have a large attendance at the next meeting so additional nominations may be made assuring a slate of officers that is representative of the entire membership.

President—Stanley Cohen.  
First Vice President—Arthur R. Schmidt.  
Second Vice President—Walter O'Keefe.  
Secretary—Dominick Miele.  
Treasurer—Irving Feinberg.  
Judge Advocate—Harry Orenstein.  
Chaplain—George Apar.  
Sergeant-At-Arms—Al Orletti.  
New members of the Board of Governors, to serve until 1963:  
39th Inf.—Hermínio Suzrez.  
47th Inf.—Walter O'Keefe.  
60th Inf.—George Fraenkel.  
Special Troops—Dave Gelman.  
Divarty—Kenneth Grosse.  
Present members of Board of Governors to serve until 1962:  
39th Inf.—Pat Higgins; 47th Inf.—Art Orletti; 60th Inf.—Harry Juman; Special Troops—Dave Gelman; Divarty—Max Umansky.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-WI—

**Tentative Date Set For Board Meeting**

A tentative date was set as May 19 for the next Board of Governors meeting. The location was decided on as being best suited for this particular meeting was Washington, D.C. It was explained that Washington was not too big a jump from Fort Bragg and the Board would like to have a first hand report from those working on the 1962 Reunion that will be held at Fort Bragg.

A full agenda of what will be taken up at the meeting and what hotel will be headquarters will be published in detail in a later issue of The Octofoil.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-WI—

**GRADS PRESENT FOLKS TO THE POINT BOSS**

The 535 West Point graduates attended a gala garden party recently and presented their families and friends to the school's superintendent, Maj. Gen. William C. Westmoreland.

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dan Quinn, National Secretary, Ninth Infantry Division Assn., 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, New Jersey

Enclosed please find 1961 dues for:

Name ..... Serial No. ....

Street Address .....

City ..... Zone ..... State .....

I was a member of:

Battery.....; Company.....; Regiment.....9th Div.

I wish to sign up for the following:

Regular Member, per year .....\$ 4.00 ☐

Sustaining Member ..... ☐

THREE-YEAR MEMBER .....\$11.00 ☐

Life Membership .....\$50.00 ☐

Octofoil Automobile License Disc .....\$ 1.00 ☐

Decals, 25c; (5) five for .....\$ 1.00 ☐

Eight Stars to Victory .....\$ 2.00 ☐  
(Pictorial History of 9th Division in action.)

Ladies' Auxiliary Member .....\$ 1.50 ☐

Combat Route Map .....\$ .50 ☐

60th Infantry History .....\$ .50 ☐

Please credit the following chapter:

Philadelphia ☐ Illinois ☐ Greater New York ☐

Western Pennsylvania ☐ Washington, D. C. ☐

Buffalo ☐ Ohio ☐ Fort Carson ☐

New England ☐ Greater Detroit ☐

Twin Cities ☐

FINANCIAL REPORT FROM DETROIT ON 1961 REUNION INCOME AND EXPENSES

Members of the Association owe a deep debt of gratitude to the hard-working Greater Michigan Chapter of the Ninth Infantry Division Association for the magnificent job they did in entertaining the Reunion visitors in July of this year—and yet had a net profit of \$479.22 to turn over to the Association. The statement forwarded to Secretary Quinn by Bob DeSandy of Detroit is as follows:

CREDITS	
Program Ads .....	\$ 646.00
Convention Tickets .....	3,431.75
(Total registered, 339 adults and children)	
TOTAL .....	\$4,077.75

DEBITS	
Hotel .....	\$2,306.45
Orchestra (2 nights) .....	314.60
Bus Service (to Greenfield Village) .....	110.00
Admission (Greenfield Village) .....	99.45
Printing of Convention Program .....	450.00
Art Work (Program Cover) .....	35.00
Convention Badges .....	40.00
Convention Tickets .....	33.00
Stationary Supplies and Postage .....	74.66
Printing of Letter (400 copies) .....	8.79
Telegrams .....	7.00
Memorial Wreath and Flowers at Banquet .....	59.28
Refund of Strip Tickets (due to sickness) .....	30.00
Refund Program Ads (not printed) .....	30.00
TOTAL .....	\$3,598.53

Net Profit .....\$ 479.22

Dr. Gowen Wants to Locate Ben Sher

Dr. Leo F. Gowen, M.D., has his shingle out at 337 W. Lockwood Ave., St. Louis 19, Mo. Dr. Gowen writes The Octofoil as follows:

"Is Dr. Ben Sher listed as a member of the Association? He was my closest friend other than Father Francis Sullivan, O.F.M., who survived. I'd like to contact Dr. Sher. He was 2nd Bn. surgeon for the 39th Regiment."

Secretary Quinn checked and the last known address of Benjamin Sher was 2812 Wichita St., Houston, Tex. This was several years ago. Any of The Octofoil's readers who might be acquainted with Dr. Sher's present address will do a great service if that information will be jotted on a card and sent to Dr. Gowen at the address given above.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-WI—

Judge Advocate Was In Worcester, Mass.

Harrison J. Daysh is a valuable legal attache to the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D.C. He is also the capable Judge Advocate of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. For many months his duties with the Labor Board has kept him in isolation—namely, located in the hills of North Carolina. But he is out of quarantine again and is living at 4303 Carriage Court, Kensington, Maryland. The young attorney sit in on the board meeting in Worcester and was of much assistance in giving advice. He is working on several knotty projects that will be reported on at the Fort Bragg Reunion.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-WI—

Oh for the grand old days when you could kiss a girl and taste nothing but girl.



# NEW YORK MEMBERS PLANNING TO SOLICIT HELP TOWARDS HELPING PAY FOR MEMORIAL FATHER CONNORS SAYS WILL BE DEDICATED IN 1962

Those attending Memorial Services in Worcester Nov. 5 were shown an artist's sketch of the Memorial to be erected around the flag on the church grounds of Immaculate Conception. It was something to behold—even in the rough draft stage. There will be three steps leading up to the platform. A wall of about three feet high completing a half circle will encompass the platform—naturally a huge Octofoil will decorate the center of the arch—and inscribed in the background "In Memory of Deceased Ninth Infantry Division Men."

Father Connors jotted down many suggestions that were made by visitors to the Memorial Mass and advised The Octofoil as soon as many of these suggestions could be incorporated in the original plans he would have another artist's drawing made and send it to The Octofoil so a cut can be made for the benefit of all the members who read their paper.

## WORCESTER HEADQUARTERS

In commenting on this wonderful program Father Connors has planned, President John Sabato commented: "We might as well face it—long after every man now living who is a member of the Ninth Infantry Division Association is dead and many forgotten—that memorial on the church grounds will live on and on and on—with no trace left of the Ninth Division in Washington, New York or elsewhere—this great fighting division's name will be preserved in Worcester, Mass., which automatically becomes the headquarters of the Ninth Infantry Division Association, an organization that perpetuated the good name of the Ninth until the last one answered that last roll call."

## CONTACT MIELE

After viewing the artist's drawing of this beautiful memorial members of New York Chapter immediately set in motion the machinery to collect funds to help Father Connors in this noble venture. Vincent Guglielmino has asked The Octofoil to appeal to our members—not only New York Chapter members but all Association members to send some small contribution toward the expense that will be involved in erecting the memorial. Contributions should be sent to Dominic Miele, 26-06 24th Ave., Astoria, L. I., N. Y., secretary of the Greater New York Chapter. No contribution is too small to be accepted and gratefully appreciated.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF NEW YORKERS NOVEMBER GET-TOGETHER

The New York Chapter met at the Van Rensselaer Hotel the night before leaving for Worcester, Mass.

Treasurer Irv Feinberg was an early arrival. He reported the Chapter was still in the black but kept telling them how to act so as to stay in the black. The welfare fund now has \$52. A \$25 boost was given the fund by the great philanthropist—Arthur R. Schmidt, a member of the Chapter. Schmidt also contributed \$25 to the Scholarship Fund and has challenged National Secretary Dan Quinn to match his donations.

## ZWIEL SICK

The members were saddened to learn "Wild Bill" Zwiell was confined at the VA Hospital in Englewood, N. J. Ed Egan claims Zwiell was the highest paid private in the army—"for having 20 kids." That may not be the exact number—but the number was way up.

## MORE SAD NEWS

Adolph Wadalavage received a letter from Monsignor Tiernan's sister stating he passed away in June.

Adolph had written the former Division Chaplain. His sister answered saying Father Tiernan had gone to Naples, Italy. He became seriously ill and returned to the states where he died.

Father Tiernan had been chaplain of former President Harry Truman's Artillery Battalion in World War I, and when Mr. Truman went to the Potsdam Conference he took Father Tiernan with him.

Adolph also reported that Abbrussee, a patient at Bronx VA Hospital, enjoyed being given a copy of "Eight Stars to Victory." Wadalavage keeps busy writing letters to 9th Infantry Division men in hospitals, including Dohmann, Abbrussee, and Succimari. Al Rago, 9th Signal man, advises Adolph he intends to visit Succimari at Montrose VA Hospital (near Peekskill, N. Y.).

Arthur Mülle of the M.P. Bn. was seriously injured in an automobile accident.

## AL BRUCHAC ATTENDS

President Pat Morano called attention to the members that a former Chapter President and National Association President, Al Bruchac, was present at the November meeting.

Dom Miele suggested that the chapter might provide some better quality dark horse prizes. This was held in abeyance.

Stanley Cohen and the Policy Committee were given a vote of thanks for the program they planned for the New York Chapter members of the National Board of Governors for their consideration and presentation at the Board of Governors meeting in Worcester, Mass.

Mr. DeMaria of Connecticut came up with a good one. He purchased 16 quarts of milk and brought them to the meeting for the Dark Horse Prize. This was appreciated because of the milk strike. Vincent Guglielmino, Walter O'Keefe, George Apar, Mr. McInerney (Gold Star dad), and Arthur Schmidt were some of the lucky prize winners.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A Nominating Committee was selected by lottery. Schmidt's name was first drawn, making him chairman. Others were Messrs. Fraenkel, Feinberg and Suarez.

## DEC. 1 NEXT MEETING

About 40 attended the November meeting. The next meeting will be at the Hotel Van Rensselaer, 15 E. 11th St., New York City, Dec. 1.

President Morano hopes for a large attendance at which time additional nominations may be made. Beer, soda and free sandwiches will be available at the December meeting.

## PRaises BOOKLET

In his letter to The Octofoil Art Schmidt comments on the miniature booklet that was at each plate during the banquet following the Memorial Services. Art writes: "I thought this booklet told the story completely. I believe all who attended the dinner will agree that the sentiments expressed in this booklet gave a true picture of why we attend this Mass."

## NOTES ON WORCESTER TRIP

As usual the New York Chapter was well represented. Some who attended were: Dan Quinn, Vin Guglielmino, Pat Morano, George Apar, Max Umansky, Jack Scully, Mr. DeMaria, Adolph Wadalavage, Harry Orenstein, Mr. and Mrs. McInerney, Dominic Miele, George Sarkar, Antonio Giocoffe, Jacob Laskau, Al Rago and Frank E. Heikkila. Many of those listed brought their wives—and apologies to any of the men who did attend and whose names do not appear above. They will appear in the full list to be printed soon.

## BALKED AT FILLING STATION

Adolph Wadalavage, Harry Orenstein, Dominic Miele and Schmidt rode to Worcester in Schmidt's new car. Each of them swear that the contraption balked at every filling station they passed. Art claims the guys overloaded with milk they had bought to take back into New York. However, there was more than milk consumed on that return trip. Instead of taking exit 39 off the Connecticut Turnpike they went on to 41 that necessitated a lot more miles of riding before reaching home. It was decided to let Adolph Wadalavage be the navigator through Queens—and Adolph had to finally admit he was leading them up a blind alley trying to find Miele's new home in Astoria, L.I., N.Y.

## REUNION WITH HEIKKILA

Al Rago of 9th Signal reports that he was glad to meet up with Col. Frank E. Heikkila, Division Signal Officer, now working for Westinghouse Electric Corp., 40 Wall St., New York. Rago also met Major Arnold who is still on duty at Fort Monmouth, N. J. He had seen none of these old buddies since 1945.

## ENGRS. REPRESENTED

The 15th Engrs. were well represented at Worcester. Some attending were George Bender, Barney Angell, Si Garber, Sid Levison, Pat DeColli, Fred D'Amore, Col. Gray, Peter P. Thomas, Al Ferrante, Henry Hill, Jimmy Kelly, Bill Davidson and James Keohane.

## CROWDED

There was some confusion about accommodations at the hotel. However the new management will no doubt have a better system in effect next November. But Miele, Wadalavage and Schmidt have nothing to bitch about. They got the Governor's Suite at the Mayflower Hotel for 15 bucks.

And those who shopped for motels found some that were out of this (Continued on Page 4)

# SARGE BUDRICK HAS HIS EAGLE EYES OPEN

Since the last issue of The Octofoil two greatly appreciated letters have been received from the Association's old standby, Steven Budrick, 21 Union Ave., South River, N. J. ("The Old Sarge").

Friends of the Sarge will be greatly grieved to learn that his mother recently suffered a stroke. This was why Budrick was not seen mixing with the crowds and living things up at the Detroit Reunion.

The Sarge keeps up with various pieces of proposed legislation pertaining to ex G.I.s and is an authority the Octofoil calls on frequently for such information.

At the time of his writing the bill pertaining to Medal of Honor winners was awaiting the expected signature of President Kennedy, under which they can receive a special monthly pension of \$100 for life. The new law provides that the 168 holders who have passed 50 will get the increased pension automatically. As the 128 honor medalists now below 50 reach the qualifying age they will be given a chance to say whether they want the additional amount.

## BURIAL BENEFIT

Q. How much is the minimum social security burial benefit under the new law?

A. It is now \$120, formerly it was \$99.00.

## WANT WAR SOUVENIRS

Anyone who has any World War II souvenirs, such as rifles, bayonets, swords, knives, helmets or whatever they have that is being kicked from attic to cellar send them to the address given: Steven Budrick, 21 Union Ave., South River, N. J.

The reason the Sarge wants these items his VFW Post is erecting a new building and they'd like to have some of these items with the names, address and what company, battalion, and regiment the items are from.

Anyone making donations for this Post's display will be the Old Sarge's special guest at the Bragg Reunion. GOLD STAR LAPEL BUTTONS

The Gold Star Lapel button is awarded to widows (or widowers), parents and certain other close relatives of U. S. Military or Navy personnel who have lost their lives in World War I, World War II, and the Korean conflict.

The emblem, with pin or clutch, is a gold star one-quarter inch in diameter, mounted on a purple disc, three-quarters in diameter, and is surrounded by a wreath of gold laurel leaves, five-eighths of an inch in diameter. The reverse bears the inscription "United States of America, Act of Congress, August, 1947," with space for engraving the initials of the recipient.

One such emblem will also be supplied at a cost of 80 cents each which includes engraving of initials of Deceased or next of kin, whichever is desired — to each child, stepchild, child through adoption, brother, half brother, sister and half sister of a Deceased serviceman.

Application by letter for the emblem should be made by eligible survivors to the appropriate branch of service in which the Deceased served at time of death.

Army: Commanding Office U. S. Army Records Center, 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis 32, Mo.

When lost or damaged without the owner's fault or neglect, the emblem may be replaced at a cost of 80 cents. Penalties prevail for unauthorized wearing of the emblem or for possessing a counterfeit of the emblem. Consult the nearest Division of Veterans Services Office for assistance in making application for the Gold Star emblem.

The Sarge closed his letter for this issue with a 4-column picture from Army Times showing Gen. Ike Eisenhower being greeted by the Association's own Gen. Westmoreland when Gen. Ike recently visited the Point.

A few of the jokes used as fillers in this issue of The Octofoil are brain children of The Sarge.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

# Blackie Waldron Is Back For Surgery

Wilton Taylor, Stop 6, Star Route, Lost Hills, Calif., advises The Octofoil that W. D. (Blackie) Waldron, former Co. E, 60th man, recently underwent a surgical operation for hernia and complications set in, giving Blackie a hard way to go. His home address is 600 Washington St., Oil Dale, Calif. He would be glad to hear from any of his old buddies.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

One drawback to improved highways is there is no longer any such thing as a distant relative.

# The Four Horsemen Were "In Action"

Much has been written in about the enjoyable private reunion that Frank Heikkila, Tom Gray, J. G. McCormick and Major Wyatt A. Arnold and their pretty wives held at one of the tables during Father Connors' Saturday night Coffee Shop Ice Breaker or Get-Acquainted Party.

Those in the big room who anyone in this group did not know were invited to join them long enough to get acquainted and take a little libation.

Group gatherings like this one was the pattern rather than the exception all over the place. There was no place for gloom in the Connors' Coffee Shop although they all had assembled for a most sacred mission the following morning—to pay homage to those buddies who have gone on to their reward. The many warm and close friendships that were revived were most beautiful happenings to observe.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

# BILL ZWEIL SAYS—"THE OLD GRAY MARE AIN'T WHAT SHE USTA BE" . . .

"Wild Bill" Zwiell has been hospitalized again. That's why he didn't show up in Worcester. He signs his letters now "Not So Wild Bill." His address was 220-W Englewood Hospital, Englewood, N. J.

They can't keep that guy down. He's probably up and at 'em by the time this issue of The Octofoil goes to press. But Betty will probably hold him down to 90 miles per hour henceforth so he will be less apt to be a patient at Englewood again at any time—especially right away.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

# KESTER IS A BUCKEYE: NOT A CAROLINIAN

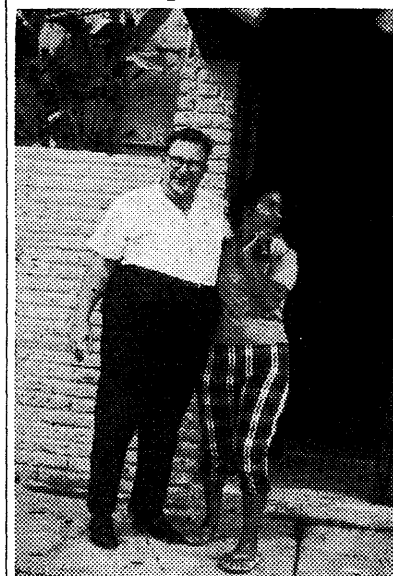
In a recent issue of The Octofoil John B. Kester, a former Co. C 47th man, was listed as being a resident of Greenville, S. C. John writes for a correction to be made — he has nothing against South Carolina folks but he's proud of his Buckeye citizenship and wants his old buddies to write him at Greenville, Ohio, care Kesco Products Co.

Kester was captured by the Krauts on Sept. 6, 1944 and lost contact with the old gang—so he is particularly anxious to hear from any of the old Co. C, 47th Regt. men.

John closed his letter thusly: "I am the owner of Kesco Products Co. We manufacture and distribute cleaning supplies and restaurant equipment through the Midwest. The Octofoil is appreciated very much and you can count on my support in any way I can help."

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

# Art Snags a Senorita



Before heading back for the bright lights of New York City, since winding up in Texas anyway, Art Schmidt ventured south of the border and emerged from his favorite bar down in Reynosa, Mexico, with an armful of senorita, as will be noted in the above candid camera shot.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

# Adjutant General Likes the Program

The Adjutant General of Ohio was furnished a copy of the Reunion Program that was printed in Detroit for the 1961 Reunion by Dick Pestel on his return to Columbus. The State's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Loren G. Windom acknowledged receipt of the book by writing:

"Dear Dick: I was most interested in the Ninth Infantry Division program for 1961. Thanks a lot! Best regards.—Windom."

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

# Memorial Services

(Continued from Page 1)

A strange place to hear a man of God talk of the savagery of war. He tells it plainly. No frosting. He was there. Father Connors holds the Silver Star for gallantry under fire.

He told of the common bond—5,000 white crosses strung behind in Africa, Sicily, France, Belgium and Germany—that draws Protestant, Catholic and Jews from the 9th together.

"Seeing the men of the 9th again around the altar, I'm sure God is pleased," said Father Connors, "I know I am."

Yesterday they knelt before marble, finely carved wood, polished metal. The tabernacle held a silver ciborium, a chalice given to Father Connors by his troops. He said the missal on the altar was a gift from the 34th Artillery; the Communion plate, too, was from the GIs. Sons of former soldiers served as altar boys.

Men were altar boys on the battlefield. In those days the altars were makeshift affairs set on the hoods of jeeps. They were equally holy on the sands at El Guettar in North Africa, along the olive groves of Sicily, behind the hedgerows of Normandy and under the dead and broken pine trees of the Hurtigen Forest.

"There was one fellow in the 84th," Father Connors recalled. "He had served Mass for me. I remember his wife was expecting. They started to shell around us. One shell caught him and he went off to receive God's judgment."

In this age of pushbutton warfare, Father Connors brought back memories of dinky, but deadly shells. And GI Joe, crouched behind puny clumps of bushes, banging away with old-fashioned M-1 rifles; they're up to M-14 today.

## COURAGE FOR PRAYER

"Midst all this nuclear warfare talk and ways," said Father Connors, "it takes spiritual courage to come here and offer prayers and faith for the beloved dead."

One veteran looked down at his two young sons kneeling beside him and marveled at the genius of man—to have conceived this superbomb. The same man who hasn't thought of a way to protect his belly from a little lead bullet.

## A JOYFUL SOUND

A baby cried. The soft, almost joyful sound of an infant awakening warmed the church. A curly-haired young woman dressed in brown looked up from her missal. She might have been an infant 19 years ago in those dog-eared snapshots GIs treasured.

"We lived in great harmony," Father Connors was saying, Protestant, Catholic, Jew. "I'd always give the Catholic boys absolution before they jumped off into battle. I'd offer the other boys my blessings."

He told of a Jewish chaplain who was shelled and dying. "He asked for my blessing before dying. Not absolution. He died a strong, dedicated Jew, but he wanted my blessing. We all must have a faith. We must believe in it. Stand up for it. But—we can all pray together."

This message was repeated outside the church at ceremonies around the division's memorial flagpole and later in the day at the closing banquet in the Sheraton-Worcester Hotel.

Bishop Flanagan, U. S. Rep. Harold D. Donohue and City Manager McGrath were among speakers at the banquet.

There, Father Connors announced that the Divisions Memorial walk is expected to be built around the church flagpole next spring.

## \$1,500 MEMORIAL CHECK

Sid Levenson of Dorchester, a Jew, presented Father Connors a \$1,500 check for the memorial a few years ago. Levenson raised the money among the men of the Ninth Infantry Division Association.

## CLOUSER MADE LONG TRIP

John Clouser, a Protestant, came the greatest distance. He is dean of men at a Chicago school.

William Shugrue, 18, a Catholic, played "Taps" at the close of the Mass. His father, Francis, was a member of the Worcester Police Department color guard that participated in the Mass.

The boy's first notes were hesitant, almost shy. Father Connors lifted his head; a slow smile creased his face. The silver bugle lifted in the Sanctuary. Harmony. The sound of music soared.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

The difference between the Victorian girls and the ones of today is that in those times the girls blushed at risque a joke while today they memorize it.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

Injustice: If you make out your income tax correctly you go to the poorhouse; if you don't you go to jail.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## NEW YORK CHAPTER'S FALL DANCE WILL BE GREATEST EVENT OF YEAR

By ARTHUR SCHMIDT,  
69-20 69th Street—Hyacinth 7-3993  
Brooklyn 27, New York

The New York Chapter's Fall Dance will be held on Saturday, November 25, 1961 at the Union City Elks Club in Union City, N. J. The Chapter's Annual 50-50 Booster Club is being held in conjunction with the dance. Members have been urged to lend their fullest cooperation to assure success of the dance and the Booster Club.

This issue of The Octofoil will be reaching the membership just about the time the dance will be held—but if any of the members have sold their books and not reported they should send checks or money orders at once to Dominick Miele, Chapter Secretary, care Greater New York Chapter, 9th Infantry Division Association, Inc., P.O. Box 1108, G.P.O. New York 1, N. Y. Any additional information desired may be gotten by calling Dom Miele at RA. 1-9863 after 6 P.M.

### SEPTEMBER MEETING

About 40 members attended the Sept. 8 meeting at the Hotel Van Rensselaer, in New York City. This was the first meeting after a long summer vacation.

Adolph Wadalavage and Mrs. Wadalavage inspected the writer's new Ford, after which Adolph rode in the brand-new wagon to the meeting.

### REVIEW SAGA'S STORY

President Pat Morano brought a copy of the Saga magazine to the meeting, which carried Jim Beach's story "Eight Stars for the Ninth." Some of those mentioned were Pfc. Carl V. Sheridan, Private Charles Teed, Sergeant John J. Waldrop, Generals Patton and Eddy, Colonel Caffey, Colonel deRohan, Colonel Randle, Corporal Frank Czar, Second Lieutenant Charles Dushane, Pfc. Theodore Bratkovitz, General Irwin, Private Karl C. Warner, known as Molotov; Private Demarco, Captain Willard Barnwell, Sergeant Vernon Megerditchian, Major Dean T. Vanderhoef, Major Woodrow Bailey, Lieut. Lindsey Nelson, Col. William Westmoreland (now Maj. Gen. Wm. C. Westmoreland, superintendent of West Point), Major Otto Kerner (now Governor Kerner of Illinois), Lieut. Col. Hardage, Sergeant Peter J. Dalessandro, Second Lieut. John E. Butts, Sergeant William L. Nelson and our own Irving Feinberg, who bemoaned the fact he had to leave a bicycle aboard a troop ship.

### IN THE BLACK

Irving Feinberg, Chapter Treasurer, advised that the Treasury was in the black; but he appealed for a strong drive for the Booster Club to help keep it in the black.

### FAZIO ARRANGES A BARGAIN

Frank Fazio's report was good news: \$2.50 for the dance with a buffet supper, including sliced turkey and all the beer one could lap up.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY OFF

The membership voted to eliminate the Christmas party. It would come too near the time for other affairs. Adolph Wadalavage recommended that the chapter give Christmas gifts to needy members. Not wanting to embarrass any member who might need assistance, Adolph Wadalavage accepted the job of trying to learn of any needy and deserving cases.

### FAZIO'S MOTHER-IN-LAW PASSED AWAY

Frank Fazio's mother-in-law passed away recently. Many of the members called at the Farena Brothers Funeral Home, 920 Allerton Ave., Bronx, N. Y., to pay their respects.

### REUNION DISCUSSION

George Apar gave an interesting report on the Detroit Reunion. He gave detailed information on the scholarship fund. Much applause was given John Rizzo, who was elected to the National Board of Governors. There was much heated discussion about the new amendment to the bylaws permitting only three members from any one chapter to be on the National Board of Governors.

Mr. Fraenkel spoke on the need for Civil Defense volunteers.

### PICNIC A SUCCESS

The Chapter's picnic was a financial success but Frank Kasko had to get affidavits that he worked over the grill for four hours and was not continually drinking beer.

### 1962 REUNION

Dan Quinn gave a report on the Fort Bragg Reunion. He believes it will go over big. The Prince Charles Hotel will be headquarters. There are many motels in the area. — The dates are July 26, 27, and 28, 1962. Gen. Clayton is assisting Dan. The General was a 47th Infantry Regimental Commander. Arrangements have been made to transport mem-

bers and their families to the Post from Fayetteville. Tentative plans call for a parachute jump show and shooting range activity. There will be a beer party and weiner roast.

### DARK HORSE PRIZES

Before the meeting closed dark horse prizes were drawn for: Mr. McInerney, a Gold Star father, won a mixer; George Apar won a pair of opera glasses, and the writer got a pair of opera glasses. Frank Kasko won two stapling machines.

After all the beer had been consumed Frank Kasko extended an invitation to be his guest at the bar. Since Adolph Wadalavage had no transportation of his own with him he just had to sweat it out and then go to work in the A.M. without any sleep.

Pat Mastrancello donated \$10 toward the Chapter Welfare Fund.

There was some discussion about the 1964 Reunion being held in New York in conjunction with the World Fair.

Considerable discussion relative to getting the Ladies' Auxiliary active took place at the October meeting.—Arthur Schmidt, Reporter for New York Chapter.

### HIGHLIGHTS OF NEW YORK CHAPTER'S OCTOBER MEETING

Fifty members attended. It was good to see John Rizzo, Stan Cohen, Al Rago and others not regulars in recent months in attendance at this meeting.

Walter O'Keefe, E Co. 47th has been attending meetings since being discharged from the hospital and did a good job with the 50-50 Club ticket sales.

### GATTO GETS CERTIFICATE

Danny Quinn presented Mike Gatto with a certificate of merit for his work on the Board of Governors.

Harry Whalen, K Co., 47th, announced he would visit George Dorfman (George Dohman), who was in I Co., 47th, but now in the Bronx VA Hospital. Whalen's nieces, Eileen and Kathleen Whalen were given awards by the hospital for their services to the disabled veterans.

Whalen hopes to get Henry Franklin, L So. 47th signed up in the Association. He lives at 121 Seaman Ave., New York 34, N. Y.

### WADALAVAGE ON THE JOB

Adolph Wadalavage is the New York Chapter's welfare representative and is doing a good job. He called on Carmine Abbruzzese, a 9th man and a patient at Kingsbridge Veterans Hospital. Carmine was with the 84th F.A. C Bty. He is being furnished a copy of "8 Stars to Victory."

Al Rago is still trying to get his brother-in-law, John Mutchko, to sign up. John was a bugler with B Co., 15th Engrs.

George Apar's knowledge of Roberts' Rules of Order on parliamentary law helped speed up the meeting quite a bit.

### FINE REPORTS

The report of Treasurer Irving Feinberg and Secretary Dom Meile were encouraging. Feinberg advised the Chapter was still in the black, but needed \$600 per year to operate the chapter as it should. Meile told the group there were 260 paid-up members as of the October meeting.

George Frankel and Dom Meile were selected to assist Frank Fazio with his many duties pertaining to the dance.

Danny Quinn suggested the New York Chapter start its own scholarship fund.

Stanley Cohen made a motion that the chapter select a committee of three to be called the Policy Committee. This committee would have the job of preparing an agenda for the members of the National Board of Governors to present at Board meetings. The motion was adopted.

John Rizzo made a motion to empower Wadalavage to make gifts to 9th men in hospitals, the money to come from the welfare fund. This was adopted.

Rizzo made a motion and it too was adopted, that 9th Division colors be placed at biers of members who pass away.

Many instances were cited where members who have the Octofoil displayed prominently on their cars have been stopped by former Ninth men who never heard of the Association. President Morano stressed the importance of all members using these Octofoil decals.

The October meeting adjourned and reopened unofficially for an argument at a nearby bar on the greatness of many ex-baseball players.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

A girl who slaps her boy friend may not want to hurt his feelings as much as she wants to stop them.

## DOHMANN SAYS VA APPRECIATES COPY OF NINTH HISTORY

George Dohmann, a well liked member of the New York Chapter, a former Co. I, 47th man, and also with 9th Med Bn., Co. D, is still a patient in the VA Hospital, 130 W. Kingsbridge Rd., Bronx, N. Y. However, George lives near the facility and gets his mail at the home address, 2749 University Ave., Bronx 68, N. Y.

George is still looking for some concern that sells regimental insignia. Any member having such information should write him. In the meantime he has located Harold Peppers and hoping to get his papers filled out to the satisfaction of the VA gods—that-be.

It was good to note that George was feeling much better. He enclosed a copy of the hospital paper, Bronx Cheer, in which the editor and hospital librarian thank the Association for having sent the hospital a copy of "8 Stars to Victory."

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## Col. Childs' Widow Is Anxious for Octofoil

The Octofoil is sorry that Mrs. Jefferson D. Childs, bereaved widow of the late Col. Jefferson D. Childs missed receiving a couple of issues of The Octofoil. But by the same token, it made everyone happy to know that she misses the paper so much when it is not received.

After the death of Col. Childs Secretary Quinn pulled the addressograph plate that had the Colonel's and Mrs. Childs' army base address on it—awaiting the information on what Mrs. Childs' new address would be. That information has been received and back copies forwarded her. The Secretary also returned the money Mrs. Childs so graciously sent in to pay for an Octofoil subscription. Secretary Quinn keeps the families of our bereaved members on the mailing list to receive copies of The Octofoil whenever he is kept informed of the proper addresses.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## COLE IS LIVING IT UP IN SUNNY CALIFORNIA

Another old time 39th Inf. man who is enjoying life out in Sunny California is Newell C. Cole, 1850 W. Orangethrope Ave., Fullerton, Calif.

However, Cole has made it easy to change addresses on a moment's notice now. They have sold the "Old Homestead" and are living in a mobile home, 10x55 feet. The older son does not live with the family any longer, leaving the one 14-year-old youngster to keep them busy. Mr. and Mrs. Cole just recently celebrated 25 years of wedded happiness and are looked forward with much anticipation to the next 25.

### VISITS NEW ENGLAND

Cole is employed by the California Youth Authority. His duties recently took him to Boston, Mass. Naturally he slipped across the border to his native state of Maine. The prisoner Cole was returning was better than 6 feet tall, stacked up against Shorty Cole's 5 feet, the pair attracted a lot of attention.

The Octofoil knows many of Cole's old 39th buddies will be happy to learn that he and Mrs. Cole are enjoying life and that they look forward eagerly for each issue of The Octofoil to try and learn something about the happenings to others of the old gang.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## Succimarri's Only Fun Is Getting Some Mail

G. V. Succimarri is still in the VA Hospital at Montrose, N. Y. His letters to Secretary Dan Quinn are of a most lonesome nature. He yearns for letters from anyone who ever served in the Ninth Infantry Division. His address is G. V. Succimarri, ASN 32001754, F.D.R.V.A.H., Building 7, Ward B, Montrose, N. Y.

During the past month the fellow wrote Quinn a 9-page letter and in every sentence he was reliving life with the Ninth Division. Any of the Association members who are ever anywhere near this VA facility would do him more good than the medics could, if they would just stop and chat with him for a few seconds.

A card would help his morale—it doesn't matter whether the sender knows Succimarri personally or not. It is not feasible to print the contents of his letters in full—but for any former Ninth man to read them, it would bring lumps to their throats. Only by the grace of God it is Succimarri the sick man—and not you and you and you.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

The funny part about nylon stockings is that the longer they are the nearer the top is to the bottom.

## SNAPSHOTS MADE IN ALL SECTIONS BY ART OF INTEREST TO ALL

Scattered throughout this issue of The Octofoil are four pictures sent in by Arthur Schmidt of the New York Chapter. The shots were picked from an interesting package of 25 photos Schmidt sent to The Octofoil. They were made in Canadian spots and extended on into old Mexico itself. It is hoped to be able to use a few more at a later date. Some show Schmidt and former 15th Engr. buddies with fish they are supposed to have snagged in the Gulf of Mexico waters. Some were made on the famous King's Ranch in Texas, with Art and his buddies with their big hats on doing justice to some outdoor cooked barbecue—Texas and Mexico style. If this guy ever retires and starts traveling in earnest—he'll be hard to keep tab on.

### HAT MADE IN BROOKLYN

Some of the letters Carroll Leake has written Schmidt since the Reunion advises him that he got out of the Galveston area just in time—the big blow got up to 80 miles per. Carroll was ready to take to the tall timbers. But even during the storm Leake and his mother had to laugh about Schmidt's Wild West hat he was lugging back to Brooklyn to show the natives—and it finally came out that the thing was made in Brooklyn to begin with.

### A CAR DEALER

After learning that Schmidt got the best of three autos on this trip from New York to Detroit via Canada and Mexico, Leake's mother has suggested he attempt to get an automobile agency somewhere. In her letter she told him his favorite spot to fish while he was in Texas has now been blown to parts unknown—on the other side of the bay. Mrs. Leake thinks that storm would have gotten Schmidt down—a little thing like 90 miles an hour wind shouldn't bother anyone who is used to New York City traffic like Art is. (The Octofoil is grateful to Schmidt for relaying all the information he has about the stops he made and the former Ninth men he encountered enroute.)

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## TOM ORBAND PLEASED WITH 39TH WRITE-UP

Tom Orband was well pleased with the story and picture play given the 39th B Co. boys' get-together in Binghamton, N. Y., in last month's edition of The Octofoil.

Tom has been visiting in Tucson, Ariz., for about a month because of Mrs. Orband's health.

But wherever Tom Orband lights he makes connections with some former Ninth men. In Tucson he met up with Vincent "Meat Ball" Zagana. He was with M Co. 39th and is selling real estate in Tucson. Vin married a Dunn, N. C. girl and they have three youngsters, all planning on being at the Fort Bragg Reunion. Tom furnished Vin with an application for Association membership. Vin and his fine family live at 1330 E. Grand, Tucson, Ariz.

Orband's permanent address is 29 Delmar St., Binghamton, N. Y.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## Bowling Green Is A Prosperous Ohio City

Joe Casey got a little ambitious collecting dues in Detroit at the Reunion and he moved Bowling Green, Ohio, into Michigan. That explains why Robert Vollmar, Rt. 4, Box 84, Bowling Green Ohio didn't get an Octofoil last month until Secretary Quinn caught the error and mailed him another paper. Bob was with Co. E, 39th.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## Gen. Westmoreland Talks to Bankers

A feature article on page 2 of the Ridgewood, N. Y. Times recently printed the announcement that Maj. Gen. W. C. Westmoreland would be a featured speaker before a group of New York savings bankers when the money-changing boys met in Quebec to map plans and programs to improve and expand the thrift services they institutions have to offer. The General's subject was "Your Army—An Asset on the National Balance Sheet." You name it, our distinguished general can discuss it.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

### SALES APPEAL

Customer: "I know how you can sell twice as much beer."

Bartender: "How, sir?"

Customer: "Fill up your glasses!"

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

Some girls are like a zipper nightie—just pull one thing and it's all off.

## New York Will Help

(Continued from Page 3)  
world within a 5 to 7 mile radius of Worcester with more in the making. For next year will be the twentieth anniversary date of the Ninth's sailing for parts unknown—and the year Father Connors will dedicate the Memorial encircling the flag and staff. He says if it looks like there will be too large a crowd for the services to be held the same weekend as the football game next year, the date for the services may be changed one week. Those details will be printed in a later issue.

### DESERTS THE ENGRS.

Instead of sitting at the banquet with the Engrs., Schmidt sauntered over to a table marked 47th Inf. C.P. There was method in Schmidt's madness having gone to this strange table—it developed they had more to drink that was more potent than the coffee and tea served by the hotel. Somehow or another three 39th men muscled in on this 47th table also. Among those at the United Nations table were: Larry McLaughlin, 82 Gould St., Wakefield, Mass.; George Sarkar, 2432 25th St., Astoria, L.I., N.Y.; Antonio Giocoffe, 3234 Paulding Ave., Bronx 69, N. Y.; Henry Hank Chiarini, 821 American Legion Highway, Roslindale, Mass.; Jacob Laskau, 1447 First Ave., New York 21, N.Y.; Donald R. Bennett, 289 Orient Ave., Pawtucket, R. I.; Paul H. Morrisetti, 116 Liberty St., Pawtucket, R. I.; Richard D. Cooper, 156 Bay St., Glens Falls, N. Y., and the latter's girl friend, Anna Deutschein. Not satisfied falling in on a table with plenty of libation Schmidt writes The Octofoil bemoaning the fact he wasn't at the New York table for he could have gotten seconds—like Miele did.

### NEW MEMBERS

However, Dom Miele moved in with Dan Quinn and Tom Boyle after the banquet and helped enroll quite a few new members.

Art Schmidt's copyrighted news notes to The Octofoil contained the information that the AAA Club in New York has measured it off for him—and it is exactly 562 miles from Times Square in New York to good old Fort Bragg.

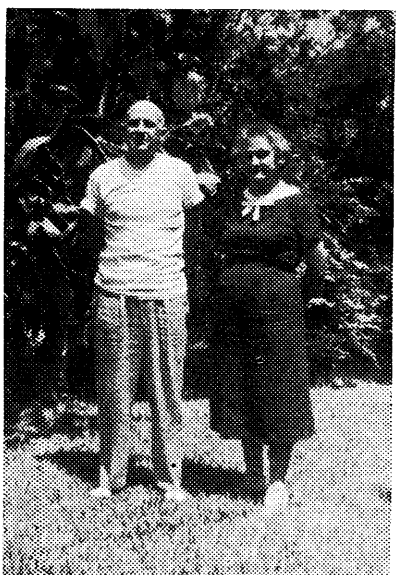
—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## George Gee Heads An AMVET Post

George Gee has been elected commander of AMVETS, Bushwick Post No. 31. Commander Gee is a charter member of the Post, and is a brother of John Gee, who was a popular individual with those rugged Co. B, 15th Engineers, whose praise is always being tooted by Art Schmidt, New York Chapter correspondent.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## Carroll Leake and Mom



After the Reunion Schmidt left for New York without Navigator Harry Wax and he wound up in Robstown, Texas. He was able to locate an old 15th Engr. buddy in the Panhandle section of Texas, Carroll Leake—who got The Octofoil's reporter turned around and headed back toward New York City. Pictured above are Carroll Leake and his lovely mother, taken in the backyard of the Leakes' Texas home.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

### FEAST AT HOFFMAN'S

Charles Hoffman recently arranged for some old B Co. 15th Engr. buddies to meet at his home to devour chicken barbecue and beer.

John Gee, his wife and children were there, along with Art Schmidt and his mother. Hoffman promised another of these events. He seemed to enjoy it as much as his guests did.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

Some girls are like a crowbar. They're not much to crow about but they don't bar anything.



## Beautiful Weather Worcester Was Blessed With Was Surpassed Only By Warmth of the Natives Hearts

(Editor's Note: Joe couldn't enjoy that wonderful meal at the banquet because of getting up so many times to rub it in on buddies all over the room about the beautiful New England weather. "You don't have this kind of weather in Ohio, do you?" "Illinois never saw this kind of fine weather," and so he went from table to table. But after all he did have a point and Mother Nature really smiled on New England the week-end of the services in Worcester.)

By JOE MCKENZIE,  
95 Washington Avenue  
Waltham, Mass.

Noah Webster in his celebrated book might define Beautiful, as, having beauty, or delightful to the eye or admirable to the taste or the mind.

Such descriptions could describe Worcester, Mass., on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 4 and 5.

Those of the Roman Catholic faith are well aware of the beautiful ceremony of the Sacrifice of the Mass. Those of other faiths were equally aware of the beautiful ceremony as they saw it on the altar at the Immaculate Conception Church.

Two beautiful bouquets of large white chrysanthemums were on the altar. Other bouquets of red and white carnations, white gladioli within the sanctuary had the touch of an artist in their arrangement.

### SINGING WAS FINE

The singing of the choir of special church music was beautifully done. Movements of the color guard of the Worcester Police Department showed the results of long hours of practice and training.

Attendance at Mass was the greatest ever. Parishioners of the Immaculate were requested to attend other Masses because the 10 o'clock was reserved for the men of the Ninth. A few forgot. So many attended that all three aisles had to be used for standing room. Many were at a loss to decide what was most impressive in the church during the one hour they were there.

Mother Nature repaid Worcester for all the rainy, cold, hot, snowy, damp and miserable days we spent in the army. There was only one word on everyone's lips to describe the weather. Beautiful, beautiful — could be heard when two heads got together. Men were bareheaded, and women coatless at the brief simple ceremony outside at the flag. The mercury in the thermometer was up to 72 degrees.

### JAMMED AND PACKED

The Connors Coffee Shop after Mass was as jammed packed as Gimbels' basement on a bargain day. Coffee and doughnuts were on the house. The men were trying to carry enough coffee and doughnuts for their families as well as trying to say hello and shake the hand of one that hasn't been seen for a year or more. After several skirmishes the gang departed for the hotel and dinner.

Dinner for over 400 was a big job but the hotel handled it with a minimum of delay or confusion. After dinner there was one and a half hours for speechmaking and awarding of prizes, before His Excellency Bernard J. Flanagan, Bishop of the Diocese of Worcester, closed our annual "get together" with words of wisdom for our serious consideration.

### THANKS TO PARISHIONERS

Our sincere thanks go to the men and women of the Immaculate for their kindnesses on Saturday night as well as on Sunday morning. For those who travel from afar and might wonder what they would do in Worcester the night before, the answer is "Go to the Connors Coffee Shop."

Plenty of coffee, milk, soft drinks, sandwiches and sweets are just waiting to be devoured and they are. Someone you met before will be there, and possibly someone for the first time. You will enjoy the evening.

### 26TH F.A. REPRESENTED

This year, like many other years, Service Battery 26th F.A. was well represented. Harold Huber, the best cook the Army ever had, drove in from Olean, N. Y., with his wife, Leeta; sons, Philip and Mark, and daughter, Christine. It was Mrs. Huber's first trip and she enjoyed it. Upon returning to Olean they were greeted with six inches of snow. John Murray had his daughter, Bill Bongiorno had his wife and daughter, Elmer Roscoe with his wife and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Ortica; Manny Efron was up from Atlantic City, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Albanese with daughter, Pauline, Perg

and Louise, Mr. and Mrs. John Peter Quinn, and the four McKenzies carried the banner for Service 26th F.A.

### SOME FOR FIRST TIME

Paul Turner who was with us at Bragg for a short time, dropped in to say hello. Edward D. Iannetti, 215 W. 34th St., New York was there for the first time. Ed was the assistant driver for Harry Fry while were stationed in Birkadem, Algje. Harry forgot to turn a corner, or took the corner on high, and Ed became the first spaceman. Nineteen years later he is back again with the gang from Service Battery.

Other ex-26thers noticed at the Coffee Shop and at the hotel were Bob Warner from A. Dan Mazeika, Gil Pernokas, and John White from B, Connie Matulius and Tom Boyle from C and John Clouser, Dick Wilson and Jerry Leone from Hqtrs. John "Red" Conrad, an original draftee with Hqtrs. 26th F.A. and later sent on cadre, attended his first Mass to get together.

### NEW ARRIVAL AT QUINNS

John Quinn announced the birth of a new son. John now lives at 29 Shamrock St., Worcester. Harold Huber has been sick over the past year, and is only working five hours per day. Bill Sacco injured his back and can do only light work.

The 15th Engrs. and the 84th F.A. were well represented. Someone from those units should be able to write a story about their gang. More and more infantry are going to Worcester. Jack Shea could write a few words about the 39th men present—Dick Pestel about the 47th and Paul Plunkett about the 60th.

During the long winter nights, when most of us will be staying close to the fire, we should try to locate some of the lost sheep. Some have just strayed away, some know nothing of our organization, our local chapters, our national convention, or of Father Connors' Memorial Mass in Worcester.

Everyone should try to attend a national convention and a Memorial Mass before we get too old to travel. —Sincerely, Joe McKenzie.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## TOM EGAN IS THE TOP LION TAMER

John Koskin, secretary of the Queens Village, N. Y. Lions Club, has furnished The Octofoil with clippings from the Queens Village Guardian which has quite a write-up about Greater New York Chapter's own Tom Egan being elected president of the Queen's Village Lions Club. Excerpts from the clippings read:

Thomas M. Egan, a life-long resident of Queens Village and proprietor of Egan's Wine & Liquor Store on Hillside Avenue, will be installed as the 37th president of the Queens Village Lions' Club at the annual dinner-dance.

Tom, whose father was a former fire eater with the New York City Fire Department, has been in business in Queens Village for more than 20 years. He is married to the former Anne Duckert of Brooklyn and has two children.

During World War II, Tom served with the 9th Infantry Division in Africa, Sicily and Europe from 1942 to 1946 and again in the Korean conflict he served with the 7th Infantry Division from 1951 to 1952.

Tom is a Fourth Degree Columbian with the St. Anne's Knights of Columbus, and is also a committeeman with the Eastern Queens YMCA. He is also a member of the New York Metropolitan Liquor Dealers Association and the La Salle Academy and Long Island University Alumni Association.

The Lions' Club which Tom will head was founded in 1925, one of the oldest clubs in the state. Throughout the year the club and its membership conduct an energetic Community Welfare program supporting youth activities and scholarships.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## Leo Matz and Family Attended the Reunion

Just prior to the Detroit Reunion Mrs. Leo G. Matz, 343 31st St., N.W., Barberton, Ohio, got tired of Leo's putting off writing to Secretary Quinn. So she took the bull by the horns and sent in a letter inquiring about the Reunion. Leo was with the 39th Regt., 3rd Bn.

The net results of Mrs. Matz's letter is that Leo is now a full fledged member of the Association and the Matz family attended the Reunion in Detroit.

## LIST OF NAMES ATTENDING WORCESTER SERVICES WILL BE THE NEXT OCTOFOIL

Everyone knows that no man could accomplish the many worthwhile things that Father Ed Connors does without a lot of help from unselfish people. But he personally does much more than his share. Since the Memorial Mass he has compiled a list of those who attended the Services in Worcester—well over 400 for use in The Octofoil. This list will be printed in the next issue. Because of the space being used to print the names of those attending the Reunion in Detroit it was impossible to print both lists in the same issue.

The good Father has gone through the list and painstaking designated those who are Gold Star parents. The Octofoil has never had very many of these Gold Star people on the mailing list. The names will be sent Secretary Quinn after they are published and plates will be made so they will all receive The Octofoil hereafter.

### PURELY PERSONAL

A compliment paid to the editor of The Octofoil by Father Connors in a closing paragraph of one of his letters since the Memorial Services is ample reward for the many long hours that are devoted to going thru reams of pages and rewriting highlights for The Octofoil. The kind words from this good man take away the sting that comes in the form of criticism from some who are ignorant of the sweat and labor necessary to get out a sheet that is of a standard that the membership deserves. Father Connors closing remarks, cherished by the editor, reads in part: "Congratulations, Paul, on your wonderful contribution to the Association—through The Octofoil which keeps alive the spirit of the Ninth. Every blessing to you and Mrs. Plunkett and all other Ninth Division men. And say a prayer for old man Connors."

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## Worcester Pictures to Be Featured in Next Issue of The Octofoil

If cuts were made of all the pictures that were made in Worcester before, during and after the Memorial Mass at Immaculate Conception Church on Nov. 5 they would fill every column in many issues of The Octofoil and would be space well used. But efforts will be made to select some of the highlights and use in the next issue for the benefit of the hundreds of Association members whose hearts were in Worcester but for countless reasons they were unable to make the journey.

The Octofoil was held up about 10 days for this issue anyway in order to get some of the data that is being used—particularly the November meeting of New York Chapter, the transcription of minutes of the Worcester Board meeting and newspaper reports of the Services. It takes a bit of time to get the films developed and more time to get cuts made—hence the text is being used this time but an abundance of art work will be used next issue. However there is bound to be some more very interesting text matter written about this great occasions by several devout members.

Then, too, the next edition will be sent to all the Gold Star parents whose names are not now on Secretary Quinn's mailing list.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## RON MURPHY THRILLED BECAUSE OF CITATION

Ronald Murphy says he was both surprised and thrilled to receive the Certificate of Merit from the Board of Governors. He says that he will always cherish the citation and only wishes he could do more in furthering the success of the Association in the Massachusetts area. Ron says the Association has been held close to his heart since the day he joined.

Ronald Murphy was a popular G.I. in the 15th Engrs. His present address is 44 Strawberry Lane, Scituate, Mass.

Murphy, along with other New Englanders, naturally, was disappointed that Fort Bragg won the contest over Boston for the 1962 Reunion. But he came forward, as a true blue Ninth man with an offer that if the country was involved in some kind of national emergency and Fort Bragg would not be available for the 1962 Reunion—if given sufficient time to plan, Boston would put on an enjoyable Reunion for the members in 1962.

It's that kind of spirit that Ronald Murphy displayed which prompted the Board to award the citation to him.

## THE 17TH ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICES IN WORCESTER, MASS., AS SEEN BY ORENSTEIN

By HARRY ORENSTEIN,  
640 East 139th Street,  
Bronx 54, New York

There was a capacity audience of men, women and children of the 9th Division when Father Connors said, "Today we are remembering the deceased men of the 9th Division." Father Connors recalled many of his World War II experiences which included being with many men of the 9th Division who made the supreme sacrifice.

Here are some of the highlights of Father Connors' program:

Saturday evening: Connors Coffee Shop.

Sunday Morning: Memorial Services for the deceased men of the 9th Division.

Connors Coffee Shop.

Sunday P. M.: A delicious fried chicken dinner with many very short but interesting talks.

The following Q.M. "boys" and their ladies were present:

Mr. and Mrs. Joe D'Antuono.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Gray.

Mr. and Mrs. John Jagling.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. McCormick.  
Mr. and Mrs. Andy Milano.  
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Russo.  
Mr. and Mrs. George Swanson and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Taylor.  
Mr. Charles Cheevers and his dad.  
Mr. Louis Genatossio.  
Mr. Harold Hokanson.  
Mr. Harry Orenstein.  
Mr. Edward Twigg.

### ODDS AND ENDS

Joe Russo did an excellent job of rounding up the "Boston Boys" for Father Connors' affair. You can bet the "boys" were doing a great deal of reminiscing when the two former company commanders, the Messrs. Gray and McCormick met the two Top Sergeants, D'Antuono and Hokanson and the other "boys."

Received letters from Messrs. Brat-huhn, DeMato, Dodd, Dreifus, Green, Hennessy, Mason, Milano, Robbins, Siegel and Tapp.

Best regards to all and hope you are all enjoying good health.—Sincerely, Harry Orenstein.

## JOHN CLOUSER ADVISES PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW TO THOSE INTERESTED IN THE SCHOLARSHIP

A few days after the last issue of The Octofoil went on the press a letter was received from John Clouser, chairman of the Association's Scholarship Committee. Clouser is dean of men at one of the larger Illinois schools and is well equipped to capably handle the scholarship details for the Association. His letter to The Octofoil that was sent for publication, follows:

### SCHOLARSHIP AT BRAGG

The Ninth Infantry Division Association will award a scholarship during the reunion held at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, in July, 1962.

Applicants for the scholarship must be related to a man who served with the Ninth Infantry Division. The scholarship will be awarded on the basis of acceptance at a college recognized by a regional accrediting association, scholastic record, and need.

Degree of relationship to the man who served with the Ninth will be

considered by the committee when judging the applicants.

Applicants should send a letter to the chairman of the scholarship committee stating: name, address, age and sex of the applicant; name and address of the applicant's parents, the college the applicant expects to attend; vocational goal of the applicant; and the relationship of the applicant to the person who served in the Ninth Infantry Division.

A transcript of the first seven semesters work in high school by the applicant should be included with the letter.

Further information may be required by the committee.

All applications must be in the hands of the committee by March 15, 1962. Send applications to:

J. J. Clouser, Scholarship Chmn.,  
Ninth Infantry Division Assn.,  
200 North Elm Street  
Mount Prospect, Illinois

## Harry Browning's Widow Interested In Scholarship

Under date of Oct. 7, 1961 Arthur Schmidt of the New York Chapter, received a letter from Mrs. Harry M. Browning, 230 Beardsley Ave., Homer, Louisiana. Mrs. Browning is the bereaved widow of Harry Browning, an old 15th Engr. buddy of Schmidt's whose untimely death was recorded in the last issue of The Octofoil.

Excerpts from Mrs. Browning's letter reads:

I would like to express my appreciation for your recent letter and copy of The Octofoil. I shall keep this copy always with my other cherished mementos. My appreciation to you for contacting some others of Browning's army buddies. There were so many he really loved and cherished the memory of their companionship during his war days.

I notice the last paragraph of your letter mentioned a scholarship fund for children of former Ninth Division men. I wonder if it could be possible for this to include Browning's step-daughter, whom he raised from five years of age. After high school she worked one year. After Browning's death she did not see how I could send her since I lost his pay day and he had no insurance, but since he was so very anxious for her to attend college I could not do less than try though I know it will be a terrible struggle financially. It was his wish and I want to carry that out.

I hope if you can find time you will write a note and let me know about the scholarship funds.

Editor's Note: After reading the above it is hoped that individuals and chapters will awaken to the need for small or large contributions to be sent to Secretary Dan Quinn to be earmarked for the Scholarship Fund. There are no doubt many other brilliant children of former Ninth men who want the benefits of a college education and cannot afford the expense—but the Ninth scholarship award can and will be of tremendous help to these deserving young people. The Octofoil will forward the above letter to John Clouser, Scholarship Chairman, at once.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

The divorce rate is heading for a new high. Women are becoming wealthy by decrees.

## "Our Boy" Schmidt Puts 25 Bucks On the Line

One of the latest and largest contributions received by Secretary Dan Quinn for the Scholarship Fund was from Arthur R. Schmidt, 69-20 69th St., Brooklyn 27, N. Y. Art sent his check for \$25 and it has been reported to The Octofoil that the former 15th Engr. lad has made a similar contribution to the New York Chapter Scholarship Fund.

When sending the \$25 check to Secretary Quinn Schmidt wrote as follows:

"I would appreciate you depositing this in the Ninth Infantry Division Association Scholarship Fund in the memory of Corporal Paul Ilves, Co. B, 15th Engrs. Bn. As you know, Paul Ilves saved the day for us in Schevenhutte, Germany, at the time of the German counter-attack on Sept. 22, 1944. He later died of the he courageously covered an acti o p hand grenade with his own body in order to prevent injury to his buddies who were gathered around him on the chow line."

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## THRILLING COMBAT FILM IN COLUMBUS

A large turnout of former Ninth men in Ohio turned out on Nov. 18 to see the combat film, "The Famous Third Army."

The showing was held in the new Post rooms of Paul S. Lawrence, Veterans of Foreign Wars, 2971 East Fifth Ave., Columbus, O.

Lt. Col. Paul Keller, a former motor pool sergeant with the 39th, furnished the projection equipment and operated the show for the group.

New officers of the Chapter were elected but it was too late for this issue to get the results. The slate of newly elected officers will be printed in the next issue of the paper.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## Gen. Westmoreland Enjoyed the Reunion

In letters to The Octofoil since the Detroit Reunion Maj. Gen. Westmoreland writes:

"The Detroit Reunion was an excellent one. As usual, I enjoyed talking to the old-timers and meeting a few of the members I had never met before."

## JOE MCKENZIE FERRETS 'EM OUT WHEN HE GOES INTO VERMONT

In a letter dated Sept. 2, Joe McKenzie, 95 Washington Ave., Waltham, Mass., writes The Octofoil as follows:

Parking is no problem for any ex-member of the Ninth Division who wants to stop in White River Junction, Vermont.

Traveling through that town on my summer vacation I needed some route instructions. I noticed a restricted no parking area. There is where I parked. Then I went looking for a police officer. He was not too far away. As soon as I started to talk the cop looked at me and said "I know you." Alfonso J. Guarino of "C" 84th F.A. was the officer who was keeping the traffic running smoothly. Alfonso saw me a few times at Fort Bragg when he would come down the street to visit his friend and neighbor from White River, who was Joe Albanese of Service 26th F.A.

### LOCATES ALBANESE

While in White River I located Joe Albanese. His home is in Wilder, Vt., a few miles up the road a piece. Joe works in the VA hospital in White River. We couldn't talk very long because Joe was on the job so he invited the McKenzie family up for supper. Joe is an expert chef, gentleman farmer, carpenter, plumber, etc., general handyman as well as a good father and a husband. Joe raises enough vegetables, which his wife preserves or freezes to last through the winter and spring. He didn't say but I would guess that he had some of last season's venison still in his large freezer. His skill at the outdoor grill is unsurpassed. After a delicious meal Joe brought us to Enfield, N. H. to visit the beautiful LaSalette Shrine. By this time it was 9:30 p.m. This beautiful shrine illuminated by hundreds of lights is a must for those touring the Granite State.

### LEW ORTICARI SPOTTED

The next day we met out on the highway another man from Service 26th F.A. Lew Orticiari, our ex-ammunition sergeant is a general foreman on the highway department for the state of Vermont. He has to supervise the maintenance of 185 miles of highway. We had a long enjoyable chat with Lew and were sorry we were not able to see his lovely wife.

### PHONES LEACH

Several days later after covering

more of Vermont and much of Quebec we arrived in Montreal. At night a long distance call was put in to Arnold Leach, 70 Diamond St., St. Albans, Vt., another Service 26th F.A. man. His wife answered and I asked for Arnold. Before speaking 25 words Arnold hollered back "Mac, where the hell are you?" 1947 was the last time I had seen the sheriff as he was called by the gang in Service 26th F.A. So I guess we old men haven't changed too much since we parted in 1945. On our way home we stopped in St. Albans. For five hours we ate, and talked and enjoyed the hospitality of Arnold and Margaret Leach. It was really a nice enjoyable visit.

Any of you men of Service 26th F.A. who travel Vermont will be extremely welcome at White River, Royalton and St. Albans.

During the past year I have had letters from Bob LaDez and Ross Kepple.

Jim Boyle was married since my last letter.

Paul Griffin is back in this country after a trip to Korea.

Elbert Turner, still in the Army, is living in Amarillo, Texas.

We old timers from Fort Bragg who remember Jim Scannell, 26th F.A. Medics, will be sorry to learn of his sudden death. Another medic who was seriously sick but now back teaching school is Ben Kane, Main St., Mendham, N. J. Ben joined 26th F.A. Medics late in '41 and was with us to the end.

Change your records to read:

William B. Sacco, 226 Wachusett Ave., Arlington, Mass.

Daniel J. Looney, 111 Laurel St., Ridgefield Park, N. J.

Paul A. Griffin, 205 Strauss Ave., Indian Head, Maryland.

Elbert Turner, 1207 Gardenia St., Amarillo, Texas.

Burnal Lareau, 557 Oaklawn Ave., East Moline, Ill.

John P. Quinn, 53 Gage St., Worcester, Mass.

James Boyle, 1116 Fourteenth Ave., Homestead, Pa.

Dr. Burton Forbes, Richard Hill and Walter Swenson moved and left no new address. Anyone who does know the correct address of these men should send that information to Joe McKenzie, 95 Washington Ave., Waltham 25, Mass.

## CONGRESSMAN HUGH ADDONIZIO PAYS DUES; SUPPORTS THE DANCE PROGRAM

Where there's a will there's a way. It didn't seem like Congressman Hugh J. Addonizio, 11th New Jersey District, to be forgetting the Ninth Infantry Division Association—even if he is a mighty busy man. So President Pat J. Morano of the Greater New York Chapter hit on the idea of writing the Congressman a letter to his home instead of Washington. This hit pay dirt. In a matter of days Pat received a nice letter from Congressman Hugh enclosing \$5 for the dance tickets and wishing the group every success in the world.

To top this off Mrs. Addonizio sent dues to Secretary Quinn. Instead of mailing a paid-up card Quinn learned that Congressman Hugh would be at some large American-Italian affair in Jersey where he had to shake

hands with some 2500 people—but that didn't phase the Association's secretary. He sallies forth to this shindig, sweats out the line and tells the Congressman who he is. He got a promise that the solon would try and be more active and hoped the New York outfit landed the Reunion during the World's Fair so he could attend.

### SID KOBRIN HEARD FROM

In looking over stubs for the tickets sold Greater New York Secretary Dom Miele found a short note from Sid Kobrin with a check to pay for his tickets and apologizing for not being able to attend but assuring him that when Mitchell Seth gets a little older they'll take them all in.

## Pat Morano's Letters to New Yorkers Keeps Interest At An All-Time High

Each month President Pat Morano of the New York Chapter prepares well written and brief open letters to all the members. Matters of interest to the members are made a part of the letter. Announcements of events slated and progress being made by the various committees are given to the members in detail. These letters have no doubt helped spur on the members and committeemen in their efforts to assure success of the various projects the New York Chapter takes part in.

Attendance at meetings has been very good. Of course his announcement that some refreshments and a snack or two after the meeting does not hinder getting a good crowd out for these meetings.

### COMPETITION

For the Saturday, Nov. 25 Fall Dance the President hit on an idea of unit competition for the largest number to attend the dance from a designated unit. Keen and friendly competition is always helpful.

In the October letter much stress was placed on the functions of the recently established Policy Committee for presentation of problems to the National Board of Governors. It is only fair to report that Presi-

dent Morano's successful administration is made easier by having a wide awake treasurer and secretary along with two active vice presidents.

Nor does the New York Chapter prexy confine himself to monthly meeting notices that also embrace many of his recommendations. If the occasion warrants the issuance of a special bulletin or letter he will get one of those out in nothing flat.

No one could or would sacrifice the time these New York officers do unless they were dedicated to a soul inspired principle to keep alive the esprit de corps of the Ninth Infantry Division Association.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

### ARMY NEEDS DOGS

An immediate need for 200 German Shepherd dogs to be trained for sentry duty at Army missile sites has been announced.

The Army Quartermaster Corps, purchaser for both Army and Air Force, advise this emergency requirement is the first increment of 1,200 of these dogs to be purchased.

Persons interested in selling qualified animals should contact Army Animal Procurement Office, Box 52, Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

## PHILADELPHIA GROUP HAS SOME INTERESTING THINGS PLANNED FOR MEMBERS IN THAT AREA

It seems like old times when news notes start coming in from the Philadelphia Chapter. Recently The Octofoil received a very newsy letter from Raymond M. Connolly, Chairman of the Philadelphia Chapter's Publicity Committee, 9528 Krewstown Road, Philadelphia 15, Pa. The letter reads:

Just a few lines to let you know what the Philadelphia chapter is doing these days. As you can imagine we are very pleased to have our own John Sabato as the new President of the Association, and we are sure that he will do all that can possibly be done to further the ideals of the Association. John is a tireless worker at all things, but where the Association is concerned his efforts seem to be super-human.

### GET-TOGETHER DEC. 2

Our regular monthly meeting was held Friday, Oct. 27, and another event was announced and we would like for it to be inserted in the next issue of The Octofoil so that some of the more retiring members of the Chapter will be informed. This event is the second in a planned series of SOCIAL NIGHTS which will take place at the AMVETS, MAYFAIR POST No. 386, State Road and Princeton Avenue, on December 2, 1961. There will be music, dancing, elbow bending, story telling, etc., and those of the gang that attended last year could hardly wait for the next 365 days, but it finally has arrived. In case some of those "retired" members are interested, the entertainment committee consists of Bud Pollock, Vic Butswinkus and "Reds" McDougal. We sincerely promise all that attend a very, very good time.

## Mrs. Rumenapp's Dad Laid to Rest in Florida

Under date of Oct. 2 Secretary Dan Quinn received a letter from Titusville, Fla., signed by Betty Rumenapp. Betty is the wife of "Slim" Bob Rumenapp, Board member and secretary of the Greater Michigan Chapter. Mrs. Rumenapp relayed the sad information that her father had recently passed away and they were in Florida because of this sad occasion. The Octofoil extends to Mrs. Rumenapp and other members of the bereaved family sincere sympathy in the loss of an irreplaceable loved one.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## NEW YORK'S MYSTERY CABBIE PROLIFIC WRITER

During the past month The Octofoil has received from the New York City combat veteran cabbie, Victor Marcone money for two subscriptions to The Octofoil. One of these goes to William Bell, 1466 New York Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y. The other to Alfred W. Rotundie, of 22-35 23rd St., commander of the Flushing Chapter of the Disabled American War Veterans, who received a commendation from the police in 1955 when at the risk of his life he pulled some people out of a burning wreck in Long Island City. The Octofoil gratefully acknowledges these subscriptions from Marcone. He has likewise made a small donation to the New York Chapter Welfare Fund. During the month he also requested Nick Kenny, a New York newspaper columnist to mention the fact that George Dohmann, a New York Chapter member, was in the Kingsbridge Rd. VA hospital in the Bronx.

However, the New York Chapter has requested The Octofoil to ask through these columns that Marcone, in his future correspondence with the Chapter and the Octofoil give his home or business address where he can be reached—and to advise of the 9th Infantry Division unit with which he served.

The New York Chapter's Public Relations Officer, Arthur Schmidt, 69-20 69th St., Brooklyn 27, N. Y., Hyacinth 7-3993, advises The Octofoil if he is given the information requested above it might be possible for his group to be of some service to the lad in his fight for an equitable settlement of the taxicab medallion squabble that seems to be raging in that area. The Octofoil has been directed to discontinue quoting excerpts from clippings sent in by Marcone unless the desired information is forthcoming.

The issue of Saga that followed the Jim Beach Ninth Division story had a letter to the editor from Marcone printed that dealt with the Saga featured Ninth Division story. The lad seems to get around and it is hoped he contacts the New York Chapter and gets active with that group.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

### ACROSS THE POND

One of the Philadelphia members, Jerry Nothman, recently made a trip to Europe. He is a member of the Pennsylvania Ski Federation and they recently flew from Philly to Munich, Germany, and from there Jerry's trip took him to St. Moritz, back to Germany and some of his old stomping grounds in Bavaria, and from there to GAY PAREE, and finally home. This covered a two-week period, all of Jerry's wages for the next ten years—but as Jerry says, "It was worth it."

### VISITED WEST POINT

Just to mention the visit to West Point: The Ray M. Connolly family was there in that group and it certainly was a wonderful sight—not only the cadets, but our own General Westmoreland proudly wearing the "patch" that meant so much to all of us.

Ray states: "I am sure that my wife, Dolores, the children, Lynne and Raymond III, can appreciate my pride in the friendship of men who also wore that 'patch'."

### ON TO WORCESTER

A large group went from Philadelphia to the Memorial Services in Worcester. In charge of the "detail" were President John Sabato and National Board Members Jack O'Shea and Alfons Cuprys. The Philadelphia Fire Department's routine kept Philly's Publicity Chairman from going to Worcester.

The Octofoil looks forward to a report from Raymond Connolly on the success of that December 2 get-together in the City of Brotherly Love.

## "NEW BREED" STORY BY JIM LUCAS IS A "MUST" TO BE READ

Jim Lucas, a nationwide syndicated writer recently wrote a series of most interesting stories about the rigid training men are taking at Fort Bragg now for some of the guerrilla warfare they may have to experience. The story by Lucas is entitled "U. S. Warriors—New Breed." Col. R. L. Shoemaker has had reprints of the story made and is distributing these reprints from the United States Army Troop Information Support Unit. The Octofoil proposes to print the Lucas article in full in the next issue.

Former 9th men got some pretty rugged training down in North Carolina, but to read Lucas' story about these special troops the training formerly given wasn't in the category these lads are getting.

A couple of paragraphs from the story reads:

"Much of their dirty work training is done at night. They learn how to waylay an unsuspecting sentry, blow a bridge, mine a road, raid a village or steal food and enemy ammunition.

"Each man must master 27 foreign weapons, plus 14 of ours. They fire them, break them down, put them back together until they know all that needs knowing. They count on looting the enemy's weapons.

"Secrecy shrouds some parts of Fort Bragg like a dense fog."

Look for this absorbing story in its entirety in the next issue of The Octofoil.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## Jack Shaw Helping In Membership Campaign

Jack C. Shaw, a former 47th Inf. man, writes from Trotwood, Ohio.

Jack advises that he enjoys reading The Octofoil from cover to cover and is anxious to hear from any of the old gang. He calls Secretary Dan Quinn's attention to the fact that he recently met three former Ninth men who are working with the Ohio Bell Telephone Co. who are not members of the Association. Sample copies of The Octofoil and application blanks have been sent these fellows, hoping they will become full fledged members soon. The names and addresses of these prospects are: Paul Screechfield, 1801 Parkhill Dr., Dayton 6, O., formerly Division Signal Corps; Carl Forman, Box 108, Laura, Ohio, formerly 3rd Bn. and Hq., 39th Regt.; and Joe Bowman, 1418 Park St., Findlay, Ohio.

Thanks, Jack. If it wasn't for alert members like yourself—the Association would not be the fine organization that it is today!

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

A family man is one who has replaced the currency in his wallet with snapshots.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## FRANK FAZIO HAS BEEN MISSED BY CHAPTER MEMBERS

Illness has kept Frank Fazio from attending some of the most recent Greater New York Chapter meetings and he has been missed for his ever willing hand to help out in anything for the betterment of the Association. The New York Chapter news columns mentioned the death that occurred in Frank's wife's family. This, his own illness and a few other misfortunes that frequently beset mankind explains why Frank has not been as active as he would like to have been. But the Chapter can rest assured he'll be back in there pitching just as quickly as it is humanly possible.

At the Connors' Coffee Shop, at the banquet, everywhere two or more members got together in Worcester—it was always the same question, not only from New Yorkers, but from members who had traveled hundreds of miles—where's Frank Fazio?

The Octofoil joins with the New York Chapter in "rooting" for Frank to get to feeling up to par again very soon.

Art Schmidt, New York's correspondent to The Octofoil, thought it of sufficient importance that those who were in Worcester be told why Frank did not attend the services this November, that he put in a long distance phone call and reminded the editor to be sure and print a notice of why Frank was absent.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## Generals Randle and Smythe Visit Georgia

Gen. Edwin H. Randle (Ret.), 503 Althea Road, Bellaire, Clearwater, Fla., in a letter to Dick Pestel, Columbus, O., explained why he could not attend the Memorial Services in Worcester this year. Father Connors read parts of the letter at the banquet that was held shortly after the Memorial Services. Parts of the letter to Pestel reads:

I am truly sorry that I shall not be at Father Connors' Memorial Mass. You see, Mrs. Randle and I spend part of each summer at Rockport, Mass., and we can't make two such long trips in one year, and for two reasons: (1) My 5-year-old car would give out; (2) Old soldiers are not rich enough to afford long railroad trips; (3) I have done all the flying I intend to do. But I am delighted you are giving me an opportunity to send a message.

Ask Father Connors to extend my greetings and very best wishes to all who attend the Memorial Mass. Scarcely a day goes by that I do not think of the 9th Division, the 47th Infantry, and the wonderful men, both living and dead, who served so loyally and honorably. Others may forget them, but not those of us who stood by their side and saw them unflinchingly accept death as courageous free men. I love them all. A feeling of deep humility comes over me remembering them. And God bless you all—every one.

### TO VISIT ATLANTA

You may be interested to know that on Nov. 4 Mrs. Randle and I are attending the annual dinner of the 3d Battle Group, 47th Infantry, 81st Division, U. S. Army Reserve at Atlanta, Ga.

I have been asked to speak at the dinner (5 minutes, imagine). But I will surely tell of Father Connors' Memorial Mass and try to get across some idea of what a wonderfully outstanding outfit the 47th Infantry Regiment was, and you may be sure I shall not fail to speak of the 9th Division, too.

Later I will give you a report on the dinner. I am told General George Smythe may be there—and other officers of the old 47th that we knew and loved.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

## Frank Maher Loses His Beloved Mother

Noting a footnote on a letter Father Connors recently sent Dick Pestel, Columbus, The Octofoil was saddened to read the following:

"Today I attended the Funeral Mass of the mother of Franny Maher—a lovely lady. I have known Franny's mother for many years. She was a member of St. Peter's parish—where I was stationed for many years."

Francis Maher is a most popular member of the National Board of Governors. His home address is 14 Davenport St., Worcester 10, Mass.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!—

The main obstacle in the way of peace is that the milk of human kindness won't satisfy a thirst for the cream of foreign trade.



# German General Admits Ninth Was Feared

## "AVENGING GHOSTS OF THE 9TH" COME OUT OF NOWHERE AND PUSHED ENEMY TROOPS BACK ACROSS THE RHINE

Many members of the Association, even at this late date, do not know of the unbelievable accomplishments of the Ninth Infantry Division. It is impossible to personally know of happenings other than in one's own unit. Consequently, stories like the one that follows, should be of much interest to the members themselves as well as to the members' families. Tom Henry's most interesting story reads:

By **THOMAS R. HENRY**

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.

For 30 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 Lyautey 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 medieval 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 Bizerte. It flanked the German army in Sicily. It pushed the first holding force into Cherbourg and thus established the first 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.

### GEN. EDDY GREAT LEADER

One advantage the 9th enjoyed—integrity of leadership—for it was commanded by Maj. Gen. Mantion 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 Lyautey 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. Marshall 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.

There followed one of the outstanding heavy-gun movements in history. The great convoy—411 vehicles and 2,170 soldiers of all ranks—left Tlemcen in a blinding sleet storm of a late February afternoon. Through snow and mud, and over narrow mountain roads often covered with ice, it moved 777 miles in eighty-four hours. There was no halt, except for 15-minute stops for refueling. As the convoy, commanded by Brig. Gen. S. LeRoy Irwin, approached the American headquarters at Tebessa, it found the one road jammed with ambulances and service vehicles streaming toward the rear. This was essentially a routed army. Vehicles loaded with soldiers warned, "You are too late. Rommel is moving forward and we haven't got a chance."

The clogged road was a river of mud. Heavy guns slipped over banks and rolled down the mountainsides. One battery commander lost every gun in this way. But the surviving guns went into position and plastered the Germans with a completely unexpected torrent of howitzer and

mortar fire. General Irwin brought to a cold stop the most dangerous prong of Rommel's three-pronged drive.

The 9th then shifted northward to Sedjenane Valley. Attached to it were two regiments of Goums—fiend-faced, brown-turbaned Moroccan highlanders. They went into battle wearing black-and-white-striped, goat-wool robes. Between their teeth they carried long, sharp, curved knives. They were pre-eminently throat cutters. Silent as cats, they crawled through thistle-filled gaps among the speckled rocks in the eerie blackness of desert nights when hyenas were howling. Then they would fall on enemy outposts, leave behind them a dozen throat-slashed corpses, and depart as silently as they came. The tactics of the Goums added immensely to the aura of mystery which enveloped the 9th as its regiments seemed to materialize out of darkness and vanish into darkness again.

### NO ROADS

Gen. Matt Eddy was engaged in moving the division along a 28-mile front through extremely difficult mountain country, with the object of outflanking the Germans and cutting them off on the north and northeast—that is, getting between them and the sea. There were no roads. The maneuver was hampered by almost complete lack of communication.

Success required that an entire division be moved around the flank of a hostile army without detection. Complete silence, invisibility and Goum operations on sentries were essential. Eddy was completely successful. The campaign was over when the 60th Infantry marched into Bizerte on the afternoon of May 7.

### ON TO SICILY

The scene shifts to Sicily. There the wearer of the Octofoil arrived in time for the 39th Infantry to take the desperately held mountain city of Troina, the key to Messina. But history will record the "march of the 4,000 silent men"—Col. Frederick de Rohan's 60th Infantry—as probably the most colorful episode of the Sicilian campaign.

For nearly 100 hours the regiment moved over mountain slopes thick with thorn bushes and across stony mountaintops capped with thin clouds in what essentially was absolute silence. It was a masterly tactical move to cut the one road supplying the city of Randazzo from the northeast. The movement required that 4,000 men with all essential supplies and equipment slide through inhabited mountain country without being seen or heard. The march covered approximately 40 miles. Where short roads were marked on the map, it was necessary to avoid them. About the closest approach to roads which could be followed at any time were goat tracks.

Only a minimum of equipment was carried—one blanket and a few rations by each man. Nights were bitterly cold in the high ravines and among the clouds. All progress was at night. A brilliant full moon made concealment much more difficult. At one time, Col. de Rohan recounts whimsically, the whole strange line was led most appropriately by a "ghost," a role filled by Capt. W. H. Barnwell, of Burlington, North Carolina. The night was very cold. Barnwell preceded the leading company by a few yards, an olive-drab blanket draped over his head. Clouds gave the blanket an ectoplasmic appearance. The captain took slow, measured steps, so as not to knock loose a stone. The idea that the line was led by a supernatural figure seems to have come simultaneously to everybody.

### CONSIDERED A MIRACLE

Achievement of nearly complete silence of 4,000 marching men for four days and nights is still considered a tactical miracle. The men had to move without disturbing the scenery familiar from childhood to all the local farmers, and also without disturbing the ordinary rural sounds, such as the singing of the birds in the bushes or the tinkling of cow-

bells. The latter, by the way, were a serious problem. A favorite ruse of German scouts in the mountains was to wear cowbells. Thus any noise made while moving through the bushes would be attributed to cattle. Day after day the soldiers, hidden motionless in brush patches, had to listen to those tinkling bells without daring to shoo the cows away, and not knowing whether they were bovines or Boche.

Before starting, every bit of equipment was examined to make sure there were no loose parts which would rattle. Selected scouts went ahead of each platoon, feeling every step to make sure of not breaking a twig or kicking a loose stone. The others, in single file, stepped precisely in the footsteps of the scouts. All orders were in low whispers. Hardest of all were the necessary halts through more than twelve hours of daylight. The men, already cramped by the cold of the mountain night, had to crouch in cramped positions, almost motionless. Wagon wheels were wrapped in Army blankets. Colonel de Rohan was forced to use relentless discipline.

Never once was there the slightest suspicion, in this hostile countryside, that a reinforced regiment was passing through. Perhaps never before or again did the 9th Division demonstrate so well its specialty. After the fall of Messina, the anonymity which had veiled the mystery division since it landed in Africa was lifted for a few days. There was no other rift in the blackout until Normandy.

### NORMANDY HEDGE ROWS

In the Gethsemane of the Normandy hedge rows, the division reached true greatness. For nearly a month the American 1st Army clung to a barely tenable toehold, for the most part less than ten miles deep. With the single exception of the 1st Division, General Eddy's men were the only American battle-seasoned veterans in France. They were given the all-important job of cutting the Cotentin Peninsula and taking Cherbourg.

The 47th and 39th Infantry regiments swept into the old port city from the west and north in one of the most brilliant military maneuvers of the war. General Eddy was his own leading scout. Several hundred yards ahead of his own advanced troops, the 9th's commander crawled over the slate roof of a French house to survey below him the red-roofed Villa Maurice, set in a rose garden on a hilltop. Here, according to intelligence reports, was the command post of the German general, Von Schlieben, commander of the city.

### SMOKED OUT

Seeing no signs of life, Matt Eddy and a couple of newspaper reporters went through every room of the elaborately furnished villa. All the time Von Schlieben and 800 men were hidden in the tunneled hill under their feet. Two hours later, the Krauts were driven out when tank destroyers were drawn up before the tunnel entrance and poured in fire from three-inch guns.

The Germans came crawling out with white flags, and soldiers of the 39th Infantry entered to find themselves amidst stores of fur coats, silks, cosmetics and cognac beyond their wildest dreams.

For a few days after Cherbourg the men of the 9th were the most publicized division in the American Army. General Eddy was hailed as probably the country's most brilliant division commander. Then once again the Octofoil-wearing infantrymen marched forward into the cloud of anonymity, not to emerge until the end of the war.

The division was part of the infantry spearhead of the St. Lo-Periers breakthrough. It skirted south of Paris and raced across France. The 60th Infantry crossed the Belgian border, the first Allied troops by twelve hours to bivouac under the black, gold and red of the hungry little kingdom. Through the hole in the Siegfried Line punched by the 3rd Armored Division at Roetgen the regiments of the 9th pushed into the Eifel Mountains in early autumn.

In the pine-scented dusk of the Eifel valleys the men of the 9th remained hidden until, just before Christmas, out of darkness filled with swirling snow and the roar of falling waters, the division again materialized for one of the most dramatic single actions of the war. Von Rundstedt's storm troopers had

smashed against the thin lines of the 1st Army. Directly in their path was the ill-fated 106th Division, composed largely of green troops fresh from the United States. Few of them ever had heard a shot fired in anger.

Most of the facts which follow are from the personal recollections of Colonel Rossberger, Von Rundstedt's chief operations officer. Much nonsense has been written about The Bulge and some quite synthetic heroes have emerged from the confused picture.

### FEARED COL. SMYTHE

"We would have succeeded," Col. Rossberger told me, when I interviewed him in a prison camp, "if it had not been for an American colonel named Smythe. He is the one American officer I would like to meet."

The whole move, he said, had been planned in the minutest detail, but Von Rundstedt had realized from the first that it was a gamble with a slim margin of success. Everything depended on the American 1st Army moving according to classical military tactics.

The German commander was fully aware of the weakness of the green American troops. He also was aware that on the northern flank, based around the picturesque little town of Monschau, was the 9th Division. Von Rundstedt knew the record of the ghost division. A frontal attack against these troops, even with a greatly superior force, Rossberger admitted, was unthinkable. But once the center of the 1st Army was cut to pieces, the textbooks called for a tactical withdrawal of this division to straighten the line. Such a withdrawal would have given the Germans control of the vital Monschau-Roetgen-Eupen highway as a supply road. With plenty of gasoline, Von Rundstedt probably would have been able to push his tanks into Liege, where 1st Army headquarters were established.

But the storm troopers never reached that road. In their path stood the 47th Infantry, the conquerors of Cherbourg. The commanding officer, Col. George W. Smythe, who had been one of West Point's outstanding football players two decades before, was ordered to co-ordinate all American troops in the sector for a last-ditch stand. He had no information of the depth or strength of enemy penetration.

Through the winter forest, Smythe set out in a jeep with only a driver and radio operator. Stopped at the outskirts of Eupen, he was warned that he could not get a mile east of the town before he would be killed or captured.

"At least I will know where the Krauts are," he said.

He found that his radio was tuned in the wrong channel, so that he was completely out of touch with Maj. Gen. Louis A. Craig, who had succeeded General Eddy in command of the division. Soon he ran into roads clogged with American troops retreating toward Eupen. The night was dark and filled with swirling snow—typical 9th Division background.

### ORGANIZES TROOPS

Smythe quickly organized these retreating troops, mostly leaderless and terrorized, around the nucleus of his own regiment. He simply took over command of all American soldiers in the area. That night he organized the equivalent of a full division from stragglers. It became known popularly as the "47th division." The American stragglers wanted to fight; instinctively they sought a leader.

Smythe learned from prisoners that German paratroopers had been dropped behind him. This demanded extreme measures. He ordered all suspicious persons encountered on the roads seized and all cars stopped. Scouts were ordered out in the darkness to pick up all American stragglers. Sergeants and corporals organized companies. Wiremen, following closely behind them, set up a communications system. All this was accomplished in pitch darkness, in densely wooded terrain.

Still there was no contact with the enemy in force. A German paratrooper lurking in the woods was shot. Before dying, he revealed that a force of 300 had been dropped nearby. Strong combat patrols were sent out to find them. At dawn, Smythe had a fairly clear picture of the situation. The main German force had penetrated within 1,000 yards of the foremost new American

position set up during the night. The enemy was advancing through a dense pine forest. There was no longer any question but that the vital supply road was one of his main objectives. Smythe organized defensive positions which made the attainment of this objective impossible. Heavy artillery batteries poured shells on German concentration points. The batteries were supplied for the first time with the new proximity fuse shells from the United States, just released for use of ground forces. The slaughter in the swirling snow was such as never before had been known in battle. The enemy paratroopers were mopped up in groups in the forests where they wandered in confusion.

### DISTORTED STORIES

In three days it was all over. By that time American newspapers were printing their first distorted stories of The Bulge. Actually, Col. Rossberger says, Von Rundstedt never dreamed of success after that. His only object was to save what he could from the debacle.

After The Bulge, the 9th moved over the rain-soaked Cologne plain to another rendezvous with destiny. In a foggy late afternoon a task force of the 9th Armored Division, swooping down the valley of the Ahr, came to the little pilgrimage city of Remagen. There, in front of the armored cars, lay an intact railroad bridge across a broad river. It apparently was unguarded. Within the next half hour, an infantry company, charging across with fixed bayonets while delayed dynamite charges exploded around them, had seized the Ludendorff Bridge. For the first time since Napoleon, soldiers of an invading army had crossed the Rhine in combat.

### BLACKEST NIGHT OF ALL

Then came one of the blackest nights imaginable. Cold rain fell in sheets. Mud was hub deep. Communications back to 1st Army's 5th Corp at Bad Neuenahr was almost entirely by jeep-riding couriers. Capture of the bridge was unexpected. But as soon as the news was received, it was appreciated that this was potentially the greatest stroke of fortune of the entire war. If a bridgehead could be held on the east bank of the Rhine, thousands of American lives, which would be sacrificed in a forced crossing over ponton bridges, might be saved. However, the 3rd Corps commander, Gen. John Miliken, realized also that the enemy would make extraordinary efforts to retrieve an incomprehensible tactical blunder.

Deployed southward from Bad Godesberg—taken by the 39th Infantry—at an average distance of about fifteen miles from the west bank of the river, were the three regiments of the 9th Division. Closest to Remagen was Colonel Smythe's 47th Infantry. It was ordered to cross the bridge, hold the little town of Erpel, which lay under a towering mountainside, and proceed immediately to enlarge the beachhead north and south. Meanwhile the 39th and 60th Infantry regiments were started in the direction of Remagen.

This night rises in memory now as perhaps the weirdest of the war, with the 9th Division in its customary role of an avenging spirit materializing out of solid darkness. In ghostly silence, rain-soaked troops marched through ankle-deep mud. The 47th Infantry, with its supply train and cannon companies, poured across the Rhine into Erpel. They moved along strange trails. Maps were few and inaccurate. Flashlights were prohibited. Orders were given in whispers.

### OVER THE RHINE

By noon next day the regiment was over the Rhine, clinging tenaciously to the east bank under perhaps the fiercest artillery bombardment and jet-plane strafing experienced in the war. The Germans tried desperately to redeem their fatal blunder. Before the day was over, Nazi engineer officers who had failed to blow the bridge died before a firing squad. Every enemy resource in the area was mobilized to drive the 47th back across the Rhine.

But Colonel Smythe's men held, despite heavy losses. Within twenty-four hours, the 39th and 60th regiments had joined them, after crossing the tottering bridge under heavy artillery fire. Then General Craig moved his headquarters to Erpel and became temporary commander of all American troops across the Rhine. The infantry regiments started driving (Continued on Page 8)



## LIST OF MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED THE REUNION HELD IN DETROIT'S SHERATON-CADILLAC HOTEL

Through the fine efforts of the various members of Greater Michigan's Ninth Infantry Division Association, The Octofoil is able to print a list of the members who attended the 1961 Reunion in Detroit. Most of the member's listed were accompanied by their wives and many brought the tots along also. Especial thanks for this list is due Bob Rumenapp, secretary of the Michigan Chapter, and his wife Betty. The list as furnished The Octofoil is as follows:

Major Gen. William C. Westmoreland, Office of the Superintendent, U. S. Military Academy, West Point, New York.

Rev. Edward T. Connors, 9th Div. Arty., 353 Grove St., Worcester, Mass. Sally Brown Stearns, husband, Richard, American Red Cross, Box 1, Peterborough, N. H.

Donald Crosskill, 9th Div. Hdqrs., 1120 Franklin, Fremont, Ohio. Julius Iannotti, Hq. Bty. Div. Arty., 247 Foxon Rd., East Haven, Conn. William H. Lape, Hq. Btry. Div. Arty., 304 Cherry St., Findlay, Ohio. John Brandi, Div. Hq., 400 Buckeye St., Tiltonville, Ohio.

Louis M. Connors, Hqr. Co. A.T. Defense Plt., Chalk Point, Churchton, Maryland.

Elias O. Hopkins, Div. Hqrs., 30 Lewis St., Feasterville, Pa.

**39th REGT.**—Robert Catus, Box 298, Parker, Ind.

John M. Keebaugh, 39th Hqr. Co., Radio Sect., Rt. 5, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

Pearl Nickle, 39th Hq. A.T. Co., 65 N. Brinker St., Columbus, Ohio. William Andrews, 39th Inf. Cannon, 5780 Alpine, N.W., Comstock Park, Mich.

Teddy Miller, 39th Inf., 3d Bn. Medics, 410 S. E. 4th, Washington, Indiana.

Benjamin A. Murell, 39th Inf. Medics, 434 Warren, Hudson, N. Y. Douglas A. Bernhard, 39th Inf. Hqs. 1st Bn., 7063 Kenilworth Dr., Lambertville, Mich.

Samuel Farrauto, 39th Inf., 1st Bn. Hqrs., 352 S. Olden Ave., Trenton, New Jersey.

Wm. M. Kreye, 39th Inf., 1st Bn., 337 20th St., Brooklyn, N. Y. Leonard DeBell, 39th Inf., Co. A, 24248 Curie, Warren, Mich.

Frank J. Albrecht, 39th Inf., Co. B, 13721 Hart, Oak Park, Mich. Frank Russo, 39th Inf., Co. B, 140 Valpeck Ave., Raritan, N. J.

Robert St. Peter, 39th Co. B, 1716 Michigan, Lincoln Park, Mich. Leonard K. Kane, 39th Co. C, 30410 Puritan, Livonia, Mich.

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Leo Matz, 39th Inf. 3rd Bn., 343 31st St., N.W., Barberton, Ohio. Jack O'Shea, 39th Inf. 3d Bn. Hqr., 412 South Ave., Holmes, Pa.

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Glenn O. Moore, 39th Inf., Co. L, 920 Pleasant Ridge, Columbus, Ohio.

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George Kopac, 47th 1st Bn. Medics, 619 Remaley Ave., Springdale, Pa. Ernest Long, Med. Det. 47th 3rd Bn., 517 Bayfair Dr., Bay Village, Ohio.

Charles Reed, 47th Anti-Tank Co., 1268 Baldwin Rd., Lapeer, Michigan. William A. Coen, 47th Inf. Can. Co. 3rd Plt., 1140 Overland Drive, Washington, Pa.

Donald Anthony, 47th Inf. Serv. Co., 5133 Sandra Dr., Toledo 13, Ohio.

Carl Taylor, 47th Inf. Service Co., 208 Bradley Rd., Danville, Va.

P. E. Reale, 47th Inf. 1st Bn. Hqr., 72 E. Sunnyside Lane, Irvington, New York.

John A. Delk, 47th Inf., Co. A, 1st Bn., 28 Asundet Drive, Antioch, California.

Raymond Moses, 47th Inf., Co. A, 222 East Canville, Erie, Kansas. Steve Romas, 47th Inf., Co. A, 1322 Robindale, Dearborn, Mich.

George J. Apar, 47th Inf. Co. B, 330 Fairway Dr., Franklin Square, New York.

Harold H. Hamby, 47th Inf., Co. B, 19472 Faust Ave., Detroit 19, Mich. Pat Morano, 47th Inf., Co. B, 209 Suttons Lane, Edison Twp., Highland Park, New Jersey.

Randolph Brown, 47th Inf., Co. C, 2806 S. 9th St., Arlington, Virginia. Frank Chatto, 47th Inf., Co. C, 9104 Kennedy, Cleveland 4, Ohio.

Alton Le Duc, 47th Inf., Co. C, 2490 Packard, Ypsilanti, Michigan. George Zippel, 47th Inf. Co. C, 81 Sussex Ave., E. Orange, N. J.

Frank Ozart, 47th Inf., Co. D, 2241 S. Marshall Blvd., Chicago 23, Ill. John Korobko, 47th Inf., Hqr. 2nd Bn., 9540 Decatur, Detroit, Mich.

Dan Quinn, 47th Inf. Hq. 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, New Jersey. "Doc" Rishel, 47th Inf. Hqr. 2nd Bn., 645 W. Main St., Geneva, Ohio.

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Bill DeBruyne, 47th Inf., Co. E, 33800 E. Jefferson Ave., St. Clair Shores, Michigan.

Sam "Bill" Buemi, 47th Inf., Co. F, 30811 Bayridge Blvd., Willowick, Ohio.

Robert J. DeSandy, 47th Inf., Co. F, 21119 Sunnydae, St. Clair Shores, Michigan.

Charles H. Jones, 47th Inf., Co. F, 5802 Dryden Drive, McLean, Va. Chuck Koskie, 47th Inf., Co. F, 4334 Hirshberg Ave., Schiller Park, Ill.

R. C. Schumacher, 47 Inf., Co. F, 1529 Main St., Crete, Ill. Daniel A. Roman, 47th Inf. Co. G, 23045 Kelly Rd., East Detroit, Mich.

Harold Stone, 47th Inf., Co. G, 4100 Haughn Rd., Grove City, Ohio. Frank Fazio, 47th Inf. Co. H, 2nd Bn., 820 Mace Ave., Bronx 67, N. Y.

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Herman J. Seibel, 47th Inf., Co. K, 43 W. Manilla Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa. John F. Snyder, 47th Inf. Co. K, 303 S. Maple St., Bowling Green, O.

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**60TH INF.**—Joseph T. Casey, 60th Inf., Hq. Co., 5415 Joy Rd., Apt. 402, Detroit, Mich. Norman L. Martin, 60th Inf., Hqr., Belleville, Illinois.

Barney Tobacco, 60th Inf., Hqr., 38195 Pennsylvania Rd., Romulus, Michigan.

Toivo Kyto, 60th Anti-Tank Co., 1710 Van Evera Ave., Marquette, Michigan.

Robert F. Rumenapp, 60th Anti-Tank Co., 22613 Furton Blvd., St. Clair Shores, Michigan.

Gilbert Tinberg, 60th Anti-Tank Co., 1115 W. Green St., Champaign, Illinois.

Leo R. Gully, 60th Serv. & G Co., 37 E. Quincy, Westmont, Illinois. Walter Niblock, 60th Inf., Service Co., 425 E. 161st St., New York, N. Y.

Nick Kafkas, 60th Med. Det., 22260 Woodwill, Detroit, Mich. Joseph Lipka, 60th Med. Det., 2040 W. 21st St., Chicago 8, Illinois.

Charles B. Alcorn, Hqr. 60th Inf., 1st Bn., 1240 Ralph St., Garden City, Michigan.

Bill Craig, 60th Inf. Hqr. 1st Bn., Wolfdale, Pa.

Lionel Harbord, 60th Inf., Hqr. 1st Bn., 5403 Williamson, Dearborn, Mich. Geo. Bartley, 60th Inf., Co. B, 205 Vivian Rd., Monroe, Mich.

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Steve Urbanyi, 60th Inf., Co. B, 4215 S. Detroit Ave., Toledo, Ohio. Paul Clark, 60th, Co. D, 9800 S. Maplewood Ave., Evergreen Park 42, Illinois.

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Edward Dobias, 60th Hqr. 2nd Bn., 513 Harriett, Lansing, Mich. Adam Krause, 60th Inf. Hqr., 2nd Bn., 6904 Woodmont, Detroit 28, Michigan.

Frank LaFata, 60th Inf. Hqr. 2nd Bn., 616 Capitol, Lincoln Park, Mich. Charles Libretto, 60th Inf. Hqr. 2nd Bn., 30-28 150th St., Flushing 54, New York.

Harry S. Sager, 60th Inf. Hqr. 2nd Bn., 306 W. 4th St., Fostoria, Ohio. Matty Urban, 60th Inf. 2nd Bn. Hqr., 120 E. Chester, Monroe, Mich.

Joseph J. Viviano, 60th Inf. Hqr. 2nd Bn., 14281 Flanders, Detroit 5, Michigan. Richard Martin, 60th Inf. Co. E, 151 Dorset St., Springfield 8, Mass.

Arthur Euler, 60th Inf. Co. E., Bowling Green, Ohio. John H. Allen, Jr., 60th Inf. Co. F, 3916 Wendy Lane, Silver Spring, Md.

Victor Butswinkus (Butts), 60th Inf., Co. F and Hqr., 6265 Ditman St., Philadelphia 35, Pa. Joseph S. Chmiel, 60th Inf., Co. F, 7077 Arcola, Detroit 34, Mich.

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Michael H. Mysyk, 60th Inf., Co. G, 12604 Darlington Avenue, Garfield Heights, Ohio.

Richard H. Million, 60th Inf., Co. H, 110 Main St., Blissfield, Michigan. Joseph Rappazini, 60th Inf., Co. K, Hqr., 3rd Bn., 24001 Sherman, Oak Park, Michigan.

Roger D. Schaeffer, 60th Inf., Co. I, and Div. Hq., 1664 Sunset Drive, Akron 19, Ohio.

Clyde W. Benton, 60th Inf., Co. K, 3rd Bn., Rt. 1, Temperence, Mich. Stanley J. Turowski, 60th Inf., Co. K, 5158 Scotten Ave., Detroit 10, Michigan.

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Charles Fox, 60th Inf., Co. M, 20236 Fairport, Detroit 5, Michigan. Cole Gronseth, 60th Inf., Co. M, 1790 E. Grand River, Okemos, Mich.

A. J. Moore, 60th Inf., Co. M, 21351 Seminole, Southfield, Michigan. Bill Phelps, 60th Inf., Co. M, Hqr., A Co. and H Co., 2228 Emmons, Warren, Michigan.

Jack D. Robinson, 60th Inf. Co. M, 1300 Soper Ave., Midland, Mich.

**26TH F.A.**—William C. Andrews, 26th F.A. Serv., 5780 Alpine, N.W., Comstock Park, Michigan.

John Boden, 26th F.A., C Bty., Box 58, Chester, Pa. John Clouser, 26th F.A., Hqr. Btry., 200 N. Elm, Mt. Prospect, Illinois.

Billie J. Martin, 26th F.A., A Btry., 24431 Ross Ave., Dearborn, Michigan. Wm. H. Meadows, 26th F.A., A Btry., 19367 Dale, Detroit 19, Mich.

Chesley Mischler, 26th F.A. Hqr., 264 Frank Ave., Whitaker, Pa. Donald W. Rolar, 26th F.A., Hqr. Btry., 105 Oak Lane, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania.

Alex Wilcopolski, 26th F.A. Serv., 4545 S. Christiana, Chicago 38, Ill.

**34TH F.A.**—Richard G. Alden, Jr., Hqr. 34th Arty., 28336 Maple, Roseville, Mich. Eugene O. Reedy, 34th F.A., Btry. A, 91 Richton Ave., Highland Park, Michigan.

**60TH F.A.**—Michael Bish, 60th F.A., Hqr. Co., 19 Campbell Circle, Duquesne, Pa.

**MORE NAMES OF THOSE WHO WERE IN DETROIT WILL BE IN THE NEXT ISSUE.**

## KREYE WANTS HUMAN INTEREST STORIES RUN AS A REGULAR "DIET"

The Octofoil has Wm. M. Kreye to thank for a real worthwhile idea. That is to run at regular intervals human interest stories of incidents in which units of the Ninth Infantry Division participated. Kreye points out that most all the members have youngsters in age brackets from 10 to 20 now—and they find statistics in authentic histories rather dry and dull reading at times, but they all go for these dramatized short stories such as Tom Henry so ably prepared when he authored "The Avenging Ghosts of the 9th."

Kreye was a Staff Sergeant in the 39th's 1st Bn. His present address is 337 20th St., Brooklyn 15, New York.

Bill Kreye did an excellent job of typing the Henry story from clippings he has with his Ninth Division files. His efforts are appreciated. But that is asking too much of the members who have similar interesting data available. If any such clippings are mailed to The Octofoil for publication the original copy or clipping will be mailed back to the sender in good shape—just as soon as the type can be set.

## MANY ITEMS SENT IN THAT VETS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

The Octofoil is deeply indebted to Art Schmidt, New York Octofoil correspondent for contributions to each and every issue of the paper. One angle of Art's activity that The Octofoil hasn't had the space to take advantage of is of utmost importance to all veterans and especially members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Art is an avid reader of veterans' organizations service magazine. He knows every law that is out in committee in the halls of Congress that affects ex-G.I.s. He has made a hobby of cutting the meaty parts of items regarding legislation affecting vets from all the DAV, VFW, Legion and AMVET publications. It is hoped that at least a couple of columns may be set aside to mention a few of the more important bills so our members may contact their representatives.

An interesting clipping Schmidt sent in during the past week with his legislative clippings was a 5-col. picture of the Brooklyn Army Terminal with the cut caption: Over four decades the Brooklyn Army Terminal has seen millions of soldiers come and go. The transport Uphur prepares to dock with the Ninth Infantry Division. An old picture the papers were using in their fight to retain the Army Terminal.

## GOV. KERNER IN LIMELIGHT

Another 2-col. picture appearing in a national magazine that Art sent in showed the Association's own Gov. Otto Kerner of Illinois signing into law House Bill 529 which authorizes payroll deductions of union dues at the request of state employees.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!

## Members Must Help With Public Relations

President John Sabato has asked The Octofoil editor to double as a Public Relations man for the Association in endeavoring to publicize the 1962 Reunion at Fort Bragg. This is a big order. Some of the Southern newspapers will be put on the Octofoil mailing list in hopes the city and state desks will take advantage of the stories dealing with the Fort Bragg Reunion and use them as reprints—thus getting the message over to many former 9th men in the deep South who know nothing of the Association or the forthcoming Fort Bragg Reunion. Here's where many of our members in the South can come in handy. They can take their copy of The Octofoil to the managing editor of the hometown and ask that a notice about the Reunion being held in the South be printed. Editors will do this if a native requests it much quicker than they will use stereotyped press releases. From time to time The Octofoil will print separately clip sheets and mail to some of our members about the Reunion with a blank space left to be filled in: This information was given this paper by so and so on such and such street. If this is done there'll be former buddies emerging from every nook and corner of Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, Florida, Kentucky and all the rest of those Southern states.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!

We never used to be able to find Grandma's glasses but now she leaves them right where she emptied them.

## Krauts Feared the 9th

(Continued from Page 7)

ing immediate north and south to enlarge the bridgehead for other 1st Army divisions.

## "ERPEL HEARTS"

The 9th sustained some of the heaviest losses of the war during those black nights when they were under a constant rain of death. The men still call wound decorations "Erpel hearts."

It was during the next few days, pushing mile by hard-fought mile eastward into the Rhineland hills, that the 39th Infantry, in which the already semi-legendary Paddy Flint had been succeeded in command by youthful Col. Van H. Bond, introduced a new kind of night fighting. They started capturing towns by artificial moonlight. Beams of giant searchlights were projected through the solid blackness of the forests. The effect was like that of a full moon behind low clouds. The whole battle area was covered with a weird white light in which the soldiers could see dimly 100 feet ahead.

Beyond Erpel, the role of the 9th as the American Army's mystery division ended. It moved northward and occupied the headwaters of the Ruhr River until the Ruhr Valley pocket was closed.

Then, driving eastward and clearing enemy resistance pockets out of the Harz Mountains, it effected a junction with the Russians at the Elbe.

Following V-E Day, the 9th settled down on the Danube as one of the American occupation divisions. The ranks were filled largely with recruits recently arrived from home. Veterans were transferred to return to the United States.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!

## Charlie Johnson Will Visit Gotham Sights

Secretary Dan Quinn has received two letters from Charlie Johnson recently from way out in Ogden, Utah. Charlie was with the 2nd Bn. of the 47th Regt. His address now is 437 28th St. No. 2, Ogden, Utah. The lad from Brigham Young's Mormon territory was to be in New York City and was questioning Quinn about the whereabouts of many of the old timers, especially Harry Fong and Joe Van Achen. The last known address for Harry Fong was 664 Clay St., San Francisco, Calif. Von Achen, who was a Top Kick for E Co., 47th, was last heard from at 80 Timber Trail, Wethersfield, Conn. It is hoped that Johnson caught up with Von Achen and got him back on the Association's active list.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!

## HOOSIER BILL FOX IS BACK IN THE FOLD

Bill Fox writes from 1306 Brentwood Lane, Muncie, Indiana. Bill was a member of the Association back in 1953 but somehow got lost in the shuffle. However he noticed Secretary Quinn's name in a Legion paper and established contact at once.

Quotes from Bill's letter read: "I'm very much interested in getting reinstated in the 9th Division Association. I'd like to start getting the paper again. I'd like to start attending Reunions. But primarily—right now I'm interested in news about the Memorial Services that Father Connors holds in Worcester. "So sorry to have been out of the Association for the past couple of years. I do miss the paper and the news."

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!

## TV Thieves Nabbed—Suspicion On Moore and Pestel Is Lifted

In 1960 when National President Glenn O. Moore and Richard Pestel of Columbus, O., attended the Memorial Services in Worcester, they stopped off in a Jersey town near New York City so as to attend the Chapter meeting enroute to Worcester. Dan Quinn got them reservations in a swanky motel. But Danny has been embarrassed ever since—the same night the two Buckeyes stopped at this particular motel several TV sets from various guest rooms disappeared or in G.I. parlance, were appropriated. A cloud of suspicion has hung over a lot of people since then. Now Secretary Quinn furnishes the Octofoil with newspaper clippings which relate that several more TV sets were removed from the same motel units this year and neither Moore or Pestel were within hundreds of miles of the place. Then in order to get the records straight a North Bergen cop, Henry Brunck, caught the two culprits red handed and promptly threw them in a Jersey hoose-gow.

—THINK ABOUT '62 DUES N-O-W!