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The Octofoil, July/August 1968

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

VOLUME XXIII NUMBER 6

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

July - August 1968

Weehawken, N. J. 07087—412 Gregory Ave.

Association Dues: \$4.00 per year — \$1.50
will be earmarked to pay for The Octofoil.

BOARD ELECTS PRESIDENT

Best Wishes From C.of S.

Since we last went to press many newsworthy events have transpired. For Ninth Division people the most notable of these was the appointment of General Westmoreland as Chief of Staff of The U.S. Army. Every Old Reliable experienced a glow of pride when he heard the news. It's a great feeling to know that an old comrad is "Top Man" in the U.S. Army.

During his career the General served with and commanded many units. Each of these units have a claim on his affections, but his fondest memories are of the Ninth Infantry Division, the unit with which he first went into action against the foes of his country.

Active Member

When time and assignments permitted the General actively participated in the affairs of the Association. He took great pleasure in meeting his old comrades and whenever the Association requested his assistance he was always ready to oblige. During his tour of duty as Superintendent of the Military Academy at West Point he often acted as host for many Old Reliabilities and their families. He took a special interest in their children and many young men and women treasure the memory of having shook his hand.

Dates Conflict

Upon his return to the States he had hoped that he would be able to join us in Detroit, but all soldiers take orders even Chiefs of Staff. So, when the Army decided that after three years in the Far East it was time for General Westmoreland to undergo a complete physical examination, he had to comply.

Unfortunately the dates set for the check-up and the reunion conflicted, making it impossible for the General to attend the reunion. However he did not forget his old comrades, he sent the following telegram to the Reunion Chairman.

Telegram

"Chairman, Ninth Infantry Division Association Reunion. I thought I had worked out a last-minute arrangement whereby I could be with you for the banquet Saturday night but regret that such is not now possible. At the moment I am a patient at Walter Reed Hospital, undergoing a physical check-up, and will not be released before Monday. Needless to say, I am disappointed at this development but wish you and all the gang a successful meeting. My special regards to Father Connors" signed W. C. Westmoreland, General U.S.A. Office Chief of Staff.

You can accomplish anything if you have patience. You can even carry water in a sieve if you wait until it freezes.

Greetings From Men Serving In Vietnam

Major General Ewell commands the Ninth Infantry Division in Vietnam. These are busy days for the General but he still found time to send a message to the members of our Association. He sent the following teletype to Brigadier General S. L. A. Marshall and requested that it be read to the members attending the Reunion.

"To the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. On the Golden Anniversary of our proud Division, I speak for the Officers and men of the new Ninth Infantry Division in offering our warmest best wishes to the original "Old Reliabilities."

From the banks of the Rhine to the Mekong River, from the alleys of Palermo to the streets of Saigon, the Ninth Infantry Division has met every challenge. In the past, as in the present, the fighting Ninth has proven to be a tough and versatile Division, one feared by its enemies and respected by its friends.

Our Division has been praised by many men in many ways. But perhaps the soldiers friend, Ernie Pyle, said it best in his simple quote "The Ninth is good."

As we stand on a new battlefield, faced with a new challenge, we reflect with pride on the accomplishments of our forebears. Your legacy of courage, determination and a will to win is exhibited by the new "Old Reliabilities" as we carry the fight to the enemy. The contributions of the Division in Vietnam have just been recognized by the award of The Presidential Unit Citation to the entire Division by The Republic of Vietnam.

As you assemble in Detroit to reminisce about the battles of World War II and recall your victories, remember us in Vietnam who fight to uphold the standards you set. Let the next fifty years bring even more glory to the men who wear the Octofoil. Let future "Old Reliabilities" be proud of our record and meet the challenge of being a member of the Ninth Infantry Division."

Ed. Note: The Ninth Infantry Division was organized July 18, 1918, at Camp Sheridan, Ala. while it trained in the United States. The three regiments which would join it in 1940, the 39th, 47th, and 60th, were actively engaged in the war raging in Europe.

Thanks From Outgoing President

I want to thank the Michigan Chapter for their efforts in putting together the 23rd Annual Reunion. Each one of them is to be commended for their efforts in making this a memorable affair. I am sure everyone attending had a wonderful time. Again thank you all.

I will take this opportunity to thank all of the Board Members and committees with whom I had contact. All of you were great. This past year has been a memorable one for me. Thanks to everyone.

Paul D. Keller



BUY U. S. SAVINGS BONDS
AND NEW FREEDOM SHARES

Pick Site For 1969 Reunion

On July 19, 1968, the Board of Governors met in Detroit, Michigan and elected Herbert Olsen President of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Herb hails from Randolph, Mass. and for many years has been an active member of the New England Chapter.

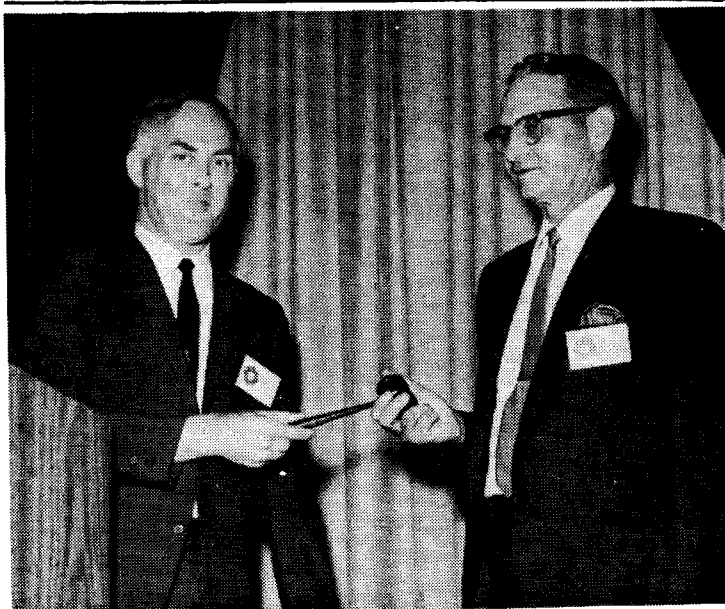
Herb and his twin brother Gerald entered the Army immediately upon graduating from high school. They took basic at Camp Fannin, Texas and then sailed for the E.T.O. and joined the Ninth Infantry Division at Winchester, England.

Served with Raiders

Herb served with G Co of the 47th Inf. During the Normandy Campaign he received wounds that terminated his service with the Division and led to a long stay in hospitals in England and the States. His twin brother Gerald also served with G Co and his name is enshrined in the Monument at Worcester because Gerald is numbered among those gallant men who died in combat while wearing the Octofoil.

Select 1969 Site

The Board also made another important decision at their Detroit meeting. They selected the site for the 1969 Reunion. After much deliberation they decided to meet in a city that many members of the Association call home. It has been a long time since we visited Pittsburgh. The Board felt that the loyal members in this area would welcome the opportunity of attending a Reunion in their own back yard.



Retiring President Paul Keller turns over gavel to his successor.

After discharge from the service Herb studied Architecture at Wentworth Institute and The Boston Architectural Center. Herb's schooling paid off, today he is a practicing Architect with the Howard Johnson Co., a large restaurant and motor lodge chain.

Pauline Olsen is proof that Herb has an architect's eye for beauty and symmetry. They met in 1946 while Herb was attending school and were married in 1949. The Olsens reside in Randolph, Mass. with their two lovely daughters Karen age 14, and Carla age 9. Herb takes an active part in community affairs, he is a Past Post Commander of his American Legion Post and is a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Knights of Columbus.

The Board has made a wise choice. They have selected a man who is truly concerned about the welfare of the Association. A man who will gladly devote his time and his energies to the affairs of our great Association.

National Secretary Dan Quinn has been given the responsibility for getting the Reunion plans underway. When he accepted the job Dan said that he hopes to hear from members in the Pittsburgh area, because he intends to put them to work on the various Committees. This year will be a busy one for Dan and he can use all the assistance you can give him. So let's hear from all you "Old Reliabilities" from the Steel City.

Ladies Elect New Officers

The male members didn't have a monopoly on all the business transacted at the Reunion. The fair members of the Ladies Auxiliary also conducted some lively meetings in Detroit.

When their sessions were over the ladies announced that the following members had been elected to office: Betty Bowden.....President
Veronica Krey.....Vice-President
Tippie Plunket.....Sec.-Treasurer
Estelle McInerney.....Chaplain
Congratulations girls

Worcester Date November 10th.

Father Connors has announced that The Twenty-Fourth Annual Memorial Mass for the deceased members of the Ninth Infantry Division will be said at the Immaculate Conception Church, Worcester, Mass. on November 10, 1968.

As he has in the past, Father Connors will again hold an open house in Connors' Coffee Shop on the Saturday evening preceding the Memorial Mass. The members of his parish are already making preparations for the enticing refreshments that they have traditionally set before the Good Fathers guests.

Anyone desiring further information on the Memorial Mass may obtain it by writing to Rev. Edward T. Connors, 353 Grove St., Worcester, Mass.

The Holiday Inn has 25 rooms reserved for 9th Div. people. These rooms can be reserved ONLY BY WRITING TO THE INN. Be sure to mention the 9th Div. when making reservations

THE OCTOFOIL

Forms 3579 should be sent to 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N. J.
OCTOFOIL ASSOCIATE EDITORS Walter O'Keeffe & Daniel Quinn

NATIONAL OFFICERS

HERBERT OLSEN, President, Randolph, Mass.
VINCENT GUGLIELMINO, 1st Vice President, Floral Park, N. Y.
CHARLES KOSKIE, 2nd Vice President, Schiller Park, Illinois
WILLIAM MEADOWS, 3rd Vice President, Detroit, Michigan
HARRISON DAYSH, Judge Advocate, Kensington, Maryland
DANIEL QUINN, Secretary, 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N. J.
THOMAS BOYLE, Treasurer, 39 Hall Avenue, Somerville, Mass.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1969— John Boden, Chester, Pa. Herbert Olsen, Randolph, Mass. Ralph Witzken, Hillside, N. J. Charles Tingley, Silver Spring, Md. William Andrews, Cornstock Park, Mich.	1971— George Apar, Franklin Square, N. Y. Frank Ozart, Chicago, Illinois Robert Winkelman, Palatine, Illinois James Bruner, Flint, Michigan Charles Jones, McLean, Virginia
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1970—
Peter Cusack, West Roxbury, Mass.
Richard Pestel, Grove City, Ohio
John Rizzo, Long Beach, N. Y.
Richard Wilson, Woodbury, N. J.

Board Member Emeritus
Maj. Gen. Louis A. Craig (Retired)
Honorary Chaplain Emeritus
Father Edward Connors, Worcester, Mass.

The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Single copy price is 25 cents per issue or by mail \$1.50 per year payable in advance when dues are paid. Dues are \$4.00 per year with \$1.50 of the \$4.00 earmarked for six issues of The Octofoil. Members should notify the National Secretary, Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N. J., of any change in address.

Published six times yearly, July-August, September-October, November-December, January-February, March-April, May-June 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.

An extract from the certificate of incorporation of the 9th Infantry Division Association reads: "This Association is formed by the officers and men of the 9th 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 former members of the 9th Infantry Division."

Copy must be received on or before the 10th of each month to guarantee publication on the 20th. Photographs must be received on or before the 5th day of publication month.

Second-Class Postage paid at Union City, N. J. Authorized as of October 1, 1967.
VOLUME XXIII JULY-AUGUST 1968 NUMBER 6

Board Of Governors Hold 88th & 89th Meetings

The 88th meeting of the National Board of Governors was called to order at 5:00 P.M., July 18, 1968 at the Hotel Statler-Hilton, Detroit, Michigan, attended by Messrs: Paul Keller, John Boden, Herbert Olsen, Robert Rumenapp, Charles Koskie, Richard Wilson, William Andrews, Ralph Witzken, John Rizzo, and Peter Cusack. Also attending were Thomas Boyle treasurer, 1st Vice-President Francis Maher, 3rd Vice-President William Meadows and Past Presidents Emil Langer, John Bonkowski and Walter O'Keeffe. Reunion Chairman Robert DeSandy appeared to brief the members on the progress of the reunion.

The secretary Daniel Quinn, read the minutes of the 87th meeting. After a motion duly made by John Boden and seconded by Herbert Olsen it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes as read and place same on file.

Thomas Boyle the treasurer gave a quarterly and yearly financial report. After a motion duly made by Bill Andrews and seconded by John Rizzo it was voted to: Accept the Treasurer's report.

Walter O'Keeffe, Co-Editor of the Octofoil was called upon for his report. Upon a motion duly made by Charles Koskie and seconded by Herbert Olsen it was voted to: Accept the newspaper report and reappoint Walter O'Keeffe and Daniel Quinn as Editors of the Octofoil for the next year.

President Paul Keller then appointed members to serve as Chairmen of the various Committees.

Ralph Witzken briefed the Board members on his committee's progress on the study of the desirability and feasibility of merging or some way linking the Association and the Association of the Octofoil (new Ninth Division). All members on the committee had been contacted and a more detailed report should be ready in time for the Board's meeting held in November in Worcester.

There being no other business to come before the members President Paul Keller adjourned the meeting at 6:50 P.M.

The 89th meeting of the National Board of Governors was held on July 19, 1968 at the Statler-Hilton Hotel, Detroit, Michigan, at 4:15 P.M., attended by Messrs: Paul Keller, Charles Jones, Robert Winkelman, Frank Ozart, Richard Wilson, George Apar, John Boden, Peter Cusack, John Rizzo, James Bruner, Ralph Witzken, Herbert Olsen, William Andrews, Past Presidents Walter O'Keeffe, Emil Langer, John Bonkowski, Francis Maher and John Clouser. Also attending were Thomas Boyle the treasurer.

Upon motion duly made by John Boden and seconded by Frank Ozart it was voted to: Dispense with the reading of the 88th Board meeting.

Upon a motion duly made by John Boden and seconded by Frank Ozart it was voted to: Dispense with the Treasurer's report.

There being no bids from the Chapters for the 1969 reunion the President called for bids for the 1970 reunion site. The Illinois and New York Chapters submitted bids and the Board voted for New York to be the site for the 1970 reunion.

Upon a motion duly made by Charles Jones and seconded by James Bruner it was voted to: Have the National Association sponsor the 1969 reunion and to hold same in the Pittsburgh area.

Election of Officers was held by the Board Members and the following members were elected:

PRESIDENT Herbert Olsen
1st VICE PRESIDENT Vincent Guglielmino
2nd VICE PRESIDENT Charles Koskie
3rd VICE PRESIDENT William Meadows
JUDGE ADVOCATE Harrison Daysh
TREASURER Thomas Boyle
SECRETARY Daniel Quinn

John Rizzo asked the members for a standing vote of "thanks" to Paul Keller the outgoing President. Paul thanked the members for their cooperation during the past year and he in turn called upon the elect President Herbert Olsen. Herb thanked the members for electing him to office of the President and asked for their support in the coming year.

There being no other business to come before the members and after a motion duly made by Robert Winkelman and seconded by Charles Jones it was voted to: Adjourn at 5:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted
Daniel Quinn
National Secretary

MAIL CALL

Treasured Mementoes

The mailman serving 412 Gregory Ave., must be the busiest man in the Weehawken Post Office. The members of the Association keep him on the go delivering their letters to Danny Quinn's doorstep. Here are a few samples from his mailbag.

Forgive me for not sending in my dues on time, so to be ahead of the game, I'm sending \$11.00 for three years.

Hope all is well with you. "Keep out of the hot sun" as my C.O. used to say to us. Have a Good Year and Good Health to all the boys". Sam Robinson - 84th F.A. Milhead, Mass.

I'm sending a three year membership for John's renewal, time seems to get away from me on a one year basis. We enjoy the Octofoil and would hate not receiving it.

John is hoping to make the Saturday night Banquet in Detroit, but his job keeps us from attending the whole convention. We are looking forward to renewing friendships made at the New York Convention.

May I make a suggestion for the Octofoil? Since people like us keep all our Octofoils and don't want them messed up why not place the Membership Application where there will be a big picture or some other item other than news on the back of it.

Mrs. John Kiyawa
South Bend, Ind.

As you can see by the date on my check I intended to get this off some time ago, but I wanted to write this note and send it along. I started to write at home, then took it to the office where it layed in my desk for two months. Then I put it above my sun visor in the car and brought it along to my lot in Pennsylvania, where I am tonight, so will try to finish it.

I believe that I am a charter member, joined the Association at Ingolstadt in 1945 and don't want to be delinquent now.

I enjoy the Octofoil very much but am disappointed that I rarely see any news from the fellows from my old outfit (Weapons Platoon, 1 Co. 60th. Inf.), maybe if you print this it will encourage others to drop a line.

I often sit and think about those days at Bushfield, where I joined the outfit in January 1944, and the evening bull sessions when some of the "Old Guys", Clyde DeLong, Andy Csorfas, Smitty and many others used to tell "The Kid" of their adventures in Africa and Sicily. Boy what you could get for a candy bar or soap, and for an old mattress cover "Wow."

Later on after Normandy there were other fond friendships with Paul Freed, Murphy Parfait, Jim Marney and many others, some who didn't make it, two stand out in my mind at this time, my Platoon Leader, Lt. Bowman and his radioman Minney Henery.

After the war was over we had some good times at Ingolstadt, the beer parties and the swimming at the lake with the cute fraulines.

You know, I don't think that I would want to do it again but I wouldn't trade those experiences or friendships for anything.

I am now settled down to a desk job with Bethlehem Steel at Sparrows Point, have a wonderful wife, an 18 year old daughter, a 20 year old son who is now in the Navy and going to make me a Grandfather in October. Time sure flies, it only seems like a short time ago that we were over there.

I hope to make the next reunion that is held back East. Jim Craft, 1 Co. 60th Dundalk, Md.

Dear Dan:

Thanks for forwarding my membership card. Give my best regards to the "old gang." Walter O. Kraft, 47th Inf. Kodiak, Alaska.

Best Wishes to all wearers of the Octofoil - active and inactive - who so proudly served and still serve the cause of freedom everywhere.
Alfred J. Betar, G. Co. 39th Inf. Chicago, Ill.

Just 22 years after I was discharged from Co. B, 9th Medical Battalion, 9th Division, I have a son serving in the U. S. Navy Fleet Intelligence Center in the Pacific. It may come as a surprise but during his training his officers told him about the 9th Infantry Division.

Anyone wishing to write to Bob can reach him at the address listed below, he would be most happy to hear from them.

Robert M. Laubach, A.N. B-408791 USN, Fleet Intelligence Center Pacific, Box 1275 FPO San Francisco, Calif. 96610.

John Laubach 9th Medics
Bloomsburgh, Penna.

Bill Zweil writes from Greensboro, N.C. Sorry we missed the Mass and Ceremony at Farmingdale, but we had to come here, by way of Hatteras where we were blown off the beach by rain and sand.

If you know of anyone who is in the East Orange, N. J. V.A. Hospital please give me a call. I am Service Officer for Melvin Spitz Post No. 3 D.A.V. and I get up to the hospital a couple of times a week. It is doing me more good than those I help.

Bill Zweil, 47th Inf.
North Arlington, N. J.

Betty and Duco Bowden are vacationing in Miami Beach, Florida and they sent a card that says "So far having a wonderful time. The weather here isn't as hot as it has been at home, always a cool breeze and the water is great. Maybe some day we can all come here, the Bowdens also sent their regards to Julie and Louie Nette. Duco Boden, 26 F.A. Chester, Pa.

Ill health prevented the Rev. Propst from attending the Detroit Reunion but he was with us in spirit. On July 18th, he wrote the following letter to Dan Quinn.

"I shall again miss the annual get-together of the Ninth Infantry Division, as I still have weekly checkups at the hospital for the heart attack which occurred in November 1966, so that at present I do not get too far away from "base".

Looking over some of the materials that I have in a footlocker from World War II, I discovered I have the first Chaplain's flag flown from a base in Africa. Also the American flag that was flying over the cemetery at Port Lyauty, Morocco, when President Roosevelt visited after the invasion of Africa. Both flags are rather tattered, but I was wondering if there is a Ninth Division Museum or a place for repository of Division historical things.

Further, I have a book of some 200 or more pictures, many of them 2" x 2", taken of members of the Ninth during the time of the invasion of Africa through to our training period in England. Many of these pictures are quite interesting. I do not know if you have a file or whether there is any plan to develop a pictorial book of such material. If you have, please let me know, as some of the material I have may be of value to such a project."

A candidate for office needs five hats: One to wear, one to throw in the ring, one to pass around for donations, one to talk through, and one to pull rabbits out of.

Inscription on the tombstone of a waiter: "St. Peter finally caught his eye."

With modern transportation, it's almost impossible to have any distant relatives.

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASS'N. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dan Quinn, Natl. Secretary, 9th Infantry Division Assn., 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. 07087

Enclosed please find 1969 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 ☐

Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund ☐

Three-Year Member \$11.00 ☐

LIFE MEMBERSHIP \$50.00 ☐

Octofoil Automobile License Disc \$.50 ☐

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 give credit to the following Chapter:

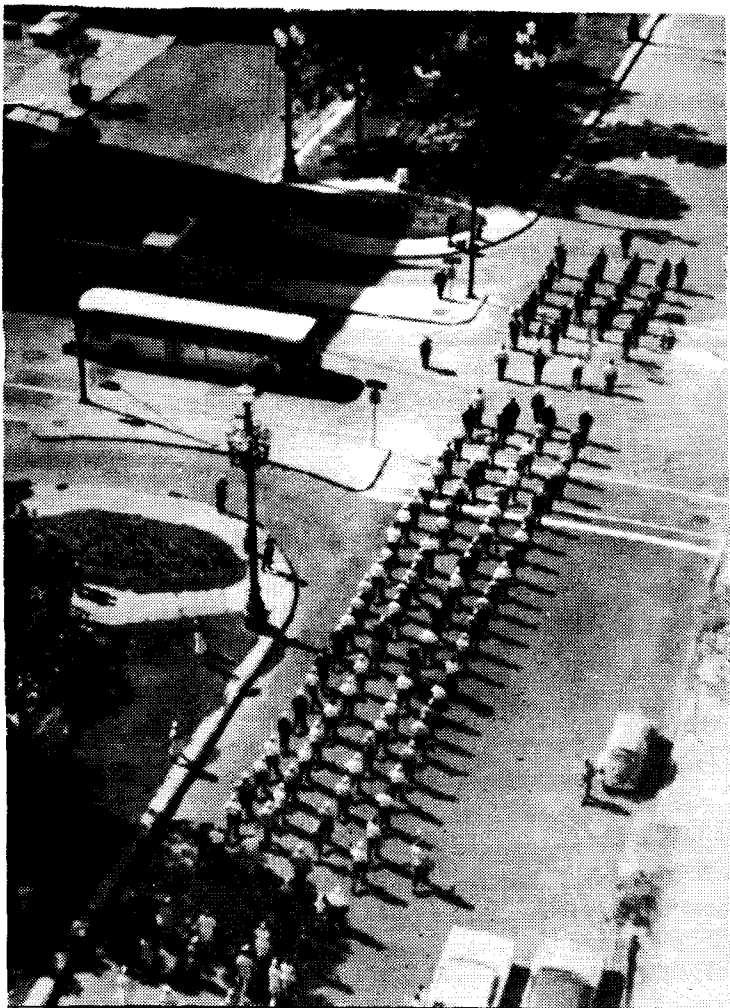
Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐

Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐

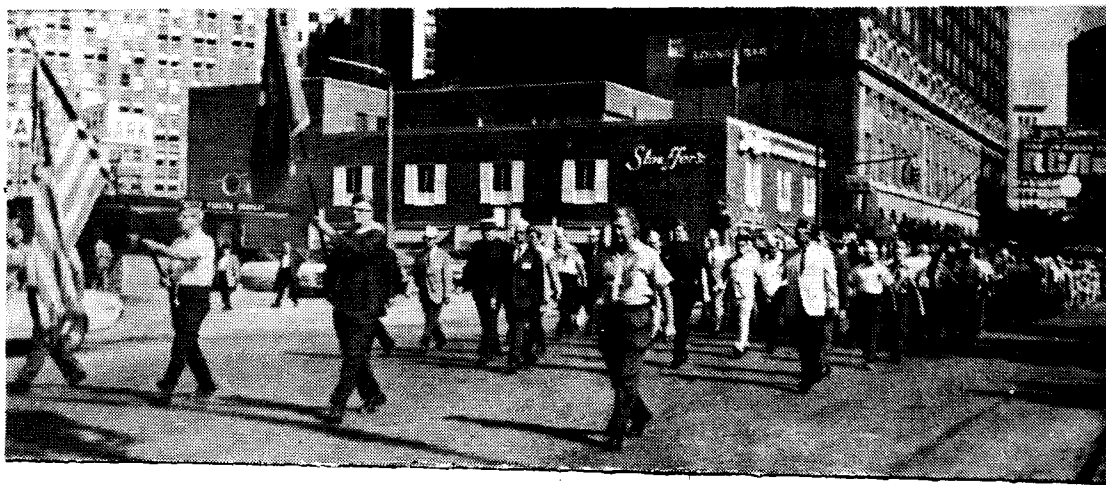
New England ☐ Michigan ☐

Ohio ☐ Fayetteville-Fort Bragg, N.C. ☐

DETROIT REUNION JULY 1968



"Old Reliables" step off in Detroit. Note those straight ranks, the boys can still march with the best of them.



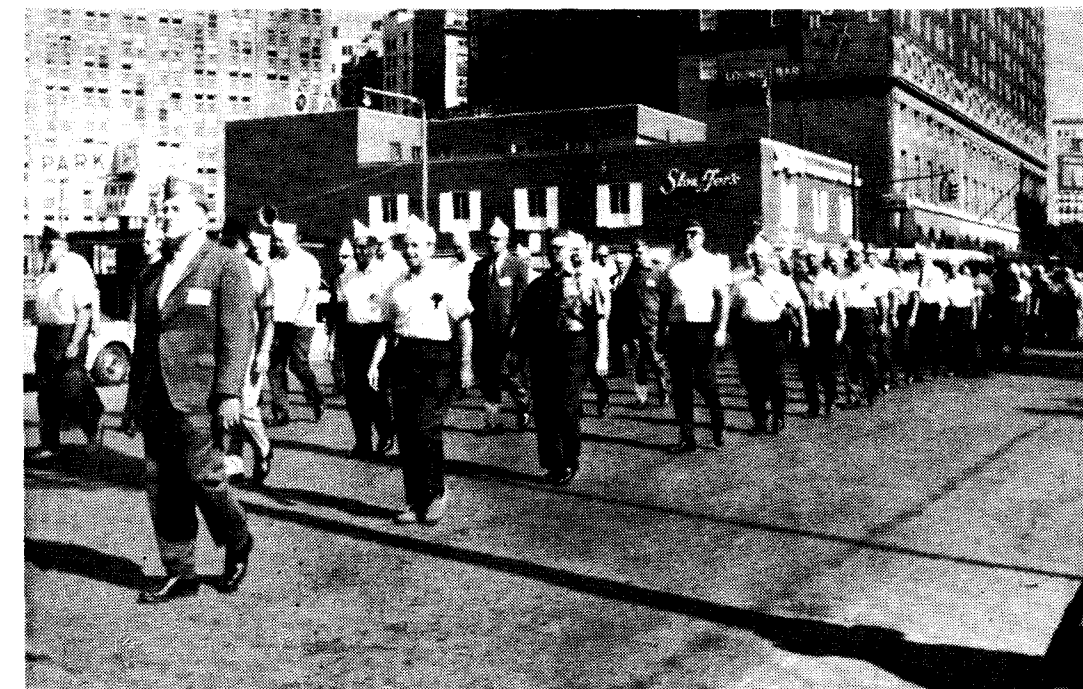
Colors Pass in Review.



Randy Brown and 1st Bn. "Old Reliables".



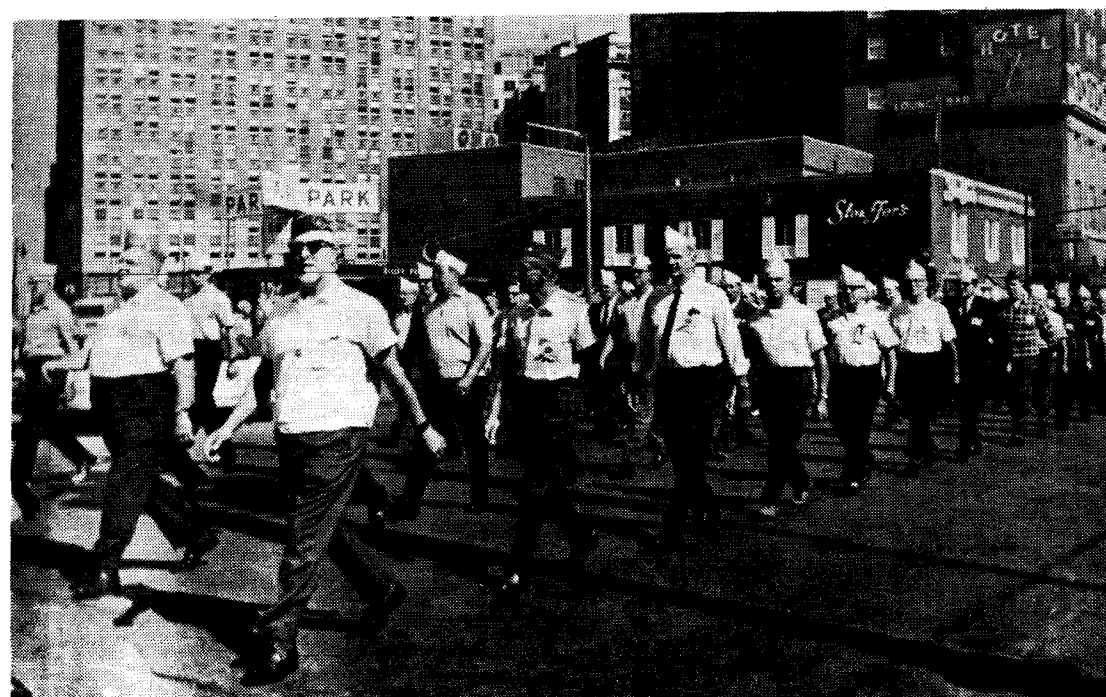
Bob DeSande and Headquarters Detachment "Old Reliables".



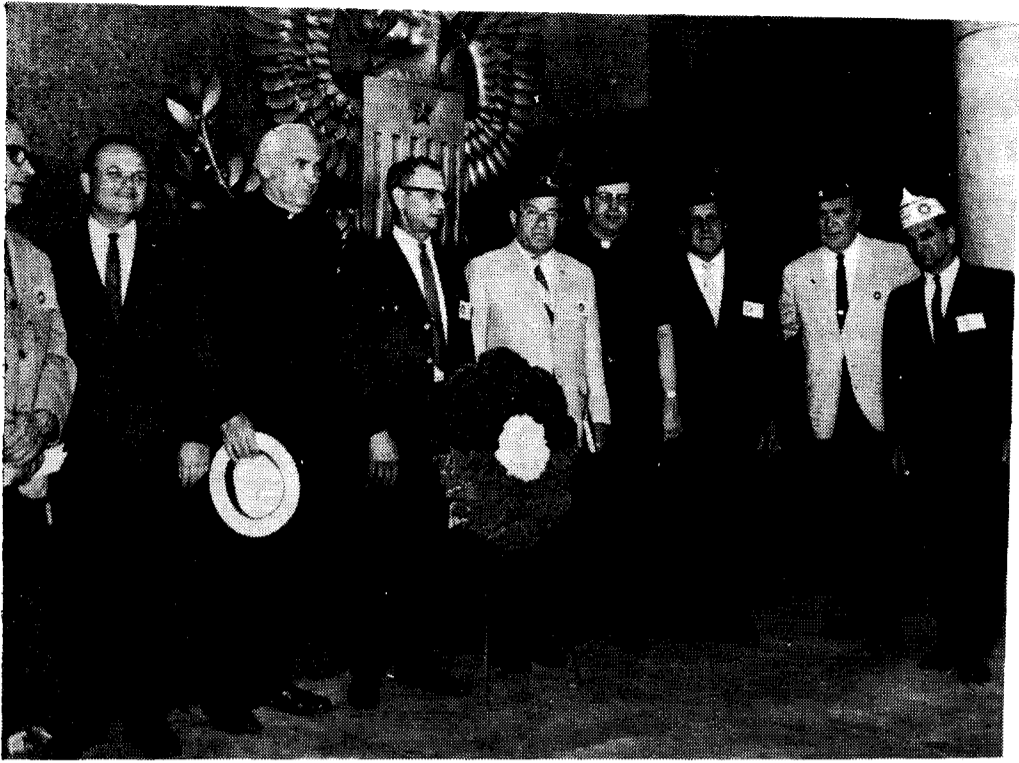
John Clouser and 2nd Bn. "Old Reliables."



4th Bn. "Old Reliables".

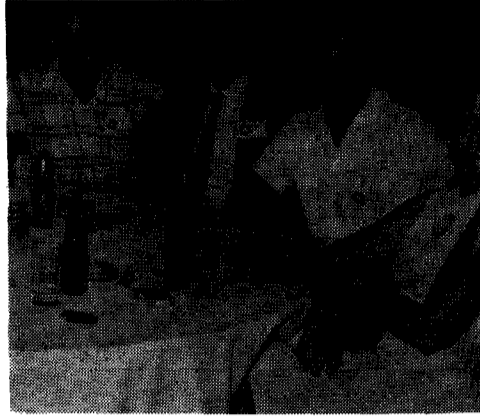


Duco Bowden and 3rd Bn. "Old Reliables".



Placing wreath at Detroit's War Memorial - L to R: Bob DeSandey, Congressman Lucien N. Nedzi, Father Edward Connors, Paul Keller, Ralph Witzken, Father Rowan, John Clouser, Dan Quinn, and John Bonkowski.

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All smiling faces here. Everyone is having a good time.



Another happy group enjoying themselves at the reunion.



The gang from Philadelphia.

Detroit Reunion



Mike Mysek has an attentive audience as he tells his war stories.



L - R (top) Frank Fazio, Herb Olsen, John Rizzo, Father Rowan, George Apar, Dan Quinn. L - R (bottom) Harry Wax, Jack Scully, Ralph Witzkin, Joe Uschak, Bill Klauz, Walter O'Keeffe, and Nick Russick. All but three of this gang served with the 47th. The unfortunate ones are Harry Wax, 39th, Joe Uschak, 60th and Father Rowan 9th M.P. Br.

All the pictures in this issue were taken by Walter J. Victor. Anyone interested in obtaining copies can get in touch with Walter by writing to him at 2745 Dodson Lee Dr., East Point Ga. 30344. Walter has many other Reunion pictures which we were unable to print because of lack of space.



Boys from Q.M.

Ninth, Launching Pad For Ascent To The Stars

During World War II the characteristic most typical of the Ninth Infantry Division was its desire to excel. The Division acquired this spirit during its training days at Fort Bragg and never relinquished it. The veteran Officers and Non-Coms of the Division instilled this feeling in every new replacement who joined its ranks. Each man who served with the Ninth knew that he served with the best Division in the U. S. Army, he also knew that it was expected that he give his all for the Division.

When the war ended and the men of the Division returned to their normal activities, they carried with them this desire for excellence. No matter what profession or trade they selected as their life work they wanted to be the best in their chosen field. It wasn't long before the alumni of the Ninth began to make their appearance on the American scene. From its ranks came a Governor, a Senator, Mayors, Doctors, leaders in education and industry, and some of the best craftsmen in the country. Now the Division has produced a Four Star General, a Chief of Staff. General Westmoreland's elevation to this high rank adds another glowing chapter to the success story that is being written by the distinguished alumni of the Ninth Infantry Division.

We know that every member of the Association is interested in the General's career, therefore we are publishing the following brief biography which was obtained from the Chief of Information, Department of the Army.

William Childs Westmoreland was born in Spartanburg County, South Carolina, March 26, 1914, and graduated from Spartanburg High School in 1931. He attended the Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, for one year and was then appointed to the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York. At the United States Military Academy he was first captain and regimental commander and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Field Artillery upon graduation on June 12, 1936.

His initial assignment was with a regiment of horse-drawn 75mm guns, the 18th Field Artillery, at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. In March 1939, he joined the Eighth Field Artillery of the Hawaiian Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Here he served as a battery officer, battalion staff officer, and battery commander. In May 1941, as a captain, he was assigned to the just organized Ninth Infantry Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, as operations officer of the 34th Field Artillery Battalion (155mm Howitzer).

In April 1942, he assumed command of the 34th Field Artillery Battalion and moved with it later that year to Morocco, North Africa. He commanded the battalion in combat in Tunisia and Sicily. During combat in Tunisia, his battalion was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation.

During the campaign in Sicily, General Westmoreland's battalion was successively attached to the 82nd Airborne Division, and the 1st Infantry Division before returning to its parent division. In March 1944 he was named executive officer of the Ninth Infantry Division Artillery while the division was staging in Southern England preparatory to the invasion of the Continent. Following D-Day, he fought with the 9th Infantry Division through France, Belgium and into Germany. In October 1944 he was named chief of staff of the division, serving in that capacity in continuous combat from the German border to the Elbe River.

In June 1945, General Westmoreland assumed command of the 60th Infantry Regiment in Germany and in January 1946 was transferred to the 71st Infantry Division and, as commander of that division, returned it to the United States for inactivation.

Following training at Fort Benning, Georgia, he earned the Parachutist and Glider Badges and assumed command of the 504th Parachute Infantry of the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina in July 1946. In August 1947 he was named chief of staff of the 82nd Airborne Division, serving in that capacity for the next three years.

He was appointed an instructor at the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, in August 1950. Later that year he was designated an instructor at the newly organized Army War College, also at Fort Leavenworth, and in June 1951 moved to Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, with the Army War College, serving as a member of the faculty until July 1952.

On August 1, 1952, he assumed command of the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team in Korea. While under his command, the unit was twice committed to combat and during the interim was deployed to Japan as theater reserve. The Republic of Korea awarded his unit the Distinguished Unit Citation. During this period he was promoted to brigadier general at the age of 38. In August 1953 he was awarded the Master Parachutist Badge.

In November 1953 he reported for duty as Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff, G1, for Manpower Control. In 1954 he attended the Advanced Management Program of the Harvard Business School in Boston, Massachusetts. He was named to the Secretary of the Army General Staff in July 1955.

General Westmoreland assumed command of the 101st Airborne Division "Screaming Eagles" at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, on April 2, 1958.

In July 1960, General Westmoreland was appointed Superintendent of the US Military Academy at West Point. He was transferred to Fort Bragg, North Carolina in July 1963 at which time he became Commanding General, STRAC and XVIII Airborne Corps.

In January 1964, he reported to duty at the US Military Assistance Command, Vietnam. He was assigned first as Deputy Commander, then Acting Commander and finally, in August 1964 was made Commander, US Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, and Commanding General, US Army, Vietnam.

Taps Sounded

Once again it is our sad duty to announce the passing of another Old Reliable. Mrs. Mary Arghyrou writes that her husband John died on April 15, 1968. John served with M Co. of the 47th Inf.

Gold Star Parents Attend Reunion



L to R Gold Star Parents Mr. & Mrs. Michael McInnery, Mrs. Paul "Tippie" Plunkett and Gold Star Parent Hetta Bullock.

Geo. Apar's Son Promoted

When George Apar left the service he held the rank of First Sergeant. His son Robert seems destined to follow in his father's footsteps. Recently while reading a local Long Island paper we saw this article.

"Robert A. Apar, son of Mr. and Mrs. George J. Apar of 330 Fairway Drive, Franklin Square, has been promoted to sergeant in the U.S. Air Force.

Sergeant Apar is a jet aircraft mechanic at Ramey AFB, P.R. He is a member of the Strategic Air Command.

The sergeant, a graduate of H. Frank Carey High School, attended Hofstra University, Hempstead."

Congratulations Robert, keep up the good work and before long you will catch up with your father.

Q. M. Assembles

At each year's Reunion the boys from the Q.M. get together and recap the past years happenings. This year they were talking about the fact that Richard Alpert, son of Aaron Alpert, had received a Ninth Division Scholarship. Floyd Hennessey revealed that his two sons were in the service, Thomas Hennessey is an Airman First Class, and Paul Hennessey, a veteran of Vietnam, is a Spec. 4 and has just re-enlisted for another hitch.

The Q.M.'s had a good time and Andy Sinare kept them enthralled with his sophisticated stories. At Detroit the Q.M.'s were represented by Gene Berasi, Harry Orenstein, John Saylor, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hennessey, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Palady, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Pitzer, Mr. & Mrs. Andy Sinare, and Everett Tapp and his son David.



Herb Olsen and his brother Gerald, taken in the Spring of 1944 in Bishop Sutton, England.

Illinois Chapter Remembers

June is a busy month for your Editors of the "Octofoil". We try to get the latest Reunion information into the paper, and then try to get the paper into the mails so that it will be delivered before the Reunion. Last issue, in our haste to go to press, we neglected to include some news that had been sent to us by Frank Ozart of the Illinois Chapter.

Frank wrote that the Illinois Chapter conducted a Memorial Service on May 30, 1968. The service was held in Queen of Heaven, Cemetery, Hillside, Ill., at the grave of James J. Sullivan, a former member of the 26th Field Artillery. John Clouser and Bud Reamer led the service and Mike Belemonte, President of the Illinois Chapter, placed a wreath on the grave. Many members of the Chapter were in attendance, some of them traveling great distances in order to be present. Ed Arm and his wife drove over 200 miles from Springfield to Chicago.

After the Memorial Service, Bill Henneumuth invited the members to his home and Mrs. Henneumuth set tables on the lawn and provided the members with samples of her excellent cooking.

We hope that Frank will forgive us for being so tardy in getting his news into print, but we promise to be more punctual in the future.

Old Buddies Meet

Dear Dan:

I have been out of touch with the Association for a few years, ever since the last reunion in New York City.

However, I did have occasion to see Jimmy Hayes who was with Division Hq. AGO. He was kind enough to leave a copy of the May-June Octofoil with me, which of course brought many memories.

Having been a former member of Division Hq., AGO, Jim and I spent a pleasant time swapping stories. Jim lives in Westbury which is the next town, and one evening dropped in unexpectedly with his wife and daughter.

I started with the outfit in January 1941, with K Co., 47th Infantry and was continuously with the 9th Division until June, 1945. Please convey my best to all Co. K, 47th Infantry and all Division Hq. men.

Most important of all enclosed herewith is my check for the 1968 dues, and keep that Octofoil coming. Sincerely,

Murray Morell
12 Sunbeam Road
Syosset, L. I. N. Y.
11791

McKenzie's Report

Joe McKenzie, an Old Reliable from the New England Chapter, faithfully attends all the Association's functions. He has a keen eye for detail and can always be depended upon to give a lively report on these events. This year Joe attended the Detroit reunion and took these notes.

Congratulations are due the Detroit Chapter. You may have been disappointed many times before the final event but you can be sure that everyone who attended your convention left with many pleasant memories. Thank you, for a job well done.

Twenty Six Field Artillery Battalion was represented by Bill Andrews, Bill Meadows, Earl Landon, Joe McKenzie, John Clouser, Dick Wilson, Harold Franz, Chesley Mischler, Tom Boyle and John Boden. Sorry that more were not present.

At convention time many worry about the weather. They think that it is going to be too hot. Thursday was hot. Friday and Saturday the thermometer did not go over 79. That was not bad. The hotel was air conditioned. It was near public transportation, shopping and theatre district. Churches serving all denominations were within walking distance. I would say that the choice of the hotel was an excellent one.

The parade and memorial service were well planned and well executed. At the beat of the drums and at the command of Sgt. Budrick (47 Inf) over 300 men and women marched in perfect column to Cobo Hall for our memorial service. This service is a highlight of every convention. Ralph Witzkin conducted a short service in the Jewish tradition. John Clouser led in the Protestant service while Fr. Connors and Fr. Rowan combined in prayer for the Catholic service. Speeches by committee members and public officials were at a minimum. The day was great, the location was beautiful and the services sincere.

The bus tour was an excellent one. Here are some of the places our obliging bus driver and guide pointed out to us. The homes of the Ford's and Dodge's etc. of Grosse Point. The rich and the poor neighborhoods of Detroit as well as the sprawling Wayne University, were interesting. Tiger stadium, several urban renewal developments and the oldest church in Detroit still standing from Indian days were still more highlights of the tour. Our guide also brought us through the Windsor tunnel, 80 feet under the Detroit river, to Windsor, Ontario. We were allowed about one hour to do a little foot work through their shopping area. A quick look at the University of Windsor and a ride over the suspension bridge brought us back to our hotel.

Next on the calendar of events is our Memorial Mass on November 10th. If you have been in the past I know that you will not want to miss this one. If you have never been then make this the year to attend the greatest event of any veterans organization.

Another Ninth man has been found. Everett Skinner, 205 Brown St. Waltham, Mass. was with Co. A, 60 Inf. 60MM Mortar Section. He remembers Frank Serra and Stan Friedman, Sgt. Morehead and a Russian named Bialon. He joined the 60th shortly after Normandy and was with them until the end.

Minutes 23rd Annual Reunion

The 23rd Annual Reunion of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was held at the Statler-Hilton Hotel, Detroit, Michigan on July 19, 1968. There being a quorum of 54 members present, President Paul Keller then called the meeting to order at 1:20 P.M. A moment of silence was observed for the departed men of the Ninth.

The President then called upon the Secretary, Daniel Quinn, to read the minutes of the 22nd Reunion. Upon a motion duly made by John Clouser and seconded by Frank Ozart it was voted to: Accept the minutes of the 21st Annual Reunion as read and place same on file for the record.

Thomas Boyle the Treasurer was called upon for his report. Boyle briefed the members on the spendings and income for the past year. Upon a motion duly made by John Boden and seconded by William Andrews it was voted to: Accept the treasurer's report. President Keller thanked Boyle for his report.

John Clouser Chairman of the Scholarship Committee was called upon for his report. As the Board of Governors in their Spring meeting already voted to approve the recommendation of awards by this committee no action is necessary at this meeting. Clouser read the list of names that included ten (10) new applicants and five (5) renewals, all related to men of the Ninth Infantry Division. Others serving on this permanent Committee are Doctor David Heller, and Frank Ozart. The Chairman briefed the membership as to how the awards are made according to the scholastic ability and financial need of the applicants. A total of \$2,800.00 was awarded to the following students:

New - Richard Alpert, Fred D'Amore, Jonathan Kocay, Elizabeth Lawell, Joseph McKenzie, Kathrine McKnight, Neil McLaughlin, Guy Meadows, Ann Powers and Regina Wall.

Renewals - Philip Huber, Jeanne King, Vincent Lepore, Barbara Ridzi and Stephen Westrich.

Chairman Clouser went on to inform the membership that as of this date the association has granted the sum of \$13,075 in Scholarship awards to relatives of men of the Ninth.

Upon a motion duly made by Bill Meadows and seconded by Dom Miele it was voted to: Accept the report of the Scholarship Committee.

President Keller thanked John Clouser for his committee's report and added "we owe John Clouser more than we realize for his efforts on the Scholarship Committee".

Art Schmidt was then called upon for his report of the Newspaper Committee. Art named the following members who served on this committee: Emil Wagner, Victor Butswinkus, Bill Hennemuth, and Walter O'Keeffe, Co-Editor of the Octofoil.

The Newspaper Committee suggest the following:

1. To continue the present policy of six issues a year.
2. To ask the current Editors to serve for another year.
3. The story "Pawns of War" be continued as long as space is available.
4. The Committee was in agreement that the idea of sending one copy of the Octofoil to all members (delinquents included) at least once a year with their names in red ink if the members are behind in their payment of dues.
5. Appeal to the membership for news for the paper.
6. Material sent in for publication should be in time for editing etc., on the dates suggested in the Octofoil.
7. Budget should remain the same, \$2000.00 for the paper and \$400.00 expenses for the Editors.
8. Appeal to the members that if they move to send in the change of address to the Secretary's Office.
9. Thank Dan Quinn and Walter O'Keeffe for a job well done as Co-Editors of the Octofoil. Of course never to be forgotten the wonderful job Paul Plunkett did for so many years until his death last summer.

Upon a motion duly made by John Boden and seconded by Joseph Uschak it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the Newspaper Committee.

Richard Wilson Chairman of the Financial Committee was called upon for his report and named the following members who served on his committee: Francis Maher, Frank Ozart, James Brunner, George Apar, and Arthur MacDougall. Thomas Boyle the Treasurer and Daniel Quinn the Secretary sat in on this meeting.

Upon a motion duly made by Francis Maher and seconded by John Boden it was voted to accept the budget of the Finance and Budget Committee as submitted.

The Budget for the year 1968-69.

Anticipated income	
Dues (less commissions)	\$3560.00
Investments	1250.00
Reunion	500.00
Cash on hand	318.00
Misc. sales	140.00
Total	\$5768.00

Anticipated Expenses	
Octofoil (printing and mailing)	\$2000.00
Editors' Expenses	400.00
	\$2400.00

Secretary's Salary	600.00
Clerical Expense	600.00
Postage and Express	400
Printing	200.00
Utilities	400.00
Insurance	91.00
Reunion Gratuities	100.00
Scholarship Committee Expenses	60.00
Social Security	26.40
Memorial Wreath	25.00
Dues Reminders Notice	100.00
Repairs of Equipment	75.00
Supplies	170.00
Treasurer's Expenses	250.00
Secretary Expenses	350.00
Board of Governors Expenses	250.00
Reunion Program	25.00
Bank Charges	50.00
Accountant	100.00
Misc. or petty cash	170.00
Total	\$6442.40

The Financial Committee recommended to the Board of Governors that part of Capital Gains (\$1000.00) be used for expenses but only if it is absolutely necessary. President Keller thanked Richard Wilson and his committee for their report.

Chairman John Bonkowski of the By-laws committee was called upon for his report and named the following members who comprised his committee: Harry Orenstein, Bob Winkleman, and Rev. Jerry Rowan.

Bonkowski reported that the committee recommends the following:

1. That a study should be made through the Finance Committee if changes in dues would correct the financial problems.
2. Study whether the Capital Gains and Life Memberships could be turned into operating expenses.
3. The selection of reunion sites be set up at least two years in advance in order to give the Chapters enough time to work on the program.

Division Has Anniversary

Dear Mr. Keller:

I am pleased to inform you and the members of the 9th Infantry Division Association that the Division's Golden Anniversary celebration in Vietnam was a great success.

As you may already know, the 9th Infantry Division was presented the Vietnamese Presidential Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance during the period December 1966 through June 1968. It was a proud moment for us when the President's emissary placed the streamer on the colors among those earned by the former Old Reliables.

The citation is actually a Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with Bronze Palm, enclosed in a golden frame. It is a Vietnamese Valor Award - Army level, which is equal in importance to our Distinguished Service Cross. We are quite pleased to have added another chapter to the proud history of the 9th Infantry Division.

On behalf of the officers and men of the Old Reliables, I extend our warmest regards to the members of the 9th Infantry Division Association. In the future, let us all remember the living and dead who fought so valiantly to earn the proud reputation that the Old Reliables enjoy today.

Sincerely, JULIAN J. EWELL
Major General,
U.S.A.
Commanding

Upon a motion duly made by John Clouser and seconded by Dom Miele it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the By-laws committee.

President Keller thanked John Bonkowski and his committee for their report.

Herb Olsen Chairman of the Miscellaneous Committee named the following members who comprised his committee: Bud Reimer, Joe Uschak, Bill Andrews and Nick Dogostino. The committee recommends:

1. The Welcoming Party on Thursday evenings worked very nicely with the use of bottle beer instead of draft and suggest that other reunions committees follow this plan. Also suggested the continuation of coffee at these affairs.
2. Main Banquet & Dance-Time schedule
Again recommended that the head table be kept to a minimum in order to limit speakers. Also that speakers (when advisable) be notified that a limit should be placed on their speaking time. Also recommends that prolonged announcements of scholarship awards, Golf trophies, etc., be reduced to a minimum.
3. Scholarships
This committee recommends that the scholarship chairman present copies of names of applicants awarded scholarship to each Chapter for their records.
4. Reunion Sites
This committee recommends that the location of reunion or conventions sites be selected two years in advance in order to give local chapters more time to prepare the convention properly. It is also recommended that the Hotels selected should be new and have swimming pool facilities. Rates should be considered but not be the governing factor in selecting the hotel.
5. Spring Board Meeting
This Committee recommends that the following changes be made in regard to the Spring Board meeting. These meetings have been presently held in Pittsburgh.
 - A. Date to be established such as the third or fourth week-end in April.
 - B. Location of meeting to be held in the convention city of that year.
 - C. That each Board member be notified in writing that he is entitled to a sum to cover his expenses. This committee recommends an increase up to but not exceeding \$100.00.

Upon a motion duly made by Walter O'Keeffe and seconded by John Rizzo it was voted to: Accept the report of this committee.

Charles Koskie of the Nominating Committee then named the following men who served on his committee: Mike Belmonte, John Rizzo, Len Tomasso, Bob Runneapp, Pete Cusack and Bill Nelson. Five Board members are to be replaced and the committee recommends the following members to succeed them for the next three years: James Brunner of Michigan, George Apar of New York, Frank Ozart of Illinois, Robert Winkleman of Illinois and Charles Jones of Washington, D.C. Upon a motion duly made by Francis Maher and seconded by Joseph Uschack it was voted to: Close the nominations.

Upon a motion duly made by John Clouser and seconded by Frank Fazio it was voted to: Have the secretary cast a single vote for the entire slate as recommended by the Nominating Committee.

Upon a motion duly made by Frank Fazio and seconded by James Brunner it was voted to: Instruct the Board of Governors to transfer the sum of \$3900.00 from the Capital Saving Fund and purchase additional shares in Mutual Funds now held by the Association. The dividends from these funds would then be used in the General Fund towards operating expenses.

Ralph Witzken then briefed the membership on his committee's progress on the study of the desirability and feasibility of merging or some way linking the Association and the Association of the Octofoil (the new Ninth Division in Vietnam). President Keller thanked Witzken for his report.

Upon a motion duly made by Harry Orenstein and seconded by Bill Andrews it was voted to: Request the Board of Governors to select the future reunion sites two years in advance.

Upon a motion duly made by Bill Meadows and seconded by Richard Wilson it was voted to: Adjourn at 3:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted
Daniel Quinn
National Secretary

JOHN J. CLOUSER
901 GRACELAND STREET
DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS
60016

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

"Job Well Done" Says Harry Orenstein

Harry Orenstein, President of the New York Chapter gives an eye witness account of the events that took place in Detroit.

"It was a fine Reunion, the Detroit Reunion was a job well done. Bob DeSandy, John Bonkowski, and the other members of the Reunion Committees combined their talents to make this reunion a most enjoyable one, even the weather co-operated. All day Saturday the remark most often heard was that the Detroit Reunion was one of the finest reunions the Association ever had.

The Detroit Reunion Committee sends the following message to all the members and their friends who attended the reunion "Many thanks, for attending the Reunion, may the happy memories remain with you always" and to the members who couldn't attend, the committee sends its best regards.

The Thursday evening beer party got off to a good start. Andy Zelenak and his accordionist put on a great show, his rendition of songs was greatly appreciated. Andy

called for volunteers for the Hoky Poky and many responded for this dance. There was plenty of beer and refreshments for everyone. Friday evening Leo Marchionni's six piece band provided music for dancing, and the members of the Association danced until the wee hours of the morning. Once again there was plenty of refreshments for all.

Saturday was the big day at the reunion. At 8:30 A.M. Father Connors said Mass at the hotel. At 10:00 A.M. the members lined up for the march to the Memorial Services. The 70th Infantry Division Band led the parade, the column of marchers was two block long. The line of march led down Washington Blvd. to the War Memorial Building. At the Memorial, Chairman John Bonkowski introduced the speakers President Paul Keller, John Clouser, Ralph Witzkin, Father Connors, and Congressman Lucien Nedzi. Memorial Services were held for the deceased members of the Ninth Infantry Division.

At 1:00 P.M. four bus loads of men, women, and children left the hotel for a sight-seeing tour of Detroit and Canada. The busses went to Windsor, Canada via the Detroit Tunnel and returned over the Ambassador Bridge, while in Canada the members had an opportunity to do some shopping for souvenirs.

In the evening the members sat down to a banquet in the main ballroom of the hotel. After finishing their roast beef and baked Alaska they were in the mood for some good after dinner talk. General S. L. A. Marshall and Father Connors obliged. The General had just returned from Vietnam and he told the audience of the part that the new Ninth is playing in that nation's fight against Communism. The General remarked that while we reminisce about our victories in World War II the new Ninth Division is trying to uphold the best traditions of the old.

Father Connors recalled his experiences with the Division in World War II and his stories brought back many memories to the Old Reliables who were seated in the audience. He recalled that unforgettable scene at the 1967 Boston Reunion when the members of the Association rallied around the American Flag. Father Connors noted that the Ninth always had a great reverence for their God, Country, and Flag, and that it was this spirit that made the Division so great.

When the speakers had concluded, the Marchionni Band provided music for the rest of the evening, and when he played the last selection another enjoyable Ninth Infantry Division Reunion had passed into history.

The New York Chapter was well represented at the Reunion. Some of the members who were present are George Apar, Steve Budrick, Vallentine DeMaria, Frank Fazio, Julius Fannotti, William Klauz, Emil Langer, Charles Libretto, Dominick Miele, Pat Morano, Walter O'Keeffe, Harry Orenstein, Joseph Russik, Frank Russo, Jack Scully, Joseph Uschak, Charles Warner, Harry Wax, Ralph Witzkin, Gold Star Parents Mr. and Mrs. M. McInerney, Mr. & Mrs. J. Morris, Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Quinn, Mr. and Mrs. John Rizzo, William Kreye and his family and Arthur Schmidt and his mother.