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The Octofoil, July/August 1972

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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Westmoreland Lauds Army's Viet Role

This year when General William Westmoreland attended the reunion, he wanted to be regarded as just another member of the Association. Therefore, there was very little advance publicity about his expected attendance at the reunion. His appearance in Atlantic City caught the local press off-guard. They became aware of his presence in the Jersey resort city just prior to the banquet. The following article appeared in the “Sunday Press”.

"It is a basic constitutional precept," he said, "that the military is subordinate to civilian authority."

"We do what we are directed to do and we do it well," he asserted, "and the nation should be proud of us for it."

The former commander of U.S. forces in Vietnam did not choose to speak on current military issues, but for the most part remained about his days with the 9th infantry in World War II.

To his former war buddies, he said it was remarkable that almost 30 years after they had served together, their camaraderie and loyalty to the 9th division are still strong.

Westmoreland’s arrival in Atlantic City was a well guarded secret. He arrived here at 5 p.m. and was greeted at the reunion banquet with a long and enthusiastic standing ovation.

Retiring President Leonard Tomassone hands the gavel to newly elected President Ronald Murphy. This is the gavel that was used by the late General George Smythe when he was president of the Association. Mrs. Smythe donated it back to the Association.

To all the members of the 9th Division Association, I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation for the honor and privilege of being selected to serve as President for the coming year. I assure you that in matters concerning our Association, I shall always strive to do that which serves the best interest of all.

Letter From Your President

To the members of the Association, I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation for the honor and privilege of being selected to serve as President for the coming year. I assure you that in matters concerning our Association, I shall always strive to do that which serves the best interest of all.

Our next meeting will take place in Worcester on October 21st and 22nd when Father Connors, for the twenty eighth consecutive year, celebrates a Memorial Mass for all the deceased members of the Ninth. This weekend at Worcester is a true picture of camaraderie and loyalty to the Ninth. I met a man and his wife who made the first and last carriages, it out.

To prove that you can enjoy yourself why not make plans to attend our Memorial Mass on Sunday, October 22, 1972. Most people (except housewives) do not work on Saturday so you can travel that day, Monday is a federal holiday. You can take a leisurely ride home on Monday and be full of vim and vigor for work on Tuesday.

A special "Thank you" goes to General Westmoreland. He will always be referred to as General whenever Ninth men gather together. His presence seemed to electrify the crowd. After dinner was over, he was given a few minutes to speak their thoughts and the convention gavel dropped for adjournment the General graciously shook hands and posed for a snapshot with almost all of those in the big hall.

Joe McClellan is ex Nerv medic from Jersey City attended his first reunion. Manny Effron and Dick Wilson are two more Shers who worked many hours to make a pleasant week end for you.

Sincerely,

Ronald Murphy

WORCESTER MEMORIAL OCTOBER 22

Murphy New C.O.
Michigan Doings

This summer has been an active and successful one for the Michigan Chapter. When it came time to shave off for the reunion the gang took Greyhound's advice and left the driving to them. Achartered bus carried the gang from Michigan to the reunion. A "Reunion Special" left Fraser, Mich. on July 26th, stopped at Toledo to pick up more "Old Reliable" and then continued on stop to Atlantic City. Plenty of chow, liquid refreshments, and talent were aboard to time the bus were well documented on tape and film. So the chapter will have a permanent record of this historic event. A preview of these interesting films will be given at the outstate meeting. They should make a good drawing card for this meeting. Some members felt that if everyone left the driving to Greyhound Detroit would soon be experiencing a recession, so these loyal General Motor stock holders drove to the reunion. Altogether 31 members of the Michigan Chapter packed in an appearance at the 1972 Reunion. The chapter's booster drive also went over the top with 52 members placing a booster in the Journal.

Members Elected

Members of the Michigan Chapter didn't go to the reunion safely to enjoy a good time, they also came to offer their services to the Association. Several members of the Chapter were elected to important National Offices.

Bob Delaney was elected to the National Board of Governors. Bob has worked hard for his local chapter and has served previously on the Board of Governors. He will be a welcome addition to the Association's governing body.

The Second National Vice-President for 1973 will be Jim Bruner Jr. Jim is another fellow who has helped to make the Michigan Chapter a going concern. He has served on the National Board of Governors and in various capacities and is able to serve the National in any way he can.

The fair sex also came in for their share of the honors. Betty Rummenig was elected President of the Ladies Auxiliary. Betty is a long time member of the Michigan Chapter and for many years assisted the Chapter in all its undertakings. Betty has attended many reunions and has many friends among the members of our Association.

This year Bill Meadows completed his term of office on the board and he is to be congratulated for his faithful service during the past two years. Despite a recent serious accident Bill still continued to attend the meetings of the board.

Great Picnic

A fine turnout of 36 members attended the Chapter's annual picnic. Dan Lewis, his Dad and brother-in-law Stan arrived very early to build the fire for the troops and were soon joined by Maurice and Ernie Mitchell. It didn't take them long to whip up a hearty breakfast and greet the gang as they made their appearance. The weather was on the cool side but the warm friendly spirit of the Association prevailed and everyone had a lot of fun.

Joseph Rappaport was the lucky fellow who walked away with the top prize of the day, another lucky fellow, Don Lewis was awarded Seven Crowns. This part of the program was a huge success due to the efforts of all the members who contributed to it.

News-Notes

There is no home chapter in Missouri so Jackie and Valerie Gruber requested permission to join the Michigan chapter. The chapter was dedicated to be in business, and they are now on the chapter's mailing list. Florence Delaney was resting at home after her recent operation and couldn't attend the picnic but she expects to be up and around shortly and will be able to attend the chapter's coming event.

There was also some sad news received during the summer. John O'Leary's brother passed away and Vincent Guglielmino lost his brother. The 1972 Reunion was the first one without John and Jane Young and also Elaine Young (no relation). They enjoyed every minute of their stay in Atlantic City. The out-state meeting was held on August 19th and a report was forthcoming on this event.

Applications are now being accepted for the scholarships until October 1st. They should be able to attend the chapter's mailing list. Florence Delaney was resting at home after her recent operation and couldn't attend the picnic but she expects to be up and around shortly and will be able to attend the chapter's coming event.

One again it is our sad duty to announce the death of several "Old Reliables". Leonard E. Radachich - B Co. 64th Infantry Edward E. Cron - Co C 64th Infantry Henry S. Craig - K Co. 64th Infantry

Our deepest sympathy to their loved ones. May they rest in peace.

Help Wanted

Ted Matselik of M Co. 74th Infantry has offered his copy of the October History for sale. Ted is a "small" person and needs some days with a hospital bill. If you are interested, please mail your order with Ted's book. Please mail your order with Ted's book.

A special thanks to those attending the reunion who contributed to the Memorial Fund to the sum of $600.25.

THE MEDITATION FUND OF THE 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

The Memorial Fund of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was established by the members of the association to commemorate the memory of our fallen comrades and the idea of this fund the association established a scholarship program. Scholarships are available each year to members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association and their immediate family members.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

A person who wishes to apply for a scholarship must be related to a member of the Ninth Infantry Division Association and members of the division will be given first consideration. Children of veterans and sons of current service members are also eligible. Children of former members of the division are eligible for the scholarship program.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The following procedures must be followed by those wishing to apply for the scholarship:

1. Send a letter of application, written in expository form, to the chairman of the scholarship committee. The letter must include the following information: full name, address, sex, age and occupation of the applicant's parents or guardian; the name and address of the secondary school the applicant is attending; the name of the association or address of the member of the association who is sponsoring the applicant; the year the applicant expects to graduate; and the name and address of the person who will make a personal inspection of the applicant's school.
The Philadelphia Chapter of the Society of Friends was one of the leading organizations of the early 20th century in the United States. It is a non-profit organization that supports the peace movement and works towards the abolition of nuclear weapons. It is a member of the World Council of Churches and the National Council of Churches in the United States. It was founded in 1919 and has been active in promoting pacifism and non-violence since then. It has been involved in many international peace conferences and has played a significant role in the development of the modern peace movement. The Philadelphia Chapter has been active in promoting the use of peaceful means to resolve conflicts and has been involved in many successful peace negotiations. It has been a strong supporter of the development of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms to replace the traditional adversarial legal system. It has also been active in promoting the rights of women and children and has worked to end human trafficking and child labor. It has been involved in many successful campaigns to promote peace, justice, and human rights around the world.
Eventually, I was transferred to the hospital at Camp Upton, Long Island, New York. It had been assigned as a water front in charge of the barracks personnel. I was only a short distance from one of the buildings and I got soaked from rain water that seemed unusually warm. My activities were devoted to playing bridge at the officers' canteen. In the mornings we had to attend classes for a few hours which were like classes in high school. They had various classes such as math, history, typewriting and a few others. What classes were attended was determined by the individual. I attended to his own typewriting class which actually started me off typing for the book of rules.

Another afternoon, when I left in the morning, the lieutenant who was going to the canteen to get his coffee, asked me where I was going. I had to think of something fast so I replied that I was going to the canteen to allow us to stay in the gym. This was the first time I had been allowed to continue walking on the sidewalk.

On this another occasion, the sergeant came into the barracks and inquired where I was going to the canteen to get my coffee. I was going to the canteen to allow us to stay in the gym.

One morning we were getting a severe storm and they called off the activities of the school to allow us to stay inside. I walked downstairs to the street and the street had two blocks away. As I passed the officers' barracks, I saw a red flag and I was inquiring when I was going. I had to think of something fast so I replied that I was going to the canteen to get my coffee. This was the first time I had been allowed to continue walking on the sidewalk.

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Near Dessau, Germany-May 1945 This could be “Reverse” head-leave. Two men of the 9th Infantry get a dinner from two Red Army Cooks.

This is the last chapter of The Pawls of War. We wish to thank Bill Kreye for allowing us to use this interesting story of the “Old 9th” in the Octofoil for the past several years.

There was one other incident that I would like to mention. On Saturday morning, we had to attend classes for a few hours, which were like classes in high school. They had various classes such as math, history, typewriting and a few others. What classes were attended was determined by the individual. I attended to his own typewriting class which actually started me off typing for the book of rules.

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MINUTES OF THE 37TH ANNUAL REUNION
The 37th Annual Reunion General Meeting for the National Infantry Division Association was held on July 27, 1972 at 1:20 p.m. at the Shelburne Hotel, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

There being a quorum of 45 members present, President Leonard Clouser presided over the meeting to order. The President thanked the committee for their cooperation and asked their support for the coming year.

President Tomassone then called upon the National Secretary Daniel Quinn, to read the minutes of the 37th Annual Reunion. A motion duly made by Al Grinst and seconded by Robert DeFanti was voted to: Accept the report as read.

Tomassone then called upon the Secretary, Nick Dogostine, for the minutes of the 37th Annual Reunion. Upon a motion duly made by Bill O'Shea and seconded by Michael Deresh it was voted to: Omit the reading of the minutes of the 104th meeting of the Board of Governors.

Upon a motion duly made by Paul Keller and seconded by John Bonkowski it was voted to: Shrink the committee for their report.

The Budget for the year 1972-73.

Table: Anticipated Income

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dues</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
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<td>Reunion</td>
<td>500.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
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</table>

Total Anticipated Income: $5280.00

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BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS AT REUNION
The 105th meeting of the National Board of Governors of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was held on July 27, 1972 at 1:20 p.m. at the Shelburne Hotel, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order by President Ronald Murphy at 1:20 p.m.

The President thanked the members for their work at the 1974 reunion. Fred Josey of the Michigan Chapter was thanked for his work and Walter Victor Murphy was thanked for his work.

The President then called upon the National Treasurer, Robert DeSandy for his report. DeSandy thanked the members for their support and asked for their support for the coming year.

The Treasurer reported that the association is in good financial condition.

The President appointed the following members to the nominating committee: Francis Maher, Robert DeSandy and seconded by Michael Belton.

The President then called upon the Secretary, Nick Dogostine for his report. Dogostine thanked the members for their support and asked for their support for the coming year.

The Secretary reported that the association is in good financial condition.

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The Postal Service never seems to take a vacation. Rain or shine, our couriers continue to deliver the mail. Although we took some time off during the summer, the mainman didn’t do our desk is piled high with mail from our members. As usual, I am on top of the pile.

Mike Delianti 2nd Bt Inf.

Calling for payment of my 1972 dues, sorry I’m a little late. I always have money but have never forgottened the experiences and friendships I enjoyed during my time with the Living.

If any of my old Bt. 44th Buddies are ever in Burlington, Vermont, express your greetings to the D.C. I am rarely in my mind and with the 9th and have some wonderful memories of the places we saw, the events we participated in, and the buddies I made.

Now that I’m retired, I have no problem in making the few reunions he has hoped for. I would also like to say to the service on June 30, 1972 with 29 years of service. My wife and I are looking forward to the future right now there are many things ahead of us and I don’t need fixing so for the first time in my life, I am going to be taking care of them. I am sure that some of you have had experience with the 9th and I have some wonderful memories of the places we saw, the events we participated in, and the buddies I made.

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