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The Octofoil, November/December 1974

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Association Dues: \$5.00 per year - \$1.50
will be earmarked to pay for the Octofoil

Volume XXIX Number 6

Nov-Dec 1974

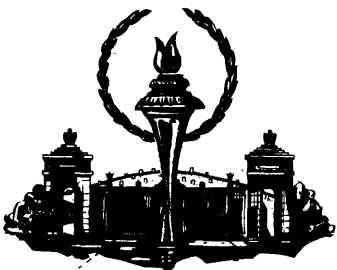
30TH REUNION IN 75

★★★★★★

Taps Sounded

Three, more "Old Reliables" have answered their last roll call and with sadden heart we announce the passing of:

John Rizzo Co. F 47th Inf., Samuel B. Farrauto-1st Bn. Hqs Co. 39th Inf., Leo F. Burdek Co M 39th Inf. May they rest in peace.

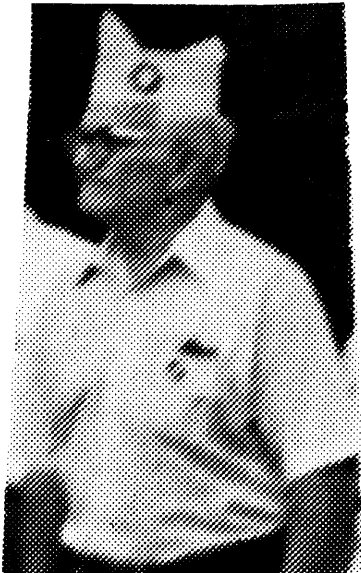


Another beloved comrad and devoted "Old Reliable" has passed on to his eternal reward. Past National President John Rizzo suffered a heart attack and died on December 15, 1974. At the time of the fatal attack John was residing at his retirement home in Florida. John's body was returned to New York and interred in the National Cemetery at Pinelawn, Long Island, New York.

An Active Member

After joining the Association John became a pillar of strength for the New York Chapter. For many years he devoted countless hours to the welfare of the Chapter. No matter what endeavour the chapter undertook, John was always willing to lend a helping hand. When the chapter ran those huge picnics in New Jersey, John was the fellow who conducted the raffle. He spent most of the day on his feet, circulating through the crowd selling raffle tickets. He was a great salesman. His efforts helped to keep the picnics out of the red.

When the reunion came to New York, John was often the Chairman's right hand man. He and his wife Betty could be found at the registration desk working hard getting the visiting firemen settled in their rooms. On the night of the banquet John helped to get the guests to their tables and the program started on time. The Chapter's Memorial Service at Pinelawn was John's idea. Each year he arranged the program and proudly participated as a member of the Color Guard.



John Rizzo's last hike - the march to the Memorial in Atlanta.

National President

John's efforts on behalf of the New York Chapter did not go unnoticed. Many members felt that a hard worker like John could be of service to the National Association. In 1961 John was elected to the National Board of Governors; he served with distinction and was re-elected to a second term in 1969. During his second term in office in 1970 John was elected National President of the Ninth Infantry Division Association, an office that he discharged faithfully and with honor.

Had Many Friends

John's many friends were not confined to the New York Chapter. They were spread throughout all the chapters of the Association. He and his great wife Betty were popular figures at all the reunions and at the Memorial Service at Worcester. During the years they had made many friends and at every reunion they renewed these friendships and made more.

Served with the 47th Inf.

John joined the 47th at Fort Bragg, N.C. During the North African, Sicilian, and Normandy campaigns served with Company F of the 47th Inf. During the Normandy campaign, John was wounded and left the "Raiders" for the hospital. After recovering from his wound, John was reassigned to another unit, but his heart remained with the 47th.

We mourn the passing of our good friend John and we know that we do not mourn alone. His countless friends will be grieved by this report, and when they read it all will throw a silent salute to this "Old Reliable" who was not only a comrad-in-arms but also a true friend. To his lovely wife Betty we offer our heartfelt condolences.



This view shows the skyline of modern Detroit. In the foreground, is Cobo Hall and Convention Arena, the city's \$55,000,000 convention and exposition center. Other prominent buildings are Pick-Fort Shelby Hotel, Michigan Bell Telephone Company, Sheraton-Cadillac Hotel, Hotel Pontchartrain, and the Penobscot Building the city's tallest building.

Detroit, this year's reunion site, is a city with something for everyone. Like the automobiles for which it is famous, the Motor City has something to please everyone regardless of taste or pocketbook. Detroit's many faceted character makes for interesting contrasts.

HENRY FORD MUSEUM

To the west of Detroit, in Dearborn, home of Henry Ford and the empire he built, is the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village. Here, on 260 acres of carefully manicured grounds, is a collection of Americana unmatched elsewhere on the globe.

The village and museum were established in 1929 by Mr. Ford as his personal contribution to the preservation of America's past. More than 1,000,000 visitors tour the exhibits and historic buildings each year, and the complex has been among the top ten U. S. tourist attractions almost since its opening.

The museum itself covers 14 acres and contains vast collections of decorative arts, communications and power equipment, full scale replicas of early American shops and the world's largest collection of restored automobiles.

Scattered throughout the rest of the village are more than 100 historic buildings tracing the development of the American home and American industry from colonial days to the late 19th century. Many, like the Menlo Park laboratory where Thomas Edison lit the first electric bulb and the bicycle shop where the Wright Brothers started man on his way to the stars, were brought from their original sites and reconstructed in the village.

Greenfield Village and the Henry Ford Museum welcome visitors year around. They are a "must" for every first-time trip to the Motor City, and many local residents visit several times each year.

VISITORS SEE INDUSTRY AT WORK

Detroit's industrial-commercial magnificence is a mighty magnet for visitors. Here they can see first-hand much of what makes the modern world function. Tours of the auto

plants are a must. Eleven different makes of automobiles are manufactured in the Detroit metropolitan area. The visitor can see the complete production cycle from lake freighters unloading iron ore to the starting of the car's engine at the end of the final assembly line.

THE ARTS FLOURISH IN DETROIT

The thirst for cultural activity permeating the nation is nowhere more evident than in the Motor City. One of the first projects finished in the renewal of the city's riverfront area was the Henry and Edsel Ford Auditorium where the Detroit Symphony Orchestra under the barons of Paul Paray and Six-

ten Ehrling has established itself as one of America's premiere orchestras. In the summer months, music moves outdoors. Leading soloists appear with the Detroit Symphony in the recently inaugurated Meadowbrook Music Festival, and there are outdoor concerts at the State Fairgrounds and on Belle Isle, a 1,000 acre island park in the Detroit River. The Theatre has found new life in Detroit. Just a few minutes north of the city's heart, in the New Center area, the Fisher Theatre was recently opened. Located on the ground floor of a towering, plush office building, the Fisher has been widely acclaimed as the most beautiful legitimate theatre in the land.

MAKE RESERVATIONS NOW

The attractions mentioned above are only a small sample of the treats that await the visitor to Detroit. A trip to the reunion is the perfect way to spend your vacation. While you are shooting the breeze with your old buddies, the wife and children can be taking in the sights. Make your reservations now, the boys in Detroit are waiting to hear from you.

75 Reunion

in Detroit

JULY 24-26

SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY

THE OCTOFOIL
Form 3579 should be sent to 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087
OCTOFOIL ASSOCIATED EDITORS Walter O'Keeffe and Daniel Quinn.
Richard Wilson, President
530 East Elm Avenue
Woodbury, New Jersey 08076
Vincent Guglielmino, 1st Vice-President
Floral Park, New York 11001
Francis Maher, 2nd Vice-President
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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 (\$5) per year with \$1.50 of the (\$5) 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 a year, 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 their 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 XXIX Number 6 Nov.-Dec 1974

Tip Of The Hat

Mank Thanks to:
Joseph Smith
John Thornton
Anthony Carmeci
for remembering the Memorial Fund.

PAY
DUES
NOW

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dan Quinn, National Secretary, 9th Infantry Division Assn.
412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, New Jersey 07087

Enclosed please find 1975 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\$5.00 ☐
Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund ☐
THREE-YEAR MEMBER\$13.00 ☐
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Ladies' Auxiliary Member\$ 1.50 ☐
Combat Route Map.....\$.50 ☐
60th Infantry History.....\$.50 ☐

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐
Illinois ☐ Washington, D. C. ☐
New England ☐ Michigan ☐
Ohio ☐ Fayetteville - Fort Bragg, N. C. ☐

During October "Chick" Hennen made a sentimental journey back to the barracks at Winchester. He submitted the following report on his visit to the barracks where the 60th Infantry was billeted during World War II.

11 November 1974
(Veteran's Day)

Editor
The Octofoil

For the sake of the record, and those wearers of the Octofoil who staged in England for the Normandy landings, I must report that my wife, Anne, and I participated in an 88th US Army Command charter flight to London in October of 1974 and used that opportunity to re-visit a few spots which I hadn't seen since WWII.

One, of course, was Winchester, where the Ninth Infantry Division lived from November 1943 until April 1944, when it concentrated in the Bournemouth area. The Winchester barracks (Rifle Depot) is now the home of the Green Jackets, a British Army unit which has recently seen a bit of duty in Ireland. For the information of those who lived there -- the place is unchanged. Winchester Cathedral, where the Ninth held a service, is as impressive as ever. The statue of Alfred the Great still dominates the city square.

We also went back to Largs, Scotland, where the Normandy landings were planned in the amphibious school headed by Lord Louis Mountbatten.

Included herewith is a copy of a letter which I wrote to the curators of the Winchester army museum. The Ninth Infantry Division Association might follow up on this to insure our unit a place in their history. Perhaps we could make a formal presentation of our Division history and a history of the 60th Infantry Regiment, which was the unit that occupied the barracks. We got the honor because the barracks belonged to their 60th Rifles, the rear guard at Dunkirk.

Also included herewith is a copy of the newspaper story which appeared in the Largs newspaper and which is self-explanatory.

We thoroughly enjoyed our visits in England and Scotland and I must say that the British seemed to share the same delight.

Sincerely,
Chick Hennen
60th Infantry Regiment

11 November 1974

Mr. Charles E. Robinson
(ex. 60th Rifles)
and Mr. D. Lawlor
The Rifle Depot Museum,
Winchester, England
Gentlemen:

Enclosed is a copy of the picture which you so graciously permitted us to take when we visited your museum on 11 October 1974.

I was the Intelligence Officer (S-2) of the 60th Infantry Regiment when our headquarters elements and our first battalion were permitted to billet at the Winchester barracks from November 1943 until April 1944. Our regimental history book has a picture of our unit attending services at Winchester Cathedral, as well as pictures of Churchill, Eisenhower, and Bradley inspecting the troops in Winchester.

My wife and I, and our friends, Mr. and Mrs. F. Wayne Kufus, very much enjoyed our short stop in Winchester and used the opportunity to visit in Winchester Cathedral and the rest of the city.

Major Mansel was the British officer who was in charge of our billeting at the barracks during WWII, and I understand that he deceased a few years ago. I have pictures of him in my files.

The only disappointment for me in my visit to your museum is that there is no reference to the stay there during WWII of our 60th Infantry Regiment (Ninth Infantry Division). I think some reference might be made to it in connection with a written description of the clubs which were issued during WWII to the officers of the British Army in anticipation of a German invasion. Future tourists, like myself, would be indeed thrilled.

Once again, thank you very much.

Sincerely,
Norbert J. Hennen
Major General AUS (Ret)
4130 Washburn Avenue North
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55412

The LARGS & MILLPORT WEEKLY NEWS (Scotland)
Friday 11 October 1974
page 3

AN AMERICAN COMES BACK

A FORMER Major General of the United States Army, Mr. Norbert J. Hennen of St. Paul, Minneapolis, came to Largs on a flying visit on Wednesday to see again the place where he stayed for two weeks during the war.

Accompanied by his wife and his friend, Mr. Wayne Kufus, Mr. Hennen came to the UK on a two-week holiday starting in London and working up to Scotland. The party return home on 14 October.

During the war, when he was a major with the 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION, Mr. Hennen found himself in Largs staying at the Combined Operations HQ, HMS Wiltshire. This building is now the Hollywood Convalescent Home on the Greenock Road.

Before his short stay in Largs during 1943 Mr. Hennen was stationed at Winchester and after the war he vowed he would visit the town if he ever returned to Britain.

Mr. Hennen called in at the "News" office on Wednesday to find out some information about HMS Wiltshire. By coincidence, he ran a weekly newspaper himself in St. Paul for many years before the war, and is a graduate of the Minneapolis School of Journalism. He is now an attorney and public accountant.

LADIES' AUXILIARY of the NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

I would like to become a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Enclosed is check or money order for \$1.50 for 1975 dues. Please mail my membership card to-

Name

Street

City State

While attached to the 9th Infantry Division (state relationship, whether the Ninth Division man was a husband, father, brother, son, etc.)

was with
give company, regiment, battery, attached unit, etc.)

Make checks or money orders payable to Ninth Infantry Division Association. Mail to
Mrs. Shirley Sabato
2743 Snyder Avenue
Philadelphia, Pa. 19145

COMMISSARY AND EXCHANGE PRIVILEGES: Honorably discharged veterans of the uniformed services with 100 percent service-connected disability, their dependents and unmarried widows are entitled to unlimited commissary and exchange privileges. Honorably discharged veterans of the uniformed services when hospitalized where facilities are available are also entitled to unlimited commissary and exchange privileges.

GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE - PREMIUM WAIVERS: Many veterans still holding their Government Life Insurance and who become totally disabled may be entitled to a waiver of premiums. In order for a veteran to be eligible for a premium - waiver, he must have a total disability commencing prior to his 65th birthday, and the disability must continue for at least six consecutive months. Once a policy - holder's right to such waiver is established, he will not be required to pay any premiums so long as he remains totally disabled. The premium - waiver will not cause any reduction in the face amount of the policy, nor will there be any interruption in the payment of dividends on participating policies while the premium - waiver is in effect. Also, if premiums on a term policy are being waived at the time it is converted to a permanent plan, the premiums will be waived on the converted policy as well. Information on premium - waiver possibilities as well as complete information on all aspects of G.I. Life Insurance may be obtained at the V.A. Office, nearest you.

A headstone or marker to identify the grave of a deceased veteran is available from the federal government.

The family of a deceased veteran may obtain the headstone or marker providing the veteran's last period of service terminated honorably.

A headstone or marker may also be requested for placement in a private or national cemetery to memorialize any member of the Armed Forces missing in action, or who died while in service and whose body is unrecoverable, or was buried at sea.

It is also the policy of the federal government, to replace upon request any grave marker which has become so weather-worn as to be unreadable. The application for replacement need not necessarily be filed by a member of the veteran's family. Anyone having an interest or knowledge of the condition of the marker may apply.

Traveling down road of history

The secretary came across this story while looking over the many records of the Division. As it happened 30 years ago around the Christmas Holidays of 1944 we reflected back through the years and all that happened at that time. All the men that were with us then and of the many who have left us through the years.

DETERMINED RESISTANCE

"The determined resistance of the First Army around Monschau" is credited with being one of the greatest factors contributing to the failure of Nazi Field Marshal Karl von Rundstedt's recent last-ditch offensive against the Allies in Belgium and Germany, according to the world's foremost military analysts.

The failure of his powerful forces to drive a wedge through the American positions in and around Monschau, thus enabling them to smash through that sector and gain the vitally important Monschau-Eupen highway, stalemated all his plans for a consolidation of these troops and the German troops striking from the south, denied him the use of Eupen as a communications center for his projected convergence on Verviers and Liege and, equally as important, made possible the retention of communications already established by the First and Third Armies in north-eastern Belgium and south central Germany.

47th INFANTRY

The task of stabilizing the thinly held line of defense protecting the Monschau-Hofen-Kalterherberg sector was suddenly assigned to the Forty-Seventh Infantry Regimental Combat Team, of the Ninth Infantry Division, which raced southward from its positions near Duren, Germany, to seal a threatening gap already opened in that sector by the hard hitting Germans, and to reinforce other positions still held by one battalion of infantry and elements of a cavalry squadron.

On December 15, 1944, the Forty-Seventh Infantry Regimental Combat Team was located: one battalion north and east of Eshtz, another in Langerwehe, and the third in the vicinity of Hamich.

Besides the organized units comprising a normal infantry regiment, the combat team included: one company of tanks, one company of combat engineers, one company of medics, one company of a tank destroyer battalion, and one field artillery battalion.

END OF

REST PERIOD

To occupy these positions the unit had been forced to terminate a rest period it was enjoying at Camp Elsenborn, Belgium, after being continuously engaged in action against the enemy from June 13 until December 5, in France, Belgium and Germany, with only a total of seven days rest interspersed among 176 days of combat.

While in its reserve-rest status at Camp Elsenborn orders had been prepared committing the combat team to counterattack any penetration which might occur in the Monschau - Kalterherberg sector to the east; a sector then being held by the 99th Infantry Division. Four plans had been designed to counter any enemy thrusts toward this sector, from the northwest, southeast or southwest.

Such precautions were deemed necessary at that time because the 99th Division, reinforced only by the 38th Cavalry Squadron, was defending the Monschau-Kalterherberg sector over a



Monschau, Germany as seen back in 1945 and again a few years ago when Elmer Wagner re-visited the town (shown on the right.)

front of approximately fifteen miles. And because of the size of its front, and the sparsity of troops available to defend such a large sector, no solid front had been established there. Instead, the defenses consisted of a series of screening movements constantly executed by the cavalry squadron through motor patrols, and a flexible line established by the infantry. The latter featured small concentrations of troops around road-blocks set up at important road junctions, and numerous outposts at strategic points along the main line of resistance.

However, when the 47th CT received its orders to move from Camp Elsenborn after a brief stay of only five days it proceeded, not to the Monschau-Kalterherberg sector, but northward toward Duren.

There, during the late afternoon of December 16, word was received of the enemy counter-offensive in the V and VIII Corps sector, which included the Monschau-Kalterherberg area. Two battalions of the CT were alerted. They remained on an alert status until the following day, December 17, when a message from the Ninth Division Headquarters, received at 0500, warned that enemy paratroopers would probably be dropped in the vicinity southwest of Aachen at 0530. The anticipated attack did not materialize.

MOVED TO EUPEN

Later the same day, letters of instructions from Division Headquarters, directed the regimental CT commander, Colonel George W. Smythe, to move his entire unit to Eupen immediately, where it would be attached to V Corps.

No further information was given to the unit commander at that time.

Elements of the 39th Infantry regiment - a sister unit of the 47th - relieved the latter, and the motor movement of the 47th got under way at 1400.

Only one hour and thirty minutes was the maximum time permitted by the division order to have the entire CT mobile and started toward Eupen; a gigantic task considering the hundreds of vehicles necessary to move the

thousands of foot troops comprising the infantry companies, and for whom it would be necessary to secure transportation from the division quarter master company.

However, orders were carried out, due mainly to the experience gained by the CT in its countless sudden movements from one sector to another during previous campaigns in North Africa, Sicily, France, Belgium and Germany. In less time than that set by the division order the first elements of the CT were moving toward Eupen, totally ignorant of their ultimate destination or the tactical situation that would confront them on their arrival in the new sector.

At V Corps headquarters Colonel Smythe who, with members of his regimental staff, had preceded the motor column to Eupen, was instructed to organize and coordinate all American troops defending the Monschau-Kalterherberg sector. But all communications between such troops and Corps headquarters had been cut by enemy forces which had already overrun some sectors of the front. Reports from American elements in the sector failed to include sufficient information as to the actual depth of the penetration made by the rampant Nazis, or the strength of the opposing forces being utilized in the offensive. So Colonel Smythe set out on a personal reconnaissance to secure such information.

"WOULD NEVER GET OUT OF EUPEN"

Warned that he "would never get out of Eupen" before meeting the Nazi forces headed in that direction, Colonel Smythe merely shrugged his shoulders. "If they are headed in this direction I'll at least know where they are, and how strong they are. Then we'll stop them," he said, heading for his jeep.

The radio operator who accompanied the Colonel and his jeep driver had little to do except serve as an additional occupant of the vehicle. The CT convoy was on the road somewhere between Langerwehe and Eupen, out of range of the jeep radio, and the radio channel being used by Corps was not the same as that in which the CT radios were set. So the Colonel was completely out of touch with his own troops and the troops still operating in the new sector.



INVISIBLE FOE

The Eupen-Monschau highway was at this time jammed with troop-laden vehicles and guns, the latter self propelled or drawn by prime movers. But they were American troops and American guns, and all were headed toward Eupen, fleeing before an invisible foe. And despite spot checking of the troops mounted on the vehicles, the Colonel repeatedly failed to secure pertinent information from anyone as to the location or size of the German forces before which they were hurriedly withdrawing. Eventually, however, he met a few troop commanders who informed him that in withdrawing from the area they were merely following orders. Commanding them to follow him, Colonel Smythe continued his personal reconnaissance and arrived in Mutzenich, nine miles southeast of Eupen, without having seen a single German troop. Here he decided to assemble his forces and while awaiting their arrival made plans for the defense of the area.

In the meanwhile, the regimental executive officer, Lt. Col. Donald C. Clayman, had been placed in charge of the CT by the regimental commander during the latter's absence had also failed to secure any pertinent information at Corps headquarters and decided to rejoin the convoy.

Capt. Raymond Valliere, regimental adjutant, in charge of the CT's billeting party also set out toward Monschau seeking an assembly area for the troops. Arriving at Mutzenich he met Colonel Smythe, who allocated sectors to the various units composing the CT, the first motor serials of which were beginning to arrive in the area.

Moving along the main Eupen-Monschau highway, the convoy stretched approximately 5 miles. Though dusk was beginning to fall, the Luftwaffe, making one of its rare appearances in strength, lighted the deepening shadows with flares which hung suspended over areas near Eupen, Roetgen, Lammersdorf and Monschau. The dull thud of enemy shells falling in these illuminated areas added to the din of laboring motors and drew glances of apprehension from the GIs, huddled tense but alert in the slow moving vehicles.

CLUTTERED ROADS

Refugees from Mutzenich, headed toward Eupen, cluttered the north side of the road impeding the progress of vehicles moving west, and reducing the speed of the convoy to snail's pace as they overflowed beyond the center of the highway into the path of approaching vehicles. Conveyances of every description, including horse drawn cars, barrows, baby buggies and improvised

wagons, were being utilized by the former residents of the town as they hurried from the front. All were piled high with the meager possessions and household belongings snatched from their suddenly vacated homes. Hundreds of men and women, young men and children trudged along beside their possessions; a few stone faced and silent, the majority laughing and joking among themselves.

Shortly after midnight, and without having been discovered by the Luftwaffe, the elements of the CT closed in its new area in the vicinity of Mutzenich.

Defensive positions were immediately set up by all units of the CT. Road blocks established and heavily manned by personnel; machine guns and anti-tank guns were emplaced. The CT's combat engineers quickly devised an intricate system of defense demolitions guaranteed to prevent anything but an overwhelming force of heavy armor from the penetrating the area. Paratroopers were known to have landed near the spot so guards were doubled and ordered to shoot all suspicious persons. All vehicles on the road were halted and a thorough identification made of the occupants as German spies, dressed in GI clothing, and riding captured army vehicles, were also known to be operating behind the American lines.

UNQUALIFIED COMMAND

Colonel Smythe had been given unqualified command over the array of heterogeneous troops still remaining in the Monschau-Kalterherberg sector. These troops, later discovery revealed, included: the 38th Cavalry Squadron, with one platoon, Company A, 112th Eng. Bn., Company A, 146th Eng. Bn., Company C, 10th Tank Bn., and Company A, 47th Armored Infantry Battalion, attached; the 3rd Bn., 395th Infantry Regiment, with Company A, 612th Tank Destroyer Battalion, attached; plus the 99th Reconnaissance Troops, 186th Field Artillery Battalion, 196th Field Artillery Battalion, 863 A.A., and Cannon Co., 395th Infantry regiment. These, together with the normal 47th Infantry CT, comprised a force of approximately 7,000 men.

The CT, with its attached units, had been assigned the mission of preventing further enemy penetrations through the lines still held by the 38th Cavalry Squadron, and the 3rd Bn., 395th Infantry.

(Continued on next page)

FEVERISH ACTIVITY

The command post set up by Colonel Smythe and his staff immediately upon their arrival in the new sector was located on the south side of the main Eupen-Monschau highway, near Mutzenich, and was soon a scene of feverish activity. Communication lines had been severed, no definite information as to the location or strength of American units still operating in the sector was available, coherent reports regarding enemy forces were impossible to obtain, and the threat of immediate attack by the enemy was ever present.

However, liaison officers set out in the rain and darkness to locate American units; wire teams followed miles of mud covered lines, repairing them, then tapping them to discover the identity of units with whom they were in communication; telephones began to buzz stridently and the regimental S-2 and S-3 scribbled countless messages that began to dribble in over the wires.

Colonel Smythe and Lt. Col. Clayman pored over maps and discussed the situation with their battalion commanders, commanders of attached units and other unit commanders who, upon discovery, were hurriedly brought to the regimental CP.

PARATROOPERS

A German paratrooper lurking in the woods adjacent to the CP was discovered by a guard and was shot. Before he died he revealed that a force of more than 300 paratroopers were still hiding in the heavily wooded area northwest of the CP, between it and Eupen. Strong combat patrols immediately set out to flush the Nazis from their hiding places but met only small isolated groups of Germans, which they speedily dispatched.

As dawn approached the scraps of information obtained during the night were gradually pieced together and from the assembled jig-saw began to emerge the "big picture."

The Germans had penetrated within a thousand yards of the American's forward positions south of the town of Hofen and east of the town of Kalterherberg. They were also in great strength east of Monschau. But these three towns were still being held by the 38th Cavalry and the 3rd battalion of the 395th Infantry.

The enemy advance in the south had been made through a dense pine forest in which innumerable narrow trails wound and crossed to form a network of roadways over which men, guns and equipment could be moved. However, the attacking force - still of undetermined strength - had never emerged from the forest into the comparatively open draw between Hofen and Kalterherberg, control of which still remained in American hands.

But if, in the woods south of these American positions, the Germans could build a force of sufficient strength to continue their advance northward, and clear the high ground on both sides of the draw, they could then push their tanks and armor through the draw, cutting off both Hofen and Monschau, and eventually severing the Eupen-Monschau highway.



MAIN ARTERY

Should they gain control of this main artery, all American troops in the sector would be isolated and eventually eliminated, while Allied positions as far north as Vicht and Schevenutte would become untenable. Contact with the main Nazi spearhead in the south would also be completed and Eupen, an important railhead on a direct route to Verviers and Liege, would then become the key point to which the Germans could anchor their northern flank defenses.

Therefore, immediate plans were made by Colonel Smythe to absorb into the 47th CT the units scattered throughout the sector; to organize defensive positions that would enable the CT to render instant aid to either the 38th Cavalry



1-4-45 - Three T-2 Tank retrievers were used to pull ditched tank destroyer back onto road near Monschau, Germany after it slid from the roadway in avoiding collision with a jeep. - 899th Td. Bn.

squadron or the 3rd battalion of the 395th Infantry, in the event of an enemy attack; and to eventually bolster the thin defense lines established by these units by committing regular elements of the 47th.

Early the following morning - December 18 - enemy forces attacked an outpost of 395th in the vicinity of the 47th at Hofen and forced to evacuate its position. The second battalion of the 47th was alerted to move to this position and repel what appeared to be an imminent enemy attack, but by 0600 the situation was reported under control.

HEAVY FIRE

Aggressive enemy actions continued and indications pointed toward another possible attack in the wooded areas southeast of Kalterherberg. Heavy mortar and artillery fire was ordered to be laid down in the suspected areas of troop concentrations and the threatened offensive failed to take place.

Again at 0800 an enemy attack of infantry and tanks, supported by the Luftwaffe, was repelled in the vicinity of Hofen and shortly afterward the positions occupied by the 38th Cavalry were heavily shelled by enemy artillery.

To prevent any further enemy attempts to smash through the defense lines the first battalion of the 47th CT placed one company in position on the high ground east of Monschau, another company to a commanding ridge northeast of the town, while the remainder reinforced the road blocks maintained by the 38th Cavalry in the draw between these vantage points. The second battalion of the 47th occupied the high ground northeast of Kalterherberg, blocking all roads leading out of the town.

And the third battalion of the 47th also dug itself in on high ground, northwest of Monschau, thus giving added depth to the line established by the cavalry.

At dawn on the morning of December 19 an enemy patrol infiltrated into the position held by Company L, 395th Infantry, and succeeded in capturing seven Americans, for the loss of only one Nazi, captured.

An enemy counter attack was reported forming southeast of Hofen, and again heavy artillery barrages succeeded in discharging the Jerries before the attack could be launched.

Patrol activities on both sides were unusually brisk and one enemy patrol, attempting to penetrate a position held by a unit of the 395th was completely annihilated.

(continued next issue)

ATLANTA REUNION



Taps are sounded at the Atlanta Memorial Service as Paul Clark and George Brown salute the colors, carried by Jim Bruner and Al Orletti.

Veterans considering cashing in their GI insurance for ready cash to meet emergency expenses were advised today to consider borrowing on its cash value as an alternative.

By doing this, the policy will remain in force and provide at least a minimum of insurance coverage. Policy loans on GI insurance carry only five percent interest compounded annually on the unpaid balance. Repayment may be made in installments to fit the borrower's financial situation. Payments, however, must be in multiples of five dollars.

A veteran may change his policy to one having a lower cash value. The difference in the two cash values is payable to the veteran in cash. The premiums on the policy, then, would be lower.

Other avenues to investigate, include the possibility of reducing the amount of insurance to not less than \$1,000, in multiples of \$500, and receive the difference in cash. It is also possible that a veteran with disabilities which prevent him from working may be entitled to have his premiums waived.

Before a particular method is chosen, it would be wise for a veteran to seek advice on GI insurance loans at the V.A.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

The Editors of the Octofoil wish to thank all those who sent the beautiful Christmas Cards and best wishes for the New Year. We would like to wish all the members and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

☆☆☆

"Oh Doctor, you mean I'm finally cured?" the woman sighed happily.

"Yes," said the psychoanalyst. "I believe we now have your kleptomania firmly under control. You can go out into the workday world just like anybody else."

"Oh doctor, I'm so grateful," said the woman, "I don't know how I'll ever repay you for your help."

"My fee is all the payment I expect," said the kindly analyst. "However, if you should happen to have a relapse you might pick up a small transistor radio for me."

DEADLINE NEARS-MARCH 19TH

THE MEMORIAL FUND OF THE 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
Scholarship Information

The Memorial Fund of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was established by the members of the association to commemorate the memory of their comrades who paid the supreme sacrifice in battle. As a part of this fund the association established a scholarship program. Scholarships are awarded each year to relatives of men who served in The Ninth Infantry Division. Each scholarship is for one year.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

A person who wishes to apply for a scholarship must be related to a man who served with The Ninth Infantry Division. Children of former members of the division will be given first consideration, but children of men killed in combat given first preference. Applicants who are not children of former members of the division will not be considered unless no child of a former member qualifies.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

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

1. Send a letter of application, written in expository form, to the chairman of the scholarship committee stating the following: name, address, age, and sex of the applicant; name, address, and occupation of the applicant's parents or guardians; the name and address of the secondary school the applicant is attending or has attended and graduated; the name and address of the college the applicant expects to attend; the vocational goal of the applicant; and the name of and degree of relationship to a former member of the division. The unit and dates of service in the division of the former member must be included.
2. A transcript of the applicant's high school record must be included with the letter of application. The transcript must include at least the first seven semesters of the applicant's record.
3. The applicant must have a counselor or principal of the high school he or she is attending write a letter of recommendation to the chairman of the scholarship committee.
4. The applicant must take the PSAT which is given every October. The applicant must see that the results of the PSAT are sent to the chairman of the scholarship committee. These results may be included with the high school transcript or sent to the chairman from the College Entrance Examination Board. The SAT of the CEEB may be submitted in lieu of the PSAT.
5. THE APPLICATION MUST BE SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE BY MARCH 15. Applications received after March 15 will not be considered.
6. All applicants must accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.
7. Information to determine financial need will be requested by the Scholarship Committee after the applications have been considered.
8. Recipients of the scholarships may apply for renewal of the scholarship each year. A copy of the student's college grades, a financial statement, and a letter requesting renewal of the scholarship should be sent to the chairman by March 15.
9. All applications must be sent to: John J. Clouser, Scholarship Chairman, Ninth Infantry Division Association, 901 Graceland St., Des Plaines, Illinois 60016.

Harry O's CORNER

NEW YORK CHAPTER

Memorial

There is no denying the fact that once Father Connors 30th Memorial Services began on Saturday evening, October 19th and concluded on Sunday afternoon, October 20, 1974 the men, women, children and friends of the 9th Division were going to have a wonderful time. It's not going to be possible to write that it is the best Annual Memorial Service held because the Annual Memorial Services just keep getting better and better each year.

The love and affection the men, women, children and friends have for Father Connors was again amply illustrated when the usual large attendance was recorded on Saturday evening, October 19, 1974. The spacious dining hall was filled to capacity and additional dining space was extended to another large room. The parishioners did a fantastic job preparing the adequate amount of food that was necessary for the social evening. Andy what a social evening it was. They received a tremendous ovation when they were introduced as those responsible for the food they prepared for the guests and for the services they rendered that made the evening an enjoyable social event long to remember. There was a lively band and from the facial expressions of the dancers you could tell they were enjoying the dancing. Walter Victor, the 9th Division official photographer, gave the running commentary of the films of the 9th Division Troops in Atlanta that brought bursts of laughter many times from the audience when they saw themselves on the screen. One particular facetious moment especially occurred when our troops had to march up one more hill.

Sunday Morning Parade

The City of Worcester, as in the past years, honored the 9th Division Association again for the Annual Parade. Leading the parade was a Police Car followed by the Worcester Police Honor Guard, the Band, the 9th Division Colors, the Troops, followed by a Police car, as we marched in a breezy wind from the Worcester Fire Dept. to the Church.

Outdoor Services

The outdoor services were conducted by members of the Church, Worcester City dignitaries and members of the 9th Division Association at the 9th Division Shrine. Some of the statements made were that we have three principles - Belief in Faith, God and Country; and the contributions the 9th Division made in the war and the 9th Division men who gave their lives for the principles we believe in.

Our 9th Division Photographer

Walter Victor was everywhere taking pictures. Some of the places that he took pictures were at the Saturday evening social affair; the parade on Sunday morning; the Sunday Dinner; and a group picture of the N.Y. Chapter members who were taking the bus that was returning to N.Y. He did a very good job entertaining the audience with the showing of the movies of the 1974 Atlanta Reunion March.

30th Annual Memorial Services

Father Connors conducted the 30th Annual Memorial Service before a capacity audience at the Immaculate Conception Church, Sunday morning. He mentioned the 9th Division men who had passed away, and the presence in the audience of Mrs. Estelle McInerney, a Gold Star parent. All faiths were invited to these Annual Services, he remarked. We come here every year to pray for one another, and in reverence for God and our Country. He recalled the 9th Division route from the landing in Casablanca, to Sicily, England, training for the landing in Europe and then on to Victory. He stated that "no one hates war more than you. You were in it. 4581 men of the 9th Division gave their lives for Justice. We shared hardships together overseas, and now we share our love for Country, for God and Peace, and we are still sharing it together." Taps were sounded.

The Dinner

After the outdoor services were concluded we travelled to the Sheraton Lincoln Inn where we had an excellent dinner. Father Connors was Master of Ceremonies. On the dais were members of the Clergy, Worcester officials and members of the 9th Division Association. Father Curtis delivered the Invocation. One of the many highlights of the dinner was the "friendly rivalry" speeches that were made. Father Connors has a terrific sense of humor and he had the audience laughing continually at his facetious stories. Many on the dais also spoke humorously and their stories were appreciated by all. Other speakers spoke in a more serious vein. One speaker mentioned that they were great principles you fought for and for which so many 9th Division men sacrificed their lives. Our thanks to the 9th Division and others who gave up their lives for peace, hope and salvation of our Country.

Another highlight of the dinner was having the pleasure of listening to City Manager, Francis McGrath. He stated that your presence here is an indication that you care what is going on in the Country. He believes that youth has a future in the country; that youth looks ahead with optimism; and to make sure that those 4581 men of the 9th Division did not die in vain; that you set an example for the youth of America to follow.

When Father Connors thanked the audience for coming to pray for one another and for our Country, another enjoyable memorable event came to a conclusion.

Other Dinner Notes

Father Connors read many telegrams and letters that he received. He asked the Gold Star parents to rise. Many in the audience won prizes.

There was a good turnout of members from the Michigan Chapter. The Michigan Chapter is holding the 1975 Reunion. This remark was often heard in Worcester "See you in Detroit in 1975".

The N.Y. Chapter chartered a bus for Worcester. Mrs. McInerney received a rosary from Father Connors. Pauline Bako, Mrs. Estelle McInerney and Dan Quinn won prizes at the dinner. Max Umansky came all the way from Florida.

HONOR DOM MIELE

On December 8th, the New York Chapter celebrated a two fold event at the 69th Regiment Armory - The Chapter's Christmas and a testimonial to Dom Miele.

The members of the Chapter presented Dom with an engraved watch as a token of their appreciation for his many years of devoted service as Secretary of the New York Chapter. Dom's appearance at the Christmas party was a welcome sight to all his old friends. Dom has retired from the Postal Service and has moved way out on Long Island. Shortly after his retirement, Dom suffered a heart attack and was hospitalized for several weeks. He gave all his friends a big scare, but you can't keep a good man down. Dom made a fast recovery and is now almost back in perfect shape. The Christmas party was his first outside activity since leaving the hospital; he looked wonderful and seems to be well along the road to good health.

Everybody had a great time at the party and testimonial. As usual, Frank Fazio provided a bountiful buffet that completely sated the appetites of all the chow-hounds. The liquid refreshments flowed like water and nobody went thirsty for long. Ed Egan and "Red" Smiles had the duty behind the mahogany and they were hard-pressed to keep the glasses filled. Bill Klaus rated a "thank you" for having secured the use of the Armory's facilities.

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

Outgoing President, Joe Kerns, presided over his last meeting on December 6, 1974. His last official act was to conduct the election of new officers for 1975. After the ballots were counted the following men were chosen to lead the Chapter during the new year. President Mike Deresh, 1st Vice President Nick Palega, 2nd Vice President Harry Meltzer, Financial Secretary Irving Feinberg, Sgt. At Arms Al Orletti, Chaplain Ralph Witzken, Board of Governors, John Parisi, Frank Faio, Ed Tobin, Adolph Wadalavage and Harry Orenstein. The newly elected officials will be installed at the February meeting.

Judy and Harry Orenstein leave for Miami Beach on Jan. 14 and plan to return on February 25.

1976 Reunion Site

Frank Fazio made an extensive report of the Cities and Hotels that are seeking the 1976 Convention. He mentioned the advantages, disadvantages and the problems attending a reunion in various cities. The 9th Division Association can be assured that in the final analysis the best selection of factors for the 1976 reunion will be selected. And you can also be assured that the members deeply appreciated Frank's efforts.

Sincerely,
Harry Orenstein
687 W. 204 St.
N.Y., N.Y. 10034

75 Reunion in Detroit JULY 24-26

Michigan Doings

A large contingent from Michigan turned out for the Memorial Service at Worcester. Among the group from the "Motor State" were John and Rose Bonkowski, Floyd and Leora Hennessey, Fred and Jane Josey, The Meadows, John and Thelma Overmiller, the Reedys, Elmer Wagner, Jim and Louise Rushnows, The Debells, Jim and Audrey Bruner, and Bob DeSandy. Everybody had a great time and the Chapter is looking forward to an even better turnout next year.

Out-State Meeting

The out-state meeting held on November 9th at Battle Creek was a huge success. Members from all over the state converged on Battle Creek and had a ball. For Jane Young, it was an opportunity to kill two birds with one stone. On Saturday afternoon she attended a bridal shower for Mary Unrue her future daughter-in-law; the wedding is scheduled for December 21, 1974. Mary's mother is a member of Battle Creek's City Council, and she presented the Michigan Chapter with a proclamation welcoming them to the City of Battle Creek.

At the meeting Maurice Mitchell finally received the Chapter Award that had been awarded to him. Maurice couldn't attend the reunion so he had to wait until November for his award. The award had undergone some improvements since last summer, when Past National President Fred Josey made the presentation the award was engraved and framed.

Joe Young, the son of Al and Joan Young, saw to it that the meeting got plenty of publicity; he had announcements placed in both the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek newspapers. The announcements bore fruit. Charles Snyder saw them and joined the gang on Saturday night and signed up as a member of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Charles served with Company E of the 60th Infantry.

News Notes

The chapter will hold its annual Christmas party at the home of Everett Tapp in Dearborn Heights. Everett is Chapter President.

Two of the chapter's hard working gals have been on the sick list. Betty Rumenapp was seriously injured in an automobile accident and Edith Dawson was laid up for awhile. However, they are both making a rapid recovery and should be up and around real soon.

Nominations for Chapter officers will be made at the December. The new officers will take office in February 1975.

Bids are now being taken for the production of the Annual Program Booklets from printers around the state, and we have noted that production costs have gone up appreciably; therefore, the ads will be a little higher this year.

Full page - \$40.00

1/2 page - \$25.00

1/4 page - \$15.00

1/8 page - \$10.00

Boosters - \$1.00

WORCESTER MEMORIAL



Early arrivals at the 30th Annual Memorial Services are shown with Father Connors on Saturday evening at the school hall reception. Seated in the center is Sister Maria head of the school.

Chowhound's

He can nibble on shrimp tempura atop the city's most modern skyscraper in a setting imported all the way from Thailand while ships from all ports of the globe pass below and the lights of Canada glimmer away into the distance.

In Chinatown there are restaurants that serve food just the way the Chinese eat it, and others that serve it the way American think the Chinese ought to eat.

For variety, the international minded diner in Detroit will find Polish restaurants, Greek restaurants, French restaurants, Middle Eastern restaurants, Italian restaurants, Mexican restaurants, Continental restaurants, and even a restaurant that serves such delicacies as fried ants and lion-burgers. Three race tracks will feed you in grand style while you watch the ponies run.

Dining out in Detroit can be as much of an adventure as you want to make it.

Eating is an adventure in Detroit. A booming major city located on an international border holds forth the promise of fine places to wine and dine and exciting spots for nighttime relaxation.

Detroit makes good on that promise. Gourmands and gourmets will find much to please their palates.

For those who like to relax amid opulence, a host of plush restaurants offer a chance to divide a Chateaubriand or savor rare prime rib in surroundings that vary from the polished mahogany and red velvet of the Tudor era to glittering examples of the 20th century at its sophisticated best.

The more adventuresome eater will not want. Detroit has much to intrigue him. He can enjoy sauerbraten at a German restaurant that has been serving Detroiters at the same location since the middle of the Civil War (War Between the States).

MAIL CALL

This time of year the Secretary is being inundated by a Flood of seasons greetings and dues renewals. Almost every card carries a message for our readers. Here are a few samples.

Russ Bassel 15th Eng. Bn
P.O. Box 2961
Port Charlotte, Fla. 33952

Enclosed find my dues for 1975. Please note change of address. We have retired and now live in Florida. Celebrated by taking a "Round The World" trip this past summer. Traveled from Moscow east to Pacific on the Trans-Siberian R.R. Total trek took 10 weeks. Hope to see you at next reunion.

George A. Morgan 47th Inf.
1403 Juneo Pl.
Venice, Calif. 90291

I desperately wanted to be at the reunion in Atlanta, (one of my favorite towns). The doctors said I could not go and the V.A. would not be responsible if I went at this time. Wanted to see everyone so much - maybe better luck next time. Have been planning a trip to New York for years but haven't gotten around to it.

Without turning into a sentimental slob and knowing how important the whole war business was, which in one way or another we all hated, the proudest moments and memories I have are the ones with the 9th Infantry Division and the Gallant Men who made it. George signed his letter "The Indispensable Private."

A.J. Carmeci 39th Inf.
5821 Meadowview Ave.
North Bergen, N.J. 07047

Just a short note to inform our comrades of the passing on of Leo Burdek on November 9, 1974 at Elizabeth, N.J. Leo served with Co. M of the 39th Inf.

We who knew him as a fine soldier, patriotic citizen, great husband and father, and a very good friend mourn his passing.

Mertin H. Beebe
Co. K 60th Inf.
176 East Robbins Ave.
Newington, Conn. 06111

Enclosing my check for 1975 dues. Heretofore have been a little slow in paying my dues, but I do not want to lose my identification with one of the best divisions of our Army and the many happy associations I have had with some nice comrades.

I have been retired for three and a half years now and thoroughly enjoy my leisure. Had a rather serious operation last year that set me back for a time. I am feeling well now and hope some day to attend a reunion. Best to all for the holiday season.

Richard Keegan 34th F.A.
818 N. Highland Ave.
Jackson, Tenn. 38301

Enclosed is my check for 1975 dues. Have been living in Tenn. over nine years now. Far cry from New England climate. Still miss old New England though.

Went to visit Joe Dailydas in Arkansas last summer. He is in the heart of the Ozarks, it's a fisherman's paradise. I sort of envy those people who are retired; I still have a few years to go, but I have good health which is priceless.

Couldn't make Worcester this past fall, due to time and distance but sure will try for next year, God willing.

Chaplain
Rev. Robert Curtis 39th Inf.
222 Laine Street Apt. 7
Monterey, Calif. 93940

Here is Christmas once again. We hope it finds all of you and your families well and happy. Thought the Memorial Mass in Worcester was a fine thing. The folks certainly made the visitors welcome. Sorry Mr. Lynch could not come. Hope we can get back again next fall. It is a long trip so please keep it early in the season if you can. Best wishes to all - especially the men of the 39th Infantry. Thirty years ago - it was darned cold in the Ardennes.

Grover C. King 9th Recon
414 Cool Spring Street
Fayetteville, N.C.

Grover sends his warmest regards to all the men of the 9th and best wishes for a Happy New Year. He tells us that he received the Purple Heart medal after 31 years.

Doris Tepper Sister of Chaplain Tepper
1626 N. Poinsettia Pl.
Los Angeles Calif. 90046

The supply of the Division's History Book - "8 Stars to Victory" has been depleted for some time and men have been asking for copies but to no avail. Miss Tepper writes "In the Sept-Oct 1974 issues of the Octofoil I read that Julian Morgan asked about a copy of the 9th division history. I have "8 Stars to Victory". Enclosed is a letter to Julian telling him so.

However, I'm afraid he left out his street and number. Would you add it on and drop the letter into a mailbox? Thanks.

My best wishes to you and all of Chaplain Tepper's "boys"

Ed. Machowski 9th Med. Detch
5931 N. West Circle
Chicago, Ill. 60631

Best regards to all the gang for the Holiday Season.

Sam Robinson 84th F.A.
100 Paradise Rd., N-2R B-Bty.
Swampscott, Ma. 01907

One big reason why we didn't attend the Worcester Memorial was the arrival of our first grandchild - a girl. She is named Jill Barri - arrived on October 19th, weighed 5 lbs 12 oz., her happy parents are Leslie and Dr. Harold Freedman.

I sent a note to Father Connors to tell him the good news. Hope all is well with "all the troops". I am glad that clipping about Kalergis appeared in the paper. If I can get a copy of the July-Aug. Octofoil, I would appreciate it. I'll send it to Jimmy.

Max Umansky Co K 47th Inf
101 Berkely Road
Hollywood, Fla 33024

Sorry to hear about John Rizzo. I phoned them the week before and every thing was O.K. If Betty had called me I would have gone over to pay my respects. I just got out of the hospital myself (Dec. 21) I had a mild attack (heart) and only stayed there a few days. Now I am fairly well, can't exert, just take care of myself.

Robert Mason 26th F.A.
2818 Garbett Ave.
McKeesport, Pa.

Dear friend Dan:

No I have not forgotten you tho I have not sent any Correspondence to you for a long time--just plain busy-bu often think of you and wonder how you are going. Last Sept. I had a most delightful-beautiful vacation to California. Visited my sister in Sunnyvale, Calif. Also to San Francisco, Monterey, Carmel, Sacramento, Rocklin, these are all in the San Francisco area-then went on to Whittier where I visited a friend for two days-then it was on to Hollywood and Los Angeles-I stayed at a nice Hotel on Hollywood Blvd. in Hollywood-went to Disneyland- Knotts Berry Farm, Will Rogers Ranch, toured the Universal Movie Studio- all up thru Beverly Hills- and all in all I just loved Calif. For my part I would leave old Pennsylvania tomorrow and locate in California but my wife has her roots here so guess I am destined for Pennsylvania--

While in Chicago enroute to California I phoned Ted Matusik- my ole Buddy from Cicero, Ill. talked with his wife but at the time Ted was in the Hospital. I keep in close touch with Ted Matusik and at the moment Ted is not enjoying good health.

Dan I just love to correspond- and as you well know I love the 9th Infantry Div. which I served in from 1942 until 1945. So you might put a note in the 9th Div. Paper namely "The Octofoil" a note that I would love to hear from any former 9th Div. Men- particularly any of those from the 26th Field Artillery-but I would really cherish hearing from any who served with the 9th Inf. Div.

Another comment: Why not try to hold a 9th Div. Reunion in California sometime- say either Los Angeles or San Francisco.

Well Dan it was nice talking to you even tho it is via a letter- In your leisure sometime- and I know you are a busy man- drop me a line- because it was a real pleasure talking with you in Pittsburgh.

"Rusty Roscoe"

26th F.A. HQ &
Service Btry.
1188 Storrs Rd.
Storrs, Conn. 06268

While attending the Worcester Memorial get-together meant to get my dues paid. Just too much doing and too many to see, so I'm afraid it was forgotten. Well, the paper reminded me - so here it is - for three years.

My son, Larry, and his wife were able to get home for a couple of weeks just prior to Thanksgiving. He is a Captain in the Air Force, stationed presently at Grand Forks, N.D. He is a pilot and has his own plane and crew.

My daughter, Linda, is married to a "Navy" man and has just presented us with our second grandchild; first a boy and this time a girl.

I met another Hq. Btry (26th F.A.) man in a shopping center just before the Worcester event - William S. Olcavage, 107 North School St., Manchester, Conn. 06040. He told me that he hadn't been to Worcester for several years and I urged him to attend this year, but he didn't make it. I guess he is about the only Ninth man who lives anywhere near me.

A good Holiday to all.

THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave Weehawken, N. J. 07087-

Second-Class Postage paid at Union City, N. J. Authorized as of October 1, 1967.

Martin Gill G Co 47th

2401 Pennington Road Div Hqs
Trenton, N.J. 08638

Marty sent us the sad news of the death of Sam Farrauto and writes: "Peg and I were planning on attending the New York Chapter's Christmas Party but the heavy rain caused him to chicken out. It didn't make sense to drive to New York (from Trenton) in such a blinding rainstorm. Doing quite well, thank God, after last December's bout with lung surgery. Have been back to work since April. Not quite ready for retirement but hope to do so early in 1977. Best wishes to all for a Merry Christmas and wonderful New Year.

Edwin Brewer Co L 69th Inf

714 N. Walnut St.
Maryville, Mo. 64468

Hope this finds you and yours in good health and about to enjoy the holidays.

Last January I had a heart attack and retired to Northwest Missouri where my wife's folks live. Maryville, Missouri is the name of the town about 10,000 population and a college with 4500 students. Don't miss working one bit and feel real good. My doctor even let me go back to my bowling - one night a week in a league, only because I've been bowling every year since I was 18 and I'm 64 now. Didn't bowl the 2 years I was in the Army but that's the only years I've missed. I was a printer all my life, as my dear old Buddy Paul Plunket used to tell me - work hard - take a drink now and then and go as far as you can. That's exactly what I'm doing. - Best regards to all.

C.F. Titus Hq's 3rd Bn
6119 Lawrence Street 47th Inf
Philadelphia, Pa. 19120

Charlie sends his membership dues and writes: "Some say only rare wines improve with age but seeing some of the "old gang" from time to time in the Octofoil they disprove this and especially General Randle who seems to improve with the passing of time. Good luck to all in 75."

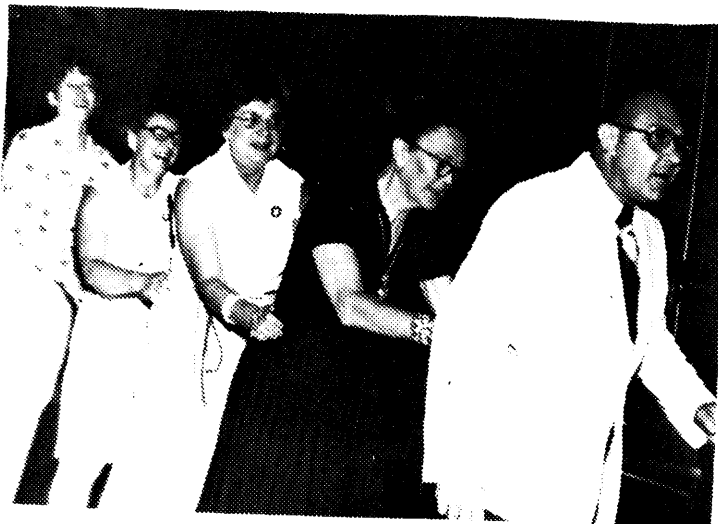
R.M.A. Hirst 60th Inf

6146 Edsall Road
Alexandria, Va.

Scotty writes: "You might be interested in letting the membership have an advance notice that there will be an International Veterans Congress in Munich from 11-to 20 June 1975! Only positive US. representation to date is from American Legion Post in Lakewood, N.Y. It is to be a German-American affair. It is also sponsored by the American Legion who have sent out invitations to various German veterans organizations - how about us US. vets' High point is to be the laying of a wreath before the unknown soldiers monument before the Army Museum in Munich. Perhaps you'd best or the President get in touch with the American Legion guys and see what the official program is! Happy New Year to you and all the 9th guys and gals.

Governor-A device attached to every state to keep it from going too fast.

Grandma - A lady who keeps your mother from spanking you.



We always knew Bob DeSandy was a born leader. He is shown above at the Atlanta Reunion leading the Ladies in a dance (or are they trying to catch the rascal?). Bob will lead the reunion committee in Detroit this summer and we know he will do a "bang" of a job.

RESERVATIONS
The Detroit Heritage Hotel
1565 Washington Boulevard
Detroit, Michigan 48231
9TH Infantry Division Association
July 24-27, 1975

Name

Address

City

Arrival Date

Single

Double

Twin

State

Hour

Zip

am, pm Departure Date

\$17.00

\$23.00

\$23.00