The Octofoil, November/December 1974

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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and the Penobscot Building the city’s tallest building.
of automobiles
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wife
Sicilian, and Nor­
88x359]selling raffle tickets. He was a
great salesman. His efforts
working hard getting the
412 Gregory Ave. Weeh-ken.
********
Taps
Sounded
Three, more “Old Reliaables” have answered their last
and with sudden heart we announce the passing of:
John Rizzo Co. F 7th Inf.,
Samuel R. Faury Co. B 15th Inf.,
Leo F. Burch Co M 20th Inf. May they rest in
peace.

Another beloved comrade 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 in­
terred in Ohe National Cemetery at Pinelawn, Long Island, New
York.

An Active Member
After winning 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 endeavoured
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 veterans settled in their
rooms. On the night of the banquet
he spent a lot of time helping 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.

This view shows the skyline of modern Detroit. In the foreground, in Cobo Hall and Convention
Area, the city’s $55,000,000 convention and exposition center. Other prominent buildings are
Pike-Fort Shelby Hotel, Michigan Bell Telephone Complex, Eisenhower-Cadillac Hotel, Hotel Pontchar­
train, and the Pendleton Building the city’s tallest building.

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 1951
John was elected to the National
Board of Governors; he served with distinction and was re­
lected to a second term in 1960.
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
411th Inf.
John joined the 6th at Fort
Bragg, N.C. During the North
African, Sicilian, and Nor­
mandy campaign served with
Company F of the 411th Inf.
During the Normandy cam­
paign, John was wounded and
left the “Radios” for the
hospital. After recovering from
his wound, John was reassigned
to another unit, but his heart
remained with the 411th.

We mourn the passing of our
good friend John and we know
that we do not mean 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
arms but also a true friend.
To his lovely wife Betty we offer
our heartfelt condolences.

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 facets characterizes it
for selective 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 Green­
field Village. Here, on 250 acres of carefully manicured
grounds, is a collection of Americans
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
visit
the exhibits and histor­
ic buildings each year, and the
complex has been amongst the top 15 U.S. tourist attractions
almost since its opening.
The museum itself covers 24
acres and contains vast collec­
tions of decorative arts, com­
munications and power equip­
ment, full-scale replicas of
early American ships 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 industry from colonial
days to the late 19th century. Many, like the
Meno Park laboratory where
Thomas Edison lit the first
electric bulb and the bicycle
shop where the Wright Siblings
started man on his way
to the stars, were brought from
their original sites and recon­
structed in the village.

To the east of Detroit, in
Dearborn, where Henry Ford
and the Henry Ford Museum
functions, is the Motor City
and at every reunion they
had made many friends
for interesting contrasts.

Greenfield Village and the
Henry Ford Museum welcome
visitors year round. 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 industries—commercial, manufacturing to 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 dif­
f erent makes of automobiles
are manufactured in the Detroit
metropolitan area. The visitor
can see the entire production
process from the raw materials
at the start of the car’s engine
at the end of the final assembly
line.

THE ARTS FLOURISH IN
DETROIT
The Motor City is the legitimate theatre in the land.
A legitimate theatre in the land. Detroit has answered its
question, and when they
read it all will throw a silent
salute to this “Old Reliable”
who was not only a comrad­
arms but also a true friend.
To his lovely wife Betty we offer
our heartfelt condolences.

The Attractions mentioned
above are only a small sample
of the treats that await the
visitor in Detroit. A trip to the
reunion is the perfect way to spend
your vacation. While you are
enjoying the breeze with your
old buddies, the kids and chil­
dren can be taking in the sights.
Make your reservations now,
the boys in Detroit are waiting to
take care of your needs.

75 Reunion
in Detroit
JULY 24-26
During October “Chick” Hennen made a sentimental journey back to my barracks at Winchester. He submitted the following report of his visit to the barracks where the 6th Infantry was billeted during World War II.

**November 1974**

(My Visit to the 6th Infy Barracks) By Chick Hennen

**Editor:** The Octofoil

For the sake of the record, and these words of the Octofoil who stood in England for the Normandy landings, I must report that my wife, Anne, and I participated in an 88th US Army Command chartered 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 Bourne area. The Winchester barracks (Major 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.

The move went back to Largs, Scotland, where the Normandy landings were planned in the amphibious shampooed head of 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 a unit a place in their history. Perhaps we could make a formal presentation of our Division history and a history of the 6th Infantry Regiment, which was the unit that occupied the barracks. We got the honor because the barracks belonged to their 40th Riffen, the rear guard at Dunkirk.

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The family of a deceased veteran is available from the federal government.

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

Honorably discharged veterans of the uniformed services are entitled to this special privilege. Unfortunately discharged veterans of the uniformed services who are hospitalized where facilities are available are also entitled to limited commemorative and exchange privileges.


### NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dan Quinn, National Secretary, 9th Infantry Division Assoc 413 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, New Jersey 07087

Enclosed please find 1975 dues for:

Name:______________

Street Address:______________

City:__________________ State:________

I was a member of:

Battery:______ Company:______ Regiment:9th Div

I wish to sign up for the following:

Regular Member, per year ______________

Donation Membership Scholarship Fund ______________

THREE-YEAR MEMBER ______________

Life Membership ______________

Octofoil Automobile License Disc ______________

Decal, 25c (5) for ______________

Ladies’ Auxiliary Member ______________

Companionship ______________

60th Infantry History ______________

Please credit the following chapter:

Pacific Southern Valley ______________

Greater New York ______________

New England ______________

Ohio ______________

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. Please send me my membership card to:

Name:__________________________

Street:__________________________

City:__________________ State:________

I was with the 9th Infantry Regiment when Map No. 1 man was a husband, father, brother, son, etc.

Please make checks or money orders payable to Ninth Infantry Division Association. Make checks payable to

Mrs. Shirley Sabato

22 Elder Avenue

Philadelphia, Pa. 19145
Traveling down road of history

The secretary came across this story while looking over the many records of the Division. As it happened 20 years ago during 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 the many that have left us through the years.

DETERMINED RESISTANCE

The determined resistance of the 24th Infantry Regiment, Moenchsahu - Eupen, was not one of the more publicized efforts of its Division during the winter warfare in Belgium. But it was a force which was considered important by headquarters of the Ninth Army, one of whose missions was to keep an open supply line from the nearby ports of Antwerp and Bruges to the forces of the Third Armies in the vicinity of Monschau. As a matter of fact, the losses in this sector were second in magnitude to those suffered by the Ninth Army itself.

The success in the Menchsahu-Kalterherberg sector over a period of two weeks indicated the necessity of a reinforcement in the Ninth Army sector. The abortive attack on the 19th Armored Division, by the 7th Armored Division beginning on December 16, 1944, was halted by the tanks of the 24th Infantry Regiment. The tanks of the 24th Infantry Regiment were being held by the 99th Infantry Division, which was suffering a great deal of attrition in the Monschau-Kalterherberg sector.

The failure of the 24th Infantry Regiment to drive a wedge through the 19th Armored Division of the 18th A.A. Corps, which was driving toward Monschau, thus enabled them to smash through the sector and gain the vital position of the Menchsahu-Eupen highway, a communications center for his thrust toward Monschau. The 24th Infantry Regiment was headquarters, directed the regimental administrative sections, and the regimental adjutant, in charge of personnel; machine guns, the latter self propelled or field artillery battalion, and one field artillery battalion.

The regiment was headquartered at the thirty-third line of defense protecting the Menchsahu-Kalterherberg sector was suddenly assigned to the Fifteenth Army which was reorganized as the Twelfth Army Group. The regiment was redesignated as the 196th Field Artillery Regiment, and the regimental Combat Team was redesignated as the 112th Field Artillery Battalion.

The regiment arrived in Mutzenich, nine miles southeast of Eupen, the morning of December 14th, 1944, and was diverted to Monschau, Germany. It was an assignment to a new sector.

The regiment was a sister unit of the 186th Field Artillery Battalion, 186th Field Artillery Regiment. These troops, later reorganized as the 186th Field Artillery Regiment, were assigned to the 99th Infantry Division. The 186th Field Artillery Battalion was assigned to the 99th Infantry Division as a sister unit of the 186th Field Artillery Regiment.

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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 Vacht and Scheveninghe would become untenable. Contact with the main Nazi spearhead in the south would also be completed and Eupen, an important railroad on a direct route to Verviers and Liège, 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 4th CT the units of a battalion of the 4th division located by Eupen. Reinforcements were hurriedly brought to the regimental CP.

PARATROOPERS

A German paratroop 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 northeast of the CP, between it and Eupen. Strong combat patrols immediately set out to flush the Nazi from their hiding places but were unable to locate any other groups of Germans, which they suspected were in the area.

As dawn approached, the staff of the 38th Cavalry began to realize that the enemy was on the move during the night and was gradually piecing together and from the assembled jigsaw puzzle began to emerge the “big picture.”

The Germans had infiltrated 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. From these towns they were still being held by the 38th Cavalry and 2nd Battalion of the 395th Infantry.

The enemy advance in the south had been made with the apparent objective of a dense pine forest in which numerous enemy agents had been sent in and crossed to form a network of roads or even of trenches, guns, and equipment could be moved. However, the attacking force - still of understrength - 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 towns, the German commander, Colonel Smythe and his staff immediately upon their arrival in the vicinity of Hofen on December 17, 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 definitive information as to the location or strength of American units still operating in the sector was available, and 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 trying to find and discover the identity of units with whom they were in communication; telephones began to buzz wildly and the regimental S-2 and S-3 staffs axilidated messages that began to dribble in.

Colonel Smythe and Lt. Col. Claymer, commander of attached units, 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

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 price. The unit was formed by Colonel Smythe and Lt. Col. Claymer, commander of attached units, 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.

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Para...
Michigan Doings

Joe Young, the son of Al and Jean Young, saw that the meeting got plenty of publicity; he had announcements placed in both the Kalamazoo and Battle Creek newspapers. The announcements bore false: Charles Snyder saw them and joined the gang on Saturday night and signed up as a member of the Ninth Indiana Division Association. Charles bears Company E of the 9th.

News Notes

The chapter will hold its annual Christmas party at The Highlands in Dearborn under the leadership of Chapter President.

Two of the chapter’s hard working gals have been on the sick list, Betty Hammapp 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 1976.

Rides are now being taken for the production of the Annual Program which will be distributed to members around the state, and we hope that all members will have gone up appreciably; however, the awards will be a little higher this year.

Full page - $60.00
1/2 page - $30.00
1/4 page - $15.00
Association president - $5.00
Non-members - $10.00

Worcester Memorial

July 24-26

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

Chowhound's

He can ride on any continent

Chowhound is a New York City area food critic who writes about the city's restaurant scene. His reviews focus on various cuisines and dining experiences, often highlighting the best places to eat in different neighborhoods. In this context, he discusses his recent experiences at various eateries around the city, from traditional Italian restaurants to more eclectic culinary trends. His reviews often include personal anecdotes and insights, making his writing accessible and engaging for a wide audience of food enthusiasts. Throughout the text, Chowhound's perspective offers a unique perspective on the culinary landscape of New York City, allowing readers to explore the rich diversity of dining options available.
THE OCTOFOIL

Russ Baszel
P.O. Box 261
Fort Charlestown, FL 32622

Dear friend Dan,

I have not received your letter so I have no idea what the news is that you wish to impart to me. I am in the midst of another quiet period, just in case you are wondering what I am doing. My life is relatively peaceful, and I am enjoying my retirement. If you wish to communicate with me, please do so by sending a letter to:

Robert Mason
218 Harris Ave.
McKeenport, PA 15225

Best regards,

Robert Mason
26th F.A.

G. C. Titus
341 Pembroke Road
Trenton, N.J. 08628

Marty said he and the others of the 9th division history committee was going to take a bus to California. Marty said he and I were going to stay at a hotel in Hollywood. We went to the Beverly Farmer, Will Rogers Ranch, and had a great time. We had a wonderful time. We will never forget the lovely time we had. We will always remember the time we spent together. We will always cherish the memories of our time together.

Edwin Brewer
Co. C 685th Inf
114 W. Walnut St.
Maryville, Mo. 64468

Hope this finds you and your family well. I am looking forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Edwin Brewer

THE OCTOFOIL

John J. Crouser
901 Graceland Street
Des Plaines, Illinois

J. 60016

Dear Bob,

I have been bowling every year since I was 16 years old. I have been bowling every year for 50 years. I have been bowling every year since I was a young man. I have been bowling every year since I was a young man.

Bob, I have been bowling every year since I was a young man. I have been bowling every year since I was a young man. I have been bowling every year since I was a young man.

Sincerely,

Bob

RESERVATIONS

The Detroit Heritage Hotel
1200 Milwaukee Avenue
Detroit, Michigan 48231

9/11 Thirtieth Anniversary Convention July 24-25, 1975

Name
Address
City
State
Zip
Arrival Date
Depaature Date
Hotel
Double
Single

$17.00
$22.00

We always know Bob Snob was a bad loser. He is shown above at the Atlantic Reunion leading the Ladies' Race (are they trying to catch the rabbit?). Bob will be at the next reunion in Detroit this summer and we know he will do a "hunk" of a job.

Gro-7th Div.

Harold R. Hirt
416 Eden Road
Alexandria, Va.

Scouty writes: "You might be interesting in letting the membership have an advance notice that there will be an International Veterans Congress in Munich from 11-20 June 1975. Only positive US. representation to date is from the American Legion Post in Lakewo. NY. It is a real event and will be attended by the American Legion. It is also sponsored by the American Legion and has sent out invitations to various German veterans organizations - how about US. veterans groups? It will be a laying of a wreath before the unknown soldier monument before the Army Museum in Munich. Perhaps you had meet or the American Legion guys and see an official program is?"