The Octofoil, September/October 1975

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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This Newsletter is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections at CrossWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Octofoil by an authorized administrator of CrossWorks.
Young writer seeks anecdotes.

Author Tom Lashnits is writing a book about American forces in Africa and Europe during World War II. He is looking for first hand accounts of living, working and fighting overseas. If you want to help with a true story, that is funny, tragic, heroic, historic, or just plain strange, please drop him a note at 30 Locust Ave., Rye, N.Y. 10580. Or call collect, evenings: 914-907-7160.

"Look at you" shouted the sergeant. "Your tie is crooked. Your hair isn't combed. Your pants aren't pressed... suppose some country suddenly declared war!"

New York In '76
July 22 - 24

31st Annual Reunion
REQUEST FOR SPACE IN SOUVENIR PROGRAM

Attached is copy for an ad in the color-printed 1976 New York Reunion of the Ninth Infantry Division Association Program:
- Full Page: $90.00
- Half Page: $55.00
- Quarter Page: $35.00
- One Eighth Page: $7.50
- Booster ads - $1.00 name and unit

Send all copy, checks and money orders to the New York Reunion Committee of the Greater New York Chapter, Ninth Infantry Division Association, P.O. Box 411, Richmond Hill, Jamaica, N.Y. 11418.

REMEMBER DATES
July 22, 23, 24th are the dates for '76 and we hope our members will make plans for next year's vacation that will include these three days.

It seems that each year the reunion get better and better with each chapter trying to out do the previous year. Then too we've become just a little bit older and even though it seems like yesterday it's been thirty years since we held our first reunion in New York City in 1946. The Division lost 4561 men in World War II and we would venture to write we've lost about the same amount of members since that time.

The New Yorkers have been busy workers the past year and we hope our members will make plans for next years vacation that will include these three days. All indications are for the largest turnout of all times. The committee workers are putting a package together for the three days that will be the "big daddy" of them all. Ball games, TV shows, tours and what have you, will be in store for the old timers and their families.

REUNIONS GET BETTER

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**26th Field**

It’s a great honor for men of the Ninth to again attend a Memorial Mass celebrated by our own Fr. Edward Connors. During this Mass, men of all faiths pray for those who have gone so that some day we shall meet once again on Judgment Day.

The parishioners at Immaculate have promised to satisfy the appetite of anyone until he leaves the church. The Connors’ Coffee Shop will be in full swing after Mass. Maas has his 67 varieties, Howard Johnson has his 58, and the Connors’ Coffee Shop has 12 varieties of doughnuts. A short inspiring service at our Memorial is always an important part of our weekend in Worcester. Dinner will be served at the Sheraton Lincoln about 12:30 p.m. You could be on your way home by 2:30 p.m.

**IN MEMORIAM**


Meetings:

Change your records to read:

Charles Zablow, 169 Stoddut, Spencer, Mass., 01585

John P. Quinn, 201 Burnham St., Worcester, Mass.

Peter Green, 46 Mott St., Trenton, N.J.

Trudy C. Hammock, 7905 Waddill Road, Richmond, Virginia

Traditional Larcade, Star Route, Box 724CAY City, Texas, 77414

Andrews Wilson, 822 Lincoln Ave., Skokie, Illinois, 60076

Louie England, 518 Robinson, Danville, Illinois, 61832

Last year Mrs. Harold Huber with her two sons, a daughter, and an intended daughter-in-law again made that memorable trip to Worcester. Many times the children made the trip from Boston, N.Y. with their parents. Since Harold died, more than three courageous trips have been made to our Memorial Mass. This past summer Philip Huber and Elmer Elsvyus moved to Living Solar in nearby Greendale.

Harold Wallace is a grandfather for the first time. His father-in-law died during the past year. Have wheels will travel - Elver Turner traveled the Southwest using his own plane and mobile home. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Roscoe made three trips to Grand Forks, N.D. to visit their son Larry who is a pilot and captain of the crew flying the big birds for SAC. They also found time to get to Hartford to babysit for their grandchildren.

Had a phone call from Truly Hammock. The old boy is enjoying retirement and good health. His wife died a few years ago. Had a note from Jim Boyle. Next year, and every year thereafter that he works, he will be entitled to 13 weeks vacation. Jim told his two girls that they would be returning to work on a part time basis. His daughter, a schoolteacher, spent part of last year as an exchange teacher in Winchester, England.

Joe Bolow has been with Monsanto Chemical for over 25 years. He was in excellent health last the last time he called. Louie England has retired after 22 years with OMX Tullton called and wanted to know at which hotel in Detroit the convention was being held. Call came at 11 p.m.

New York City is getting ready to greet you.

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**STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION**

(Act of October 23, 1962, Sections 39, 30, United States Code. Date of Publication: THE OCTOFOIL. 5. Frequency of issue: Bi-monthly. 4. Location of known office of publication: 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. - Harold E. Connors, Publisher. 5. Location of headquarters or General Business Offices of the Publisher: 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. In name and address of the Publisher: Albert Quinn, 412 Gregory Avenue. West Keek, N.J. 6. Owner if owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately follow the names and addresses of stockholders owning 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the owners of the nonincorporated form must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated form its name and address, as well as that of each individual must be given.)

Name and address: None.

7. Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of Bents. Mortgages or other securities (if there are none, so state): None.

8. Known bank or bank holding 1 percent or more of total amount of Bonds, Notes, Debentures, or other evidence of indebtedness (if there are none, so state): None.

9. FOR COMPLIANCE BY NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AUTHORIZED TO MAIL AT SPECIAL RATES (Section 182, Postal Manual) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes (Check one):

   a. Have not changed during preceding 12 months

   b. Have changed during preceding 12 months (Exchanges, publisher must furnish explanation of change with this statement).

   c. Change of name and address or location of publication if such change occurred during preceding 12 months:

   d. Description of special rate privilege being claimed and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes.

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**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP in the 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 $1.00 for 1976 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, etc.)

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

Make checks or money orders payable to Ninth Infantry Division Association, N.J. 3rd Vice-Pres. Mail to Phyllis Perna, 2642 South Juniper, West Keek, N.J. 07087. A counterstamped membership card will be sent immediately.
FORCE 1945

TO: Commanding Officer, 60th Inf., APO 808, U.S. Army

DURING THE OCTOBER BATTLE

The New Year of 1945 found the 60th Infantry Division commanded by Lt. Col. Quinlin R. Hardage, preparing a diversary attack upon the town of Konzen, Germany. In the bitter cold that froze tents and bunched faces since early November, Company "P," supported by tanks and TD's, advanced to the outskirts of town but were halted and forced to withdraw by very heavy concentrations of mortar and small arms fire. The Battalion then occupied defensive or secondary positions near Kalletberg, Germany and Camp Eisenhower, Belgium, for most of the month, reviewing tactics and receiving regular divisional training. For five days they were oriented in preparation for a proposed crossing of the Roer River in the area with the town of Lohrzen the objective of the attack on 31 January met only slight opposition from the enemy. In the dense fog the Battalion was subjected to a heavy barrage and air attack. The operation was long and successful in all attempts. In the frosty darkness, men moved cautiously, climbed over cuphals of mud, clung to the sides of tanks and aimed looks at the house just ahead of the objective. Companies "E" and "F" attacked the town and pushed forward yards upon yards until heavy enemy fire emplaced from the town. Then they really caught fire. Partially surrounded and with absolutely no cover, they were gasping for breath with bucking tanks. All types of artillery and mortars completely saturated the area, and supporting tanks were halted far back by thick belts of bullet belt. Then the Germans counter attacked, overran the town and against the German "P" Company, pushed off from Rothen and moved abreast to attack the assembly area in the rear yards toward the northeast. There had been no new reconnaissance for this move and no previous reconnoitering of this area. The Battalion was still running short, and the men were still suffering from the fatigue of the long day's action, but despite these obstacles, the attack was a complete success. The Battalion was not organized for defense, and was running short of much needed rest. The next day, while the Battalion was sleeping. Over a hundred prisoners were taken without a fight and contact was made with the 106th Armored Division, which was moving southeast from Ingenbroich.

MONSCHAU

On a week-end in Hohen, the Second Battalion, in rear of the front, conducted a successful engineer exercise. The 3rd Battalion, moved into an assembly area near the river and the latter, which was advancing through Monschau, moved into the rear towards the city of Dierbacht. The next morning Company "F," supported by tanks, crossed the Roer River, cleared the town of Lommersum on the east bank, and took over houses in Dierbacht before going over the bridge by enemy machine guns. With "D" on the left, the enemy machine gun, "G" Company made a broad left flanking movement and swept into the center of town. The Armor was called and tank-infantry teams mopped up enemy strong points. Company "E," moving in to join the rest of the Battalion, was held up temporarily by positions which had been by-passed the night before by the "G." The entire operation netted about 380 prisoners.

HISTORY OF THE 60TH INFANTRY DIVISION

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Cont from Pg. 3

AUTOBAIN

A week’s rest put the Battalion in fighting trim again, and it struck out to cut the Cologne-Frankfurt Autobahn, thus depriving the enemy of the chance to send mobile reserves from the south to the North Army bridge-head to the north. On the night of 22 March, the Battalion crossed the Rhine in strength, “E” Company and “G” Companies met at another. At dawn, several machine guns on the high hill opposite were destroyed, “E” and “G” Companies simultaneously captured the towns of Straussehead and Rahms in the west, and were needed for support, advanced at dawn upon the town of Weissendt, but were held up most of the day by small arms and automatic fire. Now the Battalion was at the Autobahn. After probing with strong combat patrols, “F” Company took the town of Hoddon on the east side of the highway, and “G” and “F” Companies followed through by taking Hombach. Ordered to continue the advance, the two Companies ran into “G” taking Lengenbeck and “F” occupying high ground opposite the town. In the morning, the Seventh Armored Division began the first of a series of large dashes which carried it deep into the heart of the Ruhr. By dusk, and shortly afterwards, midnight, the Seventh Armored Division began the first of a series of large dashes which carried it deep into the heart of the Ruhr. By dusk, and shortly afterwards, midnight, the Seventh Armored Division began the first of a series of large dashes which carried it deep into the heart of the Ruhr. By dusk, and shortly afterwards, midnight, the Seventh Armored Division began the first of a series of large dashes which carried it deep into the heart of the Ruhr. By dusk, and shortly afterwards, midnight, the Seventh Armored Division began the first of a series of large dashes which carried it deep into the heart of the Ruhr. By dusk, and shortly afterwards, midnight, the Seventh Armored Division began the first of a series of large dashes which carried it deep into the heart of the Ruhr. By dusk, and shortly afterwards, midnight, the Seventh Armored Division began the first of a series of large dashes which carried it deep into the heart of the Ruhr. By dusk, and shortly afterwards, midnight, the Seventh Armored Division began the first of a series of large dashes which carried it deep into the heart of the Ruhr. By dusk, and shortly afterwards, midnight, the Seventh Armored Division began the first of a series of large dashes which carried it deep into the heart of the Ruhr. By dusk, and shortly afterwards, midnight, the Seventh Armored Division began the first of a series of large dashes which carried it deep into the heart of the Ruhr. By dusk, and shortly afterwards, midnight, the Seventh Armored Division began the first of a series of large dashes which carried it deep into the heart of the Ruhr. By dusk, and shortly afterwards, midnight, the Seventh Armored Division began the first of a series of large dashes which carried it deep into the heart of the Ruhr.

CANT FROM PG. 3

On 15 April, the 2nd Battalion boarded trucks and set out to clean up a tough pocket in the Harz Mountains. They spent one night in an assembly area in Gunster and occupied several high positions by dawn on the next day. These were Harrergroede, Silberbrud, and Strassburg. “F” Company pushed forward during the next morning, meeting stiff resistance, and “E” Company forced a narrow route which ran parallel to the route of advance. They were finally halted just short of the town by a series of cross-firing machine guns which raked the length of the narrow corridor with a killing fire. A terrific fire fight ensued which lasted the whole of the following day. Task, TD’s, SP’s, mortars, machine guns, rifles and grenades combined to move the peaks and crags reverberating through the day, and heavy casualties were suffered by both sides. Just before dark the town was entered from two sides by “E” and “F” Companies and the battle was over. After a morning of aggressive patrolling, “E” and “F” Companies moved out into the mountains, meeting light resistance, and “F” set up a road block with tanks at a vital crossroad. After two days of patrolling the area in the vicinity of the road block revealed no Germans but surrendering ones, the Battalion rode trucks to the vicinity of Greepin and Hohen, where defense positions were organized over looking the Maube River. From 22 April to 28 April the Battalion sent regular patrols across the Mulde, one of which brought in one thousand prisoners. On the 29th, “F” Company relieved a party of the 142nd Division in Batterfield, set up an outpost on the Batterfield Bridge to bring in prisoners who were being ferried from the approaching Red Army. The area across the river was patrolled regularly and great numbers of prisoners were brought in. A training schedule was set up for all men not engaged in patrol or outpost work.

MEET RUSSIANS

On 3 May 1945, 2nd Battalion met the Russians. A Russian Major rode up to the “F” Company outpost on the bridge, accompanied by a truckload of happy, shouting, singing Russian soldiers, all carrying sub-machine guns. They caused a great deal of excitement, and Battalion officers came out to greet them officially. Training went on as usual. On 5 May the following message was received from Regimental Headquarters:

“AT 0001, 5 MAY 1945, ALL HOSTILITIES IN EUROPE WILL CEASE.”

SIGNED, EISENHOWER.

The message was passed to all Companies in the Battalion. Training went on as usual.

NO CELEBRATION

The 8th of May was declared a holiday and all troops listened to broadcasts from London and New York. There was no jubilant celebration that day in Batterfield and Hofen; the men were too recently out of combat, and combat was still in their voices and their faces and their minds. There are too many memories of good friends who had died to make this day possible. And, too, there were solemn thoughts of the Battle of the Pacific yet to be won.

REGIMENTAL MEMORIAL SERVICE

There was a Regimental Memorial Service in the town square of Batterfield dedicated to the memory of the soldiers who gave their lives in the holocaust of war.

FOUR YEARS OF WAR

So the 2nd Battalion 89th Infantry, hose weary from combat over the whole of two continents, settled down to the job of Army of Occupation in Germany. The men who were rightly known as “Miller’s Nephew” laid down their arms and set about to re-learn the ways of Peace. During four years of war they had defeated the enemy on every field of battle where he had chosen to meet them; Africa, Sicily, France, Belgium and Germany fell before the Allied infantry. Who can say that another group has done more in the winning of Peace.

From Batterfield the Battalion moved on 18 May to the Third Army area, occupying a position in the vicinity of Seydorff, thirty miles north of Munich. Eight days later they moved again, to the village of Maching, Germany. The Companies moved into former Luftwaffe officers’ apartments adjacent to a large airfield. It was covered over the field and in trees around it was a great number of wrecked German fighters and bombers. They seemed a symbol of the annihilation of the once proud German War Machine.

REDEPLOYMENT

Then the 2nd Battalion began to cope with problems of redeployment. Men who had used their own wealth of eighty-five points were sent home. Men arrived from other Divisions, swelling the Companies to double their strength, and men were drawn out for the Pacific War, bringing the Companies back to normal. Training programs were religiously adhered to and at the present time the Battalion has acquired the high polish and mag of a garrison unit.

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UNCLAIMED GOVERNMENT BONDS Many veterans of World War II will be purchasing U. S. Savings Bonds through allotment procedures under which a small portion of their military pay was automatically deducted to purchase savings bonds to help finance the war effort. Recent information from the General Accounting Office indicates that 79,000 of these bonds with a face value of about $50 million have never been claimed. The total of ex- GIs involved is 188,000. Many bond owners have been determined by checking VA records and other means. However, all veterans of World War II are being called upon to check their memories to determine if they may have purchased U. S. Savings Bonds and over the years forgotten all about it. If so, they should immediately contact the Treasury Department, Washington, D.C.

My aunt was like a flower: when she began to fade, she opened.

Henry Giesel is a member who recalls from time to time a sketch of past. The story behind the sketch appears in mail call.
**THE OCTOFOIL**

**THE MEMORIAL 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 their comrades and their sacrifice in battle. As part of this fund, the association established a scholarship program that awards scholarships to veterans each year to relatives of men who served in The Ninth Infantry Division. Since its inception, the fund is for the benefit of all veterans and their families.

**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 are given special consideration, but children of men killed in combat against first rate reach. Any application is not to be considered unless it is a child of a former member qualified.

**APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

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

1. **Send a letter of application, written in exppository 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 school the applicant is attending or has attended; the name and address of the college the applicant expects to attend; the occupational goal of the applicant; and the name 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 be issued by the school most recently attended.**

3. **The transcript must contain a counselor or principal of the high school he or she is attending to write a letter of recommenda­tion on the candidate for the scholarship.**

4. **The applicant must take the PSAT which is given every October. The applicant must see the results of the PSAT and the chairman of the Scholarship Committee will ask for the results to be included with the high school transcript or send a letter that the candidate for admission to the 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, THE OCTOFOIL, 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION, 396 Graveland St., Des Plaines, Illinois 60018.**

**DEPENDENTS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE SECTION**

The Scholarship Committee has established a Scholarship for veterans totally disabled in service, or of veterans who died of some non-service-connected disease, are reminded to apply now for maximum use of their educational assistance under the Dependents Educational Assistance section of the GI Bill. The children are eligible for sixty-three months of educational assistance. The monthly payment for full-time attendance is $220 with proportionately lesser amounts for part-time attendance as shown in the GI Bill. Assistance payments may be made for thirty-six months to a veteran or his dependents as shown in the GI Bill. Assistance payments may be made to the veterans’ dependents as shown in the GI Bill. Assistance payments may be made to the veterans’ dependents as shown in the GI Bill.
Dear Dan:

I'm sure you realize that the Birthday Party was not my idea and I really was embarrassed in Detroit and, 22· 24 Gregpry Ave

elope when it happened and I really was embarrassed.

Dear Dan,

distances. I must admit, however, that it was a great night and I am truly grateful to all.

I expect to attend the Con-

mission in Detroit and, as always, I look forward to being

with the gang once again. As you know, our Memorial Ser-

vices this fall will be returned to the usual date - namely the Sunday before Veteran's Day.

We shall gather at Conners

Coffee Shop Saturday evening, November 8th. On Sunday the 9th, the Memorial Mass and Service will be in the Im-

maculate Conception Church at 10:30. The dinner after the Mass again will be at the Sheraton Lincoln Inn. I won't be able to make this a really big year as we are in the throes of the construction of our country, I have a strong feeling that the men of the Ninth will make a very special effort to be with us in 1978. We wish to express in a very practical and prayerful way our devotion to our work.

Keep up the good work, Dan. As we say in the Division every such successful meeting brings all the men of the Ninth Division and their families.

Sincerely and

gratefully yours,

Rev. Edward T. Connors

Immaculate Conception Rec-

tory

334 Grove Street

Worcester, Mass. 01608

Co G 607th Med Bn

Edward Ibord

Munichstrasse

Vienna 1203 Austria

Ed moved to Europe in 1964 and left black coat of 

livery to you and Marie Geist. I think he may have been 

11203 Austria and is expecting to return soon.

It is good to hear from you and I am happy to hear from your staff. I appreciate reading the paper very much, and am glad to hear that you are all doing very well. I am enjoying the division newsletter very much, and am very interested in the story about the division's reunion. I hope to be able to attend the reunion, and I hope to see you there.

Dear Dan,

I am reviewing the letter I received from you a few weeks ago, and I just wanted to thank you for sending me the information about the reunion. I am very interested in attending, and I hope to be able to do so.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Very sincerely,

[Signature]

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Very sincerely,

[Signature]

Co F 9th Med Bn

Edward T. Connors

Immaculate Conception Rec-

tory

334 Grove Street

Worcester, Mass. 01608

Co G 607th Med Bn

Edward Ibord

Munichstrasse

Vienna 1203 Austria

Ed moved to Europe in 1964 and left black coat of 

livery to you and Marie Geist. I think he may have been 

11203 Austria and is expecting to return soon.

It is good to hear from you and I am happy to hear from your staff. I appreciate reading the paper very much, and am glad to hear that you are all doing very well. I am enjoying the division newsletter very much, and am very interested in the story about the division's reunion. I hope to be able to attend the reunion, and I hope to see you there.

Dear Dan,

I am reviewing the letter I received from you a few weeks ago, and I just wanted to thank you for sending me the information about the reunion. I am very interested in attending, and I hope to be able to do so.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Very sincerely,

[Signature]