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9th Infantry Division Association

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The Octofoil, May/June 1976

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 XXXI NUMBER 3

MAY-JUNE 1976

YOUR BEST CONVENTION IS ABOUT TO UNFOLD

Taps Sounded

'Will you be there?'



Otto Kerner former Governor of Illinois
Formerly Executive Officer 34th F.A. Bn.

With saddened heart we announce the passing of three "Old Reliables".

Robert Rinn Div Hqs
William B. Penn 39th Inf
Otto Kerner 34th F.A.

There is no death

What we call death
is but a restful sleep

They wake not soon
who slumber so,

Therefore,
We mourn-we weep.

My husband, William B. Penn, passed away on January 23rd of this year. He always enjoyed the Octofoil and was proud of his service with the Ninth Division.

Mrs. William B. Penn
Box 107, Beach Avenue
Manhawken, N.J. 08050

We apologize for not including the last address of Jess Nunn for many of our members when they read the sad news of his passing wanted to write to Jess's family. His family lives at 904 NE Minnehaha Apt., 3C, Vancouver, Wa. 98665.

"Our friend Otto was a great humanitarian who brought the human touch to each of his endeavors," several hundred mourners were told at memorial services for former Gov. Otto Kerner.

"His social conscience was legendary .. and his concern for the well-being of his fellow man was foremost in his every activity," said U.S. District Court Judge Abraham Lincoln Marovitz, who delivered the eulogy.

Governor Dan Walker, Mayor Richard J. Dayley, Sec. of State Michael J. Howlett, Chief Circuit Court Judge John S. Boyle and members of the Ninth Infantry Division association were among those in attendance.

Kerner, 67, died of cancer on May 9th and was buried at the Arlington National Cemetery.

May they rest in peace. To their loved ones we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

31st Reunion

If some guy would have told us that we would be holding reunions 31 years after the War, we would have said "you're off your bird" but here we are getting ready for our 31st annual reunion and back where it all started in New York City. Our first reunion held in 1946 was at the Hotel New Yorker and now 31 years later we are meeting a few blocks away at the Statler Hilton Hotel. If my memory serves me correctly I believe Chaplain DeLaura was one of the many dignitaries on the dais that night at our first reunion. Here's "himself" back again with us 31 years later and the "good padre" will act as Toastmaster for the banquet being held on Saturday July 24th the last day of the three day reunion. General Westmoreland now retired from the Army was a young "bird" Colonel when we held our first reunion. I don't recall if the General was at the first reunion but we do know he's attended many, many reunions of the old outfit, and at one time served on the National Board of Governors of the Association. "Westy" will be the feature speaker at our Banquet.

The way the hotel reservations are coming in, the reunion committee assures us that this will be the largest group to attend a reunion in years. Members who haven't attended for years are writing that they will be there. As Co-chairman Emil Langer has often stated - "with all its faults New York City is still one of the greatest cities in the country. If you can't find it in New York then it's not to be found". All kinds of shows, restaurants, etc. you name it - New York has it.

Tip Of The Hat

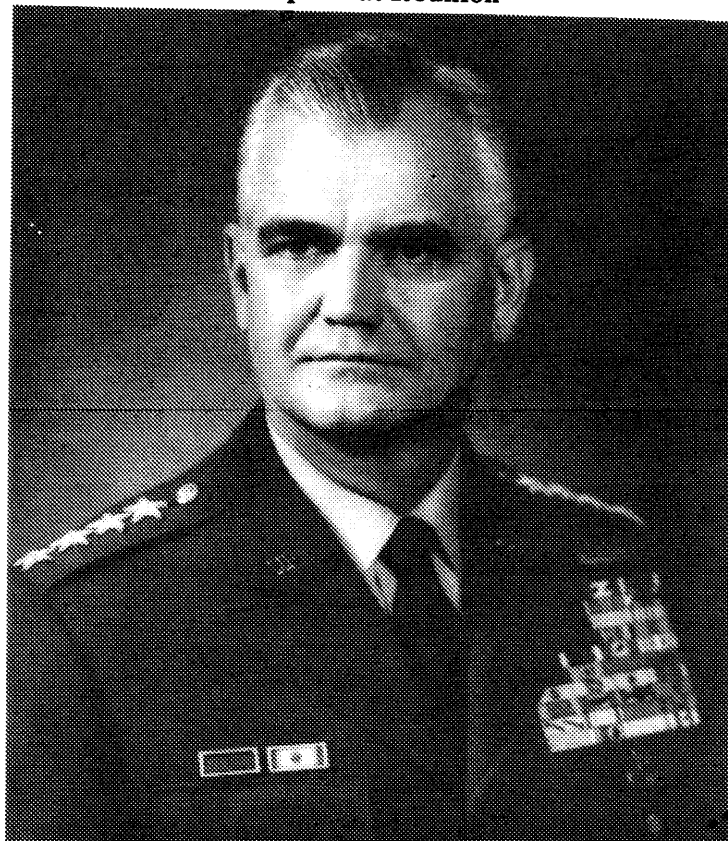
The association is grateful to these members for their generous donations to the Memorial Fund.

James Connelly

Robert Pappas

Mrs. George Smythe also contributed in memory of her husband Maj. General George Smythe.

To Speak at Reunion



General William C. Westmoreland

WESTY'S BOOK

As we go to press we've learned that General Westmoreland's book "A Soldiers Report" can be obtained at many book stores located near our C.P. at the reunion. However Howard Waldman of 26 Newman Street, Metuchen, N.J., an old timer from the 47th, has promised that he will be available on Saturday July 24th to assist our members who wish to purchase the book. We feel certain by the time the reunion rolls around something will be worked out so that our members can easily obtain the book, for the General has promised to autograph them at the reunion.

Jim Connelly recently learned of the association and became a Life member. He also sent for space in the Reunion Journal along with a donation to the Memorial Fund.

Many thanks.

Memories

Many things can be written about the attractions at a reunion but when all is said and done the only thing that really matters is the "old timers" themselves. We all look forward to being with the old gang and are anxious to see our old pals once again. For a few days we can forget about our troubles and go back in memory to those days when we soldiered with the Ninth.

There is something about misery and fear that brought us together and there were times when we had our lighter moments. Little things that meant so much at the time - a hot meal - a good bunk for the night - a few drinks of wine or Calvado's or Mild & Bitters or whatever the drink of the Country that we were in.

We can look back on it with pride for whether we wanted or not we were there, when it counted. Reunions are made of memories and the "Old Reliables" have plenty of those. Try to be at the reunion in New York.

July 22-24

THE OCTOFOIL
Form 3579 should be sent to 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N. J. 07087.
OCTOFOIL ASSOCIATED EDITORS Walter O'Keefe and Daniel Quinn.
Walter O'Keefe, President
1858 Woodbine Street
Ridgewood, Queens, N. Y. 11227

Vincent Guglielmino, 1st Vice-Pres.
114 Charles Street
Floral Park, N. Y. 11001

Francis Maher 2nd Vice-President
Worcester, Mass. 01610

William Meadows, 3rd Vice-President
Detroit, Mich. 48219

Harrison Daysh, Judge Advocate
Kennington, Md. 20795

Thomas Boyle, Treasurer
39 Hall Avenue
Somerville, Mass. 02144

Daniel Quinn, Secretary
412 Gregory Avenue
Weehawken, New Jersey 07087

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1976
Michael Deresh, Woodbridge, N. J.
William Bongiorno, Bedford, Mass.
William Hennemuth, Mt. Prospect, Ill.
Oscar Richards, Wayne, Pa.

1977
Walter O'Keefe, Ridgewood, Queens, N. Y.
Everett Tapp, Dearborn, Mich.
Dominick Greco, Tiltonsville, Ohio
Anthony Chaconas, Washington, D. C.
Paul Clark, Chicago, Ill.

1978
William Klauz, New York, N. Y.
Ralph Carci, Cheverley Manor, Md.
Herbert Olsen, Randolph, Mass.
Elmer Wagner, Bay City, Mich.
Albert Perna, Philadelphia, Pa.

Board Member Emeritus
Honorary Member Emeritus

Maj. Gen. Louis A. Craig (Ret.)
Rev. Edward Connors, Worcester, Mass.

The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Single copy price is 25 cents per issue or by mail, \$1.50 per year payable in advance when dues are paid. Dues are (\$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 conditions.

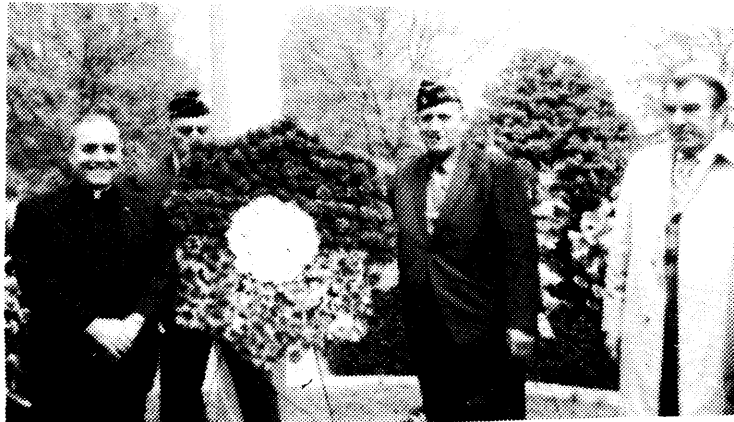
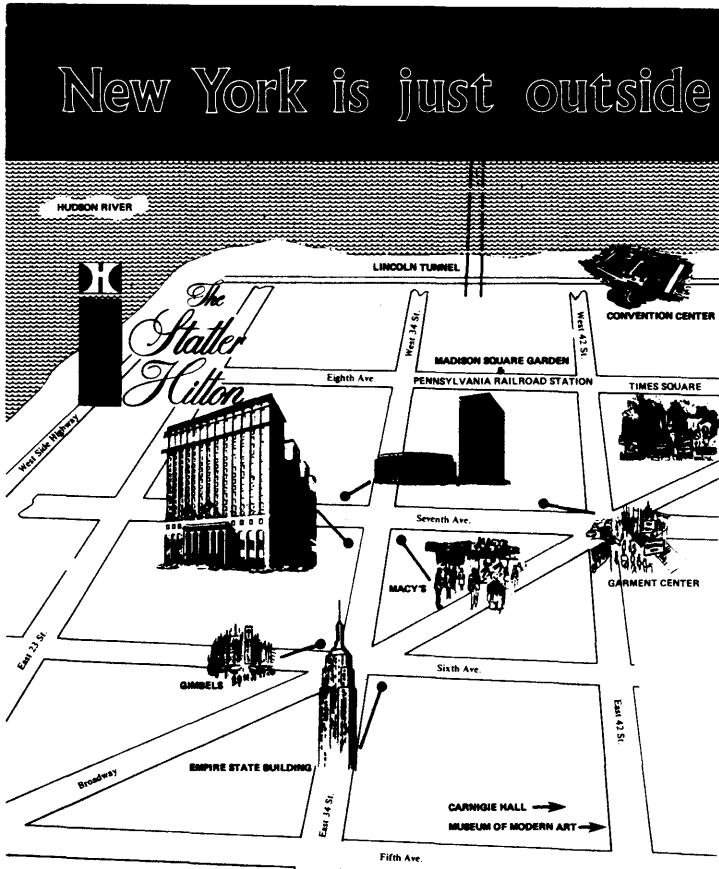
An extract from the certificate of incorporation of the 9th Infantry Division Association reads: "This Association is formed by the officers and men of the 9th Infantry Division in order to perpetuate the memory of their fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the division, to assist in promoting 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 XXXI NUMBER 3 MAY-JUNE 1976



Rev. Edward Connors recently celebrated his 45th year since his Ordination to the Priesthood. He is shown here offering Mass in N. Africa the year-1943.



Monsignor Anthony DeLaura with Vince Gugglielmino, Dom Miele, and Ralph Witzken are shown at Pinelawn National Cemetery, Farmingdale, L.I. where the New Yorkers recently honored the dead of the Ninth.

IMPRESSIVE CEREMONIES

On May 22, 1976 the New York Chapter held its annual Memorial Services at Long Island National Cemetery, Pinelawn, New York. There was a large turn-out. The secretary, Art. Schmidt, had copies made up of lists of former Division men who are buried in sections "H" and "J", and Harry Meltzer distributed them. Dom Miele saved the day for us when he went out to buy a wreath for the Memorial Services. The group marched from the assembly point at the main gate parking lot to the flag pole. As we passed by a rifle squad of a veterans' organization gave us a rifle salute. With the absence of President Emil Langer and Vice President Frank Fazio (who was not able to come because of illness), Dan Quinn acted as M.C. He introduced Past President Joseph Kearns and Monsignor DeLaura. A wreath was placed at the flag pole in memory of our departed comrades. At the conclusion of our services the same Veterans' group fired three volleys and played "Taps." The entire ceremonies were rather impressive. After the ceremonies the group visited several graves including those of Vinny Guglielmino's brother Felix, John Rizzo, and Joseph Kearns' son. Monsignor De Laura said prayers at each grave.

FREE LOADERS

After visiting the graves the caravan drove to Bethpage State Park. There was some grumbling about Art Schmidt and Jake Laskau holding up the line at the Park Toll Gate while they were trying to convince the attendant that they were entitled to free entrance because they are disabled veterans, but Art and Jake withstood these complaints by flashing the \$1.50 they saved by not paying the toll. There was plenty of food and "liquid refreshments" for everyone. Dan Quinn, Bill Klauz and John Parisi are to be thanked for lugging the food and drinks out to the picnic. Not to be forgotten is Bill Muldoon and Frank Duffy who was sent into town to buy additional supplies. Nick Palega, Valentine De Maria and Henry Dietrich were roasting frankfurters and hamburgers for the gang. The rumor has it that Dietrich was cooking and eating the frankfurters and hamburgers all by himself. Another rumor was that Art Schmidt's dog was eating more hamburgers than Art, himself. The gang did miss the Italian sausage usually brought out by Frank Fazio. The sad part about this whole affair was that Art was scheduled to attend an Installation of Officers at his VFW Post later that evening, where he was to be installed as Post Commander. Hence, Art could not follow his usual practice of eating and drinking everything in sight, for fear he might have "difficulty" in making his acceptance speech at the V.F.W. Dave Thompson, Dietrich's buddy from the 47th, and from Tennessee, claimed that when Art got to the VFW he would be tilting heavily to the left from the weight of his medals. Art had been showing off his uniform jacket with all of his medals pinned on. Betty Rizzo is to be thanked for fattening the Chapter's Treasury. She had made several sofa cushions and gave them to us to be raffled off at the picnic. Mike Deresh collected \$44.00 selling tickets, and he gave same to the secretary for deposit in our Treasury. Art was busy collecting booster names for the Reunion Journal. It was nice meeting Pat Morano and his wife who came all the way from Chambersburg, Pennsylvania to attend the Memorial Services.

1976 New York REUNION PROGRAM

Thursday, July 22nd

Registration 10:00 A.M. - All Day
Washington Room
Board of Governors Meeting 5:00 P.M.
Boston Room
Welcoming Party 9:00 P.M.-1:00 A.M.
Georgian Room

Friday, July 23rd

Registration 10:00 A.M. - All Day
Committee Meetings 10:00 A.M.
Nominating Committee Empire Suite A
Newspaper Committee Empire Suite B
Finance Committee Town Room
Miscellaneous Committee Village Room
General Membership Meeting 11:00 A.M.
Georgian Room
Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 10:30 A.M. -
Play Penn Room
Board of Governors Meeting 5:00 P.M.
Boston Room
Beer Party and Dance 9:00 P.M.-1:00 A.M.
Terrace Ballroom

Saturday, July 24th

Registration 10:00 A.M.
Parade Formation and Memorial Service .. 9:45 A.M.
Cocktail Hour (open bar) 6:30 P.M. -
Play Penn Room
Banquet 8:00 P.M.
Terrace Room

Sunday, July 25th

Safe Journey Home

PARKING

THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE HAS MADE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOU TO PARK YOUR CAR AT THE HO-PENN GARAGE ON WEST 29TH STREET BETWEEN 7TH AND 8TH AVENUES AT A RATE OF \$4.00 PER DAY. YOU MAY DROP YOUR LUGGAGE AT THE HOTEL WHICH IS BETWEEN 32ND AND 33RD STREETS ON 7TH AVENUE. THEN PROCEED TO 29TH STREET. MAKE A RIGHT INTO 29TH STREET AND THE GARAGE IS ON THE LEFT HAND SIDE OF THE STREET. NORMAL RATES ARE \$7.50 PER DAY WHICH INCLUDES PICK UP AND DELIVERY.

YOU MUST LET ME KNOW BY JULY 15TH IF YOU WILL BE USING THE HO-PENN FOR PARKING. MANAGEMENT WILL SET ASIDE AN AREA FOR US.

WRITE TO:

EMIL P. LANGER
5 BRENTWOOD DRIVE
MORRIS PLAINS, NEW JERSEY. 07950.
HOME PHONE: 201-539-5345

CUT OUT THIS CLIPPING. IT MUST BE PLACED ON THE DASHBOARD OF YOUR CAR.

IT WILL BE YOUR IDENTIFICATION

REQUEST FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
July 21 - 24, 1976

NEW YORK Statler Hilton
Front Office Manager
7th Ave., 32nd Street, N.Y. 10001

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

FIRM NAME

ARRIVAL DATE

HOUR

AM
PM

DEPARTURE DATE

HOUR

AM
PM

RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED

Not later than 2 weeks prior to opening date of convention and will be held until 6 PM on day of arrival unless later hour is specified.

CONVENTION ROOM RATES

Singles:	22.00
Doubles-Twins	28.00
Triples:	32.00
Quads:	38.00

July 22 - 24 New York In 76

BE AN EARLY BIRD

Meet A Friend

REGISTER EARLY FOR
THE REUNION -

CHAPTER NEWS

Michigan Doings

NEWS-NOTES

As always, the April 3rd Chapter Meeting was a pleasant occasion. Rose and I only wish that more of you would have been with us that evening. Once again we thank all of you who came:

Pres. Elmer Wagner; 1st V.P. Ed & Marge Wisniewski; 2nd V.P. Everett Tapp; Adjutant Don & Helen Lewis; Chaplain John Zulkiewski; Treasurer Bob & Florence DeSandy; Fred & Jane Josey; Floyd & Leora Hennessey; John & Jane Young; Kleber & Vi Stockford; Chuck & Charlotte Fox and John & Rose Bonkowski (Hosts)

Our appreciation to those members who took time to complete and return their Questionnaires: Many kind notes were included.

There were five letters returned and four forwarded by the Post Office. This makes us appreciate the job that the National Secretary faces when someone does not inform him of a change in address. Please do let us know when you move.

Matt Urban expressed his usual generosity with a donation along with his note, "You fellows do all the work and this is my small contribution - use it wherever needed. See you in New York". Thanks again Matt, and we'll all drink to that at the Chapter C.P. in July

OHIO FRIENDS

It was nice to hear from our Ohio friends: Tippie Plunkett, Mike and Angie Mysyk and Robert Vollmar. They and so many others were in our thoughts when a Committee of Lewis, Hennessey and Bonkowski checked into The Sheraton Westgate Inn at Toledo, for a possible Outstate Meeting site this Fall. Although it didn't work out this time, all was not lost. The trip with Don & Helen Lewis and a most pleasant visit at Floyd & Leora Hennessey's home in Lambertville plus the Summer-like weather that Easter week-end made this an enjoyable venture.

SOLEMN OCCASION

The 3rd Annual Chapter Memorial on May 23rd began on a beautiful Sunday afternoon with a 12:00 PM Brunch at The Ponchartrain. The Ceremony at Christ Church in downtown Detroit - will be remembered by those who attended. Our deepest gratitude to Rev. Samuel S. Johnston the Rector for making it possible to hold the Service at his beautiful House of God and to Rev. Robert W. Leppien who came all the way from the Toledo area to deliver a Sermon that will never be forgotten. Wish more of you could have been with us on this solemn occasion.

OUTSTATE MEETING

Upon our return, contact was made with Pres. Elmer Wagner and he made the arrangements for our Outstate Meeting in Frankenmuth, Mich. on October the 2nd. A 6:00 PM Cocktail Hour and a 7:00 PM Dinner with a fine Program in our own private room at The Zehnders. We have time to decide if we want a Chicken Dinner (All you can eat) at \$6.15 or Chicken & Ham or Beef (All you can eat) at \$6.65. For those that wish accommodations for the night, a block of rooms will be reserved at the Holiday Inn-East at M42 and I 75 in Saginaw. Dbl bed 2 persons \$21.00. Twin - \$23.00 Singles - 18.00. More about this at the Picnic and the next News-Notes.

Our Picnic on June 13th was enjoyed by everyone who attended. We've had a pleasant surprise when The Kellers showed up, all the way from Columbus, Ohio. The weather was ideal despite all the talk about a rainy week-end. - There were 427 tickets sold for our 50-50 Raffle and I wish that I could be sending you the winners share but it didn't happen. One of Don Lewis' friends with ticket No. 386 won the \$213.50.

The "Guys & Gals" Booster list broke another Chapter record. I'm getting the sheet of 86 names and check ready for Ralph Witzkin in N.Y. For some reason we haven't received replies from a few regulars, otherwise the total would have been even greater.

There are 19 on the Amtrak list to the Convention. As soon as everything is finalized we'll send a list to the Convention Committee for Room reservations. Our present plans are for leaving Detroit at 8:00 AM on Wednesday, July 21, arrive at Grand Central at 9:50 PM. Of course there will be quite a few traveling on their own. The Michigan Chapter will have a good turn-out, as usual.

A lot of work has been put in already for our Outstate Meeting on October 2nd. Seems like a long way off but really it isn't for one of our special events of the year. Chairman of the event, Elmer Wagner is doing a good job.

John Bonkowski Sec

NEW YORK CHAPTER

President Emil Langer opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent prayer for our departed comrades.

Langer read the correspondence including a letter from Past President Pat Morano in which Pat said that he was sorry he could not attend our Past Presidents' Night, but that he would be at the Reunion. Langer was happy to report that both Al Munatore and Frank Fazio had been discharged from the hospital. Frank was fully recovered and Al was recovering nicely at home. Frank thanked the membership for sending him Get-Well Cards and making phone calls. Also, Langer announced the presence of a new member, Edward Maher, of the 47th and the return of Al Orletti to the meetings. Al's working hours have been changed so that he can now attend the meetings. The secretary reported that Dominick Miele had donated \$5.00 to the Chapter Welfare Fund.

Bill Klauz reported on the large turnout we had for our Memorial Services at Long Island National Cemetery and the picnic which followed at Bethpage State Park.

Reduced Rates

Frank Fazio gave a detailed report on the plans for the Reunion. He said that the reduced rates at the hotel would be effective from July 19th, and he urged that members get their reservations in early since the hotel is giving the best rooms to those sending in early reservations. Indications are that anyone attending the Reunion will have a good time.

Reunion events

On July 22nd we will have a "Little Old New York Night" with beer, soda, music and dancing; on July 23rd there is to be a "New Year's Eve Night" with more beer, music and dancing;

on July 23rd we have the usual Committee Meetings at 10:00 A.M. with the General Business Meeting at 11:00 A.M., and to keep the ladies busy we are going to have Ladies Tea Party at 11:00 A.M. On July 24 we will have our Parade and Memorial Services at Madison Square Park, (Eternal Light) at 5th Avenue and 24th Street, New York City. Tickets to the Observation Tower of the Empire State Building will be available. The committee is trying to keep the price of the trip ticket around \$25.00 plus \$1.00 Registration Fee. The New York Chapter C P will be open from Wednesday, July 21st. It is on the first floor in the Empire Room, Suites A and B. Langer urged that members intending to use their cars get in touch with him by July 10th to arrange for parking at discount rates.

Edward Egan reported that he has arranged for the necessary Police and Park Department Permits for the Memorial parade. Arrangements have been made for securing an Army Band and Firing Squad from Fort Hamilton Army Base. Langer reported that General Westmoreland will be at the Reunion. So here is an opportunity for members to have their copies of the General's book, A Soldier's Report, autographed. Frank Fazio announced that the cut-off date for boosters and ads for the Journal is July 9th, and he urged that members send in their boosters and ads as soon as possible. The secretary was busy taking ads and boosters.

Presidents' Night

President Langer asked all of the Past Chapter Presidents (this was Past President's Night) to step forward to the dais. As each past president stepped up he was given a round of applause. The Past Presidents present were: Daniel Quinn, Irving Feinberg, Arthur R. Schmidt, Vincent Guglielmino, Walter O'Keeffe, Frank Fazio, Emil Langer, Joseph Kearns and Michael Deresh. President Langer read a letter from Past President Calvin Polivy saying he could not come to the meeting because of another commitment, but that he sent his best regards to all of the members. Langer presented each Past President with a token of appreciation.

Langer announced that we would have a meeting on July 9th to make final plans for the Reunion.

Art Schmidt Sec.

HOSPITALIZATION

In emergencies, hospitalization may be granted, but before going to a V.A. hospital the veteran, or some one acting for him (preferably his doctor) should communicate with the nearest V.A. field station by telephone or telegraph requesting authority for admission and for transportation, if necessary. In the case of service-connected veterans needing hospital care for the service-connected disability, where the delay would be hazardous to life, or where transportation at a distance is advised against for medical reasons, by reason of the veterans' condition, hospitalization may be obtained in a private hospital. However, in this case, also prior authorization by the V.A. is necessary before reimbursement for such expenses incurred can be granted.

ILLINOIS CHAPTER

The Illinois Chapter Remembers

Each year the Illinois Chapter members and their families gather at a selected cemetery to remember and honor those soldiers who have passed on. This year the service took place at the military cemetery of Fort Sheridan on Memorial Day. The Casimer Paweleks and their son, Captain James Pawelek, made all arrangements and hosted the event. The eleven o'clock prayer service was led by John Clouser. Bud Reimer shared some of his thoughts in a message to the group who were gathered about the designated grave. Paul Clark was the flag bearer and Mike Belmonte placed an Octofoil floral arrangement on the grave. The sounding of taps concluded this solemn ceremony. A number of young people joined their parents for this occasion providing an impressive family experience in reverence and patriotism.

Generous Jean

The members regrouped at the Officers Club for refreshments and a buffet luncheon. Generous Jean Pawelek had Bicentennial gifts for everyone. The guys received a hand crafted "Uncle Sam", the youngsters Bicentennial half-dollars and the ladies received colorful crocheted "what-not" boxes. A tour of the Fort's Museum proved to be an interesting activity. Inclement weather put a damper on the outside activities.

In addition to the "regulars" attending, it was good to see Emil Radik, the Bob Pappas from Moline.

June Meeting at Tedimans

As I sat here typing the news, the mail arrived and included a card from Secretary Bob Winkelman announcing the June meeting. Peak attendance is expected for this meeting since it will involve preliminary planning and the naming of committees for the 1977 Chicago Reunion. Determining a calendar of events for the remainder of 1976 will also be on the agenda. Board of Governors Representatives Paul Clark and Bill Hennemuth will be available to receive suggestions from the membership on any matter which may need to be expressed at the next meeting of the board in New York.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Clouser
901 Graceland
Des Plaines, Ill.

COME ONE-COME ALL

Welcome to New York, the world's most dynamic and exciting city. You will find that we excel in almost everything you will want as part of your holiday in New York - theaters, music, ballet, restaurants, night life, shopping, sports, museums, parks and sightseeing. New York is the Big Apple - the Big Time in every way - and Summer is one of the best times of the year to see it all.

*Come to New York City this Summer with your family or group, alone or with a friend. Enjoy our city and its wonderful people. For a helping hand in planning your visit or for additional information, stop at the Convention and Visitors Bureau, 90 E. 42nd St. or the Information Center of the Economic Development Administration of the City of New York at Times Square.

I join every citizen of our city in extending to you our warm welcome and hearty hospitality. Enjoy your visit and return again soon and often.

Sincerely,
Abraham D. Beame
Mayor
City of New York

Mail Call CONT'D

Enclosed are a few thoughts which I have set down on paper in support of Colonel Smith.

I certainly enjoy getting the Octofoil. Keep up the good work.

60th Inf.

Norbert Chick Hennen
4130 Washburn Ave. North
Minneapolis, Minn. 55412

Your Nov-Dec 1975 issue, which I received this week, contains a letter by a good friend of mine, COL Harold W. Smith. "Smitty" is saying many of the things which I have been preaching for years.

It was at the Ninth Infantry Division Association annual convention in Springfield, Illinois, that I made an impassioned plea for opening the ranks of our Association to all wearers of the Octofoil. This was shortly after I had attended the U.S. Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, in 1970. Major General G.S. Eckhardt, commandant of the college, had just been transferred from South Viet Nam, where he had commanded the Ninth Infantry Division.

There were many wearers of the Octofoil on the faculty of the college and during my tour there the former members of the Ninth held a meeting. I inquired of General Eckhardt why his people did not join our Association. He replied that, "We tried, but they won't have us." Needless to say, I was quite surprised by this news. I should not have been, of course, because the by-laws of the Association apparently are interpreted to exclude all except WWII veterans.

However the Articles of Incorporation do read: "This Association is formed...to preserve the esprit de corps of the division...and to serve as an information bureau to former members of the 9th Infantry Division." This would seem to be inclusive of the "new" as well as any "old" Division.

In the same issue as is the letter from "Smitty" is a letter by another dear friend, COL Henry E. Royall. "Hank" tells of visiting the Ninth Division Museum at Fort Lewis and finding it barren of any WWII memorabilia. I can see why! If we deny participation in our Association to the present members of the Ninth, it may be that they are honoring our desire for "apartheid."

Oh, I can see reasons for maintaining our identity. An Octofoil filled with strange names and current doings at Fort Lewis would not be inviting to those of us who look for the newspaper to help us rekindle fond memories. But I believe this could be solved by having a special section completely devoted to WWII people, in other words, maintain the present publication intact.

I know that the vote which "Smitty" suggests has been taken many times, including at the Springfield convention, and the result has always been a resounding "Nyet." As long as that is the will of the majority, I shall, of course, abide thereby. But I agree with "Smitty" that we should not continue as a "tontine." It would be nice to know that there is a continuous flow of new members who will carry on our traditions and forever proudly wear the Octofoil.

New York In 76
July 22 - 24

MAIL CALL

THE OCTOFOIL

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

Mrs. George W. Smythe
6200 Oregon Ave.,
N.W. Apt. 278
Washington, D.C. 20015

"Thank you so much for reprinting the Avenging Ghosts of the Ninth by Thomas R. Henry. It was a surprise, as the inner fold fell loose and there was George's photo. I cried a little, as I read it. I liked the expression 'blunt the first spearhead of the Bulge: established the first American beach head east of the Rhine'. So many people talk of the Bulge, but I really know now where George was and not caught in the Bulge on those last days, wherein there were heroes."

376th AAA

George Waldron
3801 Soquel Dr.,
Soquel, Cal. 95073

Thank you for your time-gathering information for me. I made 2 copies of the Octofoil and sent them to my buddies James Jackson and Jack McKee of Washington state. Enclosed find membership for all 3 of us. I owe these guys a lot and they never knew the association existed. Going to drop a line to Pete Raddichio in Santa Monica. He might even be the guy who saved me at the Bulge when I had frozen feet. Dan, you're like an angel breathing new life in to tired old bodies. I'm going to be 53 and married 29 years this Nov. My son Gregory just came back from a 3 year tour in Guam and Saipan and went to San Diego for new orders. See you all soon.

Hq. 47th 1st Bn

Edward Slosson, Jr.
63 Sherwood Pl.,
Greenwich, Conn.

Dear Dan:

So sorry to hear of the passing of Jesse Nunn, he was my Lt. My last spinal fusion in 70s still makes it hard walking up stairs. Give my best to all the gang.

Co. K. 60th

Paul A. Mitchell
30 Hallsdale Dr.,
Louisville, Ky. 40220

Paul sends regards to all and asks to be remembered at the reunion even though he won't be there. He also has myocardial and some pulmonary problems.

9th M.P.

John T. Weber
46 Bromfield St.,
Quincy, Ma. 02170

John writes "Due to prior commitments, my wife and I will be unable to attend the reunion this year. Hope all goes well for a fine 1976 convention and best regards to all."

Hq. Co., 47th

Jackie Della Porte
188 Coffey St.,
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11231

Jackie writes and asks to be sent information in reference to the reunion as he is looking forward to meeting all his friends there.

Co. B. 47th

Jack DiSanto
154 Dodds Ct.,
Burlington, Vt. 05401

As usual late with my dues. Please excuse my tardiness. Hope to see all the gang at the New York convention. This is one affair I'm going to make.

60th Inf. Co.

Gabino Jack Fernandez
39 Seeno St.,
Pittsburgh, Cal. 94565

I want to thank you for the 60th History book. Also, I am enclosing my check for a year membership to the 9th Association. Sure wish I could join you all at the next convention. But since I am paralyzed from the chest down, sorry I can't join you. You see I have what you call Covine T.B., or Cattle T.B., I got it from drinking unpasteurized milk.

I told these people that the only place I had drank unpasteurized milk was in Europe when I was in the service.

Because this T.B. never showed up in my blood or urine so I would like to ask you if you could do me a favor and see if some of the guys at the convention would sign a petition that lot of the G.I.'s drank milk whenever we had a chance to milk a cow. I am trying to prove to the V.A. that it was service connected. But they say I have to get some proof. Well, since Sgt. Piligrini was from N.Y. and PFC Rodriguez they'll be there, give them my regards. Also, Sgt. Rose, Hudson, Capt. Coulter, Lt. Sander, Brooks and Coburn. Sgt. Falby, McLeer, Zeke Miller and, of course, Col. Van Hooten (less looting more shooting). Tell Gen. Westy that I am waiting for his book. Since I have a lot of time to read, I am sure he will put the truth where it belongs. The last time I talked to Westy was in Ingolstadt. Regards to everyone. Hope you can help me a little. Thanks for answering.

9th Q.M.

George Pickard
824 Rose St.,
Indiana, Pa.

I am writing to inform you, that George is in the Oakland V.A. Hospital at Pittsburgh. He has had another operation on his stomach. This makes the second one. He needs letters or any kind of information you can get to prove this stomach operation was service connected. He has been in many hospitals and also a field hospital in France. He has over 50 percent of his stomach removed and just had more done on the 5th of March 1976. I would appreciate any help you can give us. Thanking you for George. Signed ... Ruby Pickard.
P.S. Anyone having any information, please get in touch with the above.

9th Signal Co.

Everett H. Spink
Box 15 Stonebrook
Cosby, Tenn. 37722

I haven't been receiving my Octofoil lately and maybe it's because I have moved and I didn't send you my new address or I owe you some dues whatever let me know what the score is.

Please sent me a couple 9th Division decals.

I have retired from the Telephone Co. and moved down here to enjoy the scenery and the milder weather.

Sid Waiebed an ex 9th Signal Co. member who lives in Greensboro recently visited me and we had a grand time going over old times.

Give my regards to any 9th Signal Co. men you see at the Reunion.

Co L 60th Inf

Franklin W. Gunter
423 South 34th St.,
Tacoma, Wash 98408

Enclosed is the agency check in the amount of eighteen dollars (\$18.00) which I hope is enough to cover both myself and also my wife's memberships for the next three years. She has a card already under the name of Florence M. Gunter and is based upon my membership in the association.

The reason why the membership renewal is so long in reaching you is that I had a rather severe accident the latter part of January which caused me to spend about a month out here at Madigan Army Hospital with a crushed lung and side after a rather severe auto accident. As a result everything went to pot and now am attempting to get the business straightened out again and the bills paid up again. It is sort of slow work but I am still happy that I am here to do it for the two of us.

Would you please see that the auxiliary gets the money to place my wife's card in good stead for the next three years. They only show the dues for a single year on the membership application. I found here on an old Octofoil but I guess they would not object to strenuously if they get a three years renewal.

For your information I was a member of Company L, 60th Infantry when we were over in Germany and the address was still A.P.O. 9. I know that they have had several different APO's since that time but the old APO 9 still brings back many somewhat happy memories to me even so.

Thanking you in advance for your assistance in this matter and knowing that between you and the auxiliary you will get the two cards out to us so we will again be members in good standing.

A Co. 60th Inf.

Robert Pappas
3220-39th Street
Moline, Ill. 61265

It's in the red again, time sure fly's by, so here are my dues and a donation for the Memorial Fund.

I'm on the go so much these days that I doubt if I'll be able to make this years reunion.

I even had a hard time seeing the gang and making the monthly meetings in Chicago of the Illinois Chapter. These guy's sure make you feel welcome and at home.

I was re-elected the Financial Secretary of my union plus the fact I'm the Vice-Pres. of a building corp., also just elected as Vice Chairman of the Great City area C.A.P. Council representing approx. 20,000 U.A.W. union members. I travel quite a bit and even hit the D.C. area to represent the Veterans Chapter of my area.

My best to all, that the reunion will be as usual a gala affair.

Hqs. 60th Inf.

John P. Farson
716 Powdermill Lane
Phila. Pa. 19151

I was planning to write a bicentennial minute: But the lane I live on only goes back to 1802 and the mill furnished powder for the war of 1812: So there goes my Bicentennial minute.

So please correct my address to Powdermill Lane and my zip to 19151.

Hope to see you and a great many others in New York City.

THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave Weehawken, N. J. 07087-

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

C. G 47th &
Finance Section

Martin Gill
2401 Pennington Road
Trenton, N.J. 08638

Enclosed is check in the amount of \$5.00 for 1976 dues from Edward Maher, 183 West Avenue, Patchogue, Long Island, N.Y. 11772. Met Ed, for the first time in a long while, while going through Pennsylvania Station enroute to work one morning. He was in "G" Company, 47th Infantry from early 1941 until evacuated after being wounded in Europe in 1944.

This is the second letter that Marty has sent in a short time and he writes "Enclosed is a check for membership in the Association on behalf of Richard H. Haynes, who as Master Sergeant in the Finance Section, Division Headquarters, was one of my "bosses" during WW2.

Recently I have been endeavoring to round up some of my former Division associates for the 31st Annual Reunion in New York and in so doing, told each that if the would send me \$5.00 for membership, dues I would see that they got their 76 membership card by return mail and a copy of the most recent issue of the "Octofoil" shortly thereafter. Dick is the first to respond to that offer.

Looking forward to seeing you and so many other July 22-24 particularly on Saturday July 24. Best wishes to all.

Div Hqs

Vic Daumit
333 Connecticut Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

Vic operates his dance studio at the above address and he's a busy guy these days. We read where he was recently teaching Mrs. Betty Ford a few steps for the First Lady to soft-shoe her way through the strains of "Once in Love with Amy" for a Gridion Dinner being held in Washington.

He writes "I'm afraid that it's my turn to be the bearer of sad news as I learned of the death of Robert C. Rinn of Rochester, N.Y. He was originally in the 39th and then transferred into the band right after "tent city".

I'm really looking forward to the reunion in New York and you can believe I'll be there.

26th FA

William H. Meadows
Box 5325
National City, Mich. 48748

Bill and Barbara Meadows have joined that ever growing list of the "old timers" and have retired to the country where "We are now living a life of ease."

Eds Note: Thanks Bill for sending your change of address and we wish you and Barbara all of the best. We know you won't retire from the association.

AT Co. 47th Inf.

Daniel B. Adams
2060 Midland Road
Southern Pines,
No. Carolina 28387

Enclosed find renewal check for three years.

Those who served at Ft. Bragg, N.C. in 1941 - 42 may be interested to know that their "new division area" on Butner Road is now the "old division area". However, the buildings are well maintained. They house a goodly number of ROTC and reserve component activities, also some XVIII Airborne Corps units. The McFayden Pond area, where we learned basics of "amphibbery" is a youth recreational area.

60th Inf. Med.
Det. 3rd Bn.

Wallace Hawkins
318 S. 13th Street
Hattiesburg, Miss. 39401

Enclosed you will find cash for three years dues in our association. Hope I can make it to New York this year, for the reunion.

I hope some members of the 60th Inf. Med. Det. 3rd Bn. will be in New York this year. Keep up the good work.

39th Inf.

Wm "Bill" Keller
Mechanicsburg, Ohio
43044

Dear Dan:

Good luck to all in the 9th Division Association. I was in the 9th in WW 2 in Africa and Sicily and have many memories of those days. Was in the aid station of the 39th Infantry and a medic with F Company in Sicily. Remember the Battle of Troina and getting relieved by the British at Mt. Etna as we went back to Palermo. Would be glad to hear from anyone from the 39th aid station.

Co. E 47th Inf.

John P. Hynes
P.O. Box 183
Bronx, N.Y. 10455

John sends his dues and writes "Hope you all are well and taking care of yourself. As you know I am a bartender but took several weeks. I don't know whether it is age 56 or from P.O.W. but my legs are O.K. but not as good as they used to be. Had an infection in my left leg from too much sun last summer. I am receiving unemployment and have no worry on the money end as everything is just o.k. Regards to all my buddies and God bless them.
PS: CoI 47th to O.C.S. back to Company E 47th Safi French Morocco - P.O.W. almost 26 months. (3-28-43 at ElGuettar)

(Please turn to Page 3

... there's a new deodorant for bullfighters called right gored.

... anybody who has mistaken for a moose and shot, is better off dead anyway.

SEE YOU IN NEW YORK

76 Reunion
July 22 - 24