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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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The Octofoil, January/February 1981

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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Recommended Citation

Ninth Infantry Division Association, "The Octofoil, January/February 1981" (1981). *The Octofoil*. 238.
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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

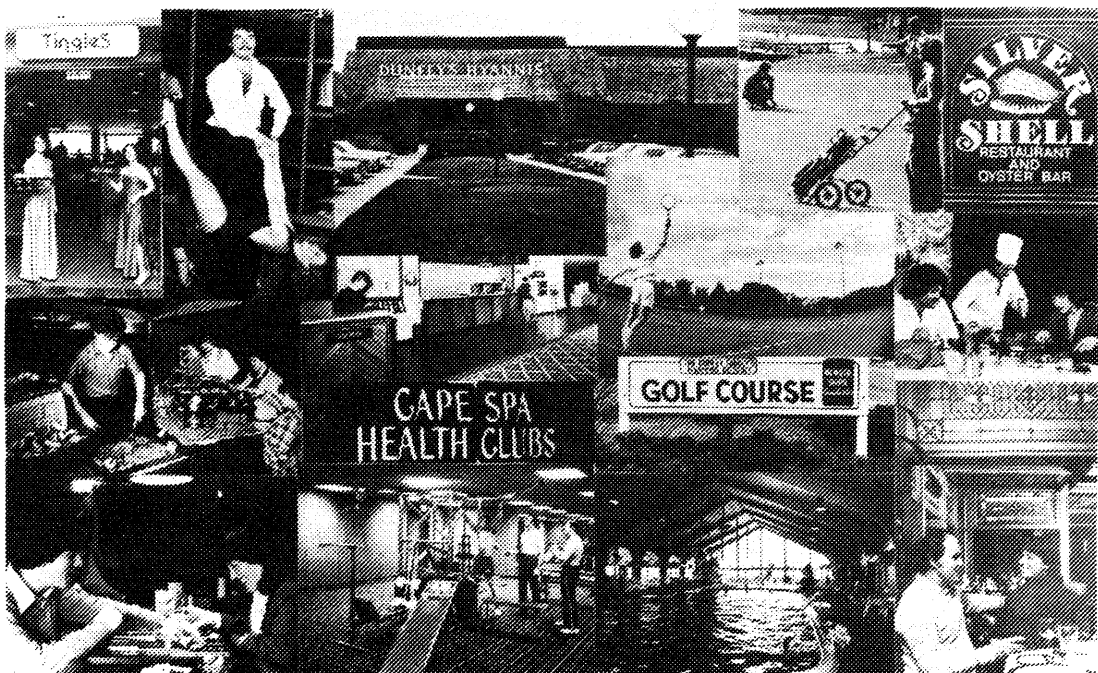
THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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

XXXVI Number 1

Jan-Feb. 1981

Dunfey Hotel a Resort and Conference Center



Dunfey's Hyannis Hotel our C.P. for Reunion.

Proposal to Amend By-laws

I am submitting the following proposal for restructuring the organization of the Ninth Infantry Division Association so that the proposal may be published in the next issue of the Octofoil and considered at the meeting to be held at the Reunion in June 1981 at Hyannis, Mass.

A PROPOSAL

The following are proposals to restructure the organization of the Ninth Infantry Division Association so that the present Ninth Infantry Division Association and the Octofoil Association may become separate and autonomous divisions of one association.

The proposals are as follows:

1. That the Ninth Infantry Division Association be restructured so that there will be two separate and autonomous societies (divisions) within the Association. One society to be the present Ninth Infantry Division Association and be named the Ninth Infantry Division Society of World War II and the other society to be named the Octofoil Society.
2. That a coordinating board be created to administer the mutual business affairs and problems of the two societies. The coordinating board to be named the Board of Directors of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. The membership of the Board of Directors to consist of the President of each Society, the Secretary of each Society, and three members of the governing board of each society. The governing board of each society will select the members to represent them. Each member of the Board of Directors to serve during the time he is a member of the governing board or officer of the respective societies. The Board of Directors shall annually elect a chairman, vice chairman, and secretary from its own members.
3. That the Ninth Infantry Division Society of World War II and the Octofoil Society shall each have full authority to conduct their own business and affairs as if they were separate and distinct associations.

The purpose of this proposal is to unite the two associations into one association, but at the same time allow each to function as a separate organization as they have in the past.

John J. Clouser

P.O. Box 807

Crystal River, Fla. 32629



At the Worcester Memorial dinner (left to right; seated) Rev. Edward Connors, General and Mrs. Westmoreland, standing-- Mr. & Mrs. Al Benoit and Mr. & Mrs. Pete Lemieux.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Our Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, June 27, 1981 at a beautiful site dedicated to the loving memory of our President John Fitzgerald Kennedy by the Village of Hyannis.

The wearers of the Octofoil will be transported to a spot about 100 yards from this special site and we will march to the Memorial escorted by a marching band.

Very Special Place

It is most fitting that we remember our dead at this very special place, for John Fitzgerald Kennedy, a native of Hyannis gave his life in the service of his country as did the 4581 men who died that we might live. That all Americans might enjoy the comforts and pleasures of our great nation in a most common and ordinary way.

The site is a simple field stone wall with the seal of the President on one side and a raised bust of John Kennedy on the other. It overlooks the Harbor of Hyannis and as you pass through the Memorial to the harborside, you cannot help but feel that you are someplace special.

Dear To Us

We have met for our Memorial Service in many places in this great land, and none will ever be more near and dear to us as the Memorial on the side of the hill in Worcester, but I am sure that as we remember the wearers of the Octofoil who have gone to their eternal reward at this very special site that they will indeed be close by.

We ask all to join us at 10:00 A.M. on Sat. June 27, 1981. If you cannot join us in Hyannis, please join us in spirit no matter where you may be.

Tom Boyle

39 Hall Ave.

Somerville, Me. 02144

**Dates for 81
Reunion
June 25-27**

81 Hyannis Reunion to rate with the greatest

Promise To Surpass

Eight years ago, the New England Chapter had the privilege of being host to the men of the Ninth and their families. From all reports this was an enjoyable three days. Once again we have been given the honor of being your hosts, and we promise you that it is our intention to surpass the 1973 Reunion in enjoyment and entertainment.

Excellent Resort

Dunfey's, our site for the Reunion, is an excellent resort and only a block away from Main Street. A pleasant walk down this street takes you past dozens of fascinating craft shops and shopping boutiques, many displaying the works of local Cape Cod artists and craftsmen. One can also walk down nearby Ocean Street to the Hy-Line Docks, where you may choose between an off-shore passage to Nantucket or Martha's Vineyard, or a sightseeing cruise of Hyannis and Hyannisport Harbors.

Safety Factors

The committee feels that Dunfey's also offers many safety factors. There are only two floors to the hotel, the ground floor and the floor above. Every room is an outside room that opens on to a balcony overlooking the grounds. On our last visit to Dunfey's, the manager took us through the whole complex showing us a completely installed, new smoke and heat alarm system.

Registration

The program starts with registration on Thursday, June 25th, from 1:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. This will take place in an area set aside for us in the lobby of the hotel.

Entertainment

Ken Reeves' orchestra, one of the finest and best known groups in the Boston and Cape Cod area, will entertain you during your three day stay in Hyannis. Thursday night's welcoming party will be held from 8:00 P.M. to 12:00 A.M. As an added attraction to the evening, we will have the pleasure of listening to the South Shore Men of Harmony, a group of about forty to fifty men, and one of the finest Barber Shop choruses in the country. They have performed throughout the U.S. and Canada and are dedicated to the preservation of barber shop music and harmony. They are very selective of the type of group for which they perform. Being always in demand, I felt honored that they consented to put on an hour show for us. I know you will enjoy them.

On Friday, June 26th, we will have registration from 10:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. in the same area.

Golf Tournament

As there is a par three golf course at the hotel, we are planning a golf tournament Friday morning at 10:00 A.M. Anyone who wishes to be included should notify Herb Olsen, Tom Boyle or Ron Murphy.

Old Fashion Clam Bake

By popular demand, we will hold an old fashion clam bake on Friday, June 26th from 2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the "Tradewinds", adjacent to beautiful Craigville Beach. Because "the bake" is an added attraction, there is a charge of \$15.00 per person, for those who wish to attend. This includes "the bake" and transportation. For those who wish to be part of this unique experience, I cannot stress enough the importance of letting us know, as soon as possible, that you wish to attend. Please fill out the form in the Octofoil and send it with your check to our treasurer, Tom Boyle. The cut off date is two weeks prior to the bake. We must hear from you by Friday, June 12th.

Friday evening's dance will be held from 8:00 P.M. to 12:00 A.M. Our music master, Ken Reeves, will be there with our kind of music.

Memorial Service

Saturday, June 27th at 8:00 A.M., Father Connors will say Mass at the hotel. At 9:30 A.M., we will leave the hotel, by bus, for our Memorial service. This service, a remembrance of all those who paid the supreme sacrifice, as well as for those who have since passed away, will be held in a beautiful spot by the sea.

Saturday afternoon is given to meetings.

At 5:00 P.M. on Saturday, Father Connors will again say Mass so that Catholics may fulfill their Sunday obligation.

Dinner Dance

Our dinner dance on Saturday night from 7:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. will conclude the 1981 Reunion.

Eliminate Confusion

Any group traveling by charter bus to the Reunion should furnish us with the names of all the people on your bus. This will eliminate a great deal of confusion for you and allow the hotel to provide you with more efficient service. When you arrive, you will have your room keys for you, and bell hops available to assist you with your luggage. Your list of names should be sent to Mr. Nelson Cook at Dunfey's or to Herb Olsen, Tom Boyle, or Ron Murphy. Charter buses should not arrive at the hotel before 3:00 P.M.

Reservations

Please remember, the cut off date for guaranteed reservations is May 28th. This is much earlier than any of our previous Reunions. Don't miss out. Send in your reservations now.

Won't Regret

Remember, time has a way of passing by and each year we meet, the roster gets smaller and smaller. So, don't say, "Maybe, next year I will make the Reunion". You owe it to yourself to say, "I will be in Hyannis on June 25th, 26th and 27th". You won't regret this decision.

RON MURPHY

THE OCTOFOIL
Form 3579 should be sent to
412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087
Octofoil Associated Editors
Walter O'Keeffe and Daniel Quinn

National Officers
President
William Bongiorno
3 Cedar Ridge Terrace
Beford, Mass. 01730

Vincent Guglielmino, 1st V.P.
114 Charles Street
Floral Park, N.Y. 11001

Elmer Wagner, 2nd V.P.
2833 Hotchkiss Road
Bay City, Mi. 48706

Michael Belmonte, 3rd V.P.
1161 So. Lombard Ave.
Oak Park, Ill. 60304

Harrison Daysh
Judge Advocate
4303 Carriage Court
Kinsington, Md. 20795

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

Daniel Quinn, Secretary
412 Gregory Avenue
Weehawken, N.J. 07087

Board Member Emeritus
Honorary Member Emeritus
Maj. Gen. Louis A. Craig (Ref.
Rev. Edward Connors

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 \$5.00 per year with \$1.50 of the \$5.00 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 yearly, 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 our fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the division, to assist in promoting an everlasting world peace exclusively by 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 15th of each month to guarantee publication on the 20th.
Second-Class Postage paid at Union City, N.J. Authorized as of October 1, 1967.

XXXVI Number 1 Jan-Feb. 1981

Publication No. 402820

REQUEST FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
36th ANNUAL REUNION
JUNE 24-27, 1981

DUNFEY
HYANNIS HOTEL
WEST END CIRCLE
HYANNIS, CAPE COD, MASSACHUSETTS 02601
(617) 775-7775

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS:
PLEASE CHECK ONE: X EUROPEAN PLAN
RATES (NO MEALS)

\$59.00 PER ROOM PER NIGHT SINGLE OCCUPANCY PLUS 5.7 PERCENT TAX

\$59.00 PER ROOM PER NIGHT DOUBLE OCCUPANCY PLUS 5.7 PERCENT TAX

\$7.00 PER PERSON PER NIGHT FOR EXTRA PERSON IN BEDROOM FOR ANY CHILDREN AGES 4 AND ABOVE PLUS 5.7 PERCENT ROOM TAX.

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE AND INDICATE DAY AND DATE: PLEASE CONFIRM

(I) (WE) WILL ARRIVE _____

AND DEPART _____, 1981.
ONE NIGHT'S ROOM DEPOSIT (PLEASE ENCLOSE CHECK, MADE PAYABLE TO DUNFEY HYANNIS HOTEL) REQUIRED TO GUARANTEE RESERVATION. RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED UNTIL MAY 28, 1981. AFTER THIS DATE, RESERVATIONS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.

REFUND OF DEPOSIT GIVEN IF CANCELLATION IS MADE 72 HOURS OR MORE PRIOR TO ARRIVAL. NO REFUND GIVEN IF RESERVATION IS CANCELLED WITHIN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL, OR GUEST DOES NOT ARRIVE ON DATE SPECIFIED.

CHECK IN TIME AFTER 2:00 PM
CHECK OUT TIME BY 11:00 AM

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SEND WITH YOUR DEPOSIT TO OUR RESERVATIONS MANAGER. THANK YOU, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR VISIT.

REMARKS:

Taps Sounded

It is our sad duty to announce the passing of these "Old Reliables":

Sal Longo
Hq Co 47th Inf
Raymond Moses
60th Inf
Sal Grosso
Co F 60th Inf
William Kallas
Can Co 47th Inf
Francis J. Lake
Med Det 34th FA
John Brooks
Can Co 60th Inf
Joseph Lips
1st Bn Hg Co
47th Inf
Franklin Gunter
Co L 60th Inf
George Stegner
Co D 39th Inf

Rosemarie Lonsway widow
of Jack Lonsway Co A 60th Inf

May they rest in peace. On behalf of the members of the association we extend our belated sympathy to their loved ones.

Hq. 1st Bn. 47th
EDWARD SLOSSON, JR.
63 Sherwood Pl.
Greenwich, Conn. 06830

Dear Dan: I received a Christmas card from Mrs. Joseph Lips, that Joe died Aug. 2, 1980 from a second heart attack. He was with the 1st Bn. Co. D. 47th. From the early days of Fort Bragg. He is buried in Pinelawn Cemetery on Long Island. His widow lives at 6 Windsor St., Hicksville, N.Y. 11801.

Hqs. 15th Engrs.
FARNIS APOSTOLIDES
41 Gardner St.
Peobody, Mass. 01960

I have the unhappy duty of letting you know we have lost another member, William Kallas who was in Cannon Co. 47th Inf. He passed away in Nov. 1980. His funeral was attended by many of his friends. He is survived by his wife, and 3 daughters and 2 brothers.

FLORENCE GUNTER
7047 So. G St.
Tacoma, Wash. 98408

I have the sad duty to inform you that my husband Franklin passed away due to a heart condition. He was with L Co. 60th.

MR. KLEBER STOCKFORD
13581 Sheridan Rd.
Montrose, Mich. 48457

Dear Dan: My sister Rosemarie Lonsway (widow of Jack D. Lonsway who was with the 60th Inf. A Co.) passed away in Dec. 1980. He passed away in 1961. We shall miss her. May she rest in peace.

Med. Det. 34th F.A.
RICHARD KEEGAN
85 Newton Drive
Nashua, N.H. 03063

Dear Dan: I just learned of the death of a member of the 34th FA, Med. Det. I'm sure everyone of the 34th knew Francis J. Lake. He died of a massive heart attack in Feb. 1980. It was quite a shock to me. Hope to be at the reunion in June and sure won't miss Worcester Memorial in the fall. I had a great time last fall at Worcester. Had the honor of driving Westy and Mrs. Westmoreland to Logan Airport. Hope all is well with you and hope to see you in June.

Tip of the Hat

The association's Memorial Fund was enriched with the generosity of the following members and friends:
George Waldron
Anthony Forta
Eugene De Rosa
John Thornton
Herbert Stern
Edwin Brewer
Paul Pelish
Bill Morrison
John DeRouville
Mrs. Margaret Shine

Acknowledgement is also given to these members who have contributed to the Fort Bragg Memorial Marker Fund

Robert Hulsander
Ed Koneski
John DeRouville
Jerry Teachout
Trevor Jones
George Poole

Michigan Chapter members

We salute you.

Fort Bragg Memorial Marker

Approved
Worcester, Mass. 8 November 80
Following a presentation by Marker Committee member, George Brown, in which various examples of existing unit memorial markers were shown from different locations the Board of Trustees approved the interim report of the Committee and gave a "go-ahead" for the project. A determination of costs is hard to come by but a solicitation of funds should be undertaken immediately with the distinct understanding that any funds not spent on our Memorial marker would be allotted to the 9th Infantry Division Association Scholarship Fund.

Liason will be established with Fort Bragg and an appropriate site for the marker will be selected.

9th Infantry Division Association
Memorial Marker Fund

Enclosed is my contribution + of \$5.00 - 10.00 - 15.00 - 25.00 for the 9th Division Memorial Marker to be erected at Fort Bragg

Name: _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
9th Division unit

+ Any funds not used will be placed in the Scholarship Fund.
Request For Space in Souvenir Program

Full Page — \$50. Half Page — \$30.
Quarter Page — \$20. Eighth Page — \$10.

Booster Ads —\$2. name and unit
Make checks payable to
9th Inf. Div. Assn. Reunion and send all checks, money orders, and Ad copy to:
Reunion Treasurer Thomas Boyle
39 Hall Avenue
Somerville, Ma. 02144

Old Fashion Clam Bake

Clam Bake Friday June 26, 1981
I will attend the Clam Bake

Name

Address

Amount \$15.00 per person
Make checks payable to:
9th Infantry Division Assn. Reunion
and send to

Reunion Treasurer Thomas Boyle
39 Hall Avenue
Somerville, Ma. 02144

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Enclosed please find 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	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Donation Fort Bragg Marker Fund		<input type="checkbox"/>	
THREE-YEAR MEMBER	13.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Life Membership	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Decals	\$.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Ladies' Auxiliary Member	\$ 2.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	
60th Infantry History (plus postage 60 cents)	\$.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Please credit the following chapter:			
Philly-Delaware Valley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Greater New York	<input type="checkbox"/>
Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/>	Washington, D.C.	<input type="checkbox"/>
New England	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ohio	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fayetteville- Fort Bragg, N.C.	<input type="checkbox"/>

SERVICE BATTERY
TWENTY-SIXTHFIELD
ARTILLERY BATTALION
To .. Ninth Infantry Division
Association:

May you have a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

The old year left like a roaring lion. The 1980 version of a roaring lion brought snow to the north country which is the delight of all skiers throughout our land. At the same time all thermometers have been struggling, trying to reach the 20 notch but with little success. OPEC is really going to make a bundle again this year.

Great Gang

Even with so much snow and cold weather, St. Nick and his assistant, the U.S. Letter Carrier, usually arrived at his appointed time. His messages, delivered for the great gang of Service Battery 26FA, always carried the familiar "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

Sad Note

A sad note was received from Mrs. Marion Natalini, 2121a So. Victor, Aurora, Colorado. Her husband, Carlo (26FA Medic from Feb. 1941 until August 1942) attended O C S Medical Administrative School. "Nat" as he was known by all in 26FA died of cancer during July 1980.

Mac Hurn worked most of his life as a carpenter. A few years ago he thought retirement was for him. He tried it and it did not work. Next he tried working for the school system in Lakeport, Calif. Later he tried ranching. Now he is collecting Social Security. Trying to get a pension on his military service is next on his list.

Cecil Williamson of Albert Lea, Minnesota hopes that he has retired for good.

Here n There

Pergi, Blitzstein, Fry, Cline, Mosier, Ponticello, Bongiorno, Earnhardt, Brazil, Daniels, Boyle, Sheffler, Malone, Turner, England, Kepple, Leach, Bolow, Murray, Albanese, Kral, Langer, Landon, Roscoe, Fribush and Wallace all from Service Battery good men took a few minutes away from their daily chores to send a MERRY CHRISTMAS greeting. Mrs. Alice Wilkinson also sent greetings. Manny Eifron is slowly recovering after major surgery.

Loren Doyle, Connie Matulis, Fran Maher, Milt Parrott, Ronnie Murphy, Chesley Mischler, John Clouser and Tom Boyle are some of the nice people who are members of our Association who have sent my wife and me a very special CHRISTMAS GREETING. Dick Rogers is spending more time in Whitefield, N.H. than in his other home at Bradenton Beach, Florida.

Remember --- Beautiful Hyannis --- on Cape Cod --- June 25, 26, 27.

Mr. Joseph A. McKenzie
95 Washington Ave.
Waltham, MA 02154

Michigan Happenings

The Michigan Chapter met at



Bob Smith sends this photo taken with a Jerry camera Tom Shine picked up some where in Sicily. The picture was taken at Barton Stacey, England just prior to D Day. Left to right: Thomas Shine (who passed away a few years ago), Amar Moore, Harry Kreeley and Bob Smith.

the home of Bob and Flo DeSandy on Saturday February 7, 1981. Thirty three members and guests were present: Joe and Francis DeSandy, parents of Bob, were present. We were informed that Joe would be celebrating his 84th Birthday on February 8th. This announcement brought on a round of applause and the singing of the Happy Birthday Song. Those present extended Joe their best wishes for many more years of good health and happiness.

The numbers present brought forth the fact that many members were ill with the old bug-a-boo Flu. We were informed that Joh Al Young was hospitalized at Otsego General Hospital at Gaylord, Mich. A card, signed by those present, was sent to John wishing him a speedy recovery. All others being reported as ill at home. For all those on sick call and in the hospital we wish you a speedy recovery.

To Reunion By Bus

The Chapter discussed many things during the meeting. Foremost was the annual reunion to be held at Hyannis, Mass. June 25-27. We again are arranging a bus trip from Saginaw, Mich. The route to be Saginaw to Flint to Port Huron to Hyannis. As things stand at this writing John Al Young has contacted Indian Trail Bus Line and the following information is: We will have a 47 passenger bus. The fare is figured at \$81.00 round trip per person. It is estimated the trip will take about 17 hours. At this writing we have nine signed up. There is room for 38 more.

Sights on Meeting

We do have our sights on the Octover OutState meeting but nothing definite yet. We have enjoyed this getting together with our good friends from Illinois, Ohio and Indiana. This party is so popular that Doc Rishel and his wife Onley drive in from Mifflinburg, Pa. to join us. That shows devotion above and beyond the call of duty. We ask all to see the OCTOFOIL for further announcement of this important event.

After the meeting we rejoined our wives in DeSandys game room where Flo had set up a very attractive and delicious lunch. A good and joyous social hour followed.

Look Forward

We look forward to a good year under the leadership of Chuck Williams and his staff of officers. The year will be beyond good if all members of the Michigan Chapter would resolve to attend at least one meeting in 1981.

DO NOT FORGET THAT THE ANNUAL REUNION IS ONE MONTH EARLY THIS YEAR. PLAN NOW TO ATTEND.

RODGER E. ALSGAARD SECT.

MICH. CHAPTER 9TH
INFANTRY DIV. ASSOC.
2834 WYNES STREET
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN 48602

Illinois Chapter

The Illinois Chapter is digging out of a blizzard at this writing which left us with below zero temperatures and over 11 inches of snow. After a mild January with hardly any snow, it certainly makes a beautiful sight.

Election of Officers

Election of officers was held at the January meeting. After all the voting and discussion, the slate was as follows: President, Mike Belmonte, reelected; 1st Vice President, Larry Ghery; 2nd Vice President, Jerry Fajnor; Secretary, Gordon Anderson; Chaplain, David Heller. Treasurer, Chuck Koskie, reelected. (since his retirement, he enjoys his position - besides, we can't get the money away from him); Sgt. at Arms, Paul Clark, Board of Managers, Bob Winkelman, Bill Hennemuth and Roger Elmer; Historian, Emil Radee. Good luck to all the new officers and to the incumbents. We are all looking forward to working together and planning some interesting events for the next year.

Meeting in March

We started out by deciding to go to Bob Winkelman's VFW Post 981 for our meeting on Friday, March 20th. The Post is located at 811 Yale, (Corner of Yale and Northwest Highway), Arlington Heights, Illinois. Bob is the Junior Vice Commander of the post and we will meet at 7:30 for dinner and have our meeting afterwards.

Trip to Hyannis

Some discussion was held at our last meeting regarding the trip to Hyannis for the 1981 reunion. Chuck and Irma are planning to make a long trip out of it and may join the Michigan Group to the reunion. Gordon Anderson and Larry Ghery are planning to fly out. No one else has made any definite plans. A lot will depend on gas prices and plane fares. We'll all know more by our February 20th meeting at Tedtman's in Schiller Park.

Respectfully submitted
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Belmonte
1161 South Lombard
Oak Park, IL 60304

TO "B" (47th.)

OR NOT TO "B".

Greetings, Good Buddies:

—Since last time I wrote this column Grace and I have, finally, moved to Florida and, slowly but surely, are learning our way 'round these parts while in pursuit of new home furnishings.

Enroute to the Sunbelt we were able to stop off at Conyers, Ga. to visit with George and Jane Bentley. Later, we went to dinner and "squeezed in" a lot of "remember when's" in the next few hours. Unfortunately, our moving schedule forced us to limit our stay, but, hopefully, the "Bentleys" will be able to visit with us when making one of their periodic jaunts to Panama City.

Long Distant Calls

We had hoped we could have stopped off at Raleigh, N.C. to visit with Ernie and Nina Crowder, but lack of time forced us to cancel plans.

One of our first long distant calls came from Bill Lovejoy, calling from his office in Tucson, Ariz. to wish us well—sure good speaking with Bill after many years. All's well with the "Lovejoys" —family grown and now on their own. Bill and Flo can be reached at 2003 East 5th. Street, Tucson, Ariz. 85719.

Our good buddy, Jack DiSanto, and wife, Kay, expect to be spending Feb. and March in their rented "condo" down in Margate, Fla. at which time I'm

certain we'll get to gether— first at their "pad" - then at our's.

Jack recently retired from his top post with Immigration. (frankly, we couldn't "afford" him!) We wish Jack and Kay every happiness in their new leisure-living.

Unexpected Pleasure

Yesterday, while having lunch, we had the unexpected pleasure of a visit by Bob Edie and his wife, presently traveling the length of Florida and getting away from the heavy winter weather up in New Philadelphia, Ohio. —They, too, had stopped off to visit with the "Bentleys," enroute where they learned of our new address.

The "Edie's" have four children and ten grandchildren—quite a family!! —We spent a few pleasant hours covering the present and reviewing the past via photo albums.

Pat and Ann Morano wrote, saying they will be arriving down in Madeira Beach, Fla. a Gulf resort area where they are renting an apartment for a leisurely stay.

We are looking forward to seeing them and "doing the town" as they will be reasonably close-by.

To the rest of you "snow-bunnies" come on down to Florida and help keep it green --BRING MONEY!!!

Note: Nick and Olga Palega and Joe and Edith Podany have found some terrific eating places!! Come on down and we'll show you where they are.

Many Thanks

Many thanks for the lovely Christmas cards and added messages from Joe and Stella Cichocki, Pat and Ann Morano, Joe and Fran Gil, John and Catherine Compagnone, Stan and Florence Adowski, Bill and Flo Lovejoy, Ed and Helen Sarnocinski, Dennis and Thora Canedy, Pete and Nettie Mastrangelo, Jack and Kay Di Santo, and Joe and Ellie Taubner. If I've missed anyone you know you have our appreciation.

Again, many thanks to my buddy, Pat, for a most interesting and informative column --give Pat a hand, Gang!!

Have a good day! —Don't fret -- Spring is coming!!

(temporary address)

Pat. J. Morano
c-o Sandy Shores Apt's.
Madeira Beach, Fla.

Art J. Stenzel
700 Starkey Road Unit 611,
Largo, Florida. 33541.

Albert Pipet
13 rue Plate Pierre
14000 Caen
The Battle of St Lo
Dear Sir

I am writing a book The Battle of St Lo and by your bulletin of your association I ask for all veterans of 9th Div to write me.

The 9th Inf Div was engaged near Airel-St Fromond, St Jean de Daire to Mesnil Veneron, le Desert, and le Hommet wood, counter attack of the Panzer Lehr, 11 July, Tribenhou, la Vincenterie, la Terrette river, etc. the breakout of German from etc..I found a village, the French people spoke about Captain Arkinson which with company liberated this village, near Marigny.

Write me with many details if you can.

My address:

Albert Pipet
13 rue Plate Pierre
14000 Caen

With my best wishes for the new year for all the veterans of 9th Div!

15th Engr. BN Hqr. Co.

BILL DALLAS

213 Surry Lane

Danville, VA 24541

My first letter to MAIL CALL - so greetings from Southern Virginia!

I was with the 9th Division at Fort Bragg, shipping out at the same time as General Westmoreland, coming home after the war via Munich in September 1945. I may be remembered by my combat jeep named "swamproot" - most of my combat unit called me by the same nickname.

My wife and I have returned to Europe several times and taken a car tour over the area our division covered. She thoroughly enjoyed it - and it brought back three years of memories to me.

For the present life, I am a sales representative for WBTV Radio Station. We are avid golfers, having a condominium in Pinehurst, North Carolina, which is approximately 12 miles from Fort Bragg and the old 9th Division area. A number of retired World War II former Fort Bragg veterans are living in Pinehurst, where we plan to retire in a few years. (My family consists of wife, Bettye, and two pugs - "Gen. Patton" and "Kim".

I just read in the current issue of OCTOFOIL a letter from A. T. Forrest of Salt Lake City. I hope this is Alex Forrest, my former Major BN. Executive officer. I will be getting in touch.

If any of my old original HQ Co. buddies come through Danville or Pinehurst, we are listed in both telephone directories. Would like to keep in touch.

Co. C, 60th Inf.

FRANK V. KALICH

1208 Valencia Dr. N.E.

Albuquerque, N. Mex. 87110

Enclosed is my dues to the 9th Inf. Div., plus a few extra items.

For these many years I have been in contact with army buddies in Pa., New York and Florida. In this area I have been isolated from any regular group of the 9th Inf.

However, over the years I have met soldiers of the 9th either going to Korea or Vietnam. Many of these were of the younger vintage, but all seem to be wearing decorations from the Belgium and French countries.

I joined Company C, 9th Medical Battalion, 60th Regiment, 9th infantry Division, about July, 1942, remained with the division until discharged at Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, October 24, 1945. I arrived in the U.S. at Camp Shanks, September 12, 1945.

About ten years ago, I received a letter from the Div. Hdqs. asking for a verification of my address. Later, I received from QM in Philadelphia several decorations including the Bronze Star. Now, my question is this: Am I entitled to any other decorations? The 60th Regiment received several Presidential Citations, and decorations from the Belgians and the French, after I left the service. Am I entitled to the Occupation Medal since I was with the Division until September, 1945.

A-T Co. 47th Inf.

GEORGE W. POOLE, JR.

8858 Haw Bottom Rd.

Middletown, Md. 21769

Enclosed find contribution for the Bragg Marker fund.

The following are former members of anti-Tank Company 47th perhaps a token copy of the Octofoil sent to them may be helpful in obtaining new memberships.

Regards to all.

Traveling down road of history

**PART FIVE
THE FINAL THRUST
The Story of the
Ninth Infantry
Division in Germany
13 September 1944
to 9 May 1945**

This text has been compiled and written by Lt. J.B. Mitelman A-Division Historian as a member of the PRO under Capt. John J. Pullen.

When the smoke of battle cleared before the victorious American Army in Europe, evidently few "outsiders" had ever heard of the Ninth Infantry Division. Only during the Cherbourg Campaign had the Ninth been released from censorship. Yet, in eight campaigns; three invasions; almost three years of combat; the Infantrymen of the "Neglected Ninth" fought on — sans publicity, without credit for a major role in the defeat of the German Wehrmacht.

Closely Censored

Its movements closely censored, and its regimental combat teams frequently attached to other divisions and corps; unheralded and seemingly forgotten, the Ninth United States Infantry Division stood toe-to-toe and slugged it out with the best Hitler had to offer. North Africa, Sicily, France, Belgium and Germany rang to echoes of retreating hordes before the advancing Ninth.

Briefly Narrated

The first four years of the Division's brilliant history were briefly narrated in a booklet issued during the attack on the Siegfried Line, 1944: "Hitler's Nemesis, The Ninth Infantry Division." Published prior to the end of combat, it filled a contemporary need for reminding the old-timers of past trials and hard-fought victories. Too, it presented to new reinforcements the tradition of a glorious past to be upheld and advanced.

"Written This History"

Today, in ever increasing numbers, the Ninth is finding new faces in its midst. The veteran doughfoot has earned his right to peace and contentment in the States. To you, who have recently entered the Ninth, therefore, we offer a challenge in the past history of a fighting American Team. And—to you old-timers whose efforts have, literally, "written this history", we humbly dedicate YOUR STORY — conceived in battle and written in the blood of your comrades.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS (Posthumous —)

Hearing the cries of wounded in a minefield, Technician Fourth Grade LEONARD SINGER, medical aid man, rushed into the danger area and administered first aid. Disregarding his own safety, Singer continued to search in the minefield for wounded in the dark. He found nine men in the field — lying wounded. As he crossed the minefield at 20-minute intervals, loosening the tourniquets, he detonated a mine. Singer lost both legs, dying as a result.

NUMEROUS STRONG POINTS
The Ninth Inf. Div. put patrols into Malsbenden, 500 yards east of Gemund on the Urft River, anchor point of the Siegfried Line in that sector. The Patrols, from the 47th Inf., found numerous German strongpoints with automatic weapons in the town.

— Stars and Stripes

As Raider patrols entered Malsbenden, mopping-up continued east to the river in the Division sector. Positions were consolidated, and higher ground continued to be occupied.

Civilians were given a reveille at 0530, on 6 February, when A Company of the 39th decided to eliminate the resistance in the buildings to their front at Hohenfried. Many civilians were apprehended along with 43 prisoners.

Visibility was extremely poor during the night of 8th February.

The dawn which followed brought light of a new and important mission. Orders moved the Ninth north and brought the 2nd Infantry Division into positions formerly held by the Division. The 39th Combat Team was attached to the 2nd.

At 1700, the Ninth moved to launch an attack upon the vicinity of Dam No. 3 — The Schwammenauel Dam. The town of Hassenfeld was captured by G Company of the 60th in bitter house-to-house fighting, and with the support of tanks and TDs. A counter-attack was attempted by the Nazis, but was repulsed, and the town secured.

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

The action is best described in the letter of commendation which Major-General C. R. Huebner, commanding V Corps, sent Major-General Craig of the Ninth:

"I take great pleasure in complimenting you and your most competent division for the smooth, efficient and professional manner in which you executed the difficult mission I assigned you on the morning of 8 February.

"You will recall that at eleven o'clock on this morning I made the decision to have you attack through the 78th Division and capture Schwommanuel Dam, and thereby accomplish the Corps mission. The importance of the accomplishment of this mission was such that it effected future action on the entire Western Front. In order to execute my decision it was necessary that you turn over a large part of your sector, move your division some 20 kilometers over most difficult roads, and launch an attack through another division which at the moment was engaged here heavily with the enemy. I further required that this be done with all possible speed.

"Your attack was launched at 0530 hours, 9 February, eighteen hours and thirty minutes after receipt of orders. The displacement was admirably coordinated and successful. The division accomplished its mission. All of this is indicative of know how. The operation was a combination of smooth, efficient, and experienced staff work, as well as sound, decisive and rapid command. Your division performed in a manner of which your officers and men should be justly proud. The old reliables of your command have again proved there is no substitute for a battle hardened and experienced combat division, that no Army has ever known better soldiers than we are now privileged to command, and that the 9th Division is of this distinguished company."

A majority of the action which secured the Schwommanuel Dam was fought by the 60th Infantry, which, almost alone, took the Corps objective.

Relieved of its responsibility in the 78th Division Area sector, the Ninth moved to the previously occupied area west

of the 47th Infantry posted themselves near Dam No. 5 (Urftlesperre), and maintained patrols and observation posts.

CHANGE CORPS

The Ninth, less the 39th C.T. (which was still attached to the 2nd Division), was ordered to proceed as quickly as possible to the area held by the 82nd Airborne Division near Hurtgen. This 17 February movement changed the attachment of the Ninth Division from V Corps to III Corps.

With the relief of the 82nd Airborne completed, preparations commenced for the long-awaited Roer crossing. Men of the Ninth, particularly the 15th Combat Engineers, planned and trained for the crossing operation on the very banks of the river, itself. Perfection of strategy was completed by 25 February. Every available supporting weapon in the Division area was made ready for softening-up the Nazis. Added strength was given the assault when the AAA-O Regiment moved north, back with the Ninth's Old Reliables.

CROSSING THE ROER

Crossing the Roer, under direct fire, began on 26 February. The 39th Infantry moved north, crossed bridges in the 1st Division sector and attacked south. American counter-battery missions whistled through the air as the regiment battered its way from the vicinity of Leversbach towards Thum and Nideggen.

Tanks and TDs poured lead into crumbling Nideggen from the west side of the Roer. Enemy artillery, and its command of high ground on the opposite bank, made assault difficult. While the 39th acted as a left hook, the 60th Infantry became the knockout punch. Power-driving over the river in the Division area, the Go-Devils assisted the AAA-O to crush the Nazis in Thum and Nideggen. This capture of high ground permitted the Bailey and other bridges to be constructed by Engineers in the Division sector; as it was now more difficult for enemy observers to call accurate fire.

Artillery continued to fall upon the attacking Ninth however. Smoke screens concealed the 47th's crossing, as the bridges came under direct fire. Jeeps and heavier equipment poured over the spans ... and doughs plugged eastward to the Rhine. Fateful February ended with the 39th attacking east; and the Go-Devils grabbing Berg, Abenden, and clearing the remainder of the Division sector of the east bank.

"BARBER CLIPPERS"

A truckload of reinforcements for the 60th Inf. rolled up and began to unload. Off jumped Pvt. Salvatore J. Lagnese.

"What weapon are you armed with," snapped the sergeant who was checking the men in.

"Barber clippers", answered Lagnese.

Major Norbert J. Hennon, of Sheboygan Falls, Wis., put the former Westbury, N.Y. barber immediately to work on the doughs, shaggy-haired from three weeks of fighting.

Ten hours later, with only a half-hour break for chow, Lagnese asked the major pensively, "When does the fighting start, I want a rest."

— Stars and Stripes



Dated January 1945 this photo shows Sgt. Saford Hall (left) pins a PFC stripe on 1st Lt. Harry Link as 1st Lt. Alfred Lemire (right) looks on. This unorthodox ceremony marks the "promotion of Lt. Link as "Honorary Pfc." in the Intelligence and Reconnaissance platoon of the 60th Infantry. He is the pilot of a Cub Reconnaissance plane, as Lt. Lemire.

East

To The Rhine

Everything was now swept into its path by the rampaging Ninth. As though a Kansas Twister had risen out of the west — towns, hamlets, villages and important installations became engulfed in a ceaseless forward motion — East to the Rhine! March was living up to its name derived from Mars, God of War.

Thuir was captured in a two-pronged attack. Grotzheim and Ginnick were next on the growing list. Muddersheim, Disternich and Sievernich fell in the Ninth's easterly swing. Onward rolled the Ninth ... Muldenau, the ridge west of Embken, Geinch, Fussenich, Niederberg, Revenich, Embken, Juntersdorf, Mulheim, Wechterich, Nor Elvenich, Lommersum, Ober Wichterich, Ober Elvenich, Nemmenich and Frauenberg resisted, bled, and capitulated.

Zulpich, ancient walled city, fell to the 60th Regiment. Here the Frankish King, Clovis, had laid siege to the Allemans in 496. Modern siege-masters, the Go-Devils made shortwork of the bastion.

Against counter-attacks, self-propelled guns, heavy machine gun fire, artillery, barbed wire, mines, and snipers the Ninth pushed ever eastward. The approaches to the Erft River fell, and the Division assaulted the river line. Soon the Erft lay behind — Bonn, key city of the sector loomed boldly ahead, out of the Rhine.

As the Ninth Division was making its historic drive across the Erft and to the Rhine, memories of more peaceful days, in ancient Winchester, England, returned. Many doughs remembered their pre-invasion sojourn in the bit of old England ... for Major General Manton S. Eddy, former CG of the Ninth, was given Winchester's highest honor — Freedom of the City. Part of the Lord Mayor's Resolution read:

"Our Division"

"Since the Ninth Division left us, we have rejoiced with them in their military triumphs, where they have been led in person on the field of battle by their brave General, sorrowed with them over their casualties, welcomed some of them back to us on leave, and, although we have made many friends in other American units, we still think of them with affection as Our Division."

General Hodge's First U.S. Army have broken into what were formerly the first defenses of the key town of Bonn ... The advance to Bonn was made by the Ninth Infantry Division after a spurt which carried them through Alfster, three miles west of Bonn.

—London Daily Mail
Ninth Division doughboys were poised for the assault on Bonn, itself, toward which the defeated enemy garrison of Cologne was making a fighting retreat.

—Knoxville Journal

Capture of Wittershlick, Volmershoven and Rottgen was accomplished by the 60th Infantry. The 2nd Battalion battered on towards Duisdorf — the defenses of Bonn were broken!

World Famous

Southward, the 39th Combat Team launched an attack upon world-famous Bad Godesberg, Rhineland resort center. Bad Godesberg was taken in face of intense enemy artillery, small arms, and nebelwerfer fire. Lt. Col. Frank L. Gunn's 2nd Battalion cleaned out the city, capturing a great deal of prisoners, including Lt. General Richard Schimpf, commander of the Third Paratroop Division.

Ludwig van Beethoven gave concerts in Bad Godesberg. It was here that important political conferences took place. Infantrymen of the 39th set up observation posts on the balcony of Hotel Dreesen, where Hitler had proposed the occupation of Czechoslovakia to Chamberlain. The 39th Infantry was now proposing occupation of Germany!



Snow caped men of the 60th Infantry moving toward Dedenborn, Germany as the enemy retreated during heavy fighting on this sector.

(See Page 5)

**Reunion
June 25-27**

"Final Thrust" Continued

Over The Rhine

As for the 47th Combat Team, they were over the Rhine at Remagen!

Remagen, Germany is situated at the base of Victoriaberg Mountain on the western bank of the Rhine River. A small town of approximately 5,800 population, it was founded in the dynasty of Tiberius, the Roman. Crumbling Roman walls and gate still stand. Towering above Remagen, on the rock to its north, are ruins of an ancient castle.

Ludendorf Bridge was built during World War I, and is a little south of Remagen, below the mouth of the Ahr River. It leads into the village of Erpel. The bridge is a single-span, pedestrian and railway construction. Railway tunnels are located throughout the high ground on the eastbank.

Remagen Bridgehead — The most important single operation of the war.

"The Rhine is crossed!" On the afternoon of 7 March 45, this electrifying news spread like wildfire over the Western Front. Taking advantage of a German error, wide-awake members of the 9th Armored Division had seized — intact — the Ludendorf Bridge at Remagen! Its armored units began defending the eastern end of the span, advancing to tank defilade, behind Flak Hill.

Immediately, the Ninth Infantry Division changed its direction of attack, and rushed to the Remagen Bridgehead. The 47th Combat Team was attached to the 9th Armored Division, preparatory to moving south and across the Rhine.

Col. Smythe led his Raiders in a grueling 9-hour forced march during blackout, and instantly went into the attack. During the early hours of 8 March, 25-year old Lt. Col. Lewis Maness boldly deployed his 2nd Battalion over the bridge. Crossing against heavy artillery and other supporting fires, the men of the 47th became the first Infantry to battle across the Rhine, Teutonic barrier since the Napoleonic Wars.

Expand Bridgehead

Mission of the Ninth was to expand the bridgehead and capture the mountainous terrain rising out of the east bank. Corps strategy was to then divide the expanded bridgehead into three infantry division sectors. The 78th was to be on the left, the Ninth in the center, and the 99th Division on the right. Success of the entire maneuver depended upon seizing the high, commanding ground in the center of the line. This terrain had to be captured before any expansion could take place. It wasn't by chance, therefore, that the Old Reliabilities of the Ninth were given the mission of assaulting and taking this vital ground.

As the remainder of the 47th Infantry streamed over the Ludendorf Bridge, it became evident that the Nazis were concentrating their power on the mountainous terrain in the center of the sector. With a fanaticism born of sheer desperation at having failed to destroy the span, the enemy fiercely counter-attacked. Time after time, the Wehrmacht attempted to split the bridgehead in two, drive to the bridge and destroy it. German success would have trapped the entire American force building up the breakthrough on the east bank.



Men of a 30 cal. machine gun crew fighting it out with a German position 700 feet away near Herhahn, Germany. These men were with 2nd Platoon Company C 39th Infantry. (dated Feb 1945)

Battle-wise General Craig of the Ninth was chosen to command the entire bridgehead operation east of the Rhine. To facilitate the movement of Division Headquarters over the Rhine, the 7th Armored Division assumed temporary command of the Division sector west of the Rhine. The Ninth C.P. was set up at Erpel, east of the river.

Battered Bridge

By now, the 39th and 60th were crossing the battered Ludendorf Bridge. Negotiating the span became a hair-raising adventure. The moment a dough set foot upon the bridge, he was in battle — many never reached the other side. The Nazis hit the bridgehead with everything they had — infantry, armor, dive-bombing, strafing, buzz-bombs, artillery and mortars.

Commanding views at OPs gave enemy artillery excellent fire data. A rain of death descended upon the link. Tunnels became improvised hasty shelters. Allied supreme headquarters announced the 9th Infantry Division of Lt. Gen. Courtney, H. Hodges' 1st Army battled out 500 to 1,500 yard gains in the bridgehead area Saturday — almost a mile . . . Front dispatches described the Ludendorf Bridge area as a raging inferno of German shell splinters and spent American shrapnel from scores of anti-aircraft batteries firing at German planes making suicidal but futile attempts to blast the bridge.

—Jack Fleischer—UP Stood Up Valiantly

Controlling all traffic over the span, the 9th M.P.s stood up valiantly under the hail of steel. As an MP fell, wounded, another would step up and take his place. Despite the casualties inflicted upon this platoon, the men continued to direct a never-ending flow of traffic. For six days and nights, Major Clair Thurston and his men guided the might of the First Army over the Ludendorf Bridge. Almost certain death faced these battle-cops, but they stuck to their posts; a gallant inspiration to the doughs going into the inferno ahead. If the MPs could take it, so could they!

Aided by heavy SP guns, the enemy inaugurated tank-infantry counter-attacks. Fanatical resistance, the like of which has seldom been equaled in the ETO, forced the Ninth to call repeatedly for artillery fire behind its own lines — in order to repulse the German thrusts. Upon this last great defense line of the Reich, for the enemy, it meant continuation of the war, or quick defeat.

The Ninth was now fighting on line, with all three regiments abreast. Counter-attacks were contained and destroyed, the bridgehead enlarged, and Scheuren and Rheinbreitbach

were captured.

Charging the hilly terrain, hard-hitting doughs pushed back the enemy. Higher and higher the Ninth assaulted. The strategy was simple. Take the high ground and you capture the enemy OPs! Gradually, the German artillery lost point after point. Their fire became less and less effective, although it did not cease.

Eastward plunged the Division. When the center lost ground, the Ninth pushed out its flanks. The 60th captured the high ground east of Linz, and the attached 311th Combat Team took Honnef. The center strengthened and spearheaded forward.

Expansion of the bridgehead continued, and, as the strong points were cleared of the enemy, the 78th and 99th Infantry Divisions were able to begin moving to their positions on the flanks of the Ninth.

Coordinating Movement

Its own combat teams fully committed, the Ninth now acted as a Corps, coordinating movement of units moving into the bridgehead.

Ninth Division Artillery controlled the combined fires of the entire bridgehead support from its Fire Direction Center. At one time, Brig. Gen. Reese M. Howell, Divarty CG, had 17 battalions of artillery under his control. The 15th Combat Engineers, 709th Ordnance, and Ninth Medics coordinated similar incoming outfits during their initial entry into the bridgehead.

Communications nets, equivalent to that which would generally be established by a Corps Signal Battalion, were laid by the 9th Signal Company — in addition to the tremendous strain of its divisional bridgehead lines. Under intense enemy fire, signalmen kept communications open to the west bank of the Rhine.

Artillery liaison pilots, flying their unarmed and unarmored Cubs and L-5's through the flak-ridden skyways, performed mission after mission. Enemy fighter and bomber formations attacked them, but they continued to direct counter-battery fires.

Doing its share — and more, the Ninth Infantry Division functioned with amazing efficiency. Supply dumps, recovery service, and amphibious evacuation of wounded were carried on for the entire sector by the Old Reliabilities. This greatly relieved the load on Ludendorf Bridge, which was carrying its capacity of desperately needed fighting men and supplies to the line.

Engineers finished a pontoon bridge in the vicinity of Linz on 11 March, and supplies began flowing over immediately. Everyone breathed a bit easier as this and other pontoon spans mushroomed out of the waters of the Rhine.

Farewell to Commander

Men of the 47th bade farewell to their famed commander, Col. George W. Smythe, on 13 March, as he left for promotion and increased responsibility. His successor, Lt. Col. (now Col.) Peter O. Ward continued the attack without giving the enemy respites.

After a two-day battle, the 30th Infantry captured the towns of Hargarten and St. Katharinen. Against stiff enemy resistance, Lorscheid and Notscheid fell to the arms of the savagely attacking infantrymen, who fanned ever eastward, out of the Remagen Bridgehead. Doughs seized high ground at every available opportunity, which made repulsion of counter-attacks much easier in outlying portions of the Division sector.

In the center of the bridgehead the Ninth Inf. Div. cleared the towns of Vittelschoss and Strodt by noon against heavy self-propelled gunfire from the east.

—Stars and Stripes

Maneuvering to high ground was instrumental in the capture of Strodt by the 60th Infantry on 16 March. In rapid succession Kalenborn, Willscheid, Hallerbach, and Vettelschoss were over-run. More high ground was taken near Strodtter Hugel. Under cover of darkness, E Company of the 39th, cut the Ruhr-Frankfurt - autobahn near Himburg, east of Hennef.

Withstanding severe counter-attacks, the Ninth had steadily driven the enemy back in the key central sector. Aggressively cleaning out all resistance, the Division enabled other units to pass into the bridgehead, until the might of

the American First Army was sufficient to push the enemy back.

Bridge Collapsed

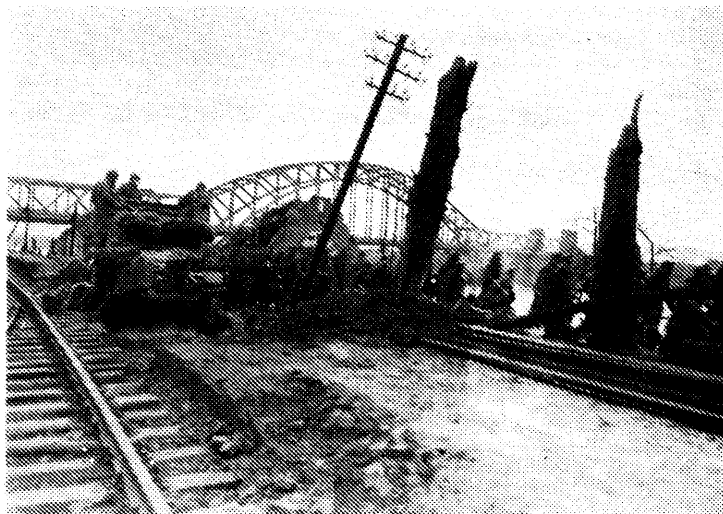
With only a prior quiver as warning the much-used Ludendorf Bridge collapsed into the Rhine on the afternoon of Sunday, 18 April 1945. Approximately 400 men were near, or on the span when it crumpled into a mass of twisted steel and bodies of soldiers. While there were pontoon bridges built and in full operation, this structure was missed.

Driving continuously to the east, the Division spearheaded onward. Windhagen, and its airfield fell to victory-flushed veterans of the Ninth. Ober Windhagen, Rott, Heide, Hecken, Dinkelsbach, Johannisberg, Hungsberg, and high ground — always the high ground, fell prey to the battle might of the unstoppable Ninth Division.

By 20 March, the Ninth has conquered, after desperate struggles, the entire central bridgehead area between the Rhine and Weid Rivers, securing a front from which the final blow at the heart of Germany was to be struck. In the words of German General Hodl, this action hastened Germany's defeat and shortened the war in Europe by six months!

Poised upon the River Weid, the Ninth could well feel proud of its part in the bridgehead. And, as the bridgehead operation vanished into the tracks of the growing offensive east of the Rhine, the Division set its sights upon an ambitious goal — Rapid and Final Victory!

Continued next issue.



German prisoners moving to the rear on the East bank of the Rhine on their way to a P.W. enclosure. Remagen Bridge in background collapsed shortly after picture was taken.

Roads Leading to Hyannis

DRIVING FROM ALBANY, NY.

Take Rte. 90 (Massachusetts Turnpike) to Rte. 128. Go south on Rte. 128, which will become Rte. 3. Take Rte. 3, which will join Rte. 6 at the Sagamore Bridge. Take Rte. 6 to Exit No. 6, which is Rte. 132. Take Rte. 132 to Hyannis Rotary. See enclosed map of Hyannis with location of hotel.

DRIVING FROM NEW YORK CITY

Take Rte. 95 through Connecticut into Providence, R. I. Take Rte. 195 toward CAPE COD until you reach Rte. 25. Go south on Rte. 25 a short distance to Rte. 6. Take Rte. 6, pass the Bourne Bridge to the Sagamore Bridge. Take Rte. 6 to Exit No. 6, which is Rte. 132. Take Rte. 132 to Hyannis Rotary. See enclosed map of Hyannis with location of hotel.

FLYING: BARNSTABLE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AT HYANNIS

Both Air New England and PBA fly into Hyannis Airport from both Boston and New York. When making your reservations, book directly to Hyannis as this will save you money. Hyannis Airport is a very active airport with taxi service and car rentals. Taxi to Dunfey's Hyannis Hotel presently runs approximately \$2.00.

BUSES:

Persons running charter buses should contact Mr. Cook at Dunfey's, 617-775-7775 or 1-800-228-2121, and give Mr. Cook a list of persons on each bus in order that Mr. Cook will have keys and rooms ready. Luggage will be taken to rooms by bell-hops. Charter buses should not arrive at hotel prior to 3 PM.

There is a bus from the GREYHOUND TERMINAL in BOSTON to Hyannis, which runs on the hour.

Herb Olsen
389 Highland Ave.
Randolph, Ma 02368

mail call

(Continued from page 8)

Co. I & L. 47th Inf.
ROBERT E. HULSLANDER
1916 Atlantic Blvd.
Jacksonville, Fla. 32217

Thought it about time I wrote you to express my appreciation for your fine work with the Ninth Division Association. I am certain I speak for all members when I say "Many thanks and God bless you."

Seems like yesterday that I reported to Col Randle C.O. of the 47th and he ordered me to report to Capt. Witner C. O. of I Co. 47th. Capt. Witner put me in command of the weapons platoon. That was August 1942 Fort Bragg, N.C. Then the Amphib. training at the Marine base (was it New River, N.C.?). We all know what happened after that. I was given command of "L" Co. in North Africa and commanded them until wounded in France in July '44. Capt. Witner was killed in Africa and Lt. Bill Tanner became C.O. of "I" Co. Bill commanded the 3rd Battalion later in Europe. Bill called me last New Year's Night from his home in Union City, Tenn. and it was wonderful to hear his voice again. He and his wife Doris are well and enjoying their grandchildren. Bill and Doris hope to make the Hyannis Reunion as do my wife Helen and I.

Dan, I want to tell a short human interest story that will be of interest to the Officers and men of "L" co. and 3rd. Bn. Hdq. "Co" 47th. While in England for a few months "L" Co. was stationed in Basingstoke in the old Burbary coat plant which was converted to barracks. The officers were billeted in private homes in the town. I was with M. & Mrs. Sidney F. Bartlett, 5 Fairfields Rd. I nicknamed them Mammy and Pappy "B". Mr. Bartlett was town tax assessor. They had one daughter "Cynthia" my age who was in charge of the news information office of British Broadcasting Co. BBC in London. Cynthia would come home on weekends when she could and we all became good friends. After the war Cynthia married but a few years later lost her husband who died from cancer. Cynthia came to visit us in 1959 trying to "sort things out". She loved America and our way of life. She met and married David Adkins about 19 years ago and everyone lived happily ever after. My wife and I had the honor of giving her the wedding and reception. I also acted for Pappy "B" in giving his daughter in marriage. Cynthia and David are joining us this evening for cocktails and dinner. If we had to have a war, at least some good things happened. I know the 3rd Bn. guys will remember with much affection, Col. Don Clayman who commanded the Bn. from Sicily to somewhere in Europe. The Col. (now B. Gen. Ret.) and his wife visited Helen and I a few years ago and I surprised him greatly when I introduced him to Cynthia again after all those years.

Enclosed is my check for the decorative marker to be placed at Fort Bragg.

Best wishes to all and hope to see you at the next reunion.

K Co. 60th
JAMES F. HART, JR.
7 Nenagh Drive
Wilm., De. 19803

I am really improving with old age! This is the second year in a row that I have beaten the red ink notice.

My best to you and all of our comrades for 1981.

Co. L 60th Inf.
EDWIN E. BREWER
714 N. Walnut St.
Maryville, Mo. 64468

Enclosed is check for my dues plus some for the Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Some months ago I heard about one of our members who had passed away over 2 years ago. His name, Raymond Moses, of Erie, Kansas and he was discharged with 100 percent disability, from wounds in North Africa and Normandy, while serving with the 60th. He attended several reunions, with his wife, in Detroit, Ft. Bragg and Springfield. We had many hours fishing together on the Neosho River near his home. He spent more time with the 9th than I had and he was so proud to have worn the uniform of his country tho he suffered many years from his disability. God rest his soul.

Hope you and yours are well and best regards.

Hdq. Co. 47th Inf. 2nd Bn.
PERCY "DOC" RISHEL
106 Laney Street
Mifflinburg, Pa. 17844

Hi Dan and Marie

Guess I had better pay my dues before I see red. Seems almost impossible that our association has held together for 35 years and that we have as many members as we have. I doubt very much if it would have been possible without the guidances of you two.

Found a neighbor who was in M. Co. His name is Luther Roush and he is now a member of the association.

Had Christmas cards and notes from several buddies, at Christmas, who do not belong: Art Ostenson 2nd Bn. Hdq. North Dakota; Larry Morgan 2nd Bn. Hdq. Indiana, Floyd Dischler H. Co. 2nd, Montana. If anyone should want the addresses of any of them have them get in touch with me.

Co. D 60th Inf.
PAUL PELISH
4 Apple Tree Drive
Hyde Park, N.Y. 12538

Thanks for your quick response. Enclosed please find a check for \$12.00 for my membership application and a few odds and ends. I wish I could attend the 36th annual reunion but I have a nervous disorder. I'm sorry but wishing you and yours a good time.

Co. B 39th Inf.
IRV H. TERCHAK
2559 S. 90th Street
West Allis, Wisc. 53227

Just returned from a month's vacation in warm, sunny and beautiful Puerto Rico. Had a wonderful time enjoying myself. Now I'm back in cold Wisconsin hoping the rest of the winter to pass by.

It's time to renew my annual membership, so please find enclosed my regular annual memorial fund check.

May I wish all of my good friends, and buddies of Co. B 39th Inf. the best of everything in the coming year. Hope I'll be able to attend the Co. B 39th reunion. Regards to Joe Gravino, Hawk, and the rest.

Hq. 60th Inf.
FRANCIS M. SULLIVAN
337 N. Marshall St.
Lancaster, Pa. 17602

I joined the 9th Division in Normandy. I fought 3 months with the Division. I was wounded and taken prisoner by the Germans, for 9 months. I was with an anti-tank company with Hdq. Co. I would like to join. I am a D.A.V.

60th Inf. Medical Detachment
VINCE MITCHELL
(P.O. Box 218 Jericho Road
Sherman, Ct. 06784

Dear Henry Santos

I read your letter in the last Octofoil.

I am very much surprised and disappointed that a fellow member of the 9th Division Association would be so narrow-minded about men of the 9th Division who served in Korea and Viet Nam being accorded full membership.

You mention differences such as age, and no common interests (like listening to the Big Band records) as well as differences encountered with terrain, enemies and strategies.

All of these are in no way any valid reasons why men of the Korean and Viet Nam 9th Division should be denied full membership in the Association.

I think most men of the 9th Division Association joined the Association - not to discuss Big Bands, etc., but to keep alive the historical value this splendid Division accomplished.

Henry, I don't think you would want to say a man who sacrificed his life in the 9th Division while serving in Korea or Viet Nam is any less equal than a man of the 9th who died in WWII.

Likewise- men of the 9th who served in Korea and Viet Nam are in no way less acceptable in the 9th Division Association. We all wore the "Big 9" patch.

Also, we members would like to think the 9th Division Association is a growing organization. Based on your idea of restricting membership, the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars would never have permitted you or me to even join their organizations. Both of these organizations would be practically non-existent today under your restrictive measures.

Open your heart, Henry - we need the younger guys; besides any one who served in this great division and wore its patch would be a member regardless of the war or time in history.

Besides I would like to be able to talk to these guys on how things differed. It might be most enlightening.

"B" Co. 39 Inf.
DANIEL DOUVANIS
2025 Eaton Ave.
Bethlehem, Pa. 18018

Once again it is time to send in my dues and please find enclosed my check in payment for three years. I deem it an honor to belong to such a fine group and look forward eagerly to receiving copies of the Octofoil.

Looking forward anxiously to our "B" Company annual reunion to be held in June in Elmira, New York -God Willing and have the Octofoil to thank for this. Several years ago my wife surprised me with a gift subscription to Octofoil and my name appeared in it. Soon I was contacted by my former comrades and I've been with them every June for the reunion. My wife and I look forward to it with great anticipation for it is one big happy family and we've grown very close. If it weren't for your publication - this would never have taken place. We thank you for this joyous time spent with my buddies and their families.

The Octofoil is read by both my wife and I from front to back and every copy is carefully preserved for future reading. Keep up the wonderful job.

Company "M" 60th Infantry
Service Co. 60th Infantry
EUGENE D. CRONIN ASN
32000803
185 Bronx River Road
Yonkers. N.Y. 10704

Thanks for copy of "Octofoil" my first. I certainly relived some memories with emotion after reading it.

I am one of the more fortunate warriors still living, from the class of Co. "M" 60th Infantry January 1941 Fort Bragg. Remember arriving from Fort Dix in WWI uniforms. Capt G. E. Fletcher was shocked at our antique uniforms and had usequipped promptly in the then modern uniforms.

Looking over some of the names in the Nov-Dec Octofoil, I chanced a sentimental journey through the historical compilation of the 60th Infantry prior to WWII. My copy is dated August 4th 1941 and signed by Capt G. E. Fletcher then Company commander of Co "M". I located the pictures of three names I found in Octofoil namely, Louis J. Netta A.T. Co Wilfred Thornton Co "M" and Wm Paddock Co "A". Hiya fellas, rember back when we assembled and reassembled for those pictures?. Almost 40 years ago.

I have many autographs of former members of Co "M" in my book, I choked with emotion last night upon reviewing the list, alas, many of them we left behind beginning with Port Lyautey French Morocco, Algiers, later on Sicily, Normandy and Germany. How well I know, for I helped pick up the bodies after battle, also was involved in sorting their field equipment, "knapsacks" KIA MIA & WIA. Yes fellas, I was more fortunate than them, having been permanently assigned to Service Co. 60th Infantry enroute to Port Lyautey on board the SS George Clymer and which was later sunk with a skeleton crew enroute to Oran.

How many out there remember the Maknassy mountains, Ferryville near Desirte later on Palermo Sicily, and the lava from Mt Etna, St Lo in Normandy, remember the fierce battle of July 25th when our own bombers just bombed everything in sight including the 15th engineers?.

For a moment to the brighter side and a laugh. As we well know, in the army if one was a cook in civilian life well he became a carpenter in the army and visa versa. Well my MOS read "Clerk" period, I was a grocery clerk with the A & P prior to entering service Jan 13th 1941. One day while out in the field training with the 50 caliber machine guns, etc. I received a message to report to the orderly room and 1st Sgt Alvin or Albin?. This is still Co "M" 60th. Upon reporting, I was told to report over to regimental hqrs, they need some clerks over there, my higher power must have urged me to keep quiet, for I readily knew I wasn't the type of clerk they were looking for. Upon reporting to Cpl Bill Carrington S-1 60th, I told him I was a grocery clerk, he said keep quiet you are now an administration clerk in S-1 and he proceeded to break me in with the decimal file system, mimeograph machine etc. I was a full fledged clerk (administrative) in a very short time, even to hitting (henpicking) the typewriter already, I remained with Co "M" for rations and quarters until transferred to Service Co enroute to Pt. Lyautey. The fellas back at Co "M" used to bug me for information before we moved out to a staging area,

It was myself who mimeographed copies of the movement order to Hampton road via destination yet unknown, but we were to board the Geo S. Clymer.

After running X number of copies of the movement order, I was under guard and sworn to secrecy fellas, also under guard while I burned the original copy, so I knew weeks in advance and just couldn't tell you lads back at Co "M". It was my esteem privilege later on to have been temporarily assigned to G-1 9th Div handling and filing "top secret" documents. I think I made PFC at that assignment, it was "somewhere" in No. Africa.

I will now conclude this sentimental journey for "Mail Call" hoping through it, I may hear from some living members of Co "M" and Service Co 60th Inf. Are you still out there W.O. Hawkins, Major Shumaker, etc etc ?. Regards.

Co. I - 60th Inf.
CLYDE E. DELONG
1884 Gantz Road
Grove City, Ohio - 43123
Hello Dan:

I received my OCTOFOIL a couple days ago and thought I would write a few lines to beat the deadline. I really enjoy reading the OCTOFOIL very much.

I was with the 60th from April 1942 until after the War in Germany. I was Acting Platoon Sergeant and Machine Gun Section Leader. I would enjoy hearing from any of the guys from I-Co. I hear from Paul Freed from Walsh, Colorado; Andrew Csontos from Toledo, Ohio; Edwin Coker from Olanta, S. Carolina; Bob Arnzen from Ft. Thomas, Ky.; Albert Hodge from Savannah, Georgia; Jay Huston from Lancaster, Pa.; Belford Shook from Lima, Ohio; Ray Demaray from Gladwin, Michigan; Mike Gatto from N.Y., N.Y.; Donald Jewell (L-Co. 60th Inf.) from Columbus, Ohio.

I had a call from Donald Jewell wondering if there still was a 9th Inf. Division Association. I told him that there still was. I believe if you would send him a few applications that he would join and maybe get a few other members. His address is: 1005 Torrey Hill Dr., Columbus, OH-43228. Don was a former member but got lost in the wayside somehow.

As for myself, I haven't worked in almost 2 years. I have had 5 operations for the same Hernia and the doctors say no more work for me. Well I'll close, hoping you have room for all this thanking you in advance.

60th Inf. Div. and Hdq. G-2
EUGENE DE ROSA, JR.
West Sand Lake, N.Y. 12196

Last November was my first attendance at the Annual Mass and Memorial Service at Worcester, Mass. in over thirty years.

Father Connors is still the same compassionate figure I remember in the early days of the Division at Ft. Bragg and North Africa.

It was a great moment for me to be a part again of one of the greatest of all "infantry divisions".

Mrs. Carolyn W. Childs
1 Carmel Drive
Novato, Ca. 94947

I wrote to B. Dewey Wheeler at the 1945 Durham, NC address and believe it or not, he is still there! May I suggest that you send him a copy of the next Octofoil; perhaps you can interest him in joining the organization.

The best to you and your family in 1981.

(See Mail Call page 7)

Deadline for copy of the next issue of the Octofoil will
be APRIL 20th

mail call

Continued from page 6

Lieutenant Colonel Matt Urban
United States Army, Retired
Holland, Michigan 49423

Dear Dan,

Although, life, work, Jennie and Jennifer and I -- are going on as usual -- OK and happy -- the fanfare since July has been heavy, continuous and being taken in stride. On November 11th, Veteran's Day, I was at Danbury's, Conn. ceremonies in the A.M. and Bridgeport, Conn. in the evening. I spent four wonderful days in Connecticut not only scoring a double header with such warm and appreciated appearances in Danbury and Bridgeport but, also, having a fun, relaxed stay with several of my army buddies and ASA Commissioners and wives -- at the home of Lt. Colonel Steve and Phoebe Sprindis -- and at the Jai-Alai in Bridgeport. The E.T.O. was never like this as we made up for lost time -- filet mignon, strips, lobster and shrimp cocktails with wine and champagne -- for days! What a life! We enjoyed a warm-fun reunion -- just great! From there, on November 12th, they flew me into Miami, Florida for the Legion of Honor Awards luncheon. Here again a fantastic time -- nice, great people, friends -- and best of all two fantastic evenings with my buddy, my originator of the M.H. Earl Evans -- quite the "guy" as, again, we were dined and wined -- exquisitely!

Back in the air on November 14 -- to Grand Rapids -- to be picked up and hauled away to our deer cabin for opening of our deer season Nov. 15th.

Then back in the air -- "the friendly skies" -- this time with Jennie and Jennifer -- up to Sault Ste. Marie for the International Veterans Day with the Canadians -- over the Thanksgiving week-end. Another smash hit -- with warm, fantastic people -- under the impressive direction of Warren "Tiger" Greening, my long, lost buddy from Monroe -- another -- "real guy!"

December - thank heavens, a half a dozen or so, appearances -- all within the State of Michigan.

January - is a big one -- travel to San Jose, Cal. the President's inauguration in Washington, a State Convention in Detroit -- on and on it goes!

For a guy who has gone thru many years of a raspy voice and at times being "left on the bench" -- and only thru extensive arduous practising -- I am finally attaining my long goal of being a widely accepted public relations and a speaker -- of some professionalism and in demand. Similar to the Medal of Honor -- another dream another miracle! Just a great world -- to be in! I guess my destiny was not to be money - but, appreciation and acclaim - which I treasure deeply. Moreover, Jennie and Jennifer -- never do mind going without shoes! And the model "T" still runs! All three of us have slimmed down -- noticeably! We, still go to church! Eat 3 "squares" a day, and the TV, stove and furnace -- still have power! A tough but a comfortable life!

As mentioned in my letter -- so many of my contacts and friends, including yours truly, now, all profess to be authors but, in search of professionalism -- we are now -- with three excellent prospects. Hugh F. Kayser of Garland, Texas -- now completing a book "Spirit of America." Erik Hazelhoff, Hawaii, just out with the great seller "Soldiers of

Orange" -- to be a movie! Ed Weiner, Miami, Florida -- one of the best -- world wide known -- recently, came out with the "Walter Winchell Story" to be a movie and the "Damon Runyon Story."

Otherwise, everything is real OK -- quiet and peaceful -- busy at the office -- everyone feeling fine -- slim and trim -- looking for more to do!

Hoping, everything is the same for you -- with lots of extra happiness over the Holidays! --

"The Best of Health-Success- in '81"

Your "Pals" 9th Division!
Matt, Jennie & Jennifer

Co. F 60th Inf.
GERALD TEACHOUT
Anaheim Vacation Park
Space 80
311 N. Beach Blvd.
Anaheim, Ca. 92801

I guess if I do not get some money in to you I will find red ink on my next Octofoil. Enclosed is \$13.00 for three years dues, 1981,82,83. Also a donation for the memorial at Ft. Bragg.

I noted in Pat J. Morano's "BECO" newsletter that he lays claim to highest unit representation at the Washington 9th Reunion with 17 members out. I hate to pop his balloon, but Co. F. 60th had at least 18 members out to honor their own Matt Urban as he received his long overdue Medal of Honor. I believe there may have been one or two more former members of Co. F out, but 18 checked into our C.P. It was the largest turnout ever of Co. F 60th. It will soon be time to start motivating F. Co. to get out to Hyannis in June. Also, have to get busy on this California Chapter effort.

With the help of Joe Podany I located my old fox hole buddy and bazooka loader Nicholas Wagner, 6644 Chicago Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. 55423. Will you see that he gets an application to join the Ninth Infantry Division Association? He didn't know of the Assoc. until Joe Podany called to let him know I was trying to locate him. We lost touch almost 35 years ago.

I have been down for awhile. Discovered a new heart problem in mid December. New to me that is. Went in the hospital in Jan. and got out Feb. 3. Still haven't solved the problem but the doctors are trying. They had better come up with some results soon. I have to get busy with this California unit and get letters and phone calls off to F. Co. members to get them out to Hyannis in June. Can't be fooling around waiting for some doctor to make up his mind on the best solution.

Our best to you and Marie until we see you at Hyannis.

Co. B 60th Inf.
CHARLES J. DUSKY
1410 Robinson St. No. 7
San Diego, Calif. 92103

Dan, I had the honor of serving as a rifleman with "B" Co. 60th Inf. Regt. 9th Inf. Div. I froze both feet during the Battle of the Bulge on or about January 23, 1945. Could you please get me the c-o's name of "B" Co. 60th Inf. 9th Div. at that time. It would be very helpful as I am still trying to get corrections to my military records.

If you don't know, please put this letter in Mail Call, perhaps one of our members can help me, thank you.

P.S. We were in the Monchau, Eupen area when I had both feet frozen.

Co. C 47th Inf.
GEORGE GAJDOS
435 Daniel Dr.
Aliquippa, Pa. 15001

I was with the 9th Div. from just before the St. Lo break thru until about a week after we crossed the Rhine River at Remagen. About a year ago I found out about the Ninth Infantry Division Association and was most happy to join. I've been reading the Octofoil with great anticipation hoping to read about a familiar name and at last it happened in the Nov. - Dec. 1980 issue! The picture of Carson Baker and his letter sure made my day.

I'm going to drop him a line and hope that others from the 3rd platoon will do the same so that we could get in touch with each other!

I would like to hear from other 9th vets around the Pittsburgh area. Peace and may God be with all of you.

A & D Co. 60th Inf.
JOHN K. MOORE
3801 - 30th Ave. W.
Bradenton, Fla. 33505

Once again I am trying to beat the dead-line for RED INK. Enclosed find dues for the current year, and I do hope they are in time. Seems that all my life I have been meeting dead-lines.

I have one coming up in the next couple of weeks, that I can't hope to miss. That will be my 76th birthday, which I imagine puts me well up among the most senior members of the Association.

Dan, in all those years I have had a few unlucky breaks, and a good many lucky ones; but I do sincerely feel that the luckiest break I ever had was when some unknown clerk pulled the card bearing my name from the file, and assigned me to the 1st Bn. of the 60th Infantry.

I joined Able Co. just outside of Roetgen, and was fortunate to find myself in a company of good professional, hard-fighting men who never failed to take their objective while I was with them. It was a company on a par with the best, and my fellow soldiers were the best.

Later I was with DOG Co., and found them to be equally good. Many a mortar tube, and many a M.G. Barrel they burnt out in close and aggressive support of their fellow riflemen. Like ABLE, it was an excellent group of fighting men, and stood proudly alongside the best.

I ended up in Bn. Hdqtrs., and there I could get a better all-round picture of the entire regiment. It was a regiment that accepted it's assignments and completed them without fanfare or braggadocio, and always with competency and a work-like professionalism.

I am indeed proud to have been privileged to have been permitted to serve with the men of the 60th Inf. Reg., and in particular with those of the 1st Bn.

39th Inf.
JEROME TISHLER
3808 Maybelle Ave.
Oakland, Ca. 94619

My 1981 subscription must be due and is enclosed. I came down to H.Q. Det, 2nd Bn, 39th in February, 1941 from Fort Dix, New Jersey. If anyone recognizes my name, I'd appreciate a word from them.

15th Engrs.
MAURICE N. TOUGAS
111 Aetna Street
Central Falls, R.I. 02863

There is a check for my 1981 dues. I want to wish you and all the members a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous Year.

Cannon Co- 39th Inf
JOE MONTALCHI
P. O. Box 590
Palm Coast, Fla. 32037

I received a letter from Nick Mortello and he told me that he wrote to you about joining the Association, but has yet to receive an application from you.

Well, I wrote back and I told him that I was going to write to you again and to ask what happened.

So, if you misplaced his address, I'll give it to you again. Mr. D. Mortello, 4952 Folse Drive, Metairie, La. 70002.

I was telling Nick about the book, Eight Stars to Victory. So, if you can get one of them when you send him his stuff for the association tell him about the book.

Dan, last week I was surprised by an old buddy also a P.O.W. He read the article in the Octofoil about Nick and Me. and he and his wife were in route to Florida, so he told his wife that the first stop was at my house. It was a good surprise. We enjoyed their company for about 5 hours. And then they left and said next time they'd stay longer. His name is Joe Reeder. He is from Bordentown, N.J. and he was also glad to hear that Mortello was all right too, because the last he saw Nick it was in prison camp in Sicily and it was the first time I saw him since 1943.

So, Dan, if you'd like to write a little bit about Joe Reeder coming down to see me it's alright, and how we are getting to find each other through the Octofoil.

So, how is the family, all well and fine I hope and everything is fine in Weehawken, I hope. So thanks again.

Don't forget to let me know if you and Marie are ever down this way, don't forget to stop or call.

G Co. 39th Reg't.
BOB SMITH
134 Roger Avenue
Bellevue, Ohio

Thought you may be interested in the enclosed photo of four G Co. 39th Ft. Bragg men taken at Barton Stacey, England just prior to D Day.

Three of the four men were WIA which was about par for the course for line company men.

Hope to see you all in Hyannis in June.

P.S. you can keep this photo for your files which was taken with a Jerry camera Tom Shine picked up some where in Sicily.

Co. C 39th
BRUCE JOHNSTINE
100 Glennesland Apt. 109
Dunedin, Fla. 33528

I am sorry that you have had so little mail from me I guess I just did so much corresponding this year. At any rate, you will find my dues enclosed.

Pete & Liz Radichio stopped by one day. So, I got all up to date on the convention news. We hope to get to Hyannis in June, then we can go on from there to our old area and see our friends at home.

We made a cruise on the Norway for a week, and also a week on A AAA bus tour to Nashville, the old Opry. Never did hear from Mike Deresh. Bill Muldoon is never home when I call but I did speak to his wife. Things were good. Have a happy one and take care.

B Co. 15th Engrs.
ANTHONY J. MADONNA
40 Orient Street
Worcester, Ma. 01604

Enclosed check for \$5.00 dues for 1981.

Will see you and all our 9th Division Buddies in June on the Cape Cod.

DORIS TEPPER
1626 N. Poinsettia
Los Angeles, Cal. 90046

In the last Octofoil, I read George W. Bentley, Jr.'s article saying that Art Stenzel may be able to get two books for him, one of which is entitled "8 Stars to Victory". I sent my copy to Eugene and Doris Carney of Wheeling, West Virginia. They will return it when they have xeroxed whatever they want that is most important to them.

If Art knows where to get more copies I wish you'd publish that information for others who want the book, as I understand it is most difficult to find. Should Art have no success I'll be glad to show the book to any of the fellows when you come out to California on your next convention (hint).

Secondly, let's have more information on the "Fort Bragg Marker." I'd like to make a donation. To whom? Are there any stipulated amounts requested?

I sure appreciate receiving the Octofoil all these years. I was at the last Chicago convention when I lived in Chicago. I recall vividly sitting next to dear Father Connors. I recall how many of the fellows came up to me to tell me stories of my wonderful brother, Chaplain Irving Tepper, who lost his life at St. Lo, France. In all his letters through 5 invasions, he always wrote of "his boys". Perhaps that's why I feel so close to those who write to the Mail Call.

Co. B 15th Engrs.
BYRON ANGELL
572 Smithfield Rd.
No. Providence, R.I. 02904

Just noticed that my membership has run out, enclosed please find check for three more years. Hope to see some of the old gang at the Cape this June. I have not been able to make many of the conventions in the past, self-employed, you know, hard to get away. I am now semi-retired, (slowing down), and hope to have a little more free time. All has been well here, hope you and your family are the same. My best to all.

Co. D 9th Med. Bn.
GEORGE HURRAY
86-12 - 57th Avenue
Elmhurst, L.I., N.Y. 11373

Enclosed is check for three years membership. Times goes by so quickly I didn't realize my card expired. Please check my address for the Octofoil, as I haven't received the last two editions. My mail has been fouled up at the post office in Flushing, due to a change of address by my son. Some of my mail has gone astray to the city, because of a computer.

I did not realize I didn't receive them, until I looked at my card, that expired in December. I never moved from this address, the Post Office was changing it.

709 Ord
JOHN J. KOWALSKI
3624 Liberty Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15201

Enclosed are my dues for this year. Thought I'd send them before I received the Octofoil in red ink.

If all goes well, we're hoping to be in Hyannis in June.

Co. C 47th Inf.
ANTHONY FORTA
506 W. William Rd.
Portchester, N.Y. 10573

Enclosed you will find \$5.00 for 1981 dues and \$5.00 for Scholarship fund. I am in good health and getting along O.K.

Regards to all men of the Ninth and I wish them all a Happy New Year.

Dates for 81 Reunion June 25-27

MAIL CALL

Co. A 60th Inf.
HAROLD W. SMITH
9515 Bluegrass Place
Colo. Springs, Colo. 80911
Dear Dan,

Thank you for printing my letter in the Nov.-Dec. 1980 issue of the Octofoil. In spite of the gremlins that turned words like "resolve" into "restore", and "toast" into "roast", I think readers got the thrust of what I wrote! One such reader was an old friend, Paul Sakai, who I have not seen in many years, and who wrote me that he is retiring from a second career with the Defense Investigative Service, at Fort Holabird, Maryland. I didn't have the pleasure of knowing Paul during WWII, but we attended a Reunion in New York in the late '50's. So it proves somebody reads all these letters!

I'd like to reiterate a few things. First that we should give serious consideration to opening our membership to newer wearers of the Octofoil. I very much appreciate the action by the Board of Governors in appointing a committee to study the proposal relating to membership status. I still feel that action to change existing By-Laws should be by a proxy vote of the entire membership. Second, I think the Washington D.C. chapter should be given the privilege of drafting the proxy proposal for publication in an issue of the Octofoil.

Please say hello to William R. Paddock, Co. A, 60th Inf. We were both members of "Windham's Warriors" back in the pre-Pearl Harbor days of 1941. Bill was in my platoon and we made many marches out Longstreet Road.

It is unlikely that I can make this year's reunion in Massachusetts, but I'll make every effort to make the next one in Fort Bragg.

Co. A 47th Inf.
WALLACE O. RICHARDSON
350 N. Meridian St.
Greenwood, Indiana 46142

Enclosed find a check for membership for 3 years in 9th Div. Assn. Was glad to receive a copy of the Octofoil. It was very interesting although I didn't see any names in it that I was familiar with. I was a member of the Association in the late forties and I do have the history "8 Stars to Victory," but I dropped out because in those days I was more interested in making a living, etc. But the last few years I have become more interested in veterans and veterans affairs and veterans service work. I'm Commander of V.F.W. Post 5864 here. I expect to retire in 2 or 3 years and would like to attend one of the reunions especially if it is held nearer here. So keep up the good work and hopefully I will be more involved in the near future.

K & Hq. Co. 60th Inf.
JOSEPH RAPPAZINI
24001 Sherman
Oak Park, Michigan

Without a doubt the Octofoil is one of the prize pieces of mail that arrives at 24001 Sherman. It has top priority! The news it contains is stirring and revitalizing because it evokes the sense of loyalty and pride that is so much a part of the lives of all Ninth Division men. Then, there are always the memories - some so warming - some so sad. But, all in all, they provide a source of genuine pride and gratefulness which will always remain.

Hdq. Co. 3rd Bn. 47th Inf.
HAL C. SAUM
Box 450
Elm Creek, Neb. 68836

Thanks to you and the Octofoil, I have contacted Lt. Bill Phillips, he is Postmaster in Morganton, N.C. His friends will remember he got his battlefield commission during Ardennes campaign - one hell of an officer and most of all a gentleman.

Would sure like to hear from Jules Fand or Harry Offsey. If you have their addresses, could you send them to me.

47th Med. Det.
SOL LUZZO
216 S.W. 19th Street
Ft. Lauderdale,
Fla. 33315

Well, I received my Octofoil and was glad to get it. I could keep on reading about my buddies. I live in Florida. I met a guy from E Co. He was the barber back in Fort Bragg. I go in and get a haircut and throw the bull. I bring my books to see if we remember anyone by looking at the pictures without looking up the names on the bottom of the page. I am sending you \$10.00 for the next two years, Dan, keep the paper coming. Sorry, I can't come up to Hyannis Port but I just got out of the hospital. I had a bleeding ulcer. I am feeling a lot better now but I have to watch what I eat. Dan, if you see anyone from the good old 47th Meds. tell them I was asking for them. All I hope is that I could meet some 9th Division men down here in Florida. You could put this in the paper if you'd like, Dan. I will close for now until I hear from you may God keep you and your family in the best of health always.

Co. L. 39th Inf.
GUIDO INTROINI
11 Hamilton Ave.
Clifton, New Jersey 07011

Enclosed is a check for my '81 dues plus a donation for the Fort Bragg Marker Fund. Enjoyed the Washington, D.C. reunion and looking forward to the Hyannis reunion.

Btry. B. 60th F.A. Bn.
JOHN F. MARSTON
5 Hilltop Ln. Box 63
So. Easton, Ma. 02375

Thanks for the letter and copy of the Octofoil you recently sent me. I am enclosing my dues for the next three years.

I was a member of Btry. B. 60th F.A. Bn. since Feb. of 41 until August of 45. I was a member of the Association way back then attended the services at Worcester a few years in a row. I recently retired from the Federal Government, was a full time employee for the Mass. National Guard and retired as Command Sergeant Major. My wife and I, like so many others moved to Dunedin, Florida stayed a year and a half, then to Charlotte, N.C. for 1 1/2 years and here we are back again in Mass. I noticed an article in our local paper concerning the reunion in Hyannis and what a surprise. For I had thought the association had disbanded years ago! I am very pleased to know differently and am very happy to become a member again.

Shall look forward to seeing, I hope, some of my old buddies from Btry. B of the 60th.

When was the last time you wrote a letter to our Mail Call Column?

Co M 60th Inf
COLE GRONSETH
4464 Hemlock Rd.
Cedar, Mich. 49621

I don't wish to write to fill in space but our trip south at Christmas time merits attention. Eileen and I stopped in Florence, Alabama to visit with "Buck" Buchanan and Carolyn. Both are well and busy. They have hopes for the Hyannis outing.

Of interest to all 3rd Bn. 60th men is that former Col. Keene Wilson is alive and well in Selma, Alabama. We stayed in his city. Dinner at the Crossing Restaurant and conversation til 2 or 3. With a little color back in his hair, a map case under his arm and a pocket book of most any title; this man would be ready to move to the next objective.

Col. Wilson took very little persuasion to interest him in attending the convention. He, too, plays golf. All you golfers bring extra money as we both get strokes.

Another high spot was our 3 day New Year's visit in Mobile, Alabama with the Carl Brady's. They approach the end of another restoration of a classic anti-bellum home. Carl is the Rembrandt of restoration. On New Year's Eve the Bradys and the Gronseths were guests of Roy and Karyn Smith. Their club is the top floor of Mobile's biggest building and gives a breathtaking panoramic view of the city and harbor. Each of them claim to be interested in trekking to Hyannis.

The Association's convention committee should take a close and early look at Mobile as a future convention city. It is a natural. Seafood and standard dining abound. There is an abundance of motel-hotel accommodations. Both dining and motel costs are very reasonable.

In walking, or short driving distance, are an abundance of high-interest sightseeing points. The battleship Alabama is a museum. The City's vast harbor and ship building will fascinate any viewer.

Based upon our several visits, Alabama must be the apex of the meaning of southern hospitality.

I also believe that there is a large number of former 9th men who have permanent residences in the southeast that would lend extra support for Mobile as a convention site.

A.T. 47th
GEORGE REMALEY
Box 437 - A Rd. 1
Nathona Hgts. Pa. 15065

I am looking forward to seeing all the men of the Ninth in Mass. next year.

I want to say hello to all my friends in the Ninth, also some in the Fifteenth Engrs. Can't remember their names but they were attached to our 3rd Platoon. I think it is time to have General George Patton's birthday made a National Holiday as we owe him so much. I served with him and we had no better General in the Army. Ask those boys who were at Bostone, he rates with the great ones. I served with him in Sicily.

Med. Det. 84 FA. Bn.
JAMES F.X. DELEHANTY
64 East Main Street
Wappingers Falls,
New York 12590

Dear Dan:
Enclosed please find check, covering 1981 dues. I enjoyed your speech at Fr. Connors November, 1980 Reunion in Worcester, Mass.

THE OCTOFOIL
412 Gregory Ave Weehawken, N. J. 07087 -

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

Publication No.
402820



IS YOUR OCTOFOIL

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Once again it is that time of the year when we remind you to check your membership card for "it is now dues time". If you have not already done so, please remit your dues at once in order to save your association time and expense of mailing out dues notices and reminders. Like every thing else the cost of mail is "going up" but if we all pitch in we can help defray this expense.

A limited budget keeps us from mailing the Octofoil to those who fall in the delinquent class. Send in your dues to the Secretary's office, 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087.

DUES ARE DUE

Co. D. 60 B Inf.
JOHN E. THORNTON
P.O. Box 3782, Mdse, Mart Sta.
Chicago, Ill. 60610
HOLIDAY GREETINGS 1980
Dear Dan:

Do hope this card and note finds you and yours in good Health, and that things are going along real good for you. I am doing pretty good for an Ole VET of 72.

Was very sorry to hear about Frank Ozart passing away earlier this year, he sure was a FINE person and a hard worker for the Association, and sure will be missed by all. I did not know anything about it until I saw the Death Notice of him in the Tribune, otherwise I would of went to his Funeral, it was too late then.

Also very glad to read and hear about Lt. Col. Matt Urban getting his much and most deserving Medal, even after all these years, I think it's an ole Army saying "Hurry up and wait"? You sure had a nice writeup about him in the July--August OCTOFOIL along with nice Pictures. Enclosed is a nice writeup the Chicago Tribune had about him.

I understand he was with the 60th Infantry, I do not recall hearing his name, but this is understandable, for the very short time I was with the 9th. Just about 2 weeks, my first nite in Combat was almost my last, but 10 days later on July 17th 1944 about 8 am, just before the fall of St. Lo, France myself and about 10 others got hit by Mortar Shrapnel, still have the scar on the back of my neck, my stay with the 9th was rough and short, what a find bunch of GUYS they were, the only one I got to know much, was the late Paul Plunket, what a Guy he was, always ready and helpful to help anyone anytime.

Well, Dan, I think I said about enough for this time, so will Sign off for now. Enclosed is my Dues, and something for the Scholarship Fund, will try and send more later on for the Fund. Take care now, and do have a real nice Holiday Season, and this goes for the 9th Members and their Families. I drive over to Grand Rapids now and then, and of course go thru Holland, and that's where Matt Urban lives, so one of these times I may look him up for a short visit.

Co M 39th Inf.
TONY CARMECI
Old Minisink Rd.
Barryville, N.Y. 12719

Enclosed find check for my annual dues. Hope all is well with you and yours and of course, with the ass'n. I could not make the trip to Worcester this past year as I had a School Board Seminar. I am an elected member of the Eldred School Board. Takes up a lot of my time but it is very interesting and besides I like the controversy. I am also chairman of the Highland Planning board and that has been a great experience. I am also on the Zoning Commission and right now we are in the process of formulating a zoning ordinance for our town that has been mandated by the National Park Service as they have acquired the authority to promote an accelerated recreation area for approximately ninety miles on the Delaware River.

I received a few Christmas cards this year from former Ninth men and especially one from John Ardison of Division Hqs. That card was from California where he lives now. He is also retired and seems to be very busy there in community projects. Also from Mike Batelli from Paterson N.J. He is still with the Post Office and a featured writer with the Bergen Record. He said he had not been feeling up to par lately but he also added that he is much better than he was. Also stopped over to see Art and Helen Clark and Brian on the holidays. They are all feeling well and keeping busy.

Well, I guess I gave you all the news that I have so I'll close wishing everyone a healthy and happy New Year.

9th Q.M.
TREVOR JONES
34 Geraldine Circle
Trumbull, Conn. 06611
Enclosed is a contribution to the fund for construction of a monument to the 9th Division, at Fort Bragg.

Matt Urban was the guest of honor at the Jai-Alai fronton in Bridgeport on Veterans Day.

May and I stopped by to say hello, Steve Sprindis, Ben Murell and a few other Division men was also there.

I had borrowed a large 9th Division insignia from the Worcester chapter and it was placed in front of the podium when Matt and Teve were presented. It was a very nice ceremony.

Hope to see you in Cape Cod.

(Continued on p. 6)

If you are planning on moving please notify the secretary of your new address. It will save postage and keep you on the Octofoil mailing list.