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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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## The Octofoil, May/June/July 1983

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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# THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Association Dues: \$5.00 per year - \$1.50 for the October

Volume XXXVIII

Number 3

May-June-July 1983

## Annual Memorial Mass and Service

Ninth Infantry Division -  
39th Annual Memorial Mass and Service  
Sunday, November 6, 1983 at 10:00 a.m.  
Immaculate Conception Church, Worcester, Massachusetts.

At this Mass and Service we pray for, and pay tribute to, those 4,581 gallant men of the Ninth Infantry Division who, in World War II, paid the Supreme Sacrifice in the cause of Peace and Justice. And we pray, too, for those Ninth Infantry Division men who died in Vietnam.

Each year about 500 Ninth Infantry Division people - men of the Ninth and members of their families - attend this annual, prayerful tribute to our Beloved Comrades. All are invited - men of all faiths - and from all units. I shall be approaching 79 years of age - and how many more years I shall be able to gather the troops together - God alone knows.

We have reserved about 140 rooms at the Sheraton-Lincoln Inn in Worcester - and this will be our gathering place on Saturday evening - we have a hall reserved at the Inn. There will be talk and fun and music - and a bit of "Holy Water." For room reservations, as usual, contact -

Frances K. Maher, 14 Davenport Street  
Worcester, Ma. 01610 - Tel. (617) 756-1803

If you prefer a room in another Inn, let Franny know. He will take good care of you.

Try to come - as we enjoy our togetherness - and as we pray for our Beloved Comrades - and as we pray for a just and lasting peace. Some of you have said to me - and this includes General Craig - "Father, don't ever stop this Annual PILGRIMAGE."

God bless,  
Rev. Edward T. Connors  
87-5 Park Avenue  
Worcester, Massachusetts 01605  
Tel. (617) 752-1164

P.S. I think that most of you know that on the grounds of the Immaculate Conception Church - many years ago - we had erected an impressive Memorial dedicated to our 4,581 Beloved Comrades - and, now, dedicated also to those gallant men of the Ninth who died in Vietnam.

### Make Reservations Early

Maher has set aside 140 rooms and the rates are \$58.00 for a double or single. The cut-off date is Oct. 11th and if all rooms are not used by that date we will lose them so try and make your reservations early, or write to Fran Maher, 14 Davenport St. Worcester, Ma. 01610. The hotel will not accept personnel checks but will accept major credit cards, name of card and expiration date must be given. If you are reserving more than 1 room, give the name of the other occupant as this is the hotel policy that they have the names of all persons registered at the hotel. The rates are for 9th Division members and guests and are good for Fri., Sat. and Sunday nights and a one days deposit is required.

### SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

The Secretary and the Secretary's secretary wish to thank the membership for the most generous gift which was quite a surprise! You could have knocked the ole guy over with a feather when the presen-

tation was made. Thanks again to each and everyone who made this gift possible. A special thanks to the committee who made it all possible without letting the secretary know.

Marie and Dan Quinn



The surprised recipients of gifts from the membership of the association, Marie and Dan Quinn are presented watches by Pres. Emil Langer (center).

### Mini Re

Company at 60th Infa

Our Mini-Reunion turned out to be an exceptional and wonderful get together for 21 company men and 17 wives. The success of the reunion is to be shared by everyone who attended, for without your attendance it could not have succeeded to the exceptional high that it attained.

For those men of the company unable to attend, I will summarize the program, to whet your appetite, so you will make every effort to attend next year at Selinsgrove, Pa. The hometown of Chairperson of our 84 Mini-Reunion, Joe Gargie, Rd. #1, Selinsgrove, Pa 17870

Thursday was arrival day with a Hospitality evening in the Hospitality Room, furnished by the hotel, where a buffet supper was served to arrivals as they checked in, along with liquid refreshments, by the committee. All presided over by Cole Grenseth who occupied adjoining room and was resident bar tender.

Friday morning, members visited local sights and golf course. Some members traveled to Wheeler State Park sightseeing and luncheon at the Lodge overlooking the Lake were much enjoyed. Dinner in the evening was at Georges Steak House. Then back to hotel and Hospitality Room for slide presentation of reunions at Hyannisport and Fort Bragg, which included some travel pictures to and from the National Reunions by the Bovanizers.

Saturday morning was devoted to local Flea Markets and golf by those interested. Lunch was served in the Hospitality Room by the lovely ladies from Mobile, Karen Smith and Dorothea Brady. Afternoon was spent in general visitation in Hospitality Room. Cocktails were served at 5:30 before adjoining to the Magnolia Room where a delicious meal was served. Before adjoining to the Hospitality Room for goodbyes and goodwishes, a drawing was held for a basket of goodies donated by M Co members, of local hometown products. This was won by H. F. Stanzell of Ormond Beach, Fla. Also drew 5 names for floral arrangements. Winners were George Brum, who promptly gave it to Carolyn Buchanan, Nell Hornady, Rosemary Frasure, Mary MacDonald and Mary Luce.

Sunday morning was checkout and special goodbyes. The entire program as outlined with the exception of the luncheon at Wheeler State Park, was handle for \$35.00 per person with a balance of \$68.62 for next year.

Tentative plans for 84 Mini-Reunion are to coincide with the National Reunion to be held at Lake Placid, NY. These arrangements when finalized, will be mailed to the present roster of M Co men.

Robert Bovanizer  
1097 85th St.  
Niagara Falls, N. Y.  
14304

## 1983 Reunion

### GREATEST AND BEST EVER

Greetings from the 51st floor of the Westin Hotel Detroit, Mich. The 38th Annual Reunion of the Ninth Infantry Division Association is over. If the saying is true, then this Reunion of the Old Reliables was the greatest and best ever.

### SPEAKER AT BANQUET

Close to five hundred members and guests met in the Banquet Hall on Friday Night to enjoy a meal that was truly delicious. Brigadier General Carpenter of The Ninth Division Ft. Lewis, Washington was the principal speaker at the banquet. When he had finished his talk I am sure that all present were very confident that the defense of our country is in the hands of some very capable people who are wearing the Octofoil today.

We were also honored by the presence of Brigadier General Randle USA Retired. He was called on to speak and finished his talk with a story that had all laughing.

### HIGHLIGHT OF EVENING

I do believe the highlight of the evening was the presentation of gifts to Dan and Marie Quinn. They were honored for twenty five years of dedicated service to the Association. They were pleased when they received their engraved watches. Marie was happy with the tray presented to her but she cried when she looked into the envelope attached to the bottom of the tray. It contained a most generous sum of money in lieu of a trip. This was contributed by the membership in love and thanksgiving for a job well done.

Dancing followed and the parties went on into the wee hours of the morning.

### SATURDAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

Our Saturday morning Memorial Service was well attended. We were entertained by the 1st Michigan Colonial Fife and Drum Corps from Sterling Heights Michigan. This group played Revolutionary War Period music. All the musicians were dressed in the proper period costume. Michigans own

Matt Urban was the principal speaker. Due to technical problems the microphones were not operating but this did not deter Matt from making a very appropriate and inspiring speech.

After the Memorial Service there was free time to do what ever one wanted. Sam Buemi and Earl Wilkey Jr. took advantage of the time and motored to Pontiac, Mich. to visit Hugh Dunlop. Hugh returned with them and joined with us in the CP and later with the F Co. 47th group had dinner with the old gang. I was happy to see Hugh. He, Buemi and I took Basic Training together at Mineral Wells, Texas back in '42. This was the first that I had seen Hugh since he left Texas for Fort Bragg, N.C.

Saturday nights dance was well attended. The music was danceable and the conversation was pleasant. Again the early morning hours found many of us reluctant to go to bed knowing that it would be another year before we would all be together again.

### RENEW MARRIAGE VOWS

I must not forget to tell of one joyful event. That is that the Guglielminos, Vincent and Myrtle, celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary on Saturday. They celebrated the occasion by repeating their marriage vows before Father Connors at the 4:30 P.M. Mass. Congratulations and may God grant both of them many more years of good health and prosperity.

### BID GOOD BYE

Sunday morning found us gathering in the lobby of the hotel to meet and bid good bye to those who have grown so near and dear to each other these past 38 years.

So now Jennie and I must leave 5108 and head home to those every day affairs that occupy so much of all of us.

On behalf of Bob DeSandy and his committee, I thank you for your support which is what made the 1983 reunion the success that it was. God Bless each and every one of you.

Rodger E. Alsgaard Sec'y.

Michigan Chapter  
2834 Wynes St.  
Saginaw, Mi. 48602



Outgoing President of the Association, Emil Langer (left) is presented with plaque from new President, Tom Boyle who in turn receives gavel from Emil Langer.

## THE OCTOFOIL

Form 2579 should be sent to  
412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087  
Octofoil Associated Editors  
Walter O'Keeffe and Daniel Quinn

## National Officers

President  
Thomas Boyle  
39 Hall Avenue  
Somerville, Mass 02144

Vincent Guglielmino, 1st VP  
114 Charles Street  
Floral Park, N.Y. 110001

Emil Langer, 2nd VP  
5 Brentwood Dr.  
Morris Plains, N.J. 07950

Ronald Murphy, 3rd V.P.  
44 Strawberry Lane  
Scituate, Ma. 02066

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

Fred D'Amore, Treasurer  
95 Webster St.  
E. Boston, Ma. 02128

Daniel Quinn, Secretary  
Weehawken, N.J. 07087

## Board of Governors

1984  
Walter O'Keeffe  
Ridgewood, N.Y.  
Herbert Olsen  
Randolph, Ma.  
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Elkton, Md.  
Roger Alsgaard  
Saginaw, Mich.  
Art MacDougall  
Philadelphia, Pa.  
1985  
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Somerville, Ma.  
Henry Santos  
Tampa, Fla.  
Dave Heller  
Highland Park, Ill.  
Al Perna  
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1986  
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New Port Richey, Fl.  
Ralph Carci  
Cheverly Manor, Md.  
Elmer Wagner  
Bay City, Mich.  
Harry Wax  
Brooklyn, N.Y.

## Honorary Members Emeritus

Rev. Edward Connors

## Board Member Emeritus

Maj. Gen. Louis A. Craig (Ret)

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 the issues of The Octofoil. Members should notify the National Secretary, Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N.J. of any change in address.

Published five times yearly, May, June, July, — Aug., Sept., Oct., — Nov., Dec., Jan-Feb., Mar., April 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.

Volume XXXVIII

May-June 1983

Publication No. 2820

## THE PAWNS OF WAR

by William M. Kreye

William M. Kreye begins his World War II memoirs by describing his life before the service, when he still lived in Brooklyn, New York, and played softball on a neighborhood team. But these childhood reminiscences are abruptly ended in 1941, when, along with hundreds of thousands of young men like him, the author was drafted into the United States Army in the war against Hitler's Germany.

*The Pawns of War* is a powerful, detailed retelling of the men, places, and battles that Sgt. Bill Kreye encountered in his three years overseas. Interweaving his considerable knowledge of World War II military history into his own story, Kreye constructs a complete and totally engrossing account of the war. He follows the actions of generals like Bradley, Patton, and Eddy as well as those of a kid from South Bend, Indiana, who followed behind him on patrols; and he tells us about the exploits of his own outfit, the famous Ninth Infantry Division.

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## Taps Sounded

*There is no death  
What we call death  
is but a restful sleep*

*They wake not soon  
who slumber so.*

*Therefore,  
We mourn we weep.*

Edward Egan  
Cannon Co. 47th Inf.  
C Co. 39th Inf.

Howard Lillegaard  
47th Inf.

George Berday  
Co. B & Service Co.  
47th Inf.

Stanley J. Tokarz  
Co. D 39th Inf.

William R. Miller  
39th Inf.

Merton Leroy Call  
47th Inf.

Edwin Cloud  
Div. Hq.

Ray Strows

Arthur Becker

Co B 60th Inf.

Joseph D. Marino

15th Engrs.

Helen Glozick, Gold

Star Mother of Raymond,

Co I 39th Inf.

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

Pete Egan and Sister Edward Joseph wish to express their thanks to the members of the 9th Infantry Division Assn. for their thoughtfulness on the death of Edward Egan.

Service Co. 47th Inf. & Co. B  
MRS. GEORGE BERDAY  
4100 Jones Bridge Rd.  
Chevy Chase, Md. 20815

It is with broken heart and eyes full of tears that I notify you of the death of my most beloved husband, pal, father and friend, George, on May 26, 1983. He was buried in Arlington National Cemetery on May 31 with full Military Honors. We will suffer this great loss, my children and I, for many years. George and I were one of the first to join the 9th Chapter in Florida when it was formed. I will remain in Md. with my daughter and son-in-law until Sept., then I will return to Florida in Homestead where after the 10th of the month I will be glad to receive visitors. God Bless all of us, guide us and protect us.

## HELP!

To the Men of the 9th Infantry Division

During the latter stages of World War II (approximately from March - May), three all black platoons were assigned to the three regiments of the 9th respectively.

I am interested in identifying, locating, and interviewing as many of these black veterans as possible. I would appreciate communicating with anyone who can be of assistance in this project.

Thank you,

Professor Jerome H. Long  
Box GG  
Wesleyan Station  
Wesleyan University  
Middletown, CT 06457  
(203) 347-9411, ext. 2689 (office)  
(203) 344-0724 (home)



## LADIES CORNER

The officers of the Ladies Aux. serve 2 year terms. Iris Canales, Pres., Ruth Victor, V./P., Irene Tapp, Chaplain, Lily Krasovetz, Sec. Treas. are the present officers.

July 1984 the newly elected officers are Lorraine Clark, Pres., Wanda Preston, V.P., Rosalie Painter, Chaplain, and Lily Krasovetz, Sec. Treas.

At this meeting, the membership voted \$500. to the Scholarship fund, and \$100. to Immaculate Conception Church. The membership also voted that next years meeting will be a Continental Breakfast Meeting with preregistration.

Income was derived from donations toward the fruit basket donated by Ruth Rictor, of \$216.00.; 92.00 from donations of Pollyanna gifts donated by Irene Tapp, Iris Canales, Ethel Thompson, Erma Teachout, Florence Seibel and Mrs. Frank Gonzol; and \$80.00 from new and renewed memberships.

Out meeting ended with delightful refreshments of cookies, tea and coffee.

We all enjoyed the Westin, the beautiful window views, the surrounding places of interest, and we were all glad to be together another year. The planned activities of the entire reunion were great and plentiful. We thank the Detroit Chapter for their efforts and compliment them on their success.

Also, Mrs. Margaret H. Gray, 72 Monmouth St., Brookline, Ma. 02146 will be sort of a publicity person for the Auxiliary and she will send in to the "Ladies Corner."

Congratulations to both you and Marie and all the Ladies of the Auxiliary were excited and pleased and most happy for you both to be remembered by the MEN OF THE Ninth

In closing, the Auxiliary wishes the new officers and all the members of the Ninth Infantry Div. Assoc. an excellent, happy, smooth year, and in good spirit, health and anticipation always for the next reunion.

Sincerely,  
Lily K. Krasovetz,  
Sec./Treas.

107 United States Ave. E.  
Gibbsboro, N.J. 08026

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 ☐

Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund \_\_\_\_\_ ☐

THREE-YEAR MEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ \$13.00 ☐

Life Membership \_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00 ☐

Ladies' Auxiliary Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 2.00 ☐

Decals \_\_\_\_\_ \$ .50 ☐

60th Infantry History \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 2.00 ☐

...

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐

Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐

New England ☐ Michigan ☐

Ohio ☐ Fayetteville ☐

Florida ☐ Fort Bragg, N.C. ☐

## Tip of Hat

The association is grateful to those who contributed at the Reunion and to these members who remembered this fund.

Joseph J. Horvatis  
Fred Scott, Jr.

Laurence Gould

Kenneth Campbell

Raymond Peque

Grady L. Perry

John W. Stempert

Paul J. Sakai

Herman Figler

We salute you.

## 47th Inf. G Co.

Margarito Sanchez

3704 Marquette

Davenport, Iowa 57806

I don't know where to start, but the Fayetteville reunion will never be forgotten. Here I sit at a Thanksgiving dinner with my family. They see a few tears in my eyes, of course they are thinking that those tears are from all of us being together, but only half of them were. Exactly 38 years ago, Nov. 25, 1944, "the factory" which was written in red letter according to history book of the 47th regiment, my sergeant was captured and I wounded later that day. Raising 6 children and sending them through high school and some through college, we just couldn't afford to attend the reunions. My wife read in the DAV magazine about the reunion to be held in Fayetteville. She wrote to Dan Quinn and he right away sent all the information. That same day she made all the necessary reservations and told me it was my Father's Day present. At the reunion I told her we might not meet anyone we know. While eating supper at the Bordeaux that evening I overheard this fellow at the next table talk of the fighting at the "factory" in Germany. My blood was going thru my veins at 90 mph. Going over to their table a thought went thru my head. Could this possibly be my Sgt. Louis Rullan? With tears in his eyes, he said that the last thing he saw was a German tank machine gunning down his whole squad, but I told him it only got 3 (Rest their souls). Louis just got out of the hospital recently and his family was afraid for him to attend the reunion, but something was pushing him to go and now he knows why! Also got to meet two other comrades we trained with in Bragg, Hermon Rahn of Pisgah Forest, N.C. and Milton McDaniel of Daytona Beach, Fl. Enclosed picture of us.

TO "B" (47th Inf.)  
or not to "B".  
DID'JA KNOW ???

—Just been paging through some 37 year old Division Association newspapers—brown and flaking with age — found many articles which seem worthy of repetition, for instance—

—Did'ja know prior to the decision to name our Association paper, "Octofoil" — suggested names were "Hitler's Nemesis," "Old Reliabilities," "Notorious Ninth" & — that our first "Re-union" was held in the Hotel New Yorker in New York City in 1946.— some 28 States were represented by 1200 men, their wives or girl-friends who attended. What was then one of the finer N.Y. hotels has now become the "whatever" of the cultist Rev. Moon and his "moonie or goonie" followers.

—Did'ja know our Father Connors, who served as Chaplain for our Division Artillery men was giving his blessings back at St. Peter's in Worcester to the men of the 9th Div., back in 1947?? — this later grew in popularity and at this point is equally as popular as our yearly "Re-unions."

—Did'ja know General Eisenhower visited the 1st. and 9th. Armies of occupation at Bad Tolz in October 1946. He was escorted on this Bavarian tour by Mrs. Mamie Eisenhower. — Ikes' chauffeurs name was Karl — with a —K?

—Did'ja know the organizations' financial statement for the quarter ending 30 Sept. 1946 was \$88,652.77 — bet ya didn't know that!!

—Di'ja know our world - traveling "Beco" couple, Orion and Eleanor Shockley just returned home from a sojourn in Australia and New Zealand. —"Shock" said if they did it again they would use the resources of ships and planes.

—Did'ja know prior to W.W.2. "young" Joe Podany passed up a date with Joan Collins of "Dynasty" fame? Reason? He planned to re-arrange his closet —er' Joe can be seen sitting in his "arranged" closet flipping his lip each Wed. between 8-9 Centraltime and 9-10 Eastern time. — Tune in!

—Did'ja know ol' "Blood & Guts" Patton admitted that on innumerable occasions he attempted to "walk on water" — he finally failed! er' ol' "Bee-Gee" couldn't swim a stroke.!

Did'ja know that in April, 1946 the 9th Division Rest Camp located in the Starnberg-Tutzing area was officially opened — The rest center will have a capacity of 250 "restees" per week with facilities available for an additional 200 transients on a quota basis on summer week-ends. Leaves to the center will be for 7 days for both EM and officers and will not count against leave or furlough time.

— The facilities offered at the Rest Camp include golf, swimming, boating, horseback riding, dancing, archery, tennis, snack bars and numerous other "recreational" facilities. Note: many rooms are "with" — some "without" — you can't appreciate what the "with" is until You've experienced the "without!" —well, we never got to know about rooms, "with" — or even rooms! but we cornered the market when it came to "withouts."

—Did'ja know that while we frantically, scratched and clawed the barren earth in the hills of El Guettar in order to dig "holes" deep enough to protect our precious hides against the mindless, killing mortar fire from the well-entrenched

Germans — that back in London the hierarchy of both the American and British High Command indulged themselves with wine and women as they vied for the affections and "favors" of Britains' "lovelies" to the melodic strains and "kinky" lyrics of "Roll me over — in the clover" — well, read David Irvings' "The War between the Generals" — makes "Lady Chatterly's Lover" sound like the "Radio Boy's at Mountain Pass"! Oddly, in spite of it all we won the War — didn't we????

—and now, did'ja know Grace and I will be "on the move" again? — getting tired of paying absentee owners maximum rental fees so comes August 1st we will be moving into our own home again. — remember, Guy's, for best accommodations you'll need early reservations — not to mention rates!!

Grace and I truly enjoyed the visits with Pat and Ann Morano and Jack and Kay DiSanto. Sorry Florida wasn't prepared to give them better weather for their extended stays — as they say in baseball "Wait 'til next year!!"

Pleased to hear ol' "Beco" expects a very good showing out in Detroit. We will have to pass this one up. Enjoy!! We'll see you up at Lake Placid in '84.

Art J. Stenzel  
8705 Village Mill  
Row, Bayonet Point,  
Fla. 33567.

Pat J. Morano  
2208-Lincoln Way,  
East, Chambersburg  
Pa. 17201.

#### B CO 39th Mini Reunion

The 31st reunion was held June 15-19 at the Hilton Hotel in Allentown, Pa. On Thursday evening the ex-GI's and their ladies motored to Bethlehem to the Lantern Restaurant and told stories about the old days in Europe and Africa, got acquainted with each other and told jokes. All enjoyed a time as each needed the other of various incidents. Comment was made about Al Baccile driving to Reading, Pa. and return a total of 70 miles, to buy a tie. The Saturday night banquet was a very nice affair. I want to say thanks to Mrs. Rose Douvanis for the time and hard work she put into this reunion. Dan Douvanis opened the affair with a few words and drawings were held. Al (the Hawk) DeRisio was master of ceremonies. Some of the folks were introduced and jokes were told by Joe Gravino. The main speaker was Allentown City Councilman, Watson Skinner standing in for Mayor of Allentown. He read from the book "Pawns of War" by Bill Kreye, and mentioned the 47th regiment being the 2nd most decorated regiment in the history of the U.S. It sure made me feel great, as I was part of the 47th. Anyone interested in purchasing the book can write to Bill Kreye. All the dog faces and their ladies met at the CP where stories were told and refreshments were had. I was in the 47th and was invited to the B Co reunion as were a few others from the 60th and Marines who also received the purple heart. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Order of the Purple Heart can write to me, Emerson Gross, 7515 Miller Drive, Bath, Pa. 18014. Invocation was by Joe Gravine, a salute to the colors by all. After the banquet, we returned to the CP for our last goodbye until next year.

#### ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWS

At this writing, it is less than a week away from the 1983 reunion in Detroit. We are looking forward to seeing all our friends again this year and to the wonderful plans made by the Michigan Chapter.

We had a terrific turnout at the Memorial Day Services in memory of Bud Remer. The weather cooperated during the memorial services which was very impressive and moving since many of us had so many fond memories of our dear friend, Bud Remer. We tried to contact Bud's sister but apparently she was out of town and not able to attend. Also among the missing was Jerry and Dorothy Faynor. It seems like Dorothy fell in the latter part of the winter and injured her leg and foot. She has had a cast on and has been unable to maneuver much. We missed them but had a very nice crowd. The picnic afterwards at the Pauli Home was a success until the rain and hail came. We were fortunate in that a tornado struck less than 3 miles away from us and we all escaped any damage.

We are sorry to report the deaths of some of our members' families. Roger Elmer lost his mother in May and Jean and Cas Pawlick lost their oldest son in June. Our deepest sympathy to the two families and may the happy memories you have of them outweigh your tragedies.

We heard of the illness in the Michigan Chapter and wish a speedy recovery to Fred Josey and Bill Andrews. Come on guys, hurry and get well — we are looking forward to seeing you at the Reunion.

We will have a sign-up sheet at the reunion for our Outstate Reunion to be held in Angola, Indiana on October 21 and 22 at the Holiday Inn. The mini-reunion is sponsored by the Michigan-Illinois Chapters and this year will be hosted by the Illinois Chapter. All mid-westerners are welcome. For further information, contact Chuck Koskie, 4334 Hirschberg, Schiller Park, IL 60176.

Lew Gray and his wife have moved to Wisconsin but will still consider themselves Illinois members. Good luck to you in your new home.

The Clarks are working on their move to Indiana and final plans will be made soon. Good luck to you both. They plan to travel in for our monthly meetings and hope to host one meeting in their home when they get settled. We plan to make it over a weekend and camp on their lawn. Get ready for us Paul and Lorraine — we really will be there.

Mike and Ann Belmonte  
1161 S. Lombard  
Oak Park, IL 60304



Sign at a farmer's fruit stand: "Most delicious watermelon we ever seed."



Margarito Sanchez, G Co 47th sends this photo taken at Ft. Bragg reunion last year. L to R, Milton McDaniel, Hermon Rahn, Louis Rullen and Sanchez. Story appears in Mail Call.

47th Inf.  
ROY GORDON  
601 Prospect Pl.  
Alexandria, Va. 22304

Greetings! (This is the same start as the draft board statement — which was a request for an unsolicited action. This note, however, is not. I just want to report on Utah Beach and environs, for the chaps of the Old Reliabilities who will go there next year, the 40th anniversary of D-Day.)

I went on a tour sponsored by the Retired Officers Association to Utah Beach, Cherbourg, Ste. Mare Eglise, St. Lo-Perrier Road, Falaise-Argentan Gap, Omaha Beach, Hedgerow country and Calvados country.

The trip was worth it — especially in the acknowledgement of the role played by the Ninth Infantry Division.

The museum at Cherbourg gives full credit to the Ninth for the mission it accomplished in cutting the Cotentin Peninsula and capturing Cherbourg, despite Hitler's all-out effort to hold on to the city to deny the Allies their first port. The capture of Cherbourg was the first great accomplishment of the campaigns in France, and it was due chiefly to the Old Reliabilities of the Ninth. Sure, the veterans of the Ninth know this — they were there — but it is gratifying to learn that others were suitably impressed by the division and its accomplishments.

General Bradley in his book, A General's Life, repeatedly says the veteran Ninth was always in the fore front — was so good it was always called upon to do the most difficult missions — while other divisions "fell flat on their faces." On page 292 he says "I had no better field generals than Collins (commanding the VII Corps of which the Ninth was part), Hobbs, Eddy (our first combat commander, who later became a Corps commander for General Patton), Barton, Brooks, and Rose. The four divisions and the strong armored elements they commanded were among our best and most experienced."

On page 298 he adds: "... the best troops I had in my command: Collins' VII Corps..." (Of which the Ninth was a key and essential element.) In other places, Bradley calls the Ninth "trustworthy" and skilled and reliable — and certainly throughout his book he shows that the Ninth was called upon when the going got rough and the tough had to get going. Thus, the Ninth took a leading role among all the divisions in the campaigns in Europe, as the ninth did in Africa and Sicily.

On page 359 Bradley notes: "At the very crucial corner (of the Battle of the Bulge) Hodges (General, commanding First Army) had dug in the veteran 1st, 2nd and Ninth Infantry Divisions, backing up the green and wobbly 99th. Now, at every point of contact with the enemy, our soldiers were fighting with utmost courage and resourcefulness. The 'Battling Bastards of Bastogne' and later, Patton's Third Army, would garner most of the publicity for 'winning' the Battle of the Bulge; but the defenders of St. Vith and the veteran First Army (including

the Ninth Infantry Division) on the northern shoulder contributed no less and in many instances, more."

Other reputable sources also tell of the true accomplishments of the Ninth, and, coupled with the monuments and other recognition given the Ninth in the Utah Beach, Cherbourg and neighboring area, it is a trip most Old Reliabilities would do well to consider. Bring your cameras, so you can make a record, showing the might and power and accomplishments of the Ninth. The American cemetery near Omaha Beach has a good many Ninth men there, and the displays and memorials graphically depict the mighty accomplishments of the division in those crucial early days of the breaching of Hitler's Fortress Europa. After you read and see all the evidence there, you have to be convinced the Ninth was one of the greatest infantry divisions in the nation's history.

The scene at Utah beach is pretty much what you'd remember of it — except that some of the furniture has been removed — Rommel's Asparagus — the anti-tank stakes — have been removed as well as the mines. The only additions have been monuments and tanks and half-tracks and artillery pieces, German and American, dotting the countryside. One of the bunkers was turned into a museum, which has a lot of Ninth references and artifacts included. Just inside the entrance, on the left-hand side, is a small plaque about Paddy Flint and his 39th Infantry Regiment and how he used the AAA-O (Anybody. Anytime. Anwhere Bar Nothing) moto.

Ste. Mere Eglise is just about the same as you might remember it — except that the stores and houses are fixed up — but there is still a patina of dust about the place, and there is a good museum, from the Ninth viewpoint, across the square from the church.

Several of the stores in town have little placards or photos or some recognition of the 82nd Airborne and the Ninth in their windows. The townsfolk in all the communities in which the Ninth liberated that part of France are uniformly grateful for what we did. They still talk about it and appreciate it to this day in undiminished enthusiasm. The 82nd crooked leg portrayed by Red Buttons in The Longest Day motion picture got a lot of publicity — there are several photos of him and Buttons and he did return there several times before he died a couple of years ago.

Prices are reasonable in all the areas, including Paris, where our tour wound up, and there are many helpful people who welcome the veterans of the Ninth as well as members of other units which liberated France. If any of you get a chance to go for the 40th D-Day anniversary — do it — but bring your wife or children or somebody who can then really appreciate the fact that you were a member of one of the greatest military organizations in all American history — the Ninth U.S. Amphibious Infantry Division. If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact me.

It is certainly true that in this area you can see and understand the reason a world-famous correspondent said of the Ninth: "They all deserve the Congressional Medal of Honor."

Keep up the good work on the Octofoil and best regards and a snappy highball to all the members of the Medal-of-Honor Ninth.



# Business Transacted at Reunion

## The 145th Meeting National Board of Governors

The 145th meeting of the Ninth Infantry Division Association took place in Detroit, Michigan on July 21, 1983 at the Westin Hotel located in the Renaissance Center. The meeting was called to order at 4:10 P.M. by President of the Association Gordon Anderson, Henry Santos, Edward Wisniewski, Dave Heller, Arthur MacDougall, Herb Olsen and Thomas Boyle. Also attending were 1st Vice-President Vincent Guglielmino, 2nd Vice-President Elmer Wagner, Past Presidents John Clouser, Fran Maher, Robert DeSandy. Also Boardman Lockwood, Marty Krasovetz, Fred D'Amore, and Paul Clark.

President Langer asked the members to please rise and recite with him the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag and then to remain standing for a silent prayer in memory of the departed men of the Ninth.

The secretary read the minutes of the 144th Board of Governors meeting held in Worcester, Massachusetts on November 6, 1983. Upon a motion made by Henry Santos and seconded by Gordon Anderson it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes and have the secretary place copy of same on file.

Thomas Boyle Treasurer of the association gave his report on the spending and income for the year ending June 30, 1983. Upon a motion duly made by Herb Olsen and seconded by Ed Wisniewski it was voted to: Accept the treasurer's report. President Langer thanked Boyle for his report.

Robert DeSandy was asked by President Langer to brief the members on the Reunion. DeSandy told the members that all was going well with some 400 already registered at the desk. President Langer thanked DeSandy for his report.

### Scholarship Awards

John Clouser Chairman of the Scholarship Committee gave his report on the Committee's recommendation for the 1983-4 awards. The Committee a permanent one consists of Michael Deresh and Joseph Williams. Clouser explained how the candidates are selected according to their financial need and academic ability. This year ten applicants will receive awards. Seven are renewals and three are new applicants. They will share \$3200.00.

### New Applicants

Deborah A. Bacchieri, Daughter of Joseph Bacchieri Co D 47th Inf. Robert Matulis, son of Consantine Matulis, Bty C 26th F.A. Therese Rappazine, daughter of Joseph Rappazini, Co K, Hq Co 3rd Bn 60th Inf.

### Renewals

Jane M. Bacchieri, daughter of Joseph Bacchieri, Co D 47th Inf, Linda Belmonte, daughter of Michael Belmonte, Bty A 60th FA, Martin Feinberg, son of Irving Feinberg, 2nd Bn 47th Inf, Mary Lynn (Molly) McGinley, daughter of Thomas McGinley, Can Co 47th Inf, Martha Trainor, daughter of Edward Trainor, Co H, 47th Inf, William Wisniewski, son of Edwin Wisniewski, Serv Co 47th Inf.

As of 1961 when the Scholarship Committee was activated the committee has granted a Total sum of \$35,805.00.

President Langer thanked Clouser and his committee for their efforts on behalf of the association and upon a motion made by Arthur MacDougall and seconded by Dave Heller it was voted to: Accept the report and the recommendation of the Scholarship Committee.

John Clouser who was chairman of the 1982 reunion held in Fayetteville, North Carolina then suggested the manual of reunions be revived and recommended that the profits of last years reunion, which was larger than most reunions, be dispersed in the following manner: \$2000.00 be placed in the General fund, \$1000.00 placed in the Scholarship Fund and the remaining \$3000.00 or more be placed in the Capital Fund. Dave Heller made a motion with an amendment to place the \$3000.00 in a investment other than the Capital Fund. This was seconded by Ed Wisniewski and voted: to place the matter on the agenda for the Fall Board meeting.

Boardman Lockwood reported on the trip by the members to North Africa. He told the members that 24 people had signed up for the trip that will leave on October 7, 1983 and return on October 24th. For others who might be interested in the trip the deadline for signing up will be September 1st.

The secretary reported on the reprinting of our History "Eight Stars to Victory". Printing Companies had been contacted but the secretary was disappointed that a final report had not been received before he left for the reunion.

After a discussion on the remaining fund left in the Marker Fund and upon a motion made by Tom Boyle and seconded by Dave Heller it was voted to: Appoint a committee to establish the feasibility of placing a monument at the National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

President Langer then appointed the following members to serve on the committee: Chairman Dave Heller, John Clouser and Vincent Guglielmino a committee of three.

The President then appointed the following Board members to be Chairman of the following Committees: for the general meeting: Budget and Finance Gordon Anderson, By-laws Thomas Boyle, Miscellaneous Herb Olsen, Newspaper Henry Santos, Nominating Ed Wisniewski.

President Langer then called for bids for the 1985 reunion site. Art MacDougall submitted a bid from the Philly-Delaware Valley Chapter and Henry Santos a bid from the Florida Chapter. A selection will be made at the board meeting after the general meeting.

Upon a motion made by Henry Santos and seconded by Tom Boyle it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 6:05 P.M.

## The Meeting of The Ninth Infantry Division Association

The 38th meeting of the Ninth Infantry Division Association took place at the Westin Hotel, Detroit, Michigan on July 22, 1983. At 11:10 A.M. President Emil Langer called the meeting to order. The various committees had met at 10:00 A.M. and were ready for their reports. Langer asked the membership to rise and join with him in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag and then to remain standing for a silent prayer in memory of the departed men of the Ninth.

The secretary, Daniel Quinn read the minutes of the 37th meeting that took place in Fayetteville, N.C. on June 26, 1982 and upon a motion duly made by Bob DeSandy and seconded by Roy Hughes it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes and instruct the secretary to place copy of same on file.

Tom Boyle the treasurer was called upon for his report and he gave a detailed account of the income and spendings for the past year. Boyle concluded by stating "The association is in the best financial condition for many a year and that to his knowledge all demands on this association have been paid or payment agreed upon. The National Officers and the Board of Governors are to be complimented for their good management of the funds of this association."

Upon a motion duly made by Marty Krasovetz and seconded by Bob Engel it was voted to: Accept the treasurers report.

President Langer thanked Boyle for his report.

Bob DeSandy Chairman of the 1983 reunion then briefed the membership on events of the reunion. When DeSandy asked if the members were satisfied with the hotel he was greeted with a great round of applause, as the hotel is one of the finest the association ever used for a headquarters. President Langer thanked DeSandy for his report.

### Budget And Financing

Gordon Anderson Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee was called for his report and he named these members who served on the committee: Fred D'Amore, Arthur MacDougall, Dave Heller, James Bruner and Vincent Guglielmino.

The committee submits this budget for approval:

Anticipated Income	
(1) Dues	\$ 5000.00
(2) Investments	3150.00
(3) Reunion	500.00
(4) Transfer from	3200.00
Memorial Fund	\$11850.00

Available General Fund	5846.00
	\$16696.00

Disbursements	
Secretary Salary	\$ 1000.00
Clerical Help	900.00
Utilities	1060.00
Postage	2020.00
Supplies	480.00
Misc. Expenses	300.00
Editor's Expenses	400.00
Secretary's Expenses	400.00
Treasurer's Expenses	200.00
Scholarship Payments	3200.00
Octofoil	4777.00
F.I.C.A.	68.34
Memorial Wreath	50.00
Accountant fee	150.00
Dues reminder	100.00
Stationery	273.00
	\$15403.84

Upon a motion duly made by Dave Heller and seconded by Henry Santos it was voted to: Accept the report of the finance committee. President Langer thanked Gordon Anderson and his committee for their report.

### By-Laws Committee

Thomas Boyle Chairman of the By-laws committee then reported the committee consisting of Pat DeColli, John Clouser, William Andrews and Robert Pappas had met at a very informal meeting with no formal motions made. However they did discuss two very special proposals (1) the proposed changes to be presented by John Clouser (2) a new form of election of officers of this association.

No proposed changes were submitted for the committee's consideration and they therefore adjourned with no specific recommendations.

Upon a motion duly made by Fran Maher and seconded by Michael Deresh it was voted to: Accept the By-laws committee report. President Langer thanked the committee.

### Newspaper Committee

Henry Santos chairman of the newspaper committee named the following members who served on this committee: Michael Belmonte, Jim Haroutanian, Evertt Tapp, and Art Schmidt. The committee reports the following:

1. Continue with six (6) issues.
2. Continue to print the cut-off date, for copy to be received by the Editors.
3. Encourage the Ladies Auxiliary to send information.
4. Continue with Mail Call.
5. 30 day notice is to be printed in the Octofoil for any change of the By-laws.
6. Recommend to the members that black & white only be used for the Octofoil (for best results).

Upon a motion made by Pat DeColi and seconded by Walter Victor it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendation of the newspaper committee. President Langer thanked the committee.

### Nominating Committee

Ed Wisniewski Chairman of the nominating committee named the following members who served with him on this committee: Charles Koskie, Fran Maher, Richard Trahey, Frank Russo and Norman Caswell.

The committee recommends that the following members replace the five members going off the board of governors: Larry Ghery of Illinois, Harry Wax of New York, Robert Pappas of Florida, Ralph Carci of Washington, D.C. and Elmer Wagner of Michigan. Motion made by Fran Maher and seconded by Les Roney to accept report of the committee. Motion made by Maher and seconded by Woody Lockwood to close nominations when no names were submitted from the floor. Both motions carried. Then upon a motion made by John Clouser and seconded by Charles Koskie it was voted to: Have the secretary cast one ballot for a unanimous slate of officers.

President Langer thanked Ed Wisniewski and his committee.

### Miscellaneous Committee

The miscellaneous committee chairman was Herb Olsen and he named these members who served with him on the committee: Harry Wax, Bill Zimmerman, Martin Krasovetz, Paul Clark, Bruce Johnstone and Peter Radichio.

The committee recommends the following:

1. That future reunions be held outside of our large cities in areas that are able to accommodate us in one hotel with the thought of safety in mind always for our members and their families.
2. Chapters looking for C.P. rooms should contact the reunion chairman well in advance of reunion dates.
3. Pre-registration of members for reunions should be encouraged for all future reunions.

4. Memorial Services in the past several years have been very impressive and this part of our reunion should be given top priority.

5. Names of Committee members and alternates for our reunion meetings should be forwarded to the National Secretary prior to our national reunion and said names posted at the registration desk along with the hotel room assigned by the reunion chairman.

6. That future reunions be subsidized by a reduction in the strip ticket costs paid for by the profits of previous reunions.

Upon a motion duly made by John Clouser and seconded by Michael Deresh it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of this committee and refer it to the Board of Governors for their action.

President Langer thanked the committee.

### Scholarship Committee

John Clouser chairman of the Scholarship committee reported that this committee consisting of Joseph Williams and Michael Deresh is a permanent committee, had met in Florida and recommends that ten applicants be granted awards amounting to \$3200.00. This year the committee received three new applications and seven renewals. All the recipients are related to men of the Ninth and are selected according to their academic ability and financial need. The National Board of Governors at their meeting held on July 21, 1983 had approved the recommendations of the Scholarship committee. Since the program was started in 1961 the association has awarded the sum of \$35,805.00.

President Langer thanked Clouser and his committee for their efforts.

### Tentative

Woody Lockwood who is conducting the trip to North Africa reported that 24 people had signed up to make the journey that will leave on October 7, 1983 and return on the 24th October. If any other members are interested the deadline for signing up will be September 1, 1983. Details in Octofoil.

President Langer thanked Woody for his report.

### Change of By-Laws

John Clouser's proposal for a change of the By-laws.

Amend Paragraph 22, the third sentence, by deleting the word "need" and adding the word "shall", so that the sentence will read: "None of the other officers shall be members of the Board of Governors."

Upon a motion duly made by John Clouser and seconded by Bob Rucker to change the By-laws as read was tabled by an amendment to the By-laws made by Fred D'Amore and seconded by Woody Lockwood it was voted to: Table the motion for three years.

### Worcester Memorial

Fran Maher reported that Father Connors will conduct his 39th annual Memorial Mass and service in Worcester, Massachusetts on November 6, 1983. The members will again be using the Sheraton-Lincoln Inn where Maher has reserved 140 rooms located at 500 Lincoln Street, Worcester. The rates are \$58.00 a night and these special rates will be good for Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday, for those who may stay other than for Saturday night. Maher will take reservations and can be contacted at 14 Davenport Street, Worcester, Mass. 01610.

Upon a motion made by Henry Santos and seconded by Bill Klaus it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 12:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted  
Daniel Quinn  
National Secretary

Continued on Page 5

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

"I'm not really late," said the tardy office employee. "I just took my coffee break before coming in."

## The Past in Review

The 146th meeting of the National Board of Governors The Ninth Infantry Division Association

The 146th meeting of the National Board of Governors took place in Detroit, Michigan on July 22nd, 1983 at the Westin Hotel. The meeting was called to order at 3:10 P.M. by President of the Association Emil Langer. Attending the meeting were Thomas Boyle, Henry Santos, Harry Wax, Robert Pappas, Dave Heller, Ralph Carci, Elmer Wagner, Larry Ghery, Herb Olsen and Roger Alsgaard.

Also in attendance were Past Presidents John Clouser, Francis Maher and Robert DeSandy. Former Board members, Max Umansky, Ed Wisniewski, Fred D'Amore, Gordon Anderson and member Bill Canales.

Upon a motion made by Tom Boyle and seconded by Henry Santos it was voted to: Dispense with the secretary's reading of the 145th board meeting and the Treasurer's report by Tom Boyle.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President then called for the election of officers for the coming year.

Elected Thomas Boyle President

Vincent Guglielmino 1st Vice-President

Emil Langer 2nd Vice-President

Ron Murphy 3rd Vice-President

Harrison Daysh Judge Advocate

Fred D'Amore Treasurer

Daniel Quinn Secretary

Retiring President Langer turned over the gavel of Authority to Tom Boyle, wished him well and thanked the members for their efforts while he was President. Tom Boyle thanked the members for the honor bestowed upon him by electing him to the office of President of this fine organization.

Herb Olsen made a motion that future reunions be subsidized, by a reduction in the ticket cost, from the profits of the previous reunion, starting the year 1983. Henry Santos seconded the motion and it was voted to: Adopt the motion.

Ed Wisniewski asked to address the members. Ed thanked the members for the honor afforded to serve on the Board for the last three years.

### SITE FOR REUNION

President Boyle asked for final bids for the 1985 reunion. Art MacDougal had submitted a bid for the reunion for the Philly-Delaware Valley Chapter with the reunion to be held either in Atlantic City or in Philadelphia.

Henry Santos submitted a bid for the Florida Chapter with the area of Orlando near Disney World.

The Board selected the Florida Chapter to hold the 1985 reunion.

### Chairmen

President Boyle then appointed Herb Olsen and Dan Quinn as Co-Chairmen of the 1984 reunion to be held in Lake Placid, New York. This reunion will be conducted by the National Association. They will work with Emil Langer who did all the ground work for this reunion.

Upon a motion made by Harry Wax and seconded by Robert Pappas it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 5:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted  
Daniel Quinn  
National Secretary

## Above and Beyond



Private First Class Carl Vernon Sheridan

The 47th Infantry Regiment's northeastward advance was hindered by German-occupied Frenzenberg Castle. Pfc Carl Sheridan was determined to single-handedly charge the fortress.

By Col Randall Bryant, USA-Ret.

AS HE lay flat on the frozen, snow-covered ground, 19-year-old Pfc. Carl V. Sheridan, 47th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division, First Army, stared at the huge stone fortress facing Company K. He thought he had seen everything the Nazis had to offer but the forbidding Frenzenberg Castle near Weisweiler, Germany, blocking his division's route to the Roer River, beat them all.

Careful to keep his head down, he turned to his left and said to his buddy, "Boy, this is something. How the hell do they think we can get inside this thing?"

"Yeah. We can never get the damn Krauts out of there," he complained.

Private Sheridan, a bazooka gunner, hugged his "gas pipe" closer and checked his rockets, noting that both wires were connected. He had no assistant gunner to load for him. He'd been left behind, wounded during the unit's 1,000-yard advance across the open approach to the castle. Of the 150 men who had started out, only 35 were left.

### CASTLE CRUCIAL TO ADVANCE

It was November 1944, a chilling, snowy day. Sheridan was bone tired and shivering with cold. He had been cold ever since the 47th had breached the Siegfried Line in September. The division was short of supplies and men. Patton's Third Army to the south had priority; First Army got what was left. This slowed their advance and gave the Germans time to reinforce their line from the Hurtgen Forest to Geilenkirchen, holding up the 47th for weeks. Frenzenberg Castle controlled the flat, open terrain across the only route to the east and the Roer River. It has to be taken and Sheridan knew it.

As Sheridan hugged the ground, enemy fire splattered snow and ice over his face and arms. By instinct born of weeks in combat, he squirmed his body deeper into the snow and slush. His buddy scraped futilely at the frozen earth with his entrenching tool.

"Hey, sarge, can you see the Krauts?" Sheridan yelled over the noise of the small arms fire and exploding mortars.

"Yeah, they're all over the walls and using the slits in the towers," Sergeant Dalessandro yelled back.

When the shelling slowed momentarily, Sheridan cautiously raised his head and studied the situation. The castle was impressive, so impressive it scared the hell out of him. The walls were 30 or 40 feet high, yards thick he was sure, all of gray stone. Heavy artillery had tried to breach the

walls the day before but had hardly made a dent. He studied the 20-foot-wide, water-filled moat. Nearest him was a lowered drawbridge leading to the gatehouse which was flanked by 50- to 60-foot-high round towers with firing slits. The door to the gatehouse was closed with a massive oak, iron-reinforced door. German small arms fire came from the walls and the slits in the towers. Mortars were lobbed from emplacements in the central courtyard. How the hell to take it?

He fondly patted his bazooka — the only weapon left with sufficient fire-power to blast the oak door. He knew he had to get much closer. He loaded his bazooka and attached his two remaining rockets to his belt. Then he tried to figure out exactly what he should do.

Sheridan knew a little of the German situation within the castle. Earlier that morning under a white flag of truce, Captain Ewald of the 47th had walked alone the 1,000 yards to the castle and asked to speak to the commander, Colonel Breger. Ewald advised Breger to surrender and prevent further bloodshed because he was completely surrounded.

Breger laughed at Ewald. Sheridan had heard through the rumor mill that Breger had informed. Ewald that his unit belonged to the SS Das Reich Paratroop Division. He was wearing the Knight's Cross with Swords and Diamonds. Breger boasted, and he and his men would never surrender. They would fight to the death.

Ewald returned, after allowing Breger to evacuate his wounded, and reported that there were about 150 Germans left. Seventy-five manned the walls and towers and may 40 to 50 were in other positions. There were three mortars in the courtyard and several were at the windlasses that raised and lowered the drawbridge.

### 'SUICIDE PATH'

Sheridan made his decision. He was under slight cover of a small outbuilding. He studied a three-foot-high parapet on the near side of the moat, about 50 yards away. Could he make it to the safety of the parapet?

"Sarge, is that the only way in — the drawbridge?"

"That's it, Sheridan. 'Suicide path' is staring us in the face."

Sheridan looked again, studying the drawbridge. It seemed too weak to support tanks, and the moat was too wide for men to cross under fire. Not a one would make it. The bridge was the only way in, but the frontal assault across the bridge was sure death. The Nazis would cut down every man who tried to cross.

Only an occasional sniper's bullet cracked near him as he lay thinking. Suddenly, the entire company area erupted in flame and fire.

"Get back! Get the hell back here!" he barely heard his platoon leader yell.

"A few weeks back Sheridan had been impressed by his former lieutenant's bravery

under fire. The lieutenant had been wounded three times, refused evacuation, and was finally killed leading a one-person assault on a strongly defended hill. Sheridan became obsessed by the act. Suddenly he realized he had been preparing himself for such an ordeal. Maybe this was the time

"Back, hell!" Sheridan grunted to himself as he launched in a low crouch to run to the moat. Suddenly, a bullet grazed his left thigh and knocked him down. He grabbed his thigh and his hand came away bloody. He felt no pain, just surprise. His surprise turned to anger. As he struggled to rise again, he saw Delessandro's helmet jump into the air and his body slump to the ground, his head a spongy mass of brains and blood. Sheridan felt more anger and determination. Another friend gone!

"Come out of here, Sheridan! We're falling back!"

The lieutenant's voice carried loud and clear. Sheridan didn't move.

For a few seconds he stared at his sergeant's body, while the crack of rifle and machine gun fire kicked up snow all around him. Then, very slowly, as if there weren't a Nazi in 100 miles, he stood facing the drawbridge, holding his loaded bazooka in his left hand.

Again, the lieutenant yelled for him to come back. Sheridan finally made his move — not to the rear, but in a rapid zigzag to the safety afforded by the parapet alongside the moat. He made it!

"My God, he's charging the castle alone!" yelled a GI.

He was only a couple of dozen feet from the huge door but the Germans could look down on him. They tossed grenades from the wall and peppered the snow around him with rifle fire. With Sheridan's heroic advance the rest of his company held its ground in and around the outbuildings.

Sheridan was still alive. He had not been hit again although he was the sole target of German fire; and was taking all the soldiers had to give. Finally there was support fire from his company — but only rifles — so it had no effect on the Frenzenberg defenders. Bullets ricocheted off the stone like rain off a tin roof.

### SHERIDAN MAKES HIS MOVE

Sheridan saw the drawbridge quiver — apparently the Nazis were attempting to raise it and prevent its use. He knew what that meant. He had to make his move soon or it would be too late. Although it was shuddering, it was not rising, probably the result of rusty windlass and chains.

Sheridan watched the edge of the bridge rise a couple of inches. He must make his move now! The additional thickness of the bridge added to that of the door might render his rockets useless.

"Hey, Sheridan, fire at those chains!" yelled the lieutenant.

The drawbridge inched slowly upward another inch or two, then more Sheridan saw daylight beneath the bridge. He blasted his bazooka!

"Lieutenant, Sheridan hit the door right in the middle!" yelled one soldier. The bridge clanked back on its rest. The Germans must have deserted the windlass. The rocket had blasted a two-foot-wide hole through the door.

Rapidly but expertly Sheridan unhooked a second rocket from his belt and reloaded his bazooka. He was going to give it a second try and save his last rocket for what happened next. He was in a no-miss location.

Vaguely he heard the lieutenant yell, "Get the hell back here, Sheridan! That's an order."

Sheridan didn't move. With a temporary cessation of enemy fire he stood alone, calmly reloading. He was beyond hearing anything except his own thoughts. His decision had been made; he had to do it. If he could make it across, his company could follow him in. He could not turn back, not now!

He began walking slowly to the near side of the drawbridge — intent on his one-man assault of the castle. His view through the blasted door revealed several Germans cranking the windlass as the bridge began to jerk upward. He could wait no longer.

Suddenly Sheridan dashed to the near edge of the bridge at full speed and jumped onto it as it rose. He swayed as he landed but regained his balance. He was standing alone, a few feet from the door and from the Germans. He slowly raised his bazooka and fired directly at the hinged side of the door. It caved in. The way in had been cleared.

There was no enemy reaction. He must have killed or wounded the Germans manning the windlass. The bridge thumped heavily down.

The lieutenant yelled, "Let's go, men! Up and at 'em!" The men moved forward, slowly at first, then swarmed across the bridge to the door.

Sheridan had made it. He walked slowly through the blasted opening. As he entered the courtyard his bazooka flew out of his hand and his body twisted sharply as machine gun fire hit him. He still stood! He tugged his 45-caliber automatic from the holster, then began to crumple, and as he fell he looked back over his shoulder and tried to yell, "Come on, we've got 'em! Let's go."

Then his bullet-riddled body settled slowly onto the flagstones, twitched once, then was still. Blood slowly formed a widening pool around him, reddening the ancient stones. He was dead before he hit the ground.

The lieutenant and the few remaining men rushed into the courtyard and forced the remaining Germans of the famous SS Das Reich Division against the rear wall, where they were surrounded.

Frenzenberg Castle had not been captured yet. The commander and other enemy were deep in one of the dungeons. It was not until the following morning that the Americans finally forced their way into this final position after a fierce fire fight. Among the almost 30 bodies was Breger's, his Knight's Cross with Swords and Diamonds shining amid the rubble. Sheridan had given his life to gain an entrance to the castle.

Pfc Carl V. Sheridan was awarded the Medal of Honor, posthumously, for extreme bravery above and beyond the call of duty.

After the war had ended a brass plaque was placed on the kaserne in Augsburg, Germany, headquarters of the 9th Infantry Division. It proclaimed its name as "Sheridan Barracks" in honor of one of the division's bravest soldiers. I hope it is still there.

Colonel Bryant, an eyewitness to most of the above action, was with the 9th Infantry Division for eight campaigns. After retiring from the Army he worked for the CIA for seven years. Currently he resides in Miami, Fla. This article is his first for The Retired Officer.

# mail call

(Continued)

**60th Inf. A Co.**  
EARL JOHNSON  
Rt. 1, Box 159  
Rushford, Mn. 55971

Thanks for reminding me of the dues. As I write this, the reunion is getting under way in Detroit. Hope you have a good turnout. One of these days I hope to join you at a reunion as I have never been to one. Keep watching in the Octofoil for acquaintances but not much luck. I left my outfit on Friday the 13th of October, 1944 due to injuries and never returned as I was given limited service. Discharged from the 904th Signal on June 1945. Lost contact with the 9th because of that. I retired last October after 41 years with Tri-County Electric Corp. so am now enjoying a life of leisure and our 4 grandchildren all under 2 yrs. of age. Until we meet, all the best.

**47th Inf. Co. L**  
JOHN W. STEMPERT  
1088 Fairfield Ave.  
Bridgeport, Cn. 06605

Thank you for the newsletter. It was great reading it. Enclosed find my dues. Last convention I went to was held in Stamford, Conn. about 20 years ago. I was fortunate in going to Germany in 1956 and see a lot of places we were in during the war. During the war I was with Co. L, 3rd Bn as a First scout then I was sent to Co. M. 47th as a jeep driver and machine gun instructor. I will always have strong feelings for the 9th. My last time with them was duty in Mooseburg, Stalag 7 as an interpreter. I have two brothers and two nephews who served in the 9th. I think all of you have done a fine job for the association. I don't remember many names from the outfit only a few like Lt. Engelhard, Major Horan, Capt. Snider, Raymond Stollman who lives in Conn. Here's good luck to you and hope you pick up a lot of deposits like myself.

**84th FA. C Btry**  
HARMON RAYBON  
Rt. 1, Box 17  
Webb, Ala. 36376

I enjoy the paper all the time. It has been about 3 years since I wrote you. Enclosed find dues for 1 yr. Hope I don't miss a copy for there is always lots of good reading. Calls my attention to things that I might have forgotten. I hope if any of my old buddies see this, they will let me hear from them. I have lost contact with most of them. A lot of unpleasant things have happened to me. I have been farming for the last 30 years but things got so bad it put me out of business. I don't have all that worry to cope with now. I thank the Lord my wife and I have good health and that is a blessing in itself! I guess I will miss the reunion again this year. It is always good to see Father Connors' picture in the paper. I spent a good bit of time around him and respected him very much. If you see this, Father Connors, I am saying a special hello to you. I am thankful we have a man like you, Dan, to do the job you are doing. I don't know if your wife helps or not, but if she does, thanks to her, too. This is about all I have to say for now. God bless you and your family.

When was the last time you wrote a letter to our Mail Call Column? Just a postal card would denote your interest and let some buddy know where you are. You like to read what other members send in . . . why not do your own part, and write a few lines now and then for their enjoyment.

**47th Inf. I Co**  
ROBERT L. EPPERLY  
Rt 4, Box 109  
Blacksbur, Va. 24060

I am trying to get in touch with PFC Figgins who was K Co messenger and PFC Howard, L Co messenger, Bill Tanner 3rd Bn Commander. Would like anyone that remembers me as I Co messenger to write or call 703-951-3871. Since I won't be able to attend the reunion this time as it falls on the date of my 2 week summer camp at Fort Jackson with the Army reserve. Looking forward to next year's reunion.

**60th Inf. Co E**  
VICTOR A. CAMPISI  
20 Cutter Ave  
Somerville, Ma. 02144

Once a 9th Divisioner, always a 9th Divisioner! You convinced me of that with the material you rushed me in answer to my recent letter. Accordingly, please reinstate me to the rolls as a member in good standing — or life! As I write this, I have beside me a cherished 38 year old WW II memento — my original dues receipt issued to me, if fading memory serves correctly, in Ingolstadt, Germany. The receipt is dated 31 May 45, and it reads: "received from S/Sgt Victor Campisi, Co E, 60th Inf, the sum of ten dollars (\$10) for membership in the 9th Div Assn." It is signed by G.K. Dunsmore, Com Sgt. Is there anyone in the association holding an older receipt?

**60th Inf. G Co**  
CARL W. PRICE  
213 16th W  
Holland, Mi. 49423

I just received a copy of the Octofoil from Matt Urban, first I heard of it. I am enclosing dues for life membership, although lifetime for us old 9th division boys is becoming mighty short. I joined the 60th Co L in Sept. 1940 and in the middle of Nov. 1941 tried to transfer to paratroops at Ft. Bragg, but by the time I was packed to leave, Pearl Harbor happened and I returned to the 60th HQ. I was HQ at Port Lyautey. Suddenly I found myself assigned to G Co 60th as scout observer. In 1945 was returned to the states on the point system and left the service in June 1945. God Bless all of the men I served with in the 9th.

**47tg Inf. G Co**  
GRADY L. PERRY  
Box 204  
Hampton, Fl. 32044

I haven't written to the Octofoil yet, but it is time I did as I have to get my dues in. I don't want to miss one copy if I can help it. My old buddy, Hermon Rahn, is visiting me and we have hashed over all our old G Co buddies we can remember. It sure is great to hear about them and to read letters from all the soldier of the 9th. I am enclosing a check for lifetime dues and some more for the scholarship fund. My regards to all the men of the 9th and especially to you, Dan and Marie.

**47th Inf. Co. G**  
MARTIN BALICK  
29 W. 39th St.  
Wilmington, Del. 19802

Enclosed find check for 3 years dues. At the present time I am doing alright. Give my regards to Bako, Shapior and all my war buddies in Co. G, 47th.

**39th Inf. Co A**  
THOMAS BOWER  
23 Roslyn Rd  
South Brook, N.Y. 11789

I would like to get in touch with Lt. Anthony. He was hit pretty bad with small arms fire right about 2 or 3 days after we crossed the Ruhr River. Some of the other men I would like to locate are Sgt. Stuart, Staff Sgt. Sullivan, PFC Cameron, Staff Sgt. Blakesly, Capt. Edgar, PFC Hill Luker. PFC Refugio Luna. Also PFC Felix Borboux who was with the 60th. I will try to make the reunion in Detroit.

**39th Inf. Co K**  
AL NAPADANO  
PO Box 981  
New Castle, Pa. 16103

I hope that the reunion in Detroit will be a complete success. For a while I went to many reunions, but due to my mothers illness (she's 89) it has become quite difficult for me to attend the most recent ones. Would you tell the Michigan Chapter of the passing away of Joe Marino of the 15th Engrs. on May 31. He has been in and out of local veterans hospitals for the past year. We were very good friends. I remember seeing him around the battlefields of WW2, especially St. Mere Eglise. We would be hiking in 10 yard intervals between men on both sides of the road. I told him I wasn't going to make it and he used to tell me to keep on drinking. He was quite a guy. I am retired now and taking life nice and easy, raising garden vegetables and keeping the grass cut, etc. Throughout the years you have done a great job as National Secretary and you are a well respected man. To you and your wife I extend my sincerest regards and good fortune in the years to come. May you both enjoy peace and prosperity. To all members of the association I wish the same happy things. Have a good time in Detroit.

**47th Inf. Co D.**  
EMERSON H. GROSS  
7515 Miller Dr.  
Bath, Pa. 18104

Enclosed find dues for 3 years for Lawrence Emmerich who had been a Captain in the 60th E Co., in Europe. He served with Matt Urban until Dinant when he was wounded and captured by the Germans. He lost a leg and was treated in a German hospital by a doctor who had doctored in the U.S. for 7 years before the war. In his young days as I remember he was a fine baseball player. Larry and the German doctor had a conversation about serving in the U.S. as a doctor. He gave Larry a German medal as a token of friendship. Members and buddies can get in touch with Larry at 751 Greenleaf St., Allentown, Pa. 18102 or phone 215-433-3839. As for myself I am OK and thank everyone for their concern for me and my full recovery. I also hope to see a 9th reunion in Hershey, Pa. I will not be in Detroit but God willing I will be at Lake Placid in 1984. Thanks Dan and Mrs. Quinn for the fine work being done by 2 great people.

**60th Inf. Co. G**  
MERT LAURENCE  
22 Rossmore Pl.  
Binghamton, N.Y.

Enclosed is my check for dues. Good luck with the convention and have a good year.

Parking space: An unoccupied area along the curbing on the other side of the street.

**47th Inf. 1st Bn**  
CRAIG W. LARIMER, M.D.  
2029 Windham Way  
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80906

Enclosed find life membership dues. Should have done this long ago. Always enjoy reading the Octofoil and often see familiar names. Have corresponded with the exchanged photos with C.B. Baker. He has helped bring me up with members of the 1st Bn Medics 47th. Am retired now and recently moved from an old home to a condo. I am proud of my membership in the association. God bless all.

**84th FA, Med Det**  
LEO SMITH  
215 Geary Dr  
Montgomery, Ala. 36108

Sorry, guess I forgot to pay my dues. James F.X. Delahanty promised to pay them for me in case I forgot or didn't have the money. Put this in mail call for him, he'll get a kick out of it. Thanks again, Dan, for reminding me.

**15th Engrs.**  
FRED D'AMORE  
95 Webster St.  
E. Boston, Ma. 02128

I saw the red! Enclosed my dues and renew my permit to defend the 9th division association from the invaders who want to destroy what we made of this association. We have a good thing, let's keep what we have the way it is. See you in Detroit.

**Div. Hq. Special Troops**  
WILLIAM P. CHAPMAN  
Stagecoach Pass  
Stormville, N.Y. 12582

Received your nice letter and thanks for being concerned about me. I guess everyone gave up but I will always remember the good old 9th. In May I reached the age of 75 and I thought it was impossible. I am feeling good and have been very lucky. My wife had a heart attack 3 years ago, but the doctors keep her going with pills, etc. Am enclosing a check, not much but hope will be appreciated.

**60th Inf Hq Co**  
L.C. WILLIAMSON  
618 Goth Ave  
St. Petersburg, Fl. 33705

I got a big kick out of the Octofoil you sent in response to my request as to specifics on the 1983 reunion. I called John Moore in Bradenton and I will call Keene Wilson with whom I stay in contact. About once a year I stop over in Selma, Ala. and we have dinner. Also saw Snelling in Denton, Texas a few years back. Was happy to note by inference that Al Bruchac was still with us. Language doesn't seem to be a problem for those of us who danced every dance and survived. I was 23 when the shooting stopped and I'll be 62 in August. So my guess is many are older and still going strong. Anyone know about Joe Saward from Texas or Harold Sprinkle, Pasquolo, Brandy or another I remember from Africa, Fred Frondy. Detroit is a long way but I just might make it.

**Co A 60th Inf**  
WILLIAM PADDOCK  
Box 562  
Irmo, S.C. 29063

As of April 1, 1983, our address will be:  
William Paddock  
Box 562  
Irmo, S.C. 29063  
I have retired, so I am taking my wife "home" and moving closer to the four boys.

Be sure to send me news!

**47th Inf. K Co.**  
HELEN Lagattuta  
HOLMES  
352 D Hackensack St.  
Wood Ridge, N.J. 07075

We had been looking forward to the trip to Detroit but unfortunately I had to have major surgery. Just came home July 9 and thank God all is well, but takes some time recuperating. We had such a good time at Bragg and Worcester and looked forward to being in Detroit to see Joes buddies of K Co., McKinnays, John and Francis Mrugula, Sakai's, Umansky, Thompsons, Bill & Iris Canalas, Paul Segal. Best regards to all.

**376 AAA Bty A**  
GEORGE WALDRON  
3801 Soquel Dr.  
Soquel, Cal. 95073

Received information concerning the 376 AAA from the men in A and B Bty. in South Carolina. I can't count the times that we gave air cover to the 26th FA, 84th FA, 39th Inf. and many times in front of the 47th Inf., knocking out Tiger Royals tanks with armour piercing shells. If you remember them 120 tanks — American and German at Eschiwieler and Weiswiller, that were knocked out in the field. We were firing with 18-40 MM from the hill above the valley point blank in the sides of the panzers before they met the American Shermans. I don't know how many we knocked out but 3 days later we walked through the mine field where the tanks were and looted all the American cigarettes that the Germans had captured from the Russians. Anyhow we buried 300 men in Europe out of a thousand in the Battalion not counting those who died later from wounds. As I wrote before our record was 1320 aircraft downed not including the drunken American fighter pilots who strafed us at St. Lo and came back for another strafe when we shot them down, anyhow could you find room for an article on the 376AAA in memory of those who aided and abetted the fame of the Ninth Infantry Division.

**Cannon Co. 47th Inf.**  
WILLIAM ZWEIL  
205 Bethany Towers  
Hazlet, N.J. 07730

New Store, new house — nearly lost my wife Betty, but she is coming around.

Big parade on March 17th for my birthday - "74".

Do we have anyone who can teach needlework locally, or wants a taxi business?

There are so many things we must do and so little time.

We will try to get to the reunion if we find someone to take over some of our fun things.

Please send me a reunion book if we can't make it.

**39th Inf. I Co.**  
LEO BANK  
8 Linda Ln.  
Spring Valley, N.Y. 10977

Enclosed is check for 3 years dues. I returned from Florida last month so I missed the last couple of chapter meetings in New York. I enjoy them especially being with the men of the 9th. There's a certain feeling being with men that have gone through hell with you. Only one who has been there can know. I can't make the reunion in Detroit but I am looking forward to seeing you all at the New York meetings. Stay well and regards to all.

**Deadline for next issue of the Octofoil will be Oct. 20th**



## mail call

continued

**39th Inf. Co A**  
**WILLIAM MORRISON**  
 104 Grapefruit Dr.  
 Jasmine Lakes  
 Port Richey, Fl. 33568

I am sorry to receive the Octofoil in red ink, first time that has happened to me in thirty some years. The reason is my life has been a state of confusion lately. I spent 15 days in the hospital recovering from a heart attack and came home on Wednesday and the following Saturday I fell and broke my hip. Result is I now sport a hip replacement, a 2" dia ball and a seven inch rod into my leg bone. Needless to say the bills are up to "here". However it is better than being in a wheel chair! Our son and daughter and 5 grandchildren are insiting we return to New Jersey and we might just do that. I enjoy the salubrious Florida weather and golf year round, but family ties are also important. I wish you and yours good luck, stay well and have fun.

**47th Inf. Co A**  
**DENNIS C. KELLEY**  
 1618 6th St. S.W.  
 Roanoke, Va. 24016

Received the Jan-Feb Octofoil in todays mail and thoroughly enjoyed it. I see that my friend, Glenn Weaver of Co A 47th has joined the association after hearing from me about it. Glenn and I go back many years. We grew up in the same neighborhood and attended the same schools, were in Co A 47th and discharged at the same time. Well I have another letter to write, so for now I had better close. Take care.

**9th Recon.**  
**KURT SANDER**  
 44 E. Harwood Terr.  
 Palisade Park, N.J. 07650  
 Dear Dan:

Received my Octofoil yesterday with tell tale red ink. Guess I'm getting old. Have been a member of the association since it started and this is the first time I forgot to pay my dues. I used to be your milkman. Am now working for A.P.A. transport in North Bergen. Haven't been to any division reunions but maybe someday. Hope this finds you and yours well.

**Co A, 39th Inf.**  
**ROBERT SCHOENEKASE**  
 821 Cheshire Blvd.  
 Quincy, Ill. 62301

Once again it is time to get my dues paid. I don't want my paper to run out because I enjoy reading it. The last paper had bad news for me. Col. Edgar had passed on. He was my Captain when I joined the 9th in Germeter. He was a quiet but capable officer. I am retired now but my hobby (gardening) keeps me real busy. It is snowing here today, a little unusual. Thanks for everything.

**9th Med Bn, Co D**  
**HERB STERN**  
 12427 Old Oaks Dr.  
 Houston, Tex. 77024

Enclosed is my late 1983 dues and something for the Memorial fund. My wife and I had a great time at the North Carolina reunion. Needless to say, being with many old friends made it a very special occasion. I was most impressed by Pete Radichio's letter in the Jan-Feb Octofoil. He expressed so well how I feel. I too am proud of our division and would like to see our association perpetuated.

The closest some people ever come to reaching their ideal is when they write their resumes.

**60th Inf Cannon Co**  
**JOHN M. McCHESNEY, JR.**  
 304 N. Magnolia Ave.  
 Waynesboro, pa. 22980

I apologize being so late with my dues but hope that the 3 years in advance will not go by as fast as the last three. My last contact was in Washington when Matt Urban was given the Congressional Medal of Honor by Pres. Carter. I sat by General Westmoreland and saw many of my old buddies and a lot of the boxing team, which as you know I managed for Matt. Here's wishing you and the association all the best.

**60th Inf. Hq Co 2nd Bn**  
**AMBROSE C. WILKENS**  
 Rt 1, Box 249  
 Nauvoo, Ill.

Enclosed is my check for 3 years dues. We will not be able to make the reunion this year. We had a death in the family and feel we should take our niece & nephew on a short trip. They lost their 1st child, 4 days old and we are all very sad. Our niece has been like a daughter to us. The reunion in Fayetteville was great. Saw so many of my old buddies, and hope to attend another one real soon.

**47th Inf Hq 1st Bn**  
**PAUL J. SAKAI**  
 6 Southfield Rd.  
 Glen Burnie, Md. 21061

Enclosed is my check for renewal of 3 year membership and donation to the Memorial Fund. Unfortunately I am scheduled for minor surgery on the 21st and cannot attend the reunion. I owe many of my comrades whom I met at Ft. Bragg a letter, but this has been a hectic year. I was depressed when I left my films of the '82 reunion at the Ramada Inn and never recovered it. All those memorable events at Bragg and Fayetteville disappeared due to my carelessness. Please convey my warm regards to all from the 47th.

**47th Inf Co E**  
**CATON J. MARCONI**  
 511 E. Thorny Lane  
 Glendora, N.J. 08029

Would like to hear from the boys of Co E. I got the Octofoil from Charles Troccoli, my buddy. I recognize the picture Milton Hacker sent to the Octofoil of the non-coms of the 1st plt., Co. E., taken in 1941. Hope to see some of you soon.

**84th Fa**  
**SAM ROBINSON**  
 3 Rock Ave.  
 Swampscott, Ma. 01907

Enclosed is my check for 3 years dues, the balance goes to the Memorial fund. At our last Reunion in Worcester if you recall there were cameras & TV setups all over the place and we got some good coverage in the days following. I wrote to Newsday, Long Island, N.Y. 11747 and asked for a copy covering this great event. Much to my surprise the man who is a staff writer for the paper sent me a copy, which he will send to any man of the 9th . . . FREE! Send for the copy to Paul Vitello c/o the paper. It will put a tear in your eye and something to keep in your scrap book for your grandchildren to read, excellent coverage. Hope all is well with you and yours.

**60th Inf. F Co**  
**WALTER L. BRYSON**  
 2100 Stanton St.  
 Brady, Tex. 76825

Enclosed find check for membership dues. I went overseas in 1942, Africa & Sicily, just before D Day. I was reclassified to limited duty. Stayed in England for duration.

**39th Inf. I Co.**  
**EDWARD KONESKI**  
 303 Royersford Rd.  
 Royersford, Pa. 19468

Enclosed is a check for dues for the next 3 years. We regret we will not be in Detroit this year due to other commitments. Sure hate to miss seeing everyone. We do plan to go to Worcester this fall. A note to the Philadelphia Chapter. Sorry we could not attend the meeting but weather was the factor since everything was flooded from our area to the expressway.

**9th Medic**  
**JOHN LAUBACH**  
 155 W 12 St.  
 Bloomsburg, Pa.

Don't think we will make the reunion this year as my wife will be president of Bloomsburg Business & Professional Club and going to the National convention in Ohio the same time. Say hello to everyone. I will be retiring from my job at Danville State Hospital on July 1, 1983 and have been employed as a painter for the hospital for 22 years and with my military service time, it will give me 25 years. I am taking an early retirement since I will be 64 in November. I have 2 sons, one a teacher in the Danville area school system and the other employed with First Federal Savings and Loan Assn. Both have 2 children and I am going to enjoy my grandchildren.

**Hq's Co. & Co. G, 47th Inf.**  
**JEROME SHAPIRO**  
 739 W. 186th St.  
 New York, N.Y. 10033

On St. Patrick's Day, the 69th Regiment marched in the parade in New York City and right behind them marched the veterans of the Fighting 69th. They marched together. The Ninth Infantry Division Association should learn a lesson from them. Once a Ninth Division Man — always a Ninth Division Man. All march together onward and upward in all our American Wars. "Let's all smarten up and fly right" as they say in good old American slang. There must never be a "last man".

Enough preaching, now back to some interesting news: In the New York Times Book Review section March 13th appeared this "Authors Query" for a study of the Normandy Campaign to be published on its 40th anniversary in June 1984. I would appreciate receiving letters from survivors of the campaign giving details of rank and service, for interviews to be conducted soon in the United States.

Max Hastings, Guilsborough Lodge, Northamptonshire, England.

Sounds interesting doesn't it! What ever happened to the movie they were to make about the 9th Infantry Division? Incidentally, read General Bradley's auto-biography — it's the greatest book about WW II campaigns against the Germans. (A General's Life)

God bless and love to all!

**Co C, 9th Med. Bn**  
**WESLEY E. ROACH**  
 Rt. 5, Box 359-2  
 Danville, Va. 24540

Enclosed find check for another years membership. I enjoy the Octofoil very much. Through it I have contacted several buddies and glad to hear from them. Sorry to hear that several of my buddies from upstate New York have had Taps sounded for them. Last Octofoil lots of men from the 60th wrote in. I did not know them but it makes one feel good to know they are still around.

**47th Inf. G. Co.**  
**HERMON RAHN**  
 R#1, Box 310  
 Pisgah Forest, N.C. 28768

I received my book, Safi Adventure from General Randle, autographed. I am very proud of it. Have read it twice and it seemed that I was right there in Safi. I remember us digging in to meet the attack we felt sure would come by the French Marrakesh division. No one seemed to be too worried about it. I know I felt General Randle could handle anything, any situation regardless of what we got into. It was good to see a letter in the last Octofoil from my friend Edwin Brewer of the 60th who lives up in Jesse James country. He told me how to revive people who pass out up there. They don't have any water up there, so, he said "They throw a bucket of dust in their faces." My old G Co. buddy, Grady Perry and I were planning a trip to Texas next month to visit our buddy Tex Byers. Tex called us and told us his lovely wife, Fayrene, had serious back surgery so we had to postpone the trip. I know that all men of the 9th wish her a speedy recovery. Best wishes to all and especially to you and Marie. My sincere thanks to General Randle for my book, Safi Adventure, and for his autograph.

**9th Med Bn, Co D**  
**JOHN A. SEVERINO**  
 PO Box 31066  
 Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

Just received your note and back issues of the Octofoil. Thanks so much. This is my permanent address so you can go ahead with the address plate. I'm sorry to put you to so much inconvenience. In my moving I lost the address of my buddy, Bob Deitsch. I would like to contact him again. I have a small snapshot taken in Germany with some of my buddies. I'm on top standing right in picture. Pete Greco, left kneeling. Can't remember the others. Also picture at outdoor mass. I'm at extreme left. Somewhere in France. Thanks Dan and best wishes to all. The climate is great here, lots of sunshine. Editors note: Could not reprint the pictures for the Octofoil.

**39t Inf. Co G**  
**WILLARD HAYES**  
 3441 Lynn Dr.  
 Franklin, Ohio 45005

I am proud to be a member of the 9th. I joined G Co 39th in August 1940 in old tent city. We were a small outfit until the draftees started coming into camp after we moved into the new barracks. I was made drill sergeant in January 1941 and held that rank until I was discharged. I was wounded in Tunisia April 23, 1943 and after spending the biggest part of the year in numerous hospitals, I was discharged Nov. 3, 1943. So you see I was in early and out early. There must have been several replacements during the many campaigns. I probably don't know many of the members, but I would like to hear from some of the old and new members of the unit. As usual there seems to be something that comes up so I cannot attend the annual reunion. My prayers will be with you.

**60th Inf. Co. E.**  
**GLEN K. GATES**  
 809 Emma  
 Trenton, Mo. 64683

Excuse me for being so late with my dues. I want to keep the Octofoil coming out here in the Northwest. I enjoy reading about the things that happened during WW II and what is going on now among the members of the 9th especially the 60th Inf.

**47th Inf. Co E.**  
**MILTON HACKER**  
 809 SE 5th Ct.  
 Deerfield Beach, Fl. 33441

Received the Octofoil today. I'm enclosing dues for life membership. I'm in my 70's but busy here in Florida away from all the snow. I'm a Shriner, belong to the Shrine Gold Coast Choraster's. We do charity for the Shrine cripple children's Hospitals & Burn Institutes. I'm quite well and so is my wife, Betty. See where Marty Bergman made TV in Real People. I saw a clipping of Jerome Shapiro's in the Octofoil. We knew Lehman as "slew foot Lehman." He was one skinny guy who who could put 30 to 40 flapjacks away on Sunday morning breakfast-one swell guy! I saw another clipping about Joe Von Achen, also Phil Puleo, both in E Co. 47th. What became of those guys? Where are they now! I did a lot of huffing in Germany after they opened the Stalag gates Jan. 29, 1945. I covered over 5 miles until I was liberated May 7, 1945, in Prussian territory. I hope this letter will do some good to locate 47th men. I'll close now and God bless you and the men of the 9th. (Editors note: Joe Von Achen passed away in 1969 and Phil Puleo's whereabouts are unknown)

**39th Inf. B Co and Cannon Co.**  
**TOM ORBAND**  
 30 Delmar St.  
 Binghamton, N.Y. 13903

Enclosed are my dues. Sorry I couldn't make the reunion as I had a bad time last year. They found out I have lupas arthritis. I will be 70 in Sept. Gert passed away 10 years ago April 6. Then I put my Tippy away Jan. 27. He was 15 1/2 yrs old. Mrs. McNerney passed away 1 year ago. I see Jim McMahon, Pete Santi, the Hawk, Al Basillo. We get together at the American-Italian Club in Elmira, N.Y. Say Hello to Walter O'Keefe for me and good luck to you and your family.

**60th Inf**

**ALBERT M. HODGE**  
 5818 White Buff Rd.  
 Savannah, Ga. 31405

First let me again commend you on your outstanding performance as a real super-good secretary, along with your lovely wife.

Mabel and I regret that we will not be able to make the upcoming 9th Inf. Div. reunion at Detroit this year. Numerous things have come about which preclude our being there.

We will miss all of the guys and their wives, Bomberger, Carpenter, Deresh, Drummond, Duling, Eggebrecht, Engle, Ferrise, Gatto, Goodwin, Kocay, Russell, Sanders, Schnack, Schaeffer, Seeley, Smith, Thompson, Mulcaster, Seely, and Wilkins. I apologize if I have missed anyone.

I am sure it will be a great event as has always been the case.

We wish for all of you the best of health, and Gods richest blessings. Hopefully we may be able to attend the 1984 reunion.

**60th Inf. Co. K**  
**WILLIAM DOBBINS**  
 78 Rogers Ave.  
 Lockport, N.Y. 14094

Enclosed is a check for 1983 dues. I enjoy the Octofoil thoroughly containing all the news about my army friends. It's interesting to see what many are doing these past years. I am now retired from General Motors and have spent some winters in the Florida sunshine. I regret I missed the reunion at Ft. Bragg. Good luck to everyone.



## MAIL CALL

47th Inf. Sv. Co & Hq 1st Bn  
RAY GILBERT  
3199 U.S. 19 N. Lot 35  
Clearwater, Fl. 33575

Wish to say I really enjoy the Octofoil, thanks to your efforts. For the records I was in service Co 47th from Jan 41 till Feb. 42. I was regimental motor dispatcher, then to OCS at Benning, back to 47th in June 42, to 1st Bn Hdqs where I was exec. officer and 1st Bn Motor Officer. After Africa & Sicily and Alresford, England I was transferred to 1st Army Hdqs at Bristol where I took over command of Gen. Bradleys Car Co. the 504th, was with this outfit all through Europe and ended up in Berlin til Oct 45 then to good old USA. Just recently I visited Gen. Randle, he lives about 20 minutes from me. We had quite a chat and I do hope to get a report of the reunion from him later on. I have been limited to my plans, having knee surgery next week. It sure is nice to read so many names in the Octofoil, brings back many memories and gives me a clue to where I can reach some old buddies. Here's hoping the reunion is a great success and thanks for your hard work in keeping things rolling.

39th G Co  
LEO CHARLAND  
46 Camp St. Apt B 12  
Middletown, Cn. 06457

I'm sorry I cannot attend the reunion this year but maybe next year.

60th Inf. AT  
FRANK CRAPANZANO  
4 Orchard Sq.  
Caldwell, N.J. 07006

Sorry it took me a little time to write & send in my dues. I am feeling five and hope you and your wife are too. I still have memories of the last reunion and enjoyed it very much. It was the proper place for it. Do not think I'll be at the next reunion, have other plans. I enjoy reading the Octofoil and looking at the pictures. I'm going to get some pictures of those good old days and send them to you. thank you for dropping me a line and reminding me of my dues.

39th Inf. Hq., Sv. & B Co  
JAMES A. BAILEY, SR.  
4038 Norman Rd  
Stone Mountain, Ga. 30083

Thanks for a reminder of my dues, I wouldn't want to miss enrollment in the association I've had my card since day 1 of the association and plan to remain enrolled from here-on. My regards to anyone in the 39th Infantry Regimental Hdqs and particularly the Personnel group of Camandas (Type-writer, that is) I don't see mention very often of any of "our" group, tho' I am sure some of them get the word. I have contact with a goodly number since I was at time of publication in the states of the 39th Inf "FALCON". Some of my cohorts still remember to write the old editor. I wish I could say I'll see you in Detroit, but I am presently tied up with my business and cannot break away, perhaps the next convention will find me better able to leave. Hope this note finds everyone in good spirits and health.

60th Inf. Co F  
ELTON L. HARRELL  
Rt 2, Box 1070  
Hazlehurst, Ga.

Would like to hear from any men that were in F Co. from 1941 - July 1943. Enclosed is my dues for a life membership.

60th G Co  
KENNETH CAMPBELL  
20 Peach Tree Ln  
S. Windsor, Conn. 06074

It's a small world. I was fishing here in Connecticut and saw a 9th decal on a car. He and I had a long chat, he was with the 47th. I served with the 9th, beginning as a replacement Sept. 1944. Was with G Co. 60th, hit the Huertgen Forest, Roer River, Rhine River at Remagen, etc. I was very lucky, no hits! Have not heard from anyone I served with. I am retired and reside in Connecticut, originally from Massachusetts, age 68 and in good health.

39th Inf. Co E  
BRAYTON P. WILLIS  
PO Box 2334  
Sun City, Ariz. 85372

Just finished reading "8 Stars to Victory." I'm proud to have been a very small part of such a great history of such a magnificent division. Like most, my stay with the 9th was short, El Guettar, Tunisia to Troina, Sicily. Only souvenir, my helmet with a bullet hole right front and a scarred hard head. Never will forget Lieut. Kubosh who also had a platoon, Co E and the position before Troina, so well depicted in the book it was the end of combat for many of us. The rest of the story was history repeating itself over and over depicting courage and a desire to win. God Bless those of you who survived and God care for those who gave their lives. I feel like a pebble on a beach, a minute particle, but there. Enclosed is application for membership in the association. Hopefully the 39th reunion in 1984 will be my first attendance.

15th Engrs. Ca A  
CARROLL F. DEVOID  
40 Whitebitch Ln.  
Williston, Vt. 05495

Found red ink on my Octofoil on my return from Florida this spring, so here are my dues for 3 more years. Spent some time with Henry and Eva Santos this winter. Also saw Russ Bassel. Intended to make Detroit, but a family wedding has ended that. Will be in Worcester this fall. Always enjoy the letters in the Octofoil.

47th Inf. Co E  
THOMAS J. SHAW  
302 E. Bougainville Ave.  
Tampa, Fl. 33612

I don't know how really to start this letter, but I'm going to give it a try. I was taken Prisoner at El Guettar Pass in North Africa on March 27th, 1943 along with some other members of Company E, 47th Infantry. The Germans separated us and sent us in all different directions to different countries and to different P.O.W. camps.

I have never to this day found out what happened at El Guettar and how many men survived. I have just learned there was a 9th Infantry Division organization, of which I joined. Maybe I can get a few things resolved in my mind that happened at El Guettar after all these years.

60th F.A.  
NUNZIO PASSARELLO  
24 Grant Pl.  
Statens Island, N.Y. 10306

To the boys of the 60th FA: Hoping you are all well, I go from time to time to the reunion. Love you all.

39th Inf. Co D Hq Co  
ROGER L. VIULLEUMIER  
68 E. Hartsdale Ave.  
Hartsdale, N.Y. 10530

On our trip home from Florida in April, my wife and I stopped off at Ft. Bragg to look at the Marker. I was astonished when we stopped at the Main gate and I went in that the man at the desk had no idea where the Marker was or anything about it. He called somebody on the phone who told him where it was, then he gave me a map. No problems, went on down Randolph Street half way around a rotary circle and there it was. I thought the Marker looked fine although I'm not sure if I like the part of Vietnam 1966-1969. It seems to me those fellows should have their own marker out at Ft. Lewis, Wash. Also have their own association. They were in a whole different ball game and a whole different generation, so why shouldn't they have their own. Everything at Ft. Bragg is 82nd Airborne, I wish they had more about the 9th. Went down around the old 9th division area. It's not the ghost town like the last time I was there. Saw quite a few fellows in camouflage fatigue clothes. Sure doesn't look like when we were there. I know it's a long time, 42 years. Ft. Bragg Road has been built up with all its stores and pawn shops. I thought old Fayetteville looked rather seedy down around the RR station and along Hay Street. It was fun to have a look around the old stomping grounds which looks rather sad. Best regards to all.

47th Inf. F Co.  
LEE GRIMWOOD  
214 Franklin Ave.  
Sedgwick, Kans. 67135

My last Octofoil was addressed in red, and I was sure that you had made a mistake; however, when I checked my card it was for '80, '81, & '82! These years sure go by fast.

Even though I was a replacement and did not spend too much time with the 9th, I still feel that it was 'my' outfit. I joined the 2nd platoon of Fox Co. of the 47th on Friday the 13th, Oct. '44. The 47th was detached from the rest of the division, and the Company was stationed in Schevenhutte, Germany; the 2nd platoon was on a hill at the edge of Schevenhutte, and we spent almost six weeks in the same foxholes.

After VE day the 9th moved to Southern Germany and I transferred to the I & R Platoon of Regimental Headquarters Co and became a 'Jeep Jockey'.

If things work out, my wife and I are going to visit Germany in Oct., and I am going to visit Schevenhutte and see if there is any evidence of the old fox hole.

One of these years I hope to get to a convention and I just hope that there will be a few familiar faces there.

Keep up the good work with the association, Dan, for it is a great organization.

Med Det 60th & 9th Med Bn  
R.M. HUMMEL, M.D.  
2411 Lommel Ln  
Marion, Ind. 46952

Enclosed is my check for annual membership. No great news. Continue to enjoy good health and still active at the practice of medicine. Best wishes to all.

There's probably nothing wrong with the younger generation that the older generation didn't outgrow.

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Hq. Div Arty  
WILLIAM MORAN  
906 S. Park Ave.  
Glenshaw, Pa. 15116

I'd like to mention an idea at this time, since the reunion at Fort Bragg, where our outfit was represented by 11 men, tried and true, we decided to try to meet every year in a spot, geographically acceptable to all those interested and able to attend. Our leader, Art Crowe, took out a map and came up with Charleston, W. Va. and this would be for the May - 13-14-15, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. The only trouble about this arrangement was, getting in and out of the area, so it was decided, that Washington, D.C. would be the best for everybody concerned. Some of the guys will be in Detroit, but this affair will take place a month or two prior to the big round-up. In a way, these mini-reunions would have a tendency to attract a little more personal interest and therefore get people into the fold, which consequently spark collective interest in the main division convention, that is held every year.

Other outfits would profit from this type of get together thereby injecting an enthusiasm to get to other functions held by the Division Association.

As we get older, we must establish the personal bond with those we knew in service, then prepare to meet as conveniently at a point compatible to everyone. This type of organization for us has renewed our interest, and it seems to be working.

We had a sheet of names and addresses sent around to each other and we now have 32 men on our list and now we have some - to work with, all from our immediate battery, the 9th Div. Arty. Perhaps, we might suggest to all the smaller units of the division that all batteries and companies make the effort to establish a similar mailing list, so that each has an immediate communication method. This type of system seems to better solidify and strengthen our Division Association a little. I have to admit, that when I attend any function, when I know a few people there, it seems to be a little more enjoyable, I'm sure, you'll agree.

39th Inf. Hq 2nd Bn  
JAMES R. BURKE  
5815 Cove Landing Rd.  
Burke, Va. 22015

Thanks very much for forwarding the Octofoil to my new address and reminding me about my dues. I moved here from California to be near my daughter and granddaughter. Don't plan to make the reunion this year in Detroit. I know that under your overall guidance it will be a successful one, as usual. Good luck!

Hq. 15th Engrs.  
PAUL BOLDUC  
573 Woonasquatuckett Ave.  
N. Providence, R.I. 02911

Sorry I could not make the reunion again this year. My wife had a wedding anniversary to attend in Canada. Best wishes to everyone.

39th Inf. Co. L  
C. E. (BUCK) MILLER  
216 Bissell Ave.  
Oil City, Pa. 16301

Here's my dues for two years ... sorry I am a little late. Read the Octofoil religiously and keep copies around and re-read them several times, hoping to find a familiar name to whom I can write.

Would like to see some Company L, 39th Regiment, names and beg them to write.

Not going to make it to the convention again this year. The date conflicts with an established American Legion meeting.

47th Inf. Hq. 3rd Bn  
DARIO A. GAGLIASSO  
536 Barto St.  
Santa Clara, Ca. 95051

I have been trying to locate the Ninth Infantry Division for sometime. Finally thru a friend in the American Legion in Washington D.C. I located your address.

I used to belong to the Ninth Division after I returned from Germany in 1946. My old card no. was #1332. I am very anxious to join the association again and am sorry not to be able to make the convention this year. If there is one next year I'll be there. I guess there aren't many members from the West Coast.

I was a member of the Headquarters Company 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry Regiment A.P. Platoon. My Platoon Sergeant was Sergeant Lind, Company Commander Capt. Wylee and Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Ray I. Inzer. When I joined the outfit they were outside Aachen, Germany.

60th Inf., Co. E  
FRANK HORTON  
2229 Rayburn Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Thank you very much for your letter informing me of the reunion, which will be held in Detroit, Michigan, on July 21, 22 and 23.

Regrettably, I will not be able to attend and hope you will extend to all my very best wishes. I am enclosing with this letter a check in the amount of \$5.00 to cover my 1-year membership.

Again, thank you. Good luck for a good turn out!

With kindest personal regards.

Co K, 60th Inf  
O.T. SMITH  
PO Box 604  
Salisbury, N.C. 281450604

I am a veteran of World War 2, as I joined the Ninth Infantry Company K, 60th Infantry, November 1941 and stayed with the outfit until 1945. I was in the invasion of North Africa, Sicily, England, Normandy, Belgium and Germany.

I would like to join the Ninth Infantry Division Association and am enclosing a check for dues for one year. Thanking you kindly.

Btyr B, 26th FA  
JIM HENNELLY  
25 Maple Ave  
Newton, Ma. 02158

Here's the payment for 1 year. I hadn't forgotten, was trying to decide if I wanted to stay in a "last man" association. This will give me time to make up my mind. See you in Worcester.

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