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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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8-1-1983

### The Octofoil, August/September/October 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 will be earmarked to pay for the Octofoil

Volume XXXVIII Number 4

Aug-Sept-Oct 1983

Service Battery  
26th FIELD ARTILLERY  
BATTALION  
Thirty Ninth Annual  
Memorial Mass  
Immaculate Conception  
Church  
Grove Street, Worcester, Mass.  
Sunday, November 6, 1983  
at 10:00 a.m.  
In Memoriam  
Arthur Sheffler, June 22, 1983  
Manny Efron, August 9, 1982  
One more time.

Father Connors announced one more time that he will again celebrate a Memorial Mass for the troops, especially the 4581 men who made the supreme sacrifice and for those who went to their eternal reward since they returned home.

This Mass is not for any specific religious denomination. Nor is it for any particular color of person or for only someone born in this country. It is for those, who, when called by their government, wore the OCTOFOIL proudly on their shoulder.

Something new has been added this year. A Saturday night buffet is being planned by a group called Fathers Helpers. These same helpers planned those two clam bakes a few years ago at White Cliffs and at Dunfy's in Hyannis. If you plan to attend this buffet, like the clam bakes, your ticket (\$12.00) per person will have to be paid for in advance. More than 300 people attended each one of those bakes and were fully satisfied.

Dick and Phyllis Hill sent a note. Both are in good health. Dick has a one man band operation in a Dallas club. Bill Andrews has been elected president of the Michigan Chapter. Mrs. Bongiorno is slowly recovering from a triple by pass operation. Jerry Langer, 1 Westminster Drive, Yonkers, N.Y. is retired, enjoys his boat and his fishing but most of all he would like to hear from you. Bill Sacco is back at his summer job. The mother of John Murray died a year ago.

Wallace got homesick last year and returned to Tennessee for a visit. He claims he went to the World's Fair. His wife is feeling much better after a gall bladder operation. The Wallace property in Bellaire Texas lost four trees to Hurricane Alicia. No damage was done to their home. Curro has a new address. Pergi and his wife had a wonderful trip to the Far East. China, Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, Phillipines and Hawaii were all stops on their whirl wind tour which took over two months. Willie Leonard was hospitalized in Houston. Complications increasing from an accident in Birkadem. Louie England has shown remarkable improvement from a burn accident. Griffin is still working. Fr. Connors spent the month of January in the Mass General Hospital. Pergi, Roscoe and Albanese say that they are in good health.

A special note to men of Service Battery 26FA. Make a promise to yourself that in the coming year you will write a note to at least five men with whom you served.

## Backtracking to Remagen

I have had the pleasure of backtracking a part of the 9th Division route we covered during W.W. II in Europe.

I accompanied the 9th Armored Division Pack to Remagen tour, departing from Kennedy Airport September 17th for Luxembourg City. We were met there by the press and from thereon we covered over 1100 miles all the way down to Munich and criss-crossed many a place our Division had fought through.

## Cherished by People

The HAMM Cemetery is something to see — cherished by the people of Luxembourg and maintained by the U.S. Government. It has two big granite walls that give a very detailed explanation of what and where the "Battle of the Bulge" was. Our division has a marker on it — exactly where we were at the time in the Monchau area. Does Elsenhorn ring a bell to anyone? At the Hamm Cemetery we were met by the U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg, Ambassador Dolibois.

We covered the area of Bastonge and St. Viht which was destroyed at the time of the Bulge. They are now completely rebuilt and you come across plaques everywhere dedicated to the American Forces for the liberation of Luxembourg — thanking the soldiers.

## Highlight of Trip

The highlight of the trip was "Return to the Bridge at Remagen". Of course, now the town is completely rebuilt. The towers remain on both sides of the Rhine. The towers on the Remagen side are used as a museum and this is where our Division was left out. The only units mentioned in the museum that battled for the bridge was the 9th Armored and the 79th Division — those are the only units mentioned. I'm sure some of the boys' from the three regiments could tell them a thing or two of the battle that went on to take that Mountain and outside of Linz. The towns of Erpel and Unkel are completely rebuilt and are a sight for sore eyes. We were taken to the top of the Mountain in Erpel — it was a clear day and you could see for miles in any direction.

## First Across Bridge

My roommate for the entire trip was Alex Drabik, the first American soldier across the Remagen Bridge. We had quite a talk about the bridge. I asked him how fast he ran when going



A view of Lake Placid where the Associations 39th reunion will be held this June. Shown here are the Olympic Ski Jumps. Plastic matting has been installed which allows for year-around ski-jumping. There will be jumping going on during the associations reunion.

The Village of Lake Placid, a noted summer and winter resort, 1965 feet above sea level, at its highest elevation is situated in the scenic "high peak" area of the Adirondack Mountains in Essex County, New York. It lies on the shores of lakes Mirror (formerly Bennet's Pond) and Placid, and is surrounded by the vast Adirondack State Park lands.

Lake Placid is located in the Northeast corner of New York State, 120 miles from Montreal and 140 miles from Albany, Lake Placid is ideal for meetings and conventions such as our association will hold next summer, June 21, 22, 23, 1984.

across the bridge — he said he didn't know but he thinks there was lots of dust behind him. In the town of Unkel we were strolling by when a resident asked if the Soldier who was first across the bridge was there. By an odd coincident — this German soldier was taken prisoner by Alex Drabik. They both recognized each other after all these years and both shed a tear. Jokingly the soldier said "You didn't come back to take me again?"

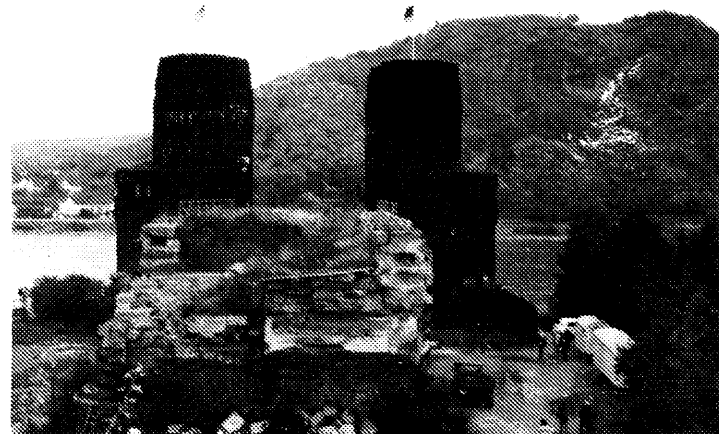
I've taken quite a few pictures I will cherish, especially from the spot I was standing at on the Erpel side and saw the bridge go down.

The Mayor of Remagen, along with his town officials put out quite a dinner for all the guests of the 9th Armored Division and it was a meal we won't forget for a long time. It was tops.

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John O'Donnell sends this picture taken at the 1966 Worcester Memorial weekend.



Adolph Wadalavage supplies the Octofoil with a picture of the remains of the Remagen Bridge. This is on the West bank and the site is used as a museum.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to thank all the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association for the very special honor that was bestowed on me in July 1983 in the City of Detroit. At our Annual Reunion I was granted the very special privilege of being named President of this fine organization.

When I reflect upon what the "Men of the Ninth" have done for our great nation I come to the realization that I rub elbows with our nations heroes. I am sure that history will record the wondrous deeds of these men. Our nation will in its kindness and with its generous heart will be very grateful for what you as wearers of the Octofoil have done to preserve the freedoms that all Americans enjoy today. I could write on endless pages of my feeling for the "Men of the Ninth", sufficient to say, I am proud and privileged to be one of you.

Herb Olsen, Dan Quinn, Emil Langer and myself plan to visit Lake Placid in October to see what progress has been made in the preparation for our 1984 Annual Reunion. We will report this progress to the Board of Governors meeting in November and also the members who gather together for our luncheon at the Sheraton-Lincoln on Sunday, November 6, 1983.

Best regards,  
from a real proud member of the Ninth  
Thomas J. Boyle  
39 Hall Avenue  
Somerville, Massachusetts 02144

## THE OCTOFOIL

Form 2579 should be sent to  
412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087  
Octofoil Associated Editors  
Walter O'Keefe 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'Keefe  
Ridgewood, N.Y.  
Herbert Olsen  
Randolph, Ma.  
Warren Boulden  
Elkton, Md.  
Roger Alsgaard  
Saginaw, Mich.  
Art MacDougall  
Philadelphia, Pa.  
1985  
Thomas Boyle  
Somerville, Ma.  
Henry Santos  
Tampa, Fla.  
Dave Heller  
Highland Park, Ill.  
Al Perna  
Philadelphia, Pa.  
1986  
Larry Ghene  
Chicago, Ill.  
Robert Pappas  
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

Aug-Sept-Oct 1983

Number 4

Publication No. 402820

## THE SECRETARY'S CORNER

The Secretary wants to express his thanks to all the members for their thoughts and prayers and get well wishes while he was out on "sick call" from major surgery.

THE MEMORIAL FUND OF  
THE 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
Scholarship Information

The Memorial Fund of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was established by the members of the association to commemorate the memory of their comrades who paid the supreme sacrifice in battle. As a part of this fund the association established a scholarship program. Scholarships are awarded each year to relatives of men who served in The Ninth Infantry Division. Each scholarship is for one year.

## ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

A person who wishes to apply for a scholarship must be related to a man who served with The Ninth Infantry Division. Children of former members of the division will be given first consideration, but children of men killed in combat given first preference. Applicants who are not children of former members of the division will not be considered unless no child of a former member qualifies.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The following procedures must be followed by those wishing to apply for the scholarships:

1. Send a letter of application, written in expository form, to the chairman of the scholarship committee stating the following: name, address, age, and sex of the applicant; name, address, and occupation of the applicant's parents or guardians; the name and address of the secondary school the applicant is attending or has attended and graduated; the name and address of the college the applicant expects to attend; the vocational goal of the applicant; and the name of and degree of relationship to a former member of the division. The unit and dates of service in the division of the former member must be included.
2. A transcript of the applicant's high school record must be included with the letter of application. The transcript must include at least the first seven semesters of the applicant's record.
3. The applicant must have a counselor or principal of the high school, he or she is attending write a letter of recommendation to the chairman of the scholarship committee.
4. The applicant must take the PSAT which is given every October. The applicant must see that the results of the PSAT are sent to the chairman of the scholarship committee. These results may be included with the high school transcript or sent to the chairman from the College Entrance Examination Board. The SAT of the CEEB may be submitted in lieu of the PSAT.
5. THE APPLICATION MUST BE SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE BY MARCH 15. Applications received after March 15 will not be considered.
6. All applicants must accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.
7. Information to determine financial need will be requested by the Scholarship Committee after the applications have been considered.
8. Recipients of the scholarships may apply for renewal of the scholarship each year. A copy of the student's college grades, a financial statement, and a letter requesting renewal of the scholarship should be sent to the chairman by March 15.
9. All applications must be sent to: John J. Clouser, Scholarship Chairman, Ninth Infantry Division Association, Rt. 4 Box 50A Crystal River, FL 32629.

## TAPS SOUNDED

There is no death.  
What we call death  
is but a sudden change.  
Because we know not  
where it leads.  
Therefore,  
it seemeth strange.

With saddened heart we  
announce the passing of  
these comrades who have  
answered their last roll call:

Charles J. Heigel

Co C 9th Med Bn

Donald C. Ross

Richard H. Haynes

Finance Sec.

Guy Blackwell

9th Signal Company

Harold J. Willoughby

Cannon Co. 60th Inf.

May they rest in peace.  
To their loved ones we ex-  
tend our deepest sympathy.

This is the kind of letter that one does not like to write but, never the less, one that should be written.

Our good friend, Guy Blackwell, died some months ago, and I am sure that neither you nor the Octofoil have been notified. He served with the 9th Signal Company from Bragg to the end of the War. I was able to get a photo from Anne (his wife) made in London in 1944. I am enclosing it in this letter, hoping that you will be able to print it in a future issue of the Octofoil.

Guy came back to Johnson City after the War and was in business with his brother, Henry, operating a truck and heavy equipment dealership. He was also owner of Guy Blackwell Associates, a life insurance firm.

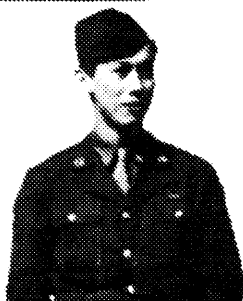
He was commissioned Brigadier General of the Tennessee National Guard in 1975, and commanded the Old Hickory Brigade.

At the time of his death he was Washington County Property Assessor. He was a former Mayor of Johnson City. In 1978 he was selected as Outstanding County Official by the Tennessee County Officials Association.

His record certainly was outstanding, and I am sure his friends in the Association will want to know of his passing.

His wife, Anne, may be reached at 811 Forest Avenue, Johnson City, Tennessee 37601. I am certain it would be a comfort to her to hear from some of Guy's friends in the Association.

C.B. BAKER, Jr.  
2001 Oakland Avenue  
Johnson City, Tenn. 37601



Guy Blackwell

47th Inf. Co. I  
GEROGE M. HATRAC  
64 Holt Ave.  
Trenton, N.J. 08619

I would like to hear from some of my buddies in my outfit. I keep looking in the Octofoil but have not come across anyone I know. I started at Ft. Bragg, then Africa, England and France. I look forward to receiving the Octofoil. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT  
AND CIRCULATION

(Act of October 23, 1962; Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code)

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3. Frequency of Issue: Bi-Monthly. 4. Location of known office of publication: 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N. J. - Hudson County. 5. Location of headquarters or General Business Offices of the Publisher: 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N. J. - Hudson County. 6. Name and address of the Publisher and Editor: Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N. J.

	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	Single Issue Nearest to Filing Date
Extent and Nature of Circulation		
A. Total No. Copies Printed (Net Press Run)	1850	1850
B. Paid Circulation		
1. Sales through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors and Counter Sales	None	None
2. Mail Subscriptions	1660	1655
C. Total Paid Circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2)	1660	1655
D. Free Distribution By Mail, Carrier or Other Means Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free Copies	110	100
E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D)	1770	1755
F. Copies Not Distributed		
1. Office Use, Left Over, Unaccounted, Spoiled After Printing	80	90
2. Returns From News Agents	None	None
G. Total (Sum of E, F1 and 2— should equal net press run shown in A)	1850	1850
11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.		

DANIEL QUINN, Editor and Publisher, The Octofoil.

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.

LADIES' AUXILIARY  
of the

## NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

I would like to become a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Enclosed is check or money order for 2.00 for 1983 dues. Please mail my membership card to:

Name

Street

City

State

While attached to the 9th Infantry Division (state relationship, whether the Ninth Division man was a husband, father, brother, son, etc.)

was with

give company, regiment, battery, attached unit, etc.)

Make checks or money orders payable to Ninth Infantry Division Association. Mail to  
Mrs Lillian Krasovetz  
107 USA East  
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. ☐



Continued from page 1

## Backtracking to the Remagen Bridge

Dedicated to 39th Inf.

At Ettlebruck, Luxembourg, I came across a plaque dedicated by the people of Luxembourg to one of our units — M Company — 39th Inf., dedicated May 1977. It is next to a tank of the 746 Tank Bn that was attached to our division. The tank even has the Logo of the 39th on it. The people of Ettlebruck have a small square as you enter the town and it is named PATTON SQUARE, and they have a statue of him there — same one as in up at West Point.



A photo of the marker dedicated to the 39th Infantry (Company M) in the town of Ettlebruck, Luxembourg.

In a town in East Germany, Eisenach, which the 9th had taken, we picked up a so-called Russian guide who was to stay with us while in East Germany. About the only difference now and when we were there is that the buildings are now put together and the rubble cleared off the street, but as shabby as ever — they sure could use some fixing up and paint.

We were in the vicinity of Geissen — and that should bring back many a memory. It is now a big U.S. Military Base and a short distance from the East-West German border. While in the area we happened to be delayed by U.S. Armored Unit on maneuvers — and believe me the equipment is quite different now than what we had forty years ago.

### East Germany

While in East Germany we spent three days in Leipzig at the Merker Hotel — a five star hotel built by Mitsubishi of Japan — a beautiful hotel — but what a miserable town. I don't think East Germany manufactures paint. By orders of the Russian guide we were told to stay together — and you really appreciate the freedom we have here. They have a state run store in the hotel and the prices are very reasonable, made so to attract hard currency, especially the American currency. Once you go outside the hotel — it's an equal exchange — one for one.

Entering East Germany we were told not to leave our buses and we were delayed two hours and fifteen minutes. We entered at Wartha and left at Hirschberg. We passed areas formerly occupied by the 9th Division — Ingolstadt — which now has a big Esso refining plant there and a car manufacturing plant. In that area also it seems the farmers grow more Hops for beer than anyplace in Europe, field after field.

We spent most of the day at Nurembourg, saw where the war trials were held, the stadium and then entered the town gates to join the natives for lunch for the wurst and sauerkraut and beer at noon-time.

### Octoberfest

In Munich we were guests at the Octoberfest and that is something to see — the following evening we were guests at the famous Hof Brauhaus — If you think we drink beer here in the states — you should see them in Munich — they drink by the stein which holds a liter. They sure do put the brew away. While at the Octoberfest the woman serving us picked up six steins of beer, each a liter, in one hand and six in the other. We asked her to do it again — no problem — she grabbed six more.

Munich is rebuilt but still so much construction going on it seems as though they are doing

the place all over again. The Russian guide we had in East Germany was surprised that I knew of Nordhausen. He asked how I knew and believe me I didn't hesitate to tell him. He says the concentration camp is no more. All leveled out and a big Gin distillery is there now. He asked me quite a few times why I asked him about Nordhausen.

### Great Trip

A lot of former G.I.'s on this trip were visiting places they had been and some held as P.W. They had some unpleasant stories to tell. It was a great trip and when I marked the route we were to cover and the route they did cover it was surprising how many times the two Divisions were in the same area right next to each other — they of course came over very late. They are as proud of their outfit as we are of ours. I kidded them and told them they came in so late they almost missed the big show.

### T.V. Coverage

There was plenty of T.V. coverage from the time we arrived in Luxembourg till Remagen. N.B.C. television was all over the place as was the German television. We found out it was aired Sept. 23 in the states on "Good Morning America."

At Linburg, Germany, we came to a German Kasserne. A sentry at the gate called an officer and escorted both busses around the grounds.

There were 102 people that made the trip. We covered a lot of mileage, ate some darn good food and drank plenty of German beer. Everyone said they would do it again, even though we were tired when we returned to Kennedy airport at 7:45 P.M. October 2nd. It was like a graduating class singing their Swan song. New friends were made and a trip that will live in our minds forever.

Note: The tunnel on the Erpel side is now used as a Seismograph station. It was formerly used for growing mushrooms.

Adolph Wadalavage  
M.P.'S.

94-30 96th Street  
South Ozone Park, N.Y. 11416

Lake Placid 1984

June 21, 22, 23

### TO "B" (47th) OR NOT TO "B"

To all our "BECO" buddies greetings from the Keystone State of Pennsylvania! Although we were unable to attend the 38th annual reunion of our beloved 9th Inf. Div. Association, we were well informed of what transpired by our "BECO" buddies who attended the reunion. We received a beautiful postcard depicting the Westin Hotel and the Renaissance Center in all its splendor. From all reports the reunion was most successful and enjoyed by all the 'Old Reliables' and their families. The names of our "BECO" buddies on the postcard were: Joe and Stella Cichocki - Phila., Pa.; Stan and Flo Andowski - Buffalo, N.Y.; Helen and Ed Sarnoeinski - Chester, Pa.; John and Catherine Compagnone - Netcong, N.J.

Our co-reporter Art Stenzel received a letter from Sam Moscatelli who mentions "BECO" buddies John Morgan and Bill Klaus and said it was "the best time of my life" and hopes he can make the N.Y. reunion at Lake Placid in 1984. For Sam Moscatelli and his wife who live in Chisholm, Minn., and John and Loretta Morgan who reside in Pittsburgh, Pa., this was their first reunion! We were also informed that Bob and Anna Edie, and Mike and Marlene Sanchez were made to feel "at home" by their "BECO" friends. As always our "BECO" family always "aim to please"!

We are starting to gather as much information as possible pertaining to the 1984 Lake Placid (N.Y.) reunion. Art has received a letter from "BECO" buddy Jack DiSanto and his wife Kay; who drove over to Lake Placid and surveyed the situation — however Jack does not know at which hotel the reunion is to be held, but that there seems to be an abundance of accommodations due to the recent Winter Olympics. This is to advise all our "BECO" buddies that as soon as we learn where the Lake Placid reunion is to be held and the particulars, we will draft an invitation letter to as many "BECO" men as we have records and addresses — early registration will be a must fellows!

Ann and I wish to take this opportunity to thank Art and Grace Stenzel, John and Catherine Compagnone, Joe and Stella Cichocki, and all our other "BECO" buddies for their get-well cards and letters received by us this past summer.

By the time our "BECO" buddies will be reading this column, we will have attended the 39th annual memorial mass and memorial service which was held at The Immaculate Conception Church in Worcester, Mass. on Sunday November 6, 1983. We have been attending this beautiful and most inspiring memorial service and annual pilgrimage for many years. We would feel that something was missing in our devotional prayers and thoughts for our 4581 departed comrades and buddies, if we were not able to attend this reverent occasion.

In closing, a final word is in order: All of us in "BECO" 47th extend to Art and his lovely wife Grace, the best of luck and happiness in their new home!

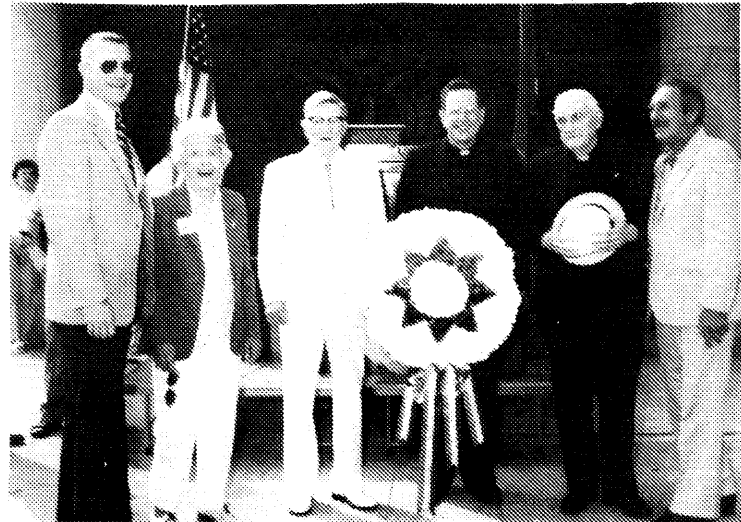
Your Correspondents:

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2208 Lincoln Way East  
Chambersburg, Pa. 17201

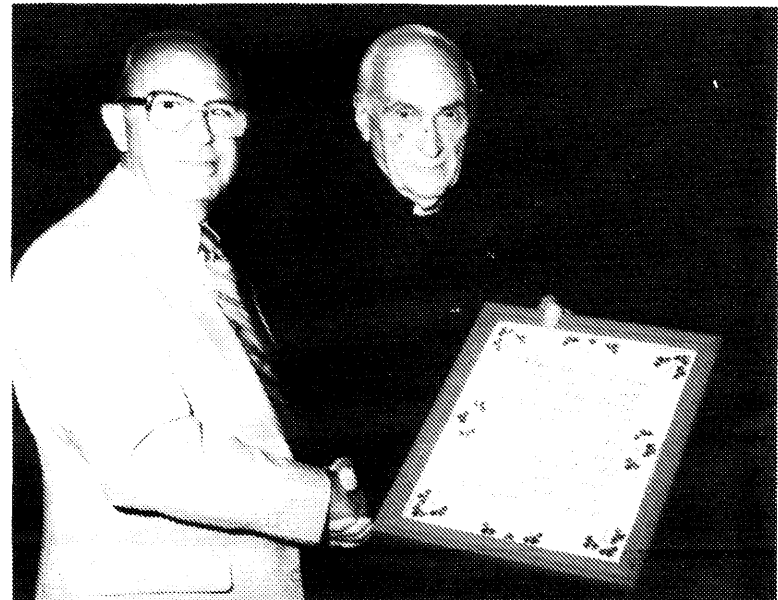
and  
Art. J. Stenzel  
8705 Village Mill Row  
Bayonet Point, Fl. 33567  
(Beacon Woods)

## Photos of Reunion

Walter Victor supplied the Octofoil with pictures of the reunion.



Picture taken at the Michigan Reunion's Memorial Services. Shown left to right: Brig. General Carpenter, Asst. Division Commander of the Ninth Infantry, stationed at Fort Lewis, Mrs. Agnes Randle, General Edwin Randle, Rev. Father Jerry Rowan, Father Connors and Matt Urban, CMH.



Chairman of the Michigan Reunion Bob DeSandy presents Father Connors with plaque "An Irish Blessing".



The newly elected officers of the Ladies Auxiliary are shown left to right: Wanda Preston V.P., President Lorraine Clark, Secretary-Treasurer Lily Krasovetz and Chaplain Rosalie Painter.



Matt Urban CMH (standing in center) is shown with some of his buddies at the conclusion of the Memorial Services.

## FLORIDA GATOR NEWS

O.K. comrades, here we go with the October 1983 news of the Florida Chapter. I've only been in the house about 10 minutes as I begin to write this, so I'm letting the wife unpack (which I dearly love to do) and put all our belongings away, while I get this letter in the mail to Dan in order to get it in the Octofoil print before it's too late.

### Pleased At Turnout

Our meeting was held at the Holiday Inn, Gulfside, Clearwater, Fla. on October 14 to 16. I have to say that as President of the Florida Chapter, I'm very proud and pleased at our turnout. This time we had 71 people in attendance, up from 48 last April.

I hope our people will forgive me for not mentioning all the new people attending for the first time by name, as the Octofoil would have no room for news from other folks. The weekend started about noon Friday with the opening of the CP room, well stocked I must say, for the incoming guests. Most of the time, refreshments were replaced before they ran short.

### Honor General and Wife

Guests from Alabama joined us, plus the special group of M Company men and wives. No, I didn't forget your name, Curtis Buchanan, and I'll be keeping in touch with you after I get the information you need. During the greetings and registration, Henry Santos signed up some new members, not only for our Florida Chapter, but for the National Association as well. That means more work for you, Dan, on the Octofoil mailing list. Our meeting was held not only for our regular get together, but to honor General and Mrs. Edwin Randle. It just so happened that it was their 63rd wedding anniversary plus both had birthdays in October, Mrs. Randle on the 15th.

After an afternoon of greetings and refreshments, the committee had planned a luau with Hawaiian dancers. The weather forced us inside away from the pool area, but the undauntables had a whiz of a time anyway. After dinner, back to CP.

### Cocktail Party

Saturday afternoon, meetings were held for business at 1 P.M. Some barely made it as they were returning from the boat ride around the bay. Immediately following meetings, we made our way to the Randle home, where we enjoyed a cocktail party, hosted by General and Mrs. Randle. Champagne cocktails, finger foods, General Randles books, Mrs. Agnes Randle's paintings all enhanced the visit. I even pulled M.P. duty on the corner to make sure some of our scouts didn't get lost, and sure enough four carloads went by and had to turn back for directions. You all know who you are, so I'm not going to mention the patrol, who got lost. The General's home is filled with beautiful Army memorabilia, and I wonder if anyone in the association knew just what a fine talented artist Mrs. Randle is. Several of our chapter members came away with copies of "Ernie Pyle comes Ashore and other Stories" authored by General Randle. Many of our members did not know the General was such a talented literary author. He autographed our copies.

A stereophonic politician is one who talks out of both sides of his mouth.

### Birthday Party

Saturday night banquet turned out to be a birthday party for the Randles, complete with decorated cake with trick candles that wouldn't go out. In lieu of the usual speaker, we had introductions and a few words from the various visitors, including General Chip & Mrs. Manes from Cocoa, Fla., Col. Roy Smith & Karen, and Col. Pat Williamson.

Our next meeting in the spring will be April 13th thru 15, 1984 at the Sheraton Twin Towers in Orlando. At our general meeting, we discussed the 1985 national meeting to be held at the same place, and we wanted to get an idea of how things will be.

### Special Thanks

In closing, I want to say special thanks to Bruce and Sue Johnstone for doing such a great job here in Clearwater at setting up our Friday night Fiji dinner, complete with 3 Hula dancers for entertainment, even if things did get a little upset with the weather. Thanks also to Henry & Eva Santos, Ray & Ann Miller (new members) Pete, Mike & Mrs. Deresch, and Jim Scotta for all the help to make everything run smooth during the CP hours. Also, thanks to you, Tom Boyle for your letter. It was read to our group at the general meeting.

Last, but not least, all of our Florida Chapter members wish Dan and Marie the best of everything and hope and pray that your recovery is going well.

Robert Pappas, (Pres.)  
738C518, Box 175  
New Port Richey,  
Florida 33552

## ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWS

The Illinois Chapter has been low keyed since the beautiful reunion in Detroit. We would all like to thank the Michigan Chapter for the very successful reunion. Everything was great and the Westin Hotel was simply breathtaking. The views from the rooms were something out of this world. Of course, as beautiful as the views were — we in Illinois will have to say, it can't compare with Chicago's skyline. It was great seeing all of our buddies and their families. We were also quite impressed with the Memorial Services Saturday morning.

At this writing, we are getting ready to leave for our mini outstate reunion in Angola. It will be on October 21st and 22nd and so far Chuck Koski informs us we have over 70 people registered. We are looking forward to this annual event and according to the weatherman — a beautiful Autumn forecast has been predicted.

Our president, Larry Ghre, will be walking his daughter down the aisle soon. Congratulations to the lucky couple. We were happy to see Jerry and Dorothy Fajnor back at the meeting in September. Dorothy is almost fully recovered from her fall in the early part of this year. The Clarks have completed their move to Indiana. Good luck in your new home. We will miss them but they will try and make as many events as possible. The Koskies will become new grandparents again in the not so distant future.

Some of our Illinois members will be going to Fr. Connor's Memorial Services in November.

We of the Illinois Chapter would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Happy Holiday Season. May 1984 bring much happiness and Prosperity to all the Members of the Ninth Infantry Division and their families.

Mike and Ann Belmonte  
1161 South Lombard  
Oak Park, Illinois 60304

## MICHIGAN HAPPENINGS

Greetings from Michigan where Mother Nature has gotten back on schedule and is giving us some seasonable weather.

Yes, it is October and the 38th Annual Reunion at Detroit happened, by the time you read this, three months ago. (Isn't it strange how fast we grow old?)

Since July life for us in the Michigan Chapter has gone on. We had our August meeting at the Home of Ed. and Marge Wisniewski. Through the day was very hot, twenty nine of us spent a very fun and food filled day together.

### Out State Meeting

Now we are preparing for our annual Out State meeting to be held in Angola, Ind. October 21 & 22. This year this event, which grows bigger each year, is in the capable hands of Charlie and Irma Koskie and the Illinois Chapter. This meeting gives all the Old Reliables from Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio an opportunity to get together before the long ordeal of winter sets in. So what I won't hurt any ones feelings we have had members of the Association in attendance from Pa., Cal., and Iowa at this week end gala also. So if you have this week end free some year, and are in the vicinity drop in and join with us.

A wedding in our family will prevent yours truly and Jennie from being there this year.

### Christmas Party

Our next event is the December Christmas Party/Meeting which will be on December 10th and hosted by Bob & Flo DeSandy. We thank Bob & Flo for opening their beautiful home to us once more. Their parties are always a success.

### End of Year

That brings us to the end of another year. Not just "another year" but a very successful year for National and the Michigan Chapter. Your support of our efforts, in presenting the 38th Annual Reunion to you, was most encouraging.

A fact that you may not be aware of: 32 of these United States were represented at the reunion.

Let us now make a pledge to top that figure at Lake Placid, N.Y. in 1984.

I take this opportunity to wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Remember we are all getting into our "Golden Year" and that word "Golden" does not describe gloom and pessimism.

Rodger E. Alsgaard Sec'y.  
Michigan Chapter  
2834 Wynes St.  
Saginaw, Mi. 48602

Jake Nailor and Jerry Bryant are shown when they visited the Military Museum at Fort Lewis, Washington. The Ninth is stationed at Fort Lewis.

## Tip of Hat

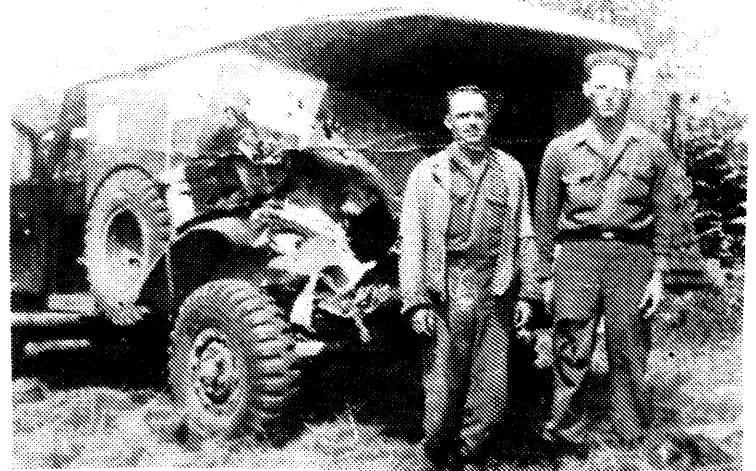
Remembering the Memorial Fund and their departed buddies we thank the following members and friends:

Adam Yanulis  
William Coen (In memory of Ed Egan)  
Merville Zinn  
Charles Alcorn  
Garnett Lawson (In memory of brother-in-law Murphy Loveless Cammack)  
John E. Slater (In memory of Americo Dorazio killed at Vossenack, Hurtgen Forest)

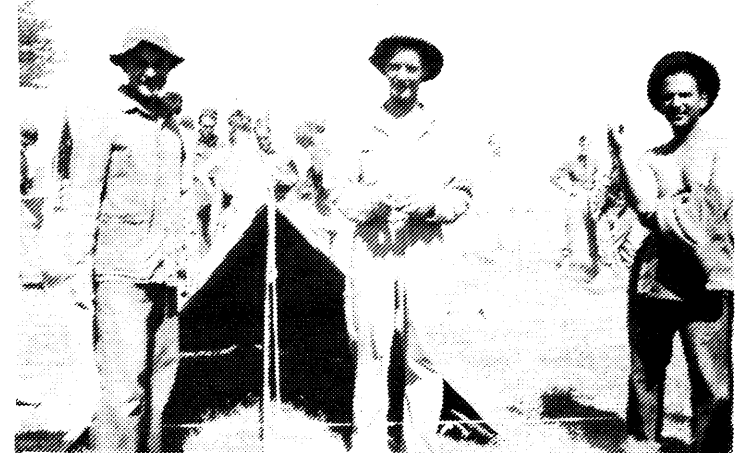
We salute you.



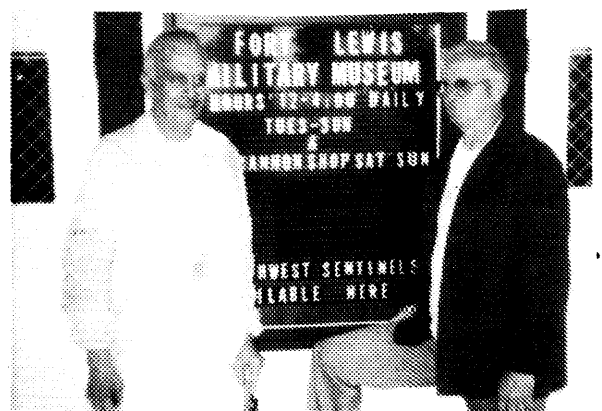
Al Bravin of the 3rd Bn 47th Infantry sends this photo of General Donald Clayman (then Colonel and C.O. of the 3rd Bn) briefing an Intelligent Officer from Division on the encounters of the 3rd Bn.



C.B. Baker supplies us with this photo of Ira "Pappy" Benton and Caulk drivers of the wrecked ambulance of the 9th Medic's after it was hit by a German shell in France. Story appears in mail call.



Shades of 1941, Fort Bragg, N.C. Pitching tents with the 15th engs. L to R, George Patskin, John Wank, Fred Elmo.





# mail call

47th Inf AT, Hq. Co's  
FRANK VENEZIA  
17 Kingsbridge Dr.  
Burlington, N.J. 08016

I recently had a visitor from North Dakota, Lawrence "Speed" Melanson, the radio technician for the 47th Regiment. I'm sure that all of the radio operators that had to have their radios repaired at one time or another would remember him. He later drove out to Oxford, Pa. to see Joe Trout. We had scheduled to drive to Denville, N.J. to visit Leon Robbins but there was no answer at his phone. I gathered having previously spoken to Leon that he plays quite a bit of golf and might have been out on the links that day.

"Speed" has been in touch with Alex "Moose" Prosnick another radio operator from Hq's Co. who is at the present time in a nursing home in Duluth, Minn. having lost a leg and partially blind due to diabetes. I am sure that hearing from some of his associates would give his morale a boost. Alex Prosnick, Wesley Residence, 5601 Grand Ave., Duluth, Minn. 55807.

He also contacted John Oakly Valliant in Salisbury, Md. He informed me that other than some back problems due to surgery he is enjoying fairly good health. Valliant was First Sgt. of Hq. Co. 47th.

9th QM Co.  
STEPHEN E. SHADDER  
511 Monterey Ave.  
Odenton, Md. 21113

Since the reunion at Fayetteville and the ceremony at Ft. Bragg which was a memorial event I'll never forget, and the pleasure of meeting a lot of my buddies I haven't seen since we left Germany in 1945, I am completely retired now and have done some traveling. Been to Miami once and to Wilmington, N.C. at least 6 times since my daughter moved to Wilmington. I sure love it there and plan to go again in April, for the Azalea festival. I also attended the get together of the Baltimore and Washington Chapter and had a long talk with Charles Tingley who at one time was our C.O. The discussion at the get together was about admitting the combat veterans of the 9th who served in Vietnam in to the association because it will die if new members are not admitted to carry on since most of us are getting older and not able to get around like we use to. I also stopped in Pottsville, Pa. and met 2 of my old buddies, Joseph Pielacha, who is on disability retirement, back problems and can't get around to well. Also Edward Mieczkowski who is still working. Sorry I can't make Detroit as my daughter is getting married in July. I want to say hello to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Racine from Clinton, Ohio, who I met in Fayetteville and a lot of other members of the 9th.

39th Inf. Co L  
JAMES R. DEATON  
RR1, Box 180  
Amity, Ark. 71921

I had a heart attack but am retired now and doing OK. Dominic Pipkin came by and we had a wonderful visit. If any of you come near Amity call 501-342-5591. We have good fishing.

FRED SCOTT  
219 Lakeview Ave.  
Ocean, N.J. 07712

Red ink time again, boy I don't know where the time goes. Enclosed find check for dues and something for the Memorial Fund. Really enjoy the Octofoil. Best wishes.

15th Engrs.  
CARLTON G. POPE  
Pope's Peak, Rt 47  
Bennington, N.H. 03442

Thanks so much for dues reminder and am enclosing enough for 2 years. Our '81 retirement year was great for Velma and me with lots of short trips around New England. Jan. '82 some nut ran a sign, plowing in to our '66 Cher. Pk up totalling it, but we escaped serious injuries. Such an ending for our "Old Faithful" with 200,800 miles, with never a scratch before! April '82 I had a paralyzing stroke from which I made great recovery. Nov. '82 had a heart attack, Dec. saw me entertaining pneumonia. Feb. '83 the flu bug hit. Mar. 18 I had a near fatal massive heart attack. WOW! However, with will and determination we just know all will be great by summertime. We've rented a Sea Mist efficiency apt. at Myrtle Beach, S.C. from mid Nov. '83 to mid May '84 and would be glad to hear from anyone in that area. Meanwhile, if anyone is near our 47 acres purchased in 1947 on route 47 here in New Hampshire, stop by, our latch string is always out. Regards to all.

47th Inf. Co. B.  
GEORGE BENTLEY  
PO Box 206  
Conyers, Ga. 30207

George got the red ink. It really slipped up on him and I though I'd be smart and not forget, but did. Hope you both are well. George has been doing pretty well, but I have my usual cold or allergy or sinus. There have been so many things going around that you're afraid you'll get everything. But I guess everything I get is blamed on my cigarette smoking. We had a shock last week. There was this storm coming and thought we might get a little shower but the next day heard Conyers had a record amount for that date, Mar. 24. Our power was off for only 5 hrs. Other areas for 4 days. But we survived. Heard from Art & Grace Stenzel. We've been so lazy in writing to everyone. Take care and God Bless.

9th Med Bn  
JOHN KLOOZ  
411 Co. Rd. 281 Rt 1,  
Sullivan, Ohio 44880

Am sending dues for 3 more years. If I still feel healthy and the budget is good, will think about a life membership. Have been to a few of the reunions and usually see a couple of old buddies. Last year I saw more fellows that I knew since I have in 1945. About a dozen were from C Co and I didn't get there until Friday night as the bus trip was 24 hours. Will try to get to Detroit. Had a mighty fine time last year. When Bruce wrote and mentioned those in attendance at Fayetteville he apparently wrote in a hurry. In addition to those mentioned there were Joe Kash from Philly and Walter Sommers from Chicago. Have been farming hay since I got home in 1945. Just another one too dumb to quit! Best Regards.

39th Inf. 1st Bn Hq Co  
HARRY PAVLUK  
105 Haddon Rd  
New Hyde Park, N.Y. 11040

I spent most of my time last year in the V.A. hospital at Northport, N.Y. I lost the sight in my left eye and they removed a cataract and installed a contact lense and it restored my sight. Later on complications set in so I have to take drops 4 times a day and watch for bright sunlight for it makes my eye sore and blood shot and therefore I do not go anywhere.

60th Inf. H Co  
ROBERT J. RAMSEY  
2331 Unity St.  
Ft. Myers, Fl. 33901

Received my copy of the Octofoil and each time I look thru to see if I can find names of anyone from my co, but it seems that nobody is left. I was in the invasion of France June 6, 1944, landed on Omaha beach. Later when Gen. Patton arrived with his tank corps my company was assigned to his tank corps as infantry support and we lead a spearhead across France. We were pinned down at St. Lo for 6 days but the B 29 bombers stationed in Italy came over the Alps on the 6th day and bombed the Germans from sun up till sun down. After that we continued across France. We had to wait about 20 miles out of Paris at some airport for Gen. De Gaulle. I don't have to tell you that didn't sit too well with Patton. Just after we had crossed the Meuse River in Belgium, I was one of 210 captured by the German SS troops. We were loaded onto cattle cars & taken to Stalag 7A at Moasburg for about 2 months. Then onto Munich to work on the railroad yards, and given 1 meal a day, a bowl of soup and a slice of black bread. After 2 months they asked for volunteers to work on the farms at a place called Noonburg. Shortly after we arrived one guy tried to escape and was killed. The rest of us after almost 6 months were liberated on May 3, 1945. The Germans had moved us somewhere and put us in a big barn the night before and the guards took off and left us. We didn't know until morning we were liberated! I hope some of my buddies that I haven't seen in 37 years will read this and get in touch with me. I am disabled (amputee) but hope some day to go to a reunion. Regards.

9th Med  
ED McCAFFREY  
4 West Bayberry Rd.  
Glenmount, N.Y. 12077  
From Art Stenzel: Ed and his bride Gertrude have joined Uncle Sams retirement club and keep themselves active while enjoying their children and grandchildren. Ed former medic as well as friend and neighbor for 24 years needs no introduction. I'm sure he'd appreciate hearing from any of the group who remember him now that we've rounded him up for many years hence.

47th G Co  
SPENCER NORWOOD  
City Mobile Home Park  
Sarasota, Fl.

I joined the association in 1945 and dropped out several years ago but have joined again last year. It is good to get the Octofoil again, see a few names I remember now and then. Heard from Jerry Shapiro not so long ago, he is trying to locate Arthur Goldberger. I hear from Larry Martin now and then. Several of the other fellows drop a line at Christmas, Mosel, Kinkoph, Shelley, Patten, O'Quinn and Smalley. I came to the division in Aug. 42 and went all the way. Ended up in Dachau., then several of us went to the 10th armored in Oberau, near Garmisch and then worked our way home. Went through camp Twenty Grand. Got home the middle of Sept. 45. We had some good times and some bad times. Things went well in England but was very sad the rest of the way. Saw a lot of swell fellows get wounded or killed. Never did know what happened to them. Keep up the good work. Sure enjoy your efforts.

AC of S.G. 4  
COL. GEORGE PICKETT,  
RET.  
3308 Felton Pl  
Raleigh, N.C.

I appreciate very much your letter reminding me of the reunion this year. I regret very much that I will not be able to attend but looking forward to future reunions. I enjoyed attending last year in Ft. Bragg. I thought you and the others did a wonderful job in making all the arrangements. Lindsey Nelson's speech was terrific and brought back many memories. I saw several people that I had not seen since 1945. Give my regards to all. I'm enclosing a check for 3 years dues.

Hq. 34th FA  
C.A. PORCH  
Rt. 3  
Brownsville, Tenn. 38012

I want to subscribe to the Octofoil. At one time I got several copies but did not subscribe. I was in the 9th from Feb. 1942 to Sept. 1945. Would like to hear from anyone serving with me. Enclosed is a check for my dues.

47th Inf. K Co.  
JOHN T. WEATHERALL, DDS  
1425-19th Ave. No.  
Texas City, Tex. 77590

I see by the "Red Ink", that I'm about to be in trouble again. Time sure does fly by these days. It takes forever to get to be "21", but you can get to "42" very quickly; and then to "62" is like greased lightning. I'm not quite there yet, but in another three years →

Do you ever hear from any of the guys who were in "K" Company, 47th, toward the end of the war. We ended up at the Elbe River in Dessau. One of them was "Whitey" the BAR man. This was the 1st platoon.

I hear from Joe Mazzaresse every Christmas, but haven't had a chance to visit with him yet.

Wish I could make the Reunion, but I'm still tied up with duties with the Texas Dental Association.

My best to all of you.

34th FA, C Btry  
SELBY WHITE  
3025 Bensley Rd.  
Richmond, Va. 23237

Enclosed find check for lifetime membership. Sorry I'm so late in getting this out. We thought we might get to Detroit this year, but an illness in the family keeps us close at home. We have had a good year in spite of my wife's mothers' illness. I retired and am enjoying the more leisure pace of life. I had a great time at Bragg. Seeing my friends and especially my short chat with Gen. Westmoreland. I will surely be there in spirit if not in person. Would like to hear from any of my friends. Hope all is well with everyone and may God Bless all of you.

60th Inf. Co A.  
HERBERT BUTZ  
4745 Perry St.  
Denver, Colo. 80212

I was a member for many years, but some how it seemed that here in Colorado we were far removed and not too well represented, so I dropped out of the organization. A fellow named Honeycutt visited me last summer and asked me for the Octofoil and the associations address. I didn't have it at the time, but since receiving the reunion edition I can send it to him. I sincerely hope your reunion is a success this summer. I've never made one and would like to have made it to Bragg but my wife is no traveler. It seems nice to write to someone in regards to the outfit.

47th Inf. AT  
GEORGE REMALEY  
Box 437 RD I  
Natrona Hts., Pa. 15065

I hope to see all my friends in Detroit. I had a nice visit with one of my buddies from Florida who was visiting his people, and stopped by to see me. I am really teed off about the way our Veterans are being short changed by our government. I read of a man from Texas, a Medal of Honor winner, who was taken off his disability pension. They say he can work and he has 3 children. We have Senator Dole from Kansas who draws \$979 a month pension and makes over \$66,000 a year in speaking engagements plus \$60,000 a year as a Senator. If they are going to take away pensions this is the one that should be taken away! I hate to see a veteran taken advantage of. I can't understand why the DAV, VFW and the American Legion let this happen, they should be fighting for these veterans.

39th Inf. I Co.  
J. C. DAWSON  
Box 622  
Decatur, Tx. 76234

Have just received my Octofoil and always enjoy reading it. The last time I wrote one of my Sergeants called me on the phone. We had a nice visit. Sorry to say I've misplaced his phone number and can't return the call. Wish he would drop me a line if he reads this. I hope there will be a reprinting of 8 Stars to Victory, so many missed the 1st printing. I would certainly buy one. Last week I received my copy of the Pawns of War by Bill Kreye. Very interesting book. After you read it you will know the 9th did many things and were many places that never made the news. Last year I joined the Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. So far I haven't seen many 9th names in it. Until next time my best to everyone and hope you have a good reunion this July.

Co D 60th Inf  
JOSEPH G. O'REILLY  
132 Charles Street  
New York, N.Y. 10014

I regret the lapse in dues-paying but the enclosed will keep me on time for the next three years during which I hope to be still around although just celebrated the 69th.

I have only a low-priority claim to Assn membership, having joined the Ninth -Co.D., 60th-in Normandy, but got involved enough to get hit twice. Second time near Vire with a head wound which ended my "tour of duty."

Have lived in NYC since dischargbe in 1946 but did not know about Assn until ran across Reunion in Statler Hilton (old Pennsylvania) Hotel in what - 1976? and signed up.

The comradeship, pride of unit and service, identification with assatble, fixed "home" branch so strongly illustrated by the letters and communication in The Octofoil, shows the Army is getting back on the right track for morale-building by starting back to the idea of permanent base unit-assignments as in the Ninth and the other great WWII divisions.

Is it possible to get a copy of "8 Stars to Victory?"

60th FA  
MICHAEL BELMONTE  
1161 S. Lombard  
Oak Park, Ill. 60304

Another old army buddy has gone to his eternal rest. In a letter to me from his wife, Marlora, Harry Torhan, Btry. A, 60th FA Bn. passed away in his sleep on March 21st. Harry was one of my gun crew along with Greco, Davis, Gaff, Fedeli, Holcomb and Shaw. We had a hellava gun section.

## mail call

continued

47th & 60th  
COL. HENRY E. ROYALL  
105 Noble St.  
Chapel Hill, N.C. 25514

I am very sorry I couldn't make the 1983 reunion. However the reunion with old comrades in arms at Ft. Bragg in 1982 still lingers freshly in my memory. Thanks for reminding me of my dues, check enclosed. My best to you and your wife.

39th Inf. Co. G  
RICHARD SCHAFER  
5117 Barley Dr.  
Stephen City, Va. 22655

Not a whole lot new at this time. I drop in to see Jim Keller when ever I get into Winchester. Enclosed is my dues for the coming 2 years.

47th Inf. Cannon Co.  
BILL COEN  
Rt. 3 Box 246  
Supply, N.C. 28462

Sorry I missed the reunion in Detroit. I know you all had a good time. Just read my Octofoil and see that my buddy Ed Egan died. I am enclosing a check for the Memorial Fund in his memory. He was a good guy and just like an uncle to my kids and all the rest of the young people that have attended the reunion over the years. I have a letter addressed to Fran Maher for the Memorial Service, so hope to see you all there. I did run into Al Hodge from the 60th over Labor Day in Ga. (my granddaughter lives there) and he was surprised! Just had a call from Bill McLaughlan from Cannon Co. about 4 of the guys from Rocky Mt. are getting together and he invited me.

60th Inf. Co. D  
JOSEPH JURANICH  
Box 277  
Basehor, Kans. 66007

Sorry I took so long to send my dues to you. I sure had planned to go to the '83 reunion but we couldn't make it and are planning to make the '84. The 1982 was my first reunion and everyone did a super job!

Cannon Co. 60th Inf.  
ROCCO VITA  
Studio Lane  
Norwalk, Conn. 06850

Thank you for the dues reminder. I thought I'd be at the reunion but due to bad health I had to cancel. I'll try my best for next year. Please send my regards to my friends of Cannon Co. 60th and others.

Co. M, 60th Inf.  
MICHAEL CHICVARA  
1611 S.W. 97th Ct.  
Miami, Fl. 33165

Thanks for your nice letter and copy of the Octofoil. Wouldn't you know that luck would have it that it contained a letter in mail call from Gene Cronin and mentioning Harold Sell who with Gene were buddies of mine in 1940, 41 and 42, over 40 years ago. Needless to say, I shot a letter off to Cronin right away and I hope to hear from him and maybe get a few more addresses from him. Enclosed is a check for membership, etc. so I can possible trace other buddies from time to time. Thanks again.

39th Inf. Co A  
MICHAEL J. LISSE  
211 Somerworth Dr.  
Rochester, N.Y. 14626

Enclosed is my dues. It has been a real pleasure and treat to read the Octofoil this last year. Keep up the good work.

47th Inf. Co. F.  
GARNETT A. LAWSON  
6202 Panax Lane  
Louisville, Ky. 40258

Would like to hear from members of F Co. 47th or anyone else who served with or knew PFC Murphy Loveless Cammack, KIA July 10, 1944 near highway to Cherbourg, compiling a book about him from induction at Ft. Bragg to N. Africa, Sicily, England, France, buried in St. Mere-Eglise #2. Need summaries of events, anecdotes, accounts of true events, names of friends and descriptions of individuals he served with. Especially grateful for any photos and will pay cost of reproducing. Murphy was my brother-in-law and I am undertaking this project for his widow and son. Catherine Cammack has never remarried and lives today with her son Daniel Loveless Cammack in Fort Worth, Tex.

47th Inf.  
RANDALL H. BRYANT  
15640 SW 85th Ave.  
Miami, Fl. 33157

I was very interested in the letter from Jerome Shapiro in the last issue of the Octofoil. He wondered what happened to the movie they were going to make about the 9th Division. I think I can answer that.

Back in 1948 a movie about the St. Lo- Perrier Break-through was in the plans. As a Technical Adviser they were looking for a field grade officer who had been in one of the front line battalions of the Ninth. They contacted Gen. Eddy who was then Commandant of C & GSC. He came to me for I was one of his instructors and I was selected as Adviser. I was sent to Washington to be briefed on my duties and all was sent. I returned to wait until I was called to Hollywood. I was really happy for I would really be double dipping. All expenses paid and my wife would go with me for about three months. One day Gen. Eddy sent for me and I've never seen him madder. The Pentagon had called him and informed him that the movie company had decided that the Ninth Division was not known well enough to be in the movie and they had decided to use the "Big Red One" instead, even though they never participated in the actual Break-through. He sent me back to Washington, but no deal so the Pentagon even pulled out and no active duty officer was used. The film, "Breakthrough" was made and issued in 1950 with First Div. patches all through it. Gen. Eddy didn't get over it for a very long time. That is the story.

Shapiro mentioned Max Hastings in the letter as well. Max spent a whole day with me back in July interviewing me about the Normandy Campaign and his book on the subject will come out next June. I was very impressed with him. His last book was about the Falklands Campaign and was hailed by Drew Middleton, N.Y. Times Military Editor, as the definitive book about the Campaign. He is definitely playing up the Ninth including the capture of Cherbourg.

I'm now preparing an article on Molotov, 60th Inf. for Gung Ho Magazine. I need a photo of him — does anyone have one. If so, please send and I'll reimburse.

39th Inf. Co C  
FRANK KANE  
25 Park Ave.  
Passaic, N.J. 07055

Enclosed are my dues. Really enjoy reading the letters in Mail Call. I was with C Company, 39th with Lt. Pruett as our C.O. Regards to all.

60th Inf.  
HAROLD W. SMITH LTC.  
(RET)  
9515 Bluegrass Pl.  
Colorado Spgs., Co. 80911

It is with deep sadness that I must report to you the death of one of our 60th Inf. Rgt. members. On 7 August 1983, Capt. (Ret.) Harold J. "Cannonball" Willoughby, formerly of Cannon Company, 60th Inf. Rgt. passed away in a hospital near his home in Payson, Arizona. He had been ill for a number of months.

Many will remember "Cannonball" for the impromptu entertainment he and several other 60th officers would put on using the tailgate of a 2½T truck as a stage during the cold and dreary months we spent bivouacked in the Cork Forest near Port Lyautey, French Morocco the winter of 1942-43. On 23 June 1944, he was very seriously wounded in Normandy, France and was subsequently retired. In later years he was associated with the judicial system in Arizona and was highly respected by all those with whom he worked. Following a Masonic service conducted earlier, a memorial service including a tree planting in his memory was conducted at his home in Payson. A number of relatives and friends each briefly eulogized him. His wife, Joyce, plans to continue her residence there and he leaves two sons who reside in Phoenix.

9th M.P.  
JACOB NAILOR  
312 Brandy Lane  
Mechanicsburg, Pa. 17055

How are you and Marie? It has been some time since I have written to you. I am sorry to say that I did not make the reunion this year. It was the first I had missed in a long time. I hope you all had a good time. I took my vacation in June and went to Oregon to visit my former MP buddy Gerry Bryant. It was the first real visit we had since he came east to visit me in 1951. He was at Fayetteville last year but the time went too fast for us. Gerry just got back in the association and is going to try to make some of the reunions. We had a great time and he showed me a lot of the North west. We went to Ft. Lewis one day and visited the Museum. I am enclosing some pictures. I had a letter from Bertie Blockley, George's widow, and plan to see Wadalavage when I will be in New York City. Best of luck and I'll be thinking of all of you.

47th Inf. Co. I & Co. D 9th Med  
GEORGE W. DOHMANN  
78 Kellogg St.  
Brookfield, Conn. 06804

It was good to see the letter from Dr. Copleman my old CO at 3rd Bn. Medics 47th. It's nice to know some are still alive and well. The address will give me a chance to write him. I was wounded June 26, '44, 39 yrs. ago. Little did I think that day that I would survive, much less many more years. Seems like yesterday I managed to get to a French farmhouse after I was wounded, trying to get to the aid station. It was late afternoon when the Capt. showed up with an infantry platoon and got me out. I left in an ambulance with Nick Pissanos another medic and sidekick, a German officer and a GI I had gone to the aid of earlier in the day. Later that day, after we 4 were evacuated, the aid station was captured. I guess the memories never fade. It was a hot day but very humid.

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

47th Inf Co M  
WILTON TAYLOR  
Stop 6  
McKittrick, Ca. 93251

Sure wanted to see all of you at the reunion in Detroit but my wife was not able to travel and we had car trouble also, but missed all of you just the same. Seems long ago and far away from Ft. Bragg in 1942. Maryland maneuvers with the Navy then zip we were in North Africa but all our days were a happy big team and every man was a vital part. Our best to you all. I wanted to see Bob Winkleman and ask about the Co M 47th men. I was with Bob from Ft. Bragg to England and ate lots of good food prepared by him and the other cooks. Keep your heads held high. We are proud of all of you. From Sunny California we salute all of you and keep the 9th association going. You have done a beautiful job in all the reunions. Best Wishes.

47th Inf. Co. E  
MARTIN BERGMAN  
9805 B. Haldeman Ave.  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19115

Your award long overdue and never enough for what you are doing for the Ninth Assn. I wish I had your strength. May you always have good health. My dues enclosed for the next three years. Just had a 3 months hospital siege, infection in pacemaker pocket, #7 out and #8 put in another spot. Hope this stays clear of infection in pocket area. If all goes well, will see you at the next reunion.

Co. C 9th Med Bn.  
FRED G. DICK  
7901 40th Ave. No. Lot #101  
St. Petersburg, Fl. 33709

Just for once Dan, I want to get ahead of you and send in my next payment for 3 year dues before the tell tale red ink address appears. As I mentioned before, I don't mind making out this check as the Octofoil is worth many times this small amount alone. We here in Florida are looking forward to our fall meeting of the Florida Chapter. It looks like a most promising meeting because we members have been clever enough to select Michael Deresh, Pete Radicchio and Bruce Johnstone as committee members.

47th A.T. Co.  
PETER CUSAK  
581 William Penn. St.  
Orange Park, Fl. 32073

When you have a chance would you please change my address before I get in trouble with the Octofoil and the P.O. We have pulled up stakes in Boston and moved to the sunny south. Your recent edition brought me sad but not totally unexpected news. My old friend Ed Egan passed away. We were friends for more than 40 years. He will be sadly missed at both our National and Worcester reunions. Will be in the Jacksonville area so will be in touch with Joe Williams when we get settled. Best wishes.

47th Inf. Med  
SAL LUZZO  
216 SW 19th St.  
Ft. Lauderdale, Fl. 33315

I received the latest Octofoil with your picture and your wife's and you look very good. I've been writing to Sgt. Andriola and Capt. Copleman and it's good to see some of the names that I know. I get a kick out of reading the Octofoil and reading about what's going on. Keep up the good work and I wish you all the best. I am sending you my dues so I can keep up with the news.

47th Inf. A.T. Co.  
JULIUS ANDRASI  
7-9 Arch St. Apt. 22  
Norwalk, Conn. 06850

Sorry I could not make the reunion again this year, maybe next year. To the boys of A.T. Co. hoping you are well. Love you all. Wish to say I enjoy reading the Octofoil so keep up the good work, Dan. You and your wife are doing a fine job. Thanks.

60th Inf. Co. H.  
JOHN P. TAYLOR  
PO Box 513  
Plymouth Mtg., Pa. 19462

Hope you are well. I'd certainly like to hear from anyone from H Co. 60th Inf. I've been much too busy to attend our reunions but certainly intend to get to the next one.

47th Inf. G Co.  
JEROME SHAPIRO  
739 W. 186th St.  
New York, N.Y. 10033

Thanks for the Octofoil, it was great reading. Quite a lot about G Co. this issue. Louis Rullan was a close friend of mine and so was Martin Balick, bravest at El Guettar. Hope to see you at the Christmas party and at Lake Placid, arthritis permitting. Love to Marie.

Hq. Btry. Div. Arty.  
WILLIAM J. MORAN  
906 South Park Ave.,  
Glenshaw, Pa. 15116

We're trying to find 9th Division men in the metropolitan area of Pittsburgh. As of now, we are 8 men from the division and have had two meetings so far at various veterans posts in the Pittsburgh area. I see quite a bit of enthusiasm for a possible chapter in the area at long last. All men, regardless of whether they belong to the association, will be welcomed as the word gets around. The men we have so far are from different units and we all bring material for all to see and the meetings are fun.

Everyone gets a chance to review their experiences or what they care to talk about and we all listen, even if the truth is enlarged a wee bit.

I know we will be able to organize a good unit, if we can get members and grow. Some of our lads are just waiting for a group to form, so all we need now is for them to contact us, we will make them welcome to join us in a real 9th Division Chapter.

If there is a readout of membership that can be made available to us, we can get a mailing list compiled, that will help quite a bit. Now that a few of the old lads are retired, we might be able to provide them with the old comradeship, that only we can know and understand. So come one and all around Pittsburgh, drop me a card and we will put you in touch with a great bunch of guys.

39th Inf.  
HERBERT L. EHRICH  
12117 Topaz St.  
Spring Hill, Fl. 33526

Enclosed is my dues for the next 3 years. I eagerly look forward to each edition of the Octofoil. The letters in mail call from our fellow comrades are most interesting. Continue the excellent work.

47th Inf. Co L  
JOHN CAUGHEY  
2016 Stonelea St.  
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212

Enclosed find check for 3 years dues. Keep up the good work

Reunion in 1984  
Lake Placid  
June 21, 22, 23

## mail call

continued

60th Inf. Co K  
L.C. "PAT" WILLIAMSON  
618 - 60th Ave. So.  
St. Petersburg, Fl. 33705

Sorry I missed the reunion, you and your wife deserve the watches and much more. The nostalgia kick is great and it's truly heartwarming to recognize and recall old friends. After all we have had to share once in a lifetime experiences. It is difficult to recall all of the people and incidents that we shared while "All hell was breaking loose." I believe, in so far as possible, we should identify ourselves so that we can better remember who we were with, under what circumstances and when. For example, I am listed in the May-June-July Octofoil as being in Hq. 60th. I was, from Chicken Road to Port Lyautey, a new Lt. I was sent to Co K after Maknassey and stayed in Co K thru Normandy, wound up commanding Co K to the Meuse River. When Capt. Bertoli was killed I became S-3 of 3rd Bn and when Major Bruchac left, became Exec. of Btn. When Lee Chatfield was wounded I was sent to 1st Bn as commander, got shot and promoted to Major the same day, Feb. 1, 1945. Spent several months in the hospital in England and was reassigned commander 1st Bn and served in that capacity until and during the occupation. Major Russ Snelling, Denton, Tx. and I stuck together on the way home and he and I celebrated my 24th birthday in Luxembourg. My best and fondest memories are of the men and officers of Co K. Keene Wilson (Slick) claimed to have raised me from a pup and he did.

Bruchac taught me how to "never lose communications" and those wonderful GI's taught me how to fight. I could fill pages with names of the dog faced soldiers who never backed up, never failed to take and objective, bitched every step of the way and took it out on the enemy. That company made 3 Bn commanders, Wilson, Williamson and Snelling and that ain't no bull! That's history! I note Billy Dobbins is still with us, top notch NCO. There were so many great combat soldiers, I wish we knew how they are now. Guys like Greaneau, Thibideaux, Paragine, Casey, Charlie Lawson & Gatch. Those last 2 scared the hell out of me, their combat proficiency was awesome. Harold Sprankle was tops and a great motor cycle driver to boot. I commanded 2nd Bn 5th Cav, 1st Bn 7th Inf, 2nd Bn 10th Inf and a couple of others that I can easily forget, but I'll never forget Co K and a whole new cast of characters of the 1st Bn 60th. A battalion commander just can't know all the people but a company, I knew my people, I'm grateful to them and I loved them. That's the way this 62 yr old, 22 yrs retired soldier sees it now.

9th Recon  
LARRY KURSHAN  
305 E. 86th St.  
New York, N.Y. 10028

Was with the 9th recon troop from Dec. 41 to Sept. 45, Ft. Bragg to Germany. If it weren't for Marty Gill of Trenton I would have never known about the 9th Div. Association. Some of the boys from the old 9th Recon I still see, in fact we are having a reunion in Oct. '83 in Morgantown, Pa.

Cannon Co. 47th Inf.  
C Co. 39th Inf.  
FRANK J. LORITO  
R.D. 4 Box 1499  
Honesdale, Pa. 18431

I am enclosing a check for my membership dues. It was just recently that I found out that this Association existed. In writing this, my first letter, I do hope you will forgive an "old" Falcon and Raider if I reminisce a little.

Fortunately through a good friend, John Martin, I acquired a few copies of the Association newspaper. What great reading, and I couldn't put them down until I read them all. Ironically in the first paper I read I learned of the death of one of my very good friends, Eddie Egan. Many a pup-tent I shared with big "Ed" and I was saddened to learn of his passing. In one of the issues I also learned that Father DeLaura is no longer with us. I was sorry to read about this. How well I remember the day he joined the regiment outside of Sidi-Bel-Abbes, Africa. You see, he was a priest in my family parish back home in Brooklyn. I wonder if anyone remembers how he enjoyed playing touch football in the quardrangle at the barracks in Winchester, England.

By the way, I mentioned John Martin. I'm sure you 39th Inf. C Co. men remember him. After all, he kept your stomachs full and not just with C rations - he was your mess sergeant. John and I hadn't seen each other for over 40 years because that is when I left C Co. We recently met through a mutual friend and of all places to meet, in N.E. Pennsylvania where we are now both retired. Here we are, two displaced ex G.I's from Queens, N.Y. and ending up in the Poconos. John brought back other memories too, like playing on the Co. softball team. John Martin on 1st, Jay Jay Mofte on 2nd, myself at short, Ray Walsh at 3rd, Rudy Burkardt catching, Ben Kish in leftfield, Ralph Marmone short centerfield, 1st Sgt. Zelichowski or Pete O'Coin centerfield, when they weren't pitching, Al Poni or Carmine Boungeirmino in rightfield. Reserve fielders, A. Sielski and Po Po Merlino. The manager was "Shorty" Bilello and batboy "Daniel Boone" Ferrante.

Playing on the 39th Regt. baseball team was a great feeling too. Especially playing with guys who had semi-pro, minor league and major league experience. Men like "Jughead" Gremore, Al Pitko, Ben Kish, Neary, Larkin and of course one of the best, Joe Gravino who was my neighbor in B Co. Joe, remember those B vs C Co. softball games? It was like war!

combat is Hell but I was fortunate in having to put my time in Hell with some great people. To name a few, Harry Greenberg, Charlie Hacker, Eddie Egan, Buddy Bascone, Ernie Cadell, Loden, Chet Zakowski, Louie Kramer, Joe Epstein, Bill Coen, Bob Kucera, "Duffy" Longwell, Sgt. Doucette, Lt. Foreman, Lt. Powell and of course Capt. Sieminski. I'm sure I left out some names but please don't feel slighted; just blame it on a 64 year old man's memory.

One thing I do remember is that night in Africa when Capt. Sieminski had us sneak those 105 howitzers up the front as close as possible so we could fire 50 rounds at dawn for Hitler's 50th birthday.

Sign on a recreational vehicle: "Don't touch me - I'm not that kind of a van."

I know some of the people I mentioned in this letter are no longer with us and in my heart I pray for them and I also pray that the rest of you are happy and healthy.

I've never been to any of the reunions but I really do hope I can make the next one in Lake Placid especially if I can see some of my old friends.

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

I am still excited about learning of the association and becoming a member a year and a half ago. It has been a wonderful experience and meeting some old G company buddies at the Fayetteville reunion was one of the greatest moments of my life. Through the Octofoil I have larned that some more old buddies are still going. Jerome Shapiro, Irving Posner, Martin Balick wrote letters to the Octofoil. I read them all and it is just great to hear that they are still around. The gifts to Dan and Marie could not have happened to two better people and I am happy that Marie's tears were of joy when she opened the envelope containing a happy message instead of a sad one. I felt a little distressed when I read a letter from an old soldier debating whether he wants to belong to a last man association or not. The Ninth hung in the battles knowing every man could be killed, wounded or captured. It was a division determined to fight to the last man. What is wrong belonging to a last man association?

Med Det 47th Inf  
C.B. BAKER  
2001 Oakland Ave.  
Johnson City, Tenn. 37601

It has been some time since I have written, and I have also gotten a photograph that I think is interesting.

This picture came from Ira C. "Pappy" Benton, who now lives in Columbia, Alabama. He was one of the drivers for Company B 9th. Medics, which was the Company that provided the 47th. with ambulances. His partner in the photo is Caulk from Chicago. Pappy is on the left and Caulk on the right. They both received Purple Hearts from injuries sustained when the Germans hit the ambulance with a shell, killing three patients already wounded with the 1st. Battalion.

I was in Alabama a couple of years ago and was able to go by to see "Pappy." He lives on a big farm near Columbia, Alabama (near Dothan). I have many very fond memories of our association at the 1st. Battalion Aid Station.

I don't remember if I wrote you that I had been to see Major Roberts in Elkins, West Virginia. I had been to a meeting in Hot Springs, Virginia, so while I was that close, I just drove on to Elkins.

The Major had been operated on that morning, so I caught him at a very inconvenient time. He was still very glad to see me, and I enjoyed seeing him very much. Mrs. Roberts was in the hospital at the time with injuries from an automobile accident.

We talked about the Major at the Fort Bragg meeting, so I know you will be glad to hear about him, as he was our Regimental Surgeon, and a good one too. Just wish I could have spent more time with him.

Hope you can use the photo in the Octofoil. All the B Company men 9th. Medics can relate to this one.

60th Inf. Co A  
SAMUEL (SAM) CARLICK  
4320 Saint Charles Court,  
Paducah, Ky. 42001

I have enclosed my check to renew my membership in the association for another three years. Although I never have attended a reunion, I hope that before too many more years pass that I can correct this. I read the Octofoil with interest -especially the letters from the members. The year. I've dimmed many of my memories, but every now and then I see a name that strikes a familiar chord.

Perhaps I can revive some pleasant (or unplesant) recollections by giving a brief outline of my duties with the Ninth. I was assigned to Co. A, 60th Inf. as a fairly brand new second lieutenant (ROTC-University of Kentucky) shortly before the Ninth left Fort Bragg to go on amphibious maneuvers in the Chesapeake Bay. I continued on in Co. A throughout the African Campaign, the Sicilian Campaign and the invasion of France. My time with the Ninth was abruptly terminated on the 15th day of June, 1944 when I was taken prisoner in the hedgerow country of Normandy. Needless to say that I survived my POW experiences.

I commend the officers and membership of the Ninth Division Association for the perseverance and diligence that has been shown to maintain the relationship we have established as a result of the total and unforgettable experiences we had as individuals and as a unit during the most trying of times.

Thank you, Dan, and the rest of the staff for keeping things alive and going.

60th Infantry  
CURTIS BUCHANAN, CO.  
"M"  
2914 Alexander Street  
Florence, Ala. 35630  
Dear Dan:

You are the only one I know to direct this to, so as, it might make it to the Octofoil. With you printing my letter of an invitation to the members of Co. "M" or any who would like to attend. Do you know? We had 21 ninth men plus 17 wives. I have never been so elated over a single occasion in my entire life, and do you know that seemingly they all had a wonderful time. You know a lot had never been this far down south; they were from Alaska, Maine, N.H., Rhode Island, New York, and N.J.; all those foreign places; and if any of you have ever watched the Duke's of Hazard on TV; well some, they thought that they had, had it, that thats where they were headed, and a couple I met out on the road, asked me, "Buck where's Boss?" So naturally I just pointed to myself, and of course they just fell with laughter. Never-the-less we all had a wonderful time. Next time we can have it in the Hilton Hotel; to be completed by the first of the year; only about 1/2 mile from our location this year.

Dan I certainly want to thank you for your assistance in bringing this to a success and tell them lets all be in Clearwater, Fl. on the 14th, 15th, and 16th of October at the Best Western Motel for another gay get together.

Dan, thanks again.  
Regards to entire staff

Postcard from winter vacationers: "Having a wonderful time. Wish we could afford it."

39th Inf.-Hqs. 2BN.  
MYRON L. CARPENTER  
129 East Taylor Street  
Cottage Grove, Wi. 53527  
Dear Dan:

I was at the last reunion in Detroit and enjoyed it very much and my wife Vera did also. This happened to be the first one we attended. We had planned to attend other ones, but something always came up to prevent this.

The reason for my writing is that about thirty years ago I received a letter from the Belgian Consulate in Chicago asking what unit I was with during World War II, where I was born age, etc. I don't know where they got my name from. I just assumed it was from Div. records.

The Consulate General said in his letter that they were making a medal to be given when it was struck. It was the Belgian Fourregere. Well I never heard any more from them.

So while in Detroit at the reunion I asked the fellows that were there from my company if they had ever received a questionnaire from the consulate, and they had not.

When I got home I wrote a letter to the Belgian Consulate asking about this. I know the Fourregere was given to the 9th Div. on two different occasions, and the men from the 9th. are entitled to an individual award. (see copy of letter I received from the consulate office.)

I sent a letter to the company mentioned in the letter, but haven't received an answer yet as I just sent it last week.

Also I have just finished reading "The Pawns of War" by William M. Kreye, one of our 39th members. I recommend it, very nicely done.

333 No. Michigan Avenue,  
Room 2000  
Chicago 60601

Mr. Myron L. Carpenter  
129 E. Taylor Street  
Cottage Grove, WI 53527  
Dear Mr. Carpenter:

Referring to your letter of August 5, 1983, I have the honor to inform you that American Units have received a Belgian award, called "FOURRAGERE." This award was given to a particular unit for bravery in the liberation of Belgium and its members are entitled to an individual award. The 9th Infantry Division has been mentioned on 2 occasions in the Order of the Day of the Belgian Army and honored with the "FOURRAGERE 1940."

In order to receive the distinction, please write directly to the following address:

MAISON PIRET  
rue de la Montagne 46  
B-1000 Brussels,  
Belgium,

This company can probably deliver the "FOURRAGERE."

Please note that the Belgian Government has never made nor sold the individual signs of the award. The person himself has to acquire it through commercial channels.

I hope that you will be successful and remain.

Sincerely yours,  
Jozef Devos,  
Vice Consul.

Hdqs.  
WILLIAM B. CARDOZA  
17 Jones Ter. Apt. 3  
Stoughton, Mass. 02072

Just received the Octofoil and read all about the reunion in Detroit. Seems like I missed a good time, but for sure I won't miss the 39th annual Memorial in Worcester. I already wrote Franny to reserve our rooms. God willing we'll see all of you there. Congratulations to President Tom Boyle and Dan and Marie loads of luck.



## MAIL CALL

60th Inf.

JOHN P. RYAN  
Route 30-PO Box 248  
Northville, N.Y. 12134

I am pleased that you are going to have your next Convention at Lake Placid, which is not too far from my horse farm at the above address. At the time of the Convention, the racetrack will be open at Saratoga, and in all probability I will have some horses running with my son in the irons. I would be happy to take any of the members around the backstretch, as long as I have advance notice.

I have recently come across some pictures of various individuals of the 60th Infantry who were decorated while we were in Bitterfeld, Germany at the War's end. I would like to send them the pictures, if I can locate them.

1st. Lt. William P. Powless, formerly of 408 South Academy Street, Halesburg, Illinois

1st Lt. Edward M. Selfe, Jr., formerly of 1409 5th Avenue, Huntington, West Virginia

1st. Lt. Joseph SanFillippo, formerly of 278 Oak Street, Passaic, N.J.,

S/Sgt. Thomas R. Brazil, formerly of Carrollton, Alabama

I also have pictures taken at Winchester of:

1st. Lt. Keene N. Wilson, formerly of Crescent Hall, Selma, Alabama

1st. Lt. Loyd Tallent (WIA Aug. 1944), formerly of 623 Williams St., Longview, Texas.

1st. Lt. Irving Sussman (WIA July, 1944), formerly of 8627 Large St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Capt. William J. Voller, formerly of 5416 West 22nd Place, Cicero, Ill.

If any of these individuals surface and write me, I will be happy to send a picture of them being awarded decorations for gallantry in action.

60th Inf.

MICHAEL CHICVARA  
1611 S.W. 97th Ct.  
Miami, Fl. 33165

I recently joined the 9th association and understood from a fellow member that in the past years there have been various books available from time to time about the history of the 9th. If there are any available I sure would like to have one. I have been lucky enough so far to have contacted 4 buddies through the Octofoil that you were kind enough to send me. It sure will be nice to see them eventually. I found a fellow member of my company in the 60th who lives about 3 miles from me. Although he came to the company after I left, I found out from him about a couple of men that I knew well. A private that I recommended for corporal eventually made company commander and captain. I have sent him a letter and hope to hear from him soon. What a pleasant surprise! Thanks for all your help.

34th FA, A Bty.

JOHN E. SLATER  
8 Elfland Ct.

Oyster Bay, N.Y. 11771

Enclosed find check for Memorial Fund in memory of Americo Dorazio. Sorry I couldn't make the reunion but the Octofoil has put me in touch with several old friends from the 34th.

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

Just read of the possibility that there will be another reprint of "Eight Stars to Victory", should this be correct, please consider this an order for one copy. I loaned my original copy to a friend who moved to California and now reports he lost it somewhere in transit. Life marches on, my baby daughter is now 42 and my son is 44. Seems as tho' life is double stepping! We had harbored the thought that we might return to N.J. but after 8 years in Florida it is a rather formidable task to leave, so I doubt if we will make the move. Lee and I were up north in N.J. from July 1 until Aug 12 and honestly it feels good to be home again here in Florida. My son and his family visits us for Thanksgiving and my daughter and her family come down at Christmas time. We in turn spend 6 to 8 weeks each summer in N.J. I am now 74 years of age and WW2 all seems like a bad dream from the past. However, time heals all wounds and life goes on. We just celebrated our 47th wedding anniversary and are trying very hard to reach the "big one" (50th) and with God's blessing we shall make it and what a party there will be! Should you and your bride ever visit this neck of the woods, I assure you the latch key is out. Good luck, good health and may the Lord make his face shine upon you and yours.

Co D, 9th Med Bn  
ROBERT DIETSCH  
100 Philson Dr.  
Orchard Park, N.Y. 14127

Enclosed check is for dues. You are doing a good job and I know all the fellows feel the same, so keep up the good work and take care.

Co B, 15th Engrs.  
BILLIE BUTLER  
Rt 1, Box 143  
Newport, Tn. 37821

Mrs. Butler writes that Billie is in the hospital with a stroke and anyone who wants to write will be appreciated. He's in the V.A. Hospital, Oteen, N.C. 28805, Room 5 West-A519.

26th FA, Serv. Btry  
HAROLD WALLACE  
4510 Pine St.  
Bellaire, Tex.

Hope this finds you well. I have an aunt in Tennessee that kept up with the 9th division during the war. She sent me this clipping by Ernie Pyle a while back. She also sent me a copy of Lindsey Nelson's column printed around the first of June this year. I would like to share these with my friends in the association if you find them worthy of printing. For the benefit of those of the 60th Inf. who may remember Cecil Daniels formally from North Carolina and who now lives in Houston, he has been ill with Parkinsons disease for some time. I attended the Fort Bragg reunion in 1962 and a Memorial Mass in 1969. I would like to attend more activities but when you have family scattered all over the country, you feel your first obligation is to them. I am originally from Tennessee and have relatives in Michigan, Tennessee and a son in California. Keep up the good work, we all appreciate it.

39th Inf.

WILLIAM KREYE  
2 Marymount Court  
Jackson, N.J. 08527

I have been very much dismayed with some of the talk I have heard from 9th Inf. Div. comrades about my book "The Pawns of War." They say they will not buy it because they believe that they read the book in "The Octofoil." It is true that portions of the new book, "The Pawns of War" were published in our "Octofoil." But, this is about one-sixth of the new book as much has been added to it through much research, reading and what-not after my six years of retirement. It has been rewritten in a style that once you start reading it, it is hard to put it down until it is finished. It is absorbing, interesting and hard to believe. Everyone should get this book to add to their libraries as a collector's item. It is a memoir of something all of you had a part in which is now over 38 years ago. It contains many names of individuals who were in the WW2 and also with the 9th Infantry Division Association after that war which is the last one we have won, incidentally. The 47th, 60th, 39th Infantry as well as our supporting troops and special ones: 84th, 60th, 26th, 34th F.A.'s, Medics, M.P.'s, Q.M.'s, Ord. Hqs., Signal, T.D's and others are mentioned in this book. People say it is a very good book. Some of which are: Mrs. Mary Jaaskela (47th Inf.), Arthur MacDougal (60th Inf.), Bob Smith (G. Co., 39th Inf.), Louis C. Kreye (U.S. Navy, LST) Francis Russo (1st Bn., 39th) Alan Ravanhall (civilian), Mimi Erigo (Neighbor) and so on. So, dig down deep, you members of a last man's club and support a book that's about your old outfit. You can't take it with you. I spent about that much for two glasses of orange juice at the Detroit reunion. Get a good book, "The Pawns of War" only sold at present through Vantage Press, Inc., 516 West 34th Street, N.Y., N.Y., 10001. The cost is \$10.95 plus \$1.00 for postage and handling.

The Detroit reunion was very good although very expensive. Everything was deluxe to say the least. It was satisfying to meet so many new friends and some old friends but many old friends did not show up. Andrews of Cannon Co., 39th bought 4 books from Vantage. Bob Smith gave me some pictures of Paddy Flint which I will cherish. I met Fathers Connors and Rowan, Danny Quinn and his wife which were some of the high lights of the reunion. Veronica, my wife, and I had a lovely time but dreaded that we didn't have more time to spend with others. We were well occupied by Francis Russo and his group, Arthur MacDougal, Charlie Warner, Frank Russo, "Deadeye" Prosser, etc.

I spoke to General Carpenter after his speech at the reunion which omitted the 39th Infantry from the current 9th Infantry Division of which he is commanding at Ft. Lewis, Wash. He said that they dropped the 39th because they insisted on wearing the white painted on the sides of their helmets. I have written to the Secretary of the Army, Marsh, who was to be our guest speaker at the reunion but was replaced by the former football great end of Army, "the lonesome end." Paddy Flint is turning over in his grave at Arlington.

Best wishes to all,

JOHN J. CLOUSER  
P.O. BOX 268  
WETMORE, MI. 49895

THE OCTOFOIL

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60th Inf.

HAROLD W. SMITH  
9515 Bluegrass Place  
Colorado Springs, Colo. 80911

I am enclosing a check for a Life membership. Should have done this years ago (I've been paying since 1946) and would have been way ahead. But better late than never, and I can't think of a better association to be a life member of!

For those of you 60th Infantry members who may remember Bushfield Barracks just outside of Winchester, England, I've got some news for you. Except for one very decrepit building, it is no more, and the land may ultimately be used as a shopping mall. My wife and I visited there in early August with a British WW II friend I worked with the latter part of the war, who drove us there in his Rolls Royce. Some style for an old dog-face! The other buildings were razed two years ago to prevent further vandalism by youngsters. St. Catherine's Hill, where a few tall trees grew is still there, but with a virtual forest on top after 40 years of steady growth. The narrow streets of Winchester are still there, too, but have mostly been closed to vehicular traffic. The old tombstone just outside of the Cathedral that had a verse about the death of a soldier from drinking cold, small beer (circa 1725), has been replaced as of 1966 with a larger new one that still carries the verse and other information.

Bournemouth is almost unrecognizable with all the new buildings. Couldn't find the Silver Grill or the house in Boscombe where 3rd Bn. 60th officers lived, but I did find the little park where the Sunday tea dances were held. The bandstand has been converted to a gazebo-like structure with a monument to the WWII British dead, but the little walkways through the park are still there bordered by many pretty flowers. Sorry I can't report more in detail but our time was limited so we drove back to London, at times doing 110 mph, and those cars do ride nice!

It seems all of London is getting a "facelift" with the buildings being sand-blasted to original colors never seen for hundreds of years. This was my first return to England for hundreds of years. This was my first return to England since 1945, and it brought back a lot of memories!

When we got back from England we had to attend a memorial service for Harold "Cannonball" Willoughby who had passed away while we were away. He had formerly been with Cannon Co. of the 60th, and I wrote you separately about it.

It was good to read the letter from Leo Williamson - last time I saw him I think was in Korea about 1956 or 7. I, too, would like to hear about Joe Soward and also Ernie Walker. Anybody listenin' out there?

All the best to you, Dan and to Marie also.

60th Inf. Co. F

JOHN W. MILLER  
1511 Cochise Dr.  
Arlington, Tx. 96012

Just a line to congratulate you and the Michigan Chapter on the fine job done at the recent reunion. Your award was well deserved. Hopefully your surgery was a great success and you're well on the way to recovery. I would like for you to make this report in the Octofoil. Present at reunion: Adam Drust, Arthur MacDougall, Theodore Preston, Domer Miller, Frank Dennis, Roland Pope, Joe Skertich, Clifford Painter, Howard Heilman, Phil Berman, Fred Herrin, Joseph Manor, Walter Bryson, Jim Geagan, Ed Pavlick, Wallace Malone, Thomas Saunders, Gerald Teachout, John H. Allan, Wilbert Skinn, James Etue, Lorenzo Filletti, Flake Ford, Matt Urban, John W. Miller, George Arnold, William Voller, Bill Nicholas, Leonard Castner, Roy Paquin, Lester Paquin. The attendance of Co. F, 60th Inf. at the recent reunion was the greatest ever. No other company in the division can beat this record. Anyone who knows of a former Co. F member, please contact us so that they can be at the next reunion. This letter was started at home but at present I'm on an extended vacation in Norway and other countries in Europe.

60th Inf. Co. D

PAUL D. CLARK  
PO Box 9, 108 W. Walnut  
Waynetown, In. 47990

After all these years this is my first letter to mail call. Just want you to know Lorraine and I have retired at last. Lorraine after 12½ yrs. at Goodyear and myself after 40 years with the Chicago Flat Janitor Union. We have left Chicago and settled down in a small town in Indiana. Just let everyone know we are just 1 mile off Interstate #74, 25 miles from the Illinois & Indiana line and about 50 miles from Indianapolis. Any 9th division person is always welcome. We have a flagpole in our front yard and a 9th emblem on our porch. The coffee is always on. When you get to Waynetown, we are 1 block west and then 1 block south of the stop and go light. Hope to see you all in New York.

Hdq. 47th  
VIRGIL DINGMAN

6 Clark Ave.  
Fort Plain, N.Y. 13339

Paying my dues for Legion and VFW I looked at 9th division card and saw that it expires this fall, so enclosed is a check for 3 years. I will be unable to attend the Memorial at Worcester. Old man time has crept up on me and I can't travel like I used to, time sure goes fast! It doesn't seem it was 41 years ago I swam to the beach in Safi. I told the boys I couldn't swim but I swam that day, even helped a buddy. Boy, what you can do when you're scared! I intend to write a letter to Father Connors. He has done wonders for the association.

The deadline for copy of the next issue of the  
Octofoil will be December 20th.