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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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1-1-1984

## The Octofoil, January/February 1984

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 XXXIV Number 1

Jan.-Feb. 1984

## Taps Sounded



Major General Louis A. Craig

Another great leader of the Ninth Infantry Division has passed on to his eternal reward. Major General Louis A. Craig (Retired) died on January 3, 1984 at Sibley Memorial Hospital. From August of 1944 until May of 1945 General Craig commanded the Ninth Infantry Division. At the time of his demise the General was 92. He shall always be remembered for his deep concern for his men. He took command of the Ninth from General Eddy who went on to take command of the XII Corps of the 3rd Army and was with the Ninth through the bitter fighting in France, Belgium and Germany.

He was so proud of his troops and we can still picture him at the reunion held in Washington in 1980, shaking hands with the members when they gathered at the National Cemetery in Arlington for our Memorial Services.

At his funeral Father Connors concelebrated the Mass with four other priests on January 6th. Members of the Ninth attending the Funeral Mass were: General Westmoreland, Frank Wade, Harrison Daysh, Charles Tingley, Sal Trapani, Charles Jones, Steve Grey, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Carci, Bill Yarbrought (General Craig's Aide) and Mr. and Mrs. John Alley.

During World War I, Gen. Craig served in France and was assistant artillery chief of the Second Army. During World War II, he served in Europe as commander of the 9th Infantry Division. He later served briefly as commander of the XXth Corps and as acting commander of the Third Army.

After the war, he was deputy commanding general of the fifth Army in Chicago and commander of the constabulary units of the occupation forces in Germany. He was inspector general of the European Command before becoming inspector general of the Army.

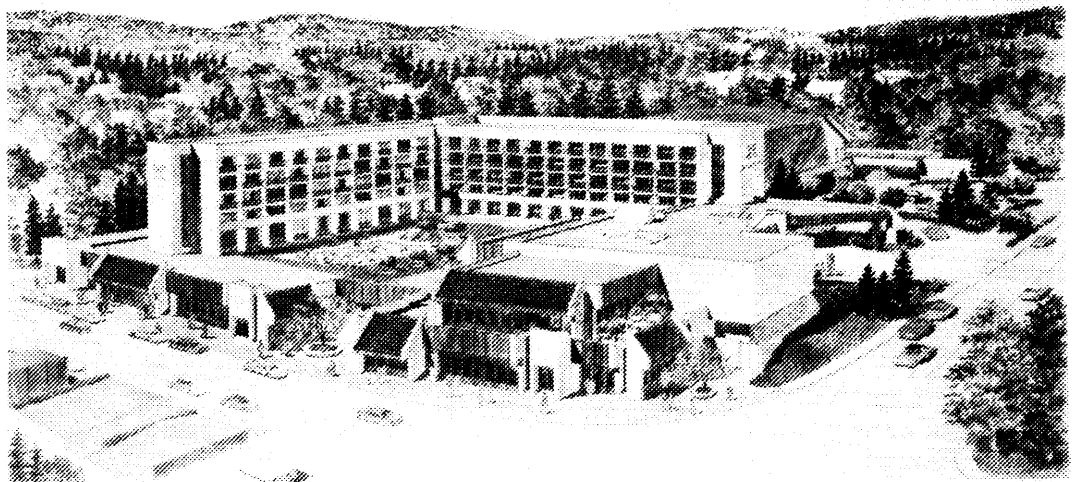
Gen. Craig was born at West Point, N.Y. and was a member of the class of 1913 at the U.S. Military Academy there. His peacetime assignments included five years as a professor of military science and tactics at Harvard University.

His decorations included the Distinguished Service Medal the Silver Star, two Legions of Merit, the Bronze Star medals and honors from Belgium, France, Britain and Ecuador.

Survivors include his wife of 66 years, the former Miriam Blount, of Washington; three sons, retired Air Force Col. William B. Craig of Largo, Fla., retired Army Col. Francis W. Craig of St. Louis, and retired Army Col. Michael Craig of North Springfield Va.; four daughters, Sister Malin Craig of the Religious of the Sacred Heart in Kenya, Africa, Barbara Boyle of Saratoga Springs, N.Y. Mary Faith Hall of Merritt Island, Fla., and Sister Connie Craig of the Religious of the Holy Christ in Potomac; 44 grandchildren, and 17 great-grandchildren.



## Site for 1984 Reunion Lake Placid, New York



The Hilton Inn at Lake Placid, New York will be the second Command Post for the 39th Annual Reunion to be held June 21, 22, 23, 1984. It will be necessary to use two hotels to accommodate the members expected to attend the reunion. Reservation requests for the three day reunion can be found on page 2.

**INTERVALE SKI JUMP COMPLEX - SUMMER SKI JUMPING** - newly installed, plastic matting, allows athletes to jump the 70 meter tower, landing on hay. Glass enclosed elevator scales the 90 meter tower to outdoor observation area.

**LAKE PLACID HARBOR BOAT TOURS** - Hour long boat tour on beautiful Lake Placid, passing two islands, many great Adirondack Camps and base of Whiteface Mountain.

**SANTA'S WORKSHOP** - located in North Pole, New York, delightful park, rides, shows, fanciful characters; a must for children of all ages.

**ADIRONDACK FLYING SERVICE** - Twenty minute flight over the magnificent Adirondack High Peaks and surrounding attractions.

**AUSABLE CHASM** - Boatride and walking tour through spectacular, geologic rock formation and powerful, rushing waters.

**HIGH FALLS GORGE** - Tour through "Ancient Valley of Foaming Waters" of Ausable River described as a haven for photographers.

**JOHN BROWN'S FARM** - Free tour of historic home and grounds where his "body lies a'moulderin'"; very peaceful.

**LAKE PLACID TENNIS COURTS** - Four asphalt courts, lighted for night use. Minimal fee.

**OLYMPIC TOUR OF LAKE PLACID SIGHTSEEING** - Two hour, guided tour of Olympic Sites and area attractions on comfortable touring bus.

**NORTH ELBA HISTORIC SOCIETY** - Free admission to museum and country store, displays of furniture, boats, rocks & minerals, wildlife and Adirondack Lore.

**UHLER (ee-line) - CORNELL SUGAR HOUSE** - Maple syrup exhibits and sales.

Dear Ninth Infantry Division Association Members & Friends:

You are invited to attend the 39th Annual Reunion of the Ninth Infantry Division Association, which will be held in the Olympic Village of Lake Placid June 21 through 24, 1984. The Reunion Committee has been hard at work to make the 39th Reunion the most successful to date.

We have booked rooms at the Lake Placid Holiday Inn and the Lake Placid Hilton. Both hotels are first class and offer a full range of amenities.

Enclosed you will find the official 39th Reunion reservation forms and rates. Please note that the package includes lodging plus three (3) full breakfasts, two (2) dinners, one (1) banquet, two (2) cocktail receptions and all tax and gratuity on a per person per stay basis.

There will be plenty to do in Lake Placid during the 39th Reunion. All Ninth Infantry members will receive discounts at all area attractions. Olympic tours, boat tours and 81 holes of golf are also readily available. For those that have never seen ski jumping, the installation of plastic mats on the ski jumps will allow you to see jumpers train.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact this office (Lake Placid Convention Bureau) and we will be happy to assist you.

So, make your plans now to attend the 39th Reunion. We are looking forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,  
James B. McKenna,  
Director  
Lake Placid Convention Bureau

Two bus lines, Adirondack Trailways and Greyhound, schedule daily trips through Lake Placid.

Amtrak's Adirondack, between New York City and Montreal, makes stops at Westport and Plattsburgh, each about 1 hour away. New York state highways 86 and 73 (which connect with the Adirondack Northway) meet in Lake Placid.

The Adirondack Airport, outside Saranac Lake is served by Air North, with approximately 7 flights, five days a week and 2 on Saturday. The smaller Lake Placid airport, one mile south of the village handles private flights. Rental cars and limousines are also available.

Those coming a long distance should fly in to the New York airport and take a shuttle plane to Saranac Lake. Clinton Aero also flies out of New York to Saranac Lake.

**LAKES AND FISHING LAKE PLACID LAKE** - Seven miles long, three miles wide, 1800 feet above sea level, average depth of 100 feet with deepest point at 300 feet, springfed; famous for large lake trout, stocked annually; windsurfing, swimming, motor and non-motor boating, rentals available; waterskiing, surrounded by hiking and nature trails.

**MIRROR LAKE** - One and one half miles long, one half mile wide, generally tranquil surface, average depth of 30 feet; prize trout population, stocked annually; sanded beach, swimming, windsurfing, non-motor boating.

**GOLFING** There are 81 holes of golf to be played in the Lake Placid area, all framed within the beautiful vistas of the Adirondack Mountains.

**REUNION**  
Lake Placid 1984

**June 21, 22, 23 1984**  
Remember the dates

THE OCTOFOIL

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

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Weehawken, N.J. 07087

Honorary Members Emeritus  
Rev. Edward Connors

The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Single copy price is 25 cents per issue or by mail \$1.50 per year payable in advance when dues are paid. Dues are \$5.00 per year with \$1.50 of the \$5.00 earmarked for 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 XXXIV Number 1

Jan.-Feb. 1984

Publication No. 402820

Tip of Hat

We thank the following  
members for remembering  
the Memorial Fund.

Peter Janus  
Arthur Litos

Herbert W. Stern  
Andrew Balaschak  
Zane Grey  
Hermon Rahn  
Donald Muhlenbruch

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:

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- THE APPLICATION MUST BE SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE BY MARCH 15. Applications received after March 15 will not be considered.
- All applicants must accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.
- Information to determine financial need will be requested by the Scholarship Committee after the applications have been considered.
- Recipients of the scholarship 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.
- All applications must be sent to: John S. Clouser, Scholarship Chairman, Ninth Infantry Division Association, Rt. 4 Box 50A Crystal River, FL 32629.

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 1984 REUNION  
LAKE PLACID, NEW YORK  
JUNE 21 - 24, 1984

\*All Reservations must be made on this form and mailed to the LAKE PLACID CONVENTION BUREAU, OLYMPIC CENTER, LAKE PLACID, NY 12946 and must be accompanied by a check in the amount of \$50.00 per room reserved.

\*The above mentioned check must be made payable to the Lake Placid Convention Bureau.

\*All reservations must be received prior to May 24, 1984.

\*All changes must be made in writing and must be received by the Lake Placid Convention Bureau no later than June 13, 1984.

\*Refunds will be given only to those cancellations received in writing prior to 5:00 pm on JUNE 7, 1984.

\*You will receive confirmation of your reservation from the Lake Placid Convention Bureau.

\*Check in time is 2:00 pm, check out time is noon.

\*All final payment must be either in cash or major credit card.

Plan I (JUNE 21 - 24)

Single Occupancy: \$281.00 per person

Double Occupancy: \$204.00 per person

Triple Occupancy: \$183.00 per person

Quad. Occupancy: \$171.00 per person

\*Package includes three (3) nights lodging, three (3) full breakfasts, two (2) full dinners, one (1) prime rib banquet, two (2) hour open bars and all tax and gratuity on a per person basis.

Plan II (June 22 - 24)

Single Occupancy: \$189.00 per person

Double Occupancy: \$137.00 per person

Triple Occupancy: \$124.00 per person

Quad. Occupancy: \$115.00 per person

\*Package includes two (2) nights lodging, two (2) full breakfasts, one full dinner, one prime rib of beef banquet, one (1) two hour open bar and all tax and gratuity on a per person basis.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/PROV \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL DATE \_\_\_\_\_ DEPARTURE DATE \_\_\_\_\_

MY CHOICES FOR  
ACCOMMODATIONS ARE:

1st \_\_\_\_\_

2nd \_\_\_\_\_

PLAN I \_\_\_\_\_ PLAN II \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL REQUIRE THE  
FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS:

Room(s) Single Occupancy \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enc.

Room(s) Double Occupancy \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enc.

Room(s) Triple Occupancy \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enc.

Room(s) Quad. Occupancy \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enc.

Please list below the names of the people who will occupy the above checked rooms.

For further information regarding reservations, please call 518-523-2445

Lake Placid Convention Bureau  
Olympic Center  
Lake Placid, NY 12946

This package plan takes the place of the usual strip tickets for the Thursday night welcome party, Friday night dance and the Saturday night banquet. Arrangements will be made for those who wish to purchase separate tickets and are not under the package plan.

Request for Space in Souvenir Program

39th Annual Reunion,  
Lake Placid, New York

Page	\$50.00	Quarter Page	\$20.00
Half Page	\$30.00	Eight Page	\$10.00

Boosters \$2.00 (includes name and unit)

Make checks payable to the Lake Placid Reunion and send to

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

Deadline for Reunion Journal May 21, 1984

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 1984 dues. Please mail my membership card to-

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. ☐

LADIES' CORNER  
President's Message

I would like to thank the Ladies Auxiliary for the honor to serve as their President for the next 2 years. We meet just once a year on Friday morning at the reunion around 10:00 AM. We changed our meetings from the afternoon to the morning hoping more ladies would attend before going shopping for the day. The meetings are kept short, the pledge to our Flag, then our Chaplain leads us in prayer, a reading of the minutes, any unfinished business and any new business. This year I think we should have a reading of the Ladies Auxiliary By-Laws. The last time we read the by-laws was in 1972 and a few changes were made at that time. After all business is taken care of, the meeting is adjourned by the President. At this time we have a guest speaker or demonstration. Refreshments are served which is provided by the reunion committee. A few years ago a few ladies donated Polly-anna gifts for a raffle at our meeting, this has put some money in to our treasury. Everyone liked this so we have continued to do so. Our dues are \$2.00 a year and \$1.00 of this goes to National, so we need your support. The Auxiliary has made a contribution to the Scholarship Fund each year and would like to continue to do so. Plan on attending the reunion this year at Lake Placid and be sure to make the Auxiliary meeting.

President Lor raine Clark

## Taps Sounded

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

They wake not soon  
who slumber so.

Therefore,  
We mourn we weep.

With profound regret and  
remorse we announce the  
passing of these "Old  
Reliables":

General Louis A. Craig  
Division Commander

William C. Andrews  
26th FA & Cannon Co. 39th  
Inf

Peter Perrin  
39th Inf Hq Co 3rd Bn  
Harry Herman  
39th Inf. 2nd Bn  
Co H 47th Infantry  
Wayne "Andy" Barhight  
A Btry 60th FA  
Joseph P. Jablonsky  
Co M 60th Inf.  
William M. Zimmerman  
47th Med. Bn. &  
9th Med Bn  
William J. Hilton, Sr.  
Hq 1st Bn 47th Inf.

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



Harry Herman

This letter is to inform you that Harry Carl Herman deceased February 17th and was buried at Arlington National Cemetery February 23rd with full military honors. The service was performed by an army chaplain. Harry had served with Company H 47th Infantry and the 2nd Bn., 39th Infantry. Mr. Herman had been a labor consultant and had been attending an AFL-CIO meeting at the Americana Hotel in Bal Harbour, Fla.

In recent years Mr. Herman, our father, had visited the beaches in Normandy and the battlefields in Tunisia, and Sicily.

He served in the North African, Sicilian and French campaigns, was decorated with the Silver Star, the Combat Infantry Medal and Purple Heart — and received battlefield promotions in rank. Also, he was the liaison between the French Foreign Legion in Algeria and was decorated by the Foreign Legion twice and named an honorary member of the French Foreign Legion. To our knowledge he was the youngest major in the history of the United States Army. He was appointed special service liaison with British Forces in London.

He was wounded three times and fully recovered.

He and Marjorie Phelps were married in London on January 27, 1945 when he was a troop commander there before the war ended. He is survived by her and three sons.

Mr. Herman had been a Board Member of the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island. A few years ago he personally arranged for and placed his Division's flag in the museum at Fort du Roule, Cherbourg, France in a moving ceremony. He had planned another trip there again to meet with French officials to celebrate the Normandy invasion. In recent years Mr. Herman had travelled to China, Afghanistan, Egypt, Tunisia, South Africa and Saudi Arabia.

In recent years Mr. Herman had become a resident of Boca Raton, Florida.

He had served on the vestry of St. George's-by-the-River Church in Rumson, New Jersey.

He was buried in full uniform with decorations.

Thank you.  
I am, Sincerely Yours,  
Clark S. Herman  
166 Bingham Avenue  
Rumson, N.J. 07760

William C. "Bill" Andrews passed away on Dec. 28, 1983. Burial was in Grand Rapids, Mi., Dec. 31st. At one time Bill served on the Board of Governors, and was also a very active member of the Michigan Chapter. He had a serious operation and was recovering nicely and was expected to go home shortly, but then took a turn for the worse. Bill served with the 26th FA & Cannon Co. 29th Inf.

WILLIAM M. ZIMMERMAN  
Born December 3, 1917  
Died February 14, 1984  
Internment  
Oak Ridge Cemetery  
Bay City, Michigan

Yes, Bill lost the battle with his heart. Another of our faithful members has answered his last roll call. Bill will be missed by his family and all those who knew him. Bill was a regular at all the meetings and making conventions and the Memorial Services at Worcester, Mass. He had many friends and will surely be remembered by those he ministered to as a Medic in the 9th Medic C. Co., and 47th Infantry, 3rd. Bn.

We ask that God give him perfect rest and peace to his family. Delores now resides at 790 N. Huron Road, Linwood, Mi. 48634.

Bill was remembered by the Michigan Chapter with a floral spray. Elmer Wagner, John and Thelma Obermiller, Joe Boudreau, Floyd and Leora Hennessey, Kleb and Vi Stockford and Your's Truly, and Jennie attended the service.

At the cemetery the Veterans Council of Bay City, Michigan was on hand as an Honor Guard. After the committal service the Chaplain spoke a few words. After which the rifle team fired three volleys. At the first firing crying started and by the end of the Echo Taps there wasn't a dry eye in the Chapel. A very beautiful and fitting service for one who served his country.



## Proposed Changes- By Laws

I am informed that there is increasing interest in opening up membership in the Association to those who served at other times. Apparently many are reluctant to see this become a last mans club and soon die out.

Tempers do flare whenever this question is brought up and no doubt again there will be many impassioned letters to the Octofoil both pro and con. To voice your opinion where it counts you must attend the 1984 Reunion, you must have a paid up membership card, you must attend the general membership business meeting and you must cast your ballot. The majority of those who vote will prevail.

On behalf of those members who wish this question brought to a vote, I submit the following for consideration at the general membership business meeting at Lake Placid and for prior publication in the Octofoil

### PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES

1. Amend Paragraph 4 to read: 4 To permit any individual who were the Octofoil from December 7, 1941 to May 7, 1945 (World War II), December 19, 1966 to September 25, 1969 (Vietnam), and after May 26, 1972 (Regular Army combat division) and who served honorably in the Ninth Infantry Division be eligible for membership in the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Any member or former member of the 70th and 746th Tank Battalions, 899th Tank Destroyer Battalion or the 376th Anti Aircraft (A.W.) Battalion who served with these units while attached to the Ninth Infantry Division during World War II shall be eligible for membership in the Association.

2. Add paragraph 12f to read: 12f. Any individual who served in the Ninth Infantry Division from December 19, 1966 to September 25, 1969 (Vietnam), and after May 26, 1972 (Regular Army combat division) shall pay an enrollment fee of \$20.00 in addition one years dues upon initial enrollment in the Association. Such enrollment fee shall be placed in the Capital Fund of the Association.

3. Amend Paragraph 16 by adding: Upon change in the By-Laws to admit to membership those who served in the Ninth Infantry Division December 19, 1966 to September 25, 1969 (Vietnam) and after May 26, 1972 (Regular Army combat division) the Board of Governors of the association shall be increased to fifteen members. The additional member shall be elected from those who served in the Ninth Infantry Division December 19, 1966 to September 25, 1969 (Vietnam) and after May 26, 1972 (Regular Army combat division).

Gerald S. Teachout  
Co. F, 60th.  
1600 W. Struck Space 165  
Orange, Calif. 02667

Frank Lorito, Cannon Company  
47th Infantry, supplied us with  
picture of Ed Egan holding a  
Sicilian child, taken in 1943.  
Story appears in Mail Call.

## TO CORRECT THE ERROR

Thanks for your 7 January letter, and I can well understand your consternation regarding my several letters on the 4th Infantry Division monument at Barneville (today Barneville-Carteret) which tells of that Division having liberated the town on 18 June 1944.

Rest easy. In the interim I've taken advantage of language and friends and the city fathers of Barneville-Carteret, when they hold the 40th anniversary of the liberation on 18 June 1984 wish to correct the error (we'll let it go at that) which the stonecutter did when striking out the identification of the US division which liberated the town! I agree. I see no need to make any large issue.

I see no need for reams of correspondence. I see no need to upgrade the city fathers for an honest error. History has prevailed. They have seen the error. They wish to rectify it. And they, shall.

The only question they have is — can a 9th Division representative be on board when the ceremony takes place on the 18th of June? I have told them, I am only a member — I am NOT an official of the Division association. Nor was I a member of the 9th Division at that time — having made D-Day on Omaha, I was back in England in the hospital. I did not join the 9th until December 1944. But, coincidentally, the Regiment I joined, the 60th, were the guys who did liberate Barneville.

I'll be in Normandy 5-7 June. I do not know if I could return again on the 18th — but, I might consider the effort if no other man from the 9th can make it and IF it is officially recognized by the President of the Association! Other than that Dan, I'll keep you informed when I receive further information from the town fathers as to what their program will be — that is the only position I can take. The cost of gas here is horrendous and for me to take the drive again — well, I don't know if my pocketbook would allow it (or my dear better half). But, again a but, if it became a case of sitting between the rock and the hard spot and someone had to make the strike, you damned betcha, Dan, I'd make it for the Division Association. Trust this will give you the necessary background you need when the next board meeting comes off — if not too tardy.

Thanks a bunch for your letter again, and a response over the APO will suffice. I just wished this to get off post haste, thus did I choose the German post — regards to that sweet bride of yours.

R.M.A. (Scotty) Hirst  
CMR Box 6801  
APO New York 09633

## HELP!

To The Men of The 9th Infantry Division.

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

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

Professor Jerome H. Long  
Box GG, Wesleyan Station  
Wesleyan University  
Middletown, CT 06457  
203/344-9411, Ext. 2689 (Office)  
203/344-9724 (Home)

## Westy and C.B.S.

Dear Fellow Veteran,

Gen. William C. Westmoreland fought for America in three wars but is now in the fight of his life.

In January 1982 CBS broadcast a "documentary" accusing Gen. Westmoreland of leading a conspiracy to suppress information on the size of communist forces in Vietnam from the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Congress and the President.

During the Vietnam War Gen. Westmoreland was vilified and burned in effigy by war protesters. The CBS documentary, however, falsely portrayed him as being unethical and dishonest. It was the first time his character and honor had come under attack.

Gen. Westmoreland felt he had no alternative but to sue CBS for libel. He had pledged any money he receives to charities that help military personnel and veterans.

There is more at stake here than one man's honor, for Gen. Westmoreland is fighting for the integrity of all of us — for the American military as an institution and for every person who has ever worn his country's uniform.

Now is the most critical phase of the battle — and the most expensive. Trial date is set for mid-1984 and preparations must be accelerated. Witnesses still have to be interviewed across the country, depositions taken and research completed. This takes money.

The Capital Legal Foundation is representing Gen. Westmoreland for free, but the Foundation is already \$500,000 over their budget because of the suit. CBS, which had gross revenues exceeding \$4 billion in 1982, has thrown their enormous resources into the fight.

Lack of money has already forced Capital Legal to cut back on work necessary to insure that Gen. Westmoreland's case has the best possible preparation. The Veterans For Westmoreland Committee was formed to raise the money needed to carry the General's battle against CBS. Every cent raised will go towards the General's legal expenses. Gen. Westmoreland will receive a list of totals tallied by unit and the names of all individuals who contribute.

Westy is one of us and he is fighting our fight. Time is critical and we should not turn our backs on him. Please help by mailing your tax deductible contribution today payable to the Capital Legal Foundation/Gen. Westmoreland. Even the smallest amount will help. Send it with your unit designation to:

VETERANS FOR WEST-  
MORELAND  
P. O. Box 264  
Locust Valley, NY 11560

For a free reprint — as long as our supply lasts — of "Anatomy of a Smear", TV Guide's investigation of the CBS show, enclose a business size, self-addressed stamped envelope.

## Mini Reunion

Company M 60th Infantry

On June 17, 18, 19th, 1984 the 2nd mini reunion of Company M 60th Infantry will be held at Selinsgrove, Pa. For information write to:

Joe Gargie  
Rd #1, Selinsgrove, Pa.  
717-374-8428

or  
Bob Bovanizer  
14 Sabre Park  
Niagara Falls, N.Y.  
716-297-6205



## Florida Gators

Hi You All:

The Florida Chapter, 9th Division Assn. will have their April 1984 meeting in Orlando, Florida.

The meeting will be held at the Sheraton Twin Towers Hotel. The dates for our usual fantastic gathering will be Friday the 13th and Saturday the 14th.

The Florida Chapter now has 165 members on the mailing list, which of whom should be getting a letter outlining the details of room rate, food for the banquet on Saturday night, etc.

Us Floridians (transplanted of course) invite anyone who wishes to join us, to please do so. You guys and gals from any of our southern states can get full particulars by writing to:

Phil Berman

#10 Seahawk Drive

Ormond Beach, Fla. 32074

Phone Phil at 1-904-441-7292 or, you can call me at 1-813-847-6607.

My wife, Beryl and I had luncheon on Saturday, January 28 with General and Mrs. Randle, plus nurse Ann Malone in Clearwater. It was a pleasure to lunch with them, and chat about the old days as well as a new book that the General has been published called "The Brothers". This will be an historical novel, and I'm sure General Randle will send out particulars of his book soon, so everyone in the 9th Division Assn. can buy an autographed copy.

Our Florida 'sunshine' has been more or less hiding since Christmas Eve, with only a few days of really good weather here. The Boss and I had company from Illinois during the middle of January and we took a trip to EPCOT and Disney World, and both places were doing poor business wise.

As President of the Florida Chapter, I would like to stress that as our chapter is growing so fast, we must get all reservations in as early as possible so we don't lose any of the benefits from the Sheraton Twin Towers.

We, as a chapter have grown from approximately 40 members 3 years ago, to 165 at the present time.

At our April meeting, we will be discussing the 1985 National meeting to be held

also at the Sheraton. Full particulars will be made available as we progress along with plans.

Upon closing this news item, I want to remind one and all that new elections will be held at our April 1984 meeting.

Congratulations to our faithful member, Joe Williams upon his retirement on Jan. 27, 1984, from the Florida Education System. Joe and his lovely wife, Dottie, have done a lion's share for our chapter. So, as President, I'm rather pleased to be working with him in the 9th.

If, in saying 'so-long' to one and all I have missed anything, bawl me out when you see me in April.

Bob Pappas, President  
738c518 Box 175  
New Port Richey, Fla. 33552

## 26th Field Artillery Reporting

Gentlemen:

Alice and I wash to extend a Happy and Prosperous New Year to all men who wore the OCTOFOIL wherever they may be.

The end of the old year sent us a warning of what was to come. We in New England experienced much cold weather. Many days the thermometer went below zero. The north country has so much snow that some people think that it will last through April.

If you go outdoors, bundle up, do not leave home unless the trip is absolutely necessary. We want you in good health so that you can visit Lake Placid and Worcester during 1984.

In the past, during the Christmas Season, our mailman left us many cards from Ninth men wishing Alice and me a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It is a pleasant experience to realize that after so many years so many men continue a great American custom.

A note arrived about one week after the New Year from Mrs. Lucille Andrews, 5708 Alpine, NW., Comstock Park, Michigan. It contained the sad news that her husband, William C. died of cancer on December 28, 1983. Bill as he was affectionately known was an energetic booster for the Michigan Chapter. Bill was a member of Service Battery, 26FA, from Tent City to Barton Stacey. During our stay in England Bill was transferred to Cannon Co., 39 Inf.

Jess Hill died, Jan. 12, 1982. Old timers from Ft. Bragg will remember Jess as the mechanic who always did a good job repairing trucks in the battalion garage. Early in 1942 Jess went on cadre to Camp Gruber.

For the first time ever, I received a Christmas card from Charlie Lowey. He is alive, retired and taking things easy. Charlie was the WO in 26FA Battalion supply.

Mac Hurn has reached the magic age of 65. So far Mac and Aileen have been on three cruises and flown to Hawaii twice. This year they plan to see America by bus. Mac has joined a health club so that he can work out in spare time.

Lois Griffin added a note saying that Paul if fine, just lazy and enjoying it. Willie Leonard is still under doctors care. Cecil Williamson gave away all of his tools, that is, all but the snow shovel where it comes in handy in Glenville, Minnesota. Harold Wallace made a quick trip to California to see his son. Everett Grigsby is very much alive in Seward, Nebraska. Sheriff Leach is a grandfather for the fourth time. Jim Daniels has been making many transcontinental phone calls since he visited Worcester two years ago.

Frances and Anthony Ponticello became grandparents for the first time. When they get called on to baby sit they will have to travel to Philadelphia from Ambridge.

JOSEPH MCKENZIE  
95 Washington Avenue  
Waltham, Mass., 02154

Site for 1984 Reunion  
Lake Placid

June 21, 22, 23, 1984.

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.

## New York Chapter

At its meeting on January 6, 1984 at the 69th Regiment Armory, East 26th Street and Lexington Avenue, New York City, the Greater New York Chapter installed the newly elected officers for 1984. Chaplain George Apar was the installing officer. He did his usual fine job of first discharging the out-going officers and thanking them for a job well done. Then he installed the in-coming officers, making comments as to their ability and loyalty to the Association and the Chapter.

The out-going officers were as follows: Walter O'Keefe, President; Vincent D'Addonna, 1st Vice President; Adolph Wadalavage, 2nd Vice President; Secretary Arthur R. Schmidt; Irving Feinberg, Treasurer; Chaplain George Apar; Sergeant-at-Arms, Alfred Orletti; Judge Advocate, Edward Egan (deceased); Chapter Board of Governors: Peter Uhl, Representing the 39th Infantry Regiment; William Klauz, Representing the 47th Infantry Regiment; Charles Libretto, Representing the 60th Infantry Regiment; Adolph Wadalavage, Special roops; and Calvin Polivy, Representing Division Artillery.

## OFFICERS FOR 1984

In-coming officers are as follows: Adolph Wadalavage, President; 1st Vice President; Harry Wax; Emil Langer, 2nd Vice President; Arthur R. Schmidt, Secretary (Re-elected); Irving Feinberg, Treasurer (Re-elected); George Apar, Chaplain (Re-elected); Alfred Orletti, Sergeant-at-Arms (Re-elected); Chapter Board of Governors: John Parisi, Representing the 39th Infantry Regiment; William Klauz, Representing the 47th Infantry Regiment; Charles Libretto, Representing the 60th Infantry Regiment; Arthur R. Schmidt, Representing the Special Troops; and Calvin Polivy, Representing the Division Artillery.

## AGENDA FOR YEAR

Other business taken up at the meeting was setting up the agenda for the ensuing year as follows: Past Presidents' Night, May 4th; Memorial Services at Long Island National Cemetery, May 19th; Father Connors Memorial Mass at Worcester, Massachusetts, November 10th and 11th; Christmas Party, December 9th; and Installation of Officers for 1985, January 4th, 1985. Two new faces were welcomed to the meeting, namely, Joe Devine, Past Commander, Nassau County, American Legion; and Walter Smith. It was announced that Charles Libretto is now the proud grandfather of twins. There was some discussion about holding the Annual Christmas Party at another location.

Submitted by:  
Arthur R. Schmidt,  
Chapter Secretary

## To Be (47th) Or Not To Be

This column is being written while we are enjoying the beautiful weather and brilliant sunshine in Madeira Beach, Florida. By the time you will be reading this column we will have been back home again in the lovely Cumberland Valley of Chambersburg, Pa.

Our column this time basically concerns the coming reunion in Lake Placid on June 21, 22, 23, 1984. The following is a present list of "Beco" buddies and their wives that we have on record as planning to attend the reunion: Stan & Florence Adowski, Joe & Stella Cichocki, John & Catherine Compagnone, Norman & Alice Caswell, Dennis & Thora Canedy, Neal & Betty Conger, Bob & Anna Edie, Jack & Kay DiSanto, Joe & Rose Harvilla, Bill Klauz, Joe & Edith Podany, Olga Palega, Pat & Ann Morano, John Morgan, Joe Metscavage, Orion & Eleanor Shockley, Art & Grace Stenzel, Ed & Helen Sarnocinski, Joe & Eleanor Taubner. We wrote to Pete & Nettie Mastroangelo, and Larry & Gree Krogbin. However, we have yet to hear from them. We do hope they will be with us at Lake Placid. Our "Beco" buddy Art Stenzel informs us that Christmas '83 cards & notes were received from the following: Rose & Joe Harvilla "Do hope you are enjoying your new home and are in good health. Also had a surprise visit from Ed & Helen Sarnocinski this past summer and we all went to see Tom Kostelac and was he shocked! Nice reunion (Detroit)". Sam & Lorraine Moscatelli "Thanks for the write up in the Octofoil although at that time my legs would only go about 50-75 feet. I had a great time at the Detroit reunion. Don't know about Lake Placid as of now. I'm taking treatments for my legs which helps a lot. I have 8 more to go. I hope it works. Is that Morano's Boy — QB for the Dolphins?" (No Sam it is not Morano's Boy!) Eleanor & Orion Shockley "Dear Friends. Greetings from our home on Whidbey Island at Langley, Washington. The house is on the beach, fronting Saratoga Passage in Puget Sound. If all goes well we will build a new house here this spring. We spent 2½ months in the South Pacific last spring, visiting Tahiti, where we cruised to many of the islands in the Society Group, New Zealand and Australia. Orion participated in the National Trapshoot Championship in New Zealand & Australia. Stopped in Hawaii for a few days on the way home. Shortly after returning home, Orion had a heart attack while in Missouri and was hospitalized for a time in his home town of Jefferson City. He seems to be recovering and is active again. Our new address is PO Box 168, Langley, Wa. 98260. Phone 206-321-6230. We hope there will be no more changes of address".

John Morgan "I received your card and note with the picture for Christmas. I am very pleased to hear from you and thanks for the picture, they bring back a lot of memories. I haven't answered before because I had been pretty well down. My wife Loretta died Jan. 5, 1984 after being in the hospital 69 days for an operation and over 1½ months in a nursing home. After 38 years it is very hard and I sure miss her. We had 3 children and 5 grandchildren and they are a big help. I am waiting for the next Octofoil with Lake Placid info. I hope to be able to attend.

If you write to any of the fellows give them all my best regards. Best wishes for a good New Year 1984 and stay well." (Note: On behalf of all our "Beco" buddies, Art advises that we have already sent John a sympathy card.) Finally, Art and I would like to thank all of our "Beco" buddies and their wives for the nice cards and well wishes we received while they were at the Detroit reunion. We just learned that Jack & Kay DiSanto are spending 2 months at Port St. Lucie, FL. Ann and I are planning a get-together with Art and Grace while we are here in Florida. We also hope to gather additional information to send on to "Beco" buddies for the Lake Placid reunion. So all of you out there reading this better head for Lake Placid for this once in a life time event.

Pat J. Morano  
2208 Lincoln Way East  
Chambersburg, Pa. 17201  
Art J. Stenzel  
8705 Village Mill Row  
Bayonet Point, FL 33567  
(Beacon Woods)

## MICHIGAN DOINGS

Now the Good News: The chapter got its year off to a good start on February 11th with a dinner meeting at Wallis Supper Club in Flint, Mi. Jim and Audry Bruner were host and hostess for the occasion and they did an excellent job on the arrangements. The food was plentiful and extra delicious. I can guarantee that if any one went home hungry it was their own fault.

The surprise of the evening was the unexpected arrival of Chuck and Irma Koskie of Schiller Park, Ill. They of course were welcomed with open arms. We were all so pleased to see them that no one complained when Chuck won first prize in the bottle raffle. Happy drinking Charlie. We are looking forward to Lake Placid this summer. I have started the ball rolling towards getting a bus load of old reliables together. We may be getting to old for thirteen hour bus trips but they have been fun in the past and should still be enjoyable. The origin point is Grosse Point Woods, Michigan the evening of June 20th.

So dear friend good night and may God Bless each and every one of us.

Rodger E. Alsgaard, Sec'y.  
Michigan Chapter  
Ninth Inf. Div. Assn.  
2834 Wynes St.  
Saginaw, Mi. 49602

A mother, reeling from her family's latest dental bill, says the full impact of parenthood doesn't hit you until you multiply the number of your kids by 32 teeth.

Living within your means is likely to make people wonder if there's anything else peculiar about you.

"Once I thought I was wrong, but I was mistaken."



Carlos Esteva sends this picture taken in Hong Kong. Story appears in Mail Call. Left to right Milton Kaminsky (15th Engs), Teresa Esteva, Carlos Esteva and Bernice Kaminsky. They met by chance on a trip to China.

## 1984 Notes of "A" Btry-60th F.A.

An update and bits of news of some of my former buddies. Some good - some bad. First — after 38 years, I have joined the rank of the retirees. I find I have time on my hands so here goes.

To Ed "Windy" Freund - Welcome to the 9th Division Association. After 38 years, I get a letter from Windy. He lives in the neighboring state of Wisconsin. I have been thru his town many times — never knowing he lives there. Ed left us in Germany before the Association was formed. He was in the first group to be shipped home.

Had a note from Windy's partner in the maintenance section, Walt Quigley, now retired in California. I mailed Walt, Windy's address. I am sure those two will have plenty to talk about.

Jessie Posey, from Hollytree, Alabama, has turned into a farmer — now raises turkeys, quails, and pheasants. He doesn't write but his wife keeps me informed.

From Memphis, Tenn., Mrs. Wilbur Sanders writes that Wilbur also has retired. She still works. "Squeaky" as we called him, has a relative in Zion, Illinois. On their next trip there, he hopes to stop and see me. The welcome mat is always there — Do drop in.

Al "Sunshine" DeNaro, Philadelphia Pa. is also retired. Al is sweating out a triple heart by-pass. Wants to know when are we coming back to Philadelphia. Let's say a prayer for Al — one of the best liked G.I.'s in "A" Btry.

Another retiree, Howard "Buck" Goff from Gypsum, Ohio. His wife also does the writing. Buck wants me and the "Chief" to come and visit some time.

Dom "The Chief" Greco, who also leaves the writing to his wife, Lonnie, was in Worcester this past year, wants to know if I'm going to be in Lake Placid in '84. Greco and I have kept in touch since 1946. When yours truly got hitched in 1960, Greco and Lonnie drove in from Tiltonsville, Ohio. They wanted to see for themselves if it was true. Seeing is believing.

From Colonia, N.J., Fred Auth writes that next year, 1985, he hopes to acquire a place in Montrose, Pa. Fred also has had a heart by-pass.

After a lapse of two years, I got a note from that perennial bachelor, Ed Wardzala. Ed lives in Ludlow, Mass. and doesn't stray too far from home. The last time we've seen each other was at Father Connors' 25th Anniversary Mass.

A note from Mary Friedmeir informs me that Al is getting along fine. Al from the Bronx suffered a stroke some time back. Al was Battalion Interpreter for the 60th F.A. Bn. at Paffenhoffen, Germany. When Al had occasion to fly to Chicago some years back, he made it his business to call or visit me. Al is the best informed guy for stories related to the men of "A" Btry.

Here in the Chicago area only George Winchentonis and I are left. George was taken prisoner in Belgium, was freed in Moosburgh, Germany. The other two James Landis and Maurice Powers have departed.

John Ligero, from Oyster Bay, N.Y. has promised to be in Lake Placid if the wife and I will be there. Johnny is another "4th" Gun Section man. We had exchanged visits a few times.

Received the usual letter enclosure from James Stebbins, Perry, Iowa. Jim's always a bit late but never forgets to write. He is also retired after so many years on the railroad.

A letter was enclosed with my Christmas card from Nellie Barhight. God Bless those women — if not for them, I'd have lost contact with a lot of buddies. Wayne "Andy" Barhight retired in '81. He was very ill last year. He had open heart surgery ten years ago but has recovered now and doing fine. Nellie informs me that the Leo Mosers from Rural Hall, N.C. were going to visit them. Leo and Andy were "3rd Gun Section buddies. We had a ball at Ft. Bragg in '82 with them.

Frank Lovell, formerly of "A" Btry, then Hdqs. "Warrant Officer", keeps me informed on many issues and stories pertaining to the Ninth Division. Each year he encloses bits of information which are really enjoyed. Mr. Lovell of West Roxbury, Ma. is a regular at Father Connors Annual Mass.

Lou Prince, B.C. of "A" Btry. in Germany mailed me some interesting photos taken of "A" Btry's gun crews in Germany. It seems my memories are a bit sharper than his. I was able to identify a few of the gun crew. I met Lou the first time in Columbus, Ohio in '46 — then lost contact till we met again in Washington, D.C. in 1980.

Mike and Ann Patrick of Tappin, N.Y. who we met in Ft. Bragg in '82 and with whom I have been corresponding since 1946, also wants to know if we will be in Lake Placid this year.

Melvin Jaggi who left us in England, informs us he lost his wife last year. Jaggi, a Wisconsin dairy farmer, has retired and turned his farm over to his son.

On the subject of losses, on March 21, 1983 "A" Btry lost a great guy, my buddy, Harry Torhan, from Oakdale, Pa. Harry was my foxhole buddy. We had great times together, spent a 7-day leave in Glasgow, Scotland. I last saw him in 1980 when I visited him in Oakdale. Harry Torhan, Howard Goff, Thomas Davis, Holcomb, Frank Fedeli, L. Shaw, John Ligero, Dom Greco and I — composed the 4th Gun Section. One hell'va gun crew - bar none.

Thomas Davis from West Mifflin, Pa., a few miles away from Oakdale, wrote me the sad news about Harry's death. Tom visits Chicago every so often. He takes his grandson to the Shriner's Hospital. He calls me when he is in town.

I hear on a regular basis from the following former men of the 60th F.A. Bn., Grace and Mike Lasalandra, Hdqs. Btry, Clair and Ruth McGee, B Btry., Mike and Ann Bish, Hdqs. Btry, Lou and Theresa Pandolfi, C. Btry. and Savino DeRosa and Everett Linscott from S. Btry.

Lou Gray, Hdqs. Btry, B.C., a neighbor of mine here in Oak Park has also retired this past year from Illinois Bell and has moved to Wisconsin.

To all of you "A" Btry. men out there — If I can be of any help, write. I promise to answer all letters.

Next notes of "A" Btry - 60th F.A. will be in '85. Take Care. God Bless.

Michael Belmonte  
1161 S. Lombard  
Oak Park, Ill. 60304

Lake Placid 1984

June 21, 22, 23

## Delaware and the Medal of Honor

Are we losing our sense of history in Delaware and appreciation for extraordinary military heroism under fire?

It is not difficult to understand why James P. Connor of near Wilmington was invited to the so-called Wilmington Post Office near Hares Corner last week to receive a specially engraved album of Congressional Medal of Honor stamps just issued by the Postal Service.

He is Delaware's only living recipient of the nation's highest award. He survived fierce German gunfire in southern France on Aug. 15, 1944, when he risked his life "above and beyond the call of duty."

The office of Postmaster Shirley B. McDonald was jammed with friends of Connor, representatives of various veterans' organizations and the Delaware National Guard.

Connor, now 64 and white-haired, was as subdued and self-effacing as he has been since he returned from Europe almost 40 years ago to cheers, thundering applause and honors from admiring Delawareans.

Never since he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor has Connor displayed any braggadocio or sign of "the Great I Am."

Having watched him at many ceremonies dedicated to him, I figured he also thought of other Medal of Honor recipients who didn't make it back alive.

And as he sat in an easy chair in the postmaster's office, surrounded by a score of applauding personalities, I sensed he, too, particularly thought of Sgt. William Lloyd Nelson of Middletown.

Nelson was the second Delawarean awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in World War II but he never lived to receive it nor bask in attendant ceremonies. He died in action at age 25, in Tunisia, on April 24, 1943.

During last week's brief ceremony, it occurred to me that, considering the importance, value and significance of the medal, something should have been said about all 14 Delawareans who had been awarded the Medal of Honor in the past 121 years.

As I understand it, the special stamp is intended to honor all medal honorees in the nation; not just living recipients.

• • •

While reading the featured article on Carl Sheridan by Col. Bryant I could not help from thinking about an article I had just read about Sgt. William L. Nelson of Middletown, Delaware who I believe served with the 60th. This was during the Tunisian campaign and prior to my joining the division.

Since I am a procrastinator and had not taken my wife's order to throw all the old papers out, I was successful in fishing the attached article out of the pile. Maybe this article will be of interest to our members and he will be remembered by those men of the 60th who served with him.

Yours truly,  
WARREN W. BOULDEN, JR.  
"C" CO. 15TH ENGRS.  
107 North Street  
Elkton, Maryland 21921

Editors note: Warren did not know that the James P. Connor's who's name appears in the newspaper article regarding Medal of Honor winners from Delaware is the same James P. Connors who served

EDWIN H. RANDLE  
Brigadier General,  
United States Army,  
Retired  
503 Althea Road,  
Belleair, Florida 33516

Dear Friend:

I have written another book and because of your past interest I want to do something for you.

For a limited time I will offer my new book — THE BROTHERS at a Special Pre-publication price of \$9.95 pre-paid and ... I will autograph all books ordered at the same time during this offer. Thereafter the price will be \$12.95.

I have been working on the book for the past fifteen years and now it has become a reality. The story is set in the year 1800 in Illinois Territory and is about two brothers from Virginia who hear that there is good land to be had for almost nothing. They decide to go and look it over.

After fording the Wabash at the old French town of Vincennes, Indiana their adventures commence. They meet on the St. Louis Trace, other travelers including a minister, his daughter and a schoolmaster who are awaiting someone to protect them from the Indians. The older brother Elijah has served in the Revolution as one of General Morgan's Virginia Continentals. They have almost constant trouble with the Mascoutin Indians for awhile. Then other troubles beset them, but they do accomplish their mission.

The book is bound with hard covers of dark green and printed in easy-to-read 10pt Schoolbook Type on expensive paper I have personally selected. A full color illustration portraying the key characters on the dust jacket makes the book very eye-appealing. It is a lovely book and quite exciting.

I also have available, copies of ERNIE PYLE COMES ASHORE, AND OTHER STORIES. Indicate on the enclosed card your wish, include your check of \$9.95 for THE BROTHERS and/or \$8.95 for ERNIE PYLE and return it to me in the postpaid envelope.

I am now reviewing the proofs of THE BROTHERS and expect to be shipping books (postpaid) in about two months.

Sincerely yours,  
Edwin H. Randle  
P.S. THE BROTHERS is being printed by The BookCrafters of Chelsea, Michigan.

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copy(s) of General Randle's latest book,

THE BROTHERS, at the pre-publication price of \$9.95.

I would also like a copy of ERNIE PYLE COMES ASHORE, AND OTHER STORIES, at \$8.95.

My check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.

Please send book(s) postpaid to:

Please PRINT first & last name, address, etc.

Street and Number, etc.

City State Zip

with Company H of the 47th Infantry until transferred to the 3rd Infantry Division from the Ninth while the Division was in Sicily. Jim attended a few of our reunions some years ago.

60th Inf. Co. M  
RAYMOND GEDDE  
1705 Hammond Ave.  
Superior, Wi. 54880

Just a line to say hello to all the guys in Co M and to all the fellows in the Motor Pool, hop-

15th Engrs  
HENRY SANTOS  
9811 N. Connechusett Rd.  
Tampa, Fl. 33617  
Sends this appropriate poem to the Octofoil.

As I go my round from one distraction to another, let me whisper from time to time, a word of love to Thee. May my life be lived in the supernatural, full of power for good, and strong in its purpose of sanctity.

## A LITTLE MIXED UP

Just a line to say I'm living.  
That I'm NOT among the dead;  
Though I'm getting more forgetful.  
And more 'mixed up' in the head.

For sometimes I can't remember.  
When I stand at foot of stair,  
If I must go up for something.  
Or I've just come down from there.

And before the fridge, so often.  
My poor mind if filled with doubt,  
Have I just put food away, or  
Have I come to take some out.

And there's time when it is dark out.  
With my night cap on my head,  
I don't know if I'm retiring.  
Or just getting out of bed

So, if it's my turn to write you,  
There's no need in getting sore,  
I may think that I have written.  
And don't want to be a bore

So, remember, — I do love you,  
And I wish that you were here;  
But now, it's nearly mail time,  
So, I must say, "Good-bye dear."

There I stood beside the mailbox.  
With a face so very red,  
Instead of mailing you my letter,  
I had opened it instead.

\* \* \* \* \*

If you don't know the price of success, the IRS will be glad to send you a form.

ing you are all enjoying good health. I enjoyed very much the reunion in Fort Bragg two years ago. Don't know if I will be able to make this one because of poor health in the family. Am retired and really enjoy laying around. Hope to hear from some of you fellows and want to thank Thornton and Bovanizer for keeping me up to date on everything. From an old driver from the 1st platoon.

## mail call

continued

REV. EDWARD CONNORS  
87-5 Park Ave  
Worcester, Ma. 01605

No doubt you have the word of General Craig's death. Mrs. Craig phoned me on the 4th of January and asked me to celebrate his funeral Mass on Friday, Jan. 6th at Fort Myers Chapel and the burial in Arlington Cemetery. Four other priests concelebrated with me, Westy attended and I saw about 10 other 9th division men. The General had 7 living children, 1 son died about 7 years ago, 2 are nuns and he left 44 grandchildren. Mrs. Craig is a great lady and quite well. Five weeks ago I had a delightful visit with the General and Mrs. Craig. You one time asked why I was so close to the rank, all were my family and I was a priest, everyone's Pastor.

60th Inf. Co. M  
HAROLD W. SELL  
126 S. Plains Dr.  
Petersburg, Va. 23805

Enclosed find my dues for 3 more years. I enjoy the paper and always look forward to it. I put all other things aside and read it. The 60th certainly had a nice review this past issue. All the best.

60th Inf., Co. M  
WILFRED THORNTON  
515 E. Dubai Ave.  
South Bend, Ind. 46613

I received a Christmas card from Mrs. Jablonsky telling me that Joe died this past April. He made his home in Raleigh, N.C., and spent nearly 5 years with Co. M. 60th. I was at the reunion in Ft. Bragg in 1982 and in 1983 Co. M had a mini reunion at Sheffield, Ala., with 21 men and 17 wives there. In 1984 we are meeting in Selinsgrove, Pa., just before the reunion at Lake Placid. Hoping that many of us can attend both in one trip. Looking forward to seeing you in Lake Placid.

Hq. 34th FA  
SHELDON STODDARD  
122 Meadow Rd.  
Portsmouth, N.H. 03801

Had a wonderful time in Worcester last November. It's great that we can have such a large group each year. Plan to go to Lake Placid next summer. Looking forward to a big turnout by the 34th FA Bn. Best wishes to all.

47th Inf. I Co.  
NUNZIO F. MORTELLITI  
121 Gooseberry Ln., Box 445  
Marston Mills, Ma. 02648

I am enclosing a change of address as we are now living on Cape Cod. We both retired recently and hope that now we do not have to be concerned about what dates our vacation comes on as we may get to Lake Placid in June. If anyone ever gets down to our area, do drop in. We wish all the 9th members and their families a happy and healthy New Year.

39th Inf.  
JACOB FRIEDES  
29 Abeel St.  
Yonkers, N.Y. 10705

I have retired as of June 1983 and have been traveling since then. We travelled throughout the U.S. then went to Tahiti, Moorea, Australia, New Zealand and Fiji and now we are spending 4 months in Boca Raton.

Reunion in 1984  
Lake Placid  
June 21, 22, 23

47th Inf. G. Co.  
JEROME SHAPIRO  
739 W. 186th St. Apt. 2B  
New York, N.Y. 10033

Here's my contribution to Mail Call which is getting better with every issue. Congratulations to Danny but also to Walter O'Keeffe who has been doing a great job for a long time. The November issue of the Octofoil was terrific. Regards to all my buddies; Ed Combs, Louis Rullan, Martin Balick, Ed Krause, Spencer Norwood, George Bako (I miss his regular letters to the Octofoil) I hope his health is improving. I'm sure he misses all the boys from the New York chapter now that he is retired and living in San Diego. Who knows where Isidore Lehman, E Co. runner or Arthur Goldberger (Gardiner) G Co. & Hq. Co. 2nd Bn are?

47th Inf. M. Co.  
EDWARD S. LITTLE  
233 Schuylkill Ave.  
Tamaqua, Pa. 18252

The wife was looking thru some old papers and found a very faded old letter I thought had been destroyed in a fire years ago with my ribbons and medals, except my discharge papers and this letter were saved. I enjoy reading the Octofoil and can easily understand the mailbag letters about the picture of the Remagen Bridge. I crawled across that bridge and dragged some 81 cloverleaves of ammo at my side. If there are any M. Co. 47th members from Schevenhutte out there, I would like to hear from you. Hoping to get a glimpse of all of you at Lake Placid. (Old letter follows)

47th Inf. 1st Bn  
MATTHEW W. SCOTT  
8 Ridge Rd  
Danbury, Conn. 06810

Hope we can get to Lake Placid in June. Woody did a wonderful job on our trip to Morocco and Tunis, their group was so caring and friendly.

M.P. Hq.  
JOHN WEBER  
46 Bromfield St  
Quincy, Ma. 02170

Received word from Johns wife Audrey that he had a stroke 2 days before Christmas and it affected his left hand and his voice. However his voice came back and they are enjoying a few laughs together. Also had a wonderful time at Worcester and was so good to see old friends.

60th Inf. 3rd Bn Hq Co.  
PETER TIMKO  
135 Church St.  
Monongahela, Pa. 15063

We enjoyed the reunion at Ft. Bragg. It was exciting and enjoyable and the Memorial affair and the show that the 13th Airborne put on also. We didn't make it to Detroit but my wife and I are looking forward to this years reunion at Lake Placid, meeting our friends and old buddies. Best wishes to all.

60th Inf. Hqs & 9th Signal  
STANLEY GEDWELL  
6798 Treehaven Dr.  
Spring Hill, Fl. 33526

Stanley is a new member just having joined the Florida chapter and would enjoy a visit or letters from other 9th men.

47th Inf B Co  
ED SARNOCINSKI  
2705 Price St  
Chester, Pa. 19013

Just a word or two to say hello and drop you our annual dues and wish everyone the best.

47th Inf. Med Det  
WALTER LANDIS  
Box 22, Beltzville, Dr.  
Kresgeville, pa. 18333

Thank you for your response with information of the upcoming reunion. I enjoyed the issue of the Octofoil and am enclosing a check for 3 years. I do not know if I will be able to attend the reunion as that is the time my son makes his annual visit from Kansas. I lived in Bergenfield, N.J. for 27 years then retired and bought a home in Kresgeville, Pa. Betty and I are enjoying the good life here. Often think of those 4 happy song and dance men in the days when we were younger. Dan Quinn, Joe Miller, John McLaughlin and myself. Somewhere I have a snapshot of the 4 of us. Can't put by finger on it right now. Best regards to all.

Hq. 3rd Bn 60th Inf.  
HALVOR O. GJERDE  
Box 1116  
Petersburg, Alaska 99833

Enclosed is a check for my dues for 3 years. Have been a member of the association since it started so I like to keep my membership up. As I live in southeastern Alaska and the summer time is a busy time for fishing, I am unable to get to a reunion. But wish all the members the best of everything for 1983 and the years to come.

60th Inf. K Co  
JAMES M. DRONEY  
1817 Banksville Rd.  
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15216

You ask for letters and maybe this has been all hashed out before but each time I receive the Octofoil I intend to sit down and write a reminiscing letter so finally I am. I joined the 60th Regiment when the 9th. was taking Cherbourg late June 1944. K Company was in a rest area, Sgt. Masterson was 1st. Sergeant, the most intelligent First Sergeant I ever met. My first taste of Benedictine was from a bottle he had liberated at Cherbourg. 7 of us were replacements. The company clerk had been killed 3 days earlier and I was given his job. There were 2 company clerks in our outfit, one back at Regimental, and me. This was a great outfit — they had fought in North Africa, Sicily, been in England, and took Cherbourg — they were still mostly intact, the average age was probably 25-30. My first duty was to meet every member of K company and compile a roster which I did between softball games. Then we went into combat and the company was never the same again. In the next three months it was almost completely decimated. Our company commander was Capt. Williamson who later moved up to Battalion. Lt. Col. Keene Wilson was 3rd. Battalion Commander I believe — anyway he was an outstanding soldier. When Sgt. Masterson was wounded at St. Lo, John C. Eisenhower became First Sergeant then got his battlefield commission, later became Company Commander and was killed in the Hurtgen Forest. He had a daughter born on the day the 9th invaded North Africa Nov. 8, 1982 and of course never saw her. He was one of the finest men I ever knew. Harold Sprankel became First Sergeant after Ike until he was shot in the face by a sniper in Aubenton, Frances just before we entered Belgium. We cleaned out the town of Aubenton and made friends with some civilians who were hiding in a fruit cellar

Then I became acting First Sergeant for the next 5 or 6 weeks until Sgt. Masterson returned and 2 other First Sergeants were assigned at the same time to our Company in the Hurtgen Forest. Sgt. Sprankel was the most foolhardy yet courageous soldier I ever saw. He shot 60 mm mortar shells off his rifle grenade launcher.

Sgt. Charlie Lawson was a great soldier and was wounded for the 3rd time after we crossed the Meuse River. Ed Stokan, Harold Juneman, Bill Fox, Ted Dennon, Murphy, a very young, our own 19 yr. old Sgt. York, and Sgt. Thomas F. O'Hare, from Elizabeth, New Jersey, were all fine combat soldiers. Ronald Benson was the Radio Sergeant and he had the longest stint of continuous front line duty of anybody in Company K. There was Lt. Howe from New Haven, Conn. who was wounded early in France, and a Tech Sergeant from Niagara Falls who was killed early in July. Sgt. Masterson was also from Niagara Falls. There was Sgt. Turtu, Sgt. Pacific, Cpl. Nick Bianculi, Mercantonio, Supply Sgt. Hugo (Colella I believe), Lt. Howard who became Company Commander, and was killed in the Hurtgen Forest. Ellis Huffman, one of my best friends and one of our runners, was killed while we were attacking Hofen, Germany and a German Tank fired its machine guns point blank at us. He died from shock while I and a medic were trying to revive him. There was Sgt. Grocki from Connecticut and a Hawaiian Sergeant, and an Indian medic whose names I don't recall. There was Tennessee Goliher who was wounded at least 4 times and returned to be finally killed in the Hurtgen Forest. There was Sgt. Neil Harsh who I hope is still living and who I am sure doesn't know that it was Ed Stokan, also of Pittsburgh, and myself, who pulled him to safety after a German tank blew a house down on him in Hofen. Harsh and another soldier had tried to hit the tank with a bazooka and missed.

I made out the morning report for Company K every night for over three months and over 300 men went through the Ranks of Company K as replacements. At one time when I had a fresher memory I entertained thought of writing a book called "Morning Report" because the Morning Report carried every item relevant to a company; those who arrived, those who were promoted, those who left through sickness, wounds, injury, death, the ammunition and ration status. It was a history of great brave men and I think probably for all of us no matter how tragic it was for some, it was the high point of our lives. Most everything after that seemed somewhat inconsequential in comparison. Nobody lived for tomorrow — I ate all my candy bar rations the day I got them.

Seven replacements came in with me — 3 were assigned to the weapons platoon. One called, Red, was shot in the hand while cleaning the 45 he was unfamiliar with, still in the rest area. His friend, Whitey, was killed by one of our own shells which fell short as we were going into combat our first day — Red came back to the company months later asking for Whitey. Another of the replacements shot himself in the leg as we were climbing over a fence, on our first combat day. One was on guard duty and was wounded when a German combat patrol came through our positions at dawn behind cows and killed

the T/sergeant from Niagara Falls and at least one other while they slept in their holes. A Polish boy who constantly wore gloves. There was also a soldier named Abe Hirsch and we were cut off one night when the Germans captured one of our tanks.

We also had one young fellow who loved combat — and he and another fellow used to shoot at German medics almost a mile away. You could see their great white apron crosses a long way off. He was offered a battle-ground scholarship to West Point and I don't know what ever happened to him.

There was a big Irish looking overweight Medical Sergeant from 3rd. Battalion Hqs. who was an outstanding soldier.

The other two replacements who came in with me shortly succumbed to the attrition of combat and I never learned their history.

47th Inf. F Co.  
GEORGE H. KING  
44 Park St. POB #156  
Phelps, N.Y. 14532

At Christmas time I heard from Irving "Pop" Zucker, who lives at 494 Bloomfield Ave., Nutley, N.J. 07110. I had mentioned the reunion at Lake Placid in June on my Christmas card to him. He has never been to any reunion and I doubt if he is a 9th member although he was one of the original boys at Ft. Bragg. Haven't seen him since 1945. He was quite a bit older than the rest of us, hence the nickname "Pop". On his card he said he would like to go to the reunion but needed a ride. He probably doesn't drive or couldn't drive that far. Is there any member around Nutley that could help him out? If at all possible, would be most grateful. Maybe they could get him to the chartered bus in New York. He is married but as I say, don't know what physical shape he and his wife are in. I live way up-state and can't help. Anything you or any of the fellows can do would be appreciated.

47th Inf.  
RANDALL BRYANT (Col. Ret.)  
15640 SW 85 Ave.  
Miami, Fl. 33157

I want to let all our friends know that Wm. Rhett Taber, 47th from Bragg is critically ill in Walter Reed Hospital. Has been there since Nov. 22, cataracts in both eyes, 5 tumors in the brain, colostomy and leukemia and several minor ills. He is in a coma most of the time and recognizes no one. His wife, Margaret, is trying her best for him but is at her wit's end. Any Washington members and friends should know this and I know if they could helper it would be greatly appreciated. He is in Rm. 36, Ward 73, Walter Reed Hospital, Washington, D.C. 20012. She can be reached at 703-379-2284. By mail at P.O. Box 59118, Walter Reed Station, Washington, D.C. 20012 I hope some of his old friends will call, etc. Gen. Randle and Gen. Chip Maness are aware.

60th Inf. Co F  
CHARLES H. CARON  
518 Michigan Ave  
Gladstone, Mich. 49837

I have enjoyed this past year and have been in contact with several of my old Co F buddies. Looking forward to finding some more.

Lake Placid 1984  
June 21, 22, 23



## mail call

continued

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

I am so appreciative receiving the Octofoil regularly. Occasionally I keep in touch with Fr. Connors. My brother, Chaplain Irving Tepper, called all his men "my boys" in all his correspondence home. That's how I feel, too. I'm still hoping to make a reunion some day, but I am still fighting the battle with cancer. I hope to beat it into remission and when I do, I will head for the next reunion. God bless all of you.

47th AT Co  
CHARLES BODNAR  
187 New York Ave  
Bergenfield, N.J. 07621

Hello all of you out there and especially anti-tankers from the 47th. I'm still hale and hearty and working at my job. I get needed once in a while to retire, but I stop them with "How can I give up a good paying hobby?" Every once in a while I run in to someone from the 9th Just about a week ago I met a fellow from G Co, 47th and after a short conversation I found that we were in the same town atop the hill that we occupied across the Rhine at the Ludendorf (Remagan) Bridge. He also works for my company. A couple of years ago I was driving on the highway and a car kept blowing his horn and signaling me. I finally stopped and he wanted to know about the 9th as he saw the sticker on my back window. This fellow was from the 39th and was disabled at El Guettar. If any of you fellows pass this way around Northern New Jersey, give me a ring at 201-384-1670. Hope to meet everyone at Lake Placid in June.

84th F.A.  
FRANK W. HAINES  
16 Kinney Drive  
Trenton, N.J. 08618

I have been a member of the 9th Division Association only two years so am not familiar with the type of information included in early editions of THE OCTOFOIL.

Although I am not yet retired, I have in recent years developed an interest in the military history of World War II, particularly that part in which the Ninth Division was involved in North Africa, Tunisia and Sicily. I have been acquiring as many books as I can find which cover operations in those countries. Several of the books supplement the excellent history of the Ninth — "Eight Stars To Victory" — others duplicate to some extent.

I found it interesting to read about the "big picture" forty years later because few of us were aware of what was going on beyond our particular units, with the exception of what we might have picked up listening to the BBC on Special Services Radio or on our military radios which occasionally had channels which enabled us to pick up war communiques.

If you have never done it, how about a column to inform interested readers of military history books of special interest? You might include some reviewer or readers' views of Bill Kreye's new book "The Pawns of War". I have ordered a copy but have not received it yet so cannot comment on it in this letter.

I am the proud owner of a copy of General Randle's book "Safi Adventure". Have any other members of the Division

written special articles or books which are available in libraries or for purchase?

Two of my recent acquisitions are: (1) "Invasion North Africa — 1942" by Captain S.W.C. Pack, an Englishman. The book was printed in Great Britain in 1978 by Charles Scribner's Sons. It has 112 pages and is loaded with photographs. The Library of Congress Catalog Card Number is 78-58572. Although the author concentrates extensively on the Navy's role in the landings, he has not completely ignored the air and land activity.

(2) "The Campaign for North Africa" by Jack Coggins. The publisher is Doubleday and Co., Garden City, New York. Published in 1980, the Library of Congress Catalog Card No. is 79-3179. The author served in WW II as an artist correspondent in the U.S. Army. This 202 page book has a good bibliography, a list of major officers involved in the North African Campaign and numerous battle maps, many of which cover engagements in which Ninth Division units were involved. Instead of photographs, there are many sketches of various types of military equipment, aircraft and naval vessels. Each of the nine chapters is headed with a sketch of a battle scene.

Two other books on the North African Campaign which are much older are: "Kasserine Pass" by Martin Blumenson, published in 1967 by Houghton Mifflin & Co., available in paperback & "Road to Tunis" by David Rame, published in 1944 by MacMillan Co. This story concentrates on the engagement of the 701st Tank Destroyer Battalion in the period following the landings in Algeria and Tunisia.

I hope to read a detailed report of the Lockwood North Africa tour in the next OCTOFOIL. I would have liked to make the trek but my wife and I had made plans for two weeks in Hawaii and one in California so 9th Division events had to be postponed.

I hope the 1984 Reunion is somewhere convenient in the East.

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

This coming April I will reach that big 65th Birthday and this past December I became a Grandfather for the first time. I realize that's no big deal and I'm sure many of you are Grandfathers many times over. Now I know what the fuss is all about. Of course, he is a beautiful baby, if you don't believe me ask Florence, his Grandmother.

Speaking of age, as a group we are all getting to the September of our years but also as a group we have something in common we should cherish which is the comradeship that comes from having put your life on the line. Friendships made under those conditions aren't discarded so easily. The proof of that is how all the guys look forward to that "next" reunion every year. My only regret is that I never knew of these until recently but God willing, I will make the one in Lake Placid.

I guess we really can't complain about getting old. It has always been my contention and I'm sure 99% of the guys would agree, we all bought a lot of years. Just think of all those close calls when you were sure had "had it" These past 40 years have been gravy. Hopefully we all have a lot of gravy left.

On the subject of friendship, I consider myself fortunate, I had a double dose. I spent the first year and a half of Army life with C Co. 39th Inf. where besides pulling my Army duties I put in a lot of time indulging in sports. Baseball, softball and basketball (in those days the small man was allowed to play basketball). We had a pretty good team too and I remember most of the guys. Ferrone, Walsh, Zelochowski, Bardwell, Burkhardt, Griemsmann, Medgher, Martin, Evans, Kelleher and myself.

My combat time was with the Cannon Co. 47th Inf. which I joined in the "cork forest". I'll never forget Louie Kramer was the first one to greet me. Ed Egan and I joined the company at the same time. Here I met another group of good men. They so affected my life that when I was in the hospital waiting for my patched up knee to heal, an injury I received during the breakthrough in France, I tried my hand at poetry writing. Of course being no poet laureate the following was the result:

When Victory comes and the peace is won  
And Cannon Co. stands with silent gun,  
We all can feel a little proud  
And surely the cheers will all be loud.  
For haven't we shed our blood on every land,  
On snow and mud and desert sand.  
Let's not forget those Cannoneers  
The ones that cannot hear these cheers  
Like us with all their might they fought  
And with their blood this peace was bought.  
For with this peace that must be won,  
Cannon Company's job is done.

Since the passing of Ed Egan, I noticed in many letters to the Octofoil that he was very well liked and had many friends. I'm happy to say I was one of them. Enclosed is a photo of Ed which you may be able to print in the paper. He is holding a Sicilian child. I took this photo while we were both members of Cannon Co. and think it gives a good indication of the type of guy Big Ed was.

In closing, thanks to the guys who took the trouble to drop me a card or letter after my last letter to the Octofoil.

9th Med.  
PETER A. RADICCHIO  
9415 Blind Pass Rd. #703  
St. Petersburg Beach, Fl. 33706

The letter which follows was received from a former co-worker at American Airlines in Los Angeles, and is self-explanatory.

How can we, in good conscience, continue to refuse our 9th Division fellow Americans entry into our Association.

Here in Florida, at the Bay Pines VA Hospital, I have been given to understand that we are the only organization which chooses not to admit these men to our ranks. Do we really want to continue this "Dog-in-the-manger" attitude or is Lake Placid the place for us to show that we can bend and grow and that we can open our heart to these deserving men. Remember, these men are our boys and/or sons.

I pray that you will get behind Jerry Teachout and myself and that we can tip the scales at Lake Placid!

Thank you and God Bless.

Dear Pete,  
Geri Falgiano, from Lax, sent me a copy of a letter that

you had written in some mag. or newspaper about the Vietnam Vet. I just wanted to drop you a line and say thanks for your new feelings on the matter. I don't know if you even remember that one time you took a bunch of the gang /// Cheryl, Geri, your wife, some cousin who worked on computers or something, George, and that may have been it /// out to dinner in Santa Monica. Afterwards we went to your place for a few drinks anyway, you and I got into a discussion about the way you felt about VN Vets at the time.

That conversation remained in my mind for about 2 years now and to be honest with you, I couldn't help but feel a little animosity towards you. You had the same attitude that most of the nation seemed to have. I could never quite understand it.

If you older war veterans were just comparing your heroics against ours as a matter of prestige or if you really believed that we were just over in the Nam for no reason.

Pete, having been born in 1949, I grew up in a post WWII era. All the movies I saw, all the news clips I saw, all the history books I read, all the praises I had heard, all the veterans I listened to, all this, led me to believe in an America that could do no wrong. We were a mighty nation. Our history, from that first shot at Concord, had been one of extreme patriotism, loyalty, and belief in the good Lord. You and people like you held a very high place in my minds eye. You embodied all that I had been raised to believe. You fought for what was right. Then the Nam came along and we, my fellow Nam Vets and myself, were sent to a place far away from home, from a home that didn't want us over there. We returned a defeated Army. This was not like the armies of the past. How could we lose? Why were there no parades to welcome us back? Why were people so down on us for going over there? Why were veterans from previous wars treating us like we were not brothers, having shared the same fears of war? The same nightmares of death, the same longings to be home with loved ones. What did we do? We answered unquestionably the Call to Arms. We believed we were needed. It was our turn to take arms from our fathers and defend freedom.

Granted, it was a hell of a period for Americans back home. There were lots of changes in the wind. But then the world is always changing. All I really want to say is I didn't dodge the draft. I didn't question the Call to Arms. I believed in my country, just like you. I went where I was sent, just like you. But unlike you, I praised all veterans.

So, Pete, whether you knew it or not, at the time of our conversation those two years ago I was very deeply hurt. I left your home and felt much anger, not just towards you, but towards those individuals who were out to make my loyalty, love of country, and belief in freedom some sort of circus show to be scorned and laughed at.

Well Pete, this letter is, in a way, an attempt to wipe the slate clean and let you know that you have done much for me personally. Your letter of recognition has made me feel like a kid again. Believing in a country that has become strong because of people like — ourselves —.

I hope that your friends and fellow vets take your advice and see clear to clear the Viet-

nam Vet of all wrong doing. It's a stigma on your souls to think any other way. We are brothers on the field, brothers at home, and fellow countrymen.

Many thanks and  
lots of love,  
George E. Montoya

60th Inf. K & Hqs Co. 3rd Bn  
JOSEPH RAPPAZINI  
24001 Sherman Ave  
Oak Park, Mi. 48237

Thoughts and memories of the Ninth are always ever present. The arrival of the Octofoil causes them to peak, since 2 "K" company members had messages in the edition. I also heard from Roy Hughes, who had belonged to the 3rd Bn 60th A.T. platoon. But there's more. Once again I've brought out the copy of a poem written by Lt. Marshall W. Potter, who led the ammunition and pioneer platoon in France. Though he and I have not corresponded for many years, I feel as close to him as I ever did. Memories of days with the 9th have forged an everlasting link. What follows is the poem that he wrote shortly before the wars end, I believe:

## THE ROADSIDE WATCH

I passed down a road today  
With tall spruce on either side.  
My eyes cast about, "might be enemy here"  
For I knew 'twas where men had died.  
Yes, I passed down a road today  
All sparkling with morning's first sun.  
A gas mask here, a mess kit there, and now  
A no longer needed gun.  
Aye, a no longer needed gun, for this lad  
Whose eyes stared up at the sky  
"Move up! Press on! Keep pushing" was said  
So his comrades passed on as he died.  
I pondered a moment as I gazed down at this boy  
And I thought I remembered his place.  
It seemed I recall his marching by me  
With a half wondering scared look on his face.  
Yes, I passed down a road today  
With tall spruce on either side.  
God had meant that I should pass that way  
And find this boy who had died  
O! Insane leader of the "Super Race"  
I know your ending too well.  
That lad's blue eyes staring up; in to space  
Were watching your soul - Go to Hell!

By 1st Lt. M.W. Potter

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

Listened to Lawrence Welk program the other night of the Big Band era of the 40's and thought I'd take you back from Bragg to ETO. At the Service Clubs in '42, In the Mood with Glenn Miller, I'll Hold You in my Heart 'till I Can Hold You in my Arms by Eddie Arnold, Wayne King and The Waltz You Saved for Me, Guy Lombardo and Auld Lang Syne. Then Till Johnny Comes Marching Home on the hike to Port Lyautey. At the Cefalu service club, Pennsylvania Polka, I'm A Yankee Doodle Dandy. In England the White Cliffs of Dover and Bing Crosby's White Christmas. Begine the Beguine played in bivouacs before Sicily. I could just see the 9th Division band planing our favorites all thru the ETO and it brings a tear to the eye thinking of what and where we went together.



## MAIL CALL

84th FA Bn  
WILLIAM C. MAUSER  
2721 N. Garden Dr. #310  
Lake Worth, Fl. 3346

Sorry to be late, we moved. Steve Yuhasz of "C", 84th FA Bn just spent a couple days visiting here in sunny Florida. Sam Robinson "B", 84th FA Bn says he is going to stop by. E.C. Bert Waller Hq 9th Div Arty calls me occasionally.

60th Inf. Co M  
JOHN ELICHKO  
10005 Bay Pines Blvd  
St. Petersburg, Fl. 33708

I enjoyed meeting buddies from M Co at the Florida Chapter meeting in Clearwater this past October. See you in June.

60th Inf Co C  
ARTHUR LITOS  
2115 42nd Terr. So.

New Port Richey, Fl. 33552

I would like to take this opportunity to say hello to all my buddies who were drafted from Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, N.Y. After the war, I moved to Detroit where I had my own restaurant. I married a beautiful Irish girl and am the proud father of 2 sons and 3 grandchildren. I am retired and living in Florida and I'd like to say hello to Tony Matuza and Louis Stanchio and hope they remember the Greek (The cook from Company C) Good luck to you all.

60th Inf. F Co  
EARL LEES  
1280 Morris Ave.  
N. Huntingdon, Pa. 15642

Opened the Greensburg Tribune Review (1/14/84) and saw the announcement of the reunion of the old Reliabs at Lake Placid. Last year we were contacted by Frank Dennis and Domer Miller on their way to Detroit but did not know about it and may have been among the crowd. Please send info.

60th Inf. Co A & Hq Co  
DYER E. HONEYCUTT  
Rt 12 Box 59  
Gadsden, Ala. 35901

I recently renewed my dues and have received two copies of the Octofoil which I enjoyed very much.

I was a runner from B. Hdq. to Co. A while in Sicily throughout the war. I knew many of the men in Co. A and most of all the men in Hdq. Co.

Over the years I have contacted several of the fellows and would like to contact others if I knew where they lived. On my job as an auditor I travel most all of the States and will contact any of the fellows when I am in their area if they will drop me a note giving me their address.

I have made two trips back to Europe since World War II. Visited the Remagen Bridge on the East side. Toured the route we fought from the beachhead to Belgium. Spent some time in Munich, Germany and many other areas throughout Europe.

I am enclosing dues for a very close friend of mine by the name of Orlyn D. Gils who lives at: P.O. Box 876, Stark, Fla. 32091. Gils was in the 39th Inf.

I have never made one of the reunions but plan to make one soon, possibly the next one.

39th Inf. Co B  
ALBERT BACCILE  
915 1/2 Davis St  
Elmira, N.Y. 14901

Looking forward to Lake Placid and all the best in the coming year.

47th Inf. Co. M  
LYLE KITCHEN  
735 Thomas St  
Janesville, Wi. 53545

I received the Octofoil and have read "Operation Come Back" with Safi being of interest to me as I was a member of M Co. when we landed there. If the cemetery mentioned was the one at Safi, I have always remembered how it was so clean and pretty. We left 12 of our buddies there. The rest of the article was as I remember it. Cork Forest and all, the "Bear" too. I always look forward to receiving the Octofoil and you guys that do all of this are doing a great job. A big thank you from me. I congratulate those who go back and see all those places that we were at. I have no desire to go back, once was enough to travel from Safi to the Elbe River. Guess I'll just live with the memories. I would like to hear from anyone that remembers me and I will respond.

47th Inf. Co. I  
LEWIS J. MELE  
14 Hi-Vue Dr.  
Newburgh, N.Y. 12550

I read the Octofoil you sent and it was great! I would like to hear from old buddies of Co. I, Lt. Kent, and some who live in Yonkers, N.Y. and Chicago. Some will remember me, day before Christmas 1944 I was sent back to the hospital and in my pack I had 4 or 5 cans of sardines. Boy they were like gold to have at that time.

60th Inf. Co. B. Med Bn  
JOSEPH SANFILIPPO  
22 Simmons Pl.  
Wayne, N.J. 07470

Guido Introini of Clifton, N.J. called me around Christmas time saying he read a letter in Mail Call from John Ryan of Northville, N.Y. who had pictures of several members of the 9th being decorated in Bitterfeld, Germany. I called John Ryan who was kind enough to send me a photo of me being decorated by Maj. Gen. Craig. It brought back a lot of memories. Both John Ryan and Guido Introini urged me to join the association, which I am happy to say I did. See you at Lake Placid.

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

I enjoyed reading the many letters in the last issue of the Octofoil. Especially so on the tour of North Africa "Operation Comeback" was descriptive and carried me back to memories with the 47th combat team. B. Co., 15th Engrs. were well represented at Father Connors Memorial Mass and from what I heard from them, their hopes are high on meeting again at Lake Placid. Best wishes to all.

60th Inf. Co. A  
ZANE GREY  
1350 Fleetwood Dr. Apr. #221  
Elgin, Ill. 60120

Just a line to let you know everything is going along very well. Sorry I could not make it to Detroit, but I have to go by what the doctor says. I did want to tell you that through the letter you put in the Octofoil, that I got pictures of all my company. Two of my very good buddies and comrades took photostatic copies and they turned out very good. Comrade Lee McCleary of Az. and Kenneth Finch of Calif. Thank you very much and hope this letter finds you and yours in the best of health.

60th Inf. Co. M  
W. C. HORNADY, Jr.  
3432 Dresden Dr.  
Montgomery, Ala. 36111

I have been out of touch with the association for quite a few years. We had an M Co. 60th reunion this past June in Florence, Ala. Twenty one of the guys and seventeen wives were there, sure was good to see them. Bob Bovanizer sent me this application so I could renew my membership. Am looking forward to hearing from you and receiving the Octofoil again.

47th Inf G Co  
HERMON RAHN  
5599 New Hendersonville Hwy.  
Pisgah Forest, N.C. 28768

It sure is a pleasure to read letters in the Octofoil, I always look forward to it. I have been trying to find a soldier in G Co, named Robert L. Mathis. His home was in Brady, Texas but he had left there and Walter Bryson of Brady sent me an address but I lost his trail in Lake Worth, Florida. I have joined the Florida Chapter with my old buddy, Grady Perry. We plan on being in Orlando in April, then on to Arizona to visit good old Tex Byers. He moved again from Texas back to Camp Verde, Ariz. It is about time for dues again so I am enclosing a check and also some for the Memorial fund. It was good to see a letter from an old buddy, Louis Rullan in the Octofoil and I'm sure all the men of the 9th hope George Bako is well and getting along real good now. Notice my address has changed but I am still living in the same place. Best wishes to all

47th Inf. H Co  
W. M. LYNCH  
2008 Tulane  
Richardson, Texas

I would enjoy corresponding with anyone from H Co. or any of the support groups that were in France, Belgium and Germany. My wife and I will return to Europe for our third trip this November, so would like to correspond with anyone planning a trip.

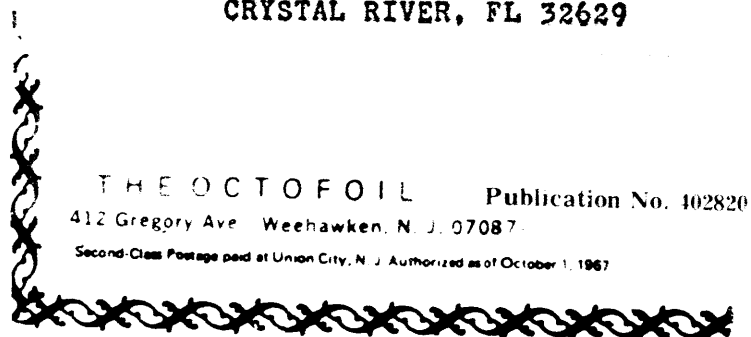
39th Inf. G Co  
CARLOS B. ESTEVA  
Box 968  
Arecibo, P.R. 00613

We hope you had a fine Christmas and our best wishes that 1984 lives up to all of your expectations. Today Jan. 6, 1984 here in Puerto Rico we are celebrating Three Kings Day, similar to Santa Claus, thus we have 2 gift giving days in bright and sunny Puerto Rico. Teresa and I went to mainland China, the Peoples Republic of China last October. It was a fine trip and we are planning another one as 20 days were not enough. Good sights, excellent food and the shopping was of the best, one of the outstanding visits was to the Great Wall, out of this world! This is a small world, while waiting at Los Angeles Airport for our group, one of them turned out to be an ex-member of the 15th engineers, Milton Kaminsky, (Lt), who sends his warmest regards to Sgt. Barnett. Kaminsky was with his wife, Bernice, and they live in Wash. D.C. I am enclosing a photo of us taken in Hong Kong. Sorry I missed the reunion in Detroit, but we are planning to make Lake Placid. Teresa joins in wishing all the members of our great association "salud y pesetas y tiempo para gozarles" and we will see you all in the near future.

60th Inf. Co B  
WILLIAM DEME  
1949 White St  
York, Pa. 17404

I enjoy reading the Octofoil, am retired now and hope to get to one of the reunions in the near future. Good luck to all.

JOHN CLOUSER  
RT 4 BOX50A  
CRYSTAL RIVER, FL 32629

IS YOUR OCTOFOIL  
ADDRESSED WITH

## TELL-TALE RED INK?

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

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

## DUES ARE DUE

39th Inf. Med. Det.  
WILLIAM ROHAN  
16 Suffern Pl.  
Monsey, N.Y. 10952

I will write to the Lake Placid Convention Center for info. regarding our reunion in June. Will also contact James Mucci of 88 Overlook Pl., Newburgh, N.Y. to join me in the reunion and the association. Best regards.

39th Inf. K Co.  
PETER JANUS  
1112 Gladys Ave.  
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15216

I was in K Co. from Fort Bragg-Surcouf-Algiers and Kasserine Pass. Am retired 2 years now, after 33 years with the Pittsburgh Police department. Just sitting here reading an article from Stars & Stripes, Staff Writer by S. Sgt. Jack Foisie. "Ninth Bars Nothing - except path of enemy". Good luck and good health to everyone.

34th F.A. C Btry.  
WILLIAM L. DOTZERT  
311 W. 10th St.  
Beardstown, Ill. 62618

I joined the 9th at Ft. Bragg in 1942. Sure glad to have been a member of the 34th FA. They are a great bunch of guys. I would like to hear from some of the men from C Btry. I was with several men in Sicily that went in to a building with 100 gallon barrels of wine, they filled a 5 gal. water can with urine. We had some good times and some bad ones. I think about the poison gas scare in France when everybody ran to the two wheel trailer for their mask that was stored there. It was a false alarm for someone yelled "gas" during the night, but it was for gasoline for the trucks! I have been retired for 4 years when we moved to town from the country. I mow a few lawns and other odd jobs. Raise some melons and garden, go to an auction once in a while. I enjoy reading the Octofoil and enjoyed the meeting at Ft. Bragg.

60th Inf. Co. I  
DONALD MUHLENBRUCH  
608 W. Marion St.  
Joliet, Ill. 60436

I have retired and hope to be in New York for the 1984 reunion. Looking forward to seeing some of the guys from I Co.

Lake Placid 1984

June 21, 22, 23

84th FA, B Btry  
WALDO G. HUYSMAN  
727 E. Harmon  
Delphos, Ohio 45833

I have been retired now for 2 years and enjoy every day of it. The wife and I have 5 children, 4 of them are married and I am kept busy with doing many odd jobs for them. I go to my sons place in Iowa every year for some good pheasant hunting. Still can't understand how I got thru the 8 campaigns as a forward observer alive. Sure was good to have Father Connors, Father De Laura and the good Lord on our side. Hope to see you in June at Lake Placid

39th Inf Hq Co  
MYRON L. CARPENTER  
129 East Taylor St.  
Cottage Grove, Wi. 53527

In Oct my wife Vera and I attended the Mich., Ill. chapter reunion of the 9th Div. at Angola, In. We had a very nice time and met a lot of nice people there. These people treat you like a long lost brother. Hope to be able to attend next year also.

Has there ever been any mention made in the Octofoil of an organization called "Veterans of the Battle of the Bulge"? I just recently joined it. The dues are \$100.00 per year. The address is, P.O. Box 11129 Arlington, Va. 22210-2129 Anyone interested in joining might write to them for further information. I believe this is the second year, as they held the first reunion this Dec. at Arlington, Va.

The Belgian Fourragere I mentioned before may be obtained from the Glenwood Agency 32 Wilmoth Ave. Ard-sley, N.Y. 10502 Write for their order forms for ribbons and medals.

Does anyone know the address of these former 2nd. Bn. 39th. men? James Todd Cottage Grove, Tenn., Leslie P. Gabel Cohecton, N.Y., Ernest Haefele Guttenberg, N.J., Warren Russell Middleport, Ohio., Lewis Stein Brooklyn, N.Y., Tommy Karre New Brunswick, N.J., Edward Pietroski New Providence, N.J., Paul Dillon Roanoake, Va., Dean Hellinger Spring Mills, Penn., Reggie Baker Denison, Iowa, Alexander Stankowitz Jersey City, N.J.,

Well thats about all I have for now.

(Continued on page 6)

The deadline for the next issue will be April 20th.