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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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The Octofoil, March/April 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 2

Mar-April 1984

REUNION 1984 PROGRAM June 21, 22, 23, 1984 Lake Placid, New York

THURSDAY, JUNE 21ST

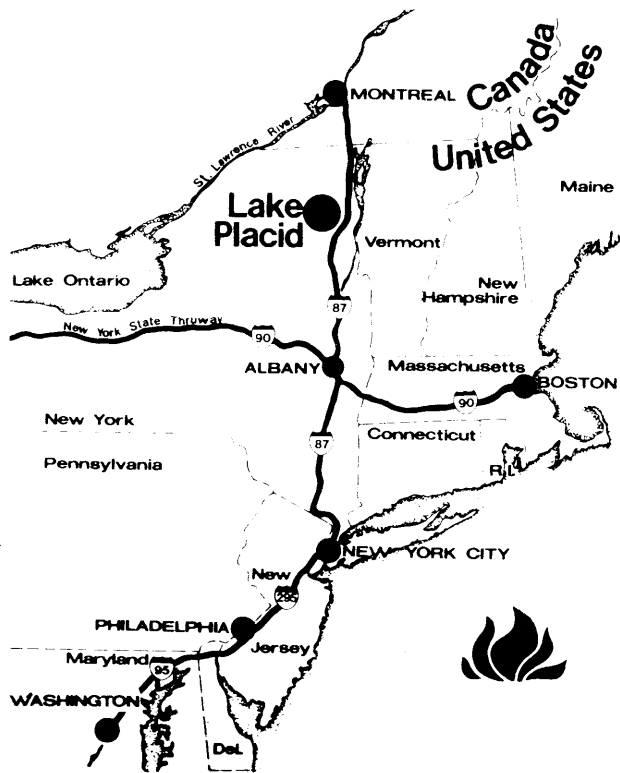
Registration..... All Day
Golf Outing..... To Be Posted
Board of Governors Meeting..... 4:00 P.M.
Opening Night Reception..... 8:00-11:30 P.M.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22ND

Registration..... All Day
Business & Committee Meetings..... 10:00 A.M.
General Meeting..... 11:00 A.M.
Ladies Meeting and Social..... 11:00 A.M.
Board of Governors..... 3:00 P.M.
Dance..... 9:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23RD

Registration..... All Day
Memorial Mass..... 8:00 A.M.
Memorial Ceremony..... 10:00 A.M.
Evening Mass..... 4:00 P.M.
Banquet..... 6:00 P.M. till ?



Deeply Appreciate

I and my family deeply appreciate your letter of sympathy. Please express my thanks to the other members of the association. The General had not been well since he had a bout with pneumonia in late March, but his spirits were good and we had a wonderful month before Christmas. Bill Yarborough, his aide, Gen. Westmoreland and his driver Ellenburger came to see him and they enjoyed reliving their

hard times together. He was very proud of the 9th and I've half a dozen pictures and insignia. Gen. Collins told me he tried to get the General to take a higher command during the war but nothing would induce him to leave the 9th. I can believe it. Fr. Connors said his funeral Mass. He was a devoted friend. Again my thanks for your kind note.

Mrs. Miriam Craig
3700 Fordham Rd. N/W
Washington, DC 20016

TAPS SOUNDED

*There is no death! The stars go down
To rise upon some other shore,
And bright in Heaven's jeweled crown
They shine forevermore.*

*And ever near us, though unseen
The dear immortal spirits tread:
For all the boundless universe
Is Life—there are no dead!*

William J. Baptiste
47th Med. Bn.
Harold F. Stefke
Serv. Co. 60th Inf.
Al Sebock
60th Inf.
Paul Sakai
47th Inf.
Ernest Wiegel
Co. F 47th Inf. & Pers. Hq.
47th
Alexander Lloyd
47th Co. G & Medics & Pers. Hq.
Frank Gesper
47th Inf. L Co.

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



Mrs. Myrtle Guglielmino
Ladies Auxiliary

Members of the Association were saddened to learn of the death of Myrtle Guglielmino, wife of our 1st Vice-President Vincent Guglielmino. Stricken with leukemia for this past year she never the less kept in touch with her many friends and attended the association reunion in Detroit last summer. Always on hand to help with the chores of the association she could be found at the registration desk assisting the reunion committee. We'll never forget her for her kindness when we were sick. She phoned a few times each week asking for our welfare when actually we should have been calling her, as she was gravely ill.

The following are some of the people that remembered her and offered their sympathy at her wake.

Sister Edward Joseph Egan
and Sister Marinella Amerson
Mr. and Mrs. (Emil) Langer
Mr. and Mrs. (Charles) LiBretto
Mr. Arthur Schmidt
Mr. Charles Wider
Mr. and Mrs. (George) Apar
Mr. and Mrs. (Norman) Caswell
Mrs. Olga Palega and family
Mr. Jacob Laskau
Mr. Adolph Wadalavage
Mr. Bill Klauz
Mr. John Morris
Mr. James Mullen
Mr. and Mrs. (Al) Bruchac
Mr. and Mrs. (Frank) Fazio
Mr. and Mrs. (Al) Orletti

(Continued on page 2)

Cherbourg to Honor an "Old Reliable"

Liliane Jordan, 16, huddled in a bunker with other civilians the night Army Sgt. Bill Finley liberated the City Hall of Cherbourg, France.

Finley, a strapping 20-year-old from the Corn Belt, leaped into the bunker, grenade in hand.

"Je suis Francaise (I am French)," Liliane cried. Finley didn't pull the pin, and introduced himself to the more than 20 terrified men, women and children who had thrown up their hands.

To Liliane and the citizens of Cherbourg, Bill Finley of Decatur, Ill., symbolized the American liberation of their city. The Germans had occupied Cherbourg, a strategic port on the English Channel, for 1,758 days.

This summer the City of Cherbourg will dedicate a tablet in Finley's memory when it observes the 40th anniversary of its liberation during World War II.

Finley died of combat wounds nine months after the liberation of Cherbourg.

When the people of the city decided to honor the young American, they were unable to trace him at first. A city archivist who had spoken with the soldier had spelled his name as Tinley.

A search by reporters and government and military officials on both sides of the Atlantic ended last week when Ted Shepherd of Decatur read a newspaper story about his boyhood friend and told Finley's sisters, Jacqueline Neff and Betty Simms.

The sisters agreed that the newspaper story bore an amazing similarity to their brother's experiences and got in touch with the Decatur Herald and Review which had published the story. The paper referred the sisters to The Associated Press bureau in Chicago, which relayed their information to France and ultimately verified the sisters' story.

Last Sunday, Cherbourg's mayor said the search was over and that William Finley was the American soldier the city had sought.

Finley's family was elated that Cherbourg will honor their Bill — who was killed nine months after the fighting in Cherbourg — and that the French remembered his kindness as well as his courage.

"My brother was the type of man to go in and help anybody," Mrs. Neff said.

Three weeks after Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower launched the greatest seaborne invasion in history, landing an Allied force on the beaches of Normandy, Finley was among the first foot soldiers to enter Cherbourg behind rumbling American tanks.

Late that evening of June 26, 1944, with German machine guns chattering, an American soldier dashed across an open square to a pillar on the steps of Cherbourg's City Hall.



Under his cover, three men moved up, and together they crashed into the city's administrative offices, liberating them from German control. The Allies had captured an excellent harbor, Cherbourg had gained its freedom.

Though no witness could be found who saw Finley enter Cherbourg's City Hall, the evidence accumulated during the search left no doubt among city officials that he was their man.

Liliane, who married a sailor and is now Mrs. William Reed of Parkersburg, W. Va., recalled how frightened she was when Finley burst into the shelter. She was separated from her parents, who lived outside the city, and she had just spent more than two weeks in a German work camp.

"He was very polite. That was what so remarkable. There were so many soldiers coming through and a lot of them were very rough," she recalled in a telephone interview.

"He introduced himself and shook hands with us," she said.

Mrs. Reed remembered the tall, sturdily built soldier as homesick, gentle and considerate. She said, "He was trying to tell us he wanted to go home" to the friends and relatives he was never to see again.

Finley, who had quit Decatur High School at age 17 to enlist, spoke little French. Mrs. Reed knew no English, but they communicated well enough to make friends.

Finley spent the night in the shelter, sleeping on a blanket his new French friends spread on the ground for him. Before he fell asleep, Finley winked at Liliane.

Finley left the shelter the next day and rejoined his outfit to fight in Germany. He and Liliane wrote to each other a couple of times.

Then, Liliane said, Finley's letters stopped coming. She received a letter from his parents, saying he had been killed in action and had never celebrated his 21st birthday.

Finley belonged to the 39th Infantry Regiment of the 9th Division. On March 30, 1945, he was wounded by shrapnel but remained on duty. Two days later, April 1, in Winterberg, Germany, he died of what the Army said were "a gunshot wound and multiple severe wounds of the chest and left wrist."

THE OCTOFOIL

THE OCTOFOIL
Form 2579 should be sent to
412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087
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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 XXXVIV

Mar-April 1984

Number 2

Publication No. 402820

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

Taps Sounded

(Continued from page 1)

Mary and Babe Ciofalo
Mr. and Mrs. (Daniel) Quinn
Mr. and Mrs. (Pete) Uhl
Mr. Pete Egan
Mrs. Angela Toranto
Mrs. Agnes Hattrick
Mr. Walter O'Keeffe and Sister
Clare O'Keeffe
Mr. Anton Dietrich
Mr. and Mrs. (Ralph) Witzken
Mr. and Mrs. (Al) Munatore
Mr. and Mrs. (Bill) Canales
Mr. and Mrs. (Mike) Gatto
Mr. and Mrs. (George) Bako
Mr. Lou Almassey
Mr. and Mrs. (Nick) Russick
Men of the 9th Division
(flowers)
Ladies Auxiliary

Thank you for the kind sympathy and tribute to the memory of Mrs. Myrtle E. Guglielmino.

Guglielmino Family

60th Cannon Co.
FRED GOLUB
21 Lenox Ave.
Monsey, N.Y. 10952

I hope you have had a pleasant winter, I'm glad to say we're fine and look forward to meeting everyone in Lake Placid. I was sorry to learn of the death of Al Sebock, 60th Cannon Co. and am enclosing my donation toward the Memorial Fund in his memory. Al was one nice guy and I always looked forward to seeing him at the reunions which he never missed. My best to all.

34th FA Btry A
Eugene Reedy
12805 Nashville
Detroit, Mi. 48205

Gene sends the following in memory of Bill Zimmerman, Fred Josey, Bill Andrews and General Louis A. Craig.

Soldier, rest! Thy warfare over
Sleep the sleep that know not breaking
Dream of battlefields no more
Days of danger, night of waking
Like the dew on the mountain
Like the foam on the river
Like the bubble on the fountain
Thou are gone and forever.

Tip of Hat

Remembering the Memorial Fund and their departed loved ones we thank the following members and friends.

Janet Baptiste (In memory of her husband William)
John W. DeVere
Luann Belmonte
Aaron Lubin (In memory of Howard Mulrain K.I.A. in France)

Thomas Robertson
Louis Gershenow
Fred Golub (In memory of Al Sebock)
William Muldoon (In memory of Frank Gaspar)
Anthony Forte
Ralph Palermo
Glendon M. Bowman



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.

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. ☐

REUNION June 21, 22, 23 1984
Lake Placid 1984 Remember the dates

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

Florida redeemed itself since February in offering our northern friends and visitors a more enjoyable winter season weather-wise as our "Beco" couples who spent an extended period with us Floridians will happily affirm.

Pat and Ann Morano spent their usual month at Sandy Shores, their favorite Madeira Beach resort, during which time Grace and I shared several pleasant visits together along with the finding of new dining spots along the suncoast. We also enjoyed our four-day visit with Jack and Kay DiSanto over at Port St. Lucie where the DiSantos leased a beautiful home for two months — needless to say it's always a wonderful experience to spend time with these "long time friends".

Had letters from John Morgan and Orion Shockley and we're looking forward to their presence up at Lake Placid. Orion and Eleanor are continuing their extensive travels and will be having an "over three thousand mile jaunt from out Seattle-way" while John ponders over whether to travel versus car, train or "plane or maybe he'll just "grab a cab"!

"Beco-47th." is presently involved in aiding the dilemma of Grady Turnage of "L. Co.-47th." as he anxiously tries to get proof of his P.O.W. status after records were destroyed by fire. Supplied with 40 year old information we have been able to contact some of our "Beco" men instrumental in freeing Turnage and others from P.O.W. camp near Cherbourg — they were Orion Shockley (C.O.) Joe Metscavage, Joe Palajsa, and Art Slageter, the only men we have current addresses on — since I received a note from Pat Slageter that Art died in December 1983 of a kidney failure. He was highly admired by those of us who knew him and shall be missed by all. We have sent our sincere sympathy to Pat and her daughter.

Our northern most "Beco" member, Burlington Jack DiSanto, scouted the area we are about to "invade" — he arrived at the following conclusion "There are two things you should bring — your ice-skates — and money! — not necessarily in that order."

We are expecting a remarkably good "Beco" turnout at our 39th. Re-union — like always our objective is comradeship, our annual renewal of long and strong friendships, perpetuated year to year from place to place. —

— There are those among us who invite dissension, ignore the present "known" to "bleed" for a cause twice defeated in the recent past, obviously not desirable to most. — Let us not waste valuable time and energies on this hapless issue that even at best will only hasten the demise of this fine organization — as we know it!!

Hope you guy's have gotten 'round to arranging for your accommodations, if not you just might be doing "your thing" in a pyramidal tent!

— Stay well, and keep in touch. — See you'all in June.

Pat J. Morano
2208 Lincoln Way, East
Chambersburg, Pa. 17201
Art J. Stenzel
8705 Village Mill Row,
Bayonet Point, Fla. 33567

Sign in a Chinese restaurant:
"The Chow's the Mein thing."

FLORIDA GATOR NEWS

In starting off this issue of news for the Octofoil, I'd like to thank my comrades and their wives for the several mailgrams, letters and telephone calls I have received following the April Florida Chapter meeting in Orlando. Some were of thanks in getting our comrades together, while others were of complaints against the hotel. The Twin Towers have been notified of said complaints in order to make the national meeting in June of 85 a success.

As of now, there will be a couple of changes in the June reunion as far as Friday and Saturday planned events are concerned. More information will be forthcoming in later issues of the Octofoil.

As now past President of the Florida Chapter, I'd like to express many thanks to the 6 new comrades who attended for the very first time in April, but at the same time, express disappointment for what I thought was a low turnout for Orlando. Our attendance this meeting was only 60 people, while last October 1983, we drew 81.

The next meeting of the Florida Chapter in October 1984 is planned for the Miami Beach Area.

Many thanks to Emil Langer for once again attending our meeting. It is always gratifying to see present or past leaders of the National Organization at one of our Florida get-togethers.

Elections for new officers were held in April, and results are as follows:

1984-85 —
President, Joe Williams
Vice President, Pete Radichio
Secretary, Phil Berman
Treasurer, Henry Santos
Our congratulations to all.

I'm sure Joe Williams will be making announcements as to the committees he will select for the 1985 National Convention. Joe will be able to count on me for any help he may need, and I can render, along with the other fine people in Florida. Many have already volunteered. As for myself, it has been a pleasure to serve as your President the past 2 years in Florida.

My wife and I would like to thank Barb Berman and other ladies helping with the leisure hour festivities with snacks in our hospitality room. Barb is a professional who puts her heart and soul in there. Most of the wives of the Florida Chapter attend a meeting voluntarily to organize and promote more interesting events. We hope to see more of them in the future. This group has a great deal of talent. Also, thanks to all who donated gifts for our drawing. Clara MacDaniel has a rare gift for hand made gifts, this time a crocheted poodle. Thanks to all for suggestions that will help our group enjoy themselves more in the future. Beryl says in years of attending meetings for one organization or the other, this ladies group is without the usual bickering and indecision expected. They discuss, reject, accept, modify and make decisions satisfactorily. Thanks to all.

Robert Pappas
738C 518, Box 175
New Port Richey,
Fla. 33552
813-847-6607

9th Med Bn
H. LEE GREENE
1700 NW 80th Ave Apt. 202
Margate, Fl. 33063

I joined the 9th in Feb. 1941 and left for the hospital 1943 in Bizerte. I've been in the association since it started. Keep up the good work.

Stirred Memory

I was intrigued by the letter from Scotty Hirst in the latest issue headed "To Correct the Error." It stirred the memory, particularly since I was personally involved, and I knew that the 4th Infantry Division had not been in Barneville.

In fact I still have the yellow arm band, with "Deutsche Wehrmacht" printed thereon that I took off the arm of the German M.P. whom I interrogated that exciting night. A German "flitzer" with four German military police aboard had been stopped by the 60th Infantry Third Battalion which had quite unexpectedly cut across the base of the Cherbourg peninsula that day, cutting off the German forces to the north. I conversed in German with the prisoners and discovered that they were military police who had been sent down as road guides in advance of their 77th Division. This meant that the Germans were not aware of our presence.

The rest is history. The German 77th Division was completely destroyed, including their Commanding General, General Lieutenant Rudolph Stegmann.

Enclosed is a copy of the last page of a well-researched document prepared by Colonel Henry E. Royall, executive officer of the 60th Infantry Regiment, which will confirm the dates and the fact that it was our Third Battalion which liberated Barneville. The document is a rejected Silver Star recommendation.

Colonial Royall wrote: "The lead vehicle was one of those huge six-wheeled prime movers, pulling a 105mm gun. By sheer momentum this lead vehicle passed two of the three anti-tank guns and was opposite the third when one of the anti-tank gun crew shot the German driver with his carbine. The prime mover ran into the ditch leaving the 105mm gun completely blocking the road. . ."

As far as I know Hank Royall is still going strong in North Carolina and if he can make it would be the perfect Ninth Infantry Division representative at the Barneville ceremonies on 18 June 1984. If Hank cannot make it, I would recommend Colonel Keene N. "Slick" Wilson, the Third Battalion commanding officer.

Mention of the 4th Division also stirred the memory. Last week Dan Rather in his evening TV newscast told of a deep secret never before divulged. It concerned a terrible loss of life at Slapton Sands in south Devon in England when a landing exercise of the 4th was pierced by German E-boats on 28 April just prior to the Normandy landings. "Nine German E-boats sailed from Cherbourg, sliced into the landing exercise, and in less than fifteen minutes 630 men had been killed or drowned, 8 more would later die, and many more were burned or wounded." I was the regimental headquarters training exercise umpire for a regiment of the 4th shortly after this tragedy. We umpired an exercise among the hedgerows of Slapton Sands, Terrain similar to that of Normandy. The regimental commander was Colonel James Van Fleet, later a four-star general.

"General Eisenhower forbade any public announcement to guard the secrecy of the exercise and prevent even graver damage to the morale of the Neptune assault forces."

Lake Placid 1984

June 21, 22, 23

However, it was not a deep secret for all these years, as Dan Rather, claimed.

The quotations are from *Bodyguard of Lies* (Harper & Row) by Anthony Cave Brown, a foreign correspondent for the Daily Mail. The story is on page 546 of this book.

60th Infantry
NORBERT J. HENNEN
4130 Washburn Ave. N.
Minneapolis, Mn. 55412

MINI Reunion

Have you made your reservations as yet? We have! At the Holiday Inn in Shamokin Dam, Pa. and also the Holiday Inn in Lake Placid. If you read that letter from the Convention Bureau in Lake Placid you will see this means all food, all lodging, banquet and most drinks, except for Brum of course, who drinks more than the rest of us.

As of April 1st we have 14 reservations in Pa. Come on guys!!

We have put together the slides you wanted to see. Last year in Florence, Ala., Winchester, England and Stonehenge in 1977, a memorial mass in Worcester, Mass. and the reunion in Washington, D.C. when Matt Urban got the Congressional Medal of Honor from President Carter. Remember to bring pictures of the 40's, either of yourself or other men of the 60th, if you have them.

Also bring one thing for door prize basket.

Heard from Thornton that Joe Jablonsky passed away in late '83. For those of you who knew him a card or note would be nice.

Of the sixty three M Co men on the Jan. 84 list two were returned for wrong address. Charles Fox and M. Klemenic, does anyone have a current address for them? Change of address for John and Caroline Hale to 8317-34th Ave., Jackson Heights, New York 11372. John not too well at this time. Also change address for Harold A. Rhoades to Leisure Point, Box 15A Millsboro, Del. 19966. Add new man to roster: John Bosko, RFD 6 Rt 165 Preston, Norwich, Ct. 06360.

Anyone know of anyone not on our membership mailing list?

Keep your cards and letters coming!

Bob Bovanizer Sect.
14 Sabre Park, Niagara
Falls, New York 143
716-297-6205
Joe Gargie Chairman
of 84 Mini Reunion
RD#1, Selinsgrove,
Pa 17870
717-374-8428

39th Cannon Co.
TOM ORBAND
30 Delmar St
Binghamton, N.Y. 13903

I haven't written in a long time because of health reasons. They put a bypass in my neck (had a stroke in May) and 2 bypasses in my heart. Tell you the truth I feel like a new man. Just got back from Myrtle Beach after 2 months and I kept going down to Sea Mist Motel looking for Carlton Pope. When I got home I read a story in the Octofoil from Carlton saying he is in Arizona. I saw Fr. Francis Sullivan at St. Boone & St. Anthony in Boston. Jim McMahon had a stroke but he is doing very good. The McInerney daughters write or call me. Paul Leschak had another heart attack.

- AND HERE WE
GO AGAIN!!!

We've all heard the expression "I have news for you — some good — some bad — let's take the good, first."

On the front page of the Jan.-Feb. "Octofoil" we read stimulating news, whetting our anticipation to participate during our Lake Placid visit — the boatrides, touring and sighting, action sports, etc. — while on page 3. we were, once again, confronted with a "rehash" of proposed changes in the organization's "By-laws".

Gerald Teachout, and the "pro" followers, again persist in belaboring this controversial issue and putting a wet blanket on what could and should be one of our most unique and colorful "Re-unions in the organization's history."

We could give a great many reasons favoring continuing opposition to their proposals but it's hard to surpass the many reasonings presented by Frank Rankin, Charley Koskie, John Bonkowski, Fred D'amore and my good buddy, George Brown in the "Octofoil" of Jan.-Feb. 1982.

Tho it is the unanimous desire of "Beco-47th." that "no way" should this organization succumb to becoming a "last man club" as we, pointedly, portrayed in our fictional article "Letters from 3 Guys" awhile back — in turn, we are even less inclined to support the suggested and belabored proposal of change.

However, in order to preserve our "Status Quo" we best start with the "opening" within our own membership — presently you will be asked to vote on this "outside" issue while, in turn, and for whatever reason, cannot vote for your own national officers??? — is this what they refer to as — democracy in action?

The premise of this organization is, and should remain, social! We are not an American Legion or a Veterans of Foreign Wars — it is not a post-war N.C.O. or Officers Club and 'tho it does not owe "any of us" anything beyond the opportunities to gather monthly or yearly in good comradeship it does owe us "openness of purpose" — we, as a membership, want to share in its policies — to inform, and be informed. — it best start with an "in depth" financial report!

— Let's not draw suspicion by operating like a "closed-end investment group" continued failure to comply in these areas could lead to it's premature demise.

In closing, we are sorry the administrators of our organization seem prone to raising the "controversial issue" almost on a yearly basis — one might raise the question as to whom it is that is being — SHAFTED???

Art Stenzel.
8705 Village Mill Row.
Bayonet Point, Florida.
33567.

47th Inf. F. Co
STANLEY PUTT
199 Quincy Ave
Kearny, N.J.

Unable to make Lake Placid due to prior commitment. Maybe next year. I retired 3 years ago and really enjoy it. Thankfully my wife and I are in good health. My best wishes for a successful reunion and fond regards to all my buddies of F Co. 47th Inf.

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

TRIBUTE TO HARRY HERMAN

A friend of mine and a veteran of the 9th division of WW 2 gave me a copy of your Jan.-Feb. 1984 issue. It contains a letter from the son of Lt. Col. Harry Herman (deceased) that only tells part of the story. The letter correctly briefs the fine military career of this fine officer, however, I would like to expand on it a little in order that all veterans of the 9th can be proud of "one of theirs". After WW2, Harry Herman, a reserve officer, returned to civilian life. He fashioned a brilliant career as an expert in labor relations. Those he knew and dealt with could not help but notice that his experience as a leader in the 9th influenced his decisions and judgment throughout his life time. He was directly instrumental in improving the lot of all working men, his affection for them was as real as his love for the men and officers of the 2nd Bn. of the 39th Inf. It is easy to say men like Harry Herman (wounded 3 times) made the 9th division one of the best of WW2. My point here is to say the 9th division made Harry Herman the great American citizen he was. His son failed to mention that Harry became a personal friend of Congressmen, Admirals, Generals, Labor leaders and Directors of Business management of many of Americas largest corporations. Harry was respected by all of them. This, a great tribute to the 9th division, his training ground. The great 9th division fought many of its greatest battles along side of me.

Henry V. Middleworth,
Col. U.S. Army (Retd.)
18th Infantry, 1st U.S.
Infantry Division
PO Box 1993
Pinehurst, N.C. 28374

899 TD 3rd Pltn
AL EVANS
60 Spoke Dr
Shelton, Ct. 06106

Enclosed dues for next three years. This will keep me off the delinquent list for awhile. Is there anybody out there from the 899th???

Some people think that dieting religiously means you don't eat in church.



47th Inf. I Co.
LEORY WINCHELL
Rt. 82, Box 114
Salt Point, N.Y. 12578

In looking thru my picture album, I found this picture of a group of fellows that got together when the war ended to entertain some of the troops in eastern and southeast Germany and Austria. We performed for quite a few different organizations during the spring and summer of 1945. I can't remember the names of the towns but it was shortly after the war ended. Here is a list of the names of the boys in the picture: Kenneth Bartlett on piano, Hal Halvorsen was our

Sincere Gratitude

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the Ninth Infantry Division Scholarship Fund for granting me scholarship awards during my college years. As of May, 1983, I became a graduate of Illinois State University and am now employed as an Administrative Assistant for a graphic design studio in downtown Chicago.

The generosity of the Scholarship fund aided me in attaining a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. I graduated with an overall grade-point average of 3.45 out of 4.00. The scholarships were a great help to both me and my family.

In appreciation of all the aid the scholarships have provided, please accept the enclosed donation to the fund.

Wishing you success in assisting other students in higher education, I remain sincerely yours,

Luann Belmonte
1161 S. Lombard Ave.
Oak Park, Ill. 60304

47th Medics 1st Bn
WALTER LANDIS
Box 22 Beltzville Rd
Kresgeville, Pa. 18333

I hope this note finds you and yours in good health. The sun is up over the mountain and it's a beautiful sight! I just received the Octofoil and enjoy it very much. When I was in Cherbourg it was a mess and at that time I was with the Med Det of the 615 Q.M. Hqds & Hq Dept. We called it the lost battalion, the Army didn't know what to do with us. Betty and I will be in Lake Placid this summer. We are leaving for Kansas about April 8th but will be back in time to attend the reunion. Reservations have been made at the Holiday Inn. See you then.

9th Med Bn
ED MACHOWSKI
5931 N. West Circle Ave
Chicago, Ill. 60631

Was sorry to hear of Bill Zimmerman's death, we were at the same table in Detroit last year, also sorry to hear of Gen. Westmoreland, we must help him.

Just when you're trying to find yourself, someone tells you to get lost.

M.C., Ridgie Wilson on clarinet, Robert E. Thompson on trumpet, J.B. Fineman "Sad Sack" sitting on stage, Donald Greenwell on drums and myself on guitar, Bill Demayo on saxophone, Herb Molar on accordion. The name of our group was "Oh My Aching Back". Bring your own gal, no fraternizing. I thought someone might remember. I am retired now and have a summer camp about 60 miles from Lake Placid in Chestertown, N.Y. Hope to attend the reunion and meet someone I know, especially Elmer Wagner who was our bazooka man.

"D" Day Anniversary celebrations

Ninth Infantry Division
Association
ATTN: Mr. Daniel Quinn
412 Gregory Avenue
Weehawken, New Jersey 07087
Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of a letter from the Mayor and the Representative of the village of Barneville-Carteret (near Cherbourg) which the 9th Infantry Division liberated on 18 June 1944.

The village is planning a ceremony to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of its liberation on 18 June 1984 and would very much like to invite any members of the 9th Infantry Division Association who might be in Normandy for the "D" Anniversary celebrations.

You may contact the Mayor directly at the following address:

Monsieur Raymond Leterrier
Mairie de Barneville-
Carteret
50270 Barneville-Carteret
(Cherbourg) France
or you may relay your response through me.

Sincerely,
MARION L. JOHNSTON
LTC, USA
Assistant Army Attache

47th Inf. D Co
EMERSON H. GROSS
7515 Miller Dr
Bath, Pa. 18014

I could not attend the Detroit reunion due to my health. I would have like to with my comrades. My wife and I will be at Lake Placid, and meet some of my D Co buddies again. Keep up the good work and God willing I will be there. I hope to see Neal Conger from Sharon, Pa and my fox hole buddy (P 38) from Leechburg, Pa and George (Romeo) Remaly and all the rest of my friends. Sorry to read that our leader Gen. Craig passed away. I met him in Washington in 1980. I also spoke with Mrs. Craig, shot a few pictures and helped her up the steps to the unknown soldiers tomb. A fine lady she is.

84th FA
FRANK W. HAINES
16 Kinney Dr.
Trenton, N.J. 08618

Thank you for using my letter in the Jan.-Feb. Octofoil. There seems to be an unusual number of interesting letters in that issue. I hope to get to Lake Placid for at least one day if my work schedule will permit. Keep up the great work.

Hqs. 84th FA
AARON LUBIN
69-10 D 188th St.
Fresh Meadows, N.Y. 11365

Many thanks for the back copies, I'm calling all the familiar names I can find, so far Ray Peque and Harold Frederick. Tried to reach Cal Polivy but he's recuperating in Florida. I'm also calling Curly Kremka. Enclosed is a donation in the name of Howard Mulrain (KIA in France). I see Ed Wunsch almost daily. He lost his wife recently and is still suffering greatly. He'd love to hear from his old buddies. I have lots of pictures thru France and Germany and if I hear from any old H.Q. 84th men I'll try to get photo copies and send them. Keep up the good work.

Reunion in 1984
Lake Placid
June 21, 22, 23



Al Orletti sends us this picture taken in 1941 at Fort Bragg with members of Company H, 47th Infantry airing their "long johns" in the Company street. Left to right: Jack Scully, Earl Holmes, Harry Herman, Phil Goldschmidt, Al Orletti, Steve Smyr, Bill DiVitto, Walter Panzen, Bob Lloyd, Phil Preston, Frank Fazio, John Marcogliese, Jimmy Curto and Adrian DeDecker.

Seeks Aid

John Quigley
2715 10th St. N.W.
Apt. 4-203
Roanoke, Va. 24012
Dear John,

Am writing to see if you remember me. I served with the 47 Regt. Co. L 9th Inf. Division from the invasion of Africa to the defeat of Germany, with the exception of the 45 days I was a prisoner. I was captured at St. Lo, France 1944 and held in the vicinity of Cherbourg, France till I was liberated. Co. B of our outfit liberated me. A tank corp. helped them but I don't know the name of the Corps. On the day of liberation the Germans tied me up and set me on fire. I've been messed up ever since. I stayed at the aide station a couple of weeks and they sent me by truck to Belgium where I rejoined the 9th. I can't remember the name of the town but it seems like it was just across the Belgium line, there wasn't any fighting going on at that time. I believe the first battle after that was Eupen (I hope I spelled it right). I stayed with the 9th till Sept. '45 and they sent me home ahead of the 9th with the 14th Armoured. I think the reason was that I enlisted before the war and my papers does not say for the duration so I think they had to send me on because my enlistment was up March of '44.

I stumbled along after the war with nerve problems till I finally had a breakdown. Last Nov. I had my thyroid removed, the tumor had gotten so large it had cut the oxygen off from my brain and caused me to have some damage. I can talk a little now but I suffered a loss of memory and am having to learn to do a lot of things over. The V.A. does not give me any help or benefits. They say my records were all burned in a fire at St. Louis, Mo. and that I have to prove my service and P.O.W. time. Without my P.O.W. status I can't receive medical care. I have a modest income from some rental property so I guess I can survive till Oct. 2 when I will be 62 yrs. old. But I have to take medicine for the rest of my life so I will need medical care. They say probably this summer they will operate again and then I will get a voice box.

Lt. Pierce, Sgts. Pickheart, Birch, Sizmore, Pvts. Keno and Roy Boyette were taken prisoner - with me. They say Roy is dead. I don't know these other men's first names so I haven't been able to find them. Even if you don't remember me and you remember prisoners

being taken it would help me if you would write a statement and tell how bad it was at St. Lo. If I can connect my nerve problems to the war I might get service connected. If you know where any of the men are please pass my letter on to them as I'm desperate for help. As long as I was with the 9th surely someone will remember me.

Sincerely,
Grady Turnage
5632 W. 24th St.
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74107

Editor's note: John Quigley was the supply Sgt. for Company L from Bragg till the end of the war and he can't recall Grady.

The secretary has searched his files but could not locate Grady Turnage's name with Company L 47th Infantry, nor could we find any of the names that Grady sent as buddies of his. We suggested that he write to several of some old timers from Company L-47th and we supplied him with their names and addresses. We do hope we will get results for Grady.

39th Inf.
HENRY GEISEL
242 S. 3rd St.
Lehigh, Pa. 18235

The Octofoil is getting better with every issue. When I see it coming along with the other mail I get the same thrill as I did from receiving mail during the darkest part of the war. The reunion at Lake Placid should be the best ever. I hear from some old buddies and quite a few hope to make it. I'm sorry I can't, health reasons, but am already waiting for the issue after the reunion. Reading Mr. Dotzert's letter in which he mentions the gas scare in Normandy, we also were bumping in to ourselves (39th Inf) at I imagine the same time trying to find our gas masks. Later we found out, if true or not, that someone said "there's mud on your ass" and someone misunderstood him as saying "mustard gas" which got around like wildfire! Sometime ago I read General Bradley's autobiography and learned more from that where I was at and what was going on than what I knew from being there from basic training to the end of the war. Best wishes to all, so long but Aufwiedersehn.

47th Inf. Co A
EDWARD BLECK
7625 Normandie Blvd
Middleburg Hts., Ohio 44130

Sure would like to hear from Lawrence McLaughlin if at all possible. I was company clerk when he was executive officer.

DOWN THE ROAD

Hq. Co. 47th Inf.
Leon D. Robins
19 Elm St.
Denville, N.J. 07834

I saw Frank VENEZIA's letter recently in the OCTOFOIL and he had also called me after MELANSON went back home. I was very sorry I missed him, and Frank was right, I was on the golf course that day. Perhaps next time. As some of you may know from reading a letter I sent to the OCTOFOIL a few years back, I stayed in the Army after WWII and retired in 1963. I then went back to work for the Army in Civil Service and retired again in 1974. I was the Operations Officer for the New York Office of the Criminal Investigation Division when I retired the second time. I rarely if ever see any of the old gang from those days. I do keep in touch with VENEZIA. I ran into Ed WILSON at the Fort Dix Post Exchange several months ago. I have friends in Clearwater, Florida and when I get down there, I always get in to see Gen. RANDLE. I spent an afternoon with him last August and we reminisced the afternoon away. I was happy to see how well he looked and how active he is. Unfortunately his eyesight isn't what it used to be so cannot drive a car any longer, however they have a woman come in each day who also drives them wherever they wish to go. In fact he told me that she drove them to Detroit last summer to the convention! I wonder what happened to another old friend, Emile deDONATO. He retired and moved to Florida several years ago and we would hear from him occasionally through the OCTOFOIL but haven't heard anything in some time. Has anyone heard from him?

I have been a member of the Association since its inception, attended the first convention in New York in 1946 and many more when my Army duty would allow me, but the high point was the convention at Fort Bragg. The ceremony at the unveiling of the 9th Division monument was most impressive and I thought the 82nd Airborne did an outstanding job of welcoming us. The only disappointment was that, outside of General RANDLE I met none of the fellows from my company with the exception of Carle TAYLOR. He drove the Colonel in Africa and was half owner of the famous (infamous?) grass shack while we were in the Lyautey area. I read an article by Col. BRYANT in a recent issue of the OCTOFOIL about PFC Carl SHERIDAN, who received the Medal of Honor posthumously in Germany. A footnote to that, if I may. I was stationed at Ft. George G. Meade, MD, about 1949-50 along with a former 1st Sergeant of Hq. Co. 47th, who later went to the 9th Div MP Co., Willie UNSELL.

We got word that SHERIDAN'S body was being shipped home and they were looking for military pallbearers, particularly any former 9th Div. men. UNSELL and I had the honor to be pallbearers for a very brave soldier!

Reminiscing

Since I have seemed to be reminiscing in this letter, let me continue for those of you who might not be bored with some of my thoughts of those early days. I remember moving out to Chicken Road so we could shake down for North Africa.

We all speculated where we would be going especially after those amphibious maneuvers at Soloman's Island, VA. Some may have guessed but neither I nor any of my buddies did. We may have if we could have interrogated a Master Sergeant that came to us while we were there. When we hit North Africa we found that he spoke Arabic. He later left us. I can't remember just where, but I think it was after the N African campaign. He picked up a darn billy goat from some Arab and that stinking animal slept with him and woke us every morning before reveille with his bleating. I believe the only thing that saved his hide was the fact that none of us liked goat meat. To go back for a moment about the article by Col. BRYANT, I ran into him in the parking lot at the Pentagon Building one day about 1957-58. We chatted for a moment, he was leaving and I was just arriving. He may or may not remember that occasion. Then came Safi. We sailed from Hampton Roads on the 19th Oct. and my son was born on the 25th. I finally got to meet him about three years later. Quite an experience, especially when you wake up the first morning at home and here is this little boy, your son, standing at the foot of the bed with a look on his face as if to say "who is this strange man in bed with my Mother!" At Safi I didn't disembark until most of the shooting was over, but not all. As my group started walking up the beach to our CP a sniper or two opened up from the French Naval Barracks. We hit the dirt but what I hit wasn't the dirt, it was a PIG WALLOW! You talk about stink!! At that time we had no additional uniforms to change to so I had to live and sleep with it, which was bad enough but I was ostracized by everyone! Later for whatever reason I was put in charge of a detail to occupy the French Naval Barracks overlooking the harbor. About four or five men. We were there with no apparent mission that I can remember, for several days until the Hq had moved into the hotel. About the second or third night a storm came up and we were on the second floor. The wind blew a shutter loose and it started banging and we thought we were being ATTACKED! I don't remember who had the fortitude to slip downstairs and determine that it was just a window shutter.

March to Port Lyautey

Then there was the march to Port Lyautey. Did you know that the command in Casablanca offered Col. RANDLE enough trucks to move us? He refused of course and a very wise decision. That certainly did a great deal to improve our conditioning. I remember the Colonel standing on the side of the road one day as he usually did but this day, lending encouragement, he said that we had a chicken dinner waiting for us that evening. Corned beef hash, which I ate and all of my company ate, was a far cry from chicken. I think that was the only time I bad-mouthed Col. RANDLE. I later learned that it wasn't his fault, whoever furnished the rations did not give us enough for everyone. "Ceste la vie". I also remember bivouacking one late afternoon and after chow a bunch of us headed for town a couple of miles away, like true soldiers should. We were stopped on the outskirts of town, (FEZ I think) by the MP'S. I don't know where they came from but they informed us that

the town was OffLimits. Someone went back to the bivouack area or the Colonel happened by, I don't know which, but I can still see him, with his pipe in his mouth and his calm and very military posture, advise some Lt. that the town was certainly NOT Off Limits to his men and they would enter the town if they so desired. As I vaguely recall we had a pretty good time that evening. Somewhere down the road during that march, early one dark and rainy morning, we received our first mail and there was a letter informing me that I was the father of a son!! Then to the cork forest at Port Lyautey. My most vivid memories there are those of sitting around a cork fire under a cork tree cooking eggs that had been sold to us by Arabs and talking about wives and girl friends and families back home and also speculating on where to, next. I also remember the house of assignment that the Colonel ok'd in Port Lyautey, under the supervision of the very competent Doc ROBERTS. That didn't last too long, only until word got out and the pressure caused it to be closed. AH, the trials and tribulations of soldiers.

Kasserine

Then the motor march to Kasserine. I remember an outpost or some sort of defense perimeter at a large cactus patch in the valley. One morning I am riding with Col. RANDLE to make an inspection (I was his radio operator) and at one guard post we stopped, the guard saluted and the Colonel noticing that this soldier was without leggings asked him why and his answer (and I swear to this) "Sir, the pigs ate them"! Perhaps the same day, here comes a lone jeep across the valley and we are curious as to who it could be. It pulled up, stopped and this fine looking English officer got out and introduced himself to the Colonel as General ALEXANDER. There was no question in our minds as we had seen his picture several times. No detail of guards or entourage, just a Lt. as his driver. He stayed a few moments and made some suggestions on the defense of the area and drove off. And then came El Guettar. Many vivid memories here, most of which are not good ones — our first real blood — our losses, war at its worst. I remember Gen. PATTON coming up to our famous OP, where the Col. spent almost all of his time when the attack started. Every time we came across the valley to get to the OP in the hills, Jerry would shoot those damn 88's at us. He put one under our jeep one evening as we were returning to the CP. It was armor piercing or I wouldn't be writing this and Col. RANDLE would not be enjoying the good life in Florida. Do you think they shot at PATTON? We were hoping he would get a couple of fairly close rounds so that he would be impressed, not even a BB gun! I remember Lt. Col. TURNER diving for a fox hole at this OP and breaking a leg too! And then on to Bizerte and the new P39's we first saw and now, finally, before you looked into the skies you knew they were ours not visa versa just previous to that.

Farewell to Colonel Randle

And then it was over in North Africa and we went back to bivouack and Col. RANDLE gave us a farewell speech and left. That was hard to take but I knew in my own mind that we had to lose him, that is the way of the scheme of things when a commander is as good as Col.

RANDLE was. Then to Sidi Bel Abbes with the millions of flies and the dysentery and a new Regimental Commander. I think that most felt as I did, he was a stranger, new to this business of fighting and replacing a soldier who to us at the time was irreplaceable. But he did prove himself and gained everyone's respect and admiration as the record will show. We were very fortunate, our regiment, in having Colonel SMYTHE command us in what was to come, but that is another story for another time.

For those of you who were there you have yown memories of these events and your own personal experiences as well. I just felt like sitting down and putting mine on paper (old age I guess) dealing with one of the finest regiments in the Army and a Division as well.

47th Inf. L Co.
BILL MULDOON
507 Treasure Point Dr.
Regency Pk.
Port Richey, Fl. 33568

I just got a letter from one of my best buddy's wife of his passing away on Feb. 29, 1984. His name is Frank Gasper, we served overseas in L Co 47th. The Gasper family live at 4614 5th Ave. Beaver Falls, Pa. 15010, and I sure will miss him. On the subject of Grady Turnage from Oklahoma, he got in touch with me thru your efforts and I have sent out many letters on his behalf. I do hope he gets some results as the man really needs help from the V.A., who seem to be giving him the run around. It's a shame for all he went thru to only get robbed out of a little help from them. As for myself, I have no complaints only hope to keep going and try and enjoy life in Florida. I am now working in the Security Dept. of Community Hospital of New Port Richey here in Florida. The hours are odd but just trying to reach my primary objective of Social Security. Regards to all.

39th Inf. 1 Co & Reg H.Q. Co.
CHARLES K. DOBLE
58 Marta Dr.
Wilmington, Del. 19808

Thanks for your early reply to my letter and the copy of the Octofoil. I hope, after all these years, to see some of the old timers from the 39th Hq Co and I Co., especially members of Paddy Flints unauthorized band including Mike Baldi, Newark; Loren Hotchkiss, Pittsburgh; Herminio Suarez, N.J.; Lou Nardaci, N.Y.; Joe Solaz, Herman Nollenberg, N.Y.; Harry Olzewski, Detroit; Ace Lockwood, Bennie Nardone, Columbus; Harold Raditz, Colorado; Leroy (junior) Spoon, Guy MacDonald, Green Bay, Wis.; and I apologize for failing memory that makes recall of all band members more difficult each year. Also Capt. J.P. Majors, C.C. Hdqs. Co. Florida. I wonder if anyone knows the whereabouts of Bill Perue, Phila., Bill McCoy, Pennsville, N.J. Roy Schrodel, Billy Farger. Hope to see you there.

15th Engrs. Co B
ANTHONY SAN GIACOMO
405 Passaic Ave.
Nutley, N.J. 07110

Want to send all the best to the 15th Engrs and hope to see them at the Hilton in Lake Placid.

9th Signal
JERRY KLEIN
PO Box 215
Gillette, N.J. 07833

It sure would be nice to hear from, or about, members of the 9th Signal Co.

Co B 9th Med
PETE RADICHIO
9415 Blind Pass RD #703
St. Petersburg, Fl. 33706

Here's another letter for the Octofoil and the subject is again the Vietnam vets. I noticed Jerry Teachou, put in for the change to the by-laws and we are working toward the same goal, to open our membership to the vets of Vietnam. Received a welcome letter from Victor Campisi of the New England Chapter. Here is a quote from his letter "I doubt I'll be able to make the Lake Placid reunion, but if you attend, please feel free to quote me as favoring a liberalization of membership eligibility so as to give new life to a dying organization." Thanks, Vic, for your support. We can help to heal some of the wounds by searching our conscience and opening our hearts to these worthy men. They did their jobs as they were told in a hellish war and when they came home they were greeted with demonstrations instead of open arms. Remember it could be your son, nephew or neighbor's son. I had a son in Vietnam and I know what I felt as a parent. We left thousands of Americans over there and we owe them. They are men of the 9th and we must not forget them! Fr. Connors had 2 Vietnam vets sitting at the head table at the last Memorial Mass dinner, there should be a message here. We all know General Westmoreland's feelings in this matter and who could be in a better position than he when it comes to setting the record straight. He was there! At the Detroit reunion almost everyone I talked with was in favor of admitting the Vietnam vets in to our organization. I hope and pray that this is a general consensus and that most of us will be together in this at Lake Placid. Thank you and give us your vote. The taps wait for no one, we must act now. Lake Placid, One big vote. God Bless.

26th FA Btry A
BEN A. ATKINSON
540 Pineland Rd.
Richmond, Va. 23234

Just received the Octofoil and was sorry to learn of the death of Gen. Craig and Bill Andrews. My sympathy goes to the families. I retired last Sept. from the Dupont Co. here in Richmond after 31 years, had a heart attack last March and was trying to make it until this June as I will be 62 years then but didn't quite make it! I hear from a few of the fellows and just finished writing to Joe McKenzie. Also got pictures from RMA Hirst of the plaque of Col. Paddy Flint in France and really appreciate it. Bernice and I live on the southside of Richmond, only 4 miles from I-95 and Chippenhim Parkway. Any of the guys traveling in this area look in the phone book, give me a call and I will put them up for the night as we have room to take care of six persons at a time. I was with the 9th from Oct. 1940 until June 1945 and I haven't forgotten Tent City at Ft. Bragg.

60th Inf. C Co.
MANION R. (Jack) Hayes
839 Westwood Rd.
Mt. Olive, Al. 35117

I look forward to receiving the Octofoil. I joined the 9th in Sicily and was with it in England and France where I got wounded. I shall always have fond memories of the 9th division.

Lake Placid
June 21, 22, 23, 1984.

mail call

continued

47th Inf. Co F
EARL WILKEY, JR.
402 Calhoun Ave.
Rome, Ga 30165

I'm sorry we cannot make the Lake Placid reunion, my wife, Miriam, is not able to travel. My reason for this letter is the proposed changes in the by-laws I read in the Octofoil. So its come up again and again and again. How many more times? The 9th Infantry Division Association to me is one hell of a association. I am so happy to be a paid up member thru 1985. I read Pete Radichio's letter, how our good conscience continue to refuse our 9th division fellow Americans in to our association. He says we are the only organization which chooses not to admit these men to our ranks. I came to F Co 47th in late June 1942 from Camp Walters, Texas. Not yet 19 years old, a Georgia boy in a Yankee division. I was put in the 4th plt. There were guys named Giarraputo, Guglielmino, Glick, Harry Ginsberg, Lt. Groff, Grupa, Sam Buemi, Larry Ghare, Al Munatore, Frank Gonzol and many others. Then came good old Felton Jones who made 1st Sgt. And then came Safi, Morocco, the months together and then on to El Guettar. We learned the hard way the day Joe Grupa was killed! There you learn what "buddy" means to you. I learned to love and respect and still do till this day. I didn't mean to leave Hoppie and Yarlet out! And now on to Sicily. I left Co F 47th and was sent to Co F 15th Regt 3rd Div with my buddy Sam Buemi and others and Oct. 6, 1943 fell in to the hands of the Germans, for many months a POW. It was hell on earth. Often I would think of my Co F 47th and prayed that it soon would be over. And then the great 9th division came, the Remagen Bridge, Elbe River and it's over! A day I will never forget, home to my loved ones.

I never will get over being a POW. One day at a POW reunion I met Marty Bergman a Co E 47th POW and he told me of the 9th association and in a few days sent me the paper. I saw Guggy's name and wrote him and he sent my letter to Dan who put it in the Octofoil. In a few days letters started coming to me from Buemi, Hoppie, Frank Gonzol and our company commander Frank Smith. Words cannot express what these letters did to this old Georgia boy! I joined the association and went to my first reunion in Philadelphia. I will never forget those 4 days! My first buddy to see was Larry Ghare then came Buemi and then Paul Giarraputo, "Wilkey baby" were his first words to me. Boy, did that bring back memories! Good old Charley Williams, Guggy, Munatore, Gonzol, DeSandy, Koskie and Rodger, the best mess sgt. in all the army Tony Repetti! Hoffman, King, Stanley Putt and Ed Netta and all their wives who have been so kind to us Wilkeys and to you Dan for keeping this association together. And the one and only Smig Tokarchek, what a guy and his wife, Marie. Dan, what I am trying to say is this friendship we have for each other is what this association is all about. When we die out let it die with us. The letter from George Montoya was a young man who went to fight for his country. I don't understand some of his letter, like he says the world is always changing.

The world is different now. We fought in 2 different wars at different times. I would be out of place in the Vietnam 9th division association and he in mine. May God bless all who wore the Octofoil. Here's to a great reunion in Lake Placid. I will miss my buddies and hope to play golf with you DeSandy and Otto in Florida in 1985. May God bless our great Association. I am no Hoppie when it comes to writing but this is what the association means to me. I belong to the association because of the men of WW2 and not the patch we wore.

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

Although it happens on other occasions but when the Octofoil arrives, it causes an immediate churning inside and the search for names, places and happenings begin. Far off places, ever near and countless faces come to mind. It is one of the faces that I now recall, that of Sgt. Robert Chapman of K Co, 3rd Bn 60th Inf. What a remarkable man and fine soldier. Like so many others, he was K.I.A. However, he left something that I read occasionally and cherish greatly. It is a copy of a letter to his parents which he allowed me to copy. It came about because of the fact that at one time mail had to be censored. It should be shared because it reflects one of the deepest emotions every G.I. experienced. Further, it illustrates the folly and insanity of war in that it shatters the strongest link in society, the family. The copy of his letter follows:

Dear Mom & Dad:

I didn't forget that certain day in September, but I was unable to send my wishes, so consider this a late congratulatory note. That was really a date to remember, sort of a declaration of dependence. I hope that neither of you will ever have any regrets as far as the bewildering offsprings are concerned. After the war, the family reunited will find its bonds even more stronger than ever before. There will, in a few years, be additions to our family portrait. There will be a son-in-law and probably a couple of daughters-in-law and the aspect of your becoming grandparents. So, once again, congratulations on your Wedding Anniversary and God bless you both.

Your Son, Robert

A beautiful tribute, Sgt. Chapman said it all. Peace.

60th FA C Btry
GEORGE FURBER
11825 S 107th Ave.
Miami, Fl. 33176

Despite the war wounds and rheumatoid arthritis I am still hanging in. The move to Florida was a good one for us. I look forward to receiving the Octofoil every month. I pray that the members will show their support for Gen. Westmoreland and open up the membership to Vietnam Vets and others. The Nam Vets have had a lot to overcome on the home front. Let us not forget our comrades in arms and I for one would be proud to have them among our ranks. We gave too much to let the association die an early or premature death.

RE UNION

Lake Placid 1984

June 21, 22, 23 1984

39th Inf Co B
LUTHER WILSON
124 Earleen Ct
Richmond, Ky. 40475

I want to thank you and everyone else that has to do with getting the Octofoil out, you all do a wonderful job and I enjoy reading it. I want to say hello to all B Co 39th men and hope to see them at Lake Placid. I am from Kentucky which is quite a few miles from New York and God willing I will be there. I plan on bringing a gallon of old Kentucky moonshine! Also want to say hello to Dan & Rose Douvanis, our wonderful Host and Hostess at our mini-reunion, Joe Gravino, Albert Baccile, Adolph Schiesser, Irving King, Al DeRisio (the Hawk), Andy Seasock and all Co B 39th men. When I read that the 39th Inf had been kicked out of the 9th division I was mad and hurt about it. After all Col. Flint was killed at St. Lo leading his regiment in to battle. I enlisted Aug. 1940 and the next day was sent to Ft. Bragg and was with the 39th from North Africa to the Elbe river and I am proud of my regiment and our famous 9th. One war correspondent wrote that the 9th fought like a machine so why should they have to take one of the clogs out of it. Most of the 9th men of WW2 are in the twilight of their lives and I think the Vietnam veterans have been ignored long enough and should be able to join the 9th if they desire.

47th Inf K Co
JOHN A. MRUGALA
Box 12 RD1
Barnesboro, Pa. 15714

I received my confirmation for Lake Placid Holiday Inn. I am looking forward to it and just hope more of K Co 47th will be present. I know Red Thompson and his wife will be there plus Bill Canales and his wife. I look forward to seeing them each year. My wife and I have the route all planned and it will be the shorter distance to Lake Placid. I wish you and everyone Gods blessings and a Happy Easter to all. You are doing an excellent job and words cannot express it all. Come on K Co 47th members, be in Lake Placid in June for it is a time you will never forget.

Div Hqs
TED CURRY
507 Cherry St.
Punxsutawney, Pa 15767

I was tempted to start right in with a Dear Dan salutation but decided that might be a little on the informal side in addressing the National Secretary. I was pleased to receive your letter containing all the important information concerning the reunion in June and to insure that I will be eligible, I am enclosing the completed application and my dues for 3 years.

60th Inf H Co
JOHN W. DE VERE
119 Elliston Rd.
Charleston, W. Va. 25314

Although I was only with you for a short time, July 25 to Sept. 5 when I was captured, I proudly wore my Octofoil after returning to the States. In fact in my closet neatly covered is my Eisenhower jacket with the Octofoil still on the left sleeve. At 66 I can still get in it. The very best to all the 9th and I hope I can make your reunion this summer.

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.

Btry D, 376 AAAW Btn
HERB (HAP) LASTRA
925 Val Park Ave.
Valley Stream, N.Y. 11580

I thought I would report to all the members the end result of the financial aid that was provided by the 9th division assn. toward Msgr. Anthony (Flip) DeLaura's favorite and last project before he died. The Msgr. was striving to raise funds for a set of bells for the Blessed Sacrament Church in Valley Stream, his last priestly assignment. As I am a frequent communicant of Msgr. DeLaura's old parish, I am privileged to hear the peal of these beautiful sounds which of course for the moments that they are to be heard, allows ones mind to respond to the stimuli of remembrance. Next to participating in the annual Worcester Mass this ringing of the chimes has to be a close second. It is a matter of thinking of old buddies and feeling sad and somber but happy to know that this was made possible by the Msgr. and many 9th division members. If anyone is in the vicinity of the Blessed Sacrament especially around noon, stop and you'll think of the great guys of the 9th and Msgr. DeLaura.

47th Inf Co E
JOE HASENFUS
3570 Union Ave.
Pennsauken, N.J. 08109

Many years have passed since I walked across Germany with easy company and my 30 cal machine gun "Big Al." Saw Art McDougall last week. He was in the hospital but looks good. Says he feels like a million! Regards to all.

47th Inf K Co
HELEN AND AL HOLMES
(Lagattuta)
352D Hackensack St.
Woodridge, N.J. 07075

Unfortunately we had to cancel our reservations for Detroit last year due to Helens operation, she is doing fine now. We are retired and enjoying ourselves. Also have reservations for Lake Placid so look forward to seeing all of you then.

60th Inf. I Co
ALBERT M. HODGE
5818 White Bluff Rd.
Savannah, Ga. 31405

It is that time when we should begin preparing for the upcoming Annual 9th Infantry Division Reunion. Mabel and I plan to be there assuming nothing happens that would preclude our being there.

Hopefully many of our Old Buddies will likewise be able to make it. Not to long ago George Russell apprised me of the passing of Roy Boettner's a former resident of Lakewood, Ohio, and a truly fine gentleman in every respect. He served faithfully with "L" Company 60th Infantry 9th Division during WW II.

We may get some of the guys whom we haven't seen since the WW II era to attend. In the last issue of the Octofoil I saw a letter from my Company, "I" who contemplates being at Lake Placid for the big event viz., Donald W. Mullenbruch.

There isn't anything else that I can write except to say again that I would like to encourage ALL who can to try and attend, because we are all getting a bit older.

47th Can Co & 39th C Co
FRANK LORITO
RD 4 Box 1499
Honesdale, Pa. 18431

I had the pleasure of visiting my old C.O. Capt. Sieminski and his wife, Sophie. You old cannoneers will be happy to hear the years have treated him well. The shape he is in he would have no trouble fitting in to his old uniform. I'm sure I can't say the same for myself. Another old cannon company man was with me when we visited him namely Tony Pellechia, you drivers should remember him. He was the guy that kept those vehicles going. We spent a nice afternoon talking about the old days and mentioning names like Lt. Powell, Lt. Foreman, Doucette, Bascone, Hacker, Epstein, Kramer, Egan, Zakowski. Capt. Sieminski put 23 years in the army before he retired as a Major. The C.O. always impressed me as a very good leader of men and for that reason in my foxhole days I wrote the following poem.

There's Only One

From early dawn till late at night, he sees that things are running right.

His company's tops, it has no peer. His men can fight they know no fear.

If things go wrong, he sure gets mad. When his men have troubles, he too is sad.

No man can say he isn't fair. From sergeants down he treats them square.

He's proved himself in battle too. He's just as brave as me or you.

There is no doubt, you know this man. He cheers his company like a college fan.

He's known in regiment, division and corp. He and his lieutenants "four"

He never considers a job too risky. There's only one "Captain Sieminski."

47th Inf G & Hq Co
SPENCER NORWOOD
City Mobile Home Park
Sarasota, Fl. 34278

It seems rather difficult to try and explain what it's like to be in actual combat to someone at home. Like the sounds of an 88 with its sharp report than the shrill whine comes at you so fast you hardly have time to duck. If it was still you could hear the low thump of Jerry's mortars which would soon be falling near by. Of course you could always tell the German machine gun from ours because it fired so fast. These were the first sounds of battle. The worst was the cry of a wounded buddy calling for a medic. That is particularly why we are all so close, we were the only ones that were there and knew what it was like. It's a small wonder we aren't all in mental institutions with the terrible strain our minds and bodies went through. The small picture you have on the bottom of a page in the Octofoil was taken near Perriers-En-Beaufice, not far from Mortain. The man dropping the round in the mortar tube was Minark. The other 2 I can't recall. They were members of the 4th platoon of G Co. 47th. Maybe some other G Co men can recall the names of the other 2. Always good to read the letters and info in the Octofoil. Thanks to the staff or their good work.

Co C 9th Med Bn
WESLEY ROACH
Rt 5 Box 3592
Danville, Va. 24540

Again tell-tale red ink for me. Enclosed find dues. I enjoy the Octofoil very much. Sorry to see where our good friend Bill Zimmerman passed away.

mail call

continued

84th F.A. C Btry & Hq.
ROBERT J. PICHETTE
19020 W. Davison
Detroit, Mi. 48223

Hope you do not have too much difficulty reading this letter. I have a difficult time writing with arthritis and adhesions from tendonitis therapy. Have been reading with interest the debate going on about the exclusivity of the association terms for being a member. Are we forming a tontine with a bottle of brandy put away for the last survivor? I am proud of being with the 9th from Africa to the bridge on the River Elbe. I believe the association should open up to take in more members. I have followed with interest the exploits of the 9th up to the present day and am filled with pride for those who have picked up and carried the torch on the glory. Speaking of elitism I feel we should take a good look at some of our rules now in force regarding our present members. Some of us are disabled and cannot get to the reunions find ourselves disenfranchised even though we keep up our dues and are proud of the history and the place of the 9th in history. The country I fought for and defended though I am disabled still permits me to vote by always sending me an absentee ballot and permits my will to be registered. Also there are many I am sure among us who this last recession has left financially strapped and know that some of those who have tried to mix in to a few events which they sacrificed to afford to get to because they didn't dress up in a nice business suit but wore what he could was nearly ostracized by the group. A few were decent enough to spend a little time speaking to him. I felt a good deal of shame at a time like that. It was a very good thing for us to honor those who have fallen in the line of duty. But I do not feel we should ignore those who also put their life on the line and came out in one piece only to later on be struck down physically or financially but still love and are proud of our division. I have searched in vain in the Octofoil or at a few of the reunions I was able to attend for someone or a name that I know. Father Connors is the only name I know and the last few times he is so busy I felt guilty if I would bother him.

39th Inf. Co. B
JOSEPH F. GRAVINO
10 Center St.
Macedon, N.Y. 14502

I look forward to receiving the OCTOFOIL and keeping in touch with my 9th Inf. friends.

Hq. 3rd Bn. 39th Inf.
MRS. ROBERT H. STUMPF
5840 Lowell Ave.
Alexandria, Va. 22312

Enclosed is a check in memory of my husband and infant grandson, Robert Henry Stumpf, 2nd, born of Major Harry D. and Brenda Stumpf in West Germany December 21, 1983 and buried near his grandfather and namesake December 29, 1983 at West Point, N.Y. I am enjoying reading Mr. Kreye's "Pawns of War" to my 92 year old mother, Mrs. Donald Stroh. In this book we are learning the whole history of the 9th divisions participation in WW 2. Thank you for Octofoil.

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

39th Inf. K Co.
ANTHONY FORTE
115 St. Joseph Ave.
Joliet, Il. 60436

I'm sorry I can't make Lake Placid this summer as we have our house up for sale and are moving to Florida as soon as it is sold. Will be going to Pittsburgh in June for my niece's wedding around the same time as the reunion. I see there are a lot of guys living in Florida and I hope to look some of them up as soon as we get settled in Florida. I am retired from U.S. Steel for 2 years. The winters are getting the best of my wife and I, so we hope to live around the Ocala area. In the last Octofoil I see there is a member Peter Janus living in Pittsburgh from K Co and I will be giving him a ring and hope to find him home. Here's hoping you all have a good time in Lake Placid.

60th Inf Co B
CHARLES HARVEY
7407 Huntridge Ave.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45231

I have been in poor health for quite some time. Not too long ago I was in the VA hospital and was in intensive care in serious condition. Through the grace of God and a wonderful wife and daughter, who is a registered nurse, gave me the strength to fight thru and with the help of the nurses who watched over me day and night. I am home now and thank God for having a wonderful wife and daughter and a lot of friends in the hospital.

26th FA. Btry A
JOHN L. BABBITT
738 Berkley St. RD #1
Berkley, Ma. 02780

Sorry we are in the red but John has been in the Brocton VA Hospital with another respiratory infection. He is home now but not feeling as well as he should. He enjoys the Octofoil so much that I am sending dues so that we won't get behind for awhile. The years go by so quickly that we can't keep up.

15th Engr. Co B
GLENDON M. BOWMAN
10200 108 Ave. N.
Largo, Fl. 33543

Never thought I'd get caught with my tell tale red ink showing but I guess procrastination is one of my better attributes. I enjoy the Octofoil very much. Some of the guys who write bring back good memories. Enjoyed the picture of Carlos and Old Milt Kaminsky of the 15th Engrs Bn. Intended to call Gen. Craig's son, William, to show him some pictures of the General and the troops of the 9th, should he be interested. Sorry I can't make Lake Placid this year but God willing I'll be in Orlando. Bye for now and the best of luck.

60th Inf. Co E
BILL BATEMAN
550 Leisure World
Mesa, Az. 85206

Just a note with my check. Louise and I have been retired for 3 years and are enjoying living in Leisure World. It sure is great to miss all that cold and snow of Illinois. Last summer we spent 6 weeks in Illinois and 1 month at Carlsbad, Cal. This year we plan a trip to Illinois and then some time in Colorado. The summers are pretty warm during June thru Sept. The rest of the year is great. We would like to be at the reunion but will have to miss it this year.

39th Inf. K Co.
O.D. GILES
P.O. Box 876
Starke, Fl. 32091

Have you ever had a day when something came up several times? I have had such today. While reading my morning paper, I came across the article which I am enclosing concerning Cherbourg and Bill Finley. This brought back memories of the past as I was in the 39th Regiment, Company K, and was wounded by ack-ack at the outskirts of Cherbourg on June 24, 1944 just two days before the events spoken of in the article. I was shipped back to England for recovery and rejoined my unit just after the St. Lo breakthrough. I was wounded a second time the day after we crossed the Meuse river near Dinat, Belgium that September. This was serious enough to send me back to the States and after eleven months of hospitalization, I was discharged.

The second thing that happened was that when I went to the post office to pick up my mail today, The Octofoil for January-February was in it. My good friend, Dyer E. Honeycutt, had renewed my membership in the Association a few months ago. I had belonged from the beginning, but dropped out several years ago. My wife and I attended one reunion in Washington, D.C., I believe in 1953. Upon receiving the second reminder of my days with the Ninth, I decided to take the time to write to Mail Call. I am now a minister and am originally from Alabama, but moved to Florida in 1978. I have enjoyed The Octofoil very much and do not plan to let my membership lapse again.

I will be on a tour of the Holy Land in June and will not be able to attend the reunion at Lake Placid, but hopefully can do so at some later one.

Best wishes to all who served and wore the Octofoil.

60th Inf M Co
H.F. STANSELL
217 River Beach Dr.
Ormond Beach, Fl. 32074

This is my first time to write to the Octofoil. I enjoy reading what my comrades have written. Last year I attended our mini-reunion in Florence, Alabama. It was a rewarding feeling to see some of my buddies for the first time in 38 years. My wife, Lila, was delighted to meet all the guys after hearing me talk so much about them. Curtis Buchanan did a great job in getting us all together. Am planning to attend the M Co mini-reunion in Selinsgrove, Pa. in June. Come on all you M Co guys "Be there", am looking forward to seeing you again. In October we attended the Florida state chapter at Clearwater. Met a lot of 9th division fellows, it was great. The meeting was well attended by M Co members from Florida and Alabama. It was good to see Charles Streetzel and John Elichko there. Best wishes and good health to everyone.

9th Q M Co
ROBERT W. ELMES
23 Williamstowne Ct. Apt 6
Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14227

Had a grand time in Detroit. It was sort of a homecoming as I attended the Univ. of Detroit over 50 years ago. I'm not too sure about being able to get to Lake Placid this June, but I'll try. "Hi" to the guys in the 9th QM and all the best to you and yours.

47th Inf. Co. F
RUD HOFFMAN
RD 2, Box 47
Waterloo, N.Y. 13165

We expect to be in Lake Placid this summer and hope we have a good crowd. A few weeks ago a man from Ithaca sent me a clipping from a local paper that announced the date and place of the reunion. It made me wonder if there wasn't some way we could get some publicity in N.Y. and New England to let some of the people who have lost track of the association know when the dates were. I had a nice surprise the other day, my wife was going thru a drawer and she found folded up in a bed spread that I sent from Sicily, a sketch that I made of the manor house at the estate called Brighton Woods where F & E company stayed while we were in England. It was done in June 1944 just a day or so before we left. We also found a couple of old Raiders with the art work done by George Morgan. All of these things I thought we had lost when we moved after I got home in '45 or '46. I will bring them to Lake Placid in case anyone would like to see them. Susie and I took another trip to England last fall. We toured thru Scotland and even had a few days on the Isle of Man. I'm sure that anyone who hasn't been to our Adirondack Park will really enjoy Lake Placid this year. See you all there.

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

We are the only division that will not let Vietnam veterans join. They too went thru the dangers and risks that the original 9th went through fighting the Germans, they too were soldiers of the U.S. Army, black, white or green! Hope the membership will wake up in Lake Placid if they vote. We all were soliders of Uncle Sam. There are enough hypocrites in the U.S. must we have more? This in memory of our fallen comrades who gave unselfishly of themselves to defeat the lunatic Hitler.

47th Inf. Cannon Co.
JOHN J.C. NEILL
3706 Wyatt St.
Fayetteville, N.C. 28304

Glad to receive the Octofoil and sorry to read Capt. Taber is so ill. I served my 1st period with him as his company orderly before being sent to Cannon company as its clerk. Am now retired from the post office after 34 years and enjoying it very much. Hope everyone is doing fine.

A.T. 60th
RAY PORTER
50 West St.
Leominster, Ma. 01453

I am fine and hope both of you are the same. We had a big snow storm here and it was terrible! Sorry I cannot make Lake Placid, my godchild is getting married on June 23. Guess that is all for now and have a good year. See you in November.

47th Inf. Co. A
WALLACE RICHARDSON
319 Acacia Dr.
Port Orange, Fl. 32019

I enjoyed the Florida Chapter reunion at Clearwater in October 1983 and will be going to Orlando this April for our spring reunion. I enjoy the Octofoil very much and always enjoy meeting all the fellows from the 9th.

47th Inf
GEORGE BAKO
5275 Monroe Ave.
San Diego, Ca. 92115

I hope these few lines find you both well and happy. The Queen and I are hanging in there, at the moment. We were so disappointed at not making the reunion in Detroit. You plan all year and wind up zilch. I became ill and wound up in the V.A. Hospital in Dayton, Ohio for 3 weeks with a gastric problem. Not out of the woods yet but at least we are home in San Diego. I know you all had a good time in Detroit. Many thanks to my friends and well wishers for their kind thoughts. It is comforting to know that folks remember. God bless you all and keep you in His right hand.

84th FA Med Det
JAMES F X DELEHANTY
64 E. Main St.

Wappingers Falls, N.Y. 12590
God willing I hope to attend the coming reunion at Lake Placid. Hope to meet with Fr. Connors as I have attended several of his reunions in the past. I had the privilege of serving Mass for him in Africa, Sicily and Great Britain. All the best.

39th Inf. 2nd Bn. Hq.
JEROME TISHLER
3808 Maybelle Ave.
Oakland, Ca. 94619

Finally saw some names I remember from 1941-42. I don't remember Myron Carpenter but I do recall Leslie Gabel and A. (Eddie) Stankowitz.

One other person too, Willard Bisbing, mentioned in Kreye's book, though he was in 2nd Bn. in my time. I was in the restaurant business in Oakland during the Viet Nam period and treated a few 9th Div. people to chow. One, wearing the 39th insignia was actually in 2nd Bn. Hq. In fact this incident inspired me to eventually join the association. It seems to me anyone ever in the Div. should be eligible for membership in the association.

Enclosed, a few bucks for the memorial fund.

47th Inf. Co. K.
BILLY G. MCKINNEY
233 Lincoln Drive
Martinsburg, WV 25401

Enclosed is my dues, as I don't want to miss a single issue of The Octofoil.

My wife and I are looking forward to the Lake Placid reunion and visiting with friends we have met from 47th Inf. Co. K.

If at any time a group plan a trip to Germany especially the Rhine River, I would appreciate getting my name on the list to make such a trip. I was with the 47th Infantry, which accompanied the 9th Armored, when they first crossed the Remagen Bridge.

Would appreciate hearing from anyone from K Co.

Hq Btry 84th F.A.
WILLIAM R. RICHEY
6426 S. Wilson St.
Tempe, Ariz. 85283

I was with the 9th from Sept. 1940 all the way from "tent city" to the point system in June 1945. Would enjoy hearing from anyone from Hq Btry 84th FA. I retired from the fire dept. 10 years ago in Bloomington, Ill. and moved to Tempe, Az where I have worked for State Farm Insurance, and will be for another 3 years. I will be a senior citizen next September and didn't think I'd ever make it. Where does the time go?

Fireproof: That's when you're a relative of the boss.

REUNION
Lake Placid 1984

June 21, 22, 23 1984
Remember the dates

MAIL CALL

47th 2nd Bn C.O.
COL. LOUIS GERSHENOW
(Ret'd)
3400 Morlock Lane
Bowie, Md. 20715

Enclosed is my dues and some for the Memorial fund. In the event you have not been informed of the death of Paul Sakai while on a trip to Panama about 2 months ago. He was with the 47th from Ft. Bragg days thru the war. Paul lived in the area and we would see him on the Ft. Meade Golf course on weekends. Sorry I can't make the reunion at Lake Placid. Please pass on my best wishes and regards to all. I'll be there in spirit.

9th Med Bn Co B
GEORGE STEIN
8747 E. Girard Ave
Denver, Colo. 80231

Took a little vacation this winter with my travel trailer down Florida way as I have relatives there and enjoyed it immensely. The best part was visiting my old buddy Pete Radichio and his lovely wife, Liz. Though he was doing volunteer work for the VA hospital, he took the time to escort the wife and I for 3 days all around the St. Pete and Tampa area. We also drove up to Lakeland where we met Jack Wilson whose wonderful wife, Ann, was hospitalized there, but was recovering nicely. Here's hoping to see all my old buddies this coming June.

60th Inf Co H
ROBERT L. RAMSEY
2331 Unity St
Ft. Myers, FL 33901

Sorry about the red ink, enclosed dues. I have never been to a reunion but I know it would be fun. I plan on going to the Florida chapter in Orlando in April, maybe I'll see someone I know if there's any of my gang left. I look in the Octofoil for any one from my outfit but there doesn't seem to be many left or they don't write. Last month I received my Bronze Star Medal, it took 40 years! Not bad, eh? I applied for the Purple Heart for wounds I received just before I was taken prisoner in Belgium but the V.A. said they don't have any record of it. Have a good time at the reunion in June.

6th Inf. Co F
JOHN MILLER
1511 Cochise Dr
Arlington, Tx. 76012

Last year when I was getting ready to go to the reunion I went shopping for a pair of shoes in Ft. Worth. I was telling the owner I was going to the 9th division reunion in Detroit. He said, "I was in the 9th," I said "what reg & co." To my surprise he said Co G, 60th Inf. I said I'm John Miller, Co F. He said "I'm Robert Peters, I changed names since I was in G Co. from Pietrowski to Peters." I had a nice chat with him about the 60th and thought if any of the old timers knew Pietrowski from G Co they might like to write him at Mens Famous Brand Shoes, 6816 Camp Bowie Blvd. Ft. Worth, Tx. 76116. Sorry I won't make the reunion this year. My son is getting married at the same time but will see you in 1985 in Florida. Am writing this from St. Paul's Hospital Dallas, where I'm having knee surgery March 30. Best to all.

Lake Placid
June 21, 22, 23, 1984.

39th Inf Cannon Co
FOREST BUCK SHELTON
Box 516 Pine Hill Rd. S.E.
Rainsville, Ala. 35986

My name is Ronnie Shelton and I am writing on behalf of my father with whom some of you may have served. All of us here wish he could attend the reunion but he cannot afford to take off from his job although he wishes he could. Let him hear from you and let him know how the reunion went. He won't slow down for any reason and stated he is going to die sitting in the saddle of his horse.

3rd Bn Hqs 60th Inf
VERE CHARLES STEPHENS
604 Glen Glade Pl.
Valparaiso, Ind. 46383

My good buddy Mike Fazio forwarded 2 copies of the Octofoil to me and there were a number of names of 60th men whom I shall never forget. I had been a member of the association before we left Ingolstadt, Germany. Several years ago my wife and I went back and stayed overnight in an Inn at Monschau. We then drove thru Hofen, Driborn, Schmidt, Muetzenich, Kalterhalberg, etc. It brought back many memories. Last year we went to England and visited Winchester and had Sunday dinner at the Chine Hotel in Boscombe. Enclosed find dues and donation to Memorial fund.

47th Service Co.
JOHN J. KIMMERLE
405 Cactus Circle
Lehigh Acres, FL 33936

The last issue on the passing of General Craig was most sad. He was a great leader. The license plate I picked up at the Ft. Bragg reunion is a great topic of conversation. People will come up to me here in Florida and ask if I knew their son or relatives from our division. Doris and I will not make Lake Placid, as we have previous plans for a trip to N.C. to be with our daughter and her fine family. It all goes well, we will be at the next one as the ranks are getting thinner all the time. Must mention some of my old buddies, Don Anthony, George Metz, Carmin Ellis, Emil Langer, Bill Spencer, Al Katz, Milt Zucker, John Pryzbylski, Bob Dunn, Pete Imbesi and to all I have failed to mention. God Bless.

9th Med Bn & Med Det 60th 1st Bn
DR. RUSSEL M. HUMMEL
2411 Lommel Lane
Marion, Ind. 46952

It seems I have a bad habit of waiting until I see "red" before I respond. No good excuse as usual. I do enjoy the many letters in the Octofoil and was happy to note one from Joseph Sanfilippo who has joined the association. We shared many experiences as fellow officers in the Med Det of 1st Bn 60th Inf. Although it has been several years since I have attended a reunion, I am sure I will one of these days. It seems that our many trips back to England, Europe and Africa have come as conflicts. This year we will be on a cruise on the Mediterranean and we will visit Sicily. This will be our 17 and 18 crossings of the Atlantic. Best wishes to you and everyone.

A bridegroom is a guy who lost his liberty in the pursuit of happiness.

60th Inf 3rd Bn
KEENE N. WILSON
606 Ravenwood Dr Apt. 4
Selma, Ala. 36701

With any sort of luck I hope to be in Lake Placid for the reunion and am looking forward to seeing many of my old friends there.

9th M.P.'s.
JOE MOWERY
Rt 4 Box 310
Forest City, N.C. 28043

I have been trying to recuperate from a total knee replacement and it has been 6 months and am still on one crutch. Doing OK but it's a slow process and my doctor says the other knee needs replacing within 10 to 18 months. I'm thinking about it. My very best to all the 9th members and especially the MP's.

39th Inf G Co
CHARLES CHEEVERS
24 Beaufield St
Dorchester, Ma. 02124

I will be in England, Andover and Winchester late May and Normandy on June 5 and 6. Regards to all.

47th Inf L Co
JOHN STEMPERT
1491 Central Ave
Bridgeport, Ct. 06610

Keep up the good work and will see you at the reunion.

47th Inf K Co.
OBERT SOLHAUG
Box 204
Argyle, Mn. 56713

I joined the 9th at Ft. Bragg a few days before heading for invasion at Safi. Was with them until we pulled back for rest from Germany. Then on to England for 5 months of hospital stay. Returned to division after the war. Good bunch of guys. Have yet to make a reunion but maybe one in the future. Would like to hear from jeep driver Yaskavich. God bless all of you.

15 Engrs A Co
FRED GRUHL
Box 202
Young America, Ind.

Sorry I am in the red. I enjoy reading the happenings of the old outfit especially A Co 15th Engrs. I retired in 1978 after 33 years with Rockwell International and am enjoying retirement.

47th Inf Co B
MARIO (JACK) DiSANTO
154 Dodds Ct.
Burlington, Vt. 05401

Saw the red address label and realized I was behind in my dues so I enclose a check for the next 3 years. Spent a couple of months in Florida and received a visit from Grace & Art Stenzel. They are still a lovely couple and we enjoyed them visiting especially when old "Tank" Stenzel pulled out an old briefcase with loads of pictures and other memorabilia of times past. Company B 47th was a good outfit and I'm proud to have been a part of it. Plan to attend the reunion this year especially since we live only across Lake Champlain from Lake Placid. Note from Pat Morano's B Co letter to the Octofoil that quite a few of the boys plan to attend and I will be delighted to renew old friendships. We will probably swap old tales and our exploits will no doubt become more heroic with each telling, but I love it.

Div Hq. Sp. Troops
WILLIAM CHAPMAN
RR 1 Box 160 Stagecoach Pass
Stormville, N.Y. 12582

Whatever happened to Father Jerry Rowan? Just want to let him know I am still alive.

JOHN CLOUSER
RT 4 BOX50A
CRYSTAL RIVER, FL 32629

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39th Inf E Co
KENNETH W. HILL
3210 Maxwell
Midland, Tx. 79705

I am sending a contribution to Capital Legal Foundation in support of General Westmoreland. I've been following this case in the AIM (Accuracy In Media) reports as well as in the news media and feel he was given a raw deal. Best of luck to him.

60th Inf
MARVIN TREACLE
RR1 Box 93
Clinton, Ia. 52732

The enclosed copy will be pretty much known to you as one of the regimental bulletins we received periodically. It was sent to me by the widow of my good buddy Tony Dobryzynski some time ago. I don't know if it is of any value to the association but it brings back memories to me, especially as it was just before the unexpected breakthrough in December by the Krauts. Just goes to show hindsight many times is different from foresight. Can't tell you how much I look forward to each issue of our Octofoil and enjoy it. It too holds a lot of surprises sometimes to know guys still are eager to keep in contact. Hope to see you in '85 or before if possible.

B Co 15th Engrs
BYRON ANGELL
572 Smithfield Rd
N. Providence, R.I. 02904

Saw red on this issue of the Octofoil so enclose dues for 3 more years. Have not been able to make many of the reunions but it's always good to read about some of the old gang from the 15 Engrs. I was more than pleased to see that my old buddy Fred D'Amore is now our treasurer. He was a good man from Bragg to the Elbe River, one of the few men in our outfit that "Herman" never laid a glove on. My best to all.

60th Inf Co E & Div Hqs
THOMAS MARRON
2202 El Amigo Rd
Del Mar, Ca. 92014

Time sure does fly. I read every word in the Octofoil and it's a great paper. I was with E Co after being wounded the second time, I went to Div Hqs at Remagen Bridge. Capt. Fisher, Stan from Brooklyn, George a tall fella helped me grow up. Eddie Hughes from Pemberton, W. Va. and a fella that drew for Walt Disney's studio. I am retired from the fire department in San Diego and just enjoying life. Till next time thanks again for all the hard work.

47th Med Det 3rd Bn
ERNEST R. LONG
517 Bayfair Dr.
Bay Village, Ohio 44140

Martha and I are in good health although I have considerable trouble with my legs, don't do a lot of driving anymore. We fly most everywhere. Have been doing a lot of traveling in the west as we have friends there. I just passed my 76th birthday and it doesn't seem that long since we were in Europe together.

Cheer up, folks, spring is just about the tax returns

Co C, 9th Med Bn
RALPH PALERMO
223 Barbera Dr
McKees Rocks, Pa. 15136

I received the Octofoil addressed in red ink and it did remind me that my 1984 dues are due, also enclosed a donation to the Memorial fund. I enjoy reading all Mail Call and some of them bring back memories. I would like to make the Lake Placid convention as it would bring back memories of the summer of 1956 when my wife and I and 2 small children visited there and Santa's workshop at the North Pole. At that time on the way back to Pittsburgh we came thru Schenectady and stopped to visit my 1st Sgt. Aldor Cook and was he surprised to see me and my family walk in to his hardware store. We spent a pleasant day visiting with him and his wonderful wife, Vicky. I had heard about her since 1942 and now I had the pleasure of meeting her personally. They treated us royally! After the Detroit convention Al Cook and his wife, Gus Agostinelli and his wife stopped to visit Angelo Rinchiuso in Pittsburgh. When Angelo called me and said they were here I went to Angelo's house and we had a little reunion of our own. I hear from a few of the fellows and it is always good. I received a letter from John Lewis and he is planning a Co C, 9th Med Bn reunion April 28 and 29 in Pigeon Forge, Tn. I don't think I'll make it. I am in favor of all 9th fellow Americans entry in to our association so get behind Pete Radichio and our deceased member Joseph Todarello who worked so hard in favor of this move. We must continue to grow and without them we will eventually fade away and I don't think that this should happen. Thank you and God Bless You.

Bty B 34th F.A.
ALFRED R. BENOIT
156 Harris Street
Pawtucket, R.I. 02861

It was nice, as usual, to see you both in Worcester for the Annual Memorial Services, last November. We shall see you again at Lake Placid, for the reunion, God Willing. Our reservations are made at the Holiday Inn — Pete & Sis Leimieux cannot make it this year. — their daughter Claudette is getting married the same weekend. We are bringing another couple with us, good friends, Frank & Loretta Desmarais, he was in World War II, but not in the Ninth.

We are fine at this writing, hoping this letter finds you and yours enjoying the very best of everything, as it should be. Keep smiling. Take Care. We shall see you soon.

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

Just received my Octofoil with red ink. Sorry I'm late with my dues but am recuperating from 2 small strokes. Doing fine and able to walk . . . slowly! I wish you and the association a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

(Continued on page 5)