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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

8-1-1984

The Octofoil, August/September/October 1984

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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

Volume XXXIV

Number 4

Aug.-Sept.-Oct. 1984

Error has been Corrected

I must continue our story about the error at BARNEVILLE. This makes reference to my 7 January 1984 letter which you reprinted in The Octofoil under the caption, "To Correct The Error" - well Dan, you can cite a second and tell all of the membership that "The Error has been Corrected!" as the enclosed photograph will testify.

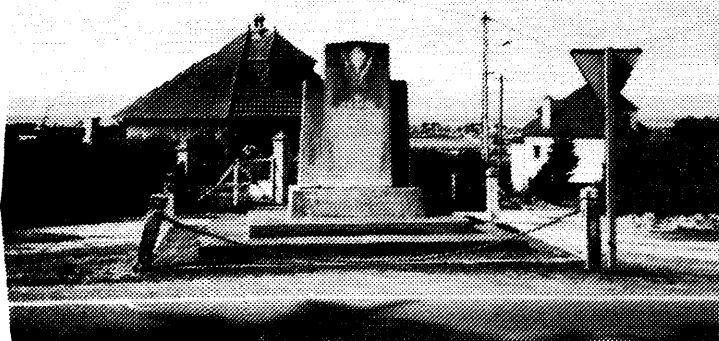
If you still have the photograph handy which I sent you of the 4th Infantry Division having secured BARNEVILLE you might run the two together. The city fathers, headed by the Mayor, M. Raymond Leterrier, dedicated the "new" monument on the 40th anniversary of the 9th Division's liberation of the town. You will see, very readily, what they did was to cover the facing, the printed-side of the monument with a slab of black marble with the corrected wording of the 9th Infantry Division of the VIIIth

Corps of General BRADLEY's 1st Army having cut the Cotentin peninsula at BARNEVILLE on 13 June 1944! I trust the 9th Division veterans who participated in this action will appreciate my efforts and will acknowledge the graciousness of the Norman citizens of BARNEVILLE for their generous act.

If the officials of our association, as a whole or any individual member of the Association would like to write the citizens of BARNEVILLE and thank them personally for this gracious act, they might do so by addressing a letter as follows:

Mr. Raymond Leterrier
Mairie Barneville-Carteret
F-50270 BARNEVILLE-
CARTERET France

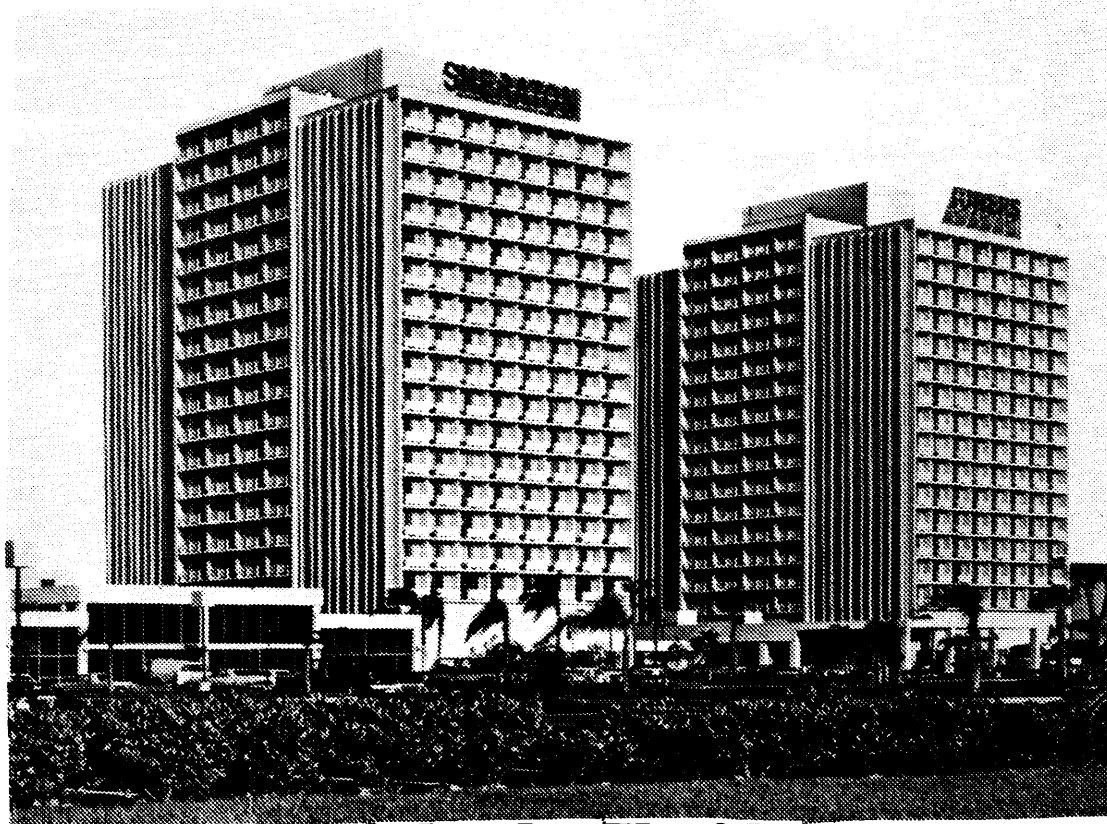
Mr. R.M.A. HIRST
BOX 6801
APO NY 09633-5361
TEL.: (0 61 21) 30 48 91



Picture on top is old monument on the Bottom is the rededicated one.

Through the efforts of Scotty Hirst who took it upon himself to see that an oversight that had been done was corrected. The monument in the town of Barneville, France had been dedicated to another Division. Scotty started the ball rolling and now the "new" monument was rededicated for the 40th anniversary of the Liberation of the town by the Ninth Infantry Division.

Command Post for 40th Reunion



Orlando, Florida

The Sheraton-Twin Towers will be the Headquarters for Annual Reunion to be held June 6,7,8, 1985

FLORIDA PROMISES A GREAT 40TH REUNION

The Sheraton-Twin Towers is ready for the greatest Ninth Infantry Division Association reunion to date, our 40th. To give the members an idea of it's size, they can accommodate several large conventions at any one time, is located between Orlando and Disney World, a few minutes away from several attractions and supplies free bus service from and to the Orlando airport, Disney World & Epcot Ctr., Sea World and other attractions, shopping centers etc., for a trip to Tampa's Bush Gardens or other outlying areas, a modest fee is charged.

For those who will have their own transportation easy to follow map directions will be provided.

TENTATIVE PLANS

Tentative plans for our Saturday memorial services are to be held at the Naval Training Station in Orlando to which the troops and families will be bussed (free) with a lunch to be served at the station for a very modest fee, something in the line served at Fort Bragg, more on that later.

Entertainment chairman, Pete Radichio has screened several bands and assures us the selected one will prove to be most enjoyable to all.

A very interesting speaker from our own ranks has been chosen but this writer doubts he will match the best speaker he's ever heard. The speech very short and to the point was "I'll take the check".

GREAT ORGANIZER

Our recently retired chapter president and reunion chairman Joseph Williams is currently on a rather extended trip that has taken him and his lovely, bubbly wife Dottie (he's try-

ing to repay her for all the lonely hours she had to put up with while he was involved with the school committee etc.) through many states and is now in Hawaii but it's a sure bet he'll be thinking of ways to make our reunion even greater. Joe is a great organizer and I'm sure will come back fresh and with more pleasant surprises, he's also a listener so he welcomes suggestions and ideas which can be sent to him at 1900 Hollyoaks Lake Rd. E., Jacksonville, FL 32211.

Anyone planning to come earlier and/or stay longer can contact Henry Santos at 9811 N. Connechuset Rd., Tampa, FL and he will arrange for the most reasonable rates in the area, the earlier the better.

Those with R.V.s please do the same as there are several good choices in the Orlando area and close to attractions throughout Florida, Henry has been R.Ving for years and knows where the best campgrounds are.

The same goes for anyone with special needs (except money). Florida members who for whatever reason cannot get to the reunion but would like to send Henry a note or give him a call at (813) 985-5444 and he'll try to arrange for you to attend.

WELL DESERVED

VERRRRYYY IMPORTANT, if you do plan and you should, to make this a well deserved vacation as well PLEESSEE, pack comfortable walking shoes and loose casual clothing, not many establishments require dressy attire, and be prepared for another welcomed surprise, the very moderate prices you'll find in most area restaurants especially the ones off "the beaten path".

NOW HEAR THIS

Now hear this, you old and young doggies plan to give yourselves and families a well deserved vacation treat by planning and saving now to attend the great 40th reunion, our days are getting shorter, the biggest expense may be getting here and back home.

ANYONE FOR AN R.V. CLUB?

With so many people going the Motor Home and travel trailer route I wonder if there are some other Ninth Division R.V. families around. If so please drop me a line if you'd be interested in forming a club. I'm sure we could each show others from other states an insider's view of our respective part of this great country. My wife and I have done a good bit of traveling in the forty eight states with our travel trailer and now have a new motor home we plan to give a good work-out to with Alaska in our sights. A very inexpensive way to travel and see places you usually only read about.

ANY LITTLE TIDBITS

At this time I would like to ask experienced reunion organizers out there to please forward any little tidbits of suggestions to make our job a success.

15th Engrs. Co A
Henry R. Santos
9811 N. Connechuset
Tampa, FL 33617



THE OCTOFOIL

THE OCTOFOIL	
Form 2579 should be sent to 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N. J. 07087 Octofoil Associated Editors Walter O'Keeffe and Daniel Quinn	
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President Elmer Wagner 2833 Hotchkiss Rd. Bay City, Mi 48706	1985 Thomas Boyle Sommerville, Ma Henry Santos Tampa, Fla. Dave Heller Highland Park, Il. Al Perna Philadelphia, Pa. 1986 Larry Ghere Tulsa, Okla
Vincent Guglielmino, 1st V. P. 114 Charles Street Floral Park, N.Y. 11001	
Pete Radichio, 2nd V. P. 9415 Blind Pass Rd St. Petersburg, Fl. 33706	
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Daniel Quinn Secretary 412 Gregory Avenue Weehawken, N.J. 07087	
Honorary Member Emeritus Father 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 of means of educational activities and to serve as an information bureau to former members of the 9th Infantry Division."

Copy must be received on or before the 15th of each month to guarantee publication on the 20th.

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

Volume XXXIV Number 4 Aug.-Sept.-Oct. 1984
Publication No. 402820

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

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

ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

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

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

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

1. Send a letter of application, written in expository form, to the chairman of the scholarship committee stating the following: name, address, age, and sex of the applicant; name, address, and occupation of the applicant's parents or guardians; the name and address of the secondary school the applicant is attending or has attended and graduated; the name and address of the college the applicant expects to attend; the vocational goal of the applicant; and the name of and degree of relationship to a former member of the division. The unit and dates of service in the division of the former member must be included.
2. A transcript of the applicant's high school record must be included with the letter of application. The transcript must include at least the first seven semesters of the applicant's record.
3. The applicant must have a counselor or principal of the high school, he or she is attending write a letter of recommendation to the chairman of the scholarship committee.
4. The applicant must take the PSAT which is given every October. The applicant must see that the results of the PSAT are sent to the chairman of the scholarship committee. These results may be included with the high school transcript or sent to the chairman from the College Entrance Examination Board. The SAT of the CEEB may be submitted in lieu of the PSAT.
5. THE APPLICATION MUST BE SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE BY MARCH 15. Applications received after March 15 will not be considered.
6. All applicants must accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.
7. Information to determine financial need will be requested by the Scholarship Committee after the applications have been considered.
8. Recipients of the scholarships may apply for renewal of the scholarship each year. A copy of the student's college grades, a financial statement, and a letter requesting renewal of the scholarship should be sent to the chairman by March 15.
9. All applications must be sent to
John J. Clouser,
Scholarship Chairman, Ninth Infantry Division
1088 N. Circle Drive, Crystal River, Florida 32629

SERVICE BATTERY
26th FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION

Fortieth Annual Memorial Mass
Immaculate Conception Church
Grove Street, Worcester, Mass.
Sunday, November 11, 1984 to 10:00 a.m.
In Memoriam: Bernal Lareau, Aug. '84, Jess Hill, June '82, Bill Andrews, Dec. '83.

You will receive an annual letter from Father Connors. If it is as strong as was his letter in the May-July OCTOFOIL in which he used words "swan song," this might be our last Memorial Mass. If this might be true, and you have never attended a Memorial Mass, why not try to make this last time your first time. Wherever you go to Church on November 11th, say a prayer for the OLD RELIABLES who are no longer with us.

Lareau had been in poor health for many years. Jess Hill, an old tent city regular died two years ago. Bill Andrews died from a massive blood clot in his lungs. His wife, Lucille, and his daughter, Susan, fulfilled his last wish that they attend the convention at Lake Placid this past summer.

Our Dick Hill is still in the entertainment world. His act is a little different, but it is what oil barons like deep in the heart of Texas. Bill Sacco is still troubled with back trouble. I saw him several times this past summer. He is a summertime employee at my golf club. No, I don't own it. Rumor has it that Bill Bongiorno will be a permanent resident in Florida shortly after the new year. Bill can now rest and relax since his sister's estate has been settled. Albanese, Pergi, and Roscoe are taking things easy. Roscoe had a circulation problem in his right leg. The situation has been corrected and he is dancing again. John and Dorothy Murray, after flying to England, enjoyed a two-week cruise in Scandinavian waters. My Alice had so much trouble with arthritis during the past summer that we could not make Lake Placid. Truly Hammock was hospitalized many times during the past year. Kidney stones seemed to be the culprit.

Change your records to read:
Warren Estep, PO Box 137, Hampton, Tenn. 37658
Rev. Edward T. Connors, 87-5 Park Avenue, Worcester, Ma. 01605

Ross Kepple, Veterans' Home, Quincy, Illinois, 62301 Cottage 26
Joseph Bolow, 134 Thorndike Road, Bondsville, Mass.
Father's Helpers will again sponsor a buffet on Saturday, November 10th at 6:00 p.m. Response last year was exceptional. Their hopes are that this activity will be very pleasant for all. Tickets (\$13.00 ea) must be purchased in advance. Send your money to Tom Boyle, 39 Hall Avenue, Somerville, Ma, 02143.

Orlando, Florida will host our convention in 1985. Call Dan Quinn for help. See you in Worcester!

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

Orlando, Florida
Reunion in '85
June 6, 7, 8th

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT
AND CIRCULATION

(Act of October 23, 1962: Section 4369, Title 39, United States Code)
1. Date filed: 9/27/84 2. Title of Publication: THE OCTOFOIL.
3. Frequency of issue: Bi-Monthly. 4. Location of known office of publication: 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N. J. - Hudson County. 5. Location of headquarters or General Business Offices of the Publisher: 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N. J. - Hudson County. 6. Name and address of the Publisher and Editor: Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N. J.

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Extent and Nature of Circulation		
A. Total No. Copies Printed (Net Press Run)		
B. Paid Circulation	1860	1860
1. Sales through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors and Counter Sales	None	None
2. Mail Subscriptions	1650	1650
C. Total Paid Circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2)	1650	1650
D. Free Distribution By Mail, Carrier or Other Means Samples, Complimentary, and Other Free Copies	110	110
E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D)	1770	1770
F. Copies Not Distributed		
1. Office Use, Left Over, Unaccounted, Spoiled After Printing	90	90
2. Returns From News Agents	none	
G. Total (Sum of E, F1 and 2—should equal net press run shown in A)	1860	1860
11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.		

DANIEL QUINN, Editor and Publisher, The Octofoil.

9th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
1985 REUNION
Orlando, Florida
June 6, 7, 8, 1985

Please Reserve Sheraton-Twin Towers Hotel Accommodations

Name _____ Arrival Date _____ Time _____
Unit _____ Departure Date _____
Address _____ Check in 3:00 p.m., Check out 12 noon.
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
Telephone Number () _____

Make check or money order payable to the Sheraton-Twin Towers Hotel, send to Reservations Department, The Sheraton-Twin Towers Hotel, 5780 Major Boulevard, Orlando, FL 32819

Single (One person) \$58.00
Twin (Two persons) \$58.00 Room rates are subject to 5%
Double (Two persons) \$58.00 State tax and 2% Resort tax

Reservations must be received by May 6, 1985.

Include first night's deposit to confirm reservation or use American Express, Visa or Mastercard.

Card No. _____
Expiration Date _____

(Refundable if reservation is cancelled 48 hours prior to arrival with cancellation number from Hotel).

The above special \$58.00 rates apply 3 days prior to and 3 days after the convention, subject to availability.
Children under 18 stay free when sharing room with parent.
Free Airport Shuttle bus.
Free Scheduled Buses to Most Attractions.

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 ☐

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. ☐

Taps Sounded

With profound regret and remorse we announce the passing of these "Old Reliabilities" and friends.

Mrs. Harrison (Gerry) Daysh
Nunzio (Frank) Mortelliti
Co I, 47th Inf

Harold Frantz
26th F.A.

Carlton Pope
15th Engrs. Co A
Bumal LaReau

26th F.A.
Walter (Bushel) Miazza
84th F.A.

Charles Karis
9th Med Bn Co. C
Lloyd K. Stoudt

9th Med Bn Co. C
John Holick
39th Inf. I Co

Charles (Chuck) Koskie
47th Inf. F Co
Cas Pawelak

899 TD
Frank Mazurek

Hq 47th Inf
Edward Sypniewski

9th Med
Erwin Etzler

60th Inf E Co
Pat J. De Mario

9th Med Co. C

Charles O. Tingley
Div Hqs

May they rest in peace. To their families we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

Charles Koskie

The many friends of Charles "Chuck" Koskie were saddened to learn of his death. Chuck was one of the Association's active members and was always in there pitching. His Illinois Chapter kept him busy but he always found time to be on any committee for the National organization. Serving on the Board of Governors for National he was elected President of the Association in 1976.

It was through the association that we really "got to know" Chuck and we still visualize him singing "If you don't like your Uncle Sammie" and "Don't steal Daddy's medal" when the old gang would gather for a little refreshments. The late Johnny Rizzo would dress as an A-rab and do his bit and that would start the fun. Where did the good times go??

Our son has just left the Air Force and has set up practice in Marshfield, Wisconsin. As soon as Chuck heard this he offered young Dan the use of his "home" in the country located not too far from Marshfield. Good fishing, boating and in Winter sports of all kind. It was while Chuck was fishing at his summer cabin that he was stricken and went off to meet his God.

To Irma his wife and his children we offer our deepest sympathy as we share your grief.

34th FA Btry
MRS. MARY LOU DAILYDAS
Rt 1, Box 124
Midway, Ark. 72651

It is with great sadness that I write this letter. Joe suffered a massive cerebral hemorrhage in April from which he did not survive. At his request, he was buried in the National Cemetery at Memphis, Tenn., on April 16th, 1984. He had not felt well since he was at Ft. Bragg in 1982, but this was unexpected. I have enjoyed reading the Octofoil and would like to continue to receive it. Should you see Walter O'Keeffe please tell him how very fond he was of him and you, Dan. We often talked of you both.

39th Inf
HARRISON J. DAYSH
4303 Carriage Court
Kensington, Md. 20895

Sad tidings! Two very worthwhile persons and bulwarks of the Washington D.C. chapter have passed away. I can not say too much of my beloved wife, Geraldine, of 38 plus years who has left me desolate after a heroic battle and ordeal, she is irreplaceable! Concerning Charlie Tingley, there would be no 9th association as we have come to know but for that gentleman. I am convinced that if it were not for Charlie Tingley and Paul Plunkett there would not have been published and promulgated the division WW2 history, 8 Stars to Victory.

15th Engrs., Co A
MRS. CARLTON POPE
Box 288
Bennington, N.H. 03442

Hello Everyone. Carlton fought bravely to overcome each obstacle, a completely paralyzing stroke, 2 massive heart attacks, then brief comas and convulsions, but he passed away on Sept. 11th. On Sept. 14th he was buried with members of the V.F.W. participating. My best to his many friends and Westy, too.

9th Med
MRS. ELIZABETH SYPNIEWSKI
19 Wisteria Lane
Wantagh, N.Y. 11793

I guess you probably know by now that my husband Edward passed away on July 4, 1984. His 4 children and I miss him so very much. Last year when we were in Massachusetts (Father Connors), he mentioned that if ever he couldn't make it up there that he would want Christopher and I, the youngest 14 yrs, to make sure to go and pray for him and all the boys. However, the other couple we would have gone with, Mr. and Mrs. Spendorio can't make it and since there is no bus going up there, we will be unable to attend. Please add Eddie to your prayers. May you all go in God's care.

47th Inf Co I
FRANK (Dorothy)
MORTELLITI
PO Box 445
Marstons Mills, Ma. 02648

It is a very sad occasion for me to tell you my husband, Nunzio, passed away suddenly on July 26th, 1984. I wish to thank all the wonderful New England 9th men and Fr. Connors who came to pay their respect to my husband. Nunzio (Frank) always enjoyed the times he spent with the men and their wives of the 9th. We had such a grand time at Lake Placid this year as always. As you know Pauline Olsen was his sister. He is buried at the National Cemetery in Bourne, Mass., on the Camp Edwards Otis Air Field Base. Please keep me on the mailing list.



Frank Tokarz sends this picture of the 47th Hq's Bn Ammo gang under Captain Bob Buck (not shown) left to right: Frank, Warrant Officer Morrie Kuzber, John Lereddri, Red the driver, Zino from Brooklyn, Federhoff and Stash. Story appears in Mail Call.

Charles Tingley

Charles Tingley died this past August. Charlie was one of the backbones of the association in its early days and served as National Secretary from 1948 to 1952. It may be recalled that the Ninth Division's history book "8 Stars to Victory" had trouble getting off the drawing board and being printed for the membership but a handful of members "hung in there" and saw to it that the book was published. Charlie was one of those members. Charlie took the reigns and made the 1980 reunion held in Washington one of the best in the history of the association. That was the year Matt Urban was decorated by President Carter and that made it difficult to run a reunion. The President's schedule had to be fitted in with our programs.

To Honor his wife and children we extend our heartfelt sympathy.



Co. G + Hq. Co. 2nd Batt
47 Infantry
JEROME SHAPIRO
739 W 186th St.
Apartment 2B
N.Y., New York 10033

The Lake Placid convention was primarily terrific. The spot couldn't have been better. The highest spot in New York State, was pleasurable, healthy and more scenic than SWITZERLAND.

The room and food were GRADE A, as were the guests. But, the TRI-HOTEL deal wasn't so great - since many members were not with their buddies in the same hotel - but this was hardly no ones fault since over 700 people attended plus the hotels were swell.

The party, plus banquet rooms were a problem too. They were built to hold 600 plus, we have over 700 after the dance. The rooms were almost as crowded as the New York subways.

I had a terrific surprise as George Bako, my old MESS SERGEANT of CO. G approached me as I registered in Holiday Inn. I had thought he couldn't make it as his wife Paula had a successful operation from which she was recuperating, but she forced him to go plus he did - riding 3500 miles to see his old buddies.

G Co. was well represented. Besides yours truly plus George Bako, there was Marty Gill and Bob Griffiths. It was swell seeing them again.

NEXT YEAR, ORLANDO!
GOD BLESS!

P.S. I'm sure the Hotel in Orlando will be a very big one. P.P.S. Also glad to see all the fellows from Hq.Co. 2nd Batt. 47th Infantry + "F" Co. + "E" Co. especially my fellow RUNNER, ED COMBS.

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

A walk down "memory lane" with my good friend, John J. "Ripples" Reilly.

Probably few can remember what happened on Feb. 11th. of this year - far fewer could or care to remember that day in - 1941!

For two guy's it was Army Induction Day at the Jamaica Armory at Jamaica, Long Island. - the lad who "barely" preceded me was John "Ripples" Reilly, A.S.N. 32019579, hailing from the noted Greenpoint section of Brooklyn, N.Y. I, for government convenience, became A.S.N. 32019580, from Queens Village, Long Island. - little did we realize we were about to become life-time friends!

ACCEPTED

Within two hours Selective Service "accepted" us, you see we both had trigger fingers-any other defects, which at that point in time, were referred to as "non-disqualifying" - they then called us Privates - loaded us on a train - headed it toward Yaphank, L.I. the "Devil's Island" of Long Island's scrub oak and pine inlands bearing the characteristics of an emetic.

As we "privates" surveyed our new surroundings it was certain almost nothing would be the same! - when juice-laden peach halves slide down over the mountainous crevices of one's gravy-covered mashed potatoes, dispensed by kitchen clones whose brains were removed at birth. - when bedding down in pyramidal tents bearing the initials G.W. - adding an element of severe cold and icy wind, we were about to prove how long it takes to Quick-freeze six "turkeys"! - but what really "done us in" was the latrine facility - just one look at this "vitreous pot-pourri" "this" Ceasars' Place" of topless white jugs, we decided that "no way, Jose" would we succumb to a visual "command performance" in Camp Upton's Hollywood Bowl! - by Day 2 we were "forced" to reconsider - thus what was "Never Never land" now became "neversay, never, Man"!

FIT TO SHIP

Uncle Sam soon saw fit to ship our group to North Carolinas' answer to the Sahara Desert - also known as Ft. Bragg. - we were assigned to the newly formed Ninth Division - 47th. Infantry - Company B. eventually participating in it's Headquarters' section. -

4 1/2 years later found us, patiently, awaiting shipment home with 155 points - while America was busy honoring and releasing it's 42nd. Street, U.S.O. "commandos" with - 50 points!

From/Munich we, once again, did the 40 + 8 bit up to Camp Top Hat in Antwerp, Belgium To be the first troops to sail homeward into Boston from this war-torn port. - soon we were to resume our civilian way of life.

Over the many years that followed John and I kept in touch through the N.Y. Chapters' many activities - parties - card games - New York 9th. Division Re-unions, etc/ and while I was still "bop-pin" around John and Mary were busy parenting four children.

HUMOROUS QUIPS

Men of the 47th. Regiment will best remember John for his humorous quips and contributions to the "Raider" of the 9th. a mimeographed when you

could get it" enhanced by the character sketches so brilliantly drawn by the late George A. Morgan.

At this point I'd to interject a random sample of "Ripples" writing's, an individual style that added a grin, a smile, at a time when it was most needed!

REILLY'S "RIPPLES."

Hear about the outfit that was so far behind the front lines the squad leader knew everyone in his squad - by name!

A buddy of mine lost 125 lbs. when he left England - she was a brunette.

Things back home are still the same: Roosevelt is still President; Brooklyn is last in the National League; beer is still 10c a glass and Coolyconch is still being taken!

Would you say a pregnant rabbit had ingrown hares?

I miss the fun I had in England - drinking Mild and Bitters with husbands for chasers.

How to make a Battle Field Commission - sell novelties to the men in the line companies.

Blessed are the meek - they never get German pistols!

Tip to G.I.s - How to avoid Trench Foot - walk on your hands.

It's been rumored that a copy of the "Ripples" reached the German G.H.Q. - thus the unconditional surrender. - h'm - I wonder!!

Our John became the #2. MAN OF THE HUGE AND BUSY Internal Revenue Service in downtown Brooklyn, N.Y. - unfortunately, his career was prematurely curtailed due to heart disease - in and out of hospitals and V.A. facilities - one of my last 'phone conversations with him was shortened at Mary's request - she told me he just wasn't up to it.

John J. "Ripples" Reilly has "left us" but all of us who had the privilege of knowing him, sharing time with him, will never forget him or his "dead-pan" delivery of his G.I. humor. - you keep them laughing "up There" A.S.N. 32019579, - that's an order!

Pat said it well in describing our stay up at Lake Placid. - our only regrets are that this period wasn't several day's longer as it's difficult to spend all the time you wish with cherished friends.

To those of the "Beco" family who missed this one we're particularly sorry you couldn't have shared this happening with us.

Pat and I have just about exhausted way's to sell this fine yearly event to so many of you - the "green stamp" approach failed - burger joint "free-bees" didn't do it either! Pat, I think we'll go back to the Ann-Margaret incentive plan. 1 (Hey! look at all those "baby blues" lighting up!)

You know who we are speaking about, so "be there" in June. - "be there" is our 40th. Annual Re-union at the beautiful city of Orlando, we got an awful lot of things going for us down here in Florida - you jes' may never git 'round ta goin' home! - Yo'all.

Hope everyone enjoyed the 40th. Memorial Mass and Service up in Worcester.

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

ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWS

Greetings from the travelling Illinois Chapter. Maybe we should call ourselves the Midwestern Chapter. In August we were graciously hosted by Paul and Lorraine Clark in Waynestown, Indiana. They have a lovely home in a nice quiet town and we all had an enjoyable weekend. We were joined by members from Elkhart, Indiana (Harold and Meta Louis Frantz), Covington, Indiana (William and Maxine Morton) and Webster Grove, Missouri (Jack and Nadine Collier). We were saddened to hear only ten days after our meeting that Harold Frantz had a massive heart attack and passed away. We have had many happy memories with him at the Clarks, the reunions, and the outstate reunions. We all extend our deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

In September we held our meeting at the Grays in Fontana, Wisconsin. We were joined by Wanda and Ted Preston who are practically neighbors to Lou and Muriel Gray. We had a wonderful time and the rain held off until we were on our way home.

Our October meeting will be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan for our outstate reunion. This will be the first mini-reunion we will miss. We have a relative getting married out of state and will be attending the wedding. Our thoughts and good wishes for a successful reunion will be with all the members who will be attending.

We also received word last weekend that our fellow member and friend, Casimer Pawelak, 899 T.D. unit, passed away. He had been bed ridden since March. He was 73 years old and suffered for many years. Our prayers and thoughts are with his wife Jean as all the members will mourn the loss of a dear friend.

We also lost our Illinois Chapter President but for happier reasons. Larry and Kay Ghare have moved to Oklahoma to join their children and Larrys family. We will miss them but they plan to attend Grand Rapids and will be going to the yearly reunions. Good luck, Larry and Kay, we all wish you much happiness in your new home and will miss you in Illinois.

We have the saddest news to report. On October 11th we received a call that Chuck Koskie passed away. He and wife were fishing in the river near their Wisconsin Summer home when he had a heart attack and died instantly. About four years ago he had by-pass surgery but was recovered and doing well as we all saw at the past reunions. We had just seen him the week before at Casimer Pawelak's wake and he looked so good. We know how we feel but the shock cannot be as great to us as it is to his wife and family. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Irma. They were planning to attend the outstate meeting at Grand Rapids. We have had many good times with Chuck and he will be missed dearly. Chuck has been an enthusiastic member of the Ninth both at the National and Local levels and it is a great loss to the Association.

The words of our dear departed member, Bud Remer, always comes back to us — "Enjoy life — it's later than you think."

Respectfully submitted
Mike and Ann Belmonte
1161 South Lombard Ave.
Oak Park, Illinois
60304

FLORIDA GATOR NEWS

CHANGE OF PACE

The Florida Chapter held its Fall meeting in Port St. Lucie at the Sandpiper Bay Resort, a real change of pace from the usual meetings, arranged by Art Coulon and committee. It wasn't the largest turnout and those of you Floridians who missed it have only yourselves to blame. Our president, Joe Williams explained some of the preparations he's made so far and appointed committee chairmen for the 1985 reunion. I hope Joe and wife Dottie are not in the process of coming down with "battle fatigue", as they informed us of plans to leave on a trip that will take them through states that are already coming up with 20 degree temperatures and that white stuff many of us northern cowards escaped from when we migrated here to sunny Florida. I hope the snow and ice and the floods that follow will be kind to Joe and Dottie so they can be here for our April meeting at the Sheraton Twin Towers.

For those who may be apprehensive of the weather let me say I don't expect the first week of June will be as cool as I'd like (personally) but far from the hot weather we had in Washington and a few other reunions, then like many other cities we could strike it a bit lucky and be blessed with a spell of cool days, then again we could have record breaking heat as in New England a month or so ago when it was hotter there than here in Florida. I guess what I'm trying to say is the first week in June is usually nice and comfortable, think positive, and there's air-conditioning everywhere. Those who fly in will be in an air-cooled plane, enter a cool terminal, jump into an a/c bus (free to the hotel) etc., in other words everything is air-conditioned and if it should break down we'll call on our secretary Phil Berman who is in the business to quickly resume the cooling system.

Anyone needing R.V. space or any other information needs only to contact me, if I don't have I will get the answer.

A highlight of the meeting was the celebration of the birthdays of General Edwin H. and Mrs. Randle. General Randle, former CO of the 47th Inf. Regt. will be 90 on October 11. Mrs. Randle will be 85 on October 16.

The next meeting of the Florida Chapter will be held April 12-13, 1985, at the Sheraton Twin Towers, Orlando, Florida. Hope to see all of our Florida Chapter members at this meeting.

HENRY SANTOS
9811 N. Connechuset
Tampa, Florida 33617

Recommended Book

"The Battle of the Huerfgen Forest" is highly recommended to our members. The book written by Charles B. MacDonald is published by Jove Book Mailing Service, P.O. Box 690, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571 and can be obtained by writing to this company. The cost of the book is \$2.95 plus \$1.00 for postage and handling. There are 200 pages (pocket-book) dealing from the time that the Ninth entered the Huerfgen in September of 1944 till December 1944, 120,000 American Soldiers advance upon the Germans through this forest in what was to become one of the bitterest and most fruitless battles of WW2.

Trip to Europe

Ed Combs formerly with E Company 47th Infantry has plans for a 16 day trip to Europe in September of 1985. Starting with 3 nights in London, 1 night in Southampton, 2 nights in Caan, 2 nights in Paris, 1 night in Liege, 1 night in Bonn, 1 night in Erfurt, 1 night in East Berlin and 2 nights in West Berlin.

For information contact:
Combs Travel Service
316 City Centre Mart
Middletown, Ohio 45042
513-424-1014

New Supply

Due to the continuing demand I am always running out of 9th division golf caps and license plates at the reunions. Since I started something that I have difficulty getting out of, I have gotten another supply. Golf caps are available by mail for a total cost of \$6.25 which includes shipping. These caps with the adjustable back (one size fits all) have the 9th division association embroidered emblem. Four styles are available: 1. a summer cap which has a white polyester front panel with a royal blue visor and nylon mesh back panel. 2. a winter cap in all navy blue polyester. 3. an all white summer cap with polyester front and nylon mesh back panel. 4. a summer cap for youths (ages 8 to 14 yrs) which has a white polyester front panel and a royal blue visor and nylon mesh rear. Also I have new 9th division aluminum license plates for a total cost of \$5.00 which includes shipping. These plates are white with blue lettering and border. A large red, white and blue Octofoil is at the center. The lettering is 9th Inf Div Assn. Across the bottom are the 8 stars and invasion arrowhead like on our newspaper mast head. Please address all mail in care of me, Elmer Wagner at

2833 Hotchkiss Rd.
Bay City, Mi. 48706

2nd Annual Mini Reunion, M Co. 60th Inf., June 17, 18 and 19th at Selinsgrove, Pa.

Guests of Joe and Pat Gargie Very nice attendance, 23 Co. men and 17 wives. We had an exceptional reunion. Everyone was disappointed that the Thorntons, Buchanans, Bradys and Smiths had to cancel and that Sharboughs, Hales and Elichkes who had indicated that they were planning to attend, didn't show.

Five couples and MacDonald had a nice get together on Saturday evening and became the welcoming committee for Sunday arrivals.

Joyful Occasion

Sundays welcome at the Holiday Inn and the Dauntless Fire Hall became a real joyful occasion as the day progressed, with the arrival of old friends with old pictures and articles about our glorious 9th and M Co. men.

Monday the bus trip to Gettysburg was short the men who made the pilgrimage to the golf course and both parties had a good day, in spite of rain in the AM. We all returned to the Fire Hall for the evening meal and festivities which included the induction of George Brum into the Coon Pecker Society by Walt Frasure.

Bus Trip

Tuesdays bus trip to Hershey (Choc Town) and Amish Country around Lancaster, was short again the sportsmen of the crowd who had to settle

scores of the previous day. Our bus made several stops for souvenirs and one of the largest shopping Malls in Pa., near Harrisburg. We also stopped both days at the same souvenir shop outside Selinsgrove where souvenirs missed the first day could be purchased. Another superior family dinner was served by the ladies Aux of the Fire Hall. We got down to a business meeting after the showing of slides of Winchester and Stonehenge, England in 1977 and of the Last Mini Reunion in Florence/Sheffield, Ala.

The business of when and where to hold the next Mini Reunion was decided when Allen and Mary Luce invited us to Winneconne, Wisc. the 19th, 20th and 21st of August, providing I would help with arrangements and notification of the membership. Therefore I am still holding this important position.

The raffle of the Goodie Box and surplus booze and table decorations closed our Mini Reunion, with nearly everyone winning something. The Grand Prize Box went to Bob and Peg Sagner.

On To Lake Placid

On Wednesday 10 Co. men and 6 wives continued on to Lake Placid for the Association Reunion. Two other M Co. men joined us there, Al Bruchac and Les Ronay. After the Sat. nite banquet and ceremonies there was a get-together for farewells and promises for next year in Bovanizers room.

Big Thank You

We can not close this letter without saying a very big thank you to Joe and Pat Gargie and the Ladies of the Dauntless Fire Co. for the use of their hall and the terrific meals they served.

Keep your cards and letters coming, also addresses of lost Co. Men.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert R. Bovanizer
14 Sabre Park
Niagara Falls, NY 14304
(716) 297-6205

Tip of the Hat

Remembering the Memorial Fund and their buddies who have answered their last roll call we thank the following members and friends:

M.J. McDaniel
Michael B. Foley
Frank Corvino
Sam Moscatelli
Pete Radichio
John E. Wallen
John Clouser (In memory of Harold Frantz)
Eugene A. Terry
Mrs. Chesley Mischler (In memory of Harold Frantz and Mike Bish)
Mrs. Mary Lou Dailydas (In memory of her husband, Joseph)
Andrew S. Kopach.

Howard Heilman who made a most generous donation every year has upon his demise bequeathed the Memorial Fund the sum of \$2500.00.

47th K Co
MRS. HELEN (Lagatuta) HOLMES
352D Hackensack St
Wood Ridge, N.J. 07075

Again we want to tell you what a great time we had at the reunion at Lake Placid. It's always wonderful to renew acquaintances with all of Joe's buddies and their wives. Will be unable to attend the Memorial service in Worcester as will be on a cruise. You'll be in our thoughts. However, we will make Florida.

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

I saw in the Octofoil that you didn't get the name of the winner of the beautiful afghan made by Lillian Gonzol. I was the lucky winner and I will treasure it as this was our first reunion. I am the wife of Earl Lees.



Barney Ingebretsen and Mike Kauffman former members of the 60th Infantry are shown when they met at Fort Bragg, California for a joint birthday party. Story appears in Mail Call.



George Bako, Dan Quinn, Eleanor and Bob Griffith are shown at the Lake Placid reunion's Welcoming party held on Thursday night. Bob Giffith supplied the picture and story that appears in Mail Call. Bob and George are two "old timers" from Company G 47th.

**June 6, 7, 8 1985
Reunion in Florida**

B Co, 15th Engrs
RICHARD C. McGRATH
2856 W. 85th St.
Chicago, Ill. 60652

My favorite newspaper or magazine doesn't gain my attention like the "Octofoil". I look forward to each edition and first look for 15th Engineer news, then I read the paper from cover to cover. On the bottom of the last page is usually a comment about, "getting on the ball" and contribute to your paper. Being a free loader I thought I would write a long letter this time to soothe my conscience.

First, I want to thank the Michigan chapter for making the Detroit reunion such a fun time. It was well organized and that C.P. (Renaissance Center) was beautiful, like something out of, "Star Wars." From this you can tell how long its been since I have written and no wonder I feel like a free loader.

Second, I want to thank the Lake Placid committee for also doing a fine job in organizing the last reunion. The search committee outdid themselves in finding that beautiful location. This city boy is really impressed with mountains and lakes after being surrounded most of my life, by concrete. I don't know whether I liked Lake Placid or Cape Cod better for their scenery, regardless, you guys from the East know how to pick beautiful locations.

Its always a good time when you get to see old comrades like Fred Damore, Tony Madonna, Allie Ferrante, Bill Davidson, Jerry Shea, Frank Rankin, Tony Sangiacoma, Art Schmidt, Paul Lisa, and forgive if I left anyone out — we did have a good turnout of Engineers. As one gets older its more important to see these comrades each year. As good as the Lake Placid reunion was it would have been better if all had been present and accounted for. Father Connors and Father Rowan were missed by the whole group. The 15th gang also missed Tom Reith, Barney Angell, Charlie Hoffman, Jim Mullen, Glen Bowman, Ron Murphy, and any other of you Engineers who are reading this.

One of the highlights of the reunion for me was a chance to get reacquainted with Ex Major Alex Forrest who was operations and plans Officer for the 15th Engineer Battalion. Its too bad every enlisted man doesn't get a chance to talk to his Officers. I learned more about our overseas tour in a few hours talking to Alex Forrest than I did in the 2½ years overseas duty. At the reunion I met a man who said he went on the North African tour last year and how interesting it was because Alex Forrest was along. The Ex Major is a very interesting man who has had a world of experience. I hope he will write a book some day about the role played in the division by the 15th Engineers.

It was good to read in the Octofoil a letter from Barney Angell in which he showed he hasn't lost his sense of humor, he mentioned that Fred Damore was one of the guys that, Herman never laid a glove on. Herman knew better than to get Damore mad.

Enclosed find picture of Charlie Hoffman which was taken on a sandy beach near Oran. We were waiting for a boat to take us to Sicily. It looks like Charlie is trying to get some of the African dirt out of his clothes by using his helmet as a washtub.

Well its been almost a year since I retired and this laid-back life with no urgency takes a little getting used to. After be-

Lake Placid MEMORIAL in Review



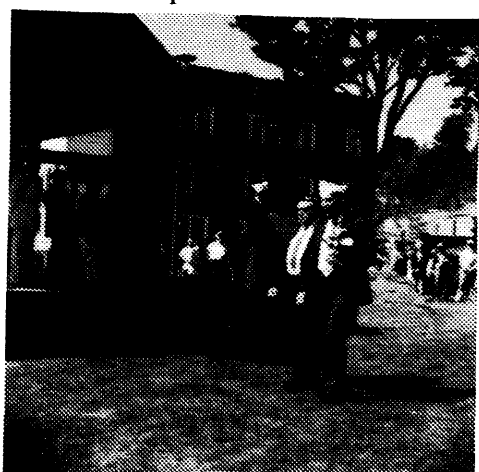
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Bill Coen supplied these pictures of the Memorial Services at the Lake Placid reunion.

1. Tom Boyle President of the Association and Dan Quinn after placing of the wreath.

2. Adolph Wadalavage President of the New York Chapter and Fred D'Amore after placing of flower on wreath.

3. Color Guard.

4. Fred D'Amore escorts Oliver Carter of the Washington Chapter to the placing of flower on the Wreath.

5. Bob DeSandy of the Michigan chapter and Bill Bongiorno salute the colors after placing of flower.

6. Tom Boyle and Bill Bongiorno salute the colors.

7. Fran Maher master of ceremonies for the Memorial Service is shown at podium.

8. Rev. Ralton Speers offers his prayers at services.

9. Some of those who were in attendance at the most solemn part of the reunion, the Memorial Services.

GI Benefit Assistance

The statement of any person having direct knowledge of a service-connected disability claimed by a veteran is acceptable for the purpose of establishing entitlement to compensation.

A certified statement from a doctor who treated the veteran immediately after discharge, or within the first year after

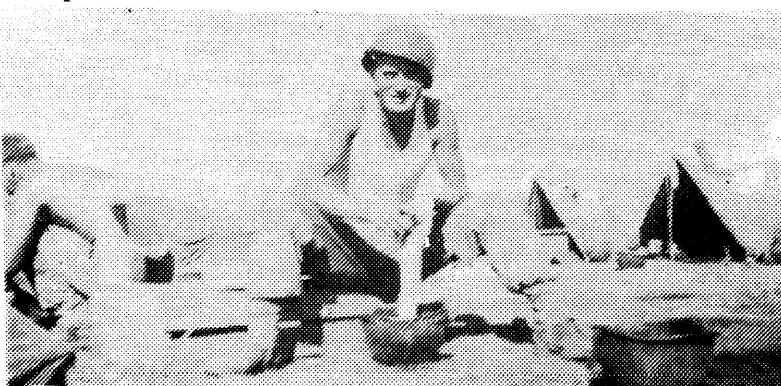
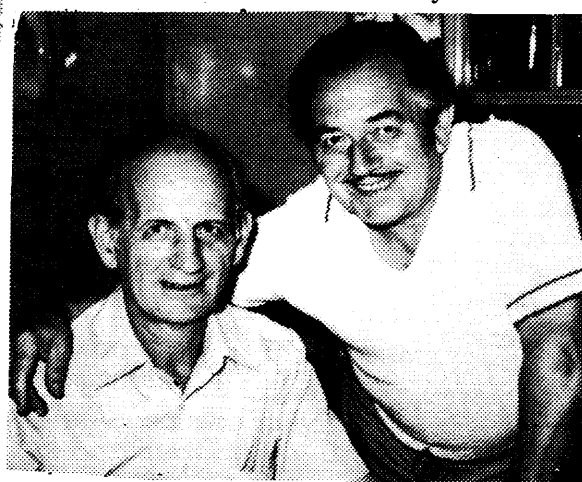
ing controlled by time clocks and schedules for so long its like a dream not to have to "fall in," early in the morning. After spending most of my life in uniform, (4 years in the C.C.C.'s, 4 years in the Army, and 20 years with the post office) its great not to have to worry about shined shoes and all that jazz. It takes a while to learn how to be a gentleman and mix and match clothes — but I like the learning process.

In closing I want to mention that I look forward to attending my first Memorial Service in Worcester and honoring all the fine men from the 9th that weren't as lucky as we were. I have been reading war books lately and two worthy of mention are "Follow Me and Die" and "Battle of the Hurtgen Forest". These are gripping books that detail one of the roughest campaigns the 9th division was involved in, it's hard to believe that in this campaign there were 33,000 casualties in just 4 months and 4500 of those were suffered by the "Old Reliables."

I'm proud to be a member of the Ninth Division Association and hope I will always be worthy of the sacrifices made by our comrades.



Walt Jezowski and Bill Kowalczyk Company M, 47th Inf., are shown in pictures taken, one at the time of the Falaise Gap 1944 and the other in 1984 at Saugus, Mass. Story appears in Mail Call.



Richard McGrath sends this photo of Charlie Hoffman (both from Co B 15th Eng) washing his old drawers on the beach near Oran. Story is in Mail Call.

discharge is the most valuable, providing it deals with specific facts related to the alleged disability. A private physician's statement based on his records which can be checked in his office is a vitally important link in building a claim.

A certified statement made by a comrade in service who was present when the veteran was sick, wounded or injured is considered excellent evidence.

The burden of substantiating that a disability is service-connected rests upon the claimant. Hence it is essential that all pertinent information be presented and an explanation provided why the disability does not appear on the veteran's official records.

60th Inf.

MIKE KAUFFMAN

4466 Abinadi Rd.

Salt Lake City, Utah 84124

Barney Ingebreetsen and I met at Fort Bragg North Carolina in September 1940 as part of the initial cadre of the 60th Infantry.

He was with Service Company and I ended up as 2nd Battalion C.O.

While visiting me last year, we discovered our birthdays were two days apart. Inasmuch as Fort Bragg, North Carolina was too far away, we decided to meet at Fort Bragg, California to celebrate a joint birthday party. Incidentally, Fort Bragg California is named after the same Confederate General as the Fort in Fayetteville. Braxton Bragg.

Barney is a Professor at the University of California and my wife and I joined him and his wife in San Macero where they live, and then conoyed to Fort Bragg on the northern California coast.

The four of us had a glorious time reliving the old days at Bragg and in Africa and Sicily. If your ears burned, we probably talked about you.

Enclosed is a picture of our latter-day reunion. Barney on the left, me on the right.

Best wishes to you, your wife, and all of our old buddies.

47th Inf B Co

SAMUEL MOSCATELLI

401 2nd St. N.W.

Chisholm, Mn. 55719

It would be nice if we could have a reunion in Minnesota. There are fine hotels and a lot to see. After all it would be a moral lift to many men who served with the 9th from Minn., North and South Dakota, Iowa, Mich., Wisc., Ill., Montana etc. There is one thing in everyone's heart that gives it an extra beat. Once you have been in the 9th, one hour, one day, one month or how long and through no fault of his own he could not go all the way, it's still in his heart and never will forget. Let's give the site to a western state for one time. After all it was the men from the midwest that cut down all the trees in the Sahara, when we were camped at Sidi Bela Bez that caused the desert. Also I had a short visit from a man who used to live about 40 miles from me. He was a member of Co D. 1st Bn and like the rest of us has a few ailments. He would like to hear from some of the guys, Frank Jacksha, 1872 Reaney Ave., St. Paul, Mn. 55119.

84th FA hqs

HAROLD (Freddy

FREDERICK

16 West End Ave.

Freeport, N.Y. 11520

Hello all you 9th men and my buddies in Hq 84th FA. Was sorry to see two of my buddies in Taps Sounded, knew them very well. Glad to hear Dick O'Connor is on the mend. I will make the Mass in Worcester and make my reservation at the Yankee Budget Motel. Hope to see a number of my buddies there.

84th FA, B Btry

OCTAVIAN GANSCA

412 Meek

Sharon, Pa. 16146

Just a note to let you know how much I appreciated you printing my letter in the Octofoil because it brought quick results. I really mean quick! Got the paper on Monday and that Saturday received my first letter from Sam Robinson and the next Monday from Dick O'Conner. All I can say is Thanks buddy. You don't know how happy it made me feel to hear from my buddies.

47th Inf Co B

MARIO "JACK" DISANTO

1-3 Stonehedge Dr.

So. Burlington, Vt. 05401

This letter is to advise of a change of address. We have sold our house and bought a condominium, town house in So. Burlington about 7 miles away. I like the idea of not mowing the lawn in summer or shovel snow in winter. We had given some thought to moving to a sun belt state but we liked Vermont so much from April through December that we decided to stay. We figure that during the really cold months, Jan - March we can always stay with some of the guys from B Co who have relocated to Florida! I'm sure Art Stenzel and Steve Lelak could put us up for 2 or 3 months each year! Besides I'm willing to go as high as \$50 a month for rent, not including food of course. We had a fantastic time at Lake Placid. Accomodations were the best we have had for several years. There were at least 7 of us from B Co, 1st Pl., Joe Metscavage, Joe Cichocki, Stan Adowski, John Compagnone, Ed Sarnocinski and Pat Morano. We shared many hours talking about the crazy things we did in the old days. Notice I did not say "good" old days, because there were not many good days for us in a rifle platoon. The memorial service on Saturday was very moving and I know many of us shed a tear in remembering our buddies who did not make it back. The banquet was capably handled by an overworked hotel staff who served dinner. Although there was no guest speaker the committee did well in keeping us entertained. I have never thought of Dan Quinn as a standup comedian, but he did very well considering his material. However, I suggest we spend a hundred or two next year and have someone other than a very loud band entertain us. Since we live only a couple of hours away, Grace and Art Stenzel visited us for a few days and we had a very pleasant visit. Just one thing Art could not remember me going back to the outfit in May 1945 after being wounded. Well for his information I have a picture he took of Steve Lelak and myself sipping a beer shortly before I was rotated home. I forgive you Art, because I know as we become older it becomes more difficult to remember.

39th Inf. G Co.

JIM LEMMA

1213 E. Windemere

Royal Oak, Mi. 48073

Just a few lines to let you know that I think you people do a heck of a good job. I have only been in the association for a little over a year and enjoy every copy of the Octofoil. I read each copy at least a dozen times to make sure I don't miss anything. My service with G Co. 39th was from 4 days before Remagen to the end of the war. I heard from 2 men but would like to hear from more, especially if they were in the company when I was. My nephew just got back from Germany a few weeks ago and brought me a pamphlet about the Remagan bridge. The information was put in the pamphlet by the office of the Chief of Military History. It tells all about the different outfits who took the bridge and when and where each outfit was involved. It is the best account of that action I have ever seen. I guess that's all I have to write and hope I hear from some G Co. men.

ALFRED MESCHENMOSER

D 4300 Essen 1

Im Stillen Winkel 2

I have got your address by General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, and ask for your encouragement.

The GSA says, they had not the name of the American officer, who occupied the Post Office of Aschersleben. I am looking for this name for a Briefmarkensammlerverein in Aschersleben, now GDR, former Sowjetzone.

The GSA says, the second Battalion of the 39th Infantry Regiment arrived in Aschersleben on April 17 und departed on the 19th (1945). But the records of the Adjutant General's Office do not include a roster for the second battalion.

47th Inf. I Co 3rd Bn Aid St.

GEORGE W. DOHMANN

78 Kellogg St.

Brookfield, Ct. 06804

As I was putting the paper in the machine I realized that 40 years ago tomorrow I was wounded in Cherburg. A great deal has happened in the passing time that might not have. I don't know why Normandy is so meaningful when there were other battles, injuries, etc, afterward.

My plans to go back to the beaches this year have been postponed until next year when the oncologist tells me I'll be in better health to travel. Happenstance because of the flu I had on my 59th btdy (Valentines Day) and my slow recovery required hospitalization. Blood tests & X-rays turned up a shadow on my lung which after lung operation turned out to be a small cell carcinoma (sounds like a jail in Mexico), that in turn has made me anemic. So I'm involved in a new battle but the 9th taught me to be a survivor and I'm told with the way things are going I have good prospects for being cured in a year or so. In time to make the trip next summer. I know now I could never have done it this year. With the anemia and recovering from the operation I am energy depleted and realized now the whole scene would have been too much for me. So I look to '85.

Regarding the enclosures: the one requesting info. on Nick Pizzolato got me a number of responses from 9th men telling me to a) write you, b) join the assn., c) wishing me luck.

The other is an inquiry you might want to respond to. Perhaps that's an idea for a column in the Octofoil?

The last item you may have already seen. It is an ad in the TV Guide from May 28th. Had Martin Edward O'Grady lived he could not have joined us. He came from a different 9th Division. Too bad!

However, all is not lost. The Octofoil Assn. forming in Fort Lewis, Washington will replace us. When I wrote them they said they would be happy to have me a member as they included all men who served with the 9th Inf. Div. So, even we will be remembered after the last member of our assn. has died. Perhaps the Assn. should consider passing along any funds at such time to this sister organization?

I look to the next issue of the Octofoil to hear how things went at the Reunion. Regards to all, especially Major Copelman.

**Remember the dates
June 6, 7, 8, 1985
Florida Reunion**

9th Med Bn, Co C

FRANK V. KALICH

208 Valencia Dr., N.E.

Albuquerque, N.M. 87110

I was unable to attend the convention in Lake Placid. I hope and plan to make the next one in Ft. Lauderdale. From the reports I received from the New York members, it was a very good convention.

The fortieth anniversary of D-Day has come and gone leaving one with mixed feelings and utter disappointment as far as the reporting of any activity concerning the Ninth Division. Of the four national magazines describing this event, not a single line mentioned the Ninth Division and its involvement in this and other operations.

One commentator viewed the invasion force from a bomber, and although he described what he saw, the feeling persists that he did not see enough of the action to make a creditable report. Other writers related what they saw with little interest. One writer admitted that he did not participate in the invasion at all. It is the old story of being too close to the tree to see the forest. There was a job to do and each unit did what it was supposed to do without comprehending the whole picture.

The reporting of D-Day reminds one of the story of the blind men who described the elephant by touching one part. Each was correct from his vantage point, but not one comprehended the complete picture of the animal.

One writer, however, asks: "... Why then, is one invasion, so near the end of the war, such an historic occasion that it must be celebrated by so many heads of state and so much fanfare?" Successes in the African, Sicilian, and Italian campaigns made it possible to have an invasion of the mainland of Europe in the first place. The Ninth Division and other divisions with attached units made it all possible.

Why the Ninth Division receives so little recognition for its successes in three landings and eight campaigns, the maximum action in the ETO, is simply beyond a reasonable explanation. It was comforting to know that there is a marker for the Ninth at Barneville. But, is there a marker for the Ninth at Utah Beach, or at the Ludendorff Bridge at Remagen? Forty years is much too long to have these major successes, and many others too numerous to mention, to go unrecognized.

84th F.A. "B" Btry

CHESTER (MIKE) MIKUS

220 Fellowship Rd.

Moorestown, N.J. 08057

At our Lake Placid Convention someone in the 84th F.A. mentioned Walter (Bushel) Miazza and that he thought he saw his obituary. Having not spoken to Bushel for some time I decided to call him. I found that his number now belonged to someone else.

I then looked in the telephone directory and was lucky enough to call his cousin. He informed me that Walter had passed away in July of 1983 of a very sudden heart attack.

Will you please print his name in "Taps Sounded" column so that he will be remembered in our prayers.

Thanks Dan and God Willing I will see you in Worcester on Nov. 10th.

Rest Area. — never, never land. Optimist. — A G.I. counting his points.

Human Interest Story

by Al Bravin 47th Inf.

This life saving incident took place many years ago. I was about nineteen years of age at that time.

My aunt had a boarding house in the Catskill Mountains where our family had been going to since I was about five. It would be hard to explain to the younger generation the many good times we had, such as sleeping on top of the hay in the barn, going to square dances, running barefooted, and watching mother make gallons of jelly from the berries we had picked. Way back then there was no television, but we all had plenty to do. I could go on and on, but I have a story to tell.

One of our greatest treats on a hot summer day was to walk through the woods for about two miles to go swimming. The place was called the Black Hole. It got this name because of the dark moss covered stones in the deep part of the stream. This same stream is now part of the Neversink Dam (near Liberty, N.Y.). At some places one could walk across to the other side. Where we did our swimming, one had to swim about forty feet to get across as the water was fairly deep. I was resting after crossing, when one of the younger boys next to me jumped in for a swim. When he came up, he had a funny expression on his face. Once again he went down and came up. This time he was making funny sounds. When he went down again, I realized he was drowning. Not being too good a swimmer, I still knew I had to do something fast. I leaped in holding my breath as the water was about a foot over my head. I grabbed him with both hands on his hips, held him up out of the water and walked towards shore. With an extra push I had him on the stone ledge, then I climbed out. He had swallowed some water which he was able to get ride of. I had saved his life by walking under water.

That night at my aunt's place, the older folks were looking to start a poker cgame. I asked if I could play? The first one to object, perhaps because of my youth, was this boys mother. Guess she hadn't heard of my great swimming feat.

84th F.A.

WILLIAM C. MAUSER

2721 N. Garden Dr. #310

Lake Worth, FL 33461

Phone (305) 965-2441

Greetings!

Long time no see or hear!

I plan to attend Father Connors' 9th Infantry Division Association 40th Annual Memorial Mass on Saturday & Sunday, November 10 & 11 at the Sheraton - Lincoln in Worcester, Massachusetts. This will be my first and I look forward to seeing each of you there.

The second copy of this memo is for you to forward to anyone you are in contact with who is not on the enclosed Roster.

Contact for room reservations @ Sheraton - Lincoln, Days Inn or Yankee Budget: Francis K. Maher, 14 Davenport Street, Worcester, MA (617) 756-1803.

Ein boldiges ouf Wiederehen and God bless.

P.S. Sincere thanks to those who have written me — let's have a personal visit in Worcester!

P.S.S. Trivia Question: Who is only (?) "bloke" who was member of 4 of 5 Batteries of 84 FA BN?

Answer: Me — A. B. C. & HQ

mail call

continued

17th Inf. A & Cannon Co.
MICHAEL FOLEY
801-231 Riverhill Dr
Lanier Gardens
Athens, Ga. 30610

My wife and I with our youngest son just got back from a widely traveled sightseeing tour of Ireland. The weather was perfect and we took a look at the many sights and had an enjoyable time by all standards. You will note our new address that we have moved to an ambulatory retirement complex, where meals and all amenities are supplied with one monthly check. It is ideally situated and it is a blessing for us. No worries of taking care of a house. We are now up into our 70's and near our eldest son's house and family. We travel widely and have no worries about security. It was a bombshell to learn of the passing of Fr. DeLaura, met him many times in my travels during the war. He was right up there. May he sleep the sleep of peace. Our daughter lives in Bloomfield, N.J. and while there we pass thru Weehawken to Manhattan. God grant you and Marie perfect health in the many years ahead and per chance on your way to Florida to visit us. A cead milte failte awaits you.

60th Inf. C M 3rd Bn
MERTON H. BEEBE
176 E. Robbins Ave.
Newington, Ct. 06111

I am unhappy that I have not been able to attend any of the reunions recently, due to my physical and health conditions. It seems that the older one gets, that these conditions do arise. However after reading the Octofoil I can see that the organization is still vibrant and true to its devotion to its veterans and their concerns. The best to you and the officers of the 9th. Association.

26th FA, Serv. Btry
QUINTINO (PERGIE)
PEGIOVANNI
30 David Rd.
E. Hartford, Ct. 06118

On behalf of all the gang in service battery, I would like to take this opportunity to thank "Father" Joe McKenzie for his thoughtfulness, kindness, generosity and compassion over the past forty years. From the early days at Fort Davens and Fort Bragg and through all the campaigns and the invasion you were always available to lend a helping hand, to provide a needed word of reassurance and to provide "fatherly" guidance to us all. On occasion, you may have been "fresh out" as a supply sergeant-but you always had an ample supply of two very precious commodities for each and everyone of us: care and love. Since the war and over the years no two people have done more to keep the gang together than you, Joe and your wife, Alice. Your countless phone calls, notes, annual newsletters and organization of small gatherings have meant so much to us. You will always be "Father" Joe to each of us. We love ya!

9th Q.M.
ANDY SINARE
716 E. 162 St.
Cleveland, Ohio 44110

Enclosed find check for 3 more years dues. I missed the last reunion and hope that I can make it next year. Haven't heard from any of my friends in the QM lately but hope to hear from some of them real soon.

47th Inf Co B
ROBERT EDIE
303 Riverview Dr.
New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663

Sorry to have missed the reunion at Lake Placid. After being in the hospital for 6 weeks and then 4 months of physical therapy 3 times a week, we were ready for a vacation. We had our room reservations made. I guess it was not meant to be as my wife took ill and had to have surgery in June. We both enjoy the reunions and pray that we can be with all of you nice folks in Florida next year. Joe Palapa and his wife, from Pittsburgh, were over to visit us and it sure was a nice surprise to see them. He hopes to attend the reunion next year.

Co. A. 47th Inf.
GEORGE H. BROWN
RD 1, Box 142,
Freehold, N.Y. 12431

Enclosed is a copy of the citation awarding the Medal of Honor to James P. Connor, during his tenure with the 7th Infantry. After reading the article in the Jan.-Feb. 84 issue of the Octofoil, I thought the membership of the Association would appreciate knowing of Connor's heroism which culminated in the award of the Medal of Honor. I am sure that some 47th men remember him.

The copy was reproduced from the "History of the Third Infantry Division in World War II", page 380.

Editors Note: Jim was transferred from the Ninth to the 3rd Division in Sicily. Many of these men felt that they were "shafted."

Sgt. James P. Connor, 32066575, Battle Patrol (SD from Company K), 7th Infantry, for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at risk of life, above and beyond the call of duty, in action involving actual conflict. On 15 August 1944, at 0800 hours, Sergeant Connor, through sheer grit and determination, led his platoon in clearing an enemy vastly superior in numbers and firepower from strongly entrenched positions on Cape Cavalaire, removing a grave enemy threat to his division during the amphibious landings in Southern France, and thereby insured safe and uninterrupted landings for the huge volume of men and materiel which followed. Battle Patrol landed on Red Beach at H-hour, with the mission of destroying the strongly fortified enemy positions of Cape Cavalaire peninsula with utmost speed. From the peninsula, the enemy had commanding observation and seriously menaced the vast landing operations taking place. Though knocked down and seriously wounded in the neck by a hanging mine which killed his platoon lieutenant, Sergeant Connor refused medical aid and with his driving spirit practically carried the platoon across several thousand yards of mine-saturated beach through intense fire from mortars, 20mm flak guns, machine guns and snipers. En route to the Cape, Sergeant Connor became platoon leader.

Receiving a second wound, which lacerated his shoulder and back, he again refused evacuation, expressing determination to carry on until physically unable to continue. He reassured and prodded the hesitating men of his decimated platoon forward through almost impregnable mortar concentrations. Again emphasizing the prevalent urgency of their mission, he impelled his men toward a group of buildings

honeycombed with enemy snipers and machine guns. Here, he received his third grave wound, this time in the leg, felling him in his tracks. Still resolved to carry on, he relinquished command only after his attempts proved it physically impossible to stand on his legs. Nevertheless, from his prone position he gave the orders and directed him men in assaulting the enemy. Infused with Sergeant Connor's dogged determination, the platoon, though reduced to less than one-third of its original 36 men, outflanked and rushed the enemy with such furiousness that they killed 7, captured 40, seized 3 machine guns and considerable other materiel, and took all their assigned objectives, successfully completing their mission. By his own repeated example of tenaciousness to purpose and indomitable spirit Sergeant Connor had transmitted his heroism to his men until they had become a fighting team which could not be stopped.

60th Inf. E Co.
DONALD D. BUELOW
440 E. Dodge St.
Jefferson, Wi. 53549

I am a recent subscriber of the Octofoil and enjoy reading it. I joined the 60th at the Meuse River as a replacement in the 60mm Motor outfit. They were a great bunch of guys. I am sending a poem that was written by someone in my outfit. Perhaps someone will recognize it and get in touch. I am a life member of the VFW Post 3589 in Jefferson. Will not be able to attend the reunion this year perhaps another year.

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

I had forgotten what time of year it was. I'm sorry I'm late with my dues. Hope I don't miss a single copy of the Octofoil for I sure enjoy reading it. Want to say thank you for being so dedicated to the organization. I don't think anyone could do the job you have done and hope you live to be in charge of getting the job done for 100 years or more! I look forward to meeting you sometime. May I take this space to say "hello" to my old buddies and to all the men of the 9th. You are the greatest.

47th Inf. M Co.
BOLESZAW 'BILL'
KOWALCZYK
30 Marlborough St.
Chicopee, Ma. 01020

In reminiscing the war years it's strange how some things stand out, while others lie dormant somewhere in the recesses of memory, to be recalled occasionally. — Like the beach at Safi, Morocco being pock-marked by Vichy machine guns, as you scrambled for cover under the cliffs, — and that sign of relief that you weren't hit. — That first taste of 88's at Kasserine Pass. — The bloated corpses of our men at El Guettar. — Sneaking to that pond at night to fill our canteens. Later, seeing parts of bodies floating there. — But that was just our 'Baptism', and little did we know what lay ahead.

But there are also other things to recall. — Like 'Tent City' on the edge of the Sahara where we bartered with the Arabs for food, wine, etc. — I got a couple of their cigarettes, so George Stanko and I smoked them in our tent, then we went out into the desert with our entrenching tools to dig for buried

treasure. — After we dug a hole 4 or 5 feet deep, we realized that we smoked some 'funny cigarettes.' (Perhaps some of you remember getting a hair cut from George on our way to Africa.)

— In Normandy, it was calvados. — In Paris, it was Vin de Blanc, Vin de Rouge, and Creme de Menthe. — Then you barfed up a rainbow.

— Somewhere in Belgium I appropriated a German paratroopers uniform. Wow, those pockets! Along the sleeves, along the pants legs, — everywhere pockets! — I guess I was just crazy about pockets. Come to think of it, during the month or so that I wore it. I could have been shot by my own men!

— I recall wiring German radios to our Jeep batteries and 'B' batteries. — And Voila, we had music!

— Then there was this German mortar shell that dropped in front of Walt Jezowski and me in the Hurtgen Forest. Since we didn't hear an explosion, we just walked off mumbling 'Guess it was a dud!'

— In Dessau, Hoffman and I walked up to a farm house looking for food for the platoon. — Surely with a name like Hoffman he could converse in German. — Was I ever wrong! An alt frau sitting by the stove looked up and asked what we wanted. — 'Haben sie brot, kartofeln oder fleisch' I asked in my best German. — Nein, she answered, the German soldiers took everything, even my zwei schweine! Suddenly our conversation was interrupted by the roar of airplanes, the staccato of machineguns, with empty shells falling on the slate roof. — The poor woman turned pale with fright. I saw stars on the wings of the planes, so I tried to placate her by saying, 'Sie sind Amerikanisch, - sie sind scheissen nach der Deucche panzer'. (They are American, they are shooting at the German tanks). Little did I know that the word scheissen pertained to excrement. — I guess I should have used the word Schiessen. — Then there was that damned horse. Leaving the farmhouse I saw a horse, so why should I walk, if I can ride. With rifle in hand, somehow I boarded this mar. With one buck she deposited me in a nearby brook. — I don't know whether she was gun-shy, or just mad at American soldiers. — Nestled at the side of a steep hill there was this hotel at Schevenhutte. One night Sgt. Ray King heard voices in German at the front door, so he opened up with a Thompson right thru the door. — The next day, we found two German soldiers lying there, incapable of ever saying 'Sieg Heil.' The next day, one of the casualties was a pretty young fraulein, with shrapnel in her inner thigh. Our medic took care of her wound and Wow, did he have help that day!

— Looking back at all those 'close calls' I don't think it was merely luck, but my mother's prayers. May God rest her soul.

— There was elation when Germany surrendered but also deep sorrow for the untimely deaths of Mickey Borden, Johnny Alonzo, Scott, Kaltsas, and so many other whose faces I still see, — but their names I don't remember.

Upon our return to the States, a fat NCO at Ft. Devens told us that anyone claiming disabilities, should go to the left side of the hall. I was among that group because I had a partial hearing loss due to concussions and may feet bothered me from being frost-bitten. This NCO added that those of us with disabilities will remain for three days for check-ups. — Of course most of us went back to the right side of the hall, because disabilities, or not, we wanted to get home as fast as possible. (I never applied for disability, and at this late stage of the game I don't intend to.)

— A 90 day wonder whose lights apparently were on dim marked my discharge papers 'Company C - 54th Armoured Inf. Battalion'. A few years later, I decided to rectify this error, but I was told by VA Major that there was a fire and all 9th Div. records were burned — Hm m m m! In the last issue, Grady Turnage had the same problem, so I wonder how many of us were discharged under wrong or fictitious outfits.

Now let me say a few words about my civilian life. In 1947 I married a veritable princess with whom I started an Electronic business, but in 1964 a turnpike tragedy took her life. Later I remarried but it ended in divorce. — My ex-wife got mad at everything I did. — I'd wake up in the morning and she'd get mad. — But she was an excellent house keeper. — Even when we got divorced, she tried to keep it. So I've had one good marriage and one bad one. Now that I'm even, I'm not going to press my luck.

At 65 I've got everything going for me, — my teeth are going, my hair is going, — just everything!

— At least I sleep like a baby. — I sleep for an hour, then I wake up and I cry for an hour, sleep for an hour, and cry for an hour.

Mainly thru Xmas Cards, I keep in touch with George Stanko (M Co) and Ben Kovacs (Hdqtrs Co). George has Parkinsons, but he's a fighter; if they should ever put him in a wheel chair he will holler 'Nobody's going to push me around!'. — To my knowledge, Ben Kovacs is still working. Apparently he doesn't realize that work is a four letter word.

Walt Jezowski (M Co) and his wife Edna, often drop in to see this old man, and occasionally I spend a few days with them where we donate to the 'cause' at Suffolk Downs, at Revere, Ma.

What I would like to see in the OCTOFOIL is a column 'IN MEMORIAM' of 9th Inf. members (Regt. & Co) who passed away since 1945. It might take a couple of pages, but most of us surely would appreciate this information.



C.B. Baker, 47th Infantry Med's sends this picture taken in France 1944: (left to right) Ray Smith (KIA), John Young, Turner, Dom Spagnola and George Kopac.

MAIL CALL

47th Inf. Co. G
BOB GRIFFITH
311 W. Lance Dr.
Des Plaines, Ill. 60016

I would like to go on record as stating that this was one of the more memorable reunions we have attended. Congratulations are due the reunion committee on their good taste in choosing Lake Placid. The accommodations and facilities were excellent. Both the wife and I enjoyed the friendly atmosphere that prevailed throughout this affair. It was good seeing Bako so fit and well. I saw Jerry Shapiro whom I had not seen in 40 years! What else can I say other than it was a wonderful reunion. On the way home we traveled via Vermont and Mass. to Gettysburg, Pa., then on to Wright Patterson Air Force base to the Air Force Museum. All very interesting. Trusting this finds you, yours and all our comrades in good health.

60th Inf. F Co.
GERALD TEACHOUT
1600 W. Struck, No 165
Orange, Ca. 92267

Leaving home June 1 and after 7400 miles we arrived back in Orange on Aug. 17, two very tired people. Combined our trip to the reunion with visits to our children in Colorado and Tenn. and a few weeks with my mother-in-law at Port Huron, Mi. Our group F Co, 60th did not have quite as many out this year. Some were ill, there were deaths in family and some could not make good air connections in to Lake Placid. We had a fine hospitality suite at the Hilton and were able to arrange for almost all our people to be housed on the same floor and same wing. It turned out to be an enjoyable reunion and we all had a good time. In attendance were Allens, Arnold, Dennis, Etue, Filetti, Johnson, Lees, Miller, MacDougall, Nichols, Painter, Prestons, Saunders, Skinns, Teachouts, Urbans, and Welchs. Earl and Ruth Lees and Parker and Mildred Welch were attending a reunion for the first time. We were fortunate in having former C.O.'s of F Co. with us, Matt Urban, John Allen, Alan Jonhson and Cliff Painter. On the road home we stopped for a few hours with Jim and Louise Etue and a day with Parker and Mildred Welch. They have a pet Quail which is something quite unusual and a very unusual bird that got me in line very quick. Looking forward to Orlando in 1985 and Nashville in 1986.

60th Inf. Co. F
JOHN E. WALLEN
Box 99
Millington, Md. 21651

I joined the 9th at Remagen and got hit beginning Hartz Mt. campaign. I had a buddy killed by the name of Sgt. Kelly. We were in an anti-tank squad. I also had a medic killed coming out to me. I don't know his name. If any of F Co remembers them, I would like to write to their people if they know their address. I lived in Florida for 10 years but I am staying near my home in a community residence. Keep up the good work that you do. I look forward to getting the Octofoil again.

26th FA
DICK WILSON
8945 Hidden Valley Blvd.
Orlando, Fl. 32819

Sorry I took so long in responding. Being retired takes up a lot of ones time! It's really great! My only regret is that by being in Florida in the winter I miss the Memorial Mass and miss a lot of our chapter meetings. Before coming north for the summer, Oscar Richards and I enjoyed the Florida Chapter banquet. It was held right around the corner from us. Oscar and Connie spent a few days with us and we drove to their home in Hobe Sound and the four of us went out for Easter dinner. I told the president of the Florida Chapter I'd help in any way I could. They're a great bunch. Hope you and Marie are in good health and if you get near Disney World, stop and see us.

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

On our way home from the reunion in Detroit my wife and I decided on making the trip to Lake Placid for the '84 gathering. We were elated at the thought of again renewing old ties and perhaps beginning some new relationships as happened in Detroit. However, as it turned out, a sister of mine and her husband of 50 years were celebrating their wedding anniversary on the same weekend. Relatives and friends came from far away to join in the activities. We were twice blessed, actually, for both the anniversary and reunion remembrances added up to an eventful and memorable occasion. I'm awaiting the arrival of the Octofoil. Having read all the articles it contains, I'm sure that the enthusiasm and strength and enduring admiration for the 9th has not diminished. As Mike Fazio noted, while there aren't as many around to chant her praises, the spirit that sounds her glory will ever remain. I find myself reminiscing, becoming sentimental and wishing for all men of the 9th contentment and peace.

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 be anyone ever in the Div. should be eligible for membership in the association. Enclosed, a few bucks for the memorial fund.

26th FA, Hq Btry
CHARLES "GENE" RUPPE
929 Sewanee St. Apt. 110-A
Harriman, Tn. 37748

Would like to hear from anyone who was in Headquarters Btry from Sept. 1940 through Africa and Sicily.

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

I may not have the right to say anything about whether Vietnam Veterans should be allowed in the 9th Division Association since I missed the Lake Placid reunion but I am going to say a little bit about it. I admire every service man who has worn the American uniform with honor. I admire and have great respect for the Vietnam Veterans and realize that they fought with all the odds against them. The American people did not hold demonstrations against them. The demonstrations were against the government that would not let them win the war. In the county I live in, some Vietnam Veterans complained in letters to the paper that they had to stay over there 1 whole year before they could come home. We all know what they went through and it was not easy. They wanted recognition and wanted a monument in their honor. They got it with the names of those killed in action inscribed on it. The ones who worked for it were Veterans of WW 2, civilians and 1 lady who lost a brother in Vietnam. The County Commissioners said the names of those killed in WW 1, 2, Korea and Vietnam must be on it. Business men put it up at no cost. We invited Gen. Westmoreland to make the dedication speech in Brevard, N.C. and he did. There were very few Vietnam veterans who showed up but a lot of WW 2 veterans were there. I do not feel we should change the bylaws. If we do, then any man who wore the Octofoil is entitled to join and hope the 9th is never deactivated. I have a picture of G Co 47th in my living room made Mar. 27, 1942, then Lt. W.W. Bailey commanding. I do not see 1 soldier who can be called a hypocrite. I had a great time in Florida at the Chapter reunion and went to Daytona Beach to visit Mac McDaniel with Grady Perry. Mac looks pretty good after heart surgery.

84th FA
DICK O'CONNOR
9567 Bluford Ave
Whittier, Ca. 90605

Sorry I had to miss Lake Placid but back surgery laid me low. I am recovering and my M.D. and myself are pleased. I should be back playing golf any day now. In May I wrote to Jim Delehanty a medic from the 84th who had made plans to make the reunion. A few weeks ago I had a letter from Jim's wife saying he had died suddenly. I have a lot of fond memories of Jim, he was a true medic. I have an extra copy of the 60th Follow Thru, plus a copy of M. Blumens Sicily story. The first one who writes for them can have them. Hope to see you at Connors Coffee Shop.

9th Med Co C
ANDREW S. KOPACH
2010 Hackett Ave
Easton, Pa. 18042

Am enclosing my dues for 1985 and a little for the Memorial-Scholarship fund. I attended my first reunion at Lake Placid with my wife, Anna, and Stephen Klucharich. We met our 1st Sgt. Al Cook also Stanley Busta, Frank Kowalick, Bruce Johnstone and their wives. We had a wonderful time and also took some pictures. I hope to attend the reunion in Orlando.

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

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

I am visiting my home town for a while. Good to see all my friends here. Sure enjoyed the reunion and to see Frank Lorito from Cannon company & Geo Reutski from Florida and 84th FA. Geo is a cousin of my wife. We visited him in Florida last winter and hope he gets in to things down there. Don't know if I will make Worcester but try.

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

Just a note to let you know that my wife and I had a wonderful time at Lake Placid. We liked the setup on the tickets they had. It was an excellent reunion. K Co 47th was well represented this time. It is a great feeling that words cannot express when one sees his old combat buddies. We also took a trip to Gettysburg, Pa. for a few days. It's something to see and relive the battles, also took in the museum and shops. We stayed at the Sheraton Inn in Gettysburg that is located about 5 miles south of the town out in the peaceful countryside. It would be an excellent area for a reunion.

47th Inf. Hq 1st Bn
FRANK C. TOKARZ
27 East Main St
Torrington, Ct. 06790

I could not make the 2nd invasion in June 6, 1984 in Normandy due to a colostomy operation at Medical Center Veterans Hospital in West Haven, one of the finest and best in world. I just couldn't repay the medical personnel what they have done to my recovery. I would like to hear from good old 9th men especially from the 47th who are still up and at 'em. Dug up a picture of the 47th ammo gang under Capt. Bob Buck (not in picture). Frank Tokarz, W.O. Kuzbet, John Lereddi, Red the driver, Zino from Brooklyn, Federhoff, Stash.

60th FA, C Btry
EUSTACE (Augie)
PEGNALITTI
225 Vireo Dr.
Wintersville, Ohio 43952

Enclosed is my dues. I, also, want to take this opportunity to tell the members of C Battery what a great time my wife, Yolanda, and I had at the 1982 reunion in Fayetteville, N.C.; the 1983 in Detroit and the 1984 reunion in Lake Placid, N.Y.

We shared a delightful time with Bill Nelson and his wife, Vi; and other members of the Fighting 9th Division.

We were all disappointed that Roscoe Shield and his wife, Leola, from Vernon, Texas couldn't share in the reminiscing. We all send Leola our best wishes for a speedy recovery and we'll see you all in Florida in 1985.

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

47th Inf, Co I & L
ROBERT E. HULSLANDER
1916 Atlantic Blvd.
Jacksonville, Fl. 32207

The National Association did a terrific job and I want to let them know how much I enjoyed the program. We had a real fun time meeting with Bill Hawkins, John Couhey, Al Bravin all 3rd. Bn. 47th. and guys I had the pleasure of serving with. Also meeting Raymond Tujaque 39th. and his wife. We had a great conversation with Matt Urban on Friday night and enjoyed his humor. How can a guy look as good as he does after having been wounded seven times. I read your Medal of Honor citation Matt and I started hurting all over, and I was only wounded once! Good work National.

I am in receipt of a letter from Henry Santos, Florida Chapter, as many of our members are. The letter deals with our yearly proposal to accept, or not accept, 9th Div. people who did not serve during WWII. He probably has a good idea and I think it should be considered. I have never felt that we should allow this issue to cause a real problem. If in due process we vote to deny membership to others then the issue is closed. Why bring it up each year. After all this time I rather doubt that many of the others would join anyway. Henry mentions that much restraint by some members has kept blood from flowing because of this issue. I didn't realize it had gotten to that point. I thought that was over who should pay the bar bill!

Florida Chapter will do its best to have a great reunion in Orlando next year and I hope we have a great turnout. There is so much to do and see at Disney World alone that it should be a must on each members calendar.

God bless you all.

47th Co F
LARRY GHERE
6701 S. Zunis
Tulsa, Okla. 74316

Must write to you to change my address to the above. We moved from Chicago to Oklahoma Oct. 1st. Hated to leave the Chicago chapter, but all of my family are here. We do expect to visit our buddies in Chicago at times. Will write more later.

60th Inf. E Co
EDWIN WILLIAMS
Box 9521
Ketchikan, Alaska. 99901

I was in the 9th from first part of July 1944 to just before St. Lo breakthrough. I came in as a replacement and stayed with E Co until Sept. 18, 1944 where in Monschau most of our unit was taken prisoner, (some were KIA) and spent the rest of the war at Mooseburg, Stalag VIIA. I am trying to locate some of my friends.

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

June 6, 7, 8 1985
Reunion in Florida