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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

5-1-1987

The Octofoil, May/June/July 1987

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N.J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Association Dues: \$5.00 per year — \$1.50
will be earmarked to pay for the Octofoil

Volume XLII Number 3

May-June-July 1987

Worcester Memorial Mass and Service

Continue the Legacy

Once again on Sunday, November 8th, at 10:00 a.m. at the Immaculate Conception Church we will continue the legacy that Father left us — a gathering of the living to remember our dead and pray for a just and lasting peace for all mankind. We will pray for the 4,581 men who died in combat in World War II and those who have since died, and we pray too for those men of the 9th who gave their lives in Vietnam. Remembering our dead has always been and will always be the main purpose of our Annual Memorial Mass and Service.

Hopefully this pilgrimage started in 1945 by Father Connors when he called men of all faiths to pray together will continue as long as there is a group of us, no matter how small, willing, and able to make this Annual Pilgrimage.

Lord, God of hosts,
Be with us yet,
Lest we forget,
Lest we forget. —

Sincerely,
Ron Murphy
Secretary - N.E. Chapter

Room Reservations

This year you must make your own room reservations.
Sheraton-Lincoln Inn - \$100 rooms at \$62.00 plus tax.
Days Inn - 15 rooms at \$45.00 plus tax for one person - \$5.00 each additional person. 15 suites at \$51.00 plus tax for one person - \$5.00 each additional person.

Remember you must make your own room reservation. Cut off date is October 7, 1987. Mention Ninth Division Association when writing or calling.

Sheraton-Lincoln Inn	Days Inn
500 Lincoln Street	50 Oriol Drive
Worcester, MA 01605	Worcester, MA 01605
1-617-852-4000	1-617-852-2800

No matter where you are billeted, the Sheraton-Lincoln is our Headquarters and of course the C.P. room will be well stocked. Because our mailing list is incomplete, please let others know of the Memorial Service.

Schedule of Weekend

Saturday, Nov. 7, 1987 — 8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. - Dance Sheraton.

Sunday, Nov. 8, 1987 — 9:30 a.m. - Meet at Grove St. Fire Station, March to church; 10:00 a.m. - Memorial Mass and Service; 12:30 p.m. - Dinner Sheraton-Lincoln.

Dinner Reservations

Reservations for Sunday's dinner must be paid for in advance.

Dinner Reservations - Sunday, November 8, 1987

Deadline for reservations - November 1, 1987

Deadline for refund of cancelled reservations - November 1, 1987
Dinner - \$15.00 per person

Name..... Address.....

Make checks payable to N.E. Chapter 9th Div. Assn.
Mail to: Thomas Boyle
39 Hall Ave.
Somerville, MA 02144

Taps Sounded

Call out our names-
As the years go by-
Remember us-
And we will never die

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

Raymond Ulerich
15th Engrs. A Co
George Neuhardt
60th FA Serv Btry
Pasquale Reale
47th Inf. - Hqs. - 1st Bn
Robert Barons
39th Inf I Co
Walter Slover
38th Inf G Co
Woodland Sulham
39th Inf G Co

Linus Dziembowski
47th Inf - Hq. 1st Bn
Emanuel Schoenfeld
47th Inf G Co
Richard Keegan
34th FA
Richard Schaefer
39th Inf G Co
Joseph Woodward
47th Inf K Co
Eugene Mann
47th Inf F Co

May they rest in peace
To their families and
friends we extend our
deepest sympathy.

Tip of the Hat

The Memorial Fund was enriched by the generosity of these members and friends. We would like also to thank the members who attended the reunion in Camp Hill, Pa. and donated \$1400.00 to this fund.

Mrs. Dante Ciatti (in memory of her husband)
Arnold Watson (in memory of Sgt. Eugene Shore and Fr. Connors)
Peter Janus

Mrs. Irving Zucker (in memory of her husband)
Frank V. Novello
Ralph Palermo
Robert Mathis

Mrs. Katherine Reale (in memory of her husband Pat)
Carl Motley
Dr. Martin Gross

Neil McNeil
Wm. F. Morkill (in memory of Jim Wingate, George Stanko & Frank Young)
Raymond Peque (in memory of Charles B. Witt)

Edwin Williams
William J. Berry
George M. Phillips
Stanley Hertz

Carl Winters (in memory of Oscar Richards)
Ray Wolfe
Ned West

John Karofia
Joseph Mescavage
John Wessmiller (in memory of Fr. Connors)

Ladies Corner

The Ladies' Auxiliary, at it's July 24 meeting at Camp Hill, PA, elected a new slate of officers for 1988-89:

President, Phyllis Perna of Philadelphia, PA.

Vice President, Ruth B. Lees, of Irwin, PA.

Secretary, Connie Koneski of Royersford, PA.

Treasurer, Ellie Taubner of Bergenfield, NJ.

Chaplain, Louise Etue of Toledo, OH.

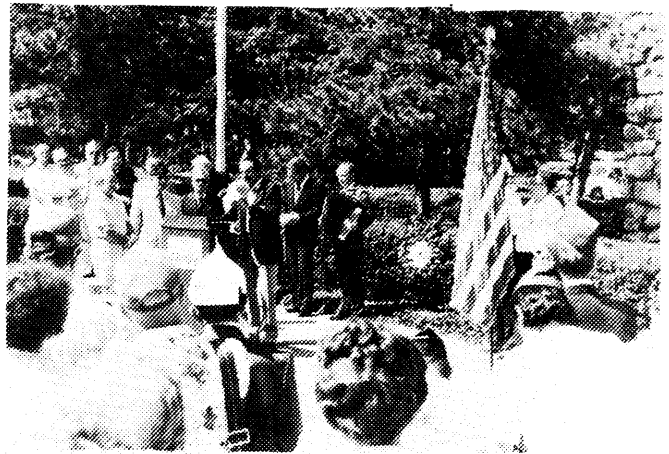
Good luck to each of you and thank you for your willingness to serve.

Our luncheon exceeded our expectations — 100 were served. Prior reservations precluded many from attending this lovely affair arranged by Phyllis Perna of the host Chapter for the reunion.

Once again the ladies voted to donate \$500 to Father Jerry Rowan to use in his worthy work at the VA hospital in Wichita, KS. To date our Auxiliary since 1975, has donated \$2300 to the Scholarship Fund, \$500 to the Ft. Bragg Memorial, \$550 to Father Connor's Immaculate Conception Church, and \$1000 to the care of Veterans through Father Rowan. Our resources are membership dues, one-half of which are sent to National Headquarters, and raffles.

Raffle prizes this year were a lovely landscape oil by Mrs. Mary Maness, won by Phyllis Perna, an afghan in regimental colors by Mrs. Lyl Gonzol, won by Ida Coomes, and a silk flower arrangement by Prof. Robert Rucker won by Charles Wider. Our heartfelt thanks to the generous donors, and a great big thank you for all the help rendered by ladies of the Auxiliary. Wanda M. Preston

Hyannis in 1988



At the Memorial Service in Hyannis in 1981 Matt Urban is shown as he spoke to the members.

No sooner than one reunion is over the committee for next years get together are making plans for our stay at Dunfey's Hotel in Hyannis, Massachusetts. The dates are set for June 23-26th .1988. It was in 1981 the association held our last reunion at this location. Make your plans now to attend and the next issue of the Octofoil will provide more details such as room rates, events etc.

President Carlos Esteve's Reply

Mr. Gerald S. Teachout
1600 W Struck 165
Orange, CA 92667

Dear Mr. Teachout:

Sorry, I've not been able to answer your letter dated 16 June 1987 as I've been away from the island since I received same.

Your first paragraph states: "IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE ASSOCIATION IS SORT OF COMING APART AT THE SEAMS AND FLYING OFF IN ALL DIRECTIONS."

Mr. Teachout, I do not know where you get your information from, but if I were you I would not trust this source, as it is completely wrong. I do believe and know that our association is united, strong with its two feet firmly planted on the ground and its membership growing.

Your second paragraph states: "APPARENTLY YOU THOUGHT THERE WAS LIFE LEFT IN THE NINTH VETS AND PREPARED BEATING THE BUSHES TO FIND NEW MEMBERS. DON'T KNOW HOW THE CHAPTERS HAVE DONE. BUT MY UNIT CO. F 60TH HAS DUG UP A FEW AND WILL HAVE THREE NEW MEMBERS OUT TO THEIR REUNION THIS YEAR."

Sir, we know there is life left in the Ninth Vets and there will be for a long time, yes we are beating the bushes thru the different medias (radio, TV, services magazines, etc.) and Mr. Teachout do you know that they are coming out of the bushes and that our association is getting stronger, you should also do a bit more of bush beating, congratulations on three new members, get more.

Mr. Teachout, your third paragraph relates to Dave Heller's article, you state: "I READ DAVE HELLER'S ARTICLE ON THE FUTURE OF THE ASSOCIATION AND I AM DISHEARTENED BY ITS IMPLICATIONS. CERTAINLY WE ARE ALL NOT GOING TO BE SENILE IF WE TAKE A MORE STUDIED AND

CAREFUL APPROACH TO THE RATHER SERIOUS AND CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECT. CERTAINLY WE DO NOT NEED TO DECIDE THIS QUESTION IN JULY. I GET THE FEELING THAT SOME ARE REALLY IN A MAD RUSH TO SPEND ALL THE FUNDS OF THE ASSOCIATION."

Sir, as to Dave Heller's article I must say it is a very intelligent one and should be read by all of the members of our great association, it is instructive and informative.

As to your feeling that some are in a mad rush to spend all the funds of the association, I must say that this is a strong feeling and if you have any information as to this, I respectfully suggest you let the Board know of who the ones are that are in a mad rush to spend all the funds of the association, in order to stop them.

Mr. Teachout your fourth paragraph states: "THEN I READ OF THE WAR AMONG THOSE OF THE NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER AS REGARDS FATHER CONNOR'S MEMORIAL WAR."

I do not believe that there is a War in that great New England Chapter, I've always known it to be one full of love for its fellow members and friends, they are hard workers and do an excellent job when same is assigned to them, we need more New Chapters like the New England one, if they are at war, let's all be at war, maybe we might get more things done as they do.

Your fifth paragraph, Mr. Teachout, reads as follows: "SO IT SEEMS THAT NOTHING IS GOING RIGHT WITH OUR ASSOCIATION."

Well, wrong again Sir, as I stated before, we are growing, we are getting the adequate publicity and we are on the move...but as you state and if you believe that nothing is going right with our association, my Dear Mr. Teachout may I respectfully suggest you get elected to the Board of Governor's of the Association and

Continued page 3

THE OCTOFOIL
Form 2579 should be sent to
412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087
Octofoil Associated Editors
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Ronald Murphy, 2nd V.P.
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Scituate, Ma 02066

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Deltona, FL 32725

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Kinsington, Md 20795

Thomas Boyle, Treasurer
39 Hall Avenue
Sommerville, Mass 02144

Daniel Quinn, Secretary
412 Gregory Avenue
Weehawken, N.J. 07087

Board of Governors

1987
Norman Caswell
Brooklyn, N.Y.
Gil Pernokas
Woburn, Ma

Richard Starr
Philadelphia, Pa
Robert DeSandy
St. Clair Shores, Mi

Louis Connors
Churchton, Md
1988

Fran Maher
Worcester, Ma
Pat DeColli
Philadelphia, Pa

Carlos Esteve
Arecibo, P.R.
Lewis Gray
Fontana, Wisc.

1989
James Bruner
Flint, Mi
Oliver Carter
Forestville, Md

Dave Heller
Highland Park, Il
Emil Langer
Morris Plains, NJ

Lewis Maness
Cocoa, Fl

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 XLII Number 3

May-June-July 1987

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 descendants 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 descended from 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.

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.

High School Students:

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 submit the scores of the SAT of the CEEB. The scores may be included on the high school transcript or sent to the Scholarship Chairman from the College Entrance Examination Board. Scores of the ACT may be submitted in lieu of the SAT.

College Students:

5. College students must send a copy of their college record transcript. The record must include the grades of the first semester of the current school year if the student is currently enrolled in college.

6. THE APPLICATION MUST BE SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE BY MARCH 15. Applications received after March 15 will not be considered.

7. All applicants must accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.

8. Information to determine financial need will be requested by the Scholarship Committee, after the applications have been considered.

9. Recipients of the scholarships may apply for renewal of the scholarship each year. A copy of the student's college grades, and a letter requesting renewal of the scholarship should be sent to the chairman by March 15.

10. All applications must be sent to: John J. Clouser, Scholarship Chairman, Ninth Infantry Division Association, 1088 North Circle Drive, Crystal River, FL. 32629.

Seeks information

FORT DIX, N.J. — The 39th Infantry Regiment recently reactivated at Fort Dix is seeking an honorary colonel, sergeant major and distinguished members for its rolls.

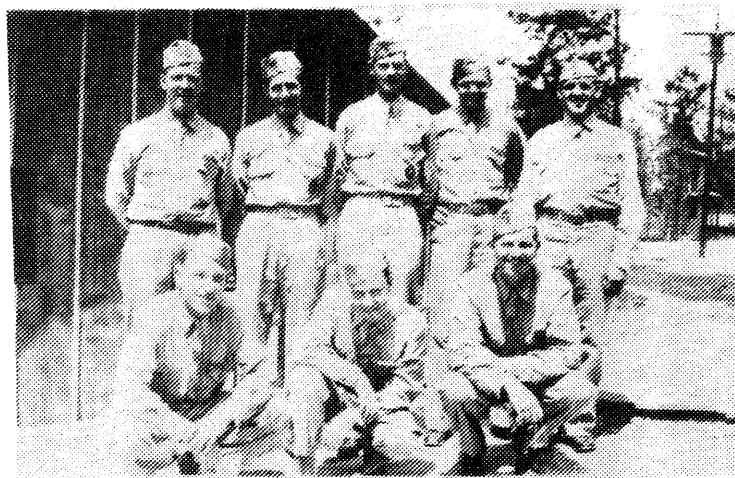
People who served with the 39th and are interested in filling the roles are invited to write or call Capt. Robert C. Link, Executive Officer, 2d Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, Fort Dix, N.J. 08640, phone (609) 562-2395, AUTOVON 944-2395.

1. Regimental Activation

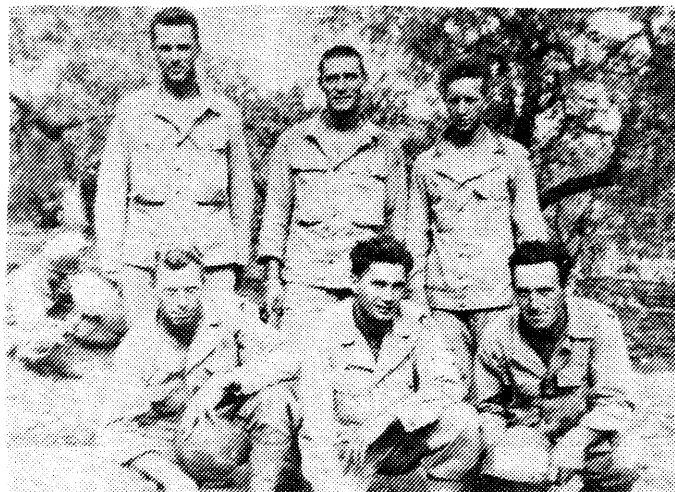
The 47th Infantry Regiment, currently consisting of the 2nd and 3rd battalions, was reactivated at a ceremony on Ft. Lewis on 4 June 1987. The Honorary Colonel of the Regiment is Brigadier General Lewis E. Maness, USA, (Retired). General Maness joined the Regiment as a Second Lieutenant in 1941, assigned as a platoon leader, and went on to serve as a Company Commander. Operations Officer (S3), Executive Officer of the 2nd Battalion, Commander of the 2nd Battalion and the Regimental Executive Officer. He departed the Regiment in September 1945. General Maness served as the reviewing officer for the Regimental Activation and his remarks are enclosed. He also presided over a Regimental Dining - in later that evening held at the Ft. Lewis NCO Club.

2. Regimental Program

The 47th Infantry Regiment was reactivated under the US Army Regimental System. This program is not a tactical reorganization. (i.e.) there is no Regimental headquarters) but, rather it is intended to promote esprit de corps and unit togetherness by giving each battalion a home base it shares with other "sister battalions" though they may be deployed worldwide. By allowing soldiers to stay within the same regiment they build more ties to their regiment thus developing loyalty and commitment and, with the assistance of our distinguished honorary members, institutionalize the war fighting ethos. The program is managed by the lowest numbered battalion stationed in CONUS. Therefore, the 2nd Bn 47th Infantry is responsible for 47th Infantry Regiment affairs. There are several honorary positions to be filled by former members of the Regiment. The first is the Honorary Colonel of the Regiment. He must have served with the Regiment, be a retired commissioned officer in the grade of Colonel or higher and be physically able to perform his duties. He is approved by the Commander, I Corps and Ft. Lewis to serve a three year term. The Honorary Sergeant Major of the Regiment is a retired noncommissioned officer in the grade of Sergeant First Class or higher who served with the Regiment and is physically able. He also serves a 3 year term. Distinguished members of the Regiment can be any active duty, retired or former officer, non-commissioned officer or soldier who served in the Regiment with the distinguished service. There is no limit to the number of distinguished members and it may be awarded posthumously. Honorary Members of the Regiment are anyone who has an interest in perpetuating the history of the Regiment. Nominations are processed through either the 2nd or 3rd Battalion for approval by the Installation Commander.



Bob Feitig sent this picture taken in 1942 at Fort Benning, showing a group of men from the 3rd Bn 39th Inf Hqs Dets when they were attending school at O.C.S. - left to right: Top row Ed Gibbons, Danny Carroll, Mike Finn, Jimmy Case and Joe Tatum. Bottom Row Bob Feitig, Jimmy Roach and Ferd Wink. Story appears in Mail Call.



Fred Veno, 1st Bn Hq's 47th sends this picture taken in N. Africa left to right — Top row: Czerski, Feldman, Conrad. Bottom row Weseman, Ropeteki, Kerrigan. Story appears in Mail Call.

Members who served with the 47th Infantry and are interested in filling several honorary positions in the 47th Infantry Regiment are requested to write to Lt. Louis Plevell, 47th Infantry, Fort Lewis, Washington 98433.

We suggest that our members of the "Old Reliabilities" write to Lewis "Chip" Maness who has been honored by the Regiment and is seeking candidates to fill the positions such as Honorary Sergeants etc. The General spoke to the members at the reunion held in Camp Hill, Pa., and is very much interested in the project. He lives at 3209 Nottingham Lane, Cocoa, Florida 32926.

The General would like to hear any suggestions the members may have or candidates that might be suggested for this Honor.



**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 ☐

Florida ☐

Continued from page 1

FROM: Carlos B. Esteve
then President of the same and then you may have the opportunity to do something right for our association, it's a free country, we helped keep it this way, please come out and teach us.

On the sixth paragraph you ask: "IS THERE A POSSIBILITY TO HOLDING A REUNION IN PUERTO RICO."

This decision would have to be made by the Board and by the assembly, but I must say that hotels in Puerto Rico are higher than in the United States, but nevertheless an attempt to look into this should be made.

Your last paragraph: "WE LEAVE FOR CAMP HILL NEXT WEEK. DRIVING THROUGH WITH STOPS IN NASHVILLE AND IN MICHIGAN."

We do hope you have a safe trip and that when you are at Camp Hill you realize that our Association is a strong one and that it is financially healthy.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,
Carlos B. Esteve
President Ninth Inf. Div. Assn.
WW II
PO Box 968
Arecibo, PR. 00612

To "B" (47th) Or Not To "B"

Greetings once again to all our "BECO" buddies from the Keystone State of Pennsylvania. By the time you will be reading this column we will have attended the 42nd Annual Reunion of our beloved Ninth Infantry Association; which was held at the Penn Harris Inn and Convention Center, July 23, 24 and 25 at Camp Hill, Pa.

We do not have much news for this column at this time. However, I did receive a pleasant surprise from another "B" Co. buddy who found out about our 9th Inf. Div. Association from a Reunion Notice in one of the Veteran's Magazines (I believe it was the VFW Magazine). His name is Tom Cramer who also lives here in Chambersburg, Pa. Tom tells me that he was with our outfit in Africa (1943) and later on in the European Campaign - where he was wounded. Tom was in the 4th Platoon and also remembers our "BECO" buddy Sgt. Larry Krogbin. Are you listening Larry? Tom and I haven't met each other as yet, but we will take care of that sometime soon since he is a member of our local VFW Post of which I am a member also. Tom wasn't certain about being able to attend our Reunion at Camp Hill. However, I invited him to visit our "B" Co. group during the reunion. I told him that he probably would see many "B" Co. buddies as well as Association members from other Regimental Outfits.

Tom mentioned "B" buddies some of our members may know: Virgil "Happy" Gladfelter, John Bussey from Texas, and another buddy Nicodemus (first name not remembered) who lives in the State of Indiana. If any of you "BECO" buddies have any information regarding these fellows, we would appreciate it if you write to us at either address shown at the end of this column. Tom worked at "DESCOM," Letterkenny Army Depot located here in Chambersburg and retired 3 years ago after 38 years of service.

With respect to the Annual (November) Memorial Mass and Service in Worcester, Mass., which we wrote about in our last column (Mar.-April 1987 Issue), we sincerely hope

that this situation will be resolved by all concerned between representatives of the New England Chapter and "Franny" Maher, in order that those of us who wish to do so - continue to make this Pilgrimage on behalf of our beloved departed Chaplain Father Connors and our beloved dead of the 9th Inf. Division of World War II.

A final word: we received a nice letter from Jane and George Bentley from down South in Conyers, Georgia. They will not be able to make the Reunion this year. Jane is recuperating from an injury due to a fall several months ago. George is keeping himself busy working 2 or 3 days a week and is in good spirits. Jane says that she will miss "taking pictures plus getting autographs" too! Jane & George say "hello to all" and will be thinking about all of us too!

We hope that Jane has a speedy recovery. All of us send our very best wishes to Jane and George.

To all our "BECO" buddies and their families and friends, keep well and have a Great Summer, and enjoy yourselves to the fullest each and every day.

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

Arthur J. Stenzel
8705 Village Mill Row
Bayonet Point, Florida 33567

FLORIDA REPORTS

The Hyatt Palm Beaches Luxury Hotel was home base for four days for our group which boasts of 17 new chapter and several new association members added to our roster with at least 3 or 4 first time attendees to help in making the April meeting a SMASHING SUCCESS.

Four "early bird" couples enjoyed a super seafood dinner at THE CRAB POT restaurant that had donated a \$20.00 gift certificate. We later learned that the manager was a NINTH DIVISION MAN of the Viet Nam era. Due to the constant turnover of customers Bill Rentschler couldn't visit with us tho he showed great interest and was very cordial. Upon leaving he was promised a 9th cap which I hope he's now sporting. So went Wednesday.

Fond Handshakes

Thursday the CP came to a buzzing bee center with smiling faces and fond handshakes/hugs as each one entered the room. The highlight was the dinner/dance cruise enjoyed by 19 of us who took in the sights not seen from land. Later it was back to the CP for more camaraderie.

Friday was pretty much see the sights and points of interest day for the great part, with world famous Worth St. and The Henry Flager Museum most mentioned followed by a great dinner/show at the MUSICANA enjoyed by 23 couples and our faithful, dedicated buddy, Max Uman-sky.

Saturday's business meeting was well attended, interesting and lively, had 29 members presided by vice president H.F. Stansell in the absence of president Phil Berman who had to cancel.

Having to cancel in addition to Phil were Billy Bongiorno and "Buck" Ray who is valiantly fighting the "big C" and needs our prayers, we thank "Buck" for the very generous donation to the CP room for the attending members. Gen. Randle and a few others were also missed, we wish them well.

Condolences

I had a letter from Agnes Ulerich in response to mine to Ray in regards to the 15th Engineer page of the reunion journal telling me of the passing of Ray "KOKOMO" on Feb. 1, 1987. Most of us will remember "Kokomo" as a fine soldier and friend. I looked him up on one of many trips through Indiana a few years ago and had a nice visit. Anyone wanting to express condolences can write to Agnes at home in Indiana. 327 N. Berkley Rd., Kokomo 46901.

The HOLIDAY INN, INTERNATIONAL DRIVE will be our headquarters for the FALL MEETING the weekend of OCTOBER 23, 24 & 25. CHAPTER MEMBERS will be sent meeting notice about the end of September along with an updated membership list for all the members who have not received one to date. Anyone wishing a list who is not a chapter member may have one by sending \$1.00 (to cover costs) to the secretary, Henry Santos - 9811 N. Connechuset Rd. - Tampa, FL 33617 or at the meeting while supply lasts.

Henry Santos
9811 Connechuset Rd.
Tampa, FL 33617

ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

By the time this news will be in the Octofoil, we will be back from our reunion in Camp Hill. We have been looking forward to seeing all our friends.

We have been a little lax in writing lately. We too caught the travel bug and went to Florida the beginning of April. We visited the Clousers and the Grecos (9th Division Members) as well as a friend from Oak Park and a childhood buddy. We had a good time in spite of the weather which was cold and rainy. We travelled the central section of Florida from Largo, Tampa, St. Petersburg to the eastern coast near Cocoa Beach.

Our March meeting was held at our home after we went out to Salerno's for dinner. We were looking forward to pizza but as it was, everyone ordered everything but pizza. Next time!

In May the Illinois members went to Madison, Wisconsin to meet with the Wisconsin members. We were also joined by the Indiana members, the Clarks. Mike and Vera Carpenter were our hosts and made all the arrangements at the Ramada. Our thanks for all the time and effort you put into a successful get together. We were small in numbers, but large on fun, food and frolic. Melvin Jaggi from Verona, Wisconsin showed up. We have kept in touch with him but this was his first contact with other members of the Association.

Congratulations to Mike Carpenter. He was installed as Commander of his VFW Post on May 31st. Best Wishes for a successful term.

Our Memorial Day services were held at Fort Sheridan this year. Dave Heller made all the arrangements, complete with a bugler. Special mention was made of Bud Remer along with all the deceased members of the Illinois Chapter and the National members. The weather cooperated and after the services, we adjourned to the Hellers's Home where DV prepared an outstanding cookout with the help of her daughter, Lisa. All the ladies contributed with side dishes and desserts and as per usual no one went home hungry or thirsty.

Roger Elmer furnished Calvadose for a toast for the occasion. Our sincere thanks to the Hellers for a wonderful and memorable day.

The Winkelmans were in from Florida in May to visit their new grandson. It was good seeing them again. We all had dinner at Bob's former VFW Post in Arlington Heights.

After the reunion in Camp Hill which should be well attended by the Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana members, we are looking forward to our Outstate Reunion in Angola, Indiana with the Michigan Members. It will be the third weekend in October at the Holiday Inn. More details later and at Camp Hill.

Who says Retirement is boring. With all the activities of the 9th and other social events - there just isn't enough time.

Our best wishes for a successful reunion.

Mike and Ann Belmonte
1161 S. Lombard,
Oak Park, ILL.

Reunion Co. F 47th Inf

Congratulate the Reunion Committee of the Philadelphia Chapter for the excellent job they did at Camp Hill. Extend them a special thanks from "F" Company 47th Infantry. Our CP was first class.

Five C.O.'s

One again "F" Company had five former company commanders at the reunion: Otto Geyer, Ray Schmader, Chuck Jones, Jack Armstrong, and Bob Landis. The latter had been CO for only a couple days. It was his first reunion, having come in from Hanford, California for the affair.

Missed Seeing

We all missed seeing Frank Smith, who was our CO before, after, and during the invasion of Safi. Illness prevented Frank's presence, and I know he missed being there as much as we missed him. As recently as May, when I was a guest Frank's Southern Pines home, he had been intending to make it to Camp Hill. But a couple weeks previous to the affair, his son called to tell me he would be unable to attend. We certainly had a lot of good things to say about him, and we all hope his speedy return to health. In addition to the above mentioned "F" Company men, our CP was graced by Brig. Gen. L. E. Chip Maness, Bill Larson, Ken Yen-nie, Charlie Williams, Bill Buemi, Vinnie Guglielmino, Earl Wilkie, Rodger Alsgaard, Lee Grimwood, Curtis "Tex" Hoffler, Larry Ghery, Bob DeSandy, John "Smig" Tokarcheck, Ed Netta and Frank Gonzol, all former "F" Company men, also in attendance were two of my frequent lunch companions, Jack Finnigan and Lou Slatnick with their British war Brides, and Milt Zucker, our former mail clerk who was making his first reunion.

Among The Missing

Among the missing were Paul Giarraputo who was in the process of making settlement on a new house he just bought in Jersey, Joe Bergin, Paul Pry-jmk, Judge Ed Johnstone, Rud Hoffman, Jack Safford, Al Munatore, Bill MacDonald, George Gaynor, Yosh Ryn-cavage.

Felton Jones, our old first sergeant, and Ed Netta were very much in evidence. In addition to the lovely wives of our men, the beautiful daughters of Charley Williams and Ken Yen-nie added to the attractiveness of the CP. Irma Koskie joined us for the second time in a row since she lost her beloved Chuck. Some of the honorary

"F" Company men to join the festivities were Woody Lockwood, George Brown, Walter O'Keefe, and Doc Rishel.

Taps

At this time I want to report the death of Eugene Mann, an "F" Company man from Tent City days, and a well decorated sergeant from way back in El. Guettar. Gene passed away June 10th at the VA Hospital in Florida. Evelyn, his wife, wrote to tell me how much he always enjoyed reading about "F" Co. in The Octofoil. Gene had been sick a long time, having survived several heart attacks, two strokes, and also diabetes that brought on blindness. Evidently he was a great fighter in civilian life as he was in Africa. I received the sad news of his death just after the last issue of the Octofoil came out, so I hope you'll announce it in this issue.

It was great to meet once again with these men with whom we shared so much. Lucy enjoyed herself immensely. She has made some very close friends among the women of our group. They really are a great bunch. The guys were certainly selective in their choice of women.

Ed "Hoppy" Hopkins
110 hollywood Ave
Metuchen, N.J. 08840

60th Inf Hq 1st Bn
CHARLES B. ALCORN
9264 Harvard
Detroit, Mi. 48224

I salute Dave Heller for his very comprehensive and precise presentation of the choices before us as we look at eventual deactivation of the Association somewhere down the road. (Mar.-Apr. Octofoil). I agree that we should address ourselves seriously to this matter without delay. I submit my own thoughts as follows.

Firstly, I would like for whatever we do to be done in the name of our KIA's. We survivors have had our good times and our fun times but always, behind it all, there has been our remembrance of and our reverence for them. Their reputes will long outlast our own mortal spans. This is looking ahead to a time when the story of the WWII 9th Inf. Div. will be found only in the archives and the libraries. The place of our honored dead though, will still be there - unchanged.

Secondly, I would like for us to establish some sort of a Trust or Endowment devoted to examining and disseminating findings relative to developments affecting - for better or for worse - the fundamentals of American character, attitudes and values. This could possibly be conducted by one of the foundations such as Heritage or by one of the Universities. In short: a living memorial for the future which would, in some measure, continue the concept of service to Country by supporting and advancing those principles for which our KIA's gave the last full measure of devotion.

Whatever may be agreed upon, the framework should be put in place as soon as possible in order to provide a legatary focus, if suitable, for those members who may be so inclined.

FOOTNOTE: In essence I guess what I'm thinking about is of those who will inherit the US of A when we are gone. They are our hope. I would not like to think that the time would ever come when it could be said that our KIA's died in vain. Let us apply such resources as we have to sustaining those ideals of liberty and the dignity of man for which they paid the full price.

Replacement

Part Three

Conclusion of story written by Charles Silliman entitled "Replacement". Lt. Silliman was an Officer assigned to the 3rd Bn 47th Infantry as a replacement sometime in September 1944 at Schevenhutte, Germany. The story appeared in the 1945 (July) of the now defunct Saturday Evening Post. Silliman wrote the story while recovering from his wounds at Valley Forge General Hospital. John Caughey who supplied us with the story writes that the names of men were changed but claims the officer with the Big Red Moustache is General Clayman (then Bn Commander and Lt. Col of the 3rd Bn 47th), Sgt Fairchild is Sgt Ed Hothschild 1st Sgt, Sgt Weston was Sgt Wesley.

Lt Silliman had been assigned to the Company and was making acquaintances with his platoon as the story continues.

Company L 47th Infantry

Sergeant Weston turned to me and said, "I think we ought to keep an observer with both first and second platoons tonight. What do you think, lieutenant?"

"Good idea, sergeant," I replied. "Have you got somebody who could do that?"

"Well, Mills has been doing most of it. I'll pick another man to help him. How about it, Biggs? Have you got another man I can borrow for tonight?"

Biggs thought a minute. "How about Finney?"

"Okay," the sergeant said, "send him up on the hill ... Mills, you take the first platoon."

Mills turned on his heel to go, then hesitated. "Shall I take all my equipment with me, sarge?" he asked.

"Hell, Mills," Weston said, "I don't care what you take with you, just so you get up there. But if I were you, I'd just take my rifle and helmet and — here, I'll give you my binoculars." He took off his binoculars and gave them to Mills, and then said, "Finney will need binoculars ... May he borrow yours, lieutenant?"

I handed him mine. He gave them to Biggs. "Give these to Finney, will you, Biggs?" he said. "And tell him to get up the hill as quick as he can. There is no telling what jerry is going to do tonight."

As we walked over to Weston's foxhole, Biggs called out, "Hey, Wes, is it fifty up and fifty down as usual tonight?"

Wes called back, "That's right. Arrange your hours with the other two squads."

When we reached the hole, I took off my pack and dropped it on the ground. Weston sat down and dangled his feet over the edge of his foxhole. It was almost dark now. He rubbed his forehead and eyes wearily with his hand.

"I'm tired," he said. "Think I'll catch a little sleep."

I sank down beside him. "How about the rest of the platoon?" I asked.

"Well," he sighed, "the other two mortar squads are down at the bottom of the hill. You can see them if you want. The machine-gun section is split up between the first and second platoons. I would have taken you up to see them, but it is too dark now, and it's best not to do too much walking around after dark. You're likely to get shot by one of your own men. They've been pretty jittery lately. Incidentally, in case you have to use it, the password tonight is 'New York,' and the countersign is 'Washington.'"

He reached over and picked up a blanket from a pile of three lying beside him, opened it up and spread it over the bottom of the hole. "Did you bring a blanket with you, lieutenant?" he asked.

"Back in my bedding roll," I said. "I think they put it on the kitchen truck."

"Well, that's okay. I've got an extra one. It belonged to Sergeant Woods. He was platoon sergeant till yesterday, when he was killed."

"Oh," I said.

Then, after a short pause, he went on, "I was mortar-section sergeant, you see, but the captain told me to take over the platoon until he had time to make another sergeant." He handed me the blanket. "It's kind of wet," he said. "We haven't had a chance to dry them out since the last rain we had a few days ago."

He stood up and wrapped the remaining blanket around him and then lay down beside the hole. I looked up in surprise.

"Aren't you going to get in the hole?" I asked.

"No," he said. "I've got claustrophobia. I'd rather lie out here, and then, if anything happens, I can roll into it."

I sat there for a long time. The air, which had been so warm in the daytime, grew cool with the darkness, and after a while I slid down into the hole and pulled the blanket over me. The only sounds were Weston's heavy breathing and the rustling of the trees in a gentle wind. I thought of the events of the day, and out of them grew the realization that I had lived my whole life for this one minute. From now on, time would be measured in minutes and seconds, not hours or days or months. If I lived to go back to the world I had been brought up in, it would only be because I had either been wounded or lost my mind or the war had ended. Otherwise, I would just keep going and going and going.

I was awakened the following morning at dawn by a terrific explosion near by. Then another, and another. Weston's head suddenly appeared over the side of the foxhole. His jaws were working back and forth, but I just barely heard what he was shouting. "Counterattack! Counterattack!" And then he was in on top of me. I squeezed over to the side to make room for him. The ground heaved and trembled. Shrapnel rained down through the trees. The noise was terrific. Shells were landing in the clearing where our mortars were. They were landing in the woods where our men were. They were landing everywhere. Suddenly the barrage stopped and I poked my head out to see if the mortars had been hit. Wes grabbed me and pulled me back just in time, for there was another series of explosions.

"You can't hear them coming!" I yelled into his ear.

"They're mortars!" he shouted back. "You never hear them!"

A piece of shrapnel thudded into the loose dirt where my head had just been. Then the barrage stopped again.

"We'll have to get the men on the guns," I said, noticing for the first time that my voice shook.

"It'll be suicide," Wes protested. "They've got the place zeroed in."

A man was half running and half sliding down the hill above us. Just as he reached us I could see that his hair was covered with blood. It ran down into his eyes and over his cheeks and dripped down his shirt front.

"I've been hit!" he sobbed. "I've been hit! What'll I do?"

"It's Finney!" Wes said. He turned to me. "There's an aid station back where the captain is."

I looked at Finney quickly, and then averted my eyes. "Can you make it, Finney?"

He didn't answer, but turned and started running drunkenly across the field and the woods to the rear. Suddenly there was loud yelling and screaming from the hill, and machine-gun and rifle fire broke out.

"They're attacking," Wes said grimly. "The krauts always yell when they attack."

The racket on the hill grew in volume. Mingled with it were loud explosions of shells. My insides seemed to be melting. Of course it would be suicide. No sane man would do it. I struggled out of the foxhole. Over my shoulder I saw Wes right behind me. We had to do something. I looked toward the foxholes where our men were. There wasn't a sign of life.

"Let's go on the mortars!" I yelled at the top of my voice. But still there was no movement from the foxholes.

Wes swore under his breath. "You know what your job is!" he roared. "Get the hell out of your holes!" But his voice was lost in the uproar of the battle on the hill.

A man appeared at the edge of the trees on the top of the bank. He stared at us for a minute, then stumbled down the slope toward us. I'd seen him somewhere before, I remembered — one of the platoon sergeants from the captain's meeting the night before.

Wes yelled at him, "What's going on up there, Cannulli?"

Sergeant Cannulli's face was covered with sweat and grime, his shirt was torn, his eyes were wild and staring with mingled excitement and fear. There was blood on his pants leg.

"It's terrible! It's terrible!" he screamed. "There are hundreds of them! They're coming from everywhere! They're charging our position! We mow 'em down with our machine guns and BAR's, but still they come on! We've got to have mortar support!" He turned to me. "Lieutenant," he implored, "you got to help us! You just got to help us!"

I turned and ran at top speed for the mortars in the clearing. "Come on!" I yelled to Wes. "You take one gun and I'll take the other!"

My mortar was facing in the wrong direction. I picked up the legs and swung it around to the right, facing the hill. About five hundred yards, I figured. I leveled it off and started to set the sight. But in my excitement I forgot how to use the sight. Well, there wasn't time for that anyway. I looked over at Wes. He wasn't using his sight either. He had already dropped in one round and was watching it as it went up in the air, judging, from the flight of the shell, the range and deflection. There was a pile of shells in front of me. I remembered that Wes had said the charges were set and they were all ready to fire. I grabbed one and dropped it down the tube.

There was a flash and a report, and I watched as it went through the air in a high arc. Too far to the right, I thought, and a little bit too long. I pulled back on the legs a little, moved the tube to the left, then leveled it off again and dropped another shell down the tube.

"Just about right," I said to myself. I shot a quick glance over at Wes. His arm was moving with clocklike rhythm as he reached down, picked up a shell, dropped it into the tube, and then reached down for

another. I watched him fire about eight times, and then I started. *Better spread the fire out, I thought. It'll last longer on the hill.* I don't know how many I fired, but the pile of shells diminished rapidly, till at last I noticed that only two were left. I picked up one and dropped it down the tube. There was a deafening explosion and the base plate sank farther into the ground.

Damn it, I thought, they forgot to take the extra charges off that one.

I was reaching for the last shell to set the proper amount of charges on it. I never heard the jerry shell hit behind me. A blow like that of a huge sledge hammer fell on the back of my shoulder. That was all.

Darkness ... light ... sky ... hard ground ... arm dangling ... pain ... then numbness ... hard to breathe ... got to breathe ... blood dripping ... this is how it is to die. ... O God ... back home ... that telegram, "Killed in action." They won't know — they may never know ... if I die ... but I won't die — I won't die.



President of the New York Chapter Tony Varone addresses the group at the Memorial Service held at Pinelawn National Cemetery. On Tony's left is John Parisi holding the Colors, next to him is Hermino Suarez partly hidden, then Matt McCormack. Behind the president is the assistant Director of the Cemetery, M's Crimmins.

NEW YORK CHAPTER REPORT

PRESIDENT'S NIGHT

Past President's Night was held May 1st, 1987 at the 69th St. Armory on E. 26th St. & Lexington Ave., in New York City. There was a great turnout and everyone did a good deal of celebrating. There were some 30 members present. Past Presidents attending were: George Apar, Vincent Guglielmino, Al Bruchac, John Morris, Herman Suarez, Emil Langer, Al Seeley, Harry Wax, Art Schmidt, Adolph Wadalavage, Irving Feinberg. They unselfishly have given of their time through the years so that we could hold our membership together to enjoy life with our living buddies and to honor and remember our dead. The dark horse 1st prize was won by Al Seeley, 2nd prize by Anton Dietrich and 3rd prize by Herman Suarez. Other notables attending were: Frank Russo, Charlie Warner, Lou Almasy, Vincent D'Addona, Albert Lubrano, Charlie LiBretto, Anthony DeRobertis, Joe Rzesnowiecki, Humphrey Rini, Jim Mullen, John Parisi, Past National President Norman Caswell and a few I'm sure I forgot to mention. Please forgive me. Our special thanks go to John Parisi for setting up the banquet table with the refreshments. Also to Art Schmidt for bringing the food. More thanks to Charlie Warner and Frank Russo for the cold beer and soda. The 65 lbs. of ice was donated by Charlie's brother. We missed some of our regular old Reliabilities who attend most meetings. I'm sure they will be at the next meeting.

REMEMBERED

May 16, 1987 was a beautiful sunny day and the New York Chapter was lucky to hold our annual Memorial services at Pinelawn National Cemetery on Long Island. The members arrived at about 10:30 AM and at 11 AM we marched toward the Avenue of Flags at the circle. 35 members of the Canarsie Post # 573 American Legion paved the way for us to pass in review. There were close to 100 people taking part in the services. The Octofoil wreath which was placed at the flagpole was donated by our long time buddy George Danas. Chaplain George Apar gave the opening prayer. We pledged allegiance to the flag and the colors flew high, rifles fired their salvos, bugles sounded loud and clear and prayers were said by all. We heard messages from Norman Caswell, Dan Quinn, Art Schmidt, Harry Wax, Herman Suarez, Adolph Wadalavage, George Nicklin and a few words from myself in honoring our dead and living veterans.

The cemetery director Steve Muro and his able staff helped to make our day special. They placed the flags, set out chairs for our guests and gave us the use of a loud speaker so that all could hear our Memorial day message. We thank them.

BARBECUE

After the services the members and friends convoyed to Bethpage State Park for a barbecue of franks, sausages, hamburgers, etc. Plenty of the bubbly and sudsy stuff were consumed! I believe Fr. Connors had a lot to do with making the day such a delight. The "Green Major" looked down from above and guided us all the way.

It was about 5 PM when we parted for home. Some had many miles to travel: New Jersey, New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Upstate New York (George Brown and his wife), Florida (Mat McCormack). Thanks to my son, Richard, for the use of his barbecue grill and his hand at cooking along with the assistance of George Apar, and John Parisi for tending to the rolls, drinks and ice, Adolph for the use of his stove and cooking and to all the buddies who helped, make everything go along smoothly.

LOOK FORWARD

I look forward to the future with the hope that more 9th division men show up to honor our veterans at the Memorial Day services. May all our get togethers between now and the future years ahead be happy ones, shared with so many of our buddies and their families. Good health and God Bless.

President New York Chapter
Anthony Varone
75 9th Ave.
Kings Park, N.Y. 11754
Co & AT 39th Inf

Business transacted at Reunion

The 157th Meeting National Board of Governors

The 157th meeting of the National Board of Governors of the Ninth Infantry Division Association took place on July 23, 1987 at the Penn Harris Convention Center, Camp Hill, Pa. The meeting was called to order by the President of the Association Carlos Esteva at 4:05 P.M., who asked the members to stand for a moment of silent prayer in memory of the departed men of the Ninth. Attending the meeting were Emil Langer, Norman Caswell, Francis Maher, Pat DeColi, Richard Starr, Dave Heller, Lou Gray, Ed Maness, Bob DeSandy, Oliver Carter, Lou Connors and Gil Pernokas. Also in attendance were Tom Boyle, the treasurer, Vincent Guglielmino 1st V.P., Judge Harrison Daysh, past presidents Elmer Wagner, Paul Keller, Bill Bongiorno, Herb Olsen and Al Perna, Adolph Wadalavage, Henry Santos, Ed Wisniewski and Larry MacLaughlin.

The secretary Dan Quinn read the minutes of the Board meeting held in Worcester, Mass., last November and upon a motion made by Bob DeSandy and seconded by Pat DeColi it was voted to: Accept the reading of the 156th meeting and instruct the secretary to place copy of same on file.

Tom Boyle the treasurer was called upon for his report and Boyle submitted copies of the incomes and spending of the association for the past quarters and yearly report. Upon a motion made by Emil Langer and seconded by Lou Connors it was voted to: Approve the treasurer report.

BRIEFING ON REUNION

Pat DeColi of the Philly-Delaware Valley Chapter was called upon for a briefing on the reunion. Pat informed the members that as of today (July 23rd) there were over 750 people registered for the Thursday night Welcoming party and dinners. DeColi reports that it looks like the registration will go over the 1000 mark for the first time in years. President Esteva thanked DeColi and the members of the committee for their hard work. Board member Lou Gray added his congratulations for the smooth running of the registrations both at the Hotel room desk and the Associations sign in desk.

88 IN HYANNIS

Tom Boyle reported for the 1988 reunion committee that will take place in Hyannis, Massachusetts on June 23, 24, 25th. Dunphy's Hotel will be the Headquarters and many details are being put together such as the Lobster or Clam Bake that has become very costly in the last few years by the committee will have more facts at the next Board meeting to be held in Worcester in November. President Esteva thanked Boyle and his group for their efforts.

10 AWARDS

John Clouser Chairman of the Scholarship Committee was called upon for his annual report and Clouser named Joseph Williams and Michael Deresh as members of this permanent committee. The committee met in April of this year in Florida, as all members reside in Florida, and they considered the eleven applicants that were received. One applicant failed to furnish complete details and so the awards were given to the remaining applicants. The sum of \$5,500.00 is recommended to be granted to these students. The committee recommends the following: Elizabeth Alsgaard, daughter of Rodger Alsgaard 47th Inf.,

Brian Price son of Carl Price 60th Inf., Jennifer Urban daughter of Matt Urban, 60th Inf., Linda M. Belmonte daughter of Michael Belmonte 60th F.A., Sharon Rappazini daughter of Joseph Rappazini 60th Inf., Therese Rappazini daughter of Joseph Rappazini 60th Inf. Grandchildren Stephen Netta grandchild of Louis Netta 60th Inf., Leslie Pennington granddaughter of Carlos Ward 39th Inf., Cara Watson granddaughter of William DeGrasse 47th Inf., and renewal Rebecca Wolfe daughter of Raymond Wolfe 60th Inf. Clouser reported that as of this year the committee has awarded the sum of \$51,555.00. Upon a motion duly made by Emil Langer and seconded by Oliver Carter it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the Scholarship Committee. President Esteva thanked Clouser and his committee for their efforts.

FILL VACANCY

The secretary read a letter of resignation from board member Jim Bruner and upon a recommendation of Bob DeSandy of the same chapter, Michigan, a motion was made by Lew Gray and seconded by Norm Caswell to appoint Floyd Hennessey to fill the unexpired term of two years to the Board of Governors, and so passed.

Upon a motion made by Lew Gray and seconded by Dave Heller it was voted to: Have funds transferred from the Capital Fund to the General Fund (operating fund) in the amount of \$5000.00 as the General fund is without sufficient funds.

President Esteva appointed the following members to serve as Chairman of these Committees: Lewis Maness the Newspaper Committee, Lew Gray of the Budget and Finance Committee, Bob DeSandy the Nominating Committee, Fran Maher the By-laws Committee, and Floyd Hennessey the Miscellaneous Committee.

Upon a motion made by Bob DeSandy and seconded by Pat DeColi it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 5:08 P.M.

1987 REUNION

The 42nd annual meeting of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was held on July 24, 1987 at Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. The meeting was called to order at 11:05 A.M. by President of the Association Carlos Esteva. The various committees had met earlier and were ready to report back. President Esteva asked the members to rise for a moment of silence for the departed men of the Ninth and then led the membership in a Pledge of Allegiance to our flag. 265 members were present.

Secretary Dan Quinn read the minutes of the 41st meeting that was held in Nashville, Tenn., last year and upon a motion made by Al Perna and seconded by Bill Bongiorno it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes and instruct the secretary to place copy of same on file.

The treasurer Tom Boyle was called for his report and he gave a detailed listing of the income and spendings of the past year. Boyle concluded the report by stating "all funds operate on a cash basis. There are no accruals. All expenses are recorded when paid and receipts credited when deposits are made."

All balances have been proven by me through copies of banks statements and Pass books.

To the best of my knowledge all demands that have been made upon the Ninth Infantry Association have been paid or settlement made thereof. I have no knowledge of outstanding receipts or expenses.

It is my considered opinion that our fine organization is in good financial condition. In the years that I have been the Treasurer I have found it to be in better financial condition. A large part of this condition is due to the attention given it by the officers and the Board of Governors." Upon a motion duly made by Lew Gray and seconded by Henry Santos it was voted to: Accept the treasurers report. President Esteva thanked Boyle for his report.

Finance Committee

Lew Gray Chairman of the Finance Committee was called for his report and he reported that the following members met with him on this committee: Fred D'Amore, Vincent Guglielmino, Art MacDougall, John Clouser, Gordon Anderson, Phil Berman, Sewell Carson, Elmer Wagner, Carlos Ward and Tom Boyle as advisor.

The committee submits this budget for approval:

Anticipated Income	
1. Dues	\$7,000.00
2. Investments	4,200.00
Total	\$11,200.00
Disbursements	
Secretary Salary	\$1000.00
Clerical Help	1000.00
Utilities	1330.00
Supplies	800.00
Postage	3300.00
Miscellaneous	510.00
Secretary Expenses	800.00
Editor Expenses	400.00
Treasurer Expenses	300.00
Octofoil Publication	6000.00
Accountant	175.00
FICA	83.00
Bank Charges	30.00
Dues Notice	100.00
Total	\$15,828.00

There is a deficit of \$4628.00 and the committee recommends that the Secretary, 1st Vice President and Treasurer jointly be authorized to transfer the sum of \$5000.00 from the Capital Fund to the General Fund as and if required. Further it is recommended that these transfers be made at the next Board of Governors meeting.

Upon a motion made by Floyd Hennessey and seconded by Sewell Carson it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the Finance Committee. President Esteva thanked Lew gray and his committee for their report.

Newspaper Committee

The President then called upon the Chairman of the Newspaper Committee, Lewis "Chip" Maness who reported that the following members served on this committee: Art Schmidt, Charles Tricoli, Ed McGrath, Paul Lisa, Paul Clark, and Jack Collier.

The committee would like to express their appreciation to Marie and Dan Quinn and Walter O'Keeffe for a fine job in Editing and publishing the Octofoil. Chairman Maness added that the committee recommends the following:

1. Continue with the present five (5) issues a year.
2. Send two red line copies to the delinquent members.
3. Urge members to send in their letters and news items in time for publication.
4. Ask the Editors to place an article in the Octofoil urging the members to check their local areas and try to get drop outs back in the fold, and try to sign up new members.
5. Have the Octofoil include a Ladies Auxiliary column and encourage the Ladies to write articles for this column.

President Esteva thanked Maness and his committee and upon a motion duly made by George Brown and seconded by Adolph Wadalavage it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the Newspaper committee.

Miscellaneous Committee

Floyd Hennessey Chairman of the Miscellaneous Committee reported for his committee and he named the following members who served with him on this committee: Harry Wax, Herb Olsen, Norris Gray, Lawrence Kaufman, Jack Wilson, Mike Belmonte and George Nicklin. The committee discussed many items that were suggested last year and did not have any added comments on those suggestions but they do: 1. Recommend that the system of Chapters conducting reunions be returned and 2. Have the reunions held in June or Sept or October when the weather might be cooler, especially when the site is in the South.

President Esteva thanked Hennessey and his committee for their report. Upon a motion made by Emil Langer and seconded by Fred D'Amore it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the Miscellaneous Committee.

Nominating Committee

President Esteva called upon Bob DeSandy Chairman of the Nominating Committee and he named these members who served on this committee: Emil Langer, Gil Pernokas, Bill Hennessey, Charles Warner, Al Perna and Bill Bongiorno. The committee recommends that the five outgoing board members be replaced by the following: Adolph Wadalavage of the New York Chapter, Richard W. Martin of the N.E. Chapter, Len Tomassone of the Philly-Delaware Valley Chapter, Ed Wisniewski of the Michigan Chapter and Ralph Carci of the D.C. Chapter.

There being no other nominations from the floor and upon a motion made by Martin Krasovetz and seconded by John Clouser it was voted to close the nominations and instruct the secretary to cast one ballot for a unanimous slate of officers.

DeSandy and his committee were thanked by President Esteva.

Scholarship Committee

Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, a permanent one, consisting of Joe Williams and Mike Deresh had met in April in Florida and made recommendations for 10 awards to be granted. The Board of Governors at their meeting on July 23rd had accepted and approved the recommendations of this committee. Clouser explained to the membership how the awards are determined, according to their financial need and academic ability and of course that they the applicants are related to members of the Division. With this years amount of \$5,500.00 the total granted since 1961, when the scholarships were first granted, amounts to \$51,555.00. President Esteva thanked Clouser and his committee for their efforts.

By-Laws Committee

Fran Maher Chairman of By-Laws Committee was called upon for his report and named the following members who served on this committee: Oliver Carter, Ted Preston, George Brown, Henry Santos, Pat DiColi, Elmer Wagner, Dave Heller, Tony Soprano, Adolph Wadalavage and Judge Advocate Harrison Daysh. Maher reports there was quite a round table discussion that included the Scholarships in full

length and their recommendations are that after the year 1988 that no more scholarship applications be received by the scholarship committee. The committee would like to show appreciation to the scholarship committee for a job well done over the years since it was started.

The other recommendations from the By-Laws Committee is that the by-laws of the Memorial Fund has an A-B-C-D paragraph and they recommend to eliminate A and B (which is to provide scholarships) and the options was to pay more attention to the C and D paragraphs and C is to provide essential and recreational equipment in Veterans Hospitals and paragraph D to provide for the purchase of erectional and suitable monuments in Memorial Sites.

Upon a motion made by Ted Preston and seconded by Oliver Carter it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of this committee.

President Esteva thanked Maher and his committee for their report.

Ed "Chip" Maness addressed the membership regarding the reactivation of the 47th Infantry. A more detailed report will be printed in the Octofoil as to Honorary Members of the Regiment.

Pat DeColi, a member of the Philly-Delaware Valley Chapter, briefed the members as to events of the reunion, what has taken place and what the Program will be for tomorrow (Saturday). The president thanked Pat for his report.

Boardman "Woody" Lockwood addressed the membership regarding the Marker Fund. Lockwood told that more funds were raised than were necessary for the erection of the monument at Fort Bragg and the remaining funds were left in a savings account and he raised the question of what the status is of this fund. The treasurer answered Lockwood and recommended that this fund be left in tact until a time that this fund may be needed.

Worcester Memorial

Tom Boyle addressed the members regarding the holding of the Memorial in Worcester. This Memorial Mass and Service was conducted by Father Connors since 1945 to remember the dead of the Ninth. With the death of Father Connors in January of 1986 a group of members of the New England Chapter have gotten together and will continue with this Memorial "as long as there is a group of us, no matter how small, willing and able to make this Annual Pilgrimage." This year the Mass and Service will be held in Worcester at Immaculate Church on November 8, 1987 at 10:00 A.M. More details will appear in the Octofoil.

Phil Berman spoke to the members of a book written by Joe Williams, a member of the Florida Chapter. Joe was a career Army man who started out with the 47th Infantry in 1940. A very interesting book covering World War 2 and into the trials of War Criminals in Germany. Berman recommends the book highly.

Marty Krasovets spoke on the subject written by Dave Heller and published in the Octofoil regarding the Future of the Association. Marty suggested that when and if the organization is disbanded and the funds of the group are distributed that part of these funds be set aside to maintain the Memorial Monument that was erected by Father Connors at Immaculate Conception Church in Worcester with donations from his parishioners and members of the Association.

Continued page 6

Continued from page 5

1988 Reunion

Herb Olsen addressed the membership regarding next years reunion that will be held in Hyannis, Cape Cod, Massachusetts. The dates are June 23, 26th, 1988. Details will appear in the Octofoil.

There be no other business to come before this group and upon a motion made by Harry Wax and seconded by Bob DeSandy, it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 12:50 P.M.

The 158th Meeting National Board of Governors

The 158th meeting of the National Board of Governors of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was held on July 24, 1987 at the Penn Harris Inn and Convention Center, Camp Hill, Pa. President Carlos Esteva of the Association called the meeting to order at 3:05 P.M. and asked the members to stand for a moment of silence in memory of the departed men of the Ninth.

Attending the meeting were Emil Langer, Oliver Carter, Dave Heller, Lewis Gray, Fran Maher, Pat DeColi, Gil Pernekas, Ed "Chip" Maness, and newly elected Board members Dick Martin, Ed Wisniewski, Ralph Carci, Adolph Wadalavage, and Len Tomassone. Also present were Tom Boyle, the treasurer, Harrison Daysh, Judge Advocate, Richard Starr, John Clouser, Robert DeSandy, Bill Bongiorno, Herb Olsen, Larry McLaughlin, Paul Keller, Fred D'Amore, Ed McGrath, and Henry Santos.

Upon a motion made by Emil Langer and seconded by Len Tomassone it was voted to: Dispense with the reading of the minutes of the prior meeting held on Thursday, July 23rd.

Upon a motion made by Lewis Gray and seconded by Adolph Wadalavage it was voted to: Dispense with the treasurers report.

Future of Association

Emil Langer Chairman of the future of the Organization Committee named Dave Heller and Lewis Gray as members of this committee opened a discussion on this subject. Langer stated as this is an ongoing committee there really is not a rush for a final report and more discussions should be held by the chapters and members at large as input is very important and that another report will be given at the next Board of Governors meeting and that will not be a final report as much discussion is needed. He encouraged the membership to keep sending suggestions to him or the secretary's office for further study. Langer thanked the Board members for the patience with this committee.

Reunion Sites

A discussion was held on the Committee of Future Reunions Sites and upon a motion made by Fran Maher and seconded by Lew Gray it was voted to: Disband this committee and that all reunions be conducted by the Chapters and eliminate the need of the National Association's officers of conducting the reunions every other year in a resort area or areas where a chapter did not exist, unless a Chapter cannot be found to bid for the reunion.

Election of Officers

Election of Officers for the coming year was called for and the following members elected to serve till 1988:

President Dave Heller
1st V.P. Vincent Guglielmino
2nd V.P. Fred D'Amore
3rd V.P. William Bongiorno
Judge Advocate Harrison Daysh

Treasurer Thomas Boyle
Secretary Daniel Quinn

Newly elected President accepted the gavel of authority from the outgoing President Carlos Esteva and thanked the members for the honor bestowed upon him and will do his utmost in keeping up the traditions of the association. Carlos Esteva thanked the members for their cooperation for the past year and wished Dave Heller all the best for his term of office.

Bids were accepted for the 1989 reunion site and Florida withdrew its bid in favor of the New York Chapter who had submitted a bid to hold the reunion in a resort area outside of the City of New York, in the Catskills at one of the larger hotels, that can accommodate all our members under one roof. Emil Langer made a motion that was seconded by Len Tomassone to accept the bid from the New York Chapter. So passed.

Carlos Esteva made a motion that was seconded by Emil Langer to: Grant permission of the Board to allow Mr. Dave Turner to speak as a publisher of a book to be printed about the Ninth Infantry Division and its members — what they did and what they are doing now.

Mr. Turner addressed the members and when he concluded he was thanked by President Dave Heller.

The Board members discussed the merits of this type of book and a motion was made by Carlos Esteva and seconded by Ed Maness to: Turn over to Emil Langers committee of the Future of the Association to study this proposal, and that the chapters be contacted for opinions from their membership.

There being no other business to come before the board and upon a motion duly made by Carlos Esteva and seconded by Ed Wisniewski it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 4:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted
Daniel Quinn
National Secretary

TO THE NINTH

Often I wonder about the measure of a person's life.

Is it weighed by fame and glory, or the strain of pain and strife?

The rewards of peace and happiness, how are they attained?

Can it be by giving or receiving that they are gained.

To all who served and gave in the cause of peace,

Warm, gentle feelings remain and do not cease.

For, despite the anguish, fear and death,

By which so many were staunchly met,

There resides in the mind a vein of pride

For those who fought so fiercely side by side.

And, oh, the gratitude of a welling heart

Knowing it's been involved from the very start

Spanning the ocean, traversing sand,

Scaling mountains, speeding across the land.

"Old Reliabilities" fought closely near and wide.

Any wonder the Ninth is filled with pride!

Each, although loving life, was ready to give,

So that in a world of peace others might live.

Joseph Rappazini
24001 Sherman Ave
Oak Park, MI. 48237

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

Co. C., 9th Med. Bn., Mini Reunion

Our annual reunion was held at the Ramada Inn in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, May 8 and 9.

The Ramada Inn with excellent facilities (indoor swimming pool, whirlpools, etc.) provided us with reduced rates and a large meeting room (the C. P.). Their restaurant served excellent meals at reasonable prices. All arrangements were made through the kindness and hard work of John H. Lewis. Our sincere thanks John. He provided and kept the CP well stocked with assistance from Aldor Cook. Albums of pictures were available for reminiscing and recollections. Some of us found time for shopping, relaxing and sightseeing in nearby Gatlinburg, The Great Smoky Mountains and at Dolly Parton's Dollywood.

On Saturday morning all members, their wives, families, relatives and friends gathered in the CP where the meeting came to order with an introduction by Aldor Cook, who then introduced John H. Lewis. John in turn turned the meeting over to Charles Denton. Charles conducted the meeting with charm and wit with past recollections and experiences. He then appointed a surprised Gus Fite as treasurer to take care of the administrative financial needs. Charles then called the roll as follows: Chalmus Cochran, Cherrylog, GA.; Aldor Cook, Schenectady, NY; Charles Denton, Clinton, TN.; Frederick Dick, St. Petersburg, FL.; James Fite, Fairview, NC.; Joe Kash, Ardsley, PA.; John Klooz, Sullivan, OH.; Andrew Kopach, Easton, PA.; Frank Kowalik, Waterford, NY.; John H. Lewis, Shelbyville, TN.; Coy A. Martin, Flippin, AR.; Carl Motley, Blairs, VA.; Walter Sammons, Mundelein, IL.; Sabatino "Gus" Agostinelli, Rochester, NY.; Peter Radichio, St. Petersburg, FL.; Jack Wilson, Canal Point FL.

Four members were not there to answer the roll call: Bruce Johnstone, James O'Shea, Eddie Van Meter, and Vernon Dean. A brief memorial service followed and a minute a silent prayer was observed in memory of our beloved deceased. Did you miss someone? I sure did. May all our departed rest in heavenly peace with God our Father.

The meeting was adjourned and the group then proceeded to the outdoors posing for group pictures for all our photographers.

In the evening all enjoyed a fine dinner served at poolside. After dinner a birthday cake was brought out and we all sang Happy Birthday to a surprised Walter Sammons.

We then gathered in the CP room where John Lewis was surprised with remembrances for his retirement from banking. CONGRATULATIONS JOHN. Our sincere thanks to John Lewis for a wonderful, very enjoyable and gratifying weekend.

At the reunion all had the pleasure and enjoyed the presence of Mrs. Bruce Johnstone, widow of the late Bruce Johnstone. Sue inspired and assisted in some of the activities.

The 1988 reunion will be held April 29, 30 and May 1st. Plan to stay Sunday May 1st as John Lewis promises a great time at the RAMP festival in a town nearby. All Battalion members are welcomed. Get in touch with John Lewis, 211 Midland St., Shelbyville, TN. 37160.

"Gus" Agostinelli,
39 Latta Rd
Rochester, N.Y. 14612

PLAGUE UNVEILED: A plaque honoring the late Rev. Edward T. Connors is now in place at Worcester Memorial Auditorium. Father Connors, who died in February 1986, served as a trustee at the auditorium from 1966 to 1986.

Participating in the unveiling of the plaque were Mayor Timothy J. Cooney Jr., Herbert B. Cohan, chairman of the trustees, and City Manager William ("Jeff") Mulford.

Grateful

Greater New York Chapter
9th Infantry Division Association

I would like to thank the 9th Infantry Division Association of the the Greater New York Chapter for its thoughtful gift to the Rev. Edward Connors Scholarship Fund. Fr. Connors was a loyal and dedicated alumnus.

The College is most grateful that you chose to remember him in this way.

Please be assured that the Jesuit Community of Holy Cross will remember Fr. Connors in its prayers and celebrations of the Eucharist.

Sincerely,
(Rev.) George L. O'Brien



39th Inf I Co
MRS. ROBERT BARRONS
PO Box 444
Hanceville, Al. 35077

Robert passed away April 21, 1987. Survivors are his wife, Joyce, 10 children, 17 grandchildren, 1 great granddaughter. He was a prisoner of war, also a member of VFW, DAV, Purple Heart, American Legion.

47th Inf
MRS. PAT REALE
35 S. Broadway
Irvington, N.Y. 10533

I am sorry to tell you that Pat had been very sick for the past few years and he passed away on Dec. 16, 1986. He always enjoyed the reunions and most of all going to Worcester whenever he could.

47th Inf. Med's
MRS. GENEVIEVE BRUNO
176 Garth Rd.
Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583

I received your letter and was pleased to receive it as well as the pictures. Steve often talked of his days in the army and of getting in touch with some of the fellows he knew. However, he just never got around to it. He did plan to get in touch with Fr. DeLaura, but then learned he had passed away. Steve was in medical practice for many years in Long Island City, Queens. I have a pair of wooden shoes that Steve brought back from Germany with the names of many of the fellows engraved on them. He often spoke of Sermeca and Vicinelly. Tony DeRoberts is supposed to let me know all about the reunion when he returns. Our sons were friends and that is how we met him. I gave Tony a picture with Steve and some other fellows taken overseas. I do not know the other men, perhaps you will as Tony is supposed to show it to you. I will be moving at the end of June to Scarsdale. Thanks again for your kind letter. Steve would have loved the reunion.

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.

Memorial Mass

Some of the members of the 9th have called me and inquired about information in regards to each chapter holding their own Memorial Service now that Fr. Connors has called an end of his Memorial Mass. The idea was discussed by the N.E. Chapter, voted on and endorsed which was to encourage each chapter to hold a mass on the Sunday nearest to Veterans Day and after mass a get together of your choice. Also Holy Cross College in Worcester will hold a mass for Fr. Connors on Sunday Nov. 8th, 1987 at 10:00 AM and each year after that on the Sunday nearest Veterans Day in memory of Fr. Connors and the Fr. Connors Scholarship Fund.

15th Engrs
FRANCIS MAHER
14 Davenport St.
Worcester, Ma. 01610

FATHER CONNORS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Anyone interested in making this a lasting tribute to Fr. Connors can send their contributions directly to Holy Cross College, Worcester, Mass. 01610 and your contribution should be marked Fr. Ed Connors Scholarship Fund. I will keep the Octofoil informed about the progress of the fund.

Yours in Comradeship
Francis K. Maher

47th Inf B Co
ROBERT EDIE
533 Stratton Ave. S.W.
New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663

Enclosed are dues for the next 3 years. We finally moved after 47 years and it is hard getting used to a new home.

47th Inf Hq Co
MRS. LILLIAN DZIEM-BOWSKI
381 Providence Rd.
Sol Grafton, Ma. 01560

I am sorry to inform you of the death of my husband, Linus, on Apr. 11, 1987 after a long bout with cancer. I saw the picture sent in by Ralph DeForst, in the Mar-Apr issue of the Octofoil. Linus had the same picture and the names he had on the reverse of the picture were: back row Joe Popetski, Linus, DeForest, bottom row Pottee, Tillman, Nolie Erwin, Zukowski. Linus and I attended the Fr. Connors Memorial Masses for many years and always enjoyed meeting his buddies. I would like to continue receiving the Octofoil if possible.

TAPS

The members of the New England Chapter wish to extend their sympathy to Billy Davidson on the death of his beloved wife, Helen. Also to the family of Richard Keegan who died recently. Richard was with the 34th FA Med Det.

9th Div Arty
RALPH FULBRIGHT
Rt 3 Box 341
Vale, N.C. 28168

Seeing former Capt. E.C. Waller in Nashville last June sure made my day! First time since 1945. Good Luck and God bless all.

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

mail call

84th FA Hq Btry
FRANK HAINES, JR.
16 Kinney Dr.
Trenton, N.J. 08618

The Octofoil is always priority reading upon delivery at our address. The letters are interesting especially those which recount actual war experiences. I am amazed over the details which writers remember of events some 40 years ago. I retired at the end of 1985 and spent most of my first year in bed. A herniated disc in my lower lumbar, and had to have surgery for the removal on June 6. This was followed by complications and further hospitalization and a slow but gradual recovery. I did a fair amount of reading while recuperating, mostly books on WW2. The autobiography of Gen. Omar Bradley was one of the most interesting I had read in a long time. Looking back on the battle for North Africa, I wonder if there is anyone from the 15th Engrs or from other units in the division who remembers the special training program on German mine detection, identification and removal which was held in late Feb. or March near the airfield at Thieple following the German withdrawal from the Kasserine Pass. In Sicily, Lt. Col. Westmoreland, CO of the 34th FA, riding in his command car found a mine field before our mine squad did. He mentions it in one sentence on page 21 of his book "A Soldier Reports", "an exploding mine blew up my vehicle but I was thrown clear." We pulled the mines after he located the field, the hard way. I brought back from Europe the mine training manual issued at Tunisia training school and recently unearthed it which is the motivation for this letter. If there is anyone from the engineers who participated in that training school and can add to the story, I hope he will write, I think they trained us well. Good luck and good health to all.

39th Inf. 3rd Bn
L. ROBERT FEITIG
R.D.#5, Box 5441
Stroudsburg, Pa. 18360

As you are well aware, The Ninth Infantry Division during the years of 1941 and 1942 furnished many men from its ranks to serve as Cadre for newly activated Army divisions and also as Candidates to O.C.S. at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Along this vein of thought, I am sending a print and negative of a picture taken at Fort Benning O.C.S. in July of 1942, showing a group of men from the Third Battalion Headquarters Detachment of the 39th. Infantry Regiment attending the School at that time.

Pictured are: Top Row Left to Right: Ed Gibbons, Danny Carroll, Mickey Finn, Jimmy Case and Joe Tantum. Bottom Row: Bob Feitig, Jimmy Roach and Ferd. Wink. Missing from the picture: Howard Flash, Bill Gilkey, Jack Multz and 1st. Sgt. Wilson Powell.

Thought this picture might be newsworthy and interesting enough to publish in the Octofoil.

Best of luck to you Dan, and thank you for the loyal and time consuming job that you do for our Old Reliables.

You might as well keep your mouth shut. If you talk about yourself you're a bore. If you talk about others, you're a gossip.

84th FA
RAY PEQUE
328 Monroe St.
Carlstadt, N.J. 07072

I heard from Walter Ricker. Jack Kargir looks good. Looks like he could do another tour. Jack, remember "Kargir's Karavan" from Bavaria to Versailles. We no sooner got rolling when we saw smoke coming out of a trailer. You were in the lead jeep. You thought that the trailer had explosives. We all hit the ditches. This was late May 1945. Sunny Bavaria, war was over. I photographed scene with camera that A.D. Lubin acquired for me along with accessories in a bombed out Agfa factory near Elbe River. That's one of the many reasons I cannot forget Aaron. He was always there when you needed him. Starting from Ft. Bragg 1942 he was big enough both physically and mentally to give me a boost to get on G.I. truck 6x6. I was a little bit under the weather having gone thru an all night party and there was Aaron smiling and hauled my equipment and me on to truck. Off we went. Who else could parlay 35¢ and make it 50¢. That he touched me for one hot night in Morocco. The war was over too, May 1943. He won in black-jack at one of those all nighters under a tent and comes back with \$70. He gives me half. Aaron, you were one swell guy to have around in my ups and downs and you know what I am referring to. I think I crossed the bridge Mar. 9, 1945 because you decided to cross with 1st group that was leaving on the early morning following its capture to set up FDC for artillery support. Then and there I made up my mind to go with your group because in many ways being with your FDC gang proved very interesting. We made Remagen Bridge crossing in 2 stages. I chose the group that Lubin was with. Incidentally, that reflex got as far as Ft. Dix. I left it under my pillow and forgot when I left, and someone else profited by Aaron Lubin's generous Elbe River gesture. You know, 10 years later I still had film left and was using it with another camera. Next time around, I'm going to get to John Boisky, himself.

47th Inf 1st Bn
FRED VENO
1622 Ellis Ave.
Ashland, Wi. 54806

Thanks for your prompt reply. I am enclosing pictures that might prove interesting to your readers. I believe they were taken in N. Africa. I am the worlds worst writer, but thanks to you for all the time you spend keeping the wheels of the association turning.

60th Inf Hqs
JOHN MEIZIS
4716 S. Campbell Ave.
Chicago, Ill. 60632

I hope you'll excuse my tardiness but I've just retired and with running here and there, back and forth, trying to get a little golf in, that I've so often missed. Here's my belated dues. I've got to get the Octofoil, no matter what.

9th Med Co B
ROBERT BICK
201 Island View Ct.
Port Angeles, Wa. 98362

Please reinstate me in the association. I have been out of contact for about 40 years. Sorry I could not make the reunion this year as I am not able to travel at this time. Maybe next time.

Lots of people keep their figure... some of them in a truck.

HELP

60th Inf F Co
EDWARD PAVLICH
PO Box 13
Cuttan, Ca. 95534

Would like assistance in locating Antonio J. Mellasi, an old F Co buddy. Thank you.

60th Inf Hq 3rd Bn
JOSEPH RAPPAZINI
24001 Sherman Ave.
Oak Park, Mi. 48237

The recent article by Dave Heller has caused me to search even deeper into the cache of memories relating to the years with the 9th. How reluctant I am to let any escape! And how anxious I am to discover even more! And how can the History of the Ninth be perpetuated? As children grow, parents photograph them at birth, baptisms, birthday parties, graduations, marriages, special events, etc. In connection with the suggestion by Dave Heller for turning out books about WW2, I propose a pictorial account of the Ninth's participation with the same "life line" as mentioned above. The saying about "a picture is worth a thousand words" bears considerable truth.

39th Inf I Co
SAMUEL PALTER
12 Schirmer Rd.
West Roxbury, Ma. 02132

I would like to know where and how I can purchase a book or magazine detailing the history of the 9th. I was captured outside the town of Mortain, France, Aug. 8, 1944. Everything seems sketchy to me about that day. I worked with Ron Murphy in the Boston Post Office and Tom Boyle was my supervisor.

84th FA Hq Btry
BILL RICHIEY
6426 S. Wilson St.
Tempe, Az. 85283

The first thing I wish to say, is thank you for the wonderful job you have done all these years of sending the Octofoil to us. I really look forward to receiving it and get a great deal of enjoyment out of reading it. A few weeks ago on a Saturday evening, I received a very pleasant surprise. The phone rang and it was Albert "Frenchie" Chenix. I hadn't heard his voice in over 40 years. It really takes you back. While we were talking he said, "I have a friend here who wants to say a few words". It was Bob Fields who was visiting Albert. Needless to say, they really made my day! Thanks fellas.

60th Inf E Co
EDWIN WILLIAMS
Box 972
Belton, Tx. 76713

I made the Nashville reunion but didn't see anyone I knew. Was looking for Hicks from Mo. and Berg from Montana. If they read this letter please write me.

47th Inf Co D
RONALD E. FRANK
RD 1 Box 82
Leechburg, Pa. 15656

Sorry we missed the reunion as we were traveling West again this year. We visited an old comrade in Tulalake, Cal. and had a nice 3 day visit. Spent one day at Crater Lake, Oregon with these fine people. It was great seeing him again after 42 years.

47th Med
SAL LUZZO
367 Henry St.
Fairview, N.J. 07022

I hope this letter finds you all in the best of health

I wish I could meet some of the other guys from the 9th and talk over old times. I take the books out to see if I remember some of the guys

47th Inf K Co
W.L. REHME
2601 Weaver Rd.
Batavia, Ohio 45103

I respectfully submit the enclosed re: Hyman Copleman. I knew Cope, as we called him, very well. I was an officer in the 47th, first as an R & I platoon leader and later served in K Co. He patched me a couple of times thru Africa and Sicily. But we also had our good times on occasion with a snort of booze. He was very caring and professional in his duties under the worst conditions. Probably best of all, he was always ready to show himself bravely under fire. I last saw "Cope" when I visited him professionally for a checkup in his office in New Brunswick, N.J. about 1952. May God bless him.

9th Sig Co
WILLIAM MILLER
507 Eskridge Dr.
Wilmington, De. 19809

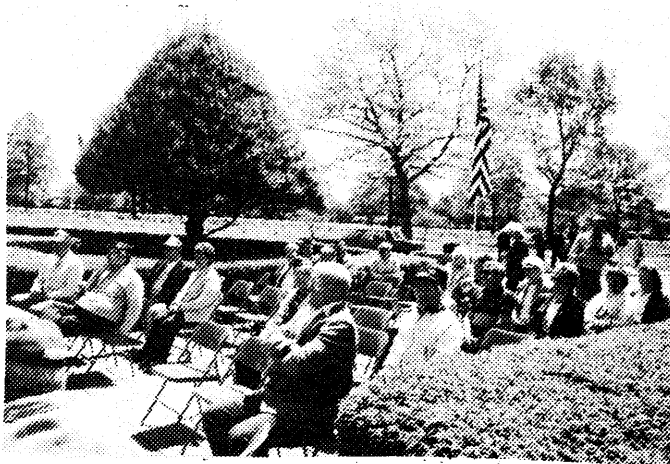
March the 10th I had a cataract implant and as you know there is very little a person can do while recuperating. I did however go through some of the things I saved from the past. One thing which I think will be interesting, is a group picture taken at the banquet in the Ben Franklin Hotel in Philadelphia in 1948. What a great bunch! At present I am having this picture framed and hope to bring it to Camp Hill where it can be enjoyed by many who were there. Looking forward to seeing many friends this year at the reunion.

39th Inf E Co
LARRY FAULKNER
2529 N. Loretta Cir
Simi Valley, Ca. 93065

A friend of mine is writing a story of my life starting from birth in Harlan County, Ky. up to this date and I am in need of information covering my combat trails in N. Africa and Europe. I remember I once owned a book "8 Stars to Victory". I loaned mine out and he never returned it. If by chance anyone has one for sale I would be glad to buy it. Anyone having any info on the above please write to me as soon as possible. Thanks.

THOMAS HARRIS
301 Wilson St
Elm City, N.C. 27822

Enclosed find check for dues for 2 years. I enjoy reading the Octofoil very much.



Members of the New York Chapter at the Memorial Service held in Pinelawn National Cemetery on Long Island, N.Y.



Borris Raynes sends this pic taken May 2, 1945 near the Elbe River of members of the 26th F.A. Shown l-r Unidentified, Raynes and Lt. Briggs. Story appears in Mail Call.

Hqs Special Troops
DR. RALPH BALDINI
220 Esty St.
Ithaca, N. 14850

You are so right. I never look at my membership card and I'm sorry you had to print my name in red, but I'm glad you did because that reminded me to send in my check. We will not attend the reunion this year but will make Worcester. It will not be the same, but once more!

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

I enjoy the Octofoil so very much. It seems to be the only link with my military past that I have anymore. Best wishes to all my M.P. friends and to all others I have made friends with during the past 20 years. I was very sorry to hear of the passing of John Weber. I remember him as one fine person. You are doing a super job on the Octofoil and the very best to all of you.

COMMENTS OF
GEORGE NICKLIN
TO NINTH DIVISION
MEMBERS
AT MEMORIAL MAY 16, 1987
PINELAWN NATIONAL
CEMETERY

From 1941 to 1945 members of our division struggled to keep the doors of the future open for American society and, indeed, for that of the entire world. For this reason we have much to be proud of. Were we not to have succeeded in keeping those doors open we would not have been able to live the kinds of lives we lived after World War II nor, indeed, would the entire rest of the world. It was, indeed, a massive effort and no doubt involved millions of people all over the world. However, the Ninth Division played a crucial role in bringing this about through its sustained and unremitting efforts in coping with the tyranny threatened by the overrunning of the world by Facism.

Now we are in our fading years and our number are diminishing. But we must not forget that the gates of the future require constant effort to keep them open. And let us as we grow older continue our efforts to help those who are coming after us to live better and free lives.

Medic, K Company, 47th Regiment

MAIL CALL

39th Inf Hq 2nd Bn
JAMES TODD
418 Bellengrath Dr.
Nashville, Tn. 37211

I am sending dues for another year. I enjoy getting the Octofoil again. I did not know the association existed until I heard it on the news last year, when it was here in Nashville. I got dressed and went to the hotel, got the information I needed to send my dues in. I saw in the Octofoil A.B. Casey from Paris, Tn. was in the same company as I was. I went to Paris to see him but missed him. I left my name and address at his business place and received a nice letter from him. I would like to hear from anyone in the company. I will not be at the reunion this year but hope to attend the next one. I have been in Nashville 35 years and am retired from the VA hospital and enjoy everyday. Went to Germany in 1984 and saw some of the places we were at. Went to Remagen where we crossed the river but the bridge was never rebuilt. God bless all of you and hope to see you next year.

47th Inf Co G
ALBERT E. HAINES
COL, US ARMY (RET)
2735 N. 1200 E.
Provo, Ut 84604

So the 9th Infantry Division alumni are thinking of gathering again! Good. It has been a long time and I thought the Division Association was gone — maybe it was only moribund or it was I that was out of touch.

Sorry, I can't make the trip to the reunion — but maybe another year. In any case, I would like to be included on any mailing list for those of my era.

Platoon Leader, Company G.
47th Infantry Regiment Oct.
1944-Jan. 1945. Adjutant, 2nd
Battalion, 47th Infantry Regiment
June-Nov. 1945.

Good luck and good wishes.

60th Inf A Co & Div Hqs
JOHN WESSMILLER
11 Wequasset Way
Chatham, Ma. 02633

Thank you for the thoughtful letter, it's one great policy and expected from men of the 9th. I find it hard to realize Fr. Connors has left us. Each summer we had a visit from him and the good Father never forgot his children. I'm sure he is still praying for us, and in addition now playing dirty basketball with the Angels. I often wonder if my old friend Monk Manley is still around. He had a bad habit of catching Potato mashed in his hand, or my old Sarge Stan Sabalasky. During my military career I've seen few 9th men despite efforts to locate them. I've tried a number of times to contact Gue E. Car of the 39th at Plum Branch, SC. Time seems to be reducing our numbers.

39th Inf Hq
SAL MORANO
26 Doral Dr.
Toms River, N.J. 08757

Just a few lines to say Hi, and sorry I missed all these years of the Octofoil. Met George Brum and he gave me a few copies. I've been in touch with my buddy Jack Piemonte, God bless him I still love him. He's in Vero Beach, Fl. Sal Blandino is in Bridgeton, N.J., Bill Preston was living in Dundalk, Md. last time I saw him. I would like to hear from some of the boys from Hqs Co 39th. Can't wait for the next issue of the Octofoil.

"C" Co. 47th Inf.
HOWARD D. BROOKS
32003238 1st Sgt.
P.O. Box 141
S. Harpswell, ME 04079

Recently, I came across this clipping from the CHICAGO TRIBUNE of an interview they had had with General Louis A. Craig, on the 1st anniversary of the taking of the Ludendorff Bridge at Remagen, Germany. I thought you might like to print it in The OCTOFOIL to set the record straight, even though the anniversary date is passed now. We hear so much hot air about this event that it is good to have the views of Gen. Craig, who was there at the time, in the thick of things along with a lot of 47th Infantry of the 9th Division, my regiment.

"C" Co. 1st Battalion 47th Inf. was about a reinforced platoon when the firing quieted down. Lt. Langley, as I remember, was the only officer remaining at that point, and there were at most six non-coms of various ratings, exempting the kitchen and supply staff who remained on the west bank of the river, for the most part. I still can remember the mixed expressions on the faces of some of the new officers being assigned to the company.

I've enclosed another article about 200 G.I.'s from the Chicago area and midwest, when they were awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, which later was changed to an Oak Leaf cluster if the holder already had a Bronze Star or became the Bronze Star, for those who had not rec'd it before. I still have my badge and think of it as being distinctive. It was a badge of limited circulation. I've wondered how many of the men listed in the article are still alive? I wager not very many.

60th Inf
GEORGE GROSSMAN
374 Country Club Lane
Pomona, N.Y. 10970

Before the mailing address turns red, I've enclosed dues for the next 3 years. I'm paying in advance to make sure I'll be around to enjoy it. In April, my wife and I flew to San Francisco on an anniversary vacation. We stayed there several days then left on a 5 day parlor car tour to Yosemite and down the coast to Los Angeles. Penny and Les Ronay met us in Los Angeles and we were their guests for a few days. Edith and I had a great time with them. On our 45th wedding anniversary the Ronays and another friend of ours took us out for dinner. It was a most enjoyable evening. We stayed with the Deflers until we left for home on May 4th. P.S. Where are the men from Serv Co 60th Inf.?

47th Inf-H Co.
W.M. LYNCH
2008 Tulane
Richardson, Texas 75081

In the book RAIDERS there is a short article on the second page of the Siegfried sector. It involved a counterattack near Zweifall. Lt. Custer Welch was wounded and one German tank was destroyed. I was there that day. I would like to correspond with Custer Welch or any of the men that was in that battle.

60th Inf 9th Med Bn
DR. RUSSEL HUMMEL
2411 Lommel Lane
Marion, Ind. 46952

Each year I seem to be a bit further behind on my dues, this year no excuse. Best wishes to all.

THE OCTOFOIL

39 Inf. A Co.
R.W. SCHOENEKASE
1515 Locust St.
Quincy, Ill. 62301

We just moved to a different home and along came the last issue of Octofoil with red ink. Time sure rolls on. It was just 42 yrs. yesterday that they unloaded me from a hospital ship. What a wonderful birthday present.

I just received word that one of my buddies had a stroke. The boys from WW 2 are thinning out pretty fast now.

I sure enjoy every issue of the Octofoil, so I am enclosing a check for two years subscription.

39th Inf. Hq. Co.
JAMES LACKMAN
1420 S. 32nd St.
Decatur, Ill. 62521

I certainly enjoy "The Octofoil". Enclosed is check for dues.

In the Jan./Feb. 87 issue I read the letter from Bill Termini M.C. - 39th Inf. We were in the 3rd Bn for a long time. Wrote him and he replied.

Friends made in these situations are not forgotten.

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

Carl & Dorothea Brady were host for M Co's 5th annual reunion in Mobile, Al. on May 21st, 22nd, & 23rd. They were assisted by Roy & Karin Smith and Cole & Eileen Gronseth. It was a very good turn out. Everyone enjoyed it greatly.

We were honored to have as guest Carlos & Teresa Esteve from Puerto Rico, and Keene Wilson from Selma, Al. Also some first timers of M Co Ed & Ginny Lusk, Albert Bruchac & wife Pat and Regis & Margie Sharbrough. It was a delight to see all these people.

The Brady's hosted a lovely dinner party at their Antebellum home with all the trimmings. A video tape was made with everyone being introduced by Cole Gronseth and participating in telling something about themselves or something about the war. We had fun composing the tape.

The Mayor of Mobile presented M Co. with the key to the city. Cole Gronseth accepted the key as he was the last company commander of M Co.

On Saturday night we enjoyed a lovely banquet with final picture taking before saying our good-byes. If anyone got a picture of A.H. Denham & wife please let me know.

Our next reunion will be in May at Niagara Falls, N.Y. with Bob & Marge Bovanizer being host. Everyone start making plans to attend. We have had great reunions in the past, let each of us work together for this one to be even greater.

Everyone stay well and happy.

47th Inf Hq
EDDIE KRAUSE
706 Riverside Dr.
Palmetto, Fl. 33561

How are you all these days? I am doing pretty good from one day to the next. I am a Life member of the association. Thanks again for your hard work in getting the Octofoil to us. Take care and remember that Jesus loves us all.

60th FA Btry A
ED HOPKINSON
PO Box 805
Appomattox, Va. 24522

I enjoy the Octofoil very much. I was with Div Arty in England and parts of Normandy before being transferred to 60th FA where I remained until the end of the war. Best regards.

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

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26th FA Btry A
BOB FLECKENSTEIN
4906 Wyoming St.
Duluth, Mn. 55804

I noted the red ink on the label, so am forwarding my check for 3 years dues.

We haven't been able to attend the reunions since Chicago in the late 40's — but do follow the events eagerly thru the Octofoil.

I was Battery Commander of 'A' Battery, 26th F.A. Bn from France to the end of the war and Re-Deployment at Pfaffen Hofen.

Would appreciate hearing from anyone in the Battery.

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

Once again the Red has appeared on my issue of The Octofoil. Time flies by pretty fast. I enjoy reading The Octofoil very much. I especially look for articles that my fellow GI's write. I do hope that more would drop you a line. This is one way we could keep in touch with each other.

I mailed my reservation for Camp Hill and hope to see you and the rest of the gang. I enjoyed our trip to Nashville with the exception of the little problem that we had at the hotel. I'm sure Camp Hill will be different. Good time of the year to have a convention in Pennsylvania.

60th Inf.
JAMES FRAZIER
402 High St.
Whitman, Mass. 02382

I previously had sent you a letter inquiring about the 9th Infantry Division Association which I had read about in the V.F.W. - DAV - Legion Magazines.

In response from your letter and the Octofoil publication, it gave me all the information as what to do about joining the Ninth Div. Assn., and it was a real pleasure to hear from you.

I also read in The Octofoil about another outfit I served with, the 899th Tank Destroyer Bn. It was really appreciated with the fine write up The Octofoil gave them.

I also put the paper up on the bulletin board at the D.A.V. I belong to which is Chapter 50 Rockland, Mass. It might also bring some inquirers to joining the 9th Div. Assn. I'm a little fowled up with heart attacks, arthritis, gout and kidney problems but outside of that I'm ready to go back in the Army. If they need me. This is the finest country in the world and we'll all stick together. Especially the guys that served on "The Front Lines".

Thanks Dan! "Good Luck and God Bless All the Men."

47th Inf. Co. E.
JOHN TREVELISE
50 Old Past Rd.
Freehold, N.J. 07728

Enclosing a check for the next 3 years dues.

My wife and I both enjoy receiving the Octofoil.

God willing we hope to be at the reunion this summer.

My best wishes to you.

Sign on a lousy restaurant: "Sorry, we're open."

26th FA C Btry
BORIS RAYNES
2532 Chelsea Rd.
Palos Verdes Est., Ca. 90274

Thanks for my new membership card. I would appreciate your printing this letter in the next OCTOFOIL. I was a 2nd Lt. in Btry "C" 26th F.A. Bn. in the ETO from the chase in France, through Belgium and ending in Germany. I was promoted after V.E. Day to 1st Lt. and assigned to Division Arty. and made PX officer of the 9th Division in occupation at Pfaffenhofen and moved to Töging (border with Austria - East of Munich).

If anyone knows the whereabouts of my fellow-officers in my battery - 1st Lt. William Payne (who alternated with me as F.O. in support of 3rd Bn. 39th Inf. Regt); 1st Lt. Briggs, exec. officer of Charley Btry., I would appreciate contact with them. I would also enjoy correspondence with the men of the battery, particularly Maurer of Camden, N.J. and Monteleone of New Orleans.

I would also like to hear of the whereabouts of Capt. Anthony (Tony) Dana who was the commander of "I" Company 39th Inf. Rgt. during my F.O. service time. His radio man, William (Bill) Finley was honored posthumously by the French at Cherbourg, on June 26, 1984 on the 40th anniversary of the freeing of that city.

If anyone remembers Finley, please write to his sisters in Decatur, Illinois: Betty Simms at 330 N. 24th St. and Jacqueline Neff at 2625 E. Wood St.

Anyone who remembers me can reach me at the above address. I tip my hat in honor of Father Connors who gave me needed solace in the wee hours of the night over his coffee pot. Cannot attend the reunion — have fun.

P.S. Photo enclosed. Left to right, unidentified officer, myself, Lt. Briggs. "C" Btry 26th F.A. Bn. taken at Dassau, Germany, 1945. I would appreciate your printing and returning the photo.

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

Received letters from Ed Combs, E Co 47th. He and the wife just returned from Europe. Resting up for the reunion. Also a letter from Melanson, that super radioman of the 47th, who has been traveling for months and enjoying life. After 2 years got a letter from Louis Rullan of San Juan, that master machine gunner of G Co 47th. He is well and still kicking. He's off to France and Spain to see his relatives. Also get calls from Hans Schwartzkopf, radioman of 2nd Bn 47th who was captured in El Guettar. He is retired and enjoying his leisure in Brooklyn. Also got a call from San Diego and it was good old George Bako, mess sgt of G Co 47th who is retired. George is still his own jolly self with a good word for all.

No matter what you do, someone somewhere always knew you would.