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The Octofoil, August/September/October 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 4

Aug-Sept-Oct 1987

Worcester Memorial Mass and Service Tara Dunfey Hyannis Hotel Command Post 1988



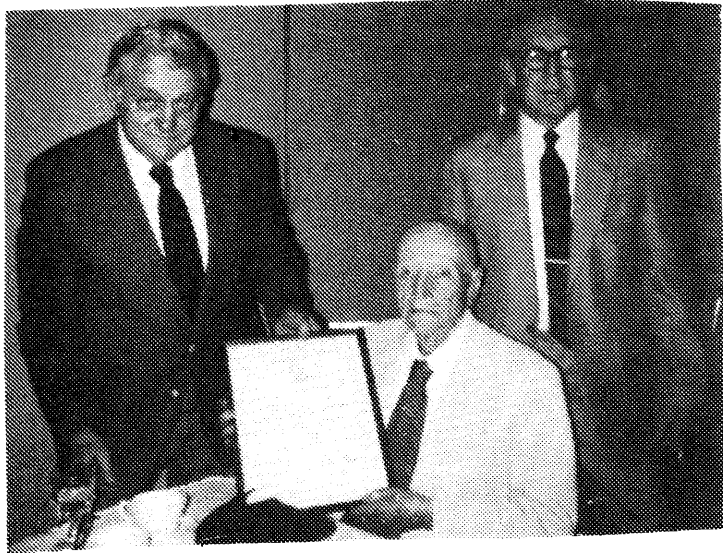
Worcester Memorial 1959

A photo taken in 1959 at the Dedication of the Flag Pole at Father Connors Church in Worcester New Yorkers gathered to remember the deceased of the Ninth. All were former members of the 47th with the exception of Mike Gatto 60th Inf. and Lou Almassay 39th Inf. Several people shown here have joined the "departed" including Father DeLaura, Mrs. Olsen Gold Star parent of Gerry Olsen - son Herb Olsen (shown kneeling 2nd from left), Eddie Egan, Jack Scully and John Rizzo.

Standing l-r rear row: Lou Almassay, Mike Gatto, Max Uman-sky, Ed Egan, Jack Scully, John Rizzo, Marty Roach, (from N.E.) and Vince Guglielmino, Second row standing l-r Pat Morano, Monsignor DeLaura, and Mrs. Olson. Kneeling l-r: Dan Quinn, Herb Olsen and Frank Fazio.

If our memory is correct it was several years later that the Monument for the "Departed Men of the Ninth" was erected on the church grounds, 1962. This year on November 8th the "troops" will gather for the 43rd year to remember our dead and beloved Chaplain Father Connors who began this Mass and Memorial Service in 1945.

As we go to press several hundred members have made reservations to attend this years Memorial in Worcester.

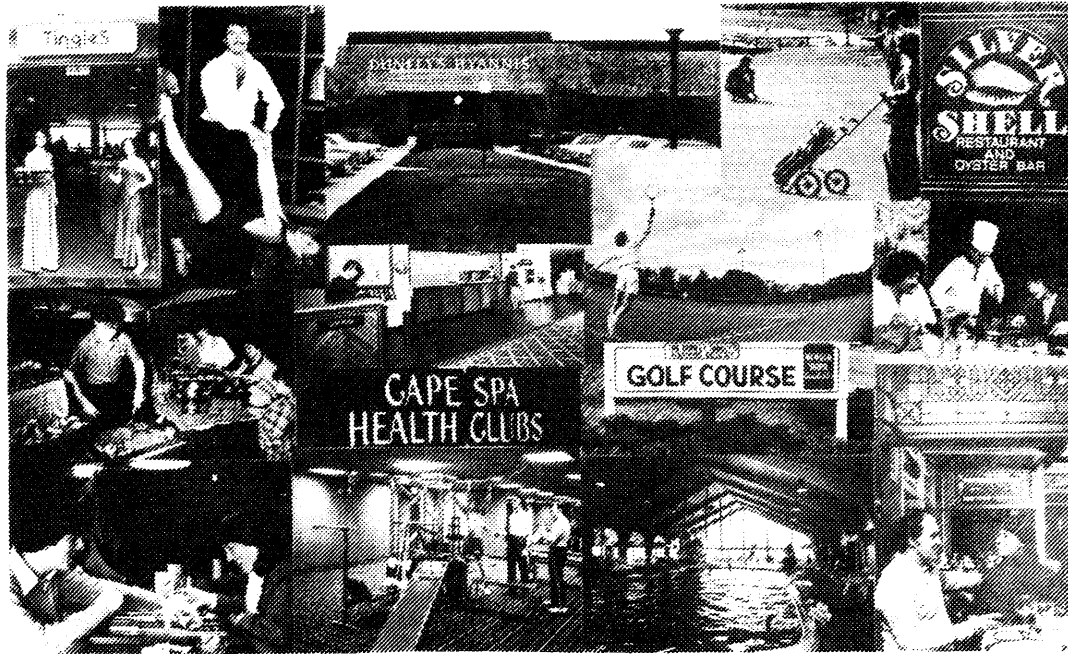


Joe Williams (left) looks at citation that was presented to General Randle (seated) by General "Chip" Maness at the Florida meeting held in October.

CHANGE OF COMMAND



Dave Heller (left) receives the gavel from outgoing President of the Association Carlos Esteva as the reunion winds down for the 42nd year. (Photo by W. Victor)



Come to the Cape and Leave the rest of the World Behind

THE "BEAR" CITED AT FLORIDA CHAPTER FALL MEETING

The highlight of the Florida Chapter's fall meeting banquet held at the Holiday Inn International Drive, Orlando on Friday October 23, 1987 was the presentation of a citation by Ret. Gen. "Chip" Maness to Gen. Edwin "The Bear" Randle which reads.

"In recognition of his special place in regimental continuity, traditions and esprit de corps and distinguished service."

By order of the Secretary of the Army "Brigadier General Edwin H. Randle, USA (retired) is granted and assigned the distinction of distinguished member of the 47th Infantry Regiment.

William H. Harrison
Lt. General, USA
Commanding I Corps

A few of the 59 Florida chapter members and wives missed the presentation, still the hall sounded like the "Bear" was being applauded by a whole regiment.

A lively meeting on Saturday was attended by 33 members with the main topic being the possibility of a national reunion in Florida, more later. The beautiful, luxurious "Governor's Suite" hospitality room was well supplied with wide assortment of the usual and unusual in the way of snacks "happy juices" etc... The evening I'm sure will long be remembered as one of the best. A Mardi Gras Dinner Show was attended by 58 ex-"doggies," wives and girlfriends raved of it long into the evening while attempting to empty the remaining liquid refreshments, a valiant effort but in vain. The body voted on the Tampa area for the April meeting. Plan for it as "You Ain't Seen Nothing Yet"!!!

88 Reunion

June 23,24,25th

Hyannis

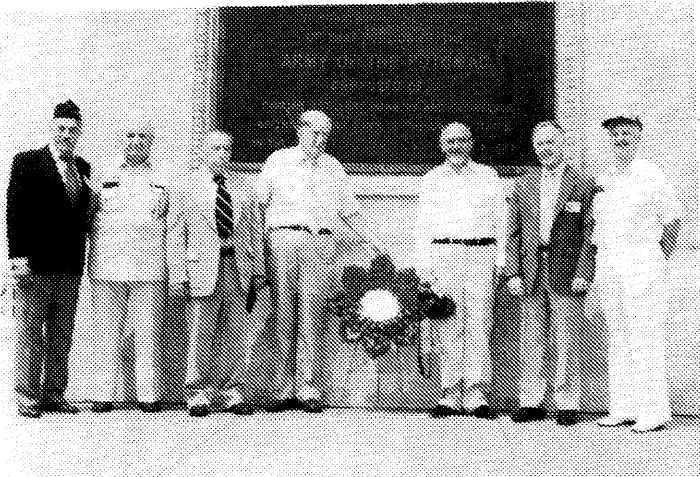
Once again the New England Chapter has the honor of being host to our annual reunion. The 1988 reunion will be held on June 23rd, 24th and 25th on beautiful Cape Cod at Tara-Dunfey's resort in Hyannis, Mass. All of Dunfey's has been set aside for the 9th Division reunion. Every room is an outside room that opens on to a balcony or patio overlooking the golf course or courtyard. The resort includes an excellent par 3 golf course, a complete health club and an indoor and outdoor pool. Our functions will be held at Dunfey's as the banquet facilities are able to accommodate over 1000 people for dinner. Tara-Dunfey is only a block away from Main St. A pleasant walk down this street takes you past dozens of fascinating craft shops and shopping boutiques, many displaying the works of local Cape Cod artists and craftsmen. We have had many requests for a clam bake, which has been popular at other New England reunions. The committee is hard at work trying to finalize this and other plans. In the next issue of the Octofoil, we will give you a complete run-down of what will take place. The New England Chapter feels that they have an excellent location for the reunion as Hyannis has so much to offer. It isn't too early to plan to be with us in '88.

Sincerely,
The 1988 Reunion Committee

Congratulations for a job well done.

The Philly-Delaware Valley Chapter members are to be congratulated for a great reunion held in Camp Hill, Pa. 1000 members and guests gathered for three wonderful days and the committee members worked hard to see that all details were taken care of. All the letters received from our membership indicate that those in attendance were well satisfied.

Now it's on to Cape Cod and Hyannis for the 1988 reunion-make your reservation as soon as possible to make sure you will have reservations for the Tara Dunfey Hotel and not have to go to a "back up" hotel. We always say it is easier to cancel out at the last minute than to try to get reservations at the time of the reunion.



Placing of a wreath at Gettysburg are shown: left-right: Tony Varone, Pat DeColli, Vince Guglielmino, Dan Quinn, President of the Association Carlos Esteva, Herb Olsen and Rev. Ralton Speers. (Photo by W. Victor)

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

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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..... \$5.00 ☐

Ladies Auxiliary Member..... \$ 2.00 ☐

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐

Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐

New England ☐ Michigan ☐

Florida ☐



Some of the folks waiting to board the buses for the trip to Gettysburg, while at the reunion in Camp Hill.

Room Reservation form must be used and mailed directly to Hotel.

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
43RD ANNUAL REUNION
JUNE 23 - 26, 1988

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS:

PLEASE CHECK ONE: X

EUROPEAN PLAN RATES (NO MEALS).

____ \$70.00 PER ROOM, PER NIGHT, SINGLE OCCUPANCY, PLUS ROOM TAX.

____ \$70.00 PER ROOM, PER NIGHT, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY, PLUS ROOM TAX.

PLEASE RESERVE THE FOLLOWING ACCOMMODATIONS: PLEASE CONFIRM

(I) (WE) WILL ARRIVE _____

AND DEPART _____, 1987.

NAME _____ COMPANY _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE _____ TODAY'S DATE _____

ONE NIGHT'S DEPOSIT PER ROOM REQUIRED TO GUARANTEE RESERVATION. (PLEASE ENCLOSE CHECK, MADE PAYABLE TO THE TARA HYANNIS HOTEL). RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED UNTIL May 19, 1987. AFTER THIS DATE, RESERVATIONS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY. YOUR DEPOSIT WILL BE APPLIED TO THE LAST NIGHT OF YOUR ROOM RESERVATION.

REFUND OF DEPOSIT GIVEN IF CANCELLATION IS MADE 72 HOURS OR MORE PRIOR TO ARRIVAL. NO REFUND GIVEN IF:

A. RESERVATIONS IS CANCELLED WITHIN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.

B. GUEST DOES NOT ARRIVE ON DATE SPECIFIED.

C. YOU CHECK OUT EARLIER THAN SCHEDULED DEPARTURE DATE.

RESERVATION IS AUTOMATICALLY CANCELLED IF YOU FAIL TO ARRIVE ON DATE SPECIFIED. REINSTATING RESERVATION IS SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.

CHECK IN TIME AFTER 3 PM — CHECK OUT TIME BY 11 AM.

PLEASE COMPLETE AND SEND WITH YOUR DEPOSIT TO OUR RESERVATION MANAGER.

Tip of the Hat

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

Glen O. Smith
Carlton Haley
Stephen Shadder
Edwin Brewer
Julius E. Clark, Jr.
Nicholas A. Wagner
Thomas Harris
15th Engrs Members

The Association salutes you.

Veterans receiving disability compensation should not delay in seeking increased benefits if their service-connected disabilities worsen with the passage of time.

There are three essential requirements that must be met to authorize examinations and reports for an increase in compensation. They are:

1. A changed condition must be shown.

2. The report must be submitted for the purpose of showing a changed condition.

3. The report must contain adequate identification of the disabling conditions and sufficient findings to permit proper evaluation, or, if a statement from a private physician, the findings must be verified by a VA examination.

The opinions and statements of a veteran's private physician can be of invaluable assistance in documenting increased impairment caused by a longtime service-connected disability. The onset or expansion of rheumatoid arthritis attributable to old wounds or injuries was cited as one graphic example meriting increased compensation.

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.

Pre-registration for Strip Tickets

Ninth Infantry Division Advanced Registration
June 23rd, 24th and 25th, 1988
Hyannis, Ma.

Pre-registration will be used for our 43rd annual reunion and it is requested that everyone use this procedure as it will make it much easier for you and the registration committee. Your check or money order should be send as early as possible to Treasurer Thomas Boyle, 39 Hall Avenue, Somerville, Ma. 02144. Make check payable to 9th Infantry Division Reunion.

Strip tickets will be \$50.00 per person and will include Thursday nights welcoming party, Friday nights dance and Saturday nights Banquet and dance.

NAME

ADDRESS

UNIT..... GUESTS.....

Deadline for advanced registration will be June 9th, 1988. Refunds will be made to those unable to attend. Cut off date for refunds will be June 11th, 1988.

Souvenir Program

We are now in the process of putting together our Souvenir Program Book. In order for us to be successful, we need your help. All remembrances, boosters and ads should be in by May 1st, 1988, so that the program book can be printed in time for the reunion.

FULL PAGE \$50.00 HALF PAGE \$30.00
QUARTER PAGE \$20.00 EIGHTH PAGE \$10.00
Booster Ads \$2.00.....Name and Unit

Make checks payable to 9th Infantry Division Reunion and mail all checks, money orders and ad copy to:

Reunion Treasurer Thomas Boyle,
39 Hall Avenue
Somerville, Ma. 02144

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.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP
MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

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

1. Date filed: 9/27/87 2: Title of Publication: THE OCTOFOIL.
3. 5 times yearly: 4. Location of known office of publication: 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. - Hudson County. 5. Location of headquarters or General Business Offices of the Publisher: 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. - Hudson County. 6. Name and address of the Publisher and Editor: Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J.

9. FOR COMPLETION BY NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AUTHORIZED TO MAIL AT SPECIAL RATES (Section 411.3 DMM only) The purpose function and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes (check one)

x (1) HAS NOT CHANGED DURING PRECEDING 12 MONTHS

10. EXTENT AND NATURE OF CIRCULATION	AVERAGE NO. COPIES EACH ISSUE DURING PRECEDING 12 MONTHS	ACTUAL NO. COPIES OF SINGLE ISSUE PUBLISHED NEAREST TO FILING DATE
A. Total No. Copies (Net Press Run)	2300	2300
B. Paid Circulation		
1. Sales through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors and Counter Sales	None	None
2. Mail Subscriptions	2050	2050
C. Total Paid Circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2)	2050	2050
D. Free Distribution		
By Mail, Carrier or other means		
Samples, Complimentary, and other free copies	100	100
E. Total Distribution (Sum of C and D)	2150	2150
F. Copies Not Distributed		
1. Office use, left over, Unaccounted, spoiled after printing	150	150
2. Return from news agents	None	None
G. TOTAL (Sum of E, F1 and 2-should equal net press run shown in A)	2300	2300

11. I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

Daniel Quinn

Hyannis Reunion 88

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.

Taps Sounded

"Somewhere afar,
Some white, tremendous
daybreak and the light,
Returning, shall give back
the golden hours."

With deep sorrow
we announce the passing
of these "Old Reliables"
and friends.

Brig. Gen. Donald C. Clayman
47th Inf
Al Munatore
F Co 47th Inf
Frank Smith
F Co 47th Inf
Hugh "Buck" Elliott
Paul Schossau
Doyt Johnson
K Co 47th Inf
John Schultz
Div Hdqs
Robert Warner
A Btry 26th FA
Victor Campisi
Raymond "Mama" Schultz
Serv Co 60th Inf
Eva Wilson
Wife of Jack Wilson
9th Med B Co

J. Lawton Collins
Corps Commander

May they rest in peace.

To their loved ones and
families we extend our
sympathy.

J. Lawton Collins, U.S. Army General and Corps Commander of the Ninth Inf. Div. in Europe passed away at the age of 91. The General was the speaker at several of our reunions and we enjoyed his company at these reunions.

Remembrance of
General Clayman

One of the mightiest oaks fell in the forest on August 6 and, in the minds of some of us who soldiered with Donald C. Clayman, the world ought to know about it. They just don't come in his mold very often. He led the 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry in a most direct and personal way from a shell-wracked culvert under a road outside Cesaro, Sicily until its remnants were pulled from the line and sent to the showers at the R&R Center in Verviers, Belgium. In this nearly 16 months that embraced most of the truly ferocious fighting of one of the finest U.S. Army infantry units of World War II, Don Clayman provided the spark and spirit that made it so special.

The 3rd Battalion was a long way from being anything special that night on the road to Randazzo. Sicily's scorching heat, the mines in the road to which we seemed bound and the incessant shelling had sapped its energies. Everyone knew we should be away from that cursed road and maneuvering to the high ground on its flanks. SNAFU! The battalion commander was called back to regiment. Word came back by phone to gather the company commanders for orders. They waited in the dark and finally a jeep creeked up and halted on the road above.

Bill Tanner of Union City, Tennessee, then battalion executive officer, recalls: "Our introduction came by flashlight under a blanket as he assumed command and matter-of-factly issued orders for an assault on Castil di Bolo. From that moment he never changed. He was an officer and a gentleman through and through. A man of



Lt. Col. Don Clayman, C.O. 3rd Bn 47th Inf., receiving DSC award in Germany 1944. Shortly after this photo was taken the "General" left the 47th Infantry to take command of a regiment in the 83rd Division.

unquestioned integrity, he was always frank with his officers and men. He told it like it was.

"Clayman was a Regular Army officer, a product of the ROTC at Cornell University. He was a natural soldier and fought a battle as a game, though a deadly serious one, with consummate skill and dedication. Cool and inflexible, he instilled confidence and courage in others about him. Although his talents as a combat commander were superb, Don Clayman's outstanding characteristic was his concern for the welfare of those under his command. On several occasions in bitter cold fighting he would pull off his field jacket to cover a wounded man."

Bill Horan of Columbus, Georgia remembers that attack up Castil di Bolo: "I was leading the 1st (HMG) Platoon of M Company that night and we had to find positions in the dark from which to support the rifleman's assault. The attack was slow and we were lucky the Germans had de-camped before we got to the top. Clayman was the first one up there and he was not at all happy about our physical condition. Hence, much emphasis on PT followed. On the crossing of the Meuse River into Belgium in September, 1944 Clayman again was way up with the assault elements, again leading by example. Later, near Schevenhutte, I overheard Clayman briefing several newly-assigned officers. He told them he expected them to do their duty even if it meant getting killed in the process. That's the kind of guy he was and he practiced what he preached."

Bob Hulslander of Jacksonville, Florida today but once commanding L Company remembers that when the unit's First Sergeant Harvey died of an illness in England the battalion commander led the honor guard at the cemetery. Later in France, L Company led the night maneuver by which the 3rd Battalion slipped through the German defenses and cut across the Contentin Peninsula, sealing off Cherbourg. Bob recalls: "Clayman and Tanner were right up front. Every now and then we'd halt while they got under a shelterhalf to check the map with a flashlight. About 1 A.M. we were challenged and had a brief shootout but cut to the side and kept going.

The action lasted several days and we were moving continuously. After all this time I can still recall the look on Clayman's face whenever I'd see him. He had a calmness and confidence that was a great inspiration to me. I thought so much of the man that I named one of my children after him, twin daughter Donna."

Bob McWaters of Augusta, Georgia, recalls of commanding K Company that first day in Schevenhutte, Germany: "It had become pitch black that night when Clayman told me to take K up into the woods north of town. I worried too loudly. "McWaters," he said, 'If you are afraid, I will take the company up there.' Of course we moved right out. Once we got up to where I thought he wanted us, our own artillery began falling close by. I called battalion to ask that it be lifted. Clayman came on the phone and said to stop worrying. The next morning he came up to our positions and said, 'No wonder you were crying. You've come 500 yards passed where I told you to go.'"

In the process of researching my yet-to-be published opus "Heavy Weapons" I was struck by the frequent references of the veterans of M Company to their battalion commander. Mostly their memory was of his compassion for loss and suffering. That, not the heroic stuff or the man's tactical skill, is what has stuck in their minds over the years.

Don Clayman was as much a mentor as I ever had in my Army career. Unluckily, I never served under his command again but, as the years went by, every successive commander, and some were famous men, was measured against that stalwart and found to be short. We saw each other from time to time, in Washington, D.C., at Forts Benning, Lewis and Monroe, and at Pennsylvania Military College where he introduced the cadets to the fine art of Dining-In. After he had left the 3rd Battalion at Verviers he had taken command of a regiment and won his eagles. For his wartime services he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Silver Star with Oak-Leaf Cluster and the French Croix de Guerre with Palm. Following the war he went airborne and, after promotion to brigadier general, he began flying his own helicopter.

Continued page 4

Continued from page 3

General Donald C. Clayman

He retired from the Army at Headquarters Continental Army Command in 1965 and made his home at Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Brigadier General Donald C. Clayman, USA (Ret.) was born June 12, 1912 at Rush, New York. He died August 6, 1987 at Fredricksburg, Virginia and has been buried with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

47th Inf M Co
Henry Red Phillips
14002 Hemlock Dr.
Penn Valley, Ca. 95946

TWO OF THE BEST

On Friday, October 2, 1987, what started out as a happy, carefree eighteen holes of golf for three former F Company, 47th Infantry men turned into a day of grief. Earl and Miriam Wilkey were visiting me from Georgia, Bette and Jack Finnigan from Union, N.J., and Milt Zucker was to join us for dinner that night, after which we were all to go to Atlantic City to donate some money to our local, friendly dealers.

On our return to the house from the Ocean Acres Country Club Miriam and Bette informed us that Dan Quinn had called with the sad news that Al Munatore had died the previous day. A short time later we received a call from Bob DeSandy that Frank Smith had passed away that very day. What had started out as a day of a hundred laughs ended in an evening of dejection.

Perhaps no two men were more representative of F Company as were Al and Frank. Frank, the Company Commander, a career officer up from the ranks, a true leader, courageous, caring, strict, and GI down to the 1/2 inch haircut. Then there was Al, a private, no less courageous, no less caring, happy-go-lucky, a draftee, and not overly GI. We needed both types of men at that time, and as I look back most of us can relate to Al better than to Frank. We lost Frank early when he was captured at El Guettar while going far forward to see if the situation was the best in which to commit the two hundred ten men he felt a strong personal responsibility for. His last words at that time were to George King, "Sergeant, keep your squad here until I send for you. I don't like what I see here." The next time I saw Frank was thirty four years later when I visited him at his home in Southern Pines, N.C. Then he was a retired Lt. Colonel, involved in real estate and land development, and a country gentleman, a solid citizen in his community. The ramrod stiffness of the military leader whom we all had known so well had mellowed into a kind and benevolent persona. During the years that followed, both Lucy and I developed a fondness and genuine affection for this man. He reciprocated in kind. We will cherish the memory of this mutual respect and love for the rest of our lives. His men always respected his courage, his even-handedness, his caring, and his leadership. Though he left us early, he was seldom out of our thoughts, frequently in our conversations, and always in our hearts. Those men who passed through F Company in the next two years heard so much about "Captain Smith" that they felt that they were serving under him — and indeed they were, for he had never really left.

Taps Sounded



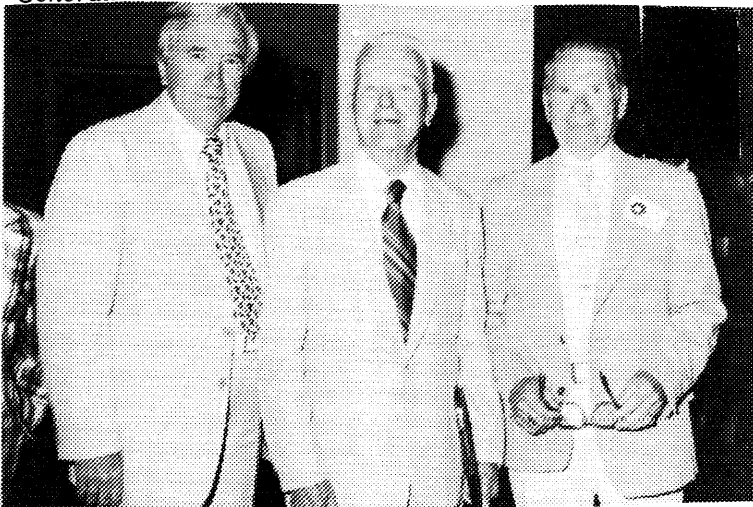
Captain Frank Smith

I first met Al Munatore in January 1941, when I discovered him in the third platoon bunk next to me at Fort Bragg after arriving from Fort Dix, raw, raw recruits. We were friends for the rest of our lives. Al probably spent more time in combat than any infantryman in the United States Army. He landed with the Ninth Infantry Division November 8, 1942, in Safi, French Morocco, fought through Tunisia, Sicily, France, Belgium, and on into Germany. He was a paddlefoot, GI, doughboy, grunt; call him what you will. When I read of the tough ones: El Guettar, Randazzo, Normandy, St. Lo., Cherbourg, Schevenhuetten, Remagen, Erpel, Huertgen, Roer Dams, Siegfried Line, The Bulge, Ruhr Pocket, Kassel, Frenzberg, Nordhausen, and on to the meeting with the Russians at the Elbe, I think of Al Munatore. He was there in the blistering sand and heat of North Africa, more heat and thirst in the mountains of Sicily, mud and rain and snow of France, Belgium, and on to Germany. Except when he was recuperating from wounds, he saw it all. Al Munatore is one of the true unsung heroes of World War II. My hat is off to him. Al was a private or a PFC. There were no airs about Al. He took what life handed him in stride and made the most of things. He was a loyal, dedicated, fun-loving soldier. Al was well loved in our company, and I am proud to have served with him.

Whatever our next mission is after we depart this vale of tears, give us Frank Smith to show the way and a company of Al Munatores, and we'll storm the gates of hell.

Edward Hopkins
110 Hollywood Ave.
Metuchen, N.J. 08840

Red Evans (K Co 47th) and yours truly had our picture taken with the General several years ago when the General was the speaker at another Army reunion being held in the same hotel by another Division. He stopped to say "hello" to the members of the Ninth and was introduced to the membership. He said he always had a "warm spot" in his heart for the Ninth and I am sure we shared the same feeling towards the General.



Shown at the 1977 Philly reunion l-r: Dan Quinn, General Collins and Red Evans.

NEW YORKERS REPORT
Back to old meetingplace

The New York area Chapter of the Old Reliables met in October at the 42nd Division Armory, 125 West 14th Street, N.Y.C. Membership attendance was down, possibly because of parking problems members experienced at the first previous meeting. Although the facility is clean and more up-to-date than our older 69th Division Armory meeting place, the general consensus was to return to the 69th Armory for our next meeting on December 4, 1987, because of the only meeting date available, due to holidays in November and December.

President Anthony Varone presided over the meeting with Secretary Arthur Schmitt at his side. Subjects included references to the upcoming New England Chapter Hyannis Convention to be held June 23, 24, 25, 1988. Emil Langer reported on his committee's activity for location of the N.Y. Chapter-sponsored convention in 1989, in the Catskill Mountains.

Also discussed was the forthcoming annual Worcester 9th Inf. Division Assn. Memorial Mass and Service weekend, November 7-8, 1987. Dan Quinn reminded everyone of the 9th Div. Christmas party to be held on December 13, 1987 at the Elks Lodge in Weehawken, N.J. Secretary Schmitt implored all to send in their moeny for the Christmas party raffle books.

Tny read the letters from members who have since moved away too far or are too ill to attend N.Y. area meetings.

Other members who did attend this night were: Anton Dietrich, Marv Levy, Eddy Maher, John Parisi, Humphrey Rini, Frank Russo, Herman Suarez, Adolf Wadalavage, Charlie Warner and honorary member Charlie Wider.

At the close of business reports, meeting was adjourned. Refreshments were provided under supervision of Hospitality chairman, John Parisi, during which time the usual test of recall among the troops assembled followed. The Old Reliables of 1987 debated the battles of North Africa, Sicily, France and Germany when they were the young lions of the early '40's. Still, two guys in the same foxhole see the same battle differently!

Next meeting will include nominating N.Y. Chapter officers for 1988. Hope to see a big turnout in December.

Marv Levy
2044 Ellen Drive
Merrick, N.Y. 11566
60th Inf.

There's a big difference between marching to a different drummer and having no sense of rhythm.

Michigan News Notes

October 20th deadline. October 16/17 our Out State Meeting at Angola, In. this year hosted by the Illinois Chapter.

I can say two things about the out state with out fear of contradiction: 1 - We, all in attendance, will have a good time. 2 - The Michigan Chapter will be electing officers for the next year. One other happening that I will look forward to is in seeing at least one "First Timer."

So after October on to winter. I will now extend my best wishes to all for a Merry Christmas and a joyous and healthy New Year.

Now back to July 1987 and the 42nd Annual Reunion at Camp Hill, Pa. What a reunion. The committees are to be congratulated. We left home early and arrived a day early. Even so we found we were not the first on the scene.

Our room was ample and clean and located just across the hall from F. Co. 47th C. P. Two new faces from the past this year. Lou Slatnick and Milt. Zucker. Had a nice chat with Milton. After all these years we recognized each other. Also present was that ever jolly Bill (Sam) Buemi who goes back to our days together at Camp Wolters, Texas in 1942. To Hoppy and Lucy a BIG THANKS for arranging the gathering place.

While on the subject of the C. P. I will tell of the picture of the F Co. men that Charles Williams sent me. I showed it to my Indiana daughter, here on vacation, and asked "What do you think of that group of gentlemen?" She looked at it awhile and said "I wouldn't want any of them trying to sell me a used car." Yes I was in the picture. So on that note I will close for now. Must start thinking of 1988 at Hyannis. Maybe some more "first time" F Co. 47th men will show up.

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

39th Inv. G Co.
MRS. WALTER SLOVER
2521 McNeill Circle
Fayetteville, N.C. 28303

On May 1, 1987, my dear husband former First Sgt. Walter C. Slover died unexpectedly of a massive heart attack. He was 67 years old.

He joined the 9th Infantry Division upon its reactivation at Fort Bragg in 1940 on a cadre from the 11th Infantry Division. He originally served with K Company, 39th Infantry at Bragg and during the North African Campaign, and in Sicily and England. During the European Campaign, he was transferred to Company G., 39th.

He was buried with full military honors performed by a drill team from the 82nd Airborne Corps. They did an outstanding performance. Buried in LaFayette Memorial Park, Fayetteville.

Although Walter was discharged from the Army in June, 1945 and had a banking career for 37 years, his heart was always with the Army and the many wonderful friends he made there.

I always enjoyed The Octofoil and when I get his papers and mementoes organized, I will be happy to share some of them for print in the paper.

I am sorry for the delay in writing, however, I did call and notify some of the G & K Company people prior to the reunion.

ILLINOIS

CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Everyone arrived home safe from the Penn Harris in Camp Hill after a very successful and pleasant reunion. Our compliments to the Committee for a great reunion. The accommodations, food, and everything was excellent and a good time was had by all. The many side trips we were able to make made the reunion very interesting and educational. Camp Hill and the surrounding cities were a sight to behold and we shall have many pleasant memories. Again it was great to see so many familiar faces. There were some missing, but only physically. They were in our thoughts.

Again, we wish to thank the scholarship committee for granting our daughter, Linda, a grant this year. She is in her second year of graduate school at Western Michigan University and is working for her Masters in Industrial Psychology. The scholarships given to her over the years have helped tremendously.

In August we had the pleasure of helping Lew and Muriel Gray celebrate their 45th Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations and many more years of happiness.

Also in August the Illinois Chapter members were guests of the Ted Prestons in Walworth, Wisconsin. We had an outdoor barbecue on their spacious grounds. Ted roasted fresh corn on the grill and we just couldn't stop eating it. Of course there was other food which was furnished by Wanda Preston and all the ladies. We had a beautiful day and food, drinks, and conversation were plentiful.

We are just back from our Out-of-State Reunion with the Michigan Chapter. We had 64 attending and as per usual our accommodations at the Holiday Inn were excellent. The buffet dinner and all the food and liquid refreshments in the CP room were very pleasing to all in attendance. Our thanks to all the Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, New York and Illinois members who came and helped make this a success. We missed many of our regulars, among whom were the Clausers and the Allsguards. We were fortunate to have three first timers attend. Our thanks to Vince Walker who took a video of the dinner. All the old Reliables can really ham it up on camera. We also celebrated "Doc" Rishel's 80th Birthday. We are looking forward to our next reunion in Angola October 14, and 15th, 1988 at the Holiday Inn. Hope to see more of you there.

In line with Outstate Meetings, we are tentatively planning a reunion with the Wisconsin Members in Madison, Wisconsin on April 29th and 30th at the Ramada Inn. Mike Carpenter will make all the arrangements and more information will be in the next Octofoil. Everyone is welcome.

At our meeting in Angola, plans were made for our Christmas Party. It will be held at the Hennemuth's on December 12th at 8:00 P.M. Letters will be sent to the members. For more information or directions, call Bill Hennemuth, 312-255-5640. Everyone is welcome.

Respectfully submitted,
Mike and Ann Belmonte
1161 South Lombard
Oak Park, Ill 60304

47th Inf. 3rd Bn
FRED SCOTT
219 Lakeview Ave.
Ocean, N.J. 07712

If it wasn't for the red ink, I would never get to say hello. Really enjoy the Octofoil.

A WAR BRIDE'S RECALL OF JUNE 6TH, 1944

The telephone at our Detroit home rang at 6:00 a.m. on the morning of June 6th, 1944. An operator said, "Good morning, the allies have landed on the continent!" I remember looking at the little flag hanging in our living room window. It had two blue stars on it. One was for my brother who was in the air force and the other for my husband, a 2nd Lt., ... soon to become a part of the 9th Inf. Div. The phone call, a courtesy of the Michigan Bell Company, was a chilling reminder of our separation and impending danger.

Mail from servicemen was censored, so that most of our information was from the newspaper and radio. I read about the Normandy Invasion in the Detroit Free Press, but didn't know that my husband was involved until a General Ulio sent me a telegram: "Regret to inform you that your husband has been wounded." This was followed by a letter stating, "Your husband, Lt. Gronseth, has recovered from his wounds and returned to active duty." General Ulio and I had quite a correspondence from July 1944 until the war's end. Two more times the general sent me the same message, as our lieutenant proceeded from the hedgerows off Utah Beach of Normandy, across France, Belgium, then crossed the Rhine at Remagen and went on to meet the Russians at Wittenberg on the Elbe River.

Crossing the English Channel and landing in Normandy seemed like a victory to civilians at home: for those in the fight it was the beginning of a long walk through unforgettable terror. Those who survived each phase from the landing, strafing, hedgerows and tanks to the Battle of the Bulge, Hurtgen Forest and liberation of Dachau, watched as their numbers dwindled. They were committed to daily combat, facing the horror of death and dying at an early age. They suffered the agony of frozen feet and hands, constant loneliness, dysentery, mud or dust and the stench of war while continuing to drive forward until the enemy was defeated.

Forty years heals most wounds and time has drained the emotion from old memories. When the men of the Ninth gather for the annual reunion, they recall only the humorous incidents and laugh at their own innocence. They are proud of their unit and take time to honor the fallen and departed heroes while rejoicing in the miracle of their own survival.

Every year there are fewer people alive who even remember that the Allies landed on the Continent June 6, 1944, but their deeds are recorded in history and their spirit is an inspiration to all the good men who find themselves "In Harms Way."

Cole Gronseth
PO Box 1904
Dunnellon, FL 32630

47th Inf Hq Co 2nd Bn
GEORGE MICHALEC
19 Crystal Lake Rd.
Stafford Springs, Ct. 06076

I'm sorry I missed the reunion but I was recovering from surgery and the doctor didn't want me to travel. I'm feeling fine now. I'm still running my antiques shop, The Mallard's Nest, so if any of you are ever in the area, stop in and say hello. Besh wishes and good luck to all of you.

Thank You
39th Inf L Co
RAYMOND TUJAGUE
552 Latham Rd.
Mineola, N.Y. 11501

The 42nd Annual Reunion at Camp Hill, Pa. was another great event, and it was most enjoyable to meet again with some of our old friends and buddies.

It was most gratifying to me to see the integrity displayed by one of our comrades at the reunion. My wife lost her 14K gold and amethyst bracelet. At the banquet Tom Boyle made the announcement and within a matter of minutes Tom handed me the bracelet that was given to him by an unknown comrade. I would like to express my sincere "thank you" to that person and thank them personally if they would contact me. This, to me, shows the uprightness of the men of the Ninth.

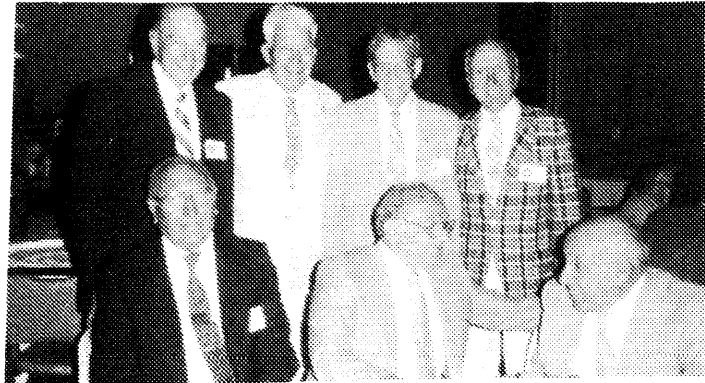
Remember Hyannis in 1988



Phil Berman, president of the Florida Chapter, accepts check from Carlos Esteva for the chapter that had the largest increase in membership for the past year. Carlos had made the offer to the membership while he was president. (Photo by W. Victor)



Wanda Preston outgoing President of the Ladies Auxiliary presents Father Gerry Rowan with a check to be used at the Veterans Hospital where Father Rowan is Chaplain. (Photo by W. Victor)



Calvin Harms sends photo taken at Camp Hill reunion: Seated l-r, Emil Langer, Joe Vannie, Al Micolucci. Standing l-r - Norman Caswell, Calvin Harms, Bill Hawkins and John Przybylski. Story appears in Mail Call.



Company B 47th Inf was well represented at the reunion in Camp Hill. (Photo by W. Victor)



Members of Anti-tank Company 47th Inf., and their wives are shown at the banquet at Camp Hill. (Photo by W. Victor)

Grateful

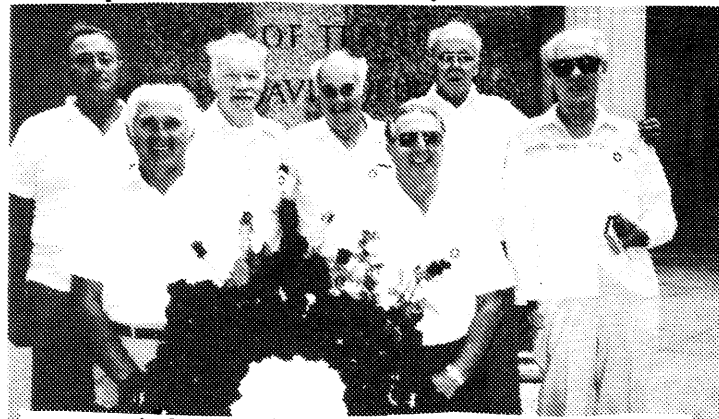
To the Scholarship Committee and members of the 9th Infantry: A couple of years ago, I was honored by the 9th Infantry for being the first grandchild of a 9th division member to receive a scholarship. And once again this year, I am proud to have been chosen as a recipient of a scholarship. I want to express my gratitude and appreciation to everyone. I have 1 year of college left and am planning to graduate in May of 1988. I will receive a degree in Paralegal Studies from Southern Illinois University. Along with the degree, I will also complete a double minor in Political Science and History. Once again, I would like to thank all of the members and the Scholarship Committee for everything.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Wolfe
Grand-daughter of
Raymond Wolfe

Hyannis in 1988



Mary Maness presents a prize that was won by Phyllis Perna. The painting was drawn by Mary. Back goes the Ladies raise funds that they donate to a worthy cause and many of the Ladies donate prizes for the raffle. (Photo by W. Victor)



Terry Terricola sends photo taken at the Reunion in Nashville in 1986. Front row: Chester Mikus, Terry. Back row l-r, George Ruetschi, Lucian Hutchinson, John Peluso, and Newton Fields. Story appears in Mail Call.



A couple of M.P.'s get together at Camp Hill. Shown l-r, seated Jake Nailor, Gerry Bryant, and Adolph Wadalavage. Standing l-r, Father Gerry Rowan, and John Maloney. (Photo by A. Wadalavage)



Phyllis Perna newly elected President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Association is shown with her slate of Officers — Left to Right: Phyllis, Vice-President Ruth Lees, Secretary Connie Koneski, Treasurer Ellie Taubner and Chaplain Louise Etue.

To "B" (47th) or not to "Be"

I am one of the women, Col. and we left the next morning. I Martin Andresen, our speaker at the 9th Annual Reunion in Harrisburg, Pa. spoke about as "The women left behind" when the 9th Division went overseas to fight in 1942. Pfc. Joe Taubner left me behind 45 years ago, but Act. 1st Sgt. Joe Taubner returned 2½ years later, and we have been together ever since (42 years in November). But never with as much closeness as we were on our 3-week cross-country trip, starting on July 26th, as the Reunion wound up, and ending at home on August 13th. In between we visited eleven states, had wonderful reunions with two buddies Joe hadn't seen in 42 years, a dear friend of Joe's, not seen in 17 years, my nephew and his wife and his two children whom I had not seen since their births 11 and 12 years ago. In between, we spent some "R & R" in the Wisconsin Dells, the Badlands and Mt. Rushmore in So. Dakota.

After a great Reunion in Harrisburg, marred only by the absence of some very dear friends, Art Stenzel and his wife, Grace from Florida, Oren Schockley and his wife, Eleanor, from Washington, and Jack DiSanto, whom we have lost to God, Joe and I took off for our 1st stop, Columbus, Ohio, the home of Cathy and Smitty Adams, and their 3 children. Our large collection of music tapes (I even like Rock 'n Roll - courtesy of a musician son) made everybody happy there, and a visit to the Anheuser-Busch Brewery there, made Joe happy. They have a beautiful Lounge Room where you have a chance to sample any of their beers (or soft drinks for non-drinkers) limiting you to 3 per person, plus snacks. All Free! Besides, the tour was very interesting in itself. We had a great visit at the Adams - Joe renewed his ties with them, and I found new friends. It was a great start for our tour!

After 2 days there, Joe drove 75 miles down to Dayton, Ohio, and Bob Moore, who served with the 9th Division in Joe's platoon, as a Mortarman in Company B, from October 1944 to well after the war ended. (Joe came home in April 1945 on a 45-day with points leave, and never had to go back). They hadn't seen each other in 42 years, although Christmas notes, and occasional post cards, etc. have been exchanged throughout the years.

Bob and his lovely wife, Moira, and her daughter, Heather, welcomed us, first at their business: "Derby Print and Copy Shop", then at their home. As we left the Moores, we extracted from them a promise to try very hard to make the Hyannis Reunion, where Bob could talk 9th Division stuff for 4 days, with men who have been doing it for 42 years! Only kidding, men! Bob and Moira are beautiful people.

After an uneventful 290 miles drive past miles and miles of Corn and Soy Bean fields (beautiful to a city slicker like me who is used to houses on 50' x 100' plots!) we reached Roanoke, Illinois. Ohio and Indiana sped by, except for one slip in navigation by yours truly resulting in 70 extra miles before we got out of Ohio.

We reached Les Campen's, to stay for almost 2 days, and what a delightful mini-reunion we had! We visited and talked, in fact, for 2 "quiet men," Joe and Les did more than their share of talking.

Lots of pictures were taken, and we left the next morning. I was almost in tears, Les and Clara Campen are dear, sweet people, and I hope we convinced them to come to Hyannis next June, to see the rest of Company B's veterans and their lovely wives. At least the 4th Platoon would be better represented then. You 1st Platoon men are dominating Company B lately! Then we headed for a 3-day R & R in the Wisconsin Dells, through weather of 95-106 degrees. Was it ever hot! After that, we were bound for So. Dakota then Cincinnati and home. I hope to continue an account of that part of our trip in the next issue of the Octofoil. To conclude, Joe and I had hoped, as we planned this trip, that our hosts would welcome us, but we were not quite prepared for the love, thoughtfulness and enthusiasm with which they welcomed us. Everybody was so happy to see us, even though we practically invited ourselves!

However, Joe had warned his friends that if they didn't come east to the reunion to see him, he was going to visit them! This year, with my retirement from the bank on May 4th, we could do it, and we did it!

Thank you, Pat and Art, for the space.

Ellie Taubner
(Mrs. Joe Taubner)
Bergenfield, NJ 07621
and

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

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

My DAV post, National Amputation Chapter #76, Whitestone, NY, supplied me with this notice which you may wish to insert in the Octofoil.

You do a great job of the gang.

Jim Swotchak
A Btry - 34th F.A. Bn.

Medals and Decorations for Veterans

One out of three American males is a veteran of the military service; most who left the service at the end of World War II, Korean War and Viet Nam War were never issued the medals to which they were entitled. The mass exodus made it physically impossible for the services to have all these awards available and many were not yet designed. Others in their anxiety to finish their military service, simply did not want to be bothered.

If one should wish to obtain the medals and awards which he earned in the service, but was never issued we offer a FREE brochure to tell him how. Also for those who were awarded the medals and lost or misplaced them, we will send a list of dealers across the United States who will be able to supply most of the medals.

A copy of this brochure can be obtained free-of-charge by sending a self-addressed-stamped-envelope (SASE) to: KOREAN VETERANS INTERNATIONAL, P.O. Box 52033, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74152.

47th Inf A.T.
GEORGE REMALEY
Box 437-A RD 1
Natrona Heights, Pa. 15065

It was nice to see all my friends from the 9th at Camp Hill. I hope to see them all next year at Hyannis. I want Morgan from B Co to call me at 224-1307 and it was good to see that smiling Irishman again, McGuire and his wife.

39th Inf K Co
C.F. BLANKENSHIP
2715 Dorset Rd.
Richmond, Va. 23234

Just want to say Hello again to everyone in the 9th. It's been quite a long time since I wrote to the Octofoil and I hope this will make the deadline. Haven't felt like writing much for the past few months sort of been on a down spell, but hope I am coming out of it now.

As for the past couple years, I missed the reunion again. One of these days I'm going to make one of them. I sure did want to meet all of you that have been writing to me. On that subject right now, let me apologize to all of you that are waiting for an answer to your letters. I haven't forgotten any of you, I have a stack of letters right here in front of me, and I WILL answer all of them.

I thought maybe that this letter would be seen by all in the Octofoil and let you know that I was OK until I can get all of your letters answered. Please keep your letters coming, I do look for them. They really help. Would like to thank the following for their many, many letters; Vincent and Bertha Marsh, Frank Torino, Tony Forte, C. Termini, Ed. Bailey, R. Kann, Red Phillips just to name a few.

Would like to hear from A.P. Becker, W.M. Lynch, Lee Lowery, C.E. Miller, George Query, C. Miller, Robt. L. Smith, A.B. Casey, John S. Magill, George Gordon and all the others that have written to me. Would love to hear from anyone else in the 9th, especially the 39th, "K" Co. 1st Platoon.

While I was over there fighting with the 9th, 39th, "K" Co. from time to time like most of you I would send things home that had to do with us at the time. Pictures, postcards, whatever we could. Anyhow my wife would put all of them along with newspaper clippings or any other news about the 9th that she could find in a big scrapbook that she kept. We were looking through it last week and came across this "Menu." I hope that Dan has room to print it in the next issue of the Octofoil.

We had just been pulled out of The Huertgen Forest and we were in a so-called rest area up in the Elsenborn area. We were dug in around the woods up there. That's when we got my first pair of the new combat boots. Anyhow we got word that the Col. (either Bond or Stumpf, can't remember which) said that his boys in the 39th were going to get Thanksgiving dinner as close to what we used to have at home. The Sgt. brought around one of these "Menus" to our holes and we laughed and thought it was a big joke.

I really can't remember how much of this stuff we got. I do remember the dinner, and we got most of that. I can vaguely remember taking my mess kit and walking in the snow about a half-block to where they had the field kitchen set up and walking back to my hole, and thinking about home. Can anyone else in the 39th remember this?

That's about it for this time. Let me say once again I am sorry for the long delay in answering all the letters that I owe to all of you. I want to say once again I WILL ANSWER THEM ALL! Again would like to hear from any of you guys in the 9th.

Good luck and God bless all of you. Waiting to hear from any or all of you out there.

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



Mike Belmonte sends picture taken last August when the Illinois Chapters' members got together for a barbeque at Ted Prestons home in Walworth, Wisconsin. Shown are (back row) Gordon Anderson, Peggy Hennemuth, Mike Belmonte, Bill Hennemuth, Irma Koski, Bob Pauli. Center row Cecil Lacie and Wanda Preston. Front row: Marian Anderson, Ann Belmonte and Ted Preston.

84th FA
ALBERT PHENIX
6280 NW 15th St.
Margate, FL 33063

I want to thank all those involved in having made this Octofoil such a success all these years. It's great! Enclosed are my dues. I followed the 9th from Casablanca to Germany but not all the way to the finish line. My wife Irene and I came from Rhode Island in 1979 to retire here in S. Florida. We're enjoying it and taking life easy. Had the pleasure to have old friends for a visit last spring. Terry Terricola and his lovely wife, Lee, stayed for a couple of days. Also another old friend, Newton Fields whom I haven't seen in 40 years, came all the way from Michigan. That was really something too! We had a lot to talk about in such a short time. Try to make it again this coming winter, folks. Newton was badly wounded in St. Lo. Lost his right hand and the 4 fingers of his left hand, so he has paid a high price for the defense of his country! Also met with Jack Kargir while the Terricola's were here and we all went for dinner and then back to his house for dessert. They came to Florida for the winter months. We called Bill Richey who lives in Tempe, Az. and had a hearty invitation to visit him. He said he would pick us up at the airport anytime day or night. Thanks Bill. So till then, Irene and I wish you all the very best. So long and God bless and drop in or drop us a line.

60th Inv. Hq.
TOM "BUCK" HARRIS
PO Box 69
Elm City, N.C. 27822

I would like to hear from an old buddy, last name Frady, who stepped on a land mine in Tunisia or Sicily. He lost a leg and as he was being carried away by the medics, he hollered "I'm going home. I've got me a million dollar wound". Would also appreciate hearing from anyone who knows the whereabouts of Manuel Saldanna, Rogers and Lt. Swain.

39th Inf. 3rd. Bn. Hq.
FRANK TIERNEY
98 Medford Farms RFD #4
Goffstown, N.H. 03045

You are to be commended for the effort you expend to publish such an excellent newsletter as the Octofoil. I look forward to receiving it. Without it I believe we all would have lived out our lives with just individual memories and isolated from the experiences and comradeship of the other members of our division. Please change my address accordingly.

47th Inf I & L Co
ROBERT HULSLANDER
6000 San Jose Blvd #703
Jacksonville, FL 32217

You may have been notified already but I wanted to let you know that General Don Clayman died August 6th. and was buried Aug. 10th. in Arlington National Cemetery. Don commanded the 3rd. Bn. 47th. Inf. from his take over in Sicily until given regimental command in another division in Germany. Bill Tanner and I visited with the General in Virginia Beach, Va. last November after his daughter called and informed each of us to say he was not doing well. We visited with Don off and on for two days, and I believe he really enjoyed our visit.

You will never know how much I regret not attending our last reunion but I just had to cancel at the last minute. I had a business deal to finalize so I could really retire, and the only time my attorney and CPA could be ready at the same time was that Friday & Sat. of the reunion. I know there were a number of I & L 47th. guys there that I would have loved to see after all the years, as well as others of course.

Hope you and your family are well and happy, and thanks for giving your time and talent to the 9th. family all these years.

9th QM
ANGELO SINARE
716 E. 162nd St.
Cleveland, Ohio 44110

Sorry to have missed the reunion in Camp Hill. I sure missed all my buddies and friends from the QM and all the other units that I came in contact with during my time with the QM. I was a truck driver for them and was dispatched to all the units of our famous division. Hoping to hear from some of the QM members and maybe see you at the next reunion. Thank you and God Bless you. Proud to be a teamster retiree!

39th Inf G Co
EDGAR ZENO
3639 Cardinal Lane
Kingman, Az. 86401

Enclosed is a Life membership. Sorry I couldn't make the last reunion but hoping to make the next. Give my regards to all in the Mail Call.

60th Inf H Co
M. BUD OPPENHEIMER
32 Lake Vista Trl #206
Port St. Lucie, FL. 34952

I was with H Co since 3/1/41 from Ft. Bragg to Port Lyautey, Fr. Morocco, Tunisia, Sicily, England, France in to Belgium. I was captured on the Meuse River. Let's hear from some of the old bunch!

Chewing the fat: what you do before wearing it.

mail call

47th Inf. G Co.
SPENCER NORWOOD
635 30th Ave. W. #211F
Bradenton, FL 34205

If the association should hold another reunion in Florida, it should be around the middle of April or October. It is pretty hot here from early May 'till early October and quite crowded from late October to early April. I enjoy reading all the letters in the Octofoil. The ones that tell of some of their war time experiences are most interesting. Most of us only knew what was happening a few yards on either side of our own battle. There were many battles that made up each of our battle stars. Some were fighting for a hedgerow, others a house, a hill, a bunker or some other object. By now there is so much that we can't recall, but there are a few special moments that stay with us forever. There are many interesting tales to tell about what went on between battles. The only thing wrong with the "Octofoil" is that it doesn't last long enough. I also have a partial list of the men from the middle west that received Combat Inf. Badges. My parents received part of the list from Robert McCormick, the publisher of the Chicago Tribune. This list only has names from Ill., Ind., Iowa and Wisc. There are 17 names of men I knew. Some were killed in Europe, one had died of late, some I don't know where they are and a couple of us are still around. Howard Brooks mentioned this list in the last Octofoil. My home was in Iowa before and after the war until 1973. Thanks for keeping our interesting paper going.

9th Med C Co.
FRANK KOWALIK
25 Murray Ave.
Waterford, N.Y. 12188

Just want to say a very interesting and enjoyable reunion in Pa. and well handled by the Philly Chapter. Thanks again.

60th Inf D Co
MRS. EUGENE CARNEY
110 Alice Ave.
Wheeling, W.Va. 26003

I want to take the opportunity to thank you for sending me the Octofoil. I really appreciate it. It was nice of you to print my letter and Gene's picture. I was hoping that I would hear from someone that might have known him, but so far I haven't. I never see too many letters from D Co. I hope from time to time that you will run that picture of him and the other GI with the machine gun. I found it in the Red & Black Colliers Encyclopedia 1952. I am enclosing a picture that was taken in Camp Wheeler, Ga in 1943. Maybe someone will know who the other people are. Gene is the first one on the left in the back row. Thanks again and God bless to all.

47th Inf L Co
ALBERT HEATH
24 Bolton Rd.
Trenton, N.J. 08610

I attended the recent convention at Camp Hill. There I had the opportunity to rejoin the assn.

I am enclosing an application for my old foxhole buddy, Karl Hergret who resides in Park City Montana, just outside of Billings.

Thanks to the help of the Philly men at the convention, also for the men and women at the hospitality room at the Penn Harris.

Glad to be aboard again.

Co I 39th Inf
ED KONESKI
303 Royersford Rd.
Royersford, Pa 19468

Connie and I really enjoyed the reunion in Harrisburg. The hotel personnel were very accommodating. The dinners were excellent and served hot and efficiently. The ladies luncheon was served eloquently. The trip to Gettysburg was very interesting, our narrator knew his history of the area. The Philly-Delaware Chapter did a superb job in planning this years reunion. We have never been disappointed with any reunion we have attended. We would like to thank all of the past and future Chapters for their efforts to make our reunions pleasurable, a lot of time, planning, coordination and cooperation is needed by all to have a successful reunion for so many different personalities.

We look forward to seeing you in Worcester in November.

Hq. Btry 84th FA
WALTER E. RICKER
Route 8, Box 440-A
Greeneville, Tn. 37743

I keep putting off writing to THE OCTOFOIL. I guess I am like a lot of the other men; however, I wish more of them would write. It's a good way to keep in touch with each other.

I made it to the Reunion this past July at Camp Hill, PA. It was my first one. I see that I have been missing something all these years by not attending. I had the privilege of seeing some of the men of HQ Btry. 84 FA that I hadn't seen in over 40 years. I sure had a wonderful time, and was an experience I shall never forget.

Newton Fields came by to visit me this past June. What a great time we had! I would like to say, "Hello" to these men which I saw at the Reunion of HQ Btry. 84 FA: Newton Fields, Terry Tericola, Lucian Hutchinson, Jr., Robert Goldrick, Frank Haines, John Peluso, Martin Niverith, William Mauser, Pete Rice and all the others.

Recently, I received a letter from Ray Peque. It was so good to hear from him. Also, I've heard from Aaron Lubin and John Boisky. Keep in touch, fellows, it's so good to hear from you!

May God bless you all, men of the 9th Infantry!

39th Inf D Co
EARL DUNCAN
623 Walker Road
Jackson, Tn. 38305

Has been some time since the last time that I wrote, but I still enjoy the Octofoil very much, and mail call.

I have retired now, but still do a little farming. I worked for Eaton Corp., for years, at the Humboldt Axle Div, Plant.

I hear from C.B. Baker often. He and I have become very good pen pals. C.B. was with the 47th. Inf.

I was with the 39th. Inf. lbn. med, det. Co. D machine guns.

I would appreciate any information any one could give me about a comrade who was with the 39th, Co. D, mortar platoon. His name was Charlie Elliott. He was to become a Minister. I know on several occasions, when it was possible or safe he would have Prayer meeting and worship. That I always enjoyed for I did get so much faith and courage from them.

And something I will always remember, Charlie and I went on a special mission together one time, and I bet he remembers it also, and our mission was accomplished.

Thanks for the great job you do on the Octofoil, Good luck and God Bless.

47th Inf Co I & Serv Co
CALVIN HARMS
231 E. Madison Ave.
Dumont, N.J. 07628

Had a most wonderful time at the Penn Harris Inn and was most happy to meet Tom Maggi and Bill Hawkins who I have not seen for 42 years. Also seeing Emil Langer, Joe Vanni, Al Micolui, Norm Caswell and Tom McGinley was indeed a pleasure once again.

The following was written by Bob Dunn of 527 Lakeview Dr. Box 36 Swedesboro, N.J. 08085. Perhaps some of his buddies would like to send him a card. Bob is in poor health.

"THEY'RE OURS"

The drone of the planes became more audible and before long the aircraft themselves were visible. We spotted six of them.

Anti-aircraft batteries protecting the artillery in El Guetar Valley held their fire, while in our midst one interested observer, an amateur, self-styled plane spotter, yelled: "They're our's ... I can see them ... They're Spitfires!"

The six aircraft sped closer, and just as they reached our artillery positions, ack-ack gun crews spotted the German crosses on their fuselages and opened fire. The anti-aircraft barrage was so intense the planes were driven from their targets, and the pilots in their hasty retreat spied our bivouac nestled between a couple small hills at the base of a ridge of mountains on one side of the valley and headed straight for it with machine guns and 20 mm. cannon blazing.

We were just finishing evening chow. At the sight of the oncoming planes we abandoned our mess kits, grabbed our rifles and dashed for our foxholes.

Marty Roach and I had our protection in the form of a cave dug under a huge, protective boulder. Midway to our shelter, a Messerschmitt swooped low and fired a 20 mm. shell over our heads, but we had already hit the ground and the shell burst harmlessly a short distance away. On our feet again, we dashed for the boulder, and this time made it.

Soon the planes returned and, fearful of strafing by one aircraft headed in the direction of the large entrance to the shelter, I crawled behind the boulder. Roach stayed under the rock.

The plane did no damage, but the half-dozen attacking the area were soon joined by 12 German dive bombers which also were forced away from the artillery by ack-ack.

Lying face downward, I heard one bomb whistle earthward. Then the second hit close to home, some 30 feet to my front to be exact. Shrapnel dug into my back, left arm and leg. Two other soldiers running for the boulder for protection also were hit. Calvin Harms was struck with bomb fragments in the back and legs, blown into Marty Roach's arms. Bill Green was hit on the right foot. Roach escaped unhurt.

The three on us were taken to the Medics, Harms and Green carried on stretchers. Their wounds were serious and they were evacuated to a hospital. I was given a swig of some anti-shock fluid, swallowed seven sulfanilamide tablets to ward off infection and was patched with gauze and adhesive tape.

The German raid that night caused the death of six American soldiers and the

wounding of 17 others. But the Germans also paid a heavy price: 14 of the 18 attacking planes were shot down in flames, their crews killed.

The next day a formation of aircraft flew low overhead. Without waiting for an observer's familiar "They're Our's," we hit our foxholes and places of shelter.

But nothing happened. The planes passed harmlessly by. They were ours. They were Spitfires.

War is like that.

Bob Dunn

39th Inf. B Co.
AL BECKER
410 Berkshire Rd.
Ridgewood, N.J. 07450

My Dear Fellow Comrades of the Notorious Ninth, "Hitler's Nemesis",

I'm opening my letter this way in order to respond to all those who so kindly took the time to reply to my wife Pat's letter in the January/February 1987 OCTOFOIL in Mail Call.

Listed in order of his response is my reply to letters received:

Albert "the Hawk" DiRisio
Jack A. Dunlap
C.E. (Shorty) Blankenship, Sr., "K" Company
Adolf J. Schmiesser

Sgt. HAWK, as you mentioned in your letter, you fed me but don't remember me. Running a mess hall in combat is not exactly the same as one run under peaceful conditions. I believe I met you once or twice when conditions permitted; bringing a hot meal up to the fox holes. I did remember (and Jack Dunlap mentions it in his letter) you butchering and cooking stray cows when "captured" in nearby Katterherberg, while we were in the Hurtgen Forest. A cow would show up a day or two later in the form of stew. Also, I have fond memories of the peanut butter and jelly sandwiches made on oversized pancakes you sent up several times. I see you have been operating a restaurant for all these many years and also got yourself into real estate. I look forward to meeting you perhaps at the next mini reunion in Buffalo, NY. Unfortunately, a change in plans necessitated our cancelling out on the Camp Hill get together.

JACK'S letter mentions that at the war's end, he decided to stay in service and after thirty years in the Infantry and airborne and two more wars, he has retired as a Colonel. I was dumbfounded and amazed to receive the picture you enclosed on Bull Echardt and me, taken in the Hurtgen Forest. Jack, I don't recall "posing" for this picture nor do I remember how the pint bottle of Seagram's Seven got into my chest pocket ... While I liberated various unlabeled bottles of Schnapps and Calvados, I can't imagine where I would have liberated Seagram's Seven. Boy, I'll bet it hit the spot though. As Pat mentioned in her letter to Octofoil, I have completely lost contact with Albert "Bull" Echardt. Sure wish he'd show up sometime. Many, many thanks for your letter and snapshot. Also, I want to thank Dan Quinn for furnishing me with your last known address for reply.

SHORTY, oh what memories came back to me with your letter. Though you were in Company "K" from your letter it seems during our time in the 39th Regiment, you could have been in the next fox hole. Your recall of the 39th was parallel to mine ... it's somewhat spooky. As you mention, there were times when I too thought I was

the only one in the damned Hurtgen Forest. My Form 20 listed my civilian occupation as stenographer and you can well imagine there were very few with this classification in a combat infantry outfit. When I arrived at Eupen as a replacement, I was kept for three or four days while other replacements came and went. On making inquiry. I was told the Colonel needed an aide and I seemingly fit the bill. When I rejected the offer on the grounds I had not used my skills for over two years, I was thanked by the Lieutenant with the admonition that "it would be a far better job than the one where you're now going". It seemed within minutes I was on my way to Company B. This was the same day that a German garrison in the city of Aachen, had been given an ultimatum to surrender by 11:00 a.m. At 11:01 a.m., all hell broke loose in Aachen, within earshot of where I was, as it was shelled and divebombed. I immediately thought "I had made a big mistake back in Eupen ... I also recall being in Winterberg where you got your "winner". Thanks for your great letter and on the occasion of the next reunion, hope we can get together.

ADOLF, I certainly appreciated your very nice letter mentioning the mini reunions. Joe Gravino wrote to me a few years ago regarding these reunions but I mislaid his letter. If Joe is at any of the future get togethers, please say "hello" for me. As mentioned above to our other buddies. I had been persuaded by Pat to attend Camp Hill and we had sent in our reservations but changes in family plans caused us to cancel out. After hearing from all you great guys, I'm especially disappointed at being absent. If someone lets me know the exact days and location of the Buffalo mini reunion, I will make a sincere effort to attend with my wife.

I send my very best regards to all of you with the hope that you have a wonderful reunion at Camp Hill and that at a future reunion I will join you.

P.S. I send my regards as well, Pat...

47th Inf A Co
GLENN SMITH
47 W 4th St. Apt. 207
Williamsport, Pa. 17701

I enjoyed the reunion and all my friends, however, I had hoped to see some others for the first time since the war.

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

I really enjoyed the reunion at Camp Hill and want to say hello to all my buddies from the QM who were there and looking forward to seeing them next year at Hyannis.

Every American ought to do at least one hour of combat duty — infantry style.

He doesn't know how danger punishes the human nervous system. He can't imagine what it's like to creep down a street of empty houses wondering if they're really as empty as they look. Hearing window shades flap and doors creak and expecting the crack of a Karabiner or the burp of a Jerry MG — the last sound on earth.

He doesn't know how much guts it takes to move forward a yard, a foot, an inch. How a second can seem a year and a minute an eternity.

MAIL CALL

Hdq. Btry. 84th F.A.
C.J. "TERRY" TERRICOLA
18 North Division Street
St. Johnsville, New York 13452

I enjoy reading the OCTOFOIL and every issue brings back memories. I am writing now to let my old buddies know what I have been doing since our discharge. To those who do not remember me, I was a Switch Board Operator.

I retired in 1984, after 38 years in the retail clothing business and am enjoying my retirement. I spend my time gardening, golfing, and doing a little traveling. The highlight of my travels was the trip back to Europe in 1970 with the Ninth Division Assn. Marty Niverth, Chester ("B" Btry) Mikus, and myself were the "Three Musketeers" from the 84th who made the trip. My wife and I have traveled Europe twice since then and toured Sicily and visited Cefalu' and the area where we were stationed during the war.

In the past I have tried to attend as many reunions as possible and always enjoyed the Memorial Services in Worcester. It is rewarding to see all the old buddies again at these reunions, and I have been fortunate to see so many. Bob McGoldrich, Jack Karger, Ernie DiMarzo, Bill Young, Richard Sharpneck, Albert (Frenchy) Phoenix, "Rebel" Smith, Newton Fields, Lucian Hutchinson, James Brunner, John Boisky, Lt. Hanes, Lt. Donnelly, Capt. Mauser, Capt. Polivy, Capt. Cattle, and Capt. McGonagle. The others were from A.B.C. Serv. Btry. - Chester Mikus, Sam Robinson, Dick Connors, Fred Talarico, Adam Yunilis - I have visited Eddie Barry and John Surace who lives near my home. It is sad that we have lost a few of our buddies - Harold Fredericks, Eddie German, Anthony Chaconas "B" Btry, Alton Empie and Jim Delhanty, Medic.

This past winter in Florida, I had a nice reunion with Jack Karger, John Peluso, George Ruetschi, and Albert (Frenchy) Phoenix. Enclosed is a picture taken at Nashville Reunion '86 of a few of us from 84th who attended.

Best wishes to all.

15th Eng.
HENRY SANTOS
9811 Connechuset Rd.
Tampa, FL 33617

Henry sends word he visited Gen. Randle, whose sight is about gone, but he has an uncanny memory recall. Anyone wanting to send cards, etc. to the General can do so at Belleair East Health Ctr., 1150 Ponce De Leon, Clearwater, FL 33516.

39th Inf. D Co.
SAM ASSARELLI
5010 Barrowe Dr.
Tampa, FL 33624

I sure am sorry that we missed the 42nd Ninth Division reunion. We had too many other things going on at that time. We certainly hope to make the next one.

Everything here is fine. I am now retired but keeping quite busy. Thanks for the reminder on the dues. Please find enclosed my check for a 3 year membership.

39th Inf Hq
HARRY WAX
2451 E. 2nd St.
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11223

Our convention at Camp Hill, Pa., in my opinion, was a resounding success.

Each year, our attendance increases. Even if we lose some members as a result of age and illness, many more men have returned, because they have retired and now are able to attend our conventions.

It is great being an attendant at these conventions. When I return home, I always want to submit some comments about my enthusiasm, but I soon forget about writing. This time I didn't. So here goes.

After some persuasion, my wife, Sylvia, came with me to the convention. The establishment of a ladies auxiliary, which held its meetings at the same time the men held theirs, meant that she would not be lacking female companions. And, with what may have been "beginners luck," she walked off with three raffle prizes, including a small TV set.

2BN HQ CO. 39 INF. has usually had a good attendance at these conventions. Our fold is steadily increasing with such people as Ralph Carci, Joe Finerty, Leon Weber, Phil from New Jersey, Frank the Medic, Capt. Pedrick and new names added this year, Lt. Douthtt - all the way from Texas and George Christian, our former cook, who disappeared and who I never got to see again.

I looked forward to the salami Myron usually brings. I suppose he got stuck in the north woods. This salami is not the usual beef salami, it is made from deer meat. Oh well, next year will do.

I was glad to see that Tony Varone was well enough to attend with his wife. Tony is our New York Chapter president.

I hope some absentees will attend at Hyannisport, Mass., next year.

Come back Jim Burke and Arthur Schneider. 1st Bn misses you.

It was exciting to see the battlefields at Gettysburg. The tour was great. It was interesting and thrilling to see where Lincoln gave his address.

Looking forward to seeing more of you at our next reunion. You all stay healthy and join us again.

Co L. 60th Inf
EDWIN E. BREWER
9609 Monrovia 108
Lenexa, KS 66215

Hoping this finds you both well and about to enjoy the fall weather in the northeast part of the country. In the midwest, we are just starting "Indian Summer" - days and nights much cooler now - leaves turning color.

Enclosed is check for my '88 dues, also something for the scholarship fund and please send me 5 decals the kind that will go on the inside of a glass window.

Thanking you - take care and God Bless.

P.S. We are all settled now in our new home, here in Lenexa, Kansas - about 20 miles for downtown Kansas City, Missouri.

60th Inf F Co
JERRY TEACHOUT
1600 W. Struck #165
Orange, Ca. 92667

Where is Van Van Orsdel? Was registered at the reunion as being from F Co however, no one from our group was able to locate him. Turning out at Camp Hill from F Co 60th Inf were: Allens, Ancells, Arnolds, Bermans, Beaumonts, Brasingtons, Cross', Dennis', Etues, Filetti, Johnson, Lees, Malones, D. Millers, J. Millers, MacDougalls, Nichols, Nivens, Pavlicks, Painters, Prestons, Pedrick, Skinns, Scheidel, Skertichs, Teachouts and Urban. A total of 27 men and/or couples which set a record for our group. We were glad to welcome Ancells Brasingtons, Cross, Nivens and Pavlicks to their 1st reunions. Harrells were in an accident which forced them to cancel. Drust and Herrins were expected but had to cancel out. Had heard that Bob Kriz, C.O. going in to Africa, would be there, but he didn't show. Our group was in agreement that the Camp Hill reunion was the best yet. Our hats are off to all those from the Philly Chapter who worked so hard to make it such a success. May these 9th reunions continue to grow and prosper.

B Co 9th Medics
PETE RADICHIO
9415 Blind Pass Rd. Apt. 703
St. Petersburg Bch., FL 33706

I want my friends in B Co and throughout the division that yours truly, Pete Radichio, is doing fine and I hope to hear the same from you guys. Still doing my thing at the V.A. Hospital. I did physical therapy for about 5 years and now I'm involved doing vital signs in Module B Bay Pines VA Hospital. From time to time a 9th division comrade makes his visit. There's quite a few 9th men who visit our VA Hospital. I like to add a little sugar, why don't the 9th send a donation to our great hospital in Bay Pines, Fla. Just got back from the West Coast with our travel trailer and pick up. We covered about 10,000 miles, had problems, but where ever we stopped, it was enjoyable. Liz and I were in Pidgeon Forge, Tn., with the medics and the reunion was casual and great. Will be there for the next one.

47th Inf G & Hq Co 2nd Bn
JEROME SHAPIRO
739 W 186th St
New York, N.Y. 10033

Harrisburg reunion was one of the best! Everything was perfect, good food, good lodging and good people and great conversation. Amish country and Gettysburg were great. On to Hyannis and the Cape. Finally made a meeting of the N.Y. chapter after 9 years. Previously didn't miss a meeting for 20 years. On my 2 feet again, thank God. Good old Fineberg and Rzesniowiecki (old G Co men) were present. As usual, Emil Langer and Danny were the stars of the meeting. New York chapter met at 14th St., between 6th and 7th Ave., at 42nd Infantry Division Armory. Refreshments as usual. Got a nice letter from Mrs. Mary Jaaskela, wife of former G Co veteran who passed away a few years ago. She is now enjoying life on her big farm in Boston with her son, David. God bless all 9th division men and their families. Looking forward to N.Y. chapter Christmas party on Dec. 13th. P.S. Ed Combs (E Co), the fighting cook, just had his 3rd grandchild. Congratulations, Ed.

THE OCTOFOIL

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47th Inf AT
JULIUS E. CLARK, JR.
PO Box 146
Camden, S.C. 29020

I enjoyed my one day at the reunion. Only wish I had had more time. My wife, Carolene, and I were traveling with others who had irrevocable plans which precluded a longer stay. Howard Waldman had a suite which served as our C.P. He continues to do a super job of holding our unit together. He is the Central Figure for information on the whereabouts of our members and of their health and welfare. I called Frank Smith upon my return home and talked to his son, Marsh. Frank was unable to talk as he had a tracheotomy and is in very poor health, I am sad to report. You folks in F Co drop Frank a note, he will appreciate it. Hopefully, some of you old timers will recall that AT company was the first unit in the build up for WW2 that was hosted by a civilian community to a dance. Two young ladies from my hometown, Bennettsville, S.C. namely: Sara Lee Kornegay and Alice Bundy, undertook the task of arranging this gala affair to include: booking the Bennettsville Country Club, music, publicity and invitations to the young LADIES. Capt. Eli Stevens, our C.O. was apprised of the proposal. He was elated at the plan, and presented it to Colonel Patch, later LTG. A.M. Patch, our Regimental Commander. Everyone in the chain of command approved this venture to include G.I. trucks to transport our soldiers to and from. The plan was implemented in the early spring of 1941. The young ladies of Bennettsville turned out in force to entertain our men in uniform. Many friendships were established that evening, which subsequently provided a nice town for our soldiers to visit and enjoy the company of some fine young ladies. I was proud of how this community responded to this event. Just prior to intermission, Capt. Stevens expressed his sincere appreciation and that of the U.S. Army for the warm reception and kindness of the Bennettsville people. Miss Kornegay and Miss Bundy were thanked and congratulated on a job well done. A synoptic history of the 47th was read and festivities resumed. The USO was chartered in Feb. 1941 but this affair had nothing to do with the USO or any other organization. It was these 2 young ladies and the Bennettsville community who showed their appreciation for the military, their current and impending sacrifices. Enclosed is dues for another 3 years and a little something for the Memorial fund.

47th Inf Co L
WILLIAM L. BAUER
1004 N. Cody Ave.
Hardin, Mont. 59034

Am starting a brand New Year with a subscription to the Octofoil hoping in time to read of old army buddies of Co. L. Have only just heard of the associations's existence so really look forward to all its news.

47th Inf C Co
HOWARD BROOKS
PO Box 141
S. Harpswell, Me. 04079

Thanks for the copy of the Octofoil. My regular copy never did arrive. First time in a long time that it has gone astray. I had several things not reached me and the Octofoil was among the missing. I was interested to read that the reunion next year will be in Hyannis and I will make an effort to get to it. I will be 74 in December and while I still have a lot of 'git up and Go', I realize the old 'bod' ain't what it used to was! Always admire your dedication to the 9th and this region's activities, and am grateful for it. It's the one clearing house we have for those of us 'who were there' to keep in touch. I take my hat off to you and the nucleus that helps you. Best regards.

60th F.A. Bn., Battery "A"
WALTER T. QUIGLEY
P.O. Box #1094
Lake Elsinore, Ca., 92530

It's been a while since I've got a few lines off to "MAIL CALL." We received our OCTOFOIL for MAY-JUNE-JULY and want to submit a note of HELLO and some information. Sorry we did not make it to the '87 Reunion. Though only a few from my immediate group seem to attend each year, I always seem to acquire a few new addresses whenever I do attend. I stay in touch with some of the 'ole buddies during the year, and quite a few during the holiday season. As usual we always enjoy the Octofoil's arrival in the mailbox. I would like to see some more 'hello's' from Battery "A", 60th comrades. Time does take its toll on us, but to open the Octofoil and spy a note from a familiar name and section sure does a body good, believe me. I shall try to drop a few lines more often myself.

It seems that by the time I get to send a letter in, I am also enclosing the name of a comrade who has passed on. I received a phone call from the wife of Hugh Elliot, (Better known as "Buck Elliot" to us.), in late Sept., informing me of his death on August 8th, 1987, in Dover, Tennessee. I was so thankful that I made it to the '86 Reunion in Nashville as Buck was not well then, but made the trip to the Raddison Hotel to see any of his buddies who had attended. It was the first time we had met again since mustering out. We got to do a great deal of reminiscing. Sorry to say Buck had undergone heart surgery before his death. I sure appreciated Mrs. Elliot's notifying me.

I can't remember if I notified you of the death of Paul Schossau. He lived in Colorado Springs, and while we were on our way home from the '86 Reunion I tried to give him a call while visiting my son in Parker, Co. He had passed away two weeks before.

In closing I want to send my thanks and Best Wishes to all my 9th comrades and a "SPECIAL" thanks to the newsy Octofoil group.

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