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9th Infantry Division Association

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## The Octofoil, November/December 1988

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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# THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

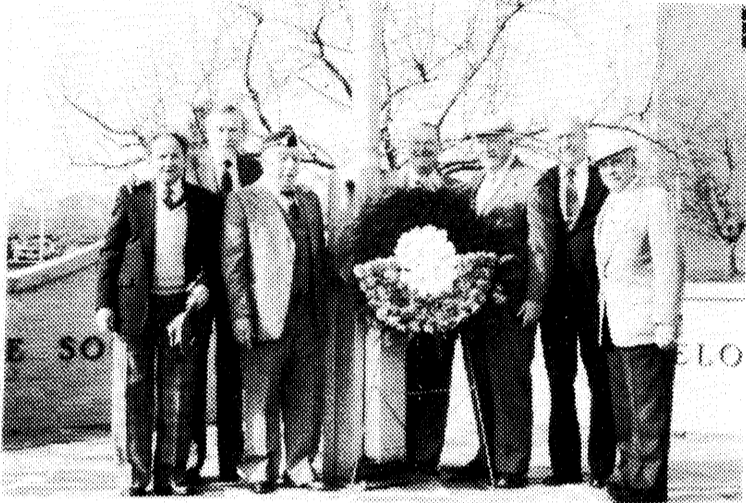
THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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Volume XLIII Number 5

Nov.-Dec. 1988

## Worcester Memorial



Shown at the Worcester Memorial held on Sunday November 6, 1988 are (left to right) John O'Donnell, Walter O'Keefe, Vince Guglielmino, Dennis Canedy, Dan Quinn, Emil Langer President of the Association and Pat Morano. The attendance was smaller than in other years but the spirit and remembrance is the same. The New England Chapter members hope to continue with this pilgrimage.

### Worcester Tradition

On this, THANKSGIVING DAY, 1988 I think all of us who fought in any war and were given God's grace to return to our families to fulfill what He had in store for us have an obligation to ourselves to truly give a day of thanks as did the Pilgrims when the tradition was started so long ago many of our young ones don't really know the real meaning of Thanksgiving Day, a Tradition I dare anyone to try to end which bring me to my point.

Father Connors, (I hesitate to say the late) said his first Ninth Infantry Division memorial mass in November 1945 with only a handful of "Old Reliabilities" at hand, sorry to say I was not one of them, I didn't know of it but one doesn't need too many fingers on one hand to count the ones I've missed since 1946 including 1973 when my wife and I went to Worcester on Sunday, September 23 to wish Father a tearful goodbye as we were leaving Rhode Island and Florida was so far away.

### MAGNET

Little did I know as we sat at Sunday dinner (unannounced to his housekeeper) that Florida really wasn't "so far away," for it was then that the title of "MAGNET" I used as a caption over his picture in our souvenir journal in 1985 suddenly came to life for me and six weeks to the day later we were driving back to attend with many of our great family my twenty seventh memorial mass and service. Though it was a sacrifice financially and health-wise the sacrifice was soon forgotten as we sat with our "family" and prayed for our dead.

True, Father started what has become a TRADITION and his magnetism is as strong with many of us as ever and though Father may have expressed his desire that the annual pilgrimage cease with his death I don't think it disobedient or disrespectful that the TRADITION continues as long as we, the living, have the strength and will to pray the mass then gather around our memorial as we have for all these years.

A TRADITION is much like a bullet fired from a gun, mighty hard to stop. We all know Father had helpers including one who had devoted so many hours annually to this great event who has tried in good faith to do Father's bidding and in some cases seems to have made his point, lives in the area but was conspicuous by his absence, is owed a big vote of thanks and I do so.

### FEW MORE YEARS

Father Connors' TRADITION like a snow ball being rolled down a steep hill gained so much momentum is not easily stopped, why not then, let it die a natural death as we die or become too feeble to continue? Many of our "family" who returned have been called to join the 4581 we left behind and for most of us the sun is setting rapidly, a few more years or so then the torch runs out of fuel.

This year was the smallest gathering we've had in many, let's make it twice as large next year. As one of our colorful members says "it's getting late."

15th ENGS  
HENRY SANTOS  
9811 N. Connechuset Rd.  
Tampa, Florida 33617



Like all "Old Reliabilities" when we reminisce at Christmas time, this picture taken Christmas day 1944, of members of Company B 15th Engineers, as they plant mines in front of the 47th Infantry positions near Monchau, Germany, recalls days gone by.

## Christmas 1988

Dear Friend and Fellow Soldiers:

Last year I sent you a letter and was very pleased with the results I had with many of you, in the form of Christmas Cards.

I am still in the Nursing Home and the time slips by, as months telegraph into years.

Last Thanksgiving, my Nurse Ann Malone and Robert took me to the Garden Seat for dinner. It is a three generation restaurant, the food is excellent and the clientele above average. This Christmas we are going there again. The place is so popular that on these special days, you must make reservations a month ahead of time. I am looking forward to that dinner, as the food here is nothing to write home about. We go out to other restaurants too, from time to time.

As you may have inferred, Agnes died about two years ago. I miss her dearly. We were married for 66 years and very happy too, I am now 94 years old as of last October 11th, but I get along very well in a wheel chair if someone furnishes the wheel power. My health seems to be about what it was - generally pretty good.

I have a friend in this home who is 110 years old. She is in good health, generally; her mind is clear, her voice is strong and her mentality is good. We meet on the Terrace sometimes and I tell her army stories, which she seems to enjoy.

I have sold my house in Belleair where I lived for about 30 years, so this Nursing Home is the only home I have now. The service here is pretty good.

I am dictating this letter to another friend who had done dictation for me in the past. Her name is Sandy Hott and she is one of my good friends in the Clearwater area.

A few weeks ago I attended the monthly meeting of the "Sons of the Revolution" (SAR). They awarded me a 25 year pin representing my long membership. I was once President of the local Chapter.

I have another private Nurse who has been with me over three years. Her name is Jean and she and Ann and the nurses on duty here at the Home take good care of me and keep me entertained.

Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas  
and A Happy New Year  
B.G. Edwin H. Randle  
13359 87th Pl., N.  
Seminole, FL 34646



The Editors of the Octofoil are grateful to all those who sent the beautiful Christmas cards and wishes for the New Year. We would like to wish all the members and their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and to our Jewish members and families a Happy Hannukah.

## Greetings from the Pines

On behalf of THE PINES Resort Hotel, we would like to take this special opportunity to let you know how excited we are here at THE PINES regarding hosting the 9th Infantry 44th Annual Convention.

THE PINES is set up similarly to a "CRUISE SHIP ON LAND" as our package includes; Three unlimited gourmet meals daily, extensive on premises facilities, nitely top star entertainment each evening with no cover or minimum, highlighting singers/comedians from Las Vegas and Atlantic City. THE PINES has also arranged two special cocktail parties along with your prestigious day trip to West Point.

THE PINES looks forward to rolling out the red carpet as we play host to several Military reunions each year, none as important or prestigious as the 9th Infantry Division Association.

Many questions have developed regarding various aspects of the Convention. For your convenience, below please find some answers to some of the most frequently asked questions...

### DINING ROOM SEATING ARRANGEMENTS

Upon arrival at THE PINES on Monday, June 19, 1989, our Dining Room Maitre D' will be in the registration area to assign dining room seating for your entire stay. This will include your Thursday nite Banquet seating.

If you are part of a group or a large party consisting of 4 to 50 persons, please designate one (1) person to arrange the seating for your group. This person should know all the names of the members of that group so that THE PINES can eliminate them from the remaining group listing. A dining room reservation card will then be attached to the individual registration card at the Hotel.

Please note, once seating is made for Monday Dinner, you will not have to reseat your party at any other meal. Of course, individual changes will always be welcome and accommodated at THE PINES.

Furthermore, if you are not part of a group, but require general seating, you will be assigned table seating upon arrival at THE PINES.

### HOSPITALITY ROOMS

Many members of your organization have contacted me regarding a hospitality room for your group/Division/Outfit or Company etc. Please note, if you require a room accommodation at THE PINES, to be used as a Hospitality room it is not available due to the heavy demand for members room reservations at THE PINES. However, THE PINES will make available our Conference Center with ten (10) breakout rooms available for complimentary use by the 9th Infantry on a first come, first served basis each day.

### WEST POINT

This year, the 9th Infantry Division Association, under the direction of National President, Emil Langer, through the coordination of THE PINES Hotel has scheduled a complete day at the United States Military Academy at West Point. The West Point day trip will include your Memorial Service at the official Cadet Chapel, Lunch at the West Point Officers Club or the World Famous Hotel Thayer, along with a two hour deluxe guided tour. Highlights of the tour include; Trophy Point, Miche Stadium, Visitors Information Center and a host of other special features.

There will be plenty of time for picture taking and souvenir purchases along with time to stroll the West Point grounds. (Don't forget to bring your camera). Please note, reveille will ring at 6:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 21, 1989, with a 6:45 a.m. Breakfast on West Point day, so that departure can be at 8:00 a.m. SHARP.

Your day at West Point promises to be one of the highlights of your reunion and will be a most memorable day.

### HIGHLIGHTS AT THE PINES

THE PINES will keep you busy from morning till nite with a host of great activities for everyone involved. Our special ladies activity programs features lectures on various topical information such as; Helpful Hints at Home, Numerology, Show Business Forum etc. Our PINES demonstration will include cosmetology, hair styling, needlepoint and others.

THE PINES also features various game shows such as Win, Lose or Draw, Card Sharks, Bingo for Bucks along with a host of other shows, game attractions and tournaments. It's just like being on a Cruise.

For the fellas, our Bocci courts, Shuffleboard, Golf course, indoor pool, hospitality rooms will keep everyone busy regardless of lifestyle or physical restraints.

WE'RE WAITING FOR YOU... THE PINES will offer the 9th Infantry all our special activities and events that time will allow. You can be rest assured in knowing that your reunion/vacation will be complete, action packed, fun filled and full of love and attention. ALL WE NEED IS YOU.

If you have any questions or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me toll free. Looking forward to meeting everyone here at THE PINES in June 1989.

Bruce B. Seigel  
Director of Sales & Marketing  
1 800-431-3124 (USA)  
1 800-367-4637 (NY)

Catskills Reunion  
June 19th thru  
June 23rd 1989

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

National Officers  
President  
Emil Langer  
5 Brentwood Dr.  
Morris Plains,  
N.J. 07950

Vincent/Guglielmino, 1st. V.P.  
114 Charles Street  
Floral Park, N.J. 11001

Elmer Wagner, 2nd V.P.  
2833 Hotchkiss  
Bay City, Mich.

Fred D'Amore, 3rd. V.P.  
95 Webster St.  
E. Boston, Ma. 02128

Harrison Daysh  
Judge Advocate  
4313 Carriage Court  
Kinsington, Md. 20795

Thomas Boyle, Treasurer  
39 Hall Avenue  
Sommerville, Mass 02144

Daniel Quinn, Secretary  
412 Gregory Avenue  
Weehawken, NJ 07087

The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Single copy price is 25 cents per issue by mail \$1.50 per year payable in advance when dues are paid. Dues are \$5 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 of 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 ever-lasting 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.....\$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 ☐

A directory of members is being compiled by Dave Heller and cooperation of the members is asked to fill out the form provided below and send to Dave. Heller.

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name, (Middle Initial) \_\_\_\_\_

My most important assignment in the Ninth:

Regiment: \_\_\_\_\_ Battalion: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company or Battery \_\_\_\_\_

Other assignment in the Ninth, if any:

Regiment: \_\_\_\_\_ Battalion: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company or Battery \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN ADDRESS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE  
15¢  
STAMP  
HERE



- TO -

DAVID H. HELLER  
618 SUMAC ROAD  
HIGHLAND PARK, IL 60035

Travel Plans for 9th Infantry  
Division Convention  
June 19 - 23, 1989

As part of our agreement, THE PINES will assist in coordinating travel arrangements to THE PINES through our designated travel agency, Kent Travel in New York. Kent Travel can be reached TOLL FREE from anywhere in the U.S.A. at 1-800-537-8218.

Ms. Ann Korbik is our special 9th Infantry Reservationist, who will handle all of your travel arrangements by air. She can be reached Monday to Friday, between the hours of 2 - 6 pm. THE PINES has arranged special discount fares with American Airlines, the official airline for the 1989 9th Infantry Reunion.

Please note, no airline tickets will be printed or any arrangements made without your consultation and approval with Anne at Kent Travel. Air Travel will be made conveniently into Newark International Airport. You can also extend your stay in the New York area by consulting with Ann at Kent Travel.

At your earliest convenience, please contact Anne at the Toll Free Number, so we can confirm your airline tickets.

Further, for an additional \$50.00 per person, round trip, THE PINES has arranged to pick you up at the New Jersey Newark Airport on Monday and return you back to Newark Airport on Friday. This round trip Deluxe Motor Coach Transportation will also include refreshments served to and from the Airport. (Approximately a 2 hour ride) Car rental can also be arranged through Kent Travel.

Also, enclosed please find a travel direction sheet for those who will be driving from their homes.

If you have any questions or require further information, that can not be handled with Kent Travel, please do not hesitate to contact me on our Toll Free Numbers:

In the USA - 1-800-431-3124

In New York - 1-800-369-4637

In conclusion, THE PINES is going to roll out the red carpet for the 9th Infantry and make this year's reunion the best ever. This innovative central transportation center at Kent Travel will make your travel arrangements to THE PINES simple, easy, and hassle free.

Looking forward to seeing you in June.

Cordially  
THE PINES HOTEL  
Bruce B. Seigel  
Director of Sales

SEEKING

Contacted Richard Basile and learned that he had heard from one of our members from the 39th. After checking our files we learned that his late father Vincent Basile served in Company B 39th Inf. We will write to Al (the Hawk) DiRisio as he is one of the main stays of Company B 39th Inf. Meanwhile if any of our members remember his father Vincent Basile who joined the outfit in England as a replacement (prior to Normandy) who was killed on July 25, 1944. Buried at Normandy Cemetery, St. Laurent, France. His son Richard Basile lives at 29 Brookwood Rd., Stanhope, N.J. 07874.

Charles Scheffel did write to Richard as Charlie had visited many graves in Europe while there last winter. Vincent Basile's grave was one of them.

THE 9TH INFANTRY  
DIVISION ASSOCIATION  
44th ANNUAL CONVENTION

JUNE 19-23, 1989 (MONDAY-FRIDAY)

AT THE PINES RESORT HOTEL

Your Host: The Greater New York Chapter

RATES AND ACCOMMODATIONS

JUNE 19-23, 1989

5 Day/4 Night Package (Monday-Friday)

	Double	Single	Triple	Four
Super Deluxe .....	\$320	N/A	\$281	\$241
Deluxe .....	\$290	N/A	\$261	\$221
Standard .....	\$255	\$381	N/A	

Above rates are per person, per stay, from Dinner on day of arrival to after Lunch on day of departure including three meals daily. The above rates include gratuities for waiter, busboy and chambermaid. Bellmen and Bartenders are not included. Please note NYS Sales Tax, currently 7% is included.

Rate also includes Special 9th Infantry Day Trip to West Point WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21st, 1989

RESERVATION FORM

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your Unit \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate (if not spouse) \_\_\_\_\_

Other people in party \_\_\_\_\_

I have a Walking/Handicap Problem \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Choice of Accommodation: (1) \_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_

Deposit Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

A \$25.00 per person, refundable deposit is required to confirm your reservation. 48 hour cancellation required for full deposit refund. Phone reservations not accepted. Please use reservation form.

Check-in Anytime on Monday.  
Check out Friday After Lunch - 2:15 PM

Mail Completed 9th Infantry Division  
Reservation Form to: c/o THE PINES Resort Hotel  
So. Fallsburg, NY 12779

RESERVATION DEADLINE May 8, 1989  
RESERVE EARLY - DON'T BE LEFT OUT

PINES accepts for Final Payment VISA, MASTERCARD, Personal Check or Cash. PINES DOES NOT ACCEPT AMERICAN EXPRESS.

EARLY ARRIVALS FOR REUNION

Below, please find rates for person who may want to arrive early at the Pines either Friday, June 16, Saturday June 17 or Sunday June 18. Please note the following packages are per person, including gratuities & tax.

	Friday-Monday (June 16-18)
Super Deluxe	\$295.00
Deluxe	\$268.00
Standard	\$235.00
Single Occ. (Std)	\$241.00

	Saturday-Monday (June 17-18)
Super Deluxe	\$187.00
Deluxe	\$171.00
Standard	\$149.00
Single Occ (Std.)	\$219.00

	Sunday Night (June 18)
Super Deluxe	\$ 79.00
Deluxe	\$ 73.00
Standard	\$ 64.00
Single Occ in Std.	\$ 96.00



Ed Hopkins, Company F 47th Inf., was responsible for the start of a Chapter in New Jersey and the first meeting was held on November 8, 1988 at the AMVETS Building in Nutley where one of the "Old Reliables" is Commander, Andy Andriola. Shown at that meeting is the cadre for the new Chapter.

DEAD LINE FOR NEXT ISSUE FEB 20th

# ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

We have just returned from a beautiful weekend in Angola, Indiana at our mini outstate reunion with the Michigan Chapter. We had a terrific turnout, 80 people in all. We had representatives from Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York. We had only two new people this year, Howard and Grace Gaertner from Wisconsin. They recently became active in the Association and plan to join in all the festivities of the Illinois Chapter. Cape Cod was their first venture and they are looking forward to our Christmas Party, our reunion in the Spring in Madison, and the reunion next summer in New York.

We missed many of our Illinois members who for one reason or another were unable to attend. Lew Gray's wife Muriel recently had knee surgery which made it impossible for the Gray's to attend. We are happy to report that Muriel is recovering well from the surgery and should be out and about shortly.

Our sincere appreciation to the Michigan Chapter, especially the committee, Elmer Wagner and the Alsgaards, for the splendid weekend. Everything was great, we had plenty of food and liquid refreshments. All things are go for next year. October 6-7th are the dates and the Illinois Chapter will host the weekend. We have the same hotel, Holiday Inn. There will be no Notre Dame game that weekend so the hotel won't be too busy.

Our Chapter held a meeting - not much new to report. Our Christmas Party was discussed. The date was set for December 10th but so far the location has not been selected. When arrangements have been made, the members will be notified.

This past month, the Winkelmans returned to Illinois for a visit. Unfortunately, we couldn't meet with them but Gordon and Marian Anderson and Irma Koskie had dinner with them and their families. All is well with them and they have gone home to Florida.

The Spring Reunion 1989 with the Wisconsin people will be held on April 28th and 29th at the Ramada Inn, Madison, Wisconsin. Anyone interested can make reservations directly with the Ramada and mention the 9th. We will be getting a special weekend rate. Mike Carpenter will again be in charge.

Another reminder! Anyone planning to attend the reunion in New York next year had better get in their reservations. We checked with the Pines in October and found out they only had 35 rooms left. When those accommodations are filled, they will direct you to a nearby hotel.

At this time we would like to wish all the Members of the Ninth a very Happy Thanksgiving and best wishes for a Happy Holiday season. May we all enjoy many more years of reunions together.

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

## BIG APPLE REPORTS

On November 18, 1988 the N.Y. Area Chapter met at the Masonic Hall in N.Y.C., at 23rd Street. More details of the Pines Hotel reunion program in 1989 was presented by our 9th Division National President Emil Langer.

After other member reports and discussions, correspondence from N.Y. area members not able to attend were read by vice-president Lou Almossy: Joseph Donovan, Jim Hayes, Walter O'Keefe, Joe Reilly, T.V. Rumore, John Sequella, John Shenney, Bob Smith and Herb Taff.

Also, not in attendance was member Al Oletti who is very ill and we wish him well. (Give him a call 212-882-8628).

A final tribute was paid to Norman Caswell who passed away since our last meeting. He will be missed as the many 9th comrades who have gone to their eternal rest.

A first-time member at our meeting was introduced to us -William Kwasnaza, 47th, Co. E. We welcomed him warmly.

Hermينو Suarez also informed fellow members of the AAA Bar O Jazz band that musician Benny Nardone died on Oct. 17, 1988.

Current Pres of N.Y. Chapter Vincent D'Addona is still very ill and he would appreciate members getting in touch with him. 212-823-0411.

Although the N.Y. Chapter generally gets a pretty good turnout at its meetings we would like to see more members show up. We understand that time, age, distance and health affect participation, but we really miss some of our old buddies. Try to make one of our monthly meetings; you'll feel better for it. Support your chapter - and send in your dues; and our secretary Art Schmidt will feel better for it.

Attending this meeting, other than already notes: George Apar, Tony DeRobertis, Anton Dietrich, Charlie Libretto, Vincent Guglielmino, Dan Quinn, Frank Russo, Adolf Wadalavage, Charlie Warner, Harry Wax and Tony Varone.

After summary discussion for the 9th Annual Christmas party the meeting was adjourned for a repast of culinary delicacies and barracks talk. A good time was had by all.

On Sunday, December 11, 1988 the 9th Inf. Div. Christmas party was held at the Elk's Lodge in Weehawken, New Jersey. Best of wishes to all for a healthy and happy New Year. 100 members and friends attended.

MARVIN LEVY  
2044 ELLEN DRIVE  
MERRICK, N.Y. 11566  
CO A, 60th Inf.

It's one thing to be guided by the hand of fate, but does it always have to be balled up in a fist?



Toasting their 9th Division get-together (in Florida) are from left, Jim Scotta, Joe Williams, Max Umansky and Emil DeDonato. The occasion was the Florida Chapter's meeting held in October at Daytona Beach Shores.

## Start of a N.J. Chapter

The organizational meeting of the New Jersey Chapter of the Ninth Division Association was held on November 8, 1988 at the Amvets Post in Nutley, New Jersey. Twenty-one members were present in addition to our National Secretary, Daniel Quinn. Present were Anthony (Andy) Andriola, Charles Bodner, John Dranchak, Jack Finnigan, George Gaynor, Frank Gonzol, Charles (Bob) Hodge, Ed Hopkins, Hugh Lee, Edward Prusek, Louis Slatnick, Edward (Whitey) Waskiewicz, Kenneth Yennie, Arthur VanBlaricum, Harry Schwartz, Sid Goldstein, William Billings, Marty Gill, Frank Zurawiecki, Leslie Daichman, and Mekal Jansen.

The meeting was called to order by acting Chairman Ed Hopkins at 1:00 p.m. after a short social hour. The chairman reported that his successful recruiting campaign was attributed to the sending of a recruiting call to over one hundred seventy-five newspapers in the state. He heard from over eighty former Ninth Infantry Division men, and at the time of the meeting had thirty-eight members signed up.

After a briefing on what had taken place and the expenses involved, Chairman Hopkins called for an election of officers for the coming year. The following officers were elected by the members: President: Edward Hopkins, Vice President: Anthony (Andy) Andriola, Secretary-Treasurer: Louis Slatnick. All officers were elected unanimously.

The membership agreed that a minimum of six meetings a year would be held at locations throughout the state so as to accommodate as many men as possible. It was also agreed to hold the next meeting at Pat's Riverview Diner in Belmar, an establishment founded by a former mess sergeant of Company F, 47th Infantry. The offices would try to set up a date in early December, and then notify the membership.

The fifty-fifty was won by Lou Slatnick, who promptly donated a good portion back to the chapter.

There being no other business of immediate concern, Frank Gonzol made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, George Gaynor seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

The members then enjoyed the lunch supplied by the host, Andy Andriola, Commander of the Nutley Amvets Post.

Respectfully submitted,  
Louis Slatnick, Secretary  
284 Tall Oak Rd.  
Edison, N.J. 08817

Ed Hopkins, President  
110 Hollywood Ave.  
Metuchen, N.J. 08840

## Florida Chapter to Meet in Tampa

Henry Santos, Chairman of the Florida Chapter Planning and Entertainment Committee, informed me that the Florida Chapter will hold its 1989 Spring Meeting on April 14 & 15th at the Ramada Inn located on Busch Blvd. In Tampa, Florida. The Ramada Inn is easy to reach. Get off on Exit 33 on I-275 and proceed on Busch Blvd to the Ramada Inn. All Florida Chapter members will receive detailed directions and other information approximately 6 weeks before meeting date. Other Florida "members-at-large" are urged to join the Chapter by contacting Henry Santos or Emil De Donato for particulars and to attend these enjoyable, well planned mini-reunions which are held in different Florida cities twice a year. The room rate for this Spring Meeting has been set at \$38.00 per night.

Henry Santos and his committee promise to have a well stocked Hospitality Room. They will be busy planning and negotiating costs for the membership's Friday and Saturday nights entertainment. Henry has always done a superb job in the past and there's no doubt that he will do an excellent job for this meeting.

The Florida Chapter extends an open invitation to any veteran who served with the famous Ninth Division to join them in this coming Spring Meeting in Tampa, FL. For more information regarding cost, directions, etc. please contact anyone of the following: Phil Berman, Pres. 322 Bucknell Dr., Daytona Beach, FL 32018 (904) 677-7292; Emil J. De Donato, 3650 S. W. Mosswood St., Dunnellon, FL, 32630 (904) 489-4070 or Henry Santos, 9811 Connechusset Rd. N., Tampa, FL 33617 (813) 985-5444.

## NEWSPAPER HEADLINE

October 14 to 16, 1988 were the dates that the Florida Chapter held their Fall Meeting at the Hawaiian Inn located in Daytona Beach Shores. The forward eschelon consisting of Philip Berman, President; Emil J. De Donato, Secretary and Henry Santos, Treasurer; arrived a day earlier to set things up.

Through the extensive Radio and Newspaper Publicity Releases that were sent out prior to the meeting, the Chapter was fortunate to receive a response by a Steve Moore, newspaper reporter with the Daytona Beach NEWS JOURNAL. Steve came over to the Hospitality Room on Friday afternoon to do a story on the Ninth Division. Shortly after the interview, a photographer took a series of pictures. (A reprint is being included with this article. Space permitting, it may be in this OCTOFOIL issue.)

The main body of members arrived en-masse on Friday and before long the place was in full swing. The Hospitality Room was located on the 5th floor overlooking the Atlantic Ocean. There were plenty refreshments, snacks and the good stuff plus music of the 40's and 50's that added to the merriment. About 5:30 p.m. 57 members including wives, girlfriends and a few singles boarded the DIXIE QUEEN BOAT RIDE for 2½ hours. One of our members, John Schuffen, stole the floor show... he was nicked to dance with the

cute blonde DIXIE QUEEN and proceeded to draw most of the attention. Everybody laughed and applauded.

Saturday's activities consisted of the morning business meeting which dealt mainly about making plans for the 1990 National Reunion scheduled to be held in Florida. A scrumptious breakfast/brunch was prepared by Barbara Berman with a little help by a few girls. This was followed by several hours of free time to explore Daytona Beach, go shopping or go anywhere one pleased. At 6 p.m. the men and women looked their best at the dinner served at the Hawaiian Inn followed by and hour Hula-Hula Show. "In-between" hours were spent mainly in the Hospitality Room. Everyone appeared to be having a good time.

Two new members, Hershel Wood and Leroy Miller were added to the Florida roster. Welcome to the Chapter.

Emil J. De Donato, Sec.  
Fl. Chapt. 9th Inf. Div. Assn.  
3650 S.W. Mosswood St.  
Dunnellon, FL 32630

## Michigan Notes

I wanted to report on our Out State Meeting at Angola, In. A turn out of eighty individuals made for a very successful weekend. Seven states were represented: Pennsylvania, New York, Missouri, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. One First Timer in the person of Howard Gaertner with his wife Eleanor. For all that missed the fun this year know that the Illinois Chapter has booked a weekend at Holiday Inn for October 1989.

There isn't any local news that I am aware of. We are holding our Christmas Party/Meeting on December 10th at The Gallery in Port, Huron, MI. All of you who read this and are not on the Michigan Chapter mailing list please write if you are interested.

The leaves continue to fall and the first raking has been done. My thoughts wandered as I was raking this morning and the thought occurred to me that the man who said "Fall is a beautiful time." have had a yard full of ever green trees.

For now I close hoping to see many of you in So. Fallsburg in 1989. Until then, a Blessed and Happy Holiday Season to all of you.

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

## NINTH DIVISION CAPS AVAILABLE

Due to the continuing demand at reunions, I will keep 9th Division Association (golf) caps, available. They can also be obtained by mail for a total cost of \$7.50 per cap, including shipping. These caps with an adjustable back (one size fits all) have the 9th Division Association embroidered emblem. Four styles are available.

1. Summer cap (most popular style) which has a white front panel with a royal blue visor and nylon mesh back panel.

2. Winter cap in all navy blue.

3. Light weight all navy blue summer cap.

4. All white summer cap with nylon mesh back panel.

Please address all orders to: Edmer Wagner, 2833 Hotchkiss Road, Bay City, MI 48706.

This country has come a long way: from our forefathers to the four-flushers.

'89 Reunion  
June 19th thru  
June 23rd

Dead Line For Next Issue Feb 20th

To "B" (47th) or Not To "B"  
Greetings once again to all our "BECO" buddies and friends. Winter is starting to settle down and we have already had our first snowfall! Christmas is but a week away and there is very little time left to complete our shopping!!

With the advent of winter and the coming New Year of 1989, we pause to remember the wonderful times we spent with our "BECO" buddies, their wives, and our good friends, at past reunions, get-togethers and also in solemn times of worship at the Immaculate Conception Church in Worcester, Mass., every Veterans Day week-end, to honor our comrades, together with Father Connors who are no longer with us.

Upon our arrival in Worcester to attend the 44th Annual Memorial Mass and services for all our departed comrades of the 9th Inf. Div.; we were deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Norm Caswell, a former member of "B" Co., and Past President of our 9th Inf. Div. Assoc. (1985-1986). Those of us in "B" Co. were proud of Norm's dedication and efforts on behalf of our 9th Inf. Div. Assoc. We shall miss him. Although he will no longer be in our midst, he will be remembered by all our "B" Co. buddies and friends. To Alice, his wife, Ann and I, together with our "B" Co. buddies extend our deepest sympathy.

The attendance in Worcester this year was not as large as we hoped it would be. However, spirits were high, and to most of us who were there, we are happy to say that despite the lagging attendance a high percentage of our 9th Inf. Div. Assoc. Members want these services to continue every year!!

Our "BECO" group was represented by Joe and Stella Cichocki, Dennis Canedy, John Compagnone and Pat Morano. My wife Ann was not able to be with us. She had baby sat our granddaughter Brittany, because her mother (our daughter-in-law) was hospitalized and recovering from surgery.

The Annual March from the Fire House to the Immaculate Conception Church was not performed. At first we were of the opinion that the "March" was to be discontinued. However, due to the outcry of many members of our association, it was decided that the "March" will continue to be performed every year!!

We received a phone call from our "B" Co. buddy Art Stenzel. He called to say that he was feeling better and improving from a recent hospital stay. Art and Grace plan to attend our 1989 reunion at the Pines Resort in the Catskills, New York. The dates for the reunion are June 19-23. So "B" Co. buddies remember these dates.

Mail Call: Received word from Tony and Josie Mangolilla. Tony underwent open heart surgery after Thanksgiving. He is doing fine and he hopes he can make the reunion in the Catskills. Their reservation is still in force.

Received a "newsy" note from "Shock" Shockley — his heart bypass is working fine, but while he was in Alaska he had a detached retina and had to rush down to Seattle and have major eye surgery done. "Shock" has a focus problem with his eyes and he says that he may need another operation "if this condition doesn't shape up." "Shock" says that he plans on attending the reunion next summer if his health permits.

We all wish you well "Shock" and good luck and a quick recovery with your eye operations.

The following "B" Co. members have indicated they plan on attending our reunion at the Pines Resort, Catskills N.Y. Ed and Helen Sarnowinski, Joe and Stella Cichocki, Art and Grace Stenzel, Joe and Ellie Taubner, Dennis Canedy, John Compagnone, "Shock" Shockley, Stan and Flo Adowski, Tony and Josie Manzolilla. If there are any other "B" Co. members who have made reservations for the reunion please write to us. We would like our "B" Co. members to be seated together for all dining during our stay at the Pines Resort. If this procedure is agreeable please advise us in writing, so that we can give the names to the Pines management for seating arrangements.

To all our "B" Co. members, wives and friends, we extend to you special Christmas greetings with a special prayer for peace in our world. May the New Year bless you all with joy and happiness. Keep well and enjoy yourselves to the fullest each and every day!!

Pat J. Morano  
2208 Lincoln Way East  
Chambersburg, PA 17201  
717-352-3650

and  
Art J. Stenzel  
8705 Village Mill Road  
Bayonet Pt., Florida 33567  
813-862-6716

#### MINI REUNION Fox Co - 39th Inf.

Just a notice to let you know John Hunt of Marion, Kty a Fox Co 39th man passed away in Oct. of this year. Have also found out that Clarence Sweeny of Harmony, Pa. a Fox Co 39th man died in 1974.

Enclosed is a list of men who attended the reunion of Fox Co 39th at the Sam Burns Ranch in Burleson, Texas Sept. 8, 9, 10, 11. On Sat. Sam & Dorras Burns put on a barbeque of turkey and beef brisket, smoked with green Mesquite wood, that would make any chef jealous.

Next Sept. 28, 29, 30 and Oct. 1, to 7 39th will hold its annual reunion in Searcy, Arkansas. It will be hosted by Ray and Laverne Hawks, Box 9 McRae Ark. 72102. Anyone, anywhere that served in Fox Co 39th at anytime, bar none is asked to please plan ahead for Sept. 1989 and join us in Searcy.

Bob and Dotty Bunky of the 60th L Co joined us on Sept. the 10th for the party at Sam's ranch. They live in Joshua, Texas.

Trying to get all Fox Co men to join the Asso. Had 3 but forgot to collect money and can't remember who they were, too much going on Sat.

Dan you deserve a medal for the job you are doing.  
Merry Xmas.

Ed. J. McNamara, Box 219  
Church St.  
Brookfield, N.Y. 13314

#### SICK CALL

Reporting on Sick Call are the following members:

Art MacDougall, 5051  
Homestead St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19135

F Co. 60th Inf.  
Al Orletti, 990 Arnov Ave.,  
Bronx, NY 10467

47th Inf. Co. H  
Vince D'Addona, 3133 Griswold  
Ave., Bronx, NY 10465

9th Recon  
Henry Cassata, RD 1 Box 521,  
Mt. Upton, NY 13809

A-T 47th Inf.  
Come on fellas - how's about dropping them a few lines.

#### TAPS SOUNDED

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

Bill Martin  
60th Inf.

John A. Pruski  
Finance Sect. Div. Hqs.

Roy "Curly" Hughes  
60th Inf. 3rd Bn. Hqs.

Emil Tabor  
47th Inf. I Co.

Adolph Dominick  
60th Inf. H Co.

Theresa Cuprys  
Widow of Al (M.P.'s.)

John Rasmussen  
60th Inf. Hqs.

Victoria Netta  
Wife of Ed Netta, 47th Inf.  
F Co.

Joseph Stivala  
47th Inf. Co. M

Ted Kozlowski  
47th Inf. Co. M

Burton Anderson  
47th Inf. Co. C

Wilbra Le Clari  
39th Inf. L Co.

Armand L. Deschenes

Eugene Cronin  
60th Inf. M Co.

Walter Bryson  
60th Inf. F Co.

Walter "Buck" Ray  
47th Inf. A Co.

Bennie Nardone  
39th Inf. Hqs. Co.

Dominic Romano  
39th Inf. G Co.

The association mourns the passing of these "Old Reliables" and friends. May they rest in peace. To their loved ones we offer our deepest sympathy.

Mrs. Josephine Martin writes the sad news of the demise of her beloved husband, Bill, who passed away on December 10, 1988. Bill had attended the Hyannis reunion and although his health had been failing these last few months Bill was one of the "Old Reliables" and tried his darndest to attend the reunions.

I don't know what the committee for the placing of the Monument at Fort Bragg in 1982 would have done without Bill, for he did all the leg work in that area, selecting the stone, making all arrangements for the placing of the Division Monument and making liaison with the Commanding Officer at Fort Bragg.

Bill had served with Company G and Cannon Company of the 60th Infantry and was one of the main spark plugs of the association, trying to get his old buddies to attend the reunions, as he had always looked forward to attending and being with the old gang. May he rest in Peace.

Bill leaves his wife, Josephine, and children. They would like to hear from his old buddies in their time of sorrow.

60th INF.  
MRS. BILL MARTIN  
1028 Beaunit Ave.  
Rockingham, NC 28379

#### THANK YOU

Thank you for all the kindness shown to me from all of the 9th division. Norman loved being a part of it all. Many of his buddies have written letters, visited the Chapel and attended the Mass. It was a great tribute to him. I would like to keep my name and address on your mailing list. Thank you kindly. Norman is buried in Holy Cross Cemetery, Tilden Ave. Brooklyn, N.Y., Sect. St. Margaret, No. 39-41, Range 8.  
Mrs. Alice Caswell  
1946 E. 27th St.  
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11229

Lenny Tomassone of the Philly-Delaware Valley Chapter writes the sad news of the demise of Theresa Cuprys widow of Al Cuprys. Theresa was struck by a car while crossing the street and passed away on December 9, 1988.

Theresa had attended many events with Al and continued to participate after Al's death. They were a "nice" couple and we shall miss her.

From the Florida Chapter: Emil DeDonato sends word that Armand Deschenes passed away Dec. 1, 1988. Anyone wishing to express their condolences may do so by writing to his wife Helen at 2701- 34th St. No., St. Petersburg, FL 33713.

Co B & C-47th Inf  
WILLIAM KLAUZ

1510 York Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10021  
Received word from Alice Anderson that her husband Bert had passed away. He had heart surgery in May and he died on June 6th. "The heart seemed to work just fine but his lungs didn't and he developed something the Doctors called Adult Respiratory Distress Syndrome and he could not breathe on his own after the operation. It was so sad and unexpected because he had no inkling that things would not go as well as they had for so many others. His four children and wife were with him for the 3 weeks and altho he couldn't talk to them he could write notes and he knew they were there."

Things Just Ain't  
The Same Anymore

Everything is further away than it used to be. It is twice as far to the corner, and I notice that they've added a hill.

I've given up running for the bus, It leaves faster than it used to.

It seems they're making the stairs steeper than in the old days, too.

And have you noticed the smaller print they now use in the newspaper?

There is no sense in asking anyone to read aloud everyone speaks in such low voices I can hardly hear them.

The material in clothes—so skimpy now—especially around the waist. It's almost impossible to reach my shoelaces and I can't figure out why!

Even people are changing.

They are so much younger than they used to be, when I was their age. On the other hand, people my own age are so much older than I am. I ran across an old classmate the other day, and he had aged so badly he didn't recognize me!!!

Author unknown.

#### TIP OF THE HAT

The Memorial Fund was enriched by the generosity of these members and friends.

James J. Benane (In memory of Don Crawford, Radio Operator)

Alice Lynch (In memory of husband James, Serv. Co. 39th Inf.)

John Bauman  
Edwin Williams  
Camille Pelland  
Clinton C. Geiser  
Thomas Funkhouser  
Lorenzo Filetti

Sam Robinson (In memory of Grace Yanulis, wife of Adam and recovery of Jack Kargir, 84th FA)

John E. Thornton  
Dalton Nordyke  
Andrew Seasock  
Hermon Rahn (In memory of Jerry Shapiro and Irving Posner)

Siegfried Reinheimer  
David Elway

Edwin Brewer  
Boardman Lockwood (In memory of Bill Martin)

Frank Torino, Sr. (In memory of C.E. Oxford)

Emil Langer (In memory of Norm Casswell)  
We salute you.

47th Inf. Med.  
C.B. BAKER  
2001 Oakland Avenue  
Johnson City, Tennessee 37601

This is a very busy time of the year, but I do want to wish you a good holiday season. A lot of time goes into being secretary of the 9th Division Association, but I am certain you know you are appreciated.

Every December I am reminded of the Belgium Bulge. I am sure everyone remembers all that snow and bad weather along with the tough fighting. I had frostbitten feet during that time and spent some time at the aid station away from Company C.

The German Colonel in charge of the paratroopers that were dropped on us was processed through the 1st Bn. aid station 47th while I was there. His photo is in the 9th Division History Book with Dr. Sordill giving him treatment. By the way I had a card from Dr. and Mrs. Sordill which I appreciated very much.

Just received a card and note from Alice Anderson telling me of Captain Burton Anderson's death on June 6th this year. He had had open heart surgery a few days before his death and never rallied. Alice remarked that he had a full enjoyable life and remained optimistic until the end.

I came to C Company as a medic in England and remained there until we met the Russians at the Elbe. Burt was company commander all the time I just mentioned. He did his duties well and was respected by all. Another reminder that our ranks are getting thinner.

My best to you and yours.

84th FA  
SAM ROBINSON  
400 Paradise Rd. Madrid 1D  
Swampscott, Ma. 01907

Recently Jack Kargir had major surgery in Boston and is now recuperating at his home in Brookline, Ma. Adam Yamulis' wife, Grace, passed away a few weeks ago. Enclosing my dues and some for the Memorial fund in memory of Grace Yanulis and the recovery of Jack Kargir. All my best to you guys. Belle and I and the Kargirs will be at the Pines.

## Down the Road of History

### REMEMBERANCES

I have been reading the Octofoil for about two years now and I have never read anything written about Co. I until the March/April '88 issue.

I read the article, "Down the Road of History," by Jerry "Red" Phillips of Co. M. 47th Infantry so I must put in my remembrances.

I was put in Co. I June 18th, 1944, I don't even know half of the towns I've been through, but one of them must have been St. Lo. Taking that town, I remember running about seven miles, all of which was on fire with German armor, German dead and cattle. We boarded the back of tanks and went through the bottom of Paris and then up through Luxenberg, the Netherlands and up into Belgium. By then, our faces were all covered with a black crust that was falling off our eyes, noses, ears and mouths.

### CHRISTMAS 1944

We got off the tanks and had three days rest in Liege and it was snowing at this time. From there, we hoofed it on through December and January — I remember on Christmas day, I had three slices of turkey and a coke — that was the Holiday dinner which we joked about all that day. I'm not sure, but if the 170mm's were called ash cans, I remember hearing them going over our heads to the rear sounding like large barrels — not whining shells — but large barrels.

For some reason, in Co. I, we always refused the rating, but on February 14, Lt. Johanning came over to me, Johnny Englet, Bill Parker and Tully (can't remember his first name) and said we were getting new help and you Mathieu are now a Buck Sgt. and if you refuse the rating, I will have you brought back for court marshal.

February went on into March and about that time we were again told of the Remagen Bridge. By March 5th, day break, we were attacking a dorf (town or village) before the Remagen Bridge. We got into town and took it, and after the battle we found a house and we were in the cellar of the house. There were about eight American Soldiers, four to six German women and we also had four captured German soldiers one of which his wrist was hanging off.

I was up on the street level floor of the building back by the cellar door and I was going out as the Germans were coming in. I told them in German to come back here with me — they couldn't see me because they were coming from the light into the dark. As they got within 10 feet or so of me, I jumped in front of them facing my brownie at them and then I yelled halt — meaning stop in German. The fright on their faces when they saw me, they dropped their rifles immediately and I was able to make the remaining four German soldiers go into the cellar.

By then the shelling was so fierce, windows and doors were being blown out and holes were in all the walls and I had to make my way back down to the cellar. At that point two German mark 4s counter attacked and warned us to come out and when we didn't, they put the barrel of the gun in the window of the cellar. I yelled to Gatesman to line my brownie up the barrel of the tank and if I pulled the trigger some of the shells should go up the barrel

and detonate in the German's breach. Gatesman told me not to do it because I would lose my two hands and wrists and his head would be blown off. I asked the group what they wanted to do. We thought it over and this tank guy was annoying us all and I could hear from the cellar window about 10 guys calling for the medic, mom, pop, medic.

### P.O.W.'s

With that we decided to come out. Needless to say we were captured. They marched us in a zig-zag fashion toward the Rhine and put us on a small boat with German civilians and a couple of guards and floated across the Rhine under the Remagen Bridge. Next I remember we were in box cars in stone tunnels on the other side of the Rhine. A lot more shelling broke outside and we didn't know what it was.

We were told to get out of the box cars again. They marched us around to Bonn, Cologne, Koblenz and back to Bonn. As I last remember, they marched us for three weeks and then in box cars again. There was one large pail in the center of the box car for you know what. There must have been at least 40 of us in there sleeping back to back and belly to belly.

One morning the sun was shining and we were strafed by our P47's. The 50 calibers came through the box car within 2-3 feet of our heads. The train stopped and we couldn't get out because we believed the 50 calibers pierced the door runners. The Germans began to open the box cars with other American prisoners and let us out. They had to lift the doors off the runners. We got out of the cars and took our shirts and jackets off — put our backs to the sky, bent over and spelled out POW. With that the planes went away and from there we were marched to larga 12A. After 12A, they had us marching again.

### ESCAPED

By then it was about March 29th, 1945 and we talked about escaping. We got word the Americans were down the road behind us about two miles. The shelling and the gun fire frightened the German guards. We all had dysentery very bad by now and the blood was like prunes and that was our chance to escape. We told the guards we had to go to the bathroom and we went into the bushes and shrubs. When the guards turned around because of the shelling, we pulled up our pants and crawled on our bellies away from the road into deeper shrubbery. We lay there till dark and started to head west towards the Rhine.

At that time the German guards started marching the remaining American prisoners east. We came across a farm and we looked into a shack which was about 10 by 10 with locked doors and windows. We thought we shouldn't break the windows because someone would hear us and come looking and we would be found. So aH five of us grabbed the loosest board we found and the next one and pulled it off. We all got inside the shack and with our belts, pulled the boards back in to their proper place. We waited for the Americans to come because we still had word that the Americans were about two miles behind us.

At that time a little German boy came over to the shack and started banging on the window

with a stick. We whispered to each other, when he breaks the window reach out and pull him in and kill him because we also knew the SS was bringing up the rear for their own stragglers and looking for us American escapies. The 10 year old broke the window and spotted us, screamed out Americans and ran back to the house. We had to let him go. He came back with his four sisters. My family came from Alsace and I spoke and understood a little German so I was able to speak to his sisters, which I did. We had an English Red Cross parcel with us (1 for 5 of us) which contained bitter chocolate, a fig bar and toilet paper, which was already gone, so in order to get them to talk I offered the chocolate because I knew they hadn't seen chocolate in about five years. In return they gave us hot potatoes and chips of sausage that tasted about 10 years old and by the next day, it made us sicker then we already were.

At that point the girls went back to the house and after dark two of them came back and told me that their grandfather wanted to talk to me. The next morning I went with the girls while the others stayed in the shack. The grandfather asked about his own son P.O.W. in Florida. They are better off than us here I told him. They have plenty to eat and earn 50 cents a day picking oranges.

### HEADED FOR RHINE

With that we left; then we met an armored column and they gave us some American C cans and four sub tompons and they left. We headed for the Rhine and by the next morning we came across another farm. Looking around this farm, we saw a Volkswagen inside the barn which Jonny Englet and I jump started. We had Lucky Strikes tin foil and we stuck it up on the two connecting screws and we got it running. It was running very rough and a man heard it and come running out of the house with shaving cream on his face screaming like mad in German, which I understood part of. He asked where we were going — I told him I'm going to the Rhine. He said you can't take my car. I'm the Burger Miester. I said why not — I'm the American and I'm the winner. He said they are here already — meaning the Americans — and I said you are looking at five of us now. He kept yelling and screaming so I punched him in the mouth, got the car running and threatened him with the sub tompon to go back into the house.

### HITLER HIGHWAY

With that we all got into the car and down the road we went. Some how or other, we came upon Adolf Hitler Highway. Along the way we met another armored outfit we got one jerry can of gas and a two gallon can of oil. We put gas in the car and we flooded the car with oil and set off for the Rhine. We finally got to the Rhine and the car would not cross the GI bridge. The MP's came over and took us in their jeep into a forward part of the castle and held us there where we were deloused and finally taken to the hospital.

I am now looking for these men who were captured with me. Johnny Englet, William Parker and Lt. Johanning of Penn., Bill Gatesman from Ohio, Joseph Miallie from Brooklyn, N.Y. and Spalatis from Conn. I would like to get in touch with these old buddies. We had 20 months of hell from June to April. I believe I am en-

titled to at least six medals, and being captured, we never got them. Johnny Englet, William Parker and myself took tanks including a tiger tank, towns, and we captured German soldiers in addition to German horse drawn artillery. I need these guys to verify my story and I would really enjoy seeing them again.

GEORGE MATHIEU  
Co. I 47th Inf.  
6645 Broadway  
Riverdale, N.Y. 10471

## February 10, 1945

Our C.P. was a pillbox on a hill.

A lieutenant, 2 other G.I.'s, and myself were selected for a patrol. We had a small, quiet (noiseless) motor and a rubber boat, with which we were to by-pass the enemy and cross a river behind the enemy lines - to reconnoiter

We set out and crossed the ravine and were within 20 or 30 yards of the enemy. We could hear them talking, dogs barking, bolts of rifles clicking, and all other noises from their positions.

The lieutenant, I do not recall his name, told the 3 of us to lay low and he was going to crawl as close as he could to the enemy to see what the situation was like. However, he did tell us to wait 15 minutes and no longer. If he was not back by then, we were told to hide and conceal the boat and carry the motor back to the C.P.

It seemed like an eternity, but was only 10 minutes. I remember the lieutenant and I synchronized our watches. My watch had a radium dial so I knew just how long he was gone. We were all getting anxious, when suddenly, I heard some movement to our front and immediately whispered the password and he responded.

He told us there was too much activity going on and we could not cross the river this night. So we ditched the boat and carried the motor and headed back to our C.P. Each of us took turns carrying the motor.

It was my turn to carry the motor and we were only about 100 yards from the Pill Box (C.P.), when the enemy must have spotted us and threw a barrage close by. One shell hit very close and the next thing I knew I was on the ground and the motor was on my back. I couldn't move from the waist down. The lieutenant and one of the G.I.'s carried me with my arms draped over their shoulders and my feet dragging the ground. I was paralyzed from the waist down. I had no feeling in my legs and was in a state of shock. The next thing I remember was the Medic (Aid-Man) working on my toes, my feet, and my legs, rubbing feverishly until daybreak. Thanks to his persistence, he finally detected movement from one toe and he kept rubbing until the feeling returned to all my toes, my feet, and finally, my legs. He said that we were going to move off the hill and into a village, the name I don't recall. I didn't care, I was able to walk! This all came about because of this one particular Medic. I feel I owe this man and I'd like to find out if anyone remembers the Medic or if he sees this and I hope he will respond.

I was very fortunate. The lower part of my spine swelled up about an inch or so and the skin was scraped off, but there was no bleeding. The medic wanted to send me to the hospital and I convinced him I

would be all right as long as he bandaged it and took care of it, that everything was all right. (P.S. - I couldn't wear my rifle belt and my pants belt was supported on my hips). One good thing - we went into reserve status so that I was able to cope with the awkwardness of the situation at that time.

In closing, I would like to hear from Corp. Midthoun or the lieutenant or the other G.I. I'd appreciate any information concerning those 3 men and I feel our paper, the "Octofoil," there is a ray of hope that they or someone will see this.

I am eternally grateful to that Medic and I wish that before long I shall hear from him or the 3 others who went on the patrol with me.

P.S. The reason I remember the date, Feb. 10-11, 1945 is that the next day the 12th was my birthday and quite a birthday it was.

39th Inf K Co  
FRANK TORINO, SR.  
295 Columbus Ave.  
New Haven, Ct. 06519

### Mimi Reunion B Co 39th Inf

COMPANY "B", 39th REGIMENT held their annual reunion this year in Buffalo, in June and, as usual, all had a grand time. Most of the men and wives have been getting together for the past thirty-six years but this was FIRST for me and wife, Pat. It was the most wonderful experience (I can't possibly adequately describe it) to be with men I haven't seen in forty-four years.

Enclosed is a photo taken at the Naval & Servicemen's Park in Buffalo of part of our group. This may have been a first but hopefully we'll be at many more. In fact, we're all ready to go to the Catskills with the group next June.

My sincere thanks to Al DeRisio (The Hawk), Joe Gravino, Austin Fritsch, Joe Saraceno, Jack Dunlap and Luke Lucas for their correspondence urging us to attend the Buffalo get-together.

Men of COMPANY "B", 39TH REGIMENT ... let's hear from you.

Best regards to all.

Co B 39th Inf  
Al Becker  
410 Bershire Rd  
Ridgewood, N.J. 07450

### GRATEFUL

Thank you for the warm welcome you gave us at Worcester. I appreciated your kind words at the Memorial Site.

Hope to see you again in 11/89 for another beautiful weekend.

JUSTIN O'KEEFE  
16-27 Ivy Court  
Baldwin, N.Y. 11510

Editors Note: Justin is the brother of Captain John O'Keefe, Company A, 47th Company who was killed in January 1945. He was one of our youngest Company Commanders, age 22 when he was killed in Germany. I often can't remember where I was yesterday but remember that so well. Some twenty enlisted men and ten officers had spent three days in Paris and on the day we returned the Regiment was jumping off. John made sure that he got back to his Company that day, only to meet his death. Another officer killed the same day on our return was Lt. Gove from Company G-47th. Some of the others I remember making the trip were John Travelise of the Co E 47th, Ed Hauschildt Company L-47th Bill Stoltz 2nd Bn 47th and Victor Chuck of Company K-47th.

# **Bouvenberg Farm Battle Led to Development of the Friends World College**

I enjoyed immensely the March/April, 1988 Octofoil with its map of the Bovenberg Farm area where I fought as a 60 mm. mortar gunner with K Co., 47th Regiment. I remember when we pushed off on the north side of Hamich, we shortly found ourselves in the woods on the Bovenberg Farm where our Company, which started with about 120 men - by day's end, was down to about 65 men. We were able to fight on, but it was my initiation to really intense fighting.

In reading about it, Captain Phillips described Ira Rosenfeld's attempt to alleviate the pressure on the troops in the forest of the Bovenberg Farm. Fortunately, this was somewhat successful, but the pressure was caused by the lack of the First Division's advance on the right flank.

My own involvement in the battle - my co-mortal man, John Pugh and I dug a slit trench in the forest at Bovenberg Farm with the intention of protecting ourselves from the heavy shelling which we were receiving. We settled into it for the night and found that we had a co-occupant in our slit trench who kept running back and forth over our faces and the other parts of our body during the night - it was a field mouse! We had just settled into the slit trench and had about an hour's sleep when we were ordered to move on with the end result that we stayed awake throughout that night and through the next two nights as well, because of our extremley close proximity with the Germans. Those nights, we spent in the heavily wooded area of the Bovenberg Farm. Once we achieved the farm buildings, I recall that Emmett Schutte, our Comapny Mess Sgt. had hot food brought up to the very well concrete-walled courtyard of the Farm where we had our Thanksgiving Dinner. It was a tremendous boost to morale. Unfortunately, after three days of fighting at the Bovenberg Farm area, there were only about fifty-five of us left - out of 120 or so that had started off.

We continued with K Company, assigned to the 2nd Battalion for the attack on Frenzenberg Castle. I, myself, was extremely calm after having been thoroughly shakened on the first day of the battle and the uproar of the previous three days battle. But, I had resolved during that first day of battle if I ever returned alive to the United States that I would try to engage in developing a project which would further world peace. This ultimately led to the development of the Friends World College, which opened in 1965 and now has nine Centers scattered around the world for educating students in multi-cultural setting. It is a gift from my 9th Division service.

## **Frenzenberg Castle**

Our mortar section was billeted in a brick kiln which was an excellent defensive position as no eight-eight shell could penetrate its walls. We would come out of the kiln and fire our mortar at the Frenzenberg Castle and German troops in that area. We returned to the kiln for shelter, eighty-eight shells bounced off it! During the night, we would go up to the Castle along the railroad tracks with liters and bring back wounded. This was the role of the mortar section until Pfc. Carl Vernon Sheridan's valiant efforts resulted in the fall of the Castle, in which he lost his life.

By that time, there were only thirty-five survivors in our Company and all of us were sent back to Verviers, Belgium for three days rest and recreation -and then onward to a batch of new replacements for our Company and a reserve position, just before we went into the newly developing Battle of the Bulge on December 16th.

## **Battle of Bulge Began**

On December 15th, as the Battle of the Bulge began, I became a Medic, since I had been a pre-medical student before I was drafted and was, after a brief First Aid Course from Major Donald Roberts at Regimental Aid Station, reassigned to K Company, 2nd Platoon, where I remained through the Battle of the Bulge and on into the second battle of the Rhineland, until February 19th, when I was wounded. After the war, I went on through college and medical school.

From the May/July issue of the Octofoil, I got Ira T. Rosenfeld's ("Rosie") name. He lives in Hewlett, New York and he and I had a very pleasant reunion at my home here in Garden City. We had a luncheon together with much talk of the "good old days." He, of course, was on Battalion Staff and I was down in the lowly ranks of the enlisted men. As I have gotten older, I have realized that the differences between us were less than we thought.

George Nicklin, Medic  
K Company, 47th Regiment  
6 Butler Place  
Garden City, N.Y. 11530-4603

## **Disabled Vet "Pegging" his time helping others**

George Bentley Jr. has found a way to make hospitalized veterans' stays more comfortable and himself busier by making peg board puzzles.

Bentley, 68, has been crafting sets of puzzles for various Veterans Hospitals since last summer when he saw similar puzzles at restaurants and decided to make one for himself.

The puzzles, made from wooden blocks, challenge the player to jump each pin on the board until there is only one left.

"After I made mine, I got to talking to a woman who volunteers at the VA Hospital in Atlanta and she thought it might be a good idea to maybe make them for it," he said. "So, I made up 12 and she took them there. They liked them and I got a nice letter thanking me."

Bentley said the letter gave him encouragement to make more puzzles for VA hospitals in not only Georgia but California, Pittsburgh, Florida and South Carolina.

"The puzzles don't cost much because the wood is donated and all I have to pay for is the pins and postage for sending them," he said. "I figured it keeps me busy and that it might help a few veterans in the hospitals. Especially those veterans who are in them for long terms."

Bentley, who was wounded during the invasion of Normandy during World War II, said he knew from personal experience how extended hospital stays could be.

"I spent a year in the hospital when I got wounded, so I know the days get long in one," he said. "It was hard for me to find something to do, so maybe these puzzles will keep some of the veterans in hospitals occupied."

Bentley said that although it takes about two days to make 40 or 50 puzzles, he intends to continue to craft them because he enjoys woodwork and his retirement allows him to work as he pleases.

"I've made 220 puzzles so far and I'll keep doing it as long as I can," he said. "I have a book that lists all the VA hospitals and nursing homes in the United States and South America and I'm sure it will keep me busy."

Bentley added that encouragement and appreciation letters from the hospitals have also been an important factor in continuing his work.

"The encouragement and appreciation have been a big help," he said. "But, the main thing is that if I send 12 puzzles to a hospital and make one man happy, then that's all I need. That's my pay."

47th Inf. Co. B.  
GEORGE BENTLEY  
PO Box 206  
Conyers, Ga. 30207

## **M Company Chronicler 47th Inf**

John DeSepio of Middlesex, N.J. wrote that he too will be there. He's pictured here at Fort Dix receiving the recently created Prisoner of War Medal from his congressman. It must have been a fine affair. Over 600 awards were made with 13-gun salute, jet fighter fly-by-the works. The medal was well-deserved, John.

Before they get to The Pines, John and Mary will have hit another POW clambake at Fort Bragg. When we see them next they can tell us how was the water at McFadden's Pond.

Here's another one for the book! On re-reading John's letter it occurred to me that the other two M-ers taken prisoner by the Germans at El Guettar ought to be reminded of their entitlement of the POW Medal. Got that, Francis X. Yochum out there in Vincennes IN? Trouble with Joseph J. Farrell is that we've never been able to track him down. There's no phone listed for him in South Amboy N.J. where he lived before the war. Then, that "New Jersey" triggered something. I wondered if Farrell could have been at the same ceremony with DeSepio without John realizing it. John had sent along the program wherein all of the medal recipients were listed and, sure enough, there he was - Joseph J. Farrell, Sr...BINGO!!! Well, John's checking it out through the veterans organizations. I think we might just have us another M-er enrolled soon.

Sometime ago I wrote of the problems of Albert Palley, 519 S. Main St., Zelienople PA, 16063; phone (412) 452-7997, who is now laid up at Butler V.A. Nursing Home Care Unit with a bad heart. He's been having trouble establishing a "service connection" of his disability. I believe Al was in the 2nd Platoon and "hurt" somewhere outside Bizerta in the spring of '43. Anyone's recollection of the circumstances, however slight, would be extremely helpful as, without that "service connection," as you know, the V.A.'s help is going to be extremely limited. Well, Al's wife Catherine more recently wrote that she had discovered some documents relating to that injury in an old footlocker so things are looking better for them. Also, Al and Catherine had a great grandson born November 13th, he was 79 on

the 17th and they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on the 23rd. We wish them all many happy returns of those days.

All the best

Henry "Red" Phillips  
14002 Hemlock Dr.  
Penn Valley, CA 95946

P.S. DiSepio got his man - Joe Farrell lives at 33 Johnson Ave., Matawan, N.J. 08900, (201) 566-5632. I'm looking forward to some details on what he's been doing since early that morning, April 28, 1943. Also, I've spoken to Fred Moniz (617) 484-0351, who was a 2nd Platoon aid man. He was at Hyannis last summer and could never quite catch up with fellow Medic Frank Borghi. Anyway, Fred's now back in the fold and happy to learn of the new M. Anyone for Atabrin?

47th Inf A Co  
JOHN SAQUELLA  
6200 Upsal St.  
Pennsauken, N.J. 08110

I've been a member of the association since its inception and enjoy all the news. I would appreciate hearing from some of my old buddies of A Co 47th Inf. I am 71 years old and retired and play golf about 3 times a week.

## **Battleship Texas Undergoes Restoration**

Just a bit of nostalgia for members of the three battalions of the 60th Inf. that landed at Port Lyautey. The battleship Texas helped support our landing and capture of the city.

GALVESTON - The battleship Texas has survived combat in two world wars and 40 years of deterioration in a muddy perch along the Houston Ship Channel, but its most treacherous journey perhaps was Tuesday's voyage to Galveston.

## **History Books Available**

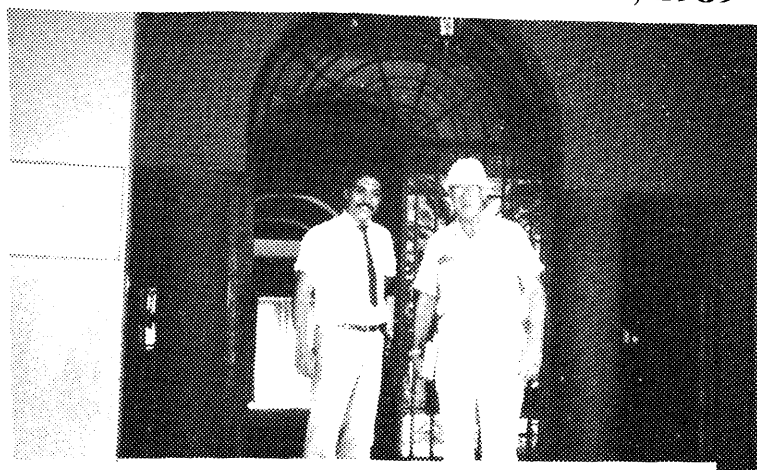
Joe Williams has reprinted the 47th Infantry book that was published after the War. Many members never received the book but it now can be obtained from Joe. The price is \$23.50 and this book includes information from WW 1, scenes from Fort Bragg, 1941-42, original Regimental & Bn Staffs, scenes and information about 2nd, 3rd, 4th Battalions that saw action in Vietnam and a section about the 47th honorary association to include photographs of those who have been awarded the Distinguished member certificates. Williams has also reprinted the 9th Division History - "8 Stars to Victory". It is available with hardback cover at a cost of \$36.50.

In addition to the two books Joe is offering Commemorative Coins for \$2.50 each and all money is turned over the 3rd Bn Commander 47th Infantry stationed at Ft. Lewis, Washington to be used for publishing a newsletter and postage for mailing same to former members of the regiment. Joe Williams can be reached at 1900 Hollyoakes Lakes East, Jacksonville, Florida, 32225.

Life has its ups and downs...particularly for elevator operators.

A.M. Vaiani  
1st BN HQ Co 60 Inf.  
4515 Woodrow  
Galveston, Texas 77551

## **Remember the dates June 19-23, 1989**



Jim Leopold sends photo of the Hotel "L'Atlantic" in Safi, N. Africa. When the 47th used it as their Headquarters in 1942 it was called the Hotel Maharaba.

Jim Leopold is shown (on the right) at the entrance to the Hotel "L'Atlantic" (old Maharaba) on his visit to N. Africa. Story appears in Mail Call.



Company B 39th Infantry holds a reunion every year whether it's with the National Association or on their own. This past summer they met in Buffalo for their thirty-six year. Al Becker sends this photo taken of the gang when they checked out a tank in Vets Park. Left to right (top) Joe Saraceno, Frank Gravino. Middle row - Vic Singer, Cliff Chew, Al DeRisio (the Hawk), Al Baccile, Charlie Warner, Frank Russo. Bottom row: Joe Gravino, Jack Dunlap, Austin Fritsch and Al Becker.

## THE OCTOFOIL

60th Inf  
RONALD M. A. HIRST  
Mathildenstrasse 4  
D-6200 Wiesbaden

To our Global-friends!  
Greetings!

The year 1988 was marked with settling into our new and final home. For forty years we flew, sailed, drove, rode, and took the train to many a nook-and-cranny around the globe. Those travels were made in the course of eighteen shipments of our worldly possessions. Travels which took us through forty-nine of the fifty states, to twenty-seven different foreign nations offering a look at five continents. It is over. We are settled. We are happy and we are well.

These past twelve months we have spent in shaping our final nest. We are pleased with our efforts. Some of you have already visited. We'd like to see all of you here some day. We have the room.

High on a hill, we have an enviable panoramic view of the Taunus hills to the north from our large patio or through the large picture windows in the Winter Garden and the living room. And, an extra apartment for our guests, for you, with your own kitchen, your own bath and — if you are so inclined — your private entrance. Come and see for yourselves.

Our son, Ronald Paul, is still enjoying the stress and relaxation offered by the computer world in Santa Barbara. We do so enjoy his lengthy telephone calls. Here, life is good and living is gracious. Inge's kitchen is better than ever, the envy of many (says Scotty). We've a fine wine cellar. We trust we would offer good companionship. Thus, to you dear friends, with these thoughts in mind, might we wish one and all a most Blessed Christmas season and a New Year filled with the fulfillment of the New Year's Resolutions for 1989; perhaps one of them will be to visit the Hirsts in Wiesbaden. God bless.

39th Inf. D Co.  
EARL DUNCAN  
22 Bloomfield Cove  
Jackson, TN 38305

I have retired from Eaton Corp., at the Humboldt, TN, plant. I do miss going to work each morning. But when you reach 65 I guess it is time that you had better slow down some.

I will still be active with my yard work and vegetable garden and with my hobby collecting old bottles and jars. I have around five hundred in my collecting already. I still have the first one that I collected. It is a little hair oil bottle that I got out of dead Germans pack, that was killed when Co. C took a pill box somewhere just after we entered Germany, my Platoon was attached to Co. C.

I got some very good photos from my old C.O. Captain Butler a while back of Fort St. Marcouf. It was there that the first action of the 39th Co. C was in on June the 12, while attached to 4th Inf. Div. and it was my first Combat, where I saw my first dead German, and to see the first U.S. soldier get killed. I joined the 9th, on Dec. 26, 1943 at Barton Stacy in England.

I was the oldest Aid man out in the field that left England with 1st. Bn., all of the others had been killed or wounded or captured.

I got wounded in the Huertgen Forest, but I stayed with my Platoon and toughen it out.

I still enjoy the Octofoil very much. Every one is still doing a great job.

I was with the 1st, Bn., Medical Det. 39th Inf. Co. D. 1st Platoon machine guns.

M.P.'s  
ADOLPH WADALAVAGE  
94-30 96th St.  
Ozone Park, NY 11416

As I mentioned, at the last Chapter meeting, I had visitors stay with us from Winchester, England, they asked me to forward this information to the 9th Division lads. If any former 9th Division lad that was stationed in the Winchester area and has lost contact with former friends or families in their area, send me the information and I'll forward it to them, get as much information as they can about the people they're trying to locate and if at all possible they'll try to locate them. They call themselves Friends of the 9th Infantry Division. Seems they still have a soft spot to the lads, as yet they haven't got a mailing address, but I do keep in touch with one of them. As I said, they will gladly look up the people if at all possible. I've had them locate two families for me, one near Southampton and another all the way up in Norwich, England.

A separate item, this goes all the way back to Ft. Bragg, N.C. days just before we went overseas. I was on duty at a road intersection, near the theatre, in the division area. A young lady and her friend asked if they could take a picture of me with them while on duty, which they did. I've kept in touch with them as pen pals til 1947 and did visit them in Nanticoke, Penn., but lost track of them 'till last year at Christmas time, received a card which gave no return address. She said she saw a few of my articles in the "Octofoil" so she must know someone from the 9th Division. At the time they were visiting down at Ft. Bragg, her boyfriend was from the 47th Infantry. Her name was (is) Norma Bedosky so what do you say you put in a line or two and ask them to write again, only this time include a return address. I've written to last known address and the letters have been returned to them, let's be pen pals again.

See you at the Christmas gathering.

60th Inf D Co  
JOHN THORNTON  
PO Box 3782 Mdse Mart Sta.  
Chicago, IL 60654

Hope this note and other things find you and yours in good health and that things are going real good for you. Me -well, getting old and wearing out and 4-getful, other than that, I feel just wonderful?? for an Ole Goat of 80 now! Can't believe it! Hope that our new President will do a lot of good for everything and everybody. Must sign off now, so have a real nice Holiday Season and this goes for all the members of the good old 9th Div. Let's all count our blessings.

47th Inf  
JAMES CANADA  
PO Box 434  
Shannon, Ga. 30172

I enjoy reading the Octofoil and looking for names that I recognize. I find one every once in a while that I remember. I see Jack Clark once in a while and Paul Pelish about once a year. I worked with him in the kitchen. Keep up the good work and have a Happy Holiday Season.

The school of hard knocks: when your auto mechanic presents the bill.

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.

Cannon Co 47th Inf  
ROBERT A WATTS  
4601 Walmsley Blvd.  
Richmond, Va 23234

Many thanks for the opportunity to rejoin the 9th Division Association. I had been a charter member many years ago and lost contact.

Not too long ago I spoke with retired General Westmoreland on one of his visits to Richmond and we talked about Barton Stacey, England when he commanded the 34th F.A. At that time I was in A Bty. In April before the invasion I was assigned to Cannon Company 47th Inf., at Winchester Barracks, England.

Somewhere between Cherbourg and St. Lo I became a radio operator for Lt. Floyd Morey's O.P. group along with Vincent Haggerty, Hugh Scott and Frank Flipski. We observed for the 2nd Bn-47th.

I was wounded the afternoon after our first day across the Rhine River at Remagen and rejoined our Company near the Hartz Mountains. By this time Lt. Morey had been rotated home and Cpl Page was promoted to 2nd Lt. and became our Platoon Leader and Observer. We continued on until we met the Russians and stayed briefly at Dessau. After moving to Southern Germany we ended up at Dachau and I left there for the States. My copy oof "8 Stars to Victory" and history of the 47th Inf Regiment are pretty worn but share a lot of memories. Enclosed is my membership for three years. Thanks again for the Mar-April copy of the Octofoil. Regards to all.

60th Inf L Co  
EDWIN BREWER  
8427 Mastin Apt. A  
Overland, Ks. 66212

Hope this finds you and yours in good health, and about to enjoy the holidays. Here's my dues and some for the Memorial fund. This past year, had a visit with John Lewis and Louise from Shelbyville, Tn. Saw W. M. Lynch from Richardson, Tx. Had phone conversations with Alvin (Pop) Heidebrecht who lives in Oklahoma and Bob Burky who resides in Texas. All are doing OK. Take care and God Bless everyone.

Div. Hqs.  
JOHN M. ALLEY  
4701 Kenmore Ave., 1317-E  
Alexandria, Va. 22304

Here are my dues for 1989 and sometimes I wonder why I do not pay for a longer period, but then something comes to mind which goes like this: "At this stage of life, I grope and cope. I buy only small tubes of toothpaste, subscribe to magazines for only 13 weeks and I never buy long playing records. By some strange mystique, I am content." Couldn't make the reunion. We had planned for sometime for a trip to Europe, so we spent late September and early October in Switzerland, Austria and Bavaria. A well spent 2½ weeks! Merry Christmas to everyone and all the best for the coming year.

60th Inf. G Co.  
SIEGFRIED REINHEIMER  
2572 Wilson Ave.  
Bronx, NY 10469

I would like to hear from fellows of G Co. 60th Inf. I was Mess Sgt. from May 1945 until I went home in 1946. I hope to make the reunion at the Pines. My stove mechanic was Hugh Whitaker from the Catskills. I wish all a Merry Christmas and happy healthy New Year.

B Co. 15th Eng.  
RICHARD C. McGRATH  
2856 West 85th Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60652

This letter to thank you for all the happy hours you give me. I look forward to each issue and read it from cover to cover.

Thanks to all who do the work that puts out the paper. The only one I know by name is Dan Quinn and his hard working wife. However, there must be more names that should get the credit they richly deserve.

It's amazing to me how many good writers we have that send in such interesting copy. As an example - in the last Octofoil there was a story by Charles Scheffel who went back to the E.T.O. and followed the trail his unit took in the Ninth's push to Germany. Many stories have appeared like this one and always interesting.

People like Bill Kowalczyk, Ed Hopkins, Pat Morano, Art Stenzel, Joe Williams, Mike Belmonte, Rodger Alsgaard, and many others who are regular contributors to our enjoyment. I can't forget, Ron Murphy with his page one writings that keeps us informed of coming events.

I was happy to see the story my old pal Charlie Hoffman sent in about the Remagen bridgehead - well done.

Besides the good writers, we are lucky to have such excellent speakers. I look forward to the reunions to listen to the dulcet tones of Tom Boyle, Ron Murphy, Fred Damore, and the one that brings the house down with his side splitting anecdotes. Vaudeville will have a revival this June at the Pines, after all they used to call it the Borsch Circuit - so Dan you should be right at home.

I look forward to the next Octofoil with its good writers and great stories.

The happiest of Holidays to all.

9th Signal  
WILMER FIRME  
R 1  
Adell, Wi. 53001

Several issues ago, Don Cross had a write up about the Remagen bridge and nearly giving up to the Germans. I traveled with the 47th Inf as a wire team from the 9th signal. It is 40 years or more later I found out I have been fishing only 4 miles from his home. Don tells me he came from a family of 19 children. Eight were in the army and all came home. Warren Spahn was an engineer at the Remagen Bridge and I most likely saw him pitch for the Milwaukee Braves. Pete Malik of the 9th signal got killed when a tall telephone pole broke in Milwaukee in 1952. We taught a few southerners how to play that German game sheephead. We still play that dying game of Skat that came from Germany at the Firehouse with as many as 18-20 players once a week. Would you like to hear from Kubal, Blackwell, Johnston, Beck, Pepper and Kroll, or any from the 9th signal.

47th Inf M Co  
CONDA KNEE  
625 Ridgefield Rd.  
Mewark, Ohio 43055

Enclosed is a check for three years dues. I would hate to miss any issues of the Octofoil. My wife and I enjoyed the Reunion at Hyannis, renewing friendships with old M Co comrades. We have our reservation at the Pines for 1989. I hope M Co has the turn out they did at Hyannis. Keep up the good work. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all.

47th Inf Co B Hq 1st Bn  
DENNIS CANEDY  
117 Rocky Hill Ave.  
New Britain, Ct. 06051

It was a rejuvenating experience getting together again in Worcester with all the dedicated members of the Ninth. There is a closeness here that I have never felt when belonging to any other organization. Best regards.

60th F.A.  
DAVID ELWAY  
4221 El Rancho Dr.  
Allison Pk., PA 15101

It's dues time again and I want to get them in on time for a change. Still enjoy the Octofoil as much as ever. You and the other officers are doing a fine job, which is not unusual, as you have done so since the first year of the association. My best to the men of the Ninth and to you and the family. Happy Holidays and may God Bless. Also some for the Memorial fund enclosed.

47th Inf. F Co.  
LARRY GHERE  
PO Box 54445  
Tulsa, OK 74155

Saw Ed Hopkins letter in the Octofoil and his new chapter in N.J. Also had a letter from him about his efforts. Kudos to Frank Gonzol for giving his medals to his Congressman for voting for compensation for Japanese who were detained. Keep up the good work. See you in June '89.

47th Inf E Co  
EDWARD ANDERS  
13 E. Schaaf Rd  
Brooklyn Hts. Ohio 44131

I received your Octofoil from a fellow I met at the POW convention and would like to join your association. Enclosed is a life membership application. I found 2 people from Ohio in April-May issue and hope I can meet more of them.

47th Inf B Co  
JOHN MORGAN  
1534 Hubbard St.  
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15212

I have my reservation for the Pines and look forward to seeing you and all my B Co buddies. My activities these days are in Sportsmen Clubs, Pa. Federation of Sportsmen in which I am a delegate form Allegheny Co. Also Allegheny County Conservation District which I am a director. Have been retired about 10 years as a mailman. Enjoying myself day by day but wonder where all the years went since my service time, 1941-1945. Bill Stokan will be with me at the reunion.

47th Inf Co E  
NORM JOHNSON  
619 Dawson St.  
Kané, Pa. 16735

Received my Octofoil and after reading the news thought I'd better check my membership card and I'm still in good standing for the remainder of the year. However, that's getting near, so here's my check for another 3 years and best wishes to all the Ninth.

60th Inf D Co  
ALEXANDER SMITH  
10 S. Rogin St.  
Rockingham, N.C. 28379

Thought I'd better get my dues in as my wife and I wouldn't miss getting the Octofoil for nothing. I'm sorry I don't see more of guys I knew in D Co. One of my dear friends, Charles Walker and his wife, paid us a visit and spent 3 days with us. We have been in touch since the war. Also his sister and husband came with them. We had a great time together. I'd like to say hello to everyone and would like to hear from you guys, better still I'd like to see you.

# MAIL CALL

39th Inf. K Co.  
C.E. BLANKENSHIP  
2715 Dorset Rd.  
Richmond, VA 23234

This is old "Shorty's" first opportunity to write and express my thanks to all of you that made my daughter and I feel so very welcome at the Reunion in Hyannis. I am sorry that we were only able to stay for the one day, but neither of us will ever forget it. All of you there were wonderful to us. It was so good to meet all the people that had been writing to me all this time.

While I am on the subject of writing; I want to apologize to all of you that have written me since the reunion and haven't received an answer yet. I have had some complications since the reunion and just haven't been able to answer, and I hope all of you that read this in the Octofoil will forgive me and understand. I have all of your letters here on my desk and I am going to answer them all, you can bet on it.

I will always treasure meeting all of you and sorry about not meeting a lot of you that arrived after I left. Everyone was just so sincere and made me feel so very welcome. my daughter said it was one of the nicest things she has ever been a part of. To all of you nice ladies of the 9th who made her feel so welcome she sends a large "THANKS."

She has already said that next year she wants to make the reunion again. This time she and her husband and my granddaughter are planning to taking their vacation that week and hopefully I will be able to stay longer and meet more of you. Hopefully this year, I won't have a finger with seven stitches and all that pain. (By the way, Dan Quinn said he could maybe get me another Purple Heart for that wound, How about it Dan?)

Well, thats about it for this time. Once again, thanks to all of you for making us feel a part of the 9th Div. family. If I never do make another of the reunions, I will never forget that one. It was such an experience, if you had that 9th Division name tag on you were just made to feel like a regular family member and everyone seemed to really mean it. Once again thanks very much from my daughter Janice and I.

All of you please keep writing!!!  
P.S. Happy holidays to all of you out there!

60th Inf Serv Co.  
KARL "BARNEY" IN-  
GEBRETSEN  
3117 N. El Macero Dr.  
El Macero, Ca. 95618

I have enjoyed my brief time as a member of the Ninth and want it to continue, so enclosed is my check. I especially enjoy the Octofoil and the names and remembrances it brings me out of the past. Lucille and I enjoyed the reunion at Hyannis although I was disappointed that I did not get to meet more of my buddies from that area. The Kauffmans and the Ingebretsens spent an additional 4 days visiting most of the places of interest. Mike lived up to his brag in his speech when he proved his fitness on portions of Boston's Freedom Trail. El Macero is a part of Davis, Ca which is located on 180. It is 15 miles from the capital of Sacramento and 70 miles from the Golden Gate of San Francisco. To all my old comrades, please drop by.

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

Dave Silberberg mentions a Capt. Wm. Ewalt. He must have been the German speaking Captain that went along on a patrol with Lt. Williams, Cpl. Cull and myself. The intent was to capture a German soldier for interrogation. At the time, I was with the I & R platoon of 47th Hq. Co. We were located in Vicht, Germany. Our platoon had an O.P. at the east end of Krewinkel which we manned 24 hrs. a day for about 2 months. We left our O.P. and contacted the boys on the line in N.W. Krewinkel. We told them what we had on mind, got the latest password and went on our way. Our destination was a house several hundred yards N.W. of Krewinkel. We got there just about dark. We went inside and up the stairs. There was so much debris that we made a lot of noise. I have wondered what happened to some of the officers. Lewis Maness and Jim Leopold are still going strong. Walter Kraft and George Jenkins have passed on. What has happened to John Stelle, Jack Compton, Van Ausdall, Brendemuh, Goldberger and Capt. Clegg?

60th Inf M Co  
EDWIN LUSK  
Rt 1 Auburn Rd. Box 457F  
Helena, Al. 35080

I have just read the Octofoil from front to back, and find it very interesting. I was Exec. Officer of M Co 3rd Bn 60th Inf in Morocco and later Bn S-3, so I feel pretty close to all men of 3rd Bn especially M Co. I talked to Harold Sell and he has some health problems but may be able to make the 1989 reunion. I hope so. He was a fine soldier. Best regards to all the Ninth.

47th Inf. 2nd BN.  
LARRY J. MORGAN  
26228 St. Rd. 2  
South Bend, Indiana 46619

A few members of 2nd Bn 47th recently came together when one George Minarik and wife of G Co 47th went to North Dakota and brought one Archie Roheer back to Indiana where they came to my house. Well, the spoken words lasted well into the night and continued for some days.

Then I decided to drive Archie and his wife Fern back to North Dakota. Archie paid for all the gas we burned in the car. He's a fast man with a buck. We did taper off on conversation somewhere between Chicago and Devils Lake.

After a few days at Archie house (Fern is a charming hostess and good cook) we started back to Indiana. My wife, Laura and myself, stopped over in Wadena, Minn. and looked up another army friend; Art Olson of 2nd Bn Hq 47th. He and his wife Evelyn, his twin brother Harold and wife entertained us royally. I reached for my billfold but my money was no good in Wadena.

Last, Laura and I proceeded to Seymour, Wisconsin but alas, Austin Koepple of 2nd Bn 47th was not at home, he was in hospital at Rochester, Minn. so we missed him.

All in all though, it was a nice trip and get-together.

**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.**

39th Inf C Co  
THOMAS FUNKHOUSER  
328 12th Ave.  
New Brighton, Pa. 15066

In 1984 a tumor on my tailbone made it impossible for me to walk only a little bit with a walker. I can stand up and turn around. I've spent a year in the V.A. Medical Center at Butler, Pa., 2 yrs. in the Brighton House, a personal care home in my town and the last year and a half in the V.A. M.C. and am in nursing home #2 there. Two of my 3 daughters visit me every week on Saturday and one on Tuesday. My oldest lives in Upper Michigan. In the Octofoil about 5 years ago, I found out Lt. Col. Tucker survived his wounds he received at Mittenwald, Germany with Capt. Shaffer, but has spent those 40 odd years in a wheelchair. It's a "ruff" life when you have to depend on someone to help you. I go to therapy 3 days a week and I just started to go to woodshop.

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

I read George Furber's letter about the Readers Digest book on WW 2. I have the book and read it many times and enjoy it. At the Remagen bridge it mentions a good many names of men who were there first. Some of the names were Lt. Engeman, Lt. Zimmerman, Lt. Burrows, Sgt. Alex Drabik and Sgt. Delisio. It is amusing telling about a private arguing with a Major, saying he would not cross the bridge, but when his squad started over he took off with them. The 9th was still the secret division for it does not mention it at the bridge. I would like to say hello to Eddie Maher, George Bako, Mac McDaniel, Louis Rullan, Marty Gill, Mike Sanchez. Bill McLaughlin, Robert Mathis and all G Co buddies. Enclosed is a check for dues and Memorial fund in memory of Jerry Shapiro and Irving Posner.

39th Inf Can Co  
JIM BENANE  
14 Mockingbird Ct  
Novato, Calif. 94947

My apologies I "forgot" to renew my membership. My only excuse is that at the age of 71 I still work 7 days a week. So here are my dues for the next 3 years and a check for the Memorial Fund in memory of my Radio operator, Don Crawford of Mahonington, Pa. who was killed a few days before the Remagen Bridge. A real loss to everyone who knew him! Since I retired from the Army in 1971 I rarely get to the East where the reunions always take place but I always enjoy reading of the Associations activities in the Octofoil. Keep up the good work, Best wishes to all.

Service Co. 60th Inf  
FRED GOLUB  
21 Lenore Avenue  
Monsey, New York 10952

We attended the New York Chapter Christmas party and enjoyed seeing many friends there.

I had very successful cataract surgery recently, and am back to normal with my sight much improved.

In October, I participated in the Senior Olympics in Tenafly., New Jersey and won a first prize medal for the 100 yard swim. My name was published in the sports page of the local paper, so now I am a celebrity!

Selma and I wish everyone a very healthy and happy New Year.

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

Another Xmas has rolled around in the Teachout abode and finds us alive and well.

One of our Granddaughters, was married and another became engaged in this past year. In Nov. our fifth great grandchild was born, Jonathan Caleb Brady weighed in at 7 lbs. 6 oz. At last report mother and baby doing fine, father recuperating. We have not seen the baby as yet. The Bradys live in Oceanside, about 75 miles. Too far for Jerry to ride.

The Teachout family's usual Summer travels were drastically curtailed this year. We usually visited our youngest daughter and family in Tennessee. We always visited Erma's Mom and relatives and friends in Michigan. Our trips were always planned around our attendance at the Ninth Division Reunion, whenever and wherever held. And along the way we always managed to stop by and say hello to some of our many friends from the 9th.

The Teachout family travels were all done by Erma this year. Back and forth to the hospital. Jerry was in the hospital five times. A massive heart attack, number six, in Feb.; heart arrhythmia in Mar.; pulmonary problems in April; congestive heart failure in Oct. and a relapse in Nov. Also discovered that he is diabetic and is now on insulin. Has been confined to a wheelchair since the heart attack of Feb. Our oldest daughter, Shirley in Culver City, went through two cancer surgeries this year, but is doing fine. The rest of the family seems to be in good health.

Health problems have hit F Co., 60th left and right. Fortunately some one has kept us informed of most of them. We have had a lot of letters since everyone learned of Jerry's illness. Our old C.O., Alan Johnson, called every few weeks. Every week when Jerry was so bad and it was touch and go. Cliff and Rosalie painter spent a day with us in early October. Cliff brought us up to date on the 1989 9th. Div. reunion plans. As usual, Cliff has everything organized F Co., 60th.

Hope that all F co., 60th make a very real effort to get out to this one.

We had quite a Thanksgiving, or more correctly, several Thanksgivings. On Nov. 20 our daughter arrived with a complete Thanksgiving dinner and spent the day with us. On Thanksgiving day a granddaughter showed up with another dinner. On Sunday, Nov. 26 our son and daughter-in-law brought in yet another Thanksgiving dinner. Our own 14 lb. turkey sat in the refrigerator through all this and had to be cooked later. It is a good thing that we like turkey.

We are very thankful to be here for another holiday season. Jerry's 74th birthday comes up on Dec. 20 and our 51st anniversary on Dec. 31.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas 1988 and a happy and prosperous 1989.

47th Inf. D Co  
MILTON SCHNEIDER  
1804 Roosevelt Ave.  
Bellemore, N.Y. 11710

I am retiring in about 6 months and at that time I will send you a change of address. I have enjoyed reading the Octofoil and being a member of the association. Please continue doing such good work.

THE OCTOFOIL.  
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Co's E & G 47th Inf  
JAMES E. LEOPOLD  
3045 Commercial Avenue  
Northbrook, Illinois 60062

Marge and I just returned from a 46th Anniversary two week visit to Morocco and I'm enclosing some pictures of Safi. There are remarks on the back of each picture. In addition to our full day in Safi we drove to "Medhia" Beach in Port Layouti (now "Kenitra") and saw where the 60th landed. That hasn't changed very much. For instance, the Cork Forest is still a Cork Forest!

The trip was well worthwhile and I recommend it to anyone who can swing it.

See you next June!

39th Inf.  
TONY CARMECI  
S.R. 87  
Barryville, N.Y. 12719

A salute to the N.E. Chapter for such a nice reunion at the Cape. We met the usual fine bunch plus a few new ones such as Richard and Rosemarie Pepper of Syracuse. And of course its always a pleasure to see Ben Murell and his wife and family.

I thought the Tommy Dorsey Band was just great, too bad we didn't have them at the dance, although the musicians we had were great.

Good to see Mike Dresh and I must say he never gets older. I remember him at the Lincoln Tunnel each day he was on duty with that million dollar smile, when I was pushing 18 wheeler and he made my day.

I was feeling great up until I went for a checkup and found a tumor which has since been removed and I seem to be o.k. and am now recooling. I must of read the signs because I put my reservations in for "Pines" two months before.

Incidently this should be one of the greatest reunions if the weather is right. I don't think we had accomadations like this before. No one should miss this if possible.

I think you guys had a very constructive meeting (annual) and it is good to hear some people express their opinions.

Well, I'll close for now wishing you and Marie, all the best and a special thanks to Ron Murphy in making a technical problem, very simple. Referring: to Strip Tickets.

All the best, see you at the "Pines" - I'm 20 miles away.

P.S. Heller did a good job and I know Langer will too.

60th Inf G Co.  
LEWIS ALDRIDGE  
2264 S State St.  
Dover, De. 19901

To Carl Price: I would like to know where are all the "Go Devils" I was in G Co from the hedgerows to the Battle of the Bulge. I have yet to hear or see anyone I knew. I was the 5th oldest man on line when I left the division. Where are you?