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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

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The Octofoil, January/February 1990

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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Ninth Infantry Division Association, "The Octofoil, January/February 1990" (1990). *The Octofoil*. 284.
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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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

Volume XLV Number 1

Jan-Feb 1990

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS OF THE 39TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

The 39th Regiment has again been activated. It is currently stationed at Fort Dix, New Jersey where its latest mission is training today's soldiers. The newest members of the regiment wish to keep the spirit of the 39th alive. Part of our plan is to share with our newest soldiers, the history of the Regiment. To do this, we are creating a museum. We are asking for any Regimental Memorabilia that you may have and wish to loan or donate to us, please contact us through:

2LT John R. Piloni
A Co., 2nd Bn., 39th Inf.
Ft. Dix, N.J. 08640-7511
Telephone No. (609) 562-5541/5594

We again thank you for your time and would greatly appreciate any help that you could provide us in obtaining artifacts for our museum.

Company F 39th Infantry held a mini-reunion recently and sent this photo of those members in attendance. Twenty-six old timers got together in White County, Arkansas. Story in mail call.



Ralph Fobbe, Maple Lake, Mn; Clyde Wilfong, Tyler, Tx; Steve Matijasic, Youngstown, Oh; Woodie Simpson, Bristow, Ok; Dick Neely, Phoenix, Az; Roscoe Back, Cuayhoga Falls, Oh; Howard Brewer, California, Pa; John "Red" Crail, Pittsburgh, Pa; Joe Barnett, Troy, Mi; Ray Hanks, McRae, Ar; Lyal Hendron, Cincinnati, Oh; Rondelle McElroy, Monroe, La; Frank Knipper, Hamilton, Oh; Edward McNamara, Brookfield, NY; Sam Burns, Burlington, Tx; Joe Adaysh, Pierce, Fl; Henry Segrest, Tuskegee, Al; Ben "Poncho" Rosales, Oklahoma, Ok; John Brandell, Lansing, Mi; Eugene Mitchell, Kelseyville, Ca; Paul Brown, Follansbee, W.Va; Walter Martin, Wykoff, Mn; William Maloney, New York, NY.

Remember the Reunion Dates for 1990

Oct 4-7

ROADS TO HOTEL

Finding the hotel should be no problem at all to our Snowbird buddies. Make your way to I-4 to exit #29, (Fla. rte. 528, Sand-lake Rd) East a block, the 1st street is International Drive, cross it, approximately 100 ft. driveway to parking lot on right. If you come via the Florida Turnpike head west on I-4.

Airport transportation is available at about \$12.00? but hang on as we haven't had time to negotiate a better than regular deal.

AUTO RENTALS

We have a contract with Hertz for auto rentals. There are five (5) rates — subcompact, 1 to 4 days \$29.80, 5 or 7 days \$115.80, mid-size 1 to 4 days \$35.00 per day and \$149.80 - 5 or 7 days. Full size 2 dr., 1 to 4 days \$37.80 per day and \$159.80 5 or 7 days. All are unlimited miles. Prices do not include tax, ins. etc. To reserve your car call Hertz at 1-800-654-2240 and give our group number 5942.

Some things to do near by

We'll only give you a sample just now and recommend others later. For openers we highly recommend a visit to the Mercado, a mini-mall just a short walk west with the Mardi Gras Dinner/variety show in the rear, one of the best deals in town. The Florida chapter went there in 1987 and we're going again by popular demand. The regular price for this four course meal with all the beer or soft drinks you want is \$27.95 but if you reserve through us only \$21.00 (as of April, 1990) with no increase expected. Anyone interested let us know which day(s), rather evenings you'd like either before, after of during the reunion and we'll try to set a group reservation, send no money now.

To the east on International Drive are many eateries, shops, Wet 'n Wild and another very "must visit" interesting mall featuring a glass/crystal store. A nice trolley (rubber wheels) runs the length of the street. You'll need a comfortable pair of walking shoes (or roller skates). Above all, be sure to watch the OCTOFOIL for any changes.

Florida Spring Meeting

HEY GUYS!! After a long cold winter our LADIES are due for "R & R." A memorable two days has been planned for us on April 5-7, 1990, (check out Sat. so everyone can be at home for Palm Sunday). The Orlando Marriott will be our headquarters as Emil wrote in the OCTOFOIL. It will give us a chance to make a final check before the national reunion in October.

Those of you who were with us two years ago at the Mardi Gras dinner theatre will remember at once the great meal and super show and for those who didn't attend that time are in for a most enjoyable evening on Thursday B U T — B U T because of a few unavoidable delays this letter is late getting out and I'm asking all who plan to attend to PLEASE send your reservations for the Mardi Gras variety show in as soon as possible as I'm committed to have 50% of the money in by March 5.

We will have a hot buffet at the hotel on Friday evening I'm sure will be to everyone's liking.

We will have our business meeting on Friday morning and hope to have a full house so final plans can be made for the "BIG ONE" the national reunion. The 1985 reunion was the first one for most if not all of us who worked on it with many compliments from our members so let's make this one even better. This time we have several reasons for turning out. #1 — a second (49th?, 10th?, 35th, more?) honeymoon, #2 — offer opinions and ideas to show "the rest of the family" a super reunion, # to once more enjoy each other's company and bend ears of whoever will listen. Remember it's getting late.

The BRIDES will find plenty of interesting shopping just minutes away and when the hunger pangs sound, a variety of fine restaurants in addition to hotel dining just a short walk away.

By now you know that the hotel has no elevators, has sixteen two story buildings, a continuous tram service, and an on call taxi service, several fine pools, beautiful landscape to enjoy should you prefer to walk the paths etc...

The Commonwealth
of Massachusetts
Executive Office
of Human Services
Soldiers Home
91 Crest Avenue
Chelsea, Massachusetts
02150

The Ninth Infantry Division
Ass'n
412 Gregory Avenue
Weehawken, NJ 07087
Gentlemen:

We acknowledge with grateful appreciation, your check No. 4081 representing a generous donation of \$900.00 for the purchase of Clinic equipment.

Kindly convey our thanks as well to your membership.

Very truly yours,
Paul I. McNamara
Assistant Superintendent
for Financial Management

FORTY FIFTH ANNUAL REUNION NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION OCTOBER 4-7, 1990

ORLANDO MARRIOTT HOTEL
8001 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
ORLANDO, FLORIDA 32819-9312
(407) 351-2420/FAX (407) 345-5611

***** PROGRAM OF EVENTS *****

THURSDAY OCTOBER 4, 1990

10:00 A.M. - WELCOME TO MARRIOTT REGISTRATION — CHECK IN ALL DAY
4:00 P.M. - Board of Governors Meeting
7:00 P.M.-11:00 P.M. Reception, Welcome Party/
Dance, Main Ballroom

FRIDAY OCTOBER 5, 1990

8:00 A.M.-10:00 P.M. REGISTRATION
10:00-11:00 A.M. - Committee Meetings
11:00 A.M. - General Meeting/Ladies Auxiliary Meeting
7:00 P.M.-11:00 P.M. - RECEPTION/DANCE, MAIN BALLROOM

SATURDAY OCTOBER 6, 1990

9:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M. - MEMORIAL SERVICE, MAIN BALLROOM
7:00 P.M.-?? - BANQUET DINNER, MAIN BALLROOM

ATTENTION!!! BANQUET SEATING!!!

TABLE RESERVATIONS!!!

To reserve a table a ticket with confirmation number will be included with your registration packet, one for each attendee. These tickets must be turned in to Jim Scotta, who will assign a numbered table and sign the back of table slip. There can be no exceptions. Ten persons will be assigned to each table. Please include your confirmation number when paying for your strip or banquet tickets.

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR STRIP TICKETS

PRE-REGISTRATION WILL BE USED FOR OUR 45TH ANNUAL REUNION AND IT IS SUGGESTED THAT EVERYONE USE THIS PROCEDURE BECAUSE IT WILL BE EASIER FOR EVERYONE, ESPECIALLY THE COMMITTEE.

STRIP TICKETS WILL BE \$45.00 PER PERSON, INCLUDES THURSDAY'S WELCOME PARTY, FRIDAY'S DANCE AND SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET.

NAME _____ UNIT _____ CONFIRMATION# _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____

GUESTS _____

Please make checks payable to 9th Infantry Division Reunion and mail to Henry Santos — 9811 N. Connechuset Rd. — Tampa, Florida 33617.

Several early bird prizes will be awarded for strip ticket payment received by July 31, 1990 and several of lesser value awarded for payment received during August. Please help us get all the bookkeeping done ahead of time so we can relax and enjoy a few moments with our buddies.

*****Registration at the door will be \$50.00 per person on Thursday, \$40.00 on Friday for Friday and Saturday, and \$30.00 for Saturday only. One standard cocktail included with Thursday night and Friday night admission.

Tax free deadline for rooms is September 1, 1990 and banquet reservations deadline is September 22, 1990. A point of note!!! The room tax in Orlando is now 10%, a savings worth some thought.

Unfortunately, we must consider cancellations and refunds. Banquet refund requests will be honored up to September 22, 1990, requests to cancel room reservations will be honored up to October 1, 1990.

SOUVENIR PROGRAM

The souvenir program book is being put together at this time. Your help is needed in order for us to be successful. Remembrances, ads, and boosters must be in by August 18, 1990.

Centerfold	\$125.00	Back cover	\$75.00
Inside front cover	60.00	Inside back cover	60.00
Full page	50.00	1/2 page	30.00
1/4th page	20.00	1/8th page	10.00

Booster name and unit \$2.00 each.

Make check payable to 9th Inf. Div. reunion and mail to
Fla. Chapter, 9th Inf. Div.
9811 N Connechuset Rd.
Tampa, FL 33617
Ph (813) 985 5444

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
Henry Santos
9811 N Connechusett Rd.
Tampa, FL 33617

Vincent Guglielmino, 1st V.P.
114 Charles Street
Floral Park, NY 11001

Fred D'Amore, 2nd V.P.
95 Webster St.
E. Boston, MA 02128

Pat DeColli, 3rd VP
1017 Jackson St.
Phila. PA 19148

Dave Heller
Judge Advocate
616 Sumac
Highland Pk. IL 60036

Thomas Boyle, Treasurer
39 Hall Avenue
Somerville, Mass. 02144

Daniel Quinn, Secretary
412 Gregory Avenue
Weehawken, NJ 07087

Board of Governors

1990
Ralph Carci
Brunswick, MD
Richard Martin
Springfield, Mass.
Len Tomassone
Pennsauken, NJ
Edward Wisniewski
Richmond, Mich.
Adolph Wadalavage
Elmhurst, NY

1991
Nick Dogostino
Cherry Hill, NJ
Jack Collier
St. Louis, MO
Larry McLaughlin
Wakefield, MA
Henry Santos
Tampa, FL

1992
Mike Belmonte
Oak Park, IL
Phil Berman
Daytona Bch, FL
Ed Hopkins
Metuchen, NJ
Tom Hatton
Saginaw, MI
Walter O'Keefe
San Francisco, CA

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.

Second-Class Postage paid at Union City, NJ. 07087, and additional offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087.

Volume XLV Number 1

Jan-Feb 1990

Publication No. 402820

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Dan Quinn, National Secretary, 9th Infantry Division Assn. 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, New Jersey 07087

Enclosed please find dues for:

Name Serial No.

Street Address.....

City..... Zone..... State.....

I was a member of:

Battery..... Company.....Regiment.....9th Div.....

I wish to sign up for the following:

Regular Member per year..... \$ 5.00 ☐
Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund..... ☐
THREE-YEAR MEMBER.....\$13.00 ☐
Life Membership.....\$50.00 ☐
Ladies Auxiliary Member.....\$ 2.00 ☐
Decals.....50¢ each
60th Hist.....\$ 2.50 (incl. post.)

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐
Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐
New England ☐ Michigan ☐
Florida ☐

ORLANDO REUNION TID-BITS/INFORMATION

Some of our members are still sending charge card [VISA etc.] to pay for reservations. PLEASE, as was printed in the last OCTOFOIL, we do not, repeat, do not handle charge card reservations, those must be sent to the ORLANDO MARRIOTT - 8001 International Dr. - Orlando, FL 32818. The room tax is now 10% which check paying members will not have to pay when sent to 9811 N Connechusett Rd - Tampa, FL 33617.

Some reservations continue to come in with missing information, especially the unit, Co., Regiment etc., the name desired on name badge, member and spouse etc. By having all information complete we can have you registered in jig time making it easier for everyone.

SEA WORLD!!! About two miles away, is offering a half day admission for our group [3:00 P.M. to closing] and a complete All-You-Can-Eat Barbecued Chicken Cookout for about \$25.00 per person which is very little more than a full day admission. For this we need to know how many will want to add Sunday, October 7 to their stay for we will have to go as a group for this great price. It is quite possible the price will be slightly less and this includes table cloths and napkins, silverware etc., corn on the cob, sausage, cole slaw, baked beans, dinner rolls, soft drinks or coffee. Doesn't that sound good?

It is very important that everyone planning to attend the 1990 Reunion read very closely the Jan.-Feb. issue of the OCTOFOIL FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION.

Florida Chapter
Henry Santos
9811 Connechusett Rd.
Tampa, FL 33617

Cosmic Vacation

1990 promises to be a banner year for liftoff lovers as NASA embarks on its most ambitious program since the mid-Eighties. This year, the space agency plans 10 shuttle launches.

The schedule, said a spokesman at the Kennedy Space Center, is always tentative, and changes are commonplace — as the changes in last week's shuttle plans bear out. You can request a list of upcoming liftoffs by writing to NASA, BOX-155, Kennedy Space Center, Fla. 32899.

Those who plan well in advance can write for a special pass permitting them onto Space Center grounds for the closest possible view of a launch (about 7 miles from the launching pad). About 2,000 free passes are issued for each launch date. They are parceled out on a first-come, first-served basis. Those who write now could, with luck, secure a space for a summer launch. Write to NASA Vehicle Passes, PA-PAS, Kennedy Space Center, Fla 32899.

For information about visiting the Space Coast area of Florida, write the Brevard County Tourist Development Council, P.O. Box 1969, Cocoa, Fla. 32923; or call 1-(800) 872-1969.

For information about Kennedy Space Center's Spaceport USA, call 1-(407) 452-2121. The center is open daily except Christmas, from 9 a.m. to dark. Two-hour bus tours are offered of the Space Center. Admission to the center is free but bus tours are \$4 adults, \$1.75 children 2 to 12. Admission to IMAX is \$2.75 adults, \$1.75 children.

Continental Airlines
has been designated as
Official Carrier for the

Ninth Infantry Division
Association
45th Annual Reunion
October 3-7, 1990
Orlando, Florida

CONTINENTAL AIRLINES will offer 5% off of the lowest applicable fare at the time of booking or, at least 50% off first class and 50% off coach fares.

To qualify, reservations must be booked through our convention desk using the Easy Access Number listed.

After you have reserved your flights, you may purchase your tickets from your local Travel Agency, any Continental/-Eastern ticket office or airport ticket counter or we will mail them directly to you along with an invoice for payment.

Regardless of where you choose to pay for your tickets, call our Convention Desk now to reserve your flights.

For discount fares call—
1-800-468-7022
(in Continental U.S. & Canada)
Refer To Easy Access Number

EZ 10P7

MINI REUNION

CO. G 39th Inf.
BOB SMITH
134 Roger Avenue
Bellevue, Oh. 44811

I will appreciate the following notice being placed in the Octofoil whenever possible:

G Co., 39th. Mini-reunion at Winchester, Va. in June, 1990. Contact Bob Smith at above address.

Mini-Reunion

39th Company B
L.L. LUCAS "LUKE"
2312 Eastridge Rd.
Timonium, Md. 21093

Company "B" will hold a Mini Reunion in Baltimore, Maryland on June 21, 22, 23rd, 1990.

Marriott Orlando Hotel

EVERYONE WINS!! By paying to the NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION.

The state of Florida is generous to non-profit organizations such as our's by extending to us a sales tax exempt status also applies to hotel/motel room rent etc., by registering your room(s) through us we are saving you nine % or, \$6.21 per night. This also is an enormous undertaking so you will be asked to pay for the remaining nights' room rent no later than September 1 to be sure all checks clear and complete the accounting involved. Anyone not paid up by September 1 will have to settle with the hotel and will have the tax as only our chapter check is TAX EX-EMPT. Those settling with the hotel will be able to charge whatever room rent is still owned to their charge card but the room tax will be added to the bill.

Everyone will be asked to present a charge card or make other arrangements to pay for things like telephone, room service etc. and will enjoy EXPRESS CHECK-OUT, (no waiting to check-out).

Room Reservations

THIS IS A RESERVATION REQUEST AND MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY ONE (1) NIGHTS ROOM DEPOSIT. CANCELLATION MUST BE RECEIVED 72 HOURS PRIOR TO ARRIVAL TO RECEIVE REFUND OF DEPOSIT. ALL REQUESTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 9/4/90. AFTER SUCH DATE, THEY WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS.

9th Infantry Division
October 4 - 7, 1990

DAILY ROOM RATES Single: \$69. Double: \$69
SUITE FROM: \$_____

ARRIVAL DATE:_____ DEPARTURE DATE:_____
ARRIVAL TIME:_____ FLIGHT NO.:_____
NUMBER OF ROOMS:_____ NUMBER IN PARTY:_____
ADULTS_____ CHILDREN & AGES:_____
SPECIAL REQUEST:_____

NAME:_____
ADDRESS:_____
CITY:_____ STATE:_____ ZIP:_____
TELE #:_____
Name you want on name tag_____
Company_____Regiment_____

CHILDREN STAYING IN THE SAME ROOM WITH THEIR PARENTS NO EXTRA CHARGE
ALL RATES ARE SUBJECT TO 9% STATE TAX
MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN ROOM - FIVE (5)
RESERVATIONS ARE TENTATIVELY HELD PENDING RECEIPT OF DEPOSIT OR MAJOR CREDIT CARD (AX, M/C, VS, DC & DI)
NUMBER_____ EXPIRE DATE:_____

Special request for location, connecting room, etc., will be noted but cannot be guaranteed. Suites are space available at rates above and will be confirmed by RESERVATIONS MANAGER.

AFTER
CHECK IN: 4:00 P.M. CHECK OUT: 11:00 A.M.

Baggage must be checked with the Bell Captain if departure time is later than 11:00 A.M.

For those who wish to arrive early and/or extend their stay, the above mentioned special group rates will apply to three nights before and/or after the dates indicated above-room subject to availability.

Make check and send payment to

9th Inf. Div. Reunion
9811 N Connechusett Rd.
Tampa, FL 33617

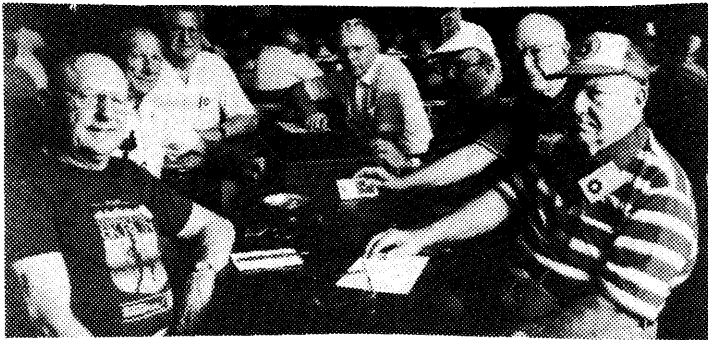
Charge card payment to
Orlando Marriott Hotel
8001 International Dr.
Orlando, FL 32819

Hospitality suites, \$210.00 a nite, more for entertaining, set with living/dining furniture, wet bar, pull out couch, no bed. Bringing in food and/or beverages from outside is restricted.

Junior suites - \$190.00 per nite, one bedroom & parlor, two bedrooms & parlor go for \$280.00. Parlors are set up living room style the size of a guest room. No restrictions on food/beverages.

Executive suites- \$375.00 per nite, smiliar to a one bedroom apartment. No food/beverage restrictions.

The reunion committee is taking advantage of the extra time we have this year to "fine tune" all aspects to make this a most memorable reunion. Watch the OCTOFOIL for 'ae latest information.



Shown at the Newspaper Committee meeting prior to the General Business meeting are left to right: Bill Martin, Paul Clark, Nick Dogostino, Floyd Hennessey, Henry Santos, Roger Gartland and Art Schmidt.

Yes. My Friend we have come a long way

Continued from last issue

Vere C. (Steve) Stephens
604 Glen Glade Pl.
Vaiparaiso, Indiana 46383
The following started out when Steve Stephens and Mike Fazio began exchanging Birth-day cards when they left the service. Steve had sent Mike a card and received a reply from Mike "Yes, My Friend We have Come a Long Way." Both served in the 60th Inf.

Omaha Beach is no better. Many, many casualties. Life everywhere is cheap. How much more, my friend can we endure?
And that little town in France, my friend, which we can never forget
Ste Mere Eglise

And now, my friend, across France we plod as we had in North Africa and Sicily. Cherbourg Avranches Falaise Gap So. Lo How many buddies have we lost?
Beaucoup, my friend, beaucoup

What a horrible existence! If we were not in such pain, my friend, it would be a nightmare.
And yet — we plod on — pain or no pain — hunger or no hunger — we plod on and on with no rest
Hoping for that light at the end of the mythical tunnel!

Belgium our next county! and
Camp Elsenborne and the buzz bombs. Buzz Bomb Alley, we called it.
Oh, those buzz bombs — terrifying indeed, my friend, but not for us soldiers — but for the English people where those diabolical weapons will drop causing havoc, destruction and death!

SICK CALL

The following members are on "Sick Call" and a few lines from their comrades would be a big boost. So come on fellas drop them a line.
Co F 60th Inf
Art MacDougall, 5051 Homestead St., Philadelphia, Pa 19135

Co H 47th Inf
Al Orletti, 990 Arnov Avenue, Bronx, N.Y. 10467

A-T 47th Inf
Henry Cassata, Rd 1 Box 521, Mt. Upton, N.Y. 13809

26th FA and 39th Inf
Bill Lewis, 54 Hopewell Dr., Struthers, Ohio 44471

Appreciation

Art MacDougall wants to thank all the members that sent him get well cards and letters of encouragement. Art managed to attend the Memorial in Worcester this past November. Quite a jaunt — for he and his wife Betty — must take seven or eight hours by car. Art says "he didn't forget those who have gone before us".

Come on fellas! How's about writing them a few lines and let them know we didn't forget them.

Mini-Reunion 9th Med. Bn

The mini reunion of the 9th Medical Bn. will be May 4 and 5th at the Holiday Inn - West in Asheville, North Carolina. Contact:

John Lewis
211 Midland Street
Shelbyville, TN 37160

We are at Germany's front door, now, my friend. The Siegfried Line with its dragon teeth.
The Hurtgen Forest and those — hidden pillboxes. All Courriers of Death!
But so far, my friend, we go unscathed with nary a scratch. Near misses a plenty but nary a scratch. Our Guardian Angel is with us!

Hallelujah!

And the Battle of the Bulge, my friend, at Christmastime 1944.
How well we remember, don't we, my friend?
And that inhuman massacre at Malmedy! Innocent soldiers shot down in cold blood — their oozing blood staining the white snow
How barbaric of those damned SS. They scorn now the American G.I. — Berlin is surrounded by the Allied troops, my friends, the end is near — Hitler has killed himself and Mussolini has been strung up by his own people. The rise and fall of the dictators.

Hallelujah!

V E Day. C'est finis la guerre!
The war is over!

Yes, my friend, we have come a long way but now we must part.
You return to middle America and I to the east. But it is not farwell! We are in touch — as comrades.

We have now reached our 70th year, my friend. Where have the years gone!
Oh, dear friend, my dear, dear friend—
Where have the years gone?

My friend — we have some such a long way in the time we have known each other — Such a long, long way!

Seeking

Jean Philippe Speder
rue du Werhe, 13
4888 Thirimont
Belgium

Before to esplain the reasons of the present letter, I would like to introduce myself. My name is J.P. Speder, 25, electromechanic for the Belgian Water Clearing Stations.

I practice military archeology since 10 years on the north sector of the Battle of the Bulge (Monschau- Rocherath- Losheimergraben). On November 7, 1987, I dug up an American dogtag who belonged to M.E. Janssen 32056480. This dogtag came from the 39th I. Rgr, 9th I.D. area in Kalterherberg.

Since this time, I try vainly to locate Mister Janssen. I would like to come in contact with him. In March 1989, I asked help from the U.S. Military Institute who gave me your address.

If I allow myself to write you, it is to ask your help. You are a leader from the ninth infantry division association and maybe is Mister Janssen on your member list.

I just can say that Mr. Janssen was in 3919 and came from the Second Corp Area (HQ in Governors Island N.Y.) formed with 3 States (New Jersey, Delaware and New York).

I don't know if Mr. Janssen is alive or not. My last hope, that's you. I hope you shall grant me your help.

Taps Sounded

The association mourns the loss of these "Old Reliables" who answered their last roll call. May they rest in peace. To their loved ones we offer our sympathy.

Edmund Bartowicz
A Co 15th Engrs

Thomas Davis
A Btry 60th FA Bn

Jerome Cosenza
A Co 9th Med

Harry Gustafson
A Btry 26th FA

Julius Andradi
AT 47th Inf

William McGonagle
84th FA

Paul Leshak
39th Inf Can Co

John Moynihan
A Co 15th Engrs

Daniel Szuhay
39th Inf Co D

Steve Tebich
Co A 15th Engrs
(incorrectly listed as 39th Inf in last issue)

GRATEFUL

Barry Taylor
140 Scarborough Place
Charlottesville, Va. 22901
To: John A. Mrugala
Box 12, Rd. 1
Barnesboro, Penn. 15714
Dear Mr. Mrugala:

Brian Kelly, editor of World War II magazine, passed your letter along to me as I was the author of the article, "Infantryman's Ordeal in the Huertgen."

I was most interested in reading your letter. I wrote in the article that the 9th Division was "pulled out of the line on October 16", and my basis for saying this was Weigley's Eisenhower's Lieutenants. You remind both of us, however, that the 9th, while relieved from combat in October, nevertheless was not pulled out of the line until November 29-30, 1944. I thank you for the correction.

I was also interested in reading about your experiences with the 47th Infantry Regiment. It was, indeed, an infantryman's ordeal, and you and the other members of the 47th Infantry will always have my deepest respect. The world owes a great debt to the men of the 9th Division who fought and died during World War II. In some ways it was a terrible waste of such fine young men, but we also owe them such a tremendous debt for giving their lives to rid the world of a great menace. They will live on in the hearts and in the collective conscience of our nation forever.

I have received several letters from young men in their twenties and thirties who have read the article, and they seem amazed that soldiers in World War II endured so much. Perhaps it is some small contribution that a writer can make in keeping this history alive.

I remember when I was a boy of seven in England during World War II. Even now, I can hear the calm words of General Eisenhower when he announced on the radio that the Allied Expeditionary Forces had landed on the beaches of Normandy. It was D-Day, June 6, 1944, and even today it brings tears to my eyes when I remember his voice.

Thanks again for writing, Mr. Mrugala, and I hope you and the other fellows of the 9th Division have an enjoyable reunion.

Matt Urban Story

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, March 3, 1863, has awarded in the name of The Congress the Medal of Honor to

LIEUTENANT COLONEL MATT URBAN
UNITED STATES ARMY, RETIRED

for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty July 19, 1980.

Almost 36 years from the day Matt Urban checked out of an English Hospital — to rejoin his men at the Normandy, France fighting front — President Jimmy Carter draped the Congressional Medal of Honor around Colonel Urban's neck. This supreme tribute to valor made him the Most Combat Decorated Soldier of Word War II.

The Matt Urban story is about a soldier who persevered — A patriot who led his troops to victory against overwhelming odds — A human being who never placed self above service to his country or fellow soldier. It's his story of personal valor and the heroism of the men with whom he served.

This is a report of military experiences from the moment Urban "jumped ship" to join his troops in the African invasion — who led battles against the "Desert Fox," Field Marshal Rommel and his German Afrika Korps.

Urban's book is the story of a man who commanded his troops through six major campaigns on two continents — A man who was wounded seven times — A report of his leadership in the St. Lo Breakthrough in Normandy, France — A report of World War II combat action which caused Col. Urban to become a recipient of the Medal of Honor — twenty-nine other combat medals for military service from the U.S. Army — and Medals of Valor from several foreign countries.

Matt wants his story told so that the guys who fought in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam can say "finally somebody told his story of what war really is like, and who also understands the values of our military contributions to the cause of freedom."

To: Col. Urban: Ship _____ copies of your book, "The Matt Urban Story"

Please Personalize and Dedicate

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Make check payable to: "The Matt Urban Story Inc", P.O. Box 2004, Holland, MI 49422-2004



PRISONER OF WAR -
THE LONG MARCH ACROSS
GERMANY
87-DAYS - 5 FEBRUARY - 3
MAY 1945
by: Earl Wilkey with Larry Lloyd

The true story of a Georgia boy who served in combat with the 9th and 3rd Infantry Divisions, was captured by the Germans in 1943, and sent to Wussow, Kommando 1598, in East Prussia.

It is the story of Wilkey's combat at Safi, El Guettar, and in Sicily and in Italy. He tells of his capture and treatment by the Germans during the 20 months he was a P.O.W.

Wilkey describes the heretofore untold story of an 87-day death march across Germany in the gruelling winter of 1945 — 87-days of suffering, misery, and death; exhaustion, hunger, and filth.

\$22.50 covers postage and handling. Hardcover. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Send check or money order to: Girtman Press, Joseph H. Williams, Editor, 1900 Holly Oakes Lake Road East, Jacksonville, FL 33211

James A. Haley
Veterans Hospital
1300 Bruce B. Downs
Blvd Tampa, FL 33612
Veterans Administration

On behalf of the patients and staff at James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital, we would like to extend our sincere appreciation to you and the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association for your recent donation which was presented to us by Henry Santos.

The \$800 check was deposited into General Post Fund Account #5, TV Fund. We are making this our priority to see that all patient rooms be provided with television sets, as well as replacing the older TV sets, for the enjoyment of our veteran patients.

Once again, many thanks for your generosity and concern for our veteran patients.

Sincerely yours,
Martin J. Gall
Chief,
Voluntary Service

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.

A SHORT HISTORY OF "B" Co 39th

We are once again gathered together here in the city of Buffalo, NY in what has become an annual pilgrimage. A pilgrimage that had its beginning many years ago when our Uncle Sam decided the time had come to turn innocent civilians into military protagonists. To recall the draft is to recall our youth from the days of induction to Camp Upton, to Fort E.agg and to new surroundings with strange faces and where Income Taxes posed no problem. It was here that a new brotherhood began to take shape. A brotherhood that was tested early on by the unlikely premise that the North was somehow separated from the South and vice versa. (Not so)

Training Period

Thus began long days of drills, orientations, hikes and all other accoutrements which are necessary before one relinquishes his civilian status and bows to the code of the military. We shall not forget the interminable and exhausting hikes, the weapons training nor the maggies drawers. True, there were many other more pleasant means of activity, such as baseball, basketball, softball and boxing. However, the most valued and looked for were of course, passes or furloughs. This item is what caused many lads to go over the hill at one time or another.

With the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and our declaration of war on the Axis Powers, the accent on training became more pronounced and more vigorous. It also put to rest any thoughts of early discharge or other pipe dreams we may have had. It was at this point also that a sense of camaraderie and burgeoning pride started to emerge among all Ninth Division units.

Foreign Shores

With the training over and a mission defined, we at last boarded transports and headed for foreign shores and whatever fate awaited. After debarking in Belfast (Northern) Ireland, a few days were spent in a town with the quaint name of Carrickfergus. In due course, we again boarded the USS SAMUEL CHASE and headed for Scotland to practice amphibious landing maneuvers versus the famed Scottish regiment the Black Watch. From there, we traveled in a convoy to North Africa and finally landed on a beach near a place called Ain Taya, East of Algiers. Here, some new and rather harsh lessons remained to be absorbed by us green and totally inexperienced Americans. After the French capitulation, fighting against the German and Italian forces became very difficult. However, it was quite evident that during the Tunisian Campaign, our units became more battle-wise and functioned with a gradual and ever increasing confidence.

With the final surrender of enemy forces in Tunisia, a short interlude of serenity and diarrhea followed at a hole called Magenta. I am sure, you who were there remember it well. Soon it was off to sunny Sicily. The men of the improving Ninth, captured thousands of enemy troops and overran all of their assigned objectives. This campaign though of short duration, also contributed to a greater awareness that coordinating all services is essential for success in mortal combat.

Jolly Old England

Soon, it was off to jolly old England and the best part of our Overseas travels by far. London, here I come. Passes

plus furloughs, became the order of the day, along with good food, warm beds and dances. During this period, many old 9th Division veterans returned to their units after recuperating from wounds, incurred during the African and Sicilian Campaigns.

As D Day approached, the mood and morale was definitely upbeat, and through hell was waiting across the channel, the men were raring to go. The attitude was "Lets get it over with."

The 39th once again led the way, landing on the bloody beaches of Normandy on D Day, plus four, with the express purpose to expand the beach at all cost. At this time, the 9th was truly in the prime of its existence; at full strength and spoiling for a fight. As you may recall, our units were practically unstoppable. The Ninth, over a two week period forced the enemy to relinquish more ground than all the combined divisions presently in the beach-head. And let us not forget the heroics performed by the 39th's 1st Battalion at St. Jacques. In this action, drastic losses were inflicted upon enemy forces when they attempted to sever our lines and rejoin main German forces which had been separated during the 9th's drive to cut the Cherbourg Peninsula. Shortly after, came the hard hedgerow fighting that exacted the usual payment in killed and wounded. Finally, the breakout from Normandy and the relentless pursuit across France and on into Belgium and Germany. This rapid advance resulted in the troops finally being forced to a halt due to the service and supply units inability to meet the needs of combat divisions. A lull which enabled the Germans to regroup, bring up reinforcements and consolidate their positions. Consequently, when the OK came to once again move forward, the now well entrenched enemy put up a terrific struggle defending German soil. This, in turn, led the beginning of the battle for the Hurtgen forest which caused very heavy casualties to the 9th and to several other participating divisions.

Later came the battle of the Bulge with its deplorable winter conditions and resulting misery which accompanied the foot soldier wherever he went.

Remagen Bridge

How can those last few months be forgotten? The capture of the Remagen Bridge, and the subsequent involvement of the 9th, played a vital part in bringing the "Third Reich" to its last gasp. With the German army in disarray and spring in the air, the 9th sprang out of the Remagen Bridge Head and with rapid daily advances reached the final objective, the Elbe River. "Baby you have come a long way" if you were one of the lucky ones.

With the death of Adolph Hitler and the total collapse of German forces, hostilities ceased, with the capitulation and surrender of all enemy units. Do you remember that day? Some here today who survived the final gun remember it well.

Quiet Reflections

With the war over, an alien metamorphosis took place amongst the old veterans. No signs of jubilation or exhilaration, no feeling of superiority or a will to dominate; no grandiose or heroic desire to lord it over a vanquished people. No, instead a sense of quiet reflection seemed to prevail and one felt it was impossible to believe that he had survived so much when so many did not.

Mini Reunion

F Co 39th Inf
JOHN CRAIL
321 Frazier Dr.
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

"F" Company's 10th reunion held in Searcy, Arkansas was our biggest attendance so far, 26 men and their wives. We're not as big as Red Phillips "M" Co but we're getting there.

Thanks to you and the Octofoil for publishing our previous letters, it has helped us in contacting many more F Co men.

Mini Reunion

39th Infantry I Co.
CHARLES W. HOLSAPPLE
R 2 Box 413
Washington, IN 47501

PAUL CALLAHAN, SR.
435 Orchard West
Dallas, TX 75212

We are planning another reunion for August 7, 8, and 9, 1990 at Spring Mill State Park Inn in Mitchell, IN.

60th Inf. D Co.
JAMES CANADA
Box 434
Shannon, GA 30172

Here are my dues for 1990, I had forgotten to mail. Hope I don't miss any issue of the Octofoil for I look forward to receiving it and read everything in it.

I don't know what has happened to all the old buddies from the 60th Inf. D. Co. I seldom see anyone's name in the paper anymore. I hope you and your wife have a Happy New Year.

I don't know whether I will be able to attend the reunion. I haven't gone to one yet. I will close for now.

G. Co. 60th Inf.
SIEGFRIED REINHEIMER
2572 Wilson Ave.
Bronx, NY 10462

Enclosed are dues and something for the Memorial Fund. I am always waiting for the Octofoil and I am looking for some old buddies. Most of the fellows from G. Co. 60th Inf. are lazy and don't write. All the best and a Happy Healthy New Year.

47th Inf. Hq. 3rd. Bn.
GENE TOWERY
P.O. Box 606
Concord, N.C. 28026

I hope you can read this. My writing is not so good because of arthritis.

I thought I might run into some of my old buddies if I used a decal on the car.

I was Communications Officer of the 3rd Bn. 47th Inf. from Ft. Bragg to El Guettar where I was wounded and sent back to the states.

I would like to hear from anyone who remembers me.

P.S. I saw the note from Gen. Randle and was glad to hear that he is doing well.

The cost as we all know was very high. The 9th Infantry Division having sustained the staggering total of 4500 killed and approximately 16,000 wounded. Soon, it was add up the points and head for home and the beautiful USA.

We meet again today to renew old friendships and to perpetuate the memory of lost comrades both in war and in peace. The ranks do diminish of course, but our close association through these many years will never dim. In closing, let us pray that our brotherhood may continue for whatever years the Lord is willing to grant our aging bones.

Co. B 39th Inf.
ALBERT BACCILE
300 Rilla St.
Elmira Hgts., NY 14703

B. Btry. 34th F.A. Bn.
C. G. OBERNEIER
422 Cedarville St.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15224

I would like to hear from some of the boys from Btry. B.

Pfc. Cornelius (Bud) Obermeier, 26, of 4605 Carroll Street, Bloomfield, is a member of one of the outstanding artillery gun crews in the North African and Sicily campaigns, it was reported today in an Associated Press dispatch from Allied headquarters in North Africa.

They call their howitzer "Bleepo III" after a comic page dog. Apparently the reason they designate it as the "third" is because they wore out two guns in Tunisia. Sgt. William L. Thomas, of East Liverpool, O., who is also a member of the gun crew, said:

"But this dog doesn't wag its tail. We made an 800-mile march in four days in Africa with no rest. The rain was pouring. We had a helluva time. Finally we pulled into position and started firing.

"The Germans were trying to get into Tebessa and they put us into the line to help stop them. We fired five rounds and they began to retreat."

Obermeier, who was a former watchman in a Pittsburgh bank, has the job of taking care of the powder charge. The brilliant and spectacular role that his gun crew has played in the battle of Sicily was brought to light by the enemy.

A captured German prisoner said:

"I have only one request before I'm sent away. I'd like to see the Americans' automatic artillery."

The Americans, the dispatch said, don't have automatic artillery, but the boys at the guns work them so rapidly they might as well be automatic.

Another haggard German prisoner said:

"We never had any rest. Your infantry attacked by day and night. They kept coming. We would stop them and then they would come back again. The most terrible of all were the guns. The artillery never stopped and you can only stand so much of that hell."

The Obermeier family is well represented in the armed service. Herbert, 22, is in the Army; Cyril, 19, is in the Navy, and Alice, 19, works in a war plant.

Co. F. 47th Inf.
CHARLES ROCHELLE
6419 NC 86
Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514

Here are my dues for 2 years. I enjoy getting the Octofoil very much. I would like to hear from some Co. F men. I am going to the reunion in October. Hope to see all there. Keep up the good work.

If you're going to call somebody else's bluff, make sure you're not standing on it.

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.

Division History Books for Sale

Eight Stars To Victory- hardback	\$36.50
Eight Stars To Victory- hardback pages 366 & 367 reversed - have 20 of these-	\$22.50
47th Inf. history- hardback	\$23.50
"Hold Fast" Booklet-56 pages	\$ 4.50
9th Inf. Division 1918-1968 -44 pages	\$ 3.00
"The Final Thrust" Sept. 1944 to May 1945 75 pages	\$ 5.50
47th Inf. Commemorative Coins - each	\$ 2.50
Tax & Postage included in above prices.	
Joe Williams	
1900 Hollyoaks Lk. Rd. E.	
Jacksonville, FL 32225	
904-641-9751	

Tip of the Hat

A 21 gun salute is in order for the following members and friends who remembered the Memorial Fund.

P.W. Stillings
Donald Muhlenbruch
Siegfried Reinheimer
Philip Reed
Arthur Richards
Joseph Harvilla
Glenn Smith
Harry Kenny
Byron Angell
Aaron D. Lubin
Joseph Horvatis
E.S. Towery, Jr.
Herbert Stern
Andrew Kopach
Hermon Rahn — In memory of Jerry Shapiro & Grady Perry
Charles Ziegler — In memory of Carl Sheridan (CMH)
Thomas Harris — In memory of Max Umansky
David Baker — In memory of father, Morris "Jack" Baker, 60th C Co. & 47th Inf. E Co.
Dick McGrath — In memory of his brother, Raymond, 76th Inf. (KIA near Treir, Luxembourg)

We salute you.

Div. M.P.s.
KEN MEYER
111 Greenbriar St.
Belton, TX 76513

The reunion at the "PINES" was outstanding and everyone seemed to have a real good time.

Although I served with the Division MP's during WWII, I also served as the Command Sergeant Major of the 4th Bn., 47th Infantry in Vietnam in 1969.

To all former members of the "Raider" Regiment I would remind you that the 47th Infantry Regiment (3d Bn) is at Fort Lewis, Washington and that the Regiment has formed a 47th Infantry Regiment Association. Membership is open to all "Raiders" including both WWII and Vietnam "Raiders."

The Regiment has also opened its own "REGIMENTAL HALL OF HONOR" at Fort Lewis.

For further information contact me at 111 Greenbriar St., Belton, Texas 76513 (817) 939-6323 or write to the Adjutant: 3d Bn, 47th Infantry Regiment, Fort Lewis, Washington 98433-6540. I am honored to be the Honorary Regimental Sergeant Major as is Brigadier General Lewis Maness (2d Bn) who is the Regimental Honorary Colonel. Come on "Raiders," let us hear from y'all.

47th H Co.
BILL SIEGFRIED
2729 Whispering Way
New Port Richey, Fla. 34655

Enclosed find my dues for 1990. Happy New Year to all the 9th. I hope to make the 1990 reunion in Orlando.

Michigan News Notes

Well I have the paper in the machine and right now it has more on it then I have on my mind.

For starters I can report that the Michigan Chapter is having its February meeting on the twentieth at the home of Matt and Jennie Urban in Holland, Mi. This will give the boys and girls in the 49 Zip Code Area a chance to make the meeting without too long a drive. We are going, and Holland is a three hour trip from Saginaw. This makes staying overnight a must.

I just reread my offering in the last OCTOFOIL and noted that I wrote that it (last year) was a good year health wise. Well for starters in 1990 Jennie, my pride and joy, suffered a stroke on January 12th. After 5 days in the hospital they sent her home to recover. She has regained the use of her left leg and arm and her speech has returned to normal. Her only complaint is that she is always cold and tired. The result is much sack time under blankets. I do take her out for short periods to keep her from going stir crazy.

Also reported on the sick list but improving is Calvin Daniels. A letter from him today reports he is doing well. He writes that he has shoveled snow, washed and waxed the car and he thinks they will want to do open heart surgery. He also wrote that he is going to church and "from now on no more living for old Satan." All I can say to that is having the right man on our side can help us overcome a lot of our problems no matter what they may be.

I hope what I have written makes sense. I am still staring at the typewriter and nothing is coming out of the head.

So before this ends up just being a space filler, I will say goodnight.

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

P.S. Now I think. For all you out-of-state buffs. The Michigan Chapter is hosting the out-of-state on August 24th and 25th at the Holiday Inn in Angola, In. Mark your calendars. More to follow.

Florida in 1990



Red Phillips sends this photo that he received from Clarence Fowler taken in England in 1944, Company M 47th Infantry. They did not or could not I.D. those in the photo. Can any members help them?



Shown when they met recently l-r: Nick Chipura and J.C. Dawson two old timers from the 39th. Inf. Co I. Story in mail call.

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

The New Jersey Chapter didn't have any meetings in January and February in deference to the unpredictable weather here in Jersey those months. I guess it's really a sign of old age when we let the possibility of a little inclement weather prevent us from having our meetings. But let's face it men: we have reached the age of caution. We'll be having our next meeting before the middle of March, and I hope to have a good turnout.

Clarence Burke of the 376th AA Bn. has been laid up for quite some time after a severe stroke. He is recuperating very, very slowly. He is still unable to drive so I am afraid it will be some time before he can join us at one of our meetings.

Bette Finnigan, Jack's wife, is recuperating from surgery that she had in February. I spoke with her last night and she sounded quite cheerful, so we can assume that she is recovering nicely.

My own health situation has improved tremendously this past month after going to a physiatrist (Doctor of physical medicine) who prescribed a program of four weeks of physical therapy. I have joined the local YMCA where I participate in a senior citizens' exercise program. Some of the positions they get us into would make the Lemon Queen cringe. It's a one hour class, and I must confess that I can't keep up with these "old folk." Most of them are in great shape. It makes me ashamed of the day I let my body deteriorate these many years. I wonder how many years it will take me to get into some reasonable shape. After the class I swim a few laps (spelled t-w-o), and then it's to the steam room, the shower, and home for a nap.

Before I close I want to remind you men who haven't sent in your dues for 1990 to send me a check. Though we are in good financial shape, thanks to those of you who sent in money for the Christmas chance books, if you don't pay your dues you will be removed from my mailing list and delivery of *The Octofoil* will be discontinued. Look at your membership card and see what dates are on it.

ED HOPKINS
110 HOLLYWOOD AVENUE
METUCHEN, NJ 08840

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

Greetings once again from Pennsylvania. It's a beautiful day in Pennsylvania! We've had spring-like weather here in Chambersburg - scenic Cumberland Valley. Why go to Florida when you can enjoy our weather! Well "B" Co. buddies, families and friends it's time again to start making plans for our upcoming 45th Annual 9th Inf. Division Association Reunion in Orlando, Florida, October 4 thru 7th, 1990. This is a good time of the year for a Florida Reunion. As one of the spokesmen for "B" Co. (47th) Reg't., I sincerely hope that our group from "B" Co., will once again win the laurels as being the best attended group at the reunion. As a reminder, please make your reservations no later than September 1st, 1990. This is important since all of us "B" Co. members would like to be together as we usually are when attending reunions.

I received belated correspondence which was too late to appear in our last "B" Co. Octofoil column. Art Stenzel had a pleasant phone call from one of our earlier "B" Co. Buddies, Roland Whitehouse - Remember him? He lives in Oklahoma, is still in the Service at Ft. Sill, is a Special Technician in all things artistic. His family is "all grown up, and college educated!! This is indeed fantastic news. We wish Roland continued success, good health, and sincerely hope that he will once again rejoin his "B" Co. Buddies at reunion time. How about it, Roland?

Art also received a card from the wife of Floyd Richardson advising us that Floyd died last June after a long bout of cancer of the stomach - however "he remained on his feet almost to the end." Floyd Richardson who was one of "B" Co.'s jeep drivers (after Joe Yafcheck) was a quiet unassuming fellow who went about his work with never a complaint. If I'm not mistaken, I remember Richardson as one of the original group of "B" Co. who came together in early 1941. Publication of his passing was made in the last issue of the Octofoil (Nov.-Dec. 1989), with notification to Bill Klauz and Orion Shockley by Art.

We also received a letter from Bill Klauz, asking us to help him obtain information from anyone in "B" Co. who knew Sam Moscatelli. Jerry and Evelyn Moscatelli, (son to Sam and wife) wrote to Bill informing him that Sam died of a stroke on Nov. 8th, 1988, and that Sam often talked about WWII and the men he served with. If there are any former "B" Co. Buddies who knew Sam and would like to share memories of Sam - please share them with Jerry and Evelyn Moscatelli. Their address is: 1728 London Rd., Duluth, MN 55812.

A list of "B" Co. members furnished by Art, and a roster of names furnished by Bill Klauz (who was Captain of Co. B - 1945) does not list Sam Moscatelli. There is a belief that Sam was in the 4th platoon. Any information will be deeply appreciated by the Moscatelli family.

Mail received: A nice letter was received from Ken "Moose" Meyer our Honorary Regimental Command Sergeant Major of the 47th Infantry Regiment. Ken has sent me additional membership applications for joining the 47th Inf. "Raider" Regiment Association. I have sent an application form to: Andy Smerick ("B" Co.) who lives at

NEW YORK AREA CHAPTER REPORT

The New York Area Chapter held its monthly meeting at the Masonic Hall in New York City (23rd Street) on February 16, 1990. The meeting began with the installation of new officers for 1990 who were nominated and elected at the previous meeting on January 19. They are: President Lou Almassy; 1st Vice Pres. Marv Levy; 2nd Vice Pres. Tony DeRobertis; Secretary Art Schmidt; Treasurer Anton Dietrich; Board of Governors - 39th Frank Russo; 47th Dan Quinn; 60th Charlie LiBretto; Special Troops Adolf Wadalavage. Outgoing Pres. Vincent Guglielmino received a plaque with the Octofoil as appreciation for his fine chairmanship of the N.Y. Chapter in 1989.

After the new officers took over there was a discussion on the distribution of funds which no longer will be applied to educational scholarships. The matter of Veteran Hospitals as recipients of specific gifts was debated at great length and the final decision will be forthcoming at a later date.

Also, the 1990 agenda for the N.Y. Chapter was put on the calendar and members will receive the agenda in their next newsletter. The next closest activity will be the Past Presidents Night on Friday, May 18 and the annual Pine-lawn Cemetery Memorial and picnic at Bethpage State Park on Saturday, May 19.

After the meeting the members enjoyed the casual camaraderie of each other's recollections of past times and past buddies. The hospitality committee as usual supplied the cold cuts and beverages. For those of our members who have not joined us at our recent meetings we miss you. We're hoping as the weather improves, more ninthmen will make the effort to show up. Glad to note that former Pres. Harry Wax who had been hospitalized is now improved enough that he will try to make the April meeting. And don't forget to send in your dues, guys. Send it to Art Schmidt, 69-20 69th St., Glendale, N.Y. 11385-6696.

Attending the meeting, not listed above were: George Apar, Emil Langer, Bill Klaus, John Morris and Jim Mullen. The previous meeting on January 19, 1990 for which no report was filed, was attended by George Apar, Tony DeRobertis, Anton Dietrich, Vincent Guglielmino, Emil Langer, Marv Levy, Charlie LiBretto, John Morris, Jim Mullen, Dan Quinn, Art Schmidt, Herminio Suarez, Tony Varone, and Adolf Wadalavage.

Marvin Levy
Co. A 60th Inf.
2044 Ellen Drive
Merrick, NY 11566

204 W. Sylam St., Frackville, PA 17931. We hope that Andy can make the reunion in Orlando. Let's hope that by the time we arrive in Orlando for our reunion, most of our "B" Co. Buddies will have become members of the 47th Infantry "Raider" Regiment Association. So come on buddies, sign up!!!!

Keep well and have a Great Spring Season!! Enjoy yourselves to the fullest each and every day!!

Pat J. Morano
2208 Lincoln Way East
Chambersburg, PA 17201
717-352-3650
Art J. Stenzel
8705 Village Mill Row
Hudson, FL 33567
813-862-6716

F COMPANY 47th INFANTRY CP

Lucy and I are looking forward to October and Orlando. I received confirmation from the Florida Chapter, so the arrangements for the suite for our joint CP have been firmed. Lucy and I will be in the advance party, scouting out hostile territory. We have many friends who have retired in Florida, so we'd like to see first hand how they are enjoying the sunshine state. Winters in Florida appeal to me, but summers?????

Marion and Lou Slatnick accompanied us to see *Fiddler on the Roof* two weeks ago. Mark was directing it as a benefit. Marion is doing quite well after a run of miseries in the health department. Lou looks good and is his usual jovial self. Bette Finnigan is recovering from surgery and is doing well. Both George and Mary King had a tough year, both having been under the knife. Mary's surgery was in the summer, shortly after we had visited them, and George's was in February. Fortunately, both seem to have weathered it fine, though Mary is continuing treatment. George and I chat on the horn about twice a month, as do Slat, Finnigan and I.

George has been in touch with Verne Hunter who is living in California (Sun City) in retirement. I dropped Bob May a note after getting his address from Jack Collier who ran into him at an Illinois Chapter meeting. It would be nice if both he and Verne made it to Orlando in October.

Jim Leopold dropped me a note last month from Florida where he is wintering. I can't understand why he would want to avoid that beautiful Chicago winter wonderland! Jim and his lovely bride plan to join us in October.

Frank Gonzol visited me recently in between trips to the Florida fishing grounds. He is aging well, and Lyl is doing quite well.

George Brown and Frank have already sent me checks for the CP. I am accepting contributions as of now.

Bob DeSandy called last night, and we had a nice chat. They sold his house out from under him, and fortunately, he received what he was asking. That is quite a feat in these times. At the beginning of March they will be moving into an apartment where they were lucky enough to get a six month lease. The gods are good to Bob and Flo. They will be stepping into the land of retirement in September when they will be moving into the home that Frank Smith sold them a few years ago in Southern Pines. If any one is looking for them, you'll be able to find them on one of the 38 golf courses in Southern Pines and Pinehurst. It couldn't happen to nicer people.

Lucy and I send our best to all. Drop us a line with any news you have of your activities, and I'll get it into *The Octofoil* and/or my newsletter.

I hope this finds you all well and making plans for October.

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

Orlando in 1990

The best way to light a fire with two sticks is to make sure that one is a match.

She stood before the mirror and said, "Mirror, mirror on the wall, who's the fairest of them all?" And the mirror answered, "Surely not you, Sir!"

Deadline for next issue of Octofoil- April 20th

47th Inf C Co.
HOWARD D. BROOKS
P.O. Box 141
South Harpswell, ME 04079

It's been awhile since I last wrote. When I do it is usually to send you my dues, or let you know someone of the old group is gone... and this time is no exception. Cards at Christmas from some of the guys who still keep in touch, bring me up to date about some with whom I have been out of touch.

A letter from the 'Old Frenchman' A.B. Peltier and Barb, his wife let me know that Howard Skarison had passed away suddenly after a short illness in the summer of 1988. His wife survives. Robert Salters, of 'D' Co. died last summer. Frank Dowling of Alpena, Michigan lost his wife in 1988, also. He is still kicking as usual. Floyd Richardson, a jeep driver in 'B' Co. 47th died, as you listed, last December of cancer. His wife survives.

Those in the 2nd Bn Heavy Weapons platoon 47th, will be saddened to hear that Ray Konradi, and his wife, perished, in a fire, in their home, from smoke inhalation on January 2, 1990. A short circuit in the basement seems to have been the cause.

I had cards from Joe Farkas... those with 'C' Co. in North Africa will remember him... he was chipper after the success of cataract operations in 1988. There was a card from Anthony Forta, Ron and Cleo Tesno, from Paul Reel and his wife... Stan Pollinger and wife... Martha... a card from Warren Owens and his wife Kathaleen from Fyffe, Alabama... he was in the 1st Squad of the 1st Platoon... Skarison was squad sergeant... Owens is not well... and has had to give up much of his livestock and work on his farm. Then, of course, my Old Reliable friends who write regularly, C.B. Baker and his wife Dot, Bill Klauz and his wife Ann, and my old buddy Erven Thoreson and wife Vlasta... so while the ranks thin each year, there are still some of the old guys 'hangin' in' there.

For the Christmas of 1988, I made a tape and sent it down to Gen. Randle but never had any acknowledgement that it had been received or that, he had even heard it. Knowing nursing homes, it probably was never played for him... I think I'll write to Ann Malone and see if I can find out the score. It was good to read Gen. Randle's letter in the Nov/Dec. '89 OCTOFOIL... it's amazing to read that he was 95 on his last birthday... just more evidence of his grit, determination and survivability. Sounds like he has a good appetite... a typical 'G.I.' for sure!

Well, I've made up for recent silence. I, at 76 last December, am keeping up with the troops and when spring arrives again I'll not be confined to barracks and marking time. I have a lot of interests so the days pass fast enough... and I am grateful for good vision and hearing... and the loyal old buddies who keep in touch with me, and I with them. A priceless legacy from those rough, tough days we shared and will never forget while we live.

Thanks to you, Danny and the others, for making it possible to remain in touch. We don't say it often enough... but that doesn't mean that we are forgetful or ungrateful!



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

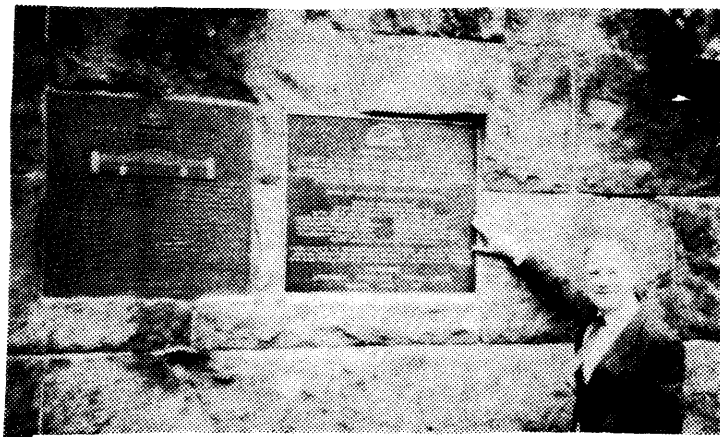
Today Inge is participating in a contract bridge tournament in Heidelberg and thus I've a moment to answer a volume of mail. But first I must address this letter to the membership in rebuttal to a letter from Walter Smith (C/39) which appeared in the May/June/July 1989 edition. I've already written to Walter Smith.

Smith wrote: "... I don't know if the members... are aware of the Museum at Caen, France, dedicated to the Americans, who landed and fought in Normandy. This museum was built with donations from the private citizens of this great country. It is maintained also with donated money. It was opened to the public 2 years ago..." Not all, fact, as I told Walter.

The Memorial Museum, a beacon for peace, was built with French funds at a cost of some 20 million dollars, over half of which was provided by the city of Caen, almost one million by the Department of Calvados, some 6 million by the Region and (that is a six) more than 4 million by the State. Nothing "from the private citizens of this great country."

It was left open to each of the thirteen states (friend and foe) to contribute their own annex to this museum. One of those thirteen was the United States. We formed the U.S. Committee for the Battle of Normandy Museum and they set out to raise funds ("donations from the private citizens of this great country") to erect an American Annex to this museum.

The U.S. Committee consists of 21 prominent persons, not all Americans. After the blitz of propaganda I received, and after I'd make my initial contribution, I endeavored to find out more about just what the goal(s) were of the U.S. Committee. Naturally, I sought out Directors who were either military men or who had participated in the Battle of Normandy. I received no response, not even acknowledgement from any of these men. I shan't embarrass them by mentioning their names in this letter. Now even my letters to the President of the U.S. Committee have gone unanswered. They include, however, two senators, a former chief of staff and an ambassador. What they planned or how they've progressed, I've not the foggiest. The airborne troopers said as much in their national newsletter. I goofed and rebutted their words. Philip Jutras, curator of the Airborne Museum in St Mere Eglise, did likewise. Again I goofed and wrote him a blistering rebuttal. I shamed myself. The U.S. Committee is not a committee for the United States, it is a status symbol for who knows what. Enough. I am contributing to the museum's documentation and research center and will continue to do so. I have willed my Normandy library and private papers relating to the Battle of Normandy to the museum. But, let it be known, to all you guys and gals, this Peace museum is NOT, as Walter Smith said, just dedicated to "we" Americans. It is dedicated to peace. And supported by all 13 nations which participated in the Battle of Normandy, friend and foe! You airborne guys were 100% right. I erred. I apologize. But this is not to distract from all of our veterans from visiting this marvelous French effort (regardless of your sentiments about the French).



Burgermeister Hans Peter Kurten of Remagen is shown as he points to newly erected plaque from the 78th Infantry Division Association. The plaque on the left is from the 9th Armoured Division Association. Many members are wondering when the Ninth Infantry will place a plaque at this site. The Ninth Inf. did more than its share at this crossing.

As the second generation sees it Mini-Reunion

This letter is to all the sons and daughters that read their fathers OCTOFOIL.

As the years pass we develop a greater appreciation and understanding of the accomplishment of our parents. Over the years while talking with my father, he often would mention WWII and the many comrades in arms.

It was my father, William A. Miller Sr., dream for years before he retired to see all of his comrades from the 9th Signal Company. We would encourage him when we could. After he retired, thanks to Newell Anderson, China Grove, N.C., Dad obtained the file of the 9th Signal Company membership to that date. The dream of a reunion was coming closer to a reality. Ray Connelly and Charles Hodges agreed to serve on the committee to set in motion plans for a 9th Signal Company reunion.

Year before last the 9th Signal Company held their first reunion since WWII. All the hard work by my father and his other comrades, really paid off. The excitement and enjoyment you could hear in my father's voice. To me, seeing my father enjoy talking about and reliving

the reunion was worth a great deal. Two reunions later, and with many names added to the files, Dad and comrades are busy planning the third reunion.

As sons and daughters we will never fully appreciate what our fathers went through in WWII. History books do not tell of the sacrifices they so willingly made. The stories our fathers tell are not the same as being there. They are great patriots.

We can enjoy knowing our fathers will have a great time during reunions with their comrades. I urge each and every one of you to encourage your father to attend their reunions, talk to their comrades, and work on their reunions. If necessary, help them to work on their reunions. It will be well worth the effort when you see their excitement and enjoyment.

Incidentally, the 9th Signal Company will be holding their third reunion September 25th-27th in Hazelton, PA. I'm sure my father will be there.

Sincerely,
William A. Miller Jr.
P.O. Box 1992
Beckley, WV 25802-1992

OLD RELIABLE CREED

*I am a soldier, I stand proudly in the ranks of the 9th Infantry Division,
The U.S. Army's finest Division — A "Straight-Led" clearly flexible fighting unit.*

*A division that can go any place, any time
By land, Sea, or Air*

*To fight in the mountains, plains, desert,
Wherever our mission takes us.*

*I have sworn to defend our Constitution against all enemies,
foreign and domestic*

And to obey the orders of my superiors.

I am resolute in this oath.

I dedicate myself to be ever physically, mentally and morally straight.

Soldierly by sight and deed.

Bound by this ethics of duty, loyalty and integrity

A leader among men yet always a friend to my fellow soldier.

A professional — knowing and performing my task to the best of my ability.

Above all, I love my Country and I shall serve it with Honor.

I follow the Octofoil.

I am an Old Reliable.

found on a plaque at the 9th Division
Museum, Fort Lewis, Washington
Ernie Newhart 15th Engs.

"Veterans Awards"

Per recent discussion down here in Florida with Pres. Henry Santos, I am requesting, as committee chairman, that you publish a notice in the next issue of the Octofoil to the effect that those members of the Association who wish financial awards be made to Veteran type Hospitals and individuals, send them in as soon as possible. This will allow the committee members an opportunity to evaluate these prior to the annual reunion in Orlando in Oct. 1990, when funds are approved. Members can send correspondence to either the Octofoil or any of the following committee members: Larry McLaughlin, 82 Gould St., Wakefield, Ma. 01880, Henry Santos, 9811 Connecticut Rd., Tampa, FL 33617, or Adolph Wadalavage, 94-30 96th St., Ozone Park, N.Y. 11416.

47th Inf.
LARRY McLAUGHLIN
82 Gould St.
Wakefield, Ma. 01880

I visited Gen. Randle in Florida recently. He would appreciate correspondence or contact from any members. I had some difficulty locating him as I was looking for a Nursing Home type of address. I found the address he gave in the Nov.-Dec. issue of the Octofoil is correct. It is however not the SunCare Lodge. He is at the private home of his nurse and caretaker, Ann Malone, 13359 - 87th Place No., Seminole, FL 34646.

47th Inf. L Co.
EDDIE WEBBER
333 Lariat
Frisco, Tx. 75034

I'm still hammering away at the book I am writing about the fight for the Remagen Bridgehead. I have stacks of material and first hand experiences from all four divisions which saw action there (I have designed a beautiful Remagen patch showing the two western approach bridge towers and the four U.S. Division patches. The 9th Armored; the 9th, 78th and 99th Infantry Divisions. They are quality work and were very expensive to have produced. I need to ask \$6.00 a piece for them. The proceeds will go towards eventually publishing my book "Gunfight At Remagen.") The 9th Division fought in the center of the bridehead and really took the brunt. The 99th Division fought in the southern section and the 78th Division fought in the north. You sure didn't have to go out of your way to get killed there. A lot of good men died there. Someday I would still like to see a 9th Division plaque along side the 9th Armored and 78th Division plaques on the stone bridge tower. The 9th Armored Division Association disagrees with adding divisional plaques other than their own. But I believe all the divisions should be represented and told them as much.

My best wishes to all 9th Division veterans. Hope you all have a great New Year. Keep those stories and letters coming. God bless!

JOE L. RAPPAZINI
3rd BN 60th Inf.
24002 Sherman ST.
Oak Park, MI 48237

Your labor of love, "The Octofoil," has once again served to buoy the spirits of all those who receive it. Unquestionably, all recipients are grateful to you. Your efforts, I'm sure, have brought solace tinged with admiration to each one.

Remembrance

*I ponder and I ponder as I
scan the names and places.
That kindle memories of kindred
happenings and faces.
The feelings and the responses
aroused are always the same,
Because admiration for the
NINTH
will constantly remain.
Fears and anxieties that invaded
each G.I.'s heart
Simply molded the comradeship
that became of life a part.*

A-T. Co.-39th
FRED W. PHILLIPS
85 Mill Rd.
West Seneca, N.Y. 14224

Happy New Year 1990. Thanks for sending copy of "Octofoil". I am sending check for 3 years membership. I'm sure one of these editions will contain some names and addresses of past buddies, etc. I'm sure my Vet status doesn't compare with the original persons but we did stay on for clean up such as party's of processing War Crime Trials. Disarming and destroying ammo, equipment, etc.

Have a good one. Will write again.



Co. I, 39th INF.
SAMUEL PALTER
12 Schirmer Road
West Roxbury, MA 02132

Dear Dan,

I sent David Heller the information for the Ninth Division Directory. I also asked him if it would be feasible at this time to make a list of former POW's in connection with the directory. He said he couldn't do it, but told me to write a letter to the "Octofoil" asking former POW's to write to me.

I am a past commander of Massachusetts Chapter No. 1 of American Ex-Prisoners of War, since 1982. I have attended 7 National Conventions of the American Ex-Prisoners of War, 3 New York State Conventions and all of the meetings, conventions and socials of the Massachusetts chapters. In all of that time I have never met anyone who was incarcerated with me in prison camps in Germany or Austria.

Events while being a POW, have been very sketchy to me, until I sent away for a book, which is some of the history of former POW's. In that book I came across a name of a prisoner of war, who was captured the same day as me. I telephoned him, and after a few minutes on conversation, we realized that he and I were in the same squad and were two of eight captured at that time. He filled me in much of what I couldn't remember. His name is:

Jack Hedrick
2709 Crestwood St.
Kilgore, TX 75662

I would appreciate it very much if those former prisoners of war could send to me their name, address, date when captured, where they were captured and camps where they were interned.

When I worked for the U.S. Post Office Tom Boyle was my supervisor and Ron Murphy was a fellow employee.

For those ex-POW's who wish to send me their information my address is:

Samuel Palter
12 Schirmer Road
West Roxbury, MA 02132

Keep up the good work, Dan, I enjoy reading the "Octofoil" very much.

Sincerely,
Sam Palter

26th F.A. A Btry
C. JACK STRUBEL
367 Kaimake Loop
Kailua, Hawaii 96734

Before A Battery, 26th Artillery moved to Bad Reichenhall, we were billeted in an ex-German labor camp. It was not far from an underground factory. I believe that the whole 26th F.A. Battalion was quartered there.

They had civilian quarters (now housing) very close to the labor camp. I remember that they had horses stabled there and I had constant use of the horses.

I distinctly remember a fellow soldier from the 9th Medical Detach. who drove me back to the compound from the guard area several times. I would like to show him my appreciation.

Does anyone know the whereabouts of a Capt. Maynard Troth? He was C.O. of A Battery, replacing Capt. Robert F. Porter.

If anyone knows anything about being in Germany with the 26th Artillery or Capt. Troth, please write to me.

Florida in 1990

Why do they call it Wall Street when it's always either going through the ceiling or through the floor?

For the Records

Mr. Adolph Wadalavage
(9th MP)
9430 - 96th Street
Ozone Park, NY 11416

Dear Adolph:

On March 10, 1945 while serving with G-Co 39th Infantry, I was seriously wounded at the Remagen Bridge. Since then I have been back a couple of times with my wife and the place is always changing, no more towers, they were taken out, as they were a hazard to navigation, and the town is beautiful, as they all are along the Rhine.

The main reason for this letter is to alert you to the fact that the worlds largest Radio Telescope is not located far from Monchau as stated in your letter in the Nov.-Dec. 1989 issue of the Octofoil. The worlds largest Radar Telescope is located in Arecibo, Puerto Rico just about five miles from my home, for further information on the Radar Telescope you may write to:

Compania de Turismo
de Puerto Rico
1290 Avenue of Las Americas
New York, NY 10019
Telephone 212-541-6630 or
Toll Free 800-223-6530,
and you may also call in
Puerto Rico to (809) 721-2400

I am enclosing article and photo of the Arecibo Inospheric Observatory.

Looking forward in meeting you at the Orlando reunion I am.

Sincerely,
Carlos B. Esteva
Past President
9th Infantry Div. Assn.
P.O. Box 436
Arecibo, PR 00613

39th Inf. I Co.
J.C. Dawson
P.O. Box 622
Decatur, Tx 76234

Enclosed find my dues for another year. I enjoy the Octofoil. Through Mail Call I've located a buddy I took basic training at Anniston, Alabama in 1944 with Donald Dale of California.

Nick Chipura saw my name and called me. Nick is from Fair Lawn, New Jersey.

This past November, he came to visit me in Decatur, Tx. Enclosed find a picture taken at that time. The last time we saw each other was on the battlefield in Germany on Jan. 30, 1945. Our visit brought back many memories.

This past year I've also visited by phone and mail two more of our company I men.

Al Mericer of Flint, Michigan and Jack Radabaugh of Findlay, Ohio.

I hope, if my health allows, to make the Co. I mini reunion in August.

I've also enjoyed hearing from other men of Co. I that I didn't remember.

VETERANS' FOLKLORE

Folklorist seeks personal anecdotes, jokes, legends, stories of the supernatural, chants and songs from veterans.

No record of history is complete without the personal reminiscences of ordinary people. Your recollections, no matter how common, are invaluable to this project. Please take the time to copy any songs, chants, newsletters, cartoons and jokes and to jot down any memories of your time in the military.

Send material to: Dr. C. Burke,
Department of English, U.S.
Naval Academy, Annapolis,
MD 21402

Co M (47th) Chronicler

Another call from Hiddenite NC reveals that the Rayford C. Childers interred there was from the Big Red One. Family records showed that the church plaque should read "M Company, 16th Infantry" so you can stop scratching your heads.

All I can say is that their man has been travelling in some pretty fast company for the past 40-odd years but I guess he didn't mind. I remember when the 1st Division came and doubled up with us in Schevenhutte just before the Big Push in November '44. Their headquarters set up in the big gaesthaus on the main street. I was fresh back from the hospital and one of the troops from company headquarters invited me on a patrol to recover forgotten goods down in the cellar of the gaesthaus. It turned out to be Dutch gin in old stone flasks. Heavy but so tasty!

A letter came from the sister of Jim McClellan who was KIA in Normandy in the German counterattack early on the A.M. of July 11, '44. Jim was the 3rd Platoon's transportation corporal. It will be recalled that his was one of the rear guard's Finest Hours. Along with cooks and clerks of our company and battalion headquarters, the mortarmen became instant riflemen that A.M. when the Panzer Lehr Division sliced into the Battalion's open flank. They held until daylight brought P47's and other forms of relief. When it was over the German's only serious bid to wipe out the Normandy Bridgehead was kaput.

Anyway, Mrs. Kathleen McClellan Hughes, 18250 W. Yellowstone, Casper, WY 82604, would like to hear from Jim's buddies.

My "blind letter" approach to VA to have them forward letters to M-ers whom they had record of has paid off. Safi veteran Bob Story checked in from 3143 Canal Rd., Ronan, MT 59864. Bob says to add his name to the "Not Dead Yet" column but his wife disagrees. Seems he's too busy fishing and hiking in the mountains during the summer and, in winter, woodworking in his shop to take care of all those "Honey do's."

Bob recalls the day on the Safi march not having a raincoat in his pack when the call came to don them. Says that his lieutenant got restricted because of that. "I think it was the only time it ever rained in French Morocco," he says. Well, Bob, it wasn't the only time that Lt. Phillips got restricted. I can tell you that.

I sent an up-to-date M Co. roster to Dan Quinn, intrepid secretary of our Association and he checked his records to see how many of our gang were paid-up Association members. It was 53 of 114, or about half. I'll go out with one more plea for those non-members to get aboard. I hate to spend the money for postage but it would be too bad to lose contact again after all the trouble it's been to locate these fellows. Let's face it though, not all of us are sentimental slobes crying in their beers over better days. Some of us aren't even allowed to touch that stuff any more.

Bill Kowalczyk's sent along a photo which I've passed on to the editor. Like many of us, it's in pretty grim shape but perhaps someone can add to Bill's identifications. These are mortarmen and it must be England since they are wearing liners and not steel. In the second row Bill identifies from L-R, Clarence Fowler (now of Duncan, SC); Jim Wingate (deceased) and George M. Czaja (never located), and in the back row on the extreme right, "Bing" Porowski (now deceased), and to the left, Niels A. Hansen (never located).

Henry Santos of the Association's Florida Chapter wrote confirming my reservation at the Orlando Marriott and asked me to supply unit identification so that M-ers could be set up together there isn't the same area. Imagine me forgetting that! Be sure to mention that you're of M/47 when you make reservations and a tip of my old steel pot to "On the Ball" Henry Satos.

So that's "30" for now. Stay warm!

Red Phillips
14002 Hemlock Dr.
Penn Valley, CA 95946

A Co. 15 Engrs.
EDW. RUPERT
4912 W. 156 St.
Oak Forest, IL 60452

Enclosed please find my dues for another year.

I can tell that I'm getting old. If I didn't receive the Octofoil today, I would've forgotten the dues.

Also reading in Taps Sound-ed, the name of Steve Tebich A.T. 39th Inf. I was wondering if that was the same Steve Tebich that was my Sergeant when I arrived at Ft. Bragg in 42. I was put in Sgt. Tebich's squad Third Platoon Company A 15 Engr. Bn.

Steve was a good Sergeant, often we left the Wine Vats in North Africa. Sgt. Tebich and Cpl. Ralph Penna got wounded in a mine field, after that my memory of Sgt. Tebich is blank. Then I read Ed Boyle's note about him.

I heard from several of the old buddies Ed Ankovich (Florida), Jerry Fasano (PA), Howard Horner (New Jersey), James (Calif.), Lt. Dwight Merrill (Maine), David Pinkney (New York), Augie Rintala (Montana). The list gets smaller every year.

I always look forward to getting the Octofoil.

GOLF OUTING

I hope the members who attend the reunion in '90 write me if they intend to play golf, so I can find a good place and reserve a time, so it won't be done at the last minute. Thurs. the 4th or Fri. the 5th if they will give me their choice. I forget we have a meeting on the 5th, so I hope everyone says the 4th is OK.

My wife Beryl and I went to see Gen. Randall on Jan. 25. We try to see him once a month. The General is in pretty bad shape. He fails in his health quite a bit and for some reason or other, bounces right back! Although I never served under him, I admire him very much. I first met him when the Florida chapter was formed and helped his nurse, Ann Malone, see that he enjoyed himself when he was able to attend our reunion. I want to thank Lindsey Nelson for writing the General recently. He enjoyed hearing from him and also offer my congratulations to Mr. Nelson for the honors he spoke of that he was awarded

60th Inf A Co
ROBERT PAPPAS
738C 518 Box 175
New Port Richey, FL 34653

47th Inf. K Co.
JOHN MRUGULA
Box 12 R.D. 1
Barnesboro, PA 15714

My membership will be expiring this year. I decided to renew it to a life time membership.

My wife and I will be in Orlando for the reunion. Our plans are to be there for six days. We missed last year's reunion in New York because of health problems. We missed being there and visiting with all of our friends.

I was very sorry to read of Max Umansky's passing in the Octofoil. He will be missed at the reunions.

May God Bless the both of you and God willing we will see you in Orlando come October.

Hq. Btry. 84th F.A.
WALTER RICKER
Rt. 8, Box 440A
Greenville, Tn. 37743

To all the men and women of the 9th Inf. Div. Association. Had a wonderful time at the reunion at the Pines in June of '89. The people in NY and at the Pines made us feel at home thanks to all.

I got to see some of my old buddies of Hq. Btry. 84 F.A., two of them I had not seen in 45 years, you guys look great. Thanks to the ones who sent greeting cards and letters. I hope I can make it to the reunion in Orlando, Florida.

Hope to see many of you there. I wish more of the men would write to the Octofoil. I like to read about what you guys are doing. And I am sure others would also. Thanks for the memories. May God Bless everyone.

B Btry. 84 B.F.A.
SAM ROBINSON
400 Paradise Rd.
Madrid ID
Swampscott, Ma. 01907

Just to let the readers know that after a tough operation on Jan. 1, I'm recuperating and Belle and I are making "a delayed" trip to Florida. We will see Bill Mauser, Terricola Jack Karger and their wives in Lake Worth.

Enclosed is "a bit" for Bill McGonagle. I've been looking for him for 45 years and look where I found him. He was not one of our members, but part of the 84th.

Happy 75th birthday to Dick O'Connor.

All the best to you guys.

MAIL CALL

Co.'s B & C - 47th Inf.
WILLIAM KLAUZ
1510 York Avenue
New York, NY 10021

Just a few lines to let you know that all's well at the Klauz's and we pray that it's the same with the Quinns. Have a problem and hope that you can help. Years ago I received a list from Arthur Stenzel listing the names of "B" Company personnel, and comes Christmas time, I always sent out the Christmas cards to them. I could have missed a year or two, when I was ill, but in main, I tried to keep in touch with all. I just received a card from the son of one of our members that had passed away and he asked for any information we may have of his dad. As soon as I finish this letter will write to him but what does one say? If he was with "B" Company at the time I was the Commander, then I knew him, because I always made it a point to meet all the members of "B" Company at one time or another and personally interviewed them. I looked up the papers that I have and found this roster of "B" Company as of the 1st day of May or June 1945 and the name of Sam Moscatelli is not on the list, this list is the roster of the Company at that time. I am sending you a copy, hope you can use it. This is the letter I received in the mail

"The Moscatelli Family received your Christmas card to Sam. This is just to inform you that Sam died of a stroke on 8 November 1988. We gathered from your card that you were an army buddy of Sam — is that correct? Sam often talked of the war and the men he served with. If you have any memories of Sam — please share them with us — Sam was deeply loved and is deeply missed.

Sincerely,
Jerry & Evelyn Moscatelli
(Son to Sam & wife)
Our address
1728 London Road,
Duluth, Mn 55812

How does one remember all the brave members of one's unit? I do have a problem because I served with 2 units "B" & "C" Co.'s. I'm sure I knew Sam if he was with "B" during my time as Commander, but he could have been there before I took the Company, so I'll write to Arthur Stenzel and Pat Moran, they should know more about Sam. If you could put a little note into the Octofoil, to all members of "B" to please drop a note to the Moscatelli family and let them know of their friendship to Sam, the little stories that mean so much to the loved ones we leave behind. I have just received the Nov./Dec. copy of the Octofoil and again enjoyed reading the wonderful articles, you both deserve the highest awards ever for your continuing work, in publishing this wonderful paper. Thank you and God Bless.

Bill Klauz

47th Inf F Co
PAUL PRYJMAK
40677 Newport Dr.
Plymouth, Mi. 48170

I retired from the Post Office 10 years ago and am enjoying it right along by keeping busy. My wife and I were married 41 years ago and have 2 married children and 4 grandchildren. We send our best wishes to members of F Co also Hello to Joe Bergin, Frank Gonzol, Earl Wilkey, Ed Hopkins, Bob DeSandy, Rodger Alsgaard, Paul Giarraputo and all those that remember me.

3rd Bn. 60th Inf.
MICHAEL J. FAZIO
83-04 Parsons Blvd.
Jamaica, N.Y. 11432

It is now 1990, just about 45 years since the end of the war in Europe. Most of us, if not all of us, are in our upper 60s and in our 70s. Some of us are in good health — some are not. The accumulation of years on a human body can make that human body frail and debilitated. Those in good health can thank their lucky stars or better still the good Lord. Those not so fortunate can persevere and keep on plugging and hope for a change for the better. Some of us are more infirmed than others, some who cannot move about as quickly as when we were able to hop over a hedgerow in France or dig a quick foxhole in the Huertgen Forest can look back and say "Gosh, did I do that?"

Some of us don't see as good as we did when we took aim with our M1 in the Battle of the Bulge to knock off a couple of Krauts. "Old age is playing a lot of tricks on us but we can sidetrack "the old man with the scythe."

Even though it is Round 10 in our bout with nature — let us not be "knocked out." Let's not have anymore names in the "Taps Sounded" column of The Octofoil for a helluva long time to come. That is the only thing I hate to read in our beloved Octofoil.

Some of us don't hear as good as we did, like when we'd be lying in our foxhole in the dead of night outside the town of Schmidt — or some other German town — acutely listening for a German counter-attack. Our hearing was so good that we heard the slightest sound like a twig breaking or the rustle of some leaves. But what's the good? You can never hear an incoming mortar shell anyway.

So, hang in there buddies and let's fight on to Round 20 and beyond. Each and everyone of us deserve it.

God bless our glorious flag.
God bless this great nation of ours.

God bless all our buddies, living and dead, of our beloved 9th Infantry Division.
60th Inf. I Co.
ORVILLE STANGL
HCR Box 106
Java, SD 57452-9539

I live on my farm in South Dakota. A Grand-nephew took over full operation of the farm in 1988. I am standby consultant and parttime hired hand, if needed. Over the years since the war I have enjoyed visits from former 9th men, namely Cole Gronseth, Jerome Stevens, Albert Hoff, Del Pembbridge, Sweeney and talked to Woodrow Greeno over the phone. I wonder what happened to all the I Co. 60th men? I doubt if I've seen over 4 or 5 mentioned in the mail call section and I've been receiving the paper since 1946!

9th Q.M.
JOS. DE MATO
310 Fairview Ave.
Hamden, CT 06514

Found the paper very interesting. I was a good friend of Harrey Orenstein. I found out through Everett Tapp of 9th Q.M. that Harrey died. I knew he got married. He used to visit me every 2 months. Come down spend a weekend at my home. I was surprised his sisters didn't let me know. Would like to hear from some of the guys from the Q.M. I don't hear from too many guys. If you print any of this I would welcome news from them.

15th Engrs B Co
RICHARD MCGRATH
2856 E 8th St.
Chicago, IL 60652

It was good to see so many familiar names in the last issue. Charlie Hoffman, Ernie Newhart and Tony Madonna were present. Tony wrote a beautiful letter eulogizing Nick Yarosz. I remember Nick from North Africa. He and a few others were daredevil enough to ride motorcycles out of the message center. We were well represented in the last issue but I hope the first timers who showed at the Pines will write and let us know what they thought after all these years. Must have been surprised at how some of us skinheads looked and how well preserved others, like Alley, Tony and Fred, with their full crop of hair and as trim as when they put us yardbirds thru the paces. Must be something in the pasta that makes those Italians stay young. Anyway, Ernie Mika and Bob Apel, you are ordered to write a story about your feelings about the 44th reunion.

We get good news and bad news with each Octofoil. One of my first reunions Max Uman-sky came up and shook my hand and asked "how are you?" I thought he was on the welcoming committee as an official greeter. Fran asked me who he was and I realized he was just a special kind of human being who liked to make people feel good. Goodby, Max, reunions won't be the same anymore! I had word from Lydia Lisa that Paul had his bypass and is bouncing back. Maybe that chowhound table from the Pines can be together again at the 45th reunion. Another enjoyable visit from Joe Killacky, K Co 47th. Joe and I have many enjoyable remembrances from the Octofoil. We agree that if it wasn't for the Octofoil there would be no association. Matt Urban's book is out and I hope the gang will support it. We will always respect and be proud of Matt. Many good writings in the Octofoil. Like Mike Belmonte who keeps the Illinois Chapter going. He writes well, but I have the feeling that Ann does most of the work. If there is any south sider that would give me a lift to the meetings I'd be grateful. Ron Murphy another terrific guy with his accounts of the Memorials. Ron, we appreciate your columns. Red Phillips I do not know, but I like the way he puts words together to make stories interesting. Heard any good jokes lately? The Preacher told the senior citizens group that because of their ages they should be thinking of the "hereafter." One old-timer turned to the other and said, "I do all the time. No matter what room I go into when I'm home, I ask myself, what am I hereafter?" The jokes at home are treated like I'm Rodney Dangerfield. In closing I want you to know I really feel good that I wrote this letter. As D'Amore always says, "It's later than you think." So if you want to spread a little sunshine to your comrades write to the Octofoil.

All of the T.V. stations in this area mention the anniversary of Pearl Harbor but none were interested in the Battle of the Bulge. I know you fellows in the North were used to that kind of weather, but for me I had never been so cold in my life. We had a low of six degrees Christmas weekend, to me that is cold. In 1944, I never knew the temperature. I am glad I didn't. Regards to all.

Cannon Co. 39th Inf.
GEORGE W. BOOTH
621 S. Olive Street
Jefferson, Iowa 50129

Thought I'd drop you a few lines to let you know what a terrific job you are doing on the Octofoil. Really enjoyed it. Have read it two or three times. Also picked up a couple of names and addresses of men in old company. Heard from one of them. Keep up the good work. Hope to see you at the reunion in Orlando, my first one. Would be interested in hearing from anyone who was in the Company from Sicily until the end of the war.

A BTY, 60th FA
JOS. MAHONEY
4 Marguerite Road
Walpole, MA 02081

I have just returned from the V.A. Hospital at West Roxbury where I have been in bed with my left leg raised up higher than my heart for the last three weeks. Last Wednesday they were going to perform a large graft from above my right knee and below the hip to my left leg near the ankle, but when they brought me into the operating room and started to prep me for the operation they found out that my heart would not function properly so the operation was cancelled.

I believe my dues are paid till this year but in any event here is \$10.00 to be on the safe side. Best wishes to all.

DUES REMINDER

This issue of the Octofoil has been used for years to remind our members that "dues are due." The caption "Is your Octofoil addressed with tell-tale red ink?" was used for years but now with our new computer mailing arrangements this is not possible. Instead we ask the members to check their Octofoil especially where their name is printed and above their name you will find numbers and they will indicate what year your dues are paid up until. The letter L will indicate Life member - H will indicate Honorary member and 089 will let you know that your dues are payable now. 090, etc. are good till the year indicated.

If for some reason you find it difficult in paying the dues drop us a line and we will keep you on our membership roll. Send your paper and keep the matter confidential.

We remind our members that a limited budget keeps us from mailing the Octofoil to those who fall in the delinquent class. Send your dues to the secretary's office, 412 Gregory Avenue Weehawken, N.J. 07087.

9th M.P.
P.W. STILLINGS
9806 Pleasant Road
Daphne, AL 36525

Greetings, for 1990. Enclosed dues for another three years and what's left over to the memorial fund. I hope to see you in the fall at Orlando. My health is good even at seventy-five.

My wife and I are getting ready to head south and if all goes well, we will have about 6 weeks of glorious sunshine, hopefully! I was rummaging around in the basement and found several pair of good wool GI pants and shirts. Also my jacket adorned with the "fruit salad." Realizing how the weather was so miserable I took them to a senior center in a poor section of town. Maybe some other guys will find some articles that would help some less fortunate. Thanks again to you two who have kept the 9th division association alive and well.

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

I am way overdue in writing to the Octofoil but I have to get busy and pay my dues.

I did not make the reunion last year so I was wondering how my old buddies were.

I was happy to hear recently from Eddie Maher, George Bako, Mac McDaniel, of G Co. 47th and hear they are getting along pretty good. Also I heard from James Johnson of A Co. 47th and my good buddies from the 60th regiment, Edwin Brewer and Frank Crapanzano. I had been in contact with my good friend, Ed Combs, of E Co. 47th. All of these buddies were soldiers and friends of the highest quality as were all men of the 9th but I know these men.

We have lost two buddies in the last couple of years that is pretty tough to get over so I am sending a check for one year dues and the rest for the Memorial fund in Memory of Jerry Shapiro and Grady Perry.

My best wishes to all the men of the 9th and to you Dan and Marie.

You know you're a loser if people are always either putting you off or putting you on.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE APRIL 20th

THE OCTOFOIL
412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. 07087

Publication No. 402820

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

Co K. 60th Inf
JAMES HART
7 Nenagh St.
Wilmington, De. 19803

My wife and I are getting ready to head south and if all goes well, we will have about 6 weeks of glorious sunshine, hopefully! I was rummaging around in the basement and found several pair of good wool GI pants and shirts. Also my jacket adorned with the "fruit salad." Realizing how the weather was so miserable I took them to a senior center in a poor section of town. Maybe some other guys will find some articles that would help some less fortunate. Thanks again to you two who have kept the 9th division association alive and well.

B Co 15th Engrs
BYRON ANGELL
572 Smithfield Rd.
New Providence, RI 02904

Enclosed please find dues for three more years and a little something for the fund. Ran into an old engineer member at the town hardware store the other day. Paul Bolduc, we were inducted together Feb. 19, 1941, and were assigned to "B" Co. 15 Engr. when we arrived at Bragg. Later on, Paul was moved to Headquarters Co. and was soon made warrant officer. We then called him "Mister." We had not seen each other since the day I left the outfit on 4/25/45; more than 45 years ago. He seemed well, used a cane, bad hips, but moved pretty well. We had a long talk about our days with the Ninth, unforgettable days they were.

Hq. Postal Section
ALLEN SPERLING
447 Bayberry Ct.
Marlboro, N.J. 07726

I wasn't with the 9th too long. I was sent to the postal section in 1945 from the 94th Div., when they were sent home. I remained with the 9th until I went home in July 1946. I made some great friends there, but never see their names in Mail Call. Hope to see you guys at the next reunion.