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9th Infantry Division Association

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The Octofoil, March/April 1992

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave, Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Volume XLVI Number 2

Mar-April 1992

1992 REUNION PROGRAM

THURSDAY, JUNE 11th

REGISTRATION.....9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
GOLF OUTING.....9:00 AM
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING.....4:00 PM
OPENING NIGHT RECEPTION.....8:00 PM - 11:30 PM

FRIDAY, JUNE 12th

REGISTRATION.....9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
BUS ASSEMBLY.....9:00 AM
MEMORIAL - FORT BRAGG.....10:00 AM
LUNCH - FORT BRAGG.....12:00 PM-Noon
DANCE.....8:00 PM - 11:30 PM

SATURDAY, JUNE 13th

REGISTRATION.....9:00 AM -Noon
LADIES BRUNCH AND MEETING.....9:30 AM
BUSINESS AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS.....9:45 AM
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING.....11:00 AM
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING.....3:00 PM
BANQUET.....6:30 PM

From the Desk of the President

Our Board of Governors met at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux in Fayetteville, NC on Saturday, April 4, 1992. Eight members of the Board were present as were three of our officers. Bob DeSandy took us on a tour of the facilities, and I believe those who join us in June will be pleasantly surprised at the changes that have taken place since our last reunion in 1982.

Bob later took us out to Fort Bragg where we visited OUR memorial, the one we erected in 1982. Viewing this monument brought back memories of many brave men, men no longer with us in body, but whose spirit has never left us. Later some of the members took a ride out to the old Ninth Division area to absorb more nostalgia. It appears that our next reunion will be a memorable one.

Once again, I urge you all to bring your dues up to date and carry your membership card with you to Fayetteville. If you do not have your membership card with you, you will not be able to vote. I further urge you all to attend the general membership meeting so you can exercise your franchise by participating in the proceedings and the important vote that will take place in Fayetteville.

It was good to see your dedicated officers and Board members in Fayetteville. Meeting with them reassured me that our Association is in good hands.

Ed Hopkins



Westy sounds off in letter to President of Association

Dear Ed:

Thank you for your letter of March 31. I am aware of the reunion in Fayetteville since a number of World War II veterans have made it known to me.

Red Phillips and others have expressed to me the hope that the Vietnam Veterans boycott would be addressed at the reunion. Even if the policy of disallowing Vietnam Veterans to join the World War II Association is reversed, I can not imagine any Vietnam Veteran of the 9th Infantry in Vietnam joining them since they have formed their own association.

What I am saying is that the harm has been done, (No other World War II Division Association has been so irrational.) It is sad that so few can affect the spirit of so many and I am sure I am among the many.

In Vietnam, I proudly wore the 9th Division patch. When the 9th Division arrived in Vietnam, I personally welcomed them and insured that they were cared for. The Division did a superb job and I later recommended them for the Presidential Unit Citation. It never ever crossed my mind that my World War II comrades-in-arms would turn their backs on their Division. It was a disgraceful performance by what I believe to be a very small number of our total World War II veterans of the 9th Infantry Division.

It is respectfully requested that this letter be read at the business meeting of the Division Association and be published on the first page of the association newspaper.

William C. Westmoreland
General, U.S. Army (Retired)

LADIES CORNER

You know what is the hardest part of writing this column? It's starting it. How do I open it? Oh, I know what I want to say (have lists of things to tell you) but I want to grab your attention right away, and keep it! So that you will remember all the details I want you to remember for our June Reunion. With that out of the way, here is my column. Some of you are listening out there; as of today, I have 78 reservations for our Auxiliary Brunch/Meeting, and 30 lovely ladies have sent in their dues before the meeting. Makes our job in June a little easier. Thank you all! For those who haven't yet (and there are lots of my friends who haven't), please remember to get your \$10.00 checks into me, before June 8th (last day to bank before we leave for North Carolina). Our room capacity is 125, and I had only ordered 130 tickets printed. Please make my life more pleasant by sending in your money now! Make the check out to: Ladies Auxiliary, 9th Division Association, and mail to me: Ellie Taubner, 85 Smith Avenue, Bergenfield, NJ 07621.

As for our program, Belk Dept. Store of Fayetteville will sponsor a Fashion Presentation for us at 9:30 to 10:30 A.M., consisting of: COSMETICS AND COLOR SELECTIONS FOR THE MATURE WOMAN, and TYPES OF FASHIONS PROPER FOR THE MATURE WOMAN'S FIGURE. That's us, right? (Not many size 2's and 4's here!) Should be a good show. After the show, we will have our sumptuous Brunch. Last Column, I told you all about: The Fruit Juices/-Danish/Croissants/Muffins/-Fresh Fruit Bowls/Eggs Benedict/Crepes a la Reine/Rice Pilaf/Broccoli & Carrot Mix/-Beverages, didn't I?

Our Pollyanna Raffle and Auxiliary Meeting comes after, so bring your gifts and suggestions, and opinions with you. This meeting, we will discuss a JOINT donation with the Association men to a VA Hospital nearby. We will also vote on suggestions any of you ladies put forth. Now, I want to comment on all the interesting notes I have received from you. Lots of old timers and familiar names wrote. Some new ones like Patti Kennington of South Carolina, coming for the first time with her husband, who is the son of a 9th Division Veteran, asking me for information on what to expect at the Reunion. I reassured her that everyone becomes an old-timer by the end of the affair. I remember Bonnibelle Wakeman and Laryce Rybka from last year's Milwaukee Reunion — what good times they had! Henry Santos, Eva's husband sent me a funny note with two nice knick-knacks — especially the TUIT one! Thanks, Henry. Have heard from Connie Koneskie and Phyllis Perna, past and present Secretaries. Both are coming, and sent nice notes. Mary Brasington and I have been in constant communication, and she has worked so hard on this year's program. Thanks, Mary. Continued Page 2

Don't wait till the last day to Purchase Strip Tickets

Get The Strip Tickets Now

For those who are going to attend the reunion in Fayetteville make sure you have your strip tickets for the three day affair. At the rate the tickets are being sold (over 680 as of this date April 20th) as we got to press with this edition. A full refund for last minute cancellations will be made. The luncheon at Ft. Bragg on Friday, after the Memorial Services will accommodate 1000 people, the banquet on Friday night will hold 960 so be guided accordingly.

The four motels booked by the association for our use for June 11, 12, 13 have over 600 reservations. There's a slight possibility of getting a late cancellation otherwise our members are going to have to make their own reservations at the following Inns: Holiday Inn, Rt. 1 95, Howard Johnsons, Hornes Motor Lodge, Quality Inn Ambassador, Days Inn I 95, Hampton Inn all located in the Fayetteville area. The old Hotel in Fayetteville "The Prince Charles" has been refurbished and is expected to be reopened the first week of June.

Pre-Registration Procedure Forty-Seventh Annual Reunion June 11, 12, 13, 1992

Pre-Registration for all the events (Strip) Tickets will be used again this year at the Forty-Seventh Reunion and the 50th Anniversary of the Ninth leaving Ft. Bragg.

1. Fill out the Pre-Registration Form provided below.
2. Write a check or money order to The Ninth Infantry Reunion Committee for the full amount of the tickets.
3. Mail the Pre-Registration Form and the check or money order to Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N.J. 07087.
4. You will receive a confirmation Card Receipt.
5. This Card Receipt must be presented at the Reunion Pre-Registration Desk to pick up the tickets, program and registration packet.
6. Cancellation of Pre-Registrations will be honored for a full refund.
7. To Cancel a Pre-Registration, contact Dan Quinn at 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N.J. 07087 or telephone 201-866-8195 prior to June 1, 1992. After June 5th, call the Holiday Inn at Fayetteville, North Carolina, 800-325-0211 and leave a message to Dan Quinn or Bob DeSandy.
8. Pre-Register now and be assured of having tickets for the Welcoming Party on Thursday night, the Friday Dance and the Saturday Banquet.

Pre-Registration Form Forty-Seventh Annual Reunion June 11, 12, 13, 1992 Fayetteville, North Carolina

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Guest Names _____

Telephone _____ Unit in the Ninth _____

All Event (Strip) Tickets: Quantity _____ at \$55.00 each
Total _____

☐ Please check if you are a Gold Star Wife or Members Widow or Family

If at all possible please send separate checks for dues and pre-registration for the Reunion Strip Tickets.

Banquet Table Reservations

Banquet table reservations may be made on Friday, June 12, from 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. and Saturday, June 13 from 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. in the Expo Center. Tom Hatton and Travor Jones are the responsible people in charge of the banquet. Each table will accommodate ten (10) people. Reservations for groups of ten should be made by one person. The person making the reservation must have a banquet ticket for each person in their group. Individuals or couples not part of a group will be assigned a table by the committee.

No table reservation will be made by telephone. Banquet tickets will be collected by the table servers, before serving. Banquet tickets will not be sold at the time of the banquet. Only those with tickets will be served.

THE OCTOFOIL

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

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

Pat DeColli, 2nd VP
1017 Jackson St.
Phila. Pa 19148

Fran Maher, 3rd VP
14 Davenport St.
Worcester, MA 01610

Dave Heller
Judge Advocate
616 Sumac Rd.
Highland Pk, IL 60036

Thomas Boyle, Treasurer
39 Hall Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144

Daniel Quinn, Secretary
412 Gregory Avenue
Weehawken, NJ 07087

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Oak Park, IL
Phil Berman
Daytona Beach, FL

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Saginaw, MI

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1993
Robert DeSandy
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1994
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Ron Murphy
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Published five times yearly. May-June-July — Aug.-Sept.-Oct —
Nov.-Dec., Jan., Feb., Mar-April by and for the members of the Ninth In-
fantry 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 educa-
tional activities and to serve as an information bureau to former members
of the 9th Infantry Division.

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

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NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Enclosed please find dues for:

Name..... Serial No.....

Street Address.....

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

I was a member of:

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

I wish to sign up for the following:

Regular Member per year..... \$10.00

Sustaining Member.....

Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund.....
THREE-YEAR MEMBER..... \$25.00
Life Membership..... \$75.00
Ladies Auxiliary Member..... \$ 2.00
Decals..... 50- each
60th Hist..... \$ 2.50 (incl. post.)

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-Deiaware Valley	<input type="checkbox"/>	Greater New York	<input type="checkbox"/>
Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/>	Washington, D.C.	<input type="checkbox"/>
New England	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Florida	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Jersey	<input type="checkbox"/>
Texas	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Ladies Auxiliary Ninth Infantry Division Association Membership Application

Ellie Taubner, Treasurer, Ladies Auxiliary
Ninth Infantry Division Association
85 Smith Avenue, Bergenfield, N.J. 07621

Enclosed please find dues for:

Name.....

Street Address.....

City..... State..... Zip.....

My spouse (Brother or relative)

Served with.....

One year..... \$2.00

Credit Chapter.....

Tip of the Hat

The Memorial Fund was
enriched by the generosity of
these members and friends who
remembered. We salute you.

George Pedrick - In memory of
Joe Fenerty

Helen and Al Holmes - In
memory of Joe Lagattuta, K
Co. 47th Inf.

Frank Marciniak

John Celler - In memory of the
Boys who are no longer with us

Mrs. John Trevelise - In
memory of Capt. Frank Petty

William Stokan - In memory of
Herman Seibel, Philip Orzini,

Max Umansky and Robert
Spencer (709 Ord.)

Milton Cordray

Mrs. Cornelius Allman - In
memory of husband, Cornelius,

A Co. 47th Inf.

Ernest Hackenbrock

Mrs. Alvin Becker - In memory
of husband, Al, B Co. 39th Inf.

NICK Labecki - In memory of
Adam Yannulis

David Silberberg - In memory
of Maj. Gen. George Smythe,

Col. Randall Bryant and
Chaplain Irving Tepper (KIA)

Jerry Cohen - In memory of Lt.
Calvin Griffin (K.I.A.) E Co.

60th Inf.

Chester Mikus - In memory of
Fr. Edward Connors and

deceased of B Btry 84th F.A.

Robert C. Webster

Herbert Stern - In memory of
Jimmie Richards and Dr.

Abraham Kaufman

Mrs. Richard McGrath - In
memory of Fred D'Amore

James M. Droney

Anthony Madonna - In memory
of Fred D'Amore and Marty

Roach

William Mooty - In memory of
Frank Petty

Samuel Robinson

Charles Hoffman - In Memory
of Lt. Ware, Paul Ilves and Vic

Yanchunis

Michael Kauffman - In memory
of Perry Langston

David A. Elway

Florida Chapter

Samuel M. Draper - In memory
of Lawrence B. Reifsnyder

Arthur Clark - In memory of
Frank Aiello K.I.A. at

KasserinE Pass

Phillip Emmons

Richard Cooley - In memory of
Dr. Abraham Kaufman

James F. Hart, Jr.



Ladies Corner

From preceding page

The Spotlight this month is on
two truly lovely Ladies, with all
the qualities that the word im-
plies. Wanda Preston and Ruth
Lees are both Past Presidents,
and have served our Auxiliary
so well. They are always mak-
ing gifts for our Raffle, and
helping out in every facet of the
work of the Auxiliary. Wanda
Preston led us from 1985 to 1987,
and Ruth Lees led us from 1989
to 1991. Wanda always rescues
us whenever we get a little mix-
ed up in meetings, calmly
bringing her great sense of
order to us. Ruth Lees, dear
and sweet, works so hard for us,
even when she no longer is our
leader. Both keep in touch with
me, the Newcomer, during the
year, writing nice, chatty let-
ters. Thank you both so very
much.

Next column, I hope you all
can suggest someone to Spot-
light. If not, I'll have Mary
Brasington and Ruth Jordan in
it. Until June, then, take care
and keep in touch.

Ellie Taubner, Treasurer
85 Smith Avenue
Bergenfield, NJ 07621
April 17, 1992

NEW JERSEY CHAPTER

Last month's luncheon
meeting at Mastori's in Borden-
town was a high success,
thanks to the efforts of Marty
Gill, Frank Haines and the
gang from the Trenton area.
We turned out thirty-two
strong, including seven of our
New Jersey Chapter ladies. We
enjoyed a delicious lunch, fine
beverages, convivial company,
all in a decorous environment.
It doesn't get much better than
that! Frank Haines had invited
Roman Martyniuk, Command
Information Officer of the New
Jersey Department of Military
and Veterans Affairs, who
spoke at length of the Battle of
Normandy Foundation which
supports a museum in France
dedicated to those who fought in
the Battle of Normandy. There
will be more information about
this foundation at the registra-
tion desk in Fayetteville for
those of you interested. Mr.
Martyniuk's presentation was
both interesting and infor-
mative, and he received a
generous round of applause
from those in attendance.

We have been trying to
spread our meetings out
throughout the state in
an attempt to accommodate
everyone. It is hard for me to
believe that men who have
travelled half way around the
world (much of it on foot and
under intolerable conditions)
find it a task to travel fifty or so
miles in air conditioned luxury
to enjoy a meal and compani-
onship with their old buddies ...
even given the perils of New
Jersey traffic. We hope to see
many of you in Fayetteville in
June.

Michigan News

Spring has not arrived in
Saginaw. It is April 15th and the
weather is unseasonably cool.

It is good that we can hope for
better things. I know they say:
April showers bring May
flowers but we aren't at this
writing getting any soft warm
rains.

The big news at 2834 Wynes
Street is my trip to the hospital.
At 4:00 A.M. February 14th I
woke with a 25 pound anvil on
my chest and extreme pain in
my left arm. At 4:30 A.M. I was
driving myself to the hospital.
Two weeks later I was released
after open heart and Quadruple
By Pass Surgery. I have been
home six weeks and improving
every day.

I want to thank all who called
for their concern and support.
Also thanks for the many get
well cards that I received. It
was cheering to know that the
troops were concerned about
me.

I now report the death of Sal-
ly Kowalski, wife of Leonard
Kowalski. Leonard served with
the 47th Medics.

May her soul find rest with
her maker.

Future event: Illinois
Chapter is hosting the out State
meeting in October. Watch for
further information for the Il-
linois letter to the OCTOFOIL.

Rodger E. Alsgaard, Sec'y.
Michigan Chapter

Fort Bragg

Reunion Dates

June 11, 12, 13 1992



Paul Golobish, Co. H 47th, supplies us with this photo of Chaplain
Anthony DeLaura, Capt. Ray Inzer and Lt. Hill of Company H
47th taken somewhere in Germany. Father DeLaura passed
away a few years ago and Ray Inzer and John Hill are members
of the Association.



Jerry Meyers, 1st Bn. Hqs. 60th Inf. sends this photo taken in Ft.
Bragg, July 1941, shown (l-r): J. Meyers, Anthony Kumase, Gus
Regan, C. Fitzgerald, A. Torrerbrossa, M. Bruhan, Sand Cor-
sard, N. Sequin, H. Bodnaoth, A. Tepedino, Gus Ratafia, up
front: W. Rozeil, C. Bianca.

Holiday Inn
BORDEAUX

1707 Owen Drive,
Fayetteville, NC 28304
(919) 323-0111

Reservations

Cancellation s
DON'T BE A NO-SHOW!

To cancel your reservations call toll free
1-800-235-0211 or 1-919-323-0111. Deposit
refunded only if reservation is cancelled 7 days
prior to arrival and you have your cancellation
number.

Taps Sounded

Call out or names
as the years go by-
Remember us-
and we will never die

With deep remorse we announce the passing of these friends and comrades.

May they rest in peace.
To their loved ones we extend our deepest sympathy.

Frank Petty

E Co. - 47th

Charles Jensen

A Co. 47th Inf.

Perry Langston

60th Inf.

Nick Hilbert

2nd Bn. Hq. Co. 60th Inf.

John Kowalski

709 Ord.

Charles Booher

C Co. 39th Inf.

Richard Santimo

F Co. 47th Inf.

Robert M. Wallace

M Co. 47th Inf.

Joseph Cebulski

M Co. 47th Inf.

Gilert Leroy Tinberg

60th A.T.

Frank Jaynes

9th Signal

Marty Roach

47th Inf. Spec. Serv.

William C. Leslie

Virgil Crowl

M Co. 60th Inf.

Loy Teague

M Co. 60th Inf.

Helen Kearns

Wife of Joseph F. Kearns,

M. Co. 47th

Ed "Buddy" Byrnes

F Co. 47th Inf.

David Kidd

Helmuth Trishman

9th Signal

Albert Carlin

47th Inf. M Co.

JOSEPH KEARNS

2000 N. Congress Ave. Lot 174

W. Palm Beach, FL 33409

Enclosed is my Pre-Registration Form and a check for \$55.00 to cover the strip ticket for the Reunion in Ft. Bragg June 11, 12 and 13.

I lost the love of my life Helen who passed away on March 13, 1992 after fighting cancer for two years. We were married for 48 years. I buried her in the National Cemetery in Farmingdale, L.I. where my son Joseph who we lost in the Vietnam War has been since Oct. 1967.

I remember all the wonderful times we had at the dances in the 69th Regiment Armory in NY and the visits to the National Cemetery in LI and the picnics in Bethpage State Park as I was a member of the NY Chapter and the President in 1974.

We were very happy in Fla. for the past 14 years and I formed the Fla. Chapter of the 9th Div. where many NY members also belong. They have two Reunions a year and Helen and I were very happy seeing some of our old friends.

Dan you have done a wonderful job all these years on the Octofoil. Keep up the good work. All the best to the staff and to Marie.

Bob Bovanizer

14 Sabre Park

Niagara Falls, NY 14304

We heard recently of the death of another M Co. 60th Inf. man. He was Virgel Crowl, RR #6, Box 709, Grove Okla. 74344. His health in recent years was never good enough for him to attend a reunion. Please list his name in the "Taps" column. Also notified you in October about Loy Teague's death and it has not appeared in The Octofoil as yet. Do you have a back-log?

47th Inf

ROBERT H. J. DUNN

527 Lakeview Drive

Swedesboro, N.J. 08085

It is with great sadness that I report the passing of Martin J. Roach of the 47th Inf. Special Services unit on March 8.

Marty and I worked together for almost four years. Marty always gave 100% of himself, whether it was in organizing sports or other recreational events, setting up the projector and screen for the movies, passing out PX supplies or reading material or engaging in any other activity.

After serving with the 47th through all eight campaigns, Marty returned to his home in Massachusetts, resumed his teaching career at Millbury High School, served as athletic director for 25 years and assistant principal for 19 years before retiring in 1979.

In 1976, he was selected to serve as grand marshal of Millbury's bicentennial parade, and in 1980 received additional recognition when the Millbury High School athletic complex was dedicated as the "Martin J. Roach Athletic Complex."

Marty was an inspiration to all who knew him.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Martin J. Roach Fund, Millbury High School, Millbury, MA 01527.

Dan, I hope all goes well with you and your family.

60th Inf.

MICHAEL KAUFFMAN

4466 Abinadi Road

Salt Lake City, Utah 84124

I am sorry to report to you that Perry Langston of Buies Creek, N.C. passed away recently. Perry who commanded H Co. of the 60th Infantry was seriously wounded at the fight for Djebel Dardays in the Sedgenane Valley of Northern Tunisia in April 1943.

He spent the last 49 years in a wheel chair, but didn't let that slow him down. He spent his civilian career teaching religion at Campbell College close to Fayetteville.

He was a true patriot, one of the many the 9th Division can be proud to boast about.

His wife, Clara, still lives at the family home and tells me she will make this year's reunion.

Also enclosed is a donation in his memory for the Memorial Fund.

Co. E, 47th Inf.

BILL MOOTY

2023 Williamsburg Way

Birmingham, Alabama 35223

On February 27th I received a call from a sister-in-law of Frank Petty telling me that Frank has passed away that morning. Frank had been in poor health for several years but he did struggle to make all the reunions since the first one that he made at Camp Hill. I was able to attend the funeral. Frank was buried at Beale Memorial Cemetery at Fort Walton Beach, Florida. He had a military funeral.

Frank joined Company E just as the Division went through the Seigfried Line in late September, 1944. He remained company commander for the balance of the war. After the war he stayed in the Reserve and retired a Lt. Col.

I have never heard anything but the utmost respect for Frank by those who served under him. Joe Hasenfus, one of Company E's rifle squad, said it all at the Minneapolis Reunion when he said, "Capt. Petty was a hell of a man."

I called General Maness, among others, to tell him of Frank's death. In the conversation General Maness said that

9th Med. Bn.

RICHARD COOLEY

5874 Watson Ct.

Lawrence, IN 46226

Several years ago I wrote you about membership in the Ninth Division Association and you were kind enough to send me the information. Unfortunately at that time I was unable to join, however, now I am finally getting around to sending in my membership application for a three year period. I'm sorry I didn't get it done several years ago.

I attended the Mini Reunion of the 9th Medical Battalion last weekend at Pigeon Forge, Tenn., and the guys "pushed" me to get my application in for the Division Association so I can attend the Division Reunion in Fayetteville-Fort Bragg. I really enjoyed my first mini reunion with them but was sad to learn that our former Battalion and Company Commander Abraham S. Kaufman had passed away. He happened to be my first Commander and I contribute so much of my success in the military to his leadership. I am including a contribution to the Memorial Fund in his memory.

I am enclosing my check to cover three years membership and the remainder for the Memorial Fund in memory of Dr. Abraham S. Kaufman. Thank you.

The members of the N.E. Chapter wish to extend their deepest sympathy to the family of Fred D'Amare.

Fred was an active member of the National Chapter serving as third vice president, one term as treasurer and at the time of his death was a member of the Board of Governors.

On the local level, Fred was a tireless worker, always willing to take on a task, no matter how great or small. He will be missed by all of us.

Ron Murphy

44 Strawberry Lane

Scituate, Ma. 02066



Fred D'Amore and his wife Rose are shown at the 45th Reunion held in Orlando in 1990. We were saddened to learn of Fred's demise. The association lost another hard worker and dedicated member.

47th Inf.

DAVID SILVERBERG

5453 Spainwood Ave.

Memphis, Tn. 38110

You and I both know that lawyers are "NOTORIOUS"ly known when it comes to procrastinating, and I take no pride whatsoever in sending you the enclosed nearly a year after the fact. The banquet was a beautiful and a very impressive affair, with several members of the local Germania Club as guests, with one "war bride," would you believe, from Wasserburg who remembered us well.

I enclose herewith my check for the Memorial Fund in memory of Maj. Gen. George Smythe, Col. Randall Bryant and Chaplain Irving Tepper (k.i.a.) in Normandy.

Best wishes from here for a successful reunion at Ft. Bragg.

Board Meets

The 171st meeting of the National Board of Governors of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was held on April 4, 1992 at the Holiday Inn, Fayetteville, N.C. The meeting was called to order at 2 P.M. by the President of the Association Ed Hopkins. In attendance were Board members: Bob DeSandy, Walter O'Keeffe, Trevor Jones, Bill Carson, George Brown, Mike Belmonte, and Al Perna. Also present were 1st Vice President Vincent Guglielminio, Judge Advocate Dave Heller, and Secretary Dan Quinn.

President Hopkins asked the members to stand for a moment of silence in the memory of all our departed comrades.

Al Perna moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from our last meeting (election of officers and selection of site for 1993) and this was seconded by George Brown and so passed.

Bob DeSandy moved to dispense with the Treasurers report and this was seconded by Trevor Jones and so passed.

President Hopkins then called upon Mike Belmonte, Co-Chairman of the 1992 reunion held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Belmonte reported that a check of \$2,600.00 had been handed over to the Secretary, the profit realized from the reunion. A detailed report had been mailed to all the Board members giving the expenses and income of the reunion.

President Hopkins thanked Belmonte for a job well done, well organized and a good time had by all. Bob DeSandy made a motion to grant the Illinois a stipen of \$100.00 for their efforts and this was seconded by Al Perna and so passed.

Bob DeSandy Co-Chairman of the 1992 Reunion was called upon for his report and he gave a detailed report of events that will take place. Co-Chairman

Dan Quinn reported that some 600 pre-registration strip tickets have been purchased as of this date. DeSandy encouraged those attending or hoping to attend the reunion to purchase the pre-registered strip tickets and be assured of having tickets for the Welcoming Party, the luncheon at Fort Bragg after the Memorial Services, the Friday evening dance and get-together and the Banquet on Saturday night. Full refunds will be made for any cancellations of the strip tickets. The luncheon at Bragg can accommodate 1,000 people and the banquet on Saturday night will accommodate 960 guests. DeSandy went on to tell of the trip to Ft. Bragg that morning to go over the schedule for the Memorial Services. President Hopkins thanked DeSandy for his report.

A round table discussion was held on the procedure for the meetings that will be held at the reunion.

President Ed Hopkins will appeal to the Membership through the next issue of the Octofoil, the importance of being paid up dues member for the general meeting in order to vote for the changes of the By-Laws one way or the other.

With the increase in local chapters throughout the country and the Board of Governors limited to 14 members at present the Board members will act upon such changes at the next meeting to be held on June 11th in Fayetteville.

There being no other business to come before the members and upon a motion made by Walter O'Keeffe it was voted to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 P.M., this was seconded by Trevor Jones and so moved.

Respectfully submitted

Daniel Quinn

National Secretary

Co. K & Hq 3rd BN 60th Inf

JOSEPH RAPPAZINI

24001 Sherman Avenue

Oah Parks, Michigan

A Buddy

There are words like duty,
honor, loyalty and such.

That bespeak one's mind and
fill the heart so much.

At the moment they resurrect
thoughts of a buddy I knew.

Others filled the role of hero;
there were more than a few,

Whose love and devotion
through the struggle simply
grew and grew.

One who symbolized this state
was Sgt. Tomilo by name.

There was no award or medal
that enhanced or brought him
fame.

However, his thoughtfulness,
compassion and courage will
remain.

As beacons that will forever
shine because from his heart
there came

A love and understanding for
committed to his care,

That he would boldly lead his
men diminishing fear and
despair.

'Twas this sense of obligation
that earned for him gratitude
and praise.

That will remain in the hearts
of his buddies, though he lies
silently in his grave.

Cannon Co., 60th Inf.

RANDOLPH EDWARDS

Rt. 2, Box 5

Newton Grove, N.C. 28366

Would like to hear from anyone that was in K Company and Cannon Co. I was a member of both.

Thank you for sending me the Division paper. Would like to go to the Reunion in Fayetteville, N.C. if possible. I only live 45 miles from Fayetteville, N.C.

PROPOSAL TO AMEND MEMBERSHIP QUALIFICATIONS
Article II, Section 5 of the Bylaws
Ninth Infantry Division Association

I, Henry G. "Red" Phillips, propose to insert the following between "May 7, 1945," and "and served honorably in the Ninth Infantry Division":

"and during the officially established campaigns of the Vietnam War."

The purpose of this amendment is to increase enrollment by permitting combat veterans of our Division from the Vietnam War to join us.

IF YOU LIKE OUR ASSOCIATION AS IT IS, VOTE
"NO" TO RADICAL CHANGES IN OUR BYLAWS

Year after year, a few of our members have persisted in trying to change the membership requirements and, by implication, the purposes of the Ninth Infantry Division association. Such proposals have always been voted down in the past. We all know that ever since its founding forty-seven years ago, our organization has been entirely composed of proud World War II veterans of the 39th, 47th, and 60th Infantry Regiments; the 26th, 34th, 60th, and 84th Field Artillery Battalions, and other specific units. To our members, the "Ninth Infantry Division" has always meant those units as they were in World War II.

The first purpose of our Association has always been to "perpetuate the memory of our fallen comrades," meaning the 4581 men who died in World War II, as well as our members who have died since the war. Can anyone believe that when we chose this purpose we were showing any disrespect of lack of appreciation for the millions of American soldiers who served in other fighting units in other wars? No. We just agreed that, as members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association, it would be our unique purpose to single out and honor our own comrades. And, let it be said, we have not done so badly with this original purpose and with a membership as defined in our bylaws. Our Fiftieth Anniversary Reunion promises to be the biggest and best in a long history.

Now we are once more being urged to admit to our association, veterans of a different army unit called the "Ninth Motorized Infantry Division" which fought bravely some twenty years later in Vietnam. If we again decline to admit these men and women, would that indicate that we don't appreciate the sacrifices they made for our country? Absolutely not!

Let's look more closely at these former members of what is described as a later version of the Ninth Division. They are obviously not much like our own comrades in the association. They are mostly about the ages of our children. They had vastly different experiences, in other places, at other times, in another war. In many instances, they were never even members of the same regiments or other units as we were. The name, "Ninth Division" cannot mean to them what it means to us. In fact, when they were offered the opportunity to join an organization of all former Ninth Division members, very few responded. Later, when the regular army lost interest in supporting them, their "Octofoil Society" quickly died. Clearly, they don't want to join up. We wish them all the best, but we do not believe it would serve any useful purpose to change our bylaws so as to invite them to join our own well-established association. There is no reason whatsoever to believe that they want to join us now, to become active members, and above all, to continue with our original purposes.

On one hand, our members have repeatedly voted, time after time, that we want our Association to remain as it is. We just don't want to make radical, unnecessary, and unpredictable changes in our successful organization. On the other hand, only a very few, if any, veterans after World War II have ever said that they were eager to join us. So, we cannot understand why a few obviously intelligent and sincere members keep trying to change both the membership and, by necessity, the purposes of our Association. Once again, let's vote "No" to such changes in our bylaws!

Dave Heller

If It's Broken, Fix It

The First and Second World Wars were both hailed as the wars to end all wars. Little did most people realize that five years after WWII, the U.S. would be engaged in another war in a place called Korea in which 54,000 American lives would be lost. A few years later, the U.S. would be fighting in another conflict in Vietnam at a cost of 56,000 U.S. lives. These were unpopular wars but our men didn't have a choice whether or not to serve when ordered to do so. Unlike many who took refuge in Canada, they served their country.

Many divisions that were overseas in the First World War formed associations in the 1920's. The First, Third, and 82nd are three such divisions. In 1945, these three divisions accepted the WW II men who had served with these units in combat. The 9th did not participate in WW I; however, if it had and had chartered a division association, those of us who wore the Octofoil in WW II would have been welcomed with open arms. The 1st, 3rd and 82nd divisions have fought in four wars including Vietnam and

have members in their associations for all four conflicts.

A relative of mine won the CMH (posthumously), in Vietnam and I served in combat with the 45th Inf. division in Korea. However, these are not the reasons why I am supporting the Red Phillips resolution. I support it because my conscience tells me that it is the right and decent thing to do.

My dear friend Henry Santos in his letter in the last issue of the Octofoil has made several statements with which I disagree. He mentions, "fought off the rape attempt the democratic way." There is nothing wrong or undemocratic about changing the bylaws or to vote to do so several times. The 26 amendments to the U.S. Constitution were proposed over a period of 200 years. Some didn't always get approved the first or second time.

The men who fought in Korea and Vietnam were also fighting against tyranny and those of us who support the resolution to accept the Vietnam veterans should not be classified as wimps of tyranny. In 7½ years we will enter the 21st Century.

A LETTER TO THOSE WHO LOVE THE NINTH CLASS OF 1941-1945

Every year I look forward to attending "THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION." Every year I am grateful to those members who saw fit to form the social association which permits me to see so many of our group, swap yarns, and hold a Memorial for those who cannot be with us.

There is no mention of black or white soldiers, in the By Laws, nor should there be. If a "man" is eligible, he will be admitted.

I belong to the American Legion. Each American Legion Magazine lists numerous units celebrating with Reunions. Each designates WWII or Vietnam.

No one was more proud of our troops in Vietnam or the Desert Storm troops, in our more recent conflict. I hope that those units will have the forethought to form a social unit, such as ours, so they can have the thrill from time to time of seeing comrades face to face, and mourn the death of fallen friends and comrades. There is nothing like it.

I have brought my children and spouse to these Reunions and have taken pride in introducing them and meeting the children and spouses of my friends of the "Ninth" Class 1941-1945.

All of the Reunions have been pleasant, except for those meetings where tempers flared and a division is formed by those who want to change what has stood so long.

As I look at the various letters that have been sent, I wonder what happened to those in the past who said, "This will be the end," i.e., the vote. At least five votes have been taken and each time, before the vote, members on both sides have stated that this will be the "last" time.

It has been said that we have no one to take over when we are too old to function, neither have the Vietnam Veterans. However, our group has at least one Memorial to honor "Our 1941-1945 Class." The Memorial at Worcester, MA.

So you see, using Red Phillips reasoning, even if we turn it over to the Vietnam Vets, they have no one to turn it over to.

Perhaps 80% of us will not make it into the next century. I hope and pray that the association will continue for an indefinite period of time. The only way this could happen is to have the Vietnam veterans to keep the memory of our famous division alive.

During my military career I have served in combat with three divisions, The 9th and 78th in WWII, and the 45th in Korea. I am eligible to be a member in all three units. However, I chose just the 9th because it is the most dear to my heart.

There was one mistake made when the division bylaws were made, in my opinion. The inclusive dates for membership should have been from Nov. 8th, 1942 through May 7, 1945. The beginning date in 1942 has enabled a few members to join our association who never served overseas in combat with the division. Some were in hospitals; others were at O.C.S., etc.. Since these several individuals, who are members meet the requirement for membership, I have no objections.

They could pray for another war and hope that another class of the "Ninth" will be activated.

I am sure, that with the cooperation of those who think both ways, we can leave a heritage suitable to all and continue to enjoy our social meeting each year. We might plan to endow The Priest-in-Charge at "The Immaculate Conception Church" in Worcester, Massachusetts with funds to be held in Trust for the maintenance and care of the Memorial. I say this as an option, let's hear more!

Well I'm on my way to meet socially with my friends in Fort Bragg, NC. Too bad the "never quit" boys won't let what has lasted, until now, continue. However, I want to remind all of you to vote "NO" to the Proposal to Amend Membership Qualifications. You can't vote if you are not there with your Membership Card.

Once again, we have to interrupt our thoughts, of comradeship and prayer for our deceased brothers, to discuss and vote to be permitted to continue as a Reunion of the Class of 1941 to 1945.

15th Engs.
FRANK B. RANKIN
201 Willowside Drive
Mount Holly, NC 28120

Mr. President:

My name is Ken Meyer and I am sort of unique. Not only did I serve with the 9th Infantry Division from Fort Bragg until just before the Remagen Bridge, but I also served with the 9th Infantry Division in 1969 in Vietnam as a member of the 47th Infantry Regiment.

I have never understood the rod of measurement used for comparing wars.

Was the Mud deeper, the threat less, or the horror greater in World War II than it was in Vietnam?? From first hand experience I can tell you that it wasn't.

Death is the same in combat, regardless of the time frame.

The Vietnam Veteran is now in his 40's, - mature, capable and responsible.

Also, as in World War II, the majority of Vietnam veterans were draftees/inductees.

Let us allow the Vietnam Veterans of the 9th Infantry Division to become members of our organization and to march forward honoring the deeds,

However, it seems a shame not to accept the Vietnam veterans who wore the Octofoil in combat.

Henry raises the question about logistics as well as differences in weapons and equipment. It seems to me that for the past 47 years, at least half of the national reunions required our members to be located at several different hotels, (Fayetteville, Nashville and others). Sometimes, the banquet halls were not large enough to accommodate all of those attending. (Nashville and others). In the near future, this will not be a problem as attrition will take care of it. The last "Taps" list included 22 names and we know that the numbers will increase.

Should the resolution and vote be successful, my prediction is that no more than 100 Vietnam veterans will apply for membership in the next five years; and that 50 or less will attend a national reunion each year. The matter of weapons and equipment used in Vietnam vs. WW II shouldn't make any difference in deciding whether or not to accept the Vietnam veterans into our association.

sacrifices, and memories of those how gave their all for our country and the 9th Infantry Division in both World War II and Vietnam.

Thank you,
Ken Meyer

39th Inf., M Co.
ARTHUR CLARK
29 Bay Tree Circle
Boynton Beach, FL 33462

I was in Summerville, S.C. recently for my youngest son's wedding, April 4th. He in the Navy (Submarines) based at Charleston, S.C.

While talking with my son's mother-in-law, I asked if she knew General Westmoreland and she said she did, in fact she had the General's phone number in her address book. I overcame my timidity and dialed the General's number. The General was gracious enough to take my call. I told him who was calling, and that I was with the 9th from Ft. Bragg to the Elb. I then asked him if I could look forward to seeing him at the reunion in Bragg. The last time I spoke with the General was in 1972 in Boston.

The General then in no uncertain terms, told me "no," I could not look forward to seeing him at Bragg and that in fact, he wanted no part of that bunch. I'm sure he was referring to the hierarchy, not the entire membership.

His reasons for feeling the way he does is the way the Association has treated the Vietnam Vets of the 9th. He told me the 9th had done a wonderful job in Vietnam. He then asked if I would tell the membership about his position on this matter, I promised him I would!

So, Dan, by writing this letter to my Octofoil, I feel I have kept my promise to General Westmoreland.

Divarty
BERT C. WALLER
1294 Camino Del Valle
Poway, CA 92064

In response to my request to him to attend the 1992 Reunion at Fayetteville, General Westmoreland, in refusing to attend, wrote: "My position on the attitude of the Association is I hope well known and I will not compromise." His position is that he will not attend another reunion until we open up our enrollment to 9th Division Vietnam Veterans. If I could interpret General Westmoreland's expression, "attitude," I would say that this means we are "incredibly short-sighted." But I don't believe that is so with the rank and file of the association.

Come on out and vote "yes" to amend Article II Section 5, as Phillips has proposed!

A recent retiree said he and his wife are at the age of a smaller house with larger medicine cabinet.

Fort Bragg
Reunion Dates
June 11, 12, 13 1992

Henry said, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it." But it seems to me that we have something that is broken. And we can fix it. If the resolution fails, I will be disappointed, but not bitter. My friends who vote against it will continue to be my friends, and I will remain loyal to the association. My sincere hope is that we will not conduct the meeting in a less than dignified manner

Cos. A & E 47th Inf.
Joe Williams
1900 Holly Oaks Lake Rd. E.
Jacksonville, FL 32225

'B' Btry 84th F.A.
CHESTER MIKUS
 8 Inwood House
 Moorestowne Woods
 Moorestown, N.J. 08057

I am writing to voice my concern over a very important issue that is coming up for a vote in June. Important? Yes, indeed and let me explain my views.

In my opinion, our Association is just like one big, happy family. Our conventions are like family reunions and we enjoy each others company. The only time I have ever witnessed a heated argument was over the issue regarding the Vietnam Veterans joining our Association.

In our by-laws, it states that the purpose of our Association is to perpetuate the memory of our comrades. I feel we have always fulfilled this by the excellent attendance at our conventions, by paying our dues, by being good members, remembering our memorial fund and praying for all our deceased comrades. I am sure you remember the attendance at the Memorial Mass celebrated by our beloved late Father Connors. If this is not all perpetuating a memory, then I don't know what is.

I have absolutely nothing against the Vietnam Veterans. They fought as heroically as we did and I salute them. However, we fought two different types of wars and I can't see what we have in common. I feel that they are trying to drive a wedge into our Association. They had their own "Octofoil Association" which folded when the 9th Infantry Division was deactivated. Don't let this happen to our Association, too. Remember, "United We Stand, Divided We Fall."

I have enclosed a check for three years membership and a contribution to the memorial fund for all deceased members of "B" Battery 84th F.A.

9th Med. Bn
HERBERT STERN
 12427 Old Oaks Dr.
 Houston, TX 77024

Enclosed is my 1992 membership renewal and contribution to the Memorial Scholarship Fund. My contribution is in memory of my dear friends Jimmie Richards and Dr. Abraham Kaufman.

I recently corresponded with Henry (Red) Phillips commending him on his proposal to amend the membership qualifications in the 9th Infantry Division Association. I joined the 9th at the end of Carolina maneuvers and was with the 9th until May, 1945. It was with a great deal of pride that I joined the Association at its inception. It never occurred to me that I was joining a "class of 1941-1945" club. This Division and its Association made history and has been very distinguished not only in World War II, but in other Wars. History necessitates that we perpetuate our Association, the 9th deserves nothing else!

Regards and thanks for your many years of service to the Association.

34th FA Bty. B
CORNELIUS G.
 422 Cedarville St., 1st Fl.
 Pittsburgh, PA 15224

Last November 1990 I got the Octofoil and someone said if I sent my photocopy of my discharge that I would get a medal for being in North Africa, Sicily, France, Belgium and Germany. I don't know why I never got it. My wife sent it in to the Octofoil and we never heard nothing that's 1 year ago. We get the Octofoil every other month. I was over this in the Army 34 Field Art. Bt. B 9th Div. So would you look into this. I would like you all to come to Pgh.

Serv. Co. 47th Inf.
EDWIN WISNIEWSKI
 7576 Gratiot Rd.
 Richmond, MI 48062

Had a wonderful time in Milwaukee, even though I was under the weather with a severe case of the flu.

Great to have seen A.A. Gwizdek, one of our kitchen drivers after 45+ years and to find out that a Michigan member was Gwizdek's ass't driver, how small the world is. His name is John Zulkiewski, who also was there with his son.

Also Michael Wengren, from New Jersey, whom I have not seen for the same length of time. I have hopes of seeing many more former members.

I don't remember a reunion or memorial servie in Worcester, that I came back without meeting old friends for the first time. Take good care of "Marie" so she can make this next outing, it's not the same without her.

I will be getting a new address on July 1st. Not moving, just getting back our Identity of our old post office we had 55 years ago. The new address will be: Columbus, Michigan 48063

60th Inf., 2nd Bn. Hq. Co.
MILTON CORDRAY
 6838 County Line Road
 Ravenel, S.C. 29470

I am sending my dues for 3 years and a little extra for the Memorial Fund. I appreciate the good job you're doing with the Octofoil; you and your staff.

Sorry I won't make the Reunion due to health problems.

I want to report that Nick Hilbert passed away in 1991. He was in the 2nd Bn. Hq. Co., 60th Inf.

God Bless each of you.

39th Inf., 1st Bn. Hq. Co.
G. FRANK MINOR
 2817 11th St., N.E.
 Birmingham, AL 35215

I haven't written before and haven't had the pleasure of attending a Reunion, but have always been proud to have served with the 9th from Sicily to the end of the War. We had wonderful officers and men. I have the Eight Stars to Victory that I have about worn out, but have been disappointed through the years in that I have seen movies and reading material about every other Division but the 9th. I read about other outfits in places we were.

In 1945, there was a good article by a correspondent by the last name of Henry, about the Ninth Ghost Division in No. Africa appearing out of nowhere to save the day.

Am enclosing an article from the Picatur, AL Daily which appeared in 1944. My Dad had saved it for me and I thought it might be interesting to you and others. I left the ads on purpose.

I have lost contact with everyone I knew in my outfit, so sure wish I could come to the Reunion and maybe see some of them. Keep up the good work.

47th Inf. L Co.
HENRY GERAY
 1305 E. Livingston Street
 Allentown, PA 18103

It has been a long time for me to join one of the best units to serve in Europe. I did join the 47th Inf. Reg. L Co. in England at Basingstokes (I hope this is spelled right). With this in mind, I did go to the Normandy Peninsula and as far as St. Lo before I was wounded and sent back to the hospital. I rejoined the unit before the big push into Germany. This so happens that we did move very fast from the Ruhe River to the Rhein and across the Bridge at Remagen and then I was captured and made a P.O.W. I will cut this short for now. I am a member of VFW Post 2124 in Allentown, PA.

60th Inf. B Co.
LLOYD ROBERTS
 200 Main Street
 Cooperstown, NY 13326

Can't make the convention this year in June, but certainly will miss the old Fort and Fayetteville in particular. Am adding to this, a list of "Co. B" buddies whom I have heard from over the years. If you recognize any of them and wish to get in touch, write to me and I will send the address to you.

Leslie Hamilton, Raymond Konkol, Arthus Litos, Raymond Montagna, Frank Reisdort, and Stephan Urbanyi.

M Co., 47th
JOHN B. KNIGHT
 54 Woodview Road
 Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

In was informed just before his death, by Harold Werner, the passing of Bill Kumanelis, another 8th Star to Victory M Co.'er. Also, informed by Red Phillips the passing of George Cuyulis, which completed the lives of "M" Co.'s four "Golden Greeks."

Lou Kalsas of the 81 Mortar Platoon was K.I.A in France and Jim Jamoulis also of the Mortar Platoon died within the past few years.

May "M" Co.'s "Four Golden Greeks" rest in peace.

See you at Ft. Bragg.
 9th Q.M.

ANGELO SINARE
 716 E. 162nd Street
 Cleveland, OH 44110

Enclosed find check for three years dues. I'm fine and hope that all is well with you. I'm sorry to hear that Horace Abrams has passed away. Abe and I were great buddies. Will try and make the reunion in Ft. Bragg.

I got Christmas cards from Trevore Jones, Bill Palady, Everett Tapp, John Jaglin, Joe DeMato, Mike Dembeitsky, and also from my 1st Lt. John R. Saylor, I was his jeep driver in Sicily. Will try to write more next time.

Med. Det. 1st Bn.,
60th Inf. & Med. Bn.
DR. RUSSELL M. HUMMEL
 2411 Lommel Ln.
 Marion, IN 46952

It's about time to figure and pay my Income taxes, as it must be time for me to pay my Association dues.

Last year, 1990, we celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary. May 1991 I was honored by my Medical Society for 50 years of active medical practice, and this year, Aug. 1, 1992, it will be 50 years since I joined the 9th Division and came home from Germany, Aug. 1945.

To show others of my pride of the division and my WWII service, my license plates on our cars read 9th Div. and WWII Vet.

Aug. 1, 1991 I retired from active practice but keep busy doing some of the things I never had time for before. Dan and Marie, we appreciate all you have done for the Association. Best wishes to you both, and all my friends.

60th Inf. G Co.
KENNETH ROGERS
 112 Twp. Rd. 791
 Nova, OH 44859

I've enclosed my check for my 1992 and a couple more years. I look forward to the Octofoil, but don't see much from Co. "G" of the 60th.

Thought we would be able to make Fort Bragg but as it turns out we won't be able to.

Had hopes to see some of the men I served with. T/S Tom Hoak, Tony Orstead, Art Hyes, Herb Lewis, etc.

I joined the 9th in Normandy. Was hit and was with them again in Germany. At that time, division headquarters was in Eupen, Belgium.

I would like to hear from any that might remember me.

AT Co., 47th Inf.
CHARLES BODNAR
 187 New York Ave.
 Bergenfield, NJ 07621

Here's my three year dues, before I get kicked out of the Association. I'm anxiously looking forward to our Reunion at Fort Bragg, and visiting some of the old haunts around the post and Fayetteville (if they're still there).

Perhaps we'll see some faces we haven't seen in the past 42 years. I correspond with a woman in Wichester who was in the Army Territorial Service (A.T.S.) during the War, and she's always very anxious, to know about the 9th Div., for she knew us well.

I wrote her a little story before the Christmas holidays about a Christmas party we threw at Nordington Grange and how the English service girls enjoyed it. She got such a thrill out of the letter, that she showed it to a Winchester newspaper, and they in turn asked if they could re-print it as a human interest story for the people of Winchester this coming Christmas. I felt quite flattered, and if they do print it, I'll send you a copy of the paper; perhaps some of the men that were there will remember it.

O.K., the rest of you guys — let's go back to where we started!

Attention All Duffers
 Those interested in playing golf on Thursday morning, June 11, 1992 at the Course arranged by the Reunion Committee are requested to contact Bob DeSandy. Tee off time will be at 9:00 AM and Bob would like to know how many people are going to play. He had to make the necessary arrangements. Bob's address is 109 Canterbury Rd., Southern Pines, N.C. 28387.

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	

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 POW.

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 32211.

El Guettar
Crucible of Leadership
9th U.S. Infantry Division Against
The Wehrmacht in Africa, April 1943

Red Phillips of the 47th Infantry has written a history book that should be of interest to all who served with the Ninth in North Africa and to those who are interested in the early battles of WW2 when the U.S. Army were coming of age against the finest of the German Army.

The cost of the book is \$11.25 (includes postage) and may be obtained by writing to Red Phillips at 14002 Hemlock Drive, Penn Valley, California 95046.

Deadline for next issue July 20th

60th F.A. "A" Btry.
EDWARD HOPKINSON
 P.O. Box 805
 Appomattox, VA 24522

Am enclosing my dues for next three years.

After basic training at Ft. Bragg in early 1942, I was assigned to 26 F.A. Bn. Soon after amphibious maneuvers in Chesapeake Bay, went to OCS at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma. Was then assigned to 26th (Yankee) Division for one year. Then back to 9th Division in England. With Hq. Btry. Div. Arty, until joining "A" Btry. 60th F.A. Bn. in Normandy as forward observer. Hope to be at Bragg in June. Enjoy the Octofoil.

47th Inf. E Co.
MOSES MARRERO
 3475 Chadwick Avenue
 Spring Hill, FL 34609

I soldiered with the 9th Div. while they were at Ft. Bragg, from Jan. 1941 to summer of 1942.

My transfer as an aviation cadet came through just before the Division moved out from Ft. Bragg.

Still I remember the Ft. Bragg days, long marches on Longstreet Rd. and bouts with Red Tox Beer.

Wonder what happened to old friends like Harris, Halpern, Katz, Lescovitch, Leibowits, Lesko, Hoake, Lehman, and Sgt. Meadows. Like to hear from them if still living.

Washed out as a cadet. Never became a pilot — was shuffled from base to base in the Air Corp. Eventually, landed in India. C.B.I. theater of operations. Flew from India to China. Spent the rest of the war there.

Read all about the 9th accomplishment.

Enclosed is my check. Thank you.

39th Inf B Co.
MRS. ALVIN BECKER
410 Berkshire Road
Ridgewood, NJ 07450
Dear Dan and Friends of Company 'B', 39th Regiment,

Al Becker went home to God on December 17, 1991, very quickly and with little suffering. His family was there for him. I had forty-four wonderful years with him so all my great memories will carry me along life's road.

My thanks go out to all those wonderful Company 'B' men and their wives for their written condolences; to Joe Gravino for having two Masses offered for Al by Company 'B' members at our local church in Ridgewood. The beautiful white poinsettia Luke Lucas sent is still in bloom. Also, my heartfelt thanks to Charlie Libretto, who lives in the next town, for coming to the funeral home as a representative of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Thank you to Dan Quinn for asking Charlie.

One of the very good memories I have is that Al got to a few recent Company 'B' Mini Reunions and also to the National held at The Pines (when we all went to West Point). He was so proud of having been in the NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION and getting together with men he served with over forty-five years ago was just the greatest. Through Al I am a member of the Ladies Auxiliary and proud to be so. So, once again, a great big thank you to all.

Now, let me remind all you great fighting men that by Executive Order of the President of the United States as of August 24, 1962, anyone who has the COMBAT INFANTRY BADGE is entitled to THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL. Write: U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Center, 9700 Page Blvd., St. Louis, MISSOURI 63132-5200 Attn: PAS-EAW-CW.

Al's Certificate awarding him the Bronze Star arrived a few days ago. The medal should follow in a few months. So get on it men!! These are treasures for your grandchildren to cherish.

Enclosed is a donation to the Memorial Fund in Al's memory. God bless all of you - OLD RELIABLES.

A.T. 60th
MRS. EILEEN TINBERG
12883 - 99th Drive
Sun City, Arizona 85351

It is with heavy heart that I send this letter to you. Roy passed away March 3. He had been in the hospital and secondary care for nearly three weeks. As our friends in the Ninth know he had been in failing health for several years with emphysema. We had been unable to attend the reunions he enjoyed so much. Our last one was Fort Bragg, as well as I remember.

Thanks for the memories he and you have shared with me these past forty plus years.

47th Inf. A Co. & Hq. Co.
MORTON (JUNIOR) CYTRYN
564 Amherst Drive
Woodmere, N.Y. 11598

I was in A Company as the SCR 300 Radio Man when Captain Dougherty was in command during the fighting at Monchau, Oppenrode, Ballenstadt and on to Dessau, Germany.

Afterwards I was transferred to HQ. Co. when we occupied Dachau, Germany.

I am a CPA with an office in Rockville Centre, New York and I would like to hear from some of my former buddies so that we can swap pictures and talk about old times.

39th Inf. K Co.
SAMUEL LEDFORD
Rt. 1 Box 1246
Flintstone, GA 30725

Here is my 3 year renewal of my membership. Sorry that I did not renew on the proper date. I do not see many letters in Mail Call from the 39th Infantry. I did not get to the Ninth until Sicily at Randazzo. But with 39th from then until end of hostilities — then was sent to 14th armored and came back to States and discharged on points. I was in Company K, 3rd Battalion, 1st Platoon, 3rd Squad until I got wounded at Lambersdorg, Germany. When I got back from hospital — before Battle of the Bulge, I went into company headquarters of K Company. I handed the SCR 300 and SCR 536 runner and laid wire for sound powered phones that we had to all platoons at night for communications. I don't think many of the fellows that were in "K" Company will remember me because I never did anything spectacular to be remembered by them. The reason I say that is because after 50 years, I cannot recall the names of any but only 2 or 3 and none of the officers. If this is readable, and printable, how about putting it in Mail Call, next Octofoil. It is possible some may write.

9th Med. Bn.
PETER RADICHIO
3889 S. Springbreeze Way
Homosassa, FL 32646

Just a little news that Pete and Lu Radichio are well and doing great (thank God). We left October 10 for the West coast on the Southern route to California. Stayed with our sons and saw many friends and people I worked with at the best Air Line in the world, #1 and the largest Air Line in the United States. Travel American, you can't go wrong and buy American. Going back to travel, we went North to Oregon, then East through Idaho — Utah — Nevada — Colorado, then South to the Air Force Academy into New Mexico — Texas — Arkansas — Miss. and Alabama and home to Homosassa, Florida. So much for the above, sorry can't make Fort Bragg, N.C. so it goes. I will be in Pedgeon Forge, Tenn. on April 10 - 11 for the 9th Medical Battalion reunion. I hope this message will get through to other members of the 9th Med. to come to our informal get-together. One big happy family. Just super. I'd like to add, spoke to Vito Splendorio, B Co. He's in a wheelchair. He is having a hard time walking. You guys in B Co. drop Vito a line. Ed Sypniewski's wife widow Elizabeth, went through a — I think — triple bypass and doing fine. We visited her in the hospital a couple of weeks ago. Received a note from Walt Poches and he is holding his own. Now I hate to write this report. Sgt. Robert Bick has passed away November 4, 1991. One great man, a gentleman from the word go. I don't know who you can send cards to. Sorry, as my card came back with no response. I am still at Bay Pines Veterans Affairs Medical Center. I don't go as often as I like, close to 90 miles but I do go once a month.

We need volunteers, as Drs. are retiring, as well as nurses. Come join the Vol. group, as we need you. Urgent.

Stay well and support Vietnam Vets and other men from Desert Storm.

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.

Co. B. 15th Eng. Bn.
TONY MADONNA
40 Orient St.
Worcester, MA 01604

I am checking up on transportation to Fayetteville. I have my reservation at the Holiday Inn (Bordeasy) and I am sending the money for a strip ticket. I missed the last reunion at Fort Bragg and was told it had the largest attendance of all the reunions. Hope to meet with the Engineering gang and wish to see new faces from the south.

Enclosed is a check for the Memorial Fund in memory of Fred D'Amore and Martin Roach. Wishing the best to all 9th Div. guys with hopes for a great reunion.

47th Inf. K Co.
WILLIAM STOKAN
992 Dorchester Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15226

Enclosed is a check for the next three years dues, the remaining amount to the Memorial Fund in honor and memory of Herman Seibel, Phillip Orzini, Max Umansky, and Robert Spencer (709 Ordinance), four great men and acquaintances that I have known. God bless them.

Enjoyed Milwaukee very much but the greatest moment was seeing the men from "K" Co. 47th. Hoping to see many more in Fayetteville, at Chicken Road and the "Town Pump" if it's still standing.

Finished reading a great book "El Guettar" recently, certainly is realistic, interesting and an eye-witnessed story that Red Phillips put together, my congratulations to him for a job well done. Wrote to many "K" Co. 3rd Platoon men that also was on the destroyer Bernadue to write for a copy. All the men of the 47th Infantry should get a copy.

Will close now, hoping to see many of the guys in Bragg. My best regards to you and your great wife. Thanks for the nice remarks at the banquet in Milwaukee, have a great "St. Patrick's Day." See you at the Town Pump — I'll buy you a few!!!!

CO. K 60th INFANTRY
ROBERT RUCKER
205 Greenway Drive
Bryan, TX 77801

To all former members of Co K who landed in Port Lyaytey for THAT invasion please join me for lunch at noon Thursday, June 11th. Please let me know ASAP at 205 Greenway Drive, Bryan, Texas 77801. I realize that we are "few and far between" and most have "spare parts" to keep us going but let's give it a try!

To all members of the Ninth, as you plan for a Holiday in Texas in '93, read the two articles in the April-May issue of MODERN MATURITY (AARP). It will certainly whet your appetite to be the guests of the TEXAS/GREATER SOUTHWEST CHAPTER in '93. We look forward to seeing you and welcome you to the Hospitality C.P. in Fayetteville. ... Now ... ya'll come, because all roads lead to Texas. Plan your travel to get to San Antonio via one route and return by another and you will see a good cross section of our LONE STAR STATE. Texas has a little bit of everything for everybody!



Florida Chapter Members Enjoy Spring Meeting

results were: Phil Berman, Pres.; Bob Pappas, V.P.; Emil J. De Donato, Sec.; Henry Santos, Treas.; and Art Schneider, Chaplain.

The proposed sites to hold the Chapter's fall meeting were: Daytona Beach, Altamonte Springs, Tampa and Ocala. A meeting of these Captains is to take place within a reasonable amount of time (30) days in order for them to obtain information and then decide where the Fall Chapter Meeting is to be held.

Emil Langer from the New York Chapter attended the meeting. He was made an Honorary Member of the Florida Chapter. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 in the forenoon.

Saturday afternoon was left open for members to roam around Orlando... to go shopping or join the others at the Hospitality Room.

At 7:30 P.M. Saturday, the members dressed up for the buffet held in the Sable Room of the Hotel complex. All of you can eat menu of Chicken, Beef and Fish, plus all the trimmings including coffee and dessert were there for the taking. Following the meal, Emil De Donato acted as M/C in awarding different prizes. Otto Geyer won the "Free Dinner". Arnold Tomanek won the 50/50 money raffle. The three "FREE" one-night Ramada Inn lodging at a future date was won by: Audrey De Donato, Eva Santos, and Pete Zimmer. Tony Manzollilla offered three of his homemade Florida/Clock wall pieces for a raffle. The winners were Richard Boudouy, Max Auerbach and memory fails me to remember the third.

Following the awards, tables were pushed aside to make room for dancing. Music was furnished by tapes of the Big Bands of our era. Joyce Blackburn, Marty Shankman's date, added her personal touch by vocalizing popular songs.

A big treat was in store for Sunday morning. The Men's and Women's Auxiliary treasuries paid for a full course breakfast held in the Sable Palm Room. Orange juice, fresh fruits ala galore, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausages, cereals, milk, coffee, tea and more were placed on the serving table for members to eat to their hearts content. By having the group meet on Sunday morning, it afforded an opportunity for the membership to wish one another a speedy and safe return home, also to bid their "good-byes" ... until we meet again ... God Willing.

To those Florida Chapter members who haven't attended any of these Chapter meetings, we hope and urge you to make every effort to come to the fall 1992 meeting. We also extend a cordial invitation to any member of the different Chapters who plan or happen to be in Florida during the time of our meetings. Please feel free to join us for a few days of fun. The same goes for any veteran who served with the 9th Infantry Division and/or its attached units during World War II to accept our invitation. You may obtain complete information regarding costs, time and place by contacting Emil J. De Donato, Secretary, 3650 S. W. Mosswood St., Dunnellon, Florida, 32630. Phone: 904/489-4070. If possible, the OCTOFOIL will carry information as time approaches.

Emil J. De Donato,
Secretary
Fl. Chapt.

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

Greetings once again from beautiful Cumberland Valley in the Keystone State of Pennsylvania. At the present time Spring is making its way here and I'm happy to say "it's about time." Our column has received correspondence from some of our "B" Co. Buddies. From "B" Co. Buddy Ed Sarnocinski who lives at 246 Estate Dr. Rehoboth Beach, Delaware comes this newsy letter: "He tells us about his trip to Milwaukee last year. He said driving from Rehoboth 'wasn't all that bad.' All of those who attended the reunion had a grand time. Of course he missed some of the gang that couldn't make it. 'Sarno' says that he will miss not being at Ft. Bragg for this year's reunion. But he is looking forward to flying out to San Antonio, Texas for next year's reunion."

Ed says that if you belong to AARP you will find a good article in this month's Modern Maturity Magazine on San Antonio. After the reunion Ed and his wife Helen drove West to Riverside, Iowa near Iowa City to visit a veteran friend with whom he served in an MP Co. in North Africa. Ed and Helen were guests of the Malicky's at their farm.

To Ed's surprise upon reaching the farm, Joe and Nina Borroz from Colorado, originally — now from Vancouver, Wash., Luis Lobrie and Phyllis from Roanoke, Va. were also there to greet them. They all spoke about their previous get-togethers in Vancouver, Wash. Roanoke, Va., Ft. Wayne, Indiana and Ed hopes someday they will get together in Rehoboth, Del.

After their stay in Iowa, Ed & Helen headed East to New Philadelphia, Ohio, where they visited Robert and Anna Edie, for their second time. Robert Edie has been in Hospice for 1½ years and is bedridden. Although the strokes have taken their toll, Anna Edie has done the impossible in caring for Bob Edie. Ed said that in a recent phone conversation with Anna Edie, the Doctors have decided not to amputate Bob's left leg (which they thought they might have to do) Bob Edie doesn't speak other than muttering a yes and recognizes you with a smile.

Ed reminds all of us that Anna Edie brought Bob, wheel chair and all to a couple of our reunions because he wanted to see us "B" Co. Buddies. Now the least we all can do is to drop Robert and Anna Edie a card or a letter to say Hello!

Mr. Robert and Anna Edie
533 Stratton Ave. S.W.
New Philadelphia, Ohio 44663

We are all indebted to Ed Sarnocinski a good "B" Co. Buddy, for this most informative letter. (Regarding the "B" 47th Octofoil photo — Ed believes the unknown is Sam Campassano and the fellow to the right of Faulconbridge is Walter Pepper).

Received a nice card from Joe & Stella Cichocki. They hope that I will feel better and that perhaps we can get together in June at Ft. Bragg. They wrote to the Adowskis but did not hear anything from them.

We phoned "Shock" Shockley and his lovely wife Etsie to find out how they enjoyed their trip "down under" in Australia. Shock said they had to leave early due to the very bad weather and possible danger to their Macadamia properties. This shortened trip also had them foregoing their trip to New Zealand. However, Shock and Etsie are both feeling quite well and glad to be home again! Shock also said that if all transactions go well in Alaska there is a good possibility that they will make the reunion at Ft. Bragg. That should be great news for all our "B" Co. Buddies who contemplate attending the Ft. Bragg Reunion.

I am sorry that I have to inform all our "B" Co. Buddies that my back problems have worsened. I am presently taking Radiation treatments once again at the Hershey Medical Center, and I will soon undergo Hormone Treatments also which I hope will regress the Boney Metastatic Disease and lessen the daily pain I presently endure.

Ann has been a wonderful stabilizing factor for me even though she presently walks with a cane, as a result of recent Arthroscopy Surgery performed on her left knee. We both are still optimistic in spite of our medical problems. Ann says that we are both "toughing it out."

We are not sure that we will be able to make the Ft. Bragg Reunion, as of now. However, we haven't given up hope on this one. Regardless of what happens with us, we do hope that all our "B" Co. Buddies who are able — try to make this very important reunion.

We are certainly deserving of enjoying these past 50 years — A milestone in the lives of all of us who are here today. God Bless all our "B" Co. Buddies — Carry on and keep well!!

Pat J. Morano
2208 Lincoln Way East
Chambersburg, Pa. 17201
Phone: 717-352-3650

COMPANY "F"
47th INFANTRY

Once again I bring you sad tidings of the demise of one of our former Raisers from Fort Bragg days. George King called me Saturday to say that Ed "Buddy" Byrnes had passed away in his sleep last week. Many of you may remember Buddy as a pitcher, and a good one, on the undefeated regimental baseball team. Our condolences go out to his grieving family.

Last weekend I spent with some of our "F" Company men and other Board of Governors members at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux in Fayetteville. Our man on site, Bob DeSandy, did an excellent job of setting up things for our upcoming reunion. Also he has made the necessary arrangements for our CP since we were one of the first CP groups to request a suite. I believe you'll be quite pleased with the CP in particular, and with the facilities in general. The facilities have undergone a facelift since our last visit ten years ago. We all owe Bob a vote of thanks for the efforts he has expended in our behalf. At this time, I want to remind you to be sure to have your paid-up-to-date membership card in your possession so you will be entitled to vote at the general membership meeting.

After the Board meeting I drove over to Southern Pines to partake of the renowned hospitality of Flo and Bob. Their retirement home is truly an edifice of beauty, a tribute to a lifetime of hard work and their innate good taste. May they have many, many years of enjoyment there with the good friends they have cultivated during their short tenure.

By coincidence, Joe Bergin was spending a month in nearby Pinehurst, swatting the little white pill around the local courses with his lovely helpmate, Isabelle. Joe looked good, though he was recuperating from two major surgeries at the time. In fact, it was necessary for them to cut their stay a bit short so they could return to New Hampshire to confer with Joe's physician. We're all rooting for you, Joe. We know what a fighter you are, so we are looking forward to seeing you in our CP in June.

Frankie Gonzol has had a rough siege of illness this past winter, but hopefully it is all behind him now. He currently is spending a few weeks in the Florida keys in pursuit of the wily tarpon. He is in the capable care of his good friend and fishing buddy, Richie. Good health, Frankie, and good fishing!

I understand that our Rodger Alsgaard has been on the shelf with some heart surgery. We trust that he has returned to the good care of Jenny and that we'll see them both in Fayetteville.

It gives me great pleasure at this time to report that Larry Ghre is planning to be in Fayetteville in June. It will be great seeing him and Kay once again.

Last month at a New Jersey Chapter luncheon I enjoyed the company of the Yennies, Gonzols, Lou Slatnick, and Jack Finnigan. It is always great to see these good people, but I was sorry to see that many of our "F" Company people missed the delicious luncheon.

George King reports that he has completed his rehabilitation workouts at the hospital in Geneva, and that he is thinking seriously of reenlisting in the army. George is only seventy-six! On Monday he will be leaving for Las Vegas on his annual jaunt to replenish his coffers.

M COMPANY (47TH) CHRONICLER

Dear Compadres:

I contacted Wilton Taylor on the phone last month. He and his wife, Juanita, are in a nursing home and he can be reached there directly (Clark Co. Nursing Home, Kahoka, MO, 63445; (816) 727-3303) but also through a niece, Doris Anderson, at Rt. 1, Box #93, Wyaconda, MO, 63474, who is the Taylors' guardian. The Taylors have adjusted to their new circumstances. Wilton remembers his days with M with much pleasure and loves to get mail. He's getting The Octofoil now so he can keep up to speed by this column.

I've sad news to report on Joseph E. Cebulski who was shot and killed recently while trying to thwart a robbery of a friend's grocery store in Providence, RI. Joe was a mortarman who did "the whole nine yards" with M, earning a battlefield commission for heroism in the process. He had been employed for 45 years as a machinist and retired in 1980. He never married. Joe was one of those who contributed to the project for searching VA record for lost M-ers. (See below).

Also I have to pass on Bob Story's news that Robert M. Wallace of Long Beach, CA, died last October 23rd. Wallace was of Scotch birth. He joined the 1st Platoon as a replacement outside Bizerte so he was one of those to whom the trip to UK was "going home." Wallace was WIA and evacuated in Normandy. According to Story, "he was a 100% — reliable guy who could always be depended on."

Story says he had a good winter out in the shop building clocks and little wooden chests which the neighborhood kids fancy. Those Ronan, MT winters don't afford much for recreation so he's glad to hear that spring is just around the corner.

Joe Kearns of St. Petersburg, FL, wrote that his dear wife, Helen, succumbed to cancer on March 13th. We remember well Joe and Helen wowing the folks on the dance floor at various reunions. When Joe sang for us, she was up on her feet clapping at the end of each number like it was bobby-sox time back at the Bijou. What a loss! Our hearts go out to you, Joe.

There's been some progress on the VA Record Search project to help make up for our losses:

Percy E. Faust, 10517 McCormac Ave., Bakersfield, CA, 93307. Percy did not go overseas with M but was cadred out to the 88th Inf. Div. before we left Ft. Bragg. He said to say "hello" to old buddies remembered, Bernie Bennick and Lloyd Graff.

Ralph J. Graf, Box #55, Friendship, WI, 53934; (608) 339-3471, lost a leg at Kothén, Germany, in one of the closing actions of the war. He remembers Bob Story and Lt. Johnny Davis in the 2nd Platoon. Ralph is a CB enthusiast and his handle is "Flying Dutchman."

George makes more more at the track and in the casinos than most people make at their jobs.

Jack Healey called last week to check in with me. Jack lives in not to distant West Orange and on occasion pops in on one of our New Jersey Chapter meetings. It is always good to see this happy Irishman.

Lucy and I are looking forward to seeing you all at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux in June. Stay healthy!

Ed "Hoppe" Hopkins

Horace Humphreys, Rt. 1, Box #327, Moatsville, WV, 26405; (304) 457-1929, was employed by the National Carbon Co. for 25 years but ill health forced him to take early retirement. Horace was a machine gunner in the 1st Platoon and remembers Lt. Schneider.

Rodney J. McDermott, E. 4730 Hwy. 302, Belfair, WA, 98528, writes that he had a career with the State of Washington as an electrical inspector. He's retired since 1976 and summers in his native Montana and winters in Yuma, AZ.

Joseph Ventura, 47 Madeline Dr., E. Providence, RI, 02915; (404) 438-9184, was a truck driver for 35 years and is now enjoying retirement.

Robert J. Wertz, was one of those on the VA search list but I ran him down before that panned out, thanks to Ma Bell, UPS and Dick Yates for remembering his foxhole buddy's home town. Wertz was in the 1st Platoon and is now at RD 2, Box #2385, Leesport, PA, 19533.

So that's six for two and, as actuaries would point out, not so bad when you're playing with mostly septagenarians. A word of credit here to some of the company's former "brass." I'm a great believer in RHIP as some of you who tried to get ahead of me in the chow line may remember. When I got this idea of tapping the VA files and discovered they wanted \$2 a copy to do this, with 310 missing I thought to spread things about among those who wore the doo-dads on their collars. The response was magnificent. Now, what is supposed to happen is that a "blind letter" from me would be forwarded to the guy if VA has a record of him. He's supposed to return an enclosed card if he's interested in reestablishing connections with M. So, there's plenty of room for slippage here but the cards are drifting in. It takes a long time for the wheels to grind. If we don't get more, this will have been a pretty expensive experiment and I'd better not return to that particular well very soon. C'est le guerre, fellas; live and learn!

There's other mail: I had an order for a copy of "ElGuettar" from Bill Channell in Toms River, NUY, and Lou LaCivita of McKee's Rocks, PA, sent me a booklet of WWII combat photographs which he rightly thought would stir the cockles of my heart. Bill Horan of Columbus, GA, reports that he'll be staying at the Comfort Inn in Fayetteville during the Reunion. He and Norma will also get to visit a son who is stationed at Ft. Bragg with the 82nd Abn. Div. Joe Kscenaitis and Don Kothe also wrote that they'll be at Fayetteville.

Something else to look for: The new package for "Mrs. T's Pierogies" sports a portrait of "Colonel Ben" Bennick fully suited-up and in glowing technicolor making the point that when you're buying Mrs. T's, you're "buying American." Now if they could only get them to eat the things in Tokyo — maybe flavor 'em with soy sauce, Ben? Thank's to Mrs. T's nephew and the other referred to above, our strength is at its highest figure (125) despite our losses. If you recognize someone above with whom you shared a "K", or maybe something worse, drop him a line. Drop me a line! That's what we're all about gang. I hope to see many of you in Fayetteville. I'll be at the Bordeaux which is also where the M Company CP will be established.

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



Bill Hennemuth sends this photo taken in Florida this past winter when a few members from the Illinois Chapter got together at his home. Shown left to right are: John and Helen Clouser, Bob and Georgie Winkleman, Bob Pappas and Bill and Peggy Hennemuth.

Deadline for next issue July 20th

MAIL CALL

Co. C 9th Med. Bn.
RALPH PALERMO
223 Barbara Dr.
McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Dan, enclosed is my check for 1992 dues. Sorry I was unable to make the Milwaukee Reunion.

I enjoy receiving and reading the Octofoil. I read this article from M Company 47th Infantry Chronicler, where he mentions the name of Louis A. Lacinta who is now the State Commander for the State of Pennsylvania of the Italian American War Veterans. Lou is one of the most conscientious workers in this organization. When Lou was elected Commander, he selected me to be his State Adjutant. Lou reorganized Alleg Post I. Pittsburgh, Pa. He was our Commander, till he was elected State Commander last year. Right now he is our Quartermaster. Our Chapter is very active, doing hospital work, boat rides for exceptional children, etc. On Dec. 7, 1991 we had an affair at the Soldiers and Sailors Hall, in PgH. Pa. honoring the 50th anniversary of Pearl Harbor.

On Feb. 6, 1992, I was appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, of Alleg. Co. PgH, Pa. as a member of the Veterans Advisory Council. Our Council will advise the Commissioners, on anything that pertains to Veterans.

I got to see Alex (Pappy) Balough occasionally. We have lunch and coffee and talk about the members of the Medics quite a bit. They are always remembered. We plan to attend Pidgeon Forge Reunion and hope to see all the fellows there.

Dan, keep up the good work and keep the Octofoil coming.
God Bless.

39th
ANTHONY JUBUBEAK
Thayer Rd., Rd. 2
Amsterdam, NY 12010

Here is another year gone by, so I thought I'd write a note. Sure glad to get the Octofoil, as I read it over and over again.

It's a shame that with all the fellows I came in contact and served with, I have only heard from two of them. We correspond quite frequently and they are Dave Goodman and Vic Daumit.

I am having a problem and I hope you can help me with it. The 39th Inf. Band received a commendation to wear the combat infantry badge for which you are entitled to receive the Bronze Star.

I would appreciate it if you could tell me or send me a copy of this commendation so I can forward it to the Army. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

60th M. Co.
JOHN BOSKO
86 Rt. 165
Preston, CT 06365

Enclosed a check for \$110.00 for two all event "strip" tickets for the 47th Reunion, June 11, 12, 13, 1992 in Fayetteville, N.C.

I am sure things have changed in fifty years when we left "chicken road." The ship we boarded was the Susan B. Anthony. After making numerous crossings, I heard it was scuttled on the Normandy beaches.

See you all at Fort Bragg.
JOSEPH MEYER
568 Ave. G.
Port Allen, LA 70767

I went to Cyril Guidry house and he gave me a copy of newspaper with his writing. I thought you might like to have reprinted in Octofoil. He joined 39th Inf. at Fort Bragg. I also joined 39th at Fort Bragg. I would like to get Richard Dyer's address if you have it, he was with 39th 2nd Bn. Hq. Co. I know he was from VA.

60th Inf. Serv. Co.
GEORGE GROSSMAN
374 Country Club Ln.
Pomona, NY 10970

We are disappointed in not being able to attend the reunion in Fayetteville in June. The reason being that we will be in Alaska at that time to celebrate our 50th Anniversary. However, we are looking forward to the 1993 convention in Texas.

Edith and I tried retirement but that was short lived. I am a deputy sheriff in the court system of Rockland County and Edith is working as a bookkeeper at the Hove Marina. Being around young people is a great booster for morale.

Both my daughters are married and we are blessed with four grandchildren. My son is an editor and associate producer with the Nightly Business report, which can be viewed on the Public Broadcasting System. As soon as he finds a girl like his mother, he'll join the married rank.

Best wishes — good health to you and yours. Looking forward to seeing everyone in '93 in Texas.

39th Inf. E Co.
GILBERT E. GRICOSKIE
939 W. Holly St.
Shamokino, PA 17872

Enclosed are my dues for another year and I don't think I am going to make it to the Reunion this year. Wilbert (Snuffy) Goldsmith is on his way across the country by the Southern Route so don't be surprised if you see him and Judy dug into your lawn one of these days on their way to New York to visit his mother. He is coming to see me May 12th, 1992. In June, it will be 50 years that we met in Fort George Meade, MD for Basic Training. I also want to say "hello" to Larry Faulkner, John Sabato, Donovan, Ken Hill, Ray White, Keith Lawer, Ed Rigsby, Joe Evancho and some I don't remember. Also, to John Gregory from Franklin, KY who wrote to me after my by-pass operation, but I did not hear from him lately. I don't know whether I owe him a letter or if he ran out of stamps. If stamps keep going up, I am going to write free like we did during the war.

PS. - Forgot to mention Ward Payne and his wife.

Co. F, 60th Inf.
FRANK DENNIS
RR2, Box 387
Dallas, PA 18612

I remember the good times when we attended the reunions with Co. F, 60th Inf. If my wife's health improves, we may make it to Fort Bragg. It is only a day's drive from my area.

The cards that we received meant a lot to us, especially the cards from Wisconsin.

My health is fair, and I follow high school wrestling and look forward to my grandson's soccer games.

I like reading the Octofoil and enclosed are my dues for three years.

Co. K 60th Inf.
James F. Hart, Jr.
7 Nenagh Drive
Wilmington, DE 19803

Not much new from here — just getting a year older and happy that my family and I have stayed in good health.

As always, I look forward to receiving the Octofoil and read it from cover to cover. It is only through the dedication of you and some others that the Association has managed to stay alive. I am sure I speak for all of us when I thank you and Marie for so many years of faithful service. Hope you enjoy many more.

39th Inf. Med. Bn., A Co.
WILLIE L. BOBBITT
Route 1, Box 544
Ben Wheeler, TX 75754

Just a few lines to let everybody know I am still around. I would like to hear from some of A. Co., 9th Med. Bn. men. Also, would like to know what ever happened to Sid Hix, George Alexander, Lewis Aslin, Paul Edelman and Stewart Bennett or anyone else that would take a few minutes to write a line, or come by.

Hoping to go to Ft. Bragg for our Reunion. I went to the 9th Med. Bn. Mini Reunion. Last year's in Shelbyville, N.C. had a good time and met a bunch of old buddies from A-B-C- & D Company.

I was with A Co. from Bragg to the end of the War. I was an ambulance driver. Maybe some of the 39th boys will remember me.

I read the Octofoil from front to back and see very few from a A Co. 9th Med. Time is getting short, maybe shorter than we think, as I am 74 years old.

Hope to see you all at the mini reunion at Pigeon Forge, TN April 9-10-11 1992 and '93 maybe.

2nd Bn. 60th Inf.
WYETT COLCLASURE
307 S. Washington
Kinmunoy, IL 62854

Because of you, I heard from Edwin Lusk. From Edwin, I learned several things; the circumstances of wounds received in a "wadi" east of Maknassy, Tunisia. Much about that day is a black page to me. From Edwin, I learned he saved me from bleeding to death. Friends and comrades like this are more precious than gold. Thank you Edwin!

The next few days were a twilight period for me. So I look forward to the Ft. Bragg reunion with added anticipation. Also, I need another strip ticket. My son, Col. Wyatt M. Colclasure II, who is project manager for NBC Defense Systems, Aberdeen Proving Ground; also served with the 9th Infantry Division in Vietnam; will be attending as my guest. As a matter of interest, how many "father and son" combinations do we have who served with the 9th Div.? The Vietnam wearers of the Octofoil wore it with pride as we wore it with pride. Isn't it time we extended the hand of fellowship to them?

84th F.A. Btry.
OCTAVIAN GANSCA
412 Meek Street
Sharon, PA 16146

Enclosed find my check for two years dues. Sorry to be late in getting it in the mail. Also, please send me two - 9th Div. decals. Had one on the old car, but getting a newer car. I need one for it. Lot of people have seen the decal on the car and ask about it. Haven't been in the best of health for the last couple of years. As they say, "I'm still in there a kicking." That's about the best you can do.

Enjoy reading the Octofoil — never put it down till I have read it front and back. Am always glad to read how the rest of "The Old Reliables" are doing. Hear from Nick Labecki of Lower Burrell, PA. Also hear from Sam Robinson and Dick O'Connor. Sure does bring back good memories. Keep up the good work, Dan. Really enjoy the Octofoil. God Bless you and all the rest of the boys.

A psychiatrist's couch is where you land when you go off your rocker.

B Co., 15th Engrs.
RICHARD McGRATH
2856 W. 85th Street
Chicago, IL 60652

The Ninth Infantry Division Assn. lost one of its key men when Fred D'Amore passed away on February 5th, after a long battle with that insidious disease, cancer. It came as a double shock to me. First, although I was in touch with him, he never let on that he was sick. I guess he didn't want anyone to hear him complain, he was always the quiet one, not a big talker, but forever a giver, looking to help someone. Second surprise came when I went to the Milwaukee airport to pick him up for the reunion and learned that he was unable to get out of bed. The Association has lost a valued contributor, as he was a hard, diligent worker that always was so proud to work for the good of all the members. I still can see the proud look on his face, at the reunions, when he would carry the flag or wreaths up to the Memorial stand. He never looked for any credit, but was a team player who made everyone look good. Fred was a special friend who went out of his way to give me many happy memories. I stayed with him and his family when he took me to the Worcester Memorial and to different places in the Boston area. They treated me like part of the family and I will always remember their kindness. It grieves me that Fred's lonely wife, Rose had to endure such suffering as she nursed him through such a long period. People that were closer to him than I can give a better insight, people like Ron Murphy and Tom Boyle can tell of the years of work he put in with the New England Chapter. Thousands and thousands of hours so the rest of us could have a top notch Assn. People like Barney Angell who was his closest buddy through the years of training at Fort Bragg, they were among the original selectees.

Platoon Sergeant Barney Angell can tell you how important it was to have a trusted squad leader like Fred through three years and eight campaigns overseas. Barney has written to me about their trials through mine fields and other hot spots. Although these men knew him better than me, it was a break for me to meet him again at my first reunion at Cape Cod in 1981. Since, I have been a better person because of his friendship.

Our deepest sympathy to his family. Enclosed is a donation to the Memorial Fund in Fred D'Amore's memory sent by my wife, Fran Mc Grath.

I look forward to seeing the gang at Fort Bragg, as Fred used to say — Boys, "let's stay together, it's later than you think."

47th Inf. Hq. Co. 3rd Bn.
HAL SAUM
P.O. Box 450
Elm Creek, NE 68836

I attended the first Reunion last year in Milwaukee knowing I would not see anyone I know — and darned if the first guy I saw was Mike Pelle, the guy I spent all my time with during the war — needless to say, I can hardly wait for June to get here. See you at Ft. Bragg.

B Btry. 84th F.A.
NICK LABECKI
251 Millers Lane
Lower Burrell, PA 15068

Enclosed are my dues for three years and a little for the Memorial Fund in Memory of Adam H. Yanrelis. I keep in touch with Gansa and O'Connor. Would like to hear from other B Btry. men. I would like to hear from C. Mikus. Can't make the reunion. Have a good year.

THE OCTOFOIL
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Company L 47th Inf.
WILLIAM D. FLEMING
7861 Praver Drive West
Jacksonville, FL 32217
904-733-1877

Living in Jacksonville and traveling to the St. Pete, Clearwater, Tampa area usually four or five times a year, I take a short-cut and go to Ocala and on I-75 to go to this area. Doing this I have to pass the main gate at Camp Blanding and I always look to see if the two WW II tanks are still guarding the main gate. There is also a sign there that says Museum but I didn't pay too much attention to that either.

On the 23rd of this month, The Fla. Times Union used three-forths of a page to describe the activity that has been going on at the Museum at Camp Blanding. I started to read the article with a Ho-Hum type of attitude but when I reached the part that said the Museum had a \$57,000 Trust Fund and received another \$35,000 in State Funds and \$100,000 an initial State Grant for renovations and construction funds to the building, I started to pay attention and this motivated me and my wife enough to take a ride down there to see what this was all about.

I was amazed to say the least and what started it off was seeing a two story Army barracks building covered with buff colored siding trimmed in brown sitting in the middle of this beautiful little park surrounded with WW II Recon Cars, Half Tracks, Tanks and a C47. In addition to this there are several little monuments to the Divisions that took their training there. Inside, mannequins in authentic uniforms, rifles used by our allies, motars etc. Inside, you felt like you were in a new building.

I took time to find the Curator and introduce my wife and I and told him I was with the Florida Chapter of the Ninth and also told him that they would hear about this at a coming business meeting. I also asked Mr. Hall, as an organization, what could we do to help? His answer was — come see us and bring artifacts. They need books for their Reading Room for those interested in research, battle maps would help, group photos. They are hoping to open their second floor by June of this year.

Camp Blanding is located on State Rd. 16, about 7 miles east of Starke, Fla. They are closed Monday and open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. through the week and 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday. Phone 904-533-3196. Stop by on your way to or from the Reunion in June and you won't be sorry. Bring those artifacts that have been collecting dust for the past 48 years and let every one see them.