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The Octofoil

9th Infantry Division Association

11-1-1994

The Octofoil, November/December 1994

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Volume XLIX Number 5

Nov-Dec 1994

50th Annual Worcester Memorial Service

On Sunday, October 23 the old gang gathered for the 50th year to remember "Our Dead" at the annual Memorial Service begun in 1945 by the late Rev. Edward Connors. When Father Connors passed away in 1986 members of the New England Chapter called "Friends of Father Connors" felt it was their privilege to continue with the Mass and Services at Immaculate Conception Church the last Parish that Father Connors had served as a Pastor.

The crowds has thinned but there were 150 people at the Brunch served at the Holiday Inn in Worcester. There were many more members attending the Mass and Service but they could not attend the Brunch.

Father Scanlon celebrated the Mass on Sunday and recalled his days as assistant to Father Connors. At the Memorial former Congressman Joseph Early of Worcester remarked that of all the occasions he was asked to speak at through the years "this was the oldest and most enduring. As we get older and ranks are thinning, this in itself makes the occasion more significant."

The sound of "Taps" played in the background as Herb Olsen and Vincent Guglielmino, who lost brothers in the 47th Infantry, placed the Octofoil wreath in its place, a feeling of sadness comes over the "old Troops."

Ron Murphy our correspondent from New England recently was on Sick Call (by-pass) but is now on the mend. Drop him a get well card at 44 Strawberry Lane, Scituate, Ma. 02066. Hang in there Ron ole boy.



Shown at the 50th Worcester Memorial Services held on October 23rd, about to commence the services, left to right, Rev. Father Scanlon, Dan Quinn, Ron Murphy, Tom Boyle and former Congressman Joe Early.



Mary Beth Hynoski, Director of Volunteer Services Lyons VA Hospital, New Jersey, with Herb Hoepfner of Company F 47th Infantry and Ed Hopkins, President of the New Jersey Chapter standing before one of two Special TVs donated by the Ninth Infantry Division Association.

Trip down memory lane

Therese and I wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas, good health and happiness in the New Year. Having said this and wishing all of it to come true, I want to thank you for your help in locating Henry S. Rigby last June.

Henry and I along with another G. I. I believe his name was "Frenchey" and a man (civilian) who was a member of the free French underground, early July 1944 went on a recon mission early one foggy morning and ended up in the square of the town of La Haye Du Puits, we were the first Americans to have entered there.

Henry "Frenchey" and the French-man (F.F.I.) left me with jeep, on which a 50-cal was mounted, while they went over to check out the municipal building, purpose, to see that the city government was in place.

Continued Page 5



Creole Cooking demonstration by Kevin Bellon at New Orleans on Friday May 26, 1995.

TASTE THE CREOLE FLAVOR

Kevin Bellon will be our chef who will demonstrate Creole Cooking Techniques at the New Orleans School of Cooking. Be a part of the group who will board the Clarion Hotel bus at 8:45 A.M. on Friday, May 26, 1995 and will watch, learn and then taste the results of this authentic Creole Cooking. You will enjoy the comfortable atmosphere of a Louisiana homestyle kitchen. This is a class that you don't have to be a gourmet chef to enjoy "jambalaya" or other aromatic food.

The cost is \$16.00 per person. All women attending the 50th Reunion are welcome. We urge you to make plans to attend NOW ... don't wait ... we must fill our quota before April 15, 1995. No reservations will be taken at the Reunion. Please make your check for \$16.00 payable to the FL CHAPT. 9TH INF. DIV. ASSN. and send it to Audrey M. De Donato, 3650 S.W. Mosswood St., Dunnellon, FL 34431. You will receive a confirmation card which will act as your admission ticket. BE SURE TO TAKE THIS CARD WITH YOU!

Chairperson Barbara Berman made all the arrangements and she believes everyone will enjoy this experience. For further information, contact either Barbara at 322 Bucknell Dr., Daytona Beach, FL 32118 (904) 677-7292 or Audrey at (904) 489-4070.

MARDI GRAS NIGHT MAY 25, 1995

Traditionally New Orleaners celebrate Mardi Gras the day before Ash Wednesday. The 9th Infantry Division Association Men and Women will have their Mardi Gras on Thursday evening, May 25, 1995.

You have plenty of time before that date to search in your closet for something colorful to wear. If you can't find anything at home, there's always the inexpensive store or a Flea Market where you can pick something "Gaudy" for the occasion.

If you need any suggestions, contact Barbara Berman at 322 Bucknell Drive, Daytona Beach, FL 32118 or phone her at (904) 677-7292.

The Ninth Division Hits The Beach at New Orleans



Credit to New Orleans Artist/Author Joseph A. Arrigo

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION

50th Reunion

New Orleans • May 25-28, 1995

It has been over 52 years since the famous 9th Infantry Division hit the beaches of Africa...Safi, Port Lyautey and Algiers. For those who took part in OPERATION TORCH, you might recall the rough seas among the many other anxious moments.

Now you have an opportunity to enjoy a real smooth boat ride when you come to the 1995 Annual Reunion. There are a number of steamboat tours...the Natchez is one of them. It is New Orleans' only Sternwheel Steamboat, daily 2 hour cruises of the New Orleans harbor depart at the JAX Brewery daily at 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Phone (504)586-8777.

For the land-lovers, New Orleans is one of America's most exciting and interesting cities to see and there's much to do. There's the Riverwalk, the Jax Brewery, the Famous Cathedrals, the French Quarter, the Superdome located 5 short blocks from the hotel, and other places within walking distance. Look for folders and further information at the Florida Chapter Welcome Desk.

TRANSPORTATION TO NEW ORLEANS

If you are coming by car follow these directions:

From the East or North...work your way to I-10. Stay on I-10, follow signs to New Orleans (ignore the cut-off 6-10); stay to the left and head for New Orleans Business District. Keep on I-10 and Exit on 235B (Canal St./Superdome). Come down from the exit onto Claiborne St. and proceed straight ahead for 1-1/2 blocks to Canal St. (Traffic Light). Turn right, go 3 block to the Clarion Hotel.

From the West (coming from Baton Rouge) head toward New Orleans on I-10. Stay on I-10 until you come to Exit 243B (Poydras St.). This exit will place you near the Superdome on Poydras and Claiborne Streets. Make a left turn on Claiborne and you will find yourself on the side of the Interstate. Ride along Claiborne St. past 3 traffic lights...the fourth one is Canal St. Turn right on Canal St., go 3 block to the Hotel.

By Air: United Airlines will honor a 10 percent Senior Citizen discount. Most other airlines will also.

By train or bus: See your Travel Agent.

For Room Reservations and other information see page 2.

REMINDER TO ALL WOMEN

You will get a delightful introduction to the basic New Orleans Cooking when you attend a demonstration at the New Orleans School of Cooking. Barbara Berman, Committee Chairperson, has arranged to have a "free" lunch at the end of the demonstration. For details on how to obtain your ticket, see article title "TASTE THE CREOLE FLAVOR" elsewhere in this issue. Please sign up now...we need to make our quota.

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
John J. O'Grady
7912 NW 10th St.
Plantation, FL 33322

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

Pat DeColli, 2nd V.P.
1017 Jackson St.
Phila, PA 18148

Francis Maher, 3rd V.P.
14 Davenport St.
Worcester, MA 01610

Dave Heller
Judge Advocate
618 Sumac Rd.
Highland Pk. IL 60035

Thomas Boyle, Treasurer
39 Hall Avenue
Somerville, MA 02144

Daniel Quinn, Secretary
412 Gregory Avenue
Weehawken, NJ 07087

Board of Governors

1995
John J. O'Grady
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Trenton, NJ
Billie Martin
Birmingham, MI
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Walworth, WI
John Miller
Arlington, TX
1996

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Penn Valley, CA
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1997

Nicholas D'Agostine
Cherry Hill, NJ
Michael Belmonte
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James P. Driscoll
Holiday, FL
Herb Olsen
Marson Mills, MA

Published five times yearly. May, June, July - Aug. Sept. Oct. - Nov.
Dec. - Jan. Feb. - Mar, April by and for the members of the Ninth
Infantry Division Association. News items, feature stories, pho-
tographs and art material from members will be appreciated. Every
effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condi-
tion.

An extract from the certificate of incorporation of the 9th Infantry
Division Association read: "This Association is formed by the officers
and men of the 9th Infantry Division in order to perpetuate the mem-
ory of our fallen comrades, to preserve the esprit de corps of the
Division, to assist in promoting an everlasting world peace exclusi-
vely by means of educational activities and to serve as an information
bureau to former members of the 9th Infantry Division.

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

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

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

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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.....

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 Auxilliary Member.....\$ 2.00

Decals.....50-each

Please credit the following chapter:

Philly-Delaware Valley ☐ Greater New York ☐
Illinois ☐ Washington, D.C. ☐
New England ☐ Michigan ☐
Florida ☐ New Jersey ☐
Texas Gr South West ☐

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.....

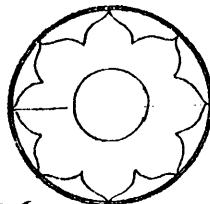
My spouse (Brother or relative)

Served with.....

One year.....\$2.00

Credit Chapter.....

1946
NEW YORK



1995
NEW ORLEANS

Fiftieth Annual Reunion

THURSDAY • FRIDAY • SATURDAY • MAY 25, 26 AND 27, 1995

Clarion Hotel

1500 Canal Street • New Orleans, Louisiana 70112

Room Reservations

Name _____ Spouse's Name _____
Unit of Service (Co., Btry, etc.) _____
Street Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____
Will arrive on _____ Will depart by 12 noon on _____
(date) (date)
I will guarantee payment Credit Card-Type _____ # _____ Exp. Dat _____

CHECK OUT TIME: 12 NOON • CHECK IN TIME 3 PM
50th REUNION ANNIVERSARY • HOSTED BY THE FLORIDA CHAPTER

Please check any special request: Smoking _____ Non-Smoking _____ Handicapped _____

No. of Persons		NAME(S) OF ADDITIONAL PERSON(S) SHARING ROOM
Single	\$75.00	
Double	\$75.00	
Triple	\$95.00	
Quad	\$105.00	
All prices subject to sales tax(s)		

Reservations must be accompanied by \$100.00 deposit. Personal check or Credit Card with expiration date
acceptable. Reservations must be received by April 25, 1995. All cancellations must be received before
May 22, 1995. THE 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION. MAY 25-28, 1995.

Tip of the Hat

The following members
remembered by contributing to
the Memorial Fund.

We salute you.

Lorenzo Filetti - In memory
of Joe Skertich, F Co. 60th Inf.

Anthony J. Narducci

Edward J. McNamara - In
memory of Joe Adaysk, F. Co.
39th

L.C. "Pat" Williamson - In
memory of Keene "Slick"
Wilson.

Salvatore Albanese

Paul Potts

Lowell Frederick

Conda Knee - In memory of
M Co. 47th Inf. (K.I.A.) and
those who passed on since the
end of the war.

Robert Sakers - In memory
of "Slick" Wilson

Edward S. Little

Richard McGrath - In memo-
ry of all 15th Engrs. that gave
their lives in W.W.II.

Albert Fullerton

James Deaton - To all who
served in L Co. 39th Inf.

Jerome Sypnieski - To all
from L Co. 47th who did not
return with us.

Julia Hoffer - In memory of
husband N. Curtis "Tex"
Hoffer.

Mike Belmonte - In memory
of Don Greco, Al "Sunshine"
Denaro, Al Friedlmier, all of A
Btry 60th F.A.

John Lewis

From M Co. 60th Inf. - In
memory of George Gilmore.

DON'T WAIT! MAKE ROOM RESERVATIONS NOW!

Fill out the above form (or make a copy). Be sure to include
\$100.00 deposit check or print your credit card number. Send it to
the CLARION HOTEL, 1500 Canal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana
70112-9990, Attention Reservations.

OTHER HELPFUL HINTS

The Hotel will honor the same daily room rate to our group for
anyone wishing to arrive 3 days before or remain 3 days after May
28, 1995.

State your choice of Smoking or Non-Smoking Room.

Clarion will send you confirmation of room reservation.

Suites and C.P. Hospitality Rooms can be ordered on an individual
basis. Contact Ms. Stacey Vigee, Sales Dept., CLARION HOTEL,
1500 Canal St., New Orleans, LA 70112.

Any cancellation must be received by the CLARION HOTEL not
later than May 22, 1995.

ORDER STRIP TICKETS IMMEDIATELY

Strip Tickets for Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings will be
used. The revenue from these tickets pays for the entertainment,
beer, soft drinks, snacks, gratuities, etc. For those wishing a mixed
drink, a Cash Bar will be set up. Have some fun at the Thursday
MARDI GRAS & Welcome Party Night. Dress appropriately and
dance to the music of the night.

Friday night the Cajun Dancers will perform for us, and then
provide us with music for dancing and enjoyment. Refreshments,
etc., will be the same as for Thursday night.

Saturday night is our Banquet Night. Our guest speaker will be
Mr. Walter Smith of the Greater New Orleans Tourist and
Convention Center.

Cost of the strip tickets follows:

Thursday Night. \$17.50 per person

Friday Night. 17.50 per person

Saturday Night. 30.00 per person

Sorry, no credit cards accepted. Please make your check for your
strip tickets payable to the FL Chapt 9th Inf Div Assn and send it to
Philip Berman, 322 Bucknell Drive, Daytona Beach FL 32118. You
will receive a confirmation card soon after receipt of your order.
This card must be presented at the Florida Chapter Welcome Desk
where you will receive your strip tickets.

GOLF TOURNAMENT: The Golf Tournament will be held Thursday
a.m. May 25, 1995 at the Bayou Golf Course located approximately
15 minutes from downtown New Orleans. All participants must be
ready to go before 8:30 a.m. Meet at the Florida Welcome Desk
located on the second floor. John O'Grady is the Tournament
Chairman. Players must arrange for their own transportation.
Green fees are \$20.00 per golfer. The cart cost is included in this
fee. Rental clubs are available at \$15.00 per set. Prizes will be
awarded for the longest drive; closest to the pin; MOST HONEST
GOLFER; first, second and third place winners using a handicap
system.

Anyone wishing to participate in this tournament is urged to send
their name immediately to John O'Grady, 7912 NW 10th St.,
Plantation, FL. 33322 or phone (305) 474-2791.

CATHOLIC MASS will be held in the TULANE ROOM on Saturday,
May 27, at 4:00 p.m. Consult Bulletin Board for any changes.



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

LADIES CORNER

I will steal a moment from my Christmas preparations to write this last column for 1994. All is well with The Taubner Family: Baby Jake had his 1st Birthday Party on Saturday, December 17th, while big cousins Carlos (19 1/2) and Diana (18 1/2) were still away at College in Tennessee, and due home for Christmas. In Maine, Jessica (17) graduates next June and will be college-bound soon after. Sarah (14 1/2) and Twins Joe and Vinnie (12 1/2) keep busy with school and sports. Olive (7 1/2) nearby in Hackensack, NJ loves to come over and bat the wiffle ball around in our back yard as she lives in an apartment house with no yard. She's good too, especially when her Grandma pitches, and often hits it over the fence onto our neighbor's yard. But Jim and Olivia are good friends so he doesn't mind at all. Ryan (3 1/2) in New Hampshire is growing like a weed with red hair and blue eyes, and just loves the Match Box trucks and tractors we send him.

As far as our Ladies Auxiliary goes, I don't know how the New Orleans cooking demonstration reservations are going, but I hope, very well! I have vowed to send my \$16 in next week — my family, Club, work and Christmas activities have almost overwhelmed me, So I am late with my reservations. A switch for me huh? But I will not miss this meeting for anything! However, don't forget your Pollyanna gifts, your Auxiliary dues, Nominees for new National Auxiliary Officers (except President), and nominations for donations to Veterans' homes and hospitals. OK?

Joe and I enjoyed the Worcester Memorial weekend in October, after too many absences. The weather was lovely, the hospitality great, and the Memorial Service very moving. I renewed friendships with some New England Chapter ladies, Hilda Boyle, olive Maher, and Mary Murphy and it was fun. Boy, did we talk and I don't mean just me! I also met a lovely Kate Nicklin, wife of a 47th K Company Medic, George, who later became a Psychiatrist. Joe and I hung around with them and Dennis Canedy all weekend. Dennis is a dear friend whom we have not seen in about five years, but who writes to us on a regular basis. My Joe especially enjoyed the meeting with Dennis. Kate, who has four children and who struggled in the post-war period, found we had a lot in common. The latest news about Dennis is not too good, but I hope we hear from him soon that he is better.

Well, I am talked out, so please send in your reservations soon, think on the other matters, pray that it doesn't snow too much this winter (so far Bergenfield had had 0 snow fall), and we shall see you in New Orleans in May. Take care.

Ellie Taubner, Treasurer
85 Smith Avenue
Bergenfield, NJ 07621

Hq. Div. Arty
HENRY BOKIVA
3 Prospect St. Box 132
Hatfield, Ma. 01038

Enclosed is check for my 1995 dues.

Everything is fine out here in the country. Give Nick DiMella my best regards.

THE AVENGING GHOSTS OF THE 9TH

by Thomas B. Henry

A year after the War, 1946 this article was written by a war correspondent Thomas Henry. It appeared in the Saturday Evening Post. A number of our members have commented that they did not read of the Ninth being mentioned at all when it came to the Battle of the Bulge. Here is an excerpt about the Ninth's role in the German breakthrough on December 16, 1944.

For a few days after Cherbourg the men of the 9th were the most publicized division in the American Army. General Eddy was hailed as probably the country's most brilliant division commander. Then once again the octofoil-wearing infantrymen marched forward into the cloud of anonymity, not to emerge until the end of the war.

The division was part of the infantry spearhead of the St. Lô-Périers breakthrough. It skirted south of Paris and raced across France. The 60th Infantry crossed the Belgian border, the first Allied troops by twelve hours to bivouac under the black, gold and red flag of the hungry little kingdom. Through the hole in the Siegfried Line punched by the 3rd Armored Division at Roetgen the regiments of the 9th pushed into the Eifel Mountains in early autumn.

In the pine-scented dusk of the Eifel valleys the men of the 9th remained hidden until, just before Christmas, out of darkness filled with swirling snow and the roar of falling waters, the division again materialized for one of the most dramatic single actions of the war. Von Rundstedt's storm troopers had smashed against the thin lines of the 1st Army. Directly in their path was the ill-fated 106th Division, composed largely of green troops fresh from the United States. Few of them ever had heard a shot fired in anger.

Most of the facts which follow are from the personal recollections of Colonel Rossberger, Von Rundstedt's chief operations officer. Much nonsense has been written about The Bulge and some quite synthetic heroes have emerged from the confused picture.

"We would have succeeded," Colonel Rossberger told me, when I interviewed him in a prison camp, "if it had not been for an American colonel named Smythe. He is the one American officer I would like to meet."

The whole move, he said, had been planned in the minutest detail, but Von Rundstedt had realized from the first that it was a gamble with a slim margin of success. Everything depended on the American 1st Army moving according to classical military tactics.

The German commander was fully aware of the weakness of the green American troops. He also was aware that on the northern flank, based around the picturesque little town of Monschau, was the 9th Division. Von Rundstedt knew the record of the ghost division. A frontal attack against these troops, even with a greatly superior force, Rossberger admitted, was unthinkable. But once the center of the 1st Army was cut to pieces, the textbooks called for a tactical withdrawal of this division to straighten the line. Such a withdrawal would have given the Germans control of the vital Monschau-Roetgen-Eupen highway as a supply road. With plenty of gasoline, Von Rundstedt probably would have been able to push his tanks into Liège, where 1st Army headquarters were established.

But the storm troopers never reached that road. In their path stood the 47th Infantry, the conquerors of Cherbourg. The commanding officer, Col. George W. Smythe, who had been one of West Point's outstanding football players two decades before, was ordered to coordinate all American troops in the sector for a last-ditch stand. He had no information of the depth or strength of enemy penetration.

Through the winter forest, Smythe set out in a jeep with only a driver and radio operator. Stopped at the outskirts of Eupen, he was warned that he could not get a mile east of the town before he would be killed or captured.

"At least I will know where the krauts are," he said.

He found that his radio was turned to the wrong channel, so that he was completely out of touch with Maj. Gen. Louis A. Craig, who had succeeded General Eddy in command of the division. Soon he ran into roads clogged with American troops retreating toward Eupen. The night was dark and filled with swirling snow — typical 9th Division background.

Smythe quickly organized these retreating troops, mostly leaderless and terrorized, around the nucleus of his own regiment. He simply took over command of all American soldiers in the area. That night he organized the equivalent of a full division from stragglers. It became known popularly as the "47th Division." The American stragglers wanted to fight; instinctively they sought a leader.

Smythe learned from prisoners that German paratroopers had been dropped behind him. This demanded extreme measures. He ordered all suspicious persons encountered on the roads seized and all cars stopped. Scouts were ordered out in the darkness to pick up all American stragglers. Sergeants and corporals organized companies. Wiremen, following closely behind them, set up a communications system. All this was accomplished in pitch darkness, in densely wooded terrain.

Still there was no contact with the enemy in force. A German paratrooper lurking in the woods was shot. Before dying, he revealed that a force of 300 had been dropped nearby. Strong combat patrols were sent out to find them. At dawn, Smythe had a fairly clear picture of the situation. The main German force had penetrated within 1000 yards of the foremost new American position set up during the night. The enemy was advancing through a dense pine forest. There was no longer any question but that the vital supply road was one of his main objectives. Smythe organized defensive positions which made the attainment of this objective impossible. Heavy artillery batteries poured shells on German concentration points. The batteries were supplied for the first time with the new proximity fuse shells from the United States just released for use of ground

Re: Proposal To Open Membership To Vietnam Veterans of the Ninth Infantry Division.

On July 8, 1994, I wrote asking you to include in the next issue of The Octofoil my recommendation that we open membership in our Association to those veterans of the 9th Infantry Division who had served in combat in Vietnam. This change would have required our membership to approve a revision of our by-laws, specifically Article II - Membership Qualifications.

I am now withdrawing my recommendation and request it be withdrawn from consideration by our Board of Governors and the 1995 Annual Meeting of the Association in New Orleans.

I have received a little support from the membership and rather than present a potentially divisive item at our meeting, believe revising membership requirements should now be abandoned.

From the American Legion Magazine, it is apparent various units of the 9th Infantry Division who served in Vietnam are having their own reunions.

I still believe the Board of Governors, and the membership, should adopt a plan for the ultimate demise of the Association.

John W. Miller

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws June 11, 1994

To be voted on at the next general meeting being held in New Orleans.

The following proposed amendments to the Bylaws were submitted to the Annual Meeting of the Association held at Lake Placid, on June 11, 1994, as part of a report by the Bylaws Committee. After discussion, the meeting voted to accept the report.

Under Article XV, Section 52, the following proposed amendments may be adopted at the next meeting provided that reference to them is made in the notice for the meeting.

1. INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS FROM 15 TO 17:

To change so much of the first paragraph of Article V, Section 27 as reads: "It will consist of a total of ~~fifteen (15)~~ members" so as to read "It will consist of a total of seventeen (17) members."

Explanation — Recent increases in the number of chapters have made it desirable to increase the number of members of the Board of Governors.

2. INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD REQUIRED FOR A QUORUM FROM 8 TO 9.

To change so much of Article VII, Section 33 as reads: "~~eight (8)~~ . . .Governors shall . . .constitute a quorum. . . ." so as to read: "nine (9) Governors shall . . .constitute a quorum. . . ."

Explanation — This change would preserve the present proportion of Governors necessary to constitute a quorum

3. PROVIDE FOR THE ELECTION OF ALTERNATE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS.

To amend Article V, Section 27, so as to insert the following Paragraph b:

"b. The members of the Association at the Annual Meeting shall also elect by plurality vote an alternate for each member elected to the Board of Governors. In the absence of the regular Board member at any meeting of the Board of Governors said alternate member shall serve with full powers to act in his place."

Explanation — Under the present bylaws, if a member of the Board of Governors is absent from a meeting no one else can take his place. Recently, a meeting was called but not enough Governors were present to constitute a quorum. This amendment would provide a remedy.

9TH DIVISION GOLF CAPS

9th Division Association golf caps can be obtained by mail for a total cost of \$10.00 per cap which includes postage. These caps with an adjustable back (one size fits all) have the 9th Division Association embroidered emblem. Three styles are available:

1. Summer cap (most popular style) which has a white front panel with a royal blue visor and nylon mesh back panel.
2. Winter cap in all navy blue.
3. All white plain summer cap.

Send all orders made payable to: Elmer Wagner, 2833 Hotchkiss Rd., Bay City, MI 48706.

9TH DIVISION LICENSE PLATES

9th Division aluminum license plates are available for a total cost of \$8.00 each which includes postage. These plates are white with blue lettering and border. A large red, white and blue Octofoil, is at the center. The lettering is 9th In. Div. Assn. Across the bottom are the 8 battle stars and invasion arrowhead like on our newspaper masthead. Send all orders made payable to: Elmer Wagner, 2833 Hotchkiss Rd., Bay City, MI 48706.

forces. The slaughter in the swirling snow was such as never before had been known in battle. The enemy paratroopers were mopped up in groups in the forests where they wandered in confusion.

In three days it was all over. By that time American newspapers were printing their first distorted stories of The Bulge. Actually, Colonel Rossberger says, Von Rundstedt never dreamed of success after that. His only object was to save what he could from the debacle.



ILLINOIS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

We held our Holiday Party Saturday, December 10th at the Grand Milwaukee Hotel. We would like to extend our welcome to a newcomer, Irv Terchak, 39th Inf. B. Co. We had a small turnout this year. Among the missing were our Florida Snowbirds and many of the regulars.

We are sad to report the death of the Illinois Chapter President, Mike Carpenter. He was in the 39th Inf. Hq. Btry. Mike had developed small-cell lung cancer. It was not treatable by surgery but he was receiving chemotherapy and radiation. Unfortunately he died suddenly on December 7th at home with his wife nearby. Mike was instrumental in organizing our Mini Reunions in Madison, Wisconsin each Spring. Our deepest sympathy to his wife and family. We will miss him dearly. The Hellers attended the funeral services.

Another one of the missing was Irma Koskie (wife of the late Chuck Koskie, 47th Inf. F. Co.) Irma suffered a stroke in November which paralyzed her right side. She has been confined to a wheelchair. She is in a Healthcare Center and is receiving therapy daily. We spoke with her this week and she is improving more and more each day. She says she will be going home in three or four weeks. Keep up the good work, Irma, we are all praying for you.

Muriel Gray, wife of Lew Gray, 60th F.A. Hdqs., underwent hip surgery last week. We hear that all went well and she is on the road to recovery. We hope and pray this will be her last surgery for a long time. Lew says she is doing great. Our best to her for a speedy recovery.

We also heard from Kay Ghare (wife of the late Larry Ghare, 47th Inf. f. Co.) that she fell and broke her knee this past year. She has moved to a Retirement Home and is recuperating.

We hope that is it for the bad news from our Chapter. We all dread opening mail or answering calls for fear of more unwelcome news.

The good Lord willing, we plan to make a reunion in New Orleans in May. We will meet in January to discuss plans for our Memorial Services in May. Happy and Healthy New Year to all.

Mike and Ann Belmonte
1161 S. Lombard
Oak Park, Il. 60304

Michigan News Letter

Another year gone another year upon us.

With that the Michigan Chapter met to install its officers for 1995. Installed were those elected at our Out State in Angola, In. Percy Hough, President, Floyd Hennessey 1st V.P., Billie Martin 2nd V.P., Roger E. Alsgaard, Secretary, Elmer Wagner, Treasurer, Barney Tobacco, Chaplain, Ed Wisniewski, Adjutant and Billie Martin, Historian.

Floyd Hennessey was nominated to represent the chapter on the National Board of Governors.

As we look forward we can only hope that the year ahead will bring world peace and that science will continue in their search to find a cure for AIDS.

My Jennie is being discharged from the local V. A. Nursing Home this month. She has been in the hospital since her surgery for removal of a blood clot in her right leg on August 1st. What happened to her leg no one knows or no one is telling us what they know. Anyway I will be glad to have her home again.

Later, this month we visit our daughter and her husband in southern California. I hope the sun shine will reduce some of the pain she is experiencing.

Dues times again so please find check for three years.

Roger E. Alsgaard, Secretary
Michigan Chapter

2834 Wynes St.
Saginaw, Mi. 48602

New Jersey Chapter

Though it has been some time since our last official meeting, we are still a vibrant organization. I have been working on a luncheon meeting for some time next month at a new location. Herb Hoepfner and I will try this place out for lunch before making a decision. In the meantime, some of you owe dues for 1995. Take a look at your membership cards and see if they show a 1994 expiration date. If they do you may send me your check made out to NJ Chapter 9th Division Association, at 110 Hollywood Ave., Metuchen, NJ 08840, or to Lou Slatnick at 284 Tall Oak Road, Edison, NJ 08837. Remember, unless you send your dues to me, the NJ Chapter will not benefit.

I received a call from Frank Haines a couple weeks ago, and he asked my feelings about the proposed marker for the bridge at Remagen. Though I expressed my feelings on the matter to Frank, I suggested that he present it to you good men at our next meeting, thus getting your ideas on the matter. I'll ask Frank to address the matter at our next luncheon meeting. I hope to see a big turnout at this next meeting. I believe we will be able to get a more private room and a better price. Do plan to attend. Incidentally, I want to take this opportunity to thank Frank publicly for the superb job he has done serving as our representative on the Board of Governors.

Also, I want to solicit your ideas for future events and/or projects that will serve to keep our members interested in the Association. So come to our next meeting with your ideas, no matter how far fetched. We'll give them the attention they deserve. After all, it is YOUR organization.

Lucy and I extend the Season's Greetings to you and your families!

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

Florida Chapter Newsletter

FLORIDA CHAPTER MEMBERS ENTERTAINED

Over 60 persons consisting of members, their wives and guests really enjoyed the Florida Chapter Fall Meeting held at the Ramada Resorts Hotel in Daytona Beach on November 11, 12 and 13, 1994. Chairman Phil Berman and his wife Barbara did a fine job making all the arrangements, handling all the details as well as stocking the Hospitality Room. Pres. John O'Grady helped keep the Hospitality Room in order.

Attending from out-of-state were Nick and Marge Pizzolato from Georgia; Tom and Carol Saunders from Tennessee. Leonard Florio and his wife came for the first time. Many members traveled long distances to attend. Dr. Martin Gross, a member of the New York Chapter, came to observe the way we conduct our meetings and also to learn about our plans for the 50th Annual Reunion. Everyone seemed to enjoy the Friday Night Buffet Dinner and show at the Hawaiian Inn. Tom Saunders and Emil De Donato were called upon the stage to perform with the hula-hula girls.

The big entertainment came at the Saturday Night Dinner at the Ramada Resorts Hotel. Ms. Angie Terregino, billed as the Italian Sophie Tucker, had the audience in stitches. . . eyes tearing from laughter. . . as she went up and down the rows of tables hugging, smooching and kissing different members while she sang such songs as: "Some of These Days," "A Good Man is Hard to Find" and other songs made famous by the real Sophie Tucker. Angie Terregino is a professional entertainer who has taken her act throughout the U.S.A. She has a powerful mellow voice and the antics to go with it. The members were delighted and expressed themselves by saying they would like to see more of such entertainment at our Chapter Meetings.

Joe and Dottie Williams, Chuck and Dolores Van der Poel, John and Ann Elichko, Art and Sally Coulon cancelled their reservations a few days before due to illness. We missed their presence and wish them all a speedy recovery.

To those members who could not attend this meeting for what ever reason, plan on coming to the next Chapter Meeting tentatively scheduled for September, 1995 in Orlando, FL. Pres. John O'Grady has already made inquiries. He read a letter from the Marriott Hotel who is very interested in having our group there. There will be no Spring Meeting as it will conflict with our National Reunion in May.

More information regarding the next Florida Chapter meeting will be printed in future issues of the OCTOFOIL.

1995 NATIONAL REUNION

At the Florida Chapter Business Meeting in Daytona Beach, Pres. O'Grady called upon Emil De Donato to explain the Advertising & Promotion program for the National Reunion. His presentation consisted of printed pieces already completed, colorful Information Kits, two color large envelopes in addition to layouts of items in the planning stage. Emil went on to report that over 55 members have sent in their reservation cards from the effort made during the Lake Placid Reunion. Name badge cards are being made as received. As he explained it, "We have to work hard in getting as much done as possible before we go to New Orleans. That way we avoid the confusion and the hassel." When asked for volunteers to help, Jimmy Driscoll, Mike Deresh, Arnold Tomenek, Norris Gray and others all stepped forward to say they will help. A National Reunion takes a lot of planning ahead and many hours of hard work. The Reunion Committee was and is very delighted at the response.

The next 3 issues of the OCTOFOIL will carry stories of the New Orleans Reunion. We urge all Florida Members who are able to attend this reunion to make your reservation as soon as possible. A Reservation Card is printed in the OCTOFOIL.

ROSTER CHANGES

In order to keep the Florida Chapter Membership Roster updated, we need your help and cooperation in furnishing us with correct information. If your name appears in the following listing or should anyone know of their whereabouts, please contact Emil De Donato.

Arthur Bresette; James Hayes; Jack Shaffer all had mail returned undelivered.

Please correct your roster as follows:

Gino Felicelli moved to 8323 Old Forest Rd., Palm Beach Gardens So., FL 33410

Wallace Richardson new address P.O. Box 1722, Magic Valley, N.C. 28751

The following are deceased. Please correct your rosters: Roland Senkel; Lawrence Murry; Park Privett; and Jordan Zwicker. Our prayers go to their souls. . . our sympathies go to their families.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY NEWS

Pres. Lila Stansell stated that 10 members of the Auxiliary volunteered to help at the 1995 Annual Reunion. More are needed so if you plan to attend, please volunteer several hours a day helping out at the Fl. Chapter Hospitality Desk. Contact Lila, Barbara or Audrey.

Barbara Berman sent a photo of Kevin Belton. . . a 6' 9" native of New Orleans weighing about 350 pounds who will be the Chef at the Cooking Demonstration for the Women's Auxiliary Meeting scheduled for Friday, May 26, 1995. He will explain the subtle differences between Creole and Cajun cooking. Kevin Belton is both entertaining and witty while cooking. Luncheon will be served after the demonstration.

Register now! Send \$16.00 to Audrey M. De Donato, 3650 S. W. Mosswood St., Dunnellon, FL 34431. Make your check out to FL CHAPT 9TH INF DIV ASSN. No credit cards, please.

CAPS, PINS AND OTHER ITEMS

We have a limited quantity left of different unit pins and caps. Write to Emil De Donato for specific information regarding your needs.

Emil J. De Donato
3650 S. W. Mosswood St.
Dunnellon, FL 34431
(904) 489-4970

TAPS SOUNDED

There is no death! The stars go down
To rise upon some other shore,
And bright in Heaven's jeweled crown
They shine forevermore.

And ever near us, though unseen
The dear immortal spirits tread:
For all the boundless universe
Is Life-there are no dead!

With sadden heart we announce the passing of these
"Old Reliables" and friends.

James N. Birkes
47th Inf. B Co.
Robert Buck
Serv. Co. 47th Inf.
Kent Herrin
9th Signal
Helen M. Johnson
Wife of Charles,
E. Co. Hq. 2nd Bn. 47th Inf.
George Cyphers
B Co. 60th Inf.
Milton Zucker
F Co. 47th Inf.
Paula Bako
Widow of the late George Bako
47th Inf.
Bernap Wilder
Co. F. 60th Inf.
M.R. Snoddy
Hq. Co. 60th Inf.
Myron "Mike" Carpenter
Hq. 2nd Bn. 39th Inf.
Helen Kocay
Wife of John Kocay, 60th Inf.
George Gilmore
M Co. 60th Inf.
Roland Senkel
E Co. 47th Inf.
Park Privett
9 QM
James N. Birkes
B Co 47th Inf.

9th Division Co. "F" 60th Inf. BERNAP WILDER

Dear Mr. Quinn

I realize I am very late in advising you but my husband passed away August 29th after almost five years battling cancer. He was a member of the 60 Inf. - Company "F" and saw action in the African, Italy and European sectors. We enjoyed the Reunions very much and even made the one in June at Lake Placid because I was able to drive us there.

Please continue sending the Octofoil. I like reading them.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Laura R. Wilder
40 N. East Ave.
Johnstown, N.Y.

I belong to the Auxiliary

It is with heavy heart that I write this letter to inform you of the death of my beloved husband Leonard M. DeBell on Sept. 11, 1994.

He developed Guillian Barre Syndrome and succumbed after six weeks on a ventilator.

Leonard was a proud member of the "Ninth" and always looked forward to each convention.

May he and all the buddies be rejoined. Rest in Peace.

Mrs. Loretta DeBell
6233 Pleasant
E. China, Mi 48054.



SEARCHING FOR THE
LAST FOXHOLE

By Bill Butler

I returned to France on May 9, 1994 with two old soldiers from my battalion, the 1st Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, 9th Infantry Division of VII Corps, First U.S. Army. The journey was in a sense a pilgrimage back to places and roads recorded fifty years ago in our memories. Charlie had obtained copies of the morning reports of "C" Company of the 1st Battalion for 1944 and 1945 all the way to the Elbe River, and the trip itinerary was to follow those roads and trails from battle to battle and whatever else of interest we found along the way.

For me, it was a return to that heart of darkness — the brutish tribal savagery of World War II. Those endless days and months of continuous combat had recorded in my memory a surrealistic landscape of Goyaesque imagery: smashed and burned cities and towns, bridges and roads destroyed, and fields sown with land mines. Dead people and animals lay scattered about, stiff and bloated. Destroyed and abandoned weapons of all types and sizes had decorated the landscape; the German color was gray with black crosses and the American was olive-drab with white stars. Both colors wove beautifully into the mood and tone of the landscape fabric. It had been life in hell itself.

Instead, I found the lush, green beauty of Europe in the tender, wet, life-renewing embrace of spring, whose fifty cycles had healed and covered scars of that savage tribal war to conquer the earth. The places of my worst nightmares are no longer recognizable, because they are repaired, are repopulated with trees, and the roads are widened and repaved. The Muese and Rhine Rivers that we had struggled to cross have become tourist and resort areas. At an isolated spot on the Muese where we had been terribly shot up during an attempted night crossing is a gas station next to a boat repair yard. Only the steep, tree covered hill that the company had retreated to remains, but even the trail up the hill no longer exists.

I had known Charlie Scheffel since the amphibious landing at Algiers in November 1942; he had completed R.O.T.C. at Oklahoma State that June and gradually rose in rank within the battalion during the Tunisian and Sicilian campaigns. Wounded while still on board the ship anchored off Utah Beach, he returned to duty as commander of C Company at Operation Cobra, July 25, 1944, and remained in that capacity until severely wounded on September 14 in the Huertgen Forest, his sixth campaign. He sparked the trip, planned the itinerary from copies of the 1944-45 morning reports of C Company, arranged for the car, the plane tickets to coordinate our meeting at Chicago for the flight to Paris, and added his vast experience in world travel.

I met Bill Clark last year at the annual reunion of the 9th Infantry Division. He was a nineteen year old replacement in Normandy about July 4, fresh out of high school — a private military academy in Minnesota where he had been taught machine gun theory and its military applications. He immediately became second gunner on a heavy water-cooled machine

Continued from page 1

Trip down Memory Lane

All the while the place seemed to be deserted, but shortly after they entered the building people began to emerge from their basements and doorways, one at first approached the jeep and soon was joined by a second and then another and another and soon we had quite a number of people around the jeep, they were bringing flowers, food, cognac, champagne, but most of all they brought joy of being liberated by the Americans. It was a happy hour in a life of misery and fear, and I never forgot how sweet it was.

The years rolled by and the flame of that warm and pleasant experience cooled through the fifty years that passed to where there was only a few sparks remaining. Then came the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of D-Day.

Fanned Few Sparks

*The pomp and ceremony and the experience of Charlie Libretto fanned those few sparks into flame again. I wanted to know about the town I helped to liberate.

I called Henry Rigby at this home in Media, Pa. and talked to him about our experience in La Haye Du Puits, then I got in touch with the mayor's office in that village and learned that the town did indeed have a celebration planned commemorating their 50 years of freedom taking them out from under the heel of the Nazi boot, the French had four years of hellacious experience in their being occupied by the Germans.

I was invited to join them in their celebration and they graciously offered a place for my wife and I to stay with a retired French Army retiree, (Rigby was not able to make the trip on such a short notice) I never ask and he never told me his rank but from my assessment of our host I would think his rank quite accomplished for he was very observant bright and articulate and very aware of details, and to boot both he and his wife (a retired French army nurse) are very generous warm and friendly folks.

All Over Normandy

Raymone chauffeured me all over Normandy. Breakfast was at eight a.m. at nine a.m. the car was out of the garage and ready to go and that was any place that I wished to visit. My wife Therese and I saw Utah Beach, Omaha Beach, St. Mere Eglise, the American cemetery as well as the German one, what a foreboding place that is! The Cemetery monuments are all of a very dark gray, almost black polished granite; while the American crosses white polished marble quite a contrast. We went to St. Lo, Valones, Barnaville where the monument to the 9th Division has been erected. It was all so confusing wasn't much I could relate to. Even the hedgerows and terrain seemed unfamiliar perhaps if I got down on my hands and knees and crawled or hunkered down in that hedgerow slump I may have found Normandy to be more familiar.

gun, carried the heavy tripod across his shoulders, and by September was section sergeant before being shot in the Huertgen forest in October. He returned to duty in December in time for the Battle of the Bulge and became the Father Figure, the Platoon Sergeant, his platoon officer having been long dead and never replaced. Bill fought through the Rhineland campaign and the Central Europe campaign [his fifth] to the Ruhr Valley where the enemy shot him through the left femoral artery the day before President Roosevelt died. With blood squirting four feet into the air, another nineteen year old, a highly decorated aid man from Tennessee named Earl Duncan, quickly tightened a tourniquet above the wound to control the blood loss, and saved his life.

I was "Doc", a battalion surgeon, in my twenty-fifth year at the time of the Normandy invasion. The job mainly dealt with the administration and supervision of the transfer of casualties from the battlefield to the ambulances, and did not require a degree in medicine. To prove the point, the army replaced me with a 2nd Lieutenant, Medical Administrative Corps five months before the war with Germany ended, and I finished the eight campaigns as commanding officer of the ambulance company attached to the 39th Reg. and during the short Bavarian occupation served as Regimental Surgeon of the 39th Infantry Regiment.

At Orly airport we picked up our four-door Citroen, drove to Caen, and found an Ibis hotel. On May 12, as veterans of the battle of Normandy, we each received the Commemorative

Hqs. 1st Bn 60th Inf.

GEORGE ALBERT

144 W. Wayne St.

Waynesburg, Pa. 15370

Continued next issue

Medal of the Fiftieth

Anniversary of the department and battle of Normandy from the president of the Regional Council of Lower-Normandy at a ceremony in the Abbaye aux Dames.

Caen, the capital of Lower-Normandy, had been destroyed by the war and is completely rebuilt and repaired. During those three days we visited all the museums, memorials, and cemeteries along that coast. Then we drove on to St. Mere-Eglise and to Utah Beach where the village of St. Marcouf is located.

There, on June 12, 1944 I had entered the empty village from the north with the reconnaissance platoon before the main body of the battalion had advanced into the village. Along the church wall in the village center had lain about fifty dead Americans left behind from a failed attack on June 10; a similar number had lain scattered along the road south of the church wall. The surrounding fields and the village had been largely denuded of trees and shrubbery by the Germans for clear fields of fire, and the impassable road had been rubbed by shells and bombs. Now it is paved, filled with trees and shrubs, the houses repaired, and the fields, once heavily sown with land mines, are now growing corn and soy. It is so quaint and cozy that it is unrecognizable.

Continued next issue

Co. L 60th Inf.

EDWIN E. BREWER

8427 Mastin - Apt. A

Overland Park, Kan. 66212

Here's a copy of a paper printed by the Kansas City Star in June this year, commemorating the 50th Anniversary of D-Day in June this year. No advertising in this paper and the Star sold thousands for \$2.00 a copy. I live in Overland Park, Kansas — only 12 miles from Kansas City, Missouri.

On pages 20-26-35 are articles written by me. After I was hurt in France — spent 3 months in hospitals in England, then back to the states on a hospital ship, then to a convalescent hospital in Long Island for 3 more months and 1 week. Was discharged with 50% disability. The VA called me down for 5 years in a row and the 5th year said I was OK. For a man 84 years old (was born in April 1910) am feeling fairly good — for years, I have bowled in 2 leagues each week.

I'm a native Missourian, in 1933 I went to N.Y. City (was 23 years old then) and worked in printing companies for 10 years in N.Y.C. and across the river in Jersey. Was drafted in 1943, spent 17 weeks in basic infantry at Ft. McClellan, Alabama and was sent to England and joined the 9th in mid-April 1944. After I was discharged in the last of Jan. 1945, came back to K.C. and have lived in the mid-west since.

P.S. You may or may not remember me, I have attended 10 reunions, the 1st in N.Y.C. — 1946 and the last in Nashville in 1986. You and I went to the Grand Old Opry and sat in the same seat on the big bus that evening to the Opry which was 8 or 9 miles from the hotel. As I recall, there were 6 or 7 buses full of the 9th folks and returned about mid-night.

My best to you and Marie,

60th Inf. A Co.

RICHARD E. COHEN

5612 Harding Avenue

Alexandria, Virginia 22311

I clipped the enclosed article from the June 8, 1994 WASHINGTON POST with the intention of mailing it to you immediately, but it sank to the bottom of the pile on my desk and only now resurfaced. Better late than never, the members should be pleased with the final paragraph about the plaque at Cherbourg City Hall in memory of Sgt. Finley of the 39th.

Despite the best of intentions, business commitments have conflicted with reunion and memorial service dates making it impossible to attend either event. It's been a very long time since our last personal contact with Association members, so I am especially dependent upon The Octofoil for news and reports on activities. Thank you for continuing to make the paper timely and interesting.

Our local Chapter became inactive after the deaths of Charlie Tingley and Frank Wade, whose energy and leadership kept a wide-spread contingent together for many years. My own participation was limited by overseas assignments during the better part of 20 years, ending with 6 years in Paris, not a bad exit from an interesting career in the Foreign Service.

Keep up the good work and regards to all the Go-Devils.

JOHN SLATER

Senior Vice President Publisher

McGraw-Hill, Inc.

11 West 19th St.

New York, New York 10011

Sent to:

Pete Rice Jr.

No. 2 Royal Way

Dallas, Texas 75229-5537

(214) 361-8533

Dear Pete,

The last issue of the "Octofoil" featured a wonderful article by you about a trip to the old 9th areas in Northern Europe. It was fascinatingly nostalgic to me when I saw the name "John Van Landingham."

I attended Class 82 ...? Ft. Sill and it was composed of R.O.T.C. units just mobilized on campuses and sent straight to Sill.. no basic training.

Class 82 had units from Cornell (where I went), Princeton, Harvard and V.M.I. The class was mostly college groups. John V.L. was in the class, and he had gone to V.M.I. You VMI people knew the military way of life and were our guide posts! I didn't know a "day" room from a night room! I was sent to Europe in July '44 and went in through Omaha Beach. The fighting was well inland by then. Was assigned to "A" Battery 34th F.A. of the 9th Inf. (In Africa and Sicily the commanding officer of the 34th, had been William C. Westmoreland. He had become Division chief of staff by July '44).

I stayed with the 34th as an F.O. till after Remagen when I became Battery Exec. We had a lot of casualties in the Hurtgen Forest around Vossenack and at Schmidt. I had an OP (observation Post) just south of Kalterherberg in a farm house all alone on the road to Elsenborn. Stayed there till late January. Then crossed the Roer near Vossenack again, and on to Remagen. I remember coming back to the bridge a few days after we crossed as I went down the hill toward the bridge, saw it fall in the river.

I trust I had the right John Van Landingham in my mind. He was a marvelous guy.

Look forward to your next installment.

With Best Regards,

John Slater

Co. F 47th Inf.

JOSEPH AYLES

16 Old Sawmill Rd.

Trumbull, Ct 06611

Enclosed is a check to cover dues for the next 3 yrs. Don't want red labels on my paper. Just a few lines regarding Lake Placid — terrific — among the best. We had 3 new members attend but not too many older ones. I guess time is doing what the Germans could not do, whittle us down, good health to all.

60th Inf. K Co.

JOHN PISANO

3 Gladwish Ave.

Albany, N.Y. 12203

Mrs. Speers' car had the decal on it as we both pulled into a parking lot at the local Scottish Games. . . "small world." She graciously followed-up our conversation by providing application blanks. Further, we discovered we are neighbors — by about 3 blocks distance. We're looking forward to the next newsletter.

1995 Reunion
New Orleans
May 25-28



THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE Feb. 20th.

M COMPANY (47TH) CHRONICLER

Dear compadres:

Since we're coming down to the wire with Remagen: Springboard to Victory, there's much mail every day but little news of M-ers. That's good if it suggests we're still all hale and hearty this far through another cold season, but maybe I just haven't had the bad word. Any way, thank Goodness I have no news of the funereal variety to report here this time.

I've had Christmas greetings from a number of the old gang so at least we know of this writing that all is well with Goodie and Leo Fatlan (they were back to Remagen in October and plan to be in New Orleans); Doris and Morris Goldblatt; Jean and Conda Knee (also have reservations for Sin City); Barbara and Ben Kovacs, and Joe Kscenitis (he wouldn't miss N.O.); Inan and Dewy Siddons, and Frank Tibbetts who recalled what a good time he had at Lake Placid. That Yankee ought to try a really big town! Well, thanks for the cards, folks. As I have explained before, this column constitutes the Phillips' form of holiday greetings. Lee and I wish you all the very best for a healthful and prosperous 1995, the 50th anniversary year of our Grand and Glorious VE Day!

Kudos are in order with news from Texas in the recent Octofoil that one of our own old rat-a-tatters, Willard Norris, will be the president of the Texas and Greater Southwest Chapter of our Association. Congratulations from us all, Willard.

We have our reservations at the Clarion. Also, Don Kothe writes that he has arranged for the new "Nostril Blue Room" to be established there on Thursday and Friday nights (May 25-26). This is our initial effort to establish a CP for the 3rd Battalion, 47th Infantry. Old communicators will organize the reference to our old telephone codename. Chester H. Jordan, who has been very active revitalizing our K Company cohorts, has agreed to co-sponsor this endeavor. To pay for it we'll pass the hat among former 3rd battalion guys who make an appearance (the Clarion gives nothing away, you know), and we hope to break even. Ask for directions to the "NBR" when you get there. Readers who were of Item, Love and Headquarters Company get to play too. You're all welcome.

Incidentally, in his report Don mentioned that he had talked to Norma and Bill Horan by phone. Bill still has difficulties getting around but they're going to try and make it to New Orleans.

I'll be done fiddling with Remagen: Springboard to Victory by the end of December and then it's off to the printer. My target date for availability is March 7th. Copies are to be available that date at the bookstore of the Peace Museum at Remagen, Germany, where for the 50th anniversary, many former adversaries will gather to celebrate the ultimate outcome of our bridgehead battle, this is, the common endeavor of two great nations in preserving peace in Western Europe. Elvin F. Martin of PO Box 8573, South Charleston, WV, 25303, and once a member of D/47, writes that a U.S. contingent of 600 or so will gather with veterans of the 11th Panzer Division and the many other Wehrmacht forces who unsuccessfully defended against our bridge head. I understand that the 9th will be ably represented by major (Ret.) George H. Brown, once of A/47, and about ten others of our fellows. It's not too late to jump aboard. Drop Elvin a card if you're interested in joining them. This is a straight deal and reasonable. If I had not just been there in September I would have been hot to trot, but Old Red is saving himself for Bourbon Street.

I'll be peddling books again in the Clarion lobby. The other day I heard from a 9th guy, an Africa veteran and long-time member of the Association, who had just learned of Sedjenane. Imagine! Anyway, the new book is about the same size as the last one and should cost about the same, \$15 plus p. & h. (1.25) if you want to order by mail now. Advance orders are acceptable.

I've turned up a couple of key players of 2/60 since the last Octofoil. Colonel (Ret.) Lloyd G. Huggins, the one-time E Company CO and S3, lives in Petersburg, VA, and Edward Kennard, former adjutant, is in Boca Raton, FL. If any former associates want an address or phone no., drop me a line. Also, out of the blue recently dropped General Craig's former ADC, William C. Yarbrough, who now lives in Arkansas. We are getting together soon while he's visiting family out here for Christmas. It's a small world after all.

Well, that's it! Stay warm, guys, and hasta luego.

9th Medics
GEORGE STEIN
7755 E. Quincy, Bldg. A3-108
Denver, Co. 80231

Here's my dues for the next 3 yrs., and I want to "Thank you and Marie" for the fine work you have been doing for all these years.

I'm in pretty good shape being 79 yrs-old, I do have thoracic abdominal aneurism in which the V.A. is checking on every 6 months, so far it's remaining stable so I'm thankful for that.

John and Louise Lewis are doing a great job keeping our Med. Bn. together, the next get together is in Myrtle Beach, So. Carolina.

Wishing you and yours the best of health. I remain

Your buddy,
Geo. Stein

Red Phillips,
14002 Hemlock Drive,
Penn Valley, CA, 95946
(916) 432-1409

47th Inf. D Co.
LOWELL FREDERICK
P.O. Box 301
Locust Grove, VA 22508

Please find dues for three years to renew my membership also would you put a note in The Octofoil. I would like to find or hear from Mario B. Cimini last known address was Pittsfield, Mass.

My address is P.O. Box 301, Locust Grove, Va. 22508 and my phone no. is 703-854-4511.

"Thank you."
P.S. Cimini was a member of Com. D 47th Regiment 9th Div.

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

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone from Ellie and Me. This year we went up to the Memorial Service in Worcester, Mass., and had a great time. We saw Dennis Canedy, whom we hadn't seen in a long time. He looked good at that time, but since then, he called me from the hospital where they might cut off some of his toes. He expected to be home in a few days, but I have tried to call him at home and work, with no luck. However, Ellie wrote to him, and you can too at: 117 Rocky Hill Avenue, New Britain, Conn. 06051. If I hear anything new, I will let you all know. We also sat and met George and wife, Kate Nicklin of Company K, 47th Regiment at the dinner and really enjoyed their company. They are from Garden City, New York, he was a Medic in Company K, who became a Psychiatrist after the war. So far, the ones coming to the Reunion are Etsie & Orion Shockley, Chuck & Julie Cecchini, Chuck & Joyce Munger, maybe Bob & Moira Moore, and of course Ellie and I. Stan Adowski wrote in their Christmas card they will not make it. John Campagnone also wrote to say that he was going to try to make it by flying down. Hope that he can as I would like to see him again. Remember Neil Conger whom I wrote about a column ago? He may make it if he can persuade his girlfriend to come with him, but I haven't heard how that was going. The rest of "B" Company doesn't seem to care about coming anymore. It is too bad as Shockley has rented a C.P. for us, so we'll have plenty of space to relax. Notice: This will be the last "B" column for me. Is there no one else out there, willing to write this? It's not that bad, especially if your wife or friend will type it for you! Let me know, please! I am getting awfully tired! See you in New Orleans in May?

Joe Taubner
85 Smith Avenue
Bergenfield, NJ 07621
(201) 385-5280

SEEKING

RE: PVT. ROY BASIL PRICE
35777785
39th Inf. 9th Div.
Killed in Action: August 11
1944

Dear Mr. Quinn:

I have been advised by the Department of the Army, Carlisle, PA. that you would have information surrounding my father's death in the retired records of the regiment and the division.

My father, Roy Basil Price, was killed in action in France on August 11, 1944. See Re: information listed above.

I would greatly appreciate any information that you could provide me regarding my father's death.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,
Sue C. Regan
203 Esquire Court
New Bern, NC 28562
(919) 636-1074

Co. L 39th Inf. 9th Div.
JAMES RAY DEATON
Rt. 1 Box 180
Amity, Ark. 71921
501-342-9426

I would like to say a Big Hello to all the men who served in WWII in Co. L 39th Inf. 9th Div.

GREATER NEW YORK CHAPTER REPORT

On November 18, 1994, NY Area Chapter members met at the Masonic Hall, 71 W 23rd St, NYC at 7:30 PM. Chapter prez Al Zenka opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance to the flag and invocation by our resident chaplain George Apar. A moment of silence was held in memory of our 4,581 comrades lost in WWII and for those members who have since passed on.

Recording Secretary Art Schmidt read the minutes of the previous meeting and Treasurer Charles Vandermark gave the financial report.

Prez Zenka informed us of Al Lipton's hospitalization in Burlington, VT, where his daughter is a nurse (Al has since recovered and attended the December meeting). Zenka also noted that his wife Genevieve had a successful laser operation for glaucoma in one eye. Adolf Wadalavage tendered his resignation as a chapter delegate to the National Board of Governors because of the time he must devote to his wife Peggy who has Alzheimer's disease. Out of respect for Adolf's well known dedication to the 9th organization his resignation was not accepted by the membership, but, if necessary, an alternate delegate would be chosen to fill out the duties of his current term.

The last order of business was the nomination of chapter officers for 1995. By acclamation, the membership voted to move up current officers one chair. The nominees are: President Charlie LiBretto; 1st VP Marty Gross; 2nd VP Jack Holuboff (nominated from the floor to fill the last chair). Chapter Board of Governors representing the 60th — Al Zenka; 47th — Dan Quinn; 39th — Hermino Suarez; Divarty — Al Lipton; Sgt. of Arms — Tony DeRobertis; and Judge Advocate — Dan Quinn. Elections will be held at the December meeting.

After officer nominations the meeting was adjourned and we partook of the collation provided by Zenka and DeRobertis.

Attending, not mentioned above: Anton Dietrich, Vincent Guglielmino, Bill Klaus, Emil Langer, Marv Levy and Joe Rzesniowicki.

END OF THE YEAR MEETING

The NY Chapter met again on December 16, at the Masonic Hall for its last 1994 meeting and Christmas dinner. Seventeen members attended. President Al Zenka opened activities with the monthly ceremony. Because of the 8:00 PM dinner reservation we dispensed with reading of the minutes and general financial report and held the election of officers for 1995. By acclamation the membership voted in the slate of officers nominated in the November report. The new officers were congratulated and they will be installed at the January meeting.

Treasurer Charles Vandermark reported on the moneys received from the Christmas Raffle and then began the process of drawing the winners. The lucky ones in the chapter's fundraiser were: 1st prize of \$150 — Herbert Taff; 2nd prize \$75 — Ben Kovacs; 3rd prize \$50 — I.J. Geisser; 4th prize \$25 — Frank A. Cancelino. The next ten prizes of \$5 each went to K. Donovan, John Santucci, George Merz, Marion S. Kaczynski, George Bastido, Nickolas Columbo, Nichole DeRobertis, Gene Magidson, John DeRobertis and Frank Markland. Congratulations to all winners and thanks to all who participated in the Chapter's primary fund-raiser.

Following the raffle meeting was adjourned and we headed to the Christmas dinner table that was set up for us in our meeting room and served by the Masonic Grill. The fare included salad, choice of entree: fish, chicken or sliced steak. A variety of drinks and desserts were offered. Much conversation was heard discussing former army buddies now gone, members no longer attending our functions due to illness or age, and the inevitable war accounts. The party ended around 10:00 PM and we all headed home, wishing each other a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Those attending not mentioned above: George Apar, Tony DeRobertis, Anton Dietrich, Marty Gross, Vincent Guglielmino, Jack Holuboff, Emil Langer, Marv Levy, Charlie LiBretto, Al Lipton, Harry Polche, Dan Quinn, Joe Rzesniowicki, Art Schmidt and Hermino Suarez.

Remember to pay your NY Chapter dues: \$10 for 1 year, \$25 for 3 years and \$75 for Lifetime Membership. Make checks payable to "Greater NY Chapter, 9th Inf. Ass'n." Send to Charles Vandermark, 38 Miller Avenue, Floral Park, NY 11001-3325.

Arthur R. Schmidt	Marv Levy
Secretary	Co A 60 Infantry
89-12 Doran Avenue	2044 Ellen Drive
Glendale, NY 11385	Merrick, NY 11566

(Postscript — Due to a production snafu, release of my VHS video "Return to the Battle of Normandy June 1944," has been delayed until February or March. If interested in description of video, and getting a copy when available, see details in previous issue of Octofoil — Marv Levy.)

60th Inf M Co.
EDWIN LUSK

131 Auburn Rd.
Indian Springs, AL 35124

I like to keep in touch & enjoy the "Octofoil" very much. Fort Bragg in 1941 & North Africa in 1942 & 43 seem so long ago, yet only yesterday in many ways!

I am still kicking around in spite of 3 major surgeries in the last four years. I have been in an exercise fitness program for the last 10 months & it sure makes a difference. I'm still hunting & fishing.

Best regards to all.

9th Med. Bn. & Med. Det. 60th Inf.

DR. R. M. HUMMEL
2411 Lommel Lane
Marion, IN 46952

Dan,
Enclosed is check for dues. Nothing too exciting in Indiana. I have been retired for 3 1/2 years. Have been taking it easy, went to Europe again this summer, was in Germany and London but didn't get to Normandy. As I returned, it was my 20th crossing of the Atlantic. Best wishes to my friends.

**1995 Reunion
New Orleans
May 25-28**

K Company 47th Inf.

MERRY CHRISTMAS 1944

Do you remember Christmas 1944, 50 years ago, up to our asshole in snow in good old Kalterherberg? The company CP was still in the Catholic parsonage, just prior to our eviction by the viper Killacky. The sun came out with the Luftwaffe and we had a fun day looking for Nazi flying gear.

Considering that we had a house with heat, and even more importantly, a wood fired water heater for the bath, with very little enemy action, we couldn't have wished for a much better Christmas, outside of mass discharge. As matter of fact, every time I see a movie or read a book about the vicious Bulge, I feel a little guilty, like a slacker or a deserter, because we had it so good.

True enough, I was almost killed several times by our own troops because I couldn't remember Brown Bomber or Babe Ruth with an M1 sticking down my throat, but by-and-large it was a Piece of Cake.

By New Years it was getting a little more like war. Run out of the rectory and living in a hole in the snow. The ner-do-well, On-The-Ball DeVall went all the way back to Brussels with our money and couldn't produce a jigger of drinking whiskey or one black eyed pea. The anti-freeze with grapefruit juice knocked out more people than an 88. Bastedo has never fully recovered. I figured out, right away, that it wasn't the alcohol that was dangerous, but the rust from the Jerry Cans. So I would wait until it had settled to the bottom of the C Ration can and then take a quick belt, you remained rust-free and it paced the chemical reaction. It's little insights like this that get you through these tough wars.

It is an anomaly that I, at 72, look forward to a longer life than I did at 22.

CASTLE

My German historians are doing a much better job than I, in digging up participants in the battle for Frenzenburg. Gunter von der Weiden, who is writing the history of the Schevenhutte Battle, has run down another Frenzenburg participant, still living.

Hans Zeplein was a 1st. Lt., commander of the Anti-tank Company of the 89th. Grenadiers Regt. at the time. He was 22 years old in Nov. 1944. He made several trips in and out of the Castle on the 26th. and 27th. of Nov.

He was there just after the Germans had succeeded in liberating their prisoners and capturing the K Men. All of the German reports disagree on times and dates, other than that, their stories agree with what I know to be true, if you are willing to accept a little hyperbole. If any of you get struck by even a partial recall, share it with me.

The Germans have been unable to discover a hint of German Armor operating in the area at the time, so I'll just have to accept the fact that it was the 3rd. Armored trying to burn our ass out of the barns. There is probably room in the 8th. Air Force Dog House to accommodate these would be assassins.

Sin City CP

Red Phillips has his personal emissary from the Florida Chapter setting up our CP. Several K Men have volunteered support, so you can be sure of a home away from home. I don't believe that any 3rd. Btn. people would be turned away, in case they are wandering in the wilderness.

Believe me, there is a lot of wilderness in Sin City you shouldn't wander in.

Chester H. Jordan
1058 W. Lakeview Dr.
Baton Rouge, LA. 70810-4641

To the Men of the 9th Division

They left this land of peace and joy way back in 42. Because they knew, within their hearts, there was a job to do. For Freedom flowed within their blood, they knew right from wrong

It was their flight for freedom that made them all so strong. They landed first in Africa and there began their fight As each day passed their courage grew, they showed the foe their might

Some fell upon the battlefield, for them the fight was done But the 9th Division carried on until that fight was won. They saw more action across the sea in little Sicily There, once again the 9th did shine, another victory They sailed again, they knew not where, but they were England bound

And there on England's countryside a little rest was found. Then training started and they knew, another fight they'd see Another step towards love and home, a step towards victory In France again they met the foe and they were stronger still Through every town they captured men, and won on every hill. They liberated Belgium next, they really made great gains And now, at last, in Germany they tread forbidden lanes So on to the 9th our blessings go, God bless them one and all For each one is a fighting son, he answers every call.

Submitted by Frank Fazio
Co H 47th Inf, 820 Mace Ave.
Bronx, NY 10467

who received it from Frank Podlogar also Co H
the Poet who mailed it to Fazio.
Podlogar lives in Cleveland, Ohio

Hq. Btry. 60th F.A. Bn.

ROBERT SPENCE

3416 Birch Ave.

Allentown, Pa. 18103

Enclosed find check for 1995 dues. Enjoy getting The Octofoil.

I was in the Hq. Btry, 60th E. A Bn from Feb. 1942 until June 1945.

M. Co. 47th Inf.

KENNETH (CARL) Creighton

5641 E. Grand River

Portland, Mich. 48875

Here's my dues for three year's, and hope to see you guys' in New Orleans.

60th F.A. BN. BTRY. "A" NEWSLETTER

November 21, 1994, 1:30 a.m. my good friend and pal, "The Chief," Dominick Greco, went to his eternal reward. For the past eight years, he had been living in a nursing home, a victim of Alzheimer Disease. His wife, Lonnie, traveled 60 miles round trip almost daily to be with him.

From a list of over forty former "A" Btry. men, I'm down to eleven. In the past five years alone, I've lost contact with over a dozen men. Left are Fred Auth, Ed Colonello, Ed "Windy" Freund, Norris Gray, Melvin Jaggi, John Liggero, Frank Lovell, Michael Patrick, Lou Prince, Walter Quigley and James Stebbins. I also keep in touch with the widows of Barhight, Elliott, Goff, Posey and Harry Torhan.

I had a pleasant surprise last year at our reunion in Lake Placid. Lou Pandolfi "C" Btry. put in an appearance. It was nice to see Lou once more. Lou and the late Charley Fabre "Hqt. Btry." were the kingpin of the 60th F.A. Bn. C.P. Room. The C.P. Room was always well stocked.

I will be in New Orleans for the "50th" Reunion — God willing. To all "youse guys" of the 60th F.A. try and make it. As I always say — "It's later than you think."

As ever,
Bel

M Co. 60th Mini Reunion

The 12th Mini Reunion of M Co. of the 60th Inf was held June 16th. 17th and 18th in Covington, Ky at the Radisson Inn at the Airport. A beautiful hotel and although my wife and I were unable to attend, we have been told over and over what a great spot we had chosen. There were 22 men and some of the ladies and children were present. The only drawback seemed to be the weather. It was too hot. Great shopping malls in this area and lots to do on the River. Food in this area very good. Traveled by bus to a reconstructed German Village for a German meal at a German restaurant. In the center of this Village is a huge German clock with the figures that walk when the hour chimes. This Chamber of Commerce is very helpful in Reunion planning. Other groups may want to get in touch.

Plans already in progress for the 13th Mini Reunion in Bloomington, MN, June 5th, 6th and 7th at the Days Inn directly across from the Mall of the Americas. Supposed to be the largest shopping mall in the USA. Their Chamber of Commerce is also very helpful.

Bob Bovanizer, Secretary

M Co. 60th Inf.

14 Sabre Park

Niagara Falls, NY 14304-1751

Co M 47th Inf.

CONDA KNEE

625 Ridgefield Rd.

Newark, OH 43055

Enclosed is a check for three years dues, plus a bit for the Memorial Fund, in memory of the men from M Co 47th., who died in battle and those who passed on since the end of WWII. Jean and I enjoyed the reunion at Lake Placid and have our reservation in for 1995 Reunion at New Orleans. We look forward to receiving the Octofoil. Dan, keep up the good work.

F COMPANY 47TH INFANTRY

At this joyous time of the year, when I should be sending out tidings of good cheer, I find myself sending in the sad news that another of our stalwarts has been laid to rest. Our old mail clerk, Milton Zucker, went to his eternal rest on December 2, 1994, according to a letter from his brother Sidney. Milt had been looking forward to our reunion in New Orleans with happy anticipation and had spoken to me about his plans to spend a week there with his brother. He once again volunteered to work with the CP, performing the duties much as he had been doing so efficiently annually since the reunion at The Pines back in 1989. Milt is one of the few men who served continuously with "F" Company from early in 1941 through to the end of the war. Milt's motto always had been "The mail must get through!", and to him it was a crusade. We received mail from home in some of the damndest situations known to a modern man, thanks to Milt's devotion to duty. We'll miss his smiling face at future reunions. We who served with Milt extend our sympathy to his family.

By now you all have received my end-of-the-year letter with the account of the financial standing of our CP fund. Bill Mooty has made the arrangements for the CP in New Orleans, and he reports that everything is in order. We are once again inviting men from the rest of the battalion to join us.

I would like to think those of you who sent such beautiful Christmas cards to Lucy and me for your thoughtfulness. It was nice to be remembered in this way by some many great people.

I have received calls from Bob Landis, Ed Johnstone, and Bob DeSandy in the past couple weeks. Some of the calls were to enquire about my health, since I hadn't submitted anything to The Octofoil for its last edition. I appreciate your concerns, but I am happy to report that both Lucy and I are enjoying good health and are enjoying life in general.

I still see Finnigan and Slats on a fairly regular basis, and I heard from Theresa Repetti, Tony's lovely widow, just last week. I stopped off at George and Jan Brown's love nest in Virginia on my way to and from South Carolina in October, and a pleasant visit it was! What a nice couple!

I see Herb Hoepfner on a regular basis every week, when we drive together to the VA Hospital at Lyons where we both do volunteer work. We managed to get two TV's donated to them by the Ninth Infantry Division Association this year. There will probably be a picture of us in this edition making the presentation. If any of you are looking for worthwhile ways of spending your idle hours during your retirement, I heartily recommend that you contact the director of volunteer services at your nearest VA facility and offer your services. They'll welcome you with open arms and you'll be performing a valuable service to your fellow, less fortunate veteran, your country and yourself. There are all kinds of services that you can do: delivering wheelchair veterans to various locations for treatment, medical, educational work, clerical work.

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and are looking forward to a great 1995.

Ed Hoppie Hopkins

110 Hollywood Avenue
Metuchen, NJ 08840

TEXAS & THE GREATER SOUTHWEST ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 11, 1995 HOLIDAY INN ON THE BEACH 5002 Seawall Boulevard Galveston, TX 77551 (409) 740-3581

The Association Officers met October 15, 1994, in Salado, Texas to decide on the date of our 1995 meeting, previously determined to be held in Galveston, TX. February 11, 1995, was selected to precede the National Meeting Schedule for May 25-28, 1995 in New Orleans.

At our February 11th meeting we will elect a new slate of officers for a two year term. The Salado Attendees propose the following slate of officers: President – Willard Norris; First Vice President and Secretary Treasurer – Richard Granberry; Second Vice President – William C. Scott; Vice Presidents for Publicity and Program – Robert Burky and Gordon Schneider; Chaplain – William H. Lynch. In addition to the above slate **Nominations Will Be Open From The Floor** on February 11, 1995.

Slides taken by our members of battlefields in France, Belgium, and Germany will be shown at the meeting.

All of our Hotel rooms will overlook the Gulf of Mexico. The area has a number of attractions ranging from the sailing ship Elissa, the Galveston Island Trolley, numerous museums, the Galveston Bolivar Ferry, Silk Stocking Historic District, and many more!

Use the enclosed registration, card to make your room reservation by January 10, 1995 to assure yourself of the \$55.00 room rate (plus room Tax). Please note any need for handicap equipped rooms on your reservation.

The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, February 11, 1995, in the Sandpiper, Room #109.

No organized food functions are planned to enable you to make the most of your free time and to enjoy the numerous attractions offered in Galveston. We hope you will extend your stay and catch up with your old buddies!

Pete Rice, Jr.

President

50th Annual Reunion May 25-28, 1995 New Orleans

Route Two; Box 258
Kaufman, Texas 75142
Telephone: (214) 932-7589

MAIL CALL

Co. F Co. Inf.
JOHN MILLER
1511 Cochise Drive
Arlington, Texas 76012

The Millers are looking forward to a great Christmas this year. We have so much to be thankful for. Starting with our year of health problems I completed my year of chemotherapy for cancer (a real drag, sick much of the time) on August 23rd. Lots of tests followed which gave me an all-clear report. Currently, I'm recovering from left knee replacement which took place October 12th. With therapy I'm doing better each day and hope to be up and around after Thanksgiving. I'm so thankful for my great wife, doctors and a good health care system.

Our travel has been limited this year. However, we did visit my nephew who was recovering from open heart surgery in Merritt Island, Florida. Later we drove to Rapid City, S. D. to attend a military reunion. While in that area we visited the Bad Lands, Mount Rushmore and other points of interest in the area. We returned through Cheyenne, Wyo. and Colorado Springs. During our travels we visited several military friends we hadn't seen in years.

During the past year Jean has spent most of her time taking care of me. She was always Johnny-on-the-spot taking care of all of my demands. With Keith and Rhonda living in Arlington Grandmother is always in demand. Our two granddaughters just love Na NA and Pa Pa and we willingly babysit, take them to doctor or whatever is necessary.

In addition, Jean is always preparing Gourmet food for all of us and, at present, is putting on a program at the Arlington's Woman's Club featuring cakes from around the world.

Keith now works as a Computer Engineer while Rhonda works at the Day Care Center where the girls go. Jessica is attending Montessori Kindergarten there. So to say the least, they are indeed busy.

During the last year several of John W.'s comrades have passed away. He says he knows they'll go to heaven because they already spent their time in hell.

Our best wishes for good health, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Med. Det. 47th
JOSEPH KAMINSKI
5820 Greenridge Dr.
Toledo, OH 43615

Enclosed find my check for 3 years renewal of the "Octofoil." Sorry if it's a little late. It's great to hear of all the news going on with the Division, but I must add its frustrating to hear about the passing away of some of your great friends you fought the war with. Especially lately, the passing away of "Smokey" Golden. A guy everyone had to love. No matter how tight a spot you were in "Smokey" always came up with a morale builder.

Many thanks for the great job you're doing Dan and also a big hand to Red Phillips for his great update on affairs going on with "M" Co.

God's blessing to all 9th Inf. Div. comrades.

Serv. Btry. 84th. FA Bn.
FREDERICK TALARICO
503 Elm Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201-6537

I am enclosing my dues for 1995. Didn't go to Worcester this year as I had other commitments.

I keep in touch with some of the boys in Service Battery as well as other batteries. Maurice Callahan from C Battery and I are the only ones from the 84th.

John O'Donnell, Hq. Btry, Divarty had a heart operation last fall in Worcester and he is doing fine.

Hope that you and Marie have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

C-60th F.A. Bn.
VICTOR G. GONZALEZ
1722 N. Hoyt St.
Chillicothe, IL 61523-1056

Enclosed is my dues for 3 more years I enjoy reading all of the Octofoil, sorry to tell of the passing of a 39th Co. member Henry Huerta, wounded 3 times and a decorated soldier, we met in England by chance, being from the same town, also a friend of his Johnny his last name I do not know was always with him, he too was in the 39th Inf. I was reading in our 9th Inf. Div. Story Book of Hitler's Nemesis, that for the first time the Division received some of the credit it had so richly earned the hard way. Because of confused censorship regulations the 9th had been neglected in press releases concerning the North African and Sicilian campaigns. Recognitions came in early Oct. 1943 in the Stars & Stripes, which stated:

The 9th has the kind of leadership and spirit that make a fighting outfit. The men showed it at Randazzo, the southern hinge of the last German defense line in Sicily. They showed it by their brilliant envelopment of Green and Bald Hills in the Sedjienane Valley campaign which led to the fall of Bizerte. They showed it in one of the bitterest battles of North Africa, the fight at El Guettar; and again when they force-marched some 900 miles to help stem the Rommel thrust at Kasserine Pass. And they showed it when their three combat teams landed at Safi at Port Lyautey, and at Algiers, end of story. I heard from Tony Cheney, Gerald Blackwell also Jackson Blackwell. I read in the Octofoil of the passing of an ole friend Larry Murray, would like to say hello to Bob Tate, Roscoe Shields, Loren Hunt, Woody Gardella, maybe some day I'll be able to see some of the ole C-60 guys. Keep up the good work and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

9th Q.M.
HAROLD HOKANSON
40 Foxtail Dr.
Kingston, Ma. 02364

Joe Russo and Harold Hokanson wish to make a donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of Marge Palady, wife of Bill Palady of the Ninth Quarter Master Co.

We look forward to reading our Octofoil and enjoy it so.

Thank You.

15th Engrs. Bn.

HENRY SANTOS
9811 N. Connechusett Rd.
Tampa, FL 33617

By now I'm sure my AWOL buddy "Jerry" has let you know our "personal belongings keeper while we took our "R&R" Jim Tomaso passed away on 9/17/94. We mourn an extremely loyal member of our association, we'll miss him.

The "leaves" fall and as we progress further into the sunset the falling leaves (we are the leaves) gain momentum, we should expect that and when the last of our members is called our association will also die in dignity.

God be with Jim and all of us.

Sincerely in Comradeship

Henry Santos

P.S. enclosed check in memory of Jim.

84th F.A. Btry B
CHESTER "MIKE" MIKUS
215 E. Camden Ave.
Moorestown, N.J. 08057

The salutation should read "Dear Marie". I think she does most of the work. Just kidding. Dan, don't feel offended. I think both of you are doing an excellent job, I don't know what we would do without you. Wish both of you the best of health for many, many years.

Enclosed find check for dues (3 years). I'm an optimist, and a contribution toward the memorial fund in memory of our beloved Father Connor lest we forget.

Good Lord willing we'll be seeing you and the gang at Lake Placid. I hope it will be as good as the last one, it was top shelf.

Best regards.

I Co. 47 Inf.
ROBERT L. EPPERLY
1199 Misty Hills Circle
Blacksburg, VA 24060

I have a copy of the Stars & Strips that was published November 16, 1944. If anybody wants one just send their name and address along with a check or money order to the name and address above for \$2.50.

It has articles in it about how the Division was moving along the front lines.

It has an article of the sports. I am sure Lindsey Nelson will want one to see how the sports was going then. It has an article about the shortage of cigarettes back in the States. And it must have been a shortage of men back in the States because the Preacher told his congregation one night that he would perform a wedding after service. So after service he told the people to be wed to come forward. 23 women got up and went to the altar and only one man. Oh it has a pinup. Her name is Mrs. Pat Starling from Burbank, California and she is beautiful. Henry Red Phillips might know her, if so let me know, Henry.

C Co. 9th Med.
A.G. Floyd, M.D.
302 N. Thompson St.
Whiteville, N.C 28472

Enclosed is renewal for another three years. Hope I'll be around.

Hope to see all the 9th Med. Men - and wives - in Myrtle Beach in April for our Mini Get Together.

47th Inf. H Co.
W.M. LYNCH
415 E. Main St.
Richardson, TX 75081

I read with a great deal of interest your article in the recent OCTOFOIL about the reunion for the 9th Medical Battalion.

For a number of years now, I have searched for a "medic" that served with the 9th infantry division, 47th regiment, 2nd battalion, H Company. The medic's last name was Sawyer. As I remember, he lived in the very southern part of Texas. I believe he called it the "Valley". He and I dug fox holes together on many occasions from Normandy through Germany.

I would really appreciate it if you would let me know if you have anyone on your roster by the name of Sawyer and share with me the address. It is possible that he could have moved to another area of the country.

Thanks for your response.

Co. G, 39th Regiment
MR. & MRS. WM. CANARY
5 Eagle Drive
Whiting, N.J. 03759

Dear Dan:

Trusting you arrived home safely from the wonderful reunion at Lake Placid.

Congratulations to the New England Chapter and to you for an outstanding reunion. The accommodation, food, entertainments, parties were out of this world. The memorial service was one of the best.

"Thomas Boyle," what a job he did, so impressive. My wife Marion the whole service on tape. Just beautiful.

I am also enclosing a picture of the Company 'G' men 39th Regiment, who attended the reunion. The GI's shown was the original from Fort Bragg. Don't ask how I got it.

Thanks again, for all you do to keep the association going and healthy.

39th Inf. F Co.
ED McNAMARA
PO Box 219
Brookfield, N.Y. 13314

Enclosed are my dues for 3 years with a little something for the memorial fund in memory of Joe Adaysh, Fort Pierce, FL, Fox Co. 39th.

The electric hook-up at our shop (.04 of a mile west of Bridgewater on RT 20) is still free. (9th Div. insignia on sign). It was used 5 times this summer, no idea who they were. We live in Brookfield.

From what I hear Fox Co. 39th will hold its reunion in Nashville next year.

You and your crew are still doing a great job.

Have the first and 3rd copy of the paper, from Germany.

34th F.A. B Btry
LESLIE DAIL
11440 Sally Rd.
Dade City, FL 33525

Well it's that time again for the snow birds to head south for the winter. Here in the mountains of N.C. they call us blue birds. We may fly back north sooner than planned if the president returns all the people he has penned up in Cuba.

Talked to Leon Biram a few weeks ago and he was doing fine and planning a 34th reunion next Sept.

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3rd Bn. 60th Inf
J.D. O'ROURKE
6 N. Bougainvillea Ct. #A
Orange City, FL 32763

I had a terrific time at the reunion and so did everyone I talked to there. Ready to do it again in New Orleans next May.

At the reunion I ran into Charlie Fisher who was with Cannon Co. of the 60th in North Africa. He and Harold W. Smith and McLemore & Willoby wrote a song about "The cigarettes are ranker in old Casablanca but the women are Oo La La!" Everyone in the 60th will remember that song and the live show those guys put on for the troops in rest areas in the Cork forest.

Anyway, I'm looking for a current address for Charlie Fisher who was a Lieutenant in the 60th way back then, and I hope you and/or the Octofoil can help me. Fisher was a friend of Lindsey Nelson during & after the war and I believe he did some radio and TV broadcasting with him. You can print his address in the Octofoil if you have it.

It was great seeing you at Lake Placid, Irishman, and I look forward to seeing you at the 50th reunion.

Stay out of trouble and keep your powder dry! The best to you & Marie.

P.S. Maybe you can use the enclosed story about Joe Raffazine capturing 100 Germans in Normandy unarmed & single-handed! Quite a guy. He was with 3rd Battn 60th all through the war.

Signal

EARLES

07 Siler Rd.,
Greensboro, N.C. 27406

I am sending you my dues for '95, '96, '97 as I know time is running out for the men of the 9th Division. I would like to see a marker for the 9th at the Remagen Bridge and would be glad to give some money for it.

In the question of the Veterans of the 9th Inf. Division in the Vietnam war. I think they should be in the Association. We were all members of the 9th Division. I would like to see the Division Association go on as long as it can.

I see Red Phillips has found a title for his book, Remagin Prelude Victory, good title. Am looking forward to getting it.

Write on Red. You are good at it and I love to read about the history of the 9th Division.

Best wishes to all the men of 9th.

Deadline for next issue of the Octofoil-Feb 20th