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The Octofoil, July/August 1971

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

Association Dues: \$4.00 per year - \$1.00 will be earmarked to pay for The Octofoil

Volume XXVI NUMBER 5

JULY - AUGUST, 1971

WORCESTER MEMORIAL OCTOBER 24

Reunion At Atlantic City In 1972



The Shelburne Hotel/Motel pictured above has been selected as Headquarters for the 1972 reunion being held in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Scouts Out

The 9th Recon always did a good job of scouting out the lay of the land before the Division moved forward. Apparently they are still on the job. Next year when the main body of the Association moves on the sandy shores of New Jersey they will find that the 9th Recon has been there before them.

On October 2nd and 3rd of this year, a group from the Ninth Recon will hold a reunion at the Sea-Spray Motel in Ocean City, N. J. Nick Capobianco is the fellow who is getting the boys from the Recon together. After the reunion Nick and his boys should have all the strong points pin-pointed and be able to brief the "Old Reliable" on what to expect when they hit Atlantic City next year.

SEEKS PHOTOS

The tables have been turned on Walter Victor. Usually our members are trying to obtain pictures from him. Now Walt is trying to get pictures from the members.

At the 1971 Reunion the Association presented Victor with an award for the outstanding job he has done in compiling a pictorial record of the Association's activities. When the presentation was made Walt couldn't take a picture, he was too busy shaking hands with President Frank Ozart. However, the event was covered by dozens of members and flash-bulbs were popping all over the place. So far Walt hasn't seen any of the pictures that were taken. He is anxious to receive copies of any pictures

that were taken when he received the award.

If you have any prints or negatives that you think might interest Walt, contact him at 2745 Dodson Lee Drive, East Point, Georgia. Walt is willing to pay for the pictures or negatives.

Tip Of The Hat

A tip of the hat to these members who remembered the Memorial Fund:

Robert Pappas and Mrs. Ruth Knudtzen, wife of the late Richard Knudtzen. A special thanks to those people who donated the sum of \$385.80 at the Springfield reunion.

This year should see a record attendance at the Memorial Mass in Worcester. The expected large turn-out can be attributed to several factors. The Service will be held during the long Veteran's Day weekend when everyone will have plenty of time to travel, also it will be held in October when the chances for good weather are much more promising. Up New England way, a few weeks difference on the calendar can mean the difference between a bright, crisp, beautiful New England Fall and a wet, damp, sleety New England Winter.

New Date

The 27th Annual Memorial Mass for the deceased of the 9th Infantry Division will be said at the Immaculate Conception Church, Worcester, Mass., on Sunday, October 24, 1971, at 10:00 a.m. The change in date was made to coincide with the new date for Veteran's Day.

Once again the Parishioners of the Immaculate Conception parish will be on hand to offer the hospitality that has made them famous among the members of the 9th Division. They will serve a free Buffet Supper at Connors' Coffee Shop on the Saturday evening preceeding the Memorial Mass. After the Memorial Services are concluded at the Church, the "Old Reliabilities" will retire to the Wachusett Country Club where a dinner will be served.

Hotel Reservations

Hotel rooms are always at a premium in Worcester, so it is a good idea to make your reservations early. This year Francis Maher has undertaken the difficult task of getting all the "Old Reliabilities" a place to stay. If you want reservations for your stay in Worcester, contact Francis at 14 Davenport St., Worcester, Mass. 01610.

Reunion Dates
July 27-29

Change Of Command



Frank Ozart outgoing President congratulates Leonard Tomassone newly elect President of the Association.

THE OCTOFOIL

Form 3579 should be sent to 412 Gregory Avenue, Weehawken, N. J. 07087
OCTOFOIL ASSOCIATED EDITORS Walter O'Keeffe and Daniel Quinn

LEONARD TOMASSONE, President, 448 Witherspoon Ave., Pennsauken, N.J. 08109
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HARRISON DAYSH, Judge Advocate, Kensington, Md. 209795
DANIEL QUINN, Secretary, 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N. J. 07087
THOMAS BOYLE, Treasurer, 39 Hall Ave., Somerville, Mass. 02144

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1972
Leonard Tomassone, Pennsauken, N. J.
Francis Maher, Worcester, Mass.
Joseph Uschak, New York, N. Y.
Thomas Shine, Hyattsville, Md.
William Meadows, Detroit, Mich.

1973
Nick Dogostino, West Berlin, N. J.
Charles Koskie, Schiller Park, Ill.
Ronald Murphy, Scituate, Mass.
Walter O'Keeffe, Ridgewood, N. Y.

1974
Ralph Carci, Cheverly Manor, Md.
Paul Keller, Whitehall, Ohio
Michael Belmonte, Oak Park, Ill.
William Klauz, New York, N. Y.
Fred Josey, Grand Blanc, Mich.

Honorary Chaplain Emeritus
Rev. Ed. Connors, Worcester, Mass.

Board Member Emeritus
Maj. Gen. Louis A. Craig (Retired)

The official publication of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Single copy price is 25 cents per issue or by mail \$1.50 per year payable in advance when dues are paid. Dues are \$4.00 per year with \$1.50 of the \$4.00 earmarked for six issues of The Octofoil. Members should notify the National Secretary, Daniel Quinn, 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N. J., of any change in address.

Published six times year, July-August, September-October, November-December, January-February, March-April, May-June by and for the members of the Ninth Infantry Division Association. News items, feature stories, photographs and art material from members will be appreciated. Every effort will be made to return photographs and art work in good condition.

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

Copy must be received on or before the 10th of each month to guarantee publication on the 20th. Photographs must be received on or before the 5th day of publication month.

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JULY - AUGUST, 1971

Volume XXVI NUMBER 5

HARRY O'S REPORT

IT WAS A MEMORABLE REUNION

There's always something new at the reunions. Many persons will remember FRIDAY, JULY 30, 1971, because BETTY and JOHN RIZZO were the center of attraction. That evening, talented BETTY and JOHN were doing a unique dance. They surely gave their best efforts to entertain the audience. All during their dance the spectators displayed their enthusiasm and enjoyment until the conclusion of the dance. Then they gave the entertainers a long standing ovation.

But that was not all for BETTY and JOHN. The bandleader asked them to step to the microphone and sing a song. Then BETTY and JOHN asked the audience to join them in a sing-a-long of a medley of popular songs. Once again, the audience showed their appreciation by giving them a long round of applause. While the audience was in a happy mood the band played FATHER CONNORS' two favorite songs, "WHEN IRISH EYES ARE SMILING", and "MY WILD IRISH ROSE".

Earlier in the evening there was a contest for the most exotic costume. The ladies marched round and round much to the delight of the audience, who commented on the contestants different colors and their costumes that they displayed. The winners of the most exotic costume contest were BETTY RIZZO and CHARLEY FOX.

The evening began with a luau. Dancing followed the luau.

THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 31, was the beer party and dance.

SATURDAY, JULY 29, was a day of activity. FATHER EDWARD CONNORS and FATHER GERALD ROWAN held mass for the 4581 men of the 9th DIVISION who made the SUPREME SACRIFICE and those who died since then. FATHER CONNORS was one of the speakers at the MEMORIAL SERVICES at LINCOLN's TOMB later in the

morning. The army band played before and during MEMORIAL SERVICES. Taps were sounded at the conclusion of the MEMORIAL SERVICES. Early in the evening FATHER CONNORS and FATHER ROWAN held mass again.

SATURDAY EVENING was the banquet. We had an excellent dinner that included a western steak and baked ALASKA.

JOHN CLOUSER did an outstanding job as master of ceremonies in introducing the speakers.

The audience liked the stories that FATHER CONNORS told. They were in good humor when he recalled how GENERAL WESTMORELAND made him the GREEN COLONEL. FATHER CONNORS announced that due to the change in VETERANS' DAY this year, his new date for the 27th ANNUAL MASS would be held on SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1971 at the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH in WORCESTER, MASS. Actually, FATHER CONNORS' affair begins on SATURDAY evening OCTOBER 23, 1971 with a buffet dinner.

FRANK OZART, outgoing president, thanked his committee for their support. He announced the new officers for 1972. He thanked DAVE HELLER for the wonderful job he did at the MEMORIAL SERVICES. He read a telegram from FATHER DE LAURA that was enjoyed by the audience.

JOHN CLOUSER read the names of nine recipients who were awarded 9th DIVISION scholarships. He announced that the 1972 REUNION would be held at the SHELburne HOTEL, ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. There was a tremendous round of applause when he announced there would be no principal speaker at this reunion.

Dancing followed the speeches.



QM NOTES

There was an excellent turnout for the reunion. It was a great pleasure to see AL PAPAI and BILL PALADY reminiscing about the good old days when the RAIDERS and the SERVICE baseball teams opposed each other on the ballfield. AL recalled his teammates and BILL mentioned the SERVICE company team. AL also mentioned his former major league teams that he played with.

WALTER VICTOR the official 9th DIVISION photographer won an outstanding member award. As usual, WALTER was around taking pictures of the audience. He had many pictures of the European tour on the bulletin boards.

WE MISSED HIM

ANDY SINARE couldn't make the reunion, so we called him in CLEVELAND and TAPP, HENNESSEY, GRGURICH and PITZER spoke to him. TREVOR JONES and his wife planed in from New York. GENE BERASI met the QM's in Munich and then continued to Rome.

JAKIE GRGURICH kept the QM's in good humor. GRGURICH is a linguist. He can speak Polish, Italian, German, Belgium and French, and he told stories in all of them. GRGURICH wore a cowboy hat and he surely looked like a cowboy when he was wearing it. GRGURICH has 29 years in the ARMY and the NATIONAL GUARD.

TAPP entertained the QUM's and their friends with movies of his recent trip to Florida in PITZER's room. He showed the picturesque cuties of Cypress Gardens, Silver Springs and pictures of Marine Land where trained porpoises jumped through hoops. TAPP also showed films of the 1970 reunion and we saw ourselves on the screen. TAPP also showed films of the European trip with a good commentary of the scenes we were watching.

WINCHESTER BARRACKS

HENNESSEY told a story how the QM's obtained permission to visit the 9th QM's barracks in Winchester. They had to receive permission from the guard first before they could see again the 9th QM's barracks as they were about 26 years ago. HENNESSEY's son, TOM, was discharged from the Air Force on June 29, 1971 after serving four years.

The following QM's and their friends were at the reunion:

Gene Berasi, Harry Orenstein, Mr. and Mrs. Jakie Grgurich, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hennessey, Mr. and Mrs. Trevor Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Palady, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Pitzer, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Tapp, his brother, Herschel Tapp, and his son and daughter-in-law Ralph and Phyllis Primmer.

CONGRATULATIONS

Mrs. George Swanson's daughter, Sue Ann and Radha Raman Prasad were married on July 26, 1971 at the Saint Francis Church, New Haven, Conn. The wedding reception was held at Amarante's, Sea Cliff, Conn. In the large attendance at the wedding and reception were Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Amore and their son, John and Mr. and Mrs. Andy Milano. The QM's send their best wishes for a long and happy marriage.

The writer is planning a revised mailing list. If you have any QM's names not on the writer's QM list, please send them to me and they will be placed on the new mailing list in 1972.

Trevor Jones has a new address. Here it is:

583 Church Hill Rd., Trumbull, Conn.

Best regards to all. Hope you are all well at home.

Sincerely yours,
Harry Orenstein

THE QM COMMITTEE'S ADDRESSES ARE:

Bill Palady
403-29th St.
McKeesport, Pa.
Harry Orenstein
901 Walton Ave.
Bronx, N. Y. 10452



Mrs. Betty Rizzo of New York and Charlie Fox of Michigan were the winners of the Hawaiian costume party. Black and white pictures don't do justice to their outfits but those in attendance will long remember the Luau party.

N. Y. WELL REPRESENTED

The last time the members of the New York Chapter attended a reunion in Springfield they traveled by chartered bus. The

memory of that twenty-two hour non-stop trip was still fresh in the minds of many when plans were made for attending the 1971 Reunion.

Large Turn-Out

Although everyone had fond recollections of the bus trip they decided that it was time for the chapter to join the "jet-Set" so, this year the chapter arranged for a group flight via Ozark Airlines. Instead of twenty-two hours the trip took only four hours but it was far from non-stop. One member of the group, Marie Quinn, was heard to say, "This airplane goes up and down more times than an elevator in the Empire State Building". Never-the-less, when the gang reached Springfield they were well rested and prepared to enter into the reunion activities.

The chapter was well represented in Springfield. Besides the twenty-six members who traveled as a group, there were many other New Yorkers present who had driven to Springfield or had traveled on their own. We saw a few faces that we hadn't seen for some time. Harry Whelan, "The Smiling Irishman" was one of them, and Jack Scully brought along another fellow from "out our way", Hugu Lee. Mike Derish managed to get a few days off from the job so that he could attend the reunion and Bill Muldoon was spotted touring the historic places with his son Jamie Luau.

One of the reunion high-lights was the Luau on Friday night. A contest to determine the best costumes worn by a man and a woman was a featured event. Our Betty Rizzo won first prize. We are going to reveal a little secret about Betty's costume. It wasn't in her luggage when she left New York. Upon arriving in Springfield Betty realized that she hadn't packed anything to wear at the Luau, so she went to a local store, bought some piece goods, hurried back to the motel, whipped out her trusty needle and thread and proceeded to make the costume that won first prize. Later on in the evening Betty revealed another one of her talents when she and her husband John went to the mike and sang some old time favorites for the gang.

The Luau was something like a "dry-run" for two members of the New York Chapter. Joe Uschak and Bill Klaus are going to visit Hawaii in October. After sampling the fare at Springfield Bill will now know what to order when he arrives at Wahoo and Joe picked up a few tunes that will be appropriate in Hawaii's nite spots. Last year the Colonel and his Aide toured the E.T.O. This year they are inspecting the Pacific Theater of Operations. Have a good trip fellows.

Fall Plans

Labor Day marks the end of inactivity for the New York Chapter. Everyone has had his vacation and is ready to get back into the swing of things. The Chapter's first meeting after the summer hiatus will be on September 10th at the 69th Regiment Armory. As usual there will be plenty of refreshments for the members attending the meeting.

The first big event on the Chapter's social calendar is the Fall Dance which will be held on October 16th. It will be held at the same location as last year, the 69th Regiment Armory at 26th St. and Lexington. Frank Fazio and Jack Scully, the fellows who gave us such a good time last year are again in charge of the dance. They promise that this year it will be bigger and better than ever. Tickets are going fast so get in touch with Secretary Don Miele and reserve yours now.

This year the Memorial Mass at Worcester will be held on October 24th. The Chapter is making plans to attend this annual event. A bus has been chartered for the trip to Worcester. Anyone desiring to make the trip should contact either Don Miele or Walter O'Keeffe. Seats are limited. When they are gone there are no more.

Springfield 1971

REUNION



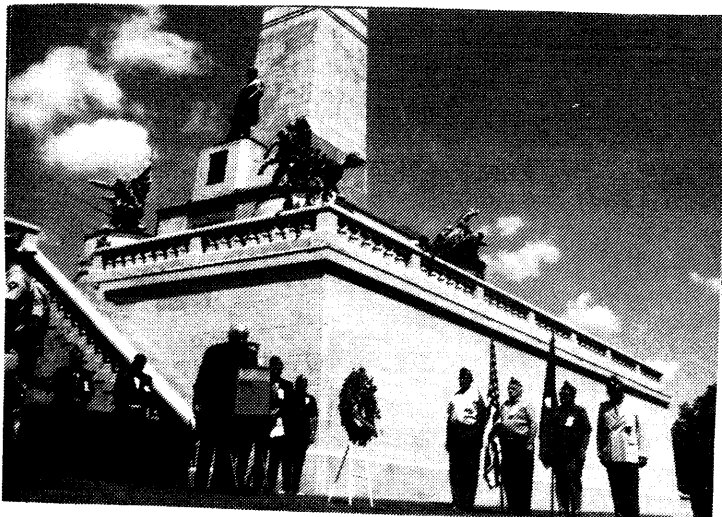
Father Connors places wreath at entrance to Lincoln's Tomb and is joined by members.



A group enjoying the Welcoming Party at the reunion. Standing left to right, Mr. and Mrs. Grgurich, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Tapp, Bill Palady and Mrs. Floyd Hennessey. Seated l-r Harry Orenstein, Floyd Hennessey, Mrs. Tom Pitzer and Mrs. Margie Palady.



Reunion Chairman, John Clouser is shown in the center of picture addressing the members at the start of Memorial Services.



Father Connors addresses the members at Memorial Service held at Lincoln's Tomb. Shown also on the left is President Frank Ozart and Bill Hennemuth on the right Dr. David Heller and the Color Guard consisting of George Brown, Max Umansky, Tom Boyle and Jim Bruner.

STILL UNDER FIRE

During World War II Johnny McLaughlin saw plenty of action while serving with Co. A of the 15th Engineers. He is still seeing plenty of action with the Boston Police Force. John is assigned to patrol car duty and his sector includes the "Combat Zone" of downtown Boston. Recently Johnny was named "Policeman Of The Month" by a local newspaper, the Record American-Sunday Advertiser.

Captures Gunman

John was honored by the paper for his actions in chasing and apprehending a gunman in downtown Boston. During the chase the suspect fired three shots at McLaughlin, the patrolman fearful of injuring innocent people withheld his fire. The chase ended with the suspect cornered in the doorway of a bookstore and McLaughlin standing behind a nearby parked car. When John threatened to shoot if the suspect didn't drop his gun, the gunman threw away his weapon and surrendered to the patrolman.

Johnny's superior officer, Captain Jeremiah J. Hegarty, praised John for his actions. The Captain said, "He acted in a truly professional manner and displayed great courage in risking his own life by not returning the gunfire because of the risk of injury to an innocent bystander."

When things calmed down John gave his version of the incident. "After the first shot is thrown at you and you get over the initial shock, you begin to see things clearly," McLaughlin said. "You try to think of the people around you - you don't want to kill some innocent bystander because of some crazy gunman. I wasn't afraid for my own life, it's part of my business, but after it was all over I thought of what could have happened. People could have gotten killed or my family could have been without a father."

John and his wife reside in Brighton, Mass. and are the proud parents of three sons aged 11, 17 and 19. He has been a long time member of the Association and has been active in the New England Chapter. We are real proud of Johnny. He is living proof that the "Old Reliabilities" are still devoted to doing their duty.

We are indebted to Bob Gibson of Hyde Park, Mass., for giving us the story about Johnny's heroic deed.

HELP WANTED

Walter Turcotte joined the Ninth in Germany in April, 1946 and served with Hdq's Co of the 1st Bn 60th Infantry until November 1946. During that time the company was doing Security Police duty at Ledwigsburgh, a town a few miles north of Stuttgart. Walt was only five feet, four inches tall, so it was only natural that everyone in the company called him "Shorty." While in Germany he began to have trouble with his eyes. A German doctor diagnosed the trouble as Glaucoma and prescribed eye drops which Walt began to take.

As the years passed by, Walt's eye troubles became more severe and he is now almost totally blind. He is trying to establish a service-connected disability claim, but in order to do so he must have proof that he took eye drops for his condition while stationed in Germany. He is trying to contact any former member of Hdq's Co who remembers the trouble he had with his eyes while serving with the 60th. If you have any information that can help Walt, please send it either to the "Octofoil" or to Walt at his home. His address is R.F.D. No. 1, Box 734, Madison, Maine 04950.

CONGRESS PETITIONED TO PASS BIAGGI BILL

Washington, D.C.— A petition signed by more than 12,000 residents of the North Bronx calling for the enactment of Congressman Mario Biaggi's bill to authorize the construction of a new veterans' hospital in the Bronx, was presented to the Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee in Washington last week.

Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans, Catholic War Veterans and Jewish War Veterans.

Congressman Biaggi stated: "When we ask our boys to sacrifice their lives on the battle fields of the world and then offer them less than first-rate hospital facilities when they return maimed and sick, we are



Congressman Biaggi and Mr. Henry A. Whalen, head of the Bronx Veterans Committee who spearheaded the drive for signatures, delivered the petitions to Hon. Olin E. Teague, Representative from Texas who is chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee.

Mr. Biaggi's bill, first introduced in the 91st Congress after he visited the hospital facilities located on Kingsbridge Road in the Bronx and re-introduced by him this past February, would provide funds and authorize the construction of a new replacement hospital containing 1000 general medical and surgical care beds and four hundred neuropsychiatric beds.

Most of the buildings of the present facilities are more than 70 years old and were originally designed and used as an orphanage.

Mr. Whalen's Bronx committee included representatives of the American

perpetrating a hoax of immoral proportions.

"The physical structures at the present Bronx Veterans Hospital complex cannot meet the needs of the thousands of veterans who so faithfully served in previous wars, much less hope to provide adequate care for the increasing numbers of sick and wounded G.I.s returning from Southeast Asia."

The Congressman and Mr. Whalen were encouraged by the receptive attitude of the Chairman of the Veterans Affairs Committee in the House of Representatives. Mr. Biaggi said he is highly confident that the new hospital will be built in the Bronx, an accomplishment he has been striving for since his first term in Congress.

Mr. Whalen served with the 47th Infantry.

Nothing makes a toy so educational as a sharp edge.

Q. I am 62 years old, and desire to convert my National Service Life Insurance term policy to the modified life plan. What premium must I pay?

A. Sorry, you cannot convert to the modified life plan after age 60. However, Ordinary Life has the lowest premium of the other plans available at your age.

Because of limited space the story by Bill Kreye - "The Pawns of War" was omitted from this issue but will be continued in the next issue.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

in the LADIES' AUXILIARY of the

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

I would like to become a member of the Ladies' Auxiliary to the Ninth Infantry Division Association. Enclosed is check or money order for \$1.50 for 1972 dues. Please mail my membership card to—

Name

Street

City State

While attached to the 9th Infantry Division my (state relationship, whether the Ninth Division man was a husband, father, brother, son, etc.)

was with
give company, regiment, battery, attached unit, etc.)

Make checks or money orders payable to Ninth Infantry Division Association. Mail to

Mrs. Amelia Langer, Secretary-Treasurer
Ninth Infantry Division Association Ladies Auxiliary
5 Brentwood Drive, Morris Plains, N. J. 07950

Business Transacted At 1971 Reunion

NATIONAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

MINUTES 100th MEETING

The 100th meeting of the National Board of Governors was held at 4:15 p.m. July 29, 1971 at the Holiday Inn East, Springfield, Illinois, attended by Messrs: Frank Ozart, Thomas Shine, William Meadows, Leonard Tomassone, Nick Dogostino, Charles Jones, Joseph Uschak, Charles Koskie, Francis Maher, Ronald Murphy, Robert Winkleman and James Bruner. Also present were John Clouser the Reunion Chairman, Past Presidents Herbert Olsen, John Bonkowski and Emil Langer and 2nd Vice-President Richard Wilson.

President Frank Ozart called the meeting to order and asked the members to stand and observe a moment of silence in memory of the departed members of the Ninth.

The Secretary, Daniel Quinn, then read the minutes of the 99th meeting of the Board of Governors that was held in Pittsburgh on May 1, 1971. After a motion duly made by James Bruner and seconded by Lenny Tomassone it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes, as read, and instruct the secretary to place same on file.

Thomas Boyle, the treasurer, was called for his report. Tom gave a last quarter and yearly financial report and upon a motion duly made by Joseph Uschak and seconded by Nick Dogostino it was voted to: Accept the financial report. President Ozart thanked Boyle for the report.

Reunion Chairman John Clouser briefed the members on the reunion figures as of this date and of events that were to take place. Upon a motion duly made by Leonard Tomassone and seconded by Ronald Murphy it was voted to: Accept the reunion report.

President Ozart asked the following members to serve as Chairman of the various committees for the General Membership meeting.

Nomination Committee, Charles Jones; Financial Committee, Walter O'Keeffe; Newspaper Committee, James Bruner; Miscellaneous Committee, Ronald Murphy; By-laws Committee, Harrison Daysh.

Richard Wilson briefed the members on the 1972 Reunion to be held in Atlantic City, New Jersey. President Ozart thanked him for his report.

James Bruner told the members how a number of the Michigan Chapter members attended a reunion held by the 899th T.D. unit. Several new members were signed up for the association at this affair and many others showed interest in the happenings of the association.

Franny Maher told the members of plans for Father Connors annual Memorial Mass and Dinner to be held this year on October 24, 1971 in Worcester, Massachusetts.

There being no other business to come before the members and upon a motion duly made by Joseph Uschak and seconded by Charles Jones it was voted to: Adjourn the meeting at 5:12 p.m.

MINUTES OF THE 101st MEETING

The 101st meeting of the National Board of Governors was held at 4:35 p.m., July 29, 1971 at the Holiday Inn East Motel, Springfield, Illinois and attended by Messrs: Frank Ozart, William Meadows, Len Tomassone, Nick Dogostino, Charles Jones, Tom Shine, Francis Maher, Mike Belmonte, Charles Koskie, Joseph Uschak, Walter O'Keeffe, Ronald Murphy and Fred Josie. Also in

attendance were Past Presidents John Rizzo, John Clouser, Emil Langer, John Bonkowski and Herbert Olsen, past Board members Charles Jones, James Bruner, Bob Winkleman, and Richard Wilson and Judge Advocate Harrison Daysh.

Upon a motion duly made by Leonard Tomassone and seconded by Bill Meadows it was voted to: Omit the reading of the minutes from the 100th Board meeting.

Upon a motion duly made by Joseph Uschak and seconded by Nick Dogostino it was voted to: Omit the financial report.

Election of Officers for the coming year was held by the Board members and the following members elected to serve for the coming year.

President, Leonard Tomassone; 1st Vice-Pres. Vincent Guglielmino; 2nd Vice-Pres., Richard Wilson; 3rd Vice-Pres., James Bruner; Judge Advocate, Harrison Daysh; Secretary, Daniel Quinn; Treasurer, Thomas Boyle.

President Ozart then asked for bids on sites for the 1973 reunion. Walter Victor asked the Board members to consider the city of Atlanta, Georgia and Ron Murphy submitted a bid for Boston, Mass. as the site for 1973.

Upon a motion duly made by Francis Maher and seconded by William Meadows it was voted to: Have the Board members vote on selecting the site and Boston was selected for 1973. This is in keeping with the policy of selecting a reunion site two years in advance so that the reunion committee will have ample time to work on the many problems of holding a reunion.

Frank Ozart, the outgoing President, thanked the members for their cooperation during the past year and turned the meeting over to the newly elected President, Leonard Tomassone. Lenny expressed his appreciation to the members for electing him President and further stated that he would work to the best of his ability for the Association.

There being no other business to come before the members it was motioned by Joseph Uschak and seconded by Walter O'Keeffe to adjourn the meeting at 5:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Daniel Quinn
National Secretary

MINUTES OF THE 26TH ANNUAL REUNION

The 26th Annual Reunion General Meeting of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was held on July 29, 1971 at 1:15 p.m. at the Holiday Inn East Motel, Springfield, Ill. There being a quorum of 68 members present, President Frank Ozart then called the meeting to order. The President asked the members to stand and observe a moment of silent prayer for the departed men of the Ninth.

President Ozart then called upon the National Secretary, Daniel Quinn, to read the minutes of the 24th annual reunion. Upon a motion duly made by Harry Whalen and seconded by Elias Hopkins it was voted to: Accept the reading of the minutes as read and instruct the secretary to place same on file for the records.

Thomas Boyle the National Treasurer was called upon for his report. Tom gave detailed report on the income and spending for the past year, and concluded with these remarks, "It is my opinion that all financial obligations of this association for the year ended June 30, 1971 have been paid or settled and that the association is in good financial condition.

The Board of Governors and the Officers of your association are to be thanked and complimented for their devotion to the good operation of our fine association." Upon a motion duly made by Al Geist and seconded by Leonard Tomassone it was voted to: Accept the treasurer's report as submitted. President Ozart thanked Boyle for the report.

Budget

Walter O'Keeffe, Chairman of the Financial Committee, named the following members who served on this committee: Emil Langer, Thomas Shein, Elmer Wagner, Dave Heller, Art MacDougal and Tom Boyle.

The Budget for the year 1971-72.

Anticipated Income	
Dues	\$4000.00
Investments	1750.00
Reunion	500.00
	\$6250.00

Anticipated Expenses	
The Octofoil	2200.00
Editor's Expense	400.00
Sec. Salary	600.00
Clerical Exp.	600.00
Utilities	420.00
Postage	550.00
Supplies	175.00
Misc. Expense	165.00
Accountant	150.00
Treasurer's Exp.	250.00
Sec. Expense	350.00
Chapter Commissions	300.00
Scholarship Com. Exp.	45.00
Bd. of Gov. Exp.	165.00
Printing	100.00
Dues reminder	100.00
Social Security	28.80
Memorial Wreath	25.00
Reunion Gratuity	100.00
Repay Loan from	
Capital Fund	400.00
	\$7153.80

The Financial Committee recommends that \$3500.00 of the Capital Fund be transferred to a "Certificate of Savings" where a larger interest will be paid. The remainder of this account to be kept as is for emergency reasons such as borrowing to meet operating expenses but only if absolutely necessary. Upon a motion duly made by Oscar Richards and seconded by James Bruner it was voted to: Accept the budget and recommendations of the Finance Committee. President Ozart thanked Walter O'Keeffe and the members who served on this committee for their report.

Newspaper

James Bruner of the Newspaper Committee then named the following members who served with him on this committee: Art Schmidt, Earl Ailor, Bob DeSandy, Emil Radic, Herb Olsen and Vic Butswinkus.

The newspaper committee makes the following recommendations:

1. That each chapter appoint a publicity chairman to assemble and report chapter news and pictures of chapter doings.

2. That individual members be urged to submit letters and pictures to "Mail Call" column about their personal doings.

3. The continued use of "red" addresses and labels for those delinquent in membership dues as a reminder.

4. The story "Pawns of War" is enjoyed and should be continued till completed.

5. That the budget for 1971-72 be \$2300.00 and note be taken of the fact that cost of printing, paper and postage are increasing.

The membership is reminded that all pictures and stories for publication in the Octofoil should be into the Editors by the 10th of the month in which the issue is printed.

The newspaper committee took a unanimous vote of confidence for the Editors, Walter O'Keeffe and Daniel Quinn, and wishes to express appreciations. Upon a motion duly made by Paul Keller and seconded by Dom Miele it was voted to: Accept the report and recommendations of the committee. President Ozart thanked Jim Bruner and his committee for their report.

By-Laws

Francis Maher, Chairman of the By-laws Committee was called upon for his report. He named the following members who served with him on this committee: John Bonkowski, Paul Clark, Roger Schaeffer, Elias Hopkins, Henry Whalen and Frank Rankin.

The By-laws committee recommended to the membership that the requirements for membership into the Association be left as stated in the By-laws (those who served from December 7, 1941 to May 7, 1945) and the cost of membership be increased as proposed in the amendment published in the May-June Octofoil.

Upon a motion duly made by Pat Morano and seconded by Bob DeSandy it was voted to: Accept the report of this committee. President Ozart thanked Maher and his committee for their report.

Nominating

President Ozart then called upon the Chairman of the Nominating Committee and Charles Jones then named these members who served with him: John Rizzo, Nick Dogostino, Paul Keller, Leonard Tomassone, Maurice Mitchell, Max Umansky, Cas Pawelak and Charles Koskie.

Five members are leaving the Board of Governors and this committee recommends their vacancies be filled by the following members: Ralph Carci of the D.C. Chapter, Paul Keller of the Ohio Chapter, Mike Belmonte of the Illinois Chapter, Fred Josie of the Michigan Chapter and William Klauz of the New York Chapter.

Upon a motion duly made by Harry Whalen and seconded by Joseph Uschak it was voted to accept the report of this committee. Upon a motion duly made by William Hennmuth and seconded by Leonard Tomassone it was voted to close the nominations. Upon a motion duly made by John Clouser and seconded by James Bruner it was voted to: Instruct the secretary to cast one ballot for a unanimous vote.

Scholarship

President Ozart called upon John Clouser, Chairman of the Scholarship Committee for his report. Clouser named Doctor David Heller and Frank Ozart as permanent members of this committee. He then briefed the membership as to how the awards are given - according to the applicants academic ability and financial need and that all recipients are related to members who served with the Ninth Infantry Division during WWII. A total of \$1000.00 was awarded for the year of 1971 and approved by the Board of Governors at their Spring meeting held in Pittsburgh on May 1, 1971. Three new

applicants and six renewals are to receive these awards. Clouser named the new applicants as, David Laurito, Mary Lee Siler, and Joseph Splendorio and the renewals - J. Todd Friel, Joseph King, Jon A. Kocay, Neil McLaughlin, Guy A. Meadows and Ann C. Powers.

Upon a motion duly made by Harry Whalen and seconded by Mike Deresh it was voted to: Accept the Scholarship Committee report. President Ozart thanked John Clouser for the report.

Misc.

Miscellaneous Committee Chairman Ron Murphy named these men who served on this committee: Julius Iannetti, Tom Hutton, Robert Pappas, Oscar Richards, William Coen, Harry Orenstein, Al Cuprys and Al Hodge.

The Committee recommends:

1. The Reunion Chapter assign a Committee for room reservations to assist the members. Each Chapter assign a member to assist on this committee and to make certain when selecting a hotel or motel that enough rooms (both single and doubles) are available for the membership.

2. Suggest that the Secretary order more 9th Infantry Division Lapel Pins.

3. Someday hold a reunion in the South perhaps in cities like Savannah, Ga.

4. Members who are bachelors be permitted to submit to the Scholarship Committee for relatives such as nieces and nephews.

5. It is the opinion of this Committee that membership to this association be restricted to those who served with the outfit in WWII.

6. That it is not necessary to raise dues for membership at this time.

7. That a ceiling price be put on Reunion City charges (that is what they should charge) and not allowed to go beyond this fee.

Upon a motion duly made by Frank Rankin and seconded by Al Geist it was voted to: Accept the report of this committee.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

OF ASSOC BY-LAWS

The membership then voted on the Proposed Amendments to the By-laws.

1. To provide that all honorably discharged veterans of the Vietnam Conflict, who wore the Octofoil, shall henceforth be entitled to join the Ninth Infantry Division

Association.

The membership voted against the amendment.

2. The Amendment to increase the cost of dues was voted upon by the membership and dues will now (starting when the members renew their membership) be \$5.00 for 1 year, \$13.00 for three years and Life Membership will remain at \$50.00.

Upon a motion duly made by Harry Whalen and seconded by Mike Belmonte it was voted to: Adjourn at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Daniel Quinn
National Secretary;

1972 Reunion
July 27 - 28

Ohio ☐ Fayetteville - Fort Bragg, N. C. ☐

MAIL CALL

Like everyone else your Editors took it a little easy during the warm weather. Now we are paying the price for the idle moments enjoyed during the summer. We can hardly see over the mail that is piled up on the desk and will have to burn the midnight oil in order to catch up on our correspondence. Here are some samples from the mail that came in during the summer.

Jack Safford F Co 47th
3931 Sparr Ave.
Indianapolis, Ind.

Trying to locate Don Hunter, heard he was a former Medic in the 47th and is now a Federal Judge in our area. Is he a member of the Association? Still at the old job with Naval Avionics. Regards to all the gang.

James J. Corcoran
2111 W. Market St.
Pottsville, Pa.

A.T. Co 47th
Jim writes that he served with A.T. Co of the 47th Inf from October 1940 until June 1945 and has been a member of the Association since it was founded. He has been on the sick list for some time but is now feeling fine. Jim would like to hear from some of his old buddies. He is also trying to locate the address of capt. Larry O'Keefe's widow Pat.

Ted Matuski M Co 47th
3424 - 57th Court
Cicero, Ill. 60650

Ted couldn't attend the reunion this year because his wife Rose recently underwent serious surgery and had to take radiological treatments for quite some time. Ted hopes that everyone had a good time at Springfield and that he will be with the gang next year.

Tippie Plunkett
286 Zimpfer St.
Columbus, Ohio

Tippie couldn't get away for the reunion but she writes that she was there in spirit. She would like to hear from her old friends from the Association.

Bob Smith G Co 39th
134 Roger Ave.
Bellevue, Ohio

Bob and Tom Shine are trying to track down all the former members of G Co 39th Inf. So far they have located seventeen former members of the company and have their names and addresses on file. Bob is willing to make the list available to anyone who wants it. He writes that six G company men attended the Springfield Reunion and that he hopes to better this record in Atlantic City.

George Cyphers Co B 60th
18011 Windward Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

As usual the reunion took place one week before George's plant shut-down for vacations so he couldn't get to Springfield. This summer he made a trip to New Orleans and visited some relatives in Alabama. While down South he stopped off in Georgia to visit a buddy from "The Big Red One."

Arnold D. Williams
1346 So. Raleigh
Denver, Colo. 80219

Hq's Co 15th Eng.
Arnold writes that he is real glad to get back into the Association (thanks to Dr. Burton Forbes). He would like to contact some of his old friends from the Ninth. He would especially like to hear from Bill Manuntz, Reading Pa., Bill Davis of Palmyra, N. Y., and Henry Hill from Mass. He also put in a plug for Denver as a convention site. Arnold says that Denver is God's Country, the greatest. Best climate in the world.

Stephen B. Grey 47th Inf
2300 S. 9th St. 9th M.P.'s
Arlington, Va. 22204

This October Steve and the family will be touring Europe. They expect to visit England, France, Belgium and Germany. He ordered some 9th Division Route maps so that he could retrace the route that the division took during the war.

Col. Henry E. Royall 47th Inf
105 Noble St. 60th Inf
Chapel Hill, N. C.

I could not attend the meeting in Springfield but I sure would like to have been there.

The fond remembrances of our last gathering there still linger in my mind.

Give my best regards to my many friends in the 47th and the 60th.

Vern Dean 9th Medics
1860 Edgehill Drive
Hueytown, Ala. 35020

Enjoy the paper alot. I dropped out for a while but got the Associations' address from an American Legion magazine and a veteran of the 899th T.D. Bn and came back into the fold.

Although a native of Ohio, my home has been in Alabama since 1952. I'm a plant manager for Woodward Iron Co. Through the paper I got acquainted with Him Baily (39th) the Mayor of Demopolis, Ala. Wish I could see some old buddies, all would be welcome here in Hueytown the home of the Racing Allisons.

Keep the paper coming and the Association alive. Let's hear from some more 9th Medics.

Joe Mowery 9th M.P.'s
Route 3 Box 86
Forest City, N.C. 28043

Joe writes that everything is fine in the Carolinas but that the weather has been real hot. He wants to be remembered to all his old friends in the M.P.'s.

Bill Baptiste 2nd Bn 47th Inf.
825 Gilbert St.
Sebastian, Fla.

Just a quick hello from Florida. Janet and I are still well even though each year adds a few more gray hairs.

I am still involved with sugar but the company I am with has diversified so much that my interests now include cattle, race horses, citrus, vegetables, etc, etc. It seems that as time passes the number of things to do become greater and greater.

Janet and I never seem to get to New Jersey. My sister and mother live in River Edge. Janet's folks are here in Florida or Oklahoma. Generally my work keeps me here in Florida but I do travel quite a bit to the different sugar producing areas, particularly Santo Domingo.

Too bad we missed the trip to Europe sponsored by the 9th Division. Do you plan to do this again? Best regards to all.

Tony Carmeci Co M 39th
5821 Meadowview Ave.
North Bergen, N. J.

All is well here and I hope it is the same with everyone else. Back to driving a trailer after a stint as a terminal manager. I feel much better physically as I had a little trouble with my stomach, but everything is O.K. now that I am out on the road again.

I have a summer place up at Barryville, N. Y. for anyone in that area who wants to contact me or for anyone else who might be interested.

General Louis A. Craig
Washington, D.C.

The General still keeps an eye on anything that pertains to the 9th Infantry Division. He sent us a clipping from the July issue of "Soldier" which gave details about the Octofoil Association.

John Weigan 26th F.A. Bn
93 Summit
Stonham, Mass.

Business kept John away from the reunion. His job with the Metropolitan District Commissioner of Stonham keeps him on the go. He sends his best regards to Father Connors and the rest of the gang from the F.A.

Joseph Fusco Co A 15th Eng.
366 Broome St.
New York, N. Y. 10013

Joe has been having some trouble receiving the "Octofoil". We sent him some back issues and hope that future issues will be delivered on time.

Paul D. Keller Ser Co 39th
139 Pinewood Drive
Whitehall, Ohio 43213

Paul had time to drop us only a small note. These days he is kept busy hand-shaking. He is running for mayor of Whitehall on the Democratic ticket.

Gulliver Travels

Arthur R. Schmidt

I am just about getting acclimated to the daily routine of going to work every day after returning from a tour of the Southland where I was visiting some of my army buddies and friends of mine and my uncle, Henry Ruhl, who recently passed away. I am about to start writing thank you letters to the people who put up and fed and wined me on my route, but I thought I would write this report for publication in "The Octofoil".

Lone Ranger

I travelled over 5,000 miles starting off with the 9th Infantry Division Association Reunion in Springfield, Illinois, and including stops at Robstown, Texas; Schertz, Texas; New Braunfels, Texas; Erin, Tennessee; a drive along the latest built section of the Blue Ridge Parkway from the Great Smokey Mountains to Asheville, North Carolina, Liberty, North Carolina, Greensboro, North Carolina, Elkin, North Carolina and Elkins, West Virginia.

My first harrowing experience was driving to Springfield, Illinois without a stop except for refreshments and gasoline. I started out from work on Wednesday, July 28, and I arrived at the Holiday Inn at Springfield on July 29 about 3:00 p.m. This allowed time for getting lost around Indianapolis, Indiana and running out of gas on the Interstate Highway near New Castle, Indiana and having to wait for the tow car to bring me some gasoline. My gasoline warning light "must not have been operating properly". The trip took 22 hours.

Upon arriving at the Holiday Inn I was all set to lie down for a few hours to get ready for the beer party, but as I was parking my car at my room, I was spied by Carlton Curtis, one of my buddies from Company B, 15th Engineers. I had not seen him in about 10 years. He took out a bottle of something and we had our own little party in his room, and, as a result, I ended up with going to the beer party without getting any sleep. I met Captain Frank C. Rankin and his wife. I had written him advising him that I planned to

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412 Gregory Ave Weehawken, N. J. 07087-

visit him on my return trip to New York. He explained that he and his wife were going on vacation out west, and he did not just want to tell me by writing me that he would not be home. He thought I would take this to mean that he did not want to see me, so he came to the Reunion to tell me personally.

Heads For Texas

On Sunday, August 1, I headed for Robstown, Texas to visit my army buddy, Carroll Leake and his wonderful mother. I had planned to drive there in three days, but I made it in two days. This may have been a mistake, because the night I arrived at Robstown the main street had a river running through it caused by heavy rains. My car almost stalled in water over a foot deep. I decided that I had had it. So I pulled over to a comparably dry spot to wait until the flood waters receded. A Mexican family pulled into the place where I was parked, and they couldn't get their truck started. The father asked me whether I could do him a favor and take him and his family to his father-in-law's house. They had two infants in the truck. Against my better judgement I agreed to take them home, asking only that they pray that my car did not stall. Luckily my car did not stall. After I got them home I found a spot of high land and slept in my car all night. I did not want to have my buddy try to come out and rescue me. He might have been marooned himself. The next morning I went to his house, and his mother made me take a bath and put me to bed. I fell soundly asleep and slept until my buddy came home from work. He works for the Celanese Corporation. He is not married. I stayed with him from August 3 to August 6. It rained almost all of the time I was there. On his day off he took me for a ride into Corpus Christi, but before we got there, the streets were flooded and he announced we were going to get a little wet. He pulled into a parking lot and we had to walk in water about knee deep to get to a nearby restaurant to wait out the storm. In the process I fell in the water twice, and managed to lose my eye glasses. The hostess found the frame with one lens crushed and one lens missing. The next day my friends' mother insisted we drive out to the restaurant to

look for the other lens. We found some pieces of the lens, and the optometrist was able to fit me for glasses for \$15.00. While in Robstown I met my buddy's sister. Mrs. Leake cooked me a meal of venison. This was the first time I had ever eaten venison. After I was through eating, Mrs. Leake asked me how I liked it. I told her it was good. Then she told me it was venison. I have been kidded by people whom I have told the story to about how I must have been glad to get away from swimming in the streets of Corpus Christi. I am enclosing a clipping from one of the newspapers about the flood waters. On one of the nights I was in Robstown Carroll treated me to a sea food dinner. I was intrigued by the beer on draught which was served in Seidels (a tall glass with a handle). Leake's address is 223 E Ave. E, Robstown, Texas 78380. His telephone number is Area code 512-387-5198. We took some pictures.

My next stop was a visit with Inocencio Guel, one of my Co B 15th Engineers buddies, in Schertz, Texas. After getting on several town roads I finally found his house. He is married and his wife's name is Frances. He has three children; Carlos, 22, who is stationed at Randolph Air Force Base nearby; Betsy, 20, who is studying in a business school, and Stephen, 15, their youngest son. Guel's address is 108 Elvira, P. O. Box 533, Schertz, Texas 78154. His telephone number is Area code 512-658-5544. Guel is on the water wagon as per doctor's orders, but he seemed to have a supply of Bourbon and Tequila. He asked me which I preferred, and being near the Mexican border, naturally I said Tequila. He fixed me two drinks with ice. His son went and bought a roll of film and we took some pictures. Guel works for the water waste department at Randolph Air Force Base. Unfortunately, when I got to his home I found that he had gone to a funeral. I drove out to the cemetery, but they were gone, so I went back to his home. Guel's daughter, Betsy, is paralyzed from an automobile accident and she has to get around with a wheel chair. She is taking treatment and is learning to walk with braces and crutches. What is more important is that she hasn't let this unfortunate experience destroy her life. She is studying a business course and has been promised a job. Carlos was stationed overseas, but he was transferred to Randolph so he could be near home to help his sister get to school and go for treatments while both parents were ill. As I was leaving Guel's gave me the bottle of Tequila as a souvenir from Schertz, Texas.

My next stop was at the famous restaurant at New Braunfels, Texas, the New Braunfels Smokehouse. They are noted for their smoked meats and sausages. I went there because the founders of the town come from New Braunfels, Germany, where my grandparents came from. I had a German style meal, including potato soup, roast beef and sauerkraut, not to mention beer on draught served in Seidels. Upon leaving I ordered several pounds of smoked sausages and salami and sent some to Guel and Leake and to my two aunts and myself.

Back East

My next stop was Erin, Tennessee where I visited O.S. Uffelman, one of my buddies from Co. B, 15th Engineers. He is a high school teacher, but he grows all of his vegetables and raises pigs and chickens. So there are plenty of fresh eggs. His wife's name is Helen and they have six children; Minoa, 11, Bambi, 10, Maria, 9, Natalie, 8, Lance (their only boy) 4 and Heather, 20 months. His telephone number is Area Code 615-289-3522. He took me for a ride around the town and treated me to a cat-fish dinner. I slept with them and his wife gave me a bag full of homemade biscuits and jam "in case I got hungry along the way". We took some pictures. I guess it is some ten years since I have seen either him or Guel. After eating a sumptuous breakfast of eggs and homemade sausages and homemade biscuits, I left for the Great Smokey Mountains. I must not forget the bag full of "banana peppers" that Uffelman gave me.

(continued next issue)