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The Octofoil, March/April 1973

Ninth Infantry Division Association

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THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave. Weehawken, N. J. 07087

THE NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

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

VOLUME XXVIII NUMBER 2

MAR-APRIL 1973

PACK YOUR "A AND B" BAGS

Ron Murphy who wears two helmets - President of the Association and the 1973 Reunion Chairman sends the following message to the "troops".

Back in July 1967 former wearers of the Octofoil packed their "A and B" bags and headed for their annual Reunion that was being held in Boston. To those who attended in '67", it became a long remembered experience.

If you were not with the group in Boston that year, you missed an unforgettable three days. Now, six years later, the New England Chapter has again been given the honor of being host to the men of the Ninth and their families.

Again, they can promise you three days of enjoyment. Days that will long be remembered! For what could be more enjoyable than to see old buddies, to laugh, to reminisce and enjoy each others company. That is what the reunion is all about. There is no other commitment, other than to enjoy yourself.

PROGRAM

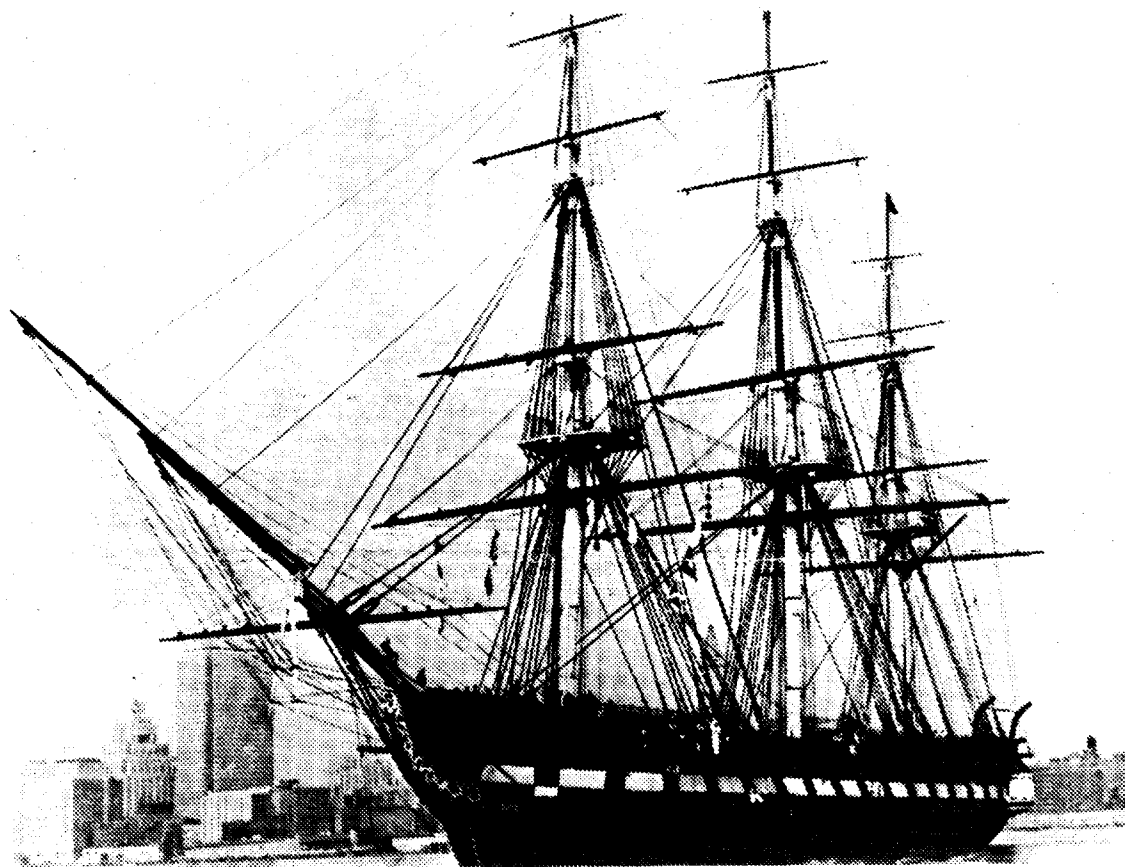
The program starts with registration on Thursday July 26th. At 8 p.m. we will hold our welcoming party in the Commonwealth Room of the Sheraton Hotel. Friday has been set aside for those who enjoy a good old fashion clam bake. This affair is being held at the White Cliffs in Plymouth, one of the most beautiful spots on the South Shore.

Clam Bake

As the "bake" is an added attraction to our Reunion, there is an additional charge of ten dollars per person when purchased with a strip ticket. For those just wanting to attend the "Bake" the price will be fourteen dollars per person, this also includes transportation.

Reservations a must

We cannot stress enough the importance of your filling out the registration form that appears in the Octofoil and return it to the Reunion Committee, as they must know how many plan to attend. The cut off date is two weeks prior to the clam bake. If the committee does not hear from you by Monday July 16th, we assume you will not be attending the bake. So please don't miss out on a most enjoyable day. Fill out the form, mail it back to the committee and they shall be more than happy to do the rest.



U.S. FRIGATE CONSTITUTION

Christened "Old Ironsides" by her crew after a blazing battle in the War of 1812 when they watched with delight as the British cannonballs bounced off her stout sides. This ship is the oldest commissioned ship in the U.S. Navy. After a long illustrious career the Constitution was threatened with destruction. With the help of Oliver Wendall Holmes poem "Old Ironsides" and the pennies donated by America's school children she was saved and given a permanent berth at the Charlestown Navy Yard.

Hackers

Golfers don't forget your clubs as there is an excellent course at White Cliffs and the green fees are just \$4.00. It's a championship golf course and they offer electric carts, rentals and caddies.

Business Meetings

Saturday afternoon is given to meetings. While the men are attending the meetings, the women will be enjoying their own program. At 5:30 a.m. Father Connors will again say Mass so that Catholics may fulfill their Sunday obligations.

Banquet

From 7:00 p.m. to 12 midnight Saturday the dinner dance will be held in the Grand Ballroom.

Remember, time has a way of passing by and each year we meet the roster gets smaller and smaller. So, don't say "Maybe next year I will make the Reunion". Plan now to be with us this year in Boston.

Ron Murphy
Reunion Chairman

Rutgers Honors "Old Grad & Old Reliable"

An article which appeared in the March 11th issue of the "New Brunswick, N.J. Daily Home News" will be of interest to former members of the Medical Detachment 47 Infantry. It pertains to Doctor Copleman.

"Green and scarlet will be the colors of the day as the Rutgers Alumni Association holds its annual Midyear Alumni Day.

Presentation of the Rutgers University Award to Dr. Hyman B. Copelman '29 of 299 N. Fifth Ave. Highland Park, and a concert by the Rutgers University Glee Club will be highlights of the occasion.

Dr. Copleman, team physician, has warmed the Scarlet bench at football games since 1935. His many successes in treating injuries have made him an authority on athletic medicine.

His award, one of the highest honors the university confers, will be presented by Dr. Edward J. Bloustein, Rutgers president, at a luncheon in the University Commons. The accompanying citation hails him as "Respected physician, honored servant of the community, devoted and generous alumnus."

Ed "Hoppy" Hopkins, Co. F. 47th, was the alert fellow who noticed this article in the newspaper and brought it to our attention.

1973 Boston REUNION SCHEDULE

July 26th Thursday

10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.
5:00 P.M.
8:00 P.M. to 12:00 A.M.

- Registration
- Board of Governors Meeting
- Welcoming Party

July 27th Friday

10:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.
9:30 A.M. 1st Bus Clam-bake & Trip to Plymouth
8:00 P.M. to 11:00 P.M.
8:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M.

- Registration
- Reservations Only
- Teen age dance
- Informal Dance

July 28th Saturday

10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.
8:00 A.M.
10:00 A.M.
12:00 P.M. to 1:00 P.M.
1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.
1:00 P.M.
4:00 P.M.
5:00 P.M.
7:00 P.M.

- Registration
- Fr. Connors Mass at Hotel
- Memorial Service
- Business Meeting
- General Meeting
- Ladies Auxiliary Meeting & Social
- Board of Governors Meeting
- Fr. Connors Mass in hotel
- Banquet & Dance

★ THE OCTOFOIL ★

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

Ronald V. Murphy, President,
 44 Strawberry Lane, Scituate, Mass. 02086
 Vincent Guglielmino, 1st Vice-President,
 Floral Park, N. Y. 11001
 James Bruner, 2nd Vice-President,
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 Daniel Quinn, Secretary,
 412 Gregory Ave., Weehawken, N. J. 07087
 Thomas Boyle, Treasurer,
 39 Hall Ave., Somerville, Mass. 02144

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

1973
 Nick Dogostino, West Berlin, N. J.
 Charles Koskie, Schiller Park, Ill.
 Ronald Murphy, Scituate, Mass.
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1974
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 Paul Keller, Whitehall, Ohio
 Michael Belmonte, Oak Park, Ill.
 William Klauz, New York, N. Y.
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1975
 Richard Wilson, Woodbury, N. J.
 Edward McGrath, Green Harbor, Mass.
 Charles Jones, McLean, Va.
 Robert DeSandy, St. Clair Shores, Mich.
 Nick Palega, Beltsore, N. Y.

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

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

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 (\$5) per year with \$1.50 of the (\$5) 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 a 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 their fallen comrades, to preserve the spirit of the 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.

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

VOLUME XXVIII NUMBER 2 MAR-APRIL 1973

Oops' We've Been Giggled

The 47th Infantry always had a reputation for being a sharp outfit. It developed that reputation under the guidance of Colonel Randle. The Colonel had a keen eye for even the smallest detail and whenever he saw the least sign of slackness he made the regiment snap-to and get on the ball. Well the passing years haven't taken the edge off the General's eye for details. He caught us "goofing off" and gently reminded us to get on the ball. In a recent letter the General wrote as follows:

"I never see the name Weehawken but what I think of a job I had as a 2nd Lieutenant in 1917. I was stationed at Camp Merritt, N.J. for a while and during that fall was sent down to Hoboken with a bunch of other shave-tails to censor Christmas packages being sent to soldiers already overseas. We had to open every package, then tie it up again, to see there was nothing in it which shouldn't be. There were thousands of packages stacked on the North German Lloyd piers. It wasn't a bad job and on our free time we could take the Weehawken Ferry over to New York and see the sights.

But what I am really writing about was to thank you for the nice story in the July-August "Octofoil" titled "Active Retirement" and about an old soldier.

One other thing I would like to mention and that is that in your mail call in that issue you had a number of interesting letters but in most cases you did not give the addresses of the writers. I write to the 47th and 84th FA men and I think that others would also like to write to old buddies, but when no address is given it is impossible to do so. Often when an address is given the ZIP is not included and the post office is again with letters with no ZIP.

I know you got out that issue right after returning from your vacation and it was a rush job and I don't mean this to be critical, but those addresses are important to people who want to contact the letter writers.

Being two old "Raiders" your Editors know that when the Colonel drops a hint it's time to get on the ball, so in this issue all the letters in the "Mail-Call" column are complete with addresses and ZIP Codes.

THE MEMORIAL FUND OF THE 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION Scholarship Information

The Memorial Fund of the Ninth Infantry Division Association was established by the members of the association to commemorate the memory of their comrades who paid the supreme sacrifice in battle. As a part of this fund the association established a scholarship program. Scholarships are awarded each year to relatives of men who served in The Ninth Infantry Division. Each scholarship is for one year.

ELIGIBILITY FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

A person who wishes to apply for a scholarship must be related to a man who served with The Ninth Infantry Division. Children of former members of the division will be given first consideration, but children of men killed in combat given first preference. Applicants who are not children of former members of the division will not be considered unless no child of a former member qualifies.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The following procedures must be followed by those wishing to apply for the scholarships:

1. Send a letter of application, written in expository form, to the chairman of the scholarship committee stating the following: name, address, age, and sex of the applicant; name, address, and occupation of the applicant's parents or guardians; the name and address of the secondary school the applicant is attending or has attended and graduated; the name and address of the college the applicant expects to attend; the vocational goal of the applicant; and the name of and degree of relationship to a former member of the division. The unit and dates of service in the division of the former member must be included.
2. A transcript of the applicant's high school record must be included with the letter of application. The transcript must include at least the first seven semesters of the applicant's record.
3. The applicant must have a counselor or principal of the high school he or she is attending write a letter of recommendation to the chairman of the scholarship committee.
4. The applicant must take the PSAT which is given every October. The applicant must see that the results of the PSAT are sent to the chairman of the scholarship committee. These results may be included with the high school transcript or sent to the chairman from the College Entrance Examination Board. The SAT of the CEEB may be submitted in lieu of the PSAT.
5. THE APPLICATION MUST BE SENT TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE BY MARCH 15. Applications received after March 15 will not be considered.
6. All applicants must accept the decision of the Scholarship Committee as final.
7. Information to determine financial need will be requested by the Scholarship Committee after the applications have been considered.
8. Recipients of the scholarships may apply for renewal of the scholarship each year. A copy of the student's college grades, a financial statement, and a letter requesting renewal of the scholarship should be sent to the chairman by March 15.
9. All applications must be sent to: John J. Clouser, Scholarship Chairman, Ninth Infantry Division Association, 901 Graceland St., Des Plaines, Illinois 60016.

NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Enclosed please find 1973 dues for:

Name..... Serial No.

Street Address

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

I was a member of:

Battery.....; Company....., Regiment.....,9th Div

I wish to sign up for the following:

- Regular Member, per year\$5.00
- Donation Memorial Scholarship Fund.....
- THREE-YEAR MEMBER**\$13.00
- Life Membership\$50.00
- Octofoil Automobile License Disc.....\$.50
- Decals, 25c; (5) five for\$ 1.00
- Ladies' Auxiliary Member\$ 1.50
- Combat Route Map.....\$.50
- 60th Infantry History.....\$.50

Please credit the following chapter:

- Philly-Delaware Valley
- Illinois
- New England
- Ohio
- Greater New York
- Washington, D. C.
- Michigan
- Fayetteville - Fort Bragg, N. C.

1973 Boston Reunion Committees

<p>Chairman Ronald Murphy</p> <p>Registration Fred D'Amore Ronald Murphy Thomas Boyle Francis Maher</p> <p>Golf</p> <p>Herbert Olsen John Edmunds Andrew Baker</p> <p>Banquet</p> <p>John Edmunds William Mills Lawrence McLaughlin Herbert Olsen Francis Maher</p> <p>Program</p> <p>Herbert Olsen Thomas Boyle Ronald Murphy William Bongiorno</p> <p>Hospitality All members of the New England Chapter and their wives.</p>	<p>Co-Chairman Francis Maher-Herbert Olsen</p> <p>Treasurer Thomas Boyle</p> <p>Clam Bake</p> <p>Edward McGrath John Edmunds Herbert Olsen William Mills</p> <p>Dance</p> <p>Joseph McKenzie William Bongiorno Connie Matulis</p> <p>Memorial</p> <p>Francis Maher Thomas Boyle Andrew Baker Andrew Baker Edward McGrath Rev. Edward Connors</p> <p>Publicity</p> <p>Joseph McKenzie Edward McGrath Connie Matulis Fred D'Amore</p>
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73 Reunion At Boston July 26 - 28



GOLDSTAR PARENTS



Mr. and Mrs. Michael McInerney

The New York Chapter lost a very dear friend and a faithful member when Mr. Michael J. McInerney passed away on February 19, 1973. "Mr. Mac" was a Gold Star Parent whose only son Sgt. Michael McInerney died in action while serving with the 39th Inf. in North Africa.

Active for 25 Years

An active member of the New York Chapter for twenty-five years he rarely missed a meeting. The first Friday of every month was a red-letter day on his calendar. Only during the last year or so when ill health and advancing age began to take their toll did "Mr. Mac" begin to miss some of the meetings.

Anytime the New York Chapter called on "Mr. Mac" he was Johnny on the spot, always ready, willing and able to lend a hand. When it came to disposing of raffle books he had no peer. If ads were needed for the Journal he knew where to get them. When it came time for Santa to give out candy at the Christmas party "Mr. Mac" was the fellow who came up with the loot.

"Mr. Mac"

"Mr. Mac's" contributions weren't limited to material things, he also gave generously of himself. Whenever any of the Chapter's officers or committees had a problem he would sit down and go over it with them. If some leg-work had to be done he would take on the job and bring it to a successful conclusion.

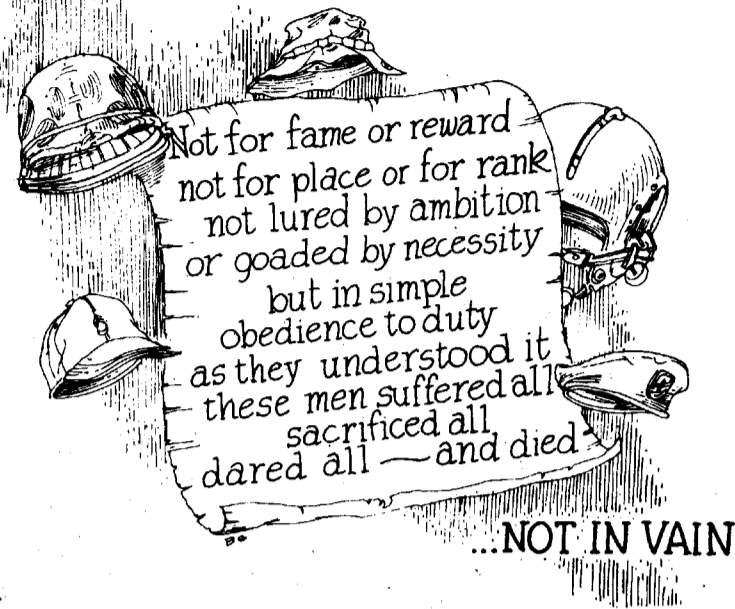
During the Chapter's early years most of us were brash Ex G.I.'s and sometimes the debate would get hot and heavy, his was the calm voice that brought the meeting back to order. He had the respect of every man in the Chapter, perhaps the best indication of this is the fact that everyone addressed him as "MR. MAC".

Not all of his good deeds were public knowledge. He looked upon every Ninth Division man as an adopted son and was always willing to help them in every way he could. He did many personal favors for these fellows who had a special spot in his heart.

"Mr. Mac" fame was not confined to the New York Chapter, he and "Mrs. Mac" were familiar figures at the Association's reunion and at the Worcester Memorial Service. They made many friends at these annual events and developed friendships that spread across the nation.

We know that his many friends throughout the Association share our grief at his passing and we are positive that they will agree with us when we say that no one more deserved the title of "Old Reliable" than did "Mr. Mac". May he rest in peace with his son Sgt. Michael McInerney.

MEMORIAL DAY * 1973



Taps Sounded

The last roll call has been answered by several "Old Reliabilities":

Mr. Michael McInerney
Gold Star Parent

Anthony J. Fiore,
Bty C, 34th F.A.

Orville W. Lanpher,
3rd Bn. Med. 47th Inf.

Elliot Charles Diehm,
Co. B. 60th Inf.

Joseph A. Lagattuta
Co K. 47th Inf.

May they rest in peace.



AROUND THE CORNER

Around the corner I have a friend,
In this great city that has no end;

Yet days go by and weeks rush on,
and before I know it a year is gone.

And I never see my old friend's face;
For Life is a swift and terrible race.

He knows I like him just as well
As in the days when I rang his bell

And he rang mine. We were younger then;
And now we are busy, tired men-

Tired with playing a foolish game;
Tired with trying to make a name.

"Tomorrow," I say, "I will call on Jim.
Just to show that I'm thinking of him."

But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes;
Around the corner yet miles away...

"Here's a telegram, Sir." . . .
"Jim died today!"
And that's what we get and deserve in the end-

Around the corner, a vanished friend.
Charles Hanson Towne



Sedjenane

Death's swift flight, through the April rain
Paused at a place called Sedjenane.

With a cold hand, he marked his prey
And picked the ones who were to stay, forever,
At a place called Sedjenane

In this brief moment, they gave their all,
Life, and all it meant, beyond recall.

Never to be bothered by April's rain, they sleep
At a place called Sedjenane

Wooden crosses mark each hallowed grave
And above the sleeping ranks,
Red poppies wave.

The fight is over, there in peace, they'll ever remain
The ones we left behind us
At a place called Sedjenane.

These lines were written by the late John D. Day who served with the 9th M.P.'s and Co E of the 60th Infantry. While serving with the 60th in Normandy John was wounded and lost his right arm.

Persons incurring funeral expenses of a deceased veteran may be reimbursed for \$250.

An application for reimbursement, should be made within two years of the burial or cremation.

Reimbursement can be made for burial expenses of war-time veterans and veterans of peace-time service who were receiving compensation payments for service-connected injuries at the time of their death, or were discharged or retired for a disability in line of duty.

The veteran must have been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

If a veteran is not eligible for a burial allowance because of the nature of his discharge, the allowance can still be paid if his discharge is corrected by competent authority to other than dishonorable. Then, the person incurring the burial expenses has two years from the date of discharge correction in which to file for reimbursement.

Additional costs for transportation of the remains may be allowed, if the veteran died while in a VA hospital or hospitalized in a private institution at VA expense, or while the veteran was travelling at VA expense to or from a hospital.

Tip Of The Hat

The Association is grateful to the following members who contributed to the Scholarship Fund and special thanks to Howard J. Heilman. Every year Howard sends a donation to this fund but this year he was extra generous.

- John Holick
- Bill Morrison
- Aaron Alpert
- Robert Pappas
- Michael Batelli
- Nate Gaynor
- Morris Matises
- Clarence Holman
- Howard J. Heilman

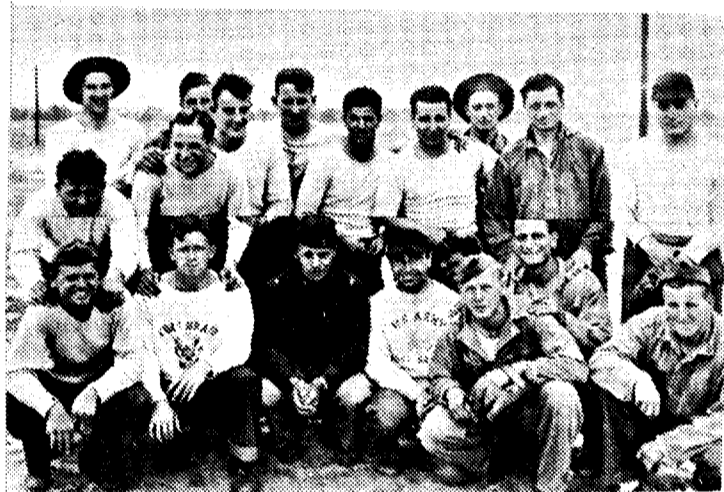
Who "Liberated" The Punch Bowl?

Our National Secretary has received the following communication from Headquarters, 9th Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Washington.

"The curator of the Fort Lewis Museum is seeking additional information regarding the 9th Infantry Division Punch Bowl. The large 'German silver' bowl also has 102 cups and a large tray. The inscription on the bowl reads, 'Officers Club, Headquarters, 9th Infantry Division.'

Members knowing the origin, history and tradition of the bowl are encouraged to relay this information to Mrs. Wentworth, Fort Lewis Museum, Fort Lewis, Washington 98433."

Since the National Secretary and your Editors were what the British call "Other Ranks" we were unable to assist the Division in its search for the punch bowl. We advised Major Dyer, 9th Division Information Officer that the only punch bowl we were familiar with was the 30 gal G.I. can that the Mess Sgt. mixed the lemon juice in. However, we promised to publicize their quest in the "Octofoil". If anyone has information pertaining to the bowl please contact either Mrs. Wentworth or Major Richard R. Dyer.



Joseph F. Eska, 96 Pulaski Avenue, Sayreville, N.J. sends this picture of Co. M. 60th Inf. taken back in 1942, the Company's softball team. Joe tells us he met some of the guys over the years and others he's talked to on the phone. Front row: George Brum, Ray Donavon, Lt. James McGinity, Nate Silverstein, John Kneip, Sidney Edelstein, John Wisniewski. Second row: Isadore Greenberg, Harry A. Lansing, Joseph Dempsey, William Riedell, Willie Riolo, Charles Rochwerger, Paul Beyo, Peter Englese, Stephen Ergler. Third row: Marty Barthelme, Henry David.

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 1973 dues. Please mail my membership card to-

Name _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____

While attached to the 9th Infantry Division (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. Myrtle Guglielmino, Secretary-Treasurer
Ninth Infantry Division Association Ladies Auxiliary
114 Charles Street, Floral Park, L.I. N.Y. 11001

39th Infantry

During the past few years the "Octofoil" has published many first-hand accounts of events that took place during the Division's action in the E.T.O. These articles were sent to us by members of the association and were well received by the readers of our paper. Now we have received a first-hand account which we believe is unique for several reasons. It was written during the war when the events were still fresh in the writers mind, it was not for publication it was more like a "diary" and a member of the Company gave it to the writers' Father as a memento.

The events were written in May of 1943 by Captain Paul J. Lynch and his father Mr. Joseph Lynch has been kind enough to let us print it in the Octofoil.

Paul began his service with the Ninth back in 1941 as an enlisted man in Company K 47th Infantry. When war was declared Paul was off to Officers School and returned as a 2nd Lt to the 39th Infantry. He later served as a 1st Lt. Anti-Tank Company 3rd Bn 39th, while the outfit was in N. Africa and Sicily. He was Executive Officer of Company L 39th in England; C.O. of Co. K in France and C.O. of Co. 39th in Germany. While leading Co K he was wounded at St. Lo, France. On March 25, 1945 he was killed in action at Oburetscheid, Germany while leading Company I, 39th Inf. in an attack on Winterberg, Germany when the Ninth began the drive out of the Remagen Bridgehead on the Rhine.

Aboard USSAT Leedstown

We boarded the ship at 10:30 P.M. Thursday, Sept. 24th, 1942 at Staten Island, N.Y. The ship was the "Leedstown", formerly the "Santa Lucia" of the Grace Line. Everybody was a little excited and we had quite a time getting the men assigned to compartments and holds. We were all pretty cramped for space and the Officers slept twelve to a room. All day Friday the ship took on gasoline and when she slipped down the harbor at 6:00 A.M. Saturday morning she had aboard 200,000 gallons of 100 Octane gasoline, 450 tons of ammunition and high explosive along with 3200 Off. and men. We picked up our convoy in the bay immediately and began the trip for where we didn't know. We knew of course that we were set for an amphibious landing as the ships had been combat loaded and we had our Higgins boats and landing tables. We sailed S.E., N.E., E. and N. and on Tuesday morning we arrived at Halifax. The U.S. Manhattan was there, a beached wreck. We wrote a few letters there but the mail boat never got off as we set sail again that night. The mail we wrote at this time was never released, we found out later and quite a bit of it went down with the ship. By this time the general consensus of opinion was that we were bound for England as we headed generally east and northeast. The next week was rather uneventful. I was Officer of the deck and had a good run of the ship. We listened to the World Series, read, played cards, and were kept pretty busy with inspections and abandon ship drills. We sailed pretty far north and the sea became pretty rough. The "Leedstown" rode them nicely but as we changed course every five minutes we thought a few times she was going over.

BARTON STACEY, ENGLAND MAY 1944



Staff Officers of the 39th Infantry. The only two the Editors could identify are Frank Wade on the left and Colonel Flint on the right.

The battleship "Arkansas" was the mother ship and it was a beautiful sight to see all the convoy ships change direction at once. Most of the time we spent on the upper deck enjoying the sea and air. The water was really beautiful as the sun went down. Quite a few of the boys became seasick but I managed to keep everything under control. The food we had was excellent. Every night we had a little session in the mess hall, playing cards and talking over all the happenings of the day. Of course with the Series on, the big argument was baseball. We first sighted land late Monday evening. It was evident all day that we were approaching something as there were small waves rather than the high waves that we had been riding. We all anxiously awaited for morning to see what the land looked like and the sight was really breathtaking.

Landed at Belfast Ireland

We were fairly close and it was really the Emerald Isle. A beautiful green, mountainous country with the white breakers rolling up against the immense black rocks. We kept close all day and the country became prettier as we sailed. It looked like a checkerboard, with all the different types of vegetation and thru our glasses we could see little white houses here and there. It took us that day and the following night to round the tip and the next day we came into the narrows between Ireland and Scotland and we spent another day looking at the land thru our glasses. We saw Spitfires for the first time and it certainly was a thrill to see the famous plane that we had heard and read so much about.

I never realized then how many times in the next few months this very plane was to save our hides. That night the convoy split up and the three troopships bearing the 39th Inf. sailed into Belfast harbor and the balance of the convoy went on to Liverpool. The following day we were to see for the first time the devastating effects of the Nazi bombardment. Ships sunk in the harbor, piers and docks wrecked and buildings and houses in the harbor area destroyed. We disembarked the same day and were welcomed by one of the British Service Units who had hot coffee and sandwiches ready for us. After having this we marched thru the town to the railroad station, and boarded a train for the little town of Temple Patrick. We got a kick out of the British train and enjoyed the countryside.

Temple Patrick was a pretty little town but we didn't see much of it as we left the train there and set off on foot for a transit camp. The encampment was an estate called "Loughmore" and here we were billeted in Nissen huts, which were perfectly camouflaged. Loughmore castle was beautiful and the owner Mr. Scott was a great fellow. He had the Officers in for tea (Henessey 5 Star) several times during our stay and he was a jovial fellow.

During the day we had practice marches and at night we went to Antrim, Carrick-Fergus or Bally Carry to dance or have a few brews. The following Sunday I went to Belfast and had a swell time at the American Officers club. During our stay here the ships were re-loaded and the following Wednesday we again boarded ship. We sure hated to leave Ireland so soon. After leaving the port we sailed south thru the Irish sea and into the maze of Scottish Lochs to a place called Inverrary. This is the training area of the Commandos and we went thru a few practice landings, our opposition being the British Black Watch Regiment. We had fine time here but the weather was so nasty and it rained most of the time. We weren't allowed any liberty here and the only time we were allowed off was for some type of training. We did see a Highland castle however and the heather. After four days here we again set sail, this time for Glasgow. We hoped to have some liberty here but again we were confined to the ship. Here our great convoy began to take shape and after three days we all sailed to Scapa Flow where all of the ships were finally assembled. On Oct. 25th, we left here for our mission and all awaited anxiously D-day minus 8 when our destination would be announced.

Masion Blanche

Our convoy carried the 39th Infantry, the 168th Infantry and units of the British 1st Army. We had with us some of the heaviest battlewagons of the British fleet. H.M.S. Nelson, Rodney and Renown, scores of cruisers and destroyers and several aircraft carriers. The mission of the 39th as announced was the capture of Maison-Blanc airport near Algiers, the radio station, and then assist in the capture of Algiers itself in conjunction with the 168th Inf. Our 3rd Bn. was to be in reserve as the

German torpedo planes

"Leedstown" was poorly equipped for amphibious work and we also had all of the service troops and spare parts. Also on board was 1 Company of the 6th Commandos who were to reduce the coastal guns defending Algiers which were located at Cap Matifou.

We all spent a busy week poring over maps and British intelligence reports which were excellent. Their intelligence proved to be a little off later on but as a whole it was good. Thursday afternoon we passed Tangiers, and Friday morning we stood off Gibraltar. We could see see terrific A.A. barrages going up from the warships around us but the troopships were never attacked. Friday afternoon we sailed along the Spanish coast, definitely a show of power, and that night headed S.E. for Algiers. On Saturday morning, the U.S.S. Stone which was directly ahead of us and carried our 2nd Bn. was torpedoed by an enemy plane forcing her out of the convoy and necessitating that the 3rd Bn. go into the assault.

NORTH AFRICA

During this engagement, the transports moved east and anchored a mile off the town of Surcouf. We all piled overboard here and made the beach and were forced to abandon our landing craft due to the roughness of the water. Luck began to run against us again, as the following morning the main boom on the ship snapped in two and the only equipment we ever got off was two bull-dozers. We waited all day on the beach for it to be repaired and that night we experienced our first air-raid. About 8 o'clock we heard the drone of planes and about five minutes later the group of 7 ships and the beach were lit up by dozens of parachute flares and five minutes later he started to drop them.

The ships put up a good curtain of fire as did our 50 cal. and 40 mm guns of the beach. The stern of the Leedstown was stove in by a direct hit and one of the raiders was brought down. He broke into flames and crashed into the water. On their second run they dropped a few



Part of the 3rd Bn 39th Infantry - April 1943- Tebessa, Tunisia

We were kept pretty busy that day studying our alternate plans. The Stone took a terrific shot which knocked off its fan tail and she was eventually towed into Algiers a week later. Although she was a good mile from us, the concussion knocked us all out of bed about five in the morning and really scared the hell out of us. That night at eleven we were 6 miles off Algiers and the lights of the city were visible, forming a perfect arc around the bay.

British

The Officers had a fairwell party in the mess hall, it was certainly a dramatic moment. At 1 o'clock, the Commandos went over the side followed at 1:10 by our first assault waves. I was scheduled for the third wave, so I went up to watch from the upper deck. By 1:50 the city was in darkness and ten minutes later powerful searchlights were sweeping across the water followed by red and crimson flashes from points around the bay. I thought it was the Commandos dynamiting the emplacements but a few moments later the water began to splash up around us. It was evident then that we were in for a fight. A British cruiser crossed between the shore and the ships and began firing at the shore batteries, scoring hits on a few lights and suffering a direct hit itself.

eggs on the beach and machine gunned the length of it but fortunately only a few were hit.

It was then time to dig and we did for the rest of the night. The following morning the convoy sailed into Algiers harbor which had been secured and the Leedstown waited for tugs to take her in to be beached. About eleven that morning an Italian sub sent 6 torpedoes into her and she went down about 1 o'clock. A British courvette managed to blow the sub to the surface and about twenty survivors were picked up. Most of our boys who were aboard the ship managed to make the shore, although a few were lost. All of our equipment was now gone so we started the long march to the airport to rejoin the Bn. This was Nov. 9th and the Spitfires which had arrived the prece day from Gibraltar and from our carriers had a field day, knocking down 16 out of 18 JU-88's attempting to raid the field and Algiers itself. In their terrific rage they attempted to bomb everything and I don't believe they expected fighter opposition so early in the game.

(Continued next issue)



CHAPTER NEWS

Harry O's Report

NEW YORK CHAPTER

Harry Orenstein our New York correspondent writes that President George Bako kept the April meeting moving at a fast pace and there was a great deal of lively participation by the members on the Pro and Con of the topics on the agenda, yet harmony pervaded the meeting room.

A warm welcome was given to a few old timers who missed several meetings at the Armory. Val DeMaria back from Florida where he spent the winter and John Rizzo and Sal Longo back from "sick call".

The next meeting in May is planned for Past-President's night. Later in the month the Chapter members will travel to Pinelawn National Cemetery where several hundred men who wore the Octofoil are laid at rest.

There are good indications that the Chapter will be well represented at the Boston Reunion. Boosters and "ads" were collected at the April meeting and will be collected for another few months from those who missed this meeting.

The raffle winners for the evening were Edward Tobin, George Apar, and Al Orletti. The "gang" enjoyed the usual delicious refreshments after the meeting with a great deal of reminiscing by the members.
Harry O.

Philly-Delaware Chapter Events

Election

Dick Wilson reports for the Philly Chapter that they are still going strong and recently held elections of Officers for the new year. Charles Troccoli an old timer from E Co. 47th was elected President and Al Cuprys former 47th & M.P. will hold the chair as Vice-President. Dick Wilson will again be Secretary and Vic Butswinkus was returned to the job of Treasurer.

The Ladies Auxiliary also held their elections and Connie Richards will lead the Gals for the coming year with Anne Wilson as Vice-President. Shirley Sabato will hold the purse strings and Verne Soprano will be the secretary.

Dick tells us that an old pal of ours Pat Culleton is on "Sick Call". (Editors note - I got to know Pat after the War years when he worked in Weehawken and we met by chance at a social affair. He was in Div. Arty and had never attended any Division reunions, for Pat never knew the association existed. We lost no time in signing him up. Many a night Patty would go out to his car and get his "bag pipes". His fellow workers, (pressman, printers etc.) would join Pat as he marched and played the "pipes" around the neighborhood pub.) Pat lives at 102 Penn Ave., Cherry Hill, N.J. so come on gang drop him a few lines and wish him well.



Michigan Doings

TRAVELING CHAPTER

This is really a traveling Chapter. The latest members doing their thing - Fred, Jane and Randy Josey heading for Florida before the Holidays.

Pres. Bill & Barbara Meadows and sons Guy & Don flew out of Metro on Christmas evening to spend a week in Spain. It was a Silver Wedding Anniversary and a pleasant mid winter vacation.

Floyd and Leora Hennessey take an occasional week-end drive to drop in on Tom & Doris Pitzer in Crown Point, Indiana. Some day, they hope to bring them along to one of our meetings. The sooner, the better.

The sad word came from Elmer Wagner. His Dad passed away a little while back and the Chapter expressed its deepest sympathy.

SICK CALL

Brighter news came from Tippie Plunkett who is doing very well after her eye surgery. She thanks everyone for the notes and many Christmas Cards sent her way. The Chapter thanks her for the kind note and greetings which were passed around for everyone to see at the party.

Recently, we received a letter from another long time friend of the Ohio Chapter, Dick Pestel. Sorry to hear that he is down with the bug. (TB) Your cards and notes would be greatly appreciated so please send them to:

Richard Pestel
VA Hospital Ward No. 4
Dayton, OHIO. 45428

A note from Marie Korobko tells us that she's been meeting new friends and life is becoming a little more cheerful in Tuscon, Arizona. Wonderful.

Our appreciation to everyone who completed the questionnaire and we thank you for your comments. We do apologize for the typographical error, which read \$15 instead of \$13 for the 3 Year Dues. When this mistake was pointed out upon receiving such dues from Stanley Turowski and Vincent Temple, they've decided to leave the over-payment towards the Chapter's "Guys & Gals" Booster Page in the Boston Reunion Journal. Our sincere thanks to them and also Art Litos who sent extra funds for this project.

Recent dues have been received from Leonard Kowalski, Matt Urban, Everett Tapp, Maurice Mitchell, Kleb Stockford and a new member, all the way from Hazelhurst, Wisconsin - Arthur Johnas 60th Reg. (Thanks to Tippie.)

Kleb Stockford's wife sent his \$50 check and now we have 12 Life Members on the Chapter Rolls. Who knows? This may be another record.

The 3rd Annual Outstate Meeting site is still undecided. Frankenmuth, Bay City and the Grand Rapids - Muskegon area are high on the list. You may send in your choice if you haven't done so as yet.

Now with the beginning of a new year, we'll be up-dating our mailing files. There are a few that we haven't heard from for quite a while. If you wish to continue receiving the Notices & News Notes just drop us a line.

Hear From President

Bill Meadows acting on behalf of the Chapter wrote the following letter to President Nixon. "On behalf of the Michigan Chapter of the 9th Infantry Division Association I wish to thank you for your supreme effort in ending the Vietnam War. At long last our P.O.W.'s are coming home thanks to your unending efforts.

The President replied to the letter as follows: "I am deeply grateful for your kind message about the settlement we have achieved in Vietnam. A long and difficult testing of the national spirit has come to an end, and now we must work together to build a peace that last, a peace that heals. With your support, this great task can begin so that the next generation of Americans will know only peace. With my appreciation and best wishes, Sincerely Richard Nixon.

Bus to Reunion

Five more names have been added to the Convention Bus list bringing the total to 24 passengers but the goal is for 35. If they do not reach this number the money will be refunded. Plans are to leave on Wednesday July 25th at a time most convenient for arrival at Boston on the 26th. The route will be through Canada at Sarnia or Windsor depending on the starting point. Those making the trip will receive a copy of the itinerary which will take the group through the Upper-New York Thru-way and the Massachusetts Turnpike. Refreshments will be provided and more important the bus will have a rest-room. Of course stops will be made along the way. The bus will pick up the gang at Sheraton Hotel in Boston on Sunday July 29th and head for home. A lot of fun, coming and going is assured. The trip should cost about \$35.00 a person.

Sad News

The Chapter was saddened to learn of the demise of Mr. Michael McInerney the Gold Star Parent from New York. Mr. Mac as he was called so affectionately will never be forgotten.

The Chapter is striving for a large list of names of "Boosters" for the Boston Reunion.

(Ed's note to Michigan Chapter) - Hugh Lee's - (39th and Jersey member of the New York Chapter) - daughter Kathy is now living in Birmingham, Mich. Mrs. William Lester, 1914 Birmingham Avenue.

The gang out Michigan way sure go over the "Octofoil" with a fine tooth comb. They read every line, recently in a Mail-Call item they spotted the name of a Michigan man who wasn't on their roster. They wasted no time in getting in touch with him and advising him of the benefits to be derived from being an active member of the Michigan Chapter.

**73 Reunion At
Boston
July 26 - 28**

Elections

The Chapter elected Fred Josey to lead them for the coming year. The Vice-President Chair will be filled by Gene Reedy, Tom Hatton will handle the legal matters as Adjutant, Bob DeSandy will take of the money matters, John Young will serve as Chaplain and "Old Reliable" John Bonkowski will again take care of the paper work for another term as secretary. Jim Brunner was named as Assistant secretary for the year.

The Chapter is indebted to Past President Bill Meadows, Everett Tapp and Bill Phelps the outgoing officers for their contributions during their term in office. The Chapter has made great strides during this period.

Respectfully

John Bonkowski Sec.

Is your National Service Life Insurance term policy all or a large part of your insurance protection? Do you intend to keep this insurance for the rest of your life, even if you live to be 70 or older? If your answer to these questions is yes, then you probably should not carry renewable term insurance indefinitely. Why not? Because for one thing, you may not be able to afford it when you approach or pass 70. The longer you live, the higher the premium gets. Remember, if you are the average man your income will be smaller in the later years of life. Although ordinary or modified life plans may cost more now, the premiums do not increase. In the years to come, won't they be easier to pay than the high term premiums?

CLAM BAKE

Friday July 27, 1973

I WILL ATTEND THE CLAM BAKE

Name _____

Address _____

Amount \$10.00 per person

Make checks payable to:

9th Infantry Division Assn. Reunion and send to:

Reunion Treasurer Thomas Boyle

39 Hall Avenue
Somerville, Mass. 02144

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATION
JULY 16, 1973

REQUEST FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS

FOR 9th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

REUNION

July 26-28 1973

SHERATON-BOSTON HOTEL
PRUDENTIAL CENTER
BOSTON, MASS. 02199

Names _____ Home phone _____

(please print)

Address _____

City and State _____

Zip No. _____

Single Occupancy \$20.00

Free parking

Twin or Double \$28.50

Please reserve _____

Single Rooms _____

Double Rooms _____

Arrival Date _____

time _____

A.M.

Departure Date _____

P.M.

REQUEST FOR SPACE IN SOUVENIR PROGRAM

FULL PAGE---\$30.00

Half Page---\$20.00

Quarter Page ---\$10.00

Eighth Page ---\$5.00

Boosters Ads. \$1.00 name and unit

Make checks payable to

9th Inf. Div Assn Reunion and send all Checks, money orders and Ad copy to:

Reunion Treasurer Thomas Boyle

39 Hall Avenue

Somerville, Mass.. 02144

Deadline for REUNION PROGRAM

July 1, 1973

CHAPTERS --PLEASE FORM A COMMITTEE TO SOLICIT ADS AND BOOSTERS.

JOHN J. CLOUSER
901 GRACKLAND STREET
DES PLAINES, ILLINOIS
60016

THE OCTOFOIL

MAIL CALL

THE OCTOFOIL

412 Gregory Ave Weehawken, N. J. 07087-

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

Our faithful readers continue to keep the mailbag filled to overflowing. We are always happy to hear from the old gang and hope that they will continue to write. If you have something to say let's hear from you, we will see to it that your letter appears in the "Mail-Call" column.

9th Div. Hdqts
& Co. G 47th Inf.

Martin J. Gill
2401 Pennington Rd.
Trenton, N.J. 08638

I have heard from both Harold Black and Harry Klomp as a result of the letter I wrote to Harold on December 12th. Harold said he had heard from several of the fellows whom he was trying to locate following the publication of his search letter in the Sept.-Oct. issue of the "Octofoil".

Harry was in Florida for the racing season at Lauderdale. He returned to New Jersey on April 3rd and will remain for the rest of the year (most of it, at least). Any of the fellows who want to catch up with him can do so by visiting the race tracks at Freehold and Monmouth and looking for him in the Mutual Department. He will be found in the Main Money Room at Freehold and in the Mezzanine Money Room at Monmouth. He says he has to be "where the money is."

I am enclosing a list of up to date addresses for a dozen or more ex-Ninthers. If you have a membership solicitation letter and application form send it to each of them. I'm certain that you would get some response. If you care to don't hesitate to use my name as the one who suggested that they would get more than their money's worth if they joined up. Or if you prefer, let me have a sufficient number of copies of the next edition of the "Octofoil" and I will mail one to each fellow along with a prodding note and we'll see what happens.

Speaking of addresses, I'm hoping you have one in your files for Norman Dean who, like Harry Klomp, was also in Division Headquarters, Adjutant General Section. If so, I'd appreciate receiving it.

Best wishes to all the gang.

Co. G 60th Inf

R.M.A. Hirst
62 Wiesbaden
Gustav-Freytag-Strasse 6
Germany

This year do any of you guys want fotos of Remagen, Normandy or some other place along the route? I am going to drive it again and will visit with some dear friends in Normandy. Should anyone have a special request I shall try to fill it for him. Trust all is well with the Association. I am still writing my way through Europe, historically-speaking. Regards.

Co A 39th Inf

Stanley Kazdoy
P.O. Box 1865
Waco, Texas 76703

Stan wrote to advise us of his new address and to tell us that he is presently on sick leave pending a disability retirement from the Federal Government. He and his wife have decided to make Waco their permanent home.

Co B 9th Medical
Detachment

George Stein
8747 E. Girard
Denver, Colo 8023

George is another refugee from Mayor Lindsey's "Fun City". He writes, as you may notice from my address, I am now a resident of Colorado and like it here away from the hustle and bustle of New York. I have been here nearly two years working in the construction trade helping to build this boom town.

We love the climate and though we have had plenty of snow this past winter it disappears fast in the warm sun and hasn't time to become dirty like it does back East.

34th F.A.

Joseph Dailydas
Country Life Mobile Park
Midway, Ark. 72651

Joe is another fellow who left the "Big City" for the pleasures of life in the open air. Just as she did when they were residents of New York Mary Lou makes sure that Joe's dues arrive on time.

She included a note with the dues and it goes like this: "Sorry we are going to miss both the July Reunion and the Memorial Mass again this year. Hope 1974 will find the reunion back in the Middle West. We miss our friends in the East but not the rat-race. We have really become Ozark Hill-Billies."

"Best regards to the Association and the New York Chapter."

A. T. Co. 47th Inf

Charles A. Bodnar
187 New York Ave.
Bergenfield, N.J. 07621

This summer I am taking an extended vacation from July 23rd to the end of August, and I am going to look over some of our old battle-grounds from Belgium to the Elbe River. Perhaps if you mentioned it in the "Octofoil" some of the gang might ask me to look up some of their old girl friends. All kidding aside, some of the fellows might want me to look in on some of the places where they sweated out the war and then give them a report on how things are today. It might also help me to contact some old friends that I have lost track of.

I am trying to get in contact with Henry Cassata who served with me in A. T. Co. of the 47th. If anyone has his address please send it along to me.

Co B 60th Inf

W. E. Deme
1949 White St.
York, Pa. 17404

Along with his dues Bill sent a note telling us how much he enjoys reading the "Octofoil". - He hopes to be in Boston for the reunion and sends his best wishes to all the gang.

Russel M. Hummel M.D.
2411 Lommel Lane
Marion, Indiana 46952

The good Doctor writes that he doesn't like the color red especially when his Octofoil is addressed in that color - as a dues reminder. He keeps promising himself that this will be the last time that ever happens. He closes with best wishes to all.

2nd Bn Med. 47th Inf

Bill Baptiste
817 Gilbert St.
Sebastian, Fla. 32958

Janet and I were in New Jersey this past summer, but only for a short time. Most of the time we were at my sister's home in River Edge.

We stay as well as is to be expected. Guess the vitamins and the Florida sunshine are good for us.

Co K 47th Inf.

E. B. (Red) Thompson
P.O. Box 132
Niles, Mich. 9120

Thanks for getting in touch with George Bastedo for me. He gave me information about K Co. and sent me the names of men that he thought I might know. He also mentioned the fact that Arthur Crowell was 1st Sgt. when K Co. was at St. Lo. Sorry to hear that Sgt. Emmet Schette passed away.

Hoping to get to the reunion so that I can have the pleasure of meeting some of the old gang.

Co. G 60th Inf.

Michael H. Mysyk
12604 Darlington Ave.
Greenfield Hgts.
Ohio 44125

We are doing fine here "Busy as Hell" and hope that we can retire in the next few years.

I received a letter from one of our old active Ninth Division comrades and a very good friend of all. He went through all the hells of combat with the Ninth in World War II. He is Dick Pestel who is seriously ill at a V.A. Hospital in Cincinnati, Ohio and I know that he would appreciate correspondence from anyone from the Ninth. His address is Dick Pestel, V.A. Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220, Ward N-4.

Dick was very active with the Association for many years but illness kind of stopped his activity. Let's remember when he was such a great active member and not let him down. We all have problems from time to time but let's help each other with our problems as comrade and members of the Ninth Division Association. Dick's wife Edie would also like to hear from the gang.

Robert Mason
2818 Garbett Ave.
McKeesport, Pa.

Sorry to report that Ted Matusik is in very poor health. He has sugar and his wife has to give him insulin shots every day. His eyesight is failing and he had to give up driving. Ted's wife recently had a serious operation but she still keeps up his correspondence, only today I had a lovely long letter from her, Ted can't write anymore because of his failing eyesight.

In November I entered the V.A. Hospital for an operation. Had a check up in December and everything seemed to be alright. Will have a final check-up in March. Everywhere you look today you see more and more tragedy. It seems that we in this life have all been given Crosses to bear and I guess all we can do is to make the best of it and live day by day the best we can.

If you get to see Herb Olsen give him my regards.

Co M 47th

Ted Matusik
3424 S. 5th Ct
Cicero, Ill. 60650

Mrs. Rose Matusik writes for Ted as he is unable to write. "Ted's been "grounded" from driving by his Doctor, an Ophthalmologist. His condition has been diagnosed as poor circulation in the Eyes due to Diabetes, he can't see sharp and has to read with a magnifying glass".

He would appreciate hearing from some of the "old gang".

9th Sig. Co.

Everett H. Spink
7293 Akron Road
Lockport, New York 14094

Everett sends in for a three year membership, as he, like a good many other members does not like to see his name printed in "red ink". He writes - "One of the better things that has happened to me is I retired the 1st of February after 35 years with the Telephone Company and I haven't missed the old routine one little bit and it seems good not to have to do things except when you want to and when you feel like it."

Everett tells about a visit he made to Sid Schneider in Greensboro, N.C., last fall. Sid is a salesman and gets to see some of the old gang from the 9th Signal in his travels. - He concludes his letter, by telling us that he won't be at the reunion this year as he has a staff job at the Boy Scout Jamboree to be held in Idaho this summer, and sends his best regards to all.

Hq. 2nd Bn 47th

J.W. McKee
Box 233

Columbia, La. 71418

Mac writes - "a word of thanks for sending the Octofoil, which I enjoy so very much. Am grateful to my buddy Doc (Percy) Rishel for sending me a membership in the association. He and his wife visited us in October - was a nice surprise and we enjoyed every minute of their visit. Other than Doc the only other buddy I have seen since leaving the outfit was Perry Payne of Mobile, Ala. who came by to see us several years ago. I am Councilman and also Street Commissioner of our town. Plan on visiting Percy and wife this summer. Hope to make one of the reunions before long.

Co H 47th

Clarence Holman
2106 Argyle St.
Hamburg, Iowa 51640

Clarence includes a donation to the Scholarship Fund when he sent his dues for the year. Regrets that they will be unable to attend the reunion this year as his vacation is not until November and at that time they hope to take advantage of a trip they won. He continues "We are thankful so many POW's are home. But so hard it is on those who as yet do not have word about their loved ones. Good luck to all and our sympathy to those who lost their loved ones through out the years.

39th Inf.

Joseph Lynch Gold Star
484 Crestwood Avenue
Hackensack, N.J. 07601

Mr. Lynch our Gold Star parent of Captain Paul Lynch recently spent a few weeks in Florida visiting his daughter Rose. He writes "Many thanks for your birthday greeting which I just found in my mail box after returning from Florida. Even at 83 'Tis sweet to be remembered". Many thanks to Betty and John Rizzo, Hugh Lee, Ronnie and their daughter, Terry, Myrtle and Vince Guglielmino, Bill O'Shea, Ed Egan, Emil Langer and his wife Mollie, and Lou Almassy (a close friend of Paul's) for remembering me on my birthday. Planning on making the Boston reunion this summer. Doc Simmons also sent a birthday greeting and expect to meet with Doc this summer and visit Fr. Francis J. Sullivan O.F.M. a great friend of my late son Paul. It seems I have lived the "Old Reliabilities" since January 1941 when Paul was with the 47th at Bragg. I believe he would want me to carry on with the troops, and they are the greatest."

Thomas A. Maggio
10 Crane Terrace
Wayne, New Jersey 07470
Co. I 47

Dear Dan:

I received your letter in reference to Mr. Monaco. I was Supply Sergeant before leaving the states for overseas, and then became First Sergeant in France. John Monaco's name sounds familiar, but I cannot bet that he was in the association. His statements about Captain Wilson are correct. I talked to Sam Longo of 49 Kipp Avenue in East Paterson, who I believe you know and who attended most of the meetings before he had a heart attack in December, and he indicates that the name sounds familiar. He does remember August Montagnano as being in our company.

I am sending a copy of your letter and the Disabled American Veterans letter to Sam, who will read it and either see you or drop you a note.

Sorry I cannot be a little more helpful. If there is anything else I can do, please feel free to call. I will try to make one of the meetings shortly.

Nice hearing from you.

3rd Bn. 39th Inf.

Casimir J. Przybylski
1042 Dewey Ave.
Evanston, Ill. 60202

Cas has been disabled by a stroke since 1970, so it is a great day for him when he hears from one of the "Old Reliabilities". He has never met Robert Mason of McKeesport, Pa. but the "Octofoil" brought them together and they have been corresponding for some time. Tony Kuczewski of Michigan is another Ninth man who keeps in touch with Casimir. Perhaps there are other 39th men who remember Cas, how about picking up a pen and dropping him a line.