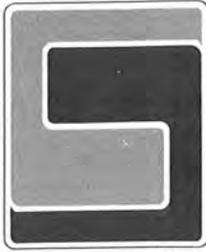


FIGHTING 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION

★★★★ Association, Inc.



VOLUME 43, NO. 3

MAY — JUNE — JULY — AUGUST
1990

“THE THREE B’s”
BOLTE’S BIVOUACING BASTARDS

101 STEPHEN STREET
NEW KENSINGTON, PA 15068
412/335-3224

bulletin

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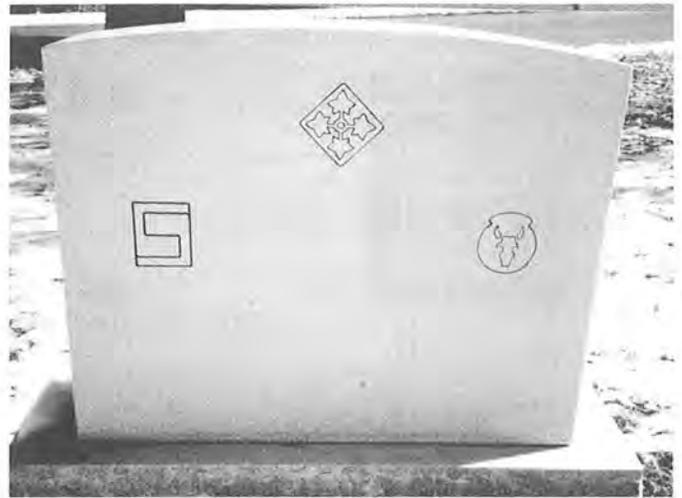
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Front of General Charles L. Bolte's stone



Rear of stone showing the 4th Division from World War I with 69th Division and 34th Division below from World War II.



Shows graves to the right for General Maxwell Taylor and General Carter McGruder, both 4 stars. In the background to the far right where two women are standing in back of a brown stone is the grave of Joe Louis, former Heavyweight Boxing Champ.



In the background are graves for Frank Reynolds, Newscaster for ABC, Colonel Pappy Boyington, USMC Fighter Pilot, and Captain Michael Smith, USN Challenger Astronaut.

THE GRAVES ARE ALL IN WHAT IS KNOWN AS SECTION 7-A.

NEWS MATERIAL AND PICTURES FOR THE BULLETIN SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

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Dear Editors:

As a Jewish War Veteran I was recently invited to attend a ceremony at the Pentagon-Washington, D.C. It was an affair for outstanding Journalist and Broadcaster of the Year awards for Military Reporting. There were five awards. Awardees and guests were escorted by a Major General Brady along with the Secretary of the Army, Stone. The following were recipients: Keith L. Ware for journalism competition and Paul D. Savanuck, award for Military Print Journalist of the Year.

Paul Savanuck was a reporter during the Vietnam War - wounded twice, receiving the Silver Star, Purple Heart and several other medals, finally fatally wounded rushing to the aid of a wounded G.I. Accepting the posthumous award were his parents Mr. and Mrs. Savanuck. Other recipients were Sergeant Cynthia Killion, Sergeant Tony McKinney, Keith L. Ware and Johnny L. Walkup - civilian broadcast Journalists of the Year.

The following participated in the special awards: Westinghouse Aerospace Corporation, Armed Forces Broadcasters Association, Armed Forces Journal International, Federal Times, Association of the United States Army, European Stars and Stripes and The Army Times.

A most impressive ceremony awarded once a year by a distinguished panel of judges from the armed services. During my tenure in the Army - Ernie Pyle was awarded posthumously for reporting during the second World War.

Thought this would be of interest to our former 69ers so we could have a better understanding of what happened during the terrible war years. Keeping informed is refreshing to our tired old minds in this world of reality, hoping for peace and tranquility. Ever vigilant to the changes in the World.

Victor Ostrow
Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 273rd

1990 69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSN. 43rd ANNUAL REUNION

**Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel - North Gulph Road and First Avenue
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA
August 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1990**

News From The Editor's Desk



by — Clarence Marshall
Membership Chairman

101 Stephen Street, New Kensington, PA 15068
Telephone: 412/335-3224

Richard J. Hopkins, 1511 Waterwheel Drive, Apt. 7, Sacramento, California 95833 — F-273rd: I have three good reasons for sending this letter to you.

The letter response that resulted from my article that appeared in the last edition of the bulletin last year has been delightfully astounding. I have been able to correspond with former Platoon and Company buddies and their widows or family members. Thanks Association, for the attention and help.

I hope you were aware of and also watched Charles Kuralt's "Sunday Morning" CBS-News program last Sunday, May 6th. The very first segment of the show covered the European trip that three bus loads of 69ers made to Leipzig, Torgau, (East Germany) and Moscow, Russia this year. It was good to see the attention our Division people received and the heart-felt approach they made for all of us and our country.

As a result of all the attention the Division Association has stirred up in me, I am seriously thinking of attending the Reunion at King of Prussia this year. Is there an advance, formal registration form that covers accommodations and events as well as costs for the affair? I would like a copy if one is available.

I have a side comment to make. Tell Earl Witzleb that I can see that he wants to rejuvenate some of the competitive spirit between F Company, 273rd and E Company, 273rd. I base this observance upon the post-script that appears on this year's first edition of the bulletin that appears on Page 50 under the article that was sent in by **Gilbert Clark**. What will be the password for getting into his room on the top floor? Oh boy, I know I'll be in trouble now.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The advance registration forms for the reunion appear in the center of the bulletin.)

Robert G. Morris, R.R. #1, Box 149, Petersburg, Texas 79250 — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd: I was discharged in San Antonio, Texas on July 2, 1946. On July 31, 1946, I married the girl I was engaged to, in a church ceremony at Lockney, Texas. I had taken a farm job near Plainview, Texas. Four years later my oldest son was born. In 1951 I rented some land and have been farming for myself ever since. I own some land and rent other land.

I have been married for 43 years, have three sons and seven grandchildren. Our eldest son is District Manager for a natural gas company out of Plainview, Texas. He has one

son six years old. Our middle son is a coach and athletic director of the high school, Sundown, Texas. He has three sons, 9 years, 7 years and 4 years of age. Our youngest son is a farmer living on a farm two miles from us. He has three daughters, 12, 10 and 8 years. I am called by my initials, R.G.

We have lived in this small community since January of 1953, taking part in church and school activities.

We enjoy our grandchildren four times more than we did our children as youngsters, since there are four more.

James D. McLean, 706 Chestnut Street, Anaconda, Montana 59711 — Hq. Co. - 273rd: My wife **Norma** and I were "first timers" last August in Denver. We had a great time, and are thinking of attending the convention at Valley Forge this coming August.

Enclosed is a photo of 273rd Headquarters Infantry at Trebsen, Germany on the Mulde River at a paper factory enjoying cognac and champagne. Rolls of paper can be seen at the upper right hand corner of the photo.

I would like to hear from anyone who remembers or recognizes any of the men.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. McLean's picture appears elsewhere in this bulletin.)

Brigadier General J. McKinley Gibson, USA Ret., 4900 Chowan Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22312 — Hq. Co, 271st: I see that the Association is about to construct a memorial to the 69th Division at Camp Shelby. I would like to make a contribution to this noble effort. My check is enclosed.

I served in the 69th Division at Camp Shelby from activation day in the spring of 1943 until I was sent to England a year later, as an individual replacement. During that first year of training in the Division, I served as the Platoon Leader of the "Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon," 271st Infantry. It was my first assignment as a Lieutenant. The most rewarding in over 31 years of Army service. I served my combat time with the 83rd Division in Europe. (Two Silver Stars and Two Purple Hearts) By the spring of 1945 I was a Captain, Rifle Company Commander. After the war I applied for a regular commission, and stayed in the Army for the next 31 years. I served in both Korea and Vietnam, and retired from the Army in 1973.

It was a great career and one of my fondest memories of it was that first year at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. As a brand new 2nd Lieutenant, I had the privilege of commanding some of the finest young Americans I have known. They taught me far more than I was ever able to impart on them.

I notice that you run Company Photographs occasionally in the bulletin. Here is one that I don't think you have seen. I'm sorry, someone drew an arrow on it pointing at me. I hope that won't prevent you from using it in the next bulletin.

I belong to several military associations that publish a quarterly bulletin. I must say yours is by far the best of the lot! Congratulations on a job well done!

(EDITOR'S NOTE: General McKinley's photograph appears elsewhere in this issue.)

Robert E. Myers, LTC. Ret., 10453 Cumberland Drive, Sun City, Arizona 85351 — Div. Hq. & Hq.: Talked to **Eudice Lorge** this morning. She says it is O.K. to send memorial contributions to her. The funds will go toward naming the main entry of the temple in the name of **Rabbi Ernst M. Lorge**. This is the new and main sanctuary in Temple Beth Israel where **Rabbi Lorge** served for 40 years.

Checks should be made out to "The Rabbi Ernst M. Lorge Memorial Fund."

Checks should be mailed to: Mrs. Eudice Lorge, 2637 West Catalpa, Chicago, Illinois 60625

(Continued on Page 5)

NEWS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 4)

Rabbi Lorge was the 69th Division's Jewish Chaplain and has served and attended almost all reunions the past 15 or more years and served as the only full time clergyman attending regularly. I'm confident you will get a good notice in the bulletin and encourage 69ers to contribute in the memory of Chaplain Lorge. I'm sending Eudice my check today.

John E. Duespohl, 311 Hillside Avenue, Port Allegany, Pennsylvania 16743 — Co. I, 272nd: I want to compliment the editorial staff for the excellent bulletin published. The articles and photos are very interesting.

Lord willing, I plan to attend the annual reunion at Valley Forge, August 16th to the 19th. This will be my first reunion.

I was in Company I, 272nd Regiment, 1st Squad of the 3rd Platoon. Staff Sergeant Harold E. Ruck was the Squad Leader.

I have a son, Gary, his wife Deborah, and two children, John and Kimberly, who live in Philadelphia. Tentative plans are to have Gary, and possibly his wife, attend the banquet. I am anticipating seeing my friends and meeting new ones.

I was pleased to read that Sergeant Fred E. Fiedler, Company I, 272nd Regiment, 3rd Platoon, 3rd Squad Leader, will be attending. Fred was also the German interpreter.

Louis W. Pohopek, 141 Cider Hill Road, York, Maine 03909 — Co. D, 272nd: I went to the 69th Denver Reunion and had a very nice time. I paid my 1989-1990 dues while I was there. I received Volume 43, #1 and have been looking forward to Volume 43, #2 which would give me the information I want for the Valley Forge Reunion. I am also sending you my dues for 1990-1991 and also \$5.00 to the 69th Memorial Monument Fund.

Victor Ostrow, 1612 Lemontree Lane, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904 — Hq. Co. 2nd Bn., 273rd: I just received the pictures you returned and hope they will be printed in the 69th's next bulletin of my unit's mini-reunion that was held in Bethesda, Maryland. It's good to know that some of us are still in fairly good health, especially since I have passed my 73rd birthday recently. I know you have had a rough time and are finally getting around on your two feet. On a sadder note, the passing away of Rabbi Ernst Lorge was indeed a great loss to our many 69ers of the Jewish faith. We will miss him.

In the Tri-State letter recently I received the sad news of Bob Kurtzman losing his son. Bob and Vivian surely have had a rough time. I will be forwarding a condolence card in the mail to let them know that they are in our hearts and minds.

Clarence, we missed you at our Denver reunion, and now that you are on the mend, Valley Forge should be close enough to make the trip. Take care. Looking for a great time at our next reunion.

Richard W. Janke, 72-31 72nd Place, Glendale, New York 11385-7338 — Med. Det., 273rd: I received your recent bulletin and as always, read it from cover to cover. Congratulations on a job well done! What a grand bulletin! You are to be commended for your devotion to the job and Association.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$2.00 for postage and handling. If another copy is available, I would appreciate another one to cut up (clip) for various purposes and reasons.

Thank you for your attention to my request. God bless you.

John J. Moriarty, P.O. Box 393, Holden, Massachusetts 01520 — 69th M.P.: I just received my copy of the latest bulletin and I must say, another outstanding job! Congratulations! I note with thanks the appeal to former members of

the M.P. Platoon on Page 39, and this is the main reason for this letter. Lieutenant Lamar Williams and I have been thinking of writing to all the M.P.s that we could find and hopefully create a good turnout for this reunion and the next.

I have a 69th roster which goes back to when I was Treasurer so you see it is quite out of date. There are about 20 names on it and I know of 6 who are deceased and 6 more I am unsure of. Additionally, I have to question the validity of other addresses. So, Clarence, I am seeking your help in this project and request that you send me the names and addresses of those M.P.s still on your active roster. We were a small unit and I don't think there are very many, but with your help, we will make the effort.

I note in Earl's news about the Tri-State group that you are doing very well, and THAT IS GOOD NEWS. I have some thoughts about making it to Elyria and if I can work it out, it will be good seeing you. Thanking you in advance with all good wishes.

Patrick Reilly, 107 North 6th Street, New Hyde Park, Long Island, New York 11040 — G-272nd: My son wrote to you some time ago about my outfit, the 69th Infantry Division. I would like to know if you can let me know what towns we took or the towns we were in during the war. It is so nice to see my army patch again. I am 65 years old now, and I have a lot of memories about the 69th Division. It is so nice of you to write to me. I am sending you a copy of my discharge papers. Could you please let me know how to go about joining the Association. The name Burke sounds familiar. I would like to meet him.

I was in G Company, 272nd Infantry. Lieutenant Carter was our Platoon Commander. Let me know how much it will cost for all your trouble, and I will send you a check with no problem.

Kenneth D. Hull, The Towers, #712-A, 5404 Montgomery N.E., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109: I did enjoy your interesting letter of the 13th and figure now that it is time that I get back to you. I have no idea where Lieutenant Coppock is today and I can assure you it has been many a long year since I had an address back in St. Joseph, Missouri. The address you had for that city belonged to my parents and they have been gone for a long, long time. I am certain that we used that St. Joseph address for the years we traveled on the road. This was after the war.

Today is the last day of the month and we will receive mail, so you may rest assured that I will be looking for the bulletin, as you mentioned in your recent letter, that the new issue might get out at the end of this month. Both of us do enjoy each and every issue. You are doing a fine job.

I was concerned over not hearing from the Sheraton regarding the hundred dollars I sent in to them and so I wrote them again and to date, still no answer of any kind. We did get our bank statement a few days ago and I noticed they have cashed my check and have a reservation number on said check, so perhaps we are all taken care of. I wrote to them again for I want a confirmed reservation.

I do hope that you can and will make the event and am glad to learn you are pleased with the new special shoes you had to have. You must make a great effort to attend for you will be missed should you not be able to make the event.

Back in 1980, when we lived in Tucson, Arizona, we drove back to St. Joseph to attend a fifty year high school reunion and for me it was the 50th. What a wonderful time we had. There were way over four hundred there and I still knew so many of them but most had sure changed in shape to a great extent. The war had taken so many and others had passed on. I doubt if we ever get back to another one of these.

(Continued on Page 6)

NEWS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 5)

We are to fly back to Acapulco on the 18th of next month and both of us are looking forward to the trip. We have been there so many times but never tire of the place and since we received a few flakes of snow yesterday, it will be a most wonderful place to be right now. The sun is out bright today but there is a lot of snow on the mountains that are not far away.

Be well and forgive all the mess I make in trying to type but I assure you, this is far better than if I had to write my letter. The best to you. Write when you can and I will always get off an answer.

Mr. Harold Crowley, 5448 82nd Street, Elmhurst, New York 11373-4720 — Co. A, 273rd: I was a rifleman in the 273rd Regiment from about June of 1944 until they broke up the 69th after V.J. Day. I was in Company A, 3rd Platoon.

I have been trying to find information about the 69th Division Association for a long time and I was finally put in touch with **Mr. J. A. Eibling** from Ohio, through a reunion column that appears in the New York Sunday News. He was kind enough, at his own expense, to send me a copy of the 69th Division Bulletin. (Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.).

I would like to become a member, dues enclosed, and would like the Association to send me a bulletin, any information about the Valley Forge Reunion, and information about the 1991 Camp Shelby, Mississippi Reunion and the 69th Monument.

I will be at Valley Forge and would like to receive any registration forms, etc. Thank you in advance and hoping to meet you and all the other members at the Reunion.

William P. Brooks, Jr., 13401 Flint Drive, Santa Ana, California 92705 — 881st F.A.: I had the honor and privilege of being the Battalion Commander of the 881st Field Artillery Battalion from the day of its activation until about one month after V.E. Day. I left the unit when I volunteered for duty in the Pacific and was enroute there when that part of WWII ended.

I have long meant to get active in the Association but for one reason or the other have failed to do so. Please accept my application.

I am sending by separate mail, pictures of each unit in the Battalion. Unfortunately, only the names in C Battery and the Headquarters staff are recorded. It is hoped that they will be useful. Each and everyone of the individuals pictured should be proud of their dedicated service to their unit and their country. I look back on my relationship with these fine people as a high point in my life.

I was with a number of fine units following my service with the 69th but none equals the memories I have of the time with the 881st. I hope to see you at the next reunion.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Brooks photos appear elsewhere in this issue.)

Ingeborg E. Mottaz, 10961 Desert Lawn Drive, Space #6, Calimesa, California 92320: I just received the letter from **Bob Kurtzman**. Thank you very much. I have one more favor to ask you. Can you send me one more bulletin from May to August, 1989, Vol. 42, No. 3?

Bob was very proud to be one of the 69th. We talked more about that time than all the years he spent in the Air Force, especially the time before you crossed the Rhine River. We went back to a few places with the kids while stationed in Germany. We even traveled into East Germany, from Leipzig all the way to Torgau.

Bob was in touch with **Art Schinder** for the last couple of years and both were planning on going to the 1990 reunion. (We should all go while we can for time doesn't stand still.) Both **Bob** and **Art** are listed under Taps now.

Fred C. Koeller, 2629 Goldenrod Street, Sarasota, Florida 34239 — Hq. Co., 273rd: My name is **Fred C. Koeller**, 36971951, of Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 273rd Infantry. I was a member of the A & P Platoon, all the way from Shelby to the end of the war with the Germans. I ended up shanghaied to 2 or 3 Ordnance companies and then to the 84th Division and then my return to the good old U.S.A.

I had lost all information on the 69th Division Association around 1950, due to someone else not taking care of my personal things when I was recalled to Active Duty with the 437th Troop Career Wing for the Korean War. I was with the 437th Medical Group and ended up as a Medical Supply Sergeant for a 55 bed hospital.

By chance, **Alan Murphy** of the I & R Platoon, after checking out names in phone books including Florida, found my name and wrote a great letter, hoping I was who he thought I was. His letter was written on February 24, 1990. Since then we have been going at it hot and heavy with names and information. He has done a good job and deserves a lot of credit.

As you know, there is a lot of water under the bridge and some over the bridge since we were last together as a unit. There are a lot of memories, good and bad, but the personnel were great people. So, I would appreciate you noting that I am still around and would like to receive the next bulletin and be recorded as an active member.

I would like to attend the get-together this year but the situation as of now says that it is a no-no at the present time. Maybe the Good Lord will let me make the next reunion. I do thank you for letting me run off with the words.

Norman Barratt, 666 Barneson Avenue, San Mateo, California 94402 — Hq. Co., 273rd: I just received the first 1990 copy of the Bulletin and I have read it from cover to cover. Also, at the same time, I received the History Book request for a personal biography, etc. Their short response time, May 5 deadline, will push me to get a picture made for them of an old picture, I should make the deadline.

Of particular interest to me in Volume 43, No. 2, is the picture on Page 6 of **Bill Robertson** and **Allen Jackson** holding pictures of the link-up. In the picture **Allen Jackson** is holding. I believe that I can identify two of the men - the one in the middle (highest point in picture) is **Corporal T/5 Bernard Kirshenbaum** from New York City. "Kirsh" was Operations Clerk in the S-3 Section, Headquarters, 273rd. On **Kirsh's** right (nearest to viewer looking at the picture) is **Dick Johnson** (Pfc.) from the 273rd Regiment, I & R Platoon. I am at a loss to identify the third man in the picture.

Also, does anyone know if a history of the 273rd Infantry Regiment was ever made? If so, are there any extra copies available and what do I do to acquire one?

I enjoy the nostalgia from the by-gone years, but I am more thankful that I am alive and healthy to enjoy life.

I wanted to take a few minutes to update the 69th Infantry Division Association on my activities over these many years. Following Basic Training in 1943 at North Camp Hood, Texas and some months as an A.S.T.P. student at the University of Florida, several of us joined the 273rd Infantry Regiment at Camp Shelby in February, 1944. Here we met many other A.S.T.P. people from around the country. I was assigned to Headquarters Company, 273rd Infantry Regiment. Another member was our Company Clerk, **C. J. Bryan** from the Tampa-St. Petersburg area. Initially, I was in the I & R Platoon where **Ralph Orton** was Platoon Sergeant

(Continued on Page 7)

NEWS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 6)

until he went away to O.C.S. One of the Squad Leaders was **Harold Zoss** from Bridgeport, Connecticut. Another A.S.T.P. member was **Cooper Eastman** from Newton, Massachusetts. We have maintained contact off and on over the years. Writing this letter prompted me to call "Coop" who saw my name in a recent issue of the bulletin.

From the I & R Platoon I moved over to the Maintenance Section where **Sergeant Bill Gray** was Section Leader and **Charles Hughes** the Company Mechanic. I stayed with the Company through the Link Up with the Russians. With 6 other members from the Division we were sent back to O.C.S. in Fontinbleau, France, about 20 miles southeast of Paris. Because all transportation was being used to move liberated allied POWs off of the continent, we had to hitchhike to O.C.S. We arrived in Paris the day before V.E. Day, and got lost for a few days, joining in the celebration. We finally made it to the school just in time to begin the last class, number 28. I didn't graduate so I returned to the Division just in time to be included in the swap with the 29th Division. In August, 1945, just after V.J. Day, I was sent to England to the university the Army set up at Shrivenham in Swindon, Wilts, England.

Following my return home, I stayed in the Enlisted Reserve Corp until 1948 at which time the California National Guard was being reorganized. I transferred to the Guard and was commissioned as a Cavalry Officer. Subsequently, my civilian employer transferred me to Indianapolis where I became an Infantry Officer in the Indiana Guard and a year later moved to Chicago where I became an Engineer Officer in the Illinois Guard. I subsequently transferred back to the Army Reserve until I was again transferred back to California and into the California Guard. In 1984, I retired with 41 years active, reserve and National Guard time.

It would be most appreciated if you would send me a roster of the personnel in Headquarters Company, 273rd Infantry. **Cooper Eastman** tells me that the "old mountain moonshiner" **Benny Foy** is an active member of the Association. **Benny** had a network of local stills in the Desoto National Forest to keep us supplied.

This has gone on too long so I'll close for now. It is great to be back with old comrades in arms.

Paul Gornbein, 431 Vanderbilt Avenue, Niagara Falls, New York 14305 — Co. D-273rd: As a result of being on the two Fighting 69th Infantry Division European tours and swapping stories with others enroute and later via reunion, telephone and letter, I have been inspired to write a book about life with the Fighting 69th Infantry Division (1944-1946).

I have begun a humorous (at least I think so), non-fiction account about the SNAFU'd life of a typical young 69th Division Infantryman, from training at Camp Shelby to the last days in Germany. Setting foot again in Malmedy, Koblenz, Kassel, Miescheid and Leipzig on the two tours really brought back some fantastic memories.

Listening to the happenings recounted and tales related by others set my literary hormones flowing. It is said that a retired English teacher is simply a frustrated author.

If anyone would care to share his experiences and contribute, I would like to hear from him. I am looking mainly for light-hearted, comical anecdotes rather than grisly, blood-thirsty tales. However, I would not turn down anything that would be of redeeming entertainment value about those who sloshed their way across Europe. The scenario would be like that of "Gomer Pyle," "Biloxi Blues" and "No Time for Sergeants."

Paul J. Fleming, 154 Bunce Road, Wethersfield, Connecticut 06109-3213 — K-271st: The May 7, 1990 issue of a Norwalk, Connecticut paper had a filler item which indicated the 69th Division will have a reunion in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, in August 1990. This has only been the second reunion I've ever heard about and the first before it occurred.

I joined the 69th Division as a replacement shortly before the end of the war. This resulted in my becoming a member of the 2nd Squad, 2nd Platoon, K Company, 271st Regiment.

My time with the group was not long and I do not really remember too much of what happened. I do remember patrols across the Elbe River, but then there's a blank. The next thing I remember was an aid station, a flight to a hospital at Rheims, France, then four additional hospitals. My military service ended May 28, 1946, when I was discharged as a PFC, still listed as a member of the 69th Division, from Camp Upton Convalescent Hospital on Long Island.

Over the years I've had one contact, in 1946, with a member of the squad and that was with **Fred Ivans**, who was living in Aloca, Tennessee at the time. Other members of the squad were S/S **Marian**, T/S **Ferris**, T5 **Fiddler** (from Pennsylvania), PFC **Hunt** (from Tennessee or Kentucky), PFC **Ingram**, Pvt. **Crescent**, Pvt. **Wachler** (from New York City), **Private Holcomb** and **Henshaw**.

I would appreciate receiving information regarding the reunion planned for this coming August. I am a native of Pennsylvania, born in Irwin, enlisted while living in Bradford, and have spent considerable time in the Philadelphia area. This will also permit me to visit locations I am familiar with.

WANTED

Photos showing members of the 5th Platoon, Company B, 272nd Infantry, or any other 5th Platoon (or the "J" or other black platoon members) in Germany, in combat or out, or both - for possible use in forthcoming book.

I will pay all copying and mailing costs. Please send to:

Robert Easton
2222 Las Canoas Road
Santa Barbara, California 93105
Telephone: 805/682-4898 (collect)

I was briefly acting C.O. of B Company in July and August of 1945.

MOVING

Please print your new address below:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please send this form and your old address label to:
National Headquarters, 101 Stephen Street,
New Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068

Please allow six weeks advance notice.

John Clark of C-Battery, 880th Field Artillery Loved Trains and Had a Very Nice Collection



John Clark somewhere in Germany.



John Clark and an unidentified railroad worker.



Robert Williams, Lowell McFarlin and Enrico D'Angelo of C-Battery, 880th Field Artillery, got together for dinner after a visit with ill friend and comrade, Wayne Murphy.



AP Laserphoto

NEWSMAKER - CHICAGO TRIBUNE - 4/26/90

A bridge so far: Ex-sergeants James Carroll of Levelland, Texas and Luba Androserakov join forces again Wednesday at the Elbe River in Torgau, East Germany. The two first met 45 years ago in World War II; he was with 1st Army's 69th Infantry and she was in the Soviet 1st Ukrainian Army.

President's Message



Earl E. Witzleb, Jr., *President*

R. D. #1, Box 477

Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606

Telephone: 412/455-2901

Exit 9 on the Pennsylvania Turnpike

When passing through the Keystone State, stop and see us. Dottie and me welcome all 69ers in the mountains of Acme-Champion, Pennsylvania "WHERE AMERICA BEGINS."

Decision time is here. Only a month or so, if that long, for all of us to gather at King of Prussia (Valley Forge), Pennsylvania at the Sheraton. If you remember the last cover from the previous bulletin, you will see and note that everything is in one location. When we fill the Sheraton, Raddison in the complex, then only down the street out of the picture is the Holiday Inn. I'm sure these locations will satisfy our needs.

I expect 1,000 plus so by now I hope you have sent in your reservation to the Sheraton as I know we will overflow that hotel. When you send in the hotel reservation, it would also be nice to send your activities registration form to **Robert Kurtzman**, our treasurer, at the same time. Remember to fill it in completely and when you come up with a total amount for the week, send your check with the form. I have told Robert to set aside registration forms that aren't complete and complete means your check is with it, unless you send an explanation along with it stating your emergency reasons of "WHY NOT THE CHECK."

Having talked with **Frank Nemeth** just the other day, you'll find a very big change on the program sheet, especially for the board members. **ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15th, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL MEET AT 9:00 A.M.** instead of 7:00 P.M. This is a very important change for the Directors for it may mean some of you will have to change plans and come a day earlier. Our big discussion for the Board Meeting will be the final plans of the layout for the Division Monument to be erected at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, a year hence.

The Atlantic City Casino Tour had to be changed from a morning-afternoon affair to a mid afternoon-evening trip. **Frank** thinks we will depart the hotel around 3:00 p.m. but do check the bulletin board for the correct time of departure. I hope it will not make any difference to any of you already signed up for the Atlantic City tour. Hopefully it will be a more inviting time for those of you who couldn't make it in the morning but will be able to go on the trip now. As of now, no other changes will be made on the schedule that you will find in the centerfold of your bulletin. Do use it members

and come to King of Prussia (Valley Forge). It's not too late yet, but soon it will be. As of this reading, you are probably only a month or less away from reunion time.

I am surprised to learn that some of you didn't know that there is an extra page in the centerfold and you have to turn it to find out what else is new in the bulletin.

I don't know how our Reunion Activities Site Screening Committee is doing, but I expect that we possibly will have three applications for our future reunions beginning in 1992. You can read in their column a very well planned San Francisco reunion for a future year. Also we should have a Rochester, New York report along with a Portland, Oregon bid for a reunion. I don't know of any others, but I do know of two Holiday Inns in the Nashville area that would like to have us some time. They are the Holiday Inn North on West Trinity Lane and the Holiday Inn Briley Parkway, of which both will give us good deals.

How are our sick and lame as the day draws closer to reunion time? I haven't heard much lately, so everyone must be in good shape. If someone is sick, having an operation, or some other emergency in the family, please do write to Dottie and let her know the problem so that she can get it on the Auxiliary Page. I am sure there are many who would like to send a card or note, but we must know who you are and your address. We would also like to know of deceased members as soon as possible and whether the widow would like to continue getting the bulletin. With costs going out of style, Clarence would like to know these things so he can make whatever corrections are necessary. We're happy to send the widow bulletins at no cost to her since our Treasurer does not send out a dues notice to the widows, but do send the obituary notice to the Membership Chairman so that our records can be in first class shape.

Remember, when flying into Philadelphia International Airport, look for the Liberty Cab or Van which can be contacted by any telephone located at all baggage stations. A 69th emblem should appear somewhere on the vehicle and cost will only be \$11.00 to all 69ers. The 82nd Airborne used them in 1989 when they were at the Sheraton.

By the way, did you all know the Air Force from World War II will hold a gala 50th Anniversary in Washington, D.C. this summer. I am told they have taken over all the hotels and motels in the D.C. area and will feature a big rally in the stadium with parachuters landing at the 50 yard line at J.F.K. Some 50,000 members are expected.

How many saw our own group of 69ers who made the European Tour in April on television May 6th at 9:00 a.m. We missed it because the Pittsburgh Marathon was on our local station. I hope some of you did tape it and will have it for us at Valley Forge.

You members who can get up by 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 15th, are welcome to sit in on some or all of the Board of Directors meeting. I would imagine most of you will be sleeping late due to the Atlantic City Casino Tour now getting a late start and it will be late when we arrive back at the Sheraton. You know you are getting older and need that extra sleep, especially when you're going to be out late and need to stay awake so that you don't miss a jackpot or break the bank at Atlantic City. My only thought was that interested members might want to listen in on the 69th Monument plans for Camp Shelby as they are presented to the Board Members for approval. Otherwise, have fun, reunions only come once a year and how many more will we have.

I hope to finish up with the Board Meeting by noon on Wednesday but if need be, we'll stay as long as necessary just so we don't miss the bus to Atlantic City. You can always get something to eat when you arrive in Atlantic City.

(Continued on Page 10)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from Page 9)

It's only an hour and a half ride to the ocean, boardwalk and casinos.

Looking the tight schedule over that Frank and Dan have scheduled for us, I can say I'll have some free time on Monday, both afternoon and evening, plus Tuesday evening. If any Board Member, Past President, or General Members would like to talk with me or have a discussion on any subject, we can do it at my suite in the parlor section. If that is filled, we'll go into my bedroom. One thing for sure, we only meet once a year, so let's get it straight and right what we want to say and do just so it's for the betterment of the 69th Infantry Division Association. If you can't find me, look for Dottie. If we need appointments, let's do it Monday and Tuesday evening. I want the old engine number 99 to be pulling a happy gang of 69ers.

About the last thing I wish to say is that both my Vice President, Chalmer Pearson and Membership Chairman, Clarence Marshall, are well as of this writing. Keep gaining strength you two for we are looking forward to seeing you both at Valley Forge. I pray for all our other sick, whether it be members, wives, or someone in the family, to get well real soon so that we can see you all at Valley Forge even if it is for only a day or two.

I am looking for a record turnout, for this is the year we must do it. The down grade year will soon be upon us. Do come to the Sheraton and have a fun-filled week with us. I'm sure they can handle us all.

As President and First Lady, Dottie and I wish you all a safe trip to King Of Prussia (Valley Forge) by car, airplane, bus, or train. Come see us at our room when you have a few minutes to spare. After the Saturday night memorial service, banquet dinner/dance, and Sunday farewell breakfast is over, we wish you all a safe trip home so that we'll meet again in 1991 at the Hilton in Biloxi, Mississippi.

May God be with us all and bless us richly for our remaining years.

Bulletin Questions

Bulletin Volume 43, Number 1, September-October-November-December 1989, Page 19. Center picture in the second column of G Company, 273rd Infantry. The man kneeling on the right is Regiment Clerk Leo Gerger of 18365 Arden Drive, Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005. Now you need to know who the other man is standing on the right. Again I would like to say, why don't you six get together this year in August at our Division Association Reunion in Valley Forge (King of Prussia), Pennsylvania.

Bulletin Volume 43, Number 2, January-February-March-April, 1990, Page 27. Picture bottom left "Who's the man on the right." Picture should read Andrew Fedor, John Kurey, and G. Richard Cutrell from Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania. John, I am surprised at you since your Lieutenant Cutrell is the man who gave you the picture. You'll get latrine duties for this. Why don't the three of you get together at our National Reunion at King of Prussia (Valley Forge) this year in August at the beautiful Sheraton Plaza Hotel.

Bulletin Volume 43, Number 3, May-June-July-August, 1990. You're holding it in your hands now reading it. I hope you are reading the centerfold and filling it out so that the one sheet goes to the Sheraton Plaza Hotel and the other sheet

goes to our Treasurer, Robert Kurtzman, telling him what activities you will be attending at our 43rd Annual Reunion at Valley Forge (King of Prussia), Pennsylvania, a week long reunion from August 12 to 19, 1990. You don't have to attend the full week but whatever days you can make it. From Tuesday on are the best days to attend making all the tours, early bird, beer party, membership meetings, Memorial Service, and finally, the dinner dance banquet Saturday evening. I hope Dottie and me will see you all during that week.

1990. THIS IS THE YEAR TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL 69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION REUNION. IT'S IN THE EAST IN EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA AT VALLEY FORGE. EASY FOR DRIVING, TRAIN, BUS, OR AIRPLANE, DON'T SAY I WANT TO MAKE A DIVISION REUNION BUT MAYBE ANOTHER YEAR. ANOTHER YEAR MAY NEVER COME, SINCE I HAVE RECEIVED MANY LETTERS OVER THE YEARS SAYING WE WERE COMING TO THIS YEAR'S REUNION BUT DECIDED TO WAIT UNTIL NEXT YEAR. NEXT YEAR NEVER CAME AS I WOULD RECEIVE A LETTER FROM A WIFE, NOW WIDOW, SAYING HER HUSBAND JUST PASSED AWAY A FEW MONTHS AGO.

Remember, if you fly into Philadelphia International Airport to look for the Liberty Cab or Van. There is a telephone at all baggage stations where you can call them. They should have a 69th emblem on the vehicle. As of this date, they will charge you \$11.00 to go to the Sheraton Plaza Hotel at King Of Prussia. This is cheaper than the other cabs and limos plus I can tell you the 82nd Airborne used them last year, 1989. Check it out for you'll save some money.

Ray Fahrner Speaks Out!

BULLETIN VOLUME 43, NO. 1
September-October-November-December-1989
Page 62

This page depicted by State, the non-payment of dues. From the data shown, I derived the following:

Total Amount Paid	\$25,286.00
2,474 members paid \$5.00 dues.....	- 12,370.00
	<u>\$12,916.00</u>
If total membership paid \$5.00 dues	\$28,415.00
Paid dues (from above)	- 12,370.00
	<u>\$16,045.00</u>
Contributed	- 12,916.00
Short-Fall	\$ 3,129.00

This equates to 626 members who are not paying dues. Reference is also made to Bulletin Volume 43, No. 2, Page 9. Under Treasurer's Message, "The Board of Directors wants those removed from the roster who do not pay dues." There are many members less fortunate who cannot afford to pay the dues. As you know, many years ago, this subject was brought up at our Board of Directors Meeting. It was, at that time, that we passed the contributory dues elective. How soon we forget. An interesting statistic would be by Unit.

We do a lot of PR work in our Bulletin for units that never attend our National Reunions. Enough said!

Ray Fahrner

Memories from the 879th Field Artillery

Pictures furnished by Al Kormas



Al Kormas in Bremen waiting to be shipped home.



Sal DiMascio of Headquarters, 879th Field Artillery.



Ondechek of Headquarters, 879th Field Artillery.



Ed Freel and Al Kormas before the Reichstag.



*First Sergeant Ed Stark in front of the orderly room.
Headquarters Battalion 879th Field Artillery.*



*Bob Proctor of the Wire Section.
Headquarters Battalion, 879th Field Artillery.*

Treasurer's Message



Robert J. Kurtzman, Sr.
Post Office Box 178
Wilmot, Ohio 44689
Telephone: 216/359-5487

With the 1990 Reunion getting closer and the 1989-90 dues year near it's end, I am happy to report that another dues paying record has been set. With an increase of 38 from last year we have reached a total of 2,512 dues paying members, 805 have made a contribution to the postage and bulletin fund and 345 have paid for the first time, either because they are new members or just because they have neglected to pay before.

The total of 2,400 whom have contributed nothing in the past six years has decreased to 2,300, some have paid dues and about half were removed from the roster due to their being deceased.

We're not getting any younger and if you haven't made a reunion, it's time to get started. The "Taps" list is getting bigger with every bulletin, after the second dues notice mailing I received 120 letters and 30 of them were to report a member's death.

As of May 1st I have received 27 reunion registrations, so we have a long way to go to set a new attendance record. It should be a good reunion with all the events that Frank and Dan have planned, so if you haven't made up your mind to attend, it's not too late.

See you all in Valley Forge and do make plans for Biloxi in 1991 and the dedication of our Monument at Camp Shelby.

Robert J. Kurtzman, Sr.
Treasurer

A Thank You from One of Our Scholarship Recipients

Dear Mr. Kurtzman,

I must first apologize for the long delay in writing this letter. I am writing to thank you and the other members of the Fighting 69th for helping me earn my college degree. I was among the 525 members of the 1989 graduating class of Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota to earn a degree on May 7, 1989. I earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree, Cum Laude, specializing in International Relations, Business Administration and Communications.

Currently, I am enjoying life in New Brighton, Minnesota.

a suburb of St. Paul-Minneapolis. I have recently moved into my own apartment (I had been living with my sister and her family) and I'm learning the plights of living from paycheck to paycheck (the "real world" they warned us about at school!).

I had debated going to law school after graduation, but I decided to wait a year or two so I experienced life without cramming for exams. I've done the next best thing — I'm working in a law firm. I joined a small law firm in June as a temporary receptionist. Since then, I have had 3 promotions (and pay raises) and now I am the legal assistant for the owner of the firm, and even have my own office. To say the least, I am quite excited about my work; I am learning so much. The hands on experience is wonderful. Each day is a challenge, but I am learning so much more from doing than I ever could from a text book. My boss is already planning a schedule so that I can stay on here and attend night classes at William Mitchell Law School. I've decided to wait until Fall of 1991 to start as I'd like to pay back some of my student loans before accumulating too many more.

Your scholarship program was a great help to me in pursuing my degree. Not only did it provide the much needed financial assistance, but it also provided me with the mental support of knowing that someone believed in me. It gave me the encouragement to pursue my goals.

Thank you for helping me pave the way for a wonderful future!!

Sincerely Yours,
Dana L. Slimmer
Legal Assistant
Rauenhorst Carlson & Knaak

An Offer to Some 69er

Kermit Webb did visit Denver when we had our reunion in Denver. He had a few set toos with Bill Matlach before he and his 85 year old buddy left for Albuquerque, New Mexico. He is now alone and can go when he wishes.

Kermit plans on coming to Valley Forge (King of Prussia) Reunion in August of this year. He lives in the Louisville, Kentucky area and will be driving his car. He asked me if I knew anyone living in his neck of the woods who would like to go along with him. This is a good opportunity for some 69er to take advantage of who would like to go to a reunion but has no transportation. Probably you could share the same room at the hotel.

If you live in the Louisville area and are interested, get in touch with:

Kermit Webb
202 Crescent Avenue
Apartment B-2
Louisville, Kentucky 40206

Act soon because August is just around the corner. Hope you find a companion or two or even a friendly 69th couple that would like to come to a 69th reunion.

I wish more 69ers would have the kind heart of a Kermit Webb and offer this kind of deal to our 69th members. I know there is a lot of them who would like to take in a reunion but lack of transportation and financial conditions are the big problems. As good 69ers, we should try and help other 69ers when the need is there.

Earl Witzleb, Jr.
President

69th M.P. Platoon

Marshall (Marsh) E. Norden
4117 Crooked Tree, Apt. 7
Wyoming, Michigan 49509

Forty-five years ago the "Fighting 69th" was on the move and helping, immeasurably, to end the conflict in Europe. We all have great memories and deep pride in our effort in that cause.

Recently I was contacted by **Bob Younglas** of Traverse City, formerly a Platoon Sergeant in Company B, 271st Infantry. He urged me to write to you to request membership in the Association. I had seen a couple copies of the 69th newspaper courtesy of a friend here in Grand Rapids, **Wayne Redner**, formerly of the 273rd Infantry, but never got around to joining the Association.

Having entered the Army in January 1943 and spending about sixteen months with the 405th M.P.E.G. Company, (we had German POWs from North Africa) I was transferred to Camp Shelby in May, 1944 and assigned to B Company, 271st, 3rd Platoon. It soon became apparent that the "culture shock" of going to an Infantry Company after almost a year and a half in a Police Unit was not for me, so I visited **Major John Tower**, Provost Marshal and C.O. of the 69th M.P. Platoon, to request a transfer to his unit. He informed me that their T.O. was at full strength but would be increased when we got overseas and my request would be followed up at that time. **Major Tower**, always a man of his word, did effect the transfer in Winchester, England and I joined the M.P. Platoon in late December, 1944.

When we entered the combat zone another M.P. and

myself were appointed to the staff of **General Reinhardt** as his personal bodyguards. This was, of course, a very special assignment as far as I was concerned and I became acquainted with some great people, such as **Sergeant Bill O'Neil** (the General's driver) and **Captain Rogers** (his Aide) and gained great respect for the General who, as I recall, was then in his late 50's but went about through his command more like a man 20 years younger. I recall once after having been advised of the imminent danger of appearing too close to the lines, the General stated, "I want my men to see me up there - to talk with them and eat rations with them - so they won't think their commanding General is sitting in an easy chair back in some nice, safe headquarters." In June, 1945, I was transferred to the 381st M.P. Battalion, Company D to serve another nine months in France and Germany.

I always get a little carried away when I start on that old nostalgia trip. Please sign me up and, if possible, send me any list you may have of names and addresses of members of the 69th M.P. Platoon.

P.S. Regarding Major John Tower

John was a Grand Rapids area school administrator. After his separation from the Army he became Superintendent of one of the local school districts and, after a consolidation, held other high office with the schools.

Upon his retirement, he served as a part-time funeral home attendant, the same post-retirement job I am in and we worked together for a couple years for the same establishment so you will know that much reminiscing was done about our days with the 69th.

John passed away several months ago and I had the privilege of assisting at his funeral service.

Headquarters Company, 273rd Infantry



This photo was taken at a paper factory in Trebson, Germany (rolls of paper shown in the right hand corner), on the Mulde River about May 1-10, 1945. Names I remember are Bryan Taylor, Watson, Sergeant Howard _____, and Miller.

Picture furnished by **James L. McLean**

1990 69th Infantry Division Reunion King of Prussia/Valley Forge, Pennsylvania

SCHEDULE

LIBERTY CAB AND LIMOUSINE COMPANY

PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

365-8414 643-2272 688-6898

TO AIRPORT & RETURN

DESTINATIONS

KING OF PRUSSIA AND VALLEY FORGE

GEORGE WASHINGTON MOTEL
THE HOLIDAY INN
HOWARD JOHNSON MOTEL
VALLEY FORGE HILTON
VALLEY FORGE SHERATON

WEEKDAY

<u>TO</u> INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	<u>FROM</u> INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
6:00 AM	_____
6:30 AM	_____
7:00 AM	7:00 AM
7:30 AM	7:30 AM
8:00 AM	8:00 AM
8:30 AM	8:30 AM
9:00 AM	9:00 AM
9:30 AM	9:30 AM
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10:30 AM	10:30 AM
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_____	11:45 PM
_____	1:00 AM

SATURDAY

<u>TO</u> INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	<u>FROM</u> INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
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7:30 AM	9:00 AM
8:30 AM	10:00 AM
9:30 AM	11:00 AM
10:30 AM	12:00 PM
11:30 AM	1:00 PM
12:30 PM	2:00 PM
1:30 PM	3:00 PM
2:30 PM	4:00 PM
3:30 PM	5:00 PM
4:30 PM	6:00 PM
5:30 PM	7:00 PM
6:30 PM	8:00 PM
7:30 PM	9:00 PM
8:30 PM	10:00 PM
9:30 PM	11:00 PM
_____	12:00 AM
_____	1:00 AM

SUNDAY

6:00 AM	7:00 AM
6:30 AM	8:00 AM
7:30 AM	9:00 AM
8:30 AM	10:00 AM
9:30 AM	11:00 AM
10:30 AM	11:45 AM
11:30 AM	1:00 PM
12:30 PM	2:00 PM
1:30 PM	3:00 PM
2:30 PM	3:30 PM
3:00 PM	4:00 PM
3:30 PM	4:30 PM
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9:30 PM	10:30 PM
10:00 PM	11:00 PM
_____	11:45 PM
_____	1:00 AM

News from the Valley Forge Plaque and Living Tree Committee

H. Raymond Fahrner, Chairman
 Member: Company A, 273rd Infantry
 Forge Gate Apartments, 33 E 1
 Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446
 Telephone: 215/855-9696

James Henry, Assistant Chairman
 Member: Company F, 272nd Infantry
 9 Main Street - Upland
 Brookhaven, Pennsylvania 19015
 Telephone: _____

Daniel Evers
 Member: 269th Engineers, Company B
 4950 Grant Drive
 Brookhaven, Pennsylvania 19015
 Telephone: 215/874-1197

George Weston
 Member: Anti-Tank, 271st Infantry
 173 Tanglewood East
 Piscataway, New Jersey 08854
 Telephone: _____

George Phillips, Past President
 Member: Company G, 271st Infantry
 P.O. Box 15063
 St. Petersburg, Florida 33733
 Telephone: _____

Jacob Stark, Jr.
 Member: Company H, 273rd Infantry
 691 Dunkle Street
 Enhaut-Steelton, Pennsylvania 17113
 Telephone: 717/939-4802

DOGWOOD AND PLAQUE AT THE FREEDOMS FOUNDATION

I contacted all the committee members and have had responses from three members. **Jake Stark** will try to visit the site in the Spring. **Jim Henry** called and I updated him on what we were trying to accomplish. **George Phillips** wrote me from Florida, and was anxious to know the conditions at the site and was certain that the Association had paid for perpetual care for the memorial. I have asked him to forward the receipt for such payment.

NOTE FROM EARL: Thank you Ray, for the work that you and your committee have been doing on the Valley Forge Plaque and Living Tree. I expect to see it in good shape when I visit it in August so you better make another trip to the Freedoms Foundation to make sure the plaque is cleaned up, repainted, plus have the tree looking good. It might be a good suggestion that your committee recommend another \$500.00 for this fund since it's been 17 years since we gave them that donation.

Following is the letter and receipt of contribution we received from the Freedoms Foundation in 1973.

FREEDOMS FOUNDATION OF VALLEY FORGE
 VALLEY FORGE, PENNSYLVANIA 19481

10 September 1973

Dear Mr. Phillips:

I want to express my appreciation to you for the grant from the Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association, Inc.,

to Freedoms Foundation in the amount of \$500. This sum will be added to the perpetual maintenance fund for the Medal of Honor Grove.

I also want to thank you for a most enjoyable evening, on the 25th of August, at the annual dinner of your Association. It was a great experience for the Johnsons. It was especially nice to meet your wife. Mrs. Johnson and I enjoyed it all.

Most sincerely,
Harold K. Johnson
 General, USA (Retired)
 President



1989-1991 Appointed Committees

The President is on all committees. Please keep him informed. All committee chairmen should send a postcard or letter to **President Earl Witzleb** one week before each bulletin deadline stating the condition of his committee even if it should say "No Report At This Time." It is the responsibility of all committee members to attend at least the next two reunions.

* * * * *

ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO COMMITTEES

CAMP SHELBY MONUMENT MEMORIAL

Guy N. Rogers, Co-Assistant Chairman
 Member: Division Headquarters
 607 Hampton Circle
 Apartment 607-B
 Jackson, Mississippi 39211
 Telephone: 601/956-2031

Jack Duffy, Chairman
 Telephone: 716/271-4194

1991 REUNION - BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Guy N. Rogers, Co-Assistant Chairman
 Member: Division Headquarters
 607 Hampton Circle
 Apartment 607-B
 Jackson, Mississippi 39211
 Telephone: 601/956-2031

*The really happy man
 is one who can enjoy the scenery
 when he has to take a detour.*

THE AUXILIARY'S PAGE



by — Dottie Witzleb
Ladies Auxiliary Editor
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Telephone: 412/455-2901 (Evenings after 7:00 P.M. and Weekends)

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Woburn, Massachusetts 01801
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173 Tanglewood East
Piscataway, New Jersey 08854
Telephone: _____

Auxiliary Officers, will you please complete your address by sending me your telephone number and also please send me a picture of yourself for publication since this is the new angle Earl wants to install. He, as well as others, would like to see what you look like. He is now asking everyone who sends in a write up to send a picture of themselves or even the family.

* * * * *

Hi Ladies,

The time is fast approaching for our 1990 Reunion in Pennsylvania. Have you encouraged your husband to let you make reservations at the hotel for a room and to Robert Kurtzman, Sr. for your activities for the week? Remember, one night's deposit must be made with the Sheraton and a check for the full amount must be sent to our Treasurer to make sure you will be included in our activities. Don't be left out. This should be the reunion of all reunions to see friends and buddies of years gone by. All you lucky 69ers should take Atlantic City broke on that tour so sign up for them all and have a fun week with a group of the best soldiers the U.S. ever had along with their lovely wives. We should go 1,000 plus and I think that will be members alone and with the wives, what a group we will have.

Ellen Snidow, our Auxiliary President, didn't send in a message for us this time but she can be excused since she is on the European Tour with about 100 other 69ers including wives. We hope they are having a fine time of it and enjoying the trip. How many of you saw on television at 9:00 a.m., on Sunday, May 6th on CBS, the 69th members who were on the tour of Europe. 9:00 was Eastern Daylight Time so in other parts of the country it could have been on at another time. We missed it due to the Pittsburgh Marathon races being held but we are hopeful some way we can see it again.

We hope our many members who are sick, such as James "Jim" Lynch of Warren, Pennsylvania, Clarence Marshall from New Kensington, Pennsylvania, and Chalmer Pearson, Earl's Vice President, plus all you others, will be in good shape to be in Valley Forge this August for the reunion. Let us know who of our members are on sick call. We can't tell any other way.

Ladies, the lap robes, bibs, and other articles for our veterans at a hospital in the Valley Forge area should be completed by now. Don't forget to bring them along with you, for they will do no good being left behind at your home. Our veterans appreciate these little gifts plus the \$500.00 we give the Volunteer Service of that Veterans hospital to give them other little articles like canteen tickets, tooth brushes and paste, writing paper and envelopes, plus so many other things these Vets need that the government doesn't provide for them.

I have no other news so all I can say is come to Valley Forge for our 1990 reunion and stop by our room when activities cease so that we can do some chit-chatting.

Earl and I will certainly be looking forward to seeing all of you.

"Dottie" Dorothy Witzleb
Ladies Auxiliary Editor

**LADIES AUXILIARY BULLETIN MATERIAL AND PICTURES
SHOULD BE MAILED TO: DOROTHY (DOTTIE) A. WITZLEB**

**P.O. Box 69 Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069
or R.D. 1, Box 477, Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606
Telephone: 412/455-2901 should you need information in a hurry.**

1989
Denver, Colorado Reunion
Denver Marriott
Hotel Southeast



Barb Yastrzemski and Ed Lucci



Sigmund and Joanne Salacinski, Headquarters



Joseph and Sally Schaffer, Company F, 272nd



Cliff and Dolly Blank, 661st



Crandon and Jane Clark, Company B, 272nd



Thomas and Helen Heath, 724th Field Artillery



G. Hunnicutt and Myron Johnson, 1st Timer



New Men Relocated Since Our Last Bulletin

H. P. Mallard — C-881st
Route 1, Box 146, Hawthorne, Florida 32640

Douglas McClain
P.O. Box 14, Goshen, Virginia 24439

William R. Nystrom — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
Box 327, Marlborough, Connecticut 06447

Lloyd W. Smith — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
806 Canadian Circle, Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

Dan Charlton — D-272nd
567 Acqueduct, Akron, Ohio 44303

Fred Koeller — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
2629 Goldenrod Street, Sarasota, Florida 34239

Joseph F. Gawek — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
7 Glen Lane, Syosset, New York 11791

Waysl Zaricki — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
23753 Archwood Street, West Hills, California 91307

George A. Decker — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
391 Old Silo Road, Orange, Connecticut 06477

Clinton B. Ditmore — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
405 F Street, N.W., Miami, Oklahoma 74354

Albert W. McMunn — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
7410 Loretto Avenue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19111

Robert Ates — 69th Q.M.
15462 Crystal Lake Drive, Ft. Myers, Florida 33917

Patrick C. Reilly — G-272nd
107 North 6th Street, New Hyde Park, New York 11040

Michael D. Ossewaarde — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
12453 S.E. 25th Place, Bellvue, Washington 98005

William Brooks, Jr. — Hq. Co., 881st
13401 Flint Drive, Santa Ana, California 92705

Ray Jones — Hq. Co., 271st
249-A Ridgeway Court, Perkasio, Pennsylvania 18944

Alton Lonsway — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
45 Hillcrest Drive, Tiffin, Ohio 44883

Douglas Midwood — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 272nd
3902 Knights Bridge Close, Worcester, Massachusetts 01609

Harold J. Crowley — A-273rd
54-48 82nd Street, Elmhurst, New York 11373

Edward Chando — G-271st
962 Wilbur Avenue, Phillipsburg, New Jersey 08865

Edward Budinko — F-271st
411 Kelso Drive, Erie, Pennsylvania 16505

Edward F. DePew — 273rd
721 Sunshine, Junction City, Kansas 66441

Henry Elters
1000 Valley Forge Circle
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Francis Klink — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
144 Pennsylvania Avenue, Bridgeville, Pennsylvania 15017

David Malchick — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
1717 East 18th Street, Brooklyn, New York 11229

Owen Smith — 569th Signal
25 Bolton Road, Dover-Foxcroft, Maine 04426

John H. Pilot — A-880th
3425 North New England Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60634

Dr. Richard A. McCullen — A-880th
5401 N. Knoxville Avenue, Suite 109, Peoria, Illinois 61614

Luther D. Grogan — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
Route 4, Box 92, Talladega, Alabama 35160

Robert G. Morris — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
R.R. #1, Box 149, Petersburg, Texas 79250

Paul T. Phillips — Hq. Co., 3rd Bn., 273rd
R.R. #2, Charleston, Illinois 61920

James Valentine, Sr. — Service-880th
Ridge Road, R.R. #1, Box 226
Thomasville, Pennsylvania 17364

Ben Trujillo — B-777th
11326 Broaded Street, Sante Fe Springs, California 90670

Robert E. Rosane — A-273rd
P.O. Box 64, Richford, Vermont 05476

Robert O. Easton — B-272nd
2222 Las Canoas Road, Santa Barbara, California 93105

Lee C. Wah
R.D. #4, Old Road, Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Kenneth L. Ziems — L-272nd
7816 Signal Hill Road, Manassas, Virginia 22111

Paul J. Fleming — K-271st
154 Bunce Road, Wethersfield, Connecticut 06109

Lester J. Yury — Hq. Co., 369th
638 Golfcrest Drive, San Antonio, Texas 78239

David Kench — K-272nd
12 Marvin Avenue, Lakewood, New York 14750

Robert Bishop — K-271st
180 Calkins Road, Palmer, Massachusetts 01069

Niel Ver Merris — B-271st
5860 Leisure South Drive, S.E., Kentwood, Michigan 49548

Vince Ignatosky — A-800th
2528 Sanatoga Road, Gilbertsville, Pennsylvania 19525

Lee Wilson — Cannon Co., 273rd
8945 Hope Lane, Stockton, California 95212

Lynn G. Grimson — Div. Hq.
1025 Tropical Avenue, Port Charlotte, Florida 33948

Robert A. Hosea — E-271st
550 Woodbrook Lane, Wyoming, Ohio 45215

Charles Mabe — B-271st
P.O. Box 152, Oxford, Pennsylvania 19363

Lucien Caron — B-271st
1007 Sabattus Street, Lewiston, Maine 04240

Dean W. Felix — Hq. Co., 1st Bn., 272nd
Box 73, Salix, Pennsylvania 15952

Reverend Hugh Crockett McKee — G-273rd
420 Dorrington Drive, Metairie, Louisiana 70005

Robert Mendivil — C-777th
450 Park Street, Redwood City, California 94061

Thaddeus D. Karter
2700 Atlantic Avenue, Wildwood, New Jersey 08260

George T. Whitson — F-271st
30 S. West Street, Hillsdale, Michigan 49242

Leslie R. Gordon
14041 Preston Road, #1710-E, Dallas, Texas 75240

Donald W. Hansen
3817 South Bells Beach Road, Langley, West Virginia 98260

HAVE A NEW MEMBER?

Send this information on to Clarence Marshall, our Membership Chairman at 101 Stephen Street, New Kensington, PA 15068. Telephone: 412/335-3224

News from the Reunion Activities/Site Screening Committee

Chalmer Pearson, (Vice President), Chairman
Member: Company I, 272nd Infantry
15330 Joseph Road
Van Dalia, Michigan 49095-9785
Telephone: _____

Gaylord W. Thomas, Assistant Chairman
Member: Headquarters Company, 777th Tank Battalion
432 Doty Street
Waupun, Wisconsin 53963
Telephone: 414/324-4065

George Gallagher, Past President
Member: 69th M.P. and Q.M.
7013 El Torro Street, Spanish Trails
Zephyrhills, Florida 33541
Telephone: 813/788-5924

Frank See
Member: 777th, Headquarters
1235 West Wood Drive
Phoenix, Arizona 85029
Telephone: 602/866-6992

Francis J. Enright
Member: 881st, Company A
7304 West Georgia Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53220
Telephone: _____

Paul N. Shadle
Member: Company E, 271st Infantry
1504 Greensburg Road
New Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068
Telephone: 412/335-9980

Enrico D'Angelo
Member: 880th Field Artillery
516 Chestnut Street
Saltsburg, Pennsylvania 15681
Telephone: 412/335-6678

William Matlach, Past President
Member: Company E, 273rd Infantry
19 Barberry Road
West Islys, New York 11795
Telephone: 516/669-8077

John Westlake
Member: Company E, 272nd Infantry
4807 East Pacific Coast Highway, #303
Long Beach, California 90804
Telephone: _____

Michael P. Moscaritolo
Member: 69th Recon
575 Sherman Avenue
Roselle, New Jersey 07203-2924
Telephone: 201/245-8159

Jim Kidd
Member: Company F, 271st Infantry
222 Al-Fan Court
Winchester, Kentucky 40391
Telephone: _____

Curt Peterson
Member: 569th Signal Company
4900 Wallace Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53716
Telephone: _____

* * * * *

H. G. Erhart Made This Sensible Suggestion

At the present time, my wife and I do not think we will be able to attend the reunion this year in Pennsylvania

We would like to send along the dues for this year, and our check is enclosed.

Regular Membership Dues	\$ 5.00
(Herbert G. Erhart E-271)	
Contributory Dues	10.00
Ladies Auxiliary Dues	2.00
(Lucie F. Erhart)	
Postage and Bulletin Donation	10.00
Total	\$27.00

I have a suggestion I would like to pass along to the Planning Committee for future locations for Reunions. I am a retired doctor of medicine and I practiced for years at an altitude of 7,000 feet. People of the age most of us are, cannot take high altitude as well as when we were younger and I noticed a number of people being affected in Denver by shortness of breath, palpitations of the heart and lack of pep and energy.

I would recommend that future locations be no higher in altitude than 2,000 feet above sea level such as Biloxi, Mississippi, which is ideal.

H. G. Erhart
Post Office box 578
Eagar, Arizona 85925

SAN FRANCISCO Proposed Site for the 1992 Reunion

"Go West Young Man - Go West"

A group of us in Northern California have established a committee to sponsor the First West Coast 69th Division Reunion at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel in August 1992.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE:

Robert L. and Theresa M. Pierce, Co-Chairpersons	
Herbert and Esther Orsi	Walter Haag
Delbert and Donna Philpott	John Tounger
Harold and Aldora Gonsalves	Robert Shaw
William Lindow	Eugene Wolfe
James McCarthy, Jr.	

The Marriott Hotel is situated right on the San Francisco Bay approximately 12 miles from downtown. We have a written commitment from their Sales Manager to hold 400 rooms at a discounted rate of \$70.00 plus tax for the week of August 23-30, 1992. Their Grand Ballroom will accommodate up to 1200 guests.

(Continued on Page 22)

NEWS FROM THE REUNION/SITE SCREENING COMMITTEE

(Continued from Page 21)

San Francisco Attractions:

Alcatraz Prison, Chinatown, Cable Cars, Fisherman's Wharf, Pier 39, the Cannery, Ghiradelli and Union Squares, Bay Dinner Cruises, Golden Gate Bridge and Park, and the best shopping in the West. Cross the Bay Bridge to shop or have lunch in Oakland's Jack London Square; or, cross the Golden Gate Bridge and visit Sausalito with its many art shops and bay of houseboats.

Side Excursions:

Napa Valley Wine Tours, Overnight gambling tours to Reno, South Lake Tahoe and Carson City. Visit the infamous Virginia City - home of the Comstock Lode. Travel the Kit Carson Trail and route of the Pony Express Riders.

Take a trip back in history and visit a piece of the Gold Country; Old Sacramento, the renovated Capitol and Sutter's Fort. Or, try the Gold Camps of Auburn, Placerville (Hang Town), El Dorado, Sutter Creek, Angel's Camp, Chinese Camp, Sonora and the ghost town of Columbia where Mark Twain grubbed for gold.

Take a scenic drive down the Coastal Highway through Half Moon Bay, Santa Cruz (visit the Beach Boardwalk), and the Monterey Peninsula. Points of interest: Fisherman's Wharf, Cannery Row, the Aquarium, Pacific Grove (winter home of Monarch Butterflies), 17-Mile Drive with the famous golf courses used for the AT&T Pro-Am (stop and visit Pebble Beach Center). See beautiful Carmel-by-the-Sea; and Carmel Mission (home and burial place of the canonized Father Junipero Serra, founder of the mission chain from San Diego to San Francisco).

As you can see, this is not just a great location for a Reunion, but a fabulous place to enjoy the vacation of your lifetime. This will be a reunion you will never forget.

This may be establishing a precedent, but I would sincerely appreciate a vote of confidence from those of you who believe they could be able to come to San Francisco in 1992? Please drop me a card, letter, or phone call to let me know before our Reunion at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania this August. I would like to take your affirmative replies to this year's Reunion and use them as "yes" proxy votes for a San Francisco Reunion in 1992. You can understand the importance of early confirmation to secure a hotel large enough to accommodate our group, there are only 4 hotels in San Francisco and 2 nearby that can house the group and banquet. Some hotels in town are already booked through 1992.

"Don't let me down, send in your votes now!"

Robert L. and Theresa M. Pierce, Co-Chairpersons
San Francisco, California 1992 Site Committee
Company I, 273rd Infantry
144 Nashua Court
San Jose, California 95139

In my attempt to contact 69th Division Association Members who might be interested in sponsoring the Division Reunion in San Francisco, I sent a letter to **Major General J. W. Harmony (Ret.)**, Headquarters, 271st Infantry. I received a reply from his daughter that I believe is noteworthy for publication. Maybe some of those who served with him would be interested.

"Dear Mr. Pierce: Recently an accumulation of mail from my father's home in San Francisco was forwarded to me. It is with great sadness that I inform you that my father, **Major General John Harmony**, passed away in December, 1987.

Dad was very proud to have served with the 69th Division during its training at Camp Shelby, and later at Fort Dix, New Jersey. He often spoke of the Officers and men of the 271st, and was disappointed when he received orders to leave the Regiment and join the 36th Division in Italy. Your plans for a 1992 Reunion in San Francisco are very exciting, and I wish you every success in your endeavors."

Sarah Harmony Sullivan

Valley Forge This August or Bust

These four men were at the Mid-West Renion in Elkhart, Indiana in 1989. I only saw one of them at Interlaken Resort, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin this year. Guess they are planning on being at Valley Forge (King of Prussia), Pennsylvania at the Sheraton Plaza Hotel this August 1990 for the 69th Reunion.

Remember, first priority is the Division Association Reunion each year over other mini-weekends. You always see them all at a Division reunion so come see your friends this year. We should have a crowd.

Representing I Company, 272nd Infantry Regiment.
Left to right: Bob Kurtzman, Chalmer Pearson, Tom Yelcich, Fred Fiedler



Good Job Dutch, Jeanne and Committee

Dear Earl,

Just a note to touch base and, to again offer my congratulations on assuming the mantle of leadership of our beloved 69th Infantry Division Association.

I'm sure some of the decisions involved have already begun to play mind games with you, but I have no doubt you will handle them with the best interests of the Association paramount.

I have had a letter from Frank and Dan which asked for some information as to some figures on the hospitality room used in Denver for their planning, and have furnished that for their planning.

In that regard, I would very much appreciate if you would include in the next bulletin a little tribute to the Adolph Coors Company who gave us a check for \$500.00 to assist in our reunion expenses. This, in effect, paid for all the beer used in the Hospitality Room. Coors is extremely supportive of Veteran activities as well as almost every community activity in the Colorado area.

As a case in point, I believe our membership should be made aware of their support to our reunion and also to veterans in general. Please see the news item I am enclosing. How many corporations do you know who make an annual scholarship award to veterans in the \$500,000 range.

The Good Lord willing, Jeanne and I hope to see you and Dottie at Valley Forge-King of Prussia and the largest turnout of 69ers since we disbanded in 1945.

Best Regards,
W.O. "Dutch" Hawn

NOTE: Dutch included this small newspaper clipping about the Coors scholarships.

Coors Scholarships

Coors Brewing Company has awarded 124 scholarships worth \$500,000 from 1989 Coors Veteran's Memorial Scholarship Fund. The 1989 program produced at least one winner from each state in addition to the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The mean grade point average of the 1989 recipients is 3.82 (on a 4.0 scale).

* * * * *

Final Report of the 1989 42nd Annual Reunion Denver, Colorado

By Dutch Hawn

An after action report if you will. On second thought, a belated after action report - on third thinking a better late than never, I hope, report.

First, I feel that the overall reunion was very well received by most of the attendees.

After an attendance of over 800 at Lexington, I was a bit disappointed in the Denver turnout of approximately 630 people. I do believe a lot of our membership missed a fine reunion. I suspect the distance involved in driving and or the cost of transportation may have been largely responsible. It may be that future reunions should be held in areas closer to the center of the majority of our membership.

I have no doubt that Frank and Dan will have a minimum of 1,000 at King of Prussia in 1990 - I sincerely hope so.

Accommodations and facilities were among the best we have enjoyed. Overall, the prices and costs were fair and competitive.

I feel the staff and management at the Denver Marriott Southeast were everything my committee and myself could have asked for. I personally heard of no complaints by our members on the treatment rendered.

Weather - I suppose, if honesty prevails, there could hardly be any complaints on the weather. If there are - the complainers won't like it in Heaven either.

For all of you who have assisted in past reunions, and those currently involved in the 1990 reunion, there is an awareness of the tremendous amount of planning and detail involved and I would be remiss if I failed to acknowledge the amount of help we had with the Denver reunion.

Among those who played very prominent and helpful roles were:

- Bob and Thelma Bement Co-Chairpersons
- Mel and June Liverance Registration
- Dick and Gerry Hadley Hospitality Room
- Elmer and Erma Broneske Wagon Master of All Tours

In addition to the above mentioned on-site people, major contributions were from Bob Myers and Frank See who came from Phoenix to Denver in March to assist in planning and negotiations.

Joe and Eleanor Wright who traveled to Denver from Missouri in June to work on the Memorial Service and Golf Tournament planning.

Among the many others who contributed a great deal of time and talent were: Fred Avery, Andrew and Jean Both, Eugene and Norma Jean Butterfield, Keith and Colleen Curtis, Jack and Mary Duffy, John Gradomski, George and Edna Harper, Bob and Vivian Kurtzman, Chaplain Ernst and Eudice Lorge, Chalmer Pearson, Joe and Sally Schaffer, Charley White, and of course out Immediate Past President Bill and Betty Foster.

And most of all my wife, Jeanne, contributed in so many ways and kept me headed in the right direction most of the time.

If anyone has been overlooked, please believe it is unintentional.

I close with the hope and wish that each succeeding reunion will be better than those that preceded it.

W.O. "Dutch" Hawn

**Thanks So Much
from the
Fighting 69th Infantry
to the
ADOLPH COORS CO.
who gave us a check
for \$500 to assist in our
1989 Denver Reunion.
WE SALUTE YOU!!**

A Little Follow-Up Info On the Infantry Day Tag

This tag appeared in Bulletin Volume 43, No. 1
September - October - November - December

Jim Kehew
413 Appletree Road
Camp Hill, Pennsylvania 17011
Division Headquarters Company

Dear Clarence,

Enclosed is the only letter I've gotten so far about the story in the December bulletin about the Infantry Day Tag. (Incidentally, thanks for returning the tag.) Thought you might want to use it in the next issue in case other people were wondering what the tag was all about. I don't know Art or what unit he was in, but it was nice of him to write and I'm sure glad his wife kept a scrapbook of his Army years.

I hope to make the Reunion in Valley Forge in August - and I hope you can make it too. Hope your health is up to snuff and that you're pluggin' along. Everything is fine here. Es is still doing part time private duty nursing and I'm working with the state bicycling organization. Our son Bill is no longer in Shipperville. He and his wife are divorced and he is now teaching in Canada near his girlfriend. She is going to the University of Toronto and Bill is teaching elementary school (after 17 or so years teaching high school) in the town of Woodstock about 50 miles southwest of Toronto. Our other son Gordon's divorce just became final - he's moved into an apartment in Harrisburg so we get to see him quite a bit. His daughter Kelly (23 years old) has moved down from Indiana, Pennsylvania and lives nearby with her boyfriend. Also my brother still lives in Camp Hill and Es's sister and husband live here too in the winter and go to their place in the Thousand Islands in the summer. So we have lots of family close by and get together frequently. About every couple years, we get the whole Kehew tribe together for a weekend reunion at a small country hotel up in Perry County.

You and Earl are doing a wonderful job with the bulletin. That last 70-pager was like a magazine! We owe a lot to you two. Keep it up.

Best regards,
Jim

* * * * *

Following is a letter from Arthur Keplar, Jr. Who identifies the origin of the Tag

Dear Jim,

I am writing in response to your article which appeared in the last issue of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division bulletin as to the card which was found in the belongings of the father of a friend of yours. It looked familiar to me and upon checking in my scrapbook my wife kept during my tour of duty, I found a matching card. As I recall it was Infantry Day at Laurel, Mississippi and our outfit was there for Infantry display of weapons.

I also join you in commending those persons responsible for getting together news for the bulletin. I look forward to receiving it. I have some pictures that might be of interest to some of the guys and had glossy prints made for publication which I will send out shortly.

Best personal regards,
Sgt. Arthur Keplar, Jr.
Route 2, Box 56
Nelsonville, Ohio 45764



Rabbi Ernst M. Lorge Memorial Fund

Rabbi Lorge, the 69th Division Association's Jewish Chaplain, passed away on February 24, 1990.

Rabbi Lorge had served and attended almost all reunions the past 15 or more years and served as the only full-time clergyman attending regularly.

A Memorial is being established in his name and we are encouraging anyone who would like to contribute to please do so. Let's help keep his memory alive.

Funds will go toward the naming of the main sanctuary of the Temple Beth Israel, the temple where Rabbi Lorge served for 40 years.

Rabbi Lorge was a very well-liked individual within the 69th Infantry Division Association. We received many letters following his death.

Checks should be made out to:
"The Rabbi Ernst M. Lorge Memorial Fund"

Checks should be mailed to:
Mrs. Eudice Lorge
2637 West Catalpa
Chicago, Illinois 60625

**1990 69th Infantry Division
43rd Annual Reunion
Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel
KING OF PRUSSIA,
PENNSYLVANIA
August 12th thru 19th, 1990
DON'T MISS IT!!**

USATC Edmund B. Alexander



USATC Edmund B. Alexander brought high point 69ers and 29ers back to the States at the close of World War II in Europe. Certificate below shows that Major Sumner Russman returned on this ship. Picture & certificate furnished by Dr. Sumner Russman.

	<p>ARMY SERVICE FORCES TRANSPORTATION CORPS ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES</p>	
<p>NEW YORK PORT OF EMBARKATION</p>		
<p>MAJOR SUMNER A. RUSSMAN HEADQUARTERS 69TH INF. DIV. APO-417 U.S. ARMY</p>		
<p>returned to the UNITED STATES on the ship USATC - EDMUND B. ALEXANDER which sailed from LE HAVRE ~ FRANCE on 1300 HRS. ~ 7 SEPTEMBER 1945</p>		
	<p>Sig. <i>Robert V. Marais</i> Title CG. 69TH INF. DIV.</p>	

STANDING OUT

Retired McKeesport General in Infantry Hall of Fame

By Jean Bryant

The Pittsburgh Press

Article submitted by Neil Shields

They were young, innocent in the ways of war.

Captain Gus Nagy was among the 1,500 men of the Army's 273rd Infantry Regiment, 69th Division, who left these shores and sailed the Atlantic full of uncertainty about what lay ahead for them in England.

The McKeesport resident - who was recently honored for his military accomplishments - was 25 at the time. World War II was raging in Europe and Japan.

An eery feeling filled Nagy and his buddies. They wondered if they would safely reach their destination as the ship navigated mine-infested waters.

"Everybody was afraid," recalls Nagy, now 75. "It's a feeling you don't like to have. After all, you're going into combat, using live ammunition to kill or be killed yourself."

Nagy, a Duquesne resident and a retired Brigadier General, was recently inducted into the Infantry Officer Candidate Hall of Fame in special ceremonies at Fort Benning, Georgia.

A quiet man with silvery white hair, Nagy recalls that the two-week crossing to England began in late December 1943. They arrived in early January 1944.

In England, the men continued combat training and were ordered to France. From there, they wound up in Belgium, making their way to a fierce battle at the Siegfried Line between France and Germany. German and American troops were fighting relentlessly.

"We went in to relieve the American unit that was shot up and to assist in reestablishing our front lines."

The cost was great, Nagy recalled.

"We saw GIs frozen to death. They were lined up like cordwood along the highway until trucks came by to pick them up. That's when we really got scared."

That's when we wondered, "When will this end?"

It would seem like forever.

"We fought every day. The Germans were shelling us, killing our boys. And we were killing them. But we keep moving forward."

At the time, Nagy was an infantry combat company commander in the division. It wasn't a pleasant job.



Gus Nagy recalls crossing Atlantic to war.

"Sometimes you sent the boys to their deaths. But missions had to be accomplished."

For a moment, Nagy's eyes grew misty.

"Finally," he continued, "we broke through the Siegfried Line and made contact with the Russians. They were our allies. Because the infantry is always up front, we had a pretty fair casualty list, some injured, some killed, some captured."

The Germans, Nagy recalled, were surrendering in large numbers.

"That was the objective, advance through Germany, make them surrender, get the war over with."

One war continued. The Americans were still engaged with Japan. And Nagy's division was scheduled to go to the Asian Theatre.

But when atomic bombs obliterated Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Nagy said, "everything stopped." World War II was no more.

At home once again, Nagy, still a captain, was assigned to the Pittsburgh Army Reserve School and did duty there as director of the Infantry Department and commander of its logistical command.

He rose through the ranks to Brigadier General.

According to Captain Robin Hogan, Battalion Adjutant at Fort Benning, the Hall of Fame honors graduates of the Army's Officer Candidate School, particularly those who have been Medal of Honor winners or who have at least attained the rank of full colonel or above. The hall also recognizes its graduates who have gained national or state prominence.

She said about 45 nominees are inducted each year and that 1,307 have been inducted since the hall began in 1959. Inductees include Senator Robert Dole, R-Kan; former secretary of defense Caspar Weinberger, and columnist William F. Buckley.

Unassumingly, Nagy mentions his awards: Bronze Star, one cluster; Combat Infantry Badge, European Military, East African Campaign Medal and several othes.

He looks at the letter that notified him of his induction into the Hall of Fame.

At the top of the letter is the infantry insignia, two rifles crossing and the words, "Follow me," words that must have a special meaning to Nagy.

Ann Stringer, 71, Dies; A War Correspondent

Ann Stringer, a war correspondent who in 1945 transmitted the first report of the linkup of American and Russian forces, died of a heart attack Wednesday at the Skyrest Nursing Home in Carbondale, Illinois. She was 71 years old and lived until 1987 in Manhattan and Amagansset, Long Island.

On April 25, 1945, as a reporter for United Press, Mrs. Stringer was ordered back to Paris from the First Army front. She persuaded friends in Army Intelligence to lend her a plane and a pilot, who flew her over the lines to the village of Torgau.

There she spotted a man climbing out of the Elbe River. She got him to row her across the east bank in a racing shell. There she met the Russian troops.

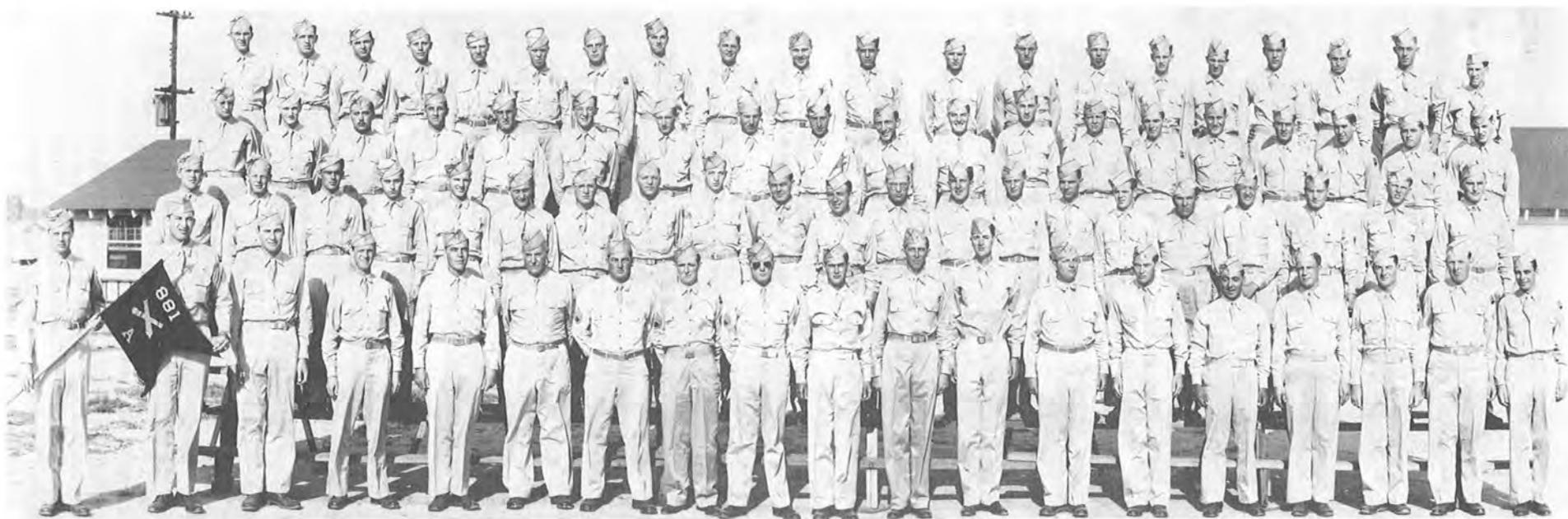
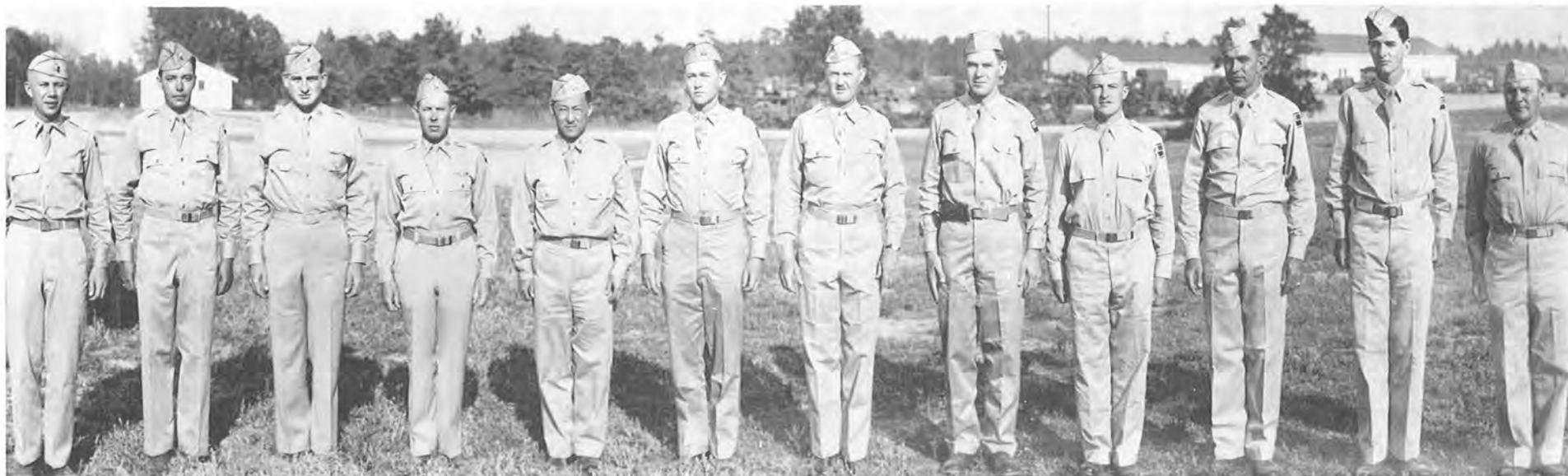
Mrs. Stringer got a ride to Paris on a C-47 cargo plane, thus beating her competitors, who were being taken by jeep.

Less than a year earlier, Mrs. Stringer had been widowed when her husband William, a correspondent for Reuters, was killed as Allied Troops liberated Paris. In 1949, she left United Press and settled in Manhattan.

Staff, 881st Field Artillery, Camp Shelby, Mississippi - May 1944

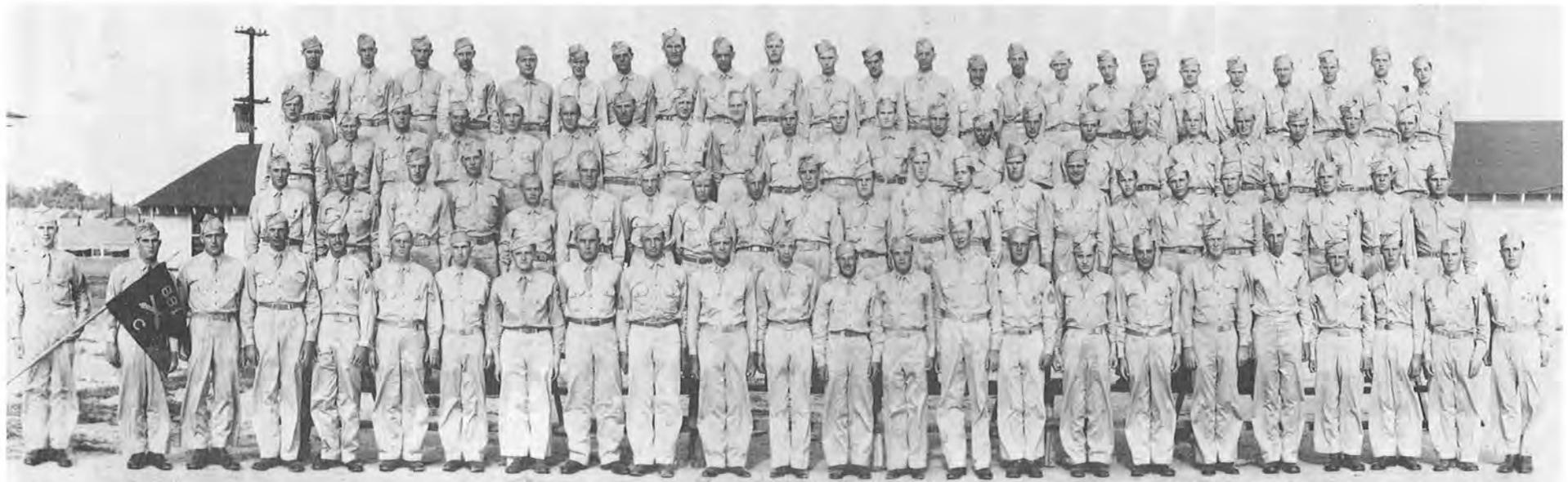
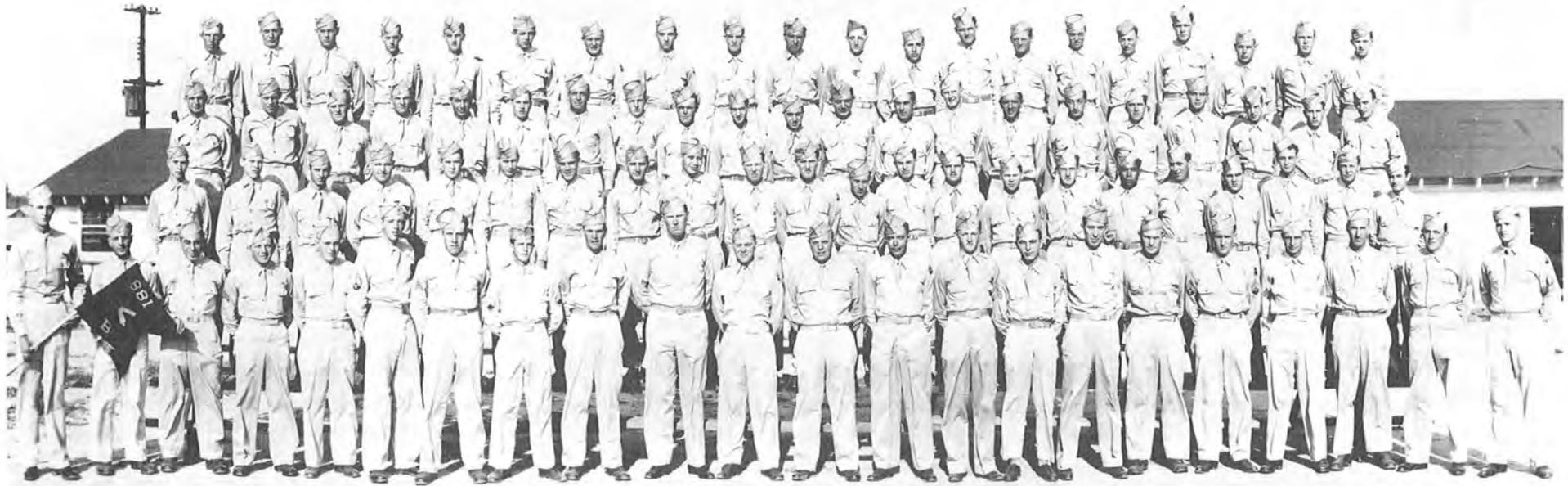
All 881st Photos
Sent by Bill Brooks

Mr. Luquette, Lt. Pope, Lt. Searfoss, Lt. Leonard, Capt. Nakadata, Capt. Blake, Col. Brooks, Major Batcheler, Capt. Porter, Capt. Backhaus, Capt. Barry, Lt. Able



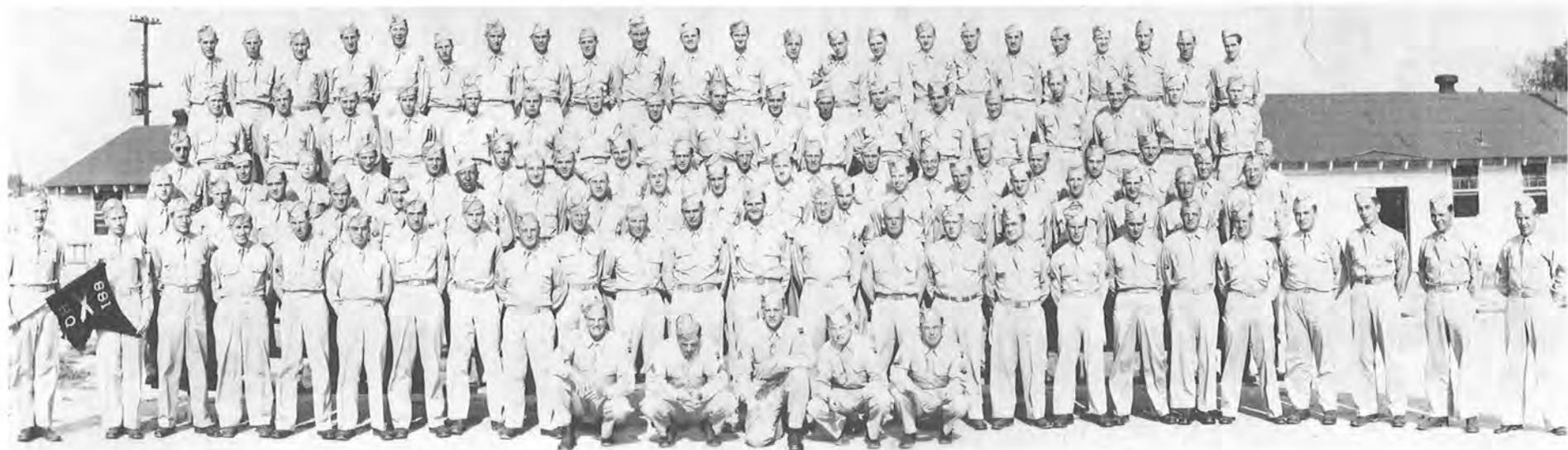
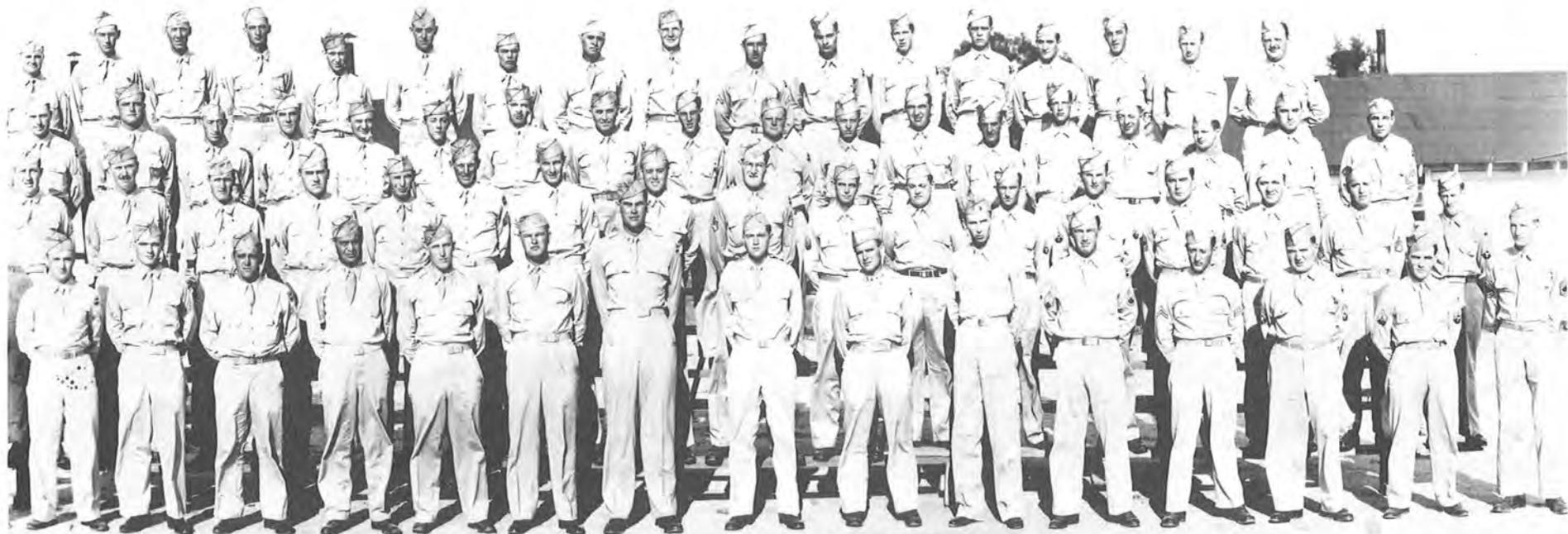
Battery "A", 881st Field Artillery Battalion, Camp Shelby, Mississippi - Sept. 1943

Battery "B", 881st Field Artillery Battalion, Camp Shelby, Mississippi - Sept. 1943



Battery "C", 881st Field Artillery Battalion, Camp Shelby, Mississippi - Sept. 1943

Service Battery, 881st Field Artillery, Camp Shelby, Mississippi - Sept. 1943



Headquarters Battery, 881st Field Artillery, Camp Shelby, Mississippi - Sept. 1943

West Mifflin, Pennsylvania WWII Hero Joins County Hall of Valor

From THE RECORD JOURNAL
JANUARY 11, 1990

By Robert Reid

His collection of war medals should be more impressive than his need for modesty, but the good doctor will never allow it.

The Silver Star glows as it sits mounted and framed on the living room wall of Dr. Lawrence David's West Mifflin home. The Purple Heart is there, the Bronze Star is there. He has a good conduct medal.

The 11 medals attract attention that Dr. David does not look for, but the man must have trouble escaping it. There are enough honors to go around.

The McKeesport dentist was in the U.S. Army during World War II while with the medical department of the 69th Infantry Division.

The Private First Class crawled under enemy machine gun fire to rescue the commander of a rifle company, who was seriously injured in an armed infantry attack in Leipzig, Germany, on April 18, 1945.

The Silver Star citation says that he was gallant in action and that he skillfully and quickly treated the injured officer. "His super courage and gallantry in action reflect the highest credit upon Pfc. David and the armed forces of the United States."

"He did live," David recalls.

The battle was the most dangerous situation he encountered, he recalled.

"But my most memorable moment was the first linkup with the Russians on April 25, 1945, at the Elbe River." He didn't know whether to trust the Red Star allies.

Eventually Leipzig comes back to mind.

"I was a medical man in the infantry. You have the opportunity to do things that get you in trouble."

He explains that his unit entered the town by tank, fighting off the retaliation of the Germans from a building ahead. When the tank reached Napoleon's Monument, a medic was called for and he crossed the street through continuous enemy shooting.

"Artillery is the most fearsome, even more so than machine guns." The German had 88mm shells, which didn't give a soldier a great deal of advance warning to react. "It is like you hear a train coming and there is an explosion."

Later, he was hit with a shell blast — on February 27, 1945 — just inside the German border from Belgium. He was taken to the medics the following day with a concussion. He was sent to the rear for a week and then he went back up front.

"I was hoping they would send me home but they wouldn't," he said, adding that the only ticket home was a bullet in the upper leg. "A broker femur — guys used to like to get that."

His concussion earned David a Purple Heart, given for wounds as a result of enemy action.

"He was fired at a lot but they never got him," says his wife Margaret. "He was a slippery fellow."

His Bronze Star is more of a "general award," David



DR. LAWRENCE DAVID displays the awards that his daughter mounted and framed. His Silver Star and Bronze Star are shown on the bottom, while his Purple Heart sits on top.

explains. It was given for service over a period of time, not for one particular incident."

David enlisted in the Army in 1943. Upon the end of the war, he began dental school in 1946, graduating from the University of Pittsburgh in 1950.

He was married in 1950, and was then called for the Korean War four months later. Sent to Sheppard Air Force Base, the captain was stationed throughout the war in Wichita Falls, Texas. His wife joined him and his first daughter Janet was born there before his return in 1952.

He stayed in the reserves until 1984. "I was a Lieutenant Colonel when I retired. When you are 60 they throw you out."

Originally from East Liberty, David and his family lived in West Mifflin since 1957. His daughter Janet lives in Virginia, Donna in California and Susan in Johnstown. The Davids have three grandchildren: Lauren, Garrett and Aaron.

David said that the grandchildren are among his main preoccupations. He also likes sports, and was chagrined at the Steelers' loss in Denver.

Since the 69th Infantry has started an association that supplies addresses and phone numbers of its members, David has heard from "two or three in the last couple of years." But not the officer in Leipzig.

"At times I enjoyed the Army. There were some good times and some bad."

Dr. David found out as a late Christmas present that his name, a picture and a copy of his Silver Star citation are in the Hall of Valor at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall in Oakland. He has never been there but he intends to go soon.

He still has the citations and clippings from his World War II experiences. He rattles off the dates like he was dodging gunfire just yesterday.

"See these papers (citations)? They are 45 years old. I never thought I would need them again."

A surprise house call on Dr. Modesty.

One Day At A Time

Richard W. Bell of Watertown, South Dakota, writes of one of his days with the 69th, April 13, 1945, which he also had published in his local newspaper in their Veterans' Column.

ONE DAY IN THE CONQUEST OF ADOLPH HITLER

It was April 13, 1945. We were spread out across the German fields in our hastily dug fox holes. We hunkered down in our holes trying to make ourselves as small as possible, as big German shells burst over us, the shrapnel zinging through the air in all directions sounding like ricocheting bullets. Our location was 12 miles south of Leipzig, Germany, near the village of Lutzkewitz on the Weisse Elster River.

We were the U.S. 69th Infantry Division, part of General Courtney Hodge's First Army.

Weeks earlier, we had invaded Germany at the Belgium border. Over 300 miles behind us, we had fought our way through the concrete of the German border defenses, the Seigfried line. After a short pause to reorganize, the Rhine River defenses were breached, and we were pushing into Germany as rapidly as German resistance would allow.

On the approaches to Leipzig, we began to receive big incoming German artillery shells. Trucks were hit and destroyed. A towed artillery gun of our 880th Field Artillery was hit and destroyed. Shells hit on the road, forming craters we had to drive around. Men were wounded. We were ordered to stop and dig in in defensive fox holes.

We had run into the anti-aircraft defenses ringing the city of Leipzig. The barrels of the huge guns were lowered to fire at us on the ground, instead of at aircraft in the sky.

The Piper Cub artillery observation plane accompanying us, reported observing 36 of these guns in our immediate area, and 36 additional ones further away. With typical German efficiency, the guns had been located and controlled in groups of 9, scattered around the countryside, primarily as anti-aircraft defense for Leipzig.

Our first reaction after digging in, was to bring our artillery to bear on the German guns. Then an infantry attack accompanied with tanks and tank destroyers was being prepared. Our artillery succeeded in destroying some of the guns before our ground attack started.

Infantry troops in long lines abreast began attacking the German positions. The German guns were kept under continual fire from our artillery and tanks, and ground resistance was overcome by our troops. By late in the afternoon, the 36 guns in our area were all captured, and their barrels and mechanisms melted with thermite grenades making them inoperable.

474 prisoners were taken in the operation, 4 of them German women soldiers. Thus ended one more day "in the conquest of Adolph Hitler."

Days later, we surrounded the city of Leipzig with the 69th Division, the 2nd Division and the 9th Armored Division. In a two-day battle, our forces swept through the city. A German Major General with 1,721 German soldiers surrendered to us, giving up the city.

A few miles to the north, Hitler was living in his underground bunker in Berlin, and killed himself on April 30, 1945. On that date we were about 70 miles south of Berlin on the Elbe River at Torgau, where we had linked up with the Russian Army on April 24.

Not long after this, Germany surrendered on VE Day, May 8, 1945.

Betty Baraniak Writes —

We received this note and photo from Betty Baraniak to be submitted for the History Book. We thought we would publish it in the bulletin and then send it along to its destination.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Witzleb,

I am the widow of Charles Frank Baraniak and I would like you to place this photo and information in your History Book. He was in the Fighting 69th Infantry Division.

Charles Frank Baraniak, Private 33759364
Headquarters Battery, 879th Field Artillery Battalion
Army of the United States

Serving from April 27, 1943 to October 20, 1943
Honorable Discharge - Character Excellence
From Camp Shelby, Mississippi, Headquarters

No time lost under AW-107 of Boswell, Pennsylvania. We have 2 daughters Carolyn E. Baran, and Theresa Ann Fulton. Also 6 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

My deceased husband was very proud to be a 69th soldier. He was in poor health when he passed away on Easter Day, 1982.

May God bless as ever.

Betty Baraniak
322 Ohio Street
Boswell, Pennsylvania 15531
Telephone: 814/629-6557



From left to right: Private Charles Baraniak and Private John Barkman. Camp Shelby, Mississippi. May 4, 1943.

John Barkman has also passed away. Both of these men were from Boswell, Pennsylvania.

THE DAYS OF THE 50's

PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY SHERMAN LAWRENCE



Left to right: General Bolte, General Parks, Sherman Lawrence, the young lady was part of the General's party and the Colonel on the right was the Aide de Camp to the General. As you can see, General Parks was a Three-Star General and General Bolte had four stars at this time.



General Bolte at the microphone. Sherman Lawrence behind him. A fellow by the name of Hy Gutowitz is holding the paper and General Parks is laughing.

This reunion was in the early 50's when Sherman was President. It should bring back some memories.

THE DAYS OF THE 50's

PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY SHERMAN LAWRENCE



This picture with the Color Guard is of the reactivation of the 69th Division at Fort Dix, New Jersey. The Colors were taken out of mothballs during the time that I was the President. I am standing next to the officer and Murry Galuten is next to me. Sol Rosenblitt is obviously there, Hy Goldstein, Loar Quicke, and Henry Madison. Many of your Presidents are standing there in review.



Picture of our walk-through of the Mess Hall and as you could see on the left, Sol Rosenblitt next to the cook; Hy Gutowitz; Hy Goldstein next; myself, looking into the pot; Sy Baron and Larry Kolarik - over 35 years ago.

69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 1990 REUNION

461st AAA BN. - 661st T.D. BN. - 777th TANK BN.

SHERATON VALLEY FORGE HOTEL - KING OF PRUSSIA, PA

AUGUST 12th to 19th, 1990

Registration form to be mailed to: **Robert J. Kurtzman Sr.**
P.O. Box 178, Wilmot, Ohio 44689 • Phone: 216/359-5487

I/we will attend the 69th Infantry Division Association Reunion at King of Prussia, (Valley Forge) Pennsylvania from August 12th to August 19th and will attend the following activities.

Name: _____
Street / R.D. / P.O. Box: _____
City / State / Zip: _____
Telephone / Area Code: _____ First Timer Second Timer Old Timer
Unit: _____ Wife's Name: _____
Guests: _____

* * * * *	Per Person	Number Persons	Amount
Weekly Events			
Registrations: Monday, August 13th - Friday, August 17th, 1990 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Check Bulletin Board for Wednesday Evening and Saturday Times		NO CHARGE	
Sunday, August 12th — Early Arrivals on your own.			
Monday, August 13th — Registration 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.			
Tuesday, August 14th — Historic Philadelphia and Valley Forge Tour. Leave Hotel at 9:00 A.M. Includes Lunch at Bistro Romano	\$ 30.00		\$ _____
Wednesday, August 15th — 9:00 A.M. - Executive Board of Directors Meeting Atlantic City Casino Tour. Leave Hotel mid-afternoon. Check Registration Desk for time	\$ 20.00		\$ _____
Thursday, August 16th — Brandywine Valley and Longwood Gardens Tour. Leave Hotel at 9:00 A.M. Return at 3:00 P.M. Early Bird Dinner and Show at Lily Langtrys at 5:00 P.M.	\$ 25.00 \$ 25.00		\$ _____ \$ _____
Friday, August 17th — Golf Tournament. (Information at Desk). Shopping - Plymouth Meeting Mall.(FREE Shuttle bus 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.) PX Beer Party - 9:00 P.M. to Midnight - Ticket Needed	\$ 5.00		\$ _____
Saturday, August 18th — Men's and Ladies General Meetings, 9:00 A.M. till Over. Coffee and Danish served. Banquet Dinner Dance - 6:30 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. Cash Bar 6:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Memorial Service 7:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. It is requested that everyone be seated by 7:00 P.M. for the Memorial Service. Dinner at 7:30 P.M.	\$ 31.00		\$ _____
Sunday, August 19th — Farewell Breakfast Buffet - 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. at Lily Langtrys	\$ 9.00		\$ _____
Replacement Cost for Lost or Broken Permanent Badges	\$ 3.00		\$ _____
Farewells and Departures - See you all next year.			
		Reunion Sub-Total	\$ _____

DUES

New Dues Year - August 1, 1990 to July 31, 1991

Regular Membership	\$ 5.00	\$ _____
Contributory Dues	\$10.00	\$ _____
Ladies Auxiliary	\$ 2.00	\$ _____
Postage and Bulletin Donation (up to you)		\$ _____
Camp Shelby Memorial Donation (up to you)		\$ _____
		Dues Sub-Total \$ _____
		Total Amount Paid \$ _____

Make Check or Money Order Payable to: **69th Infantry Division Association**

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY PAYMENT IN FULL — IF NOT — YOUR RESERVATION WILL BE LAID ASIDE UNTIL PAYMENT IS MADE AND THIS COULD RESULT IN YOUR REQUEST FOR SEATING AND FUNCTIONS BEING DENIED.

If you do not have a plastic badge from earlier Reunions, please check box.

Permanent badges will only be made if your request is accompanied by an advance prepaid Reservation. Failure to attend Reunion will result in a \$3.00 charge for each badge and will be deducted from your refund. Please fill out this form and mail them in with your check 30 days prior to the Reunion. If you do this, it will make our job much easier and save you time at the Registration Desk.

**69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 1990 REUNION
 43rd ANNUAL REUNION
 461st AAA BN. - 661st T.D. BN. - 777th TANK BN.
 KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA
 AUGUST 12th to 19th, 1990**

Reservations:

SHERATON VALLEY FORGE HOTEL
 N. Gulph Road and First Avenue
 King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406
 Telephone: 215/337-2000

HOUSING: Please reserve one of the following:

\$65.00 + Single _____ \$65.00 + Double - 2 persons _____ \$65.00 + Triple - 3 persons _____

\$65.00 + Quad - 4 persons _____ ALL REGULAR ROOMS - \$65.00 + 7% TAX = \$69.55

\$120.00 Suite 2 persons _____ Theme Suite - 2 persons _____ \$150.00-\$175.00 + 7% TAX

I / We plan to arrive (day) _____, August _____, 1990. (Check in after 3:00 P.M.)

I / We plan to depart (day) _____, August _____, 1990. (Check out time - 12:00 Noon)

I/We will be bringing guest(s) _____ Adults _____ Children

I/We wish to be quartered in the same area as: Unit _____

Send Confirmation to: (Please Type or Print)

Name: _____

Street / R.D. / P.O. Box: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Telephone / Area Code: _____

In order to Confirm Reservation, One of the Following Must Accompany This Form:

Check or Money Order (One Night's Lodging) Payable to the Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel, or Major Credit Card Number and Date of Expiration.

The following Credit Cards are accepted: American Express, Master Card, Visa Card, Diner's Club, Carte Blanche and Discover.

Credit Card Name _____ Number _____ Expires _____

I authorize Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel to make charges on my Credit Card.

Your Signature _____

If this form has been filled out by anyone other than the person for whom this reservation has been made, give the name, address and telephone of the person filling out the form.

Reservations must be received not later than three weeks in advance. If a particular type of room is unavailable, the next most suitable room will be assigned. No particular room, room type, or location can be guaranteed. Deposit returnable on 72 hours cancellation notice, before August 12, 1990.

Edward V. Guempel Sent Us This Great Nostalgic Piece Bring Back Any Memories?

Edward V. Guempel — H Company, 272nd Infantry Regiment - P.O. Box 3001, Linden, New Jersey 07036

The BBB'S MARCH TO THE SEA

BY PVT. IRVING NOVIK



AND I DON'T INTEND TO BUST!

OH BOY!

Ever walk a hundred miles to go swimming and then not swim? The B.B.B.'s did it!

Ever walk a hundred miles for a steak dinner and then eat six in a row? The B.B.B.'s did it!

Ever walk a hundred miles and then walk back again? The B.B.B.'s did it! Anyway it was better than the "D" Series. Of course, we'd rather have stayed in camp, but maybe those extra muscles we put on will come in handy one of these days chasing Hitler. (Don't let that start a rumor—honest I don't know whether we're going to chase Hitler or Hirohito.)

Some of the B's went sailing. Some went fishing. The rest went, "Woof! Woof!" The biggest sales in town were ice cream, steaks, and fresh milk. It's the truth!

We walked two hundred miles, we had a little fun, and we did a little growling. One thing we know—we're rugged, we're ready, and we can take it. How about it, Uncle Sam, got a job for us? A real job!

— A SPECIAL SERVICE PUBLICATION —

WE WOKE ONE MORNING TO FIND A HOST OF FEMMES HAD DESCENDED UPON OUR PICNIC GROUNDS



OH MIGOSH! WOMEN!

I THOUGHT A BIVOUAC AREA WAS A SOLDIER'S PRIVATE BOUDOIR!

YI! AND ME IN MY G.I.'S

WITH THE LOCAL G.I.'S OUT OF THE PICTURE, THE SIXTY-NINERS SOON TOOK OVER IN FINE STYLE



WOOF! WOOF! AR-DOOF!

WOOF! WOOF!

THE ONLY REASON NO ONE PAID ANY ATTENTION TO HER, WAS BECAUSE SHE REALLY WASN'T THERE!

SAILBOATS DOTTED THE GULF, FILLED WITH OUR BOYS TRYING THEIR HANDS BEFORE THE MAST — AT 25¢ A RIDE!



I'LL BE O.K. AS SOON AS I GET MY SEA-LEGS!

YEAH AN' WITH ALL MY EXPERIENCE ON THE STATEN ISLAND FERRY, THEY PUT ME INTO THE INFANTRY!

THE LAUNCHING AT PASCAGOULA WAS INTERESTING FROM MANY ANGLES!



BEAUTIFUL BOW! EH?

YEAH— AND NICE STERN TOO!



BILOXI BEACH CLUB

SOME OF THE BOYS HAD A RUN-IN WITH "ONE-ARM BANDITS" — BOTH SIDES SUFFERED CASUALTIES!

A LOT OF OUR BOYS ON PASS WERE LEFT BEHIND, WHEN THE SCHEDULE FOR MOVING THE DIVISION WAS CHANGED.....



LOOKIT— SOME POOR OUTFIT'S MOVIN' OUT IN THE RAIN!

POOR OUTFIT, MY EYE— (GLUG-CHOKE—) THAT'S OUR OUTFIT!

EVERYBODY DIDN'T WALK— YOU KNOW!

—NONE OF THIS TACTICAL STUFF FER ME!— AS LONG AS I CAN HAVE MY FIRE— YES SIR! THIS HAS SURE BEEN A PICNIC!



HIC!



EMBALLING INFANTRY ON THE SUBVERSIVE COMPANIES



Roll up your blankets, pack up your mess-kit in tin. Put on your "long-johns", see that your shoes are not thin. Strap on your helmet, pick up your rifle and run, Bolte's B's must go on bivouac. Till the war is won.

TUNE: "BEER BARREL POLKA"

On to Biloxi, Gulfport and Pass Christian! Hike down the highway, wade through the swamps if you can! Bolte has ordered his B's to bivouac again. Though the nights are cold and rainy, We must march once more.

Back to Camp Shelby, turn in the worn-out old gear! Close up the hutments we used for almost a year. On to maneuvers, prepare to go overseas. Send the word to Second Army. "Here come the "B. B. B.'s"

Division Association Chapters, Units, and Group Mini-Weekends Across the United States

We are interested in all news from Chapters, Groups, Branches, Companies, Battalions, Regiments, Recon, Artillery, AAA, T.D.'s and whatever, for this column, as it may help build up your events. Mail your date(s), location, banquet cost, and room rates, plus a good write-up, to Earl E. Witzleb, Jr., Box 69, Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069 or R.D. #1, Box 477, Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606, as early as possible. Then follow through with a write-up immediately after the event(s).

By now everyone should know where news material, article and pictures should be mailed. Your Coordinating Manager and Editor will do a superb job of handling it for you, our members.

Please Note:

Only two mini-weekend groups have stated that they will attend the reunion at King of Prussia (Valley Forge) and hold their mini with the division. Both of the groups are Field Artillery Units who are the 724th Battery C and 880th Headquarters Battery. Thanks Mr. Tritch and Mr. Turner from the 724th and Mr. O'Connor from the 880th. I was hoping more minis would have joined us this year since it is an off year for many of them. I am counting on you others to be in Biloxi, Mississippi next year, 1991, for the dedication of the 69th Memorial Monument which will list us all. Remember this week long reunion will be in September and the day to Camp Shelby will be well worth the trip with Guy Rogers and Merle Douglas putting it together. REMEMBER FIRST OF ALL, DOTTIE AND ME WILL SEE YOU AT VALLEY FORGE WHICH ENDS OUR FIRST YEAR OF A TWO YEAR VACATION. Thanks members for having me as your President.

* * * * *

Central Pennsylvania Branch

Frank and Arlene Carey, Chairpersons
4 Dennis Drive
Reinholds, Pennsylvania 17569
Telephone: 215/484-4974

Dear Fellow 69ers,

We want to thank each and everyone of you good people who responded to our recent letter and questionnaire. The responses and letters of encouragement were indeed very gratifying. We firmly believe that the Central Pennsylvania Branch is alive and well.

To those of you who have not responded as yet, it is not too late. To those of you who elect not to respond at all, I wish you well. Hopefully, some day you may change your mind.

Now, let us talk about our reunion in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, from November 15 to November 18, 1990. We are very pleased with the program that we put together. We will try our best to keep you busy and entertained with top notch entertainment, which we feel is suitable for all and at a reasonable price.

Before I get into the schedule, I want to make something clear with you folks. We certainly are not trying to sell or promote a COMPLETE PACKAGE. This reunion is no different from any others. You will receive a flyer in late August, listing the activities and prices. At this time, you select your activities of your choice and pay accordingly. You need not include lodging if you do not need it.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15th: Travel day; check-in time is 2:00 p.m. Hospitality room opens at 3:00 p.m. Hopefully, we will see most of you at this time. The hospitality room is large, seating at least 200 people. We will have lots of fun and camaraderie. Draft beer on tap but B.Y.O.B.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16th: Tour day: Depart A.M. for THREE MILE ISLAND NUCLEAR PLANT. This is a non-walking tour, very informative and most of all, SAFE. After the tour we stop for lunch and continue on to another site, which has yet to be determined. I am yet negotiating. Please note, I am writing this in March.

BANQUET: 7:00 p.m. Please note, we did not change the "traditional" Saturday night banquet on our own. We had no choice in order to have reasonable lodging rates. Hopefully, everyone can adjust their schedule in order to attend. We have two entrees to choose from and entertainment after the banquet that will knock your "socks" off.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17th: On your own till 7:30 p.m. Suggest you buddy buddy up with new friends and tour the surrounding area and shopping malls. Hospitality room opens at 1:00 p.m. till ??

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE: Entertainment including a Barber Shop Quartet that competes in national competition.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18th: We will say "so long" not good-bye. Hopefully, by this time we have agreed on a 1991 reunion site. We are open for any suggestions and ideas. It is not too early to plan.

That's all for now, folks. Hope to see most of you at Valley Forge in August.

If ever in our area, please look us up.

Best 69th regards,
Frank and Arlene

1990 69th Infantry Division 43rd Annual Reunion Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA August 12th thru 19th, 1990 DON'T MISS IT!!

(Continued on Page 40)

**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
UNITS, AND GROUP MINI-WEEKENDS
ACROSS THE UNITED STATES**

(Continued from Page 39)

Tri-State Group

TRI-STATE BLUE IS THE FAMILY GROUP

Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Western Maryland, Western New York, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

(Other States Invited Too)



Earl E. and Dottie Witzleb, Jr., *Coordinators*

R.D. No. 1, Box 477
Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606

or

P.O. Box 69
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069
Telephone: 412/455-2901

(Call anytime, day or night; weekends or holidays)

Exit 9 on the Pennsylvania Turnpike

*"The Family With Two Addresses — But One Home —
Welcome All 69ers — Stop In, Call, or Write"*

This bulletin will only be at the printers when we have our "Tri-State Weekend" so if you didn't make Elyria, we know and expect that you have been planning for Valley Forge (King of Prussia). Tri-Staters give first priority to the Division Association reunions. Even though Elyria is still weeks away, I can tell you Tri-Staters who missed it that **Jim Jones** and the **Butterfields** had one very good weekend planned for us. They have worked hard in making the arrangements and it will pay off for us all.

I have hopes that when we leave Elyria, we will know where our 1991 weekend will be. I have asked **Vaughn** and **Betty Woomer** to work with another couple and arrange a weekend for us in the Altoona, Pennsylvania area. I am sure there is much to see in that location.

Also I have talked with **George Murphy** and wife asking them to work with another couple or two and arrange a weekend for us at Meyersdale, Pennsylvania. This would probably be an earlier weekend for Tri-Staters since I asked them to arrange it for the Maple Syrup Festival in that area. Meyersdale is world-famous for its maple syrup making and will make an interesting weekend for us. So I am sure one or the other can be held in 1991 and the other in 1992 so we can be in good shape for the next two years.

We will not hold Fall weekends since the Central Pennsylvania Branch has changed their banquets from spring to fall and are hoping to make weekends out of them instead of only one day events. Any others who would like to hold Tri-State weekends in the spring (May or June), I am ready to listen to your suggestions and plans that would show us a good time. You know, Tri-State area covers several states and parts of others. We'll travel for we like to be together with all 69ers.

DOTTIE AND I INVITE ALL TRI-STATERS TO VISIT WITH US AT THE SHERATON PLAZA HOTEL IN AUGUST AT VALLEY FORGE (KING OF PRUSSIA.) **Frank, Dan,** and wives have a very good week-long reunion lined up. You'll all want to go to Atlantic City and break the machines. If no one else can do it, I know the 69ers have a way of doing it. The other tours are all interesting ones to take in especially Historic Philadelphia and Valley Forge, Brandywine Valley and Longwood Gardens, and the Early Bird Dinner Show at Lily Langtry's. Dottie and I hope to see you all.

880th Field Artillery C Battery

Lowell McFarlin, *News Reporter*
89 North High Street, Box 236
Jeromesville, Ohio 44840
Telephone: 419/368-7363

Boone, North Carolina

September 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th
1990 C-BATTERY REUNION

The time is fast approaching for another of our long awaited get-togethers. All indications point to a very good attendance, and the anticipation is mounting. So we hope all of you are setting aside the funds and the time period to make this another super reunion.

As was written in our last newsletter, **Lew and Fern** made a trip to the Comfort Inn at Boone and the vicinity and have made the necessary arrangements. So all is in order for us to have a very enjoyable time together. We will be arriving on Monday and departing on Friday. The bus tour is scheduled for Tuesday. **Lew** reports that there is much to see in Boone Country, so be prepared to enjoy the beautiful scenery.

At the last report, the cost of the entire package, including the dues, would be approximately \$325.00. This will cover the lodging, bus trip and lunch, dinner on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings. The Inn will provide a complimentary breakfast each morning.

We will ask each one of you to be prepared to send in your registration as soon as you receive it. It should be sent around the last of July or the first of August as the Inn would like a confirmation 30 days in advance. As has been customary, the entire agenda will be sent to you along with the registration form. See you in September.

President Willie asks that everyone give some thought to the place and dates for our 1991 reunion. We need your input on this - even those who will not be able to attend this year. There could be many possibilities, such as: St. Mary's, Greensburg, Reading, Ohio and also the consideration of joining the 69th Division Association for the reunion at Camp Shelby. I'm sure you all received the 69th Bulletin and have read where the 69th will be presenting a monument to Camp Shelby. I personally feel that it would be a real thrill to see the old camp once again. Think it over and be prepared to give your opinion on a place for 1991.



GOD BLESS YOU ALL,
ROUNDS
COMPLETED

Earl's Note: Nice thinking **President Willie**. Please do consider going back to Camp Shelby next year (1991) and join the 69th Division at its annual reunion in Biloxi. That should bring back memories too. I know you'll be joining other units like the 724th Field Artillery Battery C, Company A, E, and H of the 273rd Infantry, 269th Engineers, and many other units which I am expecting to come to the SOUTH. Get the ball rolling C Battery.

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**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
UNITS, AND GROUP MINI-WEEKENDS
ACROSS THE UNITED STATES**

(Continued from Page 40)

Company A, 273rd Infantry

H. Ray Fahrner, *News Reporter*
Forge Gate Apartments, 33E1
Lansdale, Pennsylvania 18446
Telephone: 215/855-9696



In the last Bulletin, I noticed that **Pierce Rice's** name was added to the committee of the Camp Shelby Monument Memorial. **Pierce** is Communication Sergeant in A Company. **Pierce** is well known in art circles for his awards for executing works in heroic decor, such as the great bronze medallion on the facade of the Phillip Morris Building in midtown Manhattan.

Pierce has two murals hanging in the Ceremonial Court of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. These feature the decor of the White House's interior design during certain periods in its long history.

Pierce is a teacher of perspective and ornament drawing at the New York Academy of Design. **Pierce** with his wife, **Marilyn**, resides in Arlington, Virginia. (Excerpts taken from Times-Sentinel, Pomeroy, Ohio).

On a sadder note, I received word from **Mrs. Helen Gruber** that her husband, **John**, passed away February 23, 1990. **John** only made one reunion - Tri-State in Erie, Pennsylvania. He was really looking forward to attending the National at Valley Forge.

269th Engineers

Frank and Ted Nemeth, *Coordinators*
66 Gaping Rock Road
Levittown, Pennsylvania 19057
Telephone: 215/945-3809

Hope this finds you all in good health and everything going along fine. Also hope you have signed up for the 69th Division reunion at Valley Forge, PA. We have so many guys in the four companies who



live within 300 miles of the reunion site that we could have a record turnout for the 269th. The most we have had was roughly 23 guys and some of them have passed on, but we still have a lot of you guys who, for some reason, just won't attend. I'm sure after you make one or two, you'll be a regular since it is also an ideal vacation. Now would be a good time to contact some buddy you used to run around with in Camp Shelby or overseas. He'll be glad to hear from you and also to see you once again. It's a great feeling, believe me!! So — do try and make it, even if it's only for a few days or hours. I'm sure you'll meet someone who you'll remember and he'll remember you also. This is the last one on the east coast for a while, since next year it'll be Biloxi, Mississippi and then most likely in upstate New York. This is right in your back yard, so to speak.

Enclosed is a photo of a jeep that was restored by **John Kurey** from H&S Company. It really was done well and I'm sure brought tears to all the old jeep drivers eyes. The photo of **John Corley** and **Bob Cornell** was taken at Camp Shelby while we still had leggings. I can't recall that much grass around the huts though. The photo of the company clerks was taken on the march to the sea on March 7, 1944 near Wiggins, Mississippi. Then we had our reliable medics watching over us and **Warren Truman** did a fine job of that while with Company B. Sure glad I never had to use their services while overseas. Meaning not getting wounded or ill. Thank God for that!!

If any of you guys want to send photos or stories in to the Bulletin, please do. I'm sure you guys from H&S, A Company and C Company have a lot of photos also, so feel free to send them in for all of us to see.

Well, take care and sure hope to see you at Valley Forge in August. It will be a good time and fine tours for everyone.

Your "ole" buddie,
Frank



John Corley and Robert Cornell, Company B

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**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
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Jeep that was restored by John Kurey of H&S Company.



*269th Medics
Left to right: Unknown and Warren Truman.*



*Back Row: Oscar Blum and Warren Wahaske.
Front Row: Henry Rosenberg and John Pontieri.
H&S and B Company, 269th Engineers.*

**269th ENGINEERS COMBAT BATTALION
CAMP SHELBY, MISSISSIPPI**

The following lists the names of the men of B Company, C Company and Medics who were at Camp Shelby on Activation Day, May 5, 1943.

B COMPANY

Engle, Charles E.	1st/Sgt.
Dunnum, Vernel O.	S/Sgt.
Hess, George R.	S/Sgt.
Huggins, Willard E.	S/Sgt.
Johnson, George W.	S/Sgt.
Sample, Jr., W. P.	S/Sgt.
Strick, Raymond R.	S/Sgt.
Douglas, Lloyd O.	Sgt.
Hodson, Luther W.	Sgt.
Zeiger, Ralph B.	T/4
Tomlinson, Darvin G.	Cpt.
McMain, Leonard D.	T/5
Moore, Bernie F.	T/5
Burton, John L.	Pvt.
Dady, Elwin E.	Pvt.
Dahill, Raymond C.	Pvt.
Evers, Daniel (NMI)	Pvt.
Fitzgerald, Jr., John A.	Pvt.
Foster, Caleb H.	Pvt.
Foust, Billie L.	Pvt.
Krause, Ernest H.	Pvt.
McGraw, Walter M.	Pvt.
McGregor, Stuart A.	Pvt.
Miketish, Robert F.	Pvt.
Moose, John K.	Pvt.
O'Connor, Michail D.	Pvt.
Pentimall, Charles T.	Pvt.
Riley, James F.	Pvt.
Ritchey, Robert H.	Pvt.
Sculthorp, George W.	Pvt.
Tobin, William	Pvt.
Wrightstone, Clyde E.	Pvt.

C COMPANY

Pare, Joseph A. E.	1st/Sgt.
Arnold, William J.	S/Sgt.
Bryant, Eddie T.	S/Sgt.
Doran, John G.	S/Sgt.
Hutchinson, John	S/Sgt.
Parker, William H.	S/Sgt.
Welch, Cecil C.	S/Sgt.
Lamberson, Arthur L.	S/Sgt.
Weppler, Jack K.	Sgt.
Ryden, Nils H.	T/4
Bubanovich, Edward E.	Cpt.
Anderson, Rudolph C.	T/5
Palmer, James J.	T/5
Barton, Chester G.	Pvt.
Boles, Maxwell	Pvt.
Cosby Jr., Robert S.	Pvt.
Edinger, Charles J.	Pvt.
Harvey, James P.	Pvt.
Holler, Jermite W.	Pvt.
Layman, Kirby M.	Pvt.
Lowchuck, William	Pvt.
McMullen, Robert I.	Pvt.
Miller, Paul L.	Pvt.
Mou, Oscar M.	Pvt.
Ott, Herbert A.	Pvt.
Pisarchick, Michael	Pvt.
Robinson, Samuel G.	Pvt.

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**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
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(Continued from Page 42)

**269th ENGINEERS COMBAT BATTALION
CAMP SHELBY, MISSISSIPPI**

C COMPANY (continued)

Rost, Hebert F. Pvt.
Ryglinski, Vincent S. Pvt.
Shiley, Clyde D. Pvt.

MEDICS

Ham, Lester W. S/Sgt.
McCorry, Leroy E. T/4
Hulsey, Charles T. T/5
Lind, Merrill W. T/5
Engle, Leroy E. Pvt.
Arscott, John G. Pvt.
Simpson, Billy K. Pvt.

**Headquarters Company,
2nd Battalion,
273rd Infantry**

Victor Ostrow, *News Reporter*
1612 Lemontree Lane
Silver Springs, Maryland 20904
Telephone:

Congratulations! I know you will do a good job as our new President of the Association, and carry on the tradition of the Fighting 69th. Bill Foster did a terrific job as President, and has handed the gavel to you. Under your capable leadership the reunions should get bigger and better. I have been attending each one for the past four years. Valley Forge being our next site should help to swell attendance to one thousand or more. Your newsletters are very informative - always read your columns with great enthusiasm.

Several months have elapsed since our mini reunion in Bethesda, Maryland. The Shiffners, Ostrows, Hespenshides, the Whitleys and the Schindlers were in attendance. A great time with our wives enjoying the hospitality of the Schindlers who were our hosts in their house. A great time of fun and frolic - hoping to have others in the future.

I was recently appalled at the desecration of our synagogues, churches and university in our vicinity. Anti-Semitism - Nazi graffiti - and destruction of school property. Should we speak up and report individuals who perpetrate such attacks or tolerate such actions? Are we seeing a recurrence of criminal activities that brought about indifference to human behavior? Violent behavior fueled the fires in Germany in World War II. Must we report these individuals - skin heads or others that are the cause of bigotry, hate and violence or anti-semitism? As a member of a Jewish War Veterans organization we report such acts to our National Headquarters. Upon apprehension and conviction the individual who reports such action receives an automatic two thousand dollar reward. Let's continue to uphold the ideals of this great country for which we fought. Change is finally taking shape in Europe. The Berlin Wall has finally come down - dramatic events in Communist countries of Europe. The peoples voices are being heard around the world for a Democratic Society - right over might.

My best wishes to Dottie and you for a happy healthy 1990. See you in Valley Forge.

Sincerely,
Victor Ostrow

RECEIVED THIS SECOND LETTER FROM VICTOR OSTROW ON ANOTHER MINI REUNION.

**Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 273rd
Mini Reunion Group, April 23, 24, 25, 1990
Sheraton Hotel - Frederick, Maryland**

Six months have passed and a second reunion of our group included Mr. and Mrs. Ostrow, Mr. and Mrs. Schiffner, Mr. and Mrs. Schindler, Mr. and Mrs. Whitley and Mr. and Mrs. Hespenshide. Hopefully news in the bulletin will bring other members together and swell our ranks which were started from a modest beginning. Valley Forge should make this a reality. So get on the bandwagon 69ers and make this an ongoing event.

Monday's itinerary meeting included lunch at historic Barbara Fritchie Inn at the foot of the Sugar Loaf Mountains. An inspiring view of the beautiful rolling hills and countryside. A small reminder of our last reunion in Colorado with its awe and colorful mountains. There is something about mother nature which cannot be duplicated anywhere in the world. In the evening we toured the downtown section of Frederick and had dinner at the Brown Pelican. Everyone enjoyed this unusual gourmet dinner. Incidentally, my good friend Ted Schiffner and his wife Ursula were kind enough to escort all of us in their new camper van. It was nice to just sit back and relax and enjoy the countryside.

Tuesday we went on a trip to Harper's Ferry, West Virginia. Buildings which are still intact, the old trestle railroad that ferried Confederate and Union troops between the Shenandoah and Potomac Rivers dominated by the Blue Ridge Mountains. Stores and homes still standing since the 1700's. Pictures and descriptions of the Civil War, the insurrection of John Brown - leader of the opposition to slavery, and was finally condemned by hanging. Upon our return to the hotel we sat around the pool reminiscing about the old days. Many of the guys memories are still very sharp remembering everything that happened 45 years ago.

Wednesday was a trip to New Market, Maryland - a quaint little town noted for it's many antique shops and homes still existing after 200 or more years. The tour lasted several hours. Returned to Frederick and toured the business section with it's many interesting shops. Evening we dined at a Chinese restaurant, also an exceptional meal. Our trip was well planned, and credit must be given to Ted Schiffner who arranged most of the affair.

Let's keep the ball rolling. Perhaps the next bulletin will bring more members into our fold. Look forward to seeing our many friends in Valley Forge. Till we meet again and let's get together for the largest reunion we will have ever held. Best of luck to all and good health.

Sincerely,
Victor Ostrow

See following page for pictures of their Maryland Reunion.

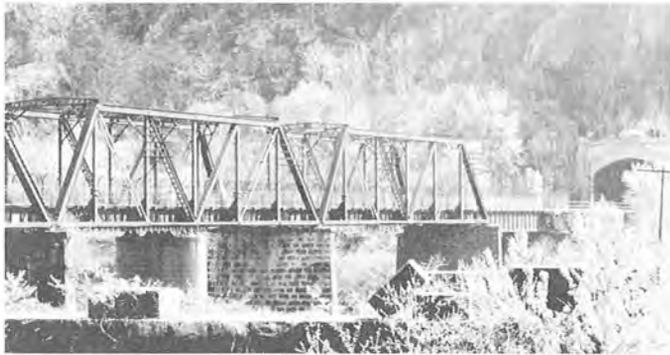
Earl's Note: Two mini weekends in six months. I am glad to read that the group plans on being at Valley Forge in August. That's what it's all about. Who are Mr. and Mrs. Hespenshide? Do we have them on our roster for I can't find them on it. Please send me their address if they aren't for they are probably not getting bulletins. Could they be just friends of you folks?

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Garnet Whitley, Bob Hespenshide, and Ted Schiffner with the ladies at the outside of the hotel in Frederick, Maryland.



Railroad Trestle, Harpers Ferry



Town of Harpers Ferry as it appeared in 1889.



General Store - New Market, Maryland



Dry Good Store and Provost Marshall Office - Harpers Ferry



Bob Hespenshide and Ted Schiffner along with the ladies at Harpers Ferry.



Homes - Harpers Ferry

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**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
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Company D, 272nd Infantry

Jack and Lucille Burrus, Coordinators and News Reporters
R.D. #1, Box 99
Arenzville, Illinois 62611
Telephone: _____ Please send to Earl.

My wife and I just returned from a few weeks at Marco Island, Florida. We enjoyed having friends and family visit with us, but like our Company D, 272nd reunion in Bardstown, Kentucky, it was rather "bittersweet." Harry Hagan was to be the host for that reunion but passed away in March. His widow Louise and family and the Ed Heckels of Louisville, Kentucky stepped in and hosted a terrific reunion as scheduled. Unfortunately I would now like to request that you publish Ed's name in the Taps column of the Bulletin.

The other side of the coin was a reunion with Lou Pohopek, an old buddy of the company. Following his letter to our bulletin, I got in touch with Lou and arranged for a get-together in Florida. He came down to Marco and stayed over night with us and I think we talked literally non-stop for 24 hours with just a little time off to sleep. The ironic twist though was the fact that as we walked the beach that afternoon I had described the 1989 reunion to Lou in detail then when we returned to the house my wife handed me a letter and said, "Sad news, Ed Heckel has died." It was a letter from our former Company Commander, Lowell Jackson of Fort Wayne, Indiana. Lowell had driven down to Louisville to attend the funeral and to serve as pall bearer. Ed will be sorely missed by all his buddies. He and his wife Friedel were fixtures at our reunion.

Jack Burrus

Earl's Note: Sorry to hear of the two deaths from Company D, 272nd Infantry. Dottie and my sympathy are shared with your members.

We are now at a time when all mini weekends and also our own Division Association reunion should have two couples or even three that are co-hosts for the events. We need more who know what's going on so that when an emergency happens, another can step in and keep the weekend or reunion week running smoothly. To some extent we have partially done this with the Division Association but further steps need to be taken with other officers at the division level. It's going too good now to let it fall apart due to an unavoidable accident.

I invite Company D and all mini weekend groups to join us at Valley Forge this year in August. We should have an overflow of members attending. I invite you all to join Dottie and me and come visit us at our room for an evening chit chat each night after activities end.

B Battery, 880th Field Artillery

Richard Cottle, News Reporter
2750 Buchanan Street, N.E.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55418
Telephone: _____ Please send to Earl.

A picture of some of us Battery B boys at the motor pool in Merseburg right after the war ended and we had to turn it over to the Russians.

From right to left is John Brown, myself and Roy Wilcox. I wish I could remember the names of the others. John wrote me that his sister who was a Navy Wave was murdered in Chicago about the time he came home. It was called the

lipstick murder. Hope you can use the picture. It would be nice to see the boys again. Thanks for doing a great job.

Richard Cottle



Company E, 273rd Infantry



Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.
President, 69th Division Association

Coordinator and News Reporters
R.D. No. 1, Box 477
Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606
or
P.O. Box 69
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069
Telephone: 412/455-2901

**"THE FAMILY WITH TWO ADDRESSES — BUT
ONE HOME — WELCOME ALL 69ers — STOP IN, CALL,
OR WRITE." Exit 9 — Pennsylvania Turnpike**

Davisson F. Dunlap, CO
1601 CNA Building
Orlando, Florida 32802
Telephone: 305/849-0300 (Office)
or
795 McIntyre Avenue
Winter Park, Florida 32789
Telephone: 305/645-0154 (Home)

"When in Florida or Orlando Area - Visit the Dunlaps"

This is the year, E Company, if you want to see your old buddies from World War II and some 40 plus years ago. Philadelphia National Airport has all major airlines flying in and out of it and all interstate highways can get you to Valley Forge. Amtrack is close by and all major bus lines go through Philadelphia. If you fly make sure when you pick up your baggage that you look for the Liberty Cab or Van. They

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should have an emblem of the 69th and will take you to the hotel for \$11.00 which is much cheaper than the regular cab or limo. The 82nd Airborne used this outfit last year.

Since a large portion of our roster comes from the east and mid-west, I look for a good turnout. Besides myself, I am sure old standbys from last year will be there like the Aiellos, Humes, Matlachs, Shires and Webb. I am looking forward to seeing all you others like Naticak, Orlovski, Snyder, Winnicki, Bartha, Baumgarten, Belousovitch, Beshore, Borovy, Connor, Cooper, Crippen, Dicke, Dionne, Dremel, Edwards, Eslow, Estay, Farris, Ferguson, Ferrer, Forrester, Gleason, Gooding, Greene, Haynes, Higgins, Huston, Kirk, LaQua, Leitzman, Madderson, Mariano, Mehner, Moe, Morgan, Murello, O'Keefe, Poole, Purdy, Stanton, Stewart, Tripp, William, Wood and any other Company member that I might have missed. We will be glad to have you all and I am sure if you attend one reunion, you'll probably be back again and again. Oh yes, I am hopeful that we will have our CO Davisson Dunlap in attendance.

As you all know we joined ranks with Company A of the 273rd Infantry in Denver last year for our Friday evening dinner and they outnumbered us by a few. This year we want to outnumber them by quite a few. They are pushing for new first timers too so what do you say E Company. Will I see you in Valley Forge? Ray Fahrner of A Company will set up our dinner at a nearby restaurant and living in that area he should come up with a first class place. Later that evening we can drop in on the beer party and you are invited to Dottie and my room for a quick last one before retiring for the evening whatever time that might be. If you haven't already sent in your reservations to the hotel for a room and to Robert Kurtzman, our Treasurer, for the activities you wish to attend, do it right now before you lay this bulletin aside. You'll find the forms you need in the centerfold of this bulletin and it will be your last chance to attend Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

I hope all E Company members are paying dues each year to receive these fine bulletins the Association puts out three times a year. If not, 1990 would be a good year to start paying them. Five or ten dollars for you, the member, and two dollars for your wife to become a member of our fine Ladies Auxiliary group. They have a very good meeting Saturday morning with a special guest each year.

Don't do as many have done in the past. I receive letters from wives saying we have been planning to attend a reunion one of these years and were looking forward to this year but my husband passed away suddenly. Don't let this happen to you members of E Company, 273rd Infantry.

SEE YOU AND WIFE PLUS FAMILY, IF YOU WISH TO BRING THEM ALONG IN AUGUST AT THE SHERATON PLAZA HOTEL. YOU ARE ALSO INVITED TO BRING GUESTS SHOULD YOU GO PLACES WITH FRIENDS. REMEMBER YOU CAN SHARE A ROOM SINCE THEY ALL HAVE TWO BEDS IN THEM. THIS REDUCES THE COST FOR ALL CONCERNED. SOME HAVE BEEN DOING IT IN THE PAST.

777th Tank Battalion

Joseph Ziminski, News Reporter

120 Old Cranberry
Hazelton, Pennsylvania 18201

Telephone: _____ Please send to Earl.

In case Sergeant John Shiffer, Jr., R.D. 1, Box 151, Elliottsburg, Pennsylvania 17024, would like to get in touch with me, my address is above.

Joseph Ziminski



Headquarters Company of the 777th Tank Battalion

From left, Sergeant Schlorf of Pennsylvania, Private Simon of New York. Center is a Russian we liberated from a German camp. His name is Boris. He helped with kitchen K.P. Next is Private Hazelton of Detroit and Sergeant Joseph Ziminski of Hazelton, Pennsylvania.



777th Tank Battalion, Company B: Alex Zubrowski, left and Joe Plazinski, right somewhere in Germany.

Earl's Note: It's nice getting 777th Tank Battalion news even if it is only a line. For a long time we haven't received any news from you fellows. I know Sergeant Shiffer will read your address but I also listed his address in case you would want to get in touch with him. It would be nice if you fellows would get together and come to our annual reunion at Valley Forge this year in August. You can read about it in other parts of this bulletin but hurry, for time is running out.

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69th Cavalry Recon Troop

Lewis "Boyd" and Stella Ellsworth, *Coordinators*
R.D. #1, Knoxville Road
Steubenville, Ohio 43952
Telephone: 614/282-2327

Charles E. and Barbara Fox, *Chairpersons*
1105-D Spring Street, 1st Floor
Silver Springs, Maryland 20910

BACK TO THE SCENE THIS WILL BE MUSIC TO YOUR EARS!!

**Our 39th Annual Recon Troop Reunion
will be held Wednesday, October 10,
to Sunday, October 14,
in New Orleans, Louisiana**

Our Headquarters will be the Clarion Hotel, 1500 Canal Street. The Clarion is a sizable but friendly hotel. It is located very close to exits from the Interstate 10 freeway and on an azimuth of 178 degrees from I-10. And the Clarion is situated downtown, in easy reach of the many sights and amusements and shopping which you will want to visit while in New Orleans.

Back in 1952, a handful of us fellows and wives met in a small apartment one weekend. People attending all came from the Eastern Area to Washington, D.C. One person cooked and served the Saturday supper and guided all 10 of us around the local historic sights the next morning. Since then our Reunion has grown and evolved until last year almost fifty men and wives gathered from Wednesday through Sunday in Orlando. People flew or drove in from as far away as Spokane, the West Coast, Texas, Mississippi, South Florida, the East Coast, and Massachusetts. Our Troop area was a 21-story hotel; we filled a bus for an all-day guided tour to Cape Canaveral Space Center; and we strolled informally into Saturday dinner in our private hotel dining room while Bob Fuller played "When the Saints Go Marching In" on his travel trumpet.

Last month the two of us went to New Orleans to reconnoitre the area. We stayed in the Clarion Hotel, we talked to its accommodations people, we discussed our reunion's needs with the catering people and Gray Line Sightseeing, we took two sightseeing tours, we walked around and also rode bus and streetcar and riverboat around the riverfront and the historic area and the quaint parts of the city, we explored the zoo and several large and enjoyable shopping malls, and we tried out restaurants. Bobbie studied her travel agent's references before we went down there, and we had read travel books.

The following are the arrangements we have made.

We will have our own bus or buses for a City Tour of New Orleans including the Superdome, and we will sail on the Mississippi on the Steamboat Natchez. The Clarion provides its own complimentary bus transportation from the Hotel to the French Quarter and to Riverwalk (an immense building on the waterfront filled with shops and restaurants) and to several shopping malls, every hour 10:00 a.m. to midnight. There is bus transportation available from the airport to the hotel at a reasonable cost and valet parking is available with the hotel or at parking lots within a block of the hotel. The Clarion has a very nice and good dining room - Pralines - and a new 24 hour Deli for eat in or take out (good food and reasonable), a lovely Lobby bar (beware of drink named the Hurricane), and an informal bar in the Deli. We will have our

Saturday night dinner in the hotel in our private dining room, and buffet breakfasts Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings in our private dining room. We will have a Hospitality Room available Wednesday through Saturday with drinks and snacks.

Because of the size and the complexity of our gatherings these days, we will need everyone who attends to pay in advance; and that will include everything we've listed above and below, and also include taxes and tips and your hotel room.

As you can see, we are combining the togetherness and informality of our friendly, unique "family" with the goodies which a sizeable group can obtain. We'll all be together a lot; but there will be plenty of opportunity for individuals or small groups to explore or dine or just sit around at their convenience. Remember, on alcohol, let's follow our agreement of some years standing - those who want to drink alcohol, please bring your own.

You won't need a car to get around New Orleans; parking (as in any large city) is difficult, you can walk to some places, the Clarion's own bus will take you to lots of places, public bus (in front of the hotel) and streetcar fares are only 20 cents for Senior Citizens (over 65 and bring your Medicare Card for proof), and taxicabs are plentiful and reasonable in price. If you are an AAA Member, the free "Citibook" of New Orleans and also the free AAA "New Orleans and Vicinity" map are very useful, we used them to good advantage, and we also recommend a paper-back called "Fodor's '90 New Orleans" (bookstores sell it for about \$10).

There's lots to see and do and hear in New Orleans! Many of you may remember. AND there are lots of your wonderful, unique, decent, friendly Recon Troopers and their wives to visit with and talk with, as you certainly do remember. Come to New Orleans in October. You'll ENJOY.

69th RECON TROOP 1990 REUNION PACKAGE

**Clarion Hotel New Orleans, Louisiana
October 10-14, 1990**

INCLUDED in the package are the following:

- 5 Days/4 Nights Hotel Room Accommodations
- Hotel Shuttle Bus to French Quarter, Riverwalk, and Shopping, hourly, 10:00 a.m. to Midnight, every day
- Recon Hospitality Room Wednesday to Sunday with drinks/snacks
- Buffet Breakfast Thursday, Friday, and Saturday mornings: (Assorted fruit juices, sliced melons, miniature croissants with ham, swiss cheese, danish, assorted fruit breads, muffins, coffee, tea) in Private Dining Room.
- City Sightseeing Tour on our own Bus, including a tour of the Louisiana Superdome.
- Dixieland Jazz Mississippi River Cruise on the Steamboat "Natchez."
- Saturday Evening Sit-Down Dinner (salad, choice of prime rib or grilled red snapper (with shrimp, olives and artichoke hearts), vegetables, dessert, beverage) in our Private Dining Room.
- All Local Taxes and Gratuities on the above. (New Orleans has an 11% tax, and a \$1.00 per night room tax.)

SINGLE \$360.00 PER PERSON
TWIN/KING \$236.00 PER PERSON
TRIPLE \$197.00 PER PERSON

Deposit of \$25.00 per person by August 1, 1990.

Balance due on or before September 10, 1990.

Please make out check to: Barbara Fox Tours
2110 Spencer Road
Silver Springs, Maryland 20910
Telephone: (301) 585-6384

Your Hosts For New Orleans
Charles and Barbara Fox

(Continued on Page 48)

News from Earl, the Prez

Clarence Marshall, my other half of the bulletin, has been hospitalized once again and may not have too much material in this bulletin. His editor's column may be small this time, but he'll get it caught up again in the next bulletin. He was in for 15 days this time with an infection.

Chalmer Pearson, my Vice President, has been in a South Bend, Indiana hospital just recently over the Mid-West group's weekend. Hopefully, Chalmer is home now and doing well.

If you wish, members, send them cards of encouragement but I am sure both of them will be in Valley Forge in August. Come to the reunion and visit with them and all of us. 69th Division members are nice people to know.

HELP NEEDED

Copy of Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 273rd Infantry photo would be much appreciated by John T. Mihm.

I was one of the original 69th Division members. I came to Camp Shelby the first part of June, 1943 and was assigned to Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 273rd Regiment. I spent 11 months with the 69th in the Communication Section, to be exact, the Wire Section.

In May, 1944, I was transferred out to England as a replacement. "D" day plus 14 I crossed the channel and was assigned to G Company, 314th Regiment, 79th Division. Can you imagine being assigned to a Rifle Company having no training as a rifleman? I soon learned. I was with the 79th clear across France, Germany and Holland. We traveled through Europe with Patton's 3rd Army. At the end of the war I was transferred to the 99th to be sent home as I had enough points.

It seems that 9s had a lot to do with my life. I finished high school in 39, served in the Army with the 69th, 79th, and 99th. Then I finished college in 1949.

I enjoy receiving the 69th Association bulletin. I read it from cover to cover hoping sometime to see something about Headquarters, 3rd Battalion, 273rd Regiment.

In the last issue I saw company pictures of several companies at Shelby in 1943. I had one of my company but we had a house fire and I lost all my Army things. I was wondering if anyone would have a copy of this picture. (Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 273rd Regiment) I would like to have a copy if at all possible. Maybe you or someone else might know where I could get one.

Well, this is about enough about me. I can't make either reunion this year. Keep up the good work with your bulletin and hope to hear from you.

Yours,
John T. Mihm
916 Pittsburgh Street
Scottsdale, Pennsylvania 15683

Cornerstones

A kind word is never lost. It keeps going on and on, from one person to another, until at last it comes back to you again.

'Ruptured Duck' was military award for service



Question: What is a Ruptured Duck?

Answer: "Ruptured Duck" is the nickname given in World War II to the lapel button for honorable military service between the years from September 8, 1939 to December 31, 1946.

The lapel button was designed for the War Department in the 1920s by Anthony de Francisci in consultation with the Fine Arts Commission.

The design consist of an eagle perched within a ring displaying seven white and six red vertical stripes and on a blue background, the words "National Defense." The right wing of the eagle is behind the ring, the left wing is in front of the ring.

The first lapel buttons were made of cellulose acetate. A blue plastic model was made when metal was scarce — this design eliminated former colors and the words "National Defense." When metal was no longer scarce, the button was made of gold-plated brass. Veterans could exchange the plastic model for the gold-plated brass.

As of December 20, 1946, the lapel button was named "Honorable Service Lapel Button."

It's thought the phrase "Ruptured Duck" was coined by some who thought the eagle resembled an injured bird. But both the original and the originator of the phrase are unknown. GIs continue to refer to the emblem, however, as a "Ruptured Duck."

New Dues Year Begins August 1, 1990

Regular Membership	\$ 5.00
Contributory Dues	\$10.00
Ladies Auxiliary	\$ 2.00

**SEND YOUR DUES IN NOW!
WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!**

Glenn Felner Appointed as Honorary Consul to the Republic of Rwanda

Glenn Felner served with Company E of the 271st Regiment and the I&R Platoon

* * * * *

Rwanda trip turns tourist into diplomat

DAILY HERALD

Thursday, October 12, 1989

BY DWAYNE T. WONG
Daily Herald Business Correspondent

Glenn L. Felner visited Africa a year ago to study gorillas.

But the trip meant so much to him that he has ended up promoting tourism in the east central nation of Rwanda, which served as the location for the movie, "Gorillas in the Mist."

The small country's ambassador to the United States and minister of foreign affairs visited Felner's Rolling Meadows based estate planning office Wednesday to officially designate Glenn L. Felner and Company the first U.S.-based "honorary counsel" for Rwanda.

The designation gives Felner authority to grant visas and promote tourism in the African country.

"I went over to visit with the gorillas, and I met them (government officials) and one thing led to another," said



The Daily Herald

Felner, 63, a resident of Glencoe.

"By having a consulate here, we will mainly be in a position to promote commercial things and tourism, and it's a way for Rwanda to make herself visible," said Casimir Bizimugu, minister of foreign affairs for Rwanda.

Rwanda's Ambassador Aloys Uwimana said, "Felner will not only cover Chicago, but it will cover the whole Midwest to promote tourism."

Felner said to be named an honorary counsel for Rwanda that nation's government had to submit his application to the U.S. State Department who investigated him before giving its approval to the move.

Rwanda became an independent state in 1952, and its official language is French.

Formerly, the country was a colony of Germany and later Belgium.

It has a democratic government.

Do You Remember This Photo

The photo below must have appeared some years ago in the bulletin. When it was published, we made a plea for some identification of the men in the photo. A. Hopkins sent us the identity of most of the men. Although the picture is dark and a little blurry, we thought perhaps you would remember it and enjoy knowing who these men are.



"Met the Russians"

Line crew attached to the 272nd Infantry Regiment.
Front Row: Left to Right - Charles White, a Russian Soldier, Carl Moritz, and an unknown. Back Row: Clifford Flick, Henry Babcock and Sergeant Malcolm.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

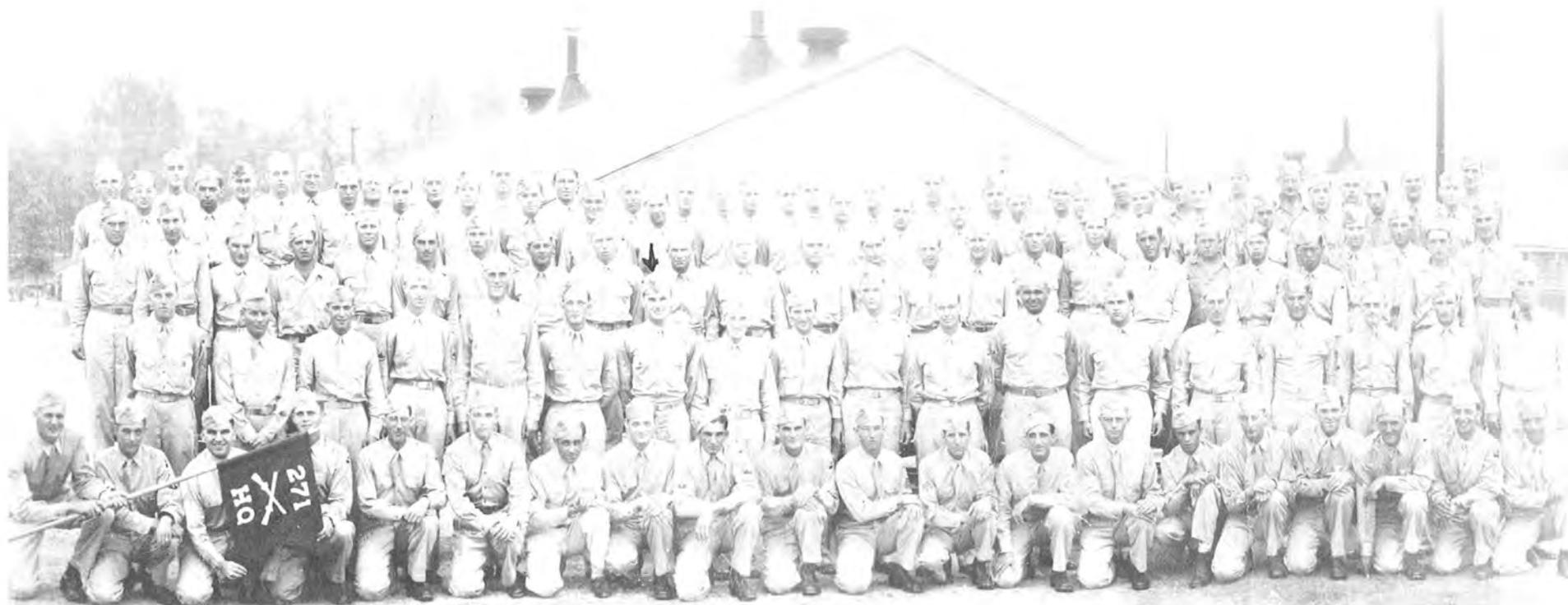
From Your President

Please members, if you have any information for the 69th Infantry Division History Book that you are sending in, use the following address:

69th Infantry Division History Book
Turner Publishing Company
Post Office Box 3101
Paducah, Kentucky 42002-3101
Telephone: 502/443-0121 or 0128

**DO NOT MAIL MATERIAL TO
CLARENCE AT NATIONAL
HEADQUARTERS OR
TO EARL WITZLEB, PRESIDENT.**

It may get lost or mislaid, so handle it yourself by sending it to the address above.



Regimental Headquarters, 271st Infantry Regiment Camp Shelby, Mississippi September, 1943

Picture Furnished by:
Brigadier General J. McKinley Gibson, USA Retired



Kenneth D. Hull submitted the two small photos on bottom.
The Towers, #712-A, 5404 Montgomery N.E., Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109
Company I, 272nd Infantry Regiment

*Lt. Raymond Koppick on bottom.
Kenneth Hull doing the handstand.*

*Kenneth D. Hull holding Lt. Raymond
Koppick. Man on bottom unknown.*



Yes, it was war, but the colonel insisted on his personal toilet

From THE SAN DIEGO UNION MARCH 10, 1990
By R. H. Growald Submitted by Chester Yastrzemski



Gene H. Hundhausen
World War II Veteran

One day in World War II, he got lost with 200 German prisoners.

Another day, he tried to tell a Russian soldier it was no good to keep a live fish in a toilet bowl.

But mostly in Gene H. Hundhausen's war there was the colonel.

"The colonel led my regiment in the 69th Division. In World War I, the division was called the 'Fighting 69th.' James Cagney made a movie about it.

"In World War II, we called ourselves the 'Frightened 69th.' No one ever made a movie

about us. Our colonel was no Cagney," says Hundhausen.

"He was a West Point man. Everywhere we went through Germany, the colonel had his big white personal toilet carted along on a truck.

"Anywhere we were, in the woods, by some river, in snow, sleet and dead of night, the colonel would have the men set up his toilet. They'd ring it with a fence the regiment also carried along.

"The colonel liked his privacy," says Hundhausen.

As a first lieutenant, Hundhausen says, he often was anxious not to have the colonel pestered in his privacy about certain matters. Like the time Hundhausen and eight GIs were herding 200 captured German soldiers.

He aimed to hike the prisoners back a few miles from the front to the colonel's headquarters and hand the prisoners over to the military police.

"The first day we made 12 miles. We found snow, trees and a few villages. But no regimental headquarters. Our radio had conked out.

War: When you're lost with 200 prisoners, it's nice to find wine

"I put the prisoners in a barn. The second day we marched on. Kindly German villagers gave us all food. My GIs and I put the prisoners back into a barn and a German major and I went scouting," Hundhausen says.

The German and the American officers found a horde of wine in a hamlet. They lugged the wine back to the barn. A good time was had by all.

"On day three I got lucky. I saw a GI up a tree. He was stringing a telephone line. He called for help for me. Trucks came. I told the colonel we'd had a long march," Hundhausen says.

Another day, he jeeped three German prisoners back to headquarters. He did not see the colonel. But the GI guards were drunk. Hundhausen found the headquarters duty officer. Er, um, sir, well, ah, your two guards are drunk.

"So you noticed?" said the duty officer. "We found a 50-gallon vat of wine and everybody's drunk."

Hundhausen suggested a solution. The duty officer agreed. Hundhausen took the vat back to his own men.

Further into the German woods in 1945, the colonel's executive officer, a lieutenant colonel, told Hundhausen the colonel wanted fresh guards for his headquarters and his toilet.

"He said the colonel wanted what he called 100 percent Americans. Nobody with a darker skin. I said I would sent Private Smith, an American Indian, as guard. The lieutenant colonel said no. Smith was too dark.

"Oh, come, I said. Smith is the most American man in the regiment. So Smith went, got gloriously drunk and dropped his rifle. The gun fired, hitting another GI.

"The lieutenant colonel came and told me the colonel was very unhappy with me," says Hundhausen.

Hundhausen, a San Diego illustrator, had grown up in Mark Twain Mississippi riverboat country. One of his ancestors had taught Twain how to pilot a steamboat. His Uncle William was the model for Walt Disney's "Steamboat Bill," he says. Stories of California bathing beauties had brought Hundhausen west.

After Pearl Harbor, he joined the Army in San Diego. His war was with more than the colonel.

"Once a German sniper fired at me and missed. Another time, when I was driving a German Volkswagen I had liberated, GI machine-gunners told me they had almost dusted me. I had close calls.

"Like the day I found a wash tub in a German house and was treating myself to a warm scrub. One of my men, a little fellow with a very large gun, barged in with a young German in civilian clothes.

"Lieutenant, the GI told me, this German is a soldier in civilian clothes. I rose in the tub, my towel neatly around me, and told my man to search the little hun.

The GI handed me his gun and searched. I must have looked all powerful, there with a towel around my waist and the gun pointing at the German. The German, no doubt overcome, fouled himself in his pants.

"I was pleased when the GI ushered out the German," Hundhausen says. He did not report that to the colonel either.

And he edited his story when reporting to the colonel about meeting Soviet Red Army troops. In the dying days of the European war, U.S. and Russian troops met at the Elbe River in eastern Germany. Hundhausen was there.

"There were about 200 Russians and Americans by the river. The Russians examined my jeep and said it was nice the Americans were using Russian vehicles. Moscow hadn't told them their jeeps had been sent from America.

"We drank their vodka. They drank our bourbon. The party went on all night. The next morning, in a village, I saw a Russian private chasing a young German woman down the street. "A Soviet major pulled out a gun and blew the private's head off. I asked the major why he had done that," says Hundhausen. "The major said his troops had orders not to fraternize with the Germans until 5:00 p.m. And it was not yet 5:00 p.m., the major said."

In the village, Hundhausen found a puzzled Russian hailing from the outer steppes. The soldier had caught a fish in the Elbe River and put it into a toilet bowl so it could swim until he was ready to eat it. But the Russian pulled a chain or something and, whoosh, the fish flushed away.

"My God," the Russian said, pointing at the toilet bowl. "Look! it eats fish."

The fighting done, Hundhausen was given command of a prisoner-of-war camp holding 4,000 Nazi SS troops.

"My colonel and his private privy went off to become a general or something," he says.

Lee C. Wah Then and Now



1943



1988

Lee C. Wah served with Headquarters Company of the 271st Infantry from March 31, 1943 to March 31, 1946. R.D. #4, Old Road, Box 780, Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Ralph E. Smith Writes - Former Driver for the General Staff

I am writing to you regards to the 69th Infantry Division. I was Pfc. **Ralph E. Smith**, and was assigned to a Company until we were in England. I was sent to Division Headquarters Company, as a driver, where I drove Officers assigned to the Headquarters Company also, namely liaison officers.

I was with the 69th from Camp Shelby, Mississippi through England and on to France, Belgium, Germany, to the link up with the Russians at the Elbe River near Leipzig.

General Reinhardt personally made space for me, with the Officers returning to the states via France by motor caravan. Although I was low point man, the General was good enough to make room for me.

What I am writing about here and now is the fact that I have never received any material, letters or reunion data over these many years. I am wondering if my name is on the roster. It is really unusual that I have not heard from anyone over the years.

We have moved over the years from Montana to Washington state. We have been here in the state for over twenty-five years.

Would you be so kind as to send me any literature regarding the 69th. Especially the Headquarters Company. I cannot attend this year's reunion, but could you let me know when the next reunion will be and where, please. And also I would like to purchase any of the following that you may have. Jacket, Cap, Insignias, Car Emblems, etc. I would also like to be added to your membership list. Let me know the amount of Dues I owe you for the above.

I would appreciate your immediate reponse, and please let everyone know I am alive, not too well, but alive. Hope to attend the next reunion wherever it may be.

Kindest Regards to All,
Ralph E. Smith
P.O. Box 5515
Lacey, Washington 98503

The Reverend Hugh Crockett McKee Writes - Co. G, 273rd & T.D.s

I usually check the American Legion Magazine listings of outfit reunions to see if by some chance one for the 69th Division might appear. This month I was pleased to find it. And as you may see from the enclosed xerox of an old picture, my fond recollections of old buddies in the World War II days were stirred.

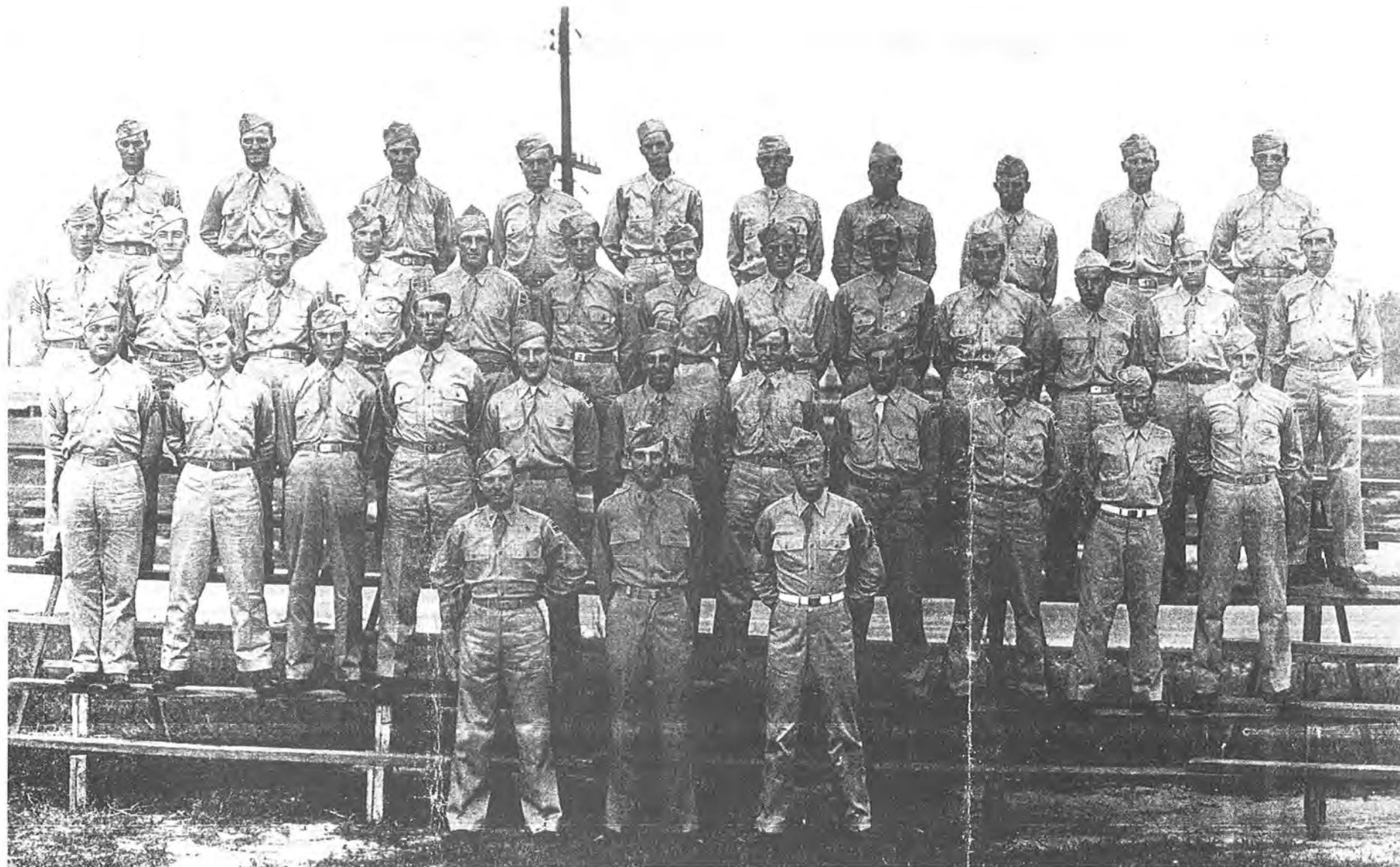
I reported after basic training as "a filler" in the cadre about one month after it was assembled at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. In August of 1944 I was pulled and sent to Fort Benning as an officer candidate, subsequently ending the war as a First Lieutenant in the Tank Destroyers.

But I can remember far more names in Company G, 273rd Infantry, than I can in the T.D.s. In fact, I have met or corresponded sometime in the past with several of them. Now, as an old man, the thought of seeing them again appeals to me. Might I be eligible for membership in the Association? And are there still available some of the souvenir books on the Division? The latter, I know, is not likely. But please use the enclosed envelope to send me your penciled answers to my questions. I shall be grateful.

Respectfully yours,
The Rev. Hugh Crockett McKee
420 Dorrington Drive
Metairie, Louisiana 70005

(The photograph that the Reverend McKee enclosed with his letter appears on the following page.)

*Thanks to Our Veterans,
America is Number One!*



**1st Platoon
Company G, 273rd Infantry Regiment
Camp Shelby, Mississippi - September 1943**

Picture submitted by The Reverend Hugh Crockett McKee

Debate flares on Reichstag fire

From the Cleveland Press
Monday, March 12, 1973

BY JOSEPH FLEMING

BERLIN - (UPI) - Adolf Hitler wasted no time in deciding who was guilty.

"Look," he said, gazing at the blazing Reichstag building, seat of the German Parliament, "You can thank the Communists for that."

"This is the beginning of the Communist revolution," shouted Herman Goering, the Reichstag president who also was at the scene. "We must not wait a minute. We will show no mercy. Every Communist deputy must be strung up this very night."

For the Nazis, the fire of 40 years ago was a god send. It took place only four weeks after Hitler became chancellor of Germany and he used it as a pretext to crush all opposition and institute the totalitarian rule that led to World War II.

But who set the fire?

Forty years later the controversy still rages. Men of good will, anti-Nazi historians, disagree violently. Perhaps the truth never will be known.

The controversy revolves around Marius van der Lubbe, the simple 24-year-old Dutch Communist who was convicted of setting the fire on the night of February 27, 1933, and was beheaded.

Did he set the fire alone, as he maintained at his trial, in an attempt to rouse the workers to rise up against Hitler? Or was he the demented dupe of the Nazis? Did the Nazis send him into the building to set his fires while Storm Troopers entered through the tunnel that led from Goering's official residence and without his knowledge set the blazes that turned the huge building into an inferno in 10 minutes?

The Communist plot theory advanced by the Nazis never did stand up.

The Nazis arrested Ernst Torgler, leader of the Communist Party bloc in the Reichstag, Georgi Dimitroff, the Comintern leader who later became post-war premier of Bulgaria, and two other Bulgarian Communists and put them on trial with van der Lubbe before the Supreme Court.

But Dimitroff made a complete fool of Goering at the trial and he and the other Communist leaders were acquitted despite the pressure placed on the court by the Nazis.

The conclusion that the Communists did not set the fire does not prove the Nazis set it themselves.

The foremost advocate of the theory that the Dutchman alone was responsible is Fritz Tobias, a West German Social



The Reichstag burns in this 1933 photo.

Democrat who began his research convinced that the Nazis were responsible. He has given his views in his book "The Reichstag Fire — Legend and Reality."

"Through a series of accidents and happy circumstances, I reached the conclusion that surprised myself that the arson was that of the Dutchman alone, who by setting the fires in public buildings in Berlin wanted to arouse the workers to a revolutionary uprising against the hated capitalist system," Tobias wrote.

He said the supporters of the theory that the Nazis set the fire, particularly the Communist supporters of the theory, suppress the fact that van der Lubbe tried to set three other fires two days before the Reichstag fire — in a welfare office, the city hall and the Berlin palace of the Hohenzollerns.

"He only was successful in the Reichstag because he had ideal prerequisites in the Parliamentary Hall filled with air and oxygen," Tobias said.

But the International Committee for Scientific Research into the Causes and Effects of the Second World War disagrees with Tobias.

The committee, established in 1969, took the fire as its first job.

Its report, published last July, said the Thermodynamic Institute at West Berlin's Technological University studied all the evidence and with the help of computers proved it was impossible for a single person to have set the fire in the time available to the Dutchman.

The report said a command of Nazi Storm Troopers brought inflammable material into the Reichstag through the tunnel from Goering's home.

It said the Storm Troopers set the fire in the main meeting hall while van der Lubbe set insignificant fires elsewhere.

General Franz Hauser, chief of the German general staff at the beginning of the war, testified at the Nuernberg War Crimes Trials that at a birthday party for Hitler in 1942, Goering admitted he was behind the fire. Hauser said they were talking about the Reichstag when Goering shouted, "The only one who really knows about the Reichstag is I, because I set the fire."

But Goering steadfastly denied having anything to do with the fire at the Nuernberg trial. And the international military tribunal that sentenced Goering to death by hanging could not clear up the mystery. Goering beat the hangman by taking poison.

The Reichstag now has been rebuilt after 10 years work. It cost almost \$50 million dollars. It stands empty.

MEMBERS: If you have an article of interest or story you'd like to share with other members of the 69th Association, send it in to Clarence Marshall or Earl Witzleb, and we will try to get it in the Bulletin as soon as possible. After all, that's what makes the Bulletin.

HÄGAR

the
horrible
by
DIK
BROWNE

THIS IS THE FIELD WHERE MY OLD UNIT IS SUPPOSED TO MEET, BUT NO ONE'S HERE YET!

HÄGAR!



SIGGY SVENSON! IT'S BEEN 20 YEARS, YOU OLD TIGER!

HAGAR, YOU OLD RASCAL!



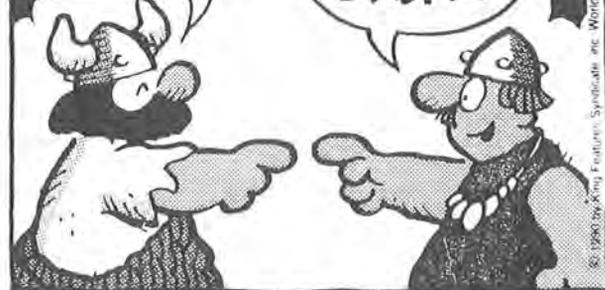
YOU OLD SCOUNDREL!

YOU OLD THIEF!



YOU OLD SNAKE!

YOU OLD SKUNK!



YOU OLD CHEATER!

YOU OLD CROOK!



POW! **BAM!**

THERE'S NOTHING LIKE OLD FRIENDS!



5-20



**21st Annual Reunion
69th Infantry Division Association
August 16 & 17, 1968
Held in the Ballroom, Marriott Motor Hotel
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

Picture submitted by Charles Kooles, Miami Florida



**Company H, 271st Infantry, Camp Kilmer
October, 1944**

Picture furnished by Charlie Kooles, Miami Florida

Company H, 271st Infantry Germany

Pictures submitted by:
Charles A. Kooles
5841 S.W. 50th Street
Miami, Florida 33155



Left to Right: McGarity, ???, Kooles, ???, Moore



*Kooles in a captured Stukka Dive Bomber
Lachau, Germany*



McGarity, Kooles, Harrington



German 88

Company H, 271st Infantry



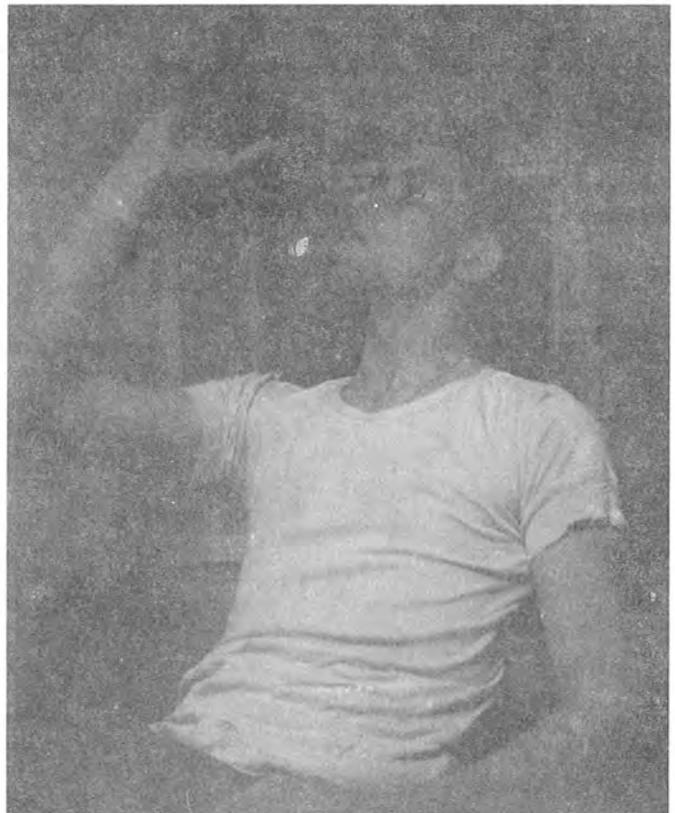
*Kooles and Trapper
5 Star - Hennesey, Germany*



*Standing: Mazon, Buending, Dalrymple
Stooping: Peterson and Trapper - Germany*



Kooles - German 88



Sergeant Trapper Relaxing - 5 Star, Hennesey

Company H, 271st Infantry



Kooles and a bottle of "Vat 69" Scotch won from Lt. Webhlet. We bet on the war's end in Europe.



Germany: Seated, Buending Trapper and Chevez



On the right, Walter Hart - Germany



Kooles - Germany

Camp Shelby 1943 & 1944

I&R Platoon Headquarters Company 271st Regiment

Pictures submitted by
Ray Jones



*Out in the Field. Camp Shelby, 1944.
Two men in back on left: Sergeant Duncan and Ray Jones.
Man on the far right in back: Sergeant Weisbauer*



*Camp Shelby, 1943
Back row: First man unknown, Sergeant Weisbauer,
Sergeant William Duncan, Ray Jones and Wagner.
Ed Lansford is one of the four men on the left.*



*Mississippi, 1943 or 1944
Back row: Young (?), Ray Jones, Sergeant William Duncan
and last man is unknown.
Man in front, I think, was named Lee (?).*



Robert Younglas sends along the following info on Company B, 271st Infantry

Robert Younglas
3529 3 Mile Road
Traverse City, Michigan 49684

Below you will find the Roster of Company B dated 10 March 1945. Members of the Association, please look this over, as a number of the men came in as replacements and may be recognized by men in other units.

The first part of the list contains addresses or partial addresses of some of the men. If you members would check the names and look in the local directories and make a few local telephone calls, I am sure we could locate a number of these men considering the coverage the association has.

The second part of the list just lists the names of men in B Company from the Roster of 10 March 1945. Maybe someone out there will know where some of these men are. If so, please get in touch and let us know.

* * * * *

Benesch, Bernard
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dudley, James R. — Headquarters
3449 Falls Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21211

Ellis, Hampton R.
(Harlan County, Kentucky) Bledsoe, Kentucky

Friesth, Irvin S.
Fort Douglas, Iowa

Falconer, Harry M.
Glen Allen, Virginia

Hudak, Paul B. — (Cook)
Medford Station, Box 192
Long Island, New York (Patchogue) 11722 or 11728

James, E. Raymond, Jr. — 2nd Platoon
Newport, Rhode Island

Lally, Thomas P. — 3rd Platoon
New York City (Brooklyn, I think)

Lester, Philip A. — Headquarters (Cook)
2112 Hardy Street, Houston Texas 77026

Michaels, Alvin — 3rd Platoon
Brooklyn, New York

Patterson, Harold B. — Headquarters (Cook)
Route 1, Decatur, Georgia 30034

Silver, Bernard
Brooklyn, New York

Walgenbach, W. — Headquarters (Supply)
461 East 15th Street, Bronx, New York

Shaw, Thurmond E. — 3rd Platoon
Decatur or Cartersville, Georgia 30120

Sansone, Michael
4010 Franklin Avenue, Camp Taylor
Louisville, Kentucky 40213

Taylor, Kenneth E.
Route 3, Box 443, Poulsbo, Washington 98730 (Tacoma)

Buckless, Kenneth Y. — Headquarters (Cook)
34 Beacham Avenue, Saugus, Massachusetts 01906

Morisset, Hugo A.
711 Minnesota Avenue, Bemidji, Minnesota 56601

Abelson, Albert N.
214 Dryden Road, Ithaca New York 14850
(Address taken from 1949 Association Roster)

COMPANY B, 271st INFANTRY APO 417 U.S. ARMY

10 March 1945

* Indicates man is already accounted for.
Number in parenthesis indicates Platoon

1st SERGEANT
*Hancock, Thomas S.

T/SERGEANT
*Glasco, Bill (4)
*McCarthy, Hiram A. (3)
*Wills, Robert G., Jr. (2)
*Younglas, Robert J. (1)

S/SERGEANT
*Brasche, John M. (1)
*Burrows, George D. (2)
Deshon, Kenneth E.
Mess Sergeant
Henry, Elwood E. (3)
*Ikins, Phillip M. (1)
Jacob, Harry V. Jr. (3)
Jacobson, George H. (4)
Keating, Eugene F. (3)
*McGrew, Archie M.
Comm. Sergeant
*Poovey, Charles R. (2)
Sharp, Curtis H. (1)
*Stakich, Robert D. (3)
*Tarr, Clarence W. (2)
*Trimboli, Frank V.
Supply Sergeant
Waller, Edmund W. (4)

SERGEANT
*Campaigne, Franklin (4)
*Curran, Kenneth E. (4)
*Edwards, Donald S.
Holmes, Francis W. (2)
Michaels, Alvin (3)
*Nelson, Lester L. (1)
Pittman, Tillman D. (Hq)
Rodeman, Edward J. (1)
*Scott, John J. (4)
*Settember, Angelo J. (4)
*Simms, _____ (Buck) (1)

T/4
Berzanski, Xavier (2)
Freeman, John W. (Hq)
Hoecker, Adolph G. (Hq)

CORPORAL
*Bright, Randall H. (3)
Kupferman, Alex N. (Hq)

T/5
Brumit, Samuel A. (4)
Bryan, Edward G. (4)
Dudley, James R. (Hq)
Hudak, Paul B. (Hq)
*Jones, Paul E. (4)
Knight, Andrew R.
Lester, Philip A. (Hq.)
Oliver, Ambris E. (Hq)
*Valentine, Richard S.

PFC.
Abelson, Albert
*Adams, Lee K. (1)
*Austin, Billy R. (1)
Bathurst, Alvin K.
*Blackwood, James R. (1)

*Bridges, William M. (1)
Brisson, Finney E. (4)
Brown, Paul G. (4)
Buckless, Kenneth Y. (Hq)
*Buol, Martin A. (4)
Caccio, Louis V. (4)
*Collins, Clarence G. (3)
Cowan, Robert L. (2)
Crowder, Billy (3)
Dahlin, Arly K. (3)
Day, Delmar B. (4)
Delaney, Edward J. Jr. (2)
Dixon, William T. Jr.
Dussold, George P. Jr.
Falconer, Harry M.
Farkas, John J. (2)
*Forbes, Leslie J. (Hq & 1)
*Gegick, Michael A. (Hq)
Goben, James L.
Gurlen, Robert L. (2)
*Gust, Bill E. (2)
Hagan, Raymond G. (2)
*Hansen, Earl M. (4)
Heer, Henry P.
Hilmo, Glenn M. (3)
Holmes, Jerry H. (4)
Hurst, Daniel T. (2)
Johnson, Marshall H. (1)
*Kiernan, William T. (3)
Koch, Karl F. (2) *Medic*
Kraut, Eugene A. (4)
Kwiecinski, Edward A. (1)
Lake, Everett V. (Hq)
*Lee, Adam P. (4)
Lodigiani, Louis E. (4)
*Lyman, Samson R. (3)
Mabe, Charles M.
Markham, Glenn L. (1)
McDonald, Joseph G. (1)
McVeigh, Jack R. (3)
Meyers, Carl R. Jr. (2)
*Milner, Henry D. (1)
Miller, D. B.
*Moore, Harold W. (2)
Morphis, Harley (1)
Morris, Delbert W. (1)
Morris, John V. (1)
Morton, Ted Jr. (3)
Moser, Eugene D. (4)
Neely, Austin E. Jr. (2)
Nelson, Clarence M. (2)
*Nesbitt, Wilfred B. (2)
Nix, Calvin (2)
O'Connor, John J. (2)
Orning, Floyd L. (1)
Pack, Carl F. (3)
Patterson, Harold B. (Hq)
*Rinehart, Robert W. (1)
Roach, Howard K. (3)
Sanchez, Arthur (4)
Shaw, Thurmond H. (3)

(Continued on Page 63)

ROBERT YOUNGLAS SENDS ALONG THE FOLLOWING INFO ON COMPANY B, 271st INFANTRY
(Continued from Page 62)

- PFC.**
 *Sheehan, William F. (3)
 Sherwood, Robert J. (4)
 Smeltzer, Floyd S. (1)
 Solebrino, Ralph N. (3)
 Stamps, Joseph E. (4)
 Stephens, Harry K. (3)
 Tamburello, Joseph (3)
 Ver Merris, Niel Jr. (4)
 Vest, James L. (Hq)
 *Walsh, James A. (Hq & 1)
 Waxler, Irving (RSO)
 Webb, Edward L. (2)
 White, Lester L. (2)
 White, Vergal (2)
 Whitehead, Bea C. (1)
 Widner, Ernest L. (2)
 Williams, Fred A. (Hq)
 Williams, Henry G. Jr.
 Williams, Labern
 Wilson, Glee (4)
 Wolf, Robert D. (2)
 Wood, Monroe O. (2)
 Worthington, Roy L. (2)

- PVT.**
 Busanic, James L. (3)
 Cantrell, Calvin C.
 Caron, Lucien A. (1)
 *Cary, Octavius Jr. (1)
 *Casey, Sam C. Jr. (1)
 Clarke, Thomas C. Jr. (2)
 Colacicco, Nicholas A. (2)
 Comar, Reuben L.
 Cramer, Douglas O. (1)
 Croft, Albert A.
 Cuevas, Edward F. J. (1)
 Dupre, Roger J. (2)
 Eaton, Scott T. (2)
 Epperly, Warren T.
 *Ford, Charles E.
 Ford, John F. (Regt.)
 Gregory, Jacob W. (2)
 Griffin, Clifford R. Jr.
 Grimes, Wils E.
 Gulley, Ewell Jr. (2)
 Halcom, Clyde E. (2)
 Heck, Charles D. (2)
 Hiester, Rufus L. Jr.
 Huber, Winfred C.
 James, Edgar R. Jr. (1)
 Lee, Billie R. (Hq)
 MacKenzie, Donald (Reg)
 Matter, Lawrence R.
 McDowell, Billie E. (1)
 McFarlin, Jesse W. (1)
 McGarr, Ray L.
 McKean, Ernest A. (2)
 *McKenzie, Samuel J. Jr. (1)
 McKinney, Franklin B. (1)
 McLaughlin, Kyle C.
 McMullen, William H. (1)
 Mealus, Jack E. (1)
 Miani, Joseph P. (2)
 Miller, Elmer C. (1)
 Modica, Thomas N. (1)
 Mokwa, Frank F. (2)

- Moore, Alf C. (2)
 Moore, Harold G. Jr. (2)
 Morisset, Hugo A.
 Miranda, Victor D. (4)
 Moses, Sam (4)
 Myerson, Jacob M. (2)
 Neupert, John S. (4)
 *Nicely, Charles G. (4)
 Niemeyer, William J. (2)
 *Noone, William J. (1)
 *Norman, James F. (4)
 Norris, Edward A. (2)
 Oertly, Leroy L.
 *Pankan, Joseph A.
 Proud, John W. Jr. (3)
 *Pullen, Orlando P. (1)
 *Purtell, Joseph A. Jr. (Bn)
 Rhom, Garthur F. (1)
 Richmond, Harry B. (4)
 Roy, Axel Jr. (1)
 Sansone, Michael (1)
 Scheller, Edward L. (1)
 Swinyer, Harold E. (Reg)
 Taylor, Kenneth E. (GRO)
 *Upton, Kenneth D. (1)
 Wolfenbarger, Evert L. (2)

HOSPITAL CASES DROPPED FROM ASSIGNMENT

- T/SERGEANT**
 *Boehm, Helmuth A. (1)
S/SERGEANT
 *Hattala, John (1)
 *Lantz, Joseph L. (4)
 *Willard, George H. (1)
SERGEANT
 Arnold, Raymond D.
 Miller, John W. Jr.
 *Snedeker, Robert T. (2)

- PFC.**
 Brosky, Albert L.
 Cwik, George L.
 Jacovetti, Nicholas C. Jr.
 *Kajfasz, Stanley E. (1)
 Lally, Thomas P.
 Long, George J.
 Peterson, Sylvester E.
 Pugliese, Joseph F.
 *Ochs, Bertrand W. (1)
 Samulewicz, Leo J.
 Strohsahl, George R.
 Tucker, Merle W. (1)

- PVT.**
 Cook, LeRoy S.
 Forsythe, Floyd E.
 Garrett, Lilburn
 Henry, James L.
 Hiestand, Charles E.
 Hunter, Thomas F.
 Locke, Earl L.
 Maedgen, Calvin L.
 Manasco, Troy U.
 Maples, James E.

- Middendorf, Robert W.
 Moore, John R.
 Organ, James W.
 *Oxenrider, Kenneth I.
 *Park, William R.
 Reed, Walter L. Sr.
 *Rivest, Raymond P. (1)
 Shea, Francis J.
 Vinson, Billy L.
 Wemyss, William H. Jr.
 *White, James H.
 Wiest, John N. Jr.
 Wix, Willard D.
 Wolf, Albert
 Wyatt, Richard H.

Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 273rd Infantry

Alan H. Murphey
 1339 Hemlock Drive
 Fairborn, Ohio 45324

As a result of an extensive search, the following Headquarters Company members have been relocated:

- George A. Decker**
 Comm. Platoon Orange, Connecticut
Clinton B. Dittmore
 Bn. Hq. Sect. Miami, Oklahoma
Joseph F. Gawek
 AT Platoon Syosset, New York
Fred Koeller
 A&P Platoon Sarasota, Florida
Albert W. McMunn
 Comm. Platoon Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
William R. Nystrom
 Bn. Hq. Sect. Marlborough, Connecticut
Michael D. Ossewaarde
 A&P Platoon Bellevue, Washington
Lloyd W. Smith
 A&P Platoon Grand Prairie, Texas
Wasyl Zaricki
 AT Platoon West Hills, California

Had it not been for the assistance provided by the Association members, **Earl Walters** (AT Platoon) and **Everette Patterson** (A&P Platoon), none of this would have been possible. Credit also goes to **Morton Keiser** (Bn. Hq. Sect.) who located **Bill Nystrom**.

Although our pool of old rosters and addresses have been wrung dry of clues, **Fred Koeller** has come to the rescue. **Fred** contributed a treasure-trove of old home town addresses he collected at Altenhain in 1945. This new source has revitalized the search effort.

To temper the news that nine men have been relocated, we were deeply saddened to learn that two former members of the Comm. Platoon, **Eugene T. Mosca** and **Robert D. Roper**, have passed away.

A special welcome is extended to our newly-found senior member, 74-year-old **Albert McMunn** of Philadelphia. He served with Headquarters Company from the activation of the 69th Infantry Division until VE Day. We are all looking forward to seeing you at Valley Forge, Mac.

TAXES COULD BE MUCH WORSE
 - Suppose we had to pay on what we think we're worth.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS AND COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE

May I just make note to all Leaders of Chapters, Groups, Branches, Companies, Battalions, Regiments, Recon, Artillery, AAA, and T.D.'s to get your Activities Schedules to Earl E. Witzleb Jr., Box 69, Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069 or R.D. #1, Box 477, Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606, as early as possible. We try to work at least a year ahead, as we only put out three Bulletins a year. When mailing in this information, do send your organization's name, person in charge (Chairman), address, city, state, zip, telephone numbers including area codes, dates, location, and anything else that you feel might be of interest for members to know. This may also bring a few new faces, or two, to your group. Then bring them to a National Reunion to meet a-l-l-l-l of the gang.

By now everyone should know where news material, articles and pictures should be mailed to. Your Coordinating Manager and Editor will do a superb job of handling it along with Dottie who takes care of the ladies mail. Thanks for getting it in on time.

1990

DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE FOR 1990-1991

Dues Year: August 1, 1990 to July 31, 1991. Postage and Bulletin Donations Accepted

69th Monument Fund donations are now being accepted.

Monument will be erected at Camp Shelby, Mississippi in September 1991 at the Biloxi Reunion.

AUGUST 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1990
69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
43rd ANNUAL REUNION

Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel

North Gulph Road and First Avenue, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406

Telephone: 215/337-2000

Connecting: Valley Forge Convention and Exhibit Center

Saturday Banquet Dinner Dance (Convention Center) Holding 1,392 persons

Weekly Events:

Registrations: Monday, August 13th - Friday, August 17th, 1990 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Check Bulletin Board for Wednesday Evening and Saturday Times

Sunday, August 12th — Early Arrivals on your own.

Monday, August 13th — Registration 9:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Tuesday, August 14th — Historic Philadelphia and Valley Forge Tour. Leave Hotel at 9:00 A.M.

Includes Lunch at Bistro Romano

Wednesday, August 15th — 9:00 A.M. - Executive Board of Directors Meeting

Atlantic City Casino Tour. Leave Hotel mid-afternoon. Check Registration Desk for time.

Thursday, August 16th — Brandywine Valley and Longwood Gardens Tour. Leave Hotel at 9:00 A.M. Return at 3:00 P.M.

Early Bird Dinner and Show at Lily Langtrys at 5:00 P.M.

Friday, August 17th — Golf Tournament. (Information at Desk). Shopping - Plymouth Meeting Mall. (FREE Shuttle bus 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.)

PX Beer Party - 9:00 P.M. to Midnight - Ticket Needed

Saturday, August 18th — Men's and Ladies General Meetings, 9:00 A.M. till Over. Coffee and Danish served. Banquet

Dinner Dance - 6:30 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. Cash Bar 6:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Memorial Service 7:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. It is requested that everyone be seated by 7:00 P.M. for the Memorial Service. Dinner Dance at 7:30 P.M.

Sunday, August 19th — Farewell Breakfast Buffet - 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. at Lily Langtrys

Committee:

Dan and Helen Evers, Co-Chairpersons
 4950 Grant Drive
 Brookhaven, Pennsylvania 19015
 Telephone: 215/874-1197

Frank and Stefania "Ted" Nemeth,
Co-Chairpersons
 66 Gaping Rock Road
 Levittown, Pennsylvania 19057
 Telephone: 215/945-3809

(Continued on
 Page 65)

**CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS
AND COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE**

(Continued from Page 64)

I have been told if you fly into Philadelphia airport to look for the Liberty Cab or Van. There is a phone at all the baggage stations where you can call them. They should have a 69th emblem somewhere on the vehicle. As of this date their price to the Sheraton and Valley Forge area is \$11.00 to 69ers. This is much cheaper than if you take a limo. The 82nd used them last year when at the same hotel. Check it out, you'll save some money.

* * * * *

AUGUST 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1990

**724th FIELD ARTILLERY
BATTERY C**

Battery C, 724th Field Artillery Reunion will be held in conjunction with the 69th Infantry Division Reunion August 12-19, 1990 at Valley Forge, (King of Prussia), Pennsylvania.

Battery C, 724th Dinner at 5:00 p.m., Friday, August 17th.

For more information contact:

Committee:

Vernon E. Tritch, Jr., Co-Chairman
3259 Foxiana Road
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057
Telephone: 717/944-9080

or

John W. Turner, Co-Chairman
P.O. Box 1645
Decatur, Georgia 30031
Telephone: 404/378-3543

* * * * *

AUGUST 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1990

**880th FIELD ARTILLERY
HEADQUARTERS BATTERY**

Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel
North Gulph Road and First Avenue
King of Prussia (Valley Forge), Pennsylvania 19406

TO BE HELD WITH THE 69th INFANTRY
DIVISION ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL REUNION

Committee:

John O'Connor, Chairman
4512 Maple Avenue
Apartment #1
Brookfield, Illinois 60513

* * * * *

AUGUST 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1990

COMPANY A, 273rd INFANTRY

Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel
North Gulph Road and First Avenue
King of Prussia (Valley Forge), Pennsylvania 19406
Telephone: 215/337-2000

TO BE HELD WITH THE 69th INFANTRY
DIVISION ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL REUNION

Committee:

H. Ray Fahrner
Forge Gate Apartments, 33 E 1
Lansdale, Pennsylvania 18446
Telephone: 215/855-9696

Ed Lucci
23 Evergreen Avenue
Lynbrook, New York 11563-3219
Telephone: 516/593-6592

Company A, 273rd Infantry has risen and is "Coming On."

* * * * *

AUGUST 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1990
COMPANY E, 273rd INFANTRY

Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel
North Gulph Road and First Avenue
King of Prussia (Valley Forge), Pennsylvania 19406
Telephone: 215/337-2000

TO BE HELD WITH THE 69th INFANTRY
DIVISION ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL REUNION

Committee:

Earl E. and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.
R.D. No. 1, Box 477
Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606

or

P.O. Box 69
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069
Telephone: 412/455-2901
(Call anytime, day or night; weekends or holidays)

Exit 9 on the Pennsylvania Turnpike

*"The Family With Two Addresses - But One Home -
Welcome All 69ers - Stop In, Call, or Write"*

William "Bill" and Jane Matlach

19 Barberry Road
West Islip, New York 11795
Telephone: 516/669-8077

*"The Company That Has To Grow,
But It's Later Than You Think"*

* * * * *

AUGUST 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1990
COMPANY H, 273rd INFANTRY

Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel
North Gulph Road and First Avenue
King of Prussia (Valley Forge), Pennsylvania 19406
Telephone: 215/337-2000

TO BE HELD WITH THE 69th INFANTRY
DIVISION ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL REUNION

Committee:

Jacob "Jake" and Violet "Vi" Stark, Jr.
691 Dunkle Street - Enhaut
Steelton, Pennsylvania 17113
Telephone: 717/939-4802

*How many more reunions are left in us,
1 year, 5 years, 20 years, or more?*

* * * * *

AUGUST 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1990
269th ENGINEERS

Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel
North Gulph Road and First Avenue
King of Prussia (Valley Forge), Pennsylvania 19406
Telephone: 215/337-2000

TO BE HELD WITH THE 69th INFANTRY
DIVISION ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL REUNION

Committee:

Frank and Ted Nemeth
66 Gaping Rock Road
Levittown, Pennsylvania 19057

Should have 100% turnout with the two co-chairpersons,
**Frank "Secretary-Souvenir Chairperson" Nemeth and
Daniel "Dan" Evers** being Engineers.

I am happy to see so many units starting to have their Mini-Weekends in conjunction with the 69th Infantry Division Association's Annual Reunion. More units should take heed and join us at least every few years. Next year would be a good time when we go to Biloxi, Mississippi so that a 69th Division Monument can be dedicated at Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Consider it Mini-Weekenders. Thanks loads from President Earl E. Witzleb, Jr., 69th Division Association.

(Continued on Page 66)

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS
AND COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE

(Continued from Page 65)

SEPTEMBER 8, 1990

Deadline for news material and pictures
Bulletin Volume 44, Number 1
September - October - November - December, 1990
Bulletin due out to members by Thanksgiving.

* * * * *

SEPTEMBER (Month) 1990

First Dues Notice should be mailed to all members on record
except those who attended and paid dues at the Valley Forge
Sheraton Reunion. Thanks for paying your 1990-1991 dues
early.

* * * * *

EARL'S NOTE: Since 1990 is an off year for most mini
weekends, we hope to see a lot of you members at the
Sheraton, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania Reunion on August
12 thru 19, 1990. Remember, you don't have to attend for
the entire week.

* * * * *

SEPTEMBER 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 1990

880th FIELD ARTILLERY
C BATTERY WEEKEND

Comfort Inn
Boone, North Carolina

Committee:

Lewis and Fern Pugh
Route 4, Grant Street
Cadiz, Ohio 43907
Telephone: 614/942-3721

* * * * *

SEPTEMBER 20, 21, 22, 23, 1990

880th FIELD ARTILLERY
BATTERY A WEEKEND

Jack Spence's Motor Hotel
823 Murfreesboro Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37217

Committee:

John Barnett, *Chairperson*
6374 Brandywine Trail
Norcross, Georgia 30092
Telephone: 404/448-6513

* * * * *

SEPTEMBER 21, 22, 23, 1990

461st AAA BATTERY B WEEKEND

Days Inn Motel
Allentown, Pennsylvania

Committee:

Donald and Wife Detwiler, *Co-Chairpersons*
903 Clearfield Road
Nazareth, Pennsylvania 18064
Telephone: 215/759-2005

Bernard and Wife Uhler, *Co-Chairpersons*
157 Victory Lane
Nazareth, Pennsylvania 18064
Telephone: 215/759-3508

Earl's Note: It would be nice to see you two lovely couples
from B Battery a few days at the 69th Reunion at the
Sheraton Plaza Hotel, King of Prussia. It's only a short
drive down the Pennsylvania Turnpike Extension and we
would be glad to have you. You could be the first 461st

AAA members to attend a 69th Reunion. Best days are
Thursday through Saturday unless you want to take in
some of the tours earlier in the week. WELCOME.

* * * * *

OCTOBER 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 1990

69th CAVALRY RECON TROOP

Clarion Hotel
1500 Canal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana

Committee:

Charles and Barbara Fox
1105-D Spring Street
1st Floor
Silver Springs, Maryland 20910
Telephone: _____

* * * * *

OCTOBER 12, 13, 14, 1990

Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Stay over or leave Sunday

461st AAA, HEADQUARTERS BATTERY
AND MEDICAL DETACHMENT WEEKEND

Holiday Inn

Salem, Virginia
1919 Frontage Road
Salem, Virginia 24153

(South), I-81, Exit 40, turn left, take first right onto
Skyview Road. Motel is in the northeast quadrant of the
intersection. You can't miss it.

We will have a block of rooms reserved. Rates will be
the best possible. Should be the same or very close to 1989.
Code word will be 461st.

For reservations call 703/389-7061

Hospitality Room, Shopping, Dinner Saturday Evening.
We should have some entertainment. Do come - can't
wait to see you!!

Committee:

Allen H. Whitley, *Chairman*
Route 6, Box 70
Marion, Virginia 24354
Telephone: Office: 703/783-5566
Home: 703/783-5515

Francis H. Breyette, *News Reporter*
1137 Orkla Drive
Golden Valley, Minnesota 44527
Telephone: 612/545-2281

* * * * *

NOVEMBER 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1990

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH WEEKEND

Fall Foliage Days

Central and Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware,
Eastern Maryland, and Washington D.C. take note.

Quality Court (Old Treadway)
Route 422
Lebanon, Pennsylvania

Committee:

Frank and Arlene Carey
Chairpersons and News Reporters
4 Dennis Drive
Reinholds, Pennsylvania 17569
Telephone: 215/484-4974

First we want to see you at Valley Forge in August.

(Continued on Page 67)

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS
AND COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE

(Continued from Page 66)

DECEMBER 8, 1990

Deadline for news material and pictures
Bulletin Volume 44, Number 2
January - February - March - April, 1991
Bulletin due out during month of March, 1990

* * * * *
1991

JANUARY (Month) 1991

Second Dues Notice should be mailed to all members on record except those who attended and paid at the Valley Forge Sheraton Reunion and when paying on the first dues notice.

* * * * *
APRIL-MAY-JUNE, 1991

TRI-STATE SPRING WEEKEND

TRI-STATE BLUE IS THE FAMILY GROUP

Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Western Maryland, Western New York, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

(Other States Invited Too)

Earl E. and Dottie Witzleb, Jr., *Coordinators*

R.D. No. 1, Box 477

Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606

or

P.O. Box 69

Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069

Telephone: 412/455-2901

(Call anytime, day or night; weekends or holidays)

Exit 9 on the Pennsylvania Turnpike

"The Family With Two Addresses — But One Home — Welcome All 69ers — Stop In, Call, or Write."

Two tentative sites are being looked into for consideration in 1991 or 1992.

1. May-June. Altoona, Pennsylvania area by L. Vaughn and Betty Woomer, Tyrone, Pennsylvania.

2. Early April, Meyersdale, Pennsylvania by George and Mrs. Murphy, Frostburg, Maryland. This early weekend would feature the Maple Festival in Meyersdale. See how the maple sap is taken from the trees and processed.

Tri-State will not have a Fall Weekend in 1990. President Earl Witzleb, 69th Division Association, expects to see all Tri-Staters at Valley Forge in August. If you have any cabbage left, we hope you will support the Central Pennsylvania Branch Weekend in November 1990. Division Reunions should have first priority to all mini-weekends.

* * * * *

APRIL 6, 1991

Deadline for news material and pictures

Bulletin Volume 44, Number 3

May, June, July, August, 1991

Bulletin due out in June 1991

* * * * *

JUNE 1991 (Tentative Month)

COMPANY D, 272nd INFANTRY REGIMENT

Location: Iberia, Louisiana

Motel: To be announced at later date

Agenda: To be announced at a later date

Committee:

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Geoffroy, *Chairpersons*

R.D. #2, Box 78

Erath, Louisiana 70533

Telephone: _____ Please send to Earl

JUNE 11, 12, 13, 1991

461st AAA BATTERY B WEEKEND

Circus Hotel Casino

Reno, Nevada

Committee:

Larry W. and Milly Brown, *Chairpersons & News Reporters*

538 Burns Avenue

Clarkston, Washington 99403

Telephone: 509/758-2180

EARL'S NOTE: Since 1990 is an off year for most mini weekends, we hope to see a lot of you members at the Sheraton, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania Reunion on August 12 thru 19, 1990. Remember, you don't have to attend the entire week.

**September 1991
69th INFANTRY
DIVISION ASSOCIATION
44th ANNUAL REUNION
Dedication of 69th
Division Monument
at Camp Shelby,
Hattiesburg, Mississippi
Hilton Hotel, Biloxi, Mississippi**

Committee:

Robert Kurtzman, Sr., Chairman

610 West Maple Street

Wilmot, Ohio 44689

Telephone: 216/359-5487

Guy N. Rogers, Co-Assistant Chairman

Hampton House

639 North Pointe Parkway

Jackson, Mississippi 39211

Telephone: _____

Merle E. Douglas, Co-Assistant Chairman

Post Office Box 1465

Ocean Springs, Mississippi 39564-1465

Telephone: _____

Jack Duffy, Monument Advisor Chairman

28 Cypress Street

Rochester, New York 14620-2306

Telephone: _____

Donation gifts are being accepted from members by our Treasurer.

Please mark them Monument Fund.

See following page for schedule.

(Continued on Page 68)

Tri-State Reunion

Elyria, Ohio - May-June, 1990

SCHEDULE FOR CAMP SHELBY, HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI 1991 44th ANNUAL REUNION

Sunday-Monday — On Your Own.

Tuesday — A tour of the Gulf Coast with a visit to Jeff Davis' home, and Mardi Gras Museum and Lunch at Mary Mahoney's - six hours.

Wednesday — A trip to New Orleans with visits to various places. Lunch will be on your own - seven hours.

Thursday — Due to not having anything large enough for eating at Camp Shelby or Hattiesburg, we will ask that all have an early lunch at Biloxi and buses will leave at 12:00 p.m. arriving at Shelby at 1:30 p.m. Refreshments and snacks will be served. Memorial at 3:00 p.m. and head back to Biloxi after it's over. Then on to the Early Bird Buffet.

Friday — Golf 8:00 a.m. till 1:30 p.m. Directors meeting from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. PX Beer Party at 9:00 p.m.

Saturday — Regular Agenda

Sunday — Breakfast Buffet

There are ten flights into Biloxi each day, 3 Northwest that come in from Memphis, 3 Eastern Metro from Atlanta and 4 Continental that come from Houston. The hotel as yet does not have a limousine service but we have made arrangements for a van that will cost \$10.00 each. We will have a place on the registration for plane arrival and departure times if they want picked up.

National Infantry Museum Fort Benning, Georgia



I assume that the guy on the left is Major Abner D. Moore, Retired, Columbus, Georgia and the guy on the right is Dick Grube - Curator.

Picture furnished by **Bob Kurtzman**



*Helen and Dan Evers and Anne D'Angelo.
Put-In-Bay - June 1, 1990.*



Al Kormas and Helen and Dan Evers.



*Earl and Dorothy Witzleb.
Lunch - May 31, 1990*



Ben Jakubowski
1341 Binney Drive
Ft. Pierce, Florida
769th Ordnance

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B-369th

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A-269th

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Clyde Stilphen
Cox Head
Phippsburg, Maine
B-661st

Wayne L. Murphy
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Wilmette, Illinois
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Colonel V. G. Conley
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Sid Glick
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Hq., 3rd Bn., 273rd
Eugene Mosca
Robert Roper

Frank Szeliga
20 Weatshore Road
Merrimac, Massachusetts
69th Div. Band

John Swensen
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Hugh H. Cox
1205 Krin Avenue
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B-461st

Joe Bandoch
1925 Good Intent Road
Deptford, New Jersey
L-272nd

Marshall Norris
1121 University Blvd. W.
Silver Springs, Maryland
B-272nd

Harry Arment
Route 1, Box 326
Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania
Hq., 2nd Bn., 272nd

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Merchantville, New Jersey
C-724th

Clarence W. Tarr
7801 South Country Road
Midland, Texas
B-271st

John F. McNamara
610 South Drake Avenue
Marshfield, Wisconsin
H-272nd

R. E. Conner
17310 East Strack
Spring, Texas
Div. Hq.

Martin P. Learn
777 East Kenton Avenue
Englewood, Colorado
D-777th

Fred W. Johnston
7 Delaware Avenue
Bradford, Pennsylvania
G-273rd

"TAPS"

There will be a great encampment
In the land of clouds today.
A mingling and a merging
Of our boys who've gone away.
Though on earth they are disbanding,
They are very close and near.
For those brave and honored heroes
Show no sorrow, shed no tears.
They have lived a life of glory,
History pins their medals high,
Listen to the thunder roaring,
They are marching in the sky!

Ned L. Massa
P.O. Box 202
Mantoloking, New Jersey
D-369th

Bernie F. Moore
Route 1, Box 135
Waldron, Arizona
B-269th

Carl W. Robinette
22 Deerfield Est.
Statesville, North Carolina
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69th Recon

Eddie J. Phetterplace
20 Douglas
Homosassa, Florida
I-273rd

Warren L. Kunkel
6407 Sunland Drive
Fort Wayne, Indiana
Hq. - 880th



the 69th

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First Word from the European Tour Party

Submitted by Kenneth Sawyer

Company D of the 273rd Infantry had one of the largest unit contingents on the recent 45th Anniversary Europe/Russia Tour. There were three couples consisting of Bob and Betty Jo McCarty of New Orleans, Louisiana, Roland and Jan Hendrickson of Salem, Oregon, and Paul and Elaine Gornbein of Niagara Falls, New York. My presence brought the total to seven. Only the Gornbeins had made the anniversary trip in 1985. To my knowledge no other Company D members have been on any of the other trips.

Accounts of the moments we all shared with our Russian comrades will undoubtedly be filed in considerable detail elsewhere in the bulletin. Just let it be said that we of Company D garnered our fair share of the commemorative medals bestowed by the Russians. Paul also had a presentation by a little birdie in Leipzig who must have thought the bill of his cap was in need of some "scrambled eggs." Paul reports that it washed off without a trace, attesting to the high quality of our caps.

The most impressive moment of the trip for us and other members of the 1st Battalion of the 273rd may have occurred when our buses passed through a row of dragon teeth and descended into the hamlet of Miescheid. The village was readily recognizable although the traces of war have long been removed. This was our one stop on the Siegfried line; a more poignant spot would have been hard to find.

The seven Company D members constituted more than one fifth of one bus load. This close association as we traversed Europe on our "yellow bus" fostered renewed feelings of a common allegiance which we shared so many years ago. We could hardly believe our good fortune when all seven of us were

selected in a drawing for first class train accommodations on the train ride from Leipzig to Cracow. Then we spent the 13 hours in six different compartments.

We did not let our feeling of oneness isolate us from a great group of fellow 69ers, many of whom had made the anniversary trip one or more times before. Perhaps the previously established relationships accounted for the seemingly instantaneous integration of the whole group. We hope this "team" will be setting its sights on a 50th anniversary trip. We appreciate the time and effort that the Beswicks put into organizing and guiding these last two tours. Perhaps they will consider taking on the task for a third time. In any event, it is almost unthinkable that the opportunity for a 50th anniversary will be allowed to pass us by.

The reunion in August will see the reuniting of the tour group. I fully expect to see Company D's largest turnout yet. That will take at least 14 members. Wives and guests could create a total of over 25 fun loving, h___ raising and boisterous celebrators. Come help make it so!

Note from Earl: Nice hearing from you Ken. Bring your Company D men up to see me sometime during the reunion. Also would like to see those who went on the tour sometime before the reunion week is over. I'll have a lot of time to talk and discuss matters all day Monday and Tuesday evening if you come in that early. With the schedule that Frank, Dan, and Committee arranged, I don't know where more time can be fit in unless it's after all activities finish for the day and you come see me at my suite (parlor). I hope my Company E, 273rd beats your 14 members this year at Valley Forge.

Did you see yourselves on TV at 9:00 a.m., on CBS, Sunday, May 6th? I'm sure someone taped it and will bring me a copy as we missed it. They were having the Pittsburgh Marathon on at that time. Sometimes you win and sometimes you lose I guess.

See you all at Valley Forge. How about some pictures of Europe.