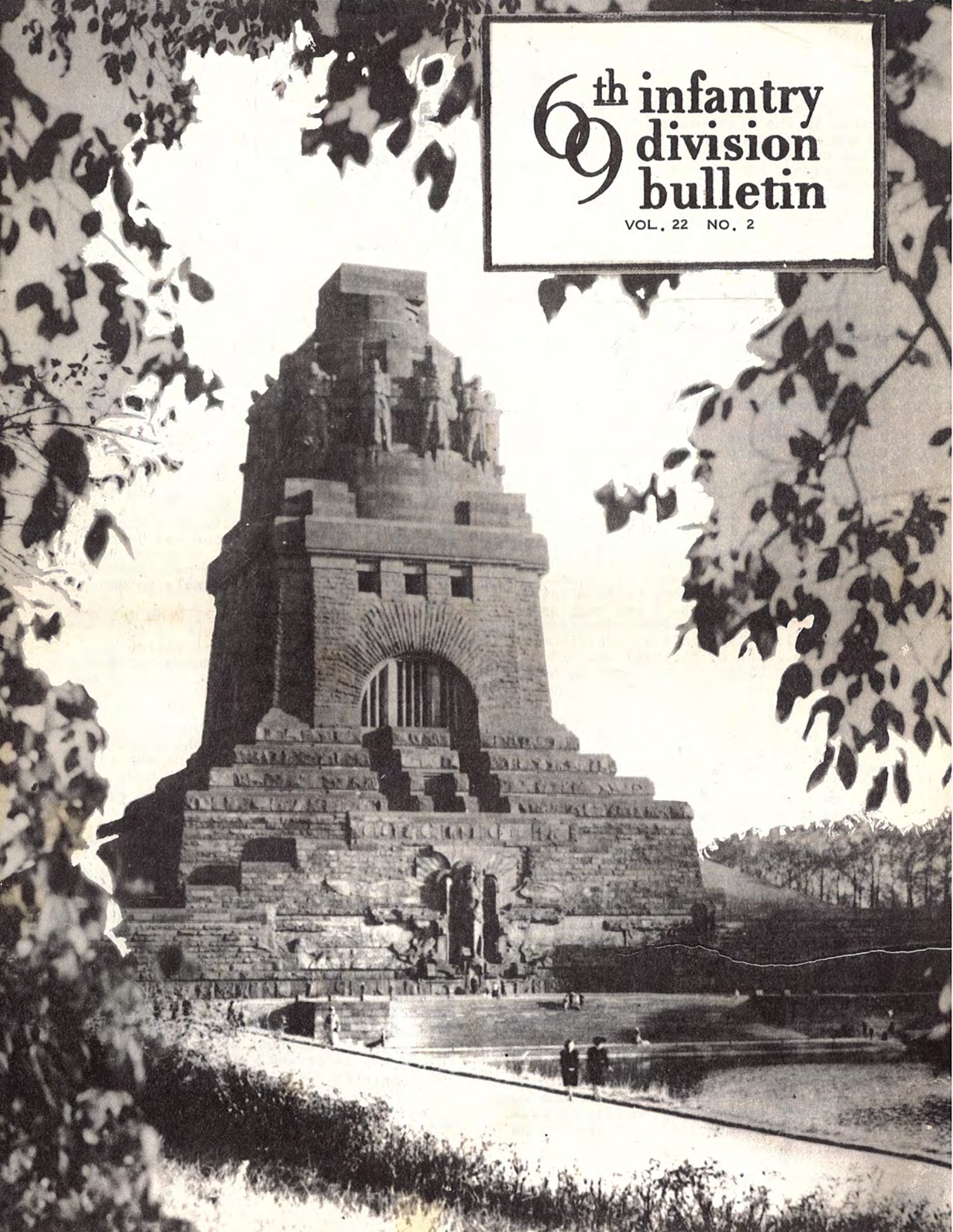


6th infantry division bulletin

VOL. 22 NO. 2



THE COVER

On October 16-19, 1813 a decisive battle in the Napoleonic Wars was fought in the area of Leipzig, Germany. It is often called "The Battle of Nations" because almost every European nation participated.

After Napoleon's catastrophic failure in Russia in 1812, he hastily organized a new army, and early in 1813, moved into Saxony to meet the advancing Allies. Following initial defeats, the allies adopted a strategy of attacking the forces commanded by Napoleon's marshalls and retiring before those commanded by Napoleon in person. The marshalls, having been afforded little opportunity by Napoleon to gain experience in the conduct of independent operations, were defeated with great losses in four separate battles. Thus, Napoleon was compelled to concentrate his army under his personal control. This he did at Leipsig, where he established a defensive position.

On October 16, part of the Allied forces attacked from the north, west, and south. The forces engaged were about equal: Napoleon 190,000; the Allies, 220,000. The major action took place in the south where Napoleon counterattacked after checking the advance of Prince Karl Phillip von Schwarzenberg (Russo-Austrians). The counterattack was repulsed, and by nightfall both sides occupied substantially their initial positions, except for gains by Marshall Gebhard Lebrecht von Blücher (Prussian) in the north. Failure to gain a victory on this day sealed Napoleons's fate. Within two days, reinforcements would increase the Allied strength to more than 300,000.

The day of the 17th was spent by Napoleon in the fruitless efforts to negotiate a peace.

On the 18th, the Allies attacked on all sides in full strength, reinforced by Bernadotte's Swedes on the east. In the north and east the French slowly withdrew before Blücher and Bernadotte. The fiercest fighting took place in the south at Probstheida and Stötteritz, under Napoleon's own eyes, where combined Russians and Austrians repeatedly flung themselves in vain upon the French lines, until human bodies formed the ground upon which the armies fought. The ferocious conflict continued until nightfall when with the cessation of battle, news was brought to Napoleon that his Saxon troops had deserted to the enemy. This, together with the absence of victory, made retreat essential.

The French troops streamed eastward all night across the one stone bridge over the Elster. However, by an idiotic mistake, premature demolition of the bridge

left many French isolated in Leipzig to become prisoners. Total losses for the several days of the battle were: Napoleon, 40,000 killed and wounded, 30,000 prisoners; Allies, between 45,000 and 54,000 killed and wounded. As a consequence of this battle, Napoleon was forced to retreat across the Rhine, to fight a series of defensive actions which eventually resulted in his complete defeat and retirement to Elba.

In later years, to honor those who died at the Battle of Leipzig, the massive Völkerschlacht Denkmal, or "Battle of Nations" monument, was erected near Stötteritz in the area where some of the heaviest fighting had taken place. It stands 300 feet high and German statisticians have calculated it would take a freight train thirty-four miles long to haul the stone and cement that went into its bulk. It resembles a fortress more than a monument and can perform both functions equally well, as many 69-ers discovered in April of 1945. Our own Battle of Leipzig began on April 18, in the same Probstheida-Stötteritz area where so much of Napoleon's action had been concentrated. Ironically, although defeated 132 years before, he had indirectly placed a formidable obstacle in the path of the 69th.

In "The Last 100 Days", John Toland presents an excellent account of the WWII Battle of Leipzig. The following excerpts from his book (with our editorial comments) describe the action in the area of the monument:

"The paltry defenses of the city, under Oberst (Colonel) Hans von Poncet, consisted of about 750 men of the motorized 107th Infantry Regiment and one replacement motorized battalion of 250 men. There were also a few units of the 14th Flak Division, several battalions of Volkssturm troops, and the 3400 police personnel of Generalleutnant (Major General) Wilhelm von Grolmann, police chief of the city.

Grolmann was a policeman, not a military commander, and he strongly opposed the use of Volkssturm youth in a hopeless struggle. It was tantamount, he said, to the murder of children. "The police are under my command" he told Poncet, and he had no intention of releasing them to other agencies for other purposes. "Our own forces are much too weak for effective resistance, since they are completely without heavy arms." Therefore, he argued, efforts to defend the city were useless and only exposed its 750,000 citizens senselessly.

As Hodges began encircling the city with the 2nd and 69th U.S. Infantry divi-

(Cont. Page 10 Col. 1)

1969 REUNION --- NEW HAVEN, AUGUST 14, 15, 16, 17

If you have attended any of our recent reunions you know that the past several have been among the biggest and best since this annual event was initiated shortly after the war. Roanoke---Pittsburgh---and last year, Philadelphia, which topped the previous two. --- Which brings us to 1969, New Haven, and a reunion which we promise you will continue in the same vein as its predecessors.

As has been our custom in the past, we'll be meeting on the third week end in August --- August 14, 15, 16, 17 --- at the beautiful, modern, Park Plaza Hotel, right in the heart of New Haven. It will be our first time in New Haven and the location will make it especially easy for all you New Englanders to attend. We expect to see a lot of new faces showing up, not only from Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, etc., --- but from all over --- we've added hundreds of names to our mailing list since the last reunion.

Our New Haven Committee, headed by Al Carbonari (HQ 1st Bn. 271) and Stan Olszewski (SV - 273), has great plans under way, a couple of new angles, and a determination to out-do Philadelphia, which will be quite an accomplishment if they can do it --- and we think they can.

We expect the week end to get off to an early start, so we advise you all to arrive early --- Thursday August 14, if possible. To encourage the Early Birds, the Park Plaza has given us a special deal on room rates which is pretty hard to beat:

Single	\$10.50
Double (Twin)	15.00

Any family having three or more children with them will be allowed an additional room at no charge. If you've been worrying about the expense of bringing the kids, the problem is solved! --- And we can promise you that the accommodations will be tops --- the latest in new modern facilities.

Although our program of events has not yet been fully resolved, we do know that it will include the usual Friday night Beer Party and Saturday night banquet, plus various other meetings, tours, kiddie and teen parties, etc. Those of you who have joined us on other occasions know that there won't be a dull moment all week end. The tab for 69th functions?

Friday Night Beer Party	\$ 3.00
Saturday Night Banquet	\$10.00
Friday-Saturday Combination	\$12.50

That's \$12.50 per person for a week end of fun, frolic, and what-have you, including all meetings, informal functions, ladies get-togethers, kiddie and teen parties, etc. --- And every penny of it will be well worth it!

To plan properly for your coming, we need your reservation for reunion functions as early as possible. To assure yourself the room accommodations of your choice, send in your hotel reservation as early as possible. For reunion functions, fill out the reservation form on this page and send it in to Stan Olszewski of our New Haven Committee. To reserve your hotel room, use the reservation card enclosed in this bulletin.

RESERVATION FOR REUNION FUNCTIONS - AUGUST 14, 15, 16, 17, 1969

Send to Stanley Olszewski, 212 McClintock St., New Britain, Conn.
Make checks payable to 69th Infantry Division Association.

I will arrive August 14 () 15 () 16 () before August 14 ()

In my party will be () adults () pre-teens () teens

No. of persons attending Friday Night Beer Party (\$3.00 ea.) _____

No. of persons Saturday Night Banquet (\$10.00 ea.) _____

No. of persons attending Friday and Saturday (\$12.50 ea.) _____

PLEASE FIND ATTACHED A CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$ _____

I WILL PAY ON ARRIVAL AT REUNION _____

NAME _____ UNIT _____

ADDRESS _____

UNIT NEWS

E - 273

by Bill Matlach

Last year's delegation to the reunion from E-273 was heavily weighted by the 2nd Platoon, which, after all, is as it should be since the 2nd Platoon was always the keystone of the company --- any member of that platoon will tell you so! The following answered the roll call: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Huston, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Llewellyn, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Madderson, Mr. and Mrs. William Matlach, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Shimp, and Earl Witzleb who has managed to retain his bachelorhood in spite of unbelievable pressures from all sides.

All of the aforesaid are former members of the 2nd Platoon with the exception of Fred Huston, and even he may have been in the 2nd since he doesn't remember his platoon. Actually Fred left the 69th while we were still in training in Camp Shelby, but somehow, the outfit grew on him --- he's made the last two reunions and we expect to see him again.

This was the first reunion for Walt Llewellyn and Artie Madderson. Although they had maintained contact with each other through the years, they were not aware that the 69th Association existed until they read of the reunion in their local Philadelphia newspapers. This being their first, naturally they had much to discuss with the rest. Saturday night was a long night.

It wasn't until Pappy Shimp left that Artie Madderson realized he's been running into Pappy time and again and didn't recognize him. Pappy manages a summer recreation area at Lake Garrison, N. J., and the Maddersons have been going there for years.

This year's reunion, being in a new area, should bring in some new faces. Two that we know will be there are Frank Dionne and Martie Connor --- they'd better be, it's practically walking distance to New Haven for them. --- And those of you who live a little farther, take a car --- take a bus --- take a plane --- take whatever it takes to join in.

661st TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

by Bill Beswick and George Straley

The members of the 661st Tank Destroyer Battalion believes that the reunion of the 69th Infantry Division was a tremendous success. The fellowship was wonderful as some of us had not seen each other since our service days of 1946. We had a grand total of 35 members--most of us had our wives with us. This may not sound too impressive but we have to remember that until three years ago only two or three would

(Cont. Page 6 Col. 1)

THE FLIGHTING 69TH TOUR

After 2 years of planning, the Flighting 69th Tour of Europe is rapidly approaching reality. If you don't have your reservation in yet you'll have to move fast if you want to join the happy group which will be departing on July 12 from New York, bound for London and 22 days in Europe.

To review, the tour will take 22 days, July 12 thru August 2, 1969, at a cost of \$779.00 per person. This fee includes all transportation, hotels, and two meals a day. All hotels will be First Class. The itinerary will include stops at London, Amsterdam, Cologne, Frankfurt, Munich, Rome, Madrid, and Lisbon/Cascais. Naturally, we'll have guided tours of all the main points of interest to make sure we don't miss anything worth seeing.---And special events galore---visit to Winchester and its famous cathedral, bull fight, Flamenco dancers, parties, etc., etc.

Most of all, we'll be traveling together as a group---all 69ers, all buddies and friends from way back. If you think back to your time in the service you'll remember that there was hardly ever a dull moment---when you're traveling around with a group you know, there's always something doing, always a few instigators around to start a party, orgy, or what-have-you. In fact, if this tour turns out to be anything like our 1965 Return to the Elbe, we'll all be needing an extra couple of weeks vacation afterward just to recondition ourselves back to the old grind. By then, all the snapshots and movie film will have been developed and we can start taking the trip all over again in retrospect.

So come on fellows, give the Mrs. a break and take her on a vacation she won't forget. But don't delay---time is growing very short. For further details, write now to Loar Quickle, 512 South Main Street, Pennington, N.J. 08534

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO---

The following are brief biographical sketches of some of the members we have heard from in the past year or so.

JAMES W. PEACH (C-273), 2021 Fourth St. S.E., P.O.Box 733, Moultrie, Ga. 31768. Married, 1 daughter. Southeast Georgia sales representative for Peeler Hardware Co.

WELDON F. BARTHELEMY (879 FA), 7929 Royal Lane 120, Dallas Texas 75230. Married, 1 son. Since separation from service actively engaged in supervision of drilling and producing gas and oil wells in Tex., Okla., and N.M. Now with Petrofina Co. of Texas.

(Cont. Page 6 Col. 1)

NEWS AT RANDOM

If you did not know, both Miriam and Sol Rosenblitt, our executive secretary for many years and a former President retired and will be spending their winters in sunny Florida from now on. They bought a co-operative apartment when they first moved down there and right afterwards thought so much of it that they decided to buy another one as an investment. They intend to return the first part of April and stay here until December, that is in NYC. Their address while in Fla. is: 1333 E. Hallendale Blvd., Hallendale, Fla. 33009. Sol is H-271. Oh yeah! the Apt. No. is 239.... So far Sam Woolf and Bob Silberg and his lovely wife have visited with them.

Every once in a while, due to the publicity given NICK URBANO, 879 Art., and his Freddie's Tavern in West Trenton, N.J. one of his buddies stops by and visits with him. The latest one is JACK COHEN, C-879 who is in the printing business, Modern Print Service, Lakewood, N.J. Jack lives at 630 Sixth St., Lakewood, N.J. 08701. I understand they had a wonderful visit.

Would like to report that ever since the Return to the Elbe Tour in 1965 about 20 participants have been invited to AL CARBONARI'S HOME, Al is Hdqrs 271, also to three Sustaining Member's homes all around New Haven, Conn. They are Murray Brodoff, Anthony Vitale and Axel Swanson. Tony and Murray are Doctors and Axel is an attorney. My informant states they have a ball the entire day, attending all the homes, having plenty of fellowship, attending a Yale Univ. football game etc. This past fall there were 28 in one group at the game. As you can see, the tour brought a group together and it is a lasting one.

LEO MC GILLEN B269 writes that he left reunion in Philly and went on an extended trip to the west before returning to Lake Worth, Fla. to enjoy the life of a retiree. He sent cards to the General, personal and behalf of the Engrs. It was good to see you in Philly, Leo, and will be even better in 1969 at New Haven....Leo, we miss the write-ups in our bulletin about the Engineers....Shake them up!!!

After the reunion last year Col. INGRAHAM of 32 Harbord Ct., Oakland, Cal. 94618 visited Col. EDWARD LEARY and his lovely wife, Camilla. The Leary's and Col. Ingraham visited the Quickle's for dinner and a wonderful time was had by all. Loren, the son of the Quickle's received

a revered Nazi dagger from Col. Ingraham and he shows it off to everyone that visits their home. We certainly pray that the Colonel's health remains as good as it was last year so he can attend another reunion soon.

Col. Ingraham has requested the address of Gen. Floyd Park's widow. We don't seem to have her on our roster at the present time. If anyone member knows of her whereabouts, please write the Col. at the above address.

Many persons have written in to learn the address of the person taking the banquet picture of the Phila. reunion. It is the Irwin Photo Service, 500 E. 19th St., Chester, Pa. 19013

THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM COL. RAY STRAUSS, RAMS ACRES, DANBY, VT. 05739. "After being told they could not trace our revered leader and commander, I pulled a little rank and insisted the personnel section find the man for me. They did and after being told he was no longer at Morningside Manor, sure enough was there. I drove out last Sunday with my wife, Maralyn, and spent a few pleasant hours with him. I had a conversation with his doctor, Maj. Barnes, and he is being given the best possible care.



General Reinhardt

As an old soldier, I reported correctly, 'Capt. Strauss of the 272 Inf. Rgt. reporting to the General, Sir'. This brought a beam upon the old man's face; as I knew it would. I noticed he kept staring at the 69th Patch. He is fighting this problem and is in good humor. He has a keen sense of humor anyway. Am

(Cont. Page 7 Col. 2)

attend.

They had a good time, not only at the main events of the reunion, but in a sidebar get-together of their own unit, at which Bill Snidow, Ralph Bragg, and Bill Beswick, all Virginians, extended Southern hospitality in one of the Marriott Hotel's upstairs down-the-hall rooms, just before the banquet.

We located quite a few long lost members due to the fine publicity we received in the Philadelphia area and thanks to the excellent efforts of one of our own people, George Straley of Headquarters Co.

John Sherlock of "A" Co. and his lovely wife received a letter from Bill Beswick on Friday evening, and left home immediately, driving all night to be with us in Philly for the balance of the reunion.

A gay old time was had by all --- much reminiscing at the old fashioned Beer Party, enjoyable food at the very fine banquet, and lively bull sessions in the rooms until the wee hours of the morning.

On a recent trip to California, George Straley contacted Robert Barrows, in Stackton, and Earl Lazar in Long Beach. Both served in the 661 TD's---Barrows as 1st Sgt. of Headquarters Co., and Lazar as CWO. Both said they knew about our Association and sent greetings to former buddies. Barrows inquired particularly about John G. Becker of Pottsville, Pa.

Now a small portion from the letter received from our former Battalion Commander---Colonel Donald B. Miller, 3106 Knight Robin, San Antonio, Tex. 78209: "I hope the reunion was a huge success, as I'm sure it must have been. Also I hope the 661'ers were well represented. Looking back over my thirty years in the army, I remember with particular nostalgia and pride my association with that fine group of men who with me played a significant though brief part in World War II. Now that I'm retired, I hope to be able to get together with some of them. He also expressed his regrets that he was unable to attend the reunion as he was being retired from the army at that particular time. Well, Colonel Miller, we will look for you at a future date and reunion.

How about it fellows, will we be seeing you in August in New Haven.?

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO --- (Cont. from Page 4)

PAUL W. PILLSBURY (CN-271), 2438 Bunker Hill Rd., Ann Arbor, Mich. 48105. Married, 1 son, 1 daughter. Associate Professor of English Language and Literature at Eastern

Michigan U.

CHARLES FORRESTER (E-273), 3 Old Woodruff Rd., Greer, S.C. 29651. Was one of nine who took the trip to Russia in 1955. Is now in textile work.

CLIFFORD C. BLANK (previously GUERRA) (661 TD), 908 Gardenia, Victoria, Texas 77901. Married, 1 son, 1 daughter. Married April 1, 1951 and working like h--- ever since. Is now in the oil field instrument repair business (tungsten products).

GEORGE A. FRANCIS, SR. (A-661 TD), Boothby Park, Saco, Maine 04072. Married, 3 sons, 3 daughters. Employed at the Pepperal Mfg. Co. in Biddeford, Maine. Two of his sons have seen service in the Army.

JOHN R. McNAMARA (E-271), 3301 O'Hara Rd., Huntsville, Ala. 35802. Married, 2 daughters. Joined IBM in 1946 and worked in Endicott and Owego, N.Y. Transferred to Huntsville in Oct. 1966 where he is presently Manager of Overhead and Fixed Assets.

RICHARD W. RICK (I-271), 722 Fourth Ave., Rochelle, Ill. 61068. Married, 2 sons, 2 daughters. Served 3½ years Air Force Reserve (20 months in Japan during Korean War). Married in 1953. Worked for a couple of engineering firms. Currently Manager, Construction Division Fosco Fabricators, Inc., interstate highway signing contractors.

ARTHUR M. ATHEY (HQ-661 TD), 206 S. Harrison, Beeville, Texas 78102. Married, 2 daughters. Automobile and Truck Dealer.

AUGUST C. LEWIS (HQ-661TD), Burgess, Va. 22432. Married, 2 sons, 2 daughters.

MARTIN K. LOWERY (C-272), 4925 Roxie, Ft. Worth, Texas 76117. Married, 3 daughters. Since 1950 has been employed with a construction company as a cost accountant and purchasing agent. Has worked on Minuteman Missile Facilities at Minot A.F.B., N.D.

MILTON KRAFT (HQ-661 TD), 11522 Lockwood Dr. B-1, Silver Springs, Md. 20904. Married, 2 sons. Employed with the Bureau of Hearings and Appeals, Dept. of Health, Education, and Welfare. Is a Scoutmaster in his spare time.

ESTEL H. SNYDER (HQ-661 TD), Rt. 4, Abilene, Kans. 67410. Married, 2 daughters. After discharge, worked 3 years for a local Phillips "66" jobber. In 1948 started working for Kansas Power and Light Co. Is now a plant operator and a relief shift foreman. Lives on a 80 acre

(Cont. Page 8 Col. 1)

MAIL CALL

In the recent issues of the bulletin, considerable attention has been given to the attempts of Mrs. Joseph H. Gardner to establish service connection to the death of her husband in order to obtain educational benefits for her children. Through the efforts of many 69ers who knew Major Gardner, the story has arrived at a happy ending, as evidenced by the following letter received by Clarence Marshall:

"Dear Mr. Marshall"

Please forgive me for having waited so long to write to you. Believe me, I did intend to write to you before this, in fact I started a letter to you on July 31. At that time I had in my hands a letter written by you on July 17, 1968 in which you wrote "I realize how trying this ordeal has been for you; but you don't want to let it get you down". I was then just about ready to give up. And then also I was so touched to find my letter in the "Mail Call" which I read from 1st to last line, since I have the Bulletin. And I also received new letters from this and got back to my search. I sent all affidavits received to the Veterans Administration and then I received in August a letter from the VA informing me that "Based on additional evidence which was received and considered, the benefits sought on appeal for service connection for cause of death have been granted." You can guess how happy and relieved we were and so grateful to you and all the men who have written and made this possible. The only reason why I did not write immediately to inform you of this and again thank you is because at the end of August Joseph, my 18 year son was hurt in a car accident, skull fracture, brain concussion, amongst other things- but was sure lucky to be alive, -so this of course got me quite worried for a while. Now it seems that everything is back to routine. I am back working in the office, Bernadette has started 8th grade, Sylvia Jr. is now a sophomore in high school, and Joseph a freshman in Centralia College. I am taking advantage of this Sunday afternoon to go through all the letters I had received from 69thers and I want to copy their addresses for you.

At Christmas I will try to send a note to every man who wrote me. You know, beside getting my claim, there is something very precious I gained through these many letters. Reading letters of men who have known my husband very well or even not so well, it is still a link with him and the past which I want to keep alive in my heart until I die. So I can truly say that I will treasure every letter and every word written to me by those who were with him

in the 69th division.

Once again, please let me tell you from the bottom of my heart thank you and God bless you.

Sylvia B. Gardner
Route 2, Box 604
Chehalis, Wash."

The above is an excellent example of what can be achieved by the association for the benefit of 69ers and their families. In this instance, the benefit, measured in dollars and cents, will probably amount to the equivalent of several years' effort by our Scholarship Fund and actually it cost interested 69ers only postage and the time to sit down and write to Mrs. Gardner of any pertinent information which they possessed.

The following letter was received by George Phillips, our Treasurer:

"Dear Sir:

I received the 69th bulletin Vol. 21 No. 2 and was very pleased to get it. My address has changed since my last communication to you some years ago, so I am grateful to hear from my old outfit.

I am a Delivery Salesman for Gulf Oil Corporation here, have been for 14 years, and the greater part of my job is driving one of their large diesel transport units all over the state.

I also have been the Adjutant of Speedway Post #2839 Veterans of Foreign Wars for about six years now. In WW 1 I was known as PFC Robert P. Gandolf (Gandy) of C Company, 273rd. I was wounded at Kamberg, Germany, but after three months in Paris 203rd General Hospital, returned to my unit at Colditz, Germany.

It was great to see some of the names I know in the bulletin. Keep up the good work. Enclosed you will find a check for Membership \$3.00, and \$2.00 for the Scholarship Fund. Total \$5.00

Robert P. Gandolf
4025 Corwyn Road
Indianapolis,
Indiana 46222"

NEWS AT RANDOM (Cont. from Page 5)

enclosing a picture of him for the bulletin. I paid a 2nd call on him Friday on the way to the airport. I am sure the entire division was with me in spirit." Ray is in Mexico after a Command and Staff Course for Senior Officers. He states that he will be in New Haven at the reunion. You're a great Colonel, Ray!

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO ---
(Cont. from Page 6)

farm and does farming on days off. Has a few riding horses as a hobby. Oldest daughter is majoring in Education and Spanish at K.S.T.C., Emporia, Kans. Younger daughter is a Dentist's Assistant.

ROSS MARZZACCO (M-272), 2377 Riverside Dr., South Williamsport, Pa. 17701. Married, 1 son, 1 daughter. Employed at M.W. Kellogg Power Piping Division in Williamsport. Son has seen service in the U.S. Marine Corp. Wife is a nurse.

BERNARD O. McCORMICK (A-269), 315 Elizabeth Ave., Avalon, Pa. 15202. Single. In 1953 had 3/4 of stomach removed while residing in Coral Gables, Fla. Managed 2 Whelan Drug Stores in Florida. Was a Male Attendant at Dixmont State Hospital and St. Barnabas Home in Gibsonia, Pa. Until recently did private duty taking care of helpless patients.

RALPH W. BOCK (HQ-661 TD), 4021 Council St. N.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402. Married, 2 sons, 1 daughter. Following discharge in 1946, returned to Illinois Inst. of Technology and received B.S. degree in Mech. Engineering. Presently employed as Design Engineer at Quaker Oats Co.

MICHAEL DURICK (M-272), 1103 Pilgrim Dr., Sharon, Pa. 16146. Married, 2 daughters. Has been engaged in foundry work, primarily as a core builder. Likes to do some fishing and deer hunting in his spare time.

VANCE W. BORTEL (HQ-661 TD) - Linwood Rd. R.R. 1, Pemberville, Ohio 43450. Married, 7 children and a few grandchildren. Designed and built a large 14 room house for his brood. Has been with Libbey Owen Ford Glass in Toledo as a Millwright for many years.

WILLIAM D. NEAL (HQ-661 TD) - 301 East Madison, Riverton, Wyo. 82501. Married, Moved from Tullahoma, Tenn. to Ottunura, La in 1951. Works as a general mechanic.

ROBERT F. SHULL (HQ-661 TD) - 4 East View Terrace, Dansville, N.Y. 14437. Married, 1 son. Has been driving a Semi for Shay's Service, Inc. for 16 years.

LT. COL. VIRGIL A ARTHUR (L-273) - 4816 Coleman Rd., Richmond, Va. 23230. Retired as Executive Officer of the 176th Engineer Group of the Virginia Army National Guard after 30 years' service.

THOMAS M. MOORE (M-272) - Box 40, Alamo, Tenn. 38001. Married, 2 daughters. After

service, received a B.S. degree at the University of Tennessee. Since then has been working with the University of Tenn. Agricultural Extension Service. As a hobby, has been showing Basenji Dogs for the past 6 years.

ROBERT L. STONE (HQ-661 TD) - 3803 Eastledge, Austin, Texas 78731. Married, 2 daughters. President of the Austin National Bank and keeps busy with work and civic activities. Retired from the active reserve as Lt. Colonel in Selective Service System.

DALE W. ECHTENKAMP (M-272) - 710 19th Ave. South, Fargo, N.D. 58102. Married, 2 children. Has been with the Prudential Insurance Co. for 16 years and is currently Manager of the North Dakota District.

WILLIAM D. COEN (HQ-661 TD) - 2051 Capital Circle, Parkersburg, W.Va. 26101. Married, 2 sons. After discharge, worked 3 years for a new car dealer, then 5 years as an insurance adjuster. Since then has been a Special Agent in sales production of fire and casualty insurance. For recreation he depends on hunting, golf, and the local youth baseball program in which his sons participate.

GROVER C. McDONALD, SR. (HQ-661 TD) - 5114 Cherokee Rd. N.E., Albuquerque, N.M. 87110. Married, 1 son, 2 daughters, all married. Spent 22 years in the Air Force, 1950-52 in Korea, 1961-64 in Hawaii. Retired in 1964. Now employed at Southwestern Skyways Inc., a private airport in Albuquerque.

ACIE W. SMITH (A-881 FA) - Flat Rock Rd., Rt. 2 Box 23A, Stockbridge, Ga. 30281. Married, 1 son, 2 daughters. Employed as a crane operator.

CHARLES L. SMITH (A-881 FA) - 728 Virginia Ave., Lancaster, Ohio 43130. Married, 1 son, 1 daughter. 1945 to 1950 worked with Ray-O-Vac Battery Co. as Chemical Laboratory Dept. Head. 1950 to present, working for Anchor Hocking Glass Corp. as a Civil Engineer in the design and construction of new building installations. He is a member of the First Methodist Church, Fairfield County Engineers Society, and American Legion Post II, Lancaster. Hobbies are camping and photography.

LEONARD F. SMITH, JR. (A-881 FA) - Box 1137, Paxton, Fla. 32538. Married, 1 son, 1 daughter. After discharge, majored in Forestry at the University of Florida and then worked for the State of Georgia and the State of Florida. Has been a Forester for the International Paper Company for the past 13 years.

(Cont. on Page 11 Col. 2)

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO ---
(Cont. from Page 8)

TOM H. HARDY (A-881 FA) - Box 267 Camden, Tenn. 38320. Married, 4 sons, 2 daughters. Is a partner, with his brother, in the Hardy Sand Co., producing industrial sands for the foundry and glass industries. Was Mayor of Camden for 5 terms, Treasurer of National Industrial Sand Association, Director of Tennessee Mfg. Association, member of State Industrial Commission, State Board of Reclamation Review, and Al Chymia Shrine Temple.

JACK G. LAWRENCE (A-881 FA) - 1333 Kenyon Drive, Toledo, Ohio 43614. Married, 2 sons, 4 daughters. Graduated University of Toledo in 1948. Has been in Sales with Kraft Foods for the last 14 years.

JAMES FRANK LEE (A-881 FA) - Route 1, Normandy, Tenn. 37360. Married. After discharge, went into Service Station business until 1951 when he went into his current business, Frank Lee's Trucking Company in Tullahoma, Tenn.

FRED O. METZGER (Div. Hq. & HQ-271) - American Red Cross, Ft. Devens, Mass. 01433. Has been with the American Red Cross for many years, including 3½ years in Germany and one year in Labrador and Greenland.

RALPH P. REEVES, SR. (A-881 FA) - 7735 Kentland Ave., Canoga Park, Calif. 91304. Married, 1 son, 1 daughter. Retired from the Army in 1960 as a Major. Has been working as a Security Patrolman at Atomic International in Canoga Park ever since.

LTC (Ret.) WILLIAM H. SIMMS (H-273 & Div. Hq.) - 1230 Stringham Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah 84106. Married, 1 son, 2 daughters. Retired from the Army in 1967 with 25 years service.

CHARLIE F. LAND (A-881FA) - 4509 East Long St., Sweet-Home, Oregon. Married. For the last eleven years has been working for Timber Engineering Co., as independent testing agency in the plywood industry. Raises Reg. Quarter Horses and Appaloosas, "Racing Type".

WESLEY D. WEBSTER (C-271) - 120 W. Murphy St., Madison, N.C. 27025. Married, 1 son, 1 daughter. Chairman of Rockingham County Commissioners.

DAVID H. RICH (E-272) - 297 Juanita Ave., Pacifica, Calif. 94044. Married, 3 daughters. Retired from the Army in 1961. Worked at Schlage Lock Co. driving a Fork lift. At present, operates a double seamer at the American Can Co.

ROBERT C. CLUTTER (569 SIG) - 1423 Fairmont St., Pittsburgh, Pa. Married, 1 son, 1 daughter. (both married), and a number of grandchildren. Has been with the Wilkesburg Police Dept. since 1946.

ROBERT T. BARBEY, SR. (HQ-661 TD) - 315 Mullen Ave., San Francisco, Calif. 94110. Married, 1 son, 2 daughters. Most of his buddies will remember him by the name of "Frisco". Employed as a Teamster.

ROGER D. WEST (E-272) - 1387 Marlboro, Ann Arbor, Mich. 48104. Married, 1 son, 2 daughters. Owner-operator of R & R Lawn & Tree Service, lawn maintenance and tree removal.

HAROLD A. REITNAUER (HQ 1 Bn-273) - 411 E. 4th St., Boyertown, Pa. 19512. Married, 2 sons, 1 daughter. Director of Accounts Payable and a Director of Boyertown Auto Body Works. A Past Master and Secretary of Boyertown Lodge No. 741, F.&A.M.

EDWIN G. LE VALLEY (G-271) - 4028 Columbus, Bakersfield, Calif. 93306. Married, 3 sons, 1 daughter. He writes, "After leaving the 69th at Laucha, Germany, I went to Bremen with the 29th Division....with the 78th Division, Hq. Co., Berlin, in the band! I was acting Regimental Sgt. Major for all companies of MPs, Signal Corps, Military Govt., and Medics.

...After completing school (Education Major), I decided selling was more to my liking. I've been engaged in selling since 1949, with a short time out for working in the production department for Richfield Oil Co. After leaving Richfield Oil, I spent 7 years selling Baldwin Pianos.... went into the field of petroleum equipment, pumps, etc....eventually led to contacts with all major oil companies and many chemical firms, as well as working with NASA at Edwards Air Force Base, & NOTS (Navy base) at China Lake, Calif....saw a lot of country and met hundreds of people. I finally ended up as a sales engineer with a subsidiary of Symington Wayne Co. of Salisbury, Md. and transferred to Los Angeles, Calif....Not appreciating the congestion and smog of L.A., I resigned and returned to Bakersfield....went to work for Tidewater Oil Co. marketing dept....Phillips 66 bought Tidewater.... have since been with them in the capacity of District Representative....supervising of Bulk Plant Operations & S. Station operation."

EDWARD H. BARTLING (B-661 TD) - Rt. # 1, Walthill, Neb. 68067. Married, 1 son, 1 daughter. Retired from the Army in 1963 after 20 years service. Lives on a 6 acre farm 3 miles east of Walthill.

(Cont. on Page 11 Col. 2)

THE COVER (Cont. from Page 2)

sions, Grolmann and Poncet continued to act at cross-purposes. While the colonel barricaded the Town Hall area with the bulk of his troops and then secretly occupied the huge monument with about 300 of his best men, Grolmann was preparing to surrender.

On April 18 Grolmann announced over the radio that he had taken over command and would represent the interests of the citizens to the best of his ability. At 4 P.M. he managed to reach Major General Walter Robertson of the 2nd Division by phone and offered to surrender Leipzig....

"I have absolutely no control over Colonel von Poncet and don't even know where his command post is," he said. He thought, however, that most of the Wehrmacht troops had already left the city, and that Poncet would be no problem. The U.S. 69th Division was to discover otherwise. It was just entering the city from the southeast, spearheaded by the armored task force of Lieutenant Colonel Zwiebol."

(F-273 had boarded Zwiebol's tanks and passed through E-273 for a thrust to the heart of the city after E-273 had become engaged with the city's outer defenses in the area of Probstheida.)

"As Task Force Zwiebol approached the monument, Poncet's men inside opened fire." (Several tanks were knocked out, and as the Infantry on board hit the pavement, they were cut down by ground level automatic fire.) "Zwiebol's tanks, which normally traveled at 10 miles an hour, began careering down the streets toward Town Hall, at triple this speed, and at almost every corner some infantryman was flung off. At the last street before the Town Hall, Zwiebol learned from an Italian flier that there were at least 300 SS troops in the area. With only sixty-five infantrymen left---about 160 had fallen off the tanks in the wild dash or been hit by enemy fire---he wisely dug in for the night..."

(The following morning resistance at the Town Hall was overcome through the combined efforts of F-273, A-273, and Zwiebol's armor.)

"...The only serious resistance left in Leipzig was at the monument, where Poncet now held seventeen American prisoners. However, 8-in. shells had little effect on the structure and some were simply bouncing off the granite. It looked like a long and costly siege. Captain Hans Trefousse, interrogator of the 273rd Regiment, had an idea. He told his regimental commander, Colonel C.M. Adams, that he thought he could "talk" Poncet into surrendering. Born in Frankfurt am Main, Trefousse had escaped to America with his parents in 1936 and six years later grad-

uated Phi Beta Kappa from C.C.N.Y.

At three o'clock Trefousse, accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel George Knight, the regimental executive officer, and a captured German carrying a white flag, started up the steps toward the entrance to the souvenir shop at the rear of the monument. Poncet and two other German officers came out to meet the parliamentaries.

Trefousse told Poncet it was senseless to hold out. "There's no chance to win. The war is lost. It's wise to give up now and save men."

"I have orders from the Fuhrer 'in person never to surrender,'" Poncet replied. He also refused to release the seventeen American prisoners or make an exchange for them. But a truce of two hours was arranged for the evacuation of wounded,

While American medics were removing more than a dozen casualties, Trefousse continued to argue with Poncet outside the souvenir shop, and by five o'clock finally persuaded him to continue the talks inside the monument...

...Somewhat later Trefousse told Poncet and his officers that an offer had just been made by division headquarters: if Poncet walked out of the monument by himself and surrendered, his men would be allowed to follow, one by one. Poncet accepted, and at 2 A.M., April 20, strode out of the main door. The battle of the monument was over.

But as Trefousse was about to release the rest of the Germans, Colonel Knight said there had been a misunderstanding. Major General Emil F. Reinhardt, the division commander, had given permission only to release Poncet. The others would have to be temporarily interned inside the monument. Trefousse returned to the other German officers and tried to persuade them to accept the new conditions. As an inducement he said he would try to get them 48 hour leave in Leipzig if they promised not to escape. Only one German insisted that the original bargain be kept and Trefousse promptly released him. General or no general, Trefousse did not feel he could break his word of honor. He then persuaded Knight to approve the forth-eight-hour leave. "But, said Knight, we've got to get these people in and out of the monument with Reinhardt's knowledge."

While the enlisted men were being disarmed, Trefousse spirited fifteen or so German officers out of the monument and to their homes. When he returned to pick them up forty-eight hours later, all were waiting except one and he had left behind an apologetic note."

No doubt many 69-ers who were them-

(Cont. on Page 11 Col. 2)

OBITUARIES

ROBERT G. VAN CASTER (661 TD) - died of a heart attack on September 30, 1967 at Cleveland, Ohio. After graduating from the University of Wisconsin in 1954 he became a Sales Engineer for Ampco Metals in Milwaukee. He later became District Manager in Cleveland until his death. He is survived by his wife Lyndell and three sons, Gerald, 16, John, 14, and Robert, 11.

JOHN E. FISHER (HS-269) - died of a heart attack at the age of 58 in January 1969 at Newark, Dela. John was a native of Port Deposit, Md. and was immediate past president of the Alumni Association of the Tome School in Port Deposit. He was a past commander of both the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars posts in Newark. He was a member of White Clay Creek Presbyterian Church, the Artisans Order of Mutual Protection of Lancaster, Pa., and the National Federation of Postal Clerks. John contributed much to the youth of his community through his activities with Little League Baseball, Football, and a Drum and Bugle Corp. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Gladys E. Fisher.

JOHN C. CARNES (A-724) - died of lung and spine cancer on March 31, 1969 at Taylors, S. C. He is survived by his widow, who writes that John was very proud of his service with the 69th Division.

ROBERT F. MOORE (H-271) - passed away on January 22, 1969 at Charlotte, N.C. after having fought a courageous two year battle with cancer. Mrs. Moore writes that he showed great courage to inspire others and stayed active between operations until the last two months. He was always proud of being a World War II veteran combat soldier of the 69th and enjoyed the comradery of the 69th reunions.

JOSEPH ADAMS (UNIT UNKNOWN) - passed away April 11, 1966 at Jackson, S. C. He is survived by his wife Ollie Mae, three sons, and a daughter.

EDWARD P. KRAMER (569 SIG.) - passed away February 1, 1969 of an acute coronary at Pittsburgh, Pa. Ed had been in poor health for the past two years but had managed to attend the 1967 reunion in Pittsburgh. He is survived by his wife Eve.

HENRY MEISEL (C269) - died February 10, 1969 of a heart attack at Ardsley, Pa. Henry was with us last year at the Reunion in Philadelphia.

HOMER S. HIGGINS (CN-272) - passed away September 1968 at Lavale, Md. He is sur-

vived by his widow, Mary.

ROBERT A. KORENSKY (SV-271) - passed away April 21, 1966 of a brain tumor at Ohio, Neb.

MAX S. MILLER (H-272) - passed away January 20, 1963 at Russell, Kansas.

ROBERT O'CONNOR (UNIT UNKNOWN) - died April 1969 of a heart condition at McLean, Va. He is survived by his wife and mother.

WILLIAM A. BUCKNER (AT-271) - killed in an automobile accident August 4, 1968.

MARTIN J. SAVKA (661 TD) - died September 3, 1967 at Pittsburgh Pa. of a heart attack.

JOSEPH C. KRAUSS (H-273) - passed away March 22, 1966 in New York. He is survived by his wife, Florence, and three children.

ORIN D. MCFARLAND (Hq.-273) - passed away December 28, 1965. Captain McFarland was formerly C.O. of Hq.-273.

HARRY B. UNDERWOOD (273) - Statesville, N. C. Passed away in January 1968. Major Underwood was formerly Regimental Surgeon of the 273rd Regiment.

HAROLD E. CLARK (Hq-271) - Little Falls, Minn. Passed away in 1967.

HUGH A. STRONG (H-273) - Wilmington, Dela. Died October 24, 1967 of a heart attack.

EDWARD A. MONTOYA (H-273) - Houston, Texas. Passed away October 15, 1965.

JACK FIGLIN (AT-271) - Philadelphia, Pa.

THE COVER (Cont. from Page 10)

selves participants in the action in the area of the Volkerschlacht Denkmal might have something further to add to Toland's account. In fact, we know of an incident or two ourselves, some in the lighter vein. If you have your own pet story, why not write in and tell us about it. Perhaps we can assemble enough material for another article on the Denkmal in a future bulletin.

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO--- (Cont. from Page 9)

HARMON GASTON (3 Bn.-271) - Box 6, Gipsy, Pa. 15741. Single. Has been in and out of V.A. Hospitals since 1950. Does construction work and stripping coal.

(Cont. on Page 12 Col. 2)

DUES

The 69th Infantry Division Association is a non-profit organization, run by and for its membership, with not a single penny paid in salaries to any officer or director. However, we do have expenses, and some of them are quite considerable, such as printing and mailing of this bulletin. Please do your part to help cover these costs by sending our Treasurer, George Phillips, your dues (only \$3.00). If you can afford more, we have a new Contributing Membership (10.00) for those who would like to do more than the minimum toward keeping the association financially solvent.--- And while you're at it, add another \$2.00 (or more if you like) as a donation to our scholarship fund. Make checks payable to the 69th Infantry Division Association and send to the appropriate address listed among others on this page.

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO ---
(Cont. from Page 11)

JOHN NOVINO (HQ-271) - 111 Nyack Ave., Lansdowne, Pa. 19050. Married, 4 sons, 1 daughter. Operates his own restaurant.

ALEXANDER GOLDBERG (HQ 3 Bn) - 15 Gaskin Road, Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12603. Married, 1 son, 1 daughter. Practicing law in Poughkeepsie.

MAILING ADDRESSES

<u>President:</u>	William Matlach 19 Barberry Road West Islip, N. Y. 11795
<u>Bulletin:</u>	Same
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association Box 193 Roselle Park, N. J. 07204
<u>Membership:</u>	Clarence Marshall 345 Sixth Ave. New Kensington, Pa. 15068

FIGHTING 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION -
****** *Association, Inc.* ******

345 Sixth Avenue
New Kensington, Pa. 15068

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WEST ISLIP, N.Y.
PERMIT NO. 13

A-271
MR ROY D SLOAN
227 BOSLER AVE
LEMOYNE PA 17043

ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED