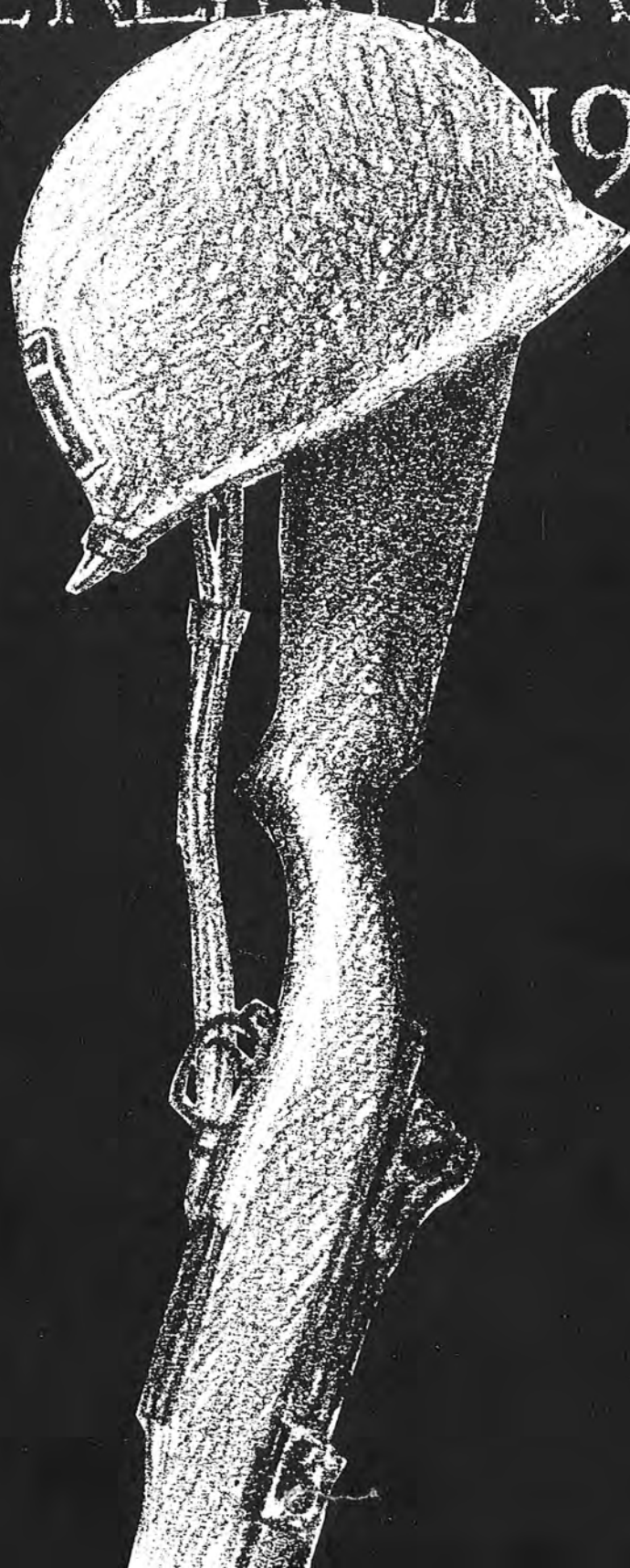


69th vol. 23, no. 1 infantry division bulletin

EMIL REINHARDT
1888 1969



The senior member of our Association is no more. The splendid career of General Reinhardt has come to a close with his death at Fort Sam Houston on July 24th.

These dark tidings reach us at a noticeable point in our own lives; it is exactly a quarter of a century since the Sixty-Ninth Division left Camp Kilmer for foreign shores. That anniversary is cheerless enough, in any event, but its sombre note is underlined by the word from Texas.

Our attachment to Emil Reinhardt does not date back to the campaign in Europe, where he was for most of us a very dim figure. It was the concern he showed, in the first years of his retirement, for the men who had served under him that accounts for the universal affection in which he came to be held. For without the immense labor he then undertook to round us up there would have been no Association. Insofar as the bonds of memory and comradeship that hold us together are a source of satisfaction.



THE GENERAL

satisfaction we are entirely in the General's debt.

In the War itself, of course, a special role was reserved for him. The handclasp with his Soviet equivalent was the signal to the world of the liberation of Europe. He personified, at that historic moment, the attainment of the Allied goals.

The General's fortune, in finding himself, at the culmination of the five year drama about to be concluded, at the helm of the furthest forward division of the Armies of the West, was not due to the luck of the draw. That he commanded the Sixty-Ninth to begin with was owed a choice dictated by honor; offered a corps stationed within the Continental limits, he had insisted, instead, on a division marked for combat.

This decision, which brought General Reinhardt to Camp Shelby, and hence into the lives of us all, is hardly to be remarked on, so much was it in character. From the day the train from

Michigan deposited him at the Military Academy, on the heights above the Hudson, until, forty years later, he brought the Sixty-Ninth Division back to the United States, his life was devoted to the country's service. It is not easy to imagine that he would have let pass the opportunity to come face to face with her foes.

As with us all, civilian claims on the General's attention presently asserted themselves, and the task of maintenance and expansion of the Association came to be shared by other hands, so we ceased to be the constant burden that had consumed month after month, the General's waking hours. Nevertheless, the welfare of his old comrades of the Ardennes and Central Germany continued to be, after his family, the chief object of the General's solicitude. In his recent, and last, illness, something of this was returned, in the wave of heart-felt expressions of hope for his recovery that reached his bedside. Perhaps this proved, to some slight degree, a final comfort.

A WORD FROM THE 13th PRESIDENT



345 sixth avenue, kensington, pennsylvania 15068

Dear Buddies:

It is a great honor to have the privilege of addressing you as President of the Sixty-Ninth. I have been connected with the Association since its inception, and have worked closely with the dedicated men who gave so much of their time to its advancement. I have enjoyed their friendship, and hope I can follow their example of dedication to a great cause.

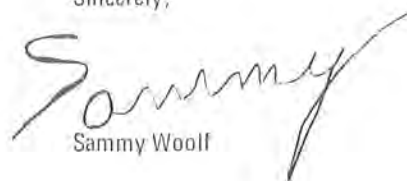
We begin our twenty-third year in sorrow for the death of our founder, that grand old man, General Reinhardt. It is gratifying to recall that at our Roanoke Reunion he told me how proud he was of us, and said that all the work he put into starting the Association was repaid a thousandfold, when he saw it vigorous and thriving. But each of us can, in turn, take some pride in the fact that the very existence of the Association brought pleasure to the General's declining years.

The Association is, in fact, prospering, as the General observed. We have just held our twenty-second reunion, and are arranging for the twenty-third. This will probably be in Washington, but the next BULLETIN will contain the details for certain.

At the New Haven reunion I agreed with a buddy that it was nice to get together and have a drink, but I wished that I could have made it clear that a ball was but a tiny part of the Association. Our Memorial service, to those who died in combat and since, the placing of roses of the graves of our buddies buried in Europe, our scholarship program; these are what we are really proud of, and our reason for existence.

None of this is news, of course, to old-timers; I mention it here for the reassurance of members lately added to our rolls, and for those Sixty-Niners whom we hope soon to see so listed, that there is more to our activity than enjoyment, though there is all you could want of the latter.

Sincerely,


Sammy Woolf

AND FROM THE TREASURER

69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

AUGUST 1, 1968—July 31, 1969

	Total	Operating	Welfare-Scholarship
Cash Balance 7-31-68	\$3380.29	\$ -(1537.67)	\$4917.96
Receipts 8-1-68/7-31-69			
Dues 1967-1968	153.00	153.00	
1968-1969	1850.00	1850.00	
1969-1970	21.00	21.00	
Dues Ladies Aux. 68/69	58.50	58.50	
Contributing Members	570.00	570.00	
Misc. N. Y. Chapter	100.00		100.00
Scholarship Donations	899.50		899.50
T.V. Sales	104.00		104.00
Merchandise Sales	8.00	8.00	
Profit Phila. Convention	527.00	527.00	
Interest on Savings a/c	126.60		126.60
	<u>\$4505.60</u>	<u>\$ 3187.50</u>	<u>\$1318.10</u>
Less returned check	5.00	3.00	2.00
	<u>\$4500.60</u>	<u>3184.50</u>	<u>1316.10</u>
7-31-68 Balance Forward	3380.29	-(1537.67)	4917.96
	<u>\$7880.89</u>	<u>\$ 1646.83</u>	<u>\$6234.06</u>
Expenses 8-1-68/7-31-69			
Printing	\$1659.83	1659.83	
Address-o-graph	173.80	173.80	
Shipping & Postage	266.00	266.00	
Scholarship Payments	863.40		863.40
Welfare	193.24		193.24
Convention (Refund)	18.00	18.00	
	<u>\$3174.27</u>	<u>\$ 2117.63</u>	<u>\$1056.64</u>
Balance 7-31-69	<u>\$4706.62</u>	<u>\$ -(470.80)</u>	<u>\$5177.42</u>
On Deposit 7-31-69			
Bank Balance National State Bank of Elizabeth, N. J. a/c #006-361-0			\$1218.64
Bank Balance Colonial Savings & Loan, Roselle Park, N. J. #0-14097			3487.98
			<u>\$4706.62</u>

Respectfully submitted July, 31, 1969

George E. Phillips, Treasurer

Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association, Inc.

FAIRLY GOOD SHAPE. TO KEEP
IT THAT WAY, SEND IN YOUR
DUES, 3.00, OR, IF YOU CAN
MANAGE IT, 10.00 FOR A CON-
TRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP.



MAJOR GEN
UNITED STATES ARMY
COMMANDER
AND
COMPANION

PLEASURE be-

There is a cheerful event, as well as the sad one, to mark 1969 in Association annals. This was the year of the SECOND RETURN. Not quite to the Elbe, this trip nor, actually, in the footsteps of the Division at all. There was, in fact, a much more ambitious itinerary laid out than the simple one followed in 1945 and, more or less, by the pilgrims of four years ago; due east.

The scheme of the recent excursion was less reverent than the previous one, more purely social; even, if you'll excuse the word, cultural. This time the Latin countries were included, and Austria. So the members of the party who were on their second time around have pretty well covered the Continent.

An unfortunate note was the absence, caused by illness, of Loar Quickly, organizer of the whole thing. There was a special irony in this as save for Loar, nobody really believed in the possibility of the first, 1965, trip, much less a second one. Loar supplied both the faith and activity necessary to get both expeditions afloat, (or aloft?) There was a tangible acknowledgment of this by the travelers. An immense scroll, made up of letters of appreciation, was prepared and turned over to him. It is worth noting that, as the letters were written on different stages of the trip, they constitute a kind of record or journal, as well as tribute.

If Loar was the original Prime Mover, the Shepherd of the Flock, the actual leader on the ground, who got everybody safely there and back, was President Bill Matlach, E-273. He and Jane, incidentally, were not the only ones to take the kids; there were, in fact, plenty of youngsters along.

All told, the undertaking was a complete success, in conception and execution a credit to all concerned, with the confidence shown by the travelers themselves, in the first place, perhaps the major contribution. As we have suggested, when the idea was first put forward there were far more skeptics than believers.

-fore BUSINESS

The Reunion might be thought of as not news at all, so unfailingly is it held each year. For the record, through, 1969's took place in New Haven, under the direction of Al Carbonari and Stan Olszewski, Hq 1st Bn, 271, Sv-273, respectively. The visit was the Association's first venture into New England.

The Officers elected at the Reunion Business Meeting will be found listed on page 12. They are headed by Sammy Woolf, F-273, of Westchester County, New York State, a member

active in the Association's affairs throughout its existence and in those of the New York City Chapter, of which he was long President.

Sammy had the pleasant distinction, and his folks at home the thrill, of finding himself singled out for mention in national (as opposed to local) coverage of the assault on Leipsic, which his company took part in mounted on tanks. To those who attend the Reunions with any frequency, of course, the last thing necessary is any identification of

Sammy, a fixture at those gatherings for the twenty-some years they have been held.

George Phillips, G-271, chosen to be Executive Vice-President was the previous Treasurer, the books of which Office have been turned over to Asa Cowden, K-271. The President of the Ladies Auxiliary, it will be noticed, (at least by those who study our long list with special care) is the wife of a Vice-President, Stan Olszewski, Sv-273, co-Chairman of the recent Reunion.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER REPORTS . . .

PATRICK A. DALPORTO, son of Lido Dalporto of Smithers, W. Va. and who is attending the West Virginia Institute of Technology, Montgomery, W. Va. writes:

"I have enclosed my grades for the spring and summer semesters of 1968-69. I will be returning to school August 27 instead of continuing on the co-op program. By doing this, I will be able to complete my undergraduate work this year and begin graduate studies in engineering next fall.

Please accept my contribution to the scholarship fund."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Pat always sends in a substantial contribution to the fund each year that he has participated. We also send our best to you Pat, and will look forward to seeing you in Washington, D.C. in 1970.

A note from Richard Abraham another scholarship winner states he is now working for the Catholic Worker and is changing from adolescence to adulthood since winning our scholarship. His outlook on life is being molded more a world outlook compared to his narrow area when getting out of high school. We are all with you Richard, and we do appreciate the good grades you are turning in which stamps the faith we had in making the award.

TO PARTICIPANTS OF 1970-71

Anyone desiring to make application for the 1970-71 Scholarship Merit Award must write to LOAR L. QUICKLE, The Princeton University Store, 36 University Place, Princeton, N.J. 08540 and request the necessary forms be sent him or her. Your father must have been a member of the 69th Inf. Div. either in Camp Shelby, Miss. during the Second World War or served overseas at one time or other. Plus, he must have paid dues to our Association two (2) out of the last three (3) years. Send in your letters today.

It may interest our members that we paid out \$650. To scholarship winners this past August at the Reunion in New Haven . . . Won't you support us?

Shown below is MICHAEL A. MOSCARITOLO of Roselle, N.J. who won the 1969-70 69th Inf. Div. Assoc. Scholarship Award. Michael is the son of Michael P. Moscaritolo . . .

TENTH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

It was announced at the reunion in August in New Haven that the son of Mary and Michael Moscaritolo of Roselle, N.J. was awarded the Annual 69th Infantry Division Association Merit Scholarship. Unbeknown to the scholarship committee young Mike had written to Loar Quickle, Chairman directly to the Park Plaza Hotel giving his reasons for not being in attendance. The letter reads as follows:

"Dear Mr. Quickle:

It is certainly an honor to have been selected to receive the Fighting 69th Inf. Div. Scholarship Award. I wish to express my deep appreciation to those who are responsible for choosing me above the other applicants, and, also, to all the men of the division who contributed to this award. I will indeed try to live up to your expectations.

Due to a death in the family, however, I will be unable to attend the reunion and presentation of the award for me and express my gratitude to all those present.

Enclosed please find a picture of myself and a copy of my Certificate of Admission to Rutgers University. I have been enrolled in a pre-medical curriculum at Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N.J. Once again, thank you for the award, and I regret my inability to attend the reunion.

Sincerely yours,

MICHAEL A. MOSCARITOLO."



Mike, thanks very much for the letter and all 69'ers, wherever they may be send their condolences about the loss in your family . . .

E. G. BALDWIN AND ASSOCIATES INC.

PIONEERS IN ELECTRONIC MEDICAL AND REHABILITATION EQUIPMENT
3142 SUPERIOR AVENUE CLEVELAND, OHIO 44114
PHONE: 621-8284

8-13-69

Mr. Loar Quickle
Sir:

This morning's mail brought the 69 decals I had asked about; many thanks.
Coincidence -
Monday, on the Ohio Turnpike a station wagon (tags: 1533 J) flashing a 69 decal passed me at about 90. I pursued him for 40 miles (past my exit), but couldn't even get alongside, and so lost him.
Nos, two days later, I have your wonderful letter, and my own decals.

With deep appreciation,



Al Kormazis, 879 F.A.

YOURS FOR THE ASKING, TOO.
JUST WRITE IN.



P. O. Box 68
BYRON, WYOMING 82412

September 24, 1969.

Sirs:

In your recent article on the Leipsic Monument you failed to mention who actually did this job. The Monument fell to Captain Zett's C-271 (pulled out of reserve to do 272nd and 273rd work).

On the lighter side, many C-271 troops lost much of their religion after this. The Chaplain came by and assured us that the War was over; sure enough, in a couple of hours we were on the way to Hlenburg.

Sincerely,



A. F. Petricli, C-271

IT IS JUST POSSIBLE AGREEMENT WILL BE LESS THAN UNANIMOUS WITH THE THOUGHT EXPRESSED IN THE FIRST PARAGRAPH ABOVE. NEVER MIND: IT IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF LETTER BEST SUITED TO THE BULLETIN, IN THAT IT HAS TO DO WITH A MATTER OF INTEREST, INTENSE INTEREST, TO EVERY LAST MEMBER.

JUST FOR THE RECORD, THE FIRST MEETINGS TO PLAN THE ASSOCIATION WERE HELD IN DOWNTOWN MANHATTAN, AND AT THE QUARTERS, ON GOVERNORS' ISLAND, OF COLONEL ADAMS, C.O. OF THE 273rd. THE ASSOCIATION WAS ACTUALLY FOUNDED AT THE 69th N.Y.N.G. REGIMENTAL AMORY.

JOHN PONTIERI
80 Bailey Avenue
Patchogue, L.I., N.Y.
11772

TO THE 269th ENGINEERS
WHO FAILED TO SHOW UP
AT NEW HAVEN:

Here is the roster of those who did:

A. Co.

Joe Monteleone
John Buller
Bob Turner

B Co.

Frank Nemeth
John Pontieri
Dan Evers
Stu McGregor
Milt Halainen

H & S Co.

John Hawley
Lou Steinbaunner
Louis Rivera
Sharpless Jones

plus, of course, wives and children.

Where were you?

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH HARRISBURG, PENNA.

March 24, 1969

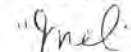
Dear fellow 69er:

Sometime in the year of 1947, a new association, The Fighting 69th Inf. Div. Assoc. Inc., was born. I am not sure of the place, but I believe it may have been at Princeton, New Jersey. Since I am a veteran of the Tank Destroyers, it took 19 years till the 69th Assoc. membership's secretary found the records and names of the Tank Destroyer Veterans.

On March 5, 1966, a new chapter, The Central Pennsylvania Branch, 69th Inf. Div. Assoc., was born in Harrisburg, Penna. Many thanks to the devoted efforts of Harold Starry, our past national president. This pretty well sums things up to date.

Being Sec-Treas. of the Central Branch is truly an honor and a privilege, and speaking for the rest of our active members, I want to take this opportunity to personally invite you to join with us. April 19 for our annual spring banquet and to attend our summer outing and future activities. The enclosed banquet invitation lists many items not included in my letter to you. Please remember any contribution you would like to give will be greatly appreciated. Remember our war ended 24 years ago, but the battle for freedom will never end.

Respectfully yours,



Millard E. Mellinger, Sr.
Secretary-Treasurer

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY FORCES, TAIWAN
APO San Francisco 96263

Col. A. R. Datnoff,
Box # 13, USARFT
APO San Francisco, 96263

To all ATCO Two Seven Oners:

18 months ago I started out to locate former members of our Company. To date I have 82 addresses and 33 very nice letters. It is clear from these last that many of the old gang are keen on making a good showing at the 1970 Washington Reunion. The Datnoffs will be there? the Arfas probably; the Fines live IN Washington, and I can't see the Levins passing it up.

"ATCO in Seven O"

Arthur R. Datnoff
ARTHUR R. DATNOFF
Colonel, GS

THE SPLENDID RESPONSE TO COLONEL DATNOFF'S APPEAL TO AT-271 MEMBERS (A LABORIOUS UNDERTAKING TO BEGIN WITH, BUT CONDUCTED FROM CHINA, OF ALL PLACES) IS AN EXAMPLE TO ALL UNITS' THE BAIT, WE TAKE IT, WAS THE OFFER OF "THE STORY OF AT-271", BUT THAT IT WAS RISEN TO PROVES THAT THE GUYS ARE OUT THERE' AND INTERESTED.

April 29, 1968
Col. Arthur R. Datnoff
Box 11, ARSEC, KDCAT
Maag, China
APO, San Francisco 96263

Dear Colonel Datnoff:

I have just finished reading the Story of Anti-Tank Company, 271 Infantry. My God! How the memories flooded back as the pages turned: Places, names, events, the fear, the comedy, and most of all the pride I felt and feel yet for having been a part of ATCO, 271st. I was pretty young then and after twenty-odd years realize more and more that what growing up I did took place, in great measure, during the period Reubin Levin wrote about so vividly. As Infantry units go, I suppose we didn't have too rough a time but we still had a taste of combat experience. However, beginning I think with our stay in England, my personal feeling is that ATCO developed a terrific esprit de corps. I remember even now the feeling that something good was ending when we began to split up after VE day. Of course war is an irrational thing and one's adrenalin level being high for a protracted period is bound to leave vivid memories. One really begins to know himself in a combat situation and I guess, in a way, it is something like instant self-psychoanalysis. Nevertheless, despite all the horror, the love one can develop for friends in situations like we experienced can probably never be duplicated any other way. That is what I remember most and value most for having been an Anti-Tanker.

A couple of years ago I had an odd and sad experience concerning an old comrade whom I considered a close friend indeed during the war. A long newsy letter came from Harold Pitts, our 1st Sergeant who was wounded when Trudell was killed. The letter was full of information about his life since the war and indicated that he had been successful in life, with a good job and a fine family. As it happened, I had been back in England a few years before that and had revisited Winchester and our old billet at Longwood House. You can imagine my nostalgia even though you weren't with us at the time. So, I wrote Hal a long letter about that and what had transpired in my life since '45, and invited them to visit us if they had transpired in my life since '45, and invited them to visit us if they ever came to Kentucky. In less than a month, an announcement of Hal's sudden death came from his widow. It literally caused an eerie feeling.

With best wishes,

Bill Buckner
William A. Buckner

THERE IS A TRAGIC POST-SCRIPT THAT MUST BE ADDED TO THIS LETTER: BILL MET HIS OWN SUDDEN DEATH SHORTLY AFTER HAVING WRITTEN OF HIS SHOCK AT THE UNEXPECTED DEATH OF HAROLD PITTS.

GEORGE H. STRALEY

209 Prospect Drive
Blue Rock Manor
Wilmington, Del. 19803

Tank Destroyers:

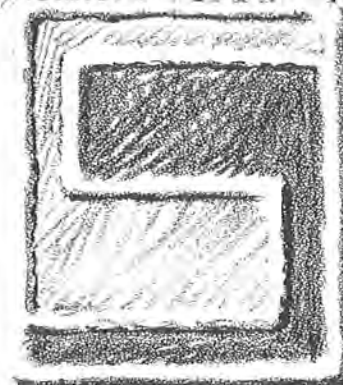
There were new 661 faces at New Haven. Bill King, B Co. C.O., was there, from Framingham, Mass., as were George Nadeau, Bristol, Conn., and Bob Shull, Densville, N.Y., all for the first time.

Willard Millinger, Wrightsville, Pa., won the door prize, the color TV, and his wife THE Auxiliary's prize, and electric teapot. The Staleys (your correspondent) stopped off after the Reunion at Winchester, N.H., to visit Bill Russell, Jr., B Co's Clerk, who asked about Al Rocci, John Becker, Art Carr, others.

As ever,

George

AS THE PRESIDENT WROTE, ON PAGE 4, DETAILS ON THE 1970 REUNION WILL BE IN THE NEXT BULLETIN. HOWEVER, YOU CAN START PLANNING. IT WILL BE IN WASHINGTON, AND THE THIRD WEEK-END IN AUGUST. IN THE MEANTIME, THE TREASURER WOULD LIKE, AS HE WROTE, TO SEE YOUR CHECK, FOR EITHER THE \$3.00 REGULAR DUES, OR THE HELPFUL \$10.00 CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP.



345 SIXTH AVENUE, KENSINGTON, PA. 15068

THE OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION, 1969-70

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Sammy Woolf, F-273

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Loar Quickle, G-217

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Sol Rosenblitt, H-271

TREASURER

Asa Cowden, K-271

(EXECUTIVE) George Phillips, G-271

John H. Vaughn, K-271

Bill Robertson, Hq-1st Bn-273

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Harry Austin, AT-272

Leo McGillen, B-269

George Shapiro, AT-272

Stan Olszewski, Sv-273

Cy Rockhold, H-271

Tom Maupin, E-271

Pierce Rice, A-273

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Clarence Marshall, Div. Hq.

PRESIDENT, LADIES' AUXILIARY

Wanda Olszewski, Sv-273

SUNSHINE GIRL

Kate Reynolds, G-271

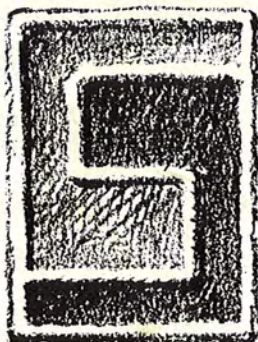
CHAPLAIN

Rev. Russell H. Milner, Hq-Divarty



the 69th
INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.
345 6th avenue, new kensington, pa. 15068

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