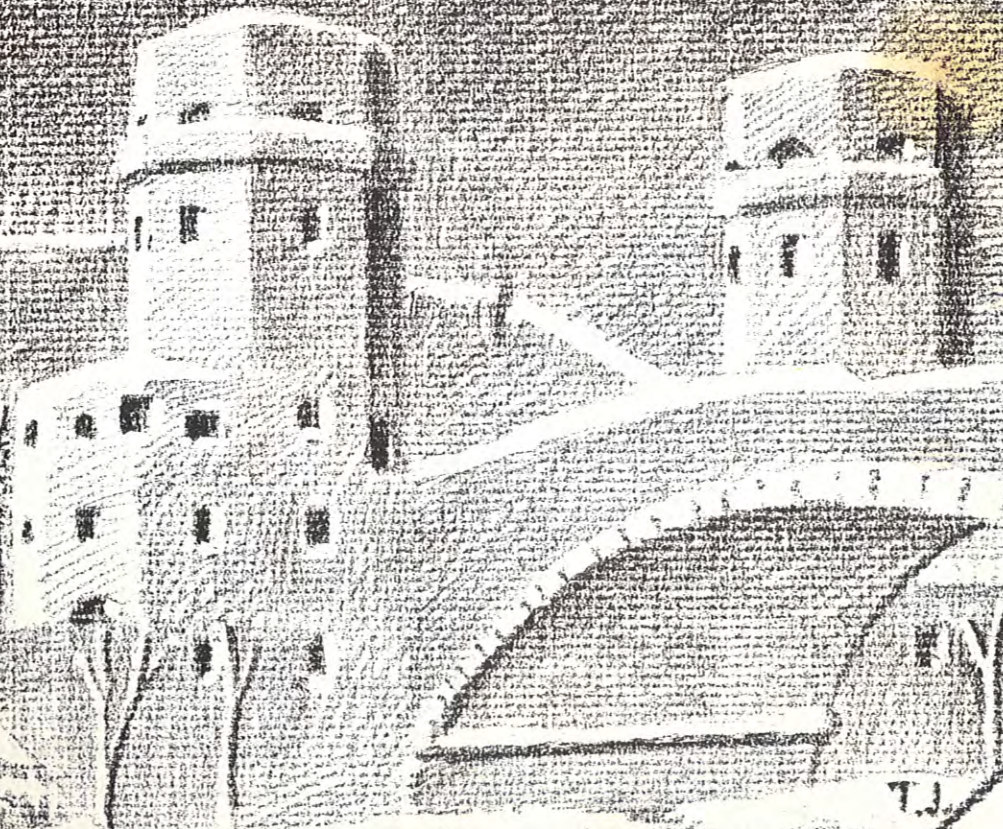


69th vol. 24, no. 1
infantry division bulletin

657

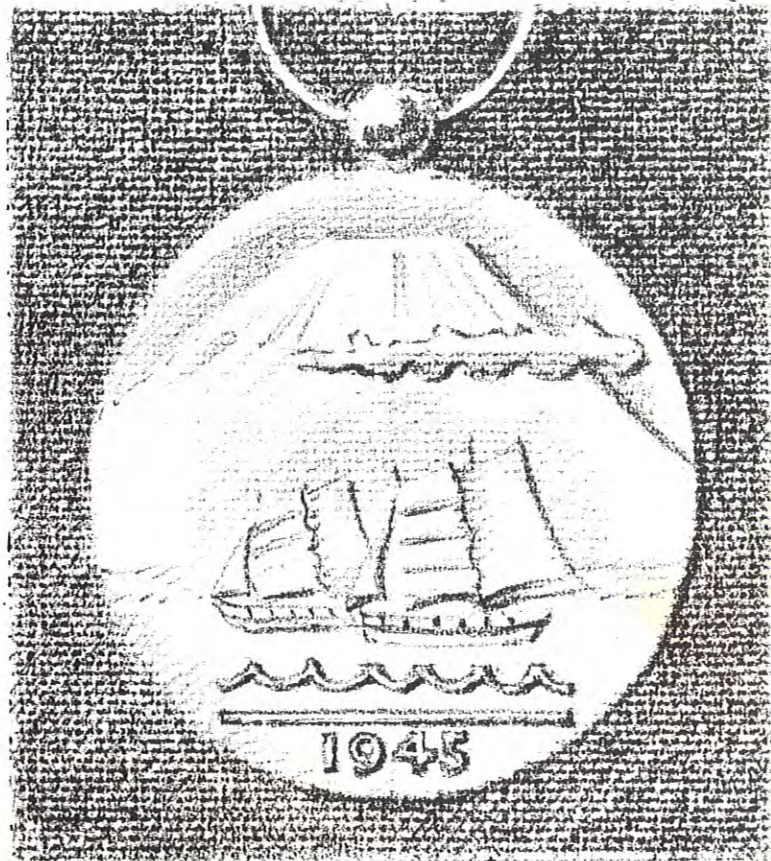
ARMY OF
OCCUPATION



Sgt. Oliver
232-7105

[Handwritten signature]

the reverse of the medal shown
on the cover; the obverse
depicts the twin towers
of the bridge over
the Neckar, at Heidelberg.



In those long ago days when everyone in the European Theatre was counting points the apparently most enviable parties were those few who with insufficient points to qualify managed to get sent home anyway. This number, among ourselves, was made up of the administrative personnel, largely clerical and mess, who returned to the States with a Sixty-Ninth Division that had been made a vehicle for the shipment home of high-point old-timers from other outfits, outfits which would themselves remain abroad.

But were these seemingly fortunate exceptions to the lot of the bulk of us really so much to be envied?

The sole rewarding circumstance for participation in the War was that it would take the soldier to Europe. He might not, in fact, want to go there at just that time, but by all means he preferred Continental sights to those of the Orient. Who ever heard the thought expressed that there would be some compensation for all

our trouble in seeing the exotic South Sea Islands, famed in song and story? Yet many looked forward to presently setting eyes on Paris and Rome, under peculiar auspices, no doubt, but none-the-less.

In the event, while the War continued, there was, to a degree, no special advantage in fighting in one place rather than another, with intense heat in a given area matched by cold elsewhere. True enough, in the old Center of Civilisation the War was conducted in Olive Drab, while under the Southern Cross fatigues were the universal garb. Still, was this distinction an advantage to the wearer?

But the War, in due time, ended. The medal shown on the cover (with a glimpse of the Bavarian Alps behind it), suspended from its black, red, and white, ribbon, the colors of the Weimar Republic, and with the Bar for Germany, is one in the possession of nearly every one of us, or to which, at any rate, we are entitled. It is laughable to say we earned it. The reward was to be there, with peace returned, in the first place.

There was little to do; the setting, as often as not, a wonderfully quaint town, or if a village, in the midst of a beautiful landscape, was gorgeous. Duty, such as it was, was interrupted with excursions and we saw, at last, the great Capital Cities, or the coast of the Mediterranean, or the mountains of Switzerland. In many cases, all of these.

We were no longer, strictly speaking, Sixty-Niners, but the twenty-fifth anniversary of this brief interlude between peril and responsibility we share the celebration of in common, and it was the Sixty-Ninth, after all, to whom the opportunity, if so it may be described, for its enjoyment was owed.

In the period that has gone by, many of us have re-visited those scenes, some even under the sponsorship of the Association. The Continent, to say the least, has been found much improved, and of the comparable conditions attending the previous and the recent visits nothing need be said. But the fact remains that the pleasures (and chores) that come the way of a middle-aged tourist weigh very lightly in the balance against the exhilaration that accompanied membership in a victorious army resident in a vanquished nation. Irresponsibility partly accounted for this, and a measure of authority felt over everything in sight, with neither of these reflecting any credit on us, but it is the actuality of this heady atmosphere recalled here, not its worthiness.

What it comes down to is this; our very coming to-gether in a society testifies to the pleasure to be found in the recollection of episodes not themselves the least pleasant, in the soldier's life within the continental limits, and in the bleak encounter on foreign shores this prepared us for.

But for the third segment of our military experience, here extolled, the magic difference was that the period looked back on was a delight as it occurred.

One more Re-union is under our belt. On another page we have posted the names of members present, the main item of interest to those not themselves able to attend. We come to-gether, after all, chiefly to see friends of long ago. Absent, what we want to know is who we missed.

For the record, the 1970 Re-union was held in the Nation's Capital, at the Sheraton-Park Hotel, the week-end of August 21st and 22d, with activities commencing the previous day.

A special tour of the White House was arranged for Friday morning by Irv Sarafan (769 Ord.), followed by one of the Capitol, set up for us by Tom Reardon (I-272). For the latter we were the guests of Tom's Congressman, Lawrence Williams, of the 7th District of Pennsylvania, whose staff went to great lengths to prepare a rewarding morning for us. Things did not go with perfect smoothness. By mis-chance or mis-handling the busses scheduled to cart the members to the White House never turned up. Impossible, but it happened, with the bus-line's story that it had the right time but the wrong day. How to account for this; who knows? In the old Army tradition, however, responsibility rests with the party in charge, within the organization itself, in this case our local deputation. In the event, by hectic maneuvering, the Re-union Chairmen got everybody to both the White House and the Capitol, one way or another, with the silver lining to this cloud the saving to the Association of the larcenous sum the busses would have cost.

The tour of the Capitol was a delight, with this entirely owed the sweetness of our guide, Pat Purkey, of Congressman Williams' staff, by whose charm the members were more overcome than by the architectural beauties being pointed out.

Friday evening the customary Beer Party was held. The next morning, at the Business Meeting, the incumbent Officers, headed by President Sam Woolf (F-273), were elected for another term.

The feature of the afternoon, and in fact the high-point of the whole Re-union was the presentation of the Division

wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Unhappily, this did not go off without a hitch, either. The Association Motorcade, which steamed through Rock Creek Park and across Memorial Bridge in great style, came to a dead halt for forty minutes when the promised escort failed to appear at the Cemetery Gate. The Army's story; crossed orders.

In any case, when we finally managed to get up the hill the ceremony itself



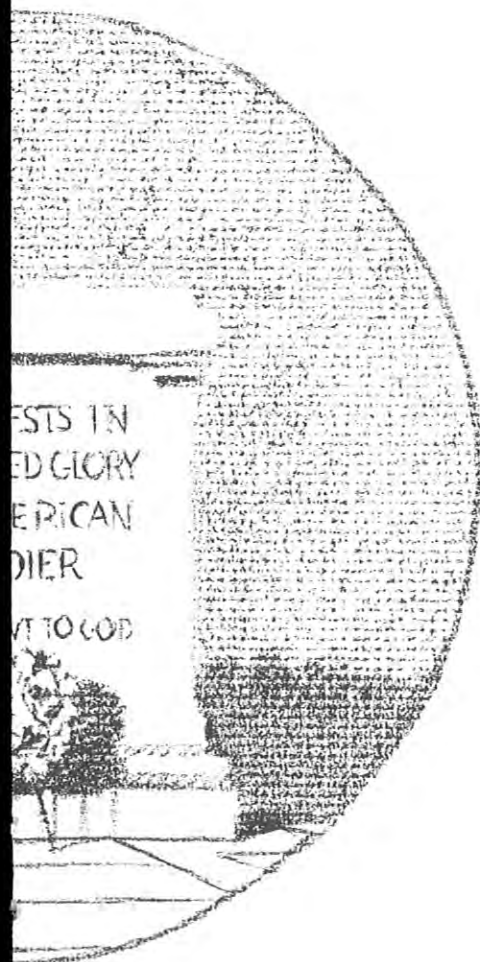
was, for all present, the moving experience it has always been

The social culmination was the banquet. In outfits represented, there was no contest; the Tank Destroyers won hands down with none other near them. They had 24 couples on hand. The member from furthest off would appear to be Joe Monteleone, all the way from Venezuela. The youngest guest was Randy Euton, 11, the oldest, Mrs. Robbie MacGregor, "Mother of

the Engineers". A member of Colonel Ed Leary's (Div. Hq.) party was a guest to whom we are all under obligation; Mina Olitsky, Colonel John Dinsmore's secretary at Fort Dix, in the Association's infancy, had a leading part in the labor of rounding us up. Mary Drew, of the Educational Testing Service, is another good friend of the Association. She guides the Committee in selecting our annual Scholarship Winner. Addressing us, she expressed her gratification at the privilege she held her connection with the Sixty-Ninth to be, but she had things backwards. The comic note of the evening was struck, as usual, by Sherman Lawrence in his little talk in which (the substance under the glitter) most of the fore-going information was conveyed.

The guests of honor were Generals Bolte and Lanham. Their eloquence, perhaps owed years of command, but no less to the credit of each, was very much in evidence. But if both of their brief speeches were more enjoyable than dinners at a banquet have, as a rule, any right to expect, it is fair to say that the evening's honors for wit and gracefulness were taken by General Lanham's tribute to the youthfulness of aspect of his old commander and friend. "When he was forty" General Lanham said, "Charley Bolte made a pact with the devil, and has remained unmarked by the years, whereas I have lived a pure and blameless life, yet see what Time has done to me." Not much, it must be added. Both our Generals look splendid, though we have to admit that the compliment made was perfectly well founded, with General Bolte a special case. An ornament to the head table, by the way, was General Lanham's recent bride, present for the first time at a Sixty-Ninth function.

All told, despite emergencies, every thing went through for the three days, if not to the minute, as indicated, still close enough. And on the business end the Association came out \$300 ahead of expenses. Perfection would be to break even, which is the goal aimed for, but a little extra money in hand beats winding up in the hole.



Our intention is to present, in THE BULLETIN's columns, information that is up to date. Separation sometimes interferes with this. Association headquarters (and the mailing address) are at one place, the President another, with THE BULLETIN assembled far from either of these. So, while active touch is maintained, there is opportunity for error.

An unfortunate omission owed these circumstances was notice, before this of the death of our Chief of Staff, Charles Peter Lynch, word of whose passing is of consequence to every member in a special sense, in that we all served under him. Colonel Lynch was the Officer closest to the Commanding General, and by virtue of his position more deeply involved than any in the Division's actual operations. So the Association offers its warmest sympathy to Mrs. Lynch, in San Antonio, accompanied by the hope that the delay in the expression of this will not

be taken as in any way lessening its depth.

It should be added, that in her husband's name, a memorial contribution to the Scholarship Fund was made by Mrs. Lynch.

Another contribution was made on behalf of William D. Clarke (H-272), who died last October. A measure of the part his connection with the Division played in Bill's life was the presence at his funeral of a delegation of Sixty-Niners. Perhaps there have been other instances of this, but this is the first to be brought to our attention. We would like to think that the example, where possible, will be followed.

WE were astonished to learn that, at this date, war had taken the life of one of us. Jose Llamas (D-272), Captain in the Reserve, was killed a year ago August in the Mekong Delta. That, after all these years Captain Llamas should have

once again faced death for his country must very much move not only his companions from D. Company, and the entire Association, but all who knew of his sacrifice. Twenty years ago, it stirred us to hear of Sixty-Niners who were under arms a second time in Korea. But in those days we were still young, and the earlier War was, in fact, generously represented in the so-called police action that followed it. But Captain Llamas's participation and death in the present struggle is, beyond doubt, an exception as rare as it is distinguished, deserving of every honor, and shedding lustre even on the Association, from his membership in it.

Captain Llamas is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Pedro R. Llamas, 513 West 4th Street, Newton, Kansas, 67114.

By sad co-incidence, Captain Llamas is joined on our list by two other members of D-272.



WALTER H. CARMAN
769 Ord.

ALBERT DE NICOLA
C-269

MARIAN A. GRIMM
Med-272

JOSE S. LLAMAS
D-272

LOUISIANA MITCHELL
D-272

WILLIAM D. CLARKE
H-272

ANTHONY J. FOX
B-269

FRED HART
Med-272

CHARLES P. LYNCH
Div. Hq.

HARRY B. UNDERWOOD
Med-273

JOSEPH DE JARO
Sv.-879

RICHARD GRAY
A-881

ERNEST JANULIS
AT-271

NATHAN McDONALD
D-272

DAVID UBERST
Hq.-879



345 sixth avenue, kensington, pennsylvania 1506A

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

AUGUST 1, 1969--JULY 31, 1970

	Total	Operating	Welfare-Scholarship
CASH BALANCE 7-31-69	\$4706.62	\$-(470.80)	\$5177.42
RECEIPTS 8-1-69 THRU 7-31-70			
DUES	3219.50	3219.50	
DUES LADIES AUX.	138.00	138.00	
CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS	1192.00	1192.00	
SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS	1341.00		1341.00
T.V. SALES	210.00		210.00
MERCHANDISE SALES	125.35	125.35	
PHILA CONVENTION	261.68	261.68	
NEW HAVEN CONVENTION	2723.50	2723.50	
CHECK REFUND	2.81	2.81	
INTEREST ON SAVINGS	39.22		39.22
70 CONVENTION DEPOSIT	396.50	396.50	
	9649.56	8059.34	1590.22
7-31-69 BALANCE	4706.62	-(470.80)	5177.42
	\$14,356.18	\$7,588.54	\$6,767.64
EXPENSES 8-1-69 THRU 7-31-70			
PRINTING	1219.54	1219.54	
SHIPPING & POSTAGE	740.72	740.72	
SCHOLARSHIP PAYMENTS	750.00		750.00
WELFARE	288.65		288.65
'71 REUNION	81.05	81.05	
'69 CONVENTION	1967.45	1967.45	
STATIONERY	130.71	130.71	
MERCHANDISE PURCHASE	733.90	733.90	
BANK CHARGE	16.24	16.24	
	\$5,928.26	\$4,889.61	\$1,038.65
BALANCE 7-31-70	\$8,427.92	\$2,698.93	\$5,728.99
ON DEPOSIT 7-31-70			\$4,900.72
BANK BALANCE PHILADELPHIA NATIONAL BANK A/C 152-7752			\$3,527.20
BANK BALANCE PHILADELPHIA NATIONAL BANK SAVINGS A/C 775-0250			\$8,427.92

Respectfully submitted July 31, 1970
Asa Cowden, Treasurer
69th Infantry Division Association, Inc.

Asa Cowden

Hqs & Hqs Co.

Murray Zyne
Clarence Marshall
Edward J. Leary
James Gormley

M.P. Platoon
John Navratil
John Moriarty
George Gallagher
269th Engrs. Company A

John A. Buller
Walt Goeben
Joseph Monteleone
George Roup
Robert Turner

Company B

Edward Davis
John Hawley
Dale Highfield
Charles Herring
Leo McGillen
Stuart McGregor
Frank Nemeth
John Pontieri
James Sears
Ray M. Weekly

H & S Company

Max Goodman
Max Weinzierl

No Company Designated

Sharpless Jones
Gerald Rodelli
Ludwig Steinbrunner
Joseph Selb

569th Signal

Lester Milich
Earl Ambrester

Kenneth Manning
John Kastanakis

769 Ord.

Paul Wayne
Joseph Selb
Irving Saratan

RE-UNION ROSTER

Artillery

724th

Denman Ayres

879th

Nicholas Urbano
Alex Kormazis
Bruce Young

880th

Peter Goldstein
Wayne Murphy

661 Tank Destroyers

Floyd Austin
Millard Dellinger
Anthony Polito
Harry Thomas
Sylvanus Baker
Joe Reid
Wayne Allen
William Krug
Nelson Leaman
William Sindow
John Haerberle
William Beswick
James Parks
Leo Levie
Ralph Bragg
Rayburn Hughes
James T. Leach
George Nadeau
Garland O'Roark
Burr Peterson

271st Infantry

Albert Carbonari
Frank Christie
Jack Jones
Emil Zerenga
Oswell Taylor
Leonard Kessler
Merrill Embick
Herb Eissmann
Douglas Baird
Bernard Pokrass
Al Haag
Dale McGee
Charles Moore
Paul Shadle
Robert Daniel

Daniel Malinowski
Dudley Reynolds
David Scatena
Joseph Star
Loar Quickle
Glenn Breiland
John Hayes
Albert Panara
Cy Rockhold
James Guio
Charlie Kooles
Roger Larson
T. E. Prillaman
John Campion
Samuel Talley
Francis Burrows
Harry Ritter
Percy Whriterout
Arthur Datnoff
Bernard Wattman
George Weston
Francis Tomczuk
Richard Schedeler
Wilson E. Baker
George Phillips
Sol Rosenblitt
Asa Cowden

272nd Infantry

Headquarters

Harold Starry

Company B

Joseph Perry

Company C

Gerald Ermons
Henry Schenck

Company E

Stanley Karas
Anthony Keller
Chester Yastrzewski

Company F

Herb Callaway
James Henry
William Herron
John Kuhl
William Szymczyk
John Tomlinson

Company G

Anees Barakat
William Lilien

Company I

Leon Ebert
Wendell Freeman

James Herbison
Robert Kurtzman
Ed McDonnell
Tom Keardon
Richard Plough

Company M

Murray Galuten
Lido Dalporto

Antitank

George Shapiro

273rd Infantry

Company A
H. Raymond Fahrner
Pierce Rice

Company B

Manuel Fashtinder

Company E

William Matlach
Earl Witzleb

Company F

Charles Euton
Sam Woolf

Company H

Jacob Stark Jr.

Company L

R. A. Wennes

Service

Stanley Olszewski

LAW OFFICES
GOLDSTEIN & GOLDSTEIN
217 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

August 19, 1970

Mr. Samuel Wolff, President
69th Infantry Division Association

Dear Sam;

I am happy to enclose a check for \$25.00 payable to the order of the Association from Ann Stevenson, Gen. Reinhardt's beloved daughter. There came to me a four page letter from this genuinely warm, devoted and kindly human being - so much like her dear departed father. Among other things, she wrote:

"I enclose a modest donation for the 69th for you to present to any of the organizational funds which may need it (in memory of my father). This is at your own discretion. I seem to have the most contact with you, therefore will leave this matter in your good hands.

In view of her letter that I select the fund in which this check is to be deposited, I request that it go into the general funds of the Association. I do so with the knowledge that this is what the General, in whose memory she sent the money, would have desired.

Please convey my warmest regards to all of the 69ers who may remember me.

Sincerely,



HYMAN E. GOLDSTEIN

HEG/pm
Enc.

WORD FROM
A CHARTER
MEMBER -

AND
FINALLY

A former Medic, Dr. Watson Neiman, has earned an additional title; Reverend. His wife and daughter sent word that he was ordained a Deacon in the Episcopal Church in Cinnaminson, New Jersey, and was due to be made a full priest this past October. A doctor for thirty years, he was the Assistant Commissioner for Personal Health Services for his state.

Pretty good!

ment of our dues, with, accordingly, regular reminders required, as with every organization supported by its members. The figure is still the original three dollars, though the exigencies of the times are taken notice of by the provision of a Contributing Membership of ten dollars, for those for whom this would not be a burden.

An episode emblematic of the strange era in history of which we are participants came to the notice of Bill Matlach (E-273) recently.

A repairman at Bill's house, his attention drawn to the Division patch, mentioned that, a German soldier, in 1944 he had been captured in France by the 3rd Armored Division. Not long after he emigrated to the United States, where he was promptly drafted and, you guessed it, served out his time with the 3rd Armored. Remarkable enough, but the reason his story is re-told here is that its hero is, in a sense, one of us. This veteran of the Normandy Invasion, of Caen and the Falaise Gap, endured a second basic training at Fort Dix, in the Fifties, as a member of the briefly re-constituted Sixty-Ninth Infantry Division.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

To All My Buddies,

First off I'd like to thank all of you who attended the Reunion, and to all those who didn't - we missed you.

I want to thank all those who worked so hard to make our reunion a great success. To Sol Rosenblitt, Pierce Rice, Asa Cowden, George Phillips and many others. My special thanks to Adele Quickle, Mary Drew and Alfa Miller for their marvelous work in selling our glasses, T-shirts, lighters, Jewelry, decals, etc.

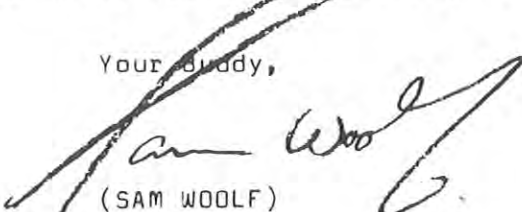
It has been a very gratifying year for me working for the 69th especially when a young man, son of Red Daniels, came up to me in Washington to shake my hand and personally thank me for making his father very happy and looking forward to these reunions with his buddies.

One of my greatest pleasures was to meet and greet two men who I have come to admire ...although during my Army Career I never knew them. Gen. Bolte and Gen. Lanham and their charming wives. These two gentlemen are true 69ers.

I want to be sure that all 69ers try to come to our next reunion in Harrisburg August 19 through 22, 1971. Our Committees and Reunion Chairman are working very hard to give you a marvelous time. Our program Chairman George Phillips promises to have something different for us on Friday night.

In closing, I'd like to wish you all HAPPY HOLIDAYS and a very HEALTHY AND HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Your Buddy,


(SAM WOOLF)

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

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