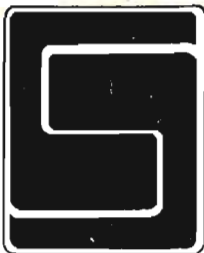


FIGHTING 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION

★★★★ *Association, Inc.*



VOLUME 35, No. 2

JANUARY — FEBRUARY — MARCH — APRIL
1982

"THE THREE B's"
BOLTE'S BIVOUACING BASTARDS

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

bulletin

OFFICERS 1981-1982

Walter Doernbach, *President*
128 S. Cincinnati Avenue
Egg Harbor, NJ 08215 Div. Hq.

George Gallagher, *Vice President*
84 D Street, Van Buren Homes
Beaver, PA 15009 69 OM. & MP.

Frank Nemeth, *Secretary*
66 Gaping Rock Road
Levittown, PA 19057 269

Earl E. Witzleb, Jr., *Treasurer*
P.O. Box 69, Drawer M
Champion, PA 15622 273

Clarence Marshall, *Membership*
101 Stephen Street
New Kensington, PA 15068 Div. Hq.

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Harold Starry, *Co-Chaplain* 272
William Snidow, *Co-Chaplain* 661
Sam Woolf, *Scholarship* 273

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Emily Fletcher, *President*
Margaret Kormas, *Secretary*
Margie McCombs, *Sunshine Lady*

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A. C. Faison Divarty
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Robert Kurtzman 272

1982-1983

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William Snidow 661
Vernon Wirth 777

1983-1984

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Sam Woolf, NY 273 Inf.
Geo. E. Phillips, FL 271 Inf.
Albert Carbonari, CT 271 Inf.
Stanley Olszewski, CT 273 Inf.
John Moriarty, MA 69 MP.
Robert Myers, AZ Div. Hq.

*Deceased



RAMADA INN - AIRPORT
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Come Have Fun With Us On Your Reunion Vacation

"In The Land of Cheese and Beer"
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

August 15 to 22, 1982

Tentative Program for 1982, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Reunion

The Milwaukee Reunion Committee Welcomes the Fighting 69'ers to "The Land of Cheese and Beer", August 15 to 22, 1982.

PLEASE NOTE: Sign up early when you send in your reservation, as the Bus Tours will depend upon enough persons registered to fill a bus[s] for each of the trips.

We think an excellent program has been arranged for this year's Reunion. The usual Early Bird Dinner, PX Beer Party, and the Banquet Dinner Dance, along with several interesting tours for those who wish to take advantage of them. For those who might like to tour on their own, there is a Milwaukee Zoo, Milwaukee Public Museum, the War Memorial and Art Center, where a person can spend a whole day. Sorry, no Major League Baseball Game, as the Brewers are on the road that week, but, we are checking to see if there might be a Soccer Game on Wednesday evening.

Sunday, August 15, 1982 — Early Arrivals — On Your Own

Monday, August 16, 1982 — Early Arrivals — On Your Own

Tuesday, August 17, 1982 — Registration and Hospitality Room — 10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Wednesday, August 18, 1982 — Registration and Hospitality Room — 10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Wednesday Tour — Three Outstanding Churches: Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, the last work of architect Frank Lloyd Wright. St. Joan of Arch Chapel, this medieval French Chapel was constructed in the 15th Century, near Lyon, France. It was moved and reconstructed on the Marquette University Campus in 1964. St. Josaphat's Basilica, the first Polish Basilica in North America. Its majestic dome is modeled after St. Peters in Rome.

Wednesday Noon Lunch — At Mader's Restaurant — World famous restaurant.

Thursday, August 19, 1982 — Registration and Hospitality Room — 10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Board of Directors and Officers Meeting — 1:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Thursday Tours — 8:30 A.M. — Two different tours to Wisconsin Countryside.

Old Wisconsin [at Eagle, Wisconsin] — One of the country's finest outdoor Ethnic Museums of reconstructed buildings of Wisconsin's early immigrants — 1840 to 1860 — With authentic furniture and guides telling the story of the immediate family and the ethnic group related to each building.

Lunch — Served in the Clausing Barn (octagon shaped).

Central Wisconsin — Fox Lake Area — A drive through Central Wisconsin farmland, with a stop at a Cheese Factory, to see the process of making cheese from liquid fresh milk. You cross the famous Horican Marsh Wildlife Refuge, where over 100,000 Canadian Geese gather each spring and fall, or the way, to and from, the Canadian nesting area. Also, a stop at a Modern Medium Security Correctional Institution.

Lunch — A typical Wisconsin Bratwurst and Corn Roast.

Return trip through the scenic Kettle Moraine Forest.

Thursday Evening — Early Bird Reception — Cocktail Hour (Cash Bar) — Buffet Dinner.

Friday, August 20, 1982 — Registration and Hospitality Room — 10:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Friday Golf — Under the direction of Chalmer Pearson and Raymond Fischer.

We hope to use the beautiful Tuckaway Country Club — **the scene of the last two Greater Milwaukee Open Golf Tournaments.**

(Prizes will be awarded).

Friday Tour — A guided tour of Milwaukee, the magnificent lake-front and many points of interest, with stops at the Mitchell Park Flower Domes, Pabst Brewery, and the Pabst Mansion which was completed in 1893, at a cost of over \$225,000, when carpenters earned thirty-five cents an hour.

Lunch — At the Alonzo-Cudworth Legion Post on the lake-bluff, overlooking the beautiful lake-front and harbor.

PX Beer Party - Dance — 9:00 P.M. until 1:00 A.M.

(A good night for Groups and Units to have their own Get-Together at another restaurant, then meet at the PX Beer Party - Dance). — *(Go in Private Cars).*

Saturday, August 21, 1982 — Registration and Hospitality Room — 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

(No further Registration after 4:00 P.M.).

Men's Membership General Meeting — 10:00 A.M.

Ladies' Auxiliary General Meeting — 10:00 A.M.

Saturday Afternoon — Relax at pool-side.

Saturday Night Cocktail Party [Cash Bar] — 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

MEMORIAL SERVICE — 7:30 P.M.

(Please be Seated Before 7:30 P.M., for this Solemn and Brief Service).

BANQUET DINNER — 8:00 P.M.

DANCING — 9:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M.

Sunday, August 22, 1982 — Farewells and Departures — All Day

Monday, August 23, 1982 — Farewells and Departures

SEE YOU ALL IN MAY, 1983 — MOUNTAIN SHADOWS, SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA

All Roads Lead To Milwaukee, Wisconsin

August 15 to 22, 1982

FROM BOSTON AND UPPER NEW YORK STATE:

Take I-90 West to Ohio Turnpike, West of Cleveland. Continue West on I-80 and I-90 to Chicago Area. Just across Illinois State Line take I-294 (Tri-State Tollway), to Wisconsin on I-94. Exit at College Avenue. Exit 319.

FROM NEW YORK CITY AND UPPER NEW JERSEY:

Take I-80 West to the Chicago Area. Just across Illinois State Line, take I-294 (Tri-State Tollway), to Wisconsin on I-94. Exit at College Avenue. Exit 319.

FROM SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY, PHILADELPHIA, BALTIMORE, WASHINGTON, PITTSBURGH AREA:

Take the Pennsylvania Turnpike West to Ohio-Indiana Turnpike, continue West on it to Chicago Area. Take I-294 (Tri-State Tollway) to Wisconsin, on I-94. Exit at College Avenue. Exit 319.

FROM THE FLORIDA AREA:

Take I-75 North to Cincinnati. I-74 to Indianapolis. I-65 North to I-80 and I-90, then West to I-294 (Tri-State Tollway), to Wisconsin, on I-94. Exit at College Avenue. Exit 319.

FROM THE NEW ORLEANS AREA:

Take I-55 North to I-57. North on I-57 to I-294 (Tri-State Tollway). North on I-294 to Wisconsin on I-94. Exit at College Avenue. Exit 319.

FROM SOUTHWESTERN STATES:

Take I-40 to Oklahoma City. Then East on I-44 to St. Louis. I-55 North to I-294 (Tri-State Tollway). North to Wisconsin on I-94. Exit College Avenue. Exit 319.

FROM SAN FRANCISCO AND OREGON STATE:

Take I-80 East to Chicago Area. North on I-294 (Tri-State Tollway), to Wisconsin on I-94. Exit at College Avenue. Exit 319.

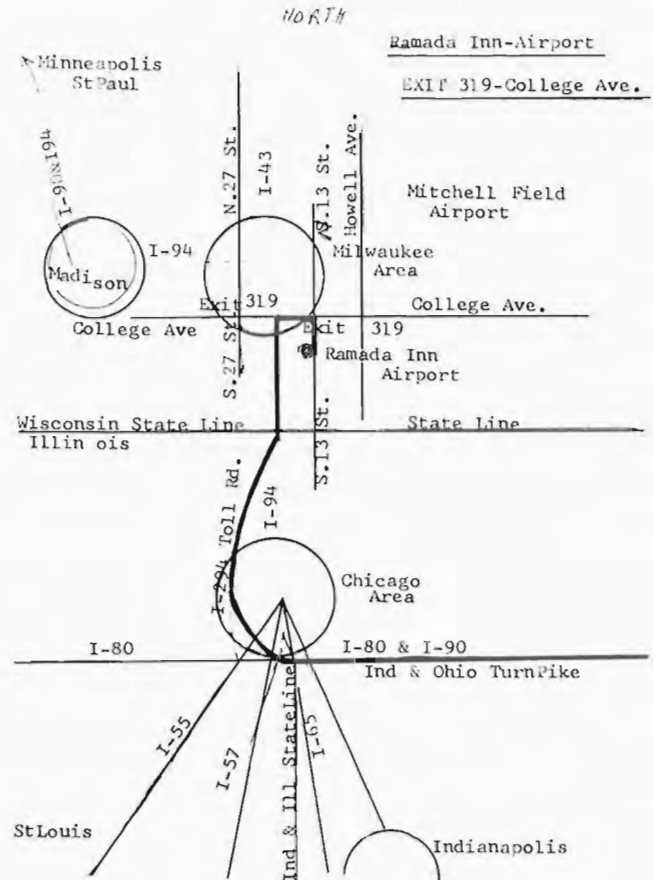
FROM WASHINGTON AND MONTANA STATES:

Take I-90 East to I-94. I-94 East to Minneapolis, Minnesota. South on I-94 to Madison, Wisconsin. East on I-94 to Milwaukee. Exit at College Avenue, on South-Side of Milwaukee. Exit 319.

BY AIR:

Milwaukee County General Mitchell Field is served by BRANIFF, DELTA, EASTERN, NORTHWEST, OZARK, REPUBLIC, UNITED and is only five minutes from the RAMADA INN - AIRPORT. Free Van Service to and from the Airport. If the Ramada Van is not in the Taxi and Limousine Area, Call 764-5300, for Pick-up.

RAMADA INN - AIRPORT
6401 S. 13th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221
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BEETLE BAILEY



By Mort Walker

Members . . . Meet Your Board of Directors

	1981 - 1982	1982 - 1983	1983 - 1984
Division Headquarters	Joseph Wright Route 4, Box 140 Forsythe, Missouri 65653	Sumner Russman 6001 N. Brookline, Apt. 905 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112	Fred Avery 1509 Bexhill Road Richmond, Virginia 23229
271st Infantry	Victor DeCarlo 136 N. Gallatin Avenue Uniontown, Pennsylvania 15401	Robert Ellis 6726 Calle Dened Tucson, Arizona 85710	William Sheavly 218 Sacred Heart Lane Reisterstown, Maryland 21136
272nd Infantry	Robert Kurtzman 610 W. Maple Street Wilmet, Ohio 44689	Herb Callaway 610 E. Houston Avenue Crockett, Texas 75835	Chester Yastrzemski 29 Skinner Street Southampton, New York 11968
273rd Infantry	Ray Fahrner Forge Gate Apts, 33 E-1 Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446	Jacob Stark 691 Dunkle Street, Enhaut Steelton, Pennsylvania 17113	Edward Lucci 23 Evergreen Avenue Lynbrook, New York 11563
Divarty	A. C. Faison 428 Sparrow Drive Satellite Beach, Florida 32937	Robert Bement P.O. Box 524 Mancos, Colorado 81328	Al Kormas 10301 Lake Avenue, Apt. 726 Cleveland, Ohio 44102
269th Engineers		Ray Lottie 5207 Sheridan Avenue, N. Minneapolis, Minnesota 55430	Joseph Monteleone 1320 Beverly Road Warminster, Pennsylvania 18974
661st Tank Destroyer	William Beswick Box 576 West Point, Virginia 23181	William Snidow Route 1, Box 303 Pembroke, Virginia 24136	Elwin Patterson R.D. No. 3, Box 191 Apollo, Pennsylvania 15613
777th Tank Battalion		Vernon Wirth 8330 W. Concordia Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53222	John Gradomski 5834 Donnelly Road Toledo, Ohio 43623
At Large 69th Quarter Master	Victor Woo 2136 - 13th Avenue Oakland, California 94606		

Gift Shop Corner



Reba and Bill Sheavly

SOUVENIRS

Some Souvenir Items are now being made available for sale through the mails besides being sold at the Annual Reunions.

William and Reba Sheavly, Souvenir Chairpersons, plan to introduce more and new items as often as ideas and agreements can be reached.

The following items are now for sale by sending Check or Money Order, payable to 69th Infantry Division Association.

Send your order to:

William C. Sheavly, Souvenir Chairman
218 Sacred Heart Lane
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Items:

- 69th Bumper Decal, size 3-1/2" x 5" (Weatherproof)
(An investment in the 69th Pride) — Mailed post paid Two for \$1.00
- Two (2) Year Pocket Secretary, With 69th Decal
A place to enter appointments and Birthdays — Mailed post paid \$2.50 Each
- Chrome Zippo Lighters with 69th Emblem — Mailed post paid \$8.50 Each

Meeting of Officers and Board of Directors 69th Infantry Division Association August 13, 1981

Following are the minutes of the two meetings held at the Host Inn Reunion in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

President Myers called the meeting to order at 1:35 P.M. Present: Vice President, Chet Yastrzemski; Treasurer, Earl Witzleb; Secretary, Frank Nemeth; Auditor, Tony Keller; Vernon Wirth, Robert Kurtzman, George Gallagher, Howard Hoover, Clarence Marshall, Sam Woolf, Harold Starry, Ray Lottie, Jake Stark, Jr., Paul Shadle, Ray Fahrner, Albert Carbonari, John Morriarty, Joe Wright, Walt Doernbach.

Prayer was said by Co-Chaplain Harold Starry.

The Pledge of Allegiance was not said due to the fact that there was no flag in the room. Reading of the 1980 New Orleans minutes were read, motion made to accept, and so carried.

Nominating Committee — Chairman Chet Yastrzemski reported at this time, that we are not prepared to present any candidates for office. We shall have it prior to the General Membership Meeting.

Treasurer's Report — Earl Witzleb, Jr., reported on Association funds, and passed out the financial status report. Motion by George Gallagher to accept, seconded and so carried.

Auditor — Tony Keller stated he did not have time, as yet, to go over the Treasurer's Report, but he would have it before the General Membership Meeting on Saturday. Motion made to accept, seconded and so carried.

Membership Committee — Clarence Marshall reported we now have 4,975 members. We gained 175 new members and lost 60 members. Motion by Sam Woolf to accept, seconded and so carried.

Resolutions Committee — Chairman Joe Wright reported he met with a quorum present, one (1) ex-President and two (2) observers. Their earlier study prompted them to observe that the Bulletin, in the fall of 1979, Volume 33, No. 1, "any recommended changes must be in the hands of the Secretary at least 60 days before our General Meeting at our next Reunion." Only one legal response has been made and we will deal with the most important suggestions therein, later. In view of this almost silent response, and the fact that the revised Constitution and By-Laws were printed in the mid-year 1981 Bulletin Volume 34, No. 3, we will recommend that the printed Constitution and By-Laws be adopted as printed, although they must be considered as separate documents since the Constitution required a 2/3 vote, and the By-Laws only a simple majority. It should be pointed out that if a 2/3 majority fails, the entire revision fails and we revert to the old Constitution. The same general conditions apply to the By-Laws, except as regards the simple majority. Pending changes will be presented in the next Bulletin. Motion by Walt Doernbach to accept, seconded by Vernon Wirth, so carried.

An Amendment to recommend to the General Membership to change the By-Laws, Section 4, to allow the Treasurer thirty (30) days, instead of fourteen (14) days, following the conclusion of the Reunion, to make final statement with the Reunion facility. Also, an Amendment is needed to change Article 5. The Fiscal Year shall commence on August 1, and terminate July 31, of the following year. Motion by Sam Woolf to accept, seconded by Walt Doernbach, so carried.

Scholarship and Welfare Committee — Acting Chairman Walt Doernbach. Only a few suggestions were turned in to the committee, to run the Scholarship Program two or three more years, and that should take care of everyone's children, who are

now in the process of receiving Scholarships, and to finish paying the ones that have three or four years coming to them. Do not do away with the committee, but try to find other things to do with the money, such as lowering the Banquet Fees in order to get more in attendance. After a lengthy discussion of past minutes of 1974, on the eligibility of grandchildren and step-children by Sam Woolf, motion was made to accept the report of Acting Chairman, Walt Doernbach, and so carried.

Scholarship Committee — Chairman Sam Woolf reported on this meeting held in Princeton, on June 7, 1981, and expressed his disappointment of only two Past Presidents attending. Two people were accepted for Scholarships, William Matlach, Jr., and Melissa Leike, Parksburg, Pennsylvania. Mary Drew stated what is lacking in quantity is certainly not lacking in quality. Both will attend the Banquet with their parents. Motion by Joe Wright to accept, seconded by Walter Doernbach, and so carried. There was a long discussion on the Scholarship By-Laws and Scholarship money. The Scholarship and Welfare Committee is to investigate and make recommendations to the General Membership, to make changes to the By-Laws.

President Myers reported on monies owed for the Boston Reunion, to Stanley Olszewski, and had Auditor Tony Keller report on his findings, of Stanley's claim for \$724.12. Motion was made by Tony Keller to pay Stanley Olszewski \$331.68, and close the matter, seconded by Robert Kurtzman, and so carried.

Old Business — None.

New Business — Reunion Sites: Milwaukee in 1982, and Arizona in 1983 — for the last week in May. Proposal for Cape May, New Jersey — third week of September by Walter Doernbach. A motion by Ray Fahrner, the expense of running the 69th Division Hospitality Room at the Reunion (liquor, beer, etc.), should come out of the 69th Division Association Fund, limited to \$300, seconded by George Gallagher, and so carried. Motion by Bob Kurtzman to the membership, that we put all money contributed by a dues paying member over \$5.00, into the Regular Operating Fund. Seconded by Jake Stark, and so carried.

Earl Witzleb asked if anyone would be interested in a "Back to Europe Trip in 1983," since it will be a long time before the 1984 Reunion. Al Carbonari stated that people have shown interest in a similar tour on the Arizona Trip, as we had the last time at Mountain Shadows.

Motion to adjourn by Joe Wright, seconded by Harold Starry, at 3:20 P.M..

Respectfully submitted,

Frank C. Nemeth
Executive Secretary

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP 69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

August 15, 1981, Host Inn, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

President Myers called the meeting to order at 10:12 A.M. Invocation was given by Co-Chaplain William Snidow.

Pledge of Allegiance by members was led by Joe Wright.

Secretary's Report — Minutes of meeting held in New Orleans, Louisiana, on August 23, 1980, were read, change noted. Motion to accept by Walt Doernbach, seconded by Bob Silberg, and so carried.

General Bolte was introduced to the membership, along with his two sons. A standing ovation was given by the entire membership.

Treasurer's Report — Earl Witzleb reported on our funds and passed out copies of the Financial Report to all members. Motion to accept by Irv Gotkin, seconded by Loar Quickle, and so carried.

MEETING OF GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

(Continued from Page 5)

Auditor's Report — Tony Keller gave a report on the Ginny May Fund of 1978, and recommended to leave it intact at this time. He also audited the Treasurer's Report, and said all was in good order.

Membership Chairman — Clarence Marshall reported that we now have 4,975 members, we gained 175 new members, lost 60, and have a net gain of 115 new members.

Scholarship Committee Chairman — Sam Woolf reported on his committee meeting and read letters of thanks from past recipients. Two people were selected for Scholarships this year: Melissa Leike, Parkesburg, Pennsylvania, 369th Medic Bn.; William Matlach, Jr., West Islip, New York, 273rd Inf. Reg.

Overseas Flower Fund Chairman — Irv Serafan reported on how the fund was started, and kept going. There is enough money for this years' flowers. Each 69'ers grave will be attended to.

Scholarship and Welfare Committee — In the absence of Chairman Frank See, Acting Chairman Walt Doernbach, reported that they had received no feeling from the membership, until the Reunion. They have just now located the By-Laws and still seek input from the membership of their wishes. After a lengthy discussion on the subject, it was sent back to the committee to investigate further. Motion to accept report by John Mason, seconded by Paul Schadle, and so carried.

Scholarship Fund — Motion passed by the Board of Directors and to be presented to the membership. Motion by George Gallagher that we take the continuing dues to the Scholarship Fund, and put it into the Federal Fund, starting next year, 1982, seconded by Bill Scheavly, and so carried.

Resolutions Committee Chairman — Joe Wright reported he met with a quorum present, one (1) Ex-President and two (2) observers. Their earlier study prompted them to observe that in the Bulletin, in the fall of 1979, Volume 33, No. 1, "any recommended changes must be in the hands of the Secretary at least sixty (60) days before our General Meeting at our next Reunion." Only one legal response has been made and we will deal with the most important suggestions, therein, later. In view of this almost silent response and the fact that the revised Constitution and By-Laws were printed in the mid-year 1981, Bulletin Volume 34, No. 3, we will recommend that the printed Constitution and By-Laws be adopted as printed, although they must be considered as separate documents, since the Constitution requires a 2/3 vote, and the By-Laws only a simple majority. It should be pointed out, that if a 2/3 majority fails, the entire revision fails and we revert to the old Constitution. The same general conditions apply to the By-Laws, except as regards the simple majority. Pending changes will be presented in the next Bulletin. Discussion on new booklets containing Constitution and By-Laws. Motion by Frank Krogan to accept, seconded by Al Fasson, and so carried.

Reunion Sites — 1982, Vernon Wirth gave a report on Milwaukee, and all is going well, and has eighteen couples on his committee, 1983, and Bob Meyers on Mountain Shadows in Scottsdale, Arizona. The motel changed hands, but all is progressing well. For 1984, Walt Dorenbach, spoke on Cape May, in late September and asked we consider this site.

Bill Beswick on Richmond, Virginia, at Hyatt House. As good or better than Host Inn, and really want us. Williamsburg, Virginia, has a new motel, and if the membership wants, he will check into it for prices, etc.

Nominating Committee — Chet Yastrzemeski, Chairman, reported that the new Board of Directors, for a three (3) year term, are as follows:

271st Reg.	Bill Sheavly
272nd Reg.	Chet Yastrzemeski

273rd Reg.	Ed Lucci
Divarty	Alex Korman
Special Troops	Fred Avery
269th Eng.	Joe Montelone
777th Tk.	John Gradomski
661st Td.	Elwin Patterson

After many nominations, the following new officers were elected:

President	Walt Doernbach
Vice President	George Gallagher
Secretary	Frank Nemeth
Treasurer	Earl Witzleb, Jr.

Motion made to accept the slate as recommended, seconded, and so carried.

New Business — To publish the Constitution and By-Laws and Membership Roster to all members. Look into the expense of such by the new Board of Directors and Officers, by appointed committee.

Motion to adjourn, seconded and so carried at 12:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank C. Nemeth
Executive Secretary

"Before and After"



"Before"



"After"

In the picture above with the caption "Before" are Jim Kehew and Walter John, who are former members of Division Headquarters G-4. The picture was taken in Germany, in 1945. The other photograph captioned "After" are the same two former 69'ers as they appeared in Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, in June of 1981.

Jim states that in those thirty-six years they had not seen each other. In June I received a phone call from Walter in California, saying that he and his wife, Carol, were coming east for their son's graduation, and would stop in Camp Hill to see us. I hadn't heard his voice since 1945, when I left the Division to go to the 7th Army Headquarters in Heidelberg. What a surprise! Needless to say, we had a warm and fun-filled Mini-Reunion, in the short time we were together.

We have kept in contact with Christmas cards, through the years, but had never met or talked on the phone.

It was sure nice to see a Buddy with whom I had shared so many experiences in Shelby and across Europe, including the night they brought the Russians to Division Headquarters after the link-up at the Elbe.

Except for the expanded foreheads, and my midriff-bulge, we felt we hadn't changed all that much.

(Editor's Note: Jim Kehew still wants to hear from former members who were with him in the Area and Language Program of the ASTP at Syracuse University. His address: 413 Appletree Road, Camp Hill, PA 17011).

News From The Editor's Desk

by — Clarence Marshall

Frederick W. Scherer, 11 Westmoreland Avenue, Montvale, NJ 07645 — F-273rd: This may come as a bit unusual, but I visited with my "Old Buddy, **Larry Kolarik**" in October, down in the Sun Country of Florida. We had a most enjoyable time. Larry sold his home in Long Island and retired down in Boynton Beach. He has a most exquisite villa down there, and loves the climate. All the luck, and Lord's Blessings to both him and his wife. May they both enjoy many, many years of health and happiness.

Larry and I are both Charter Members of the 69th and the Association. Our Unit in the Division was Company F-273rd, and to refresh former members of that Unit who are members of the Association, Larry was our Mail Clerk and worked with Company Headquarters. I served with the Fourth (weapons) Platoon.

I have enclosed a photo of the two of us posing in front of Larry's "Pride and Joy", a new Grandfathers Clock which is really out of this world.

It is too bad that I haven't been able to make any of the Reunions, but there is still hope, and I am looking forward to seeing some of my old friends. My wife and I are looking forward to getting together, more often, with Larry and his wife. One of their children and grandchildren live in New Paltz, NY, which is only about a one hour drive from my home.

Stay well, God Bless You, and I hope to see you soon.



Frederick Scherer and Larry Kolarik pose in front of Larry's "Pride and Joy", a new Grandfathers Clock in Larry's villa at Boynton Beach, FL — Two "Old Buddies" from Company F-273rd.

R. E. Sorenson, 45 Ridgecrest Drive, Westfield, MA 01085 — Hq. 271st: Enclosed is my dues payment.

Great to hear from you. **Sgt. Sarube**, 271st does a good job of making contact with his old Wire Crew.

We would like any information of former **T/Sgt. Willis O. Cairo**.

(Editor's Note: Anyone from Hq. 271st who has any information, we would like to hear from you).

N. M. Simon, 939 Pine N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49504 — K-271st: Please check your mailing list for the following two names. They may be aware of the 69th Association, but might like to be informed of the forthcoming Reunion in Wisconsin. I am looking forward to it.

*(Editor's Note: These two new names and addresses were sent along to Mr. Simon. **Harold Springer**, 25080 Green Village Lane, Waukesha, WI 53186, and **Wayne Redner**, 3927 Suburban Shores Drive, N.E., Grand Rapids, MI 49505. Both were new to our Roster).*

Henry Granecki, 240 21st Street, No. 1011, Toledo, OH 43624 — F-272nd: I am sending a list of names from our Unit Company F-272nd which you can add to your records as potential members of the 69th Association. These names and addresses were obtained just before shipping out from Camp Kilmer, NJ, so I doubt if they are the same today.

Brief resume on what happened after arriving in England. I was one of the group transferred to the 99th Division during the Battle of the Bulge. I returned home in March, 1946, and back to my job at Dohler-Jarvis Die Casting Plant in Toledo.

I got married three months later, and have two children: a son, James, and a daughter, Janice. I retired in 1968, due to a heart condition, which led to open-heart surgery in July, 1978. I have kept in touch with **James Henry**, who was the only member from F-Company at the Cleveland Reunion that I knew.

Had hopes of attending other Reunions, but for various reasons, never did. Will try to make Milwaukee in August.

(Editor's Note: The list which Mr. Granecki sent will be checked out by your Editor, who also doubles as Membership Chairman).

Billy D. Miller, Box 207 Gauley Bridge, WV 25085 — Ser. 273rd: I appreciate the nice letter you wrote some time ago, and I'm sorry I have been so slow in answering. Sorry I couldn't make it to the last Reunion, but will try to attend in the future.

I would appreciate it very much, if you could send me the addresses of the men from Service Company-273rd. Especially those in West Virginia.

I am enclosing a couple addresses that I have, **Owen C. Myers**, 203 Marshall Avenue, Charleston, WV 25306, and **Todd Janiszewski**, 3120 Warsaw Street, Toledo, OH 43608.

(Editor's Note: Both of the above men are new to our Roster).

Melvin R. Rump, 104 W. 18th Avenue, Hutchinson, KA 67501 — 369th Med.: I would like to be on the mailing list of the Bulletin.

I served in the 369th Medical Detachment from Shelby, through discharge December 10, 1945, at Camp Wood, MO. I was a private at discharge.

I would also like some information on the 369th Medical Detachment. Is there a representative from that outfit on your staff? I would like some names to write to for further information.

Denman Ayres, Sun Valley Acres No. 9, R.D. No. 1, Box 300, Harlingen, TX 78550 — Hq. 724th: I was reading the October issue of the V.F.W. Magazine this evening, and came across the enclosed article by a 69'er. Thought I'd send it to you as a possible new member, and perhaps you can put him in touch with some of his Old Comrades, whom he is looking for.

Keep up the great work you do for the BBB's of the 69th.

*(Editor's Note: The article that Mr. Ayers was referring to was that of **Bruno Bruwer**, who we have already tried to aid).*

Phyllis M. Walen, 802 E. Lotus Avenue, Tampa, FL 33612 — Widow - 769th Ord.:

To All 69'ers:

My heart is heavy as I write this. My husband **Major John Walen** (USA Retired), died suddenly on December 29, 1981, at Davis A.F.B. California.

We were on vacation at the time, visiting my sister and also our daughter.

(Continued on Page 8)

NEWS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK
(Continued from Page 7)

Formerly, my husband's name was **Walendziewicz**. I'm sure many of the men in the 769th Ordnance remember him by that name.

We were planning to attend the Reunion in Pennsylvania, but John had to go into the hospital on August 7, 1981, for a serious foot infection, complicated by diabetes.

John died instantly from a massive heart attack. That's the way he wanted to go. He was buried in Pensacola, Florida.

We both enjoyed being a part of the 69th Infantry Division Association, and also being in Camp Shelby when the 69th Division was activated. Our membership cards were in the mail when I returned home, along with many other sad reminders.

John W. Turner, P.O. Box 1645, Decatur, GA 30031 — C-724th: Thanks for sending me the list of names and addresses last September. In addition to trying to build-up C-Battery attendance at the next Division Reunion, **Vernon E. Tritch** and I are getting together all the C-Battery, 724th F.A. Bn. men and officers we can, for our **First C-Battery Reunion at Harrisburg, PA, April 2 to 4, 1982**. It will be at **Howard Johnson Motor Lodge, 473 Eisenhower Boulevard, Harrisburg, PA 17111**.

We are going to have a Hot Buffet Dinner (\$6.95 each), to be collected there by Vernon. Reservations for the dinner are not required. Wives are also welcome. **Time for the dinner is April 3rd, at 7:00 P.M.**

I have renewed contact with the following officers and enlisted men of C-Battery 724th F.A. Please add them to your mailing list, and send them the Bulletin and membership information. We will probably have more names and addresses to add to your list later.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Turner passed on eight new names and addresses from his Unit. They appear under new men Relocated, found elsewhere in this Bulletin. He also advised us that Enrico Vaccaro is deceased).

Dennis C. Kelley, 1618 Sixth Street, S.W., Roanoke, VA 24016 — K-271st: As a former member of the 69th Infantry Division, Co.-K, 271st Infantry, which I joined in May, 1943, I would like information on becoming a member of your organization. Also, if there are any books of the 271st Regiment, or mailing addresses of former members of this Unit, I would gladly pay the cost of same.

I have a neighbor **Beverly Smith**, who is a member of your organization, and he gave me your address. He was at Camp Shelby the same time that I was.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Kelley was provided the information he requested, and added to our Mailing Roster).

Ed Gildner, 615 S. Lexington, SP. 45, Delano, CA 93215 — Ser. 272nd: Enclosed are my dues for 1981-1982. Also, enclosed is the survey for the Association. I feel it is not as complete as you want, but I have given you the pertinent information.

Would you check your records and see if you have any information, address, etc., on **Colonel Walter D. Buie**, who commanded the 272nd Infantry Regiment. If not, could you ask if anyone knows his whereabouts. I would certainly appreciate locating him.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Gildner was advised that Col. Buie has been deceased for many years).

Guy Moore, P.O. Box 87, Shalbiana, KY 41562 — C-272nd: Give my best to anyone you know from **Charley Company 272nd**.

It's good to read about the 69th. It's good to remember our Old Army Pals.

The best to all.

Ray VanBrocklin, 3318 W. Denison, Davenport, IA

Carl Q. Christol Former Colonel in Division Hq. G-3 Section Receives Award

Carl Q. Christol, Professor of International Law and Political Science, University of Southern California, received the 1981 Certificate of the International Institute of Space Law, International Astronautical Federation, for distinguished contributions to the development of international law at its meeting in Rome, September 1981.

Another Attached Unit To Our Division Has Contacted Your Editor

Recently I have received correspondence from **Larry Brown** of Clarkston, Washington, who served in B-Battery of the 461st A.A.A. Bn.

This Battalion was attached to our Division during its trek across Europe.

Mr. Brown has supplied me with over 100 names and addresses of men who served in his Battery. I have added these men to our mailing roster, hoping that they might share some interest in our organization and our yearly Reunion.

He has advised me that since 1974, they have been holding their own Mini-Reunions in alternate years, at alternate locations. In the even years it is on the East coast, and in the odd years, in the West. This year it will be in Allentown, Pennsylvania, in September, and in 1983 at Portland, Oregon, June 16 to 19.

You men are most welcome, and we would hope that some of you would join with us at our Annual Reunion this year in Milwaukee, Wisconsin — August 15 to 22. Two fine gentlemen from another attached unit the 777th Tank Battalion are Co-Chairmen for our "Milwaukee Shin-Dig". They are **Vernon Wirth** and **Gaylord Thomas**.

We look forward to seeing some of you in Milwaukee, and hope that some of you will have the desire to join our Association.

"Happy Easter"

52804 — 769th Ord.: Last Sunday, January 17th, I received a phone call from a member of the 769th Ordnance Company, who lives in the Chicago area. He asked me for a reservation form for this year's Reunion, as he thought it was in our last Bulletin. I told him I would have a copy made and sent it to him.

He tells me he is planning to attend the next Reunion in Milwaukee, and will join the Association there.

I didn't find the reservation form in the last Bulletin, so I assume it will be in the next one.

I am hoping you could get his name on the Mailing list, so that he will receive the next Bulletin. He is: **Fred Scheller**, 2407 Jay Lane, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.

We have had our share of cold and snow this winter.

We are planning to be in Milwaukee to attend the Reunion — "Lord Be Willing". Hope to see you there, and also hope that you are enjoying good health this winter.

Former Members of The 69th Division and Attached Units Relocated Since Our Last Bulletin

Owen C. Myers — Ser. 273rd
203 Marshall Avenue, Charleston, WV 25306

Todd Janiszewski — B-273rd
3120 Warsaw Street, Toledo, OH 43608

Irvin M. Hunsberger — A&D 271st
529 Lemon Street, Warminster, PA 18974

Raymond E. Messimer — Hq. 3rd Bn. - 271st
605 St. Johns Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011

Emil Poparad —
1141 Salt Creek Road, Burns Harbor, IN 46304

Dennis C. Kelley — K-271st
1618 Sixth Street, S.W., Roanoke, VA 24016

Calvin A. Nordman — C-880th
268 Van Name Avenue, Mariners Harbor,
Staten Island, NY 10303

Harold Springer —
25080 Green Valley Lane, Waukesha, WI 53186

Wayne Redner —
3927 Suburban Shores Drive, N.E.,
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Ervin A. Myer — C-880th
8012 Landry Street, Harahan, LA 70123

Richard E. Hammitt — C-880th
Box 443, Bessemer, AL 35020

Ambrose Esposito — C-880th
1140 S. Menard Avenue, Chicago, IL 60644

John T. Sink — D-271
Box 577, Cloverdale, CA 95425

Stanley Oloszay — D-271st
2821 Bowman Avenue, McKeesport, PA 15132

Joseph Bruno — A-269th
56 Tweed Road, Levittown, PA 19056

Ralph Gesner — C-724th
12408 Sierra Grande, Albuquerque, NM 87112

Arthur Erickson — C-724th
P.O. Box 737, Waldport, OR 97394

George Mallotides — C-724th
1455 E. 19th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11230

Troy Sapp — C-724th
Rt. 5, Box 597, Marianna, FL 32445

Robert A. Vanderhoof — C-724th
190 Martin Avenue, Clifton, NJ 07012

Lester K. Walter — C-724th
481 Church Road, R.D. No. 1, Milford, NJ 08848

George H. Wills — C-724th
35850 Maplegrove Road, Willoughby Hills, OH 44094

Harry J. Armor — C-724th
711 Edison Road, Dauphin, PA 17018

Walter A. Struck — C-724th
1224 Grant Street, Morris, IL 60450

Clyde Talley — F-272nd
James Street, McMinnville, TN 37110

Fred Scheller — 769th Ord.
2407 Jay Lane, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

Charles W. Meyers —
8 Dunes Circle, Ormond Beach, FL 32074

Louis F. Angelucci — C-724th
1761 N. 46th Street, Camden, NJ 08110

Simon J. Avara — C-724th
1419 Pleasant Valley Drive, Baltimore, MD 21228

Melvin F. Baer — C-724th
16 Larch Wood Road, Wyomissing, PA 19610

Ivan W. Comer — C-724th
Route 2, Johnson, NB 68378

Edward J. Domansky — C-724th

4406 Berwick Avenue, Toledo, OH 43612

John W. Fish — C-724th
R.D. No. 2, Odon, IN 47562

Anthony Esposito — C-724th
626 E. 20th Street, New York, NY 10009

John W. Howard — C-724th
9633 54th Avenue, S., Seattle, WA 98118

William E. Himmelhaver — C-724th
1107 Vine Street, Hamilton, OH 45011

Edward C. Kolyszko — 724th
5448 W. Berenice Avenue, Chicago, IL 60641

Eugene J. Kissell — C-724th
536 W. 42nd Street, Shadyside, OH 43947

Solomon Kirschen — C-724th
1727 Danforth Street, Philadelphia, PA 19152

Euel M. McElroy — C-724th
933 Charles Court, Birmingham, AL 35215

Jimmie Poythress — C-724th
Route No. 3, Henderson, NC 27536

Gordon E. Seale — C-724th
Wolftown, VA 22748

Frederick W. Tapping — C-724th
7513 Far Hills Drive, Baltimore, MD 21204

John F. Ververka — C-724th
332 E. 29th Street, New York, NY 10016

Anthony T. Vasile — C-724th
80 Claredon Place, Hackensack, NJ 07601

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.

HOLDERS OF THE THIRD AWARD OF THE COMBAT INFANTRYMEN BADGE SOUGHT

Your assistance is requested in compiling a comprehensive list of Infantrymen who have earned the Third Award of the Combat Infantrymen Badge.

The Roster of these Triple CIB holders will be presented to the Infantry Museum at Ft. Benning, GA. All Infantrymen who hold the Combat Infantryman Badge, with two stars, are requested to send their name and grade in which retired, together with a copy of the order for each award to:

Colonel Donald A. Seibert, USA Ret.
525 Southwick Drive
Fayetteville, NC 28303

If orders are not available, please provide the designation of the Unit with which serving when each CIB was earned, and the approximate dates in Combat. The information will be used to complete a 'Roll of Honor' for the Infantry Museum.

Kindly notify anyone you know who holds the CIB with two stars, and ask them to send the necessary information.

Dottie and Me



Earl and Dottie Witzleb

Second request Dues Notices should be in your homes by now for the Dues Year of 1981-1982, which ends July 31, 1982. You should have a Blue Membership Card for this year, and hopefully you have all three of our colored membership cards, which are red, white and blue. These are the colors of the cards over the past three years. **If you have a Blue Membership Card — ignore the Second Notice you have just received. If you have a Blue Card you have either paid your Dues at the Reunion in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, or after you had received the last Dues Notice. If you took particular notice to the last Dues Notice, it likewise said Second Request, but really wasn't. The latest Dues Notice you have just received is the Second Request.**

Our Reunion coming up in Milwaukee, should be another good one and should be well attended. The committee has a nice program planned for this year, as you will observe, as you read further information throughout this publication of the Bulletin. **Do take notice, that your room reservations should go directly to the Ramada Inn, and your Activities Registration should be mailed to Gaylord Thomas, whose address is listed on the Activities Registration sheet — both of these Registration Forms are printed in this Bulletin. Fill them in and mail at once.**

Since the Reunion this year will be in the Mid-west, we should definitely see more members wearing the Yellow Ribbons, of the "First Timers".

It was nice seeing everyone in Harrisburg. I hope that all who were in Harrisburg, this past year, will be in attendance at the Reunion in Milwaukee, this coming August. We should have another 'record attendance' in Milwaukee, as it is rather a half-way point for both the East and West Coasts of the United States. I know we will all have fun in the "Land of Cheese and Beer" — so do make your vacation plans now and include in those plans to take in the Reunion in Milwaukee. We are most interested to see how many members return to this Reunion, who are from our Two Big First Time Units, who were present in Harrisburg last August — The Recon Troopers, and C-Battery of the 880th Field Artillery.

Might also say, that we may be getting a little bigger in membership. Some interest has been coming from members of the **461st AAA Battalion**, who were an attached unit to the 69th Division. I understand they became part of us in Germany, near the Rhine, and stayed with us the rest of the way. Any 69'er knowing a little about the 461st AAA, please write us and let us know what you know of them. **John Suprano** and **Ray Fahrner** recall them being with us. We are going to send about 90 Bulletins of this issue, to those men of the 461st AAA. We are hoping to hear from them also, as interested members **"WELCOME ABOARD, 461st Anti Aircraft Members,"** and do plan to join us in Milwaukee, at our Reunion in '82. As you read further in this Bulletin, you will find much more information about this forthcoming Reunion.

The center-fold of this issue of the Bulletin is an article which appeared in the August, 1981, issue of "Susquehanna",

which is a monthly magazine, published in Marietta, Pennsylvania. The article was written by **George Straley**, who for several years was a member of the 69th Division Board of Directors. George served with the Headquarters Company of the 661st Tank Destroyers. George wrote this article, with the hope of encouraging more members to attend the 1981 Host Inn Reunion in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Once you read it, you just might want to attend the Reunion in Milwaukee, this year, and give yourself the pleasure of meeting Old Buddies, and at the same time gain a few more friends, as we are, and always have been, a very friendly gang of "BBB's". Even the wives have become great friends, whether you were an Infantry Man from the 271st, 272nd, or 273rd; a Headquarters member; a 661st Tank Destroyer; an Engineer; an Artillery man; a 777th member; a Recon Trooper, and possibly now a 461st AAA Member. Yes, we all mix well together, and have become "One Happy Family". . . So, see you in Milwaukee the week of August 15 to 22, 1982, or any part of that time.

The Tours will be great. The Friday night PX Beer Party is where we really get to mix together, and of course, the Saturday Banquet Dinner Dance is the best, with the brief Memorial Service which starts the Saturday night's program of events. Remember also, that there is always plenty of time for the individual units to get together. Many of the individual units have their own Hospitality Rooms. And, oh yes, for those of you who don't know, there is a Division Hospitality Room, where "no one is a stranger." So, do join in, and become a part of us. I'm certain that if you attend this year's Reunion in Milwaukee, you won't want to miss another Reunion.

Remember that "Time Marches On" — most of us are over 50 years of age . . . and time is running short for us all. Let's all be at least, "Second Timers" when we gather in '83, at Mountain Shadows, Scottsdale, Arizona.

I urge you all to make your plans now to attend the Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Reunion . . . as I mentioned before, it is geographically more centrally located, and traveling to the Reunion site should be more convenient for more members of the Association.

If you wish to have Travel Arrangements made for you, you will find more information about this, from Al and Edith Carbonari. [See the article "Milwaukee Bound" which appears on the inside of the last page of this Bulletin]. Also, if you live in the Tri-State Area [Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia], take notice that this group is planning a Bus Trip to Milwaukee. Information about this Bus Trip will also be found under the article headed "Milwaukee Bound."

I'll close this portion of my "Chit-chat", with several letters which you might be interested in reading. Note: Two of the letters are from A-Company, 273rd Infantry.

Mr. Witzleb:

I am really astounded at the fast return mail I received from you. I remember reading somewhere in an old 69th paper, how we pulled some 'fast probes, flank movements, etc.?' "

Anyway, I am reading here about you having some back-copies of the Bulletin. I mean like, for the past three years. By having all, or part, of the past issues, I can, maybe, locate some people. If not, perhaps it would be possible to have a Roster of Company-A, 273rd Infantry, or whatever you can find.

I have a 69th Book — The Pictorial History of The 69th Infantry Division, 15 May 1943, to 15 May 1945. In the back of it are listed those who never came home. I don't know if you or Clarence Marshall would have those names.

Also, I have a picture taken of A-Company, 273rd at Camp

(Continued on Page 11)

DOTTIE AND ME
(Continued from Page 10)

Shelby, October, 1944.

At least if I had a Roster, maybe I could relate pictures with names, etc.!

I also have a paper, the Fighting 69 SENTINEL, dated May 15, 1945, Germany.

Do you know where and when the transfer of people from the 69th Division to the 29th Division took place? (Because of the point system, I believe).

Yours truly,

Jack D. Hubbard
2952 Wild Horse Road
Orlando, FL 32807

(Editor's Note: Jack was in Orange Medical Center, last year, during our Reunion. We hope he is back in shape again. All you good Company A, 273rd members — why not send Jack a note. Again, it would be nice if all you fellows could once again meet each other at the Milwaukee Reunion).

Dear Earl:

I have been receiving your Bulletin on the 69th Infantry Division. I really enjoy reading it, and looking for names of "Old Army Comrades." But, I have never seen any I recognized from Company-A, 273rd. Ray Fahrner, I seem to remember him from one of the Rifle Platoons.

I joined the 69th at Sisone, France, as a replacement. Was assigned to the 4th Platoon, in light Machine Gun Squad. Remained with them until Tergan at Elbe River, and end of the War.

I've lost all contact with those in my squad since. I know the names and part of their addresses. Wonder if they are receiving the Bulletin, and just not writing, as I have done.

My Sergeant was **Merle Brandon**, Greenfield, Iowa.

I have former names and locations for **John S. Moore**, Barry, Texas; **James H. Keller**, Leslie, Arkansas; **Edgar Walls**, Elnora, Indiana; **William P. Scally**, Cordelia, California. These were their last known addresses which I have.

Merrill J. Thompson
Route 4, Box 357
Greensburg, KY 42734

(Editor's Note: John S. Moore, Edgar Walls, William P. Scally, and Ray H. Fahrner are on our Mailing Roster. So, fellows, do write Merrill. Why not plan to get together in Milwaukee, in August? Edward Lucci and Fahrner are regulars at all Reunions).

Dear Earl:

Received Volume 34, No. 2, edition of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division Bulletin. The first and only copy I have seen. "Thanks a Million," to someone for putting me in touch!

I read every word of this edition — Not Once — But Twice — searching for a familiar name from my old outfit, Hq., Battery, 724th F.A. Bn. — saw only one name from the Battalion — **Ray Morse** of C-724th — whom I don't know, to my regrets.

Some time ago, I heard about the Association, but did not know any details, or whom to write, etc. Now, I want to know more — how to sign-up, and how can I get back issues of the Bulletin, to further my search for old friends. Your help will be most sincerely appreciated.

I joined the 69th in March 1944, reporting out of ASTP, Brad College, New York, when that program was scrapped (from the campus to KP in one fell swoop!), did my share of guard, etc., duty, and found my niche in the Radio Section

under **S/Sgt. James M. Gable** (Gainesville, Florida), along with many other solid souls: **Leon Poppel** (Tallahassee, Florida, in insurance last time I saw him); **Charlie Meyer** (With U.S. Commerce Department, Census, Washington, DC, last time I heard); **Richard Frey** (FBI agent in Jersey now?); **Joseph M. Elkins**, 15 Tenakill Road, Cresskill, New Jersey 07626; **John O'Connor** (was with Waldorf Hotel, New York City); **Sam Polombaro** (Rochester, New York); **Vincent Kalop** (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania); **1st/Sgt. Ray Lamb**; **Robert Gindling**; **Enrico Quarentelli**; **Eugene Peppinger**; **Earl Huber**; **Jack Hadder**. Our Battalion CO was **Col. Stacy W. Gooch**. I have a photo of Battery Commanders taken July 14, 1945, in Rohrigshof: **Capt. R. M. Godbar**, HQ; **Capt. W. J. Rakow**, Able; **Capt. D. D. Honick**, Baker; **Capt. G. F. Weidl**, Charlie; and **Capt. B. D. Merson**, Service.

I would love to know about these and other guys, and would appreciate any information you can offer. The only one I have maintained contact with over the years is **Joe Elkins**, a fellow radio operator . . . we got left behind on a route marking detail before crossing the Rhine, wandered around for about three days, stood at the base of the Remagan Bridge, the morning it collapsed (learned about the collapse while trying to turn ourselves in at II Corps, MP-Hq. Caught Hell when our Battery CO picked us up, two days later — said we were either AWOL or MIA, I don't remember).

Enough of this for now. Thanks again for the Bulletin. I look forward to more editions and closer contact. With best wishes.

Sincerely,

Edison Nunez
3020 Valley Pine Drive
Schenectady, NY 12303

(Editor's Note: Edison, you will note in the last Bulletin on page 16, that one member of Headquarters, Denman and Jane Ayres, and eleven members, plus their wives, attended the Host Inn Reunion, from the 724th Field Artillery).



The above photograph is that of members of the 2nd Platoon, 1st Section, Company-D, 273rd Infantry 69th Division. The picture was taken at Oberellenbach, July 20, 1945.

Dear Earl:

Enclosed is a photo of our group of the 2nd Platoon, 1st Section, Company-D, 273rd Infantry, 69th Division, and the names of the fellows. Would also like to see the enclosed picture published in our Bulletin, and also if you have any addresses on these fellows, I would appreciate receiving them, as I have lost track of almost all of them, except three.

At present, I am married, have five grandchildren — had four children: two boys and two girls; lost a son when he was

(Continued on Page 15)

Make Reservations Now For 1982, 69th Division Association Reunion

RAMADA INN - AIRPORT

6401 S. 13th Street

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221

Phone: 414/764-5300

Week of August 15 to 22, 1982 -- Main Attractions August 18 to 21, 1982

(Tear Here)

FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS -- MAIL TO:

RAMADA INN - AIRPORT

c/o Reservation Department

6401 S. 13th Street

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221

Room Rates Are:

\$42.00 -- Singles

\$46.00 -- Doubles

****One Nights Advance Deposit** with your reservation would be appreciated to assure your reservation in case of some delay in your arrival.

****All rates subject to 9% Hotel and Sales Tax**

I/we would like to have _____ Room(s).

(At the 69th Infantry Division Rates).

I/we Plan to Arrive:

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening After 6:00 P.M.	Departure
Sunday, August 15	_____	_____	_____	_____
Monday, August 16	_____	_____	_____	_____
Tuesday, August 17	_____	_____	_____	_____
Wednesday, August 18	_____	_____	_____	_____
Thursday, August 19	_____	_____	_____	_____
Friday, August 20	_____	_____	_____	_____
Saturday, August 21	_____	_____	_____	_____
Sunday, August 22	_____	_____	_____	_____

Number in Our Party Will Be: _____ Adults _____ Children _____ Guest(s)

Please Mail Confirmation To:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Unit: _____

(Tear Here)

Airport Transportation:

Ramada Inn Van Service -- **FREE**. If Van is not in Taxi and Limousine Area -- Phone 764-5300, for pick up.

Bus and Railroad Station Transportation -- Use Taxi.

MAIL IN YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY, to assure a room at the Ramada. Overflow will be at the Holiday Inn [next door].

REMEMBER

Uncle Sam's Birthday is April 15th.

Get your Income Tax in early so that you get your Refund Check in time for the Reunion in Milwaukee.

"We Send You Greetings for a Happy Easter"

**69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION 1982 REUNION — 661st TANK DESTROYER BATTALION - 777th TANK BATTALION
35th ANNUAL REUNION**

Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord Thomas

432 Doty Street

Waupun, Wisconsin

Phone: 414/324-4065

I/we plan to be at the Ramada Inn - Airport, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for the 1982 Reunion, and to attend the following activities:

The number in our party will be: _____ Adults _____ Children _____ Guests

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone/Area Code: _____ Unit: _____

Guests: _____

Registration [Good for PX Beer Party]	\$ 5.00	\$
**Wednesday — Tour of Three Milwaukee Churches	\$17.00	\$
**Thursday — Tour of Old World Wisconsin Museum	\$18.00	\$
or — Tour of Fox Lake Area — Cheese Factory and Correctional Institution	\$12.00	\$
Early Bird Reception and Dinner	\$17.00	\$
**Friday — Tour of Milwaukee including Pabst Brewery and Mansion, The Mitchell Park Flower Domes	\$15.00	\$
Golf Tournament (Friday Morning)	\$?	
Friday Night — PX Beer Party and Dance	Your Registration Ticket	
Saturday — Banquet and Dinner Dance (Prime Rib) — (<i>Seating by Units</i>)	\$20.00	\$
Sub Total		\$
DUES — For Year — August 1, 1982 to July 31, 1982		
Regular Membership	\$ 5.00	\$
Contributory Membership	\$10.00	\$
Ladies' Auxiliary	\$ 2.00	\$
Postage Donation (For Mailing Bulletins - Bulk Rate)		\$
Sub Total		\$
Total Amount Paid		\$

All Tours Include Noon Lunch

Wednesday Church Tour — Mader's Restaurant

Thursday Tour — Old World Museum — Clausen Barn and Fox Lake — A Wisconsin Bratwurst Lunch.

Friday Tour — Milwaukee Tour — Alanzo-Cudworth American Legion Post.

****Tours will be limited to get a significant percentage of each bus filled.**

Golfers — Those wishing to golf, please mark the reservation form so we can make reservations for enough foursomes.

If this is your **First Reunion**, and **you have not** given this information before, **please, do fill in below**

This information is for our "Sunshine Lady" Margie McCombs, who will send greetings to you, on special occasions. It is also suggested Regular Reunion Attendees up-date this information periodically — *Thank You, Kindly!*

Member's Birthday: _____ Wife's Birthday: _____

Wedding Anniversary: _____

Children Living at Home: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Birthday: _____ Birthday: _____

An Open Letter To Bolte's Bivouacing Bastards:

Start planning now to attend the "BEST BIVOUAC BOLTE'S BASTARDS EVER BETOOK" . . . The 35th . . . in MILWAUKEE. You will be introduced to a whole new world in Milwaukee.

A small but effective, efficient and enthusiastic group under the leadership of Vernon Wirth and his assistant Gaylord Thomas, have been meeting since March '81, and have an exciting bivouac planned for you.

Scores of things to see and do.

You may tour the Mitchell Park Conservatory Domes. There you will walk into a variety of climates, housed in the three separate domes of the Conservatory, with displays ranging from lush tropics to an oasis. Set up into the huge Show Dome, for a delightful look at seasonal floral arrangements. The Domes are among Milwaukee's most distinguished landmarks.

Treat yourself to a full tour and hospitality at one of the finest brewhouses in America. You may tour one or more of Milwaukee's breweries.

You may want to see the Pabst Mansion, one of Milwaukee's outstanding residential landmarks, for a step-back to another era. The house was built for Capt. Frederick Pabst, noted brewer, in 1893. A masterpiece of Flemish Renaissance style features the famed Blue Ribbon pavilion exhibited at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893.

Go delightfully "ape" for a time, observing gorilla Zooperstar Sampson and his animal compatriots, in the world famous Milwaukee County Zoo. (Different than the Leipzig Zoo for those of you who were there.)

Many things to do for the Early Bird Arrivals. A schedule of excellent tours are planned on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, August 18-20, 1982. So that you can experience the fun and excitement that IS Milwaukee.

Naturally . . . Banquets . . . A Beer Bust . . . with Cheese and Beer . . . Dancing . . . Strolling Musicians . . . Appropriate Dance Bands . . . Good Food . . . Drinks . . . Swimming . . . Golf . . . Shopping . . . and much, much more.

So . . . "LET'S GET THE TROOPS TOGETHER" — From the East, the West, the South and the Midwest. SET YOUR SCHEDULE — AUGUST 15 to 22, 1982.

We'll converge on the West Shore of Lake Michigan, in Milwaukee, for the "BEST BIVOUAC BOLTE'S BASTARDS EVER BETOOK."

Yours truly,

Phillip J. Sparacino

Former Members of C-Battery 724th Field Artillery To Hold Reunion

John Turner and Vernon Tritch are busy making contact with former members of C-Battery, 724th F.A., so as to have a good turnout at a Reunion to be held April 2 to 4, 1982, at the Howard Johnson Motor Lodge in Harrisburg, Pa.

Prior to their recent efforts, names and addresses for this Unit on the Association Roster have been very scarce. Anyone wanting further details on the up-coming Reunion contact either:

John Turner		Vernon Tritch
P.O. Box 1645	or	3259 Foxianna Road
Decatur, GA 30031		Middletown, PA 17057

The Veteran's Administration Needs Your Help . . .

On August 14, 1981, the President signed Public Law 97-37, known as the "Former Prisoners of War Benefits Act of 1981," expanding VA eligibility for thousands of former prisoners of war. The former POW incarceration period was reduced from 6 months to 30 days, a presumption of service connection was established for certain disabilities resulting from malnutrition, and service connected benefits were allowed for psychosis and anxiety states regardless of when first shown unless there is an intercurrent cause. In addition, former POW's are now to be provided both inpatient and outpatient medical treatment on a priority basis, and their concerns are to be considered by an advisory committee to the Administrator.

VA wants to contact all former POW's to tell them of this new legislation and to assist them in applying for benefits. To do this we are going to need the assistance of your large network of friends to help update our locator files with current information.

We would appreciate it if you would ask the members of your organization to collect for us the following data on as many former POW's as possible and to send it to you as a control point:

- Name, Address and Telephone Number
- VA Claim Number, Social Security Number
- Whether or not veteran is presently receiving VA benefits

When the information has been consolidated, please forward it in bulk to my office. We want to begin acting upon this information by early January 1982.

Let me thank you in advance for your continued support and timely response in this important joint outreach effort to help former POW's obtain their entitlement under the new law.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy L. Starbuck
Chief Benefits Director
Washington, DC

Werts Selected for "Hall of Fame"

The following is a newspaper article which appeared in The Daily Union, Junction City, Kansas, on Friday, October 16, 1981.

State Sen. Merrill H. Werts, 1228 Miller Drive, has been selected for membership in the United States Army's Infantry Officer Candidate Scholl "Hall of Fame" at Fort Benning, Georgia.

The "Hall of Fame" was dedicated to honor the contributions and achievements of graduates of the Officer Candidate Program. Sen. Werts graduated from the school on July 4, 1944.

"I am thrilled and proud to be elected to the Hall of Fame," Sen. Werts said. "It has been a long time since my army service, so I assume my selection was based upon more recent accomplishments," he said.

According to information released by Headquarters of The School Brigade, to be selected to the "Hall of Fame," a commissioned infantry officer must have accomplished one of the following:

(Continued on Page 15)

DOTTIE AND ME

(Continued from Page 11)

22 years old. At present I have 18 years of service in at G. S. Robins in St. Louis, Missouri, as leadman and maintenance.

Here are the names of the fellows in the photo. Zeke Casdorff, Tom Hepburn, Nels Beck, Russ Williams, Goof Kline, Lewis Tinny, Donald Milikan, Roy Fritze, Seth Mohr, Loyd Hulbert, Ken Maynard, Charles Atteberry, Yourbrough, John Opt. The photo was taken at Oberellenbach, July 20, 1945.

John Opt

1617 Schobert Drive
Swansea, IL 62221
Co.-D, 273rd Regiment

Mr. Earl E. Witzleb, Jr.:

Enclosing my 1981-82 dues. Also letting you know we enjoy the Bulletin very much. It brings back memories of 'days gone by'.

Retired in 1979, from the A&P Tea Company, after 31 years as Meat Manager.

My wife, Ann, and I are enjoying retirement very much.

My three sons were in the service, overseas, Viet Nam. One is still in the service.

Estel Clute

320 Lockwood Street
Alpena, MI 49707
Co.-H, 271st Inf.

Hi, Earl,

You probably don't remember me, but I was in a Mortar Crew (60 mm), with **Gene Orlowski**, under **Sgt. Dicke** and **Muncy** [?].

Was wounded on February 2, 1945, by the same shell that hit Dicke — near Remscheid, Germany. Spent four months — in approximately ten hospitals — and came out of it OK.

Since the War, I've been visited by **Frank Reemsnyder** and **Earl Moe** (also from mortars).

Hope I can make it to Milwaukee, this summer.

Best Wishes,

William T. Gleason
10508 Blaisdell Circle
Bloomington, MN 55420
Co.-E, 273rd Inf.

A Call For Help From The Patton Museum

I recently received a letter from **John M. Purdy**, Curator **Patton Museum**, at Fort Knox, thanking me for the donation of my old Cavalry Uniform to add to their collection.

In his letter he stated they just acquired a nine cylinder radial Caterpillar diesel engine. The 777th Tank Battalion had tested this engine for the Armored Test Board in 1943, and was equipped with the M5A1 tank as a Demonstration Battalion for the Armored School.

He was hoping that someone might still have in their possession a Maintenance Manual, or notes on, or recollection about the engine. The Museum would welcome any information which could be mailed either to me or to him — Patton Museum of Cavalry and Armor, P.O. Box 208, Ft. Knox, KY 40121.

Vernon Wirth
8330 W. Concordia Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Scholarship News

by — *Sammy Woolf*

ANN HAVEY ATTENDED ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY AT EMPE, ARIZONA

Dear Mr. Woolf:

At this time, I'd like to thank you, and the entire Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association for the financial assistance in my college education.

I shall graduate in May, 1982, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Journalism. But, the event I'm truly looking forward to is the day after graduation — when I receive my Commission in the United States Air Force Reserve. I look forward to serving my country for the next four years, on active duty.

I'm entering my last year in ASU's AFROTC Program and am currently a Cadet Captain, serving as Chief of the Public Affairs Division.

Again, I thank the Association for its continued support in my education and its support to other young people who desire to better themselves, and possibly this world of ours.

Sincerely,

Anna Havey

LAST CALL — for members having sons and daughters in high school ready to graduate in 1982, to apply for a Scholarship Award, from the 69th Infantry Division Association. This award is for \$200.00 a year, for the four years attending college or a school of higher learning — totaling \$800.00 to each awardee.

The Scholarship Committee's Annual Meeting, consisting of Past Presidents, President, Vice President and Treasurer, will be held in early June, 1982.

Those interested should write immediately to:

Sammy Woolf, Scholarship Chairman
241 Waverly Road
Scarsdale, NY 10583

Since time is drawing near, you might just call Sammy at 914/643-6887, and also, in writing him, enclose your (the applicant) telephone number, should he want to contact you.

WERTS SELECTED FOR "HALL OF FAME"

[Cont. from page 14]

- Been awarded the medal of honor, regardless of rank.
- Attained the rank of colonel while serving on active duty in a reserve component.
- Been elected or appointed to an office of prominence in national or state government.
- Been recognized and recommended by the commandant of the infantry school for outstanding achievement.

Sen. Werts is among 24 who have been selected this year for bringing distinction to themselves and to the Officer Candidate School program.

Induction ceremonies to honor these professional infantrymen will be held December 11, at Fort Benning. Sen. Werts expressed interest in attending the event, but will decide later if scheduling permits his participation.

"I haven't been there since I graduated," the senator said. "It would be nice to visit the post again."

(Editor's Note: **Merrill Werts** lives at 1228 Miller Drive, Junction City, KA 66441, and was a member of Battalion Headquarters and I-Company, 271st Infantry. Hope to see you in Milwaukee).

The Sixty-niners Are Coming

by George H. Straley

The time was approximately 1600 hours, Wednesday, April 25, 1945.

The place was Torgau, a peaceful thousand-year-old town along the Elbe River on what is now East Germany.

American GIs were on one side of the Elbe, Russian soldiers on the opposite side. Separating them was a blown-out iron bridge whose broken flooring and twisted girders still offered enough footing for three men on either side to climb toward each other over the wreckage. There on the ruined bridge, in mid-river, shaking hands and embracing in the excitement and jubilation of a long-awaited meeting, is where the photographer caught them in the Associated Press wirephoto of the event—a picture as classic as the flag-raising on Iwo Jima.

It was the historic link-up of East and West—the U. S. First Army and the First Ukrainian Army—in the final stages of World War II. The reason for bringing it up now, thirty-six years afterward, is that the GIs who took part in that link-up were "Sixty-Niners," members of the 69th Infantry Division, who will be getting together this month at the annual reunion of the 69th Infantry Division Association, near Harrisburg. Memories of what happened at Torgau are sure to be revived.

Old soldiers of the "Fighting 69th" will meet during the week of August 9th at the Host Inn, 4751 Lindle Road, at the junction of I-283 and State Road 441. With them will be veterans of the Division's attached outfits, the 661st Tank Destroyer Battalion and the 777th Tank Battalion. They'll come from all over the country; many from Pennsylvania's southeastern region.

Although the reunion officially begins on Sunday, August ninth, principal activities won't get underway until Wednesday, the twelfth. The really big day is Saturday, the fifteenth, when the Sixty-Niners hold their business meetings, followed by a traditional memorial service, banquet, and dinner dance.

Events during the week include visits to Hersheypark and Chocolate World, a trip to Penn National Racetrack, tours of Gettysburg Battlefield and the Lancaster County "Dutch Country," a luncheon at the Strasburg Inn, and assorted parties for

the Fighting 69th's various regimental and battalion units and auxiliaries.

Hey! Jack, old boy! Haven't heard a word from you since last August at New Orleans. Howsa family?

The Fighting 69th was activated at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, in 1943. Overseas, it spearheaded the First Army drive across Germany from Coblenz on the Rhine to the link-up on the Elbe. They had come all the way from the Normandy coast, the Russians all the way from Stalingrad. A week before the link-up, the 69th had captured Leipzig in three days of fierce fighting; the Russians had smashed into and around Berlin. Driving toward each other, the two armies were destined to meet at Torgau, forty kilometers northeast of Leipzig.

One of those who like to reminisce about Torgau is Dr. William D. Robertson, a California neurosurgeon, who was the lieutenant in charge of the patrol that made contact with the Soviets. If he's able to attend the reunion this time his buddies may again hear him tell his version of what happened.

Actually, the link-up—the first great junction of what were then the world's two most powerful armies—occurred at three points, with three separate reconnaissance groups contacting three separate Soviet patrols on the afternoon of the same day. Which group was first to make contact has always been a matter of controversy, but official dispatches at

the time gave credit to the group at Torgau.

Late in the afternoon of that momentous April day, Lieutenant Robertson's patrol was prowling through the outskirts of Torgau near the bank of the Elbe when one of the men spotted troops on the opposite bank, some two-hundred yards away. Through his field-glasses, the young officer tentatively identified them as Russians, and with great joy that their mission was seemingly accomplished, the GIs began waving their arms and jumping up and down. But the troops responded to this demonstration by opening fire on the Americans.

Well, whaddya know! It's Old Sarge himself. Maybel, I want you to meet the guy who taught me everything I know about KP...

As the shots rang out and bullets zipped across the water, Robertson and his men quickly withdrew from the riverbank, ran across the street, and took refuge behind a convenient stone wall.

Again the officer swept the opposite shore with his glasses. Again he was sure that the troops were Russian. All he had to do was convince them that he and his men were Americans.

He looked around. They were on the grounds of what seemed to be a large estate, almost in the shadow of an immense old building. It was, although he did not know it at the time, an historic castle, Schloss Hartenfels, whose seven-story towers had been staring out over the Elbe for



Present-day bridge across the Elbe at Torgau.

four or five centuries.

Gazing up at the towers, the young lieutenant had a sudden inspiration. He dashed toward the building, found a door and pushed it open, and ran up a stairway of the tower. In one of the upper rooms he found a bedsheet. With a bottle of mercurochrome from a first-aid kit he painted broad red stripes on the sheet to roughly resemble the American flag. Then he opened one of the tower windows facing the river, held out the sheet, and waved it vigorously.

The shooting stopped. Minutes later, Robertson and three of his men clambered across the broken bridge and met the Soviets at mid-point. Robertson found himself confronting a broadly-grinning officer who turned out to be Lt. Alekseyer Sylvasenko of the 58th Guard Division's 173d Regiment. Robertson later told a correspondent:

"I didn't know what to say when I met him on the girder. I pounded him on the knee, shook his hand a couple of times, and said hello in English."

Sylvasenko was quoted by an interpreter: "I was so glad. So astounded. I did not know what to do—to go riding with them, to drink vodka with them, or to go fight the Germans together. I am overjoyed to meet the Americans."

Later, top brass came forward, and Major General Emil F. Reinhardt, commander of the 69th Division, was rowed across the Elbe in a racing scull to shake hands with Marshal Ivan Koniev of the First Ukrainian Army.

Yeah, I'm gonna retire at the end of the year, Joe. Then I'll have nothing to do but sit in a rocking-chair and count my medals. Hah!

Few people today can appreciate the undercurrent of relief that swept through the Allied Command as a result of the link-up with the Soviets. Tension had been building up for a long time over the problem of liaison with the Red Army. Mutual identification was difficult, communication almost impossible because of language differences that made front-line radios useless. There had been occasional unfortunate exchanges of fire between U.S. and Russian aircraft. As the Soviets advanced in their westward drive along a two-hundred-mile front the constant danger of a major clash worried the Americans. No doubt it worried the Russians, too.

Now the whole problem had been solved by a daring handful of GIs, a bedsheet, and some ingenuity. In the streets of Torgau there was dancing.

and in the headquarters of the various command units a great wave of elation. Messages of congratulation began pouring in to General Reinhardt.

The late General Omar Bradley, commanding 12th Army Group, promptly wired Reinhardt: "Within two years, the Sixty-Ninth Infantry Division forged a fighting machine from the ranks of citizen soldiers that enabled you to meet and defeat the mighty German Wehrmacht. This achievement was demonstrated to the world when, on April 25th, you joined the Russian forces to mark the juncture of our Eastern and Western Fronts...I, as your Group Commander, share with the millions of your comrades throughout the Army, the pride we know you must feel..."

Lt. Gen. J. Lawton Collins, commanding the VII Corps, wrote: "I and my staff have been greatly impressed with the appearance and alertness of the men of the 69th Infantry Division, and with the high standard of performance which you have established."

Gen. Dwight David Eisenhower messaged: "The 69th has proved itself in combat. It will have many proud memories of the European conflict."

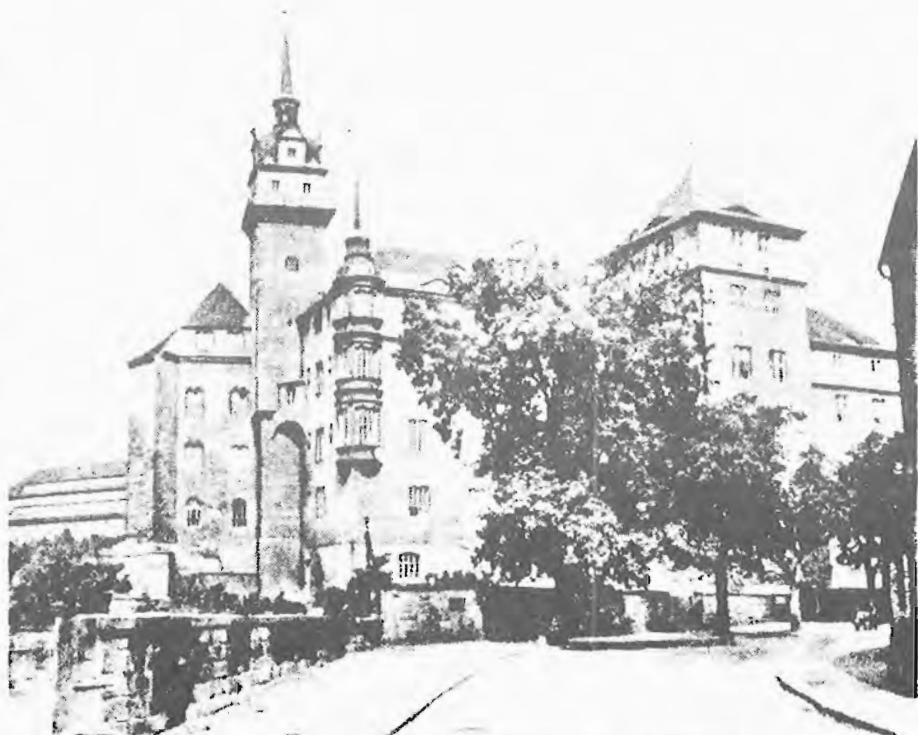
Those proud memories include not only the link-up at Torgau, but the victory at Leipzig, the taking of Fort Ehrenbreitstein, the capture of more than a thousand German towns and some thirty-five thousand German prisoners, and the liberation of more than twenty-six thousand Allied prisoners.

So long, Harry! Glad you could make it here this year. If you ever get out to Terre Haute...

These are the memories cherished by the Fighting 69th, the memories that will surface at the reunion at the Host Inn on August 6 through 16. Anyone who served with the 69th, or with the 661st Tank Destroyers or the 777th Tank Battalion, is eligible to attend and will be warmly welcomed.

More information can be obtained, if needed, by writing to Clarence Marshall, 101 Stephen Street, New Kensington, PA 15068.

Walter Doernback of Egg Harbor, New Jersey, president of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association, expects another record attendance in the mid-west at Milwaukee. Last year's Reunion was held at Host Inn, Hershey-Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Next year's Reunion will be held in Scottsdale, Arizona.



Schloss Hartenfels is an ancient castle in the thousand-year-old Saxon city of Torgau. It was from one of the upper windows of the tower at right that GIs of a 69th Infantry patrol hung an

improvised American flag that identified the American troops to the Russian soldiers across the Elbe River.

Robert Mottaz Writes Your Editor About His Return Trip to Germany

Dear Clarence:

I said at the meeting in Harrisburg, that if my wife, Inge, and I got into East Germany, on our trip to Europe, right after the Reunion. I would write you all about it.

Well, we started our trip into the East Zone (DDR), from Inge's mother's place in Meisenheim a/Glan, on Monday the 30th of August, in our rented car. We had our visas for Czechoslovakia in our possession, and entrance into East Germany, was our next concern. We set our sights first on Hof, some two hundred miles away, just short of the East-West border. On our way to Hof we stopped in the town of Roedental, at the Goebel Factory, home of the famed Hummel Figurines. We intended to look only — but we ended up buying.



Goebel Factory in Roedental. Home of the famous Hummel Figurines.

On our way to Hof, just before 6:00 P.M., we stopped for the night at the Hotel Am Kuhbogen. It is a small hotel, but very nice, right in the heart of the city. The room was equipped with a headboard clock and radio, and there was even a colored TV and private bath. After eating a very filling dinner, we decided to drive to the border, just to feel them out on crossing over the next day. When we got to the check-point we were told that as far as the visa was concerned, we would have to check with the lady in the travel bureau, located right there at the border. She would make the necessary arrangements.

The lady at the travel bureau was very pleasant and said that there should be no problem in getting a visa, but first she would have to make hotel reservations for us. Without firm reservations we could not get a visa. She asked us which city we would like to visit and we said Leipzig. We then told her that we really wanted to stay in a smaller place, like Grimma, because from there we could readily visit other small towns, like: Torgau, Trebsen, and Neichen, if this was possible. That I had been at all these places during the War. She said that upon our return in the morning, she would check with Grimma to see if rooms were available.

Early the next morning we were again at the travel bureau, and the lady was as good as her word. Within a few minutes after our arrival she had contacted Grimma and found that the Hotel Stadt Grimma could take us in. She added that it would have been almost impossible for us to get rooms in Leipzig, because that city was hosting the Trade Fair, (Messe), and that rooms were at a premium. We had to pay for our room right then, \$24.00, about the same as the price in Hof (Bavaria), but, Oh, — what a difference. Anyway, with our hotel reservations in hand, we had no trouble in getting our visas. In a few moments we were on our way into the DDR.

The autobahn for the first few kilometers was rough and we had to drive very slowly. It reminded us of Interstate 70, and the turnpike in Pennsylvania. But after a while, the way became pretty smooth and we headed for Gimma by way of Leipzig.

It was an experience driving past the Napoleon Monument and gave rise to some thoughts of many years past. We were headed in the opposite direction on that first trip past the monument, headed into the heart of Leipzig, like sitting ducks atop those tanks, being fired upon. But, now it was peaceful and quiet, and just now and then, a car or a truck would rumble by on the cobblestone street to break the silence.

Except for the lawn near the monument, the area was weedy and un-kept. Even the buildings around were gray with the look of decay. Everything grows so wild, a far cry from the neatness we had seen before. Of course the whole countryside is like that, it is as though this part of Germany just ceased to exist after the War. It was so disheartening just seeing the same homes and buildings where we had worked and were billied in those long ago weeks and days. What a difference now between East and West. It could be that despair that starts in the heart is reflected in the surroundings.



Hotel Stadt Gimma where Bob Mottaz and his wife stayed on their two day visit.

We found our hotel in Gimma and settled in. Our room was as expected — just the essentials — two beds, a sink, a small table and a wardrobe. There were two thin towels that would have to do for the two days, but no soap. The W/C was between our floor and the floor above. Hof had been a palace compared to this.

After settling in and the time not quite 7:00 P.M., we decided to drive into Trebsen and Neichen, a mere seven kilometers away. At first it was difficult getting oriented, but we finally found our way around.



Entering Trebsen

We couldn't get a clear picture of the house in Trebsen, where Fox, 273rd had their CP, because of the many low hanging branches, but we did get a couple pictures of the house across the street, where Lt. Farrar had his troops billeted.



This is the house in Trebsen, where Lt. Farrar's Platoon stayed in 1945.

And, of course, the paper mill is still going full blast, and is still the main source of employment for the folks around.

From Trebsen, we went into Neichen. I was surprised and dismayed at the way things were. Driving into town from the main bridge, we went down to the curve in the road where the cafe, Gasthaus, should have been, but we could not find it. Instead, there was an old brown building, not with a door in the front, but with one at the side. This surely couldn't be the same building. Later we found out that it was the same building, but the man who owned the cafe had died, and the State had taken over the building and that now it was a grocery store. The large cafe windows in the front had been bricked up, and that is what gave it such a strange appearance. The only thing that remained the same was that the windows upstairs were still as they were in 1945.



Cafe Gasthaus in Neichen, as it appears today. Former owner passed away and it was taken over by the state. It is a State Grocery Store.

We went to the house where the CP had been, but I know that Sam Woolf, nor nobody else would recognize it. When we were there the town had been pretty well intact, and the houses were very attractive, with flowers just starting to sprout. Now, thirty-six years later, everything is overgrown with weeds and the houses are gray and unattractive. A very disheartening picture. The photos that we took really tell the story.



This home in Neichen is the site of the Command Post for Company F-273rd, in 1945.

The little bridge that spans the small creek that runs behind the old cafe, is still there. It is now cement, but it is unmistakable. I was taken back over the years to when we used to walk over that small structure on the way to the CP.

By-the-way, we talked to the woman who owns the house where the CP was. She is the daughter of the woman who owned it then. She is quite old herself now, but not too old to remember stories about that house. She said that her mother remarked about the troops who had been there, that they had taken her sewing machine, all her nice pots and pans, and had even ripped doors off the hinges. I reminded that our troops would not do such things, that we had our own cooking items, had no use for a sewing machine, and as far as doing damage to the house, this was simply out of the question. Our troops would do no such thing, nor was it allowed. I also reminded her that the same day we moved out the Russians moved in. She nodded her head, as if in agreement, but you could see that she still blamed the Americans. Under the circumstances, can she think otherwise?

The next day, Wednesday, we got up early and drove into Leipzig. I wanted to see the courthouse where so much action had taken place after our entry in 1945. The people got me so confused with the old courthouse/new courthouse, but none seemed to know which courthouse I was referring to. Nobody we talked to had been around in that year. Very strange. I took pictures of both courthouses and I think I know which one it was. Anyway, maybe someone can set me right when I show the pictures at the next Reunion.

We then had lunch at the hotel that is recommended by the travel bureau, Hotel Merkur. It is a very nice hotel, there for Western visitors. Of course there are shops that will only take West German Marks, or U.S. Dollars. No other currency is accepted, so naturally, East Germans cannot shop there. There you can buy anything from American cigarettes to West German figurines. Our lunch was very nice. Fit for the truly high-class. The cost — just a bit over ten dollars, but then, food is real cheap over there. Of course, one can't order a steak or a veal cutlet, but what food is there is served in abundance and most always very tasty.



A typical apartment building as they appear in East Germany, today. This one is in Leipzig.

From Leipzig, we drove to Torgan, to look at the bridge where our boys met the Russians. We drove across the bridge, and I wanted to take a picture of the town sign. Naturally the sign is just a few yards from the bridge, and so if you get the sign on the picture you also get part of the bridge. I no sooner took the picture when I was approached by an East German soldier. He saw the West German license plate on the car, and assumed that we were West Germans. He asked if we were not aware that taking pictures of bridges in the DDR was forbidden. He added that, they could not take pictures of our bridges, and we could not take pictures of theirs. I told him that I knew of no such law but if he wanted the film from my camera, he was welcome to it. He then asked for my passport and after he looked at it and saw that we were Americans, his tone changed from crisp to natural. He said, "No, keep the film," and sent us on our way. All this time Inge hadn't said a word. She said she was just waiting to see how I handled it myself. Just waiting to see how far the soldier would go. Then she said that had I run into real difficulty, she would have stepped in and acted as interpreter. There is no denying that I was a little apprehensive at the time, but it all turned out well.

There was a new front being put on the courthouse and except for Leipzig, this was the only place we had seen some color added to a building. We looked around the town square and I thought of a day, long ago, when we had stood on this exact spot taking the cameras and binoculars we forced the German civilians to turn in. How these people hated to turn in the last of their treasures. Standing there, once again, I understood just how they must have felt.

Thursday morning saw us packed up, heading for Prag. Inge had been an Army Nurse in a German Field Hospital on the East Front. Prag and Karlsbad were two cities where she had served, and she was anxious to see how they looked after all these years. On our way, we stopped in Meissen, famous for its beautiful china, and picked up a few items. Almost all of the china made there is sold in the West. The locals, except for a few who are still wealthy, cannot afford the prices. Again, the dollar is the currency most welcomed, along with the West German Mark.

About the currency exchange, and why they are after the dollar and West Mark. When we, as westerners, change our dollars at the border, we exchange one for one, one dollar for two marks and forty-five pfennigs, which was the exchange at the time. But, when East Germany sells that dollar back, they require not one for one, but four for one. In other words, they want the equivalent of four dollars, or nine marks and eighty pfennigs. They are not stupid. But, I know who is!

We also drove through Dresden, but we didn't stop. One can still see the blackened buildings from 1945, when the city was fire-bombed. We would have liked to linger a while, but

we wanted to make our border crossing and arrive in Prag, before nightfall. As it was, we had plenty of time, even time enough to spend an hour, or so, in Theresienstadt, the infamous concentration camp not too far from Prag. There isn't too much standing anymore, but there are the many graves with the ever present Star of David, and the caves where the giant ovens had been. Even the town seemed almost deserted — very strange for a living, breathing town.

Prag is a nice city, not too different from Vienna. It is much more colorful than cities in East Germany. But, then it had a much different roll in World War II. Maybe that is the big difference. Maybe it does not have to pay the price. We stayed at a pretty nice hotel that caters to the western trade. It must be pretty well after the trade with the west, for they have signs all over — Master Charge — Carte Blanche — Visa Diners Club, and all the rest. The price for a very nice room was a little over \$38.00.

It is easy to see why Prag was given the name, "The City of Gold." In the bright afternoon sun, standing on the balcony of their most famous castle, in the heart of the city, one can see the golden domes and spires of the many ornate churches and cathedrals situated throughout the city.

It is a city so much like Vienna, it could be called its sister city. But, then, Bohemia was ruled by the same emperors that ruled Austria/Hungary for hundreds of years. As Vienna has its Donau winding around its heart, so the Muldau circles the old city of Prag. Travelers to the East should put Prag on their list as a place to stop.

We drove through Karlsbad, on our way to the West German border, but we only stopped for a few hours. We were anxious to get through to the West again. We crossed right at nightfall and breathed a sigh of relief. It was now only the 4th of September, but it seemed to us that we had spent more than four days in the East. Maybe it had to do with the anxiety of always having to look over your shoulder. Whatever, when they closed the gate behind us, and we were back in the West, we sure felt good.

We enjoyed our trip very much, and I must say, the American Passport is still like a 'Magic Carpet'. Where others are held-up at border crossings for one reason or another, the American Passport is given many more courtesies. Even inspections are lighter. Maybe it will not be next year, or maybe not even the year after, but one day we will go there again. We just have too.

Robert [Bob] Mottaz
4546 Toyon Road
Riverside, CA 92504

P.S.: Our trip ended on a sad note. Exactly two weeks after saying goodbye to Inge's mother, and returning to the states. Inge's mother passed away. A very sad goodbye to a wonderful person.

Is It, Or Is It Not? Down States?

Philip Colombo
156 - 20 65th Avenue
Flushing, NY 11376
Phone: 212/886-0363

I hope I can get this tidbit of a tale in before you all go to press.

My wife, Betty, and I had a wonderful time at the Reunion in Harrisburg — the bus tour to the Amish country, and the Dinner Dance, etc, and you people who arrange these Reunions should get a lot of praise.

Now, for the Mini Meeting (Reunion) on the start of a reactivation of the New York Chapter, which I will call "Down

States," meaning: New Jersey, New York and Connecticut — Maybe by the middle of November, we can have the package put together to meet in the northern part of Queens.

"A would be tale of woe." — After breakfast on Sunday, in Harrisburg, I was told I had left my lights on in my Jeep, all nite. Naturally, I had a dead battery, so we all went out to the Motor Pool, 879th Hq. & Service (Parking Lot), and after another round of goodbyes and good wishes, by the time we fell-out, I had my battery charged, started with jump cables by Harold Fletcher. All I want to say is, I always said we had the greatest assembly of the best men in the 69th Division.

They learned their lesson well, in training.

(Editor's Note: Phil, sorry this didn't get in the last Bulletin, but I haven't heard from you, so I guess the November meeting didn't materialize. Sure would like to get the Down States, which would be the old New York Chapter in our "Division Association Chapter (Group) Meetings Across The United States". Our next deadline for the Bulletin, Number 3, will be April 10, 1982, so hopefully you will have something for a column by then, as you could meet sometime this spring or summer. Might I suggest to include any member from the New England States, who wish to join the "Down States." Let them know that they are most welcome).

Help The USO To Continue



Postmaster General, William Bolger (left), and the USO World President, James Barrett, help to publicize USO's Post Office Box Mail-In Fund Drive.

USO is turning 40, and helping them do this is Bob Hope, President Reagan, former Presidents of the United States, First Ladies, and more.

But for the millions of Americans with fond memories of their USO from World War II, the Korean War, or even just last year, there's a way you can help during this special campaign.

Just send Bob a note to tell him "Thank You for The Memories," and include a generous contribution. It all goes to help USO continue its worldwide work with our servicemen and women when they are far from home.

Send your tax-deductible contribution to:

USO-Bob Hope
P.O. Box 1981
Washington, DC 20013

Sincerely,
Frances Langford

Remember Those Temporary Passes



Sgt. John Earl Long, 69th Field Artillery, Germany, 1945.

ENLISTED MAN'S TEMPORARY PASS

Long, J.E. Cpl. 33635458
(Name) (Grade) (Army serial No.)
B. Bry. 724 F.A. Am. Shelby
(Organization) (Station)
is authorized to be absent—
From 0800 3/10/44 To 2300 3/10/44
To visit Pascagoula Miss.
Signed [Signature] Commanding Officer.
*W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 7
26 June 1943 (OVER)
*This form supersedes W. D., A. G. O. Form No. 7, 8 September 1942, which may be used until existing stocks are exhausted.

Remember when you were lucky enough to receive one of these? Brings back memories of days gone by.



Railroad Station in Leipzig, as it looks today. For those of you who saw it in 1945, this must be quite a change.

Past President's Son

(Editor's Note: The record of Harold Michael Starry speaks for itself, as you will read. It shows that many of our young men and women still care for our country, in serving, as was true in another letter from Anna Havey, which appears elsewhere in this publication of the Bulletin.

These young people, according to our now approved By-Laws changes, are entitled to become Associate Members of the 69th Division Association, by paying the Annual Dues, and thereby placing their names on Our Roster. Naturally, they must be children of a 69th Division Member. General Charles Bolte's two sons, the Damron sons, and Beemer Herring are now Associate Members, or have shown interest in becoming Associate Members.

Read on . . . about the accomplishments of Harold Michael Starry, 150 Glendale Street, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, whose proud parents are Harold and Dottie Starry).



Harold Michael Starry

Harold Michael Starry was born in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, July 15, 1955. He is single, and a member of the First Presbyterian Church, in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He has served in **Active Military Duty from September, 1977, to September 1981, as a Captain in the Infantry, United States Army Reserve.**

Harold attended Moorehead Elementary School, in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Carlisle Area Junior and Senior High, where he took course in College

Preparation Program. With regard to his College Education, Harold attended Shippensburg State College for three semesters as an Education Major, and Dickinson College for five semesters as a Sociology Major; Georgia State University, with 10 credits in Psychological Foundations of Educations, Harold received his Degree in Bachelor of Arts from Dickinson College with a Major Degree in Sociology.

Military Schooling included: Army ROTC 1973-1977 at Dickinson College; Airborne School, 1975; Infantry Officers Basic Course (10 weeks), 1977; Mechanized Officers Basic Course (4 weeks), 1977; Trainer Development Program

Experience in Army Reserve included: Infantry Rifle Platoon Leader with the 2nd Battalion, 9th Infantry, 2nd Division, Korea, February 1978 to April, 1978; Brigade S-5, Civil-Military Operations Officer for the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, Korea, April, 1978, to January, 1979; Assistant Brigade S-3, Scheduling Officer for the First Infantry Training Brigade, Ft. Benning, Georgia, February, 1979, to July, 1979; Executive Officer for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, First Infantry Training Brigade, Ft. Benning, Georgia, July, 1979, to April, 1980; TAC Officer (Teacher, Advisor, Counselor) with the 5th Student Battalion (OCS), The School Brigade, Ft. Benning, Georgia, April, 1980, to September, 1981.

Awards include: Parachute Badge - Army Commendation Medal w/ Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Service Ribbon - Overseas Service Ribbon.

As a summary to all the aforementioned information which Harold Michael Starry has told us about himself, he has this to say:

"I have a strong background in Education, Teaching and Social Sciences. My Father is a retired School Administrator. My initial undergraduate work at Shippensburg State College is directed towards certification as a Social Studies Teacher.

"Upon receiving a three-year Army ROTC Scholarship, I transferred to Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and received a B.A. in Sociology. Following college I was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserve (Active), receiving Infantry Officers training at Ft. Benning, Georgia, and was assigned to Korea. I was initially assigned as an Infantry Platoon Leader, but was selected because of my academic background as a Brigade S-5 (Civilian-Military Operations Officer responsible for Supervising all Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations for the Paju County District of Korea).

"Upon returning to the United States, I was assigned to the First Infantry Training Brigade as a Training Company Executive Officer, but was reassigned as the Assistant Brigade S-3 (Operations/Scheduling Officer) due to my experience with Brigade Staff Operations.

"Due to an unexpected vacancy, I replaced the Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company Executive Officer. My main responsibility was supervision of the personnel and administrative aspects of the 400-man Headquarters which included the Basic Skills Education Program (BSEP) and the Trainee Operations Officer (which dealt with the disposition of medical motivational and disciplinary problems within the Brigade).

"I was subsequently selected and assigned to the Army Officers Candidate School as a Tac Officer (Teacher, Advisor, Counselor) responsible for the development and evaluation of Army Officer Candidates. I established a pilot Counseling Program for the Officer Candidate School.

"I am presently a full-time graduate student at Shippensburg State College pursuing a Masters of Science Degree in Counseling."

Sheavly Extends An Invitation

This is an invitation to all former members of M-271st to attend the next Reunion in Milwaukee. Our attendance has been low over these past years, with only two former members attending. The first year was the toughest, as I was not sure I'd see anyone I knew, but was fortunate — saw **Sam Talley**. We have met some marvelous friends over these past years, and have to say that the 69'ers are a real friendly bunch of people.

We have some former members who have never attended and hope that this invitation will encourage more to attend. It would be great to have six, eight or ten former members attend, as did one of the Rifle Companies at the last Reunion. I know that they had an absolutely fantastic experience of seeing their Old Buddies. The Reunion Committee works very hard to make the necessary arrangements and particularly make those "First Timers" comfortable.

If any members of M-271st would care to write me, to find out about the events that have taken place in the past, I'd enjoy writing to them.

Attend the Reunion now, while your health is good, as you can see by the back page of the Bulletin, time grows shorter and shorter.

One other thing . . . if you have not paid your dues, please send it to Earl Witzleb (you'll find his address elsewhere in the Bulletin), we need your membership and above all your participation.

Bill Sheavly, M-271st Infantry
218 Sacred Heart Lane
Reisterstown, MD 21136

Division Association Chapter (Group) Meetings Across the United States

We are interested in all news from Chapters, Groups, Branches, Companies, Regiments, and whatever, for this column, as it may help build up your event[s]. Mail your date[s], location, banquet cost, and room rates, plus a good write-up, to Box 69, Drawer M., Champion, Pennsylvania 15622, as early as possible. Then follow through with a write-up immediately after the event[s].

Western 69'ers

Leonard C. Halpenny, Chairman

3938 East Santa Barbara
Tucson, Arizona 85711
Telephone: 602/327-7412

1982 WEEKEND

1982 WEEKEND — Friday - Saturday, June 4, 5, 1982

Bob Myers, Chairman

10453 Cumberland Drive
Sun City, Arizona 85351
Telephone: 602/977-1952

Our 1982 Get-Together will be at Mountain Shadows Resort, Scottsdale, Arizona, on the dates indicated above.

This CHANGE is due to the death of **Fred Sheridan's** Mother, change of the ownership of the Sirena Marina Hotel in Oxnard, California, and other conditions beyond control. We will try to work out a California Get-Together for 1983.

The new Marriott owners of Mountain Shadows have proven most cordial and have made available the following:

1. Rooms (single or double \$35.00 plus tax per night).
2. Saturday Luncheon, and Saturday evening Dinner, will be in a private room, and we will be permitted to order individually from the regular menu.

On Saturday, P.M., we will work on advance planning details for the 1983 National Reunion, May 22-29, at Mountain Shadows.

Personal letters will be mailed in early April, 1982, to all Western members currently on our Roster. All others interested — write or call Leonard Halpenny at the above address.

We anticipate a record turn-out and are confident we will have a great time.

P.S.: If you are choosing between attending the Western Reunion or the National Reunion in Milwaukee — WE URGE YOU to go to Milwaukee as **First Priority**.

724th Field Artillery C-Battery

Vernon E. Tritch, Co-Chairman

3259 Foxiana Road
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057
Telephone: 717/944-9080

John W. Turner, Co-Chairman

2148 East Lake Road, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30307
Telephone: 404/378-3543

Dear Earl:

Neta and I hope to be at the Reunion in Milwaukee next August. That is, and should be, first priority to all 69th members.

Vernon Tritch and I have decided it is time for C-Battery,

724th F.A. Bn., to have a Reunion, and we invite all former enlisted men and officers of C-Battery to meet with us at Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge at 473 Eisenhower Boulevard, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17111, starting Friday, April 2, and ending about noon on Sunday, April 4 — or any part of that time. That is April, 1982, of course.

For further information, anyone may contact Vernon E. Tritch or John W. Turner, at the above addresses or telephone numbers.

880th Field Artillery C-Battery

Lowell McFarlin, Co-Chairman

89 North High Street
Box 236
Jeromesville, Ohio 44840
Telephone: 419/368-7363

Lewis G. Pugh, Co-Chairman

Route 4, Grant Street
Cadiz, Ohio 43907
Telephone: 614/942-3721



C-Battery, 880th, at the Marriott, Host Inn 69th Division Association 1981 Reunion, Hershey-Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

(Left to Right — Front Row): Bud Henson, Nick Mancini, Lee Meyer, Lowell McFarlin, John Clark, Enrico D'Angelo. (Second Row): Not shown — Ray Mills, Cliff Eley, Wayne Murphy, Ed Dufton, Al Philpet, Lew Hoehig, Henry Abbe, Joe Damato, Marvin Rebic, James O'Brien. (Back Row): John Wallace, Lew Pugh, Bob Williams, Ray Kubacki, Willard Clineff.

The 880th C-Battery, F.A. Annual Get-Together will be held August 5, 6, 7, 8, 1982, at the Holiday Inn, New Philadelphia, Ohio. Interested C-Battery members should write Lowell McFarlin, Secretary, at the address listed above. Lowell reports that all members who attended the 69th Reunion in Hershey, enjoyed themselves, all having a great time.

Central Pennsylvania Branch

John T. and Elizabeth Hawley, Chairpersons

330 East Fort Street
Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257
Telephone: 717/530-2974

The Fall Banquet of the Central Pennsylvania Branch was held at University Lodge, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, October 31, 1981, and was well attended. John and Elizabeth Hawley were the chairpersons for this fine evening Banquet and Social, of friendly fellowship.

Harold Starry writes that he was well pleased with the turnout and glad to have eight Tri-Staters join with them, and asks that we from the Tri-State Group return again for their future Spring and Fall Banquets. He and Dottie plan to attend the Tri-State Week End at the Sheraton, Greensburg, Pennsylvania, on May 21, 22, 23, 1982.

Central Pennsylvania members should make note that they are invited to join with the Tri-State Group for this Week End at their Spring Banquet.

Those who attended the Fall Banquet were:

Zola and Joseph A. George, Jr., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania — Recon Troops

Harold and Maxine Stambaugh, York, Pennsylvania — Recon Troops

George and Vickie Gallagher, Beaver, Pennsylvania — 69th M.P.

Bill and Reba Sheavly, Reisterstown, Maryland — Co.-M, 271st

Harold and Dottie Starry, Carlisle, Pennsylvania — Hq. Co., 272nd

Mike Starry and Karen Hellman, Carlisle, Pennsylvania — Program Speaker

Doris Ober, Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania — 272nd

John and Elizabeth Hawley, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania — 269th Eng.

Bill and Betty Foster, New Cumberland, Pennsylvania — 269th Eng.

Paul and Margie McCombs, West Chester, Pennsylvania — Co.-D, 271st

Carl and Bernice Macknair, McClure, Pennsylvania — Co.-I, 273rd

Earl and Anne Walters, Landisville, Pennsylvania — Hq. Co., 273rd

Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Jr., Acme, Pennsylvania — Co.-E, 273rd

Enrico and Anne D'Angelo, Saltsburg, Pennsylvania — 880th F.A.

Dan and Helen Evers, Brookhaven, Pennsylvania — 269th Eng.

Frank and Ted Nemeth, Levittown, Pennsylvania — 269th Eng.

Howard and Lou Hoover, Halifax, Pennsylvania — Med.-273rd

Lloyd H. Herr, Shippensburg, Pennsylvania -- Co.-C, 271st

Frank and Arlene Carey, Reading, Pennsylvania — Co.-F, 271st

Total attended was thirty-six, who were treated with a well versed program on "Today's Army", by Mike Starry.

We enjoyed it, Mike, and feel a lot more at ease after hearing you speak. All questions at the end were handled perfectly. We couldn't 'booby-trap' him on a thing, or should I say question.

I learned one thing, in today's Army you learn with the books. And I mean book-after-book, and volumn-after-volumn.

Great evening, Central Pennsylvania Group, and we from the Tri-State will look forward to joining you all again in the future.

269th Engineers

Frank Nemeth

66 Gaping Rock Road
Levittown, Pennsylvania 19057
Telephone: 215/945-3809

It was good to see such a fine turnout of Engineers in Harrisburg, at the Reunion, with four or five "First Timers" in

attendance. Couple of **highlites** were the Wedding Anniversaries of Elizabeth and John Hawley, and Eleanor and Jerry Rodelli, with so many of their families being there to honor them. They were really surprised by the 'well-kept secret'!

I couldn't get over the turnout of Company-A, but it just shows what a few phone calls and letters will do. I know they put a lot of work into it!

They had about fifteen men show up, coming from all over, and it was nice to see Elsie Coe again. Just sorry I didn't have more time to talk with everybody, but they had so much catching-up to do, with the 'First Timers', and all.

I really thought Company-B would do better in attendance, since we have so many men living near Harrisburg, which was the Reunion site.

I know the guys from Company-C were sorry they missed "Red" Denbo, since he had to leave early, but they had Jean and Larry Roeder for their 'First Time'. It was good to see Emma and Hugo Jordan, again.

H&S-Co. had a nice turnout, and with Betty and Bill Foster in charge of the 69th Division Reunion — and Liz and John Hawley his right hand person, they were kept pretty busy, but they gave jobs to most everyone!!

It was nice to see our out-West representatives: Corky and Len Halpenny came all the way to Pennsylvania to be with us. Colonel Holmlin brought the flags and now hope he remembers to send me the morning reports, so we can run them off by companies and make Mac McConahay and Sharpie Jones happy. I'm really happy that Leon didn't practice his 'Bugle Calls', each morning — and I heard Rose gave a fine talk to the Ladies of the 69th Division. It was nice to see the Swedlows, once again.

Hope to see you all in Milwaukee next August. Write a Buddie and make plans to meet him there for a good Reunion. So, until then, take care and the best to you all.

Your "Ole" Buddy

Frank C. Nemeth

P.S.: Sorry to read that we lost Leo McGillen of Co.-B. Leo did a lot for the Engineers to keep them coming out in our early years. He will be missed by all who knew and served with him.

69th Cavalry Recon Troop

Michael P. Moscaritolo, *Chairman*

575 Sherman Avenue
Roselle, New Jersey 07203
Telephone: 201/245-8159

Harold E. Stambaugh

52 South Duke Street
York, Pennsylvania 17401
Telephone: 717/843-9831

Joseph A. George, Jr.

3751 Willett Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15227
Telephone: 412/882-8649

The Division Reunion held in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, is past history, but it will not soon be forgotten. I am speaking for myself — but I believe it is also the sentiments of all the Recon Troopers who attended.

We all had a fantastic time. Chairman, Bill Foster, and his committee did an outstanding job. There were plenty of activities available and many places to go. Thank you, Bill, for the Hospitality Room provided the Recon Troop. It was open to anyone who wished to come and visit, and many did.

The Recon Troop had approximately fifty persons present. Joe George, Hap Stambaugh and I were hoping to have approximately seventy to eighty persons attending. We are getting older, and we had many of our regulars who were ill. If it wasn't for that, we would have attained our goal. I was

bragging to our Past President, Bob Myers, that we would have the largest group present. From the list of attendees listed in our last Bulletin, the Recon Troop did have the most people present. For that, I wish to thank all the Troopers and their wives, who attended, especially Bob Dalton from California, and Bob Seward from Maryland, both whom we had not seen since 1945, in Germany.

As you know, the Recon Troop has been having our own Troop Reunions for the past thirty, or so, years. It is held one week prior to the Division Reunion. 1982 is no exception. It was voted to hold **Our Recon Troopers 1982 Reunion in Columbus, Ohio**. Ralph "Buddy" Riggs and Bob West accepted the task of setting up everything. As of this date, January 25, 1982, I have not received any information, and I was just informed that Buddy Riggs is not feeling well and **the Recon Troop Reunion may be held in another location**. We will keep you posted. **Keep the weekend of August 13, 14, 15, 1982, Open.**

Now, all you Troopers who said they were going to come to Harrisburg, and did not show — Please make plans now to attend this Year's Reunion. With a little effort we could conceivably have fifty Troopers present at the Reunion. Make some phone calls, write a few letters and remind a Buddy. It will work if we all do our share. How about it?

It was real nice to see Earl and Dottie Witzleb again. These are two really nice people. I'm glad to say I know you both. I also wish to extend best wishes to our new President, Walter Doernbach.

I also had a real nice pleasure of seeing an old Buddy, Eddie Netta, from Elizabeth, New Jersey, at the last Reunion.

Eddie and I were born on the same street (only he's older), attended the same church and schools. We were drafted the same day, and went to the 69th Division in May, 1943, and we still only live a few miles apart. Keep your health, Eddie.

Long live the 69th Division, and the 69th Recon Troop Reunions!

Good health and long life to all.

Michael P. Moscaritolo

Tri-State Group

"WE ARE THE FAMILY GROUP"

Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Maryland, New York and West Virginia

Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.

R.D. No. 1, Box 477

Acme, Pennsylvania 15610

Telephone: 412/455-2901 (*Evenings and Weekends*)

OHIO REPRESENTATIVES:

Robert and Vivian Kurtzman

610 W. Maple Street

Wilmot, Ohio 44689

Telephone: 216/359-5487

Noble P. and Rosemary Casey

1094 Himebright Boulevard

Akron, Ohio 44320

Telephone: 216/867-7993

Robert and Jean Shaffer

916 Pheasant Grove, N.W.

Massillon, Ohio 44646

Telephone: 216/837-8662

Homer D. Rager

2469 28th Street, S.W.

Akron, Ohio 44314

Telephone: 216/745-8440

PENNSYLVANIA REPRESENTATIVES:

George and Vickie Gallagher

84 D Street

Van Buren Homes

Beaver, Pennsylvania 15009

Telephone: 412/774-6539

Enrico and Ann D'Angelo

516 Chestnut Street

Saltsburg, Pennsylvania 15681

Telephone: 412/639-3037

WEST VIRGINIA REPRESENTATIVES:

Lewis and Stella Ellsworth

R.R. No. 1,

Knoxville Road

Steubenville, Ohio 43952

Telephone: 614/282-2327

1982 SPRING WEEKEND — MAY 21, 22, 23, 1982

Enrico and Ann D'Angelo, Chairpersons

516 Chestnut Street

Saltsburg, Pennsylvania 15681

Telephone: 412/639-3037

Our Spring Weekend has been finalized, with a program that will keep everyone busy from Friday evening until we depart on Sunday. A Couple Package has been arranged to cover the weekend. Prices will be adjusted for Singles and those not able to be present on Friday. All information will be mailed out on Saturday, April 3, 1982, to all 69th Members living in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. This should cover all Tri-State Members, as well as Central Pennsylvania Members.

Those living in other states not mentioned, but on either of the two Rosters will be notified. Should you want a notice mailed to you, and are in doubt about being on either Roster, please write: Earl E. Witzleb, Jr., Tri-State Group, R.D. No. 1, Box 477, Acme, Pennsylvania 15610, giving your name, address, city, state, zip and telephone number.

Our program is as follows:

Location:

The Sheraton Inn

Route 30 - East

Greensburg, Pennsylvania

Coming from the East, take the Pennsylvania Turnpike to the Donegal Interchange. Then take Route 711 - North, to Ligonier, then West on Route 30, to the Sheraton Inn at Greensburg. Coming from the West, take the Pennsylvania Turnpike or Route 70, to the New Stanton Interchange. At the interchange, 119 North, to Route 30, then East to the Sheraton Inn.

Friday Evening, May 21, 1982

Pool-side Party with light Lunch and Open Bar.

Saturday, May 22, 1982

Begin with Continental Breakfast

Tour of a Brewery with Hospitality Room

Spare time activities — Trip to Fort Ligonier

Play Golf (Nine Hole Course), Swimming in the Indoor Pool and shopping at Westmoreland or Greengate Mall.

Banquet in the Hempfield Room

Choice of Prime Rib or Stuffed Pork Chop with the works.

Cash Bar — Entertainment to follow dinner.

Sunday, May 23, 1982

Sleep late, or go to Early Church

Sunday Brunch — starting at 11:00 A.M.

Farewells and Goodbye's — See you in Milwaukee

Due to financial conditions of members, the Tri-State Group, and I am sure, the Central Pennsylvania Branch, ask your **first priority** be to consider the Milwaukee 69th Infantry Division Association Annual Reunion as being more important.

We of the Tri-State Group are planning a Bus Trip to Milwaukee. Interested persons should let us know of their interest by filling out the form on next to the last page of this Bulletin, under the heading "Milwaukee Bound."

Final arrangements and details regarding the Bus Trip to

the Reunion will be made at the Spring Weekend.

(Tear Here)

661st Tank Destroyer Battalion

William "Bill" and Jo Beswick, Chairpersons

P.O. Box 576

West Point, Virginia 23181

Telephone: 804/843-2696

The Annual Get-Together of the 661st Tank Destroyer Battalion will be held at the **Quality Inn, Anaheim; 661 Convention Way, Anaheim, California 92802, from April 26 to May 2, 1982. DON'T MISS IT!**

This motel is where the "Action's At". It is close to Disneyland, Knott's Berry Farm, Movieland Wax Museum. There are just too many interesting places to mention in such a short space.

How about it? Let's all get together and enjoy the pleasantries and experience of California. The proposed itinerary:

Monday, April 26, 1982

Welcome TD'ers with Cocktails

Tuesday, April 27, 1982

On Your Own — Golf, tennis, or any self trip. We'll assist you in making plans.

Wednesday, April 28, 1982

No Host — Visit to Disneyland

Thursday, April 29, 1982

9:00 A.M. Bus Trip to Mission San Juan Capistrano, an Orange Grove, Laguna Beach, Balboa Island, plus Harbor Cruise, and Lunch at Whalers Inn. — \$30.00 each

Friday, April 30, 1982

Visit Rev. Robert Schuler's Crystal Cathedral (of TV fame), and if interested, a Citrus Packing Plant. Bus fare only

Friday Evening — A typical California Cocktail Party

Saturday, May 1, 1982

Whatever! Sleep in, plus afternoon BULL session. Visit with old friends, Return to Motel by 6:00 P.M.

Saturday 7:30 P.M. BANQUET —

\$12.00 includes tax and tip.

Sunday, May 2, 1982

Check-out time 12 Noon and Farewells

Come on, join with us and make this a time you will always remember. Won't we see you there?



This happy group of handsome young men consists of seven of the eight former Presidents of the 69th Infantry Division Association, who attended the Harrisburg Reunion. (Left to Right — Front Row): Bob Myers, Loar Quickle and Bill Matlach. (Back Row — Left to Right): Cliff Ewing, John Moriarty, Sammy Woolf and George Phillips. The eighth President, Harold Starry, was last seen chasing a Red Bikini around the swimming pool.

ANNUAL REUNION 661st TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

Fill in information and Mail To:

William R. Beswick

P.O. Box 576

West Point, VA 23181

I enclose \$20.00 Attendance Deposit for the 1982 Reunion in California.

I am interested in seeing the following:

I understand that Banquet and Hotel Group Reservations must always be made well in advance in the DISNEYLAND/BEACH/HOLLYWOOD areas. The above Advance Deposit is necessary, due to the depleted treasury.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

(Tear Here)

☐ QUALITY INN RESERVATIONS

Fill In and Mail To:

Quality Inn, Anaheim

616 Convention Way

Anaheim, CA 92802

Phone: 714/750-3131

TWX 1/910/594-1450

Check Your Preference:

Single \$44.00 _____

Double \$48.00 _____

Triple \$52.00 _____

Quads \$56.00 _____

It is necessary to include the first night's deposit to guarantee your arrival.

Date of Arrival: _____

Date of Departure: _____

Please make your reservations by APRIL 1, 1982. Room block will be held until April 10, then on space availability. Be sure to reserve early. Please drop Sandy McNealy a note also if you plan to attend:

Mr. Verle McNealy

181 N. Center Street

Orange, CA 92666

(Tear Here)

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 3, 1982 — General and Mrs. Bolte's Anniversary

May 8, 1982 — General Charles Bolte's Birthday

December 29, 1982 — Mrs. Adeline Bolte's Birthday

(Send a card or a note)

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS AND COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE

May I just make a note to all Leaders of Chapters, Groups, Branches, Companies, Regiments, Recon, Artillery and T.D.'s to get your Activities Schedules in to Box 69, Champion, Pennsylvania, 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 code], dates, location, and anything else that you feel might be of interest for the outfit to know. This may also bring a new face, or two, to your group.

**DO YOU ENJOY READING THE BULLETIN?
THEN WHY NOT PAY YOUR DUES
TO KEEP THEM COMING . . .**

Regular Dues — \$5.00
Contributory Dues — \$10.00
Ladies' Auxiliary Dues — \$2.00
— Dues Year 1981-1982 ends July 31, 1982

AUGUST 15 to 22, 1982

**69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL REUNION**

Vernon Wirth, Co-Chairman
8330 West Concordia Avenue
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53222
Telephone: 414/422-9664

Gaylord W. Thomas, Co-Chairman
432 Doty Street
Waupun, Wisconsin 53963
Telephone: 414/324-4065

Ramada Inn - Airport
6401 South 13th Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221
Telephone: 414/764-5300

(Send Room Reservations direct to Ramada Inn)
(Send Activities Reservations to Gaylord Thomas).

**"COME HAVE FUN WITH US
ON YOUR REUNION VACATION
IN THE LAND OF CHEESE AND BEER"**

**Main Attractions Begin
August 18 to 21, 1982**

APRIL 10, 1982

Deadline for Material and Pictures for Bulletin
Volume 35, No. 3
May - June - July - August, 1982

APRIL 2, 3, 4, 1982

**724th Field Artillery
C - Battery**
Howard Johnson's Motor Lodge
473 Eisenhower Boulevard
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17111
Vernon E. Tritch, Chairman
3259 Foxiana Road
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057
Telephone: 717/944-9080

APRIL 26 thru MAY 1, 1982

661st Tank Destroyer Battalion Reunion
Quality Inn - Anaheim
Anaheim, California
William "Bill" and Joe Beswick, Chairpersons
P.O. Box 576
West Point, Virginia 23181
Telephone: 804/843-2696

MAY 21, 22, 23, 1982

Tri-State Spring Weekend
(Guests will be our neighbors —
Central Pennsylvania Branch)
Sheraton Inn
Route 30 East, at Westmoreland Mall
Greensburg, Pennsylvania
Enrico and Ann D'Angelo, Chairpersons
516 Chestnut Street
Telephone: 412/639-3037
Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.
R.D. No. 1, Box 477
Acme, Pennsylvania 15610
Telephone: 412/455-2901 (Weekends and Evenings)

JUNE 4, 5, 1982

Western 69'ers
Mountain Shadows - Marriott
Lincoln Drive
Scottsdale, Arizona
Robert E. Myers, Chairman
10453 Cumberland Drive
Sun City, Arizona 85351
Telephone: 602/977-1952
[PLEASE NOTE: Date and Location change
from last publication of the Bulletin]

AUGUST 5, 6, 7, 8, 1982

**880th Field Artillery
C - Battery**
Holiday Inn
New Philadelphia, Ohio
Lowell McFarlin, Chairman
89 North High Street
Jeromesville, Ohio 44840
Telephone: 419/368-7363

AUGUST 13, 14, 15, 1982

69th Recon Troops
Site Possibly — Columbus, Ohio
Michael P. Moscaritolo
575 Sherman Avenue
Roselle, New Jersey 07203
Telephone: 201/245-8159
(More information in the next Bulletin)

SEPTEMBER 18, 1982

Deadline for Material and Pictures for Bulletin
Volume 36, No. 1
September - October - November - December, 1982
[PLEASE TAKE NOTE: Mountain Shadows -
Marriott, Scottsdale, Arizona, Reunion Committee]

NOVEMBER 5, 6, 7, 1982

Tri-State Fall Weekend

Site — Unknown

Clarence Marshall, Co-Chairman
101 Stephen Street
New Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068
Telephone: 412/335-3224

Paul and Marion Shadle, Co-Chairmen
1504 Greensburg Road
New Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068
Telephone: 412/335-9980

MAY 22 to 29, 1983 (Month Change)

69th Infantry Division Association Annual Reunion
Mountain Shadows - Marriott Inn
Scottsdale, Arizona

(Relax With Us At Pool Side In Sunny Arizona)

Robert E. Myers, Co-Chairman
10453 Cumberland Drive
Sun City, Arizona 85351
Telephone: 602/977-1952 (Home)
602/975-2270 (Office)

Frank See, Co-Chairman
3003 Moss Avenue
Midland, Texas 79701

AUGUST 25, 26, 27, 28, 1983

Tri-State Spring and Fall Weekend

(Combined Spring and Fall Weekends in 1983)

Site — New Philadelphia, Ohio

Robert and Vivian Kurtzman, Chairpersons
610 West Maple Street
Wilmot, Ohio 44689
Telephone: 216/359-5487

Members of The 777th Tank Battalion

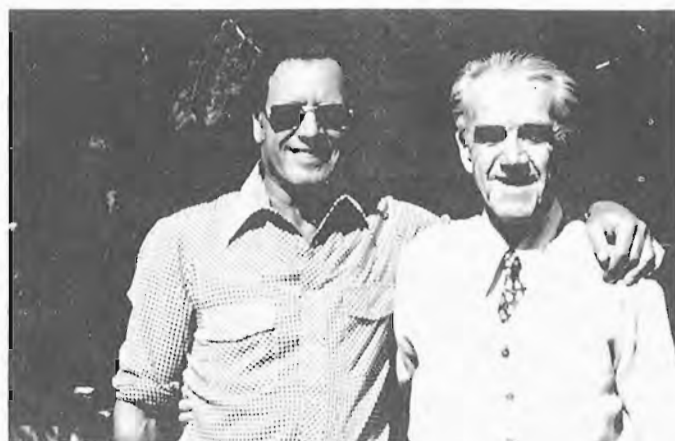
The 1981 Reunion in Harrisburg was a record turnout not only for the Association but also for the "Three Sevens". We more than doubled any previous Reunion attendance. I believe there were 28 members who put in an appearance sometime during the week, although not all were able to attend the Saturday Night Banquet.

Alex [Frenchy] Lasseigne, Sr. deserves credit for half of those who attended. I think he and his wife, Florence, wrote to most of those in D-Company who are on the mailing list, to encourage them to try to make the Reunion. Fifteen of them made it, eleven being from the state of Pennsylvania. It was the first time I had the privilege of meeting many of them, but some I had corresponded with the last few years.

I hope that all of those who attended the Harrisburg Reunion will try to be at Milwaukee in '82. There is also a large group of Tankers who live in the Mid-West Area who have told me they will be making their first Reunion this year in Milwaukee. So maybe we will have another record attendance. So, start planning now to attend the 35th Annual Reunion in Milwaukee.

This is also a call to all Mid-Western 69'ers who have never been to a Reunion for one reason or another. **THIS IS YOUR BIG CHANCE.** This might be the only time that it will be held in the Mid-West, so start planning and jump on the bandwagon, and be there — Ramada Inn - Airport, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, August 15 to 22, 1982.

Vernon Wirth
8330 W. Concordia Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53222



Chester Yastrzemski and Hugh Arnott

East visits West, when Old Buddies meet and have an enjoyable time in Napa Valley, California. Chet is from New York, and recently visited friends and relatives on the West Coast, with wife, Barbara.



The Battle of Nations Monument as it appears today.



777th Tank Battalion

This is a picture of the 777th Tank Battalion, returning home in box cars from Leipzig, after the war. From (Left to Right): Ed Davidson, C-Company; Burdick, B-Company; Baylor, B-Company; Chester A-Company; Al Bonura, C-Company.

Photo compliments of Albert Bonura

THE AUXILIARY'S PAGE

by — Dottie Witzleb

FIGHTING 69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION LADIES' AUXILIARY OFFICERS — 1981-1982

Emily Fletcher, *President*
27 Fulmer Avenue
Havertown, Pennsylvania 19083

Margie McCombs, *Sunshine Lady*
1184 Thorndale Road
West Chester, Pennsylvania 19380

Margaret Kormas, *Secretary*
10301 Lake Avenue, Apt. 726
Cleveland, Ohio 44102

Emily Fletcher, Ladies' Auxiliary President, Writes . . .



Emily Fletcher

Hi, Auxiliary Members:

I thought that the Host Inn Reunion at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, was just great and that everyone enjoyed themselves very much. Our Ladies Auxiliary Meeting was most impressive, with our speaker, Rose Swedlow, speaking on "The Total Woman" — Mental and Physical Attitudes of Today's Mature Woman, was presented to the group. It was most interesting.

Ruth Thomas writes me that we will have another good Auxiliary Meeting in Milwaukee, and that the committee is working very hard to have another "Top-rated Reunion." I am looking forward to all ladies of the 69th Division Association to bring their husbands to the Ramada Inn - Airport, in Milwaukee, beginning August 15, 1982, and lasting for the full week. This will be our Mid-West Reunion — 1982.

Margie McCombs Our Sunshine Lady Writes . . .

Happy New Year to all the members of the 69th Division, their wives and families. I sincerely hope that the forthcoming year — 1982, will be a "Good Year" for all of you.

I received so many nice Christmas cards from so many of you. Many of them had little notes enclosed. It was most gratifying to read all of your messages. Many also enclosed stamps for me to use when I will be mailing out cards to the membership.

At the time of this writing, I am presently receiving many Birthday cards from you — Thanks, to all of you for remembering me on this occasion.

I will be looking forward to seeing all of you in Milwaukee, next August, at the Mid-West Reunion.

So, here is a "Big Thank You" from your Sunshine Lady, who thinks of all of you.

And, Now, Tid-Bits From Dottie Witzleb

I hope, during these past weeks of cold weather, that all you good Auxiliary Members were busy making Lap Robes for our Veterans. Hopefully we will have a great number of them brought to the Annual Reunion in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, this coming August 15 to 21, 1982. As you know, the Lap Robes

will be distributed to Veteran's Hospitals in the Milwaukee area. I personally expect to have three or four Lap Robes to take along with me to the Reunion in August.

I want to remind all you ladies, once again, that we have been allotted a page in the Bulletin, for the Ladies' Auxiliary news. I am told that if we have more news than can be accommodated on one page, we will be allotted more space. So hurry, get your news items in to me as soon as possible.

We are interested in knowing who is on the Sick List (both men and women), so that notices can be made to our membership. It's nice to receive cards when your are ill — They are a real "Perker-Upper".

Do Write Me: Dottie Witzleb

Drawer M

Champion, Pennsylvania 15622

P.S.: Our next deadline for Bulletin No. 3, is April 10, 1982.

HEY, GOOD BUDDY

As good 69'ers, always looking to do some good in this world of ours, helping in some small way, even if it is not monetary, I ask each of you to take time and send a "Perker-Upper" Get Well Card to:

Millard F. McClanahan

15114 Chicago Road

Dolton, IL 60419

Millard is from H-Company, 271st Infantry — So, Good Buddies, and all 69'ers do the same.

I received the following letter:

To Whom It May Concern:

Millard has been very ill since his wife passed away in April, 1981. He is improving a little.

May I ask your prayers for his recovery. I do not know his unit number.

Thank you in advance.

Irma Wilcox, Mother

P.S.: Mrs. Wilcox is Millard's mother, and is a member of the V.F.W. Ladies' Auxiliary for 35 years.

Clem Hudacek writes just a note to say that he had heart surgery, a triple by-pass back in 1979. Doing fine now and hopes to make the Reunion in Milwaukee.

Clem is from G-Company, 272nd, and would like to see a lot of his Buddies in August at the Ramada Inn.

Drop him a card saying, "You'll be there."

His address is: **Clem Hudacek**

3701 Sunerest Drive

St. Louis, MO 63125

Two Recon Troopers are not up-to-par at this time.

They are: **Michael P. Moscaritolo**
575 Sherman Avenue
Roselle, NJ 07203

Ralph "Buddy" Riggs
2790 Fairfax Drive
Columbus, OH 43220

Milwaukee's Pabst Mansion



The Pabst Mansion presents a story of opulence and splendor — a story of a bygone era in Milwaukee. This outstanding residence allows our present generation, as well as those of the future, to glimpse a grand lifestyle that is part of our heritage.

The Mansion is also a story about Milwaukee and one of its first families. Frederick Pabst was born in Germany in 1826, and at the age of 12 came to America where he began his maritime career as a cabin boy on one of the Great Lakes steamers. Studying navigation in his spare time, he became a captain and part owner of his own steamship by the time he was 21. In 1862, Pabst married Maria Best, daughter of a prominent local brewer, Phillip Best, and two years later gave up his marine career to become an equal partner in his father-in-law's brewery, Phillip Best & Company. For the next two decades he concentrated on learning the brewing business, and in 1889 was elected president of the company, changing the name to Pabst.

In 1889, the same year he became president of the brew-

ing company, Captain Pabst retained leading Milwaukee architect, George Bowman Ferry, to design what is now considered our city's most important residential landmark. The Flemish Renaissance style building, reflecting great dignity and Old World charm, was completed in 1893, along with servants' quarters, a three-story stable and several other buildings which have since been torn down.

Prominently located on the city's main thoroughfare (known first as Grand Avenue and then Wisconsin Avenue), a street once lined with stately mansions, only Pabst Mansion remains today virtually untouched.

Built at a cost of over \$225,000, at a time when carpenters earned 35 cents an hour, nothing but the finest in materials and craftsmanship was used in the mansion's construction. The furnishings and interior decorator for this 37-room with its 12 baths and 14 fireplaces were equally fine in taste and quality. Handsom carved wooden cabinets by the Matthews Brothers, priceless ornamental iron work by the renowned Cyril Colnik, carved panels imported from a 17th century Bavarian castle and a few of the elegant chandeliers still grace the mansion. Original furnishings are being returned — the ladies' parlor and dining room furniture has been rescued from an auction gallery and returned to its rightful setting. Hopefully, other furnishings and objects of art will follow.

Captain Pabst died in 1904, Mrs. Pabst remained until 1906, and from 1908 to 1975 the house was occupied by Milwaukee archbishops. In 1975, it became the object of diligent efforts by Wisconsin Heritages to prevent its demolition for a parking lot or high-rise structure. After three years of varied ownership, in May of 1978, Wisconsin Heritages was successful in acquiring the building with the assistance of a \$100,000 grant, the largest ever issued in the state, from the Department of the Interior, administered through the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and a \$235,000 loan from the community-minded members of the Savings and Loan Council of Milwaukee County. The residence was designated a Landmark of the City of Milwaukee in 1972, and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1975.

It Has Been My Pleasure . . .

Little did I think, four years ago, that I would find myself so filled with the interest and enthusiasm I have experienced, personally, through working so closely with Earl and Clarence, and doing the coordinating and photo typesetting for each of the past publications during these past years.

Many of your names have become very familiar to me, even though I have not had the pleasure of meeting all of you.

Attending your Reunion in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, this past August, was one of the high-lites of my life. Getting to know more of you personally, and being allowed to be a Guest at the Reunion, and to be able to participate in your "Beer Party" on Friday night, and then on Saturday I was more than moved at the impressive Memorial Service and the Dinner Banquet. And, by the way, quite contrary to some reports — the Lady who was in the company of Clarence Marshall, was none other than "yours truly".

I guess my first exposure of really getting excited over your organization came at the time you had your Reunion in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. There was much to do . . . and I worked very closely with both Earl and Clarence on many printing jobs for that Reunion, and it was then that I became determined that I would do whatever I could in the future to help bring you a "Super-Duper Bulletin".

I believe the worst of what may have come from all of the Bulletins, was a typographical error which was overlooked by four people who had proof read the Bulletin, before it was printed. In one account of a Local Group Meeting the copy read: "Thanks to a certain party for providing the snakes" —

instead of — "Thanks for providing the snacks." It might be of interest to you that out of this error, Earl Witzleb has dubbed me "The Snake Lady". My apology!

I am presently working on your Volume 35, No. 2 publication of the Bulletin. Hopefully you will find it as pleasing to you as those of the past.

"Yes, it has been my pleasure — to have come to know more of you personally, and 'Thanks Again' for having me as a Guest at your Reunion in Harrisburg. I sincerely hope that I may have the pleasure of attending others."

Mary Jane Cline



Two Homely Old Men with a Queen in the center

Pictured above last August at the Host Inn Reunion are (Left to Right): Bob Myers, Past President of the Fighting 69th Division Association; Mary Jane Cline, coordinator and photo typesetter for our Bulletin; and Clarence Marshall, Co-Editor of the Bulletin and Membership Chairman of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association.

Milwaukee Bound

69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL REUNION

August 15 - 22, 1982

Ramada Inn - Airport

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Dear 69'ers:

We are writing regarding Air Tickets to the 1982 REUNION IN MILWAUKEE. We were also asked to arrange for Car Rentals and a possible Side-Trip to Chicago, following the Reunion, similar to the one we did at Las Vegas. There is a tear-off sheet at the bottom of this communication. Please fill out and return to the address listed below.

Airfares are fluctuating drastically and the cost depends on the day the ticket is issued and paid for. All airfares are Federally controlled and are the same whether you buy directly from the airlines or our Agency. We can save money on the Air Tickets if we go as a group from our respective cities — Groups must leave on the same plane and return together on the same plane. Should you decide to travel independently and purchase your ticket in advance, you will be given a refund for the difference if the rates decrease before date of travel. (Most cities require a minimum of 15 persons to constitute a group.)

August seem far away and many may not wish to purchase tickets now. We do suggest that you advise us of your travel plans now, so that seats can be reserved whether for individuals, or to get a group count. (Please remember a seat reservation does not guarantee the rate.)

If you have any further questions please drop us a note at the addresses listed below:

Regards,

Al and Edith Carbonari

73 Hallsey Lane

Woodbridge, CT 06525

Telephone: 203/393-1803

or

271 Bank Street - Route 67

Seymour, CT 06483

Telephone: 203/888-0545

(Tear Here)

Name: _____

Street/City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Dates of Travel: _____

Departure City: _____

Interested In: ☐ Group Travel ☐ Car Rental ☐ Side Trip

(Tear Here)

TRI-STATE BUS TRIP TO MILWAUKEE

One bus, or more, is planned by the Tri-State Group to travel to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for the Ramada Inn - Airport Reunion of the 69th Infantry Division Association. The present plans are that one bus, or more, will leave from some location in the middle of Pennsylvania, with stops in various other cities in western Pennsylvania and Ohio, and from these locations travel on to Milwaukee.

Departure date will be Tuesday, August 17, 1982, and the return trip would leave the Ramada Inn on Sunday, August 22, 1982. Final details and plans will be discussed at the Tri-State Group Weekend May 21, 22, 23, 1982, at the Sheraton Inn, Greensburg, Pennsylvania. Those interested in traveling by bus, should make certain that their vehicle is parked in a safe area while you are gone from the departure location. Perhaps having someone drive you to the departure city would be a good idea.

Please fill in the information below and send to:

Tri-State Group - 69th Infantry Division Association

c/o Earl E. and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.

R.D. No. 1, Box 477

Acme, PA 15610

Telephone: 412/455-2901 (Evenings, weekends and holidays)

(Tear Here)

☐ I/we are interested in a **Tri-State Bus Trip to Milwaukee, Wisconsin**, to leave various cities in Pennsylvania and Ohio, on Tuesday, August 17, 1982, and return Sunday, August 22, 1982.

☐ I/we live in West Virginia and are interested in the above trip.

My/Our Name: _____

Street/City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone/Area Code: _____ Unit: _____

City I/we would like to depart from: _____

(Tear Here)

Tri-State Group urges all members to make the Annual Reunion **first priority** over the Spring or Fall Weekends. If you can't make the Bus Trip to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, then plan to drive, fly, take another bus, or amtrack on your own, but **make** your vacation plans to take you to Milwaukee to "The Land of Cheese and Beer," for a great Mid-West Reunion of our Association on August 15 to 22, 1982.



the 69th

INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.

101 stephen st., new kensington, pa. 15068

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.

**U.S. POSTAGE
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PITTSBURGH, PA.
Permit No. 456



This is a solicitation for the order of good and/or services and not a bill, invoice, or statement of account due. You are under no obligation to make any payments on account of this offer unless you accept this offer.



In Memoriam

John Zines
1680 State Boulevard
Salem, OH
E-272nd

Richard Ensminger
1916 Logan Street
Camp Hill, PA
Hq. 1st Bn. - 273rd

Harry Giduck
3900 Chichester Avenue
Boothwyn, PA
E-272nd

Ross L. Burrup
P.O. Box 852
Blackfoot, ID
G-271st

Leland F. Wilcox
P.O. Box 1333
Crescent City, CA
A-661st

Ralph C. Shoop
2100 Barnesdale Street
McKeesport, PA
Div. Hq.

Albert Halbkram
5 Riverside Drive
New York, NY
C-369th

Arthur Duhamel
176 Church Street
Putnam, CT
D-273rd

Free A. Trout
1032 High Street
Lancaster, PA
B-777th

Ernest Leiblein
P.O. Box 136
Pennel, PA
Hq. 273rd

Van Z. Cochran
Rt. 4, Box AA-332
Valdosta, GA
D-271st

Carmine DeFlorio
P.O. Box 428
Paramus, NJ
G-273rd

Clifton Shepler
503 N. Elm
Ponca City, OK
1st Bn. - 273rd

Horace Greely McNab
R.D. No. 1
Newtown, PA
Ser.-272nd

Walden Pickens
Rt. 2, Box 17-C
Marianna, AR
B-269th

Enrico Vaccaro
608 52nd Street
Sandusky, OH
C-724

John Walen
802 E. Lotus Avenue
Tampa, FL
769th Ord.

Bob Dawson
1850 Cedar Circle
Newark, OH
L-272nd

Jasper "Jake" Loggins
3612 E. 49th Place
Tulsa, OK
69th Rec.