

FIGHTING 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION

★★★★ Association, Inc.



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1985

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

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bulletin

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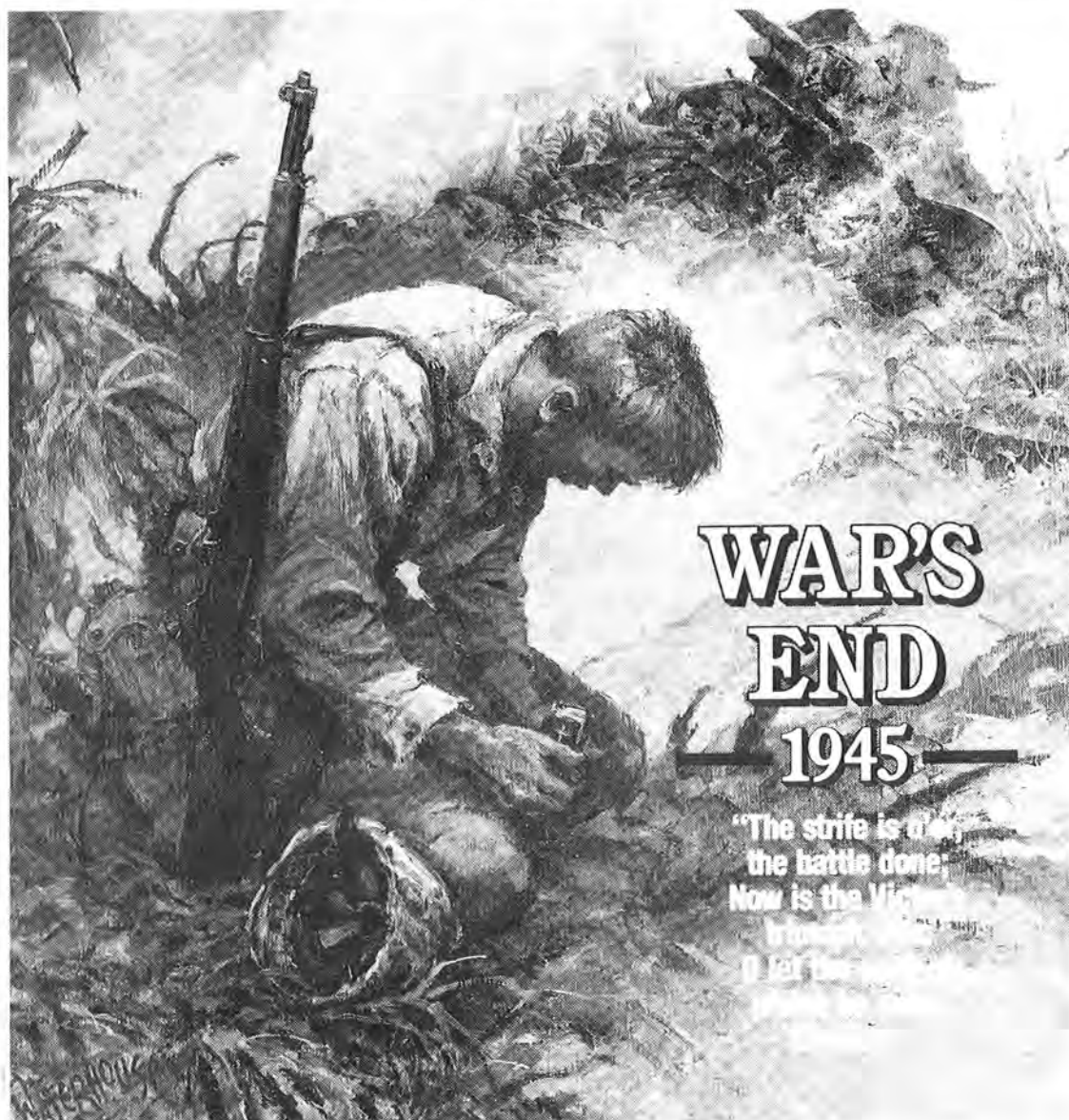
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39th ANNUAL REUNION

69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

AUGUST 10th to 17th, 1986

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"Pay a Visit to Pittsburgh, once noted as the "Smoky City"
but more recently Voted the No. 1 City to Live In.



News From The Editor's Desk

by — Clarence Marshall

Leo F. L'Heureux, Route 3, Box 821, Weare, New Hampshire 03281 — A-273rd: I have been employed as a mechanic ever since I got out of the service. I got married 35 years ago, and we have four children, our youngest son Lee in the Army National Guard Reserve. We have been doing a little camping; and we love to take pictures of wild animals. We traveled to New Jersey when Lee finished his training; and also to Maryland when he finished his schooling there. I have often wondered where some of the other boys went. There weren't too many left when I came home.

Frank Alfiero, 211 Reynard Road, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807 — B-880th: Could you please forward all information regarding your upcoming Reunion in Williamsburg. I am a former member of the 69th Division, having taken my basic training and additional training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi with Battery B-880th Field Artillery Battalion. I was with the outfit for 13 months before being sent out as a replacement for overseas duty. I subsequently joined the 102nd Infantry Division during the Siegfried Line campaign. I am also currently the Secretary-Treasurer of the 102nd Association.

Hopefully my wife and I will be able to get to Williamsburg in August. I will be looking forward to meeting you. Perhaps we may be able to compare notes on our past and future Reunions.

Joseph Melka, 162 Westminster Road, Rochester, New York 14607 — C-271st: The Democrat and Chronicle of Rochester, New York carried a small article about the Fighting 69th Division holding its 38th Annual Reunion in August. I joined the 69th Division as a replacement while they were waiting to cross the Rhine River. My assignment as a Pfc. was with Company C-271st Infantry. My length of service with the Division ended sometime in the summer or fall of 1945. At that time because of the point system, I was reassigned to an Ordinance Battalion. I was honorably discharged April 30, 1946. Through the years, my interest and thoughts about my service time have increased. Unfortunately I have lost all contact with any of my buddies that served with me. I did get a letter from **General Reinhardt** during the late 40's to join an Association. At that time I was involved in other pursuits, and to my chagrin, ignored the invitation. Information on your organization would be greatly appreciated by me.

George C. West, 2115 Hanover Avenue, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18103 — AT-271: I saw your Reunion notice in the Allentown Call Chronicle. I served in the Anti-Tank Company of the 271st Infantry Regiment. I would like to attend your Reunion. Will you please send me additional information.

Truman Merritt, P.O. Box 13, Tobaccoville, North Carolina 27050 — Can. Co.: I served with Cannon Company of the 69th Infantry Division during World War II. I saw the notice of the Williamsburg Reunion in the Winston-Salem Journal. Will you please send me the itinerary of the Reunion.

(Editor's Note: Please send me the Regiment that you served in.)

Harville Addy, Route 5, Box 473, Leesville, South Carolina 29070 — M-273rd: I read in the V.F.W. that the 69th was to have a Reunion in August. I would like to attend. I served with Company M of the 273rd Regiment. Please send me additional information. I will not need any lodging or quarters, as I will stay in one of the local campgrounds.

Norman T. Schmidt, 4221 South 6th Street, D-24, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221 — 269th Eng.: I would like to join the Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association. I served in the 269th Combat Engineers Battalion.

(Editor's Note: Please send me your Company in the 269th Engineers.)

Edward C. Miller, 1503 Hauser, Helena, Montana 59601 — L-271st: I was a member of Company L-271st from February 1944 till after V.E. Day. I just received a news clipping of a 69th Division Reunion at Williamsburg, Virginia in August. Because of the late notice, I will not be able to attend this year, but would appreciate knowing when and where the next Reunion will be held. I hope I will be able to attend a future Reunion. I would also like to hear from former members of my Company. Thanks for any help that you can give me.

Paul H. Eagon, 1435 North Avenue, Waukegan, Illinois 60085: There was a brief article in our local paper about the Reunion of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division. I served in that Division, and was at the capture of Leipzig. I surely would love to attend the Reunion, however, I have a prior commitment for the time period. I would appreciate any information about the Reunion and the men of the 69th. Perhaps I will be able to attend a future Reunion. I originally lived in Waynesburg, Pennsylvania before moving to Illinois.

Olin E. Talley, Route 5, Box 246, Poplar Bluff, Missouri 63901 — A-273rd: My wife's name is Jewell and I have one child, Kimberly Beth. I owned and operated a saw mill and palet factory until I became disabled. I have had Parkinson's Disease for 12 years.

Mel Keller, 1835 Flora View Drive, Dubuque, Iowa 52001 — AT-272nd: Enclosed are Dues for two new 69th Division men, namely **Russell Koch** and **Claude Maddox**. Please see that they get a copy of the current Bulletin.

I am still trying to find the remainder of our old squad, so if anyone has any information, please contact me or National Headquarters. The Bulletin is great as usual, thanks to the entire staff.

Men **Mr. Keller** would like to relocate: **S/Sgt. Donald Calhoun**, **Cpl. Alphonse Gomez**, **Pfc. James Douglas**, **Pfc. Joseph Trotter**, **Pvt. John O'Hara**, **Pfc. Henry Flickinger**, **Pvt. John Worley** and **Pfc. Clarence Whitlatch**.

(Editor's Note: Henry Flickinger was just relocated and his address appears under the column, New Men Relocated Since Our Last Bulletin.)

Merrill Werts, 1228 Miller Drive, Junction City, Kansas 66441 — Hq. 3rd Bn. & 1-271st: I am enclosing a year's membership Dues for a new Association member. He is **Richard Inge**, 112 West Pine, Junction City, Kansas 66441. **Dick Inge** joined the 69th in Camp Shelby during June 1944, and was with the Division until V.E. Day. After returning he completed Air Force R.O.T.C. in college and went for a career in the Air Force. He is now retired here in Junction City.

Gene L. Stright, 224 Caribou Trail, San Angelo, Texas 76901 — A-273rd: After discharge, I came home to Pennsylvania and attended tool dye making school at Joy Manufacturing Company. I moved to New Mexico and worked for Standard Oil Company of Texas for 31 years. I am now retired in Texas on 1½ acres in the country. We call it "Honey Do Acres." I have 7 grandsons and 1 grand daughter.

Ray Futrell, 25700 N.E. Landon Road, Yacolt, Washington 98675 — E-273rd: While visiting in Montreal, Canada in July, I had the good fortune to meet an old acquaintance from Hawaii. We had coffee together and a long conversation. It came to pass that we had served together in the 69th Division. I related to him about the Division Association and the news that we receive about former members through the Bulletin. I also told him about the Reunions. He

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NEWS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 2)

is interested and would like to be contacted by the Association. His name: **Herbert Weathervan**.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Weathervan's address appears under the column, *New Men Relocated*).

Robert F. Zumbaugh, 921 North Broadway Street, Plymouth, Indiana 46563: I saw a copy of the V.F.W. Magazine that the 69th Division was going to have a Reunion. In cleaning out a drawer, my wife came across an old letter from **General Reinhardt** which wanted to know if I were interested in a Division History Book. I would like to obtain a copy of the History Book, and your help would be appreciated.

I returned from the E.T.O. September 14, 1945 at Camp Kilmer, and from there was sent to Camp Atterbury, Indiana for discharge September 20, 1945.

(Editor's Note: Please send me the Unit you served with in the 69th).

William McCall, 743 Purdue, Wenonah, New Jersey 08090 — E-271st: Please send me information about the Reunion of the 69th Infantry Division. I served as a S/Sgt. in Company E of the 271st Infantry Regiment from 1943 till 1945.

Alex Greensher, 8125 Morse Avenue, North Hollywood, California 91605 — Hq.-273rd: You can't know how much I appreciate the Bulletin you sent to me. I would like to support the organization, so please let me know what the Dues are and where to send them.

My unit was Regiment Headquarters 273rd Infantry. I was the radio operator that took the message when the meeting took place with the Russians at the Elbe. Do you have an address for **Sergeant George Devitt** and **Major Craig**.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Greensher was provided Sergeant Devitt's address and advised that Major Craig is deceased).

Edgar Ross, 5550 Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27106 — G & Ser. 272nd: I noticed in the Winston-Salem Journal that the 69th Division is having their 38th Annual Reunion. What a pleasant surprise, as I did not know that they had been holding Reunions.

I was in the 69th Division G-272nd attached to Service Company. Do you have any contact with the following men: **William Kilgore**, **Graham Garren**, "Pop" **Watson**, and **Willis Frazee**.

Please send any information on the Reunion regarding registration, prices, activities, etc., as I am very anxious to attend. Do wives attend also? I am very excited about this.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Ross was furnished addresses for the men who were on the roster. Since your letter, I have had correspondence from **Willis Frazee**).

Seymour Sutcliffe, 168 Larson Road, Stoughton, Massachusetts 02072 — Ser. 273rd: Being one of the first assignees to the newly activated 69th Infantry Division, I have read with interest of the 38th Reunion of the Division Association in Williamsburg, Virginia in August. I was unable to attend previous Reunions, but my present status as a retiree permits me to seriously consider taking part in the affair. I know I would enjoy myself and possibly run into others who were with me until I left the Division a year later. I would appreciate any additional information that you can forward to me on the Reunion plans, etc.

Arnold King, 5016 N.W. 5th Street, Delray Beach, Florida 33445: Please send information in regards to the 69th Infantry Division Reunion. I was original Cadre in 1943 and I stayed with the Division until after its service overseas and up until V.E. Day. My rank was T/4 and I was in Radio Repair.

(Editor's Note: Please send me your complete Unit in the 69th).

Wayne Levell, Box 351, Daleville, Indiana 47334 — C-269th: I saw your Reunion announcement in the Anderson

Bulletin, and I was wondering if any men attend who served in the 269th Combat Engineers Battalion. I served in Company C of the 269th. I have lost contact with all of them. I knew one who lived in Shelbyville, Indiana and was a truck driver, but he has passed away. I will appreciate any information you can send me on the Reunion.

Bennett Eckert, Box 53, Star Route 3, Maine, New York 13802 — B-879th: Please send me more information concerning the Reunion of the 69th Infantry Division. I was in Baker Battery 879th Field Artillery in Shelby and in Europe for 18 or 19 months. I was sent home May 28th on the point system, and discharged June 29th after six years of total service. This is the first and only thing I have ever seen concerning a Reunion, and I would like to know more about it.

Melville P. Liverance, 7085 South Uinta Street, Englewood, Colorado 80112 — Hq.-271st: Thanks for your prompt response to my May 28th inquiry about the Association. Your letter of June 1st lists names of a number of men who served in Hq.-271st. For openers, I would appreciate you providing me with addresses for the following: **John Breon**, **Robert Gefken**, **Irving Kagan**, **Frank Leonard**, and **Walter Mueller**. I have been totally out of touch with these individuals and all other members of our Unit for many years. I hope that if I write to the men above that they can help me reestablish other contacts.

It is very unlikely that we will make this years Reunion at Williamsburg, but perhaps 1986 will be a different story. Thanks for your interest, and I'll be glad to receive subsequent literature.

(Editor's Note: If you relocated any more men from your Unit, please don't forget to forward their addresses to National Headquarters).

Leonard Braverman, 28104 Espinoza Mission, Viejo, California 92692 — A-724th: I met this buddy at a Jewish Veterans Convention. He had trained with the 69th at Camp Shelby, and was with the first batch of replacements sent to Europe. He was captured in Germany and spent some time as a P.O.W. His name is **Nat Bassevitch**. I think he would appreciate receiving the Bulletin.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Bassevitch's address appears under the *New Men Relocated* column).

Eugene R. Mischke, 1021 West Third Street, Spring Valley, Illinois 61362 — B-273rd: Please send me information on the 69th Division Reunion. I served in Company B-273rd in March and April of 1945.

Arthur K. Knudsen, 1383 Plumrosa Drive, Fort Myers, Florida 33901 — H-273rd: Enclosed is my personal check for the yearly membership dues. With respect to the Association's Annual Reunion at Williamsburg, we will not be able to attend as we will just be returning from the American Bar Association meetings in London. Hopefully we will be able to make next years Reunion.

James Ford, Route 2, Box 120, Pioneer, Tennessee 37847 — D-271st: I am writing you in regards for information about the 69th Infantry Division. I have looked for 30 years and this is the first time I have seen anything about it. I found the announcement in the V.F.W. Magazine. It didn't have complete information about your upcoming Reunion.

I joined the Division in Camp Shelby, Mississippi and stayed with it till after the War was over in Europe, when I was assigned elsewhere. I would like to know where the records of the Division are.

(Editor's Note: National Headquarters has no knowledge of where the Division Records are, but if any of our readers know, please advise us and Mr. Ford).

Harry F. Hall, 8145 Kingsdale Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919 — A-273rd: I graduated from the University of South Sewanee, Tennessee in 1949. I have taught school,

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NEWS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

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worked for a contractor, and have been Tennessee Representative for Holt, Rinehart and Winston/CBS Educational Division for 26 years. I can retire in May, 1986. I have no contact with any of my friends from the 69th. Please send information about the Reunion.

Jake Waldrup, Route 6, Box 205, Fairview, North Carolina 28730 — A-273rd: I have been married for 37 years and have 4 wonderful children, 3 sons and 1 daughter. I drove a truck for several years, and am now a machinist in a factory. I make a garden every summer. We have 3 grandchildren and one of my sons is a preacher. My daughter is not married and has been a nurse for 5 years. She still stays at home with us. My wife works at the same place as I do and she is a machine operator. We have had a wonderful life together. Here are the names of 2 more men who served with me, **Raymond Clanton** and **Owen Clanton**.

(Editor's Note: Addresses for Ray and Owen Clanton appear in the *New Men Relocated* column).

Elwyn B. Miller, 19815 Zebulon Street N.W., Elk River, Minnesota 55330 — A-272nd: I have meant to write this sooner, as I saw your notice in the June issue of the American Legion Magazine. I was in Company A of the 272nd Infantry Regiment. Will you please send me full details of the Reunion which is to be held in August. Also is there a brochure or literature that comes occasionally telling about the 69th Infantry Division. It would be nice to receive information about our old service buddies. Thanks, and I will appreciate hearing from you.

Martin J. Welch, 16 Underwood Drive, Saratoga Springs, New York 12866 — Can.-271st: I saw your Reunion notice in a recent issue of the M.O.P.H. Magazine. I would appreciate it if you would send me more detailed information about the upcoming Reunion. I was in Cannon Company of the 271st Regiment from April 1944 to April 1945. I was evacuated from Kassel back to France. I had come to the 69th from the Cadet program at Keesler Field with quite a large group of other fellows.

How long have you been holding Reunions? I note that it also includes the attached Units to the 69th Division. Are there rosters available for the Association? I have corresponded with a family in Winchester, England. They have sent me a lot of photos of the area as it is today. My wife and I intend to take a trip over to England next spring.

(Editor's Note: I apologize for not answering your letter personally, but I was in the hospital for 3 weeks when it arrived. There are no address rosters available for the Association. We have been holding Reunions each year since 1948. And last but not least, your Editor was also one of those Cadets that came over from Keesler Field to the 69th the same time that you did).

John W. Hibbard, 13239 Hanlon Road, Albion, New York 14411 — A-273rd: I worked in construction for 30 years and am now retired. I am a part time farmer and have 3 children.

Thomas T. Welsh, 39 Emerick Lane, Loudonville, New York 12211 — L-273rd: I would like information on the Reunion of the 69th Infantry Division to be held in August at Williamsburg, Virginia. I formerly served in L Company of the 273rd Infantry Regiment and stayed with that Unit from Camp Shelby till we met the Russians at the Elbe River. I would like to be placed on your mailing list. I went to one Reunion in the early 50's in New York City. I would like to hear from any former members of L-273rd.

George H. Stoll, 1914 Whitewood Drive, Box 16, Madison, Ohio 44057 — 777th: Please send information concerning the 777th Tank Battalion Reunion in August. This will be the first one that I will be able to attend, as my work schedule always conflicted before. I have now retired and am looking forward to being there.

Stan Barry, 1695 West 68th Street, Hialeah, Florida 33014: My name, when I was in the 69th Division, was **Stanley Bazorewske**. When I got out of the Army after the War, I got married and changed my name to **Stanley Barry**.

The reason I bring this up is because I was with a **Marshall** in Hattiesburg and I thought you might be the one and same person. The **Marshall** who was in the 69th with me was from either Alabama or Kentucky and had red hair and freckles. If you are the one, I would like to hear from you. The **Marshall** I knew did not read or write, and I used to do it for him. I also remember a **Miklo** from Pittsburgh, **Sergeant Rinderkenect**, **Lieutenant Parrish**, and **Captain Childs**.

(Editor's Note: I regret to inform you that I was not the **Marshall** you knew in the 69th).

Warren Alford, 114 East Randall Court, Gretna, Louisiana 70053 — Div. Hq. & QM: I just finished reading the latest 69th Bulletin, and there is never a time when I read through it that it doesn't bring back memories of fellows I met and worked with. Sometimes the eyes get very damp, and I have to brush away some tears. I'm sorry I won't be able to get to Williamsburg, Virginia this year. I would appreciate it very much if men from Div. Hq. — M.P.'s — or Q.M., who recognize my name, would drop me a line. If you are in or around New Orleans, give me a call at: 367-6611, exchange 7410.

Paul Mickiewicz, 1-14 35th Street, Fair Lawn, New Jersey 07410 — I-273rd: I always read the Reunion column in the V.F.W. Magazine, and was surprised to see the 69th listed for a Reunion. I served with Company I-273rd for about 7 months in Mississippi and to the end of the War in Germany. When the 69th was coming home, I was transferred to the 29th because I had enough points. I haven't kept in touch with any former members, but would be glad to meet some at the Reunion. I plan to attend for 3 or 4 days.

Mike Koltowski, 2400 Andrew Avenue, Apt. 316, LaPorte, Indiana 46350 — AT-271st: I received your letter and was happy to hear from you. I have not kept in touch with any of the men from my Unit. I served in the Anti-Tank Company of the 271st Regiment. My Commanding Officer was a **Lieutenant Freeman**. I can't remember his first name. There were 32 men in our Company, but I can't recall any of their names. I just recently retired from the Teamsters Union. I will be unable to attend the Reunion this year, but maybe in the near future I can make it.

Dale Simonton, 3662 Sugar Bush Road, Mosinee, Wisconsin 54455 — L-271st: My wife and I are trying to contact a **Sergeant Welsh** and his wife, **Alice**, who stood up at our wedding in the Post Chapel at Camp Shelby. **Chaplain Davis** married us.

I served in Company L of the 271st Regiment. I enlisted in the 5th Infantry Division in 1940. I was with them in Fort Custer, Camp Grant, and Joseph T. Robinson. I was then transferred to Camp Shelby and the 69th. I was with the 69th till the time that they moved to the point of embarkation where 28 of us were held back and transferred to the Air Corp at Keesler Field. From there I went to Lemoore Air Base in California and stayed there till I was discharged.

At Camp Shelby, **Captain John Harvey** was my Commanding Officer. 1st Sergeant's last name was **Ocel**. I was Platoon Guide for the third platoon. In my Platoon, there was a set of twins from Louisville named "**Due**." A **Private Capps** was also in my Platoon, and he and I found drinking water when no one else could. The reason I didn't go overseas with the 69th was because I had varicose veins.

(Editor's Note: We just relocated a man by the name of **Welsh** listed under "*New Men Relocated*." Maybe he is the **Sergeant** you are looking for).

Harry L. Miller, 1710 Warren Street, Bellevue, Nebraska — Ser.-273rd: Thank you for the Bulletin and quick response

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NEWS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

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to my letter. I was totally unaware of the 69th Infantry Division Association. You fellows have a big job in keeping up the mailing roster and putting out the Bulletin. I served as Secretary for a Lodge so I have had some experience along that line. I appreciate your efforts.

John B. (Jack) Duffy, 28 Cypress Street, Rochester, New York 14620 — Div. Hq.: As a former member of Hqs. and Hqs. Company 69th Infantry Division (during 1944-45), I read your announcement in our local paper with great interest. Please forward me any available information regarding the Division Reunion in Williamsburg in August. I would be most interested in attending, if possible. Incidentally, your name reminds me of a former acquaintance in Hqs. Company. Is it possible.

In a later communication the two of us realized that we had served together as members of the same Unit. **Mr. Duffy** relates that he was very relieved and delighted that I had survived my wounds. At the time of my incident, he said he was just down the road a piece practicing driving a jeep. He was assigned to the Anti-Tank Platoon during the Belgium and Rhine Valley phase of the campaign as a part of Div. Hq. Company perimeter defense.

Unfortunately, the only other name that I can recall from that period is **Buzz Silvernail** from Red Wing, Minnesota. I visited with him in Rockford, Illinois in 1949. I am sorry to say that I will not be able to attend the Reunion this year. However, I certainly will plan for it in 1986.

(Editor's Note: I am glad that you spotted our announcement and that we were able to relocate you again. If you should want to contact Buzz Silvernail, his address is as follows: Lawrence Silvernail, 7136 Canyon Ferry Road, Helena, Montana 59601).

John W. Merrill, 500 Clifton Avenue, #413, Lakewood, New Jersey 08701: After forty years, I think it is about time to find out about my World War II Fighting 69th. The other day, I ran into an acquaintance, **Pete Lubinsky** of Beachwood, New Jersey, a fellow 272nd member (Co. M). I saw some of the dog faces on T.V. at the Elbe on April 25th. This got me interested. I had no idea that the Association was still active. There are 10 or so buddies that I was close to, and am hopeful that they are on your membership roster. I understand that the 272nd put out a Regiment History while on occupation in Berlin. I have the Division History.

After basic at Camp Croft, South Carolina, I joined the outfit at Shelby. I served with the 69th from May 1944 till May 1945. I was a messenger for the first battalion of the 272nd, and then the same at Regiment. I was only 19 years old.

I understand that a Reunion is in the offing in Virginia. That is not too far from where I am. Information on this would be appreciated.

(Editor's Note: Your Unit is shown as Hq. 272nd from the pages of the 272nd History, so that is where I will place you. Regiment History Books for the 272nd are almost impossible to find. At one time, we were considering getting reprints, but not enough interest was shown so it fell through).

Edward T. Pierce, R.D. #3, Box 3043, Windsor, New York 13865: I would like to attend the 69th Reunion and would appreciate it if you would send me a little more information about it. This is the first time that I am able to attend.

Crandon F. Clark, 395 Albin Court, Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450 — B-272nd: I was unaware until March 10, 1985, that we Fighting 69th Division members had such a fine Association and your fine Bulletin. I did attend our recent Reunion trip to East Germany and have registered for the 1985 Annual Reunion in Williamsburg, Virginia. I would like to hear from former members of Company B-272nd, and also Officers of the 1st Battalion of the 272nd. I am interested in addresses for: **Captain George Moore**, **Lieutenant Samuel Norton III**, **Lieutenant Robert Janes**, **Lieutenant John Gray**, and

Lieutenant Emory Linnville. Also **Major Carl Christol**.

Editor's Note: The latter is the only address National Headquarters could provide).

John F. Sepanek, 805 Boulevard Street, Mattydale, New York 13211 — A-273rd: S/Sgt. in Company A-273rd. Wife is deceased and we had no children. Occupation — Law and Insurance with Syracuse Insurance Agency, Inc.

Joseph W. Sexton, 245 North 4th Street, Grover City, California 93433 — 69-MP: I am a former member of the Military Police Platoon of the great 69th Infantry Division. I learned of the existence of your Association through the good efforts of **Mr. Arthur Athey** of Beeville, Texas. I would like to be a member of your Association. I am in some contact with two other former 69er's, and shall encourage them also to contact you.

I suffered a disabling stroke in 1983 and am retired now. I cannot travel right now, but in the future that may change. My memory is very clear about the War. I still have my copy of the Unit citation issued to us by **General Reinhardt**. I am told that we were the only MP Unit in history to receive such a citation. It allowed us to wear a wreath on our sleeves. I would like very much to hear from former members of my Unit.

Fred O. Metzger, 1645 Ala Wai Boulevard, #1408, Honolulu, Hawaii 96815 — American Red Cross: I like **Mr. Kremin's** and your suggestion of a Life Membership. I have always been a great believer in this. I would like to be one of the first Life Members of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association. Enclosed is my check for \$125.00; one hundred of it for Life Membership and the balance for the most urging need of the organization.

I had planned to return to the mainland in time to attend the Reunion at Williamsburg, but due to other commitments, I will not arrive before August 28th. I was particularly anxious to see Williamsburg again, as I was stationed there with the Sea Bees before joining the 69th at Camp Shelby.

I had a call from **J. A. Nickolson** of the 272nd when he visited Hawaii in May. We got together for dinner and reminisced of our experience with the 69th. He had a 69th identification tag on his luggage, which worked out very well. We had planned to get together again but there was traveling space available on a military flight, and he had to leave early. He and his wife will be returning here later. He plans to attend the Reunion in Williamsburg.

Joe K. Martin, Route 4, Box 249, Hickory Knolls Farm, Kensington, Georgia 30707 — I-272nd: Thank you so much for the Bulletin. I am enclosing my membership Dues. I would like to correct you on my Unit. It was I-272nd and not what I previously sent you. I would like to hear from former members of that Unit. When I was discharged, I was a foreman with the 3044th Power Train Rebuilt Company in Germany. I supervised and laid out the work for mechanics in the rebuilding of Military Motorized Vehicles. Hope this additional information will help me find some of my former buddies.

(Editor's Note: Your membership dues check went to Robert Kurtzman, our Treasurer, who was a former S/Sgt. in Company I-272nd).

William Sorrentino, 8725 Calder Place, Tampa, Florida 33604 — L-273rd: I was surprised to hear that the 69th Division has held an annual Reunion for the last 37 years. Last year when it was held in Orlando, it was so close to my home. I would like to hear from anyone who served in the 2nd Platoon of Company L-273rd. I lost contact with **Lieutenant William "Wild Bill" Barber** and **T/Sgt. W. W. Chuck Wasik**. Please send a membership application and Dues information.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Sorrentino was provided current addresses for William Barber and W. W. Wasik).

(Continued on Page 6)

NEWS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 5)

Frances M. Olson, Star Route 2, Box 68, Watford City, North Dakota 58854 — Niece of **Bennie Aasen**: My Uncle **Bennie Aasen** had word from **Bob Kurtzman** that the Division History Book was available for \$5.00. He would like to have a copy. **Bennie** has had several bad days with his emphysema again and has asked me to help him out. He seems to be improving so that is a good sign. His continuing contact with the Fighting 69th is important to him, and I know he will enjoy the History Book.

George A. Mayr, Jr., 118 Sipple Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland 21236 — AT-271st: I wonder if it is possible to get 2 69th Infantry Division patches. I am semi-retired, but still active and working two jobs, and I am healthy. I was a S/Sgt. in the Anti-Tank Company of the 271st Regiment. I would appreciate hearing from anyone who served in that Unit.

John W. Turner, P.O. Box 1645, Decatur, Georgia 30031 — C-724th: Neta and I regret that we had to miss the Reunion in Williamsburg this year. Maybe we can be with you in Pittsburgh next year.

I received a letter from **E. John Rosenbrock** inquiring about the Battery C-724th Reunion in September. He was one of our cooks, and I had not seen nor heard from him since May or June of 1945. I remember him well, and in my album I have a group picture of him with other C-724th men. I wrote him a letter and told him I would give his name and address to you so that he would be put on the Association mailing list and receive the Bulletins and membership information. We all appreciate the good work that you do, and thank you for it.

(Editor's Note: Mr. Rosenbrock's address is listed under the column, New Men Relocated).

Coy J. Horton, 1705-A Highview Street, Burlington, North Carolina 27215 — C-724th: I noticed in the newspaper where the Fighting 69th Infantry Division had its 38th Reunion at Williamsburg, Virginia, August 18th to the 25th. Because of the time factor I was unable to attend. I took basic training with Battery C of the 724th Field Artillery at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. I left the outfit and went to the Pacific area as a replacement. I would very much like to be placed on the mailing list for future Reunion notices, etc.

Charles E. Notson, 350 North 190th Street, Seattle, Washington 98133 — 369th Med.: So rarely do I see a familiar name in the Bulletin, I had about decided to let you drop me from the mailing list. Then there appears the name of **Rabbi Lorge** and I changed my mind. Please note my change of address. Ruth and I moved here last November and are enjoying Seattle's lovely scenery and weather. We like Yakima, but this is less rigorous for people pushing eighty.

Joseph T. Kassel, 405 Anderson Avenue, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania 19460 — Hq. Divarty: I am sorry that I have not been able to attend any of the Reunions, but I sure enjoy reading the 69th Bulletin. The other day I was talking to a friend who said he was in Mississippi in the 69th Division. I think he said it was the 777th, and that he had never heard anything about the 69th Infantry Division Association. His name is **Harry Beluch** of Phoenixville.

Thank you for keeping me up to date with the News Bulletin. I am retiring at the end of the year, and hope to attend a couple of Reunions in the near future. Thank you again for everything.

(Editor's Note: I was unaware that the 777th was with the 69th in Camp Shelby, Mississippi. I would appreciate having more information about this if Mr. Beluch would be so kind to write me).

David S. Schroeder, 2108 Valentine Road, Richmond, Virginia 23228 — Hq. 1st Bn.-271st: I was so pleased to have been put on the mailing list by **Bill Beswick** after the Bronze Star presentation. It has been 25 years since I had talked with a former 69er. I am very grateful to you who have done such

a great job with the Organization, and look forward to the Bulletin.

I do have pictures of the Russians and Americans meeting that day in Torgau. I also have a picture of Hq. Co. 1st Bn.-271st. I would like to offer these if they are needed. I also have snapshots of scenes along the way that the 69th Division traveled. Thanks again for my recognition last year.

(Editor's Note: We always need pictures for our Bulletin. If you are willing to send them to National Headquarters, we will take good care of them and return them after we have used them).

Ted Snyder, 3 Carolyn Court, Syosset, New York 11791 — D-271st: **Mr. Snyder** attended the Reunion in Williamsburg, Virginia this past August. This made about ten that he has attended since 1948 in New York City. He offers 271st Regimental pins free to any member who asks for one. He has about twenty left.

Urno E. Gustafson, R.D. #1, Box 21, Pittsfield, Pennsylvania 16340 — AT-272nd: While on my vacation in Michigan, I called on **Darwin Van Houten** of Six Lakes. While we were visiting a phone call came from **John Kemper** who was also in the area on vacation. Needless to say, we had a grand reunion.

I mentioned that I belonged to the 69th Association and had been to one of the Reunions in Harrisburg. Please add these two men to the Association mailing roster so that they will receive literature on future Reunions, and also information on becoming members of the Association.

(Editor's Note: The addresses for Mr. Van Houten and Mr. Kemper are listed in the column, New Men Relocated).

Gilbert Albro, 2007 "I" Avenue, Scottsbluff, Nebraska 69361 — C-724th: I received the 69th Bulletin, and was happy to get it. I am enclosing a check for a copy of the 69th Division History Book. It was nice to see the addresses of some of the men from my Unit. I had lost contact with all of them. Would you happen to know the address of **Charles Martin** of Battery C-274th? Last I knew he was in Evanston, Illinois. I saw him in 1948 on my way to the V.F.W. National Convention in Cleveland, Ohio. I would also like to contact **Saverio** and **Sam Noto**. I am going to drop a note to **John Turner** to express my sorrow at not being able to attend their Battery C Reunion. I intend to go to the next one that they have regardless of where or when it is. I will also go to the annual Reunion in Pittsburgh next year.

I lost my wife on July 15th, and I am stuck here for a while. I want to get rid of some property which is not too good at present. Things have been kind of tough without my wife. We had three daughters who are all happily married.

John Turner advised me that you had some ill health, and I hope that everything is under control now. I hope to meet you some day before too long.

(Editor's Note: I am sorry that we do not have any addresses for the men you mentioned above).

EDITOR'S NOTE: I would like to thank all members of the 69th Infantry Division Association for their cards, phone call, prayers and good wishes during my recent illness. I feel that I am well on my way to complete recovery, and I hope that my doctor shares the same opinion.

It was my pleasure to talk to the men in attendance at the General Business Meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia, and I wish to thank those who made it possible. It was tough to miss my first Reunion since 1950, but I hope to get back in stride again next year in Pittsburgh. I will continue to take care of the Association mailing roster and co-edit the Bulletin as long as my health permits.



President's Message



William R. Beswick, *President*
P.O. Box 576
West Point, Virginia 23181
Telephone: 804/843-2696

Greetings to all Members of the "Fighting 69th" Infantry Division Association.

I want to thank all of the Members of the "Fighting 69th" for putting their trust in me by electing me President of such a prestigious and magnificent organization. I will try to give it the honor it deserves.

I feel that I must take this opportunity to thank all the Members of the "661st Tank Destroyer Battalion," for leaving their tables at the "69th Infantry Division" Banquet held in Williamsburg in August, when I asked them to go outside the motel to make dinner arrangements due to insufficient seating capacity. My, what a great group of friends they are!! It was a loss to me personally, because I would have loved to have had them present when I was installed as President. Of course, they returned after the banquet for dancing.

Some way or the other, we lost sixty people in our count. We had 542 people signed up for the banquet and had in excess of six hundred people attend the Reunion. Who would have thought that we would have had that many people attend in Williamsburg. The hotel personnel helped eliminate the banquet problem.

All in all, I think it was a great Reunion. At least it was for most of us. A few were disappointed when they ate in the other room. I believe it was a great Reunion for them, up until 7:00 P.M., Saturday evening. All I can say is, "I'm sorry."

The Reunion Committee in Williamsburg is owed a great deal of THANKS and appreciation. Jo and I both THANK all of them very much. They all worked tirelessly.

Now, let's look forward to what I hope will be a great year in 1986.

I made a remark at the Williamsburg Reunion, that I believe everyone could associate themselves with. When we were discharged, we never wanted to see or hear of the Army again and did not care if we never saw some of those people again. But, as time goes on and we get older, we mellow a lot and wonder what SO-AND-SO is doing? We attend a Reunion and try to find out. Just take a look. The Reunion attendance is getting larger, even though we are losing them in the RANKS.

Think about it and come to "Marriott's Greentree" Motel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in August, 1986.

Bill Beswick
President

Treasurer's Message



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

The fall season has arrived and our 69th activities are over for another year and now my busy time arrives as the first Dues notice response will be in high gear.

Last year we received Dues from 2,000 members and all indications point to another great year. Once again, our Dues year runs from August 1st to July 31st and your 1985-86 Dues are due now. Remember, if your Dues are paid, please disregard the Dues notices you will be receiving unless you wish to make other contributions.

The Tri-State Group weekend at Cleveland was a great success and was enjoyed by all and our thanks to Dell and Mary Balzano and Alex and Marge Kormas for their hospitality and a job well done.

The Williamsburg Reunion was also a huge success as can be attested by the 614 that registered and the 542 at the banquet. Our thanks to **Bill and Jo Beswick** and their fine committee for planning and running such a fine Reunion. The tours on Wednesday and Thursday were very interesting and well planned and I'm sure enjoyed by all who took them. The hospitality room, which some said was in the next county, was always well attended and I'm sure enjoyed by all who visited it.

We now look forward to next June and to the Tri-State which will be hosted by **Ray and Helen Szkudlarek** at Toledo, Ohio and to the 39th Annual Association Reunion at the Greentree Marriott in Pittsburgh on August 10th to 17th, which should break all records for attendance as Pennsylvania is still the Capitol of the 69th. I'm sure the co-hosting by **Paul Shadle and Earl Witzleb** and their committee will once again do a bang up job.

For those of you who haven't heard, your Treasurer has volunteered to assume the task of being the Scholarship Chairman which was so ably done by **Sammy Woolf** the past six years. **Sammy** has asked to step down as his work does not permit him time. Thanks, **Sammy** for a job well done. Four students were picked by the Scholarship Committee at the Williamsburg Reunion and their names and pictures will be published in the first Bulletin of 1986.

As most of you know, at the 1981 Reunion at Harrisburg, the membership voted to discontinue putting more money into the Scholarship Fund and to discontinue the Scholarship Program when the current funds are depleted. It appears that there are enough funds to pay off the current awards and to continue the program for another two years to make 5 or 6 more awards. To date, 54 scholarships have been awarded for a total of \$41,150.00. Applications for the Scholarship Awards can be obtained from your Treasurer. We hope there are still enough children of High School age to pick up the remaining awards.

Robert J. Kurtzman, Sr.
Treasurer and Scholarship Chairman

1985 - 1986

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Dottie and Me

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Co-Chaplain — 661st T.D's.

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ROBERT J. KURTZMAN, SR.
Scholarship Chairman — 272nd Regt.



Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.

Co-Editors of the Bulletin
Post Office Box 69
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622
Telephone: 412/455-2901
(Evenings after 7:00 p.m. and Weekends)

First off, we two would like to thank our Williamsburg, Virginia President **George Gallagher** and his wife **Vickie** as well as the rest of the division members and their wives for the set of luggage that was presented to us. Also thank you **Bob and Vivian Kurtzman** for making the selection of the luggage. Now all we have to do is use it in attending future Reunions. Once again, many thanks to all.

We are sorry we had to miss the Williamsburg Reunion due to illness of **Earl** and also **Dottie's** parents. Happy to report that each are steadily improving. Thank you for the many cards, letters, and telephone calls received here after the Reunion. We appreciated all of them.

Since I am no longer Treasurer, Drawer M has been released and is no longer part of my address. News or photos for the Bulletin or just personal letters to me can be mailed to the Post Office Box 69 address. We sure would like to hear from our friends in the Division Association and do plan to attend the Pittsburgh Reunion in August of 1986. We will once again have the early bird on the party liner traveling the three rivers as we did years back in 1978. I also ask your support in attending the Reunion to **Paul and Marion Shadle**, Chairpersons taking over for me and **Dottie**, when I was advised to give up my outside activities for a few years. My thanks also to **Bob Kurtzman** for taking over the duties of Treasurer, and do use the first Dues envelope for 1985-1986 Dues which you should have.



*Mini-Reunion of the 777th Tank Bn. and 11th Cav. at the Raymond Silbaugh home, June 9, 1985.
Picture furnished by Vernon Wirth.*



*Proud new grandparents, Dell and Mary Balzano, June 1985. A 7 lb. 8 oz. Tri-State Reunion baby boy.
Picture furnished by Phil Colombo*



THE AUXILIARY'S PAGE

by — Dottie Witzleb

P.O. Box 69
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622
412/455-2901 (Evenings after 7:00 P.M. and Weekends)

I need news for this page if it is to continue from all Auxiliary Members and especially the Officers. The next Bulletin should go to press early in 1986, so do write to me at the address listed above. Following is a letter from Margie Kormas.

Greetings from Cleveland!

First, thank you **Bill and Jo Beswick** and all your committee members for a fine National Reunion in Williamsburg. The Fort Magruder Inn is very lovely and the activities were all enjoyable and interesting. But we all missed some very special people, namely the **Witzleb's, Clarence Marshall** and **Marie Suprano**, and we want them to know they were always with us in thought and spirit.

Secondly, I wish to acknowledge with heartfelt thanks, the lovely gift of jewelry presented to me by **Vivian Kurtzman** on behalf of the Ladies Auxiliary. The gold chain and earrings will be worn with fond remembrance of my tenure as President. It was an honor and privilege to be elected to this office and I also found it to be a rich and rewarding experience. My special thanks and appreciation go to our Past President, **Emily Fletcher**, who guided me and supported me in need, and to our Secretary, **Ann Walters**, Assistant Secretary, **Vivian Kurtzman**, as well as our dedicated and faithful Committee Chairwomen, **Marge McCombs, Reba Sheavly**, and **Virginia Weston**, our Chaplain, for their wonderful friendship and cooperation which made my office and job such a pleasant one. They will always have a very special place in my heart and in my memories of our Reunions.

And to **Jo Beswick**, the gratitude of all our ladies for her contribution in providing such a terrific program for our Saturday morning meeting. Her friend, **Juanita Trevillian** of **Trevillian Interiors**, gave us a most memorable grand tour of her gorgeous 20-room home and a new condo unit that we will never forget what fun it was!, and we all came away with great ideas for our "dream home." Those 1½ hours we spent in awe and wonder during our tour will remain, I'm certain, one of the highlights of our week in Williamsburg.

And now, congratulations and best wishes to our new officers: **Ann Walter**, President; **Vivian Kurtzman**, Vice President; **Maria Kelly**, Secretary, and **Ellen McCanne**, Assistant Secretary. May they find their terms in office as enjoyable and rewarding as I did mine.

Our Williamsburg Reunion is now a fond memory and I know that the friendships and associations we share will enrich our lives until we meet again at another Tri-State or National Reunion.

Again, my gratitude and appreciation to all who've made my Reunions and those of my husband, **Al**, such wonderful memories.

My prayer is that God will bless everyone so that we may again see one another soon in joy and laughter and good fellowship.

Sincerely,
Margaret Kormas
Past President
Ladies Auxiliary



1st Platoon of G-Company, 273rd Regiment. The best Platoon in the U.S. Army according to Gerald Davolt who furnished the picture.

Ladies Auxiliary Minutes Fort Magruder Inn Saturday, August 24, 1985

Our President, Margaret Kormas, called the meeting to order and gave warm greeting to the 116 ladies present. Of the 116 — 12 were New Members and 27 were First Timers. After the pledge of allegiance, the Chaplain, Virginia Weston, offered prayer.

The Great Lady of our Auxiliary, Mrs. Bolte, was introduced and gracious as usual, she said it was fun to be with us. It was fun for all present.

The reading of the minutes of the 1984 Orlando Reunion were approved. Correspondence from the V.A. Medical Center of Phoenix, Arizona thanking our group for the 288 toothbrushes and 216 tubes of toothpaste. A note from Marie Suprano informing us that her mother, Mrs. Clara Antonelli, donated 7 lap robes and 9 pairs of slippers that she made in memory of her son-in-law, John Suprano, and her son, Pfc. Jildo Antonelli, who served with Patton's 3rd Armored Division and is buried in France. Committee reports were given by Reba Sheavly on the new souvenirs she had for sale. Our faithful Sunshine Lady, Marge McCombs, reported she sent 514 anniversary and 1,045 birthday cards. In appreciation of her dedication, she was presented with a beautiful necklace and earrings by Vivian Kurtzman in behalf of the Auxiliary.

The size of lap robes was requested and the measurement is approximately 45" X 36". Thirty five lap robes and 9 pairs of slippers were donated by 12 ladies and Barbara Johnson and Maria Keller, both of Virginia, volunteered to deliver the items to Veterans hospitals in the State. \$147.00 was collected for sundry items for hospitalized veterans.

Under new business, the need for a Vice President was discussed. Betty Foster made the motion that we elect one. It was seconded and the motion carried.

The Following Officers were Nominated and Elected:

President	Anna K. Walters	PA
Vice President	Vivian Kurtzman	OH
Secretary	Maria Keller	VA
Assistant Secretary	Ellen McCann	MA
Chaplain	Virginia Weston	NJ
Assistant Chaplain	Ellen Snidow	VA

After the election, President Margaret Kormas presented the newly elected President the gavel. The Auxiliary presented outgoing President with a gift in appreciation of the great job she had done during her two year reign.

The meeting was adjourned with a prayer by Chaplain Weston.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna K. Walters, Secretary

Prior to the meeting, the ladies were surprised with a tour of two homes decorated by Juanita Trevillian, Interior Decorator, who donated her time and arranged for the buses. Thank you, Juanita.

MESSAGE — From the newly elected Auxiliary President.

Hello to all of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division.

It is hard to express my feelings on being elected President of the Auxiliary, except I FEEL SO GOOD! I feel that the shoes I have to fill are bigger than mine and I may stumble but, rest assured, I'll get up and go forward remembering the confidence you have in me. We all are members and I'm sure we can continue on with spirit and unity.

Gee whiz — time flies when you are having fun and that's what happened in Williamsburg, Virginia. Everyone seems to

be family — meeting long time friends and always making new ones. Most of us are like 'kissing cousins.'

What a joy to see all those smiling faces at the Ladies meeting and those ladies who don't attend — COME ON IN, you may like it.

To the committee or committees, I salute you! It's a thankless job sometimes but you all are super, special people.

Earl and I are looking forward to Tri-State in 'holy' Toledo and before long Pittsburgh Reunion, August 1986.

Best of everything to you all,

Anna K. Walters
President, Ladies Auxiliary



Small gathering of C-Battery, 880th F.A. men at Lowell McFarlin's home.

Left to Right Standing: Cliff Eley, Enrico D'Angelo, John Clark, Lewis Pugh, Wayne Murphy.

Kneeling: Robert Williams, Lowell McFarlin.

Good food and a good time was had by all. Wives were in attendance also.

Amendment To The By-Laws Approved

At the General Membership meeting of the 69th at Williamsburg, the following amendment to the By-Laws was approved.

Article 1, Section 7

In the event that the Secretary or Treasurer is not able to serve due to mid-term resignation or other causes, the President is empowered to appoint a successor to serve until the election at the next Reunion. The interim Officer is entitled to all of the rights and privileges described in the By-Laws. In the event that the office of Vice President is vacated for any reason, the position shall be filled without right of succession by the immediate Past Chairman of the nominating committee to serve until the next Reunion.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS AND COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE

May I just make 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, Drawer M, Champion, Pennsylvania 15622**, as early as possible. We try to work at least a year ahead, as we only put out three Bulletins a year. When mailing in this information, do send your organization's name, person in charge (Chairman), address, city, state, zip, telephone numbers including area codes, dates, location, and anything else that you feel might be of interest for the outfit to know. This may also bring a few new faces, or two, to your group.

APRIL 24, 25, 26, 1986

Southeastern Chapter
Spring Break
Quality Inn — Kennedy Space Center
I-95 and State Road 50
South of
Titusville, Florida

Committee:

Allen and Cathy Long
10620 Fernando Street
Orlando, Florida 32817
Telephone: 305/277-7820

JUNE 18, 19, 20, 21, 1986

Tri-State Spring and Fall Combined Weekend
The Family Group invites one and all to:

Toledo Turnpike Motel
Exit 4, Ohio Turnpike
2325 South Reynolds Road
Toledo, Ohio 43614

Featuring Portside Festival Market Place, Dinner and River Boat Cruise, Dinner Theatre.

Committee:

Raymond and Helen Szkudlarek
4245 Northcroft Lane
Toledo, Ohio 43611
Telephone: 419/726-4885

Jacob and Violet Stark, Jr.
691 Dunkle Street, Enhaut
Steelton, Pennsylvania 17113
Telephone: 717/939-4802

JULY 31 — AUGUST 1, 2, 3, 1986

The above dates have been set and preparations are in progress for C-Battery 880th Reunion to be held at the Sheraton of Greensburg, Pennsylvania. We will try to make it a good one. God Bless you all.

For Information Write:

Enrico and Anne D'Angelo, *Chairpersons*
516 Chestnut Street
Saltsburg, Pennsylvania 15681
Telephone: 412/639-3037

AUGUST 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 1986

69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL REUNION

Greentree Marriott
101 Marriott Way
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205
Telephone: 412/922-8400

Chairpersons:

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

Enrico and Ann D'Angelo
516 Chestnut Street
Saltsburg, Pennsylvania 15681
Telephone: 412/639-3037

Committee:

Earl and Dorothy Witzleb
Robert and Vivian Kurtzman
William and Reba Sheavly
Adam Manz
Clarence Marshall
(and the rest of the Tri-State Family Group)

RESERVATION FORMS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF OUR BULLETIN. PLEASE FILL THEM OUT AND SEND THEM IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE; SO THAT THE REGISTRATION DESK WILL RUN MORE SMOOTHLY.

SEPTEMBER 19th and 20th, 1986

461st AAA Battery B Weekend Reunion
Leesburg, Virginia

For Information Write:

Dean Ludeman
8620 N.W. 13th Street, #203
Gainesville, Florida 32606

ALL BATTERIES WELCOME

1987 Reunion will be in San Francisco

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.

New Men Relocated Since Last Bulletin

Raymond Clanton — A-273rd
Route #2, Box 85, Stony Point, North Carolina 28678

Owen Clanton — A-273rd
Route #2, Box 84, Stony Point, North Carolina 28678

Vernon R. Hill —
2328 Oleander Road, DeLand, Florida 32724

Mike Koltowski — Hq.-271st
2400 Andrew Avenue, Apt. #316, LaPorte, Indiana 46350

William F. Rice — A-271st
9283 North Main Street, Windham, Ohio 44288

Alex Greensher — Hq.-273rd
8125 Morse Avenue, N. Hollywood, California 91605

Stanley Barry (formerly Bazorewski) —
1695 West 68th Street, Hialeah, Florida 33014

Paul Mickiewicz — I-273rd
1-14 35th Street, Fair Lawn, New Jersey 07410

James Ford — D-271st
Route 2, Box 120, Pioneer, Tennessee 37847

Ernie Heller — B-879th
2477 Livingston Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43209

George H. Stoll — Hq.-777th
1914 Whitewood Drive, Box 16, Madison Ohio 44057

Harry L. Miller, Jr. — Ser. 273rd
1710 Warren Street, Bellevue, Nebraska 68005

Eugene R. Mischke — B-273rd
1021 West Third Street, Spring Valley, Illinois 61362

Bennitt Eckert, Jr. — B-879th
Box 53, Star Route 3, Maine, New York 13802

William Sorrentino —
8725 Calder Place, Tampa, Florida 33604

Nat Bassevitch —
8000 Larson Ave., #114, Garden Grove, California 92644

Delbert Philpott — A-271st
1602 Kamsack Drive, Sunnyvale, California 94087

Wayne L. Levell — C-269th
Box 351, Daleville, Indiana 47334

Seymour E. Sutcliffe — Ser. 273rd
168 Larson Road, Stoughton, Massachusetts 02072

Arnold King —
5016 N.W. 5th Street, Delray Beach, Florida 33445

Dale W. Simonton —
3662 Sugar Bush Road, Mosinee, Wisconsin 54455

William J. McCall — E-271st
743 Purdue Avenue, Wenonah, New Jersey 08090

Henry Flickinger — AT-272nd
277 Main Street, Addyston, Ohio 45001

Edgar Ross — G. & Ser. 272nd
5550 Reynolda Rd., Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27106

Robert F. Zumbaugh —
921 North Broadway Street, Plymouth, Indiana 46563

Thomas T. Welsh — L-273rd
39 Emerick Lane, Loudonville, New York 12211

Thomas F. Dowd — React 69th
11 Caramoor Park, Bloomfield, Connecticut 06002

John W. Merrill —
500 Clifton Avenue, #413, Lakewood, New Jersey 08701

John F. Sepanek — A-273rd
805 Boulevard Street, Mattydale, New York 13211

John B. Duffy — Div. Hq.
28 Cypress Street, Rochester, New York 14620

Edward T. Pierce —
R.D. #3, Box 3043, Windsor, New York 13865

J. C. McCabe — K-273rd
503 Chandler Circle, Richmond, Virginia 23229

Herbert Weathervan — Hq. 2nd Bn.-272nd
272 Ilihu Street, Kailua Oahu, Hawaii 96734

Elwyn B. Miller — A-272nd
19815 Zebulon Street, N.W., Elk River, Minnesota 55330

Leo F. L'Heureux — A-273rd
Route #3, Box 821, Weare, New Hampshire 03281

Richard Carver — Hq.-271st
3 Cathedral Square, Burlington, Vermont 05401

Frank Alfiero — B-880th
211 Reynard Road, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807

Norman M. Beadle —
c/o General Delivery, Box R,
APO, New York, New York 09036

Martin J. Welch — Can. 271st
16 Underwood Drive, Saratoga Springs, New York 12866

John W. Hibbard — A-273rd
13239 Hanlon Road, Albion, New York 14411

Joseph Melka — C-271st
162 Westminster Road, Rochester, New York 14607

George C. West — AT-271st
2115 Hanover Avenue, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18103

George E. Palmer —
Route 2, #334, Hawley, Pennsylvania 18428

Truman Merritt —
P.O. Box 13, Tobaccoville, North Carolina 27050

Harville Addy — M-273rd
Route 5, Box 473, Leesville, South Carolina 29070

Harry F. Hall — A-273rd
8145 Kingsdale Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37919

Norman T. Schmidt — 269th Eng.
4221 South 6th Street, D-24, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53221

Franklin G. Otto —
P.O. Box 207, Oxford, Wisconsin 53952

Edward C. Miller — L-271st
1503 Hauser, Helena, Montana 59601

Paul H. Eagon —
1435 North Avenue, Waukegan, Illinois 60085

Claude E. Maddox — AT-272nd
818 South Lane, Palmyra, Missouri 63461

Olin E. Talley — A-273rd
Route 5, Box 246, Poplar Bluff, Missouri 63901

Russell E. Koch — AT-272nd
210 North Grand, Houston, Missouri 65483

Richard Inge — Hq.-272nd
112 West Pine, Junction City, Kansas 66441

Gene L. Stright — A-273rd
224 Caribou Trail, San Angelo, Texas 76901

James Carroll —
207 Tanglewood Lane, Levelland, Texas 79336

Joseph W. Sexton — 69th MP
245 N. 4th Street, Grover City, California 93433

James Stewart — B-273rd
17967 Todd Lane, Little Rock, Arkansas 72206

Will Frazee — G-272nd
31 West Franklin Street, Centerville, Ohio 45459

Harry Beluch — 777th
222 First Avenue, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania 19460

Norman A. Ahlfanger — C-724th
255 East 16th Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

Philip D. Maines — C-724th
212 South Main Street, Clarendon, Pennsylvania 16313

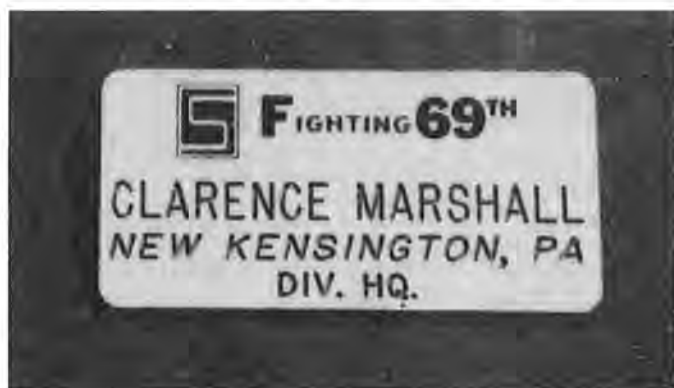
Harold Backstrom — C-724th
1824 McKinley Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50315



1986 Reunion Committee Meets
Left to Right: Paul and Marian Shadle, Earl and Dorothy Wilzleb, George and Vickie Gallagher, Enrico and Anne D'Angelo

Attention!! Orlando '84 Reunion Registrants Who Did Not Show

The following is a list of people for whom permanent type badges were made up when they stated that they were attending the Orlando Reunion in 1984, but failed to attend. These badges cost the Association quite a bit of money and would have been given to you at no cost, but since you failed to attend and pick them up, you may now have them by sending \$2.00 for each badge to the Treasurer and they will be sent to you. The cost of these badges has gone up and the program may be discontinued, so if you want them, please let me know, otherwise they will be destroyed.



SAMPLE OF BADGES ABOVE

George Allen — Virginia Allen
Co. B-269th — Palm Bay, Florida
John Arbuckle — Nora Arbuckle
Btry. B-879th F.A. Bn. — Sarasota, Florida
Benedict Bellino — Joan Bellino
272nd Inf. — Brooklyn, New York
Helmuth Boehm — Pearl Boehm
271st Reg. Co. B — Dana Point, California
Len Braverman — Alma Braverman
Btry. A-724th F.A. Bn. — Mission Viejo, California
Red Burnett
Sv. Co.-272nd — Winter Park, Florida
Lee Burrows — Francis Burrows
Med. Det. 271st Inf. — Baltimore, Maryland
Millard Carter — Fredda Carter
Co. G-272nd — Lorenzo, Texas
James Cassidy — Kathleen Cassidy
Hq. Co. 272nd Reg. — Yonkers, New York
Anthony Concatelli — Pauline Concatelli
AT-272nd Inf. — Hartford, Connecticut
John Crittenden — Marguerite Crittenden
Hq.-369th Med. Bn. — Westville, Oklahoma
Francis Davis — Dorothy Davis
Co. D-271st Inf. — DeLand, Florida
Davisson Dunlap
Co. E-273rd — Orlando, Florida
Harold Ellison — Gladys Ellison
Co. H-273rd — Virginia Beach, Virginia
Cecil Fernandez, Jr.
Co. G-271st — Lakeland, Florida
Sam Foose — Katherine Foose
724th F.A. — Chula, Mississippi
Irwin Fox — Phyllis Fox
Hq. 3rd Bn. 271st Inf. — Elkins Park, Pennsylvania
Joe George — Zola George
Recon Troop — Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Bill Gleason — Ann Gleason
Co. E-273rd — Bloomington, Minnesota
David Goldstein — Sylvia Goldstein
569th Sig. Co. — Boca Raton, Florida
Clarence Goon — Lena Goon
Co. G-271st Inf. — Ashland, Ohio
Charles Griffin — Vivian Griffin
Btry. B-461st AAA Bn. — Canton, Ohio
Walter Haag — Alice Haag
Btry. B-881st F.A. Bn. — Millbrite, California
Leonard Halpenny — Corkey Halpenny
269th Eng. — Tuscon, Arizona
John Harris — Isabel Harris
Div. Hq. — Lothian, Maryland
John Hedl — Ann Hedl
Co. A-269th Eng. — Nazareth, Pennsylvania
Walter Holmlin — Ruth Holmlin
Hq. 269th Eng. — Morristown, New Jersey
Charles Jordan — Zadi Jordan
Hq. & Hq. Div. Arty. — Hot Springs, Arkansas
Joe Juskowiak — Betty Juskowiak
(RET) 369th Med. Co. A — Sarasota, Florida
David Kesterson — Pauline Kesterson
569th Sig. — Cambridge, Ohio
Earl Kinney
Serv. Co. 271st Inf. — Port Charlotte, Florida
Sid Klepper
Co. C-271st Inf. — Monroe, New York
Harold Longmire — Kay Longmire
Co. H-272nd Inf. — New Braunsfels, Texas
Forrest Lucas
569th Sig. Co. — Tyrone, Pennsylvania
Louis Marsh — Didi Marsh
Div. Hq. — Indianapolis, Indiana
George Maznicki — Rita Maznicki
880th F.A. Btry. C — Essex, Connecticut
William Metcalf — Marie Metcalf
AT-272nd Inf. — Franklin Lakes, New Jersey
Charles Meyer — Jean Meyer
724th F.A. — Ormond Beach, Florida
Michael Montemurro — Elsie Montemurro
271st Med. — Hastings on Hudson, New York
Charles Moore — Kathy Moore
Co. E-271st Inf. — North Canton, Ohio
Wilbert Morrical — Betty Morrical
H. & S. Co. 269th Eng. — La Porte, Indiana
Michael Moscaritolo — Mary Moscaritolo
69th Recon — Roselle, New Jersey
Nick Moskos — Irene Moskos
Co. I-272nd — Dunedin, Florida
Watson Neiman — Peg Neiman
(Col. Ret.) 369th Med. Bn. — Altamonte Springs, Florida
Ward Peterson — Marian Peterson
Co. B-269th Eng. — Glen Mills, Pennsylvania
John Pontieri — Louise Pontieri
269th Eng. — Patchogue, New York
Tom Reardon — Jeanne Reardon
Co. I-272nd — Springfield, Pennsylvania
Ralph Riggs — Mildred Riggs
Recon — Columbus, Ohio
G. B. Ringwald
569th Sig. — Glenwood, Illinois
Cy Rockhold
Co. H. & S. 271st Inf. — Gloucester, Ohio
Dave Ross — Ginny Ross
Hq. 1-Bn. 271st Inf. — Garland, Texas
Eliot Rubin — Peggy Rubin
Co. E-272nd Inf. — Lido, New York
Bill Ruebsamen — Pat Ruebsamen
Brty. A-724th F.A. — Phoenix, Arizona

(Continued on Page 15)

ATTENTION ORLANDO '84 REUNION REGISTRANTS (Continued from Page 14)

Conrad Saller — Margaret Saller
Co. K-272nd Inf. — Calumet Park, Illinois
Fred Scheller — Kay Scheller
769th Ord. — Rolling Meadows, Illinois
Charles Senosk — Mary Senosk
Co. E & Ser. 271st Inf. — Auburn, Maine
Avery A. Shaffer
724th F.A. Bn. — Charlotte, North Carolina
Al Shires — Lotti Shires
Co. E-273rd — Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Martin Skrovina — Fran Skrovina
M.P. Platoon — Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
Donald Slimmer — Dorothy Slimmer
Co. A-777th Tk. Bn. — Little Falls, Minnesota
James Sprinkle — Katherine Sprinkle
Co. D-273rd Inf. — Hiddenite, North Carolina
Marie Suprano
881st F.A. — New Kensington, Pennsylvania
Lewis Tenney — Mary Tenney
Co. D-273rd Reg. — Columbus, Indiana
Lewis Terrell — Betty Terrell
Co. D-271st Inf. — Roanoke, Virginia
Bill Tucker — Beverley Tucker
69th M.P. — St. Petersburg, Florida
Lewis Vaughan
69th Recon. — Hopewell, Virginia
Nicholas Villacci — Ann Villacci
Co. I-273rd Inf. — S. Ozone Park, New York
James Vogel — Helen Vogel
Co. G-272nd Inf. — Los Angeles, California
Al Waichulis — Nina Waichulis
Co. E-271st — Hobart, Indiana
James Weber
Div. Hq. G-3 Sec. — Merrillville, Indiana
Harold Wojahn — Lucile Wojahn
Co. I-272nd Inf. — Satellite Beach, Florida

had never received his Bronze Star, although he was awarded a combat badge, and was thus eligible. So he and Popkin got the paperwork started.

"I'll bet this really brings back some memories," said Popkin to Mitchell after pinning the star on Mitchell's shirt. Mitchell wept openly during the surprise ceremony at the nursing home.

"Our division was the first to meet the Russians over there, although it wasn't our company," said Popkin. Mitchell was said to be with the unit from the action in Belgium through the end of the war.

Mitchell's son Gary E. Mitchell, said that his father participated in the Battle of the Bulge, the Battle of the Rhine, the Battle of Central Germany, "and a lot of little ones in between."

"Lot's of fathers say 'that's my son' but I can say 'that's my old man.' I'm really proud of him," said Gary Mitchell.

Popkin and Jones are hoping that Mitchell, although he is wheelchair-bound, will be able to join them at a reunion of the group in Williamsburg later this summer.

"People are surprised at how close we've stayed over the years and that we keep up with each other, but we do," said Popkin. Popkin flew in from Alexandria, and Jones from Orange, Virginia, to present the medal.

"You know, I knew him the minute he came in," remarked Popkin as he left the ceremony, turning the festivities over to Mitchell's family and friends. "After 40 years you still remember the faces."

Poetry Corner

A LITTLE MIXED UP

Just a line to say I'm living,
That I'm not among the dead,
Though I'm getting more forgetful
And more mixed up in my head.

And sometimes I don't remember
When I'm standing at the stair,
If I must go up for something
Or I've just come down from there.

And before the fridge, so often
My poor mind is filled with doubts.
Have I just put food away, or
Have I come to take it out?

There are times when it gets dark
And my nightcap's on my head.
I don't know if I'm retiring
Or just getting out of bed.

So if it's my turn to write you,
There's no need getting sore,
I may think that I have written
And don't want to be a bore.

So, Remember, . . . I do love you,
And I do wish you were here.
But now it's nearly mail time
So I must say goodbye, dear.

There I stood beside my mail box
With my face so very red.
Instead of mailing you my letter,
I opened it instead.

Dear Lord, I'm getting old,
I pray they understand.

—by Sister Roberta OSB

Never Too Late Man grateful for medal even 40 years late

By KIM BEEKMAN-DEW
Gazette Staff Writer

Even though Henry "Hank the Yank" Mitchell was presented with the U.S. Military's Bronze Star Medal 40 years late on June 8, tears of gratitude slipped down his cheeks.

Mitchell, a resident of the country-operated Lucy Corr Nursing Home, was presented with the medal by two "friends and war-time buddies," former Lieutenant Jack Jones and former Sergeant Sam Popkin. The three men fought in the same unit overseas during World War II, explained Jones, the "Fighting 69th Infantry Division," Company A, 271st Regiment.

The military has been replacing combat badges in the infantry with the Bronze Star, a medal awarded for meritorious behavior, since shortly after the war when military officials discovered that infantrymen, who fought the majority of the land battles, had been awarded fewer Bronze Stars than any other division.

Jones, who was the executive officer of the unit in World War II, said that he had discovered that former Staff Sergeant Mitchell was in the Chesterfield Lucy Cory Nursing Home last year by reading a newsletter the old unit members published. After doing some checking, Jones said he discovered Mitchell

38th Annual Reunion — Fort Magruder, Williamsburg, Virginia



Mess Hall, Fort Eustis, Virginia — Harriet and Phil Sparacino and Jane and Bill Matlach.



Mess Hall, Fort Eustis, Virginia — Ann D'Angelo, Vickie and George Gallagher, Paul and Marian Shadle.



Former Artillerymen from the 69th — Phil Colombo, Al Kormas, Del Balzano, Phil Sparacino, Enrico D'Angelo.



Memorial Service at Fort Magruder Flagpole.



General Bolte, his son David and Past President George Gallagher.



Former Members of Co. E-271st — Mario Fattore, Irv Gotkin, Thomas Maupin, Charles Otto, Paul Shadle.

38th Annual Reunion — Fort, Magruder, Williamsburg, Virginia



Colonel Crenshaw and Bill Beswick standing behind the "Welcome Cake."



Colonel Crenshaw and Bill Beswick cutting the Cake.



69ers having lunch at Fort Eustis.



Preparations for Memorial Service at Fort Magruder Flag Pole.



Colonial Drum Corp at 69th Memorial Service.



President Bill Beswick and his wife Jo going over the books at the Williamsburg Reunion.

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 events. Mail your date(s), location, banquet cost, and room rates, plus a good write-up, to **Box 69, Champion, Pennsylvania 15622**, as early as possible. Then follow through with a write-up immediately after the event(s).

Tri-State Group

THE FAMILY GROUP

Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Western Maryland,
Western New York, West Virginia, and now —
Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky and Virginia

Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.

R.D. No 1, Box 477

Acme, Pennsylvania 15610

412/455-2901 (Evenings after 7:00 P.M. and Weekends)

TRI-STATE WEEKEND

69th Infantry Division Association

June 26 to 30, 1985 — Cleveland, Ohio

The following attended the Tri-State weekend at the Holiday Inn, Independence.

Dell and Mary Balzano

Doug and Kay Balzano - *Guests*

Donald and Sue Balzano - *Guests*

Tony and Rosie DiBacco - *Guests of Balzano's*

William and Freda Clayton

Cecil and Alene Cottle

Phil Colombo

Lido Dalporto

Enrico and Ann D'Angelo

Lewis and Stella Ellsworth

Dan and Helen Evers

Steve and Ann Forgas

Sam Grubbs

John Gradomski

William H. and Mary Harr

John C. and Helen Harmon

Al and Rebecca Hornyak

Earl and Valerie Ike and Son

Jim S. Jones and Guest

Al and Margaret Kormas

Robert and Vivian Kurtzman

Joseph Loudon

Adam Manz

Clarence Marshall

J. P. and Anne Mikacinich

Frank and Stefanie Nemeth

John W. and Arlene Mowrey, Jr.

Al and Charlotte Naginonis

Ward and Marian Peterson

J. W. and Esther Roth

Cecil and Wife Gorman — *Guests of Roth's*

Paul and Marian Shadle

Ray and Helen Szkudlarek

Jacob and Violet M. Stark

Herman Walker

Earl and Ann Walters

Marie Suprano

Paul Swineford

Paul and Wife Ziats

Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.

This Reunion is now history, and we think it was another great one, old friendships rekindled, and newcomers welcomed. Held at a large Holiday Inn, with the hospitality room open from 0800 to 2400, the room was huge, and many a cup of

good cheer was shared here. Wednesday was spent at the motel, the bar was open and well stocked, and most attendees brought their own "bottle," and fine swiss cheeses from the Amish country and Trail bologna. The mixes were furnished by the Akron Coca Cola Company, thanks to N. Casey, (C-273rd) and his boss. And plenty of other snacks also.

Thursday we bused to the U.S. sub COD, which had a great service in the Pacific. A personal tour and talk was given by one who sailed in her. We soon learned that was not the life for us, and he said the infantry life was not for them. We had approximately 20,000 men in the subs, and lost 23%. Germany lost 85% of its men. On to the National Aeronautical Space Administration for a guided tour, movie, and museum. Then off to Akron, Ohio to the famous Four Star Tangiers Restaurant for a fabulous buffet in a beautiful dining room of our own, winding up with mountains of strawberry shortcake. Many happy groans resulted. The rest of the evening was spent at our very large hospitality room, and local 69ers came in until 2400.

Friday we bused to Sea World — Shamu the Whale, water sports, etc., and to the Solon, Ohio VFW post for a fish fry and an open bar. The "troops" were quite thirsty. We were quite surprised upon entering to see Al and Charlotte Naginonis already at the bar, and just as we sat down for chow, who walks in but Phil Colombo, (Hq. 879th F.A.) with his daughter and grandchildren. That old "chowhound" always could smell the messhall. Quite an evening ensued. The bar was very busy, great conversations, and we tried to devour four very large pizzas. At 2100 we held our White Elephant Flea Raffle — no charge — winners had to unwrap and show their winnings. Items of WWII — gun oil, pistol and rifle belts, canteens, garrison caps, helmet liner, first aid kits, field manuals, four oversized tee shirts-knee length, emblazoned with UNCLE SAM — I WANT YOU, remember fellows?, and the great item was a five pound replica of a Hershey chocolate bar. Imagine its worth 40 years ago. Kurtzman provided many a laugh reading excerpts from the medics manual on sex, venereal disease, and loose women near large army camps to be avoided. His highlight was the line in the manual stating that sex was not necessary to be a good soldier. All present thought this White Elephant was a lot of fun, and great laughter. Wonderful night.

Saturday, a general meeting at 1400, conducted by Al Kormas and Earl Witzleb, and a talk by Phil Colombo, who spent many years fighting for veterans rights, and just returned where he spoke at a congressional hearing in Washington on veterans rights, needs and abuses. Mrs. Valerie Ike also gave us good pointers as we are all needing medical attention, or possibly soon will be. Phil pointed out that our best place to turn is to the veterans organizations service officers, whose sole job is to fight for our rights and needs.

Our good buddy from Toledo, Ray Skudlarek, who is hosting the 1986 Tri-State at Toledo, Ohio, laid out a nice program for us, even visiting the hot dog emporium that Corporal Clinger raves about on the T.V. Mash Program. Particulars will follow. Let's give the 1986 at Toledo a record turnout, all you buddies from Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan, and let's have the Milwaukee gang join us. Ray will be assisted by Jack Loudon who stayed in the reserves, came out a major — and maybe he will have the reserves parade for us, and the Air Force National Guard fly by — How about that Jack?

(Continued on Page 19)

DIVISION ASSOC. CHAPTER GROUP MEETINGS

(Continued from Page 18)

Letters were read from our **General Bolte**, (BBB), **Mrs. Bolte**, the mayor of Hattiesburg — who reminds us that he used to sell newspapers in camp as a lad, and we are always welcome in Hattiesburg — To bring down a National Reunion. Another great buffet at the motel was enjoyed, followed by a slide presentation and talk by **Dr. Cole**, a 69er who is a peace worker and just returned from a peace mission to Poland and Torgau. Then the bar hummed as these veterans tried to empty it and did a fine job, followed by a nice Sunday buffet, sad goodbyes, and safe journeys home. We were all glad we made it to renew our comradeship of bygone days, new friendships, and that special feeling that comes only with those having long military service.

In conclusion, another Grand Reunion, thanks to all who attended. Letters of thanks went out to **General and Mrs. Bolte**, the Hattiesburg mayor, the Hershey Corporation (for that big bar), and Coca Cola.

Who came the furthest? Buddies of the **Roths**, all the way from Minnesota.

We of the committee want to thank one and all. It was fun doing it. Let's have more "volunteers." This is vital. Too few are doing too much. Many thank you cards were receive. None suggested court martialing or firing squad for the committee, so it must have been OK.

ROSES to those who made it.

ORCHIDS to those who said they would but couldn't due to doctors orders.

ROCKS to those living nearby, promised to come, and had the flimsiest excuses for not making it at the last moment. I mean my battery mates from Hq. Batry. F.A. Bn.

Your committee,

Al and Marge Kormas (Women's Aux. Pres.)

Del and Mary Balzano (former Women's Aux. Pres.)

Southeastern Chapter

Allen and Cathy Long, Chairpersons

10620 Fernando Street

Orlando, Florida 32817

Telephone: 305/277-7820

"SPRING BREAK"

APRIL 24, 25, 26, 1986

We have arranged what we believe is the best entertainment bargain ever for the three days listed above. While this is addressed to our Southeaster members and friends, we welcome our comrades from other sections of the country.

THE PLACE — QUALITY INN, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER: Located at the intersection of I-95 and State Road #50, just south of Titusville, Florida and across from the Space Center.

APRIL 24th — Thursday. Check in at Quality Inn.

APRIL 25th — Friday. Breakfast on the house. Kennedy Space Center, to include their normal guided tour on the all new double-decker sight-seeing buses.

FRIDAY EVENING — ROAST BEEF DINNER: NOTE — It may be necessary to have TWO sittings for the dinner if we have more than 130 people and we anticipate more than that number. This is a sit-down dinner, not a buffet.

APRIL 26th — Saturday. We go to sea! We leave the motel about 8:00 A.M. by bus bound for Port Canaveral where we board the **SEAESCAPE, FOR A FUN-FILLED DAY-LONG CRUISE TO NOWHERE.** We start the cruise with a breakfast buffet loaded with tantalizing delights. The lunch

buffet is even more tantalizing with a vast array of hot and cold delights. The dinner buffet has selections to suit anyone. You will be pampered and entertained all day and evening until the ship returns and docks at 10:00 P.M. This is a fully equipped cruise ship with pool, Casino, bars, lavish revues, disco and cheek-to-cheek dancing, or just plain relaxing and people-watching. Over a million people have made this cruise, and many of our local friends have been on it several times. Buses will return you to the motel after the ship docks.

APRIL 27th — Sunday. Breakfast on the house — Goodbyes.

SPECIAL NOTE: Showers and lockers are provided on the cruise ship free. Cabins are available but **you** rent these from the ship. Current rates start at \$30.00. Total cost of the package deal is \$135.00 PER PERSON.

Reservations, with your check for the full amount, must reach **AL LONG** by **MARCH 15th, 1986**, at this address:

10620 Fernando Street

Orlando, Florida 32817.

Telephone: 305/277-7820

ATTENTION: If you live in Florida and do not get a letter from me about this event, please send me your name and address.

Allen Long

Notice to All 777th Tank Battalion Members

The Armored Division Associations are trying to get a Memorial to the American Armored Force, built on government land between Arlington Memorial Bridge and the entrance to Arlington Cemetery. Congressional approval is required. Bills have been introduced in both the Senate and the House to authorize the building of a suitable monument at this location. The Senate passed a similar bill last session, but it died in the House. A letter to your Senators and Congressmen that he supports and votes for the bill will help.

Senate SJRes 43

Mail to:

The Honorable (Your Senator's Name)

United States Senate

Washington, DC 20510

Sincerely,

(Your Signature)

777th Tank Bn. WW II

House HJRes 167

Mail to:

The Honorable (Your Congressman's Name)

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

Sincerely,

(Your Signature)

777th Tank Bn. WW II

I have received confirmation from both Wisconsin Senators that they will support the bill when it comes to the floor.

Vernon J. Wirth



T/Sgt. Glass and Colonel Gunderson in Schmidheim, Germany.



General Reinhardt's mess hall personnel. Carl Wood on left. Others Unknown.



Judge Advocate Section: Art Burgess, Bob Loftus, T/Sgt. Glass, Leo Rupar, Colonel Gunderson, Calvin Hurst, Romaine Weiss, Unknown, Unknown.



Business district of Kassel, Germany.



Keith Curtis — Div. Hq. Co. in Kassel, Germany



Library in Kassel, Germany.

Return to the Elbe 40 Years Later

APRIL, 1985



Reception in Torgau April 25, 1985. (40 years later)
Left to Right: Charles Forrester, Murry Schulman, Robert Haag, Elijah Sams.

My wife and I couldn't make the trip organized by **Bill Beswick**, which started in Paris and ended two weeks later in Torgau and West Berlin.

We instead joined with two groups called Veterans for Peace and Journey for Peace.

I was able to pick and pay for a small segment of their trip which started in New York and ended three weeks later in the U.S.S.R.

The segment I chose left New York the night of April 22, 1985 with the entire group (about 50) landing the next morning in Amsterdam, where a Memorial to innocent victims of World War II was held.

We visited The Anne Frank House, followed by a canal cruise and dinner in this beautiful city.

From Amsterdam we all traveled by bus as all our future traveling was done to Bremen, West Germany where we were met by the Bremen Inter-Faith Initiative for Disarmament Church Group.

After a sumptuous dinner at the Church, we all were divided into couples and we each spent the night at one of the Host Member's homes. We did not get to bed before the wee hours of the morning for the couple we won happened to be a Reverend and his lovely wife, an Elementary School Teacher. We had a great deal to talk about.

After breakfast with this lovely couple, we all met for a Wreath Laying Ceremony at The Memorial to the Jewish Victims of Nazism in Bremen. After a reception for the group at the City Hall, hosted by the Senate of Bremen, we bade farewells and departed by motor coach for Leipzig. On our way to Leipzig, we visited the Bergen Belsen concentration camp.

Never enough can be said about any of these places. Many thousands lie buried here and the only thing standing here are the Monuments of their memory. I can't help but relate an incident that I will always remember. While I was laying a wreath, and during the services, in the distance one could hear the bursting of shells. I found out later that not too far from this site are tank training grounds used by West Germany. Here I was standing on hallowed ground where thousands upon thousands of people lie buried and so close by to have training facilities is a little too much. Ironically, one of the pictures of a sign that I took at BERGEN-BELSEN:

"VISITORS ARE REQUESTED TO OBSERVE THE DIGNITY OF THESE MEMORIAL GROUNDS AND REFRAIN FROM DISTURBING THE PEACE OF THE DEAD."

From Bergen-Belsen we proceeded to Leipzig, arriving at about 8:00 p.m., Wednesday. At the Merkur Hotel in Leipzig, we met up with **Bill Beswick's** group. And lo and behold, I see **Elijah Sams** from Pinnacle, North Carolina and **Bob Haag** from Indianapolis, Indiana, both of whom I hadn't seen in 30 years. We were all on the first Reunion trip back in 1955 to the U.S.S.R. celebrating then the 10th Anniversary of the ELBE RIVER LINK-UP and the ultimate defeat of Germany. In my group was another American, **Charles Forrester** of Greer, South Carolina, who also was a member of that group to the Reunion in the U.S.S.R. back in 1955. Here in Leipzig, for the first time in 30 years, four of the original 9 to attend the Reunion meet again. Needless to say, there was much to talk about.

The next morning, Thursday, April 25, both Groups left the hotel by motorcoach for Torgau, about one hour's ride through the beautiful countryside. As our motorcoach approached Torgau, the streets were lined with children and adults all waving home-made welcoming flags. It was certainly a sight to behold. Then followed a historic day in Torgau commemorating the 40th Anniversary Meeting at the Elbe by the 69th Infantry Division and the Soviet veterans, all of whom I last saw 30 years ago in the U.S.S.R.

After a very hectic and emotional morning attended by about 20,000 people, (Holiday Proclaimed that day in Torgau) we then all, including our Russian counterparts, proceeded to the burial site of **Joe Polowsky** who is so well remembered for his constant work for friendship and understanding between the two Governments. A joint Memorial Ceremony was conducted at the grave. Incidentally, **Joe** was also a member of our group that, 30 years ago, attended the Reunion in the U.S.S.R. We then all returned to Leipzig for a Gala Banquet and afterward my group left for East Berlin.

The next day, Saturday, my Group left for West Berlin spending the day at various functions. That evening, my group returned to East Berlin for a Sunday flight to the U.S.S.R. I remained over night in West Berlin catching an early flight out the next morning for home.

I have given here a very condensed writing of some of the many events that took place in the five days my wife and I were with the group. We will never forget those five days.

Sincerely,

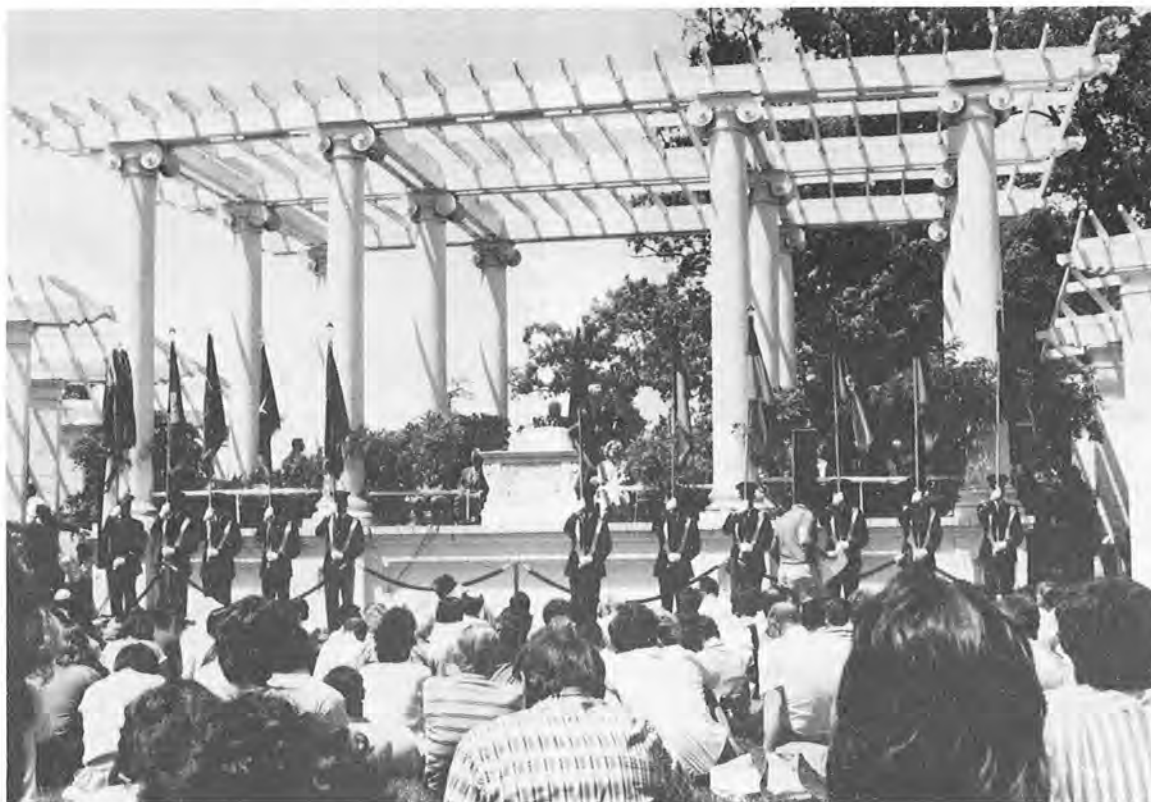
Murry Schulman

Co. H-273rd Inf. Reg.



LOOKING BACK TO 1943-45
The U.S.O. Club in Hattiesburg

to America's Defenders and Liberators
May 5, 1985
Arlington National Cemetery



PRESENTATION OF COLORS *Disabled American Veterans
Color Guard*

NATIONAL ANTHEM *United States Army Band
(Pershing's Own)*

STATEMENT OF WELCOME *REVEREND EDWARD WHITE, President
Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington*

INTRODUCTION *GEORGE GOULD, Commander
Jewish War Veterans
Department of the District of Columbia*

ADDRESS *CLAUDE CALLEGARY, Past National Commander
Disabled American Veterans*

TROUPING OF FLAGS OF *3rd U.S. Infantry (Old Guard)*
LIBERATING BATTALIONS *U.S. Army Band (Pershing's Own)*

INTRODUCTION *HELENE KARPA, President
Jewish Community Council of Greater Washington*

ADDRESS *BENJAMIN MEED, President
American Gathering and Federation of Jewish Holocaust Survivors*

PRAYER *FATHER DONAL FORRESTER, Chaplain
Father Duffy Post Catholic War Veterans*

TAPS AND WREATH LAYING *Representatives of Veterans and
Sponsoring Organizations*

RETIREMENT OF COLORS

[illegible]

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 9, 1985

I am gratified to send greetings to all the members and friends of the Fighting 69th, and your families, gathered for your 41st reunion. I am especially happy to learn that General Charles Bolte, your commander, will be with you.

As a veteran of two world wars, wounded in the first and decorated for gallantry in the second, General Bolte personifies the courage that has always been the mark of your Division.

You have a proud record, second to none. Your pride in your tradition should fire new generations of Americans to the defense of this land and all it stands for. There are no words to express the debt of gratitude that all Americans owe you for your selfless sacrifices. You can be sure we will never forget.

Nancy joins me in wishing you a memorable reunion. God bless you.

Ronald Reagan



The National Order of Battlefield Commissions



OUR FORMATION, AIMS AND GOALS

In October of 1979, when a former battlefield commissioned officer sat at his desk and wrote a letter to a national publication asking whether there were any other men so honored who cared to form an association, he was motivated by the same feelings remarked upon by **General Wing**, commanding the 43rd Infantry Division in the Philippines during World War II, who in writing of battlefield commissions stated, "No matter what honor may come to them in after life they will prize this above all others."

From this letter originated the National Order which at present has a membership of well over 200. In September of 1982, the first national meeting was held at Akron, Ohio, and during that meeting an amended constitution and by-laws was adopted. In March of 1983, the National Order was incorporated in the state of Illinois as a non-profit organization. Work has begun by a committee of the National Order to obtain a charter from the Congress of the United States. In September of 1983, the second meeting of the organization will be held in Akron, Ohio.

Membership. Membership in the NOBC is open to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States of America who in actual combat demonstrated exceptional qualities of battlefield leadership, and, as a result, was appointed from enlisted or warrant officer status to that of commissioned officer by competent authority. Documentary proof of such an appointment is the responsibility of the applicant. Membership in the NOBC shall be approved by the National Commander, or his designee, after receipt of proper documentary proof.

One of our aims is to create and perpetuate a viable and cohesive national organization for the purpose of enjoying the camaraderie of unique membership, and, in unison, to voice concern for the protection of our cherished American ideals and our individual way of life. (Space does not permit the listing of our constitution and bylaws).

If during your military service you receive a battlefield commission, we need you as a member. Not from the standpoint of the dues that you will pay, but because we know that your ideas, comments and assistance will help in forming a national organization that each and every one of us can be proud of.

If you do have additional questions about the National Order of Battlefield Commissions, please write to the following NOBC:

Daniel S. Ebeling
4396 Stemen Street
Lima, Ohio 45807

A BRIEF HISTORY OF BATTLEFIELD COMMISSIONS IN THE ARMED FORCES

The terms breveted and battlefield commissioned are so allied in history as to be considered as bordering on the synonymous. From 1845, thru 1865, enlisted men commissioned for outstanding leadership on the field of battle were referred to as breveted officers. In the wars following 1865, with some exceptions, enlisted men and warrant officers commissioned for the same reasons were referred to as battlefield commissioned.

Often these officers were the product of the small unit tactical

fight. The noncommissioned officers of the squad, section or platoon — The Cutting Edge.

At the conclusion of World War II, a board of officers in reporting to the Commanding General of the European Theater, reported in such graphic terms on the conditions surrounding a battlefield commission that the report is well worth repeating here:

"The one sure method of determining whether any individual has those qualities which make him a successful leader in combat is to observe that man in combat On the battlefield, if a platoon sergeant, whose platoon commander has just been killed, can successfully lead fifty scared, confused men who depend on him for everything, and who must be made to accomplish what they think is impossible, it is of no moment if the AGCT score of that man is less than 100 and he never attended high school. These considerations have long been recognized by the War Department Its value (speaking of battlefield commissions), has been proved in this war as in the last."

In the following paragraphs we shall attempt to trace the history of such commissions and to present an outline always bearing in mind that in the past, no formal effort was made to preserve such history.

The Mexican War, (1846-1848). On May 17, 1847, W. L. Marcy, Secretary of War, wrote a letter to Generals Winfield Scott and Zachary Taylor, who were campaigning in Mexico at the time. In the letter, Marcy called their attention to an "Act of Congress", which among other things, entitled non-commissioned officers, who had distinguished themselves in combat to a brevet commission.

The Civil War, (1861-1865). The Union and Confederate Officers Corps was a mixed bag. Commanded at the top by graduates of West Point and Annapolis and at those levels below, such as the Regiment by political friends of the governors. Within the companies, several methods of obtaining the officers was used, in some cases, by election, such officers were assured of tenure only as long as their popularity was recognized by all the men of the company. Despite this, there were those who rose from the ranks. Louis McLaw Hamilton of Poughkeepsie, New York, was such a man, and his story will serve to illustrate the conditions typical of the period:

Louis was the grandson of Alexander Hamilton. When the Civil War had broken out, he had shunned any special privileges and enlisted in the 22nd Militia, serving at Harper's Ferry. Later, he enlisted a company for the 159th New York Volunteers and could have received a commission then. Instead he joined the 3rd Infantry as a private and with that unit, performed gallantly in combat, winning a battlefield commission as a 2nd Lieutenant. He remained in the army following the Civil War and was fatally wounded while leading a charge during the Indian Campaigns.

World War I. (1917-1918). American units, consisting of Army and Marine Corps regiments, were in contact with the enemy for about one year. Before the war had ended eleven divisions were committed and battlefield commissions award-

(Continued on Page 25)

ORDER OF BATTLEFIELD COMMISSIONS

(Continued from Page 24)

ed to approximately 6,000 noncommissioned officers, this would have represented 3% of all of the commissioned officers in France at the conclusion of the war.

World War II, (1941-1945). Apparently the first of the battlefield commissions were awarded in North Africa, excluding those given to flight officers of the Army Air Force flying from bases in England. The authority for such commissions originated in the War Department. The authority in turn being delegated to the Army Commanders. This was true of the European Theater as well as of the Pacific Theater and CBI Theatre. The breakdown being as follows:

European Theater of Operations — 10,898

Mediterranean, Pacific and China-Burma-India

Theaters — 14,609

(A total of 25,507 commissioned officers of the U.S. Army, which in turn represented 3.3% of the officers corps during World War II. Also 3,319 non-battlefield or field commissions were issued. The United States Marine Corps also awarded battlefield commissions during the same period, but as no records were kept of the total, the number of such commissions cannot be determined).

Major General Leonard F. Wing, commanding the 43rd Infantry Division, wrote the following article while the division was fighting on Luzon, the Philippines in May of 1945:

"Leadership — Superior leadership is essential to victory. Some men are born leaders. Others by dint of hard work and application to the task at hand acquire it. The ultimate in leadership is developed and demonstrated in battle.

I have been justly proud of the type and numbers of leaders that have distinguished themselves during this campaign. There have been countless instances of the senior becoming a casualty and the junior taking over down through both commissioned grades to the point that privates have successfully led their units. Napoleon, one of the greatest military leaders of all times, said 'Every private soldier carries a Marshall's baton on his knapsack.' This was no figure of speech. Some of his generals are numbered among the great Captains of history and came from the ranks of the Grand Armee.

This had and has its counterpart in the American Army, the so-called battle appointment from enlisted to commissioned ranks. Since 9 January 1945, when we landed in Lingayen Gulf, a very substantial number of enlisted men in this division have won the coveted and highly prized battle appointment. I feel sure that no matter what honor may come to them in after life they will prize this above all others."

Korean War, (1950-1953). When hostilities broke out in Korea in 1950, the success of the program to commissioned soldiers of officer caliber during World War II, was still fresh in the minds of the commanders, and a system parallel to that of World War II was adopted. Promotions being based on the recommendations of the regimental and division commanders. Unfortunately, the Department of Defense cannot provide figures on the number promoted. The Marine Corps did not award battlefield during the Korean War, as Marine Corps Headquarters did not feel that the exigencies of the service were that great.

Vietnam War, (1963-1973). In January of 1967, the Marine Corps Commandant appointed a permanent board with the mission of selecting, based on the recommendations of the commanders in the field, those enlisted men of the Marine Corps whose performance under fire while serving in Vietnam merited a commission. The board in turn then selected sixty-three Marine noncommissioned officers, who in due time were promoted to 2nd Lieutenant. Subsequently, two of the men selected declined the promotion and the third was posthumous, as the Secretary of the Navy signed the commission of 1st Sergeant Jeter Rivers, Jr., on the same day that he was fatally wounded in Vietnam.

There were also three Air-Force noncommissioned officers who received battlefield commissions which came about in the following manner: A senior POW in a North Vietnam prison, impressed by the bravery and leadership of three Air Force sergeants in the face of the terrible adversities of the prison, swore the trio in as battlefield commissioned 2nd Lieutenants. When the three men returned to the United States after regaining their freedom, the legality of the appointments was upheld by the Secretary of the Air Force.

The Department of Defense in an official communication has stated that there were no battlefield commissions awarded in the Army during the Vietnam War.

NOTE: This article was prepared by Mark A. Smith, the National Historian and a former National Commander (1981-82) of the National Order of Battlefield Commissions.

MARCH 1983



Second Squad of 2nd Platoon Co. A-273rd

Top Row Left to Right: John Hibbard, Pfc. Hugh E. D. Taylor, S/Sgt. Thurman Allison, Pfc. James C. Robinson and Pvt. John Pagoda.

Kneeling Left to Right: Pfc. Willie Lindsay, Pfc. Jake Waldrup, S/Sgt. John Lazeration, Cpl. George E. O'Bryan and Pvt. Wilber E. Shaw.

Picture furnished by Ed Lucci

We ran the above picture in a previous issue, but due to lack of identification then, we are running it again.

The Following Message From Annette Tapert

I am compiling an anthology of letters written home by American soldiers from the fighting fronts of World War I and World War II. All materials will be treated with care and returned (xerox copies acceptable).

I understand how personal these letters are, but believe that the thoughts and feelings of men who fought for their country have historical value and should be shared with others.

Yours Sincerely,

Annette Tapert
10806 West 2nd Street
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

Annual Meeting of General Membership - August 21, 1985, Williamsburg, Virginia

President Gallagher called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Invocation was given by Co-Chaplain William Snidow. Pledge of Allegiance by the membership led by Joe Wright.

Secretary's Report — Minutes of the meeting held in Orlando, Florida, on October 13, 1984 were read. Motion by Bob Silberg to accept, seconded by William Sheavly and so carried.

Treasurer's Report — Bob Kurtzman gave a fine report on the monies of the 69th Division. He also reported on the selling of the Ginnie May Fund and reinvesting it. The membership received a copy of the financial report to better understand his report. Motion by Phil Colombo to accept, seconded Hagman and so carried.

Auditor's Report — Tony Keller reported the funds and books are in excellent order, and Bob Kurtzman is doing a fine job. Tony stated we got out of the Ginnie May Fund in July at the right time, when interest rates were low. Motion to accept by Walter Doernbach, seconded by Irv Gotkin and so carried.

Overseas Flower Fund — Secretary reported on the monies in the fund and felt we would have to add some next year. He also reported that all Units graves have a rose placed on them on April 25th.

First timers were asked to stand and be recognized by President Gallagher. We had 19 men, a good turnout.

Scholarship Report — Chairman Sam Woolf stated that Bob Kurtzman will be the new Scholarship Committee Chairman for the coming years. He reported that he received 12 to 15 applications and 4 awards were given out. The recipients were John J. Mowad, Joel Nash, Robert Proctor, and Dana Slimmer. The committee voted to raise the amount given to \$300.00 per year for 4 years. Motion by Walter Doernbach to accept, second by Alex Kormas and so carried.

Membership Committee — Clarence Marshall gave his report through a phone to phone hook-up from his home to the membership, through the efforts of Paul Shadle. We have 5,505 members on the 1985 Roster, up from 5,480 at the last Reunion. We had an increase of 25 members, lost 81 under Taps. We replaced these 81 and gained 25 which means we added 106 new members. Motion to accept Gene Butterfield, seconded by Jake Stark and so carried.

Resolution Committee — Joseph Wright stated that we mourn the loss of Committee member John Suprano. We will all miss him. Change of the By Laws - Article I, Section #7, In the event the Secretary or Treasurer is not able to serve due to mid-term resignation or other cause, the President is empowered to appoint a successor to serve until the election at the next Reunion. The interim officer is entitled to all the rights and privileges described in the By Laws. In the event the office of Vice-President is vacated, the position shall be filled without right of succession by the immediate past chairman of the nominating committee to serve until the next Reunion. Motion by Bill Foster to accept, seconded by Sam Woolfe and so carried.

Future Reunion Sites — Chairman Bill Beswick reported on 1986 — Green Tree Marriott in Pittsburgh 8/10 to 8/17; 1987, Niagara Falls, New York - Leo Martel spoke on the merits and sights of the Falls. Motion by Bob Silberg to go to Niagara Falls in 1987, seconded Bill Sheavly and so carried. Motion by Al Faison to go to Niagara Falls in September, seconded by Al Kormas and so carried.

Nominating Committee — Chairman Chalmer Pearson stated

his committee recommends for consideration the following members of these offices:

President — Bill Beswick
Vice-President — Bill Foster
Secretary — Frank Nemeth
Treasurer — Bob Kurtzman

Board of Directors

271 - Bill Sheavly	Divarty - Jay Rollman
272 - Wendell Freeman	661 - Julius Slopek
273 - John Mowrey	777 - Donald Knaus
269 - Larry Roeder	569 - Curt Peterson

Remainder of Bill Foster's tenure — John Hawley

Motion by Irv Gotkin to close the nominatings and accept the slate given by the Nominating Committee, seconded Frank Carey and so carried.

General Bolte was given a standing ovation by the troops. He spoke to the members for a few minutes.

Old Business — None.

New Business — Resolution by Walt Doernbach to put in the minutes that the entire membership of the 1985 General Membership Meeting sincerely appreciate the outstanding work done by Clarence Marshall. His continuing efforts in building the Fighting 69th Infantry Association personnel to a most impressive number. Seconded by Collins and so carried.

Souvenir Chairman — Reported on his hours at the souvenir stand and stated they are anxious to get new items for next Reunion. Motion by Walt Doernbach, seconded Chet Yastrzemski and so carried.

Golf Tournament — Chairman Chalmers Pearson reported 26 players took part in the tournament. Given a nice round of applause for the fine job he has done over the years. Prizes, once again, were very nice and each golfer received a sleeve of balls to play with.

General Bolte thanked the members for the beautiful silver photo frame and all the birthday cards that he received and tried to answer everyone but if he couldn't, he thanks you now.

Benediction given by William Snidow. Motion to adjourn by Walt Doernbach, seconded Phil Colombo at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted
 Frank C. Nemeth
 Executive Secretary

*Wishing
 Every Member
 and Their Family
 A
 Happy Holiday
 Season*

Attendees at the 1985 Reunion Listed By Unit

DIV. HQ. & HQ. CO.

Fred and Lois Avery
General and Mrs. Charles Bolte (Adelaide)
Guests: Brig: Gen. and Mrs. Philip Bolte
Col. & Mrs. David Bolte

*John Bernero

Andrew Both
Guests: Mr. and Mrs. William Irwin
Keith and Colleen Curtis
Walter and Ann Doernbach
Theodore and Rosemarie Edstrom
W. O. "Dutch" and Jeanne Hawn
Karol and Margaret Kreutzman
George Loikow
Adam Manz
Robert and Evelyn Silberg
Joseph and Eleanor Wright
Murray and Eleanor Zyne

69th M.P.

Joseph and Audrey Kennedy
Carl and Ruth Miller
James and Faye Moody
Guest: Annie Tinsley
*Paul and Martha Swineford

69th QUARTERMASTER

George and Vickie Gallagher
Sigmund and Joanne Salacinski
Guest: Mrs. Helen Casper

69th RECON TROOP

Lewis and Stella Ellsworth

269th ENGINEERS

HEADQUARTERS & SERVICES

*Col. and Mrs. Warren Everett
William and Betty Foster
Guests: Joe and Bonnie Wachs
Bill and Joey Wachs
John and Elizabeth Hawley
Guests: Walter and Beth Howland, Jr.
John Kurey
Oliver and Violet McConany
Guest: Daughter Lugene

A-269th

*Roger and Juanita Drake
Harold Ferguson
Ray and Leona Hull
Robert Kamping
Joseph and Christine Monteleone
Samuel Pharr
Guy and Elizabeth Winfrey

B-269th

Daniel and Helen Evers
Lotty Herring (Widow of Chuck)
Guest: Son Beamer
Frank and Stefania Nemeth

C-269th

Howard and Virginia Denbo
Gerald and Eleanor Rodelli
Lawrence and Jean Roeder

369th MED. BATTALION

B-369th

Russell Reed
Guest: Dorothy Rogers

D-369th

*Leo and Ray Ashkenaz

569th SIGNAL CO.

James and Ruth Moody
Robert and Frieda Gregory
George and Dorothy Heep
John and Jean Kastanakis
Forrest Lucas, Jr.
Kenneth and Hester Manning
Curt and Evelyn Peterson
Carl and Mildred Stetler

769th ORDINANCE

William and Charlotte Biggs
Milton and Esta Halainen
B. A. and Irene Humphreys
Irving and Shirley Sarafan
Joseph Selb
Guest: Vilma Mackouse

661st T.D. BATTALION

HQ. CO.

Salvatore and Crystal Cucchiaro
Grover and Juanita McDonald, Sr.
Millard and Ruth Mellinger, Sr.
Gilbert and Jennie Romero

A-COMPANY

Robert and June Anderson
Arthur and Kathryn Carr
C. W. Bill and Margaret Dawson
Jacob and Betty Inch
E. P. Patterson

B-COMPANY

Leonard Addorisio
Peter and Carolyn Besket
William and Jo Beswick
Ralph and Chris Bragg
William and Ellen Snidow

C-COMPANY

Steve and Anne Forgas
Joseph and Marian Jenei
V. L. "Sandy" and Emmaline McNealy
Julius and Ellen Slopek
Guest: Daughter Patricia Smith

T.D.-RECON.

Eugene and Ethel Pierron
Daniel and Esther Russo

777th TANK BATTALION-H.Q.

George and Jane Dendle
John Gradomski
*George and Irene Stoll
Gaylord and Ruth Thomas

A-COMPANY

Henry and Ceceila Jurkiewicz
*Harry and Lorraine Keeney
John and Alice Rooney

B-COMPANY

Alphonse and Margaret Robichaud
Alex and Sophie Zubrowski

C-COMPANY

John and Ellen McCann
Henry and Jean Putala
Guests: Alyssa Oberhues
Paige Hahn

(Continued on Page 28)

ATTENDEES AT 1985 REUNION
(Continued from Page 27)

D-COMPANY

Adrian and Marge Adams
James and Thurlo Bristol
Elmer Brownsberger
Guests: Mr. and Mrs. Robert Obitz
*Nora Harman (Widow) Forest
Merle and Marcella Kelly
Donald and Eva Knaus
Andrew LaPatka
Alex and Florence Lasseigne, Sr.
John and Barbara Lee

HEADQUARTERS-DIVARTY

Charles and Edith Chapman
Alfred Faison
Douglas and Nyda Hall
Tom and Jeanette Joseph, Jr.
Joseph Muse
LTC Jay and Edith Rollman
Anthony and Agnes Scally
Paul and Mozelle Thomas
Brantley and Ruth Anne Watkins

**724th FIELD ARTILLERY
HEADQUARTERS & SERVICES**

*K. Earl and Jean Abel
Denman and Jane Ayres
Daniel O'Shea

A-BATTERY

Paul and Mayreta Kitner

B-BATTERY

Thomas and Helen Heath
John and Sophie Pierce
Roy and Helen Thompson

C-BATTERY

John and Gladys Heliseva

**879th FIELD ARTILLERY
HEADQUARTERS & SERVICES**

Philip and Elizabeth Colombo
Alex and Margaret Kormas
Frank and Theresa Demers

A-BATTERY

Arthur and Evelyn Russ, Jr.

B-BATTERY

*Edward and Anne Bell

C-BATTERY

William and Mary Harr

SERVICE BATTERY

Dell and Mary Balzano
Harold and Emily Fletcher
James and Lydia Little
Bruce and Mary Young

**880th FIELD ARTILLERY
HEADQUARTERS & SERVICES**

William and Nell Burgess
Stuart and Elnor McGowan
*Robert and Marilyn McKee

A-BATTERY

James and Geneva Bilbrey

B-BATTERY

*Frank and Joan Alfiero

C-BATTERY

Enrico and Ann D'Angelo

**881st FIELD ARTILLERY
A-BATTERY**

Francis and Zeta Enright
James and Irene Liguori
Guest: Son Raymond

B-BATTERY

*Joseph Brady
Guest: Elsie Yanusaitus
Phillip and Harriet Sparacino
Eugene and Jacqueline Tabacchi

**271st INFANTRY REGIMENT
HEADQUARTERS**

John Barrette
Leroy and Maria Keller

HQ.-1st BATTALION

Albert and Edith Carbonari

A-COMPANY

*Irvin and Doris Hunsberger
John and Mary Pereira
Guests: Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Quintel
Emil and Elena Zerenga

B-COMPANY

*P. H. and Ruth Delphey
Charles and Patricia Nicely
Charles and Pat Walsh

C-COMPANY

Charlie and Eva Flora

D-COMPANY

Douglas and Kay Baird
*John and Jan Butkovich
Fredrick and Ann Collet
Al Haag
Paul and Margie McCombs
Guest: Mrs. Richard Horst
Theodore and Cynthia Snyder
*Glen and Bernice Thrasher
Guest: Daughter Margaret

HQ. 2nd BATTALION

Robert and Jeanne Maxwell

E-COMPANY

*Mario and Freda Fattore
Irvin and Etta Gotkin
Thomas and Ann Maupin
Charles and Anita Otto
Paul and Marian Shadle

F-COMPANY

Frank and Arlene Carey
Charles and Virginia Funk
Guest: Son Robert
James and Barbara Kidd

G-COMPANY

Robert and Frances Daniel
Nat and Rhoda Green
G. Scott and Ann Gresham
Ralph and Josephine Plugge
Blake and Mary Reep
David and Mary Scatena

H-COMPANY

John and Helen Hayes
Walter Jeskiewicz
Charles and Louise Kooles
Albert and Eleanor Panara
Morris and Chickie Yegelwel

(Continued on Page 29)

ATTENDEES AT 1985 REUNION
(Continued from Page 28)

HQ. 3rd BATTALION
James and Betty Yakle

K-COMPANY
Frank and Peggy Balicky
Albert and Rebecca Hornyak
Robert and Claire Kremen
*Robert Matthews
Coolidge and Jewell Owen
Worley and Mae Smith

L-COMPANY
Thomas and Mattie Carson
Leo Martel
Guest: Rita Buchloski
Keith and Louise Vickers

M-COMPANY
William and Reba Sheavly
*Delbert and Helen Wright

ANTI-TANK
E. B. and Marion Abbott
Graham and Jane Bendall
Arthur and Nancy Holgate
*Dillard and Anita Powell
George and Virginia Weston

CANNON COMPANY
*Raymond and Jane Lynch

**272nd INFANTRY REGIMENT
HEADQUARTERS**
Ray and Mary Ann Knudsen

A-COMPANY
Earl and Dorothy Miller
*Ray Olson
Guests: Elsie Gayler
Susan Mosquera and Son
*Edgar and Frances Parsons

B-COMPANY
*Crandon and Jane Clark
Bernard and Marie LaDue
Guests: Richard and Sandra Shumway
Kerri Kowalski

HEADQUARTERS-2nd BATTALION
*John Hahn

E-COMPANY
Fred and Mavis Butenhoff
Anthony and Florence Keller
Roger and Ruth West
Chester and Barbara Yastrzemski

F-COMPANY
Herb and Kathryn Callaway
Lynn and Betty Johnson
James Lawrence
Enrico and Laura Mercanti
Joseph and Anne Nunes
Guests: Mr. and Mrs. Tavarozzi

G-COMPANY
Anees and Barbara Baraket, Jr.
Millard and Fredda Carter
Ray Lehman
Guests: Grandsons Robbie and Scott Van Horn
William and Miriam Lilien
William and Grace Matthews
*Edgar and Nell Ross

H-COMPANY
Lewis and Rosemary Shaw

I-COMPANY
Frank and Clare Aplan
Wendell and Sally Freeman
Guests: Mr. and Mrs. Don Tolbert
Dennie and Elsie Haltiwanger
James and Marie Herbison
Guests: Mr. and Mrs. William Lukacik
Robert and Vivian Kurtzman
L. A. Pat and Janice Lushbaugh
Edward McDonnell
Chalmer and Reita Pearson

K-COMPANY
*Fred and Alice Lott

L-COMPANY
*Russell and Rosanna Meinecke
John and Elizabeth Nelson

M-COMPANY
Lido and Louise Dalporto
Guests: Mr. and Mrs. F. Buck
Floyd and Catherine McCalip
*Joseph and Kathryn Makosky
Richard and Claire Sodorff
Raymond and Alice Wolthoff

ANTI-TANK COMPANY
George and Jeanne Shapiro

SERVICE COMPANY
Dale and Bonny Scott

**273rd INFANTRY REGIMENT
HEADQUARTERS**
*Marcus and Helen Jackson

HQ.-1st BATTALION
*A. H. and Barbara Seidenstricker

A-COMPANY
H. Raymond Fahrner
Jack and Jackie Hubbard
Edward and Johanna Lucci
Guests: Mr. and Mrs. Harold Quinn

D-COMPANY
Arthur and Kathe Ayres, Sr.
Allan and Mary Blackmar
Ed and Mary Case
Charles and Bertha Hoefer
George and Barbara Johnson
Arthur and Eloise Lohrbach
Guests: Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Lohrbach
Robert and Betty McCarty
Dan and Cathy McHugh
John and Helen Opit
Ken Sawyer

E-COMPANY
William and Jane Matlach
Al and Lotti Shires

F-COMPANY
Gilbert and Marion Clark
John and Marjorie Fain
Guest: Capt. John Fain, Jr.
Thomas and Joan Graves
*Richard and Dorothy Israel
Samuel and Anne Woolf

G-COMPANY
Fred and Ruth Johnston
Atwood Roth
Edson and Tory Staggs
Guests: Mr. and Mrs. Morgan

(Continued on Page 30)

ATTENDEES AT 1985 REUNION

(Continued from Page 29)

H-COMPANY

*Charles and Barbara Attara
Sam Grubbs
*Robert and Maxine Haag
John and Arylene Mowrey
*Anthony and Elizabeth Mruk
Elijah and Jacqueline Sams, Jr.
Murry and Helene Schulman
Jacob and Violet Stark
Raymond and Helen Szkudlarek

HQ-3rd BATTALION

Francis and Anna Blais
Jack and Shirley Goldman
*Charles and Patricia Hoffman
Earl and Anna Walters

I-COMPANY

William and Beverly Armstrong
George and Edna Harper
George and Janet Houseal
Allen and Catherine Long
Carl and Bernice Macknair
*Paul and Aldona Mickiewicz
Robert and Theresa Pierce
George and Frances Pursey
Chester and Olive Ritchie
Erwin and Carmen Sanborn
Guest: Daughter Heidi
John and Annette Sullivan

K-COMPANY

*John Collins McCabe

L-COMPANY

James G. Jolly
Anthony and Genevieve Plasic
Herman and Ella Mae Walker

M-COMPANY

*Sgt./M H. L. and Annetta Addy
Gerald and Julia Brown
*W. C. Cox
Albert and Elvira Francavilla
William and Elizabeth Nebhut
Woodrow and Frances Welch

ANTI-TANK COMPANY

George Edres

CANNON COMPANY

*Henry and Oneeta Coble
*Henry and Jean Newell
Thomas and Ida Poole
*George and Mary Ross, Jr.

SERVICE COMPANY

Gilbert and Mabel Sadler

UNKNOWN UNIT

Robert and Margaret Hollister

*First Time Attendees

Attendance By States at the 1985 Reunion in Williamsburg, Virginia

A total of 614 attended the 1985 Reunion at Williamsburg, Virginia. Listed below is the State by State count and once again, Pennsylvania lead the way.

Pennsylvania	107
Virginia	85
New York	75
New Jersey	54
Florida	49
Ohio	41
North Carolina	23
Wisconsin	18
Maryland	15
Georgia	12
California	10
Illinois	10
Indiana	10
West Virginia	10
Iowa	9
Texas	8
Connecticut	6
Louisiana	6
Michigan	6
Missouri	6
Washington	6
Colorado	5
Kansas	5
New Hampshire	5
South Carolina	5
Kentucky	4
Massachusetts	4
Rhode Island	4
Tennessee	4
Alabama	2
Idaho	2
Mississippi	2
New Mexico	2
Oklahoma	2
Delaware	1
Maine	1



Army equipment crossing the Rhine River on Victory Bridge built by U.S. Army Engineers.

"Taps"



John T. Sink
Box 577
Cloverdale, California
D-271st

Donald J. Hecht
348 Edith Drive
W. St. Paul, Minnesota
B-461st AAA

Lester Langley
729 Walnut Street
Ottawa, Illinois
H. & S. 269th

William J. Slusher
3024 Sharpview Lane
Dallas, Texas
Hq. 3rd Bn. 272nd

Norma Jean King
19 Ranch Court
Bowling Green, Ohio
Wife of Cletus "Mel" King
and former Officer in
Ladies Auxiliary

Nathan Silberstein
Penn Tower Bldg., #1514
1801 J.F. Kennedy Blvd.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Hq. 2nd Bn. 272nd

Lawrence J. Roberts
82 Chumalia Street
San Leandro, California
69 Q.M.

Roy F. Jessen
4657 Woodland, #5
W. Des Moines, Iowa

Gordon M. Keith
Wilshire Wood, Apt. #204
10925 Wayzata Blvd.
Minnetonka, Minnesota
L-272nd

Kenneth B. Rednour
Coulterville, Illinois
B-273rd

Woodrow Carpenter
Route #4
Quaker City, Ohio

Noah Shew
Dobson, North Carolina
A-271st

Irvin Juran
Box 86
Pomeroy, Washington
D-272nd

Sam M. Bruno
929 Haight Street
San Francisco, California
E-273rd

"TAPS"

There will be a great encampment
In the land of clouds today.
A mingling and a merging
Of our boys who've gone away.
Though on earth they are disbanding.
They are very close and near.
For those brave and honored heroes
Show no sorrow, shed no tears.
They have lived a life of glory.
History pins their medals high.
Listen to the thunder roaring.
They are marching in the sky!

Forest W. Harman, Jr.
214 Surrey Road
Staunton, Virginia
D-777th

Francis Hyland
Route 3, Dieners Hill
Pottsville, Pennsylvania
B-461st AAA

Nolan E. Gann
Mena, Arkansas
AT-272nd

Denman H. Ayres
Route 7, Box 300
Harlingen, Texas
H. & S. 724th

Andre Boucher
57 Rue Danton
F 92300 Levallois
Perret, France
Assoc. Life Member



Thank You For the Donation

Seven lap robes and nine pairs of slippers were donated to the Ladies Auxiliary by Mrs. Clara Antonelli of 9101 Pine Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Antonelli made these in memory of her son-in-law, John P. Suprano, who served in A-Battery of the 881st F.A., and her son, Pfc. Jildo Antonelli, who served with Patton's 3rd Armored Division and is buried in France.



Joseph Miller of Syracuse, New York and Richard Himes of Kersey, Pennsylvania, who served together in C-881st F.A. Bn. from Camp Shelby to Leipzig.



the 69th
INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.
101 stephen st., new kensington, pa. 15068

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Meeting of Officers and Board of Directors August 21, 1985 Williamsburg, Virginia

President George Gallagher called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with 21 Board Members present. Prayer was presented by **Joseph Wright**. Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Joseph Wright** and said by the members.

Treasurer's Report — Robert Kurtzman presented a fine report on the change of Treasurers and the monies. The selling of the Ginne May Fund. Members were issued a written financial report to follow along with **Bob**. Motion by **John Hawley**, seconded **Chalmer Pearson** and so carried.

Auditor's Report — Anthony Keller stated that the financial status of the Association is on very solid ground due to the hard work of everyone involved. We also got out of the Ginne May Fund at a very good time. Motion by **Paul McCombs**, seconded "**Dutch**" **Hawn** and so carried.

Secretary's Report — Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held in Orlando, Florida, were read. Motion **Bill Foster**, seconded **Dan Evers** and so carried.

Overseas Flower Fund — Secretary reported we still have enough money in the fund for next years decorations and then we will have to send additional monies to the American Battle Monuments Commission.

Resolution Committee — Chairman Joseph Wright - Change in By Laws - Article I, Section #7, In the event the Secretary or Treasurer is not able to serve due to mid-term resignation or other cause, the President is empowered to appoint a successor to serve until the election at the next Reunion. The interim officer is entitled to all the rights and privileges described in the By Laws. In the event the office of Vice-President is vacated, the position shall be filled without right of succession by the immediate past chairman of the nominating committee to serve until the next Reunion. Long discussion on lifetime members; stated they are covered by our By Laws. Motion by **Gaylord Thomas**, seconded **Paul McCombs**.

Future Scholarship Committee — No Report.

Scholarship Committee — Bob Kurtzman reported for **Sam Woolf** and stated that the committee would meet tomorrow and have a report for the membership meeting. Motion **Dutch Hawn**, seconded **Charles Chapman**.

Souvenir Committee — No Report due to the absence of **Bill Sheavly**.

Reunion Chairman — Bill Beswick reported on the Williamsburg Reunion; thus far, 324 people were present and a large turn out for the early bird dinner. Motion **Dan Evers**, seconded **Ed McDonnell**.

Reunion in 1986 — Paul Shadle gave a fine report on the Reunion in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The date has been changed from 8/10/86 to 8/17/86 due to hotel problems. Motion **Dutch Hawn**, seconded **John Hayes**.

Future Reunion Site — Chairman Bill Beswick stated his committee would meet and have a report for the membership meeting. Motion by **Charles Chapman**, seconded **Chalmer Pearson** and so carried.

Old Business — None.

Membership Chairman — Paul Shadle reported in the absence of **Clarence Marshall** who couldn't attend. 5,505 members of the 1985 Roster, up from 5,480 at the 1984 Reunion. We had a gain of 25 men, lost 81 under Taps. We replaced these 81 and gained 25 which means we added 106 new members. Motion **Dan Evers**, seconded **Jake Stark**.

New Business — Secretary read letter from **Director Raul Nava** stating that he couldn't make the Reunion due to Jury Duty.

Motion by **Bill Beswick** to purchase a new flag pole, flag purchased and a new 69th Banner, stand and staff and put them in the care of the President or Vice-President to maintain and pass on to his successor. Seconded **Bill Foster** and so carried.

Motion by **Bill Beswick** to have **Allan Jackson**, a correspondent photographer, to become an associate member of the association, seconded **Paul Shadle**.

Benediction by **Joe Wright**. Motion to adjourn 9:38 p.m. by **Jake Stark**, seconded **Dan Evers**.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank C. Nemeth
Executive Secretary

