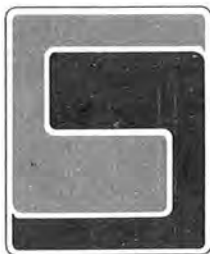


FIGHTING 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION

★★★★ *Association, Inc.*



VOLUME 43, NO. 1

SEPTEMBER — OCTOBER — NOVEMBER — DECEMBER
1989

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

101 STEPHEN STREET
NEW KENSINGTON, PA 15068
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bulletin

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See back cover for a little history on the Purple Heart.

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We three hope all you members, wives, family members, relatives, and friends do enjoy reading our BULLETINS of the 69th Infantry Division Association. We feel we can say they rate among the best of any service organization doing publishing at present.

If you still have - and I'm sure all members keep their bulletins - in the last issue, Volume 42, Number 3, May, June, July, August 1989 on Page 30, I want to make a suggestion. If you did not use this page to send to the Denver Marriott Southeast

for the Denver reunion, please fold it back the other way to make a nice looking centerfold in this issue. Our printer, when putting the bulletin together, only folds one way and if this page was to be folded the other way it would have had to be hand done, which would have taken much valuable time with 6,000 copies. So please do take the time to fold that page the other way.

Pictures, pictures, pictures, that's what makes the bulletins. We want to see who you are so I am requesting that when sending in a write up, send a picture too. Include your wife and family too. A good example of what I want is the Mid-West Groups **Fran and Zita Enright, News Reporters.** The above is also a good example. We also like the old war pictures scattered amongst the others which makes for a good bulletin. Send them on to us and we'll get them back to you. I have had calls from several members stating they were going to send pictures to me for the bulletins and to use the ones I wanted. When finished with them, send them on to the museum at Camp Shelby. So far I haven't received one. Are they coming Pony Express?

1990 69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSN. 43rd ANNUAL REUNION

**Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel - North Gulph Road and First Avenue
KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA
August 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1990**

News From The Editor's Desk



by — Clarence Marshall
Membership Chairman

101 Stephen Street, New Kensington, PA 15068
Telephone: 412/335-3224

John G. Ruhl, 6 Lombard Court, Davenport, Iowa 52803 — F-272nd: I have enclosed an article from the Wall Street Journal written by Sol Schindler. Although I was in the first "batch" to receive the combat infantry badge, I still feel that making all with it automatically eligible for the Bronze Star was a mistake. Let's face it; there were lots awarded the Bronze Star for a reason.

Leonard Braverman, 28104 Espinoza Mission, Viejo, California 92692 — A-724th: This is my memory of an incident that occurred while serving with A-Battery of the 724th Field Artillery in Germany.

During April of 1945 we were ordered to the town of Kitzen, southwest of Leipzig. We immediately came under heavy enemy attack by 88mm and 150mm guns. The 88mm were almost like machine guns, since they came in so quickly. Their firepower was strong and continuous, resulting in some casualties. We were informed by **Captain Diekman** that we had no infantry support, and to sleep with the buddy system, one man awake at all times. I was alone at the edge of the field with my radio that buzzed constantly, and I figured that I had two alternatives; stay awake all night, or take my chances and go to sleep. I went to sleep knowing that if the radio stopped buzzing I would awaken. This way I wouldn't have to stay alert all night alone.

I awoke in the morning to a very heavy barrage of artillery. A half-track of D-Battery 461st AAA was knocked out and five men jumped into my foxhole almost smothering me, but I was very happy to have all of those bodies protecting me. A little later I received the order to CSMO (close station march order), and a truck was sent out to pick up my radio and supplies. Under intense artillery fire we loaded the truck and then I heard someone moaning. Running to a foxhole a distance away I saw an Officer who looked dead, but obviously was alive, with no blood showing on him. With the help of **Corporal Mormello** the truck driver, we put him in the truck and rushed him to a cluster of houses where the Medics were set up. I am not sure, but later I was told that his name was **Lieutenant Fonde** and his lung had been penetrated by a piece of shrapnel. The lung had collapsed, but his life was saved.

Lamar W. Williams, 4365 Ruth Road, Birmingham, Alabama 35213 — 69th M.P.: Sorry I have been so long in answering your letter, but my wife has been in the hospital

twice, and many trips to the doctor's office. She had surgery to remove a malignant tumor, and due to the fact that they found it early, everything looks very good.

I remember those days at Camp Shelby well, and that your hut was right next to mine. I was just 23 years old when I joined the 69th. How time has passed. Sorry I didn't make it to the Reunion this year as I had planned, but with my wife's problem it wasn't to be. Sure would like to see everyone. Maybe next year. Please give our best regards to those you see or communicate with. I have heard from several of the M.P.s and it is always good to get a letter.

Primar Palmer, 24 Stillwater Avenue, Mechanicville, New York 12118 — Hq., 271st: You have my name and state correct. Thank you very much. My Unit was Headquarters Company, 271st Infantry Regiment. I wonder if some member would know where **Leonard Rosoff** lives?

John Purdie, 1432 Pine Valley Loop, Fayetteville, North Carolina 28305 — Hq., 271st: Please tell me if you have addresses for the following members of Headquarters Company, 271st Infantry Regiment during the time period August 1944 to April 1945. **Homer Hanberry**, **Charles Schultheis**, **Raymond McMurtry**, **Grady Jones**.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Our Association only had an address for Mr. Hanberry. If anyone can help with the others, please contact Mr. Purdie or National Headquarters.)

Gerrit Maas, 142-B Buckingham Drive, Lakehurst, New Jersey 08733 — E-272nd: Just a few lines to say hello and to thank you for the good work of the Association and the Bulletin. I was glad to read the letter from **Lawrence Terpstra** of E-272nd. It gave me cause to drop him a line. I have names and addresses of two former 69ers for our membership rolls. I had written to you about these fellows a few years ago, and they tell me they had no response from the Association. They are **John Maas** of M-273rd and **Elmer Riffman** of C-271st. I visited Camp Shelby recently and there has been quite a few changes. Like they say "don't look back." I have been retired for the last 6 years and am enjoying it very much. I hope to get to one of the closer Reunions.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Both Mr. Maas and Mr. Riffman have been on our Association roster since May of this year, so they should have received some of our mail by now.)

E. F. Granillo, 862 North Grand Street, Mesa, Arizona 85201 — 69 Q.M.: I am one of the original Veterans of World War II. I was a member of the 69th Infantry Division Quartermaster when the Division was activated in 1943. The 69th went overseas in November of 1944, and was there till August or September of 1945. At the close of the War there was an exchange of personnel between the 69th and the 29th due to lack of points. Which 69th is having the Reunion, the original members or the men from the 29th?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Granillo was advised that our Reunions are held for any former member of the 69th Division who served with it during its activation in World War II.)

Donald Durst, 8 Glenview Terrace, LaVale, Maryland 21502 — AT-271st: I have recently located a former member of the 69th Division. He said he would like to become a member and receive the News Bulletin. He was in Headquarters Company of the 272nd Infantry Regiment. He is **Nevin Schrock** of Myersdale, Pennsylvania.

Oscar Windrath, 5716 Timberlake Circle, Sarasota, Florida 34243: I was not aware that an active 69th Division Organization existed until I came across the Reunion notice in the V.F.W. Magazine. I would appreciate any information that you can give me.

(Continued on Page 4)

NEWS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 3)

Paul Blitz, 318-A Savannah Road, Baltimore, Maryland 21221 — Hq., 2nd Bn., 271st: I wish to thank you for sending me the News Bulletin. I enjoyed reading it very much, as it brought back many memories. From the list of names that you sent I recall that **Bob Maxwell** was from Erie, Pennsylvania, and that **George Mayr** was from Maryland. There was a **Sergeant Heil** in our company, but I am not sure if this one is the same. The other names are unfamiliar to me and may have joined after I was shipped out. I would appreciate the addresses for the names mentioned above. I will write **Major Hanberry** very soon.

Jack R. Hadder, 1010 Westminster Drive, Johnson City, Tennessee 37601 — Please put me on your mailing list for the World War II veterans membership. I am a 69th Infantry Division veteran. Send me information for membership. I found your address in the paper last year for the Reunion that was to be held in Lexington, Kentucky.

Gene H. Hundhausen, P.O. Box 881453, San Diego, California 92108 — Hq., 272nd: Haven't been able to get away for any of the Reunions, but my heart is still with the 69th. I make my living as an illustrator, and I work up and down the West coast. Say hello to anyone who might remember me from **Colonel Buie's** Headquarters in the 272nd Infantry Regiment. Cheers.

John Y. Schumacher, 12 Marion Street, Box 280, Spring Mount, Pennsylvania 19478 — Ser. 777th: I just happened to come across a History Book of the 777th Tank Battalion, and their movements with the 69th and 661st T.D. Battalion. I made a copy of it for you to use either for the Bulletin or for future reference. I could make xerox copies in case anyone would be interested in having one. I enjoy receiving the Bulletin and reading it. There are some interesting articles and information which bring back memories of days that I would not want to go through again. I would not want to give up the experience and education, also the many friends I met and had good times with. I'm glad I met **H. Raymond Fahrner**, a member of the 69th who sent my name to you for membership in the organization. I am looking forward to receiving the Bulletin each time that it is sent out.

Alan H. Murphey, 1339 Hemlock Drive, Fairborn, Ohio 45324 — Hq., 3rd Bn., 273rd: While sorting through an assortment of old letters and photographs, I came across a copy of an extract from Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 273rd Infantry Regiment's morning report. It is called "Record of Events." It was given to me by someone in the Company whose identity I can no longer remember, just prior to the break up of the 69th following V.J. Day. I am enclosing a copy of the report, as it might be interesting to former members of the Battalion. I am most interested in locating the men who served with me in the I&R Platoon. I am especially interested in addresses for the following men who were all PFCs. **Walter V. Burrows**, **Clinton B. Dittmore**, **Francis A. Giegnas**, **Robert B. Miller**, and **Juan Pizzaro**.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Our Association has no addresses for the men listed. If you can help, please contact Mr. Murphey or National Headquarters. The rest of Mr. Murphey's material appears elsewhere in this issue.)

George Martin, Route 4, Box 285, Pelican Rapids, Minnesota 56572 — Hq., 3rd Bn., 272nd: The Fighting 69th Infantry Bulletin is getting bigger and better every year. I am sending along 3 pictures that I hope you can use in the Bulletin. The years go by so fast. It doesn't seem possible that the 42nd Annual Reunion is in Denver this year. I hope that I am able to make this one. See you in Denver.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Martin's pictures appear elsewhere in this issue.)

Clifford Ewing, 6092 Prestige Valley Drive, Morrow, Georgia 30260 — 769th Ord.: I am enclosing a check to be added to the monument fund for **General Bolte**. I recall the days back in the twenties when as a First Sergeant of the Infantry School Detachment when **General Bolte** would come to me for some of his training literature, that he always had a kind word for all that he came in contact with. From that day until now I have always held him above all other Officers that I have been associated with. Then too, I remember that when he could attend the Reunions, he was just like one of the boys. He really loved the 69th. I have some cards from him thanking me for remembering him at Christmas, his birthdays, and other occasions, and I will prize them as long as I live.

I regret that I won't be able to make it to Denver. I have had a plastic replacement bladder, and the doctor doesn't feel that I should do any traveling. Give everyone my regards, and I hope to be in Valley Forge next year.

Louis Ambrozy, 12250 Sprague Road, Parma, Ohio 44130 — A-273rd: I got your name and address from the D.A.V. Magazine. I trained with Company A, 273rd Infantry Regiment at Camp Shelby, Mississippi from May of 1943 until April of 1944, when I shipped out overseas and became a member of the 4th Division. I would like to get in touch with anyone that I served with. Do you put out any books or are there any Chapters that I could join which may help? I can still remember quite a few of the fellows that I was with. I would like to attend the Reunion in August, but I am unable to travel.

Boyd Good, Sr., 4902 Carmelynn Street, Torrance, California 90503 — D-273rd: I would like some information on the 69th Division Reunion to be held in August in Denver. I was with the 69th in Company D of the 273rd Infantry Regiment. Will the 273rd be represented at this Reunion? I will appreciate any information that you can give me.

Godfrey Slimmer, Jr., Box 49, Seminary, Mississippi 39479 — B-881st: We enjoy reading your News Bulletin. My wife and I will not be able to attend the Reunions in 1989 or 1990. However, if the Lord is willing, and the creeks don't rise, we will see you all in Mississippi in 1991. We, here in Southern Mississippi, are already working on a real good show. We hope to have Camp Shelby in top shape. Hattiesburg will have a lot of special events planned. Mark your calendar for the 44th Annual Reunion in Mississippi.

Robert E. Cline, 5565 East Gallatin Road, Belgrad, Montana 59714 — I-272nd: I found your Reunion notice for the 69th Division. I was a member of the Division during World War II. I am interested in contacting some of the following if you have their addresses: **Robert Knight**, **Dennis Haltiwanger**, **Rocco Santoli**, **Andrew Blishak**, **Benjamin Griffith** and **Louis Dupree**. I would appreciate hearing from you if you can give me any information on these men, and also the agenda for the Reunion.

Lawrence W. Morone, 27 Finchley Court, Vincentown, New Jersey 08088: Hq., 369th: I would like to join the 69th Infantry Division Association. I served in Headquarters of the 369th Medical Battalion. Please send me an application, and whatever information is needed.

George W. Duke, 5922 East 27th Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114 — D-461st AAA: I lost all contact with the 461st. I saw your article in the Tulsa, Oklahoma paper and called **Bob Kurtzman** and he sent me a News Bulletin. I saw my Sergeant's name in it and I called him. He was quite surprised after 44 years. I am looking forward to receiving your Bulletin when it comes out. I would like to have a 69th shoulder patch.

(Continued on Page 5)

NEWS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 4)

John H. Post, 6805 Kenowa Avenue, S.W., Grandville, Michigan 49418 — C-880th: I would like to have some information regarding the Reunion of the 69th Infantry Division. I was in the 880th Field Artillery Battalion, and I believe it was C-Battery. This was the 69th Division that met the Russians at the Elbe River in April of 1945. I certainly would like to meet some of the old buddies of 45 years ago, so whatever help you can give will be greatly appreciated.

Ralph C. Scholtz, 41 Clafford Lane, Melville, New York 11747 — Hq., 1st Bn., 273rd: It was a pleasure to get your prompt reply to my letter. Thanks for the addresses and information that you sent me. I have already made efforts to contact some of my friends, and perhaps I'll have some news from them soon. I would like information on becoming a member of the Association. Your records are correct as far as Units are concerned for **Thomas Grey** and **Bernard Wattman**. I met these men in Germany after most of us were transferred out of the 69th. I am so sorry to hear that **Wattman** is deceased. However, I would like the address of his family if that is available. The last I knew of **Grey** was that he lived in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania, which was about 15 years ago. I would like very much to get in touch with him. Another request would be for news of **Henry Sak** (Hq., 1st Bn., 273rd). Last I knew of him was about 15 years ago, and he lived in Chicago.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: If any of our readers can help Mr. Scholtz, please contact him or National Headquarters.)

Tom Hoffman, 1730 Manasota Beach Road, #107, Englewood, Florida 34223 — H-273rd: A cousin of mine, **Henry Hafeli**, was a member of the 69th Infantry Division at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. He was transferred out of the Division prior to its leaving for Europe. He served with Company B of the 273rd Infantry Regiment. His address is: 332 Edgewood, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48013. Please send him an application to join the Association. He would like to hear from any of the former members that he served with.

Lieutenant Colonel R. C. Trimble, 2809 Prince George Road, Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39402 — Div. Hq.: Just got the latest Bulletin, and I always look forward to receiving it. I took note of the picture of **Frances Prine**, and it stirred strong feelings, as my wife was working in P.X. 22 when we met and later were married. After 44 years of happy life and 3 children I lost her due to lung cancer. I have since remarried a lady from the Hattiesburg area, and we are trying to start a new life. I phoned **Frances Prine** and had a short chat with her. She spoke of you kindly. My wife and I will probably make a trip to the coast and we may get in touch. I read that there is interest in having a Reunion in the Biloxi area. If I can help, please let me know how. I have been in contact with **Charles Argenbright** and have enclosed a copy of a letter that I sent to him.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The Reunion in Biloxi is set for 1991. Thanks for sending along Mr. Argenbright's address. We had never had him on our Association roster.)

Michael J. Booker, 50 Edgehill Road, Mitcham Surrey, CR4 2HU England: Thank you for your letter and the information therein. I am pleased to say that I have had a response from Mr. **Alan Murphy**. I would like to contact any members of the 3rd Battalion, 273rd Infantry Regiment, Headquarters Company and Rifle Companies I, K, L, and M, who were part of the forces to liberate Colditz in Germany on 16th April, 1945. I am endeavoring to contact any survivors and/or obtain copies of any photographs of that small town and Castle at the time of its liberation. I am building up a history of the International Prisoner of War Camp that was located

in the Castle. I would like to receive a copy of your News Bulletin that this appears in.

Richard Thayer, 844 Lewis Avenue, Billings, Montana 59101: I am the son of **Robert Thayer** of Company H, 272nd Infantry. My father was in the 69th from January 1945 until May 1945. At that time he was transferred to the 29th Division for Army of Occupation until June of 1946. He was supposed to have received a Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon. Do any of your readers know anything about this award? Maybe it was related to the 29th, I'm not sure. My father passed away in 1970, and I never had the chance to ask him about his ribbons and awards.

Douglas George, Route 1, Box 1492, Quitman, Texas 75783 — Hq., 273rd: **Norman Pickford** of Harrisburg, Illinois mailed me information about your upcoming Reunion in Denver. My plans are indefinite as we have our own place up for sale, and are planning to move to Colorado. I am enclosing dues for membership, and wish to be entered on the mailing roster. I was a member of the wire section of the 273rd Regimental Headquarters Company. I joined the 69th in April of 1944 at Camp Shelby and was with them until they disbanded in August or September of 1945. We hope to get to Denver for at least one day, just to see 3 friends that I know will be there.

Martin A. Boul, 48548 Snead Drive, Burlington, Colorado 80807 — B-271st: I have been in contact with **John Longworth** who was a Medic in the 272nd and 273rd. Please send information for membership and the Reunion to him. I have been busy with our wheat harvest, and now am held up by the weather. I am looking forward to the Reunion in August.

Robert L. Pierce, 144 Nashua Court, San Jose, California 95139 — I-273rd: Just a note to pass along some information pertaining to Company I, 273rd Infantry. We have relocated a new member, and he is **Alvin Glaser** of Palos Verdes Peninsula, California. I have been informed that another I-273rd member who was not a member of the Association has passed away. He is **Ashton Thayer** of Charleston, West Virginia. You can officially record **Bill Johnson** as a member of Company I - 273rd. He and the group were recognized by **Maclin Morrison** as a member of our fourth platoon. **Maclin** has the original photograph of the one that I submitted.

Mrs. Joseph F. Fitzpatrick, Route 2, Box 563, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425: My husband is now in a Nursing Home with Alzheimer's disease, but I would like to enter him on your roster, and I would like to join the Ladies Auxiliary. My husband entered the service in March of 1943, and trained with Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 272nd at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. He went overseas with the Division in November of 1944, and was with them till they met the Russians at Torgau. After VE and VJ Day, he was transferred to the 954th Ordnance Depot Company then to the Pers. Section of the 141st Infantry then to Service Company, 141st Infantry, then to Headquarters Company of the 84th Division. In January of 1946 he came home with the 84th Division and was discharged on January 10th.

He talked very little about the War, and I would be glad to receive any information you have about the 69th. I will be unable to attend the Reunion in Denver, but when you meet next year at Valley Forge, closer to my home, I hope to be able to attend.

James G. Kehew, 413 Appletree Road, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania 17011 — Div. Hq.: You and **Earl** are sure doing a bang up job with the Bulletin. I have a pretty good idea how much time something like that takes. You guys deserve a medal of some kind. The father of a friend of mine just died at 96, and the attached was found among his papers and belongings.

(Continued on Page 6)

NEWS FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

(Continued from Page 5)

He doesn't know anything about it, where it came from, etc. You'll notice the date is 9 days after D-Day. We didn't go overseas till November of 1944, so this was while we were still at Shelby. It might have been some special day there. My friend's brother-in-law was in the Band at Keesler Field about that time, so he might have picked it up. Maybe someone else will know what it was.

Guest — Infantry Day

June 15, 1944

69th Div.

I keep busy as Executive Director of the Bicycling Federation of Pennsylvania and Editor of its Newsletter. (Someday I am really going to retire, I keep telling my wife.) I ride my bike almost every day. I have got over 900 miles in so far this year. I have been averaging 2000 miles a year for the last 15 years or so, so I am going to have to go some to do that by the end of this year. Es and I visited the Thousand Islands for 5 days, and I got in 70 miles including some in Canada. Our son who used to live in Shippenville just took a job teaching in Woodstock, Ontario after 17 years at Franklin High School. His girlfriend is Canadian and is going to school at the University of Toronto. Peggy still lives in Vermont and Gordon in Harrisburg. Hope to see you at a Reunion one of these times.

David H. Fagen, 8175 S.W. 109th Street Road, Ocala, Florida 32676 — 271st: As an 18 year older, after basic training at Camp Wheeler I trained with the 69th at Camp Shelby, and went overseas aboard the John Erikson. While at the Winchester Barracks in England, I and many others were sent to "repo depos" in Belgium for the Battle of the Bulge. I became a part of the 83rd Division. My training with the 69th held me in good stead. I am indebted to the Cadre of the 69th, especially my First Sergeant and Company Commander. Can't remember what Company I was in while with the 271st.

John W. Turner, P.O. Box 1645, Decatur, Georgia 30031 — C-724th: I have located another member of C-Battery, 724th Field Artillery Battalion. He also served in Battery A of the 724th. He is **Anthony Szaro** of Union, New Jersey. He telephoned me after reading our Reunion notice in the American Legion Magazine. He told me that **Joseph**

Bergamasco of C-724th died in June of 1989. At present I am not sure if we will make the Denver Reunion or not.

Orlando P. Pullen, 811 Southlawn, Jenison, Michigan 49428 — B-271st: I have been referred to you by **Bob Younglas** for the purpose of joining the 69th Infantry Division Association. My check is enclosed, and I'll appreciate being added to the roster. **Bob** sent me a copy of our Unit roster covering the members who have been located, along with a recent copy of the Association Bulletin. Incidentally, it appears that the majority of the members listed were original members of the Division, and include very few of the replacements. I have been wondering if there is a record of the replacements and the availability of such information.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: We have no way of knowing when we locate new members the time period that they served in the Division. I don't think that information would be available anywhere.)

Allan L. Gynne, 550 Marin Oaks Drive, Novato, California 94949 — A-271st: I would like to be put on the Association list to receive mailings on Division News notices of Reunions, etc. My only claim to fame is that on our first attack in Germany I was the first scout of the first squad of the first platoon of Able Company of the 271st Regiment. I recently met **Bill Lindow** of K-Company for the first time, and he gave me your address. I will be in the Pittsburgh area in June, and would like to drop in and meet you.

Mrs. Charles Walsh, 1627 West Fairfield Court, Glendale, Wisconsin 53209: The wives and friends of the men of B-Company, 271st would like to give **Bob Younglas** a note of appreciation for his efforts in contacting men who were unaware of the 69th Reunion. Our group has quadrupled in size, thanks to his diligence and interest. The Reunions are one of the highlights of our year.

Roger West, 1387 Marlboro Drive, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104 — E-272nd: I am sending you a copy of a letter that I received from **Kurt Nolke** of Germany. He requests a copy of our E-Company roster, and a copy of a picture that appeared in one of our Bulletins. We plan to see the Nolke's in September when they will be in Toronto. If there is some way to have the above items by our Reunion, I will deliver it to them.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Sorry, but I couldn't make it to Denver, so I couldn't comply with your request.)

E. M. Benson, 426 Fulvia Street, Leucadia, California 92024 — Div. Hq.: Thanks for sending me the 69th Bulletin. It is indeed a well done document. I was with the 69th C.I.C. Detachment, and wonder if any of the rest of the team have been in communication. I still have a G-2 Section Pictorial History, as well as the Division Pictorial History. Members of the team as I recall were **Bill Doyle**, **Charles Kulikowski**, **Arthur Applegate**, **Abraham Hoffman**, **Kent Rosenthal**, **Paul Titman**, **Bill Weiskopf** and **Kurt Burnheim**. Enclosed are a few pictures, and I also have some others.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Mr. Benson's pictures appear elsewhere in this issue.)

* * * * *

Your Editor would like to thank everyone for the cards, letters, and phone calls during my absence from this year's Denver Reunion. I was looking forward to being there but the Doctor said NO. Things are progressing fairly well now, and I hope to be with you all in Valley Forge next year.

President's Message



Earl E. Witzleb, Jr., President
R. D. #1, Box 477
Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606
Telephone: 412/455-2901

We just came off of a good Denver reunion so let's keep the good work going for the next two years. **Dutch and Jeanne Hawn** plus the committee did a very good job in keeping everyone happy and I do believe that everyone was in good spirits. When we all can sit together at the Saturday night banquet, that made our week a success. Thanks a lot gang in Denver, a week well planned.

Our next two years will pass real fast since we have a lot to accomplish in that short span of time. Our history book must be kept on the go, a record turnout is expected for the Valley Forge reunion, a monument fund has been established, a monument must be purchased and erected at Camp Shelby, the Biloxi Reunion must be set up, and future reunion sites must be secured.

I do hope everyone has received their four page flyer concerning the history book and are now in the process of writing biographies and ordering the number of books you would like to purchase. I know that the three infantry units - 271st, 272nd, and 273rd, are sending in their history books to go along with the division book. Other units such as the Engineers, Recon, Tank Destroyers, Tank Battalion, and AAA are also welcome to do the same. You members wanted the new book so let's get behind it 100%.

If you wish to contribute to the monument fund, now is the time to do it by mailing your contribution to the Treasurer the same time you send in your dues. Dues are very important if you wish to keep getting these big 50 and 60 page bulletins. I make a plea to all you members who only pay dues periodically or have never done so to start paying dues even if it is the \$5.00 regular dues. Don't forget to send in \$2.00 for your wife so that she may become a member of the Ladies Auxiliary and do come to Valley Forge next August 1990.

Somewhere in this bulletin is the list of committees and members on the committees. I have made many of the committees large so that a large percentage will be at the reunions. All committee chairmen should report to me one week before each reunion deadline by postcard or letter stating the condition of your committee and if it is active. I am sure some committees will have "No report at this time." Reunion Site Screening Committee, 69th Camp Shelby Monument Committee, History Book Committee, and a few others should show some signs of progress. This means chairmen will have to spend a few dollars of their own to keep in touch with your committees. You can call since some of the members have

telephone numbers listed. Those that don't should send me your telephone number so that it can be published.

I have tried to get some new names on committees and hope they work out well. If you don't want on a committee, or think you should be on another committee, let me know and I'll see if the switch can be made. Likewise it is hard to know each member and their qualifications so if any of you members would like on a committee, please send me your name on a postcard and state what committee you would want on. I'll use these for replacements and will pass them on to the next President who too might want to make some changes of new personnel. You will notice some members are on twice which I tried to stay away from but some should be on a couple of committees due to their office in the Association. Also I have put each Past President on a committee even if he hasn't attended reunions lately. I do hope this will stir some interest and bring back our Past Presidents.

I will follow the lines of **Past President Bill Foster** who had a Past Presidents breakfast in Denver. I hope to do a little better than that. I expect on the day of the shortest tour at Valley Forge that we will have our Board of Directors meeting, whether it be Wednesday or Thursday. My plans are that we will have a Board of Directors lunch to start the board meeting and invite all Past Presidents to attend since they are our advisors even though they have no vote. I would like to get the board meeting over in the afternoon but we do have much business to discuss next year and we may have a recess for dinner and come back to the discussion table for an evening session. I am hoping this will make for a fast general meeting on Saturday morning. We want to make sure what we do is right so you board members should be willing to give your time for this cause. I plan to be at some mini weekends this coming year which I'll announce so that if any board member is in the area, come to that mini weekend and we can talk some things out ahead of time. I hope to keep in touch with each of you.

I have one problem already that I want you directors to think about so that we can discuss it through at Valley Forge. We had a very impressive memorial service at Denver and I know most of the remaining memorial services will be the same. I have had a lot of members asking why **General E. R. Reinhardt** isn't included in our memorial services. We must discuss this and come up with the right answer. **General Charles Bolte** trained us at Camp Shelby making good soldiers out of us and was very active these many years in our division association coming to all reunions until his death. **General Reinhardt** led us through battle in Europe and was one of the or the founder of the 69th Infantry Division Association. We must come up with an answer, board members. In a recent letter from a member, he stated we had the two Generals mentioned plus two other Generals in our division. Give this some thought and when other problems come up, I'll keep in touch by bulletin or letter.

I can't say this often enough, but members do help the association out by becoming a chairman, get a committee, and hold a reunion near you. **Vice President Chalmer Pearson** is the new Reunion Site Screening Chairman and I am sure he is waiting to hear from some of you. We have some good prospects that a site for 1992 could be Rochester, New York, in New Jersey near New York City, Portland, Oregon, and a location in Massachusetts. We really should pick two sites next year for 1992 and 1993. Do help **Chalmer** out and make this job an easy one for him. I struggled the two years I was looking for sites and how well you members know. That is why we are now behind.

(Continued on Page 8)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from Page 7)

My messages should get longer in each bulletin but that's enough for this time. Remember and I know that I am only as good of a President as you members make me for if it wasn't for you we wouldn't have a division association so let's get behind it. Pay dues and come to the reunions to have a ball.

Ray Fahrner, a dedicated 69er, sent me a 273rd Infantry crest which looks sharp and I like it very much. Since he had to order fifty of them, he has them for sale at cost which is \$5.00 and \$.65 for postage. He says if enough interest is generated, he will get crests for the 271st and 272nd Infantry. You can inquire about them by writing him at:

Ray Fahrner
Forge Gate Apartments, 33 E 1
Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446

Everyone stay in good health so we can see each other at the Sheraton in Valley Forge. Dottie and I wish you SEASONS GREETINGS hoping you had a good Thanksgiving and that Christmas and New Years will be the same. Take care and may God be with us till we meet again.

1989-1991 Appointed Committees

The President is on all committees. Please keep him informed. All committee chairmen should send a postcard or letter to **President Earl Witzleb** one week before each bulletin deadline stating the condition of his committee even if it should say "No Report At This Time." It is the responsibility of all committee members to attend at least the next two reunions.

* * * * *

BULLETINS

Earl E. Witzleb, Jr., President
Coordinating Manager
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Clarence Marshall, Editor
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PARLIAMENTARIAN

Joseph Wright
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SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS

Carl Miller, Chairman
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James Moody, Assistant Chairman
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LADIES AUXILIARY LIAISON

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PHOTOGRAPHERS

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Telephone: 619/485-6165

Thomas Yekich, Jr.
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18093 Country Club Drive
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I would like other interested photographers to let me know who you are.

SCHOLARSHIP

Robert Kurtzman, Sr., (Treasurer) Chairman
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Wilmot, Ohio 44689
Telephone: 216/359-5487

Murry Galuton, Past President
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300 Patio Village Terrace
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SOUVENIRS AND JACKETS

Souvenirs:

William C. Sheavly, Chairman
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Jackets, Plackets, and Hats

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PRESIDENTS' AWARDS

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Continued on Page 9)

1989-1991 APPOINTED COMMITTEES

(Continued from Page 8)

LEGAL ADVISORS

Eugene Butterfield, Chairman
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Sherman Lawrence, (Past President), Assistant
Member: Company B, 272nd Infantry
120 Sycamore Drive
Roslyn, New York 11576
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I am looking for other attorneys who attend reunions and would like to work on this committee.

RESOLUTIONS/BY-LAWS

Leonard-Pat Lushbaugh, Chairman
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Alex Lasseigne, Sr.

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(Continued on Page 10)

1989-1991 APPOINTED COMMITTEES
(Continued from Page 9)

REUNION ACTIVITIES/SITE SCREENING
(continued)

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Irving Sarafan

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OVERSEAS FLOWER FUND

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(Continued on Page 11)

1989-1991 APPOINTED COMMITTEES

(Continued from Page 10)

OVERSEAS FLOWER FUND (continued)

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69th HISTORY BOOK

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CLARENCE MARSHALL HONORARIAN

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Elijah Sams

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(Continued on Page 12)

1989-1991 APPOINTED COMMITTEES

(Continued from Page 11)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF 1989-1990 DIRECTORS

(continued)

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John Duffy

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Signal Company, 769th Ordnance, and 69th
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Gerald Rodelli

Member: 269th Engineers
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Telephone: 703/626-3557

James Bristol

Member: 777th Tank Battalion
1932 Troxell Street
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369th Medical Battalion

No Representative

461st AAA Battalion

No Representative

NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF 1990-1991 DIRECTORS

Crandon Clark, *Chairman*

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE OF 1991-1992 DIRECTORS

Robert Haag, *Chairman*

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1990 REUNION - VALLEY FORGE KING OF PRUSSIA, PENNSYLVANIA

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Frank Nemeth, *Co-Chairman*

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1991 REUNION

BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Robert Kurtzman, Sr., *Chairman*

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Guy N. Rogers, *Co-Assistant Chairman*

Member: Division Headquarters, AR
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639 North Pointe Parkway
Jackson, Mississippi 39211
Telephone: _____

Merle E. Douglas, *Co-Assistant Chairman*

Member: 369th and Headquarters
P.O. Box 1465
Ocean Springs, Mississippi 39564-1465
Telephone: _____

CHARLES HERRING

MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

Friday mornings of Reunions for both Men & Women

Chalmer Pearson, (*Vice President*), *Chairman*

Member: Company I, 272nd Infantry
15330 Joseph Road
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Telephone: _____

Joseph Wright, *Assistant Chairman*

Member: Division Headquarters
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Telephone: 417/546-4529

George Johnson

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1213 Hermitage Road
Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834
Telephone: _____

REUNION GREETERS

ALL MEMBERS AND WIVES OF THE FIGHTING 69th
INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION WHO ATTEND
REUNIONS WELCOME THE FIRST-TIMERS AND
GREET ALL THE OLD TIMERS AND THOSE IN
BETWEEN TOO.

ADVISORS

ALL PAST PRESIDENTS

* * * * *

REMEMBER, IF YOU FEEL YOU WOULD DO MORE
GOOD ON A DIFFERENT COMMITTEE THAN YOU
HAVE BEEN APPOINTED TO, OR IF THERE IS
ANOTHER COMMITTEE YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE
APPOINTED TO OTHER THAN THE ONE YOU ARE ON,
PLEASE CALL YOUR PRESIDENT, EARL WITZLEB,
JR., AND HE WILL TRY TO MAKE THE CHANGE IF
POSSIBLE. ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS WHOM WE
DO NOT HAVE PHONE NUMBERS ON, PLEASE SEND
THEM IN TO US.

Treasurer's Message



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

Another fiscal year is over and another great reunion as well.

My personal thanks to **Dutch** and **Jeanne Hawn** and their committee for one of the finest reunions we have had to date. It was such a joy to have the personal contact with **Dutch** and **Jean**, **Bob** and **Thelma**, **Keith** and **Colleen**, **Dick** and **Gerry**, **George** and **Edna**, **John** and **Janet**, **Mel** and **June** and **Joe** and **Eleanor**. You can be proud of your many hours spent during the week and it was a pleasure for **Vivian** and I to be working with you.

I also wish to thank the over 300 members who sent in their registration with the advance payment, only two members failed to do so and you know who you are. Next year NO registrations and reservations for activities will be accepted without full payment and will be returned when received. This year we had over 100 people coming in and signing up for activities that they left off their original form. This always causes a problem at the registration desk, so please do sign up and pay in advance.

The Ladies at the desk made many refunds for activities and I sent out 18 myself and some to those who even failed to arrive, so get them in, we'll see that you are refunded.

The 1988-89 year was another record year for dues receipts as over 2400 made some kind of donation. I gave the figures to our President, so I'm sure he will have some kind of report on the figures that were posted by States. A new record was also set for those who made donations to the postage fund and also for those paying dues for the first time.

We're looking forward to another banner year in the 69th, with visits to the Tri-State in November and May, the Central Pennsylvania Group and of course the biggest reunion we have ever had at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania in 1990. Let's not forget 1991 and the Biloxi reunion and the Camp Shelby Monument dedication.

Robert J. Kurtzman, Sr., Treasurer

NOTICE: Clarence Marshall, our Membership Chairman and Editor of the bulletin, was in New Kensington Citizens General Hospital for several days to have a toe taken off. He is recovering very nicely and should be well healed by the time you receive this bulletin. I'm sure Clarence would appreciate hearing from you with a get well wish. Earl and Dottie, the other parts of the bulletin, as well as all of you members I am sure, wish him well and a speedy recovery.

CAMP SHELBY 69th MONUMENT IS GO!

At the 1989 Reunion at Denver, the Board of Directors and General Membership Meeting, the go ahead was given to erect a 69th Monument at Camp Shelby with a ceiling cost of \$8,000.00.

It was decided that contributions would be accepted and if they did not meet the final cost, the balance would be taken from the general fund.

At the present time, (September 13th) \$1,385.00 has been donated. Donations will be accepted until July 31, 1990. Please make your donations payable to the 69th Memorial Fund and forward them to, **Robert J. Kurtzman, Sr.**, P.O. Box 178, Wilmot, Ohio 44689.

The 1991 Reunion has also been planned for Biloxi, Mississippi during the period of September 15th to 22nd for the purpose of dedicating the Monument.

Your new President, **Earl E. Witzleb, Jr.**, will be appointing a committee to oversee the inscriptions put on the Monument, so if you have any ideas, send them along with your donation and I will see they are put into the proper hands.

We are already planning a full day for the dedication, leaving Biloxi around 9:00 a.m. for the trip to Camp Shelby, looking around, lunch and then the dedication ceremonies. **MG Guy Rogers**, Retired, Headquarters Divarty in Jackson, Mississippi will be in charge of the dedication and he has plans to make it a gala affair.

Send in your donations and make plans to be part of this great honor to all members living or dead of the 69th Division and all attached units. Let's make everyone aware of the BBB's and the Elbe link-up.

Robert J. Kurtzman, Sr.

"Howitzer Al Kormas Closes Supply Room"

After 4 years, and many thousands of dollars of sales (with no returns) the supply room of jackets, shirts and caps is "kaput." I can now return the supply room to the den that it originally was, and have peace at home.

I wrote to **Bill Foster**, the outgoing President, and asked him to read it at the Denver Reunion, to see if someone would volunteer for my job. Having not been in attendance at Denver, I have no knowledge that this was done, but I haven't heard of anyone who might have volunteered for either my job or that of the **Sheavlys**.

This is your organization men, and it is time that some new faces get involved. It will only grow, or sink, by your actions.

Through the years many dedicated people have performed these jobs, and surely with the size of our Association now, there are many of you out there capable of carrying them on in the future. Speak up, or maybe the era of souvenirs will be over.

Al Kormas
Hq., 879th Field Artillery
12500 Edgewater, #503
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Former Members of Company G, 271st Infantry



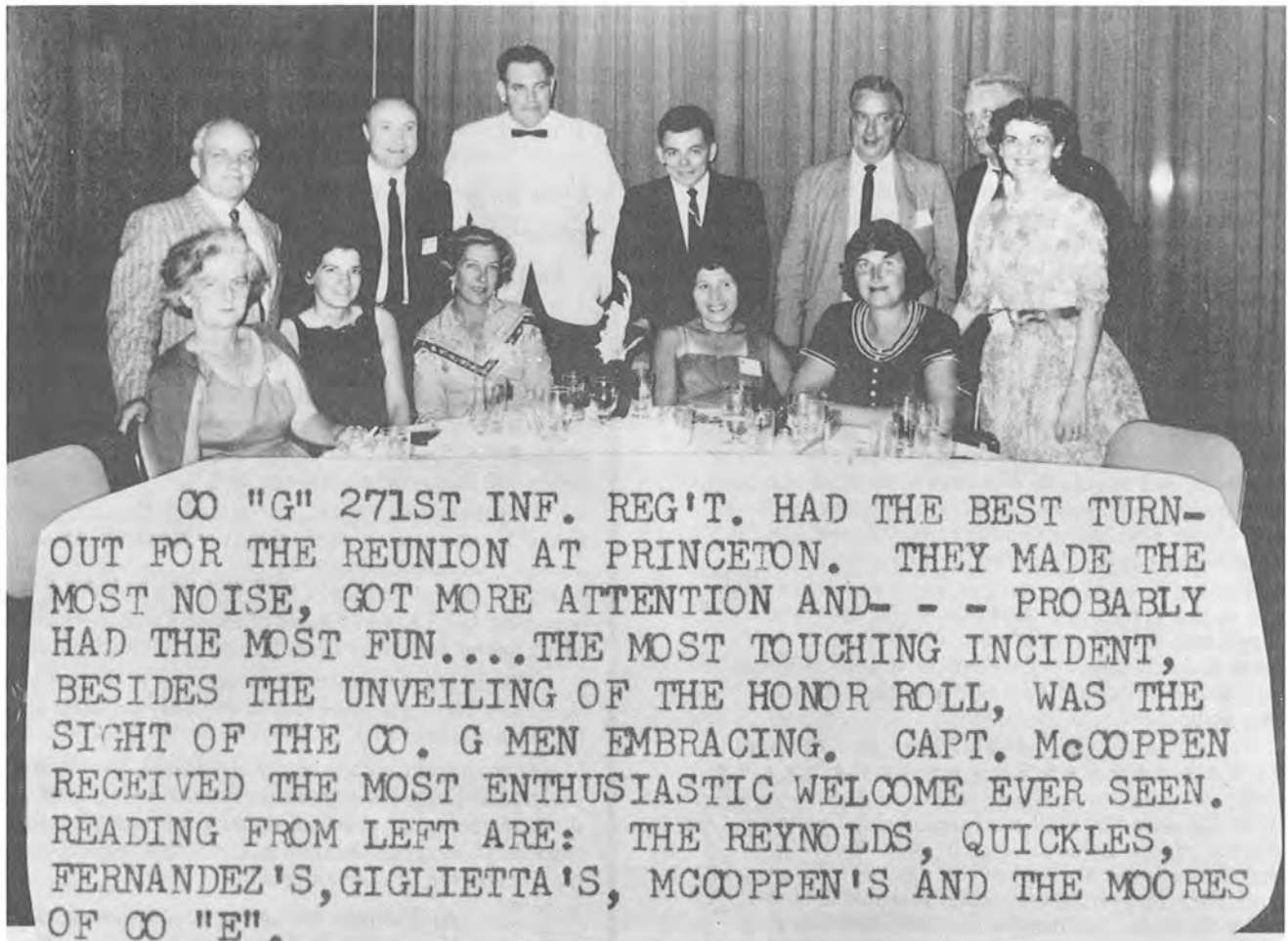
*Guy Horton and Tom Teague
in Eilenberg*



*Captain Curtis, Lieutenant Halstead,
and Lieutenant Mottes in Laucha*



*Carpenter, Kratzer, Barbieri
at Eilenberg*



*Company G, 271st Infantry families at Reunion in Princeton, New Jersey.
Message on the picture tells the story.*

Pictures furnished by Joe Giglietta

Goodbye You Two and Have a Nice Two Year Vacation to Valley Forge (King of Prussia), Pennsylvania and Biloxi, Mississippi Dottie and Me



Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.
President, 69th Division Association

Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.
Bulletin Co-ordinating Manager
Post Office Box 69
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069

or

R.D. #1, Box 477
Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606
Telephone: 412/455-2901
Tri-State Blues Family Group Headquarters
(Call anytime, day or night; weekends or holidays)

**"THE FAMILY WITH TWO ADDRESSES — BUT
ONE HOME — WELCOME ALL 69'ers — STOP IN, CALL,
OR WRITE." Exit 9 — Pennsylvania Turnpike**

True, we are eliminating this column for the next two years since Earl is now President and his news will be in the President's column. Dottie's news will be found in the Auxiliary Page which will probably now be pages. We hope you have enjoyed reading our news and it's time for a little change.

I can't find a better way of closing this article by telling you a little about the Denver Reunion. We were all together for the first time in three years and only the second time in five years. I did notice and felt that the group was a lot happier and friendly with each other. It's nice to see a smile and a cherry hello coming from everyone. Do wear your badges and men do at least wear your hat whether red or blue. If you don't have a hat or badge, better order them for Valley Forge when the registration form appears in the next bulletin. Dottie and I had one of our better reunion vacations to and from Denver and in Denver itself.

Many were already at the Marriott when we arrived Monday afternoon around the dinner hour. It was nice to see so many smiling faces and friends that we have made over the years of attending reunions. Tuesday was a little relaxing but things got moving around five-thirty when several bus loads of the gang traveled to the Coors Brewery and guzzled down the free Coors. The Mexican Buffet wasn't my kind of meal but 99% of the others sure enjoyed it. Climbing all the stairs on the tour of the brewery was well worth it for not only having a good tour of a top rated brewery, but they ended up passing out more Coors and some of the Joes started to wobble consuming the beer and the light air of mile high city. Some of the lucky ones won a prize and many enjoyed the gift shop at top rated prices. The day ended on a happy note.

Wednesday was a beautiful day in Denver and the City Tour of Denver was as good. We did really have very intelligent tour guides on all the tours.

Thursday was the Air Force Academy tour and equally as good as the others although we did have a few casualties. Even I had one when Dottie, who loves Colorado, fell to the couch causing us to miss the rest of the tour. I hope everyone who did get sick in Denver would let me know how you are doing. We did have one or two heart attacks, a stroke, and several who let the air get the best of them.

The meal at the Academy was first class and everyone was fed. The early bird dinner rounded out a very nice day in Colorado.

Friday's tour to Red Rock and Georgetown had to be passed by we two since Dottie felt it best just to take it easy but those who went said the day was very enjoyable even though they were many feet higher than mile high city.

Not being able to find an outside restaurant for our unit dinner, Companies A and E of the 273rd Infantry Regiment stayed at the Marriott and ate at the Chaparral who served us a real good dinner but the after effects were almost disastrous. Our bill was sky high compared with what they said it would be but accountant Edward Lucci found some of our troubles. They had over a hundred dollar error on the bill and blamed it on the computers being out of order. We did get straight away and attended some of the beer party. Still not being satisfied, a wife of a first timer from A Company got us all another five dollar rebate. Nice going first timer, come back again at Valley Forge. Ray Fahrner from the Valley Forge area is assigned the duties of getting our dinner restaurant next year.

Chalmer Pearson, golf director, and his assistant Joseph Wright, said that the tournament went along smoothly even though it was an afternoon affair.

Moving into Saturday found the two general meetings of the men and auxiliary working out fine although the ladies were waiting on the men this year. We did get a few things accomplished and I am sure the ladies did too.

Joseph Wright made our week with a very impressive memorial service just before the banquet. One had to shed a few tears and become a little nervous. A member of each unit laid a rose bud and lit a candle on a table in front of the head table for those buddies of ours who gave their life so that we might still have our freedom. I was so pleased and honored when Joe asked me to handle the tenth rose and candle which was for General Charles Bolte who trained us at Camp Shelby and was a faithful attendee at all reunions until his death this past year. A memorial service and job well done Joseph Wright.

The rest of the evening rolled along well with a fine banquet dinner and dance that followed. You ladies almost lost your president, Ellen Snidow, who busted her heart out laughing. The story was, I was sitting next to her at the head table and when my meal came I had a hard time cutting the meat, so I asked the waiter if he would get me a steak knife. He said, sure, no problem. When he returned he handed me a butcher knife. I did finish my meal which I enjoyed and all you know I enjoy eating food.

Sunday saw a lot of goodbyes being passed around with the saying, I'll see you at Valley Forge. Those of us who had to rest up got together Sunday evening for dinner and a few last drinks and jokes. All in all it was a real good Denver

(Continued on Page 16)

DOTTIE AND ME

(Continued from Page 15)

reunion, the kind we want to have from here on out and I'm sure you'll get it at Valley Forge. We all did sit and eat our banquet dinner together which if nothing else, should be this way and the order of the week.

Dutch, you and Jeanne and the rest of the committee did one heck of a good job with excellent tours, a good hospitality room that was roomy, memorial service, and all the other things that made a perfect week that seemed like a day. THANKS A LOT GANG FROM THE DENVER AREA.

As your new President, I want to say and request along with Dottie, that we all get together next year at the Sheraton in Valley Forge (King of Prussia) for what will be a record attendance of better than 1,000 members, wives and guests. I am sure that the Sheraton and Raddison next door can handle us. If not, the Stauffer and Holiday Inn are only a block away and they are only to sleep in. We will do everything else together such as tours, early bird, PX beer party, and banquet dinner dance. The Convention Center will handle thousands so come on all you 69ers to Valley Forge next year, August 12th to 19th, 1990. Plan your vacations now and in conjunction with the reunion. Dan and Frank will be waiting for us along with their committee.

SEE YOU MEMBERS, WIVES, AND GUESTS NEXT AUGUST, 1990 — Dottie and Me will make our vacation the next two years a pleasant one. God be with us till we meet again.

* * * * *

Richard Bell Writes —

Dear Earl:

Your centerfold in the last 69th Bulletin, Vol. 42, No. 3, was of special interest to me. The World War II 34th "Red Bull" division which General Bolte commanded in Italy was the National Guard from my home town, Watertown, South Dakota. It was composed of men from the Dakotas, Iowa and Nebraska.

The Guard received notice in January, 1941 that it was to be Federalized into the U.S. Army. On February 26, 1941, they mobilized and were shipped to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana. They participated in the Louisiana maneuvers. They were the first American soldiers to arrive in the European theatre, landing in Ireland January 26, 1942.

On November 7, 1942 they landed in North Africa and fought all the way through the African campaign, then Sicily and Italy.

An interesting aside to this story is about John W. Vessey, Jr., who lied about his age and enlisted in the National Guard at age 16. In Africa, as a Sergeant in the 34th, he was Field Commissioned to Second Lieutenant. He stayed in the Army and eventually became the highest ranking 4 Star General in the Army, becoming Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the 1970s.

Sincerely,
Richard Bell
Company D, 272nd Infantry

**Come to a Reunion
You Won't Regret It!**

Members of Headquarters Company, 272nd Infantry

Pictures furnished by George Martin



T/5 Charles Ellis dressed in German uniform and Lieutenant George Martin. Woldorf, Germany - 1945.



Lieutenant George Martin, Communications Officers, Hq. 2nd Battalion, 272nd. Leipzig, Germany - 1945.



2nd Lieutenant George Martin and Sergeant Charles Jockel (Message Center Chief). Sprotta, Germany - 1945.

Leigh Tenney Writes

I have always enjoyed reading the Bulletin and I want to thank you and all others who work so hard to put it together and to keep the association going. In 1985 there was an item in the Bulletin about Charles "Gus" Swanberg, a former member of Company "I," 271st Infantry. Last year I attended a seminar in Seattle, Washington and, remembering that Gus lived in that area, I called him and he picked me up at the hotel and we had a nice visit at his home on beautiful Vashon Island. Gus is an artist who illustrated the Company "I" history. He is now semi-retired but still does some work from his studio in his home. We had a most enjoyable and interesting visit. (We even recognized one another even though we had not seen or contacted each other since March 1945). He is a narrow gauge model train buff and had over 1000 feet of track with appropriate stations, buildings, bridges, etc., outside his home. The night before I was there a deer had crossed the track causing some minor damage.

I have kept in touch with Bill Dahoda, Eugene O'Leary, Jack Harrison and Hy Kurfirst, other former members of "I" Company over the years. Jack Harrison and his wife, Brenda, and their daughter visited several times years ago and we have visited Bill and Mary Dahoda and their children. A few months ago I received a call from Eugene O'Leary and we had a nice visit on the phone. He has been retired from medical practice for several years and has moved back to the Pittsburgh area from La Jolla, California. You probably have his new address. I also was able to see "Tex" Collins at his home before his death several years ago. Last month I was at a seminar with other Chapter 13 Trustees in Point Clear, Alabama which is just a few miles from Mobile and discovered that Jerry Holub from Akron, Ohio, another Chapter 13 Trustee whom I have known for 25 years was also a former member of the 69th, having served with the Artillery. I think that he is a member of the association, but if not, let me know and I will send you his address.

I would like to contact as many former members of "I" Company as possible to see if we can't get some interest in attending one of the reunions. Please send me a list of the names and addresses of those you have on the rolls of the association. I would also like to locate Donald B. Stillman who was my roommate while we were in the ASTP at Syracuse (Auburn campus). He was in Company "K" of the 271st, I think. At least he was in the 3rd Battalion. If you or anyone has any information which would help locate him, I would appreciate it. Thank you for this information and again for all the work you do and have done.

If you are unable to find someone to "chair" the reunion committee to hold a reunion near Camp Shelby, I will be glad to work on that committee. At this time, I would not be able to take the responsibility of chairing the committee.

Sincerely,
Leigh Tenney
3508 Sevier Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72116

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

DO NOT SEND the material for the reprint of the 69th History Book to National Headquarters. Please send to:

69th Division History Book
P.O. Box 3101
Paducah, Kentucky 42202-3101



Al Kormas leaning against a Piper Cub used for Artillery observation.



Reading England — Royal Berkshire Regimental Barracks (Christmas 1944). Al Kormas and his buddy from Cleveland who came to visit him from the Merchant Marines.



Rico D'Angelo and Al Kormas standing in front of the play house that Rico built for his grandchildren.

Pictures furnished by Al Kormas

FIGHTING 69th EUROPEAN TOUR

LONDON — Arrive London (Heathrow). Arrival Reception with Afternoon "High Tea." Half Day Sightseeing Tour of London.

LONDON — Full day guided excursion to Winchester & Stonehenge, which includes visit to the famous Winchester Cathedral & the Monoliths at Stonehenge. Spend night in London.

AMSTERDAM — Depart London for Amsterdam via Hovercraft from Dover to Calais or Boulogne. Candlelight dinner Canal Cruise in Amsterdam.

COLOGNE — Travel to Cologne with enroute visits to Margraten Cemetery (Maastricht) and Henri-Chappelle Cemetery (Leige) for wreath placement. And if time permits, a visit to Bullingen, Reischeld, Geischeld, Meischeld, Effersheid, & Schmidtheim. Visit Cologne Cathedral.

KASSEL — Depart Cologne for Kassel, 206 miles or 331 kms away; one/two hours shopping at Bad Ems. The night will be spent in Kassel.

LEIPSIG — Leave Kassel for sightseeing & photography via Witzhausen, Hann Munden, Bebra-Witerode where German hosts will sponsor morning coffee break and Bad Hersfeld. Cross into East Germany at Eisenach for travel through Gotha, Erfurt, Weimar, Apolda, Naumberg, Weissenfels & Lutzen. Arrive & overnight in Leipsig.

TORGAU/BERLIN — Travel to Torgau via Eilenburg with Memorial Services and wreath laying at Elbe River Monument, with visits to local cemetery & Hartenfels Castle. Spend the night in Berlin.

EAST BERLIN — Sightseeing in West Berlin with visits to Frederick the Great's Castle, Europa Center, overlooking East Berlin, the Wall, shopping in Ka Da Wee Dept. Store. View Brandenburg Gate from East Berlin & visit John F. Kennedy & Soviet Memorials.

DRESDEN — Return to Leipsig for ½ day of sightseeing with visits to Monument of Nations, St. Thomas Church, Russian Orthodox Church. Travel to & overnight in Dresden.

KRAKOW — Sightseeing in Dresden and board train for Krakow.

KRAKOW — Full day guided excursion with visits to Auschwitz Camp (Oswiecim) & Jasna Gor Monestary (at Czestochowa) included. Overnight in Krakow.

MOSCOW — Travel to Moscow for a guided sightseeing tour of City with visits to Kremlin (Armoury Museum) and Lenin's Mausoleum, Museum of the Battle of Borodino & the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

MOSCOW — Sightseeing in Moscow and viewing of the May Day Parade.

LENINGRAD — Travel to Leningrad for sightseeing & overnight in Leningrad.

LENINGRAD — Full day guided sightseeing with visits to the Russian Museum, Museum of History of Leningrad, St. Isaac's Cathedral & Pushkin, Castle of Catherine the Great.

LENINGRAD — Half day guided tour of the City for visit to Hermitage Museum, and the Memorial Cemetery of Piskarioskoye, where ½ million are buried in a common grave. Afternoon at Petrodvoretz and overnight in Leningrad.

HELSINKI — Leave Leningrad for Helsinki and sightseeing in Helsinki. Farewell Dinner.

HELSINKI — Leave Helsinki for U.S. and arrive at New York (JFK).

Itinerary subject to change.

Your 45th Anniversary Tour Includes:

- Deluxe/Superior/First Class Hotels
- Deluxe air-conditioned Motorcoaches/Hovercraft crossing of the English Channel
- 38 Meals, including a Farewell Banquet and a Candle-light Dinner Canal Cruise
- Special visit to Joe Polowsky's Grave for Memorial Wreath Laying
- Transfers, Taxes & Tips (with the exception of tips to Tour Managers, touring coach drivers and host/ess, which are not included)
- Carefully-planned itinerary to highlight special interest sightseeing for 69th Infantry Division Tour members
- Spacious American Express Vacations Travel Bags, Wallet of travel documents and travel tips
- Professional multilingual tour escorts/local tour expert guides
- May Day Parade in Moscow
- American Express Worldwide Customer Care

TOUR PRICE

LAND: \$2,789.00 (Based on Double Occupancy)
 535.00 (Single Supplement)
 21.00 (Triple Accomodations)
 Deduct \$21.00 per person
 from Double rates
 99.00 (Extra night in Helsinki)
 Per person.

AIR FARE: \$753.00 (Per Person, Round trip
 from New York — JFK)
 (fare includes Tax)

The Prices are quoted on 1989 prices and are subject to change. Due to travel within the Eastern Bloc and the Soviet Union, Prices cannot be guaranteed, but we do not anticipate a major price change.

FLIGHT ITINERARY

PAN AM WORLD AIRWAYS**

PAN AM #102 — Departs New York (JFK)
 Arrives London Heathrow

PAN AM #45 — Departs Helsinki.
 Arrives New York (JFK)*

*There will be a change of equipment in Stockholm
 **Flight Itinerary Subject to Change

(Continued on Page 19)

FIGHTING 69th EUROPEAN TOUR

(Continued from Page 18)

European Tour for the Members of the Association and their Families Only:

The last people in excess of 100 will be required to spend one additional night in Helsinki. If you want to volunteer for this extra day, inform Joan Freitas of American Express or Bill Beswick. Use only your personal check or American Express Card, made out to American Express.

For further information contact: William R. Beswick
P.O. Box 576, West Point, Virginia 23181

It is customary to tip the tour guides: American Currency is acceptable everywhere except the Soviet Union. Take a couple of gifts for the young ladies. Almost anything American. Scarves, soap, perfume, panty hose, almost anything that you can think of, they can't get.

If you are interested in going on the tour, please send your deposit now so we can get our rooms reserved in the Soviet Union, ahead of everyone else.

Those who are attending and have signed up to date are:

Bill and Jo Beswick	661st T.D. Battalion
Bill and Ellen Snidow	661st T.D. Battalion
Leonard and Vincent (sons)	661st T.D. Battalion
Warren and Dottie Mitchell	661st T.D. Battalion
Sam and Gertrude Goldberg	661st T.D. Battalion
Bob and June Anderson	661st T.D. Battalion
Delbert and Donna Philpott	Company A, 271st
Charles Oliver	Company A, 271st
Don and Emily Durst	A.T., 271st
James and Betty Yakle	A.T., 271st
Glenn and Nadine Hunnicutt	Company G, 271st
Michael and Betty Musich	Company I, 271st
Bill and Reba Sheavly	Company M, 271st
Tom Maupin	Company E, 271st
Ray Olson	Company A, 272nd
Eileen Rimmer	Company A, 272nd
Crandon and Jane Clark	Company B, 272nd
Bernard and Marie LaDue	Company B, 272nd
Edward and Delores Sarcione	A.T., 272nd
Chet and Barbara Yastrzemski	Company E, 272nd
Millard and Fredda Carter	Company G, 272nd
L. Kay Carter (daughter)	Company G, 272nd
Bud and Fran Parsons	Company A, 272nd
Roger and Ruth West	Company E, 272nd
Ralph and Ursula Goebels	Cannon, 272nd
Ed Lucci	Company A, 273rd
James and Mary Carroll	Company A, 273rd
Kenneth Sawyer	Company D, 273rd
Paul and Elaine Gornbein	Company D, 273rd
Roland and Janet Hendrickson	Company D, 273rd
Bill and Jane Matlach	Company E, 273rd
Tom and Jean Graves	Company F, 273rd
Ed and Sophie Stagg	Company G, 273rd
Charlie and Doris Locke	Company H, 273rd
Tom C. Hoffman	Company H, 273rd
Art and Christie Knudsen	Company H, 273rd
Leland and Lola Jones	Company H, 273rd
Bert and Rhoda Eckert	Company H, 273rd
John and Janet Havey	Company H, 273rd
Tom and Helen Heath	Company B, 724th
Robert Hollister	Company C, 724th
Frank and Gloria See	HQ. Company, 777th
Joseph Loudon	Company D, 777th
Ralph and Madeline Reeves	Company A, 881st
Joe P. Sarna	Company C, 881st
Boyd and Stella Ellsworth	69th Recon
Herbert C. Norman	69th Recon
Bob and Thelma Bement	Divarty
Joan Lee	Divarty
Kim and Grace Packard	Company A, 269th

Company G, 273rd Infantry



Joe Shepherd in front of Company G, 273rd Orderly Room.



In front of Company G, 273rd hut

Left to right - Standing - Will Goldberg, Charles Mylyus, Joe Shepherd, Unknown.

Kneeling - Jim Greeson - Regiment Clerk, Unknown

Pictures furnished by Joe Shepherd



John O'Connor, Jack Runkle and Rico D'Angelo at the 1989 Reunion in Denver.

THE AUXILIARY'S PAGE



by — **Dottie Witzleb**
Ladies Auxiliary Editor

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Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069
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Telephone: 215/945-3809

Margie McCombs, Sunshine Lady and Asst. Chaplain
1184 Thorndale Road
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Ellen McCann, Assistant Secretary
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Woburn, Massachusetts 01801
Telephone: _____

Virginia Weston, Chaplain
173 Tanglewood East
Piscataway, New Jersey 08854
Telephone: _____

Auxiliary Officers, will you please complete your address by sending me your telephone number and also please send me a picture of yourself for publication since this is the new angle Earl wants to install. He, as well as others, would like to see what you look like. He is now asking everyone who sends in a write up to send a picture of themselves or even the family.

* * * * *

'Homemaker of the Year'

Extension homemakers honor Keller



Henrico Extension Homemakers recently honored one of their members, **Maria G. Keller**, by naming her Homemaker of the Year.

A member of the Hermitage Extension Homemakers Club for 38 years, **Keller** has held many offices in the county, area and state organizations. She currently serves as budget chairman and cookbook chairman for the Henrico Extension Homemakers.

As a 56-year member of 4-H Virginia State Chapter All Stars Association, **Keller** is a member of the Jamestown 4-H Educational Committee and has helped raise \$200,000 for the proposed Administration Building.

A life member of the Blackstone College Alumnae

Association, **Keller** currently is serving as president of the Richmond Chapter and has served many offices on a national level.

An active member of the Ginter Park Presbyterian Church, **Keller** enjoys planting and caring for the Rissi Garden. She is chairman of the Elder Member Committee of the Session, parliamentarian for the Church Women United and she is a very active representative to the Richmond Chaplaincy Service.

Keller has been married to **Leroy Anderson Keller** for 48 years. They have 2 sons and 5 grandchildren. Her husband is very supportive of her many activities, and often accompanies her on voluntary visits to Elizabeth Crump Manor Nursing Home.

Last year, **Keller** was nominated for the Governor's Award for Volunteerism and received a Certificate of Appreciation from Governor Gerald Baliles.

First runner-up for Homemaker of the Year was **Rachel Cheeley**, Henrico Extension Homemakers Club president. **Bessie Berguin**, past first vice president, was second runner-up.

Maria is now the Vice President of the Ladies Auxiliary of our 69th Division Association.

* * * * *

Hello Once More,

This will be my Swan Song after two interesting and happy years as your Auxiliary President. Wish to thank my Officers who were so faithful and helpful to me when I needed them, and to all you Ladies for the support shown to me by attending the Saturday morning Meetings, the making of the beautiful and useful lap robes, feeding bibs, booties, etc., also for your two dollars dues and that we used in making up the \$500.00 check that was given to the Veterans Hospital in the area of our yearly reunions for comfort items for our forgotten Veterans. My good wishes for the next two years goes to **Ellen Snidow**, **Maria Keller**, **Teddy Nemeth** and **Ellen McCann**, and our Chaplains **Virginia Weston** and **Marge McCombs**. I know they will serve you well.

(Continued on Page 21)

THE AUXILIARY'S PAGE

(Continued from Page 20)

Another beautiful reunion once again is history. Who could ask for more? It was so well organized, and with everyone following the plans of the committee it all appeared to run smoothly. But very few can realize, even in a small way, how many long and hard hours were put in by **Dutch** and **Jeanne Hawn** and their dedicated committee to make it such a happy week for all.

The tours were enjoyed by everyone. The food at the restaurants and our 69th gatherings was great. The young people in management with the Marriott, that **Bob** and I learned to know, were exceptional as they couldn't do enough for us. Thanks, **Dutch** and **Jeanne** and friends for a job well done.

Denver is certainly a diversified and beautiful city, Colorado a lovely state, and as we drove across country, our own United States is surely something special. We should all be proud of it and treat it well.

I wish to thank the Auxiliary for the beautiful black and silver earrings as I will remember all of you each time I wear them. **Bob** and I wish to thank all of you for your concern and prayers for our son **Bob Jr.**'s illness. He remains about the same as I write this.

God Love You All,
Vivian Kurtzman
Past President, Ladies Auxiliary

* * * * *



Edna O. Harper, Graduation Party

Company I, 273rd Infantry has, what we consider, a celebrity in our group: **Edna O. Harper** graduated from the University of New Mexico May 13, 1989. **Edna's** academic achievements earned her a degree in Journalism; and, an Associates Degree in Professional writing. Her husband, **George**, is also to be congratulated for the support he gave

her, not to mention the many lonely days and nights while **Edna** was either in school or burning the midnight oil cramming at home.

Edna is a free-lance writer who has used the 69th Division Reunions for source material for several articles she has written for publication. **Edna** wrote an outstanding article about Williamsburg, Virginia that was published in the Albuquerque Journal Sunday, November 24, 1985. It was a full front-page story in the Travel Section accompanied by color photographs.

The photograph enclosed is **Edna** in her cap and gown, with cake and a dozen red roses, celebrating her graduation. We are all so proud of her and wish her a very successful and fulfilling career.

Submitted by
Theresa M. Pierce
144 Nashua Court
San Jose, California 95139

* * * * *

A Note from Dottie

Finally made it home after a very good Denver reunion and vacation. Looks like we'll never get through this pile of mail from two and a half weeks. Just so I don't mislay a bill or the Pres will get on my back.

I haven't much to say this time except that ladies, please do get started early this year in making lap robes and bibs plus any other things that a veteran could use in the hospitals. Last year they went to a Veterans hospital in the Denver area and this coming year they will go to a hospital or hospitals in the Valley Forge area. These veterans really love to get these articles from our kind of voluntary group since these items are not given by the Federal Government. Believe it or not, they lack getting many things they really need.

Keep sending me news that will make our page or pages and especially we would like to hear about our sick. We can do our part in helping them get well by sending cards.

I'll be going with **Earl** to many mini weekends this coming year before heading to our week long reunion at Valley Forge. He is always trying to get all members and wives to attend our national reunion since the fellowship is so great that we all just feel like we are family. The hospitality room is the place to meet old buddies and the tours are wonderful to go on with your buddies. The PX beer party is always a happy evening especially when you go to dinner earlier in the evening with your buddies from your units. Then the impressive memorial services and Saturday evening dinner banquet dance rounds out a week of happiness.

Ladies do insist that your husbands take you to a 69th division reunion for I know he will be happy to see old buddies and friends once again and sometimes its 40 plus years since they have seen each other. Don't put it off as many do. I am sure Valley Forge at the Sheraton will see a record turnout and many new faces. Plan your vacation with the division reunion for 1990.

Dottie

**LADIES AUXILIARY BULLETIN MATERIAL AND PICTURES
SHOULD BE MAILED TO: DOROTHY (DOTTIE) A. WITZLEB**

P.O. Box 69 Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069

or R.D. 1, Box 477, Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606

Telephone: 412/455-2901 should you need information in a hurry.

Richard J. Hopkins Writes

Subject: Fighting 69th Infantry Division Assn.

I was overwhelmed and delighted to receive my first copy of the "Fighting 69th" bulletin. I had no idea that the Association even existed. (The bulletin mailed was your response to my letter of May 10th.)

Before retiring two years ago, my business life in industrial sales limited my time available for outside interests. In addition, my wife and I and family of four children have lived in the states of Indiana, Pennsylvania, Missouri, Illinois and now, California.

However, my family sure has heard enough about my military experiences and particularly, "The Fighting 69th!" I sure have appreciated their patience.

Nevertheless, I would like to include more information with this letter in addition to the resume I sent in my May 10th letter.

Attached are two pages of notes and diary summary that I thought might be of interest to fellow members of the Division. The "Diary Summary" is an exact copy of the data given to me by Jack Adams mentioned in my "Note." I recently sent a letter to the last known address I had for Jack, but I have not had a reply from him. Here again, I don't know if Jack is aware of the existence of the Association. His address was: 9967 Verree Road, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19115.

Enclosed also is a reproduced enlargement of a snapshot of my Platoon of F Company, 273rd Regiment. By count, not all of the members of the Platoon were present for the picture. I have attempted to identify as many individuals as possible. Fortunately I was aided by the Expert Infantryman Badge awards order (5/25/44) and Promotion award order (10/19/44), both of which I had included in my personal service album.

Last but not least! It is ironical to see the very first letter published in the Volume 42, No. 2 "bulletin" directly under your picture on Page 3, is from a member of my Company, Robert Mottaz. I do not recall him and I'm sure he doesn't recall me. Nevertheless, I plan to write to him in the future.

Enough said for this time around.

Thank you very much for the attention you gave to my first letter in May. I will keep the "bulletin" in my personal, permanent file for future reference.

I know that the Denver reunion will be a success just by seeing the effort extended in the publication of the "bulletin."

I'm always anxious to hear from any of my old platoon buddies or from anyone that was connected to our Company.

Hopkins, Richard J., Jr. - Sergeant

15312628

Squad Leader - 1st. 60mm Mortar Squad

4th Platoon, F (Fox) - Company, 2nd Battalion

273rd Regiment, 69th Infantry Division



October 22, 1944 — Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Mississippi

4th Platoon (Weapons) - F Company, 2nd Battalion, 273rd Regiment, 69th Infantry Division

Front (Single): Oscar Tete, Tech/Sgt. - Platoon Sgt.

1st Row: (1st) Marvin Wiges, S/Sgt. - Section Leader, 60mm Mortars; (3rd) Harry Amoss, Sgt. - Sqd. Ldr., 30 Cal. Machine Guns; (4th) Ralph Ogg, Pvt. - 60mm Mortar Squad

2nd Row: (1st) Edward H. Turek, Sgt.-Sqd. Ldr., 30 Cal. Machine Guns; (7th) Robert L. Davis, Sqd. Ldr., 60mm Mortar Sqd.

3rd Row: (2nd) _____ Graves, Pfc. - Gunner, 1st 60mm Mortar Sqd.

4th Row: (1st) Richard J. Hopkins, Jr., Sgt. - 1st. 60 mm Mortar Sqd. Ldr.; (4th) Martin DeMar, Pvt. - Ammo Bearer, 1st. 60mm Mortar Sqd.; (7th) _____ Black, Pvt. - Ammo Bearer, 1st. 60 mm Mortar Squad.

Photo and I.D.s prepared by **Richard J. Hopkins, Jr.** (Line #8 - Above)

(Continued on Page 23)

Route of the 2nd Battalion, 273rd Infantry, 69th Division

NOTE:

The origin of these notes is very interesting as well as very informative to me. As a member of a front-line combat division, we were not allowed to keep a diary of notes so that, if captured by the enemy, little would be known of the Division's or 1st Army's prior movements or pending actions.

In December, 1954 pending the closing of the Link-Belt, Wilkes-Barre, PA District Sales Office at the end of the month/year and becoming a member of the Link-Belt Philadelphia, PA District Sales Office, my wife, Joy, and I were invited to attend the annual Christmas party/dance sponsored by the Philadelphia Branch.

Much to my delight, a Sales Correspondent at the Branch Office turned out to have been the 2nd Battalion, 273rd Infantry, 69th Division Medical Supply Officer, John (Jack) B. Adams.

He had, contrary to regulations, kept a diary and when he learned that I had no idea of our Division movements once we left Camp Shelby, Mississippi, he supplied these notes to me, taken from his diary.

I was severely wounded on April 18, 1945 and this concluded the war for me. See *** Pg. 2.

— Page 1 —

DIARY SUMMARY

1944

- 4 Nov. — Depart Camp Shelby, MS
- 6 Nov. — Arrive Camp Kilmer, NJ
- 15 Nov. — Sailed on SS-Marine Panther from New York City
- 26 Nov. — Arrived at Avonmouth (Bristol), England
- 27 Nov. — Arrived at Crawley (Winchester), England

1945

- 22 Jan. — Sailed from Southampton, England on T.S.S. Monawai (English)
- 23 Jan. — Arrived at Le Harve, France
- 24 Jan. — Arrived at Gournay, France (Chateau)
- 31 Jan. — Arrived at Soisson, France (Field Tents)
- 7 Feb. — Arrived at Valender, Belgium
- 12 Feb. — Position in line at Ramscheid, Germany - Relieved 1st Bn., 393d Inf., 99th Div.
- 27 Feb. — Attack on Giescheid, Germany
- 28 Feb. — Attack on Riescheid, Germany
- 2 Mar. — Relieved by 2nd Bn., 272nd Inf., 69th Div.
- 4 Mar. — Position in line near Schonesseffen, Germany - Relieved 2nd Bn., 110th Inf., 28th Div.
- 7 Mar. — Easy Co. - Oberhausen, Germany
- 9 Mar. — Corps Reserve at Kreuzberg, Germany
- 17 Mar. — Corps Reserve at Kilberath, Germany
- 26 Mar. — Corps Reserve at Nieder-Lutzinger, Germany - near Brohl on Rhine

— Page 2 —

- 27 Mar. — Crossed Rhine on LCI or Pontoon Bridge at Remagen, Germany
- 28 Mar. — Clean-up operations - Weinahr, Charlottenberg and Scheidt, Germany
- 30 Mar. — Clean-up operations - Vic. Frankenbach & Limberg
- 1-2 Apr. — Move to Ippinghausen - Near Naumburg, West of Kassel. 273d. Combat Team attached to 2nd. Div. for operational purposes.

- 3 Apr. — Move to Breuna - 15 mi. N.W. of Kassel
- 5 Apr. — Easy at Holtzhausen, Fox at Wilhelmshausen, George at Knickhagen
- 6 Apr. — Easy and Fox on high ground over Hann-Munden, George at Bonafort
- 7 Apr. — Attack on Han-Munden - marching fire
- 9 Apr. — March to vicinity of Hedemunden. Bn. attached to Combat Command A of 9th Armored Div. - Move to Volkerode
- 10 Apr. — Move with CCA to Schernberg (55 Mi.)
- 11 Apr. — Move with CCA to Gorsleben (25 Mi.) - AA Emplacement at Kannawurf
- 12 Apr. — Fox & George at Heldranger - Reunite with CCA - Move 30 mi. - No overnight stop
- 13 Apr. — Move with CCA to field west of Stontzsch - George to defensive position vicinity Gohren to block escape route from Weissenfels - Move to Werben
- 14 Apr. — With George at Gohren - Rejoin Bn. & CCA and move to Lobstadt
- 15 Apr. — Move to Grossbordau
- 16 Apr. — Move to Trebsen on Mulde River - East of Leipzig
- 18 Apr. — Rejoined 273d. Inf. at Liebertwolkwitz and joined attack on Leipzig from SE - Moved into outskirts 2200 hrs. - Easy & George on foot - Fox on tanks to City Hall***
- 19 Apr. — City taken 1900 hrs. with exception of Napoleon Monument
- 20 Apr. — Final surrender of Napoleon Monument at 0200 hrs. - Return to Trebsen

***-See Pg. 1

(These two pages were compiled as a part of "The Fighting 69th" WW-II album by Hopkins, Richard J., Jr. - Sergeant, Squad Leader, 1st 60mm Mortar Squad of 4th Weapons Platoon, F (Fox) Company, 2nd Battalion, 273rd Regiment, 69th Infantry Division.)



Casmir Max and Harry Harm, former members of the Combat Platoon Division Headquarters & Headquarters Company. Picture believed to have been taken in Schmidtheim, Germany.
Furnished by Harry Harm

Lucci Visits Bebra-Weiterode and the Nolke's - Nolke Replies

In July of 1988, I visited Germany with my daughter Diane and my two oldest grandchildren, Jeanna and Stephen, who were then 13 and 12 respectively. We stayed five days in Bremen, visiting friends and relatives of my late wife Johanna and myself. As you know Hanna was born in Bremen and we were married there in November 1946. We also stayed for several days each, in Heidelberg and Rothenberg an der Tauber. En route we decided to stop by Kurt Nolke's house in Bebra-Weiterode.

In 1945 Kurt Nolke was a ten year old German boy. At the end of the war E Company, 272nd, was billeted in Bebra-Weiterode. Kurt Nolke has never forgotten the kindness he was shown then by the GIs, and has been trying to contact every member of E Company he can, to show his appreciation. In 1986 he attended our Reunion in Pittsburgh with two of his sons, at which time he extended an invitation to me to visit him any time I happened to be in Germany.

I looked him up in the phone book in Weiterode. His third son, Andreas answered, and told us that his father and mother had left just that morning to visit friends in Poland, and that his brothers Stefan and Cladius were also not at home. Nevertheless he invited us to his house, and after refreshing ourselves, gave us a guided tour of his home town and the surrounding area, including a view of the iron curtain nearby. We spoke with several people in whose house the GIs were billeted and remembered this time well.

Two weeks ago I received the enclosed letter from Kurt Nolke, it is written in German. (Also enclosed is my translation.)

Best regards to you and Dottie,
Ed Lucci

* * * * *



*Herr Gerlach, Ed Lucci and Andreas Nolke
Bebra Weiterode, Germany*



The Nolke Family — Mother, Father and Three Sisters - 1920's

(Continued on Page 25)

LUCCI VISITS BEBRA-WEITERODE AND THE NOLKES
(Continued from Page 24)



*Left to right: Herr Hebig, Andreas Nolke, Ed Lucci
 Bebra- Weiterode, Germany
 Picture of house in the '20s. House was redone after the war.*



*Ed Lucci and Andreas Nolke in front of building occupied
 by E Company, 272nd in 1945. Picture taken July 1988.*



*Weiterode, Germany
 July, 1988*



Weiterode, Germany - July, 1988

**Translation of letter from Kurt Nolke,
 Bebra-Weiterode, 5/14/89**

Kurt Nolke
 Gartenstrasse 11
 6440 Bebra Weiterode
 Bundesrepublik, Deutschland

Dear Mr. Edward L. Lucci,

Since Easter and Whitsuntide have already passed, it is time that I, in the name of my whole family, again, thank you heartily for your Christmas and New Year's Greetings and for the pictures you sent. We regret very much our absence, during the time of your visit to our home. My wife and I were invited to visit friends in Poland, (Formerly, Upper Silesia in Germany). Conditions in Poland are comfortless, hopefully, things will soon be better for the people there.

Mr. Lucci, my wife and I, together with another couple from Weiterode, intend to visit the United States in September of this year. During this trip to America, we will be in New York on the 14th of September until the 15th or 16th. Perhaps it is possible that we can get together at this time, possibly you can give us a few tips (on things to do and see). We will arrive in New York in a rented car coming from the South to New York and continuing on to Niagara Falls and Toronto, to visit friends there.

According to my understanding, in reading the 69th Division Bulletin, the Veterans are planning a European Trip in the year 1990, under the leadership of Mr. W. R. Beswick. If you come with them, we would be very pleased. I also, herewith, wish to invite all participants of this trip to visit us, here in Bebra, Rotenburg and Bad Hersfeld. I am a member of the German-American Friendship Club in Bad Hersfeld, we can organize your stay here. It would be probably also possible for me to do something financial here.

In these times, it behooves us to do something positive to promote good understanding between Americans and Germans. One can stay in Bebra, Rotenburg or Bad Hersfeld and visit Kassel and the surrounding areas or any other towns.

If you attend this year's Reunion in Denver, please give our best regards to everyone that knows us, especially Mr. C. Marshall. My sons Stefan and Claudius and I often think back, in gratitude on our participation in the 1986 Reunion in Pittsburgh.

In closing, I wish you and yours all the best until the next time.

Yours,
 Kurt Nolke

Attendance by States at The 1989 Denver, Colorado Reunion

STATE	MEMBERS	ATTENDEES
Pennsylvania	30	61
Ohio	23	46
New York	23	44
California	21	39
Colorado	20	40
New Jersey	15	36
Illinois	15	31
Texas	15	31
Florida	15	24
Nebraska	10	19
Wisconsin	10	19
Michigan	10	18
Virginia	8	14
Minnesota	8	13
Indiana	7	15
Arizona	7	14
Missouri	7	13
Iowa	7	12
Georgia	5	12
Louisiana	5	12
Arkansas	5	11
Oregon	5	10
Massachusetts	5	8
Connecticut	4	9
New Mexico	4	8
Washington	3	7
North Carolina	3	6
Tennessee	3	6
Maryland	3	5
Kentucky	3	4
Mississippi	2	4
Nevada	2	4
Utah	2	4
New Hampshire	2	3
Oklahoma	2	3
Alaska	1	2
Delaware	1	2
Idaho	1	2
Kansas	1	2
Maine	1	2
Montana	1	2
South Carolina	1	2
West Virginia	1	2
District of Columbia	1	1
TOTAL	318	622
East	191	374
West	127	248

62 First Timers

358 Attended the Early Bird

554 Attended the Banquet

230 Attended the Sunday Going Home Breakfast

Tour figures will be posted in the next bulletin.

1989 Denver, Colorado Reunion Attendees

If your name is not on this list, it is because you failed to fill out a registration form.

**Denotes First Timer*

69th DIVISION HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

Fred Avery Virginia
 Andrew and Joan Both Florida
 Eugene and Norma Butterfield Ohio
 Albert and Henrietta Crisp New Jersey
Guests: Mr. and Mrs. J. Nolan
 Keith and Colleen Curtis Iowa
 Walter and Ann Doernbach New Jersey
 Jack and Mary Duffy New York
 Dutch and Jeanne Hawn Colorado
Guests: Hope and two other Hawns
 Karol and Margaret Kreutzman Washington
Guest: Don Ebert
 Rabbi Ernst and Eudice Lorge Illinois
 Robert Myers Arizona
 Sumner Russman Oklahoma
 Sigmund and Joanne Salacinski New York
 *Arthur and Mathilda Seski Michigan
 *Nolan and Juanece Smith Texas
 Joseph and Eleanor Wright Missouri

69th M.P.s

Joseph and Audrey Kennedy New York
 Carol and Ruth Miller Ohio
 John Moriarty Massachusetts

69th RECON

Boyd and Stella Ellsworth Ohio

269th ENGINEERS

Marion Diefenbach Florida
Widow of John Diefenbach
 James and Dotty Eibling Ohio
 Daniel and Helen Evers Pennsylvania
 William and Betty Foster Pennsylvania
Guests: Bonnie and William Wachs
 Frank and Teddy Nemeth Pennsylvania
 Frank and Grace Packard Massachusetts
 William Riggle Indiana
Guest: Son William, Jr.
 Frank Sullivan Massachusetts
 Chuck and Wilma Williams Nevada

369th MEDICAL BATTALION

*Michael Grosko Michigan

569th SIGNAL COMPANY

James and Ruth Combs Georgia
Guests: Suzan Unger and Amanda Shaw Colorado
 Carroll and Maxine Dunning Colorado
 Adolph Eichhammer Florida
 Frank and Geraldine Fisher Indiana
 Ed and Fran Hoskins Texas
 *Joseph Kotsko Ohio
 Curtis and Evelyn Peterson Wisconsin
 Donald and Lois Pierce Pennsylvania
 Howard and Mae Sanders Oregon
 Carl and Mildred Stetler Pennsylvania
 *Leo and Jean Weisberg Colorado

(Continued on Page 27)

1989 DENVER, COLORADO REUNION ATTENDEES
(Continued from Page 26)

769th ORDNANCE COMPANY

Irving and Shirley Sarafan New York
Fred and Kay Scheller Illinois
Joseph Selb New Jersey
Guest: Vilma Mackouse

271st INFANTRY REGIMENT

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

John Barrette Wisconsin
John and Barbara Davis Pennsylvania
Edwin and Sue Lansford Tennessee
Mel and June Liverance Colorado

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 1st BATTALION

Al and Edith Carbonari Connecticut

COMPANY A

*Harold and Bette Lemke Utah
Charles and Marion Oliver Louisiana
George and Rita Wolff South Carolina
Emil and Elena Zerenga New York

COMPANY B

Helmuth and Pearl Boehm California
*Martin and Rogene Buol Colorado
Kenneth Curran New Hampshire
Phil Delphey Pennsylvania
Tom and Lorraine Hancock Illinois
Guest: Betty Jouvenaux
*Earl and Mildred Hansen Tennessee
*Henry and Mary Lou Milner Missouri
Kenneth and Lillian Upton Louisiana
Chuck and Pat Walsh Wisconsin
*Wayne Weygandt Illinois
Guest: Thora Miller
Robert Younglas Missouri

COMPANY D

Fred and Ann Collet Michigan
Al and Francis Haag Wisconsin
*Martin and Edythe Miller Colorado
*Louis and Judith Pohopek Maine
Guests: Barb, Kelli, Jesse Swazey

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 2nd BATTALION

*Donald and Mary Ellen Connelly Arizona
*Earl and Judy Fox Illinois

COMPANY E

Elmer and Erma Broneske Colorado
*Herbert and Lucie Erhart Arizona
Robert and Grace Glaum Illinois
Carl and Edith Kaiser California
William and Catherine McCall New Jersey
Charles and Kathy Moore Ohio
Bing T. Poon Washington, D.C.
Paul and Marian Shadle Pennsylvania
William and Marjorie Taylor Florida

COMPANY F

Cecil and Alene Cottle Ohio
James Kidd Kentucky

COMPANY G

Clifton and Pauline Barbieri Virginia
Cecil and Bette Fernandez Florida
Zane and Zelma Gray Arizona
Glen and Nadine Hunnicutt Nebraska
Clarence and Shirley Jensen New York
Guests: Son Greg and Cathy Sumeracki

COMPANY G (continued)

*Myron and Marie Johnson Nebraska
Ralph and Josephine Plugge Illinois

COMPANY H

Norman and Wanda Borkowski Michigan
John and Helen Hayes Florida
Albert and Eleanor Panara New Jersey

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 3rd BATTALION

Raymond and Dolores Mann Texas
*Fred and Agnes Venette Colorado

COMPANY K

Rudolf Meyer New York

ANTI-TANK COMPANY

Edgar Biles Arizona
*Ralph and Georgia Bradford California
*Elvin and Vesta McCurdy Iowa
George and Lina West Pennsylvania
George and Virginia Weston New Jersey
James and Betty Yackle Florida

MEDICS

*Everett and Helen Lipman New York

SERVICE COMPANY

*Lumir Bocek Nebraska
Guest: Patsy Moeller
Leroy and Maria Keller Virginia

272nd INFANTRY REGIMENT

COMPANY A

*James and Mary Battin II California
L. R. Olson New Jersey
Guest: Eileen Rimmer
Edgar and Frances Parsons North Carolina

COMPANY B

Crandon and Jane Clark New Jersey
*Richard and Gerry Hadley Colorado
Leo and Margaret Moore Ohio

COMPANY C

*Charles Weaver Ohio

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 2nd BATTALION

*Ed and Helen Clark Ohio
*Earl and Alice Crea Washington

COMPANY E

Fred and Mavis Butenhoff Wisconsin
Tony and Florence Keller New York
Roger and Ruth West Michigan
John and Helen Westlake California
Chet and Barbara Yastrzemski New York

COMPANY F

Herb and Kathryn Callaway Texas
James and Peach Henry Pennsylvania
Joseph and Sally Schaffer Oregon
Melvin and Louise Wardin Michigan

COMPANY G

Anees and Barbara Barakat Pennsylvania
Walter and Dolores Berhow Utah
Millard and Fredda Carter Texas
Guest: Kay Carter White
William and Lynn Danahy Nebraska
Val and Edna Frauenhofer New York
Ray Lehman Iowa
William and Mariam Lilien New York
Joseph and Louise O'Donnell Pennsylvania
Merrill and Donna Wysong Indiana

(Continued on Page 28)

272nd INFANTRY REGIMENT (continued)

COMPANY H

Lewis and Rosemary Shaw Indiana

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 3rd BATTALION

George and Mardy Martin Minnesota

COMPANY I

Frank Aplan Pennsylvania

Wendell and Sally Freeman Georgia

*Forrest and Marilyn Frentress Colorado

James and Marie Herbison Massachusetts

Kenneth and Edris Hull New Mexico

Robert and Vivian Kurtzman Ohio

Guests: Roy and Marianne Kurtzman

Pat and Janice Lushbaugh Maryland

Chalmer and Rita Pearson Michigan

Harold and Ethel Ruck Tennessee

COMPANY K

*Stanley and Laurene Knedlik Arkansas

COMPANY L

Walter and Arlene Elsner Wisconsin

Russell and Roseanna Meinecke Missouri

John and Elizabeth Nelson New Jersey

COMPANY M

*Harold and Aldora Gonsalves California

Floyd and Katherine McCalip, Jr. Mississippi

Joseph and Katheryn Makosky Pennsylvania

Carl and Dorothy Rapp Florida

Richard and Claire Sodorff Idaho

Raymond and Alice Wolthoff Florida

ANTI-TANK COMPANY

*Roy and Marge Bush Missouri

Russell and Betty Koch Missouri

CANNON COMPANY

Ralph and Ursula Goebel Minnesota

Cary and Lorraine Pollitt, Jr. Kentucky

Rudy and Margaret Weidmann Ohio

MEDICS

John and Barb Theisen Minnesota

SERVICE COMPANY

*Allen and Dorothy Williams Texas

273rd INFANTRY REGIMENT

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY

*Roger and Anne DeClercq Minnesota

*Doug and Roselyn George Texas

*James and Norma McLean Montana

Norman and Juanita Pickford Illinois

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 1st BATTALION

Rocco and Rosalie Campagna Pennsylvania

Roy and Sara Gilstrap Georgia

John and Janet Havey Arizona

Guest: Mary Havey

Ralph and Evelyn Lessin Minnesota

*Charles and Donna Moyer Nebraska

COMPANY A

*Kenneth Carner California

Guest: Lee Ascue

James and Mary Carroll Texas

James and Allamae Ezell Arizona

Ray Fahrner Pennsylvania

*Charles and Kathryn Hammond Nebraska

*Jack and Carolyn Houghton Colorado

Edward Lucci New York

William and Ruby Nettles Mississippi

Bennie and Marcella Srubar Texas

*Aaron and Joan Taulbee Ohio

COMPANY B

*Eugene and Marilyn Mischke Illinois

Robert and Eleanor Peason New Jersey

COMPANY C

Wallace Selkirk Texas

COMPANY D

Arthur and Kathe Ayres New Jersey

*Thomas Black Iowa

Roy and Lavon Fritze Iowa

Allan and Mary Blackmar New York

Edgar and Mary Case Pennsylvania

*Boyd and Jean Good California

Roland and Janice Hendrickson Oregon

George and Barbara Johnson Virginia

Robert and Betty McCarty Louisiana

Guests: Russell McCarty and Kathy Sohvieh

Gordon Mohr New York

*Vic and Bonnie Motley Texas

Kenneth Sawyer Florida

*Elmer Thompson Texas

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 2nd BATTALION

Victor and Olga Ostrow Maryland

Ted and Ursula Schiffner New Jersey

Guests: Bernie, Darlen and Jeff Schiffner

COMPANY E

Joseph and Virginia Aiello New York

Arthur and Marian Hume Michigan

William and Jane Matlach New York

Al and Lottie Shires Florida

Kermit Webb Kentucky

Earl and Dorothy Witzleb, Jr. Pennsylvania

COMPANY F

*Oran Chatham Colorado

Walter and Shirley Harpain California

*Bill and Bobbie Shannon Texas

Sammy and Anne Woolf New York

COMPANY G

Robert and June Ainley Indiana

Alfred and Betty Aronson New Jersey

Willard and Dorris Beecher Florida

Raymond Hotter Illinois

Joseph and Diane Panganiban California

Orville and Beulah Schultz California

COMPANY H

*Robert and Betty Bender Washington

Robert and Maxine Haag Indiana

Thomas Hoffman Florida

Leland and Lola Jones Kansas

Charles and Agnes Leskus Pennsylvania

Charles and Doris Locke New Jersey

John and Arylene Mowrey, Jr. West Virginia

Elijah and Jacqueline Sams North Carolina

Jake and Violet Stark Pennsylvania

Raymond Szkudlarek Ohio

Guest: Amy Szkudlarek

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 3rd BATTALION

Caleb and Bonnie Chapman Nebraska

Charles and Edith Chapman Florida

*Norman Kent Missouri

Tod and Pauline Morgan Ohio

(Continued on Page 29)

273rd INFANTRY REGIMENT (continued)

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY, 3rd BATTALION (cont.)

Everette and Doris Patterson Colorado
John and Judith Sney Ohio
Earl and Anna Walters Pennsylvania

COMPANY I

William and Beverly Armstrong Iowa
James and Audrey Castrale Nebraska
George and Edna Harper New Mexico
George and Janet Houseal Pennsylvania
Carl and Bernice Macknair Pennsylvania
Guests: Natalie Macknair and Michelle Snook

Paul and Aldona Mickiewicz New Jersey
Maclin Morrison Colorado

*John and Lorna Penny Illinois
Robert and Theresa Pierce California
Chester Ritchie Virginia
Robert and Doris Rogers Illinois
Earnest and Elizabeth Rowe Delaware
Erwin and Carmen Sanborn New Hampshire
Nicholas and Ann Villacci New York

COMPANY K

*Oliver and Maedell Coker Arizona

COMPANY L

James Jolly California
Herman Walker Indiana
Guest: Linda Lanning

COMPANY M

Albert and Elvira Francavilla Pennsylvania
Fred and Nan Johnson Arizona
Raul Nava California
Edward and Rosemary Radlowski New York
Frances Welch - *Widow of Woodrow* Illinois
Guest: Helen Williams

CANNON COMPANY

*Arlie and Parley Boswell Illinois
*Paul Edwards New Mexico
Mary Ross - *Widow of George* New Jersey
Thomas and Ida Poole Iowa

SERVICE COMPANY

*Harry and Loyla Miller Nebraska
*Julian Pederson Minnesota
*Cliff and Clarice Stolpe Arizona
Guests: Gary and Claudia Kent

DIVARTY

Bob and Thelma Bement Colorado
Charles and Edith Chapman Virginia
Alfred Faison Florida
Douglas and Nyda Hall Louisiana
Stacy and Natalie Gooch New Mexico
Charles and Lois Kaercher Pennsylvania
Guest: David Kaercher

Dennis Michum California
Tony and Agnes Scally Florida

724th FIELD ARTILLERY

Al and Polly DiLoreto Ohio
Marvin Fineberg Minnesota
*Howard and Lois Hawk California
Thomas and Helen Heath New York
Coy and Erline Horton North Carolina
Daniel O'Shea Connecticut
Guests: Michael and Dennis O'Shea

*John Rosenbrock California
William and Patricia Ruebsamen California

879th FIELD ARTILLERY

Phil and Elizabeth Colombo New York
Clarence and Alice Vickers Georgia
Dell and Mary Balzano Ohio

880th FIELD ARTILLERY

*Robert Hickey Colorado
John and Peggy O'Connor Illinois
Enrico and Anne D'Angelo Pennsylvania
Jack Runkle Colorado
Joseph and Iona DiFilippi Oregon

881st FIELD ARTILLERY

HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

Melvin and Laverne Miller Colorado

A BATTERY

Francis and Zita Enright Wisconsin
Ralph and Madeline Reeves Arizona
*Glen and Jean Wyatt Oregon

B BATTERY

Walter and Alice Haag California
*LaMoine Kohl Nebraska
Emil Matys Nevada
Guest: Jeri Bate

James Moen Minnesota
Bob Murphy Pennsylvania
Gilbert and Susan Rocco Pennsylvania
Phil and Harriet Sparacino Wisconsin
Richard Stoddard Colorado
Eugene and Jacqueline Tabacchi Pennsylvania

C BATTERY

Joseph and Sybil Conner Georgia
Harold and Mary Ann Early Ohio
George and Ruth Ehl Missouri
Lester Hart Ohio
Guest: Grandson
Paul and Josephine Molinari Connecticut
Joe Sarna Illinois

661st TANK DESTROYER BATTALION

William and Jo Beswick Virginia
Clifford and Dolly Blank Texas
Guests: Janelle and Cliff Blank, Jr.

Joseph and Marian Jenei Ohio
Guests: Andy Jenei and Carol Miller

Earl Lazar California
Verle and Emmaline McNealy California
*Thaddeus and Evelyn Mace Michigan
Eugene and Ethel Pierron Wisconsin
Gilbert and Jennie Romero Texas
William and Ellen Snidow Virginia

777th TANK BATTALION

John Gradomski Ohio
*Maurice Kasen Colorado
Andrew LaPatka Pennsylvania
Guest: Laura Pandolfi

Alex and Florence Lasseigne Louisiana
Joseph Loudon Ohio
John and Ellen McCann Massachusetts
Henry and Jean Putala Connecticut
Franklin and Gloria See Arizona
George Singleton Maryland
Gaylord and Ruth Thomas Wisconsin
Robert Weise New York
Charley and Edna White Oklahoma
Alex Zubrowski New York

Unknown Unit - Alex Leso Ohio

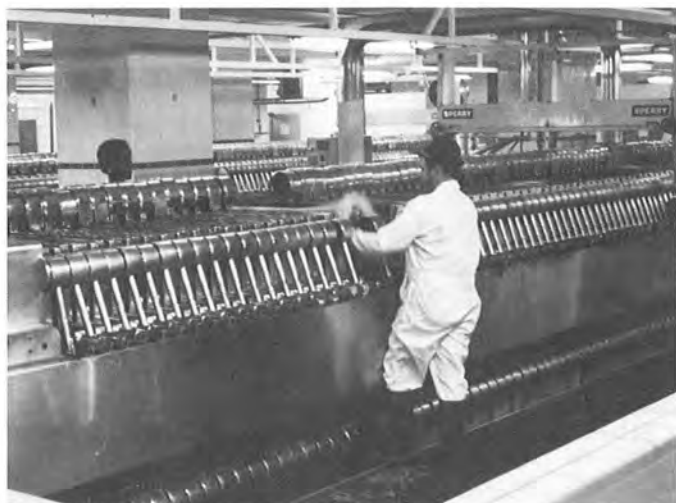
1989 Denver, Colorado Reunion Denver Marriott Hotel Southeast



Marriott Southeast, Denver



Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs



Coors Brewery, Denver



Air Force Academy, Colorado, Springs



First Timers - Mary and James Battin II



Ruth and Gaylord Thomas - Ethel Pierron

1989 Denver, Colorado Reunion Denver Marriott Hotel Southeast



William and Ellen Snidow



William and Mariam Lilien



Anthony and Florence Keller



Rabbi Ernst and Eudice Lorge



John and Janet Havey



Florence and Alex Lasseigne

1989 Denver, Colorado Reunion Denver Marriott Hotel Southeast



Ellen and John McCann



Bud and Frances Parsons



John Gradomski and Barbara Yastrzemski



Jane and Crandon Clark



Helen and John Westlake



Anees (Ace) Barakat

CENTERFOLD PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

Top Photo

Company A, 777th Tank Bn. Fort Knox, Kentucky

1st ROW

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Wm. Holmes Cromley | 18. Lt. Robert E. White |
| 2. Merlin S. Evans | 19. Lt. Morton L. Fried |
| 3. Alvin L. Percival | 20. Oscar Coren |
| 4. Clinton C. Esslinger | 21. Wilfred L. Favors |
| 5. Davis | 22. Francis D. Nockerts |
| 6. Joseph C. Robinson | 23. William J. Fannucchi |
| 7. Charles N. Aldrich | 24. George A. Femmel |
| 8. Raymon L. Silbaugh | 25. Herbert J. Wade |
| 9. Charles S. Rotter | 26. Paul H. Soule |
| 10. John W. Brittain | 27. Lewis M. Reckrey |
| 11. Henry J. Johnson | 28. Vernon J. Wirth |
| 12. Frank Burzynski | 29. Esquipula J. Trujillo |
| 13. John F. Schroeder | 30. Dean A. Wilmar |
| 14. Milton W. Myres | 31. Silvester Sabol |
| 15. Lt. Hyman Goodman | 32. James D. McNally |
| 16. Lt. William G. Rothrock | 33. Stern |
| 17. Capt. George A. Burson | |

2nd ROW

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Floyd T. Eden | 16. Dewey L. Bailey |
| 2. Clifford J. Thompson | 17. Claude F. Grussmeyer |
| 3. Martin Gurnik | 18. |
| 4. Ib A. Hvennegaard | 19. Harry Keeney |
| 5. Sydney Licker | 20. William E. Schiller |
| 6. Clair Bennett | 21. George W. Arnold |
| 7. Burns | 22. Marvin L. Allen |
| 8. | 23. John Dunevich |
| 9. Dailey C. Tettleton | 24. John Rooney |
| 10. | 25. Hollis E. Erwin |
| 11. James P. Bidon | 26. Stanley Kristy |
| 12. | 27. Robert C. Follmer |
| 13. Scott Kannenberg | 28. Stanley Gacon |
| 14. Donald L. Slimmer | 29. Sydney Schmahl |
| 15. Joseph Brahar | 30. George C. Haymaker |

3rd ROW

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Loyd E. Underwood | 17. Clarence Varvel |
| 2. | 18. |
| 3. Turner | 19. John Kokulus |
| 4. Reino Pelkonen | 20. Joseph L. McIntosh |
| 5. Durham | 21. Armand D. Boudreau |
| 6. Howard D. Clem | 22. Robert O. Oliver |
| 7. Goins | 23. Harold C. Dillingham |
| 8. | 24. George H. Parham |
| 9. | 25. Nicholas M. Fork |
| 10. Walter W. McKeague | 26. |
| 11. | 27. Luke J. Patranella |
| 12. | 28. Joseph Hadac |
| 13. | 29. Matthew Zemacke |
| 14. Rowe V. Battles | 30. |
| 15. Alexander G. Brander | 31. |
| 16. James Hoover | 32. Maurice B. Kasen |

Bottom Photo

Company A, 777th Tank Bn. Camp San Luis Obispo

1st ROW

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Silvester Sabol | 12. Lt. Joseph C. Robinson |
| 2. Reino Pelkonen | 13. Francis D. Nockerts |
| 3. Esquipula J. Trujillo | 14. Wilfred L. Favors |
| 4. Herbert J. Wade | 15. Abraham Weiss |
| 5. Clinton C. Esslinger | 16. Frank Burzynski |
| 6. Charles G. Rotter | 17. Vernon J. Wirth |
| 7. Harry C. Keeney | 18. Paul M. Soule |
| 8. Lt. Schulberg | 19. Martin Gurnik |
| 9. Lt. William G. Rothrock | 20. Earnest J. Jean |
| 10. Capt. George Burson, Jr. | 21. George C. Haymaker |
| 11. Lt. Frank R. Dorner | |

2nd ROW

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Marvin L. Allen | 14. William J. Fannucchi |
| 2. Sydney Schmahl | 15. Carl E. Farmer |
| 3. Roman L. Orzechowski | 16. Joseph L. McIntosh |
| 4. Ernst Hunter | 17. Raymond Burdick |
| 5. Osborne | 18. James P. Bidon |
| 6. Marvin A. Dumire | 19. Merlin S. Evans |
| 7. Floyd T. Eden | 20. James W. Hoover |
| 8. Walter McKeague | 21. William J. Schiller, Jr. |
| 9. James C. O'Day | 22. Leland Cooper |
| 10. Stanley R. Whitley | 23. Henry B. Jurkiewicz |
| 11. John W. Brittain | 24. Robert J. Rhoades |
| 12. T. Scott Kannenberg | 25. James C. Lesko |
| 13. Ib A. Hvennegaard | 26. John H. McNeill |

3rd ROW

- | |
|-------------------------|
| 1. George W. Arnold |
| 2. Loyd E. Underwood |
| 3. Maurice M. Anderson |
| 4. Howard D. Clem |
| 5. Boyce Kellog |
| 6. Carroll R. Yount |
| 7. Rowe E. Battles |
| 8. Robert Martin |
| 9. Curtis Breedlove |
| 10. Fred E. Rittenhouse |
| 11. Ralph A. Peterman |
| 12. Armand D. Boudreau |
| 13. Robert Gray |
| 14. Wilson A. Wright |
| 15. John Dunevich |
| 16. Matthew Zemache |
| 17. Goforth |
| 18. James F. Harvell |
| 19. Greer |

4th ROW

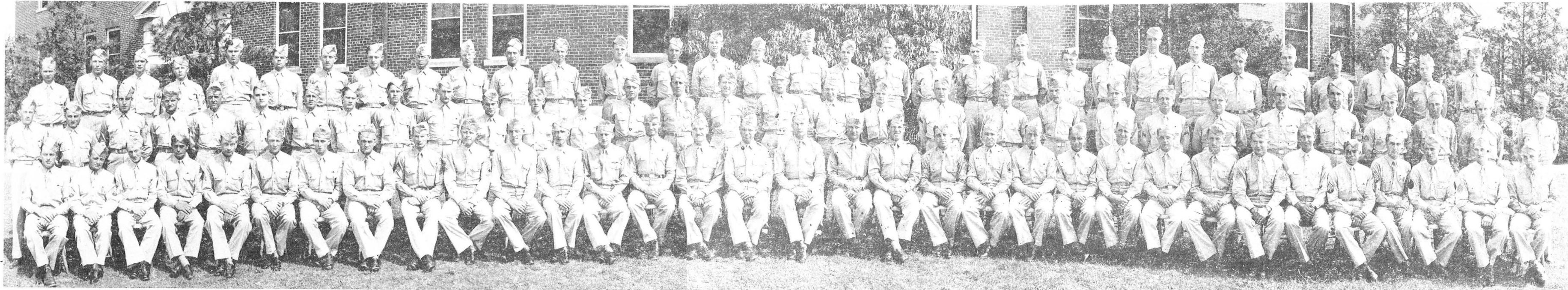
- | |
|-------------------------|
| 1. Leonard Huggard |
| 2. Donald L. Slimmer |
| 3. James D. McNally |
| 4. George K. White |
| 5. Dailey C. Tettleton |
| 6. Robert Burns |
| 7. Joseph W. Andrews |
| 8. Stanley Gacon |
| 9. Dean A. Wilmar |
| 10. Robert L. Stone |
| 11. Robert C. Follmer |
| 12. Phillip M. King |
| 13. Ray H. Dixon |
| 14. George H. Parham |
| 15. Johnson |
| 16. Maurice M. Anderson |
| 17. Kollosoff |
| 18. Loren L. Nelson |
| 19. William Ledford |

5th ROW

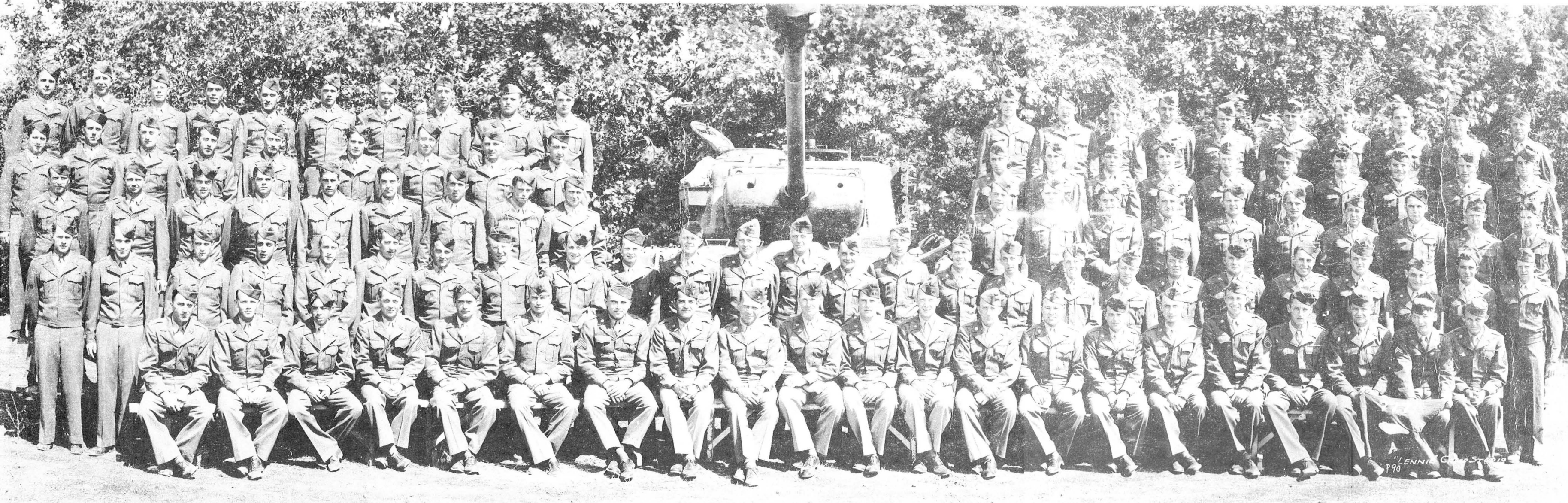
- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Stanley Kristy | 11. Lindsay |
| 2. Nicholas Fork | 12. Raymond Bundrick |
| 3. Maurice B. Kasen | 13. Arnold Gabbard |
| 4. Dewey L. Bailey, Jr. | 14. Thomas E. Leonhardt |
| 5. Hollis E. Erwin | 15. Hallard |
| 6. John Kedik | 16. Frank L. Smith |
| 7. Robert L. Littlejohn | 17. Ernest L. Hunter |
| 8. Klippel | 18. Sidney Licker |
| 9. Moses Marshall | 19. Robert Oliver |
| 10. Pantozzi | 20. Wm. Holmes Cromley |

See preceding page for listing
of names for these two photos.

**Company A
777th Tank
Battalion
Fort Knox,
Kentucky**



**Company A
777th Tank
Battalion
Camp San
Luis Obispo**



*Season's Greetings
to All Fighting 69ers
and Their Families.*



Merry
Christmas



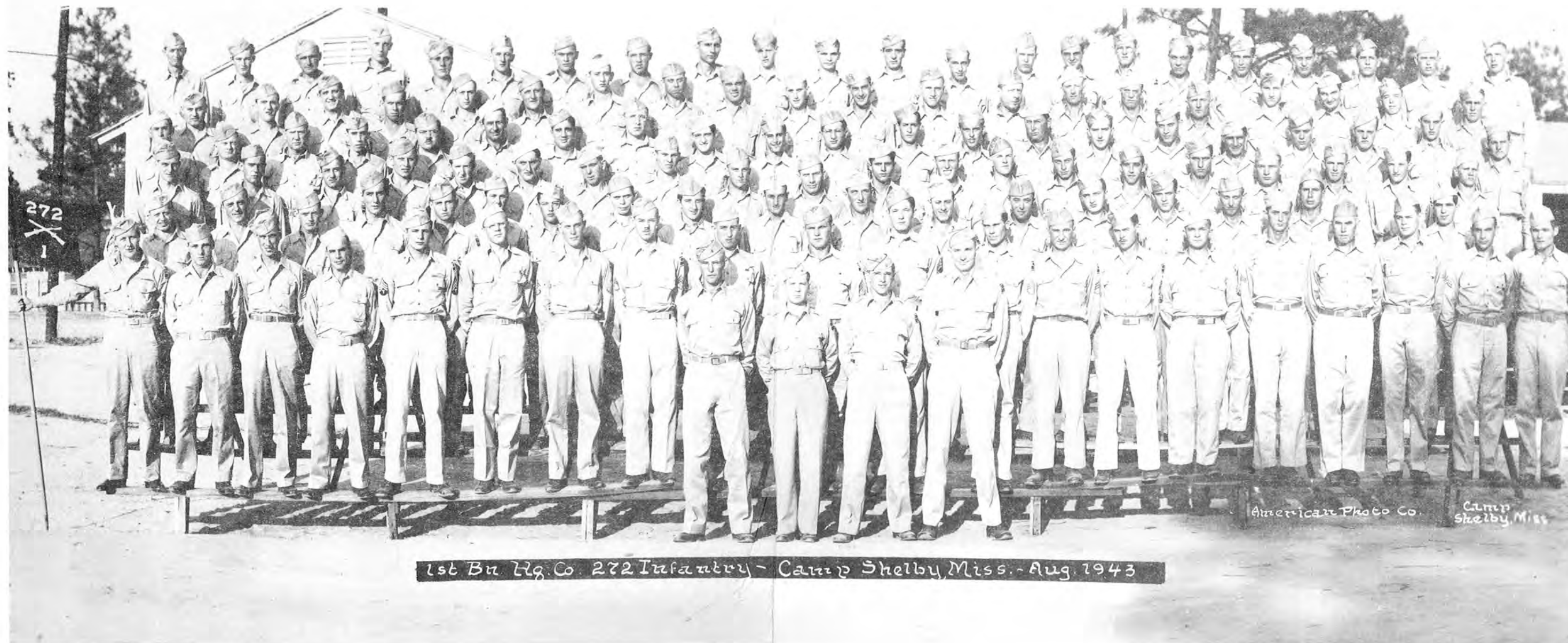
Happy
New Year

272nd Infantry
Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion
Camp Shelby, Mississippi
August, 1943

Merry
Christmas



Happy
New Year



1st Bn Hq. Co 272 Infantry - Camp Shelby, Miss. - Aug. 1943

Division Association Chapters, Units, and Group Mini-Weekends Across the United States

We are interested in all news from Chapters, Groups, Branches, Companies, Battalions, Regiments, Recon, Artillery, AAA, T.D.'s 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 Earl E. Witzleb, Jr., Box 69, Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069 or R.D. #1, Box 477, Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606, as early as possible. Then follow through with a write-up immediately after the event(s).

By now everyone should know where news material, article and pictures should be mailed. Your Coordinating Manager and Editor will do a superb job of handling it for you, our members.

Company D, 272nd Infantry

Jack E. and Lucile Burrus, *Coordinators and News Reporters*

R.D. #1, Box 99

Arenzville, Illinois 62611

Telephone: _____ Please send to Earl.

Company "D" of the 272nd Infantry held their Bi-Annual Reunion on the weekend of July 1st at Bardstown, Kentucky. There were 17 former members of the company in attendance and they hailed from 12 different states.

It was both a happy and sad occasion. Happy, as they had the opportunity to renew old friendships that had been established over 45 years ago — but saddened by the fact that Harry Hagan who was to host the reunion had died suddenly in March of this year. Harry's widow Louise and daughters Mary Lou, Felicia and Gracie and sons Rev. Harry Jr. and Sidney courageously decided to "carry on" and host the reunion with help from Mr. and Mrs. Ed Heckel.

Harry would have been proud of the job that they did. On Saturday they arranged for a coffee at "Beechwold," a pre-civil war mansion, a tourmobile tour of historic Bardstown, a visit to "My Old Kentucky Home" and completed the day with a banquet at the Holiday Inn. On Sunday afternoon the Hagans hosted a luncheon at their own fine pre-Civil War home and in the evening they arranged for a block of seats at "The Stephen Foster Story," American's favorite outdoor musical. It was a great weekend.

It was announced that the 1991 reunion would be held in New Iberia, Louisiana with Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Geoffroy as hosts. Any former D Company members that are interested in attending in 1991 and are not on the regular company mailing list are encouraged to contact the Geoffroy's at R. #2, Box 78, Erath, Louisiana 70533.

Former company members in attendance were as follows:

Rickard Bell — Watertown, South Dakota
Zeno Brown — Kennersville, North Carolina
Arthur Burkman — McHenry, Illinois
Jack Burrus — Arenzville, Illinois
George Estell — Hazlett, New Jersey
Nick Etze — Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania
Herbert Frye — Dundalk, Maryland
J. P. Geoffroy — Erath, Louisiana
Byron Gutshall — Covington, Virginia
Ed Heckel — Louisville, Kentucky
Lowell Jackson — Fort Wayne, Indiana
Cecil Loudermilch — Anniston, Alabama
Ralph Pearson — St. Paul, Minnesota
Henry Schenck — Berwick, Pennsylvania
Ralph Schollenberger — Boyertown, Pennsylvania
Gene Schmalzreid — Huntington, Indiana
Carl Swindlehurst — Ferndale, Michigan

EARL'S NOTE to D Company: How about some telephone numbers, pictures, and wives names. Can't only

think of the men. Make sure your Association dues are paid and hope to see you all in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania in August 1990, an off year for your weekends.

Company A, 273rd Infantry

H. Ray Fahrner, *News Reporter*

Forge Gate Apartments, 33E1

Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446

Telephone: 215/855-9696

It was my pleasure to attend the Tri-State Group's Reunion in Erie, Pennsylvania, the first week in June. While sitting in the hospitality room, sipping on a beer, I recognized a guy I hadn't seen in 44 years. He was John Gruber, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, who found out about the 69th Division Association by sighting a 69th bumper sticker on Jake Stark's car. John was the fourth platoon runner, who was missing after the attack on Kamburg, Germany, in February 1945. He soon filled me in on why he was missing. John caught shrapnel from the 88s which were working our Company over. He spent the remaining months in hospitals: France, England, and Richmond, Virginia. He was discharged August, 1945. Talking with John brought back many memories of the fire fights through the bastion towns that anchored the Siegfried line, and especially those young men that were lost there. John, with his wife Helen, hopes to attend future reunions.

Earl Schultz and wife Fern stopped by one afternoon to say hello. Earl was our former Mess Sergeant. Earl hails from Girard, Pennsylvania, and is busy managing an American Legion Post; so doesn't attend the 69th reunions. Time to retire, Earl!

That's it from Tryhard Red Able CP.



Tri-State Group boarding the 'Little Toot' cruise on Lake Erie.

(Continued on Page 40)

**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
UNITS, AND GROUP MINI-WEEKENDS
ACROSS THE UNITED STATES**

(Continued from Page 39)

Pictures from Tri-State Group Reunion in Erie, Pennsylvania sent in by Company A, 273rd Infantry.



Anchors Away — Tri-State Group starboard.



Anchors Away — Tri-State Group portside.



Tri-State Group heading for Winery - Erie, Pennsylvania.



Tri-State Group after the Winery — Erie, Pennsylvania

Another report from Company A, 273rd

A really great reunion in Denver is over. Excellent tours, good food, good drinks, and friends made for a too-soon-over happy time. Company A was well represented, with four first timers.

Ken Carner — Pasadena, California
Charles Hammond — Norfolk, Nebraska
Jack Houghton — Denver, Colorado
Aaron Taulbee — Wilmington, Ohio

Completing our total of ten were:

Jim Carroll — Levelland, Texas
Jim Ezell — Weiner, Arkansas
Ray Fahrner — Lansdale, Pennsylvania
Ed Lucci — Lynbrook, New York
Bill Nettles — Starkville, Mississippi
Bennie Srubar — Houston, Texas

With wives and lady friends, A Company's total was seventeen. After the tour to the Air Force Academy, we all gathered outside the hotel for a picture taking session (these will appear in a future Bulletin.) Friday evening A & E Company, 273rd Infantry, had dinner together. There were 26 in attendance, including John Moriarty, MP Platoon (my body guard). Many bull sessions were held in the rooms, in the hospitality room, at the beer party and at the banquet. We sure missed Jack Hubbard, Willie Lindsey, and Bill Jordan. Next year come visit George Washington's Camp Shelby (Valley Forge). I often think of those we left behind, and I know that they are with us in spirit, as we oft times mention their names. That's it from Tryhard Red Able.



James Ezell, Ray Fahrner, "Hoover" Jordan, James Carroll, Willie Lindsey, Jack Hubbard, Ed Lucci (All from A-273rd). 4 1st timers, 3 old timers - Lexington, Kentucky 1988.

(Continued on Page 41)

**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
UNITS, AND GROUP MINI-WEEKENDS
ACROSS THE UNITED STATES**

(Continued from Page 40)



Ed Lucci
2nd Platoon, A-273rd
Bill Nettles
4th Platoon, A-273rd
Lexington, Kentucky 1988

Company D, 273rd Infantry

Kenneth A. Sawyer, News Reporter

2935 Turtle Mound Road
Melbourne, Florida 37294

Telephone: _____ Please send to Earl.

The Denver Reunion was attended by thirteen members of D Company, 273rd Infantry. This matched our previous high established at Lexington last year. Failure to pass that mark was not disappointing in view of the location of Denver. All those attending agreed that it was a great reunion site.

Attendance was boosted by four first-timers. These consisted of **Thomas K. Black** from Iowa, **Elmer Thompson** from Texas, **Vic Motley** from Texas and **Boyd Good** from California. Mrs. Good and Mrs. Motley were also there. **Roy Fritze** from Iowa was welcomed back after several years of health problems.

The wives also accompanied **Bob McCarty**, **Roland Hendrickson**, **Ed Case**, **Allan Blackmar** and **George Johnson**. **Art Ayres**, **Seth Mohr** and **Ken Sawyer** completed the group. All twenty of us got together for dinner Friday evening at a nearby Houlihan's. The fun and nonsense lasted for a good two hours. The management had enough good sense to accommodate us out on the patio where our high spirits would not drown out the music. Morale was never higher.

The outlook for next year's reunion in Pennsylvania is very good for D/273rd. Two potential first-timers, **Dick King** and **Bobby Thomas**, have indicated that they will try to come. We may miss some of our westerners because of distance, but we look forward to five of our regulars joining us. There could be a dozen from the second platoon alone. This would appear to be an excellent time for interested members who have hesitated in the past to join us. The reunion at Valley Forge in 1990 will probably set our all time peak turnout. Give it a go.

Company E, 273rd Infantry

Earl E. "Skip" and Dorothy A. "Dottie" Witzleb, Jr.

News Reporters

R.D. No. 1, Box 477

Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606

or

P.O. Box 69

Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069

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

Exit 9 on the Pennsylvania Turnpike

"The Family With Two Addresses — But One Home — Welcome All 69ers — Stop In, Call, or Write."

Davisson F. Dunlap, CO

1601 CNA Building

Orlando, Florida 32802

Telephone: 305/849-0300 (Office)

or

795 McIntyre Avenue

Winter Park, Florida 32789

Telephone: 305/645-0154 (Home)

"When in Florida or Orlando Area - Visit the Dunlaps"

E Company had a poor showing at Denver with only five couples attending. They were:

Joseph and Virginia Aiello from New York

Arthur and Marian Hume from Michigan

William and Jane Matlach from New York

Al and Lottie Shires from Florida

Earl and Dorothy Witzleb, Jr. from Pennsylvania

I don't know where **Kermit Webb** from Kentucky was as listed in the attendees section of this bulletin. I never saw him and I believe I can say we never saw him. Were you at Denver **Kermit**?

I know all reunions are good ones but this Denver was one of the better reunions. Good tours, good food, good fellowship, good Memorial Service, good everything so can I say, E Company members who did not show in Denver, you missed one heck of a good time.

We had a first when Company E and A of the 273rd joined for our Friday evening outing which was right in the Marriott for dinner, then to the beer party. **Ray Fahrner** of A Company was assigned to get us a restaurant for our Friday night outing when we gather at the Sheraton, King Of Prussia (Valley Forge) next August. I'm expecting a record turnout from both companies so what do you say E Company. Let's show A Company and the rest of the units what a turnout really is. **Davisson**, get your men on the move to Valley Forge.

Company I, 273rd Infantry

Robert L. Pierce, News Reporter

144 Nashua Court

San Jose, California 95139

What a wonderful and successful Reunion especially for Company I. There were many who doubted the wisdom of a reunion west of the Mississippi River because of the possibility of a poor attendance. We are very proud to announce that 14 members attended, including two newcomers: **John Penny**, our WWII First Sergeant, and **Maclin Morrison**, a Denver local resident. Also, four new members were located since last year: **Alvin Glaser**, **Eddie Phetterplace**, **Frank Neidermyer**, and **Ken Phillips**. Thanks mostly go to **Carl Macknair** for "rooting" three of them out.

(Continued on Page 42)

**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
UNITS, AND GROUP MINI-WEEKENDS
ACROSS THE UNITED STATES**

(Continued from Page 41)

If you recall, in the January-April 1989 Bulletin, Volume 42, No. 2, Page 45, I had enclosed a photograph with a plea for anyone who could identify **Bill Johnson** or the other six G.I.s in the picture. Imagine my surprise when **Maclin Morrison** brought the **original** photograph to the Reunion and named every man in the photo! **Maclin** has written **Bill** and furnished him the names. Welcome home, **Bill Johnson**, you are truly a member of Company I, having served in our Heavy Weapons Fourth Platoon.

We do not have all of our pictures developed from the Reunion; however, I would appreciate the following included in the next Bulletin. Missing in the photographs are: **Paul and Aldona Mickiewicz**, **Lorna Penny**, and **Maclin Morrison**.



Left to right: Nick Vallacci, our WWII 1st Platoon Sergeant; Jim Castrale, Commanding Officer; John Penny, First Sergeant; Chester Ritchie, 2nd Platoon Sergeant; and Bob Pierce, First Scout, 2nd Platoon.



Left to right: George and Janet Houseal, Chester Ritchie, Berniece and Carl Macknair, Doris and Bob Rogers, George and Edna Harper, Theresa Pierce, Erwin and Carmen Sanborn, Beverly and Bill Armstrong.



Left to right: Earnest and Betty Rowe, Doris and Bob Rogers, Jim and Audrey Castrale, Chester Ritchie.

(Continued on Page 43)

**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
UNITS, AND GROUP MINI-WEEKENDS
ACROSS THE UNITED STATES**

(Continued from Page 42)

Central Pennsylvania Branch (CPB)

Frank and Arlene Carey, Chairpersons

R.D. #2, Box 36X2

Reinholds, Pennsylvania 17569

Telephone: 215/484-4974

Dear Central Penn Members:

In your Bulletin of May, June, July and August, you were informed of the "Changing of the Guard" for our group.

I have been informed that at one time the CPB was one of the most active chapters of the 69th Association. However, in recent years, interest has been lagging, for what reasons, I don't know.

It is my hope to get the members "stirred" up again. I know my predecessors worked and tried very hard, as we shall do the same. But only the members can make any organization a success. The Chairpersons can plan and organize until the "cows" come home, but if the members do not participate, it is all for naught.

Now let's discuss our plans and then our problems. We are planning a Fall Foliage mini-weekend in late September or early October 1990. The location is not resolved at this time, but it must be near by for me for the first one. If this proves successful, we are then prepared to move our annual mini-weekends all over our geographical area. A mini-weekend would be Thursday, Friday and Saturday, complete with tour or tours, banquet and hospitality room. I promise that the cost will be at the minimum as possible.

And now to our problems. Based on the information passed on to me, I am convinced that there are hundreds of CPB members out there that do not realize they are in the CPB area. Not your folks who receive the Bulletin, but those who DO NOT receive the Bulletin and yet are 69ers.

For example, the roster passed on to me, contained only 64 names. I immediately called on our very capable Treasurer **Bob Kurtzman** for help. From the information he compiled and sent to me, the roster now consists of 521 names. Incidentally **Bob**, I have them in alphabetical order. Took some doing, but it got done. All 521 of these people will be contacted. I am planning to send every one a letter and questionnaire. Whatever response I get will then result in a workable roster.

Now let's talk about the CPB geographically. Look at your map of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, draw a line north to south at the center of the state. Any place east of that line is CPB territory as well as south to the Maryland border. It is in this area where these 521 members are located.

The CPB also includes Eastern Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and Washington, D.C. A special note to the people living in the areas mention above. I have NO names, addresses or units other than Pennsylvania. If you read this and have a desire to be on the roster, please send me your name, address and unit.

And now to wrap up this long and tedious letter. You members who receive the Bulletin, please send me a postcard or better yet, a note telling me who and where you are. Let me know if you DO or DO NOT want to be on the roster. This would help us immensely to get the roster in order, which is my #1 priority at this time.

But now my final problem. To send 521 letters it costs \$130.25. We have only \$160.00 in the treasury. The letter must

also be either printed or reproduced. I will not ask for donations, but anyone willing to do so, will be greatly appreciated.

By the time you receive your next Bulletin, hopefully, we will have the Fall Foliage 1990 mini-weekend firmed up, as well as the roster.

Finally, any of you good folks passing through Big Town of Reinholds, please stop in to see us. Suggest you give us a call in order to lead you in. You can get lost very easily in the BOON-DOCKS, but it's God's Country and Beautiful.

Take care, best wishes and good health to all.

Hope to hear from you soon.

Best 69th regards,

Frank and Arlene Carey

P.S. Please remember that we are not getting older.

We are merely going thru the aging process.

Like good wine, age improves the vintage.

Mid-West Group



Fran and Zita Enright, News Reporters

7304 West Georgia Avenue

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53220

Telephone: _____ Please send to Earl.

SPRING MEETING

The Mid-West Group gathered at the Ramada Inn in Elkhart, Indiana the weekend of May 26, 27, and 28.

We were pleased to have national officers **Earl and Dottie Witzleb**, **Bob and Vivian Kurtzman**, and **Clarence Marshall** join us. We sincerely hope that they will be with us again and that members from other groups will join us. All 69ers are always welcome.

Attending the Spring Meeting for the first time were **Fred Fiedler** of Genoa City, Wisconsin and **Tom Yelich** from Livonia, Michigan. We expect to see them from now on.

Other attendees were:

Earl Abel — Vandalia, Michigan

Fred and Mavis Butenhoff — Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Fran and Zita Enright — Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Tom and Lorraine Hancock — Pekin, Illinois

with Lorraine's sister

Chalmer and Reita Pearson — Vandalia, Michigan with guests **Milo and Dorothy Jacobson**, **Ruth Wilhelmson**

(Continued on Page 44)

**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
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ACROSS THE UNITED STATES**

(Continued from Page 43)

Curt and Evelyn Peterson — Madison, Wisconsin
Gene and Ethel Pierron — Belgium, Wisconsin
Lew and Rosemary Shaw — Rosedale, Indiana
Phil and Harriet Sparacino — Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Gaylord and Ruth Thomas — Waupun, Wisconsin
Charles and Pat Walsh — Glendale, Wisconsin

Many delightful activities were planned by Chalmer and Reita Pearson and Earl Abel. There was time for refreshments and relaxation and for catching up on the latest news in the hospitality room before a delicious dinner at the Ramada Inn on Friday evening.

Anxious golfers, those ambitious people, rose early for a round of golf on Saturday morning. As always, Chalmer Pearson did an excellent job of arranging the golf outing; and, as always, all golfers played an excellent game.

Earl Abel led an interesting visit to the Amish community of Shipshawanna for the 18 non-golfers. Highlights were an auction of Amish quilts, shopping in Amish craft shops, and a wonderful Amish luncheon at the Buggy Wheel Restaurant.

We all agreed that the organizers for the weekend (Chalmer, Reita and Earl) did a superb job. Watch for the announcement of the 1990 Spring Get-Together.



Left to right: Dottie Witzleb, Vivian Kurtzman, Reita Pearson, Clarence Marshall, Gaylord Thomas, Earl Witzleb.



Left to right: Gaylord Thomas, Earl Witzleb, Curt Peterson, Gene Pierron, Fred Butenhoff.



Left to right: Clarence Marshall, Bob Kurtzman, Earl Witzleb, Phil Sparacino.



Left to right: Earl Witzleb, Phil Sparacino, Earl Abel, Bob Kurtzman, Clarence Marshall, Zita Enright, Dottie Witzleb.



Patchwork Quilt Inn, June 1989

(Continued on Page 45)

**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
UNITS, AND GROUP MINI-WEEKENDS
ACROSS THE UNITED STATES**

(Continued from Page 44)

Tri-State Group

TRI-STATE BLUE IS THE FAMILY GROUP

Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Western Maryland, Western New York, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

(Other States Invited Too)

Earl E. and Dottie Witzleb, Jr., *Coordinators*
R.D. No. 1, Box 477
Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606

or

P.O. Box 69
Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069
Telephone: 412/455-2901

(Call anytime, day or night; weekends or holidays)

Exit 9 on the Pennsylvania Turnpike

*"The Family With Two Addresses — But One Home —
Welcome All 69ers — Stop In, Call, or Write"*

Our hats off to James "Jim" and Jane Lynch and Gilbert and Susan Rocco for a weekend in Erie that will be remembered for a long time. Those who attended will verify my statement and are as follows:

Eugene and Norma Gene Butterfield — Division Headquarters
Rocky River, Ohio

Ted and Rosemarie Edstrom — Division Headquarters
Fairview Park, Ohio

Adam G. Manz and sister Helen Koziar — Division Headquarters,
Ellwood City, Pennsylvania

Clarence Marshall — Division Headquarters
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

William G. and Freda Clayton — 269th Engineers
North Bend, Ohio

G. Richard and Gail Cutrell — 269th Engineers
Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania

James A. and Dotty Eibling — 269th Engineers
Columbus, Ohio

Daniel "Dan" and Helen Evers — 269th Engineers
Brookhaven, Pennsylvania

Frank C. and Stefania "Ted" Nemeth — 269th Engineers
Levittown, Pennsylvania

Ward E. and Marian Peterson — 269th Engineers
Glenn Hills, Pennsylvania

Paul D. and Mayreta T. Kitner — 724th Field Artillery
West Lawn, Pennsylvania

William H. and Mary Harr — 879th Field Artillery
Bainbridge, Ohio

James S. Jones — 879th Field Artillery
Aurora, Ohio

Al and Margaret Kormas — 879th Field Artillery
Lakewood, Ohio

Enrico and Anne D'Angelo — 880th Field Artillery
Saltsburg, Pennsylvania

James E. and Tillie Boris — 881st Field Artillery
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Gilbert and Susan Rocco — 881st Field Artillery
Erie, Pennsylvania

Marie Suprano — 881st Field Artillery
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

L. Boyd and Stella Ellsworth — 69th Recon Troopers
Steubenville, Ohio

George and Vickie Gallagher — 69th M.P.s and Quartermaster
Zephyrhills, Florida

Carl R. and Mildred Stetler — 569th Signal Company
Reading, Pennsylvania

David J. and Virginia Wharrey — Medic
Sewickley, Pennsylvania

C. Frank and Arlene Carey — Company F, 271st Infantry
Reinholds, Pennsylvania

James "Jim" and Janet Lynch — Cannon Company, 271st
Infantry, North Warren, Pennsylvania

Thomas and Sally Leslie — Friends of the Lynch's
Warren, Pennsylvania

Paul and Marian Shadle — Company E, 271st Infantry
New Kensington, Pennsylvania

William "Bill" C. and Reba Sheavly — Company M, 271st
Infantry, Reisterstown, Maryland

Peter E. and Helen Garstecki — Cannon Company, 272nd
Infantry, Uniontown, Pennsylvania

Frank and Bianche Sniadecki — Cannon Company, 272nd
Infantry, South Bend, Indiana

Robert J. and Vivian Kurtzman, Sr. — Company I, 272nd
Infantry, Wilmot, Ohio

John W. and Ruth McGolerich, Jr. — Company K, 272nd
Infantry, Knoxville, Maryland

Albert "Al" and Charlotte Naginonis — Company M, 272nd
Infantry, Aliquippa, Pennsylvania

Robert and Jean Shaffer — Company C, 272nd Infantry
Massillon, Ohio

Chester "Chet" and Barbara Yastrzemski — Company E,
272nd Infantry, Southampton, New York

Bernard H. and Edith Zaffern — Company L, 272nd Infantry
Southfield, Michigan

H. Raymond "Ray" Fahrner — Company A, 273rd Infantry
Lansdale, Pennsylvania

John T. and Helen M. Gruber — Company A, 273rd Infantry
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Earl V. and Fern I. Schultz — Company A, 273rd Infantry
Girard, Pennsylvania

John W. and Arylene Mowrey, Jr. — Company H, 273rd
Infantry, Charleston, West Virginia

Anthony "Tony" and Elizabeth Mruk — Company H, 273rd
Infantry, Elmira Heights, New York

Jacob "Jake" and Violet M. Stark, Jr. — Company H, 273rd
Infantry, Steelton, Pennsylvania

Raymond "Ray" T. Szkudlarek and Granddaughter Colleen
Company H, 273rd Infantry, Toledo, Ohio

George M. and Barbara H. Johnson — Company D, 273rd
Infantry, Colonial Heights, Virginia

Carl L. and Berniece Macknair and Granddaughter Jamie
Company I, 273rd Infantry, McClure, Pennsylvania

Herman Walker — Company L, 273rd Infantry
Greenwood, Indiana

Earl W. and Anna Walters — Headquarters Company,
3rd Battalion, 273rd Infantry, Landisville, Pennsylvania

Earl E. and Dorothy "Dottie" A. Witzleb, Jr. — Company E,
273rd Infantry, Acme-Champion, Pennsylvania

CANCELLED OUT:

Dell and Mary Balzano — 879th Field Artillery
Highland Heights, Ohio

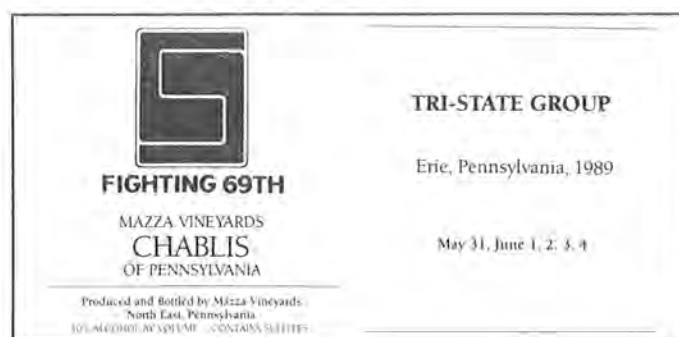
George and Jane Dendle — 777th Tank Battalion
West Pittston, Pennsylvania

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DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS, UNITS, AND GROUP MINI-WEEKENDS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES

(Continued from Page 45)

As you can see it was a nice turnout. Now who gets credit with the most in attendance, 269th Engineers or the Field Artillery if we include all their units? Guess we will give it to the Engineers and say all Units will have to try harder next year in Elyria, Ohio. I hope every unit represented this year will have another name or two along with theirs. Even I was surprised when the Humes didn't show from Michigan. Pittsburgh was present this year by the Grubers and how about that A and H Companies from the 273rd Infantry. Lutes and Digirolamo from Pittsburgh were asked about and the Cottles couldn't make it due to her teaching and him on the school board with graduation on our weekend. Let's go Pittsburgh, we want to see more at Elyria in '90 and that's only a two and a half hour drive.



Above is a wine label. The Lynchs and Roccas gave each couple and single a bottle of wine from the wine country as a banquet favor.

Our group started to gather on Wednesday afternoon in the hospitality room which was bigger and better than those of previous years. The men brought their choice bottle whether it be hard or soft stuff plus many of the ladies brought their main dish for our Friday and Saturday noon time lunch and snacks all the time. Weren't Stella Ellsworth's pies delicious. Gilbert Rocco kept the kegs of beer and tidbit snacks full on each table so no one would starve.

Thursday tour visited the historical Museum, Presque Island Nature tour, lunch at Hoss's Steak and Seas House, and Mazza's winery where most everyone bought a half dozen bottles. The evening was spent in the hospitality room as was Friday morning.

Friday's tour leaving in the afternoon had a wine and cheese reception at the Quality Hotel, then a Rugare Erie Bay Sightseeing tour of the bay and Lake Erie, back to the Hunt Room for dinner at the Quality Hotel, and then across the street to the Erie Playhouse to see a singing group present "A Salute To Broadway In The 1980's."

Saturday was on your own with most of the ladies going shopping at the mall and at Blair's Of Warren where men picked up pants for \$2.00 and ladies slacks and dresses for about the same price. You may see some of them in Denver. Our evening banquet and entertainment in the form of a musical trio for our dancing pleasure finished the evening. Ray Szkudlarek and Jake and Violet Stark were our co-plaque winners for 1989.

Sunday breakfast and goodbyes rounded out the weekend with all saying see you in Denver, New Kensington, and Elyria, Ohio at the Holiday Inn.

Should I remind you Tri-Staters that dues to the 69th Infantry Division Association are now payable for 1989 and 1990. Get \$5.00 and \$2.00 or \$10.00 and \$2.00 to the treasurer

plus an extra couple dollars for bulletins and postage. Remember Tri-State does not have a dues but we will accept donations.

Ya All Come to the Holiday Inn, Elyria, Ohio
May 30, 31 and June 1, 2, 3, 1990
Ya All Will Like Tri-Staters, BE ONE
WE LIKE YA ALL
ESPECIALLY 69ers & THEIR GUESTS

880th Field Artillery Headquarters Battery

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

The first Headquarters Battery 880th Reunion was at the Sheraton of Greensburg, Pennsylvania this past July. Eighteen couples attended; six of the men had not seen each other in the past 45 years, making it an exciting, memorable time.

A simple, but nice weekend began in the hospitality room full of goodies and refreshments which was contributed by all. Thank you everyone.

Friday, they went by bus to Pittsburgh where they boarded the Majestic for a cruise, with lunch and entertainment, then a visit to Station Square and on to the Blue Angel for dinner.

Saturday morning breakfast was followed by a business meeting which included picking a site for 1990 and election of officers. The site chosen was to join the National at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

Officers appointed were:

John O'Connor President
Emil Paoletta Vice President
Warren Kunkle Secretary/Treasurer

A motion was made, seconded and passed that Al and Marge Kormas and Enrico and Anne D'Angelo be accepted into the group.

Saturday banquet was the "icing on the cake" as one member said it, with a quintet entertaining the group, singing songs of their era as well as a sing-a-long. The entertainers talked with everyone, ending the evening with "Good Night Ladies."



Headquarters Battery 880th waiting for the bus at the Sheraton.

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**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
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(Continued from Page 46)

Attending the Headquarters Battery 880th reunion were:
Larry and Rose Adler — Leesburg, Florida
Stanley and Georgia Bratt — Glenview, Illinois
Howard and Barbara Carlton — Wolfboro, New Hampshire
John and Doris Cooper — Williamsville, Illinois
Bill and Ann Hoarn — New Egypt, New Jersey
Stuart and Elinor McGowan — Eagle Bridge, New York
Gene and Carolyn McGreevy — Cumberland, Maryland
Robert and Marilyn McKee — Earlsville, Maryland
John and Peg O'Connor — Chicago, Illinois
Emil and Peg Paoletta — Brunswick, Ohio
John and Margaret Powell — Jacksonville, Florida
Neno and Mary Sassone — Osyka, Mississippi
William and Katherine Suckel — Ashtabula, Ohio
Stanley and Dorothy Supensky — Cleveland, Ohio
Warren and Betty Kunkel — Fort Wayne, Indiana
Stanley and Verla Crouch — Cincinnati, Ohio
Aloysius and Jane Brier — Scottdale, Pennsylvania

GUESTS:

Al and Marge Kormas — Lakewood, Ohio
Enrico and Anne D'Angelo — Saltsburg, Pennsylvania
Earl and Dorothy Witzleb, Jr. — Acme, Pennsylvania

880th Field Artillery C Battery

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

Roscoe Village was the area invaded by "C" Battery this past August with their reunion, and as usual, each one gets better and everyone a little closer.

Tuesday began with a gathering at the Pugh residence, where a super-delicious meal was prepared. Our own men took over manning the chow line, doing a fantastic job and having fun at the same time. Good job men. You did well! Later, with McFarlin as lead man of the car pool, we motored back to the motel where a cozy, well stocked hospitality room awaited us all.

Wednesday a bus took us into Amish Country, with a tour guide who was very informative about their customs and the area we traveled through. We visited a flea market that was spread over a large area near an auction barn. Lunch was in an Amish home, very deliciously prepared and served with pride and promptness. If anyone went out of the home hungry, it was their own fault. We visited wood shops that were very interesting and many went home with some of their skilled crafts as gifts as well as things for their own homes. Evening found us all in the hospitality room anxiously awaiting a favorite game, which included lots of fun, laughter, and maybe even a disappointment or two.

Thursday was mostly "on-your-own" but we did tour a flag factory which amazed everyone. They make and ship flags all over the world. The highlight of the day was the banquet as each man gave a small summary of what has happened in

his life since the first reunion. The performance of young Lew Pugh and his grandfather, our Vice President, was outstanding. Thank You. You were great and enjoyed by all. Let us not forget our golfer, who made his debut. Good show Leroy! And Mac with his mail box gift from the Sells. The banquet ended with a joining of hands and singing "Till We Meet Again," and more happy times at the hospitality room.

**The 1990 Site is Boone, North Carolina
September 10-14 — Comfort Inn**

More information will be published as arrangements are made.

Friday morning breakfast brought our wonderful reunion to a closing with "Good Byes" always sad and yes, tears also made a showing.

Those attending were:

Warren and Betty Kunkle — Fort Wayne, Indiana
Bob and Irene Williams — Lorain, Ohio
Marvin and Mary Reber — Reading, Pennsylvania
Enrico and Anne D'Angelo — Saltsburg, Pennsylvania
Lee and Betty Myers — St. Marys, Pennsylvania
Ray Jr. and Patty Kubacki — Bethel, Pennsylvania
Bill and Irene Sells — Sebring, Pennsylvania
Joe and Dottie Damato — West Orange, New Jersey
Ray Mills — Vincennes, Indiana
Cliff Eley — Columbus, Ohio
Ralph and Dorothy Cowin — Indianapolis, Indiana
Lew and Fern Pugh — Cadiz, Ohio

Lewie Pugh

Bill and Barb Pugh — Lancaster, Ohio
Lowell and Marjorie McFarlin — Jeromesville, Ohio
Henry and Lucille Abbe — Rome, New York
Lou and Jean Hoehing — Jim Thorpe, Pennsylvania
Howard and Vera Whitfield — Wrightsville, Pennsylvania
Florence Kubacki — Reading, Pennsylvania
LeRoy and Beverly Goetz — Germantown, Wisconsin

GUESTS WERE:

Bud and Connie Cowin — Indianapolis, Indiana
Earl Witzleb, Jr. — Acme, Pennsylvania
Clarence Marshall — New Kensington, Pennsylvania
Robert and Vivian Kurtzman — Wilmot, Ohio

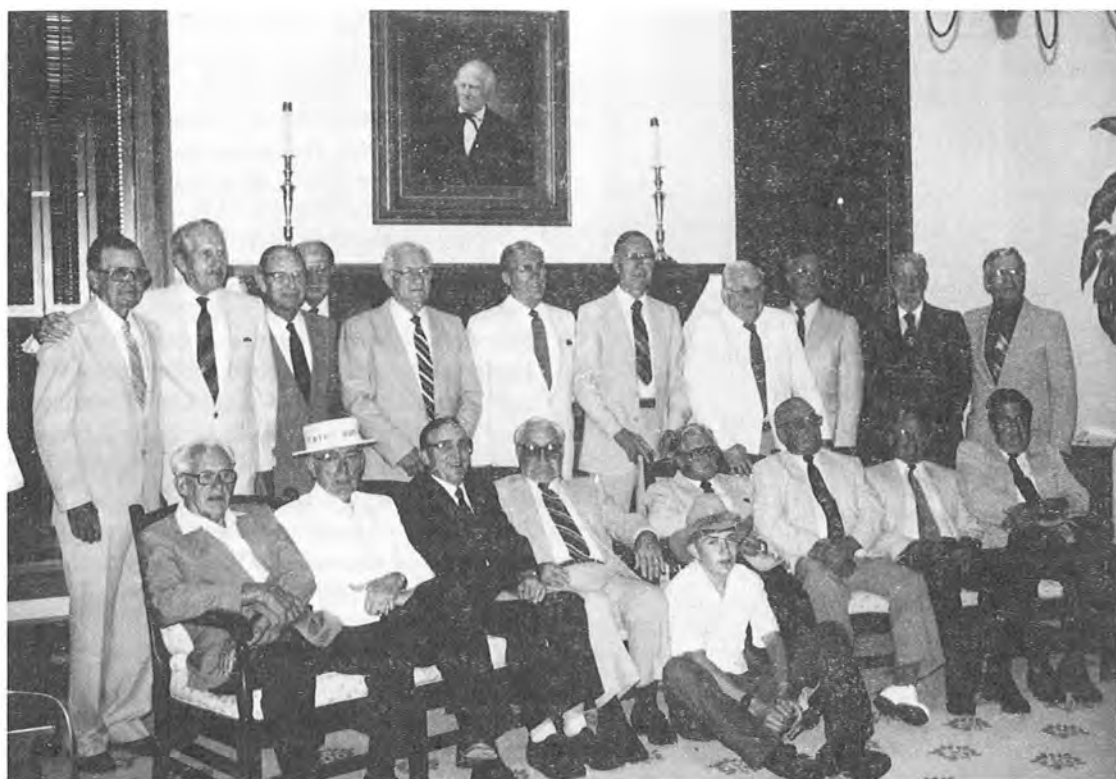


Manning the Chow Line: Lew Pugh, Lowell McFarlin, Bob Williams, Lou Hoehing, LeRoy Goetz, Fern Pugh.

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DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
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880th Field Artillery C Battery Men



880th Field Artillery C Battery Women

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UNITS, AND GROUP MINI-WEEKENDS
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(Continued from Page 48)



Lee Myers and LeRoy Goetz

* * * * *

Lowell McFarlin, Reporting

89 North High Street

Box 236

Jeromesville, Ohio 44840

Telephone: 419/368-7363

Lowell sent in the following newspaper article and letter home from J. K. O'Brien in 1945.

**NEWPORTER CAPTURED
HUGE RAILWAY STATION**

Lieutenant J. K. O'Brien Led 3 Men in Leipzig

**Artillery Observers Left Behind
by Infantry Cleared Out Nest of Germans**

The largest railroad station in Europe, and said by the Germans to be the largest in the world — the Leipzig Hauptbahnhof — was captured by First Lieutenant James K. O'Brien, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael F. O'Brien of 48 Webster Street, and three of his men.

During the attack on Leipzig, in mid-April, Lieutenant O'Brien was with elements of an infantry battalion as an artillery forward observer. His particular job was to adjust the artillery fire of his battalion on enemy installations holding up the advance of the infantry.

When the infantry decided to wait until morning before advancing further, Lieutenant O'Brien took over an apartment house for his three men. Getting up about 5:00 a.m., he found the infantry had already gone and the colonel had left the observers behind thinking that artillery fire could not be used in the darkness.

About 6:00 a.m., while riding along in his jeep to catch up with the infantry, he came to the railroad station, by-passed the infantry. He saw a German soldier stick his head out a door so he stopped and taking out his pistol, went in to investigate. The German was an officer, either a major or lieutenant colonel. He grabbed the German officer and was told there were a few more German soldiers in the cellar. He gave the officer instructions to bring the men out and leave their weapons in the cellar. A stream of soldiers started to

come up and the officer dumped a pile of weapons in the corner.

Believing that there were quite a few of them, Lieutenant O'Brien detailed one of his men to line up the prisoners in the street, another to watch the German weapons and took the third into the cellar and found several more Germans, including 100 women. He ordered the Germans out, warning that the Americans would descend upon them and kill them if they did not move rapidly. They lined them up and they were four abreast for a city block. Some infantrymen came along and he turned the approximately 200 prisoners over to them. Lieutenant O'Brien wondered what would have happened if the Germans had known he had only three men with him.

Lieutenant O'Brien says he is now living in a beautiful big house in Schkopau, Germany, close to Leipzig, that compares favorably with the houses on Bellevue Avenue.

His exploit in taking the railroad station is mentioned in the Fighting 69th Sentinel, a copy of which he sent to his family.

* * * * *

J. K. O'Brien's Letter to Mom and Dad

Germany

11 May, 1945

Dear Mom, Pop, and Kids:

Talk about living in solid comfort — well this is really it. I am now living in a beautiful big house that would make some of those houses on Bellevue Avenue look sick. It is a three story job with a bathroom on each floor. On the first floor there is a big front room - one side of which has nothing but glass doors overlooking the stone veranda and a beautiful flower garden. This room contains a large book case and a big grand piano. On the second floor are all the bedrooms. I have one all to myself. The floors of all the hallways are tile and those of the rooms are hardwood. I am writing this letter at a large desk in the study next to my bedroom. What do you think of that for a set-up?

I took a bath this afternoon in the master bathroom on the second floor. It felt so good that I just soaked in the water for about an hour. How I remember this past winter when I went two and three months without a bath. I think I'll set aside an hour every day for a bath.

Now that the shooting over here is at an end, I think I'll tell you how I captured the railroad station in Leipzig. Incidentally, it is the largest railroad station in Europe and the Germans claim it is the largest in the world.

During the attack on Leipzig I was up with the forward elements of an infantry battalion as an artillery forward observer. It was my job to report the situation to my battalion and to adjust artillery fire on any enemy installations holding up the advance of our infantry. At about 11:00 p.m. we were near the center of the city and the infantry decided to wait until morning before they advanced further. I picked out a nice apartment house for myself and the three enlisted men that were in my forward observer team. I kicked all the civilians out of the house - we never sleep under the same roof with civilians - and hit the sack. I got up about 5:00 a.m. and found that the infantry had already taken off. I was left behind because the colonel didn't think I could use the artillery fire in the darkness.

About 6:00 a.m. I was riding along in my jeep to catch up with the infantry when we went by the railroad station. It looked like Grand Central. I saw a German soldier stick his head out a door to see what was going on. I stopped my jeep, took out my pistol, and went to investigate. He was a German officer (either a major or a lieutenant colonel).

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I nabbed him and in very broken German asked him if there were any more soldiers in the building. He said there were a few. I told him to tell them to leave their weapons in the cellar and to come out with their hands up. A stream of them started to come up out of the cellar. The German officer came up with a hand full of pistols and dumped them over in a corner. By this time I figured there must be a mess of them down there.

I detailed one man to line up the prisoners on the street outside. I left another to watch the German weapons (which were mounting up into quite a pile). My other man and I went down into the cellar to hurry them up. There were still quite a few down there and there were about 100 women down there also. I picked out a German officer who could speak English and told him that if the rest of the German soldiers didn't hurry it up that all my men would descend upon them and kill them all. He gave them the poop and they really poured out of there.

We lined them up in a column of fours in the road and the column was about a city block long. There must have been two hundred of them. Four or five infantry boys came along with 2 or 3 prisoners and I let them take my batch back to the P.W. cage. I guess if the Germans knew I only had 3 men with me they would have put up a fight — but I took them by surprise. I told my battery commander the story and he sent it in to the public relations officer. Don't be surprised if you read about it in the Daily News.

This turned out to be quite a long letter. I am in fine shape and making out O.K. I hope this finds you all well and happy. Continue to write often and pray for me.

Your loving son,
Jimmy

P.S. You can send me a package of cookies and candy (also cheese and crackers) if you wish.

* * * * *

Thank You Jack and June!

From the moment we landed at the airport until we boarded for home, Jack and June Runkle, natives of Denver, were always there, ready to show us the entire area, and make our visit a pleasant memory. We had a great time, only sorry it ended so fast. There are not enough words to express how lucky we are to have such wonderful friends.

Jack attended the banquet with us clad in full uniform, needless to say, he looked sharp and the cameras were busy snapping. Thanks again, for everything. God Bless!!

Enrico and Anne



Jack Runkle and Enrico D'Angelo, C Battery, 880th F.A.



June and Jack Runkle, C Battery, 880th F.A.

* * * * *

881st Field Artillery C Battery

Arthur S. Moore
91 Campfield Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06114

Received my copy of the bulletin a few weeks ago and as usual I look forward to it and spend all evening reading it. I've only been a member of the association for about a year thanks to the efforts of my former chief of section, Paul Molinari. He has been trying to locate me for years and finally caught up with me last July. I am originally from Maine and he from New York and we both ended up in Connecticut about 15 miles apart. It was a great surprise hearing from him and eventually getting together. We shared photos taken 40 years ago and he submitted a number of them for the bulletin. However, I am submitting some that he does not have.

I hope you can use these photos. They cost me \$70.16 to have made up. In talking with Paul recently he told me I could have submitted the originals as you would have returned them. Now he tells me. But anyway, please send them back. They will make my album more uniform.

A short story about "Molly" and me. We were in a night convoy doing about 5 mph. The road was a sea of mud about hub deep. I was sitting in the back of the weapons carrier half asleep. The w/c struck a hole and it lurched. Then the rear wheel struck the same hole and it lurched again. My helmet came off my head and fell into my lap. Before my groggy hands could grab it, it rolled off the tailgate and fell into the mud in the road. I shouted to Paul, (we called him Molly), that I had lost my helmet. About 15 feet further down the road the convoy stopped. Molly jumped out of the cab and came over to me and asked what I had said. I told him my helmet fell into the road about 15 feet back. Like I said, the mud was at least hub deep, over the top of Molly's boots. He went back and felt with his hands in the mud fishing for my helmet. Suddenly he called to me, "I found it" and brought it back to me and said "Keep it on your head." I thanked him and began shaking the soupy mud out of it — and then I looked at it. It was a German helmet. Jim Musa, (Utica, New York) sitting next to me said, "Throw that _____ thing away before you get a hole in the head." I threw it back into the mud. John Bauman took his helmet and liner apart and gave me his helmet. I folded a towel and put it inside the helmet and put it on. I looked like Sad Sack but what the heck.

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**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
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The next day **John** and I found an American helmet and other GI gear that hadn't been picked up yet from a recent skirmish. So I finished my tour with someone else's helmet. They probably built a super highway over mine.

A couple of new names from our outfit, 881st, C Battery appeared in one of the last bulletins, **Don Taylor**, our Captain's driver and **Donald Pomas**. If **Pomas** can get the 2nd or 3rd bulletin ago he will see himself standing beside me in a photo submitted by **Paul Molinari**. I'm also including a photo of **Don Taylor** and myself taken in Frankleben, Germany shortly after the war ended.

Can't make the reunion this year. **Paul** will be there and I told him, God willing, we would both go to the 1990 reunion if we can still get around. I plan to retire at the same time. I wish we could find more guys from the 881st, C Battery.

Sincerely yours,
Art Moore



1944: The Wire Section, Camp Shelby, Mississippi

Standing: Corporal Don Taylor, Private Ike F. Andrews, Corporal Ace Van Dine, Pfc. Russell Long, Private Art Moore, Sergeant Gerald Runyon, Corporal Pete Hill.

Crouching: Paul Molinari, Corporal Frank Guerrirrie, Pfc. Jim Musa, Sergeant Lonnie B. Dix, Pfc. John Bauman.



Franklesen, Germany-1945, Art Moore - Don Taylor



K.P. Detail: Left to right: 'Pop' Miller, unknown, Ralph Rydner, Hart.



*Dittersdorf, Germany — June, 1945
Left to right: Gun Sergeant Paul Hunter and Pfc. Art Moore*



*Our Lieutenants - Germany 1945
Left to right: Lieutenant Shipkey, Lieutenant Byrd, Lieutenant Reinke
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*Joe Miller on left from Schnectedy, New York
Art Moore on right from Skowhagan, Maine*



Pfc. Jim Cucci on German Army Horse - 1945



*1st Sergeant George Custis - 1946. Moving Out Day from
Von Hinderberg Barracks, Berlin preparing to be shipped back
to the U.S.A. Custis Passed away in January, 1989.*



*Somewhere in Germany - 1945
Jim Musa - Elmer Aspery - Paul Molinari*



*Preparing Communications Before the Seige on Leipzig - 1945
Bernard L. Cato of left, Frank A. Guerririe on right*



*1945 — Left to right: Pfc. Bill Pendell and Pfc. Elmer
Aspery.*

(Continued on Page 53)



Somewhere in Germany - 1945
Paul Molinari, Elmer Aspery, Art Moore



Joe Brady



Somewhere on the Road in Germany-1945
George Vasal and Art Moore

461st AAA Battery B

Larry W. and Milly Brown, *News Reporters*
538 Burns Avenue
Clarkston, Washington 99403
Telephone: 509/758-2180

The Lake Tahoe reunion was a great success due to **Karl Petersen** and **Barbara**. The bus tour to Virginia City was very entertaining and the Tahoe Queen boat ride was great. There was also a dinner show at Hannahs featuring Jay Leno.

Karl's daughter **Christa Ward**, saw to it that we did not want for anything. She is a very good group coordinator. We want to thank **Karl, Barbara** and **Christa** for a wonderful time.

We will let you know about the 1990 Reunion as soon as we get the information from the **Detwiler's**. It will probably be in Allentown in September.

We will host the 1991 Reunion and will have it in May or June at Circus Circus in Reno.

Those who attended the reunion were:

Larry and Milly Brown — Clarkston, Washington
Dale and Bebe Case — Lewiston, Idaho
Don and Gerry Castellaw — Muscaw, Idaho
Bill and Hazel Davis — Lusborg, Florida
Don and Audrey Detwiler — Nazareth, Pennsylvania
Dick and Helen Esaacson — Fair Oaks, California
Fred and Helen Fisher — Canton, Ohio
Lydia Franscioni and Rose — Soledad, California
Ed and Jo Gengerich — Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Dean and Ruth Ludeman — Gainesville, Florida
Karl Petersen and Barbara — Sangus, California
Mary Frances Potance — Hatfield, Pennsylvania
Sam and Viv Russell — Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Tony Salonich — Dickinson, North Dakota
Bob and Margaret Weigand — St. Petersburg, Florida
Dot Wilkinson — Santa Rosa, California
Clarence and Lois Winton — Titusville, Pennsylvania
John and Mil — Nazareth, Pennsylvania
Don Detwiler's sister and husband

461st AAA Battery D

Guy Stamey, *News Reporter*
Route 5, Box 73
Candler, North Carolina 28715
Telephone: 704/667-9526

D Battery, 461st AAA Reunion was held June 15th, 16th and 17th, 1989 at First Baptist Church in Asheville, North Carolina. There were 110 members and their families attending. **Earl** and **Dottie Witzleb** of the 69th, **George** and **Becky Duke** of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and **James** and **Electa Steelman** of North Wilksboro, North Carolina attended for the first time. We all enjoyed having our new members and friends.

Some of our activities that were planned elsewhere had to be held in the church and also the memorial service which was to be held at Carolina Power Lake Julian picnic area. Because of rain **Alden** arranged for this to be held in the church. Some thought it was the best.

Thursday night the ladies of the church served a good supper which was enjoyed by all.

Friday night we all met at the Western Steer on Tunnel road for supper and entertainment by Johnny and the Bear Creek Ramblers. Then it was farewell for some, until our next reunion in 1991. For others it was back to the church Saturday morning for the goodbyes.

Saturday after all had gone, **Ruth** and I went with **Earl** and **Dottie** to the Biltmore House, then to the farmers market. By this time it was too late to go to Mt. Mitchel. **Earl** promised to return in 1991 to take this trip.

Following is a thank you note from **Earl** and **Dottie**.

Guy:

We would like to thank the members of the 461st, "D" and their families for the enjoyable weekend we spent with you. We were made very welcome and feel we have made some new friends.

Thanks again,
Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.

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**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
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Attendees at the Asheville Weekend were:

Alden and Mayben Angline
Charles and Jean Smith
William and Rose Remniger
Leslie and Dora Edwards
Margaret Freeman
Ernest and Louise Brown
Darlene and Libby Gurganes
James and Electa Steelman
George and Becky Duke
Henry and Mary Bryant
Diane Bilcher - Susan, Deraie and Adam
Deanna and Diedren Hunt
Ann and Lamon Locklear
Floyde and Margaret Locklear
Clyde and Barbara Colbert - Brett, Nathan and Amber
Henry and Bernie Holland
Conley and Delnore Wilde
Asa and Margaret Hadden
Don and Ruth Tinsdal
Edwin and Mary Whitaker
Laddie and Mary Manning
Leon and Vivian Morris
James and Millie Revis
Bea Maples
Thomas Jacobs
Thomas Jacobs, Jr.
Barbara Christy
Haywood and Lois Lassiter
Hugh and Margaret Stikeleather
John and Jean Wagner
John and Grace Gulasa
Stephen Mattox
Bill and Lois Vanderuerp
Aron and Barbara Mills
Carl and Vivian Litchett
Robert Hunt
Gary, Lucy and Tina Locklear
Erncia Locklear
Sebastian Locklear
Kinyata Locklear
James and Jessie Oxley
Bernice Mathis
Betty Eller
Lonnie Isreal
Guy and Ruth Stamey
Arthur and Billie McNeil
Johnny and Hazel Rhymer
Boone and Agnes Moody
Myrtle and Kay Tipton
James and Pearle Jones
Roy Hutchins
Earl and Dottie Witzleb, Jr.
Allen and John Tyler
Ronnie Bryant, Melissa and Olivia
Rose Driggers, Shelly, Jeffrey, Sarah and Mary Beth
Mrs. Alfred Smith (Mattie) and daughter Sharon,
Granddaughters Sarah and Allison

Carl Masher, Marine City, Michigan, was unable to attend because of illness. Carl contacted us for the first time in 1989. It's always such a joy to find another one.

Those who have died in the last 2 years:

Ashly Dean — Carl Umbarger
Alfred Smith — Owen Parham

Committee: Guy Stamey, Edwin Whitaker, Alden Angline,
Johnny Rhymer, Brank Wilde

Earl's Note: Guy, please get your members to come to Valley Forge in August 1990. This is an off year for your weekend and North Carolina isn't that far from Pennsylvania. You know you are all welcome. Tell your members to pay dues to the Association and we pray that Hugo didn't do any damage to our good friends of the 461st AAA.

269th Engineers

Frank and Ted Nemeth, *Coordinators*

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

Hi You "Engine-ears,"

Just returned from a really nice reunion held in Denver, Colorado. It sure was pretty country out there with the mountains all around and the weather was perfect for all the interesting tours and golf tournament and once again, we didn't win, but we had a lot of laughs.

From H&S Company we had Bill and Betty Foster, New Cumberland, Pennsylvania; Jim and Dottie Eibling, Columbus, Ohio. From "A" Company, Kim and Grace Packard, Oakham, Massachusetts; Mrs. Marion Diefenbach, Port Lucie, Florida. From "B" Company, Dan and Helen Evers, Brookhaven, Pennsylvania; Frank Sullivan, Dedham, Massachusetts; Bill Riggle and Son, Jeffersonville, Indiana; Chuck and Wilma Williams, Reno, Nevada; Frank and Ted Nemeth, Levittown, Pennsylvania.

No one from "C" Company could make it but we had a good turnout considering the distance we all traveled. But, I feel sure we'll have a large turnout in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, since so many Engineers live within a 150 mile radius of the reunion site.

We had a nice hotel in Denver and it was a real challenge to try to find your room each time you left it! The Engineers didn't have too many problems with that, after all, we had map reading and compass classes at Camp Shelby and we used to do it in the woods in the pitch black of night and never missed a meal. So — start saving and mark the calendar for the week of 8/12/90 to 8/19/90 for Reunion time in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. Dan Evers and I are the Co-Hosts and we can assure you you'll have a good time and good tours and good friendship and the 269th Engineers plan on having their own hospitality room again.

Enclosed are a few shots from the Denver reunion, taken by a real amateur with his little 'Brownie,' not bad - huh?

So best to ya all and hope to see ya at a Tri-State or 69th Division Reunion real soon, it's getting late.

Your Ole Buddie, Frank



Jim Eibling - H&S Company, Bill Riggle, Frank Nemeth,
Dan Evers - "B" Company

(Continued on Page 55)

**DIVISION ASSOCIATION CHAPTERS,
UNITS, AND GROUP MINI-WEEKENDS
ACROSS THE UNITED STATES**
(Continued from Page 54)



Chuck Williams and Bill Riggle, 269th Company B



Bill Snidow - 661st T.D.s and Marion Diefenbach, whose husband was in Company A, 269th Engineers.



Kim Packard, 269th Engineers, Company A

**269th ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION
Camp Shelby, Mississippi**

The following men were at Camp Shelby on Activation Day 5/15/43. These were our officers. How many can you recall?

McIntosh, Donald (NMI)	2nd Lt.	A D E
Duncan, Arthur L.	2nd Lt.	Asst S-4
Helgenberg, Howard F. (Jr)	2nd Lt.	Asst ADE
Kopler, Frank J.	2nd Lt.	Asst S-2
Lowry, George Bee	2nd Lt.	Pers Adj
Elliott, Robert R.	2nd Lt.	Asst S-3
Bellon, Joseph B.	1st Lt.	H/S Company
Quinn, John C. (r)	2nd Lt.	
Sullivan, George W.	2nd Lt.	
Jensen, Stanley E.	2nd Lt.	
Eibling, James A.	1st Lt.	A Company
Morris, Howard G.	2nd Lt.	
Gulley, Gilbert H.	3rd Lt.	
Brockdorff, Beverly (NMI)	2nd Lt.	
Locke, Paul G.	2nd Lt.	
Murphy, Darlen W.	2nd Lt.	
Hostetter, Edmund W. (Jr)	1st Lt.	B Company
Bradley, Robert G.	2nd Lt.	
Webster, William B.	2nd Lt.	
Plutz, Andrew (NMI)	2nd Lt.	
Martin, Theodore C.	2nd Lt.	
Beeler, James W.	2nd Lt.	
Shriver, Ellsworth H.	1st Lt.	C Company
Ledbetter, Buford P.	2nd Lt.	
Jerram, Robert W.	2nd Lt.	
Holmberg, Raymond E.	2nd Lt.	
Frank, John H.	2nd Lt.	
Cryst, John E.	1st Lt.	Med. Det.
Cross, Richard J.	1st Lt.	
De Persia, Anthony J.	1st Lt.	
Kosik, Abe H.	1st Lt.	

**August 12-19, 1990
69th INFANTRY
DIVISION
43rd
ANNUAL REUNION**

**Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel
N. Gulph Road & 1st Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania**

*We want to see all of you 69ers there.
Remember, it's later than you think.*

5-Year-Old's Prediction Will Be Realized in July

Local Man, Fighting 69th's 'Mascot' Will Reunite

BY ERWIN ENDRESS
Patriot Staff Writer

A prediction made nearly 20 years ago by a 5-year old boy standing in the rain in Hagen, Germany, will come true in July for Jake Stark Jr. of 691 Dunkle Street, Enhaut.

The boy, fighting back tears as a truck loaded with American soldiers was about to pull away, told Stark:

"You'll come back. Some day you'll come back. . ."

Stark, then a staff sergeant with the famed 69th Infantry Division remembers the strained little face and choked up voice.

He was leaving a boy who, in the five months Stark served with occupation forces in defeated Germany, had been almost constantly at his side.



Jake and Claus in Hagen, Germany, 1945

THE YEARS have intervened. Jake Stark now is 48. The little boy in Germany is 25.

But that prediction by Claus Luhmann — "mascot of the 69th" — is now to be realized.

Stark and his wife, Violet, parents of three children, are planning to return to Germany to places where Stark and the 69th had fought — and to see Claus once again.

The Stark children are Jake III, 22, serving as an Army MP at Fort Hood, Texas; Kenneth, 18, a freshman at Susquehanna University; and Margaret, 14, a 9th grader at Swatara Junior High School.

The Starks will be traveling with more than 150 members of the Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association. The

organization is marking the 20th anniversary of the division's climactic meeting with Soviet forces on the Elbe River at Torgau (actually on April 25, 1945).

Jake Stark today is pressroom employee of The Patriot. He says that after years during which he was out-of-touch with Claus, he has again learned of his whereabouts.

CORRESPONDENCE was restored through efforts of the editor of a German youth magazine who was able to locate the Luhmann family. He learned that Claus now is studying mechanical engineering at a technical school in Hanover.

Kassel, a stopping-off place on the 69th Division's commemorative tour, is 125 miles south of Hanover. It is there that a reunion between Stark and his little friend of the immediate post-war period is being arranged.

Stark says he can recall vividly the first time he saw Claus.

Stationed in Hagen, situated between Bremen and Bremerhaven, soon after the European hostilities had ended, Stark was walking down a street toward a mess hall where he saw a little boy walking toward him.

The boy was dressed in a cast-off U.S. fatigue uniform, many sizes too large for him. The pants had been cut down so that they resembled baggy Bermuda shorts.

"I was moved by his forlorn appearance. I asked him what his name was and where he was from," Stark says.

THE BOY told me he lived with his mother and a 12-year-old sister in a walkup flat nearby, that the family home in Bremerhaven had been bombed out.

Stark said he spoke to the boy in German — which he had learned from his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Stark, Sr., also Enhaut residents.

At that first meeting, Stark gave Claus two chocolate bars and went his way, thinking he would not see him again.

A few days later, he found the boy waiting for him. Their friendship grew — stimulated in part by the fact that the family was needy and hungry. And the boy needed clothes.

Stark visited the Luhmann home and learned that the father, an English Channel boatman had been killed by British shore batteries a few years before.

Claus began to learn English. "When's chow?" he would say.



Claus Luhmann, 1965

(Continued on Page 57)

**LOCAL MAN, FIGHTING 69th's
'MASCOT' WILL REUNITE**
(Continued from Page 56)

Stark got permission from his unit's mess sergeant to allow the boy to join the soldiers at meals. Soon, Claus had a "uniform" — a refitted U.S. outfit, complete with overseas hat and sergeant stripes.

The boy accompanied Stark and others in the unit on trips and at social events, learning to salute officers along the way.

He was at Stark's side at weekly football games in the area, laughing and shouting at the players.

BUT A DAY of parting was inevitable.

It came late in 1945 when Stark and other soldiers were to be shipped home. Stark had urged Mrs. Luhmann to keep him at home the day the trucks departed. Besides, it was raining.

But moments before the truck left Stark saw him. There was Claus, running through the rain in his U.S. Army uniform, his face dripping.

He stood staring at Stark. "Well, Claus, I won't be seeing you any more," Stark told him firmly.

That was when little Claus made his tearful prediction.

Today Stark and his wife have their passports ready.

Their adventures with the Fighting 69th begins July 9, when they leave New York aboard a chartered plane.

The trip will roughly follow the original march of the division through Europe — first Belgium, then France and across the border and deep into Germany.

MEMBERS OF the famous fighting unit will pass through fields, woods, valley and mountain country — to Bad Ems, Leipzig and on to Torgau, scene of that historic linking up with Soviet forces — places where men suffered and fought and died.

There will be visits for the Starks in Heibelberg with relatives they have never met.

But mostly there will be Kassel, and another link up.

That moment will come when hands which once were clasped in companionship and compassion amid wreck and ruin of Nazi, Germany are clasped once again.



Stark shows wife, Violet, place of reunion.

Ken Sawyer and Al Panara also knew Claus as they were all together in Company H, 179, 29 Division.

Jake Stark
691 Dunkle Street
Enhaut-Steeltion, Pennsylvania 17113



Cliff Stolpe, Service 273rd, and Jack Runkle, C-880th, at the Denver Reunion.

Picture furnished by Rico D'Angelo



Dell Balzano and Enrico D'Angelo in front of the State Capitol Building, Denver, Colorado

New Men Relocated Since Our Last Bulletin

Richard J. Hopkins, Jr. — F-273rd
1511 Waterwheel Dr., Apt. 7, Sacramento, California 95833

E. F. Granillo — 69 Q.M.
862 North Grand Street, Mesa, Arizona 85201

Robert F. Bender — H-273rd
119 North 6th Street, Cheney, Washington 99004

John W. Maas — M-273rd
1239-B Hamilton Court (LVE), Lakewood, New Jersey 08701

Elmer Riffman — C-271st
631-B Finchley Court (LVW), Lakehurst, New Jersey 08733

Nevin Schrock — Hq., 272nd
R.D. #4, Meyersdale, Pennsylvania 15552

Allan L. Gwynne — A-271st
550 Marin Oaks Drive, Novato, California 94949

Ted Kreuzer — Hq., 724th
P.O. Box 31125, El Paso, Texas 79931

Oscar M. Windrath
5716 Timberlake Circle, Sarasota, Florida 34243

Louis Ambrozy — A-273rd
12250 Sprague Road, Parma, Ohio 44130

Boyd G. Good, Sr. — D-273rd
4902 Carmelynn Street, Torrance, California 90503

Robert Burnside
162 Preston Street, Elyria, Ohio 44035

Robert E. Cline — I-272nd
5565 East Gallatin Road, Belgrade, Montana 59714

George W. Duke — D-461st AAA
5922 East 27th Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114

Lawrence W. Morone — Hq., 369th
27 Finchley Court, Vincentown, New Jersey 08088

Robert L. Kirk
P.O. Box 451, Shepherdstown, West Virginia 25443

Thaddeus Mace — C-661st
15849 Amore, Mt. Clemens, Michigan 48044

John H. Post — Ser. 880th
6805 Kenowa Avenue, S.W., Grandville, Michigan 49418

Joseph Fitzpatrick — Hq., 1st Bn., 272nd
R.R. 2, Box 563, Harpers Ferry, West Virginia 25425

Ralph C. Scholtz — Hq., 1st Bn. 273rd
41 Clafford Lane, Melville, New York 11747

Bill Gist — 273rd
P.O. Box 5472, 8609 Sanardo Street
Scottsdale, Arizona 85261

Harold A. Pederson — Hq., 1st Bn., 273rd
115 West Washington, Lombard, Illinois 60148

Sam L. Warren — F-273rd
P.O. Box 286, Wickes, Arkansas 71973

Cecil C. Hull — F-273rd
3903 Skylark Avenue, San Antonio, Texas 78210

Douglas George — Hq., 273rd
Route 1 Box, 1492, Quitman, Texas 75783

Vivian C. Motley — D-273rd
Route 2, Box 217-E, Omaha, Texas 75571

Stanley V. Supinsky — Hq., 880th
2047 West 104th Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44102

Aloysius Brier — Hq., 880th
310 South Broadway, Scottsdale, Pennsylvania 15683

Charles Argenbright — Div. Hq.
516 Wainwright Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky 40217

Anthony Szaro — C & A, 724th
301 Sherwood Road, Union, New Jersey 07083

Oscar R. Andrews
345 Bower Avenue, Williamsport, Maryland 21795

John Longworth — Med. 272nd or 273rd
6057 South Lamar Drive, Littleton, Colorado 80123

Brownie Parsons — A-724th
1143 Mulberry Circle, Charleston, West Virginia 25314

Louis L. Lipman — Med., 3rd Bn., 271st
20649 Knob Woods Road, Southfield, Michigan 48076

Henry B. Williamson, III — C-272nd
6111 Clematis Drive, Dayton, Ohio 45449

Jack R. Hadder
1010 Westminster Drive, Johnson City, Tennessee 37601

Irving Karp — C-271st
9139 Ohio Avenue, Sun Lake, Arizona 85248

Louis Reed — Ser., 777th
5915 Kentucky, Raytown, Missouri 64133

Wayne R. Frazier — 69th Recon.
17356 Lowery Road, Gulfport, Mississippi 39503

Jerry Leib — 69th Recon.
22335 Vermont Avenue S., Torrance, California 90502

Leslie Forbes — B-271st
11742 Sikkenga Road, Montague, Michigan 49437

James Allred — 569th Sig.
217 East Woodsdale, Akron, Ohio 44301

Frank P. Niedermeyer — I-273rd
R.D. #2, Conneautville, Pennsylvania 16406

Anthony E. Novak — 569th Sig.
6505 Orchard, Cleveland, Ohio 44144

Eddie J. Phetterplace — I-273rd
20 Douglas, Homosassa, Florida 32646

Kenneth R. Phillips — I-273rd
6909 Havelock Avenue, Lincoln, Nebraska 68507

David Buchholtz — I-271st
420 East 23rd Street, New York, New York 10010

Leslie Kindel — Recon. 661st
306 Washington West, DeWitt, Michigan 48820

John Robert Flynn
5572 Crestwood Drive, Kansas City, Missouri 64110

Alex Leso
14600 Orchard Park Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44111

John Monaco — 569th Sig.
18 Niles Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202

Louis Paesano — 569th Sig.
145 Coates Avenue, Holbrook, New York 11741

Jack Wilhoit — 569th Sig.
1116 Madura Drive, Deltona, Florida 32725

Raymond C. Zonker — 569th Sig.
4708 East 23rd Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74114

Ross Stephens — F-272nd
3205 S.E. 44th, Edmond, Oklahoma 73013

Henry Hafeli — B-273rd
332 Woodedge, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48013

Alvin H. Glaser — I-273rd
4333 Cartesian Circle
Palos Verdes Peninsula, California 90274

David H. Fagen — 271st
8175 S.W. 109th Street Road, Ocala, Florida 32676

(Continued on Page 59)

NEW MEN RELOCATED SINCE OUR LAST BULLETIN
(Continued from Page 58)

Norman Barratt — Hq., 273rd
 666 Barneson Avenue, San Matteo, California 94402

Charles Hahm — Hq., 273rd
 24 Woodhail Street, Lido Beach, New York 11561

William P. Higgins — B-272nd
 676 North 57th Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska 68132

James A. Walsh — B-271st
 220 Oxford Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06105

H. M. Milstead — C-881st
 1042 Lake Street, Bolivar, Tennessee 38008

William E. Gust — B-271st
 4725 Linke Road, Green Acres, Washington 99016

William F. Sheehan — B-271st
 826 Stephens Avenue, Westfield, New Jersey 07090

Raymond W. Haggerton — I-272nd
 P.O. Box 338, 104 West 8th, Sundown, Texas 79372

Tom Watson — E-273rd
 1047 Browning Road, Bellmawr, New Jersey 08031

Ken Reynolds — 271st
 320 Westmoreland Street, C-2
 Narragansett, Rhode Island 02882

Albert M. Lee — E-273rd
 132 7th Street, Barberton, Ohio 44203

Donald E. Snyder — A-880th
 614 Beverly Drive, Oxnard, California 93030

William T. Rogers — A-880th
 3359 Gulf Breeze Terrace, Palm Harbor, Florida 34684

Stanley Olszyk — F-273rd
 R.R. #1, Box 118, Kentland, Indiana 47951

Harold F. Wepler — C-724th
 912 Main Street, Genoa, Ohio 43430

Robert Bruce — Hq., 271st
 175 Weigester Street, Troy, Pennsylvania 16947



*69th G-2 CIC Detachment: Lt. Shay,
 Sgt. Ellis M. Levine, Sgt. Kurt Burnheim - Unknown*



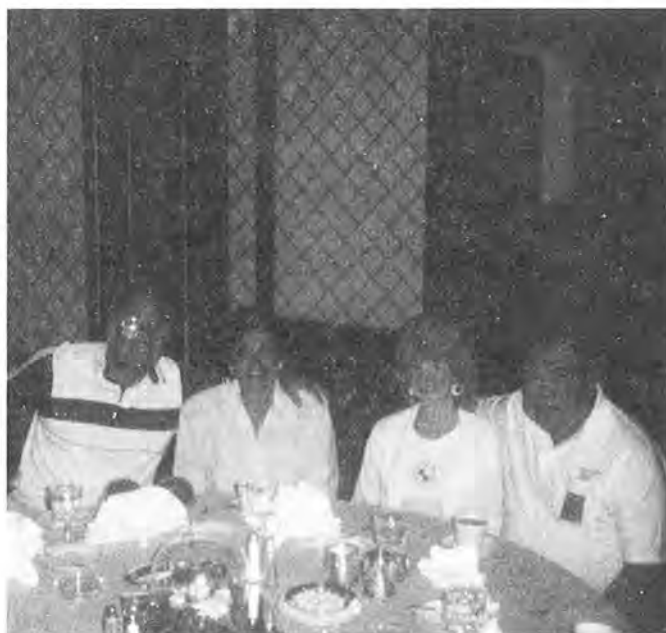
Wertheim

Pictures from Ellis (Levine) Benson

Ray Fahrner Entertains His Girlfriend and the Roccos at Denver



Ray Fahrner and Reunion guest, Jan Lindemberger.



Gil and Sue Rocco - Jan Lindemberger and Ray Fahrner

HEADQUARTERS 69TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO 417 U S ARMY

12 May 1945.

SUBJECT: Award of Meritorious Service Unit Plaque.

TO : Commanding Officer, 369th Medical Battalion,
69th Infantry Division, APO 417, U. S. Army.

CITATION

369th Medical Battalion, 69th Infantry Division, United States Army, for superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks from 1 February 1945 to 15 April 1945, in Belgium and Germany. At no time was the 369th Medical Battalion lacking in its support of the Division, despite the repeated movement and lengthening of evacuation lines. Demonstrating outstanding qualities of leadership and professional skill in the face of intense enemy fire, the 369th Medical Battalion continued the collection and evacuation of casualties. Their conspicuous courage and devotion to duty have resulted in the maintenance of a rapid casualty evacuation from forward aid stations, saving untold numbers of lives.

/s/ E. F. Reinhardt
/t/ E. F. REINHARDT,
Major General, U. S. Army,
Commanding.

A TRUE COPY:

Lester J. Yury
LESTER J. YURY
Capt., MAC
Acting Adjutant
369th Med Bn



Company A - 369th Medical Battalion
Camp Shelby, Mississippi — March 1944



Company "A" - 369 Medical Bn. - Camp Shelby Miss. - March 1944 - -

Your Dues and Contributions By Each & Every State

STATE	MEMBERSHIP ROSTER	MEMBERS PAID	AMOUNT PAID	PERCENT OF ROSTER PAID	AVERAGE AMOUNT PER PAYING MEMBER	AVERAGE AMOUNT PER ROSTER MEMBER
ALABAMA	68	57	\$ 520.00	☆ 84	\$ 9.13	☆ \$ 7.65
ALASKA	★ 2	★ 2	30.00	☆ 100	☆ 15.00	☆ 15.00
ARIZONA	77	35	\$ 400.00	46	11.43	5.20
ARKANSAS	33	14	138.00	43	9.86	4.19
CALIFORNIA	280	136	☆ 1,516.00	49	11.15	5.42
COLORADO	47	26	269.00	☆ 56	10.35	5.73
CONNECTICUT	82	38	418.00	47	11.00	5.10
DELAWARE	27	9	81.00	33	9.00	3.00
WASHINGTON D.C.	13	3	82.00	★ 23	☆ 27.34	☆ 6.31
FLORIDA	☆ 338	☆ 160	☆ 1,551.00	48	9.70	4.59
GEORGIA	96	39	460.00	41	11.80	4.80
HAWAII	★ 11	★ 3	★ 27.00	★ 28	9.00	★ 2.46
IDAHO	★ 7	★ 2	★ 32.00	★ 29	☆ 16.00	4.58
ILLINOIS	206	93	922.00	46	9.92	4.48
INDIANA	160	79	770.00	50	9.75	4.82
IOWA	66	28	254.00	43	9.08	3.85
KANSAS	37	14	114.00	38	8.15	3.09
KENTUCKY	89	31	326.00	35	10.52	3.67
LOUISIANA	50	19	215.00	38	11.32	4.30
MAINE	24	10	71.00	42	★ 7.10	2.96
MARYLAND	167	68	711.00	41	10.46	4.26
MASSACHUSETTS	130	59	537.00	46	9.11	4.13
MICHIGAN	161	79	822.00	49	10.41	5.11
MINNESOTA	82	46	506.00	☆ 56	11.00	☆ 6.17
MISSISSIPPI	69	29	242.00	42	8.35	3.51
MISSOURI	65	29	358.00	45	☆ 12.35	5.51
MONTANA	19	7	67.00	37	9.58	3.53
NEBRASKA	40	16	183.00	40	11.44	4.58
NEVADA	13	6	47.00	47	7.84	3.62
NEW HAMPSHIRE	32	13	108.00	41	8.31	3.38
NEW JERSEY	☆ 319	☆ 136	1,398.00	43	10.28	4.39
NEW MEXICO	16	6	52.00	38	8.67	3.25
NEW YORK	☆ 476	☆ 199	☆ 2,033.00	42	10.22	4.28
NORTH CAROLINA	205	60	502.00	★ 30	8.37	★ 2.45
NORTH DAKOTA	12	5	★ 32.00	42	★ 6.40	2.67
OHIO	☆ 373	☆ 178	☆ 1,983.00	48	11.14	5.32
OKLAHOMA	51	18	128.00	36	★ 7.12	★ 2.51
OREGON	32	13	154.00	41	11.85	4.82
PENNSYLVANIA	☆ 849	☆ 339	☆ 3,357.00	40	9.91	3.96
RHODE ISLAND	22	9	120.00	41	☆ 13.34	5.46
SOUTH CAROLINA	49	39	460.00	☆ 80	11.80	☆ 9.39
SOUTH DAKOTA	16	11	83.00	☆ 69	7.55	5.19
TENNESSEE	66	22	229.00	34	10.41	3.47
TEXAS	183	73	803.00	40	11.00	4.39
UTAH	19	8	59.00	43	7.32	3.11
VERMONT	★ 8	★ 3	★ 15.00	38	★ 5.00	★ 1.88
VIRGINIA	278	104	1,021.00	38	9.82	3.68
WASHINGTON	46	23	222.00	50	9.66	4.83
WEST VIRGINIA	71	29	342.00	41	11.80	4.82
WISCONSIN	95	48	511.00	51	10.65	5.38
WYOMING	★ 6	★ 1	★ 5.00	★ 17	★ 5.00	★ .84
TOTAL ROSTER	5683	2474	\$25,286.00	44	\$10.22	\$ 4.45
EAST OF MISSISSIPPI	4473	1933	\$19,592.00	44	\$10.14	\$ 4.38
WEST OF MISSISSIPPI	1210	541	\$ 5,694.00	44	\$10.53	\$ 4.71

1,340 MEMBERS HAVE PAID DUES CONSECUTIVELY FOR THE PAST 5 YEARS

2,485 HAVE PAID NO DUES IN THE PAST 5 YEARS?

514 MEMBERS OR 9 PERCENT OF THE ROSTER PAID BETWEEN \$15.00 and \$100.00 PER DONATION
FOR A TOTAL OF \$10,058.00 OR 40 PERCENT OF THE ENTIRE DONATIONS RECEIVED.

NEXT YEAR WE'LL TRY IT BY UNITS.

☆ EQUALS FIVE HIGHEST IN EACH CATEGORY

★ EQUALS FIVE LOWEST IN EACH CATEGORY

Robert J. Younglas Writes

3529 Three Mile Road
Traverse City, Michigan 49684

Missed you at the Reunion in Denver. "B" Company had thirteen men present and I am including a photo of the group. Most of these men have not seen each other since 1945.



The men in the photo are: From left to right back row - Kenny Upton, Kenneth Curren, Bob Rinehart, Earl Hanson, Hank Milner, Bob Younglas, Lumir Bocek, Martin Buol. Center standing - Tom Hancock and Phil Delphy. Front row - Wayne Weygandt, Chuck Walsh and Bub Boehm.

I received a photo from Bob Rinehart with a notation on the back "Forbes Scotville Michigan." Scotville is only about forty miles south of me and after some trial and error, I located Leslie Forbes at 11742 Sikkenga Road, Montague, Michigan 49437, (616) 893-0901. Les will contact you for an application to join the association.

We now have about seventy names on our mailing list and if anyone would like a copy they can drop me a line and I will send it out by return mail.

I hope this letter and photo can make the next Bulletin as I would like to hear from some of the men who have not answered the letters that I have mailed to them.

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.

James Carroll Successfully Concludes 44 Year Search

James Carroll

273rd Infantry Regiment, Company A, 1st Squad
207 Tanglewood
Levelland, Texas 79336
Telephone: 806/894-6387

I had searched 44 years for a Sergeant Hooten who had loaned me \$20.00 to spend on a seven day pass to Paris in 1945. We called our Sergeant Hooten but I learned at Denver this year that his name is Houghton. I found Sergeant Houghton and offered to pay him with interest if he would figure it up. Houghton refused with the excuse that he had forgotten about it. When I arrived back at the company from Paris Houghton had been returned to the states.

When we attended the 1988 reunion in Kentucky, I got Conrad Hooten's address. He is a member of our association. I wrote and asked him if he was my sergeant. I mentioned that my sergeant's parents had run a bakery and I thought it was in Oklahoma City. He wrote saying he was not my sergeant but he sent me a list of all the Hootens in Oklahoma City. I wrote all of them but got no answer - so I was still looking.

Jack Houghton found out about our association by talking to a stranger wearing a 69th cap. After being introduced to Houghton I had him stand and questioned him about the bakery before I would believe that he was the right man - these people got older. After looking at an old picture I was convinced that he was my sergeant, and as we spoke at length the old sergeant's expression came through.

After forty-four years I met four of my Company A, first squad comrades. Two of them I could remember real well, the sergeant and Aaron Taulbee (who was shot in the leg while carrying a boat to cross a river in Germany). I could not remember Chuck Hammond of Nebraska and Ken Carner of California as well. I am hoping to recall more memories at the reunion next year.

How did you find out about our association - was it a newspaper article, a friend, a 69th patch or sticker? I put an article in my hometown paper about the reunion this year and as a result Raymond Haggerton of the 69th Infantry, 272nd Regiment, I Company, 3rd Battalion, called me. We had lived less than 30 miles apart for about 33 years. He plans to go on our trip to Germany and attend the reunion next year in Pennsylvania.

We need to make a special effort to be friendly to all first timers and their wives. This year I had one first timer tell me "I went into the registration room and introduced myself to several 69th members. They could have cared less if I was here or not." Listen comrades, we should be friendly and help all first timers whether they were in our company or not. Coming from a private 1st class of the 69th that is enough. Looking forward to seeing you in Pennsylvania or the trip to Germany next year.

Past President Passes Away

Clifford E. Ewing, Past President of the 69th Infantry Division Association, died Saturday, October 21, 1989 of a heart attack. He was the fourth President of the Association and the oldest living Past President until his death.

He is survived by his wife, Estelle and other family members and relations. His address was 6092 Prestige Valley Road, Morrow, Georgia 30260.

Record of Events Extracted from the Official Morning Report of Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 273rd Infantry Regiment

1944

- November 3 — Departed from Camp Shelby, Mississippi at 1700 by rail enroute for Camp Kilmer, New Jersey.
- November 4 — Aboard troop train.
- November 5 — Arrived Camp Kilmer, New Jersey at 1330.
- November 15 — Sailed from Staten Island aboard the SS Santa Maria 0800.
- November 26 — Arrived Southampton, England 1430.
- November 27 — Traveled by rail from Southampton to Basingstoke, England. Departed Southampton 2030, arrived Basingstoke 0115, 28 Nov.
- December 27 — Seventeen men left from company as replacements for the 78th Division in Germany.

1945

- January 25 — Arrived at Gournay-en-Bray, France.
- January 31 — Enroute to St. Preuve, France by 40 and 8. At St. Preuve we rode by truck to tent city a mile outside of Sissone, France.
- February 7 — Departed Sissone, France by 40 and 8 at 0700 enroute for Heppenbach, Belgium.
- February 9 — Arrived Heppenbach, Belgium at 1700. Rode from near Liege, Belgium by First Army trucks.
- February 12 — Departed Heppenbach, Belgium at 1600 in organics. Line Companies in Quartermaster trucks. Arrived on Belgian-German frontier at 1900. Relieved 99th Infantry Division. Hq. Company set up Rear CP. Line Companies moved up on line during the evening.
- February 13 — I&R moved up to Forward CP by jeep at 2300.
- February 14 — I&R set up an OP at end of town of Udenbreth, Germany at 0900.
- March 3 — Relieved by 272nd Infantry Regiment and moved back into reserve.
- March 4 — Departed for Schonesseiffen, Germany.
- March 9 — Departed Schonesseiffen for Hecken.
- March 14 — 102 EM of company awarded the Combat Infantry Badge.
- March 17 — Departed Hecken at 1330 by truck. Arrived Queckenberg at 1645.
- March 18 — Departed Queckenberg at 0945, arrived Oberdrees at 1025. 60 EM went to work on road to repair and widen road with Engineers.
- March 24 — Departed Oberdrees by organic transportation at 1530. Arrived Bad Neuenahr at 2220.
- March 26 — Departed Bad Neuenahr by truck. Arrived Burgbrohl at 1530.
- March 27 — Departed Burgbrohl at 1900. Arrived St. Sebastian to cross Rhine River and then bivouac at Bendorf.
- March 28 — Departed Bendorf at 0615 by truck convoy. Rode 15 miles, marched 10½ miles to Horhausen, arriving 1330.
- March 29 — Captured 70 Germans in woods surrounding Horhausen.

- March 30 — Departed Horhausen at 0715 by truck. Arrived Aumenau at 1130.
 - April 1 — Moved by organics from Aumenau at 1915, 1 April, arrived Altenstadt 1035, 2 April. Distance 133 miles.
 - April 3 — Departed Altenstadt, half of HQ Company in organics, other half walking. Troops walking left at 0705 and arrived Escheberg at 1325. I&R set up an OP near town.
 - April 5 — Departed Escheberg at 0745 to Alanbusch (19 miles). Arrived at 1805. Crossed Fulda River.
 - April 6 — Departed Alanbusch to take Lutterberg (11 miles).
 - April 7 — Moved from Lutterberg and advanced to Ziegenhagen. Arrived at 2100, 8 April. Crossed the Werra River.
 - April 9 — Moved from Ziegenhagen at 1900 by truck. Arrived at Gertenbach at 0135 (19 miles).
 - April 10 — Jumped off on spearhead from Gertenbach with Combat Command R of the 9th Armored Division.
 - April 11 — Moved from Issersheilingen to Roldisleben. Left at 0930 and arrived at 1935. Distance about 45 miles. Convoy was strafed near the town of Kolledo. When we reached our destination we were strafed again by enemy aircraft. Our AA and 50 cal. machine guns drove them away. No casualties.
 - April 12 — Moved from Roldisleben at 0930 and stopped three hours at Obernessa. Started out from Obernessa at 2335. Distance from Roldisleben to Obernessa about 50 miles.
 - April 13 — Moved from Obernessa to Elstertrebnitz 12 April at 2335 and arrived at 2100, 13 April (12 miles). Opposition strong. No casualties.
 - April 14 — Moved from Elstertrebnitz at 1545 to Wilderheim, arriving at 1815 (11 miles). No enemy aircraft enroute.
 - April 15 — Moved from Wilderheim at 1045 and arrived at Leupahn at 1740. Distance about 27 miles. Have 17 men from Colditz guarded in a barn, believed to be prisoners of German Gestapo. Released them in the morning.
 - April 16 — Moved to Colditz at 0915 and arrived at 1320. Distance 5 miles. Captured 24 Germans in woods around Colditz. One German shot while trying to get away.
 - April 21 — Moved from Colditz at 1645 and arrived at Altenhain at 2045.
 - April 25 — 1st Battalion, 273rd Infantry met Russians at Torgau.
 - May 30 — First truck to take men into Leipzig on pass left in the afternoon.
 - June 19 — 3 EM leaving on quartering party to Ersrode.
 - June 29 — 28 men leave the company for the 29th Infantry Division.
 - July 1 — Moved from Altenhain at 0730. Boarded train, arriving Ersrode at 1050, 2 July.
 - July 13 — Moved from Ersrode at 1145 to Raboldshausen. Distance 7½ miles.
 - August 15 — Japan surrenders.
 - August 16 — The 69th Division placed on alert. Will move back to the U.S.A. within a month with high point men.
- NOTE: I have verified the spellings of all towns as they appeared on my copy of the extract, using a detailed map of Germany. They are all correct with the exception of the April 15th entry. I believe WILDERHEIM should be WILDENHAIN.

Furnished by Alan H. Murphy
A former member of this Unit.

271st Infantry Regiment Medic Reunion

Medics from the 271st Regiment met at the Carrousel Inn in Cincinnati, Ohio June 13th, 14th, and 15th. It was the first time the fellows had seen each other since 1945. As you can imagine memories were relived, and all of us found answers to many of our questions that have puzzled us for the past 44 years. A warm up get acquainted party was held the first evening, a banquet on Wednesday, and a farewell brunch the closing morning. Those in attendance were:

David and Virginia Wharrey
Tony and Stella Securo
Sanford and Patti Graham
John C. Moore
Felix E. "Whitey" Slagaski
Richard and Eileen Ranfranz
Don Kolloway
Leo and Jeanette Loughman
Dr. Henry and Judy Madoff
Frank and Pearl Bruno
John and Merna Zoppetti
Chuck and Vivienne Henderson
Harry and Audrey Ritter
Joe and Olga Leone
Raymond and Pat Kurta
Dr. Warren M. and Louise Jacobs
Francis and Lee Burrows
Dr. Asa R. and Tootsie Parham
Dr. Everett S. and Helen Lipman
Charles and Anita Lee
John and Nell Melton

A great time was enjoyed by everyone, and it is our hope that the Medic Reunion can be repeated again. Any Medics from the 271st Regiment who may not have learned about the Reunion, please contact **Chuck Henderson**, R.R. 3, Box 118, Franklin, Indiana 46131.



Al Kormas and Phil Sparacino, Artillery buddies.

Picture furnished by **Enrico D'Angelo**

Fighting 69th Infantry Division Association from Robert F. Bender

Imagine my surprise this morning while reading a neighborhood news section of the SPOKANE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW to see listed under "Reunions" a notice of the August, 1989 Denver meeting of the 69th Association. Frankly, during the many years that have passed I lost track of the association due to many moves during my civilian career. Right after the war I was a member but it was dropped due to these moves and, undoubtedly, a loss of my mailing record in the Association archives.

Yes, I am very much interested in attending the reunion in Denver! During the past few years I have had the pleasure of visiting with other vets, both Canadian and U.S.A., at their respective unit and ship reunions. So the opportunity to get reacquainted with former comrades is especially important to me, particularly after nearly 45 years have passed by.

Let me introduce myself. I am a retired accounting professor at Eastern Washington University. This last post extended for nearly 30 years, preceded by several other teaching jobs in public schools and higher education. Prior to this I pursued a college education, first at the University of North Texas and later at the University of Denver.

My military service included an extended assignment in the 69th, beginning in the spring of 1944 and concluding with the division's breakup at the conclusion of the European war. I was a machine gun squad leader in Company H, 273rd Infantry. During the Korean War I was recalled as a finance officer at the U.S. Army Finance Center, first in St. Louis and later in Indianapolis.

I certainly hope a number of the men from my old company will be attending the 1989 reunion. It will be some experience seeing again the now "old men," many of whom were teenagers during our wartime association together.

Is it possible that somewhere in your association archives you might have some information such as mailing address, whether still living (next of kin, if not), and civilian career path. I am listing below the names of my former squad. Any assistance you can give me in my search will be most appreciated.

Pfc. Charles G. Attara
Pfc. Juan A. Arredondo
Pfc. Harold C. McCord
Pvt. Richard C. Parent
Cpl. Max L. Weinstein
Pfc. Rudolph Hoyos

Please send me all materials announcing the 1989 reunion. My wife and I certainly anticipate attending.

Robert F. Bender
119 North 6th Street
Cheney, Washington 99004

**FOUND A NEW MEMBER?
HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS?**

**THIS SHOULD BE
MAILED IMMEDIATELY TO:**

**Clarence Marshall
101 Stephen Street
New Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068**

***** CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS AND COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE *****

May I just make note to all Leaders of Chapters, Groups, Branches, Companies, Battalions, Regiments, Recon, Artillery, AAA, and T.D.'s to get your Activities Schedules to Earl E. Witzleb Jr., Box 69, Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069 or R.D. #1, Box 477, Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606, 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 members to know. This may also bring a few new faces, or two, to your group. Then bring them to a National Reunion to meet a-l-l-l-l of the gang.

By now everyone should know where news material, articles and pictures should be mailed to. Your Coordinating Manager and Editor will do a superb job of handling it along with Dottie who takes care of the ladies mail. Thanks for getting it in on time.

NEWS MATERIAL AND PICTURES FOR THE BULLETIN SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

EARL E. WITZLEB, JR., P.O. Box 69, Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069
or R.D. #1, Box 477, Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606

CLARENCE MARSHALL, 101 Stephen Street, New Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068

LADIES AUXILIARY MATERIAL AND PICTURES TO:

DOROTHY A. WITZLEB, P.O. Box 69, Champion, Pennsylvania 15622-0069
or R.D. 1, Box 477, Acme, Pennsylvania 15610-9606

1989

DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE FOR 1989-1990

Mail to:

Robert J. Kurtzman, Sr.
Post Office Box 178
Wilmot, Ohio 44689

Dues:

Regular Membership \$ 5.00
Contributory Membership \$10.00
Ladies' Auxiliary Membership.. \$ 2.00

Dues Year:

August 1, 1989 to July 31, 1990

Postage and Bulletin Donations Accepted
**69th Monument Fund donations are now
being accepted. Monument will be erected
at Camp Shelby, Mississippi.**

JANUARY 7 to 31, 1990

Second dues notice mailed out to members on record for
1989-1990 dues year.

Exception: Those who paid at Denver, Colorado Reunion in
1989 or from the first notice in September 1989, will not
get an envelope. Thanks for paying your dues early and
remember a Bulletin postage donation is greatly appreciated
by your Editors. It keeps the big Bulletins coming to your
home.

* * * * *

APRIL 7, 1990

Deadline for news material and pictures
Bulletin Volume 43, Number 3
May - June - July - August, 1990

This Bulletin makes or breaks you. Decision time. Will
you or are you going to be at the Valley Forge Sheraton for
our August 12 to 19, 1990 Reunion with your buddies and their
wives, girlfriends, or guests. All are welcome.

* * * * *

APRIL 22, 23, 24, 1990

MID-WEST GROUP SPRING MEETING

Interlaken Resort on Como Lake

Three miles west of Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, on Highway 50.

Rates: Sunday through Thursday
\$42 single — \$52 double
Friday and Saturday — \$77

For Reservations, call the resort directly.

Out of state: 1/800-225-5558

In Wisconsin: 1/414-248-9121

The resort will hold a block of rooms for the Midwest
Group until March 22, 1990. Late callers can probably
get a reservation, but the room may not be adjacent to
the Group block.

For answers to questions, call:

Curt and Evelyn Peterson
4900 Wallace Avenue
Madison, Wisconsin 53716
Telephone: 608/222-7957

(Continued on Page 67)

1990

JANUARY 6, 1990

Deadline for material and pictures

Bulletin Volume 43, Number 2

January - February - March - April, 1990

Valley Forge Chairpersons **Dan Evers** and **Frank Nemeth**
should have all information for Bulletin publication about the
Valley Forge, Pennsylvania 1990 Reunion.

Bulletin due out in late February or early March 1990. We
must be on a good schedule for this Bulletin since vacations
are scheduled early and all our members want to come to
Valley Forge.

**CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS
AND COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE**
(Continued from Page 66)

MAY 30, 31 — JUNE 1, 2, 3, 1990

TRI-STATE SPRING WEEKEND

Tri-State Blue is the Family Group

Holiday Inn

Ohio Turnpike Exit 8, ¼ mile north Route 57
Elyria, Ohio

We will be on the first or second floor. Many golf courses in the area for our Tournament. Shopping - Flea Market - Top of the Kilt Hospitality Room.

Wednesday, May 30 — Arrival Day - Hospitality Room to open by 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 31 — Trolley Ride (Bus) to Cleveland tour of city (Business and Historical) with lunch.

Friday, June 1 — Boat Ride to Putin Bay Tour. Spend afternoon on island and have lunch before returning.

Saturday, June 2 — On your own except for golfers during the day. Evening banquet dinner with entertainment.

Sunday, June 3 — Breakfast 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Good Byes, see you at Valley Forge Sheraton, King of Prussia.

Anyone flying, there is a free shuttle to the Holiday Inn from Cleveland Airport.



Near area corporations, Cedar Point Amusement Park, Lake Erie swimming and fishing, Cleveland Municipal Stadium and the city of Cleveland. The Holiday Inn-Elyria is easily accessible by road or air.

- Ohio Turnpike: Exit 8 to Route 57; ¼ mile. Interstate 90: Exit Rt. 57 South; ½ mile, turn at Midway Blvd., follow signs over bridge.
- Complimentary shuttle to/from Cleveland Hopkins Airport, 18 miles.

Committee

James Jones, Chairperson
3818 Nautilus Trail
Aurora, Ohio 44202
Telephone: 216/562-9433

Eugene and Norma Butterfield
22449 Lake Road - Apartment 210
Rocky River, Ohio 44116
Telephone: 216/333-5723

Robert and Jeanette Walsh
256 Chelmsford Drive
Aurora, Ohio 44202
Telephone: 216/562-8627

JUNE 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 1990

661st TANK DESTROYER BATTALION WEEKEND

Holiday Inn

Ohio Turnpike Exit 8, ¼ mile north Route 57
Elyria, Ohio

Committee:

Michael and Dorothy Kotnik
43191 Dellefield Road
Elyria, Ohio 44035
Telephone: 216/324-6801

Julius and Pat Slopek
140 Fox Run Drive
Munroe Falls, Ohio 44262
Telephone: 216/688-1497

Make your plans now to visit Scenic Northern Ohio, renew old friendships, take a Lake Erie boat ride to historical South Bass Island. There's 101 things to see and do in Lorraine County, Ohio.

AUGUST

12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1990

**69th INFANTRY DIVISION
ASSOCIATION
43rd ANNUAL REUNION**

Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel

North Gulph Road and First Avenue
King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406
Telephone: 215/337-2000

Connecting: Valley Forge Convention and Exhibit Center

Saturday Banquet Dinner Dance
(Convention Center)
Holding 1,392 persons

Activities:

Weekdays - Tours - to be announced
Thursday - Early Bird,
Lily Langtry's Dinner Theater
Friday - PX Beer Party Night 9:00 p.m.
Saturday - Membership and Auxiliary Meetings, Memorial Service, Banquet Dinner Dance

Two Dinner Choices
Top Sirloin of Beef and Fish

Committee:

Dan and Helen Evers, Co-Chairpersons
4950 Grant Drive
Brookhaven, Pennsylvania 19015
Telephone: 215/874-1197

Frank and Stefania "Ted" Nemeth, Co-Chairpersons
66 Gaping Rock Road
Levittown, Pennsylvania 19057
Telephone: 215/945-3809

(Continued on Page 68)

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS
AND COMMUNICATION SCHEDULE

(Continued from Page 67)

AUGUST 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 1990

880th FIELD ARTILLERY
HEADQUARTERS BATTERY

Sheraton Valley Forge Hotel

North Gulph Road and First Avenue
King of Prussia (Valley Forge), Pennsylvania 19406

TO BE HELD WITH THE 69th INFANTRY
DIVISION ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL REUNION

Committee:

John O'Connor, *Chairman*
4804 South Le Claire Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60638

Telephone: _____ Please send to Earl.

* * * * *

SEPTEMBER 8, 1990

Deadline for news material and pictures
Bulletin Volume 44, Number 1
September - October - November - December, 1990
Bulletin due out to members by Thanksgiving.

* * * * *

SEPTEMBER (Month) 1990

First Dues Notice should be mailed to all members on record
except those who attended and paid dues at the Valley Forge
Sheraton Reunion. Thanks for paying your 1990-1991 dues
early.

* * * * *

SEPTEMBER 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 1990

880th FIELD ARTILLERY
C BATTERY WEEKEND

Comfort Inn
Boone, North Carolina

Committee:

Lewis and Fern Pugh
Route 4, Grant Street
Cadiz, Ohio 43907
Telephone: 614/942-3721

* * * * *

EARL'S NOTE: Since 1990 is an off year for most mini weekends, we hope to see a lot of you members at the Sheraton, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania on August 12 thru 19, 1990. Remember, you don't have to attend for the entire week.

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA BRANCH WEEKEND

Fall Foliage Days

(See letter in another section of your bulletin.)

Location Motel — To be named later

Activities Agenda upcoming

Banquet Dinner - to be announced (Saturday)

Committee:

Frank and Arlene Carey, *Chairpersons and News Reporters*
R.D. #2, Box 36X2
Route 897
Reinholds, Pennsylvania 17569
Telephone: 215/484-4974

* * * * *

DECEMBER 8, 1990

Deadline for news material and pictures
Bulletin Volume 44, Number 2
January - February - March - April, 1991
Bulletin due out during month of March, 1990

* * * * *

1991

JANUARY (Month) 1991

Second Dues Notice should be mailed to all members on
record except those who attended and paid at the Valley
Forge Sheraton Reunion and when paying on the first
dues notice.

* * * * *

JUNE 1991 (Tentative Month)

COMPANY D, 272nd INFANTRY REGIMENT

Location: Iberia, Louisiana

Motel: To be announced at later date

Agenda: To be announced at a later date

Committee:

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Geoffroy, *Chairpersons*
R.D. #2, Box 78
Erath, Louisiana 70533

Telephone: _____ Please send to Earl

* * * * *

September 1991
69th INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
44th ANNUAL REUNION

Dedication of 69th Division Monument
at Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Mississippi
Hilton Hotel, Biloxi, Mississippi

Committee:

Robert Kurtzman, Sr., *Chairman*
610 West Maple Street
Wilmot, Ohio 44689
Telephone: 216/359-5487

Details will follow in future bulletins
and as arrangements are made.

Donation gifts are being accepted
from members by our Treasurer.
Please mark them Monument Fund.



"Taps"

Past President Clifford E. Ewing
6092 Prestige Valley Road
Morrow, Georgia
769th Ordnance

James W. Hoover
241 Glenn
Barberton, Ohio
A-777th

Reino Pelkonen
611 North Mariposa
Burbank, California
A-777th

Robert Pittser
Box 152
Lynchburg, Ohio
B-881st

George F. Ellis
5428 N.W. 27th Street
Lauderhill, Florida
Hq., 724th

Ernest W. Jackson
1409 Florence Drive
Albany, Georgia
B-880th

David H. Prion
590 Yale Drive
Mansfield, Pennsylvania
C-271st

Robert W. Mottaz
10961 Desert Lawn Drive
Calimesa, California
F-273rd

Alvin R. Kempf
3915 West 68th Place
Chicago, Illinois
E-271st

Donald C. Swan
3412 California N.E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Ser. 272nd

Donald Slimmer
114 S.W. Fourth Street
Little Falls, Minnesota
A-777th

William J. Phillips
45 Liberty Street
Dover, Ohio
B-271st

Ashton F. Thayler
Charleston, West Virginia
I-273rd

Wilbur H. Brownlee
R.D. #1, Box 375
Claysville, Pennsylvania
Ser. 879th

"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!

Irving Siegelbaum
13 Lawrence Street
New Hyde Park, New York
F-271st

John P. McGowan
100 Compton Road
Cincinnati, Ohio
D-272nd

Charles Atteberry
R.D. #3, Box 13-A
Cisne, Illinois
D-273rd

Sam Palmatier
1414 Webster Road
Bath, Michigan
Recon 661st

Loran Roush
243 44th Street
Moline, Illinois
Hq., 777th

Bill Haden
46 Rumson Way N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia
Hq. Battery & Med. 461st

Eugene Einhouse
Box 60, Dennison Road
Silver Creek, New York
G-271st

Walter McGriff
Box 269
Columbia, Alabama
B-661st

Gordon Pannullo
580 Sinclair Terrace
South Orange, New Jersey
A-272nd

R. O. Vinson
10 North Hill Parkway
Jackson, Mississippi
69th MP

James K. Moss
2229 Barbara Drive
Norfolk, Virginia
Hq., 1st Bn., 273rd

Daniel O. Henrie
1000 Market Street
Berwick, Pennsylvania
B-881st

James Stankovich
1136 High Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
A-881st

David Delory
7507 East Coolidge
Scottsdale, Arizona
AT-273rd

Louis Carnevale
213 Main Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Donald Diamond
R.D. #3
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania
G-271st

Cowan McFarland
2715 36th Avenue North
St. Petersburg, Florida
A-369th

George J. Ringer
413 West Harding
Coolidge, Arizona
369th Medics

Joseph Bergamasco
Battery C, 724th F.A.

Harry Hagan
403 North 3rd Street
Bardstown, Kentucky
D-272nd

James Shirley
208 Front
Winnsboro, Louisiana
D-272nd

Eugene Lloyd
25 West 275th Gunston
Naperville, Illinois
D-272nd

Charles Young
1906 Montour Street
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania
Hq., 777th



the 69th

INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION, INC.

101 Stephen St., New Kensington, Pa. 15068

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Historian's Report: On Purple Heart Medal's Origin

By Nick McIntosh, *National Historian*

Over the years since I was wounded, I have heard a lot of speculation as to the specific construction of the Purple Heart Medal. One of the most prevalent rumors was that the Purple Heart Medal contained an ounce of gold. After contacting the makers of the original medal, I discovered that this rumor was unfounded.

The Bailey, Banks & Biddle Co. of Philadelphia, Pa., received the original purchase order, dated February 12, 1932, from the Philadelphia Quartermaster Dept. The order was for 40,001 Purple Hearts at a unit cost of 86¢ a piece. The price of the individual medal alone dispels the rumor that the Purple Heart Medal contained an ounce of gold.

Further proof as to the makeup of the Purple Heart Medal is found in the specifications sheet issued by the Institute of Heraldry on January 22, 1937. It is presumed by the Institute of Heraldry that the description of the medal used in 1937 was based upon the specifications used for the original Purple Heart Medal. The institute's 1937 specifications called for "A medal of bronze, gold plated and enameled in the shape of a heart, with an enameled shield and a group of leaves at the top A gold plated superimposed figure, shall be attached mechanically and by solder to a point at the center of the medal and an enameled background of pansy purple ... surrounds the figure. With a gold plated rim, 3/16 of an inch wide around the enameled background." The finish "... shall be plated with not less than 5 grains of gold, per dozen, of an approved color. The medallion shall be highly polished before and after plating."

I have been unable to find any record as to whom the first medal was issued, nor is there record as to when it was issued. There is an easy way to identify a Purple Heart Medal as being from the original group because all of the original 40,001

medals have a number that is on the edge of the medal. Based upon the fact that the first 40,000 were numbered, we do know that the original supply ran out around the end of 1943. Back then, the MOPH listed the Patriots' Purple Heart number on their membership cards. Medal No. 39,495 was listed for Alex Anderson of Blue Grass Chapter 146 on his membership card dated November 25, 1943.

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Our cover this issue is the Purple Heart. How many of you knew it? Are you a Purple Heart? I am and I belong to the New Kensington, Pennsylvania chapter along with Clarence Marshall and Paul Shadle. Might I just recommend that if you are a Purple Heart, do join a chapter in your town or nearby town. One of their main causes is to support the local veterans hospitals and veterans in those hospitals by giving them parties, taking many needed items to them, and a list of many other things. Remember, if you have a Purple Heart and are still able to get around, isn't it nice to know that you can help a vet who wasn't as fortunate as you. Next best thing to the 69th Infantry Division Association is to be a member of a Purple Heart chapter. Think it over, I did and now Earl E. Witzleb, Jr. is a Purple Heart member.

DUES

Annual Membership	\$ 15.00
Life Membership	Under 50 Years \$125.00
	50-59 \$100.00
	60-69 \$ 75.00
	70 & Over \$ 50.00
	*100% SCD \$ 50.00

**Evidence of 100% SCD Must be Submitted*

EVIDENCE OF THE AWARD MUST BE SUBMITTED
(DD214,53-55, GENERAL ORDERS, ETC.)