D-Day plus 40 years
Many Trailblazers, after the war ended, were transferred to the 78th Division. Joseph Marshall, Co. B, 274th points out the coincidence that the 78th will also have its biennial reunion in Philadelphia. They’ll be at the Franklin Plaza Hotel. But, Joe points out, they didn’t get nearly the good rate that ol’ Orville got for us at the Marriott.

“Wyoming News” is the name of a new newsletter for the 274th Regiment. It’s edited by Hy Schorr of Co. H. A newsy and interesting publication, it will be reviewed in greater detail in an upcoming edition of this magazine.

When he passed away from cancer of the lungs in August of 1980, Ivan Grieve’s very last words were about the Minneapolis Reunion and his regret that he couldn’t attend. Ivan was with Co. C, 274th, and lived in Belleville, Illinois.

Not all wartime memories concern the ETO. Or even the official span of combat. Tom Axelrod’s Co. K, 274th, did a little recollecting in the fine newsletter he issues periodically for his company mates. He writes:

I was just looking at my discharge papers from Camp McCoy, Wisconsin. The date was 23, April, 1946, and all of a sudden the picture discharged and proposed a toast to the good There wasn’t a seat left on the train except for a bar car. I announced that I had just been dear old out of that place a happy civilian and headed and not wanting to be un-sociable I put them bar car. I announced that I had just been detail in an upcoming edition of this magazine.

Looking over President Orville’s shoulder, we read a letter from Charles Lobel, M.D., AT Co., 274th, who practices in Hillborough, California. He writes:

“I’d like to have the Association commend Henry Clark of our company for the truly selfless and Herculean efforts in spreading the good word about our organization. By extraordinarily hard work and keen intuition he has found comrades-in-arms near and far from his home in “Silicon Valley” here in California. “As a consequence of his labors we have had several mini-reunions including myself with K. D. Carlson, Al Gonsalves, Dick Shannon, Bill Profet, Dave Tipton, Xavier Gipriano, Adam Schlett and Bill Pomroy. Ed Lepper and Josh Rylburn (who, incidentally, is a State Supreme Court Judge in Los Angeles County) have been located and will join us.

“It is not surprising that our group is a wonderful bunch of human beings: industrious, self-supporting and decent in generosity and praise of one another. Long dormant memories have emerged in vivid verbal recall of those trying times in the winter of ‘44-‘45.”

40 YEARS FROM NORMANDY

The powerful drawing on our cover is by Sgt. Howard Brodie and first appeared on the cover of “Yank” magazine as it marked the first anniversary of the greatest amphibious invasion in history. Millions of veterans are this summer observing the historic D-Day, whether they were storming the beaches of Omaha or, as was the Trailblazer Division, in their final training activities. Sgt. Brodie continues in journalism and even today occasionally covers court trials, where news cameras are banned, for television.

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TRAILBLAZER

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70th Division Assn TRAILBLAZER
REUNION

With the 40th anniversary of the Normandy invasion capturing much public attention and stirring up much nostalgia, a great number of events beckon to the World War 2 veteran this summer. For 70th Division men, the highlight will be the biennial Reunion in Philadelphia August 9-12.

For those who have never attended a Reunion, an especially warm welcome is extended. Newcomers will be identified by special gold ribbons and old buddies will look especially for long-delayed opportunities to renew old brotherhood.

There is still time to make your plans for this event. Most urgent is the need to make hotel reservations immediately. A form is reproduced at the bottom of this page. Fill it out and mail it to the Marriott at once. A most attractive rate is available to Trailblazers if reservations are made immediately.

The rate applies whether there is one person or two in the room, a real Philly bargain! If you run tight on time, phone the hotel. Number on reservation blank!

Registration fees will be paid at the Reunion registration desk manned by Secretary-Treasurer Elbert Feaster and his committee. The $90 fee covers all the activities in a busy schedule—dinner Friday, lunch and banquet on Saturday replete with top-level entertainment and a dance, coffee breaks and three days of a hospitality room. Two ladies' tours are also included.

If you don't plan to stay at the hotel—relatives to bunk in with or a mobile home to enjoy—please, please, please let President Orville know ahead of time. As soon as possible! This is—obviously—necessary in order to plan for meals. Hotel registrations will be the main source for such numbers but we must know the non-hotel guests who will take part in programmed activities.

Here's a fast run-down on events:

Hospitality room: Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Friday, 1:30 to 4:40 p.m.
Saturday, 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

There are events planned for all other hours of these days including the poignant Memorial Service Sunday morning at which time the Association's "Book of Honor" will be dedicated to remember the battle dead of the 70th.

Thursday evening, officers' reception;
Friday morning, ladies' tour;
Friday evening, dinner and entertainment;
Saturday noon, lunch and entertainment;
Saturday morning, ladies' tour;
Saturday evening, banquet, entertainment, dance.

Association business meetings will be held Friday and Saturday (relieved by coffee breaks). Election of officers this time will have unusual importance if President Orville can't be persuaded to forget about retiring.

Continued on page 11
"Friendly fire" gave Hilliard Penland, Co. B, 274th, his unhappiest memory of WW2. He joined the 70th at Leonard Wood, later won the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He recollects:

"After withdrawal from Saarbrucken, we were locating and tending to the wounded, five of them seriously so. Another was dead. Three of my men were hit and killed by an American 105 shell as they assisted a wounded buddy back to our lines. Charles Andrews had himself just come back from the hospital that very morning after being previously wounded. He and John Heiaszek were supporting Arthur Darling between them when a 2-round volley came in.

"The artillery battery who earlier had laid down a smoke screen, at our request, between us and the Germans insisted that they hadn’t fired any shells after that. And I have never received an explanation of where the fatal round came from.

"Of the 43 men who jumped off at Saarbrucken through the Siegfried Line, 18 were wounded and five killed."

After service, Hill became a textile chemist and engineer and developed a process for texturizing nylon, rayon and polyester yarns so they could be used for carpeting and other woven and knitted fabrics. He travelled extensively through this country and Canada as the process was licensed. He retired in ‘75 after 41 years service in Asheville, North Carolina, during which he was given patents in the U.S.A., Germany, France and Belgium. He was awarded the Silver Beaver, highest honor the Boy Scouts of America can bestow. With 30 years of volunteer work in Scouting, he has several other distinguished awards.

He and his wife Helen have two children and five grandchildren.

Paul Milich, Co. I, 276th, is another pre-Pearl Harbor veteran. He joined the 35th Infantry Division in September of 1941 and was discharged at the end of ’45. He has a Bronze Star for action with the 70th which he joined in February, ’45, near Forbach. He married Virginia Cunningham in Los Angeles in 1952 and was in the real estate business.

"Once an artilleryman, always ... " So thought Francis Dhein when he was assigned to AT Co., 274th at Adair in June of ‘44. He had trained as a big-gun man at Fort Sill and Ft. Ord and served with artillery units. So he was a happy guy when they put him in Btty C, 882nd FA Bn just before we went to Europe.

He still remembers—not too happily—the trouble of getting 105 howitzers into position after coming up from Marseilles. Francis worked in accounting departments of two manufacturers in his native Sheboygan, Wisconsin where he still lives.

When John Passanisi, Medical Detachment, 274th, left for the ETO in 1944, the last thing he saw was a landmark in his hometown, Boston: the Custom House tower. He is still in Boston, an elementary school principal. He writes: "I was thrilled by the cover of the April ‘Trailblazer’ (showing infantrymen of each of our nation’s wars since the Revolution). It made me extremely proud to have been part of our great division in the time and place when and where we were ordained to be.

70th Division Assn TRAILBLAZER
Your lead editorial was also inspiring and touched by true patriotism.

John and his wife Josephine will take the pre-Reunion to Williamsburg and join us all in Philly.

It's good news from and about Norman Johnson, assistant sek-trez of the Association. A routine X-ray showed a spot on his lung that turned out to be non-malignant. Had the diagnosis been less favorable, it would have entailed the loss of a third of his lung. Recuperation has been fast and complete.

Thirty-eight years as a rural mail carrier is the record William Plenge, Co. D, 276th, rang up. He's now enjoying retirement in Fairmont, Minnesota. His wife June, whom he married in 1946, died in 1982. They had one daughter. Bill won a Bronze Star with an oak leaf cluster and a Purple Heart. On a night patrol out of Wingen, he was caught between a German counterattack and 276th's Able Company for his most memorable experience.

Oakley Gifford, Co. M, 274th, has embarked on a one-man recruiting campaign. From the Association secretary he got the names of 209 men mentioned in "Snow Ridges and Pill Boxes." He sent letters to each one and found out that 115 addresses were incorrect. Right now he's hoping the other 95 letters will bear fruit.

There will be a big map of the United States at the Reunion with pins indicating the hometowns of each member in attendance. Norman Johnson, asst sek-trez, will be in charge.

History book deadline moved back

By Orville Ellis

Something is missing in the publishing of the Commemorative History of the 70th Infantry Division History Book. What's missing is YOU—your personal biographical sketch.

We have extended the 70th Infantry Division Association History Book deadline to Aug. 1, 1984, just a few weeks away, because we want to hear from YOU!

Of the 1300 plus Association members, approximately 200 have sent in their biographies and photos. We need to hear from you to make this book a truly representative and complete story of the 70th operations. We are 300 bio's short of our goal and we cannot publish this great history without more participants.

Don't count on your participation as unimportant or look at the task of writing your personal sketch as too difficult. Everyone who served in the 70th had a part in the story of World War II and should be recorded in this book. We want everyone to participate—no matter what your assignment.

The biography sketch of 150 words is simple and will take you only a few hours to complete. Get out your keepsakes and photos and help us fill this book with memories you cherish. Please send an old and new photo of yourself.

If we receive enough patches we will picture them in color.

Share your treasures with the other participants. Extreme care will be taken to return everything. NOTE: Despite this care accidental loss of a photo is possible. You may want to send a quality copy of irreplaceable material.

This 70th History Division Association is available on a pre-sale basis only. Plans are that only the number of pre-sold books will be produced.

A large 9 x 12, "coffee table," deluxe, hardbound volume with library quality binding and printed on special made, commemorative-book grade paper makes this book most unique.

The book will contain several hundred pages, depending on the number of biographies, stories and photos received in the number of advance orders. The more books ordered now, the more pages we have for recording this information; however the cost per book remains the same regardless of how large.

Don't be left out—Be sure to submit your story and order your copy. If not your story—be sure to order your copy.

The 70th Infantry Division's role in the history of WW II will be perpetuated, if you do your part. Send your biography, pictures and book orders to the address listed in this notice.

BOOK ORDER FORM

70TH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION
HISTORY BOOK
P.O. Box 3101
Paducah, KY 42001

Name ____________________________
Address __________________________
City __________________ State _____ Zip __________
Phone __________________ Signature __________
Date ____________________________

DEADLINE ( ) Please enter my order for ______ copies of the 70th Infantry Division History at $45.00 each. Kentucky residents add sales tax.

( ) Please emboss my name on front cover of my book for an additional charge of $3.00 per book.

( ) Please add $3.00 each for postage, handling and mailer container.

( ) Total enclosed ____________________________

Name to be embossed ________________

July, 1984
New Members

The Trailblazer Roster is going to the printer immediately. It will be distributed right after the Reunion. Your name will appear as it does on the mailing label on this magazine. If there is any change—especially in address or, especially especially, in the ZIP—please let Elbert Feaster or the editor know . . . yesterday!

BELLIN, EUGENE W.
135 W. Thompson Drive
Elkton, Maryland 21921
Co. G, 274

BRUBAKER, Ray E. (Wilma)
7593 Partridge Meadow
Hudson, Ohio 44236
Co. G, 276

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CARNATHAN, CA
WALLEY, Richard T.
Co. G, 274
Co. K, 276

CARTER, Leo B. (Delores)
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Chapman, Alabama 36015
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Wamego, Kansas 66547
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25429 213th Avenue SE
Maple Valley, Washington 98038
Co. H, 274

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Fort Morgan, Colorado 80701
Co. F, 275

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Indianapolis, Indiana 46227
HQ Bitty, 883 FABn

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Co. C, 275

FURMAN, Hilary R. (Mary)
733 Rolling Green Drive
Bethel Park, Pennsylvania 15102
270th Eng. BN

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Purcellville, Virginia 22132
Co. I, 275

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155 Edgemont Road
Rochester, New York 14620
SV Co., 276

GULLEN, John W. (Barbara)
Percy Bay Road
Waccabuc, New York 10597
3rd Bn Hq Co., 276

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Somerset, Ohio 43783
Co. I, 274

HABEGGER, Lester (Anne)
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Seattle, Washington 98119
1st Bn Med Det., 274

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770th Ord. Co.

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Sv Bitty, 883 FABn

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Enie, Pennsylvania 16509
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Alva, Oklahoma 73717
Co. D, 275

MEEECE, Walter E. (Dev)
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PARRISH, Keith
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REAVIS, James S. (Doris)
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Co. M, 274

SELZER, Jack H. (Eleonore)
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Langport, New Jersey 08403
Co. G, 274

SHORTER, Jesse (Ruth)
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Co. H, 274

SMALL, Earl A. (Arlene)
Route 2, Box 311
Springfield, Vermont 05156
Co. H, 274

SMITH, Lacy L.
50 George Street
Staunton, Virginia 24401
Co. M, 274

SPIRES, George W. (Harda)
26 S. Martin Avenue
Waukegan, Illinois 60085
Co. M, 275

SPROLES, Sr., James B. (Rita)
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Riverside, New Jersey 08075
3rd BN HQ Co., 275

STOCKARD, Dean (Maxine)
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Champaign, Illinois 61821
3rd Med BN, 275

TIPTON, Dave D. (Juliana)
1139 Big Oak Ranch Road
Fallbrook, California 92028
AT Co., 274

TURUNEN, Robert E.
Star Route
Nisula, Michigan 49952
Bitty C, 882nd FABn

VALENTINE, Daniel A. (Elizabeth)
102 Linnet Street
Bayonne, New Jersey 07002
Co. A, 275

70 for the 70th

There are 70 of them now!
Seventy life members, that is, of the Association. Here is the latest roster:

John Dednar, West Mifflin, Pennsylvania;
Tom Harris, Miami, Oklahoma; Russell DAVISON, Federal Way, Washington; William Rorabaugh, Monroeville, Pennsylvania; Kenny Cutter, Sacramento, California; Lloyd Patterson, Molalla, Oregon; Charles Paskvan, Waukegan, Illinois; Marion Slater, San Antonio, Texas; Harry Stuver, Bradenton,
Florida; Rayburn Fraley, Morgantown, West Virginia; Chet Curtis, Willmar, Minnesota, and Albert Sneider, Urlichsville, Ohio.
Life membership dues are $100 and should be sent to Treasurer Elbert Feaster.
(His address is at the foot of page 2.)
Regular annual dues of $7 are due on or before July 1.

70th Division Assn TRAILBLAZER
HERE BEGINS 'FESTUNG EUROPA'

"Dragon’s teeth,” concrete pylons, mark the anti-tank perimeter of the Siegfried Line in the Forbach-Saarbrucken area. Deep tank-trap ditches and other fortifications bolstered the line that Hitler boasted was one huge impregnable fortress, Fortress Europa. Such a ditch is shown running vertically to the bottom center of this photo. Like all pictures in this edition, it is by Chester Garstki, Div HQ, and official photographer of the Association. The exact location of this defense, which Trailblazers breached, is unknown. Who can help us locate it?

July, 1984
Knock, knock!
Who's there?

Otto!

Staff sergeant Malcolm (Muzzy) Muszynski of the 4th Platoon, Co. K, 276th had just assigned his men to the day's duties in Forbach. As he was doing some of the Army's interminable paperwork at the billet of his machine-gun section just a block from the railroad underpass, he caught a glimpse, out of the corner of his eye, of a figure jumping over the stone fence in the rear of the building.

"I thought it was one of my crew returning to report on what he had observed. There was a knock on the door.

"Who's there?"

"Otto."

"I thought it was Otto Stern, our company messenger so I yelled 'Come in.' Through the door came a German soldier. I was stunned because my .45 was hanging on the back of the chair.

"As loud as I could, I ordered him, 'Surrender!' He dropped his potato-masher grenade and his rifle. 'Jah, Kamarad,' he said.

"I then called out, 'Otto, where are you?'

"Where did he come from?" he asked. Otto

"I took Otto II to company headquarters and we all breathed a little easier."

The American Otto lives in Mynster, Indiana and Muzzy lives in River Rouge, Michigan. Our two heroes along with John Naumczik and Mike Grabniak and the four wives had a mini-reunion in Chicago and relived that unexpected surrender.

Muzzy's twin brother was with the 4th Armored Division in Bastogne and a younger brother was with the 42nd Division (which was activated just about the time the Trailblazer was). Muzzy met both of them in Europe. Both had been wounded and all three received the Bronze Star for bravery in action.

Muzzy retired as a fire department lieutenant after 26 years of service and now is on security at the famous Henry Ford Museum at Greenfield Village, Michigan. His hobbies are archery and fishing and antique cars. He has two Model A Fords, a 2-door sedan and a coupe with a rumble seat. He restored both, 1930 models.

Nevin Rauch, Co. C, 27th, is a big winner because of pinochle. The prize: His life. 

"Because we stopped at a drug store at the New York airport to buy a pinochle deck, we missed our flight to Puerto Rico. The next flight was delayed for more than two hours.

"I was to join Roberto Clemente the right fielder for the Pittsburgh Pirates, on a mercy flight from San Juan to Managua, Nicaragua. When we finally arrived at San Juan we learned that his plane had crashed. All aboard were killed. And we would have been aboard if that pinochle deck hadn't prevented it."

Taps
ENGINEERS GRUNT, TOO

Despite the many machines an army uses, none replaces human muscle and sweat when the chips are really down. Here H&S Companies, 270th Engineers, manhandle bridge planking into place in training at Camp Adair. S/Sgt J. C. Reeves (standing on the span at the left) directs his men. Positioning the plank are Pvt. Charles Harrison, James Wreckman, Arthur Kettler and Haldon George.

I remember . . .
By Rayburn H. Fraley

After being wounded twice in just a few minutes by German 88s, I was finally carried by litter for a couple of miles to a jeep which brought me to the battalion aid station in Zinswiller. The Germans were still firing artillery at us and every few feet the litter bearers would drop my litter and hit the dirt. When we would hear the incoming artillery shells it would usually be too late to hit the ground but that was a natural reaction.

At the aid station medics dressed my wounds and stopped the bleeding. I was then sent to an Army hospital in Strasbourg for a few days and then to a surgical hospital in Neufchateau. There they removed most of the remaining shrapnel and put me in a body cast from the waist to my right ankle. (The operating room, with several operations being performed at the same time, reminds me now of the operating room in the M*A*S*H television show except that it was in a building newly built as an insane asylum rather than in a tent.)

It was there, after several weeks of fuming and fretting about the lack of mail from home, that it finally caught up to me and I received 59 letters from my wife all in one day. She had faithfully written to me every day I was away but it seemed we were always one jump ahead of the mail.

My fellow patients helped me to organize the letters in their proper order by date and I spent happy, emotional hours catching up on the news from home.

Another happy moment for me was when, after being in a hospital in Paris for a period of time, I was finally flown to England and it was at the airport receiving hospital that I finally realized the war was winding down and I was actually on my way home. A happy time.

Even my unhappiest experience turned out quite happy in the end. During the battle of Wingen-Sur-Moder, my machine gun squad was positioned at the edge of town and we were told to dig our foxholes into a railroad embankment near a glass factory. In the snowy, below zero weather it was extremely difficult to dig into the hard ground. The surface was just like flint but when we were finally able to dig down a couple of feet the soil became sandy and was easy to dig. My buddy and I enlarged the bottom of the foxhole and made a snug, relatively warm defensive position. However, about 4 A.M. the Germans laid down an artillery barrage on our position and the explosion of the shells near us combined with our body heat caused the sand from the walls to start cascading down around us. We realized our imminent peril but because of the rain of artillery fire we were unable to move from our foxhole. By the time the bombardment stopped the sand had covered us up to our waists and we were trapped, unable to move and unable to dig ourselves out as every movement brought more sand down on us.

Fortunately, when daylight broke and our platoon was getting ready to move out they discovered us missing and came on the search for us. The soldier who found us and started digging us out would win no beauty contests but he was one of the prettiest sights I had seen for some time.

Editor’s Note: Ray Fraley was with Co. K, 276th. He lives in Morgantown, West Virginia

July, 1984

Seventieth Division caps and coffee mugs will be on sale at the Philly Reunion. They’ll make pleasant souvenirs of a great occasion and swell gifts for wartime buddies who couldn’t make it. Or for family members who've heard you bragging about the Trailblazers for the past 40 years.

Drink or Think

July, 1984
ELLIS: My last report to you

Last chance, but not too late for Reunion '84! Philadelphia, Pa.—August 9-12—Philadelphia Marriott Hotel at City Line Ave. and Monument Rd. (19131) Phone (215) 667-0200.

In our January “Trailblazer,” we mentioned that 32 members had not paid their dues. After two personal contacts, we deleted 26 from active membership. Found two members deceased and four paid their dues. In 1982 we deleted 51 from active membership for non-payment of dues.

The total of 77 deletions breaks out thus: 274th, 10; 275th, 16; 276th, 27 and others, 24. Leaving a net dues paying membership as of April 1984 of 1,289. Taps too, is taking a membership as of April, 1984 of 1,289. Taps too, is taking a

As can be seen, we have extended the deadline for ordering your personal copy of the 70th Infantry Division Association History Book. We had wished to publish this new deadline in the April “Trailblazer,” but due to an early publication we missed Dr. Arnold’s deadline. Our money sent to the history publisher is held in escrow and will be returned if the history is not published.

This will be my last “Trailblazer” report as your president. I will sign off with this. The past eight years have brought me such reward through warm cordial expressions of friendliness and helpfulness from the multitudes of 70ers as to be almost overwhelming in its scope. You can believe me, 70ers are truly the greatest! For these reasons, I could from a personal viewpoint, continue as your president forever. From a realistic standpoint, change is an absolute need. I won’t pretend that all has been a bed of roses. Of course it hasn’t, not without a few thorns along the way. But, please know this, those thorns become trivia in relation to the rewards of love and respect shown my office and to me personally. I return that love and respect and I love our 70th Association. Long may you and it live!

Who’s What

"It's a girl," said the telegram received by John Naumczik in the heart of Germany in May, 1945. And staying alive long enough to get that happy news is John’s “happiest military experience.” He went into service three weeks before Pearl Harbour in '41. He was with the Coast Artillery, was an Army Air Force Cadet before joining the 70th at Adair, after combat he served in the 3rd Division. He won a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart.

Just before we went overseas he married Ruth Wiltz in Galveston, Texas. That baby who came while Daddy was in Europe was Darlene; they also have a son, Gary, and two grandchildren.

John belongs to the Lake Side Compass Lodge, A.F.A.M., the Cashan Grotto of Beaumont, Texas, and the V.F.W. An electrician, he is a committee man with the International Association of Machinists. He reports:

"Among the most memorable experiences I encountered was at Wingen, France, January 7, 1945, my company was ordered to outpost the town. Late that night, two rifle squads were ordered from the 1st Platoon to go through town and dig in on the other end. I was leader of the second squad and E. Fred Houser led the other.

"As we passed under the railroad, we could make out the bodies of American soldiers illumi­nated by the burning buildings. Upon reaching the other end, it didn’t take us long to decide to dig in, and that was chopping in the frozen ground until almost daylight. With tree bursts in mind, we chose the roadside.

"The next morning we were heavily pound­ed with 88’s and had we dug in on the hill I am sure many of our group wouldn’t be here today."

Fred Hallett, who was Recon sergeant of Co. H, 274th, tells about Harold Ward of his outfit, one of the 852 Trailblazers killed in action:

"Harold was a member of a heavy machine gun squad in H company. During the several attempts to attack from Forbacher Ridge, beyond the firebreak, into the town of Forbach, Harold’s squad was attached to a rifle company. Their mission was to provide supporting automatic fire for the infantrymen. Their gun was moved as far as possible right among the troops. A position was established and the gun was dug in on the forward slope in heavy timber. From this position Forbach was just below them."

"A number of counterattacks were made by the Germans to drive our men back up the hill. In one of the attacks, Harold was hit and he died at the gun position."

"During the return-to-Europe trip in which

70th Division Assn TRAILBLAZER

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Left to right . . .

"The men on the cover of our October "Trailblazer" were the color guard of Co. G, 276th!" so says Bob Toomey, Co. G, 276th.

Remember that picture of a bunch of guys on guard duty? It was on page 11 of the January "Trailblazer." Noah Kennedy, Co E, 276th, says: "I'm pretty sure the soldier second from the left in the photo is PFC Gene Gadomski of my company. His ASN is 36300879, and that's all the information I have on him. I joined this platoon in September, '44, and remember Gene from Leonard Wood, Standish and the West Point."

Noah is associate justice of the 13th Court of Appeals of Texas at Corpus Christi.

Comes now Richard T. Cawley, Div HQ, now of Archbald, Pennsylvania, and being deposed doth state:

"Thought you might be interested in some identifications of personnel appearing in the January edition of the "Trailblazer."

"Page 3, transport train. First on left, hanging out window, is Myers (can't remember first name) and third from left, with hand out grabbing goodies, is Bill Morrissey from Michigan (Grand Rapids, I think), both from Div. HQ.

"Page 4, small band combo. Fellow at piano is a guy from New York, Matty Carnavale, who was a terrific pianist but was then planning to go into the bookbinding business with his father when he got out.

"Page 11, guard duty group. First on left, reading magazine, is Hank Bosco, owner of Hot Springs Lodge, Glenwood Springs, Colorado.

"Back cover, dice game. Guy with back to camera, just left of center, with cap, looks suspiciously like Larry Bertaina, California banker."

Dick suggests that anyone who has first names of those characters or other identification, let the editor know.

Frank Kloiber of HQ 2nd Bn, 275th, was a schoolteacher for two years, then sold school supplies and equipment for 35 years in Wisconsin. That academic background is evident in the way he meticulously lists his most memorable military experiences. There are an even dozen (we'll condense the list a wee bit): Being S-3 of the 2nd Bn under Lt. Col. Richardson (now Lt. Gen.) and later for Col. Barten; watching the Division—which had just reached full strength—lose all its fillers as Pacific replacements; watching the rebuilding to full strength again;
The trip to Europe and the one up the Rhone, spending Christmas Eve outside Dijon; wounded by German 88 as battalion is ready to attack toward Saarbrucken and six weeks spent in 5th General Hospital.

After the war he joined the 32nd National Guard Div. and served for 20 years. He was a company commander, Regimental S-3 and battalion commander. His wife is the former Viola Stockfish of Lake Mills, Wisconsin. They have three sons and 10 grand-children.

Reunion,

Continued from page 3

Members are reminded to bring along a stamped envelope addressed to their hometown newspapers. A press release about attendance at the Reunion will be then mailed. It's hoped that the resulting publicity will bring attention of former 70th men to the Association. Constantly, new members say: "I would have joined lots sooner if I had only known the Association existed."

Trailblazer heads National body

A Trailblazer is president of the National Retired Officers Association. His career began when, as a second lieutenant fresh out of West Point, he was assigned as a platoon leader with Co. C, 274th. He rose and rose until he became commander-in-chief of the US Army in Europe from 1975 until his retirement in '79. He is George S. Blanchard.

After 70th duty he went to the 78th Infantry Division and in 1947 became a general staff officer in Europe. He was assigned to the Joint Chiefs of Staff from '49 to '53.

From 1955-57, he was an adviser with the Republic of China army on Taiwan, and from 1958-60, he was a commander with the 503rd Infantry in the 82nd Airborne Division. In 1961-62, Blanchard was with I Corps in Korea, and for the next two years he held a position in the office of the deputy chief of staff for military operations, Army general staff.

After duty with Secretaries of the Army Stephen Ailes and Stanley Resor from 1964-66, and studies at the Harvard Business School, Blanchard went to Vietnam as assistant commander of 1st Cavalry Division, 1966-67, and then was appointed chief of staff of I Field Force Vietnam. Returning to the United States in July 1968, he was assigned to the Department of the Army General Staff as director of plans and programs in the office of the assistant chief of staff for force development. In October 1969, he was selected as director of the newly established Vietnam Task Force in the office of the secretary of defense.

He returned to the 82nd Airborne in July 1970 as its commander, and remained at the Fort Bragg headquarters until July 1972. He was assigned as director of plans, programs and budget in the office of the deputy chief of staff for personnel, Department of the Army, from August 1972 until February 1973. On March 1, 1973, he assumed command of VII Corps in Europe, and remained in that position until June 1975 when he became commander in chief of the Army in Europe. He heads a family consulting firm, General Analysis Inc., in the Washington, D.C., area. He is a member of the Army Science Board, the board of USO World and the board of the Atlantic Council of the U.S. He and his wife live in McLean, Virginia.

There will be a pre-Reunion tour, starting Sunday, August 5, to historic areas around Philly and going as far as Williamsburg, Virginia. Our own Trailblazer Floyd Freeman is conducting this. An insert in this issue tells about a Sunday post-Reunion tour to Atlantic City.

Members who are contributing items for the hilarious auction Saturday night are reminded to let Fred Cassidy, Eastern veeip, know what to expect, then bring the item along. His address, along with those of all officers, appears at the foot of page 2.
Oregon was proud to call 70th ‘Its Own’

Editor's Note: From the "Oregon Journal" of late 1945 comes this capsule history of the 70th. It was sent in by Phyllis Davidson, wife of Bob, who lives in Shedd, Oregon. Bob is in poor health and a card from old buddies would be a real shot in the arm. Send it to 28998 Highway 99E, Shedd, Oregon 97377.

When Maj. Gen. John E. Dahlquist activated the 70th infantry division at Camp Adair on June 15, 1943, he expressed the hope that the division would establish such a combat record that Oregon would be proud to call it "its very own." Time to win glory was brief after the Trailblazers went into action on the Siegfried line, but in the few months they were in action they more than fulfilled the ambition of their first commanding general, says Capt. Allen B. Scott, who commanded B battery of the division’s 882d field artillery battalion.

The Trailblazer infantry units went across in December 1944, and before the division headquarters and artillery arrived they were sent up south of Forbach, Capt. Scott related.

Saar Battles Commended

The 70th took the offensive and wiped out the most dangerous Nazi penetration at Win­gen, near Bitche, and then in the Saar basin, farther west, did a workmanlike job of capturing the industrial city of Forbach and the manufacturing capital of Saarbrucken, key points on the Siegfried line. For these achievements they won the commendation of the corps commander. The Trailblazers went on to take part in the final Rhineland and central European campaigns.

Gen. Dahlquist was not with the Trailblazers to see them perform. Earlier, he had been given command of the 36th infantry division, which was busy driving the Germans out of the same region, and Maj. Gen. Allison J. Barnett commanded the 70th.

Family Identified With 70th

Capt. Scott, who returned to the United States October 27, and is now on terminal leave, has been in the army since December, 1941, but did not join the Trailblazers at Camp Adair until February of 1944. Prior to that time he had served in the field artillery and later in the chemical warfare service. He left the 70th division in July to take command of C battery of the 696th armored field artillery battalion, and came home with his unit from Marseilles. The 70th returned to the States in September and has since been deactivated.

The Scott family has been identified with the 70th since its beginning. The captain’s father, Quincy Scott, The Oregonian cartoonist who was retired from active army duty earlier in the war as a lieutenant colonel, drew the design for the Trailblazer shoulder patch, a crimson axe blade above a green fir tree and a snowy moun­tain, symbolizing the Oregon county and the Oregon Trail.

Captain Wins Bronze Star

Capt. Scott holds the bronze star medal, awarded for heroic service as a liaison officer near Styring-Wendel on the Siegfried line. A graduate of Oregon State college and of University of Washington, where he took a doctor’s degree in chemistry, he was an instructor at Oregon State in chemistry when he was called into service and expects to return to that post soon.

His wife and their two small sons have been making their home at Corvallis. The captain’s brother, Lt. Col. Hugh A. Scott, recently returned to the United States after long service with the famous 3d infantry division.

White Bread Division

The other 70th

There were two 70th Divisions in World War II . . . one on each side of the line. The German’s 70th has interested Charles Paskvan, Co. A, 275th, ever since he read "Eisen­hower’s Lieutenants: The Campaign of France and Germany."

Charley, who lives in Waukegan, Wis­consin, tells us:

“This Division was known as the “White Bread Division.” It consisted of 10,000 men. "After five years of war that created a lot of stress and strain, plus unappetizing food and difficult fox hole living conditions, the German army abounded with soldiers who complained of numerous symptoms of stomach disorders. Some of the complaints were sincere, but many others were probably imaginary. It was difficult to diagnose the difference. After the D-day invasion and with the Allies gaining ground on both war fronts of Germany, the chronic stom­ach sufferers reported for sick call by leaps and bounds. But, due to the tremendous losses of men in all combat zones, manpower was in urgent need. Action had to be taken to elimi­nate any further medical discharges of men with these ailments. These chronic complai­ners were creating moral problems with the healthy soldiers, too.

“A decision was made by the Medical Ser­vice to collect these complainers and assign them to special “Stomach Regiments,” whereby their food and light duties would be better supervised. Within months, these men were formed into 70th Division. It was ready for assignment to bunkers on the Walcheren Island in the North Sea, northwest from Ant­werp, where they replaced military personnel who were transferred to the fighting fronts. The 70th assignment was near the mainland of Holland that provided them with an abundant supply of fresh white bread, cheese, eggs and milk, for their delicate stomachs; therefore, the name, “White Bread Division.”

“So far, from all the war books that I have read, none has revealed what disposition was made of this Division in the closing months of the war.”