



TO ALL DEADEYES

The 7th Annual Reunion of the 96th Infantry Division is now history, but those who made the trip to Portland, Oregon this last July will probably remember it far longer than many of the other sites. About 150 fellows made the journey, which is the first time the Deadeyes have left the mid-west. As would be expected, fellows from the west coast dominated the convention; however, 26 states were represented and over 50 of the fellows were from east of the Rockies.

Our thanks go out to Keith Burbidge for a job well done. Keith was the convention chairman, and handled the job like a veteran so that we had a reunion as fine as those of the past. Thanks a lot, Keith.

For those of you who wish to have a reunion in your hometown, prepare now! Check with your convention bureau or Chamber of Commerce and be prepared to make a presentation to the fellows at a forthcoming reunion.

Next summer (1965) we will be in Minneapolis, details of which are on page three. In 1966 we will be in Indianapolis, Indiana and Ed Biggs will be convention chairman. The site for 1967 will be made next summer at Minneapolis by those present, so come make a bid.

There are some Minneapolis decals left: These will be mailed to you free, upon receipt of a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Two to a Customer.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The foreheads are a bit higher, the waistlines a bit extended compared to 20 years ago, but the fellows could hardly refrain from taking off on a 20 miler, figuratively speaking, that is, when they revisited old Camp Adair. 'Ol Swamp Adair is now SAGE Air Force Station and occupies what we used to call hospital hill. The Air Force gave us a royal welcome, treated us to lunch and escorted us through little used streets into areas where only concrete piers are left to show where rows of buildings used to be. Edmund Biggs (96th QM) recalled that the day of the visit to Camp Adair was short by just one day of the 20th anniversary of the day that the 96th left San Francisco for unknown points west. It will be a visit long remembered and many thanks to the Air Force for being a wonderful host.

Alex Markus, President

At Portland, President McDermott read a letter which was one of the most interesting received thus far. It was from a Mr. Ray Dickerson of Des Moines, Iowa. He was the first senior rated non-com of the 96th in World War I. He described very vividly the conditions under which they lived and trained. They had privates for only two weeks, at which time the war ended and they were sent back home. They were quarantined a good deal of the time because of the lack of any military clothing, and their own soon was worn to shreds. At least we had plenty of clothing, even though it may not have fit properly.

Remember Lt. Col. J.M. Williams, 381st Exec.? He is now stationed at Fort Lawton, Wn. with Headquarters U.S. Army Corps. He spoke at one of the business meetings.

In absence of Minor Butler, Chaplain, Father James E. Grant, Oroville, Wn. had charge of the Memorial Service, Saturday morning, July 25th. He was formerly with 382nd F Company.

The Beer Bust looked like a bust for awhile, till the connections were reversed, nothing but foam flowed from the kegs.



NINETY SIXTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION • DEADEYES

JUNE 26, 1945, GENERAL HODGE WROTE GENERAL BRADLEY: * THOSE IN POSITIONS TO MAKE COMPARISONS CONSIDER THIS (OKINAWA) TO BE BY FAR THE BITTEREST BATTLE OF THE PACIFIC TO DATE, AS WELL AS HAVING HIGHEST STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE. THE 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION, A HIGHLY INTEGRATED BATTLE TEAM, PERFORMED ITS FULL SHARE IN WINNING THIS BATTLE IN A MANNER THAT LEAVES NOTHING TO BE DESIRED.

HERE IS THE NEWS YOU HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR 1965

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA - JULY 29, 30, 31

HOTEL LEAMINGTON - In downtown Minneapolis

Rates:	Singles	\$ 8.50
	Doubles	12.00
	Twins	14.00

No charge for parking for overnight guests in hotel parking lot.

Men, we will be back in Deadeye country and Peter Pohl (Division Signal Co.) has drawn the detail for convention chairman. Pete has promised the greatest reunion of all and has got the energy and enthusiasm to get the job done. He will: however, need help from EVERYONE. Make up your mind now that you will be in Minneapolis: you have plenty of time to make arrangements. Then, sit down and write a few letters and let everyone you know, know that you will be there and insist that they be there too. The rates are quite reasonable and Minnesota is the ideal summer vacation land. The Corresponding Secretary has a roster arranged according to company served with, so if you desire names and addresses of a particular company, please write for them.

A good example of what can be done is exemplified by what Ed Biggs has done in the past couple of years. He attended his first reunion at Detroit, came home and started writing to everyone in his company (96th QM) from an old roster. He has since located practically everyone from his company and has copped individual company honors for attendance at the last two reunions with 18 at Little Rock and 13 at Portland. In addition he has promises for 40 to be at Minneapolis. Can you imagine the kind of a reunion we would have if every company had 50 men present? After spending so long in mud, rain, salt water showers and "Spam" it's rather pleasant to sit down in comfortable surroundings and rekindle old acquaintances and visit. You can sit and talk for three days and never have to think of something to say.

HONOR ROLL

Those with perfect attendance at all 7 reunions:

Joe Fritz	-----	381st E Company
Jacob Fisher	-----	381st I Company
Howard Carrico	-----	382nd -- Cannon & G Co.
Harold Fluck	-----	382nd G Company
W. T. Pearson	-----	383rd Antitank
Howard Ragsdale	-----	383rd Antitank
Clarence Snyder	-----	383rd I Company
Richard Van Etten	-----	361st Field Artillery
Dean Davis	-----	321st Medical Bn.
Bernie Scanlon	-----	321st Medical Bn.
Hubert Hoffman	-----	96th Div. Signal Co.

Those who have attended from 4 to 6 reunions:

George Buttell	-----	381st Hq. & Hq. Co.
Richard Anderson	-----	381st Medical Det.
Cloyce Rucker	-----	381st Cannon Co.
William D. Meyer	-----	381st A Company
Ed Dakan	-----	381st B Company
Minor Butler	-----	381st B Company
Bernard Sadoski	-----	381st B Company
Edgar Jeswein	-----	381st D Company
Harold Davidson	-----	381st D Company
Rocky Dunn	-----	381st E Company
Art McGhee	-----	381st E Company
Paul Foster	-----	381st I Company
Philip Galloway	-----	381st I Company
Edgar Huseby	-----	381st I Company
Milton Winter	-----	381st I Company
Theodore Chrisman	-----	381st L Company
Harold Strand	-----	381st M Company
Edgar Guidry	-----	382nd Cannon Co.
Paul Bauer	-----	382nd Service Co.
Donald Bloom	-----	382nd Medical Det.
J.D. Goettling	-----	382nd A Company
Alex Markus	-----	382nd B Company
Walter Kleinschmidt	-----	382nd C Company
Sherman Deckrow	-----	382nd 2nd Bn. Hq. Co.
William H. Garrett	-----	382nd 2nd Bn. Hq. Co.
Edwin Malecki	-----	382nd 2nd Bn. Hq. Co.
Earl Mannel	-----	382nd 2nd Bn. Hq. Co.
B. F. Ray	-----	382nd E Company
Robert Massey	-----	382nd G Company
Roland McClurg	-----	382nd G Company



NINETY SIXTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION • WORLD WAR II



ON A SUNDAY MORNING IN JUNE 1945, IN THE RUBBLE OF THE VILLAGE OF MEDEERA, OKINAWA, A REGIMENT OF THE 96TH INFANTRY DIVISION RANG DOWN THE CURTAIN ON THE LAST GREAT LAND BATTLE OF WORLD WAR II. THE NINETY-SIXTH HAD KEPT THE FAITH WITH ITS OWN WHO WOULD BIVOUAC WITH IT NO MORE.

101 N. Bond St., Box 23
Altamont, Illinois 62411
November 9, 1964

Dear Auxiliary Members:

The 1964 Reunion in Portland was a very enjoyable time, along with returning to Camp Adair. Many 96th Division members and their wives attended their first reunion. We gained over fifty additional Auxiliary members. Any wife, daughters, or mother of the Men, who served with the 96th Infantry Division during World War II are eligible to join the Auxiliary. One dollar is the membership fee annually and expires July 31 each year. August 1 starts the new year's membership. Dues should be mailed to the treasurer; Mrs. Harold J. (Rose) Roetker; 4835 N.E. 20th Ave., Portland, Oregon 97211. Any dues collected will be spent on a Set of Colors that will be presented to the Organization at Minneapolis. Rose will send you a membership card.

A lovely engraved plaque was presented to Mrs. Easley at the banquet.

The Auxiliary had a tasty luncheon and a hair styling show by a noted Oregon coiffurist at Meier & Frank's Alladdin Room, in Lloyd's Center. A coffee hospitality hour was held on Friday. All of the officers had spent a great deal of time planning the successful reunion at Portland.

However, now we are looking forward to the 1965 Convention at Minneapolis. Convention Chairman, Peter and Ann Pohl are working hard to have an interesting program of events, including the wives and children. We hope "you-all" can attend.

Sincerely,

Signed Norma Bauer
Mrs. Paul E. Bauer
96th Division Reunion Association
Ladies Auxiliary President

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HONOR ROLL, Continued from page 4:

Bernard Zaban	382nd G Company
Alton Berger	382nd I Company
Charles Astle	382nd L Company
Milton Colliflower	383rd Antitank
Charles Downs	383rd Antitank
Robert Wilson	383rd Antitank
Everett Shawgo	383rd Cannon Co.
Lee Wright	383rd Medical Det.
Robert Huff	383rd A Company
Patrick McDermott	383rd A Company
John Cook	383rd C Company
Henry Graziani	383rd D Company
Earl Hilby	383rd D Company
Edward Willison	383rd 2nd Bn. Hq. Co.
Morris Roberts	383rd F Company
Melvin Coobs	383rd I Company
Henry White	383rd I Company
Richard Klassen	383rd K Company
Charles Rhodes	383rd K Company
Lawrence Blanchette	383rd K Company
Hugh Coykendall	383rd K Company
Milton Shepsky	383rd L Company
Vernon Larson	383rd L Company
Hoss Mitchell	383rd L Company
Roy Grubb	96th Division Artillery
Victor Hosman	361st Field Artillery
Kenneth Camp	361st Field Artillery
Val Heinrich	361st Field Artillery
Ramon Gregston	361st Field Artillery
Estle Crabtree	321st Medical Bn.
Dante Gianetti	321st Medical Bn.
Edmund Biggs	96th Quartermaster
Mrs. Inez Easley	Widow of General Easley

The foregoing list of names represent a new feature which we hope will prove of interest. This is the honor roll of attendance and a big vote of thanks go out to those who have been willing and able to give the Association their support by being present at the reunions. There are, of course, many many more who have been to 1, 2, or 3 reunions, but the lack of space prevents their being listed. The above information was compiled from the Corresponding Secretary's records, and is subject to correction.

In the last couple of years you fellows have become quite lax in sending in new names. Due to some mail being returned due to lack of forwarding addresses, our roster has backed off about 150 from its all time high of around 3800. So let's dig a little deeper and get those names in. Try running notices in newspapers, especially in the smaller towns and cities. It will work.

R. Klassen, Corres. Secretary



NINETY SIXTH INF. DIV.-WWII CAMPAIGNS-LEYTE-OKINAWA

WHEN AN AMPHIBIOUS DIVISION MAKES A LANDING SIX THOUSAND MILES FROM THE UNITED STATES, IT MUST BE A SELF-SUFFICIENT UNIT, WITH NOT ONLY MEN AND GUNS, BUT ALSO AMMUNITION, FOOD, WATER, MEDICAL SERVICES, REPAIR SHOPS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ALL THE OTHER SERVICES NECESSARY TO KEEP FIFTEEN THOUSAND MEN FIGHTING. SO THE 96TH WENT TO WAR IN THE SUMMER OF 1944.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Alex Markus	3629 N. Plainfield Ave. Chicago, Illinois 60634
1ST VICE PRESIDENT	Robert Huff	Box 572 Carbondale, Illinois
2ND VICE PRESIDENT	Hugh Coykendall	4247 Milan S W Wyoming, Michigan
TREASURER	Ed Dakan	Box 725 Mason City, Iowa
RECORDING SECRETARY	Paul Bauer	101 N Bond Street Altamont, Illinois
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Richard Klassen	929 S. Myrtle Kankakee, Illinois 60901
CHAPLAIN	Minor Butler	250 Lincoln Arcola, Illinois
MINNEAPOLIS CONVENTION CHAIRMAN	Peter Pohl	1630 E. Demont Avenue St. Paul, Minn.
INDIANAPOLIS CONVENTION CHAIRMAN	Edmund Biggs	213 Wayside Drive Plainfield, Indiana

DUES: Dues are now payable at the rate of \$3.00 per year, payable to Ed Dakan, Treasurer. He has taken over for the late Claude South, who did a fine job for the Association.

Yes sir, the Corresponding Secretary now has an assistant in the name of Ed Biggs, who already has taken over a lot of the load. Our mailing list has now been converted to address-o-graph plates and Harold Roetker of Portland, Ore. will take care of the printing and mailing at great savings to the Association. It's too bad we didn't get to know Harold about five years ago.



NINETY SIXTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION • WWII



THE BIG FIELD HOWITZERS OF THE 96TH DIVISION ARTILLERY PUMPED OUT 302,852 MURDEROUS ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION IN A ROARING CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUCCESS OF THE BATTLE OF OKINAWA—AN OPERATION WHICH PRODUCED THE GREATEST ARTILLERY DUELS IN THE WAR AGAINST THE JAPANESE.

THE LADIES AUXILIARY

PRESIDENT	Norma Bauer	101 N. Bond St. Altamont, Illinois
1ST VICE PRESIDENT	Dorothy Coykendall	4247 Milan S W Wyoming, Michigan
TREASURER	Rose Roetker	4835 N.E. 20th Ave. Portland, Oregon 97211
RECORDING SECRETARY	Dorothy Fitzpatrick	115 S. Hazel Pontiac, Illinois
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Ann Pohl	1630 E. Demont Ave. St. Paul, Minn.
LIFETIME HONORARY PRESIDENT:	Mrs. Inez Easley	

The ladies have come through with flying colors in completing a task which was first contemplated back in Dallas when they were first organized.

When we again meet in Minneapolis the Association will have a complete set of colors. The Auxiliary has almost completed the job of raising funds for the purchase of a 96th Division Insignia Flag and a matching United States of America Flag. President Norma Bauer has worked hard at this project and deserves a vote of thanks.

You will notice I said that the project is almost completed. They still need a few dollars to finish the job and would appreciate it very much if some of you girls would pay your dues now. The dues are \$1.00 per year and should be sent to Mrs. Roetker, Treasurer.

RETURN REQUESTED

Kankakee, Illinois

929 S. Myrtle

RICHARD KLASSEN



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