

PERAGIMUS

New Series, Vol. IV

CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS, SEPTEMBER, 1953

No. 3

HOW ABOUT A 358TH CONVENTION?

From The Peragimus Editor's Notebook

YOU CAN HELP

This issue of PERAGIMUS has been made possible through the generosity of the subscribers, names of which are listed on Page 2. As long as we get a sufficient reply to our request for subscriptions we can continue to bring you PERAGIMUS at regular intervals, so if you want our publication to continue and to bring you news of your 358th Combat Team pals, it means that we must have your financial support for this project.

IF YOU ARE GETTING A SUBSCRIPTION BLANK WITH THIS ISSUE, IT MEANS THAT YOUR SUBSCRIPTION IS WANTED. HOW ABOUT IT! CAN WE COUNT ON YOU?

The amount of news and pictures received is also gratifying, for it takes both MONEY and NEWS to keep PERAGIMUS alive. That is why we enclose with each issue one of our NEWS BLANKS and reply envelopes so that you will find it most convenient to write to us. Send your PICTURES, too. They are always welcome.

Dr. Frank J. Gargano, formerly with the Medical Detachment of the 358th, and now of 198 Park Ave., Mechanicsville, N. Y., sends us a newspaper clipping concerning Rev. Anthony R. Sidoti, former battalion chaplain, and currently assistant pastor of the St. Anthony church and chaplain of the National Guard's 27th Infantry Div. It seems that Father Sidoti was named grand marshal for the Albany Memorial Day parade.

Robert J. Tiffany, formerly of Co. C, writes this from Abilene, Texas:

"Clarine and I have just returned from a trip to the West Coast. While there, we had the privilege of spending a very pleasant evening with Hubert and Carolyn

ATTENTION — 90TH INF.

Midwest 90th Infantry
Division Ass'n

6th Annual Reunion

Saturday, September 26, 1953

Legion Clubrooms

Fargo, North Dakota

Cost: \$4.00 per person which includes a grand dinner.

Dancing and entertainment after dinner.

Business Meeting: Saturday at 1 p. m.

Registration: Saturday at 11. Officers:

J. B. Flaherty, Fargo, N. D., President.

Clarence B. Viestenz, Fargo, N. D., Secretary.

Thomas J. Ameson, Minneapolis, Minn., Treasurer.

For further information write Treasurer, Thomas J. Ameson, P. O. Box 962, Minneapolis, Minn.

Jackson. Naturally, we had a delightful time recalling our happy days in the 358th at Camp Barkely and elsewhere. It is amazing how widespread is the genuine affection which is displayed for Col. Rustemeyer. All former 358ers owe him a great debt for the fine example of manly character and soldierly conduct which he drilled into his men. I only hope that it will be possible for us to attend a reunion sometime at which he and all of us may be present, in order that we may re-enact some

Write Us Suggestions On 358th Get-Together

Next year, 1954, is the 10th anniversary of D-Day on the Normandy Beachhead where the 358th Combat Team received its baptism of fire in World War II, and it is fitting that we commemorate this event by holding a convention.

We would like your ideas on this project. A suggested date is the week-end of June 5 and 6, 1954. This is on a Saturday and Sunday, and as you know, June 6th, 1944, was D-Day!

Bill Falvey has suggested that we hold it in St. Louis, Mo., which is centrally located and where the 358th had its first successful convention.

Use the enclosed NEWS BLANK and reply envelope to send us YOUR ideas on the time, place, and program for a 358th convention. If enough interest is shown and it looks like we'll have a reasonably large attendance, we can begin our plans early and really have a wonderful reunion in 1954.

Write to us, won't you!

of the famous officers' meetings, etc.

"Hubert is the same jolly, wonderful guy and he looks not a day older than when I first met him."

A post card from Walter Midenor, Detroit sculptor, who has been in Europe with his wife, Peggy, reads thusly:

"I am sending all former members of the 358th greetings from an old familiar place, 'Aufdem Rhein, Rheingold!' I am thinking of all of you who were here with

(Continued on page 2)

PERAGIMUS

Published in the interest of officers and enlisted men of the 358th Combat Team.

Howard A. Stotler.....Editor

Subscriptions to PERAGIMUS are \$2 per year, and should be sent together with NEWS and personal data to the editor at Box 230, Champaign, Ill. A post-paid envelope is provided for this purpose.

Thanks, Subscribers

Our heartiest thanks go to the men who have sent subscriptions to make this issue of the Peragimus possible:

\$10.00—Walter W. Olson.
 \$7.50—Thomas E. Watson.
 \$7.00—Thomas J. Morris, Jr.
 \$6.00—George S. Storlie.
 \$5.00—Thomas J. Ameson, Rowe Calciolari, Ronald W. Campbell, Frank Cantella, Stanton G. Darling, Alfred T. Dengler, Maj. Gen. Herbert L. Earnest, Anton Gratz, Maurice Lyng, John F. Murphy, T. F. Murphy, Arthur C. Sisk.
 \$4.00—Capt. Ernest Morgan.
 \$3.00—Dan Ahern, Carl Sam Heffner, Jerrold R. Henderson, Roy W. Hughes, Irvin H. Klein, Col. Merton E. Munson, Robert E. Muthig, Orville L. Ramsey, George B. Turner, Del H. Zachman.
 \$2.00—Orville F. Berger, Clarence Bergum, Raymond D. Coyle, Simon Eksouzian, Ernesto G. Garza, Frank Golden, Lloyd J. Graf, Carl F. Hansen, Ted Hoffmeister, Clarence M. Jackson, William D. Jones, Irvin Kaine, Herbert M. Lackey, Charles E. Mateer, Edwin O. Miller, Edward A. McBride, Oiva Oksanen, Carmen Pariso, Dick F. Perley, Robert C. Radl, Walter C. Rex, Louis Rogieh, Dr. Joseph M. Ruda, Tom Shanneyfeler, Earl R. Shostrom, Henry R. Stronberg, Earl B. Taylor, Juel Tollerud, Stanley J. Utterback, Lester F. Whitney, Alan F. Zabel, James J. Zalusky, Carl J. Sward.

Address Changes

Henry R. Stronberg, 211 Fort Washington Ave., NYC 32, N. Y.
 Roy Vukotick, 4150 Whittier St., San Diego, Calif.
 Earnest Weiss, 330 E. 73rd St., N. Y. C. 21, N. Y.
 Lester Whitney, 58 Hubbard Rd., Youngstown, Ohio.
 Helmer R. Winger, 6311 Beldart St., Houston, Texas.
 Alan Zabel, 739 Saylor Ave., Elmhurst, Ill.

From The Peragimus Editor's Notebook

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 the last time."

Walter was a former P.W. interpreter with the Regiment.

Newspaper clippings from the Greenburg Morning Review, of Greenburg, Pa., picture Frank Cantella, now commander of the



Col. Merton Munson stands before the Rhine near the site where the 358th crossed the river, near Oppenheim in March 1945.

Military Order of Purple Heart of Westmoreland Co., at a Purple Heart Ceremony in Arlington Cemetery, Washington, during May. Frank is also pictured in the same paper at a citation presentation to Vice President Nixon for his work in combatting Communism.

Col. Chris Clarke, former Regt. C.O., wrote thus recently:

"The other evening I was talking to the G-2 of the Army, Major General Richard C. Partridge. As you will recall, he commanded the 358th from 16 July to 9 July 1944. He had been G-3, VII Corps in Normandy and after Colonel Thompson was wounded and Lt. Col. Nave was killed, I became acting regimental commander. General, then Colonel, Partridge took over the regiment from me. He was wounded while on reconnaissance on the slopes of Mont Castre, also known as Hill 122. He told me he still corresponds with the jeep driver who got him out of there.

"After recuperating from his wound, he rejoined headquarters VII Corps (visiting the 358th enroute, when we were just east of Rheims). He subsequently became Chief of Staff of VII Corps.

Since the war, he has been Military Attache to Yugoslavia; in the Intelligence Div. of the Dept. of the Army; Director of the Joint Intelligence Group of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and currently, the new assistant Chief of Staff G-2, Dept. of the Army. He was promoted to Major General about July 1952."

In a letter to Newsweek, regarding a picture of General Van Fleet in the March 9th issue, Parnell J. Donohue says:

"As a member of the 90th Infantry Division, I was interested in the 'patch' worn by the general on his right shoulder—designating a former organization—as contrasted with the one worn on the left, which is his present organization insignia.



Col. Munson and wife beside the Rhine.

"I studied the picture closely. It seems to me that he is wearing the red 'TO' of the 90th Division—the letters standing for Texas-Oklahoma.

"Having first met the general as a colonel of the Fourth Division, later as a major general commanding the 90th, progressing to corps commander, and following his exploits in Greece and Korea, we are most interested and flattered—if this be the 90th patch."

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From The Peragimus Editor's Notebook

(Continued from page 2)

Newsweek says it is, noting that his current organization's patch, the Eighth Army, is worn on his left sleeve.

From Mountain View Court, Buffalo, Wyoming, comes word from Dan Ahearn, former Lt. Col. and C.O. of the First Battalion:

"There isn't much news here since Falvey and his nice family were here last summer. We had a nice visit and a birthday cake for Betty (Mrs. Falvey). He certainly has a fine family.

"We are getting ready for another big tourist season and a long hunting season this fall. I had around two hundred hunters last fall and it seems as though they are all coming back this year with a couple of friends. There wasn't even a dent made in the deer and antelope populations and we are trying to get rid of about 25,000 head of them in this northeastern section of Wyoming."

Thomas J. Morris, Jr., writes from Wichita, Kansas:

"Heard from 'The Penguin' a few weeks ago. He mentioned your name (Howard) but nothing complimentary. Seriously, he said something about a 10 year reunion which I thought was an excellent

idea.

"Ann and boys are fine. They are planning to go back to Philadelphia this summer to visit, and I am going to a banking school at the University of Wisconsin, the latter part of August. I hate to get into the Big Ten, but with the Big Seven overshadowing your conference so far, I will at least feel smug about the whole thing.

"I am out of the Reserves now, and will be pleased to wave at the boys when the troop trains pass through Wichita."

Herbert Earnest, Major General, Retired, Riverview Landing, White Stone, Va., writes:

"Thanks again for a copy of the Peragimus. Haven't been fortunate enough of late to run into any of the 358th CT. May I suggest that some mention be made of the 90th reunion in November with a view to a large turnout? I have been a 'backslider,' having attended only one reunion, but it's about time WWII 90th men should 'flood' these meetings."

Editor's Note: Recently I saw Col. Cliff Gregg, now director of the Museum of Natural History in Chicago, who sends his regards. He is active in the YMCA and I attended a National Council meeting in Cincinnati with him in May.

Bill Falvey, former major, S-2-358th Inf., writes from Niles, Michigan:

"You know more about the situation than I do, but it is my opinion that we should have another reunion on Declaration Day weekend 1954. I believe St. Louis is the ideal place, and I am willing to help make it a success. I believe if we plan now, and get the publicity out early we could have a crowd of 200 to 300 or so. I also believe it might be possible to get Van Fleet to give us a talk if we ask him now. Since Rusty is retired I feel that he too would like to give us a talk.

R. C. Partridge, Major General, GS, A.C. of S., G-2, former Regt. Commander, writes us this after reading his first copies of Peragimus:

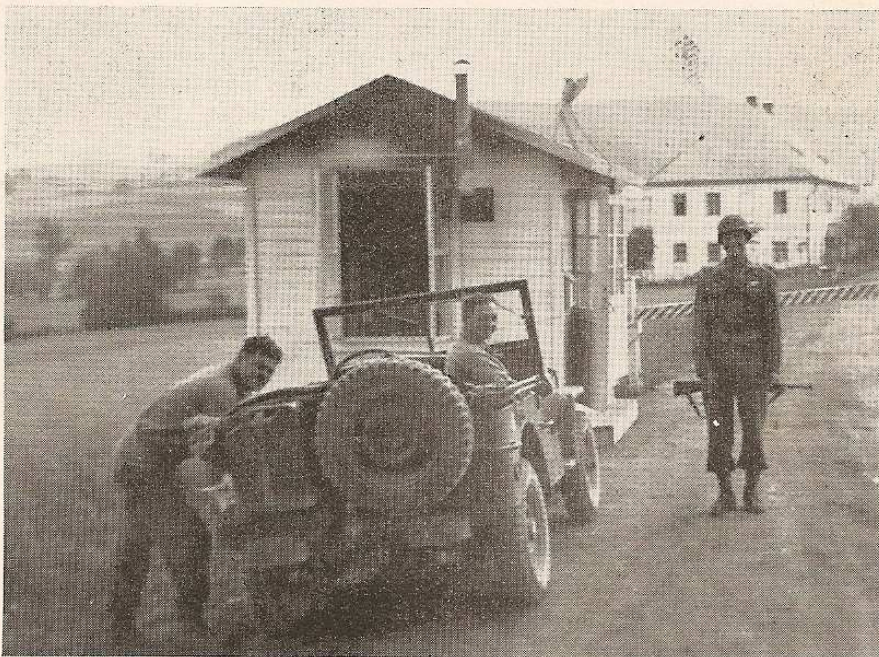
"I have recently been handed by Colonel Clark a couple copies of your magazine, Peragimus. I want to subscribe and to stay on the subscription list. I read the september and December issues with great interest and was very happy to find notices about several of the people whom I remembered very well from even my short tour with the regiment . . . I visited the regiment several times, once right after the Bulge, I believe in the vicinity of Bastogne, once near Rheims. All best wishes to you and to this enterprise."

From the headquarters of the 12th Infantry Regiment in Gelnhausen, Germany, comes this letter from Lt. Col. R. H. Schultz:

"I have been given command of the 12th Regiment after having been G-3 of the 4th Infantry Division for 2½ years. It is a splendid combat-ready regiment. It is realized that I have a tremendous responsibility and a continuous task of keeping the regiment trained.

The 3½ years I spent in the finest regiment in the Army, the 358th Infantry, has given me a firm basis. The outstanding commanders of our regiment, Col. Rustemeyer, Col. Thompson, Col. Clark, Col. Bealke, Col. Boswell, and Col. Jeter, all contributed sound examples of training and leadership.

"The welcome mat is out at the 12th Infantry Regiment, Gelnhausen, Germany, for all former members of the 358th Infantry, may they be traveling in Germany."



JUNE, 1953, at the German-Czech border, at Hoel, Germany, and Hazelbach, Czechoslovakia. The house in the background is the Czech customs headquarters. The two men with the jeep are counter-intelligence men.

First Battalion

Anton Gratz, former platoon Sgt. of Co. B, Parshall, N. Dak.:

"I sure enjoy Peragimus. Keep it coming. Expect to see the boys in Fargo, N. D. Had a couple of letters asking how long I lasted in the front lines. Was lucky if one calls it that. I stayed with B Co. to the end.

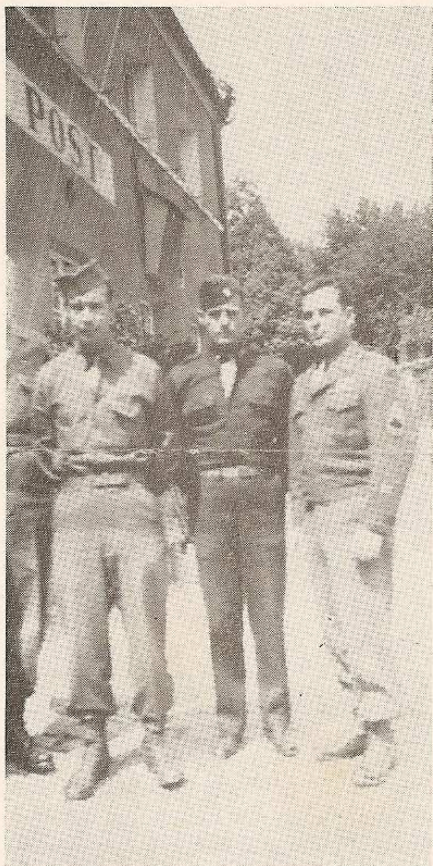
"Now we have two girls. Am operating an off and on tavern or bar. So, if any of you boys come my way, we will not be short!"

From Frank Golden, former Hdqs., 1st Bn.:

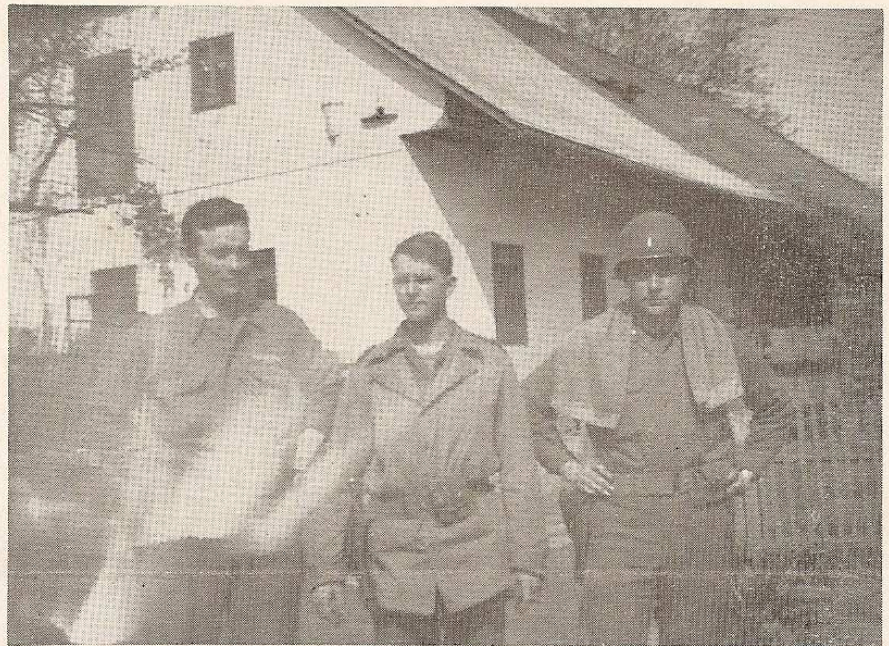
"I am sorry that you have had to wait so long for this subscription, but it won't happen again. I enjoyed seeing pictures of the gang from first Battalion. Keep up the good work.

Ronald Campbell, former C.O., Co. C:

"Any sentiment for a reunion in the near future?"



Anton Gratz, of Parshall, N. D., sends this picture taken on the border of Sudaten Land, Germany. Seen from left to right are Victor Givan, Independence, Mo., Lt. (former Fox, and Gratz.



PRESENTING Arlis Vanlandingham, William Mansfield, and Clay A. Adams of "C" Company in Vohenstrauss, Germany, in '45!

"We have recently moved into a new house and I spend my spare time working on it or the yard. I'm also trying to learn German and French. I expect to spend a year on sabbatical leave at Michigan State finishing the work toward a Ph.D., beginning September, 1954.

"I realize I haven't been much help in 358th affairs; however, call on me if I can help. I see Clark and Martin have gotten out of the Reserves and I don't blame them. I guess I was a 'chump' because I stayed in."

Carl J. Sward, Geneva, Minn.:

"During the last of June I took a trip of a few days up North Dakota way. Stopped at Fargo with Clarence Viestenz, at Parshall, N. D., with Anton Gratz, who runs a real swell bar. Also, stopped with Leroy Shabert at Grand Forks, and we visited Walter Fontaine. All are Co. B boys.

"Sunday, July 26th, a few Co. B men had a get together at Weert Huisman's at Rock Rapids, Iowa, and had a wonderful time. Present were Clyde Page and family, the Tallmans, Huismans, Ira Statham from Chicago with the family, Art Panning, Mrs. and the boys from Nebraska, and myself.

"By the way, Fontaine's address is 1805 2nd Ave. North, Grand Forks, N. D. He spends most of his time in bed or in a wheel chair so would enjoy hearing from the 358th boys. Keep Peragimus coming."

Second Battalion

Earl B. Taylor, Rural Route 1, Silver City, Iowa, former Liaison officer of the 2nd Battalion:

"Orchids to you, Howard, for keeping the Peragimus coming . . . believe me, it keeps alive a fellowship of men who would otherwise fade away. Hope that next year we can get together again for another enjoyable reunion.

"Enjoyed hearing from Tony (Capt.) Antalek via the March issue. Hello, Tony . . .

"Col. Bill Wallace, CO 2nd Bn., of Dixon, Ill., has 'threatened' to look me up, while in this section of the Corn Belt, but as yet has not done so. Bill's brand of Ned Spark's humor kept us going at times when there was d-m little to be cheerful about.

"Hats off to our former commander, General Van Fleet, for calling a spade a spade in the mis-management of the Korean mess. It appears our able-bodied young men will all have a mortgage on their life for some time to come.

"Farming the 400 keeps me close to home, so give my regards to all."

George Turner, formerly of Co. E, writes:

"Sure did enjoy seeing the picture of the old clothes factory at Vohenstrauss, Germany. That is where we got some swell looking bathing suits to use at the swim-

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THE 358th ON MANEUVERS on the Hankins ranch. Identified are Schneider at left and Poppin at the right. Identity of the others in the picture would be appreciated!

ming pool. Boy, was the water cold in that pool. Enjoy reading the *Peragimus* very much."

Stan Darling, 166 W. Kenworth Rd., Columbus, Ohio, formerly with company F, also comments on clothes factory "barracks":

"Your *Peragimus* gives me a new thrill every time it arrives. I have a slight feeling of 'battle-nerve' as I read it.

"I enjoyed the picture of Company F barracks at Vohenstrauss, taken by John Monte, August 1945. I was top kick then and my orderly room was at the middle window in that picture.

"Our company was right proud of those barrack signs, designed by Phil Chris of our company and assisted by a German PW. 'We never had it so good' as during that summer."

Jerry Henderson, Basin, Wyoming, formerly with 2nd Bn. Hqs., writes:

"Recently received discharge from Reserves, so won't be involved with the Army for a while anyway.

"Would like to take this means of inviting any of the 358th to take a vacation out this way, and would certainly enjoy having any of them stop in for few days. Have heard from time to time from Andy Anderson and Rollin Barnard. Also see Sgt. Skaar in Billings, Mont., once in a while.

"At present time I am manager of Wyoming Gas Company and have two children, a boy, two, and a girl, five."

Third Battalion

"Cyril G. Bobcek, Jr., formerly of M company, wanted to let his buddies know he is now married and lives t North Judson, Indiana. Also, a new addition to the family arrived on May 15, an 8 lb. baby girl named Diane Christine.

"Cyril wanted to write this, but he never seems to have the time. He's busy farming," writes his wife, Delores.

"I enjoy reading *Peragimus* just as much as Cyril does, so keep on with your good work."

William D. Jones writes:

"Certainly enjoy *Peragimus* and learning the whereabouts of everyone. We have a new son, born 20 October 1952 and named John William."

John Crotty, Los Angeles, formerly with 3rd Bn. Hqs.:

"Sorry I was tardy with my two bills. Enjoy *Peragimus* very much. Certainly hope that some issue will carry news of 1st Lt. Francis E. Hill, formerly of Mike Co.

"Spent many very 'nervous' week-ends with Clive Jaffray and family till he quit So. California for Minnesota. Was like living over a memory. He hasn't changed though it did take Jack Goodman and me several hours to realize we didn't have to call him 'Captain Jaffray Sir'."

Leo Hoegh, a platoon leader in

Co. L while the 90th was at Camp Barkley, Texas, was appointed Attorney General of Iowa in February 1953. Hoegh later served as a company commander and G-3 in the 104th Division, reaching the rank of Lt. Col. in the Iowa National Guard 34th Division, the rank he now holds.

Earl Shostrom, a platoon leader in Co. I in Normandy, has resigned as an Assistant Attorney General of Iowa to accept a position on the legal staff of Bankers Life Insurance Co. in Des Moines. Shostrom recently got together with two members of the Iowa General Assembly, Senator Utzig of Dubuque and Rep. Christiansen of Northwood, who served in Co. I in World War I. The oddest thing about the meeting was that all three men were wounded in the left knee during their service with Co. I.

Capt. Ernest H. Morgan writes:

"I was transferred from the 6th Inf. Regt. in Berlin Hq. Co., 43rd Inf. Div. in March of '52. Since I have been in Augsburg our second daughter has been born in Germany. Also I have been promoted to Captain and have been Company Commander of Div. Hq. Co. since Sept. '52. I haven't been able to attend any of the 358th conventions as I have been in Germany since November '49.

"The Dept. of the Army notified me that I had been selected to attend the Advanced Officers course at either Ft. Benning or Ft. Knox beginning in September of this year. I rotate to the ZI in April of this year. After I arrive in the states I hope to see some of the old gang.

"I missed the issue of *Peragimus* that contained news about Burke, former C.O. of Co. I. Good to hear about him, Daniels and Brown.

"Two of the three officers on the back of the Dec. '52 issue of *Peragimus* are Capt. Shortridge on the left and Lt. Carter on the right. I don't remember the name of the center officer.

"Last Christmas I received a card and letter from Lt. Snodgrass, formerly of I Co. He is working and living in New Orleans, La.

"Oh yes, I was platoon leader of the 3rd Plt of Co. I from Jan. '45 until 22 April '45, then I returned from the hospital in July '45 and was 3rd Bn S-4 until October '45."

Separate Units

Ethel Weitzel, sister of Frederick E. Weitzel, sends us word of Fred's death after a heart attack on the way to work on Dec. 9, 1952.

Maurice Lyng, AT Co., writes: "Haven't seen too many of the AT Co. men but have been corresponding with quite a few of them. I got married after I got out of the Army. Am planning quite a vacation this year and if I get near any of the men will stop and see them."

"Just couldn't resist cutting out clipping from *Life* of May 18th. Sure got a big 'bang' out of seeing the 'TO' insignia on Gen. Van Fleet's shoulder," writes Henry Stronberg.

"Any chance of having a reunion in or near New York?"

Col. Merton E. Munson, former CO, 344th Div. Arty., writes:

"I am enclosing a few pictures I took at Mainz, which the 358th took in March 1945, and on the Rhine River near Oppenheim where the Division crossed in March 1945. Although a little over eight years have passed, some of the buildings have not yet been repaired, as you will note."

Jack Shardon writes:

Lester Whitney stopped in to see me in June. Had a nice chat. We won the war all over again and he was anxious to receive *Peragimus* so I signed him up."

Ernesto G. Garza, formerly with AT Co., writes:

"I'm working at Fisher Body. I'm happy with my work, and still single. Have been here five years. If I go back to Texas, I'll send my address to you."

Owa Oksanen, formerly of Hq & Hq. Co., writes:

"I'm sorry to say it, but have no news at this time except am taking my vacation in September and going to Washington, D. C. I will try and see a few of the boys but you can't get too much done in two weeks. Enclosed you'll find my two bucks to keep up the good work."

Irvin Klein writes:

"My address is now 512 West 3rd, Park Rapids, Minn.

Mrs. L. Gebhard, of Texas, sends us this news of her son, Phillip Gebhard.

"Phillip's home is now at 903 Carolyn, Elkhart, Ind. He has two children, Stephen and Celia, and at present is with Associates Investment Co."

Ted Hoffmeister, former Hq. & Hq. Chief Swbd. Opr.:

"Got a good excuse for procrastination, as my wife fell, injuring her knee-cap severely. As she was unable to care properly for the children, and since it was inconvenient for her mother to come here to help out, my wife moved in to her mother's place for a few weeks until she gets back on her feet. As a result I'm batching it and I can't say I like it. Funny, you can't get along with women, and you can't get along without 'em."

"Charley Fields and his wife were to have visited us again this year, but we got a letter about a week ago informing us they'd be unable to make it. Mrs. Fields is going to have a baby around Christmas time and she can't take any trips. We're happy for them, but sorry that we can't see them."

Roy Hughes, 1162 Eastern Parkway, Louisville, Ky., Medical Det. of 3rd Bn.:

"Appreciate your efforts which must be a time consuming labor of love."

"After discharge I returned to the U. of Ky. and finished my BS and MS degrees. Was unable to go to Medical School but am still in the medical field. I am at present assistant to the Area Medical Administrator of the Uni-

ted Mine Workers Welfare and Retirement Fund. Have two children, Susan, four years, and Charles, two. Since discharge, I have seen two of the 358th gang, Bob Hochwalt, Dayton, Ohio, and Bob Lambert, Dallas, Texas. I have several pictures from Camp Barkley to Germany and would be glad to send a few for your inspection. Do you return pictures after publication?"

Editor's Note: We return all pictures in condition in which received.

Orville F. Berger writes:

"Am enclosing a newspaper clipping of Sgt. E. O. Cooper. If you remember, he was a Lt. Col. and was the Div. Finance Officer."

The clipping says in part:

"Word was received yesterday of the death of M/Sgt. Ed Cooper in the 98th General hospital in Munich. Sgt. Cooper suffered a heart attack April 22.

"... Sgt. Cooper had a long and colorful army career and was near ring retirement. He was a veteran of both World Wars, having joined the army in 1917. In the 35 years that followed, he served the army with distinction, having achieved the rank of full colonel. Up to his fatal illness, he was going strong and carrying two assignments as Chief Finance clerk and 1st sergeant of the 17th Financial Disbursement Section in Germany, stationed in Munich.

"... when the 90th Division left for the European theatre in 1944, Col. Cooper went with the Division through England, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Germany, collecting five battle stars before the war ended."



358th C. T. SERVICE COMPANY PERSONNEL POSED FOR THIS SHOT. CAN YOU IDENTIFY THEM?