

The RAINBOW REVEILLE

Rainbow Division Veterans



VOL. XXI

DECEMBER, 1941

No. 4

A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Armistice, 1918, was a "Commencement" day for the members of the Rainbow Division. It marked the passage of their lives from the fields of war to the fields of peace; of their transition from one kind of life to a new and utterly different one. The days of war are long, long days; the year or more we had spent in France seemed to have filled our lives to the exclusion of other days. They seemed to have extended interminably into the past, they loomed endlessly before us into the future. Until the Armistice broke into our startled consciousness we saw no end to the war; our philosophies hardly took an ending of it into account. And when the end did come it was met with stunned surprise. A somewhat startled realization that a new vista was opening before us, a life to be lived in fullness and in beauty. The Armistice restored an expectancy to life to us, and it was good to be alive. But peace brought with it new complexities to our lives. We were faced with the resumption of an individual guidance over our lives. Faced, also, with a resumption of our individual responsibilities as citizens of a democracy, with a part in shaping its ends.

More than a score of years have passed since then, and we can evaluate our success in meeting these personal and patriotic responsibilities. As a group it is apparent that Rainbowers have shown the kind of courage, initiative, and faithfulness in meeting the obligations of civilian life that they had demonstrated as soldiers. Inconsiderable indeed have been the Rainbow men who have not assumed honored and respected places in their communities. We can view with satisfaction and pride the part they have played as citizens. * * * * But the day we greeted with such poignant joy is fading into dusk and the Nation faces the probability of a new transition of its national life from peace to war. Rainbowers will meet with courage and faith whatever task falls to their hands in the new struggle confronting us. We could not do less and keep faith with our departed comrades.

WALKER H. COLSTON.

Rainbow Division Veterans



A national association of veterans of the Rainbow (42nd) Division, to perpetuate that spirit of comradeship which was the greatest single factor in the success of the Division and to keep alive the memory of departed comrades.

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The RAINBOW REVELLE

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HAROLD B. RODIER, Editor
717 Sixth Street N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Associate Editors
FRED J. CORNELIUS, WILLIAM CARROLL, AL HOYT, DAVE WILEY

Vol. XXI December, 1941 No. 4

AUT SCISSORS, AUT NULLIS

Once upon a time, when Life Magazine was a humorous magazine, it had a department which carried the heading used above. We neglected a study of Latin in our youth, but always guessed that the meaning of this tag is, "Without the Scissors, we are nothing." Amen, Brothers. If your Editor is a good Editor, (and who can doubt it?) it is because he lets others fill the magazine. You ask, "Why bring that up?" Frankly, it is because we are rather proud of this issue, after reading it in proof form. And we didn't use anything on it but our scissors, our paste-pot, and, aye, our blue pencil.

Our lead Editorial this month was written by Fred Cornelius. If reading it doesn't make

you a better Rainbower, we are a fancy-pants. (You know one of the things we are proud-of-est is the fact that we "discovered" Fred Cornelius.)

While we are talking shop, let me refer to the Correspondent in this issue who said, "I never see anything about . . . in The Reveille." Nachelly, as Lil Abner says. Nothing has been sent in from that state for a month of Sundays. Your Editor would like to go on record here that NO CHATTER CONTRIBUTION RECEIVED ON TIME IS EVER OMITTED. We may cut it down a little if we are pressed for space, but never cut it "out." What does "received on time" mean? Amigos, the deadline for copy is the 20th of the month. It has been that for over seven years. Often we have extended the deadline for a particular issue, but have never altered it permanently. Oftener, we have used copy received after the deadline. But the deadline remained unchanged. The moral of this is: to have your State represented in The Reveille, send in copy, and send it in by the 20th of the month. With these few brief introductory remarks, we ask you to read the pages of this issue—we suggest they will make you proud you are a Rainbower.

+ Chapter Chatter +

TEXAS—I made a wish the other day and it came to pass. I wished for Rainbow company; and lo and behold! down it dropped from the blue sky! It was none other than our dear friend Bill Nevius. Could anything be grander?

Well, we had a wonderful visit. We were going strong when another dear old Rainbower dropped in on us. Yes, you guessed it. It was that old, old battle-scarred veteran of ten wars (who could lick any ten lieutenants, or captains for that matter, with a major or two thrown in for good measure), Chaplain McCallum of the famous old 154th F. A. The Army learned recently that he is a thousand years old, so they sent him home.

Then came the night with the thrill of all thrills. Bill and the boys in Detroit had made arrangements for us to talk over long-distance to the October 4 Get-Together there. Well sir, I got miked fright. I died a natural death. To save my life I could not force this one old lung of mine to furnish wind for a single sound. For what seemed like ten minutes you could have heard a pin drop in living room. But just as Central was about to pull out the plug, I did manage to squeeze out some kind of sound. Till this minute I don't know what I said. I do know though that it could not have been called a speech, but Chaplain McCallum relieved me. He made a beautiful little talk, and after that Bill talked, and I do remember what he said. I shall always remember it.

Anyway, Rainbow boys and girls, I got my Rainbow company, and I am happy.

FRED CORNELIUS.

FLORIDA—Orlando is very busy arranging all the advance details for holding the National Reunion next July. On October 24 a charter was issued in the name of the Orlando Rainbow Division Veterans Reunion Corporation.

The various committees to handle entertainment, housing, banquet, etc., will be appointed at our next meeting, but for the present it is suggested that any information that the Rainbow desires with reference to the Reunion be referred to the National Reunion Chairman, B. J. Sullivan, Court House, Orlando, Florida.

The Reunion Corporation has received a number of reservations for rooms and it is suggested to all, especially large units who would like to be housed close together, to file a tentative reservation immediately.

Our hotels are all equipped with folding door knobs, running chamber maids and circular ice cubes. Special arrangements have been made to furnish ice boxes for the New York delegation. I don't know what they are going to do with the ice, for it is always cool in Florida.

Miami Chapter had a large and successful dance last Saturday night. The object of the dance was to raise funds for the Reunion.

The Reunion chairman and the Reunion chairman for the Ladies' Auxiliary, Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Sullivan, and the President of the Orlando Chapter, Lewis French and Mrs. French, will go to Alabama for their meeting on November 11.

We have received membership lists from a number of the chapters and we urge the secretaries and presidents of all chapters to send us their mailing lists at once so that we may contact their members direct with information about the next Reunion.

We have had some fine letters from Illinois, Pennsylvania, New York, Washington (not D.C.), Alabama and Minnesota. We are extremely anxious to have our mailing list completed this month, so please get busy and let us hear from you about your mailing list if you care to hear from us about the Reunion.

"That other pup" from Florida, Major Dave Wiley, is really a big shot. He is commanding officer of the Fourth Battalion of the Florida Defense Force and he is also State Field Secretary for the State Service Officer, State of Florida. He is handling veterans' claims, and I mean really handling them.

For the benefit of the winter tourists who may be Rainbow men and interested in attending a meeting in Florida, Orlando Chapter meets the Fourth Sunday in every month at 2:00 P.M. at the Angebilt Hotel in Orlando, Florida. Visiting Rainbowners are always welcomed by our greeting committee.

I take this opportunity to personally thank the National Secretary, the Editor of Reveille, the National President and others who are helping to make this the finest Reunion in the history of Rainbow.

With greetings to all the gang from Mrs. Sullivan, the National Chairman Auxiliary Reunion Committee and the writer, I am

Yours in Rainbow,

B. J. SULLIVAN,

National Convention Chairman.

CALIFORNIA—Well, folks, here we are back again after missing our first edition in three years and we will try not to disappoint our eager subscribers in the future.

The October meeting was a red letter one for the Los Angeles chapter, the reason being the opportunity to greet and entertain that prince of good fellows and most loyal Rainbowner, Past National President Bill Nevius.

On the night of the meeting the chapter officers gave a dinner for Bill at a famous spaghetti parlor and then adjourned to the meeting, which, this being a special occasion, was held in the rathskeller of Maier's brewery and a rousing good time was had by all present. 'Tis said the brewery had to run an extra shift the next day to replenish their depleted stock.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Past National President's Medal to Lawrence "Larry" Gibbs by Bill Nevius. Larry was National President in 1932 the year the National Reunion was held in Los Angeles.

Also the local chapter presented gold Life Membership Cards to Bill Williamson, Arthur "Top" Davis and K. L. "Slim" Sutherland in recognition of the many years of active service they have given to the chapter and Rainbow.

Upon leaving Los Angeles Bill Nevius flew to San Francisco where the members of the local chapter there gave him a hearty welcome. And thus we come to the end of the typewriter ribbon. As a parting salutation we say—"Thumbs up no matter where the clouds may gather."

TAPS: Fred Nelson, 168th Infantry, October 10, 1941.

WARNER H. GRASSELL.

ILLINOIS—Well, we are on the air again.

This is station IRDV operating at 149 kilocycles. Before we continue our program just a word for our sponsors, Koenig, Finnegan, Blumenthal and Spence, attorneys at law. They have all the answers. Our new go-getting President, Harmon Nixon, is busy adding finishing touches to the Armistice Party. To show that we have no enmity toward certain Eastern rivals, the celebration will be at Harry's New Yorker. More about that later.

The GDBand came into the limelight when Caesar Patillo's song "Jim" won fourth place on the Lucky Strike Hit Parade broadcast. He is musical director on CBS, Chicago.

Rainbow Post of the V.F.W. had their regular monthly meeting at the Hamilton Hotel. There was such abundance of Legion milk that much of it was left for the porters. Past Commander Paul Koenig was the life of the meeting, flitting from station to station.

It has been suggested that the trustees fund also be sealed up in the Monument where it would be at least as accessible as at present and Jack Clarke has even suggested that one of the trustees be placed there also. The 117th Trench Mortar Battery fights on.
HARRY STANSBURY.

MICHIGAN—

From North to South,
From East to West,
The Rainbow Gang
Is the very best.
In any part of the U. S. A.,
Rainbow always leads the way.

This was the spirit behind the Five-State Get-Together. Early arrivals formed a round table and touched off the spark of good-fellowship that lasted through the evening. By 8 P.M. all of us had developed an appetite, so the call to chow in the ballroom was welcome.

Scarcely had we taken our seats when a loud-speaker began to sputter. In a moment Fred Cornelius was talking to us from Texas and extending greetings. Bill Nevius, who was visiting him, spoke briefly. National President Walker Colston, Past National President Wilber Brucker and Chapter President Marx Rosenthaler made reply.

Having replenished the inner man, we relaxed in our chairs to listen to the rest of the program. At this juncture we had our mugs snapped for the rogues' gallery. Next the chin music started. President Marx officially welcomed those present and then introduced Wilber Brucker as toastmaster.

Ed Weitzel got nicely started on his talk when the "mike" butted in again. This time it was Les Sullivan, speaking from New York. He made an appeal for Rainbow funds to finish paying for the Long Island Memorial. He was promised a check from Michigan. Then Ed finished his remarks. In addition to being a capable secretary, he knows how to handle the English language.

Leland Whitney said, among other things, "We're in a state of world revolution—things are moving faster than we know." Walker Colston extended greetings from the National Association in an informal talk. Rainbow will go places under his leadership. Diplomat Al Hoyt was in good form. Others who spoke included "High Pockets" Neyens, Jack "Call of the Wild" Henry, and our perennially perambulating ambassador of Rainbow reverence, Walt Michel, who gave us a salty tale. Toastmaster Brucker closed the speechmaking with a plea for national unity, in his usual eloquent way.

In conclusion, let us give credit to Sam Miller, Tom Hanson, Marx Rosenthaler, Bill Nevius and all those who worked behind the scenes to put the party across. Those who missed it lost something.

Pay your dues today,
That's the Rainbow way.

KURT FREDERICK.

NEW JERSEY—Outside of the water tower and the Hempstead, L. I., station, where so many Rainbowners entrained for their first glimpse of Broadway's bright lights, those who returned to Camp Mills on October 12 for the unveiling of the National Monument, found little of a tangible nature reminiscent of those autumn days in 1917 when we mobilized for the Great Adventure. The mere fact, however, of again standing on the same spot was sufficient to recall to mind the many incidents that happened, the good times that were had and the true comradeships that were formed there in those infant days of the Rainbow. The Monument, an imposing structure, now stands as a mute reminder of the supreme sacrifice many of our comrades made and of our duty to them to carry on in that traditional Rainbow spirit. The unveiling ceremony was impressive and inspiring. Praise to the Long Island chapter for their achievement.

The Jersey chapter and auxiliary—35 strong—were present. The natural result of such a turnout was an impromptu N. J. Reunion with refreshments and dancing, held at a wayside inn on Long Island after the unveiling. Tom Kane, our Judge Advocate, was M. C.

The soot spot in my heart this month is for our Auxiliary. These girls are constantly providing ways and means for our entertainment. They are again blowing us to a swell feed. This time at the Norwood Country Club, Long Branch, N. J., on November 9, in celebration of the Auxiliary's 20th Anniversary. Remember, you Jerseyites, this is gratis, so don't miss it. It will be another New Jersey Reunion.

STAN BARROW.

NEW YORK—New York Rainbowners experienced an eventful and strenuous week-end over the period that began with the Father Duffy Chapter meeting on Friday, October 10. At that meeting we had the pleasure of welcoming National President Walker H. Colston, who gave a fine talk and caused those present to feel that Rainbow is in for one of its best years under the present administration. Our old friend Elmer Neagie also spoke and said that he had come along as President Colston's dog-robber. After the chapter meeting had ended refreshments were enjoyed until a late hour, and long, long after midnight we saw that things were still going strong at a table at which Chapter President John Tyson was host to National President Colston and Elmer Neagie. And with them, from time to time, were Jack Joyce, Jim Striffler and many others who should be entitled to wear National Convention service ribbons.

The next event of that busy week-end was the Review and Entertainment of the 69th Regiment, New York Guard, held at the Armory, on Saturday night, October 11th. Colonel J. Monroe Johnston took the salute, and with him were General Phelan, General Costigan and Captain Hurley. The Armory

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was jammed and many chapter members were present. Colonel Lawrence's regiment did itself proud that night, and we are glad to boast that many men who served with us in France are now in Colonel Lawrence's outfit. President Colston was present again on that occasion, as was National Vice President Leo Maher. Jack Clarke of Maryland, and many Rainbowers from other states, here for the unveiling of the National Rainbow Division Monument, which was to take place at Garden City next day.

Some of the chapter members looked just a bit tired and drawn when they showed up for Mass, which was celebrated in the Armory Chaplain of the 69th Regiment, New York at 11 A.M., Sunday, by Father Connolly, Guard. At 12:30 P.M. a special train pulled out from Penn Station carrying the 69th Regiment, New York Guard, and we don't know how many hundred Rainbowers and friends. The writer is really sorry for those members who missed that train run. The spirit of 1917 was back with us, as fresh and green as ever. It was just like the days (or nights) of the old 2:45 to Country Life Press or the 3:50 to Mineola. We can still hear the shouts as old friends greeted each other, and can still see the tireless Leo Maher running up and down the train, giving last-minute news (fresh from headquarters), telling Jim who's this that Bill what's-his-name is in the next car, etc. The events at Garden City you will probably read about in another space. The Monument that was unveiled that day is one of the finest things of its kind in the State of New York and in the country. It is worth a special trip to Garden City for the purpose of seeing it. Jack Brawley, George Seaman, Lester Sullivan, Bob Niddrie and others of the Long Island Chapter deserve the thanks and congratulations of all Rainbowers for the splendid work they did in completing the task which they set out so many years ago to do. October 12 was a memorable day in the history of the Division and of the New York outfit. One thing that should be mentioned is that the New York papers went way off in their estimates of the throng that attended the unveiling ceremonies. They said that six or eight thousand were present. The crowd easily numbered more than twice that many.

By the time this is printed (that is if Harold Rodier does not throw it out because received too late) the dinner of the Military Order of the Bat will have been held at the Martinique Hotel in New York. More about that later. New York is now launched on its annual membership drive. We hope to make this the biggest Rainbow year in history, so far as paid-up membership is concerned. Membership Chairman John Gill has seen Leo Maher's bid of five hundred for last year and said: "I'll raise you to seven hundred and fifty." Go to it, John! W. O'B.

OHIO—It was a swell affair the Michigan boys held in Detroit for Rainbowers of

nearby states. Dinner in the Shelby and a fine program. Whitney, Weitzel, Hoyt, Neuburg, May, Langa and Henry represented the Buckeyes. The board of trustees voted to hold the 1942 State Reunion in The Neil House at Columbus on June 12-13, and Rainbowers everywhere are invited to join in the festivities. Five or six states are usually represented—the more the merrier.

The Akron installation party drew the State Presidents of both Rainbow and Auxiliary and the gracious National Auxiliary President. It was another of those eat and dance affairs that's not to be missed. Next on the schedule is the big annual Rainbow Re-Landing Dance November 8. Columbus Chapter has picked at the Legion Hall in Mansfield—the date is February 21 and Hotel Fort Hayes for its annual banquet-dance to celebrate the Rainbow's entry into the trenches. The 22d is Sunday this year.

Jots and dashes: Lt. Col. John C. Volka, Past State President, was retired from active service with the 37th (Ohio) Division at Camp Shelby, Miss., a few weeks ago. . . . He was one of two officers at Shelby who had served in the Spanish War. . . . Alex Richardson, State President last year, has the deepest sympathy of everyone as his son lost his life in an auto accident recently. . . . The State Board of Trustees voted \$100 from State Association funds for the Rainbow Memorial at Camp Mills. . . . Newark Chapter is leading the others in dues to date and State President Mort Rooney is busily engaged in a membership drive and hopes to establish a new Chapter in Circleville.

JACK HENRY.

PENNSYLVANIA—Since my last report we have held our regular meeting here in Pittsburgh and as always a swell time was had by all. The meeting was well attended and it makes one's heart feel good to see the way these buddies, some of whom might be up to that minute, strangers, get together and go all over the past 20 years in typical friendly conversation such as only a Rainbower can understand. Would that meetings of this sort could be held more often and at more locations. These are the type that make for better Rainbow. Tell your friends and come more often. We are always glad to see you. The eats and drinks which were served after the meeting, will be continued so long as we have the necessary funds, for we feel that sitting around the table and indulging in good friendly comradeship is just what makes these meetings interesting and gets the comrades out for an evening with the "boys."

Did you know that we have a brand new chapter in Pennsylvania? Well, we have, and don't think for a minute that they aren't making themselves known throughout Rainbow. Yes, sir, Philadelphia Chapter is the baby and if you get the chance, drop in the next time you are in or around the City of Brotherly Love. I know that President A. F.

Schall and E. A. Letzer, secretary-treasurer, will be glad to see you.

I have just returned from the recent five-state get-together held in the city of Detroit, Saturday, October 4. The meeting was a wow and despite the fact that the night was not fit for man or beast to be out in, the attendance was all that could be expected. Anyone that can't have a swell time with those Michiganders has something wrong with his faculties. The big moment of the evening was the conversation which was carried on by long-distance and amplified by loud speaker, with Fred Cornelius and Bill Nevius away out in El Paso, Texas. We all enjoyed hearing your voices, and to you, Fred Cornelius, I'll be seeing you early in December on my way to "Sunny California" and home for the holidays. Lester Sullivan called by long-distance from Camp Mills to report about the Monument. Isn't long-distance wonderful for reunions? There was quite a sprinkling of nationally known Rainbowers on hand, for example, there was Walker Colston, National President of Rainbow, all the way from Washington; there was Ed Weitzel, National Secretary; Past Secretary Al Hoyt; Jack Henry, all these fellows drove from scattered spots in Ohio. Then there was big Charley Neyens from Chicago and a truer Rainbower never lived, and last but not least, I hope, your scribe from the great State of Pennsylvania. Wilbur Brucker, ex-Governor of Michigan, and a 100 percent Rainbower, was the master of ceremonies and to put it mildly, I have never heard Wilbur in better form. Swell job, governor. The fun went on and on into the night. At four-fifteen I went for the old sleeping bag and a little rest for the drive back to Pittsburgh. It's great to be a Rainbower. So long.

WALT MICHEL.

WISCONSIN—I enjoy the Reveille very much but have never seen a word about the Rainbowers of Wisconsin. I wish you would find space in your next edition for a few words about our State Reunion that was held at Oshkosh at the Veterans Memorial Clubhouse, July 27, 1941. About 75 Rainbowers came from Milwaukee, Fond du Lac, Appleton and Oconto. There were games for the children and grown-ups and dancing was enjoyed by all in the evening. Our local auxiliary served lunch at noon and in the evening also served refreshments. In the afternoon all the Rainbowers marched to the Smith School where the business meeting was held. The mayor of Oshkosh, George F. Oakes, and Leo T. Niemuth, Assemblyman from this district, were guests of honor. State officers were elected for 1941-42—State President, August Steenert, Oshkosh, Wisconsin; Vice President, James Burns, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Secretary, Charles Gillen, Oshkosh, Wisconsin; Treasurer, John Scheibinger, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The State Reunion of 1942 will be held at Milwaukee.

We have grand times at the meetings of our Oshkosh Chapter, the 2d and 4th Thurs-

days of each month. We have an active Ladies' Auxiliary that meets on the 4th Thursday and then we join them for a social time together. The officers for the local Chapter are: President, John Scheibinger; Vice President, Edward Sagmeister; Secretary, Harry P. Krueger; Treasurer, Albert Salzeider.

JOHN SCHEIBINGER.

WELFARE — NATIONAL AUXILIARY

Relief is an old problem. There always have been people on relief and always will be. Relief in Rainbow is confronted with many problems. Relief, as we see it, does not merely mean getting together a basket of groceries and taking them out to some family.

Below are listed a few of the problems confronting us:

1. The veteran who is in the hospital. He would like to see many of his old friends—not necessarily Rainbow men—but men who were in the same platoon, company, or battery. They really mean more to him.

2. His family is fully as important. They must be happy at home while he is away. They must be taken care of financially and socially. They should be called on by their friends as well as the organization.

3. Help in securing service connections for the veteran. He must have affidavits from various buddies, hospital units, friends, etc. Maybe in reaching someone whom he wants to contact the National can help him a great deal. There may be men in the hospital in San Francisco who served in the New York infantry. It is well for the welfare units of the various states to send this in to the National so that National may in turn contact his local units. In that way he may be able to get in touch with his buddies whom he has not had any contact with for years.

4. The case of a veteran after his death. The Welfare Committee should see to it that the widow understands what help she might receive from the government, as any soldier honorably discharged from the Army or Navy can receive \$100 for burial expenses, if necessary. He is also entitled to a granite grave marker furnished free by the government, freight prepaid to the closest point of burial. From that time on it is up to the family. In Minnesota the adjutant general will pick up the stone and have it set for him. This may be the case in other states. It is worth looking into. (Always, before ordering a marker, be sure and contact local cemetery to see that there are no rules or regulations against the marker.)

Taking care of our Rainbow Welfare is a huge problem and one that cannot be taken care of by any one single group. We must have the cooperation of the various chapters—state and local—along with the National. If we will all work together I am sure we can bring a lot of happiness into our Rainbow family.

FLORENCE WEST,

National Welfare Chairman.

From the Desk of the National Secretary Edward C. Weitzel, P. O. Box 42, Akron, Ohio



ED WEITZEL

very pleasant reading. "Keep 'em coming."

As this message is being written we pause in retrospect to outline briefly the accomplishments for the first quarter Rainbow Year, just passed, from the point of view of the Secretary: Contact has been established with all known Chapter Officers, the Memorial File is up to date, membership cards already in the card cases of over 2000 Rainbowers, and remittances coming in at a satisfactory rate, two new chapters organized and functioning, announcement made of a statewide chapter system for Nebraska, ground work laid for establishing a new chapter in Boston, Massachusetts, with further possibilities in the New England states, inquiry for a new chapter at Wadsworth, Kansas, an urgent desire to revive interest in currently inactive chapters, data compiled for the 1941-42 Year Book, innumerable requests filled for Rainbow Lapel

Buttons, Windshield Decals, and the official history of the Rainbow Division, "Americans All." In a recent communication to President Walker H. Colston, we were happy to report "all is well in Rainbow at this station."

"Keep 'em coming." ED WEITZEL.



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Show your pride, display your colors.
Send in TODAY for a pair of these Rainbow Emblems for your windshield.

Only 25c for two. Address

ED WEITZEL
P. O. Box 42
Akron, Ohio

(Tear off and mail with \$1.00)

E. C. Weitzel, National Secretary,
Rainbow Division Veterans,
P. O. Box 42,
Akron, Ohio
Dear Ed:

I enjoy the Reveille, but do not live in a Chapter Area—please find enclosed \$1.00 for which send me 1941-42 membership card and continue to send me the Reveille. I am proud of being a veteran of the 42nd Division.

Yours in Rainbow,

T. E. NELSON,
65 OAKLAND PARK,
COLUMBUS, OHIO