

"GARRYOWEN"

SECOND BATTALION SIXTY-NINTH INFANTRY



VOL.2 NO.4

SPRING 1971



FIGHTING 69th LEADS ST. PATRICK'S
DAY PARADE FOR 120th CONSECUTIVE
YEAR

Colonel Healey leads the Big Parade

Once again, Saint Patrick's Day brought color and pomp to the men of the 69th. For the 120th consecutive year, the regiment led the way up Fifth Avenue as the military escort for the many Irish societies who march in the annual parade.

Colonel Joseph Healey led the battalions, followed by second battalion staff officers and the 69th's two gigantic Irish wolfhounds, Pat and Mike. Accompanying the battalion

was the 42nd Division Marching Band which at noon, started the Parade with the regimental march "Garryowen."

Predominantly cloudy skies loomed over Fifth Avenue while over 120,000 marchers made their way past Saint Patrick's Cathedral and the reviewing stand at 66th Street. At these points salutes were given and at the Cathedral, the commanding officer kissed the Cardinal's ring. At the reviewing stand,

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the presentation of "eyes right" was made by all the men.

On the morning of March 17th the entire unit marched from the Armory to Saint Patrick's Cathedral for the traditional solemn military mass. In contrast, the evening of the 17th saw the entire unit join the celebration of the day in their own way.



LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOSEPH HEALEY
CO SECOND BATTALION, 69TH INFANTRY

THE GARRYOWEN

Published for the men of the 2d Bn 69th Inf.

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COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

This is a message of accomplishments. You should take pride in the strides the Battalion has made in recent months. The job was done mostly by Battalion officers and key NCO's. They deserve much credit. Here is where we stand today:

STRENGTH

We have over 750 of our 782 priority aggregate strength. This makes us the strongest strength Battalion in the Brigade.

OFFICER CANDIDATES

We expect to graduate 13 candidates in August from ESMA. In addition we are sending four candidates to St. Benning in June. On top of this we will have an additional 13 new candidates starting Phase I at ESMA in August.

NCO'S

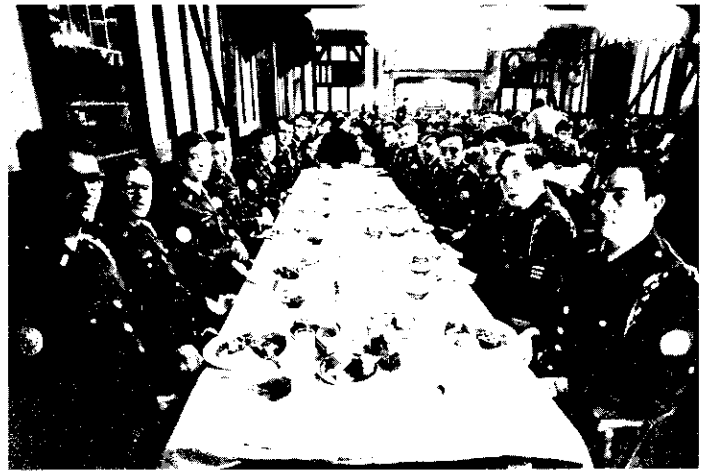
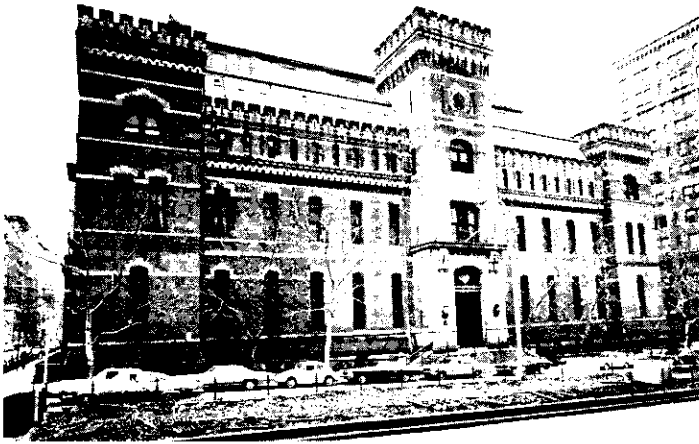
Before Camp Tour approximately 32 NCO's and prospective NCO's will have completed the USAR school conducted in the armory. In addition, at least two men per company will attend NCO training at Camp Smith in August in lieu of field training at Camp Drum.

OFFICERS

Several new officers have recently joined the Battalion.

In all - our immediate future is quite promising. High strength - an increasing adequacy of NCO's and by August an almost full To+E of officers.

Our most immediate task ahead is field training. The need for realism in our training is a responsibility all of us bear - those who plan the training - those who teach it - and those who participate in it. All of us must do our share for a successful and meaningful field training.



ESMA

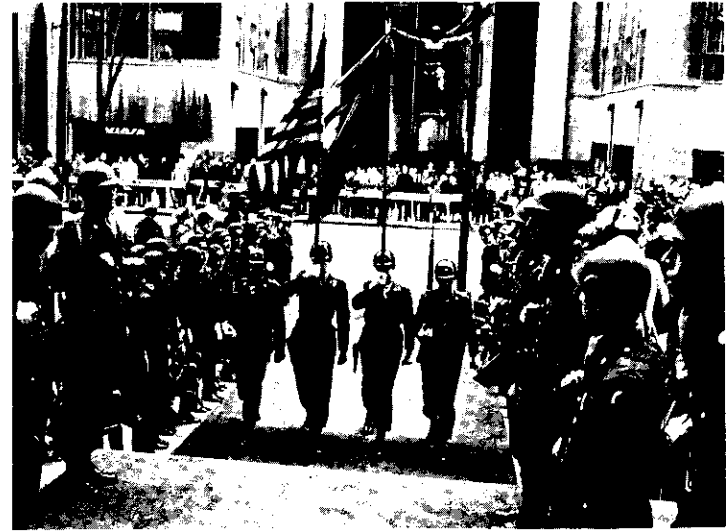
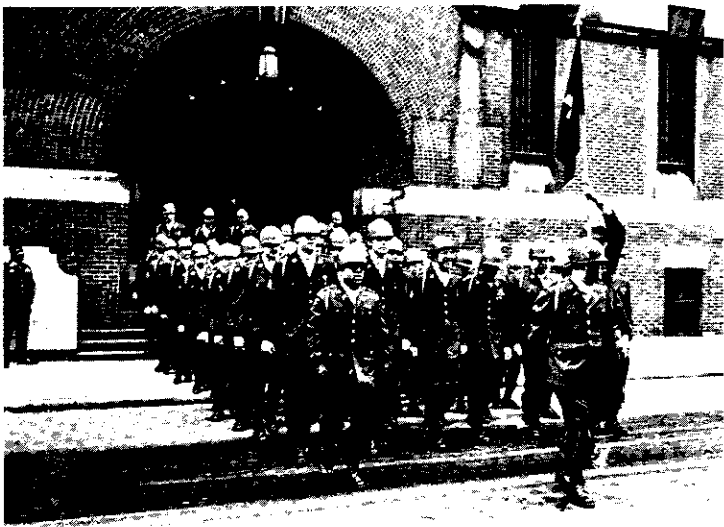
ESMA means leadership, leadership built on calculated training by skilled members of the military organization. ESMA is the training system which provides highly qualified officers for the New York National Guard. Before one is accepted in the ESMA program, he must show strong qualities of leadership in civilian life and must also be equipped with the drive to push himself through the pressures that ESMA training presents to its candidates. A rigid test is administered to all interested. Those few passing the tests are further screened by high ranking officers to determine if they'll qualify.

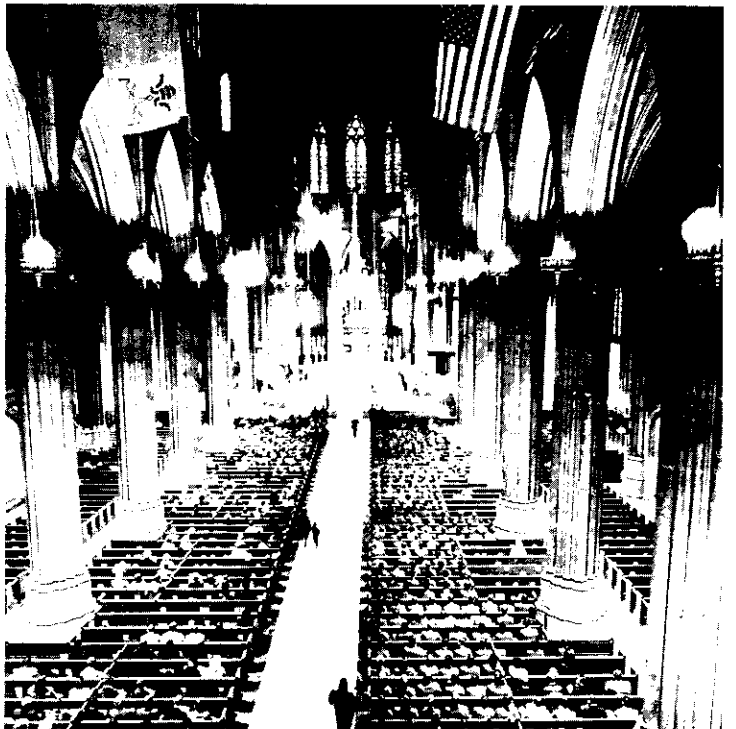
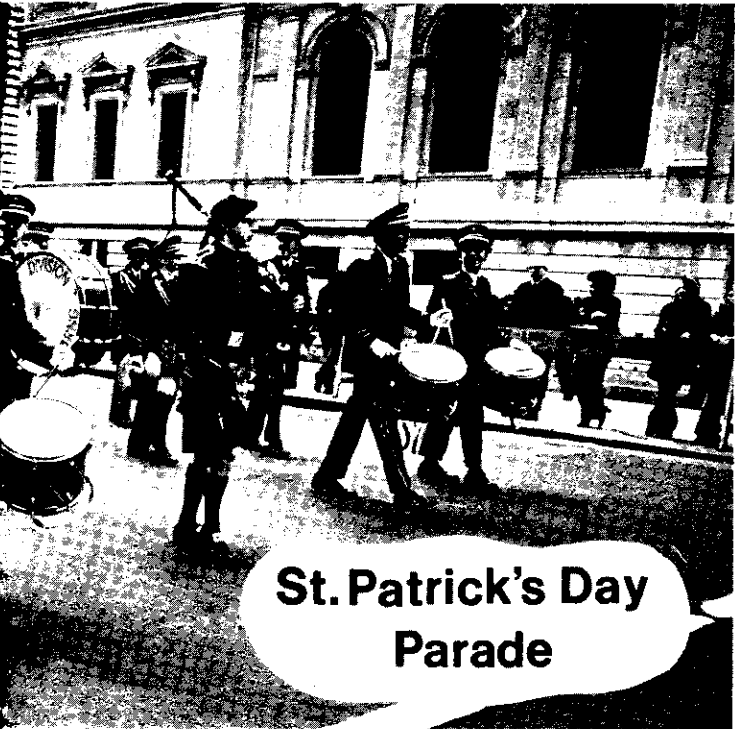
Once accepted, a candidate goes through three phases of training before receiving his commission as 2nd Lieutenant. The first phase takes place at Summer Camp - Camp Smith. This phase

consists largely of classes on various weapons and leadership command. The emphasis is on mutual stress to develop confidence under pressure.

Phase two takes place at the 7th Regiment Armory and supplements regular drills with twelve weekends of continuous instructions on subjects ranging from communications to military law. After approximately fifteen hours of each subject, rigid tests are administered. Some can not pass, and consequently go back to their regular units.

Finally Phase Three begins after a long year and it's back to Camp Smith. This training consists of field training, zeroing in on small unit tactics, operation of a platoon, and reaction in combat situations. If all goes well, the men who excell in all three phases will be commissioned 2nd Lieutenants this August 28th. Good Luck.





FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

A month ago, the unit was given a refresher course in military courtesy. It reiterated what all of us learned in basic training. The subject matter need not be reviewed here; however, the basic idea should because, as so often is the case, it has been dismissed as trivia by a good majority of men.

The basic idea is respect, and whether it be in military or civilian life, it comes down to the acknowledgement that other human beings exist, and that because of their accomplishments or some particular type of skill, they have attained leadership which is virtually meaningless unless given respect by others.

Military courtesy is the outward extension or symbolic gesture of respect given to members of the military organization. Through it, respect becomes functional. Without it, there is chaos. Therefore I strongly suggest to those who fail to see the importance of the matter that they try the idea of respect or perhaps put themselves in an officer's shoes, and possibly understanding might find the meeting of the mind.

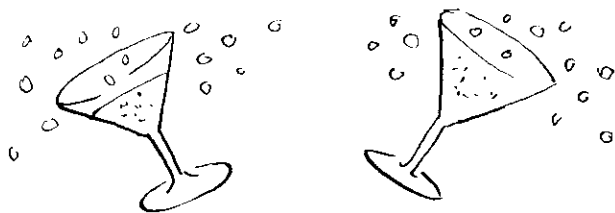
Pre-St. Patrick's Day festivities started with a visit from Irish International stewardesses. Several of our officers volunteered to demonstrate the art of march and our Executive Officer, Major McCann accepted shamrocks on behalf of the battalion.



REGIMENTAL COCKTAIL: 69th COCKTAIL

The origin of the regimental cocktail is extremely interesting and goes back to the Civil War days when the 69th was campaigning with Meagher's Irish Brigade in Virginia. Tradition has it that General Thomas Francis Meagher was very fond of Irish whiskey and Vichy water. One day he sent a soldier out to find some Vichy water, but instead he returned with some champagne, which General Meagher promptly mixed with the Irish whiskey and to his surprise and delight he found it more tasteful than Vichy water and continued to mix his Irish whiskey with champagne.

In memory of this gallant Irish soldier and patriot and former member, the Sixty-Ninth Regiment adopted his favorite drink as the regimental cocktail. It is served at all functions of the officer of the regiment. The recipe is one part Irish whiskey and two parts champagne.



TRIP TO HAWAII OFFERED STATE
MILITIAMEN - PLAN NOW
(reprinted from The New York Militiamen)

Beautiful Hawaii, Majestic Diamond Head. The warm, golden sand of famed Waikiki Beach. Wading or surfing in the sparkling, blue Southern Pacific. Golf in scenic splendor. Pleasant days in near perfect weather. Spectacular sight-seeing Dancing under the stars. A vacation of a lifetime.

All this and much more beckons members of the State Military Forces and their families. The Militia Association of New York and the Division of Military and Naval Affairs are sponsoring an eleven day trip to Hawaii departing on 16 September 1971.

Cost per individual is \$499 plus \$25.95 for tax and services.

This includes:

Round-trip chartered flight to and from Honolulu via United Airlines.

Eleven days (ten nights) at the Outrigger Hotel.

Round trip transfers between airport and hotel.

All baggage handling.

Fresh floral lei greeting.

Half-day City/Mount Tantalus tour.

Cocktail Party.

Hotel portorage.

Services and assistance of travel agency staff in Honolulu.

Hospitality desk for tour members in hotel lobby.

Hot meals and beverages in flight.

The modern, air-conditioned Outrigger Hotel is located right on the beach in the heart of Honolulu. Almost directly behind it, across Kalakaua Avenue, is the famed Honolulu International Center with its public buildings, pools and landscaped grounds.

The trip has been planned to coincide with the National Guard Association of the United

States Conference, 19-23 September. Members will be able to attend the interesting conference sessions and participate in the social activities arranged by the host committee.

Space for the trip is limited. Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. All members and civilian employees of the Division of Military and Naval Affairs and their families are eligible to participate.

Send NOW for application form to:

Group Travel Committee
Division of Military & Naval Affairs
Public Security Building
State Campus
Albany, New York 12226

GENERAL MARTIN H. MEANEY
MEMORIAL

General Meaney began his military career as a Private in the 69th Infantry on 7 October 1915. He served with distinction during the Mexican Border War, World War I and World War II. When his active and distinguished military career was over, he was able to give more of his time and efforts to both the Father Duffy Chapter and the 69th Veteran Corps. He was active in both organizations.

To honor the memory of General Meaney for his undying devotion to our beloved Regiment a plaque will be placed on the Armory wall. It is expected that this memorial will be unveiled sometime in the fall. All members of the battalion will be asked to donate. Details later.

69th ROUND UP

CHRISTMAS PARTY . . . Company B held its annual Christmas blast last December and it was acclaimed by all to be a great success. The normally drab armory usually marked with the sounds of drill and the stern voice of Sergeant Siracusano became a delightful winter wonderland under the direction of Sergeant Keenan and Lieutenant Bruce Meyerson.

M 16 . . . Saturday, March 13th, brought something new to the 69th, the M16. As part of "the new importance of the National Guard," new equipment is being issued and, so that Saturday, the recruits found themselves unpacking the same weapons now being used by American troops in Viet Nam. A demonstration by Sergeant Olney of the 69th Rifle Team, shows that the weapons, due to their lightness, were not as accurate as the old M-1 rifle. However, its destructiveness and ability for rapid fire more than compensates this.

A. I. G. . . . The Annual Inspection General was exercised the second week of March. The white glove treatment was handled by the 69th staff, following intensive preparation by the entire unit. According to informed sources, all went well.

SUMMER CAMP . . . The 42nd Rainbow Division will again be away this summer at Camp Drum over the July 4th weekend. Division Headquarters has announced that the dates for most units of the Rainbow Division at summer camp are Saturday, 26 June to Sunday, 11 July. It should be noted that while a Guardsman is on active duty status during summer field training, wives and authorized dependents are permitted to shop at active installation commissaries and PXs. Individuals must be properly identified and have in their possession a copy of the active authorization which can be obtained from their units. The same rules apply when a Guardsman is attending service school or BCT and AIT. Check with your 1st Sgt. for further information.

NEW FACES AND TASKS . . .

Captain Mare is now the new S-1 chief; Captain Greene, coming from the Active Army, is the Motor Officer; Captain Breheny replaced Lieutenant Woodworth as Commander of Headquarters Company, and Sergeant Smith and Sergeant Franco are now First Sergeants of Headquarters Company and Company B in that order. The 69th welcomes them.

PATTY'S DAY AWARD . . . The annual Saint Patrick's Day Best Marching High School Band Award, sponsored by the 69th, was awarded to Mother Caprini and Power Memorial on March 29th by Archbishop Clarence Cooke and members of the Battalion Staff at the Cardinal's residence.

GARRYOWEN . . . We want to hear from you! If you have any news or any Company matter worth printing please contact the editor. As of yet, we still need a Contributing Editor from each of Companies A, B, and C. If you want to volunteer for the job, please contact Major McCann.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE . . .

ESMA, Part II
Summer Camp, '71
The 69th Rifle Team

**NEXT STOP
SUMMER CAMP
1971**

