

THIRTY-FOURTH INFANTRY DIVISION ASSOCIATION

On 15 February 1947, General Everest and Colonel Averill, two of the association trustees, met and adjourned until 2 P.M., March 30, 1947.

MARCH 30, 1947

Officers Present:

President Emeritus - Mathew A. Tinley
Secretary - DeLoss I. Marken
Treasurer - Charles H. Grahl
Librarian & Historian - Ralph A. Lancaster
(Chaplain - DeLoss I. Marken)

Trustees Present:

William S. Burnquist
Edward W. Bird
Folsom Everest
Beryl R. Averill

Others Present:

Ray C. Fountain
James E. Thomas
Harry E. Stedman

The meeting came to order at 2:00 P.M., and General Grahl advised that General Hendrickson, Colonel Lennon and Colonel Bynell had left Minnesota at 7:00 A.M., and on reaching Mason City had struck a cold front and had been unable to proceed so had returned to Minnesota. They were sorry they could not make the meeting and wished to extend greetings to all.

Due to the absence of the President, Gen. Everest suggested the President Emeritus, Mathew A. Tinley, take charge of the meeting. General Tinley asked to be excused and recommended General Grahl preside. General Grahl felt that General Everest was in closer touch with the business for which the meeting had been called and made a motion that General Everest act as chairman in the absence of the president. The motion was seconded by Col. Lancaster. Motion carried.

General Everest stated the purpose of the meeting was to coordinate problems of organization; that it was unfortunate that the President had been unable to attend; that the conference would go ahead and make recommendations to be ratified by the absent trustees when a quorum was present or by written approval. All present and not familiar with the articles of incorporation as drafted were furnished with copy thereof by Gen. Fountain.

General Everest stated an attempt had been made to comply with the statutes of the states for non-profit organizations. He advised that a substantial amount of money was bequeathed by various elements of the Thirty-fourth, for writing an adequate divisional history as the two books comprising the history of the division from Camp Claiborne through Italy were nothing more than a printed copy of the War Diary with no references to names or individuals aside from division commanders and nothing smaller than a combat team is mentioned.

General Grahl stated the greatest accomplishment of an association of this kind is to pass on to the new division the traditions and history that it has already established.

General Everest suggested that enough material is probably on hand, if the proper individual could be found to do the work to publish the history.

General Everest suggested some of the qualifications of the individual to write the history would be: a. some military background; b. some background as Historian; c. some capacity as a writer.

General Everest then read the proposed By-Laws. Discussion brought out that provision should be made therein for "A membership at large and individuals who are members at large might cast the vote of that group".

General Grahl made a motion that the By-Laws as presented be referred to a committee appointed by the Chairman of 3 members of which one would be the Chairman, to review and make any suggestions or amendments to be presented at the next meeting of the association officers and trustees. Motion seconded by Col. Lancaster. Motion carried.

Committee appointed to consist of Gen. Everest, Burnquist and Averill. Gen. Everest asked Gen. Fountain if Stephenson could make a check of the VFW and American Legion and allied organizations constitution and by-laws to get suggestions that might be presented for approval.

General Grahl invited attention to the fact that provision had not been made for the new 34th Division to become members and if it is consistent to permit men who served from 1921 to 1933 to be members, likewise it should be permitted to members of the reorganized 34th Division to become members.

General Everest thought this provision should be made and that it was an oversight of the division planners. That this should be accomplished as board of trustees have power to adopt amendments subject to ratification at annual meeting.

Motion made by William Burnquist, that the action of the Treasurer of the Association in depositing the present funds of the Association, \$12,927.21, in the Iowa Des Moines National Bank and Trust Company of Des Moines, in the name of the 34th Infantry Division Association be ratified and approved, that the bond of the Treasurer be fixed at the sum of \$15,000.00. premium to be paid by the association and the bond to be purchased by the treasurer. The monies of the association to be paid out only upon checks signed by the Treasurer and authenticated by the signature of one other officer of the association. Motion seconded by R. A. Lancaster. Motion carried.

Gen. Everest asked that subject to the approval of the trustees the group approve the printing of 500 to 600 copies of the articles of incorporation, the by-laws, plus a form of charter. This to be done by the secretary when properly instructed to do so.

Motion by Marken, that chairman appoint an auditing committee to examine accounts of the Treasurer and report to the Board of Trustees at the next meeting of the board. Seconded by Lancaster. Motion carried.

Committee to consist of Stedman, Marken and Fountain.

Motion by Marken, seconded by Lancaster, to authorize the Treasurer to draw a check for \$85.00 and order a set of etchings for archives of the Association, and further to inquire about buying rights to publish in history.

Colonel Lancaster to write Von Ripper.

Motion by Bird, seconded by Lancaster, that Treasurer be authorized to employ and adequately reimburse a stenographer for necessary services. Motion carried.

Motion by Grahl, seconded by Lancaster, that initial fee be dispensed with and dues set at \$2.00 per year after May 1, 1947. Motion carried.

Motion by Grahl that overtures be made to Dee White, subject to approval of the members of the Board of Trustees not present, to ascertain whether he is interested in appointment as permanent secretary and on what kind of basis he would be interested. Seconded by Marken. Motion carried.

In event of unfavorable reaction from White, motion made by Marken that a committee to secure possible candidates for secretary and make recommendation to the General Committee. Seconded by Lancaster.

Committee: Harry Stedman, General Grahl, Chaplain Marken.

Suggested names: Stipp, Marken, Martin, Gammack, Hougen.

As Historian, Colonel Lancaster was asked to receive, collect and obtain historical information.

General Grahl suggested Col. Lancaster might be sent in to Washington and check up on the history of the division available there.

Motion by General Grahl, seconded by Averill, that a committee be appointed to gather up such material as possible, and also go through the records stored at Camp Dodge and also make a study of the individuals to be employed to do the job. Motion carried.

Committee: Harry Stedman, Chaplain Marken, Ray Fountain.

A motion made by Lancaster, seconded by Grahl, that a committee be appointed to handle annual association meeting scheduled for August 16. This committee to make plans and secure necessary publicity. Motion carried.

Committee: Bird, chairman; General Fountain in advisory capacity, Burnquist, Lancaster, Marken and Frank Williams.

A vote of thanks was extended to Gen. Everest for the time spent in getting the details of the association organization in shape, and handling the present meeting.

The meeting adjourned to convene at 2:00 P.M., Sunday, April 20, 1947, in the office of the Adjutant General of Iowa, State Capitol, Des Moines, Iowa.

Respectfully submitted,

DeLoss I. Marken,
Secretary.