

Local Man Invited To Be Guest At Reunion

Sherman C. Parks of Greenville has been invited to be a guest of honor at a reunion of his wartime comrades in Philadelphia July 18-20.

The invitation reads as follows:

"The organization sponsoring the meeting, of which Parks was a member, is Company K, 109th Infantry, a unit which was cited for its action in Normandy, Belgium, the Hurtgen Forest, its successful, but costly smash into the Siegfried Line at Sevenig, its tenacious holding tactics during the Battle of the Bulge, when it was almost completely decimated, and its drive

through the snow-banked Vosge Mountains into Colmar, France, where, along with another company of the same regiment, it broke the German defenses and was the first company to enter the city which it liberated in the name of the First French Army.

"Parks was one of only three survivors of all of the company's campaigns—the rest being either killed, captured or seriously wounded. Parks, who was many times commended for his gallantry and devotion to duty, attained one of the army's most remarkable records in his rapid promotions due to his exemplary conduct under fire and his outstanding qualities of leadership."

Parks was inducted into the Army at Fort Bragg in 1943. He was promoted from private first class to master sergeant and served 23 months with Company K, 15 months of the time as master sergeant. He was offered a field promotion to second lieutenant but declined it. He was mustered out of the service in 1945 and resumed his position as manager of Renfrew Printing Company in Greenville.

Parks was a member of the N. C. State Guard before World War II and the National Guard after the war. Currently, he is chief warrant officer of the 3015th Reception Station, Greenville, U. S. Army Reserve.

He plans to attend the reunion in Philadelphia.