

BLOOD AND FIRE

VOL. 1, No. 12

63D INFANTRY DIVISION, CAMP VAN DORN, MISS.

September 3, 1943



News From Your Own Home Town

BISHOP, CAL. (CNS)—Mrs. Patricia Kane dug up an old money belt containing \$450 in her cabbage patch.

CHICAGO (CNS)—Freddy Snite, the kid in the iron lung, is a father again. A second son was born to the famed infantile paralysis victim and Mrs. Snite recently. Snite, who has lived in an iron lung since he was stricken in China years ago, can leave the mechanical respirator for a half hour at a time.

CLARENTON, TEX. (CNS)—Mrs. Don Brady found a diamond she lost last winter in a chicken she was preparing for dinner.

KANSAS CITY (CNS)—Harvey Fowler awoke at 2 A.M. and went to his regular bus driver's job. Three hours later another driver relieved him "What are you doing here?" he asked. Then Fowler remembered—it was the first day of his vacation.

KNOXVILLE, TENN. (CNS)—Carl Berger, a prisoner, escaped from a work gang near the county garage. Twenty minutes later a searching deputy found him hiding in a bass violin case in the basement of a church.

PHILADELPHIA (CNS)—A 76-year-old veteran safecracker, William J. Wilson, was found dead of a heart attack in the backroom of a book publishing firm here with his hand on the dial of the company safe. On the back of a chair was the safecracker's coat and on a window sill was his jimmy. Wilson had spent 37 years of his life in prison. He had been arrested 17 times.

PITTSBURGH (CNS)—Firemen braved smoke and flame in climbing four stories to rescue Cookie, a bullpup, from a blazing building. They brought him to the ground and had scarcely turned around when they heard barking and looked up. There was Cookie, wagging his tail at the fourth story window, ready to be rescued again.

POINT OF ROCKS, WYO. (CNS)—A cow wandered on the tracks in front of a west-bound Union Pacific freight of 56 cars. The cow was hit by the locomotive, derailing it and 27 cars. The derailed cars then were hit by a 64-car east-bound freight and 23 more cars were derailed.

NEW YORK—As a Fifth Avenue bus came to a halt for a red light a passenger shouted: "Look on the sidewalk, that baby carriage fell over on the baby." Out jumped the conductor, righted the carriage and replaced the screaming infant. "No trouble at all, Madam," he told the frantic mother as she ran down the steps from the Public Library. Without

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Chronology Of War

PROMOTED



WASHINGTON—President Roosevelt this week announced promotion of General Dwight D. Eisenhower, commander of Allied Forces in North Africa, to the permanent rank of Major General.

Honor Roll

This week two new units of the division were added to the list of 100 percent subscribers to BLOOD AND FIRE. They are the 861st and 862d Field Artillery Battalions.

Others on the honor roll include: 253rd Inf., 254th Inf., 255th Inf., 63rd Div. Arty. Hq., 63rd Div. Hq. and separate Companies, 718th F. A. Bn., 863rd F. A. Bn., Hq. Btry., 63rd Div. Arty.

1939

Sept. 1—Germany invades Poland.

Sept. 3—Great Britain, France, Australia and New Zealand declare war on Germany.

Sept. 27—Warsaw surrenders after siege.

Sept. 28—Poland is divided between Soviet Union and Reich.

Nov. 4—President Roosevelt signs law repealing arms embargo.

Nov. 30—Russia invades Finland after alleged border attacks.

1940

March 12—Russia and Finland sign peace treaty.

April 9—Germany invades Denmark and Norway.

May 10—Germany invades the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg.

May 11—Chamberlain resigns as prime minister. Is succeeded by Winston Churchill.

June 3—British Admiralty announces rescue of "over 335,000 men" at Dunkerque.

June 10—Italy declares war on France.

June 14—German troops enter Paris unopposed.

June 20—Armistice between France and Germany.

Aug. 4—German Luftwaffe begins air blitz on Britain.

Aug. 6—Battle of Africa starts as Italians invade British Somaliland.

Sept. 16—President Roosevelt signs the Selective Service Act.

Sept. 20 Japan joins the Axis.

1941

March 11—President signs "lend-lease" bill.

April 6—Germany declares war

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ELSIE PREFERS GIS

Corp. T. J. Sims, jeep pilot for the 861st F. A. Bn. on the recent heira of the 63rd to Camp Van Dorne, is a conscientious young driver who knows that GIs can't ride non-service personnel in their GI vehicles. While tearing along one of Florida's finest highways—at regulation speed of 25 m.p.h.—he espied a gallant Ferdinand paying amorous attention to a not-too-receptive Elsie. Sims slowed down lest he run over some 1,200 lbs. of hamburger on the hoof. However, the bovine lovers paid him no heed. Elsie plunged headlong into the baggage-filled rear seat, while Ferdinand pulled up to a snorting halt. The steel braces on the jeep reminded Elsie with a sharp crack on the noggin that she would have to seek better transportation facilities if she expected to make a clean getaway from Ferdinand. Corporal Sims is still dreaming about all those red coupons on the hoof.

Four 863rd Officers Receive Promotion

August brought promotions to four Officers of the 863d Field Artillery Battalion. 1st Lt. William H. Crosson, of Battery C, was promoted to Captain on August 21. 1st Lt. James H. Richards of Headquarters Battery, was promoted to Captain on August 26; and 2nd Lt. Thomas G. Larkin, of Headquarters Battery, and Willis E. Brown, of Service Battery, were promoted to 1st Lts. on the same day.

CITIZENS EXTEND WARM GREETING TO 63D DIV. MEN

Mississippi-Louisiana Townfolk Open Arms To Men Of 63d

Since its arrival at Camp Van Dorn a fortnight ago, the 63d Division has received a spontaneous and generous welcome from the civil and Army authorities of the Mississippi-Louisiana district, and from countless hospitable individuals who have tried to make easier the lives of our soldiers in their new home.

Last week-end large numbers of our officers and men received passes for the first time and went to neighboring towns and cities. For most of these it was their first visit to this part of the country, and they found everywhere the welcome mat set out for members of this division.

Insignia Recognized

First sight to greet men of the Division pausing to window shop in army stores in McComb were Blood and Fire Division shoulder patches, which are already recognized by the citizenry of the area. Since the motor convoy bringing

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Dance Tonight Opens Season

Enlisted men of Special Troops and Division Headquarters will open the 63rd Division's social season at Camp Van Dorn tonight with a dance which will see our feminine neighbors from Natchez coming to camp in a chartered civilian bus.

First Sergeant Peter Pehanich, of Division Headquarters Company, chairman of the affair, said today that he had the assurance of the Military Maids of Natchez that a large representation will come down to trip the light fantastic with the Blood and Fire boys. "Not only will there be girls from Natchez," Pehanich revealed, "but also invitations have been extended to all Bell Telephone girls and civilian PX girls who live on the post, to the WACS attached to the station complement, and to girls in Centerville, Crosby, Liberty and McComb some of whom are known to members of the division."

Music will be provided by Mr. Randolph Cruger's No. 1 dance band. Members of the dance committee include, besides Sgt. Pehanich, T/Sgt. Manuel Valdes, entertainment; M/Sgt. Robert Lewis, refreshments; S/Sgt. Morris E. Mason, Cpl. Sam Ginsberg, Sgt. Fred N. Vanley, and Sgt. Sam Johnson, house committee; Sgt. Alan S. Butler, finance, and Sgt. Talby, decoration.

Officer's advisory committee includes Lieut. John R. Swenson, special service officer; Lieut. Phillip J. Flower, MP Platoon, and Lieut. John E. Rodman, QM Co.

Light, Legal Light From L. A. Makes Light Of Movie Fling

You'd never know it to look at him now in his wartime capacity as aide to Brig. Gen. Frederick M. Harris, Assistant Division Commander, but Lt. Robert K. Light played the part of a winsome miss in the film "Eight Girls in a Boat," which introduced Simone Simone to American movies. "Eight Girls in a Boat" portrayed life at a Swiss Girls school, and during the 14 days that the cast was on location a group of male extras, including Lt. Light, donned wigs to play the part of girls in distant rowing shots. The close-ups featured the new beauty, Miss Simone, but few of Light's friends could identify him in his female role.

"I also worked in several football pictures while at the University of California at Los Angeles," said Lt. Light. "I think the largest part I had in any film was that of a page in 'Robin

Hood.'" "When Paramount produced 'The Search for Beauty' I was chosen, in the film, to represent the Nordic race. In the story we made a world-wide search for the feminine beauty of our choice."

As a graduate lawyer of Loyola University, Lt. Light assumed the guardianship of three "Dead End" Kids, as well as that of Edith Fellows, Virginia Weidler, Mary Beth Hughes and Patti McCarty. He also handled legal affairs for Bob Hope, and Bud Abbott, and probated the estate of the late Joe Penner.

"Abbott is always busy and very difficult to reach. Universal guards him night and day. Once you pin him down he's a great guy. He starts talking business but winds up showing you his swimming pool or his dining room."

Groucho Marx is another difficult person with whom to deal. He wisecracks during every conversation. Marx almost refused

to sign a contract for the purchase of some land once, because it contained a clause prohibiting goats on the property. "I don't have any goats, nor do I intend raising them, but if I ever should want goats I don't want to have any clause preventing me from having them," was the way Groucho put it.

"I always welcome a conference with Bob Hope," said the Lieutenant. "He and his wife are pleasant, charming and agreeable. Bob's humor is clean and always above board and his wit is spontaneous."

"I saw the script of 'Road To Morocco' before the picture was made and it was good. After the film was finished more script was added containing the ad-libbed humor of Hope which greatly improved the original."

Casually he reeled off names of Hollywood stars with whom he

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Ex-Whiteman Player Toots Sax For 63rd

ONCE THREATENED WITH BRONX EXILE

Master of the tenor saxophone, clarinet, flute and piccolo and a member of the 63rd Band is Sgt. Sidney Seidman, musician extraordinary.

"Please don't picture the contraption exhibited by the one-man band musician," Sgt. Seidman asks, "I play them all separately."

Born in Brooklyn, his early attempt at playing the clarinet nearly made necessary the flight of the Seidmans to the great open spaces of the Bronx—and that to a Brooklynite is comparable to the exile in Siberia to a Russian.

Tomatoes, Rotten Eggs

Neighbors reacted violently—flower pots were dropped from upper windows, panes in the Seidman apartment were smashed with juicy tomatoes and rotten eggs, and it almost became dangerous for a Seidman to appear in public.

"Finally, in desperation, the landlord threatened to oust them. But as time passed the mumbblings and threats died down. Paradoxically enough, two years later, that same landlord humbly brought his son to Sgt. Seidman for "sax" lessons.

"My first job was playing for a New Year's Eve dance. I wouldn't have tackled the job if I hadn't thought that the job would be noisy as it was the first time I'd ever played with a band and I'd never practiced with them."

Plenty of Noise

The result was plenty of noise," he added "and a complete disregard for tempo or style."

"However, the customers were too high to notice what we played, any-

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Basic Training For IRTC Units Now 17 Weeks

Although considerable publicity has been given the recent extension of Infantry basic training to 17 weeks by order of the Army Ground Forces Headquarters, the training schedule for the 63d Division, as now established, calls for only 13 weeks.

The purpose of extending the cycles in IRTC units was to give additional time for bivouac and field training. The AGF directive which created the new schedule stipulated that two of the four additional weeks would be passed in the field in continuous bivouac, with the trainees working on a variety of practical problems.

Since division units are generally static, and normally go on field maneuvers following their basic training period, there is no necessity for extending the cycle for these troops.

Whatamelon

MARIANNA, Fla. — Buddies of Sgt. Joseph Weber of the Army Air Base here believe him now when he talks of the huge watermelons grown in Arkansas.

When Sgt. Weber was laughed at for his stories of the size Arkansas melons reach, the Sergeant sent home for one. His folks sent him a 109 pounder.

Only fly in the ointment was that Sgt. Weber wasn't around to get his share of the watery mammoth. He was home on leave.

SIGNALMEN TRY 650 MILE RADIO FOR COMBAT USE

Success Of New Antenna Stimulates Experiments By Division Signalers

Following their remarkable success in long-range communication, last week, when they spanned 650 air miles from Camp Van Dorn to Camp Blanding, using a set designed to carry only 40 miles, the 63d Signal Co. has been experimenting with the same set and similar types of antenna to determine if such a setup will be practical for use as a field expedient.

According to Lt. L. G. Patrick, the experiments have not as yet been completed. "We are not the only ones who have been carrying on such trials," said the Lieutenant. "The Signal Corps Laboratories at Ft. Monmouth, N. J., have also been working on the project."

Special Antenna Used

The set which was used in last week's experiment is an ordinary one which is used for field communications covering comparatively short distances. By means of special antennas which were erected from motor vehicles at Camp Blanding and Camp Van Dorn, it was possible to communicate by voice and code for one and one-half hours starting at midnight.

Long distance communication of this nature has seldom been accomplished when vehicles bearing similar sets have been used. Such experiments have their limitations however, as they must be confined to periods of the day or night when the airways are comparatively free of traffic.

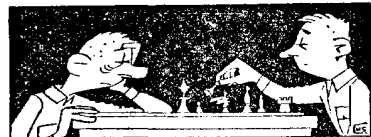
Vocal Effort Amazing

Commenting upon the Van Dorn-Blanding hookup, Lt. Patrick said: "We anticipated successful code communication, but we were amazed at the success of the vocal effort."

Lt. Patrick is at present at work on a book designed to aid field radio operators in the installation of special antenna. Any man in the division who has had any special training in the erection of antenna is invited to visit the Signal Co. section at Division headquarters and contribute his knowledge and skill.



LIFE SAVERS
LEARN TO CONCEAL yourself completely from the enemy. Concealment is successful only when your camouflage becomes an actual part of your background.



TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE a mission and return safely with the information a scout must practise patience at all times. It is the one quality absolutely essential in scouting.



WAG ZEBRAS GET SNAFU'S OKAY AFTER COMMAND PERFORMANCE

"Sergeants is strictly okay," the Yardbird told Pvt. Thomas Hektor, BLOOD AND FIRE'S editor.

"They are strictly alright." Hektor was surprised. "What brought that on?" he asked.

"Well, of course," the Yardbird qualified his statement, "I yam speaking of only some sergeants. Frinstance WAC sergeants."

"Oh," Hektor said, "That explains everything."

"Now this here WAC sergeant I got on me string is practically eatin' outa me han'," Snafu said nonchalantly. "I'm loinin' her who is boss in this man's Army."

"Uh-huh," Hektor said absently, sharpening his pencil.

"I yam loinin' her the meaning of leadership. The foist time we met she tole me she only goes out wid zebras. But I tole her off. I ain't had no trouble since."

"What did you tell her, Yardbird?" inquired Hektor.

"Oh, I tole her off all right. I ain't takin' that stuff from no babe, especially no sergeant. I got me independence. I explained to her that this here is a strictly democratic Army. See? I explained to her that the reason fer this here war is because the Goimans figgered that they wuz better than other people, See, and thass how they got these here superman ideas. I guess I tole her a thing or two."

"What happened after that?" Hektor asked.

"Oh, evv'ying wuz rosy after that," the Yardbird told him, "When I tells 'em off, they stay tole off, all right, all right."

The Yardbird tapped out a couple of steps on the floor.

"Is she pretty good looking?" Hektor inquired.

"Me lad," the Yardbird informed him, "This is war. You can't have no egg in your beer in these here times. Anyway, she ain't bad. Not repulsive, anyways."

"What did you do the whole evening?"

"Well, we danced for a while and then we went outside. I put me arm aroun' her, an' tried an envelopin' operation, but she put the stopper on that in a hurry."

"What'd she do, Yardbird?"

"She tole me, 'As you were, Yardbird!' Thass the trouble with them she-GIs."

"Sort of put the skids on your

romance, didn't it, Yardbird?" Hektor said.

"I yam not skidded so easily as some people think," said the Yardbird. "I got me kiss, anyway."

"How'd you do that?"

The Yardbird studied his fingernails a moment.

"Oh, I got me ways," he said.

He took a minute to adjust his tie.

"I foun' out that these here she-soldiers is pretty good soldiers, see? So I just upped and give her a command."

Hektor was curious. "What did you command her?" he asked.

The Yardbird was nonchalant. "Oh," he said, "I just took in a big breath and give her the command, 'Present Arms!'"

GRAND ISLAND, N. Y. (CNS)—The 74th Regiment, New York Guard, used a giant slingshot to hurl grenades in recent mock battle maneuvers against defending guardsmen here. The sligshot was made of a forked piece of iron pipe and a section of inner tubing which catapulted the grenades 75 yards.

NEW ORLEANS — City-owned Moisant Airport will be enlarged and beautified under plans outlined this week by Mayor Robert S. Maestri which call for the erection of a five-story administration building which would make it an international airport. Maestri is seeking authorization of taxpayers to make the changes—at a cost of \$5,000,000.

Screeching Mimi Scratched by Airman

SICILY—A new 210-mm rocket mortar used by the Germans against American troops has been given the name of "Screeching Mimi" by the Americans.

A captured sample of the mortar shows it to be six connected mortar barrels, so contrived as to fire simultaneously.

The shells, which can be fired at ranges as far as 6,000 yards, are propelled by a rocket mechanism.

On the first occasion it was used, an air mission was called to put it out of business. It took the American airmen exactly 47 minutes to do the job.

3 BUS LINES TO SERVE 63RD AT VAN DORN

Members of the 63d Division will find three bus lines servicing Camp Van Dorn. The Arrow Bus Line makes five round trips daily between camp and Natchez, averaging an hour and forty-five minutes each way; McComb is serviced by a line which runs eight daily trips from McComb to Camp and six trips from Camp to McComb. Running time for this trip is also an hour and three-quarters. The two-hour trip to Baton Rouge is made twice daily by Industrial Transportation Co. buses, which also make two return trips a day. Trips between Baton Rouge and Centreville, nearest town to Camp Van Dorn, will be made by this line on a shuttle system on Saturdays, and are regularly scheduled at three round trips daily on other days.

Prices and time schedules follow:

NATCHEZ:
Arrow Bus Line, Leaves from depot at 15th Ave. and 7th Ave. Camp Van Dorn. One-way fare 95c, Round-trip, \$1.75, Commutation Ticket good for 6 round-trips, \$5.50.

| FROM NATCHEZ TO CAMP | FROM CAMP TO NATCHEZ |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2:45 A.M. | 9:00 A.M. |
| 6:00 A.M. | 2:00 P.M. |
| 10:30 A.M. | 5:15 P.M. |
| 1:00 P.M. | 6:15 P.M. |
| 11:00 P.M. | 8:00 P.M. |

McCOMB:
Moaks Bus Line, Leaves from same camp terminal as Arrow Line, servicing McComb through Liberty and Gloster. One-way fare 90c, Round-trip, \$1.65, Commutation ticket good for six days, \$5.10

| FROM McCOMB TO CAMP | FROM CAMP TO McCOMB |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 3:00 A.M. | 8:40 A.M. |
| 6:00 A.M. | 2:30 P.M. |
| 8:00 A.M. | 5:30 P.M. |
| 10:30 A.M. | 6:30 P.M. |
| 1:00 P.M. | 7:15 P.M. |
| 5:15 P.M. | 8:15 P.M. |
| 6:30 P.M. | |
| 10:45 P.M. | |

BATON ROUGE:
Industrial Transportation Company, One-way fare \$1.21, Round trip, \$2.20.

| FROM CAMP TO BATON ROUGE | FROM BATON ROUGE TO CAMP |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1:35 P.M. | 9:00 P.M. |
| 6:35 P.M. | 3:00 A.M. |

| FROM CENTREVILLE TO BATON ROUGE | FROM BATON ROUGE TO CENTREVILLE |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 7:00 A.M. | 7:00 A.M. |
| 10:00 A.M. | 11:00 A.M. |
| 7:30 P.M. | 4:30 P.M. |

Williams-Rockwell

S/Sgt. Daniel A. Williams, Hq. Battery, 863d F. A. Bn. Miss Mabel Rockwell, both Port Chester, N. Y., came to home of Judge E. K. Perryman at Starke, Fla., just before 63d left for Van Dorn. "We want to be married," they said. "A who is to be best man?" they asked. They'd forgotten to bring one.

Out from the parlor steppe Brig. Gen. Frederick M. Harris Assistant Division Commander He and Mrs. Harris were visiting the Perrymans. The General said he'd be glad to help out the need sergeant, and he became best man. Mrs. Harris acted as bride maid, and the ceremony went off without a hitch.

Society, Music Greet Officers At Natchez Ball

Soft music and gaily colored lanterns welcomed officers of the 63d Division to Natchez on their first week-end in Mississippi.

Arranged by the Pilgrimage Garden Club of Natchez, a dance was held in the gardens of picturesque old Stanton Hall, one of the ante-bellum homes of that city.

The dance was held outdoors. Tables were strewn around the dance floor and beneath the branches of ancient oak trees.

Similar dances will be held in the future for officers of the Division. Mrs. Balfour Miller, President of the Garden Club announced.

ARMY RELEASE CURFEW HOURS

Under existing curfew regulations, any soldier expecting to be in any portion of the Eighth Service Command (Louisiana) after 2330 weekdays, or 0200 Sunday morning, must have a special pass signed by his company commander giving him permission to visit the stipulated town after the curfew hours. Local curfew regulations now in force in Centreville require similar passes to be held by soldiers after 2330 weekdays and 0200 on Sundays. Exception to these rules will be made if a soldier is proceeding under official orders, attending certain recreational activities such as dances held under military supervision, when special permission has been given to live off post.

Little John

Lt. John R. Swenson of the Division Special Service Staff has been informed that he can't get in the Army. He's too tall—6 feet, 6½ inches.

C. O. of Special Troops A Photo Fan But War Duties Keep Him Always Busy

Lt. Col. John M. Underwood, Special Troops Commander, likes to take movies, but with a war going on he hasn't had any time at all to take any of the 63d Division, and hasn't even had an opportunity to make a good search for some of his choice films which were lost—through one way or another—in transit between one of his overseas posts and the United States.

Born May 12, 1907 at Bellefontaine, O., young Underwood moved with his family to Cleveland where he was graduated from West High School in 1924. After one year at Marietta College he entered the U. S. Military Academy at West Point.

While a member of the West Point class of '29, Underwood sang in the Glee Club and Choir and was a member of the Academy gym team. Upon his commissioning as a Second Lieutenant he was assigned to Fort Missoula, Montana, where he served for 2½ years in various capacities with the Fourth Infantry.

With Philippine Scouts

When he left Montana, Underwood went to the Philippine Islands where he was attached to the Fifty-seventh Infantry, the famed Philippine Scouts who later—during the Bataan Campaign—earned for themselves a lasting place in history.

In 1935 he returned to the United States for a year's course at The Infantry School, Fort Benning, and from there he was assigned to Fort F. E. Warren, Wyoming, where he served as a company commander, regimental adjutant and in other administrative capacities.

It was while he was at Fort Warren that Col. Underwood served on the test board examining the "PTD" maneuvers—from which sprang the modern "streamlined" infantry division such as the Blood and Fire Division.

Served in Panama

In 1940 he again left Continent-



Lt. Col. John M. Underwood

al United States, this time to join the staff of the 33d Infantry in Panama as a company commander. Shortly after Pearl Harbor he bobbed up at Trinidad as Assistant G-3 at our base there. He remained in service in the American-Atlantic until this summer, when he returned to the states. He joined the 63d Division in August.

Besides his interest in photography, which he admits has had to be thwarted due to pressure of official duties, Col. Underwood is also interested in rifle and pistol marksmanship. He has served in various administrative capacities for Northwest and Rocky Mountain matches, and in 1938 was assistant adjutant of the National Matches, the annual championship pistol and rifle matches held at Camp Perry, Ohio.

While on a brief leave in January of this year, Col. Underwood returned to his adopted home town, New Boston, Texas, where he was married to the town's pretty feminine postmaster. He is "Batching" now at Camp Van Dorn, but hopes Mrs. Underwood will be able to take time off from her official duties occasionally to visit him here.

HAPPY MOTHERS FEARLESS GIS PRODUCED BY DRUG

BALTIMORE—A new coal-tar derivative which will make almost painless the battle wounds of soldiers and will also make possible virtually painless childbirth has been developed by Dr. Alfred B. Dixon, Baltimore obstetrician.

Dr. Dixon has been doing research on the new drug for two years. He expects to have it ready for public use within the next month.

The new drug acts to fortify the spirits of nervousness, inducing a sense of fearlessness and well-being, Dr. Dixon said. It could be taken in tablet or injection form under general conditions, but in cases of childbirth it would have to be supplemented by doses of a type of soporific.

Natchez Maids Welcome 63rd

Some 300 enlisted men from various units of the 63d Division packed off to Natchez Wednesday evening to attend a dance arranged for them through the offices of Major Robert K. Leiding, Division Special Service Officer. Upon arrival at Natchez Community Auditorium they found much more than they had hoped for, as the evening's festivities turned out to be a most agreeable informal community welcome to the division.

Despite an all-day storm which continued through part of the evening, more than 200 girls turned out in formal attire to dance with the men. Many of them were so enthusiastic in their reception of the division that they brought along with them their mothers and sisters. A few fathers, some of them proudly wearing world war veteran's ribbons, also turned out to say "Hello" to the members of this fighting outfit.

Warm Welcome

The event marked the first time that any large body of our troops have had permission to visit Natchez, and the welcome extended to our men by the Natchezians was spontaneous and warm.

From the moment CWO Randolph Cruger's dance band swung into the Grand March, which opened the dance, the air was filled with cheerful greetings, and long before the strains of "Home Sweet Home" brought the dance to a close, many of the girls and their families had invited servicemen to visit Natchez for Sunday dinners and personally conducted tours of this historic city.

Among the men who attended the dance, the general consensus of opinion regarding Natchez was: "We'll be back, and often."

Ice Cream Given Italy Raiders

SICILY (CNS) — Fliers who took part in recent bombing raids over Italy were given ice cream when they returned to their Sicilian bases.

Citizens Extend Warm Greetings To 63d Div. Men

(Continued From Page 1)

the Division to Camp Van Dorn from Blanding failed to pass through McComb, few of the men had previously visited this city, which lies about 52 miles north-east of camp. All Saturday afternoon buses left camp filled with the men of our division, jammed in shoulder-to-shoulder with members of the 99th Division, Ninth Corps, and Third Army. In the evening there were to be seen on front porches clusters of 63d Division men gathered around McComb residents listening to tales of this part of the South, and the important part it plays in the supplying of vitally needed cotton and cotton goods.

A number of men visited the McComb Service Club, where they found recreational facilities and games. CWO Randolph Cruger brought members of the Division Band to McComb to play over the local radio station Sunday morning, and the group stayed later to tour the town.

In Centreville, only a mile and a half from the camp gates, the sidewalks were jammed with men from the Division who consumed large quantities of soft drinks and 3.2 beer, and who made it a busy week-end for the local merchants.

House Hunters Plentiful

In Gloster, eight miles north of camp, and in Liberty, a few miles further along the highway, and in Baton Rouge to the south, there were plenty of married officers and men who drove up with their wives, seeking off-post homes. Since most of the available quarters have long since been rented to men from other outfits already stationed at camp, these groups went from town, frequently meeting each other in two or three different places.

Down at Woodville, some twelve miles the other side of camp, the U. S. O. reported that men of the Division were in evidence last week, but that considerably larger groups of the men are expected to be present this week, now that word of the USO facilities there has spread among the Division units.

Three young privates who visited the little village of Crosby, a lumber town nestled in a valley some 14 miles off the highway to Liberty, found that other Division members had already "discovered" the fine swimming pool in Crosby. They also found that Crosby girls like to dance, and plan soon to hold a dance in honor of the Division's arrival. Crosby, since it is situated in mountain woodlands, offers a restful weekend, and some officers are reported to have rented quarters there.

Few men were able to get to Natchez over last week-end, but those who did flocked to the service club, where they were given free conducted tours of the historical spots of this ante-bellum city.

At every hand Fourth Service Command MPs and Third Army authorities welcomed inquiries from our men as to the curfew hours and points of interest to be seen in the area, and numerous instances were reported of citizens foregoing their Sunday afternoon siestas to stroll through neighboring towns to show scenic spots to division soldiers.

How To Run This Army Takes 13,250 Pages A Day

Every day the mailman slaps down upon the desks of 63d Division Publications Section personnel an average of 13,250 pages of Army Regulations, circulars, technical manuals and other official documents governing the administration, technical training and maintenance of Division personnel and property.

These 4,836,250 pages a year make a pretty sizeable library, but Cpl. George Lukacs says that the men in the section can easily locate within a few minutes the regulations which answer such varied queries as "Upon which form do men of Graves Registration Service fill in their reports?" and "My wife is pregnant, how can I get government aid on our baby bills?"

Publications Section, as it stands today in its temporary location in the 63d Division Recreation Hall, is just a void some 2x12, set aside from a score of other offices by portable benches. However, the amount of paper manuals and booklets which fill almost every available inch of this space mutely identify the department to all who see it.

Distribution of the printed material handled by this section is

governed by long circulation lists, which have suffered radical changes and growth in recent weeks. These lists vary in size from general lists which send certain published material to the entire Division personnel to specialized lists which would send material to possibly a lone officer in the division who might be interested in, or dealing with a specific problem.

In addition to distribution of this War Department material, Publications Section also handles the procurement of all War Department forms, and the distribution of these to the proper persons. When a new GI enters one of our Divisional units, PS must see that right on down the line everyone who comes in contact with the soldier's records will have the proper blanks upon which to make their entries, etc.

With 162 different organizations and units within the 63d receiving material daily, Sgt. Angelo Cassaro has devised his own index card system to keep track of what is issued. "Makes it easier for me to find out what's going on," he says. "It works, too."

Blood and Fire

Official Newspaper Of The BLOOD AND FIRE (63D) INFANTRY DIVISION

Camp Van Dorn, Miss.

BLOOD AND FIRE is published weekly by and for men of the 63rd Infantry Division with editorial offices at Public Relations Office, 63rd Division Recreation Hall. Telephone 2131.

BLOOD AND FIRE receives Camp Newspaper Service material.

Pvt. Thomas A. Hoctor Editor
Pvt. Edwin H. Brown Staff Writer
Sgt. John F. Bowen Reporter
Pvt. Ulfert Wilke Staff Artist

EDITORIAL

Salute To Families

Wives and children of officers and enlisted men of the 63rd were unofficially commended last week by Major General Louis E. Hibbs, Division Commander, for their part in the westward trek. They were the real heroes of the Division, the General said.

Those stalwarts don't shoulder guns or walk in the path of glory, but undeniably they are among the innumerable unsung heroes behind the battlefronts. They receive no praise or medals, no headlines in the press. Their glory lies solely in the joy of being with their husbands and keeping their families together—of keeping their homes intact.

Their job is not easy. The husbands have been moved about the country. New homes had to be found, children, household equipment, and baggage had to be moved to the new locations. Often crowded housing conditions precluded immediate setting up of a home and agonizing delays resulted. The women and children had to be crowded into one room at times. There were many days when they had to get their meals in restaurants. Long days were spent visiting local chambers of commerce and rental agencies, and even longer days spent in tracking down possibilities of apartments and houses.

During all this time the men had the comfort of having their wives and children near at hand. That factor alone contented them, kept them happy.

The families were not only doing their job and doing it well but were at the same time contributing greatly to the morale of their men in the 63rd.

We can't give them any medals but we do SALUTE THEM and extend our thanks for their part in keeping up the splendid morale of the Blood and Fire Division.

63d On The Ball

It has often been said that the quality of an outfit could be determined just by looking at its appearance. The 63rd's personnel has always been smart and clean looking and now we have a statement from a Camp Blanding inspector that the 63rd's area was the "cleanest ever left by any division that had moved from Camp Blanding."

That item provides the attention to detail that will make the Blood and Fire Division live up to its promise of greatness. It is an omen that the 63rd is "on the ball"—is preparing to be a top outfit that will smash the enemy with its courage, precision, and discipline.

Cleanliness and orderliness of person and area show the pride and discipline instilled in the unit. As the foundation is well laid we can look forward to a powerful structure—a great combat outfit.

Carry on, 63rd!

THE ENEMY WILL BEG FOR PEACE



News From Here And There

Don't Try Any Punk Remarks

CAMP STEWART, Ga. (CNS)—There is one non-com here that soldiers never dare call by his last name. He's Sgt. Albert Punk.

CAVE SERVES AS INVASION HQ

NORTH AFRICA (CNS)—A limestone cave on Malta served as headquarters for Gen. Dwight Eisenhower during the Sicily invasion.

Girl Will Wed in 'Chute Gown'

ST. PAUL, Minn. (CNS) — Miss Lois Fromer is going to save the parachute her pilot boy friend sent her until he returns from the South Pacific. Then she's going to use it as her gown on their wedding day.

Nazi Flak Tougher Than Japs, Says Flier

ENGLAND (CNS) — German flak is tougher than that of the Japs, according to Capt. Frank Kappler of Alameda, Cal. who has flown through both.

Capt. Kappler, a veteran of Maj. Gen. James H. Doolittle's historic bombing of Tokio last year and a recent participant in bombing missions over Europe, said:

"We didn't see any anti-aircraft fire over Japan and we were over the island for 45 minutes. We were only over France 11 minutes and there was plenty. It's tougher here."

Love and Fire

Soldiers of the 63rd Division evidently have not lost their romantic touch in the move from Camp Blanding to Camp Van Dorn.

Observing the GIs of the 63rd at work in Natchez last weekend, one officer of the 99th commented caustically, "Blood and Fire, hell! They ought to be called 'Love and Fire!'"

Whatsinaname Dept.

If names mean anything there's one man in the Army who should certainly have gone into the Navy. He is Pvt. James L. Seabrease of Salisbury, Md.

Exit Cotton Socks

WASHINGTON—Dress socks for soldiers in the future will be a mixture of cotton and wool after existing stocks of cotton footwear have been distributed and used, it was announced recently by the War Department.

Cotton socks are unsatisfactory for field use and outstanding contracts for their manufacture have been cancelled.

Sailor Pulls Live Bomb From Flaming Plane

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (CNS) — Machinist Mate Arthur McArdle of Brooklyn was cited here recently for pulling a live bomb from a wrecked and burning fighter plane after a crash at Lee Field, auxiliary base of the Jacksonville Naval Air station.

McArdle rushed to the plane, pulled the bomb from a pool of flaming gasoline and dragged it away. He was then taken to the station dispensary where he was treated for severe burns of the hands and forearms.

100,000 CASUALTIES IS U. S. TOLL TO DATE

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Latest reports indicate that total casualty figures for all branches of the Service plus the Merchant Marine have crept over the 100,000 mark.

The Army reported that up to the end of last week, its casualty total had reached 69,358 men dead, wounded, missing, or prisoners of the enemy.

A breakdown of the figures shows 8,927 killed, 19,391 wounded, 21,406 missing, and 19,634 prisoners of war.

Other total casualty figures thus far are: Navy, 21,556; Marine Corps, 7,904; Coast Guard, 363; and Merchant Marine, 4,751.

The Sky Pilot Says it

LIVING TO THE FULL
By Chaplain Dean W. Dryden
254th Infantry, 63rd Div.

Most people are eager to live life to the full. We see them trying almost every device and technique in the hope of realizing this end. Some seek to do so by satisfying every passion and appetite. Others try to satisfy life's craving by adventuring in every kind of new experience. Still others appear thwarted, frustrated, and afraid to make the necessary venture to find a new and larger life. Of all the different approaches that are made to "living life to the full" comparatively few people seem to find a satisfactory answer.

The father of modern psychology, the late William James, suggested that what is needed is "a moral equivalent of war" to challenge people's best and utilize their energies. He wrote, "Compared to what we ought to be we are only half awake. We are making use of only a small part of our physical and mental resources. Stating the thing broadly, the human individual lives far within his limits. He possesses powers of various sorts which he habitually fails to use." This failure to use our powers leaves many with a sense of futility. In addition to this another important reason for a sense of failure is we use our powers in wrong directions.

Many people have written books and magazine articles or given lectures from platform or radio to eager audiences on the question of how to live to the full. If anyone were able to give a formula telling how this might be done easily, he would have the world at his feet. The fact is that many who attempt to deal with this problem over-simplify the process. They lead those who are hunting an "easy way", to believe that they have found life when really they are only half alive. They also leave those serious souls who are willing to pay the price of a full life still unsatisfied.

Of all answers proposed, more hope and help has been realized through religion than through any other approach. From religion we draw the essentials for living to the full.

If we give God his rightful place in our lives; if we find worthy objectives outside ourselves; if we relegate the conflicting urges within ourselves to their proper places, we can live life to its fullest possibilities.

We hold that religion offers the chance to do those things. As Jesus said, "I am come that ye might have life and have it more abundantly."

G. I. Jingles

You may talk about your armies
And the latest things in tanks,
And the miracles worked with aircraft—
But from me you'll get no thanks.

For I've watched your motored mammoths
And your thund'ring guns I've seen
But the item that will win the war
Is the mighty coke machine.

Oh, you step into the office
With your mouth a dusty drouth,
And your nickel goes into the slot
But no bottle will come out.

For it's dry, dry, dry
With your mouth a bone-dry drouth
Though you've treasured all your nickels
Theres no bottle will come out.

Oh, It's dry, dry, dry
With your tongue ahangin' out.
Though your jits may jingle in the slot,
No cokes come banging out.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Protestant Services
 Chapel No. 6, 253rd Inf., 1000.
 Chapel No. 7, 254th Inf., 1000.
 Chapel No. 8, 255th Inf., 1000.
 Chapel No. 10, Div. Artillery, 0930.

Roman Catholic Mass
 Chapel No. 6, 253d Inf., 0900 & 1100.
 Chapel No. 7, 254th Inf., 0900.
 Chapel No. 8, 255th Inf., 0800 & 0900.
 Chapel No. 10, Div. Artillery, 0830 & 1100.

Jewish Services
 Friday Evening, Chapel No. 1, 1930.

Here's A Cool Prize

CAMP BLANDING, Fla.—How much ice cream can a G. I. with a sweet tooth and the ability to draw, eat? This should go a long way towards being answered here at Camp Blanding. The soda bar at Service Club No. 3 (Remember it?) is offering a first prize of "all the ice cream you can eat" to the soldier who submits a cartoon which is best in the opinion of a group of judges. The drawing will be used to decorate the bar.

The second prize, it was announced, is "half of all the ice cream you can eat."

WAC Totes 'Full Pack' In Her Utility Bag

FT. DEVENS, Mass. (CNS)—An inquisitive male peeked inside his WAC girl friend's utility bag—the one she slings over her shoulder and here's what he found:

A can opener, a cucumber, salt, a pair of stockings, cigarettes, a toothbrush, matches, a broken garter, a driver's license, a flashlight, keys, a letter from home, a waterproof hat cover, soap, aspirin, an address book, stamps, a fountain pen, theater tickets, a candy bar and half a cookie.

Officer Declines Raise

SICILY (CNS) —Lt. Col. William O. Darby, leader of the American Rangers has declined an offer for a full colonelcy and an Infantry combat command. This was his third refusal.

"I feel I can do more good with my Ranger boys than with a combat team," he explained.

MOVING SEPARATES MEN FROM BOYS, SAYS TERRY

BY
 SGT. TERRY FIED

Well, I'll have to admit that move from Blanding was a damn good one. I didn't think we could do it that well and you surprised hell out of me. In my outfit we worked like beavers on the police of our area and it sure looked nice when we left—a lot better than when we entered it, as a matter of fact, which is the way it should be. But was I mad as hell when the inspectors discovered one latrine which had not been touched! Kept us from getting a superior rating. It's too bad that a whole outfit must suffer for the shiftlessness of a few. A weak link sure raises hell, doesn't it? Only one thing to do and that is to get a new link.

I've been in this man's army for a long time and I've seen lots of moves. There are always three good things about a good outfit on the move: It likes to move—stays footloose this way and doesn't get bogged down with excess baggage and garrison ideas. It always leaves a place better than it found it, and most important of all it pitches in and works like hell in its new place. Those inspectors eyes were certainly bulging when they saw those newly painted mess halls at Blanding and I overheard one of them remark that the 53d area was left in far better condition than that of any other division that had left Blanding.

You can't exactly call Van Dorn a love nest but there are some mighty good things about it. I overheard our mess sergeant remark that he'd taken over a big, well equipped, spotlessly clean mess hall far better than the one he had left so mournfully at Blanding. The company commander, too, likes his barracks setup and can't say too much for the training areas for instead of a pancake variety of ground and pine trees he'll have some real training terrain which after all is what counts most, for after all we're getting ready for war and it just can't be done in a feather bed. If your morale is inclined to sag over a nice place for training like this I wonder what it'll be doing about a year or less from now when you'll be exchanging it for a foxhole. This is no

The Wolf

by Sansone



time or place for garrison or fair weather soldiers.

This moving business certainly separates the men from the boys as far as NCO's are concerned. I have a few under me and most of them turned out fine but I've one or two that I would gladly exchange for silhouette targets for at least the outfit would save some rations. A good NCO is God's gift to the Army and I suppose I should look on the poor ones as the bitter with the sweet—crosses I have to bear. But I'm not going to do that. I'm getting rid of them before they "get" me. One old company commander of mine used to say that getting to be a NCO was like getting married in some ways; that your squad was your family and you were the head of it and just as responsible for those eleven soldiers as if they were your wife and children.

What burns me up is how a guy with an armful of chevrons doesn't realize this. A non-com who has this feeling of responsibility, corrects errors and takes his outfit by the neck and runs it as a priceless jewel, even though he be as ugly as hell. And the ones who don't have these qualities aren't worth a dime a dozen. It looks as if we're getting off on the right foot here, just as we did at Blanding, as regards winning the good will of nearby civilian communities. I've already heard several remarks to the effect that "the Blood and Fire outfit" behaves and dresses well when visiting them. These two things kind of go hand in hand—dress and behavior. There's an old Army saying that a soldier—or an outfit—is no better, no worse, but just as good as he looks. The guy who throws his necktie away, cuts off his shirt sleeves and trouser legs is mighty comfortable, but no soldier. Good outfits dress up whenever possible. Poor ones don't. This is a good outfit. Dress up!

Spurs Them On

Mechanized Army or no mechanized Army the 63d Band is out every afternoon to play "Boots and Saddles" as the vehicles are brought into the motor stable.

NEWS FROM YOUR OWN HOME TOWN

(Continued from Page 1)

another word he pushed the buzzer and resumed his humdrum and routine life of conducting.

ROCK POINT, MO. (CNS)—The director of the town band in this quiet little hamlet is Miss Silence.

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Examining a normal-looking collie for rabies, Dr. J. B. Holland discovered that the dog had two brains. Both brains were attached to the spinal column and both showed evidence of rabies. This was the first such case on record.

WICHITA, KAN. (CNS) — Mrs. Edgar Burton didn't know what to do when identification marks painted on the chests of her tiny twin daughters melted away. The police department finally established who was Evelyn and who was Elaine by comparing their footprints.

SAN FRANCISCO (CNS)—San Francisco restaurateurs offer a service called a pet pakit which contains leftovers from customers' plates which they may take home to their dogs and cats, etc.

SAN FRANCISCO (CNS) — Home life was bad enough for Hendrik Grinderslav when his wife kept six Pekingese dogs in bed with her but it became unbearable when she bought four opossums. Hendrik has sued for divorce.

TACOMA, Wash. (CNS) — Edward Strothers is looking for the wise guy who advertised in a local paper for cats using the address of Strothers' gas station. When Ed arrived at work the other day seven cats and their owners were waiting for him. Later 70 more arrived.

SAN DIEGO (CNS) — Police Chief Isaac Palhamus of Yuma, Ariz., faces charges here of raping a 14-year-old child bride. Palhamus was accused of attacking the girl as he was returning her and two other juveniles from Yuma to San Diego authorities.

TULSA, Okla. (CNS)—A local

rancher wrote a letter to a Tulsa newspaper, inviting Hitler, Tojo "and all the people of the world" to hold a peace conference "on my 20 acres of land."

PORTLAND, Ore. — The rising tide of Portland's ship production and the falling alcoholic supply finally crossed on Aug. 10. On that day there were christenings of three ships, to wit:

A U. S. Navy tug—champagne.
 A Liberty freighter—champagne.
 An invasion barge—a bottle of pop.

SAN JOSE, Cal. — Walter Robles, 30, stole only twenty-one cents, but Judge Percy O'Connor sentenced him to jail for 100 days. The Judge said the actual cash taken did not count; that he had imposed the heavy sentence on the theory that Robles would probably have taken any amount that happened to be available.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Relief from the beef shortage came too suddenly for one William Bradford. He was standing placidly watching the polar bears at Central Park Zoo when a keeper tossed a grizzly a four-pound chunk of meat. The meat hit the top of the fence, bounded off and struck Bradford on the head. It took four stitches to close the resulting laceration.

PHOENIX, Ariz. — An umpire for the recent Firemen vs. Policeman benefit softball game was called "Robber" in its fullest legal sense. A soldier reported he was robbed of \$2 as he left the ball park, and one of the two suspects arrested and charged with the theft was—the umpire.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Brig. Gen. Robert Wood Johnson, 50, has stripped off his army uniform to become "a champion of civilian economy to a large degree." He is head of the government's Smaller War Plants Corporation and vice chairman of the War Production Board.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Stockholders of Western Union and Postal Telegraph approved Aug. 10 terms for the merger of the two telegraph companies which will create the first nationally unified telegraph system.

Theatre Schedules

WAR DEPARTMENT THEATERS NO. 1 AND 2

(Starting time—No. 1—18:45; No. 2—18:10)

- SEPT.
- 3-4 We've Never Been Licked, with Richard Quine, Gwynne, Noah Beery, jr.
 - 5-6 Loew Salute To The Marines, with Wallace Beery, Fay Bainter.
 - 7 DOUBLE FEATURE—Alaska Highway, with Richard Arlen and Jean Parker; Honeymoon Lodge, with Harriet Hilliard, David Bruce, Ozzie Nelson and Orchestra.
 - 8-9 The Sky's The Limit, with Fred Astaire, Joan Leslie and Robert Benchley.
 - 10 Victory Through Air Power.

WAR DEPARTMENT THEATERS NO. 4 AND 5

(Starting time—No. 4—18:45; No. 5—18:00)

- SEPT.
- 3-4—Let's Face It, with Bob Hope and Betty Hutton.
 - 5-6 We've Never Been Licked
 - 7-8 Loew's Salute To The Marines
 - 9 DOUBLE FEATURE—Alaska Highway and Honeymoon Lodge.



CNS

BY VIC HERMAN
 ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND Md.

Artillerymen Draw First Blood In Softball Finals

Sports Slants

By Camp Newspaper Service
Joe Di Maggio is hitting again. He broke out of a slump recently when he clubbed a triple and single in four trips to the dish while his Santa Ana, (Cal.) team was losing to the Kellys of Kirtland Field, N. M., 6 to 5.

Johnny Beazley still has his stuff. The young St. Louis Cardinal star, now pitching for Ft. Oglethorpe, Ga., fanned ten, won 6 to 5 over the Atlanta Naval Air Station in his last outing.

Pvt. Maxie Shapiro, New York lightweight who holds a ring decision over Lightweight Champ Bob Montgomery, is punching the bag around at the AAF basic training center in Greensboro, N. C.

Fred Linahan, former line coach at NYU, is now a lieutenant stationed at Camp Campbell, Ky. where the Post boxing team is coached by Cpl. Billy Conn and Cpl. Dan Mooney. The latter is a former featherweight contender.

The boxing team at Tuskegee (Ala.) Army Air Field, which recently captured an inter-post fight tournament held at Ft. Benning, Ga., is looking around for challengers.

Cpl. Martin Fogel, Miami Beach golf pro, won the Enlisted Men's golf tournament at Ft. Hancock, N. J. last week with a two round score of 146.

Sgt. Joe Louis, his old sparring partner, F/Sgt. George Nicholson, and Cpl. Ray Robinson have begun a 100-day boxing exhibition tour of U. S. Army camps. Among their stops will be Camp Van Dorn, Miss.

Page Free Loaders

Whether you're a master of the ancient and traditional order of doughnut crumblers, or stick to the plain old dunking system, you members of the 63d Division are invited to dip into the larder of steaming hot coffee and fullsome doughnuts each Sunday morning from 8 11 at the McComb Servicemen's Center, in McComb's business center.

Popskull Goes The Weasel

NORTH AFRICA—Thirsty American soldiers in this corner of the world have developed a new drink which they call "Popskull de Tunisie."

A still composed of copper tubing from a B-26 bomber, a water can, and a five-gallon gasoline container was constructed for the new drink.

Into the still is poured native wine, which, when heated yields a nearly straight alcohol. One of the inventors of the ingenious distillery described the effect of the drink as follows:

"The first swallow feels like molten lead, the second feels like someone was playing a piano concert with his bare feet on your backbone, the third feels like someone had dropped a flatiron on your head. That's why we call it "Popskull de Tunisie"

Rudolf Hess is now paranoid, hears nonexistent voices, says report.

HIGHTOWER'S HOMER HIGHLIGHT IN DIVISION SOFTBALL TOURNEY

863d F. A. Whips QMS 5-4 In Late Rally

A spanking home run from the bat of Sgt. Hightower, with two out and a man on base in the seventh inning, enabled the 863d F.A. to upset the 63d J. M. ten, 5-4, in the closest and most exciting of two semi-final contests in the Division softball tournament this week.

The Q. M.'s appeared to have victory within their grasp before Hightower's circuit blow broke up the ball game. The losers registered two runs in the first inning on two hits and a walk, and added another in the third when Granata homered to center. The Artillerymen tallied their first run in the opening stanza of the fourth but the Q.M.'s made it 4-1 in their half.

Two additional runs in the fifth enabled the 863d to remain in the running, and with the count 4-3, as the seventh inning arrived, Cocita walked and Hightower blasted his four sacker.

The 254th ten was also forced to come from behind to gain the final when it overcame a four run lead to rout the 255th, 10-5. The winners confined their scoring to two big innings, the fourth and sixth, and it was their five-run spurge in the latter frame that provided the margin of victory.

The lineups:

| 863d F. A. Bn. (6) | | | |
|--------------------|----|---|---|
| | Ab | r | h |
| Hightower, cf | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Ballou, ss | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Head, sf | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Smith, lf | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Patterson, lb | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| Brennan, rf | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| Massotti, 2b | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Hajducek, c | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Dunlap, 3b | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Cocita, p | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Corby | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| | 25 | 6 | 7 |

| 63d Q. M. (4) | | | |
|---------------|----|---|---|
| | Ab | r | h |
| Nuciforo, c | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| Geiger, 2b | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Melise, cf | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Handel, lf | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| Paulish, 3b | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Gonsalves, sf | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| Bruno, ss | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Chatham, rf | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Granata, rf | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Vanilla, p | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Pianese, lb | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| | 28 | 4 | 7 |

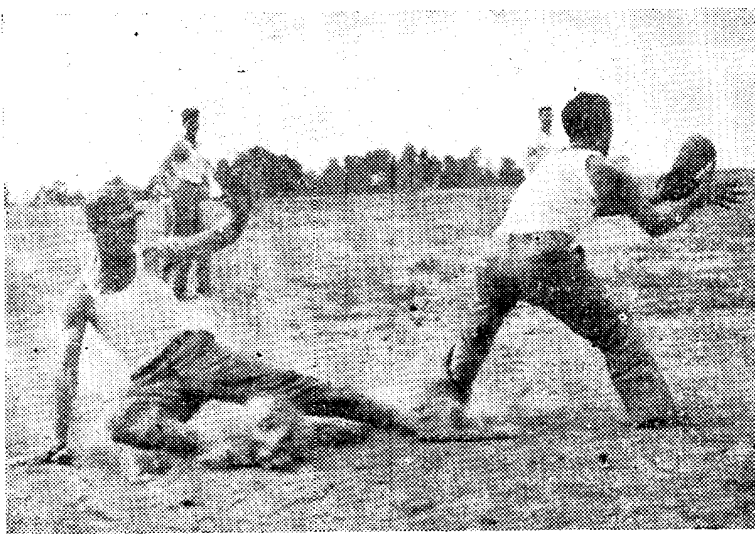
Score by Innings

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 863d F. A. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 5 |
| 63d Q. M. | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 |

Umpires—Brig. Gen. Harris and Lt. Lenkoff.

Ohio State's 5 Vets Have 4-F Ratings

COLUMBUS, O.—When Ohio State grid aspirants turned out last week there were sixty freshmen, all 17-year-olds, a handful of inexperienced upperclassmen, and five survivors of last year's squad—all of whom have been classified 4-F by their selective service boards.



Heres Sgt. Hightower, 863d F. A. Bn. sliding home with the winning run—as his team knocked the 63d QMs 5-4 in Division Softball Semi-finals.

LSU To Play 4 Games Within Range of 63d

College football of the big time variety will be accessible to soldiers of Camp Van Dorn this Fall with the announcement that Louisiana State University's eleven will play four games at Baton Rouge. The opening game will witness the Tigers facing the University of Georgia's Bulldogs, Saturday, Sept. 25. The Bulldogs were Rose Bowl champs and boast a veteran team.

Other home games will bring Rice Institute's eleven to Baton Rouge on Oct. 7, Texas A. & M. on Oct. 9, and Texas Christian on Oct. 30. In addition the Tigers will play the Naval Air School team at Memphis, Oct. 16 and will meet Georgia in a return game in Georgia, Oct. 23. Georgia Tech will be encountered at Atlanta, Nov. 6 and the big game with Tulane will be played at New Orleans, Nov. 20.

40 Report For Drill

The Tigers, with 40 candidates already on the practice field, may not scale the heights which they

gained in gridiron circles in seasons past, but considering war conditions, it is anticipated that a fairly capable aggregation may be ready to take the field.

According to Head Coach Bernie Moore, the line will present the big problem because of the inexperience of most of the forwards, only one of whom, the 210 pound Joe Hartley, has had previous varsity competition.

The backfield shows promise of developing into one of the best in years, however. Steve Van Buren and Joe Nagata, lettermen from last year's team, will be available, and Red Knight and Jack Griffith, freshmen halfbacks, should prove capable running mates for the two veterans.

Hartley Heaviest Man

Even though Coach Moore and his associates, Line Coach Red Swanson and Backfield Coach Jesse Fatheree may be successful in building a capable forward wall, it will not measure up, in size at least, to most Tiger lines of the past. Hartley at 210 pounds will be the heaviest man on the team. In former years most of the linemen started at 200 and scaled upwards.

Moore, like the late Knute Rockne, and many other mentors, believes that much of the football is played up front and that a backfield is often only as good as its accompanying forwards. Despite reduced weight and a dearth of experienced linemen, however, the pilot feels that enthusiasm and speed may provide the impetus to produce a lively, colorful team.

WAR IS HELL DEPT.

BETHLEHEM, Pa.—Eb Caraway, of Lehigh University, finds that war has somewhat upset his daily routine. Now he must handle all the work formerly distributed among a staff of five. He is now acting director of athletics, acting faculty manager, assistant football coach, baseball coach, physical education instructor for the Army training program at the school and acting track coach. Wonder what he does in his spare time?

863d Defeats Infantry, 6-3, In First Game

Before the excited gaze of nearly 600 fans who came to cheer their favorites, and with the 63d Division band playing martial airs, the 863d F. A. ten continued its winning streak when it defeated the 254th Infantry, 6-3, yesterday in the opening game of the final series for the Division softball championship.

The Artillerymen clinched their victory in the first inning when they sent five runs scurrying across the plate and blasted Zimmerman, the Doughboy's starting pitcher, from the box. Harnett, the relief twirler, held the victors to a single run for the remainder of the game, but the damage had been done and the 254th could not overtake the winning team.

The 254th batters were unable to secure a foothold on home plate until the fifth inning when they shoved two runs across the rubber and added another in the sixth. The Artillery unit scored another run in fifth to clinch the victory.

Seven hits were registered by the wining team while the losers collected five.

Sgt. Hightowers, who distinguished himself in semi-final play for the Artillery team, starred again yesterday by turning in some spectacular fielding in center field.

Brig. Gen. Fredrick M. Harris was the umpire at the plate and Lt. Leftkoff of Special Service, was on the bases.

The two teams are scheduled to meet again today and if the Artillerymen are successful they will be crowned division champions.

Score by Innings

| | | | | | | | |
|------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|
| 254th Inf | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0-3 |
| 863d F. A. | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | x-6 |

861st F. A. Outfit Defeats Officers

Officers and enlisted men of the 861st Field Artillery fittingly opened the Van Dorn sports program with a brace of softball games.

In both games the EMs showed that morale had not been dimmed by their long trek from Florida. Scores were 9-8 and 7-4. The officers are looking for another set of games this week to rejuvenate their own morale.

No Saddles Either

In case you see a long, lean cavalryman striding down the street in breeches, but no boots, you will know that he is a victim of a recent War Department regulation which prohibits the wearing of dress or semi-dress boots by soldiers. You can wear the breeches, says the Army, but the boots are out.

63d Cavalry officers, long accustomed to the admiring glances of the fair sex are the hardest hit by the ruling.

There is no joy in the 63d Reconnaissance Troop since the spurs that jingle, jangle, jingle are out.

Berlin again bombed by heavy R. A. F. formation; British lose 48 planes.

LEGAL SERVICE HELPS SIMPLIFY G. I. PROBLEMS

By Camp Newspaper Service

More than 600 legal assistance offices have been established in military installations in the U. S. and abroad to aid soldiers. This program was started several months ago by the American Bar Association and the War Department as a contribution to the esprit-d'-corps and efficiency of soldiers whose civilian affairs need attention.

Approximately 14,000 civilian members of State bar associations have volunteered their services to arrange legal matters ranging from drawing up wills to straitening out problems in insurance. It's all free.

Problems Simplified

If your blacksheep brother-in-law is trying to do you out of a nest egg, the legal aid boys will hold up your end of the battle. And if the landlord has been threatening to toss your wife and kiddies out, the Army will go to bat for you too. You can stop worrying about problems like this and concentrate on the Krauts and the Japs.

To get this aid you apply at the legal assistance office at your post and lay your problems on the table.

At each legal assistance office, officers and noncoms of the Judge Advocate General's Department advise soldiers on legal problems. Most JAG personnel were lawyers in civilian life.

Services in Demand

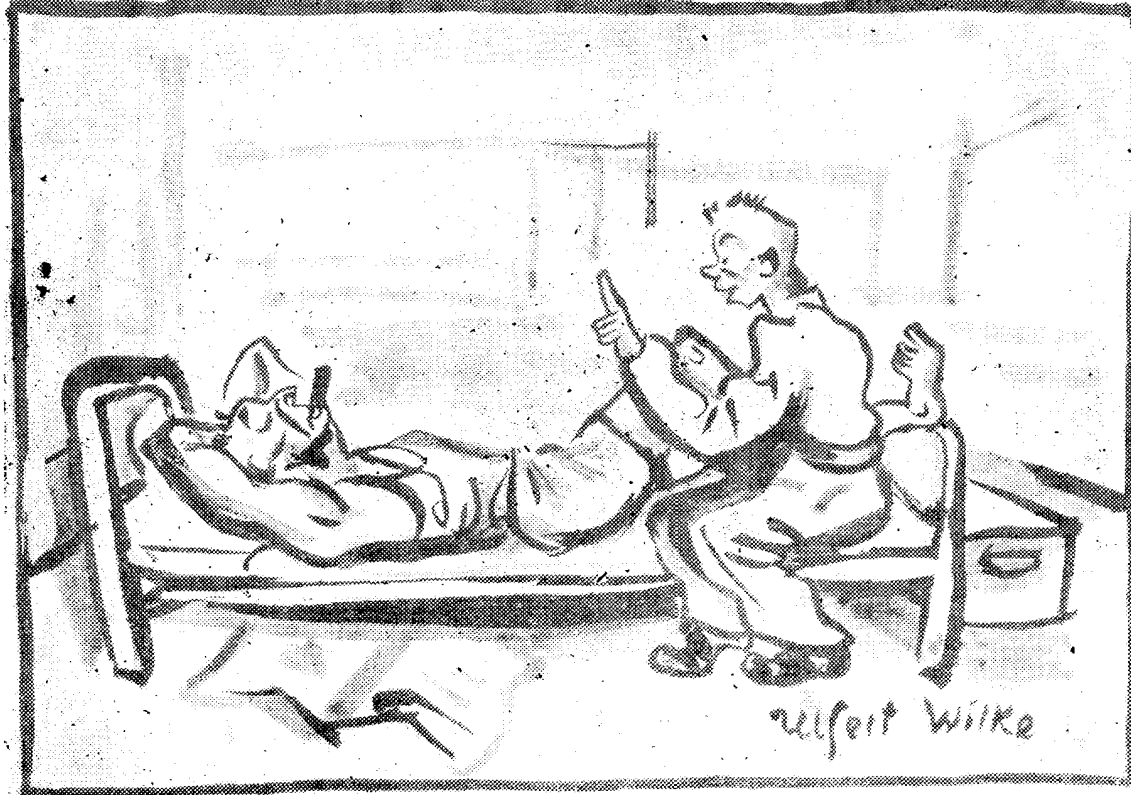
During a recent period 50 legal assistance officers reported that since the establishment of their office they had aided soldiers in 24,000 matters. Of these 6,000 were unclassified. Of the remaining 18,000 43% were concerned with drawing up wills and 40% with drawing up powers of attorney, 6% involved tax problems, 5% domestic affairs and 3½% dependency allotments. The remaining cases covered annuities, separation agreements, foreclosures, affidavits, torts, estates, citizenship, adoption, name changes, rent and insurance.

This legal service does not include military courts martial, nor can the military personnel of the legal assistance offices appear in civil courts on behalf of their clients.

Survey Facilities

For the information of men in the 63d Division the Special Service Office has prepared a leaflet of information on local recreational facilities, bus schedules, curfews, and other matters of interest to men stationed here.

I CAN'T SEE HOW IT CAN LAST BEYOND CHRISTMAS



63d Sets Police Record

The final police of the 63rd Division area at Camp Blanding, Florida, prior to departure for Camp Van Dorn was superior and set a new record for policing by divisions at that camp, according to report from the Camp Blanding Camp Inspector received by Brig. Gen. Ferderick M. Harris, Assistant Division Commander.

The unsolicited statement of the Camp Inspector said in part, "The 63rd Infantry Division left it's area in far better condition than any other division which has departed Camp Blanding and has set a standard which will be extremely difficult to equal."

The inspectors commented very favorable on the great improvement in the condition of grounds and buildings. This applied particularly to landscaping and the interior decoration of mess halls and day rooms.

Spacious Auditorium

To the soldiers who came to the dance, particularly to those from the Northeast who are visiting this portion of the South for the first time, the Natchez auditorium was a pleasant surprise. A completely modern structure, the hall is a brick building built along graceful Southern Colonial lines.

CHRONOLOGY

(Continued from Page 1)

- on Yugoslavia.
 - May 10—Rudolph Hess, Hitler aide, lands by parachute in Scotland.
 - June 22—Germany declares war on Russia.
 - July 7—United States forces occupy Iceland.
 - Aug. 4—"Atlantic Charter" agreement between the President and Churchill is announced.
 - Dec. 7—Japanese bomb Philippines Hawaii and Guam.
 - Dec. 8—United States declares war on Japan. Japanese raid Malaya.
- 1942**
- Jan. 26—United States Troops land in northern Ireland.
 - Feb. 15—Singapore falls.
 - March 5—Japanese occupy Java.
 - March 17—General MacArthur arrives in Australia and assumes command of the United Nations forces in Southwest Pacific.
 - June 3—Dutch Harbor, Alaska, raided by Japanese.
 - July 4—U. S. Army bombers stage first raid in western Europe, hammering German bases in Netherlands.
 - July 5—British stall Rommel's drive before Alexandria.
 - Nov. 2—Afrika Corps flees before Montgomery's Eighth Army.
 - Nov. 12—U. S. wins three-day battle in Solomons.
 - Nov. 13—Drafting of 18 and 19-year-olds ordered.
 - Nov. 27—Most of French fleet scuttled at Toulon.
- 1943**
- Jan. 18—Seventeen-month siege of Stalingrad broken.
 - Jan. 26—Roosevelt and Church-

ill conclude 10-day conference at Casablanca, ask "unconditional surrender."

- Jan. 27—Heavy bombers make first all-American assault on Germany.
 - Feb. 6—Brazil declares war on Japan.
 - Feb. 10—Guadalcanal completely taken.
 - March 3—Japanese convoy of 10 warships, 12 transports destroyed at New Guinea.
 - March 29—Rommel's defense of Mareth Line collapses.
 - April 17—All-out aerial assault on Germany launched.
 - May 7—Tunis and Bizerte fall.
 - May 14—American troops establish foothold on Attu.
 - May 30—Jap garrison on Attu wiped out.
 - June 3—Provisional government for French Empire set up.
 - June 11—Pantelleria surrenders.
 - July 5—German summer offensive in Russia is stopped.
 - July 9—Allies land in Sicily.
 - July 19—Rome bombed for first time.
 - Jul 25—Mussolini resigns, Badoglio becomes new prime minister.
 - Aug. 1—Berlin ordered evacuated.
 - Aug. 2—Ninth RAF attack on Hamburg in 10-day 8,000-ton record-breaking blitz.
 - Aug. 15—U. S. forces occupy Kiska.
 - Aug. 17—Conquest of Sicily complete.
 - Aug. 24—Roosevelt and Churchill meet at Quebec, push against Japan.
- TO MOVE an infantry division by rail of 15,000 men and their equipment requires 65 trains—365 passenger cars, 82 baggage cars and over 900 freight cars.

The Inquiring Line

By Camp Newspaper Service

Q. What is the retiring age for officers in the Army?

A. At present, the retiring age for major generals is 64, for brigadier generals it is 62 and for all other officers it's 60. Incidentally the War Department soon will retire or relieve most of the 900 officers who are over these age-retirement limits.

Q. I lost a watch in a fire in my barracks. Can I get a new one from the Army?

A. You can try. While the Army does not run a personal-property insurance business it does repay soldiers for property lost or damaged under certain circumstances. If you lost your watch while rescuing Army property from fire, you have a good chance of getting paid for it. Apply through the Claims Division of the Judge Advocate General's Office in Washington.

Q. My outfit ships out soon. How are my chances for a furlough?

A. They are good. It is the policy of the War Department to grant furloughs to enlisted men before they go overseas if they have had no furloughs during the preceding six months. Enlisted men, regardless of length of service who have had no furlough since their call to active duty are also granted furloughs prior to overseas assignments within the limitations imposed by urgent military necessity.

Q. I'm stationed in Texas but I want to vote in the State elections in my home State of Kansas this fall. How do I go about it?

A. First you apply to your CO for a special post card requesting a war ballot. After filling this out and signing it you have to get it certified by an officer, then mail it to the Secretary of State in your home State. When you get your war ballot from him you fill it out and return it to your State.

Tippling Quota Cut

SALT LAKE CITY — Utah's monthly two quart whiskey ration was cut in half this week by the state liquor control. Permit holders will now be limited to 1 quart of whiskey per month and one bottle of wine (of any size) semi-monthly. Sour wine has been added for the first time to the restricted list.

Utah law prohibits sale of liquor by drinks, and limits package sales to state-operated liquor stores.

Harry James Becomes 'Bugler'

HOLLYWOOD (CNS) — Harry James will record all Army bugle calls for use on public address systems at training camps.

Male Call

by Milton Caniff, creator of Terry and the Pirates



Fire Control Manual

MILTON CANIFF

Inquiring Reporter

Q. "Do you readily adapt yourself to changes?"

S/Sgt. William R. Creamer, Hq. Co., 254th Inf.: "I do not adapt myself to changes that are sudden. I find it difficult especially when moving from place to place. Given a period of time, however, I usually orient myself. I don't care for abrupt changes of environment."

Pvt. Edmund A. Donnan, Hq. Co. 355th Inf.: "I find no difficulty in changing from one place or from one situation to another. This has always been the case and was not brought about after my induction into the Army."

T/Sgt. Robert Lewis, A. G. Office: "Yes I can get along almost anywhere. For instance, in our shifting from one camp to another—all I am usually interested in is the location of the PX, the climate and the accessibility of the camp to nearby towns. I don't find it hard to adapt myself to a hot climate either, I'll take hot weather to cold any time."

Pfc. Charles Morris, Hp. Co., 63rd Div.: "Well, it depends, if you are speaking of the army, sometimes it is rough. When you know you have to make abrupt changes however, you can usually gear yourself to them. I might find more difficulty in adapting such an attitude towards such things in civilian life. Well, you know how it is, you don't take things so readily when not in the service."

S/Sgt. Delbert Hattenburg, Chemical Warfare: "I am at home any place. I may gripe at certain conditions brought about by changes at times, but I get over it quickly."

\$25 BANK ACCOUNT AWAITS SERVICEMEN

NATICK, Mass.—This town, with 1,500 of its 15,000 men and women already in the armed services, is starting a bank account for every one in service, with an initial deposit of \$25 in a savings account as the objective. The first check for \$1,100 is already on deposit and drawing interest, having been contributed by the E. P. Clark Post of the American Legion.

The whole program calls for \$37,500 and the committee in charge expected to raise that amount in a few weeks, so that every returned veteran will have his \$25 savings bank book handed to him when he comes home again. This is the first community in America to start this plan for after the war encouragement to the returning soldier-citizen.

Lonely Officers May Date WACS

NORTH AFRICA—Lonely officers in this section of the world have been made happy by a recent ruling permitting them to date enlisted WACs.

Formerly, junior officers were on the outside of things. Red Cross girls, it was said, would date only high ranking officers, and lieutenants were forced to look on while corporals and privates took the WACs out.

Only one limitation is placed on the officers. They can't take out WACs with whom they are working.

Swim Champ And Dance Star, Lt. Wants Post-war Army Job

Lt. Fell On Face In Ice Debut At Garden

From national freestyle swimming champion to stardom on the dance floor and the ice arena did not prove too difficult a transition for Lt. Norris W. Houser of the 254th Inf. He accomplished these feats in comparatively short time during his civilian career.

While in high school Lt. Houser was crowned national champ in both the 50 and 100-yard freestyle events and on the strength of these performances he obtained a scholarship for swimming to the University of Southern California.

A keen devotee of dancing he became a member of a Los Angeles troupe. Fascinated by the skill of one of the skaters, Edna Holmes, he requested lessons, she complied and he added another accomplishment to his repertoire and blossomed forth as a partner of Miss Holmes.

Toured With Sonja Henie

When the troupe toured with Sonja Henie broke up, both he and Edna joined Doctor Brandt's Ice Show which toured the West Coast. Leaving that he returned to Los Angeles where he became a part of one of Sonja Henie's first ice productions, and later toured with the show until 1938. He appeared in several of her pictures—the most recent, "Iceland."

"I've played plenty of movie bit parts too," said the Lieutenant, "but I guess the shots usually ended on the cutting room floor, as I never saw much of myself."

In 1938, Lt. Houser met another partner, a dancer who was forming under the name "Honey".

"Gus Arnheim suggested that we team as Yvonne and Wayne. We followed his suggestion and the partnership lasted until I came into the Army last Fall." "Honey" or Yvonne is now Lt. Houser's wife.

Toured 32 States

"The west coast toured 32 states was our first stomping grounds," said the Lieutenant. We were booked with Paul Whiteman in Seattle, and later danced with Gus Arnheim, Harry James and Phil Harris at the Wilshire Bowl in Los Angeles. Then on to Chicago and New York. Before we were through we'd toured 32 states, Mexico and Canada."

"My last engagement before coming into the Army was at El Rancho Vegas, Las Vegas, Nevada. With no warning at all the Army clipped me in September, 1942. Consequently we had to cancel engagements at the Sir Francis Drake in San Francisco and the Waldorf Astoria in New York. Next time maybe!"

Like most entertainers, Lt. Houser had a fund of humorous anecdotes relating to his career.

"In 1938 on the opening night of Miss Henie's show at Madison Square Garden, a funny thing happened," he said: "During the military number, we were supposed to glide down the curved, oiled ramps, smoothly and gracefully, but in inevitable Houser style I hit a snag, flew ungracefully into the air and slid across the ice on my face. I haven't yet lived that one down."

Another time when I was dancing at Curly's in Minneapolis with Yvonne, my collar popped off. I was so hot that I decided to strip a little more—and kept on going, disregarding her mumbled entreaties to stop."

"Then her manner and methods changed! She began to smile sweet-



"Honey" goes Boomp-a-daisy with Lt. Houser, but it's because they were dancing partners at the time. "Honey" is now Mrs. Houser.

Brothers Meet On 63rd LIGHT

(Continued from Page 1)

Lots of interesting little things happened to the 862d Field Artillery battalion during the march from Camp Blanding to Camp Van Dorn.

The night Camp Shelby was the bivouac site, Lt. Gordon Jarrett, commander of B battery, was able to stage a reunion with his brother, Gene, a T/4 in an infantry unit there. It was the first time the two brothers had seen each other in four months.

Would you like to develop a smooth line? Would you like to be considered the kissable type? Would you like to have your date book resemble a telephone directory? Learn how to do all that by following the adventures of the WOLF in BLOOD AND FIRE every week.

ly at me. First she took the flower from her hair and tossed it to the floor, then she removed her shoes. Just as she started to slide the strap of her evening gown from her shoulders, I decided that perhaps I'd better stop!"

Has Show Offer

Lt. Houser has had an offer to work in the planned Army Air Force Show which is scheduled to open on Broadway in November.

"My real hope though, is to stay in the Army after the war. I never thought seriously about it when I was a civilian, in fact I had no ideas as to what it was like—but I enjoy it."

A resident of Los Angeles, Lt. Houser was born in Pittsburgh, Pa. He was commissioned a 2nd Lt. on April 24, 1943.

Local Girls Pit Brains Against GIs

At 3 p. m. each Sunday afternoon the Woodville U. S. O.—14 miles from Camp Van Dorn on Route 24—has a quiz show pitting local girls against enlisted men from camp. To the winners: each week two S-T-E-A-K dinners. To the monthly aggregate high-scorers: A free phone call anywhere in the U. S. A.

EX-WHITEMAN

(Continued from Page 2)

way."

At the time, "Sid" or "Muscles" Seidman, as he's called by members of the band, says he was just "fooling" with music as a means of paying his way through Pace Institute.

"But it weaned me away from Peace—although I still want to go into the accounting field."

"Music is O. K. for young people and geniuses but as the average musician grows older, he finds it hard to keep up with the trends and he's inevitably supplanted by fresh blood."

Sgt. Seidman studied under Merrill Johnson, prominent New York saxophone teacher.

Played With Name-Bands

He's been with Paul Whiteman's, Richard Himber's, Harold Stern's, Freddy Barren's, Nat Brusiloff's and Charlie Barnett's Orchestras, at various times playing at the Stork Club, the Versailles, the Rainbow Room and at the St. Regis.

Later he joined Bill Wirges' N. B. C. Orchestra and has also filled various engagements over the Mutual and Columbia Nets.

At the New York World's Fair in 1939 he played with Virg Merlin at the Merry England. Little Old New York and Railroad Exhibits.

His Army career began in January, 1941, when he joined the National Guard and was assigned to the 186th F. A. Band. Since then he's been a member of the Band on its perennial Odyssey.

"Playing in an Army Band," he says, "is a splendid opportunity. It gives many musicians opportunities to play with those who are older and more experienced—chances they'd probably never get in civilian life."

West Point

"A number of years ago I played at West Point proms during commencement week. It was while the picture "Flirtation Walk", starring Dick Powell and Ruby Keeler, was being made there. In fact, our band was used in the picture and both of them sang with us."

"It's a beautiful place with every bit of the military pomp and splendor usually associated with it. "As for me, I've always had a hankering to play in a West Point Band."

Marriage Proposal Snafued By Red Cross

CAMP CHAFFEE, Ark. (CNS)—A dogface walked into a Red Cross Recreation Hall here and asked to send a proposal of marriage by record to his best girl back home. "Okay," said the Red Cross gal, adjusting the needle, "now begin."

The yardbird made his proposal, shipped the record to his lady love and in a few days got a curt refusal. She wanted no part of a man who had to be told by a woman to begin proposing, she wrote.

Follow the sensational adventures of Miss Lace—Milt Caniff's sexy heroine—in BLOOD AND FIRE every week. Miss Lace is yours for only a dollar a year.