

Blood and Fire

Vol. 1. No. 20

63D INFANTRY DIVISION, CAMP VAN DORN, MISS.

October 29, 1943



"WHY WE FIGHT" THEME OF 2D DIV. RADIO SHOW

"Why We Fight" was the theme of the second radio broadcast presented by the 63d Division last night from Div. Arty Rec. Hall over Station WJBO at Baton Rouge. Last week's opening broadcast, which featured the "Making of a Division," also emanated from the same hall.

Last night's program combined orientation, variety appeal, comedy and music. The adventures of Pvt. I. M. Snafu after being captured by the Germans provided a comedy background following the opening music. The presentation of the "Bomber Command" song written by Pvt. Paul Taubman and the singing of "Pistol Packin' Mama" by the Soldiers' Chorus and the audience provided an interlude prior to the development of the theme.

Voices of Patriots

The voices of Jefferson, Patrick Henry and a plain American citizen outlined the fundamental principles of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

In last week's opening program the development of the 63d Division was followed from its activation on June 15.

The meeting of Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt at Casablanca was dramatically reported and the President's words: "We shall move against our common enemy and he shall bleed and burn in expiation of his crimes against humanity," were quoted.

Activation Portrayed

The activation of the Division and the order creating the organization according to its plan number in Washington were dramatically portrayed as it had been done, in its colorful setting at Camp Blanding, where flags unfurled in the breeze of a bright Florida day.

"Greetings," that famed word of the draftees, caught up from every part of the United States was symbolized with voice character portrayals. Various types of workers, their reactions, their ex-

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Nazi Joshed About Hitler Turns Tables On Driver

It was just a year ago that a Nazi lieutenant chased a young American Field Service ambulance driver around the desert near El Alamein. The American, lost as was the Nazi officer in the thick desert sands, had jokingly said Hitler had Jewish blood in him; the German, in retaliation, had whipped out a keen-edged razor, and was gleefully chasing the Yankee around the desert—all in fun.

Today that American is a buck private in the 63d Division. He's Pvt. Edgar Stillman, Jr., of Battery B, 862d F. A. Bn. He told members of his battalion about his North African experiences last Saturday morning at Orientation program. From May 1942 through May 1943, Stillman said, he was a driver for the American Field Service, an association of American volunteers. He was attached to the British Eighth and Ninth Armies.

With 8th Army

The 24-year-old New York boy worked with General Montgomery's victorious Eighth Army during its brilliant chase across North Africa, starting a year ago last Saturday at El Alamein with a thunderous artillery barrage.

Here is the way Stillman told of his experience:

"After the drive from El Alamein was well under way, there always seemed to be tremendous confusion and lack of organization in the area behind the lines. The British had insufficient time, men and equipment to transport or guide prisoners back to prisoner of war camps, so there were lots of Nazi and Italian soldiers wandering around, not knowing where to go or how to get there, and being given only general directions as to how to find their way.

German Lieutenant Lost

"I was driving an ambulance one day when the rains started and my vehicle bogged down. This young German lieutenant, just 21 years old, was lost and so was I, so I picked him up. It took us half a day to get out of the mud and two and a half more days before we found the way back to my station.

"We both could speak French fluently so we had no difficulty in conversation.

"One evening, he was lying on the litter inside the ambulance and the litter was located just a few feet below the top of the vehicle. I slipped in a casual statement that I understood that Hitler had some Jewish blood in him. That startled and excited him to such an extent that he raised his head and body up with a jerk and got a good whacking bump from the roof. Despite the fact that I was smiling, it took the longest time before he realized it was just a joke. For a short while, I wasn't sure that I might not have been careless."

Confidence in Fuehrer

At another time during the three-

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Full Postal Service To Begin At APO

Improved postal facilities for units in the southern end of Camp Van Dorn will be offered beginning Monday when APO 410 will establish complete outgoing postal service.

The APO is on 13th Ave. near 19th St., opposite the 255th Inf. Money order, stamp, registry and parcel post windows will be open on week days from 0800 to 1730. Special hours from Monday, Nov. 1, through Thursday, Nov. 4, only, will be 0800 to 2000.



DON PABLO

PABLO'S PIANO COMES TO 63D

Don Pablo, whose piano and orchestra are heard on some of the most popular records on Service Club phonographs, now is entertaining soldiers of the 63d Division in person, while learning to fight with the Blood and Fire.

A leader among Decca recording artists and a smash hit in Detroit and Cleveland night spots, he became Pvt. Pablo in August and came to Camp Van Dorn from Ft. Custer, Mich., in September. He is a member of the Division Band, where he will play the bell lyre, and as pianist in one of the dance orchestras formed from the band, he already has entertained hundreds at dances both in camp and at Natchez.

Pablo was born in Mexico City 37 years ago. He studied music in Mexico and came to the United States in 1924. He majored in music at Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Ia., where he also was a member of the track team.

Started by King

He was playing "long hair" piano on the concert stage when Wayne King, the celebrated orchestra leader, took an interest in Pablo and induced him to make a full-fledged try at popular music and the radio. King really gave Pablo his start when he lent the newcomer \$35 toward his \$105 initiation fee in the musicians' union.

"The going was tough at first," Pablo says, "and the future didn't look bright until we hit the air."

From then on it was practically down hill coasting. Popular music fans will remember "Maria Elena." Pablo introduced that one on the radio. He made other radio hits with his own arrangements of "South of the Border" and "When the Swallows Come Back to Capistrano." One of his best-known compositions, "Mercury Waltz," is

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NEW SHOWS BRING STARS HERE WEEKLY

Nat Rodgers Presents Entertainment In Division Rec Halls

Girls, comedians, music, novelty acts and vaudeville are promised men of the 63d Division weekly, as Special Service brings to the various recreation halls the Nat Rodgers Shows from Chicago.

The series opened this week with "Corn's A-Crackin'." The traveling company of from 10 to 14 professional actors and entertainers will send a different show to Camp Van Dorn each week. Announcements of the show times will be made at recreation halls and in various unit areas.

The second show of the series, scheduled for the latter part of next week, features "The Great Marquis," a magician, in an all-magic show with plenty of illusions and plenty of girls. Marquis is considered one of the four greatest prestidigitators in the country.

During the past week the program started on Sunday when three performances were held, one at Combat Team White Rec Hall in the afternoon and another in the evening. The third show was staged at the Rec Hall of Special Troops.

Continuing the entertainment, shows were conducted at the 255th Rec Hall, where two shows were presented on Monday. A concluding performance was staged on Thursday at Division Arty Rec hall.

RUSSIANS NEED SCRAP METALS EX-WRITER SAYS

The importance placed upon the collection of scrap metal and other items used to further the war effort in Russia was stressed by Pvt. Walter Kerr, of Div. Hq., 63d Division, former New York Herald Tribune foreign correspondent, in two talks delivered in Natchez Tuesday.

Pvt. Kerr, who returned voluntarily to the United States from Russia last April so that he might serve his country in the Army, was one of five Army speakers who addressed Natchezians at an open air meeting which launched the city's Victory Scrap Bank Campaign. Later that day Kerr spoke on the same subject over Station WMIS.

Division Sends Equipment

The 63d Division sent an armored scout car, two jeeps, a prime mover and a 105-mm. howitzer to Natchez to assist in launching the drive. Two members of the WAC Detachment, Lt. Bonnie M. Chapman and Sgt. Marie K. Wall, and Lt. Joseph D. Payette, Camp Salvage Officer, also spoke at the ceremonies.

Representing the State of Mississippi and Natchez were Leland Speed, chairman of the Mississippi State Salvage Committee; J.

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Signal Bugler's A Rootin' Tooter Who Likes To Play For WAC Rooter

It took the WACs of the Station complement to open the eyes of the 563d Signal Co. to the excellence of Sgt. R. A. Crews' trumpet playing. When the Signal Company was bivouac near the Field Artillery area, arriving fillers were surprised to hear the strains of "Darktown Strutters' Ball" and "Melancholy Baby" played on a sweet, Henry Busse style, trumpet. However, when they learned that the source of the melody was the company bugler, Sgt. Crews, they ceased to appreciate his efforts.

WACs Show Appreciation

This situation persisted until the 563d moved into its present location opposite the WAC barracks.

One misty Mississippi morning the Sergeant went into the rhythm of "Darktown Strutters' Ball" right after tooting Reveille. Sig-

nalmen took no notice, but over from the WAC Detachment came the sound of cheers and applause.

On the following morning Sgt. Crews serenaded the female GIs with "I Can't Give You Anything But Love, Baby" and again received applause. Since then he has played everything from "Pistol Packin' Mama" to his own version of "Happy Birthday," and always to an enthusiastic following.

Had Dance Band

Sgt. Crews had his own dance band from 1930 to 1935 and played in Texas and Oklahoma. Concentrating on tone rather than rhythm, he says, "I like soft, sentimental music and was known as the 'sweet' man in the band." He recalls the days when "jam sessions" were all night affairs staged for the bandsmen's pleasure, not the commercial affairs they are today.

"Nazi" Tank Surprises 263d Diggers In Fox Holes

MINING EXPERT AIDS ENGINEERS

Company A of the 263d Combat Engineer Battalion has, in Acting-Sergeant Richard W. Harvey, a man who appears to have great potential value to the engineers, especially in their destruction activities.

Harvey is from Butte, Montana, and previous to his induction, had been working with demolitions for the Anaconda Mining Company for 13 years. Before that he had made his way in the fight ring as a lightweight boxer. In 1932 he won the Inter-Mountain championship from the best fighters of Montana, Utah and Idaho.

Used Ruse To Land Job

He got his mining job during the depths of the depression by a ruse, appearing before the foreman stating that he'd been ordered to go to work. A week later his trick was discovered, but by that time he'd been able to prove his value to the mine.

Harvey has worked in 13 of the Anaconda-controlled mines in Butte, and before he came into the army and the 63d, he was a shift boss at the Leonard Mine. He has had considerable experience in many of the skills that are necessary to the engineers, and especially in the use of demolitions can be counted on as an authority. He estimates that in his mining experience he's handled over 65 tons of explosives.

Part of his work since the outbreak of the war has been in teaching Army Reserve Corps men the skills needed in copper mining.

Trapped In Cave

Harvey has had his share of narrow escapes, too, and on one occasion was in a group of six men who were trapped for one hour in an airless cave. One of the men died and another lost his mind. When the survivors were released their faces were so swollen they couldn't take nourishment through their mouths and had to be fed intra-venously for a week and a half.

Experienced in at least one phase of engineer work and eager to learn the many other jobs of the army's builders and destroyers, Acting-Sgt. Harvey is typical of most of the 263d's trainees.

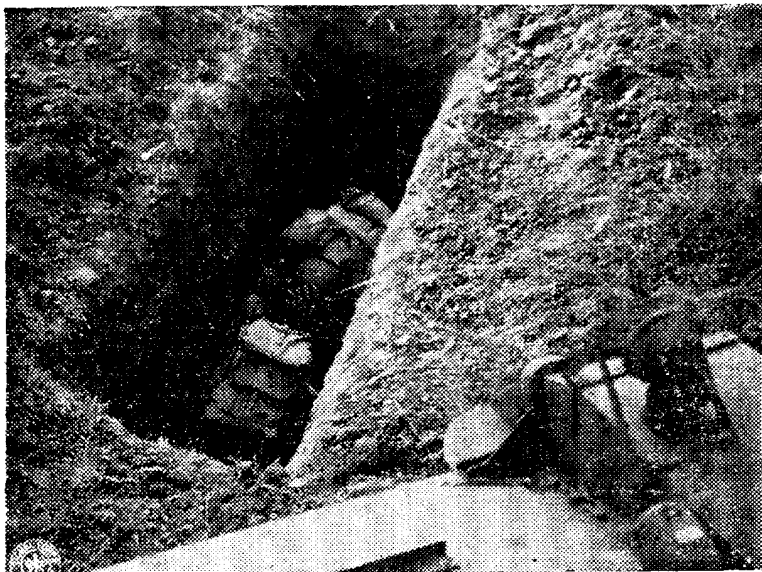
At the end of World War I, the government had about 5 billion dollars worth of surplus war goods on hand. At the end of this war, it is estimated that the figure will be over 25 billion.

By Sept. 1 of this year about 95,000 Selective Service delinquency cases had been reported.

ARMORED MONSTERS HOLD NO FEARS FOR DOUGHTY ENGINEERS



Whether on the ground or underneath, the 263d Engineers fear neither man nor beast—even armored ones. The photo above shows Pvt. Clifford Elbertson, 2d Plat., H. and S. Co., rolling away from a speeding tank. The Diggers were surprised on open ground but Elbertson waited until the last moment to roll away. Others fired at open ports on the tank. At right, Pvts. John Pease and Martin Harrison, of the same company, lie safe in foxhole as tank rolls over them.



HOLES WELL-DUG STAND UP UNDER RIGOROUS TEST

Climaxing training in field fortifications and defense against mechanized attack, a "Nazi" tank harassed trainees of the 263d Combat Engineer Battalion last week.

The tank, an American M3-A1 borrowed from Ordnance, surprised the men in open terrain and roared over their foxholes in support of Lt. Col. Jack L. Coan's requirements for realistic training.

Face Tanks

Lt. Albert Hewis, battalion motor officer, drove the tank and S/Sgt. Henry J. Mullen acted as an observer to follow safety precautions as the men learned to keep low when surprised by tanks. The trainees were taught to face the onrushing tank, not to move until they had determined the tank's direction and then to roll away quickly as the tank approached.

Foxholes dug by the men themselves were subjected to the tank test when Lt. Hewis drove over their emplacements. The trainees learned through personal experience that foxhole dimensions as prescribed in the field fortifications course provide an adequate margin of safety.

Use Grenades

Anti-tank measures were emphasized when the trainees attacked the tank with improvised grenades after the vehicle had passed over their positions.

Successful hits on the tank's vulnerable points were scored with many grenades of powdered chalk and Molotov cocktails made with coke bottles and molasses residual. The improvised weapons augmented simulated rifle fire aimed at the tank's vision slits.

Brain Surgery Saves Australian

NEW GUINEA (CNS) — Capt. Joseph R. Strauss, a Bridgeport, Conn. doctor, saved the life of an Australian infantryman here by performing a delicate brain operation on an Army cot in the middle of the jungle. Capt. Strauss found the man lying unconscious with brain tissue exuding from his right temple after an air raid here. After setting up a primitive operating table the medical officer cleaned the wound, packed it and sewed it up. Three days later the man was pronounced out of danger.

"HEIGH-HO, HEIGH-HO" YARDBIRD PUTS ONE OVER ON SERGEANT

The Yardbird scrutinized his bunk carefully. He gave a pat to his underwear, and, using the side of his hand as a straight-edge, leveled his toilet articles against it.

"Thass the best display this here outfit will ever see," he told his neighbor. "This here is, one yarrbird that is not gonna get no gigs this here week."

He hummed a little tune and tapped a couple of steps on the floor.

"Heigh-ho, Heigh-ho"

"Heigh-ho, heigh-ho," he sang, "it's off to Baton Rouge we go..." A voice boomed down the barracks.

"Snafu! Ain't yer got nothin' to do but cut capers and stuff around the floor? Get yer equipment in order lessen yer want to spend yer week-end in the kitchen."

The Yardbird was confident. "They ain't nothing wrong with me stuff," he told the Sergeant. "I can stan' any inspection."

The Sergeant came over and peered at the Yardbird's equipment.

Layout Snafu

"They ain't, huh? Wass that comb doin' over there, and that there handkerchief over on yer gas mask an' yer shoes not laced an' why man—they ain't nothin' right wid yer layout."

The Yardbird was offended. "Thass a fine thing to tell an ole sojer. Right here in front of these here trainees, too. An'tcha got no respect fer me long years of sojice?"

"I got respek only fer a layout laid out proper," the Sergeant told him. "If I been in the Army as long as you and couldn't make a better layout than that I'd be ashamed of meself. I really an' truly would. Don't you feel a little ashamed? A ole sojer like you lay-in' out a layout what would make a recruit ashamed."

"Officers Like It"

The Yardbird's face got red.

"Thass all right, Sarge, ole boy, thass all right. I put out layouts before you even hold from yer draff bore. They ain't nothing wrong with that there layout. Thass a joist rate layout. Thass the way it gives it in the manual. Thass the way I uster do in evvy camp I been in, and thass the way the officers like it. Take it from me, ole boy, thass the way to do it."

"Thass a lot of fine talk. Snafu, ole boy," said the Sergeant, "and if we didn't need KPs this week-end, I would be tempted to correct er errors. As it is, Snafu, ole boy, you jus' let it ride. We can use some good help in the kitchen. Jus' let it go like it is."

Inspect Non-Coms' Rooms

There was a sudden stir in the front end of the barracks.

"Attention!" came the command. The Yardbird stood at rigid attention as the company commander and the platoon leader entered.

"This week," the CO was saying to the lieutenant, "we will concentrate on non-coms' rooms. I think they can stand some improvement, don't you, lieutenant?"

"Yessir," the lieutenant agreed. Still in conversation they passed the Yardbird's bunk.

"Who sleeps here?" the captain demanded as he came to the Sergeant's area.

"Me, Sir," said the startled third-grader.

"I'm surprised at you, Sergeant," reproved the CO. "Dirt under your bunk."

At four o'clock, bag in hand, the Yardbird passed the Sergeant. "Stayin' in, Sarge?" he asked. The Sergeant didn't answer.

Army regulations at present require that an officer have a minimum of 28 years of service behind him before being eligible for permanent rank as a general officer.

The Army has at least nine different kinds of headgear.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Protestant Services

Chapels No. 6, 7, 8, 10, 0900.
Chapels No. 5, 6, 8, 10, 1000.
Chapel No. 7, 1100.
Chapels No. 8, 10, 1800.
Chapel No. 5, Vesper Service 1815.

Weekday Services

Chapel No. 5, Thursday, 1830.
Chapel No. 7, Thursday, 1917.
Chapel No. 10, Thursday, 2000.

Mormon Services

Chapel No. 8, 1400.

Roman Catholic Mass

Chapels Nos. 5, 7, and 10, 0800.
Theater No. 5, 0900.
Theater No. 7, 1000.
Theater No. 1, 1030.
Chapels Nos. 6 and 10, 1100.

Evening Mass

Chapel No. 5, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 1830.

Chapel No. 6, Monday to Saturday, 1830.

Chapel No. 7, Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, 1830.

Chapel No. 8, Tuesday to Thursday, 1830.

Chapel No. 10, Monday to Saturday (except Thursday), 1830.

Chapel No. 5, Novena Miralious Medal, Monday, 1830.

Confessions, all chapels, 1900, Saturday, (except Chapel Nos. 6, 8.)

Time of masses for Feast of All Saints, Monday, will be announced at Sunday services.

Jewish Services

Chapel No. 7, Friday night Conservative Service, 2000.

Chapel No. 7, Friday night, Orthodox Service, 2100.

Chapel No. 10, Friday night Conservative, 2030.

Christian Science Reading

Chapel No. 1, Sunday, 1100.

Seventh Day Adventist

Chapel No. 9, Friday, 1930.

Lutheran

Theater No. 5, Sunday, 1000.

The Wolf

by Sansone

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Thanks to: SA ALVIN BROWN, ALVIN AIR BASE, MOSES LAKE, WASH.

Cpl. Sansone

News Around America

Continued from Page One

ANN ARBOR, Mich.—Last week the MOMS held a convention here. The initials stand for Mothers of Men in Service.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Seven of the 75 counties, 14 townships and five towns in Arkansas recently voted out liquor, beer and wine under the impact of local option elections following a campaign sponsored by the Anti-Saloon League.

SAN DIEGO, Calif.—Everything was in order, except for signs that she had been through a storm when the 32-foot cabin cruiser Julia J. drifted into the harbor here recently. However, there was no one aboard. The ship sailed Sept. 30 with Tony Miller, of Wilmington, Calif. as skipper.

ITHACA, N. Y.—Cornell University has recently received a large number of old and historic New York State newspapers which are an important addition to the steadily growing research library. Included among the nine complete newspaper collections which have recently been received is a copy of the Bath Gazette and Genesee Advertiser dated Dec. 20, 1797.

DETROIT, Mich.—Since Pearl Harbor Mrs. Joseph A. Minella, of 14340 Fifteenth Street has donated life-saving blood to the American Red Cross eight separate times. A member of the Regular Army for 30 years, her husband is now a member of the Auxiliary Military Police. She has a brother in the Marine Corps.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Marine Private James E. Donnelly, 23-years-old, who was wounded at Pearl Harbor, has been installed as commander of the Breen-McCracken Post of the American Legion. Officials say he's the first veteran of World War II to be so honored.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The art collection and library assembled over the last 30 years by Frank Crowninshield, associate editor of "Vogue," has been sold in a three-day auction at the Park-Bernet Galleries for \$175,000.

PONTIAC, Mich.—Hazen Smart, whose automobile recently killed Percy W. Randolph, of Mt. Morris in a hit-and-run accident, has been placed on probation by circuit judge Frank L. Doty with a provision that he pay the funeral expenses of his victim and also 100 court costs.

CHICAGO, Ill.—Earl Wilbur Grey, of Springfield, Ohio, has been indicted by a Federal Grand Jury on a charge of impersonating a Federal officer with intent to defraud. He is alleged to have impersonated a brigadier general buying cattle for the government, and the radio actor known as the Ranger. In his guise as an army officer he reportedly lured beautician Tena Atwood, Chicago, of \$2,300.

NEW YORK, N. Y.—Two brothers, who hadn't seen each other in 30 years, have been brought together by the management of the Concourse Plaza Hotel in the Bronx, where one of them works as a bartender. They are bartender Raymond O'Neill, 111 Amsterdam Ave., and his long-lost brother Elmer, of 37-82nd Street, Conona, Queens. Elmer is superintendent of the William F. Kenny Company building, 44 East Twenty-third Street, N. Y. C.

CHICAGO, Ill.—Arthur Fluk, Evanston, Ill., will think twice before he shoots another squirrel in an Illinois highway. He was fined \$25 by Justice of the Peace Harry Hoyt in Waukegan after he had been arrested for hunting on the highway on complaint of a local resident.

DETROIT, Mich.—Five Nonn's Religion cultists, one of them a woman, have been arrested for indictment on charges

of conspiring to violate the Selective Service Act.

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—The car of Superior Judge Edward R. Brand was parked recently in the city hall garage just beneath police headquarters. A thief forced the lock and made off with the Judge's "A" and "C" ration cards.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Badgered by complaints of people who confuse the new zinc-coated steel pennies with dimes, the bureau of the Mint has decided to again change the alloy for America's most common coin. The steel cents will cease to be made after Jan. 1; the new model will closely resemble the former pennies. Copper for them will be reclaimed in part from small-arms cartridge cases recovered by military authorities from military proving grounds.

BOSTON, Mass.—Thomas Hathaway, a British seaman, recently met William Ellis, a Canadian seaman, at Boston's USO. Hathaway took a photo from his pocket, said to his new friend, "Ever run across this girl in Montreal?" Ellis got red-faced. "What in blazes are you doing with a picture of my wife?" he demanded. "She's my sister," Hathaway explained.

862D F.A. BN. IN NIGHT BIVOUCAC

In a precision movement all the way, the 862d Field Artillery battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. Chester F. Rouillard, completed its first motor march-bivouac Thursday night, Oct. 21.

The head of the march column, which was divided into five serials, arrived at the bivouac site exactly at the time scheduled, 1648, according to Lt. Eric S. Pinckney, who was in charge of the quartering and route-marking party. Vehicles of A battery made up the first serial.

Lt. Garner Farrell and Lt. Neal Roach, battalion liaison pilots, brought down their Grasshopper plane to a perfect landing on the road along the bivouac area after having circled over the column on its way out. They took off in the plane the next morning using less than 100 yards of the road for a runway.

There were 77 vehicles in the column which traveled 17½ miles over a circuitous route to the bivouac area, in order to give the drivers more practice at driving in convoy.

The battalion pitched tents in a formal bivouac, by battery, and ate supper and breakfast before returning to camp the following morning.

Air Photos Test Arty Camouflage

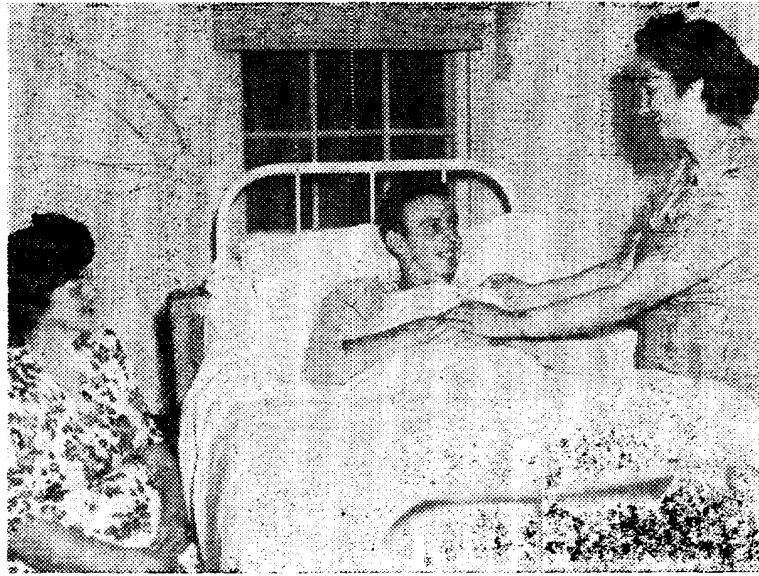
The importance of camouflage and concealment of ground units from the air, as well as the tactical value of cooperation between air observers and artillery batteries, was demonstrated to members of the 861st F. A. Bn. at a recent bivouac.

After the battalion had bivouacked about 20 miles from camp, the effectiveness of its camouflage was tested by aerial photographs taken by Lts. Green and Boyd, who pilot Piper Cub "grasshopper" planes used as liaison ships with artillery units of the 63d Division. Pictures were taken before, during and after establishment of the bivouac, and the small plane landed and took off on a narrow road in the area.

During the march units of the column were kept in contact by radio communication.

Despite war travel conditions, 32 states have participated in the 1943 junior baseball program, leading to the junior world series, under the auspices of the American Legion.

LIFE SAVED, SOLDIER SEES FAMILY



Pvt. Rex E. Morrisey, of the 862d F.A., is greeted by his wife and mother, who came from their home in Pottersville, Mich., to be with him while he convalesces in the Station Hospital. Physicians despaired of Morrisey's life after he was stricken with a severe throat ailment, until Lt. Col. Irving H. Willett, hospital commandant, had a shipment of Penicillin, the Army's new "wonder drug," flown to Camp Van Dorn from Atlanta, Ga.

He Said Hitler Had Jewish Blood So Nazi Shavetail Pulled A Razor

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fast biscuit, cereal in the morning; cheese and crackers at noon; cut-up sausage for supper," he said, "and we drank tea five times a day—which is all right, provided you like tea."

Stillman described the desert as being most beautiful at night, almost unbearable during the day. "At night, it is more quiet than anything you can imagine and the sky is a black curtain studded with stars. During the day, you are driven almost crazy by flies and that too is why the nights are so wonderful, for the flies disappear then."

Despite the fact that temperatures on the desert often reached 125 degrees, the heat here in Mississippi is sometimes more oppressive than that of Africa, he said. "The heat of the desert is a dry heat and the dust and sand there too are less annoying than here for it does not cling to you as the Mississippi variety does."

Drafted In September
Stillman completed his year of service with the A.F.S. last May and returned home. He applied for admission to the Air Corps but was turned down on physical requirements and was drafted in September. Upon arriving at Van Dorn, he was assigned to the medical detachment of the 862d Battalion because of his previous experiences. However, he wanted to get closer to the guns and was fortunate enough to find a member of the artillery who was qualified for and wanted to get into the medics. The commanding officers made the transfer.

What Does He Want In A Horse Opera?
Acting Sgt. William Flynn, Co. A, 253d Inf., went to see a movie after a day of taking apart machine guns, rifles, and pistols. In the flicker, the cowboy hero bumped off four badmen in a row. "Pretty good," Flynn admitted, "But can he take the gun apart and put it together again while naming the parts?"

RAF Blasts Enemy
In the softening-up process which preceded the launching of the offensive, American-made Boston bombers, piloted by the RAF, roared through the air overhead toward the enemy every 20 minutes. "And I think I can realize what that must have meant to the enemy, for I was caught in a few bombing attacks myself. The first times you are being bombed, it truly is terrifying. Even a little bomb, a 50-pounder, when it hurls down and explodes, makes you think the world is coming to an end. After a while, you can get used to it—almost," Stillman said.

Another item that Stillman related as standing firmly in his memory of the campaign was the effective work done by British colonial troops, most of them Negro, in the way of camouflage and concealment. "We always were coming across dummy positions, made of poles and cloth and wire, and set up during the night." He described motor parks, gun positions, and many other military installations, all of the dummy variety.

Ate Canned Food
Almost all of the food they ate was canned, Stillman explained. "We had what was called break-

NAZI UNIFORMS LEND REALISM TO 863D RAID

Dressed in German uniforms, 100 men of Btry. C, 863d F. A. Bn. lent a realistic and dramatic touch to the battery's attack on Camp Van Dorn's "Nazi village" Saturday.

The "Germans" attempted to hold the village by throwing quarter-pound dynamite sticks and firecrackers.

The attacking American forces, led by Capt. William H. Crosson, Jr., battery commander, used dynamite sticks as grenades and rushed the village from the front and flank, firing their explosives and forcing the "Nazis" from the buildings. Charges were set off in the streets by the wiremen as the attack began under a dense smoke screen.

As in actual combat, the Germans were taken "prisoners of war."

The tactical importance of squad movement was stressed by Capt. Crosson in a critique following the raid. He included a demonstration of a booby trap, improvised from scrap wood, bits of metal and a small battery.

PABLO'S PIANO COMES TO 63D

Continued from Page One

a Decca record hit, and it and "Estrellita," on the same record, are leaders in popularity at the Service Clubs. Two other favorite records by Pablo are arrangements of "Liebestraum" and "Polka in Green."

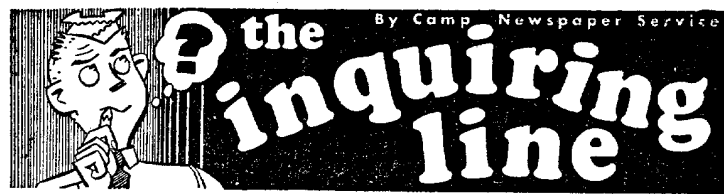
Monnie a WAC
Monnie Drake, featured singer with Pablo's band, is in the Army, too. She is a WAC sergeant, an entertainer in California. Miss Drake was named Miss Michigan in 1940 and was a runner-up in the Miss America beauty contest that year.

Pablo's former saxophonist, Bill Wyrick, now is a captain of field artillery, serving overseas.

Pablo played in Cleveland and Dayton, O., before going to Detroit, where he played at the Book-Cadillac hotel and the Palm Beach Cafe. After a highly successful six years at the Palm Beach, he broke up his band to enter the Army. Mrs. Pablo, whom he married eight years ago, carries on his business affairs in Detroit, and they still are considerable; despite the fact that the band is scattered in this and other countries, its music lives on phonograph records, and the popularity of Pablo recordings is attested by a substantial royalty advance check he receives frequently to more than supplement his \$50-a-day-once-a-month.

KPs Note

CHICAGO—China ware makers are starting to groan over the difficult job of filling Army and Navy demands for dishes. Dish manufacturers say that breakage caused by KPs is terrific.



Q. Are soldiers on leave subject to arrest by civilian authorities as well as by military police and naval shore patrols.

A. Yes, indeed. All members of the armed forces off duty are subject to the jurisdiction of local law enforcement agencies.

Q. Is training received in the Army good for college credits?

A. In some cases, yes. When you get your discharge, contact the Armed Forces Institute. By taking tests you may receive college credits for what you learned

in the Army.

Q. I'm expecting a Certified Disability Discharge. I understand that lapel buttons are issued to honorably discharged service men. Where can I get one?

A. These buttons are now being manufactured. When they are ready they will be issued free by the War Department and may be acquired at any Army post or training center by presenting discharge papers. The insignia will be of circular shape with an eagle in the center.

Blood and Fire

Official Newspaper Of The
BLOOD AND FIRE (63D)
INFANTRY DIVISION
Camp Van Dorn, Miss.

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EDITORIAL

Pleasant Memories

The great Austrian psychoanalyst, Sigmund Freud, studying men's minds, came across a little mental mechanism that he called the "censor." The censor, existing in the subconscious mind, is the thing that keeps unpleasant memories from creeping into the conscious mind. If we remembered actively all the dismal and unhappy things that have happened to us, we would be dismal all the time. But we aren't.

Instead, these unpleasant events in our lives tend to be pushed into the subconscious to come out only when we dream, or are hypnotized, or psychoanalyzed.

After a while we remember, for the most part, only the pleasant things that happen to us. Men who spend unhappy youths forget the poverty or squalor of their boyhood homes and remember only the good times they had picking apples off the trees, or the fun they had in the old swimming hole. They develop a sort of nostalgia for "the good old days." Aged men remember the last 10 years of the last century as "the Gay Nineties." They remember the Gibson Girls and the free lunch counters. They forget the walk-up tenements and the outhouses and the cold and the poor working conditions. Psychologists speak of that illusion about the "good old days" as the "old oaken-bucket" illusion.

Years from now most of us will have forgotten most of the unpleasant things that have happened to us during the war period. We'll regard the difficulties we encountered trying to find our particular brand of recreation as funny. We'll say, until our wives will probably feel like crowning us, "Golly, I wish I were back in the Army again." We don't think so now. But we will.

Every other generation has. Ask the vets of World War I.

On The Ball

Athletes of the Division recently completed their second Division softball tournament and are anticipating participation in touch football, golf and basketball contests all sponsored by Division Special Service.

Some of the older soldiers in the 63d and a number of our officers who have advanced through the ranks, know from first-hand experience that athletic programs are not always so complete or all-encompassing in Army divisions.

We take this opportunity, therefore, to salute Major Robert L. Leiding, Lt. Bernard Levkoff and the entire Special Service staff for doing a fine job in providing the members of the Division with a full-time athletic program as well as other entertainment of a recreational nature.

Special Service is on the ball!

HALLOWEEN 1943



News From Here And There

Telegrapher Takes Wire Of Son's Death

COLOMA, Mich. (CNS)—William H. O'Brien, telegrapher, sat down at his key to take the first message of the day. When the message was finished he blinked, then delivered it in person. It was to his wife and it said that their son, Pvt. William H. O'Brien Jr., had been killed in North Africa.

Censor Denies Guilt In Theft Of Gum

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (CNS)—When Seaman Bill Florence read in the papers about how tough the war was for the folks back home he sent his best girl a stick of gum. "I hope the censor doesn't take it," he wrote in a postscript. His girl searched the envelope. No gum. "I'm sorry," read a note from the censor. "He didn't put it in."

New Ration Carton Good For 10 Men

CHICAGO (CNS)—A new Army field ration is called 10-in-1 because one 45-pound carton provides food for a full day for 10 soldiers. The ration is produced in five different menus, each complete down to cigars, matches, water purifying tablets, can openers, soap and paper towels.

Nazi Captive Since '42, Briton Escapes

LONDON (CNS)—Maj. Gen. H. B. Klopper, British commander at Tobruk who was captured when that city fell to Marshal Erwin Rommel's forces in June 1942, has escaped and reached the Allied lines in Italy, it was revealed here. Gen. Klopper, held a prisoner at Salomona, 75 miles from Rome, escaped shortly after the Allies landed in Italy. He trekked 150 miles through enemy territory before reaching an Allied outpost.

Army Saving Plan Conserves Supplies

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The Army has initiated a conservation program in a move to augment the efforts of unit commanders to conserve vital supplies and equipment, the War Department has

announced. Motto for the campaign is, "You've got what it takes, soldier; now take care of what you've got."

Four Million Nazis Lost, Say British

LONDON (CNS)—Approximately 4,000,000 Germans have been killed so far in this war according to Lord Selborne, Minister of Economic Warfare.

Dogs Hold Posts Despite Accident

GOWEN FIELD, Ida. (CNS)—Bing and Lady, dog guards here, disappeared after a truck in which they were riding overturned. Later they turned up at their regular guard stations.

YANK Pin-Up Gal Voted Best By GIs

MORRIS AAF, N. C. (CNS)—YANK's pulchritudinous poster pin-up girl, known only to GIs as "A Honey" has been voted the most popular of all pin-ups by men of a liaison squadron stationed here.

Man Wears Bars, Can't Recall Why

INDIANAPOLIS (CNS)—Arrested in the lobby of a local hotel on a charge of illegally wearing an Army captain's uniform, a 43-year-old man explained that he "couldn't recall" how he happened to be wearing it.

New Aero Compass Is Always Correct

NEW YORK (CNS)—Engineers at an aviation plant here have developed a new and entirely revolutionary type of compass which they describe as "as great an advance over the conventional magnetic compass as the compass was over the lodestone."

Known as the gyro fluxgate compass, the new instrument corrects itself under all conditions of spins, turns, dives and climbs. In it the old fashioned needle is replaced by a fixed coil system in which actuating currents combine with energy generated by the earth's magnetic field. The coil system is maintained absolutely horizontal by a gyro stabilizer.

The Sky Pilot Says it

LOYALTY!

By Chaplain E. A. Hessler, 63d Div. Arty.

In the Pass of Thermopylae in the country of Greece, there stands a monument erected to Leonidas and his valiant company of 300 Spartans. It bears the inscription: "Go, stranger, and tell at Sparta that we died here fighting to the last man in obedience to our laws." It commemorates the thrilling event when Leonidas and his men successfully held the Pass of Thermopylae against tremendous odds. They were finally overcome after being betrayed into the hands of the enemy.

This monument bears magnificent testimony to the quality of loyalty. Chapters of this kind are being written day in and day out by our soldiers in the present world struggle.

Loyalty is one of the prime virtues of a good soldier. It is a mark of distinction; loyalty is also an undying virtue in spiritual things. Much has been written about a vague faith in God, a trust in some Supreme Being and the ruling factor of an Eternal Destiny.

Give me the man who carries within his breast a live consciousness of his Almighty God, and with it a determination to serve Him through thick and thin, through storm and strife, through war and prosperity. That man has what it takes—loyalty.

G. I. Jingles

This week BLOOD AND FIRE has decided to print two poems which have been taken from other publications because it believes both will be of interest to its readers. "God of Battles" is attributed to Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., commander of the U. S. 7th Army, while the second poem is a reprint from the Jacksonville, Fla., Guardsman. The author is unknown.

GOD OF BATTLES

From pride and foolish confidence,
From every weakening creed,
From the dread fear of fearing,
Protect us, Lord, and lead.

Great God, who through the ages
Hast braced the bloodstained hand,
As Saturn, Jove or Woden
Hast led our warrior band.

Again we seek thy counsel,
But not in cringing guise.
We whine not for thy mercy—
To slay: God make us wise.

For slaves who shun the issue
We do not ask thy aid,
To thee we trust our spirits,
Our bodies unafraid.

From doubt and fearsome 'boding,
Still thou our spirits guard,
Make strong our souls to conquer,
Give us the victory, Lord.

Absolute knowledge I have none,
But my aunt's washer woman's sister's son
Heard a policeman on his beat
Say to a laborer on the street
That he had a letter just last week
Written in the finest Greek
From a Chinese coolie in Timbakoo
Who said a peon in Mexico
Knew of a colored man in a Texas town
Who got it straight from a circus clown
That a man in Klondike heard a Turk
Tell a fellow going to work
About a man in Borneo
Who knew a man who claimed to know
A New York man named Jake
Whose mother-in-law would undertake
To prove that her seventh husband's sister's niece
Had stated in a written piece
That she had a son who had a friend
Who knows when the war is going to end!

"ON THE BALL!"

By Pvts. Leonard J. Hamilton and James E. Brooks.

Over the rough,
Under the fall
Comes the 63d
On the Ball.
See that power,
Watch them fall!
They're hitting hard,
Right on the ball.
The boys are tough,
Shok on the mall,
They can't be beat!
They're on the ball!
They'll batter the Jap
Like a paper doll,
And then return
Right on the ball!

DIVISION SIDELIGHTS

863d F. A.—Pvt. Irvin Curley of Btry. B, Montana cowboy, volunteered for what he thought was a ride in jeep with full pack—it turned out, to his surprise, to be a Division inspection test. Cpl. Gerald D. Jean reported one guard lost during the Battery's bivouac during the week but he was found safe in the dark. Jovial Pvt. Meyer A. Israel, who is rapidly becoming the best known man in the Battalion, is on the ball and has just completed learning his 11th general order, he says. . . . Pvt. Michael J. McIlroy has returned to duty after nearly a month in the hospital.

861st F. A.—Men of Battery B were smoking stogies last week when A/Cpl. Anthony Cotturo received word that he had become the papa of a seven-pound baby girl. In the same vein, the door of the Battery Commander's office was thrown open in a most unmilitary manner, and a wild-eyed figure rushed in, thrust a huge cigar into the bewildered BC's and, panted for a furlough. Yes, Cpl. F. F. Rhodes, cook for B Battery, had become a proud father. His furlough was granted and now the Cpl. is home becoming acquainted with the newest member of the Rhodes family. . . . Pvt. Kevin G. Barry, Hq. Btry., received an 82 page letter from members of his neighborhood gang. Forty different people had a hand in writing the letter and it took Kevin two and one-half hours to read it. . . . Pvt. Thomas J. Cahill of the same Btry. is said to have the largest shoes in the Btry. He paddles around in size 14 violin cases. . . . Pvt. Arthur T. Lynch is the oldest Pvt. in Hq. Btry. He recently celebrated his 42nd birthday but he's going strong. . . . After an 11-day session in the hospital Pvt. George W. Murray is back in ranks as is Pvt. John B. Tomlison who was also in the hospital for eight days. . . . Sgt. William K. Lones is being congratulated. He is the father of a baby boy.

863d F. A.—Corporal's stripes went to Pfc. James F. McGill and Gerald D. Jean, of A Btry. Acting Cpl. brassards are being worn by Pfc. Harrison D. Blass, Samuel E. Adam, Frank O. Lenker, Jr., Joseph J. Minnecci, Thomas F. Mullen, Robert H. Rowe, Wilbur J. Sotola, Charles J. Vici and James M. Whitt, by order of Capt. G. O. Fraser, commanding officer. . . . A guitar has arrived from Virginia for Pvt. Carl S. Bowman, result plenty of mountain music. . . . New men of C Btry. under the direction of Capt. W. H. Crosson, Jr., had a taste of "mud and mire" recently when they crawled through mud and water and struggled through barbed wire on the Infantry infiltration course. . . . Sometimes it doesn't pay to go to pay call, according to Pvt. Sterling Ross of Hq. Btry. He responded recently and drew exactly seven cents. . . . Men of Hq. Btry. extend condolences to Pvt. Charles L. Dawson whose father died recently.

253d Inf.—Sgt. Henry Beaulieu, of Cannon Co., is eager to contact men of the 63d Div. whose homes are in or near Boston, Pawtucket or Providence, R. I., and who expect their wives to visit Camp Van Dorn in the near future. Sgt. Beaulieu's wife will be driving down the coast late this month and desires company. . . . Co. I has adopted a platoon rating system to create a competitive atmosphere and aid in maintaining a neat and soldierly outfit. . . . Sgt. Frank, Med. Det., is maintaining his hair out, hunting for a flivver; he wants to contact anyone with car for sale.

254th Inf.—Cannon Co. credits the excellence of its mess hall to the experience of Sgt. E. S. (Pinky) Pinczkowski. The sergeant entered the Army last December after four years with the Wisconsin National Guard in the 32d Division, which was sent to New Guinea early in the war. A native of Milwaukee, Sgt. Pinczkowski was manager of Child's and other Milwaukee restaurants in civilian life and was a mess sergeant at Camp Breckinridge, Ky., and Camp Blanding, Fla. . . . Appointment of six new corporals in Co. H is announced by Lieut. Robert C. Reynolds, company commander. They are Seburn Richardson, George Steigerwald, William Krobotz, Leo Hermanski, Thomas Coughlin and Howard Ragsdale. . . . Pvt. Andy Slipek, of the 1st Bn., is taking in washing, offering to wash and dry fatigues at 50 cents a pair. . . . Pvt. Thomas Meiser, Co. B barber, says that barbering and Army life have cut his correspondence to his wife 90 per cent.

254th Inf.—The boys in one of the barracks of Co. C are lulled to sleep each night by the soft strains of an accordion played by Pvt. Haniszowaski. . . . Last Thursday night the entire company was entertained by company talent. The show was staged and directed by Pvt. Schiering with Sgt. Dolhun as M.C. . . . Co. L boasts three Indians two full-blooded and one 50-percenter. Pfc. Jack and Swimpkin belong in the first category and Pvt. Fredericks in the latter. . . . Most popular private in the company is Pvt. Hash, the easy-going, slow-talking Virginian. . . . Lts. Hyde and Dettman joined with the fellows during a softball game and hurtled on opposite sides. . . . S/Sgt. Hane has returned to duty after a short stay at Station Hospital.

254th Inf.—Training paid dividends last Thursday when Co. B held a daylight reconnaissance drill in which members of the unit acquitted themselves well. . . . Now wearing corporal's chevrons are Paul Fry, George Waggett, Charles French, Neal Williams, Harold Weaver and Roger Pezzelle. . . . Pvt. Theodore Greenberg cannot understand why it is that oftentimes when on a long march he feels that his feet are moving independently of his body.

63d Reconnaissance Troop—Just about this time soldiers are either strutting because of high scores made on the range or alibiing because of low scores. . . . One never knows what vocal talent lies hidden in a unit until a piano player turns up. Pvt. Harold R. Lay can testify to this. He often finds it difficult to write letters in the day room, so much in demand are his talents on the piano. . . . With the Supply Department moving in, the proposed Special Troops Non-Coms Club had to move out of its clubrooms. . . . Two weeks ago this column said: "Among the beefs heard here is that concerning housing for wives and children of enlisted men. To find a room is 10 times as hard as passing a command inspection, and some of the prices are pretty steep for poor paid GIs." We learn OPA inspectors are inquiring about rentals in Centreville. Wonder if it could be a result of our previous comments.

VETERAN MEETS VETERAN



Pvt. Daniel H. Mahar, holder of the Croix de Guerre, the Distinguished Service Cross—pinned on his chest by General John J. Pershing—and other citations from World War I, discusses the present conflict with his regimental commander, Col. Stanley R. Putnam of the 254th Inf. Col. Putnam is also a veteran of the first world conflict.

HONORED BY PERSHING, PETAIN "POP" IS NOW A 254TH PRIVATE

Pvt. Daniel H. Mahar, affectionately known as "Pop" in Co. D, 254th Inf., is a quiet little fellow who talks about the farm back in New Jersey where he raises pedigree poultry. When Pop dresses for retreat he has a line of ribbons across his chest that any man would be proud to wear.

If you pin him down and ask what the first ribbon is for, he shrugs and says "the DSC." By a little searching through the records you will find that "Pop" was in three major engagements in World War I, and that the Distinguished Service Cross was pinned on his chest by Gen. John J. Pershing for eliminating two snipers, putting a machine gun nest out of action and, as a sergeant, leading his whole company or a few days when the officers were killed in action.

Croix de Guerre
The second ribbon? "That," says Mahar, "is the French Croix de Guerre." The citation signed by Marshal Petain.

The third ribbon represents the British Military Medal, pinned on Mahar's chest by the then Prince of Wales. "Pop" got that one bringing in a wounded Australian officer from the battlefield.

The fourth ribbon is the Purple Heart—"gas and shrapnel wound," says Mahar, shortly.

Son in Air Force
Ask him why he was eager to get into this scrap, and "Pop" will dig into his foot locker and bring forth a picture of his son, now with the Army Air Forces at Nashville, Tenn. "Pop" wants to know who could be raising chickens when there was a chance for action?

What does "Pop" think of this new Army and how it compares with the old one? His answer on that score:

"The boys are getting a thorough training this time and I know that if every outfit is like the 63d, this war isn't going to take too long to finish."

—Pvt. Arthur W. Tujague
Co. D, 254th Inf.

Good Reader Response

While enroute to Natchez last week-end your editors overheard a fellow Division soldier telling of his wife's reader response to BLOOD AND FIRE. "You know, I sent her home a copy of the paper with a map of the camp printed in it, and darned if she didn't write me right back complaining that the WAC barracks were only seven blocks from my barracks, and that I'd better keep away from there if I knew what was good for me. I hadn't even figured out the distance myself."

AT THE SERVICE CLUBS

Service Club No. 1
FRIDAY—Quiz.
SATURDAY—Dancing.
SUNDAY—Hymn Sing.
MONDAY—Community singing.
TUESDAY—Variety Show.
WEDNESDAY—Bingo Night.
THURSDAY—Variety Show.

Service Club No. 2
SATURDAY—Bingo.
MONDAY—Free Night.
TUESDAY—Dance.
WEDNESDAY—Variety Show.
THURSDAY—254th Show.
MONDAY — Free Night.

263d Combat Engineers Celebrate Tonight

Men of the 263d Combat Engineer Battalion will celebrate Halloween and anything else worthy of festivities at a dance at the battalion's recreation hall tonight.

Guests will include members of the WAC detachment, girls from the civilian dormitories and hostesses from Baton Rouge, Gloster and Centreville. Music will be provided by the Special Service Band. A program of intermission entertainment provided by the gainees themselves will include selections by the 263d Octet, Pvt. Joe Shopmaker, violinist, instrumentalists from the battalion's Hq. and Serv. Co., and vocalist Pvt. James Mollison.

Inquiring Reporter

This week the Inquiring Reporter visited Service Club No. 1, where he found Division soldiers practically battling to dance with six WACs and two civilian girls. Struck with genius, he asked the EM's the question: Where do the prettiest girls in the U.S.A. come from?

Here are some of the many answers he received:

Pvt. Andrew Buffalino, Sv. Co. 253d Inf.: "I'm from Westbury, L.I. and I'm sure the best looking girls in the U. S. are from Manhasset—which is right close by. The girls there have CLASS, and the classiest of all is my girl friend. I sure do miss her now that I'm way down in Mississippi."

Cpl. Frank Yandino, 63d QM.: "The answer to that one is simple. Good Old Broadway—where they've got the best dancers, the best follies shows, and more of the prettiest girls than any place in the whole world. Sure, I'm from New York City myself."

Pvt. James Walden, Co. C, 263d Engrs.: "I'm from Virginia, and I've been in some 40 of these United States. Believe you me, the prettiest come from my home state, and the closest runners up are from Kentucky."

Pvt. Art Kitchen, Sv. Co., 263d Inf.: "St. Louis, Mo., is my home town, and since I'm from Missouri, 'Show Me' is my motto. I didn't have to go any further than my home town to find the prettiest girl in the country and here's her picture to prove it."

Pvt. Jack Burns, Co. D, 253d Inf.: "There's no doubt, the prettiest girls in the country come from Detroit, and I really mean it. I'm a designer, so I should know, too. Among them, of course, are two out of three recent selections for Miss America."

Pvt. Rigby Miller, Co. D, 253d Inf.: "There must be some mistake there, friend, for the prettiest girls in the country come from my home town, Clinton, Tenn. That's where Miss United States comes from—and she's not the only pretty girl living within two miles of my doorstep."

Pvt. John Mestronicola, Sv. Co., 253d Inf.: "My girl friend comes from Bay Bridge, that's a part of Brooklyn—and she's No. 1 in the U.S.A. to me."

Pvt. J. De Felice, Sv. Co., 253d Inf.: "G'wan, the best lookin' girls in the States are from Red Hook. They're rough, and tough and pretty. If you've ever been out with one of 'em you know just what they're like."

Pvt. Nathan Guttman, Sv. Co., 254th Inf.: "My wife's from Winnipeg, that's over the border in Canada. She won all the beauty contests in Winnipeg, and for my money she tops the field."

Fiddle Available, No Strings To It

Lt. Schroeder, of the 363d Engineers, has a very fine violin he'll loan to musically inclined doughboys—without any strings attached. He'd prefer to fiddle around with the thing himself, but hadn't been able to find any of the essential catgut in these here parts.

BERNIE BLOOD

By Popular Demand

BY GILL FOX



Div. Hq. Places Six Men On All-Star Softball Team

SPORTS SWIRL

"The best softball game I have ever seen," was the way Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs, Division Commander, expressed it following the final game for the Division Softball title played between Div. Hq. and the Hq. Co., 255th Inf. This was by no means an understatement. Many who saw the game agree that the game was remarkably well played.

There was honor for both teams. Victory hung upon a slim thread in the last two games, so evenly matched were the contestants. The pitching was excellent. Sgt. Al Galasso, 255th hurler, outranked Cpl. Johnny Alvis of Div. Hq., but the latter had the edge on the rival ace in the box.

Touch football, golf and basketball beckon the athletes and teams are already starting practice for the grid tournament which begins soon. Basketball will hold the stage after this month and there will be plenty of the cage sport until sometime in March.

As far as the 63d Reconnaissance Troop is concerned, Sgt. Fred N. Vaneley has the heavyweight title of the Division all sewed up and stowed away. It is rumored that the Sgt. has developed a secret punch, "The Petrifier."

During his four years in the Army the Sgt. has served at Ft. Hamilton, Ft. Oglethorpe, Ft. Des Moines, Ft. Bragg and Ft. Benning. He also admits to having been a cook in a WAAC detachment at one time.

Before entering the service Vaneley did a hitch in the Merchant Marine and while abroad fought several European battlers including one Frenchy La France, leading contender for the French light heavyweight title.

George Selkirk, ex-Yankee outfielder, is now a Warrant Officer stationed at the Newport (R. I.) Naval Station.

SPECIAL SERVICE LAUNCHES DIV. FOOTBALL SERIES

The Touch Football Round Robin tournament sponsored by Division Special Service has started and the competition will extend through Saturday, November 27. Each team is to play the other once and the final victor will be determined on a percentage basis. Each winner will represent its combat team in a Divisional Touch Football championship playoff which will be conducted during the week of November 29. A trophy will go to the winning team.

Although all teams are officially scheduled to start action tomorrow, several outfits have launched their campaign.

Co. D Triumphs, 12-0

The 254th Inf. has organized a league of its own from which will be chosen the regimental champion. The winner plays the 862d Artillery. Right now it looks as if Co. D will be the team to beat. Co. D's outfit routed Co. C, 12-0, as the Jones twins, Bill and Clyde, starred.

In the other games, Co. B defeated A Co., 6-0, with Salvagio taking a pass from Mazzerelli to score. Co. K downed Co. I, 6-0, as LeBlanc starred and the Medics blanked the Cannon Co., 6-0, on Farrell's touchdown. Two games resulted in scoreless ties. G and H companies deadlocked as did Co.'s L and M.

Medics Routed, 18-0

Scoring twice in the second period and once in the third, the 255th's Cannon Co., routed the Medics, 18-0, as the regimental tournament opened last Saturday. The Medics scored in the opening heat, but the Cannoneers came through to erase the lead in the second. McMurray tallied on a pass from Bigos and Antosiewicz scored shortly thereafter. McMurray

TO THE VICTOR BELONGS THE SPOILS



Sgt. Jack Whitfield, captain of Div. Hq. softball team which won the second Division softball title by defeating Hq. Co., 255th Inf., 2-1, last week, is shown receiving the Pepsi Cola trophy from Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs, Division Commander. Capt. Henry Stern, Div. Hq. Commandant (right) watches presentation.

ALVIS AND KIES, OF CHAMPIONS, TEAM'S BATTERY

Following a careful perusal of the records of the respective contestants in the recent Division Softball Finals BLOOD AND FIRE has decided to publish its own All-Star team composed of outstanding players on the Div. Hq. ten, which won the Pepsi Cola trophy, and the Hq. Co., 255th Inf. team.

Play on both sides during the two-out-of-three games series was closely contested all the way and it was difficult to name individuals who, by their all-around performances, led their mates in the competition. BLOOD AND FIRE feels however, that it has selected the 10 best men on both sides. Some of our readers may disagree with our choice but we present our selections and let the discussions start.

Had Edge on Foe

On the mound we have placed Pitcher Johnny Alvis of Div. Hq. team. Alvis distinguished himself during the series and had the edge on his opponent, Sgt. Alfred Gallasso. The latter was also outstanding on the mound. Alvis gave only five hits in the first game and three in the third and deciding contest. It was his hit also which scored the tying run in the final game.

For catcher we have nominated Pvt. Norman Kies of Div. Hq. Kies, a former New York Yankee backstop, played a smart game behind the plate. His hitting was also a big factor in the first victory when he blasted a home run in the fifth inning to start Div. Hq. on its way to victory.

Miller on First

First base goes to Pvt. Oscar Miller of the champions. Miller, a former major league player, performed smartly at the initial sack and his hitting also contributed to his team's victory march. Frank Lanzetta of the 255th starred at second base and had an able running mate in the infield in Pvt. Anthony Dondonna at shortstop. Dondonna was probably the outstanding man on both sides in the infield and his hitting was also on par with the best displayed. Jim Lecak of Div. Hq. has been awarded the third base slot. He played a sparkling game at the hot corner.

The short field assignment, always a difficult one for any player on a softball team, was ably handled by Pvt. John Anthony of the 255th.

O'Connor of the 255th, McCabe and Monk of Div. Hq. form the outfield trio and one that is hard to beat. O'Connor is worthy of particular mention because of his excellent work in left field.

Co. D, 254th Teams Win Two Contests

Football and softball teams representing Co. D of the 254th Inf. were triumphant last Saturday, and the basketball team is preparing for the coming winter campaign.

Led by Pvt. Jack Wojciehowski, field manager, the grid team defeated Co. B, 254th, 30-0. A feature of the game was the excellent play of the Co. D line which cleared the way for many of Wojciehowski's touchdown jaunts.

The softball team defeated Co. H, 254th, 30-7. Pvt. Eimer Skym of the winning team blasted a home run during the game.

Managed by Pvt. Charles Freiberger, the basketball team has been holding practice several nights each week in preparation for the Division basketball which starts next month.

Btry. A, 863d F.A. Holds Court Drills

Basketball sessions held by men of Battery A, 863d F.A. have revealed that the Btry. contains a considerable amount of court talent. Privts. William R. Parsons, Meyer Weinberg, William Hogan, Angelo Izzolino, and J. H. Westmoreland, are trying out for the team and appear to have the edge over others for positions on the varsity.

300 Soldiers Of Division To See LSU-TCU Grid Game

A convoy bearing 300 men of the 63d Division will leave Camp Van Dorn tomorrow afternoon at 1600 bound for the big game between LSU and the Horned Frogs of Texas Christian at Baton Rouge. The kickoff is scheduled for 2000.

Tomorrow night's contest will be the final home fray for the Tigers, who have lost two previous contests to the Frogs in three games played. Strange to relate, not a touchdown has been scored in any of the games.

Teams Tied in '32

In 1931 Texas Christian won 3-0, the teams tied 3-3 in 1932, and the Frogs won 3-2 in the 1936 Sugar Bowl classic.

Steve Van Buren, the battering LSU fullback who has been a potent factor in his team's two victories over Georgia and the win over Rice, is expected to put an end to that touchdown-less series. Tiger rooters are betting that Steve will lug the leather with

alacrity tomorrow night and that he should cross the last white line at least once to end the ground scoring drought.

James TCU Star

The Horned Frogs have been turning in some smart performances this season and they will place their faith in Royal James, diminutive "scatback" who was injured recently, but who is reported ready to go against the Tigers.

Coach Bernie Moore of Louisiana State expects the visitors to use the airways to a considerable degree and he has prepared his Tigers to counteract potential aerial touchdown thrusts.

The Tiger coach will have full strength for the contest. Freshman Fullback Bill Schroll, who starred in the first Georgia-LSU contest, has recovered from an injury suffered weeks ago. Schroll's blocking aided Van Buren greatly in that opening game.

Number 63 Follows Ex-All-American Star From Football Gridiron To Army Division

When Hal McCullough, former All-American halfback for Cornell University swapped his civilian title of Mr. for that of Private in the Army a few weeks ago he little realized that the number 63 was once again to play a big part in his career.

Back in 1938, '39 and '40, when Hal was toting the pigskin for the Big Red team on his way to national fame, he wore big white 63's on his jerseys. Now he's assigned to Co. D, 253d Inf., 63d Division, and wears the flaming insignia on his shoulder.

McCullough, who hails from Brooklyn, by the way, started his grid career with Boys' High where he played varsity football for three years. Through his outstanding gridiron and academic achievements Hal won a scholarship to Cornell University.

At Cornell McCullough played on the freshman team as a halfback and in 1938 landed a berth on the varsity. In his junior and senior years he was outstanding on the track making a specialty of tossing the javelin.

The former Cornell ace was a triple threat genius. He holds the world record for yards gained per pass with an average of 11.7 yards gained each time he tossed the pigskin.

Following his graduation from Cornell, McCullough took a post-graduate course at New York University. In the autumn of 1942 he was signed to play with the Brooklyn Dodgers. He was a stand-out with the Brooklyn team and tossed the winning pass to defeat the Dodgers' arch rivals, the New York Giants. He retired from competitive sport at the end of the 1942 season to accept a position with shipyard turning out boats for the Navy.



HAL McCULLOUGH

RUSSIANS NEED SCRAP METALS EX-WRITER SAYS

Continued from Page One
K. McDowall, executive secretary of the committee, and D. D. Arce-neaux, Adams County scrap drive director. The proceedings were in charge of Thomas Reed, secretary of the Natchez Chamber of Commerce

Seven Years in Europe
Pvt. Kerr spent seven years in Europe and visited Germany prior to and following the outbreak of World War II. He was in Russia for 18 months, during which time he was near the fighting front and saw the ruins of Stalingrad following the German capitulation.

In both talks the former correspondent told how much the Russians valued the jeep, a United States product. He also indicated that the Bell Airacobra was one of the most important planes in the Russian air force.

Russian Scrap Exhausted
"Russians have long since practically exhausted all deposits of scrap metal in the country," Kerr said. He declared that the scrap drive was intense all over the vast country and that families gave all metals, fats and other items which could be used to further their cause.

Kerr appealed to his listeners to delve into their existing supplies of scrap metal and to give all they could accumulate to the Victory Scrap Bank Drive. He stressed the fact that scrap metal was needed just as much today as it was when drives of a similar nature were launched several months ago.

Lt Chapman spoke on the necessity of conserving tin. Sgt. Wall spoke on the conservation of waste fats, and Lt. Payette told of the part Army camps are playing in helping to conserve tin, paper and other materials.

A crew under the direction of Lt. Joseph Madison, of the 863d F.A. Bn., staged a gun drill on the lawn of the Municipal Building during part of the afternoon.

Aid 'Vets' To Get Government Jobs

A new veterans' section to handle the placement of ex-servicemen in Federal jobs has been established by the United States Civil Service Commission.

Charles R. Anderson, former chairman of the board of appeals and review of the commission, who for many years handled its veterans' preference problems, is head of the new section. After years of experience with the men who served in World War I, the commission determined to be ready to do a better job of handling Federal placements of men coming out of the armed services in this war.

The first civil educational institution in America to give military training was Norwich University, Norwich, Vt. At the time (1820), the school was known as the American Literary, Scientific, and Military Academy. It is now located at Northfield, Vt.

ARTILLERYMEN AND WACs TRIP THE LIGHT FANTASTIC



The picture above shows 63d wagon soldiers dancing with some of the 65 WACs who attended the dance given by Hq. Btry., 718th F.A. Bn. last Tuesday. During the intermission, members of Hq. Btry. presented several acts, among them Pvt. Arnold Spector baritone, who sang "Shortnin' Bread," Miss Dotty McHale, singing "I Heard You Cry Last Night" and "Pistol Packin' Mama," and Cpls. Joseph Pollock and Fred Weiner in an original skit in which Cpl. Pollock impersonated President Roosevelt and Winston Churchill. Pumpkin pie and coffee were served during the evening. Music was furnished by the 63d Division Band

254th's Quiz Team Defeats Matrons

Pvt. Daniel Mahar of Co. D, led his 254th Quiz Kids to a victory over the Enlisted Men's Wives at Service Club No. 2 last Tuesday night. The WACs were originally scheduled to furnish the opposition but were unable to do so. The Quiz Kids hope to pit their ability against the WACs in the near future.

Soldiers Of Jap Descent Prove Worth

American soldiers of Japanese descent who are fighting the Germans along the road to Rome "came through with flying colors in their first test under Nazi fire," Secretary of War Stimson announced this week.

The troops form the 100th Inf. Bn. Spearheading the attack in Italy, they are a part of a famous American division which distinguished itself in Tunisia.

THEATER SCHEDULE

- Theaters No. 1 and 2
Starting Times—No 1 at 1845; No. 2 at 1810.
- Oct. 30 In Old Chicago, with Tyrone Power, Alice Faye, Don Ameche, Brian Donlevy.
- 31-Nov. 31—True to Life, with Mary Martin, Dick Powell, Franchot Tone, Victor Moore.
- Nov. 2 Here Comes Elmer, with Al Pearce, Frank Albertson, Dale Evans, Jan Garber and Band.
- 3-4 Crazy House, with Olsen and Johnson.
- Theater No. 5
- Oct. 29-30 The Man From Down Under, with Charles Laughton, Rich-Carlson, Binnie Barnes.
- 31 Is Everybody Happy?, with Ted Lewis and Band, Nan Wynn.
- Nov. 2-3 True to Life, with Mary Martin, Dick Powell, Franchot Tone, Victor Moore.
- 4 Here Comes Elmer, with Al Pearce, Frankie Albertson, Dale Evans, Jan Garber and Band.

Is My Face Red Dept.

A fledgling buck private entered the 253d R.S.O. the other day and slapped a comrade heartily on the back while viewing the khaki posterior of his stopping companion.

"Swell piece of cloth they issued you there, Bud," he commented, as the startled Major Davis unwound himself from the cartoon he was lifting.

"Ohmigosh. I need a new pair of glasses, now I'm SURE I do," the red-faced buck private gasped.

Lights Go On Again In U. S. Coast Area

Dimout regulations in Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coastal areas will be abolished Monday.

A joint announcement of the War and Navy departments, the War Production Board and the Office of Civilian Defense said the campaign against enemy submarines has been so successful the dimout no longer is necessary. The dimout will be succeeded by a "brownout," a voluntary semi-dimout to conserve fuel needed to generate electric power.

Off To OCS

Here's one man who is pretty cheerful about leaving the 63d Division. He is Sgt. Howard C. Smith, Hq. Co., 3d Bn., 253d Inf., who will report to, the Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Ga., to pursue a seventeen-week course, leading to a commission in the Army of the United States.

CATHOLIC MASS

Mass for Roman Catholic men of the 254th Inf. will be said in Theater No. 5 this Sunday at 0900.

Best in Div. Arty

In a series of tests conducted by the Division Artillery staff, the 862d F.A. Bn. was adjudged best in the Division Artillery. Highest scoring battery was Btry. A, 862d F.A.

Five MacFarlanes Serving In Army

S/Sgt. James MacFarlane of Company M, 254th Inf. today challenged any soldier in the 63d Division to match the MacFarlane record of five brothers in the United States Army.

All five are in different camps. George, an ex-minister, shed the cloak and enlisted. He is now at Ft. Custer, Mich. William, a 1st Lt., is stationed in Miami. The others are: Joseph, at Camp Mead, Va.; and Roy at Camp Howze, Texas. A sixth MacFarlane, Robert, is with the British Army.

MEN OF 253D SHOW TALENTS

"Battalion Brevities," a variety show by men of the 2d Bn., 253d Inf., was presented this week in the C. T. Red recreation hall.

Pvt. Jack Bailin, master of ceremonies, and Cpl. Fred Weiner appeared in several duo skits and gave a GI interpretation of "Pistol Packin' Mama." Enacting the parts of weary soldiers on the march were Pvt. Arnold Spector, comic baritone; Pvt. H. Spandman, harmonica virtuoso; Pvt. Manny Rosen, trick specialty artist; Pvt. Bert Moore, Irish tenor, and S/Sgt. Frank Brooks, baritone.

The 253d Inf. orchestra, directed by Pvt. Ralph Cerasuolo, played several popular tunes.

The production was directed by Cpl. Wiener under the supervision of Lt. P. H. McVerry, Special Services officer.

Division Theaters Scene Of Show

"Thanks Loads," a fast-moving variety program presented by USO Camp Shows, Inc., will appear at Camp Van Dorn next Friday and Saturday, Nov. 5 and 6, and Monday, Nov. 8.

The show will be presented twice nightly, at 1830 and 2030. It will be at Theater No. 1 Friday and Saturday and at Theater No. 3 Monday.

Alice Tyrell, comely young songstress, will be featured on the program. Ruth Mason is mistress of ceremonies. "Professor Brilliant," the riotous comic, is another attraction and Hardeen & Co., three magic escape artists, will mystify the audience.

TIPS FROM TERRY FIED --THE 'OLD SARGE'

Another range season is staring me in the face. I have been through so many of 'em, I've lost track of the number. In the old days an outfit was on the range at least three weeks. It took almost that long to get the knack of working that Springfield bolt. A company commander would just as soon lose his right arm as have a man bolo. But in these days of high pressure schedules and a new-fangled rifle, before you realize you're on the range, you're through, and if a man bolos, you just shoot him again until he does qualify.

This may be all right, but if I was a youngster trying to get off to a flying start and a set of stripes, I'd work like hell to qualify the first time and make expert if I could; for take it from me, the range is where the company commanders look for the NCO material, and the guy who bolos may have a Chinaman's chance of getting promoted, but I doubt it. On the other hand, that expert rifleman's badge on your chest carries a lot of prestige with it, for it means that when the old pressure was on you could take it. Being an old company soldier, I think in terms of the rifle. But what I say goes for all other weapons, too. So my tip to you is to qualify high with your weapons, for it is almost certain to lead to promotions and more dimes in your jeans.

These new men take to NIGHT TRAINING like ducks to water, and they're plenty serious about it too. The other night I was out there in the dark when I felt a sneeze coming on. I pressed hell out of my upper lip, but no soap. So I buried my face in my handkerchief and let 'er go. About this time one of the acting NCO's rose up out of the darkness and whispered softly, "You damned recruit, don't you know how to stop a sneeze? You've probably queered us." I'll bet my face was red enough to give our position away. But I kept my trap shut because I didn't want him to know who the "recruit" was.

I hope you all heard the "Blood and Fire" broadcast. About the finest thing I can say is that it came up to "Blood and Fire" standards. I was kind of in the dumps when it began, but when it ended I was all a-tingle. Which brings me to my last tip for this week: never forget that you're a combat soldier, and be proud of it.

Male Call



WOOSH! WHAT A NIGHT!

THASSA FACT, MISS LACE... OH, PHUD! THERE GOES MY LAST MATCH!

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"



HEY! GOT A LIGHT, BUD?

SURE...



WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU DIDN'T LIKE THE PICTURE?

TOO MANY STARS!

Around The "Mike" As 63d Radio Series Started



Men who were standouts in the field of radio, music and drama are giving their talents professionally to make the weekly broadcasts of the 63d Division over Station WJBO of Baton Rouge highly successful. Depicted above are the principal members of the cast together with a photo taken when the initial show was launched last week from Div. Arty Rec. Hall. In the bottom photo Soldiers' Chorus is shown on the left, the announcer, Arthur Van Horn at the mike, and approaching the center of the stage from the extreme right is Pvt. John Larkin, who in civilian life was outstanding in the Mid-West as a dramatic radio actor and narrator. Grouped around the microphone in the top photos are, top row: Cpl. Joseph Bernhard, Miss Ann Sammens, who has been a singer with one of the Division's orchestras, and Pvt. Arnold Spector. The second row, Pvt. Richard Garraitano (left), and Pvt. Al Lewin, script writer and producer (right). Third row: Cpl. Joseph Pollock, continuity writer (left); Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs (center); T/5 Murray Kaye (right). Fourth row: Pvt. Jack Bailin (left), Pvt. Paul Taubman, musical director (right). Fifth row: Pvt. Arthur Van Horn, announcer (left); Pvt. John Larkin, narrator (center); Sgt. Robert Peters, program director (right).

"WHY WE FIGHT"

Continued from Page One
 Pressions are given.

Pathos and Comedy
 There was pathos and comedy—but all of it was drama for it meant a new life—a new start for thousands and thousands of

young men. It was a depiction of the thousands of civilians picked from myriad parts of the Union to fight with the 63d "Blood and Fire" Infantry Division for Uncle Sam.

It was "Greetings, Greetings, Greetings" and a mocking note of music to accompany the acknowledgement of each man who

suddenly found himself in possession of a letter from the President.

"A Breed Apart"
 Major General Louis E. Hibbs, Commanding General of the 63d, told the radio audience that his men were "a breed apart," that they "could not be paid for what they were doing—that they work-

ed and fought for the pride of the doing—and walked full-fit in the pride of the combat soldier."

The General left no doubt that he set his men apart from the other branches—that he believed there was one and only one man set above the others—the combat soldier.

All Phases Covered
 The program embraced all

phases of the birth of a division, from reading of the order to set the plan in motion, through sending of the General Staff to Fort Leavenworth, the formation of the cadre and its training, the activation of the 63d and reception of the fillers—the Johnny Dough-boys who would round out the Division.