



Blood and Fire



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63D INFANTRY DIVISION, CAMP VAN DORN, MISS.

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FURLOUGH TRAINS AWAIT 63D

Exhaustive Trials To Gauge Learning Given to All Units

The 63d Infantry Division today marked a milestone in its progress towards the battlefield with completion of the IX Corps tests of the Blood and Fire soldiers' individual training proficiency.

For nearly a full week infantrymen, artillerymen, engineers, military police, medics, signalmen and the host of special troops have been subjected to the myriad mental and physical tests of the Corps Testing Team.

Directs Testing Team

Lt. Col. H. L. Luongo from Headquarters of the IX Corps, was Director of the Testing Team. Assistant Directors were Maj. M. F. Castle of the 69th Infantry Division and Capt. W. N. England, Headquarters, IX Corps. Lt. Col. J. T. Clayton, Headquarters, IX Corps, was the Artillery Inspection Team Chief.

The tests were the first made of the 63d's progress by a higher unit and were conducted to find out just how much each individual soldier has assimilated from the training program to date. No figures were released as BLOOD AND FIRE went to press but it is believed the Division made a fine showing.

Tests Were Thorough

The Testing Team left no stones unturned in its search for the soldiers' knowledge. Everywhere one went in the Division he could see members of the Team putting men of the Blood and Fire Division through their paces. It was a grueling week for officers and Non Coms as well as for the trainees but as the week neared its close, all felt that the long hours of instruction, drill, exercise and squad tactics had begun to pay dividends.

The soldiers were tested on basic, technical and tactical subjects by the Corps Team in a five-day series which ends tonight. On Col. Luongo's staff for the tests were Maj. Castle, Capt. England, Lt. A. F. Acciardi, record officer, 65th Inf. Div.; Lt. C. F. Downen, liaison officer, 63d Inf. Div.; Capt. B. J. Savoia, Hq. Commandant, 63d Inf. Div.; Lt. D. N. Riel, transporta-

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New CO of 253d Inf. Is Teacher and Soldier

The fighting men of the 253d Inf. have a new commanding officer in Col. Edward P. Lukert. And, it being axiomatic among instructors that you've got to know your subject to teach it, this fact bodes well for the trainees.

Col. Lukert relinquished command of the 1st Inf. Tng. Reg. at Camp Wheeler, Ga., to succeed Col. Paul W. Mapes, December 28. With him he brought the experience of 29 years in the military service of the United States, about half of which time was spent in teaching the art of soldiering to others.

On Benning Staff

Col. Lukert inaugurated many methods of instruction that have become SOP at training centers during four years on the Infantry School staff at Ft. Benning, Ga. He furthered his ideas still more with 18 months of instruction at Camp Wheeler.

Previously, the colonel had delved



VISITOR to the 63d Division and to his close friend Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs, Division Commander, was Maj. Gen. Frank W. Milburn, commander of the XXI Corps, who stopped off at Camp Van Dorn Thursday.

Old Friends Meet When Gen. Milburn Pays Visit

Officers and men of the 63d Inf. Div., absorbed with the basic technical and tactical problems of the ITP tests, were honored and surprised Thursday afternoon with a visit by Maj. Gen. Frank W. Milburn, commanding the XXI Corps to which this Division is now temporarily attached.

The purposes of Gen. Milburn's visit from his headquarters at Camp Polk, La., were two-fold, and, he expressed himself as being as pleased with what he observed in the field as he was in meeting again with his friend of

West Point student days, Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs, Blood and Fire Div. commander.

In addition to Gen. Hibbs, Gen. Milburn was accompanied on his tour of Camp Van Dorn by Brig. Gen. Frederick M. Harris, assistant Div. commander; Brig. Gen. Edward J. McGaw, Div. Arty. commander, and Lts. Ralph Waldo and Kenneth M. Greene, aides-de-camp respectively to Gens. Milburn and Hibbs.

Gen. Milburn, former 83d Div. commander, was two classes ahead of Gen. Hibbs at West Point, being graduated in 1914. Their mutual respect was apparent as they moved through infantry and artillery problem areas where Blood and Fire units were being tested.

The Corps commander interrogated officers and men of the 63d as well as members of Lt. Col. H. L. Luongo's Test Team. Later, he gave his reaction to what he saw and heard in one word, "Excellent."

Try This for Size

First entry in the Quartermaster Problem contest to determine which man of the 63d Div. gives the shoemakers the most trouble is Pfc. James E. Garner, of Anti-Tank Co., 253d Inf.

Garner comes up with the information that he wears a size 15½ AA shoe.

Thus he tops the size 14½ worn by Pvt. William A. Bernloehr and the 12½ of A/Cpl. Raymond E. McCord, both of Cannon Co., 255th Inf.

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Extra Railroad Equipment and Buses Ready to Expedite Movement of Troops

Cut-Rate Tickets to All Parts of United States to Be Sold at Centreville

Leaves and furloughs, awaited for months by both officers and enlisted men of the 63d Inf. Div., will begin Monday, one minute after midnight.

Special arrangements have been made by Division officers and railroad officials to expedite home-going journeys. Extra railroad equipment and special buses will be on hand for the tremendous task of conveying thousands of men to the farthest corners of the United States in the winter and spring. Most men will be going home for the first time since they entered the Army.

A special passenger representative of the Illinois Central Railroad has been assigned to Centreville for the furlough rush.

Tickets at Centreville

Furlough tickets to any point in the country will be sold at the Centreville station of the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley Railroad, a subsidiary of the I. C. Officers and men were asked today by Capt. Edward A. Lewis, Division Transportation Officer, to buy tickets at that station even though they may board trains in McComb or Baton Rouge.

"Regardless of the point from which the man leaves, he should buy his ticket at Centreville," Capt. Lewis said. "He may save money, he will receive the most direct routing and the most exact instructions, and the railroad will know exactly what the travel demand will be."

Save Bus Fare

Many men going north, east or west will board I. C. trains at McComb. If they buy tickets at Centreville—even though the tickets give McComb as the point of origin—space will be made available for them on special buses which the railroad will charter to take them from camp to the McComb.

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253d Leads Camp In Sale of Seals

Generosity of men of the 253d Inf. brought the regiment first place among all organizations in Camp Van Dorn in the 1943 Christmas Seal drive, it was announced Friday as results of the campaign were tabulated.

Sales of anti-tuberculosis seals to both the 63d Inf. Div. and camp units totaled \$3,124.67, it was announced by Lt. Bonnie M. Chapman, WAC, who supervised the campaign.

Of the total, more than \$225 was subscribed by the 63d Div.'s 253d Inf. Co. I subscribed \$45 and the Med. Det. bought more than \$35 worth of seals.

The 254th Inf. placed second in the drive, with sales totaling \$150, and the 861th F. A. finished third, with sales of \$138.82. Of units outside the Division, the 164th Engr. Bn. made the highest contribution, with the 135th Engr. Bn. a close second.

254th Is Feted At St. Joseph, La.

New Year's day was a gala one for a large number of men of the 254th Inf. who attended a dinner and dance at the Community Hall, St. Joseph, La., as guests of the people of the town.

One hundred young women of St. Joseph and surrounding communities acted as hostesses and saw to it that each GI receive his full share of the turkey and fixin's which comprised the entree for the dinner.

Following the dinner dancing was held with the 254th orchestra furnishing the music.

Miss Lucille Watson of St. Joseph was chairman of the committee on arrangements.

Kerr, Ex-Correspondent, Writes Book on Red Army

A big, curly-haired blond who left a foreign correspondent's post in Moscow because he wanted to be a combat soldier in the Army of the United States is author of a new analysis of the Russian army's might, to be published within the next fortnight.

He is Pfc. Walter Kerr, of Div. Hq. The book, to be published by Alfred A. Knopf, of New York, is entitled "The Russian Army."

Kerr, who had been a foreign correspondent since 1937 and who had seen war in Russia, Finland and France, became determined to take a personal part in the conflict. He resigned from the Moscow bureau of the New York Herald Tribune, returned to the United States last April, spent a hasty few months on the book and enlisted in the Army after the manuscript had gone to the publishers.

Assigned to G-2

He came to the Blood and Fire Div. with its first fillers last fall,

and was assigned to the G-2 Sec. He had taken his basic training with the I and R Plat. of the 253rd Inf.

"The Russian Army," sub-titled "Its Men, Its Leaders and Its Battles," contains not only factual descriptions of the army, but accounts and analyses of the strategic battles of Moscow and Stalingrad, with maps of the battle scenes.

While in Moscow, Kerr devoted more time to a study of the Red Army than to any other phase of the Russian war effort.

Kerr was a newspaperman for more than nine years, six of which he spent abroad. He was born 32 years ago in Syracuse, N. Y., attended Phillips Andover Academy from 1926 to 1930 and was a member of the class of 1934 at Yale University.

Saw War Crises

After working for two and one-half years as a reporter for the

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To Give Division Musical in Two Rec. Halls

'Emergency Furlough', With GI and Co-Ed Cast To Be Presented Next Saturday and Sunday Nights

Revue Which Made Hit At Baton Rouge Will Be Repeated Here

Memory-haunting tunes, pretty co-eds from Louisiana State U. and outstanding actors of the Division, put them all together on one stage, bring in the Div. Arty. Chorus for a little close harmony, tie it together with just the thread of a plot and you have "Emergency Furlough," which will be presented for soldiers of the Division next Saturday and Sunday nights.

The initial debut three weeks ago in Baton Rouge of this sparkling musical revue, sponsored by Division Special Service, was a complete success. The soldier actors and their feminine partners presented the show as a means of raising funds to send entertainments from Baton Rouge to Camp Van Dorn.

At Two Rec. Halls

Saturday's performance will be held in Div. Arty. Rec. Hall at 2000, while Sunday's show will be staged at the 255th Rec. Hall. The two halls were selected as being the most centrally located in different sections of the Division area. All soldiers and their friends are welcome to view the performances free of charge.

Such tunes as "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes," "You're Devastating" and others are on the bill. The Div. Arty. Chorus will be heard in several rollicking selections during the course of the performance.

Sgt. Campbell Has Lead

Sgt. John Campbell of Div. Band has the male lead, while pretty Miss Wesley Stephens of Baton Rouge is the ingenue. Sgt. Campbell has been heard several times in Camp and was a well-known concert singer in civilian life. Miss Stephens, an alumnae of LSU, was outstanding in collegiate presentations and has been in several theatrical productions in Baton Rouge.

Supporting the leads will be Miss Polly Wade of LSU, who plays the part of a French model, and Miss Rosemary Fuhmann as Mary Lou, the Sgt.'s ex-girl friend.

Spector Has Role

Pvt. Arnold Spector, erstwhile New York producer and actor, will have a prominent part, as will Sgt. Jack Bracken, who directs the show. Other standouts will be Pvt. William J. Federer, Cpl. Joe Pollock, a clever impersonator, Pfc. Gilbert Vitale, prestidigitator extraordinary, and a host of pretty girls from LSU, who will act as models in a brilliant fashion show number.

Pvt. Paul Taubman, former NBC staff pianist and organist, has charge of the musical score. The entire production is under the supervision of Maj. Robert K. Lieding, Division Special Service Officer.

Extra Railroad Equipment, Buses, Will Expedite Move

(Continued From Page 1.)

Comb station. Thus they will save the bus fare to and from McComb. The Centreville ticket office is open from 1000 to 1800 daily. A regular ticket agent and the special passenger representative will be on duty daily. Capt. Lewis said regimental commanders had been asked to allow men to go to Centreville, duties permitting, to buy tickets.

"Much time will be saved the individual if he will make all his requests for information at the Centreville station," Capt. Lewis said. "The men there are equipped to handle any routing and will be able to tell the soldier exactly what his schedule will be, what route he must take to get home quickest, and what changes must be made en route."

Capt. Lewis stressed the necessity for buying tickets as many days in advance as the man knows the exact date of his leave or furlough. He also cautioned all men, when they get home, to make sure of their return arrangements.

Allow Seven Days

No extensions of furloughs or leaves will be granted men who have made mistakes in their scheduled returns, an official memorandum on the subject said. All personnel were advised that if they do not return at the proper time they will not only be AWOL, but others will not be able to leave as planned and will have to cancel reservations and make other changes.

Seven days at home, plus travel time, will be granted each officer and enlisted man. Not more than 7 per cent of the enlisted personnel may be on furlough at any time, including emergency furloughs.

Travel time is figured according to an official schedule of the minimum number of days necessary to go and return.

Because the membership of the Blood and Fire Div. encompasses nearly every part of the Union, a list of 83 key cities, with the allowed round trip travel time and the round trip rail fare at furlough rate, has been prepared by Capt. Lewis. This list, which also serves as a guide to travel times and fares to towns and cities in the vicinity of those shown, appears in this issue of BLOOD AND FIRE.

Example Given

Furloughs for enlisted men will begin on the day of departure. Instructions have been issued that the furlough be granted so the man may depart as soon after midnight as practicable. Neither leaves nor furloughs will start on

weekends, under normal conditions.

An example of the way in which furlough and travel time are figured as follows: Assume that a man who lives in Chicago is granted a furlough beginning Monday. He is allowed seven days' furlough time plus four days' travel time. This gives him two days to go and two to return. Thus his total time absent is 11 days, beginning at 0001 Monday. The fare, furlough rate, from Centreville to Chicago and return is \$21.80.

The shortest traveling time and lowest fare on the guide schedule are for New Orleans. The time allowed for the round trip is one day. The round trip fare is \$3.20. Seattle and San Francisco are allotted the longest travel times—eight days each—and the fares are greatest, \$65.45 round trip. Men going to the Pacific Coast will spend more time on trains than at home, in most cases.

Following is the schedule of allowable round trip travel time, with round trip fares at furlough rates, to the 83 "sample" cities:

Station	Travel Time (Days)	Round Trip Fare
Albany, N. Y.	5	\$36.35
Amarillo, Tex.	5	21.40
Asheville, N. C.	4	20.20
Atlanta, Ga.	3	14.10
Augusta, Me.	6	39.00
Baltimore, Md.	4	29.05
Birmingham, Ala.	2	9.95
Bismarck, N. D.	6	41.20
Chicago, Ill.	4	21.80
Boise, Idaho	7	51.80
Boston, Mass.	5	38.70
Bridgeport, Conn.	5	38.00
Buffalo, N. Y.	5	31.60
Butte, Mont.	7	51.45
Chattanooga, Tenn.	3	13.55
Cheyenne, Wyo.	4	33.50
Cincinnati, O.	4	20.60
Cleveland, O.	4	27.00
Columbia, S. C.	3	20.05
Dallas, Tex.	3	14.00
Davenport, Ia.	4	22.65
Denver, Colo.	5	30.85
Des Moines, Ia.	4	24.40
Detroit, Mich.	4	26.80
Duluth, Minn.	6	33.15
El Paso, Tex.	5	27.25
Evansville, Ind.	3	16.00
Fargo, N. D.	6	36.35
Flint, Mich.	5	27.25
Ft. Wayne, Ind.	4	23.20
Helena, Mont.	7	51.45
Houston, Tex.	3	12.50
Indianapolis, Ind.	4	20.30
Jacksonville, Fla.	4	17.90
Kansas City, Mo.	4	20.20
Knoxville, Tenn.	3	16.55
Lavenworth, Kan.	4	22.00
Little Rock, Ark.	2	10.20
Los Angeles, Cal.	7	48.90
Louisville, Ky.	3	17.70
Macon, Ga.	3	14.80
Madison, Wis.	4	25.05
Memphis, Tenn.	2	8.15
Miami, Fla.	5	27.05
Milwaukee, Wis.	4	23.90
Minneapolis, Minn.	5	30.55
Montgomery, Ala.	3	11.70
Montpelier, Vt.	6	40.00
Nashville, Tenn.	3	14.45
Newark, N. J.	5	33.70
New Orleans, La.	1	3.20
New York, N.Y.	5	33.70
Oklahoma City, Okla.	4	16.75
Omaha, Neb.	5	25.25
Philadelphia, Pa.	3	21.45
Phoenix, Ariz.	5	40.10
Pittsburgh, Pa.	4	28.30
Portland, Me.	6	42.40
Portland, Ore.	8	62.15
Providence, R.I.	5	38.35
Raleigh, N. C.	4	22.00
Reno, Nev.	7	55.45
Richmond, Va.	4	25.75
Salt Lake City, Utah	7	42.60
San Antonio, Tex.	4	17.75
San Francisco, Cal.	8	65.45
Santa Fe, N.M.	6	33.30
Savannah, Ga.	4	18.35
Seattle, Wash.	8	65.45
South Bend, Ind.	3	23.10
Spokane, Wash.	8	59.15
Springfield, Ill.	3	18.60
Springfield, Mo.	3	15.35
St. Louis, Mo.	3	15.90
Tampa, Fla.	5	22.25
Toledo, O.	4	25.55
Topoka, Kan.	4	21.90
Tulsa, Okla.	4	16.15
Washington, D.C.	4	28.10
Wichita, Kan.	4	20.85
Wilmington, Del.	4	31.80

'GHOST RIDER' SHOWN

The "Ghost Rider," ancient film of the silent days, gave over 250 GIs a chance to cheer the hero and hiss the villain last Saturday night at CT White Rec. Hall. The program, one of the regular "Saturday Nighters," was arranged by Cpl. Heath of the regimental special service staff.

If a picture of a young infant in swaddling clothes and a big "1914" manages to get into this issue, you may rest assured that he belongs here. His name is Steve Brown, and he was born January 1 at Flushing Hospital, Flushing, L. I. His daddy is associate editor of Blood and Fire.



YOU'RE DEVASTATING says Pvt. Arnold Spector to Polly Wade, pretty LSU co-ed, in a scene from "Emergency Furlough," Division Special Service musical which will appear at Div. Arty. Rec. Hall next Saturday night, and at the 255th Rec. Hall Sunday, Jan. 16.

REPORT TO THE HOME FOLKS, IS GI'S OBSERVATION ON ARMY

By Pvt. Irwin Ross

You ask me what it's like in the Army. I feel rash and presumptuous in trying to answer. So many books have been written about this Army, at home and abroad, that you would think that the inquiring civilian has only to recline in an armchair and lap up all the first hand impressions, sensory reactions, and GI mental hijinks that pour from the press in happy abandon. Now you are either insatiable, or just perennially and cussedly dissatisfied.

I admit that our bumper journalistic crop has left a lot unsaid. Too many of the boys have played the Army for laughs, and the drug store sales and Book of the Month club has paid off big. Army life is no cause for the high giggles. Too many GI reporters remain reporters first and soldiers second. It's not a question of their activities, but attitude. Any experience, no matter how unpleasant, is useful and pleasant if it makes good copy. No soldier feels that way.

in our more dour moments, to reflect on our importance.

Rambling Structures

As you've doubtless noted, we're located in a camp known as Van Dorn. I understand that it is the name of a Confederate general. I know little about him, but assume that he was a reputable and worthy man. It was certainly no tribute to name this camp after him. Van Dorn is a slam-bang affair that resembles nothing so much as a gigantic, endless Hooverville of the pre-32 era. Most of the buildings are long, rambling, one-story shacks, covered front, back, top and sides with tar paper. The floor boards slope precariously, the roofs leak, the walls are as drafty as a wooden box-car built in the nineties.

Btry. B itself is housed in five equally rambling, equally nondescript shacks and one latrine. Three of these loose-jointed affairs are barracks, one is the mess hall, and the last is subdivided into a day-room, supply room, and orderly room. Between the barracks and the mess hall is a sloping, uneven plot of ground that serves as drill field and outdoor classroom. This is our home, the center of existence for one hundred and eight men.

No Blood but Mine

So I'll cast discretion aside, and try to tell you about the Army. I'll write about Battery B, of the 863d F. A. Bn. of the 63d Inf. Div., which calls itself the Blood and Fire Division. So far we've neither seen blood nor fire, but we've had a lot of rain and wallowed in a lot of mud in the Mississippi wasteland where we're stationed.

I write about Btry. B because it's the unit I'm in and the one I know best. By this time I've trekked around a bit in the Army, and I believe this outfit is typical. It's no glorified group of stage-set heroes. There's nothing particularly dramatic about what we do. Most of it is as dull as the grey mist that meets us in somber greeting each morning. But it's all very necessary, and important, and the Army, they tell me, is the vital, vibrant core about which the whole nation's life revolves. Most of the time we're unaware of our vitality, feel no vibrancy, but it's occasionally good for morale,

All Sections Represented

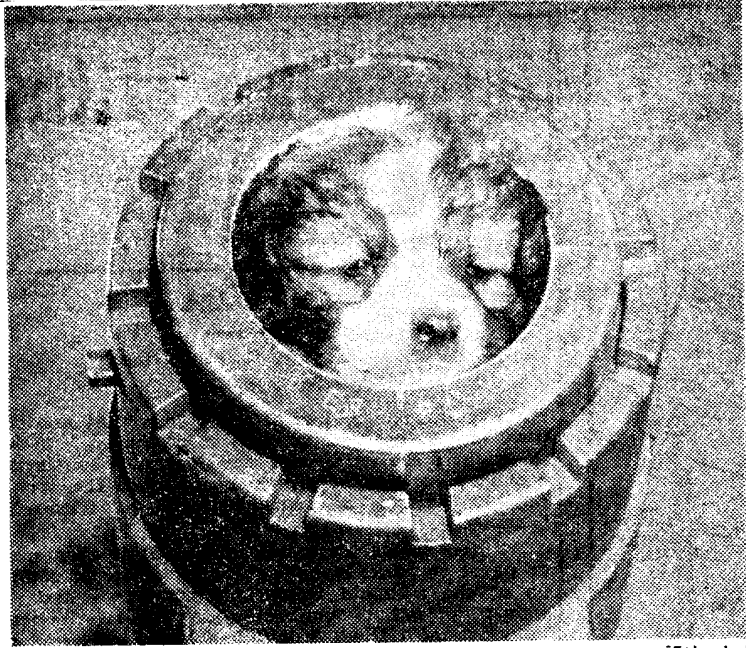
The men come from the North, from the Northeast, from the Northwest—only a few from the South, and those, too, are a long way from home. City folk mostly, a scattering of farmers. We have men from the automobile factories of Detroit, from the garment shops of New York; coal miners from Pennsylvania and Illinois, grocery clerks from Brooklyn and Portland, Ore. The supply sergeant is a former magician and vaudeville hooper, the motor sergeant used to design window displays in Baltimore, the mess sergeant is a daredevil rig builder from the oil fields of Texas. We have a Philadelphia lawyer who used to play varsity football, an Oregon school superintendent who was a fire detective

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The Wolf by Sansone



"Hey soldier—whatcha doin' tonight, no doubt?"



LIKE TOPSY'S Little Eva, this pup, mascot of the 255th Inf., "just grew." A week ago, when Blood and Fire's photographer posed the dog for the picture at left, it was difficult to keep the solemn-faced canine from sliding down the muzzle of the 105 mm. howitzer. The other photo, taken this week, finds the pup grown too large for this opening.



Natchez Helps 63d Soldiers Welcome Arrival of 1944

Starting with a party New Year's eve at the Servicemen's Center, the City of Natchez provided entertainment for hundreds of soldiers who crowded the community over the holiday weekend.

Informal dancing was held and refreshments served at the party Friday night.

A grand march, conga line, and the first of a series of waltz contests featured the formal ball Saturday night at the City Auditorium. The Continentals, one of the Division's dance bands, played during the evening.

Lead Grand March

Miss Agnes Phillips, captain of Co. A, Military Maids, and Pfc. Santo D. Minutoli, Co. F, 254th Inf., led the grand march. Sgt. Arthur Disner, Camp Station Complement and Miss Carolyn Longmir led the conga line.

The waltz contest, which involved some 30 couples, was won by Miss Edna Parker and Pvt. Edwin Krohl, 862d P. A. Bn. The victors will defend their laurels at dances to be held at Division Rec. Halls in the near future.

A 20-minute broadcast over Station WMIS on which the Continentals and Sgt. John Campbell, vocalist, were featured, brought the holiday program to a close Sunday afternoon at the Center. Sgt. Campbell, a graduate of the Juillard School of Music, and well-known as a concert singer in New York City, sang "Daybreak," and "From One Love to Another." Pvt. Irwin Rochlin, the band's drummer, also sang.

Thanks Expressed

Thanks to the citizens of Natchez for hospitality shown soldiers over the Christmas and New Year's weekends was voiced by Pvt. Frank J. Holub, Hq. Btry, Div. Artillery, Div. Artillery. Pvt. Holub was a professional entertainer over Chicago radio stations before joining the Army.

In addition to attending public activities many soldiers were guests at Natchez homes where they welcomed the New Year at parties and gatherings.



COL. EDWARD P. LUKERT

New 253d Inf. CO Teacher, Soldier

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Star, in addition to the Purple Heart for wounds in the chest and knee.

Basically, he is a "soldier's soldier," which accounts for his glowing appraisal of the men of his new command.

"It phases me very much to say that the soldiers of the 253d did better than had been anticipated in their basic training," the colonel declared. "Especially noticeable was the leadership of the non-commissioned officers. My own experience has taught me to be appreciative of this quality in soldiers, for there is no over-evaluating the worth of NCOs to a regiment," he said.

Held Many Posts

The 253d's colonel has held every command post in an infantry regiment, but this is his first assignment as CO, of a combat outfit, apropos of this new situation in which he finds himself. Col. Lukert has declared:

"The American soldier today is getting much more thorough training than was given the doughboys of the last war. Now, before we teach a man the art of soldiering, the question is first asked, 'Is this the way it will be done in combat?' That is the yardstick by which we'll measure the training of the men of the 253d."

The colonel, who has at various times seen service with the 19th and 26th Inf. and as a recruiting officer, made his home at Macon, Ga., but he expects to be joined at Camp Van Dorn in a few weeks by Mrs. Lukert and their 22-year-old daughter, Alma.

Gen. Vandegriff Named To Command Marines

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Lt. Gen. Alexander A. Vandegriff, U. S. Marine commander at Guadalcanal and Bougainville, has been named Commandant of the U. S. Marine Corps, succeeding Lt. Gen. Thomas Holcomb, who has retired. Recently the Japanese radio reported that Gen. Vandegriff was "killed in action."

The WAC insignia dates back to Greek mythology: it bears the helmeted head of Pallas Athena, daughter of Zeus, goddess of counsel and bringer of victory.

863d Artyman Was 1 Man Fire Detective in Oregon

When you ask Pvt. Charles L. Zaour, of Battery B, 863d P. A. Bn., what he did in civilian life, likely as not he'll reply, "I was a smoke chaser" and then he'll sit back and laugh slyly at you, as you wriggle in your seat, trying to look knowing but really wondering what the devil he means.

Eventually Zaour will relent. "Smoke chaser means just what it says," he offers. In the Forestry Service, he is the hardy lad who is dispatched to the scene of a fire after a lookout reports a suspicious whiff of smoke. His is the job to find the fire, squelch it or get it under control, and—discover its origin.

Chased Smoke

In this last department he excelled. Zaour, a muscular swarthy, bespectacled man, used to spend his summers smoke-chasing in the tall timber of Mt. Hood National Forest, Oregon. In winter he held his regular job of school superintendent in Dundee, Oregon. Although he worked in many jobs for the Forestry Service, Zaour really made his reputation as a fire-detective.

A lookout once saw a thin trail of smoke emerging from a ridge of Douglas fir several miles to the north. The information was relayed back and Zaour, equipped with light pack, mattock, pump and

army K rations, set out. "There was a lightning storm in the neighborhood last night," he was told. "That probably caused it." But Zaour wasn't so sure. He never liked to do his detecting in advance.

A half-day of difficult legwork through the underbrush finally brought him to the scene of the fire. Without stopping for rest, he unloaded his pump, attacked the hot spots of the fire. Before long, he had it extinguished. Meantime he had his eye peeled for evidence of the fire's origin. He could discover nothing.

Bottle Top Clue

He was poking about in the embers, ready to go home—suddenly he came upon a blackened, barely distinguishable tin top of a soda bottle. Zaour put it in his pocket.

That was enough. Somebody had been in the area, which normally was not frequented by woodsmen. Followed a canvass of the few stores within a radius of several miles. Who had been buying and carrying away coke bottles? Descriptions were secured, roads checked. Within two days they had their man. And the motive for the fire? Not sabotage, but a wholesome desire for a little paying work for some would-be fire fighters.

"Just a little something to start with, that's all we need," Zaour says. "Newspaper ashes, a tin can that might have contained gasoline. Once we found a bobbin pin, but that was enough to tell us to look for a female woodsman."

Was Cowhand, Shepherd

Zaour got into smoke chasing when he graduated from Linfield College in 1941. He was born and received his early education in Pennsylvania. After high school, he struck out for the west. He had a tough time getting through college, and worked as cowhand, mule tender, shepherd, lab assistant, to make his way. Some years he would go to school one semester, work the next.

In his junior year in college, the physical education director left and Zaour was put in charge of the entire program of the school—a rare job for an undergraduate. After graduation he taught in the public schools of Dundee, Oregon. He was promoted rapidly and by the time he was drafted had the distinction—at the age of 27—of being one of the youngest superintendents of schools in the United States. But Zaour claims smoke-chasing as his first love, will go back to it after the war.

Exhaustive Tests Given 63d Units

(Continued From Page 1)
tion officer, 63d Inf. Div.; T/Sgt. A. J. Williams, sergeant major, IX Corps; T/3 C. G. Peverley, Asst. Sgt. Major, IX Corps.

Also the Inspection Team Chiefs: Lt. Col. Clayton, IX Corps; Lt. Col. A. B. Murner, 94th Inf. Div.; Maj. G. C. Mohr, 94th Inf. Div.; Maj. W. M. Herron, 69th Inf. Div.; Maj. F. L. Brundage, 65th Inf. Div.; Maj. S. W. Caldwell, 94th Inf. Div.; Capt. C. S. Merritt, 94th Inf. Div.; Capt. J. D. Rose, Jr., 94th Inf. Div.; Lt. J. M. Sturm, 94th Inf. Div.; Lt. J. H. Warren, 69th Inf. Div., and Lt. D. Brick, 94th Inf. Div.

Lost Dog Item Helps Restore Pet to Owner

Mrs. Carolyn Merrill of Natchez is happy today because her pet fox terrier "Bobby" is back home. The dog disappeared about a month ago and, after a fruitless search of Natchez, his desperate mistress decided to appeal to soldiers of the camp through BLOOD AND FIRE.

A description of the pet appeared in last week's edition of this publication and as if in answer to the appeal, "Bobby" walked into the barracks of the 2d Bn., 254th Inf., just as Pvt. Tom Abbott opened the door. The dog immediately made friends with every soldier present. Half frozen and starved, "Bobby" was taken in hand by Pvts. Ted Starbinski, Carl P. Brass and Pfc. Leonard Theodore. The boys immediately recognized the dog from the description in BLOOD AND FIRE and phoned Mrs. Merrill, who lost no time in getting to camp and identifying her pet.

Paratrooper Uses Bond as Drift Paper

FT. BENNING, Ga. (CNS)—A paratrooper atop a 250-foot jump tower was told to drop a piece of paper to determine the drift of the wind. He did, then jumped, landed and streaked off.

"Where are you going?" he was asked. "To get my \$50 war bond," he replied. "It was the only piece of paper I had."

Kitchen fats, yielding glycerine, furnish medicinal products used by the Army and Navy in the treatment of high blood pressure and circulatory diseases.



FIRST CHAPLAIN of the Jewish faith, to be assigned to the 63d Division is Lt. Aaron Kahan who has been assigned to Chapel No. 8, in the 254th area.

Religious Services

Sunday

Chapel No. 8, Episcopal Communion Service, 6:00.

Chapels No. 6, 7, 8, 10, 9:00.

Chapels No. 5, 6, 8, 19, 19:00.

Chapel No. 7, 8, 11:00.

Chapel No. 5, 13:15.

Chapel No. 8, 13:00.

Chapel No. 8, 11:00.

Weekday Services

Chapel No. 5, Thursday 13:30.

Chapel No. 7, Thursday 13:30.

MORMON SERVICES

Sunday

Chapel No. 8, 14:00.

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

Sunday

Chapels No. 5, 10, 9:00.

Theater No. 5, 9:00.

Theater No. 1, 19:30.

Chapel No. 10, 11:00.

Evening Mass

Chapel No. 5, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 18:30.

Chapels No. 5, 19, Saturday, 18:30-20:00.

Jewish Services

Chapel No. 8, 20:30.

Chapel No. 1, Friday, 19:30.

Chapel No. 7, Friday night, 20:00.

Christian Science Reading

Chapel No. 1, Sunday, 11:00.

Seventh Day Adventist

Chapel No. 8, Friday, 19:30.

Theater Schedules

THEATERS NOS. 1 & 2

Starting Times—No. 1 18:45; No. 2 18:10

Dec.

8 "Gung Ho," Randolph Scott, Grace MacDonald, Alan Curtis.

9-10 "Cry Havoc," with Margaret Sullivan, Ann Sotlern, Joan Blondell.

11 "Klondike Kate," with Ann Savage, Tom Neal and Glenda Farrell.

"Calling Dr. Death," with Lon Chaney, Jr., Patricia Morrison.

12-13 "What a Woman," with Rosalind Russell, Brian Aherne.

14 "The Woman of the Town," with Claire Trevor, Albert Dekker, Barry Sullivan.

THEATER NO. 5

Starting Time—18:15

Dec.

9-10 "Gung Ho," with Randolph Scott, Grace MacDonald, Alan Curtis.

11-12 "Cry Havoc," with Margaret Sullivan, Ann Southern and Joan Blondell.

13 "Klondike Kate," with Ann Savage, Tom Neal and Glenda Farrell.

14-15 "What a Woman," with Rosalind Russell and Brian Aherne.

Atlases are in continuing demand in Army libraries. The men want to check the distance to nearby towns and also the mileage from home.

263d Engineers Get 13 New Officers

Thirteen officers, including one who already has seen overseas action, have joined the 263rd Engr. Bn., Lt. Col. Jack L. Coan, battalion commander, announced Friday.

Eleven of the 13 hold engineering degrees. Five are graduates of Virginia Military Institute.

Heading the list is Capt. John Henry Teunisson, Jr., of Mendenhall, Miss. Capt. Teunisson served 16 months with a coast artillery anti-aircraft unit in the South Pacific theater, where he underwent nuisance raids by high-flying enemy aircraft.

The other 12 officers, recent graduates of Officer Candidate School at Ft. Belvoir, Va., are Lts. Gordon S. Adams, Murray A. Chilton, George A. Gray, Harold A. Lay, William J. Laz, Robert B. Mountcastle, Chesley M. Moyer, Jr., Arthur B. Nunn, Jr., Earl A. Ostmeyer, Carlton C. Salley, John J. Smith and Robert M. Stribling.

Div. Arty to Show Chaplin Comedy

The second old time movie program sponsored by Division Artillery Special Service Office, will be presented tomorrow night and Monday night at Div. Arty. Rec. Hall at 19:30. The feature picture will be one of Charlie Chaplin's best known comedies, "Easy Street." The supporting program will consist of two early melodramas, "Beach Flirt," and "Saving the Mortgage."

Tomorrow's program will be presented in regular old fashioned style. There will be a piano player Monday night in the person of Pvt. Paul Taubmann of Division Special Service, and Pvt. Cy Bernhard, Hq. Btry., Div. Arty., will assist in dubbing in the various sound effects.

This program will be the second in a series. The first program was presented two weeks ago at Service Club No. 2 where a Chaplin comedy and a Fatty Arbuckle-Mabel mand comedy-drama were shown.

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 63d Infantry Division with editorial offices at Public Relations Office, 63d Division Artillery Recreation Hall, Telephone 744.

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Pvt. Thomas A. Hoyer..... Editor
Pvt. Edwin H. Brown..... Associate Editor
Pvt. Stoddard White..... Staff Writer
Pfc. Paul Parris..... Staff Writer
Pvt. Gill Fox..... Staff Cartoonist
Pvt. William Schiff..... Staff Photographer
T/Sgt. Harding S. Ericson..... Distribution Mgr.

EDITORIAL

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

By tonight the ITP tests for the 63d Div. will be filed under the heading of "finished business." It is anticipated that it will have been labeled also as a job well done.

But, during the ensuing weeks along with those of furloughs and home, there must be consideration too of things to come, of unit training and maneuvers. And apropos of these, it would be well to give heed to the words of Col. Albert S. J. Stovall, Cav., who recently returned from an observation tour of Army Ground Forces in the Mediterranean war theater.

Take a look at what the front line soldier is up against, as the Colonel suggests. "War to him (the soldier) is not a matter of a few seconds of concentrated combat, a terrifying melee that is over in a moment.

"The assault soldier goes into the front lines to stay for days and sometimes weeks. To him there will be not one melee, one moment of concentrated combat; to him those moments happen over and over again.

"There's no glamor or glory in sweat, filth, wet feet, tired aching bones and muscles."

Yes, by tonight you probably will have shown a spark of those qualities that make the "world's best soldier" to the satisfaction of the ITP inspectors. But, in the days that lie ahead remember that more than a spark is needed to make the combat trooper who will successfully slug it out with the enemy.

FURLOUGH TIME

Furlough time, eagerly anticipated for months by fillers going through Basic and for even longer by cadremen who have not been home since before most of us came to the 63d Division, is at hand.

For most of us it will be the first time home since the day we took the train to the reception center. For nearly all it will be the first opportunity to wear the Blood and Fire insignia home. It will be the first opportunity many civilians have had to see the glowing red and gold of what is perhaps the Army's most distinctive division emblem.

Civilians are going to ask what that emblem means; more important, they are going to wonder for what we stand.

Let them know that we are learning to be combat soldiers. Wear that cap cocked over one eye and one ear. Strut just a little—in the words of our Commanding General, "walk full-fit in the pride of the fighting man."

And when we do strut that little bit, let us remember why we are proud. Let us not forget that we are wearing a uniform so fine it needs no more decoration than the pride that comes in an army of free men. Let us not forget that that uniform implies that we have taken up one of the greatest responsibilities of our American citizenship, the duty of bearing arms in the national defense.

Let no one of us forget the word "soldier" has a dignity and stature that each of us may wear with solemn but evident pride.



News from Here and There

35-Year-Old Colonel Named Brig. Gen.

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC (CNS)—Col. Frederick H. Smith, Jr., who directed the building of advanced air bases in New Guinea, has been promoted to Brigadier General at the age of 35. He is the son-in-law of Adm. Ernest J. King, commander in chief of the U. S. Fleet.

Society Girl in Dutch Has Two Army Husbands

NEW YORK (CNS)—Ann Marie Saportas is out in Hollywood looking for a job in the movies but when she comes home she's going to find that mamma is very, very angry. She's also going to find a cop sitting on the doorstep, all ready to arrest her for bigamy. Ann Marie, a cafe society gal, is married to two servicemen, the coppers have learned. One of them is Marine Lt. Allan Thomas Sturges, whom Ann Marie wedded in Woodford, Vt. in July 1941 and the other is P/Sgt. Jerome Mark, whom Ann Marie married in Charleston, S. C. the following November. Ann's first husband was Pvt. Gordon W. Gilliam, now stationed in North Africa, whom Ann married in 1938 when she was 18. That one was annulled by Ma Saportas.

Fake GI Arrested With Many Ribbons

LOS ANGELES (CNS)—When police arrested Louis Botellos, 52, on a charge of illegally wearing a uniform he was sporting these insignia on his Army blouse: Purple Heart, Pacific Combat Theater, Asiatic service with three stars, defense bar with two stars, World War I ribbon with five stars, Distinguished Service Cross, Croix de Guerra with palms, Belgian, Cuban and Nicaraguan campaign ribbons, amphibious forces, Guadalcanal and Alaska action, sergeant's stripes, 20 years' service stripes and—the Good Conduct Medal.

Broken Back Fails To Down Combat Flier

LONDON (CNS)—Flight Lt. Desmond Ruchwaldy of the Royal Air Force, who broke his back in an airplane crash two years ago, shot down two Nazi fighters in a recent raid on the Belgian base of Chievres. Ruchwaldy holds the Distinguished Flying Medal.

Facing Death, Chutist Thought of Mother, Girl

ENGLAND (CNS)—William Robson, an Ontario paratrooper who plunged 700 feet to earth under a half-collapsed chute and lived to tell the tale, said that

during his fall he thought of his mother and his girl.

While falling, Robson, now hospitalized here said: "I tugged and yanked all the way. I thought I was going to die and right after that I thought 'What will my mother and my girl think when I'm killed'."

Sgt. Kills Five Japs With Soaked Rifle

PACIFIC AREA (CNS)—Sgt. Walter Schliezman, 25, of New York, killed five Japs with a water-soaked rifle and blew up two others with hand grenades during the invasion of Makin Island. He said that his rifle, an M1, had been under water while he was wading ashore but that it worked "just like it had been freshly cleaned."

Gob Identifies Girl Thief by Tattooed Thigh

NEW YORK (CNS)—Sailor Jack White of the U. S. Navy had \$120 in his jeans when he met a pretty little red-head in a Times Square bar. One thing led to another and when White awoke the next morning in an East Side hotel he discovered that he was minus his \$120.

That night, prowling morosely about the midtown area, White spotted his red-head again. He hauled her to a cooler, identified her to police by the tattoo she wore on her pretty little thigh, and had her arrested.

Remembers Her Name But Not Address

CAMP CLABORNE, La. (CNS)—Cpl. Homer Golden can remember the name of his girl but he forgets the name of the street where she lives. So he has written to the chief of police at Atlanta, Ga., where he met the girl, for a list of all the streets in that city. "I think I'd know the street name if I saw it" he wrote.

'Wilder' Recruit Wants to Join Marines

PORTLAND, ORE. (CNS)—Recruits at an induction station here were asked their names and choice of service. "I'm Wilder," said one. "And I want to join the Navy." "I'm Wilder," said another. "And I want to join the Marines."

Bathing Suits Sent To Chilly Russians

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (CNS)—Residents of Santa Barbara are sending 1,000 bathing suits to the icy steppes of Soviet Russia. "You see," explains Mrs. John A. Jamieson, head of the Russian War Relief drive here, "they'll make nice warm woolen underwear."

The Sky Pilot Says It

SPECIAL DAYS

By Chaplain C. S. Burton
363d Med. Bn.

Life has many special days, days that are distinct from the regular routine activities. Sometimes these are on special occasions such as Christmas or New Year's Day and sometimes the special day is because of some personal experience or memory.

These special days are of benefit if they make us pause to "take stock" of our situation; to remind us of the ultimate values for which we live and strive; to call to our attention the requirements we must meet if we would live abundantly and direct us to the resources for meeting life's demands. By their very "special" nature they give us a fresh start, help us catch our "second wind."

But special occasions defeat their own purpose if they make us attempt by wishful thinking to escape all the routine days filled with routine responsibilities that lie between the special occasions. For the great things of life are made up of a multitude of little things—and the great people are those who have shown their greatness in "little" situations and thus have not been found wanting in a great demand.

So, as the special days come, let us make them occasions for looking backward over the successes and failures that have been, resolved to learn by past experiences, and for looking forward to the day-by-day demands of the future—facing a future of little tasks that add up to a great job, a future of routine activities demanding patience that can only come through faith in our purpose and faith in the God who said, "I will never leave thee nor forsake thee."

G. I. Jingles

AFFINITY

The moon that shines on your dear face—
Is shining on mine too,
The stars whisper words of love
To me as well as you!
The tears that creep into your dreams
Are like unto my own—
We are together, dearest—
Even though we are alone!
There is a bond between us
That distance cannot sever.
For you are mine and I am yours
Always and forever.
So let us smile and carry on
'Midst cares and wee and strife—
We are no longer man and maid—
We are—soldier and his wife!

—By Mrs. Vera H. Savage,
Wife of Pvt. James Savage,
Hq. Co., 254th Inf.

BUGLES

Twenty-two buglers blowin' their horns;
Thirty-one nights and thirty-one morns;
Blowin' the reveille—"can't get 'em up,"
Blowin' the mass call, for mess kit and cup.
Blowin' fatigue and blowin' for drill,
Blowin' ole sick call for those who are ill.
Blowin' for church, blowin' for guard,
Always blowin' and blowin' their hard.
Blowin' for recall, blowin' for taps;
Rousing the soldiers from out of their naps.
All 'kinds of blowin' day after day,
Only blowin' them once on the day that they pay.

GI JOE

(With apologies to "Bobby" Burns)

Joe GI, GI Joe
When first we were acquaint—
Your locks were long; unruly—
Your back was bowed and bent—
Now your back is straight Joe,
Your locks, they had to go—
Ah, sure you're now a better man
Joe GI, GI Joe.

Joe GI, GI Joe
We climbed the hills together—
And many a bonny walk we took
Through fells, in bonny weather—
Now you're taking walks again
Through mud, and wind and snow—
Now I'll be damned if I'll hold your hand.
My Snafu GI Joe.

By Pfc. Herbert Arbitblitt,
Hq. Co., 3d Bn. 255th Inf.

DIVISION SIDELIGHTS

718th F. A. Bn. Hq.—Ushered in the New Year with a list of promotions last Friday. Mess Sgt. T/4 Frank Johnston and T/4 Joseph Martin are now T/3's. Donald Lindstrom is now Cpl. in the wire section and Pvt. Martin Miller was promoted to T/1 in Hq. Instrument and Survey Section.

Awarded the Good Conduct Medal in the past week are the following men: T/Sgt. R. K. Bloomer, S/Sgt. E. Kienger, S/Sgt. E. Skinner, Jr., S/Sgt. S. Sussman, Sgt. M. Hahn, T/3 J. Boleski, T/4 David Donner, T/4 H. Engdahl, T/4 Herbert J. Hinkel, T/4 Herman Lubkittman, Jr., T/4 William McCombs, Jr., Cpl. Arthur Woerner, Cpl. Donald Lindstrom, T/1 Charles W. Cameron, S/Sgt. W. Brown, S/Sgt. Joseph Bayasso, T/4 Alusik, T/4 P. Hein, T/1 D. Randall, T/1 A. Smuler, T/1 J. Stone, Pfc. J. Dishaw, Privs. W. Fox, W. Haver, J. Smith, W. Snyder, T/5 M. Miller.

The men of Hq. Btry. are rather glum this week. Jinx Falkenberg was to have had dinner with them in her scheduled visit to camp last Wednesday, but due to inclement weather, she didn't make it to Van Horn. Hq. Btry. mess was awarded first place in a recent division inspection and her visit was to be the reward. Maybe they will have the good fortune to have her with them on a later date. Service Battery took first honors in Orientation Center inspection.

Div. Hq. and Hq. Co.—With an average of only 0.5 deficiencies for each vehicle, Hq. Co. leads the Division in automobile maintenance. It was announced at the last meeting of motor officers and motor sergeants . . . The second promotion in two months came through this week for Morris Klass, assistant to the Div. Chaplain, who was raised from T/5 to T/4 . . . New mess sergeant in charge of Hq. Co.'s two mess halls is S/Sgt. David S. Wiese, who came from Serv. Co., 254th Inf. His predecessor, S/Sgt. William McLean, Jr., went to Serv. Co., 255th Inf. . . Hq. Co. was host at a New Year's Eve dance for Special Troops, held in the Sp. Tips. rec. hall. Half a hundred young women came from Baton Rouge to dance the old year out.

363d Med. Bn.—Friends of Lt. Tony Susino, recently reassigned, have received word that he now is addressed at APO c/o Postmaster, Seattle, Wash. . . Fourteen medics, losers in touch football finals, received tickets to the Sugar Bowl game from the 255th Inf. athletic and recreation office.

263d Engr. Bn.—Capt. James A. Henstreet has returned from Ft. Belvoir, Va., where he attended an engineer officers cadre course . . . Lt. Richard B. Schellhaas, battalion S-4, is attending a school in operations against permanent land fortifications at Ft. Belvoir . . . Most recent officer promotion went to Lt. Harry W. Wyrce, who was raised from second to first lieutenant. Promotions of enlisted men this week included the following: Sgt. Clifton B. Wingate to staff sergeant, Cpl. Thomas D. Styles to sergeant and Pfc. Neil E. Bailey, Arnold M. Peterson and Lawrence V. Pfister to T/5.

254th Inf.—Pfc. Leonard H. Sessler of Co. B, hung up a record of 154 on the BAR the first time he fired the weapon . . . The CT White rec. hall was transformed into an artificial woodland, with decorations of evergreen and tinsel, for the New Year's Eve dance of the 2d Bn. Among the guests were 109 young women from the Baton Rouge USO, accompanied by the center's director, James Lyon, Lt. Col. Joseph H. Warren, regimental commander, and Mrs. Warren were guests of honor.

255th Inf.—Recent promotions in the regiment include the following: In Co. I, Frank R. Barsicki, Roger J. Cafe, Anthony F. Francaville, James B. Schneidwind, William G. Shipman and Norman A. Tibbits to corporal, and John L. Condit, Demetro Kaiser and Wilfred B. Wiley to T/5; in Hq. Co., 3d Bn., Cecil Barrette and Herbert Arditbit to Pfc.; in Hq. Co., 2d Bn., James J. Malone, David E. Ditto and William H. Dean, Jr., to T/5, and Rudolph E. Rizado, Albert R. Eury, William C. Matis, Jerome Shore, Anthony J. Gradnowski and Louis A. Salmon to corporal; in Co. L, Harold J. Belcher and Wilbur C. Dick to sergeant; Joseph G. Gokey, Wilbur Ward, Donald E. Tegge and Robert C. Roane to corporal, and Ira D. Fitzgaid to T/5; in Co. F, William Waytovich, William Bacon and Stephan Greshak to T/5; Ernest Orcutt, Raymond Lehman, Carl Converse, John J. Joyce, Robert Doss, Howard Thalmer, Paul Prieve and John Sanders to corporal, and Walter Howell and Eugene Govern to sergeant . . . Pvt. Homer Laughlin, Cannon Co., was making a dash from the latrine one night recently, dressed in nothing but his shorts. It was midnight and cold as an ice cream freezer. Suddenly someone called his name. "I stopped, thinking someone must be in great trouble to call me at such a time, dressed as I was," Laughlin said. "I thought rapidly about what I can do to help him. So what does this stranger do but walk up to me, while I'm shivering like a snowflake, and say: 'Got a match?' I looked him up and down, then I looked at my pocketless shorts. 'Sure,' I said. 'I got thousands of matches, you oaf! Now I carry matches, a comb, cigars, pen, pencil and paper at all times—just in case.' . . . Have you done your Christmas shopping yet? Pvt. Mordecai Bauman, of the regimental retreat office, has. He ordered 3,500 illustrated song books from an insurance company, to use at songfests 352 days hence. He isn't pessimistic about the length of the war; Santa Claus just couldn't deliver the books in time for 1942.

863 F. A. Bn.—Relatives and friends in Grafton, Wis., got together over the holidays and wrote Pfc. James W. Cudaby, of Btry. C, some 28,000 words of news and greetings. The letter was written on a strip of paper 12 feet long and 11 inches wide . . . Sgt. Oal L. Hutchison has been promoted from corporal . . . A novel "Plane of the Week" display has been added to Btry. C's orientation board. The framed painting by Pvt. Wilfred L. Rectenwald shows a Mitchell B-25 flying low over a framed waterfront engulfed by smoke and burning oil. It is so arranged that a new plane can be substituted each week without changing the original effect of the picture. A complete description and series of diagrams accompanies each aircraft displayed . . . Recent promotions to T/5 include Pfc. Ted D. Lettier, of the Radio Sec. of Hq. Btry., and Pvt. Alan B. Strong, of Fire Direction . . . Five men of Hq. Btry.—Pfc. Peter McNamara and Frank Pezzuti and Privs. Paul Rushton, Leo Mancher and Harold Holland—still smack their lips at the thought of the holiday week-end they spent on a plantation near Churchill, Miss. A pig was slaughtered in their presence for a feast; the live were treated royally and were waited on throughout the week end by two maids.



COMBAT SOLDIER Pfc. Walter Kerr, former foreign correspondent for the New York Herald Tribune, who has written a book "The Russian Army," soon to be published. Kerr returned from an assignment in Russia last April in order to join the United States Army. He is a member of the Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon of the Blood and Fire Division.

Kerr Writes Book On Russian Army

(Continued From Page 1.) Syracuse Post-Standard, he joined the Herald-Tribune staff in March, 1934. Three years later he went to Europe as assistant correspondent in the paper's Paris bureau. In the years after his arrival in Europe he witnessed many of the crises and debacles which were preludes to a second world war. He was in Vienna at the time of the Anschluss with Germany; in Prague during the August-September crisis of 1938; in Berlin in the early months of fateful 1939; in Finland during the Russo-Finnish War, and in Paris at the time of the German occupation.

Kerr and another correspondent were in Compiègne on the morning when Hitler arrived to sign the armistice with France, but they were denied the opportunity of scooping the world on the story. They were expelled from the town by German authorities who had brought the various Berlin correspondents with them for the historic scene.

Kerr returned to New York in 1940 and almost immediately went to South America as a roving correspondent. Then he was assigned to the London bureau of his paper and, while attached to this bureau, went to Russia, arriving at Kuliyshev in November, 1941. He covered the Russian war effort for the next 18 months before returning to the United States last spring.

RAPID CITY, S. D. (CNS)—A waitress in an officers club here paged "Lt. Roger Wilson" for nearly an hour before a kind hearted individual explained that "Lt. Wilson" was "on furlough."

Bright Entries For 1944 Prize Of Liars' Club

If you're a hunter, you'll enjoy these screwy reminders of palmier days:

In Brockway, Pa., three hunters shot a bear and threw him into their car. However, the bear soon revived, whereupon the three hunters beat the world's record for getting out of a car. Once outside, they shot again, with the following results: the bear was killed, the rear tire and gas tank of the auto were ruined by bullets, the insurance company refused to pay damages and the hunters were arrested for killing a bear out of season.

In Hillsboro, Ill., four men and a dog went coon hunting. After several hours of hunting had produced no traces of a coon, the dog suddenly turned on the hunters and chased them up a tree, where they remained until dawn when the dog, tired of it all, walked away.

In St. Anthony, Ida., three hunters took a bead on a flight of geese. All fired at once. One goose dropped—the one at which all had aimed.

Lt. Boes of 255th Inf. Engaged To Be Married

The engagement of Miss Rachel Ann Purcell, of Baton Rouge, to Lt. Orlow Boes, Cannon Co., 255th Inf., was announced by the parents of the prospective bride Sunday, Jan. 2.

Lt. Boes, whose home is in Wethersfield, Conn., was commissioned in April, 1943. He has seen service in an overseas theater.

The Nazis are said to have shipped Italian Balkan soldiers to Germany in locked freight cars.

Girl on Calendar Work of Connolly

Many soldiers who saw the signature, "Pvt. Howard Connolly," on the back page calendar of the New Year's edition of BLOOD AND FIRE may not have realized that the talented artist is a member of the 63d.

When Connolly drew for his division newspaper a lush young woman in a transparent negligee, a Blood and Fire carring dangling from under her long blonde curls, he was returning to his civilian occupation of drawing eye-arresting young women.

Now a member of Hq. Co., 3d Bn., 253d Inf., Connolly trimmed department store windows and painted theater lobby displays in New England until he finally attracted enough attention to sell a painting to Liberty magazine, which used it as a cover in 1938.

After tramping the streets of New York for two years trying to sell his work, he found his paintings taking hold slowly in the field of advertising art. More and more firms began to ask for Connolly until finally he became one of the recognized illustrators in commercial art, working for magazines, insurance companies, breweries and advertising agencies.

Actors to Present Ninth Broadcast

Continuing the theme of Why We Fight, Division Special Service will present its ninth radio broadcast of the season over Station WWL, Loyola university, at New Orleans Sunday night from 1800 to 1815.

"Fear" will be the title of the sketch which will portray the thoughts of one of many soldiers in an assault boat which is rapidly approaching the Italian coast in the recent invasion by the Allies.

In the comparatively short time in which the boat takes to run from the transport to the shore, the soldier debates in his mind the advisability of taking cover immediately in a cave the location of which he previously noted on a map of the field of operations. The mental battle which goes on within the man's mind will be dramatically portrayed by Special Service actors during the 15-minute broadcast.

The part of the coward will be played by Pvt. John Larkin and that of his buddy in the boat by Cpl. Cy Bernhard. The wife of the coward, will be played by Miss Jill Jackson, a member of the WWL staff. The story is an original one by Pvt. Albert Lewin, who will direct the action. Pvt. Paul Taubman will be in charge of the musical score.

Japs Ban Love-making In Manila Prison Camp

NEW YORK (CNS)—The Japs have placed a ban on love-making in their Manila internment camp, a civilian nurse who was recently released in an exchange of nationals has revealed.

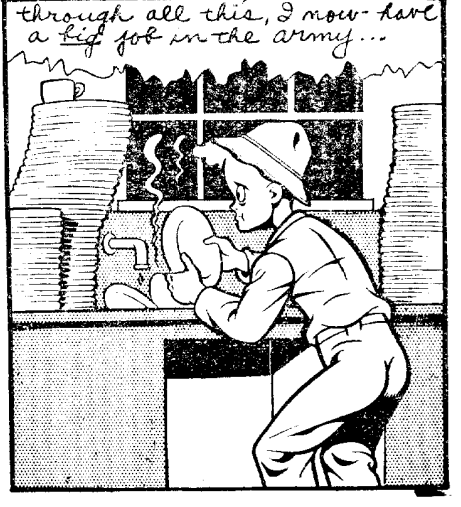
The nurse, Miss Dorothy Davis, 26, said that although married persons interned at the camp were permitted to meet on the prison compounds they were forced to maintain separate living quarters and seldom were permitted to be alone together.

If a married woman became pregnant, Miss Davis said, her husband was thrown into the camp's miserable jail for three months.

BERNIE BLOOD

Smash Hit

By GILL FOX



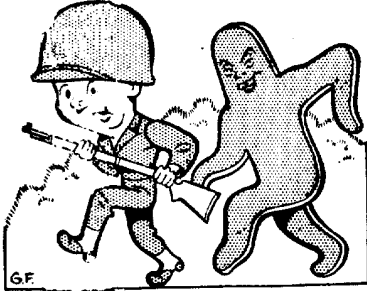
TIPS FROM TERRY FIED --THE 'OLD SARGE'

Not long ago I gave you a tip to the effect that by going hunting for all the good instruction that is being handed out around the Division and "lapping" it up where you find it you are thereby increasing your chances of bringing yourself back alive.

There are, however, more reasons for doing this than purely selfish ones. For example, another damned good one is that you will be helping the other members of your squad to come back too. You have all seen a football team lose a game because some member fumbled the ball, got his signals twisted or didn't know the play. In combat squad teams you lose for just the same reasons, and there ain't no chance to "get 'em next year," either.

Most of my squads are getting to be damned good in attacking those paste-board targets that I

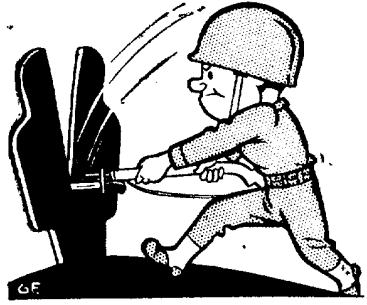
Also, there seems to be a feeling among my squad leaders that all you have to do is to put that BAR up there to pin the enemy down and then take the rest of the squad through the woods to the left, and presto! the battle is over and won. Don't you believe it for a minute, brother. That Jap or German in that fox hole up on that ridge



is just as smart as you are. Most likely he won't obligingly fire at that first scout, as most people around here seem to think, and if he does you won't be able to see him. Two to one he'll sit there and wait until you're so close he can't miss. That's why you've got to wait until those scouts investigate before the rest of the squad comes out in the open, and don't come out then if you can help it.

If you figure that those woods on the left are good for an envelopment then you can just put it down in your little book that the enemy saw it before you did and will be set for you.

So my tip to you is to give those silhouette targets buckteeth and credit for being just as smart as you are.



have been sticking out in front of them. The only trouble is that I'm afraid they're getting the idea that in combat they'll have something just as big and with just about as much brains to shoot at.



Q. Does a three-day pass count against my furlough time?

A. No. Passes up to 72 hours are not entered on your service record and do not count against your furlough time.

Q. Is an enlisted man permitted to marry while stationed in foreign theaters of operation?

A. Not without the permission of his commanding officer.

Q. What are the complete qualifications for the Expert Infantryman Badge?

A. Details of qualification tests for this badge were listed in War Department's Circular 322. They follow: To receive the expert badge an infantryman must qualify with one crew-served weapon and in transition firing or qualify with one-crew served weapon and in transition firing. He must complete continuous foot marches, without falling out, of 25 miles in 8 hours and 9 miles in 2 hours with full field equipment. He must complete physical fitness tests including pushups, a 300 yard-run, the burpee, a 75 yard piga-aback carry at a run and a 70-yard-agility run. He must also complete infiltration, close combat and combat-in-cities courses; qualify in a grenade course and pass tests in scouting and patrolling, first aid, field sanitation, military discipline and courtesy and bayonet drill.

Q. Let's have it again. On which side of decorations is the Good Conduct Medal worn?

A. The Good Conduct Medal is worn to the LEFT of all decorations and to the RIGHT of all service medals. This information is provided in change No. 25, 5 July 1943, AR, 600-40, 28 August 1943.

Q. What are the age requirements for enlisted women in U. S. armed forces?

A. The minimum age for woman in all services is 20. The WAC accepts women through 49. The SPARS, WAVES and Women Marines accept women through 35.

Concert Series At Chapel No. 6

A series of recorded concerts was inaugurated last Sunday at Chapel No. 6, 13th Ave. and 8th St., being designed to provide lovers of classical and semi-classical music with entertainment.

Under the joint direction of Pvts. Richard Sutch and Harry Sheets, these programs consisting of selections from operas, ballets and musicals begin at 1530 each Sunday afternoon and may be enjoyed by wives and friends of Blood and Fire soldiers as well as the soldiers themselves.

Hand Is Quicker Than Eye; Pfc. Vitale Can Prove It

In the event of a cigaret shortage Pfc. B. Gilbert Vitale, Med. Det. 255th Inf., would be a good man to have around. Pfc. Vitale is a magician, and his favorite trick which he worked out himself is picking cigarets in a seemingly endless stream from thin air. Where they come from, of course, is an "enigma wrapped in a puzzle in the middle of a mystery," to paraphrase Prime Minister Churchill.

Vitale, a B. S. graduate in biology and chemistry, University of Buffalo, became interested in magic and the black arts while still a student and paid part of his expenses performing for campus shows.

Became Professional

The step from amateur to professional was short, and Vitale made it when he returned home to Rochester, N. Y. He was so good at fooling people, and accompanying his tricks with a pleasant line of chatter, that he was deluged with dates to play for civic clubs, theaters, private parties and schools.

"Civic clubs and private parties provide my favorite audiences," Vitale says. "Why? Simple. They pay good money and you don't have to work so hard and long. Of course, I enjoy working for children any time."

The GI "Merlin" not only made his living with his wits and his dexterous fingers, but he is a student of the ancient art of magic. Before entering the Army September 1, 1943, he owned a library of 700 books on the subject, and in his collection was one manuscript more than 200 years old. He sold much of the collection when he donned the uniform.

Allies of the Devil

"In olden times, magicians were looked upon as allies of the devil," Vitale said, "and frequently they worked on the superstitions of the people to wield greater power. In recent years, however, the magician has evolved into an entertainer, catering to the instinctive desire of people to be fooled. Another strong reason for the success of magicians is the competitive tendency of an audience to match wits with the performer to prove that the hand is not quicker than the eye."

Vitale depends entirely on "finger work" in plying his trade, and looks with some disdain on the use of "box tricks," such as sawing a girl in half. Anybody can learn to do that type of deception



PFC. B. GILBERT VITALE

in two or three weeks, he says, but sleight-of-hand requires months and years of practice to acquire the old and develop new tricks.

Women Like Card Tricks

"Women, today, are chiefly interested in tricks that utilize cards and silk," Vitale said, "mainly because they're playing more cards than ever, and silk is scarce."

Men prefer cigar and cigaret and gambling tricks, he avers, while children go goggle-eyed at the disappearing rabbit or chick.

Vitale at one time was president of the Rochester Magicians Club, which was the forerunner of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. He is a member of all leading magic societies.

And what did he do as a sideline activity? He was manager of an interior decorating shop!

War Bond Dates Confuse Soldiers

There are some things about war bonds which soldiers in the field don't understand. This isn't surprising because there are some things about war bonds that aren't very simple.

One thing that mystifies soldiers is the discrepancy in the dates that appear on the face of the bonds. The bonds carry two dates. One is the date of the bond itself, the other the date of issue. Don't let the difference in the two confuse you.

You see, it is the policy of the Army war bond office to issue all bonds within the first 15 days of the month following completion of payment. Ordinarily, the subscriber is given the benefit of 30 days interest, since his bond is dated the first of the month although payment is not completed until the end of the month.

Sometimes bond purchasers start to worry when they do not receive the bond they've been buying on the day they expect it. The reason for these delays is that sometimes complete information is lacking. If the war bond is more than 15 days late you should make inquiry at the war bond office so that the records may be checked.

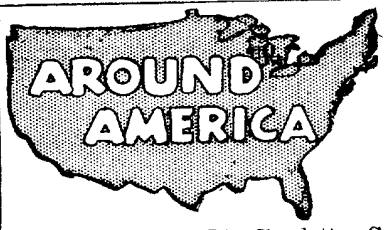
Div. Hq. Regains Spot Check Lead

Motor vehicles operated by Div. Hq. climbed back to the top of the list in Div. spot check for the period ending January 4 with an average of 0.6. Following close behind were the 363d Med. Bn. with a 0.8 average. The 263d Engrs. were third with 1.1.

Checkers found that deficiencies continued to be lowered by the various units of the Division. The average was 2.2 per vehicle. A previous check disclosed that deficiencies averaged 2.4.

The first six units follow:

Div. Hq.	0.6
363d Med. Bn.	0.8
263d Engrs.	1.1
253d Inf.	1.5
563d Sig. Co.	2.1
561st F. A.	2.1
Div. Arty Hq.	2.1
253d Inf.	2.3
718th F. A.	2.3



BUFFALO—Lt. Burdette S. Wright, Jr., 23-year-old son of the vice-president of the Curtiss-Wright Corp., airplane division, is missing in action, his family has been advised.

FT. BENNING, Ga.—The first Negro parachute unit in the Army is to be activated here. The unit is designated as the 555th Pcht. Inf. Co. Volunteers for the cadre will be selected from the 92d Inf. Div. at Ft. Huachuca, Ariz.

WESTFIELD, N. J.—Robert S. Gill, 73, president of the Cheesebrough Manufacturing Co., makers of petroleum jelly, is dead.

DETROIT—Police Commissioner Witherspoon has resigned and returned to the corporation counsel's office. He was succeeded as commissioner by John F. Bellenger, welfare chief.

MT. CLEMENS, Mich.—Ted Rogers, who recently came to a Sterling Township farm from the South, faces possible prosecution for failing to provide food or shelter for his cow during freezing weather. He told the sheriff "we always leave the cows outside down South."

OTTAWA, Ill.—Police are investigating what they term "the most contemptible crime in the city's history"—theft of an honor roll of Boy Scouts in service. The 4-by-6-foot plaque was stolen from a park where it was dedicated last Memorial Day.

NEW YORK—New York City is 61 per cent dirtier than it was four years ago, Davis R. Morris, Government meteorologist, reports. Since Pearl Harbor the average pollution of New York's air has been 1.44 tons of soot in every cubic mile of atmosphere. Chief reason for the pollution, Morris says, is the use of cheaper grades of fuel and the manpower shortage which has caused many inexperienced persons to fire factory furnaces.

DETROIT—Johnny Crimmins, Detroit's nationally famous match bowler, is awaiting examination on a charge of involuntary manslaughter. His car struck and killed a pedestrian. Police and witnesses said he was driving 50 miles an hour at Warren and St. Jean avenues. Crimmins admitted he had been drinking.

CLEVELAND—Charles L. Bradley, 58, president of the Higbee Co. department store and formerly a top official in the fabulous Van Sweringen railroad empire, is dead. He was a brother of Alva Bradley, president of the Cleveland Indians.

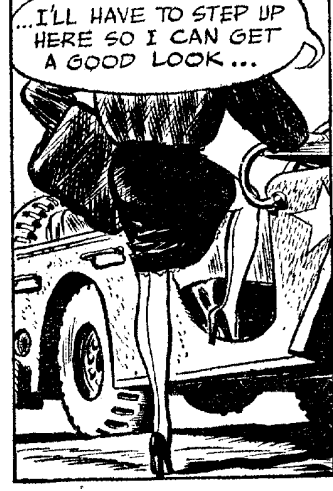
DETROIT—George Edwards, 28-year-old city councilman and CIO leader, has been inducted into the Army. A pre-Pearl Harbor father, he did not request deferment.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (CNS)—Mark Thrash, Civil War veteran and the oldest pensioner on the payroll of the Federal Government, died at his home here at the age of 122. Thrash, born in slavery in 1820, fought for the South in the Civil War, outlived five wives and 11 of his 39 children. He married his fifth wife when he was 102.

DEER ISLE, Me. (CNS)—Herman S. Conary, 74, and his wife, 76, died within 10 minutes of each other here on the eve of their 56th wedding anniversary.

Male Call

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



Things Are Not Always As They Seem

254th Dance Band Claims Musicians From Many Places

Among professional bandmen there is no better criterion of a musical organization's talents and appeal than in the number of engagements it plays.

On that basis, the 254th Inf. band must be a pretty "hot" outfit for in the last two weeks its members have played 13 engagements and the bookings still pour in.

The universal appeal of this combination of a dozen combat soldiers is due in part to the fact that the artists hail from various sections of the United States and consequently know what the boys want.

Eastern and Western tastes in contemporary music are given consideration right at the top, for handling arrangements and direction of the band are Pvt. Edward Bland and Jack Campbell, both of Co. M. Bland played the piano in his own orchestra at Pittsburgh, Pa., while Campbell toured the Pacific coast tooting the sax with Griff Williams' outfit.

Campbell, incidentally, not so very long ago was traveling the Orient as a member of a band aboard ship. The leader of that steamship band is now a Lt. Col. stationed with American army troops in one of the theaters of operations.

The Midwest has contributed bass fiddler Glenn Wyatt, who hails from Auburn, Indiana. Trombonist Larson's home was in Chelalis, Wash., while Mass., Pa., New Jersey and New York have respectively contributed Frank Morach, "Hot Lips" DeBrun, Trumpeter Persons, Harry Deleterer, Walt Sherpensky, Johnny DeVincentis, Jimmy DeCenbrino and Al Roth.



(Continued From Page 3.)

MONTCLAIR, N. J.—Pfc. Edward Meyerson wrote home from his post in the South Pacific asking for 500 Willie buttons. Somewhat mystified, his mother sent them to him. In time she received a second letter.

"I guess," he wrote, "I'll have to give you an explanation of my strange request—the censor had clipped a large hole in the letter—and that's the reason I wanted them."

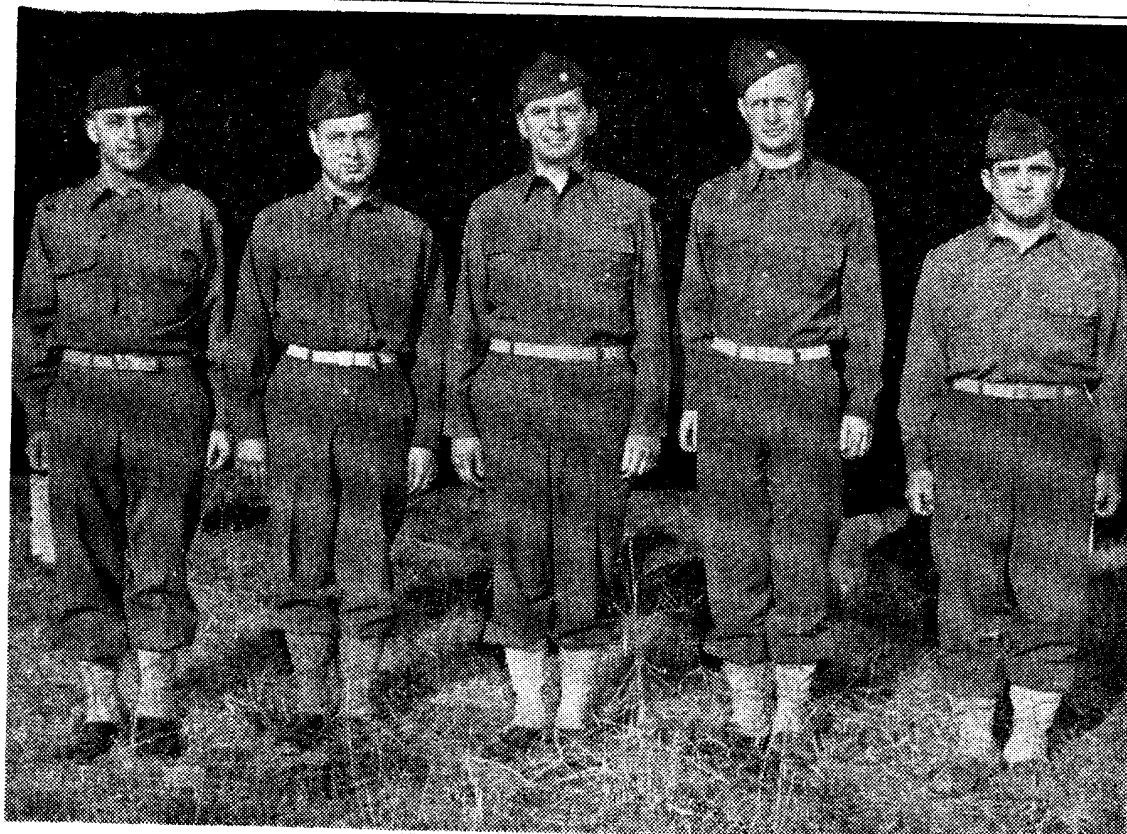
LOS ANGELES (CNS) — Mrs. Sarol Snider blinked a couple of times when she received a letter from her husband, an Army sergeant, that began "Dear Sweetheart." And when she read—"you don't have to worry about my wife"—she applied for a divorce. Snider had mailed his sweetheart's letter to his wife.

LOS ANGELES (CNS) — Mrs. Alice Palacios, 48, walked into a meat market and said to the butcher, "Give me a nice big T-bone steak." "O.K., lady," said the butcher. Mrs. Palacios dropped dead.

SAVANNAH, Ga. (CNS) — A pantless prisoner, arrested for intoxication, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$25 or spend 30 days in jail when he stuck his head through the door of police court here. The prisoner was reluctant to make a personal appearance because someone had swiped his pants the night of his arrest. The judge permitted his lawyer to enter a plea of guilty as the defendant poked his head through the door.

PHILADELPHIA (CNS)—Philadelphia's famed City Hall clock has become a war casualty. An essential part which moves the hands has given out and the War Production Board has not authorized a replacement. Consequently the clock runs five hours slow.

LUBBOCK, Tex. (CNS)—Sgt. James D. King, Army Air Forces, is exempt from income taxes because he is a full-blooded Cheyenne Indian. But he likes to pay taxes and sends his payments to the Treasury anyhow. "It's a privilege," he says.



Toughest Fighting Is Found in Italy Says 63d Private

"The American forces in Italy are doing their toughest fighting right now," says Pvt. Peter Calce of E. Co., 255th. Calce, who lived in Italy from 1921 to 1923, and who knows the entire terrain over which the Fifth Army is fighting, believes that once the territory around Mt. Camino and the city of Gaeta are taken, the "Road to Rome" will be a much simpler undertaking.

Pvt. Calce, who was born in the United States went to Italy with his father, mother and brother to visit relatives, and give Senior Calce an opportunity to reminisce in his native land. However, Peter and his brother, Anthony, who is now in the Air Corps in New Guinea, did not like Italy and it was through their persistence that they persuaded their father and mother to return to America.

Lived in Fighting Zone

In Italy, Calce and his family lived in Casterta, which is in the heart of the present combat zone. Here he came in contact with Fascism for the first time, in fact, so did the Italians.

The school children dressed in little black uniforms and were taught to march and carry daggers in their belts, singing songs extolling the might and glory of Mussolini and his new regime—a regimentation distasteful to Calce, with his background of democratic schooling in the United States.

Battle Ground Rugged

In describing the present battle zone, Calce tells of the almost impassable natural rock barriers and of the mountain sides upon which there grow no trees or foliage of any kind. While there he visited Mignano, Venafro, Capua, Aurunca, Mt. Camino, Baeta, and others—all familiar names in the present campaign.

In describing the terrain of Mt. Camino where the American and German forces are at present engaged, he tells of the slippery white rock which forms its surface and of the mud and avalanches with which the men will have to contend. However, once this territory has been passed, the Germans will have no natural fortifications and then the action will be carried out more quickly to our eventual victory.

Members Now in Army Rescue Jersey Orchestra

JERSEY CITY, N. J. (CNS)—In desperation J. Randolph Jones, conductor of the Jersey City Philharmonic orchestra, wrote to his ex-bull fiddler, Pvt. Joseph Maino of Bayonne and begged him to get leave from his Army Air Force base at Richmond, Va., so he could play in the opening concert of the season.

"And if there are any other musicians around there, bring 'em along," wrote Jones. "We have gaps in the orchestra as big as your fiddle."

A couple of days later Pvt. Maino arrived accompanied by his bull fiddle and three other musicians.

During rehearsal Pvt. Maino up and left, explaining he was scheduled to get married. He returned in time to play in the concert which was considered a huge success.

Officer Reported Dead Is Very Much Alive

ENGLAND (CNS)—Because Capt. Herbert M. Light has been reported dead three times, he is having a hard time trying to convince his parents in Long Beach, Cal. that he's still alive.

Light, who holds the Distinguished Flying Cross, was first reported killed in action in the Army Air Forces raids on Ploesti, Rumania. He wrote home, saying he was uninjured, but the Government telegraphed again, reporting him officially dead.

Light wrote a second letter, reassuring his parents, and then the Government came through again—with a telegram informing his folks that Light's body would be shipped home after the war.

There are 143 types of aircraft in use by the United States Army.

Basketball Standings

GREEN LEAGUE			
Div. Hq.	Won	Lost	Pct.
363d Med. Co. C	4	0	1.000
563d Sig. Co.	4	0	1.000
463d Med. Co. A	3	1	.750
363d Med. Co. B	3	3	.500
263d Eng. H/S	2	2	.500
Rangers	2	2	.500
763d Ord.	2	2	.500
263d Eng. Co. C	1	1	.500
363d Med. Co. D	1	2	.333
MP Platoon	0	2	.000
263d Eng. Co. B	0	2	.000

CT BLUE Red League			
Hq. Co. 1st Bn.	Won	Lost	Pct.
B Btry. 863 FA	3	1	.750
A Btry. 863 FA	2	1	.667
C Btry. 863 FA	2	2	.500
Hq. Btry. 863 FA	0	3	.000

White League			
F Co.	Won	Lost	Pct.
D Co.	3	0	1.000
C Co.	3	0	1.000
B Co.	2	1	.667
A Co.	1	2	.333
E Co.	0	3	.000
	0	0	.000

Blue League			
Hq. Co.	Won	Lost	Pct.
Hq. Co. 3rd Bn.	2	0	1.000
G Co.	1	1	.500
M Co.	1	1	.500
I Co.	0	1	.000
Hq. 2nd Bn.	0	2	.000

Green League			
Anti-Tank	Won	Lost	Pct.
Cannon	3	0	1.000
K Co.	2	0	1.000
Medics	1	1	.500
L Co.	0	2	.000
Service	0	2	.000

CT WHITE LEAGUE American League			
2d Bn. Hq.	Won	Lost	Pct.
Co. H	2	0	1.000
Co. A	2	0	1.000
Co. B	2	0	1.000
Co. C	1	1	.500
Co. D	1	1	.500
Co. E	1	1	.500
Co. F	0	1	.000
1st Bn. Hq.	0	2	.000
Co. G	0	2	.000
Co. H	0	2	.000

National League			
Medics	Won	Lost	Pct.
Co. M	2	0	1.000
Co. I	2	0	1.000
Co. J	1	0	1.000
Hq. Co.	1	0	1.000
Co. L	1	1	.500
Co. N	1	1	.500
Sv. Btry.	0	1	.000
AT Co.	0	2	.000
Co. K	0	2	.000

Bowl Game Results

- Southern California 20, Univ. of Washington 0 (Rose Bowl).
- Louisiana State 19, Texas A. and M. 14 (Orange Bowl).
- Texas 7, Randolph Field 7 (Cotton Bowl).
- Southwest Texas 7, New Mexico 0 (Sun Bowl).
- Southwestern Louisiana 24, Arkansas A. and M. 7 (Oil Bowl).
- East 13, West 13 (East-West Game).

Fred Apostoli Named Boxer of the Year

Fred Apostoli, BMIC, was named boxer of the year in the 19th annual rankings of The Ring magazine, published by boxing expert Nat Fleischer in New York.

Apostoli, the California bell hop who once held the world's middleweight crown, won the mythical title for his meritorious action in combat against the Japs. Last year the nod went to Marine Sgt. Barney Ross, hero of Guadalcanal.



EXAMINERS of the IX Corps who conducted the Corps Tests of the Division during the past week are, top photo, left to right: Lt. A. F. Acciardi, record officer; Capt. W. N. England, assistant director; Lt. Col. H. L. Luongo, director; Maj. M. F. Castle, assistant director, and Capt. B. J. Savoia, Hq. commandant. Bottom photo: Lt. Col. H. L. Luongo who supervised the tests.

Report to the Home Folks Is GI's Reactions to Army

(Continued From Page 2.) in the Forestry Service. We have lads fresh out of high school—and a couple of men who served in the regular Army. Our battery commander was a college football player and an amateur playwright and make-up artist before the Army called him. Another officer beat the drums in a dance band, a third was a well-known golfer . . . These are some of the man in our outfit.

They have a curious, ambivalent attitude towards the battery. On the one hand, they are fiercely proud of it, stoutly declaim to newcomers that it is the best battery in the battalion. Righteously and with great conviction, they detail its virtues: the best mess hall, the most democratic officers, the nicest bunch of guys, the most efficient cannonners, the fastest wire sections. But after delivering these encomiums in rapid succession, and without pausing for breath, they will tell you that it is the most fouled up battery in the most fouled up division, that our battery toils while the others sleep, that the officers work the skin off our bones in the daytime and the seats off our pants in night classes, that we never rest, that we never have a free moment devoid of the threat of special details.

Always Occupied It is true that we work all day, Saturdays included, and two or three evenings a week. Work isn't always the word for it—it is much more accurate to say that we are "occupied." The time is

filled, we are either going or coming, attending classes, standing on lines, cleaning equipment, picking up bits of paper—as well as working, strictly speaking. Sometime I'll write you about the gripes—they are numerous and varied and highly imaginative, some utterly fantastic, all of them delivered with commendable earnestness and fine frenzy.

But however insistent the complaints, always there is hope of improvement. Always there's a change in view, just around the corner. When I was at Fort Sam Houston, just as I learned of my imminent transfer to the 63d Div., so simultaneously did I hear the rumor that the Div. would soon pull out for Ft. Meade, Md., a happy spot comparatively close to home. The rumor followed us on the train, where an MP proffered it in order to raise our spirits, and we found it full-blown and almost as detailed as a railroad schedule when we finally hit camp. But we didn't leave, the rumor faded, soon to be replaced by others, all equally attractive. Nothing has happened yet, but our morale remains sprightly.

But that isn't the whole story. Some fellows here are eager to get into the Ranger Platoon. They want combat action more hazardous, more strenuous than anything found in artillery. They want to meet the enemy face to face, pit their own strength against his. This bodes well.

So much as an introduction to our battery. I'll have more for you next week.