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# Blood and Fire

Vol. 1. No. 43

63D INFANTRY DIVISION, CAMP VAN DORN, MISS.

April 8, 1944



DIVISION ORIENTATION award for the month of March went to Serv. Btry., 861st F. A., for the elaborate display shown above. T/5 Leon H. Becker, assistant to Lt. Winiford F. Emerson, Jr., acting battery commander and orientation officer, is shown at the relief map of theaters of operations.

## Engineers Rebuild Road in Fast Time

Undaunted by the exhausting effects of a week's maneuvers in the mud and rain of Homochitto National Forest, the 263d Engineers answered a sudden march order to return to camp last week and reconstruct Road No. 7 which had been made impassable by torrential rainfall and neglect of maintenance for over a year. So well did the Engineers work that they had the road ready for traffic and combat problems this week.

Lt. Col. Jack L. Coan, directed a blacked-out motor column from Homochitto to Camp Van Dorn, Thursday, March 30, and on Friday and Saturday supervised the battalion's manpower in transforming what amounted to a mired cow path into a solid, well-drained dirt road capable of bearing all Division traffic.

The job, which embraced repairs along a four and one-half mile stretch of Road 7 between Roads 10 and 4, required the construction of 16 culverts, two lengthy stretches of corduroy road, repair of two bridges and rebuilding an-

## Service Battery, 861st, Wins Orientation Award

### Natchez Formal Set for Tonight

An Easter Dance will be held tonight at 2000 at the Municipal Auditorium, Natchez, with the 254th Inf. orchestra furnishing the music. The orchestra, under the baton of Pfc. Gordon Bland, will also play for the Sunday afternoon broadcast from the Servicemen's Center tomorrow afternoon at 1605.

The staff of the Servicemen's Center under the leadership of William Y. Kester, superintendent, and Miss Jennie McLin, program superintendent, has arranged special entertainment for soldiers visiting the city over the week-end.

In addition to the dance tonight and the broadcast tomorrow, free golf will be available at the municipal links at Duncan Park all day tomorrow, and a special tour of historic homes will be conducted from the Center at 1400.

The elaborate orientation display of Serv. Btry., 861st F. A., won the monthly orientation award for March, as a result of a Division-wide inspection this week by Brig. Gen. Frederick M. Harris, Assistant Division Commander and its orientation officer.

On exhibition for the first time, the orientation center of the Replacement Training Group placed second. The RTG's entry was the combined orientation center and library of the 1st Bn. Another center for the 2d Bn is nearing completion.

The plaque which circulates throughout Division dayrooms and other orientation centers will be awarded to Division Artillery as a result of Gen. Harris' award, and a certificate will go to the winning battery.

Lt. Winiford F. Emerson, Jr., acting battery commander, is orientation officer of Serv. Btry. His enlisted assistant is T/5 Leon H. Becker, former advertising and publicity man.

**Black and White Display**  
The winning display was found notable for the contrast of black and white which makes its individual items conspicuous and which compels attention. Walls of the orientation center are black, with frames and uprights painted white, and strong black and white captions set off the various panels of the exhibit.

The various display panels are headed "Our Weapons," "The Soldiers Who Lead Us," "Look At Your Enemies," "This Could Happen."

### How to Win Friends

Lt. Col. Joseph H. Warren, regimental commander of the 254th Inf., told this story this week:

While the 254th was on bivouac near camp in last week's field exercises, one of the regimental guards was walking his cold and lonely post.

Came time for his relief, so he approached a pup tent and nudged the occupant.

"Time to go on guard," the soldier said.

"Go away," the man in the tent said. "I'm not on guard."

"Oh, yes, you are," the guard replied. "Get on your feet."

He grabbed the sleeper's feet and gave them a yank. Out of the tent popped a head.

"I'm not on guard, I tell you," its owner said. "I'm Col. Warren, and I'm NOT on guard."

## Doctor Saved by Marine On New Georgia Island

The wounded Japanese prisoner, awaiting treatment at an Army aid station on New Georgia Island, crawled painfully toward an unguarded M1. He had played possum. He was going to kill the Yankee Doctor who, a few minutes later, would have treated his wounds.

Unnoticed he crept closer to the rifle. As his bony fingers closed on the stock, a Marine landed with both feet on the small of his back and snatched the gun from his grasp.

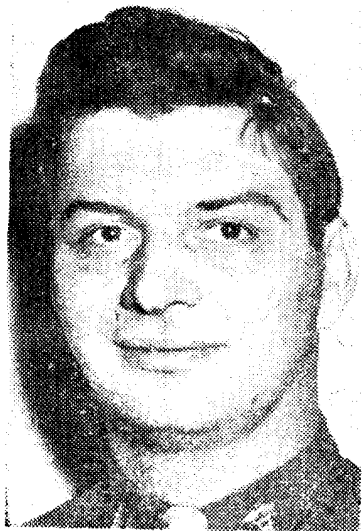
### Wife Prisoner of Japs

"My wife was at Shanghai when the Japs arrived. I haven't heard from her since," he said.

This story was told by the "Yankee Doctor," Capt. John J. Redmond, M. C., 213d Inf., who recently joined the 63d Div., and who spent 16 months in the Southwest Pacific with the 144th Inf., 37th Div. Three of those 16 months were occupied in fighting off Japs while trying to treat sick and wounded soldiers and Marines.

Capt. Redmond entered the Army May 16, 1912, and ten days later was on transport headed for New Zealand. A month later he

was in the Fiji Islands, where he stayed nine months. On April 1, 1943, he landed on Guadalcanal,



CAPT. JOHN J. REDMOND

already taken by our forces. After a month of fighting dengue (Continued on Page 2.)

## Creed of Combat Soldier Essay Contest Subject

### Men of Division Are Asked to Define Standards They Use to Judge Fighter; Pass to Winner

What is the creed of the combat soldier?

BLOOD AND FIRE wants to know by what standards the enlisted men of the 63d Infantry Division judge the combat soldier.

It invites every enlisted man to submit his idea of a suitable creed. The prize for a winning creed is a three-day pass, which will be granted by direction of the Commanding General.

A variety of combat soldiers is included in an infantry division. Those on which entries will be accepted are riflemen, gunners, communications men, intelligence men, medics and engineers. For example, an essay on riflemen might be submitted by a man from a rifle company, a headquarters company, or a member of the Division Band; an essay on communications men and their creed might come from a man in the 563d Sig. Co. or from a communications section in a regiment.

Winning entries will be published in BLOOD AND FIRE.

Teamwork, personal appearance, discipline, health, courtesy, conduct in combat, proficiency with weapons—these are some of the standards of the first-class fighting man. Readers will think of others. All should be incorporated in a brief essay or creed, suitable for publication and distribution throughout the Division.

Here are the rules:

1. The contest is open to any enlisted man of the 63d Inf. Div., excepting members of the BLOOD AND FIRE staff.
2. Entries must be confined to

(Continued on Page 8)

### Artillerymen Attend Service at Chapel 6

A special Protestant Easter service for members of Division Artillery will be held at Chapel No. 6 at 1530 tomorrow afternoon. Chaplain Saul Miller will conduct the service which will be attended by Protestant members of Div. Arty. in a body. Among those expected to be present will be Brig. Gen. Edward J. McGaw, Division Artillery Commander.

## Care in Selecting Noncoms Is Urged

Great care in the selection and promotion of non-commissioned officers and further training, including the establishment of NCO schools, are urged by Gen. George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff.

The Chief of Staff's statements are included in WD Circular 70, which provides for the thorough training of noncoms and the removal of those who fail to attain or maintain acceptable standards.

The circular also calls for public recognition of the accomplishments and importance of noncoms.

"It has been clearly demonstrated in this war, as in past wars, that noncommissioned officers are the backbone of the Army," the circular says. "Success in combat depends upon the character and qualifications of the non-commissioned officers commanding small units. They must be outstanding leaders with a high sense of duty and a strong will. They must be resourceful and willing to assume responsibility."

In order to "improve the quality and prestige of those noncommissioned officers who exercise command responsibility," the order makes the following provisions:

1. That machinery be established to provide for the careful selection of noncommissioned officer material and a system of promotions that will be recognized as sound and just by all concerned.

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OVERLOADING of bridges within the Camp Van Dorn area should be eliminated by the new method of marking and classification completed this week. Classification of the bridges was accomplished by members of the S-2 section of the 263d Engrs., while signs similar to that depicted above were posted by the reconnaissance section of the same outfit.

# KNOW YOUR DIVISION: The Medium Artillery-155s of 718th Are Biggest Guns to Fire

The 63d Infantry Division is a complex organization of foot soldiers, artillery and even flying soldiers. This is the sixth of a series of articles sketching the duties and activities of men in various outfits in the Division.

★ ★ ★

Captured German soldiers frequently ask to see the "automatic artillery" with which the Allied troops have been shelling them. It is no military secret that there really isn't any "automatic artillery" at all; it's just that training such as our Field Artillerymen are getting with the 63d Division here at Camp Van Dorn has enabled them to lay their guns and fire so fast that it gives the appearance of automatic fire.

The 718th F. A. Bn., an integral unit of the Division, slings the biggest guns in the 63d, the 155 mm. howitzers. These medium artillery pieces are not assigned to one of the combat teams of the Division, but rather are used as a general support of the entire Division.

### Long Range Guns

Because of the longer range of these big guns the 718th generally takes a position behind the forward and reserve echelons of the Division's infantry and Field Artillery. The battalion can be called upon by any of the other Division units to complete the primary artillery mission of delivering a mass of fire on the enemy with surprise.

Sometimes the medium artillerymen fire at targets which their own reserves have spotted, but the majority of the targets which these guns will be aimed at will be selected by other units which require the aid of the 718th.

Here is the scene at the underground fire direction center of the 718th during a typical training maneuver:

At a field table covered with charts, slide-rules and other range computing devices sits the battalion computer, who must figure out from available information and transmit to the individual gun batteries the firing settings. Beside him is the HCO—horizontal control operator—who figures the range and shift horizontally from the base point on the map before him, and the VCO—vertical control operator—who computes differences in altitude, for the 155s can fire uphill or downhill with equal effect, and almost always fire their shells over the heads of our troops from the protection of defiladed positions.

### Observers Report by Phone

The computer and HCO are non-commissioned officers, but the VCO is an officer, the battalion S-3. Over the field telephone come reports of the forward observers—either those of the regiments or other field artillery battalions, or the forward OP of the battalion itself. The range adjustments are computed and hits registered on control maps by these men at the FDC.

The 155s can fire at anything and their range of effectiveness is varied and wide. Shells can be set to burst some 20 or 30 feet above ground, showering the earth with small fragments, which will wipe out enemy infantrymen crouching in foxholes or attempting to advance across an area. Shells can also be timed to hit and ricochet across the ground, bursting a set time after initial impact. These could be used effectively against advancing enemy columns. In addition to high explosives, the 155s can also fire chemical shells, which can be used to make smoke screens or start fires.

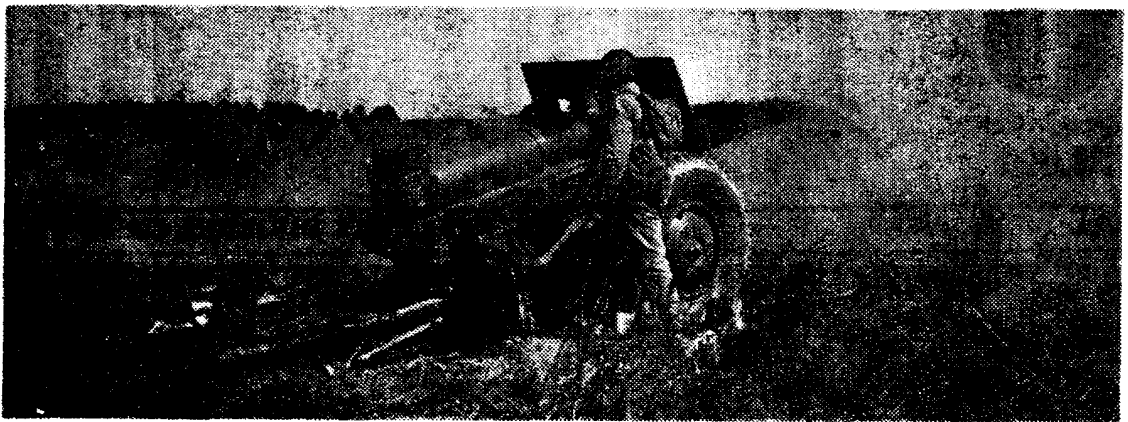
The guns of the 718th are pulled by four-ton Diamond T prime movers which are the largest trucks in the Division. The gunners themselves are individually armed with carbines, bazookas and pistols—the latter being carried by officers and non-coms of the first three grades.

### Flying Cookie Bombs Japs With Garbage

**SOUTHWEST PACIFIC (CNS)**—An unnamed GI cook connected with a bomber outfit here has a swell system for making the Japs lose face. He bombs them with garbage.

The cook, taken on a raid with a Liberator squadron, stood at the open window of the plane and laddled out slops on the Japs while the bomber dropped its load of eggs.

Meat constitutes 20 per cent of the food issued in the Army.



SUPPORT WEAPONS for the Division are the 155 mm. howitzers, one of which is shown in top photo just after being fired. Photo at left depicts the loading of the piece while the direction center at which sits the battalion executive, the computer and recorder, is shown above. These men operate either an underground shelter or dig-in position, and figure out from available information the firing settings for each gun.

## Doctor Saved by Marine On New Georgia Island

(Continued From Page 1)

fever, malaria and dysentery, his battalion joined the 1st and 4th Marine Raiders who were getting ready for a mission on New Georgia Island.

"At midnight, July 4, 1943, our destroyer-borne forces came around the north end of the island to rush ashore at Rice Anchorage in Kula Gulf, 13 miles north of Munda. Our mission was double—a diversion and a push south to the Bairoko Harbor to cut Nip communications between Munda and Jap-held Kolombangara.

### Landing a Success

The landing was a success and we had only four casualties, all drownings, in spite of heavy coast artillery fire. Although the Nips lit up the convoy with magnesium flares, they didn't sink a single ship.

"An unusual thing occurred as we landed in LCVP boats which were towing rubber rafts. A private tumbled out of the raft and floated, unconscious, for six hours until picked up by a destroyer. Air in his pack kept him afloat."

Capt. Redmond set up an aid station at Enogai Inlet. Having no place to evacuate wounded to the rear, all wounded were moved forward with the raiders. Litters were makeshift from tree boughs and vines, regulation litters being too bulky to carry ashore. Later the Fiji natives taught the medics how to make light, tough litters from vines. The natives were long-limbed and tough, and were invaluable in bearing the wounded.

"The islanders were also used as scouts because they could smell a Jap long before we knew he was in the neighborhood," Capt. Redmond said.

### Jap Snipers Active

"For 57 days we fought our way towards Bairoko Harbor, carrying our wounded through waist deep swamps until they could be evacuated by PBY planes. Most of our casualties were from Jap snipers and small arms fire. Food was hard to get, all of it being dropped from planes, and we carried all our medical supplies on our backs. We got little sleep because 'Washing Machine Charlie,' a Jap seaplane, dropped personnel bombs on us several times each night.

All medics carried arms, .45 cal. revolvers for officers and Springfield '03's for the enlisted men. We captured only two prisoners, both of whom were six-foot specimens of the Japanese Imperial Marines. They were in fine physical condition and had the best of equipment."

Capt. Redmond was stricken with catarrhal jaundice soon after our forces took Munda, and, on Sept. 4, 1943, was evacuated to New Zealand. After a few months convalescence he was returned to Letterman General Hospital, San Francisco. After a short stay at McCloskey General Hospital, Temple, Tex., and Ft. Sam Houston, Tex., he was assigned to the Blood and Fire Division.

### Bay State Big Shot Does KP in the Army

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.**—The Army is a great leveller. Time was when Pvt. McIntosh of the USAAF at Peterson Field, was called the Hon. Harold B. McIntosh, member of the House of Representatives General Court from the 13th District of Massachusetts. He also was a member of the Board of Selectmen of Marblehead, but now he des his KP in turn like the other GIs.

Under a new exchange plan, British officers and enlisted men are living and training with American units in Britain and Americans are assigned to British forces.

## Dance, Show Opens RTG Officers Club

A dance and variety show marked the opening of the Replacement Training Group Officers Club Friday, March 31, with talent supplied entirely by RTG members.

Major Frank B. Farr, RTG commander, was host at the party and was accompanied by Mrs. Farr. Guests included Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs, division commander; Col. Earl G. Wheeler, chief of staff; Lt. Col. John E. Brooks; Lt. Col. Frank T. Ritter, Maj. Charles W. Gibbs and Maj. Henry D. Reed, RTG executive officer.

Music was furnished by an orchestra organized several days prior to the event with the following RTG musicians as members: Pvt. Nicholas Piazza, Co. 3, bass viol; Leo Delgado, Co. 1,

guitar; Ray Hoffman, Co. 1, trumpet; Robert Kutscher, Co. 4, clarinet; Robert Hollingshead, Co. 5, piano; Alex Shapiro, Co. 3, saxophone, and Lt. Bernard G. Colton, drums.

Pvt. Jerry Eskow, Co. 4, was master of ceremonies. A song trio included Pvt. Richard J. Ferrara, Co. 4, Melvin Haug, and Martin Baum, both of Co. 4.

Pvt. Ray Nichols, Co. 4, offered several tap dance numbers and Pvt. Delgado sang two songs in Spanish.

### Oregon Grants Legal Powers to All Vets

**OREGON**—The state of Oregon recognizes any person who has been honorably discharged from the armed service of the United States as being of age, for legal purposes of owning property, carrying on business, making a will and other legal purposes.

## The Wolf by Sansone



"Your face isn't familiar... but your 'line' is!"

# DIVISION SIDELIGHTS

**Div. Hq. and Hq. Co.**—Promotions of 23 men in Div. Hq. were announced this week. T/4 Robert Lewis, subsequently transferred out of the Division, was advanced to T/3. Pfc. Gilbert Fox and Paul Parris, both of the PRO, and Thomas W. Moyer, AGO, were made corporals. The following Pfc. and privates became T/5s: Edwin H. Brown, William Schiff and Stoddard White, PRO; Lawrence W. Naylor and George R. Hook, G-2 Sec.; Harry Goodman and Paul C. Smith, G-3 Sec.; Harold A. Michaelson, G-1 Sec.; Allen H. Holsman and Joseph A. Yezulinas, IG; Paul Taubman, SSO, and the following AGO: Walter W. Howitt, Donald H. Aldrich, James Seacat, John P. Smaling, Raymond E. Wessman, James K. Larson, Gerald W. Bullington and James J. Laggan. One soldier who appreciates the little woman now that she has returned home is S/Sgt. John Williams, G-3 Sec. Mrs. Williams left him the family radio for the barracks, but she failed to leave him her talents at needlework, and the sergeant spent several hours vainly trying to thread a needle so he could patch his sadly-torn fatigues. Another recent promotion is that of Pfc. Richard F. Lowry, Hq. Sp. Trps., to T/5.

**63d QM Co.**—Capt. Sigfried E. Franz has returned to the company and taken over the duties of company commander, and Lt. Virgil C. Hamelmann, a company officer since QM's activation in March, 1943, has left. T/5 Irving Newman has taken over the supply sergeant's job. The new QM barber, Pvt. Manfred Gruver, was in the North African campaign. Practical experience in breaking down rations for various outfits of the Division in the field instead of in camp was gained by the company during last week's field exercises.

**253d Inf.**—Capt. Lawrence Gagliano, Co. H, hospitalized a few days with an eye inflammation, is back on duty as CO. T/5 Anthony Przylocki, Hq. Co., has planted an onion garden behind his barrack. Cpl. Lawrence Witte, Co. D, is preparing a history of the regiment. Sgt. James McKee, Co. H, has returned to duty after a three-month stay in LaGarde General Hospital, New Orleans and Pvt. Dossy M. Burkholder, a Trinidad veteran has gone to the same hospital for an operation. The Blood and Fire Division played the dual role of Santa Claus and Cupid to T/5 George Vonder Haar Hq. Co., when it sent him on his first furlough in three years. He had been stationed in Puerto Rico for two years. Once home, he became engaged to his boyhood sweetheart, Miss LaVerne Schragee of Cincinnati. Sgt. Edward Kaskey, Co. H, promised to love, honor and obey while on furlough last week. Sgt. John Cernak is Co. H's magician and card trick artist, but he can't win at poker. Recent regimental promotions include the following: To technical sergeant: William K. Kanuha, Co. E; to staff sergeant: Ralph J. Clark, Co. B; William C. Miller, Co. G, and Tilton E. Coulton and Carl H. Corder, both of Hq. Co., 1st Bn.; to sergeant: Lee A. Leavitt, John P. Matsrogiovanni and Victor C. Purvis, all of Hq. Co., 1st Bn.; and Clemes A. Raith, Richard P. Smythe, Donald McKinnon and Abraham Miller, all of Co. B; to T/4: Samuel Siegel, AT Co.; Carmen Tato, Hq. and Hq. Co., and Robert Spreng; to corporal: Jack Fereno, Co. I; Leonard E. Wright, AT Co., and Kenneth Smith, Hq. Co., 1st Bn.; to T/5: James Herrod, Hq. Co., 1st Bn.; Pfc. Max Sircus, new Co. A clerk, has been promoted to corporal. Pfc. Jimmy Gillespie, Co. L, who served for 11 months in the South Pacific with only scratches and bruises from the terrain, was wounded in the side by a blank cartridge fired by the "enemy" on a recent night problem. Pfc. Lloyd G. Borzell, Co. L, is still laughing (hollowly) over a letter he received this week. An Eastern shipbuilding company said "if you are interested in a possible connection at this time, please call at the employment office as soon as possible," but the letter warned him, "Do not quit your present job if you are now working." Pfc. Gerard Viens, Co. L, returned from a New Hampshire furlough engaged to Miss Lucille Denault of Nashua.

**254th Inf.**—In Co. K, the following have been made Pfc.: Joseph S. Durkin, Leonard S. Manson, William G. Bask, Stanley N. Cygnarowicz, Harold W. Kneeland, Glenn A. Wyatt and Edward J. Pazona. Cpl. Joseph Romanshick attracted a lot of envious and interested attention for the comfortable bed he made up on a recent field problem. He piled dried pine needles to a height of four feet and covered them with a shelter half and blanket. When he pressed this down, he had a soft bed 18 inches thick. Recent promotions in Co. H brought Stephen Zbierajewski to T/5 and the following to corporal: John Dooley, Anthony DeSantis, Horace G. Farmer, Frank Graziano, Jewell L. McIntyre, Louis Ostroska, John Minarski and Victor Ziilnskas. Seventeen men of Co. I have just sewed on their first stripe. They are Howard J. Anglin, Kenneth E. Bailey, Harold L. Bergman, George W. Rost, Joseph J. D'Amico, James A. Decembrino, Carl F. Goldhammer, Alfred E. Kahlmorgan, Earl J. Miller, Howard S. Muse, Lloyd W. Rasch, Gerald D. Rose, Ernest W. Ross, Donald L. Smith, William T. Smith, Dali C. Ware and Michael J. Yankovich. Two new corporals in Co. G are former Pfc. Frank Prok and Paul Philippe. Lt. Robert I. Russ is new executive officer of Co. G, succeeding Lt. Guy C. Panella. Cpl. A. Dieckerson, 2d Plat., Co. C, found a man's gold identification bracelet in the field and will return it to the owner upon proper identification. When fire destroyed Regtl. Hq. Co.'s mess tent and rations last week, Serv. Co. opened its mess line to the men from the stricken company. Co. L is sticking out its chest since receiving a commendation from the Division Commander for its conduct during an exercise observed by Division officers last week. An unusual thrill came to Pfc. Victor Felice, AT Co., on furlough when he met a former classmate, Capt. Samuel Grashio of Spokane, Wash. The captain was a Japanese prisoner on Batavia, made the famous "March of Death" and was one of those who escaped. Cpl. John Derrick, Co. K, has announced his marriage of several weeks ago. Pfc. William Gaury and Ray Jordan, Co. K, have been sent to Ft. Benning, Ga., for instruction in motor vehicle maintenance.

**862d F. A.**—Jack A. Sargent of Hq. Btry, now is addressed as "Sgt. Sargent" since his promotion to T/4. Other promotions in Hq. Btry, included: T/5 Theodore Geiger, Robert S. Agatston and Horace B. Harris, all to T/4, and Pfc. Raymond N. Smith, Irving C. Staney, Joseph M. Hertzler, Wilbur L. Waring, Marriott G. Haines and Lyman N. Redd, all to T/5. Other recent promotions include the following: In Btry. A, Pfc. Max Goldstein, Norman E. Cady and Edward J. Procko, all to corporal, and Pfc. Edward Luczak to T/5; in Btry. B, T/5 Earl Davis to T/4, Pfc. Kenneth R. Gilbert to corporal and Pfc. Joseph E. Eton to T/5; in Btry. C, Pfc. Charles B. Comen and Cameron E. Michelli to T/5; in Serv. Btry., T/5 John Durso to T/4, Pfc. William J. Tuminella and James V. Short to corporal and Pfc. Edward L. Donnelly to T/5.

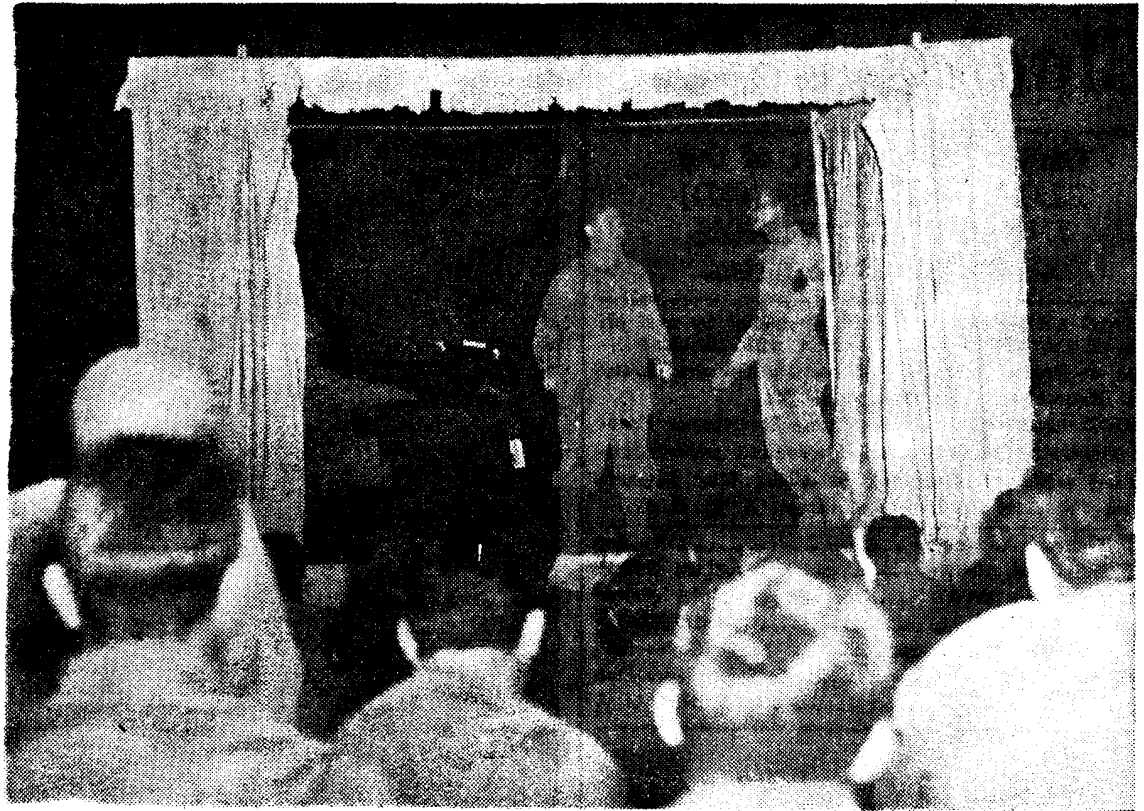
**255th Inf.**—Promotions announced in the regiment this week included those of Sgt. Jake F. Dreyer, Serv. Co., to staff sergeant; T/5 James J. Clark, Serv. Co., to T/4; Pfc. Louis D. Cunningham, Co. I, and John R. Lerehen, Co. L, Pvt. Frank L. Phinney, Jr., Co. G, and T/5 Arnold C. Waller, Hq. Co., 3d Bn., all to corporal, and the following privates to T/5: Elrie Parrish, Co. G; Carl J. Besold, Co. H, and Thomas H. Warren, Co. B.

**Div. Arty.**—Lt. Richard L. O'Connell, Div. Arty. special services officer, has been promoted to first lieutenant.

**718th F. A.**—Pfc. George Schaeffer, former boxing instructor for the battalion, has won his wings and is now a qualified parachutist at Camp Mackall, N. C. His wife, Mrs. Mary K. Schaeffer, who formerly worked for the Red Cross in camp, is living in Wilmore, Pa.

**RTG**—The stork visited the homes of two RTG soldiers this week. Pvt. George E. Hawke, Co. I, became the father of a daughter born in Portage Lakes, Ohio, and Pvt. John Bradley, Co. 6, is father of a son born in Laporte, Ind. Pvt. Salvatore Pollicino, Co. 6, self-styled singer of the Frank Sinatra school, claims good results in ob-

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ENTERTAINMENT for men of Division Front and Rear Echelons bivouacked in the field last week was presented by Division Special Services on a portable stage constructed for the occasion. The above scene shows T/5 Paul Taubman at a field organ borrowed from Division Chaplains, while T/5 Arnold Spector, center, T/4 Jack Bracken, right, carry on in a comedy skit to open the show.

## Two Field Shows Staged 'Bivouac Brevities' By Men of Special Services

Special Services talent, technical and artistic, expanded the scope of its operations in the field to an unprecedented degree last week in bringing entertainment to the forward and rear echelons of 63d Div. Hq.

Going into action at the conclusion of the tactical problem Friday evening, March 31, the section gave two shows comprising stage and motion picture entertainment. The "live" portion of the program put on its acts before the forward echelon and then was whisked several miles away to the rear bivouac area.

### Henry VIII Movie

There, other Headquarters personnel was entertained while the movie "The Private Lives of Henry VIII," starring Charles Laughton, was being shown "up front." Ultimately, the picture was rushed to the rear and given a showing that kept the eager audience awake until well past midnight.

Personnel of the Div. Sp. Serv. Office, under the supervision of AetG. Sp. Serv. Officer Lt. David H. Duce, availed themselves of additional artists in the two areas to give the audiences diversified amusement, with music and comedy their chief stock in trade.

T/5 Paul Taubman made a big hit with both audiences fiding a number on an ordinary carpenter's saw used in the construction of the section's new portable stage. The platform and its drapery was an innovation in the field, made unique by the fact its creators claim to be able to assemble or disassemble it in ten minutes.

### Doubled in Brass

Taubman also provided most of the musical and "straight" accompaniment during the program for

such artists as T/5 Arnold Spector, with whom he appeared in two skits, and T/4 Jack Bracken, who divided the role of master of ceremonies with T/5 Leslie Heath, of the CT White staff.

Sgt. Robert Peters pleased with his rendition of "Danny Boy" and "Night and Day." Later, while he projected the movie upon the screen for the forward echelon, Pvt. Sidney Ganz took over the vocal role to sing "One Alone" and "The Road to Mandalay" with Taubman at the field organ.

T/3 Gail Peck, of the 97th Engr. Maint. Co., was a "guest star," going through body contortions that greatly amused the audience.

## RTG Talent Gives Own Variety Show

Members of the 63d Div. Replacement Training Group learned last night they need not turn to outsiders for entertainment, an abundance of which was present in a variety show presented in the RTG Bowl.

With the Division's Solid Senders jazz band furnishing the music, the RTG troupe offered songs, impersonations and a demonstration of hypnosis for the delectation of the crowd which included officers and enlisted men.

Pvt. Jerry Eskow, Co. 4, was master of ceremonies and his impersonation of a sergeant and a monologue describing a GI's day at Camp Van Dorn drew applause. Pvt. Andrew Breidenbach, Co. 4, performed his act of hypnotism with professional skill with an unsuspecting RTG man as his subject.

A trio composed of Pvts. Melvin Haven, Marty Baum and Richard Ferrara, all of Co. 4, sang "Great Big Beautiful Doll" and "Blue Heaven" with comic interpolations, by Pvt. Bill Nicholson, Co. 1, who as a civilian toured several burlesque circuits. Pvt. Leo Delgado, Co. 1, accompanied the trio on the guitar.

The show was directed by Lt. Bernard Colton of RTG.

## Headquarters Company Wins 255th Inf. Award

The monthly certificate awarded by the 255th Inf. Orientation Office for the best dayroom display for March went to Hq. and Hq. Co. The presentation was made at a retreat parade Monday afternoon, by Col. Paul E. Tombaugh, CT Blue commander. Lt. Harold R. Franks accepted the certificate on behalf of Capt. Roy R. May, Jr., Hq. and Hq. Co., commander who was absent.

The United States Army is the healthiest in history and is getting the best medical treatment.

## 'Bivouac Brevities' Entertain CT Red

With the tactical problem ended the Special Services office of CT Red presented "Bivouac Brevities" for men and officers of the 253d Inf., Thursday night, March 30 at an outdoor site located on Road No. 19 opposite the Regimental CP area.

T/5 Fred Wiener, assistant to Lt. Patrick H. McVerry, regimental special service officer, put the large crowd in a jovial mood with several of his "Lou Holtz" stories and then the 253d orchestra went into action with such numbers as "Two o'Clock Jump," "Coming Out Party," and "Your Perfection."

Weiner and Cpl. Joe Pollack presented a "March of Time" skit and one entitled "Salutes in the Army," and then Pollack entertained with several imitations. At the end Cpl. Wiener read a special commendation for the regiment from Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hubs, division commander.

Platforms used by instructors at outdoor physical education exercises were used for a stage, and the lighting was provided by trucks. Col. Edward P. Lukert, regimental commander, and Lt. Col. Marion W. Schewe, executive officer, attended the show.

## Engineers Rebuild Road in Fast Time

(Continued From Page 1)

other, the draining of a large pond, and the ditching and grading of the entire strip.

Almost 15,000 feet of corduroy road was constructed when it was required to raise the road out of swampy places. The approach to one large bridge had to be filled in, levelled and straightened for a distance of 150 yards and the treadway of another bridge had to be replaced before the road could be made suitable for traffic.

Engineer power equipment, eliminating as much hand labor as possible, was put to work on the job. A road grader, borrowed from camp engineers, and two angle dozers moved countless cubic yards of earth.

## Housewarming Dance Opens 254th Dayroom

A "housewarming" dance provided the formal opening Wednesday night for the newly decorated dayroom of Regtl. Hq. Co., 254th Inf.

About 25 members of the WAC Det. were guests at the party, at which skits were presented by several impromptu entertainers. The party was arranged by a committee headed by Pvt. James F. Savage.

The British Navy sank more than 100 enemy coastwise vessels during 1943.

## Religious Services

- PROTESTANT SERVICES**  
**Sunday**  
 Chapels No. 7, 8, 10, 9999.  
 Chapel No. 7, Episcopal Holy Communion Services, 1900.  
 Chapels No. 5, 6, 8, 10, 1999.  
 Chapel No. 5, Episcopal Holy Communion Services, 1100.  
 Chapels No. 7, 8, 10, 1100.  
**Sunday Afternoon and Evening**  
 Chapel No. 6, Protestant Service, Div. Artillery, 1530.  
 Co. D, 253d Med. Bn., 1315.  
**ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS**  
**Sunday**  
 Chapels No. 5, 10, 9599.  
 Theater No. 5, 9999.  
 CT Blue Rec. Hall, 9929.  
 Theater No. 1, 1929.  
 CT Blue Rec. Hall, 1109.  
**Confession**  
 Chapel No. 5, Saturday, 1935-2099.  
 Chapel No. 10, Saturday, 1990-2199.  
**JEWISH SERVICES**  
**Today**  
 Chapel No. 7, Passover Service, 1900.  
 Chapel No. 7, Passover Service, 1900.  
**Sunday**  
 Chapel No. 8, 1099.  
**MORMON SERVICES**  
**Sunday**  
 Chapel No. 8, 1499.  
**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING**  
**Sunday**  
 Chapel No. 1, 1100.  
**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**  
**Friday**  
 Chapel No. 1, 1899.

# Blood and Fire

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

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T/5 Thomas A. Hoyer ..... Editor  
T/5 Edwin H. Brown ..... Associate Editor  
T/5 Stoddard White ..... Staff Writer  
Cpl. Paul Parris ..... Staff Writer  
Cpl. Gill Fox ..... Staff Cartoonist  
T/5 William Schiff ..... Staff Photographer  
T/Sgt. Harding S. Ericson ..... Distribution Mgr.

## EDITORIAL

### EASTER, 1944

Tomorrow is Easter Sunday. For our comrades on the hillside at Cassino, the beachhead at Anzio or in the jungles of the Pacific it may mean just another day of fighting, for it will be a far cry from the Easter Sundays they used to know back home.

For those of us who are still far from the fighting fronts it will be somewhat different too. Most of us will attend chapel services either in camp or in some nearby community.

Coincidental with the great Christian feast of Easter, symbolizing the Resurrection, comes Passover, symbolizing the liberation of the Jews from the bondage of the Egyptians.

Both of these festivals epitomize regeneration and freedom, the things for which we fight today. We fight to preserve our freedom and the right to celebrate Easter or the Passover according to our religious beliefs. We fight so that we may have other Easter Sundays at home with those we love.

### ARMY DAY

Thursday was just another day in the 63d Infantry Division. April 6 is Army Day, but, in a sense, every day is Army Day in the Army. There was no official observance of the day in the Division and, except for a regimental parade by the 254th Inf., there was none of the music and marching associated with Army Day parades in peacetime.

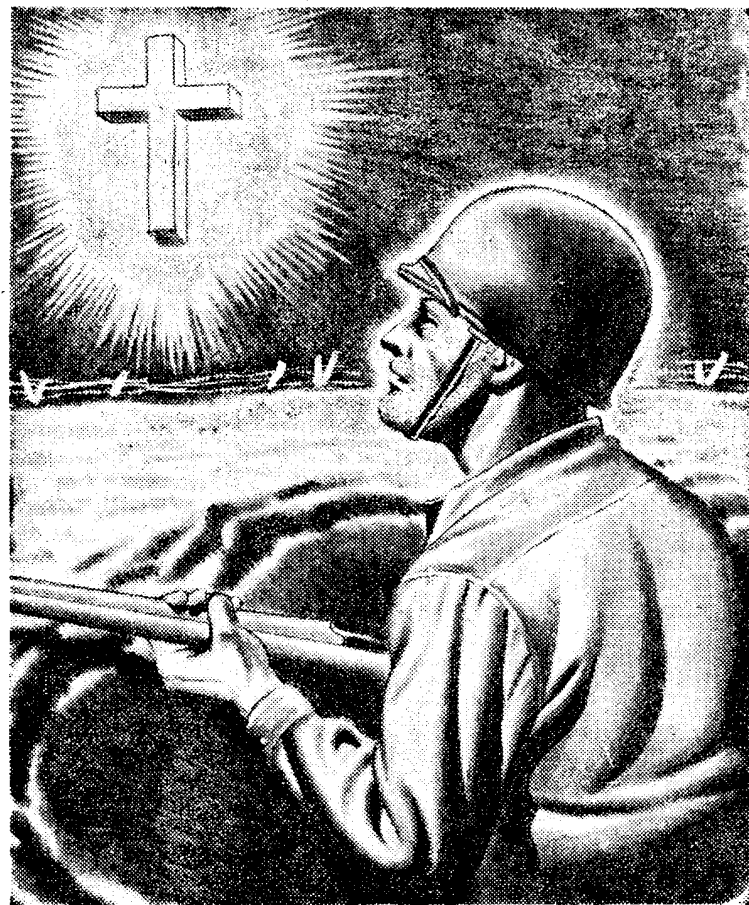
Yet there were some to whom newspaper items gave pause. They remembered when they stood as civilians on the city hall steps and watched large bodies of uniformed strangers march by with shining buttons, glittering guns and polished vehicles. They understood but little of the marchers' profession; all parades were pretty much alike, and soon forgotten.

Army Day commemorates the United States' entry into World War I on April 6, 1917. Twenty-seven years later, we know more about the life of the men we watched in peacetime parades. Our observance of Army Day takes a different form. When there is a parade the glitter of peacetime is covered by the drab camouflage of wartime color and, more often than not, formal observance is lacking. Instead, Army Day in the Blood and Fire Division, as throughout the Army at home and on the fighting fronts, was devoted to the rightful business of preparing a speedy end to a war thrust upon us and of assuring a swift justice to its perpetrators.

It's a question which is doing a better job of turning war material over to Russia—Uncle Sam or the German soldiers.

Being cheerful at breakfast is just a habit—like lying about your golf score.

A Wyoming man, bitten by a snake, went 60 miles to a doctor. He probably knew what was good for snake bites, but couldn't get any.



## News from Here and There

### Artillery Spots Guns For Aerial Bombing

SOLOMON ISLANDS (CNS)—Artillery based on Bougainville has been spotting enemy gun positions for the Air Force, reversing the time honored tactics of World War I.

Under the new system, the Infantry has been locating Japanese guns. The Artillery then fires on the gun positions while the air-men watch for the artillery bursts and then bomb and strafe the area.

### Repatriated Yankees Get \$44,000 Back Pay

NEW YORK (CNS)—Back pay for 35 repatriated officers and men who returned to this country on the exchange liner Gripsholm was disbursed within four hours after their arrival at a hospital here.

The payoff totaled \$44,000 and included base pay, allowances, flying pay and additional pay for overseas service which accrued while the men were imprisoned in Germany. A lieutenant got the largest single payment—\$4,700.

### Inductee 'Loses' Hotel Having Last 'Fling'

FT. SNELLING, Minn. — Five days before his induction into the Army here, Albert Nelson, 37, of Duluth, arrived in nearby Minneapolis for one last good time. He checked in at a Minneapolis hotel, left his suitcase and his money in the room and went out for a walk.

Later he discovered to his dismay that he didn't know the name of his hotel. It wasn't until five days later that he was straightened out—by a hotel clerk who informed police headquarters that a guest named Nelson was missing.

Nelson got his suitcase and money back just as he was marching off to enter the Army.

### Loyal Japanese Face Induction in Army

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Induction into the U. S. Army of loyal American citizens of Japanese descent is gradually getting underway, the War Department has announced. These Japanese-Americans previously were accepted in the Army on a voluntary basis only but now they will be drafted, according to the WD.

### Two Yank Fliers Panic Japs in Heavy Bomber

SOUTH PACIFIC (CNS)—Two relatively harmless Curtiss Scout observation planes are credited with wrecking a Japanese bomber and killing its crew in a report submitted by Cmdr. William R. Smedborg, of Washington. Cmdr. Smedborg said the planes "apparently panicked the Jap bomber" and caused it to crash.

### Bride Wanted Flowers, Weds in 5-Acre Tract

ORTING, Wash. (CNS)—Pvt. Clara Owens, a WAC, wanted lots of flowers at her wedding. Her bridegroom, Sgt. William Melnick, took care of that. He married her in the middle of a five-acre tract of daffodils.

### Fumigation Job Success, Latrine Is Burned Down

INDIA (CNS)—With two officers and three sergeants doing the supervising and three privates doing the work, a service company started fumigating its latrine. The job was a complete success. Not only was the latrine fumigated completely, but it also burned down—completely.

### Top ETO Fighter Pilot Bags 22 Nazi Planes

LONDON (CNS)—The leading U. S. fighter pilot in the ETO is Capt. Robert S. Johnson of Lawton, Okla., who recently destroyed three German fighters at once, boosting his total score to 22 enemy aircraft knocked out.

### Solomon Maidens Are 'Ugly, Dirty, Smelly'

PHILADELPHIA (CNS)—Girls at home need not worry about service men falling in love with beautiful maidens in the Solomon Islands, Explorer Osa Johnson reassured a Philadelphia woman's club. "The women there," she said "are ugly, dirty and smelly."

### GIs With Jap Money Plan Tokyo Vacation

KWAJALEIN ATOLL (CNS)—While mopping up here, two GIs uncovered a small mint of Jap coins and folding money. "Fill up your pockets," one of them said. "We'll spend this dough in Tokyo."

### GI Proves Old Theory About Love Finding Way

DETROIT (CNS)—Pvt. Howard Wayne Wilson landed in the guardhouse after he married his 13-year-old cousin, Diane. A week later he broke out, drove her to Georgia and married her again. Now he's back in the guardhouse and Diane is back in the seventh grade.

### Medal of Honor Hero Missing in Reich Raid

LONDON (CNS)—Lt. John Cary Morgan, of Amarillo, Tex., who received the Congressional Medal of Honor for bringing a crippled bomber home, is missing in action after taking part in a recent bombing over Berlin.

# The Sky Pilot Says It

By Chaplain William E. Patrick  
(63d Division Chaplain)

Easter means the assurance of everlasting life. The hope of immortality is an age-old yearning. Job, the wise man in adversity, centuries ago asked the question: "If a man die, shall he live again?" "No," sneers the skeptic. "Yes," says the man of faith.

Even the skeptic is troubled and touched when faced with the separation from this earthly existence we call death—especially when one dear to him is taken. "Surely this is not the end of everything for my daughter," cried a famous 19th Century critic of religion, when his little girl passed away.

Is death the end of man's destiny? Do we fade away into oblivion as the minute sand in the vast desert or the tiny drop in the mighty ocean when we "shuffle off this mortal coil"? Faced with that bourne from which no traveler has returned, we cannot lay hands on any tangible hope, for no chart, no compass, no "overlay" are at our disposal. Hence the tendency of many to deny the continuity of life.

Listen to the expression of faith made by men of old. "I know that my redeemer liveth... though this body be destroyed, yet shall I see God, whom mine eyes shall behold and not as a stranger." Hear the words of the Master himself: "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

In one short week the disciples had witnessed the triumphal entry and acclaim of that first Palm Sunday. Then they were present at the sacrifice and suffering of Christ on Good Friday which saddened their hearts. Finally on Easter Day they visited the empty tomb, exclaiming and proclaiming: "He is risen. The Lord is risen indeed." What a transformation and contrast! Good Friday plunged them into doubt and despair. Easter brought them joy and hope. "Then were the disciples glad when they saw the Lord." Thus was the world shown a demonstration of life breaking through the appearance of death. Because of this fact and because of this faith men have dared to face this present life "in the sure and certain hope of everlasting life."

For this "building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens," no plans or specifications are readily obtainable. Now and then, however, men do find a hint and a glimpse of the continuance of life. Perhaps you have seen a stream flowing swiftly in an underground cave. You cannot tell "whence it cometh and whither it goeth," and yet you know it starts somewhere and arrives somewhere else.

Intrepid explorers of history have gone to far countries and lands, heretofore unknown, thus widening the geographical knowledge of man. In like manner Jesus Christ enlarges our spiritual horizon. A recent writer states that the resurrection has proved the "roundness" of our life. We come from God and we go back to God. "The spirit returns to God who made it." We are not thrown up against a dead end with "nothing beyond," for "there is a door open and effectual."

St. Paul said: "We see through a glass darkly." Restless souls, who seek further light and who are impatient for a complete answer immediately, should heed the lesson of gradual unfolding taught a hundred years ago by John Henry Newman: "Keep thou my feet; I do not ask to see The distant scene, one step enough for me."

Death is one of those steps—not an impenetrable wall, but rather a door opening to a wider vista.

Easter means much to the bereaved at all times, but especially when as at this present thousands of young men are cut down in their prime with the consequent grief to their families. In the blessed assurance of everlasting life, mourners find hope and consolation in the faith that "as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly."

### RUMOR

In the infantry, of all things,  
They're going to issue GI wings!  
For men to soar over roads and hills  
And get to the front fresh as daffodils.  
No more wading through muddy roads and streams,  
You will fly over them, or so it seems.  
Our only regret is that these wings to soar  
Will not be in use in '44.

### TOP BUNK

Up on top, up on top,  
To go to bed I have to hop.  
Once up there I quickly flop  
And into slumber gently drop.  
—By Pvt. Antonio George Catavolo, Co. C, 255th Inf.

# TIPS FROM TERRY FIED --THE 'OLD SARGE'

This week I am going to talk to you Mess Sergeants for a little bit. In the first place I want to tell you what I think of Mess Sergeants in general and how important I think they are to an outfit. Training can be lousy, squad leaders not on the ball, the First Sergeant lazy, and the Supply Sergeant not on the job; and,



despite all this a company will stagger along for quite a while sometimes before somebody higher up gets wise and begins checking up. But, let the cooks oversleep or the rations fail to arrive and see what happens. The outfit just ceases to function until they have been fed.

Come to think of it, I never saw a good outfit with a poor Mess Sergeant but I have seen lousy outfits hold together only because they had a good mess; in other words, an outfit may be worse than its mess, but it is never better.

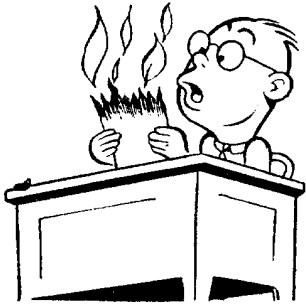
From all this you have probably gotten the idea that in my opinion you Mess Sergeants and cooks are damned important in the life of a company. If you will stop and think about it, there are two classes of people the Mess Sergeant has got to please; the people who eat in the mess and those that inspect it. The men come in the first class. They don't give a damn how dirty or clean the mess is as long as there's good food and plenty of it. The officers come in the second class. They are interested in both good food and cleanliness, but the truth of the matter is they usually form their opinion of a mess from its appearance. I don't care how good a meal you are preparing or serving—if things aren't ship shape and clean; if the cooks have long

hair, dirty finger nails and need shaves, it is two to one that your mess will be rated unsatisfactory.

In my outfit we have a Mess Sergeant who turns out the best food I ever tasted and the men think the world of him, but he keeps the Company Commander and me in hot water all the time because he can't or won't keep the cooks, k. p.'s and the kitchen clean and orderly. The pay-off came the other day out in the field when the Commanding General came through and caught him with his pants around his ankles. The hell of it was that although I had been away from the company for about a month I had returned about 10 minutes before the General arrived and I got it in the neck along with the Mess Sergeant. I didn't tell him that I am just telling you. The only thing I can say is that now things are different. Those stoves are level and so clean the cooks use them for mirrors. The place is kept raked at all times.

I had the company mechanic build him a light table about 10 feet long and two feet wide with a linoleum top and folding legs and a set of low duck boards on which rations are piled, and God help the man who leaves his equipment lying around the kitchen. Those food containers and water cans are lined up like soldiers on parade and as for the utensils—they shine like a nigger's heel. And do you know who is the happiest of all about it after bucking like a steer—that damned Mess Sergeant.

It seems the General wrote the Colonel a hot note about the mess



and it took several days for it to percolate down to our headquarters and by that time the Company Commander with my assistance had the mess looking like a million dollars. When the Colonel came straight down in his seven league boots to take us apart he damn near passed out and all he could do was to heap compliments on the Mess Sergeant's head. You know, it's had quite an effect on the other messes in the battalion, too. They have begun to perk up right smart. I have an idea that ours wasn't the only mess in the Division that was crummy.

My tip to all you Mess Sergeants is to get busy and spruce up your kitchens; then you will get commendations instead of red faces and everybody will be a lot happier.

## 253d Outfit Stages Dance at CT Red Hall

The 3d Battalion of the 253d Infantry held a dance Thursday night at the CT Red Rec. Hall. Girls from Natchez, McComb, Gloster and Centerville were guests of honor. Other invited guests were members of the recently organized Replacement Training Group.

## Versatile Musician Forms Dance Band For RTG Members

Pvt. Nick Piazza, Co. 3, RTG, formerly with Tommy Tucker's dance band, is allowing no cobwebs to gather about his musical talent while in the Army.

The 18-year-old musician from Cleveland, Ohio, has played the string bass at three dances in two weeks he has been at Camp Van Dorn and has helped organize an orchestra within the RTG.

Pvt. Piazza began his musical studies with the violin at the age of 10 and in his early teens joined the Cleveland Children's Symphony, playing first violin. Later he learned to master the string bass.

Upon graduation from high school last June, Nick was offered a place with the Cleveland Orchestra but declined because his induction appeared imminent.

"I didn't think it was fair to go with a major symphony for so short a time," he explained.

During the intervening months he turned to popular music and performed on the big viol with various Cleveland dance orchestras and then with Tucker on numerous road tours. Piazza was inducted into the Army February 18.

Asked which he preferred, jive or classical music, Pvt. Piazza said: "Both are necessary although fundamentally I love classical. But my serious study of that type must wait until after the war. Meanwhile I enjoy playing dance tunes as much as others love to dance to them and I intend continuing while in the Army, provided it doesn't interfere with my other duties."

## Easter Dance Held by 861st

Military Maids of Natchez, Baton Rouge and Woodville were guests of the 861st F.A. Battalion at an Easter Dance held Friday night, March 31st at the CT Red Rec. Hall. The hall was decorated with red and yellow streamers. A huge Easter rabbit, the work of Pfc. Howard Connelly of the 253d Inf., was part of the decorations on the stage while potted palms were arranged around the sides of the dance floor.

Highlight of the evening was a waltz contest conducted by Cpl. John R. Graves and won by Miss Jerry Gibbs of Natchez and Pfc. Robert Horsha of B. Btry. The door prize went to Sgt. Richard B. Tavalara of A Btry.

During the supper intermission Pvt. Joseph Evans of A Btry., entertained with songs. Music for the dancing was furnished by the 253d Inf. orchestra.

## Division Sidelights

(Continued From Page 3)

taining dates by crooning in the telephone booth...The boys in Barracks 6 of Co. 3 were familiar with the sleep-walking tendencies of Pvt. Charlie Smith, until this week. One morning he awakened his buddies by dashing about and shouting that the whistle had blown and it was time to fall out. The drowsy soldiers awakened the sleeping Smith and persuaded him to get off his feet and back to bed.



VICTORS in a jitterbug contest, a feature of the recent 862d F. A. dance, Miss Rose Landry of Baton Rouge and S/Sgt. Natale Salerno of Hq. Btry., each flourish five dollar bills, the prizes for first place.

## 862d F. A. Dance In Tropic Setting

The Army game of simulation has seldom been more cleverly and pleasantly done than at the tropical "Holiday Inn" where the 862d F. A. Bn. staged a dance in collaboration with the USO of Baton Rouge, March 31.

The "Inn" in this instance was the CT White Rec. Hall and the motif of a moon-and-star-lit sky, with palmettos and palm trees forming a background for gay dance teams of Redlegs and Baton Rouge belles, 100 in number, made an overall scene few who were present will soon forget.

Camouflage nets were cleverly utilized in setting off four sections, each decorated in its own particular theme, so that one had his choice of the holiday spirit of July 4th, Easter, St. Valentine's Day or Christmas.

Climax of the affair was a jitterbug contest, with the 63d Div. "Blue" orchestra setting the tempo, which was won by Miss Rosa Landry and Natale Salerno, of Hq. Btry. The judging was done by Brig. Gen. Edward J. McGaw, Div. Arty. Commander, Major Lightfoot, Bn. Commander, and WAC Lt. Conover.

## Division Commander Sees First RTG Parade

Soldiers of the Replacement Training Group paraded before Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs Friday, March 31, in their first marching display since the RTG program began.

Addressing the assembled battalions, the Division Commander praised the progress of their training and welcomed them as regular members of the Blood and Fire Division. He told them they could be proud of their future role as infantrymen.

On the reviewing stand with Gen. Hibbs were Brig. Gen. Frederick M. Harris, Assistant Division Commander; Lt. Col. John E. Brooks, Jr., A. C. of S., G-1; Maj. Frank Farr, RTG commander, and Maj. Henry D. Reed, RTG executive officer.

## Veterans Seeking Civil Service Job Have Advantage

Servicemen and women honorably discharged from the armed forces are entitled by law to Federal appointments through the Civil Service system and the Commission says they are going to get them.

In order to establish his or her right to this preference the veteran should file with his application for Federal employment preference Form 14, and acceptable proof of his honorable discharge. Consequently, here are some of the advantages which will accrue to the applicants:

### 65 Needed on Exam

They are given five points in addition to their earned rating in civil service examinations. Therefore, in written examinations they need earn a rating of only 65 in order to attain eligibility.

Ten points are added to the earned ratings of disabled veterans or those who are over 55 years old and because of disability are entitled to pension or compensation. Ten points are also added to the ratings of the widows of veterans and to the ratings of the wives of those disabled veterans, whose disability prevents them from being employed in jobs in line with their former occupations.

### Physical Requirements

Servicemen are examined without regard to height, weight and age requirements, except for such positions as guard, policeman and fireman. Physical requirements may be waived entirely for disabled veterans in some cases.

They are appointed to Federal positions without regard to the apportionment rule, which provides that appointments to the departments in Washington shall be apportioned among the states and territories according to population.

Servicemen are given the privilege of filing applications for examinations which have closed but for which lists of eligibles exist or are about to be established. Such examinations are called "re-opened" examinations.

## GI Meets Long Lost Sister of Gulfport

GULFPORT, Miss.—A chance meeting at a Service Club dance at Gulfport Field united a brother and sister after a separation of 13 years, here recently.

Pvt. Leona Perry, a Wac, accepted the offer of a dance from a soldier who made some personal inquiries while they swayed to the music. Then, obviously satisfied, the boy revealed himself as one Pvt. Leo McNamara, her brother—who had been adopted by a family of that name when their parents died.

Leo had been shown the girl's picture by another brother, now an infantryman serving in India. It was a recollection of that picture which prompted him to question Pvt. Perry regarding her parentage. Another sister is also a Wac.

What is believed to be a record for the whole Army Engineers was established by the 220th Armd. Engrs. of the 26th Armd. Div. when they spanned 585 feet of the Cumberland River at Camp Campbell, Ky., in two hours and 15 minutes.

## Theater Schedule

THEATERS NO. 1 AND 2  
Starting Times—No. 1, 1845;  
No. 2, 1810

- April 8 "The Young In Heart," with Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Paulette Goddard and Janet Gaynor.
- 9-10 "Meet the People," with Dick Powell, Lucille Ball and Bert Lahr.
- 11 "The Cowboy and the Senorita," with Roy Rogers.
- 12-13 "Uncertain Glory," with Errol Flynn, Paul Lukas and Jean Sullivan.
- 14 "Ladies Courageous," with Loretta Young, Geraldine Fitzgerald and Diana Barrymore.

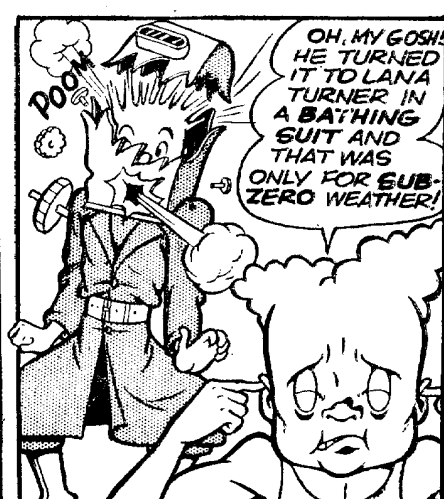
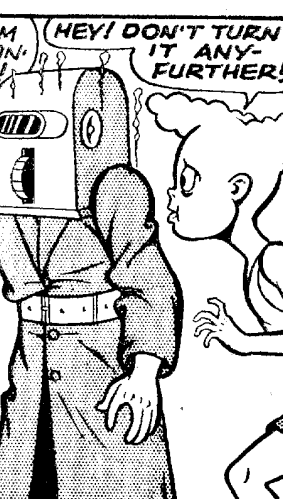
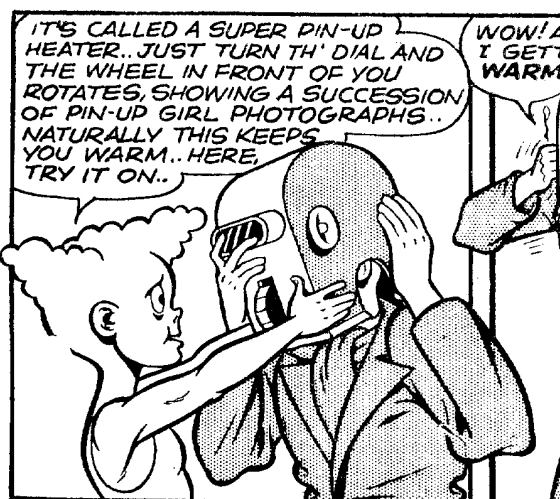
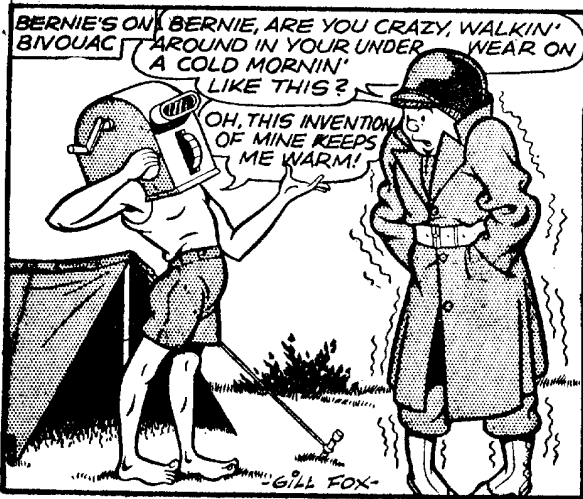
THEATER NO. 5  
Starting Time—1815

- April 9 "You Can't Ration Love," with Betty Rhodes, Johnnie Johnston.
- 10 "The Young In Heart," with Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Paulette Goddard and Janet Gaynor.
- 11-12 "Meet the People," with Dick Powell, Lucille Ball and Bert Lahr.
- 13 "The Cowboy and the Senorita," with Roy Rogers.
- 14-15 "Uncertain Glory," with Errol Flynn, Paul Lukas and Jean Sullivan.

## BERNIE BLOOD

## The Blood Warmer

By GILL FOX



# CTs Red and White Open Softball Season

## RTG Ten Defeats Co. I, 253d, 6-2, In Softball Debut

The Replacement Training Group, newest Blood and Fire unit, emphasized its presence in the Division by banging out a 6-2 softball victory over Co. I, 253d Inf., on the loser's diamond, Tuesday evening.

Given five-hit pitching by Pvt. Abe Sickerman, the RTG came from behind with a brace of tallies in the third frame of the abbreviated tilt and added four runs its next time at bat to decide the game.

Sickerman, a rangy, fast-ball pitcher, gave up a run each in the first and fourth innings but was never in danger of losing control of the game. The five safeties he allowed were scattered and the only extra-base blow off him was Pvt. Ira Brewer's home run with the bases bare in the fourth.

Co. I got off to a good start, tabbing its first run on Ralph Meudiola's single, a passed ball and Pfc. Johnny Davenport's one-bagger. It held that lead until the third when Sgt. Ed Heidcamp, burling for the home team, developed a streak of wildness.

Two hits, coupled to three passes, materially contributed to the Replacement's four-run rally in the fourth and lowered the 253d's cause in the growing dusk that made necessary the cancellation of further playing at the end of the next inning.

The victors wound up with eight hits. Cpl. Ray McCord, and Pvts. Wilberger and Mareno contributing most to the winning assault.

The boxscore:

Co. I	AB	R	H	RTG	AB	R	H
Mehall, ss	2	0	1	Wilberger, c	3	2	2
Meidiola, 2b	2	1	1	Sickerman, p	2	2	1
Davenport, 3b	2	0	1	McCord, 1b	1	0	1
Brewer, 1b	3	1	1	Moreno, 2b	2	0	2
Black, cf	2	0	0	Vidvic, 3b	2	0	1
Farrow, c	2	0	0	Spasaro, ss	3	0	0
Lorillo, lf	3	0	0	Plummer, cf	2	0	0
Pascale, cf	2	0	0	Williams, rf	2	0	0
Francis, rf	2	0	0	Roggers, lf	1	1	1
Predana, p	1	0	0	Parker, cf	3	1	0
Heidcamp, p	1	0	0				
Totals	22	2	5	Totals	21	6	5

Score by innings:  
RTG ..... 002 40-6  
Co. I ..... 100 10-2  
Umpires: Capt. Kusel, Sgt. Paqueria.

## Medics Take Lead In Volleyball Race

The Medical Det. of the 255th Inf. advanced itself as a real contender for the CT Blue volley ball championship with a 15-3, 15-3, 15-4 defeat of the Cannon Co. six, last week.

The Medics functioned smoothly under the guidance of T/Sgt. Steve Javorsky and their triumph was made all the more impressive by the margin by which they whipped the strong combination opposed to them. Cn. Co. previously had won its CT basketball and touch-football championships.

Sgt. Javorsky, incidentally, announces his team would like games with others and can be reached by telephoning 457.

The lineup:  
255th Med. Det. Pos. Co. Co.  
Javorsky R.F. Young  
Scrapskiy C.P. Antoniewicz  
Levy I.P. Peysner  
Smith R.R. McMurray  
Lynch C.B. Solin  
Campbell I.B. Moon  
Substitutions: Medics, Price and Kelton.

## Cannon Co., 255th Gets Plaque for Court Win

Cannon Co., 255th Inf., made an addition to its collection of athletic trophies this week with receipt of a plaque commemorating its elevation to the CT Blue basketball league championship.

Lt. Mike Naddoo, Regtl. Sp. Serv. officer, presented the plaque to Capt. Robert M. Young, Cn. Co. commander, in a short ceremony. The Cannoncoers won eight straight court games and went to the semifinal round of the Division championship in the course of the past season.

Because of spotlight centered on his great pitching, Walter Johnson seldom received the credit due him as a hitter. In 1925 he clubbed out the highest batting average ever made by a pitcher, .433 for 36 games.



INTO THE BAG slides Sgt. Eugene Mehall, Co. I, 253d Inf., in an unsuccessful attempt to beat the throw to Cpl. Ray McCord, RTG first baseman, in the opening inning of their inter-unit softball game Tuesday evening. Co. I managed to score a run in this frame but the Replacements rallied in the third and fourth innings to get enough tallies for a 6-2 victory.

## 4 Changes Made In Court Rules

Four "common sense" changes in the basketball code were agreed upon at a recent meeting of the National Rules Committee as it took steps to catch up with the game.

Three of the alterations tend to give the players the consideration that should have been given them when the game was speeded up by the elimination of the center jump. The other, prohibiting a player from touching the ball after it has started its downward flight toward the basket, favors teams as a whole and is commendable from the spectators' viewpoint.

The giants of the court who made themselves pains in the neck by batting well-aimed shots away from the hoop won't be so valuable to their teams under this rule. Moreover, it will eliminate a maneuver that was beneficial to stalling teams in past seasons.

The strain placed on the players by the elimination of the center-jump is being alleviated in a three-fold manner. One permits free substitution of players, removing the restriction on the number of times a player may re-enter the game. The personal foul limit has been raised from four to five per player, and the other switch permits an official to halt the game at any time for an obviously injured player regardless of which side has possession of the ball at the time.

## Red Cat Band Plays At McComb Tonight

The 253d Inf. orchestra will play for a formal dance at the Servicemen's Center at McComb tonight at 9:00. The band, under the direction of Pfc. Ralph Cerasuolo, has new orchestrations of "Woodchoppers' Ball," "Southern Fried," Tommy Dorsey's "Humoresque," "Pale Hands," and Vincent Lopez' "The Music Stopped."

## Please

BLOOD and FIRE requests all teams making reports of softball and baseball games to accompany details of games with boxscores. Blank forms may be obtained through the respective CT Special Services offices.

Only in exceptional cases can details of games not accompanied by boxscores be printed.

## Jacobson Gains Ping-Pong Finals

Pvt. Sidney H. Jacobson, Hq. Co. 1st Bn., 255th Inf. became a finalist in the CT Blue ping-pong championship tournament last week by eliminating the fourth seeded Cpl. James Lynch, 255th Med. Det., 21-16, 24-22.

As the score indicates the match was closely contested. Cpl. Lynch, who previously had beaten Sgt. Paul Priebe, of Co. F, 21-16, 21-10, played with will but in the midst of crucial volleys found Jacobson's superior all around game too hot to handle.

Jacobson's rival in the championship round will be either Sgt. Murray Balter, of A1 Co., or T/5 Alan Epstein, Hq. Co. 3d Bn., seeded third and second in the pre-tournament draw.

Balter had to squeeze out a 19-21, 21-11 victory over Pvt. William Klapholz, Co. D, to earn the right to meet the previously qualified Epstein.

## 'Miracle Mile' Out Says Ace Runner

ERIE, Pa.—The holder of the world indoor mile record, Gil Dodds, maintains "man alone doesn't have what it takes to run the four-minute mile." But the Boston divinity student adds, "with God's aid, nothing becomes impossible."

The cinderpath star spoke before YMCA and church youth groups here last night, asserting:

"It will take a power greater than that of man to accomplish the four-minute mile, but if God is willing, of course, we'll see it."

Asked if he himself would attempt the four-minute mile—a long-sought goal in trackdom—when he belatedly begins the outdoor season at the end of May, Dodds replied:

"We can always try."

His ankle sprain, suffered at Cleveland March 24, is not responding to treatment, he said, and will force him to forego the Penn relays at Philadelphia April 29.

## Minnesota Loses Net Star to Notre Dame

MINNEAPOLIS—University of Minnesota athletic officials said today that Ed Olson, tennis star who was expected to lead the Gopher net team this year, has received orders to report to the University of Notre Dame for further military training.

Olson, a graduate medical student, was captain of the 1939 Minnesota tennis team.

## Inspiration

Relatively insignificant things often play a great part in peoples' lives.

Because his first name and that of the outstanding track and field coach, Lawson Robertson, of the University of Pennsylvania, were alike, Lt. Lawson M. Kateley, Sp. Serv. Officer for CT White, as a youngster became a track and field enthusiast.

Subsequently, he became a middle distance runner for Springfield, Mass., college, and competed against such stars as Glenn Cunningham, Bill Bonthron and Gene Venzke. He never rued the day he donned the spikes—or was given the name Lawson.

## New Bowling Alleys Open for Soldiers

Members of the 63d Div. who pride themselves on their bowling ability now will have opportunity to impress their talents on others.

The first of two alleys being added to the camp recreational facilities was formally opened last Saturday when Col. Robert E. Guthrie, post commander, sent a ball rolling down one of the drives of Bldg. No. 1, situated on 15th ave. near 19th st. The second building is nearing completion and should be ready around May 1.

Much attention has been given to making the building self-sufficient in the way of entertainment features. Twelve alleys are enclosed in the conspicuously located structure and will be open from 1600-2200 on weekdays; 1300-2230 Saturday, and 1300-2200 on Sundays. Alleys one and two are reserved for officers but will be playable by enlisted men during the absence of officers. The fee for all alleys is 15 cents per line.

A post exchange is located in the building and beer, soft drinks, sandwiches and the other customary stock will be carried.

For the first four or six weeks, playing on the alleys will be open but no reservations can be made for parties. League schedules are being arranged and probably will be in readiness before that period expires.

## CT Red Names Sports Fields

That nostalgic "touch of home" was injected into its baseball picture by the CT Red Sp. Serv. staff which tagged the respective battalion softball diamonds with the names of big league parks, last week.

Shibe Park, Philadelphia; Polo Grounds, New York; Yankee Stadium, New York; Forbes Field, Pittsburgh, and Fenway Park, Boston, are the designations given the fields on which the Division championship games are being played, and, signs painted in red, white and blue locat- the respective sites.

The 1st Bn. plays its tilts at Shibe Park, the 2d Bn. at the Polo Grounds, and special units play their games at Yankee Stadium, Forbes Field is the home of the 861st F. A., and the 3d Bn. home grounds are Fenway Park.

## Natchez High Seeks Team Tennis Matches

Natchez enlarges its appeal to men of the 63d Div. by extending an invitation to Blood and Fire tennis enthusiasts for matches with its high school team.

The school has two floodlighted courts capable of being played during day or night. Coach Rexinger will entertain requests for a team match from any representative 63d Div. group and can be reached at the school or by phoning Natchez 1119.

Andy Coakley, now a New York insurance man, probably holds the record for crippling batters on successive pitches. Back in 1907, in a game against the Giants, he hit Roger Bresnahan on the head and knocked him out. When play was resumed, Coakley broke Dan McGann's right wrist with his next pitch.

## First Tilts Glitter With Solid Hitting And Fine Pitching

## Levecchia's Home Run Brings 10-9 Victory; Co. E Wins by 2-0

Many of the sports thrills that are unique with baseball made their appearance last week as teams playing within CTs Red and White formally inaugurated the Division softball tournament.

A game winning home run, a couple of fine pitching performances and even a tie emanated from the various company and battery teams' participation in the week's program. The only detracting feature was the inability of CT Blue and Special Troops to make the "get away" with the others but both circuits are expected to catch up in short order.

CT Red did a particularly fine job of opening its season. Three games were played Tuesday evening and each produced its quota of excitement. Sgt. Al Levecchia's last inning four-bagger with two mates on base gave Co. E, 253d Inf., a 10-9 decision over Hq. Co., 2d Bn., in the week's feature. Four-hit hurling by S/Sgt. B. Glarey was primarily responsible for the 6-4 victory Serv. Btry., 861st F.A., took over Hq. Btry., and darkness ended the game between Anti-Tank Co. and the Medics as a 6-6 tie.

Cos. E and F, of the 254th Inf., played their opening tilt on the CT White schedule ahead of time in order to conform to the training program. Saturday afternoon's crowd was none the sorer for it since the former team achieved a 2-0 shutout behind the pitching of Cpl. John R. Francis and Pfc. Charles J. Schwartz.

Another three-run homer was manufactured by Pfc. John A. Schmidmeister, but failed to materially alter the outcome of Co. I's game with Co. K, which wound up in favor of the former, 6-4.

The other scheduled tilts, one in each circuit, were forfeited.

(CT RED)

Hq. Co. 2d Bn.	AB	R	H	[Co. "E"]	AB	R	H
Bowser, c	3	0	0	Head, 2b	3	0	0
Bord, p	3	2	1	Renegeer, 3b	3	1	1
Schick, 1b	3	2	2	Camata, ss	3	1	1
Roder, 2b	3	1	2	Scarbh, p	3	1	2
Oglesby, ss	3	2	1	Higgins, 1b	2	1	1
Slagle, 3b	3	0	2	McGuire, lf	3	2	1
Weaner, ss	2	1	2	Anderson, c	2	1	1
Money, lf	2	0	0	Eason, rf	3	0	0
Lewis, cf	3	0	1	Libiore, cf	2	1	0
Muhall, rf	3	1	1	Levecchia, p	2	1	1
				Webb, c	0	1	1
Totals	24	9	12	Totals	20	19	9

Score by innings:  
Hq. Co. 2d Bn. .... 6 2 0 0 1-9  
Co. E ..... 2 0 2 0 3-10

Serv. Btry. 861st Hq. Btry. 861st

AB	R	H	AB	R	H
Landino, 2b	2	2	Myers, 2b	0	0
Hanilton, cf	3	1	Leahy, ss	3	0
McKha, 1b	3	1	Memoli, cf	2	0
Rosman, ss	2	2	Fil'plo, 3b	3	0
Walden, lf	2	0	Kupla, lf	2	0
Glarey, p	3	0	Palermo, c	3	0
Dalio, 3b	3	0	Flis, 1b	2	0
Mario, c	3	0	Barley, c	3	1
Romano, ss	2	0	Masloff, rf	2	2
Wade, rf	2	0	M. Lean, p	2	1
Totals	20	6	Totals	26	4

Score by innings:  
Service Btry. .... 2 0 3 0 0-6  
Hq. Btry. .... 0 2 0 2 0-4

Medics AB R H Anti-Tank AB R H

AB	R	H	AB	R	H
Smith, lf	4	0	Decina, 2b	4	1
Williams, cf	4	0	Belz, 3b	4	1
Welch, p	4	0	Roccola, ss	4	1
Stango, 1b	4	0	Johanson, p	4	0
Szwilcz, 2b	4	1	Ogden, ss	4	1
King, ss	3	1	Adessi, c	2	0
D'horst, 3b	3	1	Zelle, lf	3	0
Kiune, p	3	1	Starr, cf	3	0
Morrow, rf	3	1	Gilbert, 1b	3	0
Booth, cf	2	1	Mabrey, rf	3	0
			Schmitt, rf	0	0
Totals	34	4	Totals	35	3

Score by innings:  
Medics ..... 0 0 0 3 3 0-6  
A-T ..... 1 0 1 0 3 0 1-6

CT WHITE

Co. I	AB	R	H	Co. K	AB	R	H
Tic'dola, c	3	0	1	Wagner, c	1	1	0
Lane, p	3	2	2	Albut, p	3	0	0
Mazza, 1b	4	0	0	Henry, 1b	3	0	2
Pelcoski, 2b	3	1	1	Nevelt, 2b	2	1	0
Red'kl, 3b	4	0	2	Sch'ater, 3b	3	1	3
Kuehl, ss	3	0	0	Davidson, ss	3	0	0
Kon'ski, cf	3	1	1	Crisp, cf	3	1	0
Fazio, lf	2	1	0	Coley, lf	2	0	0
Sut'ski, cf	2	0	0	Magee, cf	2	0	0
La'rone, rf	2	1	1	Wanniger, rf	2	0	0
Totals	29	6	8	Totals	25	4	6

Score by innings:  
Co. I ..... 3 0 0 3 0 0-6  
Co. K ..... 1 0 0 3 0 0 0-4

The Major League Lifetime .300 Club presently is led by a pair of servicemen. Ted Williams, Boston Red Sox outfielder, held the lead when he went into service with a .356 mark. Soldier Joe DiMaggio, of the Yankees, was in second place with .339.

# KNOW YOUR DIVISION: The Heavy Weapons Company Supports Riflemen with machine guns, mortars

This is the seventh of a series of articles dealing with the duties and activities of men in various outfits in the Division. The articles will serve to acquaint soldiers with the functions of units other than their own.

★ ★ ★

When they classify men to go down the line to Company M of any infantry regiment they pick men who are strong of back, wide of shoulder and have an aptitude for mechanical things. These are the heavy weapons companies, and not only must these men do all the marching and hiking that the rifleman does, but they must haul on their backs some 50 lbs. of weapon, in addition to the 56 lbs. of pack and a carbine and its ammunition.

The heavy weapons companies are attached to or used in direct support of the riflemen, and on an approach march into enemy territory these weapons men usually march as flank security against aircraft, as the .50 cal. machine gun, and the Browning .30 cal. water cooled machine guns have been employed with considerable success in this war against low-flying planes intent on strafing marching infantry columns.

### Cover Infantry Advance

The weapons men also seize high terrain features and set their pieces just behind the military crest of the hill, where they themselves are covered from direct enemy fire by being in partial defilade, yet where they command a wide sweep across the territory into which the infantrymen will advance.

The machine guns may be fired in flat trajectory—as in the infiltration course and "Nazi Village"—where they are maintained in a constant position horizontal to and slightly above the advancing infantrymen. They may also be employed as mentioned from partial defilade, firing their slugs in an arched trajectory over a long range.

Probably the least glamorous job in all the infantry is that of an assistant mortar man, who passes all his time lugging a heavy bipod or base plate over the countryside. Yet, without the bipod and base plate one of the American's most popular and most deadly weapons would be ineffective. The Germans and Japs both know the devastating effects of the American 81 mm. mortar—which can fire with equal accuracy smoke, high explosive or fragmentation shells, or even shells loaded with propaganda leaflets.

### Seven Men in Squad

The mortar platoons of these heavy weapons companies have six mortar squads of seven men each, and the section leader of each group is an officer. The No. 1 mortar man carries the mortar tube, a smooth-bored tube with a simple little trigger catch at its bottom which is struck as the shell is dropped into the tube, and which causes the firing blank to send the shell on its way.

The No. 2 man carries the base plate, with its heavily ridged bottom which grips the earth for a base support of the weapon, and the No. 3 man is the bipod carrier. The bipod acts as frontal support for the weapon and has the range adjustment apparatus at its top.

The 81 mm. mortars are such accurate weapons and the men who man them are so proud of them that when a BLOOD AND FIRE reporter went to one line company to interview men for this article he was told "We could drop a shell in a Hun's overcoat pocket over a hill and out of sight from us, but darn it, you'd never be able to find him to see if the shell went into the right or left pocket."

The machine gun sections, of which there are two in every heavy weapons company, have four squads of seven men each, led by a platoon leader who is a lieutenant.

The No. 1 man carries the tripod, No. 2 has the gun barrel, and No. 3 is ammunition bearer. Other members of the gun squad, as is the case of the additional members of the mortar squads, help carry ammunition.

### Has Fast Rate of Fire

The Browning water cooled machine gun has a fast cyclic rate of fire, and can fire as many as 500 shots a minute, though 250 is generally considered fast enough fire for normal operation.

Mounted on jeeps and other vehicles, the machine guns are used for antiaircraft purposes, but they are also frequently hidden in partial defilade to pin down enemy over a wide terrain area with cross fire screening while infantrymen advance into position for assault.

Defensively the machine guns form bands of fire into which the enemy infantrymen must advance, usually with considerable casualties. "Blind spot" openings in these bands of fire, and likely enemy avenues of approach are usually covered with additional screening mortar fire from defiladed positions which the enemy cannot see.

In addition to the Browning machine guns, there is usually at least one .50 cal. heavy machine gun for antiaircraft use, and crews of these weapons have received special

schooling in their weapons at other stations.

The men of heavy weapons companies carry carbines, pistols, and bazookas in addition to their heavier arms, as they are vulnerable to personal assault by enemy planes, infantrymen and tanks, and must be able to protect themselves in the event that something happens to their machine gun or mortar which renders it useless.

### 255th GIs at 'Front' Gets Service De Luxe

Modern warfare has changed, everyone will admit, but the men of the 255th Inf., believe that Lt. Mike Nadeo, regimental athletic and recreation officer, has added a new wrinkle that the latest textbooks do not contain.

Last Thursday, when the regiment was deployed in defensive position and activity was seething up front, Lt. Nadeo, who operated a miniature PX in the field, had his jeep, driven by Chaplain Joseph Durney, take him through the battle lines, perhaps unwittingly. Waving aloft a box of chocolates, he called out as he went along:

"Candy, cigarets! Candy, cigarets!"

Arrangements have been made to serve special passover meals throughout next week at Service Club No. 2.

The Passover is the Jewish holiday of freedom and represents the liberation of Jews from the bondage of the Egyptians.

CANBERRA, Australia — Prime Minister John Curtin has refused to ask the United States government to hold back some of the pay of American soldiers stationed in Australia so that they would receive no more than Aussies. A parliament member has made the suggestion as an anti-inflationary move.

Combining music and verse in a tuneful, fitting program, members of the 254th Inf. orchestra entertained over Station WMIS Sunday afternoon as the weekly broadcast was presented from the Servicemen's Center, Natchez.

With Cpl. Leslie Heath of the CT White Athletic and Recreation office as narrator, the program opened on the theme of spring and a young man's fancy. "Sophisticated Lady," was the introductory number for the orchestra, which followed with "People Will Say We're in Love," "Put on Your Old Grey Bonnet," "Stardust," "Shoo Shoo Baby," and "Moonlight Madonna."

Saturday night the orchestra played for the formal dance given by Co. A of the Military Maids at the Municipal Auditorium. Miss Agnes Phillips, captain of the company, and Cpl. Nels Brandell, Co. C, 605th Engrs., led the grand march.

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HEAVY WEAPONS outfits in the 63d Div. are equipped with the Browning .30 cal. water-cooled machine gun, as depicted above, and with the 81 mm. mortar (left). The mortar is fired from a defilade position as shown in the photo. Both are support weapons for the infantry.

## Passover Start Marked by Feast

Services in connection with the observance of the Jewish Passover, which started yesterday at sundown and which will extend until sundown Saturday, April 15, were held last night at Chapel No. 7 with Chaplain Aaron Kahan officiating. Another service was scheduled to be held at Chapel No. 7 this morning at 1000 and one is slated for 1800. A service will also be held tomorrow morning at 1000 at Chapel No. 9.

Following last night's services soldiers of the Jewish faith and their friends attended a Passover Seder Feast at Div. Artillery Rec. Hall. The hall was decorated with camouflage nets arranged across the ceiling giving the effect of a huge tent. Evergreen trees lined both sides of the auditorium.

Among the invited guests were Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs, division commander, and other officials of the 63d.

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## Grounds for Complaint

1st Sgt. Gilbert O'Brien, Co. M., 255th Inf., thinks he has the world's record for legitimate gripes about GI food and beverages.

Last week, when his company was in the field, Sgt. O'Brien was mystified one dark night by a steady stream of men complaining that the coffee for supper tasted like dishwater. You guessed it; the coffee was dishwater.

In the darkness, the men had been lading out dishwater to drink and were washing their messkits in the coffee can!

## Male Call by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates" Must Have Come From Under The Rock Of Ages



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# Service Battery Wins March Award

(Continued From Page 1)  
pen Here." "How We Kill," and "It's Not All Mechanized," the latter showing the part of the foot soldier in this war.

Central feature of the exhibit is a large table covered with a relief map of the world. The relief is executed in papier-mache made by Becker with ground-up newspaper and flour, painted and shellacked.

Around the edges of the table are the names of Serv. Btry's 12 leaders in the chain of command, from President Roosevelt down to Capt. J. B. Tepe, battery commander. These names are the central portion of a painted phrase which says: "We'll follow (names) around the world and win!"

### Dohe in Pastels

The RTG orientation center, contained in a separate building with the RTG library, is done in pastel colors. Separate panels fill all the spaces between the windows, and the display runs entirely around the room. Below the principal maps hang light curtains, and the entire display is floodlighted by ordinary large bulbs encased in halves of No. 10 cans from the mess hall.

Lt. James Dollar is orientation officer for the RTG and S/Sgt. Carl B. Henson, who designed orientation displays for the PTD, is his enlisted assistant.

Serv. Btry's center was adjudged best among all those in the three infantry regiments and Div. Arty. The RTG was winner in a group which also included the 253d Engr. Bn., 363d Med. Bn. and Hq. Sp. Trps.

The other six centers selected as best in the orientation programs of their respective regiments and battalions were:

Co. B, 253d Engr. Bn., of which Lt. Arthur Nunn is orientation officer and Pfc. George Hulme is enlisted assistant.

Co. B, 363d Med. Bn., of which Lt. Francis J. O'Reilly is orientation officer and Cpl. Cecil Cornish is assistant.

563d Sig. Co., of which WO William James is orientation officer and Pvt. Charles Goldstein is assistant.

Serv. Co., 253d Inf.; Lt. George Szymanski, orientation officer; T/5 Alfred Ayres, assistant.

Co. D, 254th Inf.; Lt. Evan A. Moran, orientation officer; Pfc. Samuel D. Clark, assistant.

Regt. Hq. Co., 255th Inf.; Lt. Dana Whipple, orientation officer; Pfc. Isadore Gordon, assistant.

## 255th Inf. Is Praised For Tactical Operation

A special commendation for performance in a tactical situation was directed to the 255th Inf. this week by Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs, Division Commander.

"Please direct your commanders to express to their units my commendation upon the fine personal appearance and energy, together with individual attention to playing the tactical situation, which I observed generally throughout those units of the 255th which I saw," Gen. Hibbs said in a memorandum to Col. Paul E. Tombaugh, regimental commander. "All ranks were intent upon their individual tactical performance."

Gen. Hibbs was especially complimentary toward the 1st Bn. Singled out for specific praise were Sgt. Ed Martin, AT Co., for the installation and camouflage of his weapon, and Pfc. Pietro Lacovo, Co. A, for his knowledge of the tactical situation and "excellent dispositions of the squad" of which he is acting leader.

## Care in Selecting Noncoms Is Urged

(Continued From Page 1)  
2. That appropriate noncommissioned officer schools be established and operated.  
3. That noncommissioned officers who fail to attain or maintain acceptable standards be removed.  
4. That the prestige of the noncommissioned officer grades be enhanced by the extension of additional privileges and liberties to the holders of those ranks.

KWAZALEIN ATOLA, (CNS)—Marines were in the process of mopping up here when out of a dugout ran a Jap yelling: "Don't shoot, I've got a brother in Brooklyn."



INNOVATION in orientation programs was presented by the map of various theaters of operations was placed against a truck and a marionette manipulated by Cpl. Leslie Heath, assistant to Lt. Lawson M. Kateley, skipped across the map pointing out various places of news interest.

## Fall Cost Artilleryman Part in Sicily Invasion

A gale sprang up as the landing barge was nearing the shores of Sicily last summer. Pvt. Lawrence Dorwood, standing on the upper deck, was thrown off balance when a wave struck the vessel, and fell to the lower deck.

When he regained consciousness, Dorwood found himself on a ship bound for Bermuda. The injury caused him to lose his power of speech for three months.

Today, a member of Btry. B, 718th F. A., Dorwood's ambition is to finish the job he set out to do.

Dorwood, whose home is in Allentown, Pa., entered the Army in November, 1942. He received his basic training at Ft. Eustis, Va., and a few months later found himself in the European Theater of Operations.

### Washing a Problem

"The barge on which I crossed the Mediterranean was twice as long as our barracks here and about twice as wide," Dorwood said. "It would sleep 150 soldiers. Sleeping quarters were over the ammunition and equipment deck, and 75 men slept on each side, in triple-deck bunks. The 35 members of the ship's crew slept at the opposite end of the ship."

"Washing was a problem. We were allowed fresh water for an hour a day. We took showers and washed clothes in salt water drawn by a bucket. There was enough fresh water on board to last 28 days."

"The galley on the top deck contained the last word in equipment. When the chow whistle blew, we lined up and our food was dished out into individual trays, which we carried to a compact mess room

on the lower deck. The food was expertly cooked and appetizing, and those who were fortunate enough not to get seasick actually gained weight."

On board the men pulled the usual details, such as KP and guard. They stood guard on a 24-hour basis, some of the men being assigned to 50-cal. machine guns and others to 20- and 40-mm. anti-aircraft guns.

### Waves Cleaned Ship

"Policing the area" was a simple matter. Usually a wave came over the bow and washed the vessel from stem to stern. Frequent classes were held in first aid, marksmanship and similar subjects, and fire and lifeboat drills were held regularly. A surgeon and a chaplain were members of the ship's complement.

"For amusement, card games came first," Dorwood says. "A horse race game with dice helped circulate the wealth and, for those who wanted something less exciting, chess, checkers and reading played big roles. Radios were forbidden for secrecy reasons, but a phonograph with a big selection of records, from Beethoven to Glenn Miller, took care of our musical appetites."

"Before we left land we chipped in \$5 apiece and laid in a supply of cigars, tobacco, cigars and toilet articles. The idea was to set up our own co-operative PX, each man to get his \$5 back at the end of the voyage."

Dorwood was near enough to hear and see the naval bombardment of the island when the largest wave of all struck his ship and put him out of the Sicilian action.

### Simple Isn't It

The "class" gathered around the breakfast table at Cn. Co., 255th Inf. The "teacher" was T/Sgt. E. G. Burnette; the pupils were 1st Sgt. Risdon Boykin, T/Sgt. Delbert Brett and Sgt. C. W. Moon. They were all listening intently as Burnette explained.

"Yeah, say it slowly and see what comes out. Like this: Mairzy doats and dozy doats simply meahs mares eat oats and does eat oats."

The pupils, none except Moon under 30 years of age, nodded seriously, and Burnette continued: "And little lambs eat ivy. Kids will eat ivy, too."

Sgt. Boykin scooped up a spoonful of oatmeal and shook his head. "Well, I'll be damned."

## Contests Feature 254th Inf. Party

Featured by a waltz contest and one for jitterbugs, the 3d Battalion of the 254th Inf., held a dance Friday night, March 31, at the CT White Rec. Hall. Girls from Natchez, Woodville and other communities attended. The 254th orchestra furnished the music.

Miss Dorothy Clingan of Woodville and Pfc. Jay B. Hutchins of Co. D, 254th Inf., won the waltz contest. After some close figuring on the part of the judges, Miss Mary Alma Ourso of Natchez, and Pvt. Ramos Conte of Co. I, 253d Inf., were adjudged the best among the adherents of jive.

Sgt. Abe Kanig, Co. L, T/Sgt. William Ratchford, and Cpls. William Anderson, Hq. Co., and Harry Hoskins, Co. M, formed the committee on arrangements.

## Seeks Week-End Pass To Take 14-Mile Hike

CAMP CROWDER, Mo.—Here's a private who likes to take 14-mile hikes. Pvt. Johnnie L. Smith, Co. D, 35th Bn., nearly floored his company top kick when he asked for a week-end pass so he could go on a 14-mile hike. Smith got the pass when he persuaded the sergeant that it was an honest request, then went with the Neosho Boy Scout troop on their Saturday jaunt.

## Ex-Baron Now Private In U. S. Army Air Force

BUCKLEY FIELD, Colo.—George DeKiss, 28-year-old former baron and lieutenant in the Royal Hungarian Cavalry, now is a private in the U. S. Army Air Forces here. He hopes to become an aerial motion picture photographer and has applied for American citizenship.

DeKiss is a graduate of one of the leading universities of Hungary and speaks four languages. He studied at Columbia University and the University of Southern California; when the war broke out he decided to stay in this country and join its army.

## Army Pamphlets To Acquaint Men With Campaigns

Because the fighting man seldom has more than the narrowest view of the battle, and the soldier wounded in an engagement may know even less of that action, the War Department plans to "fill in" these men with detailed stories of battle.

The result of a visit to wounded soldiers by Gen. George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff, a series of illustrated pamphlets, "American Forces in Action," is to be distributed to wounded fighting men in hospitals in the States and overseas.

"In the thick of battle, the soldier is busy doing his job," Gen. Marshall says in the foreword to the series. "He has the knowledge and confidence that his job is part of a unified plan to defeat the enemy, but he does not have time to survey a campaign from a fox-hole. If he should be wounded and removed behind the lines, he may have even less opportunity to learn what place he and his unit had in the larger fight."

"American Forces in Action" will show these soldiers, who have served their country so well, the part they and their comrades play in achievements which do honor to the record of the United States Army.

The series begins with "To Bizerte With the II Corps," a detailed recounting of the II Corps' success against the Afrika Korps in Tunisia in April and May, 1943. It includes the general problems of the American forces, the step-by-step parts played by many of the smaller units.

## Combat Creed Is Essay Topic

(Continued From Page 1)  
creeds for the following classifications: Rifleman, Gunner, Communications, Intelligence, Medic, or Engineer.

3. Entries must be short, not to exceed 500 words, preferably less.

4. Entries should be mailed or sent through Message Center, addressed to: "Soldier's Creed Contest, BLOOD and FIRE, Public Relations Office, 63d Inf. Div., APO 410, Camp Van Dorn, Miss."

5. Judges will be regimental commanders and the commanding officer of Hq. Sp. Trps. In the event of a tie, final decision will rest with Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs, Division Commander.

6. The contest will close at midnight April 30. Entries postmarked after this date will not be accepted. No entries will be returned.

## In Army Seven Years, GI Misses Draft Call

WITH SECOND ARMY ON MANEUVER (CNS)—There were just two obstacles to prevent Willie Rainers, of Petersburg, Va., from responding to the Selective Service summons he received.

1. Being in Tennessee, he couldn't reach Virginia in time for induction.

2. Willie has already spent seven years in the Army and this season he is on maneuvers in Tennessee.

## New Sighting Device Makes Mortar Lighter

CAMP MANEY, Tex.—Foot slogging GIs who have toted the 60 mm mortar and its parts over difficult terrain will be glad to know that a recent device invented by Lt. John A. Goodner of this post, has reduced the overall weight of the weapon by 30 pounds. The new device is used in sighting and has proved extremely accurate in fire control of the mortar.

## Disabled Vets Assured Jobs in Motor Plants

DETROIT, Mich.—The Ford Motor Company and the General Motors Corporation have announced that jobs will be assured former employes who have been disabled in the service. If they are not fitted to work at their former jobs, they will receive special training for work they can do. Jobs are being surveyed to determine the physical requirements of each.



By Camp Newspaper Service

Q. I have been sending my mother a family allowance of \$37 a month, as a partial dependent. Recently my sister, who used to help support my mother, was married and can no longer send my mother any money. Is it possible for me to get an additional allowance for my mother's support?

A. Yes. If your mother now depends upon you for her chief support, she is entitled to receive an allowance of \$50 a month.

Q. I'm trying to find the whereabouts of my brother who has been sent overseas. Where can I acquire his APO?

A. You can get this information from the Adjutant General's office, War Department, Washington. However, the number of daily inquiries pertaining to the whereabouts of individual soldiers has become so great that in the future specific replies to these inquiries will be sent only to members of Congress, parents and close relatives of soldiers and certain public authorities.

Q. I'm in the Army and so is my sister and so is my dog, Bill. Bill, a German Shepherd, is in the K9 Corps, having enlisted shortly after my sister joined the WAC. Now what I want to know is—will we get Bill back after the war and, if so, will he be the same old fun-loving Bill we used to know or will he be an ugly-mashed growler who'll go around chewing on the postman's leg?

A. You'll get your dog back, all right, and he won't be ferocious, either. To assure the return of all K-9 dogs to civilian life in their preinduction state of docility, all dogs will undergo a reprocessing routine before their discharge. This routine is the exact opposite of that followed to fit the dogs for combat. They are petted and babied back to a friendly frame of mind and quickly become readjusted.

More than 152,000,000 bottles of carbonated beverages will be shipped overseas by the Army in 1944.