



Blood and Fire



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63D INFANTRY DIVISION, CAMP VAN DORN, MISS.

June 10, 1944

63D TROOPS TO STAGE MILITARY MARDI GRAS

632 Men Receive Expert Badges at Ceremonies Today

A total of 632 men of the 63d Div. were honored today at special ceremonies in each of the infantry regiments as Expert Infantrymen Badges were presented by regimental commanders.

The 254th Inf., with a total of 243 eligibles, led the Division, while the 255th Inf., with 220 was second, and 253d, third with 165. Special troops presented four men with the coveted award.

All of the 63d soldiers who received the award won it in the hardest manner possible. Each man was subject to a series of gruelling tests which taxed his strength and his stamina as well as his skill as a rifleman and a combat soldier.

Among the tests which each was required to undergo were to hike 25 miles and speed march nine miles, and to run the grenade and compass courses. In addition each soldier must have completed the close combat course, infiltration course and Nazi village. Gen. Hibbs added another test which required the men to know the basic armament and function of the rifle platoon.

The Infantryman Badge is an oblong of silver with a musket embossed upon it. The whole is mounted on an infantry blue rectangle. It was established by the War Department to promote efficiency and an esprit de corps among the members of the infantry.

Medals Awarded Men of 255th

Nine members of Hq. Co., 1st Bn., 255th Inf., were awarded marksmanship medals for proficiency with the M-1 rifle recently. The men and their scores follow.

Cpl. Roy D. McConnell, 163; T/5 Joseph J. Rusin, 154; T/5 Raymond H. Gariepy, 148; T/5 William J. Bailey, 148; Pvt. George F. Koehler, 140; Pvt. Patsy Lucareello, 140, and Pvt. John O. Keane, 146.

Battery A Receives Orientation Award

A Battery, 862d Field Artillery, received the award for the best orientation in Division Artillery from Brig. Gen. Edward J. McGraw at a retreat formation Friday, June 5. Capt. Elric S. Pinckney, battery commander; Lt. John Simms, Jr., orientation officer, and Cpl. Max Goldstein and T/5 Edward G. Olenic were commended for their work.

862d Liaison Pilot Made 1st Lieutenant

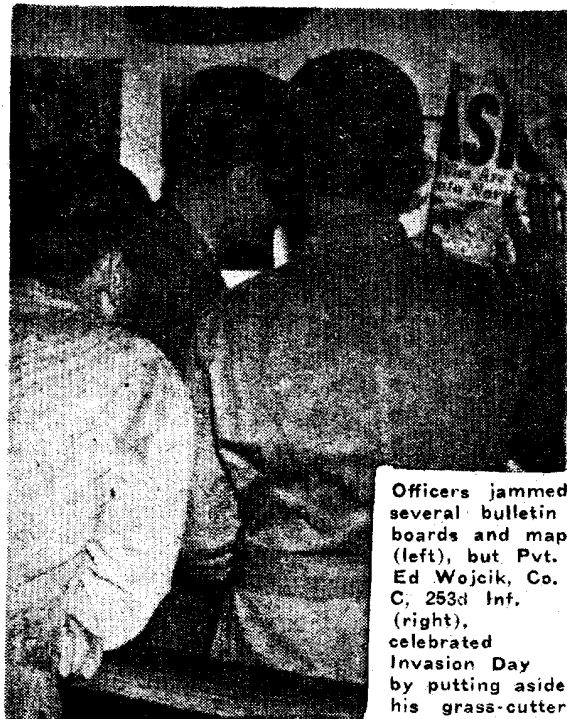
Sporting new silver bars is Lt. Garner Farrell, liaison pilot of the 862d Field Artillery Battalion, who received notice recently of his promotion from second lieutenant to first lieutenant.

Drivers Licenses

A representative of the Mississippi State Police will be present at the Camp Provost Marshal's office each Wednesday from 1530 to 1800 for the purpose of issuing drivers' licenses for the State of Mississippi.

How D-Day Hit Camp Van Dorn

AN INVASION FOR BREAKFAST



Officers jammed several bulletin boards and maps (left), but Pvt. Ed Wojcik, Co. C, 253d Inf. (right), celebrated Invasion Day by putting aside his grass-cutter for a victorious salute to our troops. What a job to have on D-Day!



Reveille Unnecessary as News of Landings in France Arouse Men

D-Day sneaked up on Camp Van Dorn.

It seemed just another gag to thousands of sleepy GIs when their 'Q's' rooted them out of bed with, 'Hit the floor, men! This is D-Day!' Nobody believed them.

The news, just a pre-dawn whisper heard over the radio by a few sleepless dyspeptics, slowly picked up volume and by chow time nobody was talking of anything else. "Honest, it's the truth," soldiers told each other. "I just heard it on the radio."

Really a Fact

When chow was over the invasion was a firmly established truth and crowds of GIs buzzed around radio sets in the barracks and day rooms. And in a short time there was no longer any doubt; they were even talking about it in the latrines.

The Division's news-distributing system went into action with the

sun. Orientation officers rigged up makeshift displays to carry the news to men left in the company areas and Blood and Fire hustled out an extra for display on all company bulletin boards. In the field officers announced the latest developments in the breaks as they came to them and the 862d Field Artillery even sent out hourly summaries to classes in the field over the battalion wavelength to its organic radio units.

Our Inquiring Reporter, rushed out to feel the public pulse on the highways and byways of camp, found the reaction as unanimous as if he had asked each soldier how he liked to be kissed.

Pvt. Allen Gerrard, who was once a town recorder back in his home in West Virginia, looked up from a delicate soufflé he was cooking for his comrades in Co. C, 253d Inf., and said:

"I find this a great day in American history, one to which our chil-

dren may look back with pride, the day on which a tree and indignant America —"

"Come, come, Gerrard," our reporter broke in. "Remember, this is 1944, and it's Camp Van Dorn, and it's hot as Hell. What do you really think of the invasion?"

'It's the Nuts'

"Speaking honestly and off the record," said Gerrard, "I think it's the nuts."

And that was the general opinion around camp.

In the 255th Motor Pool, WO Stanley D. Crouch, in charge of maintenance, even allowed his jeep-mechanics to bring their radios on the job with them.

"It won't interfere with their work," he said, "to listen to the greatest news of the century. It's not every day you get a ring-side seat at the making of history."

Cpl. George Grube, cook in Hq. Btry., 718th F. A., didn't let his (Continued on Page 3)

Premier of 'Greatest Show' Set for Organization Day

The Greatest Show on Earth in Camp Van Dorn, will be presented before the eyes of thousands of GIs—their relatives and friends on the afternoon of Organization Day, when the Circus Revue takes to the stage of the outdoor theater at 1430.

Funny men, clowns, music by Division Band and the recently reorganized 63d chorus, a WAC chorus line, prestidigitators, singers and a real ringmaster, will make the production prepared by Cpls. Arnold Spector and Paul Taubman of Division Special Services, one of the most attractive events on the Organization Day program.

63d Song to be Sung

One of the features of the musical section of the revue will be the introduction of the "63d Uniform," an original poem by Dorothy Har-

ris, daughter of Brig. Gen. Frederick M. Harris, Assistant Division Commander. The poem which was printed in Blood and Fire several months ago, has been set to music by T/5 Taubman, former radio artist.

Sgt. William Federer will sing the song while Division Chorus furnishes the background accompaniment.

Division Special Services has drawn heavily upon the wealth of musical and dramatic talent in the 63d and a sparkling production is the result. Nearly every type of performer in the Division and camp, from contortionists to opera singers has been drafted for the revue.

75 in Cast

The entire cast will number 75 of (Continued on Page 8)

253d Band Plays At McComb Center

The 253d Inf. orchestra which played for a dance sponsored by the 1st Bn. at the CT Red Rec Hall last night, will play for a dance at the Servicemen's center at McComb tonight from 2030 until 2330. Tonight will mark the second time that the CT Red band has played in the Mississippi community.

On Saturday, June 17, the orchestra is scheduled to play for a dance at the City Auditorium in Natchez. Other bookings include a dance to be held by the Division Supply Officers at Officers' Club No. 2 on Tuesday, June 13, and an appearance at the CT Red Officers' dance on Friday, June 23, at Officers' Club No. 2.

Last night's 1st Bn. dance attracted many members of the regiment who had as their dancing partners girls from Natchez, Baton Rouge, McComb, Centerville and other communities.

600 Men Set For Exercise at New Orleans

Assault on Pillbox Will Feature War Exercise; Unit at Baton Rouge

Elements of the 63d Division will be honored with the job of intimately acquainting the public with the infantryman, his weapons and his technique during the dual celebration of Infantry and Organization days, June 15 and 16.

The streets of New Orleans and Baton Rouge will sparkle with the glitter of the doughboy's basic weapons on display for enlightenment of the men, women and children of these two Louisiana cities. Moreover, the men of Blood and Fire will make the welkin ring with the sounds of small arms fire and the burst of chemical war implements as they stage battle exercises on the sidewalks and thoroughfares of those localities.

The infantry in attack will be one of the features of the Military Mardi Gras, the 63d's contribution to the Fifth War Bond Drive. Approximately 600 troops will stage an all-out assault on an "enemy pillbox" on New Orleans' roomy Canal Street Thursday. (Continued on Page 3)

15 Officers Added to Roster of 254th

Fifteen new officers have been added to the roster of the 254th Infantry, headed by Capt. Samuel G. Spangler, who has been placed in command of the 3d Bn. Hq. Co. New first lieutenants include Robert Brennan, assigned to Co. E; Daniel Mahoney, Co. M; Charles Durham, Co. C; John F. Warren, Co. B, and George Hirko, Co. I. The new second lieutenants are Ralph Richey, Co. I; Saul Hanin, Co. E; Bernard J. Burdick, Co. G; Walter Lyon, Co. D; Harry Shields, Co. K; John L. Schappert, Co. D; Mark A. Carr, Co. L; John N. Ruth, Med. Det., and Wallace Adams, Co. C.

Lt. Durham has a record stretching back to his 17th birthday when he enlisted in the Army. He saw service from 1934 to 1937 in Panama—under the present commander of the 254th Infantry, Co. Joseph H. Warren.

Div. Arty. Will Sponsor Course in Orientation

Non-commissioned officers and privates in Div. Arty who are orientation assistants, will receive a 10-day "In Service Training Course" starting Monday at 1300. A/Sgt. Sy Bernhard, who recently returned from Special Service School, will conduct the course daily for three weeks in the reading room of Service Club No. 2.

The course next week will run through Wednesday and will then resume on Monday, June 19, and run through to June 27.

KNOW YOUR DIVISION:

Chaplains Minister to Spiritual and Moral Welfare of Soldiers in Camp and Field

This is one of a series of articles dealing with the various components of the 63d Infantry Division, published so that men within the Division may know what those in other arms and branches do.

The Division chaplain, as a member of the Special Staff of Div. Hq., is the adviser and consultant to the Commanding General in all matters pertaining to the public religious observances in the 63d and in matters involving morale, morality and character building.

In the Blood and Fire organization, Ch. (Lt. Col.) William E. Patrick is given that responsibility along with his assistant, Ch. (Maj.) William J. Guinan, and a staff of 13 able and conscientious regimental aides.

The function of Ch. Patrick's office is primarily administrative. Religious work is his central task and among his responsibilities is that of supervising and coordinating the activities of the other chaplains in the Division.

He counsels these men at regular meetings, for it must be remembered that generally, members of the Chaplains Corps in times such as these are fresh from civilian life faced with the problem of adjusting themselves, as well as the men of the command, to the differences between their previous environment and the military.

It is the responsibility of Ch. Patrick's office to keep a finger on the pulse of religious interest within the Division, and a chart of the morale, moral and spiritual status of the 63d is gleaned through reports from the offices of regimental chaplains.

42 Services Weekly

The soldier expects his chaplain, division or regimental, to function as he did in civilian life and everything is done to try to satisfy him. Every effort is made to give the doughboy a service such as he had always known, regardless of his faith. The immensity of this task may be gauged from the fact that during an average week, 42 services are conducted and attended by between three and four thousand persons.

Figuratively speaking, the office of the Division Chaplain and his staff is constructed like one of those big, wooden wheels with a central hub from which radiate 13 spokes. Chaplains Patrick and Guinan compose the hub, co-ordinating the operations of their regimental aides.

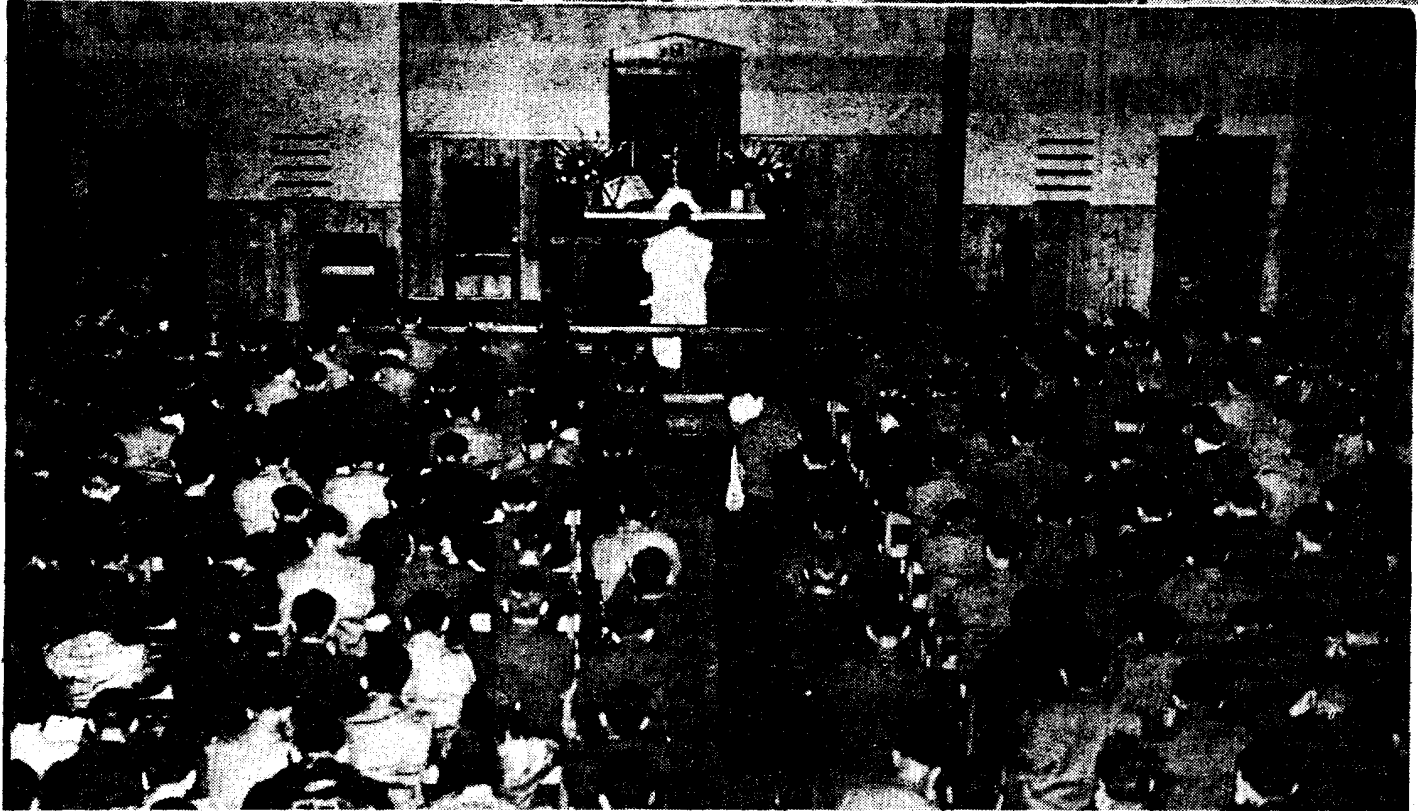
This staff is made up of two Roman Catholic priests, one Jewish rabbi, and one or more ministers of the Episcopal, Baptist, Congregationalist, Lutheran, Latter Day Saints, Disciples of Christ, Methodist and Presbyterian faiths. Equally interesting is the fact a religious census within the 63d showed there were men of 47 faiths, including Buddhists, Mohammedans and Shintoists, assigned to the Division.

By Army Regulations each chaplain is required to file a monthly report of his services and pastoral activities. After careful scrutiny by the Division Chaplain this report is officially indorsed by the unit commander and then forwarded through channels to the Chief of Chaplains with indorsements by Division, Corps and Army. Lasting proof of the enormity of

the task performed by this handful of men is found in a 30-column book maintained by T/4 Morris Klass, chief clerk, in which are the records and statistics of activities co-ordinated and supervised by the Chaplain's section.

On its pages are records of attendance at every service and of the activities of each chaplain in the 63d. From these facts and figures is prepared a monthly report which is submitted to the Commanding General, copies being forwarded to Corps and Army Headquarters.

Baptisms, burials, and marriages are filed here as are figures on the number of men interviewed on matters of a religious or personal



CHAPLAINS of the Division direct the spiritual and moral welfare of the soldiers both in garrison and in the field. Examples of this are shown in the photos above. In upper photo 63d Chaplains are gathered about a final organ leading a songfest during a field problem. Lower photo shows men attending Catholic Mass on the post.

nature, the visits made to hospitalized soldiers by the chaplains and their miscellaneous pastoral activities.

Religious Services

PROTESTANT SERVICES

Sunday
Chapel 7, Episcopal Holy Communion Service—0830.
Chapels 6, 7, 8, 10—0900.
Chapels 5, 6, 8, 10—1000.
Chapels 5, 6, 7, 10—1100.
Chapel 8, Lutheran Communion Service—1100.

Sunday Afternoon and Week Days
Chapel 6, Concert Hour, Sunday—1500.
Chapel 8, Sunday, 1830.
H. & S. Co. Day Room, 263d Engr., Sunday—1815.
Chapel 7, Lutheran Service, Sunday—1900.

Chapel 5, Prayer Meeting and Bible Study Group, Thursday—1900.
Chapel 10, Joint Service, 254th Inf., 211th F. A.—1930.
Chapel 5, Choir Rehearsal, Thursday—2000.

Chapel 8, Evening Prayer Meeting, Thursday—1930.

ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICES

Sunday Masses
Chapels 5, 7—0900.
Theater 5—0900.
Chapel 7—1000.
Theater 7—1030.
CT Blue Rec. Hall—1100.

Week Day Masses
Chapel 5, Monday, Wednesday, Friday—1830.
Chapel 7, Monday, Wednesday, Friday—1830.
Chapel 10, Tuesday, Novena Benediction—1930.
Chapel 5, Wednesday, Novena Miraculous Medal—1830.

Confessions
Chapels 5, 7, Saturday—1930 to 2000.

JEWISH SERVICES

Friday
Hospital—1830.
Chapel 7—2000.

Sunday

Chapel 9—1100.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE READING

Chapel 5, Sunday—2000.

LATTER DAY SAINTS SERVICE

Chapel 6, Sunday—1830.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Chapel 1, Friday—1930.

HARLINGEN ARMY AIR FIELD, Tex. (CNS)—Sabu, famed "Elephant Boy" of the screen, won his gunner's wings here recently with several hundred other students. Around the field he is known by his real name, Pfc. Sabu Dastagir.

Overseas Force to Number Five Million by End of '44

Washington, D. C.—If you want to get an idea of where you'll be at this time next year, you can take the government's word for it that two out of every three soldiers in American uniform will be serving in theaters of operations outside of the continental United States by the end of 1944.

26 New Officers Assigned to 253d

Assignment of 26 new officers to the 253d Inf. was announced today by Capt. Walter M. Lee, regimental adjutant.

Newly assigned officers include Maj. Harry H. Day, 3d Bn. executive officer; Lts. John F. Sheehan and George W. Almond, chaplains; Lts. Lawrence W. Jordan and Donald E. Kramer, Med. Det.; and Lt. George R. Townsend, 1st Bn. S/A, attached to Serv. Co.

Other assignments are: Lts. Jasper R. Johnson and Harold W. Wilder, Co. A; Lts. Henry E. Fulcher, George A. Earnest and William M. Lovell, Co. B; Lts. Edward LeRoy Peer, Edwin T. Leabens, and William V. Carlson, Co. E; Lt. Richard J. Weinheimer, Co. F; Lts. Jack W. Wolfe and John J. Millet, Co. G; Capt. Wilbur T. Jones, Co. H; Lt. Victor E. Lowman, Co. I; Lts. George E. Clerc, John H. Marshall and Harold A. Noruk, Co. K; Lts. Francis Leo Markey, Jr., and Robert B. McAttee, Co. L.

NEW IRELAND (CNS) — Maj. Joe Foss, holder of the Medal of Honor and first great Marine ace of this war, is on the war path again. Recently returned to action, he destroyed his 27th Jap plane in the waters off New Ireland.

Tightening the noose around the Axis, our overseas expeditionary forces by the end of the year will total 5,000,000 men, approximately 67 per cent of our total strength, and most of it will come from the Army Ground Forces, in which most soldiers in the 63d now have the honor of serving.

A recapitulation of strength distribution today shows that the United States Army has 3,657,000 men deployed in foreign theaters, 1,571,000 more than the peak overseas strength of the Army in the last World War and only 400,000 short of the entire strength of the Army on Armistice Day, 1918. A year ago 1,466,000 troops were overseas, representing 21 per cent of the Army strength at that time. At present 47 per cent of the total strength is overseas.

The United States Army Air Force and Army Service Forces are almost completely deployed and the overseas movement of the Army Ground Forces is nearing its peak. As D-Day approached the flow of fully-trained AGF troops increased steadily and as the final battles draw closer it will increase even more.

The deployment of this vast overseas force has followed a minutely-defined pattern set forth by the United States Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Fixing the over-all size of the Army, the Joint Chiefs of Staff first determined that initial shipments of men and material would be made to prevent further expansion of gains already made by the Axis. The next step was to ship men and munitions overseas to break down the enemy's outer defense, and prepare for the final phase—the period of decisive action and the total destruction of the armies of the enemy.

The Wolf by Sansone



"I think I've got what you want!"

TIPS FROM TERRY FIED --THE 'OLD SARGE'

I remember once when I was a kid a young doctor moved to my home town. He rented a fine office and a good looking horse and buggy and all hours of the day and night he could be seen rushing out of the office, bag in hand, jumping into his buggy and galloping furiously away. Everybody took it for granted that he was making calls on patients and it was amazing how quickly he built up his practice. Later on he confessed to my pa that he had been just putting on a show, that most of the time he was just ahead of the sheriff and that in the beginning when he left in such a hurry he had just driven around the block and out into the country and back.

I thought of him when the answers to my plea of last week began to come in and I was kind of tempted to tell a big lie to the effect that an extra postman had to be detailed to bring me my fan mail and thereby drum up a little trade, but on second thought I decided that I had better stick to the truth and admit that the response was damned slim. But I did get one GI note which I thought was good and which kind of opened up the floodgates of my memories. It went like this:

"Dear Sarge: I would like to have the straight dope on how much of this orientation and personnel adjustment stuff you had in World War I. Also, I would like to know what you think of it. Personally, it sounds sometimes to me like some guy was trying to blow up a job for himself. I figure that most everybody will need some real adjusting when they get in a fight, particularly if they baby us now and I wonder who is going to do the adjusting if it isn't the guy himself."

Well, most old timers like myself don't mind admitting that in many ways this present-day Army of ours has it over the old Army of World War I like a tent. The training is better, round pegs have been put in round holes, equipment is tops, uniforms are common sense and these fine field rations we have aren't even distantly related to the canned Willie we had to eat in those days or starve. We didn't have any of these orientation or personnel ad-

justment programs, either. I had an old company commander who used to say, "The company needs its close order drill like a baby needs its milk. Give me an outfit that can drill and I can do anything else with it." He lived up to his beliefs, too, and drilled hell out of us.

Whenever I hear or read about enemy atrocities in this war my mind goes back to those eight hours we used to spend every day on that sun-baked parade ground with tourniquets around each leg and around the neck and figure that there ain't a hell of a lot the Nips or Nazis can dig up that I haven't already been through. When I mention tourniquets I am referring to those form-fitting breeches and wrapped puttees and to that stock collar we wore. The only difference between them and the real article was they didn't tag them or loosen them every 20 minutes. I reckon a lot couldn't take it and fell by the wayside, but I am telling you that those that survived the torture sure had hell in their hearts and took it out on the Heinies. My outfit was as tough as they come and spoiling for a fight, and that's what we're aiming for in this outfit.

It's the same as with our pioneer forefathers. They took it on the chin from the Indians and everything else and went through hell, but what was left was pure gold, which is one of the good reasons the old USA is what it is today.

The feeling in my old outfit was that the answer to everything was the "Old Man." Maybe this was because we didn't have any of these new-fangled programs to help get us adjusted and keep our morale up, and there's no use denying that taken in reasonable quantities they do help, but I am saying that give me a damn good company commander who is a real leader, on the ball, interested in the welfare of his men, tough and fair and pretty soon he will have the right guys wearing the chevrons and then you can throw all the programs out the window and that outfit will fight like hell. There ain't no substitute for leadership and when you start catering to a man's weaknesses you are looking for trouble. What Sherman said still goes, and anything that smacks of the nursery ain't going to be of much help when the bullets are flying.

So I think there's a hell of a lot in what this GI says and my advice to all and sundry is to put the heat on yourself and adjust your own harness now.

Rec Halls Crowded For USO Players

USO Camp Show No. 13 may be just another number on the long list of similar enterprises which have played recreation halls in the camp, but GIs who witnessed its four members perform, found it was well worth their while.

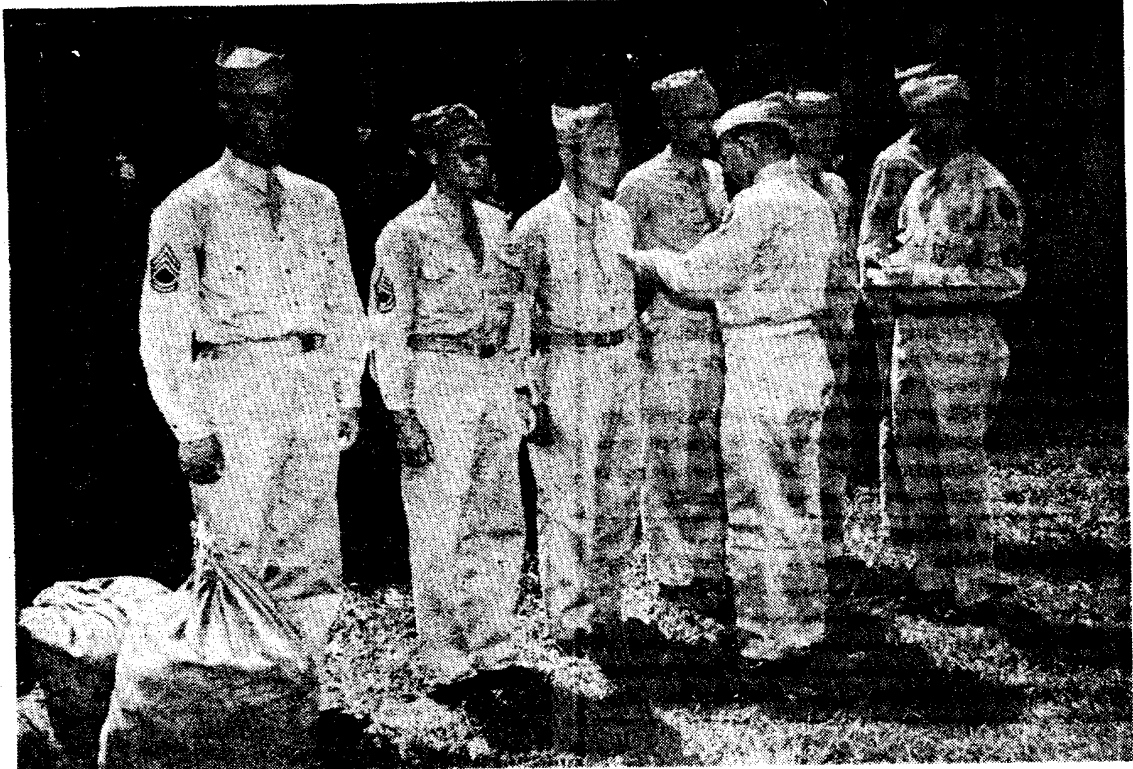
Bert Spencer, the master of ceremonies, played in the "Yip Pip Yaphank" number with Irving Berlin in "This Is the Army." Spencer was in both the stage show and the movie.

Three girls comprised the balance of the show and all three drew enthusiastic applause wherever they appeared. There was Nellie Jay who did a fine job as a soloist on the accordion, and who later accompanied the others in their acts, eye-catching Phyllis Daye, a cornetist; pretty Marie Morin, a tap dancer, and Ponce Rolande, petit French singer, who captivated the GIs with a very lovely voice.

At Div. Arty Rec Hall where the show played Thursday night, Miss Rolande answered innumerable encores to sing such haunting melodies as "Begin the Beguine," "Make Believe," "Siboney," "I'll Be Seeing You," and "Long Ago and Far Away."

Miss Daye thrilled the devotees of long hair with "Ceri Beri Bin" and then got in some hot licks a la Charlie Spivak with whose band she played. Marie Morin brought things to a close with a difficult jump-rope toe tap.

Change of Pace
SALT LAKE CITY (CNS)—Cokswain K. T. Duffin was overheated all the time he was fighting with the Navy in the tropical Pacific. So he spent his leave working in an ice company's warehouse.



EXPERT INFANTRYMAN BADGES were awarded six members of the 255th Inf. this week before the men changed stations. Photo shows Col. John M. Underwood, Exec. Officer of the regiment, accompanied by M Sgt. Travis Harrington, presenting badges to (left to right): T Sgt. Robert Accorsi, Co. E; T Sgt. Allen M. Brenner, Hq. Co., 2d Bn.; Sft. John S. Piorro, Hq. Co., 2nd Bn.; T.5 Norman D. Tippett, Hq. Co., 1st Bn.; Cpl. James H. Morrow, Cn. Co., and S Sgt. Lenoir G. Shook, Co. K.

News of Invasion Greets Division GI's at Breakfast

(Continued From Page 1)
feelings interfere with his work. When he bounced his KP's out of bed he roared: "The invasion is on! Breakfast is on! Get up and get down to that kitchen!"

Sgt. Clair S. Hammer, Serv. Btry., 718th F. A. Bn., had a more whimsical reaction. As he listened to the reports of the thousands of tons of bombs being dropped in short periods of hours, a dreamy look came into his eyes.

"Gee!" he finally said at last. "How would you like to make out an ammunition expendability report on that?"

Man Behind the Gun
T.5 Alfred Sanford, gun mechanic in Cannon Co., 255th Inf., spent Invasion Day cleaning a 105 howitzer. He wiped the sweat off his face and said: "This is my part in D-Day. Everybody has his job to do wherever he is, but I sort of wish I was over there with the boys, helping give them a push."

Division G-2 buzzed all day like a well-run beehive. A large invasion map was put up on the wall and progress pins followed each

step of the invading forces along the French coast. But on that busy first day even G-2 couldn't guarantee its information.

One of the most impressive jobs of keeping the public informed was done by the 254th Inf. orientation staff. At 0700 a huge headline was strung above the map in front of the CT White Rec Hall, announcing: "Allies Land in France." A map of France was super-imposed on the larger canvas map of the world and two blackboards were set up on which news was chalked as soon as it came in.

So that nobody going along 13th Avenue would miss the big news of the day, a PA system was set up in the Rec Hall, with the mike held close to the radio, rebroadcasting such highlights as the address of King George and President Roosevelt's reading of the public prayer.

Many Claimed 'First's'
Every regiment and every battalion claimed that it was the first to hear the big news. Pvt. Robert Leavitt, Hq. Co., 1st Bn., was working past midnight on his orientation display in the day room when the radio dash came through. In the morning his display carried a complete scoop for his company. It neatly supplemented a large map, painted in striking colors, which First Lt. Edward Erb, 253d orientation officer, had rushed through and set up in front of the CT Red Rec Hall.

The 361st F. A. also claimed a first. On bivouac, the battalion picked up the invasion dash while on a CPX problem, and all men who could get off their posts sat up all night to hear the news.

But—where ever or whenever they got it, the men in camp agreed that it was the one piece of news they wanted to hear.

Lt. Col. Bach Heads 1st Battalion, 253d

Lt. Col. John O. Bach assumed command of the 1st Bn., 253d Inf., today. Maj. James D. Beckett, executive officer, has been acting as battalion commander.

Col. Bach, who is 39, is a resident of Olympia, Wash., and a graduate of the University of Washington in business administration. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1937. He came to the 63d Div. from Ft. McClellan, Ala.

Capt. Sidney Z. Ogden of New York has assumed command of Serv. Co., 253d. Capt. Ogden came to the Division from Camp Wheeler, Ga.

The appointment of 1st Lt. Harry G. Voth, former S-4 of the 1st Bn., as acting regimental supply officer in the absence of Maj. George W. Davis, now on special duty with the 63d Div. Hq., was announced by Col. Edward P. Lukert, regimental commander.

Ex-German Journalist Writes on Nazi Training

CAMP HOWIE, Tex.—The 411th Inf. Regt. here boasts a rather distinguished young man of letters, Pvt. Oscar H. Freitag, who recently had published in the camp publication an article describing German training of youth.

Prior to escaping to the United States when deprived of the right to practice his profession, in his native Germany, Pvt. Freitag was a well-known writer for the Frankfurter Zeitung, one of the oldest and most influential newspapers in that land. His father was financial editor of the paper for 42 years.

Now a citizen of this country, Pvt. Freitag has Ph. D. degrees in law and history from German universities.

600 Men of Division Set For Show At New Orleans

(Continued From Page 1)
throwers, bazookas, machine guns, grenades, small arms and smoke will be both on display and in use when the soldiers "fight" their way from St. Charles St. to Rampart St. on Canal.

Close Four Blocks
The four blocks of Canal St. over which the action will develop will be closed to automobile and trolley traffic for the 30 minutes it is expected to consume. Arrangements for the battle exercise have been made by Capt. David H. Duffy, Div. Special Services officer, with the co-operation of city officials, heads of civic organizations and the Orleans parish war finance committee.

Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs, Division commander, has been invited to make a brief address during the afternoon from Canal St. exhibition area, which will cover both sides of the street for six blocks.

The men from the 63d will be escorted to the exhibition area by motorcycle units and will have dinner and supper from mobile field kitchens. They will bivouac at Camp Pontchartrain.

Similar Program
Gen. Hibbs will rush from his radio broadcast in New Orleans to Baton Rouge in order to open the Division's display of invasion tactics at the Louisiana State University Stadium. The General will make a short speech over station WJBO after which a battle exercise, similar to that staged in New Orleans, will be held. Equipment of the infantry will be displayed on North Boulevard.

The five-block long array of items that war bonds are buying lists 30 articles from field kitchens to reconnaissance cars.

Lt. Col. Walter J. Burk, commanding the 2d Bn., 253 Inf., will lead his battalion in an attack against a fortified position. Crawling for 100 yards through barbed wire and with the rattle of machine-gun fire in their ears, the "invaders" will demolish pillboxes and engage in hand-to-hand fighting with the "enemy."

Organization Day activities on Friday will be confined to camp and will be more elaborate as well as something of a big family party.

Relatives and friends of 63d personnel are invited to partake of dinner in company mess halls as well as witness the great many outdoors and indoors events.

More than three miles long, the longest tunnel on the Canadian National Railway is in the heart of the metropolis, connecting Montreal with Mount Royal.

Animal Story
Man bites dog and it's news—so here goes.
Pvt. Ernest Breed and Pvt. Frank Gauthier, Hq. Co., 3d Bn., were wrestling and in the scuffle Pvt. Breed bit Pvt. Gauthier, who immediately reported to the dispensary for hydrophobia treatment.
"Just in case," he explained.

LOOK! LOOK!
SEE
Circus Revue
ORGANIZATION DAY
Friday, June 16
1430
OUTDOOR THEATER
Music, Dancing, Singing, Laughter
FREE

Blood and Fire

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

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EDITORIAL

YOU'RE NOT HOME YET

We have a toehold on Hitler's Europe today, but it isn't time yet, soldier, to start spending your mustering-out pay.

The camp went appropriately nuts when the first news of the invasion came in. GIs gravitated apparently without intention toward the radios and a lot of cigarette butts managed to get overlooked in the confusion. And nobody kicked much.

Still, there was one small, disquieting note. It came from the dreamy-eyed guys in the day-room corners who were already busy back home. You could see them counting on their fingers, figuring how many days would have to pass before they'd ride down Main street in that purple suit and those yaller shoes.

Maybe they were forgetting those kids who went in ahead of the invasion, the paratroopers and airborne soldiers who, alone in enemy country, at that moment were holding down a corner of Hell somewhere in Occupied France.

Those boys aren't home yet, soldier. You're still training to go into the line beside them, and training isn't going to get any easier because we've taken one bite out of Hitler's hide.

So let's stop day-dreaming and, if you have been letting things slip a bit, get back on the ball.

That way we'll all get home sooner.

IT'S YOUR DIRT, SOLDIER

The Army has not yet provided the 63d Division with either street cleaners or porters whose sole aim in life is to follow careless soldiers around picking up the trash left in their wake.

Until such an unlikely event occurs, we're going to bear up manfully under the strain of policing up the area in which we live.

One way to lighten the burden of policing is, obviously enough, to place trash in the hundreds of receptacles provided for that purpose. The many trash containers are plainly marked and are capable of holding a miniature mountain of candy wrappers, chewing gum papers, cigar butts or what have you.

If it's trite to suggest that we wouldn't litter up our homes in the careless manner lately evidenced in camp, it is nonetheless true.

Most of the offenders are merely forgetful.

Others, we think, are psychological. Many men who deliberately strew cigarette butts around the camp are victims of the same neurosis which attacks a perfectly normal, law-abiding citizen who, long restrained by the inhibitions of society, suddenly cracks under the bounds of civilization and heaves a brick through a plate glass window.

When you find yourself seized by such an attack the best way to shake it off is to remember another hackneyed phrase:

"If you do, you WILL clean it up."



"Gretchen, vere's dot Ameriker Flag ve had since 1918?"

News from Here and There

Pilot Guides Mustang While Unconscious

LONDON (CNS)—Lt. William Oberstreet, of Clifton Forge, Va., flying a Mustang, was nearing the coast of France at 20,000 feet when his oxygen mask failed and he was blacked out. An hour and a half later he woke up just in time to pull the fighter out of a spin. Flight surgeons said that Oberstreet, "while unconscious, must have flown by his reflexes."

This British Marine Had All the Answers

PORTSMOUTH, England (CNS)—Mrs. Edna Mary Walker told a local court that when a man, dressed only in a night shirt, walked into her room during an air raid and crawled into her bed, she thought it was her husband.

Actually it was Ernest Mantle, 21, a Royal Marine, she testified. She told the magistrate that when she tried to get away, on the excuse that she was thirsty, he produced two bottles of beer and offered her one. Finally, she said, she made her escape and called for help, but when the authorities arrived, Mantle had fled.

Merchant Seamen Get Officer-Type Uniform

NEW YORK (CNS)—Men in the Merchant Marine are going to get a new uniform, according to Capt. Harry H. Dreany, assistant commandant of the U. S. Maritime Service. The new outfit is blue and will be the same for winter and summer, except for material weight, said Capt. Dreany, who added that it will resemble officers' uniforms except for gold or black buttons.

"A man can work up so quickly to an officership that it seemed a good idea to make it so he could keep the same clothes, and just change the buttons," Capt. Dreany explained.

Italian PW Captures Nazi Flier in England

ENGLAND (CNS)—An Italian prisoner of war was pitching hay in an English farmyard when he saw a German flier parachute into a turnip bed. Pitchfork in hand, the Italian marched his erstwhile ally into the custody of the local constabulary.

Flier Killed in India Leaves Sum to Charity

INDIA (CNS)—Lt. Lester N. Hofhelmer, 27, AAF pilot killed in this theater last December, left his personal fortune of nearly \$1,000,000 to institutions organized for religious, charitable, scientific or educational purposes.

Army Separations Show a Decrease

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Separations from the Army have shown a sharp drop since the beginning of 1944, War Department figures disclose. During 1943, the number of separations sometimes ran as high as 90,000 a month, while for the first quarter they averaged only 50,000 a month.

Total separations from the Army since the beginning of the war now total 1,163,000, including 58,000 total deaths (battle and non-battle), 903,000 honorable discharges, 56,000 prisoners of war and 116,000 other separations.

WACs Praised for Aid To Men Hurt in Blast

CAMP JACKSON, S. C. (CNS)—The WAC detachment of Camp Jackson, which recently aided 22 soldiers injured here in a bazooka explosion, has won the commendation of this camp's chief surgical officer, Lt. Col. W. T. Barron.

Wacs aided the injured soldiers by giving blood donations credited by Col. Barron with saving many lives.

"The generosity of WAC personnel, both in the emergency and operating rooms and in the wards occupied by the injured assisted materially toward the efficacy of the care rendered these men," Lt. Col. Barron said.

Nobody Steals Money—But Watch Your Socks!

SOLOMON ISLANDS (CNS)—"Nobody steals any money out here," said Lt. A. F. Rinehart, of Yakima, Wash., a paymaster who regularly packs a quarter of a million dollars through the jungles of the Solomons, "but boy, you gotta watch your laundry!"

Lt. Rinehart recently made his rounds of the Solomons with two duffelbags, one containing \$365,000 in cash, the other containing cigars, cigarettes and candy. "Before I finished my swing, practically every box and carton of cigars, cigarettes and candy had been pilfered," he said. "I didn't lose a dime from the other bag."

Posthumous Award For Tunisia Hero

ALGIERS (CNS)—Posthumous award of the Medal of Honor has been made to Pvt. Robert D. Booker, machine gun hero of the Battle of Tunisia, who was killed April 9, 1943, near Fondouk.

Booker was mortally wounded while silencing an enemy machine gun. He had concentrated his fire on a second gun when he received another mortal wound but with his last remaining strength "he encouraged the members of his squad and directed their fire," according to the citation.

The Sky Pilot Says It

By Chaplain Saul Miller
(Division Artillery)

Every soldier in every Army has had to face the question of victory or defeat. We do not on the whole consider the possibility of defeat in this war very seriously. We have, however, considered the cost because of many jolts our forces have received. We view the invasion with both optimism and caution.

Pearl Harbor, the Philippines and Corregidor, Tunisia, Salerno, Anzio and Cassino have taught us not to be over-confident. Victory must be worked for, fought for and died for. It must also be prayed for. Much of our fighting must be in the realm of faith.

To quote a great statesman: "God's will prevails. In great contests each party claims to act in accordance with the will of God. Both may be and certainly one must be wrong. God cannot be for and against the same thing at the same time."

"I always feel inclined when I say anything to soldiers, to impress upon them the importance of success in this contest. It is not merely for today, but for all time to come, that we should perpetuate for our children's children that great and free government we have enjoyed all our lives. Still let us not be sanguine of a speedy, final triumph. Let us be quite sober. Let us diligently apply the means, never doubting that a just God, in His own good time, will give us the rightful result."

This statement was made by Abraham Lincoln and seems to apply to us so well that it could have been written last week. To believe this is to win victory within yourself and to contribute to final victory in any situation.

Once Over Lightly

By A. Cpt. Sy Bernhard
(Hq. Btry., 862d F. A.)

Meet a doughboy from way back...the Undersecretary of War Robert Patterson...called on his job while he was on KP dumping garbage into a camp truck up at Plattsburg, N. Y., in 1940...The undersecretary had re-enlisted in the Army as a PRIVATE...even though he had served in World War I as a captain...Holds the Distinguished Service Cross for gallantry as a CO of an infantry outfit in 1918. It seems he was leading a patrol back, after covering the retreat of his men, was caught in full view of two enemy machine gun nests. He hit the dirt "dead"...All about him were dead bodies. One movement would have meant curtains...so under a hot August sun, he remained motionless for 14 hours...Any wonder why he's called "the toughest guy in Washington"?

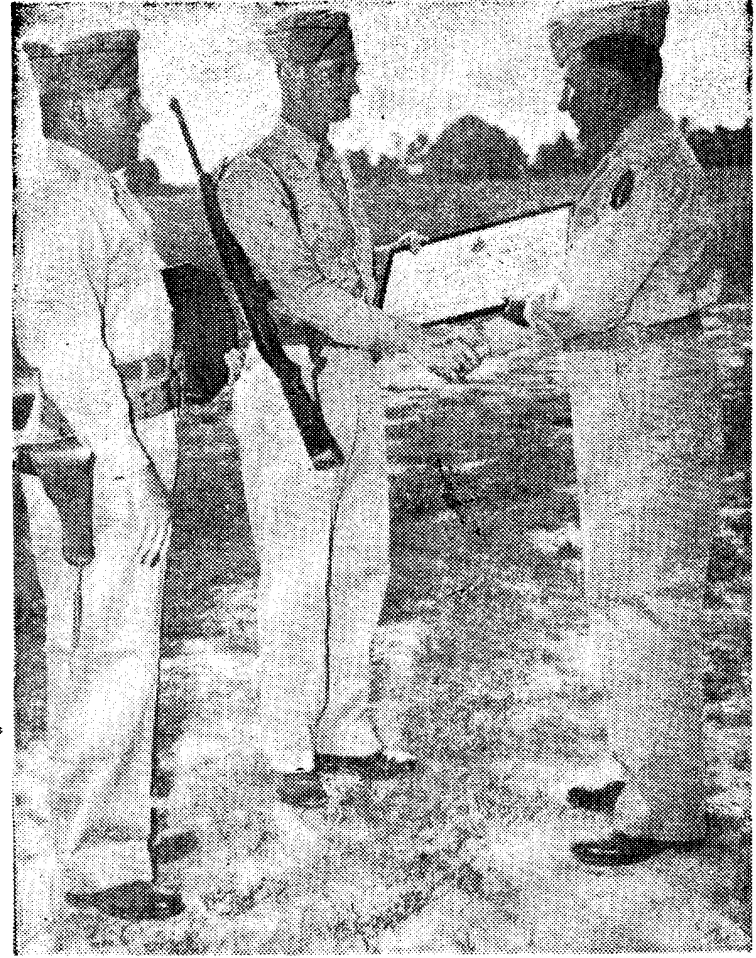
It's no secret that men crack up in battle because of strain and such...well, the new medic treatment has been curing 80 per cent of all cases...getting half of all breakdowns back to duty in 48 hours...These experts say that the key reason for crackups is that men don't understand why they are fighting...

Note on lend-lease: American crew members found themselves with an extra month's pay for the Murmansk run as a gift from the Soviet Union.

Footnote on history for guys who think that the world is not our concern: One of the first things that William Penn did after founding Pennsylvania was to draft a detailed plan for world order to insure peace...even Washington is on record as urging America to make foreign commitments...a League of Nations was approved unanimously by the senate... in 1910.

You could put the 63d Division Artillery on one of the six new battleships to man their guns... that's how many the battlewagons have...including nine 16-inchers...Overheard conversation: "I'm in the Army because a gang of Fascists is out to make slaves outta us and destroy everything that we believe in. If I gotta gripe—I'm gonna direct it against them cause they brought the whole damn thing on. We gotta job to do...and we just gotta do it." When next you blow your top, try using Jap or Nazi at the end of those &*****!!!!!!... For the first time in history there are five full generals on active duty...only nine others have ever worn the four stars...Washington wasn't a full general until 1759, nine months before his death.

With all the new books crowding the library shelves, don't overlook an old one... James Reston's angry powerhouse, "Prelude to Victory"....



ON TO VICTORY as displayed on the wall of the dayroom of Co. D, 254th Inf., which won the Division orientation award for May, bears a new significance in the light of recent momentous events. At left stands Cpl. Samuel D. Clark, one of the creators of the winning exhibit. Photo at right shows Lt. George Hoar (center), 254th Inf. orientation officer, receiving the certificate emblematic of the award from Brig. Gen. Frederick M. Harris, Assistant Division Commander, at a retreat ceremony Monday. Col. Joseph H. Warren, regimental commander (left), holds the plaque.

Air Target Show Scheduled Today

Co. D of 254th Inf. Wins Orientation Award for May

Calibre .50 machine guns are scheduled to be fired at air targets for the first time at Camp Van Dorn this afternoon when the 862d Field Artillery presents a demonstration of how the artillery defends itself against air attack. The program will be viewed by Brig. Gen. Frederick Harris, assistant division commander, and Brig. Gen. Edward J. McGraw, division artillery commander.

High point of the afternoon will be firing at a target towed through the air by a bomber-type plane from Harding Field brought here especially for the display.

Lt. Robert McGowan of Battery C, in charge of the demonstration, said that the guns will be fired in every manner, from ground mounts and from truck mounts.

Radio-controlled miniature planes also will be used as targets. About 30 machine gunners from the battalion, all of whom attended the one-week school in anti-aircraft at Camp Hulen, Tex., in April, will participate.

After witnessing the performance, the two generals will try their hands at the guns.

Because of the extreme range which can be attained by .50 calibre bullets when fired in the air a special point has been set up on the north side of the reservation, near the junction of Road 9 and Highway 48.

'Castle Chatter' New Engineer Publication

Latest rival to BLOOD AND FIRE is a weekly, mimeographed newspaper published by 263d Combat Engineer Bn., the first issue of which appeared last week. The publication, "Castle Chatter" is devoted to happenings in the battalion.

The editorial staff consists of: M/Sgt. Clifton B. Wingate editor; T/5 Clifford V. Elbersen staff writer and reporters First Sgt. John A. Lucey, Cpl. James P. Williams and T/4 Robert A. Robinson.

Orientation personnel of the 254th Inf., came up with the best record for discussion and display during May to win the monthly award and the praise of the Division inspecting team headed by Brig. Gen. Frederick M. Harris, assistant division commander.

The award went outright to Co. D, commanded by Lt. Glenn E. Mueller, which accumulated the highest winning percentage since establishment of the award, 94. Runner-up was Hq. Co., 253d Inf., with 91.9 per cent.

Cannon Co., 255th Inf., with 90.9

per cent; Btry. A, 862d F. A., 90.3 per cent, and Co. D, 363d Med. Bn., 84.5 per cent, were the others considered in the final inspection.

Elements of the Division received their most detailed inspection during May. Every company and battalion exhibit was visited by Gen. Harris or Capt. David H. Duffy, Sp. Serv. Officer. Lts. Anthony M. Marine and John E. Cox, the other members of the team. A majority of the discussion periods also were checked. The June inspection will be expanded to include all Division rec. halls.

Division's Best Month

May was by far the best month, with each finalist receiving the maximum of 25 per cent for excellence of its display. Co. D's exhibit, created by First Sgt. John B. Swink and Cpl. Samuel D. Clark under the supervision of Lt. Ranel W. Hanson, orientation officer, treated with every phase of the subject in trim, orderly detail.

The novel display created by Co. D, 363d Med. Bn., greatly impressed the judges. Its central feature was a revolving cylinder holding beribboned maps of the various theaters of operation. A most unusual effect in the realm of aircraft identification and recognition was achieved by use of lights which cast silhouettes of small models, suspended from the ceiling, to the walls of the day-room.

Tangible evidence of the excellence of Co. D's orientation program was given those primarily responsible for it at a retreat parade Monday evening. Before members of the 254th Inf. Regt., Gen. Harris formally delivered the certificate of award into the hands of Lt. George Hoar.

STONY POINT, N. Y. (CNS)—Walter Goss, 15, was told by his parents to wash the family car. He didn't feel like doing this, so he drove the car around the block and rammed it into a fence instead. Then he telephoned police. "When my father hears about this," he explained, "I'll need protective custody."

Lonely Wolf

T/5 John Ellefson, Cannon Co., 255th Inf., got a package from a friend the other day. Addressed in a beautifully feminine hand, the address had an extra line in the same exquisite style, which said: "You adorable wolf."

Ellefson replied to his admirer with proper sentiments, only to discover that Cpl. Jacob Solin had copied the handwriting and added the line to the address while Ellefson wasn't looking.

Battery A, of 862d, Orientation Winner

Battery A, of the 862d F. A. Bn., received the orientation award for May in Division Artillery. The presentation of the certificate emblematic of the victory was made by Brig. Gen. Edward McGraw, Div. Arty. commander, at a retreat parade held Monday afternoon.

General McGraw presented the certificate to Capt. Elric Pinckney, Btry. Commander, who in turn gave it to Lt. John Simms, Orientation Officer. Also present at the ceremony were Cpls. Max Goldstein and Edward Olenic, orientation assistants, who prepared the winning exhibit.



PFC. CLYDE ASHLEY

Hero of El Guita Member of 862d

Recently back from North Africa and Italy, where he saw action at El Guita and Cassino, Pfc. Clyde Ashley, of Battery A, 862d F.A., holds the third highest award for bravery, the Silver Star. Ashley related the experiences and hardships he faced before a class composed of wire and radio men of Battery A this week.

It was in the battle of El Guita that his performance under fire won the Silver Star. Ashley, then with the 13th Brigade, 178th F.A., found the lines blown out between Regimental Hqs. and the 155mm. gun positions. The wire lay around his own ammunition dump, which was being bombarded by enemy artillery and constantly strafed from the air. Facing what must have appeared certain death, Ashley pushed through and put the line back in operation.

After the Tunisian campaign, Ashley landed in Salerno, Italy, with his battery. In the latter part of January, 1944, it reached the front lines at Cassino.

In the African campaign intense heat was the soldiers' greatest hardship. Several times the men laid as much as 35 miles of wire per day, using two weapons carriers and a jeep. Unlike Italy, the African country is open and rolling, allowing vehicles to cover ground as fast as the military situation permits, Ashley says.

Ashley, who is married and the proud parent of a 12 year old daughter, was engaged in farming cotton and grain near Abbeville, S. C., before entering the service.

Wages of AWOL Are Bride, 12 Hour Pass

DETROIT, Mich.—Private Leo Poma, arrested for being AWOL, wound up with a bride and a 12 hour pass. Poma left Camp Grant, Ill., without permission to come here and marry his childhood sweetheart, Miss Louise Varden. They were within a few blocks of the minister's home, where they were to be married, when he was stopped by an M. P. and asked for his pass.

All he had was a marriage license, so he wound up at Fort Wayne, here, in dungarees with a big "P" on his back. However, the provost marshal, Capt. Vernon C. Bailey, had a heart, so he arranged for the wedding to take place in the post theater, with the provost marshal as best man. Following the 12 hour honeymoon, Poma was returned to Camp Grant.

Marriage information bureaus for men in the armed forces will be established by the American Women's Voluntary Services near military camps.

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The Navy has come up with a new device to aid shipwreck survivors on a life raft. It's a mirror, with a cross cut out of the center, which, when sighted on the sun, will attract the attention of approaching planes.

Male Call

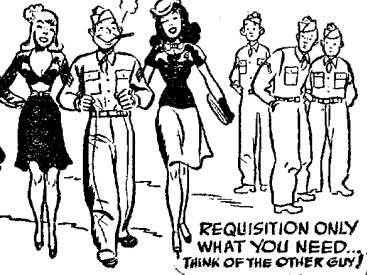
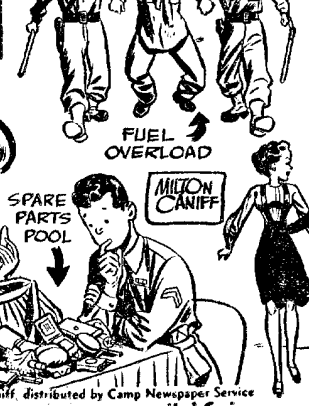
by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

Tool-Happy Terminology

MAINTENANCE NOMENCLATURE
VERY UNOFFICIAL T.M. FOR THE
G.I. CAMSHAFT GRENADEIER

GREASE JOB

BLAH BLAH BLAH
YEAH.. UH-HUH
LOOSE FAN BELT



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DIVISION SIDELIGHTS

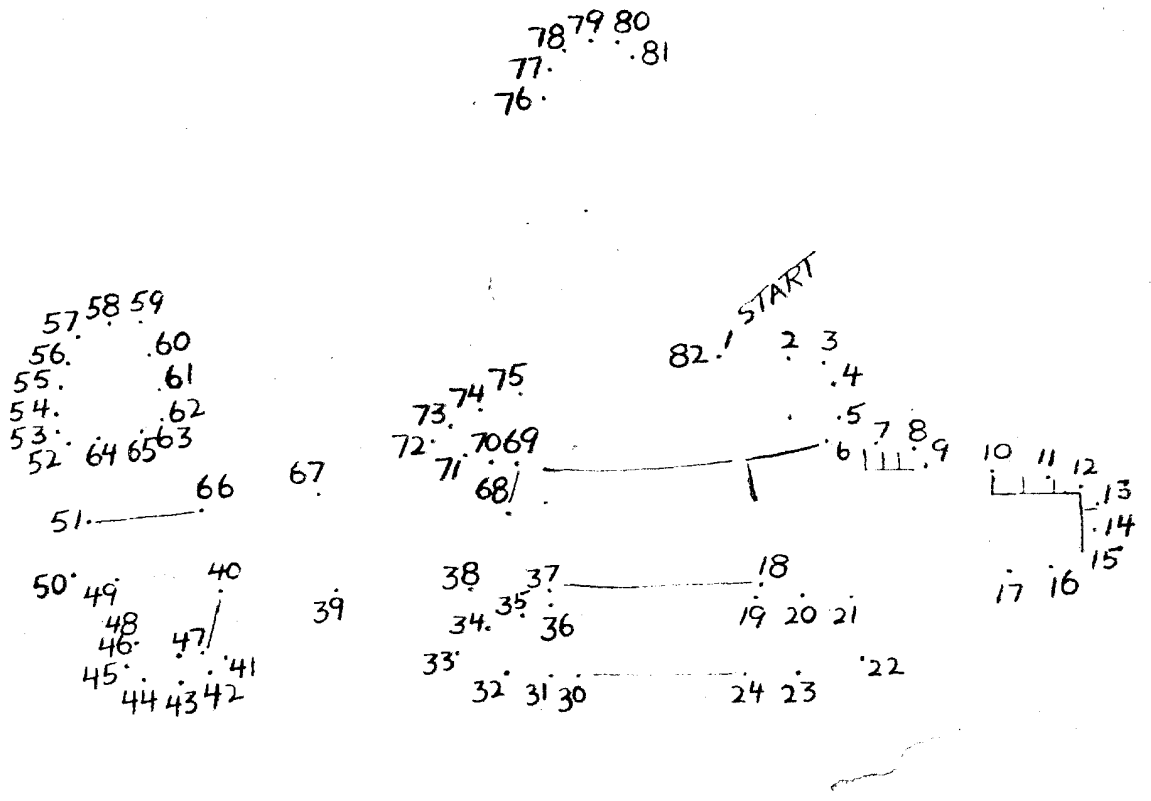
253d Inf.—The Elliots are holding a family get-together in Co. G. Last week Pvt. William and Florence Elliott galumphed into the company, joining forces with First Lt. James A. Elliott and Sgt. Lloyd Elliott. . . Co. K boasts an Army rarity in a sergeant who has been in the Army for ten months and never had the honor of serving as KP. Just for the duty roster, his name is Moe Kadish. . . It's always the season for babies in the 253d. S/Sgt. Jack Svelling, communications chief of Hq. Co., 3d Bn., has a little stranger at his home in Dayton, O. It's a girl. . . The same night that Svelling learned he had become a papa, Cpl. Russell Faugust, Co. G, put in a call he had been looking forward to for nine months. It was to his wife, who had become the mother of an eight-pound boy the night before in Bloomington, Ill. . . 1st Lt. Patrick H. McVerry, regimental Special Service Officer, is at LaGarde General Hospital, New Orleans, recovering from an intimate moment with a wood tick. He is in the same room as Capt. Charles M. Dosh, formerly commanding Serv. Co. Everything poisonous but wood ticks went on display before the 2d Bn. in the field when T/3 Morse Archer, 253d Med. Det. showed a coral snake, canebrake rattler, water moccasin, copperhead, cottonmouth, speckled king and blacksnake in a class to illustrate the differences between poisonous and non-poisonous snakes which might be encountered hereabouts. . . Fanciest orderly room in camp is now claimed by Hq. Co., 1st Bn., where 1st Sgt. James C. Harvey has installed venetian blinds and drapes. The company also boasts a well-papered day room. Cute, isn't it? . . . Cpl. Forrest Shoulders, Co. H, held the center of the stage at CT Red Rec. Hall Monday lecturing to Cos. E and F on combat intelligence. His equipment was a public address microphone, pointer, charts and graphs. Came Thursday. Cpl. Shoulders was back at the Rec. Hall, this time on clean-up detail. His equipment—one broom! He still held the center of the stage, though. This is the Army, Mr. Shoulders!

862d F. A.—Sgt. Frederick Hoffman of B Btry., has returned from Ft. Sill, Okla., where he completed a three-month course at Motor School. He is the new motor sergeant. . . One of the new additions to Hq. Btry. day room is a "scandal sheet." . . When Pfc. Charles E. Wining reported into Bn. Hq. Capt. Donald Holick, acting adjutant, looked through his service record and came across a familiar signature. It was his own, entered when Wining was a private in basic training in the captain's battery at Ft. Sill three years ago. . . Two members of Hq. Btry. left the ranks of bachelors recently. S/Sgt. John J. Reilly, survey sergeant, was married to Edythe St. John in New York City and Pvt. Charles Nagy was married to Helen Kostyn in Elizabeth, N. J. Nagy's home is at Woodbridge, N. J.

254th Inf.—Our correspondent in Co. F informs us that S/Sgt. Donald L. Miller and Sgt. Blair Stevens are getting married at the end of their furloughs. We didn't even know they were going together. . . In the same company Cpl. William B. Smith has been promoted to sergeant. . . Officers of CT White were in for free beer and cigars on June 1, when Lt. Lawson Kateley, 254th Inf. athletic and recreation officer, became a father. The Kateley heir, a man child, was born at Niagara Falls, N. Y. . . Capt. Paul K. Bailey, regimental adjutant, leaves soon for Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., to attend General Staff School. During his absence Lt. Albert M. Davoust will be acting adjutant. . . The Co. D orientation display now includes a divisional orientation award in addition to two regimental awards. To go with the new honor, Cpl. Bill Bloor has made a new mail booth with a Victory mail slot. The daily news summaries given at evening chow by Cpl. Samuel Clark have been expanded since the invasion. Clark now gives them at every meal. . . The steaks around camp are in for an awful grind now that Pfc. Charles Schwab has been assigned on special duty to Dental Laboratory No. 2 to help synchronize our dental crockery.

255th Inf.—The spring cleaning bug has bitten practically every company in the regiment, with dayrooms being painted, curtains hung and other niceties added to the GI atmosphere. Leading contender in redecoration is Hq. Co., 3d Bn. It's a model that others might well copy. . . Pvt. Alex Bodnarenko, Co. I, was notified last week that Mrs. B. had presented him with twin girls. He's on furlough getting a look at them. . . The Co. 1 dayroom has two wall spaces devoted to pictures. One is for "Paper Dollies," the other for "I. Falls," neither of which subjects can be found in a field manual. . . Pvt. T. S. Gallion, L Co., has been entertaining his grandmother and small sister the past week. They are Mrs. Clyde Preston of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Billy Jo Gallion, of Huntington, W. Va. . . Petty Officer 2/c Jesse J. Ewrico, stationed at New Orleans, visited his brother, Pvt. Andrew Ewrico, Co. B, the past week. . . The regimental orchestra entertained men of the various battalions in the field during bivouac last week. . . Sgt. Earl Gambrel, one of the cut-ups at Serv. Co., keeps his co-workers at Regtl. Hq. up on latest doings in the girlie world by mimeographing cartoons that amuse him and distributing them wholesale. The latest edition is said to be a honey. . . T/5 Mordecai Bauman and T/5 Alex Siegal are attracting crowds to their outdoor movies at the Rec. Hall on Sunday at 2030. Tomorrow night's feature will be "Svampwater," a story of the Southern turpentine workers, with Walter Huston, Walter Brennan and Ann Baxter.

718th F. A.—B. Btry. has discovered that it has a polar bear on its roster. Pfc. Jack Yarsky and Pvt. Reinhold Witte, on KP, were stowing some potatoes away in the refrigerator when they found a shirtless soldier sitting in the back of the box. In one hand he had a bottle of milk and in the other an OCS magazine. It was S/Sgt. Clarence Hamby. "What do you think I'm doing here?" he explained. "I'm just cooling off, which proves I'm not nuts. And, besides, it's the only place in camp where a man can have any privacy." . . Topping the week's promotions was that of Capt. Melvin E. Thee, who on Activation day was made a 1st Lt. He managed to get a captain's bars before the Division's first anniversary. Capt. Thee has been S-3 since April. Other promotions included: 1st Lt. George Dejure to Capt.; 1st Lt. Edward Culver to Capt.; 2d Lt. Frank H. Ross to 1st Lt.; 2d Lt. David L. Moses to 1st Lt. . . S/Sgt. William P. McCombs of Hq. Btry., has just returned from furlough at his home in Eufala, Okla., where his wife and children live. . . A Btry. mapped and broadcast developments as they came in on Invasion Day under direction of Cpl. W. Repke, new Orientation NCO. . . S/Sgt. A. Wiggin, mess sergeant of A Btry., was notified last week that he was the father of a nine-pound boy.



Plane of The Week

START at No. 1, connecting all the numbers consecutively with a continuous line. Now you should be able to recognize it. Check your bulletin board and FM 30-30 for details on the Plane of the Week.

Shoelaces or Ammunition, Supply Sergeant Has Them

The non-commissioned officer who takes in your laundry, issues you everything from shoelaces to ammunition and keeps track of more than \$50,000 worth of clothing and equipment, is today doing a job comparable to that of a mail-order house executive, according to CWO Edward Greco, regimental supply officer, who this week released facts and figures on supply in the 253d Inf. which apply comparably to every outfit in the division.

As an example of what it takes to handle a supply sergeant's job, Mr. Greco singled out the lowest ranking acting supply sergeant in the regiment, T/5 Henry O'Herron, Hq. Co., 1st Bn.

Fortune in Equipment
Here's the equipment O'Herron, former Avon, Ill., gas station operator, has to keep track of: \$54,062.80 in company property; \$12,677.75 in clothing and \$594.10 in officer's equipment, totaling \$67,334.65 worth of clothing and equipment for 95 enlisted men and 13 officers.

"Another typical example is Co. A," Mr. Greco said, "where S/Sgt. John Deibert, was personally commended for his work by Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs, division commander. Sgt. Deibert takes care of \$48,662.63 worth of clothing and equipment for 187 enlisted men and six officers.

"The most expensive list of supplies is kept by a heavy weapons supply sergeant such as Co. D's S/Sgt. F. P. Houseman. His clothing and equipment is for 158 men and eight officers is worth \$73,150.61."

Don't Nose This Around
LONDON (CNS) — Karel Stein, 29, a Czech soldier, killed himself here because he was depressed by the "extreme redness of his nose," according to an inquest finding.

Twenty supply sergeants in the 253d handle \$1,336,440 worth of equipment, Mr. Greco computed. **Maintenance Costs \$465**
To maintain a single GI in garri-



T/5 Henry O'Herron

son for one year costs \$465.06; \$215.35 for food; \$173.70 for clothing; \$44.70 for individual equipment and \$31.31 for barracks equipment, Mr. Greco said.

Most expensive items in the regiment are Cannon Co.'s six 105 mm howitzers. They cost just under \$6,000 each with carriage. Next most costly item is the .57 mm anti-tank gun, worth over \$4,000. Cheapest item is a tent peg costing one cent. The keeper on your M-1 costs three cents and your free can of dubbin costs Uncle Sam seven cents.

Keeping track of all these items in the miniature GI Sears-Roebuck—which is the supply room, makes the supply sergeant's job one of the most complex in the division.

New 255th Band Plays in Natchez

The reorganized dance orchestra of the 255th Inf., which numbers 15 pieces, will play for a formal dance at the City Auditorium in Natchez tonight and will furnish the music for the weekly broadcast over Station WMIS from the Servicemen's Center tomorrow afternoon.

A feature of the broadcast will be the introduction of a special number, "The Natchez Ball," composed by T/5 Daniel Mendelsohn, the leader of the band.

T/5 Mordecai Bauman, former New York concert singer, will be featured as vocalist and will be heard over the air singing an original number, "You Don't Need a Pass to Dream." The lyrics were written by Bauman and Pfc. Harold Bolton, who is now serving overseas. Mendelsohn composed the music.

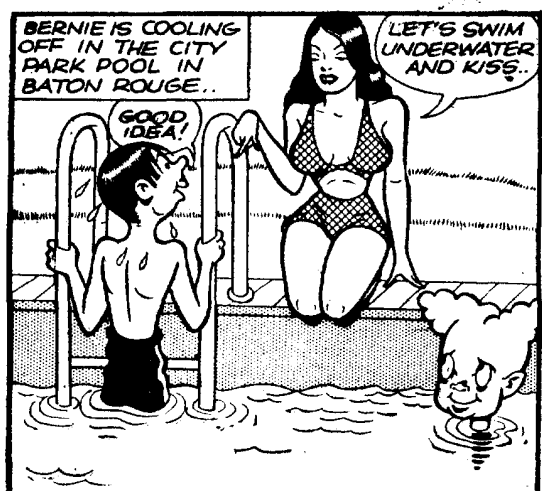
Pfc. Marlin Merrill of AT Co., will sing "Long Ago and Far Away."

Last Saturday the 254th Inf. orchestra played for the dance at the auditorium, and for the broadcast on Sunday, Pfc. Joseph Dolin, of CT White Special Service office, was master of ceremonies, and the program was highlighted by the singing of Miss Paula Bland, a star in the recent CT White show, "Oh, My Back." Miss Bland sang, "The Man I Love," and "Basin Street Blues."

At last Saturday's dance the grand march was led jointly by Miss Alma Kellogg and Pfc. Joseph W. Thorman, Co. B, 254th Inf., and by Betty Jo McRae, and Sgt. M. Balter, AT Co., 255th Inf.

Nazis Rationed in France
LONDON (CNS) — The French underground, awaiting D-Day, scrawled this slogan on walls and sidewalks throughout France: "Choose your Boche! There may not be enough to go around."

BERNIE BLOOD

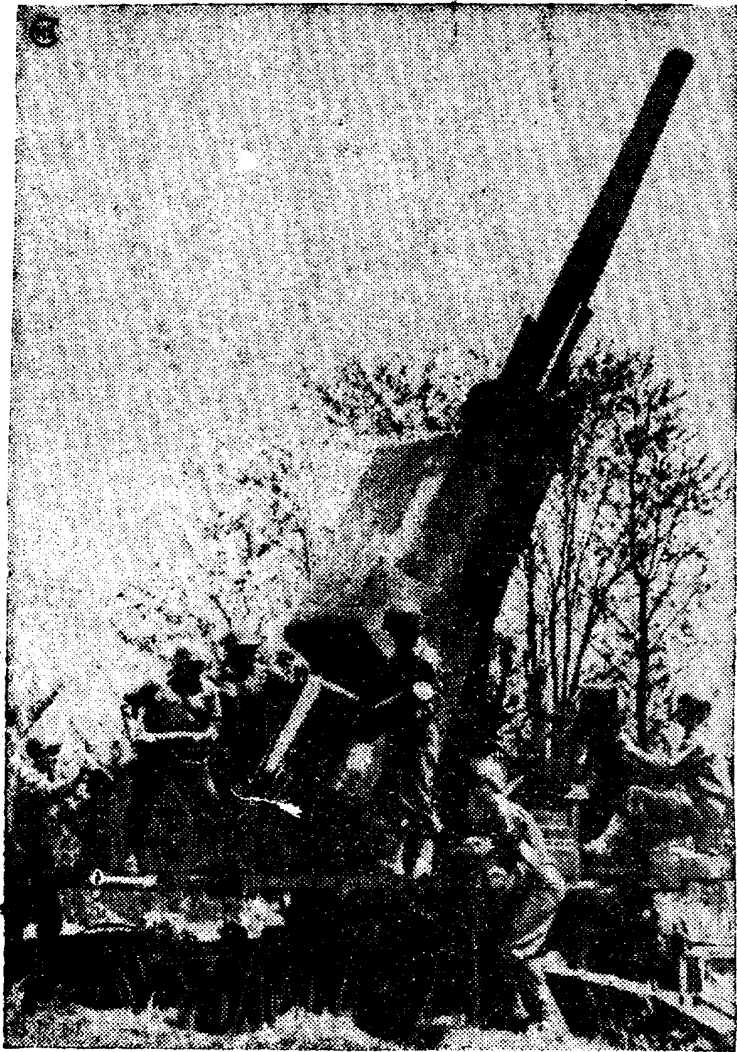


AQUAJAM



By GILL FOX





NIGHTMARE FOR LUFTWAFFE is the Army's new "Stratosphere Gun," one of the most powerful of American weapons. This big 120 mm. anti-aircraft blaster is capable of firing a projectile 20,900 feet higher than any other gun of its type.

Hot? It's Just Balmy Here To Pair Out of Panama

Mississippi heat holds no terrors for two new sergeants in the 254th Infantry, who have been transferred to the 63d Div. after three sweltering years of service in the jungles of Panama. They are M/Sgt. Herbert W. Griffin, who last week replaced M Sgt. Allen H. Pearsall as regimental sergeant major, and 1st Sgt. Vester Bounds, who is now top kick of Co. F.

In fact, Sgt. Griffin not only finds it downright balmy around these parts but he thinks it's pretty quiet and peaceable.

"The first year in the Canal Zone was pretty quiet too," he said. "But the quiet went away after Pearl Harbor. We really got down to business then guarding that hole in the ground."

Premier of Show Set for Thursday

(Continued From Page 1) which 11 members are from WAC Detachment No. 1 stationed at the Camp.

The principal members of the cast are: Members of the WAC Det. T-5 Della Squire, T-5 Bennett Rathbone, Cpl. Marion Laylin, Pfc. Myrtle Pritchett, Georgiana Sacchini, Lois Cole, Jean Lindley and Phyllis Seitz; Pvts. Jane Weinerl, Philena Porter and Sylvia King.

Soldiers of the 63d will be: T-5 Leslie Heath, ringmaster, Sgt. Federer and Pvts. Jackie Parris and Marlin Merrill, singers; Cpls. Harvey Burris and George Barnes, tumblers; Sgt. Elias Nasser, magician; Sgt. Seymour Barkowitz, a yogi; Pvts. C. Depalmo and Ralph Aithouse, parts of Daisy, the 63d horse; Cpl. Fred Wiener and Robert Rocklin, funny men.

Sgt. Pearsall, who was with the 63d Div. from the day of its activation at Camp Blanding, has been transferred to another division.

Likes the Infantry Sgt. Bounds is not only unbothered about the heat, but he's all whooped up over his return to the Infantry, which he left in 1934 to return to civilian life. When he returned to the service in 1938, Bounds picked the Coast Artillery and was sent back to Panama, where he had put in most of his 1st Sgt. Bounds first hitch. In 1939 he was transferred to the 65th Coast Artillery at San Francisco, then to cadre duty at Camp Hahn, Cal., and later to Camp Davis, N. C., as cadetman in the original balloon school.

When his outfit was shipped to Hawaii shortly after Pearl Harbor Bounds went along, staying on duty there until 1943. From there he was sent to Ft. Bliss, Tex., from where both he and Sgt. Griffin were transferred to the 63d.

But there might be something else behind Sgt. Bounds' liking for the infantry, Mississippi and heat. His home is at Somrall, Miss., which is only a hoot and a holler down the pike.

Capt. Perlman Wed To Baton Rouge Girl

Capt. Ralph R. Perlman, Commanding Hq. Btry., 861st P. A. Bn., was married Saturday evening to Miss Carol Herzberg, of Baton Rouge, La., at a small family wedding performed by Rabbi Peiser, of Baton Rouge, at the Lake Shore Drive home of Miss Herzberg's uncle, Mr. Carol Mayer. The bride, who is the daughter of Mrs. Fannie Herzberg, hostess of the Louisiana governor's mansion, was attended by Miss Lili Mayer, J.L. Gerald Nowell, 861st P. A. Bn., was best man.

The groom is a graduate of Cornell and Columbia Universities. He is a resident of New York City. Mrs. Perlman is a graduate of LSU. Following a week's wedding trip, the couple will reside in Baton Rouge.

Iowa has classed reconconditioned jeeps purchased by civilians as "commercial vehicles" subject to truck license laws.

Campbell Appears As Guest Singer On Twilight Hour

Music lovers who attended the Twilight Concert sponsored by Division Special Services at Chapel No. 3 Thursday night were afforded a treat when Sgt. John Campbell of Division Band, who played the leading role in the recent LSU Opera, "Robin Hood," was heard in three vocal selections. Sgt. Campbell sang the Aria from "La Boheme," "Moon of My Delight" and as an encore a selection from Jeffrey O'Hara.

Sgt. Campbell was in excellent voice and his return to the Division was hailed enthusiastically by the members of the audience. The Sergeant has been heard several times singing with one of the Division orchestras and has appeared in several musicals given by members of the 63d. He made a distinct hit in the role of "Robin Hood" when the LSU company toured Army camps in Mississippi and Louisiana last month.

For the first time since the concert hours have been presented, a member of the WAC Detachment was heard on the program, when Cpl. Lorraine Faignault, an accomplished violinist, played Gounod's "Ave Maria," and "Shon Rosmarin," by Kreisler. The reception given Cpl. Faignault was extremely hearty and she responded by playing both selections beautifully.

Cpl. Norman Belnik's baritone lent itself well to two selections, "Even the Bravest Heart" by Gounod and "Rachem" by Zucca.

Accompanists were Cpl. Irving K. Hopkins and Cpl. Richard Sutch. Because of Infantry Day, there will be no Twilight Concert Hour next Thursday.

Last week the Division Chorus, which will be heard Organization Day, made its debut on the hour and was enthusiastically received.

Miniature Howitzer Helps 863d Training

The training of all artillery observers—liaison, forward observer parties, and OP personnel—demands a knowledge of gunnery. To provide some of this all important training, the 863d F. A. Bn. is using the M-3 Trainer, an adaptation of the Bishop Trainer, to simulate actual firing on the target range. The trainer's range is one one-hundredth of the actual target range.

This miniature howitzer, using compressed air as its propelling charge sends its projectile—a one inch steel ball—toward the target. The use of the actual panoramic telescope sight and the range scale or quadrant elevation make possible the same operation on the M-3 Trainer as on the 105 mm. howitzer.

Valuable training in conducting fire and following procedure is afforded by this training aid which will be in use by all units of Division Artillery in the near future.

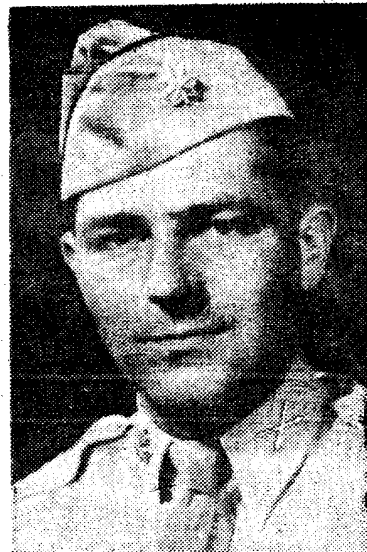
Theater Schedule

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

(From Saturday, June 10, Through Saturday, June 17) SATURDAY—"Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More," with Simone Simon and James Ellison. SUNDAY-MONDAY—"Going My Way," with Bing Crosby and Rise Stevens. TUESDAY—"Song of Nevada," with Roy Rogers, Dale Evans and Sons of the Pioneers. WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY—"The Adventures of Mark Twain," with Fredric March, Alexis Smith and Donald Crisp. FRIDAY-SATURDAY—"Double Indemnity," with Barbara Stanwyck, Fred MacMuray and Edward G. Robinson.

THEATER NO. 5 Starting Time—1900 (From Saturday, June 10, Through Saturday, June 17)

SATURDAY—"This is the Life," with Donald O'Connor and SuSanna Foster. SUNDAY—"Song of the Open Road," with Edgar Bergen, Charlie McCarthy and W. C. Fields. MONDAY—"Johnny Doesn't Live Here Any More," with Simone Simon and James Ellison. TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY—"Going My Way," with Bing Crosby and Rise Stevens. THURSDAY—"Song of Nevada," with Roy Rogers, Dale Evans and Sons of the Pioneers. FRIDAY-SATURDAY—"The Adventures of Mark Twain," with Fredric March, Alexis Smith and Donald Crisp.



COMMANDING officer of 861st F. A. Bn., 28-year-old West Pointer Donald C. Beere was promoted to Lt. Col. this week. A graduate of the U. S. Military Academy in 1939, Lt. Beere is the son of a West Point mathematics instructor. His father is a colonel.

CT Blue Defeats Baton Rouge Nine

A 63d Div. baseball team came through with a victory against outside competition for the first time last Sunday when CT Blue whitewashed the Ideal Cleaners at Baton Rouge, 10-0.

Sgt. Johnny Bohenko pitched two-hit ball while his mates were tagging Mel Didier, former LSU pitcher who licked CT Red a week earlier, for seven hits. Those safeties coupled to four Ideal errors enabled the Blue to push its margin of victory to impressive length.

Cpl. Frank Lanzetti, Blue short-stop whose playing has featured his team's games this season, "iced" the contest when he tagged a three-bagger with two on in the second. That blow was the big blast in a three-run uprising.

Bohenko, for his part, pitched no-hit ball until the sixth. By then the Blue's right-hander held an 8-0 edge and had no cause for uneasiness while he kept the Cleaners in check until the final out in the seventh.

CT Red essayed victory over a non-Van Dorn opponent again when it tangled with the Harding Air Field nine on the latter's diamond Sunday only to fall short once more as the Fliers took a 3-1 decision.

The boxscores: Cleaners AB BH R O A E ... CT Blue AB BH R O A E ...

CT Blue AB BH R O A E ...



PHOENIX, Ariz., (CNS)—Harry Schultz and his brother, Tom, thought they heard a burglar prowling around in the cellar. They descended the stairs, peered around in the darkness. Suddenly Harry heard a noise, grabbed a creeping figure. "I got him, Tom," he hollered, whacking the figure over the head. "The hell you say," moaned brother Tom. "That's me."

MONTCLAIR, N. J. (CNS)—C. M. Arslanian refused to get excited when he couldn't rent a house here. He moved into a tree.

TAYLORSVILLE, Ill., (CNS)—W. C. Proffitt, who is 95, obtained a divorce from his wife, to whom he has been married since 1925. "Couldn't stand it any longer," said Proffitt.

OMAHA, Neb., (CNS)—Omaha's celebration of "Don't Spit on the Sidewalk Week" was marred by a seven-days rain which kept all non-expectators indoors anyway.

WELLFORD, S. C.—Brushing shanks with immortality, a tired old mare dashed across pages of newspaper history when she wandered onto a trestle, skittered into an unladylike position with four legs dangling between the ties and held up Southern Railroad trains for three hours with the aid of soldiers from a "horsebound" troop train, the mare achieved her brief glory when she was swung, in the manner of Little Eva, to safety via block and tackle. After taking her first—and last bow—she died from fright.

BROOKLYN, (CNS)—Ernest Hemingway, a Brooklyn waiter and not the well known literary man, bade farewell to arms in Kings County Court when he was sentenced to seven years in the coop for carrying a revolver. "I'm tolling the bell for you, Mr. Hemingway," remarked the judge facetiously.

ST. LOUIS (CNS)—Bishop John C. Brookfield of St. John's Methodist church is looking for a stranger who has deposited \$1,000 bills in the collection plate on two consecutive Sundays. "It's an epidemic," he said, "we'd be glad to see continue."

SALT LAKE CITY (CNS)—Despite their contention that their actions were "far from immoral," 15 Salt Lake City men were convicted recently by a district judge for practicing plural marriage by living with 55 women not their legal wives.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn., (CNS)—Arthur Smith's telephone rang. "Want to buy a case of Scotch?" asked a voice. "Sure," said Smith, who hasn't been able to buy a jug in three months. The next day two men arrived with the case. Smith paid them \$110. Inside the house he opened the crate. It contained bricks.



HOWITZER IN MINIATURE is the M-3 Trainer, an adaptation of the Bishop Trainer which the 863d F. A. is using to simulate actual firing on the target range. In the photo Lt. James Butt (right) is the observer, while Sgt. Joseph A. Boone acts as gunner. The miniature howitzer uses compressed air as its propelling charge and sends a one-inch steel ball towards the target.