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Blood and Fire



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63D INFANTRY DIVISION, CAMP VAN DORN, MISS.

January 22, 1944



SAGINAW, Mich.—The lives of eight men and a woman from here, representing the New Tribes Mission of Chicago, have been lost in the Amazon jungle. Word from Buenos Aires was that the missionaries refused to carry arms, explaining that they did not wish to antagonize the wild Indian tribes of the Bolivian-Brazilian frontier.

DENVER Colo.—An experimental submarine that sank when it was launched in a mountain lake 9,000 feet above sea level in 1898 near the mining town of Central City has been located. The 22-foot sub was made of wood, sheathed with lead or zinc. Friends dissuaded the inventor from making the trial trip and the vessel sank as it slid into the water.

MARYSVILLE, Mich.—Fire destroyed the local plant of the Morton Salt Co., largest of the firm's five branches in the Middle West, causing damage estimated at \$3,500,000.

SHERBURN, Minn.—The local high school's row over whether girl students may wear slacks in classrooms appears to be headed for the courts. Attorneys have been engaged by parents who object to a school board rule barring slacks in classrooms and by the board itself.

LAKE CHARLES, La.—A local man brought suit for separation from his wife and charged that she had poured a quart of whisky down the kitchen sink, causing him great mental anguish.

PALO ALTO, Calif.—Ann Clare Brokaw, 19-year-old daughter of Rep. Clare Booth Luce, of Connecticut, was killed in an automobile accident. She was a student at Stanford University.

NEW YORK—The Chase National Bank, reputedly the world's largest commercial banking house, pleaded innocent to two Federal grand jury indictments charging conspiracy and violation of the Trading With the Enemy Act. The bank and Leonard J. A. Smit, international dealer in industrial diamonds, conspired and engaged in illegal sale and export of diamonds. The bank was accused of aiding the transactions with Smit firms which sold diamonds which reached Germany and Japan.

McMINNVILLE, Ore.—Three Oregon farmers have invented tree-shaking machines to get fruit to the ground. Herbert Holzmeier, for instance, hooks the power plant of his tractor to a tree; then he ducks and prunes come tumbling down. The machine can clean ten trees in eight minutes, taking the place of 12 to 15 men.

Paralysis Fund Opens 1944 Drive Among Soldiers

An opportunity will be given all soldiers to make contributions to the fight against infantile paralysis on the January payday as the 63d Inf. Div. joins other units of the armed forces in the 1944 national campaign.

No quota has been set for contributions, and Lt. Col. Ralph Lavorgna, Division Adjutant General, emphasized today that contributions will be entirely voluntary.

Boxes will be placed on pay tables throughout the Division area, and officers and men will be invited to make contributions, but no record of individual donations will be kept, Col. Lavorgna said.

"Payday this month falls almost on the birthday of our President and Commander-in-Chief," Col. Lavorgna said. "It gives every man of the Division an opportunity to make in Army life, as in civilian life, a contribution to the fund which the President helped start and in which, as an infantile paralysis sufferer, he is vitally interested."

Col. Lavorgna, who has charge of dissemination of information and the collection of funds throughout the Division, pointed out that 50 per cent of the money received will be returned to local committees throughout the nation for research, epidemic aid and education. The remainder is retained by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis for its national program.

Contributions by personnel of the Division will be forwarded to the 3d Army for inclusion in donations made by all War Department units.

63d Musical Show Draws Big Crowds

Soldiers of the 63d Inf. Div., coeds from Louisiana State University and young women from Baton Rouge participated last week-end in the first performance in camp of "Emergency Furlough," the Division musical revue.

The show was presented on two evenings, at the Div. Arty. Rec. Hall and at the CT Blue Rec. Hall, before large crowds.

Popular Favorites Sung
Actor-members of the Blood and Fire Div. and the civilian actresses were joined by the Div. Arty. Chorus, which sang such established musical comedy favorites as "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" and "You're Devastating."

The revue previously had been performed in Baton Rouge to raise funds to underwrite costs of bringing-

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REUNION at Camp Van Dorn was the meeting between 1st. Sgt. Jack M. Boyle (left) of Hq. Co. 2d Bn., 253d Inf., and Seaman William E. Hazelwood of Centreville. When these two last shook hands it was in a howling blizzard in Newfoundland. Hazelwood heard Sgt. Boyle was with the 63d and visited him in his quarters last week. The Sgt. explains the workings of the U. S. rifle Cal. 30 M-1 to his friend.

Buddies in Newfoundland, Seabee, Soldier Reunited

When Jack M. Boyle, of Mahanoy City, Pa., and William E. Hazelwood, of Centreville, last shook hands it was in a howling blizzard under the Northern Lights in Newfoundland.

This week they held a reunion in the orderly room of Hq. Co., 2d Bn., 253d Inf. Boyle is first sergeant of Hq. Co. now and Hazelwood is a seaman second class in the Seabees—the Navy's fighting Construction Battalions.

A quirk of fate brought together these two men, one who had gone 4,400 miles from home in Navy

service and the other who had gone nearly that far for the Army and then had been sent to the home town of the first.

In First AEF

They met again because Lt. George Harris, communications officer of Hq. Co., gave Hazelwood a ride on the Centreville road and, when he discovered the seaman had served in Newfoundland, told him the first sergeant of Lt. Harris's company also had been stationed there.

Sgt. Boyle spent two years at the first American base established under lend-lease agreements. He was in the first AEF to sail to such a base in this war.

Seaman Hazelwood, whose grade is the equivalent of Pfc., spent 10 of his 14 months of Navy service in Newfoundland. He is the son of Mrs. Fannie Hazelwood, of Centreville. A former truck driver, he is 35 years old.

Back on Furlough

Sgt. Boyle, who is 23, was a miner in the Pennsylvania hard coal region when he enlisted in the Army at the age of 19. He has been stationed at Ft. George G. Meade, Md.; Camp Edwards, Mass.; A. P. Hill Military Reservation, Va., and Ft. Bragg, N. C., in addition to his overseas service.

He enjoyed the distinction of having been the first, and to date probably the only Blood and Fire soldier to appear in Newfoundland. He returned by plane and boat on a furlough two months ago. He left five of the Division's shoulder patches and a copy of BLOOD AND FIRE with his former buddies, some of whom have served for more than two years in Newfoundland.

The sailor whose home is in South Mississippi and the soldier

(Continued on Page 2.)

New Train Times

Minor schedule changes for two northbound trains serving the Camp Van Dorn area will become effective Sunday.

Illinois Central System representatives said full schedules have not been made available yet, but that the trains would leave only 10 or 15 minutes earlier.

Y. & M. V. Train No. 12, now leaving Centreville daily at 1743, will leave about 10 minutes earlier at all stations to Vicksburg. It will arrive at Vicksburg at 2050. No change will be made in time north of Vicksburg.

Train No. 54, the Panama Limited, now leaving McComb daily at 1535, will leave about 15 minutes earlier. It will leave Jackson at 1639, Memphis at 2045 and Fulton, Ky., at 2320. No time change will be made north of Centralia, Ill. The Panama is a first-class train on which furlough tickets are not honored.

300 Div. Soldiers Fight Big Blaze In 6-Mile Area

More than 300 soldiers, including members of the Ranger Platoon, received a new kind of baptism of fire Thursday when they turned out to battle a brush and timber fire which raged for several hours over six miles of wooded land in the area beyond Range Road.

Believed to have been caused by tracer bullets fired by the Rangers, the fire spread rapidly and was out of control before the Camp Fire Department arrived with tank trucks and other apparatus.

Chief Engineer Enos Tipton, assisted by Chief Roy McDonald, took charge of the fight against the flames.

Firemen Hampered

Because of soggy ground and the absence of hydrants in the area, firemen were hampered in their efforts to get water to the flames. An additional call was sent to the camp for more men, and more than 300 members of the 63d Inf. Div. were detailed to assist the firemen.

Many of those who battled the flames were witnessing their first large-scale brush fire.

Pine tops, shovels, brooms and water pumps were employed by the firefighters and a backfire was started to head off the flames.

Homes Saved

The efforts of the soldiers succeeded in preventing flames from destroying several vacant homes. Chief McDonald called the fire under control after a battle which lasted five and one-half hours.

Despite the efforts of the men, a large area of sagebrush and some timber was swept by the blaze. Guards were posted in the area

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Soldier's Vote Topic Of Club 2 Forum

An open forum discussion on the question, "What is holding up the soldier's vote?" will be held Wednesday at Service Club No. 2.

The forum is one of a series of group discussions scheduled for the club by its librarian, Miss Elizabeth Williams.

Pvt. David Nichols, Hq. Btry., Div. Arty., will lead the forum, with a panel of two or three men opening the question to discussion from the floor. Nichols was a public speaker and discussion leader in civilian life in Buffalo, N. Y., and handled numerous debates under the sponsorship of the University of Buffalo and the Buffalo Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Nichols said a theme of the forum would be the question: "Why should there even be discussion of the soldier's right to vote?" The forum will cover such topics as moves in Congress to defeat the pending bills for a national soldier voting law, discussion of the bills themselves, and questions and answers on states' rights.

Combat Soldier Theme on Radio

The role of the combat soldier in battle will be presented in a dramatic radio broadcast by actors of Division Special Service over station WWL, New Orleans, Sunday night at 1815. The broadcast will run for 15 minutes.

Sunday's broadcast will be the eleventh in the "Why We Fight" series of radio presentations inaugurated last October by the 63d Div.

Eager to Please, We Print Schwartz's Name

(LETTER TO THE EDITOR)
Frances Atherton Hall
State College, Pa.

Dear Sirs:

Every week BLOOD AND FIRE is sent to my roommate, one Carol Ann Williams, a co-ed at Pennsylvania State College, by a curly-haired Casanova, one Donald J. Schwartz, of Co. A, 255th Inf., 63d Inf. Div.

She hopefully scans every inch of this publication in search of any mention of this Pvt. Schwartz. Being a "sugary miss," you can well understand that my shoulder won't take any more of her tears.

It was tough enough for her when she didn't win the beauty contest, but when you published



the picture of the 255th Inf. and blurred Pvt. Schwartz' face, her personality dissolved completely. She has delusions of Schwartz.

She is rapidly becoming a "Schwartzopifrenic."

When she goes to the movies Schwartz jumps out at her from

the newsreel; when she picks up the newspaper Schwartz screams at her from the headlines.

Instead of MacArthur, it's Schwartz; instead of Eisenhower, it's Schwartz; instead of Chiang Kai-Shek, it's Schwartz; instead of Churchill, it's Schwartz; instead of Roosevelt, it's Schwartz.

Maybe you can do something to shock her out of her phobia. Please, please print Schwartz's name in BLOOD AND FIRE. Maybe seeing his name actually in a newspaper will cure her.

I'm a hard-working goll and I need my sleep, so do something, for Heaven's sake!

Yours very truly,
ELAINE M. GANGEL

Members of 254th Display Talents At Natchez Events

Members of the 254th Inf. held spotlight at Natchez last weekend when the regiment's 12-piece orchestra played for the formal dance at the City Auditorium Saturday night and participated in the radio program presented over WMIS from the Servicemen's Center Sunday afternoon.

Led by Pvt. Edward Bland, the dance band presented melodies sweet and hot for the large dance sponsored by Co. B of the Military Maids of Natchez, of which Miss Carrie Bufkin is captain. Cpl. Leslie Heath announced the numbers and Pvt. Jack Campbell, Co. M, was vocalist.

Sunday afternoon's broadcast was announced by Cpl. Heath, formerly of the Blue Network. Cpl. Heath interviewed Pvt. Campbell as "most interesting man in the 254th."

Campbell, born in Spokane, Wash., became a musician at an early age and was playing in dance bands at 15. He plays both the guitar and sax.

Hit by the wanderlust, Campbell, after attending Washington State college, toured the Orient with a dance band and visited both Tokyo and Yokohama. He later played with Griff Williams' orchestra. Among his other activities, Pvt. Campbell ran a restaurant prior to his induction.

Campbell, Harry Dotterer and Glenn Wyatt, and Jackie Parris, 63d QM Co., teamed to play and sing "Stardust," and Campbell and Dotterer were heard in a guitar duet.

MP Guides Traffic In Nazi-Held Town

ITALY (CNS)—MP Cpl. William Sennell, of Connecticut, was sent into a front line village to direct traffic. When he arrived he found the place deserted except for a few dead Germans. To his surprise shells were falling about him with uncomfortable consistency, but Sennell stuck to his post.

After a while, a column of Americans moved into the town. "What the hell are you doing here?" yelled the commander, spotting the vigilant MP.

"I'm here to direct traffic, sir," replied Sennell. "This town was taken by us yesterday."

"Sure it was," the officer said, "but last night the Germans took it back again and we're just coming in to retake it now."

300 Division Soldiers Called to Fight Fire

(Continued From Page 1)

during the night to prevent embers from rekindling the fire.

Billowing smoke from the fire mounted high in the sky southeast of camp all Thursday afternoon and was clearly visible throughout the Division area.

Just Too Tough

Lt. Charles L. Borland, assistant adjutant of 253d Inf., will tell anyone at the drop of a hat or hairpin just how ferocious a combat outfit he belongs to. This week he has proof that the 253d is a he-man regiment. Acting Sgt. John F. Cawley of Co. A, was playing "enemy detail" on a recent night problem, and had the misfortune to be captured by his buddies. In good enemy fashion, he resisted capture, and is now in Station Hospital recuperating from the resulting broken collar bone.

Strauss Waltzes On Music Program

The ever-popular melodies of Johann Strauss, the Waltz King, and his equally famous contemporary, Peter Illyitch Tschaiikowsky will be presented on Sunday afternoon's classical music program at Chapel No. 6, Eighth and 13th Avenues, at 1530.

The concert, third in the series of recordings of outstanding artists and musical groups, will include the Emperor Waltz, excerpts from the Gypsy Baron, Die Fledermaus (The Bat), the Blue Danube and others.

Tschaiikowsky's "Nutcracker Suite" in its complete form, will be the major presentation of the afternoon.

Last Sunday a large gathering attended the recording of Brahms' 2d Piano Concerto in B Flat, which headlined the afternoon's program.

64 Cigarets Prize In 254th Inf. Quiz

A question which will be worth 64 cigarettes to the GI guessing the correct answer, will feature the first orientation quiz sponsored by the 254th Inf. next Wednesday at Theater No. 5.

A group of five enlisted men will assist Lt. George S. Hoar, regimental orientation officer, in presenting the quiz and acting as judges.

First the audience will be given the chance to answer questions conjured up by the experts, with packages of cigarettes going to the men giving the best replies. Then the experts will be placed on the spot when the audience will ask them questions about the war and current events. Those who succeed in stumping the experts will also receive cigarettes.

The panel will include the four men who have previously appeared at the "Town Hall" meetings. Pfc. Gino Bardi, Samuel Clark, Douwe Stuurman, T/5 Nathan Guttman, and one newcomer, Cpl. William B. Smith of Co. F. Cpl. Smith was an advertising man in Chicago, Cincinnati and New York. Prior to his induction he linked his advertising activities with promoting the war effort.

The subject of the "Town Hall" panel the following week will be "Our Ally—China."

New 63d Division Chaplain Won DSC in World War I

Holder of the Distinguished Service Cross for his aid to wounded under fire in World War I, Lt. Col. William E. Patrick, new Division Chaplain, has had a colorful career.

One of only 23 chaplains who received the DSC in the first war, he saw nearly two years on the European battlefronts—and was hospitalized for the first time last fall with an infected chigger bite received on maneuvers.

The injury occurred last October while he was with the 3d Army on maneuvers in Louisiana. He fell six feet into a gully and sprained an ankle. Under the adhesive tape wrapping his ankle the bites of the prevalent Louisiana chigger became infected. After two months of treatment, he was discharged from a general hospital December 23 and restored to full duty status.

Harvard Graduate

A native of Cambridge, Mass., Chaplain Patrick was graduated from Harvard University and the Episcopal Theological School at Cambridge. He was ordained by the late William Lawrence, Episcopal bishop of Massachusetts, and served from 1915 to 1917 as curate of Grace Church, New Bedford, and from 1917 to 1922 as rector of St. Paul Church, North Andover.

In 1922 he moved to California, where he was a rector of St. Paul's in Santa Paula until 1925 and of St. Paul's in Bakersfield from 1925 to 1941.

He went overseas as a YMCA secretary September 13, 1917, was commissioned a first lieutenant in the Chaplain Corps July 18, 1918, and was assigned to the 23d Inf. He served in the Pont a Mousson, quiet sector; in the St. Mihiel, Blanc Mont and Meuse-Argonne battles and in the Army of Occupation in Germany.

Before returning to Ft. Dix, N. J., for discharge May 23, 1919, he served one month as chaplain of the 5th M. G. Bn., also in the 2d Div.

8th Air Force Hit Nazis Hard in 1943

A dramatic report on the growth and accomplishments of the British-based U. S. 8th Air Force was given in a transatlantic radio broadcast by Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker, the 8th's commander during 1943.

Gen. Eaker, who now has command of Allied Air Forces in the Mediterranean, told his listeners that in 64,000 offensive sorties over Europe during 1943 the 8th Air Force dropped 55,000 tons of bombs, destroyed 4,100 Nazi fighters, slashed German fighter plane production by almost 40 per cent and escaped with an over-all loss in heavy bombers of less than four per cent.

Bombers of the 8th have penetrated as deeply as 800 miles into the heart of Germany and U. S. fighters have destroyed the best the Luftwaffe could send into the air, the general said. In December, the 8th broke all records for the weight of its offensive against the Germans in the west, he added.

This massive assault provided a striking contrast to the first American raid on the continent from England, last January 27, when the 8th managed to send 53 Flying Fortresses over Wilhelmshaven. At that time its entire strength was about 100 planes. Today the 8th is strong enough to send 1,500 planes into Adolf Hitler's Fortress Europe at once.

Summaries for 1943 were released as follows: Fortresses and Liberators dropped 34,976 tons of bombs and U. S. medium bombers dropped another 20,024 tons. Altogether the 8th destroyed 4,100 German fighters and damaged 1,821 others.

Newfoundland Buddies Meet in Camp Van Dorn

(Continued From Page 1) stationed here reminisced that Newfoundland is a place where the sun sets at 2300 in the summer, where GIs wear heavy fur-lined parkas and several pairs of mittens, where mechanics warm up the motors of their six-by-sixes with blow torches and where a bottle of beer in the lone nearby town costs 50 cents.

For his actions on the battlefield in the fortnight preceding the Armistice, he received the DSC and a Silver Star citation and mentioned in orders.

During the Meuse-Argonne offensive of Nov. 1 to 11, according to the orders, Chaplain Patrick "searched for wounded, gave them first aid and assisted in their evacuation under heavy machine gun and artillery fire; his firm determination to go wherever he could be of service, disregarding his personal safety, was a constant source of inspiration to all officers and enlisted men of his battalion."

The Division Chaplain returned to active duty as a captain in the California National Guard Feb. 3, 1941. He served 15 months as



Div. Chaplain William E. Patrick

chaplain of the 144th F.A. at Ft. Lewis, Wash., three months as reception center chaplain at Ft. Douglas, Utah, and a year as division chaplain of the 103d Inf. Div. He became a major at Ft. Douglas July 14, 1942, and a lieutenant-colonel while at Camp Claiborne, La., last Feb. 25.

Veterans Leader

After his discharge from the hospital Chaplain Patrick served for two weeks as assistant post chaplain at Ft. McClellan, Ala., before coming to the 63d Div. He succeeded Lt. Col. Robert H. Clarke, Chaplain since the Division's activation, who has been transferred to Ashford General Hospital, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

Active in veterans' affairs, Chaplain Patrick was national chaplain of the American Legion in 1925-26; of the Second Division Association in 1930, and of the Army and Navy Legion of Valor, an association of holders of the Medal of Honor, the DSC and the Navy Cross, from 1935 to 1937.

Chaplain Patrick is married and has five children. A son, Pvt. Lloyd A. Patrick, is with the 22d Anti-aircraft (Searchlight) Bn. at Camp Stewart, Ga. A daughter, Mrs. James W. Haggard, wife of a Navy lieutenant lives in Corpus Christi, Tex. His younger daughter, Ruth, is in nursing training at Oakland, Calif. Two younger sons Edward and Raymond, live with Mrs. Patrick in Carpinteria, Calif.

Japs Set for Japs

Put yourself in the position of Pvt. Salvatore LaMatta. Imagine his astonishment when he walked into a cafe in Vicksburg, Miss., and saw a squad of Japanese soldiers lined up at the bar!

What would you do? LaMatta bought them a drink.

LaMatta, member of Co. B PTB, quickly discovered that the men were Nisei—second-generation, American-born Japanese, undergoing training at Camp Shelby, Miss.

"Because we were born in America, we are happy to fight for our country," they told him. "Already some of us are fighting in Italy, and we at Shelby are eager to join them. It doesn't matter where we are sent; we want to fight any enemy of the United States."

LOS ANGELES—Elbridge Amos Stuart, 86, founder of the Carnation Milk Co., and nationally known livestock owner, is dead. He found his opportunity in the Alaskan gold rush when prospectors discovered they could keep evaporated milk under difficult conditions.

Hostesses to Travel With 63d on Moves? —It's Just a Rumor

A rumor that "when, and if the 63d moves from Camp Van Dorn, the hostesses of Service Club No. 2 will be transferred with the soldiers" won a carton of cigarettes for Pvt. Thomas Allston, Co. I, 254th Inf., in the rumor contest conducted at the Service Club in connection with the weekly newscast by Pfc. Samuel Clark, Co. D, 254th Inf.

Rumors heard by men who use this club are submitted to a board of judges, including regimental S-3s, which passes on their qualities of cruelty, ridiculousness or infeasibility and recommends the weekly award of cigarettes.

Sizzling Hot

"I work in Officers' Mess and this is hot off the griddle," runs the second-place rumor, submitted by Cpl. Bert Kern, Hq. Co, 1st Bn. "I heard the colonel telling the other officers to get their foot-locks repainted with their names and serial numbers. You can bet this means something is in the wind. We probably will leave before all of us get our furloughs."

The real reason the officers were told to mark their equipment clearly is that some had been lost on the nightly bivouacs.

Branded as "definitely untrue" by authorities to whom the rumors were submitted were the following samples of latrine talk going the rounds, some of which the board called "more laughable than cruel":

Laughable Rumors

"This division never will go across because it is not well trained."

"This is a 4-F division."

"Service at Camp Van Dorn will be considered foreign service."

"Furloughs will be changed from 7 to 15 per cent in each group."

"We're not going to Ft. George G. Meade. Instead we are going to Camp Shanks, at Orangeburg, N. Y." (File this, the board recommended, with rumors that the 63d is moving to Philadelphia, to Indiantown Gap, Pa., to Iceland, to Africa, to "maneuvers in Ireland," to desert training, and with rumors that the Division was to leave January 20 to join the 99th, that it will leave Van Dorn "in three weeks" and that unit training will be completed overseas.)

List Army Casualties At 105,229 to Dec.

U. S. Army casualties up to December 23 totaled 105,229 it was announced last week by Secretary of War Stimson. The casualties were distributed as follows, he said:

- 16,821 killed.
- 38,916 wounded.
- 24,067 missing.
- 25,415 prisoners.

The secretary of war revealed that the latest figures in the Italian campaign show a total of 13,119 casualties, including 2,798 killed, 11,762 wounded, 3,559 missing.

9,469 Vets of This War Now in U. S. Hospitals

WASHINGTON—The Veterans Administration said in its annual report that its facilities are being expanded rapidly for a program to meet the post-war needs of 12,000,000 demobilized men. By the end of November 9,469 veterans of this war were in Veterans Administration hospitals and dependents of 8,136 deceased servicemen were receiving pensions, the latter at a cost of \$3,770,263.

The War of 1812 ended 128 years ago, but the Government still is paying for it. One 1812 pensioner still remains on the Veterans Administration payroll. She is Esther Ann Hill Morgan, 86, of Independence, Ore., who receives \$20 a month. She is the daughter of John Hill, who was a private in Clark's and McCumber's companies, New York Militia.

Pvt. David Goldberg, Co. B, Prov. Tng. Det., got the almost impossible Army assignment last week. Since there is an old Army custom of not splitting twine, Dave was re-assigned to the same MP detachment in Brooklyn where his twin brother Harry is serving. The MP headquarters in Brooklyn is directly across the street from the Goldberg family home.

The Wolf

by Sansone



"Do whatever you like for the next hour, orderly."

Report to the Homelinks

By Pvt. Irwin Ross

You know, in writing about Battery B of the 863d Field Artillery Battalion, I could tell you endless things about our bivouacs and hikes and motor marches; about our mess and the peculiarities of the latrine and the frolics of Baker, the slight morsel dog that is the battery's mascot; you might get a pretty good idea of what the battery looks like and how it goes about its everyday business—and yet you wouldn't begin to get the sense and the inner feel of the soldier's life. Not that the externals are unimportant or that we'll leave them out, but there's also a story to tell in the mental transformation—subtle, gradual—that makes a soldier out of a civilian.

When you enter the Army you enter a new world, and the process of readjustment really never ends. At first, at the reception center, you may find the change-over easy. You find that, despite your timidity and suspected squeamishness, the close-packed barracks don't bother you at all; you immediately get used to living with half a hundred strangers.

You have no trouble getting to bed when you're told or rising early in the morning. And you learn to perform the latrine's more intimate functions even under the urgent stares of a half dozen soldiers waiting to take your place. (Some boys, though, are physically uncomfortable or even actively ill for a week until they overcome their self-consciousness about attending to calls of nature in public.)

Conquer Loneliness

But while you are congratulating yourself, while the Army is still a new adventure, a lark, there suddenly comes an awful moment when you realize that you've been caught up in this thing body and soul, that your life is owned, your destiny controlled, for a duration that seems without end. You're locked in this thing, you're bound head to toe, there is no escape. And you feel this oppression no matter what your intellectual convictions are, no matter how well you know the meaning of war. At this point your adjustment to the Army truly begins.

Loneliness must be conquered first. It is worst in reception center, where there usually are no letters, no phone calls—not to speak of passes. Adjustment comes as you work out an elaborate ritual based on an endless substitution beguiling shadows for the true substance of home. The snapshot becomes the girl; the scrawled lines, the breath of her voice; and her voice, over the long distance lines, becomes the sweet brush of her lips. Noon mail call becomes the rendezvous at noon, over the red-checked cloth and the frosted glass, and evening mail call becomes the ease of night, atop the crystalline skyscraper under the fantasy of stars.

Regimentation Sets In

You have to get used to a regulation of your life greater than anything you may have known—possibly even during childhood. Remember how you used to wag your hand in class to get teacher's permission to leave the room? Here you are told when you must stand rigidly at attention; when you can shift around, keeping one foot in place, but can't talk; when you can talk in ranks, but can't smoke; when you can smoke and talk, but can't fall out. During a 10-minute

break, you may be allowed in the latrine, but the day room is off limits.

You are allowed to sit down during a break, but not lie on your back. You also can sit in an outdoor class, but not lean on your elbow . . . endless, these restrictions. There is a time appointed to eat, a time to sleep, a time to take your ease and call your soul your own. But no time when you're not subject to orders.

There are many ways to adjust to this regimentation. You can tell yourself that discipline is necessary, but intellectual conviction about the big issues hardly makes the petty rules easier to take. You can sulk, and plot secret revenge—which is all right, providing you continue to do what you're told. You can fall into a mental sloth of dependence, that actually takes you back to your childhood—or you can be amused—which is a fine solution, providing you don't carry your amusement too far.

Many times, if you're a healthy, lively, democratic young buck, you won't adjust at all, many times you'll be miserable. But you'll get used to the regimentation, as you get used to a sharp pain that gradually gets dulled by being so persistent.

Boredom will be your constant companion. At reception center, you are placed on a grass-picking detail—for hours you squat on your haunches, plucking the long blades with your fingers. You soon exhaust the grass in your small plot, but whatever you do, you learn to look as if you're working. And even with your regular outfit, there are many jobs that hardly absorb the "whole man." If you are one of those mute poets who can fashion rhymes in their heads even if they can't clothe them in words, you may be content. But most of us can only stand and grind our molars, muttering dark things.

As long as you fight the boredom, plot and plan for your few free moments, you're healthy. But periods come of utter darkness, complete vacuity. You can go through a long, dull physical chore and when you finish wonder what you've thought about all that time.

You never know or care. The system—the recurrent, perpetual, never-ending routine—is getting you now. It's time to fight back. Day-dream, if you can—detailed, elaborate, completely fanciful day-dreams—no matter—of what you'll do when you get back home. Boast of your past conquests. Try to remember who was All-American left tackle in 1930. But don't surrender to the void.

And there's something else you have to do: keep your essential dignity as a man. You'll still find some non-coms—by no means a majority—who make a fine art out of abasement. They yelp and rant and brow-beat their charges, knock the pride and self-confidence out of them. Or try to. You have to keep your head—you must keep your fists in your pockets—but you must fight back, too. Inside, in your own tough inside, resolve not to be the picture of supine, crawling, brainless mudhead that they paint you. You're an American, a free man, no matter where the taunts fly. No self-pity. No fawning before authority.

All these things, my friends, are just the beginning of adjustment to the Army.



WHATCHADOIN, BUD? says 63d Div. MP Vince OBARA, rear, as he catches his son, Roger (the young sarge) making a collection of girls names and addresses at Natchez Servicemen's Center. The victims of the sarge's amour are Ovey Cothren, left, and Juanita Boyce.

Theater Director, Writer, Can Deal With Mules, Too

A blond young man whose quiet manner and cultural knowledge bespeak his background in speech, drama and literature rather than his more recent experiences in browbeating pack mules is Lt. Richard L. O'Connell, Div. Arty. Special Service Officer.

Holder of bachelor's and master's degrees, former college teacher, theatrical producer, actor, translator, writer and editor, the 31-year-old lieutenant is an artilleryman of practical and rugged experience. A year ago he was making 25-mile hikes on snowshoes in 40-below-zero weather in the rarefied atmosphere of two-mile high camps in Colorado.

Born in Syracuse, N. Y., Lt. O'Connell attended school there and was graduated from Syracuse university in 1935. He did three years' graduate work in the Yale university drama department, receiving his Master of Arts degree in 1938.

Teacher of Drama

He was a teacher of drama for a year at Syracuse and three years at the University of Texas. He has been a director and production manager in college, in marionette shows in Syracuse for commercial firms and the Community Chest, for the Syracuse University Civic Theater, the Lake Placid Summer Players and similar groups and the University of Texas Summer Players, and directed radio shows at Syracuse and Yale.

He also was an actor in Yale and Syracuse stage and radio shows, in marionette shows, in Federal Theater Projects summer stock companies and in Lake Placid summer stock.

Lt. O'Connell was a contributor and staff member of his college publications and a book reviewer for the New Republic magazine.

He has collaborated in and edited translation from Russian and Spanish plays, poetry, short stories and novels. With Stark Young, the eminent author and dramatist, he translated Chekov's "Three Sisters" from the Russian. With James Graham Lujan, now a private at the IRTC at Ft. McClellan, Ala., he translated five plays by F. G. Lorca, South American dramatist, published under the title of "From Lorca's Theater"; "The Horse and His Shadow," a novel of the Uruguayan pampas by Enrique Amorim, and various Latin-American poems.

Wrote by Flashlight

The translation of Lorca's plays was accomplished during a summer Lt. O'Connell spent in Mexico and while teaching in the fall of 1941 at Syracuse. He edited and proof-read the volume after his induction at Ft. Niagara, N. Y. On free week-ends, and sometimes by flashlight at night in camp, he accomplished the translation of Amorim's novel at Ft. George G.

Meade, Md., at Camp Roberts, Calif., and in the Field Artillery OCS at Ft. Sill, Okla.

Drafted in March, 1941, Lt. O'Connell was stationed at Ft. Niagara, where he was a chaplain's assistant, until September, when he was released under the old over-age law. He was recalled to duty in January, 1942, again at Niagara, and served there until June, when he went to Ft. Meade.

At Meade he was a member of the instrument and survey section of 76th Div. Arty. Hq. His first contact there with artillerymen led



LT. RICHARD L. O'CONNELL

him to apply for artillery OCS and in September, 1942, he was sent to school at Ft. Sill. After receiving his commission he was detailed to the Field Artillery Replacement Training Center at Camp Roberts, Calif., where he remained until he went to Camp Hale, Colo., in January.

Life Was 'Rugged'

"Life with the pack artillery was very rugged at Hale," Lt. O'Connell said. "The Army was experimenting with new snow equipment and new rations at the time. Most of us had had no experience with mules, and officers and enlisted men alike fed, curried and cared for them, as well as chased after them when they ran away.

"We learned to do the squaw hitch and the double-diamond hitch in temperatures of 40 below, which were the rule.

"When the transfer to Camp Carson, Colo., came in May, we marched the 65 miles over the Continental Divide on foot in nine and one-half days. Our route was the old gold road through Cripple Creek and an abandoned railroad now used for pack trains and tourist riders."

(Continued on Page 8.)

MP Ex-Cavalryman, Saw Poles Crushed Beneath Nazi Blitz

Army routine is no hard problem for MP Vince Obara, who served as a corporal in a cavalry unit of the Polish army for two years prior to his volunteering for service with the U. S. forces back in 1941. Vince is an American, and has passed most of his life in the humming industrial sections in and around Worcester, Mass. but his parents came from Poland, and in 1932 young Vincent accompanied his mother on a visit to her homeland.

Corporal in Horse Troops

The visitors stayed, and stayed and stayed, and in 1934 Vincent joined the Polish cavalry in which he soon became a corporal. "That outfit was really on the ball," he says. "But when the Nazi armored forces rolled into Poland in 1939 there was nothing they could do to stop them. You just can't fight an armored column when you're riding horseback."

Obara's dad cabled him to come back to the U. S. A. Vincent did, and went to a trade school for two years after which he took a job in a manufacturing plant. In 1941 he volunteered for the Army, and began basic training with a Coast Artillery outfit.

At Ranger School

Following basic, he was transferred to the Military Police and assigned to Ft. Bragg, N. C., and later to Ft. Custer, Mich. When he reported to the 63d Div. at Camp Blanding he was joining his first division. He was assigned to the MP platoon, but detailed to the Ranger school then being formed. He spent three months helping to organize a good Ranger school at Camp Blanding, and learning demolition work. Upon completion of the demolition course he returned to the MP platoon, where he is now demolitions man.

He is married, and his wife and 5-year-old son, Roger, are staying at Natchez.

253d Band Plays At McComb Dance

With an increasing library of swing "classics," the 253d Inf. Orchestra is equipped to play a greater variety of numbers. Its next appearance will be tonight at the Servicemen's Center in McComb.

Emphasizing "solid jive," the band played before a large audience last Saturday at the Centreville USO. Heading the list of swing tunes in the new repertory is the "Two O'Clock Jump." Others are the "One O'Clock Jump," "Coming Out Party," "Swinging the Blues," "Stompin' at the Savoy," "In the Mood" and "Panassie Stomp."

Pvt. Ralph Carasuola, who plays a swing violin, leads the band. Other members are Sgt. Howard McVey, Pfc. Phil Colosimo and Pvts. Peter Karlovich and George Gialas, saxophones; Pvts. Charles Rudibaugh, Rudolph Legner and Donald Erney, trumpets; Cpl. Thomas Cortese, trombone; Pfc. John Abate, guitar; Pvt. Robert Crnek, drums; Pvt. Martin Schopp, bass, and Pvt. Robert Burr, piano.

Theater Schedules

THEATERS NOS. 1 AND 2
Starting Times—No. 1 at 1845;
No. 2 1810

- Jan. 22 "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek," with Betty Hutton, Eddie Brackeen, Brian Donlevy, Akim Tamiroff.
 - 23-24 "The Fighting Seabees," John Wayne, Susan Hayward, Dennis O'Keefe.
 - 25 "The Spider Woman," with Basil Rathbone, Nigel Bruce; "Casanova in Burlesque," with Joe E. Brown and June Havoc.
 - 26-27 "The Desert Song," with Dennis Morgan and Irene Manning.
 - 28-29 "Lifeboat," with Tallulah Bankhead and Henry Hull.
- THEATER NO. 5
Starting Time—1845
- Jan. 23-24 "The Miracle of Morgan's Creek," with Betty Hutton, Eddie Brackeen, Brian Donlevy and Akim Tamiroff.
 - 25-26 "The Fighting Seabees," with John Wayne and Susan Hayward, Dennis O'Keefe.
 - 27 "The Spider Woman," with Basil Rathbone, Nigel Bruce. "Casanova in Burlesque," with Joe E. Brown and June Havoc.
 - 28-29 "The Desert Song," with Dennis Morgan, Irene Manning, and Bruce Cabot.



Blood and Fire

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INFANTRY DIVISION
Camp Van Dorn, Miss.

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EDITORIAL

A WORTHY CAUSE

Whether we are in the armed service or out of it, there is no more worthy cause to elicit your support than the current infantile paralysis drive. Give, and give 'till it hurts. Give up a few of the small pleasures that you won't miss—that extra pack of cigarets, that extra ice cream sundae. It's the small items that count and all contributions, no matter how small, will be appreciated.

There'll be a collection box in your orderly room on payday. Keep it in mind.

KEEP IT CLEAN

The Division has been told it will return soon to eating from mess kits under field conditions. It may be uncomfortable and unpleasant, but it is the way troops in combat eat, and now is the time to learn to use the mess kit properly—and how to keep it clean. In the standard cleaning method there are three GI cans in a row, the first with hot soapy water, the others with plain hot water for rinsing. Make good use of all three cans and the GI brush, because only through proper cleaning will disease be prevented. Too many soldiers have learned the hard way that particles of food not cleaned from the kits are fine breeding places for bacteria which bring on cramps and serious illness. The old standby, GI soap and hot water, with thorough rinsing in clear hot water, means clean mess gear. To prevent sickness, keep it clean!

BE A SOLDIER

A misguided few apparently deem unworthy of obedience the Division order against the wearing of peaked caps and garrison belts. Violations of this order have been observed recently.

This is a combat outfit whose uniform needs no leather adornment. Further, it is desirable to clothe the men of the Division alike. Those are the purposes of the order.

But whatever the order's purpose, no man of the 63d should lose sight of the fact that the true mark of the soldier is discipline. Wearing the peaked cap and garrison belt is no different from sleeping on guard in showing that a man is not properly disciplined.

Discipline is a lot of little things which add up to instant and unquestioning obedience of an order from a superior. The purpose of discipline, of course, includes the assurance of safety of armies and effectiveness of their work in combat.

The man who disobeys one of the lesser rules today gets into the habit of disobeying. He loses his sense of proportion. Soon he is unable to differentiate between big and little rules. The time comes when he disobeys what seems a small or meaningless order. The outcome of his lack of discipline may be the death of himself and his comrades, the destruction of his outfit and equipment.

An important purpose of discipline is the insurance of safety. An important purpose, by the way, is the insurance of Victory.

SAVE MY KID FROM INFANTILE PARALYSIS



Give Your Dimes on Payday

News from Here and There

Faithless Partners Worry GIs Abroad

WASHINGTON (CNS)—Unfaithful wives and sweethearts are one of the biggest causes of worry among U. S. fighting men overseas, according to Maj. John S. Garrenton, a chaplain with the China-India-Burma wing of the Army Air Transport Command, who recently returned to Washington.

"My own personal opinion," said Maj. Garrenton, "is that any woman with a husband overseas wading through hell, sweat and blood who is playing around over here with another man is about the lowest thing I know. And about the next lowest thing I know is the man who plays around with her."

Yanks Bomb German Nut Plant—Then Bolt

ENGLAND (CNS)—Lt. Joseph Armenini of Santa Cruz, Calif., peeked out of his Flying Fortress and saw, through a hole in a cloud bank, a big German nut and bolt factory.

"My," he said, "Look what we've found."

Armenini's plane and the other Fortress in the group, returning to England from an unsuccessful mission over the Ruhr, swung into an emergency bombing run and smashed the plant.

Said Armenini: "It was strictly a target of opportunity."

Italians Rush to Buy U. S.-Made Spaghetti

NAPLES (CNS)—Spaghetti-loving Neapolitans, who have been eating a low type of stringy stuff since the war began, are crowding downtown markets these days to buy the finest spaghetti they have seen in the last three years. It came straight from the USA.

Servicemen to Help In Paralysis Drive

NEW YORK (CNS)—Servicemen stationed in the U. S. and overseas will participate in the annual fund-raising drive of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, it has been disclosed at the foundation's headquarters here.

Purpose of the campaign, according to Basil O'Connor, the foundation's president, is to "back the attack" against infantile paralysis. Climax of the drive will be a nation-wide President's Birthday Ball on January 31.

Gen. Disregards Wife's Warning—Pays \$15

WASHINGTON (CNS) — Brig. Gen. Raymond W. Bliss was hailed before a local traffic court on a charge of driving a car with New York plates in Washington without either a New York or District of Columbia driver's license.

"Why don't you get a D. C. permit?" asked the judge.

"That's what my wife says," replied the general.

"Fifteen dollars fine," said the judge.

Dies Trying to Prove He Invented the Tank

WASHINGTON—J. Walter Christie died at the age of 80, in the midst of efforts to collect \$40,000 in license fees from the War Department on the ground that he was the inventor of the modern tank. His attorney said Christie had spent more than \$2,000,000 of his own and borrowed money to develop the tanks now used by the Allies.

DSC Goes to First Dog For Cleaning Out Pillbox

NEW YORK—Chips, a half-Spaniel, has been decorated for outstanding bravery for cleaning out an enemy pillbox during the Sicilian campaign, has become the first dog in history to receive the Distinguished Service Cross.

The award was made in Italy by Maj. Gen. Lucian Truscott. The tradition that no animal may receive the DSC was waived by the War Department. The dog is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Wren, of Pleasantville, N. Y.

U. S. Leads the World In Output of Planes

WASHINGTON (CNS)—U. S. plane output is greater than that of all of the rest of the world combined, according to the Aircraft Resources Control Office.

"Although we are not entirely certain of the production of some of our Allies and our enemies, it can be fairly stated that the production output of the Allies is now more than four times the enemy nations, and that the output of the United States alone is greater than 2 to 1 compared to that of the Axis, and greater than all the rest of the world combined," the office announced.

The Sky Pilot Says It

By Chaplain Howard D. Prather
(255th Inf.)

At first thought we might come to the conclusion that life is cheap these days. Men are giving their lives readily and without question for the cause we all believe in and are fighting for. But if we think about it a few moments longer we see that life really is very valuable to us. Each of us wants to live as long as possible and get all out of life he can. It is not because life is cheap but because it is so dear that men are giving their life blood in this war. It is because each moment of life is worth so much that we want to live these moments to the full. We are even willing to sacrifice our own lives, if necessary, that others may live in the kind of world that does give full expression to the value of human life.

Yet thousands of people in our day actually believe that life consists in the abundance of things which one possesses. These things do require the greater portion of our time and energy. But too many people thus gain the impression that life is just meat and bread and clothes and pleasure—simply that which ministers to the needs of the body and the sensations of our physical nature.

Into the midst of this vicious circle, of living simply for things and the pleasures they produce, steps Jesus Christ with His claim that life does not consist in the abundance of things we possess.

"What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" He asks.

Life is more than meat and drink to those who have accepted Jesus' way. Thousands who have no credit at the bank can say: "We have more than money and more than money can buy."

G. I. Jingles

MOTHERS POEM

Back in October Pvt. Rex Morrissey, of 862d F. A. Bn., was in station hospital with a severe throat ailment, Lt. Col. Irving H. Willett, hospital commandant, had the Army's wonder drug, Penicillin, flown from Georgia to aid him. Here is a poem received this week from Rex's mother.

A happy New Year to Camp Van Dorn,
To all you men in uniform,
Away down South there, in the Mississippi mud,
Atraining hard through fire and blood.

Last fall I visited at your post,
There was one thing there that interested me most,
My son was ill in the hospital there
He wouldn't have recovered, if not for best of care.
He had terrible chills and a temperature high
They gave him sulfa drug until two weeks went by.
He was getting no better, but growing worse
Despite the efforts of the col., the major, the nurse

Col. Willetts got busy right away;
He sent for the wonder drug that very day
They had it sent from another state
And thank God they got it before it was too late
They flew it in from Georgia in no time at all
In fact, two hours after he'd placed the call.
They started the treatments right away
My son showed improvement the very next day.

After 76 days now he's back in the groove,
He's back with his company and feeling fine.
Thanks to the ward boys who were all so kind,
Thanks to the doctors and the nurses too,
And the penicillin drug which pulled him through.
Oh I am so grateful, it's my heart's desire,
To thank you again through BLOOD AND FIRE.

WHAT HITLER FORGOT

What does a buck private think when he's one face in a regimental parade? When his feet are tired from an endless day of marching and drilling and hopping on the double, and "Parade Rest" means anything but rest? When gremlins drill at his corns and calluses, pull hard at his pack, roll drops of sweat in his eyes, and chase insects across his forehead, down his neck and into his nose, what is the buck private thinking?

Here's what one thinks, as he expressed it in a letter to his Regimental Commander:

"A beautiful sight to watch! The rays of the fading sun falling on the bayonets pointing skyward, and every man acting in unison.

"We hear a great deal about security in a military sense; these parades signify a greater security than mere physical safety. They suggest a moral firmness and integrity of character our enemies failed to take into account. Every bayonet is a pointed answer to those who sought to tear the Great Architect from the Heavens and supplant Him with man-made ideology. Every bayonet is an answer to those who thought to destroy the Book of Ages, the Holy Bible, and replace it with the frothy ravings of an atheistic fuehrer.

"An inspiring incentive to everyone who participates! It would be well if all civilians could join with us in a regimental retreat parade and feel, as we feel, the source of the moral energy, which, God willing, will enable us to defeat unconditionally our ruthless and savage enemy!"

"Our Army, composed of men with a spirit like that, will sweep away every obstacle in its path to victory."

DIVISION SIDELIGHTS

254th Inf.—Recent promotions in Co. B include these to corporal: Philip Pearlman, Charles C. Hathaway, Fred D. Pietropaolo, and Sgt. Ronald G. Anderson . . . Pvt. James J. Phillips, Clyde Redmond and Philip R. Retherford agree the guy who wrote "What do we do in the Infantry, march, march, march . . ." knew what he was writing about . . . over at 3d Bn., Hq. Co., they've sewed Pfc. stripes on George Bolak, George Greeder, Anthony DiBuono, Herman Koeneman, Birger Kaino, and Cpls. stripes on Edwin Eckman, Omer Williams, and William Kline, T/5 stripes on Earl Tremaine, S/Sgts. for Vachel Posey, Daniel Redden, Theodore Levin and Sgt. Edward Anderson . . . Co. L had one opening on its furlough list, and the CO said it could be filled on selection by the men themselves . . . Pfc. George Katz tacked signs in the mess halls asking the men to vote for him, and at the eleventh hour it seemed likely that he'd get the position . . . New Co. L promotions include Cpl. Richard E. Robb, to Sgt., Pfc. Charles Gerard and Thomas Cochran to Cpls. . . . Pfc. James Burke and Pvt. Frank Mattarese won the recent regimental bouts; they're both from L Co. . . . Cannon Co. has announced promotions including S/Sgt. T. Wesley, from T/4.

Co. I is all agog waiting for Lt. Sanoff's baby to arrive; odds are it'll be a future Blood and Fire boy . . . New Pfc. at Co. I include Eugene P. Annone, Daniel E. Baluk, Joe C. Brooks, Eugene L. Clark, William Cloach, Ray Dishman, John Paul Jones, John B. Laxague, Gaylord E. Martin, Edward P. Rem. Glenn C. Rose, Warren H. Shinn, Cecil P. Smith, and Henry J. Smith.

Post-basic promotions at Co. F, 254th include Sgt. Donald L. Miller, Cpls. Waldeck A. Bohnsky, Robert D. Gibson, Joseph L. Gluth, Simon Helman, Charles C. L. Jones, Kenneth E. Liggett, Aaron I. Linett, James P. McMahon, Louis E. Sica, William B. Smith, John S. Stochman, Paul L. Sutorius, Harry D. Wolverson, and Marvin J. Zimmerman. To Pfc. went Kenneth J. De Forge, Donald R. Hennen, Karl H. Hoeflinger, Carl A. Jorgensen, Francis M. McCabe, Saverio A. Manzi, and Lawrence H. Sharpe. Promotions in Co. E include: Cpl. to Sgt.: Edward M. Lafferty, Edmonde M. Letts, John P. Shepherd, Morton B. Katz; from Pfc. to Cpl.: Paul R. Jauzyinka, William G. J. Boyer, Thomas F. Gierlock, Leonard J. Stone, Eden N. Feenstra, Kenneth R. Constantine, George N. Stewart, John G. Roehm, Charles W. Kleppick, Edwin A. Hicks, Robert J. King, George H. Fodor, John W. Duvall, Albert A. Crowne; from Pfc. to T/5: Paul E. Hoffman, and Fred Clarke . . . Co. C last week found its dayroom decorated by the capable Pvts. Howard W. Sessions and William J. Hibbs . . . The same company has also raised from Pvt. to Pfc.: Robert B. Bunfill, Paul V. Cleary, John P. Concina, James H. Cummings, Harold G. Dixon, Ronald O. Gulbrandson, Raymond F. Henderson, Frank J. Kovacevich, Michael Kravatz, Andrew F. Marlow, Daniel J. McKimmie, Edwin T. Overturf, Andrew T. Reisinger, Robert E. Straub, David L. Schwartzlander, Albert C. Thompson, and August N. Thompson . . . Over at Co. M, Mess Sgt. Bill Kennedy is now S/Sgt., and Sunday morning found Pfc. stripes being sewed on the arms of John Arata, James Buchanan, Elmer Johnson, Mario DeFavere, John W. Lawrence, William F. McQuisten, Jr., Robert B. Mullins, John J. Petrone, John W. Ryder, Nerval C. Schultz, William T. Simpson . . . Last week a "visiting committee" from Co. M went "up on the hill" to visit some six members of the company at station hospital . . . they returned aglow with stories of the construction and management of the hospital . . . it seems that the brethren confined to this health-restoring institution are protected from the elements by real, honest to goodness walls which prevent even the slightest gust of wind from whistling through the cracks at night.

253d Inf.—Twenty-eight smiling faces testified that there were week end promotions at Hq. Co., 1st Bn., 253d Inf. Among the happy doughboys are T/Sgts. Louis J. Fusari and Edward H. Pieters, S/Sgt. Arthur J. Miller; Sgt. Arthur E. Rowitzer; Cpls. Carl H. Corder, Lee B. Leavitt, John P. Mastrogiovanni, Victor C. Purvis, Frank C. Chenault, Tolton E. Culter, Kenneth D. Pritchard, Edward S. Momanek, Sal B. Tate; T/5 Frank H. DelVescova, James P. Gaynor, Raymond L. Donatelli, John J. Piccolo; Pfc. George Worth, Edwin S. Mabie, Ray E. Fee, Jr., Nathan S. Krems, Morris Gimpelson, Leslie Robinson, Elton L. Miller, Elliot Engel, Charles A. Dunn, Henry D. A'Herron, William Winters . . . Pvt. William P. Schenk, Co. L, is the brother of Ens. Albert G. Schenk USNR, recently cited by the U. S. Navy for bravery in rescuing nine men in an Atlantic storm . . . Capt. Edward J. Blake, of Co. L, is furloughing in Michigan, where his folks live and in Missouri, where his wife awaits him . . . Cpl. Lawrence E. Witte, clerk of Co. D, is attending the AG school at Ft. Washington, Md. . . . Pvt. Bill Short has passed long evening hours when off duty as a heavy weapons man composing a song, "Compared to You," which he's plugging to song publishers while on furlough at Newark, N. J. . . . Pvt. Nick Pappa, of D. Co, is the youngest of six brothers in service, three of whom are in foreign service, he's 19 . . . Pvt. James Martin used to be a steel welder at a Wilmington, Del. shipyard . . . Now as the unofficial company tailor at Co. A, he's welding chevrons on sleeves of new noncoms. Among the new Co. A promotions were S/Sgt. Loyd E. Richardson, T/Sgts. Hubert B. Muncy and Elwood Seiler, Cpls. Joseph Randick, Eugene F. Carroll, Arthur A. Young, Edmund Allard, Jr., and Millard E. Hardison. Also T/5s Harry P. Kelly, Fred C. Harnisch, Alvin J. Salfeld . . . Pvt. Michael Farbo, of Co. A, is only 23, but he is sporting a new "hash mark" denoting three years service in the Army; he's also entitled to a ribbon for his two years at Bermuda . . . Pvt. Fred A. Koszalka, who keeps this paper posted on the doings of Co. A, is now attending First Aid school.

First Sgt. Bernie Whewell got that scar on his nose in an automobile January 6 while furloughing . . . S/Sgt. Glendon Jessup is no Indian guide, his fellow travelers in Co. C say; he got his platoon lost during a recent night tactical march and they resented missing chow.

In line with Capt. Hubert Nance's policy of having the non coms give orientation lectures, newly promoted Cpl. Raymond E. Waite, of Co. C, spoke this week on "Street Fighting in Russia." . . . Colorful Ex-Tailor "Pop" Halajian, who once was forced to eat boiled shoes and tree bark during the Russian Revolution, is being transferred from Co. C to the PTD.

255th Inf.—Pfc. John Castro, Hq. Co., 3d Bn., is a man with a good eye and true, and his buddies rely upon him to pin their many stripes evenly and in line upon their manly biceps. Last week however, (Continued on Page 8)

Arty. Cpl. Directed 60,000 Acre Sugar Plantation in Cuba

Remember the fellow who was lord and master of all he surveyed? Down at the 718th F. A. Bn. they have a soldier who was once the overseer of almost all the land he could see. He's Cpl. Christopher C. Davison, Charlie Btry., and for the last nine years he's been down in Cuba, as overseer of a 60,000 acre sugar plantation of the United Fruit Co.

As overseer, Chris was in charge of the 2,500 plantation workers who cultivated the 3,700 producing acres and 8,000 acres of rangeland which the farmhands cared for. The rest of the area was mountainous jungle, unpenetrated by roads. During the nine years he was on the land, Davison says he only saw the southern border of the area, it was so thickly overgrown. It reached from the oceanfront back over the coastal plains to the mountains. This was a generous slice of Cuba.

Under his management the cane was planted, raised and cut, then gathered by the workers and transported on crude carts to the mills where the initial processing took place of some of the white crystals we may now be pouring into our GI coffee at Camp Van Dorn.

Davison first went to Cuba when he was 17, and remained there continuously until his job with United Fruit was interrupted by the committee of "neighbors and peers" which comprised his local selective service board.

Stocky, blondish, with a weather-beaten face, Davison is popular in his battery, and he likes the rugged outdoor life here. "But, after the war I'm, heading right back to where I came from," he says. "Cuba's a nice country, and after 17 years I guess I'm sort of used to it."

Religious Services

PROTESTANT SERVICES

Chapel No. 7, Episcopal Communion Service, 0800.
Chapels No. 6, 7, 8, 10, 0900.
Chapels No. 5, 6, 8, 10, 1000.
Chapels No. 5, 7, 8, 1100.

Lutheran

Chapel No. 8, Communion Service, 1100.

Weekly Services

Chapel No. 7, Thursday 1930.

MORMON SERVICES

Sunday
Chapel No. 8, 1400.

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

Sunday
Chapel No. 5, 0800.

Theater No. 3, 0900.
Theater No. 1, 1030.

Chapel No. 10, 1500, 1100.

Evening Mass

Chapel No. 5, Monday (Novena Miraculous Medal) Wednesday, Friday, 1830.

Chapel No. 10, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, 1700.

Chapel No. 10, Tuesday, Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 1930.

Chapels No. 5, 10, Saturday, Confessions, 1830-2000.

JEWISH SERVICES

Friday
Station Hospital, 1845.

Chapel No. 7, 2000.

(Festivity of the Sabbath in Co. Day Room.)

Sunday

Chapel No. 7, 1000.

Christian Science Reading

Chapel No. 1, Sunday, 1100.

Seventh Day Adventist

Chapel No. 8, Friday, 1930.

Pigeons frequently have brought news of attacks by and on submarines in the Battle of the Atlantic, when radio silence was essential.



ORIGINALS of the comic strip Bernie Blood and other cartoons by Gill Fox which have appeared in BLOOD AND FIRE, will be exhibited at the Servicemen's Center in Natchez beginning tomorrow night when a silver tea will be held to formally open the new reading and writing room which has been added to the club's facilities.

NOW WE'VE HEARD ALL
During the recent 63d Division corps tests one examiner got unusual treatment in the bivouac area occupied by Btry., 718th F. A. Bn. A corps inspector approached the sentry guarding a GI truck. "Halt," cried the wagon soldier, nothing happened. "Halt," he repeated in voice clear and loud, as he pulled the bolt with a sharp click. Only the still air greeted him. Without further ado he shouted "Tallyho!" Immediately eight soldiers sprang from the surrounding woods pointing menacing guns at the open-mouthed inspector.

Treated Sea Water Used to Make Bread
Lack of fresh water for bread making need be no deterrent to Army cooks in the future if there's some saltwater available, it has been revealed by the Quartermaster Corps Subsistence Research Laboratory, Chicago.
A new menu developed at the lab and shortly to be included in the standard recipes of The Army Baker, standard text used in Army Bakers and Cooks schools, will substitute sea water for fresh water. Seawater must be strained and treated with calcium hypochlorate for purification before being used for cooking.

Bergdoll, Draft Dodger, Free Soon, Army Says
WASHINGTON—Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, the nation's No. 1 draft dodger of World War I, will be released from the Army disciplinary barracks at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., a War Department spokesman announced.

Natchez to Exhibit Gill Fox Drawings

Original drawings by Pfc. Gill Fox, Blood and Fire staff artist, of the comic strip "Bernie Blood," which appears in this publication, will be exhibited at the Servicemen's Center in Natchez starting Monday night.

The drawings will be exhibited in the Blue Room, latest addition to the center, which offers recreational facilities to men and women in the armed services. A silver tea to which residents of Natchez and other nearby communities have been invited will mark the formal opening of the room Monday night.

In addition to the cartoon display, musical entertainment will be offered by Pvt. Frank Richert, 861st F. A., former opera and concert singer. He will be accompanied on the piano by Don Pablo, in civilian life a well-known orchestra leader and pianist. Pvt. Pablo will play a number of selections among which will be his own composition, the "Mercury Waltz." Pvt. Bert Moore, 253d Inf., guitarist and tenor soloist, will also appear on the program.

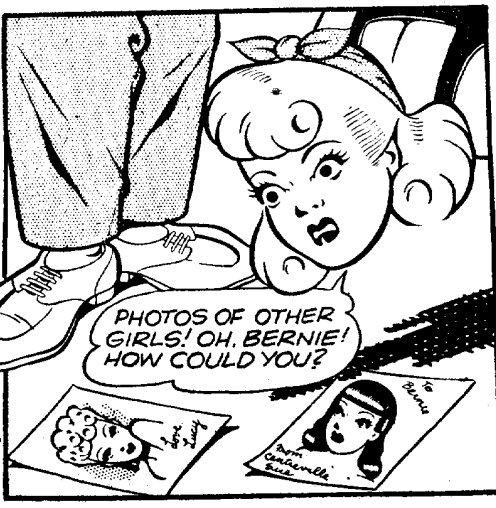
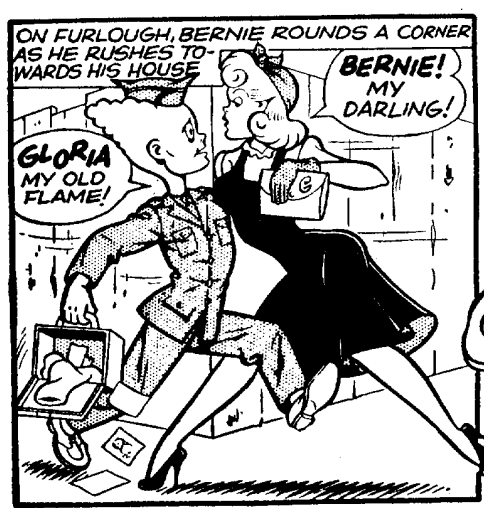
Members of the Servicemen's Center staff, will act as hosts assisted by the Military Maids of Natchez.

DANCE AT NATCHEZ
Members of the 263d Engrs. attended a dance at the Servicemen's Center at Natchez Wednesday night. Members of the Military Maids of Natchez and Ferriday, La., were hosts to the men of the 63d.
At the beginning of 1943 the AAF Air Transport Command operated over 90,000 miles of air routes.

BERNIE BLOOD

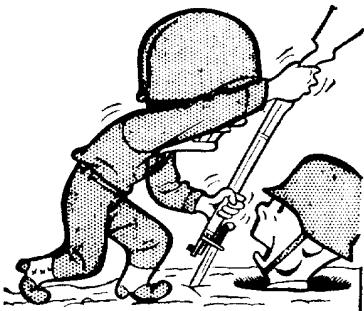
Boomerang

By GILL FOX



TIPS FROM TERRY FIED --THE 'OLD SARGE'

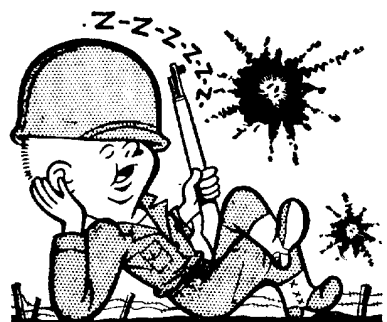
Ever since I have been writing this little column for BLOOD AND FIRE I have been aiming most of my tactical tips at the rifle squad leaders. I have done this for two reasons. First being an old rifleman myself, I like to talk about something I think I know a good deal about. We're all like that. But the second and most important reason is that, seeing as how the amount of punch the rifle squads produce pretty much determines just how far the Division will get in combat, I want to do my little bit to help them. We're going to bog down quick regardless of how much there is supporting them if those riflemen don't have the old urge to close with the enemy and dig him out with the bayonet.



But this time I'm aiming a tip at you machine gunners, mortar men and cannoners concerning your duties and responsibilities to those riflemen I've been talking about.

You all know that the backfield of a football team doesn't have a chance unless the line is up there opening up holes for it. Well, in combat you folks are the line and the riflemen are the backfield. You've seen a halfback bounce back when there was no hole for him. When that rifle squad runs into an enemy position the leader—if he's any good—is going to try

to pin the enemy down with the BAR and hit 'em in the flank with the rest of the squad. If you folks aren't Johnny-on-the-spot; if you're back there in rear some place do-



ing nothing just because no one else has told you what to do; if you leave that squad leader out on a limb trying to win that battle all by his lonesome, he's going to bounce back too, and there will be plenty men in the squad who won't be able to bounce. But, on the other hand, if you're up there dogging it around and taking advantage of every opportunity to give a boost to that rifle squad leader, you're going to shake him loose for some long gains and with few losses. If you will just stop and think you'll realize that it's firepower that enables riflemen to advance, and you've got a hell of a lot more of it than he has.

Why do you suppose you've been lugging those tripods and base plates around on your back? It's so that in combat you can lug them up there right next to those riflemen where you can be of some help to them, and not be looking around for a truck to do it for you. So my tip to you folks is to get wise to the fact that your only excuse for existence is to be up there a-pitchin' bullets and BE on the enemy so that the riflemen can sneak in the knockout.

'Rough and Tough' Is An Old Story To Cycling M.P. Lt.

The Military Police likes its men tough. Such being the case, 2d Lt. Earl Schaper undoubtedly "be-

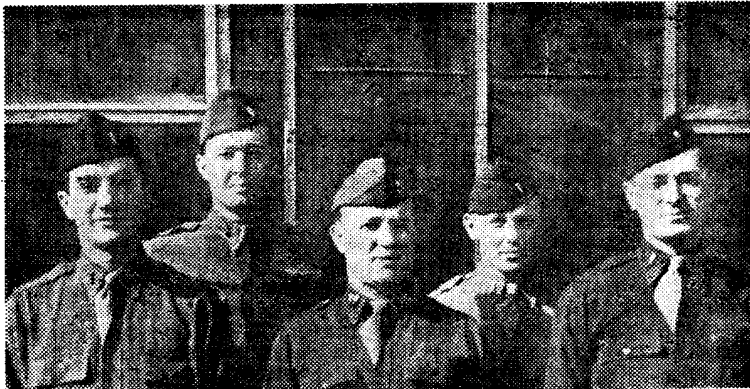
long." You have to be of the stuff of which MPs are made to drive home 100 miles astride a motorcycle after having a wheel spoke driven through your right side, as he once did. And, to make the situation worse, Lt. Schaper's back was ripped open from shoulders to butt by this 'cycle racing accident on a dirt track two years ago.

The Lieutenant, however, is not alone in his fondness for speed and 'cycling. The comely Mrs. Ruby Schaper is also an enthusiast. So much so, that she and her husband drove 3,000 miles through the badlands of Wyoming, the Black Hills of S. Dakota and similar places of great scenic beauty on their honeymoon. And doubtless 2-year-old Barbara Ann Schaper will be rolling down the road astride a motorcycle as soon as she is big enough to reach the pedals.

Having lived for years across the street from a motorcycle shop in his native Portage, Wis., it was natural for the Lieutenant to develop an interest in riding. He purchased an old Harley-Davidson product in 1936 and from that day his walks were rather limited.

Eventually, he emerged as a novice class contestant on race tracks and it was in pursuit of this undertaking that he suffered the above-mentioned injury. The accident failed to deter him in his bid for honors on the dirt tracks. It took a war to put a halt to his racing activities.

Lt. Schaper enlisted in February of '43 and was sent from Ft. Sheridan, Ill., to Ft. Riley, Kan., for his basic training with the MPs. He was at Ft. Custer, Mich., as weapons instructor when he received his appointment to OCS. Subsequently, he was at Ft. Sam Houston, Tex., with the 503d MP Field Army Bn., when that outfit received its shipping orders, sans Lt. Schaper and his next assignment was his present one with the Blood and Fire MP platoon.



TEMPORARY PROVOST MARSHAL of the Division is Capt. Marion G. Creath (front row, center), shown here with his staff. Capt. Creath succeeded Maj. Paul L. Smith, transferred to LaGarde General Hospital, New Orleans. Front row, shows Lt. John L. Sharp, left, Capt. Creath, and Lt. Charles F. Goslee. In the rear are Lt. John F. Burke, Jr., left, and Lt. Earl O. Schaper. Capt. Creath has been transferred to Corps.

Arctic Padre Now With 63d Had Tent Chapel in Alaska

An "Arctic padre" whose masses for the last 15 months were said in tents and huts in barren Alaskan outposts is the tall, black haired young chaplain newly assigned to the 255th Inf.

Capt. Joseph J. Durney, assigned to Chapel No. 10, was born 33 years ago in St. Louis, Mo., where he attended school and Kenrick Seminary. Ordained in 1937, he was pastor of St. Gabriel Church St. Louis, until February, 1942, when he was commissioned in the Chaplain Corps.

He was ordered to active duty in March at the Cavalry Replacement Training Center, Ft. Riley, Kan.,



Chaplain Joseph J. Durney

and three months later was assigned to Alaska with an aviation engineer outfit.

Used Tent Chapel

After three months on the mainland, he was transferred to Adak and Amchitka Islands, where he spent the next year. With the men of his unit, he disembarked by rope ladder and was carried to the barren shore in a landing barge.

"Our first chapel, which we endured for many months, consisted of two storage tents which I slapped together," Chaplain Durney said. "We could get about 100 men in the two tents for services. I lived and worked in a pyramidal tent nearby. Finally, shortly before leaving the islands, we finally got two huts, one for my office and quarters and the other for a chapel."

Although an Army man, Chaplain Durney often flew over the island area in Navy PBV flying boats, and he returned to the States in a Navy plane.

Most of these flights were made

under distinctly unfavorable conditions. Although the island temperatures were much higher than those on the mainland and generally were from zero to 20 degrees, constant wind, clouds and rains were the rule.

GIs Keep Humor

That American soldiers retain their humor, even a grim kind, under adverse conditions was illustrated by the chaplain.

"There were many evidences of early civilization on the islands, and the men constantly found bones of prehistoric residents," he said. "One of the mess sergeants dug up a skull one day and mounted it in the mess tent with a sign: 'This guy asked for seconds.'"

Another GI exhibited either coolness or foolhardiness during a Japanese bombing raid, the chaplain said. This soldier ran up and down the line of foxholes, shouting: "Peanuts, popcorn, candy and chewing gum!"

Chaplain Durney has two brothers in the service. One, Sgt. Kenneth Durney, former reporter for the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, is a radio operator with an AAF fighter squadron in England. The other, Cpl. Robert Durney, is with an engineer unit at Camp Leonard Wood, Mo.

Medic at Ease Aids 253d KPs As 3 Get Cut

The week's top believe-it-or-not comes out of the mess hall of Service Co. 253d Inf. It's a sad, sad story about "cold cuts" which weren't on the menu.

Capt. Charles M. Dosh, who commands Ser. Co. entered the mess hall on his Saturday morning rounds.

Pfc. Frank Lysakowski, cook, yelled "Attention."

The captain replied after a pause with the usual military order "At ease."

But in that brief but potent second, Pvts. John De Felice and Arthur J. Kitchen, who were barbering spuds in their roles as kitchen police, snapped to hasty attention—cutting their fingers on the sharp knives as they did so. Pfc. Edward Henderson, a cook who was busy slicing cabbage, sliced into his left thumb.

But another KP came to the rescue—he was Pvt. Al Meyer, a medic. He, bandaged the bleeding cold cuts being served out by the KPs and cook.

the inquiring line

Q. As a civilian I held several life insurance policies on which I find it difficult to pay premiums in the Army. Will the Government protect my civilian insurance while I'm in the service?

A. The Government may protect up to \$10,000 worth of your life insurance policies with certain qualifications provided that you took them out at least 30 days before you entered the service. Get in touch with your CO. He'll give you the details.

Q. I want to contact a buddy of mine who was shipped overseas but I don't know his address. All I have is his old address at a camp in Louisiana. Shall I write to him there?

A. Yes. If you have your friend's serial number and his original APO, write to him there. If possible the Army will forward his mail to him.

Q. Is it true that the Army Specialized Training Program is being discontinued?

A. No. The War Department has denied persistent rumors that the ASTP is "in the process of liquidation." It is true, however, that the program is being somewhat re-

duced. There are now about 140,000 soldiers in the ASTP and more than 2,000 have already been graduated and assigned to their new duties. By springtime, ASTP students will be graduated at a rate of more than 10,000 a month.

Q. My brother is overseas and wants mail. How many V-Mail letters am I permitted to send him a month?

A. Once again, there is no limit placed on the number of V-Mail letters you can send to service men. However, you can't send your brother any packages unless he sends you a written request for the contents and even then you can't send more than one package a week.

ANOTHER LOST DOG

"Nipper," a small white Boston bull, with black and brown markings, has disappeared from his home, his owner, Lt. Col. Morris O. Edwards, A. C. of S., G-3, reported this week. The dog's name is on a tag hanging from his collar.

It is estimated the United States will spend \$100,000,000,000 on the war in the fiscal year ending June 30.

254th Service Company Plans Party Tuesday

The third monthly party of the 254th Service Company will be held Tuesday evening, with main attention centered on a quiz program that will test the talents of the drivers, mechanics, chaplain's assistants and what have you that make up this assorted crew.

S/Sgt. Pat McNamara, who won his first chevron rocker this week, is president of the company club. His chief associates are 1st Sgt. Robert Hermann, vice-president, and S/Sgt. Charles Cole, secretary. The party program, which will be preceded by a special supper at the mess hall, is being arranged by Cpl. Leslie Heath.

Lt. Duffy Named Aide To Division Commander

Lt. David H. Duffy, Division Public Relations Officer, was detailed as Aide-de-Camp to Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs, Division Commander, in special orders dated Tuesday. Lt. Kenneth M. Greene, Gen. Hibbs' former aide, has been assigned to the 254th Inf. and now is attending the Officers Advanced Course at The Infantry School, Ft. Benning, Ga.

Male Call



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



Quarantine



DIVISION SIDELIGHTS

(Continued from Page 5)

he found he had to do some sewing upon his own arm, and he called upon Pfc. Herbert Arbitblit to do the pinning up. Later, when the masterpiece of sewing was completed, he asked for the return of the pins, but they weren't to be found . . . he retired for the night with bitter mutterings about ingrates, etc. . . ten minutes later he discovered them, with a loud outcry which awoke the entire barracks . . . Leonia, N. J. is getting its first glimpse of the Blood and Fire insignia while Pvt. Victor Albrecht, of Co. A, furloughs there. Vic might not know it, but Lt. Wm. Kaehlin, of 254th Inf. is another Leonian.

S/Sgt. George Moses, mess sergeant of L Co., is already making plans for the future . . . he has extended an invitation to all hungry GIs to visit his "beanery," the lobby in Charleston, W. Va. . . . however, he added that there will be a "slight" fee . . . and the men of Co. L are arranging for a petition to pension off Capt. Likas "jalopy" . . . they are considering that it be sent to the PTD or given an outright CDD . . . Pvt. Floyd C. Hughes of Hq. Co. 2nd. Bn. is the proud papa of a boy. To save embarrassment, we won't mention the name of the GI from Hq. Co., 3rd. Bn. who wept bitterly in his beer last week . . . he had quaffed too deeply of good old 3.2 and then retired fitfully to his bunk . . . a couple of his buddies tied him to his downy rest and when he started to stir, he found that he couldn't move . . . he thought that he was paralyzed . . . ergo the lachrymal deluge . . . Pvt. Joe Amato of Hq. Co., 3d. Bn., may be a good man of a 37-mm. antitank gun, but he is also a darn good pants presser . . . last week Lt. Col. John M. Underwood, new executive officer of the regiment was in dire need of a pants presser before retreat and our hero, Joe, wielding a terrific iron, came to the rescue . . .

863d F. A. Bn.—Recent promotions to Cpl. at Hq. Btry. include Andrew J. Dougherty, Ralph C. Carlson and Thomas L. Reichley . . . Pvt. Robert Hardy was winner of the jitterbug contest at the 863d F. A. dance Friday night . . . the dance brought a girl for every man, and was said to be a great success . . . In Centreville last Sunday Pvt. John Benassi, also of Hq. Btry., won the USO's weekly quiz contest and was given a choice steak dinner for two or a phone call home . . . he chose the latter, and called his wife back in New Jersey.

718th F. A. Bn.—Capt. Paul H. Schellhase has returned from the Field Artillery school, Ft. Sill, Okla., where he was attending the Officers' Advance Course. He has resumed his duties as Bn. S-2. The Bn. S-3, George W. Putnam, was promoted from 1st Lt. to Capt. this week . . . Other promotions at 718th include: Sgt. Robert V. Fischer, T/5s Erwin O. Keyster, and Donald D. Randall, Cops. John J. Olejniczak, Jr., Albert H. Conrad, Walter W. McCorkle, Alexander Sutherland, Donald E. Rusch, James D. Bell, Leo E. Tarhay, Christopher C. Davidson, Bernard Rynkuss, William G. Phelps, Jr., Charles W. Cameron, William E. Kane, and Richard Johns, T/5s, Richard H. Todd, William J. Federer, Charles A. Cox, Robert P. Kittine, Harvey A. Heyden, David Diamond, Herbert W. Schnack, Howard D. Long, Charles Barry, Joseph Uning, Jr., Edward A. Tushinski, and Frederick W. Plumridge, Jr. —Cpl. Leo Tarhay and James Bell, and T/5 David Diamond were chevron sewing this week at B Btry. . . . Pvt. B. B. Muller nominates Sgt. Worthington as "pin up boy in the 718th" because of his military appearance and bearing. At A Btry. they're now addressing the following men as "corporal": Albert H. Conrad, Walter W. McCorkle, Alexander Sutherland, Donald Rusch, and Glenn F. Thuernau. New T/5s include Robert Kittine, Harry Heyden, and Alfred Heiden.

Div. Hq. and Hq. Co.—Cpl. Bill Contravillas is accompanying Maj. Abe Kramer on a trip to Louisiana and Arkansas . . . Ulfert Wilke, soldier-artist, has returned from Special Service School in Virginia and reports he sees many new faces in his old barracks . . . Rated this week up Division Headquarters way were Anthony J. DiBaggio, IG section, who was made T/5 as was also BLOOD AND FIRE Editor Tom Harris, Staffmen Stoddard White, Bill Schiff and Ed Brown became Pfcs . . . Cartoonist Gill Fox, who is on special duty from Co. I, 253d Inf., also has a new pfc. stripe.

63d QM Co.—During the past week promotions in QM Co. have come to Sid Ginsberg, now S/Sgt. Albert Antoine and Carl Heltsche, now T/5s, and to Allen Rayer, Charles Derbin and Roland Snow, new Pfcs. . . . The QM basketeers had a shaky start this season, but have recuperated, largely through the efforts of Cpl. Tom Brendgord, Pfc. Warren Geiger and Lou Paulish, and Pvt. Gene Bruno, all of whom played scholastic ball back in New Jersey. . . . Another Jerseyite whom the QM boys have hopes for in division sports is Pvt. Dan Greco, former Golden Glove Champ from Lodi . . . Lt. Gallagher is forming the team . . . The new orientation display in the QM dayroom is the work of Lt. Cooley and Pfc. "Red" Brown.

Prov. Trg. Det.—There's now a C Co. at the PTD . . . some 60 men of the PTD returned to their parent units last week . . . Pfc. Robert Whitcombe, of Co. B, gets French pastry from Montreal, Canada, from his mother in law! . . . Pvt. Ed Alicia, also of Co. B, receives tropical delicacies from his native Puerto Rico—both must be gourmets. . . . Pvt. Milton Goldberg claims that he'd prefer the mud of his hometown—Saratoga Springs—"Everybody knows the Saratoga Springs mud has a medicinal value," he says. Sounds like he must belong to the Chamber of Commerce . . . After 18 months service, Pvt. John St. G. Joyce, of Co. B, has stopped being a buck private in the rear ranks—now he's acting squad leader (temporary) . . . Compared to the Caribbean, where he's been the last two years, Centreville, Miss., is a miniature Broadway, Pvt. Miles Burkholder claims.

DIVISION BASKETBALL LINEUPS

Table with basketball lineups for CT RED, Green League, CT BLUE, and CT White. Columns include Co. C, G, F, P, A, T, Co., G, F, P, Co. E, G, F, P, Co. G, G, F, P.

Grid Linemen, Infantrymen Are Alike to Capt. Stern

63d Musical Revue Plays in Rec. Halls

College football, to the uninitiated, is just one big mutual admiration society. The backs think of the linemen as "guys too dumb to know better" and in turn, the boys up front regard their ball-carrying brethren as "brawn without brains."

Which, in a round-about way, explains Capt. Henry A. Stern's high regard for, and pride in, the infantry.

Three Year Vet

You could hardly call a man intelligent enough to earn degrees in physical education from Rice Institute and Columbia University a guy too dumb to know better. Yet, a lineman he was and apparently a good one, too, for when Rice's eleven played Colorado in the second Cotton Bowl game New Year's day of 1938 "Hank" Stern was at guard rounding out three years of varsity football.

The commander of Div. Hq. and Hq. Co. was a foot-slogger in those

days, just as he is today. Colorado brought down to Dallas one Byron "Whizzer" White. For the first quarter of the post-season game, "Hank" Stern and his teammates did plenty of hiking after All-American White as he busted



Capt. Henry A. Stern

Honor Roll

A record of 100 percent subscription to BLOOD AND FIRE was hung up this week by the 253d Inf.—first regiment to be totally subscribed to the Division newspaper. The subscription drive was conducted among officers and men by Lt. Charles W. Borland, assistant regimental adjutant.

Theater Director Mule Handler, Too

(Continued From Page 3.)

The T/O had just been changed and the number of riding mules was reduced sharply, so everyone in the outfit walked, carrying his full pack on a miner's packboard. All the men in the unit attended skiing lessons and the artillery's 25-mile hike was done on snowshoes.

After a month at Camp Carson, Lt. O'Connell was transferred to the School for Special Service at Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va. After training there he anticipated assignment to special service work at a pre-embarkation staging area, but last summer he was assigned to the 63d Div. at Camp Blanding, Fla., and he came to Camp Van Dorn as special service officer of Div. Arty.

Lt. O'Connell is unmarried. He has two brothers, Cpl. Paul O'Connell, stationed at Ft. McPherson, Ga., and Albert, manager of a war plant in Massachusetts. Cpl. O'Connell, now making drawings in the entomology laboratory at Ft. McPherson, drew the jacket illustration for the Lorca book.

New CP for 63d

There's a new form of CP in the 63d Division now. Not the routine command post variety, but two sets of new brassards which will now be worn to identify BLOOD AND FIRE staff writers and photogra-



phers. New armbands, of green felt, have three-inch letters in white. Staff writers on certain assignments will wear brassards with the letter C (correspondent) and our photographer's brassard will sport a white P. These brassards are in keeping with standard military procedure in identifying press correspondents.

(Continued From Page 1)

ing entertainers and dance partners to Division social functions.

The show opened on a barracks scene, with the occupants asleep. Their awakening provided a vehicle for several humorous skits. Other scenes on an Army post followed, including a service club dance which served to introduce the remaining characters.

Campbell in Male Lead

Sgt. John Campbell of the Div. Band, had the male lead. Miss Weslyn Stephens, of Baton Rouge, played opposite him.

In support of the two leads were Miss Polly Wade, of LSU; Miss Mary Fuhrmann, Pvt. Arnold Specter, Sgt. Jack Bracken, Pvt. William J. Federer, Cpl. Joe Pollock, Pfc. Gilbert Vitale and a group of LSU students who appeared as models in a fashion show number.

Pvt. Paul Taubman, former NBC staff pianist and organist, directed the musical score. The production was under the supervision of Maj. Robert K. Linding, Division Special Service Officer.

Basketball Standings

Table with basketball standings for GREEN LEAGUE, CT RED, Western League, Northern League, Southern League, Yankee League, CT WHITE, American League, National League, and CT BLUE. Columns include Team, W, L, Pct.