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# Blood and Fire

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63D INFANTRY DIVISION, CAMP VAN DORN, MISS.

October 7, 1944

## Recons Find Fliers Down in Crash

### 'Walkie-Talkies' Aid Search in Darkness

63d Troop, Led by Capt. McLure Responds to Call For Aid From Harding Field; Men Fight Way Through Dense Wood to Two Victims



RESCUERS from the 63d Reconnaissance Troop who played prominent parts in the search for victims when two Army planes crashed in mid-air near Port Hudson, La., Wednesday. Front row, left to right: T/5 Arthur Rogerson, Cpl. William Tracey, Capt. Grover McLure and Sgt. Thomas Welsh. In Recon car, Sgt. Michael Veron (left) and Cpl. Norman Manees.

—Signal Corps Photo

Battling their way through dense woods and over rough terrain, men of the 63d Reconnaissance Troop succeeded in locating two pilots from Harding Field who had bailed out when their P47s collided between Port Hudson and St. Francisville late Wednesday afternoon.

One of the pilots, Lt. John P. Knighton, was dead when found by Capt. Grover McLure, Sgt. Thomas Welsh and Cpl. William Tracey of the Recons, and Capt. Harvey F. Sanders, of Harding Field, who was in charge of the rescue party from the field.

The other flier, Lt. B. H. Howard, was located alive in a deep ravine some distance from where the first victim landed. Lt. Howard was found by T/5 Arthur Rogerson of the Recons and a group of Air Force men.

The body of Lt. Knighton was placed on an improvised litter and borne to a radio jeep driven by Cpl. Norman Manees, across country to a waiting ambulance. Lt.

Knighton was carried on a stretcher through nearly 700 yards of rough terrain after searchers beat a path through the thickets to an open field.

#### Division Asked to Help

At 1945 Wednesday, Lt. Col. John M. Hardaway, A. C. of S., G-2, received a call at Division Headquarters from Harding Field authorities asking for assistance in the search, which was being carried on in the darkness.

The Recons were ready 25 minutes later and at 2040 28 men led by Capt. McLure were rolling toward St. Francisville in scout cars and radio jeeps. One car was left at the Recon area to establish radio communication with the unit in the field.

Upon arrival at St. Francisville it was found that a large number of personnel from Harding Field had already started a search but were handicapped by lack of communication between units.

#### Radio Contact Established

The Recons established bases with radios at Port Hudson and at a farm house. These were used to communicate with the searchers in the field and to establish contact with the unit back at camp. "Walkie-talkies" were placed at points in a long skirmish line in the woods and the search went forward. The "walkies" were in direct communication with the stations at the bases of operation.

Capt. McLure, Sgt. Walsh and Cpl. Tracey, the latter bearing a "walkie-talkie," accompanied by Capt. Sanders, were searching an area together. Capt. McLure discovered a chute hanging from tree branches and the body of Lt. Knighton was found beneath it. After the body had been borne to the ambulance the searching party returned to an assembly point and a second skirmish line was started.

#### Second Terrain Rough

The second terrain was rougher than the first and deeply pitted (Continued on Page 2)

### Change Is Made In Special Service

First steps in changing two special staff sections in Division Headquarters were announced this week as part of a new program to give orientation the place in Army organization which battle experience has indicated is necessary.

Capt. David H. Duffy was relieved of his duties as Division Special Service Officer and appointed to the newly-created post of Information-Education Officer.

Capt. Bernard H. Levkoff was appointed Division Special Service Officer. Capt. Levkoff has been assistant SSO ever since the activation of the Division, and has been acting SSO for the last two months while Capt. Duffy has been away at school.

Tentative plans for the new Information-Education Office provide that it will absorb all orientation work formerly done by Special and will absorb the Public Relations Office, including BLOOD AND FIRE. The Division Special Service Office will continue to handle all athletics and recreation.

jobs the veteran can take a lesser priority job which he believes offers a brighter future.

### Blaze in Lumber Shed Snaps Fireless Record

The Camp Van Dorn Fire Department's record of not having had any fires for the past six months, was shattered Thursday night when flames almost completely destroyed Lumber Shed No. 2 at 1st Ave., and 8th St.

Because of a delay in sending the alarm, the flames had gained great headway when Engines 1 and 2, in command of Chief Roy McDonald, arrived on the scene. Quantities of lumber stored in the shed together with mechanical saws and machinery were badly damaged by the flames.

## Veterans Free to Seek Any Job, WMC Rule Says

All manpower controls over veterans of this war have been removed, Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, announced this week, and the veterans are declared "free agents" to obtain any kind of civilian work. Previously veterans had been free of manpower controls for only 60 days.

Specifically, the WMC removed for veterans four requirements, governing the hiring of all job applicants. They were:

1. Statements of availability from previous employers, needed to change jobs, will not be required of veterans.

2. They may be hired by any employer without referral by the United States Employment Service or other authorized reference channels.

3. Veterans seeking employment through the USES will receive referrals to any jobs of their choice, without regard to the priority classification of such jobs.

4. Employers may hire veterans without regard to the employment ceilings set for them by the WMC.

The new ruling gives veterans the inside track on postwar job opportunities. While other labor groups are tied to their priority

et" or "water cabinet") on the door, and we gave out with "Ou est le water-cabinet?" a phrase that is used commonly enough to be understood in France, where they have borrowed the English words.

#### A Borrowed Word

Now we are faced with two other versions. One reader wants us to say: "Ou est la toilette?" The funny thing about that is that "toilette," a French word, is used mostly by the Germans, who pronounce it in the French fashion. The French use it to refer chiefly to the acts of combing the hair and powdering the face, as we say "making one's toilet."

The second version is the one given by TM 30-302, the GI guide to spoken French. This little blue book wants us to ask where is the "lavabo." That's a nice word, a pretty word, a euphemism. A "lav-

abo" is a place to wash one's hands. It's the equivalent of asking politely "Where is the wash-room?" It has only one difficulty: in most European homes and business places the wash basin is in a different room from the one you're looking for, and if you ask this question you may not get exactly what you want.

Let's turn to German. Our most prolific critic, albeit a kind one, is Pvt. Ernst A. Beck, 63d QM Co., who describes himself as a former translator and interpreter in German and English. Frankly, he thinks our German isn't very good.

#### Gender Trouble

Don't, he warns you, accept BLOOD AND FIRE's version of "Where is the nearest cafe?" We said "der Cafe," and the word Cafe is neuter; it should have been "das Cafe." This even con-

fuses the Germans; their articles are so irregular that they can't remember them all themselves and when a politician named Derr died a few years ago there was a pun in Berlin that said "too bad Die and Das didn't die too." (Incidentally, "Restaurant" is a perfectly good German word, also.)

We made a horrible mistake, Beck says, in using the word "Blocke" when we wanted to ask "how many blocks is it?" "Blocke" is an American word used only by German-Americans. We should have said "Wie viele Strassen sind es?" (How many streets is it?) German-American dialects are easy to fall into; they sound like German: "Die Bottom ist aus dem Basket gefaellt."

If you kept your copy of our list of phrases, you might make

these corrections suggested by Beck:

#### Go Take a Walk

Would you like to walk with me?—"Wollen Sie gern mit mir spazieren gehen?" (Beck says our translation was too academic.)

Have you a vacant room?—"Haben Sie eine Stube zu vermieten?" (TM 30-306, the German language guide, suggests "Zimmer" instead of "Stube" for "room.")

Now, if you want to go to that place we've talked so much about, TM 30-306 suggests "Wo ist eine Toilette?"

Our last suggestion comes from the TM also. When you ask "What time is it?" one of the ways is "Wie spael ist es?" This sheds on interesting light on the German philosophy of "it is later than you think." The German says "How late is it?" It never occurs to him that his time is coming early.

## Don't Let Language Guide Get YOU Into Trouble

In a lighthearted look at future possibilities, BLOOD AND FIRE last week presented its own list of handy phrases for the GI who suddenly is thrown in contact with persons speaking French, German, Italian or Chinese.

We entitled it "How to Get Into Trouble Anywhere You May Go."

We find we don't have to go anywhere to get into trouble. We're the kind of people who can get in trouble by just walking around in the daytime.

Already we are getting corrections on the French and German written for us by GIs of the 63d, and we confidently expect more as returns come in from the Italian and Chinese precincts.

The first objection was to our French version of that pertinent question, "Where is the toilet?" Most European toilets have the letters "W. C." (for "water clos-

# AROUND AMERICA

**CHICAGO, (CNS)**—When a woman patient fainted in his dentist chair, Dr. Cecil Fisher revived her with water. Later he complained to police that she had removed all the change from his pockets while being revived.

**HALFWAY, OHIO (CNS)**—John Cook, a farmer, brought home a load of 1,500 chickens. That night thieves raided his coop and stole 600 of them. The next night they returned with a truck and swiped the remaining 900.

**INDIANAPOLIS (CNS)**—Guards at the Indiana Women's prison rubbed their eyes when they spotted someone climbing over the wall into the prison. It was the prison engineer. "Forgot my keys," he muttered.

**MCCOOK, NEB. (CNS)**—Jitterbugging Ernie Oliver spun into a hot jive, lost his balance and fell through the second story window of a local dance hall.

**MINNEAPOLIS (CNS)**—A clerk in a local war plant knows how to get rich quick. His salary was raised from \$38 a week to \$125 a week when he discovered a new system of bookkeeping.

**MOBILE, ALA. (CNS)**—Police are seeking a local thief with strange tastes. Recently he entered a local home, stole a bathtub, and escaped.

**MONTPELIER, VT. (CNS)**—A Vermont resident recently won an amateur contest in a local theater by playing "When Irish Eyes Are Smiling" on his wife's head with a spoon.

**OCEAN CITY, Md. (CNS)**—A good Samaritan who removed his trousers, jumped into the sea and rescued a drowning swimmer, found his wallet stolen when he returned to the beach.

**OGDEN, Utah (CNS)**—The meanest thief in Utah? He's the low scoundrel who stole Mrs. Ethel Prickett's life savings of \$140 from its hiding place in the family Bible.

**PORTLAND, Ore. (CNS)**—A stout woman climbed into a street car and handed the driver two tickets. "I weigh 481 pounds," she explained, "and I take up two seats."

**ROCHESTER, N. Y. (CNS)**—Miss Ada King—age 80—has registered as a co-ed at the University of Rochester. She's taking an extension course in Sanskrit "because I want to learn all I can in this world to get ready for the next."

**SAN FRANCISCO (CNS)**—Lightning struck twice for unhappy William Santos-Barboza, two weeks after his completion of a two-year stay in jail as a draft dodger. (Continued on Page 8)

# KNOW YOUR GENERALS

Ben Lear  
Of the AGF

An "Old Army man who in his 46 years' service has fought both afoot and horseback; who started as an enlisted man in a volunteer outfit; who has fought, taught, directed and administered through two wars and this much of a third; who has risen through rank and Army stratum, without benefit of West Point or the great civilian military academies, to an eminent position among military figures of the United Nations—this is Lt. Gen. Ben Lear, Commanding General, Army Ground Forces.

Gen. Lear was born in Hamilton, Ont., Canada, 65 years ago. His first military service came in the Spanish-American War, when he enlisted in the First Colorado Infantry Volunteers and served as a sergeant. He was sent to the Philippine Islands only a few months after he enlisted. As a sergeant and later a lieutenant, he fought the Spaniards and subsequently the Filipino insurrectionists in nearly a dozen engagements.

Mustered out of the Volunteers June 11, 1901, he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Regular Army the same year. His first service with the Regulars kept him in the Philippines, where he served at Davao and participated in an engagement on Mindanao in 1903. There he first served with the 15th Cav., to which he was to return several times during his period of service with troops.

### Returns to States

Returning to the States in 1903, the then Lt. Lear was stationed at several posts both on the Pacific Coast and in the East and then, three years later, sailed for Cuba, where he was stationed for more than two years, except for a brief return to Ft. Sheridan, Ill., to compete in the Rifle and Pistol Competition.

He returned permanently to the United States early in 1909 and served at various posts in various capacities, with the cavalry regulars, on National Guard field exercises and again with rifle teams. In the summer of 1910 he served with the Cavalry Rifle Team at Ft. Ethan Allen, Vt.; Camp Perry, Ohio, and Sea Girt, N. J.

After attending the Mounted Service School at Ft. Riley, Kans., in 1910-11, Lt. Lear was placed in charge of the Training School for Farriers and Horseshoers at Ft. Riley.

It was in the summer of 1912 that he went to Stockholm, Sweden, to participate in the Olympic Games. He has been awarded the Swedish Medal commemorating the V Olympiad.

### On Border Patrol

Various cavalry assignments, including border patrol duty in Texas, occupied the future general in the years between the Olympic Games and World War I. He was attending the Army Service School at Ft. Leavenworth, Kans., when the United States entered the war, and from October, 1917, to September, 1918, he served with the General Staff at Washington.

As the war came to an end, he entered a period during which he was for nine years variously a student, an instructor, an inspector



LT. GENERAL  
**BEN LEAR**

Lt. Gen. Ben Lear

and an administrator. He commanded the Mounted Service School, was director of the Department of Horsemanship at the Cavalry School and then attended the School of the Line at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan.

He returned to Ft. Leavenworth to attend the General Staff School, from which he was graduated in 1923. He also was graduated from the Army War College in 1926.

After serving as chief of the inspection division in the Inspector General's Office at Washington, he became commander of the Presidio of Monterey, Calif., and inspector and later chief of staff of the Ninth Corps Area (now Ninth Service Command) at the Presidio of San Francisco.

### Cavalryman in 1936

By then a brigadier-general, he was an active cavalryman as late as the summer of 1936, when he assumed command of the First Cav. Div. at Ft. Bliss, Tex. He sailed Nov. 29, 1938, for the Canal Zone, where he became commander of the Pacific Sector at Balboa.

Four years ago last week, Gen.

Lear became commander of the Second Army, a service which won him the Distinguished Service Medal. The accompanying citation said "to his excellent judgment, forceful leadership, untiring efforts and high professional attainments are largely due the success and efficiency of the Second Army." In addition to the DSM and Swedish Medal, Gen. Lear also has been awarded the Silver Star.

In April, 1943, Gen. Lear was ordered to Washington to take temporary command of the AGF when Lt. Gen. Lesley J. McNair went to North Africa. Two months later he was assigned to the Army Group for duty with the Secretary of War's Personnel Board.

He was relieved from the Army Group a year ago, but remained with the Personnel Board until Gen. McNair's death in action in France last July. Three months ago the former infantry sergeant and jungle fighter became Commanding General of the Army Ground Forces.



**Q.** Is it OK for me to wear my decorations, service medals and badges on my khaki shirts during the summer months?

**A.** It is all right for you to wear fruit salad on your summer shirts, providing the shirt is being worn as an outer garment. AR 600-40, Para. 68a (1) states that decorations "may be worn on the service coat or the shirt when not

equipped for combat or simulated combat."

**Q.** Here's a sticker: I have five dependents, my wife, three children and my mother. Recently my wife divorced me. She receives no alimony. Now I want to marry again. Will my second wife be entitled to receive an allowance and, if so, will my mother and children still be entitled to theirs?

**A.** If you remarry, your second wife will receive the usual Class A allowance of \$50 a month. Your first wife, not having been granted alimony, will receive no allowance. Your children will continue to receive \$70 a month, \$30 for the first child and \$20 for each of the others. Your mother will continue to receive her allowance, too, provided that her status as a dependent has not changed. There will be no additional deductions from your pay for the Class A allowance to your second wife as you are already paying \$27 a month, which is the maximum amount that may be deducted from a GI's pay.

**Q.** I was drafted in 1942 when I was 39. In March, 1943, I tried to transfer from active to inactive service, but my papers were lost in Personnel. Now, I am well into my 40s and not much good around here and I want to know if I can get a discharge.

**A.** Because you were over 38 on or before February 28, 1943, you were eligible to apply for transfer to the inactive list as over-age before July 1, 1943. This you did, but because your papers were lost, you're still in. Now, all you can do is write to the Adjutant General in Washington and find out if your papers are on file there. If they are, you may get out. Otherwise, you'll stay in. It is contrary to the Army's present policies to discharge anyone who is useful in any way.

# Pearson Predicts Russia Will Join War with Japan

Say what you will about Drew Pearson, the Washington columnist is one guy who can bounce off the floor and come back for more.

His prediction that the war in Europe would be over by Sept. 15 or shortly thereafter is still so recent, as to be as fresh as a newly created NCO in the memory of many of his radio listeners.

Now, the well-informed journalist predicts that "fairly soon" Russia will carry out her promise to join the Allies against Japan.

This statement was made during his address opening the 1944-45 Town Hall series at Baton Rouge, Thursday.

"Russia has little to lose by declaring war on Japan," Pearson declared. "That was one of the things decided at the Terehan Conference, that at the proper time Russia would come into the war against Japan and let us use bases in Russia to wage war on that enemy."

Pearson also took occasion to explain the reasons behind his inaccuracy regarding the time for the finish of the war in Europe.

"I based my prediction on Gen. Marshall's report that everything was in readiness for a break through on the Normandy front and his prediction that we would reach the climax of operations sometime in August.

"Gen. Marshall based his prediction on the drive of the Russian Army through Poland and the feeling that the German Army would run true et form and demand peace of Hitler when it saw that further fighting was useless," Pearson stated.

"Gen. Marshall was right about the German Army recommending peace but he didn't anticipate the blood purge in Germany which killed an estimated 100,000.

"This, and the fact that the Russians didn't advance through Poland but detoured south to the Balkans, permitting Hitler to transfer troops to the Western front, slowed up the Allied advance.

"However, if we can get through the Siegfried Line before the bad weather sets in there is still some chance that the war in Europe will end before Christmas.

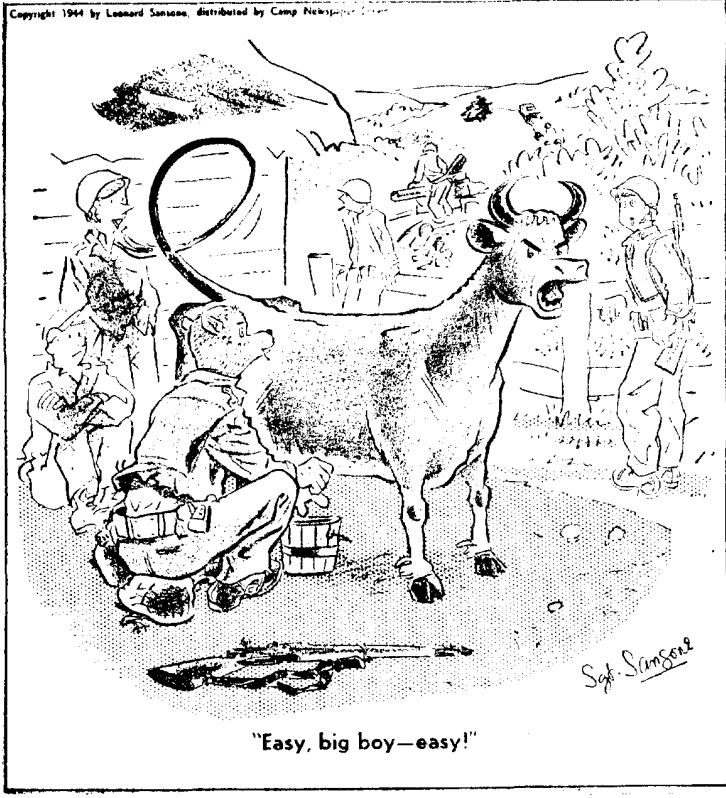
"But I say almost with certainty that if it doesn't end by Christmas it will end early in 1945."

# Religious Services

- PROTESTANT SERVICES**  
Sunday  
Chapel 7, Episcopal Holy Communion—0830.  
Chapels 6, 7, 8, 10—0900.  
Chapels 5, 6, 8, 10—1000.  
Chapels 5, 6, 7, 8—1100.
- ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICES**  
Sunday Services  
Chapels 5, 7, 10—0800.  
Theater 5—0900.  
Chapel 7, 1000.  
Theater 1—1030.  
CT Blue (McC. Hall)—1100.
- JEWISH SERVICES**  
Friday  
Hospital—1830.  
Chapel 7—2000.
- Sunday**  
Chapel 5—0900.
- CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICE**  
Chapel 6, Sunday—2000.
- LATTER DAY SAINTS SERVICE**  
Chapel 6, Sunday—1800.
- SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**  
Chapel 1, Friday—1930.

# The Wolf

by Sansone



"Easy, big boy—easy!"

# Walkie Talkie

(Continued From Page 1)

with ravines. Lt. Howard, who was conscious, heard the noise of the search and called out. T/S Rogerson, bearing a "walkie," and men from Harding Field, beat their way to the edge of a deep ravine in which the injured man lay. Capt. McClure was notified by radio of the find and a flare was sent up from a field in an effort to guide the searching party, but the men were unable to see it because of the hilly terrain.

Horns on vehicles grouped at the nearest accessible spot were blown and Cpl. Tracey shot an azimuth to the sound and radioed the reading to Capt. McClure. A doctor and chaplain made their way to the spot where the injured flier lay.

Lt. Howard, who received an injury to his back in the descent and suffered burns on the face when the plane caught fire after the crash, was moved with great difficulty from the ravine, some 20 feet deep. Tracey and Sgt. Michael Vernon of the Reconns beat a back track and searchers widened the path so that the injured man could be borne with comparative ease to a waiting ambulance.

# GOT ANY GOOD RUMORS, BUDDY?



Tips From

Terry Fied

The Old Sarge

I've a topic this week which is old stuff, but mighty important just the same. It is about saluting. As I've said many times before, this is the salutingest outfit I ever saw. The quantity is there alright and there's no denying it. But what I want to complain about is the quality. Generally speaking it ain't there. I was raised to believe that it is just as important to salute properly as it was to salute at all.

I used to have an old Company Commander who kept a full length mirror in the dayroom and there was always some GI he'd

caught either not saluting or not doing it properly standing in front of it putting in a little time saluting himself. Incidentally, that's a hell of a good way to get a good salute. There's a lot of you guys who'd get a big laugh out of watching yourselves.

The worst salute I ever saw used to be given by an old time CO of mine. He went around with his right thumb tucked in between the second and third button on his shirt and he'd salute by



just waving his fingers without taking his thumb out. Some of you folks run him a mighty close second. Just because we have that fine custom in this outfit of saluting with a greeting and a smile doesn't mean that lets us off as regards saluting properly.

A lot of people around here seem to have the wrong idea that a cheery wave of the hand is a good substitute for the customary salute. That's OK when you're back on the farm driving them mules with one hand and greeting a friend with the other, but it don't look so good when you're in Uncle Sam's uniform and trying it on an officer, the National Anthem, or the Colors.

So, what do you say folks? Let's get busy and spruce up that old salute. Then we will really have something to be proud of.

254th Unit Lauded For Work in Field

The fine performance of men of Co. D, 254th Inf. during firing combat exercises last week won high commendation for the unit from Maj. Gen. Louis E. Hibbs, Division Commander.

In the commendation addressed to Capt. Frank L. Piontek, commander of Co. D, Gen. Hibbs said: "Incident to the defensive phase of combat firing exercise in which your battalion participated 29-30 September 1944, the umpires report you, and your personnel all throughout your company, active, and your operations excellently carried out. "Primarily responsible is the thorough supervision exercised by you and your officers and non-commissioned officers. The unit reflects the characteristics of the commander. You are responsible for the high efficiency of your command in this case, and I take pleasure in commending you and, through you, your entire company for it."

Redleg Who Downed Nazi Lost Bout to Trench Foot

Take a tip from Pfc. Dave Herrell, Sv. Btry., 861st F. A. Bn.—keep your feet as well as your powder dry.

Herrell knows what he's talking about, too, for during his 16 months in the field overseas he had a case of that bugaboo of the AEF—trench feet.

A member of the 1st F. A. Observation Bn., Herrell was attached to the II Corps troops, and



PFC. DAVID HERRELL

participated in the campaigns in North Africa from Fondouk to Gela, and later in Sicily and in Italy. During that time he served variously in the 7th and 5th armies.

Dangerous Work

"Our battalion was a flash and sound location unit, used in front lines to detect enemy gun positions so that our own artillery could knock them out," Herrell explained. "I was one of the .50 cal. machine gunners, and had a lot of work to do, as the enemy doesn't like our kind of unit at all.

"One day in Italy we were operating in a valley when a flight of eight Focke-Wulf 190's came at us. I was the only machine gunner able to go into action at the moment, and they sure gave me hell. I saw them coming at me, one after another, and there

wasn't anything else to do but stay at my gun, mounted on a two-and-one-half-ton truck, and hope that I'd get the plane before he got me.

"I was too busy even to look around to see where the enemy bullets were landing, though I knew they were close. I just sprayed lead up at them. Finally, the last plane dove, and I saw that I'd winged him, though I couldn't tell how badly, because the engine continued to run, and he zoomed back up in the sky. In a couple of minutes, however, we saw the chute as the pilot bailed out, and the plane crashed in the hills a couple of miles away. I never did get a chance to see the plane close-up on the ground.

Presidential Award

"For standing his ground against the superior fire of these German fighter-bombers, the Army gave Herrell the Silver Star with a presidential citation reading:

"For gallantry in action, on 10 October, 1943, near . . . Italy. Eight enemy planes made a strafing attack on a battery area. While personnel of adjacent units were seeking cover, Pfc. Herrell attempted to protect his battery by manning a .50 cal. machine gun mounted on a truck. Firing from an exposed position, he shot down one of the attacking planes. He remained at his gun firing at each plane as it came in range. His deadly fire caused the strafing to become erratic, causing the planes to swerve in order to dodge the bullets. His action, under enemy fire, was an example of courage and devotion to duty."

Reporting on the trench foot situation, Herrell said the weather in Italy prevented the men from proper foot care, as it was always so damp that clothes just wouldn't dry. Herrell was afflicted with the disease but arrested it with medical aid. He declared it to be a painful swelling of the feet which was cured in part by his remaining in the cab of his truck for over a week.

British experimentalists in television have revealed the possibility of transmission of 750,000 words a minute.

Leading Squads In 254th Named By Col. Warren

The best rifle, machine gun and mortar squads in the 254th Inf. have been named by Col. Joseph H. Warren, Regimental Commander, following stiff combat drill contests conducted last week.

Outstanding with the 81 MM mortar was the 1st Squad of Co. H. The best heavy machine gun unit was the 1st Squad in Co. M. Top honors in anti-tank weapons went to the 2d Squad of the 1st Platoon in the AT Co., while the 2nd Section of the 3d Platoon in Cannon Co., was tops in its field. The best litter squad among the Medics was the 1st Squad, Second Section of the 1st Bn.

Within each battalion, light machine gun and 60 MM mortar champions were chosen as well as one rifle squad in each company.

The 1st Squad in the 3d Platoon of Co. A, 2d Squad 1st Platoon, Co. B; and 3d Squad, 2d Platoon, Co. C were the best in the 1st Bn. The 2d Machine gun Squad of Co. A proved outstanding in the battalion, while the 2d Mortar Squad of Co. B led among the 60 MM mortars.

Winners in the 2d Battalion were: Rifles: 2d Squad, 1st Platoon, Co. E; 1st Squad, 2d Platoon, Co. F; and 3d Squad, 1st Platoon, Co. G. The 1st Squad, Co. G, led the light machine gun units, and the 2d Squad Co. E was outstanding among the mortar squads.

In the third battalion, leaders were: Rifles: 3d Squad, 1st Platoon, Co. I, 2d Squad, 1st Platoon, Co. K; and 1st Squad, 1st Platoon, Co. L. The 1st Squad of Co. L was tops with the light machine gun, and the 3d Squad, Co. K, topped the mortar units.

Expert on Tanks Is 253d Executive

A 33-year-old tank expert and graduate of the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, Lt. Col. Ralph Lashley is the new executive officer of the 253d Inf. An Army officer for 13 years, the Colonel has served in various posts in



LT. COL. RALPH LASHLEY

the United States and spent two years in the Philippines. He was traveling in Europe when Germany ran over Austria.

Col. Lashley is a twin. His twin brother is a schoolteacher in Richmond, Ind., the Colonel's home and birthplace.

During his tour of duty in the Philippines in 1937 the Colonel commanded a company in the 31st Inf., and participated in maneuvers designed to defend Corregidor against attack.

Following his Philippine assignment, Col. Lashley traveled in India, Greece and Turkey and then through the Balkans into Austria. While in Vienna in 1939 he saw Nazi soldiers for the first time.

"I didn't realize at the time that I'd soon be preparing to kill men wearing that same uniform," the Colonel declared.

Col. Lashley came to the 253d from Ft. Knox, Ky., where he served as a member of the Board of Review and Research in the tactics department of the Armored School. Prior to that he served in the Tank Corps for 4½ years. He is not only a tank expert but he

Ex-Buck Private Succeeds Former Platoon Leader As New SSO in 253d Inf.



Lt. Harold Carnahan Meets Capt. Williams

Two years ago a 32-year-old salesman from Jamestown, N. Y., was being introduced to the manual of arms and the drudgery of KP as a member of the 28th Inf. Tng. Bn. at Camp Croft, S. C. The trainee was Pvt. Harold Carnahan and his platoon leader was Lt. West A. Williams.

Today the buck private of 1942

is the new special service officer of the 253d Inf. 1st Lt. Carnahan assumed the duties of his former platoon leader at Croft, now Capt. Williams and recently named assistant S-3 of the 253d.

The two met—this time as officers—at 253d regimental headquarters when Lt. Carnahan reported for duty with the 63d after coming from the 193d Inf. Division at Camp Howze, Tex.

A graduate of the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania, Lt. Carnahan entered OCS three months after his induction. He was commissioned in February, 1943, and has served as a rifle platoon leader, anti-tank platoon head, assistant communications officer and special services officer.

Band to Play At Port Gibson

The 63d Div. Band will make its second public appearance tomorrow afternoon at Port Gibson, Miss., in a concert which will be part of a celebration honoring the memory of Gen. Earl Van Dorn, after whom this camp is named.

Port Gibson was the Confederate leader's birthplace. Gen. Van Dorn was at one time commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department of the Confederacy and had charge of the defenses at Vicksburg prior to the siege in 1863. He is credited with delaying Gen. Grant's forces before the siege began and with forcing the Federal commander to take a roundabout route to reach the terrain immediately in front of the city.

The band, under the baton of M/Sgt. Leland H. White, will be heard in 11 numbers, including military marches, light operatic airs and popular tunes. The concert is scheduled for 1600.

The program:  
 "Lights Out," march . . . McCoy  
 "The Firefly," selection . . . Frial  
 "Colonial Portrait," . . . Gould  
 "Harmony King, overture . . . De Luca  
 "Emperor," waltz . . . Strauss  
 "Victory and Fame," concert march . . . Holmes  
 Medley of popular favorites . . .  
 . . . arr. Briegel  
 "The Bells of St. Mary's" . . . Adams  
 "At the Circus," descriptive novelty . . . Jones  
 "Gate City," march . . . Weldon  
 "Star Spangled Banner" . . . Key

Army Wins Its Fight To Cure Chest Wounds

ITALY (CNS)—During the fighting in Italy, chest wounds, which in previous wars claimed a high toll in life and injury, were brought under control to an amazing degree.

Reports submitted to Maj. Gen. Morrison C. Stayer, chief surgeon in the Mediterranean Theater, American soldiers wounded in the chest were returned to the front in remarkable numbers due to advances in thoracic surgery and careful planning by the Theater Medical Section.

DALLAS, TEX. (CNS)—A sneak thief snatched the purse of Miss Pauline Griffith, as she was leaving her office. She chased him down the hall, felled him with a flying tackle, recovered her purse and threw him down a flight of stairs.

also shoots expert with the '03 rifle, the M1 and the pistol.

When he arrived in Camp Van Dorn the Colonel met a former West Point classmate, Maj. Robert Tucker of the 254th Inf. It was their first meeting since both graduated from the Point.

Orientation Skit Is Commended

After attending a performance of "Hot Copy," 254th Inf. orientation show, last week, Brig. Gen. Frederick M. Harris, Assistant Division Commander and 63d Orientation Officer, issued the following commendation to the men who were responsible for the staging of the skit:

"I wish to highly commend Lt. Brick, the orientation officer, 254th Inf., and his assistants on the fine play which they are presenting to the division this week. It is very evident that much time and effort has been spent in its preparation and it reflects great credit on the entire regiment as well as on them."

254th Band Entertains At Natchez Events

The 254th Inf. orchestra played for the formal dance for service personnel at the City Auditorium in Natchez Saturday night and for the weekly broadcast over Station WMIS from the Servicemen's Center, Sunday afternoon.

Pfc. Harold Bryan, former drummer for Tony Pastor's orchestra, was featured in two numbers. His interpretation of "A Man With His Drums" was so well received that he obliged with "China Boy" as an encore. On Sunday Cpl. Harry Taub, vocalist, sang several selections. Pfc. Gordon Bland held the baton.

Cavalrymen Lauded For Jungle Ability

SOUTHWEST PACIFIC (CNS)—A glowing tribute to the First Cavalry Division was made by Col. Marion Carson upon his return to the U. S. from action in this theater.

"The job accomplished by the First Cavalry Division in the Southwest Pacific was the same as that encountered by any of our topnotch infantry troops," Col. Carson said. "Once the First was on equal footing with the Japs in the matter of jungle experience it was merely a question of time before the Japs were eliminated."

Noah Webster, the dictionary maker, published an American speller at the age of 25 which sold a million copies.

# Blood and Fire

BLOOD AND FIRE is the official newspaper of the Blood and Fire (63d) Infantry Division and is published weekly by and for men of the Division. Offices in Public Relations Office, Division Artillery Recreation Hall. Telephone: 744. Address communications to BLOOD AND FIRE, 63d Infantry Division, APO 410, Camp Van Dorn, Miss. This is an official Army publication and accepts no paid advertising. BLOOD AND FIRE receives Camp Newspaper Service material. Reproduction of credited matter prohibited without permission of CNS, 204 E. 42d, NYC 17. Editor: T/4 Thomas A. Hector. Staff Writers: T/5 Stoddard White, Cpl. Paul Parris, Pvt. Arthur Hansl. Staff Cartoonist: Cpl. Gill Fox. Staff Photographer: T/5 William Schiff.

## WELL DONE

"Khaki Kapers," considered to be the best show by Division talent since the organization of the 63d, was presented for the last time last Friday night at Vicksburg, where the people of the Mississippi city acclaimed it roundly. The same story held in McComb, where the show first was presented, in Natchez and at the Open Air Theater, where it is estimated some 14,000 GIs saw it.

The show, as shows go, might not stack up with what you have been in the habit of seeing on Broadway, in the night clubs of Rush Street, or even in Oshkosh, but then "Khaki Kapers" had no such start as the regular performances one sees in home town theaters.

Presenting a show in the Army is incidental to the general scheme of things. In a combat division like the 63d, training comes first, shows are necessary, but their participants must prepare for them on the side in their spare time.

It is therefore to the great credit of all members of the cast of "Khaki Kapers" that such a fine performance was the result. Men came in from their daily training tired, dusty and ready for rest. Instead of resting, they reported for rehearsals and so another GI show was born.

Some acts in the show were better than others, many drew more applause, but if the caliber of some performers was better or more appealing to the audiences, it wasn't because the rest didn't try. Every last one in the show did his best.

To T-5 Paul Taubman, of Division Special Services, who arranged and directed the show, goes a great share of the credit for its success. His indefatigable efforts bore fruit and the 63d scored on the stage as it never has done before.

## "WHO IS YOUR ENEMY?"

One of the purposes of the 63d Div.'s orientation program is to get every officer and enlisted man acquainted with his enemies. Judging by the appearance of that section of the display in Div. Arty. Rec. Hall this week, those in charge of its orientation have done an effective job.

Holes through which you could push your fist—or a beer bottle—were driven in the exhibit captioned "Enemies." Someone must really have been "oriented" to go to such an extreme to express his hatred of the enemy. Possibly he was not oriented enough to realize just who the enemy are.

Surely his enemy is not the officer and enlisted personnel who created the display.

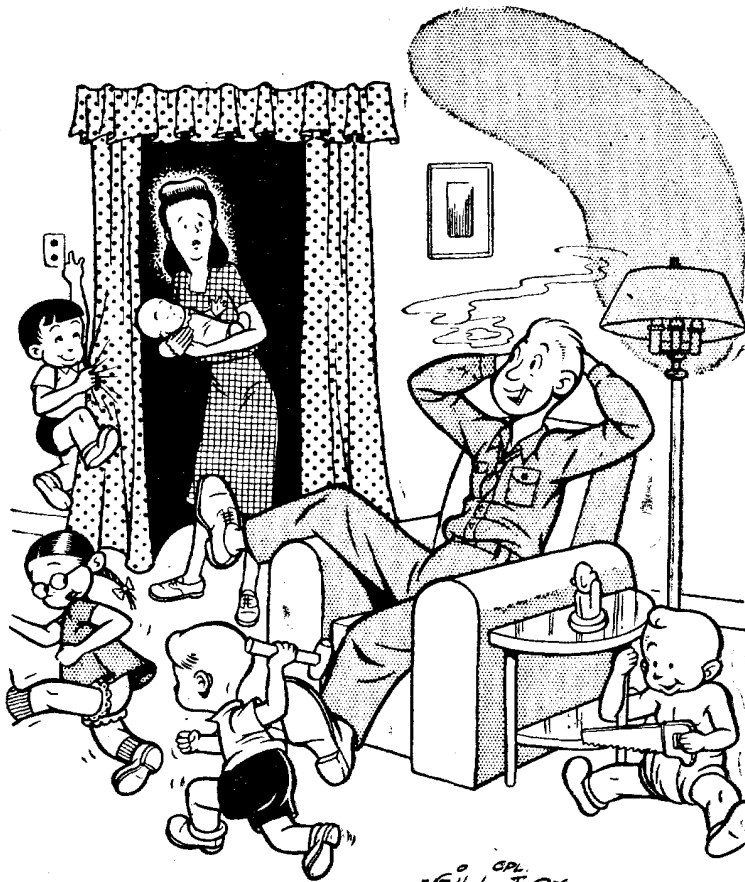
It is important to hate the Japs and the Germans. The latter have expressed amazement at our attitude toward them on the battlefield. Hatred is a tremendous asset in combat. But, by all that is sensible, save it until the right time comes along—don't use it against those who are with you or on those things which are yours.

It is estimated that Uncle Sam has 3,000,000 new nephews and nieces all born last year. That looks like a pretty good record. Anyway the bureau of census figures indicate more births in a single year than ever before.

"Soon as victory bells ring I will drop my tools, whether you're half shaved or half hair-cut."—Barber T. Console, to his customers in Boston.

"We sure pickled them krauts!"—Pvt. Al Barone, of Brooklyn, with fighting Americans in France.

"Mother is in the Wacs, and Dad gets lonely."—Excuse given by Penn State freshman for going home week-ends.



"Say Honey, is this my fifth or sixth furlough?"

## News of Fighting Men

### Navy Names Vessels After Army Generals

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Two top-ranking generals of the Army have been honored by the Navy which has named two frigates after their home towns. The USS Uniontown honors Gen. George C. Marshall's home, and the USS Gladwyne does the same for Gen. H. H. Arnold. Both cities are in Pennsylvania.

### Improved Walkie-Talkie Will Aid Men Overseas

FT. MONMOUTH, N. J.—A new and improved walkie-talkie, developed by the Signal Corps, contains many features which will assist men in battle areas. It has no "squelch" as did its predecessor, has a greater transmitting range, an extra gooseneck antenna which permits the user to remain inconspicuous while lying on the ground or in a foxhole, and is water-resisting and fungus-resisting.

### 68,000 Vessels Built For Navy Since 1939

WASHINGTON, D. C.—An idea of the great amount of ship building that has been done since the war can be obtained from the announcement that 68,000 vessels of all types with a displacement of 9,000,000 tons, have been built for the U. S. Navy alone since September 1, 1939. The Navy's fleet air force has been multiplied 20 times in the same period.

### Disease Rate Lowest In History of Army

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The disease rate among American soldiers is now at the lowest ever known in U. S. Army history, according to Brig. Gen. James S. Simmons, chief of the Army's Preventive Medicine Services. The present record is only one-twentieth as high as the record for World War I.

In spite of the fact that our fighting men have been exposed to every known disease under the worst variations of climate and bad field conditions, there have been no serious epidemics. Credit for this fine record is given to the military preventive medicine program.

### Enemy Toll of Ships To USSR Is One in 100

WASHINGTON, D. C.—According to Admiral E. S. Land, War Shipping Administrator, only an average of one ship in every 100 is lost through enemy action on the route supplying the USSR. A year ago, 12 out of every 100 ships sent on convoy were lost.

### Germans Staff Hospital For Own Prisoners Here

OKMULGEE, Okla.—In order to release American corpsmen and medical officers for duty with American patients, the Medical Department of the Army has opened a new hospital for German war prisoners staffed by German doctors and corpsmen here. The new hospital is known as the Glennan General Hospital.

### Saipan Clay Proves Lethal Weapon for Japs

QUANTICO, Va.—Reports from Saipan by Marine correspondents blame the hard, rock-like clay of Saipan Island for causing many casualties among United States personnel. Baked by the sun to the hardness of brick, the clay, when hurled through the air by exploding Japanese bombs, was as dangerous as shrapnel. In one instance one Marine was killed and five others wounded as the result of being struck by fragments of clay from an exploding bomb.

### Soldier Chases Ferry Going the Wrong Way

NEW YORK (CNS)—A soldier dashed down the dock toward the Weehauken ferry. With a desperate broad jump he spanned three feet of water and landed on the deck. "Wow," he exclaimed, "Just made it, didn't I?"

"Made what?" a deckhand inquired. "This boat isn't leaving. It's coming in."

### Benny Goodman's Brother Killed in Plane Crash

CHICAGO—Flight Officer Jerome D. Goodman, 21, was buried here last week following his death in the crash of an Army plane near Casper, Wyo.

The flier was a younger brother of Benny Goodman, the nationally-prominent band leader.

### Editor Gives Picture Of Car of the Future

PHILADELPHIA—L. J. Buckland, editor of an automobile business periodical, told dealers here that autos so lavish with chrome "they will glitter like a Christmas tree"—and, perhaps, even be air-conditioned—will be built during the postwar period.

"They will also have more powerful engines," he said, "more aluminum, new bearings, stronger, better oil filters, improved carburetors, more automatic transmissions, washable upholstery, no rear engines, lower and wider bodies, better brakes—and air conditioning is closer than we think."

# The Sky Pilot Says It

By Chaplain Saul Miller  
(Division Artillery)

Have you ever met the GI who felt that he should be at least two grades above his present rank? He may be quite close to you, right at your elbow, or even between your elbows. He may be justified in feeling that his talents are not properly recognized. I have known many fine soldiers of whom this was true ranging from privates to high ranking field officers. Normally this is a good thing. It means that men still have ambition and hope. To good soldiers the opportunities will come sooner or later if they have both patience and perseverance.

The sad thing about most of us is not that we are operating in a grade below our abilities in the Army; but that we allow talents to go undeveloped in our lives, and abilities to lie unharnessed in our personalities because we live on a selfish physical and material plane. This is alright as far as it goes but if we neglect the spiritual we are only partially developed.

By neglecting the spiritual we fail to get the energizing overtones that give us the boost which co-ordinates all our powers. We then live on such a drab, monotonous plane that we have to resort to artificial stimulation of different kinds to make up for it.

God meant us to soar like eagles and we flutter around like sparrows. We flit around from branch to branch, content with things that are easily attained; when we should soar over peaks. What we need is a great objective that is above petty things and selfish desires. Phillips Brooks said:

"Pray not for tasks equal to your powers, but for powers equal to your tasks."

When the objective is above ourselves, and the power to reach it comes from outside ourselves then we can truly soar. Isaiah put it this way:

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up on wings as eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

## Once Over Lightly

By A/Cpl. Sy Bernhard  
(Division Artillery)

With polls going right and left measuring everything from the election to the popularity of smiles against grins . . . a summary of the Gallup findings during the past nine years reveals again how wrong the Superstate guys can be . . . The proof . . . in every case of important issues, the people were ahead of their leaders . . . they favored price control one year before Congress approved . . . they wanted a peacetime draft before Congress . . . In other words, a democracy CAN trust its people, Adolf . . .

From the diary of a Polish girl . . . date-line . . . Lodz, Dec. 18, 1939 . . .

"We are now living with our relatives on Narutowicz Street near the high school. This school is still functioning although very few pupils attend because they are afraid to leave their homes. The Germans are beginning to kidnap young boys and girls to use in the 'entertainments'. They take five to 10 couples together in a room, order them to strip, and make them dance to a phonograph record. This happened to two of my schoolmates in their own home . . ."

Many suntans on 13th Ave. are sporting brand new Good Conduct Ribbons but . . . A GI and his girl were standing outside one of those Tunnel of Love rides in an amusement park nearby. Naturally he urged her to try it. The girl pointed to the red and white striped ribbon on his breast and asked if he remembered what it was for . . .

"Good behavior, of course," he said puzzled. "OK," said she, "just don't forget it." The penalty of success.

The rumor that the Nazis did try an invasion of Great Britain in 1940 and 1942 has turned out to be just another rumor . . . Mr. Eden in a discussion in the House of Commons said there was only a heavy concentration of troops and materials . . . but the Nazis did not try to get them over the Channel.

The Silent Army has been called to revolt. . . There are about 12,000,000 slave laborers inside Germany, imported from the Soviet Union, France, Poland, Belgium and other countries. . . A Stockholm report—probably guesswork—says that about one-third are under strict orders to organize the others for sabotage, espionage, revolt. . . Men and women deliberately permitting themselves to be slaves to help defeat the Nazis when the time comes. . . A truly secret Silent Army.

# 253d Sergeant Survived Japs and Jungle Fighting With Merrill's Marauders



T/Sgt. Cordell Sain

Experienced enough to write a training manual on jungle fighting, T/Sgt. Cordell Sain joined the 63d Div. this week, just fresh from action with the fabulous Merrill Marauders.

Eighteen months in the wilds of Burma taught the 27-year-old ex-insurance salesman from Tennessee much of what there is to be learned about fighting the Japs. Furthermore, it has entitled him to wear the blue ribbon of the President of the United States' unit citation—the only decoration worn on the right side of your blouse.

Trim, with 140-pounds stretched tightly over his 5 feet 7½ inches frame, Sgt. Sain has this to say of jungle fighting:

"It's no Sunday school picnic but it's not so bad if you use common sense. Jungle isn't all steamy swampland. We fought in that kind of stuff, all right. But we also fought 7,000 feet up in the Burma mountains where you had hack your way through undergrowth and bamboo trees.

"You carried your own supplies, your chow, your ammunition and your medicines. You use a pack mule if you can but no jeeps. There's no room to drive them."

Though reluctant to talk of such things, this machine-gun platoon leader in the 253d's Co. M, has experienced most of the emotions of which man is capable. He was surrounded by Japs for 15 days, lived 18 months on supplies which came only by parachute, and, saw the strange natives of Burma kill a pig, let a dog eat the pig, roast the dog (hair and all) and then eat him in a wedding celebration.

The Merrill Marauders were a mere regiment in numbers, Sain revealed, but their combat achievements won them fame far beyond measure.

"Our mission was to run the ends' against the Jap lines while the Chinese soldiers—American trained and equipped—hit the center," Sain said in speaking of his activities among the Marauders. "We also set up human road-blocks by sneaking up on Jap positions, zeroing in on a stretch of road they were to use and then blasting them as they came along. Most of the time we didn't have artillery for this type of job."

Every battalion commander in the Marauders was a West Point graduate as were some of the battalion executive officers.

"We had leadership to rank with the best in any organization," Sain contended. "It made a tremendous difference. We didn't see much of Gen. Stilwell. He spent most of his time with the Chinese. Maj. Gen. Frank Merrill, our commanding officer, is a top rate man.

"And so is the commander of my former battalion, Lt. Col. William McGee. He pulled us out of the worst spot I've ever been in. This is what happened:

"Our battalion ran into a regiment of Japs—with artillery. Biggest thing we had was our 81-mm. mortars. The Japs shelled hell out of us. Then Col. McGee pulled a fast one.

"He radioed for planes to bomb and strafe the Japs. They came on the double. While the planes engaged the Japs we got the hell out of there. The enemy didn't know what happened. When they did charge our position—we weren't there."

Sgt. Sain was in the action which occupied world attention for weeks—the investment of Myitkyina, main city of Northern Burma and strategic terminus of its main railroad line.

"Our regiment helped capture the airport, American and Chinese (Continued on Page 7)

## Letters to the 63d From Overseas

# BEWARE OF SNIPERS, IS ADVICE

Former members of the 63d Div. have been located among troops who landed in Normandy on D-Day and among the liberators of Rome and Guam. Now a letter to the Editor of BLOOD AND FIRE testifies to the fact at least one other 63d doughboy saw service with Merrill's Marauders in Burma.

Thirsting after correspondence from old friends he left in the Division, S/Sgt. Ivor Morgan writes of events which have laid his fingers upon him since he shipped out after having trained with the 63d Rcn. Trp.

"Being an old member of the 63d, I just can't get my old outfit out of my blood," states the former member of the cadre recruited out of Panama.

### Hit By Sniper

"Since we left you in April we all kept up the good name. We joined Merrill's Marauders and took part in two engagements. I was hit by a sniper and forgot a good deal of what happened.

"I'd like to impress on those in training with the Division that you never can get enough of it. Don't wait to get into combat to find this out.

"I guess if I had remained with the 63d I might be up among the leading batters (in baseball). You can ask Norman Kies (Division Special Services athletic noncom) about that.

"Here's hoping you who are still with the Division, keep up the good work and if W. H. Shaffer, of the field artillery, and M/Sgt. Smith of the infantry are still around, I'd like to hear from them."

The experiences of a staff sergeant shouldering the responsibilities of supply for a medical group attached to the Third Army driving into Germany is brought up to more recent date in a letter from France to another member of the editorial staff.

### Mail Call

What do you hear from your buddies overseas? The fellow in the next bunk might be interested in what's happening to them, seeing that the same thing is going to happen to him pretty soon. We'd be interested in looking over any letter you've received and, possibly, in printing excerpts from them. Just drop them in your company mail box, addressed to BLOOD AND FIRE, Hq. 63d Div., APO 410, Camp Van Dorn, Miss.

S/Sgt. Elmer Kaplin, who wrote his impressions of Normandy and its people in the days immediately following Allied landings, details some of his experiences as the Americans rushed to the border of Germany in recent weeks.

### Nazis Retreating Fast

"At the start of the campaign we were in a couple of rough spots but right now the Germans are retreating so fast we are having it comparatively easy," he writes in his letter dated Sept. 17.

"Not very long ago I almost tossed my cookies when we ran into a sniper's ambush. I was traveling in a truck when we were stopped and told the Germans were sniping at the road just a few yards up ahead.

"We took cover in the back of the truck while shots were exchanged between one of our machine gunners and the Germans, who were firing on the road with a 'hurp' gun. We wanted to make a dash for it but a three-quarter ton truck was hit in front of us and was blocking the road.

"Finally, one of our boys sneaked up, using the side of the truck for cover, and moved the vehicle off the road. Then we took off

like a ruptured duck. All the way back to our area we made ourselves as small as possible.

"This, however, didn't compare to the scare we had before we left England to come over here. We were mixed up in a rough buzz-bomb raid. They were frightening things. I have been in a few air raids but they're nothing in comparison to the rocket bomb raids. When planes are overhead you can at least figure with some degree of accuracy where they intend dropping their loads. The buzz bombs are liable to land anywhere.

### Not So Young

"Lately the German prisoners have been coming in in droves. They even surrender to medical units. The other day at one of the hospitals where they have lots of Nazi prisoners working, I saw one who looked to be pretty young and I said to the guard, 'That little bastard must be no older than 15.' Imagine the color of my face when he turned around and said, 'Me, 19.' Go figure the kid understood English.

"We are getting loads of captured German equipment. I have a couple of their blankets to keep me warm and am wearing their leggings, which are smaller than ours. We even have German pajama bottoms. We can't make head or tail out of some of the other stuff they have had.

"I think you ought to know that the French Forces of the Interior have done a wonderful job. But they have paid dearly. I saw a memorial service for members of the FFI in a town recently. The place had been taken by the Americans but when they pushed on the Germans came back in and wiped out a large part of the population."

## 255th CO Helped Develop GI Lid

Magazines such as TIME might brand a man like the new commanding officer of the 255th Inf., Col. Edward A. Chazal, as "career brains," but, despite his impressive record in the Army, there is nothing cold and "brainy" about his personality. He has an Ocala, Fla., disposition.

For four years, Col. Chazal was a member of the Infantry Board at Ft. Benning, and in this capacity he originated the characteristics of many familiar items in the equipment of GI Joe. Blood and Fire soldiers will be interested to know that the Colonel drew up the military characteristics which were used as a basis when the steel helmet and its liner were designed.

As a member of the Board, Col. Chazal participated in decisions involving all equipment and supplies used by the Infantry, and he mentioned specifically the A6 machine gun and K rations as typical of the range of products. Everything in the Army arsenal undergoes stringent tests, and the 255th CO supervised field usages of many weapons that are now giving the Japs and the Heinies a headache and worse. He spent two months with front line units in Tunisia in 1943 checking GI equipment.

Col. Chazal's immediate assignment before coming to the 255th was on the General Staff, Washington, where, from October, 1943, until March, 1944, he had charge of all individual training of the Army Ground, Service and Air Forces. From March until recently he was an inspecting officer of Ground Forces training activities.



COL. EDWARD A. CHAZAL

The Colonel entered West Point before finishing high school in his home town, Ocala, Fla., and graduated in 1924. He attended the Infantry School in 1930 and the Command and General Staff School in 1939. He served in the Philippines from 1927 until 1929 in the 15th Inf., and in Hawaii from 1933 until 1935 in the 22d Brigade.

The Colonel is married and has two children, a 10-year-old girl and a year-old son, all living at Arlington, Va.

Benjamin Franklin forecast the use of parachute troops.

## Implore Gunners to 'Shoot the Coot'

The Government is conducting a campaign to eliminate the coot, or mudhen.

The bird has become so plentiful that it constitutes a menace to ducks, and indirectly the sport of hunting them. The coots must be controlled numerically to save wild rice, wild celery, sage, pond weed and other aquatic plants for the ducks' food supply.

To encourage the shooting of the slatey, chicken-like birds, whose white bills and lobate toes are prominent marks of identification, the Fish and Wild Life Service raised the limit to 25 this year. Federal action was necessitated by the fact that the coot population exceeds 20,000,000—enough to cause considerable worry.

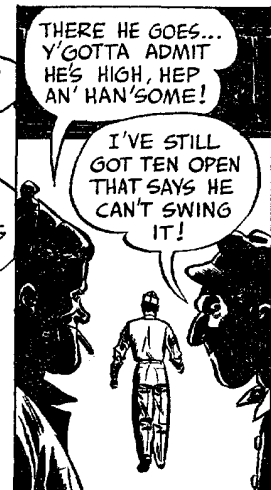
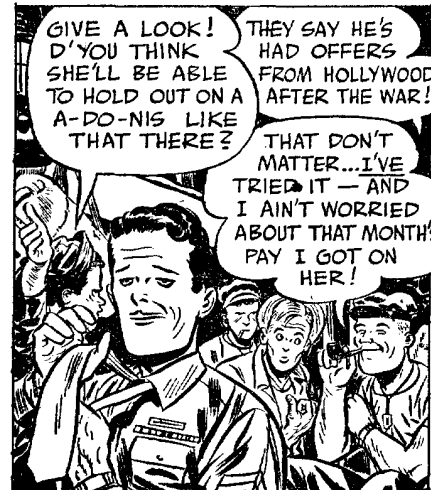
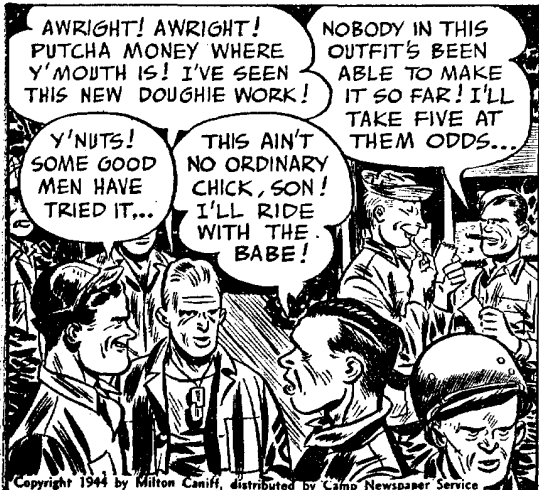
## Seagoing Tug Boasts Great Towing Power

WASHINGTON (CNS)—The War Shipping Administration has announced the development of a new type naval craft, a 295-foot tug which can tow almost anything afloat. The tug is powered by two Diesel engines and carries enough oil to remain at sea 75 days. It is manned by a crew of 40 merchant seamen and officers and a Navy guncrew to man a 2½-inch gun.

## Male Call

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

## Plain Identification





# Division Sidelights

**253d Inf.**—Hands that held the plow, and many other implements and tools, are holding the shears in the regimental barber school these days. Pvt. Herbert Hunsucker, a peacetime farmer and more recently a machine gunner with Co. H, now plows through heads of hair. Privts. Willard Vaughn, Co. A, was a truck driver; Bertil Leckstrom, Co. C, and Raymond Chimento, Co. H, machinists; Willard Stidd, Co. C, a lumber ward foreman; Glenn Pitts, Co. D, a firefighter; John Mallon, Co. I, a box and crate cutter; John Woodbury, Co. I, hospital attendant; Vito Abbate, Co. K, a shote cutter; James Stinchfield, Co. K, a butcher; William Snyder, Co. L, pipefitter; Fred Beyl, Med. Det., milkman . . . Regt. Hq. Co. has added another veteran of overseas service to its roster in T/5 John J. Fath, of Wooster, Ohio. In service since June, 1939, Fath served in the Solomons for 27 months. . . . Pfc. George Gialas, Co. M, is again in the 253d orchestra's sax section after a siege in the Station Hospital. . . . Acting company clerk at Hq. 1st Bn., is Pfc. Robert L. Owens, a former paratrooper. . . . The Dornier twins, Pfc. Ronald and Donald, will be reunited with another brother who has served at Adak in the Aleutians when they return to Seattle on furlough. Both are with Hq. Sst Bn.; T/4 Irving Blum and Sgt. James L. McKee, of Co. H, and T/5 John A. Leopitz, Hq. 3d Bn.; will receive the Mechanics' Award medal for efficiency in the 253d motor pool directed by Capt. Jack Duncan.

**254th Inf.**—T/5 Milton (Joe) Cordts, whose CT White basketball and baseball teams have won the 64d Div. championships, won a commendation from Col. Joseph H. Warren. All members of the basketball team received three-day passes. . . . Chaplain Lester J. Houghaling realized a long-standing ambition when he was given an overseas assignment. The regimental chaplain leaves soon. . . . Five members of the regiment wear the Purple Heart. They are Pfc. Larry Benzman, Co. A; Cpl. Raymond Ledden and Pvt. Clarence DeHart, Co. D; Pfc. Joseph A. Semanlee, Co. E, and S/Sgt. Russell Schemik, Co. L. . . . Add new fathers: T/4 Henry J. Presley, Serv. Co., and Pvt. Joseph Snooks. Both have daughters.

**Div. Hq.**—Newly-married M/Sgt. Pete Needle, G-4 Sec., is rubbing liniment on his poor back—from congratulations. Division athletes flocked to the Station Hospital on learning of T/5 Norman Kies' confinement; he's that popular. The road from the "beat to the bride" was traveled by Pfc. Rowe W. Maxwell, of the MP's, who rushed from work Tuesday evening to marry Annabelle Young at Natchez. The new Mrs. Maxwell is engineer for radio station WMS and was formerly an announcer.

**Div. Arty.**—A budding romance blossomed into marriage when Cpl. Lucille Gentry, member of the WAC Det. from Little Rock, Ark., and Pvt. Bruce Barton of Detroit, were united in the chapel where they first met last December 26. . . . Pfc. Sy Bernhard terminated ten months of "acting jack" when he became a Pfc. this week. . . . Pamela, weighing in at 8 pounds, 10 ounces, joined Capt. and Mrs. George Pavlicek in making this a better world to live in. The Pavliceks' first offspring made her bow in New York September 29.

**862d F. A.**—Btry. E's prominent private, Johnny Simpson, took the well known "dive" when he married Miss Jill Eure, an LSU student, this week. The couple became acquainted when Simpson gave a diving exhibition at the university seven months ago.

**63d QM Co.**—The company added three new officers to its roster, Lts. Thure A. Lundgren, Howard E. Duryea, Jr., and Otis E. Lock. The latter was elected to the Texas legislature's House of Representatives. Special Troops orientation award for the month was won for the fifth time by QM. The program is under direction of Lt. John E. Rodman, with Pvt. Jess Benigni as enlisted assistant.



AFTER THE GAME AT LSU Stadium last Saturday many Blood and Fire soldiers were entertained at sorority houses on the Tiger campus. At the Alpha Chi Omega house several men of the 63d gathered to enjoy the hospitality of Co-Eds. In the group around the piano are, left, T/5 Harry Dunlap, Hq. Co., 3d Bn., 255th; Pvt. Bill Wilson of the 254th Inf., center, and at the right, Cpl. Bill Chilvers, Hq. Co. 3d Bn. 255th.

## Football Fans Harvested Many Thrills Last Week

Football's first big week-end of 1944 was a "spectators' bargain" throughout the nation.

Many performances on college and pro gridirons across the breadth of the land, and up and down much of it, absorbed the onlookers to the final whistle. There were thrillers, and stinkers. But for the most part, the guys and gals were satisfied.

Virtually all of the 30-odd thousand, among whom was a liberal sprinkling of khaki and blue-clad service personnel, were delighted with their lot in watching LSU and Alabama trade points up to 27 each at Baton Rouge, Saturday night.

As in Illinois' tie with the Great Lakes NTS, Wisconsin's 7-6 victory over Northwestern, Penn's 18-7 defeat of Duke, California's 6-0 decision over UCLA and the pro Pittsburgh-Chicago eleven's 17-16 triumph over the NY Giants, thrill followed thrill in this section's opener.

Touchdown runs of 74 and 95 yards were two of the tidbits dished up to Saturday's children. A pair of Alabama punting attempts were blocked and turned into LSU touchdowns. Served in between were a succession of runs and passes which tended to divert GI Joe's gaze from the lass with him or the guy next to him to the chief purpose of his presence there.

The statistics on the contest gave LSU the edge even if the score didn't. The Tigers picked up 277 yards running and passing the ball while the Crimson Tide rolled to a total of 196. Throwing aside those given on penalties, first downs were distributed eight to a side.

Illinois' numerous freshmen gridirers and those at Penn had the

stuff to meet their respective tests. The yearlings of Michigan, who bowed to Indiana, 20-0, and those at Pitt, where Notre Dame made its first show of power with a 58-0 victory, lacked it.

Freshmen or otherwise, the boys in other games were there with the stuff at the right time. The California Bears stopped a 96-yard advance by UCLA on the 3-yard line five seconds before the final whistle to win their West Coast game.

North Carolina's Preflight Cadets came from behind to score a touchdown and kick the extra point in each of the last three periods to upset Navy 20-14, and unfavored Holy Cross pushed through a late score to tie Dartmouth, 6-6.

## Co. C, 254th Entertains Girls From Baton Rouge

Members of Co. C, 254th Inf., were hosts to a busload of girls from the Ethyl and DuPont plant in Baton Rouge, Monday night at the CT White Rec Hall. The 254th Inf. orchestra played or the dancing and refreshments were served.

Heading the committee in charge of arrangements were 1st Sgt. Robert Eisenheimer an Cpl. William Kelly, assisted by Sgt. Richard Diely, Cpl. Harvey Burris and Pfc. Harold Bryan, Mike DeBuono and Harry Grigsby.

Some 18 million gallons of gasoline were used in 21 days by the Allies in the North African invasion.

## Displays in 862d Are Commended

A recent spot check of the 862d F. A. Bn. orientation displays won the battalion high praise in a commendation from Brig. Gen. Frederick M. Harris, assistant division commander and 63d Orientation Officer, to Lt. Col. James H. Lightfoot, battalion commander.

The commendation read in part: "Out of a possible 500 points which can be made on the spot check of orientation displays . . . your score was 497. This is indeed a superior performance and reflects great credit not only on yourself but on your subordinates. Please pass my sentiments on to them."

Under the supervision of Lts. Albert Kotich and Thomas Howarth, and T/Sgt. F. Paul Koch, the actual work of keeping the battery displays in such fine condition is being done by Pvt. William Reed, Btry. A; Cpl. Carl Doubet, Btry. B; Cpl. William Evans, Btry. C; T/4 John Larkin, Serv. Btry. and Sgt. Griffith Amies, Hq. Btry.

## 'Spaghetti' From Home Proves to Be Tobacco

ENGLAND—Sgt. Bennie Sheehan wrote home for some spaghetti sauce. Finally it arrived in a special can. Sheehan heated the can, tasted the ingredients, then gagged, sputtered, grabbed his throat and rolled on the floor. When he recovered he read a note his mother had attached to the can. "Hope you enjoy the tobacco," it read.

## 253d Sergeant

(Continued From Page 5)

glider troops fought there, too. Refugees were all over the place. Myitkyina had 22,000 persons. Not one of them was in the town. The only ones we found were Japs.

"It took well over two months. We started in June. By August 2, the city was neutralized. The battle ended in house to house fighting. We occupied neighboring villages and I was never in the city myself.

"The Jap is a damn good fighter," Sgt. Sain said when asked to appraise the enemy's ability. "Very well disciplined but both officers and enlisted men make too much noise. They shout commands. They make noise digging in and setting up their equipment.

"With the knee mortar they are very accurate. I've been knocked silly by one. I've also had malaria several times, saw plenty of my buddies killed and wounded. Knock on wood, though, I haven't a scratch to show for all this action.

"Funny thing about the Japs, they don't fire for effect like we do. They'd bracket a position. Then, instead of lobbing four or five in the zeroed position, they'd just let it ride. Maybe they didn't have enough ammunition."

After 34 months outside the United States the first thing Sgt.

Sain did on his return was to get a good meal—"fried country ham, asparagus, hot biscuits and iced tea.

"They grow the tea in India but you've got to come to the United States for that," he said impishly.

## Theater Schedule

### THEATERS 1 AND 2

Starting Time—No. 1, 1845; No. 2, 1810 (From Saturday, Oct. 7, Through Friday, Oct. 13)

SAT.—"Lady Takes a Chance," with Jean Arthur, John Wayne and Charles Winninger.

Sun.—Mon.—"Marriage Is a Private Affair," with Lana Turner, John Hodiak and James Craig.

TUES.—"Big Noise," with Laurel and Hardy; "End of the Road," with Edward Norris and June Storey.

WED.—THURS.—"Tall in the Saddle," with John Wayne, Billa Rains and Ward Bond.

FRI.—"The Master Race," with Osa Massen, George Coulouris and Carl Esmond.

### THEATER NO. 5

Starting Time—1900

(From Saturday, Oct. 7, Through Saturday, Oct. 14)

SAT.—"San Diego, I Love You," with Jon Hall, Louise Allbritton and Edward Everett Horton.

SUN.—"National Barn Dance," with Jean Heather, Robert Benchley and Lulu Belle and Scotty.

MON.—"Lady Takes a Chance."

TUES.—WED.—"Marriage Is a Private Affair."

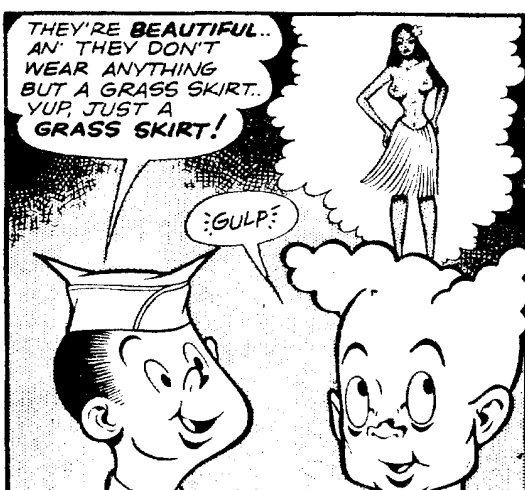
THURS.—"Big Noise" and "End of the Road."

FRI.—SAT.—"Tall in the Saddle."

## BERNIE BLOOD

## Cutting Up Again

## By GILL FOX





William was arrested again—on the same charge.

WOONSOCKET, R. I. (CNS)—Fined \$10 for biting a policeman, a local resident has appealed to the state supreme court. He claims he has no teeth.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (CNS)—Charlie Anderson, 7, was incredulous when his father informed him that he had a new baby brother. "Wow!" exclaimed Charlie. "Does mummy know about it?"

ST. LOUIS (CNS)—A waitress served a customer four soft-boiled eggs. Then, enraged when he ate only three, she pelted him with the fourth as he was leaving the table.

TOPEKA, Kans. (CNS)—An old Kansas law prohibits the squirting of tobacco juice in public.

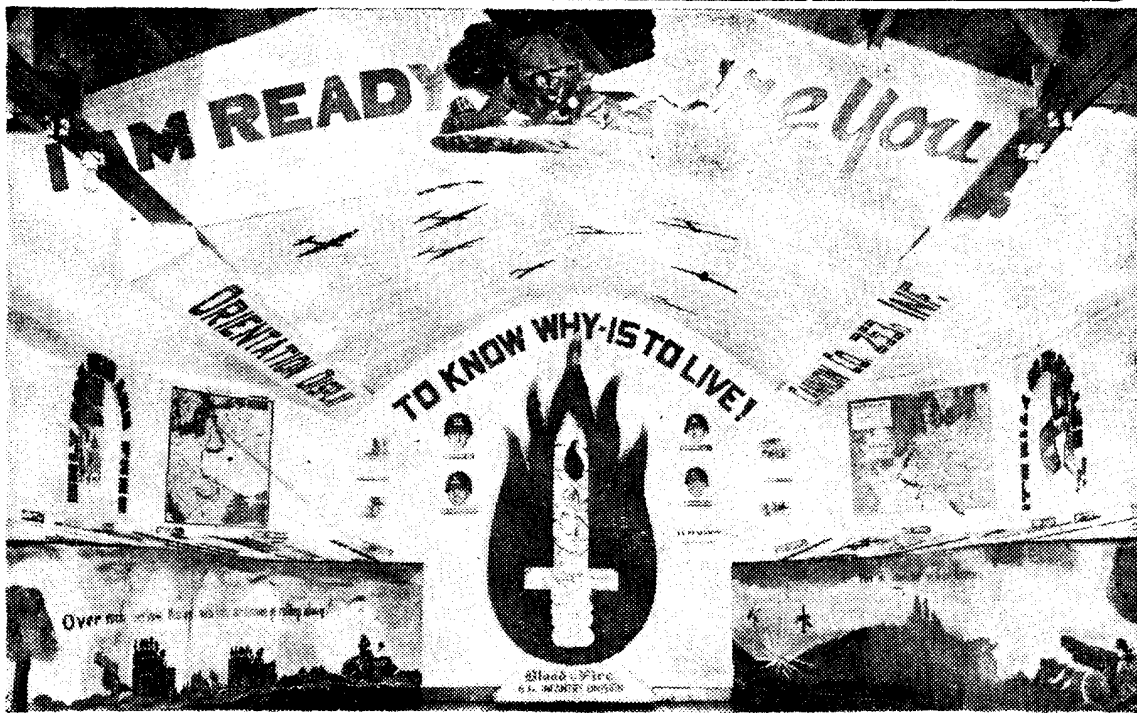
WASHINGTON (CNS) — Irked when a waiter persistently ignored his order, a customer in a local restaurant knocked the waiter down, dragged him into the kitchen and dipped his head into a pot of noodle soup.

LAUREL, Md.—Residents of this city have organized a Homecoming Club which will make plans to welcome home men and women of the community now serving in the armed forces.

Carrier pigeons are launched from planes by placing them in paper bags and tossing them overboard. The driving air stream loosens the bird from the bag. Without this protection the pigeons would lose their feathers in the plane's slipstream.

SILVER SPRINGS, Md.—Russell Mizell has given out 3,500 silver dollars to men from Montgomery County entering the service. He recently passed the 3,500 mark and his own son Fred got the last one.

RENO (CNS)—Gypsy Rose Lee, author and strip tease artiste, has arrived in Reno with three projects in mind. They are (1) to have a baby, (2) to get a divorce, (3) to write a novel.



SPECTACULAR arrangement of material featured the orientation display of Cn. Co., 253d Inf. which won the Division Orientation award for the month of September.

### Display Helps 253d Cn. Co. Win Orientation Award

Aided by one of the most elaborate displays to be arranged to date, Cannon Co., of the 253d Inf. won the Division Orientation award for September. The Cannoneers scored heavily on the display depicted above, and beat the 63d total for August. Lt. Seth C. Peatross III, is the orientation officer and Cpl. Zalmon Venetsky is his assistant.

The victors totaled 98.31 against 95.87 for Hq. Btry., Division Artillery. The AT Co. of the 254th Inf. was third with 95.36 and the 63d QM Co., fourth with 93.44. Co. G of the 255th was fifth with 92.31.

In announcing the winner of the September competition, Brig. Gen. Frederick M. Harris, Assistant Division Commander and 63d Orientation Officer, commended Lt. Peatross and Cpl. Venetsky and the entire personnel of the 253d. He referred to the chart which bears the figures for attendance, spot check displays, best display, quality of hour and the totals for August and September.

Said Gen. Harris: I was of the opinion last month that the Division had reached its peak in Orientation but this month's figures indicate that I was mistaken. This is indeed a fine showing and reflects great credit upon every unit and organization in the Division.

The statistics show that for the month of August the attendance was 90.35, the spot check displays, 90.35; the best display, 99.5, and the quality of the orientation hour 90.5. This totaled 94.24. September's record discloses that the attendance had jumped to 92.22, the spot check displays to 95.63, the best display hit 100, and the quality of the hour reached 91.2 for a total of 95.06.

The orientation competition will continue through this month and will be based on the following:

- Quality of Hour, 80 per cent.
- Training Aids used during hour, 20 per cent.

#### DANCE FOR OFFICERS

The Girls Battalion of Baton Rouge invites officers of the 63d Div. to a formal dance scheduled for tonight at 2100 at the Westdale Country Club, just off Claycut Road.

NEW YORK—A tradition of 144 years was violated recently at Ft. Jay, Governor's Island, when 150 Wacs moved in.

### Direction of Fire By Btry. Effective

Highly effective results were achieved by the 862d F. A. Bn. during the past week in its initial combat firing exercise when battery fire direction was used for the first time instead of that by battalion.

Battalion fire direction was decentralized to the firing batteries in order to give realistic fire direction experience to battery instrument men who in actual combat would take over Bn. fire direction if it were knocked out by the enemy.

Fifty-five missions were handled over a period of three days and nights without one miscalculation either by FDC or the guns; delivery of fire was prompt and accurate, and the entire job was accomplished by instrument men who had previously fired only a small amount.

The battalion's complete success in this exercise was due largely to the efficient work of the following men: Btry. A: Cpl. Edward Bragg, and Max Goldstein, and T/Sgt. Paul Myers; Btry. B: Cpls. William Grey, Carl Doubet and Ken Gilbert. Btry. C: S/Sgt. Joseph Whalen, and Cpls. William Evans and Raymond Maynard.

WASHINGTON—One hundred five American women have received individual awards from the Army and Navy for bravery to date.



63d INFANTRY DIVISION

MAKE NO MISTAKES!

The Handbook for the Combat Soldier

A Pocket Manual of Information

Combat Drill—Half Distance Combat Drill Full Distance Combat Drill Tactical Exercises

10 Cents a Copy

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE Division Artillery Rec Hall



CARELESSNESS with equipment here may bring dire results in combat. That is the message these posters prepared by men of the 253d Inf. Training Aids Shop endeavor to carry to men of the regiment. At left on ladder is Pvt. Russell Stetler. Kneeling is Pvt. Philip Gurka, and Cpl. Howard Connolly, with pointer, is at extreme right.

### Posters Warn GIs In Carelessness

"The careless soldier in camp may be a dead soldier overseas, or a battle casualty," says Lt. Col. Ralph Lashley of the 253d Inf. as a campaign was launched last week to remind combatmen that battle

habits learned now will pay off when bullets fly. "Eight Ball Charlie," the creation of Cpl. Howard Connolly, head of the regimental training aids shop, is one of a number of characters depicted on posters designed to call attention to the care of equipment by the soldiers. "Charlie" lets his rifle get rusty, forgets to put dubbin on his shoes, and fails to turn them in for repair as soon as they show

signs of wear. He plays football with his helmet liner and uses his gas mask as a pillow—in the 253d's graphic cartoon-campaign against carelessness with battle equipment. Cpl. Connolly, S/Sgt. Raymond L. Neri, Pvt. Philip Gurka and Pvt. Russell Stetler of the Training Aids Shop staff, whipped up the four-color posters in distinctive designs.