



# Blood and Fire



Vol. 3, No. 12, May 26, 1945



## Division's Band Back in the Groove

One cold day last January Col. Earle G. Wheeler, the 63d's Chief of Staff, stood on a stony hill in the Delta Base staging area near Marseille and inquired:

„What good is a band if it doesn't tootle?"

Ever since that time the more than 60 members of the band — who already had played their way across the Atlantic — have been tootling, in parades, in stage shows and other public performances for men of the Blood and Fire Division — interlarding their musical appearances with less formal appearances when they pulled guard, hauled coal, registered graves, dished out stew and carried out a dozen other of the missions of Division Headquarters Co.

Since just before VE Day, the band has traveled hundreds of miles to play for the various regiments, battalions and separate organizations of the Division. Once it made a 100-mile round trip to play a retreat parade. Another time it traveled more than 150 miles for a concert. Its long day often consists of several rehearsals, a dinner-music program for EM, supper music for an officers' mess, a parade and an evening stage appearance the latter usually directed by CWO David Wright, band-

Every man is in action as Pfc. Monty Paniaqua, Co. A, 254th Inf., starts a game against Co. B with a home run.

## Ball Teams Begin Schedule, Point to Organization Day Meet

## 255th Liberates 15 Jubilant Yanks

Well on their way to a long-deserved furlough in the States are 15 Yanks, the largest single group of American PWs liberated by doughboys of the 63d Div.

The 15, a dozen of whom were captured at Anzio and who were PWs for 14 months, were freed near Günzburg in the Danube drive. Men of the 255th Inf. found them hiding in a woods and tankers of a battalion which had been with the men in Italy carried them into town in an informal triumphant procession of tanks and TDs.

The 12 taken at Anzio spent the first three months of their imprisonment in wet, miserable prison camps in the Italian winter. Then they were moved to Germany and assigned to farm labor. They were frank to admit they were better treated than they expected.

### Red Cross Helped.

"We worked long hours, but we ate just what the farmers ate", Lionel Wylie, of Youngstown, O., said. "So we lived much better than the guys in the camps or than those assigned to labor in the cities. We lived in a 'Lager', officially a camp but really just an ordinary house in town, with an elderly guard who was pretty tired of the war and who was reasonably friendly us.

"The Red Cross really kept us going. After we came to Germany we got a Red Cross parcel with 10 pounds of food every week. They kept us in uniforms and gave us all the soap and razor blades and other things we could use. We even had almost all the cigarets we wanted."

The men learned to eat the coarse, heavy food of the German peasant, and their stomachs became so accustomed to this diet that they usually revolted when they received chocolate and other delicacies from the Red Cross parcels.

### Hated SS.

The 15 were unanimous in their hatred of the SS. Its men and officers were as brutal as they ever were painted, the Americans said, and only the SS kept the war going when the people and the rest of the army were ready to stop.

It was the German guard who finally engineered their escape. When 63d Div. troops appeared in the vicinity, the Wehrmacht began to leave. The guard was instructed to take the men deeper into Germany. Instead, he took them to the woods where they later were found and kept them there for three days, while German civilians and DPs stole out to give them occasional food and news of the Americans' approach. When men of the 255th appeared on a nearby road, the Yanks and their guard rushed out to greet their liberators.

## Kraut Guards Wouldn't Leave, Wanted to Be US Prisoners

"Where the hell did YOU come from?" That's all S/Sgt. Donald Stiles, AT Co., 253d Inf., could say when his brother Carl entered the kitchen where he sat drinking coffee with his company commander, Capt. Warren L. Kirkland, of Seattle.

"Well, I'll be damned!" That's all Carl could say. Dirty, heavily bearded, long haired and a trifle gaunt, Carl had been a prisoner for 45 days until the anti-tankers came through and he was set free.

"Jeez, I kept sweating it out with those guards in that barn", he said over the coffee and snacks. "They didn't want to leave. They wanted to be taken by the GIs. They weren't like the SS."

It was at Esting, 10 miles from Munich, that he waited for the 63d his brother's outfit. Lt. Fred Pacifico of Co. B, 253d, of Runnemede, N.J., found Carl and directed him to the anti-tankers. He had been taken prisoner at Fells, seven miles from Trier, April 26. From there he was forced to walk 500 miles to Esting.

"Don't let anybody ever tell you

Jerry can't walk," he said. "Guard changed only three times. They were guys who had been wounded on the Russian front. Some were the older, Volkssturm type.

"Our shoepacks barely held out. Some of us cut holes in the toes for air. That helped — a little. But Jerry wasn't so hot at night walking. That's when we seemed to get our second wind."

Carl said they did not fear the Germans, very much but were concerned when our planes came over for fear they might be strafed by mistake. Food consisted mainly of bread and potatoes and never enough. Sometimes they had a bit of sandwich meat. When they could they swapped soap and valuables for some of the gray German bread. Red Cross packages helped and civilians were always ready to trade.

The Stiles boys sent a cable to their folks back in Westfield, N.J., the day they were reunited. "Gosh, I'd like to see their faces when they get this", exclaimed Carl.

## Brothers Reunited --- in Ambulance

It's a small war which brings together two brothers after 11 years — and in an ambulance.

S/Sgt. Clifford L. Kidd, an infantryman in the 36th Div. strode into 1st Bn. headquarters of the 253d Inf. and told Capt. Herbert Houghtaling, of Henderson, N.C., that he was looking for his brother. Sgt. Grant Kidd was in Co. B, he said, and he hadn't seen him since they were boys in Pecos, Tex.

"I wouldn't know my brother from Adam", Kidd told Capt. Houghtaling, the S-1. "Gosh! it's been so long!"

The captain's excitement took a sudden drop as he listened to Sgt. Kidd's orderly room on the phone.

"Sorry, sergeant", he said. "Your brother has just been wounded. He's on the way to Battalion Aid. It's only a slight wound, and you can see him over there."

Kidd rushed to the aid station, arriving just as his wounded brother arrived in a jeep.

The brothers looked at each other strangely. The moments of silence between them seemed hours to GIs who watched the strange meeting.

"Hurt bad, Grant?"

The wounded brother shook his head faintly as they squeezed hands. Then the staff sergeant climbed in an ambulance with him and they rode off together.

The War Department has 7,500,000 dollars' worth of athletic equipment on hand for use by troops in the ETO. A series of inter-Allied games that will dwarf the largest of the peacetime Olympics is planned.

## 40 Days Remain In War Bond Contest

Blood and Fire men still have more than 40 days in which to compose a simple, straightforward letter on the subject: "My Savings and Postwar Plans," and try to win one of 10 automobiles or 10 electric refrigerators to be delivered to their homes after they are discharged from the Army.

The contest is run in the ETO in connection with the Seventh War Bond Drive. Its primary objective is to encourage and assist military personnel in accumulating a reserve fund for post-war needs so they will not find themselves in the position of World War I veterans, many of whom had only their bonuses.

Details of the contest's progress are publicized daily in Stars and Stripes. Entries must be simple letters of not less than 50 nor more than 250 words. Contestants must state that they have a Class B allotment or have purchased a War Bond since May 1, 1945.

Name, serial number and APO address must be placed on the upper right-hand corner of each letter. Letters must be addressed to: "War Bond Contest, APO 887, US Army," and must be postmarked on or before July 7.

BLOOD AND FIRE is the official newspaper of and is published by and for men of the Blood and Fire (63d) Infantry Division, APO 410, c/o PM, NY. Maj. George Pavlicek, Division Information-Education Officer, Editor; T/4 Thomas A. Hector, Staff Writer; T/4 Stoddard White, Staff Cartoonist; Cpl. Gill Fox, Staff Photographer; T/4 William Schiff, BLOOD AND FIRE uses Camp Newspaper Service material; republication of credited material prohibited without permission of CNS, 205 E. 42d st., NYC, 17.

# AWARDS

## Silver Star

253d INF.  
**Co. C.** \*Pvt Sol. Caplan, Kansas City, Mo.; \*Pfc Marlin A. Bell, Jr., McAllen, Tex.; S/Sgt Victor H. Blair, Louisville, Ky.; Sgt Robert C. Wright, Springfield, Mass.; Pvt Oliver C. Bacon, Winslow, Ariz.; T/Sgt Thomas J. Murphy, Chicago.  
**Hq Co 2d Bn.** T/5 Herbert Behrens, Bronx, N.Y.  
**Co. E.** Sgt Clarence B. Gerity, Detroit.  
**Co. F.** Lt Lawrence M. Castleberry, Albany, Tex.  
**Co. G.** Pfc Philip J. Lennon, Cleveland; S/Sgt Roy A. Kasner, Ft. Wayne, Ind.  
**Co. I.** \*Lt William M. MacDonald, Manhattan, Mont.  
**Co. M.** Lt Bobby J. Stahlman, Sunny Side, Tex.; Lt James E. Merritt, Jr., Clarksdale, Miss.

**Med. Det.** Pfc Charles M. Stoker, Slater, Mo.; T/3 Kenneth M. McDonald, Clarksdale, Mo.; Pfc Charles E. Stanley, Humneke, Ark.

254th INF.  
**Co. F.** \*Pvt Bobby Joe Cozart, Graham, Tex.; \*Sgt Julius P. Dargenio, Brooklyn.  
**Co. I.** \*Sgt Floyd T. Carr, Jr., Memphis, Tenn.  
**Co. M.** S/Sgt Algernon J. Keith, Evansville, Ind.

**Med. Det.** Pfc Ralph R. Meinking, Chicago.

254th INF.  
**Med. Det.** S/Sgt Paul Cizmar, Youngstown, O.

861st FA.  
**Hq. Capt** Richard L. Dooley, Cincinnati.  
**Btry. A.** \*T/5 Charles D. Moody, Lansing, Mich.

740th TANK BN.  
**Co. C.** \*Pfc Carl A. Schroeder, Longford, Kan.; Sgt Paul L. Pearson, Abilene, Tex.

753d TANK BN.  
**Co. C.** \*Lt William H. Golden, Chanute, Kan.; Lt Anthony F. Daskevich, Mingus, Tex.; Cpl Donald C. Dilts, Hopewell, N.J.; Pfc Paul J. Helmick, Girard, O.; Sgt Walter I. Hokenson, Tekoa, Wash., (also received Bronze Star); Pvt James P. Kennedy, Chicago; Pvt Clifford J. McGee, Belpre, O.; Sgt Thomas R. Tell, Chicago; T/4 Harvey R. Willis, Pierce, Colo.

363d MED. BN.  
**Co. A.** S/Sgt Julius F. Weber, Wheeling, W.Va.  
**Co. C.** Lt Joseph C. McNeil, Burlington, Vt.

## Soldier's Medal

253d INF.  
**Co. H.** Pfc James J. Tarantino, Chicago.  
**AT Co.** S/Sgt Leonard T. Anderson, Eveleth, Minn.; Pfc Milton M. Meszaros, Sparrows Point, Md.

## Oak Leaf Clusters to Bronze Star

(Meritorious Service)

### FOURTH CLUSTER

Col. Morris O. Edwards, CO 253d Inf., Salt Lake City.

### THIRD CLUSTER

Col Joseph H. Warren, CO 254th Inf., Dallas, Tex.  
 Lt Col James E. Hatcher, CO 255th Inf., Washington.

\* Posthumous Award.  
 \*\* Missing in Action.

## SECOND CLUSTER

Brig Gen Frederick M. Harris, Asst. Div. Comdr., Rockmart, Ga.  
 Brig Gen E. J. McGaw, CG Div. Arty., Silver City, N.M.  
 Lt Col Jack L. Coan, CO 263d Engr. Bn., Birmingham, Ala.

## FIRST CLUSTER

253d INF.  
 T/Sgt Boyd R. Hollis, Co. H, Martinsburg, W. Va.  
 255th INF.  
 Lt Col John R. Smoak, Exec. O., Orangeburg, S.C.  
 861st FA.  
 Lt Col Donald C. Beere, CO, Lafayette, Ind.; T/5 Bernard M. Strehl, Hq. Btry., Detroit.

862d FA.  
 Lt Daniel H. Wall III, Btry. C, Shelby, N.C.  
 863d FA.  
 Lt Col Albert S. Britt, Jr., CO, Savannah, Ga.; Maj Edward W. King, Hq.; Capt Aubrey M. Garrison, Jr., Hq., Birmingham, Ala.

## DIVISION HEADQUARTERS

Lt Col John E. Brooks, Jr., ACofS, G-1, Winchendon, Mass.; Lt Col John M. Hardaway, ACofS, G-2, Sacramento, Calif.; Maj Thomas P. Reaves, Provost Marshal, Eufaula, Ala.; Lt Col Robert S. Redfield, ACofS, G-3, Chicago; Lt Col Frank T. Ritter, Jr., ACofS, G-4, Vineland, N.J.  
 436th AAA BN.  
 Lt Col Alvin H. Schutz, CO, Hopkinsville, Ky.

(Heroic Achievement)

## FIRST CLUSTER

253d INF.  
**Hq. Co. 3d Bn.** Lt. Earl C. Sturm, Holliday, Tex.  
**Co. I.** Pfc Edward J. Martaugh, Chehalis, Wash.  
**AT Co.** Capt Warren L. Kirkland, Pinehurst, Wash.  
**Med. Det.** Pfc Frederick Terman, Washington.

254th INF.  
**Co. H.** Capt Fred H. Horlock, Gulfport, Miss.  
 861st FA.  
**Btry. A.** Lt (then T/4) Robert G. Wilkins, Detroit.

863d FA.  
**Btry. B.** Lt Roger B. Benjamin, Shreve, O.  
 59th AFA BN.  
**Btry. A.** Lt Stanley F. LeLaurin, San Antonio, Tex.  
 740th TANK BN.  
**Co. C.** S/Sgt Charlie W. Loopey, Oklahoma City, Okla.

## Bronze Star Medal

(Heroic Achievement)

253d INF.  
**Hq. Co. 1st Bn.** T/4 Edgar H. Talbert, Mitchell, S.D.  
**Co. B.** \*Pfc Raymond E. Ewens, Kansas City, Mo.; Sgt Roy A. Ottinger, Valley City, N.D.; Pfc John Mutzabaugh, Columbia, Pa.; Pvt Raymond L. Clowers, Danville, Ark.; S/Sgt Edward Carter, Livingston, Tex.; Pfc James H. Baehren, Toledo; Pfc Gabriel Illovsky, Long Island City, N.Y.; Pfc James E. Hodges, Savannah, Ga.; Pfc Charles H. Eastman, Columbia, S.C.; Pfc Manuel C. Deanda, Chino, Calif.; Pfc Gerald Davidson, New York City; Pfc Dillard V. Cole, Detroit; Pfc Arthur P. Cole, Paragould, Ark.  
**Co. C.** \*Sgt Richard L. Noble, South Bend, Ind.; Edward L. Warmoth, Sumter, S.C.; Lt Louis D. Tirelli, New York City; Pfc Paul A. Walker, Mercersburg, Pa.

Co. D. S/Sgt Virgil E. York, Houston, Tex.

Co. F. Pfc Charles Kotovich, Jr., Hamtramck, Mich.; Pfc Warner F. Carlisle, Seville, Fla.

Co. I. Sgt Donald G. Metcalf, Reno, Nev.; Pfc Charles S. Miles, Norborne, Mo.; Lt (then T/Sgt) John F. Buytendorp, Jr., Kalamazoo, Mich.; T/Sgt Dayle E. Bonifield, Coshocton, O.; S/Sgt Alexander R. Anthony, Chula Vista, Calif.

AT Co. Sgt Earl A. McCord, Maidsville, W. Va.

**Med. Det.** \*Pfc Jerome Meyer, Brooklyn; Pfc Francis J. Hurney, Roxbury, Mass.; Pfc Lloyd M. Welch, Hallstead, Pa.; Pfc Richard B. Neely, Detroit; Pfc Ernest C. Steele, Jr., Cave City, Ark.; Pfc Emmett E. McCreary, Joplin, Mo.; T/3 Henry Lynn, Versailles, Ky.; T/4 Waco F. Childers, Jr., Greenville, S.C.; T/5 Norman P. Bromley, Huntington, W. Va.; T/5 Charles C. Allen, Jr., Absecon, N.J.; T/5 George F. Andresen, Frankfort, Ill.; T/4 Robert G. Kenny, Teaneck, N.J.; Pfc Albert J. Conti, Philadelphia.

254th INF.  
**Co. E.** \*S/Sgt Thomas F. Gierlock, Wyandotte, Mich.

**Co. G.** S/Sgt Paul E. Johns, Washington, Pa.

**Co. H.** S/Sgt Seymour I. Barkowitz, Charleston, S.C.; 1st/Sgt Archie J. Reid, Duluth, Minn.

**Hq. Co. 3d Bn.** Pfc Leonard E. Harpst, Hartford City, Ind.

**Co. I.** Pfc Cecil E. McCreary, Moundsville, W. Va.

**Co. M.** Pfc Clyde A. Meginness, Los Angeles.

255th INF.  
**Regtl. Hq. Co.** Pfc Hearl Hager, Jr., Ramage, W. Va.; Pfc William R. Hines, Memphis, Tenn.; Sgt Ray W. Peterson, Logan, Utah; Lt (then T/Sgt) Norman E. Ruff, Buffalo, S.C.; T/Sgt Leonard Schatzman, Passaic, N.J.; T/4 William J. Turanski, Waterville, Me.; Sgt Charles F. Worthen, Jr., Yakima, Wash.

**Co. A.** Lt. William G. Chambers, Lakewood, Fla.

**Co. I.** Pfc Lonnie L. Hess, Richlands, Va.

**Co. K.** Pfc James E. Cavanaugh, Brooklyn; Lt John W. Brown, Jr., Hadsonfield, N.J.; S/Sgt Carl D. Rehberg, Donalsonville, Ga.; Pfc Lloyd A. Doan, St. Joseph, Mo.; Pfc Ernest B. Hammond, Jr., Augusta, Ga.; Sgt Gerald Cohen, Brooklyn; Sgt Caesar J. Tremaglio, Waterbury, Conn.; Pfc Phillip J. Ponthieux, Marksville, La.; Pfc James J. Sarver, Pembroke, Va.; Pfc William T. Simpson, Taneytown, Md.; Pfc Henry Sharff, Greenville, Ia.; S/Sgt Edward G. Truitt, Whaleyville, Md.

**Hq. Co. 3d Bn.** Pfc Clarence D. Milbrodt, Akron, O.; Pfc George E. LaJole, Barbeau, Mich.

**Med. Det.** Pfc Warren D. Smith, Graham, N.C.

861st FA.  
**Hq. Btry.** Sgt Joseph Cervone, Bronx, N.Y.

**Btry. A.** Cpl John P. Hoffman, Scotia, N.Y.

**Btry. B.** Pfc Wallace E. White, Atlanta, Ga.; S/Sgt Francis W. Klipp, Manteno, Ill.; Pfc Zurha A. Golliber, Washougal, Wash.; Pvt Richard V. Casavant, Burlington, Vt.

**Btry. C.** Cpl Robert D. Fuchs, Berkeley, Calif.; Lt James G. Cullen, Jr., Dunellen, N.J.

(Continued on Next Page)

Should be  
255  
BSM

Should be Silver Star

## Bronze Star (Cont.)

### 862d FA.

Hq. Btry. Cpl Arthur A. Kline, Mohrsville, Pa.; T/5 John J. Newbury, Rochester, N.H.; Pvt Tino M. Ghidella, San Francisco; T/5 Arthur W. Harris, LaGrange, Ga.

Btry. A. Lt Robert F. Kent, Cleveland.

Btry. B. Lt Harvey B. Schramm, Shadyside, O.

### 863d FA.

Btry. B. Pfc William J. Morriss, Jr., Highland Park, Mich.

Btry. C. T/4 Willard R. Heidenreich, Renfrew, Pa.; S/Sgt Willis D. Jackson, Columbus, O.

### 263d ENGR.

Co. A. Pvt Charles H. White, Yazoo City, Miss.; Pvt Joseph J. Suwanski, Chicago; Pvt Albert E. Valko, North Braddock, Pa.; Pfc Orvil E. Simpson, Loveland, Colo.; Pfc Edward J. Schneider, Madison, Wis.; Pfc John N. Rash, Shelby, Mo.; Pfc Calvin D. Purdy, Romeo, Mich.; Cpl Jose D. Martinez, El Paso, Tex.; Pvt Robert F. Kibler, Hillsboro, Md.; Cpl Coll W. Bills, Jr., Wright City, Okla.; Cpl George W. Berkelbach, Jr., Philadelphia; Pfc Thomas Devlin, Jersey City, N.J.; Pvt Whitfield Dyer, Cincinnati; Cpl Doyle M. Forsythe, Bloomfield, Ia.

Co. C. Pfc Clarence H. Tracey, Arbutuckle, Calif.; T/5 Richard R. Kretschmer, National City, Calif.; T/5 Ronal J. Roush, Sr., Flemington, W. Va.; Cpl Carol M. Hipp, Prosperity, S.C.; Sgt Ralph M. Conner, Monterey Park, Calif.; Sgt Donald L. Charters, Bakersfield, Calif.; Pfc Elbert Kersen, New York City; T/4 Keith S. Brimhall, Danville, Ia.; Pfc Roy E. Keller, Pittsburgh; Pfc Kermit O. Shoultz, Camarillo, Calif.; Pfc James P. Goodman, Lundale, W. Va.

Pfc Jerry D. Delp, Woodhull, N.Y.; Pfc Robert L. Stephenson, Lawton, Okla.; Pfc Thomas Bertram, Jr., Mt. Harris, Colo.; Pfc Herman E. Heitz, Washington; Pvt Anthony Kaboski, Herkimer, N.Y.; Pfc Andy Hollowniczky, Sidman, Pa.; Pfc Harrison D. Clifton, Summit, Ga.; Pfc Fred Smith, Pendleton, Ind.; T/5 Arthur C. Keith, St. Joseph, Mo.; Sgt Thomas J. Boyle, Chicago; S/Sgt Thomas D. Styles, Petersburg, Va.; T/4 Barney Murdock, Oglesby, Ill.; Sgt Ethan Smith, Oakboro, N.C.

Lt Edward G. May, New York City; Sgt Edwin M. Lallement, New Brighton, Pa.; Pfc Paul L. Younger, Caruthersville, Mo.; Cpl Max R. Fackler, Yakima, Wash.; Pfc Alvin C. Allen, Greenbrier, Tenn.; T/5 David Ehrlich, Russell, Kan.; Pfc Joseph Morrell, Yakima, Wash.; Sgt Morris D. Parker, Houston, Tex.; S/Sgt Leonard B. Zimmerman, Byron Center, Mich.; Pfc Floyd F. Webb, Houston, Tex.; Sgt Hiram Stamper, Littcarr, Ky.; T/4 Raymond E. Sabo, Sioux City, Ia.; T/5 Dale L. Erwin, Los Angeles;

Pfc Walter Griffin, Livingston, Ky.; Pfc Mario J. Spagnola, Waterbury, Conn.; Pfc John J. McLaughlin, Newark, N.J.; Pvt Albert C. DeCraene, Detroit; Pfc Thomas R. Uzzell, Jr., Wilson, N.C.; Pvt Thomas H. Starbuck, Indian Lake, N.Y.; Pfc Charles H. Allerheiligen, Hanover, Kan.; Pfc Charles H. Jarvis, Vienna, W. Va.; T/5 Edward R. Leone, Ardsley, N.Y.; Pfc Wilbur P. Fiehler, Youngstown, O.; Pvt William O. Dingler, Philadelphia; T/5 Henry P. Baresh, Scappoose, Ore.; Sgt Elmer T. Wolter, Monroe, Wash.; T/5 Robert H. Collier, Puyallup, Wash.; Pfc James W. Curfman, Rose Hill, Ill.; Lt Robert D. Teverbaugh, Ponca City, Okla.

Med. Det. T/5 Harry E. Henninger, Mahanoy City, Pa.

### 363d MED.

Co. A. Pfc Wilhelm H. A. Nebel, New York City.

### DIVISION HEADQUARTERS.

G-5 Sec. Maj Richard J. Crane, New York City; T/5 Carl E. Tillman, Philadelphia.

### 822d TD BN.

Co. B. Sgt Joseph F. Ciminero, Niles, O.; Pfc Earl E. Summers, Royce City, Tex.

Co. C. \*Sgt Minor W. Brantley, Hydro, Okla.; \*Sgt Gerald F. Donlon, Chicago; Sgt Granvil L. Moore, Downey, Calif.; Lt Walter F. DeDecker, Annawan, Ill.; Lt Charles E. Dickey, Jr., New Orleans; Sgt Dewey Hacker, Erline, Ky.; Lt John D. Taylor, Louisville, Ky.; Cpl Shelton L. Jones, Jermyn, Tex.; S/Sgt Thomas M. Novak, Hartford, Wash.; Sgt Fulman Pritchard, McKinney, Tex.

### 740th TANK BN.

Co. C. \*Cpl Clarence W. Munger, Alva, Okla.

Co. D. Lt Lloyd P. Mich, Camden, N.J.

### 753d TANK BN.

Co. C. Sgt Walter I. Hokenson, Tekoa, Wash. (also received Silver Star); Cpl Robert E. Teresinski, St. Joseph, Mo.; Pvt Thomas A. Faherty, McKees Rocks, Pa.; Pvt Ludger A. Dube, Lawrence, Mass.; Pvt Joseph C. Butter, McKees Rocks, Pa.

### 59th AFA BN.

Btry. A. Cpl James F. Ackinson, Ironton, O.

(Meritorious Service)

### 253d INF.

Hq. Co. 1st Bn. Cpl Ernest D. Howard, Island, Ky.

Hq. Co. 2d Bn. T/5 Edward J. Stelma, Wilmington, Del.; Lt. George W. Myers, Thomasville, Pa.; Pfc Irving I. Mayrowetz, New Brunswick, N.J.; Pfc George W. Hosking, Iron Mountain, Mich.; T/4 Stephen J. Gruber, Ardmore, Pa.; Sgt Sanford S. Ginsburg, Springfield, Mass.; T/Sgt John E. Chamberlin, Humboldt, Ia.; S/Sgt William B. Fogli, Chicago; S/Sgt Robert R. Bartlett, Oak Park, Ill.; Pfc Charles E. Lundenberger, Bolivar, O.

Co. E. Lt Arleigh G. Meyer, Emporia, Kan.

Co. G. Lt Hampton H. Hill, Brooklyn.

Co. H. \*Pfc Dennis E. Myers, Skiatook, Okla.; \*\*Pfc Carl E. Kenfield, Los Angeles; \*\*Pfc George J. Martin, Leach, Okla.; \*\*Pfc Joseph Goldberg, Pittsburgh; Pfc John Skeria, Windber, Pa.; Sgt William H. Standage, Walla Walla, Wash.; Pfc Robert L. Shular, Hayesville, N.C.; Pfc Francis J. Palmisano, Champaign, Ill.; Sgt Clyde Langford, Sampson, Ky.; Pfc David H. Harman, North Tazewell, Va.; Pfc James J. Driscoll, Marquette, Mich.; Pfc Leslie L. Harrah, Oak Hill, W. Va.; S/Sgt John B. Best, Jr., Winters, Tex.

Co. I. 1st/Sgt Calvin D. Hammel, Elsworth, Minn.

Hq. & Hq. Co. 3d Bn. S/Sgt Roy E. Sjoblod, Worcester, Mass.; Lt Sam E. Brown, Burbank, Calif.

Co. L. Pfc Ralph T. Rines, East Swanzey, N.H.

Co. M. Lt William H. Layden, McAlester, Okla.

Sv. Co. T/Sgt Lawrence E. Witte, New York City; CWO Edward Greco, Flemington, N.J.; WOJG George A. Wiswell, Philadelphia; WOJG Lee G. Dixon, Norfolk, Neb.

Cn. Co. Capt Seth C. Peatross III, Penola, Va.

Med. Det. T/4 Samuel Rosenfeld, Bronx, N.Y.; T/4 Walter C. Melvin, Jr., Newburyport, Mass.; S/Sgt Irving Koffman, Newton, Mass.

### 254th INF.

Hq. Capt James C. Creal, Wilson, La.; Capt Emanuel Taitz, Dorchester, Mass.; Lt David J. Larmon, New York City.

Cn. Co. Pfc James A. Ryan, Gloucester, Mass.

### 255th INF.

Hq. Capt James F. Clark, Detroit; Capt Harry J. Walters, Laurel, Miss.

Co. C. Capt Arthur M. Packard, Macon, Ga.

Hq. 3d Bn. Capt Wayne C. Williamson, Minneapolis; Lt Charles B. White, Los Angeles.

Co. K. Lt Walter I. Fishbaugh, Geneva, N.Y.

AT Co. Capt Robert C. Stuart, Danvers, Mass.

Sv. Co. M/Sgt Saul Roberts, Brooklyn; T/4 Stephen E. Hornyak, Wallingford, Conn.; Maj Harold H. Chandler, Grayton, Md.

Med. Det. Maj William I. Davis, Mound, Minn.; S/Sgt John F. Scrapchansky, Buffalo, O.; T/Sgt Stephen J. Javorsky, Youngstown, O.

### 861st FA.

Hq. Btry. S/Sgt Gerard J. Perreault, Marlow, N.H.

Btry. A. Cpl Robert M. Dyer, Yukon, Pa.; S/Sgt Richard B. Tavalaro, Inwood, N.Y.

Btry. B. S/Sgt Peter A. Tufano, Jersey City, N.J.

### 862d FA.

Hq. & Hq. Btry. Capt Thomas E. Selby, Ludington, Mich.; Capt Clarence F. Ax, Orion, Ill.; Capt John H. Mercer, Jr., Miami, Fla.; T/5 Marriott G. Haines, Mt. Holly, N.J.

Btry. B. Lt James T. Fielder, Greenbrier, Ark.

Btry. C. \*S/Sgt Joseph P. Whalen, Westwood, N.J.; Lt Ralph K. Ferguson, Tampa, Fla.; Capt Norman J. Williamson, Deephaven, Minn.

### 863d FA.

Btry. C. Capt William H. Crosson, Jr., Dorchester, N.J.; Lt Wyckoff Myers, West Palm Beach, Fla.; Lt Jules M. Romfh, Miami, Fla.; Lt Leslie P. Randall, Decatur, Ill.

### 718th FA.

Hq. & Hq. Btry. Sgt Clarence C. LeForce, Enid, Okla.; S/Sgt John W. McNamee, Chicago; Lt Adolph L. Shaima, Danvers, Mass.; Capt Melvin E. Thee, Edmond, Okla.

Btry. A. S/Sgt Joseph T. Kurzava, Buffalo, N.Y.; Sgt Leroy, L. Hanson, Dwight, Ill.; Sgt Harold T. Cole, Nyack, N.Y.

Btry. B. Lt Charles B. Elitch, East Orange, N.J.; T/5 Charles M. Crist, Pavia, Pa.; S/Sgt Paul D. Burden, Deer Grove, Ill.; Pfc Joseph J. Wrinn, Wallingford, Conn.; S/Sgt William L. Turner, Kansas City, Mo.

Btry. C. Lt Knud W. Swensen, Pleasant Grove, Utah; S/Sgt Seymour Gross, Brooklyn; Cpl Christopher C. Davison, Rutherford, N.J.; 1st/Sgt David C. Malloy, Jr., Houston, Tex.; Sgt Wilbur M. Harrington, Appleton, N.Y.; Lt Andrew M. Jackson, Jr., Detroit.

Sv. Btry. T/4 James R. Rosencrantz, East Kingston, N.H.; S/Sgt Stanley Meriesky, Old Forge, Pa.; Cpl Aldo M. Leone, Paterson, N.J.

Med. Det. T/4 Erwin O. Keyster, Peoria, Ill.

### 263d ENGR.

Hq. Capt Stanford Rayne, Jr., Baton Rouge, La.; Lt Edward J. Kleckner, Tamaqua, Pa.; CWO Raymond A. Poland, Lawton, Okla.; WOJG Seymour Rubinfeld, Forrest Hills, N.Y.

### 363d MED.

Hq. Det. T/Sgt William E. Devine, Hamden, Conn.

### 63d RCN. TR.

Sgt Lawrence R. Traver, Inwood, N.Y.

### 63d QM Co.

Sgt Gastano J. Triano, Brooklyn.

(Continued on Next Page)

## Bronze Star (Cont.)

### 63d MP Plat.

Pfc Edward L. Colburn, Seattle; T/5 Frederick Schaaff, Jersey City, N.J.

### HQ. SPECIAL TROOPS.

Maj James F. Bishop, Lincoln, Neb.; T/Sgt James Lecek, Argo, Ill.; Pfc Carl DeHeer, Ponca City, Okla.; S/Sgt Alwyn L. Featherston, Durham, N.C.; Sgt Charles W. Gordon, Philadelphia; Maj Burton L. Emerson, Johnson, Vt.

### DIV. HQ. CO.

Sgt Richard F. Lowry, Pittsburgh; Pfc Frank L. Thompson, Detroit; T/4 Albert W. Davis, New Cumberland, W. Va.; T/4 Alexander A. Premak, Bridgeport, Conn.

### DIVISION HEADQUARTERS.

Lt Col Frederick C. Johnson, Roslindale, Mass., Ordnance Officer; Lt Col Charles W. Gibbs, Columbia, S.C., Signal Officer.

**Office of the CG, ADC and C/S.** Lt George A. Brown, Jr., Roselle, N.J.; T/4 William F. Pollard, Detroit; T/4 Clarence E. Douglas, Vienna, W. Va.

**G-1.** Maj William B. Newbold, Pasadena, Calif.; M/Sgt Raymond P. Pisani, Plainfield, N.J.; S/Sgt William A. Pillsbury, Savannah, Ga.; T/4 Owen M. Duff, Litchfield, Ill.

**G-2.** Capt Clinton R. Weidner, Carlisle, Pa. (CIC Det.); M/Sgt John H. McAvoy, White Plains, N.Y.; T/Sgt George F. McAndrew, Brooklyn; Sgt Arthur M. Christiansen, Monticello, Calif.; T/4 George R. Hook, Flourtown, Pa.

**G-3.** Maj Michael Baymor, St. Clair, Pa.; Capt Bartow Kelly, Richmond, Mass.

**G-5.** Capt Cornelius W. Koopman, Elizabeth, N.J.

**Chaplain.** Chap (Lt Col) William E. Patrick, Carpinteria, Calif.; Chap. (Maj) William J. Guinan, Newburgh, N.Y.; T/5 Sidney W. Andrews, Wenatchee, Wash.; T/5 Edward C. Miller, Baltimore.

**CWS.** Lt Col Glenn Y. Williamson, Alhambra, Calif.; Capt George W. Cornell, Jefferson, O.; Sgt George L. Berry, West Hurley, N.Y.; Sgt Richard W. Wolford, Lakeland, Fla.

**Finance.** Lt Col Albert W. Widmer, North Hackensack, N.J.; Capt William H. Streiff, Jackson, Mich.; CWO Howard M. Lancaster, Chattanooga, Tenn.; T/5 Albert C. Cornell, Tuckahoe, N.Y.; T/3 Frank B. Hoffman, Detroit; T/3 Bernard Trocker, Brooklyn; T/Sgt Harold R. Tronzer, Chicago; M/Sgt Will B. Willoughby, Nashville, Tenn.; T/5 John L. Witmer, Palmyra, Pa.

**Inspector General.** Maj Herbert C. Hershey, Jr., Southern Pines, N.C.; WOJG Frederick W. Mangold, Floral Park, N.Y.; T/4 Henry A. Gardner, New Bedford, Mass.

**Judge Advocate.** Lt Col Joseph R. Cumming, Griffin, Ga.; Capt James E. Lonergan, Oak Park, Ill.; CWO Carl M. Langdon, Bicknell, Ind.; S/Sgt Carlton Blake, New York City; T/5 Arthur C. Loomis, Jr., Schenectady, N.Y.

**Special Service.** Capt Bernard H. Levkoff, New York City.

**Surgeon.** Maj Leon N. Goldensohn, Washington; Capt Edward E. Hittle, Indianapolis; M/Sgt Harry R. Kollnig, Denver, Colo.

**Accommodations.** Capt Stuart Murphy, St. Louis, Mo.

**French Military Mission, Seventh Army.** Lt Pierre de Pilatzky, Neuilly-sur-Seine, France.

**Adjutant General.** CWO Theodore W. Oliver, Marcellus, N.Y.; T/3 Donald H. Aldrich, Baltimore; T/4 Gerald W. Bullington, Indianapolis; T/Sgt Harding S. Ericson, Boston; T/4 Charles J. Gallagher, Sugar Notch, Pa.; T/3 Lawrence D. Giangregorio, Revere, Mass.; T/3

## PX to Begin Sale of Cigaretts, Candy

Free distribution of "accessory" rations — cigarettes, chocolate bars, gum, razor blades and similar items — will cease soon and be supplanted by PX sales of the same items, Capt. Bernard H. Levkoff, Division special services and exchange officer, has announced.

The accessory rations are distributed only to organizations actually in combat. In the future, Capt. Levkoff said, the Division will draw the same quantity of merchandise, to be sold on the same basis as present PX rations.

A total of 55 American combat divisions was on the Western Front on VE Day, according to the Associated Press.

James Handjis, New York City; T/Sgt Victor M. Hastings, Claymont, Del.; T/4 Walter W. Hewitt, Albany, N.Y.; T/4 Forrest G. Holts, Peoria, Ill.; T/4 Gilbert C. Knoblock, Chicago; T/Sgt Paul G. McQuiston, Jr., Memphis, Tenn.; T/3 William A. Oldmixon, Jr., Charleston, S.C.; T/3 Joseph L. Rodgers, Jersey City, N.J.; T/3 Leonard Rounds, Valley City, O.; M/Sgt Frank J. Scarpinato, Brooklyn; T/4 James H. Seacat, Memphis, Tenn.; T/4 Wilbert W. Sprengel, Lincoln, Neb.; T/3 Robert W. Vandercreek, Omaha, Neb.; T/4 Oliver R. Watson, Wilkinsburg, Pa.; T/4 Raymond E. Wessman, Chicago; T/Sgt John E. Whitfield, Brooklyn.

**APO 410.** Lt Henry E. Taylor, Atlanta, Ga.; S/Sgt William A. Shimp, Swedesboro, N.J.; T/4 Julius H. Settergren, Manistique, Mich.; T/5 William H. Willard, Philadelphia.

### 822d TD BN.

Hq. Lt Col Seward L. Mains, Jr., Nebraska.

Co. C. S/Sgt Edward T. Luginisky, Detroit.

### 740th TANK BN.

Hq. WOJG William Lipsky, Norwich, Conn.

Co. D. S/Sgt Roy Parks, Lexington, N.C.

### 753d TANK BN.

Hq. Maj Charles L. McNeill, High Point, N.C.

## Oak Leaf Clusters to Air Medal

### SECOND CLUSTER

Lt (then S/Sgt) Elvin V. Kietzman, Reese, Mich., Hq. Div. Arty.

### FIRST CLUSTER

Lt Ralph J. Eubank, Grand Junction, Ia., Hq. Div. Arty.

Lt Arthur L. Anderson, Squirrel, Ida., Hq. 862d FA.

Lt Julius A. Stevens, Altoona, Pa., Hq. 863d FA.

Lt James O. Townsend, Troy, Ala., Hq. 863d FA.

Lt John J. Calhoun, New Bethlehem, Pa., Hq. 718th FA.

### CORRECTION

In a list of winners of the Silver Star in the May 5 issue of BLOOD AND FIRE, the names of four members of the 255th Inf. were inadvertently credited to another regiment. The four are Lt. John M. Johnston and S/Sgt. Ray H. Marchington, both of Co. A; Lt. Paul R. Myers, Co. K, and T/5 Joseph E. Johnson, Med. Det.

## Gen. Hibbs Awards Medals to Staff

Formal presentation of Bronze Star Medals for meritorious service and Oak Leaf Clusters to previously-earned medals was made by Gen. Hibbs at a recent conference at his quarters.

The 16 recipients all are officers assigned to or associated with the Division Staff and two of the three regimental commanders.

Maj. Thomas P. Reaves, Provost Marshal, received both the Bronze Star and the First Cluster. Other cluster winners: Third Cluster: Col. Joseph H. Warren, CO 254th Inf., and Lt. Col. James F. Hatcher, CO 255th Inf.; Second Cluster: Brig. Gen. Frederick M. Harris, Assistant Division Commander; Brig. Gen. E. J. McGaw, Division Artillery Commander, and Lt. Col. Jack L. Coan, CO 263d Engr. Bn.; First Cluster: Col. Earle G. Wheeler, Chief of Staff; Lt. Col. John M. Hardaway, A. C. of S., G-2; and Lt. Col. Frank T. Ritter, Jr., A. C. of S., G-4.

The Bronze Star was pinned on Lt. Col. Joseph R. Cumming, Judge Advocate; Lt. Col. Albert W. Widmer, Finance Officer; Lt. Col. Frederick C. Johnson, Ordnance Officer; Lt. Col. William F. Patrick, Division Chaplain; Lt. Col. Charles W. Gibbs, Signal Officer; Capt. Bernard H. Levkoff, Special Services Officer, and Maj. James F. Bishop, CO Hq. Sp. Trs. and Headquarters Commandant.

## 253d Commander Now Full Colonel

The Blood and Fire Division's only holder of both the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star Medal with four oak leaf clusters now is a full colonel. He is Morris O. Edwards, of Salt Lake City, CO of the 253d Inf.

Col. Edwards was A. C. of S., G-3, until March 8, when he succeeded Col. Edward P. Lukert as regimental commander of the 253d.

From high school in Salt Lake City, the new colonel entered West Point, from which he was graduated in 1933, when he was commissioned a second lieutenant. He received advanced training in the Officers School at Ft. Benning, Ga., served in Puerto Rico from 1941 to 1943 and attended Command and General Staff School at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan., in 1943, just prior to joining the 63d Div. upon its activation.

In anticipation of Blood and Fire's battle destiny, Col. Edwards was sent to Europe as an observer with the 30th Division of the First Army last August, September and October.

Col. Edwards' wife and two children live in Salt Lake City.

A total of 15,546 members of the Women's Army Corps is serving overseas.



They're eating off china, now that the war is over. At 563d Sig. Co. mess are T/Sgt. Joseph F. Oktoves, T/4s Emil V. Soukup and John Taddeo, M/Sgt. Vincent J. Mellin and T/5 Albert Templeton.

## Night in Hayloft Best Part of Valor

Just about dusk one day when the enemy still was active on the 63d front, a six-by-six from Btry. A, 862d F.A., was grinding down a mountain road with a load of ammo bound for hungry howitzers. As the truck took a right-hand fork and rolled around a hairpin curve overlooking a valley, machine gun bullets came zipping into the driver's seat.

As Pfc. Paul Garatva, of Trenton, N.J., slammed on the brakes, more enemy slugs tore into the seat, missing both him and Cpl. Anthony Veccio, of Warren, R. I., by mere inches. No one had to tell them they had taken the wrong road. Pfc. Zigmund Krystofolsky, the machine gunner from Plymouth, Pa., took one glance at the fire-spouting machine guns on two sides of the valley and decided to join his buddies who were diving into a drainage ditch ankle deep in manure.

Under a constant hail of lead, the trio crawled up the odorous ditch into the open doors of a barn and scrambled to the hayloft where they stayed until the firing subsided. They kept a watchful eye for enemy patrols until dark and then two of them hurried to the truck for an armload of ammunition. The truck had two ruined tires.

All that night they shivered in their dripping clothes and thought of what the enemy might do. Dawn found them safe and sound, however, and when they saw two MPs cruising down the road they strode joyfully into the sunshine to welcome them.

The British Empire has sustained 1,126,802 casualties during five years of war. The casualties include 306,984 killed; 422,476 wounded; 70,872 missing and 326,470 prisoners.

## Brooklyn Tongue Has Appeal to 3 Heinies

Because of waning enthusiasm on the part of a group of Germans and his ability to make Brooklyn Yiddish sound like German, Lt. Harold Lipman, Co. D., 254th Inf., recently became captive and captor within a short space of time.

Lipman, who owns the Brooklyn Eagles of the American Football Association, was forward observer for his company when pounced upon by three Krauts as he emerged from the cover of a woods near Ingelfingen. The Heinies took his watch and cigarets and started to lead him to their rapidly disintegrating rear. Lipman unlimbered his Yiddish and persuaded his captors that it was much nicer being captives of the Americans. After a short parley the Germans agreed to accompany the lieutenant to his unit.

## Named Aide

Lt. Robert G. Hagemann, until recently with the 254th Inf., has been assigned to Division Headquarters as aide-de-camp to Gen. Hibbs. He succeeds Lt. Lawrence E. V. Stenstrom, of Superior, Wis., now assigned to XXI Corps as a liaison officer.

## Freed GIs Will Run PW Camps in U.S.

NEW YORK (CNS). — American soldiers who have been returned to the U. S. after liberation from German prison camps will be assigned to operate enemy prisoner of war camps in the 2d Service Command. That was announced recently by Maj. Gen. Thomas A. Terry, who declared: "American officers and enlisted men who have experienced captivity and detention by the enemy are considered to be eminently qualified for these duties."

## 'Enjoy Yourself,' Rule at Rec Center

All the pleasures of life in a 25-dollar-a-day resort are promised by Division Special Service for groups of 50 men to be taken every three days to the Bad Mergentheim recreation center.

"Supervision without rules" is the program of Sgt. Stewart Farmer, who is in charge of the athletic portion of the program. As far as possible, Sgt. Farmer intends that the men, brought from the various units of the Division, enjoy themselves unhampered by direction.

Three days in the recreation center specifically does not constitute a pass, but merely a recreation period designed particularly for men who fought long weeks in the lines without amusement. The men are given beds in one of the town's first-class hotels and are offered showers, sun-bathing, swimming in the Tauber River, motion pictures or stage entertainment, facilities of the Blood and Fire beer garden, use of the athletic fields and a special recreation center PX.

Bad Mergentheim, historically one of the most interesting cities in the province of Württemberg, was the seat of the Order of Teutonic Knights in medieval times and in the last century before this war was one of Germany's outstanding spas, noted for its mineral springs. It has three beautiful churches dating back to the Middle Ages, the ancient Teutonic Knights' Castle and numerous other interesting buildings.

## Monotony is Broken By Burning Ammo Car

Fire of undetermined origin which broke out May 6 in an abandoned German boxcar loaded with ammunition gave members of the 763d Ord. Co. a lively time of it at Osterburken.

Despite the fact the Ordnance men, directed by Capt. S. C. Waller, manned a hoseline immediately after the fire was discovered, the flames set off small arms ammunition and then communicated to shells of heavier calibre. The fire fighters had to abandon their efforts and take cover because of flying debris.

An automotive shop used by the supply section became ignited and burned to the ground, but not before all installations had been removed. Another shop building alongside also was burned. Twenty-two cylinders of German acetylene were stacked on the ground outside the shop and could not be evacuated. Several exploded and one was hurled 75 yards.

Only one man was slightly injured. He was hit in the leg by a flying piece of steel.

The European War lasted five years, eight months and seven days.

## Division Sidelights

**63d MP Plat.** — No interpreting difficulties too great for the cops. Several members of the platoon can converse in French, Polish, Russian, Spanish and German, and a group is taking Japanese lessons. The member who makes with the oriental tongue (he learned it from the US Armed Forces Institute) is Pfc. John Petraglia, of The Bronx.

For a while it looked as though the MPs were training a K-9 corps. Dogs of various breeds, from shepherd to dachshund, roamed about the quarters. It was discovered, however, that the language problem affected even the pooches. They „verstehen nicht“ their English-speaking masters.

Thanks to Pfc. Joe Gallagher's super-sensitive hearing, the MPs rest easily at night. Gallagher, a Chicagoan, on more than one occasion has detected noises that otherwise might have gone unnoticed. Even the earliest bird fails to cheep undetected by Gallagher.

**254th Inf.** — Cpl. John Sontag, Hq. Co. 1st Bn., has painted a graphic history of the 254th's part at Colmar and in the various angles of the campaign in Germany. The work, done in oils, also refreshes the memory of old-timers who are reminded that the regiment won the baseball and basketball titles back at Camp Van Dorn. At the top is the legend: „We Play to Win“.

Relaxing after the battles, Lt. Col. Marion R. Schewe, regimental executive officer, limbers his fingers by sketching in pencil. A recent subject was Col. Joseph H. Warren, the regimental commander.

Co. M. decided that three days before VE Day there was reason to celebrate. After a gala chicken and champagne dinner the men were entertained by the regimental orchestra and other members of the company.

Chaplain Warren C. Mounts has left the regiment for Division Artillery, exchanging posts with Chaplain William P. Grunow.

**253d Inf.** — This happened long enough ago to be worth repeating: Just before the big drive near Fechingen, Lt. Richard H. Davis, of Pensacola, Fla., was walking a trail alone to check on flank positions of his Co. B. He saw a blanket covering a foxhole, and a bulge under the blanket. He hit the bulge with the butt of his carbine. Out jumped a German, only to find the muzzle of a carbine against his abdomen. He told the lieutenant there were three more sleeping nearby; the company brought them in and, later in the day, 27 more.

T/5 Robert Walters, West New York, N.J., who is the driver for Capt. Walter M. Lee, regimental adjutant, became the father of a boy May 15, says a cable from his wife, Helen. „Shucks!“ said Walters, „I missed 12 points by three days!“

T/5 Frank J. Scalone, of Rochester, N.Y., and Pfc. Robert D. Labry, Gueyden, La., registered amazement when they saw three men, in Jerry green, riding down the Langenburg road in an auto. When the two Cannoneers stopped the car a German captain said in deliberate English: „We have just come from the Russian front in Czecho-Slovakia. The war is over. We are going home to Frankfurt.“ But the Blood and Fire men took over, drove to a PW cage and prevented three more Krauts from disguising themselves as civilians before questioning.

**862d FA.** — Back in the cold of CP 2 at Marseille last January, Maj. Georgie P. McCord, battalion S-3, decided the only possible means of keeping warm would be a blow torch in his tent. So he wrote his wife. The blow torch reached him the other day, when even Germany's thermometers were reaching for the ceiling.

**Kicking himself in the pants is Pfc. George Keseley, Btry. C motor mechanic from Cooley, Minn. Keseley is a strict believer in the non-fraternization policy. So, when a good-looking girl in a bluish uniform waved at him from a weapons carrier, he averted his eyes politely. Of course it turned out she was the first genuine fraternizing material he had seen in weeks — a Red Cross girl!**

**718th FA.** — Men of Hq. Btry. were dumbfounded recently when, with the war well over, they spotted a German liaison plane flying low over Mosbach. They figured it must have an Allied pilot, but they took charge of the situation when it landed and out stepped three Krauts who had heard of the capitulation and decided to settle down in their native Mosbach.

An impressive retreat parade and ceremony, the first by the battalion on foreign soil, was held May 11 to honor 11 men whom Brig. Gen. E. J. McGaw, Division Artillery commander, decorated with the Bronze Star Medal.

With the approval of 718th men who are guarding the area, French slave laborers living in barracks near Mosbach have turned the tables. They erected a sign: „Entrance Forbidden to German Civilians“.

(Continued on Back Page)

## Will Equalize War Sacrifices

(Camp Newspaper Services)

The War and Navy Departments have adopted a policy permitting assignment of the remaining members of an immediate family group to non-hazardous duty providing:

Two or more members of the immediate family group, while serving in the armed forces in this war, have been killed, died as a result of wounds, accident, or disease, or have been reported as missing in action or as prisoners of war.

The policy will apply, however, only upon request of the serviceman concerned a member of his immediate family. Non-hazardous duty may mean duty in the rear area of an active theater, duty in an inactive theater or duty in the U. S. However, a remaining member who is the sole surviving child or sole surviving son will in every case be retained in or returned to the U. S. for permanent assignment.

Cases which have been submitted previously and denied under the „sole surviving son“ policy should be resubmitted if consideration is desired under the new and broader policy.

Requests under the new policy should contain the name and relationship of all persons in the immediate family. For members of the armed forces, the grade, serial number, organization and station assignment should be included. For those members lost in the present war, the grade, serial number, last organization and station and available information as to death, capture, or missing status is necessary.

## Wins Service Plaque

**255th Inf.** — Sv. Co. has been awarded the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque for the period of Oct. 1 through April 30 for „maintenance of a high standard of discipline, military courtesy, personal appearance, installations and equipment, enthusiastic execution of orders and superior performance of duty in the accomplishment of exceptionally difficult tasks in France and Germany.“

**83d Chem. Mortar Bn.** — Two years on two continents, in four countries and five campaigns — April 30 marked the 500th day of actual combat for the battalion, which supported the 63d Div. in its drive through Germany. Serving with the Rangers, the 45th, 36th and Third divisions in two US armies, a French army and a British corps, the battalion participated in five amphibious assaults and one airborne operation.

The Army has approximately 8,050,000 men, of whom 5,150,000 are overseas.

## Promotions of 12 Announced in 255th

Two officers of the 255th Inf., Capts. James M. Boyd, Hq. 3d Bn., of San Francisco, and Willard J. LaMorte, Hq. 1st Bn., Bronxville, N.Y., have been promoted to major. The promotions were made without the usual lapse of time necessary between promotions because of outstanding leadership demonstrated by the two officers in combat.

Maj. LaMorte, one of the first members of the 255th to receive the Bronze Star, came to the 63d upon its activation at Camp Blanding. He has been commander of a rifle company, commander of the 1st Bn., regimental S-3 and is now executive officer of the 1st Bn.

Maj. Boyd is an Air Corps officer assigned to the Infantry. He led Co. K when it spearheaded the advance into the Siegfried Line and holds the Silver Star.

Promoted to captain were John B. Cook, assistant S-3; Abraham S. Lincoln, CO of Co. M, and Bernard M. Serlin, CO of Co. L. Capt. Serlin is now recovering from wounds.

Advanced from second to first lieutenant were William D. Brooks, Co. F; John W. Brown, Jr., Co. K; Frazier M. Conway, Co. D; Morris Y. Rowe, 2d Bn. S-2; Clayton E. Smith, Co. M; John A. Peate, Co. I, and James O. Tucker, Co. A.

## Officers, Runners Unslung Weapons

Radio operators, artillery liaison officers, battalion runners and a battalion commander were among 18 men of the 3d Bn., 254th Inf., who unslung their weapons to shoot it out with Krauts hiding in a woods near Horlebach.

Lt. Col. Donald Matheson had his CP follow close on the heels of Co. I, which had just gone through the woods. Scarcely had they left the clear fields when the colonel turned to his radioman, Sgt. Hyman Goode, of New York City, to say, "I think we may be going into this place a little too soon".

He hardly had finished the sentence when a rifle cracked. The party hit the dirt and tried to determine whether it was Co. I just ahead. Receiving no reply to their shouts, they figured some enemy soldiers had been bypassed in the dense growth. Col. Matheson immediately deployed his men for battle.

As the rifle fire from the woods increased, Co. I was radioed to send reinforcements. Meanwhile several crawling figures were observed near the edge of the woods. Two men hurled some grenades. Soon two of the enemy came out with upraised hands. Lt. Seab Reeves and a squad from Co. I arrived to flush out seven more candidates for the PW cage and the skirmish was over.

Bernie Blood

By Gill Fox



"Just think how friendly I could be for a whole carton!"

## Sidelights

(Continued from Page One)

Recent promotions in Sv. Btry. raised Lt. J. T. Moore to captain, 2d Lt. G. R. Armour to first lieutenant and Sgt. T. H. Campbell to first sergeant.

Maj. George W. Putnam, Jr., of Fort Fairfield, Me., battalion S-3, has been promoted from captain.

Five men of Hq. Btry have been advanced from Pfc. to T/5. They are Elmer Hall, New Smyrna Beach, Fla.; Herbert Haefner, Batavia, N.Y.; Lester Gadbois, Holyoke, Mass.; John Mans, Jersey City, N.J., and Roland Wenzel, Cleveland.

Div. Hq. and Hq. Co. — Worthy of inclusion in any act at the Recreation Palace is the description by T/4 Jim McCabe, G-4 Sec., of a recent strip tease in Mosbach. Complete with hip-twisting gestures, the Philadelphian tells how he watched a girl standing in full view on a crowded river bank, change from blouse and skirt to bathing suit without a trace of exposure . . . Seems it's SOP in a land of relatively few bathhouses.

Capt. Stuart Murphy, of St. Louis, Mo., has been appointed CO of Division Headquarters Co., succeeding Capt. Hughey M. Weir, now in a hospital. Capt. Murphy, formerly of Co. K, 255th Inf., also is Area Accommodations Officer.

The promotion of Lt. Col. Halkey K. Ross, Division military government officer, gave him no problem as far as his oak leaves are concerned. He always said he had had major's leaves so long they were permanently tarnished, and only a little polishing was necessary to bring them up to the standard of his new rank. One of his staff, Thomas N. Swan, has been promoted from sergeant to technical sergeant.

The high point value which sent S/Sgt William A. Shimp home to Stratford, N.J., brought three promotions in APO 410, of which he was section chief. New chief and staff sergeant is former T/4 Julius H. Settergren, of Manistique, Mich. From corporal to T/4 went Thomas W. Moyer, of Pensacola, Fla., and from Pfc. to corporal went William L. Young, Dallas, Tex.