

# Blood and Fire

Vol. 3, No. 21

Bad Mergentheim, Germany

August 1, 1945

## Gen. Harris Takes Command of 63D

Brigadier General Frederick M. Harris returned last Saturday from a leave spent in Cannes, France, and assumed command of the 63d Infantry Division relieving Colonel Earle G. Wheeler, Division Chief of Staff, who had served as Division Commander when Major-General Louis E. Hibbs departed 22 July 1945 for the United States.

General Harris, who has served as Assistant Division Commander of the 63d Division since the unit's activation in June 1943, graduated from West Point in 1920. Following a tour of duty at the Infantry School, Fort Benning, Ga., he was assigned to the 29th Infantry.

In 1926, he was sent to China where he was in Tientsin when Chiang-Kai-Shek, then an unknown revolutionary, attacked the area. Among his duties was the guarding of the international trains which had to go through periodically. Often opposing armies would cease hostilities until the train had passed through.

Back in the United States in 1929, General Harris spent two years with the First Division and in 1931 he became an ROTC instructor at Drexel Institute, Philadelphia, remaining until 1936. From 1936 to 1942, the general was stationed in the tropics spending two years in Puerto Rico and three in Panama where he was Assistant Chief of Staff of the Panama Canal Department.

In May 1942, he was transferred to the Latin-American Division of the Military Intelligence Service where he remained until he joined the 63d Division in 1943.

General Harris has four children, three daughters and one son.

## Himmler Cache is Uncovered By Rcn. Tr.

A story involving Himmler, "The Butcher", false walls and attic concealing seized Red/Cross canned goods, U. S. Army gasoline, quantities of linen and ladies' clothing, was unfolded last week as a result of work by members of the 63d Reconnaissance Troop during the shakedown in an operation termed "Tally-ho".

A former Nazi mayor of the town of Kongishofen is now in the hands of military authorities and his wife is dead from burns which she received while setting fire to the illicit merchandise.

It is reported that the former mayor and his wife owned a merchandise store in Kongishofen and that as the Americans penetrated deeper into Germany, Heinrich Himmler had sent quantities of captured and seized items to various cities throughout Germany to be concealed and later sold to former members of the German Army. It is alleged that German civilians in Kongishofen had informed members of the 63d Reconnaissance Troop of the fact that one of these caches was located in the store operated by the town's former mayor. Upon learning that the Americans planned to search the building, the owner's wife, poured gasoline about the building and set it afire. In the performance of this act, her own clothing became ignited and she died as a result of the burns received.

The estimated value of the concealed goods is not known.

## All G.I. Show Plays For Men of 255th

"Outpost Parade", featuring an all-GI cast from the 20th Special Service Company, was presented to the men of the 255th Infantry Regiment last week. The show, which met with the enthusiastic approval of audience, had as Master of Ceremonies, A. D. Smith, formerly of the Hurricane Club at New York.

Eddie Bigham, a 99-pointer from Philadelphia, Pa., former pianist with Charlie Spivak and the late Bunny Berrigan, was responsible for the hot music which "sent" the boys.

## Benny's Pixies in Photo Pose



Bergman laughs, Benny strikes a pose, Tilton claps hands while Adler smirks when Blood and Fire photographer snaps cast at show here last Saturday night.

Photo by Jackson.

## Div. Guards Security Target of Interest

Since VE-Day many G.I.'s have questioned themselves and others as to what reason we're here in Europe since the war ended, and often, "What are we doing in Germany?" One of the answers to this question is "Security Targets" which are kept under armed guard at all times. These security targets vary in size and description and no definite statement can be applied to any two of them, since each target, however small, served in its own way the German Army and the German Government to prolong the war.

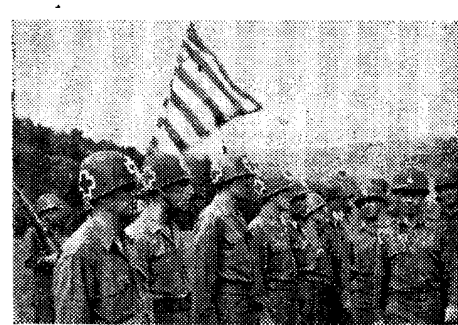
Not all the targets are in the large cities, many of them are in the small towns and villages far from Germany's major industrial centers, often far off the main thoroughfares, thereby protecting them from air attacks by allied planes.

The 63rd Division has its share of these "targets" and each of them is of utmost importance and requires much study and work in all parts of the Division—from the guards, who have the actual responsibility, to the G-2 Sections of higher headquarters.

One of these targets is in the castle of Baron von Zobel in the village of Messelhausen. This target, a Branch of the Hei-

(Continued on Page 2)

## 254th Men Decorated



Twenty-six men from special units of the 255th Infantry Regiment were presented with awards at a formation on Friday, 27 July 1945. Presentations were made by Lt. Col. Ralph O. Lashley, commanding officer of the 255th Regiment. Captain Joseph W. Donovan, commanding officer of Hq. and Hq. Co., 255th Infantry, and First Lieutenant William H. Gronning, Acting Adjutant, are shown immediately in the rear of Col. Lashley.

## Weekly Switzerland Tours Are Scheduled

The Swiss government has extended a visa to would-be visitors to the tiny Alpine republic and offered the opportunity for G. I.'s to spend leaves and furloughs there. The office of the Division G-1 has announced that 19 Blood and Fire men, including two officers, will be allotted trips each week.

The trips will be made under the auspices of the Swiss government and will consist of conducted tours of spots of scenic and historical interest throughout the nation as well as visits to large Swiss cities. Each group will be in charge of a local guide, an employee of a Swiss travel agency, and thoroughly familiar with the things tourists like to see and do. No unauthorized or uncondoned tours will be allowed.

Each man making the trip will pay a flat rate of 35 dollars for expenses of the seven day tour. In addition visitors will be allowed to buy a total of 35 dollars worth of souvenirs to bring cross the border.

Transportation will be provided by unit trucks to Strasbourg, and from there men will travel by train to Mulhouse, France where they will cross the border into Switzerland.

Following is the schedule for units of the 63d to make the trip: 255th Regiment, 1 August; 253d Regiment, 8 August; 263d Engineers and 363d Medics, 15 August; 254th Regiment, 22 August; Special Troops, 29 August; DAC and DCP, 5 September; and Division Artillery, 12 September.

## Slips that pass in the night

The commanding officer of the 763d Ordnance Light Maintenance Company rubbed his eyes and reread several times the following communication from a Herr Hofman:

"Those in Lauda stationed american troops always put and dump their gobage (Foodrests, paper and others) near the brick factory in Lauda. That place which they dump ist is used al pasture. We beg you to inform your troops not to put that gobage there.

Brick factory Lauda"

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Stop. Waram you bricking mine heart!)

## 10,000 63d Men Entertained By Jack Benny Show

Approximately 10,000 men of the 63d Infantry Division roared their enthusiastic approval of the Jack Benny-Ingrid Bergman-Larry Adler-Martha Tilton-Dave Lelwinter show last Saturday night in picturesque Anderson Bowl near Weikersheim as this star-studded quartet gave out with a performance which topped any USO show appearing in the Division since its arrival in the ETO.

Benny, who smokes ten cigars a day and was forced to bum one from the mess sergeant of Hq. Co., 3d Bn., 254th Inf. Regt. where the cast ate its evening meal, demonstrated his virtuosity as a violinist by playing several selections of chamber music (and the numbers should have remained in the second word immediately preceding these parentheses).

As further evidence of his versatility, the Waukegan Kid (who said he had "hair at home which he had never worn" when heckled about his hirsute adornment) played second fiddle to Ingrid Bergman in a skit where Bergman handles Benny like so much of that product which he used to advertise. The World Almanac Book of Facts, published by the New York World-Telegram, 1943, page 583, "Bright Lights of Stage, Screen and Radio" gives the following information anent the guy with moth-eaten marks ear-marked for Mary Livingston's purse: "Benny, Jack, born in Chicago, Ill., 1894". The same publication, page 861 under the heading "Noted Violinists" lists a Norwegian named Ole Bull. No comparison!

Ah, Bergman!

And then there was that bewildering, bewitching, beloved blonde, Bergman. Scintillating star of "Casablanca", "Gaslight", "For Whom The Bells Toll" and "Intermezzo". This precious piece of pulchritude possesses a fountain of gracious, unaffected natural charm which put everyone in her presence at ease. She should have had a rubber stamp for the multitude of autographs which she so willingly signed on an assortment of military marks, crumpled dollar bills, PX ration cards, Red Cross membership cards, WD AGO Forms 28, MD Forms 81, photographs, authorizations to carry loot and what have you.

(Continued on Page 4)

## 7th Army War Crimes Branch Opened Here

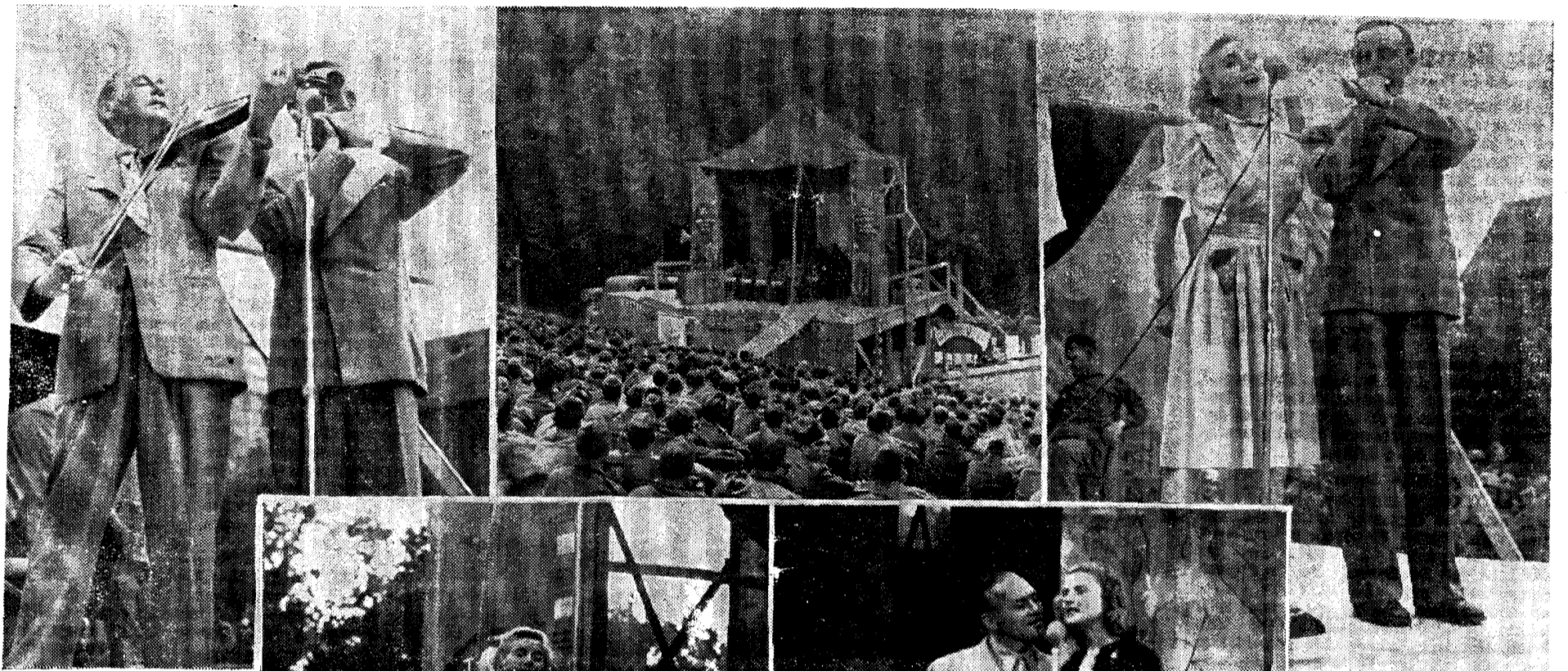
The War Crimes Commission of the Seventh Army has opened an office at 24 Ober Markt Platz in Bad Mergentheim for the purpose of gathering evidence concerning war crimes committed in this area.

Soldiers or civilians having information which might lead to the apprehension or trial of war criminals are requested to turn such information over to the commission. A war crime is defined as any outrage, atrocity or act of similar nature committed against a national of one of the Allied countries. Lieutenant Charles S. Thomas of the War Crimes Commission Office at Bad Mergentheim stated that until further notice, German Jews, who have been mistreated during the war, are to be considered as Allies.

The War Crimes Commission will try cases of murder, sterilization, the beating of Jews or Allied airmen or other nationals and SS men who are charged with various atrocities. The Commission will work in close coordination with the Military Government and CIC offices and it is believed that most of the cases will deal with acts committed prior to the conclusion of the war.

The Seventh Army War Crimes Commission was established by Lt. Col. Paul Rigby, Colonel Macklewee and Captain Dan Levy. Those officers then set up branch offices throughout the 7th Army.

Captain Keene Sacon is in charge of the WCC office in Bad Mergentheim with Lieutenant Thomas as assistant. Personnel of the office here operated a similar office in the area around Innsbruck, Austria.



Above: Jack Benny and Larry Adler give 63d Doughs a duet with violin and harmonica. Top center shows stage and part of the 10,000 soldiers who witnessed the Benny Show in Anderson Bowl last Saturday night

Upper right: Martha Tilton gives out with a song accompanied by Adler.

Lower left: Tilton solos a sultry song for the GI and lower right shows Benny (The Beast) drooling at movie star, Ingrid Bergman.

Photos by Jackson.

# SPORTSLANTS

By Pfc. Sidney Tatz

While reading the softball scores in the "Redcat", 253rd Regt. paper, we came across one score that had us wondering whether the AT Co had broken a record, or the printer, for the score read, "Regt Hq Co 13 AT Co 44". All we can say is, "What a team".

Here's something, we just found out. Major Angelo Conte, Div. Athletic Officer, used to be a star left end on the Penn State football team from 1936 to 1938. No wonder he tackled his new job so well.

Co "K" of the 255th Regt., came up with a novel idea to get the boys interested in softball. A prize is given to the winning platoon. What's the prize? A week's exemption from reveille. No wonder the boys are playing their heads off!

Maybe I'm sticking my neck out, but I'm of the opinion that Sgt. George Mc Intosh will be the winner of the 7th Army Tennis Elimination Tournament. Just keep your eyes on that boy. He surely swings a mean racket.

We were glad to see the Div baseball team find their batting eyes in pounding out 17 base hits against the 1st Armored. With batting like that, and with pitchers like Alusik, Higgins, and Mc Neil, we are confident that the team will make a darn good showing in the second half of the baseball season. Keep swinging those bats, fellows. Those base hits surely look good!

We were sorry to hear that Johnny Simpson, 63rd Div. diving champ and winner of the 7th Army diving crown, dislocated his shoulder. We all wish you a speedy recovery, Johnny.

## Railsplitters Win 12-4 From 63d Nine

Unleashing a 14 hit barrage, the 84th Div. "Railsplitters" trounced the 63d Div. baseball team, 12-4, Friday, July 27, at Bad Mergentheim.

Johnny Alusik, who in his last game had pitched a no hitter, and who is one of the "Blood and Fire's" best hurlers, just didn't have his usual stuff. The "Railsplitters" reached him for three runs and four hits in the third inning to take the lead. Our boys made the score 3-2, when they scored two in the fourth on two hits and an error. The 84th came right back with three more in the fifth, seventh, and ninth. The home team scored their third run in the fifth, and got their fourth and last tally in the seventh.

Simmons with four hits, led the "Railsplitters" attack, while Dooley's three singles paced the "Blood and Fire" hitting.

	R	H	E	
84th Div	0-0-3-0-3-0-3-0-3-	12	17	2
63rd Div.	0-0-0-2-1-0-1-0-0-	4	9	3

Batteries: 84th: Petrobe and Keppley  
63d: Alusik, McNeil (8th) and Petersen.

### Softball Team Loses

Handcuffed by the one hit pitching of Joe Weber, the 63rd Div. softball team was beaten by the 84th Div. "Railsplitters", 9-0, at Weinheim, Friday, July 27. Poor terrain and spikeless shoes were mainly responsible for the team's mis-cues, nine in all. Tarquino's single in the seventh was the 63rd's lone hit.

	R	H	E
63rd Div.	0	1	9
84th Div.	9	10	2

Batteries: 63rd: Berlin and Broaddus  
84th: Weber and Landry.

## Div. Athletic Office to Issue Equipment

The Division Athletic Office has announced that 30 carloads of athletic equipment have been unloaded at 7th Army warehouses. This amount is enough to supply teams down to "company level". The equipment will be divided proportionately and consists of uniforms and material for baseball, softball, basketball, touch football, tennis, soccer, boxing, horseshoe pitching, badminton, and ping pong. A large amount of swimming trunks will be available. Division will pick up the equipment Wednesday, and the units will have it by Saturday.

## McIntosh, 253, is New Div. Tennis Champ

Defeating all opposition, Sgt George E. Mc Intosh, of Co. "E", 253d Inf., won the Div. Tennis Singles Championship at Bad Mergentheim, Friday, July 27. Mc Intosh beat Lt. Col. James P. Giles Jr., of the 861st FA. Bn, 6-3, 6-2, to take the title.

Col. Giles played a fine game, but Sgt. Mc Intosh was unbeatable, springing into an early lead and holding it through out the game. In the preliminary matches, Sgt. Mc Intosh first defeated Lt. Carl Rogge 6-3, 6-0, then went on to win from Sgt. Vance Mc Intyre, 6-1, 6-2. Pfc. Louis G. Marvinney proved to be the victim in the semifinals, as Mc Intosh won his third victory, 6-3, 6-2.

The champ, who hails from Nashville, Tenn., won the Tennessee State Championship in the junior amateur class, and is rated as one of the nation's best amateur tennis players. He has played against Don Budge in exhibitions.

The team which will represent the 63d Div. in the 7th Army Tennis Elimination Tournament consists of Sgt. Mc Intosh and Pfc. Louis G. Marvinney, singles players, and the doubles team is made up of Col. James Giles and Lt. Carl Rogge. The tournament opens August 2 at Mannheim.

## 255th Softball Results

718th F.A. Bn.  
Btry. "A" 10, Btry "C" 3  
Btry "B" 5, 599th QM 3  
Btry "A" 2, 599th QM 0

255th Inf.  
Co "M" 6, Co "L" 0  
Co "E" 12, Co "F" 0  
Co "E" 4, Hq Co (2d Bn) 2

Special Troops  
36th QM 4, 763rd Ord. 3  
763rd Ord. 5, 63rd Sig. 4

253rd Inf.  
Reg. Hq. 11, Ser. Co. 9  
Co. "G" 7, Hq. 2nd 2  
Co. "H" 4, Co. "F" 3  
Co. "L" 3, Co. "K" 1  
Co. "M" 5, Hq. 3rd 2  
Co. "I" 10, 3rd Bn. Officers 7  
3rd Bn. Officers 11, Reg. Officers 6

## 63d Nine Trims 1st Armd., 12-1

Snapping a three game losing streak, the 63rd Div. nine pounded out a 12-1 decision over the 1st Armored Div. team at Schwäbisch Hall, Sunday, July 29.

The Tankmen scored their one and lone tally of the game in the second inning, and jumped off to a 1-0 lead, but in the third, the "Blood and Fire" attack began when with two out, Lanzetti singled, stole second, and scored on Shoemaker's triple. The latter scored a moment later, as the ball got away from the catcher. The 63rd opened up the fourth by scoring two more tallies on two Hits and two "Tankmen" errors.

There was of no further scoring till the 7th when our boys scored two runs on singles by McNeil, Shoemaker, and Wynne, and Dooley's sacrifice. They added another run in the eighth on two hits and an error, and in the ninth, they really opened up. Lanzetti singled to right Shoemaker dropped a Texas Leaguer into short center, Wynne flied out, but singles by Dooley and Zelasko scored the first two batters. Powles flied out, however Stafford continued the attack by singling to left, scoring Dooley with the third run. Petersen's double scored Zelasko and Stafford. McNeil flied out to end the inning. The 1st failed to score in the ninth, and the game ended with our boys ahead, 12-1.

McNeil struck out seven men and only walked two. Shoemaker, with four hits to his credit, led the hitting. In the softball game between the two divisions, the 63rd was also victorious, winning 4-1. The game was played at Lauda.

63d Div. 0-0-2-2-0-0-2-1-5- 12 17 2  
1st Armd 0-1-0-0-0-0-0-0-0- 1 6 5  
Batteries: 63d: McNeil and Petersen  
1st Armd: Moore and Viar.

come on in the water's fine



The official newspaper of and is published by and for the men of the Blood and Fire (63d) Infantry Division, APO 410, c/o PM, NY. BLOOD AND FIRE uses Camp Newspaper Service material, 205 East 42d Street, NY.

Pvt. Herbert M. Jackson, Editor; T/5 Elmo O. Stafford, News Editor; T/4 Louis Pomerantz, Feature Editor; Pfc Sidney Tatz, Sports Editor; Pfc. James Adshad, Staff Writer; Sgt. Charles J. Markman, Staff Artist; Pfc. Levie A. Jackson, Photographer.

## The Chaplain's Corner

The late President Woodrow Wilson was the author of a small book which bore the title "When A Man Comes To Himself". The theme is derived from the parable of the prodigal son in Saint Luke XV where we read: "And when he came to himself . . . he said, I will arise and go to father".

Here is the familiar story of a generous father who hands over to his younger son a portion of his inheritance. The lad fares forth and proceeds to cut a wide swath. While he had plenty of money he had a lot of fair weather friends who were only too ready to help him spend the money which his father had earned by hard work when that was gone "no man gave unto him".

True the pangs of hunger were the cause of his first coming to himself and realization of the contrast between his present state and the comfortable life at home and in modern parlance to "kick himself" for being so asinine. But he went farther in his thinking and was now aware of his own shortcomings, his lack of spiritual strength and moral fibre. So he did the sensible thing, he went home in a humble, penitent mood.

The elder brother, the patient, plodding type of man, was naturally peeved at the killing of the fatted calf because he had faithfully stayed at work while his younger brother was wasting his substance in riotous living. The parable should perhaps be called "The Prodigal Father" instead of "The Prodigal Son", for the father was prodigal in his generosity, in his mercy and in his forgiveness, rejoicing that the son had seen the error of his ways.

Hundreds of people go through life blissfully unaware of any sense of imperfection. They never take account of stock to see where they stand and see no reason why they should try to learn anything

new. From time to time it would do us all good to make such an inventory. A consciousness of imperfection, a sense of defect, a sense of sin are the first steps when a man comes to himself. The next is to do something about it having had the grace to admit that there is room for improvement. Your father and mother, your friends—everyone who knows you will rejoice that you have the intestinal fortitude to admit your failures and they will admire the man who, having perhaps been led astray, has the courage to try to climb upward again.

## Schedule of Religious Services

Services at Division Headquarters, Bad Mergentheim.

Protestant Services: Sunday.

0830 — Holy Communion (Episcopal) at Castle Church.

0900 — General Protestant Services at Castle Church.

1500 — Christian Science Service at Hirsch Hotel.

Catholic Mass, Sunday.

0930 — Holy Mass at Church near DAC. Note: Confessions at DAC Church Saturdays, 1800 to 2000. Daily Mass at 1700 (Monday to Friday).

Jewish Services:

1930 Friday — Synagogue, 15 Holzapfelgasse.

1000 Saturday — Synagogue.

SPOT WISDOM: "To everything there is a reason and a time to every purpose . . . a time to weep and time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance."

## 863d Field Puts on Revue for Div. Arty.

A laugh-provoking three act all soldier revue entitled "Siegfried Follies" in "It's All for You" was presented by members of the 863rd Field Artillery Battalion to soldiers of Division Artillery at the theatre in Lauda last Thursday evening. This show presents a good argument to the question of whether or not to produce GI Talent Shows instead of shipping USO Shows overseas. The majority of the USO Shows are seldom as cleverly written, produced or as well staged as "It's All For You".

The opening number "It's All For You" followed by "You Can't Fraternalize" got the show off to a humorous start. The first act included a song by S/Sgt. Speakman called "Benny's From Heaven" and an elaborately staged "Mexican Slayride", featuring Carmen Verandah, portrayed by Cpl. Ainsworth of Div Arty Hq. Ainsworth made a convincing senqrita in his split skirt which showed his shapely legs to an advantage.

Act II began with "Mail Call Blues" sung by Pfc. Ken Holland, which proved to be the parodies of several old songs formed into a story. In the same act, "Life With Baby", or "Back in the USA" and a serious moment provided in "Victory Salute" sung by the ensemble.

The third act had "A Night At Minsky's" with S/Sgt. Speakman as "Queenie" doing a professional strip-tease. Speakman suffered an embarrassing moment when his brassiere slipped. In the same number six beautiful GIs in glamorous G-Strings, as the "Rockettes" formed a side-splitting kick line. The broad-shouldered chorines also sang "Powder My Back For Me". There was a crucial moment when the G-String of one of the chorus boys became unfastened in the fast moving routine.

"She Gets The Neck of the Chicken" featuring-Monsieur Avec (Cpl Ainsworth) and Mademoiselle Kooshay (S/Sgt Speakman) and Mademoiselle Tres Bien (Pfc D. Roth) proved to be an exciting, hilarious adagio.

The hour and a half show was concluded by a finale by the ensemble — "Send Us Home". The original music and lyrics were written by Pfc. Louis De Piro of Bronx, N.Y. and included two exceptionally good numbers, a lovely ballad, "I Wouldn't Mind Loving You" and a beguine rhythm piece entitled "You". De Piro also arranged all the music for the show. The dance numbers were staged by S/Sgt Speakman and the whole show was supervised by Lt. Robert A. Lang, also of the 863rd FA. Bn.

"It's All For You" was originally produced in the 36th Division Artillery by many of the GI's in the present cast. Cpl. Pete Lasculo, S/Sgt Speakman and Pfc. Ken Holland were members of the original cast.

## 253d Athletic Program off to Fine Start

With two tennis courts already in operation and with two boxing rings almost completed, the 253rd Inf. Athletic Program, under the able guidance of Lt. Dooley, Regimental Athletic Officer, has gotten off to a fine start in its endeavor to have the best athletic program in the Division.

The tennis courts, though not of Wimbledon vintage, are located in the town of Wertheim, and serve the 1st and 3rd Battalions, who are quartered in the town. The men use home made nets built of camouflage nets and various other substitutes. The six rackets being used are slightly worn, but new ones will be forthcoming as soon as the Div. Athletic Office obtains new equipment. A third court is being built in Tauberbischofsheim.

The two boxing rings, which are also in Wertheim need only matting for the

## Softball Standings

### 255th Infantry

Team	2nd Bn		Pct.
	Won	Lost	
Co "E"	3	0	1000
Co "G"	2	1	.666
Hq Co	2	2	.500
Co "H"	1	2	.333
Co "F"	0	3	.000

### 3rd Bn

Team	3rd Bn		Pct.
	Won	Lost	
Co "M"	3	0	1000
Hq Co	2	1	.666
Co "I"	2	1	.666
Co "K"	1	2	.333
Co "L"	0	4	.000

### Special Units

Team	Special Units		Pct.
	Won	Lost	
Cn Co	4	0	1000
AT Co	3	1	.750
Sv Co	1	2	.333
Hq & Hq	0	2	.000
Medics	0	3	.000

### Staff Officers

Team	Staff Officers		Pct.
	Won	Lost	
Green	2	0	1000
White	1	0	1000
Blue	1	1	.500
Red	0	1	.500

1st Bn has not yet begun inter-company competition.

### Special Troops

Team	Special Troops		Pct.
	Won	Lost	
Recn Troop	5	0	1000
QM Co.	4	1	.800
Ord. Co.	3	2	.600
Sig. Co.	2	3	.400
Hq & Hq Co.	1	4	.200
MP & Band	0	5	.000

### 253d Infantry

#### 1st Bn

Team	1st Bn		Pct.
	Won	Lost	
Co "C"	4	0	1000
Hq Co	3	2	.600
Co "A"	3	2	.600
Co "Bn"	3	2	.600
Co "D"	2	3	.400
Officers (1st Bn)	0	5	.000

#### 2nd Bn

Team	2nd Bn		Pct.
	Won	Lost	
Hq Co	2	1	.666
Co "E"	2	1	.666
Co "H"	2	1	.666
Co "G"	2	2	.500
Co "F"	0	3	.000

#### 3rd Bn

Team	3rd Bn		Pct.
	Won	Lost	
Co "M"	7	1	.875
Hq Co	5	1	.833
Co "L"	5	3	.625
Co "I"	3	5	.375
Co "K"	3	5	.375
Officers (3rd Bn)	0	7	.000

### Special Units

Team	Special Units		Pct.
	Won	Lost	
Reg. Hq	3	0	1000
AT Co	1	1	.500
Cn Co	1	2	.333
Sv Co	0	2	.000

## Div. Guards Security Target of Interest

(Continued from Page One)

delberg University, is under the direct supervision of "D", 263rd Engineer Battalion. Captain Teunisson, CO, Co. D, and 1st Sergeant Lucey find themselves in an odd, but interesting capacity, that of safeguarding and protecting a university.

Before the end of the war, this Branch of the University employed eighty men, all of whom were scientists, skilled metalworkers, electricians, and carpenters. The unit was housed in four barracks, one barrack was used for a workshop, the second formed a chemistry laboratory, the third was used for experiments with television, and the fourth barrack was used for experiments with artificial rubber and luminous (phosphoric) substances. All four barracks are filled with a varied assortment of highly intricate machinery and equipment, but all the equipment is idle these days awaiting orders from Army to move back to Heidelberg University. Dr. Eugene Kruppke, Professor of Physics, and his secretary, Frau Leinig, are still with the Branch acting as caretakers.

One of the many interesting experiments being conducted was the testing of reflection and absorption of wave lengths on artificial rubber. The purpose of this investigation was to determine the effectiveness of this rubber as an anti-radar measure.

All planes and ships are equipped with

radar sets which constantly send electrical impulse or wave lengths to determine if any metal objects are in the vicinity of the plane or ship. If the wave lengths do reach a metal object, such as a submarine, the electrical impulse is reflected from that object back to the transmitter, thereby warning the occupants of the submarine. If a special type of rubber, composed of iron, carbon, etc, could be used to cover the submarine, that would absorb the wave length instead of reflecting it, then a radar set would be of no value and a submarine or other metal objects, could go unmolested. Testing this rubber with a radar transmitter was the experiment of the Branch of Heidelberg University being guarded by our Engineer Battalion. One can readily see the value of such experiments in the Nazi War Machine and our security guards must assure the safeguarding of these targets.

The castle which houses this experimental station is surrounded by a high wall with heavy iron gates at each entrance which forms a barrier to any intruder. But there is also a soldier of the United States Army on duty at the gate to see that unauthorized persons do not gain an entrance. At night two guards are posted, one at the front and one at the rear of the buildings. Pfc. Archie Diesel of Houston, Pa., pulls his share of the guard detail along with all other members of Co. "D", of the 263rd Engineer Battalion. "D" Company certainly has a reason to be in Germany.

floor to be completed, but that, at present, seems to be a problem. Here again, the Athletic Office is working on that. Lt. Dooley has travelled all over the countryside in an effort to get the necessary materials, but so far, the search has been unsuccessful. A third ring, which is almost complete and which is in Tauberbischofsheim, also faces the same problem. Lt. Dooley is far from discouraged and is continuing with his plans. He already has a team ready to begin boxing as soon as the opportunity avails itself. Here's hoping that the men of the 253rd Inf. get the material they need.

Brooklyn (CNS) — A library asked doodlers who fill in O's in books with pen or pencil to cut it out.

Indianapolis (CNS) — The meanest rat in Indianapolis is the one who nibbled through a cardboard box and ate all the meat ration stamps at Danny Kroger's grocery store.

## Male Call



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

## Side Issue

## Jack Benny Show

(Continued from Page One)

In an exclusive interview obtained by the editor of Blood and Fire in the basement of the house occupied by the Division Commander, Bergman, who was pressing a skirt she was to wear at the evening performance, said that while she found the average German fraulein quaint and attractive in her peasant dress she did not think that the American girl should lose any sleep worrying about being wooed and pursued by the G.I. when he hits the United States. They may make 'em more glamorous than Ingrid („Iggy“) we called her for short, but they don't make 'em more genuine.

Miss Bergman plans to leave Hollywood for a couple of months following her return to America to do a play written by Maxwell Andersen about a French mademoiselle named Joan D'Arc.

### Tilton Ribs Jersey Joe

Martha Tilton, diminutive vocalist with the show, who formerly made with the throat with Benny Goodman's orchestra and who is married to a sailor now on an LCI in the Southwest Pacific, gave Private First Class John M. Cella, Jr., a good ribbing about the latter's home town, Newark, New Jersey, while she was pressing the dress which she wore in the show. Cella, who works in the Commanding General's quarters, gamely defended Newark but the best he could do in the basement battle was break even.

### Adler Gives Out With Harmonica

Larry Adler gave the audience a generous exhibition of how to handle a harmonica and, as an added attraction, surprised the boys with an assortment of quips which he traded with other members of the cast including those in the 16th Armored Division Band, an organization which has been with the show for the past four weeks.

Dave Lewinter, well known pianist, arranger and composer, did an excellent job of accompanying other members of the cast. Lewinter's latest composition, „Xanadu“, is currently being plugged in the U. S. by Jimmy Dorsey who made a recording of the number for Decca. In addition to having played over CBS, Lewinter appeared in „One Touch of Venus“ and „Lady In The Dark“.

### 63d Band Plays For Crowd

Directed by Chief Warrant Officer Donald Wright, Jr., the 63d Division Band furnished musical entertainment during the period prior to the show for the GIs who began packing the amphitheater an hour before the curtain rose.

### Cast Praises Arrangements

Members of the show had high praise for the excellent manner in which the Division supervised the seating of the unusually large audience, the stage set-up and other arrangements which contributed materially to the pleasure and comfort of the troupe.

## Div. I & E Classes Attract 2,500 GIs

School bells rang out in the 63rd Division area Monday as approximately 2,500 high pointers set the clock back to little red school house days and began study at classes sponsored by their unit Information and Education sections.

Typical of the programs operating in the division is that of the 253d Regiment. There, under the direction of I & E officer Capt. Aubrey V. Watts, schedules have been arranged textbooks distributed, classrooms prepared and actual study begun. A total of 12 courses are offered to Class IV men in the 254d, and are being conducted in two schools, 1st and 3d battalion school at Wertheim and 2d battalion and special troops school at Tauberbischofsheim.

According to Lt. Edward Stewart, I & E Educational Advisory officer, enrollment in the classes was „contagious“, beginning slowly but gradually gaining momentum. He added that much of the credit for the regiment's high enrollment was the publicity campaign conducted by REDCAT, the 253d's weekly newspaper.

An interesting sidelight and a valuable asset to the program has been the adoption of an „on the job“ training system. Men enrolled in motor maintenance, body work, wire, baking, and ice cream manufacturing will do practical work in these subjects in addition to their classroom training. The first two courses will have their laboratories set up in the unit motor pools. Wiremen will learn the intricacies of establishing and maintaining communication lines by working with the regimental wire teams, and the bakers and ice cream makers will do their practical

## Gypsy Troupe Entertains in Bad Mergentheim



Members of a group of gypsies make with the hips for the entertainment of 63d GIs at Recreation Palace in Bad Mergentheim. The group furnishes music, songs and dances each evening at the Palace for wine, beer, cigarettes, etc.

Photo by Jackson

## Blood and Fire Will Introduce New Column

Are you nervous in the service? Are you cracking up from shacking up? Are you unhappy with the set-up because there ain't no let-up?

You are! Well hush my mouth and smack me down with a well done pan-fried pork chop, here's your chance to get it off your chest, Joe. Beginning with the issue of Wednesday, 8 August 1945, Blood and Fire will introduce a new column for the publication of letters from the boys of the 63d Div.

So take off your shirt, grab a pencil, pen or typewriter, bare your bosom and let that steam off, soldier!

If the mess sergeant gives you the neck of the chicken instead of the breast, if your first sergeant is an addle-brained, beetle-browed beast, if you want to go home instead of making the trip by boat, if you think the Division should confine its training program to bunk fatigue and care and cleaning of equipment, address your complaints and suggestions to The Editor, Blood and Fire, Public Relations Office, Headquarters 63d Infantry Division.

Your confidence will not be violated and if you don't want your name published, that's OK too.

## Wedding of U.S. Couple Attended by 63D Men

One of the first American weddings in Germany was well represented by members of the 63rd Division last week. The marriage of Miss Honor Gallagher of Berkeley, Calif., and 1st Lieutenant Donald Kruze, of Columbus, Ohio, took place in St. Peter's Cathedral near Bensheim, Germany. The young couple were married at 1600, July 21, 1945, by Chaplain Brown, VI Corps. After the wedding a reception was held in their honor at the residence of Brigadier General Carl A. Baehr, CG, VI Corps Artillery.

Major Earl D. Shroeder, Assistant G-3, Division Hq, Capt. John A. Fatcheric, Special Troops Medical Officer, Capt. Paul C. Evans, 861st FA Battalion, and S/Sgt William Gregg and Cpl. William DeMuth, both of Div Arty Hq, were among those present. Other guests included Major General Collins, CG, VII Corps, and Brigadier General Hess, CG, 36th Div Arty.

The former Miss Gallagher was with the American Red Cross Clubmobile Unit with VI Corps and Lt Kruze is with the VI Corps CIC Detachment.

## News of 255th Inf.

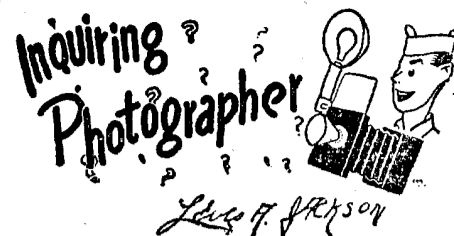
The „high pointers“ of Company „L“ are doing a lot of speculating these days, the main topic of conversation being „what are you going to do after (and if) you get out of the Army?“ When interviewed, T/Sgt Loomis from Michigan stated he intended to get married and then go back to his old job. Private First Class Fruncek from Milwaukee, wants to go to college under the G.I. Bill of Rights while Sergeant Cooper is going to take a two months' vacation and then go into business for himself. Max Rosenbloom, New York City, wants to go to work without any vacation and Sergeant Geyer hopes to go to Florida for a rest this winter.

Private First Class Teta from Massachusetts is going to take up welding and Sergeants Plevan and McLeod, with Privates First Class Szollosi and Roberts are going back to their old jobs.

Corporal Joseph Mongello, former member of Company „F“ writes from Camp Lucky Strike: „Expect to leave for the States around the 25th. It's a heck of a feeling to know you're on your last lap home. We don't do a darn thing and that is nice. Believe it or not I'm really sick of coffee and doughnuts. We are allowed to take all our loot. Regards to all the fellows, I sure miss them.“

We hear from reliable sources that Lt. Hughes has been talking in his sleep lately about beautiful artillery. Since when has artillery been beautiful, Lieutenant?

Congratulations to four members of Company „E“ who were decorated with the Bronze Star medal on 24 July. They are Staff Sergeant Henry J. Chaney, Sergeants Norman Engleright, Orvin H. Legette and Elmer L. Clark.



THE QUESTION: Do you advocate post-war compulsory military training?

2D LT. LOIS DIKE, 116th Evacuation Hospital. Yes I do, because one year won't hurt anybody. All the younger men should be left in the States and the older men sent to the ETO and PTO for occupation. The older men would be better equipped to handle any trouble that might arise over here.

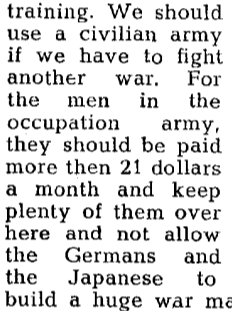


SGT. EEBN R. COULTER, JR, 63d MP Co. I haven't given it much thought to be truthful—I just want to get out of the Army. I don't really think compulsory



training is necessary because it would interfere with young fellows education too much, a 50% probably contemplate college. The Army should be paid enough to keep a good sized regular army and allow them to volunteer for overseas duty.

CPL. WILLIAM JACKSON, 63d Signal Company. America is not that kind of a country, in other words, it's hardly a democratic idea to foster compulsory



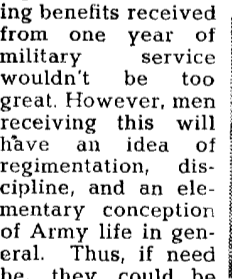
training. We should use a civilian army if we have to fight another war. For the men in the occupation army, they should be paid more than 21 dollars a month and keep plenty of them over here and not allow the Germans and the Japanese to build a huge war machine again.

PFC. BOB COMBS, 7th Army. We definitely should have compulsory training and keep the Germans from rebuilding and starting another war. We should use



all young men over here anyway — from 18 to 20 years old — because we can get more out of them. A year and a half of training is enough but nine months of the time should be served overseas. The pay for these men should be at least 30

dollars a month.



PFC. BENJAMIN S. LEVY, 563rd Signal Co. To my way of thinking, post war conscription is a necessary and important topic to be voted on. Primarily, the training benefits received from one year of military service wouldn't be too great. However, men receiving this will have an idea of regimentation, discipline, and an elementary conception of Army life in general. Thus, if need be, they could be called on and relied on in an emergency.

We cannot look each other in the eye and deny that it would be a good idea to be partially prepared for anything that turned up unexpectedly. I do think conscription should coincide with the young man's educational program as much as possible.

