

# Blood and Fire

Vol. 3, No. 4

63D INFANTRY DIVISION

March 10, 1945



FIRST SILVER STARS in the Division were pinned on by Gen. Hibbs. In top photo recipient is Lt. James A. Undine, Co. A, 255th Inf. In bottom photo, with Col. Joseph H. Warren, 254th regimental commander, looking on, recipient is Lt. James S. Settineri, Co. H, 254th Inf., battlefield-promoted from tech sergeant.



## Her Spy Recipe Burns Up Cook

Although there are some dyspeptics who believe the worst, T/4 Fred Wolff, cook for Hq. Btry., Div. Arty., is not a spy. It seems that Sgt. Wolff, full of the good spirits that the sun brought to the streets of his village, stopped for a chat with one of the local philosophers. Because Wolff was born in Germany the language offers no difficulties. He was shooting a fast breeze when a delegate of the FFI tapped him on the shoulder and began to ask leading questions.

For a moment Wolff was confused by the strange turn his conversation had taken. It required the testimony of some of the men in the battery to convince the FFI that Wolff had come by his linguistic skill honestly and that he was an American soldier-cook.

The wife of Wolff's new-found friend had become suspicious of a GI making with the German so well, and had turned him in as a Nazi agent. It all blew over, but some guys are shaking their heads, peering anxiously at their mess kits and saying . . . «Like with Peter Lorre, you can't tell in the pitcher if he's a good guy or not.»

It's YOUR Life — «Watch out for spies. A vehicle was stopped by four men in American uniforms in a jeep. They killed the driver and drove off with the vehicle.»

## Drowning Boy Saved by Soldiers

An unidentified French boy was saved from possible death by drowning in the Saar River last week by prompt action on the part of Cpl. Joseph Liberato and Pfc. Arthur K. Antonian, both of Div. Hq. Co., and Pfc. James M. McHugh, of the police section of the 63d MP Plat.

The boy, about 10 years old, was playing on a portion of the bombed-out bridge at the foot of Rue Charles Untzschneider when he lost his footing and was swept beneath the bridge toward the falls. Pfc. Frank Duva, H. & S. Co., 263d Engrs., plunged into the water in an attempt at rescue but his heavy clothing hampered his efforts and he was forced to return to shore.

Liberato, whose home is at Chester, Pa., leaped into the water and managed to drag the unconscious lad to shore, assisted by Antonian, who hails from Dearborn, Mich. Cries of spectators attracted Military Policemen McHugh and Robert Stark.

With the assistance of other members of the party, McHugh partially revived the boy. Members of a medical unit removed the victim to an aid station.

## Division Artillery Boosts Three Officers

Promotion of two officers to captain and one to first lieutenant in 63d Div. Arty has been announced. Lt. William S. Horner, of Eaton Rapids, Mich., and Lt. Harrison M. Brown, of Lakewood, N. J., have been named captains, and Lt. Eugene Stillings, of Ghanna, O., has been promoted to first lieutenant.

Capt. Horner has been named commanding officer of Hq. Btry. Capt. Brown is Div. Arty. survey officer. Lt. Stillings is an aide to Brig. Gen. E. J. McGaw, Division Artillery Commander.

Promotions of two enlisted men from sergeant to staff sergeant have been announced. Those advanced in grade were Frank Sopel, mess sergeant, and J. W. Bland, of the S-2 section.

## Combat Regiment

With 2685 enlisted men and officers wearing the Combat Infantryman Badge, the 254th Inf. is the first regiment in the 63d Div. to be classified as a «Combat Infantry Regiment.» The number of men receiving the award exceeds 65 per cent of the total strength of the regiment.

## Krauts May Be On The Ropes But They Still Love Das Reich

Even though the German soldier who faces the Blood and Fire Division is often ragged, down-at-the-heel and very, very hungry, he still is carried along by a fanatical devotion to the Reich which causes him to fight on despite clear indications that his is a lost cause.

Most of Hitler's soldiers, whether they be first-line fighters or members of the Volkssturm, are so indoctrinated by the warped Nazi ideology brewed by Herr Goebbels and his ilk that conversing with them is like talking to beings from another world.

These facts have been determined by members of the Interrogation of Prisoners of War team attached to the 63d Div. The interrogators, Lt. Walter Green, Brooklyn, N. Y.; S/Sgts. Ernest Stern, Columbus, O., and Henry White, New York City; T/Sgt. Walter Landenberger, Detroit, and Cpl. George Chutz, Philadelphia,

have found that most of the Krauts sing the same tune.

### Unclear Reasoning

One belief expressed by many prisoners who are aware that the jig is almost up is that the Allies will win the battles but that Germany will win the war. This parallels the Japanese idea which says «Japan may lose all the battles but eventually will win the war.» The Nazis are no clearer on the reason for this theory than are the Japanese.

Morale among opposing troops ranges from very good to very low. It is often hard to determine just how good a Nazi's morale is because the dyed-in-the-wool devotee puts up a front and seldom reveals a weak side. Others, deserters who are fed up, are eager to see the war ended.

All prisoners are impressed by the quality of food served American soldiers and even regard C and K rations highly. They express surprise

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## Blood and Fire

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, New York. Capt. George Pavlicek, Division, Information-Education Officer. Editor: T/4 Thomas A. Hoctor. Staff Writer: T/4 Stoddard White. Staff Cartoonist: Cpl. Gill Fox. Staff Photographer: T/4 William Schiff. NOTICE: Material in this newspaper is uncensored and may not be sent through the mail. This newspaper must not be allowed to fall into enemy hands.

### Once Over Lightly

By T/5 Sy Bernhard  
(Division Artillery)

Can't think of anybody in the Army who has to be sold on the work of the Engineers, but with more and more D-Day stuff coming out, this item is worth notice... A group of bridge experts was brought together by the Engineers two years before the invasion to design fabricated sections of bridges to reproduce certain key ones in France, Holland and Belgium. Through the underground, we got the specifications of those most probably marked for destruction by the Nazis. The parts were sent to England, where special assembly crews rehearsed putting them together. During the rat race across France, the bridges were ahead of the field kitchens and replacement took only a few hours.

Evidently the manpower problem is getting even tougher back home. A St. Louis concern hired a draft exempt office boy — 82 years old.

One of the most important editorials of recent years went pretty much unnoticed. The official Vatican newspaper, L'Osservatore Romano, not only mentioned the Soviet Union by name for the first time, but called it a great country and drew a friendly parallel between the Pope and Stalin in their ways of dealing with some matters. To top it off, the editorial bore the three-asterisk sign of the Papal-inspired editor, Count Tirre...

Some of the things written about this theater back in the Van Dorn dimming past are finding confirmation... like the campaign of an association of veterans of this war to get the truth to GIs about the civilian front... facts about wages and not the propaganda baloney of every war worker pulling down a neat 100 bucks per... The campaign is under way because the overseas GI has some weird ideas of «high life» back home... Some day some people are gonna wake up to the importance of teamwork of industry, labor and the soldier and the unity of the United Nations.

### 63d Back in XXI Corps

After a period in the XV Corps, the Blood and Fire Division has reverted to control of the XXI Corps where again, as in the States, it is under the command of Maj. Gen. F. W. Milburn. The lineup now is this: Under the ETO comes the 6th Army Group (commanded by Lt. Gen. Jacob L. Devers), which consists of the US Seventh Army (Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch) and the French First Army (Maj. Gen. Jean Delattre de Tassigny). Under the Seventh Army we are in the XXI Corps.

## Cannoneers Nip Nazi Cutoff As FO Team Ties in the Wire

By Pfc. Richard Peters.  
(862d F. A.)

They were a quiet bunch, the nine members of the Forward Observation team of 862d F. A., back from their first action with the infantry north of Sarreguemines.

Wearily, for they had not slept or eaten for 32 hours, they told of having been cut off by the enemy shortly after the first assault, of being pinned down by Nazi fire and of sweating out a forceful counter-attack led by enemy armor.

But they accomplished their mission. They tied in the only phone line to the spearheading platoon, an element of the 253d Inf., as it attacked enemy positions across the Saar.

The men were Lt. Robert MacGowan, Scarsdale, N. Y., Cpl. Frank Harbaugh, Spokane, Wash., and T/5 Norbert Guindon, Escanaba, Mich., radiomen; Cpls. Irving Perine, Iron Mountain, Mich.; Raymond Jaskowiak, Buffalo, N. Y., and Pfc. James Mallon, Manhattan, N. Y., wiremen. Two other wiremen who took part in the action were Cpl. Don Ecelbarger, Big Run, Pa., and Pfc. Hugh Garrity, Detroit, from Hq. Liaison Section.

Lt. MacGowan and Harbaugh accompanied the 1st Plat. of Co. G, 253d, and a heavy weapons platoon from Co. H. The mission was to take the second and third enemy-held woods in Germany north of Sarreguemines.

While another platoon cleared the first woods on the right, the 1st. Plat. and its accompanying unit proceeded under heavy mortar fire to move to their jumping-off spot, some gravel pits at the edge of their objective — a gloomy, hostile woods.

### Group Cut off

While awaiting the coming of dawn the assault group discovered that some Germans had sneaked in behind their left rear, cutting them off completely. There was nothing to do but go forward as planned. MacGowan called for a rolling barrage to precede them through the woods. Charlie Battery's cannoneers gave him all he asked for and more.

Back of the lines every man in the battery pitched in. Gun crew strength zoomed from seven to as high as 12 or 13 cannoneers. It was quite a sight to see the first sergeant, an ex-cannoneer, shoving round after round home, and the cooks toting 110 pound cloverleaves of ammo.

And were the trapped FOs relieved to see the perfect rolling barrage eat up the enemy woods! But this was the 1st Plat.'s initial spearhead assault and the doughboys were a bit leery of their supporting artillery. In order to prove that the barrage was both destructive to the enemy and harmless to them, MacGowan, followed by Harbaugh with the radio

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## Awards

Because of space limitations, this list is not complete. Additional names of award winners will appear in this space from time to time.

### Silver Star

#### 253d INF.

Capt. Thomas V. Moore, Jr., Hq. 1st Bn., Omaha, Neb.  
2d Lt. Paul W. Koblarchick, Co. G., Ellsworth, Va.  
S/Sgt. Theodore R. Swing, Co. E, Detroit.  
Pfc. Lawrence J. King, Med. Det., Brewer, Me.  
Pvt. Fredrick W. Snyder, Co. E, Ferrisdale, Mich.

#### 254th INF.

Maj. Ancher E. Christensen Jr., Hq. 1st Bn., Iowa City, Ia.  
S/Sgt. William F. Blatnir, Co. G, Savannah, Ga.  
S/Sgt. Richard Johnson, Co. M, Boston.  
T/5 Walter S. Lutz, Co. A, Palmyra, Pa.  
Pfc. Harold M. Bauer, Co. A, Granite City, Ill.  
Pfc. Robert L. Bedwell, Co. I, Sullivan, Ind.  
Pfc. Paul DeVivo, Co. C, Brooklyn, N.Y.  
Pfc. John G. Pribam, Med. Det., Washington.  
Pfc. William R. Bell, Co. I, Philadelphia.  
Pvt. Donald A. Radloff, Co. F, Chicago.

#### 255th INF.

1st Lt. LaRue Cantrell, Co. L,  
S/Sgt. Kenneth F. Lumm, Co. H,  
T/Sgt. Clinton W. Keeter, Co. L,  
Pfc. David Damazo, Med. Det.  
Pfc. Charles H. Malloy, Med. Det.

### Bronze Star

#### DIVISION STAFF

Lt. Col. John E. Brooks, A. C. of S., G-1, Winchendon, Mass.  
Lt. Col. John M. Hardaway, A. C. of S., G-2, Santa Barbara, Calif.  
Maj. Glyn W. Pohl, Asst. A. C. of S., G-3, Marquette, Ia.  
Capt. Joseph H. Hughes, Jr., Liaison Officer, G-3, Monticello, Fla.

#### SPECIAL TROOPS

Lt. Col. Robert S. Redfield, Chicago.  
253d INF.  
Lt. Col. John H. Smoak, 3d Bn., Orangeburg, S. C.

Maj. Richard G. Cox, S-2, Fredericksburg, Va.  
S/Sgt. Math R. Barto, Co. I, Roseau, Minn.  
S/Sgt. Robert E. Dick, Co. G, Muncie, Ind.  
Sgt. Jerome J. Gilden, Co. F, St. Louis, Mo.  
Sgt. Bert D. Hildebrand, Co. C, Hawthorne, Nev.  
Sgt. Brayton D. Jones, Co. A, Albany, N.Y.  
Pvt. Louis F. Mathwes, Co. E, Hennebin, Minn.  
Pvt. James C. Moriarity, Co. I, Buffalo.  
254th INF.  
Capt. Silas R. Barton, Co. F, Omaha, Neb.  
Capt. Fred H. Horlock, Co. H, Gulfport, Miss.  
Capt. Lawrence F. Lenig, Co. G, Kings-ton, Pa.  
Capt. Howard S. Wilcox, Co. E, Louisville, Ky.  
2d Lt. (then Pfc.) William H. Ekberg, Co. A, Dayton, O.  
S/Sgt. John E. Smith, Co. G, Cincinnati.  
Sgt. Earl G. Ontko, Med. Det., Kenosha County, Wis.  
Sgt. Edwin D. Starling, Co. I.  
T/3 Raymond R. Mainini, Med. Det., Mill-ford, Mass.  
T/4 Jerald E. Shaw, Med. Det., Arkansas City, Kan.  
T/5 Francis D. Morrissey, Med. Det., Lynn, Mass.  
Pfc. Ervie E. Borden, Med. Det., Escanaba, Mich.  
Pfc. Robert J. Hansen, Med. Det., St. Paul, Minn.  
Pfc. Robert W. Richetts, Med. Det., Chicago.  
Pfc. Nathan Rosen, Med. Det., New Haven, Conn.  
Pfc. Ralph H. Weber, Co. A, Chicago.  
Pfc. Ellis Wishnow, Med. Det., Newark, N.J.  
Pfc. James M. Kozich, Co. F.  
Pfc. Victor Manuel Tamariz, Co. I.  
263d ENGR.  
Lt. Col. Jack L. Coan, CO, Birmingham, Ala.  
Maj. Allen W. Sanders, Jr., Exec. Officer, Savannah, Ga.  
2d Lt. Henry H. Rulapaugh, Co. B, Fredericksburg, Pa.

## Division Sidelights

**255th Inf.** — The kind of apple pies mother used to make are being served men of 2d. Plat., Co. D, at the front, according to Cpl. H. D. Carlin, company I & E assistant. The man responsible for these and other delicacies is Cpl. Roe, who has set up his bakery in the platoon. Roe's special treat the other day was chocolate cookies, frosted with D rations melted and sweetened. Roe says melted D rations make excellent peanut clusters also. «I'm preparing for the post-war period,» he explained. «Think what a great catch I'll be for some girl who's had to eat cold lunches while working in a defense plant». . . . «Hacienda O'Brien,» the boys call the quarters inhabited by Pfc. John O'Brien, T/5 John Ellefson, Sgt. George Duley, Sgt. Harold Doxey and Pfc. Rodney Kimberley, Ottar Groseth and Walter Mason, all of Cn. Co. It is equipped with lush furnishings . . . Sgt. Duley had quite an experience recently. While ducking what he thought was a bomb, (but which proved to be a jettisoned gas tank from a friendly plane), Duley was raced across a field by an angry bull. Duley won the race. . . . Pfc. Dale Huffman, Cn. Co., upon his return from a pass to Paris, resigned his title «100 per cent Good Yokum.» . . . The 255th «Movie Moguls,» as Lt. Ralph Bond, regimental special service officer, and his assistant T/5 Alex Siegel, are called, are as welcome as the flowers in May. From a dozen to a hundred battle-weary men spend a few hours in relaxation as Bond and Siegel present their flicker shows close to the front lines.

**863d F. A.** — War may be mud, death and plain hell, but to men in Liaison Section 2, it's wonderful. They are billeted in a house where three young and shapely chicks are devoted to the Allied cause. The men, Pvt. William C. Christopher, Richmond, Va.; T/5 Eugene Hardway, Columbus, O., and T/5 Luther Yohe, Spring Grove, Pa., have breakfast in bed and female «police» service. Yohe can't remember when he had his last chow à la GI.

**253 Inf.** — When the 2d Bn. stormed through the territory east of Bubingen recently Germans came from every nook and cranny to surrender. Converging on a group of buildings perched on a hill near the town, Co. G sent a squad into the spacious farmyard. S/Sgt. Ben Roe, of Flemington, N. J., tossed a hand grenade into a barn whose foundation and cellar were deep underground. Roe entered cautiously. He found the first floor empty and was just about to ascend the stairs when he heard enemy voices. Wheeling about, the Sergeant saw four Jerries crawling from a hole in the wall at the far side of the room. Roe placed his finger on the trigger of his M1 but there was no fight in the Germans. They were unarmed and pleaded for capture. . . . S/Sgt. Jack Garrison told of two machine gunners setting up a position near a haystack in the same farmyard. Their position completed, the gunners heard sounds in the stack and presently two Germans emerged.

**718th F. A.** — Lt. Elitch, Btry. B, is an expert on «Screaming Mimis.» During a recent action the Nazis, as is their practice, began hurling Nebelwerfers in volleys of six. «There is no mistaking Nebelwerfers,» Lt. Elitch said. «You hear them shrieking through the air like an unpleasant train whistle. When they explode the ground rocks like a boat.» The projectile which the lieutenant described is as large as a 155 mm shell. The whistle is simply attached for the purpose of striking terror into the hearts of those who hear it. Although it can do considerable damage, the Nebelwerfer is not accurate and can be fired only at a fixed point. It cannot be adjusted like artillery . . . Things are rough all over. Guard became such a problem in Btry. C recently that 1st/Sgt. Dave Malloy and S/Sgts. Mario Antonucci, Grover Jones and Charles McPheeters were pulling shifts regularly.

**254th Inf.** — Capt. John B. McClure, Jr., Cn. Co., was long a resident of Anderson, S. C. When he returns home however, he'll be a Floridian. Mrs. Mc Clure has just moved their home to Clearwater. His cannonera still think he looks more like a South Carolina Gamecock than a Florida Gator . . . T/4 Louis A. Brouette, Minneapolis, another cannoner, is a valuable member of his company. His ability to speak French fluently and to get by in German has enabled him to rustle up odd things for his pals. He also is the billeting man for the outfit. . . . 1st/Sgt. Charles R. Carzini, Texarkana, Tex., top-kick for the cannoners, recalled recently that back in the states when someone yelled «Take ten,» he was unable to do so. He vowed that things would be different if he ever went overseas, and things are different. Last week his CO offered him a pass to Paris. It took Carzini just 10 minutes to shove off, accompanied by Pfc. John P. Keefe, of Boston . . . Luscious pinups adorn the walls of the quarters occupied by the «War Room Boys». T/4 Daniel Parry, of Wilkes Barre, Pa., and Pfc. Pryor Hougham, of Des Moines, Ia., GId the room with sweet-scented soaps before the pictures were tacked up.

**862d F. A.** — By way of ushering in March, a fish dinner was served in the quarters of Sgt. Richard Heintz. The sergeant landed a 10-pound pike while fishing in the Saar and the feast was the result. His buddies are wondering where he obtained the rod and reel . . . Cigaretts were distributed recently when Pvt. Harold Bird received word that he is the uncle of a seven-and-one-half-pound boy, born to his sister in Montgomery, Ala . . . Pfc. Hugh Horn, Btry. A, has been searching for a jewelry store. He wants to purchase a sparkler for a certain Betty Lee in Crosby, Miss . . . «Battery adjust, shell HE, charge seven for victory!» has been the theme song of Pfc. Willy Wise, Btry. C. Willy, by the way, is so hard up for a can of snuff that he is willing to exchange almost any article he possesses for the sneeze powder.

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## When Rubino Hurls Krauts Can't Win

A mist hung about the lower branches of Woods C as the 1st Plat., Co. G. 253d Inf., touched off the 2d Bn's first offensive action inside Germany.

T/Sgt Malcolm F. Ritoul, of Libertyville, Ill., acting platoon leader, moved ahead of his first two squads. As protection he had behind him his third squad. Not a Kraut could be seen.

Pfc. Frank Rubino, of Irvington, N. J., scarcely past 18, had a hunch that there might be some Nazis lurking around somewhere; it was too quiet. As left flank security for his squad, Rubino crept forward. Soon he found himself alone. There was a rustle ahead and then, looming big and black against the gray dawn there, were three Germans.

«Peewee» Rubino (he's not much more than five feet tall) began thinking quickly. To alarm the forward squads would give away their presence. To lie quietly on the ground would be contrary to the entire plan of attack, destruction of the enemy. So he opened fire.

The four Germans wheeled about. Rubino squeezed the trigger of his M1 once again. Nothing happened. The bolt had jammed. Facing him were enemy riflemen and he was alone. Then he recalled the white phosphorous grenade he had placed in his pocket before starting out. Rubino hurled the grenade. The next thing he heard was an explosion, followed by a scream. Two of the four fell dead. The other two fled, only to run into rifle fire from the two leading squads.

## „We Wuz Robbed,“ Says 255th Noncom

So the old BLOOD AND FIRE is back in print — so what? When I heard that BLOOD AND FIRE was coming back I felt pretty good because we of the 63d would all be together again. After reading my first copy of the overseas volume I realized that it was back in the old groove, lauding the 254th and 253d Inf., its favorite sons. As a member of the 255th Inf., I resent your lack of recognition. You don't even extend the courtesy of knocking us. In the future I will look for mention of this 255th in Stars and Stripes, Yank and even some captured German army paper.

NATHAN FRIEDSON  
1st/Sgt., Hq. Co., 1st Bn. 255th Inf.

To keep our finger on the pulse, Sergeant, we welcome criticism. But — (1) we have no favorite sons; we are a Division newspaper; we devoted plenty of space to the 255th in the past, when you were ably represented by Reporter Cecil Carmichael. (2) We have only two hands. We print as much as possible of the material we receive, but we cannot print what we are not told. It's up to you, and every other man in the Division, to keep us in touch with the news. (3) When you see mention of any regiment of the 63d in a German army paper, please get an extra copy for us; we'll want it for the Division History. — ED.

## Cannoneers

(Continued from Page 2)

and Guindon operating, led the platoon in the attack.

Often as close as 50 yards behind the steamrolling HE., the three Red-legs worked their way into the woods as shells dropped nearby. The terrified Nazis hastily withdrew and the woods were taken without a single rifle shot or casualty. Although under constant mortar and 88 fire, the doughboys took their second woods in the same manner — again without a single casualty. A defense line was formed and the men prepared for the expected counterattack.

### «Three Feet from Death»

Meanwhile heavy wire equipment and enemy shelling were making the going rough for the linemen. Five hundred yards past the IP mortars opened up and, as Ecelbarger was hugging the ground, a shell dropped between him and a doughboy three feet away, wounding the doughboy but not touching him. Dawn found the wiremen stymied in the first woods and they had about given up hope of getting the wire laid to the FOs.

One man, however, had not abandoned hope. As the shelling decreased Cpl. Perine, disregarding his own safety, took off alone to locate the infantry CP. He found it and directed the laying of the wire back.

Completing the line to the 1st Plat was attempted three times. Each time the men were pinned down by rifle and machine gun fire. Perine and Mallon finally made a dash for it. They reconnoitered the second woods and, finding all quiet, had the wire brought up. By 1400 the wire finally was laid to the 1st Plat's position in the third woods. This line proved of the utmost importance, for it was the only line to reach the extremities of the infantry's push. Besides being used by Charlie FOs., two other FO teams and the infantry tapped in and used it for important communications.

## Krauts

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at the candy supplied our troops and openly admire the clothing, shoes and equipment of US troops. They often express the belief that, given the same equipment, they could not lose the war.

### «US is Starving»

Here are some of the things German soldiers have been told and have believed:

That people in the United States are starving to death.

That the Japanese have bombed San Francisco and that German submarines have attacked the Atlantic Coast.

That Germany was forced to declare war on the United States.

That the United States declared war on Germany.

That they will be shot if captured by the Americans.

Although few German soldiers have expressed a hatred for Americans, they resent strongly our being in the war, mainly because they say they could not have lost had the United States remained neutral. The Krauts fear the French, from whom they expect vengeance, but, more than any other enemy, they look on the Russians with a great fear.

## BERNIE BLOOD

By Gill Fox



«Are you sure you used the right word?»

## Sidelights

(Continued from Page 3)

**Div. Hq. & Hq. Co.** — A soldier who drove for Gen. Hibbs when our Division Commander was artillery commander of the 36th Div. back in the States is driving for him again. He is Sgt. Edward D. Koranek, of San Antonio, Tex. Soon after the general, then a brigadier, went to Command and General Staff School Koranek was sent overseas. He landed at Salerno on D-Day, fought through that and the subsequent Cassino battles and then landed in Southern France on D-Day. He joined the 63d when Gen. Hibbs discovered his presence in a nearby unit, and now is driving the general's armored scout car. . . Maj. Leslie W. McMahon, assistant A. C. of S, G-4, is probably the youngest grandfather in the 63d and it is reported that he is gunning for the title in the whole Seventh Army. The major is granddad to Patricia Ann, daughter of S1/c Leslie W. McMahon, Jr., who served in the Solomons and Gilberts and participated in the Kiska operations. Maj. McMahon is a resident of Marshall, Tex., where his son's wife, Earlene, and the baby live at present. They plan to move to Longview, Tex., after the war. . . Two brothers were reunited overseas when Pfc. Arthur K. Antonian, Hq. Co., met his brother Albert, who is with the 936th Engrs. It was their

### Bernie Blood

After nearly three months on DS, Bernie Blood returned to BLOOD AND FIRE last week. Today we introduce him to new readers and acquaint the old.

Bernie is the creation of Cpl. Gill Fox, our staff cartoonist, and a longtime favorite of 63d Div. readers. He's a cocky little guy with a mop of blond hair (we're speaking of Bernie, not Fox). He's full of P & V and he thinks he's irresistible to the femmes. He's a fighting fool, and Fox thinks he personifies the 63d Div. GI.

Fox is a New Yorker, a cocky, chunky guy with dark hair which falls over his eyes. Before he put on the uniform he was a cartoonist on one of the leading comic magazines. Bernie inherits his eye for legs and other features directly from his creator.

first meeting in three years. They come from Dearborn Mich.

Fraternize with the French; don't fraternize when you get to Germany.

The Red Cross in Paris gets 200 letters a week from GIs seeking help in locating relatives in Europe.