

WINTER STIRS EASTERN FRONT INTO ACTION

\*\*\*Dec 24-- While sub-zero temperature hardened the soil all along the eastern front, thousands of Russian troops were awaiting the winter offensive. The vast front was stirring into action yesterday with strong Red Army patrols probing German positions. Freezing soil was creating good tank terrain and all Russian tanks have received the winterizing process. All troops have also been issued winter equipment.

The twin-pronged drive toward Austria and Czechoslovakia was making progress. In Czechoslovakia, the Russians drove to within 9 miles of the rail center of Losong and within six miles of a secondary junction on the Hungarian frontier. The new move threatened to trap a sizeable force of Germans routed from the Matra Mountains in Hungary by still other soviet units attacking from the south. In this action, the Reds announced the capture of seven populated places.

BRITISH ACT IN GREECE

\*\*\*Dec 24-- British and Greek Army forces finally went into action against the EAM forces in Athens when the leftists refused to surrender their arms at the expiration of the British ultimatum. Most of Athens and Piraeus Harbor has now been cleared by the British Army. 4,000 prisoners were taken by the British in two weeks of fighting around the city.

\*\*\*Dec 24-- The security news blackout, which delays all European news for 48 hours, has at least permitted the knowledge that both sides are losing heavily in men and equipment even though the enemy has been partly halted in the Echternach area and the border at Luxembourg.

Meanwhile, the British Government announced it will draft 240,000 more men in the coming month than were needed.

RESTRICTED

SIGNAL CORPS "ON THE BEAM"  
WITH YOUR NEWS

In contrast to the Japanese government, which is using every means possible to discolor the news to its fighting men, readers of the DEADEYE DISPATCH are receiving one of the most accurate and comprehensive news coverages in the Pacific area.

In a tent equipped with the finest Signal Corps radio receivers, Staff Sgts. Emil Dargess and Calvin Clemens of the 96th Division Signal Company monitor news reports from all over the world throughout the day. Radio Tokyo, Radio Shanghai and Radio Manila are tuned in as well as our own sources from the west coast of the United States.

Then, when the late dispatches begin to filter through from the west coast in the early evening hours, Sgts. Dargess and Clemens don their earphones and make good use of the huge antenna outside the "station" which is directionally beamed to San Francisco. For two and one half hours, they transpose dots and dashes into the news you read in the next day's edition of the Dispatch.

During these same hours, writers for the Dispatch are taking down high speed voice broadcasts of American commentators and home news in shorthand. At the conclusion of the broadcasts, the copy is rushed to the Dispatch Office, where writers literally burn the midnight oil (when the generator stops running) to compose the next day's news. The officer in charge waits patiently into the wee hours to give final approval to the stories ground out on once sturdy typewriters.

The news policy of the DEADEYE DISPATCH has been to present not only the truth, but as much of the truth as accurately as possible. This task has been made possible largely thru the splendid cooperation of the officers and men of the 96th Division Signal Company. The Dispatch wishes to thank them for the fine job they are doing.



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JAPS FLEE TOWARDS PALOMPOMMINDORO YANKS FIND NO JAPS

\*\*\*Dec 24--Advancing American forces on Mindoro have again reported the absence of enemy ground resistance. The \$64 question today is, "Where are the Japs on Mindoro?" On Leyte, the Japanese have poured a vast number of men and ships, admitting that the island campaign meant life or death for their southeastern empire. Yet on Mindoro, they have failed to put up even a serious resistance. One may say it is but another example of the inscrutable workings of the oriental mind. But a different and more probable reason is a lack of enemy shipping. It takes ships to move armies from island to island, and both U.S. Army and Navy planes have been steadily whittling down the number of Japanese vessels in the Philippines. With most of their Philippine forces committed to Leyte Island, the Japanese High Command must find it difficult to move any troops to Mindoro.

In the air over Mindoro, however, the Japanese were able to offer some resistance. In attacks over our bridgehead, 9 Japanese planes were shot down. Another two enemy planes were downed over Leyte Gulf. From the American headquarters on Mindoro comes the cheering news that airstrips there are already being used by American planes. This is a credit to the engineer and construction battalions who moved in right behind the advancing doughboys. Before the war, there were five known airstrips on Mindoro. The high dry ground on Mindoro is particularly well suited to an extensive airfield development.

American troops of the 77th Division on Leyte have advanced 3 miles west of the Ormoc Corridor on the road to Palompon. Palompon is a small port on the west coast of Leyte and the last escape point for trapped Japanese. American artillery has been brought up and is shelling that port. Remnants of enemy forces trapped by the juncture of the American 7th and 77th Divisions are trying frantically to fight their way through Allied lines to Palompon. In the area north of Ormoc, mopping up operations continue. The enemy has left behind another 1,546 abandoned dead in this sector.

MANILA'S CLARK FIELD BOMBED

American heavy bombers made a night attack on Clark Field northwest of Manila, starting large fires and explosions. Medium and heavy bombers attacked three enemy airfields on Mindanao, where they destroyed several parked planes. Heavy American bombers also dropped explosives on Japanese airdromes on Panay, Negros, and Cebu, destroying or damaging a total of 13 enemy planes. Allied patrol planes ranging over the Visayan Group damaged eight small enemy vessels. Flying from bases in the southwest Pacific, American heavy bombers made a 2,200 mile round trip to hit airfields on Java. They found no Japanese interception.

An American spokesman for the Army Air Forces said that British transport planes have joined with our transports in moving cargo and war materiel over the hump from India into China. He said that they are now flying many more thousands of tons than ever before.

DEADEYE DISPATCH

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RUMOR CLINIC

RUMOR: There is a rumor going around that the movies will be discontinued if those who view them (and indidentally wait in great anticipation for the next one) do not keep the area clean during showings. Is this true?

T/3 Clifford Jones

THE SAGE: We have not had official word that such restriction is contemplated but this is one rumor that is a good one. We have often wondered why G.I.'s in any circumstances do not naturally and without a second thought take care of an area. We as soldiers belong to the earth. Dough- feet have for centuries proved themselves by "taking the ground". Then after they get it they get careless about keeping that ground and saving labor of policing by their comrades. While we are on the subject let us pose the question of why a soldier so quickly gets out of the simple habits such as "field stripping" cigarettes and immediately thinks he is being oppressed by the military discipline, when such a thing is ordered. Is it not a matter of common decency -- in the Service or out of it?

RUMOR: Has it that any monetary benefits derived by a soldier to pay half the cost of correspondence courses under the Army Education Program (USAFI) will be deducted from benefits which he will receive under the G.I. Bill of Rights when he is discharged.

STRAIGHT POOP: Answers that there is no connection between the two programs (other than the advantages to the individuals conceived) and any financial aid given a soldier while he is in the army for education is not deducted from benefits under the "G.I. Bill of Rights". There is no connection either with these programs and the "mustering out pay" -- you are given that anyhow.

YES, THERE IS A G.I. BAND HERE

The steady staccato of bullets has brought out the rhythm in several of the men in 3rd Bn. With a little work and American ingenuity, they have a real hill-billy band.

T/Sgt Willie E. Trahan of Lake Charles, La. is the guitarist. He whittled out the neck of a canteen and used communication wire for strings, using Jap ammo shells for tuning knobs. Pfc. Archie Clovers of Winthrop Ark. plays the banjo, which was made from a ration box, etc., etc., . Pfc. William Perkins of Berryville, Ark. is the fiddler. The fiddle was made with a ration box, an empty chili can for a sound box. The reason for the bow was taken from a burned pine box and using the melted syrup. They have entertained the boys of K Co and the Battalion CP, and you all know the inspirations received by music. The boys are now in the progress of making a bass fiddle.

EISENHOWER FORESEES GERMAN DEBACLE

\*\*\*Dec 24-- General Dwight Eisenhower has issued an order of the day to his troops in Europe urging them to turn the present German offensive into the greatest Allied victory of the war. Here are the words of General Eisenhower: "The enemy is fighting savagely to take back all that you have won in your brilliant victories of the summer and fall. He is using every treacherous trick to deceive and kill you. "Let every one of us rise now to new courage and hold before him a single thought-- to destroy the enemy on the ground, in the air, everywhere -- destroy him. We will, with God's help, go forward to our greatest victory."

Allied doughfeet were already heeding his words. On the extreme north flank of the battleground, in the hills near Monschau, Yanks had several days ago refused to yield to German armor and remained in their foxholes in the face of enemy tanks. Yesterday, a furious battle was still raging in these muddy, snow-covered hills sixteen miles southeast of Aachen.

Hitler is gambling everything he has. By rushing out from his defenses, the enemy is giving us a chance to turn his greatest campaign into his worst defeat.

After penetrating to a maximum of 40 miles, the German winter offensive has spent much of its force. It has bogged down near Arlon, ten miles from the French border and forty miles east of Sedan.

The main Nazi effort has been aimed at the supply ports of Antwerp and Brussels. They lost more than 200 tanks in an attrition battle during the last five days around Malmedy, which is along the routes to those two cities.

Advance Nazi columns have now slashed through Luxembourg and cut major roads leading to the key road center of Baistogne in Belgium. They are now driving toward LaRoche, 32 miles inside Belgium.

SUPERFORTRESSES AGAIN STRIKE NAGOYA

\*\*\*Dec 24-- The Japanese home island of Honshu was visited again by American B-29 bombers who hit the Mitsubishi aircraft works in Nagoya. Superfortresses were over the Nagoya industries for over 2 1/2 hours. Due to heavy cloud formations, bombing had to be done by precision instruments and results could not be observed. An estimated force of 150 Japanese interceptors took to the air to defend Nagoya, being helped by a strong anti-aircraft fire. Japanese only succeeded in losing 5 fighters, and all the big Superforts returned safely to their bases on Saipan. As an indication of the potentialities of the B-29's based on Saipan, this was their fifth major operation in five days.

CHINA MILITARY SITUATION STABILIZED

\*\*\*Dec 24-- The Chinese High Command has described the war situation on the south China front as more or less stabilized. The Japanese have reinforced their garrison at Hochih, against which the Chinese are driving from three sides. Supporting the Chinese troops, the American 14th Airforce hit fuel dumps at Hochih, while other forces bombed Liuchow, a former American airbase. American bombers dropped explosives on the docks at Hongkong as well as the island of Hainen.

Allied forces continued to advance against a rail center in central Burma which lies north and northwest of Mandalay. Indian and British navies shelled an enemy-held port on the Bay of Bengal in support of British troops moving toward Akyab.

96th Box Score of Good Japs

Previous Total.....	7128
December 23 .....	65
GRAND TOTAL .....	7283

HALLORAN'S MEN SERVED BY AIRFIELD  
DAWSON FIELD BUILT AND DEDICATED

Dawson Field, an emergency airfield for the evacuation of casualties by artillery liaison planes, was dedicated Saturday afternoon at Patok village in honor of T/Sgt Marvin E. Dawson, first member of Second Battalion, 381st Inf, to be killed in action on Leyte. Sgt. Dawson, of Detroit, Michigan, was one of the original fillers of the Regiment and soon won his promotions through his excellent work and leadership. A beautiful Philippine mahogany placque was erected by his comrades-in-arms to Sgt Dawson, whose untimely passing came on November 8, 1944, at Maalngnon Ridge.

The field was dedicated by Chaplain Sigismund Bovinski. A speech of welcome and congratulation was made by the Mayor of Patok, Hon. Pablo Bacate (who has been serving with Co E) to Col. Michael E. Halloran, Commanding Officer 381st Inf; Lt. Col. Avery Masters, Commanding Officer 361st Field Artillery; and Lt. Col. Russell Graybill, Commanding Officer of Second Battalion 381st Inf.

In conjunction with the opening of the new field one liaison plane made the initial mail carrying run with a cargo of mail to Co G at its forward area. The field was planned by Maj. Leon Addy, Supply Officer and Capt. Edward Elliott, Executive Officer Second Battalion, and immediately approved by Lt. Col. Graybill.

The initial purpose of the field was for the evacuation of possible casualties and delivery of supplies and mail. Evacuation of casualties by air will cut down the time necessary for transporting an injured man from Patok to Tanauan, from eight hours to thirty minutes.

Capt. John L. Briggs, 96th Div Artillery Air Section, liaison pilot, who made the first landing on the new field, hailed the airstrip as an excellent emergency field, good for the rapid evacuation of casualties, rapid transportation of mail and supplies and for good command liaison. He also stated that

the field has possibilities of becoming a larger field capable of handling larger airships in the future.

Work on the field was done by men of Second Battalion Hq Co, Co E, and Co H, 381st Inf., under the direction of Capt. Everette W. Garrison, Lt. Maurice Maher and Lt. Francis Fox. The area of 1000 yards long strip was cleared of trees and leveled off by a bulldozer operated by Sgt. Frank Palecek, 2nd Bn Hq Co, and Tec 5 Raymond Dugas, Co B, 170th Engr Bn.

by: Pfc. Allen B. Schall

WACS UPSET COMMERCIAL MANUFACTURERS

(ANS)-- Completely upset were the dimensional tabulations made by commercial manufacturers of women's garments. WAC recruits gained weight too fast in the Army. It was explained that proper diet and exercise had caused the thin ones to fill out and the plump ones to "firm up the contours".

The WAC, a survey by the Quartermaster General disclosed, offers all shapes and sizes from a wisp of a girl 4 feet, 7½ inches tall, weighing 77 pounds, to a six-foot Amazon of 224 pounds.

Most popular in-between height, it was found, is 5-feet-4. Even at this level, however, the weights range from 96 pounds to a solid 212. (She's boiling.) Average is 128.

The survey, undertaken to guide the Army's clothing distribution depots, found that the typical WAC required a size-14 jacket with a 13 collar. Her feet are encased in size -9½ rayon hose and 6B shoes. Her hat size is 22, her waist 26½. And don't ask us to raise that tape -- the Quartermaster's report gave no further measurements.

Iceman (entering kitchen with a cake of ice) "Hello, son."

Boy: "Hey, when you call me that, smile."

26 December 1944

Unit Reporters Column

Co. G, 321. st Engineer Bn.

"G" Company is rather proud these days--- and it has good reason to be. Lieut. Clarence E. Lawing of Lincoln, North Carolina and his "light construction crew" have constructed what we believe to be the only dining-room of its kind on the island---an annex 24 feet long, 16 feet wide, and approximately 18 feet high---all without the use of a single nail.

The material consists of bamboo and wire and the entire project was carried out in accordance with true engineering, employing levels, tracing tape, drills, saws, etc.

We are really grateful, indeed, that we now have a place where we can set our mess gear and eat and converse without getting wet.

Now should you doubt that such a splendid structure could be erected without the use of nails we invite you to visit us at any time and commence your search.

Our promise is that if you find a single nail we will treat you to our "star" meal of the daw which will be personally served by Staff Sgt. William I. Butscher of Minneapolis, Minnesota:---corned beef and hash, watery potatoes, carrots, coffee, and bread and butter!

Cpl. Joe Bregar of Joliet, Illinois exchanged some quick repartee with Col. Ballard some few days ago while at work on the present supply road to the combat team.

The platoon was working on an acclivity and some of the men had left their rifles some few yards behind them. And as is customary with him, Col. Ballard came up in his jovial manner and asked Cpl. Bregar where the mens' rifles were.

Bregar stopped, pointed to a tree and said, "They're stacked against that tree, sir."

Col. Ballard asked, "Why, aren't you worried?"

"No sir," retorted Joe Bregar without flinching an eye, "I don't think anybody'll take 'em!"

MEETING

(PRO)--With all the units in the Pacific he might have been assigned to, purely by chance, Pfc. William E. Paulk who has just joined the 96th Division as a replacement is now a member of his brother's outfit.

A former member of the 70th Division, Pfc. William Faulk, was inducted into the Army one year later than his brother, Pfc. Charles C. Paulk, 383rd Infantry. Sent overseas six months ago to a replacement depot, he finally reached Leyte and to his surprise and delight was transferred to the Deadeyes, as a member of the 382nd Infantry. Now they are trying to swing a deal to get into the same company.

The two met for the first time in many months at an outpost in the hills more than 7000 miles from their home in Snyder, Texas.

361st FA Bn

A patrol from A Btry, 361, under the leadership of Sgt. Emmet Tarbert of New Roads, Ia, were scouting the foothills of Mount Lobi, seeking whom they might devour; when they stumbled across an ancient safe, hidden in the tall grass.

The patrol, souvenir hunters all, tried to lift it but found it to be too heavy, so they hid it in another place for the night. Early the next morning the boys hurried back, bringing with them a native and his caribao for hauling purposes. A Btry's maintenance section was soon stumped by the tough steel and the explosive charges. The maintenance section gathered an audience including Col. Lindsay and a total of four pair of stars.

And what was in it? Nothing but a small key, belonging to nothing in particular. Alas, for the best-laid plans of men and mice gang aft gagley.