

83rd Thunderbolt

NORMANDY. BRITTANY. LOIRE VALLEY. LUXEMBOURG. HURTGEN FOREST. ARDENNES. FIRST TO RHINE. • ELBE BRIDGEHEAD.

VOL. 5, No. 11

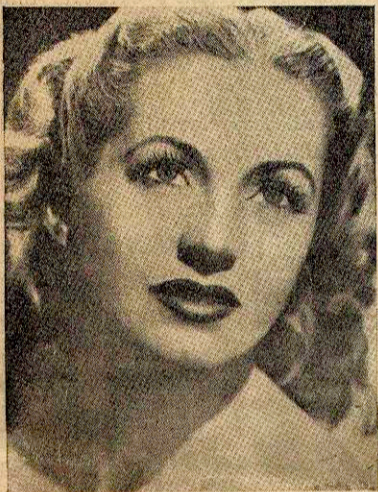
PASSAU, GERMANY

JULY 14, 1945

30 'CHAMPS' IN 4 CORPS SPORTS

TOP STARS OF STAGE, RADIO, AND MOVIES HERE ON 18TH

TILTON



Bergman, Tilton, Benny, and Adler In Featured Spots

About 10,000 men of the 83rd Division will see a star-studded U. S. O. show next Wednesday, July 18, when Ingrid Bergman, Martha Tilton, David Le Winter, Larry Adler, and Jack Benny bring their variety acts to the arena in Passau for an afternoon and evening performance. These artists have recently started an eight-week tour that will take them to occupation areas, redeployment camps, and staging areas in the E.T.O.

It is reported that each of these performers has made an appearance before soldier audiences prior to starting this present tour. Jack Benny is probably the veteran performer for soldiers overseas as he first played for Allied troops in North Africa in 1943. Last year he toured the fighting fronts of the Pacific.

Martha Tilton, featured vocalist with the troupe, used to sing with Benny Goodman's band. Her first singing appearances were made several years ago in Los Angeles when she sang for dances held at Fairfax High school.

Swedish-born Ingrid Bergman won the Motion Picture Academy of Arts and Science's "Oscar" this year for her performance in "Gas Light." Her latest, un-released picture is "The Bells of St. Marys" in which she co-stars with Bing Crosby.

No information could be obtained about David Le Winter, other than he is an "accomplished pianist."

Larry Adler is said to be the world's most talented harmonica player. Raised in New York, Adler got his start to fame at Grauman's Chinese theater in Hollywood. He has also played the Paramount in New York City and has starred in several London stage successes. For the past couple of years he has toured night clubs and theaters in the States with dancer Paul Draper.

Re-Assignments Affect Officers In Division Hq.

Lt. Col. Granville A. Sharpe, Maj. James C. Bagley, and Maj. George C. White, formerly of the 329th Infantry Regiment, have assumed new duties in the Division Headquarters, replacing Lt. Cols. Jules Deshotets, Robert G. Harrell, and Raymond J. Lewis, who have been given new assignments.

The new 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry, Commanding Officer is Lt. Col. Larry H. Leidenheimer. Lt. Col. Robert W. Voyden is 3rd Battalion Commander, and Capt. Merlin A. Collier is 329th's Operations Officer.

Col. Sharpe, before his present assignment as Division Intelligence Officer, commanded the 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry. He took command on August 5th, 1944, in time for the campaign against St. Malo. Born twenty-five years ago in Burlington, North Carolina, Col. Sharpe's wife and daughter now live in that city. He graduated from Davidson College in 1941 and received honorable mention on many All-American Football Teams while at Davidson.

Maj. James C. Bagley left duties as 329th Regimental S-3 to become Division Personnel Officer. He was born on January 27, 1920. His wife and son live in Orlando, Florida. Maj. Bagley attended business college at Lakeland, Florida. As an enlisted man he was stationed at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii at the time of the Pearl Harbor attack. Commissioned at Fort Benning in June, 1942, he has been with the Thunderbolt Division since its activation at Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

Maj. White, new Headquarters Commandant, joined the 3rd Battalion, 329th Infantry as a second lieutenant in July, 1942. In sequence he became rifle platoon leader, anti-tank platoon leader, Company Commander, Battalion S-1; became Executive Officer in Normandy on July 8, and has commanded the 3rd Battalion since the Ardennes campaign. Maj. White's wife lives in Toledo, Ohio. His brother joined the 3rd Battalion "wire gang" in April.

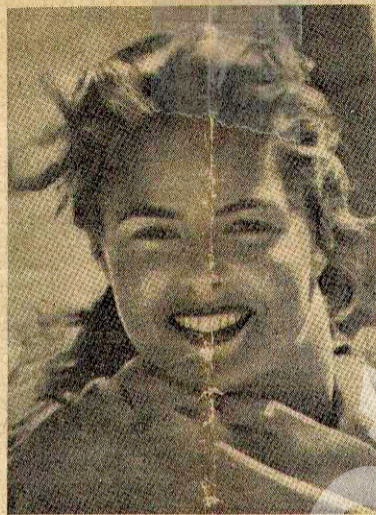
35 mm. Movies On Three-A-Day Schedule Now

The 35mm movies being shown in the Div. Arty's Promenade theater in Passau are proving to be quite an attraction for the troops in that area. Three shows a day are being run on the regular theater projectors, which are of the same type as those used in the theaters at Camp Breckenridge and in those in your home towns. The theater is open to any 83rd Div. man who happens to be in Passau.

The Div. Arty Theater is one in a large chain of movie houses, which have been organized according to the same systems used by the larger theater circuits in the States. The central booking office for this area in Regensburg. Some days Pfc. Calvin D. Kelly must drive the 54 miles to Regensburg for film, and on other days he goes to other theaters in

(Continued on page 3)

BERGMAN



ARMY BAND IN PIT FOR ARENA SHOW

The American Jamboree Orchestra, headliners in the U.S.O.'s Marlene Dietrich tour and Billy Rose's Diamond Horseshoe Review, will open next Wednesday with the Jack Benny Show at the arena in Passau.

Leader of the Orchestra is S/Sgt. Henry Smith, a former member of the string-bass section of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

The sax section is composed of Al Parten, Vincent Sneberg, Raymond Gorobetz (former concert pianist), and Edward Mazurowski (ex-Vaughn Monroe sax-man).

Brass fanfares are by Maurice Willis, Leslie Ott, Joe Volpe, and Bob McChesney (trombonist with Jack Teagarden). Ray Werner is the man behind the traps, Ralph Fredrico is their pianist, and Anthony Rotella's electric guitar speaks for itself. Pittsburgh radio stations are well acquainted with the voice of Alvin Guthridge, featured vocalist with the American Jamboree Orchestra.

WINS IN SWIMMING, GOLF, TENNIS, AND HORSESHOES QUALIFY 83rd FOR ARMY MEET

Rest Center 'OK' Say EM Present Opening Week

The Oberhaus, 83rd Division rest center at Passau, was officially opened last Saturday, July 7th. Men from every unit in the division were sent for the first three-day rest period.

The center features fine food, prepared in a decidedly "different" manner by one of Europe's finest chefs, and served by civilian waitresses. Breakfast is served from eight 'til ten in the morning.

Recreation includes swimming, tennis, archery, riding, ping pong, and boating. Three movies are shown daily at the "Little Theatre", a matinee in the afternoon and two showings nightly.

The "Terrace Bar", overlooking Passau and the Danube, offers beer and snacks. Music is furnished by recordings of American and foreign hit tunes. Probably one of the most picturesque spots on the grounds, the "Terrace Bar" has become a favorite spot to spend to spend the evening.

The Oberhaus, situated high above the Danube, is a "photographer's paradise" with its many gates and arches, combined with the towering walls and bluffs. The medieval atmosphere together with the wandering paths and flag-stone steps enhance the beauty of the grounds.

The rest center is a "GI's dream" with "Off Limits to Officers" and "No Saluting" signs. There is no special uniform required to be worn while on the grounds.

Transportation is provided regularly for those desiring to visit Passau and its historic landmarks. For those who take pictures during their stay, a forty-eight hour film processing service is available.

Thirty athletes from the 83rd Division walked off with top honors in four different sports at tournaments held under the auspices of XII Corps this week. The sports in which the 83rd had team and individual winners were swimming, tennis, horseshoe pitching and golf.

The Thunderbolt Swimming Team, which last week annexed the 83rd. Division Championship, amassed a total of 152 points out of a possible 322 to become the XII Corps title holder. T/4 Donald Hume won the Singles Tennis Toga by besting Lt. Robert Hill of the 136 Truck Co. in the finals which went the full five-set route. The score by sets was as follows: 3-6, 6-4, 7-5, 4-6, 7-5. Cpl. Harry H. Woodward by virtue of having stayed in the tournament to the semi-finals only to lose to Hill, one of the finalists, is thereby seeded No. 3 singles on the XII Corps Tennis Team.

T/5 Earl N. Green also repeated his winning style of horse shoe pitching in that event after easily winning the Division Championship last week. Three Professional and six Amateur golfers were chosen by Corps, on the basis of their written and verified qualifications, to represent XII Corps in the Third Army medal-match play at Narienbag, Czechoslovakia.

The 83rd. Division Swimming Team, now representing XII Corps, composed of mainly 83rd Div. Arty, men is paced by the high-scoring Individual Champion, Cpl. Gary L. Searls and led by Capt. Herbert D. Glass runner-up to the individual scoring honors. These men and six other individual title winners and a supporting team of seven other placers in the Corps Meet, will swim against the champion teams of the XX, XXII, and XXV Corps in the Third Army Swimming Meet to be held in Nürnberg on July 20th and 21st. The winning team in this meet will then carry the banner of the Third Army into the ETO Championships to be held at Paris later this summer.

No time or place has yet been set for the Third Army competitions in tennis or horseshoe pitching but from reports thus far received the Nürnberg area is indicated for the early part of August for both Army tournaments. Meanwhile the golfers are currently playing the elimination rounds to determine which 'pro' and amateur talent will represent Third Army in the ETO Matches to be held in Paris the latter part of August.

Without further thought the men left the horses; went to chow; bragged a little to their buddies about the shrewd business deal they had consummated; and then went to bed, no doubt to dream.

Next morning Borscik and Laret were off to the stables, full of the heavy responsibilities of grooming, currying, and the other attentions they intended to shower on their horses.

When they got to the stables they found that it had been taken over by the Regiment . . . and that the horses for which they had parted with 600 Reichsmarks, had belonged to the stable in the first place.

This horse trading incident is closed, so far as Laret and Borscik are concerned.

(Continued on page 3)

Tall In the Saddle

When two hep characters meet two "live" ones something usually happens. Such a meeting took place recently near Freyung, in the 330th Inf. area. Here is what happened.

Shortly after the Regiment moved in Sgt. William Laret of Co. C and Pfc. Steve Borscik of Co. H took off to case the environs. They had walked just beyond the edge of town when they met two soldiers on horseback.

"Where'd you get the nags?", asked Laret.

"Oh, they belong to us," the riders replied.

Laret and Borscik got their heads together and quickly came to a decision regarding their future in Freyung and the desirability of having two horses for their exclusive use. They could feel that Opportunity was rubbing the skin off of her knuckles with knocking.

Always a great one to come to the

point without delay, Borscik said, "Boy, we'd sure like to have those two horses."

The soldiers in the saddle, realizing that their outfit was moving out that night and that they would have no further use for the horses, agreed to sell them for thirty dollars each.

Laret, knowing a good deal when he sees one, quickly clinched matters by saying, "We'll take them!"

Laret and Borscik spent the rest of the afternoon riding around the countryside on their newly-purchased mounts. They almost missed evening chow they were having such a good time.

But with night coming on they decided to leave their horses at the local stable. When they reached the stable the caretaker rushed out to greet them. His manner was a little more than exuberant.

"Happy, for some reason or other, isn't he?", said Laret.

Doughs Drink and Dream at Top Hat, EMs Cafe Society

"Just close your eyes and dream of your last date at New York's Club Zanzibar or Chicago's Chez Paree or Hollywood's Cinegrill," says Pfc. Frank Kenny in describing the recently opened Top Hat club in Deggendorf. Kenny is manager of the G.I. night club that caters exclusively to the enlisted men of the 329th Inf., 308th Medics, and the 308th Engineers. Lt. Col. Claude L. Bowen, Jr., Regimental Commander of the 329th, officially opened the club on June 27.

It took G.I.'s present at the opening a while to absorb the hometown atmosphere. Finally they settled down to enjoy the soft music, modernistic surroundings, indirect lighting, and ice cold beer.

Ansel's Idea

Credit for the idea of an Enlisted Men's Club and the success of the finished product should be given primarily to Cpl. Julius Ansel of Boston, Massachusetts, 329th Special Service non-com. Said Cpl. Ansel, "Nothing's too good for the boys."

Lt. Daniel P. O'Connor of Omaha, Nebraska, Special Service Officer of the 329th, remarked upon the enthusiasm displayed by members of the newly-formed regimental dance band in providing nightly entertainment. The band has been named the Buckshots in honor of the Assistant Division Commander, Col. Edwin B. (Buckshot) Crabill of Galax, Virginia, former Commanding Officer of the 329th Infantry.

Bartender at the Top Hat is Pfc. "Jim" Stauffill of Flint, Michigan. His reaction to the club was, "What a set-up! What I couldn't do with a place like this back home."

An anonymous Joe found sitting in the corner with a sad-looking face said, "Only one thing's missing. — Women!"

BUCKSHOT RHYTHM

Music in the Top Hat is provided by the Buckshots, a six-piece combination that somehow manages to get lilting American jazz out of ancient German instruments. Someone, possibly hanging from the eaves, picked up the following conversation between Pfc. Albert Biro, of Cleveland, Ohio, and Pfc. Ben Rosenthal of San Diego, California, as they were discussing the band.

After two beers had been downed, Al licked his lips, leaned back in his chair and said, "It beats me how they play those broken-down horns at all. Much less make it sound good. And Ansel, our Special Service non-com, tells me the vocalist sang over station KGB on the west coast. — Say, that drummer's really beating it out!"

"Yeah," agreed Ben. "He's Elliot Harris, and he played traps for Charley Spivak's orchestra."

BIRO CHORTLES REPLY

"Man, listen to that rolling boogie!" chortled Biro. Some guy told me the pianist is Chicago's Andy Volini of WLS fame."

"Heck," said Ben, "as long as we've mentioned drummer and pianist we've got to complete the rhythm section. That little fellow behind the big bass fiddle is Howard Horn from Brooklyn."

Biro nodded his head thoughtfully for a minute—then said, "It seems to me I've seen that sax-man before the war. His style of playing is distinctive, but that cue-ball hair cut is a fooler."

Ben laughed. "You might know him. He's from Flint, Michigan, and played as well as arranged for several bands roving the midwest. His name's Thibodeau, and

listen for his arrangement of "Talk of the Town."

"Sure will," promised Biro. "Say, since you seem to know so much about the band you might know something about the rest of the fellows?"

"Well, maybe," Ben admitted. "Dick Lewellen, cornetist, is from Rome, Georgia. Hooper acquired his technique on the trombone while he was barnstorming in practically every state of the Union. Sam Janover had beaucoup experience as master of ceremonies in the hot spots of Manhattan."

"Say, who are you?" asked Biro, as he blew the foam from another beer.

"Who, me?" sparred Ben. "Oh, I'm the crooner of this outfit."

ANSEL ...



329th Men Say "Horsemen of the Alps"

Ansel's leaving, men. Yep, the "Profile" has 98 points, and his bags are packed, including those under his eyes.

Those of you in the other outfits may not know him so well, but the doughboys of the 329th Infantry recognize Cpl. Julius Ansel from Dorchester, Mass., their entertainment director. They remember the movies and impromptu shows he used to bring them when they had a breathing spell. They remember those top performers that he swung their way, the open air shows. And his latest innovation, probably his piece de resistance, the G.I. night club, TOP HAT. But most of all they remember how they used to clamor for his news reports back in combat days. They knew he didn't know anymore than they did, but they liked to hear him say, "The news is great today men. The Russians are advancing on all points, and that dog, Hitler, has his tail between his legs. So sit back, relax, and enjoy yourself, for tomorrow's another lousy day!"

Ansel is an old timer with the 83rd. He was with it when it first organized back in '42. In those days he was a rifleman with G Company. Fortune, circumstance, and the Regimental C.O. smiled on him, and he was given the task of keeping the boys entertained. The men of the 329th Inf. say he's done his job well, often without proper equipment and under difficult situations.

The men of the "Buckshot" Regiment all know and have a strong affection for him. They like to make fun of his nose, and kid him about his mother-in-law. They also know that he means it when he says, "Nothing too good for the boys."

MEMORIAL SERVICE

On July 4th the men of Co. H, 330th Inf. gathered in their Company area near Waldkirchen to pay tribute to their fallen comrades. As the entire Company stood at attention Capt. William L. Bennett, the Commanding Officer, placed a huge floral wreath at the base of a cross. Then a 30-gun salute was fired and taps were sounded by the bugler.

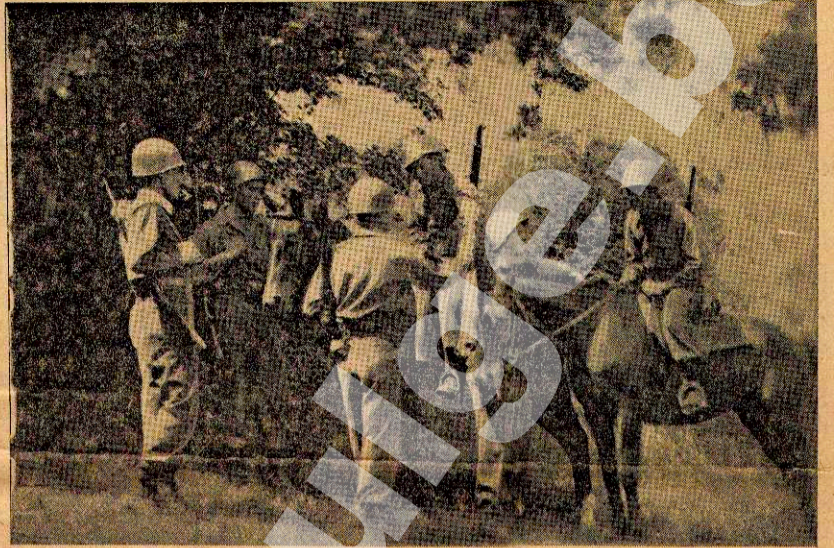
Later, three veterans of the Hedgrows were awarded Bronze Stars by Col. Robert T. Foster, Commanding Officer of the 330th Inf. The men who received the awards were S/Sgt. Howard Channel, Sgt. William J. Bane, and Sgt. Charles Nevius.

Saddle Tale

(Continued from page 1)

They have another deal cooking, though. They are looking for a man named Bailey who is said to own a couple of bridges in the area. So far all they have been able to find out is that this man lives in Washington, D. C. and that he seems to be somewhat of an eccentric. He wears blue and white striped pants, a swallow-tail coat and a top hat with stars around the band. When Borsick and Laret contact this man they are going to offer him a reasonable sum for one of his bridges. Figure they can make a fortune in tolls.

"Horsemen of the Alps"



A mounted patrol of Co. A meets a foot patrol of Co. B in the Bavarian Alps where the 1st Battalion of the 330th Inf. maintains a guard at the Czech-German border. Above, S/Sgt. Leif Anderson gives a message to Pfc. James Thayer. Others in the picture, from left to right on the ground are, Pfc. Ulysses Stookfbury, Cpl. D. V. Davidson. The men on the horses are, left to right, Pfc. Clarence Gillilan and Pfc. Harold Standford.

Foot, Jeep And Horse To Patrol Czech Frontier.

The peak-climbing 1st Battalion of the 330th Infantry has become a Bavarian Alpine Guard. Their mission is to prevent unauthorized persons from crossing the Czech-German frontier. In carrying out this assignment, the doughboys encounter ragged terrain and mountainous regions which are too much for even a jeep. To operate in this terrain, the outfit has used several types of transportation that aren't mentioned in the T.O. of an Infantry outfit.

Now jeeps cover parts of the trails, contacting horse patrols, who carry on until they in turn can go no further. In the worst sections the long-suffering doughboy struggles along the trails to complete the mission. Says Pfc. John B. Bailey, "We've been thinking seriously of requisitioning mountain goats to patrol some of this area."

Several times the patrols have spotted Heinies trying to sneak across the frontier by some obscure mountain pass. Pfc. Gordon Braum, comments, "By the time we could get across the valley they had run back into the dense woods and it was almost impossible to find them. Field glasses are a great help in this type of work, but on many days clouds hovering lower than the hill-top trails interfere with a clear view of the valleys."

Able, Baker, and Charlie Companies are split into horsemen and mountain climbers to take over the roughest regions while D Company handles the jeep-navigable sections. Pfc. Fleet B. Sexton, jeep-jockey, says, "A steer would have to have a super-charger to travel where our jeeps have gone." All supplies for A Company must be packed in by horse over a two mile trail to their mountain hideout, and is in S/Sgt. Kermit Rockhill's words, "One hell of a trip." For the men of the ankle express, Sgt. Harley C. Adams explains, "The combination of practically impassible terrain and the thin mountain air really makes it a tough job." Pfc. Anthony C. Shiripa's view is

"With all this beautiful country, Hitler still yelled for 'living room'. I can't understand it."

35mm. Movies

(Continued from page 1)

the chain to trade pictures, depending on how the schedule was made out.

This central film agency is a civilian operated organization with its main office in Hollywood. The headquarters of the agency in the ETO is working with the Com Z entertainment office. These civilians book the theaters in their circuits with pictures two weeks in advance of the date they are to be shown. As much as possible they try to give the men the newest and best pictures available.

There are no more ten minute breaks while the operator changes the reel, because the second projector automatically takes over when the first one runs out of film. The projectors are operated by the same civilian operators who worked in the theater before the Army took it over.

The Army pays three cents admission for each person who goes to the movies, so an accurate count of attendance is kept for each show. To get these 35mm shows a theater must have a minimum of 500 seats, otherwise the expense of bringing the film all the way from the States to show to only a small audience would be prohibitive.

Male Call

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

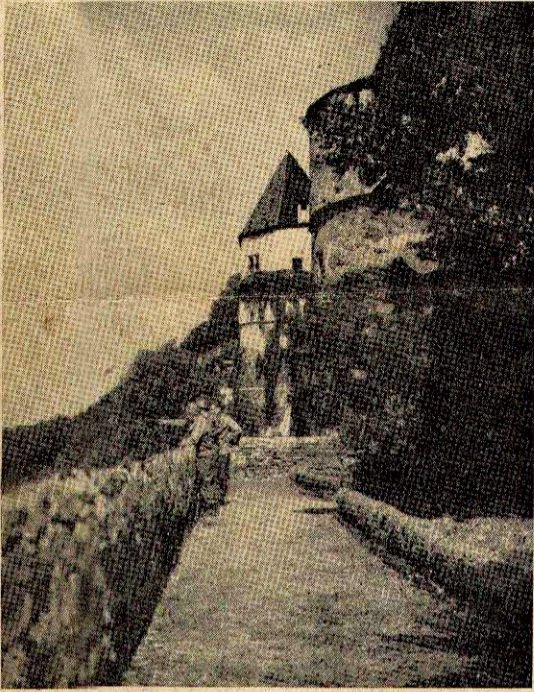
Critical Point



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The Ober-

haus



Overlooking the roofs of Passau and the hills of Austria are: 1. to r. — Sgt. Clyde Puckett, Co. F, 329; Sgt. Joseph Howard, Hq. Co, 330; Pvt. Elmo T. Owens, Co. A, 330.



The Rest Center's "Terrace Bar", offering light lunches throughout the day, is an ever-popular feature to vacationing Thunderbolts.



In the foreground spreads the "Terrace Bar" and Pavillion, The background shows Passau and the highway bridge spanning the Danube River.

83rd. Division

REST CENTER

The "Oberhaus", which was opened to the men of the 83rd on July 7th, has become an "Infantryman's dream". With its spacious rooms and beautiful surroundings the old castle high above the Danube is a favorite resort for Thunderbolt men.

The castle, whose history dates back to 407 A.D., has weathered the storm of many wars and uprisings. In 991, the first date known concerning the castle, a Bishop used it as a headquarters to rule the city of Passau. During succeeding centuries the castle underwent many changes and additions. In 1809 the castle was used by Napoleon as one of his stronger fortresses. The castle was reconditioned in 1944 as a summer resort for use by Hitler and his henchmen.

Today 83rd men are taking advantage of Hitler's fine foresight. The Oberhaus' fine housing facilities, swimming pool, tennis courts, and Terrace Bar will give Thunderbolt Doughboys many pleasant times.

Photos and Layout by Sgt. Bob Vierhile



Sipping beer at the "Terrace Bar", overlooking the junction of the Inn and Danube Rivers, are: 1. to r. — T/5 Earl E. Miller, Co. A, 308th Eng; Pfc. William B. Barrett, Co. A, 308th Eng.; Pfc. John R. Meaney, Co. A, 308th Eng.



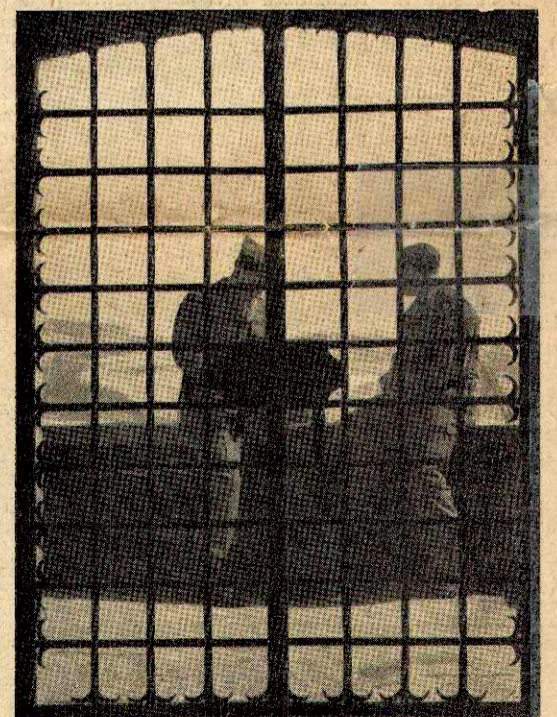
The Boss and his man Friday — Maj. Carl C. Anderson, seated and M/Sgt. Richard A. Hatfield, standing.



Approaching the Main Gate of the Oberhaus are: left to right — T/4 Paulie Reynolds, 737 Tankers; Pfc. Clifford Goodlock, Co. G, 329; Pfc. Clifton Thornton, Co. B, 329; Pfc. Bertram Ruoff, Co. B, 329.



There it is, men, at the top of the hill — the OBERHAUS. Pfc. Leonard Sitorgia, Co. A, 330; Pfc. Virgil L. Smithson, Co. A, 308th Eng; enter an enlisted man's domain.



Viewed through one of the rest center's many griled gates are: Left to right — Pfc. Edison Ghost, Co. K, 329; Pfc. Nicholas Rotunno, Co. A, 330.