

THUNDERBOLT

Weekly Newspaper of the 83rd Infantry Division

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

VOL. 4, No. 18

PASSAU, GERMANY

SEPTEMBER 1, 1945

TRUMAN PINS CMH ON 83RD SGT

Macon Cites 18 Doughs At 329th Review

HENGENSBURG, Germany. — Maj. Gen. Robert C. Macon, Commanding General of the 83rd Division, presented Colonel Edwin B. Crabill with the Legion of Merit and 17 officers and men of the 329th Infantry with the Silver Star here on Monday afternoon.

Following the reading of each citation by 1st Lt. Robert S. Kendall, Regimental Adjutant, the General pinned the medal on each man and congratulated him on his achievements. Upon completion of the ceremonies, the 1st Battalion, followed by the Division band, passed in review before the decorated men.

The Silver Stars were awarded to the following officers and men: Pvt. Louis A. Gaybrant, F Company (also awarded the Oak Leaf Cluster); Capt. Charles F. Hamilton, 3rd Battalion Headquarters; Capt. James R. Land, 3rd Battalion Headquarters; Pfc. George Kirk, 3rd Battalion Medics.

1st Lt. Hubert B. Degnan, F. Company; Pfc. Michael Passaro, 1st Battalion Medics; 1st Lt. Lloyd E. Rubbelke, Anti-Tank Company; 1st Lt. David E. Springer, T/5 Samuel R. Furst, 2nd Battalion Medics; 1st Lt. John T. Garrison, B. Company.

Pfc. James McCoy, F Company; T/Sgt. Warren G. Black, F. Company; 1st Lt. Walter P. McGhee, H. Company; T/Sgt. Camillo R. Iemole, B. Company; S/Sgt. Harold S. Miller, B. Company; T/4 William M. Allen, 3rd Battalion Medics.

Nazis Ousted From Civil Jobs; CIC Arrests Drop

The first week of 83rd Division control of the Passau zone of occupation was completed last Wednesday.

There has been a definite drop in the number of arrests made by MP and MG officials, and a slight decrease in curfew violations has also been noticed.

CIC recorded a drop of arrests from an average of 125 to 60 for the last week. Military Government reported very satisfactory progress in replacing former Nazi Party members holding civil positions with qualified, friendly civilians, and predict a finish of the ouster by the first of October.

The most prevalent cause for arrests was curfew violations, for which 83rd MPs arrested some 250 civilians in the towns of Passau and Vilshofen. Those persons were tried by Military Government and when found guilty were

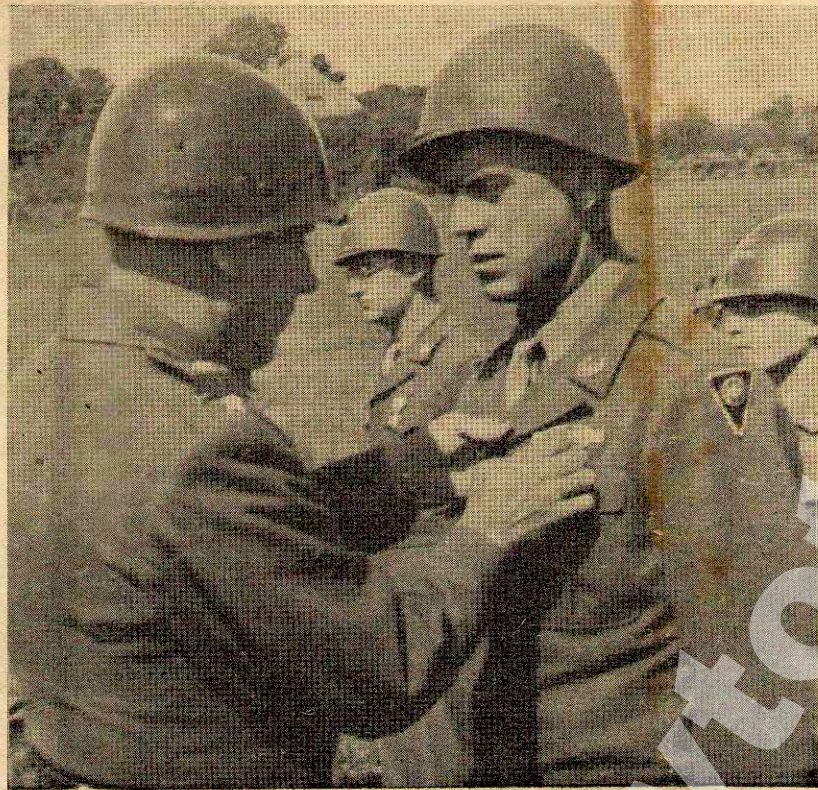
(Continued on page 5)

Veteran Is Accused Of Beheading Wife

SEATTLE, Wash. — (ANS) — A veteran of both world wars was charged recently with beheading his wife after months of drunken brawling with knives and guns. A jail attendant said "he told me it was the first time he'd ever been able to cut his wife off in the middle of a sentence."

A police psychiatrist pronounced Earl Victor Hartley, 47, "perfectly sane". He was charged with murdering his 55-year-old wife, Ida, with a razor-sharp Filipino ceremonial knife in a pasture behind their home.

For Gallantry In Action



Pfc. James McCoy of F Company, 329th Infantry, is awarded the Silver Star by Maj. Gen. Robert C. Macon, Commanding General of the 83rd Division, during ceremonies held at Hengersberg on Monday. McCoy, along with 16 officers and men of the 329th Infantry, were awarded Silver Stars.

65 Pointers Leave The 83rd For The 8th Armored Division

Veterans of the 83rd Infantry Division who have 65 points or more will leave for the 8th Armored Division, in the XII Corps, in a short time. This will affect 6,500 men of the Division.

The men will leave by train for Pilsen and Staub, in Czechoslovakia, where the 8th Armored Div. is stationed. The veteran 8th Arm. Div., which we came in contact with during this Division's drive from the Rhine to the Elbe, will send 4,600 with ASR scores between 45-65, to join this Division in a short time.

The tankers, before they can be considered for redeployment, will need 7,500 men to bring them to TO strength, plus approx. the 10 per cent overstrength they are authorized. The men from this Division will almost fill their quota.

Although the affected men had much cause for gaiety, their joy was mingled with melancholy at leaving the outfit they were so proud to call their own. Practically all the men leaving have earned five battle stars on the Division's trek through Europe.

Arrangements are being made for determining the specific date of the transfer of these high point men. Officials at XII Corps stated the information will come through shortly.

Two New Officers Fill Vacancys On Gen. Staff

Lt. Col. James H. Skinner has been appointed Assistant Chief of Staff replacing Lt. Col. Robert W. Duke, who along with Major James C. Bagley were flown to the States and are now awaiting discharges.

Major Edward E. Mayer has replaced Major Bagley as G-1 of the Division.

Macon and Staff Toast Sport Stars At Oberhaus Party

Nine athletes were honored at an athletic banquet at the Oberhaus, Thursday evening, when General Macon presented certificates of Merit to those "who have been working while others slept".

Following a delicious dinner of roast-beef at the staff dining room Capt. Reeder, Division Special Service Officer, acted as Master of Ceremonies, and thanked Colonel Dorato, Oberhaus manager, for the preparations, and went on to introduce the Commanding General who presented the awards to the XII Corps Champions.

Continuing what the General termed "a record of blood and sweat" during combat, these athletes helped "keep up the proud record of the 83rd".

The General shook hands with each of the officers and men awarded, and wished them good luck.

Among those invited were the General Staff, the Regimental Commanders, and the Athletic Officers. Following the dinner, the entourage withdrew to the boxing matches in the Passau Arena.

Men Over 38 To Get Out

Well Pop. if you're 38, you're as good as out of this man's army.

The Army marked the end of the war by announcing its determination to discharge 5,000,000 men in 12 months, a major undertaking with a large portion of these men overseas.

Sgt. Neppel Presented Nation's Highest Award On White House Lawn

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Truman awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor to Sgt. Ralph G. Neppel and 27 other soldiers in the largest ceremony of its kind ever held.

The ceremony was held at 10 a.m. on the south lawn of the White House, with close relatives and friends of the honored men looking on.

TTF Receives Mention In CNS Newspaper Poll

The 331st Regimental newspaper, the TTF, which is edited by Sgt. Jack Straus, won an honorable mention award in the 1945 Camp Newspaper Service Contest. The "Stars and Stripes" was given the same award.

Oberhaus Changes Management; Girds For Winter Ahead

The management of the 83rd Division's rest center, the Oberhaus, changed hands this week when Major Carl L. Anderson was transferred to the XII Corps Chemical Warfare department on Monday.

Taking over the duties as rest center head is Lt. Col. Lawrence F. Dorato, formerly of the 4th Armored Division, who is the present CWS Commander in the 83rd.

When Maj. Anderson first came to the Oberhaus with M/Sgt. Richard F. Harfield, Sgt. Arthur Smith, and T/5 Fred Wallace, there was nothing there but the buildings and most of them were in dire need of repair. Since then approximately 25 men have been added to the staff of helpers and nearly 150 civilians are on the pay-roll.

"There was a lot to do when we took over," the Major said. "First we had to get the buildings in shape for the men to live in. Then we had to think of sanitation, heat, light, water food and just about everything that a good resort hotel requires. It was no picnic, but I had good men working for me, and I still do. We

(Continued on page 5)

The Congressional Medal of Honor presented to Sgt. Ralph Neppel was the first of its kind ever awarded to a man in the 83rd Division. Sgt. Neppel served with M Company of the 329th Infantry while with the Division.

Last December, the 21 year old machine gun squad leader was severely wounded by a German shell when he beat off an attack by two 40-ton German tanks supported by 20 infantrymen.

The citation for the action reads, "for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty."

Knocked Out Two Kraut Tanks

Despite his disabling wounds suffered from the tank shell, Sgt. Neppel dragged himself by his elbows to his machine gun, quickly placed it into position, and stopped the oncoming Germans with its deadly fire. Without its Infantry protection, the tank turned around and withdrew. Although he was severely wounded, Sgt. Neppel refused evacuation, insisting that some other wounded men be taken care of first.

Sgt. Neppel was recently released from McClosky General Hospital, Temple, Texas, where his wounds had been treated.

331st Men Receive Awards at Pocking

General Macon pinned 21 medals on the jackets of 331st Infantrymen at Pocking Air Field Thursday morning.

Those decorated were: Col. Robert H. York, Lt. Col. Leniel McDonald, 1st Lt. Charles W. DuPre, 1st Lt. William I. Poulter Jr., 1st Lt. George F. Orr, 1st Lt. Harry F. Dalton, 1st Lt. Parkman W. Tynes, T/Sgt. Julius L. Cannady, T/Sgt. John M. Renshaw, T/Sgt. James M. Ploor, S/Sgt. Glenwood Gingerich, S/Sgt. George F. Kohler Jr., S/Sgt. Boyd D. Sult, S/Sgt. Robert C. Trago, T/5 Robert C. Morris, Pfc. Henry Decker, Pfc. Lavern G. Wolff, Pfc. James J. Johnson, Pvt. Willie H. Trammell.

Brunswick Alone Has Begun To Rise Again From Its Ashes

By Ed Clark

BRUNSWICK, Germany — Brunswick is one German town that hopes to arise from its ashes.

It is the first of the scores of cities I have visited on this tour that is already making plans to clear the rubble of the ancient structures that now lie crumbled and powdered along its streets and construct new and modern buildings.

The town's burgomeister said he hopes to preserve as much of the medieval city as possible as a sort of museum, for it was always a favorite of tourists. When questioned as to where he would get the money to carry out his plans he shrugged his shoulders and proceeded to shift to German, which he could roll off more fluently and with more confidence.

Brunswick, (which was formerly under the control of the 83rd Division) as it appears today, is enough to discourage even the most ambitious of city planners. Of the 2280 houses that lined the streets before the big Allied push, all but 300 were pulverized by R.A.F. and Eighth Air Force raids. Approximately 75 per cent of the suburban district is in ruins.

This city, with a prewar population of 250,000, was about the size of Columbus, Ohio. Today it is estimated at 115,000 and many of these are floaters from Berlin and Aachen.

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83rd Thunderbolt

Official Weekly Newspaper of the
83rd Infantry Division

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From Our CHAPLAIN

William S. Donaghy
2nd Bn., 331st Infantry

"Of course. You Americans have everything". This statement was made by an Hungarian countess. The Boy Scouts held a Jamboree some years ago in Budapest and she had seen the magnificent equipment our boys had brought to make their trip comfortable, equipment that evidently far surpassed anything the boys from other countries had with them.

Her observation was correct. As far as material wealth is concerned, we have everything. Our standard of living is higher than any other nation in the world. We are better-fed, better-housed, better-clothed than other peoples. In December, those of us who live in the North can have on our tables fresh strawberries, asparagus, lettuce, tomatoes and other out-of-season vegetables at prices not hard to negotiate. In peace time, European streets swarm with cyclists — our streets swarm with motor cars. In Europe, the old 1909 bathroom — if there is one in the house — is still being used. At home we fret if we don't have the newest style pink — tiled bath just like Mrs. Jones down the street. Our houses are well equipped with the latest in household appliances — electric irons, washing machines, radios, refrigerators, sweepers, toasters, etc.

Not Quite Everything

Yes, we have everything. In material things we are very wealthy indeed. But can it be said with equal truth that in spiritual things we have everything? Let us examine the record. Do we surpass Europe in our climb up Parnassus? We can say that we have better clothes, better food, better transportation, better roads — but with 500 and more different religious bodies can it be said that we are better people?

In the early days of the non-fraternization policy, it was said "how are we going to show these people our way of life if we can't talk to them". When you talk about our "better" way of life, do you mean the way we discriminate against our fellow Americans — do you mean our subtle and undercover persecutions. We Americans have everything. I wonder if we are far beyond the Europeans in our love for our brother. I wonder if we are much richer than they in spiritual values. I wonder if we really do have "everything".

LETTERS to the Editor

To Editor, THUNDERBOLT

As one who served with the British Middle East Forces prior to entry into the United States Army, I should like to make a friendly but firm correction. In fairness to the men of the 83rd Division who have received the "Military Medal" it should be known that, unless there has been a change within the last two years, the "Military Cross" and the "Military Medal" are essentially the same decoration. In common with the Russians and several other European nations, the British have separate grades of the same decoration for the different ranks within their army. In this instance, both decorations are equivalent to our DSC, the "Military Cross" going to commissioned officers, the "Military Medal" to enlisted men (or, as the British put it, "other ranks").

I cannot cite any documentary proof for my belief at this time, but I think you will find that I am correct. Those "Thunderbolts" who have the MM should be very proud indeed. It is not something which is loosely thrown about.

Frank E. Williams, Jr.
2nd Bn. Medics., 330th Inf

STAGE SHOWS

Now in The 83rd

During the first week of September
BLUES BUSTERS — U.S.O. Camp Show,
ARTISTS AND MODELS — Hungarian Musical
STEY'S CIRCUS — Featuring high wire acts, novelties, and clowns.

BEYOND THE BLUE

By Maury Renek
THE HARD ROAD

One way to earn a cool million Yankee dollars in our time is to forecast correctly a coming vogue in women's clothing and character. Not wanting to dampen the enthusiasm of future millionaires, we can safely say that this is just about the hardest way to earn an easy million. The only hint this world has had of a coming change of character is from the movie studios out in God's gifted world.

Twentieth Century Fox gave the American people its first vision of the radical things to come, when it filmed the life of Jesse James. Jesse, in his day, was the orneriest critter that ever drew out the old equalizer. It was all in his day's work to hang a few or the posse and he wouldn't think "a drap" about putting salt water taffy in his gal's mail order teeth. This James boy not only cooked with gas, he even drank it.

Then along came Mr. T. C. Fox, who brought out a film that showed black-guard Jesse in heroic proportions. He glamorized his killings and, consequently, revolutionized the game of "Cops and Robbers". Nowadays, the kids won't be the sheriff even for a nickel. They all want to be the hard-riding James boy they've seen in the movies. The scourge of America is now the hero of young Americana.

If this cycle of films is to continue, one can only guess what will happen when this type of movie starts making famous molls into heroines.

She Was Just Another Tomato

Take the case of Bonnie Parker, the toughest cigar chewing tomato ever to prey on the midwest. As a doll, she didn't amount to a row of beans, she was just another tomato. She cased the biggest banks in Kansas. She sold "hot goods" to the slickest "fences" around the Windy City. What's more, she toted two "John Henrys" inside the belt of her skirt and could shoot them as fast as Tom Mix in the closing sequence of a serialized Western. The El Paragorios that she smoked were strong enough to counteract the smell of a Bavarian village street. Bad little habits that she might have had, Bonnie still knew how to pick her men. She horsed around for a stretch with such fast men as "Pretty Boy" Floyd, and occasionally made off to a nearby "still" with "Baby Face" Nelson. On many an afternoon she attended a few "tea" parties with "Machine Gun" Kelly. One must readily admit that Miss Parker had it in her day.

A Bright Day is Coming

Women's taste for men have run the gamut from Tarzan to Sinatra but now at last a new type male will be idolized. The rough and ready, rugged and reformatory type of man will take the spotlight. A boy starting out in life as a juvenile delinquent is bound to become a success. Women's belts will naturally be designed with a "heater" on each side of the buckle. Brassieres will be styled with an attached "shoulder" holster. Old style garters may come back with hooks to hang live hand grenades on. If this cycle goes far enough, why they may even name a bottle of whiskey after a woman.

One thing is certain — Bonnie Parker for her many faults (and who can stand up and say that he or she has no faults) was way head of her time. Had she lived a few decades from now, she would have been hailed as another historic woman. Unfortunately she lived in a world that didn't appreciate her talent and once the "buls" put the screws on her, she faded from view.

After this war you might become an entrepreneur and stock up on "silencers", "hot rocks", and brassieres with "shoulder" holsters — for who can tell!

POETRY

My Dreams Are Getting Better
All the Time

When I go to sleep late at night,
I think about my sorry plight,
I dream of things I used to do,
And plan about my future too.

Then, often stretching out my joints,

I count and recount all my points.
But 41 just won't suffice
To send me home to son and wife.
So I start that familiar tune;
Lord, let me have my discharge soon;
Or else, before it is too late,
Just let me have a "Section 8".

By Pfc. Walter Marx
MP Plt., 330th Infantry

On The Ball

By Jocke

JENNIFER Entertainment

Dear Charlie:

I read in the Tribune all about your Division's activities. How come you never tell me those things? This newspaper had your sailing date, when you were coming home, what camp you would be at. Charlie, are you sure you don't want a subscription to the Tribune? I can't understand it. You mean to say a sergeant gets fifty more dollars than you and he sits around while you do the work. Why dear, you know that isn't sensible. I hope you get over your habit of lying by the time you get home.

I'm glad the war is over because now I can slap that cute butcher boy anytime he gets fresh with me. You remember that jacket you gave me before you went overseas? Well, I don't wear it anymore because it didn't have anything on it besides the Purple Heart ribbon and your combat badge that you sent me. I gave it to father who needs something to cover him when he cleans the car.

Willie is in the hospital with a nervous breakdown. His draft board told him to report for a physical next month. Are you sure those girls sitting with you by the lake are Polish? They sure look German to me. Please tell me truthfully Charlie, do you fraternize?

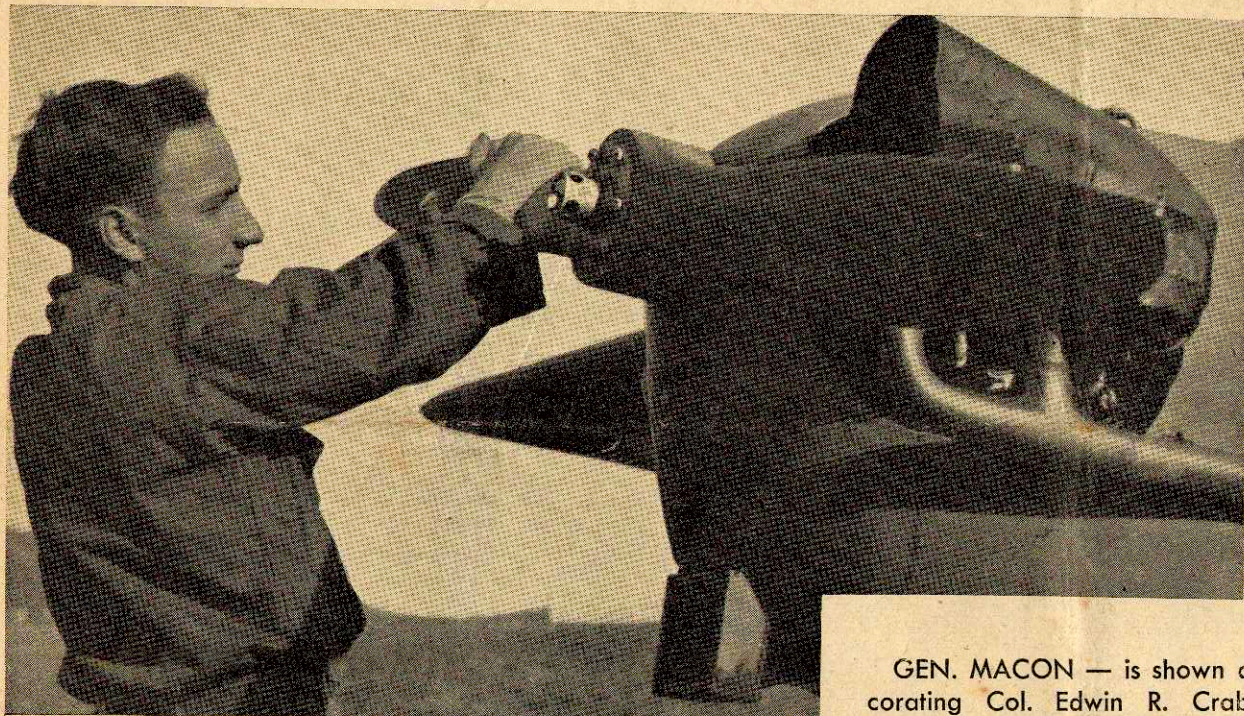
(Not so) Privately yours,
Jennifer

Nunzi Bucalo's sensational swing sextet can be heard every Sunday afternoon and night at Eddie Klenck's "Club 83" in Vilshofen. The sextet is composed of seven very capable members. And if you like your jazz ad-libbed, nothing should stop you from coming down and hearing this superb crew. Bucalo plays a fine clarinet with an extraordinary skillful technique. Howard Princehorn, plays a kind of piano that is seldom heard. He treats his music with a gifted imaginative sense that would stand out on any kind of instrument. Norman Hoke, is another rarity, in the fact that he is from the old school of trombonists. His facility in handling this instrument and the tone he acquires can only be admired. Oscar Guerra's fine sonorous quality on the trumpet is another great contribution to this amazing combo. Bob Halstead, on the tenor sax gets off solos in fine heated sequences. Bill Richards, is a kind of drummer one will never tire of hearing. He has a good steady beat which is shorn of any cheap ostentatious mannerisms common to present day drummers. Elmo Reed, on the bass, is a hard and consistent worker and has much to do to keep up the powerful drive of the sextet. All in all, Bucalo has formed a combo that has unlimited potentialities and, with more of these same dates, should become quite an effective musical organization.



I Traded 'Em For Eggs!

THE CAMERA EYE



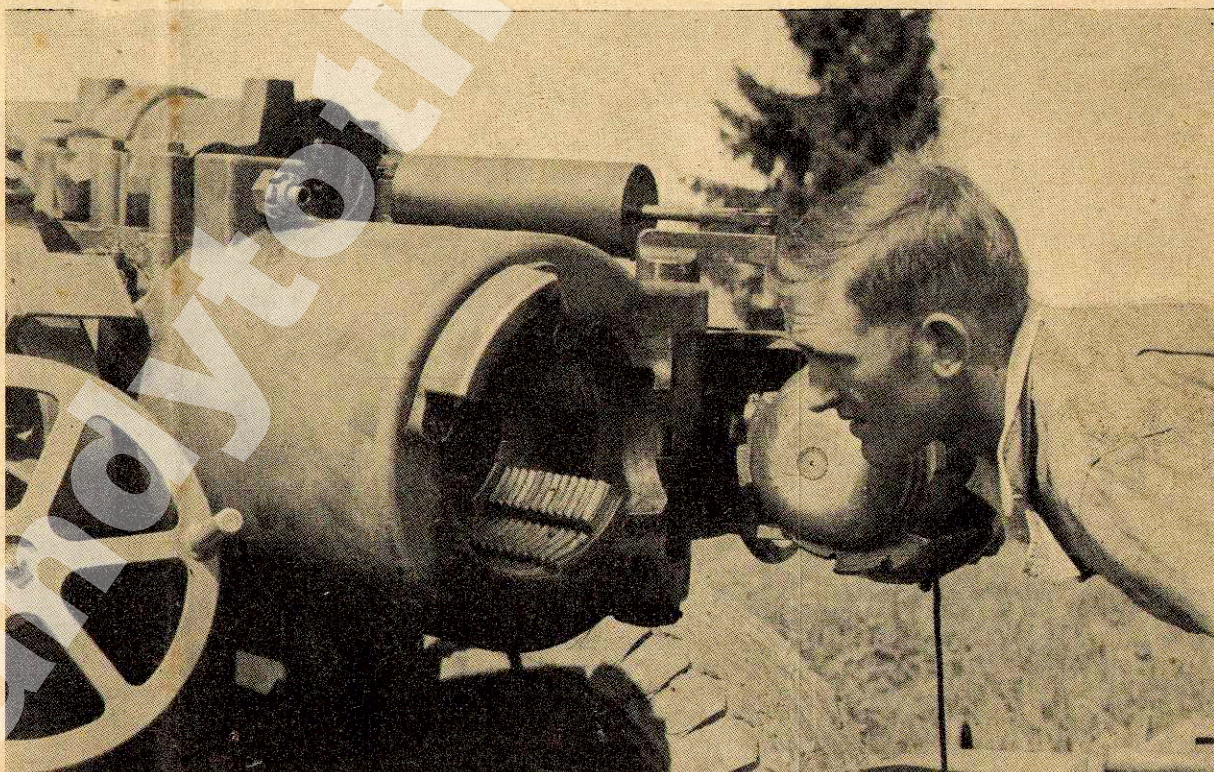
WINDING HER UP. — Pvt. Howard M. Goehring of the 908th FA Bn. starts the motor of a Cub. The planes are now making daily Message Center runs to the regiments.



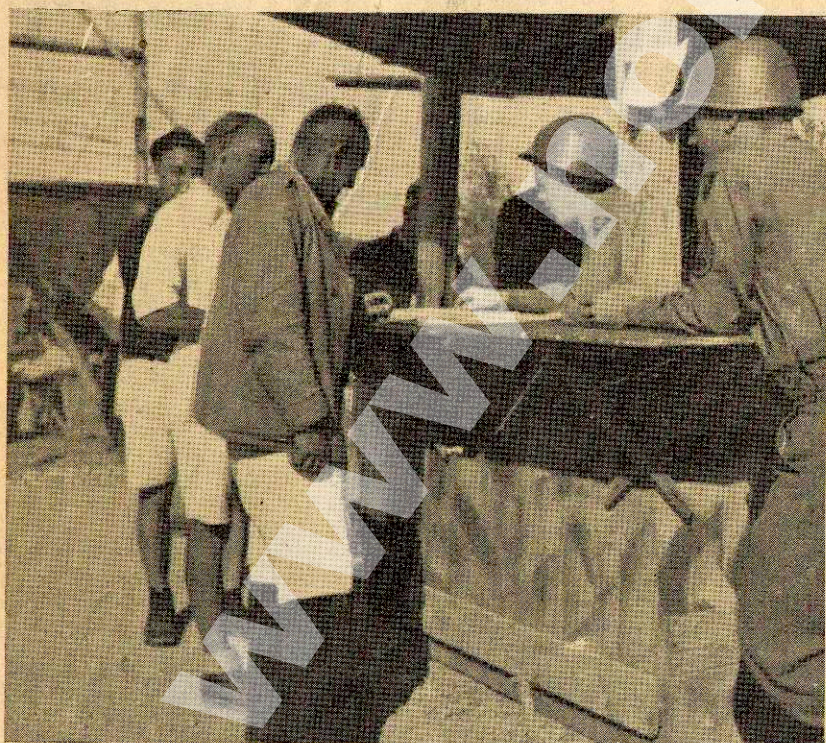
GEN. MACON — is shown decorating Col. Edwin R. Crabill, Assistant Division Commander, with the Legion of Merit at the 329th ceremonies on Monday.



HIS AMBITION . . . TO BE A CIVILIAN. — Pfc. Arthur Byrnes of Company B, 308th Engineers, caught doing his daily work, is waiting for his discharge and a chance to wear his old blue suit.



SLICK AS A WHISTLE. — However, this 155 is a little big to blow through. Cpl. Paul Hyden of the 324th FA Bn. gives her the once over before inspection. Paul, with a total of 69 points, says he wants to stay in the army.



ANOTHER DOC. ANTHONY. — Pfc. James G. Tatum of E Company, 329th Inf., answers all the problems of the PWs at E Company's internment camp. He is shown talking to a former German major while S/Sgt. James Adams looks on.



LIFE GOES ON IN GERMANY. — A typical native marriage passes the Division CP in Vilshofen following the marriage ceremony. It is a native custom to parade through the village streets following the wedding. Several amused GIs came out to snap pictures.

(All Photos by Vaccaro)

In The BULLPEN



with Bob La Vine

Now that golf clubs and balls are going to be issued to the Division, Capt. Horton Smith's statement last week that there will be a 72-hole Open Golf Championship sometime early in October may encourage you to take up the game a little more seriously. The championship matches will probably be run off in Brussels.

For those of you who missed the pleasure of watching Smith and Mangrum perform, here are some tips they pass along to help you keep the score down around your critical point average. They claim that there are only two effective grips, the over-lapping and interlocking. Then they emphasize the proper stance at the tee. Both feet should be held perpendicular to the line of drive, neither too close nor too far apart, just about shoulder width. This will keep you from falling on your fanny on the follow-through, and will allow the proper pivot.

The clubs they used are the same ones that will be issued, and, by the way, they are the same ones used in the ETO matches. Both pros consider them very good. The balls are mostly synthetic rubber, and Mangrum believes that most of them will be made from that process from now on.

In the horse-shoe department, T/4 Leland Mortenson, a member of the troupe who has written a book on the subject, explained that the most desired amount of turns a shoe should make is one and a quarter. Thus, by gripping it on the side, it will land open on the peg, giving the pitcher a much greater chance for ringers. He should know; we're only Pfes up here, and the way we see it, the only one to lose in a horse-shoe match is the horse.

On the ply-wood table subject, two experts, Sol Schiff and John Somael, showed how to bat the celluloid sphere around. They prefer it rubber paddle because it gives you control and the ball has less chance to skid off.

And if you don't want the ghosts of the Oberhaus to haunt you, never call it ping-pong in front of those two guys. "Ping-pong", they hissed at us, "is the trade mark of the company that first manufactured the equipment; table tennis is the game!"

The 83rd Recon Troop took a trip to Nurnberg to root, root, root for the home team, the home team being the Third Army nine which was playing the Seventh Army. Lt. Zelman's boys were credited with an assist when they rattled the Seventh Army's 3rd sacker into fumbling the ball four times, which was a contributing factor in the Third Army's victory. We're surprised they didn't run their half-track around the field between innings.

Japs Drop in Standings, U. S. Still Leads League

NEW YORK — Japan has dropped out of the list of nations undefeated in warfare, while the United States retains its lead in the "undefeated" league.

Previous modern wars in which Japan was undefeated were those against China in 1904, Russia in 1904 and Germany in 1914.

Don't Pack Yet

WASHINGTON — (CNS) — You may be in for the "duration plus 6", but that doesn't mean you'll be discharged within half a year of Japan's surrender. The war will be officially over upon conclusion of a peace treaty, upon presidential proclamation, or by a joint Congressional resolution. World War I didn't end officially until almost 3 years after the last shot was fired. Meanwhile, the draft will continue.

TTF COPS LEAGUE PENNANT



(Photo by Maynard)

WINNERS OF THE THUNDERBOLT LEAGUE PENNANT. — The 331st Baseball team was officially given the league pennant this week, after the 329th Buckshot team was counted out of the running. Shown from left to right are: Front row — Frank Sabine, pitcher; Ivan Parrett, infield; WO Nikolis Jelich, 1st base; Clarence Lossin, infield. Second row — Andy Socha, left field; Bill Hollmeyer, outfield; Joe Egen, 2nd base; Lt. David Kribs, shortstop; Howard Miller, right field; Russ Hughes, pitcher; Lt. Bob Clyde, catcher. Back row — Bernard McGee, 1st base; Dave Hemming, pitcher; Joe Russo, center field; Bob Merriam, 3rd base; Dick Shannon, pitcher; Lt. John Maiden, pitcher.

HUGHES HURLS NINTH WIN OVER CELLAR DWELLING DOCS

Russell Hughes pitched his 331st team to a pennant victory Sunday when they defeated the last place, 308th Medics, 14 to 10, in a free hitting game at Pocking.

Racking up his fourth win of the season, Hughes held his opponents scoreless till the sixth inning, while his teammates knocked Posiack and Monis all over the lot and crossed the plate so often that they had to put an MP there to direct traffic. The TTF crowd started off early in the two-and-a-half hour game by scoring a run in the first, then came back in the third inning with four more, again in the fourth with another one, and pushed across three more in the fifth frame.

The Pill-Rollers decided that the rent was due in the sixth, and hit Hughes as steadily as a metronome while the MP was called to duty again. They gathered seven big runs in that inning, and also forced Hemming to the mound in place of Hughes. The score stood at 9 to 7 when the Blackboys took their turn at bat. They made it 10-7.

The Medics weren't finished either, though, for they countered with two more in their half of the seventh. That's when the League Champions really displayed their power. With only a one run lead, Egan singled, Jelich walked, Miriam slammed out a hard double, Russo did the same, Kribs settled for a single, and Clyde's bulky frame got in the way of a pitched ball. When the rally was over, the 331st found four more tallies on its part of the scoreboard. Although the visitors managed to score once more in the last inning, it was not enough to over-take the winners.

Bob Merriam continued leading the batting league with 2 for 4, maintaining his .500 average. Kribs and Egan got 3 apiece. There was one double-play in the game, made by the Hughes to Kribs to Jelich combo in the 4th round.

TTF made 14 runs on 14 hits and fumbled 5 times. The Medics got 10 runs on 12 hits and made a like amount of miscues. Clyde caught for the winners, Cecil for the Medics.

Beaucoup Cars

WASHINGTON — (CNS) — At least 500,000 automobiles can be built this year for civilian use, a local source has estimated. By next year, the same source said, auto production may exceed the prewar output of 4,000,000 a year.

All-Stars To Play On Division Team

With the final curtain on the Thunderbolt baseball league falling next week, the 83rd will be ready to put a Division ball team on the diamond to compete against other divisions in the XII Corps.

Although it is too late in the season to enter the team in any kind of league, the Thunderbolt nine composed of the best players in the Division, ought to uphold the Division baseball honors against any team in the area.

At present, 19 men have been chosen by the athletic officers, who have had a chance to see these men play throughout the season.

Despite the fact that the 331st nine won the pennant, the athletic directors have recognized the fact that the 329th has many fine players, and, with this thought in mind, have selected eight (Continued on page 5)

330th Softball Finals Set For This Week

WALDKIRCHEN, Germany. — Headquarters Company 2d Battalion won the right to play K Company for the 330th Regimental softball championship when it downed D Company of the 1st Battalion, 5 to 4, on Sunday.

Heavy hitting by Harris led the Headquarters drive and able pitching by Weismen held the D Company team to six hits. Although Weismen allowed too many passes, he kept the home team from putting across the tying run when the chips were down.

The Second Battalion club took an early lead with a run in the first, then added another in the fourth. D Company went scoreless until the sixth frame when it shoved across four runs to take the lead. Headquarters countered with a three run rally in the last stanza to take the game.

Divarty Organizes New Softball Teams In Passau League

Play began this week in the Passau Softball League which was organized to discover the champions of the area controlled by the Artillery.

Each of the Division's four artillery battalions fielded a team, as did Headquarters Battery, Divarty and the 110th Evacuation Hospital. The teams will play three games a week until the championship is decided.

"It is still too early to see where the power lies, but it is expected that the race will be a close one," said Cpl. John Hesse, the Divarty Athletic NCO who helped set up the league.

Jimmy Wilson Named Most Valuable Pitcher

Conceded by every manager and player in the Thunderbolt Baseball League as the best pitcher on any team is young Jimmy Wilson of the 329th Buckshot team.

If any one man on the team is ever given credit for the rapid climb of the 329th club, Pfc. James Wilson will be that man. Under the expert tutelage of Mgr. Bill Douglas, the freshman pitcher developed into an excellent hurler and won four out of six games this season. The initial defeat was caused by his stopping a line-drive in the first, which made his hand shaky for the rest of the game. The second loss was caused by a bad bounce in the outfield, which allowed the winning run to score.

Not only can he twirl, but the 19 year-old can pinch-hit too. He won his own ball game the last time he pitched by batting in the third and winning run against the league champion, 331st Blackboys.

So far he has struck out approximately 35 batters, and has held his walks to a minimum.

The phenomenal thing about the boy is the fact that he never pitched before entering the service. Therefore, this was his first experience since donning ODS.

League Champs Held First Place For Entire Season

With the 14 to 10 victory over the 308th Medics Sunday, the 331st "Blackboys" clinched the Division Baseball Pennant making it impossible for the second place 329th team to over-take them.

Its ninth victory gave the TTF team the mathematical advantage, and although the Buckshots have improved greatly in the latter half of the season, they lacked enough games in the win column because of their poor start.

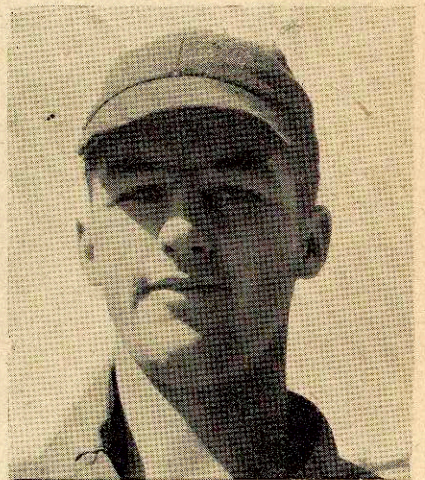
The 329th was in second place, as of Sunday, with an average of .583 behind 331st's .818, putting it 2 1/2 games behind the leader. The 330th "Bolt" was a close third with a .545 percentage and 3 games behind, followed by the Medics who scraped up only a .231 average and trailed 5 games behind the TTF crowd.

In the beginning of the season the Blackboys took the lead and have held it ever since. They were threatened several times by the Medics, but the Pill-Rollers lost their punch and folded in the stretch. The Buckshots were weak in the beginning, but the all-freshmen team showed plenty of drive as the season went on. However, Manager Douglas' boys had lost too many in the beginning to make up. The Bolts have played consistently good ball all summer, but just couldn't seem to get enough games in the win column.

Swinging a big stick, and helping his team to get to the top was Bob Merriam, who slammed out an incredible average of .500 in the eleven games. Merriam used to be with Detroit and was under the wing of Pinky Higgins. Another lad with a load of experience and a lot of talent is Joe Russo. Bob Kribs pushed plenty of runs across, as did Bob Clyde and Joe Eagen. The pitching staff boasted such hurlers as Russ Hughes, Dave Hemming, and John Maiden, all winners when the cards were down and the chips were up.

With the elimination of the special units, the league became only a four-cornered affair. However, the record stood, and the Blackboys found themselves with 9 wins against 2 defeats, 329th had 7 wins and 5 losses, 330th had 6 wins and 5 losses, while the Medics squeaked through with 5 wins against 8 debits.

Although the flag belongs to TTF, the postponed games will be played out, and at their completion, a Division Team will be chosen from among all the teams. This squad will play against neighboring divisions in the XII Corps.



JIMMY WILSON.

The only background he has besides the instruction received from "Doug" is his sand-lot days back in Summerville, Mass.

Wilson was one of the first men chosen for the Division team, and should show up well against any club that the other divisions can put up against him.

RED TAPE ON EMERGENCY LEAVES IS CUT

There have been many gripes and arguments about the emergency furlough system as practiced in the armed forces. Many of the complaints were proven justified, and orders have been issued through channels specifying the procedure in handling these requests.

Now, no unit may hold the request for an emergency furlough more than twenty-four hours. That rule, as applied in the 83rd, has resulted in an average clearing time from the individual to Army headquarters of forty-eight hours. In less than one week after the request begins wending its way through channels Mr. Average Dough is on his way to the States. During the first twenty-six days in August, thirteen 83rd Division men have left for emergency trips to the States.

Fastest service occurs when the Red Cross in the local town is contacted. The local chapter sends a cablegram to the serviceman stating the facts of the case.

By attaching this cablegram to a request for furlough, no additional proof or investigation is needed, and the request can be speedily acted upon.

FOTO FACTS

By Mike Vaccaro

A great many men have asked how much a camera should cost, how do you use this shutter, what is the best type camera for all-round use? In an endeavor to answer some of these questions, Thunderbolt is inaugurating a column devoted to the camera fan. If you have any questions concerning photography, drop a line to Foto Facts, in care of this paper, and we will try to print the right answers.

There is more to photography than just "pressing the button". It involves close coordination between the cameraman, the equipment used, and the subject. Many men in the Division have a camera of some type . . . a great many of these men know little of their camera's operation. Actually, amateurs should never concern themselves with a lot of equipment. One camera with simple attachments is excellent for the work. The first requirement for taking better pictures is to know your equipment. Once you have become familiar with it, you will be well on the road to satisfying results.

QM Opens Night Club

Sgt. Wallace last week opened up his "What Town Is This Inn", at Osterhofen. It will be the new 83rd Quartermaster EM club. Nunzi Bucalo's sextet supplied the dance music for the opening night crowd.

Divarty Jive Enthusiasts Tour The Spam Circuit

It didn't start in Herald Square. It started at Niederdonk on the Rhine, when a Cpl. in the Medics put the toot on a battered old fleugle horn and squeezed such very sour music out of it that his buddy began banging away, in self defense, at an antique mandolin. The resulting cacaphony was, indeed, a weed in the garden of music, but it grew fast as most weeds do and at length blossomed into the smooth swing combination that the 908th Band is today.

The Cpl. later left the Division on points as Sgt. Buncher, and his buddy, T/3 Jesse Walton, received a field commission and moved back to the 308th Med. Bn. T/4 Les Michener was another early-comer; he heard the weird sounds drifting out of the Aid Station and, suspecting their origin, rummaged in his duffel bag for his clarinet. He stayed on through the many changes in personnel and is now leader, manager and director — "Mich" had his own band for two years as a civilian in Philly and knows his way around a bandstand. When S/Sgt. Jack Fondoulis' Radio Section asked him to go nextdoor and do something about that terrible racket, he lingered and was soon banging on a steel helmet with a couple of sticks. Today he hammers out his own composition, "Drums Along the Danube", on a complete set of drums.

To Tour the Division

And so it went. More musicians gathered around and more instruments were procured in one way or another, mostly another. Howard Wells came in from Service Battery with a record of four years dance band experience in Jersey City, a desire to play, and no horn. They got him a horn that wanted to play too, and when the two of them latch on to "Stardust" they give it the sweetest ride this side of Harry James. Eddie Mangus had led his own outfit for seven years on the Midwestern Circuit, and he figured that a tour of the Spam Circuit might re-awaken that ole savage rhythm that lay dormant in his blood. A few nights later he was manhandling a bass fiddle and trying to pick up notes from a faded Hit Kit, over the shoulder of Bob McAllister, Ohio-born and clarinet-bred.

C Battery loaned Charlie Skibbie and Jack Pestritto. Skibbie slipped easily into the lead sax position; his torrid solos on that instrument and on the clarinet are features of every show. Pestritto can make a guitar sit up and do tricks.

And that is the crew. They have played innumerable shows for the 908th, and performed for elements of all three Regiments, for Div. Arty, for Div. Hq., for XIX Corps, and for soldier-sightseers on the boat trip down the Danube. The band has come a long way and it might — who knows? — end up in Herald Square. It will surely not end at Niederdonk with a fleugle horn.

Regensburg Is Non-Nazis

REGENSBURG, Germany — (POS) — The administration of Lower Bavaria, Upper Palatinate, now has no official or employe who was ever an active Nazi or one who joined the party before May 1, 1935. In the course of the denazification drive, 87 persons have been removed.

Step-up In I-E Program Slated

After completing final relief of the 102nd Infantry Division this week, all 83rd units are now engaged in adopting a full scale I and E program which will run in conjunction with the present occupational duties of the Division.

Because of the many changes in personnel within the Division during the past several weeks it has been necessary to renovate the entire program. In order to equip the Division with the best possible instructors for the unit schools, a group of 54 officers and men left the Division this week to attend I & E schools being conducted at Oberammergau, Germany. Located approximately 50 miles south of Munich, this school is now being held in lieu of the Paris I and E School which has been permanently suspended because of the great distance between the French capital and the U.S. zone of German occupation. Here the men will receive training dealing directly with the I and E program and be advised as to the techniques of an efficient unit school set up.

Mess Sarg Feeds His Men Psychology

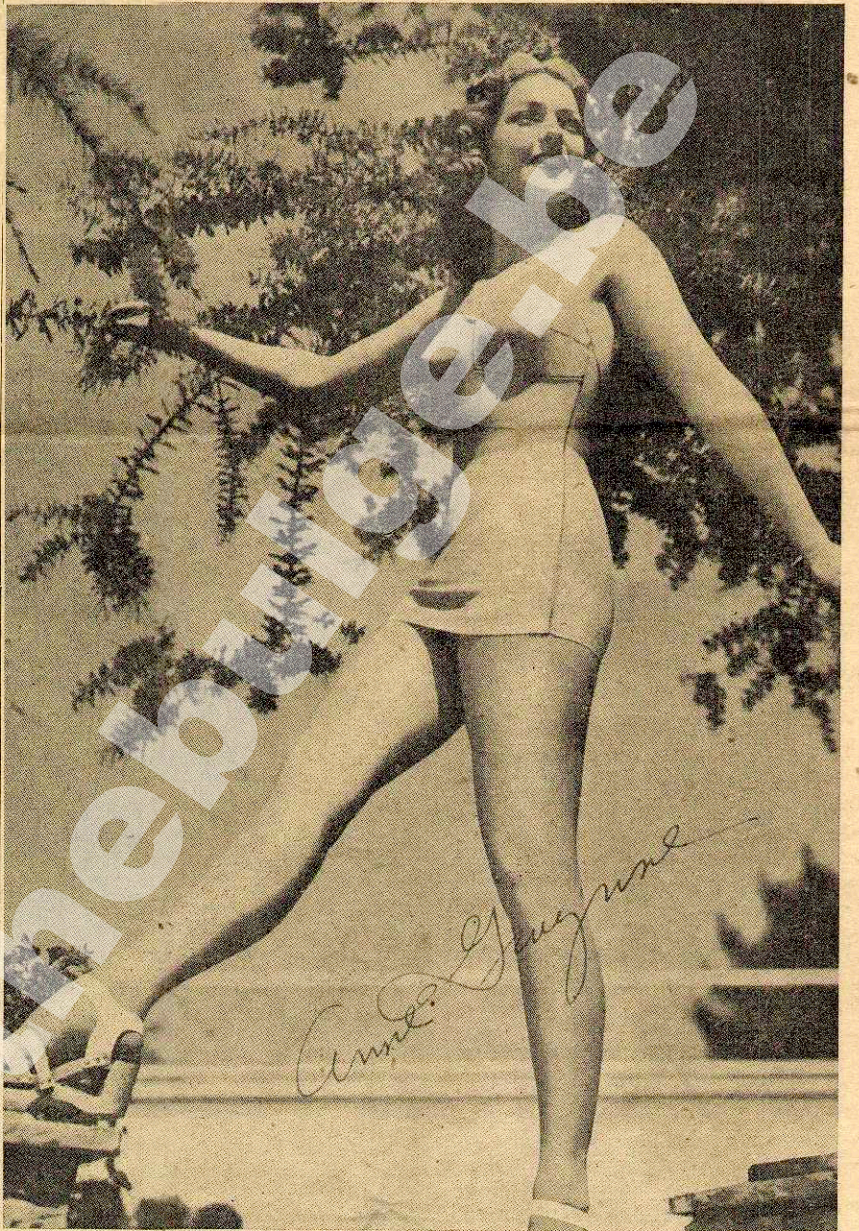
S/Sgt. Walter A. Goens, Co. F, 330th Inf., serves his men a helping of psychology along with all meals. Whenever he served fish, it seems the company would stay away in droves. This dented the culinary pride of Goens, who held a conference with the company recreation officer to solve his problem.

The men were given extra time off to make their own fishing rods and plan fishing trips. The only "catch" to this offer was that the men give their fish to Goens who would serve it to them at the next chow. "The funny thing about it," says the amazed mess sergeant, "is that they really go for the fish now. In fact I had one fellow come back for seconds and thirds. It turned out that he was eating his own fish. He caught most of them and was too proud to see them thrown away."

Winter Issue Is Ready

OSTERHOFEN, Germany. — According to the office of the Division Quartermaster, winter clothing and fuel are now on hand for distribution throughout the 83rd Division. However, no definite time has been set for the issuance of these items.

How's Your Topography . . .



Anne Gwynne

"The original Indian name for Mount McKinley was Denali ("Home of the Sun"). It is crowned by two peaks, the south pinnacle soaring to 20,300 feet; the north to approximately 20,000 feet." World Almanac — 1944

PWs Have Their Own Newspaper

MUNICH, Germany — (GNS) — Covering home and camp news of special interest to German prisoners of war in American camps, the Munchener Zeitung carries a four-page weekly supplement, "Rat und Tat" (Advice and Deed).

Published every Saturday, "Rat und Tat" has a run of approximately 320,000 copies of which two are inserted in each newspaper. It is intended that five prisoners share a copy.

Air, rail and road transport are employed to speed distribution to every American prisoner of war camp on the continent, even as far away as Marseille.

Fifty percent of the material in "Rat und Tat" comes from prisoners of war

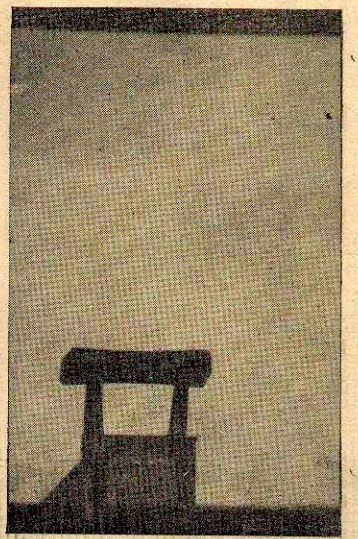
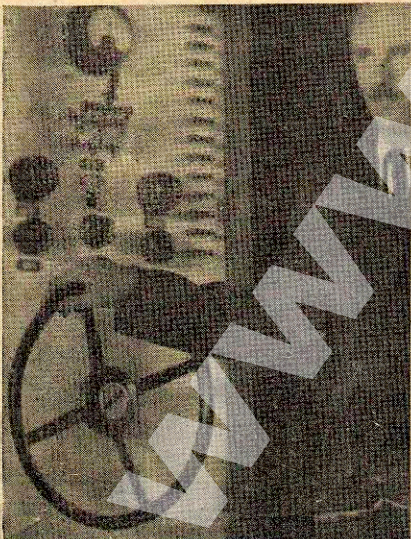
who contribute letters, essays and poems. One discharged war prisoner is on the staff and several others are expected to join shortly.

In this Division's area, there are two camps; each camp is now able to contribute material for this paper through the Division Public Relations Office.

Hume Is Back from England

T/4 Donald Hume, XII Corps tennis champ, and runner-up for the Third Army doubles crown, returned to the 83rd Division this week after being defeated in both the singles and doubles ETO tournament at Wimbledon, England.

Now You See Them And Now You Don't



If the great Houdini were still alive, he might flounder with astonishment over the new "invisible man" invention the Doughs of the 331st Infantry have found. An Hungarian electrician named George Lebel discovered a machine some time ago that simply makes a person "vanish"

into thin air with the mere press of a button. Lebel and three of his assistants invented the device in Budapest about six years ago, and have since used it as a form of entertainment.

The machine incorporates the use of ultra-violet rays, which make a person

sitting in the rays, appear invisible. The entire equipment, containing coils tubes and electrical apparatus, is housed in a portable case.

Lt. James Neidlich, 331st Special Service Officer, discovered the troupe at Birnbach a few weeks ago and immediately

enlisted its services for Regimental entertainment after seeing its weird performance.

"Who knows, Hitler might have used this little invention to his own advantage a few months ago" stated Pfc. Alfred E. Nathan of Headquarters Company.

As far as we know, everybody that Mr. Lebel has made disappear, has reappeared at some time or other. The invention seems a little fantastic, but the 331st Doughs who have witnessed the exhibitions claim that it's on the level . . . and who are we to doubt the GI!