

# THUNDERBOLT

Weekly Newspaper of the 83rd Infantry Division

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

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## U.S.O.'s. FIVE STAR SHOW SMASH HIT WITH 83rd MEN

More than 20,000 GIs jammed into the Arena at Passau last week to see the fast-moving U.S.O. show featuring Ingrid Bergman, Martha Tilton, Jack Benny, Larry Adler, and David Le Winter.

"As one Joe to another, it's the best show I've seen since I came overseas. They're terrific." So spoke Pfc. Darrell Weeks, 330th Regimental MP.

The entire audience, some of whom were hanging from the rafters, reacted as one to the stellar performances. They laughed with Benny, were intrigued by elfish Adler, became "bobby soxers" for Martha Tilton's "Candy", marvelled at David Le Winter's easy piano style, and absorbed the unassuming beauty of Miss Bergman.

Swedish-born Ingrid's first words were, "There's so little I can say to you — you've done so much." From that tribute to the Infantry, Ingrid went on to explain that she could neither sing nor dance, but would read a few of her lines from Maxwell Anderson's new play based on the life of Joan of Arc, in which Miss Bergman expects to open in New York after the first of the year. Her performance can best be described by the fact that there was absolute silence throughout the entire rendition. When she finished, several moments elapsed before the audience recovered to give her, a thunderous ovation. Walking off the stage, Miss Bergman commented, "There is no better audience anywhere."

Between acts the cast relaxed into conversation. Someone asked Larry Adler how he happened to meet and team up with dancer Paul Draper.

"I had been out of work for quite a while," Adler explained. "Roxys, in New York, needed a girl, a harmonica player, and a tap-dancer to enter from three stage doors. I got the job, and Draper was the 'hooper'. We admired each other's work, so we teamed up. That was in '33, and since then we have toured as a duo for a few weeks each season."

Martha Tilton came up to the group, dragging a bashful GI. "Guess what! I met Tilton Powell, a relative and neighbor from Benedict Canyon, in Los Angeles. Tilton's a member of the 83rd Division Signal Company."

"Miss Tilton," began Powell. "This is one time I can appreciate my first name. When I was a kid in Los Angeles, it gave me some bad moments. Say, speaking of Los Angeles, have you seen my parents recently?"

"No, I haven't, but I promise I'll visit your mother and tell her all about you." They haven't m — Wow! Have to run now. I'm on!"

Benny and Miss Bergman joined the conversation when a question came up about Sinatra's tiff with Special Service. Benny declared, "Frank should not have made such a general statement. If he found a few cases of inefficiency, he could have mentioned the specific cases." Asked if she swooned over Sinatra, Ingrid smilingly answered, "No. I like Bing Crosby's voice very much. It just flows out; and he's always singing on set."

Dave Le Winter walked over, massaging his left thumb. "That Nazi horse that threw me must have known I was an entertainer." He cocked an ear toward the stage. "Listen to that band. They're good enough to play in the States."

Each one of the actors had a favorable comment on the Oberhaus. Miss Bergman in particular enjoyed its old world charm. "The trail to the castle and the ancient buildings themselves are fantastic, yet the inside is so modernistic."

## BACKSTAGE WITH BERGMAN



Miss Ingrid Bergman takes time out to admire Sgt. Milton Levin's Combat Infantryman's Badge while Pfc. Claude Stokes admires Miss Bergman. Both Levin and Stokes are members of the 330th Regiment's Anti-Tank Company.

## Austrian Mother Hoarded U.S. Flags To Decorate Doughboy Son's Room

Nine years of separation for an Austrian mother and her American doughboy son were ended this week when Sgt. Franz Egger of Co. D, 331st Inf. met his mother at her home in Bischofshofen. There, in a room that had formerly been his and which was now decorated with small American flags his mother had made, a replica of the Statue of Liberty and a picture of the Empire State building, son and mother learned how each had spent the intervening years.

Egger had always wanted to go to the States and had studied English three years with that goal in view. However, the only way he could attain his desire was to go as a student. This he did in 1934. He lived with an aunt there who adopted him that he might stay on and become a citizen.

In 1936 his mother came over for a visit of three months. He wanted her to stay on but for her, home was Austria where her husband (Egger's father died when he was young and his mother married again), friends and house were. In 1937 Austria was occupied and though Egger tried diligently, he found it impossible to get his mother out.

He wrote letters and sent money and packages but she received none of them. The last letter he had from her was written in 1940 and took nine months to get to him, not arriving until after the United States had declared war. That was the only news he had until 1944 when he received, through the International Red Cross, a 25 word message which only told him this his mother was well and things were alright. He had to reply on that same paper in only 25 words. He wrote her he was well and working. He did not say he was in the Army.

Those years of Austria's occupation were not easy on his mother. They might have been less difficult had she not been caught giving food and aid to American and Polish prisoners. She was punished but even this did not stop her from getting food to the prisoners.

(Continued on page 2)

## CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR FOR 329th INFANTRY SERGEANT; FIRST AWARDED IN 83rd DIVISION

The first Congressional Medal of Honor in the 83rd Division was approved this week for Sgt. Ralph G. Neppels of M Company, 329th Infantry. The citation reads, "for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty."

## COMBAT TEAM MANEUVER AT GRAFENWÖHR

Two week maneuvers near Regensburg as regimental combat teams will climax the eight week training period scheduled for 83rd Division men and attached units, until orders for redeployment arrive, Thunderbolt Infantrymen will undergo extensive tests and practical training to act as a "shake-down cruise" for reshuffled personnel. Veteran riflemen will assist recruits during the training, much of which will be unit problems, complete with firing at silhouette and movable targets. The emphasis will be on Jap battle tactics with particular attention being given to patrolling, infiltration, and camouflage.

Division Artillery takes to the field to practice unit fire missions from August 1st to the 14th. The area for all maneuvers is the German Army Grafenwohr training area a few miles west of Regensburg. Following Divarty's lead are the 329th, 330th, and 331st regiments, moving out for their two week periods as combat teams on August 20th, 27th, and September 3rd, respectively. To each regiment will be attached artillery, tanks, and tank destroyers.

## Swimmers Are In Trim For 3rd Army Meet Finals Held Today

The Thunderbolt Swimming Team left the area Tuesday morning for Nurnberg where it will represent the XII Corps in the 3rd Army Swimming Championships to be held on Friday and Saturday July 20 and 21.

Latest reports from Capt. Herbert D. Glass who is a swimming-coach of the team says that all the men are in good shape and have been practicing daily. Pfc. Stanley Kravitz, diver from 331 has not as yet put in appearance due to a transfer mix-up.

From the times reported in other Corps meets several of the 83rd swimmers are conceded a good chance of repeating their title-grabbing routine. T/5 Thomas J. Anders, exponent of the butterfly breast stroke is highly favored to win. Cpl. Gary L. Searl, the XII Corps 3-way diving champion will also give a good account of himself.

## Paris Reunion

It isn't every day that a fellow can go sightseeing in Paris with his wife at his side. But that's exactly what S/Sgt. Wilbur Baker had the privilege of doing recently, and for three whole days. Sgt. Baker, a member of Battery "C", 322nd FA Bn., spent the three days in what he called a second honeymoon. His wife, a first lieutenant in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, obtained permission to go to the French capital from her station in Rheims when she was notified that her husband was on his way there. It was the first time Sgt. Baker had seen his wife since early 1944, shortly after their marriage at Camp Forrest, Tennessee. Previous to being stationed in Rheims, "Mrs." Baker was assigned to a hospital in the Metz area.

The 21 year old machine-gun Squad Leader was severely wounded by a German shell when he single-handedly beat off an attack by two 40-ton German Tanks supported by 20 Infantrymen.

On the 14 December 1944 his Battalion was given the mission of attacking and driving the enemy from the village of Birgel, Germany. The assault had to be made southeast across 400 yards of flat, open terrain at the edge of the Gurzenich Forest. With Company "K" on the left and "I" on the right, the Battalion quickly over — ran enemy positions outside the village. Tanks and T.D.s were denied the use of the fields because of mud and mines, so the automatic weapons took up positions covering all avenues of enemy approach. The first platoon was attached to "I" Company. Sgt. Neppel's squad was in that unit charged with protecting entrance to the town from the south.

At 1515 six German tanks with Infantry, which had been in position behind a group of buildings approximately 800 yards south of Birgel, launched a determined counter-attack against "I" Co. One of these tanks supported by about 20 foot soldiers, moved directly up the road covered by Neppel's machine-gun. When the Germans were less than a hundred yards away, Neppel opened fire on them, killing several of the Infantrymen. The tank continued, however, and when it had approached to about 30 yards from the gun, fired point-blank into the position, critically injuring his entire crew, and severing the Sergeant's right leg below the knee while his left leg was broken. The last threw him ten yards away.

Despite his disabling wounds, and the fact that the tank was still advancing, Sgt. Neppel dragged himself forward by his elbows to the gun, quickly placed it in position, and with a free traverse mowed down eight more of the oncoming Germans. Shorn of its Infantry protection, the tank turned around and withdrew.

He could have been evacuated that night, but refused, insisting that some other wounded men be taken care of first.

The present whereabouts of Sgt. Neppel are unknown, but it is believed that is in the States recuperating.

## Loss To Tankers Costs Division Corps Playoff

In the deciding game of a three-game series the 83rd Division dropped out of the XII Corps baseball playoffs by losing to the 4th Armored Division yesterday with a score of 5-1. The lone, unearned run in the game was made by the Infantrymen as the Tankers acquired their runs by 5 errors. Rush was the winning pitcher for the Armored outfit and gave up 4 hits. Gates was his catcher. Poziask was the hard-luck pitcher for the 83rd as he watched his mates kick away the baseball game. Poziask gave up 6 hits, while Clyde did the catching chores.



# 83rd Thunderbolt

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## THE PACIFIC WAR

The keynote of this week's "three dimensional war" (air, submarine and surface craft) was summed up in Admiral Nimitz' statement that the "pre invasion stage" has begun. In the European war the "pre-invasion stage" covered a very long period of time. In the entirely different Pacific warfare a "pre-invasion stage" is at the most a matter of weeks, as witness the same statements made before the Philippines and other landings. Those statements in this case weren't necessary as the action was speaking much louder than the words.

The greatest naval armada in history, the U.S. 3rd Fleet, floated just a little way north of Tokio without opposition as their big 16-inch guns fired at will at the Japanese mainland. New arrivals to this collection of powerful floating fortresses was the British Fleet with the 35,000 ton battleship, King George V. The combined fleets accounted for the destruction of the industrial city of Hitachi.

A gigantic embryo of 1,500 carrier-based planes were unleashed from the decks of this mighty task force to bomb targets at their leisure, without the slightest bit of resistance offered. To supplement these air attacks the huge Superforts had to concentrate on secondary targets, such as the cities of Siratsuka, Duwanta, and Oita. The bombing of these secondary targets has given much weight to the optimistic statement of Maj. Gen. Le May, commander of the 21st Bomber Command, who said a couple of weeks ago that we would soon be running out of targets.

Little in the news, but much in the way of the Japanese supply is the intense attack by submarines which came to the surface to shell the coastal islands off Honshu.

## THIS WEEK around the 83rd...

Western Union knows a big thing when it sees it so when Pres. Truman wanted to send a congratulatory message over W.U., wires to the citizens of Dade County, Georgia they relaxed their rule about no congratulatory messages. After 85 years of being an independent state and the last holdout of the Confederacy, Dade County "joined" the rest of the 48 States last July 4th. It cleared up a little situation for Pfc. Driggs A. Moore of Co. I, 331st Inf. Drigg's home is in Rising Fawn, Dade County, Georgia. Previously Moore sometimes had qualms that maybe he was serving in the Army of the United States under false pretenses.

This week's "shaggy dough" story. The T.O. in Co. of the 331st Inf. doesn't call for any soldiers with hair that has been away from the barber's clippers for a long time. To abide by this situation Pfc. Matthew Czaplicki scrounged around and found a swivel chair, leather strop, and some barber tools in good condition. He hung out his barber pole on July 3 and his first customer was Pfc. Robert Wiene, who is said to be so pleased with his new "hair do" that he has thrown away his comb.

Take four bare walls. Add pretzels and beer. Smother it with Hungarian waitresses and wrap it up with a label like "The Ritz" and you have the recipe for a successful GI beer garden, according to S/Sgt. Clarence Shonebarger who is operating such a place for the 1st Bn. of Hq. Co., 331st Inf. at Simbach. His closest competitor is S/Sgt. Lawrence Macquade who operates the only "Waldorf" in Simbach. The Waldorf is said to be "staffed with lovely barmaids and offers pretzels, music and beer all for a nickel."

A chocolate cake measuring 4½ feet by 2½ feet with the words "Farewell to Our CO" stood in front of the band stand last Monday evening when men of Hq. and Hq. Co. of the 330th Inf. gave a farewell party to Capt. Ralph H. Cook.

The party was sponsored by the enlisted men of the Company who, with Lt. Ernest C. Timpani, Executive officer, arranged for about 65 girls to be imported from Czechoslovakia.

To build a P-X for the men of Co. E, 330th Inf. Lt. Donald P. Lebo didn't plant a forest, but he did arrange to have a load of lumber sawed at a local mill. This was necessary as the town in which the Company is stationed did not offer a suitable building to house the P-X. In addition to the Post Exchange the Company also has a beer parlor and a library. It is said that the men can "often be seen studying the G.I. Bill of Rights and their points" in the library.

Up in the area that Co. K, 330th Infantry, is occupying rests a stone marking the boundary where Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia come together. According to Pfc. Gerald L. Kirby of Ozark, Ark., anyone, by putting a hand on top of the stone can be in the three countries at once. Co. K also claims the distinction of being the only American outfit in the ETO that holds an area where three such countries come together.

Home is where you hang your helmet liner. The latest Army home quarters for the Luftwaffe. And then for Co. F, 331st Inf. used to be later it became billets for Displaced Persons. After these changes in occupancy the building required a little working over before it was acceptable to the Co. F men. They rolled up their sleeves and went to work. The result is a spotless barracks. They also have installed a barber shop with a tilt-back chair and a beer hall they have named the "Gashouse." Two "F" men who have found a home in the "Gashouse" are Sgt. John Melvin Dunn and Cpl. Domonic John Caratello. "I've found a home," Dunn said, and Caratello countered with, "We've found a home."

Offering hill-billy, jive, and the so-called "western" music, a group of musicians in Co. C of the 330th Inf. gather several times during the week for a program in the Co. Day Room. The show features T/4 "Whitty" Whitley as master of ceremonies, with accordion specialties by T/5 Joseph J. Malecki. T/5 Joseph Compton and Pfc. Edward Chandler comprise a harmonica and guitar duet. Chandler formerly played with an outfit known as "Grandpappy's Band" in Chattanooga.

## BEYOND the BLUE

by Pvt. Maury Renek

Recently, a great and most influential meeting took place in San Francisco. It will have more of a direct bearing on the men and women of world since the days when the Neanderthal man went out with a club to cash in on his red ration points. And incidentally to bash in a few thick skulls here and there. This conference of all the great and small nations was politically speaking a huge success. The ideas brought forth showed that the various countries were wholeheartedly trying to build a strong foundation for an era of peace. It so happens (see Ipso Facto) that many people looked at the conference from many different angles. With this in mind we could just imagine how some non-political minds must have reacted to this meeting:

Jimmy Durante: "I know there's a few thousand men at this conference, but I'm a novelty."

Benito Mussolini (if the sawdust Ceasar was on his beloved balcony these days he would be bellowing): Sheesa da framer-upper, I a knowa lika da war. I Adolfo, lika da war. I lika da spagetti, da pasta fazoole, I hate a da war. I lika mia mistress."

Mussolini's mistress (speaking in terms of Marie Antionette): "Let them eat da pasta fazoole, Benny."

Lord Haw Haw (if he was still around to jibe our English friends): "We will fight in the mezzanine, on the balconies and around the spittoons. We shall never surrender our position around the cocktail mixer... for never before in our history has so much whiskey been drunk by such few delegates."

Axis Sal (if she was around to gush out her slushy words in her slinking, sexy voice): 'Gee eyes wouldn't you like to be back in Frisco looking at the legs of those pretty American girls you left behind, huh? (A little teasing giggle and then) While you'll be at the Golden Gate in '48; men who are alive are there in '45, planning another war. Thez talk about peace but we girls in Germany who can now talk to you know that you are interested in that kind of peace. Gooo—d nye—it, Gee eyes.

Com Z Commando: "San Francisco? Do we get a battle star for that?"

Mae West: "How dya do, big boy? I represent the great West and what you're staring at now sweet-heat is known as the great south-West."

Westbrook Pegler (columnist for the Hearst newspapers): "Right under many a big laborites nose at the conference building the little labor men of the world are having another American labor problem. The operators of freight elevators were standing on their union rights by declaring that when they took the garbage down to the basement they weren't supposed to dispose of it. The Brotherhood of Collegiate Custodians, Phi Beta Kappa Kitchen Cleaners, claimed that they would go on strike and request a five dollar an hour raise if they had to dispose of the garbage."

I doorman outside the conference: "I wish they'd stop satuting me."

Buck Rogers' son, Wilco: (On the "Take it or Leave It" program in the 25th Century): "What was San Francisco famous for in the Twentieth Century?" Wilco: "The birthplace of Joe DiMaggio." "Here's your sixty four dollars and two tickets to a debate entitled: "Will Frank Sinatra last?"

Patrons of the GI beer hall at the 330th Regimental Headquarters are regularly enjoying the music of their own swing band, composed of men from companies throughout the regiment. Present planst indicate they will be booked for future parties throughout the 330th.

Members of the six-piece band, which is rapidly gaining a reputation for playing both sweet and hot rhythms, include T/4 Frank P. Heine, Jr., guitar, Rgt. Hy. Co. Pfc. Al V. Tuck, trumpet, Co. K; S/Sgt. Leland B. Cann, bass, Co. A; T/5 William S. Johnsen, accordian, Rgt. Hq. Co.; Pvt. Harry Bills, drums, Co. A; and Pfc. Anzelo Camardo, vocalist, Rgt. Hq. Co.



This coming week at the Promenade-Theater in Passau - Shows at 2:30 6:30 and 8:30 pm

Today

Keep Your Powder Dry-with Lana Turner, Laraine Day, and Susan Peters

Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday Merry Monohans-with Jack Oakie, Peggy Ryan, and Donald O'Connor

Wednesday and Thursday Barbary Coast Gent-with Wallace Beery and Binnie Barnes

Friday Here Come the Co-Eds-with Abbott and Costello

The following shows will be screened around the Division Area this week:

HOLLYWOOD CANTEN — Warner Bros. stars.

NOTHING BUT TROUBLE — featuring Laurel and Hardy

NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART — with Cary Grant and Ethel Barrymore

THREE IS A FAMILY — starring Charles Ruggles and Marjorie Reynolds

DELIGHTFULLY DANGEROUS — Ralph Bellamy and Female Foil.

VALLEY OF DECISION — with Greer Garson and Gregory Peck

MURDER, MY SWEET — featuring Dick Powell and Claire Trevor

ONE BODY TOO MANY — starring Jack Haley

ROUGHLY SPEAKING — Rosalind Russell and Jack Carson

MUSIC FOR MILLIONS — with José Iturbi and MGM stars.



## POETRY

And so they said, when the war was up,  
To be ready and set to load our stuff,  
The convoy started, and all is in groove,  
But what happens,  
It starts to rain!!!

So tomorrows they day you fire on  
the range,  
You'll clean your piece and set the  
sights,  
You wiggle hard to be just right,  
But what happens,  
It starts to rain!!!

And finally when you receive a hard  
earned pass,  
You shine and brush, to pass the test.  
To please the women, you'll need the  
rest.  
But what happens,  
It starts to rain!!!

And so, St. Peter, on bended knee,  
We ask you nicely and with a plea,  
kindly see,  
Will you go out of your way and  
If I can, get a raincoat which hangs  
below the knee?  
Cpl. Smith, Service Co. 330 Inf.

## From Our CHAPLAIN

by Chaplain William Harris.

Out Hollywood way there's an actor who never sees his name in neon light never gets a single fan letter — and yet he seldom misses an important part in the year's ten best movies. He's a man with no name, no fame, no money. He's the stunt man... the movie double. When the script call for a dangerous part at sea, or a thrilling parachute jump from a disable plane... they send for the DOUBLE. Whatever the job is, the DOUBLE must be ready to tackle it. As a cinema personality, he doesn't exist. He must be exactly like the star he's representing. Not a mere imitation not just substitute... he's a perfect image.

### G.I.'s Have "Doubles"

At the present time soldiers seem to think they are just Private Joe Doak or Captain John Doe. They're no They are in reality DOUBLES for the gentleman with the long white hair. They're DOUBLE for Uncle Sam... DOUBLE for the American people. When the script called for taking risk getting wounded or killed in action fighting the fiercest fight in history every man did his level best to be exactly like UNCLE SAM. The result have spoken for themselves. The picture was a smashing success.

### A New Script

Now UNCLE SAM finds himself a different role, and so does the DOUBLE. It is the quiet role of occupation, and the script is written accordingly. There are not many physical risks in this picture, but there are plenty of moral and spiritual dangers. The latest production is well understood and the cue has been given. YOU, the DOUBLE to step set. You must walk like, talk like, think like, act like, in fact be like UNCLE SAM. Let's run through the script and see you are performing as his perfect DOUBLE.

### Know Your Lines

1. Uncle Sam lets the entire world know that he is conscious of Divine Power guiding the nation at all times.

Do you act conscious of your own divine destiny?

2. Uncle Sam walks the straight and narrow.

Is your path the straight and narrow for God and Country?

3. Uncle Sam talks like a man who is so proud of his free speech that he never abuses it.

Does your speech belie this sacred heritage?

4. Uncle Sam honestly ponders over the wrong doings of his friends and enemies.

Are you fit to sit in judgment over anyone?

Are your private morals better than those of a Jap or a Nazi?

5. Uncle Sam stands for purity, freedom, for individual personal rights.

Are you leading pure lives? Are you worthy of freedom, your other protected personal rights?

### On Stage!

Lights! Camera! Action! You're the stage again. Every inch of film precious. Every thing you say and is being recorded. Remember the hit success. This is a sequel to You're the perfect image, the DOUBLE of, UNCLE SAM. The whole world awaits the pre-view. Special seats have been reserved for the folks back home. The gentleman with the long white beard will fidget nervously in seeing himself as a star again, and way back in a far corner unnoticed by crowds will be your most ardent friend God Himself.



## Lazy Life for Liaison Men; Cub Pilots Now Messengers

It's only a 'milk run' in the third dimensional life of an Artillery pilot, now that the war is over.

"There isn't much doing for the more," said Lt. George Boscoff, a pilot now is boot these crates around the

But these "crates" have been flown a surprising distance since they were ferried across the English Channel aboard an LST last June. They were in the air some 4,000 hours from Normandy through V-E Day, and amassed a total of 344,000 miles. This is roughly equal to fourteen times around the perimeter of the earth.

The average speed of the ten Artillery cubs is 80 miles per hour. On windy days, by skillfully "playing the wind", a pilot can hold the plane in an almost stationary position, thus aiding the observer to a great extent.

The most interesting work done by the air OP's, according to the pilots and observers, is directing fire on enemy tanks. The tanks try to escape by weaving and turning or by just making a run for it. The observer, who has radio communication with the firing batteries, tries to outguess the tank and call fire down upon it. While flying over the Elbe River Bridgehead these observers helped account for fifty-two German tanks and self-propelled guns in two days. Lt. Richard T. Alexander holds the record of having spotted twelve of these tanks and guns and successfully directing fire upon them in one afternoon.

During the first month and the last month of the Division's participation in the war, the pilots put in their most concentrated amount of flying. In Normandy the weather was very clear, the days were long, and there were no ground OP's, so the planes were up continually. During the final weeks of the war the weather again was very clear, and the cubs were trying to maintain continuous contact with the enemy and were also trying to establish a meeting with the Russians.

It was during the dash for the Elbe River that all ten planes had landed on a field in view of the enemy. They were trying to leave this field to move to a safer one when an ME 109 came in at treetop level with its machine guns blasting away. Lt. William Law's plane, the only one damaged, was hit in the wing. The 453 AAA expended only four rounds of 40mm ammunition in knocking the Heinie out of the air.

But now the big excitement and worries are over, and the ground crews, under the direction of T/Sgt. Walter LeFever, are making routine checks instead of patching "ack-ack" holes.

Weather permitting, Major Jerome W. Byrds "air force" takes a flight around the Division at 0900 in the "morgan" and at 1400 in the "mittag", going over rolling hills and knolls from Division to the 331st Inf., then northeast to Divarty. From there the long, lazy flight up to the 330 Inf., with its treacherously short, sloped field. It's practically due west to the 329th strip, over high ridges, and sudden peaks, through the valleys and up the Danube. Then, kick her around to starboard and bring her down in the soft, soggy meadow and hope like hell that you can get her off again. From there on it's a breeze. Just follow the river and slide into home plate.

"It takes about two and a half hours

83rd 'Bomber Command' men any-more," said Lt. George Boscoff, a pilot of the 324th Field Artillery. "All we do now is boot these crates around the

to make the run," said Lt. Carroll Raether, a pilot assigned to the 908th Field Artillery. "For the most part it's just a routine operation and, except for our excellent position for observing the local bathing beauties who loll along the river banks, it's a boring deal. Once in a while, though, we get a mission to fly up to Regensburg and that breaks the monotony."

"We'll be seeing some new scenery in a few days," Boscoff said. "We're a couple of low-flying men with high points."

## Ammo Bursts Recall Combat To Gun-Shy GI's

"It was worse than any barrage I was ever under," said Pfc. Walter Battalioi in describing the explosions that took place last Saturday while he loading 76 mm. ammunition at Nuremberg. Cause of the explosion is unknown.

"There we were just minding our own business," T/5 Warren Knicley said, "when all of a sudden all hell broke loose. One of the shells exploded and my truck caught on fire. Pfc. William Dutton and I took shelter under a nearby scout car. But soon things got too hot and we made a break for the road."

An attempt was made to move a tank that was parked within the range of the exploding ammunition. In the confusion the driver of the tank ran over a GMC truck.

T/5 William Tratthen, who was present during the whole incident, told all he knew of what had happened when he said, "All I know is that suddenly there were 76's flying everywhere. We really shagged tail out of there in a hurry."

Damaged included three tanks from the 737th Armored Battalion and one truck assigned to the 322nd F.A.B.

## Divarty Men To The Rescue

Attracted to the banks of the Danube river by an excited crowd last Saturday afternoon T/4 Wayne A. Lawson and T/5 William E. Grost of Division Artillery discovered that a couple of children had pulled a man from the river and were attempting to revive him by holding his body upside down.

Pushing their way to the front of the crowd Lawson and Grost placed the man on his back and while Grost held the people back Lawson administered artificial respiration. After several minutes of treatment the man was revived. And after resting he was able to walk away.

## CHOOSES REGULAR ARMY



With 93 points on her Adjusted Service Rating card Blackout, the canine mascot of the 3022 QM Bakery Co., this week made it known that she intends to remain in the Army. She came to this conclusion shortly after she had been acquitted on a fraternization charge in Passau on July 5. The court martial decided that the other party was a Displaced Person. Next day Blackout's MOS was changed to 657, Litter Bearer. The constant companion of Pfc. Jim Anderson and Pvt. Tim Dalton, Blackout has been with the Bakery Co. for almost two years. She joined the outfit as a puppy in England. When the men of the Company are not taking care of Blackout and her various broods they find time to bake all of the bread and some of the pastry used by the 83rd Division.

## Stork Club On Wheels

Last week, while Pfc. Delbert J. (PeeWee) Atkins, H Co., 329th was driving his Jeep through the hills that surround Deggendorf, he was flagged down by a group of excited German civilians. The bewildered G.I. followed the civilians into the house where he found a pregnant woman needing immediate medical care. Converting his vehicle into an ambulance to meet the occasion, Pee Wee hurried the expectant young mother to a nearby German hospital. At the hospital, a German nurse decided that it was too late to move the mother to be, so she delivered the baby in the back seat of Atkins jeep. The Jeep is now called, "Atkins Mobile Stork Club".

## Prize Mess Hall

Monday's weekly inspection of quarters and mess gave Charlie Company top honors in having the best mess in the 330th Regiment. Rated as the best kitchen in the Battalion for three weeks, Charlie Company now holds the Regimental championship plaque.

Credited by the men of "C" Company for making their kitchen top-rated in the Regiment, are T/4 Thelbert Whittely, T/5 Bernard Turner and Pfc. R. B. Dicky. In Charlie Company's kitchen there is no standing to eat, or eating outside. There are tables and chairs for everyone and gayly draped windows and flowers on the window sills.

## Plenty of Targets For Division's Trng. Program

9,000 targets were secured in seven days time by Maj. Morgan L. Smith, Division Ordnance officer, in preparation for the Division's approaching training program. With the assistance of his German-speaking driver, T/5 Herschel W. Weaver, Maj. Smith worked up an idea for printing the targets in separate sections. This was necessary because the dies for printing the targets the American way were not obtainable in this part of Europe. The closest print shop with a press large enough to produce the targets was located in Czechoslovakia. (It was learned that the shop, established in 1407, was the home of one of John Gutenberg's first mechanical presses. Gutenberg is known as the inventor of printing by means of moveable type.)

While the large Class "A" targets were being printed Maj. Smith located 2,000 meters of stiff cardboard to be used for printing silhouette targets. 4,000 of these targets were made by men of the 783rd Ordnance Co., with the assistance of some Hungarian workers.

## PANTS DOWN ADD VARIETY TO 'SHOW DOWN'

Gypsy Rose probably never has done it. Charles Boyer could never do it so well. Maybe Mahatma Ghandi has come closest to it, but his interpretation lacks a certain piquancy.

Pfc. Lewis Sproto did it recently and gave some GI theatergoers a memory neither they, nor Sproto, will ever forget.

It happened at the premier performance of "Show Down", a variety theatrical of Co A, 331st Infantry. Sproto and Pfc. Dominic Publicano were doing a jitterbug act in blackface. There had been excellent acts before them. Pfc. William Rajotte and George Rakosi had done a comedy routine and Rakosi had encored with an accordian solo. And there had been vocals by Pfc. Charles Bleifernicht, Larry Diton, and Charles Hill. The "Co A Ink Spots", Pfc. Dick Bauhs, and Walter Waite and Sgt. James McClug, had been called back for three encores.

"Show Down" was going over big.

Yet to come was a smash finale featuring "It's A Grand Old Flag" with Pfc. Alphonse Kriancuinas and Carl Can Oner and T/5 Walter Kmeich. And all through the show the audience had been marveling at the smart staging of Pfc. John Campbell, Leo Wagatha, and Henry Meyers and at the stage lighting of Pfc. Marvin Rashid. The GIs were enjoying the "grooviness" of the band combo of Cpl. Walter Carl, T/5 Richard Bisbano, and Pfc. Walter Kester, William Zwickel, and Walter Waite, and the "flesh show" by Sgt. Lehmarr Hall, and Pfc. Lorell Sorenson, Charles Parise, and Larry Dixon.

But when this War's last pictures are painted and the tubes are twisted and dried it will be the memory of Sproto, standing naked and alone before the footlights, that will be long remembered by the GIs who saw the first performance of "Show Down". It was Sproto's loss of his tights in the middle of the act that helped make "Show Down" the hit of the khaki circuit and a weekly affair for the men of the 331st.

## Flying "K" Rations Make Crash Landing

Returning recently from Div Hqrs. to the Regimental CP, 330th Infantry, Pfc. Leonard H. Siebe, of Lynnville, Ind. was breezing along about 30 miles an hour in his jeep when he met a convoy of oncoming two-and-one-half-ton trucks loaded with K rations. On a sharp curve, which Siebe and the trucks were rounding at the same time, a case of K rations slid from the truck and was about to drop in front of the jeep's left wheel. Taking stock of the situation, Siebe hollered to his comrades to hold on as he shoved the accelerator to the floor. The case of K rations landed on the hood, slid and bounced against the windshield.

Siebe's quick action and expert calculation averted a likely accident and supplied him with an unexpected case of K rations to fill that hungry spot about ten every evening.

## Male Call



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



## Natural Cover





# FOLLOW THRU

with Pfc. C. T. WEBER



THE BANG TAILS KEEP GOING ROUND AND ROUND . . . and the money keeps coming out of the hip pocket. According to the gate receipts approximately a quarter of a million people bet around 15 million dollars on the nags on the 4th of July. In terms of the lowly GI that would mean 250,000 red lined privates if they lost that much in a month, to say nothing of an afternoon at the races.

THREE DAYS LATER IT WAS EDDIE ARCARO AGAIN . . . . . this time at Aqueduct. He booted home four winners in an eight race program. His most impressive ride was his triumph with Ace Card in the 10,000 dollar Gazelle Stakes. On the same track again two days later Bob Mann scored his second victory in as many starts as the Paragon Stable thoroughbred scampered to a four-length triumph in the featured Rustic Purse. Teddy Atkinson let the brown sox of Stagehand set all the pace as he breezed home ahead of Hindus and War Trophy, paying 9.20.

A NEW CLAY COURT RECORD OF 34 GAMES IN A SINGLE SET . . . was established at Chicago when the Defending Champion Pancho Segura staggered into the final round of the National Clay Courts Tourney. The colorful two-fisted slugger from Ecuador won by default in his semi-final match with Elwood Cooke, of Los Angeles, after an amazing opening set

that the rugged Segura won, 18-16. The effort took its toll or Cooke, Army dischargee, who had to leave the court in the second set after severe leg cramps hit him. Segura was leading 4-3 at the time.

BACK ON THE FISTIC FRONT . . . . . Lou Nova made the latest and undoubtedly the last of his comeback attempts when he slid under the ropes to meet Tami "Tubby" Mauriello and was slid back on the canvas in the horizontal position in 2 minutes and 47 seconds of the first round of their bout at Fenway Park in Boston. The crowd didn't have to wait a minute to see Nova hit the canvas in the first of his two trips. Nova caught a hook over his bad left eye which reopened an old ring wound. He took eight and got up streaming with gore to walk into a battering that floored him when he caught another looping right to the jaw.

Another boy sank to the rosin recently, he was Freddie Cochrane and still champ of the welterweights. Freddie in an over-the-weight fight with the fast coming Rocky Graziano was knocked out in the tenth round. Freddie in his attempted comeback after three years in the Navy was greeted as a 'Cheese Cake' Champ, but after his brave showing the wisecracks who had been sitting on their hands gave out with a round of applause that amounted to an ovation.

83rd BOXERS SQUARE OFF

BOUTS LEAD TO DIV. CARD

329 and 330 Stage Early Fights

The eliminations for individual and team champions in the 83rd Division Golden Gloves Boxing Tournaments are scheduled for Friday August 17 at Passau.

Fighters in every weight class throughout the Division will compete. Some tryouts have already been given. In the 329th Inf., the 2nd Battalion held a match with Company F taking the honors scoring four wins, losing one, and pulling a draw.

The "Red" Battalion of the 330th Regiment put on a boxing card Thursday night, but the results were not available at press time.

For the "Thunderbolt" competition the entries will be weighed in on the day of the contests, and all contenders will be thoroughly examined by a medical officer before entering the ring. In all events 16 ounce gloves will be used.

Probable entries from the 329th, judging from their previous performance, seems to be considerable. "We expect a long list of hopefuls in the Division tournament, but as yet we

have had no word from higher headquarters as to how many men they want or where they want them," said Lt. Raymond F. Cobley Jr. 2nd Battalion Athletic Officer. No other sources were able to be reached.

A glance at the results of the Battalion Smoker held in Plattling, showed an abundance of talent.

Pfc. Olen Allen of H Company, 149 pounder from Chicago, is a comer. So is Pvt. Allen Hope. Hdqs. man, who spins the balance at 176, and calls Tampa Fla. home. An F Company boxer worth watching is Murray Hoffman, 178 pound Brooklynite.

One of the reasons for this Army success was the coaching by Sgt. Claude V. Clarke of Chicago, and Pfc. William Otis of Oakland, Maine. Clark holds an Illinois State Boxing License and a referee's permit in Kentucky. Otis has fought considerably throughout New England.

Up in the hills where the 330th hangs out, C Company expects to enter

(Continued on page 5)

Games Wanted

Oh, my Back!

Pfc. Walter Bagdzinski, manager of the 908 FA, in a letter to the Sports Desk, claims his outfit has a pretty fair softball team and challenges any team in the Division to a home and home series for money, marbles or what have you?

Checking into their record, they have wins chalked up against the 803 TDs, Div. Arty Hqs. and "A" Batteries, the 323 FA Bn. and several others. Actually to date they have 25 wins and 1 loss on their record. Also that team is largely representative of the 83rd Division in the Corps softball championships being played at Regensburg this week.

The soft ball game of the week was played Tuesday night when the 330th Regimental Headquarters team and the 2nd Battalion Headquarters team played a 14 inning contest ending with a score of 2 to 1 favor the Battalion boys.

Both pitchers went the full route Dabrowski flinging them in for the winners and Zmirski for the losers. The 2nd Battalion made 2 runs out of 7 hits and 4 errors. Harrin batted in both runs for the winners getting 2 for 5. Meanwhile Zmirski the losing pitcher got weaker support at field and more hits which weren't timely. The Regimental team scored 1 run on 9 hits and 6 errors. Doyle batted in the only run.

WINNING PITCHER



HEMMING

BALL PLAYERS

AT XII CORPS

PLAY-OFFS

The 83rd Division sent representative teams in soft ball and hard ball to the XII Corps Championships at Regensburg this week after having received byes for both teams up to the semi-final round in the play-offs. Despite the added length of time allowed the 83rd to whip together the best combinations of talent in the command the scouting of players and the cooperation in the units bogged down to the point where the Division Athletic Office was obliged to field teams not entirely representative of the best available material.

In the case of the soft ball team, which for the most part consisted of players from the 908 FA Bn. and 5 men each from the 329th and 331st Infantry Regiments, they fared very badly losing both games of the semi-finals to the tune of 10 to 0 in the first game and 5 to 0 in the second. Both these losses were to the XII Corps Artillery Team which has a spanking good combination and favored to win the title.

WOjg. Nickolas J. Jelich of the 331st Infantry who accompanied the soft ballers as coach did not offer any excuses for the men who played, but rather was full of praise for the fine team the winners put on the field. In fairness to the players and coach it might be noted that neither knew they were to work together as a team until the day before they were to play in the Championships at Regensburg.

The same sad personnel situation existed under the same conditions when the baseball team took off Wednesday morning to play against the 4th Ar-



mored that afternoon. However in this case they were a little more successful in that they won the opening game by a score of 9 to 7. Lt. David Kribs acting as coach and faced with the same personnel problem took the 331st Thunderbolt League Team, circuit runner-ups and filled in his week spots with what talent showed up from other units.

Highlights of Wednesday's game, won by the 83rd 9 to 7 on 9 runs 10 hits and 2 errors, while the 4th Ar-

(Continued on page 5)

THUNDERBOLT LEAUGE

STALLS FOR CORPS PLAY

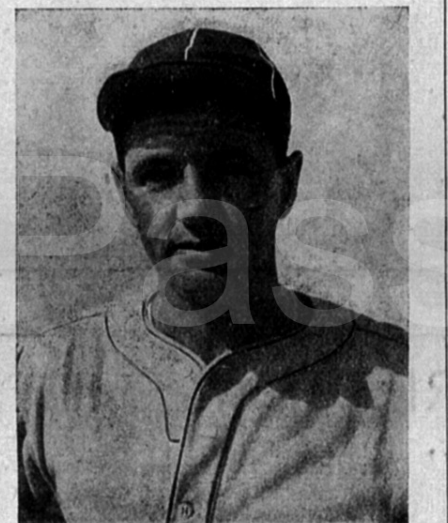
Medies Gain Coveted Sp. Units Berth

The Thunderbolt Baseball League opened Saturday, July 7 with Div. Arty being hosts to the 331st Infantry and the 736-7 Tanker combine entertaining the 329th Infantry. Due to the incomplete schedule of the Special Units Round Robin to determine the outfit who would represent them the 330th Infantry was idle on opening day.

The opening day hosts both lost their initial encounters. Div. Arty not only was forced to play on 331st's Moore Field due to having their own inadequate plant washed out by the week's previous rains, but was held to a goose egg score. 331 won 5 to 0 on 9 hits and 2 errors while holding Div. Arty. to 0 runs on 4 hits and 3 errors. Meanwhile the Tankers could only manufacture 2 runs on 6 hits, making 2 errors to lose to 329 by 5 runs 329 scored 7 runs on 10 hits and 3 errors.

Medics Play

On the preceeding Saturday, the 308th Medics completed their play in the Special Units Round Robin to establish themselves as the Special Units team in the Thunderbolt League. The Medics won 5 out of 6 games, the 1 game they dropped was to the favored 308th Engineers in a close 4 to 3 battle. The Engineers ended their play with 4



POCIASK

wins and 2 losses. The 83rd. Recon. barely eked out 2 wins against 4 losses, while the 83rd QMs faded badly after showing early-season good form to drop 5 out of 6 and thus eliminate themselves from consideration.

Here is the recap:

| Teams           | Won | Lost | Pct. |
|-----------------|-----|------|------|
| 308th Medics    | 5   | 1    | .833 |
| 308th Engineers | 4   | 2    | .666 |
| 83rd Recon.     | 2   | 4    | .333 |
| 83rd QMs        | 1   | 5    | .166 |

On Sunday following, July 8, the Medics now playing under the banner of the Special Units opened at home with the 331 as their opponents. To the surprise of many observers they continued their winning ways to take the measure of the highly-touted 331 team by a score of 5 to 3. The Medics scored 5 runs on 9 hits, making 3 errors. 331 got 3 runs on 10 hits and also committed 3 errors.

The Medics have still continued to play like a house on fire and are now the undisputed leaders of the Thunderbolt League having won 4 straight with no losses.

Time Out

During the past two weeks the schedule defied weather, personnel changes, and military necessity to keep the pace and all but Div. Arty and the Tank Combination managed to complete all scheduled games before the curtain was temporarily drawn over the season to allow some of the players to accompany the 83rd Division Baseball Team to the XII Corps Championships at Regensburg.

The league is scheduled to get under way again on July 25 at which time the games scheduled for the 18th will be played. Those which should have been played on July 21 (today) will be played on the 28th and those on deck for tomorrow July 22 will be played on the 29th. It is hoped that all hang over games can be played in the form of double headers in early August so that there will be no delay in starting the play-offs for the Division Championship.

Listed below are the starting line-ups of the teams to date.

| 329th Regiment | 330th Regiment |
|----------------|----------------|
| King 2B        | Sparzynski SS  |
| Leary SS       | Prince 2B      |
| Huss LF        | Bankhead 3B    |
| Rodgers CF     | Whitman CF     |
| Syzmanski 1B   | Vartanian 1B   |
| Laferriere 3B  | Cronin LF      |
| Liberatore C   | Genatossio RF  |
| Drouszack RF   | Collier C      |
| Douglas P      | Parravano P    |

| 331st Regiment | Div. Arty.  |
|----------------|-------------|
| Merriam 3B     | Toneli SS   |
| Kribs SS       | Korn 1B     |
| McGee 1B       | Brown 2B    |
| Russo CF       | Thomas CF   |
| Clyde C        | Walton LF   |
| Eagan 2B       | Coty RF     |
| Miller RF      | Jowaleski C |
| Socha LF       | Thomas 3B   |
| Maiden P       | Kramer P    |

| 736-7 Tankers | Sp. Units       |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Colisano SS   | Litviak SS      |
| Glindmaier 2B | Cecil C         |
| Fitzimmons CF | Curtis CF       |
| Gungich RF    | Pociask P       |
| Musser 3B     | Foertschbeck LF |
| Gizma 1B      | Canterbury 1B   |
| Urban LF      | Lescynski 2B    |
| Boland C      | Dunlap 3B       |
| Hamilton P    | Kirchdorfer RF  |

ON THE BALL

The 331st is still in there pitching on a production line basis with their sports program. At the moment baseball, soft ball, volley ball, swimming and track are holding the spotlight. Everybody in that outfit is doing SOMETHING, even if its only writing poetry about blind umpires or racing Heinie motorcycles over improvised speedways.

LOOK 'EM OVER

League play resumes on July 25 with games scheduled for July 18 on that date.

| Team       | Won | Lost | Pct.  |
|------------|-----|------|-------|
| Sp. Units  | 4   | 0    | 1.000 |
| 331st Inf. | 3   | 1    | .750  |
| 330th Inf. | 3   | 2    | .600  |
| 329th Inf. | 2   | 3    | .400  |
| 736-7 Tkr. | 0   | 3    | .000  |
| Div. Arty  | 0   | 3    | .000  |



# 83rd Soldier Victim Of Nazi Strong-arm Methods

Forced to buy a uniform as a member of the Hitler Youth Movement in 1933 to stop Nazi strongarm beatings of his three sisters, Pfc. Werner M. Emmerich has no love for these responsible for Germany's present dilemma.

Born in Ehrenfriedersdorf (Saxony), Germany, Emmerich, a member of Headquarters Company, 330th Infantry, was brought up in his early years under a farcial German democratic government which gave way to Adolf Hitler in 1933. Carrying out many of his long-laid plans, Hitler instituted the Youth Movement, forcing all German boys and girls to belong.

"They immediately wanted me to have a uniform", Emmerich recalls. "But, they wanted me to buy mine. I refused as the others were given theirs and told the authorities that I should get a free one too. They knew my father had gone to the United States in 1927 and told me that he could afford to send me enough money

to buy mine. I still refused until they started beating up my sisters. My mother then gave me the money and insisted that I buy it to save them. So I did."

Emmrich didn't like the regimentation of the Youth Movement with its war games, close order drill with wooden rifles, strict discipline and the flow of propaganda, which from letters from his father, he knew to be nothing but lies. He was sent to work on farms for five cents per day.

His father returned to his family in Germany in 1933, but after being arrested three times, once for refusing to wear the Brown Shirt of the SA, once for talking to anohtsr German after midnight, a privilege reerved for members of the party, and a third time for leaving the country without notifying the burgomeister, he returned to the States.

Emmrich and his family followed in 1937. Hardly had he arrived in New York when he was approached to oin the German American Bund, then active there, but he refused. He had had enough of that sort of thing.

"There is just one thing that I would like to do", he says, "And that is to return to my old home for just 24 hours and look up a few of those guys who used to beat me and my sisters up."

## Transfer Comes As Brothers Part

Capt. Doyle R. Bunch, 329th Inf. Adjutant during all of the "Buckshot" Regiment's campaigns, learned of the whereabouts of a cousin, Sgt. Joseph E. Bunch with the 28th Infantry Division.

By steady and pleading correspondence between the relative G-I sections, Sgt. Bunch was transferred from the 28th to the 83rd Division. Due to the long processing at Repo Depos, it seemed that Sgt. Bunch would never arrive. Meanwhile Capt. Bunch was counting his points and came up with a 96.

Last Monday Capt. Bunch loaded his baggage, ready for a trip to the 99th Division. That morning Sgt. Bunch arrived. They crowded those last few minutes with intimate hometown conversation. Sgt. Bunch was assigned to the 229th I and R Platoon.

## Magill Deployed

The most famous American platoon to operate in this war, the I and R platoon of the 329th Inf., is being slowly deployed by the point system. Under the guidance of Lt. Samuel W. Magill, they brilliantly executed the capture of 20,000 Germans at Beauncy in the first great surrender of the European war. In the early days of the war they showed signs of the greatness that was to come to them by going deep into enemy-held territory to team up with the Free French Forces and audaciously hold 55 miles of the Brittany coastline while other troops could be used in the more vital job of forcing the "Mad Colonel" Von Aulock from his impene-trable Citadel at St. Malo.

## DEFFIE'S TAVERN CATERS TO 330th

"Deffie's Tavern" was opened this week for men of the 330th stationed in Freyung, Germany. The bartender is M/Sgt. Edward P. Dempsey of Regimental Headquarters Company who says he named the GI beerhall after his brother-in-law who lives in Brooklyn.

The beer served at "Deffie's" is brewed and barreled somewhere in Czedoslovakia, then transported by truck to Freyung. One "Deffie" patron is said to have predicted that attendance at the second showing of the nearby movie will drop off, inferring that even Lana Turner could not lure the men to the movies if they stop at "Deffie's" first.

## BUSY GAL



Charlotte Manson plays roles on CBS "Dr. Christian," "Death Valley Sheriff" and other shows.

## Cavalry Troop Goes Garrison; Accent On Sports

Like most other outfits around the Division the 83rd Recon Troop is getting the combat kinks out of its system, and slipping slowly back into garrison.

A regular training schedule has been made up, and the day is usually filled with such things as map reading, radio procedure, motor maintainance, and daily current events discussions.

"One platoon is on 24 hour alert every day," said 1st Sgt., Bennett Platt-smier of Rayne, La. "If any call comes through, they hop into their three armored cars, and six jeeps, and take off to where the trouble is."

Besides having a P.A. system hooked in with a radio which broadcasts music and the latest news for the men all over the area, the troop has its own movie projector, and is supplied with films by the Special Service Office.

"We are making our own ball field now", pointed out S/Sgt. Jack Daniel, a radio repairman from Athens, Texas, the playing manager. "We haven't been doing so well lately, but we hope to get going with some of these new men that have come in."

"It's a heck of a easier feeding the boys now that we have them all together," T/5 William Howard of Velpen, Ind., the acting Mess Sergeant said. "It used to be Hell trying to get the chow up to all the platoons when they were attached to different units during combat. The only trouble is, everytime we serve rice, the guys start spreading rumors."

### SIGHT-SEEING

American: "New York is a wonderful city You can stand on the top of the Empire State Building and see all of it."

Frenchman: "You can stand on top of Eiffel Tower and see all of Paris."

German: "That's nothing! You can see all of Berlin these days by standing on a chair."

## Buzz-Bomb Lab Was Yank's Home

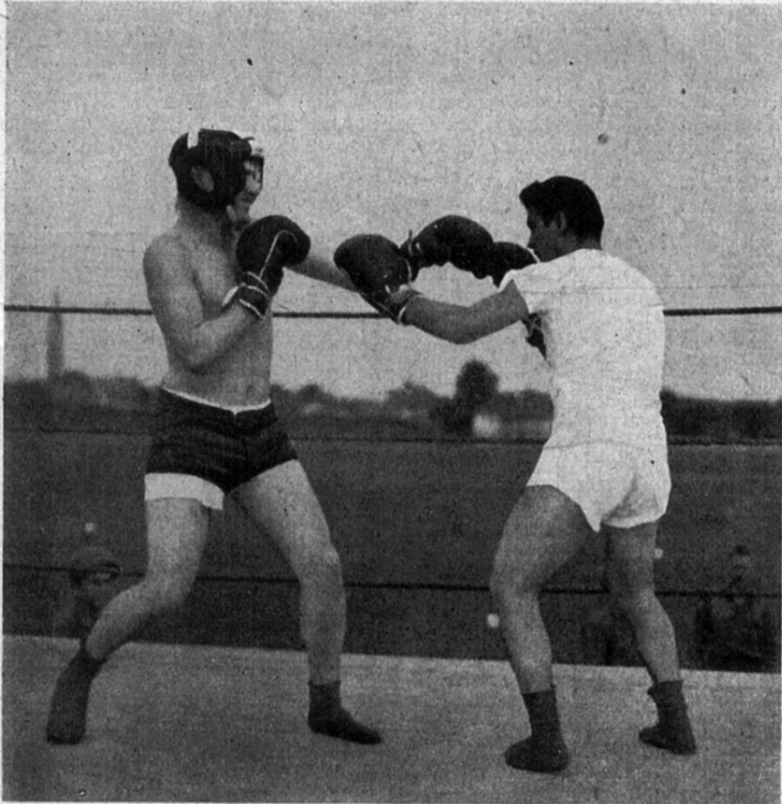
One of the great prizes of the war, the Hermann Goering Institute of Aeronautical Research, near Braunschweig, was occupied for a short time by Able Company, 329th Infantry. The Institute was the birthplace of the V1 and V2 secret weapons, and in the later stages of the war was devoted to experiments in jet-propulsion. The installation covered more than 300 acres, including landing strips and woods filled with camouflaged laboratories machine shops, and the world's largest wind-tunnel.

Several dozen planes of all types were abandoned by the Germans in their hasty retreat, many of them still in flying condition. During the period of occupation by Able Company, many of America's top-ranking aeronautical scientists were flown in from the United States in C47's of the Air Transport Command to inspect the work done by the Germans.

## Both Brothers Do Double-Take

Two brothers who had not seen each other in two and a half years had two brief and unexpected meetings recently in Germany. Cpl. Anthony Corsi of C Co., 330th Regiment, was on duty at the Rhine river when his brother, Pvt. Frances Corsi of the 801 TDs, drove up beside him. By the time both of them had recoved from the surprise and had exchanged a few greetings it was time to push on. Boch believed it would be the last time they would see each other again until they got home. But as the Regiment was traded for Southern Germany, the convoy was delayed by a TD that had pulled to the side of the road. Yep, Anthony was in the convoy and Frances was in the TD. Later Anthony said "We had about four minutes that last time. I hope next time I see him it will be for a little longer!"

## WATCH THAT RIGHT!



Reading from left to right Pvt. John A. Lombardo, Hq. Co. 2nd Bn., 329th Infantry tries a right cross but Pvt. Leonard J. Snow of "G" Co. 329th pedals out of range.

## DIVISION BOXERS SQUARE OFF

(Continued from page 4)

a man in each weight class, and D Company has also tossed in a bucket-full of names.

The other units have not as yet turned in their entries.

One of the champions in his Army Training Center is Pfc. Thomas (Heavy) Crump, weighing 210 pounds, from C Company and Abbeyville, Ga. A little on the lighter side is Pfc. John Couey of the same Company, who hails from Alamo, Ga., and is considered by those who have seen him

work out, as a trim fighter. He keens his 135 lb frame in top form.

For those interested in the August event, there are eight weight classifications:

|                     |          |
|---------------------|----------|
| Bantamweight        | 120-126  |
| Featherweight       | 127-134  |
| Lightweight         | 135-144  |
| Welterweight        | 145-154  |
| Senior Welterweight | 155-164  |
| Midleweight         | 165-174  |
| Light Heavyweight   | 175      |
| Heavyweight         | Over 175 |

## Speedsters and Jumpers Strive for Polished Form

After the time trials of July 18, Lt. Stuart G. Gullickson expressed great satisfaction with the squad of track men which will represent the 83rd Infantry Division at the XII Corps Championships at Regensburg on July 24.

In the practices since the Division Elimination Meet the performances of all the men have been bettered, and in Barham of the 330th, and Delaney of the 331, the concensus is, that either one of them could be a 1-man team. Weaver the high jumper is still stretching upt o the 6'5" marker, while Lillienthal and Dean are expected to show in the discuss throw.

The following men will vie for honors in their specialties with the hope of going on from Corps to the Third Army Meet to follow, and finally to the ETO Championships to be held at Paris later this Summer.

In the dashes — Delaney, Ryan,

## Corps Play-Offs

(Continued from page 4)

mored Division garnered 7 runs on 8 hits and 2 errors were the pitching of Shannon, 331 southpaw ace and the relief hurling of Hemming, former Cardinal farm hand, who came in during the 7th inning with one man away but the tying run on second base. He cooly proceeded to strike out the first batter to appear against him and froced the next hitter to roll a weak grounder to Merriam of 331, at 3rd base who tossed him out at 1st. Merriam, a Detroit Tiger as a civilian also had a great day at bat getting 3 bingles for 4 times at bat and walking once. He also batted in 1 run.

## Anti-Tank Builds Court

The old story of too late and too little is definitely not going to apply to the Anti-Tank athletes if they can help it, for here it early summer and they're playing basketball on an indoor court constructed with the aid of PWs in their area. In the same building they have a boxing ring set up. So, if Winter comes to the boys of the Anti-tank their basket ball players and boxers should have the jump on the rest of the outfits in these two sports.

Credit for the construction should be given in a large measure to T/4 Dick Fowler and Pfc. Ken Tucker and also to Pfc. Chuck Fosnight and S/Sgt. PeeWee Weisenburger.

## FLING HIGH



the 83rd's hope in the high jump. Pfc. Frederick Weaver of Div. Arty,



## "Jap Balloon With Bomb" Causes Alarm

Spotting a small object floating through the air near Jandelsbrun, Germany T/Sgt. Paul Dodson, Sgt. Glendon Ralston, Pfc. James Jackson, and Pvt. Chester Magierski of I Co., 330th Inf. sent out an alarm to prepare for fire.

"The darned thing was so high we couldn't tell what it was. But it looked to me like a balloon with something like a bomb attached to the bottom of it," said Dodson. Magierski is reported to have agreed.

"It's one of those damned Jap balloons," shouted Jackson. And Ralston is reported to have answered with, "Hell, I think you're right!"

Keeping their eyes on the balloon, the men dashed off to report the incident to their CO. The balloon was getting closer to the ground and appeared to be heading for the C.P.

The CO knew nothing of any American balloons that had been released in the area so there ensued a series of quick calls to Battalion, then to Regiment, and finally to Division. The answer everywhere was, "Know nothing about balloon." By this time the balloon had landed near the I Co. C.P. But it had not exploded.

Orders came down for the men not to touch it for an hour. At the end of an hour the men approached the bomb.

"The first thing I saw was a notice on the side with the words, 'Fragile-Handle With Care.' On the other side were the words, 'The United States Weather Bureau.'"

It was learned that the balloon had been released about 12 days before at point in the States, possibly La Guardia Field, New York. Other incidental information about the balloon includes the fact that it was of a type that rises to about 12 miles. At the end of 12 to 14 days the balloon bursts and a radio transmitter is slowly let down by a parachute. While in the air instrument acted as a radio transmitter, sending out information on weather conditions, pressure, moisture, and other meteorological data. The instrument can be used again and finders are requested to take steps that will result in its being returned to a weather station.

## Map Sent Home

The 83rd Recon Troop has completed sending "The Thunderbolt Across Europe", official history of the 83rd Division in action, to the relatives of all 83rd Recon men killed or wounded in action.

The project was suggested by Lt. Keith L. Wells, unit CO, to show that these men had not been forgotten by their unit, nor their sacrifice gone unappreciated.

## Business Booming In Photo Shops

500 rolls of photographic film are developed and printed each week for men of the 331st Inf. in the shop set up by Pfc. Steve Schultz and three other enlisted men of the 1st Battalion. This is an average of better than 85 rolls a day. "We try to give two-day service," said Pfc. Walter Waite of A Co., "and we have done pretty well on that score, though the rolls are coming in mighty fast and regular."

A charge of ten cents a roll is made for one print of each negative. Additional prints can be obtained for two cents a print. A few enlargements are also handled.

"Most of the subject matter," says Pfc. Robert Horning of Co. B, "is scenery. I guess the fellows want to be certain their memory doesn't fail them when it comes to German landscapes."

"The Heinie equipment we have is so far surpassed by our American material it is pitiful, but it is alright and satisfies our needs," Shultz says.

Pfc. Irving Lee of Battalion Headquarters, who has only recently become interested in photography, looked a little piqued as he sorted and recorded rolls and payment. "I like the photographic end of it, but this is one part I don't go for!"

In civilian life Schultz ran a chemical business in St. Louis, supplying photographic concerns throughout the States. Horning formerly worked for the Eastman Kodak Co. in Rochester.

## MEDIC DIRECTS SANITATION IMPROVEMENTS

Pfc. Albert R. Loffredi, a medic in Company "B" 330th Infantry, has become the Health Director in the village of Spiegelau Germany, a city of 2000 population.

Putting to the best use his knowledge he acquired from attending the U.S. Army Sanitation School, Loffredi is directing the Germans in improving the town's Sanitation problem. Under his direction sewers have been repaired and constructed. The Burgomeister has many former German prisoners of war, now civilians, working on these projects under Loffredi's supervision.

Recently Loffredi's foresight enabled him to see that a major transportation tie-up would be imminent unless something could be done to prevent the water from the clogged ditches from surging over the dirt roads of the little village. He took a look at the ditches, and decided that they could handle much more trainage if they were cleaned. Immediately the situation was tackled and the danger of a flood averted.

## APO Handles Half of Div. Pay roll

Most of the time when an 83rd man mails a letter he puts, "APO 83" in his return address, and dollars to doughnuts doesn't give it a second thought. On the other hand, let him miss out on "Mail Call" for a week, and the system through which his letters arrive becomes of prime importance.

APO 83 is, literally, Army Post Office No. 83, a clearing house for mail and packages coming to and from the 83rd Division. From May 1st, 1944, to May 1, 1945, the post office has handled 10,000,000 letters and 300,000 parcels. Of approximately 10,000 letters and 275 packages distributed to 83rd men in an average day, 25% were rerouted because of personnel changes.

In addition to the function of clearing mail, the office supplies stamps, envelopes, and money orders to Thunderbolt men. Incidentally, over 50% of the total Division pay-roll is handled by the office in the form of money orders, stamps, and air-mail envelopes. Since coming overseas, men of the 83rd have purchased over 2 million air-mail envelopes, and 4 million dollars worth of money orders.

According to Pfc. Sid Cohen, mail clerk, their toughest time was during the Elbe Drive when units were up to two hundred miles apart and constantly changing position.

"Credit should be given Company Mail Clerks," stated Captain John H. Keith, commanding officer of "APO- 83." "They're the men who deliver the mail, come Elbe River or Jerry tracers."

## "Lost Circus" Found; Plays For Supper

A couple of weeks ago Thunderbolt ran a story about a "lost Hungarian circus." This week the circus was found by men of the 2nd Bn. of the 329th Inf. "They were just wandering down a road in their horse-drawn caravans when we found them," said Lt. Raymond F. Colbey, Bn. Special Service officer. "It didn't take much convincing to get them to put on their act. They were eather hungry."

In return, for being "found" the Melani's put on their show for the Battalion last Sunday. Some low-life had stolen most of their equipment so they were reduced to performing in the animal tent.

The Melani circus is a family affair composed of seven brothers and sisters and the two daughters of one of the sisters. The father of the girls is not in the show and is said to make frequent protest that he "did not raise his daughters to be acrobats." Despite protests the show goes on, with dancing horses, trapeze acts, clowns, a "strong man" and the usual trappings of every circus.

## Mother-Son Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

soners through devious means. The years might not have been so hard had her husband joined the Nazi party, but he refused. As a result, through he had retired on a pension from the railroad at the age of 57 after 34 years service, the Nazis took 10 years off his service record, greatly reducing his income. Even then they attempted to force him into the Wermacht army, running him through an examination that amounted merely to stamping a paper and took no consideration of his actual physical condition. It was only through his doctor that he got out of becoming a soldier.

The spirit of Egger's mother in those years might have been higher too had she not been forced to witness 2000 Russian PWs brought in already half dead from starving; if she not been helpless to do anything while those 2000 prisoners withered from starvation to half their number. And those left ate flesh of their dead comrades. If she had not seen the dead, when finally collected, buried unclothed in mass graves.

But in all those years, Egger's mother never forgot the United States which her son had adopted and which in turn had adopted him. And even as she had since his departure so long ago kept his room for him to return to some day if only on a visit, she kept hidden American flags. When Germany was defeated she brought them out and decorated his room with them until it radiated stars and stripes.

Her home became a gathering place for the GIs stationed near there. The people whose PW comrades she had tried to feed and protect now wanted to feed and protect her. And that is how her son found her; thin, gray, far older than he had remembered her or normal years would have made her, but still with that spark that had bucked the Nazis.

Each of the two passes Egger has had to travel those 65 miles that separates them have been far too brief. Now both he and his mother wait expectantly for that furlough he hopes to get soon — a furlough that will give mother and son, torn apart by time and war, a chance to know each other again.

## Signalers Open Own Night Club

"Club 83", for enlisted men of the 83rd Signal Co., was opened last night in Vilshofen. First-nighters found that the club has an adequate bar and three comfortably furnished rooms. The girls who were chosen to serve the refreshments are said to have been hand-picked. The club is located at the edge of the Danube river. Another feature of the club is a well-stocked record library and an automatic record player. "Club 83" is operated by Lt. Christopher Doyle and Sgt. Harry Sassaman. Admission is restricted to members of the 83rd Signal Co. and their guests.

## SOLDIERS MEET CELEBRITIES



Pfc. Tilton Powell of Los Angeles, California, holds a reunion with Miss Martha Tilton, relative and neighbor. Pfc. Powell is a member of the 83rd. Signal Company.



Gag-man Benny Passan pauses for a cigarette and a chat with Pvt. Frank Sands and Pfc. Fred Whittaker, of Company M, 330th Infantry.

## Rooster Blows Reveille At Farm School

Reveille sounds off with a crowing cock instead of a bugler for the men of Co. C, 330th Inf. who have established an experimental farm in their area. Under the supervision of Pfc. Frank A. Sliski, a graduate of New New York State Agricultural school, the men are becoming acquainted with the modern scientific methods of farming, as well as providing a suppelment for their mess hall menus.

The farm was obtained through the assistance of the local Military Government office. Seeds were secured from farmers in the vicinity. Pfc. Leroy David got the farm implements from a farmer who also gave the men advice on soil and planting conditions. The project has been in operation for over a month.

"The kitchen isn't at a loss to see the advantages of the farm," Pfc. Kenneth Smith said. "The fresh vegetables will certainly dress up a meal that might ohterwise be ordinary." Pfc. John L. Donihoo expressed his opinion of the project when he said that Sliski has a "swell idea", but added, "I hope we will be able to enjoy some of the vegetables before we move out of here."

## SERGEANT MAKES TIN PAN ALLEY

S/Sgt. Leland McCann of Co. A, 330th Inf. received word this week that his song, "A Dream of Love", had been published in the States. Now playing bass fiddle with the Regiment's "Jazz Bandits", McCann wrote his song a year ago this month and sent it to the U.S. copyright office. It was introduced over the radio by bandleader Johnny Garing on a Navy band show broadcast from California.

McCann started studying music in 1933 under the guidance of Lillian Edwards. Six years later he had his first compositions published. They were a collection of gospel songs.

McCann is believed to be the first man in the 83rd to have music published since the Division has been overseas.

## Conduct Medals Being Distributed

Good Conduct medals are now being distributed throughout the 83rd Division to authorized men.

The medal is to be issued to "Enlisted Men who have demonstrated fidelity through exact performance of duty, efficiency through capacity to produce desired results, and whose behavior has been such as to deserve emulation."

Division Quartermaster has received and distributed 9500 medals to individual units, with 3500 more expected soon to complete coverage of the "THUNDERBOLT" Division. Each Infantry Regiment has received 1800 badges, Divarty 1300, and attached units received the balance.