

JAPAN SURRENDERS!

EXTRA

THUNDERBOLT

EXTRA

Weekly Newspaper of the 83rd Infantry Division

NORMANDY.

BRITTANY.

LOIRE VALLEY.

LUXEMBOURG.

HURTGEN FOREST.

ARDENNES.

FIRST TO RHINE.

ELBE BRIDGEHEAD.

VOL. 4, No. 15

PASSAU, GERMANY

AUGUST 12, 1945

PEACE ON EARTH

END OF WAR BRINGS 83rd's STATUS TO FORE

The news of Japan's sudden surrender seemed to indicate to most men of the 83rd Division that they would possibly spend a longer time than they had anticipated in the European theater. But they knew too that their eventual return to civilian life would come much sooner than they had dreamed. First reports from Washington mentioned a reduction in the number of points required for discharge; also added that "green" men would not be included among those considered for early discharge. Redeployment to the Pacific would not cease immediately. The 83rd Division at the end of the European war, was designated a Category II unit, meaning that the division would spend some time in Europe as an Occupation unit and would then be shipped to the United States for a furlough, further training as Pacific fighting troops, and then shipment to an active theater. Radio reports indicated that the War Department might make an announcement regarding the lowered point system and the disposition of Category II units within a week following Japan's surrender.

Meanwhile the division carried on its role as an occupation outfit.

Regarding the peace terms M/Sgt. James L. Brooks of Service Co., 330th Inf. said, "I think our peace is a fair and just offer and one which will bring the desired results in the future." Cpl. Franklin Butler of F Co., 330th Inf. thought the peace might keep the division in Europe longer but "will save many GI's from the C.B.I." Sgt. Lawrence Bosshart of E Co., 331st Inf. had a similar opinion. Pfc. Robert Burns of 329th Inf. Hq. Co. said, "Boston, here I come!"

Our Leaders In War and Peace



Now his imminent job becomes



... the sound and lasting peace he strove for.

ACCEPT POTSDAM TERMS; RETAIN EMPEROR WHO WILL BE ALLIED "PUPPET"

Today the electrifying news was broadcast to the world that Japan had surrendered to the United Nations. The last aggressor had agreed to abide by the Potsdam ultimatum with the exception that Hirohito be allowed to retain his position as "puppet" emperor, subject to the orders of the Supreme Allied Command. The capitulation followed by three days Russian Declaration of War and subsequent invasion of Manchuria. Only two devastating atomic bombs were unleashed on Nippon when the "Sons of Heaven" decided that "a nation does not have the right to commit suicide", and threw in the towel accompanied by much flowery language worded in the best "face saving" style.

These are the events which led to the final official surrender. On August 6, the first atomic bomb was dropped on the city of Hiroshima, and from anguished Tokyo reports, "completely destroyed" the city of 318,000 population.

Effective one second after midnight on August 9, the Soviet Union declared itself at war with Japan.

On August 10, the second atomic bomb was released over the city of Nagasaki, and an official air corps observer reported the second lethal weapon to be, "much more effective than the one which wiped out Hiroshima. In actuality, the different type bomb relegated the first atomic bomb to obsolescence."

Then on the 10th, came the startling news that the Jap government was willing to accept the Potsdam terms for capitulation if Emperor Hirohito would remain as "Sovereign Ruler" without "prejudiced" interference by Allied Occupational Authorities.


Early evening of the 11th brought an AFN flash that Official Allied Notes had been given to Switzerland to be relayed to Japan. The note said, in effect, that the Big 4 accepted Japan's amendment that Hirohito be retained as Emperor, but insisted that Nippon's leader must carry out the orders issued by the Supreme Allied Commander. AFN also quoted Presidential Secretary Ross as stating that the Supreme Allied Commander would be "an American", but Ross refused to speculate on the possible choice of MacArthur or Nimitz for that position.

The closing hours of the war did not see an easing of the fierce fighting being waged against Japan. The Russians spurred on into Manchuria penetrating over one hundred miles to a range of mountains and threatened to join the expanding pincers movement deep within Jap territory. Commanders of American forces in action reaffirmed their determination to continue carrying the war to the enemy until ordered to "cease firing."

The Potsdam Conference was climaxed by the statement of 13 points to be accepted by Japan in surrender.


Five of the most important conditions as agreed to by Japan are as follows:

1. All armed forces in Japanese territory must be disarmed and demobilized.
2. All irresponsible militarists must be eliminated.
4. All war agitators must be eliminated.
5. Allied Forces will occupy certain points in Japanese territory.



83rd Thunderbolt

Official Weekly Newspaper of the
83rd Infantry Division



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THE WAR IN THE PACIFIC

This week — with the introduction of the “atomic bomb”, the Russian declaration of War against Japan, and Japan’s willingness to accept a surrender ultimatum; has proved to be the most eventful since the German surrender on V-E Day.

Russia’s declaration of war on Japan will no doubt have a terrific effect upon Japan’s attitude toward the continuation of the War. The Soviet announcement came as expected, following the Potsdam conference in Berlin just concluded. Molotov, Soviet foreign commissar, stated, “Taking into consideration Japan’s refusal to capitulate, the Soviet government joins in the conflict against Japanese aggression, thereby shortening the duration of the war.”

Moscow radio revealed Japan had asked the Soviet Union to mediate for peace with the Allies. The surrender terms offered and rejected by Japan, nullified this request.

Along with the announcement of Russia’s entry into the war and the unleashing of the atomic bomb, official Washington took the developments to mean that Japan could not long resist. President Truman commented on the statement, “Russia has declared war on Japan. That is All.”

The Atomic Bomb became the byword with every GI and civilian alike — something new to warfare had been developed that will have a definite effect upon the outcome of the war. The city of Hiroshima was completely destroyed with but one bomb from a plane of Gen. Carl Spaatz’s powerful Superfortress fleet. Tokyo Radio reported that “the weapon was atrocious, the destructive power indescribable.”



Maybe you’re thinking this is the emperor Hirohito. It isn’t. Maybe you’re thinking it might be his horse. Wrong again. Nor is it a rear view of Tojo. It’s a Jap symbol of a fox — and the Japs worship it as being sacred; something that will protect them from atomic bombs, the AAF, and retribution for their war crimes. The Germans relied on a “fox” too — and where did it get them?



If the F.B.I. had this picture they would probably have a number under it, and fingerprints. It’s the rarely photographed Kantaro Suzuki, premier of Japan and successor to Gen. Tojo.

While Japan was digging it’s dead and wounded out of the rubble of Hiroshima, other superfortresses were dropping the “amazing bomb” on more of Japan’s “sacred cities”.

Japan acknowledged indirectly that the American invasion of the home islands would succeed. This news came as the Ryukyu Island chain and Okinawa were preparing for the invasion of Japan’s home islands. The Japs hinted that the attack would succeed, providing it was sufficiently powerful.

Thus with weeks end — Nippon must decide between “unconditional surrender” or “total destruction”. The next few days or hours may reveal their decision destruction or War’s End!

AROUND the 83 rd

Sergeant Furman M. Haney, of Company E, 330th Infantry, has the reputation of being able to throw a hand-grenade farther than any man in his battalion. “He just takes that little ball of steel in his big paws, and lets it fly, and when it comes down, it’s a helluva ways off,” say the men of his company. In support of his buddies’ claims, let it be known that Haney was awarded the Silver Star for action in the hedgerows.

On Sunday, July 29, the 83rd Quartermaster Company introduced their new Enlisted Men’s Club with a luscious steak dinner plus trimmings with modern music furnished by the Division Hungarian Show. The name of the new club is “What Town Is This? Inn!”

The story behind the name of the club is this: One day while servicing

one infantry regiment, a great deal of traveling was involved. After going through the same towns several times, a certain Sgt. Tanner, who was manning a 50 cal. machine gun, would stick his head up above the gun mount and yell to the truck in front of him, “What town is this?” The cry was carried from truck to truck until everyone was joining the cry! Today it is a password among the QM men, and was chosen as the name of their EM Club.

The opening banquet was prepared by Mess Sgt. Edward Adameczek and the interior of the club was revamped under the direction of Sgt. Elmer Massa.

Recent Company Tests, held in the suburbs of Zwiesel by the 329th Infantry, laid stress on the problems of the platoon in the attack. After the problems were completed and the dust had settled, Company I, commanded by 1st Lt.

Edward D. McCarthy, had compiled the highest score in the 3rd Battalion. S/Sgt. Charles R. Navish, mortarman, once wounded in the fight for Echternach, Luxembourg, had this comment: “Coming all the way from Normandy, one would think I’d be tired of it all, but knowing that the 83rd is scheduled for the States after maneuvers at Grafenwohr makes training that much easier.”

Last Sunday, a group of 50 men of Company I, 330th Infantry, were able to take advantage of the excellent recreational and entertainment facilities offered at Passau. They left their “home town” of Jandelsbrunn early Sunday morning and returned late the same evening. S/Sgt. Joe Petroski said, “It was a wonderful day spent looking at the scenery, watching a late movie at the regular 35mm. Theater and just drinking beer at the outdoor beer garden.”

From Our



CHAPLAIN

Capt. James W. Blitch
Chaplain — 330th Inf. Regt.

One of the most difficult of all things is to live — really live — in the present. It is so much easier just to linger in the memories of the past or to revel in the hopes and dreams of the future, while we simply mark time for the present. But blessed is the man who has conditioned himself to live in the “now” and to make the most of “today”. Great are his rewards.

Broadened Life

For one thing to that man will come a new richness of life. A richness that is the result of utilizing present opportunities — of creating and developing friendships, of seeing every new and interesting sight, of sharing in every varied and worthwhile experience. Not one man in a thousand wants the separation from home and loved ones he now endures, but need that rob him of those benefits which are available? Who can deny the increase in knowledge or the broadening influences that have come to us as we have rubbed shoulders with the peoples of many nations and glimpsed world famous sights of another continent? Some of these benefits must surely come to all, but to him who is “alert” to the present they will be multiplied manifold.

“Learning the Hard Way”

A second reward is the increased preparation for a greater manhood in the future. Life in war time has brought with it many unpleasant and trying experiences. But, as distasteful as they may be, they have a value and that value must not be lost. Those harrowing, and often terrifying, episodes of war taught some of us a courage and self-reliance we hadn’t found in civilian life. To many the battlefield became the occasion for a new knowledge of God — His love, His comfort, His strength. And, surely, for all of us the days of loneliness and longing have engendered a new appreciation for loved ones and home and country. These and many other “lessons” have been learned the hard way. But if learned well they may turn the bitter experiences of war into a more blessed life in days to come. Like the eagle, the very fury of the storm has sent some of us soaring to new heights.

Live For Today

Let us then remember the past, and plan for the future, but live in the “today”! Rather than complain about the present let’s use it!
“If you can fill the unforgiving minute,
With sixty seconds’ worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that’s in it,
And — which is more — you’ll be a man, my son!”

The Atomic Bomb Opens a New Phase of Warfare

Written by Maj. Morgan L. Smith,
Division Ordnance Officer

The Orson Welles pipe dream has come true in the presentation of the atom bomb to Japan. No doubt the effects are being exaggerated to some extent because it is certainly an opportunity for our psychological warfare. But it is not to be taken lightly because this writer knows of one of the experimental bombs that was set off at one of the American proving grounds about two years ago that produced so much more force than was expected that nearly all glass on the blast side of buildings was shattered within a 38-mile radius. It occurred on the east coast and was reported in the press to have been the blast of a torpedo from a German submarine. It was actually the beginning of the atom bomb.

The next experiment was carried out on the Arizona desert. But here it was difficult to calculate the devastating effects in an area of sand dunes.

New Type Reaction

A true picture of the effects will surely not be known until after the invasion of Japan. Then our engineers will be able to survey and report a true picture. In the meantime we can only be content with the knowledge of the birth of an improved, or new type chemical reaction. This reaction may be something like this: After the separation of the atoms (such as in the explosion of TNT) they may be traveling so fast that enough heat is generated to cause the atoms to explode and hurl their molecules through the air with such speed that they break up into their respective electrons. Then it may be possible that these electrons fly through the air until they find themselves a “mate” (boy meets girl) forming a new molecule that is still traveling so fast that it crashes into another molecule, creating a friendly union, and forming a new atom. But boy meets the new girl and a new, more devastating explosion takes place: **NATURALLY!** And who knows, this may go on for miles until boy wears himself out, totally and completely.

POETRY

A TOWN CALLED ‘FREYUNG’

Square, squat concrete blocks
With foliage between
Weird right angled rocks
Set in a sea of green.
Drowsing, a mastodon
Flings off it’s clinging nets,
Through it’s honey skelton
The sun winks as he sets.
Jet shadows splash the lawn
Under the moon’s pale beam
So, sleep until the dawn
Old warrior, — And dream.
—By Cpl. T. Adameczyk
Service Company, 330th Infantry

LETTERS

to the Editor

To Editor, THUNDERBOLT:

I wish to extend my profound gratitude for making my stay at the rest center a pleasant one.

To the Division go my most hearty congratulations for doing such a splendid job in the management of the rest center. I highly recommend the center to any soldier having the opportunity to go there.

A Satisfied Soldier
Benjamin F. Wilkins
Anti-Tank Co., 329th Inf.

LOST—Brown, leather, brief case with zipper top. Containing orchestrations and important papers.

The above was lost on August 4th between Passau and Grafenau Reward!

Mail to: Mel Taylor
6817 Special Serv. B’n.
U.S.O. Camp Shows
Unit 635 APO 887
. Or Contact THUNDERBOLT

Pfc. Forrest L. Gauldin, Co. L, 330th Inf.—Your letter to THUNDERBOLT relative to the allocation of rations was too long to print. Our answer to the problem you raise is this: Each week the daily bulletin issued by division Headquarters carries a statement from the P-X officer itemizing the articles offered by the unit P-X’s for the current week. The daily bulletin is available for inspection by all members of the 83rd Div. Check the list and determine if the rations received by your outfit coincide with the list published by the P-X officer. — — — Editor

The Home Front

Indianapolis. — The meanest woman in Indianapolis is the one recently fined by City Court for defrauding a newsboy out of 3 cents. She bought a paper, the newsboy testified, read it, complained that she didn’t like the editorials and refused to pay for it.

Bristol, Conn. — Steve Ostroski, 36, was sore at the cops because they locked him up on a drunk charge. So he set fire to his \$300 bankroll and burned it.

San Francisco. — Three local convicts engineered a jail break. Captured, they explained: “All we wanted were some cigarets.”

Niagara Falls, N. Y. — William (Red) Hill went over Niagara Falls in a barrel while 100,000 persons watched. Hill survived, the crowd applauded politely, then yawned and went away. All Hill received for his trouble was \$300 in nickels and dimes.

The Wolf

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by Sansone

“What else did he tell you?”

AS WORLD AWAITED SURRENDER

As THUNDERBOLT went to press the following news summaries had been issued from Allied capitals:

Tokyo Radio stated that a momentous announcement would take place at 0130 hours, Tokyo time on Monday, Aug. 13th. It is believed that the official position of the Jap government will then be stated.

Earlier Japan announced she was willing to surrender, providing the sovereign ruler, Hirohito, would not be prejudiced.

The American, British, and Soviet governments are now awaiting official confirmation of surrender terms through neutral Swiss sources. REPORTS INDICATE it is possible that hostilities may cease at any moment.

WASHINGTON—There was wide speculation over the prospect of a Japanese surrender . . . the nation was tense with the aspect of V-J Day.

LONDON—The streets were crowded with people eager to hear the latest news flashes on the Far East situation. The British government was confident that the restoration of a general peace was imminent.

MOSCOW—Soviet forces were driving ahead on all fronts. Two pincers were driving into Manchuria and Korea with only slight opposition.

S/Sgt. Waters, 100,000th Restee At Riviera, Given "Key to City"

A staff car, a private room at the palatial Hotel Negresco, an abundance of liquor, and a beautiful, blue-eyed Wac — sounds like a New Year's wish. But to S/Sgt. James Waters, Company L, 330th Infantry, it was, "The best thing that ever happened to me."

USRR officials gave a bang-up welcome to S/Sgt. Waters who was the 100,000th restee to arrive at the Riviera Rest Center.

The 26-year-old infantryman, from Dawsonville, Ga., was met at the train station upon his arrival and was presented the golden key, symbolic of freedom of the city of Nice, by Lt. Col. Charles L. McMackin, director of the organization.

Waters was given the use of a staff car and conducted to the luxurious Hotel Negresco, where he was assigned to a magnificent suite of rooms above the Promenade, facing the refreshing waters of the Mediterranean.

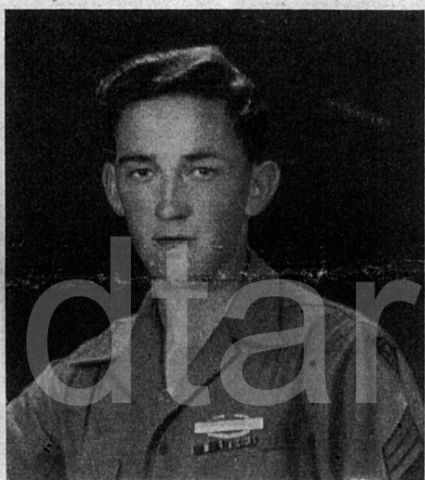
A Wac to go with it

With the city of Nice at his disposal, Sgt. Waters and his date, slim blue-eyed Wac Cpl. Carole Beck, of Minneapolis, Minn., made a tour of the swankiest night clubs in Nice with all the expenses paid.

"I had the time of my life," said the sergeant. "This is the best thing that ever happened to me since I've been in the Army, and it couldn't have happened in a better place."

"The lucky stiff" was S/Sgt. John H. Allen's comment on his buddy's good fortune. "Nothing ever happens to me."

Sgt. Waters finally made his way back to the Division, a bit disillusioned over the aspect of moving into a tent at the Grafenwohr area. "It had to end," remarked Waters. "Let's see now, there should be a 200,000th and another Wac!"



S/SGT. JAMES WATERS—For Jim an official welcome.

NINE MEN LEAVE TO TAKE COLLEGE COURSES IN FRANCE

Nine enlisted men of the 83rd Div. left this week for Dijon and Besancon Universities in France under the Army Educational Program. The 329th Infantry sent six men to Besancon, France. Pvt. Brian B. Christman will study Physics and Chemistry; T/Sgt. James F. Veale is enrolled for French Geography; T/5 Irving Malkin will take a course in French Literature; Botany is Pfc. Harold Freeman's choice; Pfc. Eli Golan studies Modern French History; and Art Appreciation will occupy the time of Cpl. Joseph E. Flowers.

Pfcs. Alfred C. White and Charles G. Skinner, of the 330th Infantry, are on detached service to attend a course in French Language and Civilization at Dijon University.

Cpl. Harry H. Woodward of the 308th Medics, was a last-minute entrant for the course in French Language and Civilization offered at Dijon, France.

According to directives which apply to Category II units, these men will complete their courses and return to their respective units before the 83rd leaves the ETO.

New York — Dale Belmont, the sweater girl to end all sweater girls, has busted out in a new lawsuit. Dale, a night club singer, last winter sued a publishing firm for using her picture to advertise a book called "The Complete Guide to Bust Culture," now is suing a Hollywood producer for \$50,000. She's disappointed because the producer, after signing for a picture, decided he could do without her ample charms.

"Mail Call"

According to all statistics, personal interviews, and whatever else the Gallup Poll indulges in, the three men in the 331st Regiment with the highest morale should be Pfc. Robert Roske, Pfc. William M. Coker, and Lt. Fred Taylor. The statistics show that the three men concerned happen to receive the most mail in the regiment.

Roske, from Rhode Island and Co. L, who hit the 3rd B'n. mail bag harder than any other corresponding individual, gets on the average of 40 letters a week. Holding the title for the 2nd B'n. and entering the ring from Co. H, Bill Coker, a Georgia boy, receives between 35 and 40 letters a week not including papers and packages. Holding up the letter end for the 1st B'n., Taylor draws from 35 to 40 letters every seven days.

Charlotte, N. C. — A man who tried to sell the local chief of police a bottle of liquor, while the chief was sitting in his car in plainclothes, got 60 days.

Chicago — Money ain't what it used to be. Two gunmen entered the Zenith Cafe, barged past the cashier, made for the kitchen and stole 60 pounds of pork tenderloin and a ham.

PATTON-IRWIN PRAISE 83rd

INSPECTION ARMS! IT'S A PLEASURE



A PRETTY PIECE, EH PATTY!—Pretty Patty Thomas inspects Pfc. Alfred Nathan's "45". From left to right are: T/5 Clarkson Braun, Division Special Service; Miss Ruth Denas, pianist; Pfc. Alfred E. Nathan, Hq. MP; Miss Patty Thomas; Sgt. Thomas P. Dailey, Hq. MP; and Miss Jean Bruner, vocalist.

Commend Gen. Macon and Men Of Div. for Superior Performance

Letters commending Maj. Gen. Robert C. Macon and the men of the 83rd Div. for superior performance in tactical instruction and soldierly appearance have been received by Gen. Macon from Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., Commanding General of the 3rd Army, and Maj. Gen. S. Leroy Irwin, Commanding General of the VII Corps.

These commendations followed the visit of Generals Patton and Irwin and a group of high-ranking Army officers to the 83rd Div. last July 30th. Gen. Patton's letter said, in part, "Please accept for yourself and express to the men of your division, my sincere admiration for the soldierly appearance, deportment, and bearing; also for the high state of vehicular maintenance and the excellent tactical instruction. You and your officers and men are hereby highly commended."

Gen. Irwin's letter to Gen. Macon stated that it was with "great satisfaction that I endorse General Patton's letter of commendation to you. My own impression of your standards of discipline and training can be expressed only in the highest terms. Let me add my own appreciation and admiration for your magnificent showing upon the occasion of the Army Commander's visit."

In an announcement to the officers and men of his 83rd Div. who represented the division in any phases of Gen. Patton's inspection, Gen. Macon expressed his thanks for the division as a whole. Gen. Macon said, "The superior performance of all who participated has contributed greatly to the outstanding reputation of the division and entirely justifies the commendation of the Army and Corps Commanders. I believe that the smartness, discipline and spirit shown by those who participated is a true index of the excellent state of training throughout the division. This high standard has been achieved only through hard work and devotion to duty by ALL members of the division and can be maintained only by a continuation of such efforts."

Those units of the division that participated in the inspection included troops from the 329th, 330th, and 331st Inf. Regiments, the Division Band, 323rd Field Artillery, 83rd Cavalry Recon. Troop, Companies K and M of the 331st Inf. staged a training problem which was commended by Gen. Patton to Col. Robert H. York, Commanding Officer of the 331st, as being

(Continued on page 5)

USO Troupe Shows Twice In Spite of "Bad Breaks"

Despite handicaps, a U.S.O. troupe with Bob Hope, Jerry Colonna, Patty Thomas, Gale Robbins, Jack Pepper, Ruth Denas, Jean Bruner, and Roger Price, presented two performances last Monday in the Arena at Passau to a near-capacity crowd of some eighteen thousand 83rd and 102nd Division soldiers. The show was booked through the 102nd Division Special Service Office.

Ill-luck preceded the troupe when, one day before the show was to appear, a low-flying P-47 "Thunderbolt" cut the power lines servicing the Arena. Commented Hope, "That joker must have been one of Crosby's relatives." A portable generator was set up to serve as an emergency source of power.

On the day of the show, the cast was scheduled to reach Pocking Air Field before noon. The C-47 pilot, upon observing the field, decided not to risk a landing with a loaded plane, so flew to Regensburg. From there, Piper Cubs brought the rest to Pocking Field, but could not transport the 2nd Cavalry band in time for the afternoon show. The troupe was driven to Passau, and in spite of all set backs, began the show only fifteen minutes behind schedule.

To open the performance, Hope cracked jokes into a "dead mike." He could be heard in only the front half of the Arena. Hope blamed the faulty public address system on a shortage of technicians. "It's that man-power shortage again. No one's to blame, but it sure ruins a show when 40% of the audience can't hear."

Just An "Old-Fashioned" Girl

Following Hope, each member of the cast presented a specialty act. Miss Patty Thomas, an "old-fashioned girl" (quoting Miss Thomas), gave with some intricate tap-dancing routines. A veteran of South Pacific and Alaskan tours, Patty remarked about her stop in Paris. "The French night-club entertainers are too scantily clothed. Yes, I'm an old-fashioned girl."

Miss Gale Robbins, actress and songstress, sang a low and sweet "Embrace" (Continued on page 5)

AFN Broadcast Highlights Div. Combat Record

"AFN-Munich", the American Forces Network station, last Sunday afternoon aired a thrilling story of the Thunderbolt Division's epic making campaign from Normandy to the Elbe bridgehead. The program of thirty minutes duration presented a word picture of the efforts of 83rd men in accomplishing such operations as the reduction of the Citadel of St. Malo, the bitter Ardennes campaign, and the rampant march through Germany to the Elbe.

The program was one of the first transmitted over AFN's improved frequency setup, designed to improve daytime reception in the Central European theatre.

The material for the program was prepared by the Information and Education Office of the 83rd Division

Tankers Win Passes On Their Own "Information Please"

Using an "Information, Please" type of discussion men of Co. B, 803rd Tank Destroyer Battalion conduct an hour-long program every two weeks to discuss orientation subjects. Four men are selected as contestants for the question and answer program covering important points in previous one-hour talks that have taken place during the preceding week and a half. Each man is asked an even number of questions, and at the end of the quiz the man with the highest score wins a pass to Paris or to the Riviera. The men selected as contestants are those who have not yet been to either of the two places. Winner of the first quiz was Sgt. Alfred C. Kulp. The program was originated by T/5 Joe B. Roberts. Capt. John R. Gambis is Company Public Relations officer and Sgt. Willoby F. Laycock is N.C.C. in charge of Company Public Relations.

Los Angeles. — Mrs. Rebecca Jo Avalos, 22, has been married 5 times in 5 years, she admitted to a judge, but she isn't sure how many times it was legal. Her 3d annulment wasn't valid, for instance, because Hubby 3 never showed up in court. Marriage No. 3 wasn't legal, either, it turned out, because it was performed before annulment No. 2 became valid. The only thing she was sure about, in fact, was Marriage No. 5. "Oh, how I love that man!" said she.

83rd HAS THIRD BIRTHDAY NEXT WED., AUG. 15

The third anniversary of the reactivation of the 83rd Inf. Div. will be marked next Wednesday, Aug. 15, with a division-wide celebration during the afternoon and evening. Included in the program for the day will be talks by unit commanders on the history of the 83rd, with emphasis on the Division's extensive training in the States and England prior to taking part in the war against Germany; a summary of the 83rd's combat record, and its present role as a temporary occupational unit awaiting shipment to the States and the Pacific theater of war. A special evening meal will be served in all units and during the afternoon and evening entertainment has been planned.

At Division Headquarters in Vilsbiburg the Sportplatz will be the scene of a variety of entertainment including Joe Stey's circus; the variety show, Artists and Models; App's Lucky Buck carnival; and the Red Cross Clubmobile.

The 329th Inf. will be engaged in maneuvers at Grafenwohr, as are Division Artillery, the 308th Engineers, one company of the 308th medics, and a company of the 330th Inf. Special Service with those unit shas planned movies and possibly a show by Chandu, "a mystic and magician extraordinary."

The 330th Inf. has selected the afternoon to dedicate a Memorial Arena at Freyung in memory of the men of the (Continued on page 5)

Hume And Hill Seek 3rd Army Tennis Crown

With the postponement of the finals in the 3rd Army Doubles Championships, T/4 Donald Hume, 83rd Division, and partner, Lt. Stacey L. Hill, 136 Q.M.Tkng Co., representing XII Corps, are waiting for a crack at 1st Sgt. Frank Voigt and Pfc. Henry Salauni, XX Corps contenders, when the matches resume this week at Soldiers Field, Nuremburg.

After winning three rounds in the Singles Matches, Hume was defeated in the semi-finals on the second day of a three day tournament at Furth by T/4 M. L. Shane of XV Corps, 6-2, and 9-7.

No Respect For Rank

Doubling up with Lt. Hill, whom he had beaten in the Corps Singles Championships at Regensburg two weeks ago, Don Hume and his ex-Dartmouth Tennis team Capt., took on the II Corps Champs, Dehart and Morgan, beating them in two straight sets, 7-5 and 6-3. Then Manning and Slessinger, from XV Corps, became victims of the Hill-Hume combination with a quick 6-3, 6-4 pounding. Showing no respect to rank, but doing it the hard way, the XII Corps Netmen continued their streak against Major Leon Miller and M/Sgt. Morton Beach, of XXII Corps, by taking the semi-finals 6-2, 4-6, 6-2.

In the solo field, Hume looked like he was on his way to another racquet wreath when he completed the quarter-finals. In the first round he took the XXII Corps T/4 John Woods 6-0, 8-6, then defeated Major C. H. Sheely, from II Corps, 6-4, 6-4. Continuing to tarnish the "Brass", Hume knocked Capt. L. M. Dmorkin, of 3rd Army, out of the running by shellacking him 6-2, and 6-1.

It was at this point that T/4 met T/4, and Shane, Michigan, Amateur Champion of 1940 was the less tired of the two. Hume dropped the first set 6 to 2, but fought, and slammed, and punched, and prayed until Shane battled the match, set, point over the net in the 16th game of the set winning it 9 to 7.

83rd's Medic, Cpl. Harry Woodward, representing the XII Corps was defeated in his first round of the Singles by Lt. J. G. Wynn, 3rd Army 6-3, 7-5. Woodward played good tennis, but Wynn's competition was just too much for him.

Cleveland — The meanest blind man in Cleveland is Willie Johnson, 43, who slugged and robbed a 79-year-old deaf man in front of a local saloon. Johnson, who has been blind since birth, was caught by police as he tried to make a getaway.

XII CORPS WINS ARMY MEET; FOUR BOLT MEN TAKE HONORS

Four 83rd men, Sgt. James Martens, T/5 Kenneth Delaney, Pfc. Arthur W. Parry, and Pfc. Fred Weaver, on the Army Champion, XII Corps Team, are representing the 3rd Army in the USFET Track and Field Meet this week in Nuremburg.

Although the XII Corps was crowned winner of the 3rd Army Meet, there were no champions among the Thunderbolt Contestants. Martens, by virtue of placing 4th in the 800 Meter Run, was considered for a berth on the Army team when it was decided that the first five men in the event would be kept. His team mate, Pfc. David Wheeler, took a 6th in that run, having been beaten out of 5th place by an ex-83rder, Lt. James Fish, one-time Division Athletic Officer, and now with the 99th Div.

In the High-Jump Fred Weaver, Div. and Corps Champ, who has jumped as high as 6', 4" at Vilshofen, but who was suffering with an infected foot at Nuremburg, failed to get above 5 feet 6, and despite the fact that there was a triple tie for first, at only 5 feet 10 inches, and a quintuple draw for fifth, Weaver was not among the point scorers. In the rule book put out by ETOUSA, the winner was picked according to the amount of jumps he made before clearing the bar, and by

Green Rolls On To USFET 'Shoe Finals

Buckshots Knock Pill Rollers Out Of First Place

By JOHN R. BOWNE, Staff Writer

Playing under excellent weather conditions, and on their home ground, the 329th Inf. trounced the 308th Medical Battalion with a score of 14 to 3 last Sunday afternoon.

Wilson, the "Doughs" twirler, tossing superb ball allowed the "Pill Rollers" only seven scattered hits while Pociask and Foertschbeck, moundsmen for the Medics, showed no control over the sphere, allowing 21 hits collectively.

The Medics made a feeble attempt at a comeback in the sixth frame, but after a single and a double by Murphy and Dunlop the bid was squelched.

Champion led the winners in hitting, rapping out five safeties for five appearances at the plate; while Zuber and Libratore placed and showed with four and three respectively. Murphy and Pociask shared top billing for the "Docs" with two bingles each.

Wilson Wields Big Stick

Besides exercising great pitching form, Wilson helped the cause by batting in three runs, assisted by Douglas, Aleman and Zuber who were responsible for six runs crossing the pay dirt. In the "Dough Boys" half of the second, Zuber polled the longest hit of the day out into deep right field just inside the foul line, a triple, scoring two of his buddies who were already occupying positions on second and third. The only outstanding feature the Medics contributed to the show were put outs on long throws by Foertschbeck and Pociask from left field robbing the 329 boys at the plate. Once in the second frame, Foertschbeck rifled the ball into Catcher Cecil who tagged the runner inches from "pay off land", and again he nipped the runner just in the nick of time on a throw from Pociask, who had yielded his port-side pitching duties to right-hander Foertschbeck, taking up the work in left field.

Today's game was sweet revenge for the "Doughs" having lost their first tilt with the Medics six to four; and by virtue of the defeat, the "Pill Rollers" are now resting one game behind the league leading "Blackboys" of the 331st.

THE BOX SCORE:		R	H	E
308th Medics	0 1 0 0 2 0 0 0	3	7	2
329th Inf.	2 5 1 0 1 0 1 4 x	14	21	2

that, the one time Michigan University Star from Divarty, was eliminated. Because of his previously excellent record, he was requested to participate in the USFET Meet.

Relays Were Close

The XII Corps Relay Teams took a close 2nd in all three events, running 3 tenths of a second behind the 800 Meter winners, 5 tenths of a second behind the 400 Meter winners, and were hot on the heels of the 1600 Meter tape-tearers. S/Sgt. Anthony Grinovitch, Pfc. John T. Ryan, Delaney, and Parry were members of the teams, and Capt. Sterling Dupree, coach of the Corps, and now the Army Team, has decided to hold the last two men to compete against the other Armies in the Theater.

Taking five firsts and placing in almost every other event, the XII Corps won the 3rd Army Track Meet with 146 points. II Corps was second with 140, and XX Corps was third with 103. XXII had 76; XV, 73; and Army Troops trailed with 37.

The Third Army Horse-Shoe Singles Crown was ringed by T/5 Earl N. Green of the 83rd Division, who defeated 35 other contestants in the qualifying rounds, and went on to take seven straight more from the finalists, giving another championship to the XII Corps in the huge Sports Arena at Nuremburg last week.

Green, who won the Division, Corps, and Army Tournaments, will represent the 3rd Army in the USFET Meet in Nuremburg this week. The 736th Tanker from Indianapolis, Indiana, is known throughout the State, having taken the Rodius Park Championship in 1941 before entering the army.

Godfrey Goes To Bat

At first, permission to enter the tournament was denied him because he failed to appear the first day for the qualifying rounds, due to a mix-up on orders. However, he was later allowed to compete on the second day when Col. Chomas B. Godfrey, head man for all XII Corps Athletes, refused to let him stay for the USFET Meets unless he could represent the Corps in the Army Events.

Pitching 100 shoes for a score of 160 points out of a possible 300, Green qualified as second highest out of the 37 contestants.

In the finals he defeated Pfc. Harvey Brown, of XX Corps, 50 to 45. Pfc. Harvey Johnson, of XXII Corps, 50 to 41; Sgt. Morris Wold, XXII Corps, 50 to 46; Pfc. James Garrison, XXII Corps, 50 to 31; Pvt. Loniel Ferrand, XX Corps, 50 to 24; S/Sgt. Samuel Douglas, XX Corps, 50 to 19; and Pfc. Robert Braden, XX Corps, 50 to 26.

It was too late to enter the doubles tournament when he arrived, but Green will represent the 3rd Army in both singles and doubles in the USFET Meet.

Sports Arena Will Host Gloves Champs On August 24th

Fists will fly and arms will flail at the Division Boxing Matches to be held in the Sports Arena in Passau on Friday, August 24 when each regiment and special unit sends the best man in each weight class to compete for Thunderbolt titles.

Last week the 330th held their try-outs up in Freyung, and this week, the Buckshotmen of the third and second Battalions battled it out for Regimental Honors in Plattling.

2nd B'n Takes 329 Crown

Although chilled off by bad weather the two Battalions' boxing candidates went to work on each other before a fairly large crowd of GIs and Civilians.

In the lightweight class Pfc. Daniel F. Butters, Co. I, 3rd Bn, fell to the slugging of Pfc. Norman Papineau in three minute — and-a-half rounds. It was a close fight all the way, but the judges gave Papineau the nod.

Company E's Pfc. William Putnam, battling for the Junior Welterweight title against K Company's T/4 Jack Lavendusky took three straight rounds and the match.

LEAGUE STANDINGS

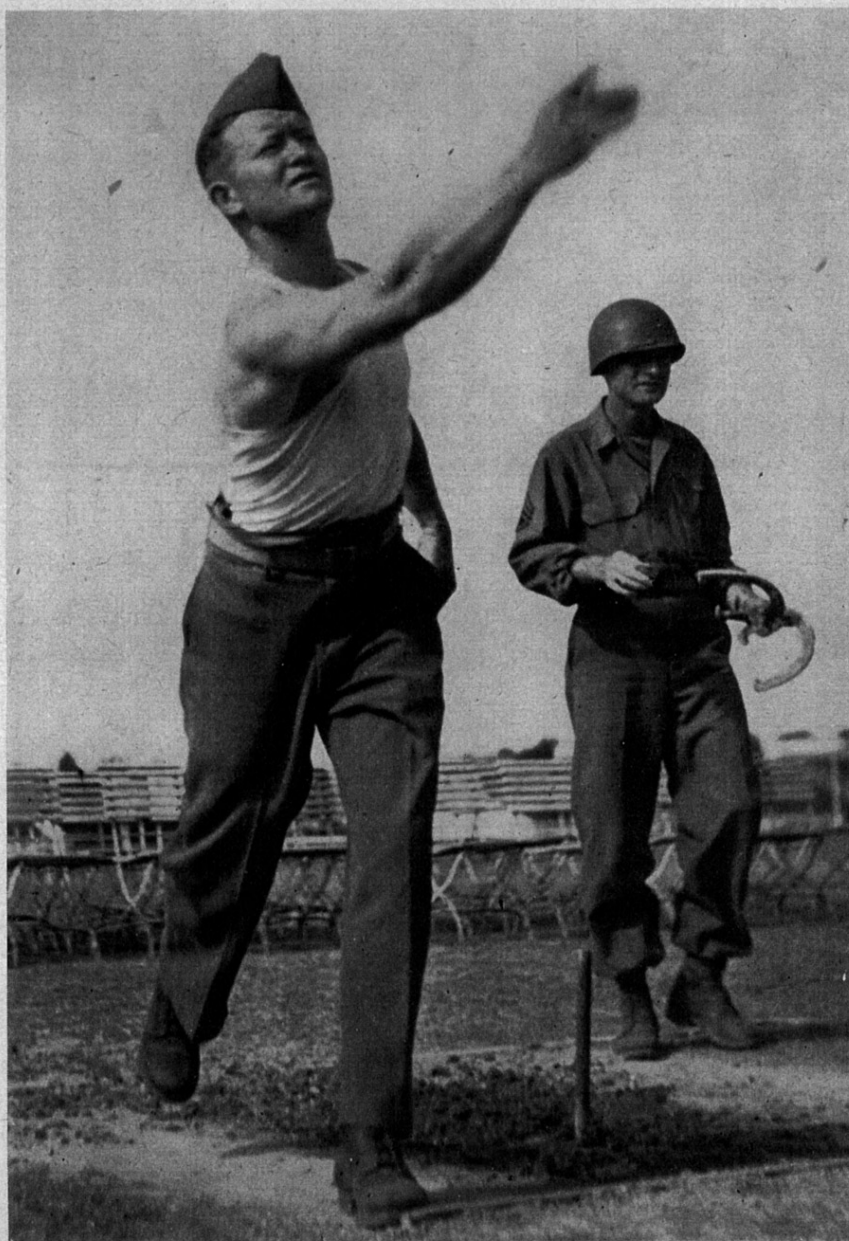
THUNDERBOLT LEAGUE

TEAM	WON	LOST	PCCT	G.B.
331st "Blackboys"	7	1	.875	—
308th "Pill Rollers"	5	2	.715	1 1/2
330th "Bolts"	4	5	.444	3 1/2
329th "Buckshots"	3	5	.375	4

Games Scheduled

Sunday	308th "Pill Rollers"	at	331st
Wednesday	329th "Buckshots"	at	308th
	330th "Bolts"	at	331st
Saturday	331st "Blackboys"	at	329th

Green, But Not In Horseshoes



HORSESHOE CHAMP — T/5 Earl Green, 736th Tank B'n, tosses another ringer as one of his opponents stands amazed with his accuracy. Green defeated 35 contestants to take the 3rd Army Crown at Nurnberg last week.

IN THE



BULL PEN



with Bob La Vine

SHOWER ROOM VICTORY

The 3rd Army Track Meet was probably the first Meet in the ETO ever to be won in a shower room. There were no high-jump bars or hurdles set up, nor were there any jumping-pits, just a lot men with different opinions, score-cards, rule books, and Articles of War.

When the last man in the 1600 Meter Relay crossed the finish-line, marking the end of the meet, the crowd emptied the stands and ran out onto the field. The score-board was covered up, and it was impossible to tell who had won the meet until a loud whooping broke out among the 101st Airborne boys who comprised most of the II Corps team, for they had been scored as winning the crown with 144 points against XII Corps' 132.

While they were celebrating, a chill wind blew across their warm hearts in the form of a score-keeper who said, "What are you guys cheering about? You lost!" Then pandemonium really broke loose. As usual everyone was yelling at the same time, and each man thought that the louder he talked, the better his argument was. In that respect, there were many excellent points brought forth.

Col. Godfrey of XII Corps, who looks after his athletes with the jealous eye of a Mother hen, protested the II Corps "victory" from the beginning. A II Corps Major was heard to complain that "There's too much rank being thrown around here." It was at this that Col. Godfrey stepped out, and introduced his co-worker, Maj. McClung. From then on ranks were equal, but the Bill of Rights stopped there, for Maj. McClung not only had the figures to prove his story, but threw them so fast at the judges that the II Corps Officer didn't know whether it was day-time or August.

Then came the sojourn to the shower-room, where only the brass remained while the crowd and Press paced the floor like expectant fathers.

In a way the squabble was a good sign. It showed the spirit of competition that is necessary to keep alive the GI Athletic Program.

The Tennis Matches were re-routed over to Furth, about a couple miles outside of Nuremburg. A Compass and Map wouldn't have helped you find them, because they were hidden behind the APO there, and for some reason, only a selected few were let in on the deep, dark secret of the location.

This isn't being written to give the impression that the affair was poorly handled. On the contrary, Col. Ayres, Maj. Smith, Capt. Sharpe, and the other men from the 3rd Army Athletic Office did all they could for the boys. The Army PRO men at the Stadium really had a voluminous task, compiling the back-ground and data on each entry. They presented every reporter there with mimeographed sheets, showing the man's name, Corps, Unit, qualifying time, and previous record. As one reporter said to Lt. Strotz, Sgt. Doyle, Sgt. Lieberman, and Pfc. Tsenock, the PRO men, "You goofed-off one thing. You forgot to put on which foot the guy has a corn."

DIVARTY OPENS MANEUVERS

FIRST TROOPS FIND AREA BOMB-TORN

By S/Sgt. Jim Mellman
Div. Arty. Correspondent

The Grafenwohr maneuver area, where the 83rd Division will take training in preparation for its role in the Pacific theater of war, is composed of three camps: the west camp, the south camp, and the Grafenwohr camp. It is the south camp that is being occupied by 83rd Division troops. When the area was used for training purposes by the Germans the range housed 30,000 troops. But after an Allied bombing attack there were very few buildings left standing. The buildings that do remain are used by the 90th Infantry Division and by the 8th Armored Group.

Airport Available

The area used by the 83rd is distinguished by a large airport in the center. Division Artillery has three bivouac areas established at present and two battalion areas are located near one end of the airfield. Divarty Headquarters are located on one end of the field, an area shared by the 329th Infantry. The 330th and 331st Regiments have an area reserved near the 308th Medical Battalion, and another near one of the artillery areas.

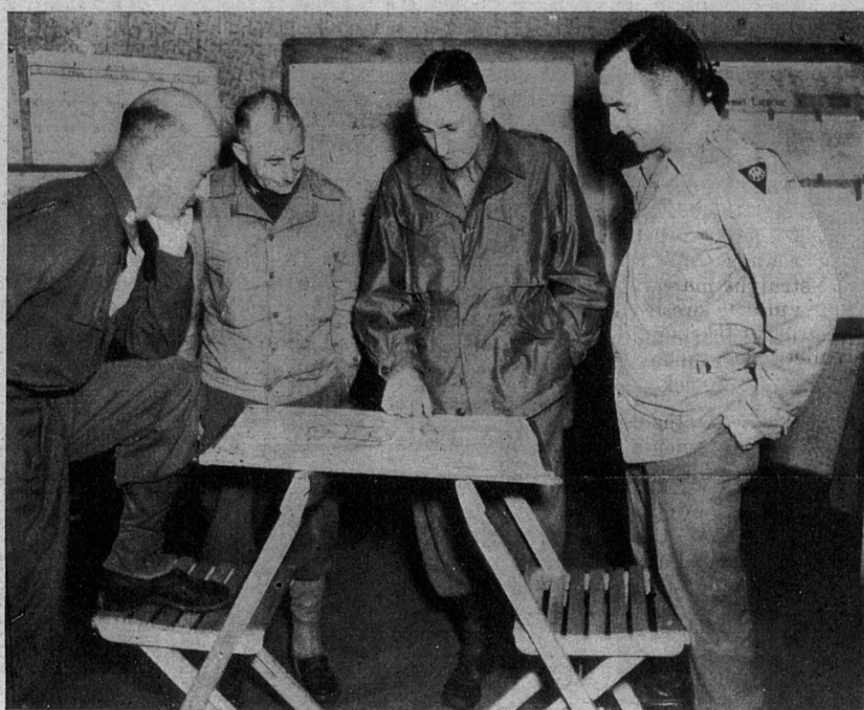
When the artillery arrived at the camp they found large Luftwaffe squad tents with a capacity of 16 men set up for them by PWs working under the orders of the 308th Engineers. There was nothing in the area, however, except the tents and some sump holes and latrine pits. While the howitzers were being unhooked and the bedrolls unloaded, some trucks drove up loaded with mess tents and some box latrines.

Sanitation Stressed

Those units having commercial power lines running through or near their areas can tap in on the 220 volt circuits to get their power. The others will have to use portable generators.

Sanitary regulations are quite stringent. An officer must be present at every meal to see that all men handling food are clean, all mess-kits washed properly, and to check on the quality of the food.

Each unit draws its own gas from an Army truck-head located about



TACTICS — Are being discussed at the advance CP, Grafenwohr Training Area. Col. Foster, 330th Regimental Commander discusses a problem with Col. Edwin Crabill, Assistant Division Commander. From l. to r.: Lt. Col. Bowen, 329th Reg. Commander; Col. Crabill; Col. Foster; and Col. York, 331st Reg. Commander.

thirty miles away. Our own quarter-master ration dump is located in the camp, making food easily available to the units. Issues of clothing and organizational equipment are made each Wednesday at this same QM supply dump. The ordnance ammunition dump is situated in the camp also.

Showers and a mobile laundry will be available soon, but as yet there is no schedule published on their use.

Mail is picked up by each unit at the APO in Regensburg, 60 miles away. There is an APO detachment in the camp to sell money orders, stamps, and envelopes.

Underground Communications

The camp itself has a very extensive communication system, consisting of underground cables running throughout the range area. There are outlets located about every mile where phones can be plugged in, making it possible for someone to call from any outlet on the range offices. The majority of these lines are in good working condition, with comparatively few damaged by bombings.

The terrain is very good for artillery work with plenty of Observation Posts and good targets available. It's an ideal set-up for practical firing, because of the variations in terrain.

Medic Visits Lourdes Shrine And Other Famous Cities

It happens only once in three enlistments, but that was sufficient as far as S/Sgt. Samuel A. Glass, Med. Det. of the 3rd B'n, 330th Inf., goes. Glass was one of two men in the Division chosen to make the Army conduct tour of Southern France.

The tour began at Munich aboard a C-47, which took Sgt. Glass to Paris where he was joined by men from other units stationed all over Europe. They continued the tour by electric train, stopping at the famous cities of Limoges, Toulouse, and Lourdes. The Lourdes Shrine, he remembered as the scene of the movie, "Song of Bernadette". The group was conducted to places of interest in Toulouse, including the Cathedral erected in the 10th Century by an English-speaking Frenchman. At Limoges the men went through the famed Limoges China factory, built in 1840 by the American David Haviland.

Two days were spent at Lourdes, one at the shrine and in religious ser-

Okinawa. — A sign on a narrow road where Army Engineers are working here reads: "Careful — Men with over 85 points working ahead."

vices and the second touring the Pyrenees Mountains. On the return trip Sgt. Glass spent a week-end in Paris, which he recalled, "wasn't bad, either!"

Patton Commends 83rd

(Continued from page 3)

a "very good problem. The men showed dash and enthusiasm."

During General Patton's recent visit to the 83rd Division area, one unit in particular came in for praise from the 3rd Army Commander. That unit was the 83rd Division Reconnaissance Troop, Honor Escort for Gen. Patton's tour of the area. Upon alighting from his C-47 transport, the four-star general was greeted by Gen. Macon and a group of staff officers. After an exchange of courtesies, Gen. Patton inspected his Honor Escort, the Division Reconnaissance Troop. As he passed before the Troop, the General took time to ask each man with a decoration or purple Heart about the action where the award had been earned. When he had completed the personal inspection, Gen. Patton announced to the unit "Never have I had an escort with more combat veterans in its ranks, or one that made a better showing than you men."



Pvt. Restivo, 322 FA B'n, sounds "Reveille".



A "fresh-up" at sun-up.

THE "BIG TOP" RETURNS TO THRILL DOUGHS

Remember the thrills and chills of the "Big Top", the roll of drums which announced to awed spectators that a "Human Cannon Ball" was about to be launched through space? Didn't the daredevil aerialists look small and frail so far above the earth?

Circus days are not gone forever for men of the 83rd, because Joe Stey's Circus is touring the division with ten top-notch performers to thrill watchers by their acrobatic, tumbling, and high-wire feats. The Hungarian Circus, booked by Division Special Service, has appeared at the Arena in Passau, for the 330th Infantry at Freyung, and will continue around the division area for an indefinite length of time.

From eye-witness comments, the show is centered around the abilities of two twelve-year-old boys, veterans of extensive European tours. They perform on a ladder suspended by a single cable high above the ground. Exhibiting balance and timing, the lads work their way to the ends of the ladder, where one does a series of acrobatic tricks while keeping the ladder balanced.

Several high-wire acts take place on a wire stretched between two poles at a height of eighty feet above the ground, with a safety net spread far below to prevent accidents. Over this high-wire, Joe Stey rides a motorcycle while carrying one of the boys on his shoulders.

The two-hour show is complete with clown for laughs, and according to observers is, "full of suspense and thrilling entertainment."

Activation Day

(Continued from page 3)

regiment who gave their lives for their country. The dedication will be followed by a boxing show in the afternoon, a banquet in the evening, and a dance at night. Sports will keynote the celebration in the 331st Inf., with entertainment during the late afternoon and evening.

The 308th Med. Bn. at Osterhofen Lt. will hear their Commanding officer, Col. Higdon, recount the history of the 83rd. In the evening there will be a dance for the enlisted men, with music by a 15-piece Hungarian band. Plans were also being made for an officers dance to be held starting at 8 p.m.

83rd Band Plays Rodger Young Infantry Ballad

When the 83rd Division Band presented a popular concert at the Vils-hofen Sportsplatz last Tuesday evening to a mixed audience of soldiers. For the better part of an hour, the band held way with a collection of favorite marches, hit tunes, and novelty arrangements.

Among other marches, the concert band played Rodger Young, tribute to the Infantry. Bandleader Z. P. King introduced the march as, "The march written to tell the story of an infantryman, Rodger Young, who fought in the Solomon Islands, and was awarded a posthumous Congressional Medal of Honor."

The high-light of the main program was a descriptive piece by Morton Gould Cowboy Rhapsody. The piece contained several well-known Western songs arranged in a very novel manner.

At the close of the main part of the concert, a fifteen minute intermission was announced, after which the 83rd Riflemen took the stage for a session of jump and jive; closing their program with the National Anthem.

The Sportsplatz stage, built under the direction of Cpl. Appleton of Hq. Co., featured two 25 foot "Esquire" figures.

USO Show

(Continued from page 3)

ceable You". The first thing Miss Robbins asked, when she reached the theater, was, "How's the loot?" Upon being assured that some was available, she said, "We haven't had time to get any souvenirs. At one stop, a fellow came running up from one direction with a sword in his hand as I flew past him going the other way." Gale's hope for the future is that she may be sent to the South Pacific. Reason: Her husband, Capt. Robert Olson, is an Air Corps Maintenance Officer on the island of Tinian.

Mr. Jerome Colonna, the man behind the moustache, played a very passable trombone solo during one of the times he wasn't exchanging quips with Bob "Passau" Hope. During a serious moment, Jerry muttered about "crazy" Nazis in general, with specific reference to their "living-room" plea. "What did they want? Why, during my travels around Southern Germany, I've seen enough farm land to feed the World."

Bob Hope Meets Old Friends

SANDY, MILT KNEW BOB ON STAGE CIRCUIT

When Bob Hope, Jerry Colonna, and Jack Pepper played for 83rd Division men, they met two old friends in the persons of "Sandy" McPherson and Milton Charleston. Both Charleston and McPherson are in the Entertainment Section of Division Special Service, and had played with Hope in the States.

Sandy Met Bob In Detroit

"Sandy" McPherson is an old vaudeville man of 29 years standing. That doesn't make him an ancient, because he began in show business at the age of seven, placing his present age at 36 years. Sandy played the bag-pipes, danced the Highland Fling, and sang Scotch, Irish, and American songs all over the States, but particularly toured East Coast theaters. "Pepsodent" Bob and Pepper met Sandy when they were playing the Temple Theater in Detroit. Their show was produced by Gus Edwards, the same man who discovered Eddie Cantor, Al Jolson, and Ray Bolger.

Since 1942, the witty Scot has been strutting his stuff for 83rd men through GI productions. When Bob Hope played Camp Atterbury, the Scotchman exchanged quips on-stage with the Pepsodent Man. Maj. Gen. Frank Mil-



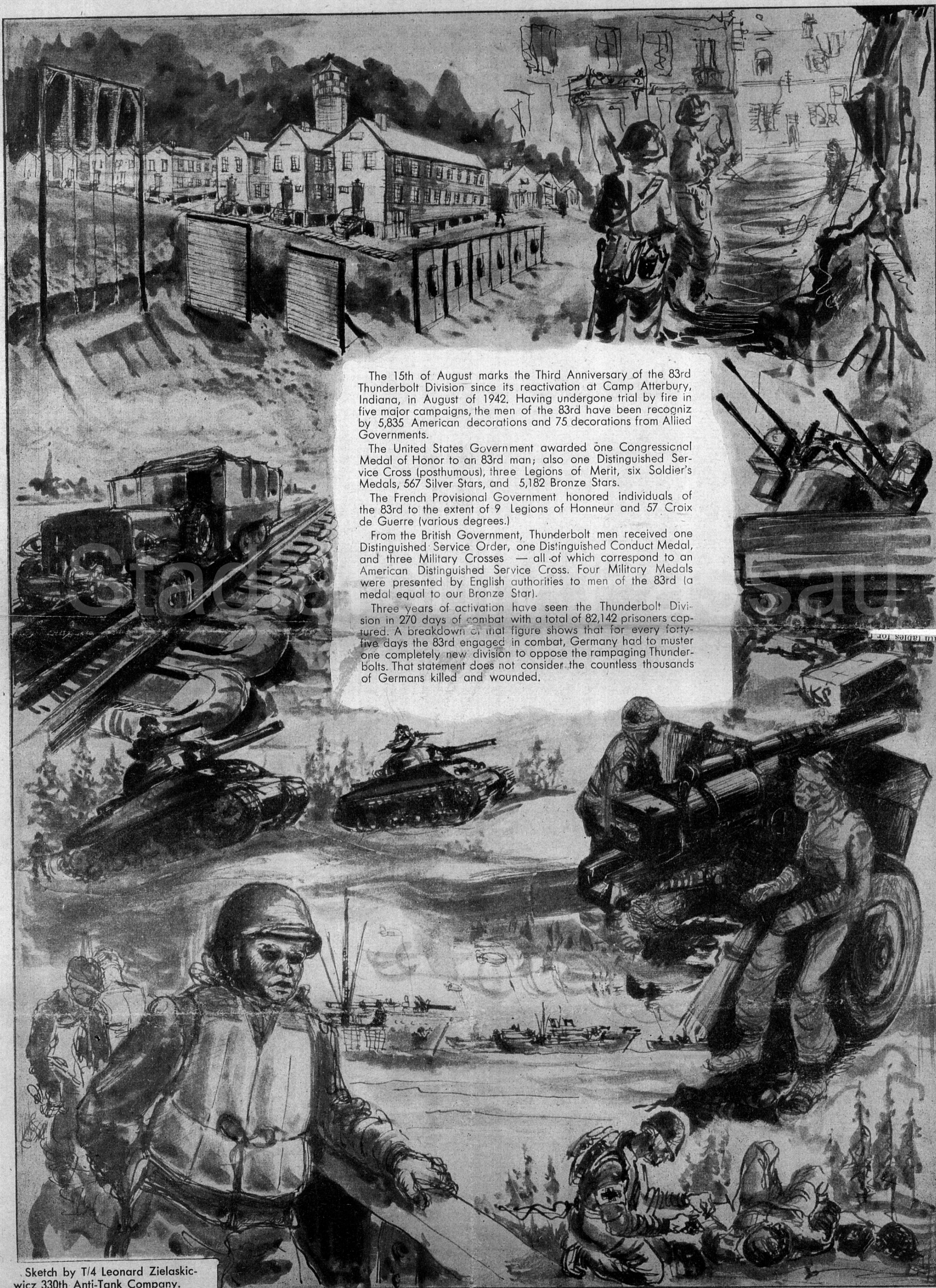
THREE OF A KIND—"Sandy" McPherson, left, talks over old times with Bob Hope, as Milt Charleston, right, glances toward the camera. The three comedians played together some years ago in vaudeville.

burn, one-time Commanding General of the 83rd Division, commended Sandy for his work in providing entertainment at Camp Atterbury.

Milton Charleston started vaudeville with Ken Murray in 1929, and for 12 years presented a featured "knock-about" comedy act. During those years, Milton played with Hope, Colonna, and Pepper at various times. One week before Pearl Harbor, Milt opened in an Olsen and Johnson show, Sons O' Fun, at the Winter Garden in New York. The show ran for eighteen months, at which time Milt received greetings from his friends and neighbors.

During Hope's visit to the Thunderbolt Division, Milt guided Bob around the Oberhaus EM Rest Center. At the end of the tour, Bob observed that the Oberhaus, "is the best break enlisted men have had in a long time." They also spoke of a radio show audition for Charleston upon his return to civilian life.

Both Sandy and Milt are starred in the 83rd's GI show, Foxhole Follies, a production that has undergone four revisions and is still going strong. The Bronze Star has been awarded both men for their meritorious service in the entertainment field.



The 15th of August marks the Third Anniversary of the 83rd Thunderbolt Division since its reactivation at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, in August of 1942. Having undergone trial by fire in five major campaigns, the men of the 83rd have been recognized by 5,835 American decorations and 75 decorations from Allied Governments.

The United States Government awarded one Congressional Medal of Honor to an 83rd man; also one Distinguished Service Cross (posthumous), three Legions of Merit, six Soldier's Medals, 567 Silver Stars, and 5,182 Bronze Stars.

The French Provisional Government honored individuals of the 83rd to the extent of 9 Legions of Honneur and 57 Croix de Guerre (various degrees.)

From the British Government, Thunderbolt men received one Distinguished Service Order, one Distinguished Conduct Medal, and three Military Crosses — all of which correspond to an American Distinguished Service Cross. Four Military Medals were presented by English authorities to men of the 83rd (a medal equal to our Bronze Star).

Three years of activation have seen the Thunderbolt Division in 270 days of combat with a total of 82,142 prisoners captured. A breakdown of that figure shows that for every forty-five days the 83rd engaged in combat, Germany had to muster one completely new division to oppose the rampaging Thunderbolts. That statement does not consider the countless thousands of Germans killed and wounded.