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November, 29, 1944

Somewhere in Luxemburg

83rd OPENS NEW REST CENTER
COMPLETE WITH SHOWERS,
COTS, BEER, BAND, AND WOMEN

GILBERT

by Cpl. N. S. Firfires

THE WAR IN BRIEF

Hitler's legions were shaking in their ercast pants this week as the inevitable doom of Germany came closer with the spectacular drive of the French First Army and elements of the American Seventh Army which joined with the French.

This drive, despite very bad weather, steam-rollered through the Belfort Gap, reached the banks of the Rhine River in Southern Germany and the Yanks and French liberated many important towns and communication centers, including Belfort, Mulhouse and Strasbourg.

Further north, the men of General Patton's Third Army had liberated the almost impregnable fortress of Metz and had pushed on even farther to the upper reaches of the Saar River in Germany. Patton's men were now battling on the Siegfried Line and the approaches to the industrially important Saar Basin.

On the extreme Northern sector of the Western Front, the British Second Army and the American First and Ninth Armies continued to grind out slow gains in Holland.

Last week's opening of the 83rd Division's own rest center, complete with plenty of beer, women and song, offered heartening news to the combat GIs of this Division.

Ticket of admission is the Combat Infantry Badge and 83rd patch and other features of the Rest Center are rooms with cots, 50 hot showers, a day room and excellent food prepared by civilian chefs.

Located in a little town in Luxemburg, the Rest Center handles 200 men for a 48 hour stay and already men from all three Infantry Regiments have spent their two day pass at the Rest Center, some renting, some having the time of their Luxemburg lives.

Chow is served in the "Balinese Room" or dining room, and plates, silverware and twenty pretty waitresses make eating enjoyable. Beer is always available at the bar, known as "Charley's Pump Room", and for ordinary writing, reading and listening to the radio, the "Flame Room", or day-room, is available. The mail censors report, incidentally, a terrific volume of letters.

Three attractive Red Cross girls, Hazel "Pete" Goff and Mildred Cox of Vicksburg, Miss., and Gertrude Bunce of Berlin, Conn., are in continuous presence during the evenings and give out coffee, doughnuts and "stardust" to the men. A four piece band, consisting of Pfc. Robert Holmes of Detroit, Mich., pianist, Pfc. Charles Kustur of Houston, Texas, on the clarinet, Pvt. Anthony Battani, of Chicago, Ill., who handles an accordion, and Sgt. Charles Stutz, of New York City, a guitarist, provide continuous music during meal hours and for afternoon and evening dances.

(Cont. on page 2)

GIs of the 83rd Ordnance Company sat down to Thanksgiving dinner last week thoroughly unperturbed about the fact that not a single one of them was at his proper place of duty, not even walking post or standing by their 50 calibre machine guns on air alert. The sergeant pulling CQ that day blissfully gnawed away at a turkey leg with navy a thought in his head except, perhaps, another turkey leg.

The reason for all this lack of concern was due to just one thing, the officers of the 783rd had taken over the company lock, stock and barrel. The officers had decided, as a mark of appreciation and tribute to their men, that every man in the company should sit down with his buddies and enjoy the best turkey dinner possible. This could be done only if the officers themselves relieved the GIs walking post and manning the AA guns. And this they did much to the surprise and pleasure of all the men in the company.

Disclose 774th
Tankers Fighting
Along With 83rd

Disclosure that the 774th Tank Battalion is now fighting along with the 83rd Infantry Division "somewhere in Luxembourg" was made this week.

The tankers of the 774th have assisted the 83rd in the capture of Grevenmacher, Echternach, Wormeldange and other towns in Luxemburg, especially along the Moselle River sector. This same tank battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. N. K. Markle, Jr., has assisted the 83rd's Field Artillery by furnishing indirect fire on targets of opportunity, pill boxes, enemy observation posts, railroads and other similar targets.

This outfit was attached to the 83rd in August and joined the infantry in pushing back the Loire River. During this operation, the tankers assisted the 83rd in the capture of Belfort Hemminger Elster and 20,000 Nazis at Beaumennes, France.

FORT WASHINGTON

O's Pound Beat
While GIs Eat
Holiday Meat

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(Cont. on page 2)
A New Partner... 774th Fights Along With 83rd

There he goes — the most important guy in the Army. Who is he? Eisenhower? Bradley? A silver chicken? A second looey? a sergeant maybe?

No. He’s a replacement. He’s a guy maybe just off the boat. A GI they trained for the quartermasters and overnight turned into a dough. An orphan who’s never had a home in the Army — who’s taken more chicken spit from more brass and stripes than any Joe we know.

He’s swallowed it. He’s stuck it out day after day — never knowing the score for tomorrow. He’s done what he’s been told to do — without friends, without favors — with nothing but his own pride and sense of duty to stop him.

And finally, like every doggie, he’s having his day.

He’s on his way to join his outfit. He’s marching toward Germany.

There isn’t much you say to guys like him. We’ll leave that to the ad writers.

Instead, we’d like to throw out a word or two to the veterans whose ranks they’ve come to fill.

Take care of these new boys, Joe. Tell them your name and offer them a butt and give them everything you know. Remember what some sergeant said about a replacement:

“He’s an extra round in your clip. He’s plasma in your bloodstream. He’s an earlier dating on your ticket home.”

(Reprinted From Stars And Stripes.)

The 774th Tank Battalion was organized from personnel of the 7th Armored Division in September, 1943, at Fort Benning, Ga, and has been commanded by Lt. Col. Markle since its activation. After intensive training in the States, including participation in maneuvers in Louisiana, the California Desert and Tennessee, the outfit came overseas in July, 1944.

(Cont. from page 1)

The war in brief

and Germany. In fighting reminiscent of the Normandy hedgerows, these Armies made steady gains through the forests toward Cologne and the banks of the Rhine. As on all sectors of the front, the weather was miserable and the drives were often bogged down by mud and swollen streams and rivers.

The great aerial offensive against Germany’s oil reserves continued with night and day bomber attacks by both the RAF and the AAF. And SHAEF announced that over 40,000 prisoners had been taken since the beginning of the November offensive.

The Russians continued their drives on Budapest and also broke through the German defenses in eastern Czechoslovakia. The Reds announced that all of Estonia was now liberated and that the campaigns in Yugoslavia and Albania were meeting with great success.

The commanding officer of the 324th Field Artillery Battalion is Lt Col George W. Irvine who has been with the 83rd since its activation at Camp Atterbury, Ind. Born in 1912 in Washington, D. C, Col Irvine received his early education in San Francisco and later Bremerton, Washington. In 1933 he graduated from Stanford University with an A. B. degree and a reserve officer’s commission in the field artillery.

Leads 324th . . .

Male Call by Milton Caniff, Creator of “Terry and the Pirates” How Vargan One Go With These Things?

I'M A BUNNY MAN! WHY DON'T YOU TAKE SOME OF THIS PETTY DETAIL OFF MY HANDS?

YES SIR!

MORE PETTY DETAILS... TAKE CARE OF THEM YOURSELF!  

THE CAPTAIN HAS ORDERED ME TO HANDLE ALL PETTY MATTERS. THAT'S MORE WORK FOR ME, PETTY!

THAT'S MORE WORK FOR ME, PETTY!

NOW HOW LONE HAVE YOU WORKED FOR ME, PETTY?

Signal Corps Photo  . . . Lt Col Irvine

Col Irvine served as a first lieutenant with the New York National Guard in 1940 and in 1941 entered active duty with the 186th Field Artillery. He served as firing battery executive, firing battery commander and battalion S-2 before being transferred to the 83rd Division as a cadre member. Prior to being appointed commander of the 324th, Col Irvine was Divarty S-3. In 1941, he completed a Battery Officer’s Course at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma.

His father is a Captain in the U. S. Navy, his mother, wife and child reside in San Francisco. The Colonel was recently awarded the Bronze Star.
Sugar Report
From Jennifer

Dear Charlie:

Here it is December and you still aren't home for Christmas. The normal Christmas meal should be over by then. The radio commentators say Germany is defeated now except for a little fighting to be done. What are you doing in Luxemburg that's holding you up so long? What's the matter, have they appointed me to go home? Tommy asked his chaplain for a leave during the holidays. I can't find your chaplain.

Your bosom friend, Willie,

Christmas 1944

83rd Opens New Rest Center

(Cont. from page 1)

movies are shown to the GIs each day, one at 1400 hours and one at 2000 hours. Thus, four different movies are shown to the men during these two day rest periods. Meals are served at 0800, 1300 and 1900 and attendance is not compulsory so no formations are compulsory at the rest center. The men are allowed to visit the nearby town and in the evening, girls from neighboring towns are permitted to visit the center for the evening's movies and dancing. But officers in charge of the center maintain that they are running a Rest Center, not the Folies Bergere.

All PXs situated on the Second Floor and a barber shop is planned for the center. As GI shows and USO entertainers become available to the Division, they will make appearances at the Center. Commandant of the Center is Capt. James R Garaghan, Special Services Officer for the Division.

Comments by men of the 331st who were visiting the Center last week are indicative of the men's appreciation of the place. 'Best deal I've seen in the Army'. said Pfc. James Dunkin of Clarksburg, W. Va., a riflemen in K Co., while Pvt. Milton Friedman of Los Angeles, Calif., a company aid man in the same outfit added, 'It's swell to get back here for a change.'

Alton L. Hughes

Secret Weapons?

France (CNS) "What's the latest German secret weapon?" the PW interrogator asked a 45-year-old German prisoner.

"That's us," the prisoner replied, "All men over 40."

The Wolf
by Sansone

"How do you know she's not your type?"
Ohio State Wins
Big Ten Crown;
Army, Navy Idle

Irish Whip Ga. Tech;
Indiana Tops Purdue

While the Army and Navy football teams remained idle over the weekend in preparation for their tilt next Saturday, Ohio State clinched an undefeated season by coming from behind in the last three minutes of play to defeat Michigan 18 to 14, and assumes the Big Ten title.

The Buckeyes scored early in the second quarter to earn a 6 to 0 lead, but with 22 seconds of play remaining in the first half, the Wolverines capitalized on an intercepted pass and three off tackle thrusts to tie the score and moments later take the lead when the conversion attempt sailed right between the goal posts.

In other top games of the day Notre Dame defeated a favored Georgia Tech team 21 to 0, and Indiana scored a 14 to 6 decision over Purdue.

The scores for Saturday, November 25 were as follows:

East
Darlington 18, Columbia 0.
Swiftmore 13, Ursinus 0.
Pittsburgh 14, Penn State 0.
Bucknell 6, Franklin and Marshall 0.
Brown 32, Colgate 20.
Penn 20, Cornell 0.
Mid West
Ohio State 18, Michigan 14.
Indiana 14, Purdue 6.
Nebraska 35, Kansas State 0.
Iowa Pre Flight 30, Iowa 6.

South
Notre Dame 21, Georgia Tech 0.
Duke 33, N. C.R. 0.
Virginia 6, Yale 6.
Tennessee 21, Kentucky 7.
Oklahoma A 6 M 28, Oklahoma 6.

South West
Tulsa 35, Arkansas 2.
T. C. U. 9, Rice 6.

Far West
USC 30, UCLA 13.
St. Mary's Pre Flight 37, California 6.

THE GRAND STAND

Wednesday, Nov. 29, 1944

CLASSY CHASSIS

Jerry Shell Zips Thru Clothing Of Combat Sgt.

The old phrase, "He'd give you the shirt off his back," did not apply to T/Sgt. William Rice of Indiana. While on patrol with "E" Company, 329, he was forced to crawl along a stone wall to evade his advancing enemy fire and observation. While in the progress of advancing, he felt a slight tug at his back. He looked about, saw nothing, and discarded it entirely. Later, when the patrol returned to the Company Area, he decided to wash and try to get some sleep. Removing his pack, he noticed that it was neatly cut across the inside. This must have been the tug he felt, so heaving a sigh of relief, he began to undress entirely. Next, he removed his combat jacket and saw that it too, was cleanly cut in the same manner. Now full of curiosity and doubt, he pulled off and examined his undershirt and found them to be cut as was the pack and combat jacket. One of his buddies then noticed a red mark across Rice's back, resembling a rash mark. Rice just pulled out his old rabbit's foot and exclaimed "I'm like the saying goes. I don't want to have a bunch of submarine bases... They have a whale of a football team at Camp Perry, Va., this year, coached by L/Cdr Red Strader, formerly of St Mary's. Among Stander's victims were the Washington Redskins, who fell, 33 to 27, to the Camp Perry 11 in an exhibition game.

When Wilbert Robinson was manager of the Brooklyn Dodgers, the bewildering Bums were the funniest team in the circuit—not the saddest as is the case today. It was during the colorful Robbies time that the Dodgers first earned their reputation for egregious boneyard plays. Indeed, their fans have become so prog nosticate that Robbies finally put his foot down.

"The next guy who pulls a boner," he announced one day, "will be fined ten bucks. In fact we'll form a Boners Club with a $10 membership fee and at the end of the season we'll split up the dough."

He glared around the clubhouse. The players were straight-faced, serious, subdued. Then the portly Robbie stalked majestically from the dugout and handed the empire his laundry slip—instead of the lineup.