

83rd Thunderbolt

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

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GEN. MACON RETURNS FROM TRIP TO STATES; SAYS 83rd WELL-KNOWN

From the land of non-fraternization to the United States by plane, — that was the good fortune of Major General Robert C. Macon, Division Commander, when he was recently chosen to represent the 83rd Thunderbolt Division at civic ceremonies in the Zone of the Interior. Landing in Maine after a flight from Paris, Gen. Macon was immediately sent to San Antonio, Texas, in company with other general officers who had commanded troops in action against the Germans. Along with other illustrious names such as Lt. Gen. Eaker, former commander of the Ninth USAF, Lt. Gen. Collins, in whose VII Corps the 83rd fought in Normandy, Germany and the Ardennes, Lt. Gen. Patch former commander of the Seventh U.S. Army, and Lt. Gen. Lucian K. Truscott, Jr., commander of the Fifth Army in Italy, our own commanding general was feted and honored by the citizens of San Antonio.

"I believe the entire population turned out to greet us", remarked Gen. Macon, who added that the party was paraded through the main section of the city to receive the cheers, flowers and thanks of the local Texans. Gaily decorated boats carried the twenty-one stars along the river, following which the ETO Generals attended a banquet held in their honor and attended by San Antonio's civic leaders.

The Texans knew of the 83rd Division and its successful operations in Europe, according to Gen. Macon. "I was very proud to be representing the 83rd whose exploits are well known to everyone at home", he said. Our commander also pointed out that every Thunderbolt may be sure that his people at home realize the self-denials, hardships and suffering that members of this Division have gone through in helping to win the war in Europe, adding, "Every man in the Division may well be proud of his outfit".

Following the receptions in San Antonio, Gen. Macon was granted a privilege which we all eagerly look forward to, — a visit home. In Washington, D.C., Macon visited his wife and family for the first time in more than a year. One change was noted in his hometown by the Thunderbolt Commander when he observed that the Capitol Dome and the Washington Monument were lighted once again. "They look just as good as they did before", said Macon, "and the United States has not changed much from the way we last saw it". Like any man would, Gen. Macon noted that "the girls are just as pretty as ever. People everywhere are enthusiastic", he stated, but the General admitted that the effect of rationing was still being felt at home. This did not prevent crowds from packing the downtown

Co. M Mess Is Praised As Best In The 330th Inf.

No one has said that his meals are "just like mother cooked" but S/Sgt. Robert Turner, mess sergeant in Co. M mess of the 330th Inf. recently won praise for having the best mess in the regiment. Turner modestly claims that the reason his mess hall "clicks" is because of the close cooperation of the kitchen personnel, T/4's Wallace Edwards and Loinal Riquier, who are the First Cooks, and their helpers. Sgt. Alfred Russo praised the Co. M mess for its combat operation too. A machine gun squad leader, Russo said, "No one will ever know what those hot meals meant to the fellows up on the line." went for the chow up front and that Pfc. William Porter said he really there was "nothing like a hot meal to keep you going."

A GI Will Try Anything Once

S/Sgt. Charles C. Clemens, Hq. Btry, Div. Arty, finished his round of inspection as Sergeant of the Guard at three in the morning and stopped at the door of the battery hotel to smoke a cigaret. He was standing there idly playing with the sign marked "Aid Station" when two excited women rushed up to him and began to exhale a stream of nix verstehen German.

Finally Sgt. Clemens, who doesn't understand a word of German, and so nods and "ya's" to all questions, gathered that there was some sort of trouble somewhere. The two women pushed him around to give understanding and emphasis to their meaningless words, and made him understand that someone was hurt. He grabbed a stretcher and the three of them scrambled into a jeep and sped to the house that one of the women pointed out.

When they opened the door Clemens was met by screams and crying sounding from the next room. Something was very definitely wrong here. He went in and

found a girl about to give birth to a baby.

The two women pushed him toward the bed and the three of them rolled up their sleeves. "I didn't have the slightest idea about what to do," said Clemens. He turned to one of the women to protest and she ran and got hot water. He looked at the other one and she came rushing back with blankets. Then he pointed to the lady on the bed and the two women went to work.

They wrapped the baby in blankets and handed it to Clemens. He patted it once on the head ("I tried to look as though I knew what I was doing.") and handed it back. They shook his hand and thanked the "doktor" for everything he had done.

Motor Sergeant "Doc" Clemens can be fond down in the motor pool these days listening to the purr of the engines through a stethoscope. And never again will he stand in front of the "Aid Station" sign when he feels like smoking a cigaret. It's too dangerous!

300 THRONG REST CENTER OPENING

Approximately 300 men were welcomed at the 83rd's Oberhaus Rest Center this morning as the first quota to take advantage of its scenic and recreational facilities. From today until the morning of the tenth, the men will be on their own initiative, doing what they please — when they please. On Tuesday morning trucks will arrive with another group of GIs and return the original men to their respective outfits.

The Glenn Miller band preened the rest center during their stay at Passau and found it very much to their liking.

Rumor has it that Hitler ordered the remodeling of the castle for use as his personal "rest center." Along that line, the Oberhaus has been equipped with a central thermostat control board for adjusting the temperature of each room.

GI Bosses P.W.s, Sets Record In Construction

T/4 Joseph F. McMillan, Company A, 308th Engineers, construction boss over 20 German P.W.s, in six days built a 12,000 square foot open-air theater seating 2000 people, at Deggenhof, Germany.

The Special Service Office of the 329th Infantry, recognizing a need for an auditorium large enough to seat 1500 men, hit upon a possible site near the town of Deggenhof. From then on, T/4 McMillan of Raeford, North Carolina, took over. First, he drew plans for a stage 42 feet wide by thirty feet deep, including two dressing rooms at the rear of the stage. He then planned for enough benches to seat 2000 men.

For the actual construction, 20 prisoners of war were provided. The time from the first board sawed until the project was completed was six days. In that time he not only built an open-air theater covering 12,000 square feet, he also set up footlights for evening entertainment.

Former Medic Is Out of Khaki, Into GI Dream

The beer tasted too good so Mr. Walter T. Sokolski decided that he wouldn't go to work right away as he had planned. He would put it off for a month. Also he would probably go to Brooklyn today. He had started out yesterday but he got held up by a guy who insisted that they drink 200 beers together. They only drank 190.

What this all leads up to is a letter received this week by T/5 Harry Vitoy of Co. D, 308th Medical Battalion. The letter was from his former G.I. buddy, T/Sgt. Walter Sokolski who was discharged from the Army on June 14th. His letter summarizes the dreams of most soldiers. He says, "I thought the boat would never reach the States. We left Le Harve on the 26th of May. Picked up more troops at Liverpool and finally arrived in the States on the 9th of June. We went to Camp Kilmer for one day and from there to Dix for four more days. Then that white piece of paper.

It was two days from the time of his discharge until he saw his girl. Then, "She helped me shop for my new clothes. We went out in the country and spent all day just loafing. In between I drank beer." The following day they went to a movie.

He closes his letter with a cheery note. "I hope you don't get this letter. That you'll be en route to the States!"

"Anzio" Goes Thru Enemy Fire With Movie Screen-Broadcutter

It could only happen on "Anzio's" post. "Anzio" isn't his real name; it's just a handle they fastened on to Pvt. Walter W. Wolf of Millington, N.J., who is with the anti-tank platoon in the 2nd Bn 329th Hdg. Co. They call him that because he made the Anzio Beach-head last year with a Special International Force made up of Americans and Canadians. He made the landing on Kiska in the Aleutians, fought through Africa, Naples, and Rome too.

And he also hit the beaches of Southern France with his Mountain climbing, paratrooping, hard fighting outfit. On his way back from the hospital last winter, he got screwed up and was sent to the 83rd while we were resting from the Ardennes Campaign.

He's really quite a guy, and a handy man to have on a machine gun. In fact he's a handy man to have in any case. The boys never went hungry while "Anzio" was around, nor were they

D.S.C. AWARD SECOND FOR 737TH T.B'N.

At ceremonies held in Soldineau Thursday afternoon Lt. John G. Sinclair, Syracuse, New York, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his distinctive service performed at Lahr, Belgium on 14 November 1944. Gen. Robert C. Macon, CG, 83rd Division made the presentation following a parade held in the 737th Tank Bn. area with all units participating.

Lt. Sinclair, a platoon leader in "A" Co. received the award for his superior service in action which led his unit in the capture of Lahr, Belgium Approaching Lahr after the capture of Liege, Sinclairs unit met fire from eight German anti-tank guns and four dual purpose 88's which were camouflaged in haystacks along the highway. As the attack advanced the first three tanks were soon put out action, including Sinclair's own. Suffering from extensive burns and shock he aided in the evacuation of the wounded crew members, going from one tank to the other until all of his men had been taken care of. Refusing evacuation he mounted a disabled tank and directed fire on the German guns until the tank itself was shot out from under him. Moving to another tank he continued the fight until the German guns were finally

Lt. Sinclair has shown fine leadership throughout the foregoing campaign and has always been a fine example to his men in leadership and courage. He has participated in the five campaigns in which the unit served.

This award makes the second medal of its kind to be presented a man in the 137th Tank Bn. Sgt. Samuel C. Davis previously earned the award, which was presented posthumously to his mother, Mrs. Sallie M. Davis, of Lenoir, South Carolina.

Only One Has An APO Now

It was hello and goodbye for the Beerhalter brothers this week. S/Sgt. Francis Beerhalter, of Co. H, 329th Inf., and his brother, Pfc. Joseph Beerhalter of the MP Platoon in the 5th Inf. Div., met unexpectedly in Deggenhof after many months of separation. They managed to stretch their meeting into four days. Joseph is now in the process of making the long voyage home with his Division while Francis is sweating out an uncertain future with 79 points.

They'll never forget the time when we hit the Rhine on the outskirts of Neuss, and "Anzio" ran across an open, uncleared field, under fire, with a broadcutter under one arm and a movie screen under the other.

Right now, though, things are quiet. There's no more shooting and no more looting. So Wolf is pulling guard with the rest of the platoon on a bridge

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83rd Thunderbolt

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THE PACIFIC WAR

The Jap mainland had a little surcease this week from previous week's steady bombing by American planes. Much of the active fighting took place in the Balikpapan area of Borneo, where American and Australian troops have run into stiffened resistance from the Jap forces. Both the Allied forces are moving in an encircling action. Fleet support is coming from more than 300 warships and transports of the U.S. 8th Fleet and the Royal Australian and Royal navies.

In the Balikpapan blast the Australians carried most of the weight of the attack with the Americans using their Navy bombers, the Seabees landing with assault troops to assemble floating causeway for the unloading of cargo and troop ships bearing many more American men and materials.

Meanwhile on the political front President Truman was asked to define what the United States meant by unconditional surrender. This was an aftermath of peace rumor stories which began circulating around Washington about a week ago. To the reporters Mr. Truman said, "It means the end of the war. It means the termination of the influence of military leaders who have brought Japan to the brink of disaster. Unconditional surrender does not mean the extermination or enslavement of the Japanese people."

Food for economic as well as other thought is the current speculation regarding the jointly-owned island of Sakhalin-Karafuto. It lies between the Sea of Okhotsk and the Sea of Japan. Originally a part of the Chinese Empire it was annexed by Japan about 150 years ago. Seventy-five years ago Czarist Russia took it over, recognizing its strategic value as commanding point of the Amur River's mouth and as a coal-bin for Russia's Asiatic fleet.

In exchange for Sakhalin the Japanese got the Kurile chain and an annual payment from Russia, but they were never too happy about it, and at the end of the Russo-Japanese war, by a 1905 treaty signed at Portsmouth, N. H. the island was divided. Russia kept the northern half and gave Japan the southern.

For a long time Russia lent Soviet fishing grounds, but a year or so ago the Russians forced the Japanese to let their concessions go and get out.

Stump Jumpers Hi-Lite 331st Musical Show

Before a jam-packed, enthusiastic audience at Pocking Air Field on June 29th, the SSO, 331st Inf. presented its premier performance of "Victory Varieties", an eight act musical extravaganza featuring such highlights as the "Stump Jumpers", hill-billy swingers, chanteuse Eva Ross, and vocalists John Goros and Victor St. Peter, plus a varied array of talented performers.

Combining their mountain music with corn-fed humor, the "Stump Jumpers" presented the G.I. and Hungarian audience with an abundance of hill-billy swing and sway. Under the leadership of Cpl. Archie Lee, "The Swoon of Renfro Valley," the aggregation is studded with notables from every part of the moonshine region. Pfc. James Sanders, of WLBX, Bowling Green, Ky.; T/Sgt. Herschel MacIntosh, guitarist from Stanton, Ky.; S/Sgt. James Porter, of Belle Air, Ohio, mandolinist; Cpl. John Combs, Kanapolis, N.C.; and Capt. Bill Thompson, Tenn. combine to form the remainder of the unit.

Cpl. Bill Thompson and T/Sgt. Herschel MacIntosh teamed up to air the hill-billy favorites "Mountain Dew" and "All Night Long", along with MacIntosh's own arrangement of "Some Day We'll Carry On". Vocal support was ably lent by John Cordos, the "Spanish Caballero", and Chicago's own Irish tenor, Victor St. Peter.

The chorus featured the famed Parisian Dolls, consisting of Pfc. John Tursi, Cpl. Jules Lockfield, Pfc. Pat McLaughlin, Pfc. Fred Fucci, and Pfc. Andy Southward, who at times had the audience in the aisles with their strictly feminine parody. A bit of versatility was added by Bud Hansen's distinctive accordion interpretations.

The show was "emceed" by Cpl. Jules Lockfield and Cpl. Stanley Krawitz with the 88rd Riflemen furnishing the musical accompaniment. Sgt. Tack Dash is the producer of the show.

SS Men Foiled In Attempt To Escape GI-Guarded Camp

The escape of two SS men, their attempts to contact outsiders, and the mass demonstrations at the Pocking PW Camp which is under the supervision of G Company, 331st Inf., has caused a variety of comments among the GIs there. "The prisoners made good their escape through the sewage drain," explained Lt. William Graffe of Philadelphia, "but once outside they found little sympathy among the townsfolk, who refused to give them food or shelter when they were unable to produce the proper discharge papers. Therefore they bound it to their advantage to return and give themselves up."

Several prisoners have attempted to toss out notes to passers by, which is against the rules. The notes, which have usually been retrieved, were found to have been of little importance. Most of them were requests to get in touch with the prisoners' families.

"They are being punished," assured the Lt, "because they must learn that the important thing is to obey the rules."

The mass meetings were called as a sort of gripe session against the food situation.

"We didn't know what it was all about at first," said S/Sgt. Wilbert Callagan of Whitecastle, La., one of the sergeants of the guard. "It broke up fast enough, though, when we fired a few shots over their heads."

"They were squawking about the chow. I saw some of our boys from their prison camps on our drive to the Elbe. Our boys were so thin they scarcely cast a shadow, and so weak they couldn't even get out of bed, and these guys have the nerve to bitch when their food is a little short. Hell our rations have been cut too."

On the sterner side of the picture, Pfc. Edward Walsh of Pittsburgh had this to say, "Sometimes I wish one of them would make a break. Then I could even up a few old scores."

Concurring with him was Pvt. Gillie Webb of Neon, Ky. "The sooner we get it into their heads that we're not going to take a lot of this stuff, the sooner we'll get home."

The more lenient aspect was aired by Pfc. James Watt, Middleville, Ky.

I think we are making a decided mistake when we try to be tough. By acting militaristic we are simply following a pattern that Germany has been teaching and practicing all this time."

With a definitely indifferent air of an Infantryman doing just another task, Pfc. Pedro Villarreal from Laredo, Texas, summed up his feelings this way, "I don't have much feeling about them either way."

LENGTHY RUN OF FOLLIES IS ENDED HERE

With four performances this week for the 737th TD Bn and the 803rd Tankers, the Division's own show, "Foxhole Follies", closed prior to going on tour with Corps. To its original cast of T/5 Milt Charleston, Pvt. Jimmy Burton and Pvt. Sandy MacPherson, a feminine member was added this week. She is Inka Sonner, a blonde who is also an accomplished pianist, dancer and comedienne. She toured in many of the theaters of Europe before being picked up by Charleston.

Last week was old home week for Charleston when he renewed an old friendship with T/Sgt. Ray McKinley, leader of the Glenn Miller show that played here recently. Charleston and McKinley recalled a show they did several years ago at New York's Paramount theater. The band was Will Bradley's and it was the first big show for a new girl singer who was later destined for fame as Dinah Shore.

With a wide acquaintance in the theatrical profession, Charleston is looking forward to the projected plans of the Army for bringing top-notch artists to the ETO. Amos and Andy have been scheduled by the Army for a tour in Europe and only the other day Charleston got a letter from them in which they mentioned their proposed tour and the hope that they might meet him again.

Charleston worked for 17 years with Ken Murray who is now starring in and producing a variety stage show in Los Angeles that is in its third season of consecutive performances. Charleston's sister was with this show for a while.

THIS WEEK around the 83rd . . .

Some people say they never dream. Others claim to have dreams often. Sad Sack had a dream once. If T/5 Alex J. Eleferiades of the 308th Engineers (and Upper Darby, Pa.) ever dreams it's probably about signs. He is responsible for the Division's "Off Limits" and "No Parking" signs and also did the widely-reproduced "Truman Bridge" sign commemorating the 83rd's venture across the Elbe river. About this now famous sign, which was completed one day after the completion of the bridge, Alex says, "I worked from twelve to six-thirty in the morning on that one and the paint was still wet when we put it up." He is now working on a series of signs to point up a safe driving program.

The Information and Education program of the 2nd Battalion, 330th Inf. may take an interesting trend now that Pfc. John Daniels of Hq. Co. has returned from the L and E. school in Paris. Daniels' first remarks to the men of his unit were rather cryptic and indicate that Daniels' interpretation of L and E. will bear watching. He said, "The school was swell, but I think the gals are even better. I didn't have much time to see the town." He didn't say what he thought the girls were better than, and no one asked him how much he saw of the town. Nevertheless he is said to be "chock full" of new ideas and said, "We haven't got a lot to work with, but we shall do the best with what we have."

Most of the men of the Division had a chance this week to see Capers of 1945, a better than usual U.S.O. show. For the record, here are the members of the cast; Jack

McCoy of Hasbrouck Heights, N.J. acted as master of ceremonies. The accordion music was by Wally Nims of Hollywood, California and Frank Cole did a magician act. The three feminine members of the Capers were Jean Francis, an acrobat from Washington, D.C. Carole Winters of Louisville, Ky. who did a tap dance routine. And lastly, a vocalist from Columbus, Ohio. Sole identification, "Roselinda."

Transportation difficulties held up the band, but nothing held up the parade of the 3rd Battalion, 330th Inf. last June 27. It was the first parade since England and the men are reported to have looked very sharp indeed. During the ceremonies Bronze Star medals were presented by Lt. Col. George M. Shuster, of Nebraska, Pa. who is the Battalion Commander. The parade was started by an order from Maj. Robert W. Stewart of Beverly Hills, California.

The hardest story of all is told by Cpl. Shirley J. Baker, Co. A, 330th Infantry. "It's just plain damned bad luck," says Shirley. Cpl. Shirley has 73 points, and needs only 12 points to get out of the Army to his wife, and baby. There was a little fellow on the way, but he didn't arrive until 13 May 1945, — just 24 hours too late to give Shirley that extra — 12. "And boy believe me I call it bad, bad, luck, and a darn shame," says Shirley. He hopes that there will be a recount sometime or other.

Charity for the Red Cross apparently doesn't begin at home. It can't even keep its "coffee and doughnut" girls in shoes. One of them, anyway. Dorothy

Fargo, who works on the clubmobile that is currently touring the 83rd Division, had to take time off this week to find a cobbler who could make a pair of shoes for her.

"This pair is getting awful," she said, lifting her slacks to reveal her shoes and just a bit of her ankle. Both looked more than adequate. "Some of the boys in the 324th Field Artillery gave me the leather. Now I just have to find a shoemaker," Miss Fargo said.

The leather was red. Miss Fargo's new shoes will probably be red, too.

While most of the men of 2nd Battalion Hq. Co. of the 330th Inf. are asleep T/4 Arthur Jones is busy plugging away at his avocation. It seems that everyone in the battalion has learned about "Red's" ability to repair radios and the work is piling up. "It's a lot of work but I figure it gives the men pleasure after all the fighting they have done," Jones says. "But where they find all the radios is something I can't understand!"

It was hand-to-hand combat all the way when Pfc. John Gallimore of Anti-Tank Co., 329th Inf. was attacked by a fanatical Hitler-Jugend deer the other day.

Gallimore was taking time out to answer the age-old call in a secluded spot when a frightened young buck came crashing through the underbrush, catching the preoccupied anti-tankman unbalanced and unarmed, except for a pen knife.

Rising rapidly, if awkwardly, to the occasion, Gallimore leaped on his unexpected foe, slashing away with his knife. After some 50 yards of rough and tumble conflict, the weapon struck home and the four-legged fanatic lay stretched out on the field of combat.

Gallimore nursed a sprained ankle and a growing appetite.

MOVIE SCHEDULE

Men of the 83rd Division will welcome the opening of the Promenade Theater in Passau, which will show the latest 35mm shows. There will be three changes of film weekly with three showings daily: one at 2:30 every afternoon to be followed by two showings nightly at 6 and 8.

The scheduled performances for the coming week are as follows:

July 6-7,
BOWERY TO BROADWAY, starring Turhan Bey and Donald O'Connor, and Susan Foster
A Universal Picture

Plus, "Idle of The Wind"

July 8, 9, & 10
IT'S IN THE BAG, with Fred Allen, Jack Benny, Don Ameche, Victor Moore, Rudy Valle, Jerry Colonna, and Robert Benchley
A Universal Artists Picture

Plus, "When Asia Speaks"

July 11-12
THE CLOCK, starring Judy Garland, Robert Walker, and James Gleason
M-G-M

Plus, "Little White Lies"

July 13-14
THE CORN IS GREEN, with Bette Davis, Jon Hall, and Joan Loring
A Warner Bros. Picture

Plus, "Six Hits and a Miss"

July 15-16-17
MY PAL WOLF, starring Sheryn Moffet and Jill Esmond
R.K.O.

Plus, "Saddle Starlets" and "West Point"

"Anzio"

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over the Isar River, that leads into Plattling.

The other day when things were a bit slow, and the usual civilian caravans, displaced persons, and home coming German Soldiers were at a minimum, along came a civilian on a motorbike. When the bike reached Wolf's post it started to sputter, then it coughed and died — out of gas. The civilian got off, put the cycle up on its rack, and took a tin can down to the river. Wolf stared at the man curiously, wondering just what the devil he was doing. He didn't have to wait long for no sooner had the civilian filled the can with water than he trudged back up the hill to the bridge. As he approached his motorbike, Wolf stepped a few paces closer. This, he had to see! He did. The man unscrewed the tank cover, poured in the water, shook the bike, climbed on, kicked it over, and zoomed away.

Wolf still mutters to himself.

Horses For Foot Soldiers

The Recon Troop has acquired a stable of 8 horses since arriving in Vilshofen. Cpl. Jack Lyons and Cpl. Gerald Mowry are in charge. All E.M. of the organization can take advantage of organized tours and lessons by the men in charge. Both men claim vast experience in the handling of horses, as Mowry states he used to pet the milkman's horse when he was a youngster, and Lyons claims to have ridden on several horse-drawn ice wagons.

JULY 7, 1945

CZECH GIRLS BRIGHTEN 330th's 4th

The question is, "Can there be a real Independence Day when women are present?" Men of Co. F of the 330th Infantry found out that there could be last Wednesday when they brought in a number of Czechoslovakian girls for the 4th of July celebration. The day was such a success that plans are already being made for another visit of the girls. And the men aren't going to wait for a special day.

Silver's Saloon was also opened recently in the town of Hinter Schmiding for the enjoyment of the men of Co. F. The bar was opened with entertainment by a six-piece combo made up of members of the regimental band and the "Section 8 Capers" of Pfc. Harold W. McNally.

Using German prisoners from the cage at nearby Camp Sonndorf as laborers, bar and beer keg stands have been built, as well as numerous tables and chairs which are scattered about under a small grove of trees at the edge of the Company athletic field. Electric lights have been strung over the area by the Communications section of headquarters and in a central position there is a large stage built by the PWs. It is decorated with a large Co. F flag stitched together by the local tailor.

The beer garden is open each evening, with Platoon guides serving as bartenders.

Rain 'Dismissed' B'n Parade Set For July Fourth

If rain hadn't cancelled the 4th of July program Co. G would have represented the 2nd Battalion of the 330th Infantry in the parade that was scheduled to be held on Independence Day. There was to have been a competition for the selection of the best-drilled Rifle Platoon, and also for the Weapons Platoon.

The preliminary competition for the best Rifle Platoon in the Battalion was won by the 1st Platoon, with Lt. Harold B. Wallace as Platoon Leader and S/Sgt. Jake Fressinden as Platoon Sergeant. Lt. Wallace came overseas as a Pfc. According to the record he was not wounded, nor did he miss a day in combat.

The Weapons Platoon of Co. G was selected as the best in the Battalion in drill competition. This platoon is commanded by Lt. Harry J. Gorman as Platoon Leader and by T/Sgt. Jesus Guarlado as Platoon Sergeant.

These two best platoons, as far as drilling goes, in the 2nd Battalion were picked by their Lt. Col. John A. Norris, Jr.

Combat Editor Albert Gladding Takes Paris Job

T/4 Albert Gladding, Thunderbolt's managing editor since Belgium, left the Division this week for an assignment with the Information and Education office in Paris. Gladding had also been editor of the Spearhead and the Bounce, the two Division papers that preceded Thunderbolt.

An 80-point man, Gladding landed in Europe with the rest of the Division. Since then he has managed to get out a four-page paper almost every week under circumstances that were at times staggering in their complexity. Gladding always managed to pull the loose ends together and Thunderbolt would come out, frequently on schedule.

Someone has said that a good editor must be part saint and part tyrant. Gladding has a measure of both of those natures and for that reason all of his co-workers have not loved him all the time. At the party the staff gave for him the night before he was supposed to leave it was noticed rather late in the evening that Gladding had not been around for awhile. After a check of the most likely place where he might have been found, and not finding him there, it was discovered that he had quietly gone to bed.

Unmarried, Gladding has been dubbed with the nickname "Pogo" by those who feel they know him best.

Midnight Snack on 25Lbs. of Spaghetti

If you ever get a little empty after meals just wait until T/5 Joseph Petrucci, Providence, R.I., and Pfc. Dominic Codaro, Shreveport, La. get a couple packages from home.

The 1 July they both received 5 lbs. of packaged spaghetti from home. After supper they decided that what they needed most was some spaghetti and meat balls. So to work they went. When they were finished they had close to 25 lbs. of good Italian-style spaghetti, and the smell from it brought members of the company out from every direction. In less than ten minutes all was gone. "I've never tasted better spaghetti," remarked the men. "Yes, sir I'm writing again tonight for some more," said Petrucci.

Peace, But No Rest; 100-Mile Headache

Cpl. Leo Kozlowski, 2nd Battalion Hq. Co., 330th Inf. wireman, has had his hands full these past few weeks with the local communication set-up. The battalion has some 100 miles of communications lines in its present set-up near the town of Waldkirchen, Germany. In some cases they are using regular German lines, and by doing so they save many miles of communication wire. "My, headaches never seem to stop even in peacetime," says Kozlowski. "If it isn't a shell that knocks-out the line it's some cow that walks through it, and breaks it."

'Blackdogs' Have Gay Night Club



T/5 Joseph Drain at the mike in Blackdog Rendezvous. Drain taught vocalists phonetic singing of American songs.



An M.C.'s life must be very emotional. S/Sgt. Leonard Pleban is M.C. of the Blackdog show and we don't know if he's laughing or crying in this shot.

Danube Trips Complete With Deer and Beer

With a hoarse blast of its klaxon the diesel excursion boat "City of Vienna" pulls away from its moorings six days a week at Passau on the Danube to wind swiftly downstream to Neuhausen, round the natural rock formation known as the Statue and chug slowly upstream to complete a restful river excursion for men of the Thunderbolt Division.

This latest feature attraction of the Division I & E Office is known as the Danube Trip and it is a boat trip replete with old world scenery of natural wonders and ancient ruins. While on board free beer, coffee and cokes are available to all and canned music sounds from the P.A. system to relax some 600 men who are taken on each trip.

"This is a photographer's paradise," said Pfc. Edgar Rightmire to his buddy Pfc. J. L. Hammer of L Co., 331st Infantry. "Say," he suddenly added as he brought his camera up on a deer that bounded out of the woods just around one of the many bends in the river, "Should I set it at a fiftieth or a hundredth for this shot?"

T/4 Bill Schuman of Div. Arty Headquarters exclaimed, "What a way to shoot a deer! Anyway why can't those guys relax?" he continued as he lounged in a deck chair near the cokes.

The feeling was summed up by T/4 Alan Foster of the 3rd Bn. 330th Infantry when he said, "One of the best GI deals we've had in along time and every man should try to take advantage of it." Those men who are interested in a day's river boat excursion on the Danube should submit their names to their unit I & E officer to be included in the next quota of 600 men who sail every day except Mondays on the scenic and restful tour.

Pfc. Howard Wells gets a good front view of vocalist Irma Veghely.

ETO Marriages

Pfc. William F. Bowers of the 83rd QM Co. recently returned from a seven-day furlough in England where he became engaged to Miss Christina Joyce Pearson of New Castle. According to Bowers, Miss Pearson, who works in a munitions factory, is "one girl in a million. True, faithful and honest." They plan to be married in the near future and after the war will return to Bower's hometown of Canton, Ohio.

Pvt. Elmer Davies, also of QM, took his furlough in Ireland and married Miss Winnie Topping of Portadown. Davies says his wife is "the sweetest girl in all Ireland" and after the war they plan to make their home in Dubuque, Iowa.

Variety Show Planned For Every Night

"Blackdog Rendezvous" is the blood-curdling name selected by the men of 908th Field Artillery Battalion as the name of their new new recreation hall in Hauzenburg. When the battalion moved into the town it was found that there was no suitable building that could house a recreational center. The best the town offered was an old gymnasium.

This building was taken over by the battalion and, under the direction of the battalion Special Service officer, Capt. Harry Fleming, crews started to work redecorating the old gymnasium. T/5 Ralph F. Monroe and Pfc. Robert F. Wells constructed a stage, T/Sgt. Delbert A. Jurden re-wired the building and installed house lights, floods, spots, footlights, and behind the stage he arranged a wiring system that could control the lights for most any effect.

Wall decorations, backdrops, and other interior improvements were developed under the supervision of a civilian artist who had at one time been art director for the National Opera house in Budapest. S/Sgt. Leonard Pleban scouted around in surrounding towns for beer, tables, and articles of furniture.

While the interior of the buildings was being renovated the 908 Swing Band under the direction of T/4 Leslie C. Mischner started making arrangements of the new tunes from the States. They had to develop their music from the arrangements in the Hit Kits or by writing the music down as it was hummed.

Then auditions were started with civilian talent in the vicinity. The language barrier was a headache from the beginning. T/4 Oliver Weismuller, who helped produce and write some of the show, said, "At times it was necessary to have someone who could speak Italian to speak to someone who could speak both Italian and Hungarian to speak to someone who could speak both Hungarian and German to someone who spoke German and Polish to someone who could only speak Polish."

The vocalists, who could not speak a word of English, were taught the words to American songs, phonetically, by T/5 Joseph Drain.

On top of all this, costumes had to be made for the acrobats.

Then the Blackdog Players, a group that was formed on the Rhine and which entertained troops of the Division and the XIX Corps during the days of combat from the Rhine to the Elbe bridgehead, went to work on producing a play. Weismuller and Sgt. Roby D. Pennell and T/5 Bud Buncher worked toward a goal of producing the "best show in the ETO."

Blackdog Rendezvous has been in operation for several weeks. Each evening some sort of entertainment is scheduled. If there isn't a stage show there will be a movie. Outside tours have been arranged and men of other units will be visited by the entertainers.

Male Call

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



Protective Coloration

Stretch it, Pop!



Sgt. Paul "Pop" Spencer of 2nd. Bn., 329th Inf. from Trinity, N.C. jumped into second place in the broad jump at the 2nd. Bn. Field bay last Saturday.

PLATTLING FIELD IS GI TRACK SITE OF 2 BATTALION, 329 MEET

Tennis Players Into Final Round

The 83rd Division Tennis Tournament got under way last week on the newly constructed courts at the Rest Center in Passau. However deluges of rain has limited the play to the extent that the quarter-final rounds were just being completed.

From a comparatively small entry list a surprisingly good calibre of players have thus far participated. The outstanding player to date is T/4 Donald Hume from the 331st Regiment and a product of New York's public courts net players. His smooth stroking and terrific drive both with fore and back-hand has definitely established him as the favorite to win the tournament.

Other surviving players thus far and therefore standing a good chance to make the Tennis Team which will compete in the XII Corps Championships at Regensburg on 16 July are: T/Sgt. Alfred H. Norton with the 736 Tank Battalion who's home is Drexel, Mo. T/5 William K. Churchman 322 FA Battalion from Wellsburg, W. Va. Cpl. Russell R. Kellam from Div. Arty Headquarters and Decatur, Ill. Cpl. Harry H. Woodward of the 308th Medics and Chicago, Ill.

MERMEN MEET TODAY

Thunderbolt mermen will have a chance to spread their dorsal fins when they compete in the Division swimming meet this afternoon at the Recreation Center in Passau.

Those wishing to attend can pick up printed programs at the door. The first event jumps off at 1400, and proceeds in the following order:

- 1-400 meter free style
- 2-50 meter free style
- 3-100 meter back stroke
- 4-200 meter breast stroke
- 5-Diving:
 - 1 meter
 - 3 meter
- 6-400 meter breast stroke
- 7-100 meter free style
- 8-800 meter medley relay
- 9-1500 meter free style
- 10-800 meter free style relay

Help! OKeh

T/Sgt. John Kinney of the 3rd Battalion Headquarters Co., 331st Infantry has been appointed as life guard for the Oberhaus Rest Center swimming pool. Kinney was a life guard in Southern California, mainly on the beaches at San Diego and La Jolla, for about five years before coming into the Army. He was also the life guard at the rest center pool in Bad Harzburg.

Under a cloudy sky that reluctantly gave way to sunshine, Headquarters Company ran away with the Second Battalion, 329th Field Day Sports Carnival last Saturday at Plattling Field, amassing 45 points.

G Company took second place with 29 points, F Company came in third scoring 15, with E Company biting their heels making 14½ markers. H Company's "heavy weapons" hit low on the target scoring only 12½, three and a half points lower than S/Sgt. Quentin Bolen, highest individual scorer, of Hdq. Co., and Charleston, Mo., made alone.



Pfc. Walter Brunnet of Portage, Pa. breaks the tape in the 880 yd. run for "G" Co.

- 100 yd dash — Pfc Ernest Friske, E Co. & Saginaw, Mich., 11.25"
 Shot-put — S/Sgt. Quentin Bolen, Hdq. Co., 41'7 3/4"
 1 Mile Run — Pfc Walter Brunnet, G Co. & Portage, Pa., 15'15.5"
 Discus — Lt. James Carter, H Co., & Troy, N.Y., 193'4"
 Broadjump — S/Sgt. Quentin Bolen, Hdq. Co., 18'8"
 220 yd. Dash — Pfc Ernest Friske, E Co., 23.7"
 880 yd Run — Pfc Walter Brunnet, G Co., 2'12.1"
 1 Mile Run — Pfc. Harry Naugle, Hq. Co., & Temple, Pa., 11'56"
 880 yd Relay — Hq. Co. Time 1:39
 High Jump 3-way tie — Pvt Loren Sutton, G Co. & Caledonia, Mo. Pfc Edward E. Coats, H Co. & Philadelphia, Pa. S/Sgt. Quentin Bolen, Hq. Co., 4'9"
 Javelin — Pfc Harry Naugle, Hq. Co., 114'4"

GREEN TOSSES RINGERS; WINS 83 DIV. CROWN

The first 83rd Division Championship Horseshoe Tournament was run off at the Division Rest Center in Passau on Sunday 30 June 1945. The winner was T/5 Earl N. Green, "A" Co. cook of the 736th Tank Battalion. Green, who is from Indianapolis, Indiana, was far and away the best pitcher on the courts. As a civilian he has competed in many top-notch tournaments and in 1936 gave a good account of himself in the Indiana State Tournament among some of the toughest competition in the world.

Up to the semi-finals both the runner-up, Pvt. Lawrence W. Kelley of Headquarters Co. 736th Tankers who is from Yorkville, Ohio, and Green had lost but one game each to the competition. Considering that they had each defeated 4 opponents by winning on a basis 2 out of 3 games per match their superior play was unquestioned. However, Kelley had a hard fight all the way, while Green displayed his complete mastery of the field by defeating Kelley in the final round by the scores of 21 to 3, and 21 to 9.

The following men survived through the quarter-final round and make up the 83rd Division Team which will compete in the XII Corps Championships at Regensburg on 6 July. S/Sgt. Charles C. Clemens of Div. Arty. Hq. Co. and Santa Barbara, Cal., T/3 Donald A. Smith from the 908th FA and Wasleyville, Pa., Pfc. Walter A. Anderson from "B" Battery, 323 FA and Greenville, Tenn., Sgt. Edward L. Spies of the 331st Cannon Co. and Chebanse, Ill., S/Sgt. Maurice E. Peterson of "C" Co. 736th Tankers and Clear Brook, Minn., and Pvt. Marshall J. Cobb of the 324 FA and Pomona, N. C.

All the above men must defend their present status as horseshoe pitchers when the final Division pitching championships are run off during the THUNDERBOLT Olympiad. This will in effect give all the competitors another chance at the title. It will also provide additional talent for the competition at that time, including the two teams of the 331st Regiment who were forced out of the preliminaries due to a motor accident on the way to the meet last Sunday.

Div. Golfers Add Officer To Card

The 83rd Amateur Golfers added 1st Lt. Andrew J. Koza, Chemical Warfare Service, currently Steward of the Neiderhaus (the officers' club at the Rest Center) to their imposing list of luminaries, who are sweating out selection by XII Corps to represent the THUNDERBOLT Division in the medal-match play in Paris in early August.

Koza, who calls the land of the leis and the Hampshire hills his home, is a member of the Wailae Country Club, the Kahanamoku Country Club of Hawaii and the Intervale Country Club of New Hampshire. His lowest official score is 66 on a par 72 lay-out. He is currently handicapped at 1.

Koza has won the Dairymen's Open and the Schofield Open in Hawaii. Also the Club Championships at Poland Springs, Maine and the Derryfield and Mt. Pleasant Country Clubs in New Hampshire. He has also played in a number of exhibition matches in the States. His last exhibition round was played at Devonshire, Eng. against the well-known British golfers Johnny Lusk and Sir John Amory at the Tiverton Country Club.

M-I? . . . Nix Forsthay

The 83rd Division and its attached units produced only one potential Robin Hood for the XII Corps Archery Tournament which started in Regensburg yesterday. He is T/5 Glenn D. Vining from the 783rd Ordnance Co.

Vining who is an ordnance technician in the Army was interested in Archery in civilian life as a hobby. He has also hung on to other medieval arts in connection with his work as a silver craftsman. He is expert in the art of engraving the metal work on show-piece firearms.

RAINCHECK ON SPORTS LEAGUE OPENS TODAY

Track Stars To Meet Sunday

The Division-wide Track and Field Meet scheduled for July 4 at Vilshofen had to be postponed due to severe cold and rainy weather. Weather permitting, the meet will be held tomorrow at 1400 on the Vilshofen site. Meanwhile the entry list has increased to nearly 400 track enthusiasts. On 30 June the 2nd Battalion of the 329th Infantry Regiment ran off a preliminary meet of their own which allowed them to get a line on the capabilities of their entrants.

Also kicked around by Jupe Pluvius was the round robin play-offs in baseball which was devised to select the best of the smaller units teams to be the representative Nine to play as the Special Units club in the Thunderbolt League opening today.

To date all four round robin play-off teams have each played four games. The 308th Medics and the 308th Engineers are tied up at 3 wins and 1 loss apiece, while the 83rd Recon and the 83rd Quartermasters are both fighting to get off the bottom of the heap with 3 losses and only 1 win apiece.

From the play thus far the Medics have the edge over the Engineers. Meanwhile with but 2 games apiece to be played by each team, the Recon could pull up as the dark horse club. The hard luck QM club meeting both the Medics and the Engineers in their final play-off games has but an outside chance to get the call to be the Special Units team.

The Opening Day offerings in baseball today will pit the Special Units on their home field against the 330th Regiment. Div. Arty. entertains the 331st combination which is loaded for bear. Meanwhile the baseball partnership of the 736 and 737 Tankers will be hosts to the 329th Regiment to complete the fare.

The only scheduled athletic event with which the weather did not interfere this week was the Horse shoe Tournament run off at Passau last Sunday. But even that event was plagued with an unfilled roster as the two teams representing the 331st Infantry did not compete as they were held up beyond meet time by being involved in a slight motor accident.

Nevertheless several outstanding players were discovered during the course of the tournament and are now defending the

83rd Division laurels at Regensburg. T/5 Earl N. Green of the 736th Tank Battalion is currently wearing the 83rd Division's Horse Shoe diadem.

Also sweating out the weather are the tennis players competing for places on the Division team. The final round to determine the champion is now scheduled for this afternoon. The match will be played at 1400 on the Rest Center court at Passau.

Bull Bounces In Field Event

T/5 Joseph D. Aldrich has definitely decided not to become a bull-fighter after the war.

Aldrich, a member of the 330th Service Company, was walking across a field near his company CP recently when he passed a "friendly" looking bull.

"He seemed like such a nice old fellow," sighed Aldrich.

Nonchalantly proceeding on his way, he suddenly heard a snort and a pounding of hooves behind him. Said bull had gone into action.

"I didn't know what to do at first," he recalled later, "But I managed to side-step sufficiently for him to miss me on the first charge."

The bull, frustrated on his first attempt, was not to be discouraged so easily. On the other hand, flushed with the success of his first dodge, Aldrich decided to take the bull by the horns which immediately proved to have been a serious error as the bull took off for several fast turns around the field. Discretion being the better part of valor, Aldrich decided to hang on and went along for the ride.

When the bull found that he was not gaining any particular advantage, he skidded to a stop, jerked his head, and Aldrich flew through the air to a crash landing about 15 feet away.

"Then I saw that fence, and, brother, if I could only duplicate that high-jump, I could win that Division track meet easily!"

Sport Spot by Sgt. Nick Firfires

DAT MAKES SEVEN TIMES BOSS!

AMATEUR GOLF CHAMP SALISBURY N. CAROLINA 1932, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43

Pfc. James M. MONROE
308 MEDICAL BATTALION
GLAD TO SEE YA BACK JIM!

KNOCKED OFF FOR SIX YEARS 32 TO 38, THOUGHT MARRIAGE WAS ENOUGH FOR HIM.

MEMBER OF THE SALISBURY CC, NORTH CAROLINA GOLF ASSOCIATION No. 3 CC TEAM.

HIS OFFICIAL LOWEST SCORE IS 64 HAS PLAYED EXHIBITIONS WITH SUCH PROS AND AMATEURS AS PEARCE BULLA, HEAFNER, SHUTE, AND OTHERS.