For Distinguished Service ... 

500 Doughs A Day Enjoy Mountain Resort Life At Bad Harzburg Rest Camp

Superb Recreation Facilities Include Open-Air Kasino With Nightly Floor Show, Theatre, Swimming Pool, Tennis Courts And Stables

The famous summer resort town of Bad Harzburg took on an Atlantic City air this week as 500 Thunderbolts a day began pouring into the 83rd rest area to take advantage of everything from fan dancers to bathing parties in the Division's comprehensive recreation and entertainment program.

Colonel Nicholas Kryzyek, assistant commandan of the 27th Bomb Group, accepted Lesgos of Merit and Bronze Star awards conferred on Major General Robert C. Bacon, 83rd Commander, on Colonel Alexander Ivanov, commander of Sixth Guards Division, and his staff. Colonel Ivanov and staff were out of reach on the Czech front when Brigadier General Claude E. Parshbough, assistant 83rd commander left, arrived to make the presentation. A Russian staff corps stall officer, right, listens intently while Lt. Vadim Gontzoff, 83rd liaison officer and interpreter reads the citations. (Signal Corps Photo)

V-E Day Boosts Furlough Quotas

First 83rd High-Point Men Head For States

Eight days after V-E Day, 180 Mc-point Thunderbolt veterans, representing every unit in the 83rd and attachments, started down the glory road to white shirts, grey trousers and chicken every Sunday. Unless they are declared essential to further Army needs when they arrive in the States, they are virtually assured of being released shortly.

By and large, these men, the first in the Division to be affected by the new point system, are Regular Army with long terms of service to their credit. Most of them had fought in other theatres before landing with the 83rd in Normandy.

There were 19 first sergeantes in the Division to sign up for the furlough at the 83rd QM Co to board the trains that would take them on the first leg of their long journey home. Two of them, Captain Crayford of Cown Co, 50th Infantry, and Joseph Armhold from the 351st Infantry had different views when asked if they intended to sign up for another hitch after having served 14 and 15 years respectively.

"I joined the Army as a kid," said Armhold. "It all depends on how the outside world receives me and whether I can get a job." "Eleven years is enough for me," answered Crayford. "I'm willing to let somebody else take over." Strangely few of the men had any idea of changing their former civilian occupations after having spent long periods in the Army. Most of them wanted to get back in civilian life where they had left off years ago. Those who weren't married were two to one against buying a ring the first thing off the boat. 

15 Air Corps Maj. At the 83rd Recon Tp, veteran of six years' service, including 28 months at St. Lucia in the West Indies, planned to go back to the restaurant business, while Maj. Philip Roselle of the 30th Med. said he hoped to take up his trucking business where he left off five years ago.

Several of the lucky 150 planned to take advantage of the GI Bill of Rights upon their return to civilian life. As Alpine Joe L. Gerewe of the 35th Infantry put it, I want some vocational training so I can get a better job when I change from fatigue to overalls.

For once, usually talkative T/Sgt. Herb Bursie of the 329th 4 R Fw, feared for their part in the subdued of the 21,000 at Beauneux, no comment. He just sat by his dull bag day-dreaming of his house in Missouri, four thousand miles away.

Less Censorship

A prized civilian privilege returned to GIs today when it was officially announced that officer censorship of EM mail had been ended. Because of the possibility of loss, this does not apply to packages, which must be censored as in the past.

The two Division booklets now being distributed cannot be mailed free. Gilbert goes for six cents, the LIGHTED folder for five.

Things got under way officially on the Superb Recreation when the management (the Division 880) threw open the doors of the huge and sumptuous open-air cafe and beer garden, for years the center of Harzburg summer society.

Highlighting the event was a two-hour presentation by the 83rd band, consisting of six members of the post band, plus a splendid corps of Vic. The show was a splendid exhibition of talent for entertainment for three hours. Backing the show was a string orchestra.

The following night another troupe took over, featuring the singing, dancing and comedy routines of Berth and Buck, veterans of several tours in the States, and, of the color guard side, Theo Hof and his violinist. The two variety shows are scheduled to play alternating nights during the week with the Goliath symphony orchestra on Sunday feature.

The Kasino is open daily from 1900 for beer drinking with the floor show at 2000.

Supplementing the stage talent are movies, changing every two days, at the 880 Theatre. They go on at 1400, 1600 and 2000.

On the recreation side, the rest area offers horseback riding, fishing, swimming, tennis, volleyball and badminton. There are 18 clay tennis courts with all equipment provided open daily from 0800. The swimming pool, fed by mountain streams, and complete with diving boards and lower open daily from 1300-2000. Riding horses are available daily on hourly basis, but reservations must be made in advance with the 880 by unit 880s. The same system applies to arrangements for fishing parties, tennis, bowling and a guide are provided, but units must furnish transportation. The parties leave daily for mountain streams at 0800, returning at 1000. The trout are said to be plentiful, big and hungry and there is no limit on the catch. But to play safe — a fish basket license should be taken along.

For the less strenuous, the management offers scenic tours up the largest mountain in a cabin-car. The car is in operation from 1200 to 1500 weeks days and 1300 to 1600 Sundays. There is a finding library and reading room open Tuesdays and Fridays from 1600 to 1700. Books may be borrowed out. For photo fans, a photo shop is being opened to develop and print pictures taken by GIs. All photographs will be made to order and bulk mail will be brought in and picked up by the unit.

And that’s the entertainment and recreation story of Bad Harzburg under Yankee management. But that isn’t all. There are a couple of interesting developments for those awaiting their turn to join the 500. A Red Cross Clubmobile is on tour of the Division, starting today at Division Artillery.

… Victory Hour …

Point Points …

Here’s the latest info on the point system in effect at the Bad Harzburg Rest Camp...

1. So far, men with the 83rd from Omaha Beach have been eligible to wear three campaign stars — Normandy, Northern France and Germany. A star for the Ardennes has been announced but as yet does not apply to troops who had already earned the battle of Germany star. This makes the maximum of 18 points for 83rd campaign.

2. By order of General Eisenhower, men who fought in Africa as well as Europe will not be asked in light another campaign. They may not be discharged at once, but they will not go to the Pacific.

3. Those who think their scores are high should have seen the point system the men were required to wear when the town was taken without a shot — and V-E Day was just around the corner. Smiling left to right — Pfc. Harold O’Donnell of Woburn, Mass., Morris F. Russell of Pittsburgh, Pa. and William H. Holmen of Minnesota, all Casi Corps Photo.
The Thunderbolt, formerly the Spearhead, is written by and for the men of the 83rd under the supervision of Capt John C. Jeff, Information-Education Officer, and Lt. Thomas C. Regehr, Public Relations Officer. All material is censored by AC of S, G-2. Member Camp Newspaper Service, 205 East 63rd St., NYC.

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Victory Order

Men and Women of the AEF —

The crusade on which we embarked in the early summer of 1944 has reached its glorious conclusion. It is my especial privilege, in the name of all Nations represented in this Theatre of War, to commend each of you for your valiant performance of duty. Though these words are few, they come from the bottom of a heart overflowing with pride in your loyal service and admiration for you as warriors.

Your accomplishments at sea, in the air, on the ground and in the field of supply, have astonished the world. Even before the final week of the conflict, you had put $50,000,000 of the enemy permanently out of the war. You have taken in aerial military tasks so difficult as to be classed by many as almost impossible. You have confined, defeated and destroyed 88 of your enemy's bastions. On the road to victory, you have endured every discomfort and privation and a never-ending catalogue of obstacles to your every effort to keep the world free. When the march of the Allied Forces has reached its goal, you will have made a conspicuous contribution to the cause of human freedom as was the effort of the nations — American, British, Canadian, French, Polish and Russian. It has been your enduring effort to stem the American advance.

We, the men and women of the AEF, are proud to have contributed to the outcome. This we shall remember — the courage, the devotion, the self-sacrifice of our fathers, on whom we depend, and the spirit of comradeship in which they lived and died.

On the island of Okinawa, American forces have fought their way to the outskirts of the city of Naha. They have lost 2,000 men in the fighting. This has been a difficult and costly operation. The Japanese have fought with desperation and courage. But they are now faced with the inevitable. You have turned the tide of war in their favor and have brought them to the brink of defeat.

The last days of Nazi Germany were written in the stories of defeat and horror. Here, as far as the eye and camera can reach, is an example of the scenes that followed Hitler's fall. This Wehrmacht regiment is on route to an 83rd PW cage. (Signal Corps Photo)

The day's news is GI War Bond Contest Offers Valuable Prizes.

Ten new automobiles and ten refrigerators are prizes in a War Bond Contest recently announced by Stars & Stripes. The prizes will be awarded to those who have the highest bond sales in the ETO. The contest closes July 7 and winners will be announced as soon as a board of judges, chosen by Air, Ground and Service Forces, can reach their decision. Winners will be given their prizes upon their discharge from the Army and their resumption of production. Automobile winners will receive any passenger or service truck model Chevrolet or Ford, and the refrigerator is made in eight sizes. The contest offers a total of $5,000 in valuable prizes.

The sponsors of the contest are the Stars & Stripes, the Theater War Bond and Insurance Office, the American Forces Network and Army Talks.

Here are the rules:

1. The Stars and Stripes War Bond Contest is open to all military personnel on orders in the ETO, except those serving sentences, AWOL or deserters. Prizes will be awarded to those submitting the best letters on the subject, "My Savings and Post-War Plans." Prizes will be awarded to those submitting the best letters on the subject, "My Savings and Post-War Plans."

2. Letters must be not less than 300 words nor more than 500 words in length. Here's one reason why Universal's "Salome — Where She Danced" is said to include everything except the rise and fall of the Roman Empire — and especially things like this. (Personal property of Mistress Poni Adams)

3. Each letter must contain one of these words or phrases: "No. I Can't Make it Come Quietly," "Yes, we are sister." 8. Letters must be addressed to War Bond Contest, AF of S, Stars & Stripes. Letters must be postmarked on or before July 7, 1945.

4. Winning letters will be judged by a panel of experts chosen by Universal, the Stars & Stripes, and Army Information and Education Office. The war bond writer will be asked to answer any questions that may arise from the Board of Judges, and the letters will be judged on the basis of content and writing ability.

5. Winning letters will be announced as soon as a board of judges, chosen by Air, Ground and Service Forces, can reach their decision. Winners will be given their prizes upon their discharge from the Army and their resumption of production. Automobile winners will receive any passenger or service truck model Chevrolet or Ford, and the refrigerator is made in eight sizes. The contest offers a total of $5,000 in valuable prizes.

6. Prizes will be awarded to those submitting the best letters on the subject, "My Savings and Post-War Plans." 10. The decision of the judges will be final. They may elect to decide ties, if any, by lot. All letters become the property of the sponsoring agencies.

... Pretty Poni

Yank Blows Stalin Japan

The air and ground war against the Japs was stepped up considerably this week despite the fact that after the period of maximum effort from the ETO has not even begun to be felt in General McArthur's theater.

A huge fleet of more than 500 American ships shelled 5000 tons of fire bombs on the waterfront city of Nagoya Thursday. Large fires were left burning throughout this third largest city of Japan and the chief targets of the bombardiers were large oil storage tanks. Official Allied sources reported that the last few planes over the targets dropped their loads of incendiary devices on the city. The city of Nagoya is in the central part of the country and in doing so we shall be reverting each honored grave, and we shall not forget those who were the leaders of comrades who could not live to see this day.

Dwight D. Eisenhower

by Sgt. N.S. Fireflies

"No, I Can't Make it Come Quietly"
Opening Night... ...at the Kasino

83rd Athletic Officers Plan
Sports Spree

To the question, "How many points have you got?," the answer may concern baseball, softball, volleyball, tennis, badminton or croquet pitching as well as the individual's discharge score.

The 83rd is rapidly developing a sports program embodying every phase of outdoor activity for which facilities are available in the ETO. At present the more popular, plus swimming, fishing and horseback riding are being conducted on an informal basis.

Organized leagues, schedules and tournaments are in the offing, depending only on the naming of qualified athletic and recreation officers and the arrival of the Division's allotment of sports equipment from Comz.

Meanwhile at Division Headquarters in Bad Harzburg every effort is being put forth by Capt. Julius Reeder, Special Service Officer, to get things humming. A riding stable has been obtained for use of the troops to ride to organized parties. A mountain stream-fed swimming pool equipped with diving boards and tower is open daily with a life guard in attendance.

In this same area there are several volley ball, badminton and tennis courts with all equipment furnished, even sneakers. Horseback riding is being marked off and pits dug. And only yesterday the first inquiry on golf was handled and an investigation is now being made by the SSO to see what facilities are obtainable in this sport.

Right down through the various echelons similar programs are being developed as rapidly as the getting together of qualified personnel and equipment will permit.

The outfit with the most advanced program thus far is the 33lst Infantry. Not only are they playing ball every day but the Regimental Officers' team has scheduled two games with other outfits. This Sunday they are playing baseball, softball, volleyball and tennis at 1400 and the following Sunday the 348th Engineers at the same time and place.

In date they do not only have baseball diamonds in daily operation, wrestling, badminton and company rivalries, but they have also had individual score books made for the men and enlisted the services of a local Burgess' men in having 50 bats made by local woodworkers. They have uncovered five 5'6' swimming pools and have put one of their PA systems to work kicking up some jazz.

Red Center Open
(Continued from Page 1)

moving daily to the 330th, the 331st, the 339th, and Division Hqs and Special Troops. And there is also a touring motion picture team, showing "Two Down and One to Go." For his superior pictorial coverage of 83rd doughs under fire, Welling had also been awarded the Bronze Star just before leaving the Division.

Opening night at the sumptuous Thunderbolt Kasino, an old-world, open-air cafe at Bad Harzburg, was a gala occasion with plenty of beer, a third dance band and an internationally famous floor show featuring the "Four Phillips" in acrobatics, juggling, tight rope walking, fan dancing and other routines that were a feature attraction at Ringling Bros. circus for three seasons. Here are picture highlights of the two-hour show now being enjoyed every other week day night at 230 by 83rd Thunderbolts on daily visits to the Bad Harzburg Rest Center, the Atlantic City of the ETO. There's another stellar variety show on alternating nights, and the Gestalt symphony orchestra for classical times.

Male Call

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"
Me and Joe Comes Back: Takes Over Wine Cellar

By Pfc Maury Renek

Wise men from many great nations have put forth their opinion of what their native country lacks towards becoming a semi-Utopia. It was said Roman numeral but I'm sure his a certain King. Richard, I forget Fraternity (the latter not to be confused with maternity, something the French never lacked). In the case of England (Case! Gad, I can make friends with a group of people you have to sail from the Omaha beachhead and go straight West you have to go to Manhattan. There you will find ele­
tway bridges they have going to the great outdoors, and the fresh water and a smell of newly painted billboards, ...