

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

In
Germany

T-PATCH

36TH DIVISION NEWS

Vol. 4, No. 3

SUNDAY, 27 MAY 1945

WEEKLY

President Cites Three Division Units

K Company, 143rd, Awarded The Presidential Citation

On 19 May, General Dahlquist pinned the Distinguished Unit pennant to the guidon of Capt. O'Dean T. Cox's King Company, 143rd Infantry, in recognition of the Presidential Citation, earned by opening the vital supply route at Bitschhoffen, France.

The citation, read by 1st Lt. William D. MacGibbon, Regimental S-2, was presented to Capt. Cox, Waco, Tex., while infantrymen of the company stood behind him. Cpl. Willie L. Buggage, Waco, Tex., bore the guidon.

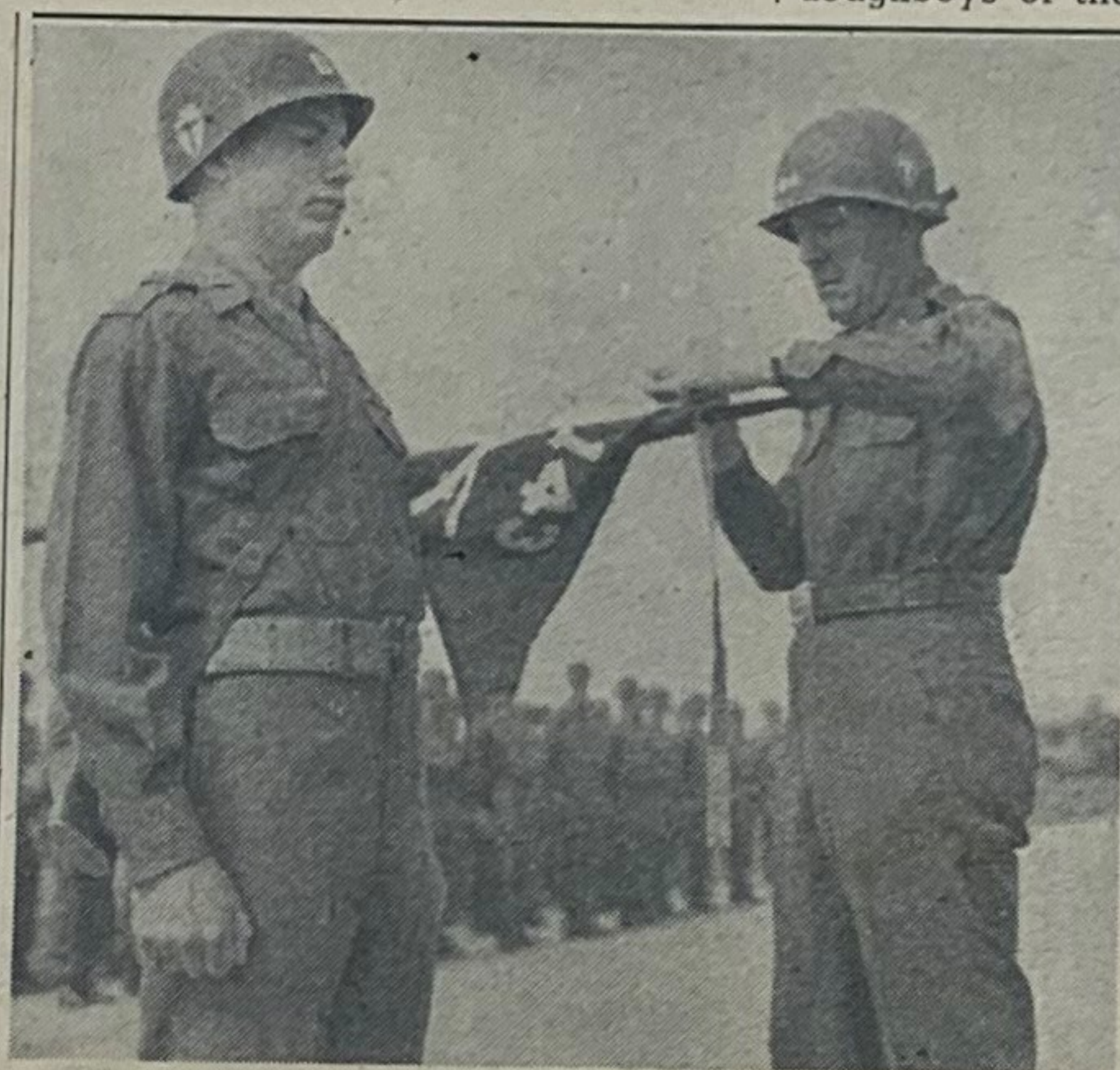
When the regiment passed in review, General Dahlquist informally congratulated the men. He stated:

"I know of no action in this war by any unit that so deserved a unit citation as did Company K. I realized what you had done. It was extraordinary heroism in that you had the will and courage to attack again, again and again, in the dark and against that weapon which in the dark carries more fear-mines. It was important not only to the 36th Division, but also to the Sixth Corps. The Germans were not strong all along the line, but they had strongly defended the lines of supply. Units on your right and on your left made great advances and used that road for supply, so what you did was extremely important. Capt. Cox and his men deserve all the honor and credit that can be given."

The official citation reads: "Company K is cited for heroism, gallantry and outstanding achievement in combat on 15 March 1945. As an assault unit of a large scale attack, Company K was assigned the mission of attacking at night across exposed terrain to capture the town of Bitschhoffen, France.

This town was known to be well-defended and surrounded by extensive minefields. The men of Company K attacked twice, each time suffering heavy losses from mines and enemy defensive fires, and each time reorganizing for another assault. On the third assault, elements of the company attacking up to and through a minefield, succeeded in entering the town.

Overwhelming German troops in the village, they then attacked from the rear those enemy forces engaged with the remainder of the company. By daylight, Bitschhoffen had fallen, an undetermined number of enemy soldiers were killed, 66 prisoners of war were captured, and the only supply route for two regiments was opened."



Capt. O'Dean T. Cox, Waco, Tex., stands before his men of King Company, 143rd Infantry, as the Division Commander attaches the Distinguished Unit streamer to the guidon.

More Photos Needed For 36th Pictorial History

Some pictures have been received for the Pictorial History of the 36th Division. These have all been filed away, and a list made of the men who have sent them. But they are not enough.

It is estimated that of all the pictures which are submitted, perhaps only fifteen per cent will be used. That means that a far greater number must be loaned by the men of the 36th if they want to see the History appear.

The files of the Fifth and Seventh Armies are available. They contain excellent pictures, but pictures of historical importance are not the only desirable ones. Pictures with a personal touch are of more importance. The Division had built up its reputation in the battles of Velletri and Cassino, Montelimar and the Moselle, but the battles were fought by men, personalities, and the History should be built around them.

There are a great many pictures of the Division. Many men have cameras. There must be more pictures, fine pictures, which can be loaned for the make-up of the Pictorial History. These pictures will not be damaged in any way. The name of the donor will be noted, and his negatives returned to him.

So, if you have a picture, or pictures, which are worthy of inclusion in the History, send them without delay to the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-1, and mark them for the Pictorial History of the 36th Division.

142nd's 3rd Battalion To Join 1st Battalion In Wearing Of Distinguished Unit Citation

By Pic. Howard Jones

Less than one week after the 1st Battalion was cited in the name of the President, it was announced that the 3rd Battalion, 142nd Infantry was also to receive a Distinguished Unit Citation. It was mainly through the efforts of the "Blue" Battalion that the Division forced its way through the impregnable defenses of the Vosges and on to the plains of Alsace. It was for this action, unprecedented in the annals of these defying mountains, that the doughboys of the 3rd Battalion will be the recipients of the highly distinctive honor.

On 24 November 1944, the 3rd Battalion traveled on trucks from a reserve area with the purpose of passing through the 1st Battalion after the latter had liberated Ban-de-Lavaline. However, seizing an opportunity, the enemy interdicted the road behind "Red" with machine guns and mortars from overlooking hills south and east of the small town of La Chipal.

Thus, the 3rd had to stand fast at Mandray to await a cover of darkness when it slipped through a curtain of fire to spend the night at Verpellière.



Lt. Col. James Minor, Tahoka, Tex., receives the Distinguished Unit ribbon from Gen. John E. Dahlquist, on behalf of the 1st Battalion, 142nd Infantry.

The immediate objective for the 3rd Bn. was St. Marie-aux-Mines, or as the Germans renamed it, Markirch. St. Marie-aux-Mines was situated just inside the Alsatian border, and in addition to serving the Germans as an important supply base and railway terminus, it was the key to the entry on the Alsatian plains.

Only one road leads into St. Marie-aux-Mines from the West, that a twisting mountain route that climbs to precipitous heights. Although the capture of this town was notable in itself, the chief derivative was that it made possible the unhampered flow of men and materiel so necessary in the subsequent advance out of the Vosges and the capture of Selestat.

On the night of 24 November, the 3rd Battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. A. Ward Gillette, was to pass through "Red" at Wisembach and attack St. Marie in two columns. One of these columns, Force Young, led by Maj. Ross Young, then Executive Officer of the 3rd, consisted of a rifle company, Love Company, a heavy weapons company less a platoon, and the Battalion's armor which included a platoon each of tanks and TDs and a recon platoon. The other Force Gillette, had with it two rifle companies, I and K, and the remaining platoon of Company M, the heavy weapons unit. This latter unit would attempt a wide flanking movement over the treacherous terrain north of St. Marie and strike the town with sudden surprise from the rear.

The 3rd Bn. left Verpellière in the early hours of the morning of 25 November. We first follow Force Young. After motoring to Wisembach, Force Young dismounted and formed an advance guard to begin the march up

the road. Motorized reconnaissance which had preceded the task force returned at 0800 with the report that the enemy was located in strength on the high point of the advance, Hill 883.

Love Company went off, into the lead, moving up the sharply rising road which climbs to 900 feet toward Hill 883. At the second turn, Co. L swung east off the road into a wooded area, planning to capture the Hill from the north and rear. The Germans held stubbornly to their well-placed positions and the Company L men had to virtually dig them out. Things were not materializing too well on the road below where two of our tanks and a tank destroyer had been knocked out in an attempt to smash a German road block. But a carefully coordinated attack, supported by an hour and a half barrage from all available artillery and mortar wiped out the German strong point.

Meanwhile, Force Gillette pulled out in the early morning and continued by motor on a little trail northeast of Wisembach to detruck at Le Mont. At this point, the force climbed to the ridge line and headed east. Some of the highest points of the Vosges were covered in rapid pace. After reaching a clearing the group proceeded on to search a farm settlement named La Boville. Bougival, above St. Marie was reached a short time later where Col. Gillette issued new attack orders since the fog had lifted suddenly.

Racing down from the heights, Company K was first to strike St. Marie. German soldiers were captured riding the streets on bicycles. Item Company entered the town further east and met only sporadic resistance. To the north, a force of about a hundred Germans converted a railway yard and station into a miniature fort and another enemy group on the slopes of the hills northeast of the town held off three platoons until midnight.

In St. Marie, mopping up took care of most of the afternoon. Eighty prisoners and large stores of booty were lifted from a German barracks in the heart of the town. By late afternoon, the 3rd Battalion had established three roadblocks at the western and southern approaches. A 30-man enemy patrol infiltrated behind an important block on the road leading west only to be dispersed by the doughboys. Force Gillette had taken 170 prisoners while suffering only two minor wounds.

Meanwhile, back at the roadblock outside of Wisembach, a preparation of 300 rounds of artillery plus mortar softened the enemy somewhat and as dusk was settling in, Company L, after a brisk fight had overrun the block, capturing 26 prisoners. Engineers then went to work removing the physical obstacles. Dynamite charges forced a passageway for patiently waiting vehicles carrying reinforcements and supplies. Force Young then contacted Force Gillette by radio and soon a platoon of each group met without incident. At daylight a fresh battalion passed through the tired 3rd while the latter built up a stronger defense for the town. St. Marie had fallen—the gateway to the Alsatian plains had been swung open.

(Con't On Page 4)

War Department Cites 2nd Battalion, 141st, For Heroism, Last December In Alsace

To round out Presidential Citations for units in each regiment of the Division, it is announced that the 2nd Battalion, 141st Infantry, has been officially cited by the War Department.

The citation states: "The 2nd Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment, is cited for extraordinary heroism, gallantry and esprit de corps from 7 December to 19 December 1944 in France.

During the 14 days of this action the 2nd Battalion held the most important single terrain feature, on the exposed right flank of the 36th Infantry Division. The enemy hurled thousands of rounds of artillery and repeated infantry assaults against the battalion positions and each attack was thrown back with disastrous losses.

On 12 December the Germans infiltrated approximately 200 men to a point two kilometers behind the lines and attacked the rear installations. By desperate fighting, the headquarters personnel of this battalion drove the

enemy back and inflicted severe casualties.

For the next four days units of the battalion, cut off on three sides, withheld all enemy assaults and prevented the enemy from overrunning the positions. On 17 December, in spite of having lost 40 per cent of its fighting strength, the battalion launched a tank-infantry attack against the center of German resistance.

With outstanding aggressiveness the men of this battalion successively stormed the three towns from which the enemy had mounted his entire offensive. The success of this brilliant attack, coupled with the overwhelming casualties inflicted on the enemy, definitely ended the enemy's offensive capabilities in the area.

More than 600 prisoners of war were taken by the 2nd Battalion, 150 of whom were wounded, and at the conclusion of the operation, more than 600 enemy dead were found in the battalion area.

One other battalion in the regiment already holds the Distinguished Unit Citation. The 3rd Battalion, 141st Infantry, became the first infantry battalion to be awarded the Presidential Citation for extraordinary heroism at Salerno.

The '84' Club

"84" Clubs are sweeping the U. S. Army, according to unconfirmed reports. It is intimated that one can recognize a brother by the execution of a limp handclasp, the muttering of the heart-rending password, "Frozen", and the singing of one chorus of "I Ain't Got No Baby".

T - PATCH

36th Division News

Vol. 4, No. 3

In Germany

27 May 1945

Sgt. Bill Jary, Managing Editor; Pfc. Robert R. Sieger, News Editor; Pfc. John A. Hyman, Feature Editor; S/Sgt. Max Shaffer, Photographer, Cpl. Eddie Bando, Circulation.

Staff Writers: Pfc. Anthony S. Amosato, Pfc. John Westenberg. Unit Correspondents: Pfc. Howard Jones, 142; Sgt. Bill Morris, 132; Pfc. Morton Wilson, 133; Pfc. Joseph Ershun, 11th Medical.

Published by the Public Relations Office, Capt. Sumner S. Wilson, Supervising Officer, with the cooperation of Major Benjamin F. Wilson, Jr., I and E Officer; and Captain Theodore J. Nykiel, Special Service Officer.

The T-Patch uses Camp Newspaper Service material. Reproduction of credited material prohibited without permission of CNS, 205 East 42 Street, New York City.

Address all communications to T-Patch, PRO, care of our APO or through M/C.

Do Not Disturb

I visited Oberammergau. If you get a chance, you should go there, too. It is a small village at the foot of Mt. Koestel. Famous for the Passion Play, the village has been producing the story of Christ for the last 310 years.

The public witnesses the play approximately every ten years. It was produced in 1910, 1922 (delay due to ravages of war), 1930, 1934 (300-year Jubilee), and delayed again in 1940 because of war. Over two million see the play during a four-month season. Approximately 200,000 from the United States join with peoples of India, China, Japan and all nations to see the spectacle.

In recent years the play has been held in a modern theater with an electrically-equipped stage on which the scenery is switched forty times during the performance. The dressing rooms shelter 3,000 beautiful costumes of Far Eastern-imported materials. Everything is there: Christ's robes, the bowl in which Pilate washed his hands, the Cross.

All the characters come from the village—hundreds of them. The High Priest, the soldiers, the children, Mary Magdalene, Simon Peter, all are villagers. Some are farmers, some butchers, some stone workers, and wood carvers; they play their parts and live their lives in Oberammergau.

I didn't see Christ—Alois Lang is his name. He lives on the outskirts of the village. He is the one I wanted to see most of all. I wanted to rush up to him and say: "Lang, player of Christ, why have you denied Him? Player of Christ, don't lie to me, don't tell me you didn't know about starving slaves in concentration camps. We knew it all around the world. Don't tell me you didn't know millions of innocent people were murdered while you carved wood and hoped to play Christ again someday. Why didn't you step upon the stage on the regular opening day for the 1940 season and announce your opposition to the heathen Hitler? Why didn't you convert your part in the play to your conduct in real life and set an example for Christians throughout the world?"

I didn't see Christ, but I did see Judas and I wanted to ask of him: "Judas, how many pieces of silver did you get for betraying Him this time?" I rapped on the window of his workshop. He looked up from a hand-carved likeness of Christ and shook his shaggy head. He held up a shingle on which was a penciled note: "Do not disturb." Signed Chaplain

Sure, do not disturb. These people are simply molding clay and carving wood and marking time until they can play the life of Christ again. I thought it a great contradiction for the nation that has committed the most heinous crimes in history to have one of its villages known throughout the world for its outstanding presentation of the story of Christ.

I don't suppose it is. It's just a play. That's all—a play. It has no real meaning. Do not disturb. PJ

The Seventh War Loan Drive

The Seventh War Loan Drive is now under way, and will end on 7 July 1945. The ending of hostilities in Europe emphasizes the need for exerting every effort toward the conclusion of the Japanese conflict. Your government needs to borrow your extra money to turn every gun on our last remaining enemies. Your purchase of war bonds will speed us to final and complete victory.

You can buy U.S. War Bonds by contacting your company clerk for: a. A direct cash purchase. b. A one-time payroll deduction. c. A regular Class B Allotment. The new type may be discontinued any month.

War bonds bought overseas offer the same advantages as bonds bought at home. You may name a co-owner or beneficiary; in case of need they

may be cashed. The bonds will be sent for safekeeping to any address you designate, or will be kept in the Treasury Department for you until your return. The \$10 bond (costing \$7.50) was designed for GI's, and only members of the Armed Forces may purchase them.

Have some jack when you get back. V. M. L.

Chaplain's Column

Do good! Don't become tired of doing good! Take every chance you get to do good. Do good to everyone, but especially to those who are fellow-believers.

It is not narrow or unkind to have an extra measure of love for those who stand with us as true followers of Christ. We need to be reminded that they have a right to our love and friendship. Do you know a lonely Christian. Do good to him.

We often said unkind things to those dearest to us, even of our own family, that we would not have thought of saying to others. We take those nearest us for granted too often and treat those better who deserve it less.

Jesus did good and crowds followed Him. He is still harvesting rewards because He did and does so much good. Happiness, peace and true prosperity come from doing good.



By Walter Mills, 142nd

Inquiring Photographer

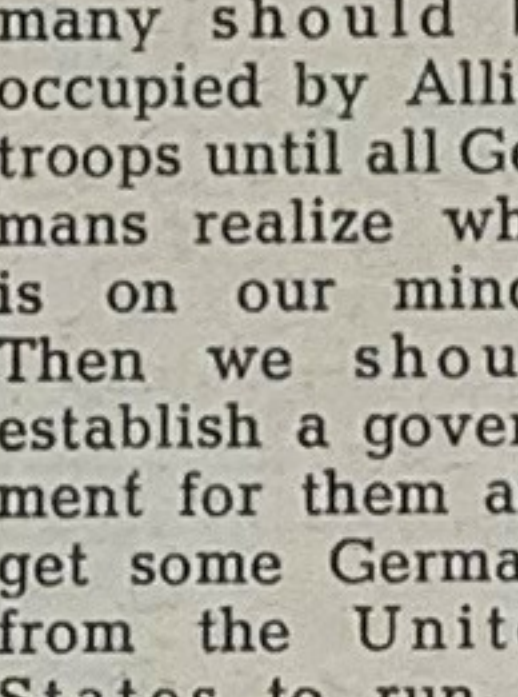
By S/Sgt. Max Shaffer

THE QUESTION: "What do you think should be done with Germany?"

Pfc. JOHN F. SCHUETTE, Brooklyn, N.Y., Hq. Company, 3rd Bn., 141st Infantry: "That's a pip. I've been so busy lately that I haven't had a chance to think about it. I believe that the Germans should be kept under Allied control indefinitely. We should let the people here know how the world feels toward them and what is expected of them. Above all the Germans must be disarmed permanently. We must not give them an opportunity to train an army behind our backs."



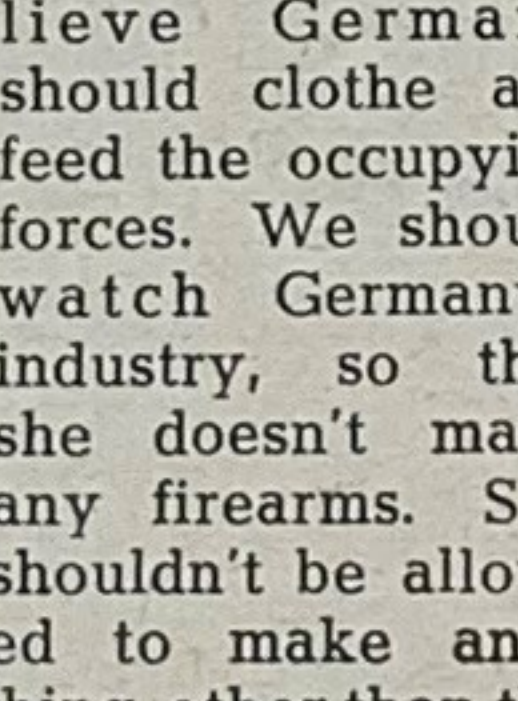
Pfc. MARVIN R. JAMES, Hoxie, Kan., Company L, 141st Infantry "It's really hard to say. I think that Germany should be occupied by Allied troops until all Germans realize what is on our minds. Then we should establish a government for them and get some Germans from the United States to run it. I am in favor of setting up a democracy for them and keeping Germany disarmed."



Pfc. R. L. ABERNATHY, Florence, Ala., AT. Company, 141st Infantry: "There is so much that I would like to see done to Germany that I really don't know what to say. We should get rid of all her military leaders. I mean really get rid of them and keep Germany disarmed. We want no slip-ups this time. Then we should keep a close check on industry and set up a good government under Allied control."



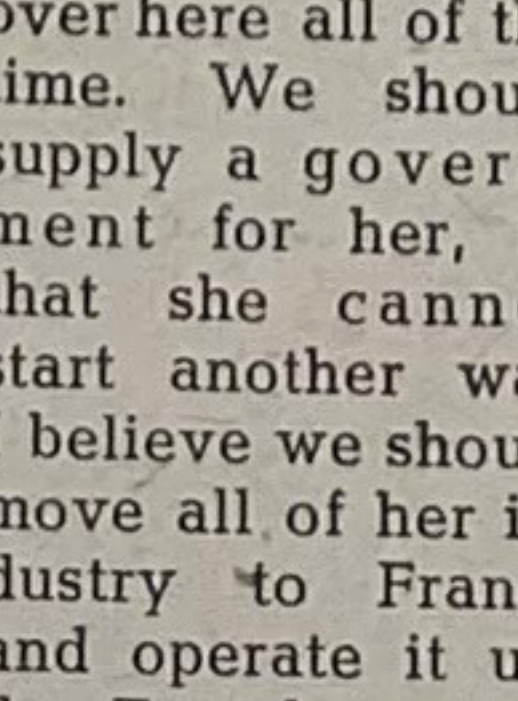
Sgt. KENNETH T. OSTERHOUT, Monistiquette, Mich., H and S Company, 11th Engineers: "I don't know, I believe Germany should clothe and feed the occupying forces. We should watch Germany's industry, so that she doesn't make any firearms. She shouldn't be allowed to make anything other than the bare necessities. I don't know about her government. I believe that I'm going home and that's predominant in my mind at the moment."



Pfc. GORDON E. FELLOWS, Streater, Ill., mortar man, E Company, 143rd Infantry: "We should keep Germany policed up, take all her arms away, and let her own people run the government on a trial basis under Allied supervision. We should take control of all her industry until she gets started on the right track. Keep Germany occupied until we see that she cannot and will not start another war."



Pfc. ANTHONY E. O'TOOLE, Shamokin, Pa., rifleman C Company, 143rd Infantry: "We should leave troops over here all of the time. We should supply a government for her, so that she cannot start another war. I believe we should move all of her industry to France and operate it under French control. We must keep Germany disarmed and clean out her military and political leaders for all time."



Primary interests of the G-2 are strength and dispositions of the enemy troops, closely linked with their identification. The identification is assembled and handled by one unit, operating as a part of G-2, the Order of Battle Team. The members of the Team not only have a complete knowledge of the German echelons and equipment,

THE G-2 SECTION:

Coordinating Intelligence To Gain Enemy Strength And Disposition



Cpl. Raymond Surdez, New York City and Sgt. Samuel D. Cobb, Bailey Switch, Ky., make map distribution, Sgt. Frank Dubsky posts the situation and Sgt. Calvin W. Wilson, Terre Haute, Ind., counts out additional maps.



M/Sgt. Fred L. McFadden, Dallas, Tex., checks overlays with Maj. Clarke C. Wren, Houston, Tex., Assistant G-2, while Sgt. David Back, Washington, D. C., waits to take dictation.

"If you can't pronounce it, send it to G-2." No, the sign won't be found in the APO, but it's in pretty wide practice. That is because the G-2 Section—with attachments often referred to as the "G-2 Battalion"—has with it men who are experts at nearly every language, generally men who have come from foreign countries, and who are members of one of the alphabet soup sections operating through G-2: the CIC and the SSS, the OSS and the FFI, the PIU and the IPW, the TFO and PRO and OB, and sundry others. Therefore, if a man's name ends with such a combination as ryk or czzi, his mail is certain to find its way to the G-2. There was a man named Jones, once, poor fellow. There were also Janensch and Arregui and Guarnieri, and Jones was very lonesome.

It's necessary for the G-2 Section to have men with such fabulous names. G-2 is the enemy, and the men in the section have to know the German army like a Texan knows the 36th. G-2 is intelligence, and that means knowing the enemy like a book.

The intelligence sections rely on many sources of information. Patrols play a very important part, probing the enemy positions to find weak spots and taking prisoners. The prisoners are also vital to the G-2 in identifying the units facing him. Upon interrogation they often reveal information of considerable importance, as do civilians who are picked up and questioned.

In addition, a much-used source of information is aerial photographs. Agents behind the lines, who perform the necessary work in a manner which movie-goers would find almost incredible, are also valuable. It stretches the imagination to describe how Italian partisans and French maquis operated behind enemy lines and then moved through them to carry vital information back to the G-2.

Adjacent and higher headquarters disseminate even more information, gathered in much the same manner. Reports come in from the S-2's of the various subordinate elements. All this is disseminated to the CG and higher headquarters, to G-3 and lower units, after it is sifted and evaluated and analyzed.

Primary interests of the G-2 are strength and dispositions of the enemy troops, closely linked with their identification. The identification is assembled and handled by one unit, operating as a part of G-2, the Order of Battle Team. The members of the Team not only have a complete knowledge of the German echelons and equipment,

but also know the various enemy units so well that they can identify them from their various personalities. In addition to this, G-2 is interested in enemy materiel and moves, the characteristics of the terrain, and the weather.

The Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, for the 36th is Lt. Col. Francis R. Reese, Houston, Texas, assisted by Maj. Clarke C. Wren of Houston and Capt. Richard M. Burrage of Waco.

Five members of the section landed with it at Salerno: M/Sgt. Fred L. McFadden, T/Sgt. Robert C. McGuire, Sgt. Samuel D. Cobb, Sgt. Calvin W. Wilson and Cpl. Raymond Surdez. Two other members of the section, Sgt. David Back and Sgt. Frank Dubsky, have joined it since then, the former in Italy and the latter in France.

QM Substitutes Old Glory For Nazi Swastika

Machine-gun fire shattered the morning's tranquility for the German citizens of Biebenhoffen.

Quickly they ran to the town square. There stood a truck with 36th Quartermaster men firing their 50-cal. machine-gun at a iron swastika atop the village flagpole. The CO insisted on an "Old Glory" substitution.

Ten minutes and thirty bursts netted only a few holes. When a few began to believe that the Germans would get the last laugh, the sharp crack of an M-1 knocked the stubborn swastika to the pavement with a resounding clang.

Both Germans and GI's cheered the hoisting of the Stars and Stripes.

36th Recon Troopers Tricked By Faked White Flag Of SS

By Pfc. John Westenberg

Darkness was falling on the German village of Sachenbach. Along the road leading to the town, the 36th Cavalry Recon Troop was making a road reconnaissance.

"We were investigating a report made on the town of Jachenau, some six kilometers from Sachenbach," said Cpl. Harold L. Silverman, Bronx, N.Y.

"The report wasn't a good one either. We heard that SS troops were organizing there," added Cpl. Robert B. Robinson, Philadelphia, Pa.

Civilian reports told that Sachenbach was clear of German troops. About 400 yards outside the town six Jerries marched out of the woods with a white flag. Silverman, driving the lead M-8, stopped and waited for the troopers to take the prisoners. But the Germans were not giving up in actuality. They fired on the Recon men from all sides. The Yanks bailed out and took positions.

Cpl. Silverman jumped out and fired his BAR into the woods. After exhausting his ammunition, he made his way back to the next vehicle to talk to his platoon leader.

"I walked away from the lieutenant and made my way farther back. Just as I reached the next vehicle, the lieutenant was hit and fell to the ground," explained Silverman. "I talked to nine men on my way down the column and each of those nine men were hit just after I spoke to him.

Finally with all the wounded but two safely aboard their vehicles, the troopers forced their way down the road to a more secure position.

The story of the trickery and brutality does not end there. That night Corporals Silverman and Robinson led a section of infantrymen back to the scene of the ambush to rescue the two wounded that had been left behind. Arriving on the scene, all they could

find was the burning armored car.

As they moved down the road to a house, the men were halted by the sobs of an hysterical woman. "We couldn't figure it out, so Robinson and I went into the house," said Silverman.

Inside the house they found their two wounded comrades, bandaged and resting. The bodies of two dead women lay on the floor beside the beds. In one corner of the room sat a third woman, sobbing pathetically.

"I understand a little German," said Silverman. "From what she told me I gathered that the three women saw the two men shot, waited until both the Germans and we had gone, and then went out to take care of the casualties. The SS men returned, saw the Americans being treated, and shot the two women in reprisal.

Nazis Couldn't Fool IPW Vets

The German big-shots that the 36th Division has taken are a bunch of slick articles, that's the opinion of the veteran IPW interrogators of the 36th, M/Sgt. Herbert Kraus, Cleveland, O., and Sgt. Bob Friedlander, New York City. If anyone knows how Germans should behave—though they don't seem to act according to the book nowadays—it's this duo.

Sgt. Kraus is an old Bavarian, who went to school in Munich of beer hall fame before coming to the United States. Sgt. Friedlander was an officer in the Czechoslovakian Army. He went out one end of Prague when the Nazis goose-stepped in the other. Friedlander had no choice in the matter; he had no troops left.

These men know the Germans, so it isn't any wonder that when they find four star generals behaving like old buddies, they think the Germans are trying to get away with an about face and win sympathy from the courts.

Regimental Service Companies Awarded Meritorious Plaque

The Service Companies of the 141st, 142nd, and 143rd Infantry Regiments have been awarded the Meritorious Service Unit Plaque in recognition of their outstanding work in direct support of combat operations.

Service Company of the 141st Infantry was cited for its outstanding performance under difficult conditions from 15 August 1944 to 1 November 1944 in France. The citation noted: "During this period the Service Company overcame seemingly impossible odds to keep the regiment adequately supplied and insure the proper maintenance of vehicles. Service Company displayed a willingness and resourcefulness which was exemplary.

Service Company of the 142nd Infantry was cited for its devotion to duty in the achievement of difficult tasks from January 1, 1944 to January 1, 1945, in Italy and France. The citation reads: "...the members of Service Company performed their important tasks in a consistently superior manner. The high caliber of the Service Company's accomplishments during this period reflects great credit on all the members of the unit, and contributed greatly to the combat efficiency of the regiment."

Service Company of the 143rd Infantry was cited for its outstanding devotion to duty in the performance of exceptionally difficult tasks from January 1 to June 30 during the Italian campaigns. The citation stated: "...in the difficult mountain fighting, the Service Company labored under extreme difficulties of weather and terrain to insure the adequate supply of the regiment. Often under heavy artillery fire, the men of Service Company led mule trains up the steep, ice-covered trails."

Very Warm For May



These T-Patchers are taking their first dip in German waters in the von Hindenburg Park near the Division CP.

Gela To Germany - 500 Combat Days For 83rd Chemical Men

Gela, Salerno, Venafrò, Minturno, Anzio, Southern France, Vosges, Alsace, and Germany—historical names in a series of historical campaigns. There are outfits who made history at more than one of these places; hard-hitting Rangers, who knew glory even in defeat; famous old divisions, "Thunderbird," "Marne," and "T-Patch."

During two years overseas the 83rd Chemical Mortar Battalion has participated in these campaigns with the old divisions. They have been under two American armies and one French army. They have worked with five

American corps, one French corps, and one British corps. Close support has been given to the "doughboys" of 16 infantry divisions, five armored divisions, two airborne divisions and numerous task forces.

In two years the 83rd Chemical Mortar Battalion has participated in the initial assaults of four major amphibious operations, a fifth "end-run" amphibious assault, and one airborne operation.

Two years, two continents, four countries and five campaigns were climaxed on 30 April when the 83rd marked its 500th day of actual combat.

The Immortal Pfc.

By Pretsch, 141st



"S'bout time you changed the oil in those clothes, isn't it soljer?"

143rd Claims Best Contract Bridge Player

Probably the best contract bridge player in the 36th Division is Pfc. D. A. Scalisi, Warren, Pa., a member of the kitchen staff, Anti-tank Company, 143rd Infantry.

In 1929 Scalisi started playing auction bridge. A year later he switched from auction to contract. The longer he played the better he became, so in 1935, Scalisi joined the American Contract Bridge Club, an organization which holds tournaments throughout the United States.

Traveling many miles to participate, Scalisi has seldom returned without first or second prize. In some tournaments he has played against Ely Culbertson, noted expert; Charlie Coren, No. 1 contract player in the United States; and Helen Sobel, No. 1 American woman contract player.

Members of the Bridge League of America are given ratings according to their abilities. Scalisi holds the rating of National Master. There are only two ratings higher than his. It takes 100 rating points to get one master point and Scalisi holds 14 master points.

In most tournaments Scalisi had as a partner, Dr. Riddelsberger, a prominent surgeon and a brilliant young bridge analyst. They hold the Warren Country Club championship. Scalisi was on the runner-up team in the Western Pennsylvania Championships, which were open to anyone in the United States, and placed in the National Tournament at Syracuse in 1941.

After entering the Army, Scalisi continued his bridge by teaching the soldiers in Italy for the Red Cross. He states that he would be happy to give lessons to 36th Division men and would enjoy a good game at any time.

143rd Big Picture.

G. I. Fraternity Established By 'Dogface Soldier'

With a personal note, "To Maj. Gen. John E. Dahlquist: Congratulations to a mighty outfit," Cpl. Don Gold, Third Division, recently forwarded a copy of the authentic foxhole folksong, "Dogface Soldier," written by Cpl. Gold and Lt. Ken Hart.

In a message to infantrymen of the 36th Division, Gold writes:

"Brothers of 'Gamma Iota' Fraternity:

The enclosed beat-up thing was written in a trance three years ago when my buddy, Hart (a lieutenant now, but a good guy) suggested the type of song the man would want when the going was rough and the mud was deep—simple and spontaneous-sounding with no tin-pan-alley patriotism.

As rookies at the game of song-writing, we couldn't do an awful lot with it except introduce it around and hope that if enough guys heard it, it would click.

It did—in a big way in Italy, and almost a year passed before we even knew about it. It spread from mouth-to-mouth like a dirty rumor, and now gives evidence of being one of the few strictly soldier songs to come out of the war.

Here are the words:

I wouldn't give a bean to be a fancy pants Marine;

I'd rather be a dogface soldier like I am,

I wouldn't trade my old O.D.'s for all the Navy's dungarees,

For I'm the walking pride of Uncle Sam.

On all the posters that you read, they say the Army builds men,

So they're tearing me down to build me over again.

I'm just a dogface soldier with a rifle on my shoulder,

And I eat a Kraut for breakfast every day.

So feed me ammunition, to keep me in condition;

Your dogface soldier boy's O.K.

Devers' Order Of The Day Lauds Sixth Army Group

General Jacob L. Devers, 6th Army Group Commander, has issued the following Order of the Day to all officers, enlisted men and women in units under his command.

"The enemy has been vanquished. The unconditional surrender by the German High Command of all German land, sea and air forces in Europe is an acknowledgment of unqualified defeat; and, for the armies of the Allies, the most significant victory in the annals of the world.

On the 6th Army Group front there have been military achievements so notable that they justify the highest commendation.

On each battlefield our arms and our men have proven themselves superior to those of the Axis Power; and this superiority is found, unquestionably, in the individual soldier as

well as in our armies, divisions and smaller units. Outstanding leadership, determination and courage have been ever present.

History will evaluate the campaigns in which you have participated: The landing of the Seventh Army, including French Army "B," on the beaches of Southern France; The conquest of Mediterranean ports and other important cities; The march of more than 400 miles to the Vosges Mountains; the Liberation of more than one-half of France; The decimation of the enemy and the capture of more than 90,000 prisoners. In leadership, daring and speed this campaign is unequalled."

142nd, 3rd Battalion

(Con't From Page 1)

With the 1st and 2nd Battalions pressing strong German opposition at St. Croix, 27 November found the 3rd Bn. making a flanking attempt to attack Liepvre from the south. If Liepvre should be taken first by either of the other two battalions, Blue would continue on to Mount Koenigsbourg Chateau, an historic castle and tower commanding a view of the St. Marie pass and the Rhine Valley.

After the 3rd was transported from southeast of St. Marie through Fert-rup, it dismounted and moved off in columns along a route parallel to the main valley road. Orders to descend on Liepvre from the south in conjunction with the 2nd Battalion entering from the west, were received that night.

Just as the 3rd Battalion edged its way toward the outskirts of Liepvre, a message was received that the town had been entered by "White." It meant on to Koenigsbourg.

Upon reaching a hotel not far from Koenigsbourg, the battalion was told by the "civilians" that there were no Germans in the castle but only a day before, forced civilian labor had made a lengthy road block of fallen trees. Taking nothing for granted, two companies stealthily closed in on the castle height and soon had it secured. In ten days, "Blue" had pushed nearly ten miles over the most rugged terrain to slip through and take the commanding terrain. For weeks, Koenigsbourg was the key observation post, and attacks into the Rhine Valley below originated there.

The next morning, 29 November, a force of Germans which had come up during the night, were routed from a hotel within 300 yards of the castle. More of the enemy had been sighted in Thannenkirch, St. Hippolyte, and Orschwiller. Armor was brought up to clear the road obstructions.

At daylight on the 30th, the battalion moved out to take Kintzheim and Chateaufort, first towns to the east on the Rhine lowland. About a mile from the start, a group of 50 to 60 Germans attempted to hold a road block, but with the aid of two tanks, our infantry moved past and the enemy fell back. At the fork of the road, Love Company headed toward Kintzheim while K and two platoons of I moved up the trail to Hill 830, dominating Chateaufort. Company L experienced a rough engagement on the approaches to Kintzheim when they were held up by an

extremely heavy mortar barrage being directed from the medieval Kintzheim chateau.

An attempt by the platoon on the left to dislodge the enemy from their vantage point was unsuccessful, so the chateau was ordered by-passed and the platoon entered Kintzheim. A German tank, one of the three that were in town, opened fire at point-blank range and inflicted heavy casualties. But, in spite of this strong enemy resistance, the southern portion of the town was in our hands before nightfall. Meanwhile, a platoon of Item company hit at the entrance of the chateau, but bazookas and supporting TD fire only dented the war-defiant walls. That night, the Germans unwillingly cooperated by abandoning the castle and withdrawing from Kintzheim.

During the afternoon, the other 3rd Battalion force secured the high ground overlooking Chateaufort and directed artillery fire on the town.

After Company I had covered a dozer operation to clear a road block, armor began rolling into Kintzheim at daylight. Mopping up netted only 15 prisoners and simultaneously the other "Blue" force converged on Chateaufort meeting only minor resistance. Love Company with the Battalion armor moved up from Kintzheim to consolidate the positions.

Without so much as a breathing spell, orders came through that "Blue" should attack the highly important center of Selest. But it was not alone—three other battalions were also attacking.

Just as the battalion began their move, they ran into an intense artillery barrage East of Kintzheim and suffered heavy casualties.

On 2 December, the battalion with Company I in the assault, resumed its attack on the town. Although harassed continually by small arms fire, Company I cleaned out house after house and closed in on its objective in the heart of Selest. Company K swung to the right and took care of a large part of the town in the vicinity of the athletic field. By the next evening, 3 December, the 3rd Battalion had cleared its assigned portion of the town and awaited the closing-in of the other units.

Tired, weary, and battle-scarred veterans of the 3rd Battalion had come a long way, across the Vosges by way of the St. Marie Pass and on to the plains of Alsace.

Beauty and the Bank



THIS INTERESTING LITTLE EYE CHART shows, left to right, a poster on the Soldiers Savings Program and starlet Dorothy Merrick. If neither of them registers with you, you may be suffering from faulty vision or lack of foresight and should sit down and have a good man-to-man talk with yourself.

Army Educational Courses Offered By I And E Section

The Division Information and Education Officer, Maj. Benjamin F. Wilson, has announced that a series of Army Education Courses will be made available for personnel of the 36th.

It is planned to have textbooks, workbooks, instructors and other facilities and supplies available, so that as many courses as possible can be offered in every organization of battalion size.

In planning the education program, it will be necessary for the I. and E. Section to know as far as possible what courses the men are going to be interested in.

The following list gives the names of the main courses in which classes can be organized at the present time: 1. Business; 2. Agriculture and Farming; 3. Mechanics and Trade; 4. General Education, Mathematics, Science, Language, History, etc.

Decide which type or types of general courses you are interested in. Then read through the list of specific courses, which follows, and think them over in relation to your interests and plans.

Business: 1. Advertising; 2a. Book-keeping and Accounting; 2b. Book-keeping and Accounting in Business; 3. Business Arithmetic; 4. Business English; 5. Business Law; 6a. Managing a Small Business; 6b. Managing a Small Business; 7. Foremanship and Supervision; 8. Personnel Management; and 9. Salesmanship.

Agriculture and Farming: 21. Crop Management and Soil Conservation; 22. Livestock Production; and 23. Poultry Management.

General Education Courses: 31. American Economic Problems; 32. American Government; 33a. Spoken French (for beginners); 33b. Spoken

French (2nd course); 34. Physical Sciences; 35. Psychology; 36a. Review Arithmetic; 36b. Review Arithmetic (advanced); and 37. American Social and Political History.

Mechanical and Trade Courses: 41. Auto Mechanics; 42. Electricity for Beginners; 43. Radio for Beginners; 44. Blueprint Reading; 45. Carpentry; 46. Mechanical Drawing; and 47. Shop Mathematics.

If you are interested in any of the above courses contact the Information and Education Section, and ask for a questionnaire to be filled out and handed in.

Nazi Colonel Had Fiancee in Philly

Count Helfried von Studnitz, a Lt. Col. of MP's and formerly an infantry officer on the Russian front, was the German liaison officer with the 36th while the Division was in Austria.

A Prussian, somewhat less unbending than many of his ilk, he spoke excellent English. And why not? he was engaged to a girl from Philadelphia. He never married her; he joined the army, and permission to marry her was refused.

But, unbending and all that, von Studnitz still thinks apologetically about the Prussian part of the war. "Such men as von Rundstedt are not war criminals," he insists. "Goering and Hitler yes, but we Prussians are just military men who are doing our duty by a greater Germany."

The words sound familiar. Didn't Hitler say in one of his major harangues: "We will do our duty to make this a greater and everlasting Germany."

Sport Chips

Division soft ball, table tennis, and volley ball leagues have swung into action—swimming is also on the program calculated to make the most of physical fitness—The SSO plans for a swimming meet with regimental teams competing—In New York fans are once again preparing to follow the ponies—the big Kentucky Derby will run sometime in June—while there is very little winter line on the entries, it will still be a great day at Col. Matt Winn's track—the band will play "My Old Kentucky Home," the horses will parade past the stands, and the same

old hush will fall over the crowd at the cry, "They're Off"—it would be good to be there—Baseball is producing all kinds of streaks—first the Red Sox and a long losing streak—then the Giants won nine in a row—then the

amazing Bums won eleven—now some rookie hurler has pitched three shut-outs in four games—Johnny Rucker hit in 18 straight games—Ernie Lombardi hit nine round-trippers in his team's first 21 games—Rookie Johnny Douglas, ex-Miami U footballer, recently told Leo the Lip that he could run faster on one leg than the boss on two—Leo put John on first for three weeks, but big league pitching slowed down the West Virginian—Lefty Schener, another Miami U man and Jersey City first sacker, is hitting International League twirlers for a high .300 average—Al Benton, who couldn't come through for Connie Mack, is besting Newhouser and Trout as the best flinger on the Detroit staff—Time magazine says that enough football material has been sent to the ETO to outfit 700 squads of 25 men each—there should also be enough softball equipment for 600,000—Heck Kilrea, hockey immortal, proved just as competent in the European League when he knocked out a tank and won the DSC with the 36th Division.

Eddie Miller, Cincy shortstop, has been accepted for military service—Bill Voiselle pitched his eighth consecutive triumph to keep the Giants in the National League lead—Former Athletic twirler, Phil Marchildon, who won 17 games for the Mackmen in 1942, was among 257 Canadian airmen released from a German PW camp—Joe Heving, only grandfather in the majors, has been handed his release by the Cleveland Indians.

Answers to last week's questions: 1. Ruthville. 2. Wally Pipp. 3. Roy Mack, Connie's son. 4. Joe Cronin and Clark Griffith, his father-in-law. Four more questions: 1. What team once featured the Cook brothers, Bun and Bill? 2. Who was the pitcher Connie Mack surprised the Cubs with in a World Series opener? 3. What is the recorded score of a forfeited football game? 4. Where did Eddie, Collins, Walter Koppich, Lou Gehrig go to school?

Discharge Vox Pox

According to latest and most reliable statistics, an average member of the 36th Division has been asked by other members of the 36th Division 8,974 times in two weeks, "How many points have you, Chum?"

Male Call

Male
Call
By
Milton
Caniff



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



Physi-oh-thera-beaut-ics

