

Here again is one of those eternal "ears". It's amazing that despite its staleness and its lack of humor, most everyone will read this all the way to the end.

Gen. Patton to Review Thunderbolts; Scheduled To Speak in Passau

331st Platoon In Attack for Blood and Guts

Lt. Gen. George S. Patton, Commanding General of the Third Army, is expected to speak before men of the 83rd Division tomorrow in Passau. He will also review the men in parade.

A rifle platoon problem "in the attack" will be demonstrated for the General by Co. I doughboys.

The following is a brief resume of the demonstration problem that was originally scheduled and will be run off when Gen. Patton arrives.

The problem consists of an attack thru a hill and woods by a rifle platoon, proceeded by a heavy barrage of mortar and machine gun fire. The second platoon, under the leadership of Lt. Wilbur Valentine of St. Louis, Missouri, is to be the attacking unit while Lt. Lester Anderson's platoon will support the assaulting group with 60 mm. mortar and 30. cal. machine gun fire. Co. M's 81 mm. mortar platoon and 30-cal. machine guns will also support the attack.

The starting signal to initiate the preparatory barrage will be given by the 1 Co. C. O., Lt. Noel Anderson, who will start the shells whistling, and the bullets cracking. The hill and woods will completely be covered by mass fire. As soon as the barrage is lifted the 2nd squad, under the leadership of S/Sgt Charles Merrill, of Irving, Kansas, will begin the assault. Simultaneously, Sgt Harry Wilensen's, squad will start toward their objective. Both squads will be "covered" by Sgt. Huston Gredites, of Dayton, Ohio, and his twelve man team, who have been designated as the support squad and will lay down a base of fire. The assaulting units will join at a point, and in a marching - fire formation will move up the hill.

Pfc Donald Sheetz, of Reading, Pa., will be one of the many doughs to (Continued on page 2)

Heart-Broken Yanks Organize Refuge as Haven From Jilters

If you have been jilted lately or have received a "buddy letter" you are eligible to become a member of the exclusive club in the ETO, the Just Friends Club.

This unique little club has its headquarters in 1st Bn. Hq. Co. The president is S/Sgt. Daniel A. Baran, Savannah, Georgia, who has received the "sad news" twice. His capable assistant is Pfc. Donald Currie, Cleveland, Ohio, who received word that his little bundle of love had just taken the final vows with some other man.

Charter members of the club are George Ebensperger, Utica, New York, who heard the wedding bells via electrical transcription — but for another man, Cpl. James DeLuca, Lynbrook, L. I., who lost out to an Air Corp 1st Lt., who had 115 points, and T/4 Herman Verdin who surrendered to just a plain, good old civilian.

The organization has a crying list upon which a member-to-be must enter his name two months before formal initiation. His wounded cries of frustrated love must appear on the record at least once a week. After this ordeal the applicant is initiated. This involves staring at a picture of his former beloved for two hours while locked in a darkened room. He is then allowed to return to his unfaithful one's "buddy letter" using such phrases as "It was all for the best", "guess we were too young to realize", "It will be tough for awhile but I hope you are happy".

Weekly meetings are held at which time cases that are on the border's edge are carefully studied and enormous laughs are had at the expense of some of the poor characters who are in the process of receiving a "buddy letter". The club is eager to receive fellow sufferers. The only basic requirement is one "buddy letter" from a jilting female and applicants are eligible for a lifetime membership.

908th Mermen Win 3rd Army Swim Titles

The guns of the 331st Combat Team's own 908th FA Bn, fired a salute for two of the latter's mermen who captured first place honors in their respective events to annex 3rd Army Championship Titles and earn for themselves the right to participate in the ETO-wide Swim playoffs to be held at Nuremberg on July 29th. Final results of the swim meet were not received at press time.

The XXII Corps racked up a total of 101 points to take first place honors in the Army tilt while the 2nd Corps nosed out the XII Corps to take second place. While representing the 83rd Division and wearing the colors of the XII Corps, Capt. Herbert D. Glass 50-meter star copped the Third Army title in the same event while nosing out some tough competition in the fast time of 28. seconds flat. He also anchored the 300 meter medley-relay combo that captured the top spot in the event. T/5 Thomas J. Anders, also of the 908th Service Battery, kept his championship standing by annexing 200 meter breast stroke event in the excellent time of 3:15 minutes. Anders is a leading exponent of the butterfly-stroke and is highly touted to win his event in the coming meet. Capt. Glass was formerly the 1937 NYU team captain and has a string of collegiate successes behind him.

Pfc Richard Schaeffer, lone Blackboy entrant to place in the Army tilts, took (Continued on page 4)

Army Separations Now Total 1,800,000

Washington (CNS)—You may still be n, but somebody is getting out of the Army these days. Total separations, Dec. 7, 1941 through last Mar 31, according to the WD, were more than 1,800,000, including nearly 100,000 officers. Of this total, 1,400,000 were honorable discharges, 219,000 were deaths, both in and out of battle, 132,000 were PWs or missing, and the rest were discharges other than honorable, retirement of Regular Army personnel, and miscellaneous separations.

George Co. Doughboy Collects Nameplates For Novel Hobby

The odd was also lent to the bizarre, when it was discovered recently that a George Co. dough had one of the strangest hobbies imaginable. Not a collector of the usual stamps, coins, postcards, antique furniture, or even tiny elephant statues, he has amassed an impressive collection of nameplates!

Removing the nameplates from knocked-out tanks, burnt and wrecked vehicles of various makes, models and vintage, smashed airplanes, and even street signs, has become the impassioned prime occupation of S/Sgt Russel Pleasants who calls his home San Diego, California. The entire collection that numbers well in the hundreds, fits in a box that is only comparable to a GI footlocker.

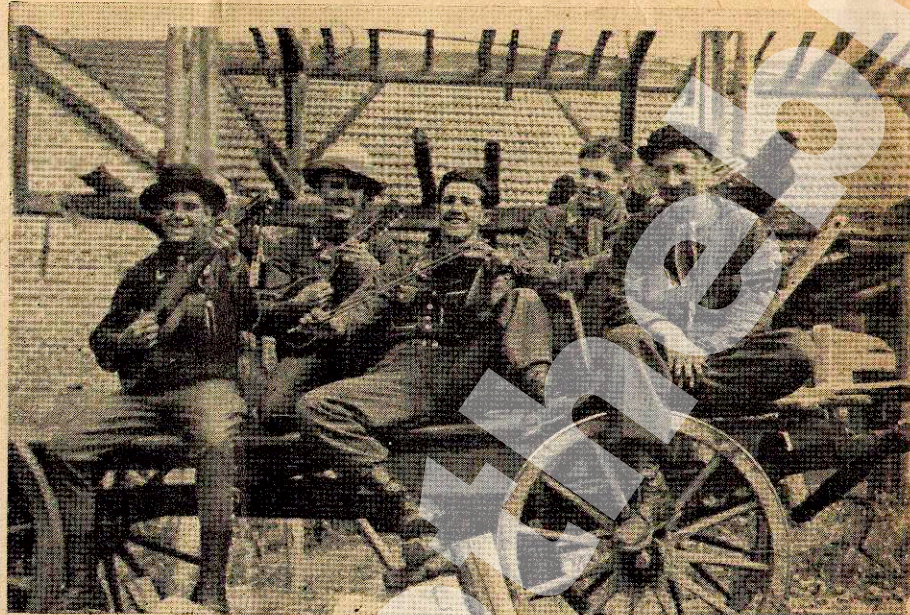
S/Sgt Pleasants, hopes to display his novel collection (which he started long before he came in the army) back in the states. Such items as the name of the company who designed the particular machine, and the accompanying data, facts, dates, or statistics that is usually found on nameplates fascinates him. The only equipment he needs is a knife or "when things get tough" a small file.

At present, Pleasants is stationed at the Pocking Air Base where his company is located, and he enjoys the happy hunting among the numerous derelict machines, air planes, and vehicles that litter the 500-acre field.

Pleasants explained that besides the obvious educational benefits he receives from tinkering around with machinery is that his name plates help him to remember names, places and dates of interest.

Diamonddeers Score Second Victory Over 329th Combo, 6-3

Blackboy Stump Jumpers



These talented doughboys, known as the Stump Jumpers, display their versatility nightly for the entertainment of GIs at the Blackboy Beer Tavern in Birnbach. L to R, they are Cpl. John McCormack, Co. G, Kanapolis, N. C.; Pfc. Bill Thompson, Co. E, Mammoth Cave, Ky.; Cpl. Archie Lee, Cn Co. Albany, Ky.; T/Sgt. Hershel McIntosh, Co. F., Stanton, Ky.

Red Bn Commo Section Boasts Finest System

Such a fantasia of cables, generators, fuse connections, arrestors, circuit breakers and converters as exists in the "test room" of the 1st Bn. Hq. Co. wire section is probably unparalleled anywhere in the Division. Through the ingenuity and hard work of Pfc. Gerald King, Cicero, Indiana, and Pfc. Lloyd Honts, Tulsa Oklahoma, this fantastic and elaborate setup which reminds a layman of a mad scientist laboratory, is a tribute to their skill, zeal and labor which would not be stopped by the army.

Into the test room runs every wire line in the battalion net. Each pair of telephones is fused and has a carbon lighting arrester. Automatic ringing is supplied to the switchboard by 220 volt converters which in turn runs a generator supplying 60 volts to ring the telephone bells.

The test room is equipped to check each line for shorts and grounds at a glance by a test meter. Rotary converters are used to supply AC current for radios and telephone equipment. Operators voice current is supplied by a rectifier of 220 volts which in turn puts out 4 1/2 volts DC current. The operator can give the correct voltage reading on the power line, telling to the minute when the generators are off merely by consulting a meter.

The switchboard is equipped with 10 cord pairs, auto or manual ringing. On "ring off" the clearance drops. The board can hold 50 single lines and 50 more, can be installed by adding another section of drops. Incoming and outgoing calls

Nazi Doctrine Now Flag of Freedom

Where there's an American outfit there should be an American flag and so when C Co. didn't have one they went out and did something about it. For the red stripes they took what had formerly been a Nazi flag, for the white they took the numerous surrender flags and for the blue they took whatever they could get for this was the most difficult color to find. And small wonder. Doesn't blue stand for truth!

With a hand size flag for a pattern they got a fraulein to cut and sew the remnants of a Nazi doctrine into a flag of freedom, a Nazi American flag.

can be checked by a colored lamp system in the room.

The board is also equipped with a line check indicator which enables the operator to tell if a line is open or shorted. Also by the use of a relay in the ringing circuit the operator can tell at a glance when the party being called has answered. In addition there is an intermittent night alarm. The alarm rings only as long as the calling party signals the operator.

During the busy hours T/S Stanley Kulp from Three Rivers, Mass. and Pfc. Harold Bothe from Fort Dodge, Iowa, switchboard operators handle as high as 370 calls during their three hour shift.

In addition to the switchboard set-up there is a complete work bench and the latest in German testing devices, selectors, ringers, several hundred phones.

This is more than a hobby for King and Honts. When the war interrupted their education, both men had three years toward their degrees in electrical engineering.

Puerto-Rican Finds it Tough to Raise Hell In Yankee Lingo

He is small, dark and handsome with a ready smile and a decided accent.

This is his first time with an all American outfit. He is a Puerto Rican and second Lieutenant. His name is Raymond Otero-Duran. He hasn't been with the outfit a week — he is in C Co. — and already he likes it very much.

A teacher of Professional Agriculture in Puerto Rico, he joined the army 34 months ago as a private in the 65th Division. The 65th is composed almost entirely of Puerto Ricans and everyone speaks in Spanish.

In the 65th Otero-Duran served in the Canal Zone, in the States, in Africa, in Italy — where in Naples he first really tasted war and was frankly "scared to death." — and France. Last April he left his outfit to go to OCS at Fontainebleau expecting to return to his original organization. When he graduated his old outfit was over supplied with officers and he was sent to the 83rd.

"Naturally I would like to be back with my original outfit," he said. "But if that is not possible I hope I may stay here as already I am liking it very much."

"The only thing I'm worrying about," he laughed, "is that I don't know whether I'll be able to raise hell with men in English like I could in Spanish."

Snag 4th Game Out of 5 in 83rd Division League

The 331st nine slugged their way to a 6-3 victory over the 329th combo on July 26th at Moore Field to score a repeater over this same team and add up their fourth win in five games of the Thunderbolt League. The only game the Blackboy Diamonddeers dropped was to the Division Special Units and they have been scheduled to play them again on Saturday, July 28th.

The Blackboy teamsters connected with 10 hits to score six runs while the stellar pitching of Frank Sabine who was credited with the win did much to foster the victory. The 329th initiated the play by scoring one run in the first stanza which the Blackboy nine promptly equaled in their half of the same inning. The third inning proved most disastrous for the vanquished 329th as the 331st crossed pay dirt 4 times to take the lead at 5-1. Another run scored in the fifth stanza gave the 331st their margin of 6 runs, while the 329th vainly countered with a tally in the sixth and another in the 9th inning.

The following is a brief recap of the big third stanza: Frankie Sabine, Blackboy twirler, started the rally with a clean double and went to third on a passed ball. Bob Merriam, third sacker, singled to push Sabine over the plate while pint-sized Joey Egan, Keystone guard, also connected with a one-bagger to bring Merriam around to second. Mr. Jelich always a game player sacrificed to advance both runners one notch. Russo, a true fence buster, lived up to his reputation as a slugger while coming through with the clutch triple to center and necessarily scoring both runners on base. Lt. Bob Clyde star catcher smashed a line drive to deep right field that sent (Continued on page 4)

Boxing Finals To Be Held Aug. 4th In Nite Contests

Preparations for the Intra-Regimental boxing tournament are already well under way. Current plans call for elimination bouts within the respective battalion areas. From these individual contests battalion teams will be selected which in turn will form the nucleus for a regimental team.

The regimental finals will be held outdoors at Moore Field on Saturday night, August 4th. A huge boxing ring is being constructed by the same group of Hungarian laborers who helped build Moore Field. The actual construction of the ring is under the combined supervision of Pfc Albert Fields, Co M, and Pfc. Jim Vakas Co A, two former Golden Glovers. The ring is being built according to Golden Gloves specifications. Boxing equipment and paraphernalia for practice tilts and tournament playoffs will be supplied by the Blackboy Athletic Office.

It was also announced through the SSO, that while in training, all pugilistic contenders would be excused from the regular planned daily training schedule.

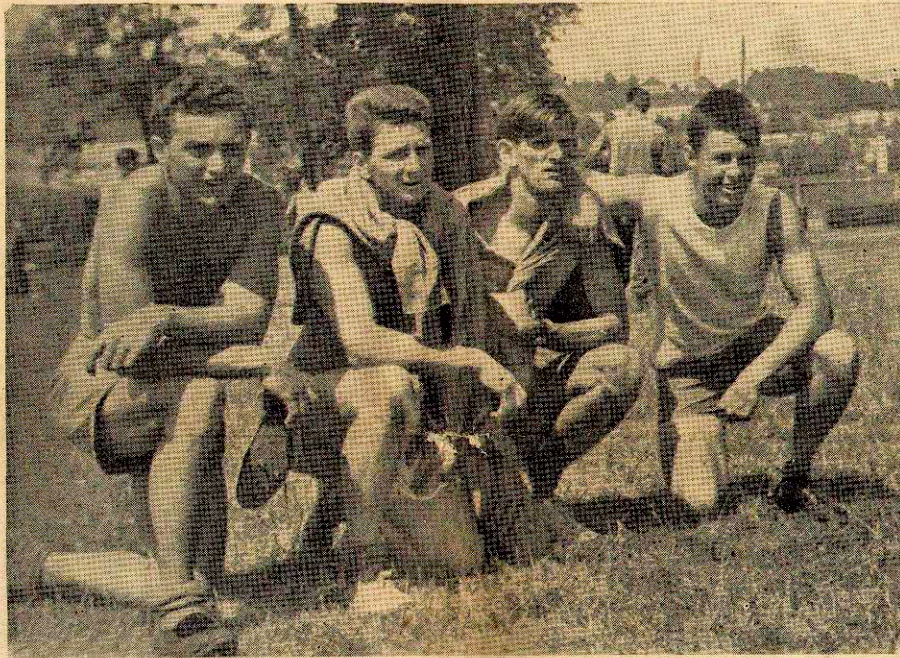
Safety precautions are being taken to insure the health of each boxing aspirant as a sound physical examination will be given to each entrant. Sixteen-ounce gloves will be used in the tourney.

There are openings for all comers, from the flyweight to the heavies. Entries for the Division elimination, which opens in Passau on August 17th, must be submitted by August 6th, it was announced, while the Battalion teams are scheduled to start punching before August 3rd. Lt. Robert Clyde, 331st Athletic Officer, said there was a poor response to his appeal for pugilistic talent.

"We need all the fighters we can get," he urged. "Those interested are invited to contact their unit battalion athletic officers. The other regiments are reputed to foster strong teams and we want to whip the pants off them!"

Parry and Garber Win Two Corps Track Events

400 Meter Relay Team



Irving Miller, Anthony Grenovich (331st), Francis Barham and Parry (331st) are members of the Thunderbolt 400 meter relay quartet which scored 8 points in the contest.

Division Nine Drops Final Game in Corps

The 83rd Division baseball team succumbed to the 4th Armored nine in the final tilt of the semi-final round in last week's series for the Corps Championship. The results of the game were not published in last week's issue for they were received after press time, and the TTF had already "gone to bed".

The Thunderbolts, fielding a team composed mainly of 331st representatives, hastily thrown together with what showed up for the tournament from other units throughout the Division, played to the limit in three contests, and but for one bad inning might well have won the series in two games.

Despite a handicap in organizing a team on rather short notice Lt. David Kribs, team manager, whipped together an aggregation which was strong enough to give the favored 4th Armd. nine plenty to worry about, before the former were defeated in the last game. The Thunderbolt team came from behind to annex the series opener, 9-7. Young Dick Shannon, 331st southpaw ace, was credited with the win; he needed some assistance in the 7th inning, when Dave Hemming, another Blackboy teamster relieved him.

The second game was almost a repetition of the first until the fatal last inning. Hemming hurt his right twisting hand while pitching to the first 4th Armd. batter, which preceded the 9th inning rally. Six hits and a walk produced 5 costly runs, and brought Ross Hughes on the mound in a vain attempt to stem the tide. Five runs crossed the home plate and a third and deciding tilt was necessary.

Meanwhile in the playoffs, Mike Pasiak of the 308th Medics, hurled for the 83rd-men only to watch his fielding support fall apart behind him to bring about a victory for the 4th Armd. nine.

908th Mermen

(Continued from page 1)

a well-earned 6th place in the 1500 meter free style event that was good for one point. Cpl. Gary L. Searls 736th Tankers maintained his three-way XII Corps Diving title by repeating in the Army meet. Lt. James R. Sanders of the 908 FA Bn contributed 2 points in turning in a good performance in the 1500 meter free style event while annexing 5th place.

Schaeffer, Cpl. William McAnalley, and Pfc David Sterling all members of the 331st, will officiate at the ETO-meet as timing and place judges. Pfc. Stanley Kraus, now deployed to the 1st Division and formerly a member of the Blackboy SSO, will act as diving judge and give a diving exhibition from the 10-meter tower.

Among the teams to participate, in the big meet will be a Third Army aggregation, including Service, Navy, Air Force, Comm Z and Reinforcement Command teams.

331st Wins 6-3 Over 329th

(Continued from page 1)

Russo scooting-across home plate, but was thrown out himself at the plate when he attempted to stretch his triple into a homer with a concerted dive at the finish sack. He was tagged out by Liberatore who was at the receiving end of the enemy battery. Howie Miller then flew to left field to end the inning.

The 331st scored their first inning tally on lead-off man Merriam's single which he promptly stretched into a triple on the center fielder's error. He scored on Egan's fly to deep center. The fifth inning run was produced on Merriam's single followed by Egan's double-base hit which sent the former to the "hot" corner. Jelich, who was substituting for "Big" Bernie McGee — as the latter was injured in the 4th Armd. fray — was thrown out on a grounder to the third baseman. Merriam was held up at third but scored on Russo's fly to deep center field.

The victory by Sabine who went all the way, was his first of the season. He gave up 3 hits on 10 well-scattered hits and one error, while striking out 4 enemy batters and giving only 1 a free ticket to first base. Losing hurler for the 329th was Johnson who was later relieved by Wilson in the 7th. Liberatore wore the catcher's mask for the 329th while Clyde donned the big mitt for the Blackboy combo.

Leading slugger of the day was Bob Merriam, formerly with the Detroit Tigers who walked off with a perfect day at bat while carroming 3 for 3 of his bat, and earning a walk. He personally scored three of the 6 runs and batted in another. Hot at his heels for top batting honors was Joe Egan, who slammed in a tally, scored another and connected with 2 out of three trips to the batters box. Russo also wielded a mighty stick in getting 2-for-3 and batting in three scorers. Clyde accounted for the remaining unaccounted run batted in.

The Blackboy teamsters afield were not to be overshadowed by their slugging prowess as they executed a pair of twin-killings during the normal course of the game.

The first double-play occurred in the 4th with Sabine relaying the pellet to Egan who pegged it into Jelich at first. The 7th inning produced a repetition of the 4th with Egan steaming it into Kribs who flicked the leather to Jelich to end the inning.

Blackboy Tracksters Amass 60 Points For 83rd Team

331st track-men paced the Thunderbolt team to third place honors in the XII Corps Championships held at Regensburg on July 24th and 25th.

The Blackboy harriers garnered 60 out of the total 116 points amassed by the 83rd Track and Field Team. The Thunderbolt combo placed 3rd behind the 90th Division Team which scored 139 points while a powerful 4th Armd. team copped the spotlight and a first place in the contest with 160 points.

In the 18-event Corps-wide tilt, the 17 Blackboy representatives wearing 83rd colors, walked away with 2 first places, and 4 second places, plus a smattering of 4th, 5th and 6th place markers. Two 331st harriers, Pfc. Arthur Parry and Pfc. John Garber, annexed XII Corps Championship titles in winning the 100 meter dash and 200 meter low hurdle events respectively. T/S Kenneth Delaney, fleet-footed 331st dough, scooted into the second place slot in 400 meter run at the heels of Price, 102nd Division dough, who sprinted the distance in 53:2 seconds. Delaney finished a fraction of a second later with the good time of 53:2.5 seconds, and contributed 8 points to the 83rd jackpot. Delaney running the anchor 400 meters in the 1600 meter-relay event was again nosed out by Price in the stretch. Although he had more than a 6-foot handicap to begin with, Delaney pushed the baton up to first place only to have Price break the tape ahead of him by a breath in a photo finish. The other baton-wielders in the 1600 meter relay stint were T/Sgt. Rudolph Lundegreen (329th) Pfc. John Ryan (330th) Pfc. Patrick Kane (331st) and Delaney of the 331st. This too was good for 8 points.

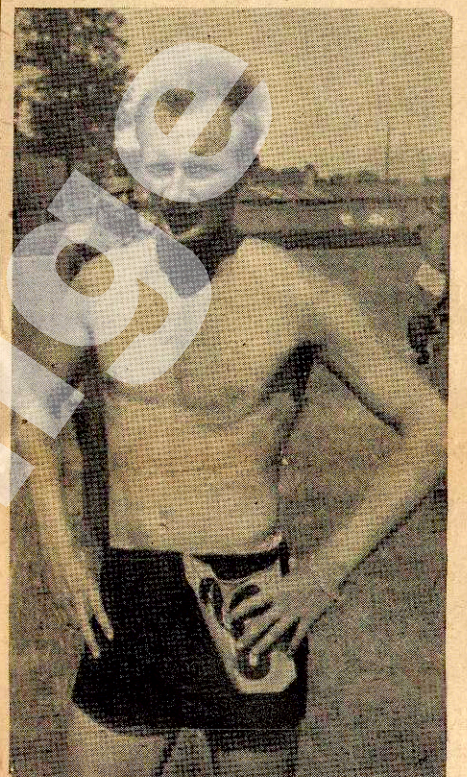
In the 800 meter run Pfc. David Wheeler, copped a fourth place in 3:9 minutes while his running mate and 83rd Div. titlist Sgt. James Martanes placed fifth in the slow time of 4:2 minutes. Winning time for the event was 2:5:8 minutes. Pfc. Mike Vaccaro, another 331st entrant, gracefully coasted into a fourth place in the 3000 meter run in 9:57:8 minutes.

Ten Cindermen In Corps Stint

It was announced, just after the XII Corps playoffs following a discussion by the various participating divisional coaches, that in order to select the best competition and a Corps team worth enough to compete in the 3rd Army tilts to be held August 1st and 2nd, an additional XII Corps eliminations contest would be run off July 27-28. It was also announced that the contestants who annexed the first four places in the Corps meet held on July 24-25th would be eligible to try for these eliminations. From this later contest, 40 XII Corps men would be chosen to represent the latter in the 3rd Army Track and Field Meet.

This new ruling affects 17 Thunderbolt harriers, which in turn automatically permits 10 Blackboy tracksters to take part in the second XII Corps eliminations stint.

2nd Place Winner



T/S Kenneth Delaney, 331st speedster, just finished running the 400 meter run in 53:2.5 seconds to annex 2nd place in the XIIth Corps event.

Dog Co Victorious In 16 - Inning Tilt

It took 16 innings in the longest softball game of the season but Dog Co. finally defeated Charlie Co. with a score of 4 to 3. Dog Co. played an airtight game all the way behind the pitching of Barrett who went the whole game allowing only five hits.

All of Charlie's runs came in the 5th frame when they collected four of their five hits. Dog scored one run in the second, two in the third and added their winning run in the sixteenth with a triple by Gleba and a sharp single by Eddie Smith.

Barrett deserved a special tribute for earlier in the morning he had pitched a seven inning game making a total of 23 innings for the day.

Meanwhile in the 400 meter relay, S/Sgt. Antony Grinovich (331st) Pfc. Irving Miller (Recon) Sgt. Francis Barham (330th) and Pfc. Arthur Parry (331) captured 2nd place in the event. The 400 meter relays were run off in two heats and the places were awarded on a time basis. The 83rd quartet was sparked by the fast stepping Parry who paced the team into a 46:4 minutes showing right on the heels of the first place aggregation.

Parry led the pack across the finish line in the 100 meter sprint finals with an 11:4 second effort that was good for 10 points while Grinovich captured a sixth place in this same hotly contested dash-tilt. Parry also captured second place in the 200 meter contest with just a fraction of a second behind the winning time. Grinovich again trailed him for a fast fifth-place.

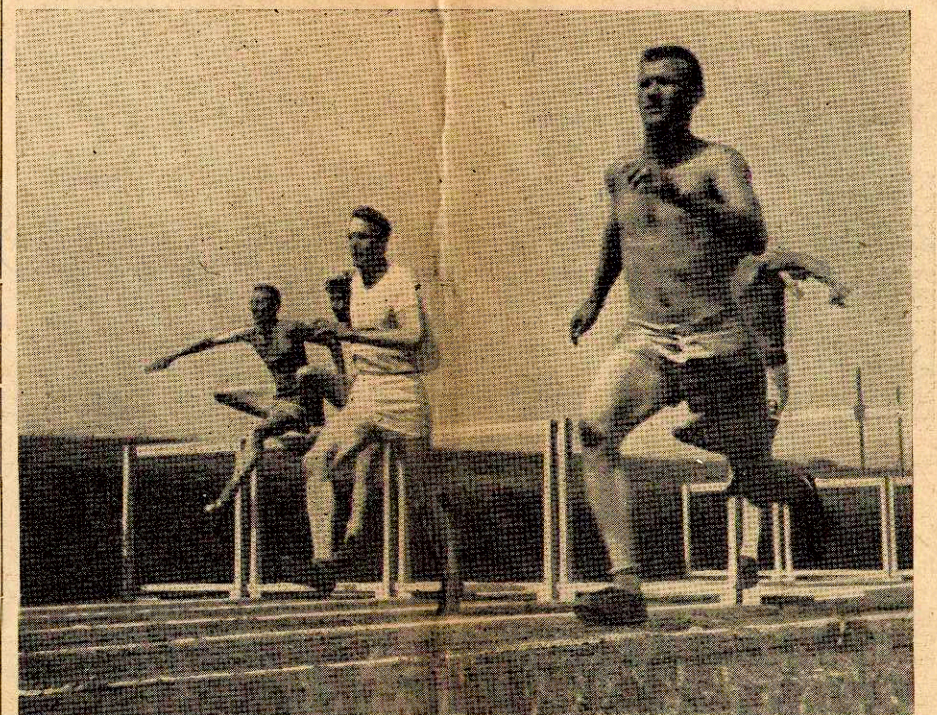
Pfc. John Garber, of Blackboy scored for the 83rd team by copping the 200-meter low-hurdle event and his team

mate Sgt. Donald Renz of the 323rd FA placed second behind him.

In the field events Cpl. William Lilienthal heaved the discus 114 feet, 3 inches which was enough to take a 6th place in the event. Pfc. Kenneth Dean, another 331st entrant, also pushed the Javelin 117 feet 2 1/2 inches to a 6th place berth.

Other 83rd topnotch point winners were Pfc. Frederick Weaver, of DivArly who placed second in the 100-meter high hurdles and annexed a first in the high jump while hurtling over the bar at 5 feet 9 inches and Lt. Stuart Gullikson, team captain, (330th), who placed third in the 1500 meter run in the fair time of 4:32:0 flat.

Over the Hurdles in Corps Meet



Pfc. Fred Weaver of Divarty (on far left) off to a bad start in the 100 meter high hurdle trials went on to take the 2nd place in the finals.

Easy Grasps 1st Place In 2nd Bn. League-Play

Easy Co. gained its 4th consecutive win to maintain its grip on first place by defeating George Co. the first round victor, 8-3 and also triumphed with a 16 hit 16-run win over the How Co. diamond-men. Two merry go round innings were enjoyed by the Easyites when they went round and round for six runs in the first and then repeated with six in the second.

Initiating the week's play, George Co. eaked out a 5-4 decision over How Co. Ross tied the count at 4 — all with the biggest blow of the day — a round tripper. The "G" Co. nine won the ball game with a run in the last of the seventh, Krummac gaining his first win of the second half.

In a see saw slugfest, the Fox Co. teamsters outlasted a never-say-die Bn. Hqs. team to earn a 10-9 victory and their 4th win in the second half. The

game commenced with eleven runs scored in the very first inning with the Hqs. team claiming 6 of them. With the score 9-3 in the Hqs. crew favor, the Fox Co. aggregation combined 4 walks, an error and a single to score the necessary 2 runs to clinch the winner. Goldberg of the Hqs. nine proved to be the big gun at bat with a triple and a double out of 4 times at bat. Rostical was the winning pitcher after relieving Popick in the fifth. Mitchell was the losing hurler.

The Fox Co. team who have not lost any of their original 85 point men, went gunning for the top rung in the 2nd Bn. ladder when they toppled over the How Co. nine 12-3. The Fox Co. crew sewed up the game with a five run outburst in the fourth inning and to prove that it wasn't merely luck they came up with 6 runs in the sixth stanza. Grace of How Co. who is the leading hitter of the 2nd Bn. circuit with a neat .667, collected 2 for 3 trips to the plate; one of them being a round — tripper. Jones of Fox Co. also hit a homer in the 6th, while Popick gained his third hurling triumph.

