

# 83rd SPEARHEAD

Vol. 1 / No 11

Somewhere in Luxemburg

October 31, 1944

## 3RD BN. TWICE COMMENDED

### Varied Shows Entertain 83rd GIs This Week

### Red Cross "Doughnuters" Will Continue Work Here; Soldier "Stars" Here Also

Two different shows by soldier entertainers and one contingent of Red Cross Girls were hard at work this week keeping the 83rd's GIs smiling. One of these GI shows and the Red Cross Group will continue their efforts this week.

Headlining the soldier entertainers that will appear before units of the Division this week are such names as Al Goldman, formerly of George Olsen's Band, Bob Tellman, formerly of "Buddie and Bob" the piano team, Herb Shreiner, ex-Camel Caravan member, Joe Twerp, who starred on the Al Pearce show, and Baron Elliott, who once led his own band back in the States.

The Red Cross doughnuters, of course, were not unfamiliar to the doughboys of the 83rd but the present outfit that is touring the Division is a different contingent than the one that appeared here previously. The "sinkers", the "java", the "stardust" are still just as good, but scattered reports from some of the outfits already visited say that these girls are even prettier. In any case, most of the outfits claim that with colder weather, the coffee, doughnuts and American girls are even more appreciated.

Last week's GI show featured Charley Pickert, formerly with the "Pickert Family" of radio fame, and offered a band, vocalists and novelty acts to the 83rd's soldiers.

Officers in charge of these entertainments point out, however, that it may be impossible for these programs to appear before all the units in the Division. They maintain that combat outfits receive top priority and that other units will be served as well as limited schedules and transportation permit.

### Corregidor Avengers Land



### Unit Of 330th Is Lauded by Two Generals

A double commendation, one of which has been authorized by Major General Troy Middleton and the other by Brigadier General Herbert L. Earnest, has been given to the third battalion of the 330th regiment.

Both commendations have been made as a result of the work accomplished by the battalion during its sweep across the Brittany Peninsula and at the siege of Brest.

In the communication received through channels from General Middleton a unit citation has been recommended for the battalion.

The text of his commendation reads as follows:

"The following commendation for Regimental Combat Team 38 was received by this headquarters from Brigadier General James A. Van Fleet, commanding general Task Force B: For a determined, courageous and skillful advance. In particular the 3rd battalion did a thoroughly professional job on Hill 154. Recommend a unit citation for this battalion. The early capture of Hill 154 and the aggressive attacks on highly organized and defended positions near Le Fresq and Lesquirit broke the enemy's defense of the Daculas Peninsula.

The Corps Commander is pleased to note and transmit this letter and to add appreciation for the outstanding performance of duty which earned this commendation.

By Command of Major General Middleton."

The commendation from General Earnest, who was in charge of Task Force A during its thrust across Brittany, is as follows:

"At the present time Task Force A is being dissolved and the majority of its component parts have returned to their parent organizations. Although your battalion was separated from the Task Force several weeks ago, and has since gone on to other splendid accom-

## THE WAR IN BRIEF

TUESDAY — British Second Army Troops and Canadians advance in Holland... 1,000 RAF bombers pound Essen and Berlin... Russians break into East Prussia for 20 mile advance along 90 mile front... Allied governments re-

(Cont. on page 4)

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### 83rd Spearhead

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### Reich Rumors

Germany can't hold out much longer. Her supplies are nearly exhausted. She'll let the Americans in before the Russians. Internal revolutions are already under way. War work is being sabotaged. The Reich is getting ready to throw in the towel.

It makes good reading, doesn't it? But, that's just about all.

Americans pride themselves as being fast talkers. Right now though Germany's got about the best in the business.

Yes, it's old Joe Goebbel's, Hitler's super stooge. Joe has won nearly as many victories with his smooth line of gaff, as the wehrmacht and luftwaffe combined.

He talked the French army into panic. He convinced Italy she should get into the war. He even sold the Krauts on the idea that they were super men and would soon rule the world.

Lately though Joe has'nt had much to talk about. Times are tough for the wehrmacht and luftwaffe. The Allies are closing in for the kill.

Yes, Joe may be down, but he's not out. He's thought up a new fable and this one is a whopper.

He's advertising that Germany is just about licked to lull us into a false sense of security. He's even letting peace rumors filter out of the Reich so we'll take it easy and sit around until the Armistice is drawn up. Sure, Joe's a shrewd one but there's one flaw in all his talk.

For the last month now some GI's have been fighting in Germany. These boys up at Aachen know the war isn't nearly over. If it is, none of the SS troops

they are fighting, have heard the news.

Those Heinies are the same baby faced killers we tangled with back in Normandy. They're tough all right, but hell, the stars and stripes are flying over Aachen, aren't they?

The men who beat the Jerries here, know the war isn't nearly over. They know that the only way they could take a position was to wipe out every Heinie who manned it.

Joe Goebbel's is having a hard time selling these guys on the idea that he's ready to talk terms. They've seen too many of Himmler's best, express their contempt and hate for Americans, not only in the form of looks and actions, but mostly by bullets.

Let's not kid ourselves with the idea that Joe is through. He won't quit telling his tall stories until he's looking into the muzzle of an M-1.

The quicker we get over the idea that this war is nearly over, the quicker Joe goes out of business. After Joe and the rest of the Axis crooks are tucked away in a PW cage then there's plenty of time to sit back, shoot the breeze, and wait until the armistice is signed.

### 83rd Wins Fame

Every combat man in the Division realizes that there can never be pay enough for the hardships, rigor and danger of combat. These men gain their rewards in terms other than money, in things which cannot be seen or touched or spent, but which lie deep down in all of us. The combat man's real pay lies in such things — his patriotic satisfaction in doing a job well (remember the stirring sight of the Stars and Stripes floating over the Rock at St Malo?), in the guarantee of our country's freedom, and in the appreciation of the United States for what the 83rd has accomplished.

It is therefore good to know from friends and relatives back in the States that the 83rd has received full credit for its achievements. Currently, in movie houses throughout America, the news reels are devoting much of their space to

shots of the 83rd at Beaugency Bridge when we took 20,000 prisoners. In addition, it is with a great deal of satisfaction that we learn that the story of the Beaugency Surrender was carried in detail on Page One of the nation's leading journals from New York to San Francisco. The country's magazines, too, have devoted a great deal of space to the 83rd's accomplishments. The October issue of "Vogue" has printed several pages of pictures and news of the 83rd's taking of St Malo and Dinard, and "Life" and several other magazines have given the 83rd full credit for its actions in Normandy and Brittany. In addition, the American Legion Monthly, has published lengthy articles in its past two issues, dealing with the progress of the 83rd in the hedgerows and its reconnaissance outfits that operated south of the Loire.

So the old 83rd has not only gained ground, decisively beaten the enemy but it has gained fame. The 83rd has earned and deserved that fame.

### Always a Soldier; Garica Gets Jerry At Squat Position

Being "caught with your pants down" isn't nearly as bad as it sounds, as long as you have had some training on the rifle range in firing from the squatting position.

Pvt. Antansio Garica of Los Angeles, Cal. was recently on outpost duty with a unit of the 329th Regiment when he felt the urge of nature calling him to the squatting position.

After selecting a private latrine, he assumed the position, just in time to disappear from the view of a German who broke through the bushes a few yards in front of him.

In spite of the fact that Pvt. Garica was literally "caught with his pants down" he carefully picked up his M-1 and seriously wounded the Jerry.

This is the reason why the former Californian has such faith in the squatting position.

### KNOW YOUR LEADERS

Colonel Robert H. York, a class of 1938 graduate of the U. S. Military Academy at West Point and veteran of 11 major battle engagements in North Africa, Sicily and France, is Commanding Officer of the 331st Infantry Regiment.

The Colonel, who is 32 years old, hails from Hartselle, Alabama, is married and the father of two daughters. In his rise through the Army, Colonel York has served in many capacities including company commander, battalion executive officer and battalion commander. He was given his present command this past July.



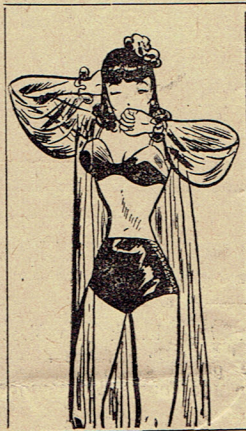
Signal Corps Photo

Landing with the 1st Battalion of the First Division at Oran in August, 1942, he served throughout the entire African campaign, from the beaches in Algeria to the final victory in Tunisia. It was as a result of his sterling leadership and courage at Djebel Berda, near El Guettar, when his Regiment bore the brunt of vicious German counter-attacks, that Colonel York received the Distinguished Service Cross.

In addition to the D. S. C., Colonel York is the recipient of the Silver Star and the Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Bronze Star Cluster.

### Male Call

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



### What A Standing Operating Procedure

## DOWN THE DRAIN

Toast of the week. To the Jap Navy — Bottoms Up.

The Cannon Company of the 330 has selected Jane Russel as the girl they would like most to "rub their aching backs". Ah, oui.

Believe it or not. It actually happened. The last package from home contained a tin of SPAM.

A platoon leader's nightmare — to have Gilbert and Sad Sack assigned to his platoon.

Pvt. Renek, author of the choice tidbits in column 4, has been voted as the person most likely never to be discharged from the army. His signal company buddies figured out that under the point system, he owes the army a few.

Most unappreciated man in the army — a table waiter — when the chow's bad he gets the blame — when it's good the mess officer eats there too.

We always thought Mirabel was a girl's name until we came to "Somewhere in Luxemburg". Here it's a combination of Calvados with cognac for a chaser.

A large towel for weeping purposes will be awarded by Ye Ed. to the member of the division receiving the most useless Christmas present. Send as your nominations.

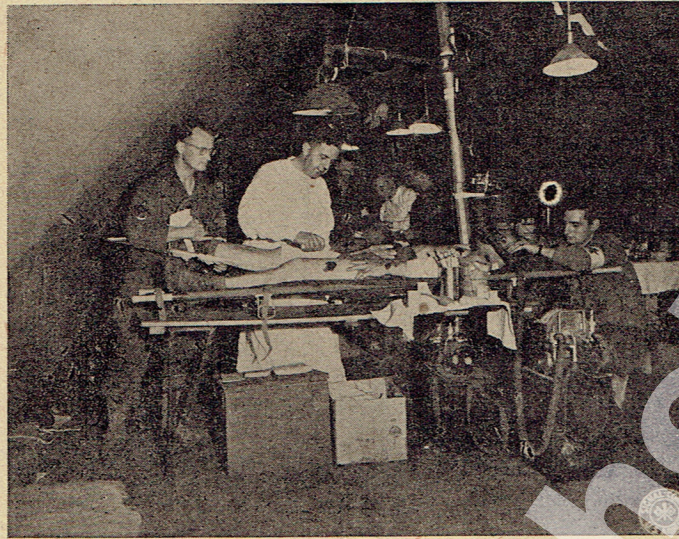
Who is the GI who had a date in town the other night and when the lights went out, he spent the remainder of the evening fixing the fuse?

It's nice to receive Christmas packages early all right but it's tough to keep them unopened until Dec. 25. Even Gilbert seems to be having this trouble this week.

Excerpt from a letter written to the "little woman" while enroute from New York to France. "Up at 8. Felt a little seasick so took two pills. Passed an iceberg at ten. His wife is still trying to figure it out.

And then there's the one about the GI back in Angers who was out on pass. Describing it to his buddy the next day, he said, "She turned off all the lamps except one funny little green table light. Well, I've driven automobiles long enough to know what a green light means."

## Medics Win Praise Of Infantry



Signal Corps Photo

There just isn't enough space in this newspaper or any publication in the ETO to adequately congratulate the medics on the job they are doing in this war.

Time after time throughout the Normandy and subsequent campaigns, the boys with the red cross insignia on their helmets crawled through enemy rifle and artillery fire, to bring back their wounded comrades to the aid station or administer drugs and medicine in the middle of "no man's land."

The efficiency of the medical corps is one of the chief reasons why most of our casualties never develop into fatalities.

One of the best indications of what the boys in the infantry think of the medics was received this week from Sgt. Beacham, our correspondent from the 329, who wrote the following story while sitting in the Observation Post of Company K.

"In a position on the forward slope of a hill, one can look out upon the surrounding terrain rather favorably. In observing to the front, I noticed a narrow creek winding its way through the floor of the peaceful looking valley. Occasional fire from artillery and the snapping crack of enemy fire, reminded a person that it was a combat area, and not a quiet afternoon in the country. Looking down at the valley floor again, we noticed a movement in the creek bed. There were a number of men working their way towards us. With the aid of our binoculars at the Mortar O. P. we saw that it was four Medics bringing in a wounded soldier on a litter. They wound their way slowly back through the fire, keeping to the creek. In their path was a high barbed-wire fence. The four Medics crossed under the fence and finally made their way to the aid station. It was a trip of about 500 yards through plenty of enemy fire. These men have no weapons, but they have something inside that takes its place. They are very highly respect-

ed up here, because they fear nothing in bringing aid and comfort to their wounded comrades. When we of the Infantry think we have it tough, how about thinking about the boy with the Red Cross on his helmet and arm."

### Bn. Twice Commended

(Cont. from page 1)

ishments, it is my desire that each officer and enlisted man in your organization know that you take with you the highest esteem and appreciation of myself and the other members of the Task Force.

Your unit has faced many unusual and difficult situations during our operations and in each instance you discharged your duties in a creditable and efficient manner. When there was a tough job to do your unit always tackled it with determination and I could depend on you to do your utmost. The efforts of your organization were largely responsible for the success of Task Force A's operations and I wish to extend to you the highest commendation for your services while under my command."

The battalion was attached to Task Force A during the dash across Brittany and to Task Force B during the siege of Brest.

### Bazooka Blasts

Late one afternoon, T/Sgt. Frank Cann of the 329 spotted a Jerry patrol moving up a tree line. His platoon sat by quietly and let them approach to a point only twenty yards away. Then S/Sgt. William W. Wilburn opened up with his bazooka. One round hit the enemy bazooka man in the tube which he was carrying. Net results: Two enemy dead, and the remainder of the patrol dispersed; one machine gun and four rifles captured. Also, one slightly damaged bazooka.

## "The Sump Hole"

BY Pvt. MAURICE RENEK.

Please accept my humble apology for last week's column. I tried to do it the Edgar Allan Poe way. You know, get drunk so I could write better. I got plastered easy enough, but instead of stories coming out my insides came out.

This tale is strictly for privates. There was a GI who went on a hunger strike in protest against "K" rations. Everyone pleaded with him to eat. The mess sergeant told him it wasn't too bad and that if he would eat it, he would grow up to look like his sergeant. "Give it to the dog then" was the retort, "he's got a good start."

I guess we're going to have a real juke box hit. S/Sgt. Volkmer and PFC. Zukas, of Company K 330th, are willing to supply the melody to "Buckin for the Blue Suit". Just keep the joint from falling apart and the house from rocking and I'll supply the lyrics.

No doubt your sister felt a sharp pain go through her body when some 18 year old boy, who had nothing better to do, threw some nice, white (undehydrated) eggs at Frank Sinatra which splattered all over him. Pardon the ETO humor but, "That would be one good time to eat off the cuff."

Have you ever observed that the smartest salute in any man's army is given when one private meets another of equal rank?

Jennifer isn't with us this week. She's cutting capers with her gams, browsing for the guy who conked her patootie (Sinatra) with a yolky beat.

While puffing on a "K" ration type cigarette I dreamt of things I would do if I were made a general. While censoring mail, I'd give all the chairborne commandos who write about all the "fighting" they do a special brown campaign ribbon — and it wouldnt be to denote the mud they went through either. Then I'd get chicken and bust any man caught giving cigarettes or chocolates to a German prisoner. It's the most nauseating sight anyone can witness. You have to hit a new low in mankind to give luxuries to a Fritz who just knocked off some little boy's Daddy or killed a poor kid who never had enough nerve to ask the girl next door for a date. But, he had the guts to go out there to kill Jerries — not to hand out chocolate. Let's not make our victory a defeat.

France (CNS) — A Yank crawled into a shaft and hollered "Anyone down there?" After a few seconds a guttural voice answered, "Nein." "Nine, huh" the Yang retorted, winging a grenade into the blackness below. "Then share this among you."

# THE GRAND STAND

## Army, Ohio State Michiganian, Irish Win Grid Tilts

Army added another link to its chain of 1944 gridiron victories Saturday afternoon when it pounded out a 27 to 7 win over Duke. Although it was the lowest score which the Army has rolled up in a single game this season, the outcome was never in doubt as the Cadets hopped off to an early 7 to 0 lead in the first quarter and added three more touchdowns in the last three quarters while holding the Blue Devils to a single touchdown and conversion.

In the Mid West Notre Dame came from behind to defeat a stubborn Illinois eleven by the score of 13 to 7 and thus maintain its undefeated record.

Michigan rolled up a 40 to 14 win over Purdue and Ohio State, which also boasts an unblemished

slate, defeated Minnesota by a 34 to 14 count.

The scores for Saturday, Oct. 28 were as follows:

**East**

- Army 27, Duke 7.
- Dartmouth 14, Brown 13.
- Colgate 6, Columbia 0.
- West Virginia 28, Penn State 27.
- Navy 26, Penn 0.

**Mid West**

- Notre Dame 13, Illinois 7.
- Indiana 32, Iowa 0.
- Michigan 40, Purdue 14.
- Ohio State 34, Minnesota 14.
- Great Lakes 40, Wisconsin 12.

**South**

- Tennessee 26, Clemson 7.
- L. S. U. 15, Georgia 7.
- Ga. Tech 13, Ga. Pre Flight 7.
- Alabama 41, Kentucky 0.
- Tulane 27, S. M. U. 7.

**West**

- Southern Cal. 34, St. Mary's 7.
- Washington 33, California 7.
- Oklahoma Aggies 46, Tulsa 40.
- Randolph Field 19, Third AAF 0.

## Those Who Seek Shall Find: PW's

Souvenir hunting can provide not only danger but a lot of surprises and PW's, two infantrymen of the 83rd Division discovered then their outfit was attacking the "Rock" at St Malo. During the attack, the two doughboys, Pvt Robert O. Summers of Kalamazoo,

Mich. and Pvt Stanley Spillers of Westpoint, Maine, were also "on the make" for some choice and elusive P 38 pistols.

Noticing a Jerry stick his head out of a hole, they shouted in the regulation manner: "Kommen Zie Araus". Not only one Jerry, but forty of them emerged from their cavern, and even more important to the 83rd Division souvenir hunters, the surrendering Jerries gave up a good collection of P 38's.

## The Wolf

by Sansone



Mat 109-670—Stencil 110)



## The war in brief

(Cont. from page 1)

conize de Gaulle as provisional government of France... Small gains made in Italy... Yank advance on Leyte in Philippines and British advance in Burma. WEDNESDAY — Position of Germans in Scheldt Islands in Holland desperate as Canadians and British advance in bad weather... Reds open drive on East Prussia from south as Nazis throw in four more panzer divisions in effort to seal breach... Russians make gains in Eastern Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Jugoslavia... Bad weather slows down Allied armies in Italy but in Greece British maintain swift advance... Greatest naval battle of war rages off Philippines as American Third Fleet seriously damages 3 Jap task forces... Yanks on Leyte continue advance and Super-Forts blast Jap islands. THURSDAY — British and Canadians continue gains against desperate resistance in Holland... Russians cross Norwegian border near arctic and furious tank and infantry battles rage in East Prussia as Nazis attempt to halt drive in the "Insterburg Gap"... British 8th advancing in Italy while 5th faces unrelenting resistance in the drive for Bologna... F. D. R. announces Jap Fleet in Philippines has been "Defeated, seriously damaged and routed in a great sea and air battle." MacArthur says "Jap Navy has met most crushing defeat of war." Battle still rages with more than 20 Jap first line ships sunk or severely damaged... Yank forces on Leyte have captured 6 Jap airfields and Super-Forts bomb aircraft plant near Nagasaki. FRIDAY — Canadians and British make new surprise landing in Scheldt Estuary... British 2nd Army gains... Yank and RAF heavies bomb Western Germany... Reds report fierce fighting in E. Prussia... Russians also advancing in

Czecho-slovakia, Norway and Hungary... Churchill reports Moscow meeting "highly satisfactory"... In Italy, British 8th Army closes in on Forli and Ravenna... China-based U. S. bombers and Navy carrier planes continue attacks on remnants of Jap fleet while Yanks continue gains on Leyte. SATURDAY — Nazi 15th Army withdrawing from Southwestern Holland as British and Canadians make good advances... Germans throwing everything into titanic battles in East Prussia and Hungary... Bad weather in Italy halts all operations... British continue advances in Greece... Yanks making good progress in Philippines. SUNDAY — British only 5 miles from Maas River in Holland, last major river before the Rhine... British bombers pound Cologne, Norway and German airfields... Fierce fighting in East Prussia continues as Reds open new drive above Warsaw... Gains in Czecho-slovakia, Latvia, Yugoslavia, and Albania... Armistice signed between Allies and Bulgaria... RAF gives Cologne worst bombing of war as Yank Forts blast Hamm and Munster... Yanks gain 4 miles on Leyte... More Jap ships reported sunk in great air and naval battle in the Philippines Sea.

## FOXHOLE POETS

I wish that I could be a snake,  
And travel wide, and far,  
There's lots of things I'd like to know  
And this is what they are.

I thought a snake was lower  
Than a man or beast could be  
Yet, Hitler comes along and takes  
The pleasure from me.

The day will come just wait and see,  
When Hitler meets his fate,  
He'll be six feet below the ground,  
And lower then a snake.

(By S/Sgt. Reed Co "D"  
Ist. Bn. 330th Inf.)