

## Andy Hardy In Person...



It was Andy Hardy in the Infantry Saturday when Pvt Mickey Rooney of Hollywood and the ETO dashed up in a jeep for a one-day stand with the 83rd's three regiments. Filling the fields for miles around are men of the 329th Infantry, joining in the fun at the big outdoor matinee. (Photo by Brouhard)

## CUB PLANES ZERO IN ON ARTILLERY ON NAZIS

Mighty midjets of the atmosphere are those ten tiny Piper Cub planes which are an integral part of the 83rd Division Artillery. These planes and the men who fly them have often been referred to as the "83rd's own air force", for with the tremendous fire power they control as the eyes of the artillery they have been largely responsible for the destroying of a great number of infantry obstacles and enemy troop concentrations.

### SPOT EFFECT OF FIRE

During the hedgerow fighting south of Carentan ground observation was virtually nil, and the pilot-observer teams of the Air OP flew almost continuously during the 16 hours of daylight. Teams from the 323rd FA Bn flew 25 hours in two days adjusting artillery fire and spotting SS troops for the doughs. Pilot Lt Carrol Raether and Observer Lt Charles Hicks of the 908th FA Bn were attacked by an enemy fighter plane in Normandy. The fuselage of

their plane was riddled by machine gun bullets but both men were uninjured and Carrol landed the Cub without mishap.

### INFO ON THE WING

Shortly after the St Lo breakthrough Lts John Goettke and Phillip Reichert of the 908th FA Bn were following the advance of our infantry when they spotted a group of Germans about 600 yards ahead of them. Goettke flew low over our troops while Reichert dangled from the cockpit and shouted the information to the troops.

During the siege of the Isle of Cezembre, Lt John Baker, Hq Div Arty dropped a message of surrender terms over the island. Believing that the survivors of Cezembre would surrender after they were informed of the fall of St. Malo, Baker took off with white streamers flowing from the struts of the wing. After circling the island, he skimmed over the enemy held fortress and dropped the message.

During the operations along the Loire River the Air OP provided observation of long range areas which would otherwise have been impossible because of the distance between the combat teams.

### DRAMA IN THE AIR

While patrolling along the river, the ship containing Lts George Boscoff and John Stewart of the 322nd FA Bn was forced into an emergency landing when a German 20 mm anti-aircraft gun scored a direct hit on their Cub. Boscoff landed the ship in a nearby field but the 330th Infantry was cut off

in Strass for three days. During this time Capt Karl Kern of Hq coming. He flew the damaged ship back to the field base in spite of its condition.

In Germany a battalion of was forced to take off immediately when warned by civilians that the Germans were Div Arty and Lt Glenn Behrens of the 324th FA Bn loaded a

(Continued on page 4)

## More Men Head Home

Membership in the 83rd's 30-Day Club hit the 90 mark this week when 19 furlough winners of the month from ten different Division units started the long voyage home.

From the 329th Infantry went Pfc Edward R. Sullivan and Pfc Carl B. Gierman; the 83rd Signal Co, Pfc Anthony H. Morris; the 322nd FA, Pfc John Putzy, and the 908th FA Pfc Charles E. Stewart. Attached units accounted for the rest.

The 308th Engineers contributed Tec 4 Samuel Flukel and Pfc Carl B. Gierman; the 83rd Signal Co, Pfc Anthony H. Morris; the 322nd FA, Pfc John Putzy, and the 908th FA Pfc Charles E. Stewart. Attached units accounted for the rest.

(Continued on page 4)

## Mickey Rooney Makes Personal Tour of 83rd; Visits Each Regiment

Former Hollywood Film Star is Now Buck Private in Army

A friendly hand grenade from Hollywood exploded in the Division area last Saturday when Pvt Mickey (Himself) Rooney came in on a jeep to bring Andy Hardy in person to the men of the 83rd.

## Recon Troop Fought on Foot In Bulge Fight

The hard-hitting, fast-moving 83rd Reconnaissance Troop proved its ability to fight as doughboys as well as Recon during the recent Ardennes offensive.

When waist-high snow drifts made motor reconnaissance impossible, the job of holding assembly areas and acting as flank support for regular infantry units fell to Capt Helster Drum and his Recon troop.

### NEW MISSION FOR RECON

"You'd have thought our men had been fighting as foot soldiers all their lives" commented Lt Allan C. House of Cleveland, Ohio after the battle. "Our mission was to flush the enemy from a patch of woods and then wait until the infantry forced more of the enemy to retreat in our direction. Our first job had to be accomplished in a hurry because we wanted the retreating Krauts to think they were backing into a friendly woods instead of one filled with Recon men."

Manning machine guns, the recon-doughs went to work on the enemy in the woods and ten minutes later had routed them from their positions.

"We took over the Nazi emplacements and waited for our infantry to drive the retreating company in our direction," continued House. "Within half an hour they started across an open field on our right flank. We opened up, and not one of them reached our positions."

### AND THE MORTARS FELL

On another occasion in the Bulge Battle, T/5 Howard A. Walmsley of Blawnox, Pa. and T/4 Walter Korszniak, Recon radio operators, were acting as outpost guards. From their position on a snow-capped hill, they commanded excellent observation of the surrounding terrain, and every enemy move brought direct fire from their position. In desperation, the enemy tried a frontal assault, but this was broken up by a hall of mortar fire directed by the two radio operators. Some of the mortar fire fell within 75 yards of the outpost, but Korszniak said he wouldn't have exchanged it for 30 days in the States.

This is typical of the fighting the Recon did in the Ardennes when they put their armor in cold storage and fought as foot soldiers against the SS boys.

Arriving at the Division Special Service Office after an early morning trip from Corps Headquarters, Rooney ate lunch at the Division rear echelon kitchen.

Using a pile of empty Jericans as a table, he chatted with Pvt Lawrence Burke of Buffalo, N.Y., a member of the 83rd Signal Company attached to the rear echelon message center.

"He's just a GI like the rest of us fellows," said Burke later, "and he told me that since being on the Continent he has eaten only twice at an officers' mess. He's a regular guy and makes you feel as if you'd known him for a long time when he talks to you. We discussed football and baseball teams, places we had been back in the States and just about everything except Rooney. The only thing he did tell me about himself was that the sheepskin jacket he was wearing was given him by a flyer over here who used to be a classmate at UCLA."

### STANDS IN CHOW LINE

After lunch Mickey sweat out the "wash line" with the rest of the GIs and then left for the 331st Infantry where he was scheduled for a one o'clock show.

The first performance was held in a packed theater and given without any Rooney build-up of fanfare. Pvt Mario Pieroni, former member of Sney Fields' band, supplied the music with his accordion, and two solos were sung by Pvt Bob Priester, who at one time was a vocalist with Xavier Cugat's Orchestra and later with the King's Men Ensemble.

(Continued on page 2)

## Fight of 83rd In Belgium is YANK Feature

The feature story of YANK magazine for the week of Feb. 18 deals with the 83rd Division and its fighting in the Ardennes Forest. Entitled "Winter Warfare", the three page story was written by Sgt Ed Cunningham who spent three days and two nights with the 83rd collecting material for his article.

A series of pictures showing conditions under which the doughboys fought are used to illustrate the story. These photos were taken by Sgt Reg Kenny, YANK staff photographer, who also visited the Division with Cunningham.

## Old Friends...

It has been revealed that the XXI Corps, under command of Major General Frank W. Milburn, is now fighting with the Seventh Army in the southern drive into Germany.

General Milburn and General Macon, then Assistant Division Commander, led the 83rd back in the States.

83rd SPEARHEAD

Capt John C. Neff . . . . . Information-Education Officer
Capt Thomas C. Roberts . . . . . Public Relations Officer
STAFF: T/4 Albert Gladding, T/4 Allan Nemrow, Pfc John Maloney, Pfc Carl Weber, Pfc Lee Goldhof. ARTIST: Cpl Nick Firfires. HUMORIST: Pfc M. Renek. UNIT REPORTERS: Sgt Robert Beacham, 329th Infantry; Sgt Grover Crawford, 330th Infantry; Sgt Jack Straus, 331st Infantry; Sgt William Schuman, Divarty. Published under supervision of Information-Education Officer. The 83rd SPEARHEAD is published weekly by the officers and men of the 83rd Infantry Division, APO-83, U. S. Army (c/o Postmaster, New York). News, features, art and photographic material accepted from members of the division. No payment made. Member of Camp Newspaper Service, 205 East 42nd St., New York, N. Y. Republication of credited matter prohibited without permission. All material censored by AC of S, G-2. VOL. 2 - No. 4 February 24, 1945

PRETTY PLEASE

"PLEASE TREAT THIS HOME AS YOU WOULD YOUR OWN."

"WE HAVE DONE YOU NO HARM—DO NOT HARM OUR LITTLE HOME."

These signs—in English—are greeting Allied troops as they push on into Germany. They're being found in almost every house.

We wonder if the Germans actually think we're such a bunch of suckers to fall for this line of spit. How about the Poles and the Russians? Would they fall for it? Are they? NO!

Then why should we?

You answer that one.

It must be with a terrible sense of guilt that the Germans put up these signs. Why should they think the softy soldiers of decadent democracy would destroy their little homes?

You don't suppose they think we'd do such a thing without provocation do you? Or do you suppose they feel guilty about destroying half of Europe...and think we intend to destroy all of Germany?

They're guilty all right. Guilty as hell. And they know it. They're scared stiff. The war's right in their front yard. The shoe pinches. It's on the other foot. And they know that, too.

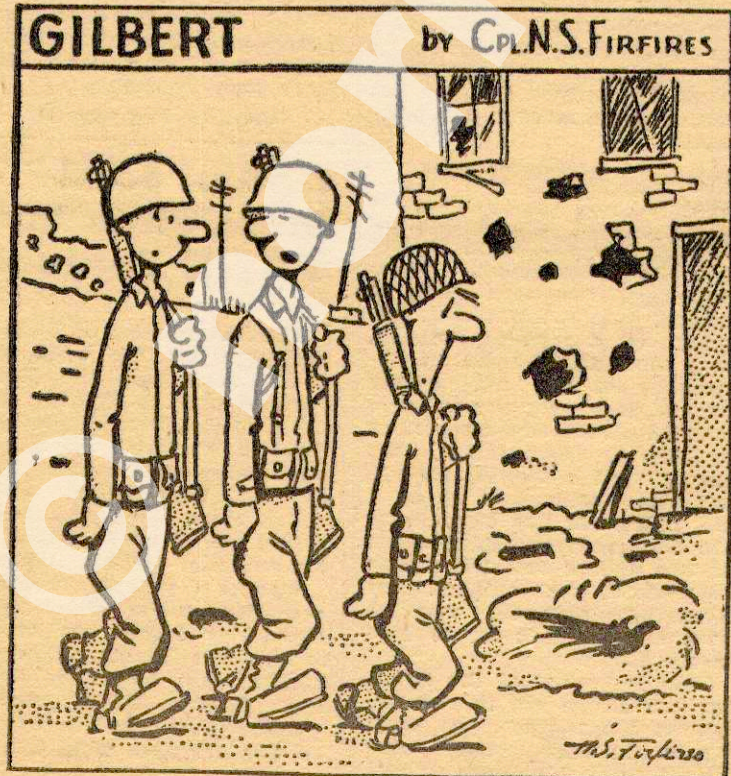
These Germans, every one of them, waved deliriously at their mad Führer only a few months ago, even a few weeks ago. They swelled over their victorious armies. They blessed their heroic sons... tools of Hitler's dirty work. They gave him a rousing OK.

Now look at them. About face... snivelling... whining... cajoling... pleading... saying "pretty please."

Ah, they're a cagey lot these Germans. They're smart and they're going to play us for all they're worth. It's damn near the end of the line in more ways than one for most of them. They know it only too well.

So, when it comes to signs, we've got one of our own. It's a good one, and we'll plaster it on every house we see.

"UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT —DEMOCRACY AT WORK."



He says Hitler was right — it's holy ground!

Mickey Hits Regiments For A Day

(Continued from page 1)

Rooney's performance was highlighted by his impersonations of Clark Gable, Lionel Barrymore, President and Mrs. Roosevelt, Herbert Hoover, Kay Kyser, Edward G. Robinson, Jean Arthur and Ted Lewis. His gags were told in the inimitable Rooney fashion with an occasional ad lib tossed in here and there. He also sang his own two-week-old composition called, "It's A Bad Time For A Good Time Baby Now."

PERFORMS FOR 329TH

The second performance in the Division was given at three o'clock for members of the 329th Infantry from an open-air stage set up in an orchard. It was here that the boys left most at home because since starting their tour last December the majority of their shows have been outdoors. After this performance Rooney was congratulated by Brigadier General Ferenbaugh, and he gave the Assistant Division Commander one of the snappiest salutes of the day.

DINES AT 330TH

At the 1st Bn Hq Co of the 330th, Rooney ate supper, tramping his way through the chow line to be served by Mess Sergeant Joseph C. Walters of Gravois Mills, Mo. Between bites of Vienna sausages, Rooney chatted with several GIs about the swell reception he was receiving in the Division and regretted the fact his stay was limited to one day.

Rooney's final performance was held for the 330th Infantry at seven o'clock in a capacity-packed theater.

Priester later told a SPEARHEAD reporter that Rooney never tries to steal the show and is just one of the boys. "He's been in show business for the last 29 years and first appeared on the stage at the age of four. He seldom talks about himself, but we know that his latest picture, "National Velvet," which was released in New York over the holidays, is being hailed as one of the best of the year.

MARCHING FIRE OF DOUGHS IS MARCHING DEATH FOR KRAUTS

The doughboys call it "Marching Fire", but PWs look back on it as "Marching Death". It's a power play that seldom fails to pay off.

In the Bulge battle, C Co of the 329th Infantry advanced so rapidly they found themselves without supply lines. Snow-bound roads and enemy-held positions on both flanks made the situation critical.

For three days the men hung on, completely cut off from the rest of the battalion except for small night patrols that infiltrated through 2,000 yards of Nazi-filled forest to bring back a little food, water and ammo.

Enemy patrols attempted to penetrate the outpost defenses but were driven off. Then the fighting 1st Bn took the offensive. C Co was relieved and joined in the attack. Resistance was light for the first 800 yards until Co C's second platoon led by Lt Clarence Rogers of Ware, Mass., ran into a large enemy force. Lt Chauncey Addleman of Richmond, Ind., company commander, gave the order for "Marching Fire"

Under a withering hail of lead from M-1s, BARs and light machineguns, the Jerries broke and fled. Group after group surrendered as the company swept forward. By dusk the woods had been cleared, and the little town of Bovigny, the next objective, was in sight.



By PFC RENEK

It seems in a recent poll that was taken of the things you like most in this newspaper the "Jennifer" letters came a close second to the worldly syndicated "Laale Call". This to me is quite a victory as never in my wildest dreams did I ever think I'd be bucking the creator of "Terry and the Pirates". Now (83rd Signal Co) that "Jennifer" has reached the top I'm going to replace her with a different character. Once you hit the top you just can't get any further and even the best of things get tiresome. Even perfection gets monotonous that's why at the age of fifteen when I found myself a perfect student (83rd Signal Co) with excellent marks, I quickly junked it all and started on a career of more flirtations and less studying. What the heck, I knew I was smart, if the teacher didn't want to spend any effort to find out what hidden light was shielded in her class it was her fault. The new character is Pvt Eteon (pronounced E-T-O), if he wins your heart the way "Jennifer" has I will be a very happy young man.

It's a wonder my poor young hair doesn't get gray on me overnight, I have no doubt some night it will. Besides being a columnist, humorist, propagandist, goldbrick, I'm also the Unit reporter of the 83rd Signal Co (without portfolio) and its my job to see that the 83rd Signal Co gets in front of your eyes so often you think your seeing spots. But, what chance have I got when the Captain who runs this paper (not to mention my life) thinks the stories I hand in on the 83rd Signal Co are out-of-date, not newsy and in general are just plain lousy. The "hard roads" he gives me can be compared favorably (I think I hold the edge) to the Lincoln highway I had a very interesting and factual story I wanted to tell you on the recent freezing of batteries (no connection with the OPA whatsoever). I handed it in to this sheet and not only don't they print it, they threw the darn story away. Facts vital to every Radio they just cast aside. Being they won't print it in their newspaper I would gladly print the story in this column but I forgot what it was all about. But, before you go let me tell you that the 83rd Signal Co (pronounced eighty-third Signal Co) did conduct an experiment where it

found that the batteries the 83rd Signal Co had frozen in zero weather the 83rd Signal Co lived in. Therefore if anybody snaps a statement at you like "battery experiment", please for my sake, and for my stripe, reply with 83rd Signal Co, 83rd Signal Co, 83rd Signal Co, 83rd Signal Co, aaahhhh, bring on the jacket boys I'm ready and pass the quinine Quincy these walls are closing in on me.

This Captain I talk about all the time is the same gentleman who last week so devoutly wrote that splendid editorial on Lincoln (who freed the slaves) and Washington (who freed a nation). You, think a man who can write such freedom loving editorials would practise his theory. Every time I come into his office he reads me President Roosevelt's document that "columnists are not essential." He reads it so often sometimes I think that his own Atlantic Charter. Oh, how I wish the Newspaper Guild would set up a branch of their Union over here. This war can't last forever, it better not, I hope not. If there is anything mortal or immoral who looks out for the freedom of the Press, please, please protect me and come to my aid.



Here's what they're telling the folks at home in Germany this week:

Murder is the war aim of the American soldier, annihilation the war aim of the British soldier and chaos the war aim of the Jews, Plutocrats and Bolsheviks.

The German youth is fortunate to live in one of the greatest epochs of the Reich. But it also has duties. It has to learn with fanatical devotion. Its spiritual attitude must be flawless—body and soul belong to the Führer. It should take its courage in both hands, for even the worst situation can be improved.

If the enemy cannot be made to discard his annihilation plans, then we know we can force him to do so with our moral superiority, even if he is superior in weapons and men.

NO ORPHANS OF BATTLE

A grim story called "Orphans of Battle" was written recently by Richard Hottelet for Collier's magazine. It was based on his personal observations of doughboys going through the Replacement Centers to the front.

He pictures these Joes as a sorry, nameless lot; dirty, ragged, sick of mind, weary in body, glad for combat itself for, in combat, at last, they will be a part of something, an organization like the 83rd. There, at the end of the long road from the States after perhaps months of being shunted from one camp to another, they finally "belong."

The doughs who join the 83rd are good eggs for the most part. They are boys just like ourselves. They've been through the training mill. They left behind everything we did. They have a heart and they want to do their job like every one else.

In our outfit, as in every outfit that has seen a lot of combat, reinforcements are its life's blood. In them comes the freshness and vitality that keeps an old outfit like ours going strong. Without them, this man's war would never get won.

We sympathize with the Joes floating around Europe in 40 and 8 box cars and we wish we could do something about them. But there is one thing we can do, and that is to make every Dough who joins us feel that we're glad to get him; that he's going to be a real part of this OHIO outfit; and we hope that every one of you old timers will take him in, show him the ropes and make him feel that he belongs to the best damned division in the ETO.

We want these new guys to know that there are no "Orphans of Battle" in the fighting 83rd.

# FOXHOLE FABLES

Co A of the 330th Infantry was assaulting a German-held town in the Ardennes when five tanks they were riding were stopped by heavy stuff. A reconnaissance party sent out contained Pfc Sylvio F. Allard of Gardner, Mass., who returned with a message from the enemy neatly cut by shrapnel: ...—V in the seat of his pants!

S/Sgt Edward (Halftrack) Tylike, Mineral City, Ohio, is a section sergeant in D Co, 329th Infantry and has lately been helpful in foot inspections. He SHOULD be an authority on people's dogs, too, as his brogans are size 15 EEE.

The second platoon of Co M, 330th Infantry boasts of having a Superman, so to speak. Near Bihain, Belgium, Jerries lobbed shells on the platoon supply road. Pfc Anthony Stankevitch of Trenton, N. J., was caught while unloading a jeep and ran for a building.

Without slackening speed he crashed headlong through the door, landing in the center of the room under a table. He had torn the door right off the wall. Now the fellas call him "Open Door Anthony."

Cooks of Co G, 330th Infantry were anticipating a comfortable night's sleep after moving in on the second floor of a large farmhouse, but their plans fell through literally.

As the last hash-burner was turning in, the floor gave way and all landed in the first floor. They were in quite a stew about it but soon simmered down and cooled off.

Hen's eggs are scarcer'n hen's teeth right now in the ETO, and few soldiers are more aware of that than Cpl John Dietrick, Dayton, Ohio, a member of Anti-Tank Co., 330th Infantry. Dietrick had prepared two hen products in a pan with all the skill at his command. They had set him back 50 francs and he wanted to make sure they lost nothing in the cooking, most important after you have acquired the rare egg.

But the look of hurt bewilderment on the erstwhile chef's countenance, portions of egg flying in all directions, and ejaculations best understood by his fellow combat soldiers led drooling spectators to believe something had gone amiss. Something surely had, and the corporal will never again carry a can of butter in one hip pocket and a can of dubbin in the other.

A popular member of M Co, 330th Infantry is a little black dog called "88." Last August, when the third battalion helped capture Brest, the pooch escaped the Heinies and slunk under a barrage of 88s to M Co's forward machine gun positions.

Since then he has earned a service stripe and two campaign stars. In Germany he met and immediately became wed, canine style, to a cute little WAC pet of Bn Hq Co, who promptly provided him with six little 88s.

A member of a patrol sent out near Bihain, Belgium, to determine enemy strength, Pfc John Stuart of Co E, 330th Infantry was getaway man. He was creeping back in the bottom of a ditch with information when a rifle bullet ripped into his left breast pocket and out again without hurting him. It went through a bible and a billfold fat with the usual family pictures and assorted papers. The only document undamaged was a tattered social security card. The band will now play The Stars and Stripes Forever.

It has ever been a problem to the first sergeant, this haircut business. Sometimes it takes an order from the company commander. But here's a different case:

While Co G of the 330th Infantry was off the line awhile back in Belgium, it was suggested that the men get shorn by the local coiffeur. A few GIs responded. Then reports that the barber had two pretty daughters drifted back. The subsequent demand for haircuts was amazing—the boys were even waiting in line!

Entertaining is a full time job for Pfc Jimmy Burton of Detroit. Jimmy, a mortarman in Co D of the 329th Infantry, entertains the Jerries with 81mm fireworks when his outfit is on the line and then spends his short rest periods singing and dancing for the GIs. He has already written several song hits he hopes to have published after the war.

The blackout was 100% successful and you couldn't see a cat's-eye if the animal were sitting on your lap, relates Pvt Robert Hairston of Cleveland, Tenn., a member of Service Co, 330th Infantry. It was during a foggy convoy ride through Liege. Drivers complained they couldn't see a thing, so they'd have to stop and await the dawn, a couple of hours away. After getting a few nods of sleep they awakened to find themselves parked in a line with the first vehicle flush against the rear brick wall of a big car barn!

Overheard in the personnel section, 330th Infantry: "Your reports should be written so that even the most ignorant will understand them," said the Personnel Sergeant. Replied the T/5: "What part don't you understand?"

Recently a march order was given to the 908th FA Bn firing batteries but not to Service Battery. To make sure all would receive rations the supply truck was speedily put in pursuit, driven by T/5 Thomas Reynolds. The crew, consisting of S/Sgt Dan Whitt, Pfc Stanley Beckish, Pfc Frank Krivak and Pfc Paul Kresley, passed the grub to the other two trucks while speeding along the road. Other batteries were supplied in a more orthodox manner.

## The General Awards...



At colorful ceremonies at the 331st Infantry last week, Major General Macon awarded Silver and Bronze Stars to 44 officers and men of the regiment. Receiving the Bronze Star is 1st Lt Alson E. Lancaster of 2nd Bn Hq Co, already holder of the Silver Star and the Purple Heart with two Oak Leaf Clusters. (Photo by Brouhard)

# Generals Decorate 69 Heroes

Thursday, February 15th, was a day for heroes.

At twin ceremonies at Division Headquarters and the 331st Infantry, Major General Robert C. Macon and Brigadier General Claude B. Ferenbaugh presented Silver and Bronze Stars to 69 officers and men who had rendered distinguished battle service to their country.

After a short speech expressing his own and the Division's pride and appreciation in their outstanding efforts toward the common end, General Macon pinned seven Silver and 37 Bronze Stars on the following men of the 331st —

### GENERAL MACON AWARDS

Silver — S/Sgt Norman P. Neely of Co F, also holder of the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster; Capt Wilford F. Barber CO of Co H; 1st Lt Donald W. Duncan of Co F; 1st Lt Joseph W. Sloan of Co E; 1st Sgt Frederick W. Helmers of Co M, Purple Heart; Pfc Ernest B. Kaminskas of Co B, and Tec 4 Henry M. Martin Jr., medic attached to the 1st Bn, also holder of Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

Bronze — 1st Lt Alson E. Lancaster of 2nd Bn Hq. Co, holder of Silver Star and Purple Heart with two clusters, T/Sgt Alfred F. Smith, Maj John F. Staples, 1st Lt William A. Payne, T/Sgt Wilburn McQuinn, S/Sgt Aubrey Vance, Pfc Victor Smith, S/Sgt Robert J. Piette, S/Sgt William M. Tourgee, Pfc Frank A. Vasquez, S/Sgt Robert D. Nygaard, Pfc John N. Monroe, Pfc Richard Hayden, Pfc Sol Resnick, Pfc Joseph J. Pirog, T/Sgt Charles V. Narkier, Tec 3 Albert P. Weinberg, Sgt Robert A. To-dak, Sgt James J. Sullivan, Pfc Myron G. Selzer, Pfc Samuel Orsich, Maj Charles F. Snyder, 1st Lt Robert L. Deck, T/Sgt Michael E. Shiko, S/Sgt James F. McNabb, S/Sgt Erwin G. Wetzel, Sgt George B. Kohler, Jr., Sgt William K. Leibelsperger, Tec 5 Robert C. Morris, Pvt Otto F. Stager, Capt Robert C. Walker, S/Sgt Julius L. Cannady, Pfc Claude H. Ward, Pfc Verdelle Q. Mabb, S/Sgt Lucien A. Chardon, Sgt Vernon E. Bickley and Sgt John Young, Jr.

### STILL MORE STARS

At the same time at Division Headquarters, General Ferenbaugh was pinning a Silver Star on Pfc William H. Rosenberry of the 308th Medics and Bronze Stars on the following men.

33rd Signal Co: M/Sgt Charles A. Rumsey; Div Hq: Capt Theodore E. Demasse, 1st Lt John Innaccone, M/Sgt Francis B. March, Tec 3 William J. O'Brien, T/Sgt William M. Rowe and CWO Adolph A. Rugele; 368th Engineers: Tec 3 George W. Vertrees, Pvt Kenneth J. Brunst, Tec 5 Holly B. Good, Pfc Archie Kelly, Pfc Paul L. Kimmel, Tec 5 Melvin J. LaBarr, Tec 5 Glen E. Tucker, Sgt Frank H. Davis, Sgt Earl H. Graham, Cpl John D. Gallo, Sgt Michael J. Liber, Tec 5 Carl E. Miller, Pfc Paul G. Seagnelli, 1st Lt John D. Hanet, Tec 4 Raymond E. Shireliff, Jr., Tec 5 Albert R. Long and Tec 4 Henry P. Rogers.

Also awarded Silver stars during the past week were: 328th Inf: Pfc Wilbert Janke, 1st Lt Arthur D. Littlepage, S/Sgt Percy R. Price, S/Sgt Robert P. Trevillian, 1st Sgt Ralph Bailey, Capt Martin Phiersty and Pfc Chester Predenklewicz. 330th Inf: T/Sgt John L. Williams and Pfc Edward R. McFadden. 331st Inf: Capt Harry C. Gravelyn, Sgt Francis F. Egger and Sgt Leowen Lynch.

### HE GOT STOOD UP!

During a rest period inspection the men of Co I, 330th Infantry, had been long-suffering. A new fellow asked S/Sgt Claude Wesemann: "Is this what they call the standin' army?"

## CUT OFF FOR THREE DAYS, EMBATTLED BATTALION REFUSES TO YIELD

The embattled 3rd Battalion of the 330th Infantry was cut off from the main body of the Division. It had been cut off for three days, holding on for all it was worth. The only thing that kept the Krauts from pouring in was the terrific artillery laid down on all approaches to the besieged town of Strass.

The battalion had been whittled down a bit. Some of the tanks had been KO'd. There was no food. Water was gone. Medical supplies were needed. They had 150 Kraut prisoners.

On the first day Capt. Ben D. Cunningham, Battalion S-3, from Goodlettsville, Tenn., grabbed a tank and rode back through the German-infested woods to the Regimental CP to tell them the story of their plight. He returned to find the battalion CO a casualty.

### "GIVE 'EM BOMBS"

On the evening of the third day, word came by radio that food was to be dropped from a Cub plane. "Drop food and let them know we're on our uppers?" Cunningham cried, "Give 'em bombs. Those Krauts must be getting hungry."

No one thought he wasn't getting out. Main question was, "When are we going to get the PWs back to the cage and how?"

A platoon sergeant came in. "They've just caved in my cellar," he said, "any room for what's left of us?" There wasn't. He went out to his men, and they dug in the snow, preparing to beat off any Tigers that might try to reenter the town.

That night, the third, it rained artillery and mortar. Noise and confusion were all-around.

The men holed up in what was left of the cellars. A runner came in to the command post with information that a company was in the street. "American or Heinie?" queried Cunningham.

"If they're Heinies, tell them we've got too many now. If they're from our side, bid 'em welcome." The runner left.

### BATTALION TO THE RESCUE

Minutes later the beleaguered battalion welcomed not a company but a battalion, the 2nd Battalion of the 329th Infantry, which had fought across 1,500 yards of flat, fire-swept, boggy terrain to break the ring.

Cunningham grinned, jerked his thumb to the rear, and said, "Let's get these Krauts back to the cage." 150 prisoners marched dejectedly down the hill while the 3rd Battalion tightened its belt and prepared to take off for the next objective.

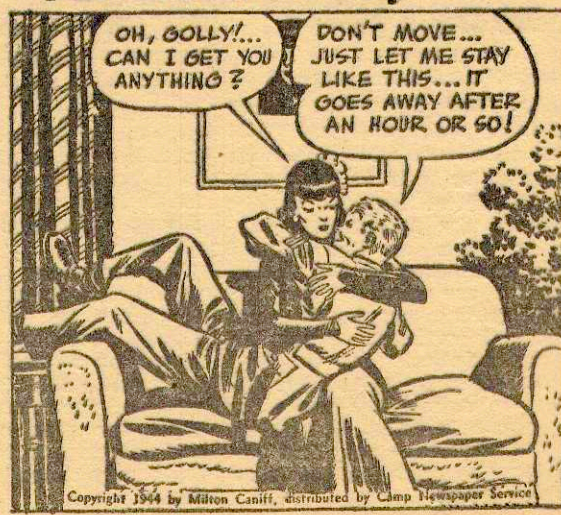
### THIS IS THE ARMY!

A sergeant approached a 330th MP and asked who occupied the building he was guarding. "3rd Battalion, and Regimental Hq when Battalion moves out," was the answer. The sergeant went away but returned in a few minutes with a lieutenant wearing an armored force patch, who said he wanted the place for his platoon.

Said the MP: "I was told to keep everyone out but the 3rd Battalion." The officer was insistent, so the MP called the captain, the captain called the major, and so on, up to Lt Colonel. After the fray Pfc Howard McDonald of 3rd Battalion Msg Ctr piped up: "So this is house to house fighting."

## Male Call

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





## Air-Ground Teamwork Herds Germans Down Retreat Road To Reich

At first it was all Air Corps—Arrow Collar boys going off into the great blue yonder, wind-blown girls wearing wings in waiting, Clark Gable and Jimmy Stewart and Winged Victory.

Then a couple of million men woke up to find themselves in the infantry — up front with Mauldin, Africa — Sicily — Italy — D-day, as in doughboy. Suddenly the guy with the beard, the man in the mud was the glamour boy of battle. The



Maj. Raymond B. Stephens  
(Air Corps Photo)

blueberry pie had come down from the sky.

But somewhere in between a new team was born and today no Division dough regrets sharing the headlines with the men on high.

He remembers the fighter-bombers coming in over the Isle of Cezembre with their drums of jelled gas and the 300 Lancaster and Halifax bombers that followed up — shattering troop shelters and shearing off exposed weapons. **IT LEAVES 'EM WOOZY**

He remembers the dazed 200 taken in Birgel after dive-bombing P47s had paced the infantry attack — and how gun positions in Lendersdorf-Krauthausen and Winden were demolished by air assault.

He remembers the running attack — 16 bombers every 40 minutes — that paved the way

### More Men Get 30 Days Home

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month. The December group was fairly large and was made up of men twice wounded, twice decorated or both. In later quotas, length of overseas service has been the determining factor. As soon as the current quota is received by G-1, specifications are sent to the AG section, which then notifies unit personnel officers. After all recommendations are in, they are classified by AG on the Division basis, and the quota for the month is filled, the orders on the winners cut, and the man in the next foxhole is on his way home.

to Gey. And he remembers how much he missed the planes grounded by weather and terrain in the Ardennes.

For this and much more is the Division's air-ground team at work — the work of Maj Raymond B. Stephens, the Air Ace who serves as the 83rd's Air-Ground Cooperation Officer.

Already a legend in the Air Corps, Stephens is the sole survivor of the famous low-level bombing attacks over Holland and a decorated pioneer in the use of the B-26 as a medium-level bomber. Airmen consider the Division especially fortunate in having such a veteran pilot handling the air arm, and the doughs who have followed his boys into objective after objective since October are quick to agree.

#### GIs REQUEST FIRE

Stephens helps plan and handles all details connected with air assaults requested by the Division. Many of these attacks originate with front line troops — scouts, forward observers and artillery air outposts. When a likely target is spotted, the data is passed up through company, battalion, regiment and division by radio and telephone until it reaches Stephens. Then he goes into conference with the Division Commander, G-2 and G-3. According to the air support available to the Division, these staff officers decide which targets can be hit, which are most important, and from which direction the planes should approach the target. When the planes assigned the mission reach the Division area, they contact Stephens by radio for the necessary instructions.

#### HAVE THREE MISSIONS

Their mission will fall into one of three combat phases, usually the third. The first has to do with gaining air superiority and includes dog fights and going after the enemy at his home base, destroying planes on the ground, bombing runways and demolishing hangars. The second, as at Gey, covers isolating the battlefield by keeping reinforcements and supplies from reaching the enemy's front line troops through knocking out bridges, breaking rail lines, hitting motor transports, bombing marshalling yards and breaking up troop and armor concentrations.

#### THIRD PHASE FAMILIAR

The third phase, most often observed by the doughboys, consists of assaults on nearby targets prior to an infantry attack, bombing and strafing Nazi front lines and breaking up enemy attempts to counter-attack.

The missions are many and varied, but Stephens has some 50 planes in three squadrons always ready to hit any 83rd target by request of the boys up front. And whatever the mission, the men on the line know the men over the lines will complete it that the battle lines may move ever closer to Berlin.

## Cub Planes Are Eyes of Artillery

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plane with D rations and dropped their cargo to the besieged doughboys. While returning to the American lines, the tiny Cub was subjected to considerable small arms fire but was unscathed.

#### THEY'RE TRAIN BUSTERS

During the fighting along the Roer River in Germany the Air OP spotted a German supply train moving from Duren to Cologne. Three observers adjusted long range artillery fire on the target for over three hours while the train dodged back and forth and in and out of sidings along the track. Lts Forrest Norris and Niles Hollingsworth, pilot-observer team of the 323rd FA Bn, obtained direct hits on the locomotive while Lt James Godfrey of the 322nd FA Bn and Lt Dale Hofer of the 324th FA Bn reported destruction of a large portion of track and damage to several cars.

#### SCATTER TIGER TANKS

During the fighting in the Bulge, Maj Jerome Byrd, Div Arty Air Officer, and Observer Lt Richard Mader located and scattered a group of four Tiger tanks which were holding up the advance of the infantry.

These and many similar instances have occurred almost constantly since Normandy. Much of the artillery's success can be claimed by these Cub pilots and observers who carry out their important job of spotting enemy targets for heavy shell fire so the doughboys can advance on their objectives in the face of the least possible Nazi resistance.

## Dawn Patrol...

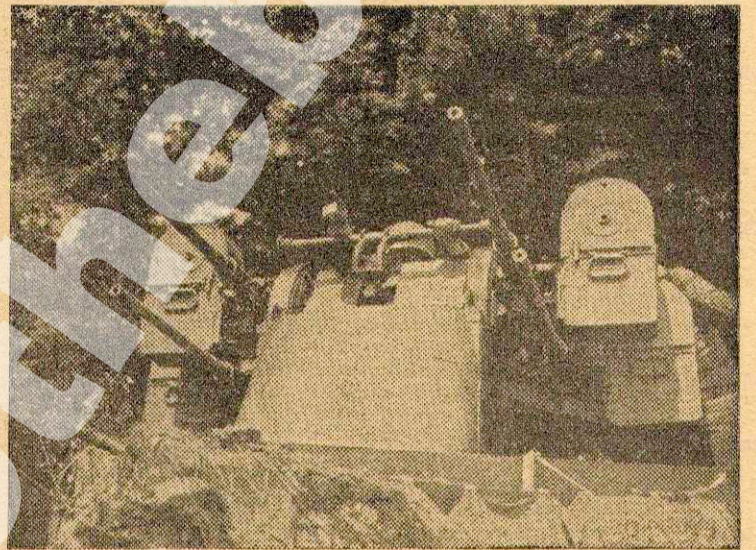


Here she is—ready for the take-off—the 83rd's own air-ground girl, Miss Dawn Kennedy of Hollywood. Combining airiness with earthiness, Miss Kennedy was the unanimous choice of the SPEARHEAD'S Aviation Editor and advisors.

## ACK-ACK CREWS SUPPORTING 83rd KO 40 NAZI AIRCRAFT

The story of air-ground teamwork would hardly be complete without the part played by the 453rd Antiaircraft Bn, the Division's counter-air arm since Carentan.

These veteran ack-ack men were off their trucks and swinging their guns into action. The attacking planes were still on their first sweep over the column when the AA men



(Signal Corps Photo)

slon under their protection. And they have also served in some rather unorthodox AA roles.

Shortly after being attached to the 83rd, Btry A was called up to Culot. About 75 yards from town, they opened up with a barrage of 50s and sprayed the dug-in enemy for 30 minutes until Jerry finally got action on his call for artillery support and the 88s came screaming in. Although two tracks were hit, Sgt John Sams of Toledo, Ohio, who had been directing fire, and Lt Henry Heddon, platoon commander, succeeded in evacuating the wounded immediately despite a continuous shower of 88s.

#### BLOW AMMO DUMP

The Division next made use of the 453d's fire power by employing a number of 40 mm guns and tracks with quadruple 50 cal. mounts against enemy forces on La Varde Peninsula. In a record preparation fire, that included blowing up an ammo dump, the Krauts were kept pinned down so that the Division doughs could advance up the peninsula against a minimum of small arms and machine gun fire.

#### KICK UP A FUSS

One night during the Lofse River campaign, the usually quiet enemy decided to cross over to the 83rd side. Col Edwin B. Crabill, commanding the 329th Infantry, ordered the tracks of Provisional Btry X to turn their quad 50s loose on the opposite bank. The sound of all those 50s firing at once and the echos kicking back broke up the plan, and PWs later stated it sounded as though the whole Division were coming after them.

In Luxembourg enemy planes seldom came within range, but one day two ME 109s flew directly over the defended area of Btry B, and seconds later two pilots took to the silks as their planes went down flaming.

#### ATTACK IN HURTGEN

Fields of fire were at a premium in Hurtgen Forest, but the ack-ack boys were active as usual. The day the 330th combat team moved up six ME 109s jumped a convoy just pulling off the road. At the first sound of strafing, Btry C gun-

let loose. Within five minutes one plane had been knocked down, two badly damaged and the rest driven off.

#### KNOCK TWO DOWN

On another afternoon in the forest, two FW 190s hopped an artillery liaison Cub right over Btry A's positions. The Cub zoomed for the ground, then veered off, leaving the FWs diving directly at the AA guns. Six seconds later Btry A marked up two more kills.

The Bulge Battle brought a record number of enemy fighter-bombers over the Division front to give the 453rd its biggest bag to date. The Nazis attempted to stay out of range but miscalculated on spotting the batteries. Btry D was on the highest ground and delivered the most fatal fire, accounting for 12 of the attacking ME 109s and FW 190s to boost the battalion score over the 40 mark.

## Air Photos Are Interpreted by Division Team

Infantry patrols given the mission of probing German defenses receive the location of many enemy strongpoints from the six man Photo Intelligence team stationed at Division Headquarters.

Photo reconnaissance pictures taken by the Air Corps over enemy lines are rapidly developed and then rushed to Division Headquarters where they are turned over to the Photo Intelligence team.

Working through the Division Intelligence section, two officers and four enlisted men make a detailed study of enemy positions 10,000 yards in front of our lines. Paths of approach to Jerry gun positions, probable German troop fortifications and all other information which can be used by the doughboys are carefully noted and plotted on an overlay map.

These details are in turn forwarded to the infantry regiments and are used by patrols in operating behind enemy lines,