

# 83<sup>rd</sup> Thunderbolt

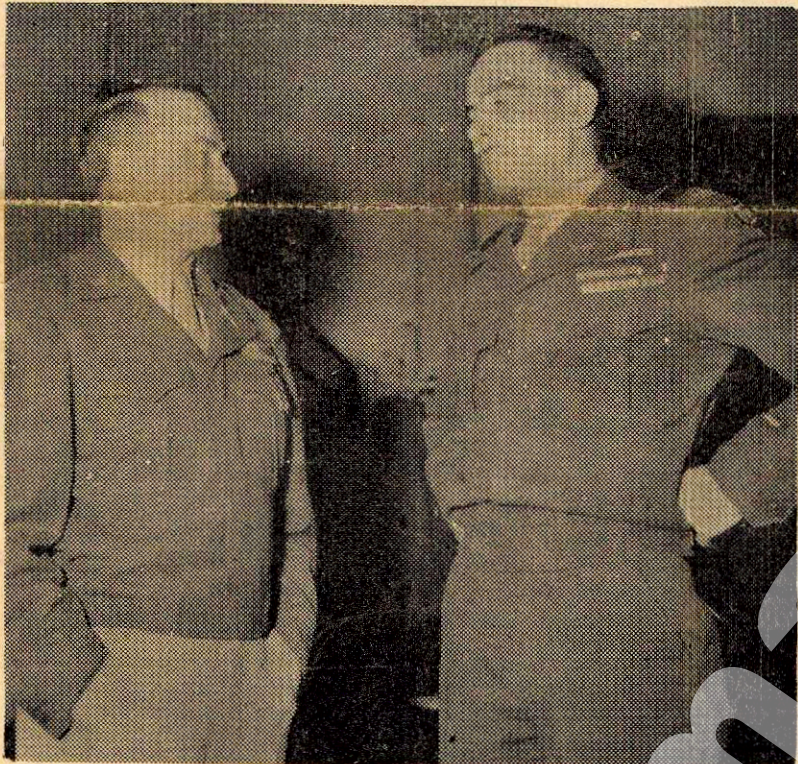
NORMANDY. BRITTANY. LOIRE VALLEY. LUXEMBOURG. HURTGEN FOREST. ARDENNES. FIRST TO RHINE. ELBE BRIDGEHEAD.

VOL 1, No. 6

BAD HARZBURG, GERMANY

JUNE 2, 1945

## Farewell Party . . .



It was quite an occasion last week when the officers and men of the 329th Infantry bid farewell to Col. Edwin B. Crabill, their commander since re-activation at Atterbury, as he left the regiment to take over his new duties as assistant to General Macon. At a party in the Kaffee Haus in Wolfenbuettel, Col. Crabill cuts the big cake baked in his honor by Pvt. Ladislav Popek, Regt Hqrs baker, (top), chats with his successor, Col. Alexander Reid, (center), and reminisces with Lt. Sam Magill of the 20,000-at-Becugency fame (bottom). (Signal Corps Photos)

## Memorial Day Marked By Impressive Ceremonies As 83<sup>rd</sup> Honors Division Dead

*Gen. Montague Addresses Artillery, Col. Crabill At 329<sup>th</sup>, Col. Deshotels At Hqrs.*

At impressive Memorial Day ceremonies throughout the province of Braunschweig, men of the 83rd Division joined their fellow Americans on Guam and Okinawa, in London and Paris, at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the garden grave of their fallen Commander-in-Chief to pay solemn tribute to those who could not live to see the freedom, for which they had given their lives, triumph.

In the silent shadows of the green Harz mountains on the spacious lawn of the Kurhaus in Bad Harzburg, Lt. Col. Jules H. Deshotels, Division G 2, led the services at Division Hqrs., speaking in the absence of General Macon.

## French Wacs Now Serving With Division

She's an English girl serving as a French officer attached to the American army.

That's the story of Lt. Eileen Colley, Hertfordshire, England, who is the only British girl in the MMLA (Mission Militaire de Liaison Administrative), an organization of the French Government set up to facilitate the return of hundreds of thousands of French citizens who were forced to leave their homes during the Nazi occupation of their country.

The attractive 24-year-old Lieutenant is in charge of the unit of five French girls who have just been assigned to the Military Government Office of the 83rd Division. The group, ranging in age from 17 to 24 years, has already been instrumental in the return of some 12,000 Frenchmen to their homeland.

Their activities are not, however, confined to the displaced French alone as they work with all nationalities in the tremendous task of repatriation.

"If we can secure the necessary transportation facilities," asserted Lt. Colley, "I feel the job of getting

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"With pride we stand in the glory of their achievement and sacrifice," said Col. Deshotels in tribute to the fallen of the 83rd, "and with sorrow and grief we mourn the loss of their presence here with us. With faith and confidence, we are cheered by the knowledge that their sacrifice has not been in vain, that the light of freedom as not been removed from the face of the earth. . . Our comrades, from falling hands, have handed the flag to us. It is our duty to hold it high!"

The setting for the Colonel's remarks was impressive. Directly in front of the speaker's stand was a large memorial wreath. In the center of the court facing the stand and surrounded by the assembled troops was a tall flagpole with the Colors at half-mast.

Following a prelude of religious music by the 83rd Band, under the direction of CWO Z. P. King, the National Anthem was sung by the entire assemblage. The invocation was given by Capt. William Harris, Ass't Division Chaplain, followed by a reading from the Psalms by Chaplain Harold Pinkney of the 508th Medics.

Col. Deshotels' speech was followed by a prayer by Chaplain Jacob Ott, Division Hebrew Chaplain. Then the large wreath was carried before the hushed troops to the base of the flagpole, where earth from the 48 States, sent to General Macon by the mother of an 83rd man who had died in battle, was softly sprinkled.

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## Two Doughs Get Special Call Home

T/Sgts. Joseph J. Dunlap of Co. G, 329th Infantry and Francis E. Powell of Co. B, 331st Infantry were selected last Saturday by General Macon to return immediately to the United States on an undisclosed special assignment. The men were chosen on the basis of points (Dunlap has 95, Powell 94), awards, special commendations and soldierly appearance.

For Sgt. Dunlap the unexpected trip home will mean a meeting with his year-old daughter whom he has never seen. Powell, upon being informed of his selection, wrote a message to his father which said, "This came as a big surprise to me and I hardly know how to feel about going home. Hope to arrive soon."

Both Dunlap and Powell, who are Rifle Platoon Sergeants, have seen combat duty in each of the five campaigns credited to the 83rd Division. Both wear the Silver Star, the Bronze Star and a Purple Heart with two clusters.

Pfc. Levin Willey of 3rd Bn Hqrs Co., 331st Infantry was selected as an alternate in case either Dunlap or Powell could not make the trip. Willey is also a veteran of each of the 83rd's campaigns and wears the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart.

## SS MAN GETS DEATH SENTENCE

Swift justice was meted out to Siegfried Benz, fanatical 17 year old storm trooper, who was captured on May 23rd after he had fired on and thrown grenades at three men from the 280th Field Artillery Bn. He was tried by General Court Martial on May 29th and given the death sentence for armed attack on the Allied forces in defiance of terms imposed on Germany by the Allies after its surrender. It was the first case of its type to be tried in the Thunderbolt Division area.

During the four-hour trial the stripling Hitler Youth sat expressionless while Lt. Royden B. Bowen, cub plane observer from Houston, Texas, and T/5 William B. Hunter of Fresno, Cal., two of the three men who captured him, gave the testimony which condemned him.

Bowen, Hunter and T/5 Robert Engebretson from Bear Lake, Minn.

were told of Benz' presence in the Harz mountains near Braunlage by two German civilians who had been fired on by him and another SS man. Together with four or five other civilians, Bowen and his men entered a strip of thick woods to investigate. One of the civilians pointed out the spot where he thought the SS men were hiding. Bowen stepped to it, pulled aside branches that were being used for camouflage and uncovered a 6'x6' x 3' tent.

"I called upon the occupants to come out several times. So did one of the Germans who was with me, but we received no response," testified Bowen. Following the failure of the men to answer, he fired two shots into the ground. A grenade was tossed from the tent and the three artillerymen took cover. Fortunately it failed to explode.

"Hunter then emptied a clip from

his carbine into the tent," recounted Bowen. After that there were two pistol shots from inside the tent and another grenade which failed to go off. Shortly after the second grenade was thrown Benz came out.

A search of the tent revealed that Hunter's shots had mortally wounded the other occupant. Inside were three pistols, an automatic pistol, automatic rifle, one grenade and approximately 300 rounds of ammunition in addition to C rations and American cigarettes.

Benz' defense was based on the claim that he didn't know the war was over. He said he had been hiding in the tent for three weeks and that he had not spoken with civilians nor seen American Military Government proclamations, some of which were posted not 500 yards from his hide-out. He maintained that the first grenade was thrown by his companion

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# 83rd Thunderbolt

Official Weekly Newspaper of the  
83rd Infantry Division

The Thunderbolt, formerly the Spearhead, is written by and for the men of the 83rd under the supervision of Capt John C. Neff, Information-Education Officer, and Capt Thomas C. Roberts, Public Relations Officer. All material is censored by AC of S, G-2. Member Camp Newspaper Service, 205 East 42nd St., NYC.

STAFF: Managing Editor, Sgt Al Gladding; News Editor, Sgt John Benham; Feature Editor, Pfc Bill Nos; Special Events, Sgt Allan Nemrow; Sports Editor, Pfc Carl Weber; Art Editor, Sgt Nick Firfires; Photographer, M Sgt Harry Brouhard; Unit Correspondents, Sgt Ray Goguen, 329th Inf, Sgt Grover Crawford, 330th Inf, Sgt Jack Straus, 331st Inf, and Sgt Bill Schumann, 83rd Arty.

VOL. 1, No. 6.

June 2, 1945.

## Welcome Home

Being a strictly low-point man on Uncle Sam's international polo team may have its compensations. If the advertisements appearing in the current magazines at home are any indication of the state of the nation, the high-point man who arrives in the States prepared to go back to his former way of life is due for a shock.

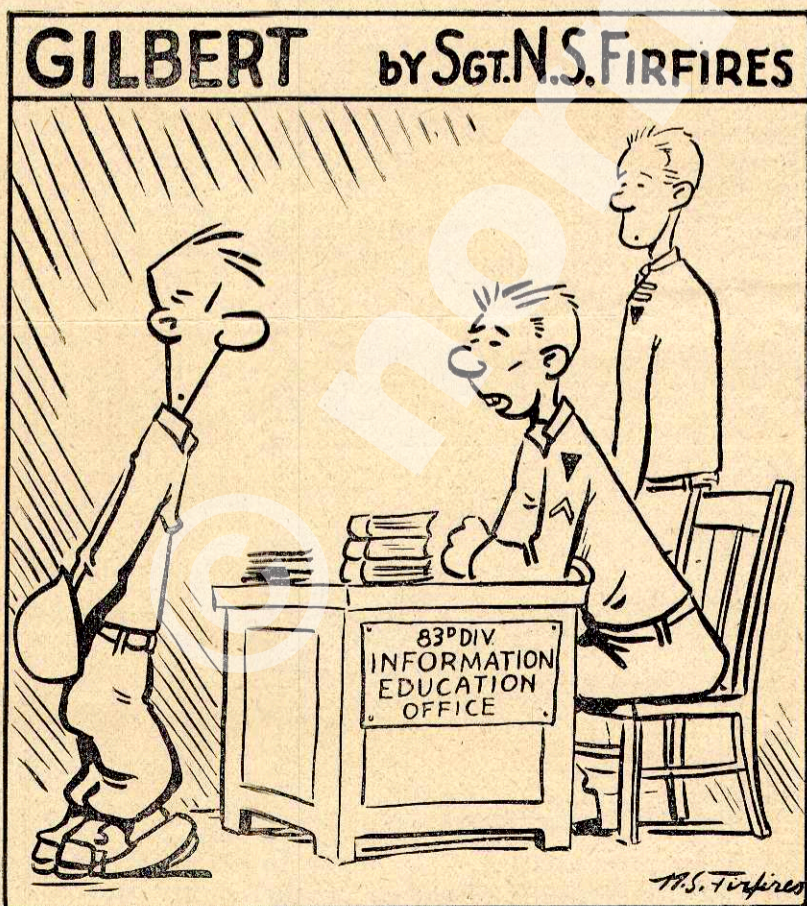
For example, the women are apparently not the same winsome gals we left behind. Maybe they've been reading too many articles on how to cope with their husband or boy friend who comes back to them after being long gone overseas. Anyway, Bonwit Teller, a women's clothing store in New York City, advertises a "Half-Nelson Jacket" which they claim is the "brain child of L-85." This L-85 character is possibly a secret agent who has done a little snooping around in the haylofts and darkened doorways of the ETO and, in a frantic attempt to save American Womanhood, has rushed back to Bonwit's with the breathless news that what every woman needs is a "Half-Nelson Jacket." Bonwits, who should know better, have allowed themselves to be duped by L-85.

And indeed Bonwits is not the only one. American women, and returned GIs are going to be in a bad way if they allow themselves to be swayed by the whims of the advertisers. Consider the new nail polish color, "Frozen Fire" which is said to "sparkle frostily on your nails." The picture with the ad shows a moderately attractive blonde transfixed in ecstasy as she gazes at a bottle of "Frozen Fire" which she holds in her hands, the fingers of which "sparkle frostily." The homecoming soldier with romance on his mind is not going to get off to a good start if his girl greets him in a half nelson jacket with her fingers sparkling frostily as they twine about his neck.

In page after page that recounts the revolutionary change that is taking place in American women there is one sane note. Something that shows that the returned GI is still a man and is not going to be bullied around by a woman who dreams of "red, red nails" and who is said to think that a book called "Bedside Tales" placed beside his bed is enough to "satisfy every bedtime mood and need." The ad that indicates that GI Joe turned civilian is not a complete cuckold is one by the Edward G. Budd Co., manufacturers of stainless steel railroad cars. A man and his wife are shown entering a railroad coach. Both of them are young and the man is in civilian clothes; so quite possibly he has been recently discharged from the Army. In a series of small pictures the girl is shown swooning over the "comfortable seats" the "lovely lounge car. And to think that this is ours too," the diner, "Isn't this nice. I'll take the consommé and roast chicken." All through this ecstatic dialog the man has maintained a stern aloofness. Finally in the last picture the shades are drawn and she is propped up poker-like in the seat with a pillow at her head. "This is cozy," she says. "I'm going to sleep." Through the half-light of the car he sees her linger nails "gleaming frostily" and his legs are tangled in her half-nelson jacket which has fallen to the floor. "Sleep right," he says. "every minute you'll be saving money. With all this comfort and luxury, we'll be \$52 richer than if we had taken a coach."

Then, as the frost on her fingernails fades away and he is sure she is asleep, he snags off to the diner for a date with the blonde who is wearing a simple linen dress and no nail polish.

Sgt. John Benham



"I'm sorry -- we don't have a course concerning habits and customs of civilians."

## Japs Burn As Super Forts Raid

Late news reports from the Pacific tell of continued Superfort incendiary bombings of Tokyo and Yokohama. These cities are still reeling from the terrific blows which set them aflame earlier in the week. The Japs admit 51 square miles of Tokyo is in ruins. These raids are following the example set by the Air Force in the ETO. Fighter planes proceed to the target first and hold the enemy planes down by attacks on the major airports. Then while the enemy planes are being made ineffective the Superforts come to bomb the industrial centers.

The capitol city of Naha in Okinawa fell Thursday to US Marines who also broke thru the defenses of the fortress of Shuri which guarded the city. Naha, with a population of 66,000, is the largest city ever captured by the Marines. Naval gunfire and artillery had reduced the city to complete ruins.

Secretary of the Navy Forrestal issued a call to the nation for workers to come immediately to the West Coast to assist in the rebuilding of ships damaged at Okinawa.

It has been estimated that Jap plane losses for April were well over 2,500; the highest loss suffered in any one month.

Vice Admiral Rawlings Task Force Commander with the British Pacific Fleet, told Admiral Nimitz this week that everything the Royal Navy has will be thrown at the Japs.

Until recently a hushed subject, disclosures are now coming out about the Jap bomb-carrying balloons which have landed on the West Coast of the United States. It takes the bombs from three to five days to reach the States, where the bombs are dropped by automatic release.

In London Lt. Gen. James Doolittle revealed that part of the 200,000 men, 2,400 heavy bombers, and 1,200 fighters of the 8th Air Force had already started to the Pacific. He predicted that 20,000-ton raids by Superfortress fleets 2,000 strong would be launched against Japan.

## 329th Bn Had Own Hospital

From Feb. 10th until the end of the war in Europe, Capt. James D. Kelly, Monroe, La., Battalion Surgeon of the 1st Bn., 329th Infantry, assisted by four of his medics, operated a traveling hospital which handled 115 doughboys who otherwise would have been lost to their units for lengthy periods. It usually consisted of a couple of rooms in a house near the aid station with litters, or, on occasion, feather mattresses substituting for iron hospital cots. Under the supervision of T/4 Dallas Travis, Sturgis, Ky., two medics were in constant attendance from 0600 to 2400 giving medicine, taking temperatures and keeping charts. Kelly visited the hospital on an average of four times a day.

When the battalion moved — and it often did, Travis stayed behind with the patients until it was ascertained that a suitable new location was available. The patients were then moved forward by ambulance. Only 12 of the 115 men confined for ailments ranging from colds to "flu" to infections had to be ticketed later for movement to evacuation hospitals.

Most of the time there were four or five men confined. Their average stay was three days. If they had been evacuated, many of them would not have been back for several months.

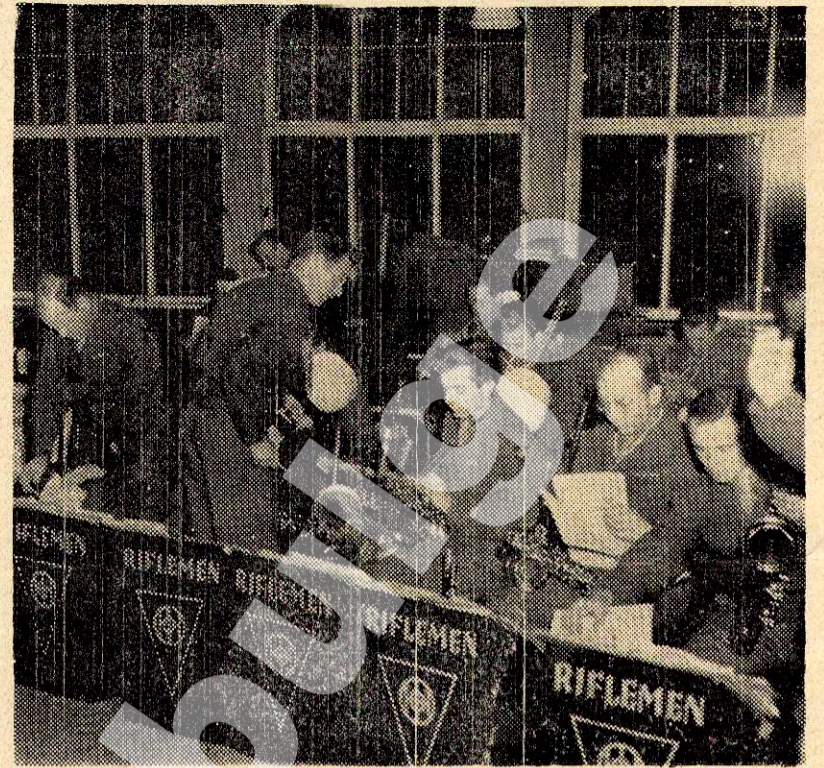
Pfc. Edward Barzda of Co. D — one of the miniature field hospital's charter patients, expressed the motive behind Kelly's successful experiment when he said, "I'd been through the battle of the depots once. If it wasn't for Capt. Kelly's idea, I would have had to be carried to sick call before I'd risk it again."

Medics aiding Kelly were Cpl. Jack Steed of Grand Rapids, Mich., T/3 Albert Klapper of Brooklyn and Pfc. Edward Sawitz of Lackawanna, N. Y.

## Last Concert

Music lovers of the 83rd will have an opportunity Sunday to hear the famous Goslar Symphony Orchestra, under the baton of Erich Penglin, when two concerts are presented at the Kasino in Bad Harzburg at 1430 and 2000, closing the season.

## ... Tuning Up



Getting ready to play another party date are the ever-popular Riflemen, top Division dance band. Besides appearing regularly at the Kasino, the band is booked for special unit affairs, such as the recent farewell party for Col. Crabill in the 329th area. (Signal Corps Photo)

## Me And Joe Sees The Dentist, Gets The Works

Me and Joe was arguing.

But they don't hurt, says Joe.

That don't make a particle of difference, I says. It's just like a batch of tomatoes what's rotting. Unless something is did such as makin' a salad out of 'em, there's no telling how much they'll stink up the place.

Nor do I like your references to me teeth as tomatoes, says Joe. I ain't been to a dentist yet and it is ridiculous that I should start at old age.

Nevertheless, I says. People what know more than us has said it is all for the best. Them's orders.

I can see I'm arguing with a moron, says Joe. I'm taking this affair to higher personnel.

Me and Joe wanders over to the dentist, who is a captain, and who is waiting for Joe with enthusiasm.

Well, soldier, says the captain. Right on time.

He's a butcher, Joe murmurs to me. Look at that glint in his eye.

I'm glad you brought a friend along, says the captain. My assistant has been detained and won't be here to operate the drill.

What's that? inquires Joe.

The drill? It's just a device we use to cut away the decay. Out in the field where we have no source of current it works by foot.

Who's foot, I inquires educational like.

Your foot, says the captain. And now, he says to Joe. If you'll kindly sit down here, I'll tie this bib on.

No blindfold, doc, says Joe. I ain't scared.

It's for your neck, says the doc. He slips it on and Joe sits there confused like.

Now, young man, says the doc. Open wide and let's see what goes on.

For your information, says Joe. There ain't no baseball game in there. Only teeth.

Exactly, says the doc. Exactly.

He takes a gander and as he looks keeps shaking his head negative like. When were you to see a dentist last? he inquires.

When Ma had a wisdom tooth out two weeks before I was born. I could hear her yelling from where I was, says Joe.

Like mother, like son, says the doc. Only you have three that must be removed.

Ain't the doc a card? says Joe to me. You certainly got a sense of humor, sir, if I do say so.

And also offhand I see seven cavities which need immediate attention.

I'll see what I can do, says Joe. I got a toothbrush almost new what I use to clean my M-I with.

Well, today we'll only take care of three, says the doc. And in a couple of days we'll clean up the whole mess.

You sound like a KP for teeth, says Joe.

Now if your friend will start pumping with the foot lever, we'll be through in no time.

I can't do it, I objects. He's my buddy. It'll hurt me more than it does him.

In that case, says Joe. How about having him sit here and I'll do the pumping?

Let's have no more nonsense, says the doc. Now start pumping until I tell you to stop.

I starts pumping away and all I sees is Joe's legs straightening out stiffer'n boards. After what seems like hours the doc motions for me to stop.

Now, soldier, that wasn't so bad, was it? he says to Joe.

No, sir, says Joe. But, if you happens to drop into Brooklyn after the war, sir, I'll kill you in cold blood.

Later me and Joe was walking back.

Maybe you was right, Joe, I says. Rotten tomatoes ain't so bad.

You hadn't oughta talk that way, says Joe. It ain't sanitary.

You mean you ain't sore? I says hopeful like.

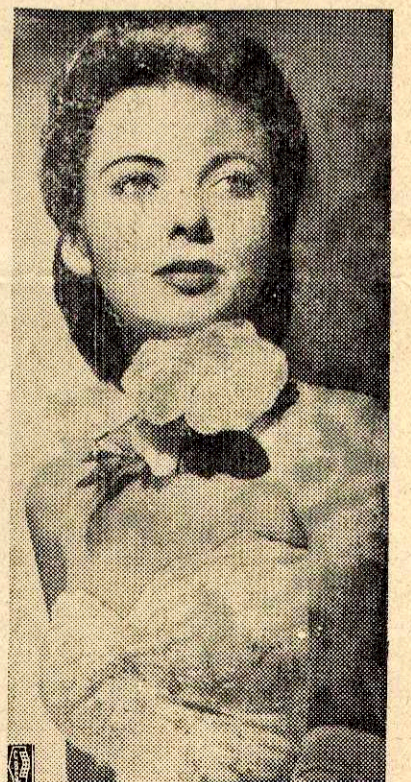
Hell, no, says Joe. I ain't sore.

About five minutes later I senses I's being stared at by Joe.

Like hell you ain't, I says.

Capt. Jud Allen

## ... Yup, It's Ida



Momentarily freed from her frustrated sister and gun moll roles for a short shot at cheesecake art is none other than Warner's wan Ida Lupino, blossoming forth here in an entirely new light. (CBS Photo)

# 330<sup>th</sup> EM Serving As Camp Commandants Of 20,000 Docile PWs

Little more than two weeks ago a series of crab, gray, one story buildings near Jemmendorf in the 3.0th area were used to house slave laborers held by the Germans. Today these buildings are barracks for former members of the German army and navy taken prisoner by the Ninth Army.

The area covered by the buildings, now containing some 20,000 prisoners, is divided into five blocks. Block 1-C is said to be a representative block. Here about 6,000 men from all branches of the German military are confined under the direct supervision of three GIs — combat soldiers who knew the Germans in battle. The GIs are responsible to higher ranking officers, but direct contact with the prisoners is by American non-coms who are called "Camp Commandants".

The Camp Commandants for Block 1-C are Sgts. John R. Bainton, Bronx, N. Y.; Henry E. Haake, Bellville, Ill.; and William Huber, Perryville, Mo. They share a day shift. At night no American is within the confines of the prison camp.

In prison the mastered race leads a pretty quiet life. Since the opening of this camp only two men have escaped. There have been two deaths, one from natural causes and the other a suicide. The suicide was a former SS member about 45 years old who, according to the report of the German medical officer, was a moody person given to brooding about his future in view of his SS history. His body, hung from a wire in a bomb-wrecked building, apparently aroused no interest in the other prisoners who were working outside. Lt. Robert W. Naughton, Minneapolis, S-1 officer stationed at the camp, said that 44 SS members had so far been discovered in the camp. Most of them were turned in by their fellow prisoners. "The SS men are outcasts among their own people," Lt. Naughton said. "The Wehrmacht can't stand them."

There has been no problem of discipline, particularly since it was announced several days ago that some of the men would be released from the army. No "point" system will be used in considering the men for discharge. Length of service, battle decorations, or family obligations will mean nothing.

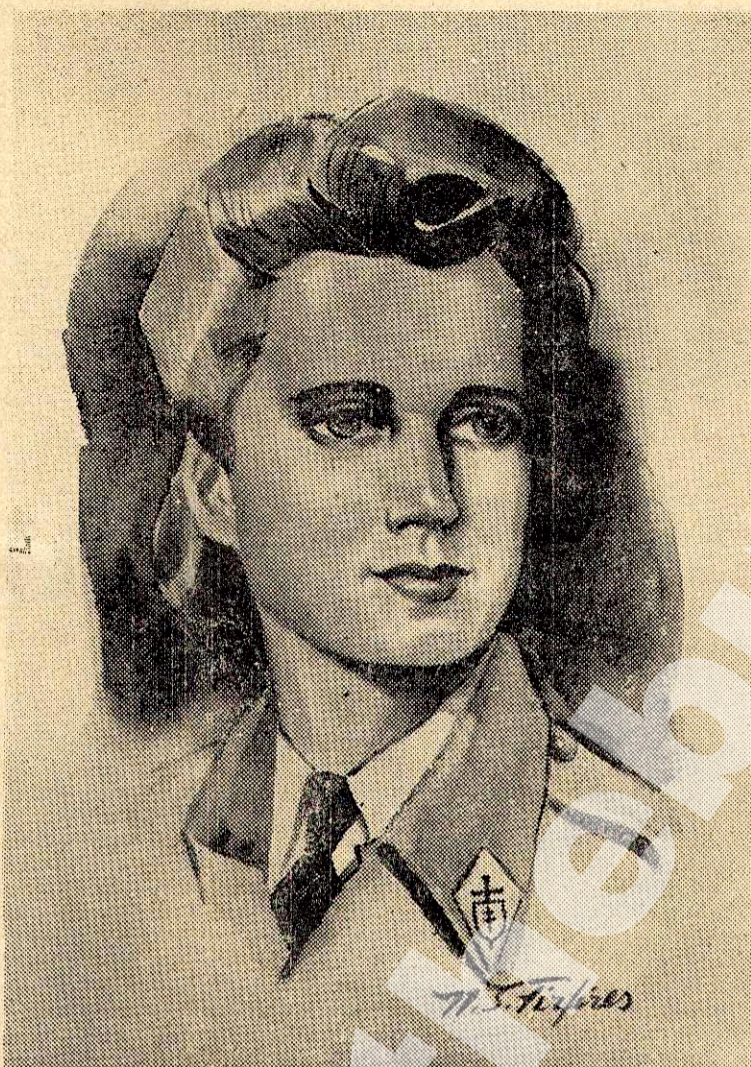
Discharge will be based solely on factors concerned with the convenience of the Allies. If the men were engaged as civilians in farming, coal mining, or transportation, they will be considered for discharge.

## 83rd Vets Get Ten More Points

"Take ten — ten more points!" And so the Division G-1 section made it official this week that 83rd veterans who fought from Omaha Beach to the Elbe Bridgehead are entitled to all three of the new campaign stars recently announced by the War Department as replacing the general "Germany Campaign", for which 83rd men had already received credit.

The new campaign stars are for the Rhineland, the Ardennes and Central Europe. Counting the Normandy and Northern France campaigns, this brings to five the number of bronze battle stars 83rd veterans may wear on their ETO ribbons and to 25 the number of campaign points they may claim toward the critical 85, at present necessary for discharge consideration.

## Comrade-In-Arms . . .



Now serving with the 83rd is blonde, blue-eyed Sgt. Marie Louise De La Vault, 17, one of the five EW of the French Army in the MMLA (Mission Militaire de la Administrative), currently attached to the Division to help repatriate misplaced persons from Western Europe. The dream sergeant from Nice has been with the French Forces for two and a half years, loves swimming, baseball and boxing, thinks Yanks are great fun. Along to see that they're not too much fun is another Sgt. De La Vault, Marie Louise's mother.

In addition to one of these requirements they must also have a home address that is within the limits of the area covered by the Ninth Army.

But the prisoners don't know the basis upon which they may be selected for discharge. All they know is that some of them will be discharged and each of them hopes that it will be he. As Sgt. Bainton said, "If these krauts got out of line, we could probably bully them back into obedience by telling them that they wouldn't get out of the army. But it isn't necessary. They're all acting like good boys now."

Capt. Joseph J. Seidel of the IPW Team and T/3 Josef Zatzkis of the MLI Team have been at the prison camp for more than two weeks checking the records of the prisoners in connection with the discharge program.

Lt. Naughton commented on the efficiency with which the prisoners had organized themselves in the camp. "Within 24 hours after their arrival, they had set up their own chain of command, with the highest ranking officer in charge and he delegating the responsibilities on down through the ranks. In this sense they are self-governing. They must make themselves self-sufficient, too, for we supply them only with rations."

The mess hall offers a fairly constant diet of soup, hard bread, peas and potatoes. The mess sergeant made an impassioned plea for salt to Sgt. Bainton, but Bainton seemed to be thinking of something else. At least supplying salt to the German prisoners didn't seem to be too much on his mind.

# ENGLISH GIRL HEADS WAC DET.

(Continued from Page 1)

these people home can be done in another two months' time."

The MMLA was first formed in England before the invasion of Normandy to work with Allied troops in liaison with displaced persons. At first, there were both mens' and womens' groups but, after the invasion, the mens' organization was disbanded and the work was turned over entirely to women.

"Most of the girls who started with us," said Lt. Colley, "fled from France to England in the early days of the war, wanting to do their bit. In fact, two of the girls in my own group here with the 83rd landed in Normandy with the first contingent on June 28 last year."

"We were with the First Army until it left for the United States, and then went with the Ninth. We are glad to be with the 83rd."

The pretty English girl became a part of the French organization when she became secretary to the Commanding Officer of the Free French in England in January, 1942. When the MMLA was set up, she volunteered for service.

"At first," she recalled, "I was a little dubious about it, but I have never regretted my decision, because I feel we have contributed much in getting these people back to their families."

Previous to the assignment with the Ninth Army, the group was assigned to the notorious Buchenwald concentration camp. This assignment lasted for only two days, which was quite sufficient, according to the Lieutenant.

"The whole thing was ghastly and we were all glad when we were ordered to move from there. It was just as bad as the authorities have said."

"We were told that the wife of the commandant of the camp used to go around and look over the prisoners for any unusual tattoos on their bodies. When she found one that appealed to her, she would tell her husband. He would have the unfortunate owner of the tattoo killed and skinned. His wife then made lampshades from the tattooed portions."

Once a MMLA group is assigned to a DP camp, they work closely with

the American or British officials and do the actual contact work with the DPs, supervising feeding, supplies, transportation and sanitation.

Their greatest feeling of accomplishment comes when a shipment of DPs is started off to France or Belgium.

"Several times we have started off convoys of about 120 trucks for these persons. Other times we use trains. Once we were able to beg airplane transportation for a number of sick and wounded."

"One of the most difficult problems to contend with," said Lt. Colley, "is the Russians' desire for drinking wood alcohol and gasoline. They mix it up with sugar and a few other ingredients and say it is very palatable. The fact that one dies or becomes blind in about ten minutes doesn't bother them at all."

"When we reproach them and point out the fatal results, they merely shrug their shoulders and reply, 'But it tastes good'. We know of over 400 who have died from it so far, but it doesn't seem to bother them much."

# Memorial Services Impressive

(Continued from Page 1)

The troops presented arms, the honor guard fired three volleys and then the final notes of Taps sounded calm and clear through the valley into the hills.

At the same hour, all four battalions of the 85rd Artillery were assembled in the Tonbild-Lichtspiele Theatre in Helmstedt to hear their Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Robert M. Montague, pay homage to Division artillerymen who had fallen in the campaigns to crush Germany.

"Their courage, loyalty and devotion to duty shall never cease to stir our hearts with solemn pride and our minds with cherished memories of their deeds and sacrifice," said General Montague. "Our comrades shed glory on us; let us never disgrace their memory and their sacrifice by anything we do."

Protestant services in the artillery area were under the direction of Chaplain E. E. Crawford, while Requiem Mass was offered by Chaplain Ralph G. Hoffmann. Hebrew services were conducted in the evening by Chaplain Ott.

Men of the 529th Infantry were gathered at the three battalions and at Rgt. Hqrs. in Wolfenbüttel to hear an address by Col. Edwin B. Crabill, new Assistant Division Commander, formerly commanding officer of the regiment. At each location he was introduced by Col. Alexander D. Raid, new Regimental Commander, who praised the achievements of 529th men on the field of battle.

Col. Crabill paid tribute to the men of his former command who had died for the principles for which they fought.

"On every Memorial Day to come," he said, "we should pause in homage to our fallen comrades who gave their lives that freedom might live on."

Memorial services for the men of the 550th and 551st regiments, as well as other units, were conducted last Sunday by unit chaplains.

## SS Sentence

(Continued from Page 1)

and denied any knowledge of the second one or of the pistol shots. He did admit that he knew the Americans had called for him to surrender before the shooting started.

Benz' face did not change expression even as the death penalty was being imposed in the dingy Bad Harzburg court house. He seemed more interested in the gum he was chewing.

The military tribunal which passed judgement was composed of Maj. George P. Callison, 736th Tank Bn., Maj. Rupert MacPherson, 83rd Div. Hq., Maj. Arthur B. Batty, 280th FA Bn., and Capt. Milton Berger, 329th Inf. Capt. Samuel Cohen of the 453rd AAA acted as prosecutor and Capt. Antonio Gaudio of the 329th Inf. as defense counsel. The proceedings which were carried on in both English and German were interpreted by T/5 Edgar Schipper and T/5 William L. Baer, both of New York City.

The sentence is subject to review by higher headquarters before it is executed.

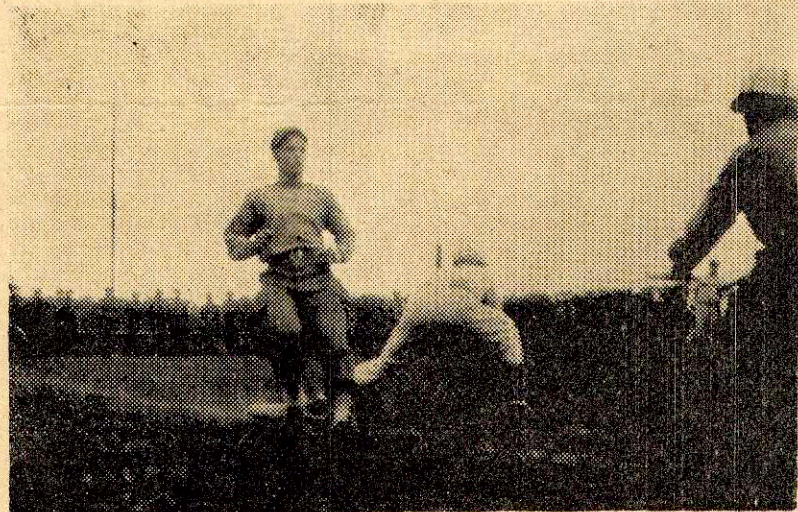
## Male Call

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



# Engineers Edge QM, 12-10, In Memorial Day Diamond Thriller

Topping the athletic events for the week was the baseball game won by the 308th Engineers over the 83rd Quartermasters on the Engineers home field at Bad Harzburg Memorial Day afternoon. The see-saw struggle finally went to the Engineers to the tune of 12 to 10 after nine hectic innings had the small GI partisan crowd in a dither all afternoon. The music of the refreshments, made available by arrangement with the SSO, helped soothe the jangled nerves of the fans but whetted their appetites for more of the same fare in the near future.



Incongruous as it may have seemed to the occasional German gentry who sidled up just outside the borders of the playing field, the boys took turns wielding wicked sticks where the Heinies had been accustomed to seeing contestants taking swipes at each other's shins. In the unofficial box score the Engineers will have to give an assist for converting the soccer field into a fairly good ball diamond. The QMs not to be outdone will also rate an assist in providing another surprise for both the GI fans and the Auslanders by bringing the Haufbrau right on the lot.

But right at this point is where the cooperation stopped. The Engineers got their first licks, but Reinhardt, the QMs starting pitcher, held them hitless although allowing two walks in the first half of the inning. In their turn at bat the QMs laid down a barrage of bingles that had the Engineers' pitcher Ratchford groggy. He weathered the storm however and finally retired the side after the QMs had pulled out a good 4-run lead.

For the next 6 innings the Engineers kept whacking away till they had collected 8 runs and they seemed rather surprised to be leading the QMs by 5 runs. In the 8th they added 2 more runs for good measure and the game seemed to be in the bag. But with Ratchford tiring and the support leaning to Shakespeare's Comedy of Errors, the QMs rallied to even the score at 10 all.

The 9th inning brought up the tag end of the Engineers' batting order. But Shoop, who played an erratic third base, stepped into the batter's box, having 3 for 4 to his credit. He

completed a good day's stick work by getting another clean single over second base. Ratchford followed and won his own ball game with a hefty triple into deep center field, scoring Shoop.

The next two men were struck out by Riffle, the southpaw QM relief hurler for Reinhardt, who came in at the beginning of the 8th inning. But McBeth, the Engineer center fielder, came through for his only hit of the afternoon to score Ratchford for the Engineers' final run. Liber walked on his last appearance at the plate but ended a good day at bat with 2 for 4 and 1,000 fielding. Ciraco, the right fielder, grounded out to retire the side, but he also was in there with the wood getting 5 for 4.

The QMs, also on the short end of their batting order, started the last half of the 9th with Rose, the second baseman up. Rose, a fast and heady infielder had proven himself a dangerous man all afternoon. He had flied out twice previously and had gotten a walk and a hit. But this time he whiffed out and Marena, who substituted for Dyer in center field, grounded out. With two down Riffle sent a spark of hope through the QMs by getting a clean single over third base. Glickman, who played the hot corner himself, tried a hot liner down the same spot, but Shoop handled it perfectly to retire the side and end the game.

Final score: 308th Engineers, 12 runs, 14 hits and 3 errors; QMs, 10 runs, 15 hits and 5 errors. Winning pitcher, Ratchford; losing pitcher, Reinhardt.

Score by Innings.		H	R	E
308th Engineers	0 2 0 0 3 2 1 2 2	14	12	3
83 Quartermasters	4 0 1 0 0 0 0 5 0	13	10	5

# Kribs' Sports Participation Plan Adopted By Division

By orders of the Chief of Staff, Col. Conrad L. Boyle, an athletic organizational meeting was conducted Thursday morning by Capt. Julius C. Reeder, Division Special Service Officer, at the Headquarters of the SSO in Bad Harzburg for the purpose of outlining a Division Athletic Program.

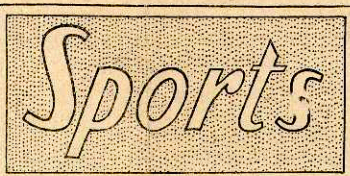
After a short introductory and orientation speech by Capt. Reeder, the meeting was turned over to Lt. David A. Kribs, Athletic Officer of the 331st Infantry, who acted as Temporary Chairman of the initial steering committee composed of officers from all regular and attached units of the 83rd Division.

Kribs outlined a plan which had been submitted and approved by the Chief of Staff and told how it was presently functioning in his own outfit. It was brought out that the ultimate success of the program depen-

ded largely on the availability of sports equipment. In that connection Capt. Reeder interrupted the meeting momentarily to announce that General Macon was personally very much interested in the success of the venture and had taken steps at Army Headquarters to expedite the necessary supplies.

Fundamentally, the Kribs Plan was unanimously accepted, the only contention arising as to team representation. It was finally agreed that rather than have the major breakdown fall at regimental level it would be better to lower it to battalion level so that more players could be involved and the competitive spirit heightened.

One other important factor of note was that the entire set-up was to be under full-time commissioned officers assisted by full-time NCOs in all echelons, including platoons.



J. G. Taylor Spink, publisher of the Sporting News, which is known to dyed-in-the-wool, if disparaging fans, as the Baseball Bible, makes YANK Continental Edition for May 20. He also makes GIs stand up and cheer for his sincere, helpful attitude in making his sports tabloid available 'free' to thousands of sports-starved Service Men and Women all over the world. Spink is not only a good promoter, but a crusader as well. Not only does he answer Servicemen's letters personally but he is currently bombasting editorially to put the late President Roosevelt in Baseball's Hall of Fame at Cooperstown N. Y.

Right now it looks like the ODT (Office of Defense Transportation) is worrying a little too far ahead. With both New York ball clubs up on top and "da Bums" wanting to be Giant killers, could be a Subway Series come September.

The Navy comes up with a game for the Service Books. In a game at the Mariannas Naval Air Base in the South Pacific John Rigney, former White Sox pitcher lost a 21 inning game 2 to 1. His opposing pitcher was an unknown amateur by the name of Stan Juscen. For Rigney 22 strike outs, 2 walks, 9 hits and 1 earned run. For Juscen 25 strike outs, 4 walks, 10 hits, and 6 earned runs.

An inkling as to what happens to sports writers after spending years looking at bulging biceps and smelling dirty sweat sox is the case of Dan Parker, Sports Editor of the New York Daily Mirror. His latest literary excursion is "Tell-Tale Legs" (May 13 issue of American Weekly). He delves into studying feminine character by studying their games. Cheese Cake Editor—please note.

According to Spalding, the sporting goods house, which advertises that they set the pace in sports, the game of badminton is no game for sissies. One half hour of badminton is as strenuous as three deuce sets of fast tennis. It takes the footwork of a lightweight champ, the finesse around the net of a "first ten" tennis player, the wrist of a big league ball player and the luck of the Irish. Wanna play?

# Division Units Join Softball League Play

Soft ball held the spotlight in all Division areas this week as more and more units swung into organized play and crowded schedules.

In a late start Divarty has gone into soft ball tilts in a big way. Headquarters Battery to date has won 15 of their 18 starts. Thus far Umberto Rascicci and "Rex" Balderson seem to be the heavy hitters and Korn is in there pitching and also nobly assisting at bat. Two of the games played against the 908th FA proved to be heart-breakers for the battalion boys, but they expect to get into the win column soon and stay there.

The 83rd Recons, meanwhile, got in 3 good games this week. They dropped one to the 783rd Ordnance 7 to 5 on Thursday May 24, but came back on the weekend to eke out a close one from the MPs 4 to 3 on Saturday and take the measure of Charlie Co., 308th Engineers 9 to 7 on Sunday, May 27.

Meanwhile, sparks of athletic life were beginning to appear from the 330th when a report came in that their Charlie Co. had won their fifth straight game by nosing out the Red Bn Hq, Co 14 to 12 in a slugfest.

Incidentally, a former semi-pro softball pitching star is making good on his civilian reputation. Pfc. Stephen N. Dyl of Pawtucket, R. I., who played the "Woodbines" in the New England Manufacturers League and later, with the Hope Webbers in the same circuit, has won 8 out his 9 starts with Charlie Co. He also currently boasts a batting average of .500.

The Charlie backstopper, also a former semi-pro, Sgt. Joseph E. Haub is hitting at a .370 clip. He'd like to get back to his first love, baseball in either the Greenville or Harrison County Leagues back home again in Indiana.

329th's Anti-tank Co has a net platoon rivalry all steamed up and the third platoon took the measure of the Service platoon 2 to 1 in a pitcher's dual. Joe Gminski for the A-T's and Becker for the Service outfit allowed only 8 hits each.

# 331<sup>st</sup> Boasts Complete Unit Sports Schedule In Softball, Volleyball

The 331st Infantry is evidently taking up where they left off in the matter of sports. Before the Division hit the ETO, the boys rested on their laurels, having won the Division Championship in Baseball, Football and Boxing. Now they are taking the lead in the field again, having the best coordinated schedule of events in the Division to date.

Since their initial organization meeting, held at Regimental Headquarters on May 18, there have been well over 400 hundred contests played with over 2,000 men participating. Several baseball leagues are in operation and more will be formed as soon as equipment is available.

At battalion level, several soft ball leagues involving 29 teams are playing aregular schedule with the competition being tough and go. Company leagues are also going strong with each individual platoon fielding a team. Thus far 63 teams playing in 18 different leagues.

The companies are also playing an ambitious volley ball schedule, having five leagues composed of 24 teams. Still another innovation is the Umpires' School which is panning out well as the squawks are at a minimum. The officers' hard ball team has run into two no-contest deals on successive Sundays due to the fact that their opposition could not show.

Meanwhile the fin-men are splashing about daily in several pools in the area and the fisticuffs are busily training in makeshift gymnasiums as the track men work out daily at the Goslar Sports Plaza. The cinder-men are lucky in having Lt. James L. Fish, Jr. a former Georgetown Great from Elizabeth, N. J. as their coach. Fish was a member of the famous 1942 Georgetown University indoor mile relay team which set a world of 3:17.2

for the event. This 3rd Battalion team is ambitious to compete in the famous Paris Inter-Allied games to be held later this Summer.

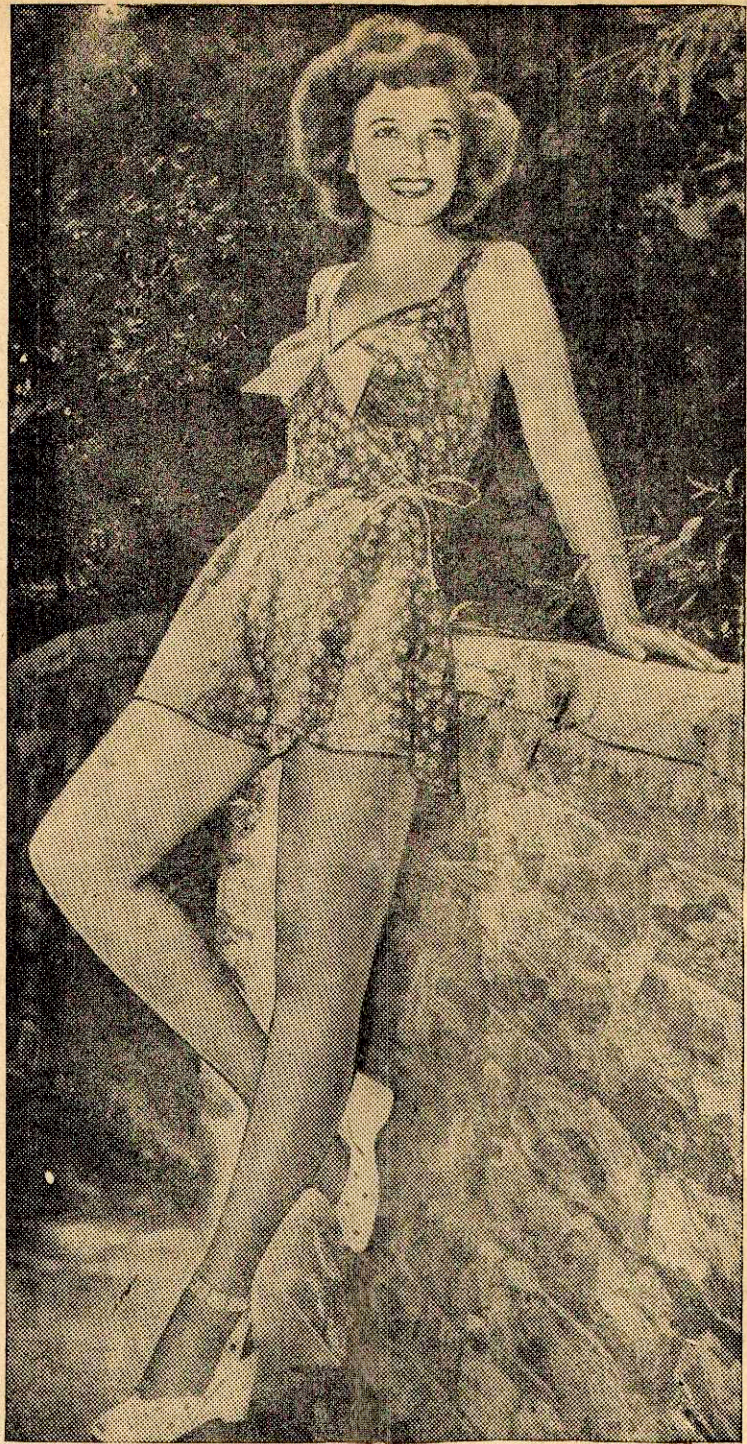
Another amateur of prominence aspiring to the same goal is a colorful GI by the name of Charles "Bomer" Nelson, former lumberjack and amateur heavyweight from Rib Lake, Wisc. His civilian record to date is 19 wins, 6 draws and 2 losses in 27 starts.

Some of the highlights of the past two week's activities were the return to the game of Big Beau Titus, the former Atterbury star of George Co in the pre-ETO days. Baker Co is currently picking up prospects from its platoon teams to represent them in company competition in the near future. Pfc. Johnnie Merriam, former Detroit Tiger is acting as coach. During a slug fest between the Weapons and the Third Platoons he pulled the old Notre Dame switch by substituting a whole new team. This move was made when the Third Platoon tailed the Weapons 13 to 0 at the end of the third inning. Despite the handicap, they finally pulled up to within 3 runs, the game ending 14 to 11.

## Record Gate

With the Sport of Kings' three biggest classics coming up shortly: The Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs on June 9; and the Preakness at Pimlico Park, Md. and the Belmont Stakes at Belmont, N. Y. in the offing, even our Canuck friends are getting loose with their change. In the 86th running of the King's Plate, Canada's traditional turf classic 40,000 people attended to make it the largest track gate in Dominion history.

## ... Great Day



Coming out from behind the starched linen of her famed nurse role is luscious Laraine Day, revealing at last how she kept young Dr. Kildaire running from one case and cupboard to another. (MGM Photo)