

83rd Thunderbolt

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

VOL. 3, No. 9

PASSAU, GERMANY

JUNE 30, 1945

Field Day In Fourth Spotlight

Unit Entries Pass 300

Over three hundred entries have been received by the Division Athletic Office for the 4th of July Track and Field Meet to be held at 1400 at Vilshofen, rain or shine. German laborers have conditioned the track so that it will lack nothing in bringing out the best times in every event.

From the spectator point of view the grounds around the track are terraced to allow for ample seating capacity to accommodate every GI in the Division. The Red Cross Clubmobile will be on hand to provide coffee and donuts. And as each event goes on a P.A. system has been set up so that proper identity can be established of every contestant.

The first event will get under way promptly at 1400, but prior to that the necessary time trials will be run. Here are the post times of each event: 100 yard final trial heat, 1400; 1 mile run, 1415; 220 yard final trial heat, 1425; 440 yard final trial heat, 1440; 100 yard dash, 1450; 2 mile run, 1455; 220 yard dash, 1515; 440 yard relay, 1520; 880 yard run, 1530; 880 yard relay, 1540; and the 1 mile relay, 1550.

In conjunction with these running events field events will be runoff in the following order starting at 1400: Discus Throw, Javelin Throw, Broad Jump, High Jump and Shot Put.

Besides the 329th cinder men who seem to be getting off to a good start, the 331st Infantry has some men who will also bear watching. Cpl. George A. Murad and Pfc. Marvin Sanderson are promising dash men, while Pfc. Hercules N. Kontanlas bids fair towards becoming a good 1/2 miler.

The 330th Infantry seems to have their men under wraps, but will probably

(Continued on Page 4)

Unit Class Days Over

The Division's extensive I and E program underwent a major change this week when what is usually referred to as military necessity dictated the substitution of a unit training schedule for the unit I and E schools that had been planned. The Division will also be unable to send students to the Army universities in England and France.

Other phases of the I and E program will go ahead as scheduled. On-the-job training, where technical skills and trades such as welding and auto mechanics are taught by practical experience, will continue. I and E tours to Berchtesgaden and Walsalla and Salzburg, boat trips down the Danube from Passau toward Linz, and visits to other points of interest in and near Bavaria will also be continued.

Orientation talks and films and discussion groups to keep members of the Division informed and abreast of developments in the Pacific will be conducted by all unit I and E officers. And text books already on order on subjects such as radio repair, French and psychology will be distributed to units

(Continued on Page 3)

As One GI To Another



Chatting after show hours with two of the top musicians of the Glenn Miller Band of the AEF, which recently completed a triumphant three-day stand in the Division area, are Pfc. Charles Haycroft, left, and Pfc. Leslie Kazee, right, both of Co. A, 330th Infantry. The hungry music men in the middle are T/Sgt. Jerry Gray, left, the band's arranger, famous for his arrangement of "String of Pearls", and T Sgt. Ray McKinley, the band's leader, originator of "Beat Me, Daddy, Eight To The Bar". (Photo by Brouhard)

GLENN MILLER BOYS GET 83rd OK, AND VICE VERSA

Haylofts are good for several uses. As a storage place for hay they seem to work out fine. As living quarters for a band of traveling musicians they don't work out so well.

Prior to their engagement with the 83rd Division last week-end the Glenn Miller band had been quartered in a barn. When they came to the 83rd, a section of Passau's Oberhaus, which is soon to be opened as a rest center for men of the division, was turned over to them.

"Our stay at the Oberhaus was one reason we enjoyed playing for the 83rd Division," T/Sgt. Ray McKinley, leader of the band, said last Monday. He and the other bandmen had just finished a day of loafing after their three-day show at Nibelungen Hall where they played to capacity audiences of 83rd Division men.

On Monday, their day off before continuing on a tour that would take them to other units of the 3rd Army, the band had a preview of what is in store for enlisted men of the 83rd when the Oberhaus is opened for their recreation. The band lounged about the ancient castle, went fishing, took a swim in the nearby pool, and ate some good food that was prepared by expert women cooks and served by not unsightly girls.

Combat infantrymen who are now stationed on temporary duty at the Oberhaus had a chance to become acquainted with members of the band. All the Infantrymen agreed that the Glenn Miller show been a good one. Pfc. Edward Hartnett of Co. A, 330th Inf., said "it was a damned good show. I particularly liked "Foxhole Henry." Pfc. Arthur Richardson of Co. I, 331st Inf., thought the show was "one of the best things that has happened to the Division in a long time."

After chow Monday evening Pfc. Leslie Kazee and Charles Haycroft of Co. A, 330th Inf., Pfc. Roland Johnson of Co. I, 331st Inf., Pfc. Roland Glass of Co. D, 329th Inf. and Pfc. Ray Lipe of Co. M, 329th Inf. found out what a musician talks about in his spare time.

They met McKinley who told them about some of the members of the band. T/Sgt. Jerry Gray, the band's arranger, was formerly with Andre Kostelanetz and later with the original Miller band. It was Gray who made the well-known arrangement of "String of Pearls." Pfc. Mel Powell used to play piano for Benny Goodman before he joined the GI Miller outfit. Powell also won top vote in Downbeat magazine's poll for the best pianist of 1944. As a civilian, Sgt.

Anyone Seen Lost Circus?

If you've never misplaced a whole circus, you can't imagine how badly the Division Special Service office feels. They have a large chart that lists all the entertainment features scheduled for the Division. One of the coming attractions is a Hungarian circus. It hasn't shown up yet. If anyone sees a long, horse-drawn caravan on a road coming into the Division area, it should be reported to the Special Service office. It might be the circus. The horses will probably be wearing flowers and ribbons in their hair.

Some of the other attractions scheduled, and not lost so far, are two U.S.O.

(Continued on Page 2)

Johnny Desmond sang with the bands of Gene Krupa and Bob Crosby. And Sgt. Bernie Priven used to play a horn for Charlie Barnet and Benny Goodman. The man who had the ad lib patter act in the show last week-end was Cpl. Murray Kane who composed a tune said to be popular with GIs called "Have You Got Any Gum, Chum?"

Cpl. Nathan "Foxhole" Henry, who seems to have made a hit with every 83rd man who saw the show, said he got his nickname during combat when he would dive into a foxhole and give impromptu entertainment to the men. He was also in a show called "Off Limits" produced by 12th Corps. He has acted as sort of a manager for the Miller show during this tour. "Nothing is certain about future entertainment coming from the States but I have a feeling that the Billy Rose girl show might play the 83rd Division. If it does, I would certainly like to be with it when it comes to Passau. We've all enjoyed the hospitality we've been shown here."

Henry said that Ray McKinley had once been selected by Bing Crosby as one of his ten favorite singers. McKinley was the originator of the song "Beat Me Daddy, Eight to the Bar". He also had a feature part in the movie "Hit Parade of 1944". Just before coming into the Army he was leading his own band at the Golden Gate theater in San Francisco.

McKinley and some of his men took one meal away from the Oberhaus Monday noon when they got lost in Passau and found themselves at the mess hall of Divarty Battalion Headquarters. Recognized by men who had seen the show, McKinley and his men were surrounded

(Continued on Page 2)

Division Plans Big July 4th

Entertainment Events Set

Fourth of July this year will be observed in the 83rd with a variety of recreation and entertainment events throughout the Division. Topping the list will be the Division Track and Field Meet to be held in Vilshofen the afternoon of the Fourth, rain or shine, the opening of the Division Rest Center in the old castle at Passau, and the final performance of the USO Show, Capers of '45, at the giant sports arena in Passau in the evening.

More than 300 entries from all units in the Division have been received for the Meet, which is scheduled to get under way promptly at 1400. The 83rd Band and a Red Cross Clubmobile will be on hand and terraced seating will accommodate thousands.

The Rest Center can handle 400 GIs every three days and features a swimming pool, tennis courts, a theatre and facilities for fishing. Food will be prepared and served by civilians, beds will have mattresses and sheets and there will be no formations of any kind.

Capers of '45 offers a variety bill and includes three girls in the cast. Its final appearance the Fourth will conclude a seven-day tour of the Division.

Several 83rd units are planning their own recreation and entertainment for the holiday. The 329th Inf. has announced a gala stage show at their new open air theatre in Degendorf with talent selected from various units in the regiment under the supervision of Cpl. Jules Ansel.

Highlight of the Fourth in the Artillery is the noon till dark entertainment planned for men of the 908th FA Bn

(Continued on Page 3)

Castle To Court GIs

July 4th has been tentatively set as the date for the opening of the rest center for enlisted men of the 83rd Division at the Oberhaus in Passau. It is planned that 400 men will be able to spend three days at the center, with another 400 coming in at the end of each three days.

For their comfort and entertainment the ancient castle has been equipped with a theater, a large dining hall, comfortable mattress-covered beds with linen and a variety of other resort features. Maj. Carl L. Anderson and his staff have spent several weeks clearing many of the rooms of debris. Walls have been plastered and painted in light color. Linen, silverware, crystal, and china have been secured for the dining rooms. Help has been hired to care for the place and to prepare the meals, which should be ample and tasty.

With the Infantryman's acquired instinct for snooping, many of the men will probably attempt to inspect each room of the rambling castle the first day of their visit. This will prove to be a futile effort. For almost a thousand years, and under many different managements, the castle has had rooms added to it since the first building was erected as an observation

(Continued on Page 3)

85rd Thunderbolt

Official Weekly Newspaper of the
85rd Infantry Division

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VOL. 5, No. 9

June 30, 1945

The Pacific War

If the stage isn't actually set for the entrance of Russia into the war against Japan, at least the stage crew appeared this week when it was announced in Washington that lend-lease to Russia had been shifted from the European section of that nation to the Pacific area of Siberia. Right now the Russian army is holding down what are said to be strong Jap forces across the Manchurian border from Siberia.

Japan seems aware of the possibility of an early invasion of the homeland. The Jap Premier warned the people this week that the taking of Okinawa left Japan open to the possibility of an invasion unprecedented since the "Mongol hordes swept over the islands in 1274." The Jap news agency said that the invasion of the island of Honshu, on which Tokyo is located, would begin soon and that the American-held island of Okinawa would not accommodate the large numbers of troops the U.S. was prepared to use in the invasion. It was suggested that before the invasion began American troops would occupy two islands about 200 miles south of the mainland. (Okinawa is about 425 miles south.) Softening-up bombings of the island stepping stones to Japan took place again this week when American land and carrier-based planes made further attacks on the islands of Amami and Kasari. With the proximity of invasion now acknowledged by the Japs the question arises as to whether or not an invasion would be the quickest way to force Japan to unconditional surrender, and the most sparing of American lives. The shores of Japan are, for the most part, rocky and dotted with sheer cliffs that rise from the sea. Some military observers have suggested that a more likely way to finish the war would be to throw a blockade around the island.

In the battle for the Philippines hundreds of veteran parachutists and gliders of the 11th Airborne Division joined in the final stages of the fighting for Cagayan Valley, where it is estimated that 20,000 Japs are trapped. So far in the Philippines Gen. MacArthur announced this week that 413,000 Japs had been killed or captured.

To match the shaping-up of a climax in the Pacific the United Nations Peace Conference closed last Tuesday in San Francisco with an address by President Truman. He said that the conference had created a "great instrument for peace and security and human progress in the world" but that the "world must now use it . . . as a solid structure upon which to build a better world." As Stars and Stripes pointed out, the words were spoken by President Truman but they could have been written by Franklin D. Roosevelt. For the idea of the conference was his. His life's dream had been "peace and security for all nations."

330th GI Holds 40 'Wac' PWs

Pfc. Ralph P. Nornhold, Company F, 330th Infantry, likes his job. He's been doing it now for eight hours a day, seven days a week, ever since the Division moved into Bavaria.

"I wouldn't trade it for any other job in the army", he says.

Nornhold's job, to be more explicit, is guarding approximately 40 members of the German Luftwaffe and Wehrmacht — all women.

The German "WACS" are interned at the PW Demobilization Camp at Sondorf, under the control of the 330th Inf. Nornhold explains that the women are no trouble as they, and he, keep their respective distances.

"Of course, you can't blame a man for looking", he quickly added "and they all have to take sun-baths on these hot days. We just keep bringing them in and shipping them out fast enough so that they keep reasonably content."

According to Sgt. Kurt A. Rittner, Hq Co., 330th Inf., sergeant major of the camp, the majority of the "inmates" are reluctant to leave and prefer working around the camp to going out on nearby farms. Under the supervision of a detail from the 308th Engineers, construction of new semi-permanent buildings and sanitary facilities is proceeding rapidly with the ex-Wehrmacht soldiers doing all the work.

The camp is under the direction of Major Bedford F. Foster and an administration staff that functions as a supervisory organization, with the Germans, themselves, running the general operation of the camp.

"They give us no trouble", said Pfc. Eldon L. McGinnis of Hq. Co., 330th, as he leaned over to wipe a speck of dust from the machine gun which pointed out over the enclosure. "And", he added, "they hadn't better."

The provost sergeant, S/Sgt. Lloyd R. Hamilton, in charge of all details of the camp, remarked: "These fellows are so used to obeying orders that they will accept any detail assignment without question."

Rittner revealed that German trucks and buses, using German gas, were used to transport the PWs. They are also fed with German army rations, cooked by German cooks. Their hospital is staffed with German doctors and nurses.

Miller Band Scores Again

(Continued from Page 1)

by soldiers who asked questions ranging from "Had you ever heard of the 83rd before?", or "How can I become a band-leader?" to "What is the mystery behind the disappearance of Glenn Miller?"

About the 83rd Division McKinley said, "While we were stationed in Paris we heard of you Thunderbolt men quite a bit. Especially during the last few weeks of the war when you were making all those dashes here and there."

McKinley advised prospective band-leaders to "try and stick as much as possible to the popular numbers. No matter how good the band is, if the tunes are not popular ones, the band will not be a popular band. People are interested in hearing how you play the songs they like."

Glenn Miller's disappearance should not be classed as a mystery, according to McKinley. He and the other band men told how Miller had left them in England on Dec. 16, 1944 to fly to France ahead of the band and how he had not been heard from since. "The weather that day was very bad and Miller's plane was a small one," the men said. They have come to the conclusion that Miller and his plane were forced down in the English Channel. They had hoped that he might turn up as a liberated prisoner of war. The mystery arose due to military censorship in time of war which made it impossible to mention the condition of the weather or the type plane Miller was flying in. McKinley added that on June 5th almost every theater in the States had a "Glenn Miller Day" to stimulate the sale of War Bonds.

New CO



Col. Bowen of the 329th

Col. Bowen Gets 329th Command

New Regimental Commander of the 329th Infantry is Lt. Col. Claude J. Bowen, Jr. of Brookhaven, Miss., who, on June 16th, assumed command of the Regiment he joined in July '42 at Atterbury as 2nd Bn Commander. Except for brief periods as Regimental CO of the 331st Infantry in Normandy and Regimental Executive Officer of the 330th Infantry after his return from the hospital, "Jab" has always been a fixture in the 329th.

The 35-year-old West Pointer was graduated from the Academy in '33. Like Col. Edwin B. Crabill, Assistant Division Commander, and until a short time ago Regimental CO of the 329th, Col. Bowen spent time in the Philippines before coming to the 83rd.

The Colonel neither smokes nor drinks and his idea of strong language is an occasional "by George". Men who have served under him constantly marvel at the effectiveness of that "by George".

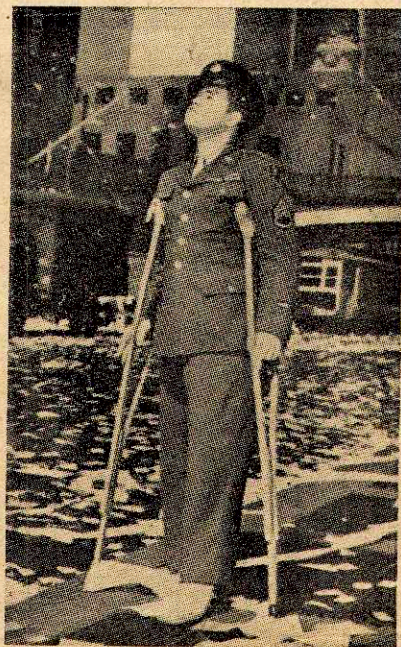
In Normandy he was wounded twice, on the 4th of July and again on the 26th. The later injury put him out of action until December when he returned to the Division as Excec of the 330th. He was in a jeep on the 26th when a sniper got him. He threw his driver into a ditch and covered the man with his own body. When he climbed up the bank to see what was happening another bullet slammed into his back.

It was on the 26th, too, that "Jab" earned the Silver Star for gallantry in action. One of his companies had lost its commanding officer and was badly disorganized. The Colonel personally scouted for one platoon that had been given up as lost and proceeded to pull the company together, moving laterally in front of enemy fire to do so. His men recall other occasions in Normandy when "Jab" exhibited extreme coolness under fire.

"Jab" and his ever-present chocolate bars travelled around quite a bit in Normandy. After jumping off with the 2nd Bn on July 4th in the Division's engagement, he took over command of the 331st on July 6th. On the 10th he came back to the Battalion to reorganize it after the heavy casualties it suffered that day. Three days later he returned to the 331st where he remained until the 15th.

In addition to the Silver Star and the Bronze Star, also awarded him for his heroic leadership in Normandy, the Colonel holds the Croix de Guerre with Palm awarded him by the Provisional French Government of General de Gaulle for his contribution to the liberation of France, and the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster.

... V-E Vet



Newspapers all over America carried this striking V-E Day picture of the 83rd's own S/Sgt. Arthur A. Moore, Jr. of Buffalo, taken at 42nd street and Broadway at the height of New York City's Victory celebration. A squad leader in Co. B of the 330th Infantry, Moore was wounded on January 5th during the attack on Malempre in the Ardennes. (Acme Photo)

PW Delivery As Promised

In the closing days of the war, thousands of German soldiers made their way to American lines to prevent being captured by the Russians. But by previous agreement the American Army was to process the prisoners of this type and then return them to Russian control.

Men of Co. A, 803rd TD Bn recently assisted in guarding and conveying some 10,000 such PWs from the Division area to a Russian PW camp in Czechoslovakia.

The motley procession numbered more than 650 German vehicles of every shape and size. Diesel trucks, half tracks, coal and wood burners, motorcycles and many queer contraptions the Wehrmacht considered vehicles of war were in the convoy. One optimistic group even had a trailer with two healthy cows in it.

When the Germans discovered where they were going, they turned into even a sorer lot. As one Panzer Grenadier told Pfc. George Rogine, "I never thought you Americans would do this to us."

As the convoy made its way through town after town in Czechoslovakia, the scene was reminiscent of the happy days of liberation in France. Crowds lined the streets. Czech and American flags fluttered from the windows and pretty girls waved gaily at sight of the Yanks.

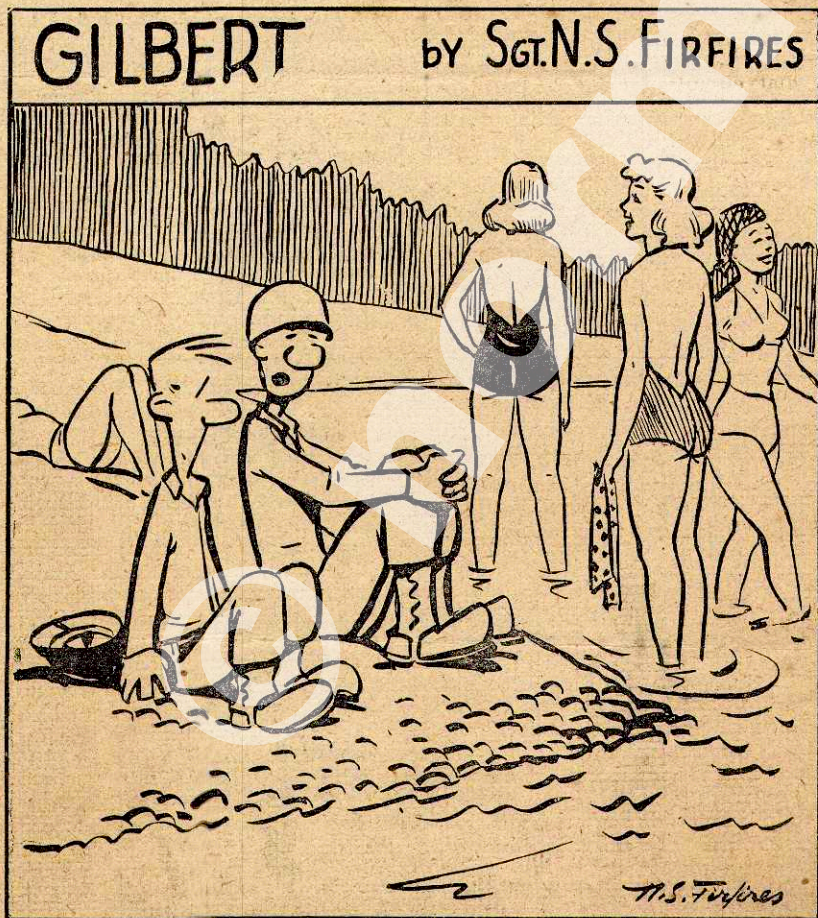
When the convoy finally reached its destination, the TDs got a taste of the famous Russian hospitality. "We couldn't make up our minds which was the more paralyzing — their handshake or their vodka," commented T/5 Olan Reid and Pfc. Tom Masterson.

Lost Circus

(Continued from Page 1)

shows and two G.I. shows. One U.S.O. show, Capers of 1945, opened Thursday in the 329th Infantry area. It's a variety show with four men and three girls and will tour the division for seven days, with a final performance on July 4th in the arena at Passau. George Owen's variety U.S.O. show will open a seven-day engagement in the Division with a premier performance in the 329th Infantry on July 11th.

The first G.I. show, Jam Session, will open July 8th with a matinee performance at the 110th Evacuation hospital and an evening performance at Division Headquarters in Vilshofen. The show consists of a six-piece band combo and three soldiers in assorted specialty acts. Jam Session will tour the Division for six days. The other G.I. show will give the first performance of a seven-day schedule in the 329th area on July 24th.



It doesn't cost 65 dollars to go swimming.

MORE ITEMS READY AS CO. P-Xs RE-OPEN Looking Up And Down

Cigarettes, candy, and other items that have been scarce in the 83rd for the past couple of weeks will be available in rationed quantities next Monday, when Post Exchanges at company level should be ready for opening throughout the division, according to Lt. William G. Phillips, Division Post Exchange officer. T/Sgt. Joseph Feutchman and S/Sgt. John P. Berry have spent the past two days issuing the new stock to the units.

It was explained that the lag in getting the new stock had been due largely to the recent transfer of the division from the 9th to the 3rd Army. The daily bulletin will carry a weekly notice of items received by Division P-X and a break down of their distribution. In this way each man in the Division can check to make certain he is getting his fair share of rationed P-X articles.

In addition to the usual items carried in Army exchanges the newly stocked P-Xs will carry a limited quantity of watches and cameras, as they are available. On these special items Lt. Phillips stressed the fact that all P-X articles are distributed according to unit strength. Each man in the division must present his Army Exchange Service Ration Card-ETOUSA before he may make a purchase, and there is no distinction made between P-X rations available to officers and enlisted men.

The Swiss-made watches are sold under an ETO allocation of five for each 1,000 men every 14 days. Some of the watches are sold for nine dollars and some for 16 dollars and 14 cents. The last delivery to the division of 72 cameras sold for nine dollars and 52 cents. They were Voigtlander Bessa cameras with case and cable release.

Each P-X also has a gift catalogue with a description of the item and its price in American currency and the cur-

rency of other countries in the ETO. After selecting the gift from the catalogue the order is placed with the unit P-X and the article is paid for in cash.

Gifts listed include magazine subscriptions, cosmetics, jewelry, children's toys, books, War Bonds, and a variety of fresh flowers, delivery of which is handled by the Florists' Telegraph Delivery Assn. Men of the 83rd Division spent 500,000 Francs for Mother's Day gifts purchased through the Division P-X and, as far as Lt. Phillips has been able to learn, only one order was not delivered on time. He advised placing orders eight weeks ahead of time and stated that delivery might be specified for any date.

Gifts of European origin are not yet available through the Division P-Xs but it is anticipated that it will soon be possible to make such purchases.

The P-X also provides a film developing service, and it is the only source for the development of color and movie film. All film is sent to Paris to be developed and printed by men who have worked for the Eastman Kodak Co. The P-X can also obtain photographic equipment through an agreement between the Division and the Agfa Film Co., a German concern with laboratories near the 3rd Division area. Supplies of paper, film and developing chemicals are handled by Cpl. Clifford Unbekant and may be secured through requisition.

The monthly report of the 83rd Division P-X for May shows that 500,000 articles were distributed during that month, representing cash sales of more than 55 thousand dollars, an average sale per man of three dollars and seven cents. These figures do not include cigarettes, which were not sold until June, or Coca-Cola, the sales of which totaled a little more than four thousand dollars.



This is how the new Division Rest Center at the Oberhaus in Passau will look to the first contingent of GIs arriving on or about the Fourth (left), and this is how the world will look from the old castle drawbridge once they're in. (right) (Photos by Brouhard)

Castle Center

(Continued from Page 1)

tower by the Romans. The first date known concerning the castle is 991 when a Bishop took it over and used it as his headquarters in exercising complete power over the city of Passau.

During succeeding centuries there were uprisings by the people of Passau against the domination by the bishops. Attempts were made to storm and take the castle. All proved unsuccessful until 1367 when the castle was occupied for a time by the citizens of Passau.

In 1423 another bishop took over the buildings and erected the tower that visiting GIs will see at the right of the large, inner courtyard, overlooking the Danube. The bridge that the men must cross to get to their quarters used to be of the draw type and over a moat filled with water. The bridge could be raised in case of attack. The original gears for pulling up the bridge are still attached to the wall at the side of the gate.

The well in the small courtyard off the large courtyard goes down to the level of the Ilz river, a distance of approximately 500 meters.

In 1809 the castle was used by Napoleon as one of his stronger fortresses.

In recent years the castle was taken over by the city of Passau for use as a museum. C. F. Marchand, curator of the museum, still maintains quarters in a small section of the castle. He is engaged in writing the history of the building and it is from his notes that the substance of this article was taken. It was translated from German by Harry Liebster, a Czechoslovakian who has found refuge from the Nazis in Passau since 1940, and by Hans Almoes, a former radio engineer from Amsterdam, Holland who has been working as a slave laborer for the Nazis for nearly five years. Both men are now employed in the restoration of the castle as a rest center for the men of the 83rd Division.

Gestapo Switchboard Now Serves Artillery

In a damp, dungeon-like room buried in the side of the cliff under the Gestapo Headquarters building in Passau can be found the Division Artillery's main switchboard. The room is reached by going down a long tunnel-like staircase slanting through rock.

The regular civilian telephone exchange is located above ground in the neighboring post office building. This smaller board was a special one installed by the Gestapo for independent use on their own calls, and also for regular use during an air raid. At least that is what they told the people of Passau. Actually all this is true, plus the fact that the Gestapo board taps into all the regular circuits, thereby allowing the SS men who worked the board a chance to listen in on all conversations.

Proof of the Gestapo's efficiency, according to head operator T/5 Fred McCann, of Portland, Ore., can be found in their well trained wire crews. These civilians, under the direction of wire sergeant Henry Yelk, of Goodville, Pa. have set up the wire communications now in use by the artillery.

It takes a two man shift to operate this 100 drop board which also includes six dial circuits for all those extra lines which could not be included through the board. Before the civilian lines had all been cut out, the men used to receive an occasional call from a German. Pfc. Karl Friedmann of Baltimore, Md., a Bronze Star wearer since Normandy, who speaks a rather awkward German, would handle all these calls. The only trouble is that none of the four operators can speak Hungarian, and one of the lines is to

the Hungarian Navy which is anchored in the port.

A lot of extra trouble has fallen upon this switchboard because the regular phone exchange next door was bombed out. This meant that many of the lines had to be rerouted through this smaller board. Pfc. Joseph Miller of Toppecapiennish, Wash. and George Capien of Akron, Ohio, who is another Bronze Star man, say their biggest headache occurred when they tried to sort out the lines the first few days. Most of the circuits were in very bad condition because the railroad and the bridges, which are the main cable routes, had been bombed out. But the Divarty and the 324th Field Artillery Bn. wire sections, with the aid of some civilian wire crews, finally got the loose ends sorted out. They laid a cable across the Danube River by means of a row-boat, and finally straightened out the railroad cables by going over, under, and through the knocked-out freight cars.

For The Fourth

(Continued from Page 1)

by Capt. William Fleming, SSO. The setting will be a beer garden and pavillion on the shores of beautiful Lake Blackdog, where the 908th dance orchestra and a Polish band with troupe of 50 will go on every other hour, leaving in between times for swimming, bathing, boating and ball. Divarty has scheduled baseball and swimming for the afternoon with a beer party and entertainment from Continental Nights in the evening.

New Eisenhower Jacket Being Issued 83rd Men

Issue of the new "Eisenhower" ETO jackets to every enlisted man in the Division should be completed by the first of next week. The jackets were picked up by the 83rd QM Co. Wednesday and have been in the process of being distributed to the units since then.

Of olive drab, slightly darker than the present issue of EM woolen clothing, the jackets are designed to fit rather loosely to permit the wearing of other garments underneath. They fit well over the shoulders, yet allow freedom of movement under the arms. They should not be confused with similar jackets worn by the Air Corps or by what is known as the "British battle jacket," both of which are styled to fit snugly.

The ETO jacket comes about 3" below the pants belt. It has four roomy pockets, two on the outside and two on the inside of the lining. It buttons down the front and there is a snap fastener at the waist.

To assure proper fitting and minimize the number of jackets that would have to be returned for further fitting

a warrant officer who has had experience in fitting the jackets came to the 83rd QM last week and talked to representatives of the units and the QM. He advised on the proper fitting procedure to be followed to secure a good fit.

The Division Quartermaster office is also making an effort to obtain more division patches, insignia for the collar, ties and overseas hats. OD pants to match the darker color of the new jackets are expected to be ready for issuing in a couple of months.

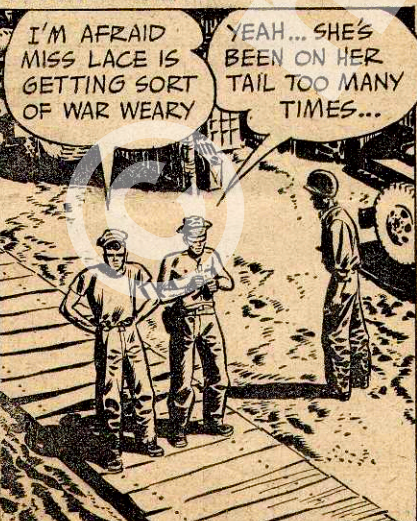
Schools Close

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on arrival and placed in unit libraries. USAFI correspondence courses have been increased and the latest course list may be had from unit I and E officers.

Unit schools for the 736th and 737th Tankers will be held as planned, and tankers will also receive quotas to the GI universities in England and France.

Male Call



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

Side Issue

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Run Off 1st Tennis Matches

The 83rd Division Tennis Tournament got under way at the Rest Center in Passau this week with a good share of entries from most of the units of the Division. Due to the lack of time involved, post entries were accepted as late as June 28th, the starting date of the eliminations. Those outfits which made official entries as instructed by the Athletic Office on or before June 23rd also were given the advantage of practicing on the courts at Passau from June 26th to 28th.

The purpose of this Elimination, as well as others in other sports thus far undertaken by the Division, is to get a representative six-man tennis team to play for the 83rd Division in the XII Corps Championships to be held on July 6th.

The team to go to Corps will consist of (1) doubles team, (2) singles players and a manager and coach. In the Eliminations no doubles will be played, but rather the doubles team will be picked from among the quarter and semi-finalists in the competition.

Capt. Edward L. Swarthout, one of the Chaplains of the 331st Inf. Regiment, has been selected as Manager-Coach of the Division Team. His experience dates from his Rutgers Graduate School days and tournament play in Central and Northern New York State.

The pairings made from the early entries include: T/5 C. Roth, Div Arty and T/4 D. Hume, 331st Inf; Pfc. E. Fritz, Div. Arty and Pvt. P. Terry, 803rd TDs; T/Sgt. A. Norton, 736th Tankers and Pfc. C. Love, 329th Inf; Pfc. H. Townsend, 308th Medics and 1/Lt. A. Comsky, 331st Inf; T/Sgt. A. McGuire, 736th Tankers and 1/Lt. R. Poulter, 331st Inf; Pfc. C. Weber, Div. Hqrs and Cpl. H. Woodward, 308th Medics; Pfc. L. Golland, 736th Tankers and 1/Lt. W. Cohen, 329th Inf; Pfc. W. Bradley, 329th Inf and Pfc. H. Ossandon, 308th Medics; Pvt. J. Pruett, Div. Arty and 1/Lt. J. Donovan, 331st Inf; Pfc. C. Beam, 330th Inf and Pfc. N. Sawyer, 329th Inf; 1/Lt. A. Blume, 329th Inf and Cpl. R. Kellam, Div. Arty; 1/Lt. C. Wiselogle, 331st Inf and T/5 W. Churchman, Div. Arty; Cpl. R. Kinney, 736th Tankers and 2/Lt. F. Robinson, Div. Arty; WO. C. Blunt, Div. Arty and T/4 P. Noll, 736th Tankers; 1/Lt. G. Guilvezan, 331st Inf and Pfc. P. Petty, 330th Inf.

Cpl. W. Gannon of the 736th Tankers drew a first round bye. He will play the winner of the Bradley vs. Ossandon match.

Track Meet Is Fourth Feature

(Continued from Page 1)

show some dark horses to run away with the honors by meet time. Div. Arty comes up with a good high jumper in Pfc. Frederick L. Weaver from the Headquarters Battery. He first learned how to get up and over while on the University of Michigan track squad. They also have Pvt. John Pruett, an ambitious athlete, who's entered in the distance relays and when not on the track training, is busy working for a spot on the Division tennis team.

Even though only the men placing in this meet, plus one or two alternates in each event, will represent the 83rd, in the Corps Championships on July 24th, Athletic Office urges that all participants keep in trim for the dual meets to follow within the Division units and also the Thunderbolt Olympiad scheduled for early September. The ruling still applies that all winners of the 4th of July Eliminations will still have to defend their laurels during the Olympiad. Also on the basis of times and distances achieved in both track and field there will be a reshuffling of the Division Team if additional men can qualify.

Ed's note: Last week the dual meet schedule inadvertently appeared under the article on swimming; here is a recap:

Saturday 28 July 329 vs Div Arty
 Saturday 14 July 331 vs 330
 Saturday 11 August 331 vs Div Arty
 Saturday 4 August 330 vs 329
 Saturday 18 August 330 vs Div Arty
 Saturday 25 August 331 vs 329

Doughboy Dash



Off at the sound of the gun in the hand of Lt. Raymond F. Colby are these 2nd Bn, 329th trackmen in training for the Division's big Track and Field Meet July 4th at Vilshofen. Running, left to right, are Pfc. Harry E. Naugh, T/5 Carl R. Trenz, and Pfc. Albert Dellavichie, Walter Geudtner, Robert Pelky, Walter Brunnet, Frank Tucci and Steve Columbus. (Signal Corps Photo)

Choose 83rd 'ROUND THE DIVISION Golf Teams

With Pfc. Carl Weber

The Professional and Amateur Golf Teams to represent the 83rd Division in the XII Corps selections to play in the Army Tourneys early in August in Paris have been selected by the Division Athletic Office.

Both the professionals and amateurs were picked on the basis of their written qualifications and final decision as to whether they will actually get to play rests with the athletic authorities at XII Corps who will undoubtedly make their selections on the basis of information available to them as to professional and amateur rankings throughout the States.

The Pros are headed by Pfc. William Ferguson, PGA Tournament player who has 16 years professional experience throughout the States. He is presently stationed with the 908th FA. Another Div Arty boy from 323rd FA, is Pvt. Fred Christian who as a civilian was half the golfing partnership of Bobby Cruickshank and Christian which operated Richmond Country Club of Virginia and the Gulf Stream Country Club at Delray Beach, Fla.

Two other Pros were picked up in 1/Sgt. George Terhanko of the 331st Infantry and Pfc. Harry E. Snavely of the 330th Infantry.

The Amateurs are headed by Pfc. James Monroe of the 308th Medics. 1st Lt. Harold S. Cross is a former Philadelphia Amateur, having been city champ there several times. He has a wealth of tournament experience, having competed in the National Amateur Championships from 1930 to 1940. He was also runner-up of the Pennsylvania State Amateurs for three of those years. He is currently with the 803 TDs.

Other entries in the Division Amateurs are Capt. Fred Hasseman of the 308th Medics, Pfc. Alfred Nathan of the 83rd Division MPs, Capt. Clarence Forsythe of the 908 FA, Pfc. Jack Lippe of the 329th Inf. Regiment and Pfc. William F. Edwards, also of the 329th.

TDs Take Off

The 803 TDs have taken the softball measure of three outfits in the past week. They beat the 323 FAs, 12 to 2, the 83rd Signal Co., 14 to 4, and the 110 Evac. Hosp., 8 to 0. Working with three ace moundsmen in Walter George; George Nagy and Jack Mandella and good hitting by George Bouchard and Dan Kelly, it looks like they're letting the Georges do most of the work.

In the 803 TD Inter-Company League the Recons have won four out of four starts. Mandella is doing double duty by playing on this team also which is sparked by Henry McLean, the third sacker.

Dedicate Field

The 2nd Bn, 329th Inf. has recently, completed an athletic plant at Plattling, Germany which will be dedicated Saturday, June 30th. It will be known as Sharné's Sports Park. A Field Day is set for the Grand Opening. GIs and Heinie PWs put up the plant in about a two-week period under the direction of 2nd Lt. Frank Cobley, I & E, SSO and Athletic Officer of the 2nd Bn. He was assisted by 1/Sgt. William G. Siepker, on detached service from "G" Co.

The plant includes a soft ball diamond with regulation backstop, boxing ring, volley ball court, horse shoe pits, a high jump bar, discus, javelin, and shot-put facilities, a broad jump pit, a 36-foot rope climb scaffold, a half mile track and a P.A. system.

Split Bill

Div Arty Headquarters Battery played a double header softball affair last Sunday and split the bill. They also beat the 83rd Signal Co., 7 to 6, with Cpl. Morton Rodgers providing the edge with his stick work. In the twilight game which followed they were generous and gave the game to the 9th AAF Radars, losing 3 to 17. The Radars scored 12 runs on 4 hits. — Nice going away present.

Hardball Dept.

Two "A" Co. men are still surviving the try-outs for the 330th Regiment Hardball team. They are Pfc. Lyle F. Finnerty, Southern California semi-pro and Pfc. Francis R. Burgess, Massachusetts sand lotter.

Also in the Hardball department the 83rd Recons have done 50—50 for themselves in the past week. They beat the 5th Div. Hq., 5 to 3 and the 83rd QMs, 9 to 6. They lost another game to the QMs, 15 to 6, and to the Ordnance, 4 to 1.

Hard Ball Scores:

Officers vs Recons, 8 to 7, favor the Recons. This was an 11-inning affair and the umpire was credited with an assist to the Recons, according to the box score.

Headquarters Co. vs Quartermasters, 6 to 4, for the Office Men. Winning pitcher, Sherrick, losing pitcher, Wallace. Each team made one double play. For the Hqrs, Thedford to Davis and for the QMs, Buddington Smith.

Scores of games of 25 June:
 Div. Off. 1 run; Hq. Co 2 runs 11 hits, 8 errors
 Ordnance 7 runs; Signal 9 runs, 5 hits, 0 errors
 Div. Hq. 3 runs, 5 hits, 0 errors; MP 0 runs, 2 hits, 0 errors.

Second Shutout

Headquarters Battery beat "C" Battery of the 323 FA for their second softball shutout of the season, also number two for their pitcher, S/Sgt Gene Presley. Score 1 to 0. Each pitcher allowed only 4 hits and only 1 error was committed and that by the 323 FAs. Gannon of the FAs was the losing pitcher.

Score Card

83rd Signal vs MPs, 6 to 4, favor the MPs. 6 runs, 8 hits and 6 errors for the Policemen and 4 runs 7 hits and 1 error for the Flag Wavers. This game was featured by 2 double plays for the Signalmen, one Higgins to Law the other Delaney to Ciance.

Sp. Units Have Top Ball Clubs

The baseballers in the Special Units are filled with justified pride concerning their own individual outfits, which from early reports have them all capable of challenging any outfit in the 83rd or its attached units. Therefore some of the hottest baseball in the Division area is being played in a pre-season round robin to determine the unit which will field a team under the banner of the Special Units in the six-team loop. Each outfit is gunning for the 'under-dog' spot in the fore-shortened schedule in hopes of carrying off the 83rd Division Baseball Championship for the 1945 season.

By July 6th, each of the following outfits will have played the other twice: 308th Engineers, 83rd Quartermasters, 83rd Recon Troop and the 308th Medics. At the end of the round robin the team having scored the most wins will represent the Special Units. In the event of a tie, a two out of three playoff will be necessary to determine the final winner.

After the season gets under way these outfits will still field teams for continued competition among themselves and any other units with which they can book games on open dates. By agreement among the Athletic Officers the 803rd TDs will not field a team in this preliminary tourney. Also the 736th and the 737th Tankers will combine their baseball talent to play in the League.

Dope from the contesting clubs indicates a raft of good material. Take the 83rd QMs. In Sgt. John Reinhardt they have a good pitcher who has won three out of four starts this season and bats at a clip of 350. His newly converted battery mate, Sgt. Elvis White, former Southern Association player, is also a heavy hitter, hitting .488 thus far this season. Because of the heads-up play he has demonstrated, he has been shifted from 3rd to back stopper.

Medic Pros

The 308th Medics also boast of a couple of former 'pros'. Pfc. Michael Pociask, pitcher and utility infielder, is currently batting .600 from the port side. His southpaw hurling bids fair to cause a lot of trouble to the opposition. S/Sgt. Elwood Curtis, who batted .319 in his last year of Class B organized baseball, also pitches and fills the utility spot with plenty of savvy.

The 308th Engineers have a steady pitcher in Cpl. Charles Ratchford who not only can stand a good nine inning stint but is dangerous at bat as well. So far this season he is batting well over .500. For support afield the Builders have a star center fielder in Pfc. Arthur Ciraco who has handled all his chances except one and when at bat makes life miserable for opposing fielders by polling them out at the terrific rate of .608.

The 83rd Recons with their hard-working 1st baseman, acting-Captain and Manager, S/Sgt. Jack Daniels, also will make their presence known. Daniels, besides being a first sacker with know-how and good footwork, also gets in there with the stick for a .475 average to date. The Recons also boast a pitcher who is going 50—50 in the box and at bat. He is Pfc. Frank Kolecki who had plenty of American Legion League experience in his younger days.

By opening date of the League, July 7th, all of these men and their respective team mates will have given out with a good brand of ball. Their kind of spirit will warrant attention whether they play in the senior circuit or not.

Home Team	Thunderbolt										Baseball										League		
	7	8	11	14	15	18	21	22	25	28	29	1	4	5	8	11	12	15	18	19	22	25	26
329th Inf.		Arty		331			Tkrs		330	Sp. Unit	Open		Arty		331		Tkrs		330	Sp. Unit	Open	Start	
330th Inf.		Tkrs		Arty	329		Sp. Unit			331	Date		Tkrs		Arty	329		Sp. Unit		331	Date	Play-	
331th Inf.		Sp. Unit		330		329	Arty		Tkrs		For		Sp. Unit		330		329	Arty		Tkrs		For	Offs
83rd Arty.	331		Tkrs		330		329	Sp. Unit			Post-	331		Tkrs		330		329	Sp. Unit		Post-	First	
Sp. Units	330		329		Arty	Tkrs		331			poned	330		329		Arty	Tkrs		331		poned	Four-	
736 - 7 Tkrs	329		Sp. Unit		331			330	Arty		Games	329		Sp. Unit		331		330	Arty		Games	Teams	

Time of all games 1400 on day scheduled. Rained out games will be played day following scheduled day.