



PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY MEN OF THE 318th INF.

HAMPER NEWS

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1945

How You Stand On Getting Out

In a interview with Capt. Ditmore the Capt. stated, "I anticipate the loss of men with 44 points on down." This makes the future for hundreds of low point men in the Regiment highly uncertain. However, there is some comfort for them in the fact that opportunities for schools will be continually increased with a wide field of choice and, as the newer draftees come from the States, the higher point men in this bracket can look forward to a prompt return. Furthermore, it is doubtful if any low point men in the E.T.O. will be shipped to the Pacific.

As yet no orders have come through on those fortunate individuals who have over 34 years with two or more years of Army life behind them.

CNS. Here's where you stand, at the moment, on getting that discharge:

1) President Truman called upon Congress to continue the draft of men aged 18 to 25 to provide occupation armies and speed up demobilization of the men who won the war. Said he: "An unforgivable discrimination would result if we should favor those who have had no military service by suspending their induction at the cost of requiring further sacrifice from those who have already done their part."

2) Selective Service will call up 50,000 men for the Army and 13,000 for the Navy during September, which is the number sought by the services.

3) AAF will discharge 1,400,000 in a year. Junior officers appear in good position for discharge, as point scores for separation were cut, as follows: flight officers—36; 2d lts—42; 1st lts—58; and captains and up—70.

4) EM with 75 points will not be shipped overseas again. A WD spokesman told a House Committee that this will go down to 60 son. He added that the critical score would be dropped to 80 and points earned since VE Day computed now that Gen MacArthur needs no more combat troops.

5) Only 4 to 6 of the 16 divisions originally scheduled for redeployment from the ETO to the Pacific will go. The following are now on their way: 86, 95, 97, 104.

6) The Navy's point system will be modified in less than 2 months to allow credit for overseas duty. The Navy expects to complete its demobilization in a year.



CATHOLIC SERVICES

Chaplain Martin

Sunday Sonthofen, 0900
Kempten, 1100

Week days except Fridays, in Sonthofen at 1600.

Fridays in Kempten at 1615.
Confessions are heard before each mass.

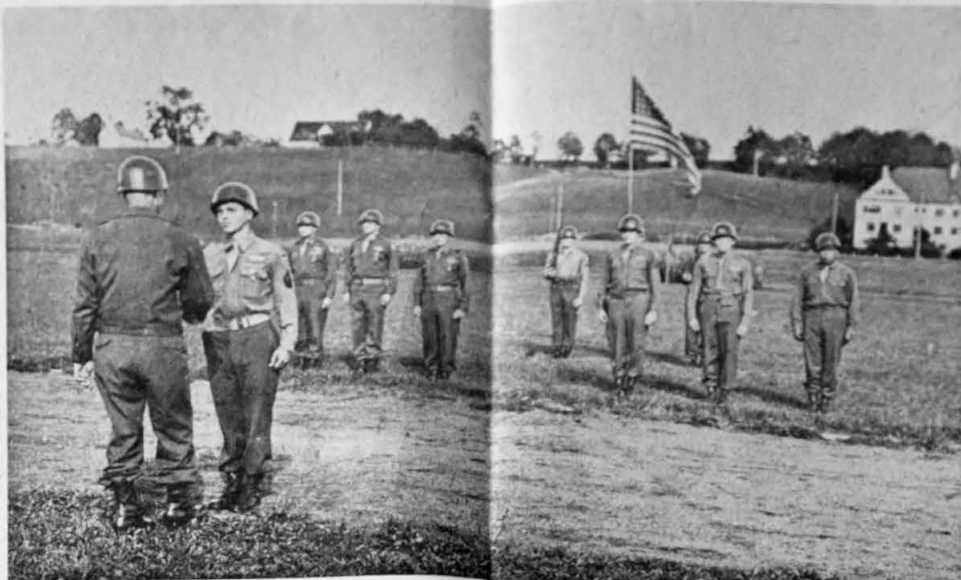
PROTESTANT SERVICES

Chaplain Osberg

Sonthofen Sundays, 1100
Sonthofen — Tuesday through
Friday at 1705
Jewish Services Friday 1900

CATHOLIC — PROTESTANT
Chaplain Gustafson
Kempten Sundays at 11:00

Gen. McBride Awards D. S. C. to 318th Men



General McBride pins the Silver Star on S/Sgt. Eric Weinmann after awarding the DSC to Capt. Gabriel Martinez, Lt. August Storkman, and Lt. Virgil Burks. Next in line are Pfc. Neal Rowland, who earned a Silver Star and Broncho who were decorated with the Bronze Star.

On Wednesday, Sept. 5, 1945, at the newly-dedicated Broadbent Field, General McBride pinned awards on the chests of seven members of the 318th Regiment. Distinguished Service Crosses went to Capt. Gabriel Martinez and 1st Lieut. August A. Storkman, both of "G" Company, and to 2nd Lieut. Virgil S. Burks of Company "E". S/Sgt. Eric Weinmann and Pfc. Neal H. Rowland were honored with Silver Stars for their gallant actions with 2nd Bn. Hdqs. Major Ralph B. Sessoms, Jr. and Pfc. McMannus Broncho received Bronze Stars, the Major for the second time.

First to be honored was Capt. Martinez, Co. of "G" Co. for his heroic action at Bastogne last December. Observing a C-47 that was carrying supplies into the encircled 101st Airborne catch fire and its crew parachute to earth, Capt. Martinez personally led three

soldiers, including an aid man, to the rescue through the withering enemy fire, and returned to the 318th lines with all the surviving members of the ship's crew.

Routs enemy MG. Section

On April 10, 1945, as "G" Co. was spearheading into Schrima over open terrain, Lt. Storkman's platoon was forced to seek cover from two German machine guns that were raking them at close range. The Lieutenant and his platoon sergeant crawled under enemy fire to a wooded area 100 yards away and made their way through the trees to within 30

yards of the nearest enemy position. From there they charged the gunners' nest, firing from the hip, and secured it for themselves. But the second position opened up on them, killing the sergeant. Whereupon Lt. Storkman charged the position singlehanded, killing or wounding all of the enemy.

Crawling into Erfurt

While leading his platoon through a wooded area in the outskirts of Erfurt on April 11th, Lt. Burks (then Sgt. Burks) received a severe leg wound from a sudden burst of fire from a well-concealed enemy position on his right flank. Unable to walk, Sgt. Burks lead his men by crawling forward under the rain of enemy bullets, firing his rifle as he went and reforming his scattered platoon by the use of hand signals, until the enemy position was taken and the 12 Heinies in it killed.

Those happy Smiling Faces



Here (above) is a preview of what may happen to any of us any day now. Last week nearly 200 men from the 318th were transferred to the 10th Armored for shipment to the states and discharge. Although most of them had only 75 points, they will be held in camps in the states until the critical score is lowered sufficiently to make them eligible for discharge.

The men were relieved to be on their way, but in each face there was a certain feeling of regret that could be seen as the trucks bore them away to begin their 4000 mile journey home.

1st Battalion Alternates Companies at Füssen

With the coming departure of the 10th Armored for the States and the moving of the 318th to take over the 10th Armored area at Garmisch, Co. "C" of the 1st Battalion has occupied Füssen and its outskirts. The present plan is to alternate the companies of the 1st Bn. there approximately every 15 days. Co. "C" will be spread out over a wide area covering guard posts and road blocks in contrast to the more formal life they have been leading at Sonthofen. Each company in the Battalion is eagerly awaiting its turn to experience country life once again.

After preparing for a move into Sonthofen. Anti-Tank has once again exchanged the drudgery of moving for the pleasures of life in Altusried.

Teamwork at Brunsburg

S/Sgt. Eric R. Weinmann and Pfc. Neal H. Rowland each were awarded the Silver Star for their bold and intelligent action in the outskirts of Kassel. As the counter-attacks on the battalions right flank became increasingly severe, these two members of the Intelligence Section, wishing to remedy the situation, volunteered to reconnoiter an approach to Brunsburg through which the 318th could attack the Germans from the rear. Crossing long stretches of open terrain in direct observation of the enemy, they entered the town and captured two civilians whom they guided at the point of their guns to the Bürgermeister. From him they obtained valuable information on enemy locations and even secured an overlay of the road blocks and gun positions. While Rowland stood guard over the three prisoners, Weinmann made his way back to the CP. from where he led the action against the enemy's rear. This resulted in the killing and wounding of 220 Germans and allowed the advance on Kassel to continue.

Many Tanks

On April 2nd, the Heinies surprised Co. "I" with a vicious counterattack by 12 tanks and 100 infantrymen. Capt. Sessoms (now Major) CO of the company at the time, directed all firing for three gruelling hours until the last attack had been repulsed. When, on resuming the attack, "I" Co. reached the outskirts of Kassel, they encountered heavy automatic fire which forced them to hit the ground and scattered the men over a wide area. Capt. Sessoms personally continued on page 4)

Hamper Red Cross

Family Assistance — Family Communication and Personal Guidance continues, but — What happens when you consider reaching for that White Slip of Paper? You qualify for the Rights of a Veteran, such as:

Pension or Compensation for Service Connected Disability Eligibility — Disability resulting from injury or disease incurred in or augmented by active service.
Benefits — 11 dollars and 50 cents to 115 dollars a month, depending on degree of disability.
— World Wars I and II Additional for Helplessness, Blindness, Loss of Limbs etc.

Administering Agency — Veterans Administration Office having jurisdiction over residence.

Information — Your Own Unit — American Red Cross and Field Directors.

Mr. D. C. Johnson-F.D.
HAMPER RED CROSS.

OUR MOVIES AND THE HEINIE CIVILIANS

There has been some criticism by G. I.'s of the policy that allows German civilians to occupy seats in the Park Theatre in Kempten. We had tended to share this view, until the other evening when we went to the movies there. The main show, starring William Bendix, was an entertaining movie, as was the animated cartoon, which preceded it. But far more interesting, in view of the presence of German civilians, were the old newsreels that were shown. All through the evening we were powerfully conscious of the fact that Germans were, for the first time, in years drinking in, not American propaganda, but American ideas and ways of life.

The newsreel opened with pictures of Charles de Gaulle's visit to the Russians and his signing of the treaty with the Soviets. Close-ups of Molotoff and Stalin were offered for German consumption. Then President Roosevelt appeared on the screen to speak before a microphone, looking old and tired but not at all like the devil that Hitler (and certain segments of the American press) had pictured him. Next came some old reels of the Louis-Maxie Baer fight and the famous Louis-Schmelling scrap. The latter brought back old memories. When that fight took place, not a word about it appeared beforehand in the Nazi press, so sure were these "superacers" that their only world-famous athlete was about to be whipped by an American negro. But when Schmelling won, much to their surprise, how they hooped and cheered and crowded, pulling out all their old stock of tricks from the race-superiority bag! We wondered what thoughts were running through these Bavarian minds now; and found ourselves wishing that a miracle would happen and the newsreel show Louis the victor.

We came to the conclusion that letting the Heinies see our shows might be something to commend rather than something to bitch about provided, of course, that there are enough seats. Maybe if they can catch just a glimmer of what it's all about in a world that hasn't preached and lived Nazi doctrine, it will hasten the day when the Germans can rise from the degenerate state into which they were all too willingly led and be reborn as a decent and sensible Democracy.

KASSEL

BY S/Sgt. F. C. Schwicardi

'Twas important to us, but not many know
Of the time we had two days in a row
When men of the 80th stormed Kassel's streets
And fought like hell, with no sign of retreat.
We're proud to relate how we kept the tradition
And "Only Moved Forward" spite all opposition.
We were dug in there in front of the town
Set to jump off in the early dawn.
When the word was passed "Tiger-royals on the way!"
And we knew there would soon be hell to pay.
But we just dug deeper into the ground
And braced to wait for the frightful sound
Of their motors approaching over the rise
Low and massive, with death in their sides.
Six of them, right off the assembly line:
Sleek and new, and deadly divine.
There was courage there; we saw it each minute —
To get to each tank and the Heinies in it.
Some died, but others made the grade,
With bazooka, rifle and hand grenade
We knocked them out, one at a time
And awaited the infantry, close behind.
Then to the city, from house to square —
We beat them back—or left them there.
Over half was ours when at last they gave in
By command of their General-Erxleben.
Back home the papers merely read
"The 80th took Kassel and is moving ahead."
But the G. I.'s there will never forget it
Tho' strangers are loath to give them credit.
We'll always say, when talking to others
"We were at Kassel, that's all, brothers!"

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Editor — T/5 Francis C. Rogers
Publisher — Pvt. Charles Benson
Photographer — Pfc. Bob Fasnacht
Sports — Pvt. Carl Tranell
Special Service — Pfc. Ted Pruss
Editorial Director — 1st. Lt. Daniel Simmons
Staff Correspondents —
Reg. Hq. — Pvt. William Ransom
"A" — Pvt. Louis N. O'Con
"B" — Sgt. John O'Connor
"C" — Cpl. Theodore Chasse
"D" — T/5 Andrew Rohley
Hq. Co 1st-S/Sgt. Schwicardi
"E" — T/5 Slack
"F" — Pfc. Will Rolley
"G" — P. J. Stanchak
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"K" — Pfc. Ray Phillips
"L" — Pfc. Birdis Bonnell
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AT — Sgt. Joe Mattock
Service — Pfc. Ed Tonkinson
Illustrations — Lt. Paskiewicz

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WATCH FOR HAMPER'S
INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER,
HE'LL BE ASKING YOU

"SPORTPLATZ" GOES BROADBENT

On Wednesday, Sept. 5, the sports field in Kempten, formerly known by the Germanic name of "Sportplatz" took one the new title of BROADBENT ATHLETIC FIELD. Named in honor of the late Lt. Raymond E. Broadbent of "G" Company.

Lt. Broadbent came up thru the ranks and had only worn his gold bar one week when he was seriously wounded in Weiskirchen on the 16th of March. He died the next day. He held the Bronze Star for bravery and the Purple Heart with two clusters. Needless to say, he also held the Combat Infantry Badge.

Lt. Broadbent was a popular and unassuming chap who led men with natural ability rather than the acts of Congress. He understood the troubles and problems of the men under him and did his utmost to correct them. The memory of this officer will live long in the hearts of the men who fought with him against a common enemy.

INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER

QUESTION: How do you feel about the point system as it affects the Infantry soldier?



Pfc. Harry Rowland of "A" Co. who came into the 318th Dec. 10 and holds 3 battle stars and Purple Heart. Hails from Georgia.

"A lot of the boys got battle stars that spent most of their time in depot and in England. I think there ought to be some distinction between them and the man continuously on the line. I earned all mine. Otherwise, I think the point system is fair."

Captain Nicholas P. Kalkalas, CO of "C" Co., came to the 318th from the 10th Armored.

"Points should be given for the Combat Infantry Badge. The only other fault I have to find (and it's a minor one) is with the 12 points more hell on the line in six months, to get his 12 points, than he goes through to be a father. In all other respects I think the system is pretty good."



Pfc. Andrew Maxwell of "C" Co. came into the 318th Feb. 14th. Hails from Norwell, Mass. and holds 2 battle stars.

"I think length of service should count more than anything else in the Army. Not enough points are given for the actual combat soldier. Since his chances of surviving any length of time are so slim, he can't add up many points for himself."

Pfc. William R. Hubbell, an "M" Co. man, wearing 3 battle stars, came to the 318th Dec. 28.

"Rear area outfits had a much better chance to gain points than front line combat men; the latter came and went too fast. I think the tankers should get the Combat Infantry Badge, too. They're out in front a lot of the time paving the way; I've seen a lot of armored beat up pretty bad. I think the 12 points for each child is fair, but maybe being a father prejudices me."

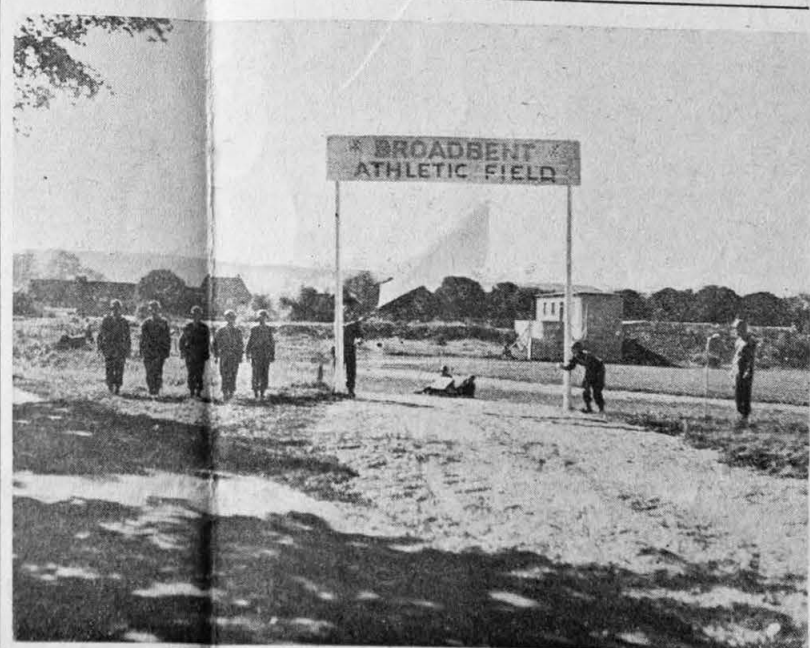


S/Sgt. Herchell Oakes has been with the 318th since August, 1942. He has 63 points and hails from Tennessee.

"I feel the same about it as everyone else, I guess. The Combat Infantryman should get more points for each of his stars than anyone else. Tankers should get 'em too. Six months on the line should draw more points than having a baby. As for rear echelon, I wouldn't insult the Infantry by attempting to compare them!"

Cpl. Edward Shucosky has been a member of the 456th Bomber Squadron for a year and a half and the Air Corps 4 years. Wears six battle stars, and is a Pennsylvanian.

"The Infantry really got a raw deal. When a flyer made 5 missions, he got an Air Medal (5 points). In other words, every time he went into combat he got a point. Whereas, the Infantryman never knew where he stood and never got half the points he deserved in comparison. We also had a chance to gain points through routine missions on which we might not encounter any flak. When we weren't on a mission, we had the good life, as compared to you fellows. I don't wish to belittle the Air Corps, because it was plenty tough. I just want to be fair to the Infantry."



VOICE OF THE G.I.

Editor, HAMPER NEWS:

Is it true that the Division band got paid for playing at the N.C.O. club the other night, and if so, why? Ball players and other men on special duty don't get anything extra, so why should they? It's enough that they are excused from guard duty and rugged mountain problems and the usual garrison life. However, if these band members are getting paid for their services, I'm going to put in a bill for mine!

Exhausted Special Duty Cpl.

Answer: Any club has a right to hire a band on its own. In this particular instance, the band was not procured through Special Service; had it been, it would have played free of charge. If an organization wishes to make its own arrangements in such matters, that's their business.

Editor, HAMPER NEWS:

I keep going to the Gym expecting to get clean and finding only ice cold water. I wouldn't mind if we were out in the field where such luxuries couldn't be had, but as long as we have them why not make the most of them? Even the ballplayers have to come in from a rugged 2 hour practice all hot and soaking with sweat and get under that cold water. Can't something be done about it?

Answer: We called up Special Service on this one and got the following answer: "It's just one of those things that can't be helped. We try to keep the water hot; but the tank is too small to hold enough hot water to last all day, especially when the showers cannot be shut off individually and the men leave them running all the time when they're not being used."

REMEDY — SHUT OFF WATER WHEN NOT IN USE.

Editor, HAMPER NEWS:

I read with interest that bitch the 317th had about that Munich broadcast in which they weren't even mentioned. The 318th was given recognition just once! Most of the broadcast was about an outfit called the 319th. I want to extend to the 317th my deepest condolences. We of the 318th know how they feel, because as an outfit that did more than our share of the fighting in combat, we came out on the wrong end of the publicity, too. Witness the 80th Division booklet and the Blue Ridger. It would be interesting to check the actual records in combat and see just how many times the 319th was in reserve as compared to the other two regiments. Also, I would like to know who the 319th has for a publicity agent, and get him working for us. With his talent and facts to go on, he could write a masterpiece that would have the 318th winning the war singlehanded!

318th Rifleman.

Questions Wanted

Each week the INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER seeks a new interesting question to ask GIs of the 318th. HAMPER NEWS is offering a prize to the man of the 318th, submitting the most suitable question to be used in each issue. Send your questions to "INQUIRING PHOTOGRAPHER" HAMPER NEWS. Prize winner will be announced in issue in which the question is used; so let's get those questions in NOW.