

# 80th Forward

Volume 1, Number 3

THE 80th ONLY MOVES FORWARD

Monday August 6, 1945

## Div Arty Air Commended

The Artillery Air Section of the 80th Infantry Division has recently received official commendation from both the Commanding General of XII Corps and the Commanding General of XII Corps Artillery.

Said Major General S. Leroy Irwin, Commanding the XII Corps, "The Artillery Air Section of the 80th Infantry Division is commended for its remarkable performance of duty under all the hazards of combat in all types of weather."

Brigadier General John M. Lentz, Commanding XII Corps Artillery elaborated on this in his letter which declared in part, "In reviewing the many accomplishments by various elements of our forces, which have been outstanding in their contribution to the attainment of victory, attention is naturally directed to the operations of the Artillery Air Observation Planes. During our campaigns, the Artillery Air Section of the 80th Infantry Division particularly distinguished itself."

### Ground Crews Praised

General Lentz paid further tribute with the following statement, "The dauntless courage, tireless efforts, and relentless desire to destroy the enemy on the part of each pilot, observer, and of the ground crew of the 80th Division's air section was a matchless display of team play and unselfish devotion to individual duty. Undaunted by the severest of weather conditions, which normally would have grounded their planes, pilots and observers unhesitatingly took to the air in order that our advancing armored and infantry columns would not be denied their observations. The determination with which they have disdained small arms and anti-aircraft fire in order to ply supplies, medicine and ammunition to surrounded units, not only inspired but enabled them to retain ground they had courageously fought for. They have justly been referred to as the eyes of the infantry, as well as of the artillery. Because of the accuracy and effectiveness of their fire missions, the mere appearance of the Air OP struck deadly fear into the enemy. The superior means of observation cannot be acclaimed without granting equal credit to the energetic and arduous services rendered by the ground crews in their unspectacular yet vital duties."

### Lauded by Gen. McBride

In forwarding the Corps Commendation to the Commanding Officer of 80th Division Artillery, "Blue Ridge" Division Commander, Major General Horace L. McBride added, "All members of the Artillery Air Section have just reason to be proud of their effective contribution to our successful combat accomplishments. I feel privileged to add my congratulations and express my personal appreciation for the fine work of the Artillery Air Section."

## 318th Film Premiere

In a violent departure from their confirmed policy which sends us pictures of the Theda Bara vintage, Armed Forces Motion Picture Service came through with a world's premiere for "Blue Riders".

The film, Warner Brothers' new production, "Nobody Lives Forever" starring John Garfield and Geraldine Fitzgerald opened on the afternoon of August 3rd at the 318th's Kempton Park Theatre. Flash bulbs exploded as Major General Horace L. McBride, 318th Regimental Commander, Col. James S. Luckett and party entered the theatre along an aisle of carpeting in the best Hollywood tradition.

## McBride Acting XX Corps CG

In the absence of XX Corps Commander, Major General Louis A. Craig, who has flown to the United States to attend the funeral of his brother, General Malin Craig, one time Chief of Staff of the U. S. Army, 80th Division Commander, Major General Horace L. McBride has been appointed acting Corps Commander.

In this temporary assignment which will probably extend into the middle of August, in addition to our own 80th "Blue Ridge" Infantry Division, General McBride has under his command the 9th, 71st and 103rd Infantry Divisions, the 10th and 14th Armored Divisions and a myriad of attached troops.

### Inspects 71st & 9th

In his capacity as acting Corps Commander, on Tuesday, July 31st, General McBride accompanied General George S. Patton on an inspection tour of the 71st Infantry Division similar to the Third Army Commander's recent visit to the 80th. Again in company with General Patton on Wednesday, August 1st, General McBride visited the 9th Infantry Division to participate in ceremonies which marked the 5th anniversary of the activation of that organization. Though the assignment requires that General McBride do considerable traveling throughout the Corps Area, it is the General's intention to operate from the 80th Division CP rather than move his offices to XX Corps Headquarters.

### Marshall's Predecessor

Elder brother of XX Corps Commander, Major General Louis A. Craig, the late General Malin Craig served as Chief of Staff of the U. S. Army from October 1935 to the end of August, 1939. General Douglas MacArthur was his predecessor and the present Chief of Staff, General George C. Marshall succeeded him. Retiring as a full General in 1939, General Craig returned to active duty in September 1941 to serve as President of the War Department's Officers Procurement and Officers Promotion Boards.

## School on Jap Army Opens

With the enrollment of nearly 100 pupils representing the three "Blue Ridge" Infantry Regiments, Division Artillery, the Engineers, Medics and Recon Troop, the recently opened 80th Division Intelligence School is giving an intensive five day course in Japanese Order of Battle.

A USFET team of experts on the Japanese armed forces, Capt. Francis S. Whitman, Lt. Charles J. Doria and S/Sgt. Marcel H. Vroman, instruct "Blue Riders" in the organization, weapons, tactics and psychology of the Japanese Army. The history of the war in the Pacific, Allied battle experiences in the Far East, Japanese geography and Japanese terms of rank and organization are also studied.

It is planned that the graduates of this course will form a cadre capable of instructing men in the units from which they came, upon their return to individual organizations.

A Kaufbeuren German Army hospital was quickly transformed into a suitable school and dormitory by Capt. Armand V. Paolino and S/Sgt. Herbert Arnot of the 80th's Intelligence Staff who are in charge of the School's administrative department. The Division Intelligence School plans a course in Photo Interpretation scheduled to begin on the 18th of August.

# Readjustment Ends for 80th Division

## Practical Experience



Using an abandoned vehicle, Cpl. Malcolm Barclay instructs potential auto mechanics at the Second Battalion, 318th Infantry

## I & E On the Job

The 80th's I & E "On-the-Job" Training Program is working extremely well, a recent survey indicates. "Blue Riders" from many units throughout the Division have temporarily transferred to other 80th organizations offering a wide range of practical specialized instruction, or have remained in their own outfits for similar basic advanced On-the-Job Training Courses.

### Auto Mechanics Lead Interest

Auto Mechanics is by far the most popular subject, no doubt because Division facilities are especially well suited for practical instruction in this type of training. The 318th Infantry; 1st and 2nd Battalions, 317th Infantry; 3rd Battalion, 319th Infantry; all four Artillery Battalions; 305th Engineers; 780th Ordnance Co.; 80th Quartermaster Co. and 80th Reconnaissance Troop are all giving comprehensive courses in this field and throughout the 80th some 350 potential auto mechanics are learning in the very best school of all — practical experience.

### Practical Shop Experience

Nearly 100 "Blue Riders" are studying Machine Shop Operation with the 317th Infantry and the 905th FA Battalion, while 136 interested soldiers are taking courses

in Radio Repair and Operation with the 318th Infantry, the 2nd Battalion of the 319th, the 905th FA and the Recon Troop.

The 305th Engineers offer a course in Engineering Projects which includes carpentry, rigging, road repair and maintenance, as well as instruction in the use and operation of air compressors and bulldozers. Blacksmithing and welding are being studied under the expert guidance of 780th Ordnance personnel. The 80th Division Band offers a Basic Music Course. There's a course in Basic Medical Technique at the 305th Medical Battalion, which includes several days of practical experience at a Field Hospital. The 80th Signal Co instructs in all phases of photography and the 905th FA Battalion has a comprehensive course in Sign Painting.

### Many Other Courses

Other available subjects within the Division include Cooking Instruction, Barber Training, Woodwork (Carpentry), Driving, Auto Painting, Airplane Mechanics, General Agriculture, Motion Picture Projection, and Switchboard Operation. There are also specialized courses for Wiremen, Administrative, Supply and Mail Clerks.

## Anti-Tank Co, 319th Reforms As Ranger Training Unit

At Merlebach, France, in December, 1944 the 319th Infantry's Anti-Tank Co was disbanded when it was found that their 57mm anti-tank guns were ineffective against heavily armored Nazi panzers. Throughout the remaining months of combat one gun platoon was attached to Regimental Headquarters, the other to 2nd Battalion Headquarters. The Mine Platoon remained intact and also became part of Regimental. The remaining Anti-Tankers served as reinforcements for 319th rifle companies.

Now the Anti-Tank Co has been reformed under the command of Capt. Chesley Carlson. Dedicated to the vital purpose of training men in anti-tank warfare and ranger

tactics, many of the veteran original Anti-Tankers throughout the Regiment were recalled to act as cadre and instructors.

The toughened Training Co consists of two rough Ranger Platoons and an accurate and fast-firing Anti-Tank Gun Platoon. Trainees go through an intense four week cycle which includes realistic demonstrations, tactical problems, lectures and physical conditioning. The Ranger Platoons under Lt. Earl B. Van Valkenburg frequently engage in night problems against an "enemy force" which uses trip wires and flares. These maneuvers usually take four or five hours and always last until the specified mission is accomplished.

In an exclusive interview with a FORWARD Correspondent, Lt. Col. Leon O. Clayton, Division G-1, revealed that with the exception of a handful of specialized assignments, Readjustment has been virtually completed in the 80th.

Unless the War Dept's announcement of a lower Adjusted Service Rating Score than the present 85 causes a reshuffle, men now wearing the "Blue Ridge" shoulder patch can expect to remain with the Division until it is redeployed to the States. According to recent reports the War Dept does not contemplate such a change until early in January.

### Critical Score Still 85

It was generally believed that a lower critical score would be announced last week-end and 64 "Blue Ridge" Officers and 435 Enlisted Men with point scores ranging from 80 to 84 were "sweating it out." Now at least the uncertainty is removed. In this connection Lt. Col. Clayton pointed out that while the Adjusted Service Rating Score which applies to Enlisted Men and the Theatre Eligibility Score which applies to Officers, both stand at 85, the fact the War Dept. contemplates lowering the Adjusted Service Rating Score early next year does not necessarily imply that the Officers Theatre Eligibility Score will also be lowered.

As Readjustment draws to a close it can be announced that the 80th lost 280 Officers and 1463 Enlisted Men transferred to other units. This figure does not include the 14 "Blue Ridge" Officers and 312 Enlisted Men already on their way to the States with scores of 85 and above. New arrivals into the 80th numbered 249 Officers and 1068 Enlisted Men as of July 31st.

### Promotions Reopen

A breakdown of figures shows that 18 Officers and 599 Enlisted Men in Category I shifted to the 9th Infantry Division, 184 Officers and 460 Enlisted Men moved from the 10th Armored to the 80th, as did 12 Officers and 133 Enlisted Men from the 14th Armored and 93 Officers and 22 Enlisted Men from the 103rd Infantry Division.

The 80th has also received 97 recent OCS graduates from Fontainebleau, and recent shipments of reinforcements from the States have included 142 eighteen year old soldiers with point scores ranging from 7 to 12, and 163 nineteen year olds with 10 to 15 points.

With the end of the Readjustment phase, promotions are authorized for both Officers and Enlisted Men filling T.O. vacancies throughout the Division.

## Signal Team Cited

The 2nd "Bastogne" Battalion, 318th Infantry Regiment has announced that the Presidential Unit Citation, awarded the Battalion in ceremonies at Lloyd Field on July 4th for operations during the period 25-28 December 1944 which led to the lifting of the siege of the city of Bastogne, Belgium, is to be shared by eight members of the Signal Company, the wire team of S/Sgt. Wibur O. Hogan, which was attached to the 318th throughout the hostilities.

In addition to S/Sgt. Hogan, the team is comprised of Sgts. Warren Bolin, John Crafton, T/5 Conrad Ormand, and Pfc. Everett E. Shaw, Don Boles, Charles Struckman and Sam Davis.

# 80th Forward

80th DIVISION NEWS

S/Sgt. Alfred Stern, Managing Editor; Sgt. Charles V. Heisa, Sports Editor; Cpl. Ralph Owen, Art Editor; Sgt. Charles J. Hoffman, Contest Editor; Cpl. Kenneth C. Brown, Photographer; Pfc. George E. McCunne, Layout; Pfc. Robert R. Compton, Technical Supervisor. Unit Correspondents: Pfc. Adolph S. Schapira, 317; Pfc. Robert D. Fasnacht, 318; Sgt. Melvin Lotka, 319; S/Sgt. John W. Van Sieten, Artillery; Cpl. Benny Klucinec, Special Troops. 2nd Lt. William C. Glenn, Editorial Advisor. Capt. Bernard Didinsky, Public Relations Officer. Address all communications to 80th Forward, Newspaper Office, care of APO 80 or through M/C.

## HAVE FUN!



## FALL OUT FOR FUN

The lead letter in this week's Mailbag is typical of many we've recently received.

It seems to us that if a "Blue Ridger" properly performs his duty hour functions he is certainly entitled to spend his off-duty hours as he sees fit (providing such off-duty pursuits are not in conflict with existing regulations). Organized athletics and the attendance of such activities clearly comes under the heading of the Division's recreation program. The battered and worn dictionary on our desk defines recreation as "play, pastime, relaxation and refreshment of body and mind." Under the American system, that sounds pretty voluntary to us. Under the system we recently defeated, great crowds of people formerly marched to organized recreational pursuits in the huge, ugly arenas like the Nazi stadia in Nurnberg. They were intimidated into "having a good time" (though it must be admitted many Germans seem to enjoy that approach).

Not so with Americans. We can understand that a company, battalion or regiment likes its organized athletics well attended. We know a team plays better if there's a good crowd to cheer them on. We also recognize that since athletics are the only large scale, non-passive Special Service activities throughout the Division (there are no hobby classes for "Blue Ridgers" who enjoy creative work) it looks well to have athletic events attended by crowds of "happy soldiers."

But if we remember the American way of life a man can certainly preserve his individuality and follow his inclinations in his free time. As we recall it, Americans do not fall out in platoons to attend picture shows (we're not talking about GI documentary films which we recognize must be attended in mass), nor do Americans fall out in battalions to attend baseball games. Beyond that, Americans do not order other Americans to do so.

A. S.

## Special Troops Paradise

A luxurious new rest center exclusively for Special Troops personnel opened last weekend on the lovely Weissensee. Accommodating 72 enlisted men and three or four officers, Capt. Price E. Carney, Special Troops Adjutant, describes it as "a dream."

With ideal facilities for swim-

ming, boating, volleyball, horseshoes or just plain sitting in the sun, there are no details, no formations and no "chicken" for the three day cure calculated to eliminate Special Troopers' jangled nerves.

All you've got to do is pack your toilet articles, trunks (swimming), and fishing tackle and get three days off!

## "WAR IS GRIM"



Lt. Kesler at work

## 80th Beer Boss

You would expect the Division Brewery Officer to be a fat, ruddy-faced guy with a self-inflicted happy disposition. Well, the "Blue Ridge" Brewery Officer isn't fat! Of course, he's a 2nd Lieutenant, one Charles W. Kesler from Georgia. He's Regular Army too.

When in the distant future Lt. Kesler jiggles junior on his bony knee and the inquisitive infant asks, "Daddy, what did you do in the Great War?" the shavetail of suds must in all honesty reply, "Sonny, I drank four to five steins of brew in line of duty every day!" Lt. Kesler likes his work, consumes an additional eight to ten glasses in non-duty hours and is well on the way to becoming a minor authority on malt and hops.

### Div. Hq. Drinks Most

"Blue Ridge" overseer of four Kaubfeuren breweries, Lt. Kesler is responsible for some 17,000 liters of bottled or barreled brew which pour down "Blue Ridge" gullets each week. His voluminous files (neatly catalogued in a box of Independence Safety Matches) reveal that Division Headquarters consumes more beer per capita than any other organization in the 80th.

Lt. Kesler has seen service in the Field Artillery as an Enlisted Man, the Air Corps as a Warrant Officer and graduated from OCS at Fontainebleau, France. Originally assigned to a 319th Infantry Heavy Weapons Company, he soon switched mortars for mugs and hasn't regretted it for a moment. He likes the Army and intends to remain in it. That brew is pretty strong these days, Suh!



Having been in the 80th since Tennessee, I thought I had seen everything. But I have come to learn that this is not true. We (the men in our infantry battalion) were unable to see Jack Benny. No one said anything. A big "name" band came to the Regiment. No gas! Then in the evening when you should be writing home, you have to fall out and march in a company formation to a battalion ballgame at eight o'clock. That takes the cake!

Purple Heart Kid.

FORWARD finds the gas situation unavoidable. There has been an acute gas shortage in the Third Army area in recent weeks. As to the compulsory attendance of recreational activities, see FORWARD's current editorial. Ed.

## The Forward Looks Backward

One Year Ago Today, August 6th, 1944, "Blue Ridge" Combat Teams were marshaling for battle in the vicinity of St. Jores, France, as part of the Third U.S. Army's XII Corps. Advance elements of the 80th had landed on Normandy's Utah Beach three days earlier, (D plus 58).



by Miss Bedcheck

In Kempton, Capital City of Hamper, Miss Bedcheck was ushered into what is probably the most elegant Non Com Club in the "Blue Ridge" Sector. Complete with gilded chandeliers, tapestried walls and marble columns, here in opulent splendor the exclusive striped set of 318th Regimental Headquarters and 2nd Battalion, sit sipping their beer or "Halb und Halb," emitting epigrams and bandying polished small talk across the equally polished surfaces of countless crowded tables.

### Luxurious Layout

One of the founders of this luxurious layout, the dashing M/Sgt. Richard Downer snapped his well manicured fingers and a genie appeared bearing gifts of beer and cheese as Sgt. Downer gave us the low down. "This," he said, indicating all the finery with a casual gesture, "is merely one of three Hamper NCO hangouts. There's one for 318th Anti-Tankers in Altusier and another for the 1st and 3rd Battalions in Sonthofen."

Sgt. Downer went on to explain that the Kempton Casino was governed by a council composed of a member from each company concerned and dues were 40 marks a month with beer and liquor privileges, 30 marks just to sit around and look glamorous. (30 mark members exist, but are looked upon as oddities!) A four piece band frequently entertains and there's ice cream on occasion. Miss Bedcheck also viewed a well-appointed game room. This poker parlor had heavy traffic early each month, patronage gradually diminishing as pay day approaches. We were there the evening before pay day and the chamber of chance was quite deserted.

### Musical Prexy

Hamper's Kempton Club for Privates and Pfc's is small, friendly and smoky. The President, Pfc. Steve Merglewski was playing loudly on a liberated Horner accordion as Miss Bedcheck swept in. "I organized da joint 'cause da guys was havin' around da houses with nuttin' to do," said the musical Prexy as he pressed a stein of beer into Miss Bedcheck's clutching talons. He added that the liberal policy of the club allowed Non Coms in one night a week (if accompanied by privates), but was frank to admit that "on dose evenin's business is worst!" Food is occasionally served when a couple of friendly but undisclosed T/4's smuggle it in.

### Hamper Floor Show

Here we met a hot-shot character named Joe Higgins who is producer, director and principal booster of a new 318th theatrical venture called "Hamper Floor Show." Enthusiastically extolling his extravaganza he assured Miss Bedcheck that he'd discovered an Austrian blues singer named Eva Hopper who's "got everything Helen Morgan ever had and even sits on top of a piano!" Higgins predicted a bright "Blue Ridge" future for her and another Higgins find, a ballet dancer named Margot, who under Higgins' tutelage has become an accomplished boogie-woogie dancer. "She thought it was impossible, but you should see her now," he exclaimed. Miss Bedcheck begged off, took Producer Higgins' word that the miracle had been wrought.

### Played Leon & Eddies

As a civilian Pfc. Joseph Higgins was a customs inspector, but after dark when it was too difficult to find contraband merchandise he doubled as an M.C. playing such big time spots as New York's Leon and Eddies. He describes his new revue as "a flexible floor show" which can play theatres or clubs. His cast includes Pfc. Hal Barron, a former RKO and WJZ comic; S/Sgt. John Seamer, a Silver Starred, Bronze Starred, Silver Voiced Baritone who worked with Paul White-man and Benny Goodman; Pfc. Bland Gayer, hep Hoegier composer; and Pfc. Chico Rodriguez whom the versatile Higgins terms a



## LEADERSHIP

The Allies have defeated the most powerful and the most formidable enemy the civilized world has ever known. The Western spokes of the Axis have been completely crushed by our forces under the capable and superior leadership of military minds and strategists. From the high ranking generals down to privates, leadership was an important factor.

But now that fighting in this theatre has ceased, do we think that leadership can be abandoned, or even relaxed? If so, victory has become a tragedy. The United States became the greatest and the most powerful Nation in the world, not only because it has always had great leaders in time of war, but also because it had even greater leaders in time of peace. Hence, since we are still wearing the uniform of our Country, each one who has been a leader during days of warfare must now become a greater leader in this time of peace and readjustment.

### Qualities of Leadership

What, therefore, does this leadership require? What constitutes this leadership? Let us not forget that each day that passes brings us closer to our return to civilian life. And it is the knowledge of this that should be our guide as we set the standards of the present leadership.

No matter how much of a fighting man a soldier has been, he still recognizes that the home is the foundation of the Nation for which he has been fighting. Are we, then, to temporarily ignore this home, to violate it, to desecrate it, and to destroy it because we are not living within its walls?

Yet, this is being done. Officers and men alike are guilty of flagrant infractions. The man who carries on illicit relations with women is destroying the trust of his loved ones, for whom he fought and won a physical victory. The man who disregards the dangers of such frivolity for what he calls pleasure is the one who will disease his own wife, destroy his own home, and, eventually, his Nation. Thus, in victory he has met defeat.

### Look Ahead

Here are some questions each of you should answer, honestly and without restraint. Will I be able to tell my wife or sweetheart that I have been true to her? Will I question my wife's or my sweetheart's faithfulness because my conscience is guilty? Will I be able to face my children with impunity? Am I endangering the happiness of my future family? Will the time bombs and booby traps of Nazi immorality blow us to bits if we play with them? Will I, in my home, become a leader to chastity and uprightness, or a leader to immorality and, eventually, to unhappiness, ill-will, hatred, and even crime? As we consider these questions, each one remember that "actions speak louder than words" and "your sins will find you out."

This is not pointed at officers alone, but at every man in uniform who calls himself an American. It is true that officers are the leaders in Army life, by virtue of their commission. Yet often the enlisted man becomes a leader among his fellow soldiers and even among his officers. Many a man in this Division, by his high moral conduct, is leading us from the general officers to the privates, each one is a leader or a potential leader of an integral part of our Country. If we cannot conduct ourselves properly now, we certainly will not be entitled to a very high place in the life to which we return.

Chaplain Frederick A. Graef  
Special Troops

"Dig-Dig Dancer and Tango King." Higgins hopes Division will pick up "Hamper Floor Show" after its triumphant tour of the 318th. Miss Bedcheck promised she'd bat her bloodshot orbs at Division Special Service Officer, Capt. Boston 'til he dispatched a talent scout down Kempton way to look into the matter.

## Illinois Representative



The Honorable R. C. McMillen exchanges piers with jeepster Pfc. Paul Myers, "Able" Battery, 905th Field Artillery Battalion

## Congressman Observes Conditions in 80th Area

Congressional capers have frequently given the thinking-GI considerable concern throughout the long months or years he has been away from home. Meeting and talking with a man whom we would like to think of as a typical representative in our Legislative Branch has done much to reassure us.

He is the Honorable R. C. McMillen (Republican, Illinois), who represents that State's 19th Congressional District. A soft-spoken, learned and kindly gray haired gentleman, Representative McMillen recently spent a few days with the 80th visiting his son, "Blue Ridge" Capt. Thomas R. McMillen whom he had not seen for 14 months.

### Pays Own Way

In Europe on an official mission, Representative McMillen is following a suggestion of President Truman, who told legislators he thought it would be wise for them to see and study conditions on the Continent first hand so that they could more intelligently vote on future legislation affecting U. S. Foreign Policy. Representative McMillen is rather unique among visiting Government Officials in that he is paying his own way and traveling alone. In this regard he told your FORWARD Correspondent that he is not interested in viewing the rubble and destruction of war but rather in mingling among and talking with American soldiers and the peoples of Europe. He agreed that most Congressional Investigating Committees which travel in large and impressive groups are apt to spend too much time being feted in London and Paris and consequently come away from Europe with more eyewitness than facts.

### Son In 80th

Personally he prefers to get away from the world capitals and visit smaller, rural communities where he can more accurately feel the pulse of the people. That he is clearly interested in what people have to say was constantly demonstrated throughout his brief visit to the Division, for he chatted with

countless "Blue Ridgers" not only from his own District which embraces the Illinois Counties of Macon, Champagne, Moultrie, Shelby, Douglas, Piatt, DeWitt and Coles, but with 80th men from all sections of America.

Always particularly interested in the 80th with which his son served since early in 1943, Representative McMillen not only praised what he termed "the Division's remarkable combat record," but added, "I'm not a military man, but from all I've heard and now see, I believe the 80th is somewhat outstanding in discipline and organization."

"Obviously the principal concern of all soldiers is getting home and they're entitled to get there at the earliest possible moment," he said. He also added that it was his feeling that many circles are making entirely too much fuss over the "delicate psychological problems" supposedly involved in veterans adjusting themselves to civilian ways of life. "Just leave 'em alone," he advocates. "After all if they successfully adjusted themselves to the far more strenuous conditions of Army life and combat, civilian existence should not present too tough an obstacle!"

### No Overnight Authority

As to European conditions, Representative McMillen stated that he had been abroad for barely two weeks so he hardly felt qualified to speak with authority. This we found a most refreshing departure from the average Senate or House Investigator who after a casual and superficial tour generally returns to Washington as a profound authority on European affairs. Representative McMillen did venture to say that "for the most part he found the people in France looking rather shoddier than he had expected, while those in Germany looked healthy and well-fed."

As to the future of Military Government, the Sucker State Representative threw "Blue Ridgers" another bouquet and declared "if Allied administration throughout the occupied areas is as efficient

## Gen. Smythe To Leave 80th

Assistant Division Commander since early in March, Brigadier General George W. Smythe is soon leaving the 80th Division for the United States and reassignment. Coming to the "Blue Ridge" Division from the 9th Infantry Division where he commanded the 47th Infantry Regiment, General Smythe received his B. G. star in May.

General Smythe wears the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star, Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, Legion of Honor (Grade of Chevalier), Croix de Guerre with Palm and the Russian Medal for Bravery. His aide, 1st Lt. Boardman F. Lockwood will accompany the General to the States.

## Molar Men Tour 80th

A complete mobile dental laboratory equipped to manufacture and repair dentures is now touring the "Blue Ridge" Area and has already thoroughly processed the 2nd Battalion, 817th Infantry.

Under the personal direction of Division Dental Surgeon, Major Charles S. Winston, Jr., the mobile molar men spent two weeks at the 2nd Battalion completing from two to ten sets a day depending on the amount of work to be done. It is their hope and purpose that all "Blue Ridgers" will return to the States with fine teeth and this chopper caravan which includes Capt. Charles H. Insler, Special Troops Dental Surgeon; T/4 John P. Davis and T/5's L. J. Ponder and Samuel A. Rider, Dental Assistants, and T/5 James A. Kephart, Utilities, will travel from unit to unit until their mission is accomplished.

### Keep 'Em In Mouth

This is merely one phase of the 80th's comprehensive dental program, for unit dentists continue to fill cavities and do routine dental work, while Capt. Henry M. Lane and Herman J. Gluckman at the 805th Medic's Clearing Company continue to repair dentures.

According to Division Surgeon, Lt. Col. Harold J. Halleck, under normal conditions about five "Blue Ridgers" break their dentures every day. Principal cause is the careless practice of carrying teeth in hip pockets or barrack bags. Lt. Col. Halleck wisely suggests that the mouth is a more appropriate location for that sort of thing.

as the 80th Division's Military Government setup, then there is little cause for concern."

When your FORWARD Correspondent was about to leave, Representative McMillen said, "The main thing to remember is that America is your Country, it belongs to you young men and it's your job to run it. I'm just an old fellow who wants to hear what you men who fought for and really run America have to say so I can serve you better."

We like the Representative from Illinois!

## Blue Ridge Beauty Contest Heated

After desperate deliberations which turned FORWARD's Editorial Offices into an armed camp with fervent cliques championing the cause of certain chic chicks, the judges, worn, haggard and drawn, emerged from the inner sanctum with the winners (photos only), your "Blue Ridge" Beauties.

It is reliably reported that the final conference which lasted into the wee hours of the morning, rivaled in proportion the get-together some other fellows were having on other, more trivial matters, up Potsdam way.

### LOVELY FIRST PRIZE



This young lady is the Division Dream Girl as far as we're concerned. A 5 ft, 5 in, blue-eyed blond, she's Miss Betty Sibenik of Pittsburgh, Pa. Betty and S/Sgt. Thomas W. Sibenik of Division Hq. (A. G. Sec.) started corresponding because both have the same last names. Writing ripened into romance and now they're engaged. She's 18 years old and we doubt the sergeant will find anyone her equal on the Riviera. She calls him "Honey." He calls her "Puddin'."

### VIVACIOUS SECOND



Second place went to this vivacious Hoosier brunette, Miss Joan Morgan of Amboy, Ind. She belongs to Paris bound Pfc. Oscar Givens, "Love" Co, 817th Infantry. "Jo" as he calls her, is also blue-eyed, 18 and weighs just 100 lbs more than that. He answers to the name of "Ouddie" when she calls. With a gal like that "Ouddie" ought to concentrate on sightseeing in Paris!

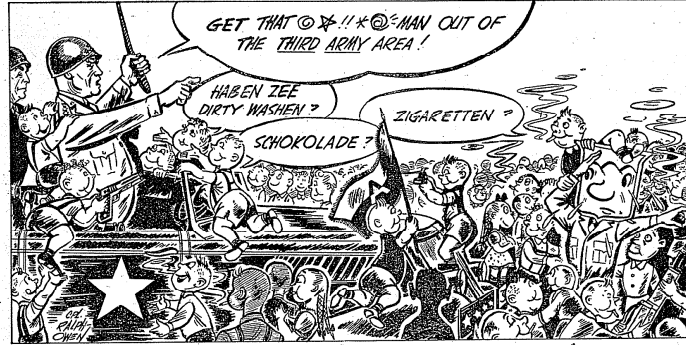
### PETIT THIRD



A petit blond with blue eyes (yes, another one!) Miss Dorothy Hagerstrand of Akron, Ohio, took third place. She's 20 and the heart throb of Cpl. Ivan E. "Dingbat" Downs of Division Hq. (J. A. Sec.). He calls her "Dot," she whispers "Hic." But we think he'll say that, after he finishes toasting her with that 50 liters of beer coming his way.

## Benny Blueridger

by Cpl. Ralph Owen



## Enthusiastic Crowds Greet Patton



## 80th Swamps 9th Div. 3-1

### 318th Tops 317th, Ties for Title

### Div Arty Wins First, 24-4

Opening the season in the newly formed Double X League, the 80th Division "Mountaineers" baseball team defeated the 9th Infantry Division 3-1. With Eddie Yarmul blasting out three hits in four times at bat, the "Mountaineers" came through as expected. Teddy Walsh was nominated to pitch the opener, and pitched a beautiful ball game striking out seven, and limiting the opposing batters to eight hits. Ray Martin, Boston Red Sox property, took the hill for the 9th Div, and threw away his own ball game. It all happened in the ninth with the score knotted at 1 and 1. Eddie Yarmul singled sharply to left, and Christian followed with a sacrifice bunt and was safe when Martin booted the ball. A sacrifice, followed by a booming fly to deep left by Hiddle, sent Yarmul home with the second run of the ball game. Mr. Martin then proceeded to let fly with a wild pitch, and Christian came in with the final run of the game.

#### Walk to Win

Cashing in on an assortment of walks, and men hit by pitched balls, the 318th Hamperites scored five runs in the third inning of their game with 317th, to whip the hapless Headachers 8-6 and tie for league first place honors. With the score four to three against them going into the first half of the third the boys down Kempten way scored five runs on one hit. With two down, Kowalski hit a hard smash to third and was safe at first when Obie let the ball go through him. Griggs was then hit by a pitched ball and the merry go round started with "Lefty" Tucker pitching straight balls to Stanga, Holmes, and Harris. "Pee Wee" Gaughan stepped up and was promptly hit in the knee with a fast ball, and another unearned run crossed the plate. Lenhart smashed a single to left and Holmes and Harris tallied up for the final scoring in that inning. The Headachers threatened to take away the lead in the sixth on three bingles by Linehan, Obie, and Tucker, and a

base on balls issued to Sage. However heads up play held them to two runs, and their final scoring for the day.

After the third inning, Tucker settled down and pitched air tight ball, allowing but five hits and striking out twelve, but the damage was done and the Headachers couldn't get back in the ball game. With the exception of one bad inning the 317th could have pulled the David and Goliath act very easily, and they should give opposition plenty of trouble when second half play is resumed.

One of baseball's freak plays happened in the ninth inning when Smegowski let a third strike get away from him, forcing "Lefty" Tucker to give the boys from Hamper four outs in their half of the inning. Although no trouble was caused by this play, one can't forget Mickey Owen's unforgivable miscue during the Dodger-Yankee series, and the results of that play.

#### Wildest Game

In one of the wildest baseball games ever recorded in the 80th Division, the Div Arty "Redlegs" trounced the 317th Infantry by a score of 24-4.

Appearing for the first time under a new manager, Lt. R. C. Robertson former 10th Armored player, the "Redlegs" vowed before the game to win, and win they did.

#### Crandall Takes Honors

Scoring almost at will, they belted everything Captain Hatch's club could offer in the way of pitching. The 317th drew first blood by scoring two runs in the first inning, and the ole "Redlegs" came back and smashed over three counters to take the lead. From then on, the game turned into the biggest rout any baseball team could take. Crandall, third sacker for the Div Arty team, smacked out five hits for five times at bat including two extra base clouts, to take batting honors for the day. The Redleg infield of Rachel, Wright, and Urbas played sparkling

## AC Socks Sig, Cops Crown

Kaufbeuren, July 30. Climaxing a sensational late season comeback, the Administrative Center softball team today crushed the 80th Signal Co., 2-0 and 9-1, to win the Division Special Troops Championship, with straight victories in the play-offs.

Stan Slack, probably one of the best softball hurlers in the division was in top form, and after shutting out the "Wiremen" on two hits in the opener, pulled the ole iron man stunt to twirl the nightcap in place of Mel Schultz. Pitching more effectively than in the opening contest, Slack let Signal down with but one small bingle for a grand total of three hits in fourteen consecutive innings.

Frank Holland, looked upon by many as the best third sacker in the business, demonstrated his hitting ability by blasting out five hits in six times at bat. He featured three for three in the opener, and followed it up with two more in the nightcap. Manager Moore put the fans on the final game by blasting a fifth inning home run to left center with two mates on base.

The "Wiremen" were definitely outclassed by the spirited play of the rejuvenated AC ball club. The AC infield playing brilliant ball nipped a fourth inning threat in the second game with a beautifully executed double play. Holland to Seesz to Hufnagel.

#### Up-hill Fight

During season play, Signal after taking the first half crown with six straight wins, continued their mad pace until finally AC upset them with a 5-2 verdict. When play was ended in the second half, the "Wiremen" had a record of six wins and one loss, while the Administrators had a record of four and one, due to the postponement of two ball games.

With heads up playing, the Administrators defeated the 80th QM and the 80th Recon Troop to tie for first place honors. By defeating the "Wiremen" 2-0 for the second half crown, their uphill fight was complete and Manager Moore's prodigies then set their caps for the championship play-offs.

With the aid of one of the best little business managers in the league, Tom Sibenik, the Administrative team proved itself to be the best all around club in the circuit, and its AC in the hats off department this week.

ball for the afternoon by pulling three fast double plays, and throughout the game, knocked down drives that looked like base hits.

With such sterling playing, Pecoruni, Div Arty pitcher, had things well in hand in scattering ten hits and fanning eight.

Lt. Robertson made the statement to your reporter, "Div Arty will sweep the second half". Your reporter thinks it will take more than one man to make a championship team out of a second rate ball club.

## 317th Pedalers Wheel to Win

Buchloe, July 30. Pedaling 30 miles in 1 hour and 30 minutes, the 317th Infantry bicycle team of Bonifer, Jones, Lines, and McCadan, copped the Division Bicycle Marathon Championship here today. It was a nip and tuck affair all the way, with the Div Arty team led by Jim Gardner giving the Doughboys plenty of trouble. Near the end of the race it looked as if Gardner's boys might out-pedal the "Doggies", but time and distance finally proved themselves and the bicycled infantrymen with a nine minute margin won going away.

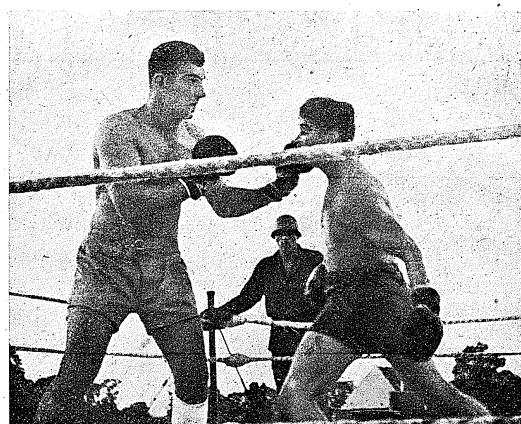
#### BLUE RIDGE LEAGUE

##### Standings

Teams	Won	Lost	Pct
319	5	1	.833
318	5	1	.833
Div Arty	1	4	.200
317	0	5	.000

##### Scores

Div Arty—24	317—4
318—8	317—6



#### ON THE NOSE

Division Heavyweight Champ Paul Klang takes a left hook on the ole schnozzola, during a recent bout with Cpl. Aram Shehemian 129th Ordnance.

## Sport Stars Thrill 80th

Kaufbeuren, August 3. Capt. Fred Frankhouse, Major League Baseball player, and a galaxy of sport celebrities displayed their wares here today before a record breaking crowd at the Von Hindenburg Sportplatz, in the most colorful and gala sporting exhibition men of the 80th Division have yet witnessed.

Two of tennis' most celebrated sons, T/4 George Lott, Davis Cup member and S/Sgt. "Bob" Harmon, 5th ranking singles player in the United States, started the afternoon off with a bang as they dueled to a tightly contested 6-6 tie. Behind two games to five, Lott broke through Harmon's service twice to sweep three straight games and tie the match at five all. Harmon then forged ahead 6-5, but Lott broke through the younger player's service for the third successive time to gain a 6-6 tie.

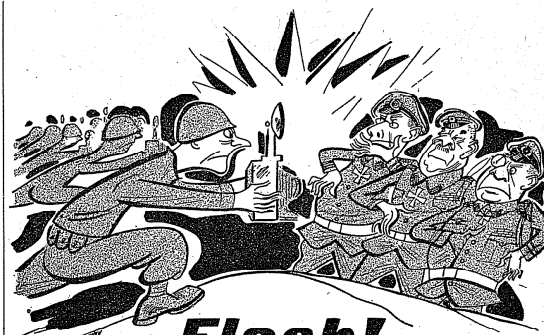
Sol Schiff, four time United States Ping Pong Champ exhibited his

skill in a fast moving set that kept the spectators on edge throughout. Playing "Cliff" Bishop, Midigan State Champ, Schiff time and time again delighted the fans with his colorful antics and his so-called "twitch finger" serve.

Leland Mortenson, National Horse-shoe Pitching Champ followed up with a few trick tosses in which he rang the bell, his last toss missing a GI watch placed less than two feet from the pin.

Exhibition boxing matches featuring the three rounder between Cpl. Billy Conn, World's Heavyweight contender and Division Champ Paul Klang, brought the show to a close. Conn, sporting a mouse picked up the day before, boxed beautifully as Klang kept boring in and trading punches all the way.

Mr. Billy Cavanaugh, nationally known boxing authority, refereed the matches.



## Another Famous Forward Contest

Make those liberated Leicas pay off! FORWARD is looking for the best "Blue Ridge" Combat Photograph.

We don't care where you snapped it. It can be France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Germany or Austria.

We don't care what kind of a camera you used.

But we want to know where and when it was made and we'd like a photograph suitable for reproduction. A glossy print is always best.

As always, every two weeks FORWARD will sponsor a New Contest.

All entries must be in 10 days after the date of issue announcing the Contest.

Send your entry to the 80th Division Newspaper Office, APO 80, or through Message Center.

Send your Name and Address too, so we can return the photo and let you know if you won.

#### PRIZES

**FIRST PRIZE . . . . 7 DAY FURLOUGH TO THE RIVIERA**  
**SECOND PRIZE . . . . 3 DAY PASS TO PARIS**  
**THIRD PRIZE . . . . 1 KEG OF BEER (50 liters)**

A FORWARD Forum will select the prize winners. All decisions will be final.

FORWARD's Contests are open to Enlisted Men only.

#### Sportraits

#### By "Mac"



Former Albany "Senator" player where he batted .359 in '42. Now a member of the 80th MP Platoon serving as a traffic man. Expects to rejoin the "Pirate" chain after the war.