

# FIRE IN THE HOLE

305<sup>TH</sup> ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION

VOL 1

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NO. 3

## THE COLORS



305 Engineer troops passing in Review at Markt Oberdorf

### GROUP OF ENGINEERS SAY FAREWELL TO ARMS AT BATTALION REVIEW

Markt Oberdorf, July 12. A large contingent of engineer soldiers today bid goodbye to their buddies in a formal review held in their honor. While the departees stood at attention in the reviewing section, the rest of the battalion passed by them with "eyes right" in a final salute to their service with the outfit, and in recognition of their excellent spirit, displayed throughout the campaign in the ETO.

Other highlights of the ceremony were the presentation of Good Conduct Medals and an address of appreciation by the battalion commander, Lt. Col. Albert McCollum, in which he thanked the men for their spirit of cooperation, and for the sacrifices they had made. Some of the men are being transferred to other units for duty there, and some will await shipment to the good old U. S. A.

Below is a list of the men who will be separated from the battalion in the near future.

Pfc. Henry F. Bresler  
Pfc. James Comforti  
Tec 5 Elmen H. Johnson  
—Tec 5 Paul J. Koffler  
Pvt. George J. Macksoud  
Pvt. William H. Purnell  
Tec 5 Robert L. Ranum  
Pfc. Ilio C. Talvacchio  
Pvt. Ralph J. Bennet  
Pfc. Richard W. Cottle  
Pvt. Earl S. Reid  
T 4 George W. Edwards  
Pvt. Alvin L. Taylor  
Tec 5 Linwood P. Rock  
Pvt. Woodrow F. Sanders  
Pvt. Richard H. Witte  
Sgt. John F. Bridges  
Pvt. Kenneth L. Carder  
Pvt. Eustace E. Dunn  
T 5 John R. Evans  
T 5 Vinton C. Franks  
T 5 Henry C. Humphrey  
Pvt. Loyd Marcum  
T 5 Julius J. Pamfilie  
Pvt. Raymond J. Paquette  
Pfc. Warren E. Scheible  
Pvt. "Champ" Smith  
Pfc. Booker R. Sykes  
Pvt. Phillip M. Towers  
Pvt. George B. Banet  
Pvt. John H. Jackson  
Pvt. Jennings Jenkins  
Pvt. Woodrow D. McDaniel  
Pvt. John Radigan  
Pfc. Benjamin A. Stacey  
—Sgt. Raymond J. Van Trieste  
T 5 Virgil E. Mayer  
T 5 Joseph J. Perez  
T 4 James O. Shores  
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### B COMPANY FURNISHES "BANG" FOR DIVISION CELEBRATION

By Pfc. N. Stephenson

Kaufbeuren, July 4. For a few minits today, during the Division Parade Ceremonies, Kaufbeuren became a noisy place, reminiscent of some hot places we have been in. With a holiday to celebrate, and a place to do so, B Company was detailed to furnish the bang, and it was one that rattled windows all over town and made children run cryingly toward home.

Lt. Lembo and a squad of men from his platoon, under the direction of Sgt. Rutkowski, had charge of producing the explosions, 48 of them, one for each state in the Union. With a novel set up, consisting of an electric battery, a copper plate and four rows of nails, each of which was connected to a 5 lb. charge of explosives, "Rut" calmly and efficiently counted to five between contacts, and the engineer participation in the salute to Independence Day was completed. Thanks to those men for a good job of engineer ingenuity.

### BATTALION REST CAMP TO OPEN SOON

Before many more days have passed the 305th engineer battalion will have their own rest camp, where men can go and get away from it all for a couple of days. Situated approximately one mile south east of Aitrang, on Elb See, it is an ideal spot for rest and relaxation. It will be known as "The Castle", an appropriate name for an engineer camp.

At the present, men of the battalion are constructing a large building that will be used as sleeping quarters for 50 men at a time. It will also include a writing room and lavatory. The mess hall will be in a separate building along with the bar. Beer will be on tap practically all the time, and wines and liquors will be dispensed when available.

In addition to all this there will be "beaucoups" recreational facilities, such as swimming, boating, horseshoes, volleyball, fishing, and horseback riding. We don't know yet just what the quotas from each company will be, but as soon as we find out we will publish it, along with any other information pertaining to the camp.

It is the battalion Commander's wish that every man in the organization be given the opportunity to visit the camp.

## 305<sup>TH</sup> ENGINEERS TO CELEBRATE ACTIVATION DAY AT "THE CASTLE"

### C COMPANY NEWS HAWK BAGS SS TROOPER

By Billy Roman

"A murderer will always return to the scene of his crime", is an old saying among detectives, and this proved to be true in the case of an SS trooper, who felt that he could better hide from American justice in a small town, rather than in a large city. For a while everything went well and he did succeed in lying low for about a month, but he became gradually too confident, and that proved to be his downfall in the end for he hardly made his first daylight appearance, when he was spotted by a girl he had maltreated during his stay in Unterthingau. That cold hatred that comes of a long-suppressed desire for revenge, brought her to denounce his presence in town to her mother, with whom I happened to be conversing at the time. Even had I not known German, the magic word SS would have been sufficient to arouse my curiosity, but I understood very clearly what the girl was telling her mother, whereby I questioned her more closely, asking those things that were most important to me. I must say that she had a great deal of courage, because ordinarily, people here are not too cooperative on that score, but she was ready to go with me to his house and denounce him in my presence. I naturally refused, because I did not know whether the trooper was armed, and secondly, I adjudged this to be a case for the military only. We did arrange

however for her to take a walk, I following at a distance, and on reaching the house she was to give a prearranged signal, and pass on. This was accomplished as smoothly as two amateur detectives could have. Later in the day, together with Pfc's Benedetti and Dovenberger, I approached the house and posted them at the rear of the building from where there were two exits facing a garden leading into the fields. I approached the front door, and as casual as I could, asked for the owner of the house. An old man came forward and asked me what I wanted, as usual with that air of suspicion and servility both, so common in the Germans today, and for answer I showed him the slip of paper on which I had written the SS trooper's name, and asked where I could find him. He told me that he had moved to another house, but did not know exactly where, but that I could get more information from the people with whom he had lived, in the rear of the house. A young girl back there told me that she did not know to where he had moved. It took a bit of persuasion, but in the end she did remember where he went to take his meals, and together we went to this other place, the same arrangements of signals being used as with the first girl. Here too, I was almost scheduled for a disappointment, because the (Please turn to page 4, Col. 2)

On Monday, July 16, the 305th Eng. B'n. will celebrate the third anniversary of the re-activation of the 80th Division. Three years ago on July 15, 1942, the new 80th was formed at Camp Forrest, Tennessee, and of course one of its most important units was the 305th Engineer Battalion. We have a good record, both in training and in combat, and a highlight of the celebration will be a review of the Battalion history by Lt. Stranix.

The event will be held at "The Castle" (B'n. Rest Camp) and will start at 1400 hours.

#### The Program:

1400—1430  
Battalion History, Lt. Stranix  
1430—1440  
Address by Lt. Col. McCollum  
1440—1450  
Address by 1st. Sgt. Gariglia  
original cadre man  
1450—1500  
Intermission  
1500—1530  
G I Show, MC. Joe Faulkner  
1530—1700  
Battalion contests. (tug of war  
three legged race, volley ball,  
log bucking, etc.)

In addition to the scheduled program there will be beer, music, and a general fun fest for everyone.

## OCTOBER LULL

Generally speaking, the month of October was a little quieter than the preceeding ones had been. Most of the battalion was bivouaced on the east side of the Moselle, and the threat to our foothold had gradually diminished until the danger of a counter attack hardly existed. The battalion objective was to strengthen the bridgehead and maintain the road net. We moved out of the field into buildings and everyone felt rather happy about that, as we were in the midst of the rainy season. After shuffling around for a couple of weeks, the companies finally settled down in the following towns: A Company in Pont A Mousson, B Company in St. Genevieve, C Company in Faulx, and H&S in Dieulouard.

The line companies removed countless anti-personnel and anti-tank mines, installed barbed wire defenses, repaired and maintained roads, set up defensive mine fields, erected road barriers, and attended demonstrations of, and built, the "snake" whose main battle function was to breach barbed wire and mine fields. The picture above shows the forest where at least two companies prepared defensive



"Foret De Facq"  
and the ruins of Mousson

positions for the infantry, and built C P's and observation posts. In the meantime at Dieulouard, H&S experimented with pre-fabricated culverts and made several that were first used by us during the Seille river crossing.

"A" Company met with misfortune when some German mines, that they were studying, exploded in their area at Pont A Mousson. Generals Marshall and Patton visited the Division and complimented them on their work so far. Maj.

McCollum received his silver leaf making him a Lt. Col. Marlene Dietrich appeared in Dieulouard for a battalion show. We had daily passes to Nancy, (good old Nancy) and the Division started granting leaves to Paris. Of course during all this time we were preparing for the next big drive that was destined to carry us all the way to the Siegfried Line. It was, for most of us, a little more pleasant than the other months and we enjoyed it to the fullest, realizing what lay ahead.



C Co. Pfc. B. Pennisi  
Pfc. R. Rountree







Company B congratulates Cpl. Pederson, one of five men on the Special Troops pistol team that won the 80th Division finals. Careful men, a „Dead eye Dick“ in the crowd... Some of Company B's softball opponents still think that the same man is batting twice when O and W Teague come up to the plate in succession — and an umpire can make a silly argument out of his own ignorance. What we need is more twins... The officers on the H&S volley ball team had better give up. There's no sense in losing all the games... By the way, H&S men say that they could have the best softball team in the battalion, but the few players don't get enough support from the rest of the company. Why don't you „goils“ come out next time they play?... A good sportsman loses with a grin, and expects to win the next time, but not with growls, excuses, and his out for blood spirit... B Company men are waiting patiently for some spring weather — they have the robin playing third... Dale Mathewson, hurling for the New York Giants is a personal friend of Sgt. Kushinka, A Company's softball manager. They played together on American Legion teams a few years back. Mathewson first came up with the Phillies but was later traded to the Giants. Kushinka likes to think back to the days when he was battery mate to Mathewson before he hit the big time. Another hurler on those teams was lanky Carl Hilbert, who before entering the armed forces, tossed them up in the Texas League. „Those teams were really crackerjacks,“ said Kushinka. „There was „Big John“ Vatsa, slugging outfielder, who worked for a while with the Detroit Tigers. „Bobby“ Thochston, now playing in the Canadian American League. „Eddie“ Woodzichi holding down third sack for Wilmington in the Interstate League, and many others who are still following the diamond sport. But when Kushinka finished school he decided baseball was not for him and he put away his ball and bat until he joined A Company in 1942... Our apologies to B Company for printing the wrong score about the same game for two weeks in succession. The game in question was played on June 28th at Markt Oberdorf and the final score was B Company 3, H&S Company 1. Now, does that put us back in your good graces, B Company.

There are four more games left for each team in the second half of the soft ball schedule and it begins to look as though B Company will not have to play the winner of the first half for the league championship... If, however they should be nosed out by one of the other teams, the finals will be held sometime around the last of July... The Division baseball season should get under way a few days after the soft ball schedule ends. As soon as we receive the schedule we will pass it on to you... Mgr. Hoffman of the battalion baseball team says that we should have a good squad, and he expects the engineers to stay in the top class all through the season... „Fire in the Hole“ will give you complete coverage of all the games, including individual batting records etc.

Soft Ball Standings				
Companies	G	W	L	%
B	2	2	0	1000
C	2	1	1	.500
H&S	2	1	1	.500
A	2	0	2	.000

Standings as of July 11, 1945

Volley Ball Standings				
Company	G	W	L	%
B	7	5	2	.714
C	7	4	3	.571
H&S	7	3	4	.428
A	7	2	5	.285

Volley ball schedule		
Date	Team	Place
July		
6	H&S vs A	A Co
	Double header	
7	H&S vs C	H&S Co
8	H&S vs B	H&S Co
10	H&S vs B	B Co
	A vs C	A Co
12	H&S vs C	C Co
	A vs B	B Co
15	H&S vs A	H&S Co
	B vs C	B Co
17	H&S vs B	H&S Co
	A vs C	C Co
20	H&S vs C	H&S Co
	A vs B	A Co
24	H&S vs A	A Co
	B vs C	C Co

This cancels and replaces all previous schedules.



Hey! Haben Sie Schokolade?

### C COMPANY DEFEATS "BRAWNY BRASS" OF H&S IN VOLLEY BALL GAME

By Pfc. R. Rountree

Markt Oberdorf, July 7. Today, one of the most exciting and hard fought volley ball games of the season was played, when C Company defeated the „Brawny Brass“ of H&S. The match involved three games, with H&S taking the first by a close score of 21—18. C Company had lost three straight matches previous to this one, so at this point it was either fight hard or remain in the defeated column. The second and third games were taken by C Company with the scores of 21—13 and 21—14 respectively.

During the last game a rally was staged by C Company, who was holding the low end of a 12—5 score at the half way mark, which brought them to the final, decisive victory of 21—14. Captain Marshall and Lt. Hoffman led the „Brawny Brass“ with outstanding performances, while for C Company, Michalek, Marshall, and Smith showed excellent form. C Company says that they expect to win the championship now that they are in their stride again.

### B COMPANY WINS AGAIN, 6-4, FROM C

By Pfc. R. Rountree

Unterthingau, July 9. B Company's softball team, along with two truckloads of rosters, invaded Unterthingau tonight to stage one of the best ball games of the season.

Winning the tossup, B Company went to bat first and managed to get two men on base with only one down. O. Teague, next up, flied out and Skalsky's throw to home retired the side, pulling St. John's out of the well known hole. B Company found St. Johns in the second and third innings to the tune of three runs. C Company rallied in the third to tie things up at three all. Hughes, hurling for B Company was pounded out of the box in the third and O. Teague replaced him. C Company scored their Final run in the sixth, while B Company counted single tallies in the fifth, sixth, and seventh.

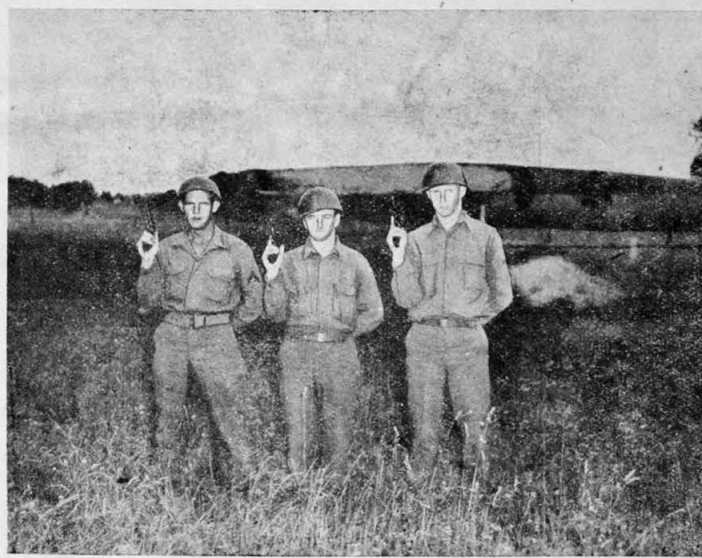
It was a hard fought game from first up to last mandown, and both teams showed marled improvement over their first half showing Umpires, Halasz and Cento.

### SGT. SMITH WINS BATTALION HORSESHOE TOURNAMENT AT UNTERTHINGAU

Unterthingau, July 10. In the battalion horseshoe tournament at Unterthingau today, Sgt. Smith of C Company emerged victorious after defeating, Lt. Col. McCollum, Lt. Mecham and Pfc. Studt. The team representing the battalion in the divisional championship will be composed of Sgt. Smith, Pfc. Studt from B Company and Rabenau from C Company.

The elimination series to determine the battalion champion was as follows:

First Elimination	Winner
Medham (H&S) vs Sykes (B)	Medham
McCollum (H&S) vs Smith (C)	Smith
Andredas (A) vs Studt (B)	Studt
Ware (H&S) vs Rabenau (C)	Rabenau
Second Elimination	
Medham (H&S) vs Smith (C)	Smith
Studt (B) vs Rabenau (C)	Studt
Finals	
Smith (C) vs Studt (B)	Smith



These three engineers were members of the Special Troops pistol team that won the Division Championship at Kaufbeuren. From left to right; Cpl. Pederson, B Company, Pfts. Jacobson and Middlesworth from A Company.

### B COMPANY TAKES FIRST GAME OF SECOND HALF FROM A COMPANY 11-2

By Pfc. N. Stephenson

Aitrang, July 5. Scoring in every inning but one, the first half champs looked better than ever in downing A Company 11—2. The B Company boys had a field day at the bat, each man getting at least one hit, with Frey, the first sacker getting 4 for 4.

„Red“ McGuire, pitching his first game for A Company, really looked good in the initial inning, setting down the first three men to face him. But it didn't take long for B Company to feel him out, and then they pounded him for hit after hit.

Brownie, hurling for B got into a jam in the 5th, when with two men on and one out, he walked two in succession, forcing one man across the plate. He pulled out of it then by fanning the next two. Batteries: for B Company, Brown and Ruth, for A Company McGuire and Kushinka.

### C COMPANY TRIUMPHS AGAIN 6-0 OVER H&S SOFTBALL TEAM

By Pfc. R. Rountree

Unterthingau, July 5. The softball game today between C Company and H&S held the spotlight in the Battalion Recreation Program. It marked the sixth straight game for C Company. It was one of the best performances yet given by the boys from Unterthingau, despite the absence of three regulars, Gramlich, Bavan and Linkensdorfer.

Lt. Mecham, of H&S showed top form and sparked his team mates all the way. Kapolka and Skalski led the C Company boys at the bat. St. Johns exhibited unusually good pitching for the C Company team, and was ably supported by Clusic behind the bat. For H&S it was „Shorty“ Perez on the mound and Fine on the receiving end.

Umpire: Halasz of C Company.

### H&S AND A COMPANIES SPLIT DOUBLE HEADER VOLLEY BALL MATCH

Markt Oberdorf, July 6. In a very exciting and fast moving exhibition of volley ball, the „Brawny Brass“ and A Company split a double header match here today.

A Company captured the first match by winning the first two games by the same score both times, 21—19. The second match went the three full games with the following scores, 23—21 in favor of A Company and 21—16, 21—18 in favor of the „Brawny Brass“.

### SPECIAL TROOPS TEAM WINS DIVISION PISTOL MATCH

Kaufbeuren, July 6. The engineers have every right to be proud of the outcome of the Division pistol match held at Kaufbeuren today. Besides the infantry and artillery teams, there were two teams representing Special Troops, Class D and Class E. At the end of the match the two Special Troops teams were tied for first place with a score of 972 apiece. In the shoot off Class D captured first place with a score of 524 to 476 for Class E.

The 305th engineers had three men on the five man winning team. They were Cpl. Pederson from B Company and Pfts. Jacobson and Middlesworth from A Company. Prizes for the winning teams were as follows.

- 1st. 7 day furloughs to England
- 2nd. 7 day furloughs to The Riviera
- 3rd. 3 day passes to Paris.

The course included slow fire, rapid fire, bobbing targets, and snapshooting from the hips.

### H&S NOSES OUT A COMPANY IN NINE INNING THRILLER, 5-3

Markt Oberdorf, July 9th. Sparked by the hard hitting Christof, who pounded out a triple and two singles, H&S eked out a 5-3 victory over a fast playing A Company team. The first run was scored in the initial inning when Warrington, of A Company, scampered home on DiVivo's single to right field. H&S first tallied in the third inning when Christof started a rally with a mighty triple to left center. Before the side retired, Christof, Shores and Marshall had crossed the home sack.

Witte, batting for Nelson in the seventh, slapped out a double with two men on base and they both counted for scores making it 3-3. The tie was broken in the ninth when Porambo connected, allowing Marshall to come on home, and then later scoring himself.

Outstanding play of the evening was DiVivo's sensational catch in the sixth, when Marshall drove a long hard fly to left field that could easily have been a round tripper. Batteries for H&S, Hoffman & Shores, for A Company, McGuire and Kushinka. McGuire gave 8 hits, while Hoffman only allowed 6.

Umpires: Viscardi and Ehrardt.



## A SOLDIER'S DREAM



HUZIT

This loving family group is the wife and children of one of C Company's most industrious Pfc's, who may yet get to see them if time and laws will tell! Although a previous service man with a full hitch to his credit, he has only 48 points, because his previous service runs prior to Sept. 1940, but he may still be lucky enough to get up to the count on nine. I should say 39, and get home after all. Anyone with such a charming little wife and two such beautiful, healthful boys, should be given the right to go home. The writer of this is wishing him the best of luck, a speedy discharge and a set of twins.

(Answer in col. 4)

## DEPARTEES (cont)

M/Sgt. John H. Ware  
Pfc. Franklin W. Hurt  
T/4 Peter Slaczka  
S/Sgt. Irvy J. Holesapple  
S/Sgt. Delvin Litzenberg  
Pfc. Charles E. Boyer  
Pfc. Layton H. Osborne  
Pfc. Paul Hicks  
Pvt. Herbert P. Allen  
Pvt. Michael J. Cycyk  
Pvt. Jack King  
Pvt. Junius C. Sweet  
Pfc. Robert M. Focht  
Pfc. Clifford Edwards  
T/5 Edward Palumbo  
T/4 Francis N. Keahy  
1st/Sgt. Edward T. Sroka  
Pfc. Glenn T. Poster  
Pvt. William R. Matthews  
S/Sgt. Walter A. Tienken  
Pfc. Michael Rawlinko  
Pfc. Howard A. Hupp  
T/4 William C. Carbley  
1st/Sgt. Joseph P. Guariglia  
T/5 Trannie D. Bowen  
T/4 Max Aub  
Pvt. Herman C. Mildrester  
T/5 John H. Obringer  
Pvt. Donald R. Morrison  
Pvt. Donald F. Thompson  
Cpl. William R. Crawford  
S/Sgt. William T. Coburn  
Pfc. Joseph B. Hardesty  
Sgt. George H. Lake  
T/5 Adam J. Linkensdorfer  
Pvt. Ralph Haworth  
Pvt. Deaderick A. Barnitz

## SS TROOPER (cont)

man had not shown up for three days, but he had a few days earlier mentioned the exact location of his new sleeping quarters, so with this man I walked partways and from a distance had the house pointed out to me. Again Benedetti and Dovenberger resumed their positions, guarding the approaches to the house. Still another disappointment, he was not at home, and it being Sunday, the people of the house did not know when he would return. It was then 1630 hours so I advised the boys to go on home and told them I would wait inside the house for him. To the people in the house I said, "I have ten men surrounding this building and they are heavily armed, I want this man because he is an SS Trooper, and you must cooperate with me." — I then outlined my program to them, which was very brief; that they were to introduce me as a friend, and conduct a normal conversation in his presence, after which I would in some way have him go for a walk with me, and then my men would arrest him. I actually did not feel half the assurance that I endeavored to display, in fact I was hoping that he was not armed, because I did not have so much as a penknife on my person. After three hours that seemed like three centuries to me, I heard the front door open and heavy footsteps approach the door of the kitchen where we were, and in walked the man I was after. He was of medium height, stockily built, a face as bulldoggish as they come. His fingers were nicotine stained and he spoke in a forced way as if conversation were an effort for him. The evening went along nicely and I believe he was convinced that I was just another foolish American who did not know that he had an SS'er before him. Our host then expertly shifted the conversation to documents and personal identification papers and the fool fell for it like a child goes for candy. He displayed his papers which were evidently forged, and I very conveniently found a little something of great importance lacking, which made those papers worthless, and I suggested that he come down with me to the office, and that I correct them for him. He remarked about the late hour and suggested that he come down the next morning, but I assured him that as long as he was with me, he need not fear, that I would personally escort him back home. His suspicions were aroused then and he was visibly nervous, and he even forgot to excuse himself in leaving.

He made one last attempt to have things go according to some desperate plan he had formulated in his mind on leaving the house. He suggested we turn right at the corner, it was a road leading out into the fields. That clinched my suspicions that he knew the jig was up, and I firmly insisted he go the way I wanted. He complied and that was the end for him. A few minutes later I had him in the orderly room, where I advised him he was under arrest. He never said a word, but the look he gave me was eloquent enough. This man is with the rest of his SS brothers today, somewhere behind barbed wire, where he belongs. And there he will remain for quite some time, thanks to a girl who never forgot and a man who will never sidestep the chance to find more of his kind.

## ON GOING HOME

By S/Sgt. K. B. Walters

There was a time, not too long ago, when every newspaper or magazine that we picked up contained at least one article, written by a so called authority, on how to treat the returning veteran. I say not long ago, because the phase seems to have passed or is in the process of passing. But we still read too much long haired advice from well intentioned, but sadly misinformed individuals, who feel it their duty to assist the soldiers family in the rehabilitation of the returning veteran. And we hold no grudge against them, even though their sincere desire to help has proved more of a hindrance than anything else. But it is our wish that the people at home be made to understand that, largely speaking, we are not oddities, nor people who have completely forgotten the niceties of civilian life.

Most of us had, prior to 1941, spent the greater part of our life as decent, respectable citizens of the United States. Yet, when Uncle Sam called us into his services there was no widespread lamentation over the possibility that we would need special consideration to assist us in making the proper adjustments so necessary in the building of good soldiers. The proof that that changeover was successful lies in the news headlines of the past few years. And yet, army life was, and is a far cry from anything of a civilian nature. We stepped into a mode of life radically different from any we had known before, and we did it with pride and a feeling of confidence in our ability to acclimate ourselves to a completely changed environment.

Now surely if we accomplished this with such great success, can there be any doubt but what we will once again be mentally capable of assuming our place in a world with which we were once familiar. Of course there will be some among us who have suffered so greatly and seen so much of horror, that readjustment to any type of life will be difficult, but they, thank God, are in the minority, and it is the privilege of our government to take care of them and their dependents for as long as it is necessary. The great majority of us are still, basically, the same persons who left our homes for a distasteful but vital job. And uppermost in our mind at all times has been the thought of that great day when we should once more be plain Mr. John Doe, United States of America.

Gus says that marriages in the U.S. are up 11.8 per 1000 population. Now how did that happen with all us guys over here and in the Pacific. Wonder what they are using for grooms!



A view of one of three rooms used by B Company as a mess hall. The three soldiers are part of the kitchen personnel. From left to right: Carl York, Joe Faulkner, and Mess Sgt. Al Daunoras

## I AND E TRAINING BEGINS FOR SIX MEN IN ENGINEER BATTALION

Six men from the 305th engineer battalion started taking special training in other outfits July 10. The courses will last for three weeks and during that period the men will be on Special Duty status. Sgt. Russell Dunlavey and Pfc. Henry F. Brown will study basic music with the Division band at Kaufbeuren. Sgt. Ralph F. Hamilton of C Company will study blacksmithing and welding with 780th Ordnance at Bad-Worishofen. Cpl. Louis H. Wendell Jr. and Pfc. Armond Biagini will study auto mechanics with 780th Ordnance at Bad-Worishofen. Sgt. Amos Smith of C Company will study radio operation and repair with the 702nd Tank Battalion at Buchloe.

After completing the courses, the men will return to their original outfits.

About twenty three men from the infantry are on Special Duty with the engineers learning engineer functions that are closely related to infantry work.

## "HOME FOR CHRISTMAS"

Home for Christmas? Well, at least we can dream. The idea was first given us by one of our own officers, and recently the "Stars and Stripes" came out with the news that the 80th would head for the States in December. Knowing that the army operates on the basis of many changes, no one seems to want to make any definite statements, but we are certain that you can make some bets one way or the other.

"We shall be glad," wrote the firm to the Selective Service board, "if you can assist us in retaining this man a little longer. He is the only man left in the firm and is carrying on with fifteen girls."

## B COMPANY HAS UNUSUAL KITCHEN

By Henry E. Brown

Like all of the army, this company is a happy bunch of chow hounds, only we eat our meals in surroundings a little out of the ordinary for the average messhall.

The picture shows one of three rooms used by our men for Morgenessen, Mittagessen, and Abendessen — and when the barrel is rolled out and the gang gathers, it does very well as a commodious Bierstube (drinking room). Except on rainy days, when the hallway is jammed, the cooks have ample room in which to serve, after wheeling the pots out of the ventilated kitchen. But the novelty of our kitchen in not to be found on the inside, but rather on the outside. Fronting the full width of the house, above the upper windows, is a highly interesting mural, in colors, depicting a battle scene that took place in this vicinity a long, long time ago. There is an inscription underneath the mural that would enlighten the student of Deutsch history.

The main door to the kitchen is a massive wood affair with flush, carving on the upper half. We invite all to stop and stare, if they pass through Aitrang, at our unusual kitchen.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT

Austria is about the size of Ohio, but has a few more people?

France is not quite as large as Texas in area but has over six times the population?

Germany is larger than France in area, had twice the population of France and 13 times the population of Texas or about 6 times the population of New York State?

Japan proper is about the area of Montana, and has around 6 times the population of Ohio?

Luxembourg is about half the size of Rhode Island and has only about half as many people?

Answer to Huzit  
Pfc. Angelo Benedetti

ARTY  
VELMARTÉ

