

FIRE IN THE HOLE

305TH ENGINEER COMBAT BATTALION



VOL 1

JULY 21, 1945

NO. 4

Engineers Observe Activation Day with Speeches and Athletics

Aitrang, July 16. The officers and men of the 305th Engineer Battalion assembled at "The Castle" today, one mile south of here for an afternoon of commemoration and fun. Over five hundred soldiers were present to hear Lt. Col. McCollum, the Battalion commander, open the program with a short address of thanks for their cooperation throughout the campaign. He mentioned, as the highlights of our march across the continent; the Moselle river crossing, the tortuous advance in the Alsace-Lorraine sector, and the bitter fighting of the Ardennes during the Battle of the Bulge. He said: "I have, upon several occasions, received letters of thanks from the commanders of outfits with whom we have been associated, expressing their admiration for the excellent work that you had done. That credit does not belong to me, nor to the other officers on the Battalion, but rather to you men who in a large measure were responsible for the rapid advances of our infantry and our armor." He closed with the remark, "that out of the original men who were part of the 305th. on July 15, 1942, only 18 enlisted men and one officer remain." (Cont'd on Page 4 Col. 3)

305TH ENGINEERS SEND 13 MEN TO ARMY UNIVERSITY STUDY CENTER IN ENGLAND

Markt Oberdorf, July 21. Thirteen enlisted men from this Battalion loaded onto trucks here this morning and departed for Munich, where they will entrain for the first leg of their journey to Shrivenham, England, where Uncle Sam has established one of his university study centers. They will remain there for a period of eight weeks, during which time they will continue their civilian education in courses of their own choosing.

This is an important part of the long heralded I and E program that the army has instituted in the ETO.

Following is a list of the men and the studies they will pursue.

Sgt. Everett Hanson	Agriculture
Pfc. Norman Bearman	Science
Cpl. Bernard Drowne	Commerce
Pvt. William McGuire	Fine Arts
T/4 Wesley McLean	Science
Sgt. Opie Henson	Agriculture
Pfc. Henry Brown	Commerce
T/5 Thomas Yeseta	Fine Arts
S/Sgt. William Gerlach	Science
Pfc. George Fleischer	Engineering
Pfc. William Pennisi	Journalism
T/5 James Byrd	Liberal Arts

GEN. PATTON VISITS 305TH ENG. B'N

BATTALION'S BEST



S/Sgt. Robert Cheeks

S/Sgt. Robert Cheeks has been given the signal honor of being chosen the outstanding engineer soldier in this B'n.

Sgt. Cheeks has distinguished himself in combat as a leader of men and a fearless soldier, who has the respect and admiration of all those who were privileged to serve under him.

Among the points considered in determining the winner were: awards and decorations, military bearing and equipment, military courtesy, general military information, practical map reading, first aid, reconnaissance, mental alertness, field messages, marksmanship and agility.

THURS. JULY 19. GENERAL GEORGE S. PATTON JR., C. G. OF THE THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY, TODAY MADE A TOUR OF INSPECTION OF THE 305TH COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION. STANDING ALONE IN THE REAR OF HIS COMMAND CAR AS ENTOURAGE MOVED DOWN THE MAIN STREET OF MARKT OBERDORF, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THE SALUTES OF H&S AND A COS. WHOSE TROOPS

were lining either side of the street. Prior to coming here, General Patton had reviewed the massed might of the 80th Division at the parade grounds in Kauffbeuren. While there he gave a short talk to the men, stressing, in his usual dynamic style, the need for preparedness.

Company A represented the engineers in the review, while men from C Company, furnished the explosives for the salute to the General.

The highlight of General Patton's inspection of engineer troops came in the afternoon, when he and his entourage, motored to Kenpten, where they watched some of B Company's men assemble a foot bridge. General Patton accompanied by Major Generals Craig and McBride and Brig. Gen. Smythe arrived at the bridge site at about 1630. Shortly afterwards 34 men under S/Sgt. James Sutton began construction of the bridge. At the starting signal, Gen. Patton, unknown to the majority, set a stop watch. While the work was going on, quite a number of technical questions were asked by the inspection parties. When the bridge reached the far shore, Gen. McBride stated that it had been assembled in a little more than six minutes. Gen. Patton then corrected him and said that the time had been five minutes and thirty four seconds. (This was near record time.)

Upon completion of the bridge he walked across it, stopping at various points to make comments, one of which was to remark about the high cable and individual float guy lines. He also mentioned that the last time he had crossed a river on that type of bridge was over the Sauer river in the Fifth Division sector, and that it had no hand rails, was covered with bodies and under fire from Jerry artillery.

After inspecting the bridge he complimented the men upon their speed and efficiency, saying that they had done a fine job.

An interesting sidelight that reflects upon the character of the General, was his remark to the photographer when he took the first picture. He said: "Take pictures of the bridge, you can get one of me anytime."

AN EDITORIAL -

This is Your Heritage for the Morrow

By Billy Roman

(A letter to our Western Allies, as the American soldiers are homeward bound.)

We have come from across the great Atlantic to help destroy the evil that in engulfing Europe, threatened to engulf the entire world. We have shared with you, in a spirit of true collaboration, the efforts of our gallant armies, and we have emerged victorious over our common foe. Many of your beautiful cities lie gutted and destroyed, many villages are today nought but a name. Many and much throughout your land has felt the harsh blows of war.

Scattered throughout the land, lie the resting places of our gallant dead. They have fallen in the gigantic endeavor to preserve civilization for posterity and to arrest the advance of the barbaric Hun of this century. Your dead, and our dead, sleep side by side throughout your ravaged lands.

Within time all of you will re-emerge to a normal trend of life, and the war will lie forgotten in National Monuments and in the textbooks of National History. It will become something that perhaps your son, and mine, will not relish learning as a subject, but just something the teacher will ask him to discuss in the classroom the next morning. Perhaps his only worry will be to try and not study it and formulate a good excuse for not being asked to recite the lesson.

Past history taught our father as great a lesson, as we could ever hope to learn from this one, and we failed to heed it's warning when the right time came. We have learned a very bitter lesson in this war, and we must not forget it as our fathers endeavored to do for the sake of their sons. Had they taught us to be wary we would have discerned long ago, the parallel between the Germany of the Kaiser and Hitler's Germany; We would not have suffered what we have, our brave fallen comrades would be still alive today; and your homes and your lands would not be ravaged and destroyed. We have learned much of one another. We have appreciated and respected your ways of life, different in a great many respects, from ours. We have shared a common effort and won a common victory; the morrow is ours, for whatever it may bring.

Scattered throughout your lands lie the resting places of our gallant dead. There is your heritage and ours, for the morrow we are preparing to build, from the ruins of today... Let us link their memory to our every endeavor and may their memory be our guiding light in any dark period we may ever traverse. Let us not confine them to splendid monuments and anniversary celebrations, but hold them forever present as a gospel heritage of the dead, to the living of tomorrow.

A TOUGH MONTH FOR ALL

The month of November will always have a very important place in the memory of the 305th Engineers. After having taken it rather easy for several weeks we suddenly found ourselves in the midst of work that seemed to have no ending. The enemy had ample time to lay mine fields, build road blocks, and strengthen their fortified positions to such an extent, that at every turn of the road we encountered a new obstacle of some sort.

The entire month was spent advancing east and north in the Alsace-Lorraine sector, where we moved approximately seventy miles. Under heavy fire we established bridgeheads over the Seille and Neid rivers. The Seille experienced a flash flood the day before our crossing and greatly hampered the operation. It rained about twenty days out of the month, the weather got much colder, and on the 16th the ground froze for the first time since we had been in France.

On the other side of the Seille, the attitude of the civilians showed a marked change from the friendliness to which we had been accustomed. There was often an open display of hatred for us, and an evident admiration for the Nazi.



Engineers repairing a bridge across the Neid river in the vicinity of Han-sur-neid.

Also, we could notice a great improvement in living conditions. The homes were more modern, the stores at least had a little something to sell, and the natives were much better dressed.

Falquemont was captured and shortly afterwards, those of us who had time, enjoyed our Thanksgiving dinner, which consisted of turkey and all the trimmings. St. Avold fell and the Battalion moved in and around the city while the Division consolidated it's gains.

Several time bombs and other evidences of sabotage were discovered in this vicinity. It was in St. Avold that we first heard of non-fraternization.

The records indicate that the Alsace-Lorraine sector was probably the toughest nut we had to crack in so far as continued operations were concerned, and November will be remembered as the month when a working day meant anywhere from sixteen to twenty four hours.

BOOBY TRAP

The old gags are still the best in this man's army, the latest victim being none other than our good friend and photo fiend, "the Greek". On a detail assigned to tearing down barracks at a Polish camp, he was asked by his Sgt. "Ace" Clark, to go to the supply room and ask for a "sky hook". Being a good soldier he took off on the double for the supply room, where Sgt. Riley told him that he might find one in the motor pool. So off he goes again, and asks Sgt. Brown, who in turn sends him to the kitchen, where the cooks advise him to go to Sgt. Clark and tell him that they are out of "sky hooks", as the last one was left hanging on a cloud on April Fool's Day. By that time, the innocent "Greek" had been pushed around so much that he was too tired to appreciate the humor of his non com's gag, but every-one else got quite a laugh out of it.... Our boy, Hector MacDonald from B Company, late of the motor section, is now happily at work in the kitchen. Hector, who surprised everyone by appearing in the kitchen was formerly a cook in civilian life.... We hear of "beaucoups" unusual happenings last Saturday, but those in the know don't seem to have much to say.... What's this story we hear from B Company about the "know your enemy" poster and a picture resembling one of the fellows in the company.... Gad, but we're thirsty, wonder where a fellow gets a drink of champagne. They say there is some in the Battalion but no one seems to know just where.... Didn't those guys look silly on Activation Day running around with half a match box stuck on their noses... Opie Henson dropped his and when we left he was still trying to pick it up.... If Sakal doesn't stop bringing in so many deer, the Military Government might wind up sending him on a mission as Minister of Food Supply for famine ridden countries. He even has Le Beau wanting to go hunting, only Don says he is going to go without his glasses and kill a good sized cow by mistake, and thus supply us all with some honest

to goodness steaks. Knowing the extent of his vision without the glasses, we have decided that for reasons of public safety, he'd be better off were he to refrain entirely from hunting and stick to the photo lab, where he is a bit more useful.... Scenes from here 'n there. — The bald headed "sarge" whose silvery dome contributed so many coins into the cup of a magician at a recent show — The officer, who after riding a horse for the first time in his life, felt like a bowlegged cowboy, and walked like one. — Halb 'n Halb, a famous European panacea has the kick of a mule. Suggest you try the mule first. A body has a big head for many, many days.... It is said that to become a "sneakin deacon" one must gather "a lil' honya"... Sgt. Kostenbader from A Company was talking too a pretty English speaking fraulein in Markt Oberdorf the other day. During the course of the conversation, the young miss told him that he didn't speak English any too well. Let's go back to school. "Tiny Heine"..... T/5 Aubry Lewis has been riding C. Lewis a long time about being officers mess orderly. The tables are turned and now Aubry has the job, stating that he and the Captain are just like that. Alright Aubry, let's see you explain this to Claude.... If you are ever in A Company area you will probably see Cpl. Boles playing "San Antonio Rose" on his fiddle. He was last seen doing his act on the corner near the mess hall. Halb 'n Halb and not enough cigarettes, I guess.... Sgt. "just call me Bill" Odum, has taken over the honor job of carrying the Battalion Guidon. As A Company's outstanding soldier, the first soldier thought there would be no better man for the job. A worthy man for a worthy job.... Looks like quite a few of the boys who left to attend those "on the job" schools returned to the companies after being away only a few days. Snafu again.... The woodchoppers ball in B Company has not been in session since the disappearance of the Halb 'n Halb....



Who ist first Sergeant? He haben job for uns.

Silver Star Winner



S Sgt. Van Trieste

TRIBUTE TO A STAR

By Billy Roman

History most often only lists the names of the great leaders who in planning their battles, have won the spectacular victories and great campaigns. But behind these great names of men and events, lies a class of men who through their heroic and unselfish sacrifice, have made those victories possible and in so doing, thwarted the efforts of an enemy to overcome by sheer preponderance of numbers and skill of maneuver, forces that by laws of average should have been at their mercy and thus easily subdued.

Because of the grit and determination of men like S/Sgt. Van Trieste, who did that little more than battle demands, the men and the machines of Von Runstead's drive were stopped at Bastogne, at St. Vith, at Liege and at the very gates of Luxembourg city. Because of these men and their heroism, the Germans were beaten back, the dreaded bulge pinched out and the final victory for our cause achieved.

Sgt. Trieste will always belittle his heroic deeds, but the citation tells the true story: "he was caught in an extremely heavy artillery and rocket barrage and was rendered unconscious by a dangerously close burst. Regaining consciousness, although having internal injuries he reported back to the command post. Hiding his extreme pain when he was immediately assigned to clear a mine field on the front lines prior to an infantry attack, he completed his mission under heavy enemy shelling and raking machine gun fire, after which he again reported to the command post, where, utterly exhausted and in extreme pain, he collapsed and was evacuated."

The dead have not been forgotten: so too, the living must be remembered. Our heroes must be honored. Sgt. Van Trieste exemplifies the humble Joe that history never speaks about, who in the tears and blood of this infamous war, has left more than just his name on a citation or on a cross; he has left the indelible greatness of his modesty, his courage, his unselfish devotion to humanity's greatest cause in the memory of his fellow men.

Did you hear about Gypsy Rose Lee the morning she awoke fully clothed and screamed: "Heavens, I've been draped!"

Mary had a little calf
She showed it very well.
There were women in the jury,
Now Mary's in a cell.

POET'S CORNER

THE FACE ON TH BARROOM FLOOR

'Twas a balmy summers evening, and a goodly crowd was there
Which well nigh filled Joe's barroom on the corner of the square.
And as songs and witty stories came through the open door
A vagabond crept slowly in, and posed upon the floor.

"Where did it come from", someone said, "Oh the wind has blown it in."

"What does it want," another cried, some whiskey, rum or gin.

"Here, Toby, seek him, if your stomachs equal to the work."

I would'nt touch him with a fork, he's filthy as a Turk."

This badinage the poor wretch took with stoical good grace,

In fact he smiled as though he thought he'd struck the proper place.

"Come boys, I know there's kindly hearts among so good a crowd,

Why to be in such good company would make a Deacon proud.

Give me a drink, that's what I want, I'm out of funds you know.

But when I had cash to treat the gang this hand was never slow.

What, you think this pocket never held a sou?

I once was fixed as well my boys, as any one of you.

There thanks, that's braced me nicely, God bless you one and all,

Next time I pass this good saloon I'll make another call.

Give you a song? No, I can't do that, my singing days are past.

My voice is gone, my throat is cracked and my lungs are going fast.

But give me another drink, and I'll tell you what I'll do,

I'll tell you a funny story, and a fact I promise too.

That I was ever a decent man, not one of you would think,

But I was some four or five years back, say give me another drink.

Fill 'er up Joe, I want to put some life into my frame.

Sad little drinks to a bum like me are miserably tame.

Five fingers, that's the stuff, and corking whiskey too.

Well boys, here's luck and landlord, my best regards to you.

Well, you've treated me pretty kindly and I'd like to tell you how

I came to be the dirty sot you see before you now.

As I told you, once I was a man of muscle, fame and health.

And but for a blunder, ought to have made considerable wealth.

I was a painter, not one that daubs on bricks and wood,

But an artist, and for my age was rated pretty good.

I worked hard at my canvas and was bidding fair to rise.

For gradually I saw the star of fame before my eyes.

I made a picture, perhaps you've seen "Tis called the "Chaise of Fame."

It brought me fifteen hundred pounds and added to my name.

And then I met a woman, now comes the funny part.

With eyes that petrified my brain and sunk into my heart.

Did you ever see a woman for whom your soul you'd give.

With a form like Milo Venus, too beautiful to live.

With eyes that would beat the Kohinor, and a wealth of chestnut hair?

If so, 'twas she, for there never was another half so fair.

I was working on a portrait one afternoon in May, Of a fair haired boy, a friend of mine who lived across the way.

And Madeline admired it, and much to my surprise, Said she'd like to know the boy who had such dreamy eyes.

Well, it didn't take long to know him, and before the month had flown,

My friend had stolen my darling and I was left alone.

That's why I look to drink, boys. Why I never saw you smile,

I thought you'd be amused and laughing all the while.

Why, what's the matter, friend, theres a teardrop in your eye?

Come, laugh like me, 'tis only babes and women who should cry.

Say, give me just one more whiskey, and I'll be glad,

And I'll draw right here a picture of the face that drove me mad.

Hand me that chalk with which you mark the baseball score,

And you shall see the lovely Madeline upon the barroom floor.

Another drink and with chalk in hand, the vagabond began

To sketch a face that well might buy the soul of any man.

And as he placed another lock upon her shapely head,

With a fearful shriek, he leaped and fell across the picture, dead.

This column was started mainly for the purpose of permitting you to give outlet to your poetical talents. So sit down and write to your hearts content and we will print your lyrics just as you write them, no matter how bad or how good they might be.



From B Company: The guard system over here is in one heck of a shape. True, there are four posts, but that is no reason why the same men should catch guard every third or fourth day. Surely there are more than 36 or 48 men in the company. Why doesn't someone wise up and find out what the score is on the guard situation?

From B Company: The horse shoe players have this gripe. Why is it that H&S can get new shoes when they play, while the line companies must use home made shoes which break after hitting the peg several times?

From A Company: Why not have some of the other companies participate in the Divisional parades. A Company has been through four of them already. Hell, we don't want all the glory.

From B Company: Why can't we get some new records. It's been quite a while since we had any, in fact the first and last time was last January. We know that many new assortments of V discs are being made, so why doesn't someone try to get us some?

From H&S Company: What was the deal on the Billy Rose Show last Tuesday? Men from all the line companies were permitted to go, but H&S boys didn't even know anything about it? Aren't we all in the same army, or is H&S a separate unit. Surely we are not so important that a few of us couldn't have been spared?

From A Company: According to the "S and S", non-coms will soon get a liquor ration. How about the other ranks? Don't the "Brass" think they get thirsty too?

Ed. For answer see your first sergeant.

From B Company: Why is it that some of the outfits in the 80th. can get 7% beer and we can't even get 3% most of the time. Most of us like a couple glasses of beer in the evenings, but that colored water we've been drinking is absolutely vile?

FIRE IN THE HOLE

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Wilmer (Earthworm) Werth, who is, we believe, the Battalion's best fisherman, is still coming home nightly staggering under huge catches of rainbow and speckled trout. Although his methods are very orthodox, no one else can seem to come anywhere near his record. There is plenty of fish for everyone, but remember, no firearms or explosives.... Bill (the ringer) Studt, from B Company, the runner up in the Battalion competition, can be seen sharpening up his eye by taking on all comers. He is getting in shape for the Divisional contest. The engineer team will be composed of Studt, Smith, (B'n'champ) and Rabenau.... Pappy Linkensdorfer has left C Company on his way to another outfit and an eventual transfer overseas to the States and then home. We shook hands and said goodbye as two old timers would in parting. "Good bye Pappy" — "So long, Scoop." "I suppose you'll say something in the papers about our leaving?" "Yep, I've been thinking about it, Pappy, in fact I know I will." "Thanks kiddo!" The truck started and was soon lost in a haze of dust down the road leading to Markt Oberdorf, and we all waved till we could see them no longer.... It looks like H&S and C Companies are taking abating in this redeployment setup. They are both losing some of their best men while A and B so far haven't lost a single player. Let's hope the new crop produces some softball and baseball players.... It looks like H&S finally convinced Capt. Marshall that he is playing for them and not B Company.... Now Lt. Mecham acts like he wants to play for B Co.... The boys from B Company wonder where C Company dreamed up that new third baseman. Just what is he supposed to do, he can't stop a ball, he can't throw to first and he sure can't hit.... A Company boasts of a novel set up for weight lifters. On a sun lit roof high above the ground where the air is fresh and the sunlight strong, a mat was laid out and a set of bar bells installed. It's not at all a strange sight to see a group of scantily clad stalwarts prancing through a daily routine. A call to weight lifters or those who desire the body beautiful is hereby extended.... Little "Joe" Ramirez, A Company, is practicing for those horse races back home. Easily the smallest man in the Battalion, Joe makes an ideal Jockey. Says Joe, "What has Eddie Arcaro got on me.".... B Company is always boasting about

their fisherman, "Earthworm" Werth. Well, we of A Company accept the challenge because we think the man who beats Charlie Simes in trout fishing has to get up before breakfast, for that's just what Simes does. Four o'clock in the morning finds him casting his line at the unwary trout. He always brings back a beautiful catch, and uses nothing but safety pins. Says Simes, "I get them when they're hungry, they'll take any type of bait then...." Roy Smith, singing cook in A Company kept continually pestering Mgr. Kushinka to put him on the team. One night when he was a man short, Kushinka called on Smith, but naturally he backed out. So he was thrown bodily on the truck and off to C Company they went. Somewhere along the way, Smith managed to jump off and the team had to use one of C Company's players. Result: Smith, the singing cook is as meek as a lamb when approached on the subject of ball playing....

BRAWNY BRASS WINS ONE MATCH LOSES TWO IN SAME DAY

Markt Oberdorf, July 19. This afternoon on the local court, "The Brawny Brass" defeated A Company by taking the first two of the scheduled three games to the score of 21-14, and 21-12. Wagner, a new man to the H&S outfit set the pace for his team mates, and gave a good exhibition of volley ball at it's best.

In the P. M. playing the best out of five, "The Mighty Six" took the first game without much trouble, 21-14, but the second one was much tougher and it took longer than the usual time for them to mark up 21, while H&S was getting 17. In the third game, H&S led most of the time until the very end, when "The Mighty Six" overtook a them and forced the game into the point, add stage. Final score 25-23 in favor of B Company. Umpires: Moreland, Hall and Foerster.

LEAGUE STANDINGS AS OF JULY 19

Teams	Soft Ball			
	G	W	L	%
C	5	4	1	.800
B	6	4	2	.666
H&S	5	2	3	.400
A	4	0	4	.000

Teams	Volley Ball			
	G	W	L	%
B	9	7	2	.777
C	8	5	3	.625
H&S	10	4	6	.400
A	9	2	7	.222



Hey! Try to get it over the plate

C COMPANY CAPTURES ACTIVATION DAY FIELD COMPETITION

The Castle, July 16... The boys from C Company showed themselves to be in excellent form today by placing first in five of the seven contests held here in connection with the observance of Activation Day. Out of a possible 42 points, they garnered 20, twice as many as any other company. The results are listed below. (Scoring was based on 3 points for 1st place 2 for 2nd place and 1 for 3rd place.)

Tug of War:		
1st. Place	C Co.	
2nd. Place	B Co.	
3rd. Place	A Co.	

Three Legged Race:		
1st. Place	C Co.	1st. Platoon
2nd. Place	C Co.	3rd. Platoon
3rd. Place	H & S Co.	

Volleyball Race:		
1st. Place	C Co.	
2nd. Place	H & S Co.	
3rd. Place	B Co.	

Standing Broad Jump:		
1st. Place	C Co.	3rd. Platoon
2nd. Place	C Co.	1st. Platoon
3rd. Place	H & S Co.	

Paul Revere Race:		
1st. Place	C Co.	3rd. Platoon
2nd. Place	B Co.	3rd. Platoon
3rd. Place	A Co.	1st. Platoon

Caterpillar Race:		
1st. Place	B Co.	
2nd. Place	A Co.	
3rd. Place	H & S Co.	

Match Box Relay:		
1st. Place	H & S Co.	
2nd. Place	A Co.	
3rd. Place	C Co.	

B and H&S tied for second place honors with 8 points apiece. A Company placed last with only 6 points.

The winning teams were composed of the following men.

Tug of War:		
Baran, Kopolka, Day, Glusic, Triscilla, Rountree, Lenwell, Smith, Sakal and Pawlenko.		

Three Legged Race:		
Burns and Dzavan.		

Volleyball Race:		
Marshall, Kobetisch, Peters, Graves, Schneider, Grazianna, Benedetti, Horton, Egger, Poulesky.		

Standing Broad Jump:		
Love, Michalek, Horton, Ryle, Benedetti, Price.		

Paul Revere Race:		
Egger and Ryle.		

Caterpillar Race:		
Hyer, Burkholder, Covington, Roemer, Turner, Reynolds, Chamberlain, Sutton, Duvall, Mayer.		

Match Box Relay:		
Moreland, Bearman, Folejewski, Stooky, Hansan, Durain.		

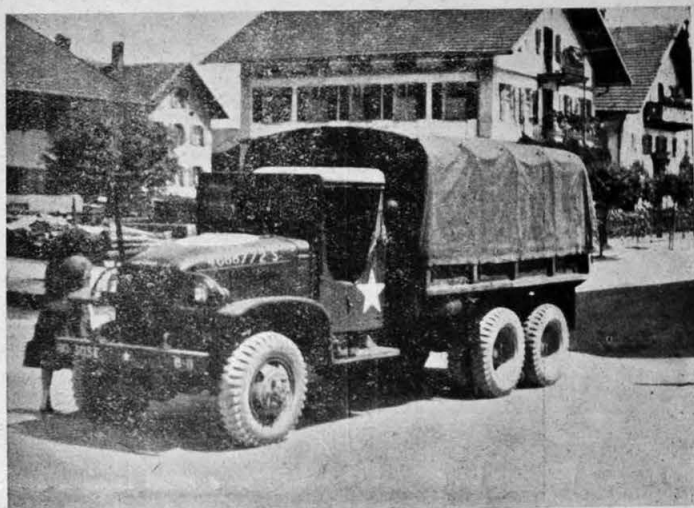
MATHERNE SHUTS OUT H & S 10-0

By Nelson Stephenson

Aitrang, July 11. Backed by the excellent pitching of Jerry Matherne, who allowed only 3 hits, B took H&S for their ninth straight win. B Company scored in the first, second, fourth, fifth, and sixth innings, with the 4th being the big one when they scored 4 runs.

Mattia, Company B's able right fielder led his team at the bat, getting 3 for 3, while every other man got at least one. Matherne gave H&S only 3 hits and five walks, while his teammates pounded Hoffman for 14 hits and 6 walks. Batteries for B Company, Matherne and Halleik; for H&S, Hoffman and Perezio.

Ain't she "purty?"



This engineer vehicle belonging to B Co. was acclaimed the best in the 80th Division at an ordnance inspection held last month.

B COMPANY MAKES EASY WIN OVER C CO.

By Rochelle Rountree

Unterthingau, July 15. Company B added another victory to its credit today when they easily defeated C Company in two straight games of volley ball.

In the first game B Company gained an early lead when their ace player, Rutkowski scored point after point. The home team rallied once but it was too late and the game ended 21-15.

The second game started out with B Company scoring five straight before losing the serve. Rutkowski, Kelly and Hughes starred for the visitors, while Joe Guariglia showed marked improvement over his past performances with C Company. Unfortunately it was "Joe's" last game before leaving the company.

The final score was 21-7 in favor of B Company.

B COMPANY TOSSES A 15-0 IN SOFTBALL

By Nelson Stephenson

Markt Oberdorf, July 12... B Company got their 10th straight victory by defeating A Company 15-0 here today. Jerry Matherne, trying for his second shut out, gave only four hits and one walk and never allowed more than one man on base at a time.

The big inning was the second, when the visitors scored 6 runs. Warren Teague walked and Matherne reached first on an error. Hughes triple scored both of them, and Mattia doubled to bring Hughes home. Knarr and Biagini both got singles and then Ellis cleared the bases with another single. B Company scored again, in each of the next four innings, running the grand total up to 15. Batteries for B Company, Matherne and Hughes; for A Company, McGuire and Kushinka.

C COMPANY HALTS B'S WINNING STREAK 5-4

By Nelson Stephenson

Aitrang, July 17. C Company's softball team today succeeded in stopping B Company's sensational 10 game winning streak by defeating them 5-4. C Company got two runs across in the first to B's one. But B regained the lead in the third by scoring two more. Kopolka's long fly in the fifth was good for two runs, and St. Johns scored on Melamed's single bringing the score to five-four. Batteries for C Company, St. Johns and Glusic; for B Company, Hughes and Ruth.

St. Johns allowed 8 hits and 3 walks to Hughes 10 hits and 8 walks.

In a Division inspection held last month to determine the best general service vehicle, the engineers again walked off with top honors. Truck No. 8, driven by T5 Norbert L. Eicher was awarded first prize. The inspection was based on mechanical condition, appearance of vehicle, and knowledge of the driver. By placing first, T5 Eicher was awarded a pass to Riveria.

C COMPANY POUNDS H & S FOR 13 HITS, 9 RUNS

Markt Oberdorf, July 13. Holding his opponents to three hits and an equal number of runs, St. Johns tonight hurled his teammates to a decided victory over the H&S boys. C Company drew first blood in the second, when Linkensdorfer scored on an overthrow to the middle bag. In the third and fourth innings they reached Hoffman for 8 hits and 6 runs. Their remaining two were scored in the seventh. H&S made their tallies in the fourth and fifth. Parezio counted for the first one by stealing second, third and home after being walked.

Backus of C Company got a double and two singles, while Kopolka and Miller chalked up one triple and a single apiece.

Batteries for C Company: St. Johns and Glusic, for H&S, Hoffman and Parezio. Umpires: Viscardi and Marra.

EDDIE HOFFMAN HOLDS B COMPANY TO ONE HIT, ONE RUN WHILE TEAMMATES SCORE FOUR AND FOUR.

Markt Oberdorf, July 18. In what looked like a no hit game for Eddie Hoffman, until the last inning, H&S turned away the league leaders to the score of 4-1.

The game was hotly contested throughout and with a large crowd of rooters from both companies it was the liveliest affair seen on this diamond.

H&S got three of their runs in the initial inning. Shingler, lead off man got on first with a single to center field. Fine then popped out and Christof took a base on balls. Perorazio smacked out a clean double to score both Shingler and Christof. An error on Frye's part, B Company's first sacker, allowed Marshall to get to first and Perorazio to score. Parambo flied out and Eddie Hoffman grounded out to retire the side.

Again "Bob" Marshall was involved in the outstanding play of the evening. He made a sensational right handed stab at a hard hit ball in the seventh and robbed Holvik of a good double.

B Company scored theirs in the 7th, when Knarr and Matherne both walked and Knarr came in later on a play to first.

Hoffman gave up 1 hit and 3 walks, while Matherne allowed 4 hits and 5 walks.

Batteries: H&S Hoffman and Fine, for B Company, Matherne and Ruth. Umpires: Viscardi and Pierce.

"My Dad's an Engineer."



HUZIT

Our "Huzit" for this week should be a dead give away. He was born May 12, 1912, in Stanton, Tennessee, but claims "Mumphis" as his home now. He spent a large part of his civilian working years in the employ of Kroger Baking Co. On June 29, 1942 he donned the O D of Uncle Sam's Army. His present rank of M/Sgt. was attained on July 13, 1943, and ever since then he has held the same job in the Battalion.

Besides the cute little soldier girl above, he has one other daughter, and enough points to enable him to soon be holding them on his lap, while he relates how he and a few million other guys licked the Jerries.

Best of luck to you Sgt. and may you find happiness upon your return to civilian life.

(Answer in last col.)

BATTALION REST CAMP TO BE READY SOON

According to latest reports and rumors "The Castle" will open shortly for the accommodation of about fifty enlisted men per day. The barracks are almost completed and the bar was being painted several days ago. It looks like a good deal for us "Joos". At least we will be able to get away from the boresome everyday routine and relax without fear of someone calling us for a detail. Sgt. Durain says that if everything continues as well as it has they should be open some day next week.

Two rattlesnakes met in the desert after having not seen one another for a long time. After the usual greetings, one asked the other, "How are you doing these days?" "Oh", he oohed, "I have a swell setup over in the arroyo. Plenty of bugs, lizards, lots to eat, and I'm living the life of Riley." "How are you doing?" The other snake replied, "I'm getting along pretty well, not working too hard and enjoying myself. By the way what ever happened to Old Yellow Fang who used to be around these parts?"

"Didn't you hear what a swell break he got?" "He has a wonderful job with Ringling Brothers Circus."

"Is that so, what is he doing in the circus?"

"He does nothing but sit in a pit and hiss all day."

"Well, I'll be gol-darned, I knew Old Yellow Fang when he didn't have a pit to hiss in."

COMPANY A BEWAILS LOSS OF WITTE

By Al Kushinka

The athletic teams of Company A sorrowfully bid farewell to Dick Witte, as he left the outfit to join the 9th. Div. His absence will leave a great gap in the company baseball, softball, volleyball and basketball teams.

Dick is very well known in the Battalion and his ability in athletics is greatly respected. He has been a mainstay on the company teams since activation, back in 1942. Since then, the teams have changed greatly, but Witte has always been around, very popular and a true sportsman to all who knew him. He played a great game of shortstop for the company, with speed and a strong arm his best assets. His ability to move to the right or left gave proof of his being one of the greatest shortstops the Battalion has ever had.

But softball was not his best game. Those who played basketball with or against him, can readily testify to that. Hailing from Indiana where basket ball is wild and wooly, he emerged from high school with All State honors. His versatility was further demonstrated by his bang-up play in volley ball and track events.

So it is readily seen why Company A will miss him so much, especially since the teams are faring so badly in battalion competition. We regretted seeing him leave, yet bid him a hearty farewell and good luck. The outfit that gets him will be satisfied we know, for he'll always be Dick Witte, a fine, true, sportsman.

COMPANY C SPORTS REPORTER ASKS FOR MORE SUPPORT FOR TEAMS

By Rodelle Rountree

C Company has one of the finest volleyball teams in the B'n, but for some reason it's players are not cooperating for their scheduled games. Last week when the game between C and B Companies was announced, some of the players did not respond. One of our best players refused to play, claiming that it was too hot. Another said he did not feel well, and another could not be located. Just what can be the trouble with these men? Volley ball games are only scheduled every other day, and requires about 45 minutes to play a complete set. Does it sound unreasonable to ask for more support and spirit from the players?

Frank Marra, an "green apple" when it comes to playing volleyball, volunteered to play in the game with B Company, due to lack of sufficient players. It should not be hard to get six men out of a company of 150. Let's show the Battalion that C Company has as much and probably a little more spirit than any of the other Co's.

A VISIT TO BILLY ROSE'S "DIAMOND HORSESHOE" SHOW

By Pfc. H. Briskman

Garmisch-Partenkirchen, July 17. A sizeable contingent of engineers representing Cos. A, B and C, together with other units of the division, notably 313th Field Artillery, paid a visit today to Garmisch-Partenkirchen, the "lair" of the 10th Armored to see Billy Rose's "Diamond Horseshoe" show, direct from the famous New York night-club. The show was held in the former "Sports-Palast" where the 1936 Winter Olympics were held.

The trip by train lasted over 5 hours, but the snappy revue that the G.I.'s saw was reward enough. The colorful costumes, snappy orchestration played by the famous "Tiger" Armored Orchestra the swell comedy patter and above all the beautiful "Amerikaner" girls put the crowd in a festive mood. The revue was called "Mrs. Astor's Horse" and featured Patsy, the Horse, ably played by the Caruso brothers. An outstanding performer was the harmonica player, Mr. Baker, who played semi-classical as well as some good "blues" numbers in a superb manner.

FAREWELL TO LINKSDORFER

By Billy Roman

"Pappy" Linksdorfer was C Company's best shortstop, and with him goes the best of our opposition in the field against all our softball opponents. He saved the day many a time when the odds were against us, and kept many a rival team from winning. At the bat, he was just as good as when he donned his glove and took his place out there on the diamond.

We confess we are at a loss now that we have to replace him, for actually there is no one who can take his place and do as good a job, but aside from all that, we are happy that he is going home, because we know that there in lies his heart and his hopes.

He did a swell job as a cook all the time he was with us, besides his ability on the softball team. With him go the best wishes of all the men in C Company, and may he reach home in as short a time as possible and live a civilian's life ever after.

Activation Day

(Cont. From Page 1)

That served as his introduction for Captain Selesnick, who then gave a short talk, recounting some of his experiences with the Battalion.

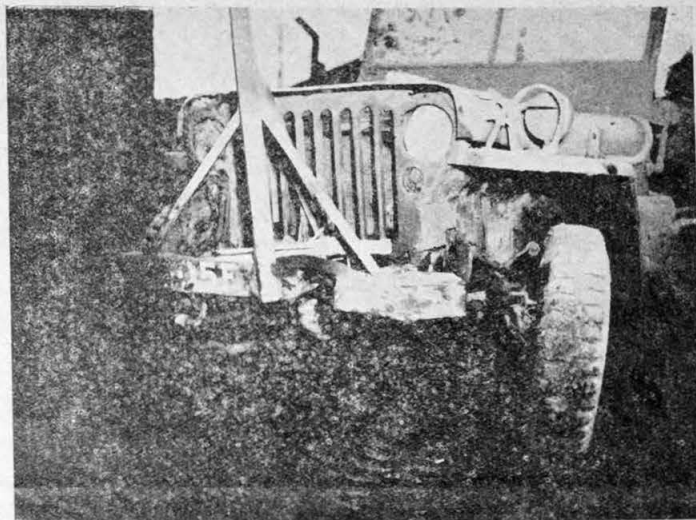
Following Capt. Selesnick, 1st Sgt. Guariglia, from C Company, an original cadre man, addressed the group, telling them how proud he was to be a member of the Battalion, and that no matter where he went he would always consider himself as part of the 305th Engineers.

1st Lt. Perlman then traced the history of the Battalion from activation day to the present. Using a large map of the continent, that Sgt. Foley had made showing our route, he very interestingly related the activities of each company as the Battalion advanced across France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Germany and Austria.

At the end of the formal program the beer barrels were rolled out and the recreational part of the celebration got under way.

(For a review of the recreation events, turn to page 3, col. 3.)

Termites?



An 88 armor piercing shell hit this jeep last November while it was occupied by three men, without injuring any of them. The jeep looks rather sick though doesn't it?

NON FRATERNIZATION EASED.

We just couldn't let this issue go to press without saying something about the easing of the non fraternization order. There doesn't seem to be much of a noticeable change yet in most places around here. We always were decently polite to most of the Germans anyway.

But over in B Company you may see quite a few of the boys going out to "sprechen sie deutsch" with the comely frauleins. However, previous to the lifting of the ban, one could almost look into the eyes of the men as they played with the children and see the wistful look there, as the men seemed to see a magical 12 points in place of the children.

THE REASON FOR THOSE COW BELLS

By Pfc. Goodman

Did you know that there is a quaint custom in Bavaria about these bell ringing cows? In pre-Nazi times, from August to September of each year the farmers took their entire herd of cows up on top of the mountains and left them there alone. At the end of September the farmers go back for their herd, and usually find them all in good shape. Then they pick out the best looking one, decorate it with a collar made up of more bells and put on a lot of other fancy frills and parade the "good luck" cow up and down the streets for all the neighbors to see.

After that he takes the cows he intends to sell and shows them off at the county fair, the same as we do back in the States.

Oh yes, why do they have the bells? Well, you see in the evenings it is awfully quiet at times, and the farmers like to hear the music of the bells. At least that was their story and we have no reason to doubt it.

Notice on bulletin board in B Co's kitchen.

Wanted: Stenographer, young, beautiful, may or may not have any knowledge of stenography, but must be able to take dictation from a seat in the employer's lap.

Also a doctor's assistant, female, young, beautiful. Apply at Doc Davis's establishment.

Needless to say, as yet no applicants for either job have put in an appearance.

AN 88 CAME CALLING

Nov. 26, 1944. It happened on the road between Longville and St. Avold one afternoon in November, when Lt. Bussen, Sgt. Cox, and Sgt. Carl Hoffman were out on a reconnaissance mission. Artillery shells had been landing in the vicinity for several minutes, but they stopped anyway to radio in an important message. While Sgt. Hoffman was talking into the transmitter something crashed head on into the front of the jeep. To say that they were shocked and scared puts it mildly. All three jumped out of the vehicle and dove for the nearest ditches, where they remained while three more direct fire missiles whizzed overhead, much too close for comfort.

When it appeared that all was relatively calm once more, they emerged from their ditches and examined the extent of the damage. The picture above tells the story more clearly than any words. It seem that a German tank had sighted it's American counterpart in the forest behind their jeep and was firing at it with armor piercing 88's. One of them must have been a little low and it tore right through "Hoppy's" jeep.

It was three hours before Lt. Mechem arrived with the wrecker to tow the jeep back to the Company. This was one case of an unwelcome visitor who left his calling card, even though he found someone home.

The Soldier waited on the corner. Along came a gorgeous creature in a convertible. "Hop in, Soldier", she said. "We'll go home and have a few drinks". And the moral of this story is, that if you hang around long enough, some woman will drive you to drink.

Why does the iceman smile when his glance happens to meet the sign: "Please drive slow. The child in the street may be yours."

Answer to Huzit
M Sgt. John Ware

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ARTY
VELMARTE

