

80th Forward

Volume 1, Number 4

THE 80th ONLY MOVES FORWARD

Monday August 13, 1945

Blue Ridgers Study In Biarritz

Yesterday, August 12th, a special Third Army train left Munich for the French Coast with 31 "Blue Ridge" officers and men bound for Army University Center No. 2 at Biarritz. Scheduled to open on August 20th and continue to the middle of October, this school is patterned after Army University Center No. 1 at Shrinvenham, England, where 68 men from the Division are now enrolled.

Flies to Manchester

Meanwhile Sgt. Harry C. Cooper, Co A, 318th Infantry, was selected to attend the Department Store Management Course in Manchester, England, where he was flown by ATC plane from Munich. T/5 Theodore R. Reed, Sv Co, 319th and Pfc. Paul B. Losh, Co I, 319th, are attending an advanced course in Art Appreciation and French Language and Civilization at the University of Besancon, Besancon, France. Requirements for this specialized course are a basic knowledge of French, as well as two years of college.

Two "Blue Ridge" Officers and 24 Enlisted Men have reported to the XX Corps Command School at Freising, Germany, to fill the 80th's quota for Agricultural, Scientific and Mathematical Courses offered at that study center.

Within the Division itself, 9000 textbooks covering a wide variety of subjects were received and distributed to all organizations. Battalion schools are opening for the teaching of French, German (previously forbidden), Typing, Business English and Basic Studies.

New Signal School

The 80th Signal Co School opened at the Division Administrative Center. The entire third floor of the former personnel building has been equipped for classrooms in Radio Operation and Repair, Signal Operations and Repair, and Photography. The initial enrollment for these courses numbers 65. Classes in Radio and Signal are of four weeks duration while the course in Photography lasts three weeks.

Quotas for Theatre On-the-Job Training Courses are being received. Applications have already been submitted for Pharmacy Technicians, X-Ray Technicians, and Medical Laboratory Technicians. These courses include practical experience in General Hospitals at Marseille and Reims.

Approximately 200 applications for 20 different Theatre On-the-Job Training Course subjects are already on hand in the Division I & E Office to meet "Blue Ridge" quotas.

Bastogne Engineers Cited

In keeping with the established policy of awarding the Presidential Unit Citation to all attached units which accompanied the famed 2nd "Bastogne" Battalion, 318th Infantry on their epic relief of the besieged Belgium bastion, forty-four officers and men of Co B, 305th Engineer Battalion, recently received the coveted gold-framed blue ribbon.

The platoon was then commanded by 1st Lt. Arthur G. Henke, now Pacific bound. Eloquent testimony to the platoon's efficiency was the battlefield commissioning of their former platoon sergeant, now 2nd Lt. Edward Hofman, and former squad leader, now 2nd Lt. Frank T. Lembo.

BATTLE-WISE BURDGE



Neroly appointed Div Arty Exec Officer, Lt. Col. John M. Burdge Jr.

Burdge Arty Exec Officer

With the departure of popular Col. Joseph E. Shaw, Division Artillery Executive Officer, for the States, Lt. Col. John M. Burdge Jr., who commanded the 315th Field Artillery Battalion since December 1943, was recently appointed Div Arty Exec Officer.

A West Pointer, Lt. Col. Burdge had his share of combat experience long before joining "Blue Ridge" cannoneers. In October 1942, as assistant artillery officer, he was assigned to General George S. Patton's Western Task Force which invaded French Morocco to do battle and defeat Rommel's vaunted Afrika Korps.

With British First Army

In Tunisia the New Jersey artilleryman was assigned to Headquarters of the British First Army where he did liaison work with the U.S. II Corps.

Later in the North African Campaign, Lt. Col. Burdge served as S-3 of 34th Division Artillery. He holds the French Croix de Guerre with Palm and the Bronze Star Medal. With both the African and European Theatres behind him, the new Div Arty Exec warns that ground warfare in Japan will be even rougher unless new weapons bring it to speedy conclusion.

A collector of stamps and carved elephants, Lt. Col. Burdge skillfully whittles additions to his herd of pachyderms in his infrequent spare time.

Medical Badges To 80th Combat Medics

New Honors To 317th & 319th

For gallantry in action, recent 80th Division Orders announced the award of the Silver Star to one "Blue Ridge" Lieutenant and two Pfc's, while a third Pfc. received the Soldier's Medal.

At Alach, Germany on April 10th, 2nd Lt. Preston A. Ideus, a 317th Medical Administrative Corps Officer, volunteered to go to the aid of wounded men still under fire from a Nazi machine gun. With complete disregard for his personal safety, the Lone Star Stater advanced over the exposed terrain in the face of sudden, leaden death and despite the ever-increasing intensity of enemy fire, he administered aid and evacuated the casualties over the same hazardous route.

On the same day, at Gispersleben, Germany, Pfc. James P. Knize, Co G, 317th Infantry, performed a similar heroic feat. The Buckeye "Blue Ridge" observed two wounded comrades lying in a fire-raked position well forward of the front lines. Unhesitatingly and alone, he advanced through a heavy hail of hostile fire to aid and evacuate the one 317th dough still alive.

Pfc. Theodore F. Glowka, Co B, 319th Infantry, earned his Silver Star in Luxembourg on January 8th. When the Wehrmacht launched a fierce, company strength attack against Pfc. Glowka's position at Dahl, the Michigan infantryman fought them off for an hour and a half, before withdrawing to a shattered house. Even though painfully wounded he refused to surrender and furiously fought hand to hand and room to room combat, until he forced twenty-five Nazi riflemen to surrender.

The Soldier's Medal was awarded to Pfc. Orlando J. Fanti, Hq Co, 3rd Battalion, 317th Infantry. While

More than 1,000 "Blue Ridge" front line medics, past and present, will receive the recently authorized Medical Badge in accordance with War Dept. Circular 66, it has been announced. Only combat unit Medical Corps Officers and Enlisted Men who have had 24 hours or more of front line duty are eligible for the distinguishing emblem.

Atom Alters War Says Arty Comdr.

In an exclusive statement to a FORWARD Correspondent, Division Artillery Commander, Col. Norman J. McMahon declared, "In the realm of the imagination we can see the atomic bomb supplanting ground troops and ground operations. Our heaviest artillery projectile is equivalent to the reported weight of the atomic bomb but its effective radius is by comparison negligible. It is reported that fighter planes may carry this bomb—conceivably smaller craft might be used, possibly our artillery liaison planes, and produce destruction inconceivable heretofore. It would seem that in the control and use of fundamental energy that the ultimate in offensive weapons has been reached." Looking toward the future Col. McMahon added, "The first belligerent in the air with a load of atomic destruction may win the first and only round of the fight. War is an institution that came with the dawn of civilization, and in the potential threat of this new weapon may be seen the portents of its passing."

swimming near Kirchdorf a. d. Krems, Austria, shortly after VE Day, the Bay State "Blue Ridger" rescued a companion who was in imminent danger of drowning.

Famed French Regt. and 317th Patrol Austrian Frontier

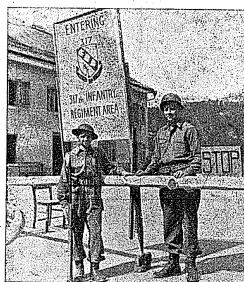
"But there is neither east nor west, border, breed nor birth when two strong men stand face to face though they come from the corners of the earth."

Kipling Standing face to face with the strong men of the "Blue Ridge" Division's 317th Infantry Regiment on the Austrian Border are the strong men of the 80th Regiment of the Fourth Moroccan Mountain Division. Neither outfit need be jealous of the other's glowing combat record.

Sprang from Underground

The French Regiment which guards the Austrian Frontier beyond Fussen, was born during the dark days of the Nazi occupation of France when men with liberty alive in their hearts and minds fled to the hills and woods of their native Departments of Lozere and Aveyron, to organize hard hitting bands of Maquis to harass and sabotage the German aggressor.

After the Allied invasion of southern France, the 80th together with four other Maquis regiments, pushed northward to become part of the newly formed French First Army. During this northward drive, these units intercepted a German Kriegsmarine Division which threatened



The U.S. and France guard the Austrian Frontier near Fussen

the imminent junction of the American Seventh and the French First Army. So terrified were the German marines when they realized the helplessness of their situation that the division fled toward the American lines where they surrendered en masse to U.S. Seventh Army units rather than risk combat with the fierce F.F.I. infantrymen.

After two months of intensive regular army training the 80th was

Largely the result of widespread popular sentiment among combat infantrymen, crystallized in eloquent articles by the late Ernie Pyle, it has long been felt that front line medics who unarmed, braved the hazards of combat, should receive unique recognition.

According to a new directive, the Medical Badge is retroactive and will be awarded to the next of kin of combat medics killed in action, those who died as a result of wounds, as well as those who were evacuated because of wounds.

Pressure for Added Pay

To date, the Medical Badge does not carry a pay increase as does the Combat Infantryman's Badge, but there is considerable Army and Legislative pressure working toward this desirable end in Washington. Certainly all men with combat experience are united in their conviction that medics who saw front line duty should be recompensed on the same basis as the doughs.

"Blue Ridgers" eligible to receive the Medical Badge, include company aid men, litter bearers and front line ambulance drivers. Recipiental Medical Detachments, the majority of the 805th Medical Battalion's three Collecting Companies, and those members of the 805th Medical Clearing Company who were called upon for front line service are also in line for the award.

Many Decorations

Throughout the 80th, examples of the life-saving heroism and unselfish devotion to duty exhibited by medical aid men and litter bearers are legion. Their ranks are generously sprinkled with Purple Hearts, while 380 of them wear the Bronze Star, 72 the Silver Star, and four hold America's second highest military decoration, the Distinguished Service Cross.

Evacuation, General and Station Hospital personnel are not eligible unless they served the required 24 hours on the line.

80th-14th Armored Swap Maestros

A musical exchange was effected when CWO Harry M. Lemert, new CO of the 80th Division Band arrived to succeed CWO Ellis D. Knapp, who transferred to the 14th Armored Band on points.

A graduate of Chicago's American Conservatory of Music, Mr. Lemert, who hails from Monroe, La., has been 14th Armored Band leader since '42. An instructor of music at Louisiana State prior to entering the Service, it is reliably reported that Mr. Lemert toots a mean clarinet.

Mr. Knapp came to the 80th in the fall of '42 to take command of the Div Arty Band. During Tennessee maneuvers this organization merged with the 318th Regimental Band to form the "Blue Ridge" Band as we know it today, and Mr. Knapp assumed command of the combined units.

Acclaim U.S. Aid

They freely acknowledge the invaluable aid and close cooperation of American units in all their campaigns and give enthusiastic credit to U.S. artillery which supported their successful attack on Huniggen.

The 80th Regiment joined the Fourth Moroccan Division in February when severe winter conditions restrained the efficiency of the African Senegalese troopers. Today the companies of the Regiment now engaged in Austrian occupational assignments, are for the most part, the same units of volunteers who banded together as irregulars to drive the hated Roche, from their sacred French soil.

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. McGunnagle, 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 Sclen, 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.

TOLL CHARGE FOR TRUTH



THE BEST INFORMED FIGHTING MAN - FOR A FEE

THE ONLY PRINTED LINK WITH HOME

The U.S. Army of World War II has long and oft declared that its soldiers are "the best informed fighting men in the world." No one can deny that we are exposed to more printed poop than any troops in history. Few will deny that much of this poop is eyewash and waste. "Stars & Stripes" certainly is not in this category.

As a matter of fact, broadly, "Stars & Stripes" has done a splendid job and is read with great interest by all. It is an excellent information, orientation and morale medium and has been governed by a liberal, intelligent editorial policy.

Not many months ago on the occasion of the publication of the first issue of "Stars & Stripes" in Germany, General Dwight D. Eisenhower declared "Stars & Stripes" must remain completely free as long as it lives." We're not certain whether the General was talking editorial policy or circulation, but we think "completely" means in every respect.

Lately, we've been paying for "Stars & Stripes." Some "Blue Ridgers" pay indirectly through company or battery funds, others pay through direct subscription. We are told this is necessary because production costs and "Stars & Stripes" deficits are mounting. Yet in many kreis and gau's throughout the Reich, German language newspapers published under the auspices of Military Government are distributed free of charge to German civilians. That was the condition which prevailed until recently in Kaufbeuren. We are well aware that these papers are an essential device for projecting Military Government regulations to the German populace and we don't condemn the policy of their free distribution, but we believe the same conditions should prevail regarding the distribution of equally essential material to American soldiers.

Soldiers do not pay for field manuals or other poop which is no more important than "Stars & Stripes." When total war costs are tabulated, the complete cost of "Stars & Stripes" will represent an infinitesimal item. Yet "Stars & Stripes" is our only printed news link with home. Now more than ever as we look forward to our return to our civilian existence, information as to world conditions is particularly vital. If indeed we are "the best informed Army in the world" it seems to us that "Stars & Stripes" should continue to be distributed free. We're certain that a grateful Government can cover the expenses with Pentagon pin money.

A. S.

The Forward Looks Backward

One Year Ago Today, August 13, 1944, the 80th (minus the 319th Combat Team) after seizing Evron, St. Suzanne, Sille le Guillaume, Villaines and numerous other small French communities from the rapidly withdrawing Wehrmacht, prepared to assemble in the Evron area. Meanwhile the 319th, which had been detached from the Division as of August 10th, was doing outpost duty at Le Mans, Angers and Orleans.



After reading your paper "FORWARD" and its predecessor, "The Blue Ridger," we have come to the conclusion that you should change the paper's name. We suggest you call it the "317th & 319th News."

Maybe it has never occurred to you and your staff that the Division has three Regiments.

We believe in credit where credit is due. We think that you will find that 317th was on line longer than either of the other two Regiments. We are not looking for any flowers, but would like a fair deal. So, we think you should either change the contents or the name.

If we can arrange a day off, we will send you 3,000 other signatures to this or a similar letter.

Here is hoping to see some changes soon.

The Switchboard Operators,
317th Inf.
S-1 Section, 317th Inf.

FORWARD wants to clarify a couple of points.

First of all, FORWARD and "Blue Ridger" have nothing in common, save the 80th Division and the fact that they are both English printed material. An I & E publication, "Blue Ridger" was a glib job composed of reprints of newspaper stories concerning the 80th, which appeared in various U.S. civilian and military publications throughout the war. FORWARD likes to think of itself as a newspaper.

Secondly, as to the 317th's representation in FORWARD. A breakdown of the first three issues discloses that in Vol. 1, No. 1, there were two exclusively 317th stories on page one, two on page three; Vol. 1, No. 2, contained one 317th story on page 3 and Miss Bedcheck devoted her entire column to an outfit she is beginning to think is appropriately called "Headache." No. 3 contained one 317th story on the Sports Page. Beyond that, 317th was mentioned in numerous Division-wide articles.

FORWARD aims to give equal coverage to all units, but is of course, dependent on the units for material concerning their activities. FORWARD suggests you misdirect your missive. It should have been addressed to your Regimental Reporter. FORWARD urges that anyone in the 317th (or any other outfit) who stumbles across a news-worthy item (material which is of interest to the entire 80th, not merely of local unit interest) should send us the information. If FORWARD finds it of interest to all "Blue Ridgers," FORWARD will print it.

FORWARD is pleased that representation in FORWARD is important to you and lauds your pride in a splendid Regiment, the accomplishments of which FORWARD is well aware.

Ed.

So Sorry Dept.

That Page One picture on On-the-Job-Training in last week's FORWARD credited the 2nd Battalion, 318th Infantry. FORWARD was misinformed. It should have read "1st Battalion." At least we got the Regiment right.



THERE'S A LOT INVOLVED

In the last three months, the number of men in this Division catching venereal disease has been so great that a writer for FORWARD can't discuss world peace without fear that he is avoiding the primary issue. — An honest Chaplain talking about sex should answer this question, "What's wrong with having sexual intercourse with the girls in this vicinity?" However, so many men in this Division have decided that it is not wrong or don't care if it is, that we can't talk on a common plane till we have geared the question down to simply, "What's involved in having sexual intercourse with the girls around here?"

Here is a random list of what is involved:

1. Your Wife or your Girl are involved. Quite probably, they would not like to hear of your sexual intercourse with women over here, but then, they don't have to know, and probably won't. Not even your enemies are going to tell on you. And if your wife does hear, you can probably give her a story of battle weariness and exhaustion in which nothing seemed to matter. Nevertheless, if there is anything that you like about your relationship with your wife, anything clean or special, that clean and special thing you have weakened and will pay for in secret shame or open mistrust. And if you ever give your wife venereal disease, you shall bitterly see how she is involved in your conduct over here.

2. Worry and Regret are involved. The moment that the pleasure of intercourse is over (and it didn't last long), you begin on a course of worry (that you have been exposed) and regret (if you get the disease). No one escapes this, though in the last three months I've seen many who tried to treat it as a joke (the joke was just a screen to keep spectators out). I've seen many who had genuine regret, openly so. And they wish that back on the day they had the intercourse they could have looked ahead to this day. — In 1939, the Germans could only see as far ahead as 1942 when they planned to control all of Europe, but they could not look further to 1945 when their country should be defeated and they themselves controlled. Man's imagination is short, he can't see far. He can see ahead to the night when sexual intercourse with this girl will be most exciting, but not beyond to the point where that night may come to infect his whole life. Worry and Regret are involved.

3. A more Resistant Germ is involved in this vicinity. During combat, the type of venereal disease we were then getting in the 80th Division was being cured with 100,000 units of penicillin. For the germ in this vicinity, the dose has been doubled to 200,000 units and this is not even curing a small part of the cases. The 80th Division Clearing Station therefore tried

giving in addition to the 200,000 units a second course of 400,000 units, but even with these two courses less than half were being cured and discharged from the Clearing Station, and many of these so discharged have lately begun to return for more treatment (indicating that they have a particularly dangerous form of the disease, the recurrent type). The rest are being shipped back to Evacuation and General Hospitals and there is no assurance that they can be cured at all. In a recent test case at the Clearing Station, a patient was given 15 times the war time dose of penicillin, or 1,500,000 units of penicillin and he still had not only a discharge from his penis, but a positive smear. The venereal germ in this vicinity is tough, will stick to many for life. If this sounds too dramatic, why don't you come down to the Clearing Station and check. — Even if the morality of the situation means no more to you than an ashtay of butts, still count on these two things: (1) if you have intercourse with a girl around here, count on getting venereal disease; (2) if you get the disease here, count on keeping it. Don't count on the Medical Department to save you. A more Resistant Germ is involved.

4. Your Moral and Religious Quality is involved. The men of the Division are now saying, "How can you expect me to hold off any longer?" "After all, sexual intercourse has become the normal thing now for many men of the Division, high and low." "How can one be expected to wait till he gets home?" — I'll admit that the pressure is on now, as it has never been before. Never so many opportunities as this, never were we so far from home with no one to check. Surely the pressure is on, but the only time to test a person is when the pressure is on. I watched some men run a mile race not long ago, a four lap race. The runners stayed together till the end of the third lap, when some began to fall behind. At the end of the race, those who fell behind may say, "Well, we ran three good laps, didn't we? Yes they did, but the heart of the matter is that the whole race was being run to see what would happen in the fourth lap. That's, of course, when the pressure is on; that's when the winner is decided. There is no prize, no reward, for running three good laps. You, the men of this Division, are running a long race. The starting line was New York City, and the finish line is there. Some have run the race strong and clean till they were passing through Germany, where they faded. But don't ask any credit for coming through clean until now. Now is the time when the pressure is on. Now is the time that counts, that tests a man's Moral and Religious quality. And they, too, are involved in your sexual intercourse with the girls of this vicinity.

Chaplain George H. Ball
305th Medical Battalion.

THE FINAL DRIVE IS ON, JUST THREE MORE DAYS! CHARGE INTO THE COMBAT CAMERAMAN'S CONTEST

Objective, The Riviera for Seven Days (First Prize)
Or Paris for Three Days (Second Prize)
Or a 50 liter Keg of Beer (Third Prize)

Address your battle action photo to 80th FORWARD, Division Newspaper Office, APO 80 or thru Message Center

FORWARD will announce and print the winning entries in next week's issue. All decisions will be final.

WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THIS, FRANKIE?



Sinatra's been sniping at USO Camp Shows of late but we think Patsy Thomas who was here with the recent Bob Hope Show is an appealing argument who proves USO knows what "Blue Riders" like.

Huge Division Resort Planned

Plans are well under way to open an elaborate "Blue Ridge" Resort Center at the famed and fashionable Bavarian Alpine vacation spot Oberstdorf, south of Kempton, according to an announcement from 80th Division Special Service Officer, genial Capt. Clarence E. "Chief" Boston. Scheduled to be in operation by the first of September, the "Blue Ridge" Resort will accommodate close to 400 Officers and Enlisted Men in four resort hotels. Quotas for three day vacations plus travel time will be available to all 80th units and special trains will make frequent runs to and from Oberstdorf. Ideal for winter sports, there will be skiing, tobogganing and ice skating under the direction of two former Olympic Team trainers, when the appropriate season arrives.

Autumn Season

Facilities for the autumn season include horseback riding, mountain goat hunting expeditions and mountain climbing trips conducted by expert Alpine guides. Two lakes with motor boats and surf boards are reached by short survey rides and the longest cable car lift in Germany is in the immediate area. At the end of this scenic ride there will be a mountain-top chalet equip-

71st Div. Show Tours 80th

Our neighbors to the north, the 71st Infantry Division, are sending "Blue Riders" a token of friendship and esteem in the form of their new, all-GI musical revue, "My Achin' Back."

With a cast and chorus of 46, the 71st's offering is scheduled to open to the 318th at Kempton on the afternoon of August 18th. The evening performance will be at Sonthofen for other "Hamper" units. On the 19th of August the visiting thespians will give two shows for the 317th, a matinee at Fussen and an evening performance at Berg. There will be an evening show for Special Troops at Kaufbeuren on August 20th and the troupe will lay off for one day on the 21st, reopening at Bad Worishofen on the 22nd for the 305th Medics, 30th Field Hospital and 1st Battalion of the 810th Infantry. Div Arty will see "My Achin' Back" in Memmingen on the 23rd of August and the final performance will be for the 305th Engineers at Markt Oberdorf on August 24th.

ped with beer bar and grill room. In addition the "Blue Ridge" football team will be quartered and trained at Oberstdorf and practice gridiron sessions will be open to all 80th visitors.



by Miss Bedcheck

Div Arty lives a cosmopolitan hotel existence in Memmingen. They've taken over the town's leading hotels (both of 'em). At the large and modern Hotel Adler, the "Heater" hotshots have a comfortable, paneled, tavern-type beer hall. Barkeep T/S George Cooper tells us that beer profits go to pay maid service in the artillerymen's upstairs apartments. Though the frauleins clean and dust the chambers, it's still the cannoneers who get the gigs if rooms lack the required spit and polish on Saturday morning inspections, Cooper sadly related. The servant problem is tough all over these days! The Adler's ample ballroom serves as a commodious day room equipped with ping-pong tables, easy chairs and writing nooks.

Democratic Mess

Across the strasse at the Bayerische Hof, Miss Bedcheck saw the finest "Blue Ridge" mess setup yet. A modern dining hall where Officers and Enlisted Men partake of the same menu, prepared in the same kitchen. This radical departure from the conventional military routine results in refreshing democratic harmony and no "Red Leg" has less respect for brass because they share a common roof and the same gleaming porcelain and silverware. Memmingen also boasts a fine and efficient PX located in what was once a Kraut kid's clothing store, and two theatres, an intimate playhouse for live talent shows and the Schauburg, a large up-to-date movie theatre. In addition to the above mentioned luxuries, yesterday, August 12th, a bright new Red Cross Doughnut Dugout opened in town and its gay Varga Room gives the GI gunners another glamour spot.

Feudal System

From Memmingen an affable and sociological artilleryman misdirected Miss Bedcheck's drowsy through circuitous wooded routes which took us far afield and even further back in history, for in violent contrast to enterprising Div Arty, in the 905th Battalion area the feudal system has not only survived, but is positively flourishing. Miss Bedcheck regrets to report that she found 905th Battalion Officers dwelling in medieval splendor in the handsome, completely modernized Baroque palace, Schloss Eisenberg, high on a pine-covered hill, while GI serfs live in peasant cottages at the base of this exclusive magnificence. There is, however, a fine 905th lake-side rest center at Buxheim, which accommodates groups of 30 men for two day fishing, boating, swimming respites and according to manager Sgt. Charles Doerflein, 75 to 100 men motor out to Buxheim for beer. (Note: All "Blue Ridge" Regimental rest centers give their guys three day holidays). But Buxheim has ice cream every other day, maybe that's to compensate for the 24 hours less away from reveille, formations, and 1st sergeants!

At quaint Ottobeuren which has

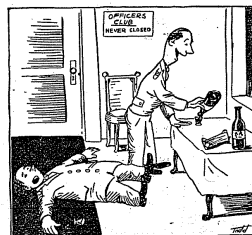
"Blithe Spirit" To Play "Blue Riders"

Starring former film luminary Karen Morley, a USO Camp Show traveling company of Noel Coward's sophisticated comedy hit, "Blithe Spirit" is scheduled to present four performances for "Blue Riders."

Miss Morley's supporting cast includes Alexander Kirkland (who, it may interest you to know, is the husband of an intellectual young authoress named Gipsy Rose Lee) and Helene Ambrose.

N. Y. and London Hit

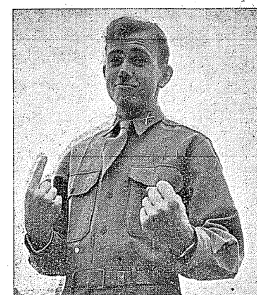
An outstanding New York and London stage success, "Blithe Spirit" will open at Kempton for the 318th Infantry on August 15th. August 16th will be a day of rest, presumably for the exhausted players to recover from the arduous enthusiasm of the "Blue Ridge" first night. The 17th of August will find "Blithe Spirit" performing in Memmingen for Division Artillery and there will be both a matinee and evening show in Kaufbeuren on August 18th for the troops in that vicinity.



Like this Halb & Halb, Colonel? Let me pour you a second!

the largest and loveliest Baroque Church in all of Germany, Lt. Vincent Kresic runs a pleasant little taproom for the 318th Battalion. Here cognac is rationed to one shot per man per evening, there's beer and wine over the bar and the first 18 men in each night may purchase a bottle of champagne. Lt. Kresic, a wise operator, refuses to serve the notorious rotgut, Halb & Halb in his bistro, where T/4 Spencer Nemmo expertly tickles the ivories while sitting underneath the piano. It was the most animated spot we hit all evening. The 315th has nothing to offer in the way of nocturnal haunts other than Div Arty facilities in nearby Memmingen. They've been talking about doing something in this direction for the past six or eight weeks. Meanwhile 315th's probably spend a wild evening reading to each other from such popular classics as "Care and Maintenance of the 155mm Howitzer Under Combat Conditions" or else a cozy group gets together to work out a hot survey problem. Miss Bedcheck leapt into her buckboard and fled back to the comparatively bright lights of Kaufbeuren. Life's not so gay down Arty way!

CUTE CHIRPER



Lt. Herren conducts a non-existent choir.

80th Choir Kid

Looking like a cross between an adolescent edition of Little Lord Fauntleroy and Mickey Mouse, the Division Choir Officer, 2nd Lt. Lloyd K. Herren, opened a swinging door with the single word "Herren" emblazoned on it, and asked your FORWARD correspondent to step into his office. It seems this fellow Herren has offices all over Germany and his nearest competitor whom we've observed has an equal number of offices, seems to be someone called "Damen."

A musician since his not too distant diaper days, baby-faced Lt. Herren is now valiantly struggling against the overwhelming tides of lethargy, lack of interest and red tape to form a 24 voice "Blue Ridge" Glee Club. If and when the choristers are corralled, Lt. Herren plans a minstrel show, concerts featuring soloists and the inevitable barber shop quartet. Wheee!

Child Prodigy

The infant infantryman is a native of Oklahoma, played the violin at eight, and won the State-wide High School Drum Competition a few years later. He attended both Oklahoma University and Oklahoma Central State College, majoring in music. Naturally he was in the College and All-State Symphony, the glee club and quartet and served as assistant director of the acappella choir.

This versatile vocalist chirps tenor and plays the violin, viola, drum, cello and string bass as well. He served as a corporal and assistant squad leader in a 99th Division rifle company during combat and before attending OCS at Fontainebleau, from where he came to the 80th.

It's a pretty horrible thing to say about anyone, but Lt. Herren was a boy soprano!

New Recon Troop Commander

With the departure of homeward bound Capt. Robert W. Hill, who has been with the 80th Recon Troop since activation, Capt. Paul L. Smith assumed command. No novel spot for Marylander Smith, he had taken active command several times during combat. Both Capt. Smith, the Recon Troop's fifth CO, and Capt. Hill served as platoon leaders and executive officers in the Recon before taking over the Troop's top spot.

Benny Blueridger

by Cpl. Ralph Owen



Benny Aims to Please



10th Armored Smash 80th 7-2 319th Cops Title - 318th Set For 2nd Half

With "Lefty" Charkut, former Piedmont League hurler, allowing the 80th Div. five scattered hits, the 10th Armored "Tigers" defeated the "Mountaineers" by a score of 7-2.

The "Tigers" started off with a bang in the first inning by scoring four runs. Frazier, lead off man for the Armored, hit Weinberger's first pitch deep into left center field for a home run. Hinson then flied out to second, but Cervino kept the fire burning by tripling into left. Al Shafrensky, center fielder, also came through and blasted a triple to right, and Weinberger, "Mountaineer" hurler, was quickly replaced by the 80th's star hurler, Teddy Walsh. Schroback, after taking a count of two and two, lined a drive between center and left for a home run, scoring Shafrensky ahead of him and ending the scoring for the inning.

"Mountaineers" Score

The "Mountaineers" came back and scored one run in the first and added another marker in the sixth with singles by Manganiello and Urbas, followed by Cervino's boot of a drive off Crabbie's bat. Except for these two innings, the "Mountaineers" were held in check, so Charkut was never in any real danger while carving out his first win for the season.

The weather was perfect, accounting for one of the largest baseball crowds to witness a game this season.

Williams Stars

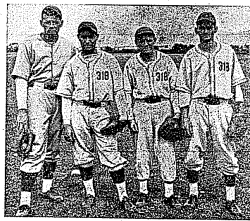
While "Big Boy" Williams, tall right hander, pitched five hit ball, and garnered three hits out of four trips to the plate, the 319th "Hayseeds" downed the scrappy 318th "Hamperites" by a score of 7-4, in a game played at the Lloyd field on the 4th.

This victory giving the "Hayseeds" first half honors in the league race. The "Hayseeds" put the game on ice in the seventh frame by scoring three runs, making the count 7-2. With DeStepano and Lis on base, Barillo smashed a three bagger to left center field, scoring both runners. Barillo trotted home for the final run a few minutes later, on a line single to center by Marsh, chasing Mr. Shuford, portside hurler, to the showers. Tommy O'Keefe, ailing right hander, went in to finish the game.

The "Hamperites" were completely at the mercy of "Big Boy" Williams, who for eight innings continued to baffle them with a variety of pitches.

The only real "Hamper" threat came in the ninth when Matty Correia, flashy second baseman, blasted a home run to left with one man on. However, Williams

"HAMPER'S" SPARKLING INFIELD



Left to right, Kumor, Correia, Gaughan, and Stanga.

Tigers Blast 319th Brunch Tosses Two Hitter

After smashing the 80th Div ball club on Sunday, 7-2, the 10th Armored "Tigers" continued their winning streak by blasting the 319th "Hayseeds", 15-0, the Doughboys finally throwing in the sponge after seven innings of play. Brunch, "Tiger" hurler, limited the "Hayseeds" to two scattered hits, while his mates plastered Cleghorn and Donofrio for twelve safeties.

The bottom fell out in the "Tigers" half of the second, when Frazier, "Tiger" shortstop, blasted a home run to left with the bases loaded. His home run, double, and single, easily gained for him batting honors for the day.

319th Tailspins Griggs Hammers Homer

Continuing their tailspin, the 319th "Hayseeds" lost a close game to the 318th "Hamperites" by a score of 5-4 in the opening game of the second half race.

Trailing by a score of 4-2, going into the seventh, Lenhart, "Hamper" right fielder, started the show off with a line single over second. Matty Correia, second-baseman, and one of the hardest hitters in the league, teed off on pitcher Lisko's fast ball and smashed a triple to left center field, scoring, seconds later, on Kumor's infield out, to tie up the ole ball game at 4 all. Chet Moiley, ace, left hander for the "Hayseeds", was then called to the mound, and Tommy O'Keefe, tall right hander, took over pitching chores for 318th. It was three up and three down until the tenth, when Griggs, usually a weak hitter, stepped to the plate and blasted a home run over Knight's head in deep left field.

settled down and retired the side in quick fashion.

Fielding gem of the afternoon was a beautiful barehanded stab by DeStepano of a ball lined over first base by "Pee Wee" Gaughan in the eighth.

Div Arty, 317th Play To Tie Game Protested, 317th Quit in 10th

Competition was keen and arguments filled the air, as Div. Arty and 317th played to a six all tie at Memmingen on the 7th.

With Div. Arty leading by a score of 4-3 going into the 8th, Butlinski, catcher for the Doughboys, walked and the fireworks started. Bennett followed by dropping a bunt down the first base line and when Smegowski made a poor throw to first, both runners were safe. Linehan promptly sacrificed to second and both runners advanced. At this point, Sage hit a long fly to Hickey in center field, and Hickey's throw to second doubled Bennett for the

third out. While this play was going on, Butlinski tagged up and scored, with the umpire ruling him safe and tying up the ball game at 4-4. A heated argument resulted from this play by Johns of the "Redlegs" but to no avail and the game continued until the first half of the tenth, when with the score tied at 6 up, the Doughboys refused to continue the game.

Considering the Div. Arty protest in the sixth inning and the Doughboys refusing to take the field in the 10th, it looks like a judgment from King Solomon is necessary to decide the outcome and the winner.

Novak Runs For 3d Army In ETO Meet



One of the Division's outstanding sport figures, Pfc. Andy Novak, 80th MP's, represented the Third Army in the USFET track meet at Nurnberg on the 11th and 12th of this month.

The Bradenville, Pa. flash, winner of the High Hurdles in the recent Third Army Finals, has garnered fame on the cinder paths as far back as '40, when he set a new record for the Pennsylvania State High Hurdles.

Enters Pitt

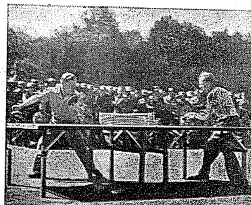
He entered Pitt University in '41, where he finished the year as a four letter man, playing football, basketball and baseball, in addition to track. In '42, his ambition to become an athletic director or coach was halted by the country's call to arms, and he came to the 80th in October. Here his fame rapidly spread, as he was chosen the outstanding contestant in the Division's '43 track meet, by copying first place honors in the 50 and 100 yard dashes.

During the winter season of '43-'44, Andy played forward on the fast MP basketball team, and was one of the mainstays in their drive to the Division Championship.

Arrives in Europe

Upon arrival in Europe, Andy had little opportunity in which to participate in sports, but during the 80th's rest periods, and away from his duties as Traffic Control man, he hustled to keep in condition. At the end of hostilities, Novak began training in earnest, and by the time the Division track meet was held, he was prepared to defend his title against all comers.

Successfully defending his "Blue Ridge" crown, Andy headed for XX Corps, where he out-hurdled the field in 16.6 seconds. Later, running for XX Corps in the Third Army Meet, Novak copped first again with a 15.5 clocking. Andy is the only "Blue Rider" to participate in the USFET track meet.



Ping Pong Champ Gives Lessons

T/4 Sol Schiff, four time United States Ping Pong Champion (shown on the right above) is giving Cliff Bishop, Michigan State Champ, a few lessons. Sol said, while being interviewed, "More fellows are getting interested in the game, by taking time out to try."

Started at Fight

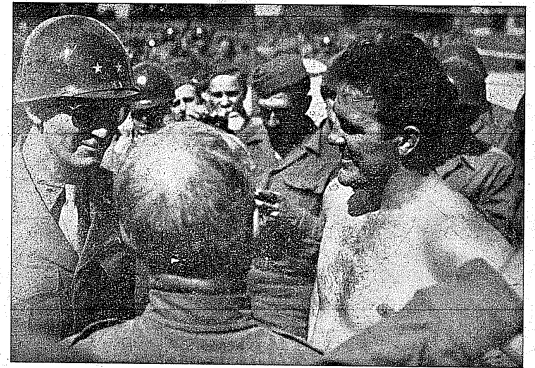
Sol started playing at eight, and at twelve became the National Junior Ping Pong Champion. In '34 he won the National Men's Championship, which he held until '39. Sol toured Europe on four different occasions playing the best players on the continent, and in '37, at Budapest, winning 23 out of 24 games in professional competition, to set a new record. In '38 the colorful Bronxite won the Swathing Cup finals, in matches held at London, England before some 10,000 spectators.

Nightclubber

Before entering the army, Sol paddled the celluloid ball at night clubs and cabarets all over the country, finally joining the Camel Caravan which toured the various army camps.

Sol plans on a come back after the war, and after seeing the wizard in action, we're certain of his success.

Fighter Meets Fighter



Major General Horace L. McBride, 80th Div. Commander, is shown left, greeting Cpl. Billy Conn, World's Heavyweight contender, during the recent sports show held in Kaufbeuren, Bavaria on the 3rd.

Blue Ridge Boxers Train For Coming Show

Undergoing an intensive training program under the able tutelage of Benny Gans, Paul Klang, and Joe Kopera, the 80th Div. boxing team is hurriedly preparing for their matches against the 4th Armored at Regensburg on the 20th.

The squad of twenty some men under the supervision of Lt. Bill Reynolds, 319th Inf. gets plenty of

conditioning and good instruction. Up at 0600 hrs, they do from four to five miles of road work before breakfast at 0830, after which they relax and take things easy for the remainder of the morning.

Billeted in the Gasthof - Zum Mohren, one of Fussen's well equipped hostels, the team enjoys a home cooked dinner at 12 o'clock. The food is supplied by Quartermaster but tasty additions are added by Mohren's culinary artists who seem to have the team's interest at heart. Even Joe Passafiero, 220 pounder with no little appetite, finds the menu much to his liking.

After dinner, two hours, from two till four, are spent down in the well equipped gymnasium, sparring, punching the bag, skipping rope and getting pointers from the coaches.

Lt. Reynolds states that the majority of men on the squad were selected because of ability and experience. There may be others however, who would like to try out for the team. Benny Gans, former Flyweight Champ said they were particularly anxious to have a couple more lightweights.

DOUBLE X LEAGUE

Standings			
Teams	Won	Lost	Pct
103rd Div	2	0	.1000
10th Armd	1	0	.1000
44th AAA	1	0	.1000
80th DIV	1	1	.5000
9th Div	1	1	.5000
71st Div	0	1	.0000
14th Armd	0	1	.0000
Corps Hq	0	2	.0000

BLUE RIDGE LEAGUE

Standings (1st Half Finals)			
Teams	Won	Lost	Pct
319	6	1	.857
318	5	2	.714
Div Arty	1	5	.167
317	1	5	.167
Scores			
317-5	Div Arty-4		
319-7	318-4		

Sportraits

By "Mac"



Started professional career in '39 with a match against Tomi Mauriello, top ranking heavyweight. As a professional won 40 bouts and lost 2. Now a member of Special Service where he trains and handles the Division boxing team.... The former paratrooper plans on a return to the ring after the war.