



Hellcat News



VOLUME 2, NUMER 6

12th ARMORED DIVISION

CAMP BARKELEY, TEXAS

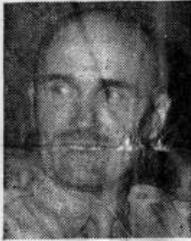
16 MARCH, 1944

Brewer Asks For Realistic Field Training

By Maj. Gen. Carlos Brewer

Realistic training is stressed in a recent report from the Italian theater as our most urgent need. This report stated that our principles and doctrine as set forth in the field manuals and other training literature are sound and need no modification. But, it is stated that there is a crying need for more thorough and realistic application of these principles in all our training.

A football coach knows he cannot develop a winning team by walking or jogging through the plays. He makes his team run the plays at **top speed**, and when execution is perfected the team is required to scrimmage against the strongest opposition practicable from the second string players. Only thus can he develop a team that will click on the day of the big game.



Realistic training requires careful and imaginative planning. It is not easy to find a substitute for an enemy who is exercising every ingenious device he can concoct to disrupt our plans and to defeat our purpose. Nor is it practicable to introduce in our training the distracting influences of enemy small arms and artillery fire, live mine fields and actual demolitions. Some of these can be simulated but our assumptions are not generally as bad as the real thing. Too often we go through our training without consideration of an enemy or the effect an enemy would have on the execution of our plans. Also when an enemy is represented we do not always take the precautions we should in secrecy and alertness in our own movements. According to reports this failure to develop the habit of alertness and keen observation on the part of all ranks during their training has been one of the principle sources of embarrassment

(Continued on page 2)

Hellcats Soon to Spend Half of Time in Field

The Hellcat Division will pass another milestone on the road to combat when a new phase of post maneuver training begins the first of the month.

Highlight of the new training phase will be the intensive field program. Hellcats will spend half of each month in the field, one-third of the division staying out for two weeks and the other two-thirds going out for the ensuing two weeks.

In addition to the greatly increased field work, the coming program will include battalion tests for infantry and field artillery units, air-ground tests, physical training tests and culminate in division tests.

The division tests will be held principally in the field, climaxing the field training. An important portion of the tests will embrace a day and night attack of a defensive position, the maneuver to continue for five days.

Considerable emphasis will be placed on night maneuvers, according to officers of the G-3 section. Units will receive intensive training on night marches, infiltrations and other operations which may be performed under cover of darkness.

Air-ground tests will encompass four phases: (1) identification of friendly aircraft by ground troops; (2) action of ground troops against hostile aircraft; (3) identification of friendly troops by aircraft; and (4) air attack of targets designated by ground troops.

Physical tests will include the regulation Army Ground Forces test which was taken by many members of the division at Camp Campbell.

Infantry and artillery tests principally will cover fire and attack problems.

Nabs Nazis With Rocks

Italy (CNS)—Capt. Anderson Smith peeked into a cave and yelled: "Is anybody there?" "Yah," two Germans replied, walking out. Capt. Smith, unarmed, picked up two rocks. Out came a third German and the captain picked up another rock. He had 11 rocks in his hands when he marched his captives back to camp.

Boon Replaces Newton As Combat Command "A" Head

Col. Stephen Boon, Jr., has been assigned commanding officer of Combat Command "A." This announcement was made late yesterday by Major General Carlos Brewer, division commander.

Since the 12th was activated, Col. Boon has been with the division as CO of the old 43rd Armored Regiment, and later top man in CC "B."

This new assignment to the senior combat command was made following the transfer of Brig.



Col. Boon

Gen. Henry C. Newton to another assignment.

Col. Boon received his original commission in 1917 and served overseas as Ass't G-2 of the Third Army Corps in Germany in 1919. He is a graduate of the Cavalry, Field Artillery, and Command and General Staff Schools, and was a member of the Cavalry Board for three years.

Before coming to the 12th in 1942 he was a departmental head at the Armored School, Fort Knox.

Courts-Martial Drop As 12th A.D. "Grows Up"

Further indications of the coming of age of the Hellcat Division was shown this week in statistics released by the judge advocate's office on the number of courts-martial and stockade confinements in the division.

Since trial by court martial and the imposition of severe forms of punishment are methods employed only as a last resort when other means of enforcing discipline have failed, the figures furnish direct proof of the increase in morale and discipline in the division, it was pointed out.

During the four month period ending 11 March, 152 cases were tried by courts-martial in the 12th Armored. During the corresponding period of the preceding year, sentences were adjudged in 350 cases. Even making allowances for the decrease in total strength since the reorganization, the decline is marked.

The average number of trials per month has been 37 per 10,000 men. For the previous year, the average was 59 per 10,000 men. In percentage this is a decline of approximately 37%.

Of the 152 cases tried since 11 November, 1943, 137 were tried by inferior courts, that is, by summary and special courts-martial. The remaining 15 were referred to the division general court-martial.

Steeper than the decline in the number of trials has been the decrease in the number of men in confinement. The average number of garrison prisoners in recent months has been in the vicinity of 30. During the preceding year the figure ran three and four times as high.

Get Hep, Cats, And Win Dance Contest Prize

Listen, you cats, and get hep—d'you wanta dig? Well, the 12th Armored Division is sponsoring a Texas Moon Ball at the Field House on 30 March, 1944, at 2000. All ye GIs who're itchin' to get in the groove and come in on the beam had better sign up now.

Cash prizes will be awarded to the first, second and third place couples in each event. There will be a fox trot, waltz, tango, rumba, and jitterbug contest. No professional experience is necessary—just a desire to dance and a capacity for plenty of fun are required as entry fees. Of course, with the woman situation as it is, you have to provide your own partner and submit her name

(Continued on page 8)

Division Revue To Be "First" In GI Shows

The 12th Armored Division's coming musical revue, "Hellcat Holiday," may be considered a "first" as far as GI Army shows are concerned because:

It is the first time a unit the size of the 12th division has presented a show of this calibre—one that can be considered in a class with current Broadway shows.

It is the first time that lighting facilities so elaborate have been used in a GI show. Cpl Edward Jacobi, the lighting technician for the show, on a recent trip to Dallas managed to secure the services of the Harry Little staff. The Little Company at present is lighting "Ice Capades of 1944."

It is expected that "Hellcat Holiday" will have a wide appeal for soldiers—inasmuch as so many of the sequences are typical—and, in addition, provide an "inside" view for members of the Home Front.

The show will open in April.

Education Program Offers Opportunities

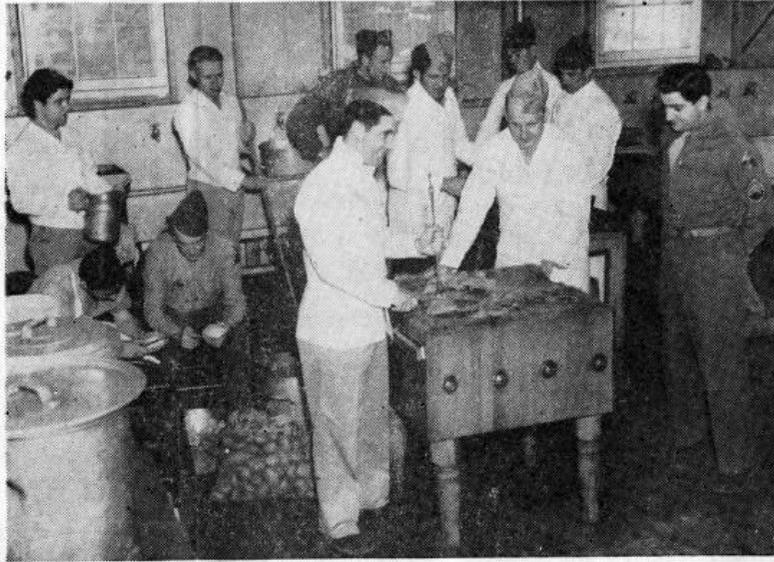
The off-duty education program offered to the GI through the Armed Forces Institute in Madison, Wis., has a number of varied courses available to the enlisted man. Chief among the interest-catchers are the subjects of a military nature that will aid in promotion or assist the man to get into a different and, perhaps, more appealing type of work.

Military correspondence (355.1) is the course that should appeal to those you sometimes hear say, "If I knew how to write a military letter maybe I could get that job in battalion headquarters." Well, you can learn how to write that letter. The USAFI has a course that teaches you, or rather has a course in which you teach yourself through the texts that you receive from the USAFI.

You learn here the size of the margins, the correct method of paragraphing, the mysteries of SUBJECT: and TO:, etc.

It's not hard to learn—you literally teach yourself and the entire course costs \$2.00. If you really want that job in headquarters or if you think that your lack of knowledge on this subject is preventing you from acquiring a better job, see your orientation officer or orientation non-com for an enrollment application.

They Feed The General



Feeding a major general and other high ranking officers is an every day affair with these men of division staff officers' mess hall. Seated at left, peeling those ever present spuds, are Pvt Noland Cloutier and Pvt Arthur Cummins; standing in rear, left to right, are Pvt. Sylvester D'Orso, Pfc Columbus Willis, Pfc Charles Angle, T-5 Carey Blakley, Pvt Norman VerBruggen and Pvt Paul Angone; Pfc Vincent L. De Lucia and T-5 Paul Friends are cutting meat in the foreground as S-Sgt Joseph Giannotta inspects the job. Three other members of the mess crew, T-4 Aldo Pagnuco, Pvt Glenn Brobeck and T-5 Valentine Mongold, were not present when the photo was taken.

These Men Are Steady K.P.'s—And They Like It

How would you like to be a steady K.P. or dining room orderly?

Such a job appears a shade rough on first thought but it isn't so bad when you figure that among your "customers" are some of the top ranking officers of the division, including "the boss" himself—Major General Carlos Brewer.

At least that's the way the boys who work in division staff officers' mess hall feel about it. Daily these men and a capable group of cooks feed the General and his staff in the small but tidy mess hall in the division headquarters area. Occasionally, there are some visiting generals to feed, too.

The mess crew of 14 men is headed by S-Sgt Joseph Giannotta of Detroit. Giannotta, who was promoted from first cook to mess sergeant last 16 December, had five years cooking experience at the Detroit Athletic Club before coming into the Army. In addition to his duties in the mess hall, Sgt Giannotta supervises the adjoining officers' lounge.

Others on the staff are: T-4 Aldo Pagnuco, first cook, who was a hotel chef in Detroit for eight years; T-5 Paul Friends, Bridgeport, O., first cook; T-5 Carey Blakley, Memphis, Tenn., assistant cook; Pfc Vincent L. De Lucia, Northbergen, N. J., as-

sistant cook; Pvt Paul Angone, Chicago, cook's helper; Pvt Norman VerBruggen, Milwaukee, Wis., cook's helper; Pfc Columbus Willis, Bluefield, W. Va., K.P.; Pfc Charles Angle, Knoxville, Tenn., K.P.; Pvt Arthur Cummins, Fulton, N.Y., K.P.; Pvt Noland Cloutier, Manchester, N.H., K.P.; Pvt Sylvester D'Orso, New York City, D.R.O.; Pvt Glenn Brobeck, Pittsburgh, Pa., D.R.O.; and T-5 Valentine Mongold, North Dakota, truck driver.

The staff is divided into two crews who work alternate shifts of one day each.

Lt. Lee N. Daniels, Division Headquarters Company, is mess officer.

Army Personnel Do Not File Income Declaration

Military personnel have been advised by the Collector of Internal Revenue that they will not have to file a declaration of estimated income for the current year. They will, however, pay their 1944 taxes on 15 March, 1945.

Civilians, including army wives who are employed, will have to file declarations. The forms, however, have not been sent out and it is anticipated that the due date for such declarations will be postponed until at least 30 days after 15 March.

G-2 Lessons Being Passed On To Units

Lessons learned and information obtained at the Hellcat Combat Intelligence Camp last week by the S-2 sections of the division in the form of lectures and demonstrations.

Realizing that all military personnel, regardless of their assignment, will have occasion in combat to report information of military importance, the Division G-2 Section conducted the one week school on the reservation. Veterans of the South Pacific, European and African campaigns appeared at the school to explain the methods used by their units in combat.

A thorough training in all intelligence subjects that might mean the difference between failure and success in battle was afforded those in attendance. This included map reading, sketching, counter-intelligence, message writing, plane identification, concealment, communications, and the use of instruments such as the compass and odograph.

Captain W. F. McCue, director of combat intelligence, Abilene Army Air Base, presented several pilots from combat zones, who explained the methods that the air corps is able to use in assisting the division in combat.

In addition to the division staff officers and the unit S-2s, other instructors were: Lt. Col. Bolling, post intelligence officer; Lt. Col. Ellsworth Gruber, G-2 of the XXIII Corps; and Capt W. E. Laswell, chief of the intelligence branch of the MRTC.

Air Mail Stamp Soon To Cost Eight Cents

A two-cent increase in air mail stamp rates within the United States, to become effective 26 March, has been announced by the postal department.

The new stamp will cost eight cents and will provide sufficient postage for one ounce of mail. The current rate for air mail within U. S. boundaries is six cents per ounce.

Air mail for overseas destination will be maintained as before at the rate of six cents per half-ounce.

There is also a marked increase in parcel post rates, money order fees and registration fees.

Conservative

Bougainville (CNS)—Pvt. Sebastian Porretto, of Brooklyn, is a thrifty fellow. He used only 12 bullets to kill nine Japs here recently.

Gen. Chennault Sees Japs Licked From Air

China (CNS)—Maj. Gen Claire L. Chennault believes that the Allies can destroy Japan from the air with only one-tenth of the air force now being used to wreak havoc on Nazi Germany.

According to a United Press dispatch, the commander of the U.S. 14th Air Force is convinced that if he can knock out the enemy shipping lanes in the South China Sea and Yangtse River and the railroads in northern China, Japan's industry and her army will collapse "easily."



THE TEXAS WIND WHISTLES BY, IT'S REALLY QUITE A SIGHT. BUT TEXAS DUST IN MY EYE, ALAS — IS MY SAD PLIGHT.



USO Offers Concert For Devoters Of 'Long Hair'

Hellcat devotees of "long hair" music will find a choice selection of it at the Camp-to-Camp Concert to be held this weekend at the service clubs.

The concert will be given Friday night at Service Club No. 1 and Saturday night at Service Club No. 2, both performances beginning at 10:15. The initial appearances of the USO Camp Shows presentation at Camp Berkeley will be made tonight at 1900 and 2100 at the All-Purpose Building in Berkeley Heights.

In addition to the vocal and instrumental artists, the concert will feature Rita Holder, exotic Spanish dancer and former ballerina of the Metropolitan Opera. Miss Holder, a soloist at the Met for the past five years, specializes in Spanish and Oriental dances as well as ballet. Although she has appeared at Army camps in the vicinity of New York, this is her first tour with the Camp Shows.

Other artists on the program are Amparo Iturbi, pianist and sister of Jose Iturbi; Frank Palumbo, baritone; Lela Mae Flynn, soprano; Helen Airoff, violinist; and Jean Berger, piano accompanist.

The music of Brahms, Malotte, Bizet, Mendelssohn, Liszt, Schubert, Gershwin and other masters will be presented.

Armed Forces Institute Opens 5 New Branches

Washington (CNS)—The United States Armed Forces Institute has established new branches in five theaters of war to aid in the instruction of students stationed overseas, the War Department has announced.

The new branches are located in the Southwest Pacific, South Pacific, the Middle East and in the European and Alaskan theaters. They offer the same correspondence courses provided in the U. S. A. through Institute headquarters at Madison, Wis.

They'll Get Him Yet!

Seattle (CNS) — Lawrence Anderson enlisted in the Army the day after Pearl Harbor. He reported for duty the following April and was discharged immediately because of a missing trigger finger. Drafted last July, he was discharged again—for the same reason. Last week he received his muster-out check and in the same mail a letter from his draft board, reclassifying him in 1A. The finger is still missing.

They Help Build Combat Morale



A novel method of explaining "why we fight" was recorded by the Hellcat News cameraman in the above picture taken at an orientation class of the 92nd Cav Rcn Squadron. Shown in the photo above are five members of Troop D giving a news broadcast. They are, left to right: T-5 Bert L. Kerr, S-Sgt Harry E. Wainwright, Cpl Eugene A. Klade, Cpl Joseph M. Reddington and T-4 Lloyd G. Robertson.

Radio Used By 92d Cavalry To Inform Men 'Why We Fight'

Development of combat morale, one of the important factors in the making of an efficient fighting man, is the purpose of the orientation program being conducted in the 92nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron.

Combat morale, according to Lt. William T. Faulkner, squadron orientation officer, is the steady growth of logical reasoning coupled with an impelling belief in our mission.

"Before you can do a good job of fighting, you must know why we fight."

Two methods are being used by the 92nd to provide information along this line. Troop D has a simulated radio station over which non-commissioned officers broadcast the current news. Loudspeakers placed throughout the area bring the broadcasts to all men in the squadron.

The other method is the more familiar illustrated lecture and round-table discussion plan. These discussions are held periodically in troop day rooms.

The 92nd orientation program

recently was termed by an inspecting officer of the XXIII Corps, "as good as any I have seen."

"All credit for this program goes to the cooperation of the enlisted men in the squadron who have worked hard to put it across," squadron officers stated.

Hellcats Learn How To Control Malaria

All personnel of the division received their third hour of instruction on malaria control Monday and Tuesday of this week when they witnessed a demonstration on environmental control. There will be one more in this series of instruction, the date for which will be announced later.

This week's instruction was given in the area near the station hospital and in the MRTC area by personnel of the division. It included methods of spraying, clearing of mosquito infested areas and streams.



Hellcat News



Published each Thursday by the 12th Armored Division for the enlisted men in the Division. Edited by Public Relations Office, published and distributed by Special Service Office. Republication of credit matter prohibited without permission of Camp Newspaper Service, War Department, 205 East Forty-second Street, New York City. All photographs made by the 12th Armored Division unless otherwise credited.

Editorial For The Week



Marjorie Reynolds—Paramount Studios

Thought For The Week

The Wolf

By Sansone



"Oh! . . . you men are all alike!"

If You Don't Know, Here's What K.P.'s Do

How do K.P.'s pass the day besides sitting around peeling potatoes and goldbricking? That's the latest latrine question. Let's therefore look into the mess hall of "B" Company, 66th A.I.B., as dawn brightens the sky and discover the truth of how each K.P. passes the day.

Washing dishes, we find not only Pfc Dan Mitchell but also Pfc Merkel Friedman. Teamwork is emphasized in their job, which is based upon the art of passing dishes from Dan to Merkel to the drying rack. These men estimate that 600 dishes, 600 cups, and as many spoons, knives and forks will pass through their wash-tub during the day. "We think we have the better brands of KP duty," smirked Mitchell. "We get a certain thrill in seeing each dish come out white, spot-less and pure."

Pot and pan cleaning, runner-up for the title of the "most hated job on K.P.," was found to be well handled under the able elbows of Pvt Edward Coen. He commented, "This is a job for WAC's" as he glared down at a particularly greasy pan.

Then we came upon Pvt Homer Skelton, doing odd jobs around the kitchen. His job is to "arrange." He arranges things at eight, re-arranges them at nine, and re-re-arranges them at ten, etc. And time simply flies. He left off munching an apple to state that he does not particularly mind his job. To him K.P. is K.P. in any form.

Finally there is Pvt Albert Dickinson, the dining room orderly. He ceased his long sweeping of the mop as we approached and confided, low enough so that the others could not hear, that his job gives him time to take a break now and then.

Do not imagine that the duties as outlined above are strictly confined. They are subject to the vivid imagination of S-Sgt William Austin (and the cooks). The K.P. never wins.

—Pfc Robert Keltner.

ACC Dean Speaks To Tankers of 43rd Bn

Dean Walter H. Adams, of Abilene Christian College, spoke at an orientation meeting of the 43rd Tank Battalion in Theater No. 1 Tuesday afternoon. His topic was "Postwar Education." Lt. Melvyn B. Gilbert, orientation officer, arranged the program.

Service Clubs

Service Club No. 1

Tonight: Western Movie, 12th A. D. 8 p.m.
Friday: USO Show, 8:15 p.m.
Saturday: Open night.
Sunday: Talent Hour, 8 p.m.
Monday: Bingo, prizes, 8 p.m.
Tuesday: 355th Army Band Broadcast, 8 p.m.
Wednesday: Song Fest, 7:30 p.m.

Service Club No. 2

Tonight: Musical Program, 8 p.m.
Friday: Dance, Blue Bonnets, 12 A. D. orchestra, 8:30 to 11 p.m.
Saturday: USO Show, 8:15 p.m.
Sunday: Symphonic Music, 2 p.m.
Monday: Movie, not G. I., 8 p.m.
Tuesday: Songfest, 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Bingo, 8 p.m.

23rd Passes In Review To Honor Cpl Doherty

The 23rd Tank Battalion marched in review on March 3 for Corporal Roy E. Doherty, B Company, who was recently commended by General Brewer for aiding in saving the life of a fellow tanker overcome by gas fumes in his tank.

His training in life saving, which is credited with saving the life of his buddy, was received when he was a member of the volunteer fire department of Magnolia, N. J.

While attending Haddon Heights Academy he was a quarterback on the grid team and member of the track squad. Roy saw the inside of tanks long before he ever entered the service. He worked for R. C. A. installing condensers in M-4 tanks. Doherty is 22 years old.

—Cpl John G. Mayer.

Male Call

By Milton Caniff, Creator of Terry and the Pirates



Service Clubs

Service Club No. 1

Tonight: Western Movie, 12th A. D. 8 p.m.
 Friday: USO Show, 8:15 p.m.
 Saturday: Open night.
 Sunday: Talent Hour, 8 p.m.
 Monday: Bingo, prizes, 8 p.m.
 Tuesday: 355th Army Band Broadcast, 8 p.m.
 Wednesday: Song Fest, 7:30 p.m.

Service Club No. 2

Tonight: Musical Program, 8 p.m.
 Friday: Dance, Blue Bonnets, 12 A. D. orchestra, 8:30 to 11 p.m.
 Saturday: USO Show, 8:15 p.m.
 Sunday: Symphonic Music, 2 p.m.
 Monday: Movie, not G. I., 8 p.m.
 Tuesday: Songfest, 7:30 p.m.
 Wednesday: Bingo, 8 p.m.

23rd Passes In Review To Honor Cpl Doherty

The 23rd Tank Battalion marched in review on March 3 for Corporal Roy E. Doherty, B Company, who was recently commended by General Brewer for aiding in saving the life of a fellow tanker overcome by gas fumes in his tank.

His training in life saving, which is credited with saving the life of his buddy, was received when he was a member of the volunteer fire department of Magnolia, N. J.

While attending Haddon Heights Academy he was a quarterback on the grid team and member of the track squad. Roy saw the inside of tanks long before he ever entered the service. He worked for R. C. A. installing condensers in M-4 tanks. Doherty is 22 years old.

—Cpl John G. Mayer.

Infantrymen Prefer Rifle to Tommy Gun

Three half-track drivers from "B" Company, 17th A. I. B., standing around their vehicles in the motor pool when a reporter ambled up and asked what they thought of firing the "grease-gun" on the Close Combat Course.

"I know for a fact that I got off more than one single shot at some of the targets" said Tec 5 Byron Edwards with some disgust. He referred to the way an automatic weapon such as the Thompson sub-machine gun will fire several shots in a split second if the trigger is not squeezed and released immediately in a fraction of that second.

Tec 5 Talmadge Fletcher spoke up that he didn't think the guns were quite the thing for patrol duty, which the Course emphasized. For walking along a path and seeing targets spring up here and there for only three seconds, he prefers the carbine or M1 rifle. And Tec 5 Rufus Smith, the third of these fellows from "B" Company, had the same opinion.

The course is about 200 yards long with 10 targets secreted along the path from beginning to end. One may pop up on the near right; the second may be far over to the left. To be accurate requires freedom of movement. And the opinion of the drivers is that there is more of that ease of movement with most any small-arm weapon—except the "grease-gun."

—Pfc Robert Keltner.

SEE SSO FOR BAND

In the future, all requests for services of the division band and for dance orchestras of the band must be made to Division Special Service Office, according to a directive issued this week from division headquarters.

The SSO telephone number is 529.

UNIT



NEWS

714th Tk Bn B Co

We arrived here minus our mascot, "Butch," who went AWOL from his guard post in the caboose, during a stop on the way to Barkeley. "Butch" was born at Camp Campbell and went with us on Tennessee maneuvers. After Lt. Wilhelmi left us Sgt Okoniewski took charge of the mascot and gave him his Saturday night baths. Most of the boys renamed "Butch," "Fun Face."

714th Tk Bn C Co

Sgt John N. McDongal has been promoted to staff. Congratulations Mac.

If you're curious to know why the men manning the machine guns during the infiltration course were mobbed, here's the reason. One of the gunners hollered out, "If there's any platoon sergeant you don't like, let me know."

—Sgt Richard B. Iverson

C Co, 23rd Tk Bn

Pvt Adrean Elvod will handle lighting effects for the Hellcat Holiday and Pvt Harry Kent is designing the scenery and props. Word comes from Tec 5s Bob Coyle and John Finn, who are enjoying themselves sight-seeing in London. Every man made expert on the sub-machine gun, which we have nick-named "grease-gun." Congratulations to those who were awarded good conduct ribbons.

—Cpl E. R. Casey

82nd Med Bn

The silver and maroon flag bearing the caduceus of the 82nd symbolizes efficient and unflinching medical support of the division, a role which calls for intense training and exacting application of

medical procedures. Perhaps the firing of a machine gun or a carbine cannot be compared to the simple wearing of a Red Cross bassard and a first aid kit for battle glamour, but it represents the high achievement of saving lives—the mission of the Medics.

In the recent division firing program the Medics had the opportunity to become acquainted with some of the weapons of the combat groups. On the sub-machine gun perfect scores were made by S-Sgt Richard Peper, Cpl Benjamin Turner, Tec 5 John Dobranski and Pfc John Lane. Lt. Leonard Wentworth led the officers in scoring on the range.

—T-5 Robert J. Cussey

"A" Co, 714th Tk Bn

"A" Company, under the leadership of Capt Robert W. Harrington, is glad to be back with the Hellcats. We now have two first sergeants, but Sgt Andrews is to leave soon. Our ace comedian is now Pvt Barefoot and our expert mess segeant is ex-personnel chief, Daniel Gallagher.

—Sgt Rip Rockie Hodson.

"B" Co, 23rd Tk Bn

Pfc Dominick Pecucci is the proud father of a "Leap Year Baby" born in Chicago on February 29. He is now on furlough to visit his family.

First Sergeant Sylvester H. Brinker was in charge of the men at the AA School, Fort Bliss. For his splendid work he has received a commendation from the CG.

43rd Tk Bn

Hq Co

First Sergeant Joseph Bysak, who has some 17 years in service, will be a great help to Hq Co. With his Tunisian and other combat experience, he will be a help

Pat and Mike Lead GI Life in 56th AIB

Few companies can boast of two mascots, few companies can keep their mascots for as long a period as five months, and thirdly few dogs are less jealous of each other and as inseparable as Pat and Mike of "C" Company, 56th A.I.B.

Portly 1st Sgt Martin Benkovich of "C" Company causes some comment by the way he beams proudly upon his "boys" over his cigar as they follow closely at his heels to the Personnel Office, giving him the appearance of a wealthy land-owner with his pets.

Although Pat and Mike have much affection for the 1st Sgt, almost every man in the company has a place in their hearts. They do not pay attention to just any soldier who casually calls them by voice or whistle; he must be a "C" Company soldier.

Lt. Charles Colston, Tec Sgt Elbert Vaught, Tec Sgt Blanchard Leacy and Tec 5 Donald Blanckling are a few of the men who have figured prominently in the Army life of the two mascots. They were found on maneuvers and have been patiently sheltered and fed ever since. They are well trained too. At chow time they wag their tails for food, for they have been forbidden to enter the mess hall.

Since Pat and Mike have shown considerable viciousness toward some articles of GI clothing, they are being coached as to what to do to German or Jap uniforms in case they get overseas. And that is possible, we are told, for they are POR qualified.

—Pfc Robert Keltner

in making this the best company in the division.

"A" Co

Everyone at the company party at the N.C.O. club in Abilene had a good time. Bo Shay, the 43rd (Continued on Page 6)

Male Call

By
 Milton Caniff,
 Creator of Terry
 and the Pirates



Artillery Sgt-Pilot Given Commission

From staff sergeant to second lieutenant is quite a jump, but that's the promotion William Crenshaw, Jr., Hq Btry, 493rd AFA Bn, received last week when he



Crenshaw . . . Gets Gold Bar

was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Division Artillery Command.

Lt. Crenshaw, a pilot of one of the L-4-H's of the Hellcat Grasshopper Patrol, came to this division in June, 1934, from Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where he completed a course in liaison pilot training.

The young lieutenant is a native of Alva, Oklahoma, where he attended Northwestern State College and was a member of the Civilian Pilot Training program. He is now 23 years old and plans to continue flying after the war, maybe with the Army.

Promotions

The following enlisted men received promotions this week:

To be Staff Sergeant:

Sgt Francis E. Haum, Hq Btry, 493rd AFA Bn; Tec 4 Michael J. Forte, Co A, 23rd Tk Bn.

To be Sergeant:

Cpl Dean W. Allen, Cpl Joseph D. Cogliano, Cpl Ferrol E. Powell, and Cpl Norman C. Smith, Co A, 119th Engr Bn; Pvt George J. Fedsora, Co B, 714th Tk Bn.

To be Technician Fourth Grade:

Pvt Walter Hanewich, Hq Co, 23rd Tk Bn; Tec 5 John F. Reinke, Co A, 119th Engr Bn; Tec 5 Gerald L. Koehler and Tec 5 Charles E. Lee, Serv Btry, 493rd AFA Bn.

To be Corporal:

Tec 5 Stephen E. Tratnik, Btry C, 493rd AFA Bn.

To be Technician Fifth Grade:

Pfc John Swope, Pfc Norgert H. Ehlers and Pvt Richard D. Olive, Co A, 119th Engr Bn.

UNIT NEWS

(Continued from Page 5)

magician, put on a first class show. The boys are still practicing his card tricks for next pay day.

Capt Ellis has left the company for an assignment at Fort Knox. Capt Green has taken over command of the company.

The company came through the infiltration course in good shape. A reconnaissance patrol had to be sent out to locate 1st Sgt Jay, who stayed on the field to make sure all the men were making the course.

"C" Co

"C" Company's contribution to "Barkeley Bull," Sgt Bob McGuire, proved to be a second Sinatra at the Abilene high school. When he sang there recently his songs brought swoons, swoons and more swoons from the girls.

**134th Ord Maint Bn
Hq Co**

Tec 4 Tomlianovich, or "Twitch" as he is more commonly known, is at present remodeling the supply room and trying to invent a new type gun rack that will automatically clean guns.

Pfc Makovic, who claims to be the fastest KP in the world, is contemplating starting his own dance orchestra. John is a master guitarist, and a fervent disciple of Gene Autry.

"A" Co

With joy in his heart Tec 5 Harry Lemke received the news he was to leave for a post complement. "At last," he said, "I can do my duty, and relieve a WAC for overseas service." 'Twas all in vain, as Harry was not qualified for post complement. Instead, Harry is physically fit, and now some WAC will relieve him for overseas service. "This is all very confusing," the bewildered corporal said.

Tec 5 Roy Gabrielson, poet-laureate of Hut 174, left for a watch repair school, Elgin, Illinois.

Best of luck to S-Sgt George Speakman, who departed this week for the Air Corps.

Tec 3 Sherfick and his crew of carpenters are doing a bang-up job on the walks in the company area.

Tec 5 Norman Garrou has gone to the land of sunshine. We hope he likes the Armorers School at Santa Anita.

"C" Co

Pvt Max Smiley, left Thursday noon for a well earned trip to Ft. Worth with the division basketball team. It won't be a dit-dot-dash from the radio for him this time but a dash to the basket which will bring our division

team back victorious.

"B" Co

During the past week "B" Co has changed from an ordnance company to a simulated Sea Bee Company during their off duty hours, having on one evening 70 volunteer EM making radical changes in beautifying their area. Although incomplete because of lack of materials, they still kept up the go sign and continued to progress. Included in their beautification of the area are stones construed to different shapes, including a "B," a triangle for the Armored Force and with a little imagination a flaming bomb for Ordnance Department.

Hq. CC "B"

Orchids to our capable mess sergeants, Dixon and Sheppard. The CCA-CCB Mess hall was rated excellent at the last inspection. As for the food, it's just like mother ought to make. And you don't have to worry about ration points.

The men of CC"B" are glad to have T-5 John Swaim back with the company again. John suffered an arm injury while playing basketball and was laid up for several weeks.

—Tec 5 Orville Destatte.

Hempstead, L. I. (CNS)—The Kiwanis club took a sixth grade reading test and the only member to score 100 was a newspaper man.

BOOK TALK

Grim warning is voiced in "Germany Will Try It Again," a new book recently shelved at the Camp Library. Long the Berlin correspondent of the Chicago Tribune and the Mutual Broadcasting System, Sigrid Schultz has had ample opportunity to observe what she translates into this work. Explaining backgrounds and Teutonic patterns that have led to the present conflict she believes that even now in the face of defeat plans are being laid for the next martial fling. Positive action, such as some of the proposed plans for dismemberment of Germany and close surveillance will be necessary, she states, in order to prevent another world war.

While sojourning in Texas, 12th Divisioners may be interested in the latest Texas fiction by a son of the Lone Star State. Such is "Hackberry Cavalier" by George Sessions Perry. It contains some good Texasana. Although the fight-at-the-drop-of-the-hat cavalier from Hackberry, one Edgar, holds "the spotlight with his lovin', romancin', and scrappin'," there are colorful characters who are thrown in to make a good Texas tale.



CPL. CECIL COOKE
(THANK TO SGT CONNELLY)

"Gentlemen . . . this is definitely a NIGHT problem!"

SPORTS

Young To Fight For Chicago Against N. Y.

Cpl. Dick Young, the Hellcat middleweight champ who bowed to Collins Brown of Chicago in the Tournament of Champions in Chicago, has been selected, along with Brown, to represent the Windy City in the annual inter-city matches between the two greatest Golden Gloves teams in the country at Madison Square Garden on March 27.

Young lost to the rough-tough Chicago boy in the semi-finals of amateur boxing's greatest tourney and was the only boy to face Brown without being knocked out. The fight was stopped in the third round because of a badly cut right eye incurred by Young. During the first two rounds Young's boxing skill had given him an advantage that he probably could have maintained had he not suffered the cut.

The 12th Armored Division corporal maintained his record of having never lost a fight in a tournament except to the eventual champion. It was also the first defeat Young has suffered since he's been in the Army.

The fact that Young is going on to fight in the New York matches will weaken the Hellcat team for the forthcoming bouts with the Abilene Army Air Base. However, the team is still strong enough in every weight class to give the Air Corps Comets all the competition they can handle on the 24th and 31st of this month.

12th Sets Scoring Mark In Fort Worth Meet

The 12th Armored Division Hellcats bowed out of the state TAAF basketball tournament at Fort Worth in the quarter finals but left behind them a tournament scoring record.

Advancing to the second round on a bye, the Hellcats, Abilene district champions, swamped Highland Park Methodists from Dallas 72-49 to set the scoring mark. Center Max Smiley led the scoring with 20 points, aided by the fine floor work of Forward Charlie Kapnick. Adolph Matulis was a defensive stalwart for the 12th.

The Cats were eliminated by a highly touted Kelly Field crew, who themselves were upset by the 63rd Battalion of Camp Wolters.

TIBBETT CONCERT

Lawrence Tibbett, famed Metropolitan Opera baritone, will give a concert in Behren's Chapel on the Hardin-Simmons campus Monday night, 20 March at 2030.

—Frankie Hayes.

Cpl. Adolph Matulis, the 12th's pitcher and hitter deluxe (yes, he says he can hit) tells a favorite baseball yarn: "Whenever I see a crippled man without a leg or an arm, or someone who's battered up pretty badly, I'm reminded of the guy who was playing third base and thought that I was going to bunt!"

All right—after that one we'd better get down to business. Charley Kapnick, the Hellcat's flashy little speedster of the cage circuit, received quite a write-up in the New York World-Telegram because Coach Ed Obey wrote in about him. Obey says Kapnick is the greatest ball-hawk he's ever seen. "He has a natural instinct for basketball and is a great floor man," says Obey.

The 17th A.I. Bn. and the 134th Ord. Main. Bn., winners in the "A" and "B" basketball leagues respectively, will get their trophies soon. They have arrived at the Division Special Service Office and only need an engraved identification plate for a formal presentation.

The unknown quantity of the Abilene Air Base boxing team will be tested by the Hellcats on the 24th of March. Billy Sivillo, the Abilene Golden Glove welterweight champ, will be matched with Cpl. Frankie Hayes in a return bout. Sivillo gave the Armored Division boy a terrific surprise in the Golden Gloves when he beat him out in the first round. The bouts will be held at the Air Base, but on the 31st of March, the Berkeley Field House will be the battle ground for the same two teams.

Sgt. Bill McHugh, the big Hellcat heavyweight, has turned thespian—he plays the part of a fighter in the division revue, "Hellcat Holiday."

According to the spectators, the basketball team put on the floor by the San Angelo Goodfellow Field Air Cadets was one of the greatest they've seen in this part of the country—and the 12th was the best team the Kaydets have come up against yet. Wait until they see us next time!

Sergeants Obey and Yount, two of the finest athletes in the division, and both members of the Special Service Office, have left for Special Service school at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Va. Lots of luck, fellows.

Hellcat Boxers Prep For Dual Meet With Air Base Fighters

The undefeated Hellcat boxing team will meet the Abilene Army Air Base leather-slingers on the 24th and 31st of March in a natural rivalry of two Service teams, both of whom are proud of their outfits. On the 24th the bouts will be held at the Air Field and on the 31st will be held in the Camp Berkeley Field House.

As yet no one knows the calibre of the Air Corps team although the Hellcats are established as champions already. One member of the Comets, as the Air Base teams are nicknamed, is the Abilene Golden Gloves welterweight champion, Bill Sivillo. He upset the favored Frankie Hayes in the first round of the Abilene tournament and the meeting of these two boys will be the highlight of the cards.

Cpl. Donald Coombes, the 12th's lighthheavy champ who went to the finals in the Fort Worth Golden Gloves, is tentatively matched with Jose Vasquez, a former wrestler, bull-fighter and professional dancer. Both are crowd-pleasers and it should be a whale of a fight.

The matches will be denied the presence of the 12th's middleweight champion, Cpl Dick Young,

who is fighting on the Chicago Golden Gloves team against the New York squad.

(Continued on page 8)

Musil and Degliantoni Strengthen Ball Club

The Division baseball prospects have been brightened considerably by the "find" of two new ball-players, says Sgt Eddie Yount, the team manager.

Thomas Musil, a T-4 from the division band, has had eight years of professional experience, most of it with Class "A" ball clubs. He had a tryout with the Boston Bees and his last club was Scranton, in the Eastern League.

Musil is a pitcher but has had some experience in the outfield because of his hitting. Yount, however, feels that he could dispense with Musil's big bat in order to have him pitch.

Another ball player on whom Yount is counting for a lot of help this year is T-5 E. Degliantoni, an outfielder who played with the San Francisco Seals.

A large turnout is expected for the first practices, scheduled for 20 March.

Hardwood Heroes



Not content with annexing the division bowling crown, the 17th Armored Infantry Battalion also won the division basketball championship, and the handsome trophy held in the capable hands of Pvt. Charles Kapnick, captain and ace basket tosser of the squad. Left to right in the victory "V" above are: Pvt. Clayton Walden, S-Sgt Thomas Trittipio, T-5 James Lotz, Pfc George Wagner, Kapnick, Pfc John Kiselaukas, Pfc Clement Beaulieu, Pfc Ray Sachajda and T-5 Bob Crawford. Kneeling at left is Lt. L. F. Polsinelli, coach, and at right is Lt. A. L. LePon, assistant coach.

Rides Horse Through Storm to Aid Soldier

Recently the wife of a corporal in the 12th Armored Division became seriously ill at her home in a small western town. The corporal received a message to come home at once. His commanding officer asked for Red Cross verification. A wire was dispatched immediately to the Red Cross chapter nearest the town where the soldier's wife lived, which happened to be about 25 miles.

In the face of a raging snowstorm the Red Cross worker started off in his car but after covering almost the distance to the little town he was forced on account of the snowdrifts, to leave his car at a nearby farm. The farmer obligingly loaned him a horse and like Paul Revere he finished his journey on horseback, verified the emergency and not many hours later Corporal J— was on his way.

This is one of two hundred four verifications of need of emergency furloughs handled by the 12th Armored Division Red Cross office during the month of February. Not all of them are made under such hazardous conditions, however, and by no means do all of them result in emergency furloughs.

Much time can be saved if the serviceman will have his family contact the home chapter at the same time they wire him regarding any emergency situations at home. When the military authorities request verification a wire is sent to the chapter. If the chapter has already been given the nature of the conditions involved, the name of the doctor if any, or any other pertinent information, the chapter is saved the time of contacting the family to obtain this information. This is particularly true when soldiers are home on furlough requesting extensions. The service record address is a mailing address. The chapter does not make contact by mail—it is too slow. They need locations of homes so that a worker can get in a car and drive directly to the place of residence. Telephone numbers and doctor's names also speed up an investigation.

The 12th Armored Division Red Cross office handled a total of 509 cases during the month of February. These cases involved services as follows: 45 personal problems, 49 family problems, 13 dependency discharges, 131 financial problems, 71 health and welfare reports, 204 furlough verifications, 3 allotments and 1 psychiatric social history. A total of 194 loans were made amounting to \$6,195.50.

Armor At The Front

Somewhere in England—Gen. Dwight Eisenhower, supreme Allied commander of the Western Front, inspected American armored forces training for the invasion and was pleased with the demonstration staged for him by the Armored Raiders.

The Armored Raiders had been in the field for three days and nights when Eisenhower and his party visited them, but they were full of life and moved smartly as the "battle" rolled over the maneuver area.

Ukrainian Front—(Delayed)—Three German divisions were repulsed when Marshal Knoeff struck westward from two sides to surround Shpola. Here German troops were cut into a dozen separate groups and surrounded by Russian tanks and cavalry that, after the fall of Olshan, struck at the open flank on the west. (AP)

Somewhere in England—William White, Associated Press, in a dispatch from the American maneuver area in Britain described the Sherman M-4 tank as "reassuring," and added:

"American armored forces went forward under live artillery fire brilliantly to complete a grim maneuver simulating conditions they will face when the invasion comes.....It was an impressive demonstration of skill and training.

"My outstanding impression was one of reassurance. These men were plainly ready to go in every sense—in equipment, training and morale."



TAKE GOOD CARE of the tools and equipment issued to you. An wrenching tool can save your life as well as a rifle.



SPOT YOUR TARGET before you squeeze the trigger. Indiscriminate shooting can result in drawing enemy fire causing casualties and loss of position.

Tank Crews Trained For Indirect Firing

Artillery firing techniques as they apply to medium tanks are being studied by the medium tank crews of the 23rd and 43rd Tank Bns., according to former CC-"B" commander, Colonel Stephen Boon, Jr., who has been charged with tank gunnery training. During the first week of this training tank crews are getting theoretical training, during the second week they will simulate indirect firing with tank mounted .45 cal. sub-machine guns on the 1000-inch range, and in the third week they will fire platoon problems with service ammunition.

During the first two weeks in April the 23rd and 43rd Tank Battalions will complete the schedule by firing armor piercing ammunition at moving targets.

The 714th Tank Battalion which recently joined the division began a blitz course of firing last Friday in order to complete the Army Ground Force firing tests early in April, and in addition complete indirect firing and moving target firing.

The AGF firing tests, which have already been completed by the 23rd and 43rd Tank Battalions, include moving tank firing with the .30 cal. machine guns, sealed tank firing with machine guns, service ammunition practice firing with the tank cannon, and platoon firing tests with all tank weapons.

All units will participate regularly in scheduled refresher courses on the firing completed in order that the tank crews can "keep their hands in."

"The results of the tests completed reflect credit on the individual tank crews and on the Hellcat Division as a whole," Colonel Boon said.

Brewer Asks For

(Continued from page 1) and excessive casualties in some of the organizations that have been in active operations. One division commander recommended that a live round of ammunition be inserted in every thousand blanks used in field exercises in order to overcome these defects in training.

I hope that we of the 12th Armored Division will learn to do our jobs so well that no enemy interference will stop us, and that we learn to play the game so realistically in our training that we will not become confused, but will react normally on the battlefield.

Theaters

THEATERS 1 & 2

Today

"Passage to Marseille," Humphrey Bogart, Michele Morgan; also Paramount News.

Friday

"Action In Arabia," George Sanders and Virginia Bruce; also three shorts.

Saturday

"It Happened Tomorrow," Dick Powell, Linda Darnell, Jack Oakie; also two shorts.

Sunday-Monday

"Cover Girl," Rita Hayworth, Gene Kelly; also Paramount News.

Tuesday

"Trocadero," Rosemary Lane; also two shorts.

Wednesday

"The Heavenly Body," William Powell, Hedy Lamar; also Paramount News and one short.

THEATERS 3 & 4

Today

"Trocadero," Rosemary Lane; also two shorts.

Friday-Saturday

"Passage To Marseille;" also Paramount News.

Sunday

"Action In Arabia;" also three shorts.

Monday

"It Happened Tomorrow;" also two shorts.

Tuesday-Wednesday

"Cover Girl;" also Paramount News.

Hellcat Boxers

(Continued from page 7)

After the fights with the Air Base the Hellcats plan to fight on an average of twice a month if matches can be arranged with enough Army posts to provide that much opposition. In arranging such a full program the Hellcats are putting their record of having never been beaten in a team match, square on the block and asking someone to try to knock it off.

Get Hep, Cats

(Continued from page 1) with your own to the Division Special Service Office.

Entry blanks may be secured in your own company areas—and don't forget the \$10 first place prize, the \$5.00 second place prize and the \$3.00 third place prize in each event.

Aurora, Ill. (CNS) — Aurora's regular leap year frolic was called off this year. No unmarried men around, it seems.