

Man Spricht Deutsch

Wer ist Ihr Fuehrer?
Vere ist Eer Fewer?
Who is your leader?

THE STARS AND STRIPES

Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations

Ici On Parle Français

Comment va-t-on à l'Etoile?
Come-on vat own al aytWAHL?
How does one go to the Etoile?

Vol. 1—No. 130

1 Fr.

New York—PARIS—London

1 Fr.

Saturday, Dec. 2, 1944

3d Lunges to Saar River

Franc Rate 'Breaks' GI, Probers Say

By Joseph B. Fleming
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

Exchange value of the dollar was called "a crime" yesterday by two members of the House Military Affairs Committee which is in France to listen to the gripes of the average soldier.

First and foremost gripe heard already, according to Congressmen J. Parnell Thomas (R.-N.J.) and Ivor D. Fenton (R.-Pa.), both World War I veterans, is the limited value of the dollar in francs.

Going Broke Themselves

Hinting that the rate of exchange would be investigated by the committee, which arrived in Paris yesterday, Rep. Thomas said that the American public had received no hint of the soldiers' monetary problem in France.

A combat soldier in Paris on pass, he said, apparently is broke shortly after he arrives. He added that the Congressmen would "be broke soon, too."

Thomas and Fenton indicated that cigarette and ammunition shortages also were high on the list of things to be looked into.

Cites Ammo Shortage

"At home they told us we couldn't get cigarettes because they were going overseas," Thomas said, "and over here we find there's a shortage, too."

Thomas attributed the ammunition shortage, which he said would infuriate the American people, to home front production problems.

Matthew J. Merritt (D.-N.Y.), acting chairman of the committee, emphasized that the committee was in the ETO to hear "what the fellows say and learn what they want."

Crerar's Men Meet Gen. Ike

By John E. Carlova
Maple Leaf Staff Reporter

HQ. FIRST CANADIAN ARMY.—Canadian soldiers got a good look at Gen. Ike when the Supreme Commander called on Gen. H. D. G. Crerar, First Canadian Army commander.

Gen. Eisenhower's day with the Canadians included inspection of a guard of honor, and demonstrations of bridge building and armored teams and visits to a hospital, an airfield and Polish headquarters.

Capt. K. E. Perrin, of Medicine Hat, Alberta, was in charge of the guard of honor. Gen. Eisenhower asked Trooper D. T. Lackie, of Alberta, how long he had been in the service, and of Trooper, H. L. Thornbourn, also Alberta, he asked his civilian occupation.

9th AF Bombers Attack In Support of Infantry

Ninth Air Force fighter-bombers yesterday supported First and Ninth Army infantry with dive-bombing attacks in the Duren-Julich-Euskirchen areas, while 125 Marauders bombed machine-gun positions, dug-in tanks and anti-tank traps in front of the Third Army advancing toward Saarlautern.

Flag Day for the Nazis on Western Front



U.S. Army Signal Corps Photos.

Somewhat different than the usual plain white flag and pole, this Red Cross flag on a shovel served the same purpose for two German soldiers who surrendered near Metz to Third Army troops. They were among the more than 9,000 PWs captured during the first 10 days of the assault on the ancient fortress city, which began Nov. 8.

This group of Nazi soldiers just hoisted a sign of surrender, near Geilengirchen, when the photographer came along to film the event. The Yanks are U.S. Ninth Army troops.

Enlarged Staff Speeds Xmas Mail Forward

ETO Army postal chiefs yesterday supplied a progress report on the campaign to get Christmas mail to soldiers on the Continent. Col. Edgar E. Schroeder, chief postal officer, revealed that last month more than 74,000,000 letters, 10,000,000 V-mail letters and 10,000,000 packages arrived here.

Outgoing mail was 46,000,000 letters, 10,000,000 V-mail letters and 1,000,000 parcels—15 percent of the letters going to the United Kingdom.

Placed in Marked Bags

He said that for the Christmas rush hundreds of soldiers, civilians and German prisoners now are working at base post offices and other dispatching centers, in addition to the 6,000 regular APO men.

Emphasizing that every possible means of speeding mail is being used, Schroeder said that except for V-mail, which needs special handling on both sides of the Atlantic, mail is sorted according to units and placed in marked bags

(Continued on Page 4)

AFL Re-elects Green, Promises 'No Strikes'

NEW ORLEANS, La., Dec. 1.—The AFL closed its annual convention yesterday after re-electing President William Green and all other officers and renewing its "no-strike" pledge.

Castles Yield To British

Northern Allied armies yesterday battled on the west banks of three rivers which bar the roads to the Rhineland cities of Dusseldorf and Cologne. Southward across the Rhine, in Baden, enemy guns began shelling the newly-liberated Alsatian city of Strasbourg.

In Germany, U.S. Third Army forces reached the Saar River in three places and closed up to its western bank along an eight-mile front between Merzig and Saarlautern. U.S. Ninth Army forces expanded their Roer River front to eight miles. In Holland, British troops smashed three enemy pockets on the Maas River, north of Venlo.

Castles Fall to British

British Second Army troops chased Hitler Youth forces out of Castle Wannsum, after the young fanatics had pledged their lives in battle for the fuhrer. This strong-point and Castle Broekhuisen on the Maas fell to the British after artillery and bombers smashed another stubborn pocket at Geistern Castle.

Ninth Army troops cleared Welz, Stars and Stripes Correspondent Morrow Davis reported from that sector, and fought to swing its left flank along the Roer.

Northwest of Duren, in the Aachen sector, U.S. First Army men fought in Inden, one of the villages the Nazis are using to de-

(Continued on Page 4)

Paris Gestapo Trial Is Begun

One of the most sensational trials in French legal history opened in Paris yesterday with the prosecution of a dozen alleged members of the notorious Paris Gestapo, which was known to have taken its orders from Himmler.

The 12 men, including ex-Police Commissioner Pierre Bony, are charged with intelligence work, enemy power, which carries the death penalty.

Resumption of the treason trials was expected to bring the most gruesome testimony of torture and mutilation given since trials opened six weeks ago.

Life-Saving Medic Hoped to Be M.D.

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Dec. 1.—Pvt. Duane Kinman, the 19-year-old medic who performed a successful major operation with a knife and fountain pen while a battle raged, was forced to abandon his childhood hope of studying medicine because of the death of his father, the Walla Walla Union Bulletin said today.

By repairing and selling used cars, Kinman supported himself while attending high school. A Seventh Day Adventist, Kinman was assigned to non-combatant service in the medical corps in September, 1943.

Pershing's Ex-Maid Opens Wine Taps for Belfort Victors

By Wade Jones

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

BELFORT, Nov. 26 (delayed).—This once mighty German-held fortress today fell to the guns of the French First Army and the boundless hospitality of Gen. John J. Pershing's former chambermaid.

The First Army took care of the Germans, chasing the last of them from the city after a week of street fighting. Mme. Madeleine Riottot, the ex-chambermaid, took care of visiting American firemen at a free-for-all wine-fest in her café.

Mme. Riottot, rotund, 43, and a Frenchwoman from the word go, was proud to tell the Americans that she was the American Commander-in-Chief's femmedechambre at his headquarters in Chaumont in the last war.

"He was a beautiful general," she declared, in rough translation.

(Continued on Page 4)

Russians Cross Danube 90 Miles from Austria

MOSCOW, Dec. 1 (AP).—Combined Russo-Yugoslav assault forces punched a deep salient across the west bank of the Danube River about 90 miles from southern Austria today as a fierce battle was renewed by other Soviet troops in northeastern Hungary.

Strongly armored columns aimed to converge on Baros, center of a vital rail network.

Foe Cowed, Nazis Take It on Lam

By Jimmy Cannon
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE THIRD U.S. ARMY, Dec. 1.—The guys of this Recon Cavalry unit didn't know whether to shoot or milk the enemy that ambled toward them through the mine fields last night.

It was a cow walking slowly through the midnight fog shoved along by a cursing German soldier who prodded it with a long pole. A lantern swung from the cow's neck like the titanic lavalier of a

giant dowager. Tanks cautiously followed the cow on its probed pil-



grimace through the mine fields. Infantry followed the tanks. The guys repulsed the attack and had steak for breakfast.

"They're stealing Hannibal's stuff. He used cows years ago," said an officer.

"The next thing you know they'll be using kangaroos for hand-to-hand fighting," said a doughfoot who will bet you that Hannibal is a little town in Missouri where cows "sleep in barns and give you stuff you put in coffee."

"I wish they'd start using chickens and pigs for cavalry and we'd have ham and eggs every time we run a counter-attack," a rifleman said ruefully.

THE B BAG BLOW IT OUT HERE

Mail Question

Is it feasible for the APO to institute the following system?
 Distribute to each company 30 priority envelopes per man per month. The men can then send these envelopes home to the people or person from whom they are most interested in rapidly receiving mail. The envelopes can be printed in a manner similar to those used for ballots.
 Air transport would then be devoted to the transportation of V-Mail, these priority airmail letters and what other airmail there is room for. All other mail would be transported by boat...Lt. M. Edelstein, Med. Co.

Service

The other day en route to Paris, I stopped at the QM. There were 16 guys with me fresh out of the foxholes. Those QM boys really helped us—beds, chow, their mess equipment. They just couldn't do enough.
 For you guys who worry about the rear echelon boys: those fellows are on the ball.—Officer, Inf.

Coffin Nails

Cigarettes are hard to get and once you get some you should not complain. What do you think of this, however? The cigarettes



passed out to us in this hospital bear this message:

"Hi Buddie, good luck! Compliments of the Arkansas Coffin Co., South Fort Smith, Ark. 1/Lt. Jack Robinson, Jr. and eight others.

Epicurean

Some of us fellows really like spam! We have been over here for quite a while now but we've never even seen the stuff.
 We've seen pictures of large piles of that delicious substance; we've heard fellows bitch because they get it all the time, but do we even smell the stuff... hell, no!—Lt. A. G. M., T.C. Gp.

What About It?

With the European war progressing in our favor and the probability of its end not so many months away, I would like to see the service man begin to think in terms of his collective power in helping to keep the peace.

With the armed forces of all countries touching directly or indirectly practically every family in the world, there exists a great opportunity for a post-war organization designed to foster international fellowship and drive for national and international legislation for keeping the peace. This organization might well be called The Legion of the United Nations.

The past few years have seen the social intermingling of soldiers of many countries. This has caused a better understanding of the different problems faced by peoples of countries other than their own. In most cases pre-war distrust, one of the greatest foundations of war, has been practically banished.

The armies of each country will

THE STARS AND STRIPES
 Printed at the New York Herald Tribune plant, 21 rue de Berr, Paris, for the U.S. armed forces under auspices of the Special Service Division, ETOUSA. Tel.: ELYsées 85-00.
 Contents passed by the U.S. Army and Navy censors. Entered as second class matter, Mar. 15, 1943, at the post office, New York, N.Y., under the act of Mar. 3, 1878.
 Vol. 1, No. 130

return to their own homes for a long-dreamed-of civilian life of peace as far as great numbers are concerned. As the years go by, their international understanding will become less and less and finally vanish in future generations.

A world organization, with its district, state, national and international conventions held in different parts of the district, state, nation, and followed by an international convention held each year in a different country, would do much for mutual understanding and the building of a better world.

In your hands is a message center to the majority of the members of the armed forces. Yours is the opportunity. What about it?—Capt. J. M. Gantt, Inf.

Resubmit

For the information of Sgt. S. A. Givens and other tankers who have wondered, a special insignia for tank crew members was designed, approved and forwarded to Washington by Headquarters, Armored Command, nearly a year ago.

It was disapproved by Army Ground Forces. In light of developments since D-Day, perhaps AGF might, today, take a different view if the badge were resubmitted...Capt. W. C. Needham, Inf.

Red Tape & Barbed Wire

We are located on the boundary line of an area divided into two districts. Our headquarters is 100 miles away, our neighbors 35.

Recently we were notified to expect 200 PWs and to have a stockade built and ready to receive them within a few days. We had no telephone or direct courier service with our headquarters. Our good neighbors had a huge supply of captured barbed wire stored within a few miles of our installation. When we hit them up, we were told to go to our own headquarters, 100 miles away, and get it. Who said there is a gas shortage?

We recovered from that one. Tonight, one of our sergeants was strolling down the road when he was greeted by two unhappy Nazis. They hadn't eaten for five days and were looking for a nice quiet stockade. We informed them our stockade had been abandoned, but would try and oblige them by sending them over to our neighbors' stockade, a few miles away. You guessed it, Bud. The same old story. "Hell no! Take them to your own headquarters," which I repeat is 100 miles away.—Capt. G. W. M.

Just Help End It

Any time you fellows think you have it rough, think of us poor guys up here. One day up here would do all of you a world of good. You'd all go back to your jobs more determined to get this damned mess over and forget who deserves the credit. You can have all the credit, just help end it.—1/Sgt. Inf.

Hash Marks

Afterthought. If all the jokes in Reader's Digest were laid end to end—they'd make ten columns of Hashmarks.

Two Joes, bouncing along in a jeep, were trying to figure out what the road signs in French meant. At one spot the jeep skidded, went into a spin. As the driver pulled the jeep back on the road, he muttered, "That sign over there must mean, 'Road Slippery When Wet.'"

Cpl. Murry Woldman tells us this one. A GI on KP all day stopped by the Red Cross that evening and gave blood to the blood bank. The next day it was returned with a note, "We wanted blood—not perspiration."

The infraction was a minor one, but the sentence was severe. "I'm going to give you the maximum



punishment," proclaimed the judge. "I'm not going to put you in our nice jail. I'm going to let you go free and worry about taxes, shortages, rationing, unemployment, politics, war, post-war and everything—just like the rest of us."

A GI who stepped into a Belgian shop to buy conveniences was quite surprised when the kind old lady behind the counter smiled sweetly and said, "TS, TS." He later discovered that the first Yanks in the town had purchased most of the goods in the shop and had told the old lady that "TS" was the proper way to tell American. That she was out of the goods they wanted to buy. They told her "TS" meant "terribly sorry."

Then there was the bashful burglar who, upon finding the lady of the house in the shower, covered her with a revolver.

Two mosquitoes were sitting at a beach watching the bathing beauties. Said the old one to the young one, "You're lucky. In my day I could only bite girls on the hands and face."

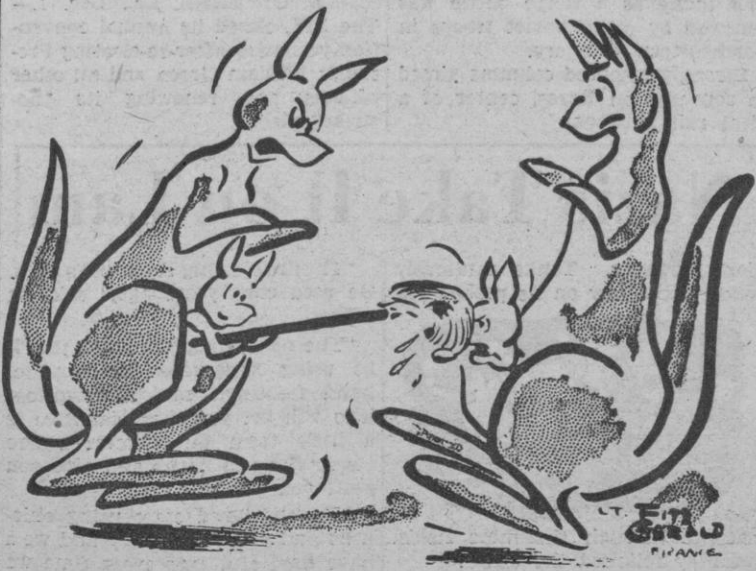
Observation. A sergeant is a large forceful person of a few words—but often.

A wolf we know is too broke to buy etchings—so he asks his girl friends up to see the handwriting on the wall.

And then there was the absent-minded censor who glanced at some outgoing mail designated for the States and said, "Humm, guess I'll have to put this aside for awhile. It says 'Do Not Open Until Christmas.'"

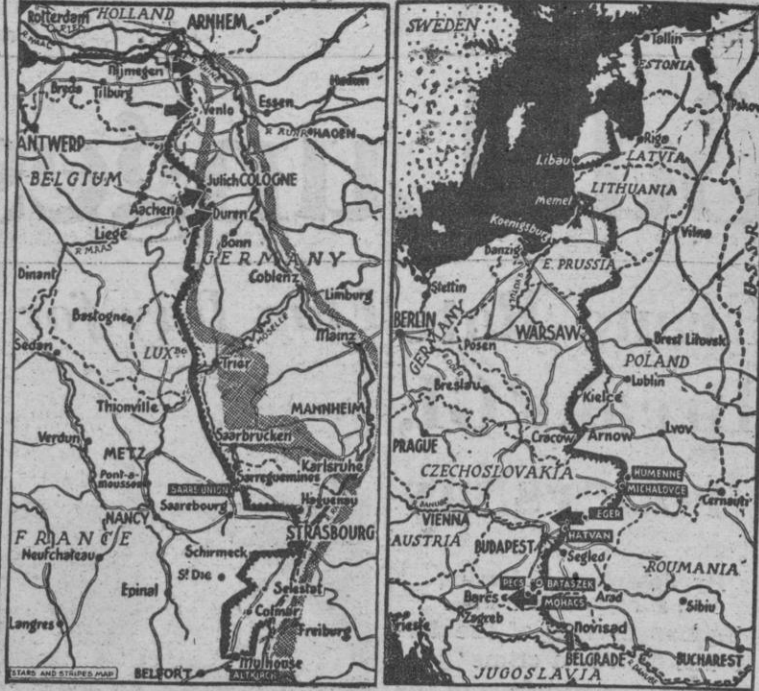
Incidental Information. On a certain highway in France are the towns of Foreffe and ETO-ville. J. C. W.

"Aussie"



"Is this what you call mopping up pockets of resistance?"

War on 2 Fronts



Allied armies on the Western Front reached Rhineland defenses in the north and consolidated their corridor to the Rhine River in the south during the past week. On the Eastern Front, the Red Army opened a new offensive toward Austria, south of Budapest.

SOMEWHERE IN EUROPE

How to Win a Promotion

Relaying messages under a heavy artillery barrage was too tame for Joseph R. Peril, 28th Inf. Div. radioman-messenger from Erie, Pa., so he organized a platoon of 25 stragglers, set up defense positions and held a front-line sector for five days. He was promoted from Pfc to staff sergeant.

A wisecrack got Bernard (Bob) Raices, New Yorker in the Second Armored Div., his promotion. "I gave a special showing of a movie before an audience which included the colonel," Raices said. "I had visions of it running smoothly and the colonel rewarding me by making me a Pfc. But the machine broke down, the show was a flop and here I am just a disappointed private."

On hearing the story, Col. Sidney R. Hinds, of Nashville, Tenn., promoted Raices.

Their Master's Voice

S/Sgt. Chester Murawsky, of Windber, Pa., a squad leader in the Fifth Inf. Div.'s Second Rgt., hasn't found out who was the mysterious German-speaking machine gunner who stopped the last of three counter-attacks designed to push Co. B off its Seille River bridgehead.

Co. B had been assigned a machine gunner from Co. D, but the B men didn't expect the gunner to be a linguist so proficient in German that he caused 16 Nazis to detour his way with a Prussian-like "Come here." They obeyed and it was the last counter-attack of the day.

Scared Stiff

His heart stuck in his throat when he climbed to the top of the embankment because there was a German soldier sitting in a slit trench only a few yards in front of him, his eyes shaded by dark glasses and his rifle pointing rigidly at the Yank's heart.

For a few tense seconds, Lt. Laurence W. Cappel, of Cincinnati, Ohio, just stood there. But the Nazi didn't move, the rifle didn't fire, nothing happened. Then it dawned on him that the German was unnaturally stiff. Investigation revealed that he had been shot through the back of the head.

They Weren't Playing

Playing hard to get a German trapped in a courtyard by two 35th Inf. Div. soldiers, Lt. Harold Yaple, Aitchison, Kan., and Sgt. Darryl Nelson, of Minneapolis, dashed into a building and slammed the door. Nelson blew the door off with a rifle grenade. Yaple entered the

house, threw a hand grenade, worked over the place with his tommy gun and forced the German to jump out of an upstairs window. Nelson potted him in mid-air.

Too Anxious

A German was so enthusiastic with his "Kamerad" that he knocked a rifle right out of the hands of Pfc Joseph Roddy, of Cardiff, Ala. Roddy was skirting some buildings



in a Siegfried Line town when a Nazi soldier in a doorway flung his arms skyward so violently that he disarmed the 30th Div. infantryman. Smiling apologetically, the Jerry picked up the rifle and handed it back to the Yank.

So Harry Moved

Pfc Harry R. Boehm, 84th Inf. Div. MP from Ausable Forks, N.Y., was sitting in a jeep in a newly-captured German town, when an 88 shell hit a building a few feet away and bounced into his jeep. It didn't explode.

Births

Folks at Home Send These GIs Swift News of Sir Stork's Arrival:

L. T. L. Nigilazzo, Duncan, Okla.—Luke Leon Jr., Nov. 21; Cpl. Ralph Ferrandina, Bronx—Elvira, Nov. 14; Capt. Alex Weiss, Brooklyn—Donald Stewart, Nov. 23; Pfc Wilbur Bullock, New York—twins, Walker Alan and Robert Craig, Nov. 14; Pvt. E. J. Martinson, Livingston, N.Y.—girl, Sept. 20; Agent James L. Ward, Brooklyn—boy, Nov. 23; Cpl. Arthur Blumenthal, Brunswick, O.—Robert Arthur, Nov. 23; Pvt. Jesse Barrett, Falsomville, Ind.—Jesse Paul, Nov. 21; Sgt. Vincent F. Sampson—girl, Nov. 23; Pfc James Rhodes, Homestead, Pa.—James Delma Jr., Nov. 25; Pvt. Nathan Weiss, Brooklyn—boy, Oct. 5; Sgt. Harvey Gottfried, Brooklyn—Marsha
 SGT. Norman L. Bowne, Cobleskill, N.Y.—boy; Lullin J. Doherty, Rockaway Park, N.Y.—boy, Nov. 9; Cpl. Eldo L. Knoke, Garner, Ia.—girl, Sept. 8; Lt. Patrick J. Burdick, Cincinnati—Ross Patrick, Sept. 8; Pfc John P. Pjalkowski—Pamela Gall, Nov. 12; Lt. Gordon S. Fletcher, Roselle, N.J.—Dianna Joan, Nov. 17; A. W. Hawkins, Belfast—Julia Patricia, Oct. 18; Cpl. James F. Hayward, Baltimore, Md.—Evelyn Janice, Nov. 15; Pvt. Richard J. McCabe, Bronx—boy, Nov. 20; Pvt. Walter O. Mallett—Jane Carol, Nov. 20; W/O Bernard Miller, Chicago—boy, Nov. 18; T/5 Henry Tramazzo, New York—boy, Oct. 31; Pvt. Ed. J. Zakozeski—boy, Oct. 20.

Once Over Lightly

By Andy Rooney

BALTIMORE, Dec. 1.—Municipal Stadium will be the scene of that proverbial battle between an irresistible force and immovable object tomorrow when Army's scintillating backfield matches brawn and wits with Navy's airtight line.



Don Whitmire

Lt. Cmdr. Rip Miller, Navy line coach, says his collection of forward wall nuskies is better than Notre Dame's famous "Seven Mules." Miller is an authority on the subject because he was one of the unheralded linemen in front of Knute Rockne's "Four Horsemen." Miller has a glowing phrase to describe each member of his line, but he uses all the adjectives in the book when someone mentions Don Whitmire, 215-pound All-America tackle.

"He played two years at Alabama before coming to Annapolis," Miller explained, "and right now he could play on any team in the country. And that includes the pro clubs, too."

PRE-GAME SHORT SHOTS: Ted Husing will handle the "ring-side" broadcast. Husing has worked ten games this season and the home team has won every time. Navy is the home team tomorrow. Boxes have been reserved for President Roosevelt, General Marshall, Admiral King, Henry Morgenthau and Henry Stimson. . . . Pvt. Gus Lombardo, a Marine wounded on Guam, will be present to watch the game. He's a brother of Tom Lombardo, Army's captain and quarterback. . . . The Kaydets will wear white jerseys, the Middies will wear light blue. Army's Joe Stanowicz is intercollegiate heavyweight wrestling champion. His substitute, Bob Land, was runner-up in the 175-pound class. There's no lack of speed in this game. Navy's Jim Pettit ran the "100" in :09.6 and Clyde Scott, a teammate, won the interscholastic low hurdles crown in :09.9. Sports writers claim Glenn Davis, Army's ace halfback, is as fast in football clothes as Illinois' Buddy Young, the fleet Negro sprinter. Bu Coach Earl "Red" Blaik says Max Minor is his fastest runner. Blaik was hoisted to colonel this week, but End Coach Stu Holcomb is still a buck private. Maybe if Army wins and the President and brass like the game, they'll make Holcomb a Pfc.



Max Minor

Maryland Nips VMI, 8-6

ROANOKE, Va., Dec. 1.—A safety in the second period was the margin of victory by which Maryland defeated Virginia Military Institute, 8-6, here yesterday. Maryland held an 8-0 lead until the last period when VMI scored once and threatened repeatedly.

Help Wanted —AND GIVEN

Write your question or problem to Help Wanted, The Stars and Stripes, Paris, France. APO 887.

CAMERA EXCHANGE

WANTED: 35mm camera with 3.5 or better lens. Prefer Retina Leica or Contax with built-in finder. Capt. G. Castellano.

WANTED: Kodak using 620 or 616 film. Cpl. Kenneth W. Schmidt

WANTED: Rollei-flex Automatic Camera Maj. M. Hoard.

WANTED: Carl Zeiss Contax camera or Leica, with exposure meter and lens Sonnar 1:1.5, f-5cm, 1/5 Jerome Korrelch.

WILL SWAP new Stokotype with carrying case and instruction material for 35mm. camera. O. O. Clark. CWO.

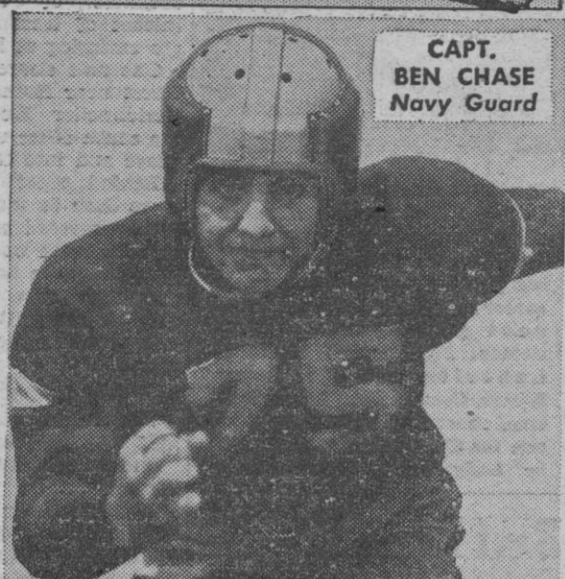
APOs WANTED

Lt. John Moors, Hamden, Conn.; Pfc John Murphy, N.C.; Sgt. Joao Mocado, 11116074; Cpl. William McNeill, N.Y.C.; Sgt. George H. Pope, East Boston, Mass.; Sgt. Andrew G. Pateh, Pittsburgh; Maj. Paul Queneau; Pfc Francis A. Rogers, 33315552; Pvt. Charles H. Sternberg, 420-51012; Pvt. Leroy Shapp, Chicago; Pfc George W. Shaffer, 33680152; Lt. H. S. Thompson.

Unbeaten Army Duels Navy Today



CAPT. TOM LOMBARDO Army Quarterback



CAPT. BEN CHASE Navy Guard

69,000 Fans Expected for Service Clash

By Andy Rooney
Stars and Stripes U.S. Bureau
BALTIMORE, Dec. 1.—If Navy's fearsome line lives up to expectations, financial conditions at West Point will hit a new low tomorrow after the Kaydets and Middies match touchdowns at Baltimore's Municipal Stadium in their annual football extravaganza. More than 69,000 customers—at \$4.80 a head—are anticipated.

Gamblers have established Army as 11-5 or two-touchdown favorite. Although the backroom boys know their business, it's hard to understand why they are going overboard for the unbeaten squad from the Point, especially to such an extent.

1944 Records

ARMY		NAVY	
46 No. Carolina	0	14 N. Car. Pre-F	21
59 Brown	7	55 Penn State	14
69 Pitt	7	7 Duke	0
76 Coast Guard	0	15 Ga. Tech	17
27 Duke	7	25 Penn	0
83 Villanova	0	32 Notre Dame	13
59 Notre Dame	0	46 Cornell	0
62 Penn	7	32 Purdue	0
481	28	227	65

Probable Starting Lineups



Red Blaik Army Coach

ARMY	Pos.	NAVY
Dick Pitzer (195)	LE	Leon Bramlett (185)
Arch Arnold (195)	LT	Don Whitmire (215)
John Green (190)	LG	Jim Carrington (185)
Bob St. Onge (186)	C	Jack Martin (205)
Joe Stanowicz (215)	RG	Ben Chase (195)
Al Nemetz (195)	RI	Gail Gilliam (200)
Ed Rafalko (185)	RE	Ben Martin (190)
Doug Kenna (180)	QB	Dick Duden (190)
Dale Hall (185)	LB	Bobby Jenkins (200)
Max Minor (180)	RH	Bill Barron (160)
Felix Blanchard (210)	FB	Clyde Scott (175)



Oscar Hagberg Navy Coach

Rangers Upset Canadiens, 7-5

MONTREAL, Dec. 1.—Ten thousand fans braved Canada's first big blizzard of the year and saw New York's fifth-place National Hockey League club produce a 7-5 upset over the championship Montreal Canadiens here last night.

The first penalty shot of the season proved the turning point, Charley Scherza of the Rangers whipping the puck past Goalie Bill Durnan to break a 3-3 tie in the third period.

Other Ranger goals were scored by Phil Watson, Ab DeMarco, Kilby MacDonald, Walt Atanas and Hank Goldup. Watson netting two.

Bruins Trip Hawks, 7-2

CHICAGO, Dec. 1.—The Boston Bruins scored their third straight victory over the Chicago Black Hawks last night, 7-2, Ken Smith and Art Jackson each scoring twice. Bill Cowley, Boston center, added to his league scoring lead with one goal.

Hockey Standings

NATIONAL LEAGUE					
	W	L	T	Pts	GG
Montreal	9	4	1	19	53
Toronto	9	4	0	18	52
Detroit	7	4	2	16	62
Boston	5	7	1	11	53
New York	2	6	3	7	39
Chicago	2	9	1	5	48

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Last Night's Scores
Hershey 1, Cleveland 1 (tie)
Indianapolis 2, St. Louis 0.

CAGE RESULTS

De Paul 62, Illinois Tech 45.
Drake 72, Central 39.
Indiana 43, Wabash 39.

Air Army-Navy Tilt For Troops in Paris

Servicemen in the Paris area will be able to listen to a direct shortwave broadcast of the Army-Navy game tonight, starting at 6:30 PM in the Empire Theater, 41 Avenue Wagram.

Signal Corps equipment will pick up the broadcast from Baltimore and amplify it throughout the theater. No tickets are necessary but attendance is restricted to military personnel.

Texas Nips Aggs As Layne Stars

AUSTIN, Texas, Dec. 1.—Bobby Layne passed and ran the Texas Longhorns to a 6-0 triumph over the Texas Aggies in a Texas Thanksgiving Day football thriller here yesterday.

Layne scored from nine yards out less than two minutes after the opening whistle, after his 27-yard pass to Watson set up the scoring play.

It was a vicious encounter of goal-line stands that thrilled 43,000 spectators.

W & M Tops Richmond

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 1.—With Halfbacks Stanley Magdziak and Jack Bruce each scoring three touchdowns, William and Mary College swamped Richmond University, 40-0, yesterday. The victors' line outcharged the Richmond forwards and made it easy for the ball carriers.

Walker of Yale Gets Lowe Cup

BOSTON, Dec. 1.—Paul Walker, of Oak Park, Ill., Yale's potential All-America end, was named to receive the George Bulger Lowe Memorial Trophy as New England's outstanding football player.

Previous winners were Endicott Peabody, Harvard; George Connor, Holy Cross; Charley O'Rourke, Mike Holovak and Gene Goodreault, Boston College.

Wings, Bruins Swap Men

DETROIT, Dec. 1.—Manager Jack Adams of the Detroit Red Wings disclosed yesterday that Bill Jennings had been traded to the Boston Bruins for Pete Leswick and an undisclosed amount of cash. Both are right wingers.

An Army Vote—One for Navy

By Gene Graff
Stars and Stripes Sports Editor

Army's unbeaten squad should scuttle the Middies today.

North Carolina Pre-Flight and Georgia Tech proved earlier in the season that a strong backfield can penetrate Navy's "invulnerable" line. And the Middies haven't yet been called on to face an unlimited supply of brilliant backfielders such as Army has. Even the best line can stand up under only so much battering.

The gamblers usually know what they're doing and they've established the Cadets as two-touchdown favorites. That's good enough for us.

By Charlie Kiley
Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

Army has a better team than Navy, everything considered. Earl Blaik has two sets of backs that rank second to none, including service and professional ejectives. But the Midshipmen have the best defensive line in the country. Moreover, their forwards are as adept, offensively, as any in sight.

They figure to hold Army's brilliant breakaway runners—Davis, Hall, Minor and Blanchard—as they haven't been held all season, probably to two touchdowns.

Notre Dame, walloped by Navy and slaughtered by Army, says the sailors have the better club. We agree.

Li'l Abner

By Courtesy of United Features.

By Al Capp



5 DSCs Reveal Heroic Work By Patton Men

By Earl Mazo

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

WITH THE THIRD ARMY, Dec. 1.—Indication of how Lt. Gen. Patton's tankmen fight was given in the citations which accompanied five DSCs recently awarded by the Third Army general.

1/Sgt. John R. Morton, of Booneville, Mo., an artillery man in the Sixth Armored Div., went after the 88 that knocked out his half-track. In doing so, he killed 27 Germans with his carbine, knocked out a 20mm. flak gun and at least two machine-guns.

Lt. Wm. J. Marshall, of Newark, N.J., got the leading tanks of his Fourth Armored Div. unit over the Moselle River by blasting sharp shoulders on the bank of the river with his 75s, laying timbers and debris across the bottom of the canal and river to keep his vehicles from bogging down.

Established Bridgehead

Marshall repeated the performance on the Saar River, getting tanks across in time to do a lot of damage to the Germans.

Col. John L. Hines, Jr., who leads an AAA command in the Sixth Armored Div. was decorated for leading infantry personally across the swollen Han-sur-Nied River to establish a bridgehead.

Lt. Col. Creighton W. Abrams, of St. Petersburg, Fla., commander of the 37th Tank Bn., Fourth Armored Div., was in the lead of his unit during one of the fiercest armored battles of the war near Arracourt.

Capt. William L. Spencer, of Marcy, N.Y., despite wound received when his tank was knocked out, mounted another and led a unit which destroyed 37 German tanks.

Enlarged Staff Speeds Mail

(Continued from Page 1)

before leaving the U.S. On arrival here unit bags are sent directly to the postal regulating section and then to the APO serving the unit. The bags are not opened until they reach the unit mail clerk.

Only mail for replacements, hospitalized personnel and other casualties now is sent in "mixed bags" to base post offices where detailed sorting and searches are made, and Schroeder said that every effort is made to keep it moving quickly.

He said the 30,000,000 V-mail letters sent from the ETO up to the present represented only 31 tons of cargo, in contrast to the 2,700 tons they would weigh if sent as ordinary letters. V-mail is sorted according to Army units before photographing in the U.S. and only 20 percent arrives in the "mixed rolls" and requires base post-office handling.

Railsplitters, in First Battle, Chalk Up 'Perfect Operation'

By Wes Gallagher

Associated Press Staff Writer.

WITH NINTH ARMY, GERMANY, Dec. 1.—It was revealed today that the "Railsplitting" 84th Div. was the American unit which teamed with the British to capture the German stronghold of Geilenkirchen in a "perfect operation."

It was the first time the 84th has been in action during the war. The division is commanded by Col. Gen. Alexander R. Bolling, most of whom was wounded and won the DSC in World War I. He was commander in 1917 from OCS and is now a few brigadier generals in the American Army to command

THE STARS
Printed at the heart of the Ninth Tribune plant, 21 rue de la Paix, for the U.S. Armed Forces and the British for pieces of the Special Separation. ETOUSA. Tel.: ELYsees of the attack contents passed by the team of the and Navy censors. Entered 2nd class matter, Mar. 15, 1943. High ground post office, New York, N.Y., nominating the act of Mar. 3, 1878. Vol. 1, No. 130

Won't Run Again



Virginia-born Lady Nancy Astor, Britain's first woman Member of Parliament, announced in London today that she was ending her 25-year parliamentary career and would not run at the next general election. Two women, Mrs. Lucy Middleton, Laborite, and Mrs. Isabel Brown, Communist, already had been chosen by their parties to run for the Plymouth seat held by Lady Astor, Conservative.

3rd Men Rush To Saar River

(Continued from Page 1)

fend Duren and its iron foundries. Southeast of Aachen, infantry fought for the village of Schmidt, in the spruce forest of Hurtgen, where the mud was so soupy that carts carried supplies where trucks could not go, horses took up the burden from there and where horses could not walk, men did the job.

Stars and Stripes Correspondent Jimmy Cannon with the U.S. Third Army forces said that elements of the Tenth Armored and 90th Infantry Divisions reached the west bank of the flood-swollen Saar opposite the Merzig. This industrial city, he said, was heavily defended by Siegfried Line guns which were reported to pack more fire power than Metz.

Blow Up Saar Bridge

West of Merzig, Germans blew a main Saar bridge yesterday as reconnaissance units reached the river north of the city and 10th Armored Division elements took Hilbringer, Fitten and Battern to the west.

Infantry of the 90th Division reached the river south of Merzig and entered Fremersdorf and Buren. Cannon reported that the 378th Regiment of the 95th Division advanced a mile and one-half on a three-mile front to within two miles of Saarlautern.

East of Saarlautern, roads were clogged with fleeing civilians, reports of 19th Tactical Air Force pilots said, according to Cannon. East of the river, Siegfried artillery poured shells into American lines.

Terry And The Pirates

On the following morning another regimental combat team of Railsplitters struck north along the Wurm River.

One lieutenant colonel pushed his force through to Suggesterath, two miles north of Geilenkirchen. Realizing that his unit was in a bad strategic position, he led a six-man patrol to high ground.

The patrol ran into ambush and four were killed and one wounded.

Argonne Battle Was Picnic, Say Vets of Hurtgen

By Russell Jones

Stars and Stripes Staff Writer

HURTGEN FOREST, GERMANY.—The Battle of the Hurtgen Forest is just about over. GIs who have struggled for days in the darkness of the impenetrable thicket of trees and undergrowth are emerging at last into the open.

One unit cleared the edge of the forest near Hofhardt, southeast of Derichweiler Wednesday, and on the south other units swung below, above and into Grossau.

Behind these outfits there are more than 50 square miles of land solidly covered with pine and fir. It is in these woods that the most direct route to the Roer River lies; and it was here that the Germans built some of their defenses and committed some of their best troops.

Claimed as Winter Line

The Nazis' confidence in their ability to hold here was such that prisoners said this sector was their winter line.

The Americans fought under conditions which World War I veterans said made the Argonne Forest seem a picnic. The mines and almost nonexistent roads made the battle an exclusively infantry affair.

Shelter was what the men captured or had time to build—and they didn't have much time.

Wine Taps...

(Continued from Page 1)

"Once he gave me a tip. Ten francs. The general did not waste the money of his government."

If the civilian assemblage in Mme. Rlottot's was representative of Belfort as a whole—and there's no reason to think it wasn't—Belfortians are like this: They're realistic and they're French to the core. They didn't like the Germans in their town but there was nothing they could do about it. There were too many Germans. The local underground had to take to the hills so strong was the German's hold. Belfort had never before been captured, its citizens proudly point out.

Citadel Last to Fall

One reason is the great ring of 16 Belfort system forts, chief of which is the Citadel. In that multiple-walled stronghold the Germans continued their resistance against French tanks and artillery until yesterday morning. Before pulling out, they had given the city below six days of machine-gun and mortar fire. Our air force had never bombed Belfort or the citadel, Belfortians said, and our artillery merely nicked its massive walls as a jumpy razor nicks a chin. The Germans simply pulled out.

1 Killed, 10 Hurt in Paris As B26 Loses Bomb Load

One French civilian was killed and ten injured yesterday when one of eight quarter-ton bombs, accidentally jettisoned by a Ninth Air Force Marauder, exploded in a paint factory in a southwestern Paris suburb, it was officially disclosed.

The bombs fell in the Issy-les-Moulineaux section of Paris. Three landed on a building of the Ripolin paint factory, three more did small damage to the annex of the Citroen automobile plant and two struck railroad tracks leading to Versailles.

The B26 was part of a formation en route to bomb enemy positions in the Saarlautern area of Germany.

Warners Win Tough Tiff With Hays on Sweaters

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 1 (ANS).—Warner Bros. studio announced today it had withdrawn from its voluntary membership in the Hays office, filmland's censor, and henceforth would put a sweater on any actress it thought would look good in one.

Uncensored



Film star Jane Russell, whose "Outlaw" picture was banned by Hays office jurists, points out the Hollywood tiff about well-filled sweaters over which Warner Brothers resigned membership in the censor's office.

A studio spokesman said its executives and representatives of the Hays office, known officially as the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors of America, had been tiffing for several months.

"We've disagreed on countless matters ranging from what is good taste and what isn't to how we should handle our wage negotiations," he said.

"We won't put anything into our pictures that wouldn't pass the censorship board of every state and we will continue to co-operate with the League of Decency."

But from now on, the spokesman explained, Warner's itself will decide what is good taste and what isn't.

Who Said 'Man's' Army?

FORT WAYNE, Ind., Dec. 1 (UP).—Who relieves whom for active duty in this "man's" army? Lt. John Templeton took the place of Capt. Kathryn Nannos as recruiting officer for the Fort Wayne area.

Bond Drive Passes Billion

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1 (ANS).—Director Ted R. Gamble reported tonight that the Sixth War Loan drive was slightly ahead of schedule as individual purchases mounted to \$1,074,000,000. The goal is \$5,000,000,000.

Albert Fall Dies at 83

EL PASO, Tex., Dec. 1 (ANS).—Albert B. Fall, 83, Secretary of the Interior in the Harding administration who was convicted of accepting a \$100,000 bribe in the Teapot Dome oil case, died yesterday.

Bucknell Prexy Resigns

LEWISBURG, Pa., Dec. 1 (ANS).—Dr. Arnaud C. Marts, president of Bucknell University for the past nine years, today announced his resignation effective at the end of the current academic term.

Marshall Lauds Captors of Metz

WITH THE THIRD ARMY, Dec. 1.—Gen. George C. Marshall, U.S. Chief of Staff, wired a commendation to Lt. Gen. Patton, Third Army commander, for the capture of Metz, and for the "splendid advance" Patton's troops are making "in spite of floods, mud and bitter enemy resistance." Third Army headquarters announced today.

Marshall also sent his personal congratulations to Maj. Gen. Manton Eddy, XII Corps commander, and Maj. Gen. Walton Walker, commanding the XX Corps, on the "grand show" their troops are putting on toward bringing the war to a triumphant conclusion.

Patton in turn added his own commendation to that of the Chief of Staff in a telegram to Eddy. "With such troops the conclusion of the war is inevitably near," he said.

Kirk Named Italy Envoy

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1 (ANS).—President Roosevelt today nominated Alexander C. Kirk of Illinois to be Ambassador to Italy. Kirk now holds the personal rank of ambassador and is American representative on the Advisory Council for Italy.

5,000 Japanese Lost in Convoy

Destruction of another Japanese convoy trying to take troops and supplies to Ormoc, the second within a week, was announced yesterday by Gen. MacArthur's headquarters. A 9,000-ton transport and three small freighters were sunk and a 5,000-ton freighter and a destroyer set afire.

More than 5,000 Japanese troops were lost, bringing to more than 26,000 the number of casualties suffered by the enemy in seven unsuccessful attempts to run the U.S. blockade on the western side of Leyte Island in the Philippines.

Ground activities on Leyte continued to be hampered by torrential rains but the Americans maintained a 24-hour artillery bombardment.

In Washington, meanwhile, Vice Adm. Mitscher, commander of the Third Fleet's Task Force 58, reported that the Navy has shot down more than 4,000 Japanese naval planes in the last year and a-half and has "practically eliminated" Japanese naval aviation.

P51 Top Speed Clocked At 450 Miles an Hour

INGLEWOOD, Calif., Dec. 1 (ANS).—The P51 Mustang fighter, officially rated the world's fastest propeller-driven airplane, is capable of 450 miles an hour in level flight, North American Aviation revealed today with Army permission.

The plane, holder of the transcontinental speed record, has an altitude ceiling of more than 40,000 feet and range of 2,000 miles.



By Milton Caniff

BDIC

Warweek

Mud—the Foe No Bullet Will Stop
Toy Cannons Halt Jerry in Holland
Nazi Supertanks—a Smashing Battle

Saturday, Dec. 2, 1944

This Enemy Never Fires A Shot:



He Slows Down Our Armor At Critical Battle Moments

By Joe Weston
Warweek Staff Writer

A GI's bitter complaint that "everybody in the whole damned Army talks about mud, but nobody does anything about it," started the whole business.

Warweek editors did a little private snooping, asked for help—and got a deskful of letters proving that GIs from generals to privates are doing something about mud besides sleeping in it.

The letters ranged from a dainty packaged sample of Dutch mud contributed by a Signal Corps humorist to the much more practical "Beat the Mud" program of HQ Advance Section, Com Z, commanded by Brig. Gen. Ewart G. Plank. General Plank, like every other soldier, knows that the best way to lick mud is to prevent as much of it as possible in the first place. So, under the supervision of Col. C. R. Broshous, his chief of staff, he got a crackerjack anti-mud campaign under way, which included a trip to Paris as a prize for the best preventive measures.

Mud Commandments

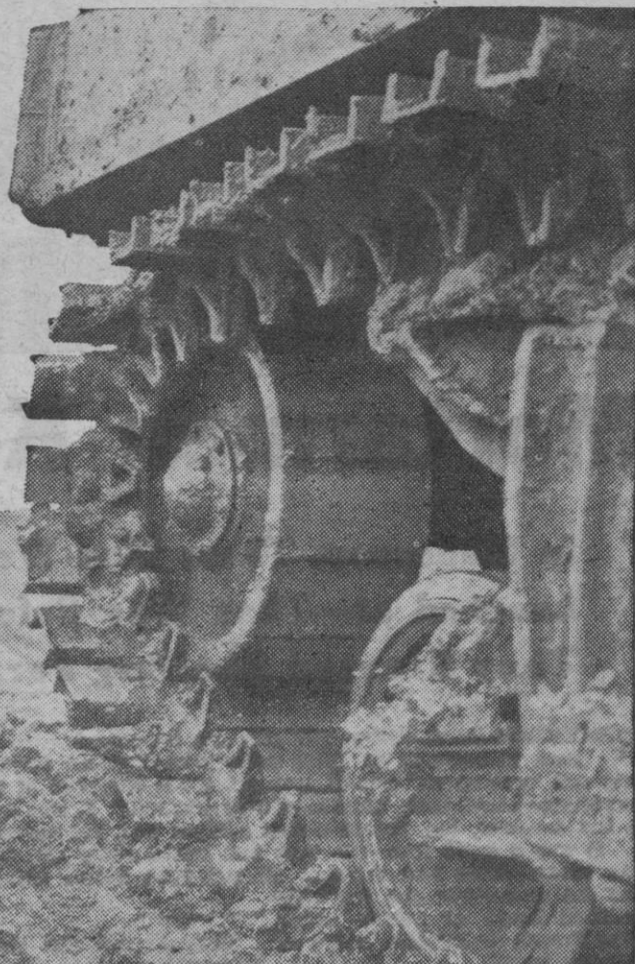
Twenty-five GIs, sending in an assortment of suggestions, won the "Big City" jaunt starting Dec. 7.

Pfc Raymond Michael submitted the typical winning ten mud commandments:

1. Stay on hard surfaces if possible.
2. Stay off soft shoulders.
3. Don't take short cuts.
4. Don't track mud onto highways.

5. Keep vehicles clean at all times.
6. Drainage of stagnant water.
7. Fill in soft spots.
8. Mark bad, impassable spots.
9. Use four-wheel drive.
10. Don't dig yourself deeper by spinning.

Other contest winners who sent in similar ideas were: Cpl. Merle E. Weygandt, Cpl. Claude A. Creain, Sgt. Donald A. Appen, 1/Sgt. Julian W. Chamberlin, Pvt. William E. Smith, Pfc Harold Mattke, Pvt. Carleton C. Wite, Sgt. Robert J. Glines, Sgt. Robert J. Kurtz, Cpl. Herbert O. Crane, Pfc Miguel J. Briseno, M/Sgt. J. C. Valentine, T/Sgt. James A. Williams, Sgt. Robert M. Fleischman, Cpl. Carey F. Cronin, Pfc Frederick Keifer, Cpl. George A. Abbott, S/Sgt. Hilbert O. Bell, Sgt. Solomon A. Tesh, S/Sgt. John R. Melton, Sgt. Alton Allen, Sgt. William Newell, T/Sgt. John Davis and S/Sgt. Ramon Meyer.



"Duck Bills" on tracks help tankmen pull out of the goo when going gets rough.

The contest, which ended recently, was publicized via bulletin boards, company poop sheets, announcements at formations, posters and by other means. GIs were given time and material to prepare articles and sketches on ways and means to beat mud.

More Mud-Beating Tips

From General Plank to Pfc Anders Swanson isn't such a long jump where mud is concerned.

Swanson, with a Chemical Base Depot, comes up with a couple of ideas which he claims he is using with good results.

Swanson diverts the power to the wheel of any vehicle—self-propelled, fast-moving armored or supply truck which is not doing any spinning or revolving.

For example, Swanson uses a truck which has both front and rear wheels on the right-hand side spinning.

If the wheels on the left side are on solid ground, he says, put brakes on the spinning side. The differential will then turn or divert power over to the left-hand side and the truck pulls out.

Swanson claims the braking is a cinch by just piping the brake-shoe

fluid up to the dashboard. On the dash he rigged up cut-off valves allowing the driver to stop the fluid going to the wheel he wants to revolve. Then he puts the brake on—and out of the mud he goes.

To critics who claim the operation raises hell with the differential, Swanson says, "It ain't true"—and is willing to bet on it.

Swanson's second idea has to do with a wheeling device that goes in between and above the bogey wheels of a 6x6. It succeeds in getting all the wheels in the back assembly going at one time.

Swanson recommends this method for use where trucks all get stuck in a particularly bad place. He suggests that a man be detailed to said place with his device—or any variation of it—because it is usually too clumsy to be carried by each truck.

No Rules for Mud

The above stuff, and much to follow, is all off-the-cuff emergency business and probably won't be found in the TMs. But mud can't read directives so "you pays your money and takes your choice."

T/4 Hudson Robinson of an AAA AW Bn. says: "Mud! That's easy."

He suggests mounting dual wheels in front. Robinson insists that dual wheels in front of a 6x6 can and will pull other trucks of the same size out of the mud. He claims that the 25 percent more traction created by this idea is sure-fire. Could be?

A SeeBee echoes the same sentiment. Says he: "We gained extra power and traction by installing dual wheels in front and licked General Mud at Omaha Beach."

T/5 Herman Topel writes from a hospital bed that shredded rags, knotted and wrapped around wheels helped out in a hurry. Knotted strands of rope were also highly recommended by Topel—if you have rope.

Cpl. Edward R. Oglin, who claims the enviable distinction of having put together a still on one of the Normandy beachheads, passes on some good, old-fashioned New England mud tips.

Oglin's number one tip is to use the highest gear possible and the lowest motor speed that will keep the vehicle going in the mud.

He also advises dual front wheels and lower tire pressure when going through soft stuff.



"Plowing through the muck and mire."



Ordnance men effect field repairs to mud-damaged vehicle.



Mortarmen Kept Nijmegen Bridge Open

In Maneuvers These Men Were Laughed at—That Was Before They Started Shelling Jerry

By John Christie
Warweek Staff Writer

REMEMBER the first time you ever saw a mortar? Back in basic or on those never-to-be-forgotten torture sessions they call "maneuvers," lots of guys got a big bang out of razzing the mortarmen about their "Fourth of July Cannon." It was a great joke to the doughies, the pick-an'-shovel soldiers and the armored outfits.

It was a great joke—but that was before Sicily and Salerno. It was before Anzio and Omaha. It was long before the hedgerows and the road-blocks and the little fortified heaps of rubble which were French or Belgian, Dutch or German towns.

It was before the Siegfried. It was before the battle of the Nijmegen Bridge. But all that fighting with mortars had paved the way for an action at the bridge which made mortar history.

Only one platoon fought there, but the work of every American mortarmen in Europe had contributed something to the tactics they used and the success they achieved.

To be precise about it, the guys to sew up this mortar business consisted of one platoon of the 82nd Airborne. For a full day and night they were artillery, machine gunners, infantry and armor—at least as far as the results they obtained were concerned. Their position was a badly-mauled cemetery, 1,000 yards from the strategically-vital bridge. Their assignment was to cover the bridge with mortar fire to hold it open for the relief of British paratroop units in trouble on the German side of the Waal River in Holland.

They carried out that mission successfully. They did more than that.

They did tricks with their four 81mm "Fourth of July Cannon" that had never been seen before. These tricks worked. They worked so well that the biggest brass in the business was impressed. Now, the battle tricks of that bunch of mortarmen are being made a part of the regular training in the mortar section of the Infantry School, back at Fort Benning, Ga.

The platoon, under command of 1/Lt. John L. Cooper, of North Hollywood, Calif., went into position in the cemetery at 4 o'clock on the afternoon of September 19. The enemy had strong positions in a parkway which formed the approach to the bridge. The 2nd battalion's front line was a row of houses facing the park and in one of the houses the mortar platoon had its OP.

The battle for the bridge lasted 24 hours with the mortar platoon playing the decisive role. Although

its position was constantly under intense artillery fire that splintered tombstones and churned up bodies, the platoon firing in battery laid down a total of 1,650 rounds.

Battery Fire Effective

"We always fire in battery whenever possible," says Lt. Cooper. "We find it more effective to put four guns on the same target rather than to fire one gun four times. It's easier to control your fire this way and, if it's surprise fire, you give the enemy a much greater wallop because he is robbed of the chance to better his position during the interval between bursts."

When the infantry assault was made on the bridge, the platoon really showed its stuff by laying down a barrage only 50 yards ahead of the advancing paratroopers. It takes experts to do that. According to the book, 100 yards is considered the minimum distance for close mortar support. But when you haven't got the artillery or are in a situation where you can't make use of artillery, mortar support like this can save lives. One of the companies in the assault didn't lose a single man killed or wounded.

"When you're firing close support like this, it's a good idea to level the bubbles on the sight at all times," warns Section Sgt. Harold W. Woltz, of Dearborn, Mich. "It's hard to do I know, but if you're firing fast and don't do it, there is danger that you'll get some dispersion that will cause casualties among your own guys. We had to be careful to do this when we were laying down that barrage at 50 yards because our four guns poured out 200 rounds in five minutes."

Guns Well Dug In

The mortar platoon's 24-hour fire from the graveyard was devastating. When tanks came up to exploit the breakthrough across the bridge, the parkway was littered with more than 200 German bodies and several knocked-out anti-tank guns. Flames from nearby burning buildings lit up the scene long after darkness fell to further emphasize what the mortars had done.

The cemetery had been a hot spot during the 24-hour engagement, but the mortar platoon lost only one man wounded. That's because these veterans are always well dug in.

"In a situation like that have your guns dug in as well as possible," says Corporal John F. Lee of Worcester, Mass. "When we're in a defensive position, we like to have our gun in a hole about five feet deep and about six by six in area. It gives two men plenty of room and the gun plenty of traverse."

The loss of only one man in this action is also remarkable in view of the fact that telephone lines had to be repaired 12 times under fire. But every man in the platoon can make wire repairs just like



Their job was to keep the bridge open—no Kraut could stop them. Panorama (above) shows the intact bridge and town.

every ammo carrier is a trained gunner.

"It's best to use heavy wire, even though it's harder to lay," explains Section Sgt. Joseph Gilhooly of New York City. "We generally lay alternate lines right at the beginning and whenever possible we try to string them overhead so that they won't get damaged by tanks and artillery fire."

The platoon's work at Nijmegen Bridge earned a decoration for each member of the outfit. Once again the success of an important operation pivoted on the ability of this platoon. It had been the same story back in Italy during a vital delaying action on the Volturno River. That time the platoon earned a unit decoration.

But the Nijmegen Bridge action

was no artillery available to do it.

Here's the way they worked it. They used four heavy increments and two light increments with HE light ammo. That gave the added range without increasing the recoil beyond the safety limits prescribed by Ordnance. Or, in other words, the recoil was no greater than the normal recoil when four heavy increments are used with heavy ammo. "Remember this expedient only applies to light ammo," Lt. Cooper emphasizes. "You can't afford to allow the recoil to increase beyond the prescribed limit because you would not only wreck the gun but endanger the crews."

Added Range—Normal Recoil

One day in Holland the platoon had an unusual opportunity to prove its ability to handle mortars in the form of a demonstration for a visiting general. The demonstration, however, did have a useful purpose. It was to cover a patrol going out for prisoners and prisoners were needed badly at the time.

The patrol's objective was an enemy machine-gun position, which was covered by a platoon dug in about 100 yards away. The instructions were for the patrol to move in on the machine-gun position, following a mortar concentration, and get back with prisoners while the fire was being shifted to the platoon.

The mortarmen laid down a four-minute concentration of 200 rounds on the machine-gun position. As soon as the fire was lifted and directed on the enemy platoon, the patrol rushed out, took three prisoners out of their holes and were back in seven minutes. They had found the machine gun smashed up and resting against the side of a house.

Such proficiency requires plenty of practice and good teamwork. This platoon is strong on both. Now

(Continued on Page 4)

Dig It Deep... It Pays!



**Tanks Spearheaded the Ninth Army
When the Roer River Drive Was Started.
A Battle of Armor Developed and**

German Tigers Met Their Master

By Ed Wilcox
Warweek Staff Writer

GEREONSWELLER, Germany, Dec. 1.—The huge German tank you can see alongside the road about a kilometer from this little village is one of 67 wrecked Tigers and Tiger Royals, twisted and scarred, scattered along the roadways and in the muddy open fields in this area. This Nazi armor represents the pattern of defeat which came when the desperate Krauts, going all-out to stem the 9th Army advance into Germany, elected to pit Essen steel against Pittsburgh steel, German guts against American guts.

The remainder of the record 100 Nazi tanks which tangled with our army in a four-day pitched battle in knee-deep mud and a cold, steady rain, managed to escape and fall back along the Roer River. They were soundly beaten in their largest tank fight since D-Day.

This bitter defeat dealt the Krauts by crack tank, tank destroyer and artillery units of the will-o'-the-wisp 9th, was no hit-or-miss proposition. The unit commanders of the 9th planned this victory as thoroughly and matter-of-factly as they had planned similar operations in maneuvers and training back in the States.

Two days before the battle, headquarters spent long hours studying reconnaissance reports gathered by armored cavalry, infantry and air-force men who had carefully plotted Jerry's positions.

A large table, sixteen feet square, was built and filled with sand. On this a scale model of the entire area, topographically perfect, was constructed. The sand-table model showed where the seldom-seen German armor was hiding. It gave the tankers a preview of the sort of terrain they would be fighting over. For two nights every tanker down to the rank of sergeant fought the sand-table battle, maneuvering their armor against the German tanks like Gullivers in Lilliput.

On the first bleak morning of the four-day battle, heavy Shermans rumbled and roared along the muddy country roads toward Puffendorf and Immendorf, two small German villages south of Gereonsweiler. With them went the hard-hitting crews manning the

76s, whose job is to knock out enemy panzers.

They hadn't gone far along the road before they were momentarily halted by fire from German 88s, mounted on small tanks and dug into the soupy fields and roadsides. Systematically, they were eliminated by our armor and artillery.

Then the how really got under way. The Krauts, tossing caution to the winds, counter-attacked near the small hamlet of Setterich. The Germans were playing their parts according to the script mapped on the sand table in headquarters. When a score of assorted German



"... the huge German tank ... is one of 67 wrecked Tigers, scattered along the road..."

Major R. E. De Horn, Antigo, Wis., a staff officer of the crack armored Combat Command B, which took part in the clash, described it this way:

"It had been raining for three days without let up and the ground was very soggy, making maneuver-

grenadiers, who took it on the chin coming and going from our armor, our artillery, and at times, when the battle was at its peak, their own tanks.

"You never saw a sadder bunch than those panzer grenadiers we took prisoner," another officer said. "There they were stuck out there to stop our attack with only rifles, a few grenades and machine pistols. They were over-run. And the Jerries who were quartered in Setterich, Puffendorf, and Immendorf, were so sure their armor would throw us out again, that they just went to Gereonsweiler and settled down to sweat it out until the towns were in their hands again. They were awfully surprised when we walked in and took them prisoner."

"Yes," the major added, "Those Krauts were all set to spend the winter there—they didn't think we'd get very far. They'll learn."

"This was the first time since D-Day," the major said, "that we have had the time to really plan anything like this action. We could see this fight looming for several days and so we got busy and really went into detail on the thing."

Record Tank Concentration
Termed by one colonel "the largest commitment of enemy tanks since D-Day," this battle marked another few miles along the road to Berlin and victory because it was an excellent example of coordination of several arms—air, artillery, infantry and tanks, all focusing their terrific fire power on a single objective.

Pointing out the scene of action on a small-scale map on the wall, Major De Horn said, "You have to remember that in an operation of this sort it isn't a case of the Germans running up 100 tanks all in a bunch and banging up against an

equal or greater number of our tanks. It's a case of 16 German tanks south of this town, another engagement north of Setterich in which our TDs and tanks clash with a dozen or two other tanks.

During the four days they lost plenty of armor—about two-thirds of all they used. Part of it was knocked out by our tanks and TDs. When we were advancing, the artillery laid down some of the most beautiful rolling barrages I have ever seen. Other German tracks and tanks were knocked out that way. The P4Ts were up there whenever the weather allowed and they poured it on the Kraut armor and grenadiers. And you can't say too much for the job our infantry did. Although this was mainly a problem of armor against armor, the infantry boys were in there pitching too with bazookas and harassing fire which helped account for a few more of their tanks.

Our Tanks Faster
"Don't sell their armor short," the major warned. "They have damned good tanks when they want to bring them out to fight. They are well armed with their 88s and machine guns and the frontal armor is plenty thick—they can take a hell of a beating. But we can give a hell of a beating."

"Our tanks are faster and much more maneuverable—that really counted in this case where maneuvering was more difficult because of the soggy terrain. And our fire-power outclassed theirs all the way."

Later that afternoon outside the CP you could see the heavy tanks rolling along, throwing bits of mud from their tracks as they moved through the slop and deeper into Germany. They were moving to new positions for new attacks made

(Continued on Page 4)

SEVERAL important things were learned in this armored engagement.

First, it helped convince Nazi commanders they are no match for our armor. Ninth Army tankmen, who know their business, say that in the future German panzer units will be used even more cautiously and sparingly than in the past.

The second observation is that, despite our superiority of fire-power, weight of equipment and better planning, the German army is not defeated. Not yet. Officers of the 9th say the German army still has fight and that interrogation of prisoners shows a toughening of morale, rather than a weakening. The Wehrmacht is still a force to be reckoned with.

Finally, the premier performance of the new super-tank—the German's highly-touted Tiger Royal—turned out to be no more potent than the ordinary Tigers. Except for the longer and more frightening barrel on the 88, they are the same, most of the men claim.

"We call the Tiger Royal the 'King Size' Tiger," one American said. "That barrel sticks out there like a little fat man smoking a Pall Mall."

Mark IV, V, and VI, along with several of the new Tiger Royals, came onto the scene, the reception was very warm.

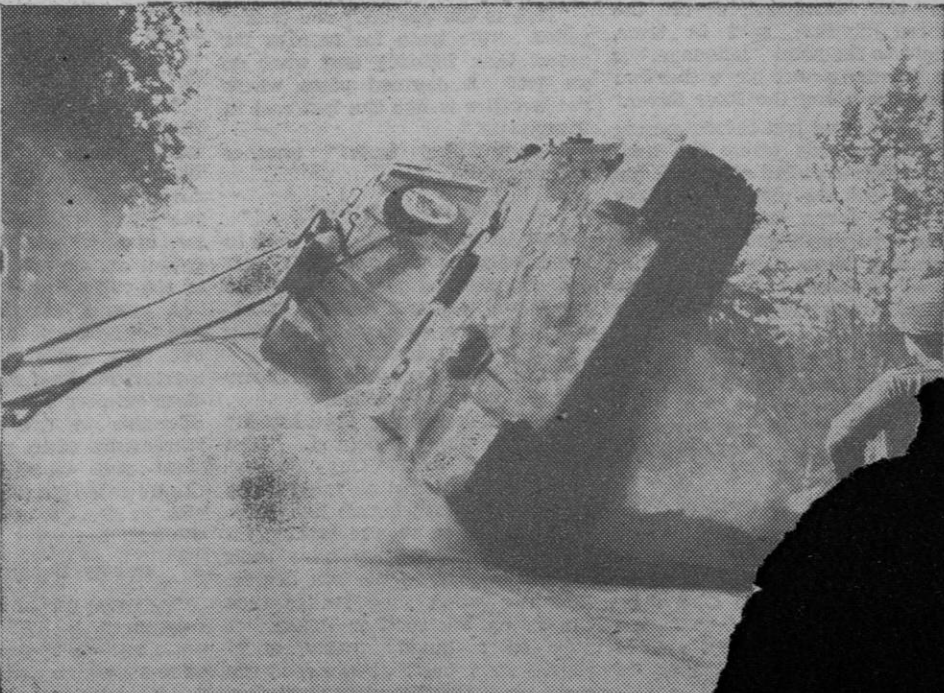
Two of the Tiger Royals, which boast a 22-foot barrel on the 88 mounted on the front of the tank, were knocked silly. Other lesser German tanks burned out as British "Crocodiles," supplementing our armored attack, slogged ahead with their flame throwers spitting fire in front of them. Panzer Grenadiers, thrown in against our attack, fought from their foxholes with small arms but threw in the sponge when they realized their predicament.

ing with armor almost impossible. We couldn't get full support of the air force either—the weather was too murky."

The major grinned and said, "Well, it wasn't exactly what you would call an ideal time for this sort of an operation. We put paddlefeet on the tank tracks and that made it a little easier to move around without getting bogged down in the soup."

Krauts' Winter Plans Spoiled

The major said that the Germans had thrown in three panzer battalions and elements of another. They were supported by panzer

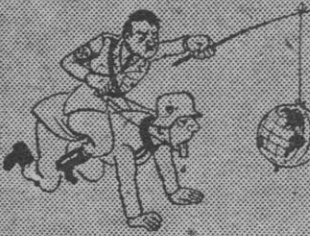


"... Tiger Royals ... were knocked silly ... other lesser German tanks burned out ... in the face of the blistering Allied attack. It was

GI JERRY

by Lt. Dave Breger

Nazi Guide-Book Part XXIII



Lt. Dave Breger

AT LAST, LUDWIG, ONCE AGAIN LAUGHTER RINGS THROUGH THE FATHERLAND—NOW THAT IT'S BEING OVERRUN BY HYENAS!



"At one time the Jews laughed at my prophecies in Germany. I am not so sure whether they are still laughing today, or whether they have not already forgotten how to laugh. I can only assure them they will forget how to laugh anywhere." ADOLF HITLER, SEPT. 30, 1942



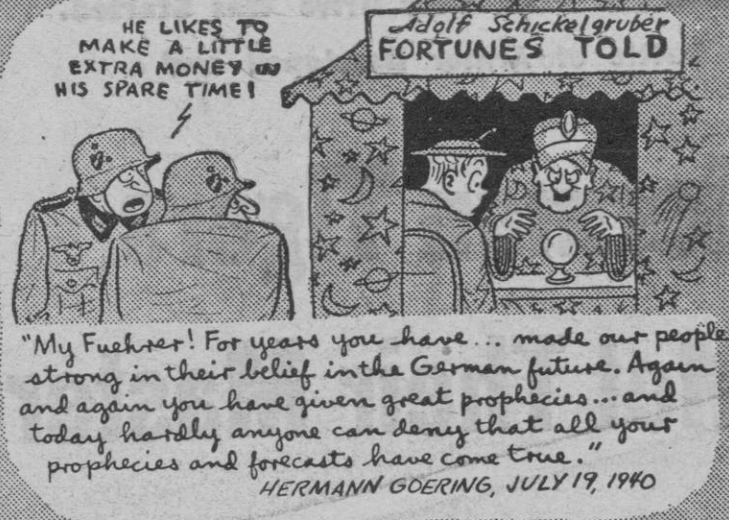
A THOUSAND PARDONS, YOUR EXCELLENCIES, BUT WE FEEL THE TIME HAS COME FOR YOU GENTLEMEN TO SUPPORT EACH OTHER!

"The bond uniting Hitler and Mussolini is an indissoluble one, and if at some time a situation is better for one and worse for the other, or vice versa, then one will always support the other." ADOLF HITLER, FEB. 24, 1941



HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

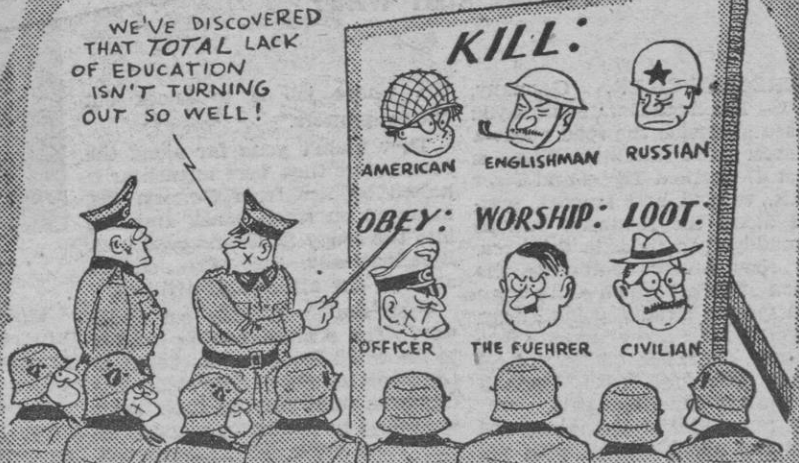
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!



HE LIKES TO MAKE A LITTLE EXTRA MONEY IN HIS SPARE TIME!

Adolf Schickelgruber FORTUNES TOLD

"My Fuehrer! For years you have... made our people strong in their belief in the German future. Again and again you have given great prophecies... and today hardly anyone can deny that all your prophecies and forecasts have come true." HERMANN GOERING, JULY 19, 1940



WE'VE DISCOVERED THAT TOTAL LACK OF EDUCATION ISN'T TURNING OUT SO WELL!

KILL:

AMERICAN ENGLISHMAN RUSSIAN

OBEDIENCE WORSHIP: LOOT:

OFFICER THE FUEHRER CIVILIAN

"The next war will require the highest degree of brutality. So the uneducated man will best be able to work the war machines." "DEUTSCHE WEHR" (GERMAN OFFICER CORPS) AUG. 9, 1936



(Continued from Page 3)

possible by the thumping given the German armor near Gereonsweiler. Generals and colonels hesitate to commit themselves as to the shape of things to come. The only word from the commanders of the armored division, said in terse, straight-to-the-point language, is "The German armor has withdrawn to an area along the Roer River." If you stopped just before coming to the crossroads where the huge Shermans had pulled over onto the shoulder and the men were sitting atop the tanks and eating C-rations, you could get some pretty interesting views from the mud-covered tankers who fought the battle. They made predictions, too. One sergeant, when asked how the fight had gone, said, "Hell—kicked them King-Size Tigers just as easy as any other Tiger. That long barrel on don't make that tank any... Desert Fighting... on this time and him a return he wants it," City said. has always aut—once how to... Little

Coughing Mortars Wrote Nijmegen Bridge Saga

(Continued from Page 2)

that they've proved themselves, these Joes are frank to admit that months of dry runs are paying off. In other words, they did master what was in the book before they tried their own variations. The outfit is fortunate that its present first and second gunners have been together a fairly long time. "It should be so you can't get along without each other," says S/Sgt. John P. Jozola of Isleta, New Mexico, a veteran of all four of the 82nd's missions. The platoon has strengthened itself by a policy of giving its ammo carriers a chance to serve as gunners as often as possible. "After all, they are the ones who have to serve as gunners when we get casualties," says Lt. Edward Soltanoff of Newark, N.J., assistant platoon leader. "So, when in a defensive position, ammo carriers are given a chance to get some practice. It means that every man in each squad can fire, and when the going is tough the platoon can work in shifts." In Holland, the platoon in several instances proved itself adept in using the .81mm mortar without base plate or bipod. That means firing without use of a sight and the gunner has got to be able to see his target. "My men have gotten on the target in two rounds at 200 yards," reports Lt. Cooper. A gunner carrying a tube and two ammo carriers frequently went out with patrols and often the mortar was fired in this manner in close support of a company. "It's advisable to fire with no added increments when not using a base plate and bipod because, if the charge is too great, your tube might sink in the ground," cautions Sgt. Woltz. Enemy Equipment Used Extensive use of captured enemy equipment is SOP with airborne units because of the great difficulty of re-supplying them and the mortar platoon has had considerable experience with the Heinie mortar.

They use the Heinie tube and base plate in order to make use of captured ammo and attack their own bipods and sights. "Be careful of that Kraut mortar ammo that has no caps though," cautions Sgt. Gilhooly. This platoon has learned by long battle experience that effective firing depends a lot on the way you use and take care of your ammo. Cpl. Charles E. Johnson of Belmar, N.J., a top-notch in precision firing, calls attention to the importance of putting the shell in the tube carefully. "Instead of just throwing the shell in, you should let it slide down easily and center



itself," explains the corporal. "Put it in wobbly and it's apt to come out that way." "We generally manage to get a dugout made for ammo storage when we're in a defensive position," says Lt. Soltanoff. "It's really not safe to fire ammo that's wet... too much risk of getting short rounds." Cautions Cpl. Johnson, "You've got to be careful of this new ammo because the increments come in cellophane wrappers and easily slide off." These mortar men are just as fussy about the care of the weapon itself. The platoon often finds itself without bore cleaners but

manages to keep the tubes in good firing condition by swabbing them with a gas-and-oil mix. "It's a damn good field expedient," says Lt. Cooper.

Improvise Bore Cleaners

This platoon has proved conclusively that the mortar in the hands of expert gunners is an accurate weapon and can be used as artillery. It frequently fires from a map, especially in night actions. Often the outfit has operated against 35 or 40 targets in a defensive position and generally it has a stake for each target. The stakes are tagged with the target number and marked with luminous tape for night firing. Sometimes the targets are merely likely enemy strongholds taken from a map. Each spot picked out on the map is given a target number and represented with a firing stake. "When attacking," says Lt. Cooper, "our policy is to carry two mortars and keep two in reserve. We give each ammo carrier three rounds of HE light and one smoke." Adds Cpl. Rex M. Welch, of Memphis, Tenn., "When it's possible we like to have a jeep loaded with a reserve supply that includes 150 HE light, 25 smoke and 25 heavy. And it's always wise to carry an extra sight with each mortar."

Ample Reserve Supplies

For clearing out enemy-held buildings the platoon uses both smoke ammo to start fires and heavy delayed-action shells for demolitions. "When you need smoke and HE light simultaneously, it's best to have one gun fire the smoke because you need a different range table for it," says Cpl. Carlyle C. Ruddock, of Homer City, Pa. "That means you don't lose time in the changeover that you would if firing both from one gun." The platoon also has found that it's best to take the sights off the guns when firing smoke ammo because it tends to split the bubbles. While this outfit has dished out plenty of death and destruction in its four campaigns, it also has acquired a healthy respect for enemy counter-action. It takes every precaution possible to defend and conceal its positions besides always getting well dug in.