

In Germany

T-PATCH

36TH DIVISION NEWS

Vol. 3. No. 2

SUNDAY, 15 APRIL 1945

ANNIVERSARY EDITION

36th OVERSEAS TWO YEARS

Officer Records Atlantic Voyage

New York To Oran In Fortnight

(Editor's note: These excerpts from an officer's diary will bring recollections to all those in the convoy of life on the embarkation voyage. This officer was on board the liner which brought the 142nd Combat Team across the Atlantic.)

APRIL 2, 1943 —

FIRST DAY: "Cast off the for'd lines!" and other sea-going expressions greeted us early this morning. I felt the first gentle movements of the ship, and hastened to dress and go on deck to watch New York pass in review. I wondered if we were to stop "down the harbor" and wait for the convoy to collect, but we put steadily to sea — slowly — and the convoy seemed to form around us.

At first the ship's movements were gentle, like an elevator softly bouncing. It left me with a silly, dizzy feeling — and a sense of helplessness in that there was nothing you could do about it. The sea grew steadily more uneasy until at last we knew we were well into the Atlantic. Then several of us struck up a pitch game.

Tonight I saw the phosphorescent sea for the first time — an awesome and eerie, yet fascinating sight. All lights are out at night and I groped my way in the moonless night to the forward rail and looked down. The waves dashing against the ship's side actually glowed and the wake of neighboring ships could be faintly made out about a quarter of a mile away. The "white caps" of the day became winking, blinking, tips in the pitch black night.

SECOND DAY: The PA system blared: "It is now 8:30 A. M. Port holes may be opened and smoking may be resumed on deck." I arose and shaved. The sea seemed much rougher and I felt dizzy, but still no nausea. We conducted an inspection and boat drill at eleven o'clock and spent the rest of the day loafing. Sometimes I would go on deck and watch the sea or the other ships in our convoy. We would imagine we could see General Walker or some of our other friends in Headquarters on the ship behind us. Brighter uniforms on a hulking, black ship further to the rear gave rise to rumors that it was loaded with WACs. Some enterprising fellow produced a powerful BC scope, and he dashed the rumor by informing us it was merely the color of the British life jackets. The phosphorus in the sea was beautiful tonight. Small balls of it, like giant fireflies, flitted across the wave-tops and sparkled like the Kohinoor.

THIRD DAY: A miserable day of restless sea and sick fellows. I had "butterflies" in my stomach but kept my food, though I ate less heartily of the excellent meals. We had chow twice a day, a rather late breakfast and early supper. Officers were assigned certain areas to inspect at boat drills — designed as a search for unconscious men in case of a torpedo hit. I was lucky — drew a group of cabins.

FOURTH DAY: The roughest morning we have had. Even the ship's crew admits it is a "medium" sea. God deliver me from a storm! Our great ship pitches and rolls over the swells. We can see waves breaking over the small freighters and across the deck of our escorting battleship. One doctor prescribed a sure-cure for seasickness: "sit under a tall pine tree." One of the battalion commanders said he preferred terrain where we had to dig straddle trenches.

FIFTH DAY: The sea calmed as the day waned. With one brief blaze of red
(Con't On Page 4)

The Lone Star Flies Over Germany



The flag of the Lone Star State, which has been carried by the 36th since training days at Blanding, flies over Germany at the great gate north of Wissembourg. As Major Arnim F. Puck, Division Provost Marshal, came out of the tower to plant the flag on German soil, the area was strafed. Photo by Paramount News.

Generals Eisenhower, Devers, Dahlquist Commend Troops

Two years is a long time and from Texas to the Rhine, a great distance. The road has been rough and the going has been tough. However, we are proud of the fact that it was never too tough for the 36th Division. As one of the reinforcements who joined the division after the Italian Campaign, I speak for all reinforcements when I say "We are lucky to be assigned to the 36th." As your Commander during the Campaigns in France and Germany, I speak for myself when I say — I am deeply grateful for having the privilege of commanding such soldiers in battle.

JOHN E. DAHLQUIST
Major General, U. S. Army
Commanding

The following message has been received from General Eisenhower, Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Force:

"The United States House of Representatives has unanimously adopted a motion expressing to Generals Devers, Spaak, Bradley, Hodges, Patton, Simpson, Doolittle, Breton, Patch, and Gerow, and to all officers and men of all ranks under their command its congratulations and sincere thanks for the magnificent victories they have won on the Western Front."

Lt. Gen. Jacob Devers, Commanding General of Sixth Army, has sent the following message of commendation to Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch, Seventh Army Commanding General:
(Con't On Page 4)

Adolph's Extracted Molars



The Dragon's Teeth



The 36th Division Made The Cavity
(Tank Staff Photo by Staffer)

Texas Division Lands At Oran, Africa, Fights Through Italy, France, Germany

This is the second anniversary of the 36th Division's landing in North Africa. Since that day, two years ago, when the ships docked at Oran, the 36th has made its name as one of the really veteran outfits in the European Theater of Operations, with a reputation second to none as a dependable, fighting Division.

Two years have come and gone, years that were long in passing, but a flash in memory, incidents that have long since passed. Bowie, Blanding and Edwards have long since been left, but they stick in the mind as firmly as Mers el Khebir, the Cork Forest, Rabat and Arzew.

Remember the rumors the day the Division boarded the ships in Oran harbor to invade Italy? Italy had been invaded by the British, and everything was ready to go. Rumors were flying thick and fast. Remember out in the Mediterranean, one day out of Salerno, when the news — not a rumor this time — came that Italy had surrendered? And how one guy thought

that was a lousy break, because maybe they'd have to call the invasion off?

Call the invasion off. There are a lot of Joes who used to be around that agreed with him then. There are a lot more that didn't and maybe they knew what was coming.

Salerno came, and with Salerno began the story of the 36th, the part which was written by the doughs and the cannoneers and the engineers and medics. Most of it was carried in the papers. The rest was left for the GRO. Charlie Kelly made the papers, and so did Ugly Gonzales and Jim Logan, and Lt. Whitaker's self-propelled and Altavilla and the tobacco warehouse. It was tremendous news for the people back in the states, and particularly Texas. The 36th was the Texas Division then, without a doubt, and the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and the Dallas News and the Houston Post carried the 36th higher than the news of the war. It was great news in Texas, but the doughs gave the battle its name — "Bloody Salerno."

143rd Fools Nazi Mayor

After pushing the Wehrmacht out of one German town, the Second Battalion, 143rd Infantry, recently copped a self-styled, pro-Nazi Mayor.

Immediately it became necessary to put the civilian population under military control. The proclamations, edicts and orders were issued by a prominent inhabitant who claimed to have been Mayor before the Nazis came into power. He disclaimed any connection with the party.

A search of his house, the most modern and spacious in town, proved the owner to be a master in the art of prevarication. Actually, he was one of the most influential Nazis in the entire countryside. Uniforms upstairs revealed his high rank.

One of his better friends had been Gauleiter Burckel, Nazi Governor of the Westmark. The two of them had frequently hunted together. In addition to banners and brassards, pictures were found, showing the local leader posed with ranking German army officers.

As a contractor, this same German political boss had helped to construct large portions of the Siegfried defenses in the area.

When last seen, he was pacing the PW cage.

And the Rapido River? And the road leading to Venafro, past San Pietro, with the 240's next to the road, past the tremendous concentrations of dumps and pools and tanks and heavy prime movers and tank dozers, and the piles of rocks, behind them the ambulances? Purple Heart Valley? The bridge crossed the stream and then came horsehoe bend. The road itself had all the funny feeling of a war. It stunk of war and felt like war and looked like war. A lot of Joes are going to remember that road whenever they think of the war.

Then came the rest period — USO camp shows and close order drill, and an occasional visit to Torre Annunziata. Then came the Anzio beachhead, and the furious shelling that went on day after day until Velletri was breached. The green hills rose high behind Velletri, and then came the ridges to Rocca della Papa and finally Rome, which rose out across the plain just like the guide books had said. And then the rat race — riding the tanks and trucks and artillery prime movers. The dust. The Mongolians.

The Riviera invasion wasn't as bad as the Salerno invasion. Remember the houses, red and blue and pink against the dark green trees and the very light water? And afterwards the terrific race north — not enough rations, but the French civilians really took care of that, with wine and eggs and even fresh milk in one town. Remember Montclair? The beating backwards and forward, with the Germans piling on more and more until the artillery beat
(Con't On Page 4)

THIS MAY BE MAILED HOME

This souvenir anniversary edition of the T-Patch has been passed by FPC No. 272, Major Henry Meyer, and may be mailed to the United States.

T - PATCH

36th Division News

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15 April 1945

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One Of The Freedoms To Which Franklin D. Roosevelt Dedicated His Life



Religion is one of the basic instincts of man. As one philosopher put it, «Thou hast made us for Thyself, and our souls are restless until they rest in Thee.» Historically the State has often made use of this instinct for its own purposes, commanding men to worship the Chief of State, or at least imposing upon them some common form of worship. Failure to conform religiously has led to civil punishment, sometimes including death and torture. The idea that each man should be free to worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience is a relatively modern idea, but it is written deep into the heart of the Bill of Rights, which constitutes the first amendments to our Constitution.

Freedom of religious worship means much more than mere tolerance. Tolerance means I have a moral right to impose my will upon you, but because of my generous nature, or because of expediency I will permit you to worship your way. There have been many «tolerant» princes and states before the advent of America.

Freedom means that you have exactly the same right to worship God in your way or in no way, as I have. Freedom of worship included not only Catholics, Protestants, and Jews. It includes also Moslems, Hindus, and atheists.



Freedom of worship is based upon the ideal of the worth of the individual, an ideal that is essentially a part of the democratic philosophy of government. It recognizes that religion is very personal. The faith of your father or your mother cannot save you. You are saved by your own faith. Some men will find God best through ritual, others through creeds, others through some inner light. Each must find God in his own way, and no man has a moral right (and in America no legal right) to impose his method of worship upon someone else.

Our American ideal of freedom of worship has led us to set certain limitations upon the power of the State. It provided the means for excusing from military service during this war, those men who for religious reasons were conscientious objectors. It protected from exclusion from our schools those children, who for religious reasons, refused to salute the flag.

On the positive side the American ideal of religious freedom has led to the establishment of the Chaplains Corps so that there might be a group of men charged with ministering to the religious needs of all soldiers. The Articles of War provide that a chaplain is responsible for the religious needs of all men within his unit. A Protestant chaplain must minister not only to Protestants, but to Catholics, Jews, and any other faith as well. I remember when we were in Africa I visited a unit which had been separated from the rest of the division. I asked a sergeant how Chaplain

(Con't On Page 3)



International Air Lanes Feature Division On Score Of Radio Broadcasts

It's happened! The first American division to invade continental Europe at Salerno, the 36th «Texas» Division, has challenged the 36th «German» Division on German soil.

Thirty men, the remainder of one company of the German 36th Volk-Grenadier Division, last week realized they had met a steeper 36th when they were captured by veterans of the 142nd Infantry Regiment.

The German 36th Division, Regular Army, gloriously focused its name in the eye of the Reich during the blitzkrieg of France in 1940. Transferred later to the eastern front, a formidable combination, the Russian winter and the Red Army, virtually wiped out the unit before Stalingrad.

Returning to its home city, Wiesbaden, a resort in the region where the Rhine meets the Moselle, the Teutonic T-Patchers were allowed to rest. Converted to a Volk-Grenadier division, the Nazi 36th was recently called upon to quell the speeding advance of the Seventh Army.

It was here that the goal-line defense of the German 36th failed as the American 36th plowed into Germany for a touchdown.

To mark this momentous occasion a platoon of rugged Texan doughboys returned to one of the Siegfried Line gateways they had taken during the week. There they watched Maj. Armin Puck, San Antonio, Tex., the division's Provost Marshal, plant the flag of the Lone Star State among the allegedly impregnable obstacles on behalf of the Commanding General, Major General John E. Dahlquist, and every officer and enlisted man of the 36th.

The hardships war-tested «Texas» Division men overcame in the mountains of Italy have been compared with those of George Washington's fighters at Valley Forge. They look back with both pride and bitterness on a long series of sanguine battles — Salerno — San Pietro — the Rapido River — Cassino — Velletri — Montelimar — Vesoul — the Moselle River — the Vosges Mountains.

At Ribeauville in Alsace the entire division was virtually cut off for several hours. When the 141st's regimental commander was wounded, Brig. Gen. Robert I. Stack, the assistant division commander, rushed down to assume command of the regiment.

Here the energetic, white-haired, one-starred general handed down the following battle maxims which still characterize the fighting qualities of his men:

1. Hit 'em where they ain't.
2. Git there fastest with the mostest men.
3. Don't tap him with a cane when you can slug him with a club.
4. A bluff wins if nobody calls the bet.
5. Find 'em—Fix 'em—Fight 'em.
6. Never give the Krauts an even break.
7. The people make wars—the Army only fights them.
8. Objectives are not taken by leaning forward in your foxhole.
9. Flank Jerry wide and deep.
10. A few casualties now in a determined attack will save hundreds later.
11. Kraut artilleryman pray every night for G. I.'s to bunch up.
12. A column of ducks is a damned poor attack formation.
13. Jerry is always twice as scared as you are.
14. God is on the side of the most fire power.
15. A stab in the back is poor ethics but damned fine tactics.

With clerks and drivers patrolling and defending, General Stack and his men held out in the Bastogne of the southern sector.

Little more than a year after Commando Kelly, the 36th Division's decorated one-man army, received his Congressional Medal of Honor, his former I Company buddy, 2nd Lt. Stephen R. Gregg, Bayonne, N. J., became the second 142nd Infantryman to win the nation's highest award for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at Montelimar on August 27th, 1944. Lt. Gen. Alexander M. Patch, Commanding General of the Seventh Army, made the presentation.

The 36th Division also boasts of fighting dynamo 2nd Lt. Shelby, Speights, a Mississippian, who invaded Southern France as a private and recently shattered still another army award record. At a single ceremony he was presented with the Silver Star and four Oak Leaf Clusters and an Oak Leaf Cluster for his Bronze Star, a total of six battle awards.

As the division's prisoner-of-war total passed the 25,000 mark, General Dahlquist, the division commander, made his addition to the PW cage by capturing the drive of an opposing general, the commander of the German 47th Infantry Division.

After 221 consecutive days of contact with enemy, the 36th Division con-

(Con't On Page 4)

Post-War Educational Plan Outlined By I & E

When the fighting stops in the ETO and Hitler throws in the sponge, there's going to be a lot of whooping it up around the 36th. But when the fighting is behind and the celebrations taper off, then the serious thinking is going to begin. What is everyone going to do? Well, for one thing, the Army Education Program will step in to make the army life a lot more pleasant.

Military personnel will be divided into three categories: Those going to another theater, those in the Army of Occupation, and those waiting to go back to the States. The educational requirements for the three groups will be different, but in general the same program will be put into operation.

The Army Education Program includes several kinds of schools to provide educational facilities which will answer the needs of the greatest number of G.I.'s.

The Unit School, for battalions and other units of less than a thousand men, will be the core of the program, and it is planned so as to reach the vast majority of those wishing to take part in the program.

Technical schools will be established where specialized equipment is available.

For G.I.'s who possess the necessary qualifications, there will be classes at the various civilian colleges and universities, probably in both England and France.

Army University Study Centers will provide opportunities for personnel whose educational requirements are above the unit school level, in the fields of the liberal arts, the sciences, and the professions.

Each soldier will be given a chance to select the courses he wants to study. Courses will be set up, and the instructors will be qualified officers or enlisted men from his organization. If there are

not enough instructors available in one unit, they may be borrowed from any other unit.

At any rate, all personnel will have the opportunity to study business, agriculture, mechanical or technical work, general education, and many related subjects. The courses will not be long, drawn-out affairs, either. Each one will be broken up into blocks of twenty hours, with most courses made up of two or more blocks. The purpose of the block system is to insure that the student who for any reason cannot complete all the blocks in a certain course will nevertheless benefit by what he has taken.

All the text books and work books, instructors manuals, texts, and supplies will be furnished.

If you wish to study some subject but have nothing particular in mind, there will be an educational advisement officer who can assist you in selecting an appropriate course in keeping with your previous education, your skills, and your interests. As a further aid, Vocational Information Kits will be available as guides to the major occupational fields.

If you want to learn some trade or acquire skill in some occupation you've followed before joining the army, it can be arranged, too. Under the supervision of experts it will be possible to learn motor mechanics, radio, carpentry, plumbing, welding, or any one of a dozen other trades.

Taking part in the Army Education Program will not be compulsory. Hand in hand with it will go a great Athletic and Recreation program. It may be possible to take part in both.

If you're selected as an instructor, it doesn't mean that you will not be allowed to participate in the program yourself. Instructors will be rotated.

Participation in the education program will not effect your chances of getting home. When the time comes for you to go, if you're working over a 6 by 6 or studying Greek, off you'll go.

We Quote...

W. VAUGHAN THOMAS, BBC: "If the 101st Airborne had its Bastogne, the 36th had its Ribeauville. And you don't ask one of those rugged Texans whether he came in on the invasion without being specific about which invasion."

WICK FOWLER, DALLAS NEWS: "They are still fighting men, the best in the world."

CY KORMAN, Chicago Tribune: "The fight in the Vosges has been called one of the war's toughest, and the 36th overcame the best prepared German line there."

CLINTON GANGES, UP: "They limped from wounds & swollen trench feet and they were gaunt and weary, but they could still smile."

ARMY TIMES: "The 36th «Texas» Division sets endurance record."

THE LATE AL KOHN, Stars and Stripes: "You hear an occasional «Gertie from Greenport» accent but they've got a lot of pride in the adopted state."

HEINRICH HIMMELER in an Order of the Day: "What the pericans (36th Division) did at Selent, I expect you to do at Sigolsheim."

ERIC SEVAREID, CBS: "I will always remember the men of the 36th... If Generals Alexander and Ark received the key to the city of Re, it was General Walker who turned key and handed it to them."

Arty FO Foils Woodchoppers

Sgt. James S. Wade, New Castle, Md., of the FDC group, 133rd Field Artillery thought that April Fools Day had come early this year.

A jangling telephone late at night calling for a fire mission was nothing new, but the mission requested by the FO almost floored him. "What's the nature of the target?" asked Wade. "The Germans are chopping wood!" replied the FO. Wade asked again to make sure he had heard correctly. It was inconceivable that the FO could hear or see Krauts chopping wood at 2300 at night.

The FO gave the same answer. Sgt. Wade scratched his head, put down the receiver and fired his mission. The phone rang again and the FO reported that the area had been well covered, the wood chopping stopped.

Why We Fight



Shown here is William Penn Jones III, son of Capt. Penn Jones, 36th Division Quartermaster Company, and Mrs. Louise A. Jones.

The 36th Division Command

These Men Directed The Tactical Operations, Formulated The Policies, Guided The Destiny



Maj. Gen. John E. Dahlquist, Commanding General



Brig. Gen. Walter W. Hess, Jr., Division Artillery Commander



Brig. Gen. Robert I. Stack, Assistant Division Commander



Col. John J. Albright, Chief of Staff



Col. Jesse B. Matlack, Executive Officer, Division Artillery

"I realize the job you have done and how much I appreciate it. In the days we have spent in the line since the landings in August, we have set some sort of a record. There are two types of staffs, the one depicted by a monkey wrench, the other by an oil can. This Division Staff possesses the latter quality to a fuller degree than any staff I have seen. Everything has worked smoothly and harmoniously. This Division has never failed to hold an objective once it has been taken."

General Dahlquist Christmas Day Strabourg, 1944.

Regimental Commanders



Col. Charles H. Owens, Commanding Officer, 141st Infantry



Col. George E. Lynch, Commanding Officer, 142nd Infantry



Lt. Col. Charles J. Denholm, Commanding Officer, 143rd Infantry

Fighting Doughs Take Wartime Vacations

In Italy it was Naples, then Caserta, then Rome. In France, it is Paris, Brussels, London, Cannes and Nice. Doughboys need a rest between fire fights is the official opinion, and now in France, with five rest camps functioning — plus a corps rest camp and a division rest center — it appears as if a lot of frontline Joes are going to be able to do a lot of high-powered resting. That is, before going home for the big rest. London is probably the biggest spot of them all. The London deal, which includes a chance to see all of England and Scotland, lasts two weeks, counting travel time and a brief stopover in Paris.

We were very sorry not to have had you as a speaker for our meeting, but we realize that had it been possible, you no doubt would have attended. General Rogers made a short talk, telling some of the history and achievements of the 36th Division. Quite a few former members of the 36th attended. An invitation is extended to as many of your organization as would care to join.

E. T. O. Texans Bid CG, Seek Others

Major General John E. Dahlquist, the Commanding General, has been made a member of the "Texans in the ETO" club. His membership card reads, "John E. Dahlquist, a true Texan, . . . until he returns to the best state in the greatest country in the world." S/Sgt. Jay C. Stillely, who extended the invitation to the general, wrote: "We are very happy to have you for a member of the 'Texans in ETO' club. The aim is to enable Texans to keep in touch with other Texans in this theater. No fees—no dues—in fact, no obligation on your part other than that you are proud of being a Texan."

With kindest regards,
Jay C. Stillely S./Sgt.
OCQM, HQ, COM Z.
APO 887.

According to reliable information, the people there speak a very understandable language, which in itself is a big advantage. Then too, London is probably studded with more Red Cross clubs and hotels and snack bars than any three other cities in the ETO. And while scotch doesn't flow down the Mersey, and beer doesn't float in the Thames, there is still enough United States model liquor to make a fellow feel homesick. The theatres are still open, the blackout restrictions have been lifted, and the GI's have mostly left for the continent. Paris, was the pwar slogan, is a woman's town. It's a GI's town now — although, it must be admitted, there are wonderful numbers of chic, slim mademoiselles on the streets and in the restaurants. Paris is not what is used to be, maybe, but it's quite the place. The Red Cross has taken over the big hotels for rest camps, and snackbars and movies and USO shows are bobbed all day long. Paris is very gay for soldiers. But beware, because one trip to the Trocadero will break anyone for less than a major. Chanel No. 5 and champagne only come at black market price and there are three

For Conspicious Gallantry . . .



These Men Received Nation's Highest Battle Award

At Altavilla



T/Sgt. Charles E. Kelly, 143rd Infantry Pittsburgh, Pa.

At Altavilla



Lt. Arnold C. Bjorklund, 142nd Infantry Seattle, Wash.

At Magliano



T/Sgt. Homer L. Wise, 142nd Infantry Baton Rouge, La.

At The Rapido

S/Sgt. Thomas E. McCall, 143rd Infantry Viedersburgh, Ind.

It has been officially confirmed that Sgt. McCall was taken prisoner of war immediately following the Rapido River action. His decoration was announced in March, 1945, and the presentation will be made after his release.

Freedom of Religion

(Con't From Page 2)

Roemer was doing. He replied, «He is fine». I said, «I take it you are a Catholic?» «No, sir, I am a Protestant». «Do you mean he takes care of Protestants as well as Catholics?» He replied quickly, «Yes sir, and the Jews also, sir». That kind of service is the ideal of the American nation. It is only possible when all men are free to worship God in their own way. Persecution of one group for their faith, will lead ultimately to persecution of all groups. The religious instinct has a dynamic power for good not only to the individual, but also to the nation and to the world. It must, however, move in the hearts and souls of men, untrammelled by human bonds. Men who are free to worship God will be stronger to make a new and better world.

«He drew a circle to shut me out
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But love and I had the wit to win.
We drew a circle that took him in.»

Lt. Col. Herbert E. Mac Combie, Division Chaplain

At Salerno



T/Sgt. James T. Logan, 141st Infantry Luling, Tex.

At Altavilla



Pvt. William J. Crawford, 142nd Infantry Pueblo, Col. (Prisoner of War)

At Montelimar



Lt. Stephen R. Gregg, 143rd Infantry Bayonne, N.J.

Command Performance



After nearly a year, sultry, shapely Marlene Dietrich returned to the 14th last week. She is pictured here crossing the lovely limbs prior to appearing before the 141st Infantry.

The Queen of the Screen, Miss Marlene "Legs" Dietrich, last week returned to the 14th Division to appear before the Queen of Battle, the Infantry, on her native German soil.



As the glamorous Hollywood film star stepped from her car, she was greeted by a tremendous poster, "The 141st Infantry Welcomes Marlene."

Miss Dietrich, assisted by Fred Lightner, MC, Miss Lyn Mayberry, "Texas Tornado," Joe Marke, singer, and Jack Grand, pianist, offered the laughs an hour and a half of hilarious entertainment. Among other songs, "The Limbs" rendered an all-American version of "Lili Marlene".

CP Essentials Lead Advance

The jeep and the truck nosed around a corner. A shell burst just off the road. The two vehicles squealed to a stop and the men popped out.

This was no ordinary group of vehicles - it was the advance CP party with a valuable cargo of latrines, stoves, and signs, plus an electric generator.

Led by Lt. Col. David Faulkner, Villa Park, Ill., the party was making its slow way down the road to Mouscron les Bains when the Germans, realizing the nature of the convoys, made their attempt to halt it.

Said Sgt. Grover Lightfoot, Coleman, Texas: "We could hear the rifles popping." Then a head popped out of the foxhole next to him. "What are you guys doing here," said a weary doughboy, eyeing the stove pipes and signs popping out of the truck.

Rest Camps (Con't From Page 1)

times the number of MP's there were in London. Brussels is the dark horse in the rest camp field. Some GI's maintain it's far better than Paris; others don't think so. The language is Belgian, but there isn't a store which doesn't hang out signs that some one speaks English or French inside.

Cannes and Nice, where the international set once played, are on the French Riviera. Remember when the 14th landed on the Riviera? It was beautiful in summer, and in spring it is supposed to be one of the most beautiful places in Europe, if you like to lay on your belly in the sand and watch the Mediterranean, or go for a swim. It's a little like Florida, with stone houses, modernistic and gaily-colored, sandy beaches and warm, sunny skies.

But London or Paris, Brussels or Cannes, they'll call you in some morning and say: "How's about rest camp?" Take your pick. You can't go wrong.

The Number's 23

In the life of Pfc. John H. Paulk, Chula, Ga., there's only one number - 23. Private Paulk entered the Army on the 23rd day of the month. Private Paulk left the states on the 23rd of the month. Private Paulk entered Germany on the 23rd day of the month. Private Paulk has been overseas 23 months. Private Paulk's birthday falls on the 23rd day of the month.

Generals' Message

AFTER nearly three months of aggressive defensive fighting, the Seventh Army and attached Allied troops launched an attack on the 15th of March. That attack was a complete success. Seventh Army troops are now east of the Rhine River. I want the officers and men of your great Army to know that their feats are recognized and appreciated. For years the Germans have trumpeted to the world of the impregnability of their vaunted Siegfried Line. It is now obvious to the world that their words meant nothing to the Seventh Army. In less than ten days you cleared France from the Moselle River to the German border, breached the Siegfried Line and in conjunction with the Third Army, cleared the Saar pocket and closed to the Rhine River. The losses which the enemy suffered from your operations were staggering in both men and materiel.

Atlantic Voyage

glory, the sun set. Sunsets at sea so far have been quick. Usually the sun peeks briefly under a blanket of clouds, and, seeing the bed properly made, tucks himself in for the night. SIXTH DAY: A calm and beautiful sea. Dick and Beanie blushed with embarrassment at the supper table. It has become "SOP" for many of the officers to gather on the deck at the end of the day. Most of the sunsets are poor imitations of those glorious Western colors you will see in a few hours. Now and then one officer will ask another about his wife and family - denoting where most thoughts dwell. Kidding Cadet, I asked him how he would like to be awakened at 2 o'clock tonight with Judy squalling. There was a fervent truthfulness in his: "That would be swell!" SEVENTH DAY: The air alert stations are manned, and you can almost see the tension increasing. None of us know where we are. We certainly should be more than half-way across the Atlantic. With twilight and other shorter visibility hours, the destroyers come in closely protect us,

Division Troops Paid 15,885,673 In Dollars, Lire, Francs, Marks

The 26th Division is one of the few divisions in the theater that has been paid promptly every month despite long periods of continuous action. Not only has the Finance section endeavored to see that every officer and enlisted man has been promptly paid but through official memorandums and personal contact has encouraged

every member of the division to take advantage of the various opportunities afforded through the section, namely, the safeguarding and investing of personal funds.

The Finance Office is composed of a group of specialists, numbering a few certified public accountants and a number of former bank clerks. In this group are two officers and seventeen enlisted men, headed by Lt. Col. Leon B. Moya, Pensacola, Fla.

Col. Moya took over as Finance Officer on 4 December 1944 from Major Lowell E. Sifton, Plainview, Texas. Major Sifton had replaced Lt. Col. Robert L. Plumney, Austin, Texas, on 1 August 1944 when the latter was returned to the United States on rotation.

During the two years that the 26th Division has been overseas, Finance has paid to the troops, the sum of \$ 15,885,673.54. This figure does not include deductions for the various types of allotments.

The average monthly disbursement for the two years overseas is \$ 661,903.00. Of the amount received, the troops return \$ 536,911.00, which is sent home through P.T.A. and by Postal Money Order. In addition to the above, \$ 26,014.00 is placed with the Finance Officer as "Soldier's Deposit". The officers and men pay out still another sum of \$ 57,129.00 monthly for the purchase of war bonds.

Type and amount of currency handled by the section has been no small part of its work load. Division Finance has handled United States Gold Seal currency, African francs, French francs, Belgian francs, Italian lire, British currency and German marks.

Welterweight Champ Fights With 142nd

Pfc. George F. Richards, Wakefield, Mass., Canadian welterweight champ for three consecutive years, now operates a radio for the 142nd Infantry.

A professional boxer, famed in New England and Canada, Pfc. Richards joined the Division in December. With a Silver Star to his credit, he's managing to keep in trim.

Fatigued, while walking up a steep hill one day, he was laughed at by a German prisoner. Without saying a word, Richards took one more step and landed a haymaker on the Kraut's chin.

Broadcasts (Con't From Page 1)

idently moves on, knowing that it has never failed to take an objective or to hold an objective it has taken. - - -

The above script was presented to the listeners of Radio Seventh Army on the evening of March 25.

During the last two months the 14th Division has been featured on at least five other programs. BBC correspondent Wm. Vaughan Thomas and Eric Sevareid, CBS, highlighted their "Combat Diary" reports with the "Texas" Division. The "Army Hour" radioed a detailed message of the 26th to the United States. Wire recorders made other transcriptions for home-town stations.

Two Years (Con't From Page 1)

them back. Then the rat race began again, speed and more speed, and then the Krauts started pushing back, and the Moselle River crossing opened up the Vosges.

And remember the Vosges, the dead hills, the tree burys, the mine fields so deep they didn't seem to end? The Vosges and the winter were maybe worse than the Italian winter, but some said yes, and the ones who had seen both weren't sure. The Vosges were fierce and hard, and then came Alsace and the snow and cold, and still the Germans.

There was no rest, but the Division went to Strasbourg, and then started out of the lines, but went right back into the battle again. The whole weary grind started again, all the way back to the Rhine, and then up to Haguenau, and along that river in what the newspapers called an "aggressive defense." For a defense, the 26th did a lot of advancing. Then the Division smashed east across the Moselle River and into Germany. It was like Southern France all over again.

36th Division Band Finishes Two Year Continental Tour

The 36th Division Band is a combination of the bands of the 142nd Infantry and the Division Artillery.

On the lines between New York and Ocran, both bands played daily on the decks messes. In Africa, the Div Army band went to VI Corps where it played for the French and the Americans. Then it returned to the Division in the Cook Forest before joining the Fifth Army, where it played for high ranking officials, American senators, generals of three nations. The 142nd Infantry band joined an outpost which had been stationed to prevent the Germans from infiltrating into Spanish Morocco. Both bands returned to the Division for amphibious training and the Salerno invasion.

The 142nd Infantry band was the first band to land in Europe, at 1030 hours on D-Day, serving as Regimental CP guard. At 1310 hours on the same day, the Div Army band landed, working with the S-I, wire, and security sections.

Both bands served as musical organizations and as defense sections until November, when they were joined.

The present band includes not only a marching unit, but also two large swing bands, several smaller orchestras, and a chamber music orchestra. It has been featured on "T-Patch Time" at the Caserta Rest Camp, on the Fifth and Seventh Army radio stations, and at the division's rest camps in France.

During the advance into Germany, radio-man Pfc. Russell Crew, Paris, Mo., was given two prisoners to guard. In a matter of a few seconds the two Krauts fell asleep on his shoulders.

The Immortal Pfc By Pretsch, 141st



like herd bulls circling the cows and their young calves.

EIGHTH DAY: Some of the boys sighted our first U-boat today. I was at dinner when the muffled boom of depth bombs shook the ship. Those who were on deck said they saw the periscope and that it was so close they believed he was looking at another convoy (west bound) which was passing us at the time.

NINTH DAY: An unrecalled day rampant with guesses as to what we will go through Gibraltar. A great land-based American bomber assures us that we are reaching the other side. Several of the American destroyers have been replaced by British corvettes. The moon is beginning to light our way and we can see the neighboring ships at night. Someone said a neutral ship passed us last night, with lights ablaze in peacetime glow.

TENTH DAY: Church services on deck. Catholic services are held every day.

ELEVENTH DAY: We awoke to find part of the convoy gone - in Casablanca, we guess. We headed on for Gibraltar and tonight long-awaited eyes are rewarded with neutral Tangiers glistening like a many-studded diamond leap on the southern horizon. Lighthouses blink from all around and somewhere in the farther northern darkness Gibraltar watches over us. Tomorrow we will debark and the "Great Adventure" will begin - inauspiciously with a training area bivouac! APRIL 12, 1945.

TWELFTH DAY: Shortly after noon the great bull cliffs of North Africa stood out with a rugged promise of hard marching. From a distance it seemed that my previous conception of a wasteland would be found correct. But, still I was awestruck by the rugged and seemingly barren appearance of the cliffs. As we drew nearer, I could see the great modern buildings of Ocran sitting on top of a lower set of cliffs - still better than 600 feet above the sea. An imposing mountain stands on the north side of the harbor and on top of it a French fort, characteristically "impregnable," like in a movie. The bright red buildings of Casablanca, seen from another vantage, we doctored like bats and after a short search to track up a great incline and through the edge of the city and out onto the vast rolling plain. Here I was totally surprised. The plain was an undulating, verdant country and in marvelous cultivation - the great, blue mountains of the distance magnificent in their grandeur. We passed field upon field of grapes, some grain which I guessed to be barley or rye, and many small fields of wild flowers. Wild, flaming poppies almost illuminated the countryside. We passed through several small villages, where the buildings reminded me of Mexican huts. It seemed I could see for interminable distances, and what I saw was pleasing to the eye. Nay to the natives, however, and the simile "dirty Arab" is well founded in fact. The Arab men, women and children were filthy and ragged beyond description.