



Unit Newspaper

June 7, 1945

Images: LEFT: Signal Corp Insignia: RIGHT: 9th Army Shoulder Patch

Copper Courier is published weekly, by and for 4th Signal Battalion personnel, under the supervision of the Battalion Information and Education Office. Publication of material depends on available space and general interest value as judged by the editorial staff. It is supported without cost to the U. S. Government. It is permissible to mail copies beyond the limits of APO 463. Editor: T-5 George P. Staugh; Supervisor: Capt. Thomas C. Nail.



The Copper Courier receives Camp Newspaper Service material. Reproduction of credited matter prohibited without permission of CNS, 205 East 42nd Street, New York City 17, USA.

The COPPER COURIER

Vol. 1 No. 3

4th Signal Battalion Weekly Bulletin

Peine, Germany, 7 June, 1945

NEWS IN BRIEF

By T-5 Myers

Monday, June 4, 1945.

It has been stated in Washington that President Truman and the Prime Minister of Canada, Mackenzie King, hope to have a conference soon.

Canada reports that sixty Canadian warships, including two airplane carriers, are to be transferred from the E. T. O. zone to the Pacific battle zone. Canada's ships have been used as convoy escorts to and from Europe, as well as to and from Russia. They have also been used to patrol Norwegian waters during the German U-Boat campaign.

It was announced today that General De Gaulle is carrying out talks with the American, British, and Russian Embassadors to France.

Prime Minister Churchill is to issue a statement on the Levant situation tomorrow.

The president's envoy to Russia, Harry Hopkins, plans to prolong his stay in Russia.

The State Department today urged compulsory military training for the policing of Europe and Japan after the war is won.

Britain has announced that some 1,600,000 Germans will be demobilized from the British occupation zone. They are to be demobilized at the rate of 12,000 per day. No officers will be released. Those being sent home are to be sifted to make sure no war criminals will be released.

Two German youths, ages 16 and 17, were executed today after being found guilty on charges of espionage against allied troops. They were members of the German Youth.

Peace movements for the settling of the dispute in Levant are being carried out in Cairo, Paris, and London.

PACIFIC NEWS

American fighters and bombers are assisting ground forces by pounding the Japanese corridor in north Burma and China.

Reports from Burma claim only small clashes between British and Japanese troops.

Japan has fallen back on propaganda to cover up for damage done by recent bombings. They have copied Britain's slogan, saying, 'Japan can take it!' However, they neglected to say for how long.

Fierce fighting still rages on Okinawa. The Japs have been driven back to the southern tip of the island, in an area approximately six miles square.

The Japanese home radio stated that upon the outcome of the battle of Okinawa hangs the fate of Japan.

Tuesday, June 5, 1945

The four occupational powers of Germany—United States, Britain, Russia, and France, have met in Berlin and signed an agreement concerning the administration of Germany. The agreement went into effect at 2:00 PM today. Some of the main points of the agreement are: The German frontiers will return to the boundaries of 1937, before the attack the Germans made on Poland. The zones of occupation are to be Great Britain is to police the north western section of the country. Russia is to police the eastern section. The United States is to police the south western area. France is to police the western area. The four powers are to control the merchant marines and all factories within the German boundaries.

Prime Minister Churchill in his statement concerning the British stand on the Levant and the Syrian question, emphasized the fact that Britain has strived towards peace in the Levant and Syrian crisis. He stated that England only intervened to gain this end. Churchill claimed that England has no designs on Syria or Levant, but since Britain has interests in the near east, they only wished to see a peaceful settlement of the crisis.

PACIFIC NEWS

Between 450 and 500 superfortresses once more have bombed the Japanese homelands. Their target in this latest raid was the city of Kobi, on the island of Honshoo. Over 3,000 tons of fire bombs were dropped on military targets and the industrial center.

On Okinawa, the marines have captured one half of the Naha airport in a new landing of the marines yesterday. The marines have consolidated their positions and are moving inland.

On the isle of Luzon, in the Philippines, American forces are piercing deeply into the Japanese defense positions.

In Burma, the British are still sweeping towards Tongoo, the Japanese eastern escape route.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARDS HIGHLIGHT BATTALION

Presentation of Certificate of Merit awards featured the battalion activities of this week when sixty-six enlisted men were given the award at a dress parade, Saturday, June 2nd. Major Paul A. Dexter, Battalion Commander, in his first appearance before the men since returning from the hospital, made the presentations. This is the first of this type of award given to individuals of this battalion. The award itself is warranted through meritorious service and superior performance of duty not directly responsible for the organizations successful completion of its mission against the enemy. However, it is a well known fact that the difference between direct and indirect service in connection with a military mission is difficult to differentiate. In short, the deeds of these men are most highly creditable and are ample proof that through personal initiative, disregard of hours of duty, superior performance of routine assignments and cooperation, this battalion made history.

Subsequent awards of this type shall be made in the future, as they are approved by higher headquarters.

The following is a list of men receiving the Certificate of Merit at the Battalion parade:

MEDICAL DETACHMENT

S/Sgt Irwin A. Bottemiller,	Tec 5 Angus J. Mac Lennan,
Tec 5 Robert J. MacLeod,	Tec 5 Guy P. Narducci,
Tec 5 Arthur J. Lewis,	Pfc Peter E. Hepner,
Tec 5 Joseph W. Newbrough,	

HEADQUARTERS & HEADQUARTERS Co.

Sgt Edward D. Burley,	Tec 5 James T. Angelere,
Sgt Harold R. Neuhauser,	Tec 5 Palmer L. Rudd,
Tec 4 Jake W. Baker,	Tec 5 Gregory J. Thielen,
Tec 4 Clarence P. Roman,	Tec 5 Vernon O. Daughtry,
Tec 4 Frank P. Bayer,	Tec 5 George D. Alexander,
Cpl Antonio P. Kazen,	Pfc John Pavicic,
Cpl Irving Nelson,	

COMPANY 'B'

S/Sgt Robert E. Taylor,	Tec 5 Mark A. Camden,
Sgt Frank V. Otto,	Tec 5 Orville O. Holmstrom,
Tec 4 William R. Pitts,	Tec 5 Laurence H. Ingram,
Tec 4 Jack M. Hinkston,	Pfc Oscar F. Rohrbacher,
Tec 4 Felix M. Siedzik,	Pfc Henry G. Sumner,
Tec 4 James R. Nicoll,	Pfc Warren G. Jackson,
Tec 4 Milton B. Wolf,	Pfc Alvin Eberle,

COMPANY 'C'

Sgt James Bates,	Tec 5 Willy Walraven,
Tec 4 Frank T. Roehr,	Pfc John Karol,
Tec 4 Edward R. Frankecke,	Pfc Raymond E. Speer,
Tec 4 James D. Jones,	Pfc Brooks H. Hughes,
Tec 4 Edward L. Mayer,	Pfc Thomas F. Loy Jr.,
Tec 4 Leonard J. Sheats,	Pfc Frank J. Spazak,
Cpl Stephen F. Kunder,	Pfc Ernest J. Scarati,
Tec 5 William F. Stearnman,	Pfc Willie S. Blanton,
Tec 5 Okey D. Patterson,	Pfc Howard W. Popp,
Tec 5 Paul M. Woodward,	Pfc Carlos L. De Freitas,
Tec 5 Frank X. Mulligan,	Pfc Joachim G. Puppa,
Tec 5 Charles C. Bryan,	Pfc William C. Fear,
Tec 5 Jay R. Thomason,	Pfc John V. Cairns,
Tec 5 Owen A. Roberts,	Pvt Ellis R. Bean,
Tec 5 Robert L. Melvin,	Pvt Biagio Cusimano,
Tec 5 Paul R. Mathews,	Pvt Clarence W. McFeaters,

The Russian Impression

By Carl Rose

Saturday afternoon, eighteen guns of the 697th Armored Field Artillery Bn, fired fifteen volleys to welcome Lt. Gen. Vladimir Stephen Kuznetsov, Commanding General of the 40th Red Army Corps, and his staff of nineteen officers and one woman.

Maj. Gen. Alvan C. Gillem, Commanding General, XIII Corps, awarded General Kuznetsov the Legion of Merit, degree of commander. Receiving the officers degree of the Legion of Merit was Col. Nicholas N. Gerasimov.

Col. Sergie M. Bichek, Lt. Col. Ivan F. Andriankov, Lt. Col. Alexander I. Mallikoff and Major of the Guard Ivan I. Chebotarev, were awarded the Legion of Merit, degree of Legionnaire. Major of the Guard, Joseph B. Pogrebiskov, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

Tanks of the 736th Tank Bn passed in review, as the Russian General and his staff took the salute.

The Russian General, when asked his opinion of the American Soldier, replied rapidly, 'The American Soldier is extremely military, well-dressed and impressive. I was very much impressed by the duty of the American Military Police.'

While talking with Lt. Col. Alexander Mallikoff and Lt. Col. John Chebotarev, Artillery officers, I asked their view point of the American Soldier. Their reply was, 'The American Soldier is young, healthy and capable. The Russians have high regard for the American Soldier's method of fighting.' They also added, 'the weight of both wars was placed on the American Infantry. The war of 1917-18, in which they defeated the German Army in France proved to be great, but in this war they were much greater; because this war was waged in Germany.' When asked about the American Tank, the reply was 'The American Tank is strong and to be feared. The silhouette

is too high, but if lowered it would be more powerful.'

The Russian Signal Officer, Major Gramasser, said, 'The display of officers and men was outstanding. It was like a great picnic to receive the honor of such great men.'

News From Home

Chicago (CNS) — Clara Wagner climbed into the back of an ambulance to assist a sick friend. Enroute to the hospital the machine made a sharp turn, hurled good neighbor Clara through the doors and into the street. She and her sick friend now occupy adjoining hospital beds.

Detroit (CNS) — This city's police force is being trained in the use of drunkometers. They will be used in an effort to cut down the number of auto accidents attributed to drunken driving.

Ipswich, Mass (CNS) — Unaware that his truck was afire, Driver Joe Blake gaily waved back at all the people who flagged their arms at him as he sped through town. He thought they were being friendly. Blake was halted by a cop just before the flames reached his cab.

Salem, Wis (CNS) — Mike Kilty, backed his truck into a garage, unloaded a pile of building materials and then found the empty truck was too high to get out. He had to reload the materials to compress the truck springs enough so that it would squeeze under the door. Outside, he transferred the load to a smaller truck, drove in again, and unloaded.

Tacoma, Wash (CNS) — Pat O'Malley, a handsome cop, was patrolling his beat when a strange blond rushed up and hugged him impulsively. Unimpressed, Officer O'Malley arrested blond—for disorderly conduct.

SPOTLIGHT ON JAPAN

by Tec. 5 Myers

Kamikaze is the Japanese 'god of the winds'. The word Kamikaze means 'divine winds' and it stands for much in Japan.

Six and a half centuries ago the Mogul army, under the great Kublai Khan, threatened Japan with 300 warships and two hundred thousand men. In the last hours before the attack would begin, a typhoon bore down on Khan's armada, smashing and destroying it. Since then, part of the Japanese doctrine is that when in danger a divine wind will save them.

Kamikaze Special Attack Corps

This time the Japanese know that it would take more than a typhoon to save them. They knew they must create their 'divine wind', and so they created the Kamikaze Special Attack Corps.

These pilots are dedicated to death! There is no returning from their mission. When the pilot takes off, he is going on a one way trip. Their mission is to crash dive a bomb laden plane into a warship or a transport with the object of sinking the ship at the loss of one pilot and one plane.

The Kamikaze Special Corps first went into action against McArthur's troops two weeks after the invasion of the Philippines.

Japan is in a lather over the exploits of this suicide corps. The newspapers radio broadcasts, magazines and reports from neutral sources show that the Japanese people have risen to the point of hero worship over the reported successes of the Kamikaze. Such high acclaim from the people has prompted many pilots to join the Kamikaze.

The average Kamikaze volunteer is five feet three inches tall and weighs one hundred and eighteen pounds. He is between the ages of nineteen and twenty five. Before seeing action, he is put through a short preparatory course. On he is shown movies of how other Kamikaze pilots have become dead heroes. He is lectured on the three qualities he must possess. First; absolute obedience. Second; complete devotion to duty. Third: The fact that any assignment must be carried out successfully.

During first two days of action, the Kamikaze claimed the sinking of one hundred and thirteen American ships. These figures were not confirmed by our Navy. When the claims of the Kamikaze are added up, it will be found that they have claimed to have destroyed every ship of the United States Navy and Merchant Marine, plus those scheduled to be launched until 1955.

Other Suicide Corps

Along with the Kamikaze Special Attack Corps, the Japanese have organized the Banda Corps and the Shinten Corps for the express purpose of crash diving into the B-29's on their raids over the Japanese homeland. This unit is under the command of General Prince Higashi-Kuni. Our Air Command has admitted a few losses through ramming, but not the dozens that the Japanese claim after each raid.

Unwittingly these suicide corps are hastening the defeat of Japan, since our B-29's are being used to destroy plane factories and to knock out the Japanese air force. Each suicide dive of a Jap pilot is one less plane and one less pilot in Japan's rapidly diminishing air force. The B-29's raids have paralyzed the enemy aircraft production to such an extent that Japan can now replace only fifty per cent of her daily losses. Each crash dive diminishes her air force and hastens her own end.

Japanese propaganda stations claim enormous successes, but the truth is quite plainly seen. The United States Navy and Air Force dominate the Pacific.

"C" Company Men Aid in Capture of Former S. R. Commander

Peine, May 25. (Delayed) Learning from Italian P. W.'s about a former German prisoner of war camp Commander, disguised as a civilian and living in Peine, Tec 5 Barbaro, Tec 5 Basmajian and P F C Garza, armed with weapons, started the hunt. The Italian led the party to the German's hideout, identified the S. R. Trooper who was later taken to the E. I. C. Although the German denied his identity, further questioning tripped him up and he confessed.

THIS ARMY LIFE

This army life is not for me,
It makes me unhappy as can be.
I'd rather be home with that girl of mine,
Than to be waiting in a chow line.
Bunk fatigue, that's for me,
But instead I'm on "KP".
I pull guard duty once a week
Stand inspections and must be neat
I have to shave every day
And have my hair cut a certain way.
They check my bed every night.
To make sure I'm there alright.
I go on sick call when I'm not well,
But I'm not as well as I—
But their Captain is just another Joe.
They look at your tongue and if it's red,
They give you an aspirin and put you to bed.
Our Officers are OK I know
But it's the Pvt. that works for his dough.
So give me a discharge and send me on my way
Then I know I'd be happy and gay.

Pfc. George Caparelli
Co. "C"

Zero Hour

Step by step with measured tread,
Toward that unknown horror that lies ahead.
The time has come, the assault is on,
All retreating is over, all compassion is gone.

No stopping now, no time to rest,
The next ten minutes will be the test.
No turning back, for from behind
Can be seen that steadily advancing line.

You think of anything to ease your mind,
You're afraid of what ahead you'll find.
You lunge ahead—you're weak—you're scared.
You wonder if you'll make it. As if you cared!

You glance at the men along the line,
Their set expressions chill your spine.
One last lunge—the objective's in view!
Well I'll be damned—more lamb stew.

T. J. Myers
HQ. CO.

I HEAR TELL

by
O A L

That S/Sgt. Puddicombe of Radio is seriously
considering taking vocal lessons. Someone told
him that he looks like Gable and he wants to
sing like Crosby. His first attempt at crooning
caused some of his 300 crew to swoon. I've heard
bullfrogs that sing a better bass.

Since V-E day, mail from England has
diminished considerably. Many a local swain is
breathing much easier because of that.

Next to a beautiful girl, sleep is the most
wonderful thing in the world.

Of the Old Maid, who said, 'Don't put 'Miss'
on my tombstone when I die, 'cause I haven't
missed as much as you think.'

That people might have gone much further in
a car than the speedometer indicates.

Of a conversation that went something
like this:

She: 'I don't mind you making love to me
honey, but can't you be a little more subtle?'
Byrd: What?? On a six hour pass??

Of an officer who said to the General: 'Sir,
I'll have you know I'm a West Pointer.'
Said the General: 'Humph!! You look more like
an Irish setter to me.'

That dolls that cry 'Mama' when you squeeze
them have gone out of style. Hell, that's nothing
new to soldiers.

Upon receiving his draft questionnaire, Ser-
geant Fred Mills didn't have the time to fill it
out, so he merely wrote across the front of it,
'I'm ready when you are.'

That Sergeant Banahan confided in a friend
that he was worried about the future. Asked the
friend, 'What have you got to worry about.'
Replied Banahan, 'My past!'

Lucky Man

It has been brought to our attention that one
of the more fortunate men in the battalion,
(85 points plus), is not only sweating out that
certain paper that allows him to wear a zoot
suit and a yellow tie, but he is also dreaming
wistfully of 90 days leave to Scotland. Most of
us have such a minority in points that we
can't even dream of that white slip of paper.

The Copper Courier is published weekly, by and
for the men of 4th Signal Battalion.
Managing Editor, Tec. 5 George P. Slauch
Sports Editor, Tec. 5 Joseph P. Kadylak
Editors, Tec. 5 Jack D. Myers & Tec. 5
Photography, Tec. 5 P. Middleton & PFC
Malcom Gloor
Cartoonist, PFC Harry Mace
Art Director, Tec. 5 Forest Middleton
Supervising Officer, Capt. Thomas C. Nall

JEEP JIVE

By Porcelain & Moberg

WOOF! A lover of dumb animals is PFC Ro-
land Eagle. His infatuation for dogs (even the
scratching species) has been observed often.
Even a lengthy dachshund will receive his
familiar 'Hi Keed!' Unless of course it happens
to be the motherly type dog. Then the greeting
is 'Hi Too!' In fact if you should tell him the
home town is going to the dogs, he'd say it's
final. Added note: his favorite song is 'TRES-
TREES'.

STARS! (Count 'em) Added to the cast of
'Follies Brassiere' the soon-to-be-seen musical
extravaganza: Marlene Dietrich, Judith Ander-
son, Lucille Ball, and Al Jolson (How'd HE get
in here!) Dropped from the cast is Maurice Che-
valier who cannot appear because he burned his
bottom lip on a hot canleen cup. Speaking of
the show, and who isn't? it promises to be the
smash musical of all time. In fact, if you
should see a green ghost some night on guard
duty, that's the envious spirit of Flo Zeigfeld.

REICH SECRETS. PFC Raymond A. Black
astounded listeners at a 'brew conference' the
other night by revealing the name of the man
behind Hitler, behind the Reichstag, in sum,
behind! 'The man's name is Schultz,' Blackie
says, 'a slippery character who sometimes poses
as a fellow named Schmidt.' Blackie went on to
say, 'He knows I'm wise to him and is trying to
confuse me by sending me copies of a maga-
zine called 'The Merchandiser'... when I track
him down things'll look black for him!'

WHY EVENTS ARE BLESSED. PFC Donald
Steiner, they tell us, writes home in the fol-
lowing manner: 'Dearest Wife and T—
Points.'

STARVING? Has the cut in rations made a
dent in your abdomen? Here's a hint: PFC
Charles Dixon whose home is near the desert
knows how to store up food for those lean days.
He admits the idea isn't original. 'I was watching
those packrats one day,' he says, 'You can
learn a lot from animals. In fact some animals
are smarter than people, as anybody in the
Army can tell you!'

HERMIT. So far, PFC John 'Fink' Holubjak
has managed to get a room by himself. When
questioned about this his retort was 'What'd ya
want, a crowd?' As we climbed over the South
African Olanthus, we saw what he meant.

MEMORIES. Remember when PFC Charles W.
Dawson was given the nickname of 'Major'?
This direct compilation was the result of a
successful labor detail on which Dawson was
found doing a Major's work.

POSTSCRIPT. We wanted to mention something
here about Staff-Sgt. Fred Lemmon but find we
can't squeeze him in! When he returns from
Paris perhaps we can wring him out!

Army to Release
EM 40 Or Over

Washington (CNS)—The War Department
has announced that EM 40 years or older, whose
service is honorable, are now eligible for
discharge from the Army on their own appli-
cation (WD BPR 21 May 45).

However, commanders will be permitted to
retain for a period of not more than 90 days any
man for whom a replacement is not available at
the time he requests discharge. It is estimated
that about 30,000 enlisted men in the Army are
in the 40 and 41 year age groups.

As soon as the military situation permits,
further reduction in the age limit will be made.
Such a reduction cannot be made at this time,
according to the WD, without jeopardizing
military operations or slowing down the release
of combat veterans who have earned the right
to discharge under the point system on the
basis of long and arduous service.

Enlisted women of the Women's Army Corps
who have been on active duty for one year or
more, and who are 40 years or older, are eligible
for discharge on the same basis as enlisted men.
About 8,000 Wacs with the required service are
in the over-40 age group.



"Can I get my Bronze Star now, or do I have
to wait until next week—?"

Co. "C" CASUALS

By E. R. Francke

This placid life we are leading is effecting
some of the boys. After dinner the other day
Pvt. Wagner walked all the way back to his
quarters before realizing his mess kit hadn't
been washed. Tak!! Tak!!

Take pity on Joe DiAmbrosio, of the supply.
You guys, he'll be ready for a section 8 if you
don't stop asking for your clothing salvage.

Since Pfc. Doyon, the company barber left
for the hospital everybody has been cutting each
others hair. You should see some of the latest
styles the 'Tonsorialists' have created.

'Big Joe' Enno, who is on D. S., visited the
company the other day, got in the lineup for the
ball game, and broke the teams losing streak,
pitching a beautiful game allowing but three
hits.

Pvt. Pierson is in a hospital suffering a bro-
ken arm received in a ball game.

Who's that certain T/4 in the first platoon
that frequents the 'Donut Dugout', making eyes
at the little Red Cross gal. Hello 'Frenchy', I
dare you to send this home to your wife.

LIFE'S LIGHTER MOMENTS

'Why is it,' asked the young girl making a
show of interest, 'that naval officers wear blues
in the winter and grays in the summer?'
'It's like this, miss,' the naval officer replied.
'In the winter the Navy fights for the north and
in the summer it fights for the south.'

A British Officer was arguing with an Ameri-
can Officer as to which army had the better
discipline. As the American was giving his side
of the argument, one of his men entered.

'Can I borrow the Jeep tonight, sir?' he asked.
'I've got my girl and I'd like to take her out.'
'Sure,' replied the officer. Then, turning to the
Briton, he said, 'there's proof of our discipline.
He needn't have asked me.'

'Name?' queried the immigration official.
'Sneeze,' replied the Chinese proudly.
The official looked hard at him. 'Is that your
Chinese name?'

'No, 'Melican name,' said the Chinese, blandly.
'Then let's have your native name.'
'Ah Choo.'

The teacher asked a young pupil, 'Leonard, do
you know your alphabet?' 'Yes,' said the child.
'Well then, what letter comes after 'A'?'
'All of 'em!'

POETS CORNER

Two Apples

I passed an orchard on a day
In early autumn, when the earth
Had dressed herself in new array
From top to toe, —
Just passed it by.

With not a thought, except that I
Had things to do — important things.
Not I admit it, that's a lie.

I paused in passing it,
There beside the orchard fence,
I stood a moment, though a bit,
Assumed an air of innocence —
And then, reached out and chose
As bright and blushing apple as I could
Right in the bloom of maidenhood.
I took just one; — well, two if you insist.
One looked so very much alone,
I know that they were never missed.
And who, indeed, was I to sever
These comrades who had grown together?

Friend, have you ever known
The touch of sweet September winds?
Winds that have blown
Across a landscape overgrown
With ash and maple, oak and beech,
Stealing a certain spice from each.
Winds heavy with a harvest smell,
That in their whispering seem to tell
Of love and laughter,
Aye! And a kind of peace,
That lingers like a benediction,
After they cease.

Do I digress; Perhaps I do.
I must confess
My fancy often tempts to.
But something in the touch and sound
Of autumn winds seems to renew
A memory of the absolute
Which I, one day in Eden found
In some forbidden fruit.

T. J. Slauch

'Fewpoints Finley'

by Mace



"Th guy that marches behind me never
keeps his distance —!"

UNITY

Why have the mighty fallen?
from their perch so high and free.
'Cause they believed in telling tales
and not in unity.

Why is there dissension? when
our minds should clearer be.
Must we always war within a war
in complete dis-harmony?

Why do we gather thorns? when
we know the points are sharp.
We could be gathering friendship
and let our minds unwarp.

Above all else to thine ownself
be true, and conscience free;
And let your actions make loud their
voice
In perfect unity.

You'll find that men will greet
you,
And they'll smile a welcome warm.
Then they'll say, 'I'm glad to see you!
In your heart will be no storm.

If we can pull together, with
no thought of laying traps;
Then we're a cinch to come
out best
In our war against the Japs.

Let's try to make this outfit
the best in history!
And you will find we've reached
the top
'Cause WE HAD UN[ITY]!

(ANON)

The Escapist



There you stand, just filled with joy,
Your discharge in your hand.
At long last you feel you're free,
It's just the way you'd planned.

You walk into a tailor shop
And shed your G. I. suit.
You put on a nifty blue pen-stripe,
Man, now you're lookin' zoot!!!

In your new clothes, a nice white shirt,
And a really sharp cravat....
Say, you've forgotten something,
Let's go take care of that.

You walk up to your Sergeant
And punch him in the nose.
'No more K. P. for me,' you say,
And then stomp on his toes.

You pass a colonel on the street,
Your hand goes to your head,
Hey, why should you salute this guy....
You thumb your nose instead.

Boy, this is really wonderful,
You've dreamed of this for years,
No more G. S. from second jobs,
Inspections, guard, or fears.

Suddenly someone grabs you,
He shakes you up and down.
You look into an ugly face
That wears a nasty frown.

'C'mon, get up it's reveille',
The loud-mouthed sergeant screams....
He hum, oh well tomorrow night
You'll go back to your dreams!!!!

— Harry Mace



With much of the Corps league already canceled, and more to be cancelled within the next few days, we can look back on what was to be one of our most successful athletic programs yet put on within the battalion. With what equipment we had, the companies tried and did their best, and many came out on top in most of the leagues that Corps formed. Many of the units have moved or withdrawn from the Corps, causing a necessity of the cancellation of the leagues. If the rumor is true as to where we are to move, we won't mind it. We can say one thing regardless of where we go we will try our best to continue to have athletics, and if possible, put it on a larger scale.

Let's have a look at the companies and their outcome in the Corps leagues.

Headquarters Company: Many a star has shown on the team that has put Headquarters Company as one of the leading teams in the Ivory League. With four wins and two losses they are holding on to a tight second place, tied with the 6th TD Group. They are in the running for the playoffs that will be held within the next few days. Juskowski played outstanding ball at third, as did Swatsky behind the plate. Myers and Barber were hard to match with the twirling chores.

'A' Company: Although starting the season in great shape, 'A' Company weakened as the league swung into force. The boys played great ball but found it hard relying on one pitcher.

'B' Company: Slated to be the strongest contender in the league, 'B' Company had lived up to their reputation until the end of the season when two straight setbacks had eliminated them from the playoffs. Although winning from the two strongest teams in the league, 'B' Company had the misfortune of losing to the two weakest teams in the league. 'Buddy' Dubreck twirled beautiful ball for 'B' Company and had nice support with 'Hap' Holiday in the outfield and Clark in the infield.

'C' Company: Being represented in the strongest league proved too much for the 'C' Company boys, who put up a gallant fight to stay on top. They proved to be a thorn in the side for many a team, as they had won many a game from a leading contender. Credit goes to 'C' Company as the company that was most interested in the athletic program, and did all within their power to put it through.

AROUND THE MAJORS

With the season one quarter of the way over, the big leagues as yet have no definite team in the running for a runaway championship of either the American League or the National League. Teams, such as both New York teams, are leading their respective leagues, and before the season opened the critics gave them no better chance than finishing in fourth place.

The St. Louis Cardinals, the senior circuit champs for the past three years, are bobbing around in third and fourth place, unable to show the championship form they displayed in the last few years. The draft and the injuries hit the Cards this year and it seems unlikely that the fresh men will come up to the standards of the positions left them.

A dog is never too old to learn, and it looks like a man is never too old to play ball, from the looks of the way 'papa' Mel Ott, master of the first place Giants is slugging the ball. Mel is the second leading hitter in the National League, with a batting average of .385 in 39 games. His pitching and batting department is leading the National League.

Let's have a look at the teams so far in the National League.

New York: The Giants look like they may hold their lead of five games in the National League. Their pitching and hitting is sound. Voiselle, the hard luck pitcher of 1944, has come around and has a record of 8 wins and 3 losses. Fieldman, the other leading pitcher, has 5 wins and 1 loss. Ott and Reyes are two of the six leading hitters in the National League, with Lombardi and Weintraub leading in the home run department with 12 and 8 respectively.

Pittsburg: The Pirates, bobbling and unable to take a firm grip in the top column, are now lingering in second place. With a good pitcher they may overtake the Giants and make trouble for the rest of the teams. Butcher, leading the pitching staff, is unable to take as many turns on the mound as he used to.

Brooklyn: The unpredictable Bums are holding on to third place, thanks to the hitting of Tommy Olmo and Dixie Walker. Vetran Curt Davis is leading the pitching staff.

St. Louis: Greatly hindered by the draft and injuries they are unable to come around to their old championship form. With the loss of Walker Cooper, one of the game's best catchers has gone to the army. The outfield has been weakened by the loss of sluggers like Enos. Slaughter, Terry Moore, and Stan Musial, all in the army and three of the game's best fielders. No replacement can be found for Ernie White, brilliant southpaw twirler, although Breechen and Donnelly are coming around and look like future stars.

Chicago: The Cubs are very weak on pitching and it is a doubt if they will be able to make better than fifth place this year. With sluggers like Delessandro and Nicholson, it seems that they will be unable to make up for the pitching flaw. Lon Warneke has returned from the voluntary retirement list and may help bolster the weak pitching staff.

Cincinnati: The Reds, usually strong on the mound, find it hard for their pitchers to come around into shape. Bucky Walters, their star hurler, finds it hard to keep even with his won't record. Not an outstanding hitter seems to dominate the Red's lineup. It looks like the second division for them.

Boston: The Braves are trying hard to come out of the second division, which they have occupied for many years. With the admission of Mort Cooper, the guy who didn't know whether or not to pitch for the Gards, and negotiations being made to buy Ernie Lombardi from the giants, it looks like the Braves are trying to do the same thing that the Bums did in 1941.

Philadelphia: The Phils are right at home, with ten games won in the last forty played, it doesn't look like they will come out of the cellar. Vince Dimaggio, acquired from the Pirates, is their leading hitter. No strength is shown on the mound.

LOOKING AT THE AMERICAN LEAGUE

New York: The Yankees are leading the American League by two games over the Detroit Tigers, and if the pitching of the Yanks doesn't hold up, the chances are they will not be fluffing. It is said that the veteran 'Red' Ruffing is up for discharge soon and his return into the lineup may bolster the Yank's hopes for the flag.

Detroit: With the leagues two greatest pitchers, Dizzy Trout and Hal Newhouser, who won 56 games between them last year, the Tigers seem the most likely to clinch the American League flag. A block was thrown in their path when pitcher Al Benton received and injury recently. Al was leading the league in wins until he got hurt.

St. Louis: The Browns, American League champs of last year, find it pretty hard sticking around in the first division. It is just a question as to whether or not their old men will hold out this year, that will make the Browns strong contenders. Jack Kramer and Sid Juckicki are responsible for most of the twirling for the Browns. With Stevens and Mc Quinn they have a sparkling, hitting infield.

Chicago: If not a strong contender for the flag, the White Sox make plenty of trouble for the teams who are heading for the flag. The pitching and the hitting is weak for the White Sox and our prediction is the second division for them.

Boston: The Red Sox found it hard to win a game in the earlier part of the season, but master Joe Cronin has patched together his battered ball club and has brought them around to settle in fifth place. It looks likely, if his pitchers click, that he will be moving further ahead. With the loss of Dick Wakefield, most of the punch has gone out of the outfield.

Cleveland: It has been a toss up for a long time as to where the Indians will land. They are about as unpredictable as the Bums from Brooklyn. A week from now they may be lingering in first place or last place. Their fire ball twirler, Bob Feller was lost to the draft a few years ago and has not been able to regain his stance since. With manager Boudreau getting rid of big names like Hemsley and Weatherly, it doesn't look like he wants the flag in Cleveland.

Washington: The Congressmen may not be a strong contender for the flag, but if you want to see a good game, the senators will put it on for you. Their specialty is to knock the top teams out of first place and make room for new names. The unforgettable Dutch Leonard victory over the Tigers in the final game of the 1944 season will not be forgotten and will surely hit a spotlight in the record books.

Philadelphia: Connie Mack's Athletics are resting in last place with their home town cousins, the Phils. Connie hasn't been able to come up with the million dollar infield that he once had a few decades ago. Probably the only reason Connie has his team in the league is to give youngsters a break and send them on up to the big names.

4th TROUNCES 1276th ENG. 13-9

The 4th Signal Battalion won their third game of the season when they downed the 1276th Engineers by a score of 13 to 9 on diamond nr 5, Boberge, on the mound for the signalers, chalked up his third win as against one loss as he set down the Bridgebuilders with 14 hits. The 4th collected 16 hits off pitcher Lemain. The Engineers took the lead when they scored six runs in the third on seven hits, two errors and a wild throw.

Going into the last half of the eighth inning the Engineers were leading by score of 9 to 8. With two men on Havelka received an intentional walk filling the bases, then Smith smashed a clean single into center spring two men. Caperelli followed with a long homer into center that was good for three more runs that accounted for five runs and a total of 13. Five errors on the part of the 4th Signal accounted for most of the Engineers runs. Hartman, second baseman of the Engineers led the hitting parade with four out of five trips to the plate. Havelka and Caperelli did long hitting for the Signalmen.

Score by innings	R	H	E
1276th Eng	10	6	0
4th Sig	4	0	0

Company "C" Men Start Trek to Civilian Life

Master Sergeant, Cyrus D. Irwin and Technical Sergeant Joseph Polumbi, left Company 'C' May 28, bound for the U. S. A. and civilian life.

Sergeant Irwin entered the armed forces August 22, 1940 and left for the Panama Canal zone in September, 1940. After serving 29 months in that theater, he returned to the United States in January, 1943. In October, 1943 Sgt. Irwin left the States for the second time and arrived in England on November 1943.

He landed in Normandy on 'D' day at 'H' hour with the First Division. Wounded in action he was sent to England to recover and later joined the 4th Signal Battalion.

Technical Sergeant Polumbi entered the Service in June 1940 and landed in the Panama Canal Zone in August, 1940. Sgt. Polumbi returned to the U. S. A. in August, 1943 and left for England in October, 1943. He landed in Normandy on June 13th with elements of the First Army and took part in all campaigns until September of that year when he was assigned to the 4th Signal Battalion. Sergeant Polumbi recently received the Bronze Star Medal for Meritorious Service. M/Sgt. Irwin had 116 points and T/Sgt. Polumbi had 130 points. Those wishing to write to either of the men can get their full addresses from 'C' Company orderly room.

SWIMMING POOL OPENED

Special Service has notified us that the Swimming Pool near the Canal has been opened. Chlorine has been put into the water and one thing is asked of the personnel that use the pool. "Please see the special service officer before you go into the pool, so that they may have a life guard or watchman around." Otherwise, you will be swimming at your own risk.

TENNIS COURT AVAILABLE

Anyone who wishes to use the Tennis court may do so by making a reservation by calling the special service officer (phone 2737) or by coming to the special service office. The court is open all day but a reservation must be made before using it.

"Off The Beat"

By Harry Mace

All you lovers of classical music please take note. Every Sunday afternoon at the American Theater, from 1330 until 1500, just preceding the matinee, there will be a program entirely devoted to the playing of the classics. Absolutely the best classical recording available will be played for your enjoyment, so come on down and get yourself carried away by the strains of Brahms and Wagner.

Now for you boys who like your stuff on jazz side, and I do mean pure unadulterated jazz without the slightest trace of commercialism involved. When you get your pass to Paris (don't laugh) push your way thru the mobs of lovely blondes and direct your pedal extremities to the Monmartre district, which is a sort of junior sized 52nd Street. Along this gay way you will find one of the greatest jazz guitarists of all time, Django Reinhardt, who runs his own little cafe down in this Neighborhood. Some of you more enthusiastic jazz collectors may remember Django from his recordings with the 'Hot Club of France' a few years ago. This group also featured several well known American musicians from time to time, including Colman Hawkins. Another very fine band around these parts is that of Alix Combelle, which comes on with some terrific stuff, and many Count Basie originals, at a little spot called La Roulette. There you are, if it's real jazz you want of Paris is again coming to life and has an ample supply, so if you get the opportunity dig it!!!

According to a recent poll, taken by Esquire mag, the most requested recording by the G. I.'s overseas (that's you and me) is the late Bunny Berigan's terrific disc of his theme, 'I Can't Get Started', and right behind it bringing up a close second is the number and arrangement that put Arlie Shaw on top of the heap commercially 'Begin The Beguine'.

One of the outstanding new records is the Count Basie disc of 'Caledonia', which features Louis Jordan on the vocal. Another is a new number by that terrific band of Stan Kenton called, 'Are You Livin' Ol' Man' — this features a fine vocal by Anita O'Day and is a current biggie on the juke boxes back in the states.

Louis Armstrong has again topped the nations music polls as the outstanding jazz soloist of year 1944. The followers of 'The Horn', Harry James, naturally looked down their noses at this and made cracks such as saying that Louis's playing is crude. But no one can deny that for real spine chilling music and fresh ideas, Louis is the boy. Ever hear his 'Confessin'??? This record is really one of the all-time jazz classics.

A new band that has stepped into the big time since we left the states is the one fronted by Herbie Fields — Herbie formerly led the fine bunch at Ft. Dix and plays very terrific tenor sax. His new band is built around a very fine five man reed section, has six brass and a very potent four man rhythm section. Keep your eye, and ear, on this outfit by the time we get home it will probably be really in the big time.

HEALTH HINTS

4th SIGNAL MEDICAL DEPT

Medicine and dentistry have in the past worked hand in hand to maintain the health of the individual. The dentists are afforded the opportunity of observing manifestations of systemic diseases in individuals before the patient or soldier seeks medical aid. By examining the mouth alone, the dentist can detect the presence of syphilis, also detect diseases like the anemias and certain deficiency diseases. These are but a few examples that might be caught in their early stages.

The opportunity for the routine examinations have always been afforded to the soldiers of the battalion. We are here, you get here.

**"Been Overseas?"****"Buzzin' Around in 'B' Co.**

— by Harry Mace

This week we said 'so long' to two members of our company whom we will all miss very much, 'Uncle John' Mills and 'Pop' Faye have left us — Since both are over forty-two years of age they are being sent back to the states for discharge. We want to take this opportunity to wish them all the luck in the world. Our chief regret is that we cannot go along with them.

John R. (I can lick any stamp in the world) Patterson is very busy these days perfecting his latest invention, NEON T/5 stripes!!!!

John Toelle, who poses for the 'before' pictures in the Charles Atlas before and after ads, is one fellow who never has trouble threading a needle, he ties the thread to his foot and crawls right thru the needles eye!!!!

T/5 'Chubby' Panis' Lukoshus gets a new worry wrinkle in his forehead every time he gains a pound, and at the rate he's been gaining he'll look like 'Pruneface' before long!!!!

'Dirty Jack' Hinkston, Utica's gift to the song writing field, is very busy working on his latest hit, 'Dry Gertie's Tears, Cause I'll Be Home In Thirty Years.' This number is expected to sweep the nation's juke boxes, at least that's what 'Nothin' But Hits' Hinkston claims!!!!

'Stevie Boy' Fry, who can get along with women in any country, because he speaks the international language, is sporting the blackest black eye we have seen in many a moon. His only comment on the matter was, 'She must have been a lady wrestler'.

T/Sgt. Ernie (No tickes no shirtee) Pertle has requested, with his gun drawn, that we print a retraction of last weeks insinuation that he had relatives in China. Pertle says all his relations are in San Francisco, in the laundry business!!!!

Since this paper is devoted to law and order, and all that sort of stuff, we feel it is our duty to inform First Sgt. Gestwicki, the boy with the golden smile, that certain shady characters who lost all their dinero in a Poker game, are planning to steal his gold tooth, and hock it!!!!

Jimmie Watts is indeed in a predicament! During the past few months, on our trip thru Holland and Germany, he has been trying to learn to speak Dutch and German, in fact he very seldom spoke in English, thinking that the constant use of the other languages would enable him to speak them fluently after a while. Well, he has now reached the stage where he can speak German, but not well enough for the Germans to understand him. And because of the fact that he concentrated so hard on German and Dutch and forgot about English, we cannot understand him either. He speaks a sort of bastard lingo that no one understands!!!!

Jim Barber didn't have a very good time on his recent pass to Paris. It seems he met up with one of those women you read about in books, then for a while his memory grows a bit hazy. All of what occurred between the time he met her and the time she left, Jim doesn't remember, but he does know that when she left, most of his francs left too, for when he reached for his wallet, shortly after she departed, the francs inside were few and far between. The moral of this story is: You can't buy an ice cream cone for three cents cause they cost a nickel! Who wants ice cream in Poree anyway — I don't!!!!

"IDLE HOURS"

Did you ever try writing a letter by the light of a cigarette in a pup tent? I know of someone who did, and it proved quite an experience. After smoking about five cigarettes in succession in a closed tent, observing strict blackout regulations, he almost suffocated. Adding to the discomfort he had to puff on the cigarette continually to receive the most of the insufficient light, and his head had to be close to the paper, in fact so close, that he actually couldn't see what he was doing, and maneuvering the pen in such a manner, as to assimilate words were being written. Well, the smoke became so thick that he had to run out gasping for air, dragging the tent behind him. Breathing normal once again he set up the tent for the second time and decided to sleep. Awakening the next morning and reaching for the supposed letter, he found the most peculiar designs; couldn't recognize it as handwriting.

Only a candidate for a section '8' would try such a stunt, nevertheless this fellow did try it and he possessed a sound mind, which remains a doubt.

It's amazing what a 'G. I.' won't do simply to pass the time away, isn't it?

E. R. Francke

Quote of the Week

By Camp Newspaper Service

'I've had hand grenades thrown in my foxhole, men killed all about me, and I've looked the enemy dead in the eye. I'm afraid that a little matter of returning to civilian life doesn't worry me,' Pvt James D. Sheldon, 37, infantry rifleman who fought at Guam and Leyte, discussing civilian concern about the 're-adjustment' of the returning serviceman.

THE FIGHT AGAINST FASCISM

by T/5 Sidney E. Porcelain

The best way to fight Fascism, is to make Democracy work. Who can do this only if we use those rights which Democracy permits us. Among those rights is the right of assembly, a seldom mentioned, but all important freedom. Though the Nazi's rode to power and maintained it with the help of a controlled press, it wasn't until they forbade the right to assemble that they could be sure of 'themselves. For despite newspapers, and other means of propagandizing Germany, the people, if allowed to discuss among themselves what was happening, might still have been strong enough to protest. So meetings of anything that wasn't Nazi were forbidden.

That is why our I & E discussion meetings are worthy. They represent Democracy at work, for here, in the Army, we are able to meet and probe the problems which face the world. It is part of our fight against fascism. This frank exchange of ideas and opinions is a healthy habit, as good for our national complexion as soap and water. Let's keep this in mind when we attend these discussion periods. It's good practice to prepare us for our return to civilian life.

Above all, let's remember that fascism has started when we allow others to dictate to us beyond the boundaries of our privileges. Fascism can be recognized by it's efforts to forbid meetings, to control speech and press, to inspire hate against minorities, and in general, to browbeat the many for the few.

Report on "A" Company

By Carl Rose

The men of this company, contributed the amount of two hundred and five dollars, and was sent to the families of the two men who so gallantly gave their lives in battle, against the enemy of the United States.

A grand farewell was given Carl (Pop) Schmit, Pop is going home. He was over 42.

Lt. Page, is enjoying a pass to Paris, while Lt. Gold is doing Brussels.

While only clad in his trousers and slippers, T/Sgt. Vitty, was walking, with bent back and pain in his face, down the orderly room hallway when an approaching Gee Eye inquired, 'do you have a sprained ankle.'

It is rumored around that T/5 Turner, is going to take a course in english speaking. Turner, is from the deep south, and is finding it awful hard for his associates to understand him.

T/3 Tommy Glossop received his home town paper, and while reading an article raised up with astonished eyes and read, 'his old buddy had given birth to twenty five pigs, in nine days.'

T/5 Hohne, received word that his girl had married a civilian, but that didn't bother him, all he wanted was his money back.

Sinofsky, who was promoted to Tec 4, read the orders then dashed madly out of the orderly room, and five minutes later returned with his stripes on, nice work, Sam.

Defeats "B" Company

By Carl Rose

'A' company won their second victory of the Ivory League schedule, Friday afternoon, by defeating 'B' Company. With two men on in the first inning, Supak, singled to score Kiefer, for the wiremens first run. Montgomery, walked and Supak, stole third, Dugan doubled into deep right field to score the two men on base. Giving 'A' Company a three run lead.

O'Dell, on the mound for Co. 'A' limited his first three innings to no runs and no hits. In the fourth inning, 'B' Company, rallied. Wagner walked and Clark, singled, putting a man on first and third, when Bloyer, leading batter, doubled into center field to score Wagner and Clark. Dubreck singled, scoring Bloyer, bringing the score, 3-3.

'A' Company took the lead again in the first of the sixth. Tipalli, lead off man, singled and Pecho, walked, O'Dell, singled into left field to score Tipalli. Manager Billy Swisher, singled into center field, to score O'Dell, giving the A's a 5 to 3 lead over 'B' Co.

In the first of the seventh, Tipalli, of the A's, scored on an error, to give them a 6-3 lead. Wallet, leadoff man for 'B' Co, singled, Lukoshus, also singled putting two men on, Clark, singled and on an error by Swisher, allowed two men to score. With two down and bases loaded, Link, smashed a high drive into center field but a sensational one handed catch by Tipalli, ended the game, giving 'A' Company the victory. Final Score, 'A' Co, 6 runs, 6 hits and 5 errors to 'B' Co's, 5 runs, 9 hits and 1 error.

Leading batters for 'A' Company Tipalli, and Bloyer for 'B' Co. Batteries were O'Dell and Kiefer for 'A' Co, with Dubreck and Liptróp, for 'B' Co.

Line ups:

Co. A

Score By Innings

Name	Pos.	AB	H	R	E
Kiefer	C	4	1	1	0
Swisher	SS	4	0	1	2
Supak	LF	4	1	1	0
Montgomery	1B	3	1	0	1
Dugan	SF	3	0	1	0
Diel	2B	3	0	0	1
Tipalli	CF	3	2	1	0
Pecho	3B	3	1	0	1
O'Dell	P	3	0	1	0
Total		33	6	6	5

Co. B

Name	Pos.	AB	H	R	E
Lukoshus	CF	4	1	1	0
Wagner	3B	4	1	0	1
Clark	SS	4	1	1	0
Bloyer	1B	4	1	3	0
Liptróp	C	4	0	2	0
Dubreck	P	4	0	2	0
Link	2B	4	0	0	0
Holiday	LF	3	0	0	0
O'Shea	SF	3	0	0	0
Wallet	RF	3	1	2	0
Total		38	5	9	1

Score by Innings:

'A' Co. 3 0 0 0 2 0 1 — 6
'B' Co. 0 0 0 3 0 0 2 — 5



"Fresh, spirited American troops, flushed with victory, are bringing in thousands of hungry, ragged, battle weary prisoners." (News Item.)

This drawing won for Sgt. Bill Mauldin, Stars and stripes famous combat cartoonist, the 1944 Pulitzer Prize for cartoons.

All items not in the public domain © 2023

[The Unofficial Archive of the U.S. Army Signal Corps in WWII](#)

From the collection of

[The Unofficial Archive of the U.S. Army Signal Corps in WWII](#)

Researched by Kirk , Gustafson

Constructed by Leonard H. Cizewski

June 25. 2023