

The Hood Panther



VOL. II

CAMP HOOD, TEXAS, THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1944.

NO. 15



SHOWN ABOVE IS ONE of the two groups comprising Camp Hood's fire fighters, who, led by Fire Chief Ernest V. Esterling (standing extreme left) made trips to Dallas for 100% blood donations to aid lives of men in armed forces. Dallas chapter of Red Cross paid these men high tribute.

Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo

Advance IRTC Contingent Getting Hq. Set Up Here

The blue, gold, and red vertical stripes of the Replacement and School Command were fast becoming familiar colors at Camp Hood and hundreds of officers and cadremen were busy setting up the organization of the new Infantry Replacement Training Center here.

Since the first contingent of the IRTC staff arrived at Camp Hood two weeks ago speedy and efficient progress has been made in establishing headquarters for the IRTC and its various component units. Most of the key officers charged with the direction of administrative duties are now in permanent quarters.

The IRTC organization is being supervised by Col. Maurice C. Bigelow, veteran Army officer. His staff consists of officers and cadre, who for the most part, have had a year or more of experience at similar training centers. They have done yeoman work in laying the foundation for the IRTC.

Cadre Swarming In

In addition to the administrative staffs a large number of field cadre and officers, the forerunners of many more to come, are swarming into Camp to orientate themselves with the Camp and its training facilities before the first arrival of trainees.

These men are also highly qualified for their duties with long experience in infantry work at such installations as Camp Wolters, Tex., Camp Croft, S. C., Camp Fannin, Tex., Fort McClellan, Ala., and many others. Added to these are men from the Field Artillery Replacement Training Center at Fort Sill, Okla., and the Cavalry School at Fort Riley, Kans. They will train new men for work in conjunction with the IRTC.

Seven Regiments

Seven Training Regiments will comprise the IRTC and these have already been activated under individual commands and staffs. S-3, the Plans and Training Section under command of Col. Anthony F. Levno has completed area allotments for these units and is now engaged in arrangements for training areas and the formulation of training plans. The areas for the Regiments have been mapped out as follows:

The 98th Regt., a rifle regiment consisting of four battalions, will occupy quarters from 31st St. to 37th St., between Battalion and Central Avenues.

Adjoining the 90th between 37th and 42nd Streets will be the 96th Regt. It will comprise three battalions and will furnish basic training along with specialist training for pioneers, cooks, and clerks.

The 93rd Regt., will be an Anti-Tank outfit of four battalions. It will include some of the regular IRTC training features in addition to work with the weapons peculiar to a unit of its kind. Its quarters are located between 42nd and 48th Streets.

Cadre from IRTC Headquarters are already occupying permanent quarters between 48th and 50th Streets. This group is divided into two companies under general command of Maj. Walter C. Sharp, Jr. Maj. Sharp is assisted by Capt. Osborne F. Apple, Commanding Officer of Hdq. Co. No. 1, and Capt. Donald L. Sowers, Commanding Officer of Hdq. Co., No. 2.

Immediately west of the Headquarters Co. section, between 50th and 55th Streets, will be the 95th Regt., another Specialist unit of three battalions devoted to the training of Message Center clerks and Intelligence personnel.

The 91st Regt., another rifle regiment, will be located between 60th and 66th Streets and the

Variety Of Jobs - Anywhere - By The Red Cross

The American Red Cross is a unique organization because it knows no distinction of creed or race, its membership is open to all, and much of its work is accomplished by volunteers. Its national and international services are well known.

Of Interest to Camp Hood

Of local interest is the work being done at Camp Hood for the men by the Field Director, and in the surrounding territory for the families by the Chapters. Coryell County Chapter has its headquarters at Gatasville, headed by Miss Florence Mercer, Executive Secretary. Miss Elaine Webber, Home Service Chairman, is responsible for the Chapter in Lampasas County. Bell County has in addition to Chapter headquarters in Temple, an Extension office in Killeen. Mrs. Mary E. Dobbins is Executive Secretary of the Chapter and Mrs. Catherine N. Meloy, director of the Killeen office.

Field Directors, responsible for the serviceman's welfare, and Chapters, responsible for their families problems, work in close cooperation. Mr. George H. Hyde, Field Director at Camp Hood, has commended the work done by neighboring chapters and has released a report from the Killeen office as an example of the work being done for the families of Camp Hood men.

Killeen Active

The Bell County Chapter Extension in Killeen has been open less than five months. In that time it has reported to the Chapter, 889 cases acted on. Furlough and release from duty investigations totalled 144. 96 AER and other investigations were made. Family counselling has been given to 1,079 and financial assistance rendered 658 times. 99 were given medical care. This service includes doctors' care, medicine and ambulance service. In addition vocational rehabilitation and claims services have been given to veterans, assistance rendered to families whose husbands and sons are overseas, in action. All services available through the Home Service program have been called for. All of which is a significant factor in urging us to support the Red Cross drive now underway.

Via The Stork

Born, to Camp Chaplain Thomas H. Talbot and Mrs. Talbot, their first child, seven-pound Catherine Douglas Talbot, at 7:08 p. m. March 16th in a Temple hospital.

92nd, which will afford similar training is between 66th and 72nd Streets. Both of these units will have four battalions.

The 97th Regt., located between 56th and 62nd Streets, will train chauffeurs.

More Like It!

The total cost of bonds sold in Camp Hood during the Fourth War Bond Drive was \$757,588.50, according to Capt. J. H. Morris, War Bond Officer.

Camp Firemen Make Mass Blood Donation To R. C.

In one of the finest exhibitions of patriotism displayed by Americans, the civilian fire fighters of Camp Hood gave a splendid demonstration of their war-time zeal, when they recently appeared in a body at the Blood Donor Center, Dallas.

Led by Fire Chief Ernest V. Esterling, all cheerfully donated their blood to help save the lives of our fighting men in the armed forces.

In commenting on this deed by the Camp Hood fire fighters, Colonel R. P. Palmer, director of the Dallas Blood Donor Center, said: "This shows what can be done by an organization of our citizens when they are willing to give their time and effort to render this vital service to our armed forces."

Famed Austin Symphony Group Appears Tues.

One of the most outstanding events on Camp Hood's entertainment schedule takes place next Tuesday evening at 8 p. m. at the Hood Road Theater, when the famed symphonic chorus of 70 members of the Austin Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Hendrik J. Buytendorp, will appear before an expected capacity throng.

Accompanying the great chorus will be 10 of Austin's prettiest girls, who will distribute programs and otherwise aid in the entertainment.

Among the musical selections to be rendered by the Austin group will be "The Blue Danube," "Finlandia," and celebrated soloists will give portions of "Faust," and "Martha," immortal operas.

Music lovers, Tuesday, March 28th is your night!

TDS Weapons Dept. Was Outstanding At Air Show

A tank destroyer platoon from the weapons department, Tank Destroyer School, and a pair of GI jitterbugs stole the show from the air forces in a special aerial attack demonstration on Friday.

The TD platoon pulled into position in front of the assembled troops at Black Gap and blew a wooden and pasteboard panel tank sky high with 50-caliber tracer bursts and then took on an aerial target in a demonstration of the AA fire possessed by a tank destroyer platoon.

"That's my outfit," the men cheered, as the tank target soared into the air in small pieces. An examination of the aerial target at the close of the demonstration showed seven hits.

Impromptu

The jitterbug interlude was strictly impromptu, an added attraction over and above the schedule for the afternoon. The two men leaped up when the band broke into a boogie piece to the amusement of all spectators. They put on a repeat performance for an alert photographer looking for picture material.

Planes Rear

Combating cross winds and poor visibility airmen of the headquarters third composite squadron from Lawson Field, Fort Benning, Ga., roared through the gap in

B-25's, P-40's, and P-39's in a demonstration of aerial attacks on ground targets.

The ground troops saw a P-40 flash across their immediate front on a tree-top level reconnaissance mission, much as it would operate in actual combat. The rest of the demonstration was equally as realistic.

Drop Demolition Bombs

P-40's dropped 250-pound delayed action demolition bombs on a circular precision target and then followed through with a strafing attack on a column target with fixed 50-caliber machine guns.

B-25's came over at medium height and released 250-pound bombs with instantaneous fuzes in an attack on the precision target.

The column target came in for its most punishing attack when a B-25 pilot swept over it and laid hundreds of thermite incendiary bombs right on the target. To show that this accuracy was no fluke another B-25 swept over the target and planted eight 250-pound delayed action demolition bombs right down the middle of the column.

As in a previous similar demonstration, the show gave the ground forces training at Camp Hood an opportunity to see how the airforce can be of assistance in attacking the enemy.

"Hold Tight," Is New USO Show

"Hold Tight" comes to Camp Hood next Monday, March 27th and stays until April 1st, presenting a new type of vaudeville-revue.

March 27-28 and 29 the show appears at the Park Avenue Recreation Building, North Camp, and it performs at the Hood Road Theater, South Camp, March 30-31 and April 1st.

Just A Year Ago In Camp Hood: March 23, 1943

One year ago today: the camp gives \$16,423.79 to the Red Cross War Fund.

A Fort Sill 28-piece band is assigned to RTC here.

The Machine Records Unit moves here from Fort Bliss.

Joan Blondell appeared this week at Field House.

"You Can't Take It With You," announced as a coming stage attraction.

The 774th TD Bn. wins camp basketball championship.

Major league catcher Gus Mancuso visits Camp Hood.

IRTC Personnel On Job



COL. MAURICE C. BIGELOW, Commanding Officer, IRTC.



CAPT. M. E. VAN HEMERT, S-2, PRO, SSO, and Lt. Col. Anthony F. Levno, S-3.



MAJOR HOWARD S. FISHER, S-4 officer.



MAJOR WALTER C. SHARP, JR., Hdqts. commandant, and Major Norman Flint (r) Adjutant.



T-SGT. HUGH MATTISON, chief clerk, adjutant section, M-Sgt. M. F. Ferens, chief clerk of S-3, and M-Sgt. Mark Cummings, chief clerk of S-4.



LT. COLONEL JACK DAVIS, S-1 officer.

Fannin Reporter Is Now At IRTC

Working with the S-2 officer at IRTC is T-4 Ralph Ruemelin. Ruemelin arrived last week from Camp Fannin, Texas, where he was a mainstay of the camp's newspaper "Guidon" since its first issue.

Ruemelin had been with the IRTC public relations office for 14 months.

As sports editor of the Guidon, he specialized in boxing and accompanied the Camp Fannin boxing team to Fort Worth for the recent Golden Gloves tourney there.

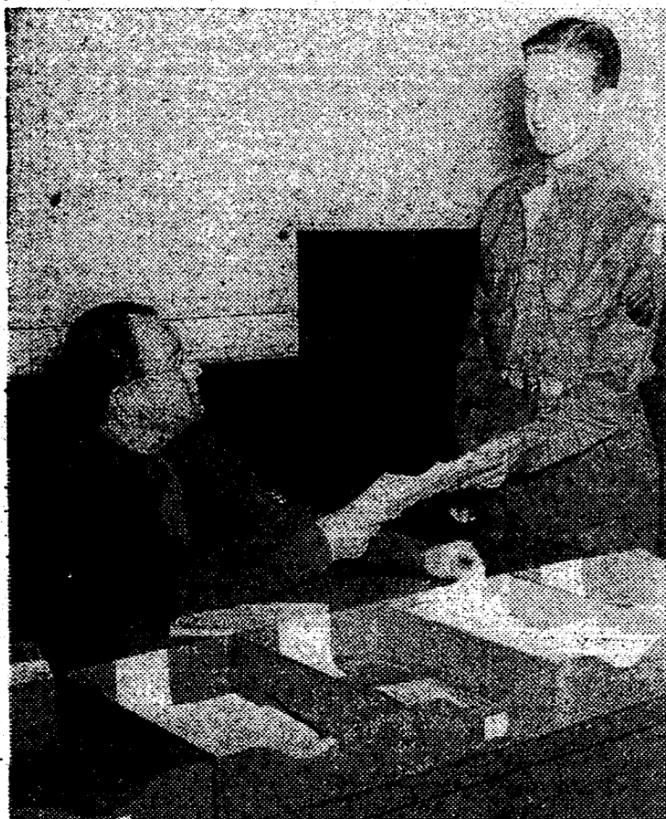
A resident of Seattle, Wash., Ruemelin formerly worked on the Post-Intelligencer before entering the Army.

New Air Mail Rates

Effective March 26th, Air Mail rates of postage on the mainland of the United States, including Alaska, will be eight cents per ounce or fraction thereof.

The rate of six cents for each half ounce will continue to apply to Air Mail sent to or by the Armed Forces of the United States overseas served through Army and Navy post offices.

Free mail privileges remain the same and do not apply to Air Mail or parcels.



Left to right **M-SGT. RICHARD J. RAFFERTY**, chief clerk, personnel section, with Cpl. Kenneth G. Mundt.

Commendation To 658th TDs

Men of the 658th TD Battalion proudly read a letter appearing on all company bulletin boards this week and decided that maybe those long hours of "GI-ing" barracks were worth it.

They read mimeographed copies of a report of an inspection by Lt. Col. Henry M. Smith, Camp Inspector General, of the barracks

area vacated by the battalion in a recent move from block 24 to block 18. Lt. Col. Smith's report stated, in part, that "It was the cleanest area this inspector has ever seen."

Indorsements to the report added the personal commendations of Col. L. A. Kurtz, then Post Commander; Maj. Gen. John H. Hester, Commanding General, TDC; and Col. C. E. Sargent, Commanding Officer 23rd Tank Destroyer Group and a message from Maj. Harold C. Brownell, Commanding Officer of the battalion.

"Spring Fever" Is Rehearsing

"Spring Fever," an original musical comedy, written and produced by Post Special Service Entertainment Officer Lt. John L. Slezinger will be presented soon for the edification of Camp Hood's GIs.

Rehearsals are held every Monday night in the 55th St. Rec. Hall. Closed door rehearsals are in session due to the surprise routines. Parts in this musical are still open. Interested men should contact Lt. Slezinger.

Pvt. S. Kagan, Medical Detachment, Station Hospital, is directing the production. He was a drapery and interior decorator in New York, as well as an entertainer and harmonica player, appearing with Carl Freed and his orchestra. Kagan is designing the unusual curtain which will grace the stage at the Hood Road Theater for the production of "Spring Fever."

Dances are being directed by Pvt. Joseph Passiatore, of the TD School. A production has been choreographed to the old standby "Tea For Two," which presents GIs and girls in a splash color dance with a boy meets girl background. WACs and enlisted men of the large chorus will wear colorful costumes throughout the play.

WANTED ONE RADIO FOR DAY ROOM, HDQTS. BATTERY NO. 749 FIELD ART. CALL LT. JAMES E. PERKINS.



1st Lt. Charles G. Upton, CO 660th TD Bn, and Miss Kitty Marie Pye were married Wednesday evening in the Post Chapel. The bride was given away by Lt. Col. Fred L. Flahte, commanding officer of the 660th. While on furlough, T-5 Robert Eugene Estep, 441st MP-PWP Co. took Miss Valeta Thompson of Chesterfield, Indiana, as his bride.



162nd St. and 37th St. Theaters
 Sat.—The Navy Way.
 Sun.—Mon.—Up In Arms.
 Tues.—Rosie the Riveter.
 Wed.—Thur.—Shine on Harvest Moon.
 Fri.—Knickerbocker Holiday.
 Hood Rd and 24th St. Theaters
 Sat.—Rosie the Riveter.
 Sun.—Mon.—The Heavenly Body.
 Tues.—The Hour Before Dawn.
 Wed.—The Navy Way.
 Thurs.—Fri.—Up In Arms.
 72nd St. Theater
 Sun.—The Hour Before Dawn.
 Mon.—The Navy Way.
 Tues.—Wed.—Up In Arms.
 Thurs.—Rosie the Riveter.
 Fri.—Sat.—Shine on Harvest Moon.
 Ave. "D," & 24th St.
 Sat.—The Lady and the Monster.
 Sun.—Mon.—Passage to Marseilles.
 Tues.—Trocadero.

Wed.—Thurs.—Cover Girl.
 18th St. Theater
 Fri.—Action in Arabia.
 Sun.—Action in Arabia.
 Mon.—It Happened Tomorrow.
 Tues.—Wed.—Passage to Marseilles.
 Thurs.—Trocadero.
 Fri.—Sat.—Cover Girl.
 4th and 10th St. Theaters
 Sat.—Trocadero.
 Sun.—Mon.—Lady in the Dark.
 Tues.—Action in Arabia.
 Wed.—It Happened Tomorrow.
 Thurs.—Fri.—The Heavenly Body.
 37th St. Service Club
 Thursday—Weekly Dance.
 Friday—Dance Class, Jam Session.
 Saturday—Show Night.
 Sunday—Recordings, Sing-song.
 Monday—Bingo, Prizes.
 Tuesday—Games, Music, Recordings.
 Wednesday—Sing-Song.

WOJG Harry D. Rodgers Up Through All Grades

Mr. Harry D. Rodgers, Jr., WOJG, assistant adjutant of North Camp Hood since the activation of the camp on April 15, 1943, is a quiet and diligent man—in fact, he gives the impression of being a studious one.

And his office is one of the most efficiently operated organizations at North Camp Hood. Every headquarters section in the Camp Headquarters building functions smoothly because office facilities are provided in anticipation of their need; orders, directives and bulletins are provided as issued; and information is readily and cheerfully provided whenever requested.

From Dallas

Mr. Rodgers entered the Army in Dallas, Texas, his home town, when he enlisted on July 22, 1935, just after graduating from high school. He was sent to Fort Sill, Oklahoma, for basic training with the Field Artillery, and then he was assigned to duty as a post headquarters clerk.

Since that time he has held every position in the Adjutant's Section, from Daily Bulletin clerk



and mimeograph operator to his present position as assistant adjutant.

Made 'Em All

While at Fort Sill, Rodgers held every grade from private and Pfc (at which time he also held the rank of Specialist Third Class) to technical sergeant. It is interesting to note his progressive rise in the Army: in 1938, to Corporal; in 1939, to Sergeant; in 1940, to Staff Sergeant; in 1941, to Technical Sergeant, his permanent grade; in 1942, to Master Sergeant, until October 9th of that year, when he was appointed a warrant officer junior grade.

Mr. Rodgers was a Technical Sergeant and chief clerk in the files and records section at Fort Sill at the time of his transfer to the new Tank Destroyer Center at Camp Hood on April 30th, 1942.

Upon reporting for duty to the temporary headquarters for Camp Hood, which were set up in Temple, Texas, on May 1, 1942, Mr. Rodgers was appointed post sergeant major and promoted that same day to Master Sergeant.

Appointed WO

On October 9, 1942, he was discharged from the Army of the United States to accept his appointment as Warrant Officer and immediately was named to be the Assistant Adjutant of Camp Hood.

Was Requested

In January, 1943, construction was begun on North Camp Hood, to house the replacement and basic unit training centers. Colonel Donald R. Dunkle was designated to be executive officer of the camp, and he personally requested that Mr. Rodgers be assigned as assistant adjutant, with Captain Shull Irwin as adjutant. Colonel Dunkle and Mr. Rodgers watched the construction of North Camp from its inception to its completion. The new camp was activated on April 15, 1943, with headquarters being located in a tent at what is now 28th Street and Leon Drive. An up-turned blackboard and a packing box served as Mr. Rodgers' desk, and his files were kept in an old wooden filing cabinet which had been discarded. One telephone, resting on the makeshift desk, constituted the sole means of communication with Camp Hood and the outside world for the whole encampment.

Because of Mr. Rodgers' methodical mind and habits, troops found everything of an administrative nature ready for them as

N. Camp Officers Meet Gen. Gorder

Officers of the North Camp Hood units of the TD RTC were introduced to Brig. Gen. Alexander O. Gorder and Mrs. Gorder at a reception Saturday afternoon in the Leon Drive Officer's club.

General Gorder recently assumed command of the RTC. He and Mrs. Gorder personally greeted each of the officers in his command. Light refreshments were served during the reception, and the RTC Hq staff and their wives were guests at a dinner party at the club in the evening for the general.

Incoming Patients Get Fast Service At McCloskey

By Lt. L. R. Barnhill

Twenty minutes after the hospital train stopped on the siding at the rear of McCloskey Army General hospital in Temple the last man was off the train and on his way to a hot dinner, clean pajamas, and a comfortable bed. The efficiency and consideration with which these sick and wounded veterans are handled upon their arrival at McCloskey reaffirms the truth that American soldiers are receiving the world's best medical attention.

Every soldier goes into combat with the idea that he won't be hurt, but if by chance he is injured or falls a victim to illness, he wants to know that everything possible will be done to restore him to health. The handling of incoming patients at McCloskey is a quiet, smooth operation. Men are not required to stand around and wait. They move swiftly, easily from train to mess hall and then to their respective wards.

There were 251 patients on the convoy that arrived recently from Letterman General Hospital in San Francisco. Among them were 14 litter patients. Some were victims of jungle diseases. Others had suffered battle injuries in clashes with the Japs.

Though they had been on the train for two days and three nights, they came off clean shaven. Their suits were pressed and all in all they looked soldierly.

There was little expression in the pale, thin faces of the walking patients as they dropped from the train. They carried little more than their toilet kits, though one young lad clung tightly to a pith helmet.

These walking patients were split into groups of 20 to 25 and placed under the control of a guide. There was no shouting of snappy orders. The hospital attendants spoke quietly. The patients made no reply.

After forming into groups that were easily handled by two guides, the men went immediately to the mess hall. On this particular day they were fed roast turkey, all they could eat. As soon as they finished their meal they walked to their wards where they could take a hot bath, get into clean pajamas, and relax in bed.

Behind the scenes administrative details were carried on smoothly, but the ill and wounded did not have to wait around while this work progressed. They went direct to their wards.

Spirits were high in the one car bearing litter cases.

"What kind of a hospital you got here, bud?" one of them shouted to the attendants as they swarmed aboard as soon as the car stopped.

"The best in the world," was the quick reply, "and the biggest, too."

"Where you hurt?" one of the litter bearers asked one of the wounded before removing him from his cot to the litter.

"All over," was the quick reply of the patient. But he didn't say it in a manner of asking for pity and sympathy. There was a glint in his eye and a smile on his face when he spoke. How true his statement was came to light as his cover was removed. With the exception of his right leg and head he was in a solid cast. It started at his left foot and extended up over the trunk of his



Chapel Services

PROTESTANT
Sunday, 9:30 A. M.
Chapel 902, 50th & Hq.
Chapel 289, 170th & Brig.
Chapel 2109, 37th St. East.
Chapel 2209, School Area.
Hospital, Red Cross Bldg.
11:00 A. M.
Post Chapel, 52nd & Hq.
Chapel 115, 268th & Ser. Dr.
Chapel 289, 170th & Brig.
Chapel 639, 62nd & Bn.
Chapel 2209, School Area.
6:30 P. M.
Chapel 115, 268th & Ser. Dr.
Chapel 1156, 37th St. West.
Chapel 2209, School Area.
Chapel 289, 170th & Brig.
Hospital, Red Cross Bldg.

WEEKDAY SERVICES
Post Chapel, Thur., 1930.
Chapel 902, Tues., 1830.
Chapel 2209, Wed., 7:00 p. m.

EPISCOPAL
6:30 p. m., Chapel 902, 50th St.
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE
Chapel 1156, Thursday, 8:00 p. m.
Sunday, 9:00 a. m.

LUTHERAN
Post Chapel, 52nd St., Sunday, 6:30 p. m.

COLORED TROOPS
Chapel 176, 164th and Brig.
Worship Services
Worship Service, 10:00 a. m.
Sunday School, 9:00 a. m.
STOCKADE, 2:00 P. M.
ROMAN CATHOLIC
Mass, Sunday
Hospital, Red Cross Bldg., 6:30 a. m.
Post Chapel, 52nd & Hq., 9:00 a. m.
24th St. Theater, 10:00 a. m.
37th St. Theater, 11:00 a. m.
162nd St. Theater, 11:00 a. m.

NOVENA SERVICES
Sunday, Chapel 639, 6:30 p. m.
Tuesday, Chapel 639, 6:30 p. m.

CONFESSION
Saturday as follows:
Hospital, Red Cross Bldg., 3-4 p. m.
Chapel 639, 62nd and Bn., 6-9 p. m.

MORNING WEEKDAY MASS
Chapel 176, Mon., Sat., 8:00 a. m.
EVENING WEEKDAY MASS
Chapel 176, Tues., Wed., Thurs., Fri., 6:30 p. m.

JEWISH, Friday, 1930, Chapel 1156, 37th St. Orthodox, followed by Reform Service.

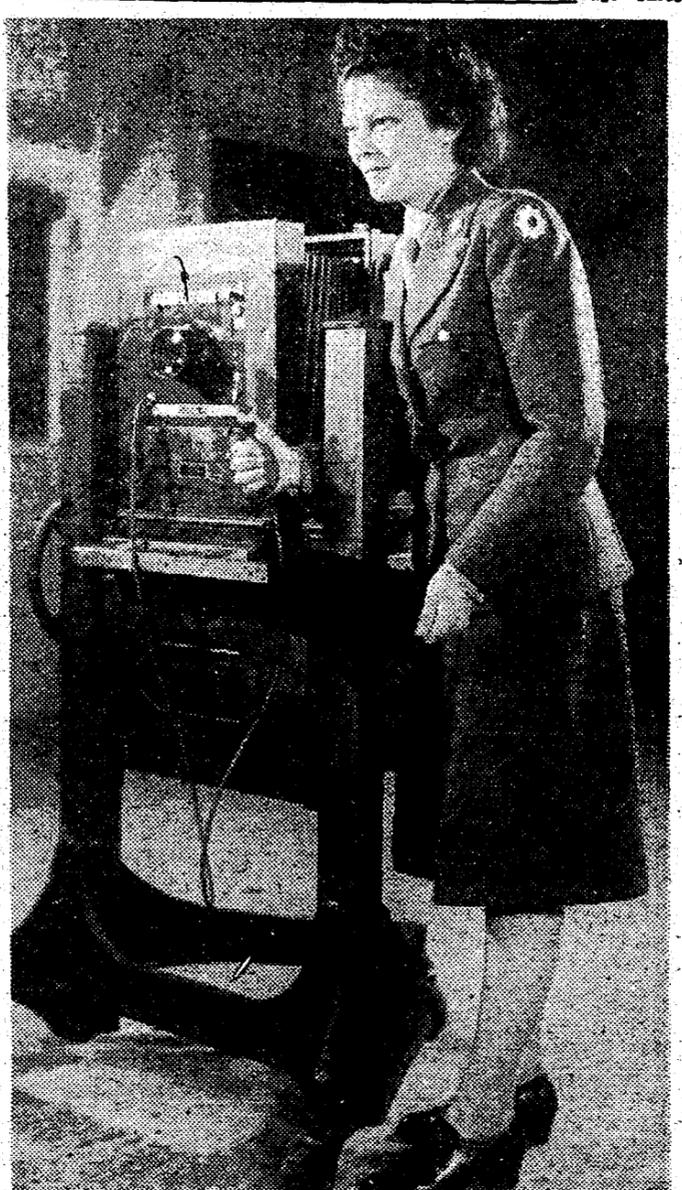
CHAPLAINS' DIRECTORY

Chaplain	Chapel	Phone
B. E. Moll (C)	.....176	702
E. S. Ritch (P)	.....289	644
S. H. Salmon (P) Sta. Hos.		795
C. R. Stinnette (P)	.....902	642
E. E. White (P)	.....115	638
M. C. Turpin (P)	.....176	702
P. L. Blackman (P)	.....289	644
H. Hall (P)	.....639	2177
R. T. Heacock (Cld)	513	701
D. R. Kulp (P)	.....2209	643
B. H. Lavine (J)	.....1156	639
J. J. Stratton, P., Cottonwood Camp No. 1.		
Thomas H. Talbot, Post Chaplain,		Phone 641.

body almost to his chin.

The litter cases were placed in ambulances and moved immediately to the wards specializing in treatment of their particular kind of wounds. A hot meal awaited them upon their arrival at the ward.

The whole operation was over in less time than it took the train to put into the siding from the main line. It is no accident that such moves are made smoothly. The doctors responsible for the work were there on the siding to see that their lengthy planning materialized in a smooth operation. It did.



Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo
MANY OF THE PICTURES SEEN in the Hood Panther are the work of Private Evelyn Brett, WAC, assigned to the Signal Corps Photo Lab. A Houston, Texas, girl, Pvt. Brett had experience in identification and finger-print work prior to her "shooting" activities at Camp Hood. Yes, we agree that she makes a pretty good subject herself!

"The Framework Of Battle" By Lt. Col. Johnson G. Burr At The TD School Library Now

"The Framework of Battle," by Lt. Colonel Johnson G. Burr, is now available at the TDS Library.

This is a layman's complete guide to the technique of warfare, written by an officer who has studied at the General Staff Schools, and illustrated with superb military maps which illuminate and clarify every problem. How campaigns are planned, how every element in an army is moved on the battlefield like chessmen on a board, why certain strategy is always followed, what goes on inside the minds of the officers in command of armies—all this basic information is set forth in the simplest, most comprehensive terms which will enable any headline reader or radio listener to interpret events on all active fighting fronts.

High Score With 37mm

The Reconnaissance Company of the 656th TD Bn, living up to the battalion's tradition of making records in the firing of all weapons, last week fired a 90% on the 37-mm proficiency firing, thus claiming the record for this course.

The 1st platoon fired 100%, getting 10 hits out of 10 rounds. Pvt. Siphos and Pvt. Monachino each scored 5 for 5.

The second platoon fired a 90%, getting 9 hits out of 10 rounds. Pfc. Bender obtained 5 for 5, Pfc. Bailey connecting with 4 hits out of 5.

The third platoon scored 80%. Pvt. Moes scored five for five and Pfc. Harrison 3 hits out of 5.

Each gun fired one round at a stationary and four rounds at a moving target.

The Wolf by Sansone

Copyright 1944 by Leonard Sansone, distributed by Camp Newspaper Service (In Honor)



"If you've made no plans for tonight, may I suggest something?"

The Hood Panther

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Editor
Sgt. Robert Clemens

Associate Editor
Pvt. Wilfred Weiss

Some Times We Wonder . . .

This is hardly the occasion or place to sing Star Dust—but, "Some times I wonder . . ."

This is an all-out war; everybody is serving, to the degree of his capability, and to the degree that his ability is useful in a total war. We don't agree with, we're definitely opposed to, grumblers and malcontents who whine about "people with soft jobs." But some times we wonder . . .

Are people conscious of the fact that we are in a war—that it isn't a movie war that is going to fadeout in a boy-gets-girl clinch? Are people conscious that we are in a very real war, a dirty, bloody, vicious war, where men die horrible deaths, and they don't get up when the cameras stop grinding?

No Time For Effect

We don't have time to "write scenes for effect." We can't create character for our enemies—we're seeing them as they are.

And there's one place where we wonder . . .

Recently a personal letter came into our office from a very young girl. She'd seen some of the orientation material published by the Army, and her reaction was one of polite superciliousness. "It was all right," she said in effect, "to try to make soldiers angry at the Japs, to try to make them think Japs are beasts. But I know better, I know that it's just propaganda."

That makes us bitter. We remember the years we spoke disparagingly about the last war propaganda, and the very sophisticated attitude that prevailed among "smart people"—that it had been a made-up war, that the Germans never wanted it. We had to learn the hard way that our attitude was as stupid as it was superficial.

Veterans Know

They are generally not very articulate, and they don't like to talk much, but their stories make you sick, literally, and they make you feel cold deep down where you live.

Some times we wonder . . . what you have to do to convince people that in the Japs we have an enemy who has no respect for civilization, whose only discipline is that of the fist.

Listen to the men at McCloskey. To the Jap, rape and torture, barbarism, cruelty, viciousness are part of basic training.

Some times we wonder . . . Jack London, Homer Lea, and many others tried to warn us about the Japs many years ago. Our best reporters working in Japan right up to the day of the Pearl Harbor back stabbing tried to warn us.

Sportsmanship Is Sissy

The Jap's favorite sport is a form of wrestling where the applause is loudest for the man who can deliver the most outrageous fouls, for the man who can best gouge, and hit hardest below the belt. They despise us because we believe in sportsmanship—that's sissy stuff to them.

Damn it, some times we wonder . . . is it going to be the "smart attitude" again to belittle ourselves and make martyrs of those brutes who've tried for years to drench the world in blood?

Why are we like that? Why do we always excuse our enemies? And offer our exposed backs for their slinking knives?

Why can't we face the fact that they are monsters? They wanted this war, they frankly told us they were going to aim below the belt.

How Long?

It is the young people who are most vulnerable to the infection of smart-aleck-ism, who are so determined to be detached, supercilious and shocking, who haven't the guts to believe the truth. The men who've been out there, who've been the victims of every treacherous cruelty Jap cunning could devise have no trouble believing.

Some times we wonder . . . how long it will be before we grow up?

WHY?

Why does the sun set in the west,
And the moon come out at night?
Why do girls look their best,
With only men in sight?

Why do days go by in years,
And the years use up our life?
Why do mothers all shed tears,
When their son takes on a wife?

Why? Oh, why? must this be so,
My mind is getting hazy.
There are so many things to know,
I think I'm going crazy.

You answer these and then tell me,
Why stupid men start war.
Regardless though, we're out to see,
There won't be any more.

—By Lt., Anthony J. Bianchi
Co. 'B'—660th TD Bn.

Panther Poll

QUESTION: Who do you think will be defeated first, Japan or Germany?



T-Sgt. Ralph Stronach
North Camp

"Now I am in doubt. For a long time I thought that Germany would be but now it looks like Japan will be. However, there will be a lot of territory to cover yet. It seems that we should go on in and strike the heart of Japan and leave the islands alone."



T-Sgt. W. N. Barry
North Camp

"Germany. Because we are trying to knock Germany out first. Then we will tackle Japan. Now Japan may quit first but if it is a matter of defeating one or the other, then it will be Germany."



T-5 Morris Hackman
North Camp

"Germany, definitely. That is where the whole show is at the present. Although it won't be long to knock Japan out of the picture when we do aim at them, there is a mighty big ocean to cope with and we have a lot of materiel to transport there to center our attention on defeating them."



Sgt. John W. Maginnis
North Camp PEO

"Well, that is a question that is really going around now and is hard to answer. If we keep going the way we are now, it will be Germany. But we are driving hard at Japan and it could be that they will fall out first."

Plenty Of Experience

Motor and vehicular maintenance is an old story to Tech Sergeant Martin Rodrigue of Redding, Calif., who is now on duty in the Automotive Department of Tank Destroyer School.

Rodrigue was a battalion motor inspection and maintenance sergeant with an armored outfit in North Africa and on numerous occasions, vehicles from his unit were sent up to the front.

Rodrigue now is taking an advanced automotive course while awaiting assignment, probably to the Operations and Maintenance section.

An accident resulted in his being shipped back to the States. Rodrigue climbed up to fix the antiaircraft gun mount on the truck he was riding. When climbing down, the vehicle swerved to



Her name is: VICKI STYLES
You'll see her in: "SINCE YOU WENT AWAY"
She works for: David O. Selznick
Her address: Culver City, California

Letters To The Editor

Dear Sir:

In a recent issue of the Hood Panther, one of the questions in "Army Quiz"—or rather the answer to one of the questions upset me a bit. In referring to the question concerning saluting German officers who are prisoners.

I had been taught to salute officers of "Allied Nations in time of war" and also "to salute officers of friendly foreign countries, when recognized as such," beside all our own officers. This is in accord with FM 21-50, Sec. II, Par 7 (b).

According to the Provost Marshall, we salute all officers, then friendly or unfriendly. How do you reconcile that? I'd like to know.

By no stretch of the imagination can Germany be considered a "friendly nation" to us. I'm certain our Army in Italy thinks so, too.

Certainly there is something wrong.

I'd appreciate it very much if you'd let me know.

Sincerely yours,

T-5 Morris Bloom,
663rd TD Bn.

(According to YANK, March 10th, Article 21 of the Prisoners of War Convention rules signed at Geneva on July 27, 1929, allege that: "Officers . . . who are prisoners of war shall be treated with the regard due their rank and age." In reply to the question about saluting captured Nazi officers, the Provost Marshal General's office in Washington says we do. The Ed.)

To The Editor:

The women of the Post enjoy the Hood Panther as much as the men do, although we do not understand all that we read. In a recent discussion we had, we decided that a feminine note would

miss a chuck hole in the road, and he was thrown off and injured.

be of interest in your paper to other wives; and I was elected spokesman, probably because I'm smallest in stature and have no "come-back."

With a great deal of trepidation I offer the enclosed whimsy for your attention. I hope you find in your editorial heart that it is worthy of notice.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Edward F. Rogers.

Husband: 1st Sgt. Edward F. Rogers, Co. B, 135 TDRTC, North Camp.

NORTH CAMP HOOD, TEXAS

I have a little backyard
that "falls out" for each rain,
And marches through the alley
Disappearing in the drain.

My neighbor at the corner
Really gets her "fill,"
'Cause mud, no matter what the
odds,
Is wont to run downhill.

When first I came to Camp Hood
And set my house in place,
I put the seed in hopefully
And worked at quite a pace.
But winter snow and ice-storms
And then the nice spring rain
Washed away my hopefulness.
We're back to mud again.

I put a rude log wall up
To keep the alley clean,
And dreamed the yard would "stay
put"
Once it's head was green.

I shovelled back the drifted silt
And cemented every chink.
I prayed the Heavenly Gardener
It stays—that's what you think!

So every little rainstorm
I rush to my backstep,
And watch my backyard march
away with military pep.

Pfc. Kahn Helps Camp Personnel With Income Tax

"How much income tax will I have to pay?" "Will you see if I've filled out my form correctly?" "Should I use the long form or short form?"

Every day for the past month Pfc. Harold Kahn has answered hundreds of questions such as these and has assisted colonels, corporals, and civilians with their income tax problems at North Camp Hood. Kahn estimates that at least 600 persons from civilians to privates and all classes of civilian employees of the camp came to him for help.

Attended Tax School

Kahn is assistant to Lt. George W. Lawrence, Legal Assistance Officer and Staff Judge Advocate at North Camp Hood. He was recently sent by the Army to a school in Austin, Texas, for Deputy Collectors of Internal Revenue to study up on the legal intricacies of filing income tax returns.

He figures that during the period of February 15th to March 15th he gave out over \$1,500 worth of free advice to North Camp Hood personnel. For some he saved money—others were shown where they weren't paying enough. In one case he saved \$325 for a prospective payee.

Was Houston Lawyer

Before entering the Army in March of 1943 Kahn was a practicing lawyer in Houston, Texas, for eight years. The State of Texas gave him a license in 1933. He studied pre-law at Loyola University in New Orleans and received his LL.B. Degree from South Texas School of Law at Houston. Kahn is 34, married, and his wife is here at North Camp Hood with him, making their



home in North Hood Village. "I got so tied up with other folks income tax returns," Kahn said, "I almost forgot to get mine in."

Orderly Matter Settled By Yank

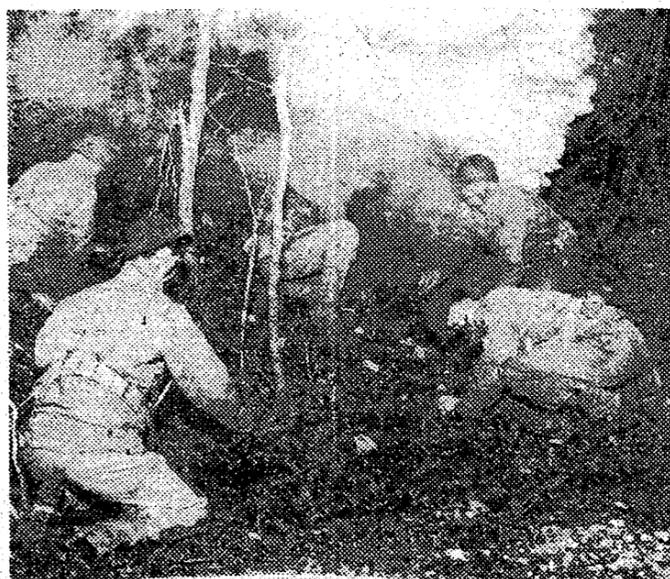
A cloud of letters has been flying in all directions, arguing both sides of the question whether an officer may assign an enlisted man to be his orderly against his will. Letter in Yank this week quotes Sec. 202, page 106, of the Military Laws of the United States, Revised Statutes 1232, 10 USC 608, which states that, "No officer shall use an enlisted man as a servant in any case whatsoever."

To which Yank answers, "You're right and Yank was wrong. The Judge Advocate General's Office informs us that the decisions you quote still stand. No enlisted man in the American Army may be ordered to be a servant for any officer at any time. It might pay you, however, to recall the old Army saying: 'They can't make you do it, but they can make you wish to hell you had done it.'"

Promotions Announced

The following promotions have been announced in Headquarters Co., 660th TD Bn.:

To be Master Sergeant: George W. Bald. To be T-4: Julius O. Lambert.



THE TOP PICTURE SHOWS MEN from "B" Company of the 662nd TD Bn. making their way through the mine field. Evidence of smoke and exploding "Dago" bombs can be seen. Note the expressions of strain and tenseness on the men's faces. In the second picture the point vehicle is seen hitting the first mine.

Red Cross Will Assist The AER

Army Emergency Relief has transferred to the Red Cross the responsibility for meeting the emergency needs of dependents of Army personnel, it has been announced. Assistance to discharged soldiers and their dependents will also be rendered by the Red Cross whenever necessary. Army Emergency Relief will continue to assist military personnel at posts, camps, and stations, and in emergencies where other forms of aid are not available.

Military personnel at posts, camps, and stations may apply either to the Army Emergency Relief Officer or to the Red Cross Field Director stationed on the post. A soldier away from his own station may apply for aid to the nearest Army Emergency Relief Officer, Red Cross Field Director, or local Red Cross Chapter.

Under the terms of the new agreement the Army will continue to be directly interested in all phases of assistance to dependents of Army personnel. The closest liaison is being maintained between the Red Cross and Army Emergency Relief, so that a satisfactory and workable program can be developed.

The new agreement eliminates any duplication of effort between the work of Army Emergency Relief and the Red Cross without jeopardizing in any way the goal of getting aid to those who need it and getting there "enough and on time."

Take Advanced Course

Four officers of the 660th TD Bn. have entered the Advanced Tactics Course which opened this week at the TD School.

The officers are Lt. Charles G. Upton, commanding officer of Co. B; Lt. Joseph J. Sinnott, commanding officer of Rcn. Co.; Lt. Robert M. Terril, Co. A, and Lt. Robert J. Lewellan, Co. C.

Messhall Honors

The 136th Bn captured messhall honors among the enlisted men's messes at the North Camp Hood RTC last week. The Fourth Regt. officer's mess was rated best in that category.

Spring Greeted With A Dance

A successful Spring dance was staged by the 672nd TD Bn., recently, in Recreation Hall on South Ave. The dance opened the battalion's social season and was attended by 150 girls from the WAC detachment and about a hundred young ladies from Lampasas as well as the wives and dates of the enlisted men.

Lt. Thomas M. Bethea acting special service officer was in charge of the arrangements. Pvt. Warren E. Hibbs who was a department store window dresser in civilian life handled the elaborate decorating of the hall. The music was furnished by the 217th Army Band of 15 pieces. There were peppy numbers for the young jitterbugs and sweet and slow numbers for the old timers.

A buffet lunch was served during intermission and cold drinks were provided for the dancers throughout the evening.

Battalion Commander Lt. Col. F. F. Schweinler and his staff were present during the evening's entertainment.

Demi-Official K9 Corps

This camp has its own K-9 Corps, not to be confused with the regular Dogs for Defense. These pooches, most of them nondescript, nevertheless take their training seriously. They have been accompanying Tank Destroyer School men, who are getting additional rifle training, to the firing ranges day after day.

They know what the various whistles mean—especially those for 10 minute breaks, and, of course, mess when the boys eat in the field. When the squad leader signals for a 10 minute break, the dogs are ready to relax and they also are up and away before the blast that signifies the end of the break.

The men appreciate the presence of the dogs, as attested by the fact a few days ago, an entire platoon—in a hurry to get back to chow—was held up, willingly, while one of the men assisted a dog which was too small to make the jump into the big van in which the men ride.

Mine Warfare Instruction Completed By 662nd TDs

The 662nd TD Bn. completed mine warfare instruction with a realistic battlefield problem last Thursday night. Breaching a field at night climaxed an 18-hour course of instruction.

The course was given in several important phases. Troops were introduced to all types of explosives, fuses, and firing devices. Personnel and antitank mines came in for close study. The "what," "where," and "how" of booby traps was thoroughly covered.

Most important of all the instruction was the breaching of mine fields. Use of mine detector information was demonstrated. Troops were given practical work in breaching fields by probing. Booby traps had to be removed along with clearing the mines.

Big Difference

As the tactical problem got underway at night the men learned the difference between being able to feel what you are doing and being able to see what you are doing. Particularly when one wrong move will set off a booby trap.

Blackout

The tactical problem was planned to cover the mine breaching phase.

The mission was to move under cover of darkness to a position of readiness in the vicinity of Antelope Mound. The route of march was north on Pidcoke Road, and it developed into a blackout march across country to the march. Road blocks and mine fields, infested by booby traps had to be overcome in the advance. Table Rock Creek was ford. Upon hitting the mine field the troops encountered covering fire. The reconnaissance platoons of the 662nd were used as enemy troops to harass and delay the progress. A more realistic situation could have been found only on the actual battlefield.

Action

Smoke, tear gas, and simulated grenades were brought into play. As the company dispersed for action, an enemy squad infiltrated the area doing whatever possible to cause confusion among the troops. The problem then to be solved was to clear out this menace, establish security, and to breach the mine field.

This course was given under the supervision of Lt. Bill Rinkle. Lts. Jerome Sacks and Lee Kincaid headed the fine work of the reconnaissance platoons.

The success of this course has decided battalion officers to include more such problems in the future.

19 Year Old 1st Sgt.

Recently Hq's Co. 662nd TD Bn. received a new 1st Sgt. in the person of James E. Poe.

1st Sgt. Poe is a native of Marion, Va. and is but 19 years of age. Five months ago he came to 662nd as a corporal from TD Pioneer School.

He proved his worth in the tactical problems of U.T.C. and helped materially in gaining the 662nd's excellent reconnaissance record.

Radio Courses Tough At TDS

Radio courses, so complex that students must have a radio background, are a common part of the Tank Destroyer School Communications Department's Test and Repair section. Lt. George Boston, in charge, sees that his students, both officers and enlisted men, are instructed primarily in finding and then correcting breakdowns and failures in radio communications. This is important, for the radio is characterized as the nerve center of the TDs.

Rebuild Sets

Often, students are given practically demolished sets to rebuild. Parts are tested and checked and, by taking pieces from various, incomplete sets, others are built.

A veritable "Cook's Tour" through the section reveals the wide scope of the courses. Tech Sgt. Norman Street explained the various classes. The Communications Officers' Course was studying the testing of various sets used by TD combat units, getting them ready for operation in the field. Field work comes later in the course. They previously had had demonstrations and conferences on the practical work they were taking up.

EM Class Also

The Enlisted Radio Repair Class includes work on the latest model transmitters and receivers. Here the men check continuity, test voltages and resistances and make a dozen other checks, finally learning all about emergency field repairs.

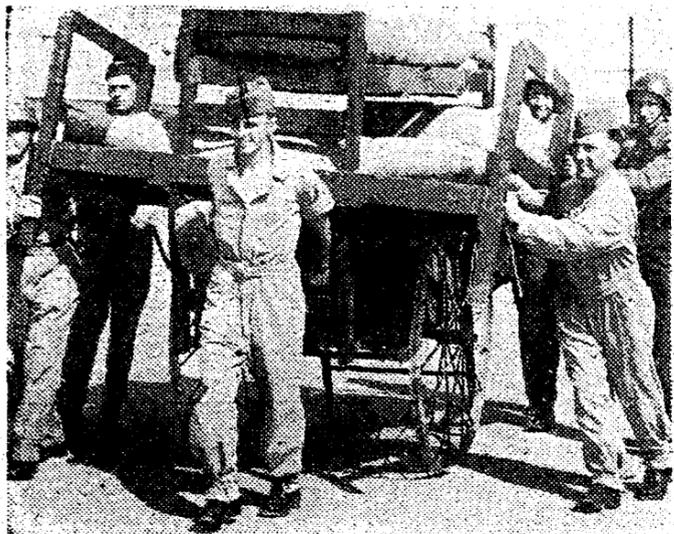
The assistant instructors are enlisted men, each a specialist in his own line. They also have a well grounded knowledge of radio in all its phases, both practical and theoretical. Under the watchful eyes of these men, supervised by Lt. Boston and others, this important work is carried on.

672nd TD Bn. Set

The 672nd TD Battalion opened its spring softball season this week with the boys rarin' to go. Although the program is not in full swing yet, there have been two hotly contested games played in Headquarters Company between the S-2 and S-4 sections in which one was a tie and the second found the S-4 emerging the victor by a one run margin 4-3. Interest in the games are strong and plans are underway to draw up an inter-battalion league schedule.



GI PARTY: The happy smiles show what a good time everyone had at the recent party given by the 441st MP-PWP Co. at North Camp. The 441st is planning more parties, so we suggest you girls keep scrutinizing the Panther for dates.



Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo

Practically every large city in the United States has a certain day or period during the spring when annual leases expire and it seems as though everyone is moving from one place to another.

The IRTC moved into camp, and TDC and the training brigade moved to TDS,—so the Tank Destroyer School took on that appearance last week when members of the Student and Academic Regiments moved to different areas.

GIs were seen, trundling their beds and bedding, barracks bags and footlockers on anything from the company "jeeps," the two wheeled carts seen around supply rooms, to wheelbarrows, or even by manpower alone.

Spring cleaning is out, though for the army believes that if places are kept clean the year round, there's no special reason

for a periodical orgy of cleaning. This was the case with the school, for the barracks were clean as the proverbial pin, and a short time after the move was completed, the men were ready for a Saturday inspection, even though it was just the middle of the week.

EM Buddies Overseas Still Together As Lieutenants

Two young lieutenants who followed each other to various Army camps are in the Student Regiment, TDS, today.

Lieutenants Raymond George Jensen and Glen W. Byrnes finally did catch up with each other, became close buddies, and strangely enough, remained together throughout their period as enlisted men overseas, at OCS, and in their assignments following their commissions.

Both From Illinois

Lt. Byrnes hails from Chicago and Lt. Jensen from a suburb outside the Windy City. They were inducted at Camp Grant two days apart. There they saw each other for the first time as strangers and had no personal contact.

Camp Croft was their next stop. The two enlisted men noted each other's presence. The next stop of their respective outfits was Camp Forrest, Tennessee, and again they saw each other. Then, 600 enlisted men were selected to form a TD Battalion, and were sent down to Fort McClellan, Alabama.

Meet At Last

On arriving, Byrnes entered the tent to which he had been assigned—and met Jensen. They laughed heartily over the situation, remembering that they had seen each other before, many times, and now, here they were, two boys from the Chicago area thrown together at last. Since that day these two men have been inseparable.

After a period of training they were sent to San Francisco, and then shipped to Hawaii. The boys both played on their TD basketball

team and the team won the Island championship.

Acquires Fame

Then fame really stretched out her arms for one of them. One of the largest columns of a local newspaper for years had sponsored a mythical election, the office being "Cockeyed Mayor of Kaunakakai"—which inspired a song of the same title. This election became world famous, and many noted public figures were elected to the office. In fact great sums of money were spent on the elections and many wagers made as to who would be elected from the group of selected nominees. Even handsome brochures were printed to exploit the candidates. And the newspaper itself printed a magazine, the purchase of which entitled the buyer to a certain number of votes for his favorite candidate.

Warner Baxter First

Warner Baxter, the film star, was elected the first "Cockeyed Mayor of Kaunakakai" many years ago. Well, somehow, Jensen, a

Wacs Mark One Year's Service At Camp Hood

A year ago, on March 28, 1943, the first contingent of Wacs arrived at Camp Hood.

Then members of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, the small group of 45 women marched down Supply Drive to their barracks, to comprise the newly-activated 159th WAAC Headquarters Company.

A week later the 164th WAAC Company arrived, and three weeks after that the remainder of the 159th Company marched down the same street.

Within a month after the arrival of the first WAAC's, 300 were here, on the job. The 159th Company later became the WAC Section, 1848 Service Unit; the 164th Company—the WAC Detachment, TDRTC.

Now three companies are part of the strength of the camp, and WAC officers, as well as supervising the companies, are performing operational jobs, in the adjutant section, personnel, finance, quartermaster, special services, civilian housing.

The entire TDRTC detachment and about a third of the Service Unit company were sent to North Camp Hood for duty.

After Congress passed legislation making the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps part of the Army, the WAAC's at Camp Hood were sworn into the Army, Aug. 9, by Charles M. Thirkeld, then camp commander, and were congratulated by Maj. Gen. Orlando Ward, then commanding general of the Tank Destroyer Center: "As an old soldier, I welcome you to our midst."

As the women's military organization had proved itself in Washington, it was also proving itself at Camp Hood. The demand for Wacs increased.

On November 1, a WAC Detachment, TDC was activated to assume duties in the Tank Destroyer Center. That detachment, with the reorganization of TDC, became the WAC Detachment, Tank Destroyer School, effective March 1.

Now as the armed forces of the United States are tightening up for the drive ahead, the WAC becomes more and more vital to the operation of the Army.

The theory that Wacs may replace men to be sent for combat duty is no longer theory. It's being done at Camp Hood.

slight, very blond and popular soldier, was nominated for the office, but he wasn't given much chance. He was called the "white hope."

Mysteriously, and at the last moment, some persons unknown to this day bought scores and scores of magazines which meant scores and scores of votes and so they swept Jensen in on a great tide of winning ballots. That election was to be the last for the "Cockeyed Mayor of Kaunakakai" for the duration.

Now, Jensen became a public figure indeed. Anytime an event of significance occurred he had to be there to throw the first ball, or be the object of a toastmaster's plaudits. In fact the newspaper published a daily front page quotation from "Mayor Jensen" called "Communique number so-and-so from the Cockeyed Mayor of Kaunakakai."

Both Make TD OCS

Together, Byrnes and Jensen received notification that they had been accepted for OCS in the Tank Destroyer School at Camp Hood. They returned to the States and entered the 33rd OCS Class here. After graduation they were sent to North Camp and simultaneously, after a short period, the two lieutenants received orders to report to the Student Regiment, where today, Lt. Jensen is the assistant regimental adjutant, and Lt. Byrnes is adjutant of the Student Enlisted Mens Battalion.



Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo

VODVIL VARIETIES: L. to R.: Pvt. Jimmy Lacore, Pvt. Wing Dong, S-Sgt. George Hall, Lt. Roy Ross, Pvt. William Castello, Lt. T. Wilhoit in rear. (Story below).

A full house of GIs saw a fast and funny review, "Vodvil Varieties," staged by the entertainment section of the RTC Special Services Office at Central Rec. Hall in North Camp last week.

The show last week featured the work of Sgt. Bill Fisher's dance aggregation of 188th Army Bandmen, with specialty numbers by drummer Frank Higgins and bass fiddler Irving Manheim, who tore through "The Big Noise from Winnetka;" songs by Johnny Clower and Joe Mamone of the band, and Helen Manheim, soloist on many RTC programs.

Master of ceremonies was Jimmy Lacore, who has made in night spots under the name of Jimmy Leeds. He introduced Lt. Roy Ross, tap dancer; Paul Wing, half of the famous dance team of Wing and Toy, and George Hall, North Camp Hood's favorite Section 8 impersonator.

Fighting Japs Is Dirty Job, Says PFC Churnick

"Toting a heavy load of machine gun and mortar ammunition from a dump, forward through 700 yards of shell torn battlefield, with Japanese snipers and machine gunners pecking away is no easy job," says PFC Harry Churnick of the Tank Destroyer School Pioneer Department.

On Guadalcanal

Churnick should know, for he was on Guadalcanal with the Americal Division, and was in on several of the major engagements there before he was cut down by malaria and a gastric disease. This resulted in his spending some time in various hospitals, finally McCloskey Hospital at Temple, from which he was discharged just recently. Right now, Churnick is attending various Pioneer classes and demonstrations and is learning quite a bit about the TDs especially in the Demolitions Section.

Churnick, who was inducted from Malden, Mass., three years ago, was on maneuvers at Fort Devons and in the Carolinas before going to Australia. He spent several days in Melbourne on furlough before going to New Caledonia for seven months of jungle guerrilla training preceding Guadalcanal.

There, his outfit and others went to relieve the marines.

The first experience Churnick had under fire was enroute to Guadalcanal where the task force was attacked by Japanese torpedo planes who did their best to scuttle the whole fleet.

In Famous Battle

Shortly after the assault, Churnick's outfit landed on the island and took part in numerous engagements, including the famous battle of Metanikau River. Seven of the toughest days of his life were the first days his outfit was on the front lines.

"The Japs," he indicated, "did everything possible to harass the green Yankee troops. Firecrackers, exploded at dummy positions, were used to draw fire at night. Then, when Americans disclosed their presence by rifle or machine gun fire, all hell popped loose. Grenades were hurled and machine gun, mortar, and rifle fire poured into our positions."

Narrow Escape

"Later, when the infantry had

artillery support, and we became more accustomed to the steaming jungles," Churnick relates, "advances were more rapid. I've been in quite a few tough spots," he says, "but I can thank my lucky stars that I was found one day by a friendly patrol, and not the slinking Japs, or I sure would have been a 'goner.' I was dragging a heavy machine gun up the side of a deep ravine to a new position. Due to the exertion, coupled with the terrible, humid, heat, I was knocked out completely. When I came to, members of a Yank patrol were working to bring me around. I hate to think of what would have happened if the Japs had found me there, defenseless."

After this episode, Churnick was sent to the rear for a rest and change, and was made acting mess sergeant. "The food," he says, "was good, but sometimes lacked in quantity. It was necessary to use ingenuity to supplement the dehydrated rations, but I saw to it that the men didn't suffer."

Churnick's outfit was in on the final drive which resulted in the Japs being pushed from the island.

Enemy Planes Busy

"There was little diversion when there happened to be a lull in fighting, but on clear, moonlit nights the Jap bombing raids did give us some entertainment. The bombers were kept high up by our antiaircraft fire and you could hear our men cheer when they heard or saw the bombs fall wide of their intended targets. On dark nights, when they could sneak in under the cloud banks, they would cause us a little more trouble. Then, uncertain of their location, they would let the bombs go at anything, often a mile or more from the points they had hoped to reach. These bombs sometimes came a lot closer to our positions than we liked, so we stayed plenty close to our fox holes."

One of the brightest spots of Churnick's stay on Guadalcanal was the visit of the top rank comedian, Joe E. Brown. "He put on a swell one-man show for us," Churnick says, "and we sure are all for him."



Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo

MASS CALISTHENICS at TDS: Every day during the physical training period, the GI's get outdoors and run through a system of exercises, the latest recommended by the Army. The period is conducted by School athletic officers and hand-picked non-coms. The men who griped at first are now giving this program hearty endorsement as physical improvement among the GIs has been recorded.

Words Without Music

For his work here and overseas, BOB HOPE was cited by Variety, the theatrical paper, as "Number One, Soldier in Grease-paint" . . . FANNY BRICE who appeared in the stage Ziegfeld Follies longer than any other star, 1910 to 1923, is cast in the new MGM film version . . . MICKEY ROONEY is reported due for induction by the end of the month . . . ditto DENNIS DAY . . . ED-DIE CANTOR'S offer of a \$5,000 war bond for the "typical GI Joe" has snowed his home under with mail.

HOLLYWOOD. VARIETY reports that ERROL FLYNN, "connoisseur of beauty," will open an



Angel Casey, one of NBC's best actresses—new sweater girl.

art gallery . . . ALAN LADD is back in the Army . . . Columbia's "Cover Girl," which stars RITA HAYWORTH has JINX FALKENBURG—the GI's dream gal—doing a bit part.

When Warner's "In Our Time," shows up in these parts, be on the lookout for distinguished stage actor ANTON CHEKHOV, who neatly walks away with this fine picture, notwithstanding the competition from IDA LUPINO and PAUL HENREID.

JACK BENNY is on the verge of another overseas tour, following a trek to Canadian Army camps . . . ANN SHERIDAN will portray Nora Bayes in a Warner film-musical.

What with PAUL LUKAS, "Casablanca," directors, cinematographers, short subjects, and musicians getting the Oscars, Warners trotted off with the majority of Academy awards.

DICK POWELL has ended an 18-months pact with Paramount to free lance . . . OLIVIA DEHAVILLAND was upheld by the courts, and is now freed from her seven year alliance with Warners. She had been suspended many times for turning down parts.

"Passage to Marseilles," starring HUMPHREY BOGART, had lots of action . . . but some of it got

Soldier, Sailor Prove They Can Be Buddies Too

The books are becoming full of stories "for the books," but here's another one to add to the list. While returning to Camp Hood from a furlough on the West Coast recently, a member of the Panther staff saw the Army go to bat for the Navy.

Loses Funds

The soldier reports that a young sailor, who had been wounded in the southwest Pacific was aboard the train, going home with an honorable discharge. Going into the washroom, he laid down his billfold containing two hundred and fifty dollars. He returned to his seat momentarily forgetting his billfold. Then he felt his loss and went back to the washroom. It was not to be found.

Passengers Aid

Anger at the person who had taken the sailor's billfold and made no effort to return it flared through the car. Suddenly a soldier stood up at the front, as behind him a shore-patrolman watched the proceedings. The soldier said what a pity that this sailor had to leave the service without a penny - - just a bitter memory. Whereupon he took off his hat placed a five dollar bill inside and passed down the aisle with it. Not a person overlooked him, and by the time he had reached the rear of the car, the hat, his hands, and arms were overflowing with good American currency. The sum raised was one hundred and sixty-four dollars.

Here was an example how, when it come to the real thing, the omnipresent rivalry between soldiers and sailors is dispelled. A great wrong was righted by these Americans. The sailor didn't go home empty-handed.

lost by the series of flashbacks. The consensus of opinion was that there were too many of them.

JOHN HODIAK — remember him in "Lifeboat?"—was a former radio actor on the "Lone Ranger" series . . . GIs are clamoring to see CONSTANCE MOORE in pics again. Stage work has kept her off the screen for much too long! HEDDA HOPPER is now the most widely syndicated film columnist in the business.

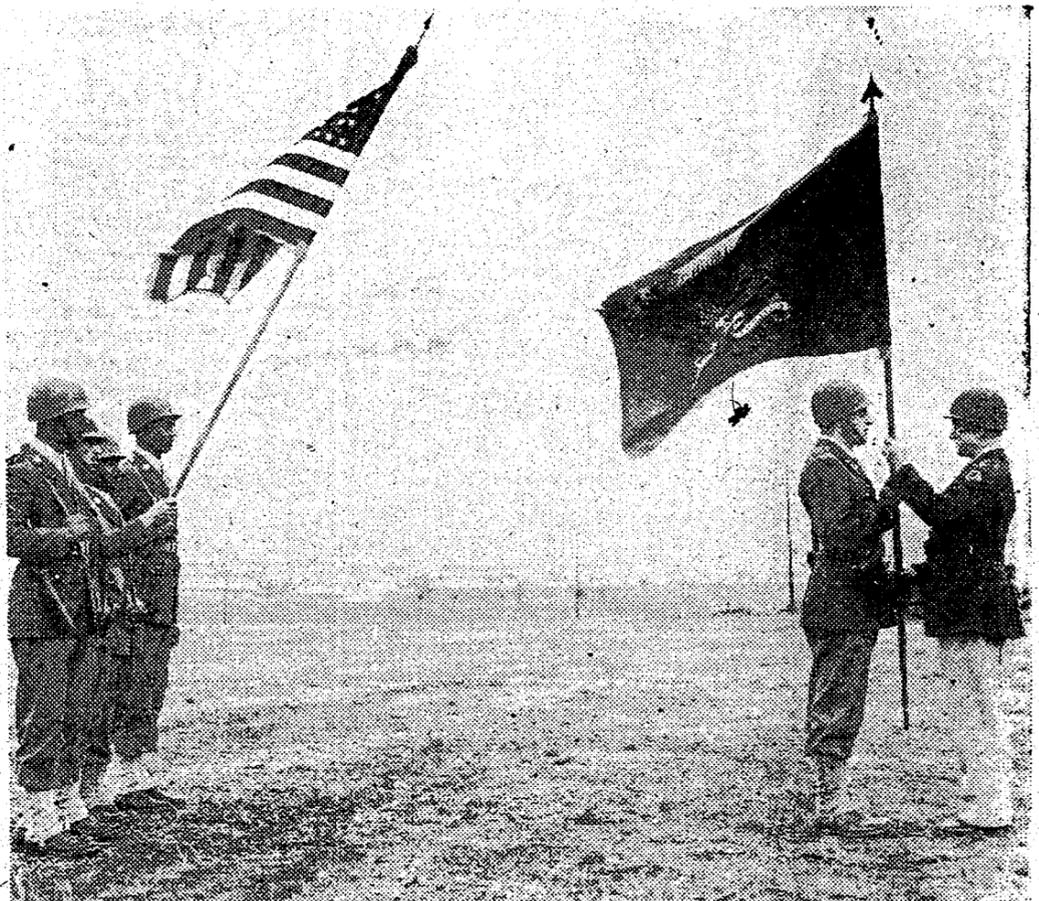
Have you been following BEN HECHT'S serial on Hollywood in a popular magazine . . . Has plenty of stuff!

MAJOR JIMMY STEWART took part in a big raid over Germany last week.

Former Staff Sergeant BILLY GORDON of Camp Hood Special Services, recently discharged, is now casting director for Hunt Stromberg Productions in Hollywood. Good luck, Billy!

672nd Lt. A Father

Baby Name	Girl
Date of Birth	Cherry Ann
Place of Birth	29 February, 1944
Weight	Lampasas Hosp.,
Parents	Lampasas, Texas
Condition:	7 lbs., 3 oz.
Baby	Lt. and Mrs. Wil-
Mother	liam E. Wisdom
	Excellent
	Excellent



Camp Hood Signal Corps Photo
AFTERNOON CEREMONY on Friday, March 3rd., Major General John H. Hester, TDC commanding general (right) presented Lt. Col. George C. Dalia, commanding officer of the 784th Tank Bn., with the new-authorized battalion colors. Color bearers are l. to r.: S-Sgt. Ruben Johnson, M-Sgt. Rex Kirksey, T-Sgt. Fred T. Dobbins and T-4 Ira J. Wright. The 784th was activated at Camp Claiborne, La., April 1, 1943, and moved to Camp Hood last September.

658th TDs Stage Mock Capture Of Enemy Officers

By S-Sgt. Larry Furrow

The 2nd Platoon of Rcn. Co. from the 658th TD Bn. was on a tactical problem near Bull Run Creek and Range Rd. W. when T-5 Norman Haase and Pfc Norbert Rosynek spotted two Germans and one Japanese Officer huddled under the bridge engaged in a heated argument over a map.

Took Prisoners

They were somewhat bewildered at first, but they soon re-

collected themselves and proceeded to take the would-be invaders, of the grand State of Texas, captive. The Germans gave up without a struggle, but the Jap had to be tapped gently on the head with a rifle butt before he was willing to surrender. The prisoners were then searched and marched back to the Platoon Sgt., S-Sgt. Robert Davis, who proceeded to question the German officers with the aid of T-5 Haase, who is from Milwaukee and speaks Wisconsin Ave. German. The conversation ran as follows:

Sgt. Davis: Ask them what outfit they are from.

Haase: Von Welcher Organisation kommen Sie?

1st. Ger. Off.: Ich bin Oberleutnant Heinrich Weinerschnitzel, meine nummer ist eins, eins, eins, und eins.

T-5 Haase: He says his name is Heinrich Weinerschnitzel, his rank is 1st. Lt., and his number is 1111.

Davis: Ask them what they were doing at the bridge.

Haase: Was haben Sie beider Brucke gethan.

2nd Ger. Off.: Ich sage nichts mehr. Heil Hitler!

Haase: He says he has talked all he is going to, Sgt.

Davis-to Jap: Do you speak English Joe?

Jap: Sure Me speak plenty English. Me work four years house boy for Col. Blown in Manila.

Davis: What's your name and rank?

Jap: Me Ah Too Phooie, me Captain.

Davis: What outfit are you with Joe?

Jap: Me no Joe! Me Ah Too Phooie, me Captain.

Davis: Okay Phooie, what outfit are you with?

Jap: Me no talk, me too smart.

Davis: Alright boys let's take them down to see the S-2, maybe he will know what to do with them.

Expected Big Rewards

The captors of the dangerous trio, were very elated over their prize catch, and they were certain they would get the DSM. Why Gen. Marshall would probably insist on pinning the medal on them personally.

On the way to Bn. Hq. a group of German prisoners noticed them, they all came smartly to attention and gave the German officers a Nazi salute. The officers had their hands raised and were unable to return the salute, they merely nodded their approval.

Exposed

When the arrogant prisoners were brought into Headquarters,

the S-2, Lt. Charles Lindsay, gave them a very searching look. There seemed to be something vaguely familiar about them. Could it be, no it can't be, but yes it is, why that is our own men you have there Sgt. Davis! The Jap there is none other than Pfc. Nicholas Morazzo, and the two German officers are S-Sgt. Erwin Heider, and T-5 Joachim Neuberger. These fellows were down on Range Rd. posing for a picture in connection with battalion combat intelligence demonstration!

"A guy just can't win in this man's army," moaned Sgt. Davis.

Don't Write In Parcels

Many of the military personnel at South Camp Hood are sending parcels of the 3rd and 4th class matter through the mails with writing inclosed.

This is a violation of postal regulations. Parcels with writing inside are subject to postage of the first class rate.

All should be guided by the following:

Section 582, Postal Laws and Regulations:

"Third or fourth class mail matter containing any writing or printing in addition to the original matter shall not be admitted to the mails except upon payment of postage for matter of the first class. Whoever shall knowingly conceal or inclose any matter of a higher class in that of a lower class and deposit or cause the same to be deposited for conveyance by mail, at a less rate than would be charged for such higher class matter, shall be fined not more than one hundred dollars."

Male Call

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

Drawn and Quoted



SPORTS

The crack of hickory against that "old apple" is now being heard in the land of the deep snows, where, because of the war, major league spring camps are established close to home. Reports of the first week's grind showed that the weather did not permit many outdoor workouts, so the big leaguers repaired indoors to hurl a few, knock a few flies, and limber up. Our guess is that this uncertain method of spring practice which is getting the boys off to a very slow start because of the winter elements, is bound to slow up the regular season's play for quite a spell after league competition actually opens up. The way it looks now midseason form won't come around in 1944 until about August. 'cause those major leaguers need lots and lots of work (believe it or not) in hot sweltering weather to round into shape at all.

And the thought of spring puts the finger on the TDS amphitheater, our big outdoors gathering place here at Camp Hood. Soon again, we'll be sitting under the arcs shouting ourselves hoarse at the wrestling and boxing cards. . . Among the new IRTC arrivals is Cpl. Arvin "Curley" Mahon, who, representing Camp Fannin in the Fort Worth Golden Gloves tourney, reached the quarterfinals. He's a middleweight. . . Paul Dean, brother of Dizzy and former Cardinal and Giant pitcher is now in the Army. . . Lt. Sam Chapman, the slugging Athletics outfielder, is a flight instructor at the Corpus Christi Naval Air Station.

T-5 William S. Kennedy, TDRTC acquaints us with an interesting letter from YANK. Sgt. Dan Polier, Sports Editor writes: "I realize that YANK has neglected soccer in the sports coverage and I am afraid it was intentional, too. You see, we have generally regarded soccer as strictly a foreign language game. Now, however, we have learned that the American GI is becoming more soccer conscious since the Army has made soccer a conspicuous part of its physical training program. I think YANK would do well to report its growth. Incidentally, I hear there is a report in circulation around Chicago right now that maybe Major League Baseball will promote soccer instead of pro football in the ball parks after the war. According to Davis Walsh of INS these various reports agree on one point. They cite as a tentative sponsor of the project Mr. P. K. Wrigley of the Chicago Cubs, which doesn't sound wholly unreasonable. In the first place, one of Mr. Wrigley's foremost employees is Jimmy Wilson who started out in life to be a soccer goal tender and wound up as manager of the Cubs.

With YANK promoting soccer we can expect big-time competition in this sport right here at Camp Hood.

Captain Van Hemert, IRTC athletic officer is getting in athletic supplies in preparation for the athletic program to be provided for the incoming trainees of IRTC. The arrival and dispersion of new troops in camp is certain to give new impetus to camp athletics. Mayhap now the Student Regiment won't have things quite so much its own way in baseball. IRTC with thousands of men reporting here shortly, may well be expected to produce at least a few well known players of the "national pastime."

Lt. George Thomas, up North Camp Hood way, tells us that spring is stirring up some action among the new units of the Field Artillery there, as plans are being formulated for softball and baseball competition. This year it looks like we might have the South Camp champs vying with the North Camp ditto for Hood's big laurels—and with the new blood transfusion on the post—that is to say, the newcomers, who are cordially invited to make themselves known to their athletic officers ultimately participating on our greenswards, who knows? Even the eyes of all Texas may be upon us.

Moral Victory For Wac Team

Members of the WAC Det, RTC, softball team at North Camp battled a pickup team of enlisted cadre of the 24th TD Group to a 13-13 tie on a North Camp diamond last week.

The game, first of a spring series mapped by the WACs, was called on account of refreshments. The 24th TD men played hosts to the RTC players at their messhall, where soft drinks and cake were served.

The WAC squad, now holding several practice sessions weekly and looking for challengers, is comprised of Tec 5 Louella Nichols, Tec 5 Dorothy Arnold, Tec 5 Helen Morsch, Tec 5 Clarisse Hipps, Pfc Dora Coulthard, Tec 5 Anne Phipps, Tec 5 Jerry McGuire, Tec 5 Helen Sural, Tec 5 Abigail Bishop, S-Sgt. Sarah Lerner, Tec 5 Gene Gerst, Tec 5 Bert Barkhuff and Tec 5 Lorna Hodges

Tops The 658th TD Bn. Paddlers

Tec. 4 Harry Hussian of Hq. Co., who is better known as the "King of Swing," is now the top ranking Ping Pong player in the 658th TD Bn. He defeated Sgt. Gilbert L. Anderson of Co. "B," the defending champion, in a 4 out of 7 game series. The renewal match was staged for the benefit of the men in Hq. Co. who were quite sure that the crown belonged to Hussian, and he justified their predictions by disposing of Anderson with surprising ease in whipping him in 4 fast games, 21-11, 21-12, 21-13, and 21-11. Hussian was unable to compete in the battalion finals because of his recent furlough, but the defending champ thought it only fair that he should have a crack at the title.

Hard One To Lose
The loss altogether cannot be blamed on Anderson. He was threatened before the playoffs by S-Sgt. Alfred F. DeRosa, Mess Sergeant of Co. "B," that if he came out on the wrong end there would be grease traps to clean in the kitchen (not that DeRosa had any financial interests in the game) but just that he wanted the title to remain in Co. "B."

Each contestant was well represented by officers and men of his

Panthers Clinch Title At Waco Before Largest Crowd

Before the largest crowd ever to witness a League basketball game in Waco, the North Camp Hood Panthers clinched the district USO title recently in a hair-raising contest with the Waco Army Flying Field.

Starting slowly the "champs" were trailing 16-4 after only 10 minutes, and looked a cinch to drop the second game of a two-out-of-three series making a playoff necessary. During this first session the Flyers were in complete command, hitting the bucket with regularity and guarding with finesse.

Start To Roll
Toward the end of the first half the Panthers rallied briefly cutting down the aviators' lead to a 30-22 count.

Between the halves Lt. Mahley, mentor of the North Camp aggregation must have fed his charges some panther meat. The Destroyers started to roll from the whistle and in only five minutes had changed the whole complexion of the contest. Holding the Flyers to a single basket, the Panthers with Lt. Joe Sager, all-Pennsylvania forward of 1943, leading the charge, chalked up 15 points to make the score 35-32 in their favor.

Break Tie
Never headed from this point the Panthers were compelled to fight hard to hold the Flyers in check. With but two minutes to go the count was tied up at 38 all. Time was running out when Sager of the North Camp aggregation broke through to sink the marker which clinched the championship trophy, 40-38.

Stars
Starring on the offense along with Lt. Sager were Lt. Thompson and Lt. Craig who rang up nine and 10 counters respectively. Staff Sergeant Tom Warwick, seasonal high-scorer for the Panthers, was checked offensively by close guarding, but his all round ball handling and defensive play was a feature of the game, also shining on the defense was Pvt. Marshal Koontz.

It Sager must have made some kind of new record for accuracy when he sank seven field-goals out of nine tries.

Great Stars
The North Camp squad was comprised of Lt. Jim Marteney of Oklahoma U, whose team reached the national semi-finals last year; Lt. John Thompson, captain of Nebraska's five last year; Lt. Joe Sager, All-Pennsylvania forward

respective company, with many of the staff officers attending and Major Harold C. Brownall, battalion commander, acting as the referee.

Season's First No-Hit, No-Run

Probably the first no-hit, no run softball pitching performance of the Camp Hood season was accomplished by 1st Lt. FRED H. BAUMBERGER last Monday afternoon, when his fastball hurling paced the officers of the 658th TD Bn to a 4-0 victory over Headquarters 23rd TD Group. Baumberger walked five in the five-inning game, but kept out of trouble with frequent strikeouts.

Col. C. E. SARGENT came closest to getting a hit for the Group team, but his line drive over third base was blown foul by the wind.

This was the second meeting of the two officer's teams. An earlier game stood at a 4-4 tie when it was called at the end of five innings.

To Give 'Em Lumps

Italy (CNS)—Capt. Anderson Smith peeked into a cave and yelled: "Is anybody there?" "Yah," two Germans replied, walking out. Capt. Smith, unarmed, picked up two rocks. Out came a third German and the captain picked up another rock.

He had 11 rocks in his hands when he marched his captives back to camp—11 of them.

of 1943; Sgt. Tom Warwick of Temple U, high scorer for the Panthers with an average of 18 points per game; Pvt. Marshall Koontz, Indiana University; Lt. Charles Grupp, an Illinois player of last season; Pvt. Elton Davis, star freshman player last year at Oklahoma; Pvt. Fred Wilson, who played at Northwestern and Lt. Charles Craig, Clemson captain in '43, has a record of 22 wins and one set-back. Among their victims have been such stellar outfits as Blackland Airbase, Baylor, the Camp Swift All-Stars, and the South Camp Champions, the 672nd Tank Destroyers.

Combat Veterans Serving At TDS

More combat-tested veterans now serving at the Tank Destroyer School are:

Major Ernest C. Hatfield, now of the School Weapons Department, saw the Tunisian Campaign as aide-de-camp to Major General Orlando Ward, former commanding general of the Tank Destroyer

Center. In the automotive department are Lt. Ralph L. Boyer, who put in eight months in the New Hebrides; Lt. Robert E. Jackle, with nine months in Hawaii to his credit; Lt. J. W. Wheeler, who served in England for six months with the Quartermaster Corps; Lt. John Nothstine, with fourteen months in New Caledonia and Lt. Arthur Schwalm, who served for thirteen months in the Southwest Pacific.

Mail Your 'Panther' Home!

Here Stamp 1 1/2 Cent

Camp Hood, Texas

From:

HOW TO VOTE IN 11 STATES HOLDING PRIMARY ELECTIONS IN MAY

NAME OF STATE	DATE OF ELECTION	FORM OF BALLOT	HOW TO APPLY FOR BALLOT	Earliest Date Ballot Will Be Issued	Earliest Date Ballot to be Applied	Earliest Date Ballot to be Counted	SPECIAL STATE PROVISIONS
ALABAMA	Primary: 3 May Run-off: 20 May	State Absentee Ballot covering Federal, state and local offices.	a) In accordance with Alabama law, or b) By mailing the WD post card to Secretary of State, Montgomery, Ala. (Separate application must be made for each primary.)	Primary: 12 Apr Run-off: 10 May	Primary: 12 Apr Run-off: 10 May	Primary: 20 May Run-off: 20 May	Note that there are two primary elections and that separate applications must be made for each one.
CALIFORNIA	16 May	State Absentee Ballot covering Federal, state and local offices.	a) In accordance with California law, or b) By mailing WD post card to Secretary of State, Sacramento, Calif.	Any time	5 Apr	Ballot must be marked by 18 May & get back to state by 1 June.	
FLORIDA	Primary: 2 May Run-off: 23 May	Official War Ballot covering Federal, state and local offices.	By mailing WD post card to Secretary of State, Tallahassee, Fla. (Only one application needed for both elections.)	Any time	Primary: 12 Apr Run-off: 12 May	Primary: 2 May Run-off: 23 May	A serviceman is not, or has not been, registered, his votes for Federal offices only will be counted in this election. Note that there are two primary elections but that one application will suffice for both.
INDIANA	2 May	State Absentee Ballot covering Federal, state and local offices.	a) In accordance with Indiana law, or b) By mailing to the Secretary of State, Indianapolis, Ind., the WD post card on which the serviceman has written that he wishes it treated as an application for a State Absentee Ballot.	2 Apr	17 Apr	2 May	Note that the serviceman must write on WD post card that he wishes it to be treated as an application for a State Absentee Ballot. This information is on basis of existing state law. The Indiana Legislature will hold a session that may change some of the provisions, but any change will probably make existing requirements less strict.
MARYLAND	1 May	Official War Ballot or State Absentee Ballot, both covering Federal offices only as no other offices will be voted on.	a) Official War Ballot: By mailing WD post card to the Secretary of State, Annapolis, Md. b) State Absentee Ballot: In accordance with Maryland law.	Any time	7 Apr. (Either town.)	7 May	Note that Maryland provides servicemen with either of two kinds of ballots. Method of application and date by which ballot must be received differ for the two types. This information is on basis of existing state law. The Maryland Legislature will hold a session that may change some of the provisions, but any change will probably make existing requirements less strict.
NEW JERSEY	16 May	Official War Ballot covering Federal, state and county offices.	By mailing WD post card to the Secretary of State, Trenton, N. J.	Any time	11 Apr	16 May	This information is on basis of existing state law. The New Jersey Legislature will hold a session that may change some of the provisions, but any change will probably make existing requirements less strict.
NORTH CAROLINA	27 May	State Absentee Ballot covering Federal, state and local offices.	a) In accordance with North Carolina law, or b) By mailing WD post card to Secretary of State, Raleigh, N. C.	1 Apr	1 Apr	27 May	Servicemen who are 21 or will attain the age of 21 years on or before 7 November 1944 are eligible to vote in this primary.
OHIO	9 May	State Absentee Ballot covering Federal, state, district and county offices.	a) In accordance with Ohio law, or b) By mailing WD post card to Secretary of State, Columbus, Ohio.	8 Apr	8 Apr	9 May	This information is on basis of existing state law. The Ohio Legislature will hold a session that may change some of the provisions, but any change will probably make existing requirements less strict.
OREGON	19 May	State Absentee Ballot covering Federal, state and local offices.	a) In accordance with Oregon law, or b) By mailing WD post card to Secretary of State, Salem, Ore.	Any time	8 Apr	13 May	
SOUTH DAKOTA	1 May	State Absentee Ballot covering Federal, state and local offices.	a) In accordance with South Dakota law, or b) By mailing WD post card to Secretary of State, Pierre, S. Dak.	19 Apr	19 Apr	Ballot must be marked not earlier than 17 Apr. & get back by 2 May.	
WEST VIRGINIA	9 May	State Absentee Ballot covering Federal, state and local offices.	a) In accordance with West Virginia law, or b) By mailing to Secretary of State, Charleston, W. Va., WD post card on which serviceman has written that he wishes it treated as "request for State Absentee Ballot or Ballot Application."	Any time	10 Feb	9 May	Note that serviceman should write on WD post card that he wishes it treated as "request for State Absentee Ballot or Ballot Application."

*Application should reach officials on, or no later after it is possible, the date the state starts sending out ballots.

