

the Tiger Rag

We Strike
The Final Blow



827th Tank Destroyer Bn.

Company B

Before the footlights this week stands none other than 1st Sgt. Alonzo Shearer, who, in spite of 19 years of faithful service to good old Uncle Sam, is still going in top shape. Sgt. Shearer hails from Johnson City, Tenn., where he joined the army Oct. 14, 1925.

Starts Army Career in Teens

Sgt. Shearer started his army career in his teens. After being with the 24th Infantry for basic training he joined up with the rough riders of the Tenth Cavalry who tromped over the same areas in which the new Cantonment area of good old Huachuca now stands. While in the Tenth he almost marched on a band of hostile Mexicans who were threatening to cross the border. 1st Sgt. Shearer, after being with the 10th Cavalry five years, joined the 9th Cavalry. He remained there until coming to the mighty 827th Tank Destroyer Battalion, which he helped organize over two years ago.

Men of "B" Company, or should I say of the battalion, have great respect for him. Being 1st sergeant of "B" company since its beginning he has gained the reputation of being the greatest 1st sergeant in the game, and I can say this with pride.

Sgt. Shearer is married to a school teacher and a former graduate of Prairie View college. I must say, no wonder he is so outstanding among the first sergeants of the battalion, or, for that, the Army. So to you, Sgt. Shearer, keep going and you'll find more health, more happiness in your coming years. Good luck.

After a short furlough we again present to you The Breaks of the News—Pvt. Whittier (just returning from furlough) must be a great surprise to a certain sergeant... dances, picnics and bowling was nothing before. Oh, I forgot, the sergeant is a WAC... Pvt. Rucker, congratulations on your recent marriage, we are hoping to meet her soon, or is she Madame X? ... Pvt. George Gill thinks jeeps should have full tracks or wings after hanging one up a tree... Cpl. Hall seems to think Gill is an excellent driver and such a sense making kid... FLASH—Cpl. Warren Rush, the great lover and singer, is a big loss to the women, he says, "I don't know what they are going to do without me." Our answer is—Pvt. Jody is still around—Remember, if you have done it, please do not do it again because you will be shown up in the Breaks of the News... Until next week, take care!

—SGT. KELLY CHRISTIAN
& PVT. JOHN M. ROGERS.

HQ Company

Commendation of the week for outstanding work and achievement is awarded to 1st Lt. Howard O. Poole and T/Sgt. Frank N. Owens. Their jobs as battalion communication officer and battalion communication chief respectively is no small responsibility. On their shoulders rests the burden of keeping units of the battalion in communication with each other. With over 100 radio sets to be kept in order they also have the job of seeing that all the operators are schooled in correct voice procedure and other forms of communication. They have been commended on their efforts to maintain a high standard of communication in the battalion.

A Note to the Men—Many opportunities are available to further your knowledge and learning while in the service. The Army Institute in Madison, Wis., offers many correspondence courses covering various subjects. A complete course costs only two dollars and is recognized by schools throughout the nation. If interested contact your special service officer or the librarian in any of the libraries here on the post.

Promotions — Pfc. Herbert Hatch promoted to the grade of corporal, Pvt. Charlie Fry promoted to T/5th. Keep up the good work.

Furloughs — Pfc. Hanes Mason granted fifteen days to visit Jacksonville, Fla.

Pvt. James E. Robinson, who claims he will be the next lightweight champion of the world also boasts of his talents as a singer, tenor sax player, speed typist, ping pong player, track man, wrestler and pool shark. He requests competition in any of the above listed fields.

We really hope that the many men in the company who went before the warrant officer board this month will be appointed. The men are T/4 Dice, T/Sgt. J. K. Wright, T/Sgt. James Woodfork, Cpl. Xavier Malbroue and S/Sgt. Benny Horne, and they really have the stuff to make the grade.

—PVT. FRED BRAITHWRIGHT.

Capable Instructors for Enlisted Men



That instructors of the enlisted men's classes of the 827th Tank Destroyer Battalion are capable is evidenced by the fact that in civilian life three-fourths of them were public school teachers. Shown here supervising the "reading, writing and 'rithmetic" of Tank Destroyer enlistees are Mr. Ira A. Kyles, WOJG, former Richmond, Va., public school teacher; 2nd Lt. Fivel Brenner, former junior college instructor; and Cpl. James Cannon, assistant instructor. Not shown in the picture is another instructor, 2nd Lt. Fred D. McFadden, who formerly taught public school in Alabama.

—U. S. Signal Corps Photo.

C COMPANY

Having just celebrated a birthday, May 9, yours truly doesn't feel a day over forty. I spent this auspicious occasion doing K.P. The Sarge thought it a splendid present for one so highly esteemed, lovely chap, isn't he? I only hope that I will celebrate the next one out in that life.

Man o' the week is Cpl. Frank "Tiger" Thompson of Newburgh, N.Y. Cpl. Thompson attended high school in this town and also has a girl there, at present he is one of Uncle Samuel's promising boxers. In stature Thompson isn't very tall but he tips the scales in the vicinity of 160 lbs., reminding one of a stocky, pugnacious bull dog. Besides being an excellent boxer, Thompson plays a swell game of football and holds his own in softball. He is trying to get in the paratroopers, and I wish him luck. As far as the Army is concerned Cpl. Thompson is a good marksman, "security corporal" and a good soldier. Giving him a character rating of excellent you will have a good soldier with a promising future.

The Weekly Praise goes to the very little spoken of but important "Keep 'Em Rolling" department under the direction of Lt. Nichols and S/Sgt. Ramsey. The department has kept Co. "C" in front as far as motor stables, etc., are concerned. Sgt. Ramsey, who can be called the "Doctor of Vehicles," is thought the best in the battalion as was proved during the past inspections in which they were assisted by T/4th Beasley, T/5th Purter, T/5th Fosselman, T/5 Funderbuk, T/4th Burns and others not mentioned. We can well be proud of our crew mechanics. Though their work is great, their praise is little, we pay our respects to "Keep 'Em Rolling" department.

After an absence of several weeks, Lts. Ringer and Nichols have returned to the fold. Though we had no reception committee to welcome them we are glad that they are back (aren't we, fellows?). New additions to the company are Lts. Gamble and Studdard. Here's hoping that you like us.

The boxers are heading for Phoenix again to put on a show. I hope that they get what they are going for—victory absolute over the foe. What say, fellows?

—PVT. SHERWOOD GOGGINS.

Secret Weapon Captured

Another of Hitler's secret weapons has been captured on the Anzio beachhead—a radio-controlled explosives carrier more gruesome in name than in action. It's about twice as large as the remote-controlled German tank which flopped recently, and it's called Todeswagon—death wagon. It carries about 800 pounds of explosives. It is not very effective, United Press reports.

"Sweetheart of the Week"



Miss Georgia Harper is selected sweetheart of the Medical Detachment 827th Tank Destroyer Battalion. Miss Harper is a student of Wilberforce University, Xavier, Ohio. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. Cpl. Omar J. Meredith of Cleveland, Ohio, and a member of the Detachment, has recently announced his engagement to Miss Harper.

The Trooper Snoops

Someone made a bet that the affair given by Hq. Co., 827th T.D. Bn., on May 6 would be the highlight of Huachuca military social affairs for many moons to come. According to the latest latrine-o-gram, it was. In a finely decorated "Rec" building and the rafters vibrating with the scintillating music of the SCU 1922 dance orchestra, with the finest sandwiches, cigarettes, beer, pop, nothing was overlooked! Not even the elaborate detail of scouring the Old Post, the WAC area, Tucson and Fry for all the available talent to join in the fun!

They were a "gorgeous bunch" of cuties as the saying goes, but evidently the girls were carried to the wrong party for they never arrived. Oh, well, 1st Sgt. Travis said it was to be a stag party anyway. The boys cheer T/4th Harris Williams, Pfc. Reid, Pvt. W. Morgan and Young for making it a success or maybe it's the other way around. Who knows?

RECON COMPANY

Furlough goes this week were Pvt. Lannas Bryant, who will spend his furlough in Garrison, Tex., and Pvt. Ruben McNeal, now spending his 15 days in Panama City, Fla.

T/5 Gilbert P. McMickens was recently promoted to corporal, and Pfc. Philip W. Busey is now T/5.

Capt. Lester D. McMillin, formerly S-3 of the battalion, is now in command of the company.

Special mention this week to our never-tiring mechanics who labor hard in order that our vehicles keep running. S/Sgt. Lonnie Rumph, motor sergeant; T/4 Pryor L. Carter, ace mechanic; T/5 Edward F. Carter, another fine mechanic; T/5 William V. Porter, often referred to as Chew. The above-mentioned four men and many others are what we might call "the boys behind the grease line," who are doing a fine job as far as motors are concerned.

Pfc. Joe Flowers returned to the company last week after a long illness in the Torrey General hospital in California. We all welcome you back, Joe.

—CPL. JAMES W. CANNON, JR.

Native Fijian Troops Maintain Battle Skills with Modern Arms

Washington, D.C. — Native Fiji Islanders, now equipped with modern weapons and fighting with American and Australian troops in the South Pacific, are proving effective allies, the War Department revealed today, recounting a continuing action in which fierce warriors from the Fijis killed at least 179 Japs, losing one killed and three wounded.

To a Friend Classified 1-A

Sorry ol' Pal, remember last June? Now you're classified and will be here soon.

The big top sergeant will be so glad

When you're a soldier—ain't you mad?

Jody clothes are fine, sure I know But them Jody clothes have got to go.

You'll get KP, you jitterbug— And in the kitchen you can't cut no rug.

You think you'll sleep through reveille

But the loud-voiced sergeant says that won't be.

A hundred foxholes you will dig And you'll swear a fox never lived in holes so big.

You will soldier and soldier well And if you don't you will catch H--!!

A Company

"GAS!" shouted someone and immediately there was a scramble to remove helmets, open pouches and get on gas masks as the men of A company went through their first gas drill since arriving at Huachuca. This was the beginning of a 12-hour refresher course presented under the guidance of 2nd Lt. Robert E. Segil, the company gas officer.

Though definitely a blitz course the training proved effective as well as interesting. Mustard, lewisite, phosgene and chloropicrine were some of the many persistent and non-persistent gases covered. The phase of advancing through the gases to become familiar with the odors was by far the most exciting as well as hazardous.

Introducing

Sgt. Teddy Redwyne, the conscientious motor sergeant of Company "A." An immaculate well-bred young man, who hails from the metropolis of New York. Teddy attended Harron High school where he majored in an aeronautical course. Upon graduation from school he took an additional two-year course covering the technical aspects of motors.

Though a newcomer to his outfit Sgt. Redwyne sports two hash marks for his seven years of service. A member of the 396th Coast Artillery since 1937, Teddy entered active duty when the National Guardsmen were called up by the War Department.

From his own beloved New York Sgt. Redwyne's outfit embarked one night in '42, and landed in the Hawaiian Islands. After a year of flawless soldiering Teddy was sent back to the states to attend OCS. Thus far he has been a member of the 92nd division and now this outfit.

At this writing Teddy is still sweating it out in the ranks as an enlisted man. Yet, if initiative, intelligence, and military bearing are the requirements for commissioned status, he is sure to gain his objective before the termination of the war.

Quiet Please

There is a four way tie for circumlocution honors in the company. The victors are Sgt. Joseph Johnson, Pvt. Emmett Thompson, T/5 Dembley, and Pfc. Robert Yancy.

Busy Non-Coms

Sgt. James S. Smith and Sgt. Lewis Dunn, company gas non-coms, recently completed a course at the division gas school, which they say was tops.

Barney Oldfield

What sergeant does T/5 Bowden irritate to no end by jumping out of the jeep every time he takes the wheel?

Over

Radio transmission between T/5 Hadley and Pvt. E. K. Williams: "Chow bound one, this is chow bound two. Where is the mess truck?"

Bright Saying of the Week

There's plenty of bad in the best of us So what can be said of the rest of us There's very few saints in the first of us

But there's plenty of good in the worst of us.

—SGT. HERBERT B. EVANS.

A Dream Come True

Through the initiative and work of the educational enthusiasts of the 827th Tank Destroyers, the dream of a battalion school has at last become a reality. Plans of this educational program had been definite for some time, but not until our arrival at Fort Huachuca was there adequate time and facilities available.

The curriculum offered is basically mathematics, English and the art of expression. The method of teaching is explicit and direct. As much of the formality as possible is dispensed with to put the men completely at ease. The packed classroom and sincere interest indicates that the men enjoy their work as well as realizing that this is an opportunity that should not be overlooked. There is no doubt that these individuals are aware of the importance of an education for future security. It can mean the difference between riches and poverty, success or failure. Yes, their motto is "Be Prepared" to take advantage of any opportunity that might present itself.

This school which is proving so effective is staffed by Mr. Ira A. Kyles, WOJG, formerly of the public school system, Richmond, Va., and Lt. Fivel C. Brenner, executive officer of Company "B." Assisting them are T/Sgt. John K. Wright of the S-3 section, Cpl. Alfred Cannon and Cpl. Xavier Malbroue, both of the S-1 section. All these instructors cheerfully give their time and should be commended for the wonderful work they are doing.

Obviously no one can definitely forecast what is to be during the post war days, but the attitude of these men is that whatever does come they will be better prepared to cope with it.

—SGT. HERBERT B. EVANS.